







Blazar Multiwavelenght Activities: Current Status

Stefano Ciprini – INFN Perugia & Univ.

GLAST AGN/Blazar WG "Face-to-face" meeting SLAC-Stanford, California, USA – March 4, 2006



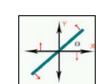




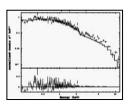
Summary



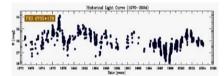








U Variability Monitoring





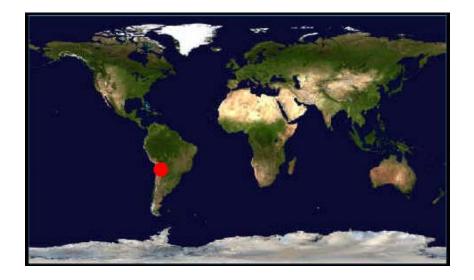




□ Redshift z (i.e. distance) of blazars is a fundamental parameter to understand and constraint the physics of relativistic jets, multiwavelength (MW) emission models and the bolometric power emitted in gamma-rays.

□ Spectral cutoffs due to gamma-ray absorption produced by the IR-opt-UV extragalactic background light (EBL), can be well studied using blazar-probes at different redshifts.











□ A first observing program is accepted at the Very Large Telescope (VLT) of the European Southern Observatory (ESO, Cerro Paranal, Chile): High S/N spectroscopy of 16 sources, (Period 77A, PI: S. Ciprini, COIs: J. Kotilainen & B. Sbarufatti).

□ Times: observations (service mode) to be performed in the next southern winter; data release: end of 2006. Expected (prudent) success rate in new redshift determinations: 50%









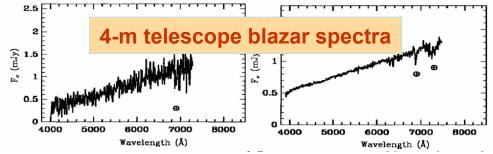


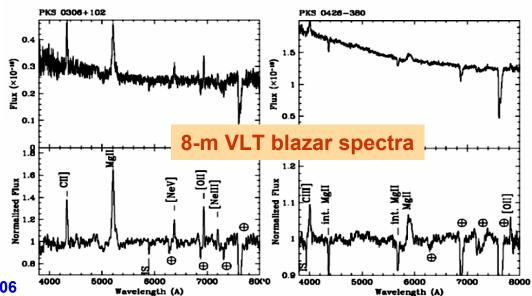
Why the VLT 8-meter (315 inch) "monster" telescopes ?

□ Especially in pure BL Lacs, the quasi-featureless optical spectra hinders the determination of z, while new catalogues of fainter blazars are being assembled. Moreover currently a squad of well known and monitored blazars have still unknown redshift.

□ The 4m-telescope class has achieved its limit regarding to such "hard-to-show-features" blazars, and to the new (and fainter) blazar candidates.

□ High S/N needed in reasonable integration observing times.











□ Critical parameters for detection of spectral features are: (a) luminosity ratio between the nuclear and galaxy components; (b) the S/N of the observed spectrum; (c) redshift value and and the observed wavelength range.

□ Criteria adopted in the sample selection: (a) sources classified as blazars (especially BL Lacs) with unknown redshift in the main surveys/catalogs/databases; (b) sources with DEC < +20°, mag(V) < 21; (c) sources with featureless spectra observed in 4-m telescopes; (d) new gamma-ray blazar candidates.

□ Previous VLT program results (P71-P73, PI: A. Treves): high S/N level reached (up to 500) and features detected down to line EW = 1 Å. A total of 42 targets observed: new z determinations for 18 BL Lac objects (12 through emission lines, 5 through host galaxy absorption features, 1 trough both), lower limit to z for 2 objects (through MgII intervening systems), 6 misclassifications, and 18 blazars were found still featureless. Results published in Sbarufatti et al. (2005a,b).







Optical polarization snapshots of new blazar candidates

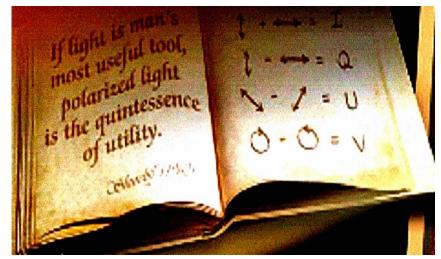
□ High degree (up to 30%) and variability of the optical polarization (OP) is one of the defining properties of blazars (especially the classical BL Lac objects and high-pol quasars HPQ). This means that OP observations are an important element in confirmation of new blazar candidates.

