

# Formation pathways of GW sources

*Gravitational Wave Astrophysics*

*Manuel Arca Sedda*

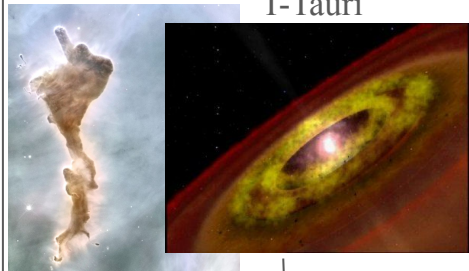
## **What will we do in the 1.5hrs? Crash course on**

- 1. Compact objects from the death of single stars**
- 2. Binary stellar evolution**
- 3. Dynamics of compact objects**

# Stellar evolution models

Bok globule

T-Tauri



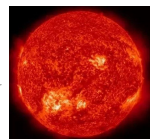
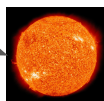
Brown dwarf



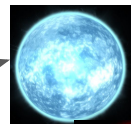
HeWD



COWD



RG



BSG



SNII



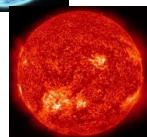
BH



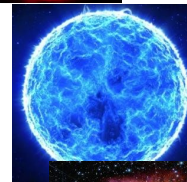
NS



RG



BSG



WR



PISN



BH



massless  
remnant

$< 0.1 M_{\text{SUN}}$

H not ignited

$< 0.5 M_{\text{SUN}}$

He not ignited

$< 6-8 M_{\text{SUN}}$

C not ignited

$< 20-40 M_{\text{SUN}}$

SNII

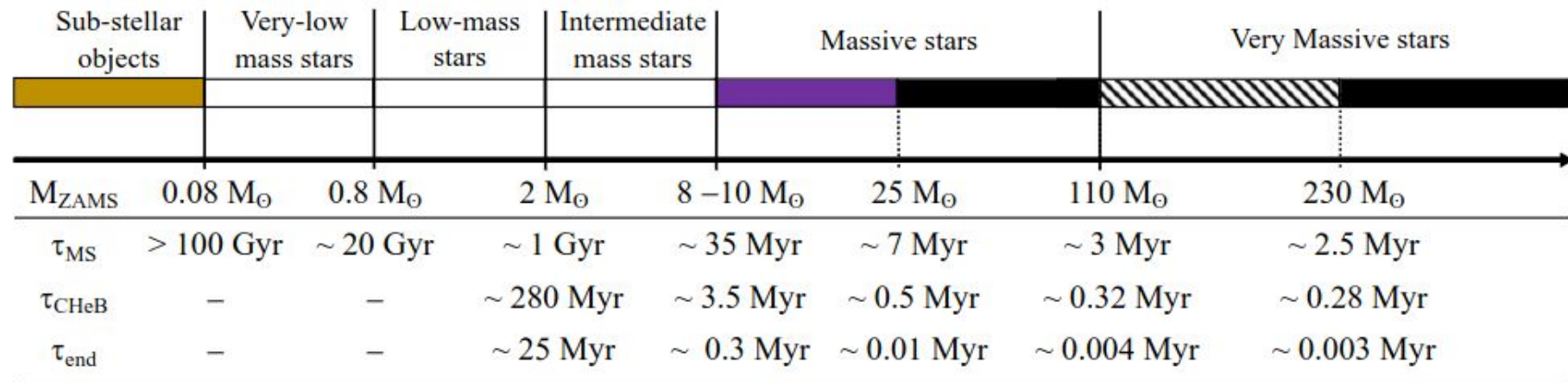
$> 40 M_{\text{SUN}}$

PPISN & PISN

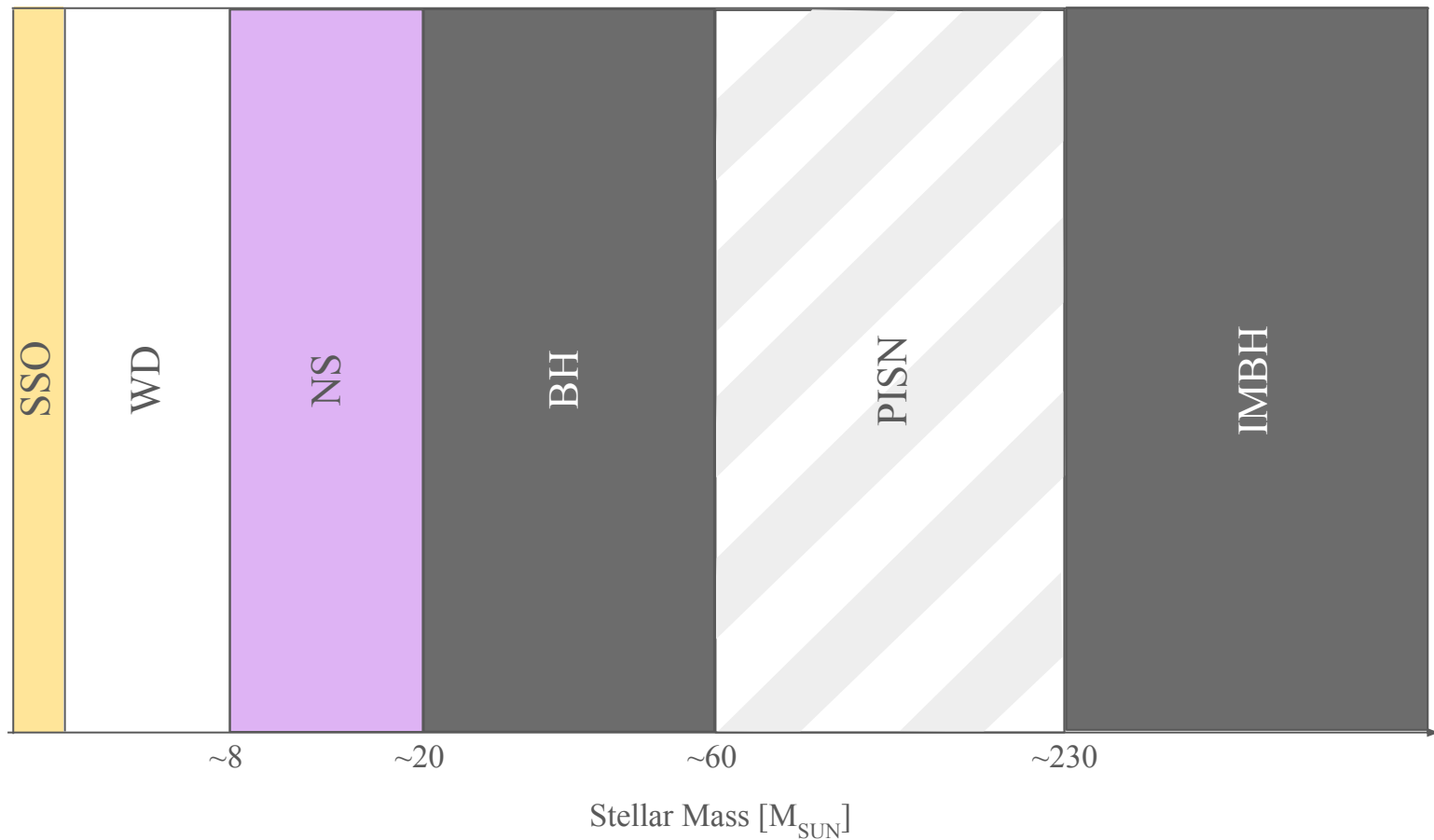
# Stellar evolution models

## Stellar remnant:

 Brown dwarf (BD)  
  White dwarf (WD)  
  Neutron star (NS)  
  Black hole (BH)  
  No Remnant







How many?

The fraction of stars with mass between  $m_1$  and  $m_2$

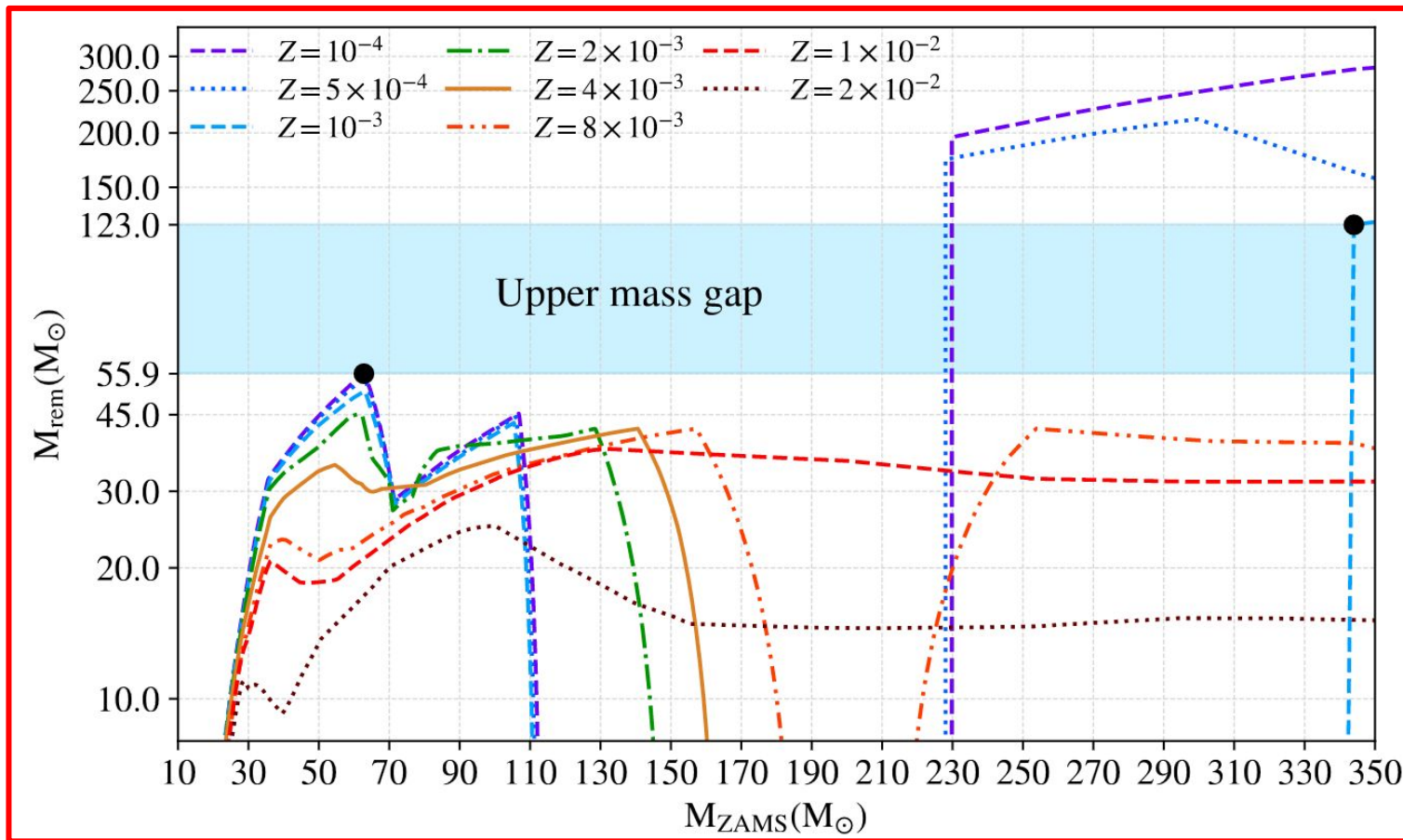
$$p(m_1, m_2) = \frac{\int_{m_1}^{m_2} \phi(m) dm}{\int_{m_{min}}^{m_{max}} \phi(m) dm}$$

Assuming a power-law initial mass function  $\phi(m) \propto m^{-\alpha}$

$$p(m_1, m_2) = \frac{m_1^{1-\alpha} - m_2^{1-\alpha}}{m_{max}^{1-\alpha} - m_{min}^{1-\alpha}}, \text{ and } \alpha = 2.35 \text{ (Salpeter), } m_{min} = 0.08 M_{SUN}, m_{max} = 300 M_{SUN}$$

Type	> Hubble	WD	NS	BH	PISN	IMBH
Mass	$<0.8M_{SUN}$	$0.17\text{-}1.3M_{SUN}$	$1.3\text{-}2(?)M_{SUN}$	$3(?)\text{-}50M_{SUN}$	-	$>100M_{SUN}$
Occurrence rate	95.5%	4%	0.1%	$\sim 0.05\%$	$\sim 0.004\%$	$\sim 0.0006\%$

# What are their masses?



## Why some masses?

# GW190521

The most massive black hole collision observed so far

### Discovery

21 May 2019

### Distance

17 billion light years away

### 3 Detectors

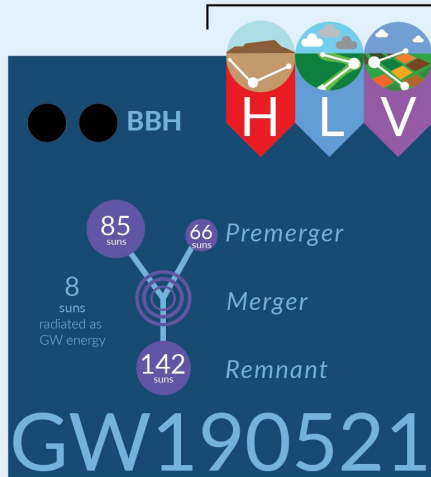
Three detectors made the observation: the two LIGO detectors in the USA and Virgo in Italy.

### Binary Black Hole Merger



### High Masses

This is the heaviest pair of black holes which have ever been observed colliding.



### Origin Story

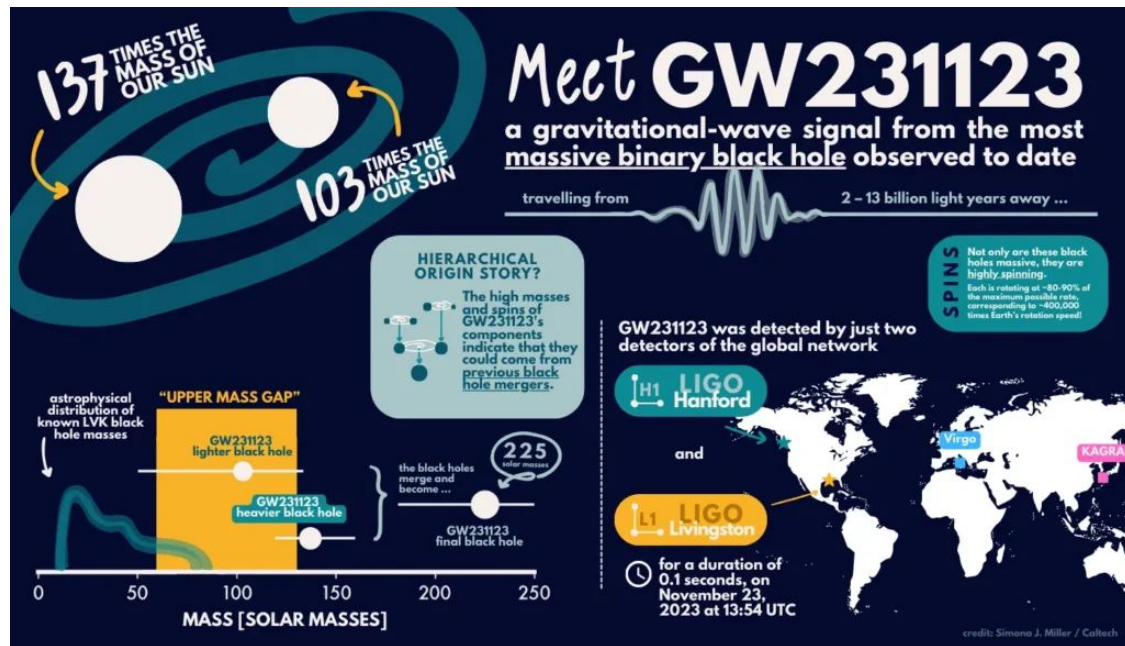
The black holes which collided to make GW190521 are so massive that we're not sure how they were formed. One possibility is that they are both the result of previous black hole collisions.



