

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	v
1. Introduction	1
1.1 “The Last Electromagnetic Window”	1
1.2 Energy Domains of Gamma Ray Astronomy	4
1.3 Gamma Ray Astronomy: A Discipline in Its Own Right	7
2. Status of the Field	23
2.1 Low Energy Gamma Ray Sources	24
2.1.1 The COMPTEL source catalog	25
2.2 High Energy Gamma Ray Sources	31
2.2.1 GeV blazars	34
2.2.2 GeV pulsars	36
2.2.3 Unidentified EGRET sources	39
2.3 The Status of Ground-Based Gamma Ray Astronomy	42
2.3.1 Brief historical review	42
2.3.2 Reported TeV sources	46
2.3.2.1 The Crab Nebula	47
2.3.2.2 Other plerions	51
2.3.2.3 Gamma ray pulsars	54
2.3.2.4 Gamma rays from supernova remnants	54
2.3.2.5 Other galactic sources	63
2.3.2.6 TeV blazars	67
2.3.2.7 Other extragalactic objects	79
2.3.3 Next generation of IACT arrays	83

2.3.3.1	Atmospheric Cherenkov radiation	83
2.3.3.2	Stereoscopic detection of Cherenkov images	84
2.3.3.3	IACT arrays	87
2.3.3.4	Sub-10 GeV ground based detectors?	90
2.3.3.5	Large field-of-view detectors	95
2.3.3.6	IACT arrays for probing PeV γ -rays	96
3.	Gamma Ray Production and Absorption Mechanisms	99
3.1	Interactions with Matter	100
3.1.1	Electron bremsstrahlung and pair-production	101
3.1.2	Electron-positron annihilation	105
3.1.3	Gamma rays produced by relativistic protons	106
3.1.3.1	π^0 -decay gamma rays	106
3.1.3.2	Nuclear gamma ray line emission	110
3.2	Interactions with Photon Fields	112
3.2.1	Inverse Compton scattering	113
3.2.2	Photon-photon pair production	117
3.2.3	Interactions of hadrons with radiation fields	121
3.3	Interactions with Magnetic Fields	123
3.3.1	Synchrotron radiation and pair-production	123
3.3.2	Synchrotron radiation of protons	126
3.4	Relativistic Electron-Photon Cascades	130
4.	Gamma Rays and Origin of Galactic Cosmic Rays	135
4.1	Origin of Galactic Cosmic Rays: General Remarks	135
4.1.1	What do we know about Cosmic Rays?	135
4.1.2	What we do not know about Cosmic Rays?	137
4.1.3	Common beliefs and “nasty” problems	140
4.1.4	Searching for sites of production of GCRs	143
4.2	Giant Molecular Clouds as Tracers of Cosmic Ray	147
4.2.1	Proton fluxes in the ISM near the accelerator	149
4.2.1.1	Impulsive source	149
4.2.1.2	Continuous source	151
4.2.1.3	The case of dense gas regions	154
4.2.2	Gamma rays from a cloud near the accelerator	155
4.2.3	Accelerator inside the cloud	159

4.2.4	On the level of the “sea” of galactic cosmic rays	161
4.3	Probing the Sources of VHE CR Electrons	165
4.3.1	Distributions of VHE electrons	166
4.3.2	Extended regions of IC gamma radiation	168
4.4	Diffuse Radiation from the Galactic Disk	173
4.4.1	CR spectra in the inner Galaxy	174
4.4.2	Diffuse radiation associated with cosmic ray electrons	177
4.4.2.1	IC gamma rays	177
4.4.2.2	Electron bremsstrahlung	181
4.4.2.3	Annihilation of CR positrons in flight	182
4.4.3	Gamma rays of nucleonic origin	183
4.4.4	Overall gamma ray fluxes	185
4.4.5	Probing the diffuse γ -ray background on small scales	189
4.4.6	Concluding remarks	195
5.	Gamma Ray Visibility of Supernova Remnants	199
5.1	Gamma Rays as a Diagnostic Tool	199
5.2	Inverse Compton Versus π^0 -Decay Gamma Rays	205
5.3	Synchrotron X-ray Emission of SNRs	208
5.4	TeV Gamma Radiation of SN 1006 and Similar SNRs	209
5.4.1	Inverse Compton models of TeV emission	209
5.4.2	Hadronic origin of TeV emission?	215
5.4.3	Distinct features of electronic and hadronic models	217
5.4.4	Concluding remarks	219
5.5	Molecular Clouds Overtaken by SNRs	220
5.5.1	Bremsstrahlung X-rays from γ Cygni	223
5.5.2	The case of RX J1713.7-3946	225
5.6	A Special Case: Gamma Rays from Cassiopeia A	231
5.7	“PeV SNRs”	238
6.	Pulsars, Pulsar Winds, Plerions	243
6.1	Magnetospheric Gamma Rays	244
6.1.1	Polar cap versus outer gap models	247
6.1.2	Magnetospheric TeV gamma rays?	251

