Recent outburst activities within the magnetar class

Francesco Coti Zelati

INSTITUT DE CIÈNCIES DE L'ESPAI

CNOC XII, Cefalù, September 29, 2022

SGR 1830-0645: a new magnetar in outburst



Coti Zelati et al. 2021

Francesco Coti Zelati (ICE, CSIC)



- Mostly thermal spectrum plus a faint PL tail (6%).
- Warm BB: kT~0.45 keV, R~5.6 km (at 10 kpc)
- Hot BB: kT~1.10 keV, R~1.5 km (at 10 kpc)
- Hard power law:
 F~1
- F~4x10⁻¹¹ erg s⁻¹ cm⁻² (0.3-25 keV), a factor >500 above quiescent limits (ROSAT)

X-ray timing analysis



• Power spectrum hints at a complex pulse profile shape

 Phase-connected timing analysis over the first month: P~10.4 s, Pdot~7x10⁻¹² s/s



X-ray pulse profiles and pulsed fractions at the outburst peak





- Complex pulse profile shape at low energies. Simpler shape at high energies; slight phase lag
- High pulsed fraction at low energies, dropping above 10 keV —> weakly pulsed non-thermal component

Coti Zelati et al. 2021

Mapping the surface emission: phase-resolved spectral analysis



• Phase-alignment between the BB light curves

a single heated region with non-uniform T distribution and complex shape (ring-like?)

• Anisotropic heat flow from the crust or returning currents in a twisted bundle (particle bombardment)

See Davide De Grandi's talk

Beloborodov 2009; Pons & Rea 2012; Turolla, Zane & Watts 2015; De Grandis et al. 2020, 2022

Taken from De Grandis et al. 2021

The long-term evolution

- Intensive monitoring for 1.5 years
- Flux drop by more than three orders of magnitude
- Decay trend in line with that observed in other magnetars
- Remarkable simplification of the pulse profile in time

CZ et al. in prep., Younes et al. 2022a,b

The last discovered magnetar: Swift J1555.2-5402

NICER discovery of 3.86 s pulsations from a new magnetar: SGR J1555.2-5402

ATel #14674; F. Coti Zelati, A. Borghese, N. Rea (ICE-CSIC), G. L. Israel (INAF-OAR), P. Esposito (IUSS Pavia), T. Enoto (RIKEN), K. Gendreau (NASA/GSFC) S. Campana (INAF-OAB) on behalf of a larger collaboration on 3 Jun 2021; 16:33 UT

 Daily NICER observations over 1 month. Thermal spectrum, constant F~4x10⁻¹¹ erg s⁻¹ cm⁻², several X-ray bursts, Pdot~3x10⁻¹¹ s/s (but large timing noise)

> B_{dip} ~ 3.5x10¹⁴ G Edot ~ 2x10³⁴ erg s⁻¹ T_c ~ 2 kyr

• Emission up to ~40 keV detected with NuSTAR

Enoto et al. 2021

Follow-up observations

- Non-detection of radio pulsations at the outburst peak (Parkes)
- Intensive Swift monitoring over a time span of 15 months and recent NICER campaign
- Marginal variations of the Pdot
- Extremely slow outburst decay probably due to shrinking hot spot(s).
- Current flux much higher than pre-outburst limits. A 1E 1547-5408-like magnetar?

Borghese et al. in prep.

Conclusions and prospects

- SGR 1830-0645 and Swift J1555.2-5402: the two latest additions to the magnetar class
- SGR 1830-0645: mostly thermal spectrum plus a faint nonthermal component at outburst peak. Thermal emission from a single heated region with a complex shape.
- Still currently active. Remarkable simplification of the thermal emission geometry.
- Swift J1555.2-5402: extremely slow outburst decay. Do magnetars hop between different "quiescent states"?

Ongoing monitoring campaigns