

A 3D rendering of the X-ray Surveyor satellite. The satellite has a central yellow hexagonal body with a circular opening containing a green and white spiral pattern. Two large blue solar panel arrays are extended from the sides. A black cylindrical structure is attached to the front. The background is a dark gray gradient.

# X-ray Surveyor and the Spectroscopy of Supermassive Black Hole Outflows

Martin Elvis

*Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics*

I



X-ray Surveyor

# The need has long been obvious



Cornell University  
Library

We gratef

arXiv.org > astro-ph > arXiv:astro-ph/9611178

Search or Article-id

Astrophysics

## Science Driven arguments for a 10 sq.meter, 1 arcsecond X-ray Telescope

Martin Elvis, Giuseppina Fabbiano (Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics)

*(Submitted on 21 Nov 1996)*

X-ray astronomy needs to set bold, science driven goals for the next decade. Only with defined science goals can we know what to work on, and a funding agency appreciate the need for significant technology developments. To be a forefront science the scale of advance must be 2 decades of sensitivity per decade of time. To be stable to new discoveries these should be general, discovery space, goals.

A detailed consideration of science goals leads us to propose that a mirror collecting area of 10 sq.meters with arcsecond resolution, good field of view ( $>10$  arcmin), and with high spectral resolution spectroscopy ( $R=1000-10,000$ ) defines the proper goal. This is about 100 times AXAF, or 30 times XMM. This workshop has shown that this goal is only a reasonable stretch from existing concepts, and may be insufficiently bold. An investment of roughly \$10M/year for 5 years in X-ray optics technologies, comparable to NASA's investment in ASTRO-E or a SMEX, is needed, and would pay off hugely more than any small X-ray mission.

Comments: 20 pages, Latex, ngxo.sty file included Talk given at ``Next Generation X-ray Observatories'' Workshop, Leicester, England (June 1996)

Subjects: **Astrophysics (astro-ph)**

Cite as: [arXiv:astro-ph/9611178](https://arxiv.org/abs/astro-ph/9611178)

(or [arXiv:astro-ph/9611178v1](https://arxiv.org/abs/astro-ph/9611178v1) for this version)

# Because: Diagnostics!



# High Resolution X-ray Spectroscopy has also long been obviously needed

2001ASPC...251..180E

*New Century of X-ray Astronomy*  
*ASP Conference Series, Vol. 251, 2001*  
*H. Inoue and H. Kunieda, eds.*

## Thermal Limit Spectroscopy as a Goal for X-ray Astronomy

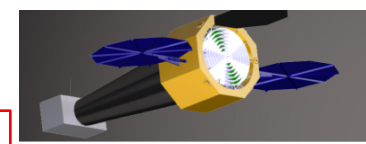
Martin Elvis

*Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, 60 Garden St.,  
Cambridge MA 02138 USA*

### **Abstract.**

The  $R \sim 300\text{--}1000$  grating spectra from XMM-Newton and *Chandra* are a radical advance, allowing spectroscopic physics techniques to be applied to X-ray astronomy, revolutionizing a wide range of research. Ten years on these spectra will be routine, and higher resolution will be needed. I propose “Thermal Limit Spectroscopy” as the next natural goal for X-ray spectroscopy. This will open up new physics: plasma physics, velocity widths, Doppler shifts, line profiles, and absorption lines in photoionized plasmas. A resolution of  $R=3000\text{--}10,000$  is required, and the technology is within reach.

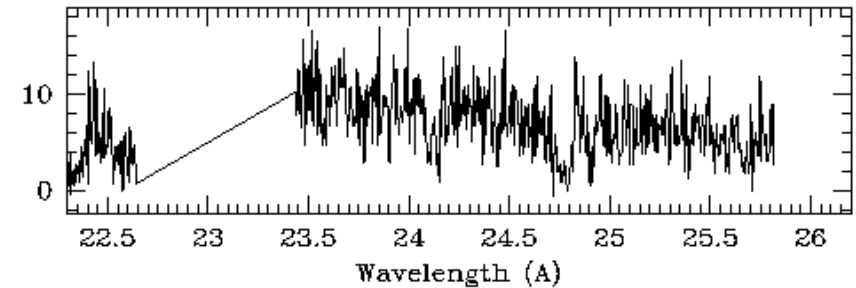
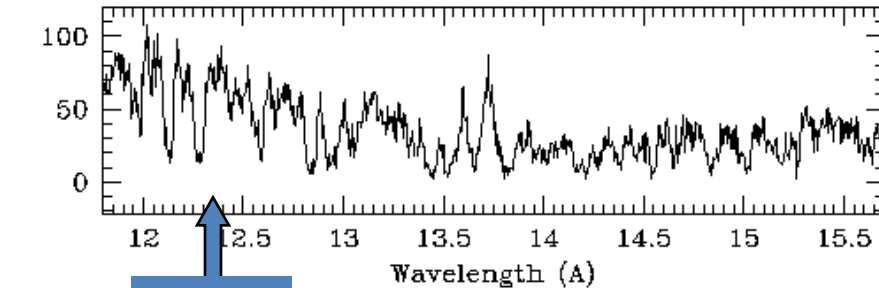
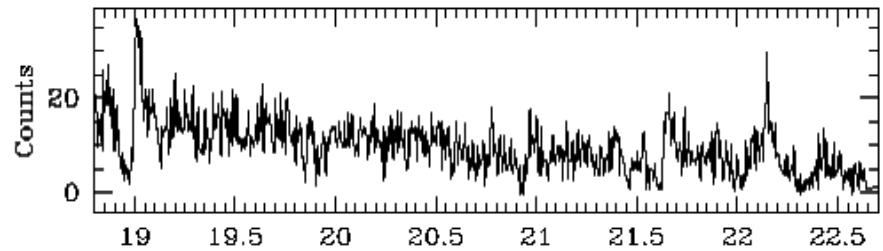
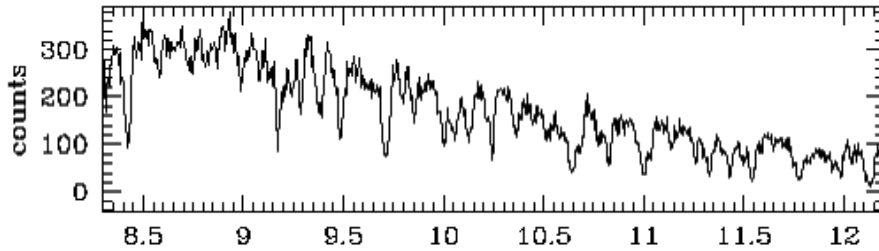
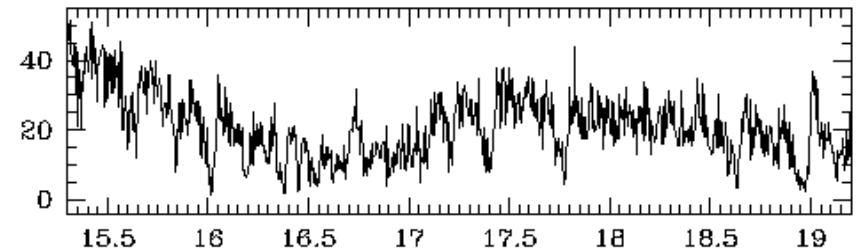
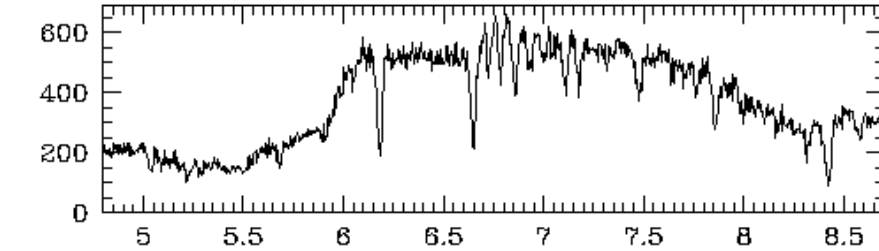
# State of the Art in X-ray AGN Winds



**10 days** (900 ksec) with Chandra HETGS @ R~400

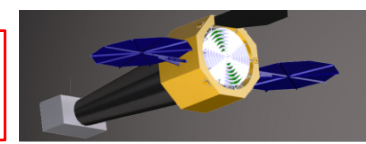
Active Galaxy NGC3783

> 100 spectral features



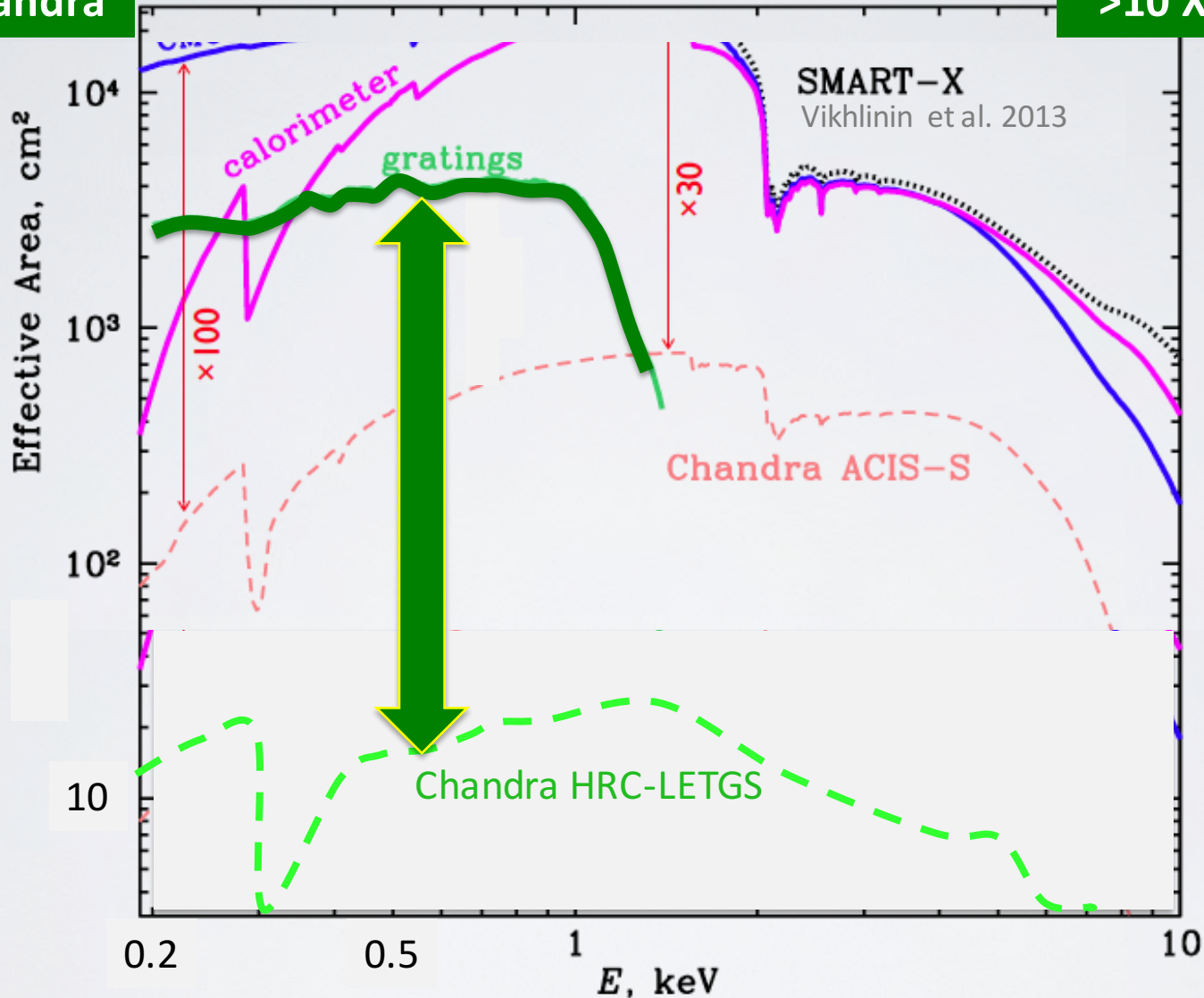
Kaspi et al. 2001  
Krongold et al. 2005  
...

