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Theoretical Description of GRB 160625B with Wind-to-ISM Transition and Implications for a Magnetized Outflow

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Abstract

GRB 160625B, one of the brightest bursts in recent years, was simultaneously observed by \textit{Fermi} and \textit{Swift} satellites, and ground-based optical telescopes in three different events separated by long periods of time. In this paper, the non-thermal multiwavelength observations of GRB 160625B are described and a transition phase from wind-type-like medium to interstellar medium (ISM) between the early (event II) and the late (event III) afterglow is found. The multiwavelength observations of the early afterglow are consistent with the afterglow evolution starting at $\sim 150$ s in a stellar wind medium, whereas the observations of the late afterglow are consistent with the afterglow evolution in ISM. The wind-to-ISM transition is calculated to be at $\sim 8 \times 10^3$ s when the jet has decelerated, at a distance of $\sim 1$ pc from the progenitor. Using the standard external shock model, the synchrotron and synchrotron self-Compton emission from reverse shock is required to model the GeV $\gamma$-ray and optical observations in the early afterglow, and synchrotron radiation from the adiabatic forward shock to describe the X-ray and optical observations in the late afterglow. The derived values of the magnetization parameter, the slope of the fast decay of the optical flash, and the inferred magnetic fields suggest that Poynting flux-dominated jet models with arbitrary magnetization could account for the spectral properties exhibited by GRB 160625B.

Key words: gamma-ray burst: individual (GRB 160625B) – radiation mechanisms: non-thermal

1. Introduction

Gamma-ray bursts (GRBs) are the most luminous explosions in the universe. Observations have firmly established that GRB prompt phases and their afterglows arise from highly relativistic and collimated outflows (Panaitescu & Kumar 2002; Taylor et al. 2004; Kumar & Zhang 2015). Long GRBs (iGRBs) have been associated with the core collapse of massive stars (Hjorth et al. 2003; Woosley & Bloom 2006; Hjorth & Bloom 2012). According to the collapsar model, iGRBs are generated in shocks that take place after the ultrarelativistic jet has broken out from the stellar envelope. The jet dynamic is mainly dominated by the jet head, which is controlled by the difference in pressures between the reverse and forward shocks. If the luminosity is low enough and/or the density of stellar envelope is high enough, the collimated jet will then be surrounded by a cocoon (Ramirez-Ruiz et al. 2002; Bromberg et al. 2011; Mizuta & Ioka 2013). When the relativistic jet is going through the progenitor star, its rate of advance is slowed down and most of the energy output during this phase is deposited into the cocoon. It starts spreading up to the optical depth, becomes equal to unity, and then an Xthermal component could be expected.

The description of bright optical flashes by reverse shocks (Zhang et al. 2003; Vestrand et al. 2014; Gao et al. 2015; Fraija et al. 2016a; Huang et al. 2016) and the high degree of optical polarization detected in some bursts (Mundell et al. 2007; Steele et al. 2009; Pruzhinskaya et al. 2014; Kopač et al. 2015; Gorbovskoy et al. 2016) have supplied strong evidence that sources could be endowed with magnetic fields (Usov 1992; Wheeler et al. 2000; Coburn & Boggs 2003). Using standard assumptions such as the reverse-shocked shell carries a substantial energy, optical flashes are described by synchrotron emission from reverse shock, which is shown as a single peak (Chevalier & Li 2000; Kobayashi 2000; Zhang et al. 2003; Kobayashi & Zhang 2003a; Zhang & Kobayashi 2005), and then high-energy photons could be generated by inverse Compton scattering process (Wang et al. 2001a, 2001b; Kobayashi et al. 2007; Fraija 2015; Fraija et al. 2016b; Fraija et al. 2017).

Ackermann et al. (2013a) reported the first \textit{Fermi}-LAT catalog that summarized the temporal and spectral properties of the 28 GRB LAT-detected above 100 MeV and 7 GRBs above $\sim 20$ MeV. These bursts were recorded since the beginning of nominal science operations in 2008 until 2011. Analysis of the high-energy emission showed that the more luminous bursts present a bright and short-lasting peak at the end of the prompt emission and a temporally extended component lasting hundreds of seconds.

GRB 160625B was detected on 2016 June 25 by both instruments on board the \textit{Fermi} satellite; Gamma-Ray Burst Monitor (GBM; Burns 2016); Large Area Telescope (LAT; Dirirsa et al. 2016); XRT and UVOT instruments on board \textit{Swift} satellite (Melandri et al. 2016); and several optical telescopes (CASANDRA all-sky cameras on the BOOTES-1 and -2 astronomical stations, Mini-Mega TORTORA, the Pi of the Sky observatory, TSHAO, AbAO, RATIR, Mondy, CrAO, Maidanak, and SAO RAS. See Zhang et al. 2016; Troja et al. 2016). This burst was originally divided in three different temporal events. Zhang et al. (2016) stated that the spectral properties of the first two sub-bursts transition (from thermal to non-thermal radiation in a single burst) indicated the variation...
of the jet composition from a fireball to a Poynting flux-dominated jet. Lü et al. (2017) proposed that event I could be explained by the cocoon emission surrounding the jet, the early afterglow by the superposition of the photosphere, and internal shock emissions and finally, the late afterglow by the emission generated in both internal and external shocks.

