

Title: Spinning black-hole binaries as gravitational and cosmological probes

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Abstract: Spins play a major role in the strong-field dynamics of black-hole binaries and their gravitational-wave emission. By detecting spin effects in the waveforms, existing and future gravitational-wave detectors therefore provide a natural way to test gravity in strong-field, highly dynamical regimes. In the first part of my talk, I will show that the inclusion of the spins in the gravitational templates for future space-based detectors will permit testing scenarios for the formation and cosmological evolution of supermassive black holes, and possibly shed light on models of galaxy formation. In the second part, I will show that the effective-one-body (EOB) model provides an efficient way to account for spin effects in both the dynamics and waveforms, by combining information from post-Newtonian theory, the self-force formalism, and numerical-relativity simulations.

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**Enrico Barausse**  
(Institut d'Astrophysique de  
Paris/CNRS)

**Spinning black-hole binaries as  
gravitational and cosmological probes**



# Outline

- **Motivation: why are BH spins important in gravity and cosmology?**
  - Frame dragging (in isolated/binary BHs) → EM and GW emission efficiency
  - Bardeen Petterson effect, GW modulation
  - Jets and their effect on galaxies: a link from small to large scales
- **GW observations as probes of galaxy formation**
  - The MBH spin evolution under accretion and mergers
  - Implications for future GW detectors (e.g. eLISA, Einstein Telescope)
- **How to model effect of the spin in BH binary dynamics and GWs?**
  - The effective-one-body model (EOB)
- **Not in this talk:** use spins, GWs and compact-object binaries to test phenomenological alternatives to GR (e.g. Barausse, Palenzuela, Ponce & Lehner 2013, Barausse & Sotiriou 2012, 2013)

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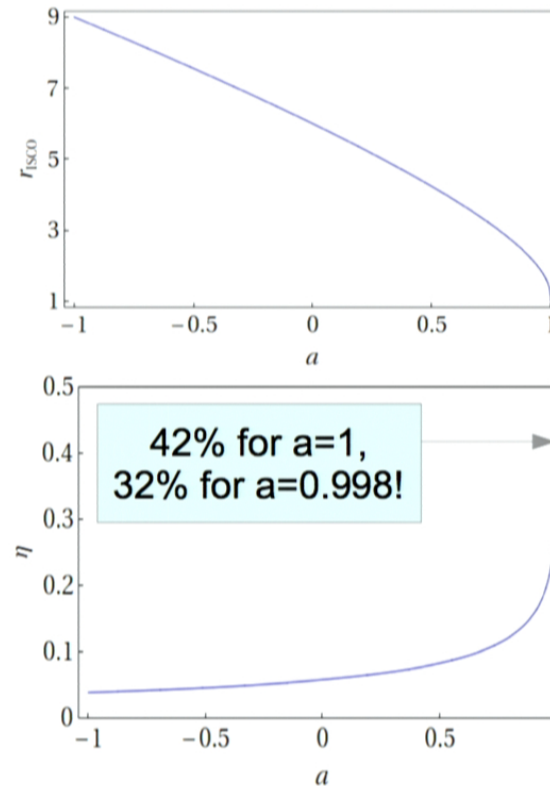
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# The effect of the spin: frame dragging in isolated BHs

- ISCO depends on spin...
- ... and so does EM efficiency (under coherent accretion)

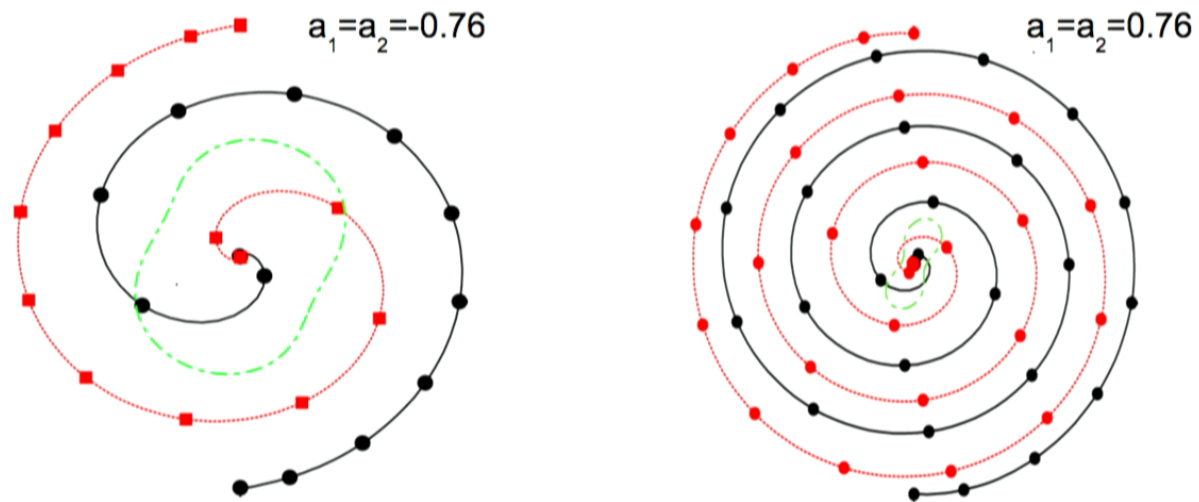
Testable with iron  $K\alpha$  lines,  
continuum fitting!