# 1 hour @ $R \sim 5000$ with X-ray Surveyor

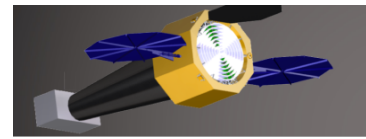


Area  $4000 \text{ cm}^2$   
>250 X Chandra

$R \sim 5000$   
>10 X Chandra



# Diagnostics

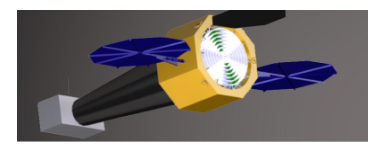


## RESOLUTION

- Resolves ~all blends
- Weaker lines detectable  $\rightarrow$  more ( $n_e$ ,  $T$ ) diagnostics
- $60 \text{ km s}^{-1} \rightarrow$  thermal line widths resolved
  - in collisional X-ray plasma
- Doppler shifts
- Turbulent velocities,  $T_{\text{thermal}}$  vs  $T_{\text{ion}}$
- Curve of growth  $\rightarrow n_{\text{ion}}$
- Resolves components seen in UV
- *Needs excellent calibration:*
  - wavelength/energy to small fraction of resolution (5%?)



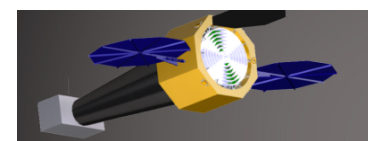
# Diagnostics need Area



## PHOTON HUNGRY

- R=5000 requires  $\sim 10\times$  #photons as R=500
- For absorption lines
- $\Delta E = 0.1 \text{ eV @ } 0.5 \text{ keV}$ 
    - $\Delta\lambda = 0.0044\text{\AA @ } 22\text{\AA}$
  - $10^4$  resolution elements/keV
  - 100 counts each
  - =  $10^6$  counts/1keV wide spectrum

# Area Enables



## AREA ENABLES

- **Depth:**
  - 1 Msec gives to NGC3783-quality spectra at  $f = 4 \times 10^{-14}$  cgs
  - High  $z$ 
    - Fe-K @  $z > 2$  (6.4keV  $\rightarrow$  2.1 keV)
    - OVII 21.6Å  $\rightarrow$  64.80Å
  - Low Luminosity  $L \ll L_{\text{Edd}}$
  - Weak Lines
- **Speed:**
  - Large Surveys:  $M_*$ ,  $L/L_{\text{Edd}}$ , ...
  - 100s/year NGC3783-quality spectra of 10×fainter sources,  $f = 10^{-12}$  cgs
  - Variability on short-timescales  $\rightarrow$  density, radius.
    - 1Ms on NGC3783  $\rightarrow$  250 spectra
  - *Needs spacecraft agility: rapid slew/settle*

# Outflows from Super-Massive Black Holes

## THE BIG QUESTIONS

- How supermassive black holes work
  - How SMBH grow
  - How SMBH merge
  - Accretion luminosity of the universe
  - Effects on galaxies, cluster growth
  - “Pollution” of the primordial gas
- What is a quasar?
  - Quasar evolution
  - Runaway black holes
  - Versus nuclear fusion (stars)
  - Feedback
  - Warm-Hot Intergalactic Medium

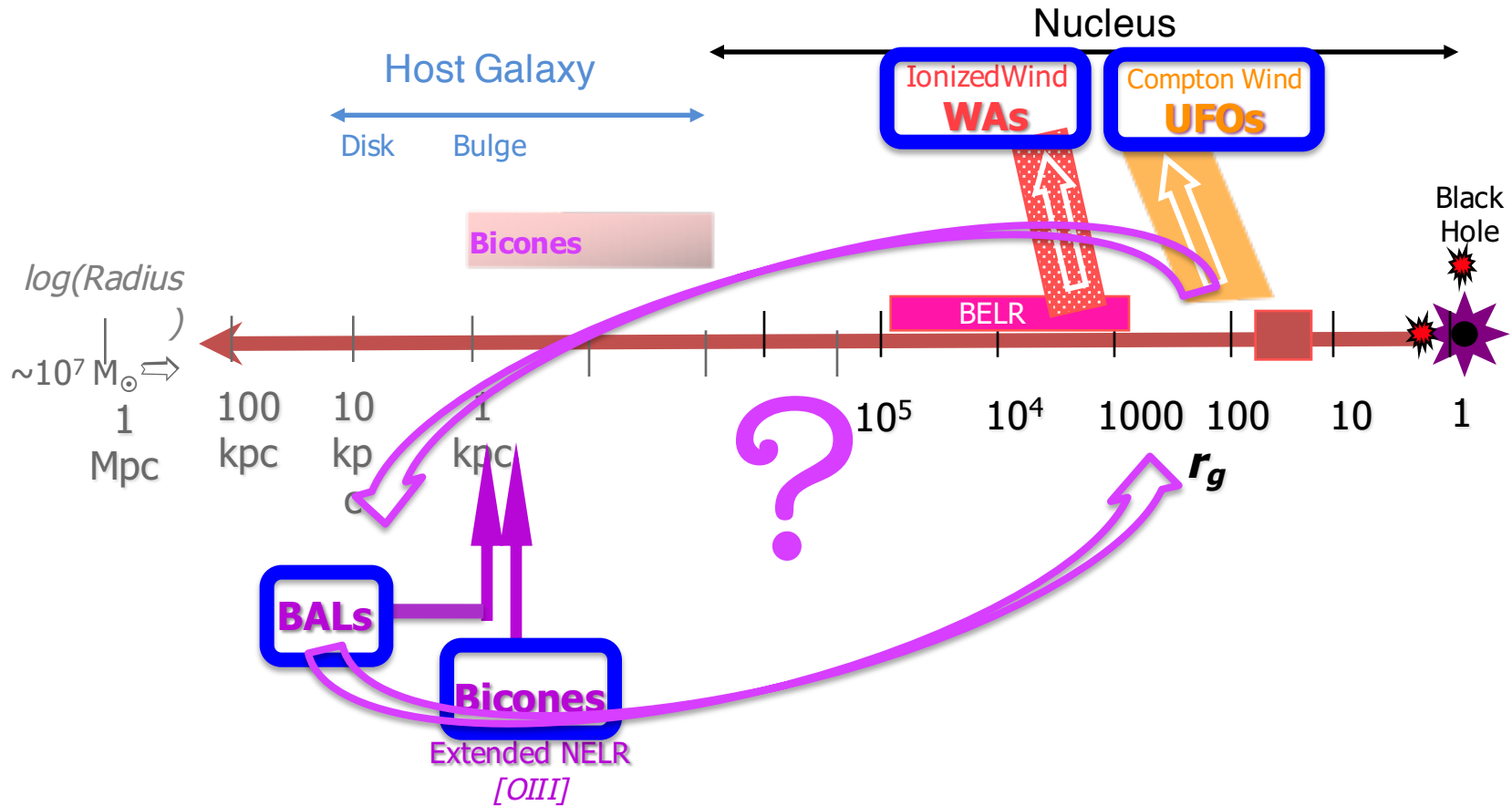
# Outflows from Super-Massive Black Holes

## WHY DO WE CARE?

- How supermassive black holes work
  - How SMBH grow
  - How SMBH merge
  - Accretion luminosity of the universe
  - Effects on galaxies, clusters
  - “Pollution” of the primordial gas
- What is a quasar?
  - Quasar evolution
  - Runaway black holes
  - Versus nuclear fusion (stars)
  - Feedback
  - Warm-Hot Intergalactic Medium

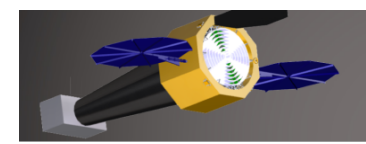
# Outflows from Super-Massive Black Holes

## 6 ORDERS OF MAGNITUDE IN SCALE FOR AGN PHYSICS

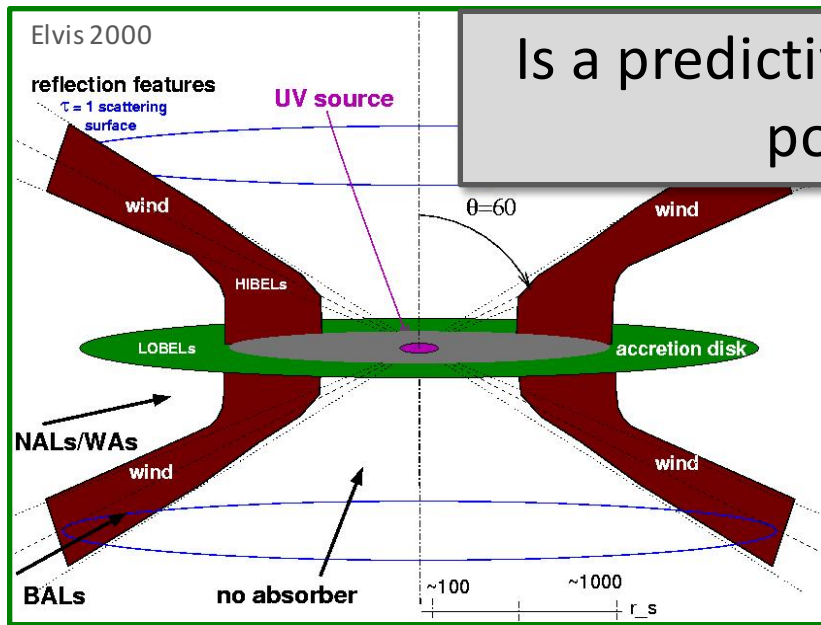


Martin Elvis, September 2007

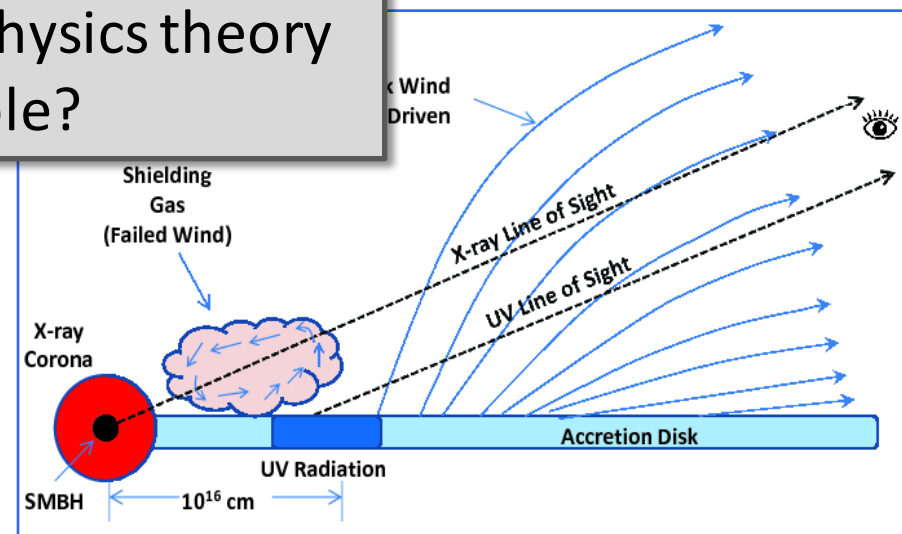
# How do Supermassive Black Holes Work?



