Black hole astrophysics in the new century

X-ray probes of strong gravity and cosmic feedback

Chris Reynolds

Department of Astronomy University of Maryland



Armitage & Reynolds (2004)

A new era of black hole research

- Existence of both stellar and supermassive black holes seems secure
 - Exotic physics required to escape black hole conclusion in Galactic Center
- Every galactic bulge seem to host a supermassive black hole



Movie from Genzel group Similar work by Ghez group

The wider importance of black holes

- Supermassive black holes have cosmological importance...
- Energy output from black holes growth may be crucial factor in formation/evolution of massive galaxies
- Galaxy and SMBH growth coupled by powerful feedback processes



Kormendy & Gebhardt (2001) Gebhardt et al. (2000) Ferrarese & Merritt (2000)

Open issues...

- Are black holes really described by General Relativity?
 - Is the Kerr metric a good description of black hole spacetime?
- How does black hole accretion and jet production work?
 - How is accretion energy channeled into radiation & kinetic energy?
 - What is the role of black hole spin?
- How is massive black hole growth and galaxy formation coupled?
 - How do feedback processes couple enormous spatial scales?

Outline

- Talk about progress due to developments in X-ray instrumentation
- Probing the strong gravity regime with X-ray spectroscopy
 - The robustness of the relativistic signatures
 - Confronting accretion disk theory with data
 - Measurements of black hole spin
- Large scale environmental impact of black holes
 - The cooling flow problem and the radio-galaxy solution
 - Difficulties faced by radio-galaxy feedback models and possible solutions

I : PROBES OF THE STRONG GRAVITY REGIME

- ASCA observation of MCG-6-30-15...
 - Revealed extremely broadened/skewed iron emission line (Tanaka et al. 1995)
 - Confirmed by XMM
- What are we seeing?
 - Believe line to originate from surface layers of innermost accretion disk
 - Line broadened and skewed by Doppler effect and gravitational redshifting



Power-law continuum subtracted ASCA: Tanaka et al. (1995)

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Pseudo-Newtonian MHD simulation Ray-traced through Schwarzschild metric Armitage & Reynolds (2004)

Iron line from X-ray reflection

Backscattered spectrum from Xray irradiation of the "cold" optically-thick disk...

- Fluorescence/radiative recomb.lines
- Radiative recombination continuum
- Compton backscattered continuum





Self-consistent model of X-ray reflection from ionized disk (Ross & Fabian 2005)

Iron lines in AGN

MCG-5-23-16 (Dewangan 2003)



channel energy (keV)
PG 1211+143 (Pounds 2003)

5

10

2

Lockman hole (Streblyanskaya et al 2004)



Iron lines in Galactic Black Hole Binaries

GX 339-4 (XMM)

1.2

:-

0.9

2

4.

1.2 ratio

ω. L

4

atio





XTE J1650-500 (XMM)

6

Energy (keV)

8

JM Miller

11

COMPLEXITY FROM ABSORPTION



Must be careful to account for effects of absorption...



Generic prediction - significant iron K line absorption from FeXVII-FeXXIII (~6.4-6.6 keV)

MCG-6-30-15; 522ks Chandra-HETG observation



Clearly do not see the FeXVII-FeXXIII abs lines that accompany a "broad-line mimicking" WA

[Young, Lee, Fabian, Reynolds et al., ApJ, 2005]

Current paradigm

- Accretion proceeds through disk due to MHD turbulence (Shakura & Sunyaev 1973; Balbus & Hawley 1991)
- Full GR-MHD simulations of non-radiative disks possible
- Radiatively-efficient disks
 - Gross properties amenable to semi-analytic modeling
 - Novikov & Thorne (1974)
 - Geom. thin, efficient disk
 - Material plunges into BH ballistically once within the innermost stable circular orbit



Hirose et al. (2004); also see Koide et al. (2000), McKinney (2005), Komissarov (2005). 15

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$$r_{\rm in} \to \frac{6GM}{c^2} \qquad a=0$$

$$r_{\rm in} o \frac{GM}{c^2} \qquad a o 1$$

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Deep Minimum of MCG-6-30-15 XMM (Reynolds et al. 2004)

Iron lines broader than predicted from NT disk ⇒ Irradiation more centrally concentrated than NT prediction

Underlying disk is NT-like, but X-ray irradiation does not track local dissipation (need light bending) Irradiation tracks a dissipation that is much more centrally concentrated than NT law

Gravitational light bending?

