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Galaxy-scale radio-loud AGN outflows

Judith Croston 28th September 2010 AGN: populations, parameters & power Birmingham 2010



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Thanks:

Ralph Kraft, Martin Hardcastle, Beatriz Mingo, Jamie Ownsworth, Preeti Kharb, Ananda Hota, Dan Evans & the Cen A VLP collaboration



What's special about galaxy-scale sources?

- Two types of galaxy-scale source:
 - early phase in the life of a full-sized radio galaxy
 - short-lived outbursts that never evolve to hundred-kpc scales
- Strong shocks **are** seen in a few nearby "galaxy-scale" sources (e.g. Kraft et al. 2003; Croston et al. 2007, 2009; Mingo et al. 2010)
- CSS samples dominated by FRIIs at high z (e.g. O'Dea 1998) => evidence that shocks are important in ionizing emission-line gas (e.g. Holt et al. 2008)



Shocks & radio source evolution

- All large radio galaxies must evolve through phase of supersonic expansion
 => shock heating of environment
- Signatures potentially visible in the X-ray (e.g. Heinz, Reynolds & Begelman 1998) => direct measurement of energy input to environment.
- Chandra has failed to find clear evidence for strong shocks around powerful RGs (though more examples of moderately strong shocks are emerging...)





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The impact of kpc-scale radio galaxies

High-energy particle acceleration

X-ray synchrotron emission at the shock front in Cen A (Croston et al. 2009)

X-ray synchrotron emission from SN1006 (Rothenflug et al. 2004)

B field amplification?

- SNR shells inferred to have *B* fields >> simple compression of the ISM (e.g. Ellison & Vladimirov 2008, Reynolds 2008)
- Modelled as non-linear diffusive shock acceleration with *B* amplification (e.g. Bell & Lucek 2001).
- *B*-field amplification by factors of 10 100 plausible in Cen A ($B_{eq} \sim 8 \ \mu G$ for κ =1 and ~30 μG for κ =100). HESS detection implies B > 7 μG .



Shock heating of the ISM

- Non-thermal model ruled out (strong Fe L complex).
- *M* ~ 3 4 & expansion speed comparable to inner region of Cen A where no particle acceleration seen.
- $E_{TOT} \sim 2 \ge 10^{56}$ ergs, equiv. to thermal energy of ISM within 11 kpc – similar to Cen A energetics.









Preliminary statistics

- 25 galaxy-scale sources found from parent population of 103,000
- Luminosities of $10^{20} 10^{23} \text{ W Hz}^{-1}$
- Mainly hosted by luminous, red galaxies
- 2/25 show visible merger signatures (comparable to normal E population)
- Environments appear systematically richer than parent population (work in progress)
- Galaxy-scale sources are common in massive, red ellipticals (~1/200), but rare in galaxy population as a whole



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AGN-driven radio outflows in Seyferts

AGN-driven outflows in Seyferts



Disruption of weak jets in a dense environment

- Hot gas associated with the radio bubbles in NGC6764, with hottest region coincident with inner, bright collimated outflow.
- Shock signatures at outflow edge.
- Weak jet disrupted in galaxy bulge? (e.g. Sutherland & Bicknell 2007)





More shock heating in Seyfert radio outflows...



Shocked shells associated with a Seyfert outflow

- Shocked gas: $\mathcal{M} \sim 3.9$, T ~0.9 keV, T_{ISM} ~0.2 keV
- Distributed round the edges of the bubbles (like NGC 3801 & Cen A) rather than inside (like the other Seyfert outflows).
- A more power radio outflow interacting with a less gas-rich host galaxy?



Markarian 6 (Mingo et al. 2010, submitted)





Conclusions

- Galaxy-scale radio-loud AGN have a dramatic effect on their host galaxies (not just coupling to group or cluster gas) :
 - shock heating of ISM at bow shock around supersonic radio lobes
 - high-energy particle acceleration at shock front
 - jet disruption, small-scale shocks and entrainment of hot gas
- Small (~1-10 kpc) radio galaxies are hosted by massive ellipticals: probably not important for feedback on their own, but provide clues to energy input during early stages of radio-galaxy evolution
- "Kinetic" energy input in radio-quiet AGN could be significant:
 - Seyfert jets and bubbles can inject considerable energy into ISM
 - Difficult to resolve and/or distinguish from SF
 - What about radio-quiet quasars?