Is the physics of the **Inner Structure of Quasars** dominated by *winds*?



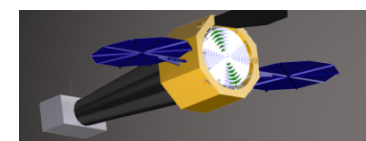
Is a predictive physics theory possible?



## Just 4 Mechanisms

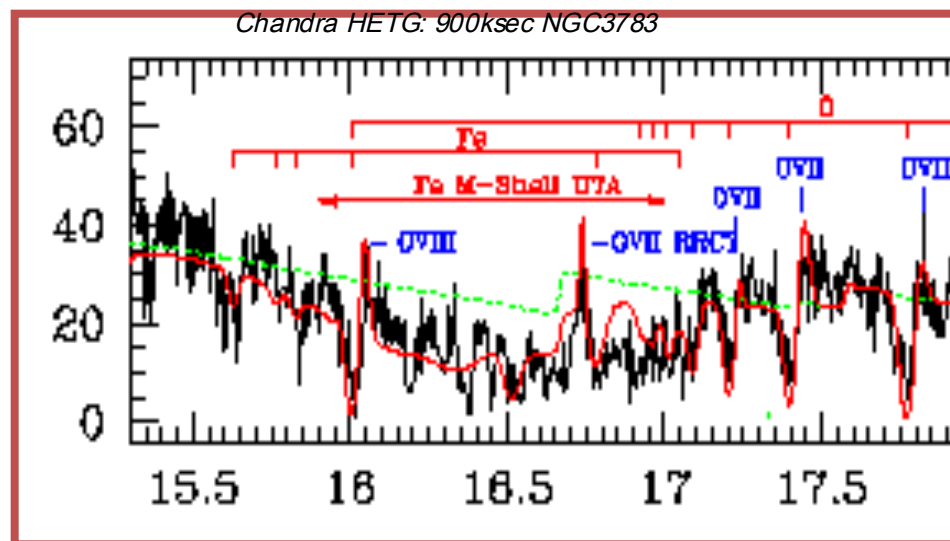
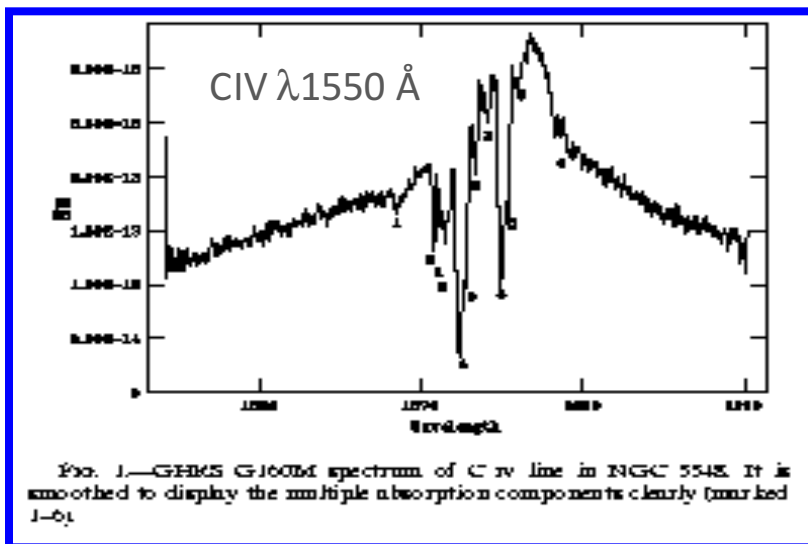
1. Compton scattering – *electrons*: **only at  $L=L_{Edd}$**
2. Line driving – *atoms*: **force multiplier  $L > \sim 0.05 L_{Edd}$**
3. Dust driving – *molecules, solids*
4. Magnetic “slingshot”

# Warm Absorber outflows (WAs)



Narrow UV lines: NAL

Narrow X-ray lines: WA



Narrow UV lines

Outflow  $\sim 1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$

Seen in 50% of AGN

High ionization CIV, OVI

→ Same Wind:  
 From accretion disk?  
 From “torus”?  
 Base of bi-cones on kpc scale?

Use high  $R$  UV spectra  
 as a guide for  
 X-ray Surveyor

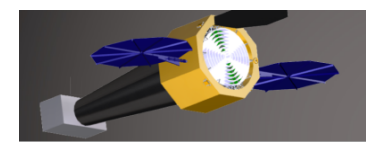
Narrow X-ray lines

Outflow  $\sim 1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$

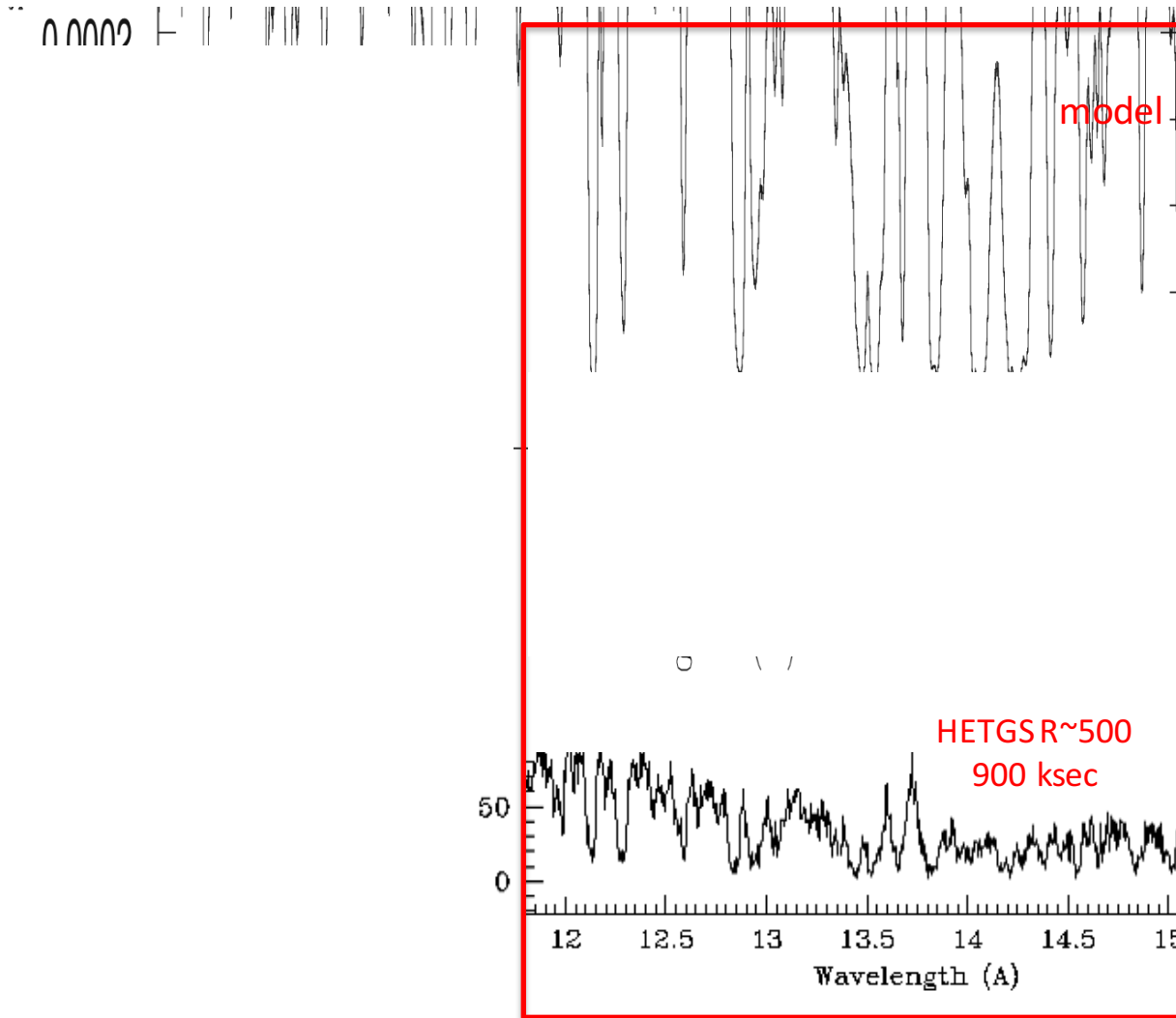
Same 50% of AGN

High ionization OVII, OVIII

# Warm Absorber outflows (WAs)



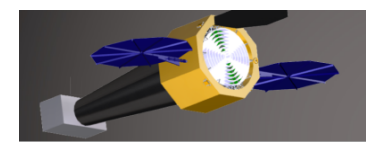
Line blending is widespread @  $R=500$   
Virtually gone at  $R=5000$



Piece of cake with X-ray Surveyor



# Warm Absorber outflows (WAs)

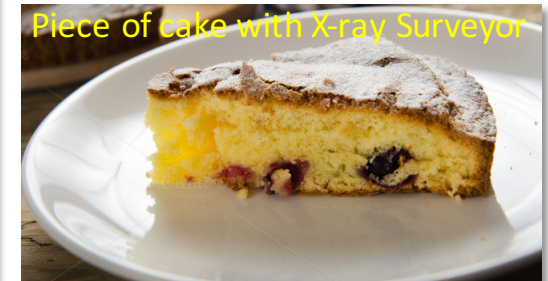
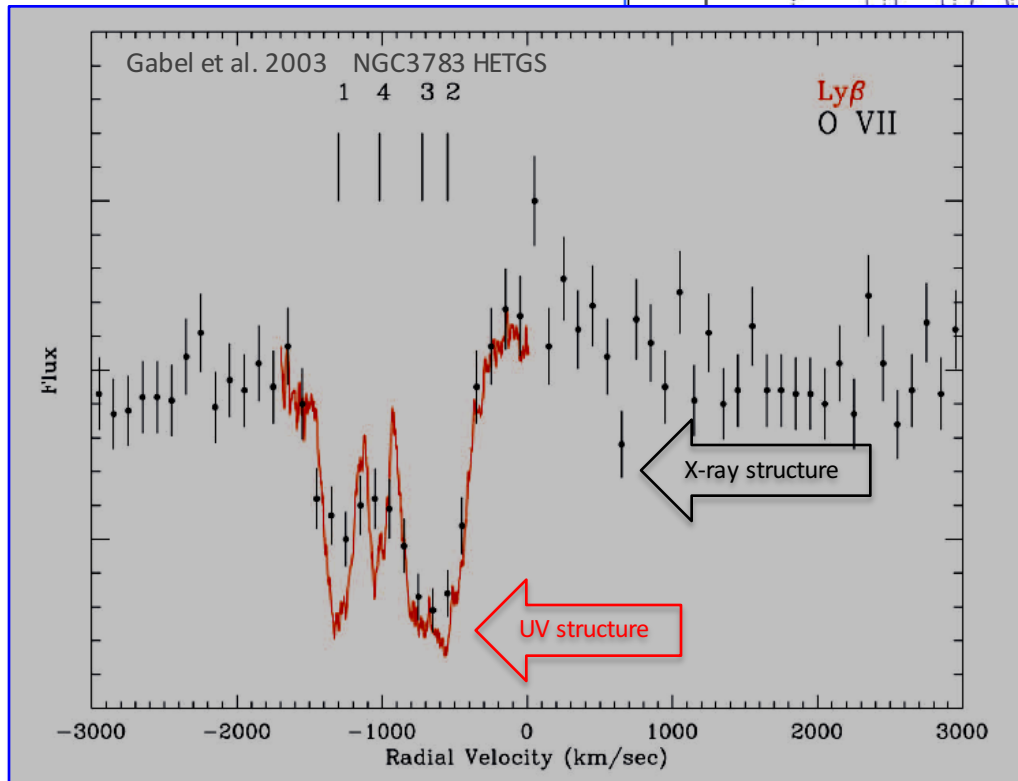


