The Ohio State University's Center for Cosmology and AstroParticle Physics



# The Sun is shining in Gamma Rays WHY?

#### Kenny, Chun Yu NG CCAPP, The Ohio State University <u>With John Beacom(OSU), Annika Peter(OSU), Carsten Rott(SKKU)</u>

#### The Gamma Ray Sun



• E > 100 MeV, 40° x40°

#### Cosmic rays set the Sun on Fire

- The Sun itself is not hot enough
  - Corona T  $\sim 10^6$  k  $\sim 0.1$  KeV
  - Gamma ray solar flares are transients, and limited number

- Cosmic rays + Sun => Gamma rays
  - Inverse Compton component (eY interaction)
  - Hadronic component (pp interaction)

#### Gamma Ray Sun: IC component

Cosmic ray electrons up scatter solar photons



Moskalenko, Porter, Digel 2006 Orlando, Strong 2007 Orlando, Strong 2008

#### • Result: A diffuse gamma ray halo around the Sun

#### Gamma Ray Sun: Hadronic component



- Result: The Sun disk is emitting gamma rays
- +Magnetic field enhance gamma ray production

#### Gamma Ray Sun: Hadronic component



Figure 1: Model of magnetic fields near the photosphere. Shading increases with magnetic field intensity.

Seckel+ 1992

- Result: The Sun disk is emitting gamma rays
- +Magnetic field enhance gamma ray production

#### Both Components were found by Fermi, but

IC component

Sun-disk component



## More info on the Sun-disk component?

Fermi: 2008 – Now
– More than 6 years

Photons > 10 GeV ?
— Is the Sun still bright?



Abdo+ 2011

#### The most energetic light from the Sun

• E = 10 - 100 GeV, 6 years of exposure



Kenny C.Y. NG, IPA 2015 May 4-6, ng.199@osu.edu

## Image = Disk + IC + Background

- Sun disk
   ~point source
- IC halo
  - Solar photon distribution
- Background
   Isotropic



## 6 years analysis on the Sun disk

- Detection up to 30 GeV
- ~2 sigma up to 100GeV

 Disagreement in the overlapping range?



## The gamma ray flux was changing!



The flux dropped by more than a factor of 2!

#### Solar activity?



Seems to anti-correlate with solar activity

## What is causing the time dependence?

- Cosmic rays on Earth
   1-10 GeV gamma =>
  - 10-100 GeV protons
  - Extra CR modulation?– Solar magnetic field?
- We don't know, yet! (work in progress)



# High energy information

- Only water Cherenkov
- HAWC (Now running)
- LHAASO (Proposed)

Spectral cutoff ?Continue to higher E ?



#### Solar Atmospheric Neutrinos

- pp interactions => gamma rays ⇔ Neutrinos
- Dilute atmosphere, larger neutrino flux in the same angular region. Seckel+ 1991, Moskalenko+, 1993, Ingelman+ 1996, Hettlage+ 2000, Fogli+ 2003
- No HE neutrino calculations with magnetic fields.
- Work in progress (Ng+)

#### Summary

#### The Sun as a source and a laboratory.

- We knew:
  - Cosmic rays + Sun => hadronic gamma rays, but brighter than expected
- We find:
  - Gamma ray up to 100 GeV
  - Anti-correlate with solar activities (surprise?) (1505.xxxxx)
- Next:
  - Understand how the gamma rays are produced.
    - Cosmic rays, cosmic ray propagation, solar magnetic fields +
  - Many interesting related studies!

## Thanks!