### Ringdown

The black hole formed in the collision continues to vibrate after the merger, and "rings" like a bell for a while. This lets us test our theories.

Once again Einstein's General Relativity passed this test.

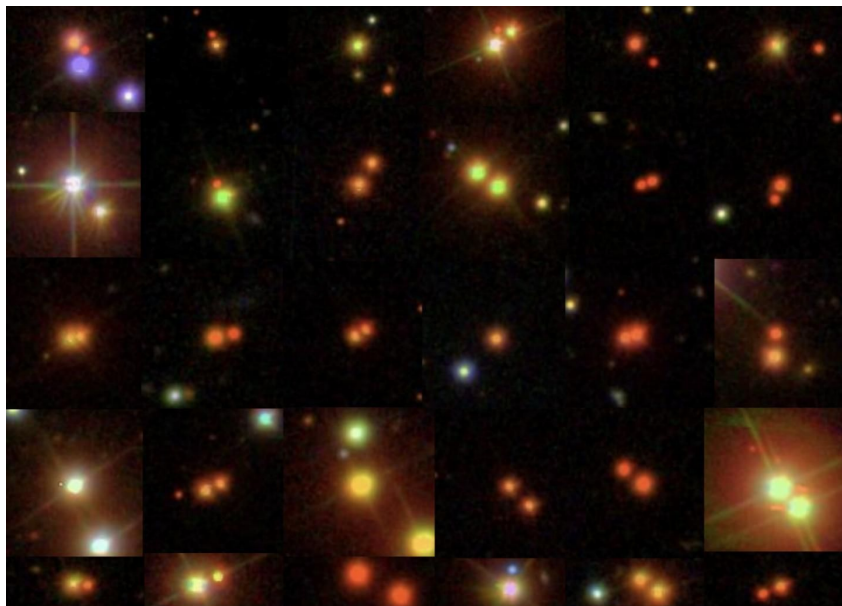


## Binary evolution: the route to the formation of compact binaries

*What are the formation channels of neutron star and black hole binaries observed through their GW emission?*

### Isolated binary evolution

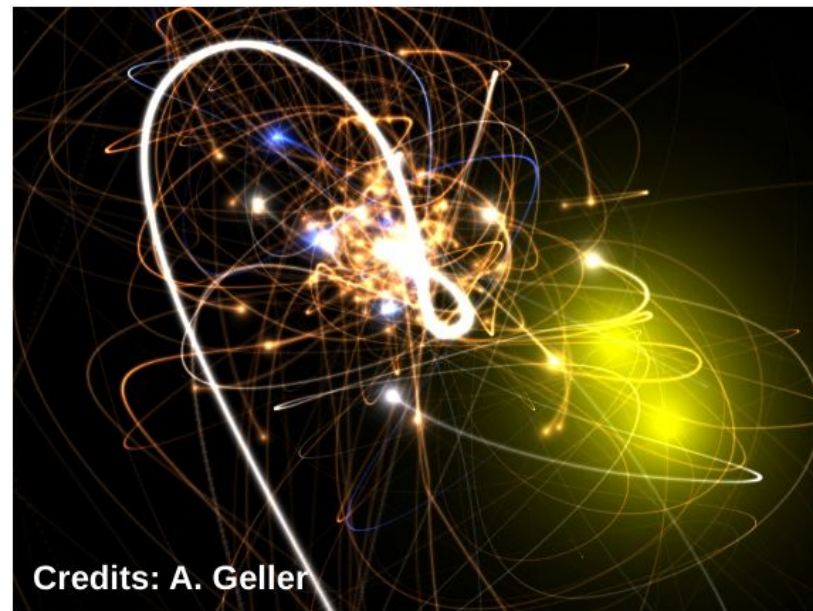
Two stars born together in the same cloud evolve into a merging binary solely via stellar evolution processes\*



\*and GW emission

### Dynamical formation

Two initially unbind BHs (or their progenitors) find each other inside a star cluster and merge via hardening\*





## Isolated binary evolution

How do we model binary stars?

Primary mass

$$\phi(m) \propto m^{-\alpha}$$

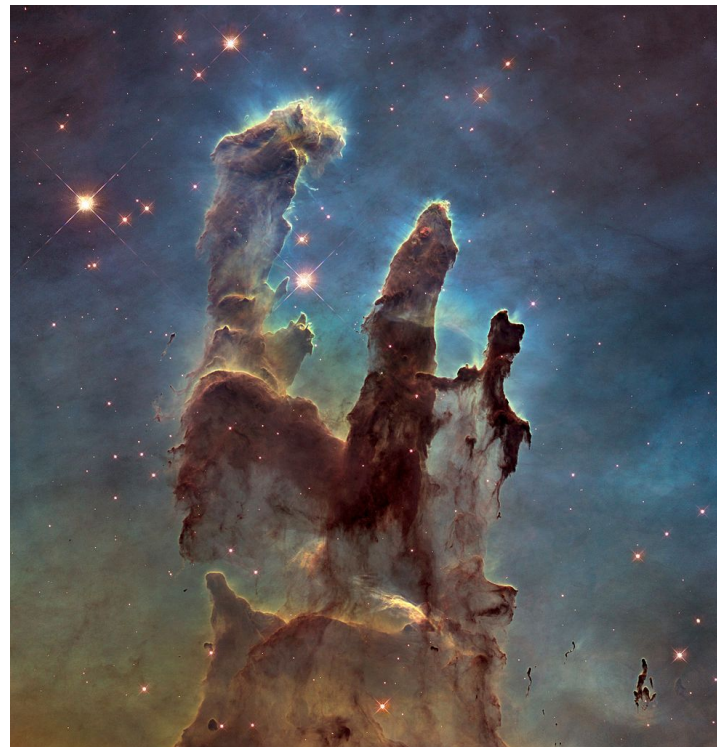
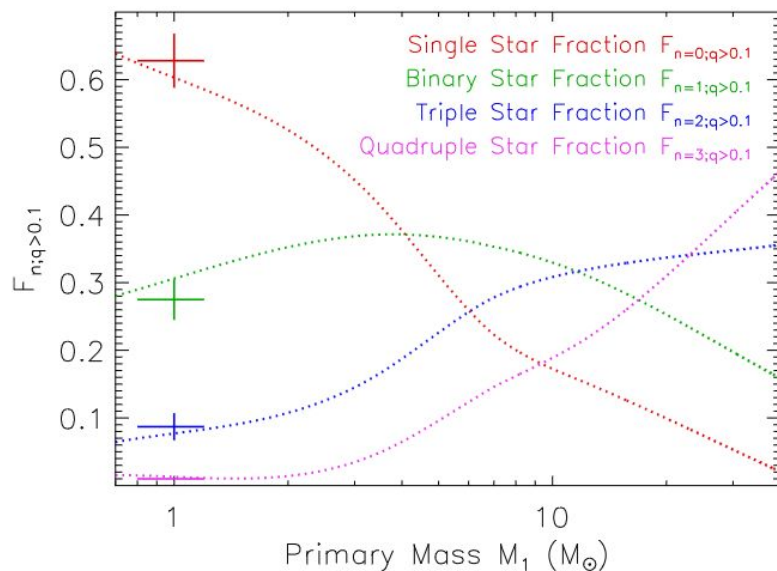
$$\alpha_0 = +0.3 \pm 0.7, \quad 0.01 \leq m/M_{\odot} < 0.08,$$

$$\alpha_1 = +1.3 \pm 0.5, \quad 0.08 \leq m/M_{\odot} < 0.50,$$

$$\alpha_2 = +2.3 \pm 0.3, \quad 0.50 \leq m/M_{\odot} < 1.00,$$

$$\alpha_3 = +2.3 \pm 0.7, \quad 1.00 \leq m/M_{\odot},$$

Multiples



## Isolated binary evolution

How do we model binary stars?

### Primary mass

$$\phi(m) \propto m^{-\alpha}$$

### Semimajor axis?

- a) Logarithmic flat  $\ln(R_1 + R_2) < \ln a < \ln a_{\text{MAX}}$
- b) Guassian/Maxwellian?
- c) Power-law?

### Eccentricity?

- a) Uniform
- b)  $p(e) \sim e^2$  (Jeans19, Ambartsumian37)
- c)  $p(e) \sim e^{-0.42}$

### Secondary mass?

- a) Random mass-ratio ( $q = 0.1-1$ ) if  $m_1 > 5 M_{\text{SUN}}$
- b) Random pairing if  $m_1 < 5 M_{\text{SUN}}$
- c)  $p(q) \sim q^{0.1}$  (Sana+12)

### Orbital period?

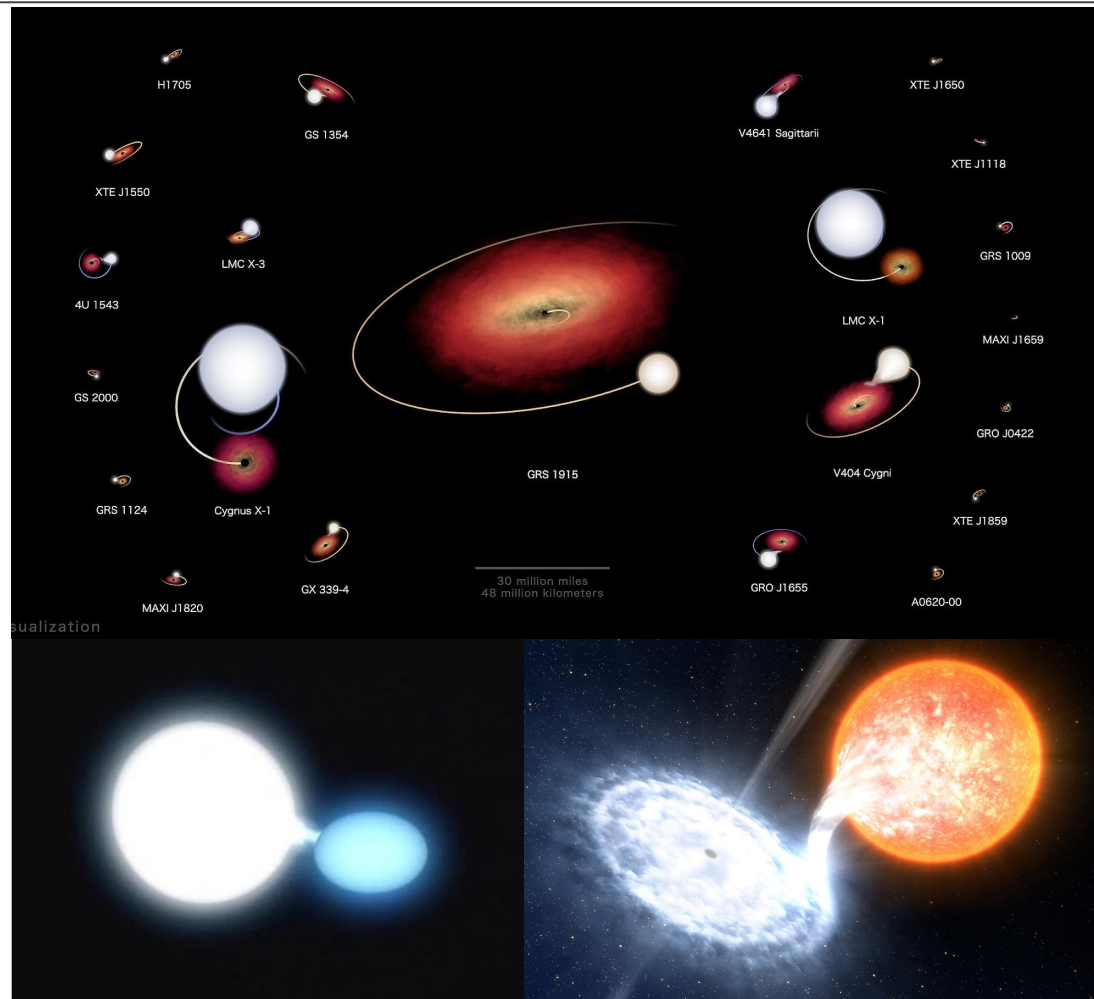
- a)  $p(P) \sim P^{-0.55}$  [ $P = \log(T_{\text{orb}}/\text{day})$ ]

# Isolated binary evolution

## 1. Wind Mass Transfer

## 2. Roche Lobe Overflow (RLO)

## 3. Common Envelope (CE)



## Isolated binary evolution

### RLO and CE

The potential generated by a binary can be represented through equipotential surfaces. Points of intersection of equipotential surfaces mark points of equilibrium (stable/unstable)

L1 is the minimum contact equipotential surface, where the gravitational pull of  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  balance each other.

