Nearby Starbursts with Suzaku

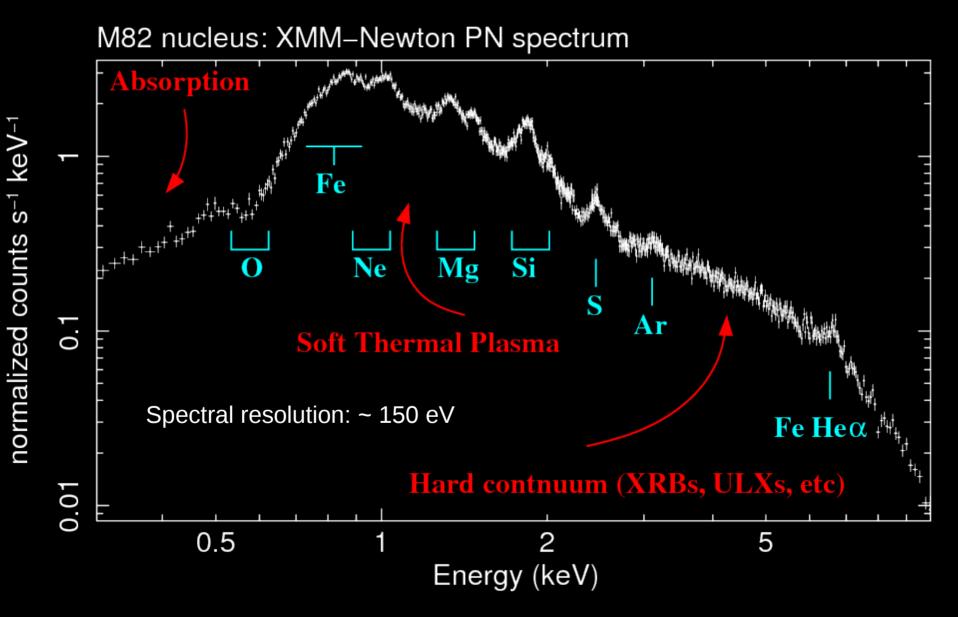
Dave Strickland (JHU).

NGC 3079 Starburst (+ Seyfert2?)

