NEUTRINO, \(\gamma\)-RAY, AND COSMIC-RAY FLUXES FROM THE CORE OF THE CLOSEST RADIO GALAXIES

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Abstract

The closest radio galaxies; Centaurus A (Cen A), M87, and NGC 1275, have been detected from radio wavelengths to TeV \(\gamma\)-rays, and also studied as high-energy neutrino and ultra-high-energy cosmic-ray (UHECR) potential emitters. Their spectral energy distributions (SEDs) show a double-peak feature, which is explained by a synchrotron self-Compton (SSC) model. However, TeV \(\gamma\)-ray measured spectra could suggest that very-high-energy \(\gamma\)-rays might have a hadronic origin. We introduce a lepto-hadronic model to describe the broadband SED; from radio to sub-GeV photons as synchrotron SSC emission and TeV \(\gamma\)-ray photons as neutral pion decay resulting from \(\gamma\) interactions occurring close to the core. These photo-hadronic interactions take place when Fermi-accelerated protons interact with the seed photons around synchrotron SSC peaks. Obtaining a good description of the TeV \(\gamma\)-ray fluxes, first, we compute neutrino fluxes and events expected in the IceCube detector and, second, we estimate UHECR fluxes and the event rate expected in Telescope Array, Pierre Auger, and HiRes observatories. Within this scenario, we show that the expected high-energy neutrinos cannot explain the astrophysical flux observed by IceCube, and the connection with UHECRs observed by Auger experiment around Cen A might be possible only considering a heavy nuclei composition in the observed events.

Key words: Galaxies: active – Galaxies: individual (NGC 1275, M87, Cen A) – neutrinos – radiation mechanisms: non-thermal

1. INTRODUCTION

Radio galaxies (RGs) are radio-loud active galaxy nuclei (AGNs) exhibiting clear structure of a compact central source, large-scale jets, and lobes. These sources are also of interest due to the close proximity to the Earth affording us an excellent opportunity for studying the physics of relativistic outflows. They have been widely studied from radio wavelengths to MeV–GeV \(\gamma\)-rays and recently at very-high-energy (VHE) by the Imagine Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescope. RGs are generally described by the standard non-thermal synchrotron self-Compton (SSC) model (Tavecchio et al. 1998; Abdo et al. 2010; Fraija et al. 2012). In the SSC framework, low-energy emission, radio through optical, originates from synchrotron radiation while HE photons, X-rays through \(\gamma\)-rays, come from inverse Compton scattering emission. However, this model with only one population of electrons, predicts a spectral energy distribution (SED) that can be hardly extended up to higher energies than a few GeVs (Georganopoulos et al. 2005; Lenain et al. 2008). In addition, some authors have suggested that the emission in the GeV–TeV energy range may have origins in different physical processes (Georganopoulos et al. 2005; Brown & Adams 2011).

The Telescope Array (TA) experiment, located in Millard Country (Utah), was designed to study ultra-high-energy cosmic-rays (UHECRs) with energies above 57 EeV (Abu-Zayyad et al. 2012). The TA observatory, with a field of view covering the sky region above \(-10\)\(^{\circ}\) of decl., detected a cluster of 72 UHECR events centered at R.A. = 146\(^{\circ}\), decl. = 43\(^{\circ}\)2. It had a Li-Ma statistical significance of 5.1\(\sigma\) within five years of data taking (Abbasi & The Telescope Array Collaboration 2014). The Pierre Auger observatory (PAO), located in the Mendoza Province of Argentina, was designed to determine the arrival directions and energies of UHECRs using four fluorescence TAs and the High Resolution Fly’s eye (HiRes) experiment, located in the west-central Utah desert, consisted of two detectors that observed cosmic-ray showers via the fluorescence light. PAO studying the composition of the high-energy showers found that the distribution of their properties was located somewhere in between pure proton (p) and pure iron (Fe) at 57 EeV (Unger et al. 2007; Pierre Auger Collaboration et al. 2008; Yamamoto 2008), though the latest results favored a heavy nuclear composition (Abraham et al. 2010). By contrast, HiRes data were consistent with a dominant proton composition at this energy range (Unger et al. 2007; Engel 2008). PAO detected 27 UHECRs, with two of them associated with Centaurus A (Cen A), being reconstructed inside a circle centered at the position of this FR I with a aperture of 3\(^{\circ}\)1.

The IceCube detector located at the South Pole was designed to record the interactions of neutrinos. Encircling a cubic kilometer of ice and almost four years of data taking (from 2010 to 2014), the IceCube telescope reported with the High-Energy Starting Events\(^3\) catalog a sample of 54 extraterrestrial neutrino events in the TeV–PeV energy range. Arrival directions of these events are compatible with an isotropic distribution. The neutrino flux is compatible with a high component due to extragalactic origin (Ahlers & Murase 2014; Gaggero et al. 2015), for instance, gamma-ray bursts (Liu & Wang 2013; Murase & Ioka 2013; Razzaque 2013; Fraija 2014c, 2016a; Petropoulou et al. 2014a; Tamborra & Ando 2015) and AGNs (Stecker 2013; Dermer et al. 2014; Marinelli et al. 2014b; Fraija 2015; Fraija & Marinelli 2015; Padovani et al. 2015; Petropoulou et al. 2015), etc.

Hadronic processes producing VHE neutrinos and photons through the acceleration of cosmic-rays in AGNs have been explored by many authors (Atoyan & Dermer 2001; Mücke & Protheroe 2001; Hardcastle et al. 2003, 2007; Becker 2008; Cuoco & Hannestad 2008; Dermer et al. 2009; Kalashev et al.

\(^3\) http://icecube.wisc.edu/science/data/HE-neu-2010-2014
In particular, GeV–TeV $\gamma$-ray fluxes interpreted as pion decay products from photo-hadronic interactions occurring close to the core of RGs have also been discussed for different sources (Fraija et al. 2012, 2015; Sahu et al. 2012; Fraija 2014b; Petropoulou et al. 2014b; Khiali et al. 2015; Khiali & de Gouveia Dal Pino 2016).

In this work, we introduce a leptonic and hadronic model to describe the broadband SED of the closest RGs. For the leptonic model, we present the SSC model to explain the SED up to dozens of GeV and for the hadronic model, we propose that the proton–photon ($p\gamma$) interactions occurring close to the core could describe the $\gamma$-ray spectrum at the GeV–TeV energy range. Correlating the TeV $\gamma$-ray, UHECR, and neutrino spectra through $p\gamma$ interactions, we estimate their fluxes and number of events expected in PAO, TA, and HiRes experiments and IceCube telescope, respectively. For this correlation, we have assumed that the proton spectrum is extended through a simple power law up to UHEs.

2. THE CLOSEST RGS: CEN A, M87, AND NGC 1275

In this section, we are going to present a brief description of the three RGs studied in this work and the set of data used in our analysis.

