Hot coronae around spiral galaxies: Probing the first principles of galaxy formation

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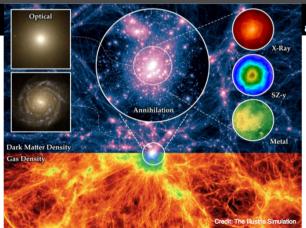
Hot coronae around spiral galaxies: Probing the first principles of galaxy formation



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Fundamental questions

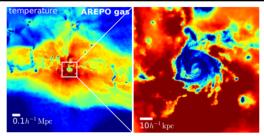
- How do galaxies get their gas and transform into stars?
- How do supermassive black holes alter the evolution of galaxies?
- How are galaxies and their surroundings enriched by metals?



Hot coronae around spiral galaxies

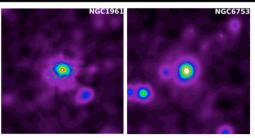
- Fundamental prediction of all galaxy formation models
- In massive galaxies quasi-static X-ray coronae emerge
- Isolated spirals are powerful probes of galaxy formation models

Simulated coronae



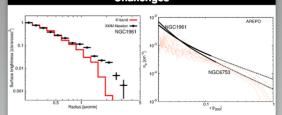
- Simulated gas temperature maps at z = 2 (Vogelsberger et al. 2012), showing the rise of hot X-ray coronae with sub-keV temperatures
- Hot-mode accretion dominates from z<2, and 60% of the total gas is in the form of hot coronae between 1<z<2.
- Most stars at z=0 arise from gas accreted in the hot mode

Observed coronae



- Extended hot X-ray coronae with $kT\approx$ 0.6 keV are detected around two massive spiral galaxies at $D\approx$ 50 Mpc ($z\approx$ 0.012)
- Hot gas with kT = 0.6 keV is detected out to 60 kpc radii
- Luminosity of the hot gas between 20-60 kpc is 6 x 10⁴⁰ erg/s

Challenges



- With present-day X-ray telescopes, demanding observations are required to detect the most luminous and nearby coronae.
- Complete census of coronae must be obtained in the local Universe
- X-ray coronae must be explored out to z=2, near the peak of cosmic star formation, when the first hot coronae emerged

Y-ray Surveyo





- Sub-arcsecond spatial resolution is required to spatially resolve the coronae — 100 kpc at z=2 corresponds to 12"
- In the local Universe short observations (30 ks) will provide precise gas density, temperature, and abundance profiles
- At z=2 a 200 ks observation will collect 500 counts to measure the temperature, density and overall morphology of the hot gas

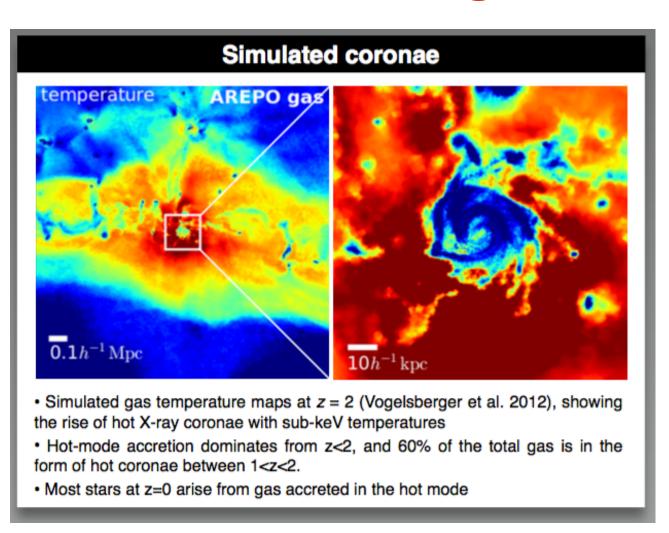


• To understand galaxy formation in detail, it is essential to observationally probe the hot mode accretion and the evolution of coronae from z=2 to the present Universe

Hot X-ray coronae around spirals

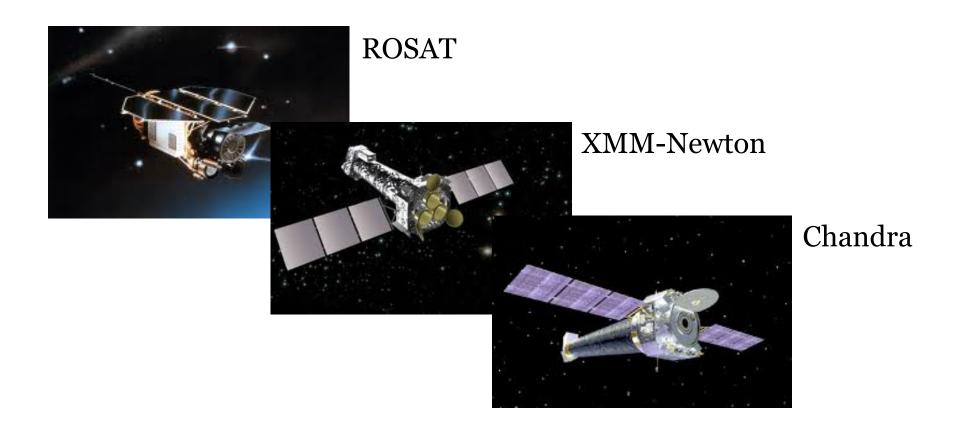
- ★ Basic prediction of galaxy formation models (White & Rees,1978)
- ★ Most luminous in massive galaxies

