Supernova remnants, planetary nebulae and superbubbles: prospects for new XMM-Newton observations

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- I- Planetary nebulae
- II- SNRs
- **III-** Superbubbles

The hot interstellar medium (ISM)

Hot interstellar medium known since more than 30 years generated by supernova explosions and too a less extent by powerful wind.

SN explosions and stellar winds act qualitatively in a similar way:

 \Rightarrow They enhance the ISM metallicity through injection of mass enriched in heavy elements by the thermonuclear reactions taking place in stars and supernovae.

 \Rightarrow They forge the structure of the ISM through injection of energy: largely responsible for its multi-phase nature and turbulent state.

 \Rightarrow They are likely the birth places of Galactic Cosmic Rays and amplification of the magnetic field through particle acceleration at their shocks.

X-ray observations give access to these sources that shape the large view of galaxies :

Planetary nebulae, stellar winds, supernovae, superbubbles



PNe formed by the interaction of a copious slow AGB wind with a tenuous fast wind.

 \Rightarrow produce the elliptical and bipolar morphologies of PNe.

 \Rightarrow give rise to shocks that heat the fast wind material to temperature above 10⁶ K. Elliptical PNe: about 10 observed (XMM-Newton or Chandra), 6 show detectable diffuse X-ray. Bipolar PNe: many, 3 detected

 \Rightarrow X-ray observations shade light on the wind properties and shaping of PNe

Planetary Nebulae

Origin of the X-ray emission and relatively low temperature observed □~ 1-3 10⁶ K in PNe ?

Observed velocity of the fast wind V $_{s}$ ~ 1000 km/s => T $_{s}$ > 10^7 K

- Heat conduction (or mixing) at the interface with the cool slow wind material ? It lowers the temperature and increases the density of the shocked fast wind.

- Rapid evolution (weakening) of the fast wind in terms of mass loss.

 Slower moderate velocity wind of ~500 km/s (post-AGB wind) or two opposite jets (collimated fast wind).

(Akashi et al. 2007)

Composition of the emitting plasma?

In NGC 7026, better fit with models with nebular abundances than with stellar wind abundances

=> significant mixing of cool nebular material ?

 \Rightarrow explanation for the observed low temperature ?



Planetary Nebulae

Fast winds produced during the late evolutionary stage of the central star

 \Rightarrow X-ray observations gives access to the late phase products (C,N, O and Ne) synthesized in the CNO cycle and He burning phase and ejected through mass loss.

 \Rightarrow extreme carbon enhancement over oxygen (by a factor 40) in the brightest X-ray PN BD +30 3639



Planetary Nebulae

More than 1500 identified Galactic PNe

The observed X-ray luminosities of PNe are generally much lower than theoretical expectations.

Less than 20 identified as X-ray sources: young elliptical and bipolar PNe, but not from the evolved.

Prospects with XMM-Newton:

- to increase the statistics on the X-ray spectrum of identified PNe.
- to increase the number of observed PNs in X-rays for statistical properties.

Best candidates: fast winds, closed bipolar lobes and young kinematic age (< 1000 years)

X-ray emission => properties of the central fast wind and collimated fast wind

X-ray observations of young SNRs



SN la

Chandra deep observation



Warren et al. 2005 4-6

Si K line 4-6 keV continuum

SN material ejected at high velocity
⇒ Heating of the ejecta and ISM
Powerful X-ray production usually
dominated by:
thermal emission of the shocked ejecta at

- ~ 1 keV of optically thin plasma.
- non-thermal emission in the 4-6 keV continuum from accelerated electrons.

X-ray emission observed in young SNRs



1. Nucleosynthesis products

Cas A (~ 1670)

1 Ms Chandra observations

Core-collapse SN

- First unequivocal identification of iron-rich ejecta produced by explosive silicon burning in a young SNR
- Elsewhere in the remnant Si-rich ejecta from explosive oxygen burning
- Fe-rich ejecta lies outside Si-rich ejecta: spatial inversion of a significant portion of the SN core (Hughes et al. 2000, ApJL).



Si He (1.78-2.0 keV)

(6.52-6.95 keV)

Continuum (4.2-6.4 keV)

2. Shock physics: Temperature equilibration





O K line band XMM-Newton



High resolution spectrum of the O knots (NW) with the RGS => Doppler broadening of the OVII line measured : kT_0 = 528 ± 150 keV while kT_e = 1.5 keV \Rightarrow Small degree of electron-ion temperature equilibration (< 5 %) (Vink et al. 2003, ApJL) What is the maximum energy of accelerated particles ? Electrons are a few % of cosmic rays but can reveal a lot on the mechanism of diffusive shock acceleration => accelerated like protons, so their spectrum is expected to be the same.

X-ray synchotron emission

o Maximum energy of accelerated particles

obtained through the measurement of the cut-off frequency of the synchrotron emission, observable in X-rays (if the magnetic field is known)

=> energy on the order of 10 TeV.

o Azimuthal variation of E_{max} along the SNR shock

- spatially resolved spectroscopy required



SN 1006

Rothenflug et al. 2004, A&A 425, 121

XMM-Newton

Azimuthal variations of the cut-off frequency

- Very strong azimuthal variations, cannot be explained by variations of the magnetic compression alone.
- => Maximum energy of accelerated particles higher at the bright limbs than elsewhere.
- If B ~ 10 µG, the maximum energy reached by the electrons outside the brights limbs is around 25 TeV.
- If B is amplified at the limbs, E_{max}(protons) is certainly much larger (> 1000 TeV) there.

