



A brief & biased review on **X-ray background fluctuation analysis**

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Outline

Fluctuation analysis with:

- 1. Early X-ray surveys (<2000)
- 2. Modern X-ray surveys (>2000)

Science driver



The birth of X-ray astronomy (~60 years ago)

• 1960s - Rocket and Balloon experiments with simple Geiger-Counters



Evolution of X-ray all-sky surveys



ROSAT 1990s (0.5-2 keV) (Freyberg+1999)

Origin of the extragalactic CXB

- Energy spectrum: thermal bremsstrahlung model (e.g. Marshall+1980)
- 2 competing theories: (e.g. Shafer & Fabian 1983)
 - Diffuse emission of a universal hot gas
 - Unresolved discrete sources





Origin of the extragalactic CXB!

- Major Problem: poor angular resolution of instruments
- Solution: Fluctuation analysis
- Results suggest in ~1980 that the CXB emission is dominated by point-sources with a redshift distribution similar to optical QSOs but somewhat higher clustering strength (e.g. Barcons & Fabian 1988)
- Confirmation >20 years later:
 - Discrete nature via very deep, pencil-beam-like surveys of *Chandra* (e.g. Hickox+2006)
 (*Chandra* on-axis: angular resolution = 0.5 arcsec, 5counts/source = 5σ detection)
 - Clustering strength via 2p-correlation studies with large X-ray source catalogs (e.g. Krumpe+2012)



Dissolving the CXB into point sources



Extragalactic CXB: Resolved Fraction



Result:

~75% of the CXB emission within 0.5-2.0 keV
originates from point sources
with fluxes of > ~10⁻¹⁷ erg/s/cm²:
 ~71% AGN
 ~3% Normal Galaxies (X-ray binaries)
 ~1% Stars

Conclusion: The resolved CXB...

- ...is the echo of the formation and growth of supermassive black holes over the cosmic time
- ...plays a crucial role in understanding galaxy evolution



Fluctuation analysis with modern X-ray surveys

(since ~2012)

Applications/Prospects





Using deep (small) X-ray surveys

- Main science driver:
 - Understanding remaining unresolved CXB
 - Searching for signals of SMBH seeds and early galaxy formation
- Method: cross-correlation with optical/near-IR
- Results: significant (~5σ) excess in various surveys (e.g. Cappelluti+2012,+2013,+2017, Yue+2013, Helgason+2014, Mitchell-Wynne+2016, Li+2018)
- Possible origin:
 - 1st massive BH (~10⁵ M_{sun}) created via direct collapse (DCBHs)
 - ightarrow no consensus yet due to NIRB excess problem
 - → could be an important constrain on SMBH seeds & early galaxy formation



Using large (shallow) X-ray surveys

- Main science driver:
 - Galaxy cluster physics
 - Searching for Warm-Hot Intergalactic Medium (WHIM)
 - WHIM are best candidate to explain the "Missing Baryon" Problem
 - Cosmological contraints
 - Searching for DM annihilation signal
- Method: auto-correlation & cross-correlation with CMB



Pilot study with large (modern) X-ray surveys

Collaborators	Prof. Marat Gilfanov (MPA,IKI) Dr. Gert Hütsi (Tartu Observatory, Estonia) Prof. Rashid Sunyaev (MPA,IKI)
Publications	2 papers published (ArXiv: 1609.02941, 1708.00820) 1 paper in preperation

Using ~9 deg² XBOOTES survey

- Advantages for fluctuation studies:
 - largest Chandra survey
 - \rightarrow most accurate measurement to date!
 - high angular resolution of Chandra
 - → access to small-scale clustering regime (< 1 Mpc)
 - Chandra Instrumental Background
 - low, stable, and well understood (e.g. Hickox & Markevitch 2006)
- Properties:
 - 126 contiguous observations
 - ~5 ksec average exposure time
 - ~50% of CXB emission resolved
 - ~3300 point-sources (>~ $2 \times 10^{-15} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ (0.5-2.0 keV))
 - ~40 extended sources (>~ $3 \times 10^{-14} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} (0.5 2.0 \text{ keV}))$
 - ~8.3 deg² of unresolved emission



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LSS signal of unresolved CXB



Assessment of systematics (see Kolodzig+2017)