□ High degree of OP is an evidence of strong non-thermal (synchrotron) and beamed radiation, and the signature of a population of high-energy (HE) emitting particles (possibly producing also gamma-ray photons).

□ Optical telescopes are biased to select optically bright blazars, hence possibly intermediateenergy peaked blazars (the best candidates to produce

HE emission in the GLAST energy bands, i.e. GeV regime following the SSC scenario). The maximum level of information in the optical band is therefore desirable during LAT observations of blazars.

 Optical polarization could be an useful piece of information (both physical and geometrical) in GLAST multiwavelenght (MW) analysis of blazars.
 Stefano Ciprini - AGN/Blazar WG "F2F Meeting", SLAC, March 2006









Optical polarization snapshots of new blazar candidates

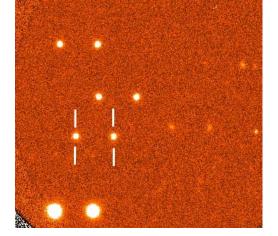
Optical polarization observations of a sample of new blazar candidates is planned.
 Aims: 1) to confirm or not their BL Lac or HPQ status (useful for the GLAST pre-launch catalogs) 2) to have the first (or almost) measures of the optical polarization in such targets.
 Sample: possible, probable, new blazar candidates, and blazar with few or no optical polarization measures. Mag(V): 17-20

□ A first run (2 nights at the 2.5m Nordic Optical Telescope, NOT, La Palma, Canary Islands) was performed in Sept.2005 (P31, PI: S. Ciprini, COIs: K. Nilsson & L.O. Takalo).

□ About 65% of the granted time lost due to bad weather. Preliminary results: 6 objects can be confirmed as blazars (pol. Degree > 5%).

□ Other observing applications are planned for 2-m class telescopes.





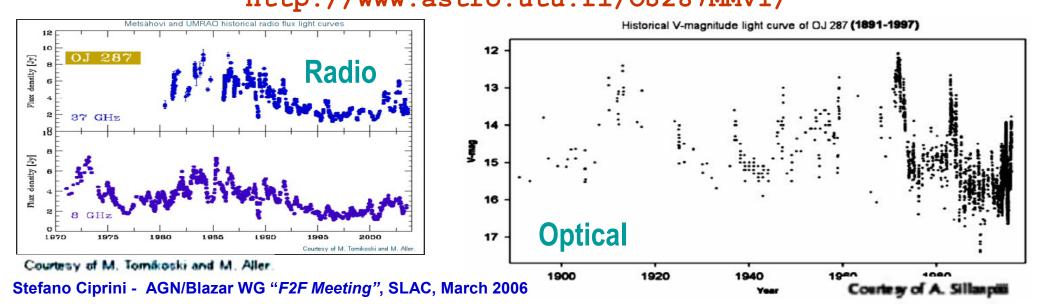






Motivation: the peculiar blazar OJ 287 (PKS 0851+202, 3EG J0853+1941, z=0.306) is the only extragalactic source showing a convincing evidence of a major periodical activity in the historical optical light curve, with outbursts occurring every 11-12 years (the last one was monitored by the OJ94 project, period 1993-1997). The next outburst is expected to occur in period 2005-2007. The origin of the supposed periodicity (or pseudo-periodicity, or intermittence, or...?) is unknown, but likely is to hold important clues to blazar variability in general.











Some of the ongoing MW programs on OJ 287:

Long-term monitoring (OJ 287 2005-2008 Project and ENIGMA Campaign) begun in late 2004 (PM/CM: L. Takalo, A. Sillanpää).

□ VLBA radio structure/polarization observations in 5 bands: 6 times, 8h for the period 2005-2006 (more obs. planned in 2007-08) (PI: T. Savolainen).

□ VLBA and Global 3mm-VLBI radio-mm structure/polarization observations (as a calibrator, April 4 and 17, 2005, PI: I. Agudo).

ESO VLT spectroscopic optical observations (4 epochs, PI: K. Nilsson).

□ XMM-Newton X-ray observations: 2 pointings of about 40 ksec each in cycle AO-4 (April 12, and November 3-4, 2005, PI: S. Ciprini). Another pointing scheduled in November 2006 (AO-5, PI: S. Ciprini).

□ WEBT intensive ground-based MW campaign around the 2 XMM pointing epochs (CM: S. Ciprini).

□ ToO Effelsberg 100m radiotelescope flux/polarization observations on April 12 and Nov. 8-9-10 (ToO PI: L. Fuhrmann).