Even supersonic flows have narrow velocity structures

$\Delta v \sim 50 \text{ km s}^{-1}$   
 $800 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  spread

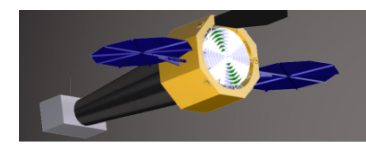


Multiple mass ejection episodes?



adapted from Arav, WHIMEX simulation

# Warm Absorber outflows (WAs)

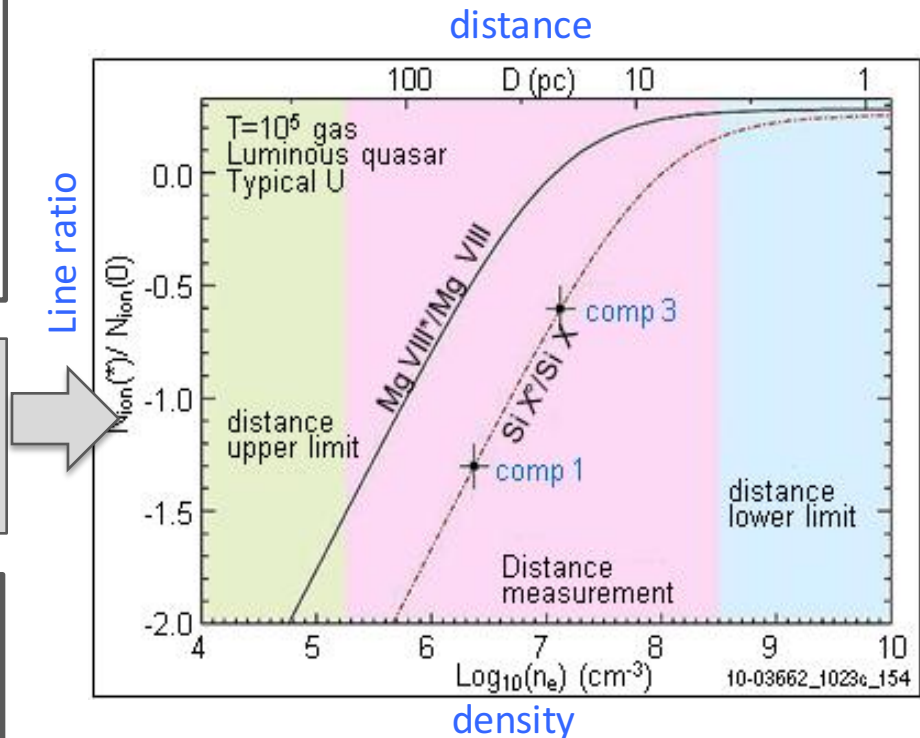


Where are they? Determines Mass/Energy outflow rates

High  $\sim 1\%c$  velocities suggest  
 $radius_{WA} \sim \text{few} \times 1000 r_g = \text{disk wind}$   
Modest energy + mass flow rates  
-More subtle feedback physics?  
e.g. Hopkins & Elvis (2010)

Metastable lines can give densities  
densities give distances  
with ionization parameters

UV gives kiloparsec distances!  
e.g. Dunn et al. 2010 –but see McGraw et al. 2015  
Energy + mass flow scale with  $r^2$   
 $\sim 10^8 \times$  bigger  $E_{out} : M_{out} > M_{accretion}$   
ISM interaction with “dark” outflow

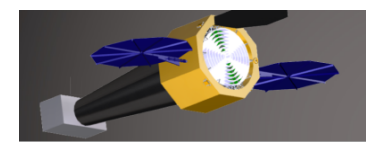


adapted from Arav, WHIMEX simulation

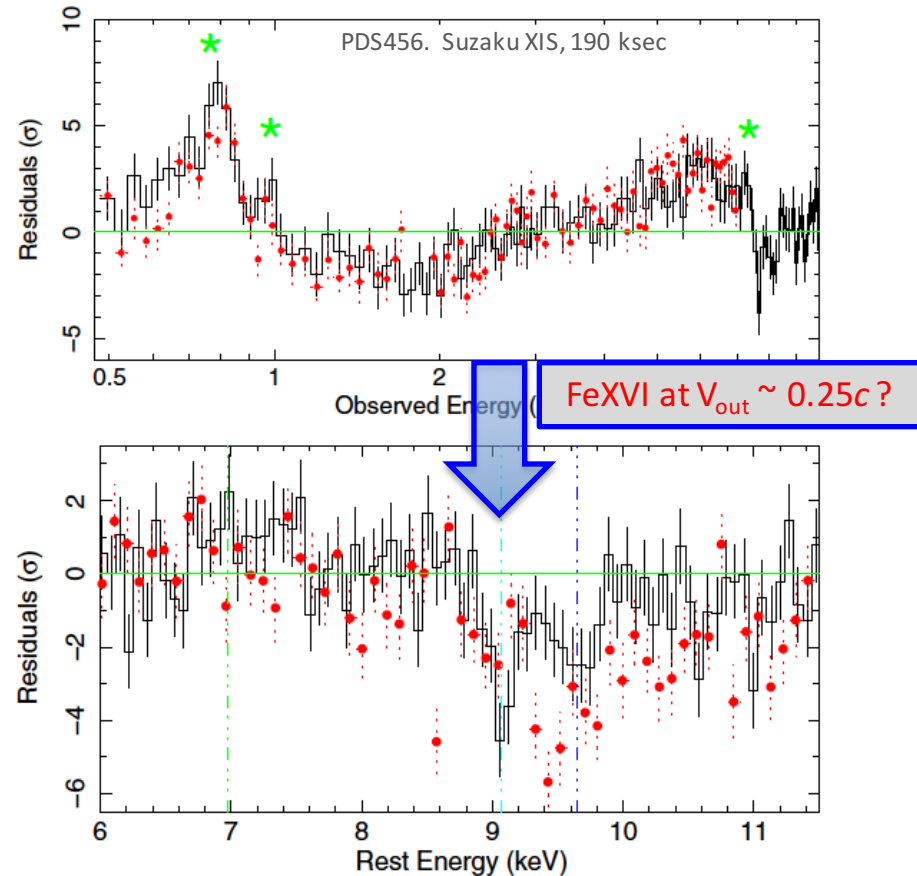
Where will X-ray WAs lie?  
Sub-pc or kpc?  
Minor or powerful?

# Ultra-Fast Outflows (UFOs)

High  $\sim 0.1c$  velocities

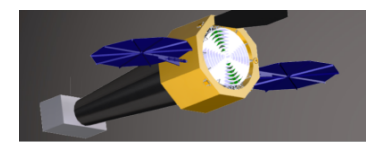


- Somewhat controversial
  - E.g. Laha et al. (2014)
- $v > 0.1c \rightarrow$  origin at  $< 100 r_g$ ?
- Present location = ?
- Could they be the BAL “dark” outflows?
- X-ray Surveyor has nothing to add?
  - Highly ionized
    - $\rightarrow$  No need for lower energy spectra?
  - Features are broad
    - $\rightarrow$  No use for  $R=5000$ ?



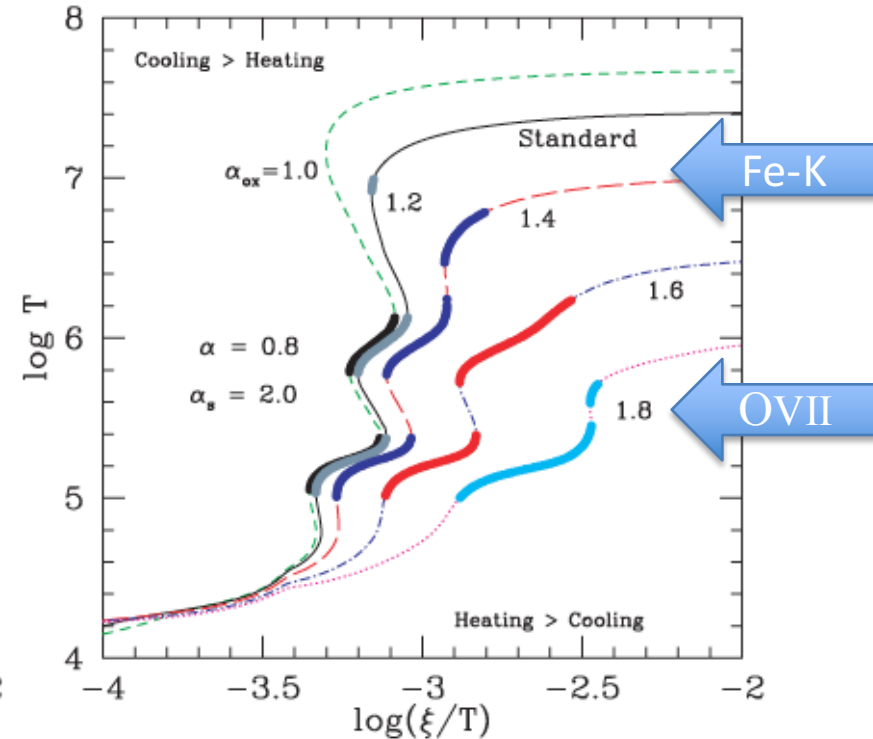
Reeves et al., 2009

# Ultra-Fast Outflows (UFOs)



## Low Ionization, Low $n_{ion}$ phases?

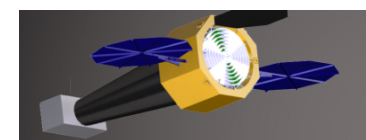
- Low ionization components are found in Warm Absorbers
- 2-3 phases in pressure equilibrium?
- Why not in UFOs?
  - $R=5000$  to see low  $n_{ion}$  lines
  - Low energies for low  $\Xi$  transitions