Chandra ACIS-S Red: 0.3-1 keV Green: 1-2 keV Blue: 2-8 keV

Sep. 10 Suzaku Symposium

CCD spectroscopy of starburst galaxies



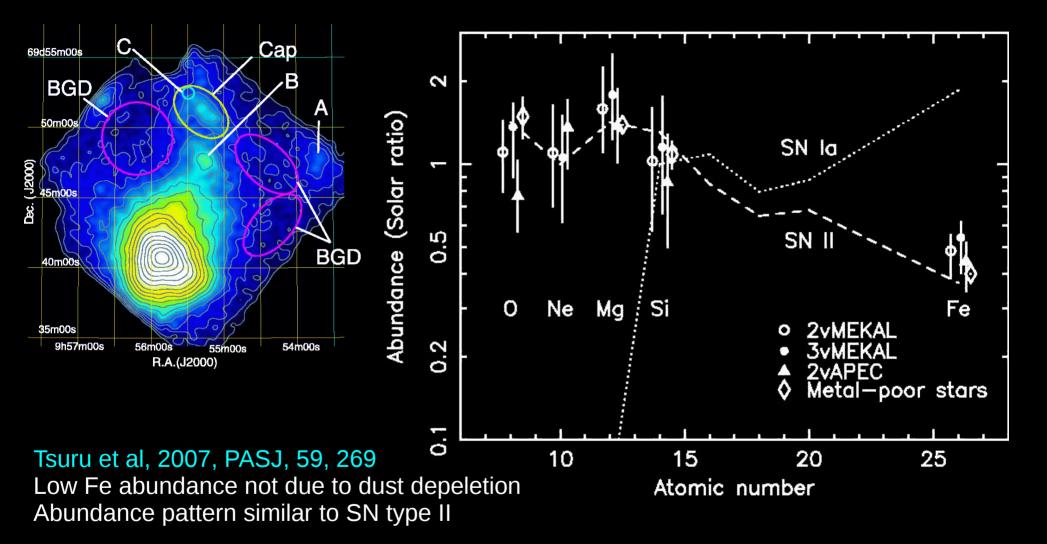
Suzaku and nearby Starbursts

- Very few nearby starburst galaxies have been [or are] scheduled:
 - Pure starbursts (no AGN): M82, NGC 4631 [NGC 253]
 - Starbursts/AGN composite objects: NGC 4945, NGC 3079, ULIRGs.

Suzaku capabilities:

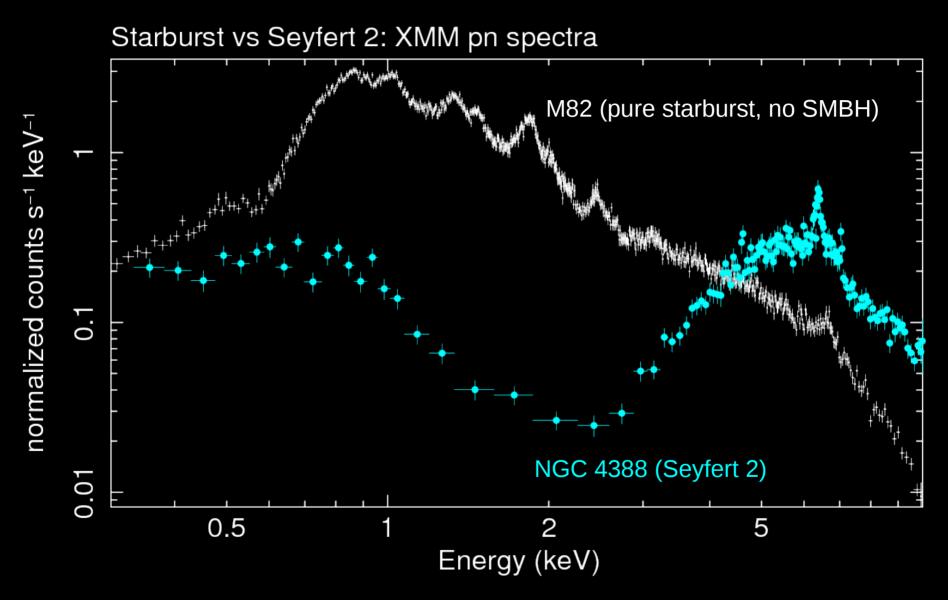
- XRS calorimeter (6 eV spectral resolution):
 - Potential to measure wind velocities in brightest starburst superwinds! Instrument dead.
- XIS (large net effective area):
 - Comparable count rates to XMM-Newton. Chandra/XMM have observed all the best targets already.
- Hard X-ray Detector (10 < E <100 keV):
 - More sensitive than BeppoSAX PDS (?). Starbursts very weak.

Abundance patterns of M82's "cap"



Similar results found for NGC 4631 (Yamasaki et al, 2008, PASJ, in press)

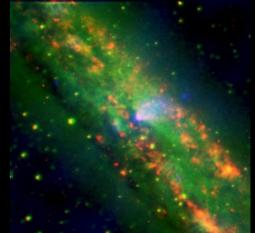
Starburst or Seyfert: An easy case

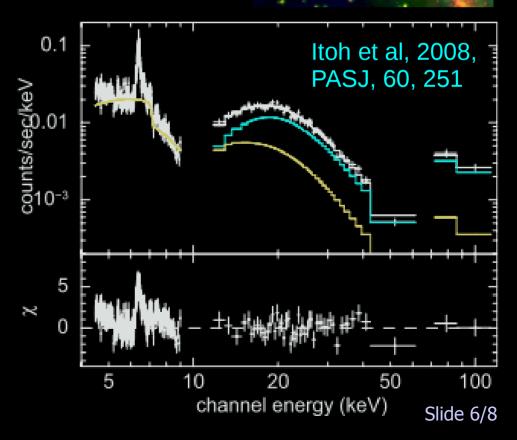


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The Seyfert/Starburst connection and superwinds