2.1. Cen A

Cen A, at a distance of $d_s \simeq 3.8$ Mpc ($z = 0.00183$), has been one of the best-studied RGs. It is characterized by having an off-axis jet estimated in $\sim 15^\circ$-$80^\circ$ (see, e.g., Horiuchi et al. 2006, and reference therein) and two giant radio lobes. Cen A has been imaged in radio wavelengths, optical bands (Bowyer et al. 1970; Winkler & White 1975; Mushotzky et al. 1976; Baity et al. 1981), X-rays, sub-GeV-\gamma-rays, and VHE $\gamma$-rays (Steinle et al. 1998; Sreekumar et al. 1999; Hardcastle et al. 2003; Aharonian et al. 2009; Abdo et al. 2010; Sahakyan et al. 2013). This RG was observed during a period of 10 months by the Large Area Telescope (LAT) on board Fermi. The sub-GeV $\gamma$-ray flux collected was described with a power law ($F \propto E^{-\alpha}$ with $\alpha = 2.67 \pm 0.10_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.08_{\text{sys}}$; Abdo et al. 2010). In addition, Cen A was also detected for more than 120 hr by the High Energy Stereoscopic System (HESS; Aharonian et al. 2005, 2009). The observed spectrum ($>250$ GeV) was fitted using a simple power law with a spectral index of $2.7 \pm 0.5_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.2_{\text{sys}}$ and an apparent luminosity of $\approx 2.6 \times 10^{39}$ erg s$^{-1}$. No significant flux variability was detected.

2.2. M87

M87, at a distance of $d_s \simeq 16$ Mpc ($z = 0.0043$), is located in the Virgo cluster of galaxies and hosts a central black hole (BH) of $(3.2 \pm 0.9) \times 10^9$ solar masses (Bicknell & Begelman 1996). The jet, inclined at an angle of $\sim 15^\circ$-$20^\circ$ relative to the observer’s line of sight, has been imaged in its base down to $\sim 0.01$ pc resolution (Junor et al. 1999; Ly et al. 2007). As one of the nearest RGs to us, M87 is among the best-studied of its source class. It has been detected from radio wavelengths to VHE $\gamma$ rays. Above 100 MeV, M87 has been detected by LAT-Fermi (Abdo et al. 2009b), HESS, MAGIC, and the Very Energetic Radiation Imaging Telescope Array System telescopes (Acciari et al. 2009; Abramowski et al. 2012; Aliu et al. 2012). In 2004, the HESS telescope detected the active galaxy M87 in its historical minimum. The TeV flux measurement was well fitted with a simple power law. The differential energy spectrum was $(2.43 \pm 0.75) \times 10^{-13}$ TeV$^{-1}$ cm$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$ with a photon index of $2.62 \pm 0.35$ (Aharonian et al. 2006). No indications for short-term variability were found.

2.3. NGC 1275

NGC 1275, also known as Perseus A and 3C 84, is an elliptical/RG located at the center of the Perseus cluster at $d_s \simeq 76$ Mpc ($z = 0.0179$). This source has a strong, compact nucleus, which has been studied in detail with Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI; Vermeulen et al. 1994; Walker et al. 2000; Asada et al. 2006; Taylor et al. 2006) and Array (Nagai et al. 2014). These observations reveal a compact core and a bowshock-like southern jet component moving steadily outwards at $0.3$ mas yr$^{-1}$ (Kellermann et al. 2004; Lister et al. 2009). The northern counter jet is also detected, though it is much less prominent due to Doppler dimming, as well as to free–free absorption due intervening disk. Walker et al. (1994) derive from these observations that the jet has an intrinsic velocity of $0.3c$–$0.5c$ oriented at an angle of $\approx 10^\circ$–$35^\circ$ to the line of sight. Polarization has recently been detected in the southern jet (Taylor et al. 2006), suggesting increasingly strong interactions of the jet with the surrounding environment.

Due to its brightness and proximity, this source has been detected from radio to TeV $\gamma$-ray bands (Abdo et al. 2009a). This RG was observed at energies above 100 MeV by Fermi-LAT from 2008 August 4 to December 5. The average flux and photon index measured, which remained relatively constant during the observing period were $(2.10 \pm 0.23) \times 10^{-7}$ ph cm$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$ and $2.17 \pm 0.05$, respectively. This source has been detected by the MAGIC telescope with a statistical significance of $6.6\sigma$ above 100 GeV in 46 hr of stereo observations carried out between 2010 August and 2011 February. The measured differential energy spectrum between 70 and 500 GeV was described by a power law with a steep spectral index of $-4.1 \pm 0.7_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.3_{\text{sys}}$, and an average flux of $(1.3 \pm 0.2_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.3_{\text{sys}}) \times 10^{-11}$ cm$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$ (Aleksić et al. 2012). The light curve (>100 GeV) did not show hints of variability on a month timescale.

3. THEORETICAL MODEL

We propose that the broadband SED of RGs can be described as the superposition of SSC emission and $\pi^0$ decay product resulting from $p\gamma$ interactions.

3.1. Leptonic Model

Fermi-accelerated electrons are injected in an emitting region with radius $r_d$, which moves at ultra-relativistic velocities with Doppler factor $\delta_D$. Relativistic electrons are confined in the emitting region by a magnetic field; therefore, it is non-thermal photons are expected by synchrotron and Compton scattering radiation.
3.1.1. Synchrotron Radiation

The electron population is described by a broken power law given by (Longair 1994)

\[ N_e(\gamma_e) = N_{0,e} \begin{cases} \gamma_e^{\alpha_e} & \gamma_e \leq \gamma_e \leq \gamma_e \min, \\ \gamma_e^{\alpha_e}/(\alpha_e+1) & \gamma_e > \gamma_e \min, \end{cases} \]

where \( N_{0,e} \) is the proportionality electron constant, \( \alpha_e \) is the spectral power index of the electron population, and \( \gamma_e \) are the electron Lorentz factors. The index \( i \) is min, c, or max for minimum, cooling, or maximum, respectively. By considering that a fraction of total energy density is given to accelerate electrons \( U_e = m_e \int \gamma_e N_e(\gamma_e) d\gamma_e \), then the minimum electron Lorentz factor and the electron luminosity can be written as

\[ \gamma_{e,\min} = \frac{(\alpha_e - 2)}{m_e (\alpha_e - 1)} N_e, \]

and

\[ L_e = 4\pi \delta_D^2 r_d^2 U_e, \]

respectively, where \( m_e \) is the electron mass. The electron distribution in the emitting region permeated by a magnetic field \( B = \sqrt{8 \pi \sigma_T} \) cools down following the following synchrotron timescale \( t_{\text{cool}} = \frac{3m_e}{4eU_e^{-1}} \gamma_e^{-1} \), with \( \sigma_T = 6.65 \times 10^{-25} \text{cm}^2 \) the Compton cross section. Comparing the synchrotron timescale with the dynamic scale \( t_d \approx r_d/\delta_D \), we get that the cooling Lorentz factor is

\[ \gamma_{e,c} = \frac{3m_e}{4\sigma_T} (1 + Y)^{-1} \delta_D U_e^{-1} r_d^{-1}, \]

where the Compton parameter is

\[ Y \equiv \frac{L_{\gamma,\text{IC}}}{L_{\text{syn}}} \approx \frac{U_{\text{rad}}}{U_B} = \frac{U_{\text{syn}}}{U_B} = \frac{\eta U_e}{(1 + Y)U_B}. \]