In this paper, we use the early afterglow external shock model in stellar wind medium and interstellar medium (ISM) to describe the multicolor observations during events II (henceforth called early afterglow) and III (henceforth called late afterglow) of GRB 160625B. The paper is arranged as follows. In Section 2, we show the dynamics of external shocks that evolves adiabatically in a stellar wind-type-like medium and ISM. In Section 3, we present the multicolor observations, data reduction, and data analysis. In Section 4, the discussion and results on the analysis done to the multicolor data are presented. Finally, in Section 5, we give a brief summary.

2. Dynamics of the External Shocks

The external shocks take place when the relativistic ejecta collide with the circumburst medium and start to slow down. Generally, an ongoing shock that propagates into the surrounding medium so-called forward shock and a reverse shock that propagates into the flow are formed. The afterglow phase begins when the ejecta has swept enough material so that most of the energy of the ejecta has been transferred to the circumburst medium. We present the afterglow evolution in a stellar wind medium and ISM, and the wind-to-ISM transition.

2.1. Afterglow Evolution in the Stellar Wind-type-like Medium

The dynamics of a relativistic shell interacting with the surrounding medium with an inhomogeneous density (stellar wind-like medium) has been widely discussed (e.g., see, Chevalier & Li 2000). For the adiabatic blastwave, the typical timescales (deceleration, cooling, and acceleration), the deceleration radius, the Lorentz factors, the synchrotron spectral breaks, the maximum flux, and synchrotron light curves are given in Chevalier & Li (1999, 2000) and Panaitescu & Kumar (2000). Using the previous quantities, the synchrotron flux in the fast-cooling regime is proportional to \( \propto t^{-\frac{2}{3}} E^{-\frac{2}{3}} \) for \( E_{\text{m,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{max,f}}^{\text{syn}} \) and \( \propto t^{-1} E^{-\frac{2}{3}} \) for \( E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{m,f}}^{\text{syn}} \), where \( E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} \) and \( E_{\text{m,f}}^{\text{syn}} \) are the synchrotron spectral breaks for the cooling, characteristic, and maximum photon energy, respectively (i.e., Gao et al. 2013a). In the slow-cooling regime, the synchrotron light curve and spectrum is proportional to \( \propto t^{-\frac{2}{3}} E^{-\frac{2}{3}} \) for \( E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{m,f}}^{\text{syn}} \) and \( \propto t^{-1} E^{-\frac{2}{3}} \) for \( E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{m,f}}^{\text{syn}} \), where the proportionality constants of these spectra are explicitly written in e.g., Fraija et al. (2016b).

The achromatic break in the optical and X-ray bands observed in the late afterglow is related to the time when the jet slows down and spreads laterally (Sari et al. 1999). For this case, assuming the synchrotron emission from the same power-law electron distribution and also that the jet break \( (\Gamma \sim \theta_j^{-1}) \) takes place at time \( t_j \propto \sqrt{(1+z)^{1/2} E_j^{1/2} \theta_j^{3/2}} \), the synchrotron flux for slow-cooling regime becomes \( \propto t^{-1} E^{-\frac{2}{3}} \) for \( E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{m,f}}^{\text{syn}} \), and \( \propto t^{-1/3} E^{2/3} \) for \( E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{m,f}}^{\text{syn}} \) (Sari et al. 1999).

2.2. Afterglow Evolution in ISM

The dynamics of the external shocks for the ejecta expanding into a surrounding medium with homogeneous density has been widely explored (e.g., see, Sari et al. 1998). Using the synchrotron spectra, the evolution of synchrotron energy breaks, and the maximum flux, the synchrotron light curve and spectrum in the fast-cooling regime is proportional to \( \propto t^{-\frac{2}{3}} E^{-\frac{2}{3}} \) for \( E_{\text{m,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{max,f}}^{\text{syn}} \), and \( \propto t^{-1} E^{-\frac{2}{3}} \) for \( E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{m,f}}^{\text{syn}} \), where \( E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} \) and \( E_{\text{m,f}}^{\text{syn}} \) are the synchrotron spectral breaks for the cooling, characteristic, and maximum photon energy, respectively (i.e., van Eerten et al. 2010; Gao et al. 2013a). In the slow-cooling regime, the synchrotron light curve and spectrum is proportional to \( \propto t^{-\frac{2}{3}} E^{-\frac{2}{3}} \) for \( E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{m,f}}^{\text{syn}} \) and \( \propto t^{-1} E^{-\frac{2}{3}} \) for \( E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{c,f}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{m,f}}^{\text{syn}} \), where the proportionality constants of these spectra are explicitly written in e.g., Fraija et al. (2016b).