□ 4 sessions of Global 3mm-VLBI observations in period Oct.2005-Apr.2007 (PI: E. Rastorgueva, K. Wiik).
 □ MAGIC gamma-ray Cherenkov telescope observations in January (10h) and November 2005 (>5h, this last in ToO mode, PI: E .Lindfors).

Optical polarization monitoring at NOT (PI: K.Nilsson) and CalarAlto (2006-2008, PI: J. Heidt).







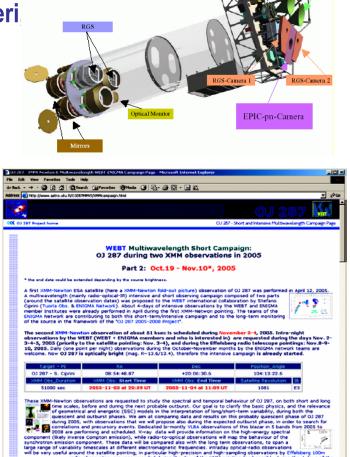
XMM-Newton observations (AO-4, PI:S. Ciprini, COIs: C.M. Raiteri L.O. Takalo, A. Sillänpää, M. Villata, L. Ostorero, M. Fiorucci), and coordinated WEBT campaign in 2005:



OJ 287 observed by XMM-Newton twice (April 12, and November 3-4, 2005). Another observation accepted in Nov.2006 (AO-5, PI: S. Ciprini, COIs: C.M. Raiteri, G.Tosti, L.O. Takalo).



WEBT consortium radio-optical and coordinated campaign in April 2005 and October-November 2005 (part 1-2). (CM: S. Ciprini)



http://www.astro.utu.fi/OJ287MMVI/XMMcampaign.html Stefano Ciprini - AGN/Blazar WG "F2F Meeting", SLAC, March 2006







Institutes/Observatories (and contact persons) participating in the MW ground-based coordinated campaign (part-1 only list):

Optical Observatories: Osaka Kyoiku University Observatory - Kashiwara, Osaka, Japan (K. Sadakane) Lulin Observatory - Lulin, Taiwan (W. P. Chen) □Xinglong Station of NAOC - Yanshan Mountains, China, (J.-H. Wu) **ARIES Sampurnanand Telescope** - Naini Tal, Uttaranchal, India (R. Sagar, G. Krishna) Abastumani Astrophysical Observatory - Mt. Kanobil, Georgia, (O. Kurtanidze) Crimean Astrophysical Observatory - Nauchny, Crimea, Ukraine (Y. Efimov, V. Larionov) **Canakkale Onsekiz Mart University Observatory - Canakkale, Turkey (A.** Erdem) Jakokoski Observatory - Jakokoski, Finland (P. Pääkkönen) □Nyrölä Observatory - Nyrölä, Finland (A. Oksanen, K. Nilsson) □Tuorla Observatory - Piikkio, Finland (L. Takalo, A. Sillanpää) Catania Observatory - Catania, Italy (A. Frasca) Campo Imperatore Observatory - L'Aquila, Italy (V. Larionov) Armenzano Observatory - Armenzano, Assisi, Italy (D. Carosati) Perugia Observatory - Perugia, Italy (G. Tosti, S. Ciprini) □ Torino Observatory - Torino, Italy (C. Raiteri, M. Villata)

Optical (cont.):

Heidelberg Observatory - Heidelberg, Germany (J. Heidt)
Michael Adrian Observatory- Trebur, Germany (J. Ohlert)
Agrupacio Astronomica de Sabadell - Sabadell, Spain (J. A. Ros)
KVA Telescope - La Palma, Canary Islands, Spain (L. Takalo, A. Sillanpää)
Nordic Optical Telescope - La Palma, Canary Islands, Spain (T. Pursimo)
Mt. Lemmon KASI Observatory - Mount Lemmon, Arizona, USA (L. Chung-Uk)
Kitt Peak SARA Observatory - Kitt Peak, Arizona, USA (J. Webb)
Tenagra Observatories - Sonoran desert, Arizona, USA (A. Sadun)
Coyote Hill Observatory - Wilton, California, USA (C. Pullen)

□Radio-mm:

RATAN-600 (Special Astrophys. Obs.) (576 m) - Zelenchukskaya, Russia (Y. Kovalev)
Metsähovi Radio Telescope (14 m) - Metsähovi, Finland (M. Tornikoski, A. Lahteenmaki)
Noto Radio Observatory - Noto, Siracusa, Italy (C. Raiteri, P. Leto)
Effelsberg Radio Telescope (100 m) - Effelsberg, Germany (T. Krichbaum, L. Fuhrmann)
IRAM Millimeter Telescope (30 m) - Pico Veleta, Spain (T. Krichbaum, H. Ungerechts)
Univ. of Michigan Radio Astron. Obs. (UMRAO) (26 m) - Dexter, Michigan, USA (M. Aller)







Aims of the X-ray and coordinated MW observations:

□ Study the spectral-temporal behaviour of OJ 287 on both short and long time scales, and in different brightness states (before and during the cyclic outburst).

