X-ray Universe 2008

Lidia Oskinova W. Waldron, J. Cassinelli, A. Feldmeier, W.-R. Hamann

X-ray spectroscopy of single O stars

All O stars emit X-rays



model+X- rays \Rightarrow O VI superionisation



- 0.01MK<T_{eff}<0.06MK, $L_{bol}=10^{4..6}L_{sun}$
- Clumped wind $\dot{M} = 10^{-6..-8}$ M_{sun}/yr, v_{wind} >10³ km/s
- Superionization (e.g. OVI) = X-rays (Cassinelli etal. '79,'83)
- Einstein, Rosat: $L_{\rm X} \sim 10^{-7} L_{\rm bol}$ (Seward etal. '79, Berghoever etal. '97)



How X-rays are generated in O stars? Leading theories.

- Bow shocks around blobs (Lucy & White '80, Cassinelli etal. '08)
- Magnetically confined loops at the stellar base (Cassinelli & Swank '83)
- Wind shocks from the instabilities of radiation driving (Owocki etal. '83)
- Collisions of dense shells in deep wind regions (Feldmeier etal. '97)



How X-rays are generated in O stars? Leading theorim

- Bow shocks around blobs (Lucy & White '80, Cassing vetal. '08)
- Magnetically confined loops at the stellar base (Cassinelli & Swank '83)
- Wind shocks from the instabilities of radiation ving (Owocki etal. '83)
- Collisions of dense shells in deep wind regions (Feldmeier etal. '97)



High-Resolution X-ray Spectra



- * Overall spectral fitting → plasma model, abundunces
- * Line ratios
- * Line profiles

- \rightarrow T_X(r), spatial distribution
- velocity field, wind opacity

04

Line Ratios of He-Like Ions: Location and Temperature

- Strong UV field \Rightarrow radiative de-population of metastable level ³S
- f/i is diagnostic of UV field. UV field dilutes with radius



Kahn + '01, Waldron & Cassinelli'01,'07, Wojdowski & Schulz'05, Oskinova '06, Leutenegger+'06, Raassen etal. '08

 Similar trends for different stars (Waldron & Cassinelli '07)

* Full UV RT needed: Mg XI $f \rightarrow i$ transition blended with O VI resonance line (cool wind) (Leutenegger etal. '06)

05

from Oskinova+'06

Near-Star High-Ion Problem (Waldron & Cassinelli '07)



Near-Star High-Ion Problem (Waldron & Cassinelli '07)

O dwarfs: weak winds: low absorption of X-rays



Ions with high and low Z are at the same distance, close to the core

Comparison with the O supergiants: correlation with wind $\tau_{\rm E}$ is expected

Wind opacity for X-rays

Using modern atmosphere model ζ Pup $\dot{M} = 8.7 \times 10^{-6} M_{\odot}/\mathrm{yr}^{-1}$



Agreement between wind τ_{E} and radii of line formation from fir analisis

Why it matters: mass-loss from massive stars

 \dot{M} - key feedback agent \dot{M} - key parameter of stellar evolution

Empirical determinations are model dependant Spectral analisis is hampered by unknown degree of wind clumping Literature values differ by 100 times X- rays measure wind opacity -> M

Observed X-ray emission line profiles

Waldron & Cassinelli'07 Analysis of spectra of 17 OB stars

- Shift (skewness) correlates with τ_{E}
- Line shifts are small
- Lines are Doppler broadened less than terminal wind velocity





Directions to explain observed X-ray line profiles

New paradigm of X-ray emission

Colissionless shocks, Pollock '07

Optically thick X-ray emission lines

Ignace & Gayley '02 Cannot be true for lines of ALL ions

Reducing wind opacity via

 \star \dot{M} reduction

Waldron & Cassinelli '01, Kramer et al. '03, Cohen et al. '06, ...

* Wind clumping

Waldron & Cassinelli '01, Feldmeier etal. '03, Oskinova etal.'06, ...

Can X-ray line profiles be explained by reduction of \dot{M} ? Hardly!

Spectral fits of UV and optical lines: \dot{M} is reduced when wind is strongly clumped **ASSUMING** that clumps are optically thin



Sole justification: convinient to modify VERY complex stellar atmosshere codes

Line shift is a measure of wind opacity.

If clumps were optically thin X-ray lines would have different shape



CVI should be more significantly more shifted/skewed than NeIX

Observed lines imply GREY opacity

Observed emission line profiles are similar, opacity **IS** grey



Macroclumping

Clump are allowed not to be optically thin.



Formalism: Feldmeier etal. '03, Owocki etal. 04, Oskinova etal. 07

Clumping Reduces Effective Opacity



Wind opacity for X-ray drastically reduced by clumping if clumps are NOT optically thin

Opacity becomes "grey" if clumps are optically thick

Similar line profiles accross the spectrum

Symmetric lines due to anisotropic opacity

Owocki & Cohen '06: warnings

Observed and model lines of ζ Puppis (no fitting!)



Normalized flux

Conclusions: Intrinsic wind emission from O stars

- X-rays originate close to the stellar core. Hot plasma fills some space between clumps.
- High-ion near-star problem. New implications for X-ray formation
- "Hybrid" model? Loop-like structures at the surface, shocks around blobs due to the wind instability?
- Stellar wind is clumped untill proven otherwise. Radiative transfer is affected by clumping
- Clumping explains shape of X-ray emission line profiles.
- Consitent \dot{M} estimates based on analyses of spectra ranging from radio to X-ray