2.3. The Wind-to-ISM Transition

LGRBs are thought to be associated with the core collapse of massive stars, suggesting that the medium surrounding the progenitor is modified by the stellar wind. In the case of a Wolf–Rayet, for a mass-loss rate \( M \approx 10^{-6} M_\odot \text{yr}^{-1} \) with a wind velocity constant of \( v_w \approx 10^8 \text{cm} \text{s}^{-1} \), the density of the stellar wind-type-like medium is given by \( \rho(r) = A r^{-2} \), where
\[ A = \frac{M}{4 \pi R^2} = A_\star (5 \times 10^{11}) \text{ g cm}^{-3} \] with \( A_\star \) a parameter of stellar wind density (Dai & Lu 1998; Vink et al. 2000; Dai & Wu 2003; Chevalier et al. 2004; Vink & de Koter 2005). The dynamics of the wind-to-ISM transition phase was originally introduced by Weaver et al. (1977) and Castor et al. (1975). Authors showed that this phase was made up of four-region structure which are (1) the unshocked stellar wind with density \( \rho(r) \), (2) a quasi-isobaric zone consisting of the stellar wind mixed with a small fraction of interstellar gas, (3) a dense-thin shell formed by most of ISM, and (4) the unshocked ambient ISM (see Figure 1 in Pe`er & Wijers 2006).

Taking into consideration an adiabatic expansion, two strong shocks are formed: the outer and inner shocks. The outer termination (forward) shock radius can be estimated as

\[ R_{\text{FS},W} = \left( \frac{125}{308 \pi} \right) \left( \frac{M v_w^2 t_s^3}{n} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} = 1.2 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm} \left( \frac{M_0}{n_0} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \frac{t_s^{\frac{2}{3}}}{v_w^{\frac{1}{3}}} \frac{1}{n_0}, \quad (1) \]

where \( t_s \) is the lifetime of the Wolf–Rayet phase of the star and the homogeneous density has been written as \( n = n_0 \text{ cm}^{-3} \). The inner (reverse) shock radius for which the wind-to-ISM transition takes place \( (R_0; \text{Pe`er \\& Wijers 2006}) \) is calculated equaling the pressures in zones (2) and (3),

\[ P_{(2)} = P_{(3)} = \left( \frac{7}{25} \right) \left( \frac{125}{308 \pi} \right) \left( \frac{M v_w^2}{n t_s^2} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}} = 1.4 \times 10^{-11} \text{ dynes cm}^{-2} M_0^{\frac{2}{3}} v_w^{\frac{2}{3}} n_0^{-\frac{1}{6}} t_s^{\frac{2}{3}}. \quad (2) \]

with the strong conditions at the shock (e.g., see, Garcia-Segura & Franco 1996; Dai & Lu 2002; Pe`er \\& Wijers 2006). In this case the inner shock and the wind-to-ISM transition radius can be written as

\[ R_0 \equiv R_{\text{GS},W} = \left( \frac{3 M v_w}{16 \pi P_{(2)}} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} = 5.1 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm} M_0^{\frac{1}{3}} v_w^{\frac{1}{3}} n_0^{-\frac{1}{6}} t_s^{\frac{2}{3}}. \quad (3) \]

The density of stellar wind at \( r = R_0 \) is given by

\[ \rho(R_0) = \frac{M}{4 \pi R_0^2 v_w} = 1.8 \times 10^{-27} \text{ g cm}^{-3} R_0^{-2} M_0^{-2} v_w^{-1}. \quad (4) \]

which corresponds to a number density of particles \( 1.1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm}^{-3} \).

3. GRB 160625B: Multiwavelength Observations, Data Reduction, and Data Analysis

3.1. Multiwavelength Observations and Data Reduction

At 22:40:16.28 UT, 2016 June 25, Fermi-GBM triggered and located GRB 160625B (Burns 2016). Later, at 22:43:24.82 UT, Fermi-LAT triggered on a luminous pulse of the ongoing burst. More than 300 photons were detected above 100 MeV in the direction of this burst and the highest-energy photon detected was 15 GeV observed at 345 s after the GBM trigger (Dirisa et al. 2016). XRT on board the Swift satellite followed up this burst for \( \sim 1.1 \) ks (Melandri et al. 2016). Surprisingly, at 22:51:16.03 GBM again triggered on this burst. Several optical observations were performed with the Pi of the Sky Observatory, Mini-Mega TORTOLA, TSHAO, AbAO, Mondy, CrAO, Maitrak, , SAO RAS (see Zhang et al. 2016), and RATIR instrument (riZYJH bands; Troja et al. 2016). This burst also triggered Konus-Wind at 22:40:19.875 UT. Assuming the redshift \( z = 1.406 \) (Xu et al. 2016), Konus-Wind measured the highest isotropic energy ever detected of \( \sim 4 \times 10^{54} \text{ erg} \) (Svinkin et al. 2016).