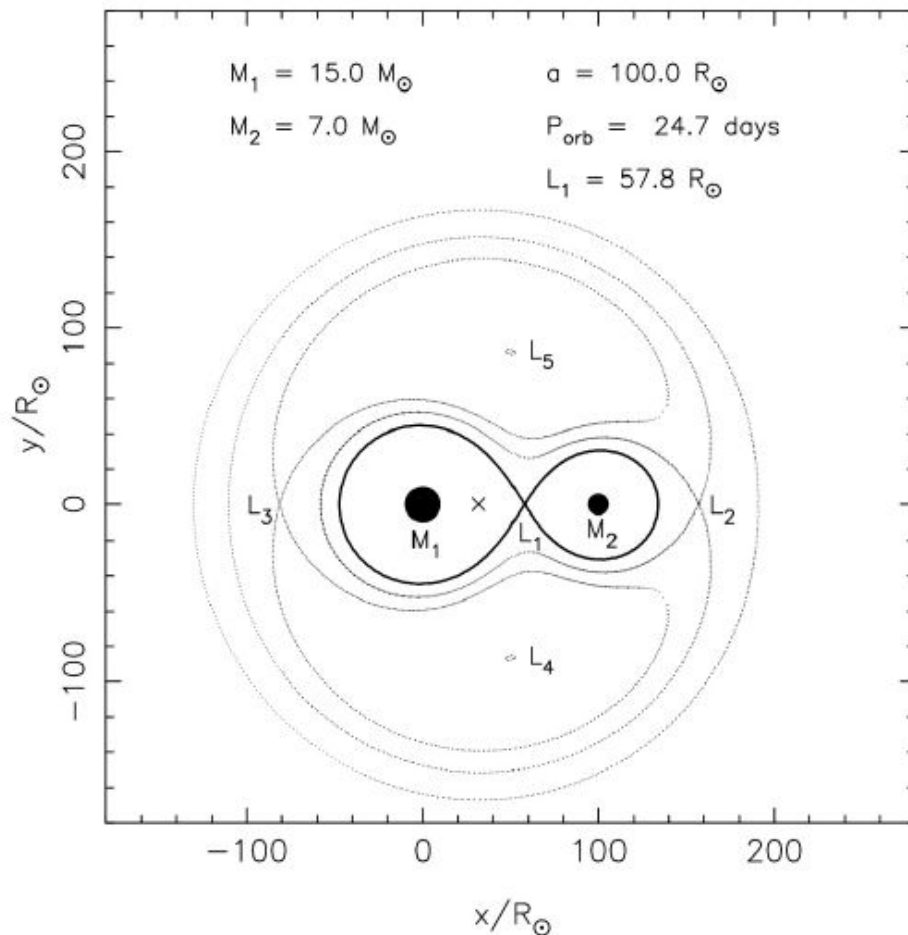
The two region embodying the stars are called Roche lobes.

If a star fills its Roche lobe, matter flows without energy change through L1, causing mass transfer.

This generally happens when

$$\frac{r_1}{a} = \frac{0.49 q^{2/3}}{0.6 q^{2/3} + \ln(1 + q^{1/3})}$$

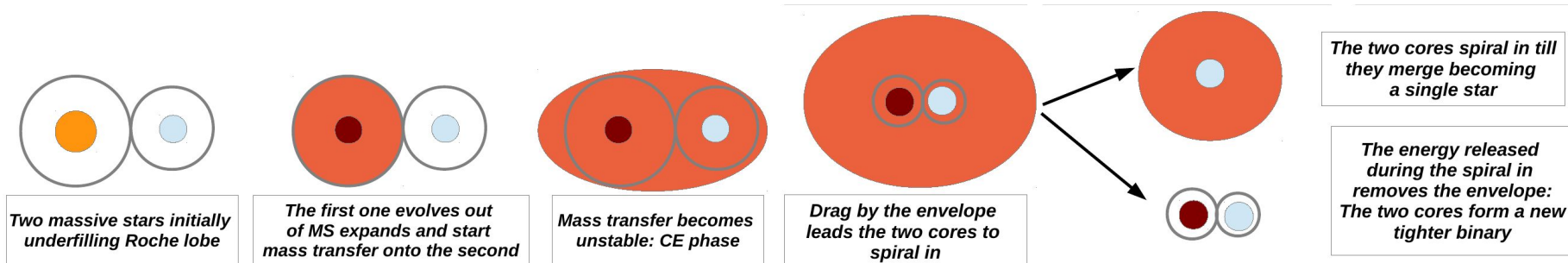
Eggleton 1983



## Isolated binary evolution

### RLO and CE

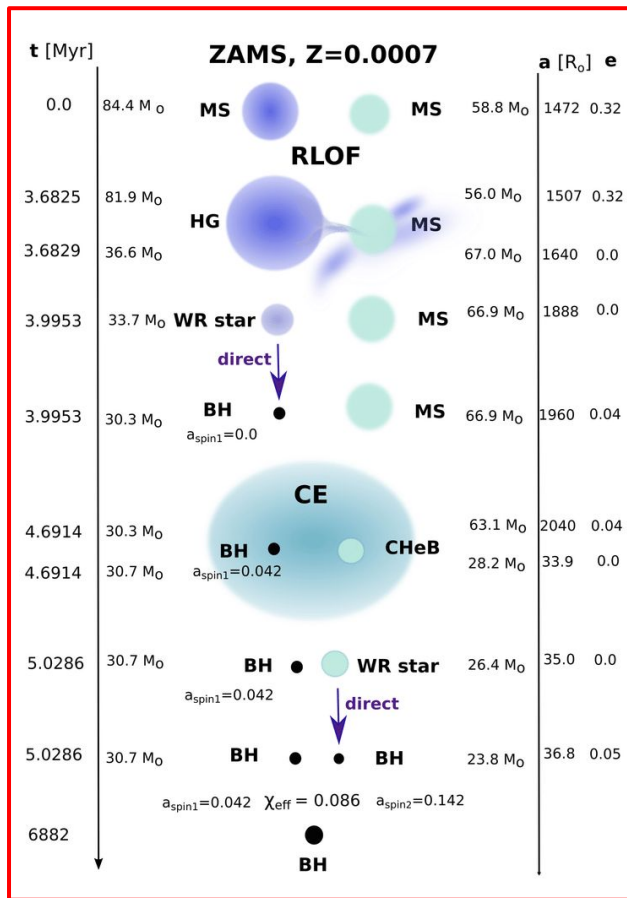
- Donor loses mass and its structure adjusts trying to reach a new equilibrium
- If the timescale over which RL change is  $>$  than that for hydrostatic & thermal equilibrium: stable mass transfer (SMT)
- Otherwise: common envelope (CE)



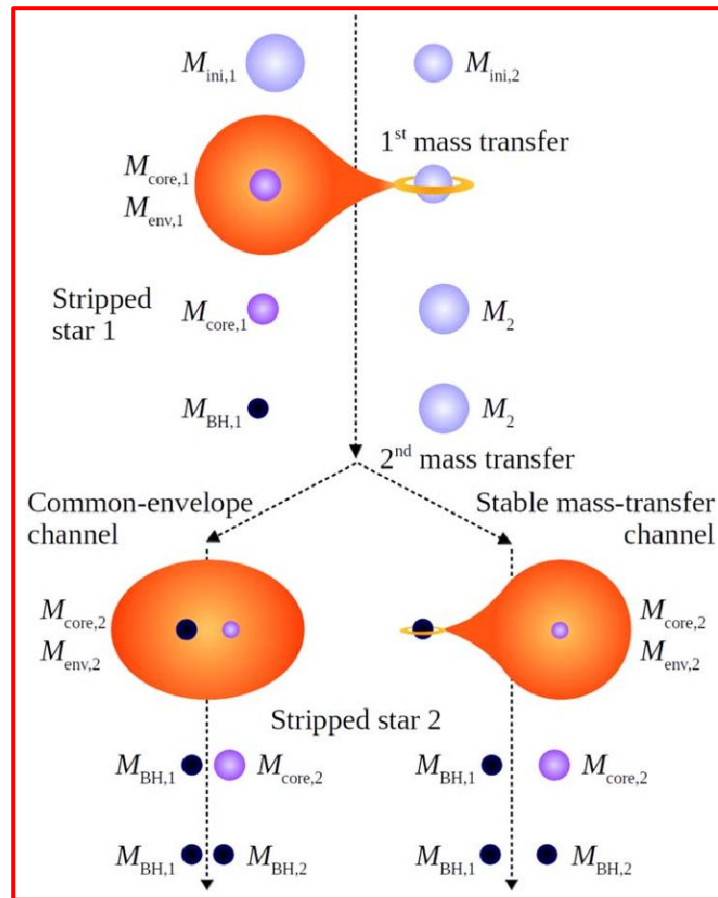


# Isolated binary evolution

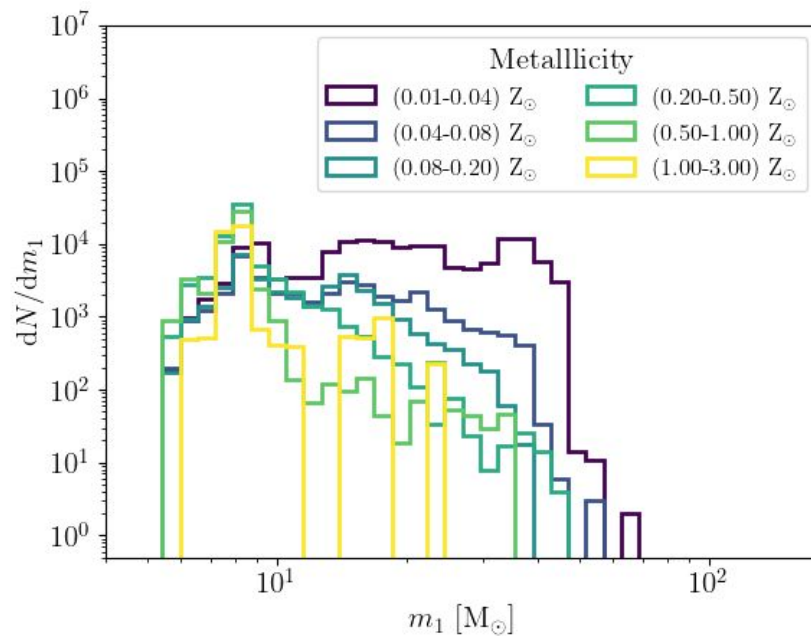
Belczynski+(2020)



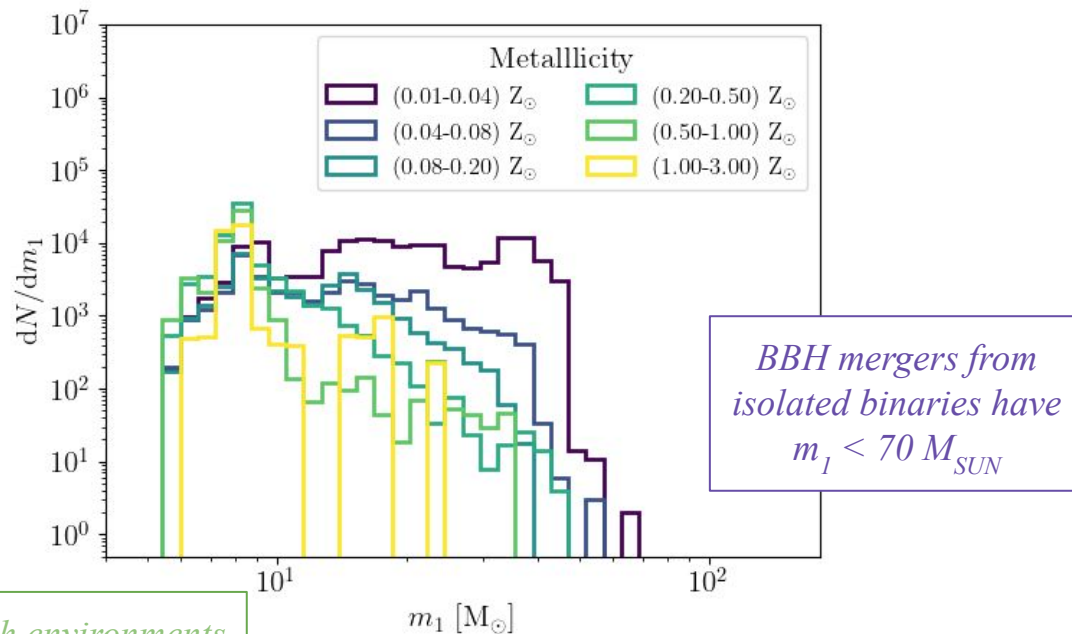
Schneider+(2023)



## Isolated binary evolution

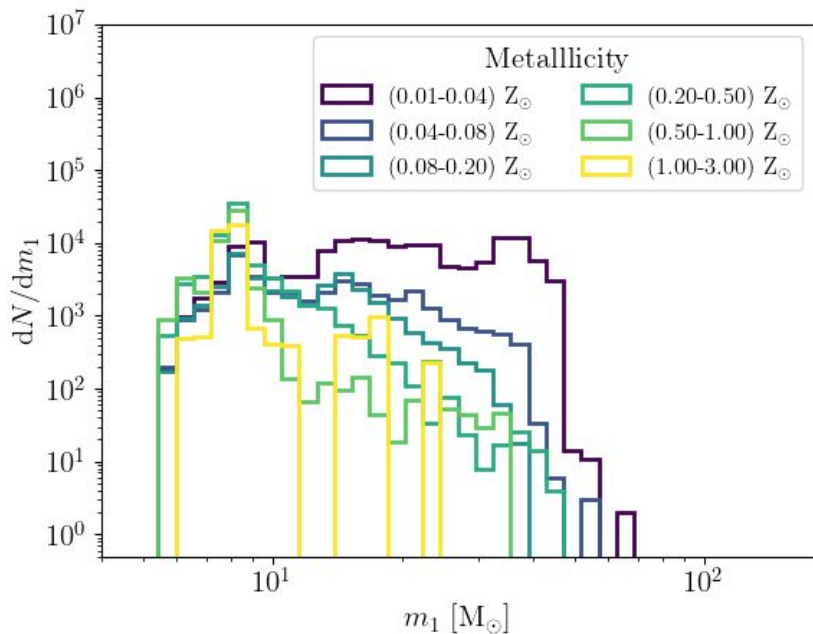


## Isolated binary evolution



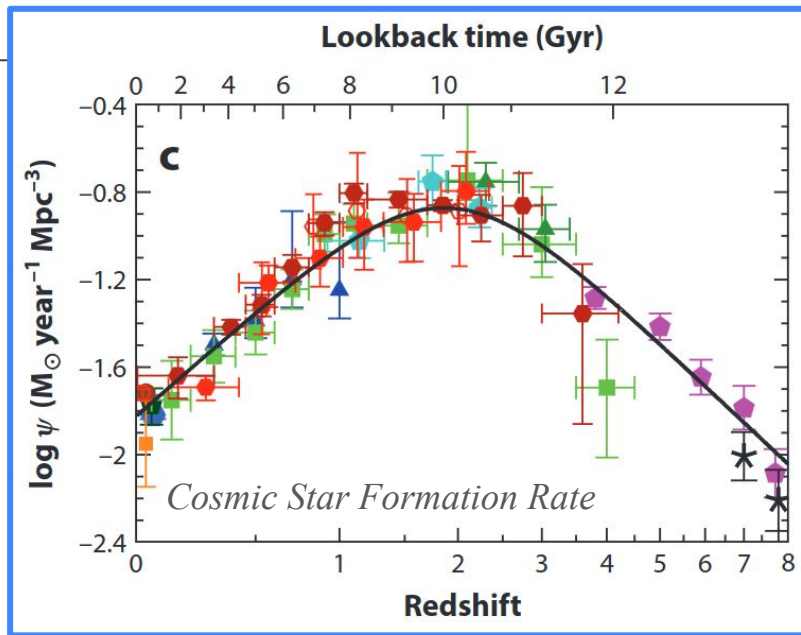
*Metal rich environments  
host lighter BHs*