Here, \( L_{\gamma,\text{IC}} \) is the observed luminosity around the second SSC peak, \( U_{\text{syn}} \) and \( U_B \) are the energy density of synchrotron radiation and magnetic field, respectively. Solving Equation (5), the two interesting limits are

\[ Y = \begin{cases} \frac{\eta U_e}{U_B}, & \text{if } \frac{\eta U_e}{U_B} \ll 1, \\ \left( \frac{\eta U_e}{U_B} \right)^{1/2}, & \text{if } \frac{\eta U_e}{U_B} \gg 1, \end{cases} \]

with \( \eta = (\gamma_{e,c}/\gamma_{e,\min})^{2-\alpha_e} \) given for slow cooling and \( \eta = 1 \) for fast cooling (Sari & Esin 2001). By considering that acceleration timescale \( t_{\text{acc}} \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} m_e/q_e U_e^{-1/2} \gamma_e \) and cooling timescale are similar, it is possible to write the maximum electron Lorentz factor as

\[ \gamma_{e,\max} = \left( \frac{9q_e^2}{8\pi\sigma_T^2} \right)^{1/4} U_e^{-1/4}, \]

where \( q_e \) is the electric charge. Taking into account the synchrotron emission \( \epsilon_{\gamma}(\gamma_{e,i}) = \sqrt{8m_e^2/q_e} \delta_D U_e^{1/2} \gamma_e^2 \) and

Equations (2), (4), and (7), the synchrotron break energies are

\[ \epsilon_{\gamma,\text{min}} = \frac{\sqrt{8\pi q_e e}}{m_e \delta_D} \delta_D U_e^{1/2} \gamma_e^2, \]

\[ \epsilon_{\gamma,\max} = \frac{9q_e^2}{8\pi\sigma_T^2} (1 + Y)^{-2} \delta_D U_B^{-3/2} r_d^{-2}, \]

\[ \epsilon_{\gamma,\text{c}} = \frac{3q_e^2}{m_e \sigma_T} \delta_D. \]

The synchrotron spectrum is computed through the electron distribution (Equation (1)) rather than synchrotron radiation of a single electron. Therefore, the photon energy radiated in the range \( \epsilon_e \) to \( \epsilon_e + d\epsilon_e \) is given by electrons between \( E_e \) and \( E_e + dE_e \); then we can estimate the photon spectrum through emissivity \( e_e N_e(\epsilon_e) d\epsilon_e = (-dE_e/dt) N_e(\epsilon_e) dE_e \). Following Longair (1994) and Rybicki & Lightman (1986), one can show that electron distribution has spectral indexes \( \alpha_e \) and \( (\alpha_e - 1) \), when the photon distribution has the maximum energy \( (\alpha_e - 1)/2 \) and \( \alpha_e/2 \), respectively. The observed synchrotron spectrum can be written as

\[ \left[ \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^2 N(\epsilon_{\gamma,c}) \right]_{\text{sync}} = A_{\gamma,c} \left[ \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^2 N(\epsilon_{\gamma,c}) \right]_{\text{sync}} \begin{cases} \left( \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma,c}}{\epsilon_{\gamma,c}} \right)^{3/2}, & \epsilon_{\gamma,c} < \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^\text{syn}, \\ \left( \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma,c}}{\epsilon_{\gamma,c}} \right)^{\alpha_e-3} \left( \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma,c}}{\epsilon_{\gamma,c}} \right)^{\alpha_e-2}, & \epsilon_{\gamma,c} < \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^\text{syn}. \end{cases} \]

where \( A_{\gamma,c} \) is the proportionality constant of the synchrotron spectrum. This constant can be estimated through the total number of radiating electrons in the volume of emitting region, \( n_e = N_e/V = 4\pi N_e r_d^3/3 \), the maximum radiation power \( P_{\gamma,\text{max}} \approx (dE_e/dt) \epsilon_{\gamma,c} \), and the distance \( d_e \) from the source. Therefore, the proportionality constant can be written as

\[ A_{\gamma,c} = \frac{P_{\gamma,\text{max}} n_e}{4\pi d_e^2 \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^\text{syn}} = \frac{4\sigma_T}{9} d_e^2 \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^\text{syn} U_B^{-3/2} r_d^3 N_e \gamma_{e,\min}^2. \]

3.1.2. Compton Scattering Emission

Fermi-accelerated electrons in the emitting region can upscatter synchrotron photons up to higher energies as (Fraija & Araya 2016)

\[ \epsilon_{\gamma,\text{m}}(\gamma_{e,\text{m},\max}) \approx \gamma_{e,\text{m},\text{min}}^2 \epsilon_{\gamma,\text{m},\text{max}}^\text{syn}. \]

From the electron Lorentz factors (Equations (2), (4), (7)) and the synchrotron break energies (Equation (8)), we get that the
Compton scattering break energies are given in the form
\[
\epsilon_{\gamma,m}^{\text{sc}} = \sqrt{8 \pi} \frac{q_e}{m_e} \delta_B U_B^{1/2} \epsilon_{e,\text{min}},
\]
\[
\epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\text{sc}} = \frac{81 \sqrt{2 \pi}}{128 \sigma_T^2} \frac{q_e}{m_e} m_w^2 (1 + Y)^{-4} \delta_B U_B^{-7/2} r_d^{-4},
\]
\[
\epsilon_{\gamma,\text{max}}^{\text{sc}} = \frac{9 q_e^3}{2 \sqrt{2 \pi} m_e^2 \sigma_T^2} \delta_B U_B^{-1/2}.
\]
(12)

The Compton scattering spectrum obtained as a function of the synchrotron spectrum (Equation (9)) is
\[
[e^2 N(\epsilon_p)]_{\gamma,\text{sc}} = A_{\gamma,\text{sc}} \left[ \left( \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma,m}^{\text{sc}}}{\epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\text{sc}}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} - \epsilon_{\gamma,m}^{\text{sc}} < \epsilon < \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\text{sc}} \right]
\]
\[
\left[ \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\text{sc}} - \epsilon_{\gamma,m}^{\text{sc}} \right] - \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\text{sc}} < \epsilon < \epsilon_{\gamma,\text{max}}^{\text{sc}} \right]
\]
\[
\frac{\epsilon_{\gamma,\text{sc}}}{\epsilon_{\gamma,\text{sc}}}^{\text{sc}} = Y \left[ e^2 N(\epsilon_p) \right]_{\gamma,\text{sc}}^{1/2} \quad \text{is the proportionality constant of Compton scattering spectrum.}
\]

### 3.2. Hadronic Model

RGs have been proposed as a powerful accelerator of charged particles through the Fermi acceleration mechanism or/and magnetic reconnection (Khiiali et al. 2015). We consider a proton population described as a simple power law given by

\[
\frac{dN}{dE_p} = A_p E_p^{-\alpha_p},
\]
(14)

with \(A_p\) the proportionality constant and \(\alpha_p\) the spectral power index of the proton population. From Equations (14) we can compute that the proton density can be written as

\[
U_p = \frac{L_p}{4 \pi \sigma_T^2 r_d^2},
\]
(15)

with the proton luminosity given by

\[
L_p = 4 \pi d^2 A_p \int E_p E_p^{-\alpha_p} dE_p.
\]
(16)

Fermi-accelerated protons lose their energies by electromagnetic channels and hadronic interactions. Electromagnetic channels such as proton synchrotron radiation and inverse Compton will not be considered here, we will only assume that protons will be cooled down by \(\gamma\) interactions at the emitting region of the inner jet. Charged (\(\pi^\pm\)) and neutral (\(\pi^0\)) pions are obtained from \(\pi^\gamma\) interactions through the following channels

\[
p \gamma \rightarrow \Delta^+ \rightarrow \{p \pi^0 \text{ fraction 2/3}, n \pi^+ \text{ fraction 1/3.}
\]
(17)