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# The effect of the spin: frame dragging in BH binaries

Spin-orbit coupling or “hang-up” effect: for large spins aligned with  $L$ , effective ISCO moves inward ...



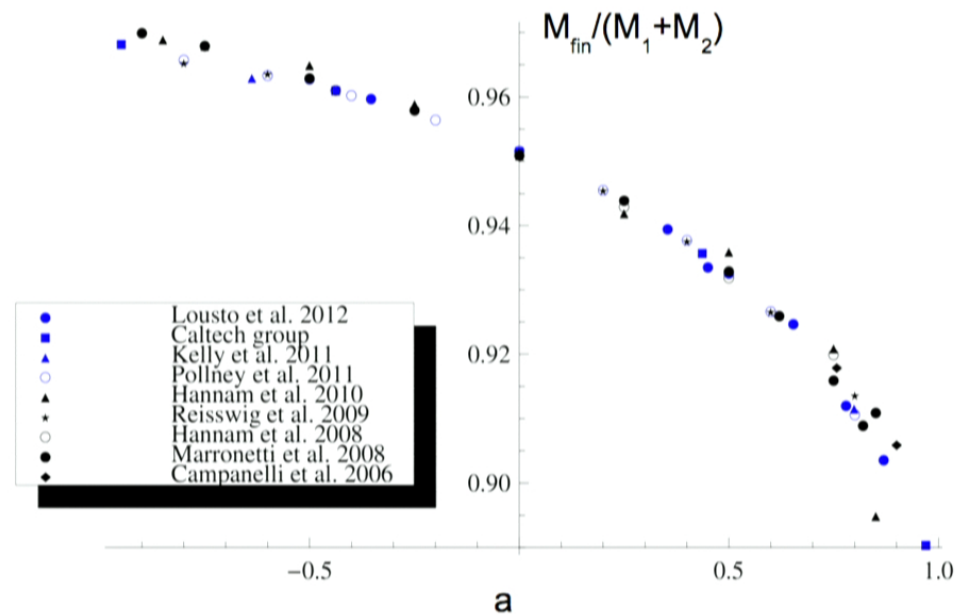
Figures from Campanelli, Lousto & Zlochower 2006

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# The effect of the spin: frame dragging in BH binaries

- ...and GW “efficiency” larger



**Effect testable with GW detectors!**

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## Gravitational waves from binary BHs

- GW detectors will
  - measure masses to within 0.1% and spins to within 1%
  - tell spin-aligned from precessing binaries thanks to spin induced modulation
- Today: sensitive to stellar-mass BHs (few events per yr at low  $z$ )



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# Massive BHs and galaxy formation

## Typical scales:

- MBH  $\sim 10^{-6} - 10^{-7}$  pc
- MBH accretion disk  $\sim$  pc
- Circumbinary disk  $\sim 100$  pc

MBH scales

- Galactic bulge  $\sim$  kpc
- Galactic disk  $\sim 10$  kpc
- Dark-matter halo  $\sim$  Mpc

galactic scales

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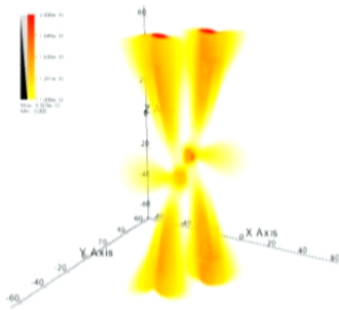
galactic scales

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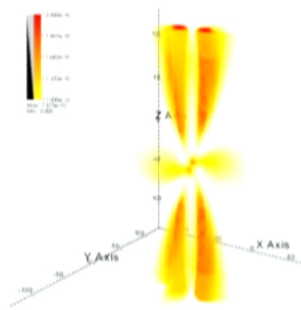


## Why does galaxy formation care about MBHs?

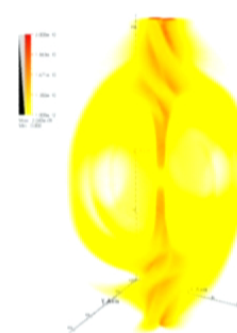
- Jets can be produced by isolated spinning BHs in a magnetic field anchored to accretion disk (Blandford & Znajek 1977)...
- ... or by BHs (even non spinning ones) moving a magnetic fields anchored to circumbinary disk (Palenzuela, Lehner and Liebling 2010)