Fermi-LAT data in the energy range of 100 MeV–300 GeV was reduced using the public database at the Fermi web site. The light curve was obtained using the ScienceTools-v9r27p1 package and the P7TRANSIENT V6 response function. The Swift-XRT data used in this work are publicly available at the official Swift web site. The optical fluxes and their associated errors used in this work were calculated using the magnitudes reported by Zhang et al. (2016) with the standard conversion for AB magnitudes shown in Fukugita et al. (1996).

3.2. Multiwavelength Data Analysis

The Chi-square \( \chi^2 \) minimization using the ROOT software package (Brun & Rademakers 1997) was done to fit the multiwavelength observations presented in the early and late afterglow. The values observed of decay slopes with their chi squares \( (\chi^2/\text{n.d.f.}) \) are reported in Table 1.

Due to connection between prompt emission and the early afterglow, we model the fast decay of the optical and LAT fluxes using the function

\[ F(t) = A \left( \frac{t - t_0}{t_0} \right)^{-\alpha} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}, \quad (5) \]

where \( t_0 \) is the starting time, \( A \) is the amplitude, \( \tau \) is the timescale of the flux rise, and \( \alpha \) is the temporal decay index (Vestrand et al. 2006). A blow-up of the optical and LAT light curves together with the modeling function before \( \sim 700 \text{ s} \) is shown in Figure 1. The best-fit values obtained of the optical (LAT) flux were \( t_0 = 153.3 \pm 22.1(142.4 \pm 9.8) \text{ s} \), \( \tau = 101.2 \pm 9.3(52.7 \pm 4.5) \text{ s} \), and \( \alpha = 2.51 \pm 0.81(2.46 \pm 0.75) \). The values of starting times suggest that both LAT and optical afterglow emission started simultaneously around \( \sim 150 \text{ s} \). If a wrong \( t_0 \) is chosen to the precursor time, then some unreasonable results are obtained. However, if \( t_0 \) is chosen at the main burst, then the reasonable results as presented in the paper are obtained. This is understandable because the precursor is energetically insignificant. The blastwave dynamics are mostly defined by the main burst. On the other hand, the Fermi-LAT spectrum was plotted and modeled with a power-law function (see Figure 2, left panel). The best-fit value found of the LAT spectral index is \( \Gamma_{\text{LAT}} = 2.8 \pm 0.1 \) and the observational LAT flux as function of time and energy is \( E_{\gamma} \propto t^{-2.46 \pm 0.75} E^{-1.15 \pm 0.05} \). Taking into consideration that during the early afterglow, this burst was only detected in the optical V-band, an extended dotted–dashed line over the only optical data was drawn. The value of the slope of \( 1.45 \pm 0.05 \) for this line was chosen in accordance with the

6. http://fermi.gsfc.nasa.gov/ssc/data
7. http://swift.gsfc.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/sdc/qf
8. Number of degrees of freedom.
closure relation in our model. Deviations from those relations have been extensively analyzed in Uhm & Zhang (2014b). In this case, optical flux varies as $F_\gamma \propto t^{-2.51 \pm 0.81} E^{-0.45 \pm 0.05}$.

It is worth noting that the optical band is typically in the regime $E_{\gamma\text{,opt}}^{\text{syn}}(t_d) < E_{\gamma\text{,opt}}^{\text{syn}}(t_d)$ for ISM (Kobayashi & Zhang 2003b; Zhang & Kobayashi 2005) and $E_{\gamma\text{,opt}}^{\text{syn}}(t_d) < E_{\text{opt}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\gamma\text{,opt}}^{\text{syn}}(t_d)$ for stellar wind-type like medium (Kobayashi & Zhang 2003a). After the peak, the flux at an energy above $E_{\gamma\text{,opt}}^{\text{syn}}$ disappears at $t_d$ because no electron is shocked anymore. For ISM, the cooling break energy is larger than the optical band ($E_{\gamma\text{,opt}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\gamma\text{,opt}}^{\text{syn}}$) and the optical flux decays $\propto t^{-(73p+21)/96} \sim t^{-2}$ (Kobayashi 2000). For stellar wind medium, the cooling break energy is smaller than the optical band ($E_{\gamma\text{,opt}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\gamma\text{,opt}}^{\text{syn}}$) and the optical flux decays $\propto t^{-(\beta+2)}$ when the angular time delay effect produced by high latitude emission is considered (Kobayashi & Zhang 2003a; Kumar & Panaitescu 2000a). Taking into consideration the value of spectral index $\beta_{\text{LAT}} = 1.15 \pm 0.05$, the LAT and optical fluxes are consistent with synchrotron and SSC emission in the fast-cooling regime for $p = 2.4$ when the outflow is decelerated by the stellar wind medium. To find a correlation between GeV $\gamma$-ray and optical fluxes, the Pearson’s correlation coefficients with the $p$-values are calculated. Considering a maximum allowed time difference between data of $\Delta t \leq 2.5, 10$ s, the Pearson’s correlation coefficients are 0.93, 0.91, and 0.92 and the $p$-values are $2.2 \times 10^{-2}$ (i.e., the probability of being by chance is 1.2%), $6.6 \times 10^{-4}$, and $1.1 \times 10^{-8}$, respectively. The values of these coefficients obtained during the period in which both GeV $\gamma$-ray and optical fluxes began to decline, reveal that GeV $\gamma$-ray and optical fluxes are strongly correlated and also that this correlation is not due to random chance. The observational (spectral an temporal) and theoretical values of the decay slopes (see Table 1) and the strong correlation between both fluxes are consistent with the theoretical values of synchrotron and SSC radiation from the reverse-shock evolution in the stellar wind-type-like medium. This evolution corresponds to a thick-shell regime affected by the angular time delay effect (see, Kumar & Panaitescu 2000a; Kobayashi & Zhang 2003a).