After that neutral pion decays into photons, \(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\), carrying 20\% (\(\xi_p = 0.2\)) of the proton’s energy \(E_p\). The efficiency of the photo-pion production is (Stecker 1968; Waxman &

Bahcall 1997)

\[
f_{\pi^0} \simeq \frac{t_{\text{dyn}}}{\tau_{\text{syn}}} = \frac{r_d}{2 \gamma_p} \int d\epsilon \sigma_{\epsilon}(\epsilon) \xi_{\epsilon^0} \epsilon \int dx x^2 \frac{d\epsilon_{\gamma}}{d\epsilon_{\gamma}} (\epsilon_{\gamma} = x),
\]
(18)

where \(dn_\gamma/d\epsilon_{\gamma}\) is the spectrum of seed photons, \(\sigma_{\epsilon}(\epsilon)\) is the cross section of pion production and \(\gamma_p\) is the proton Lorentz factor. Solving the integrals, we obtain

\[
f_{\pi^0} \simeq \frac{\sigma_{\pi^0}}{4 \pi \delta_B^2 r_d} \epsilon_{\text{ref}} \int \frac{d\epsilon_\gamma}{\epsilon_{\gamma}^3} \left( \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma}}{\epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\pi^0}} \right)^{\beta_{\pi^0}-1} \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\pi^0} < \epsilon_{\gamma} < \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\pi^0},
\]
(19)

where \(\beta_{\pi^0}\) and \(\beta_{\gamma}\) are the high-energy and low-energy photon index, respectively, \((L_{\gamma,\text{IC}})\) is the observed luminosity around the second SSC peak, \(\Delta_\epsilon_{\text{ref}} = 0.2 \text{ GeV}, \epsilon_{\text{ref}} \simeq 0.3 \text{ GeV}, \epsilon_{\text{pk,ic}}\) is the energy of the second SSC peak and \(\epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\pi^0} \) is the break photon-pion energy given by

\[
\epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\pi^0} \simeq 31.87 \text{ GeV} \delta_B^2 \left( \frac{\epsilon_{\text{pk,ic}}}{\text{MeV}} \right)^{-1}.
\]
(20)

It is worth noting that the target photon density and the optical depth can be obtained through the equations

\[
n_\gamma \simeq \frac{L_{\gamma,\text{IC}}}{4 \pi r_d^2 \epsilon_{\text{pk,ic}}},
\]
(21)

\[
\tau_\gamma \simeq \frac{L_{\gamma,\text{IC}} \sigma_T}{4 \pi r_d \delta_B \epsilon_{\text{pk,ic}}}.
\]
(22)

respectively. Taking into account that photons released in the range of \(\epsilon_\gamma\) to \(\epsilon_\gamma + d\epsilon_{\gamma}\) by protons in the range \(E_p\) and \(E_p + dE_p\) are \(f_{\pi^0} E_p (dN/dE_p) dE_p = \epsilon_{\pi^0} (dN/d\epsilon_{\gamma}) \epsilon_{\gamma}, d\epsilon_{\gamma}\), then the photon-pion spectrum is given by

\[
[e^2 N(\epsilon_p)]_{\gamma,\pi^0} \simeq A_{\pi^0} \left[ \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\pi^0}}{\epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\gamma}} \right]^{-\alpha_{\pi^0}+2} \left\{ \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma}}{\epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\gamma}} \right\}^{\beta_{\pi^0}-1} \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\pi^0} < \epsilon_{\gamma} < \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\pi^0},
\]
(23)

where the proportionality constant \(A_{\pi^0}\) is in the form

\[
A_{\pi^0} = \frac{L_{\gamma,\text{IC}} \sigma_\gamma}{4 \pi \delta_B^2 r_d} \epsilon_{\text{pk,ic}} \epsilon_{\text{ref}} A_p.
\]
(24)

The value of \(A_p\) is determined through the TeV \(\gamma\)-ray flux (Equation (24)).

### 4. HIGH-ENERGY NEUTRINO EXPECTATION

Photo-hadronic interactions in the emitting region (see Section 3.2) also generate neutrinos through the charged pion decay products \((\pi^\pm \rightarrow \mu^\pm + \nu_{\mu}/\bar{\nu}_{\mu}) \rightarrow e^\pm + \nu_e / \bar{\nu}_e + \nu_\mu / \bar{\nu}_\mu\). Taking into account the distances of RGs, the neutrino flux ratio (1:2:0) created on the source will arrive on the
standard ratio (1:1:1) (Becker 2008; Fraija 2016b). The neutrino spectrum produced by the photo-hadronic interactions is

\[ [E^2 N(\nu)]_\nu = A_\nu \varepsilon_0^2 \left[ \frac{E_\nu}{\varepsilon_0} \right]^{\beta_1-\alpha_\nu} \quad E_\nu < E_{\nu,c} \]
\[ A_\nu = A_{p\gamma} \varepsilon_0^{-2} 2^{-\alpha_\nu}. \]  

(25)  
(26)

where the factor, \( A_\nu \), normalized through the TeV \( \gamma \)-ray flux is (see, Julia Becker Halzen 2007, and reference therein)

\[ N_{\nu \text{ev}} \approx T_{\nu \text{ice}} N_\Lambda \varepsilon_0 \int \nu_{\text{eff}}(E_{\nu}) \sigma_{\nu N}(E_{\nu}) A_{\nu} \left( \frac{E_{\nu}}{\varepsilon_0} \right)^{-\alpha_\nu} dE_{\nu}. \]  

(27)

The previous equation was obtained from solving the integral terms \( \int \frac{dN}{dE_{\nu}} E_{\nu} dE_{\nu} = \frac{1}{4} \int \frac{dN}{dE_{\nu}} E_{\nu} dE_{\gamma} \), considering that the spectral indices for neutrino and that \( \gamma \)-ray spectra are similar \( \alpha_\nu \approx \alpha_{\gamma} \) (Becker 2008) and each neutrino (photon) brings 5% (10%) of the initial proton energy. The neutrino flux is detected when it interacts inside the instrumented volume. Considering the probability of interaction for a neutrino with energy \( E_{\nu} \) in the effective volume \( V_{\text{eff}} \) with density \( \rho_{\text{ice}} \), the number of expected neutrino events after a period of time \( T \) is

\[ \psi_G \approx \frac{3.8^0}{57 \text{ EeV}} \left( \frac{E_{\nu,\text{th}}}{57 \text{ EeV}} \right)^{-1} \int_0^{L_G} \frac{d\ell}{\text{kpc}} \times \frac{B_G}{4 \text{ \mu G}}. \]  

(30)

respectively, where \( L_G \) corresponds to the distance of our Galaxy (20 kpc), \( l_c \) is the coherence length, and \( E_{\nu,\text{th}} \) is the threshold proton energy. Due to the strength of extragalactic \( (B_{\text{EG}} \approx 1 \text{ nG}) \) and galactic \( (B_G \approx 4 \text{ \mu G}) \) magnetic fields, UHECRs are deflected; first, \( \psi_{\text{EG}} \approx 4^0 \) and after \( \psi_G \approx 3^0 \), between the true direction to the source and the observed arrival direction, respectively. Estimation of the deflection angles could associate the transient UHECR sources with the HE neutrino and \( \gamma \)-ray fluxes. Taking into account of extragalactic and galactic magnetic fields, it is reasonable to correlate UHECRs lying within \( \sim 5^0 \) of a source.