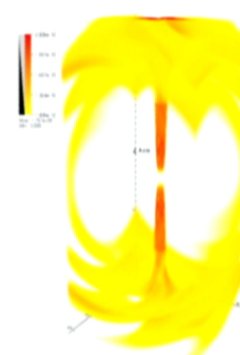
(a)  $-11.0 M_8$  hrs



(b)  $-3.0 M_8$  hrs



(c)  $4.6 M_8$  hrs



(d)  $6.8 M_8$  hrs

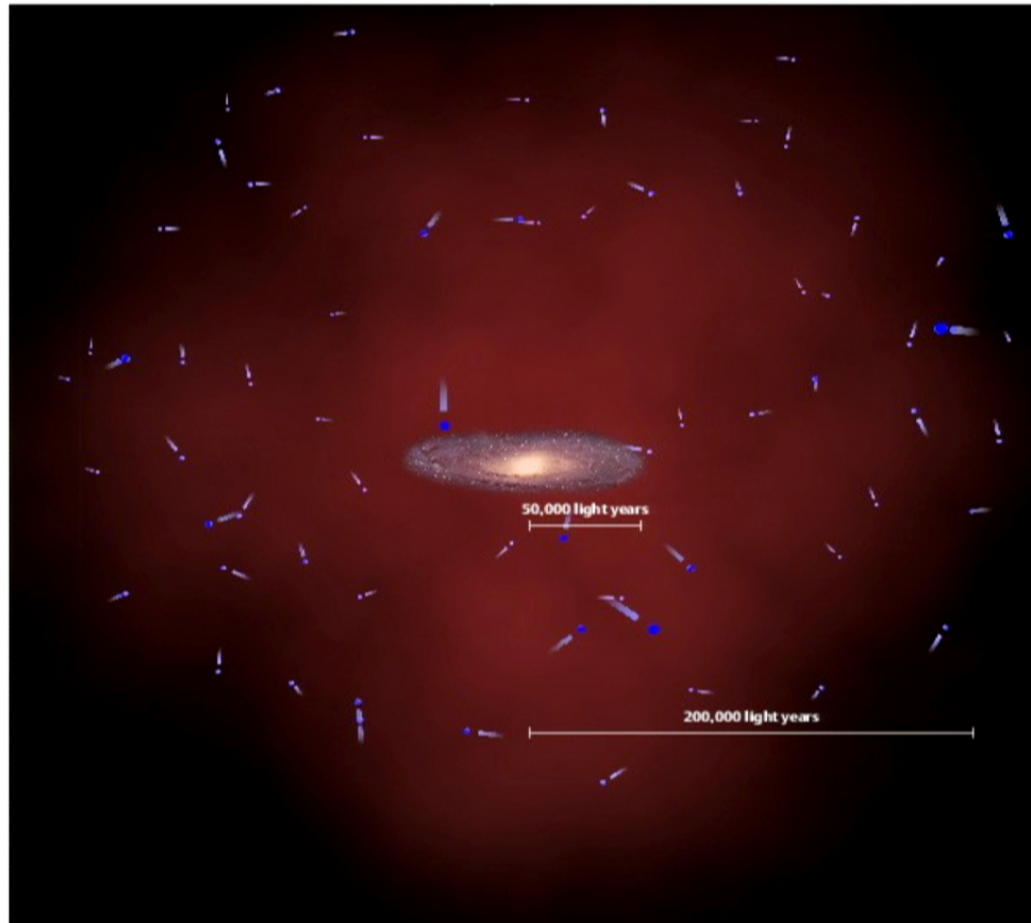
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## Galaxy formation

- Range of scales involved (from MBHs to Hubble scale) and non-linear, dissipative microphysics prevents purely numerical approach
- Use semianalytical galaxy-formation model:
  - Dark Matter (halos)
  - Hot gas (IGM)
  - Cold gas: bulges and disks
  - Stars: bulges and disks
  - Circumnuclear reservoir and MBH accretion disk
  - MBHs

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# Dark Matter

- Extended Press Schechter merger trees, modified to reproduce results of N-body simulations (Parkinson et al 2008)
- Based on gaussianity of primordial cosmological perturbations and their linear growth (corrected with top-hat collapse model)
- DM halos described by NFW density profile