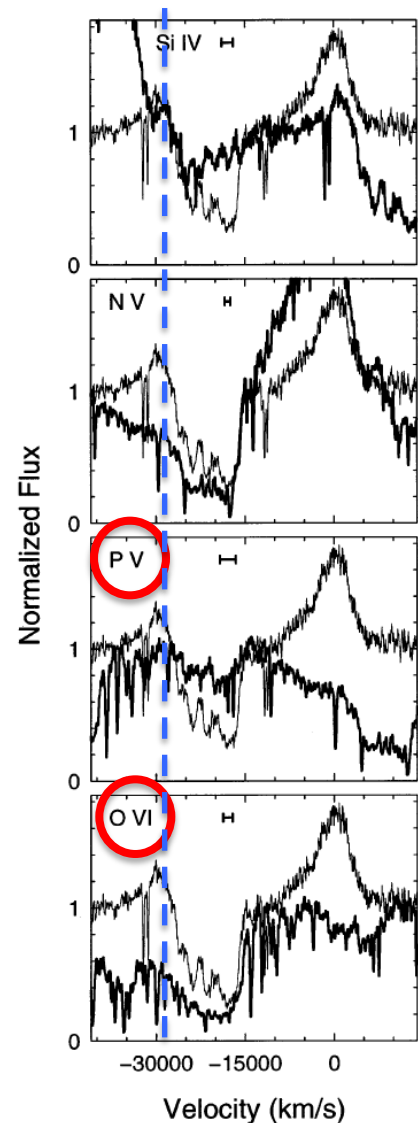
Chakravorty et al., 2009

# Broad Absorption Lines (BALs)

Have 3 things in common with UFOs



## 1. High $\sim 0.1c$ velocity outflows



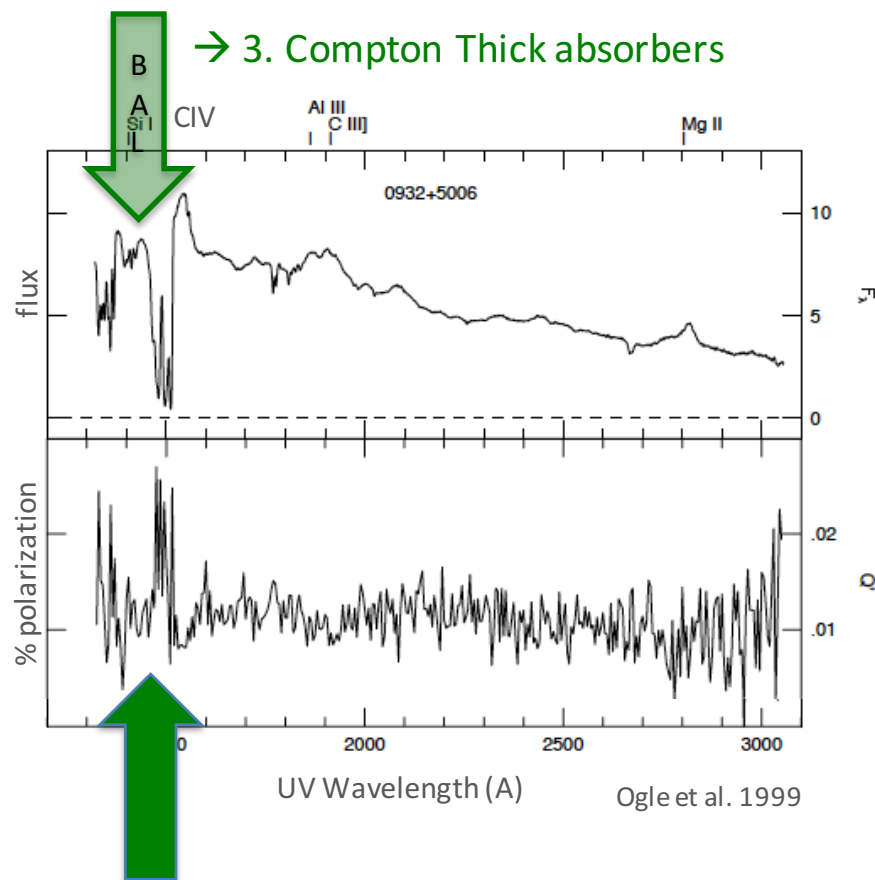
## 2. High ionization

Hamann et al. 1998

→ Same Wind ?

BUT  
UFOs and BALs  
Have wildly different cold  $N_H$   
 $>10^{24}$  vs  $<10^{22}$   $\text{cm}^{-2}$

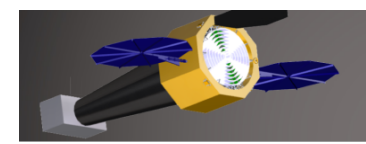
## → 3. Compton Thick absorbers



Highly polarized  
electron scattered flux

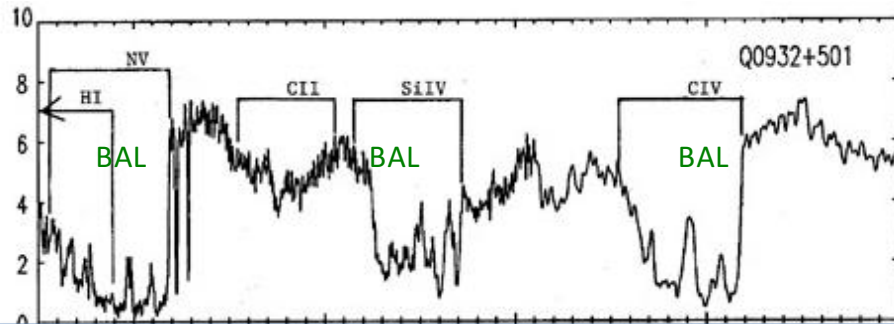
*Are the weak X-rays polarized/scattered too?*

# Broad Absorption Lines (BALs)

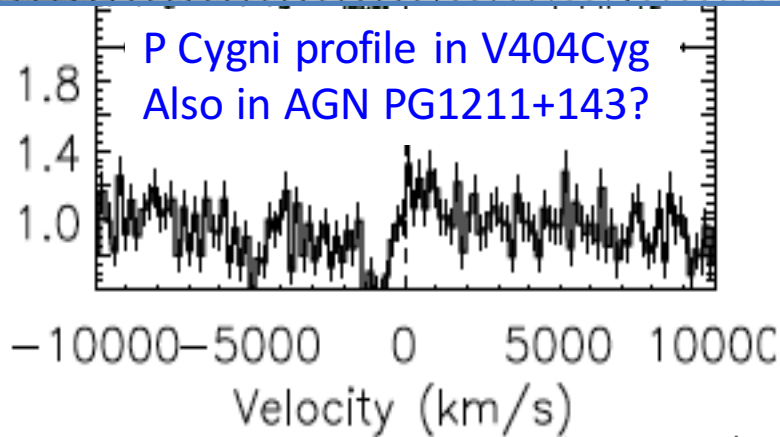


...have complex narrow velocity structure  
*Why not UFOs too?*

→ R=5000 to see narrow components



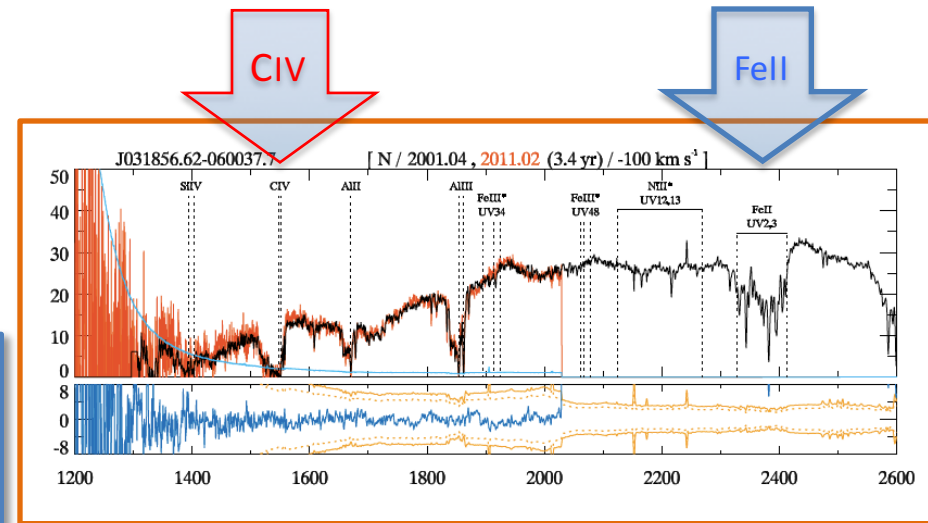
P Cygni profile in V404Cyg  
 Also in AGN PG1211+143?



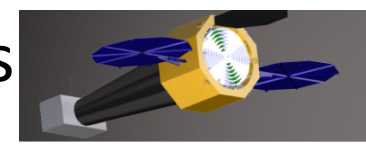
King, A. et al. 2015

...& have low ionization components  
*Why not UFOs too?*

→ E<~2keV to see low ionization lines



McGraw et al. 2015



# Supermassive Black Holes' Effects on Galaxies = "Feedback"

## Narrow Emission Line Regions (NELRs)

E.g. Active Galaxy NGC4151 [OIII]

Wind loses  $\frac{2}{3}$  KE in  $\sim 20$  pc  $\sim 0.3''$

1st order Questions:

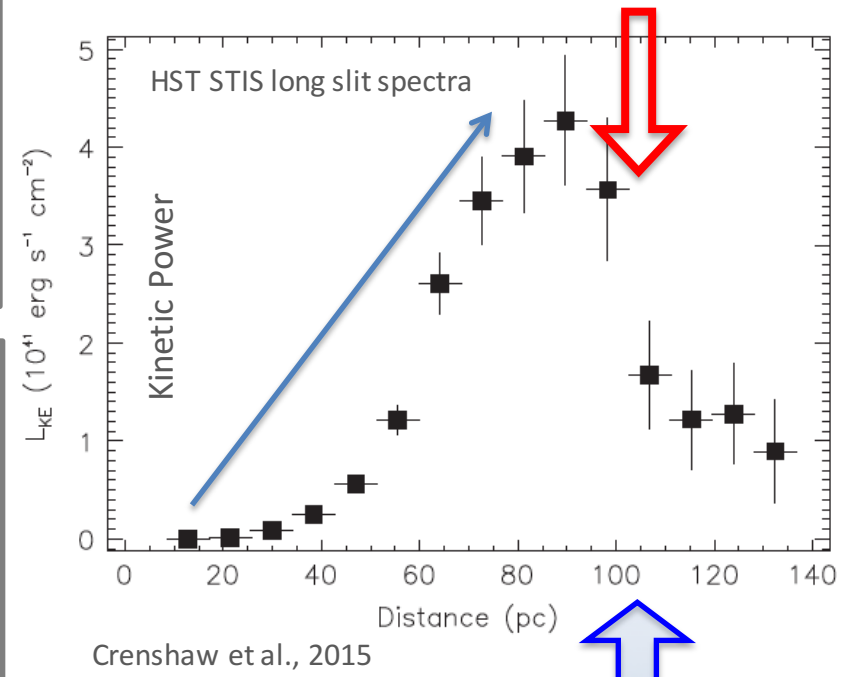
- How much energy, momentum deposited?
- How are they coupled to ISM?
- Where are they coupled?

Coupling Mechanisms:

1. Winds
2. Relativistic Jets
3. Radiation

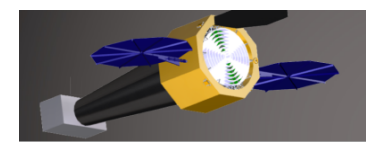
Which dominates where?