Here \( Z \) is the atomic number, \( \phi \approx 1 \) is the acceleration efficiency factor and \( \Gamma \) is the bulk Lorentz factor given by

\[ \Gamma = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 - (1 - \cos^2 \theta)(1 + \delta_\mu^2 \cos^2 \theta)}}{\delta_\mu (1 - \cos^2 \theta)}, \]  

where \( \theta \) is the viewing angle.

\section{5. ULTRA-HIGH-ENERGY COSMIC-RAYS}

TeV \( \gamma \)-ray observations from low-redshift AGN have been proposed as good candidates for studying UHECRs (Dermer et al. 2009; Murase et al. 2012; Razzaque et al. 2012). We consider that the proton spectrum is extended up to UHEs and then calculate the number of events expected in PAO, TA, and HiRes experiments.

\subsection{5.1. Hillas Condition}

Considering that super massive BHs have the power to accelerate particles up to UHEs through Fermi processes, protons accelerated in the emitting region are confined by the Hillas condition (Hillas 1984). Although this requirement is a necessary condition and acceleration of UHECRs in AGN jets (Jiang et al. 2010; Murase et al. 2012; Razzaque et al. 2012), it is far from trivial (see, e.g., Lemoine & Waxman (2009) for a more detailed energetic limits). The Hillas criterion is defined as the maximum proton energy achieved in a region with radius \( r_d \) and magnetic field \( B \). It can be written as

\[ E_{p,\text{max}} \approx \frac{Z q_e}{\phi} B r_d \Gamma. \]  

(28)

\section{5.3. Expected Number of Events}

\textbf{TA observatory.} Located in Millard Country (Utah), the TA experiment was designed to study UHECRs with energies above 57 EeV. With an area of \( \sim 700 \text{ km}^2 \), it is made of a scintillator surface detector (SD) array and three fluorescence detector stations (Abu-Zayyad et al. 2012). The TA exposure is given by \( \Xi_{\text{top}} \omega(\delta)/\Omega \), where \( \Xi_{\text{top}} = (57 \times 10^8 \text{ EeV}^2 \text{ km}^2 \text{ year}^{-1} )^{-1} \times 10^{-1} \text{ year} \times \text{ km}^2 \), \( \omega(\delta) \) is an exposure correction factor for decl. of the source (Sommers 2001), and \( \Omega \approx \pi \).

\textbf{Pierre Auger observatory.} The PAO, located in the Mendoza Province of Argentina at latitude \( \sim 36^\circ \), was designed to determine the arrival directions and energies of UHECRs using four fluorescence TAs and 1600 SDs spaced 1.5 km apart. The large exposure of its ground array, combined with accurate energy has provided an opportunity to explore the spatial correlation between cosmic-rays and their sources in the sky. The PAO exposure is given by \( \Xi_{\text{top}} \omega(\delta)/\Omega_{\delta_0} \), where \( \Xi_{\text{top}} = 9 \times 10^4 \text{ EeV}^2 \text{ km}^2 \text{ year}^{-1} \times \text{ km}^2 \), \( \omega_\delta \) is the total operational time (from 1 January 2004 until 31 August 2007), \( \Omega_{\delta_0} \approx \pi \) is the Auger acceptance solid angle (Pierre Auger Collaboration et al. 2007, 2008).

\textbf{The High Resolution Fly’s Eye Experiment.} The HiRes experiment, located atop two hills 12.6 km apart in the west-
central Utah desert, consisted of two detectors that observed cosmic-ray showers via the fluorescence light. Both detectors, called HiRes-I and HiRes-II, consisted of 21 and 42 telescopes, respectively, each one composed of a spherical mirror of 3.8 m². The HiRes exposure is $(3.2–3.4) \times 10^3$ km² year sr. The HiRes experiment measured the flux of UHECRs using the stereoscopic air fluorescence technique over a period of nine years (1997–2006; Abbasi et al. 2005; High Resolution Fly’S Eye Collaboration et al. 2009). The expected number of UHECRs above an energy $E_{p, th}$ yields

$$N_{\text{UHECR}} = (\text{Expos.}) \times N_p,$$

where $N_p$ is calculated from the proton spectrum extended up to energies higher than $E_{p, th}$ (Equation (14)). The expected number can be written as

$$N_{\text{UHECR}} = \sum \frac{\tau_0 \omega (\delta_0)}{(\alpha_p - 1) \Omega} A_p \int E_{p, th} E^{-\gamma_p} dE_p,$$

where the value of $A_p$ is normalized with the TeV $\gamma$-ray fluxes (Equation (24)).

6. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

We have presented a lepto-hadronic model to describe the broadband SED of the closest RGs, supposing that electrons and protons are co-accelerated at the emitting region of the jet. In the leptonic model, we have required the SSC model to explain the spectrum up to dozens of GeV and in the hadronic scenario, we have evoked the p$\gamma$ interactions occurring close to the core of the RGs to interpret the TeV $\gamma$-ray fluxes. The SSC model depends basically on magnetic field ($B$), electron density ($N_e$), size of emitting region ($r_d$), and Doppler factor (\(\delta_d\)). To reproduce the electromagnetic spectrum up to dozens of GeV, we have used an electron distribution described by a broken power law (Equation (1)) with the minimum, cooling, and maximum Lorentz factors given by Equations (2), (4), and (7), respectively. The minimum Lorentz factor is obtained through electron density and electron energy density, the cooling Lorentz factor is computed through the synchrotron and dynamical timescales, and the maximum Lorentz factor is calculated considering the synchrotron and the acceleration timescales. Considering the break Lorentz factors, the synchrotron and Compton scattering break energies are obtained (Equations (8) and 12). The synchrotron (Equation (9)) and Compton scattering (Equation (13)) spectra are estimated through the density and distribution of radiating electrons confined inside the emitting region. In the p$\gamma$ interaction model, we have considered Fermi-accelerated protons described by a simple power law (Equation (14)) that are accelerated close to the core and furthermore interact with the photon population at the second-peak SED photons. The spectrum generated by this hadronic process (Equation (25)) depends on the proton luminosity (through $A_p$), the observed luminosity around the second SSC peak ($L_{\gamma, \text{SCL}}$), the energy of the second SSC peak ($E_{\gamma, \text{SCL}}$), the size of the emitting region, the Doppler factor, and the high-energy and low-energy photon index, respectively. The efficiency of the photo-production (Equation (18)) is calculated through the photo-pion cooling and dynamical timescales for $\beta_0 \sim 2$ and $\beta_I \sim 1$. Evoking these interactions, we have interpreted naturally the TeV $\gamma$-ray spectra as $\pi^0$ decay products.