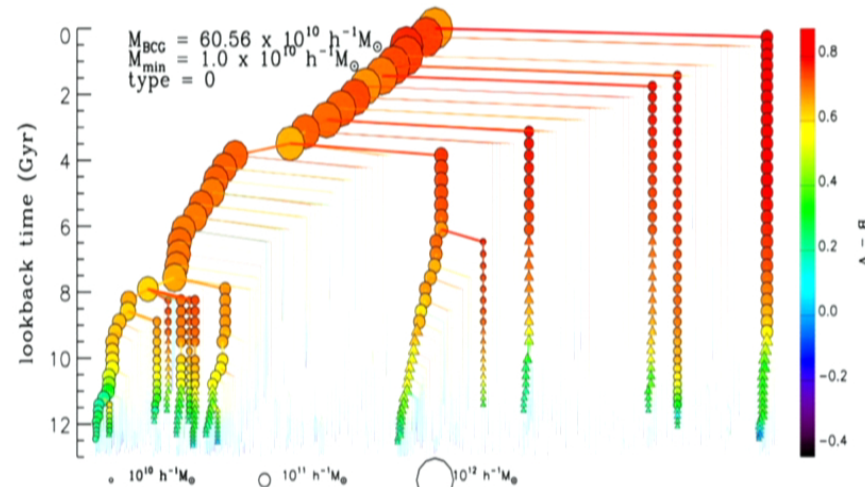
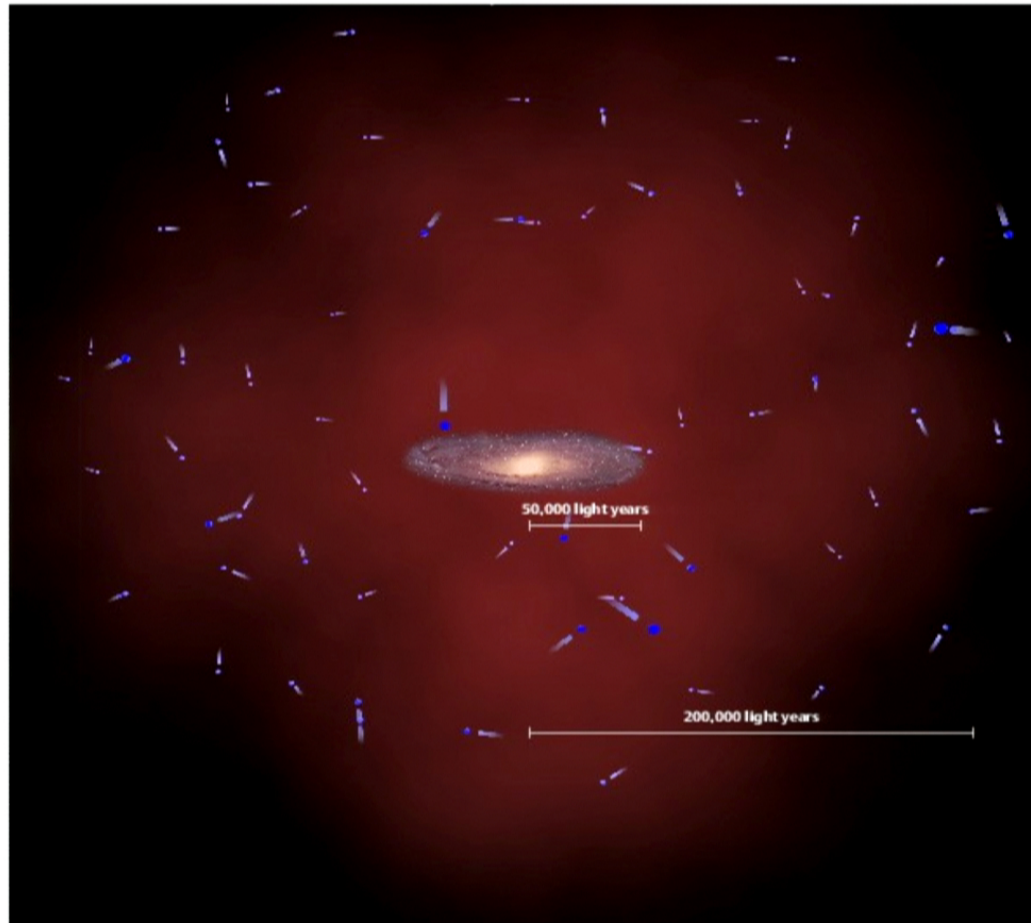


Figure from De Lucia & Blaizot 2007

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## The baryonic components: the hot gas

- Hot gas: primordial metallicity, brought in by DM accreting on halos between mergers

$$\dot{M}_{hot} = f_b \dot{M}_{DM} \quad \text{with baryon fraction } f_b \leq \Omega_b / \Omega_{DM} \text{ including effect of UV background}$$

- Hot gas shock-heated to virial T, unless in low-mass halos at high z, where it streams in on dynamical time (cold accretion flows)
- Hot gas collapses in gaseous disks on dynamical timescale (if it cools “rapidly”) or on cooling timescale (if it cools “slowly”).

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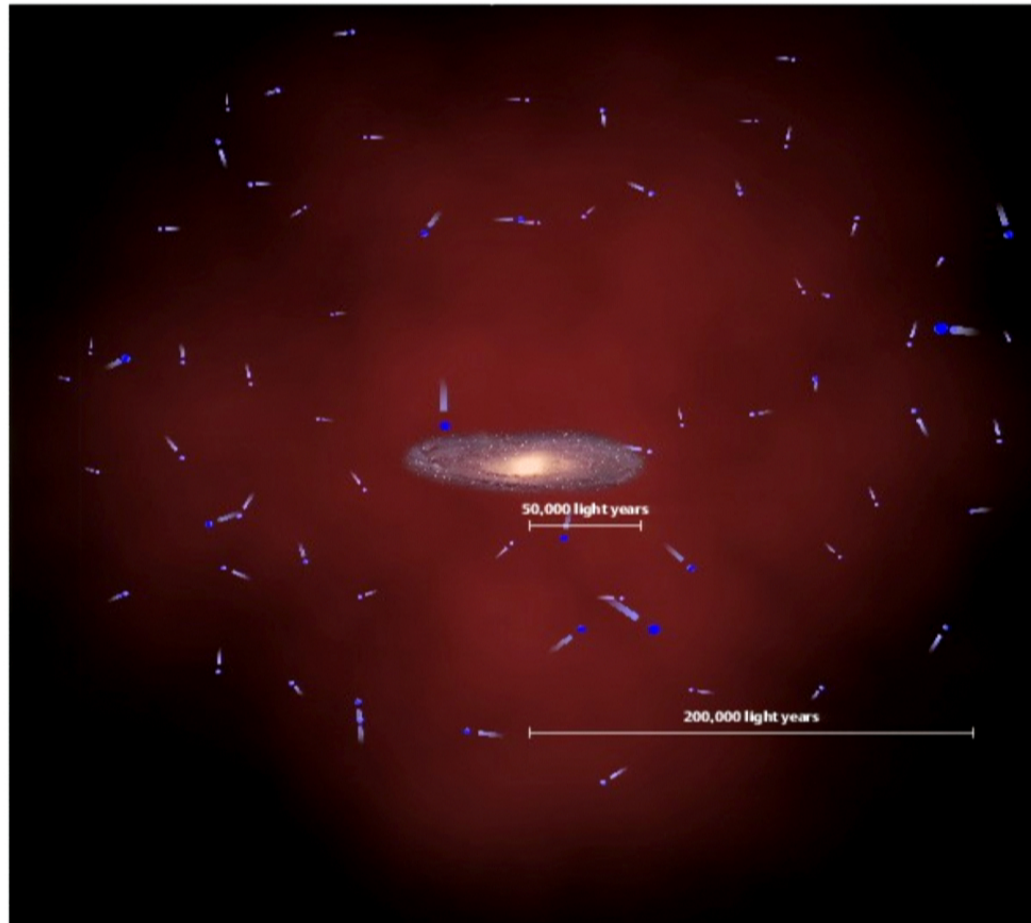
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## Galactic bulges