During the late afterglow from $\sim 8 \times 10^3$ to $6 \times 10^6$ s, X-rays and optical light curves were observed with a break at $t_j \sim 1.6 \times 10^6$ s. The slopes of the X-ray and optical fluxes before the break are $\alpha_{\text{X,bb}} = 1.327 \pm 0.521$ and $\alpha_{\text{opt,bb}} = 0.921 \pm 0.163$, and after the breaks are $\alpha_{\text{X,ab}} = 2.348 \pm 0.860$ and $\alpha_{\text{opt,ab}} = 2.036 \pm 0.521$, respectively. In addition, the spectrum energy distribution (SED) of the optical and X-ray data was modeled with a power-law function (see Figure 2, right panel) and the best-fit value of $\Gamma_{\text{X,opt}} = \beta_{\text{X,opt}} + 1 = 1.71 \pm 0.12$ was obtained. Therefore, the flux varies as $F_\gamma \propto t^{-1.327 \pm 0.521} E^{-0.71 \pm 0.12}$ and $F_\gamma \propto t^{-0.921 \pm 0.165} E^{-0.71 \pm 0.12}$ for X-ray and optical wavelengths, respectively. These results indicate that the slopes observed for the X-ray and optical fluxes before the breaks are consistent with the forward-shock synchrotron emission in the slow-cooling regime ($E_{\gamma\text{,opt}}^{\text{syn}} < E_{\gamma\text{,opt}}^{\text{syn}}$) for a power-law index of $p = 2.4$ when outflow is decelerated by the ISM. After the breaks, post jet-break fluxes are proportional to $F_\gamma \propto t^{-2.348 \pm 0.860} E^{-0.71 \pm 0.12}$ and $F_\gamma \propto t^{-2.036 \pm 0.521} E^{-0.71 \pm 0.12}$ for X-ray and optical wavelengths, respectively, which are consistent with synchrotron radiation in the slow-cooling regime for $p = 2.4$. The observational and theoretical values are reported in Table 1.

In general, using the reverse- and forward-shock light curves it can be seen that the early afterglow is consistent with the afterglow evolution in the wind medium and the late afterglow is consistent with the afterglow evolution in ISM. Table 1 shows that both values of slope decays (observational and theoretical) are in agreement.

Taking into account the starting time found of the LAT and optical afterglow $t_0 \approx 150$ s, the values of the bulk Lorentz factor $\Gamma$ and the parameter $A_\ast$, are constrained through the deceleration time in wind-type like medium $t_{d,\text{SW}}(\Gamma, A_\ast) \approx 150$ s. Taking into consideration that the early and late afterglows are consistent with radiation emitted when ejecta are decelerated in the stellar wind density and ISM, respectively, the wind-to-ISM transition

### Table 1

| Fitted Values of the Multiwavelength Data. Values in Round Parenthesis are the Chi-square Minimization ($\chi^2/n\text{d.f.}$) |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Early Afterglow** | **Observation** | **Theory** | **Late Afterglow** | **Observation** | **Theory** |
|---------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------|
| **GeV Flux** | | | | | |
| Decay slope | $\alpha_{\text{LAT}}$ | $2.46 \pm 0.75$ (44.77/10) | 3.20 | … | … |
| Spectral slope | $\beta_{\text{LAT}}$ | $1.15 \pm 0.05$ (35.6/31) | 1.20 | … | … |
| **X-Ray Flux** | | | | | |
| Decay slope (before break) | $\alpha_{\text{X,bb}}$ | … | $1.327 \pm 0.521$ (156.5/112) | 1.05 | … |
| Decay slope (after break) | $\alpha_{\text{X,ab}}$ | … | $2.348 \pm 0.860$ (4.869/6) | 2.40 | … |
| Break time (s) | $t_{\text{X,br}}$ | … | $1.64 \times 10^6$ | 1.15 | 1.05 |
| Spectral slope | $\beta_{\text{X}}$ | … | $0.71 \pm 0.12$ (156.5/112) | 0.70 | … |
| **Optical Flux** | | | | | |
| Early decay slope | $\alpha_{\text{opt,bb}}$ | $2.51 \pm 0.81$ (588/50) | 2.50 | … | … |
| Decay slope (before break) | $\alpha_{\text{opt,bb}}$ | … | $0.921 \pm 0.163$ (36.9/28) | 1.05 | … |
| Decay slope (after break) | $\alpha_{\text{opt,ab}}$ | … | $2.036 \pm 0.521$ (8.91/6) | 2.40 | … |
| Break time (s) | $t_{\text{opt,br}}$ | … | $1.71 \times 10^6$ | 1.15 | 1.05 |
| Late spectral slope | $\beta_{\text{opt}}$ | … | $0.71 \pm 0.12$ (156.5/112) | 0.70 | … |
must have taken place between \(\sim 700\) s and \(\sim 10^4\) s (see Figure 1).

