Galaxy Clusters and Self Similarity III



Course Outline

- Introduction to galaxy clusters and properties at different wavelengths
- Self similarity in galaxy clusters theoretical background and comparison with observations
- Observational results on similarity breaking and causes

Summary I

Self-similar model assumes:

- Clusters form in single collapse at z_{obs}
- Gravity only source of energy
- Self-similar model predicts:
 - Clusters of different masses are scaled versions
 - Clusters at different z identical if scaled for $\rho_c(z)$
- Define cluster properties within overdensity radii
 - Mean density enclosed is Δ times $\rho_{\rm c}(z)$
 - Fair comparison of clusters of different M and z

Summary II

Derive self-similar scaling relations

- Simple power laws relating cluster properties
- MT, LT, etc
- Compare scaling relations with observation
 - Differences from SS model reveal physical processes no included
- Scaling relations have potential to allow estimation of cluster masses from easily measured properties
 - Cosmological tests

Reading List & Exam

Read at least one of the following papers:

- Branchesi et al. (2007), A&A, 472, 739-748
- Kotov & Vikhlinin (2005), ApJ, 633, 781-790
- Lumb et al. (2004), A&A, 420, 853-872
- Magliocchetti & Bruggen (2007), MNRAS, 379, 260-274
- Exam consists of short and long answer question on each topic
 - answer all short and 2 long questions
 - full marks on my long question requires correctly referencing one paper above e.g.

"Maughan et al. (2007) showed that the scatter in the X-ray luminosity – mass relation is significantly lower than previously thought."

Today

Observational results on similarity breaking and causes

- Selection effects and evolution
- Effects of cooling cores, AGN, and mergers
- Scatter in the scaling relations
- Yx a super scaler

Observational Results: Slopes

Self-similar model predicts L∝kT² but **observations find slopes of 2.5-3**

- Probably steepens further at lower kT or M why?
- Non-gravitational processes not included in SS model are needed to
 - Raise kT 📥
 - Lower ρ
- Effect is stronger compared to gravitational energy in lower mass systems
 - Steepens relation



Recall (2.4):

$$L_X \propto \Delta^{1/2} E(z) (kT)^2$$

Add high-z (z>0.6) clusters onto the previous low-z LT relation

- High-z clusters have higher Lx at a given kT than low-z clusters
- There is evolution, but is it self-similar?



$$L_X \propto \Delta^{1/2} E(z) (kT)^2$$

- Divide measured Lx by E(z) to remove self-similar evolution
- High-z clusters now consistent with local relation
- Weak self-similarity is obeyed (to 1st order)

Detailed measurements of evolution difficult as sample selection effects mask/mimic true evolution



Plot of observed Lx divided by Lx predicted by local LT relation – SS evolution included

SS clusters should scatter about 1 – do they?

- The way the moderatez clusters are selected makes it more likely to find overluminous clusters
- Currently no reason to reject SS evolution



Plot of observed Lx divided by Lx predicted by local LT relation – SS evolution included

- SS clusters should scatter about 1 do they?
- Data suggest overluminous clusters at moderate z
- Non-SS evolution?
- The way the moderatez clusters are selected makes it more likely to find overluminous clusters
- Currently no reason to reject SS evolution



Consider the mass function of clusters

- Many samples defined by luminosity limit

 corresponds to some mass from Lx-M relation
- Scatter in Lx-M means some clusters with masses too low will be in sample and vice-versa
- Slope of mass func means more clusters scattered **into** sample
 - Biases sample to clusters with Lx high for their M



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- Slope of mass func means more clusters scattered **into** sample
 - Biases sample to clusters with Lx high for their M
 - Amount of bias
 depends on Lx limit



- The way cluster surveys are designed split into 3 rough categories with redshift
- At low-z, flux limit corresponds to low Lx limit (bias low)
- Medium z, same Fx limit gives higher Lx limit (large bias)
- High-z, deeper surveys so Fx limit lower, gives lower Lx limit (bias low) ⁴



Ζ

Observational Picture

- Slopes of the various scaling relations generally do not agree with self-similar predictions
- Strong self-similarity not obeyed Evolution of scaling relations generally found to be consistent with self-similar predictions
- Weak self-similarity is obeyed to 1st order
- Sample selection effects make more detailed tests of evolution difficult



We know $Lx \propto \rho^2$ - gas in dense cluster cores radiates thermal energy away as X-ray emission

- Cooling time significantly shorter than age of cluster
- Gas cools efficiently and condenses, replaced by gas cooling in from larger radii
- Runaway process, known as a cooling core

Which of these clusters has a cooling core?



