Radio Jet Propagation in NGC383=3C31

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NGC383 Environs

Brightest in galaxy chain □ z=0.0169 □ in Perseus-Pisces filament one small close companion



Approx 700 kpc field, Digitized Sky Survey E plate

NGC383

 dusty elliptical
major axis of dust "disk" about 2.5 kpc



Approx 6 kpc field, HST WFPC2

NGC383 Group Hot Gas

- Extended X-ray emission offset from NGC383
- □ →Hot (1.7 × 10⁷K) group atmosphere
- Also more compact X-ray emission at NGC383 itself



Approx 700 kpc field, ROSAT PSPC image

3C31/NGC383 large scale

Flame: 3C31 VLA radio image Blue/green: DSS red image Scale of jet bending and plume formation 10+ kpc



Structures in 3C31

300 kpc field, 1.9 kpc FWHM

40 kpc field, 85 pc FWHM



8.4 GHz

1.4 GHz

3C31 inner jet

 85 pc FWHM
First 2" (680 pc) narrow, wellcollimated
Flares, brightens next 5.5" (2 kpc)

Bright knots in flaring region



8.4 GHz VLA ABCD config 0.25" FWHM

3C31 recollimation

- 250 pc FWHM
- Beyond 2 kpc, both jets recollimate
- North jet stays brighter on-axis
- Edges are more symmetric



8.4 GHz VLA ABCD config 0.75" FWHM

3C31/NGC383 superposition

- Flame: VLA radio image
- Blue/green: WFPC2 image
- Scales of jet flaring and recollimation are also few kpc



Relativistic jet modeling

Predicted radio emission from slowing relativistic twin-jet

Observed VLA data, fitted by model



Inferred jet velocities in 3C31

Modeling VLA data shows how the jets slow down as they escape from the parent galaxy NGC383, but does not say why ... gives kinematics, not dynamics

Entrainment into Jet

Turbulent boundary layer \rightarrow eddies \rightarrow mass ingestion \rightarrow "loading" of jet Interstellar gas ends up inside decelerating jet, we study interaction

Chandra X-ray image, Nov 2000

Detects gas in NGC383 through which jet travels, also enhanced emission along jet path (origin?)

Will add pressure gradient constraint to slowdown models \rightarrow mass flux in jet

Kinematics \rightarrow Dynamics

0.5 to 7 keV Chandra image

A Walk Around the Jets in 3C31

Relativistic Jets in 3C31

at different angles to the line of sight

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At constant dynamic range, APPARENT sidedness and extent of the jets are both strong functions of viewing angle

A Walk Around the Jets in 3C31

If the jets could be observed at constant sensitivity, their widening by projection at smaller angles to the line of sight would be much more obvious