By using the values of the isotropic radiated energy \(\sim 4 \times 10^{54}\) erg (Svinkin et al. 2016) with an efficiency \(\eta \approx 0.2\) that corresponds to a kinetic energy of \(2 \times 10^{55}\) erg, the redshift \(z = 1.406\) (Xu et al. 2016), the spectral index of electron distribution \(p = 2.4\) and the duration of the burst \(t_{\text{br}} \approx 188\) s, the fit in the early phase of the LAT and optical early data were done with synchrotron and SSC model in the stellar wind-type-like medium for a relativistic electron population radiating photons at 180 s with energies of 100 MeV and 2 eV, respectively. The late phase of the X-ray and optical data were modeled with synchrotron emission for the same relativistic electron population radiating photons at \(5 \times 10^4\) s with energies of 5 keV and 2 eV, respectively. For \(t \geq t_{\text{br}} \approx 1.6 \times 10^6\) s, the post jet-break synchrotron light curves in the slow-cooling regime for X-ray and optical fluxes are used.

### 4. Results and Discussion

The multiwavelength data of the early afterglow (GeV and optical bands) and the late afterglow (X-rays and optical bands) are shown in Figure 1. In addition, we show the fit of the early afterglow using the afterglow evolution in the stellar wind-type-like medium and the late afterglow using the afterglow evolution in ISM. The values of the microphysical parameters and densities found with the fit of the multiwavelength observations and the wind-to-ISM transition are reported in Table 2. Using the values of the parameters in Table 2, we can infer the following:

1. Using the value found of the magnetic microphysical parameter after describing the early afterglow, the magnetization parameter becomes \(\sigma \approx 0.4\). This value means that ejecta is moderately magnetized and therefore, a successful reverse shock is expected. Otherwise, particle acceleration in the reverse shock is inefficient and the reverse shock would have been suppressed (for \(\sigma \gg 1\)). In addition, for \(\sigma \gg 1\) the bright optical and LAT peaks would not have been detected (Fan et al. 2004; Zhang & Kobayashi 2005). Several authors have pointed out that Poynting flux-dominated models with arbitrary magnetization could give account of the high-energy emission observed in the brightest LAT-detected bursts (Zhang & Yan 2011; Ulhm & Zhang 2014a). This value indicates that the ejecta must also have dissipated a significant amount of Poynting flux during the prompt emission phase, being the internal collision-induced magnetic reconnection and turbulence (ICMART) event the most favorable process to explain this pattern (Zhang & Yan 2011). This result agrees with the model proposed by Zhang et al. (2016) after analyzing the spectral properties exhibited in GRB 160625B. They suggested that the thermal and non-thermal emission coming from the events I and II could be explained through the transition from a fireball to Poynting flux-dominated jet.

2. The values of wind \((A_w = 0.2)\) and ISM \((n = 10\ \text{cm}^{-3})\) parameter densities found for the early and late afterglow, respectively, lie in the range of typical ones reported for highly energetic burst (Racusin et al. 2008; Fraija et al. 2012; Ackermann et al. 2013b; Perley et al. 2014; Vestrand et al. 2014). The values of circumburst medium \(n = 10\ \text{cm}^{-3}\) and the distance \(z = 1.406\) associated with this burst support the idea that the host could be a dwarf-irregular galaxy which has typical size of \(L \sim 0.1\) kpc and column density of \(N_H \approx 3 \times 10^{21}\ \text{cm}^{-2}\) (Bloom et al. 1998, 2001).

3. Using the values of the parameters \((A_w = 0.2)\) and \((n = 10\ \text{cm}^{-3})\), we derived the values of the wind-to-ISM transition for the deceleration time in the stellar wind and the transition radius which are \(t_{\text{br,W}} = 7.8 \times 10^3\) s and \(R_0 \approx 2.6 \times 10^{18}\) cm, respectively. The value of initial bulk Lorentz factor derived in this afterglow model corresponds to \(\Gamma = 500\) similar to the LAT-detected bursts. By studying the spectral features of the LAT-detected

![Figure 1](https://example.com/figure1.png)
bursts, Veres & Mészáros (2012) used a magnetically dominated ejecta model to describe the high-energy emission present in these energetic bursts. They showed that the inverse Compton scattering coming from the forward and reverse shocks give a significant contribution in the LAT emission, provided that the bulk Lorentz factor were in the range of 300–600. In addition, other powerful bursts such as GRBs 110731A and 130427A were modeled using synchrotron and SSC emission from the external shock model for bulk Lorentz factors of 520 and 550, respectively. Considering that GRB 160625B is among the five most powerful bursts, it is expected that the value of the bulk Lorentz factor is in the range of the brightest LAT-detected bursts, as found in this work.