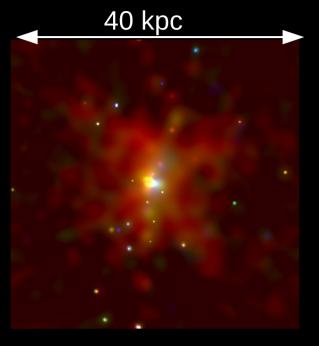
- Optically obscured starburst regions: SF rate often based on IR (e.g. IRAS) fluxes.
- Obscured AGN can also be significant energy sources:
 - Affects SF rate estimates.
 - Can AGN drives 10-kpc-scale winds?
- Example: NGC 4945 (Itoh et al 2008).
 - Optical and IR diagnostics yield ambiguous estimates for relative fraction of L_{BOL} due to AGN.





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What powers the wind in NGC 3079?



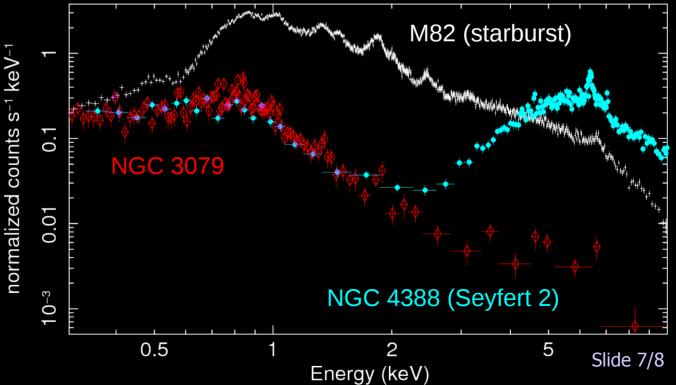
We (Strickland/Levenson) recently obtained ~130 ks of Suzaku observations.

Aim to detect and Compton thick AGN (HXD), constrain abundances (XIS). IR-warm galaxy with 40-kpc scale superwind and nuclear superbubble, pc-scale radio jets, 2e6 Msol SMBH.

Below 10 keV looks like a starburst galaxy.



Starburst or Seyfert 2?: NGC 3079 XMM pn spectrum



Summary

- Relatively few nearby starbursts have been observed with Suzaku.
 - Typically with long (\sim 100 ks) exposure times.
- Good S/N of XIS spectra allow more detailed abundance and ionization state diagnostics of soft thermal plasmas than (shorter) XMM/Chandra observations do.
 - Clarifies the origin and properties of the hot plasma in superwinds.
- In objects where obscured AGN are suspected, HXD observations can:
 - Clarify the intrinsic luminosity of Compton thick AGN
 - Constrain true galactic SF rate and possible role of AGN in driving winds.
- Ultimately Suzaku will probably make a small but significant contribution to our understanding of starburst galaxies.

XIS spectroscopy: The origin of the soft-Xray emitting plasmas in superwinds

- Soft X-ray nebulae in superwinds are a multi-temperature plasma with 1 < T < 10 million K.
 - SN-enriched material responsible for driving wind?
 - Or ambient disk/halo ISM shock or conductively heated by collision with invisible hot wind?
- ASCA (and Chandra/XMM) results show super-Solar a/Fe (e.g. Ptak et al 1997; Grimes et al 05) in superwinds.
 - Often simulataneously fit a's (O, Ne, Mg, Si, S) due to low number of counts.
 - Results ambiguous (Strickland et al 04) due to Fe depletion onto dust.

- Large effective area of XIS and long exposure times (~100 ks) allows more detailed investigation of soft Xray abundance patterns:
 - M82's "cap" (Tsuru et al 2007).
 - NGC 4631 (Yamasaki et al, 2008, in press).