- Suppose X-ray source is base of a jet?
 - X-rays will be gravitationally focused onto central parts of disk
 - Can produce very centrally concentrated irradiation pattern!
 - Data suggest h~few GM/c²



- Geometry first discussed in Fe-K line context by Marttochia & Matt (1996)
 Applied to ASCA data for MCG-6-30-15 by
- Reynolds & Begelman (1997)
- Applied to XMM data for MCG-6-30-15 by Minuitti & Fabian (2004)

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- Recent work suggests importance of "torqued accretion disks"
 - Magnetic fields may lead to continued extraction of energy/ang-momentum of matter plunging within ISCO
 - Plunging matter exerts torque on rest of disk
 - Work done by torque dissipated in innermost regions of the disk
- In extreme case, this might produce a Penrose process and allow the BH spin to be tapped.



Analytic: Gammie (1999), Krolik (1999), Li (2000), Agol & Krolik (2000), Garofalo & Reynolds (2005)

Numerical: Hawley (2000), Hawley & Krolik (2001), Armitage, Reynolds & Chiang (2001), Reynolds & Armitage (2003)

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BLACK HOLE SPIN

- Importance of spin
 - Large energy store (upto 29% of rest mass energy)
 - Spin may retain memory of black hole formation
 - First step in testing Kerr metric
- Diagnose spin through its effects on the accretion disk structure
 - Major effect change in the location of the innermost stable circular orbit (ISCO)



If we assume no X-ray reflection from within the ISCO...

- For progressively more rapidly rotating BHs...
 - ISCO moves inwards to a higher gravitational redshift region
 - For given inclination, maximum redshift of iron line increases
- Applied to long (350ks) XMM dataset for MCG-6
 - Data strongly prefers rapidly spinning BH solution
 - $a = 0.95 \pm 0.04$



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• Constellation-X

- Major component of NASA's Beyond Einstein program
- Imaging spectroscopy with superior spectral resolution and collecting area
- Allows study of short-term broad iron line variability
 - Dynamical timescale variability ⇒ trace orbits of distinct structures in disk
 - Light crossing timescale variability ⇒ follow echos of X-ray flares across disk



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Similar features from <u>outer</u> disk already hinted at by XMM-Newton NGC3516 (Iwasawa et al. 2004) & Mrk 766 (Turner et al. 2005)

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II : MASSIVE BLACK HOLES & MASSIVE GALAXY FORMATION

- Galaxy luminosity function
 - Suppressed at high and low luminosity end compared with simply ΛCDM predictions
 - High-L suppression must be more efficient that star formation
- Do AGN suppress highend of galaxy LF?



Benson et al. (2003)

Cluster cooling flows Massive galaxy suppression in action?





How can AGN jets heat ICM isotropically?

Cocoon structure; Scheuer (1974)



Can heat isotropically by either shock heating or dissipation of sound waves 2-d hydro simulations Reynolds et al. (2002)

Chandra observations of cooling-core clusters

Cygnus-A Smith et al. (2002)

Perseus-A Fabian et al. (2000)



Synopsis: Jet-blown cavities common "Ghost" cavities common Strong shocks elusive!

Hydra-A Nulsen et al. (2004)





Virgo/M87 Young et al. (2002)



Modeling the feedback loop

- Feedback model ⇒ average AGN heating balances ICM cooling
- Analysis of ICM cavities shows that kinetic power and cooling luminosity are indeed related
- Nature must modulate AGN fueling according to ICM properties
- First attempts to model this...
 - Ideal hydro model of jet/ICM interaction
 - Jet power proportional to cooling flow rate
 - FAIL to produce successful balance

Birzan et al. (2004)



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Delayed fueling scenario Vernaleo & Reynolds, submitted

Runaway cooling in the equatorial regions

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What ingredients are missing from the feedback model?

- MHD and Plasma transport processes
 - Thermal conduction and Viscosity
 - Dissipation of wave energy
 - New instabilities of the ICM atmosphere
- Precession of the jet axis
 - Need to be quasi-isotropic on cooling timescale (few×10⁸ yr)
- Dissipation of energy stored in global ICM modes?



Evidence for dissipation of sounds waves by thermal conduction (see Fabian, Reynolds et al. 2005)

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Reynolds, Brenneman & Stocke (2005) 41

Conclusions

- New era of black hole research
 - Detailed studies of black hole physics and relativistic accretion
 - Impact of black holes on galactic scale structure
- Strong gravity studies with XMM and Chandra
 - Robust signatures of strong gravity exist
 - Measurements of black hole spin and signs of interesting spinrelated astrophysics
 - Constellation-X and LISA will bring tremendously exciting future
- Jetted AGN and cluster cooling flows
 - Puzzles; how are ICM cores being heated?
 - Need for more physics

The End

Iron line variability



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Armitage, Reynolds & Chiang (2001) Reynolds & Armitage (2001)

The way forward



• Better modeling

Simulated Astro-E2 XRS data Abell 4059 (z=0.049)

- More physics (MHD, plasma processes)
- Put in cosmological setting
- Better data
 - More deep Chandra observations
 - Direct kinematics from high-resolution X-ray spectroscopy (rebuild of Astro-E2?, Constellation-X)