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Ultra-Luminous X-ray sources and intermediate mass black-holes

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The extremely high X-ray luminosity of non-nuclear ultra luminous X-ray sources (ULX) may be evidence of the existence of black holes with masses intermediate between those produced by stellar evolution and those encountered in active galactic nuclei. We will review the observational properties of these ULXs and discuss their likely accretion regimes. We will show that some of them could indeed harbour an accreting intermediate-mass black hole and will shortly review mechanisms leading to the creation of these objects.

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