- Form from disk disruption due to bar instabilities or major mergers
- Both gaseous and stellar bulges described by Hernquist density profile (scale radius related to mass using fits to observations)
- Star formation more efficient than in disks (happens on dynamical timescale)
- SN feedback as in disks

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Composite image of Centaurus A

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## Massive black hole seeds

- Grow from  $150 M_{\text{sun}}$  remnants of Pop III stars at  $z=15-20$  (light seeds), or from  $10^5 M_{\text{sun}}$  seeds forming at  $z=10-15$  from collapse of massive protogalactic disks (heavy seeds)
- Seeds assigned random spin parameter from uniform distribution, but memory of initial spin lost when seed BH accretes  $\geq 3$  times its initial mass

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## The QSO phase

- When SF happens in bulges (due to disk instabilities or major mergers), radiation drag forces cold gas into circumnuclear reservoir:

$$\dot{M}_{\text{res}} = A_{\text{res}} \psi_b(t)$$

- Circumnuclear reservoir accretes on MBH with rate

$$\dot{M}_{\text{QSO}} = \frac{M_{\text{res}}}{t_{\text{accr}}} \quad t_{\text{accr}} \text{ is a free parameter}$$

$$\dot{M}_{\text{bh,QSO}} = \dot{M}_{\text{QSO}} (1 - \eta(a_{\text{bh}}))$$

- $\dot{M}$  can be super-Eddington, but luminosity cannot

$$L_{\text{bh,QSO}} = \min \left\{ \eta(a_{\text{bh}}) \dot{M}_{\text{QSO}} c^2, L_{\text{Edd}} \left[ 1 + \ln \left( \frac{\eta(a_{\text{bh}}) \dot{M}_{\text{QSO}} c^2}{L_{\text{Edd}}} \right) \right] \right\}$$

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## Coherent vs Chaotic accretion


- Gas-rich environment ( $M_{\text{res}} > M_{\text{bh}}$ ): reservoir becomes self-gravitating and fragments  $\longrightarrow$  MBH captures clouds with random direction of  $L$  but  $L \gg S$   $\longrightarrow$  Bardeen-Petterson effect **aligns**  $L$  and  $S$  (because  $\cos(\theta(S, L)) < -L/(2S)$ ) on timescale  $\ll t_{\text{Salpeter}}$   $\longrightarrow$  **coherent accretion**
- Gas-poor environment ( $M_{\text{res}} < M_{\text{bh}}$ ): MBH captures clouds with random direction of  $L$  and  $L \ll S$   $\longrightarrow$  Bardeen-Petterson effect **aligns**  $S$  with  $L$  if  $\cos(\theta(S, L)) < -L/(2S)$ , otherwise  $S$  and  $L$  **antialigned**  $\longrightarrow$  prograde/retrograde accretion happen with same probability (**chaotic accretion**)

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## The MBH spin evolution

- Coherent accretion = prograde (thin disk accretion)

 spin up

$$\dot{a}_{\text{bh,QSO}}^{\text{coherent}} = [L_{\text{ISCO}}(a_{\text{bh}}) - 2a_{\text{bh}}E_{\text{ISCO}}(a_{\text{bh}})] \frac{\dot{M}_{\text{QSO}}}{M_{\text{bh}}}$$

$$\eta(a_{\text{bh}}) = 1 - E_{\text{ISCO}}(a_{\text{bh}})$$

- Chaotic accretion: half of gas accretes on prograde orbits, half on retrograde orbits  spin down

$$\dot{a}_{\text{bh,QSO}}^{\text{chaotic}} = \left\{ \frac{L_{\text{ISCO}}(a_{\text{bh}}) + L_{\text{ISCO}}(-a_{\text{bh}})}{2} - a_{\text{bh}}[E_{\text{ISCO}}(a_{\text{bh}}) + E_{\text{ISCO}}(-a_{\text{bh}})] \right\} \frac{\dot{M}_{\text{QSO}}}{M_{\text{bh}}}$$

$$\eta(a_{\text{bh}}) = 1 - \frac{E_{\text{ISCO}}(a_{\text{bh}}) + E_{\text{ISCO}}(-a_{\text{bh}})}{2}$$