## Isolated binary evolution



*This shows us just what's the BBH population at different metallicity, what about the cosmic evolution?*

Madau&Fragos(2017)



$$\frac{dP}{d \log_{10}(Z)}(z) = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\log_{10}(Z) - \mu(z))^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

$$\mu = \log_{10}(\bar{Z}(z)) - \frac{\ln(10)}{2} \sigma^2$$

$$\bar{Z}(z) = Z_{\odot} \cdot 10^{0.153 - 0.074 \cdot z^{1.34}}$$

## Isolated binary evolution

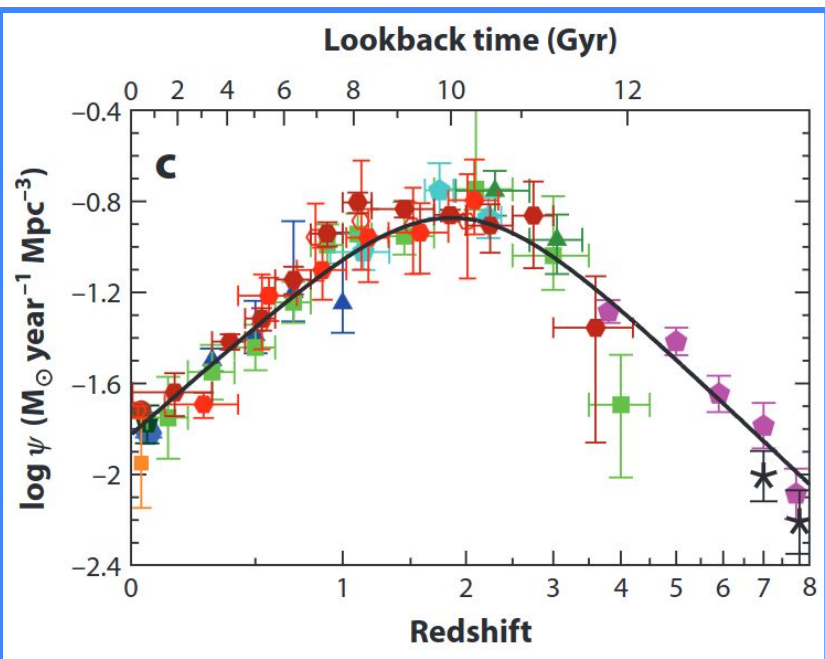
Merger rate

$$\mathcal{R}(z) = \int_{z_{\max}}^z \left[ \int_{Z_{\min}}^{Z_{\max}} \text{SFRD}(z', Z) \mathcal{F}(z', z, Z) dZ \right] \frac{dt(z')}{dz'} dz'$$

$$\frac{dt(z')}{dz'} = [H_0 (1 + z')]^{-1} [(1 + z')^3 \Omega_M + \Omega_\Lambda]^{-1/2}$$

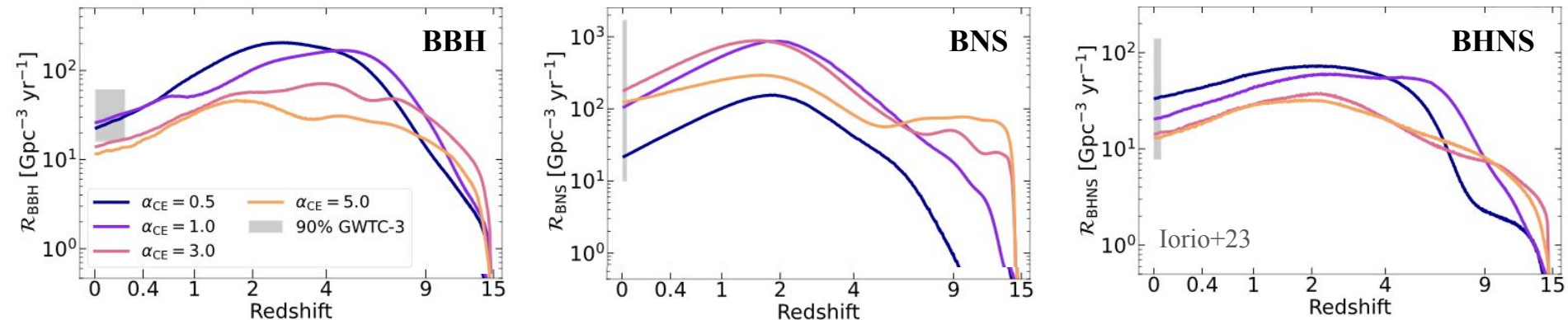
$$\mathcal{F}(z', z, Z) = \frac{1}{M_{\text{pop}}(Z)} \frac{d\mathcal{N}(z', z, Z)}{dt(z)}$$

This term depends on the stellar evolution model, binary distribution, cosmic metallicity distribution ...





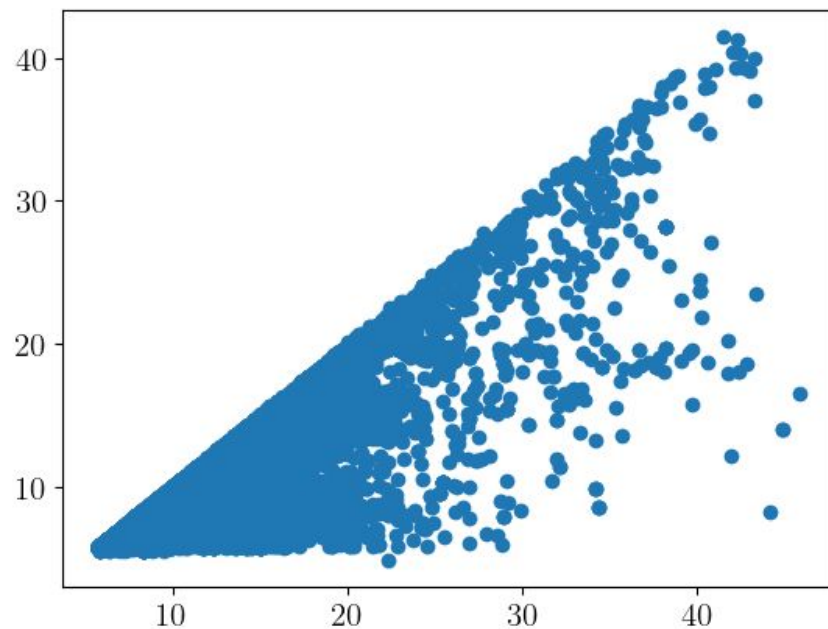
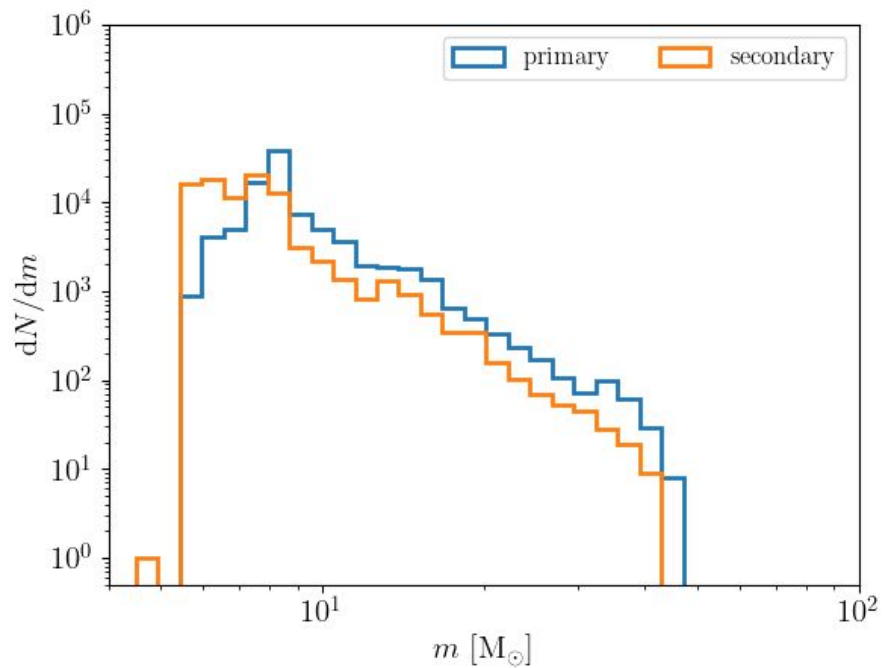
## Isolated binary evolution



Integrating  $R(z)$  over the cosmological volume returns the number of mergers per year [ $O(10^5/\text{yr})$  for typical models]

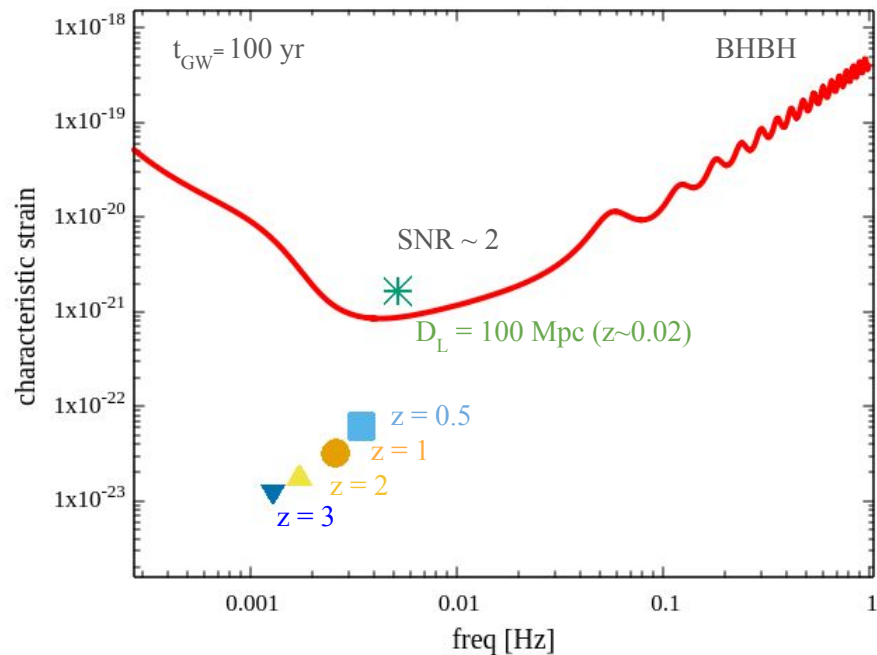
## Isolated binary evolution

Integrating  $R(z)$  over the cosmological volume returns the number of mergers per year [ $O(10^5/\text{yr})$  for typical models]