*All these interactions should generate X-rays  
Spectroscopy can diagnose the process*



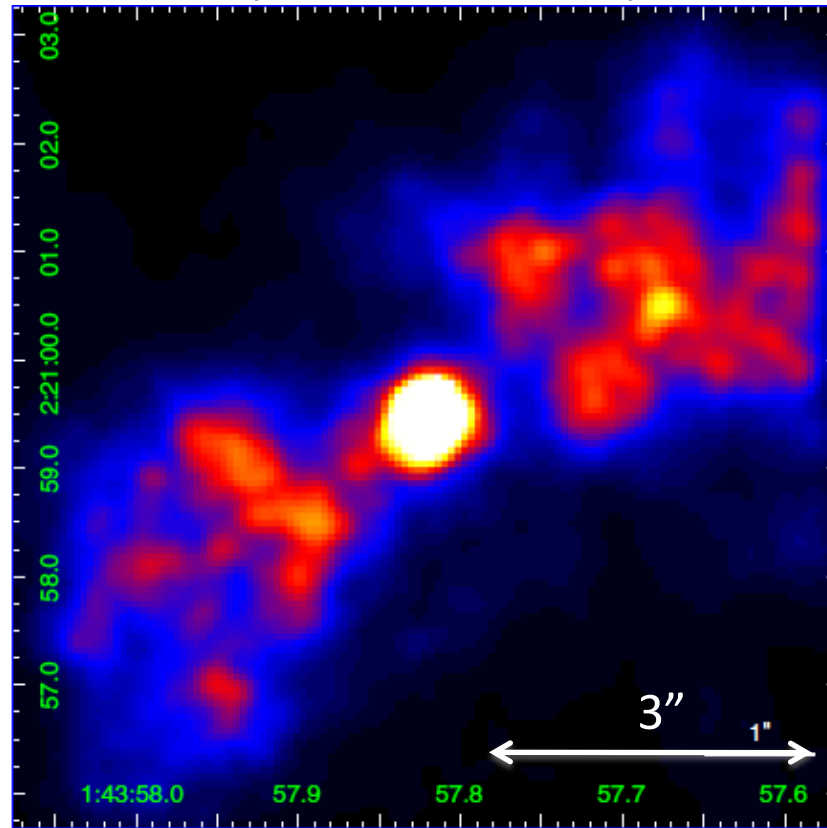
What happens here?

# Narrow Emission Line Regions (NELRs)



## Imaging X-ray Outflows: X-ray Calorimeter

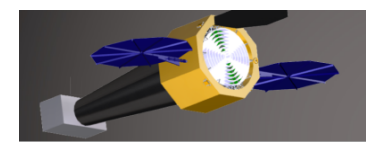
Active Galaxy MRK573. ACIS subpixel binning



Paggi et al., 2012

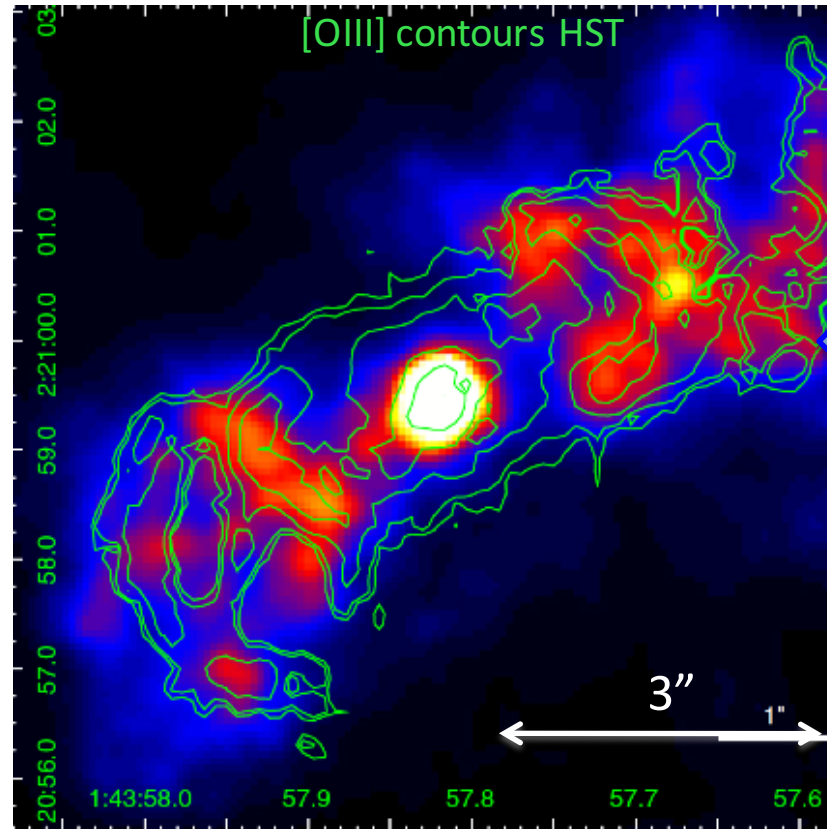


# Narrow Emission Line Regions (NELRs)



X-rays map interaction of wind ([OIII]), jet (radio) with Host galaxy ISM

Active Galaxy MRK573



Paggi et al., 2012

## Thermal regions:

Temperature

Emission measure

Density

Pressure (cf radio)

Total energy

Cooling time

Shock speed

Crossing time

E-loss rate

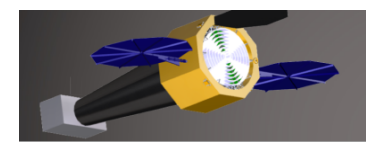
Coupling efficiency

(~30% of jet power

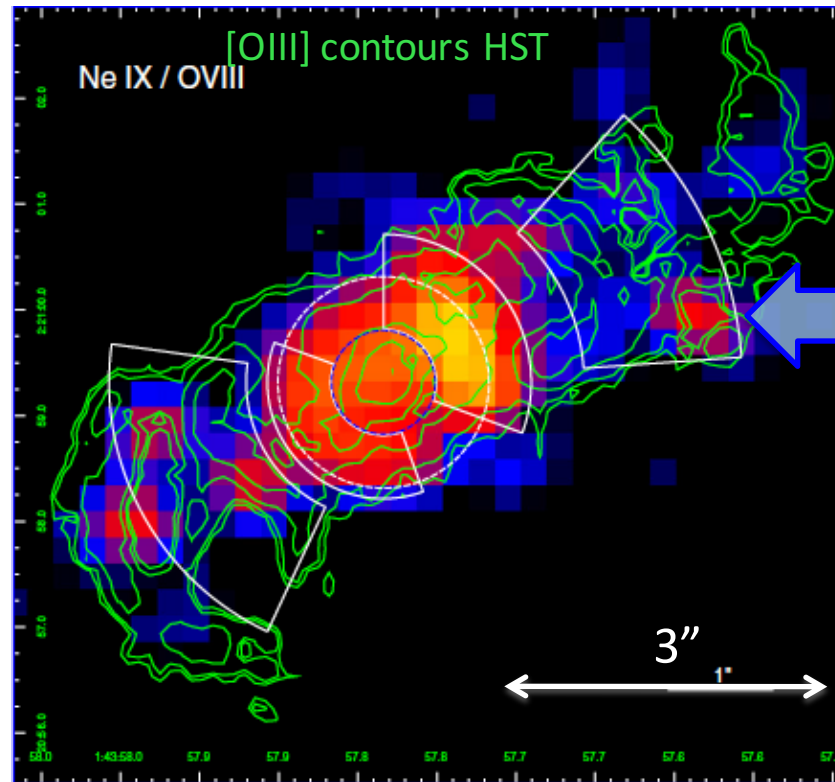
0.05% of nucleus)

# Narrow Emission Line Regions (NELRs)

*X-ray Emission Line ratios* pick out different mechanisms  
Photoionization (AGN). Thermal (Shocks?)



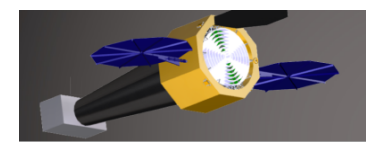
Active Galaxy MRK573



Stands out in  
NeIX/OVIII

Paggi et al., 2012

# Narrow Emission Line Regions (NELRs)



**Calorimeter:** Many more emission lines; Kinematics

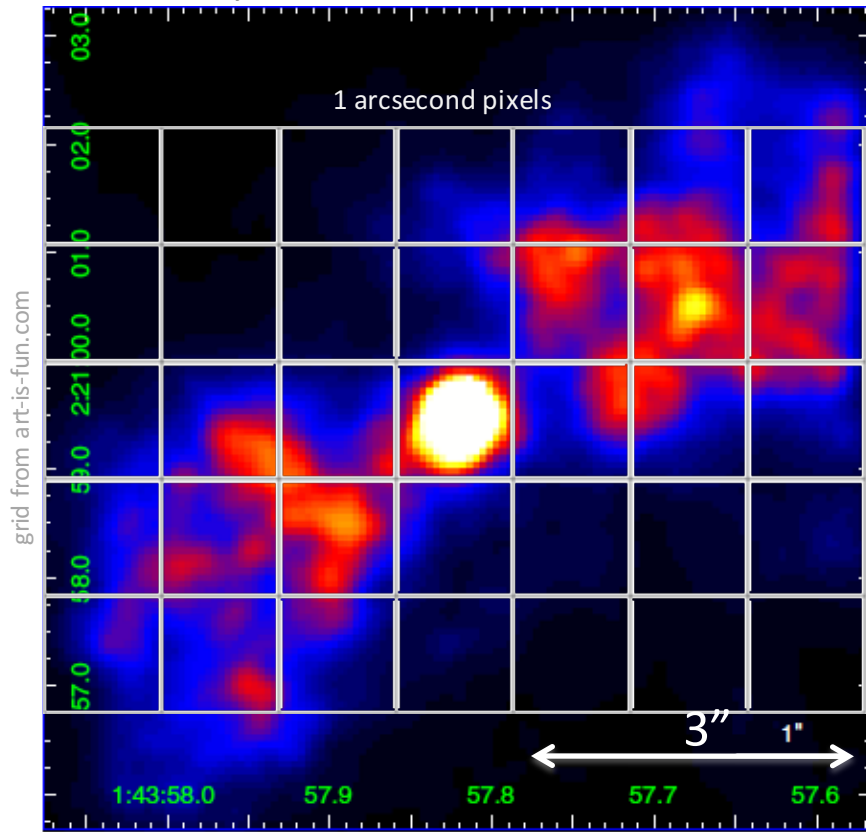
1 arcsec pixels are kinda large. Smaller pixel array at center? Good for bright sources too.

Velocities  $\Delta E=5\text{eV}$  is kinda large.  $3000\text{ km s}^{-1}$  @  $0.5\text{keV}$ . Centroid to 5% if good calibration.

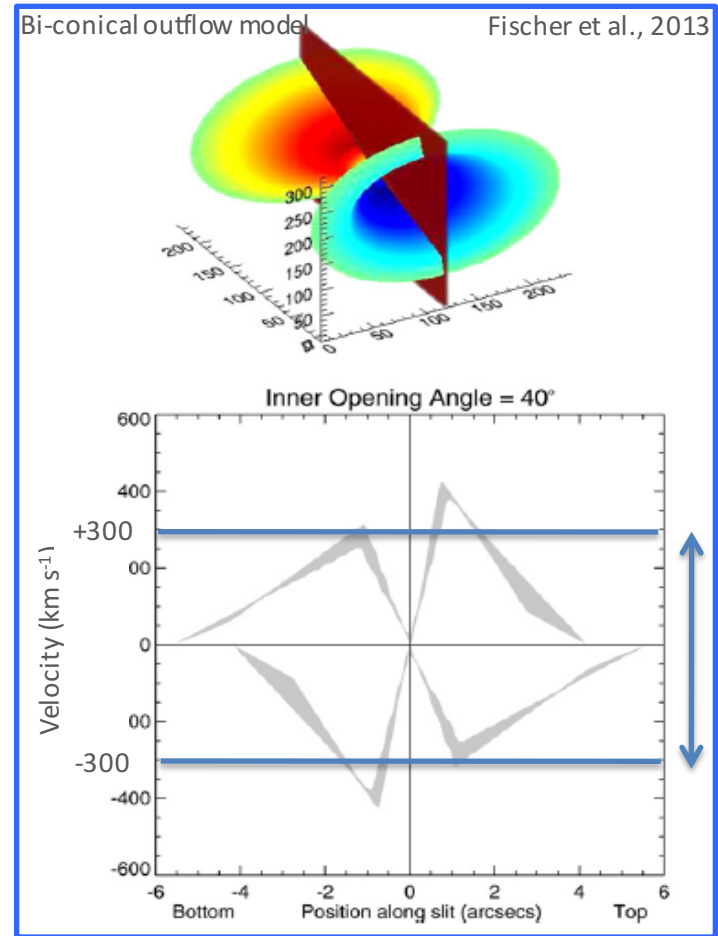
Low Energy array with smaller  $\Delta E$  ?