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## MBH mergers

- Final mass, spin and kick velocity of BH remnant calculated with phenomenological formulas reproducing numerical-relativity results (used here: Tichy & Marronetti 2008, EB & Rezzolla 2009, van Meter et al 2010; see also Buonanno, Kidder & Lehner 2008, Boyle, Kesden & Nissanke 2008)
- Results depend strongly on spins and their orientation (e.g. kick velocity  $\sim 2500$ - $5000$  km/s for certain misaligned configurations, cf Lousto et al 2012)
- If  $M_{\text{res}} > M_{\text{bh1}} + M_{\text{bh2}}$  (“wet merger”): Bardeen-Petterson aligns spins
- If  $M_{\text{res}} < M_{\text{bh1}} + M_{\text{bh2}}$  (“dry merger”): randomly oriented spins
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## Calibration of the model

4 free parameters:

- Supernova feedback efficiency  
(fraction of SN kinetic energy transferred to gas)
- AGN feedback efficiency  
(fudge factor parametrizing uncertainties of jet production)
- Radiation drag efficiency
- BH accretion timescale

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## Galactic disks

- Gaseous disk: exponential density profile, scale radius calculated by L and M of collapsing hot gas
- Star formation in molecular clouds: SFR depends on  $\Sigma_{\text{mol}}(r)$ , which is related to disk's mid-plane pressure (Blitz & Rosolowsky 2006)
- Fraction of forming stars are SN: kinetic energy  $E_{\text{SN}}=10^{44}$  J transferred to disk's gas, ejects it if  $E_{\text{SN}} > E_{\text{bind}}$  (SN feedback)

$$\dot{\Sigma}_{\text{SN}}(r, z) = - \frac{\epsilon_{\text{SN}} E_{\text{SN}} \eta_{\text{SN}} \dot{\Sigma}_{\text{sfr}}(r, z)}{\phi(r, z)}$$

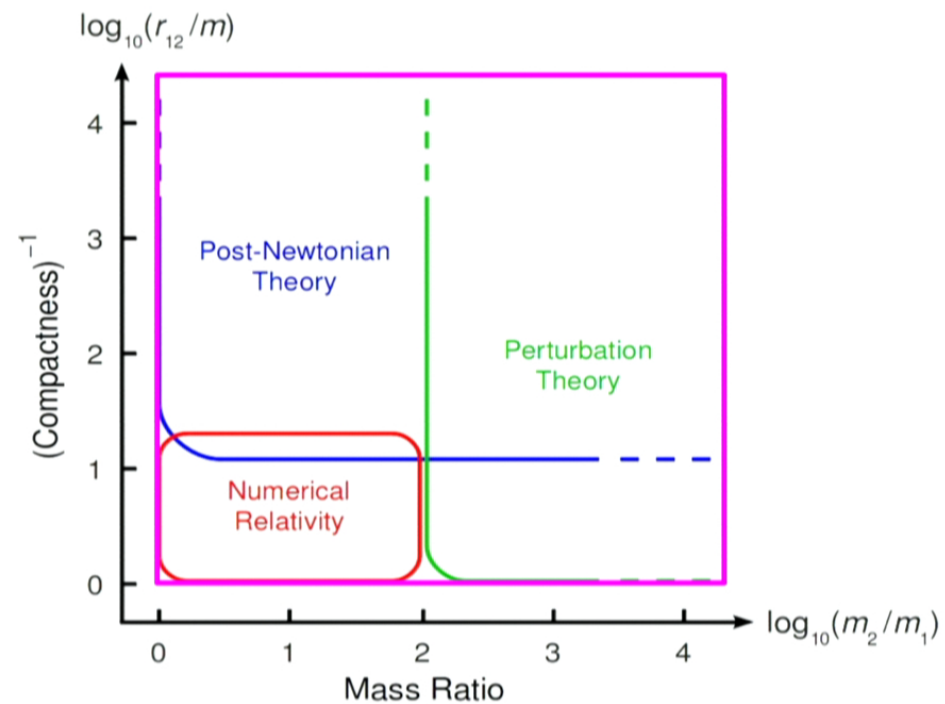
- Stellar disk: exponential density profile with scale radius  $R_d^{\text{star}} = R_d^{\text{gas}} / 2$
- Both stellar and gaseous disks can develop bar instability when they become self-gravitating: disrupted in dynamical time and form bulges

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# The two-body problem in GR