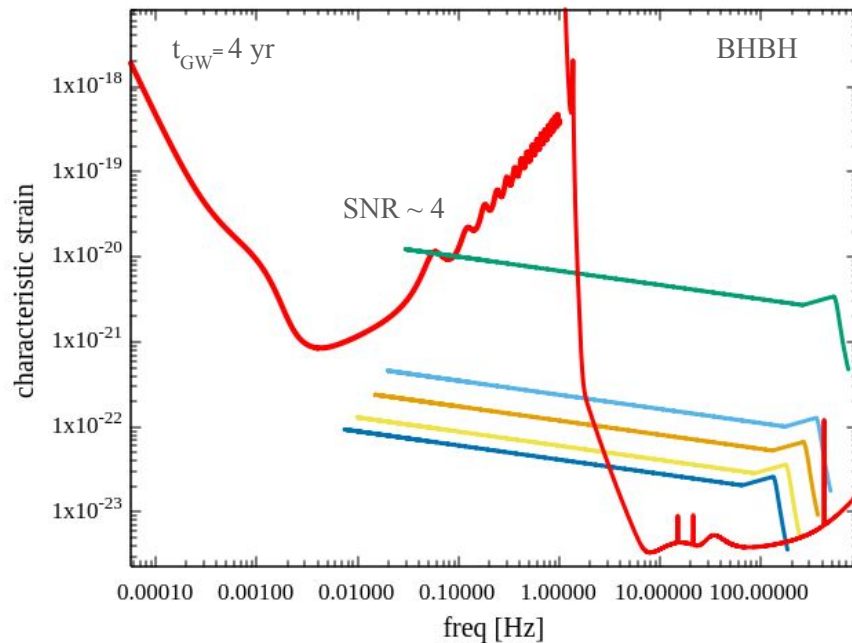


## Isolated binary evolution

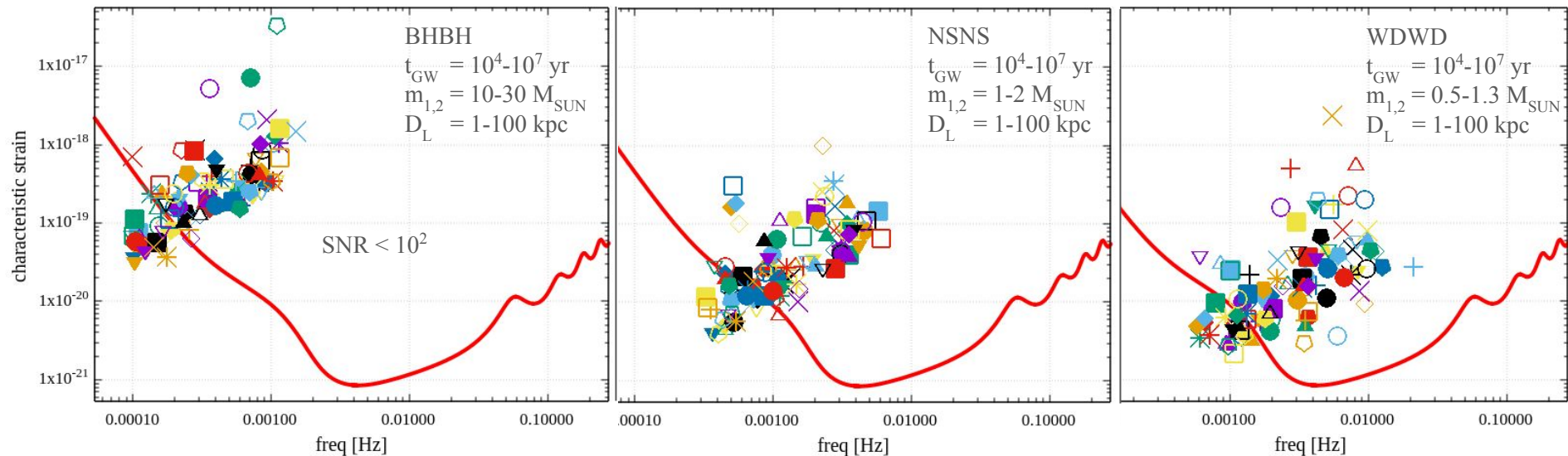
$$h_c \propto D_L^{-1}$$



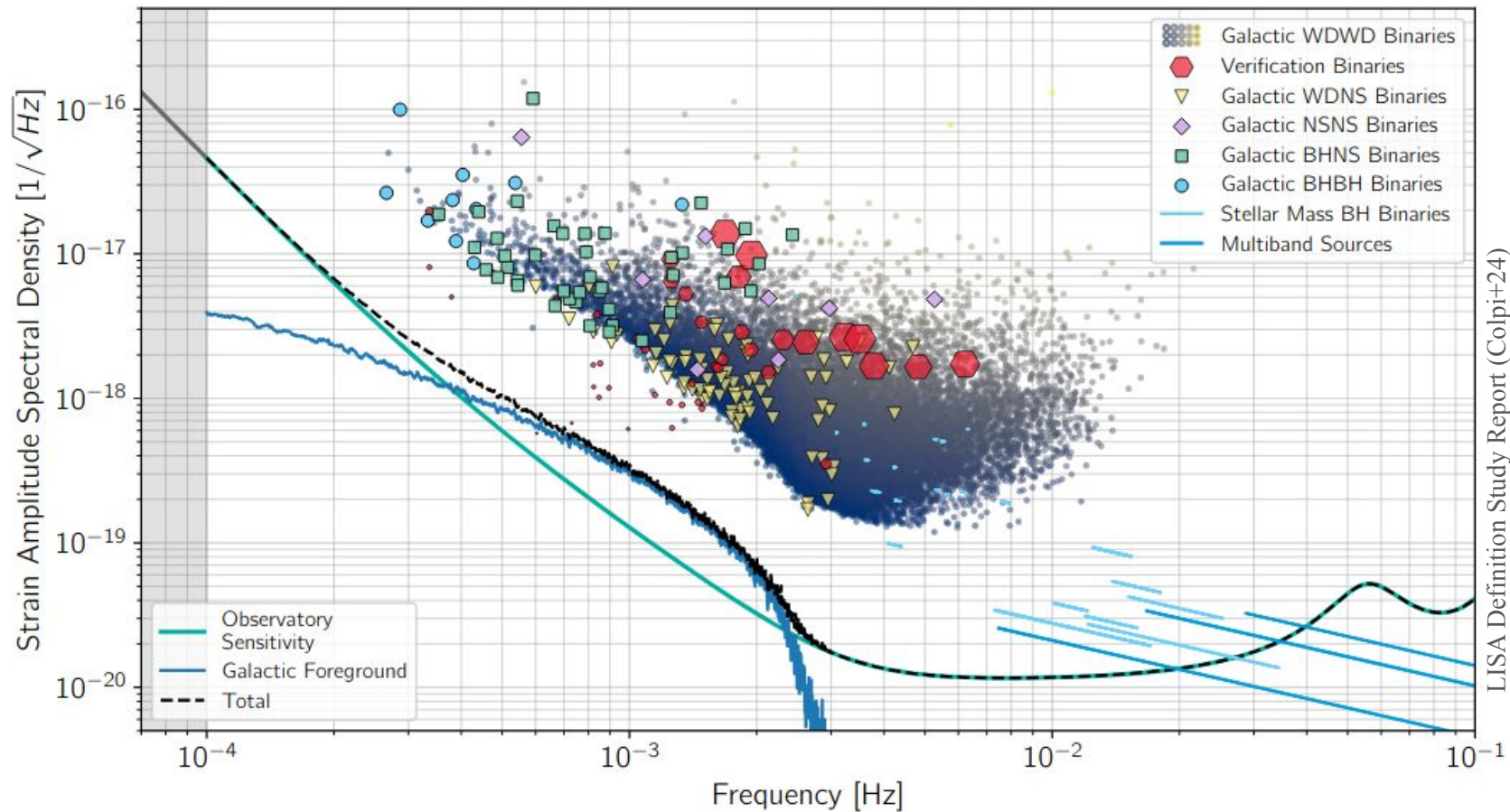
$$h_c \propto f^{-1/6} D_L^{-1}$$



# Isolated binary evolution

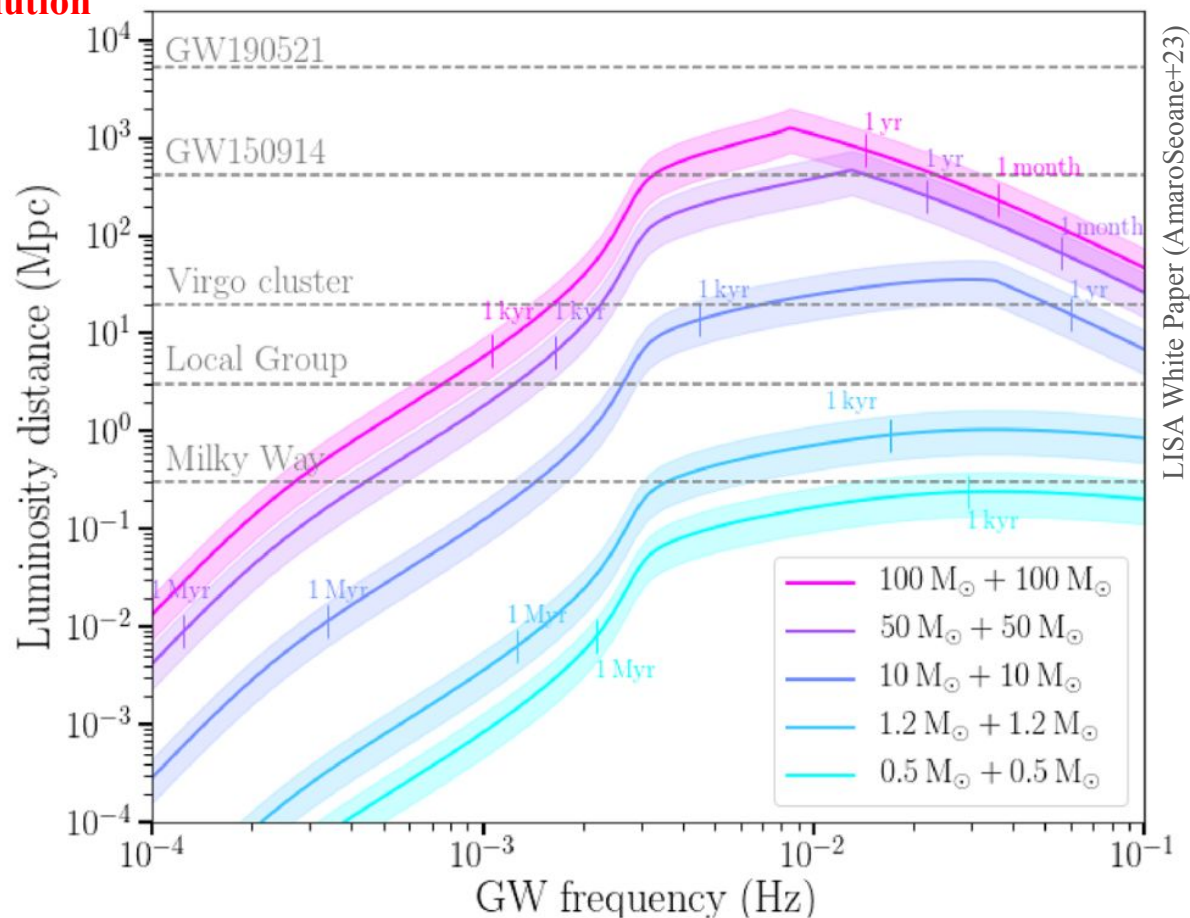


## Isolated binary evolution

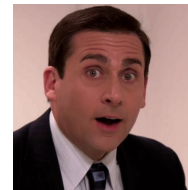
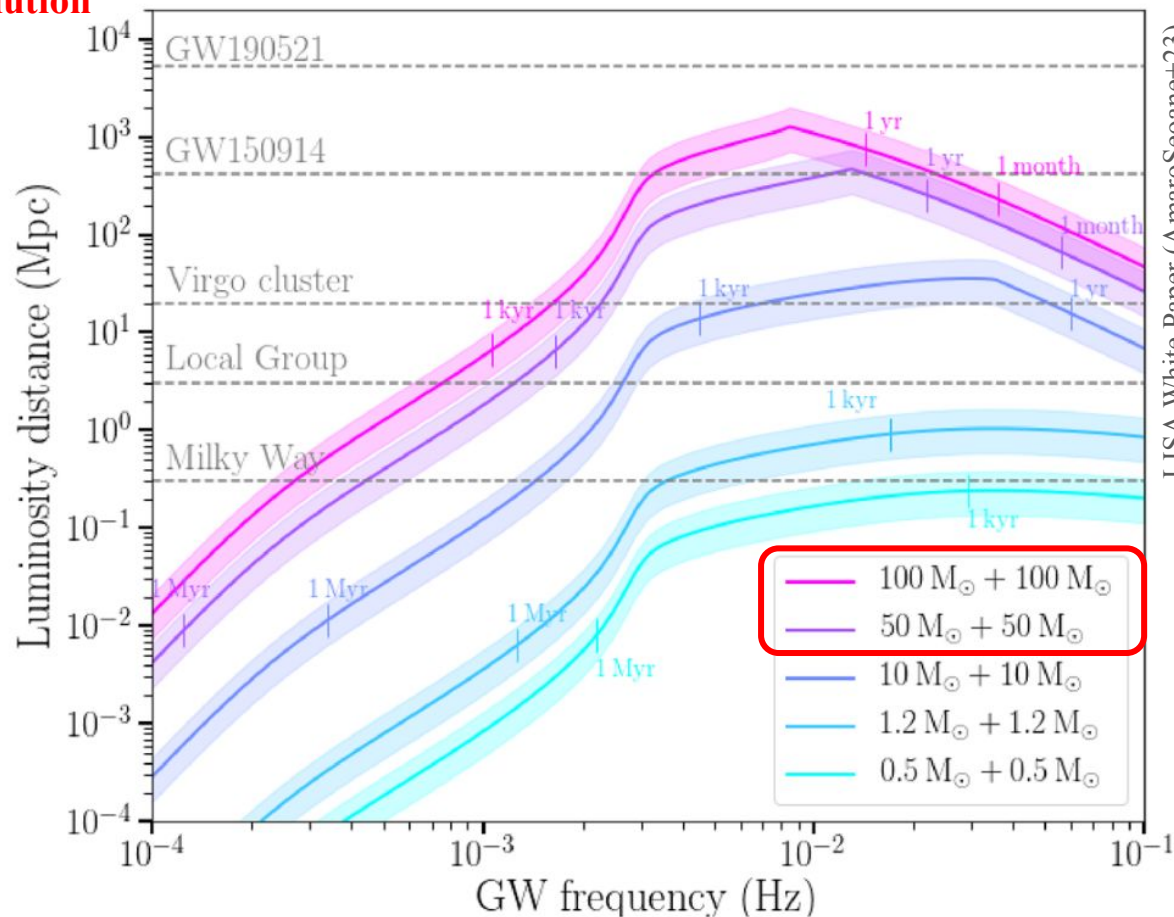




## Isolated binary evolution



## Isolated binary evolution

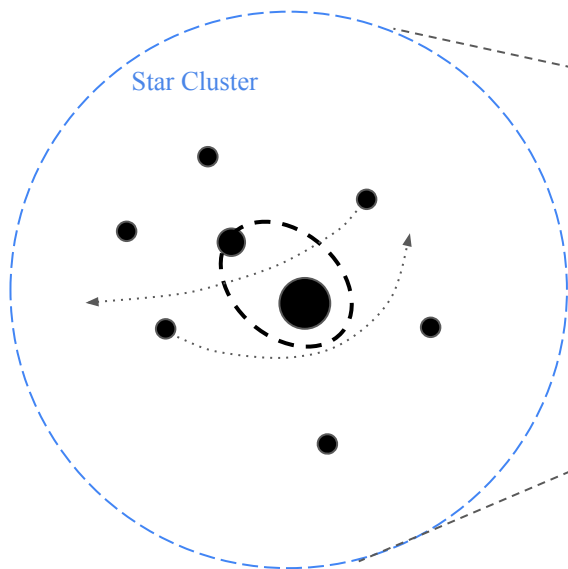


## Dynamical formation

### BBHs

- Three-body interactions and binary–single/binary–binary

(Downing+09, Banerjee+10, Ziosi et al 2014, Rodriguez+16,17,19, Askar+17, Banerjee17,19,20, Fragione+18, Antonini+18,19, Di Carlo+19, Arca Sedda et al 2024, Paiella+25, ...)

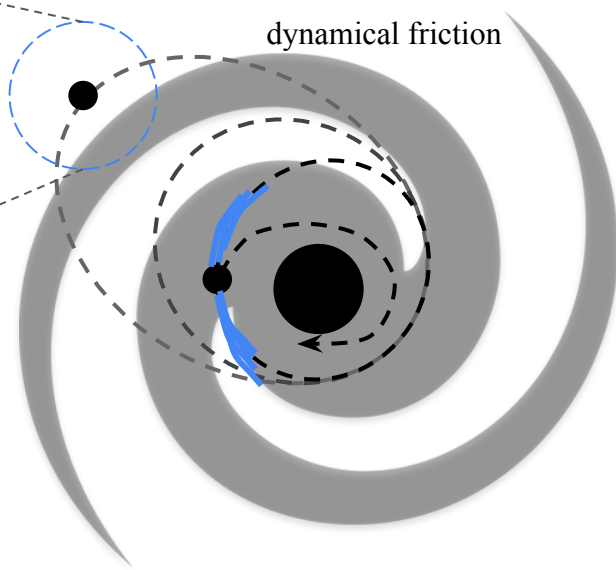


### Light IMRIs: IMBH + compact object (Amaro-Seoane+07)

- IMBH mass ?
- compact object: BHs (2.7%), WDs (16%), NSs (0.2%) (Arca Sedda+19, see also Konstantinidis+13, MacLeod+16)