Table 3 shows the timescales, bulk Lorentz factors, synchrotron, and SSC spectral breaks among others. These values were computed based on the values reported in Table 2 and the dynamics of a relativistic shell interacting with an stellar wind medium (Chevalier & Li 2000) and ISM (Sari et al. 1998) for the early and late afterglows, respectively. In accordance with the quantities reported in Table 3, the following results are found.

1. By comparing the synchrotron self-absorption energy \( E_{\text{m, syn}} \) with the characteristic \( E_{\text{syn}} \) and cooling \( E_{\text{c, syn}} \) energies obtained the early afterglow, it can be noted that synchrotron spectrum in the reverse shock lies in the weak self-absorption regime. Therefore, a thermal component generated by synchrotron radiation is not expected at \( \sim 150–200\ s \).

2. The break observed in X-ray and optical light curves at \( t_j \approx 1.6 \times 10^6\ s \) is attributed to a jet break, leading to a jet opening angle of \( \theta_j \approx 8.7^\circ \) (Sari et al. 1999). The value of bulk Lorentz factor at the jet-break time corresponds to \( \Gamma_j = 6.9 \). The beaming corrected gamma-ray energy is then \( 3 \times 10^{52}\ \text{erg} \) which makes it part of the hyper energetic GRBs (Cenko et al. 2011).

3. The maximum energy of synchrotron photons radiated in the stellar wind afterglow (the second event) is 7.69 GeV at 350 s. Then, the highest-energy photon of 15 GeV detected at 354 s after the GBM trigger is not consistent with the maximum synchrotron energy from an adiabatic forward shock propagating into the stellar wind of the star. Therefore, the most energetic photon could be explained by the inverse Compton scattering from the forward shock which has a characteristic break energy of 7.3 TeV.

4. During the early afterglow, a temporal correlation was found between the GeV \( \gamma \)-ray and optical bands. It suggests that the GeV \( \gamma \)-ray and optical fluxes were generated co-spatially by the same electron population. During the prompt and afterglow phases, correlations among distinct bands have been searched in order to explore the origin of the LAT-detected emission. For instance, an optical flash observed in the extremely brightest GRB 130427A correlated with the LAT-detected emission, indicating that both emissions originated in the early afterglow. A very similar pattern is
found in GRB 160625B which displayed a bright optical flash in temporal correlation with the LAT emission. It suggests that the LAT emission could have been generated in the early afterglow.

5. The ratio of the magnetic fields in the forward- and reverse-shock regions found is $B_f/B_r \simeq 620$. The magnetic field in the reverse-shock region is stronger than in the forward shock as found in the brightest LAT-detected burst (GRB 090510, GRB 110721A, GRB 110731A, GRB 130427A and others) the ejecta is magnetised. As follows we estimate the synchrotron flux contribution from the reverse and forward shocks. The forward-shock synchrotron quantities at ~200 s inferred from the later times are: $E_{\text{syn}} = 1.4 \text{ keV}$, $E_{\text{c,f}} = 0.9 \text{ eV}$ and $F_{\text{max,f}} = 31.9 \text{ mJy}$, at $E_{\text{syn}} = 2 \text{ eV}$, flux is in the energy range of $E_{\text{c,f}} < E_{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{max,f}}$, and then it is given by $F_{\text{c,f}} = E_{\text{c,f}}^2 (E_{\text{syn}}/E_{\text{c,f}})^{-1/2}$ (Sari et al. 1998). From the reverse-shock synchrotron quantities reported in Table 3, the reverse-shock synchrotron flux at $E_{\text{syn}} = 2 \text{ eV}$ lies in the energy range of $E_{\text{syn}} < E_{\text{c,r}}$. Therefore, it can be written as $F_{\text{c,r}} = E_{\text{c,r}}^2 (E_{\text{syn}}/E_{\text{c,r}})^{-1/2}$ ($E_{\text{syn}}/E_{\text{c,r}})^{-1/2}$ (Sari et al. 1998). The synchrotron fluxes at forward and reverse shocks are $F_{\text{c,f}} = 21.4 \text{ mJy}$ and $F_{\text{c,r}} = 11.2 \times 10^2 \text{ mJy}$, respectively. Since the reverse shock is dominant over that radiation originated at the forward shock. The previous results together with the fact that the polarization percentage from the forward shocked circum-burst medium is expected to be very low (see e.g., Covino et al. 1999; Greiner et al. 2003) suggest that the optical flux is expected with some degree of polarization.