- Quiescent instrumental background \rightarrow negligible
- Instrumental background flares → negligible
- Mask effects → minor effect on largest scales
- PSF-Smearing Model \rightarrow not important for large scales (>3")
- Residual counts of removed point-sources \rightarrow negligible
 - Can be modeled with good knowledge of PSF
- Point source shot-noise estimate \rightarrow sufficiently accurate (at given S/N)
- Photon-shot-noise estimators → not important for large scales (>2")



Strongest observational evidence for origin: energy spectrum

LSS signal of unresolved CXB



Energy Spectrum of CXB fluctuations Unresolved CXB



APEC Best-Fit: z=0.40, T=1.3keV

Fixed: N_{H} =10²⁰cm² , Metal Abundance 0.3

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Energy Spectrum of CXB fluctuations Unresolved CXB



Inconsistent with Powerlaw Γ <3 (expected from AGN & normal galaxies)

Inconsistent with unabsorbed APEC (expected from Galactic emission)

APEC: z=0.40, T=1.3keV N_H=10²⁰cm², Metal Abundance 0.3

Energy Spectrum of CXB fluctuations Unresolved CXB



APEC Best-Fit: z=0.40, T=1.3keV Fixed: N_{H} =10²⁰cm² , Metal Abundance 0.3 Predictions based on XXL's XLF and scaling relations (Pacaud+2016, Giles+2016, Lieu+2016)

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Energy Spectrum of CXB fluctuations



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Studying the faint end



- Data inexpensive, follow-ups not required
- Probes much larger volume than deep surveys



Comparison with another survey from another X-ray instruments



Angular Frequency k [arcsec⁻¹]



Comparison with simulations

Comparison with semi-analytic simulations



Application by comparison studies with

- Semi-analytic simulations: study physical parameters
- Hydro. simulations: new calibration tool

Application: studying faint clusters via fluctuation analysis

Important Pro's:

- Able to use all detected source photons
 → Sensible to faint and unresolved sources, aka high-redshift and low-mass clusters
- "Simple" treatment of:
 - fore- & background CXB components
 - Inst. BKG (on scales above FOV)
- Data inexpensive: No follow-up data needed but can be still appreciated (to target specific types of objects, e.g. redshift)
- Study large source population at once and simpler than stacking
- Simple jointed X-ray/SZ analysis via crosscorrelations
- Very simple selection function possible
 → most direct comparison with simulations possible

Important Con's:

- Only access to the cumulative emission of many clusters (>20) over a large area (>10deg²)
- Still dominated by brightest retained sources
 → Survey depth is still important
- Inst. BKG on small scales still important
- No direct access to physical properties

 → Need sophisticated simulations to extract physics



Gas profile of clusters

Break in LSS signal of resolved clusters


Break in LSS signal of resolved clusters



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How about WHIM?

WHIM:

State of the art and motivation

- Candidate for explaining missing baryon problem (e.g. Cen & Ostriker 1999)
- Expected Temperature: $T = 10^5 10^7 \text{ K} < \sim 1 \text{ keV}$
 - Hottest close to galaxy clusters
- Challenges from LSS studies with resolved sources:
 - very faint and diffuse: difficult to resolved
 - Observational bias towards galaxy cluster vicinity
- Angular correlation studies with the CXB:
 - Sensitive to clustering signal of WHIM?



110ks XMM observation



144ks XMM observation

Looking for a signal of WHIM





Conclusion:

- S/N might be still too low \rightarrow larger surveys needed
- Need to go to lower energies (<0.5keV)
- Contamination of Galactic emission could be problematic
- Cross-Correlation with ACT & SPT may increase sensibility
- Feasibility test with hydro. simulations needed but difficult

Cosmology

Cross-Correlation with CMB data: ROSAT vs. Planck



Conclusion:

- Possible but degenerated problem: Cosmology & cluster physics
- Breaking it by including smaller scales \rightarrow more sensitive to cluster physics
- Only possible with X-ray auto-power spectrum from eRASS



Future prospects

SRG/eROSITA all-sky survey (eRASS)

