# Corona accretion in active galactic nuclei and the observational test





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# Motivation:

Where is the X-ray emission from for active galactic nuclei? It is a very important question to be answered!



Meyer, Liu, Meyer-Hofmeister et al. 2000a,b; Liu et al. 2002... Liu et al. 2002,2003; Qiao & Liu 2015... Esin et al. 1997 (Black hole X-ray binaries)

- Iow-luminosity case, the X-ray emission is dominated by the advection-dominated accretion flow (ADAF) and its variants (e.g., Yuan & Narayan 2014, ARA&A, 52, 529)
- High-luminosity case, the X-ray emission is produced by the so-called corona above a accretion disk, e.g.,
  - Assumed a fraction of the accretion energy dissipated in the hot corona (Haardt & Maraschi 1991, 1993; Svensson & Zdziarski 1994; Stern et al. 1995)

- Due to Parker instability, Magnetic reconnection is invoked (e.g., Galeev et al. 1979; Liu et al. 2002, 2003; Goodman & Uzdensky 2008)
- Some Numerical simulations have been done for the formation of the corona, However, it still too weak to match the observations very well (e.g., Uzdensky et al. 2013; Jiang et al. 2014; Vasudevan & Fabian 2007, 2009).
- We suggested that the initial condition of the fuel gas is important for the X-ray emission for the luminous AGNs (Liu, Taam, Qiao & Yuan 2015, ApJ, 806, 223).
- So our picture is as follows,



#### **Condensation of ADAF/corona in AGNs**



Qiao & Liu 2013, ApJ, 764, 2 (BHXBs) Liu, Taam, Qiao & Yuan 2015, ApJ, 806, 223 (AGNs)

## **Observational test in AGNs:**

X-ray spectrum of Seyfert I, IC 4329A



Magdziarz & Zdziarski 1995

# **Γ-R correlation in AGNs**



Zdziarski et al. 1999

Theoretical Results:

The distribution of accretion rate in disk and corona



#### From the spectra, we can get $\boldsymbol{\Gamma}$



#### From the geometry, we can get R (R= $\Omega/2\pi$ )



#### The corona is very compact!



Comparing with observations:



Qiao & Liu 2017, MNRAS, 467, 898

Can explain R<1, Can not explain R>1

## Discussions

- The disk-spheroid model (Zdziarski et al. 1999); Plasma ejection model (Beloborodov 1999) for the Γ-R correlation
- The GR effect (e.g., light bending) has not been included in the model
- More generally, initially, the matter should be clumpy, including both cold and hot components (In progress...)
- Future numerical simulations are needed to confirm such a accretion geometry
- We need collect further observational evidence (like, Te, compactness, variability etc) to support our model (Fabian et al. 2015; Liu, Taam & Qiao ApJ 2017, submitted)
- Applying our model to high mass X-ray binaries (wind accretion)?



low mass X-ray binaries via Roche lobe high mass X-ray binaries via stellar wind