### Heavy IMRIs: IMBH + SMBH (Amaro-Seoane+22)

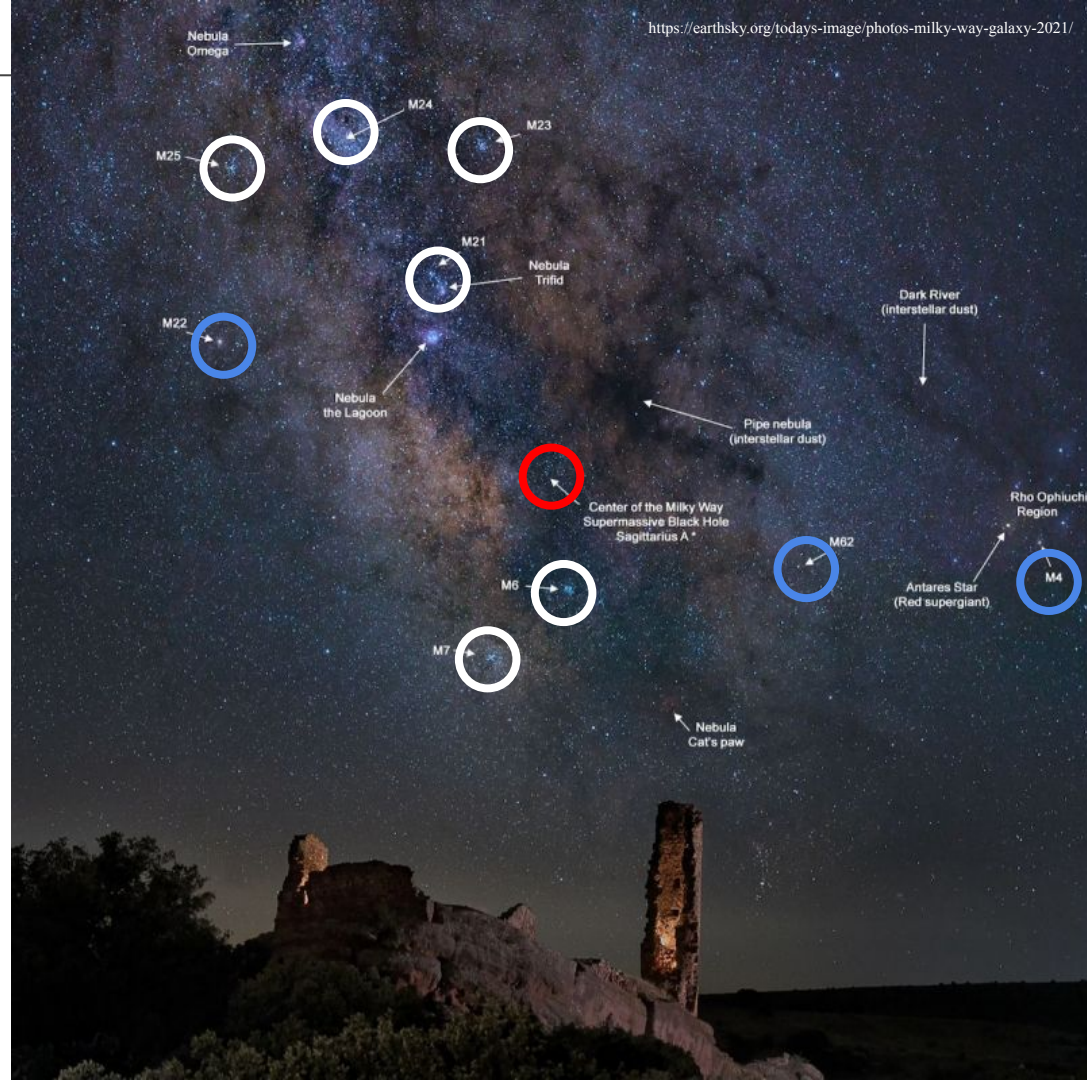
- Minor galaxy mergers (?)
- Nuclear clusters (Ebisuzaki+01, Portegies-Zwart+06, Arca Sedda&Gualandris18, Arca Sedda&Capuzzo-Dolcetta19)



## Dynamical formation

Galaxy's zoology - many star cluster flavours:

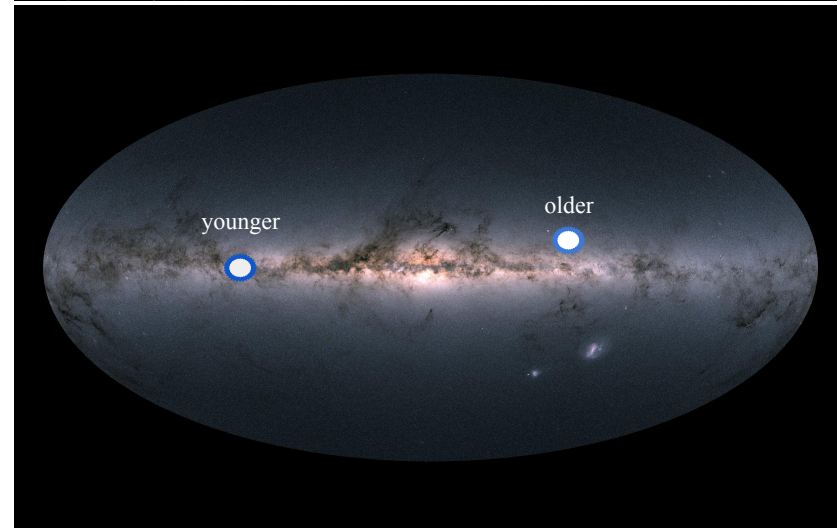
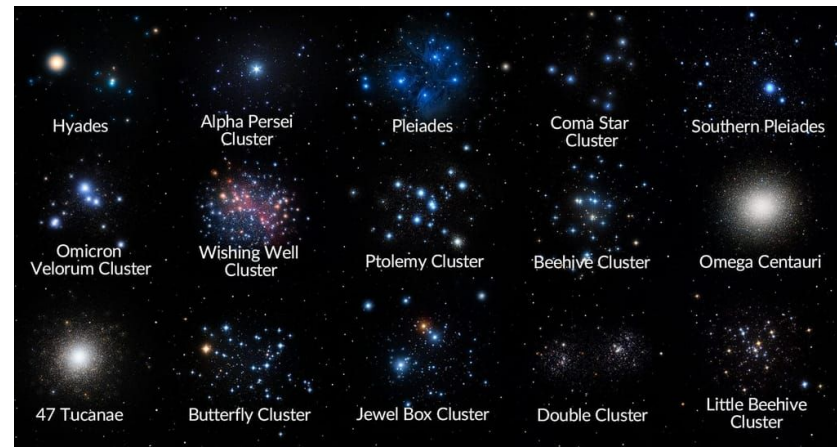
- Open Clusters
- Young Massive Clusters
- Globular Clusters
- Nuclear Clusters





## Open Clusters (OCs):

- $N > 1,100$  known OCs in MW (likely  $> 10^{4-5}$ )
- Cluster properties
  - $M_{\text{OC}} \sim 10^2 - 10^4 M_{\text{SUN}}$
  - $R_{\text{HM,OC}} \sim 2 \text{ pc}$
  - $\sigma_{\text{OC}} \sim 0.1 - 5 \text{ km/s}$
- Age/Lifetime: 0.3-1 Gyr  
Cluster teenage mortality
- Form in disc of spiral and irregular galaxies
- Binarity  $\sim 40-100\%$   
(larger the star mass larger the binarity)



## Globular Clusters (GCs):

- $N \sim 180$  known GCs in MW (likely  $> 200$ )
- $M_{\text{GCS}} \sim 0.001\text{-}0.01 M_{*}$ ;  $M_{\text{GCS}} \sim 6 \times 10^{-5} M_{\text{HALO}}$
- In-situ (70%) / accreted clusters (30%)
- Multiple populations (light element abundance variation)

### Cluster properties

$$M_{\text{GC}} \sim 10^4\text{-}10^6 M_{\text{SUN}}$$

$$R_{\text{HM,GC}} \sim 1\text{-}5 \text{ pc}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{GC}} \sim 4\text{-}6 \text{ km/s}$$

- Age/Lifetime: 10 Gyr
- Binarity  $< 20\text{-}40\%$  ( $q > 0.5$ ) (.. but they're old!)
- Rotation, spherical/elliptic, IMBHs ...

Omega Cen

<https://www.eso.org/public/images/eso0844a/>



47 Tucanae

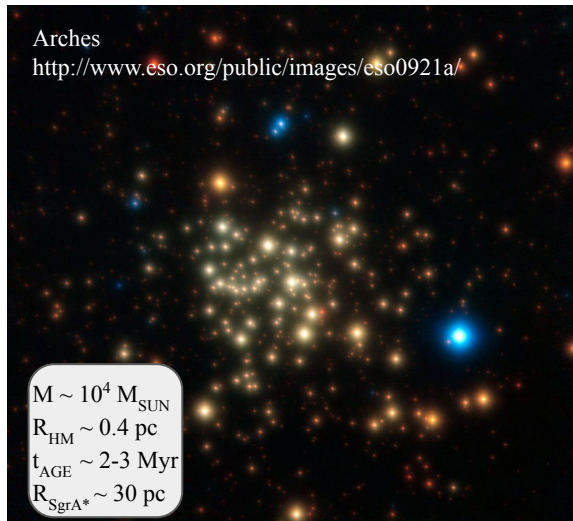
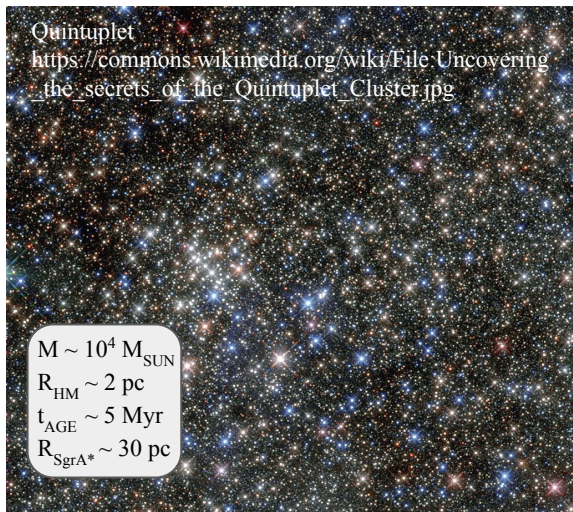
<https://apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap150519.html>

Credit: NASA, BSA



## Young Massive Clusters (YCs):

- $N \sim 300$  in MW, LMC, SMC
  - GC progenitors?
  - gas
  - Galactic Centre
  - Cluster properties
- $M_{YC} \sim 10^2 - 10^5 M_{SUN}$   
 $R_{HM,YC} \sim 1-4 \text{ pc}$   
 $\sigma_{YC} \sim 0.3-5 \text{ km/s}$
- Age/Lifetime:  $\sim 0.1-2 \text{ Gyr}$
  - Binarity  $\sim 30 - 50\%$



## Nuclear star clusters (NC):

- $N \sim 1$  per galaxy
- complex SFH
- Galaxy centre: w/o SMBH (?)
- Scaling relation with host galaxy
- Formation scenarios: in-situ or dry merger

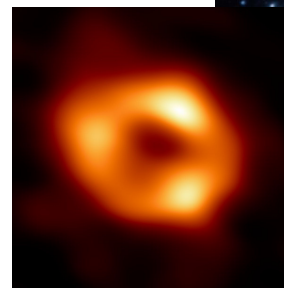
Cluster properties

$$M_{\text{NC}} \sim 10^5 - 10^8 M_{\text{SUN}}$$

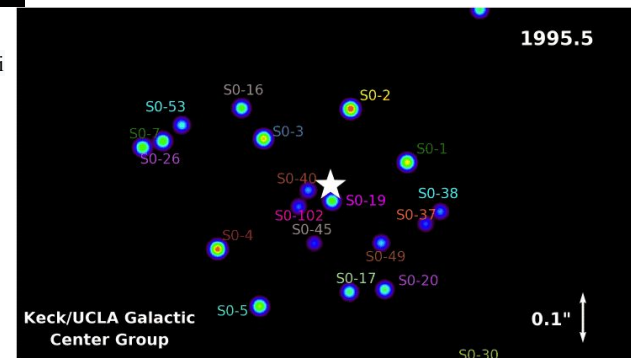
$$R_{\text{HM,NC}} \sim 1-4 \text{ pc}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{NC}} \sim 15-10^3 \text{ km/s}$$

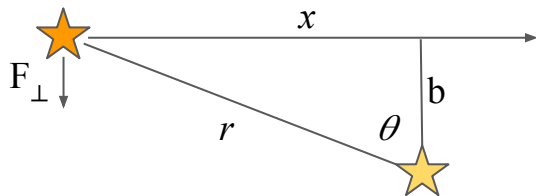
- Age/Lifetime:  $\sim 1-10$  Gyr
- Binarity  $\sim 1-5\%$



EHT collaboration  
<https://www.eso.org/public/images/eso2208-eh-t-mwa/>



## Star cluster evolution - #1



A star passes within a distance  $b$  from another star, which exerts a force

$$F_{\perp} = \frac{Gm^2}{(b^2 + x^2)} \cos\theta = \frac{Gm^2 b}{(b^2 + x^2)^{3/2}} = \frac{Gm^2}{b^2} [1 + (vt/b)^2]^{-3/2}$$

The “encounter” changes the star velocity vector by  $\delta\mathbf{v}$ :

$$|\delta\mathbf{v}| = \delta v \sim \delta v_{\perp} = 1/m \int F_{\perp}(t) dt = \frac{Gm}{b^2} \int [1 + (vt/b)^2]^{-3/2} dt = 2Gm/bv$$

a 90-degrees deflection happens if  $\delta v/v \sim 1 \rightarrow b_{90} = 2Gm/v^2$

For a cluster with  $N$  stars and size  $R$ , the surface density is roughly given by  $N/\pi R^2$ , thus our star will undergo a number of encounters with impact parameter between  $b$  and  $b+db$

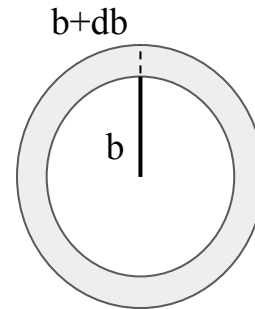
$$\delta n \sim N/\pi R^2 2\pi b db$$

Interactions are random, thus  $|\delta\mathbf{v}| \sim 0$ , but the mean-square velocity variation

$$\langle \delta v^2 \rangle = \sum \delta v^2 \sim \delta v^2 \delta n = (2Gm/bv)^2 (2N/R^2) b db$$

thus the average mean-square velocity variation per crossing will be

$$\Delta v^2 = \int \sum \delta v^2 \sim 8N (2Gm/bv)^2 \ln \Lambda \quad \text{where } \Lambda = b_{\max}/b_{\min} \sim R/b_{90} \text{ is the so-called Coulomb logarithm}$$



## Star cluster evolution - #2

The “encounters” cause a diffusion of the star velocity, differently from the steady velocity variation impinged by the overall cluster mass distribution  
 The typical velocity of a star moving in a cluster with N stars and size R is roughly

$$v^2 \sim GNm/R$$

thus the number of crossing needed for the star to vary its velocity by a factor  $\Delta v^2 / v^2$  will be

$$n_{\text{relax}} \sim v^2 / \Delta v^2 = N / (8 \ln \Lambda)$$

The crossing time, i.e. the time needed for the star to cross the cluster, is roughly  $t_{\text{cross}} = R/v$ , thus the timescale over which encounters will change the initial velocity of our target star is the **relaxation time**

$$t_{\text{relax}} = t_{\text{cross}} n_{\text{relax}} \sim 0.1 N / (\ln N) t_{\text{cross}} \sim 0.1 N / (\ln N) R^{3/2} (GNm)^{-1/2},$$

$$\text{note that } \Lambda = b_{\text{max}} / b_{\text{min}} \sim R / b_{90} = R / (2Gm/v^2) = N$$