6.2	Gamma Rays from Unshocked Pulsar Winds	253
6.2.1	Characteristics of the KED wind	254
6.2.2	The ejection rate and the particle spectrum	255
6.2.3	IC Radiation of the pulsar wind in Crab	256
6.2.4	Gamma rays from winds of PSR B1706-44 and Vela?	261
6.2.5	IC γ -rays from the binary pulsar PSR B1259-63	265
6.3	Gamma Rays from Pulsar Driven Nebulae	268
6.3.1	Broad-band nonthermal radiation of the Crab Nebula	268
6.3.1.1	Synchrotron and IC radiation	270
6.3.1.2	Second High Energy Synchrotron Component	273
6.3.1.3	Bremsstrahlung and π^0 -decay gamma rays?	275
6.3.1.4	The objectives of future gamma ray studies	278
6.4	High Energy Gamma Rays from Other Plerions	281
6.4.1	Time-evolution of electrons	283
6.4.2	Target photon fields	284
6.4.3	Effects of B-field, electron energy, and pulsar age	286
6.4.4	Synchrotron and IC nebulae around PSR B1706-44	289
7.	Gamma Rays Expected from Microquasars	293
7.1	Do We Expect Gamma Rays from X-Ray Binaries?	293
7.2	Nonthermal Phenomena in Microquasars	295
7.3	Modelling of Radio Flares of GRS 1915+105	301
7.4	Expected Gamma Ray Fluxes	304
7.5	Searching for Gamma Ray Signals from Microquasars	309
7.6	The Case of Microblazars	311
7.7	Ultraluminous Sources as Microblazars?	313
7.8	Persistent Gamma Ray Emission from Extended Lobes	317
8.	Large Scale Jets of Radio Galaxies and Quasars	321
8.1	Synchrotron and IC Models of Large Scale AGN Jets	323

8.2	Ultra High Energy Protons in Jets	327
8.2.1	Secondary electrons	327
8.2.2	Synchrotron radiation of protons	330
8.2.3	Pictor A, PKS 0637-752, and 3C 120	332
8.2.4	The case of 3C 273	339
8.3	Large Scale Jets Powered by Gamma Rays	347
8.4	Concluding Remarks	354
9.	Nonthermal Phenomena in Clusters of Galaxies	359
9.1	Nonthermal Particles and Magnetic Fields	359
9.2	Inverse Compton and Bremsstrahlung Models	364
9.2.1	Inverse Compton models	364
9.2.2	Nonrelativistic bremsstrahlung	368
9.3	Synchrotron X- and γ -rays of “Photonic” Origin?	369
9.4	Nonthermal Radiation Components Associated with Very High and Extremely High Energy Protons	378
9.4.1	High energy radiation from cores of clusters	379
9.4.1.1	Detectability of gamma rays	384
9.4.1.2	Detectability of X-rays	386
9.4.2	Nonthermal radiation beyond the cluster cores	388
9.4.2.1	Weak magnetic field	389
9.4.2.2	Intermediate magnetic field	390
9.4.2.3	Strong magnetic field	390
10.	TeV Blazars and Cosmic Background Radiation	393
10.1	Cosmic Infrared Background Radiation	394
10.2	Intergalactic Absorption of Gamma Rays	397
10.3	TeV Blazars	399
10.4	Leptonic Models of TeV Blazars	402
10.4.1	Constraints on the SSC parameter space	404
10.4.2	Time-dependent SSC treatment	409
10.4.3	The case of 1ES 1426+428	415
10.5	Hadronic Models	417
10.5.1	Mass-loaded hadronic jet models	418
10.5.2	Photo-pion and synchrotron losses of protons	419
10.5.3	Proton synchrotron models	422
10.5.3.1	Fitting the TeV spectrum of Mkn 501	423
10.5.3.2	X-rays from secondary electrons	425

10.5.3.3 Broad band SED of 1ES 1426+428
 within the proton-synchrotron model . . . 427

10.6 “IR background–TeV Gamma Ray Crisis”? 432

11. High Energy Gamma Rays — Carriers of Unique
 Cosmological Information 437

11.1 Probing DEBRA Through γ -Ray Absorption Features . . 437

11.2 The Effect of Cascading in the CIB 447

11.3 Pair Halos as Unique Cosmological Candles 450

11.4 Diffuse Extragalactic Background as Calorimetric
 Measure of the VHE Emissivity of the Universe 460

Appendix A Spherically symmetric diffusion from a
 single source 463

Appendix B Evolution of relativistic electrons
 in an expanding magnetised medium 465

B.1 Kinetic equation 465

B.2 Time-independent energy losses 467

B.3 Expanding cloud 470

Bibliography 473

Index 493