□ X-ray data likely provide information on the high-energy (inverse Compton, IC) spectral component, while radio-to-optical observations map the behaviour of the synchrotron bump.

□ Possibly to clarify underlying physics, and relevance of geometrical and energetic models.

□ Search for multifrequency correlations.

□ To try out and to challenge a satellite-triggered coordinated MW campaign (in view of the future GLAST MW campaigns).

Target_Name	RA	Dec	Position_Angle		
OJ 287	08:54:48.87	+20:06:30.6	285:05:17.8		
XMM Obs_Duration	XMM Obs: Start Time	XMM Obs: End Time	Satellite Revolution IB		
40000 sec	2005-04-12 at 12:55 UT	2005-04-13 at 00:03 UT	0978 E3		

Target - PI	RA	Dec	Position_Angle		
OJ 287 - S. Ciprini	08:54:48.87	+20:06:30.6	104:13:22.6		
XMM Obs_Duration	XMM Obs: Start Time	XMM Obs: End Time	Satellite Revolution	IB	
51000 sec	2005-11-03 at 20:59 UT	2005-11-04 at 11:09 UT	1081	E3	

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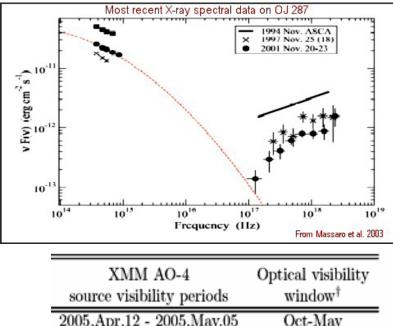
The 2 XMM-Newton pointings performed in 2005



GLAST The Gamma Ray Large Area Space Telescope



MW Campaign on OJ 287



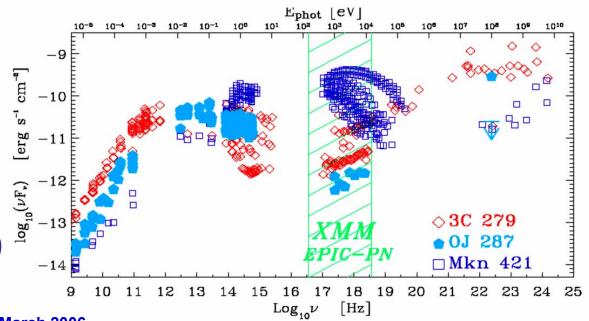
source visionity periods	window
2005.Apr.12 - 2005.May.05	Oct-May
2005.Oct.16 - 2005.Nov.18	-

The broad-band spectral energy distribution of OJ 287 in comparison with the SED of a typical FSRQ (3C 279) and typical TeV-HBL (Mkn 421).

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Source	Other	EGRET	X-rays past	X-rays integral flux
name	names	detection	observations	[erg cm ⁻² s ⁻¹]
OJ 287	PKS 0851+202	YES	Einstein,EXOSAT,ROSAT	$1.35-5.0 \times 10^{-12}$ (2-10 keV)
z = 0.306	PG 0851+202		ASCA, <i>Beppo</i> SAX	(ASCA, SAX)

The most recent X-ray spectral energy distributions of OJ 287.





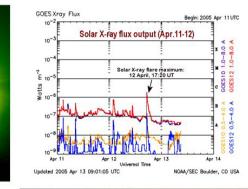
Coronal Hole

oril 12, 12:36 UT



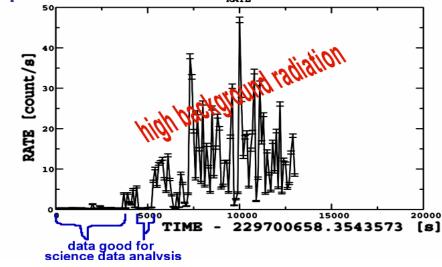


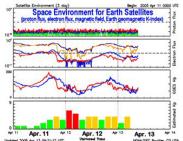
MW Campaign on OJ 287



❑ April 2005 observations heavily affected by high background radiation (due to solar wind and earth proton belt) and stopped. Original 40 ksec granted (with overheads) only about 11 ksec performed and only about 5 ksec useful for science analysis!. Data screening needed. But November 2005 observation better.