*Clusters with  $t_{\text{relax}} < t_{\text{age}}$  are “collisional”*

cluster type	N	R (pc)	$t_{\text{cross}}$ (Myr)	$t_{\text{relax}}/t_{\text{cross}}$	$t_{\text{age}}$ (Gyr)
open clusters	$10^2$	2	4.2	2	0.01-1
young clusters	$10^4$	2	0.4	$10^2$	0.1-1
globular clusters	$10^5$	2	0.1	$8 \times 10^2$	10
nuclear clusters	$10^7$	2	0.01	$6 \times 10^4$	10

## Star cluster evolution - #3

The cluster can be divided into

halo - low density, long relaxation time

core - high density, short relaxation time

*Stars diffuse from the core outward:*

some stars gain energy  $\rightarrow$  mass loss (evaporation)

some stars lose energy  $\rightarrow$  cluster contracts

We can treat the core as a gaseous medium with negative heat capacity

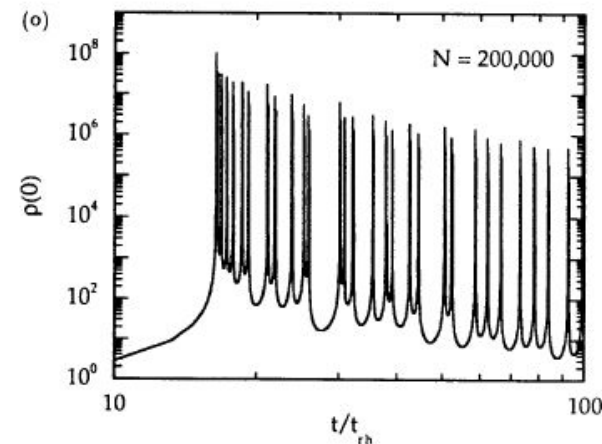
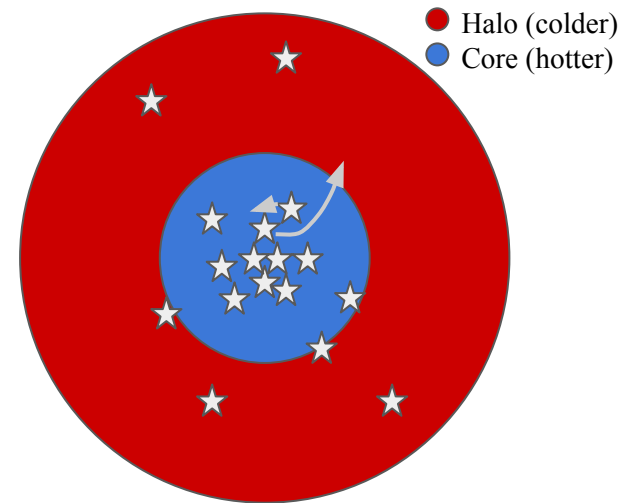
**The situation proceeds “indefinitely” up to the core-collapse = zero radius, infinite density (see also gravothermal catastrophe)**

$$t_{\text{CC}} \sim 15 t_{\text{relax}}(r=0) \text{ (e.g. Cohn 1980)}$$

Note: for a GC  $t_{\text{relax}} \sim 1 \text{ Gyr} \rightarrow t_{\text{CC}} > \text{Hubble time} (?)$

What happens afterwards?

For  $N > 8,000$  stars the core develops *gravothermal oscillations*



## Star cluster evolution - #4

All the things we discussed so far rely upon an idealised single mass star cluster, but real clusters are characterised by a broad mass spectrum... so?

Let's consider a still simplified case

- a) two populations of stars with masses either  $m_2 \gg m_1$
- b)  $\sum m_2 \ll \sum m_1$

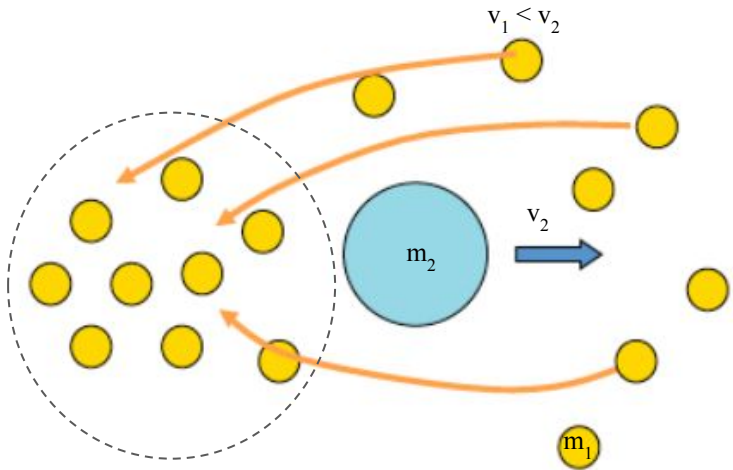
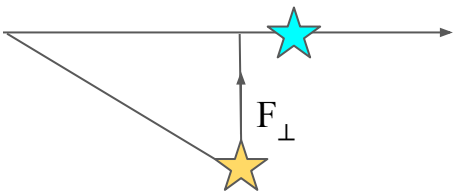
Thus, the mean kinetic energy of the population is roughly  $3m_1\sigma^2$

Since  $m_2 \gg m_1$ , diffusion is dominated by one main term, called **dynamical friction** (Chandrasekhar 1943):

$$dv/dt = -16\pi G^2 m_2 m_1 \ln \Lambda \frac{v_2}{v_2^3} \int_0^{v_2} dv_1 v_1^2 f(v_1)$$

The heavy star transfers energy to the lighter stars that move slower, thus:

*lighter stars are pushed on wider orbits, whilst heavier stars sink toward the cluster centre (mass-segregation)*





## Star cluster evolution - #5

If the cluster is represented by an isothermal sphere, a massive star would drift into the cluster centre at a rate

$$r \, dr/dt \sim -0.302 \, Gm/\sigma \ln \Lambda \text{ (Binney and Tremaine 2008)}$$

which can be integrated over time from 0 to  $t_{DF}$  to derive the mass-segregation timescale

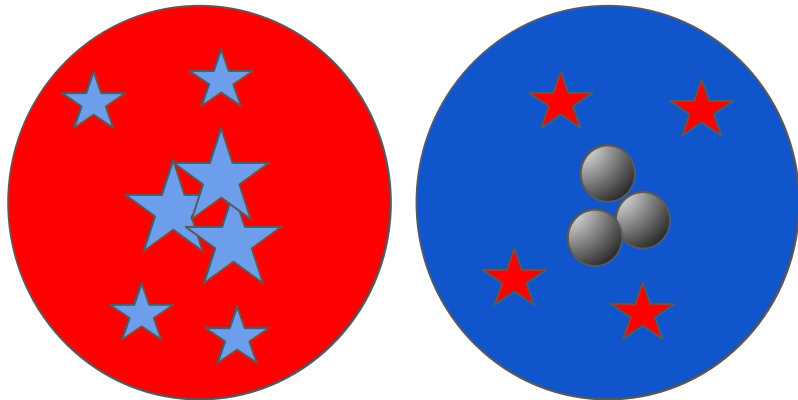
$$t_{DF} \sim 1.17 / \ln \Lambda \, M_c(r)/m \, t_{cross}$$

The process leads to core-collapse on a shorter time compared to the single-mass case

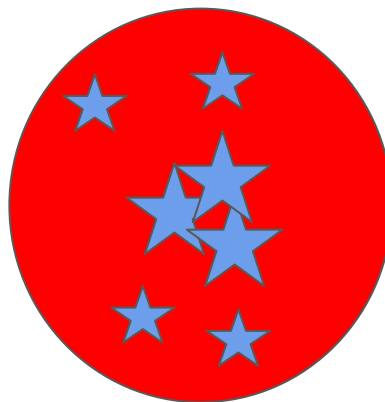
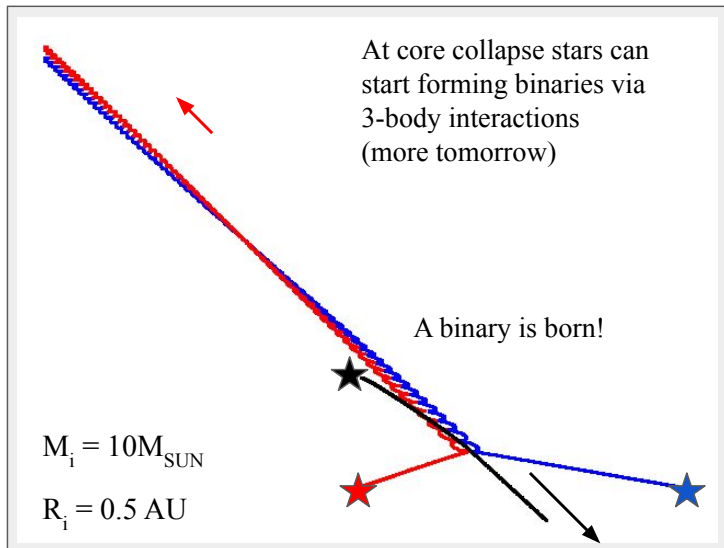
$$t_{CC} \sim 0.2 \, t_{relax} \sim 0.02 \, N / (\ln \lambda N) \, t_{cross} \text{ (Portegies-Zwart and McMillan 2002)}$$

Roughly, a star with  $10(100) \, M_{SUN}$  ends its life over a time  $\sim 15(4) \, Myr$ , thus we have two teams!

cluster type	N	R (pc)	$t_{cross}$ (Myr)	$t_{DF}$ (Myr)	$t_{CC}$ (Myr)
open clusters	$10^2$	2	4.2	4.4	2.3
young clusters	$10^4$	2	0.3	14.1	7.2
globular clusters	$10^5$	2	0.1	36.8	19
nuclear clusters	$10^7$	2	0.01	257	131

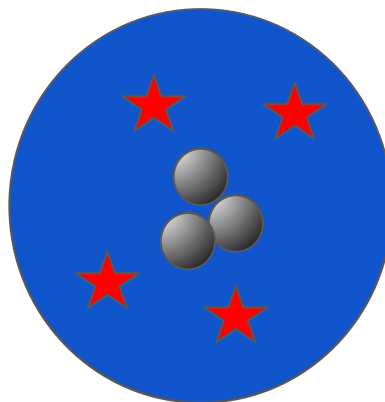


## Star cluster evolution - #6



Interaction time-scale < stellar evolution

- stellar collisions and mergers
- possible formation of a very massive star
- possible formation of an IMBH

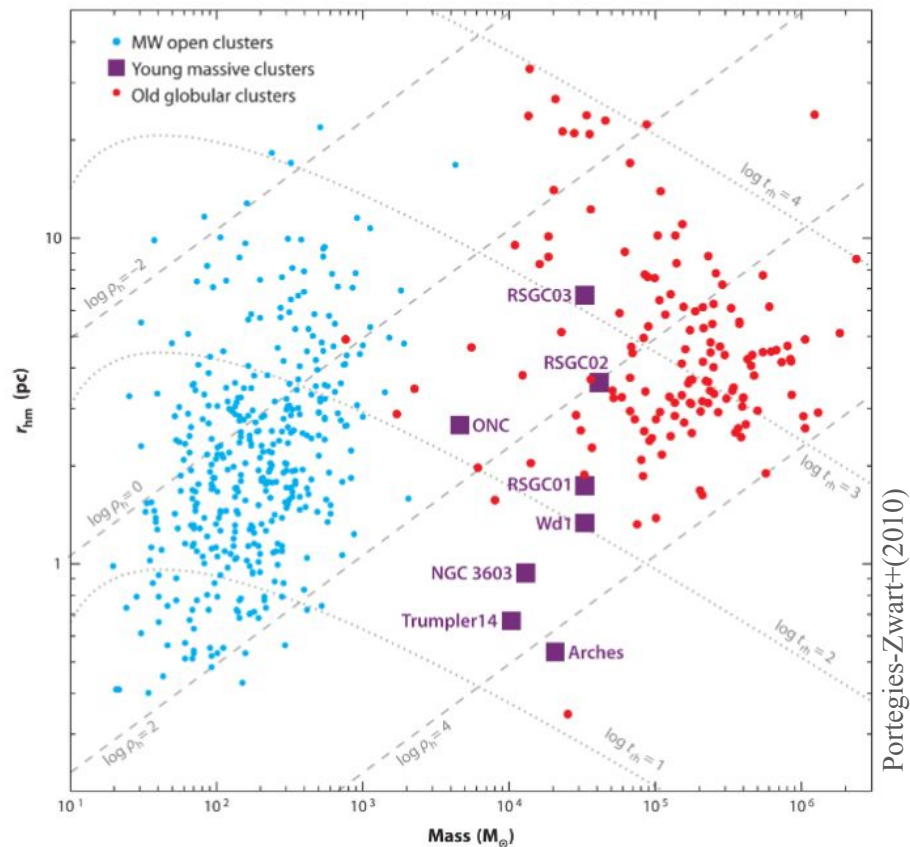
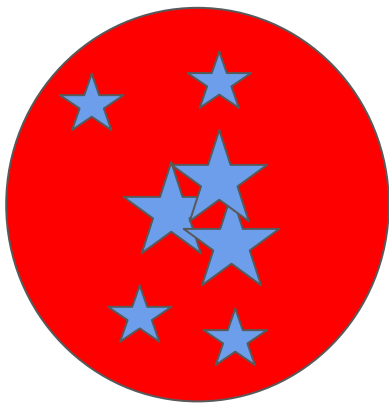


Interaction time-scale > stellar evolution

- BHs form a sub-system and dominate dynamics
- possible BHBH mergers
- possible onset of hierarchical BHBH mergers

