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The evolution of Early-Type Galaxies: An X-ray perspective

Overview

1. Why an X-ray perspective?

2. The interplay of cold and hot gas in massive elliptical galaxies



Silk & Mamon 2012

M 81



NGC 5813



M 81



NGC 5813

Hot gas mass / Stellar mass: ~ 0.02

10 kpc









Overview

1. Why an X-ray perspective?

2. The interplay of cold and hot gas in massive elliptical galaxies

Cold and hot gas in elliptical galaxies



Credit NASA

Herschel [C II] (100 K) observations of 8 nearby 'red and dead' giant elliptical galaxies

Parent Sample: The 18 optically and X-ray brightest nearby galaxies

 $d < 100 \ Mpc$ Stellar mass: ~ $10^{11} M_{\odot}$ X-ray gas mass: ~ $10^9 M_{\odot}$ in 10 kpc

Whilst these galaxies lack SF 6/8 systems have extended ionized gas detections

Cold gas properties

6/8 galaxies have cold gas and same 6/8 have ionized gas Cold gas morphology and kinematics similar to ionized gas



Hot gas properties



Cold gas poor - relaxed X-ray morphology - gas peak on AGN

Cold gas rich - disturbed X-ray morphology - gas peak off AGN

Outside of 1 kpc, the entropy of systems containing cold gas is lower

Werner et al. 2014

Hot gas properties



How is hot and cold gas coupled?



How is hot and cold gas coupled?

Two scenarios:

Relaxed -> dense X-ray gas
 Stable if cavity power = X-ray luminosity
 If gas is disturbed -> Jets shut off
 Energy input decreases -> Gas becomes unstable and cools
 Eventually system relaxes and jets switch on
 -> AGN strongly coupled to hot gas - potentially stable for long periods in cold-gas-poor phase

2. Disturbed system -> Aids cooling
AGN has more cold dense fuel -> Strong jets
Jets clear out cold gas -> Jets at larger radius so energy deposited farther from BH
Hot gas able to cool again

-> AGN strongly coupled to cold gas - but must see intermediate states

Interplay of cold and hot gas in Early-Type Galaxies

Initial SOFIA proposal: 6 new systems traced in [C II]



1. Does cold gas cool from the X-ray gas?

2. Is the rate at which gas cools affected by the dynamics of the hot gas?

3. How is the AGN fed?

4. At what mass does the radio-mode feedback cycle break?

Summary

- 1. X-ray observations of the gaseous halos of ETGs holds information about their evolution.
- 2. Massive galaxies can be cold and cool gas rich, yet still lack star formation, and this gas likely originates from the hot gas.
- 3. Hot gas may be important in feeding the AGN and is fundamental to the feedback cycle.