We have required the data used by the Fermi collaboration for Cen A (Abdo et al. 2010), M87 (Abdo et al. 2009b), and NGC 1275 (Abdo et al. 2009a). In the case of NGC 1275, the TeV $\gamma$-ray data have been added (Aleksić et al. 2012). Using the method of Chi-square minimization as implemented in the ROOT software package (Brun & Rademakers 1997), we get the break energies, spectral indexes and normalizations of the SSC and photo-pion spectrum as reported in Table 1 and Figures 1–3 for Cen A, M87, and NGC 1275, respectively. For the sake of simplicity, the process was integrated into a python script that called the ROOT routines via the pyroot module. The data of the closest RGs were read from a file and written into an array, which was then fitted with pyROOT. The fitted data with the PyROOT module and from Equations (9), (13), and (25) were plotted with a smooth bezier curve through the gnuplot software.4 The bezier option first renders the data monotonic (unique) and then applies the Bezier algorithm.5

From Equations (8), (10), (12), and the values reported in Table 1, we have obtained the values of magnetic field, electron density, size of emitting region, and Doppler factor that

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4 [gnuplot.sourceforge.net](http://gnuplot.sourceforge.net)

5 Bezier curves are widely used in computer graphics to model smooth curves using the Casteljau algorithm, which is a method to split a single Bezier curve into two Bezier curves at an arbitrary parameter value. See [http://web.mit.edu/hyperbook/Patrikalakis-Macka.../node13.html](http://web.mit.edu/hyperbook/Patrikalakis-Macka.../node13.html)
**Figure 1.** SED of the Cen A core with our model fit (black line). The green line is an SSC fit to the TANAMI VLBI (Ojha et al. 2010), archival (Marconi et al. 2000), Suzaku (Markowitz et al. 2007), Swift-XRT (Kalberla et al. 2005), Swift-BAT (Ajello et al. 2009), COMPTEL (Steinle et al. 1998), EGRET (Hartman et al. 1999; Sreekumar et al. 1999), and Fermi-LAT (Abdo et al. 2010) data. The blue line is a fit to the HESS (Aharonian et al. 2009) data using the $\pi^0$ decay product from $p\gamma$ interactions.

**Figure 2.** SED of the M87 core with our model fit (black line). The red line is an SSC fit to the VLA–HST (Biretta et al. 1991; Despringre et al. 1996; Sparks et al. 1996; Perlman et al. 2001; Kovalev et al. 2007; Shi et al. 2007; Tan et al. 2008), Swift-BAT (Ajello et al. 2009), and Chandra (Marshall et al. 2002). The blue line is a fit to the HESS (Aharonian et al. 2006) data using the $\pi^0$ decay product from $p\gamma$ interactions.
describe the broadband SED of Cen A, M87, and NGC 1275. For this fit, we have considered the effect of the electromagnetic background light absorption (Franceschini et al. 2008) and adopted the typical values reported in the literature such as viewing angles, observed luminosities, distances of the closest RGs, minimum Lorentz factors, and energy normalizations (Tonry 1991; Strauss et al. 1992; Bicknell & Begelman 1996; Steinele et al. 1998; Aharonian et al. 2006, 2009; Asada et al. 2006; Ferrarese et al. 2007; Abdo et al. 2009a, 2009b, 2010; Ajello et al. 2009; Aleksić et al. 2012). Other quantities such as bulk Lorentz factors, proton and electron luminosities, magnetic field, proton and electron densities, etc., are derived from these parameters. Table 2 shows all the parameter values obtained, used, and derived in and from the fit.

The maximum proton Lorentz factors were estimated with the maximum electron Lorentz factors as \( \gamma_{e,max} = \frac{\gamma_B}{\gamma_{p}} \) (Petropoulou et al. 2014). Requiring that electron and proton number densities are similar \( (N_e \approx N_p) \), we have calculated the minimum proton Lorentz factors \( \gamma_{p,min} \). These values could increase/decrease considering that proton number density is smaller/higher than the electron number density. For instance, if we assume that \( (N_e \approx b N_p) \) with \( b = 10 \) (0.1) the minimum proton Lorentz factors are \( \gamma_{p,min} \) = 9.1 \( \times 10^3 \) (1.6 \( \times 10^6 \), 3.2 \( \times 10^5 \) (6.7 \( \times 10^7 \)), and 7.1 \( \times 10^5 \) (9.2 \( \times 10^6 \)) for Cen A, M87, and NGC 1275, respectively. Due to the fact that the minimum Lorentz factor cannot be determined just assuming the standard scenario of injection and acceleration, we have used the condition that electron and proton number densities are similar. Otherwise, for \( \gamma_{p,min} = 1 \) the proton luminosities becomes \( >5 \times 10^{47} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \). Considering the values of magnetic field, electron and proton energy densities, and their rates; \( \lambda_{e,B} = \frac{U_e}{U_B} \) (\( \lambda_{p,B} = \frac{U_p}{U_B} \)) \( = 2.92 \) (4.90), 24.1 (26.9), and 117.81 (382.56) for Cen A, M87, and NGC 1275, respectively, we can see that energy densities could be related from principle of equipartition.

We plot in a sky map the 548 neutrino events detected by the IceCube collaboration, the 72 and 27 UHECRs collected by TA and PAO experiments, respectively, and also a circular region of 5° around the closest RGs, as shown in Figure 4. This figure shows that whereas there are no neutrino track events associated to Cen A, M87, and NGC 1275, two UHECRs are only enclosed around Cen A.

By assuming that the inner part of the RG jet has the potential to accelerate particles up to UHEs, we can see that protons at the emitting region can achieve maximum energies of 40.1, 6.55, and 7.92 EeV for Cen A, M87, and NGC 1275, respectively, as shown in Table 2. Therefore, it is improbable that protons can be accelerated to energies as high as 57 EeV, though it is plausible for heavier accelerated ions. In this case, they can be disintegrated by infrared photons from the core. It is worth noting that any small variation in the strength of the magnetic field and/or the size of the emitting region would allow protons to achieve a maximum energy of 57 EeV for Cen A. Similarly, supposing that the BH jet also has the power to accelerate particles up to UHEs through Fermi processes, then during flaring intervals (for which the apparent isotropic luminosity can reach \( \approx 10^{46} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \)) and from the equipartition magnetic field \( \epsilon_B \) the maximum particle energy of accelerated UHECRs can achieve values as high as \( E_{max} \approx 3.0 \times 10^{20} \frac{\epsilon_B \gamma^2}{\epsilon} \left( \frac{L}{10^{46} \text{ erg s}^{-1}} \right)^{1/2} \) eV (Dermer et al. 2009). Describing the TeV gamma-ray spectra through p\( \gamma \) interaction and
extrapolating the interacting proton spectra up to energies higher than 1 EeV, we plot the UHE proton spectra expected for these three RGs (Cen A, M87, and NGC 1275) with the UHECR spectra collected with PAO (The Pierre Auger Collaboration et al. 2011), HiRes (High Resolution Fly’s Eye Collaboration et al. 2009), and TA (Abu-Zayyad et al. 2013) experiments as shown in Figure 5. We can see that as energy increases the discrepancy between the UHE proton fluxes and the observed UHECR spectra increases. Taking into account the TA and PAO exposures, we estimate the number of UHECRs above 57 EeV, as shown in Table 2. The number of UHECRs computed with our model are 1.52, 0.41, and 2.63 \times 10^{-6} for Cen A, M87, and NGC 1275, respectively. Due to extragalactic (Equation (31)) and galactic (Equation (30)) magnetic fields, UHECRs are deflected between the true direction to the source, and the observed arrival direction. Regarding these considerations, the total deflection angle could be as large as the mean value of \langle \theta_T \rangle \approx 15^\circ (Ryu et al. 2010). Therefore, it is reasonable to assume a circular region with 5^\circ (Equations (31)) centered around each source (see Figure 4). Taking into account these regions, we can see two UHECRs associated with Cen A and none to M87 and NGC 1275. We can see that the number of UHECRs calculated with our model is consistent with those reported by the TA and PAO collaborations, though the maximum proton energies are less than 57 EeV. It is worth noting that the latter results reported by PAO suggested that UHECRs are heavy nuclei instead of protons (Abraham et al. 2010). If UHECRs have a heavy composition, then a significant fraction of nuclei must survive photodisintegrations in their sources (Hardcastle 2010; Hardcastle et al. 2009). In this case, for Z \gtrsim 2, the emitting region can achieve maximum energies for heavy nuclei of \gtrsim 80, 13, and 16 EeV for Cen A, M87, and NGC 1275, respectively.