“Long Slit” grating spectra?

Active Galaxy MRK573



Paggi et al., 2012





X-ray Surveyor

*Desiderata* for the

Spectroscopy of Supermassive Black Hole Outflows

Modest changes can make a disproportionate difference in science output

- *Calibration*: wavelength/energy to small fraction of resolution (5%?)
  - Doppler shifts
- *Agility: rapid slew/settle* – enables large surveys of types of object
  - C.f. *Swift*. Large samples little done since ROSAT
- *Calorimeter*:
  - *Angular resolution*: factor 2 gives **8× more** NELRs accessible
  - *Pixel size*: central finer pixels ( $\sim 1/2$  PSF) uses full power of mirror
  - *Lower particle background* is ALWAYS good – low surface brightness
- *Another instrument?* E.g. polarimeter – also photon hungry  $\rightarrow$  low E.



BUT

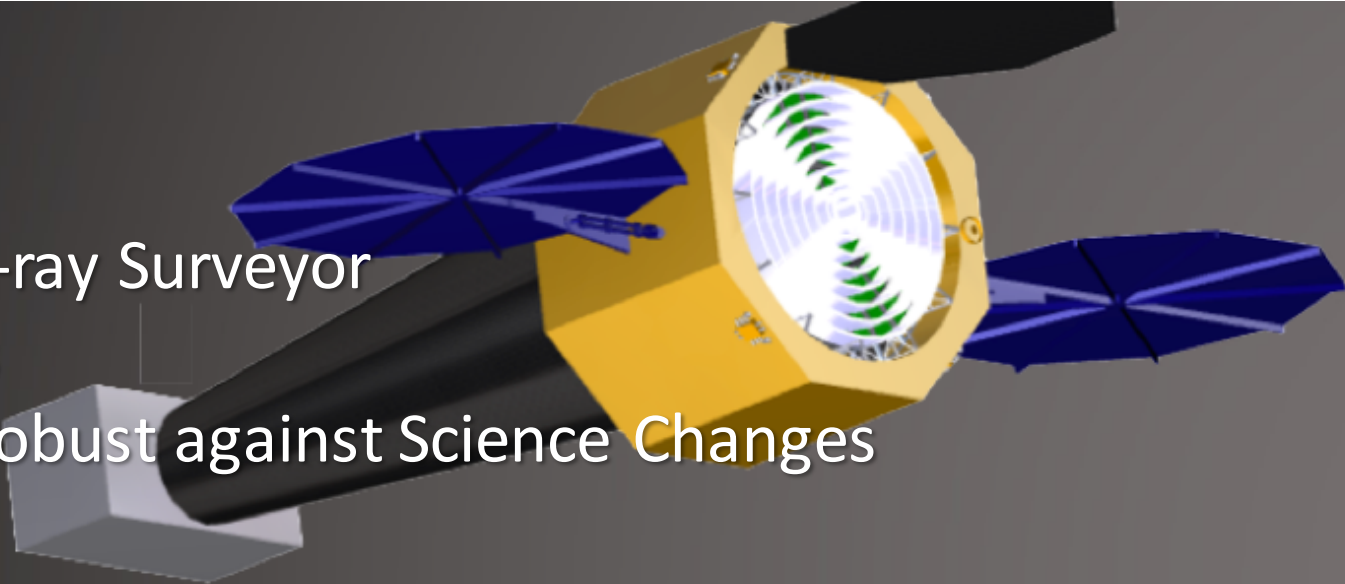
Will these be the science questions  
In 2030?

X-ray Sur

and the

Spectroscopy of Supermassive Black Hole Outflows

- Grating Spectroscopy at  $R \sim 5000$  → **Physics of AGN Structure**
  - ultra-fast outflows/broad absorption lines, warm absorbers/narrow absorption lines
- Calorimeter Integral Field Unit → **AGN Feedback Physics**
  - bi-conical narrow emission line regions
- Modest changes can make a disproportionate difference in science output



X-ray Surveyor  
is  
Robust against Science Changes

## X-ray Surveyor Opens a Large Discovery Space “100x”

- Imaging goes  $\sim 100 \times$  deeper
- Surveying is  $\sim 500\text{-}800 \times$  faster
- Spectra have  $\sim 200 \times$  #photons,  $10 \times$  resolution elements
  - $\sim 150 \times$  *information content*
  - new physics available

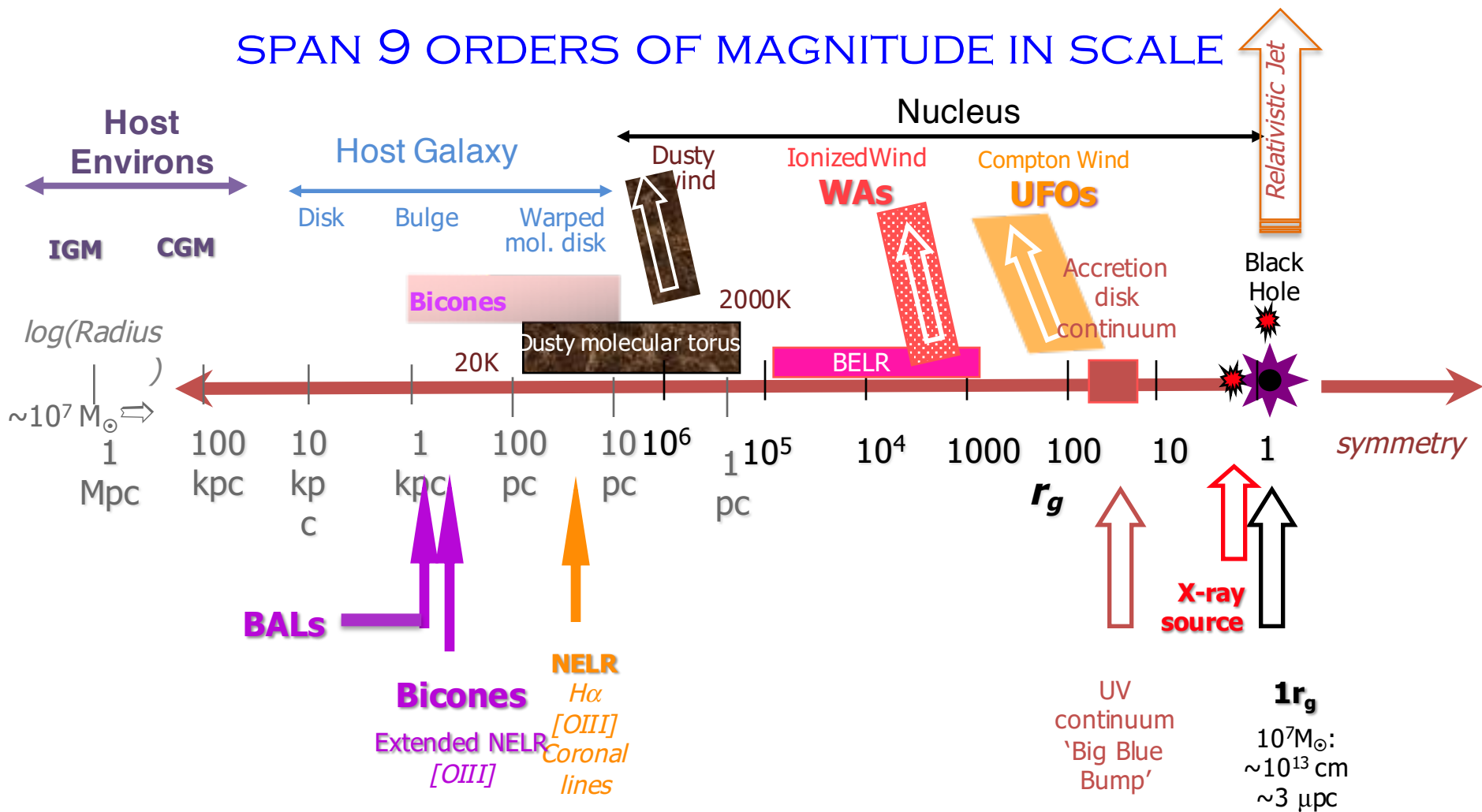
I



X-ray Surveyor

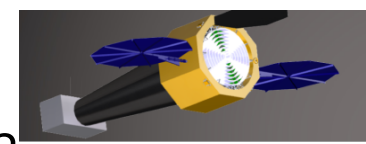
# Outflows from Super-Massive Black Holes

SPAN 9 ORDERS OF MAGNITUDE IN SCALE



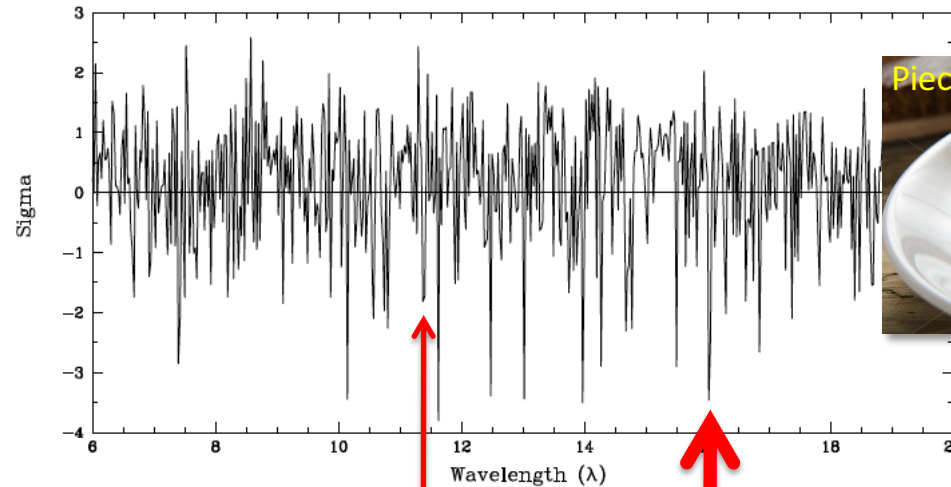
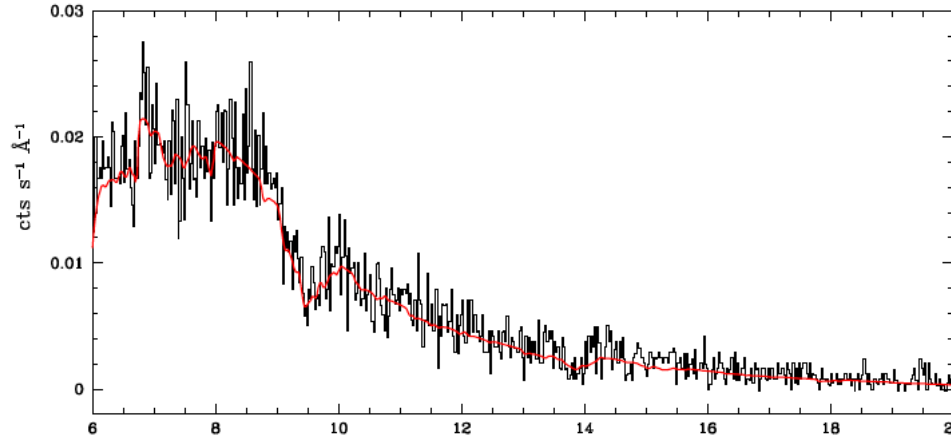