 $v_{cut} (eV) \sim 0.02 B(\mu G) E_{cut}^2 (TeV)$

SN 1006: a SN Ia





Rothenflug et al. 2004, A&A 425, 121

The X-ray geometry of SN 1006 favors cosmic-ray acceleration where the magnetic field was originally parallel to the shock speed (polar caps)

3. Electron acceleration in young SNRs

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How large is the magnetic field ? Is it very turbulent ? Is it amplified ?

Morphology of the X-ray synchrotron emission: filamentary emission in thin sheets just behind the blast wave.





Hwang et al, 2002, ApJ 581, 1101



Cassam-Chenai et al. 2004, A&A 414, 545

Constraints on the magnetic field configuration and intensity

- either the magnetic field is large enough (~ 100 μG) to induce strong radiative losses in the high energy electrons (Vink and Laming 2003).
- or the magnetic field is damped at the shock (Pohl et al. 2005).

These models predict distinct morphology and spectral shape in X-rays (Cassam-Chenaï et al. 2007). 4. Proton acceleration: morphological signature

Evidence for ion acceleration in SNRs? How efficient is cosmic-ray acceleration? What fraction of the shock energy can be tapped by the cosmic rays?

o Back-reaction of the accelerated particle on the shock and hydrodynamics



For efficient ion injection, large fraction of energy goes into accelerated particles

larger compression ratio and lower post-shock temperature (but observed Te < Ti)

• modified hydrodynamics: narrower interaction region, observable in X-rays

Modified hydrodynamics in Tycho's SNR: narrower interaction region

Forward shock very close to the contact discontinuity :

Observed value: R_{FS}/R_{cd} < 1.1

Test-particle value: $R_{FS}/R_{cd} \sim 1.18$

=> efficient particle acceleration of protons

Decourchelle 2004, Warren et al. 2005, ApJ 634, 376

Azimuthal variation of R_{FS}/R_{cd}



Contact discontinuity



red = Fe L green = Si + S K blue = 4 to 6 keV continuum

4. Proton acceleration: spectral signature at TeV energies

Evidence for ion acceleration in SNRs?

o Pion decay (TeV observations with HESS, GLAST,...)

=> knowledge of the contribution of the IC emission required

G347.3-0.5: a core collapse supernova



SNRs: Prospects with XMM-Newton

Thanks to its high sensitivity, reasonable spatial resolution and large field of view, there are a large number of projects to be carried out on SNRs:

- 1. Nucleosynthesis products: extended SNRs (nearby or middle-aged, see Miceli's talk)
- 2. Shock physics: deep RGS observation of specific remnants or regions
- 3. Electron acceleration: deep spatially resolved spectroscopy in extended SNRs (SN 1006, G347.3-0.5, Vela Junior)
 - maximum energy of accelerated particle
 - azimuthal variations
 - density of the thermal plasma
- 4. Proton acceleration
 - morphological constraints from X-rays on the hydrodynamics
 - estimate of the IC contribution to the TeV emission (see Pühlhofer's talk)

Others: - interaction with interstellar clouds (Cygnus Loop, Vela, etc...)

- statistical properties of galactic SNRs (Green's catalog)

Majority of O and B stars grouped in associations: 60 % of all type II SNe (core collapse) are clustered.

Winds and SNe act collectively to engender superbubbles.

About 15-20 % of the total energy input is provided by the stellar winds, more than 80 % by SNe.

In a SB ~ 4-1000 clustered SN II (average of 30).

30 Dor C : massive star-forming region with possible recent core-collapse SNe in the superbubble.



Dennerl et al. 2001, A&A

- Origin of the bright X-ray regions:

Region of thermally evaporated material or superbubble shell shocked by SNe ?

- Energy budget:

Amount of energy currently present in SBs (30 Dor C, N51D...) significantly less than the expected energy input from the enclosed massive stars over their lifetime.



30 Dor C

Group of alpha-process elements (O, Ne, Mg, Si, S, Ar, Ca) ~ 1.6 ± 0.5 solar

O/H mass ratio = 0.022 for the X-ray emitting gas

O/H mass ratio = 0.0067 for the LMC (Russel and Dopita 1992).

=> The bubble has been enriched by 5 M_{sol} of oxygen, requiring 2-3 high mass (> 20 M_{sol}) core collapse SNe.

Group of Fe-like elements ~ 0.5 solar (appropriate for the LMC)

(Smith and Wang 2004)

30 Dor C in the LMC



- Origin of the nonthermal emission:

Synchrotron, IC or NT bremsstrahlung ?(Smith and Wang 2004)

- Are superbubbles the main sources of GCR ?

Perspectives with XMM-Newton:

LMC: ideal laboratory for observing superbubbles in X-rays About 20 SBs in the LMC: known distance, faint interstellar absorption.

 \Rightarrow deep exposures required to characterize the abundances of the thermal gas and the spectral characteristics of the observed nonthermal component.

 \Rightarrow large field of view required to cover a large number of superbubbles.

 \Rightarrow path finder for long dedicated observations on specific superbubbles.

XMM required for a quantitative view of all superbubbles in the LMC