Cooling core diagnosis:



core

GROENING

500 1000 1500 r, kpc

0 1

 $0.5 r_{180}$

Radiative cooling is not included in self-similar model

- Cool core clusters are cooler and brighter than selfsimilar predictions
- Eliminate the effect by removing the core regions from measurements of Lx and kT
- Must exclude central 0.15R₅₀₀ (~150kpc)



- Early work suggested 1,000s M_{\odot}/yr condensing in cores of CC clusters
- Problem: Fate of gas unknown
- More recently found cooling rates much lower
- Problem: What balances cooling?

Similarity Breaking: AGN

- CC clusters tend to host active galactic nuclei (AGN) in central galaxy
- AGN fuel jets of relativistic material
- Observed interacting with X-ray plasma
- Mechanisms not understood fully (rising cavities and weak shocks), but energy from intermittent AGN can balance cooling

X-ray image of weak shock in core of M87 (Virgo cluster)



Similarity Breaking: AGN

AGN energy input not included in SS model

- Evidence in low mass clusters that active AGN clusters (□, ●) are hotter than inactive (+)
- Effect likely smaller compared to gravitational energy in higher mass clusters
- Steepening of LT relation?



Similarity Breaking: Mergers

In SS model, clusters form in single collapse at z_{obs}

 Real clusters form via hierarchical series of mergers of smaller systems

Mergers extremely energetic and cause **transient spikes** in Lx and kT of ICM



X-ray & weak lensing on optical image of bullet cluster

Similarity Breaking: Mergers



Simulations show clusters tend to move **along** the LT relation during a merger



Similarity Breaking: Mergers

However, while kT has short lived spikes, it is **low** compared to the final cluster mass for most of merger

- Gas doesn't feel effect of larger gravitational potential until relaxes
- Simulations show merging clusters I offset from relaxed clusters I in the MT relation
- Hard to test observationally as merging clusters not in hydrostatic eqm (mass???)
- Could ignore merging clusters from studies but risk biasing samples





Similarity Breaking: Summary

Radiative cooling in cluster cores is unstable

- Cooling cores boost Lx and lower kT
- Remove central 0.15R₅₀₀ from measurements
- Energy input needed to balance cooling
- AGN activity is strong candidate to balance cooling
- Cavities and weak shocks deposit energy into ICM
- Low mass clusters with AGN hotter than those without
- Smaller effect at high mass? Steepening LT relation?
 All clusters form and grow via mergers
- Temporary spikes in Lx and kT during merger
- Clusters tend to move along LT, but offset from MT
- Can exclude merging clusters, but bias samples

Scatter in Scaling Relations

These non-gravitational processes in clusters contribute to observed non-statistical scatter in scaling relations

• Scatter is **dominated by core regions** of clusters

e.g. Scatter in LT relation is greatly reduced by excluding central 0.15R₅₀₀



Scatter in Scaling Relations

Excluding core regions eliminates effects of cooling cores – dominant contribution to scatter



Also strongest effects of mergers occur at core passage

- Eliminate some of merger effects
- AGN effects also likely to be reduced by excluding cores
- Removing cores effective way to reduce scatter



- We've looked at physical processes that we can learn about from scaling relations
- Other important application is **estimating masses** for large samples of distant clusters for cosmology

We need:

- Easy to measure property
- Low scatter relation to mass
- Insensitive to non-gravitational effects

Lx is **easiest** property to measure

- Early work showed large scatter with mass (~60%)
- This can be improved on...



kT has a fairly tight scaling relation with M for **relaxed** clusters

• **Merging** clusters add scatter and systematic uncertainty



- Simulations show ~20% scatter in MT relation
- N.B. Simulations extremely helpful as we know true mass of clusters

Recent work has shown Yx is superior mass indicator

- Product of kT and M_{gas} (both easily measured) within R500 with central $0.15R_{500}$ excluded
- Just 8% scatter with mass
- Insensitive to mergers

 (no offset between
 relaxed □ and merging □
 clusters)



Lx – Also Super?

Earlier studies of LM relation used kT to estimate M, and did not exclude core regions

- Now know Yx gives better mass estimates
- Use Yx to estimate M
- Exclude central 0.15R₅₀₀
- Scatter reduces from 63% to **17%**



Lx – Also Super?

N.B. Lx not as good as Yx

- For distant/faint clusters can **only** measure Lx
- Can be applied to large samples of distant clusters to estimate masses and constrain cosmological parameters



Summary I

Observational results

- Scaling relation slopes generally not self-similar
- Evolution appears consistent with SS (selection effects)
- Similarity breaking due to non-gravitational processes not included in SS model
 - Cooling cores boost Lx and lower kT (ignore cores)
 - AGN raise kT in low mass systems (steepen LT?)
 - Mergers move clusters along LT but offset from MT

Summary II

Scatter in scaling relations dominated by cores

- Exclude cores to reduce effects of cool cores (and mergers and AGN)
- Yx (product of kT and M_{gas}) superior mass estimator
 - Low scatter scaling with mass and insensitive to mergers
 - Lx (with core removed) is better mass estimator than previously thought