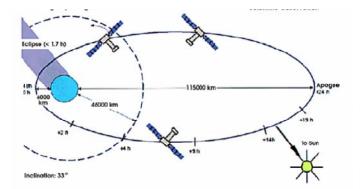
April observation instruments outcome:
 EPIC pn & MOS detection ok. RGS: no detection.
 OM: UV-opt. observations ok.





m the indicated coronal hol



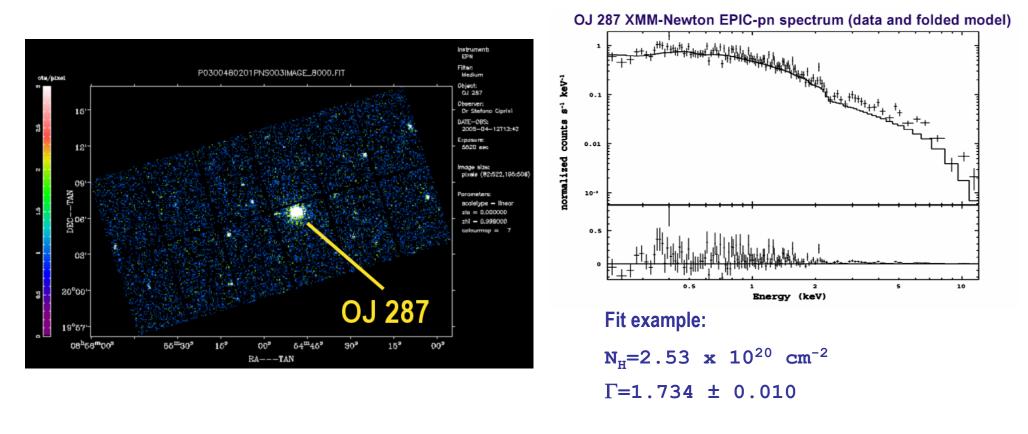








OJ 287 (z=0.306) - Date: April 12, 2005, about 5 ksec data. XMM *EPIC pn* spectrum: Model: single power law + absorption (galactic) in the 0.3-10 KeV range (preliminary).







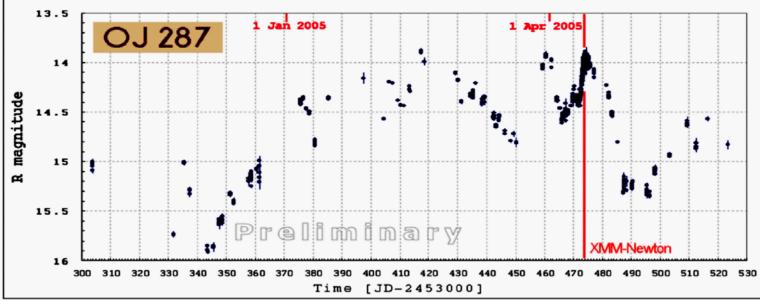


OJ 287 preliminary optical light curves in the previous observing season (Oct. 2004 - May 2005)

□ Intermediate brightness level (no faint). Brightness increase of 2 mag in about 2.5 months.

□ Mild-level flaring during the XMM-Newton pointing (April 12): increase of ~ 0.8 mag in 8 days, decrease of ~ 1.4 mag in 13 days.

□ A more active and flaring state during the XMM-Newton observation of Nov.2005 (preliminary).

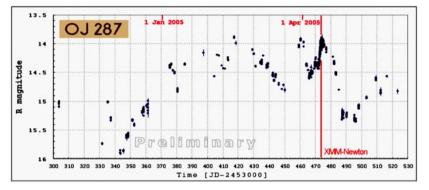


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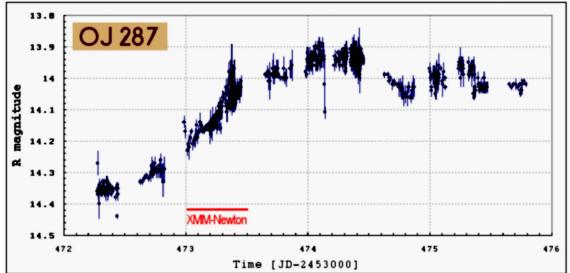




Optical light curves around April 12, 2005 (XMM-Newton 1st pointing):