After fitting the TeV \gamma-ray spectra of the RGs with our hadronic model, from Equation (27), we obtain the neutrino fluxes and events expected in a hypothetical Km^3 neutrino telescope through the Monte Carlo simulations. We consider point source neutrino emitters at Cen A, M87, and NGC 1275 positions with an energy range spanning from 10 GeV to 10 PeV. The neutrino spectra are normalized from the observed TeV \gamma-ray spectra, assuming that the TeV \gamma-ray fluxes from the closest RGs are interpreted through the \pi^0 decay products from the p\gamma interactions. The values of magnetic field, Doppler factor, and emitting radius (see Table 2) were calculated as the result of fitting the SED with the SSC model up to dozens of

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**Table 2**

| Obtained Quantities | Cen A | M87 | NGC 1275 |
|--------------------|-------|-----|----------|
| \( \delta_t \)     | 1.0   | 2.8 | 2.2      |
| \( B (\text{G}) \)  | 3.6   | 1.61| 2.01     |
| \( r_d(\text{cm}) \) | \(5.2 \times 10^{15}\) | \(2.1 \times 10^{15}\) | \(2.26 \times 10^{15}\) |
| \( N_\gamma(\text{cm}^{-3}) \) | \(1.1 \times 10^{3}\) | \(2.3 \times 10^{3}\) | \(3.11 \times 10^{4}\) |

**Used Quantities**

| \( d_l (\text{Mpc}) \) | 3.7 | 16 | 76 |
| \( \theta (\text{degree}) \) | 30 | 17 | 20 |
| \( \epsilon_0 (\text{TeV}) \) | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| \( \gamma_{\nu,\text{min}} \) | \(1.2 \times 10^{3}\) | \(0.67 \times 10^{3}\) | \(0.5 \times 10^{3}\) |
| \( L_{\nu,\text{IC}} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \) | \(5 \times 10^{42}\) | \(5 \times 10^{42}\) | \(5 \times 10^{42}\) |

**Derived Quantities**

| \( \Gamma \) | 7.0 | 6.47 | 6.29 |
| \( f_{\nu} \) | \(1.05 \times 10^{-6}\) | \(6.68 \times 10^{-8}\) | \(1.55 \times 10^{-8}\) |
| \( \tau_{\nu} \) | \(7.89 \times 10^{-6}\) | \(1.40 \times 10^{-6}\) | \(2.56 \times 10^{-7}\) |
| \( \gamma_{\nu,\text{max}} \) | \(3.64 \times 10^{2}\) | \(3.70 \times 10^{2}\) | \(3.29 \times 10^{2}\) |
| \( \gamma_{\nu,\text{min}} \) | \(1.0 \times 10^{5}\) | \(7.0 \times 10^{6}\) | \(2.4 \times 10^{6}\) |
| \( \alpha_{\nu,\text{max}} \) | \(6.73 \times 10^{10}\) | \(6.76 \times 10^{10}\) | \(6.04 \times 10^{10}\) |
| \( \epsilon_{\nu,\text{PK}} (\text{MeV}) \) | 0.1 | 0.5 | 3.5 |
| \( \epsilon_{\nu,\text{PK},\gamma} (\text{TeV}) \) | 0.32 | 0.54 | 0.05 |
| \( U_b (\text{erg cm}^{-3}) \) | 0.52 | 0.10 | 0.16 |
| \( L_b (\text{erg cm}^{-3}) \) | 1.52 | 2.41 | 28.45 |
| \( L_b (\text{erg cm}^{-3}) \) | 2.55 | 2.69 | 61.21 |
| \( L_p (\text{erg s}^{-1}) \) | \(3.74 \times 10^{43}\) | \(4.89 \times 10^{43}\) | \(2.29 \times 10^{44}\) |
| \( L_\nu (\text{erg s}^{-1}) \) | \(1.55 \times 10^{43}\) | \(3.17 \times 10^{43}\) | \(2.27 \times 10^{44}\) |
| \( E_{\nu,\text{max}} (\text{EmV}) \) | 40.1 | 6.55 | 7.92 |
| \( N_{\text{UHECRs}} \) | 1.52 | 0.41 | 2.63 \times 10^{-6} |

**Note:** \( \alpha_{\nu,\text{max}} = \frac{m_{\nu}}{m_{\nu,\text{max}}} \).

**References:**
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2. Toney (1991),
3. Strauss et al. (1992),
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9. Aleksić et al. (2012),
10. Abdo et al. (2009a),
11. Abdo et al. (2009b),
12. Steinle et al. (1998),
13. Ajello et al. (2009).
GeV. Changes in these observables would vary the photon density generated by synchrotron radiation, and thus the number of photons scattered by inverse Compton scattering. As neutrino fluxes were computed from the photo-hadronic interactions between Fermi-accelerated protons and the seed photons around the first and second SSC peaks, then variations in the magnetic field, Doppler factor, and emitting radius would affect the target photon densities (Equation (21)) and then the neutrino fluxes. For the simulated neutrino telescope, we additionally calculate the atmospheric and cosmic neutrinos expected from the portion of the sky inside a circular region centered in each source and covering a 1° square. The atmospheric neutrino flux is described using the Bartol model (Barr et al. 2004, 2006) for the range of energy considered in this analysis. The cosmic diffuse neutrino signal has been discussed by Waxman and Bahcall (Waxman 1998; Bahcall & Waxman 2001) and the upper bound for this flux is $F_{\nu} < 1.6 \times 10^{-7}$ GeV cm$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$ sr$^{-1}$ (Waxman & Bahcall 1999). We rule out the atmospheric muon “background” from this analysis due to Earth filtration and to the softener spectrum with respect to the neutrino signal and “backgrounds” considered. We plot the neutrino spectra expected for CenA, M87, and NGC 1275, as shown in Figure 6. In this figure, we have considered Fermi-accelerated protons interacting with the seed photons around the first and second SSC peaks; for this reason, neutrino spectra are exhibited, first, by declining power laws and after by peaking around 1 EeV as expected (Cuoco & Hannestad 2008). By computing the signal-to-noise ratio for one year of observation in the Km$^3$ neutrino telescope, the neutrino IceCube flux (Aartsen et al. 2014) and the upper limits set by IceCube (IC40; Abbasi et al. 2011), PAO (Abreu et al. 2011), RICE (Kravchenko et al. 2012), and ANITA (Gorham et al. 2010), we confirm the impossibility of observing HE and UHE neutrinos from RGs. No visible neutrino excess (under the assumption of the $\gamma$ interaction model) with respect to atmospheric and cosmic neutrinos is expected for the three RGs considered, as is shown in Figure 7. In our model, the proton and neutrino spectra are normalized with the TeV $\gamma$-ray fluxes from the closest RGs; therefore, to obtain the diffuse flux from other RGs would be needed to model the TeV $\gamma$-ray flux of each RG which is outside of the scope of this paper.
Figure 6. Neutrino spectra of RGs (Cen A, M87, and NGC 1275) obtained as $\pi^\pm$ decay products from $p\gamma$ interactions of Fermi-accelerated protons with the seed photons around the first and second SED peaks. The atmospheric muon neutrino background is also shown.