6. GRB 160625B is one of the most energetic burst, suggesting a large amount of target photons for photo-hadronic interactions and then, making it a potential candidate for neutrino detection. However, no high-energy neutrinos in spatial and temporal coincidences were reported by the IceCube neutrino telescope around this burst. A similar powerful burst GRB 130427A with energy of $\sim 2 \times 10^{54}$ erg was detected by several satellites and ground-based telescopes (Ackermann et al. 2014; Maselli et al. 2014; Vestrand et al. 2014) and although searches for TeV–PeV neutrinos were performed, no excess were found above background. Gao et al. (2013b) stated that the neutrino non-detection could constrain the values of the bulk Lorentz factor, emitting radius and the energy fraction converted into cosmic rays $\epsilon_p$. They found that almost independently of the bulk Lorentz factor, the energy fraction between electrons and cosmic rays lies in the range $\epsilon_p \lesssim \epsilon_e$. Although a robust analysis could be required, a simple proof can be done for GRB 160625B following a similar procedure. Form our results obtained in early afterglow can be seen that the energy fraction given to accelerate electrons and amplified the magnetic field at the end of the prompt phase is $\epsilon_e = 0.5$ and $\epsilon_{p,1} = 0.4$, respectively. Taking into consideration the energy conservation condition $\epsilon_{B,1} + \epsilon_e + \epsilon_p \lesssim 1$, then the energy fraction converted into cosmic rays would be limited by $\epsilon_p \lesssim \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_e$. This result is very similar to that found by Gao et al. (2013b) for GRB 130427A and might explain the lack of high-energy neutrinos around GRB 160625B.

7. Kann et al. (2010) studied the optical photometry data in a total of 42 GRB afterglows. They found that 10% of the afterglows presented optical peaks followed by a fast decay which are usually associated with a reverse-shock flash. Several authors have claimed that this kind of afterglow, as observed in GRB 080319B (Racusin et al. 2008), GRB 130427A (Ackermann et al. 2014; Vestrand et al. 2014), GRB 050904 (Kann et al. 2007), GRB 120711A (Martin-Carrillo et al. 2014), and GRB 990123 (Akerlof et al. 1999), among others, are only present in the most luminous bursts. Given that GRB 160625B has been one of the most powerful bursts detected which exhibited an optical flash with a fast decay, this burst seems to confirm this statement and belong in the same category.

5. Conclusions

We have described the non-thermal multiwavelength observations of GRB 160625B collected with Fermi-LAT, Swift-XRT and several optical ground observatories. The multiwavelength observations of the early afterglow are consistent with the afterglow evolution in a stellar wind medium. The optical spectral index is consistent with the synchrotron radiation while GeV $\gamma$-ray flux with SSC emission dominated by the high latitude emission. In this event, a strong correlation between GeV $\gamma$-ray and optical fluxes was found. On the other hand, the multiwavelength observations of the late afterglow are consistent with the afterglow evolution in ISM instead of the stellar wind profile. The X-ray and optical spectral indices in this event are consistent with synchrotron radiation from the adiabatic forward shock. The X-ray and optical flux decay indices after the break time of $\sim 1.6 \times 10^6$ s are softer than forward-shock synchrotron emission, being more consistent with the evolution of the jet after reaching a jet break. Using the observed jet-break time of $\sim 1.6 \times 10^6$ s in X-ray and optical light curves, the opening angle of the jet and the bulk Lorentz factor at the jet break found are $8.3$ and $6.9$, respectively.

Optical and GeV $\gamma$-ray fluxes of the early afterglow were modeled with synchrotron and SSC emission from reverse shocks when the ultrarelativistic electrons are accelerated in the reverse shock evolving in the thick-shell regime. Optical and X-ray fluxes of late afterglow were fitted with synchrotron radiation from the adiabatic forward shocks. The inverse Compton scattering process from forward shock must be included in this afterglow model in order to explain the highest-energy photon of 15 GeV detected at 354 s after the GBM trigger. The values found of the wind density and ISM parameters are $\rho_{\text{W}} = 0.2$ and $n = 10$ cm$^{-3}$. The value of ISM parameter found of this burst supports the idea that the host could be a dwarf-irregular galaxy. The values obtained in wind-to-ISM transition for the deceleration time in the stellar wind and transition radius are $t_{\text{d,W}} = 7.8 \times 10^3$ s and $R_0 \simeq 2.6 \times 10^{18}$ cm, respectively.

The value of the magnetization parameter $\sigma \simeq 0.4$ found after modeling the GeV $\gamma$-ray and optical fluxes in the early afterglow indicates that the Poynting flux-dominated jet models with arbitrary magnetization could give account about the spectral properties exhibited in GRB 160625B. Taking into consideration that the ejecta must be magnetized and the synchrotron emission from the reverse shock is stronger than...
the radiation originated in the forward shock, then optical polarization is expected from the reverse-shock region.

The value found of the initial bulk Lorentz factor $\Gamma \approx 500$, and the bright optical flash with a fast decay reported in this burst indicates that GRB 160625B shares similarities with the most luminous LAT and pre-LAT era events, consistent with GRB 160625B being one of the most extreme GRBs regarding energy output.

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