□ About 0.3 mag brightness increase in less than 9 hours

Possible optical Intra-Day Variability (IDV)



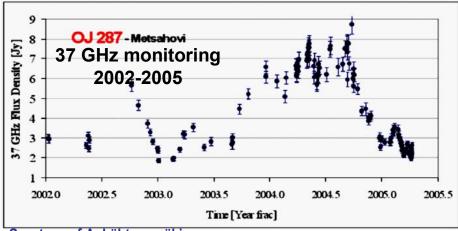


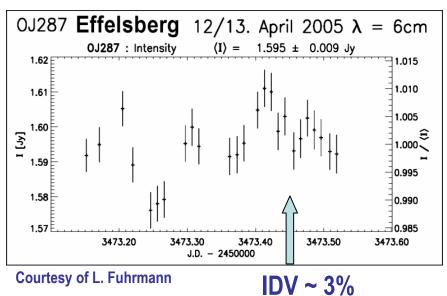




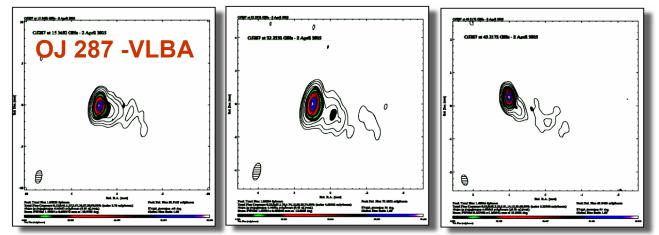


OJ 287: April 2005, radio flux and structure:





Courtesy of A. Lähteenmäki



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VLBA radio structure/polarization observations in 3 bands (April 2,

2005).





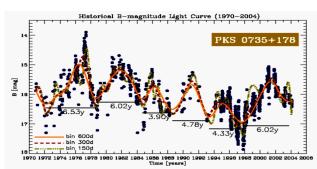


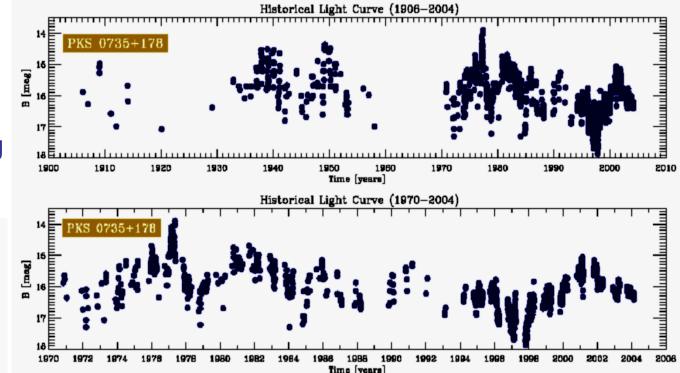


PKS 0735+178 (OI 158, 3EG J0737+1721, z=0.424) is both a radio and X-ray selected blazar. The source has been extensively studied in the radio. The radio flux appear to vary quite slowly in the radio. Several moving components detected (with VLBA and VLBI techniques). It

displays a complex morphology and a twisted jet.

The historical optical data span over about 100 years. Rather good sampling starting from 1970.











□ 10 years (1994-2004) of unpublished optical monitoring data (*BVRI* bands) on PKS 0735+178 Data from Perugia Univ. Obs. (the bulk of data), INAF-Torino Obs., Tuorla Obs., Sabadell Obs.

□ 11 observing seasons, 10 years light curves, 1637 photometric data points, almost 500 nights of observations.

 Rapid optical variations connected to slower variations.
 General intermediate or low level of activity.

DATA POINTS PER OBSERVATORY										
Obs.	В	V	R	Ι	Tot.	Period				
Perugia	0	226	490	281	997	Feb1993-Feb2	004			
Torino	75	38	150	0	263	Dec1994-Apr2	002			
Tuorla	0	55	0	0	55	Oct1995-Feb2	001			
Sabadell	0	0	17	0	17	Dec2001-Feb2	004			
Shanghai	0	115	52	138	305	Jan1995-Dec2	001			
Total	75	434	709	419	1637					
			SI	TATIST	ICS					
				В	V	R	Ι			
Total data	poin	ts		75	43	4 709	419			
Start date			0]	698	45	21	420			

