



X-RAY ASTRONOMY 2019

Current Challenges and New Frontiers in the Next Decade

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Studying circumnuclear matter in Compton-thick AGN via spectroscopy and future X-ray polarimetry

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The archetypal and one of the brightest Compton-thick AGN is NGC 1068, which was observed by all the main X-ray observatories during the last 20 years. Keeping in mind the previous studies, I will discuss the results obtained through the spectroscopic analysis of the latest NuSTAR monitoring campaign, during which we detected one unveiling and one eclipsing event due to Compton-thick matter supposedly located in the innermost part of the torus or even more inside, thus providing further evidence of the clumpy structure of the circumnuclear matter in this source. Furthermore, I will discuss what we can infer on the geometry of NGC 1068 and other Compton-thick AGN with the advent of future X-ray polarimetry missions, such as the X-ray Polarimetry Explorer (IXPE), due to be launched in April 2021.

Topic

Active Galactic Nuclei: accretion physics and evolution across cosmic time

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