Luminous X-ray coronae *should be* detected around massive disk galaxies!



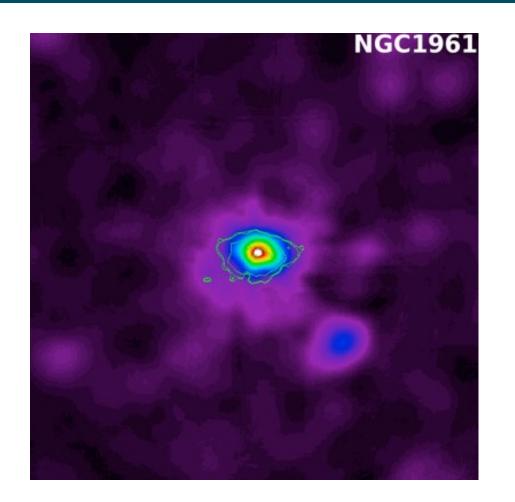
Hunt for hot X-ray coronae

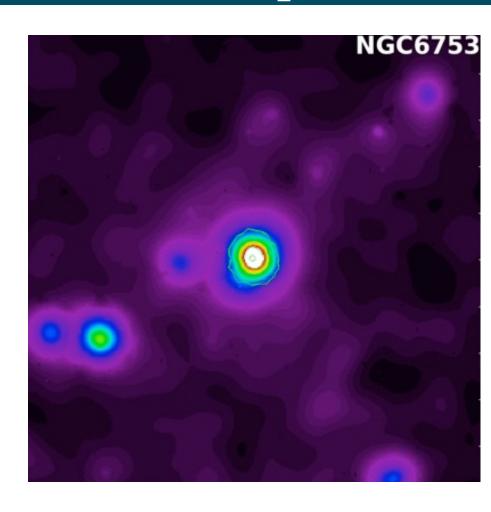
- **★** Unsuccessful hunt for decades
- ★ All major X-ray telescopes involved



★ Until very recently only upper limits obtained

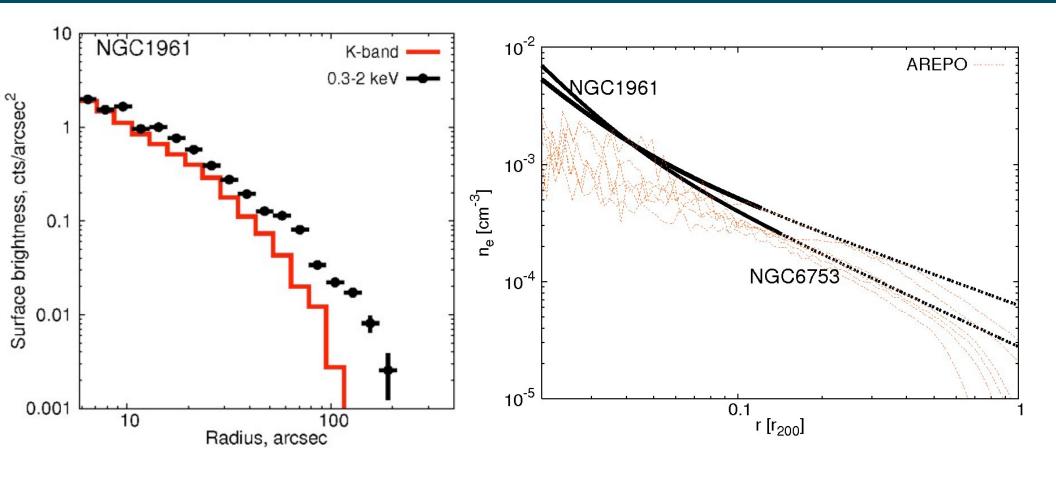
First detections of coronae around spirals





- ★ Extended hot coronae with kT~o.6 keV temperature
- ★ Hot gas extends out to 60 kpc radii

Challenges



- ★ Observations of coronae are extremely demanding
- ★ Complete census of hot coronae are needed in the local Universe
- ★ We must explore them up to z~2, when the first coronae emerged

First detections of coronae around spirals

X-ray Surveyor







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