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Binary black hole spins

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Gravitational-wave observations allow us to infer black hole spins. We will review spin measurements from current LIGO observations of binary black holes. The orientations of the spins are a tracer of the formation mechanism. While spin measurements from individual systems have large uncertainties, more information can be gained by combining the population of results. We show how a hierarchical analysis of spin measurements could be performed to constrain the fraction of binaries with different spin orientations, and how this could impact our understanding of binary formation.

Auteur principal: Dr BERRY, Christopher (University of Birmingham)

Co-auteurs: Prof. MANDEL, Ilya (University of Birmingham); M. STEVENSON, Simon (University of Birming-

ham)

Orateur: Dr BERRY, Christopher (University of Birmingham)
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