3354

2657

52

0.019

1.44

35.9

780

16.319

15.863

17.453

1.59

0.152

0.256

1.23

3.791

2.21

0.51

4053

4001

297

0.074

1.46

9.3

352

15.760

14.544

16.94

2.39

0.117

0.368

0.386

1.087

6.1

0.67

4053

4032

459

0.171

1.51

5.8

375

15.301

14.16

16.87

2.71

0.094

0.515

0.329

0.019

7.3

0.60

4053

3633

259

0.071

1.62

8.7

356

14.693

13.59

15.97

2.38

0.068

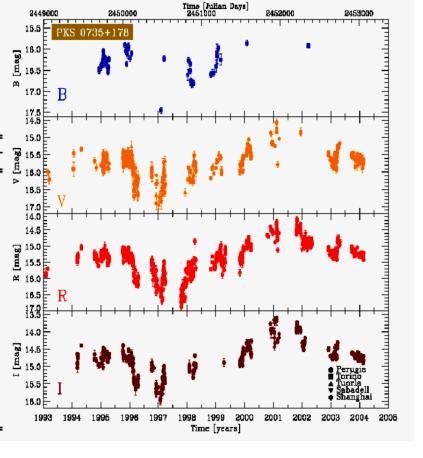
0.453

0.155

0.400

9.9

1.1



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End date [JD-2449000]

Total period N_{tot} [days]

Mean num. points \times night

Total mean gap Δt [days]

Average brightness [mag]

Variab. range Δm [mag]

Absorption coeff.[†] [mag]

Data standard deviation

Max brightness [mag]

Min brightness [mag]

Data skewness

Data kurtosis

Min flux [mJy]

Max flux (mJv)

Nights with data N_{on}

 N_{on}/N_{tot} fraction

Longest gap [days]

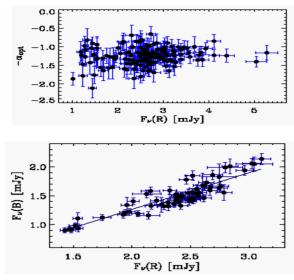


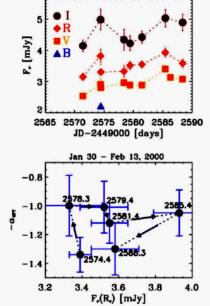


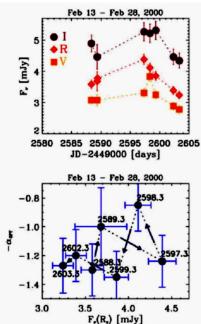


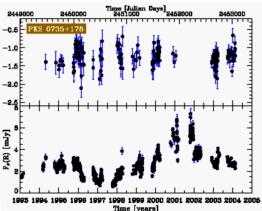
Multiband behaviour: Optical spectral indexes calculated and studied on years timescales. Long-term variability is essentially achromatic, whereas flares imply spectral changes.

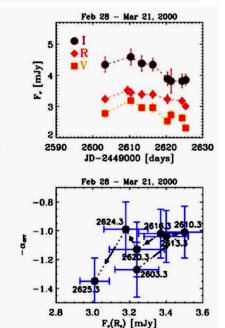
Evolution of the continuum optical spectrum as a function of the flux during epochs of flickering and moderate flaring activity does not show clear hysteresis loops. Jan 27 - Feb 13, 2000











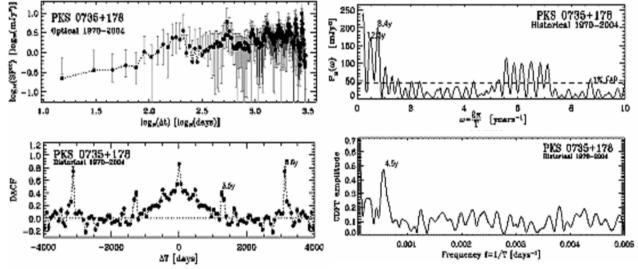


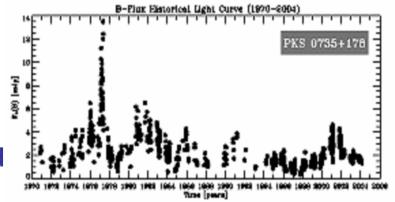




□ Temporal behaviour: Temporal analysis of the optical variability. To search for coherent structures in the time domain, characteristic timescales and to identify duty-cycles and variability modes .

□ Several methods applied to the historical light curve and to each single observing season. Long-term (years) and intermediate-term (weeks) timescales investigated.