- Main science Goals:
 - Detecting all galaxy clusters up to $z \sim 1$
 - Cosmology (Dark Energy, Dark Matter, ...)
 - LSS studies with clusters and AGN
- Predecessor of the ROSAT all-sky survey RASS in 1990
 - 30x deeper
 - 10x larger effective area
 - 2x higher angular resolution
 - CCDs instead of proportional counters
- Launch: 03/2019
- Survey completed after 4 years (8 full sky scans)



eROSIA: First X-ray instrument at L2





eRASS prospects

- Unprecedented statistics:
 - 100'000 detected galaxy clusters
 - 3 Million detected AGN
 - \rightarrow Largest X-ray catalogues
- 50x S/N of the XBOOTES auto-power spectrum
 - Stronger constraints on cluster physics & cosmology
 - Higher chances to detect:
 - WHIM
 - DM annihilation signal
- Cross-Correlation with Planck, ACT & STP surveys

eRASS forecast: DM annihilation signal



Summary/Outlook

- Fluctuation analysis with the **early (<2000)** X-ray surveys:
 - Very successful in understanding the origin of the (extragalactic) CXB
- Fluctuation analysis with **modern (>2000)** X-ray surveys:
 - Still in its infancy
 - Many promising applications in a variety of fields
 - Current surveys are already large/deep enough
 - Several simulations are available
 - For competitive cosmological constraints large surveys needed, e.g. eRASS needed
 - Cross-Correlation very powerful



Backup



Figure 3 HEAO-1 sky map of 842 hard X-ray sources (1-20 keV) from the Large Area Sky Survey experiment. (From Wood et al 1984.)

How do we observe X-rays





- Mirror are gold coated (high atomic number)
- Number of mirror shells defines effectiv area
 - Chandra: 4
 - XMM-Newton: 58
 - eROSITA: 54 per module (7 modules)
- Qualitity of mirrors defines angular resolution (PSF – Point Spread function)
 - Chandra: 0.5" (on-axis)
 - XMM-Newton: 15" (on-axis)
 - eROSITA: 16" (on-axis), 28" (survey)



Chandra FOV

Effectiv Area as function of energy



Different current X-ray instruments



BackUp

Energy Spectrum of unresolved emission (0.5 - 10.0 keV)



Challenges for direct detection:



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Unresolved extragalactic components



Galaxy clusters: State of the art and motivation

- X-ray luminosity function: reasonable well known
- Large-scale structure studies:
 - X-rays (and SZ) very efficient detection method
 - − Number counts per Mass-Bin \rightarrow Halo-Mass Function \rightarrow Dark Energy probe
 - \rightarrow Main science driver of largest X-ray surveys: XXL, eRASS
 - Main problem: calibrating relation between halo mass & ICM observables
 (e.g. luminosity, temperature and inferred gas mass)
- Challenges from LSS studies with clusters:
 - Studying entire ICM structure from core to outskirts (1-halo-term)
 - Studying substructure and non-thermal sources (small-scale-clustering)
- Angular correlation studies with the CXB:
 - Sensitive to ICM structure from core to outskirts ?
 - High angular resolution: Sensitive to substructure and non-thermal sources ?
 - Additional calibration tool for X-ray observables?





Analyze Technique

Data reduction:



Computing *Mosaic* Power Spectrum:



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Computing *stacked* Power Spectrum:





Application:

study smallest angular scales (<17') Advantage to Mosaic:

much faster and simpler to compute

Results

LSS Signal does **not** depend on point sources!

Fractions of removed resolved point sources



Current summary of evidence:

- No known instrumental origin
- Not point sources \rightarrow extended/diffuse sources? \rightarrow gas?
- Visible in 1-2keV -> extragalactic? \rightarrow extragalactic gas?
- Needs to be X-ray bright \rightarrow hot extragalactic gas?
- Needs to be highly structured \rightarrow follows dark matter distribution?

 \rightarrow What about the hot gas within groups and clusters of galaxies, alias the intracluster medium (ICM)?

LSS Signal depends on galaxy clusters ?



LSS Signal depends on galaxy clusters ?!



Removing fractional area of resolved clusters



Removing fractional area of resolved clusters



"LSS signal" of resolved clusters

Get LSS signal of resolved clusters


LSS signal: unresolved CXB vs. resolved clusters



Redshift & luminosity dependence



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Energy Spectrum of "LSS signal"

Energy Spectrum of CXB fluctuations Resolved clusters



Energy Spectrum of CXB fluctuations Resolved clusters



Fixed: N_{H} =10²⁰cm² , Metal Abundance 0.3

- $T_{ICM} \sim 2.2 \text{keV}$ based on L~10^{43.1} erg/s

Using L-T-Relation of Giles+2015 (XXL)

→ method works reliable!

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Optical & IR clusters?

Optical- & IR-clusters: minor contribution!



Angular Frequency k [arcsec⁻¹]

0.0100

0.0001

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0.0010

eRASS: effective exposure time



Summary

Full description of CXB fluctuations below 3°