Figure 7. Neutrino signal-to-noise ratio for a Km$^3$ neutrino telescope for Cen A (left), M87 (right), and NGC 1275 (below). The black lines represent the neutrino signal produced by $p\gamma$ interactions respectively. The blue and the green areas represent the atmospheric and diffuse neutrino “background” within a region of 1° around the source position.
important to say that if UHECRs are as heavy as suggested by PAO (Abraham et al. 2010), HE neutrinos from UHE nuclei are significantly lower than the neutrino flux obtained by UHE protons (Murase & Beacom 2010).

7. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

We have proposed a leptonic and hadronic model to explain the broadband SED spectrum observed in the closest RGs. In the leptonic model, we have used the SSC emission to describe the SED up to dozens of GeV. To explain the spectrum from hundreds of GeV up to a few TeV, we have introduced the hadronic model assuming that accelerated protons in the inner jet interact with the photon population at the SED peaks. Evoking these interaction, we have interpreted the TeV γ-ray spectra as π⁰ decay products in Cen A, M87, and NGC 1275.

Correlating the TeV γ-ray and HE neutrino fluxes through pγ interactions, we have computed the HE and UHE neutrino fluxes, and the neutrino event rate expected in a kilometer scale neutrino detector. The neutrino event rate was obtained through MC simulation by considering a region of 1° around the source position and assuming a hypothetical Km³ Cherenkov telescope. We found that the neutrino fluxes produced by pγ interactions close to the core of RGs cannot explain the astrophysical flux and the expected γν events in a neutrino telescope are consistent with the track-like non-neutrino associated with the location of the closest RGs (Aartsen et al. 2013, 2014; IceCube Collaboration 2013; Schoenen & Raedel 2015). In addition, the atmospheric muon neutrino background is also shown.

Extrapolating the proton spectrum by a simple power law up to UHEs, we have computed the number of UHECRs expected from Cen A, M87, and NGC 1275. We found that those UHECRs obtained with our model is in agreement with the TA and PAO observations. Although UHECRs from Cen A can hardly be accelerated up to the PAO energy range at the emitting region (E_{max} = 40 EeV), they could be accelerated during the flaring intervals, with small changes in the strength of the magnetic field and/or the emitting region and in the giant lobes. The idea that UHECRs could be accelerated partially in the jet at energies of (≤ 40 \times 10^{19} \text{ eV}) and partially in the Lobes at (E > 40 \times 10^{19} \text{ eV}) (Fraija 2014a) is very interesting. If UHECRs have a heavy composition, as suggested by PAO (Abraham et al. 2010), UHE heavy nuclei in Cen A could be accelerated at energies greater than ~80 EeV, thus reproducing the detections reported by PAO. It is worth noting that if RGs are the sources of UHECRs, their on-axis counterparts (i.e., blazars and flat-spectrum radio quasars) should be considered more powerful neutrino emitters (Atoyan & Dermer 2001; Dermer et al. 2014; Murase et al. 2014). In fact, a shower-like PeV neutrino was recently associated with the flaring activity of the blazar PKS B1424-418 (Kadler et al. 2016).

In summary, we have showed that leptonic SSC and hadronic processes are required to explain the γ-ray fluxes at the GeV–TeV energy range. We have successfully described the TeV γ-ray (Aharonian et al. 2006, 2009; Aleksić et al. 2010), HE neutrinos (Aartsen et al. 2013, 2014; IceCube Collaboration 2013; Schoenen & Raedel 2015), and UHECRs (The Pierre Auger Collaboration et al. 2011; Abu-Zayyad et al. 2013) around the closest RGs.

We thank the anonymous referee for a critical reading of the paper and valuable suggestions that helped improve the quality and clarity of this work. We also thank Charles Dermer, Tyce DeYoung, Markus Böchter, and Bin Zhang for useful discussions.

APPENDIX

TOOLS FOR THE FIT

The values reported in Table 1 (break energies, spectral index, and normalizations) for synchrotron, Compton scattering, and pγ spectra were obtained as follows.

Synchrotron spectrum. We require the synchrotron spectrum (Equation (9)) with \( A_{\text{syn},\gamma} = [0] \), \( \alpha_c = [1] \), \( \epsilon_{\gamma,m}^c = [2] \), and \( \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\text{syn}} = [3] \). Then, it is written as

\[
[\epsilon_{\gamma}^2 N(\epsilon_{\gamma})]_{\gamma,\text{syn}} = \begin{cases} \left( \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma}}{10} \right)^{\alpha_c - 1} & \epsilon_{\gamma} < [2], \\ \left( \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma}}{5} \right) \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon_{\gamma}^{\alpha_c}} \right)^{[1] - 1} & [2] < \epsilon_{\gamma} < [3], \\ \left( \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma}}{6} \right) \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon_{\gamma}^{\alpha_c}} \right)^{[2] - 1} & [3] < \epsilon_{\gamma}. \end{cases}
\]

Compton scattering spectrum. Given the Compton scattering spectrum (Equation (13)) and doing A_{\text{sc},\gamma} = [4], \( \epsilon_{\gamma,m}^{\text{sc}} = [5] \), and \( \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{\text{sc}} = [6] \), this spectrum is in the form

\[
[\epsilon_{\gamma}^2 N(\epsilon_{\gamma})]_{\gamma,\text{sc}} = \begin{cases} \left( \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma}}{10} \right)^{\alpha_c - 1} & \epsilon_{\gamma} < [5], \\ \left( \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma}}{5} \right) \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon_{\gamma}^{\alpha_c}} \right)^{[5] - 1} & [5] < \epsilon_{\gamma} < [6], \\ \left( \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma}}{6} \right) \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon_{\gamma}^{\alpha_c}} \right)^{[6] - 1} & [6] < \epsilon_{\gamma}. \end{cases}
\]

pγ spectrum. Considering the pγ spectrum (Equation (25)) with \( A_{p\gamma} = [7] \) and \( \alpha_p = [8] \), it can be written as

\[
[\epsilon_{\gamma}^2 N(\epsilon_{\gamma})]_{\gamma,p\gamma} = \begin{cases} \left( \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma}}{10} \right)^{\alpha_p - 1} & \epsilon_{\gamma} < \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{p\gamma}, \\ \left( \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma}}{5} \right) \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon_{\gamma}^{\alpha_p}} \right)^{[8] + 3} & [8] < \epsilon_{\gamma} < \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{p\gamma}, \\ \left( \frac{\epsilon_{\gamma}}{6} \right) \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon_{\gamma}^{\alpha_p}} \right)^{[9] + 2} & [9] < \epsilon_{\gamma} < \epsilon_{\gamma,c}^{p\gamma}. \end{cases}
\]

We use the method of \( \chi^2 \) minimization as implemented in the ROOT software package (Brun & Rademakers 1997).

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