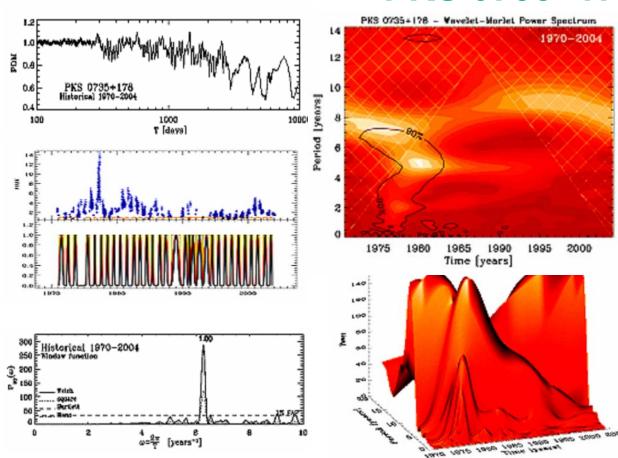


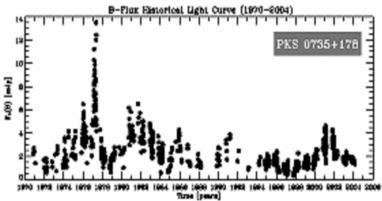
- Discrete Correlation Function.
 Structure Function SF.
 Lomb Secrete Periodegram
- Lomb-Scargle Periodogram.
- Clean Discrete Fourier Transform.











 Phase Dispersion Minimization.
 Gaps Window Function.
 periodogram GWFP.
 Discrete Wavelet Transform scalogram*.

Such methods could be applied to LAT lightcurves.

*: the two-dimensional energy density function DWT(t,T)^2, where DWT is the Discrete Wavelet Transform computed using a Morlet mother waveform, t and T the time and period scale respectively. **Stefano Ciprini - AGN/Blazar WG** "*F2F Meeting*", **SLAC**, **March 2006**







Summary of the characteristic timescales* revealed by the timeseries analysis (when possible) performed with the methods cited above. On long timescales some major temporal components, possibly modulating the long term trend are found. On intervals shorter than 200 days (monitored by our seasonal observations), there are not hints of typical recurrent timescales, but signatures of several intermediate (weeks) timescales. Data and results in Ciprini et al. (2006, submitted).

Observing season	Duration [days]	Non	< n >	$<\Delta t>$ [days]	Δt_{max} [days]	SF T _{dr} [days]	PSD slope a	SF T _{to} [days]	DACF T _{pe} [days]	LSP T _{pe} [days]	CDFT T _{pe} [days]	PDM T _{dr} [days]	DWT T _{pe} [days]
B 1906-2004 [†]	98.1y	989	1.7	20.7	12.78y	11.6y,25y,			8.6y,24.7y	8.6y,13.2y,33.7y	34y	8.2,12.6y,15.2y	13.7y
$B 1906-1958^{\dagger}$	52y	122	1.4	114	8.95y	12.3y, 18.5			11.4y	5.7y,10.8y		11.6y	10.9y
B 1970-2004 [†]	33.3y	867	1.8	7.8	1.63y	4.4y,8.1y,11.8y	1.5,2.0	0.6y,1.5y	3.5y, 4.5y, 8.6y	8.4y,12.5y	4.5y	8.2y,12.6y,15y	4.8y,7.4y
R III Oct.94-Apr95	191	43	1.8	2.5	20.8	79			18			18,78	25
R IV Sep95-Apr96	203	62	1.4	2.3	12.9	39	1.97 ± 0.25		28				34
R V Oct96-Apr97	178	53	1.6	2.1	17.9	50,79	1.77 ± 0.2	36		50,77		77	
R VI Oct97-Apr98	189	52	1.3	2.8	15.9	32,66			68			33,66,97	95
R VII Oct98-May99	189	51	1.2	3.0	21.0	96	1.64 ± 0.09	31	54,96	53,102		30,54	48,96
R VIII Nov99-Mar00	144	36	1.4	2.7	22.2	83	1.84 ± 0.12	78				25	
R IX Oct00-Mar01	153	20	1.4	5.6	31.2	27,56			33	28	28		40,76
RX Oct01-May02	201	62	2.3	1.4	24.8	69	1.46 ± 0.17	65	41	41,54	52	55,81	
R XI Nov02-A pr03	144	42	1.1	3.3	24.9	24,60	$\textbf{2.34} \pm \textbf{0.12}$		28	28	27	55	40
R XII Sep03-Feb04	148	33	1.0	4.6	21.0	18,55			20,42			56	52

† Time scales followed by "y" are expressed in years.

*: characteristic timescale: "the major scale of variability", i.e. where there is more energy in the power spectral density of the signal.