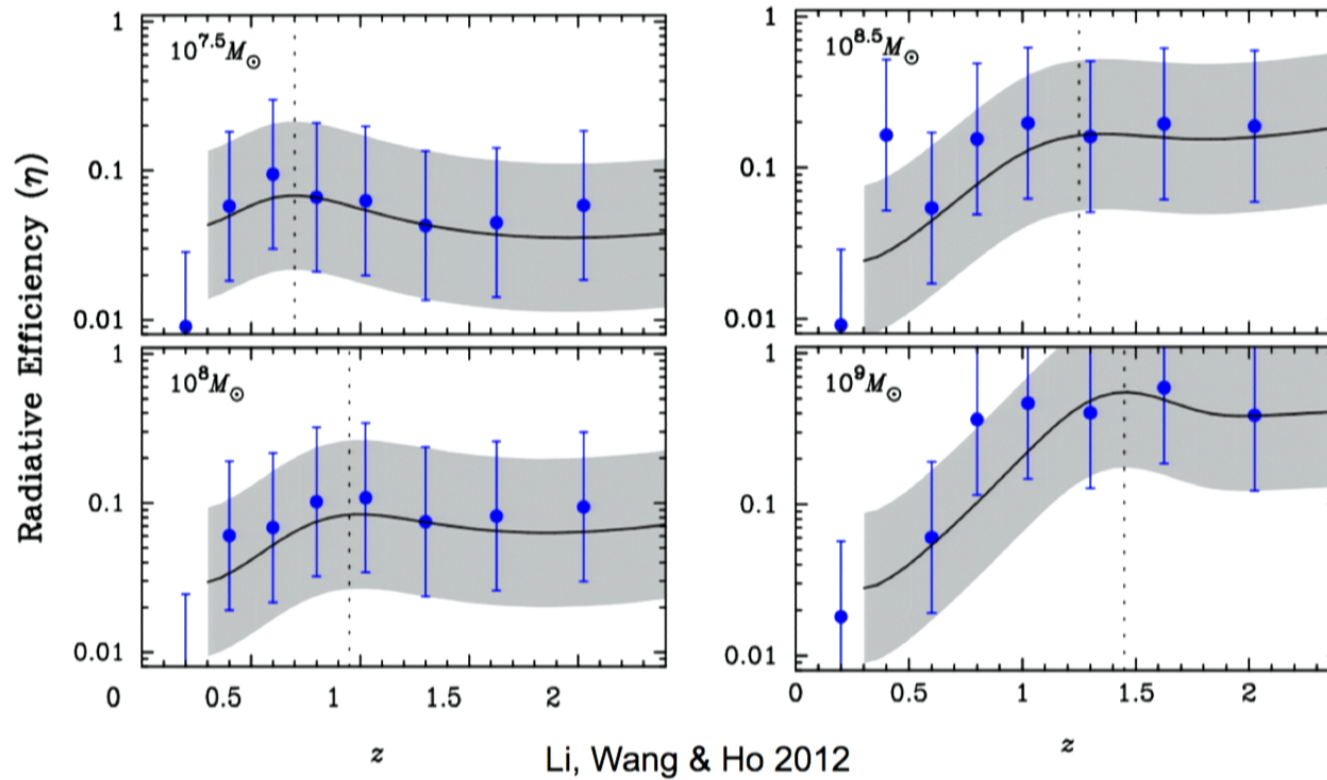
Techniques have different ranges of validity