# Broad Absorption Lines (BALs)



e.g. MRK590: complex narrow velocity structure in a UFO?  
several low S/N lines: tantalizing

HETG 100ksec



Gupta, Mathur & Krongold, 2015

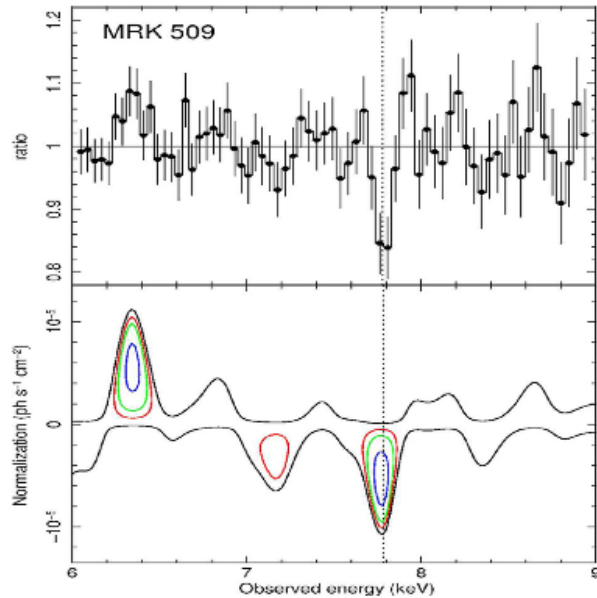
$2.8\sigma$   
= NeVIII  $v=0.175c$ ?  
 $>3\sigma$   
= FeXVII  $v=0.04c$ ?  
= OVIII  $v=0.176c$ ?

# Clues from Intermediate Cases?

'Not-so-Ultra-Fast Outflows'

5000 – 10000 km s<sup>-1</sup> X-ray velocities

$V_{\text{out}} \sim 6500 \text{ km s}^{-1}$

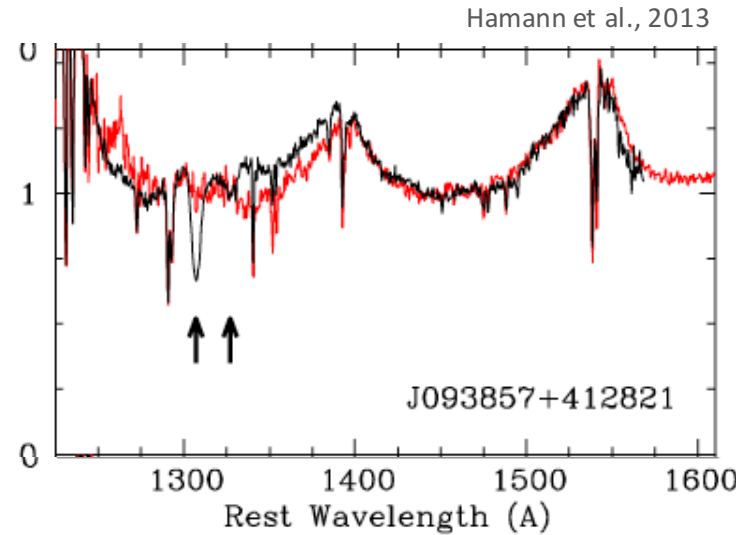


Tombesi & Cappi 2014, MNRAS, 443, L104

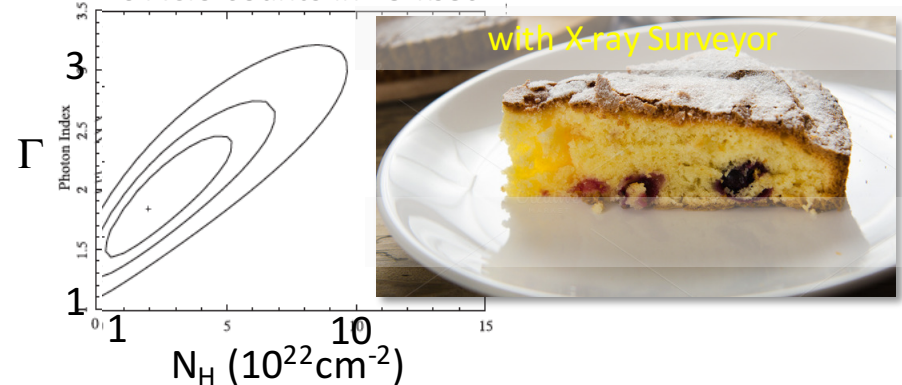
mini-BALs:

High UV  $v_{\text{out}}$ , low FWHM

$N_{\text{H}} \sim 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$



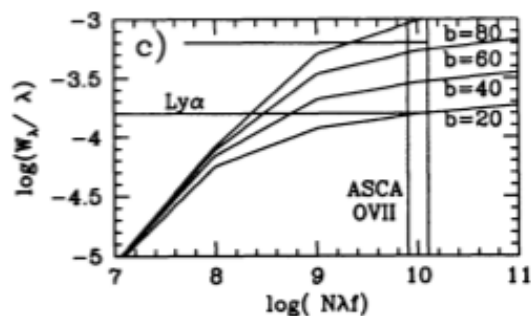
220 ACIS counts in 15 ksec



# Diagnostics

## RESOLUTION

- Resolves blends
  - 40% of features in NGC3783 are blends
  - UTA no longer unresolved
- Weaker lines detectable → more ( $n_e$ , T) diagnostics
- $60 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  → thermal line widths resolved in collisional X-ray plasma.
- Turbulence,  $T_{\text{thermal}}$  vs  $T_{\text{ion}}$
- Curve of growth →  $n(\text{ion})$
- Resolves components seen in UV



Mathur et al. 1995

FIG. 5.—Curve of growth for  $b$ -values from 20 to  $80 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  in steps of  $20 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . Horizontal lines are for the observed values of absorption lines in the mean *HST* spectrum. (a) C IV; (b) N V; and (c) Ly $\alpha$ .

$$b_{th} = \sqrt{2kT/m_p}$$

$$N_{ion}(cm^{-2}) = 1.3 \times 10^{20} (EW/f \lambda^2)$$

# Diagnostics need Area

## PHOTON HUNGRY

- R=5000 requires  $\sim 10\times$  #photons as R=500
- X-ray Surveyor has
  - Gratings:  $\sim 8\times$  efficiency
  - Mirror:  $\sim 30\times$  area
- $\rightarrow$  Same S/N in sources  $25\times$  fainter
- or 4% of the exposure time.

### For absorption lines

- $\Delta E = 0.1 \text{ eV @ } 0.5 \text{ keV}$ 
  - $\Delta\lambda = 0.0044\text{\AA @ } 22\text{\AA}$
- $10^4$  resolution elements/keV
- 100 counts each
- =  $10^6$  counts/1keV wide spectrum

•  $\#photons = fate/hv$

•  $fate = flux \times area \times time \times efficiency$

# Outflows from Super-Massive Black Holes

## WHY DO WE CARE?

- How supermassive black holes work
  - How SMBH grow
  - How SMBH merge
  - Accretion luminosity of the universe
  - Effects on galaxies, clusters
  - “Pollution” of the primordial gas
- What is a quasar?
  - Quasar evolution
  - Runaway black holes
  - Versus nuclear fusion (stars)
  - Feedback
  - Warm-Hot Intergalactic Medium

# Supermassive Black Holes' Effects on Galaxies = "Feedback"

## Narrow Emission Line Regions (NELRs)

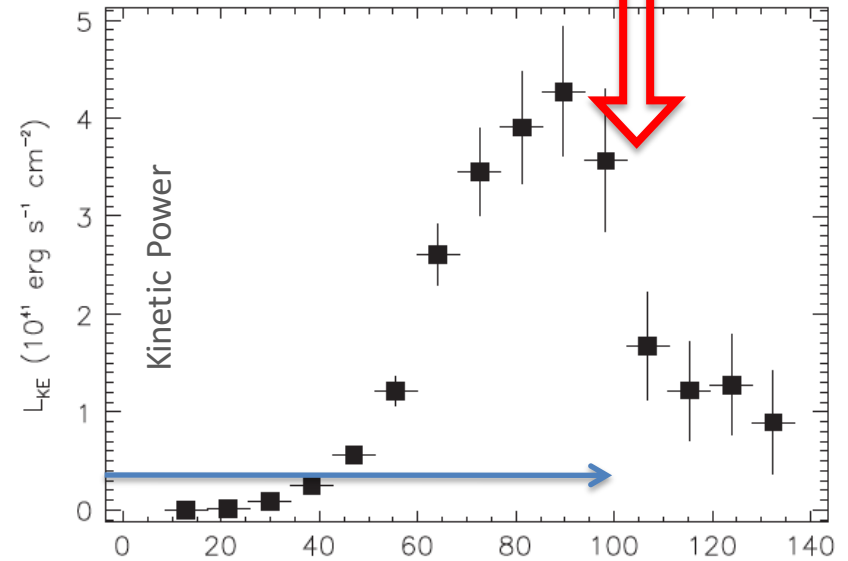
Mechanisms for interaction with the ISM:

1. Winds
2. Relativistic Jets
3. Radiation

Which dominates where?

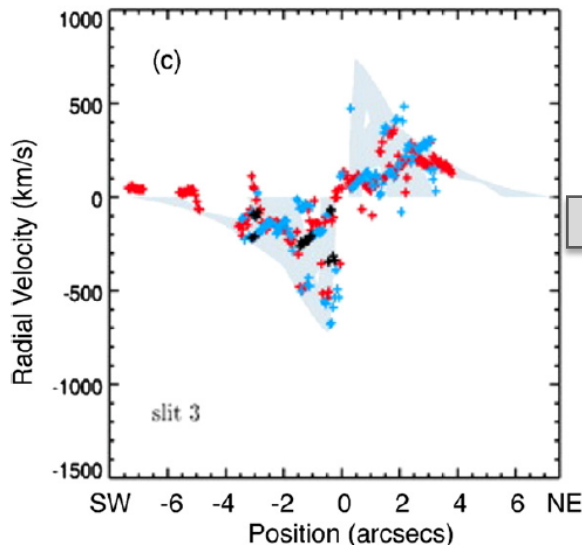
*All these interactions should generate X-rays  
Spectroscopy can diagnose the process*

Wind loses  $\frac{2}{3}$  KE in  $\sim 20$  pc  $\sim 0.3$ "

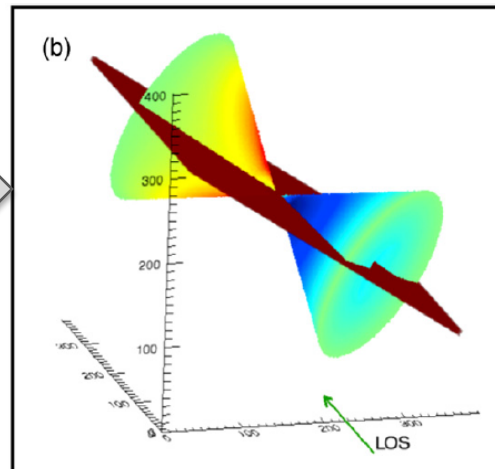


E.g. Active Galaxy NGC4151 [OIII]

HST STIS long slit spectra (Crenshaw et al., 2015)



Bi-conical wind model



Distance (pc)



What happens here?