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Current Challenges and New Frontiers in the Next Decade
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Searching for high-z AGN with Chandra and with future facilities

Thursday, 12 September 2019 15:00 (15 minutes)

Chandra and XMM-Newton showed that AGN existed in the early Universe (at z~7.5) and this challenges our understanding of SMBH formation. Chandra detected serendipitously only an handful of z>4-5 sources and the majority of the constrains on the nature of early Black holes come from Cosmic background fluctuations studies or stacking/follow up of Infrared selected sources. I will present recent results constraining the nature of SMBH seeds using cosmic background fluctuations and Chandra surveys. These studies led to the serendipitous discovery of a previously unknown, X-ray emitting component of the ISM. Finally, in this talk I will present strategies and plans to detects SMBHs in the early universe with Athena, Lynx or AXIS.

Topic

The cosmic frontier: first black holes and proto-clusters

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