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Page 65 of 116

# Consistent with data?

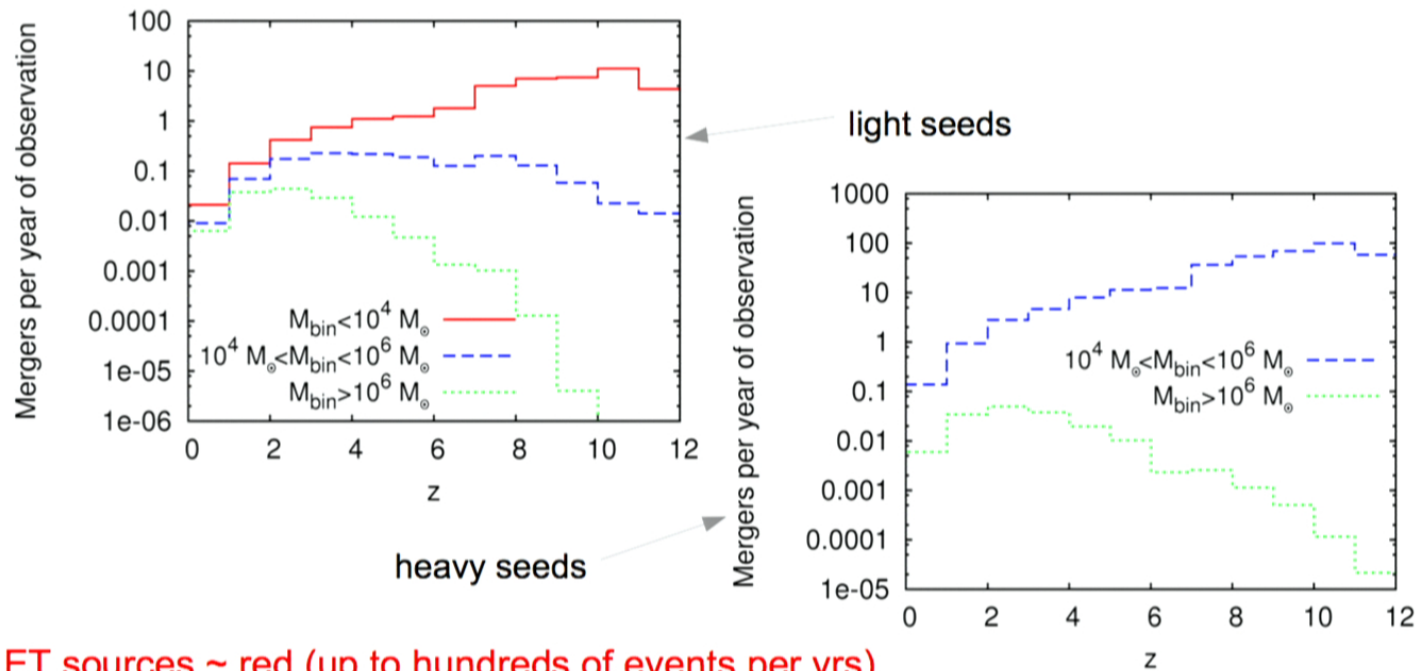


Li, Wang & Ho 2012

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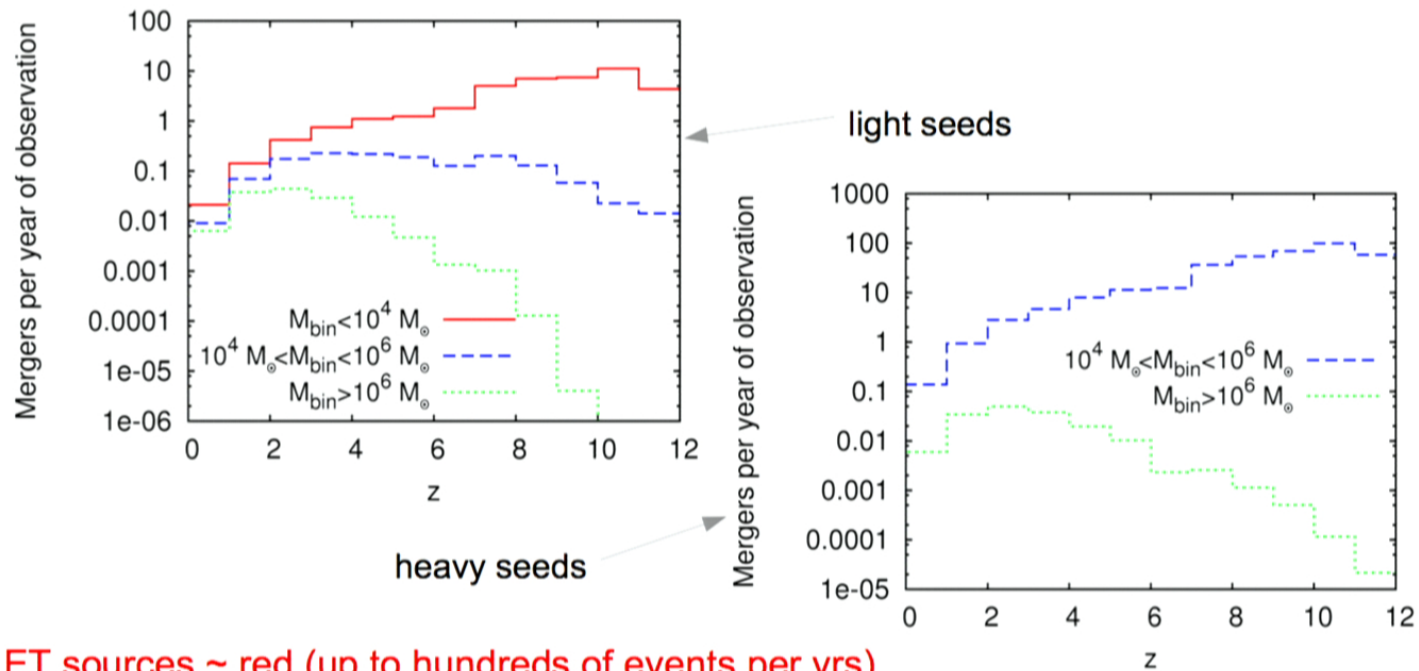
# A cleaner measurement of BH spins: gravitational waves



ET sources ~ red (up to hundreds of events per yrs)  
 eLISA sources ~ blue and green (1-200 events per yr)  
 DECIGO sources ~ all (hundreds of events per yr)

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# Conclusions

- For massive BHs, evolution of masses and spins entangled with galaxy evolution (AGN feedback on galaxy, gas regulates accretion and spin alignment)
  - High spins and wet mergers at  $z \gtrsim 3$  (when galaxies are gas rich), low spins and dry mergers at  $z \lesssim 3$  (when galaxies sterilized by AGN feedback)
  - Confirm that LISA will see at least a few events per yr, and will be able to test MBH-gas interaction (by telling aligned binaries from precessing ones)
- Spins have major effects on strong-field dynamics and gravitational waveforms of BH binaries  by detecting spin effects, GW detectors will provide strong-field tests of gravity
  - Semianalytical methods (e.g. EOB) at interface of PN theory, numerical relativity and self-force efficiently account for spin effects for any binary's parameters
- **Not in this talk:** use spins, GWs and compact-object binaries to test phenomenological alternatives to GR (e.g. Barausse, Palenzuela, Ponce & Lehner 2013, Barausse & Sotiriou 2012, 2013)

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  - Circumnuclear reservoir and MBH accretion disk
  - MBHs

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