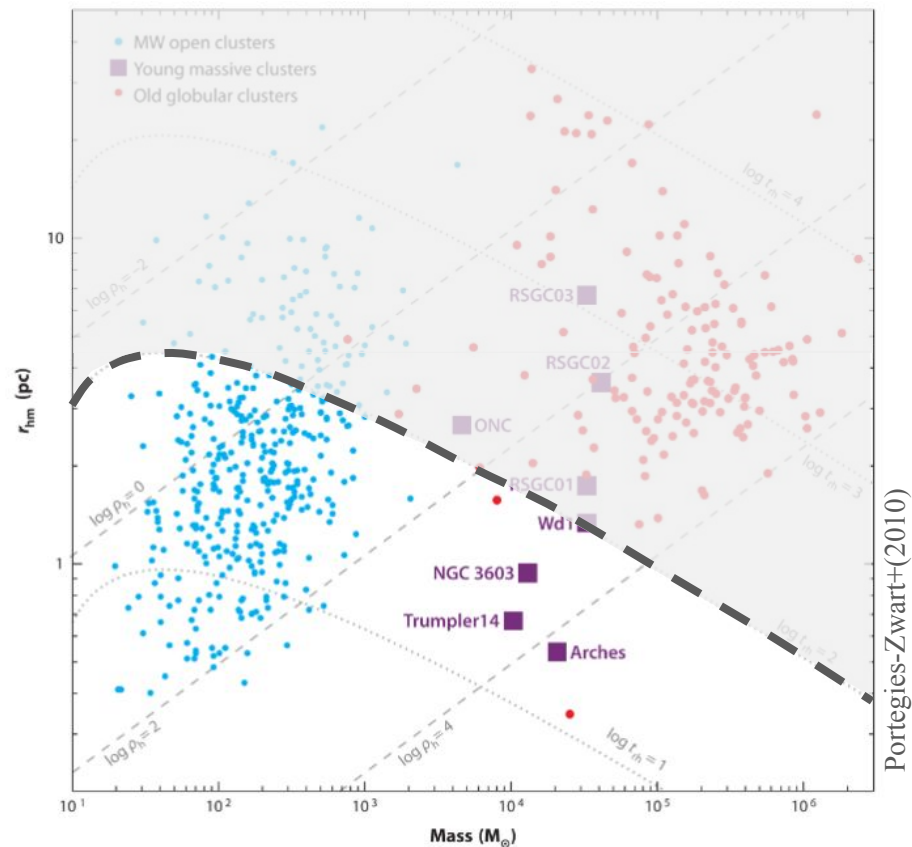
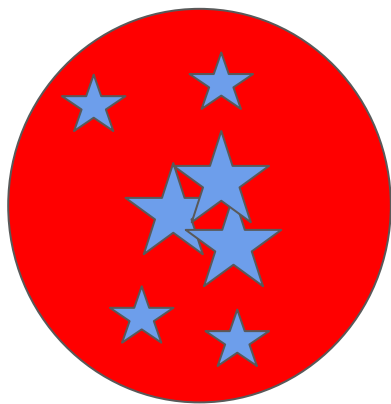
## Star cluster evolution - #7

### Clusters with short collapse times



## Star cluster evolution - #7

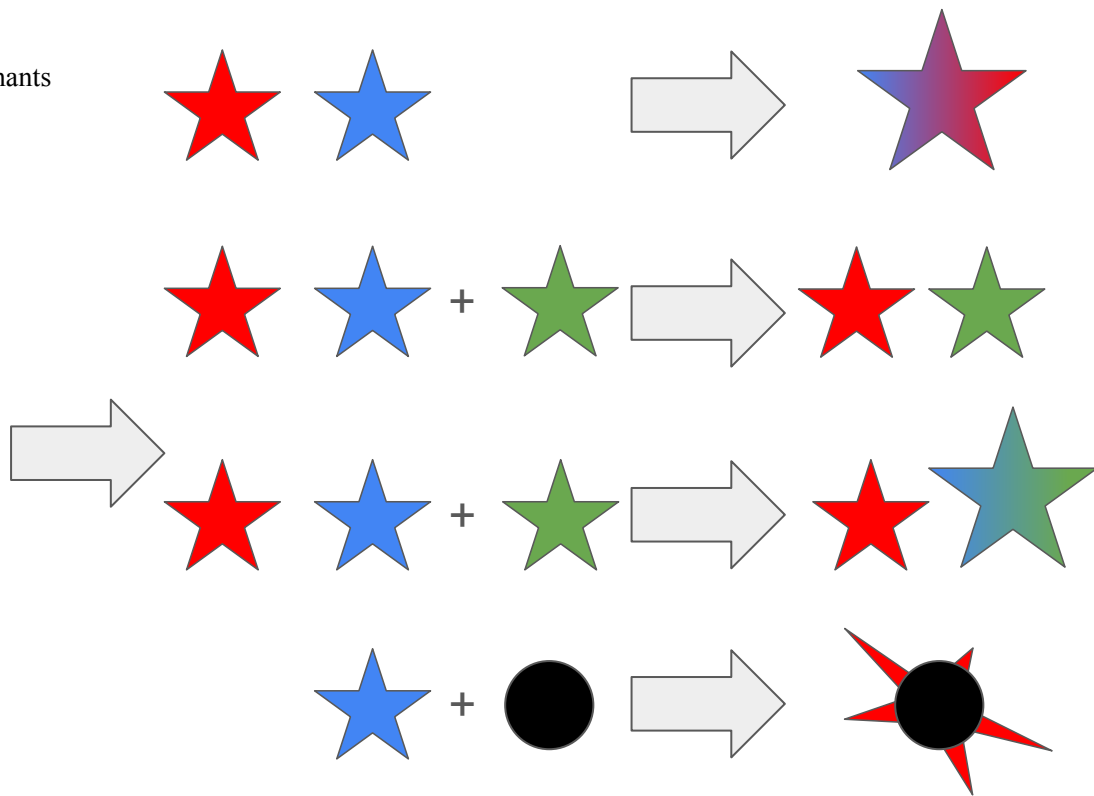
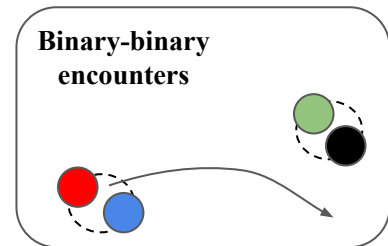
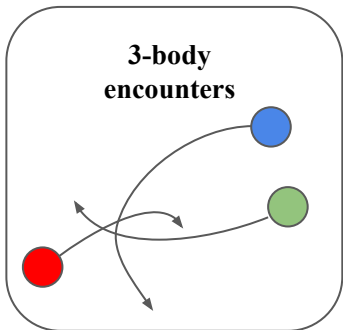
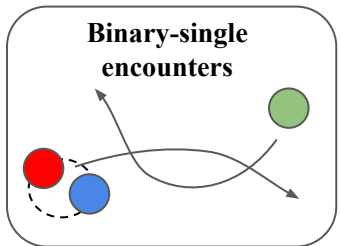
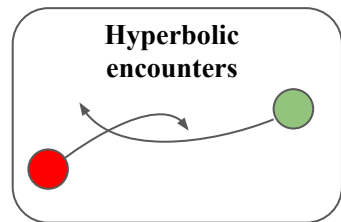
### Clusters with short collapse times



## Star cluster evolution - #7

### Clusters with short collapse times

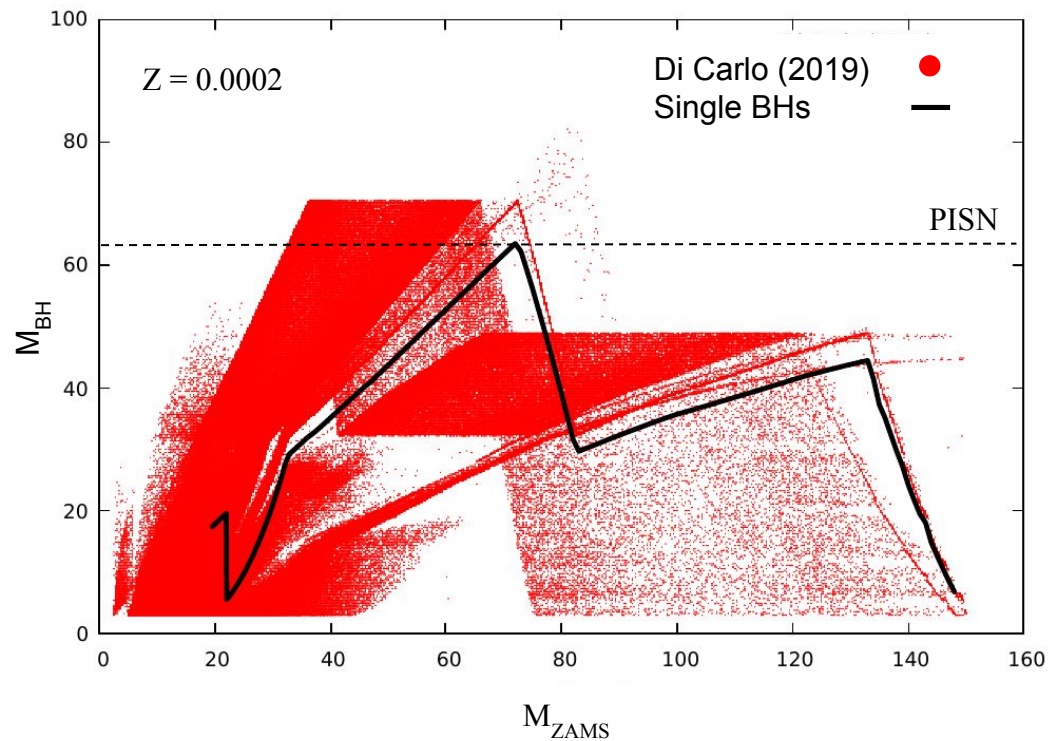
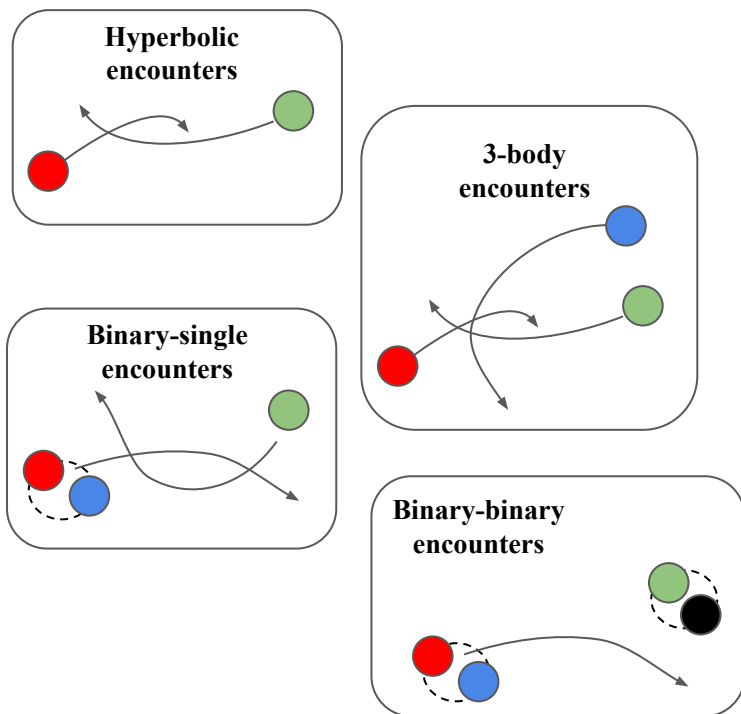
Interaction occurs before all massive stars turn into compact remnants



## Star cluster evolution - #7

### Clusters with short collapse times

Interaction occurs before massive stars turn into compact remnants

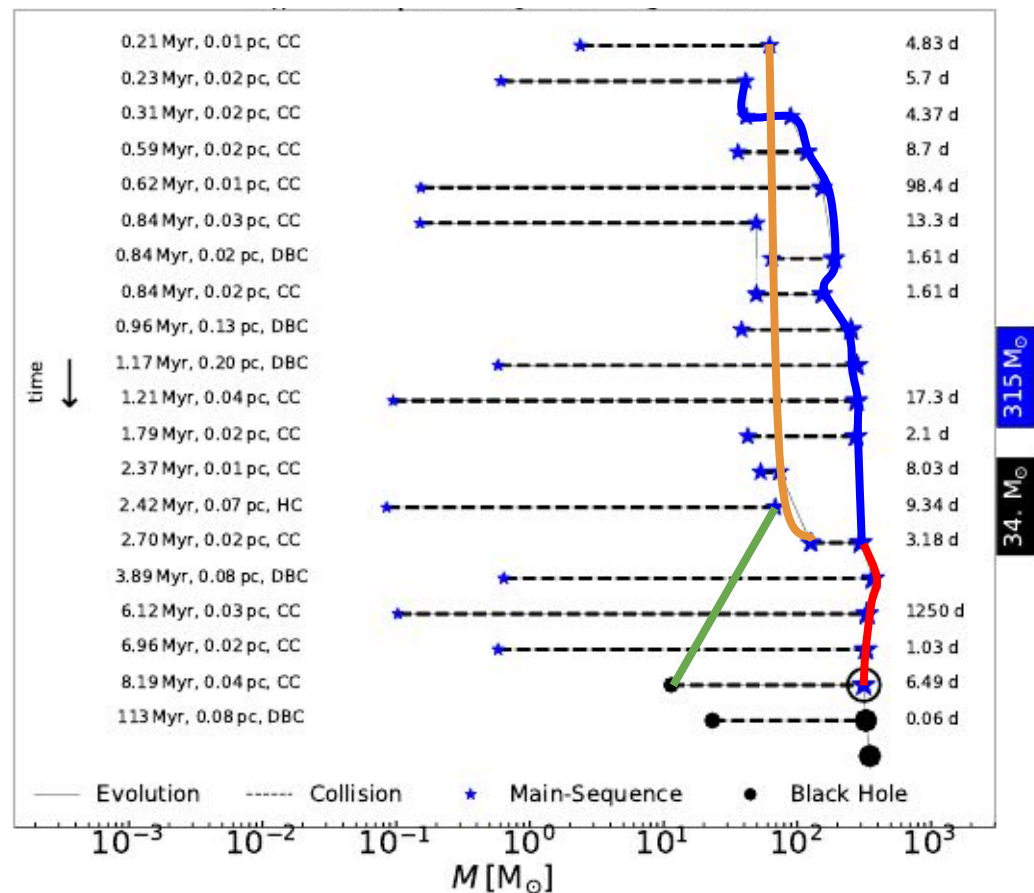
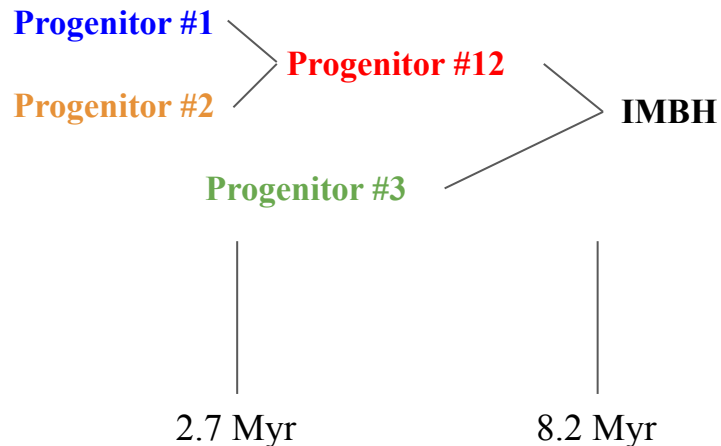




## Star cluster evolution - #7

### Clusters with short collapse times

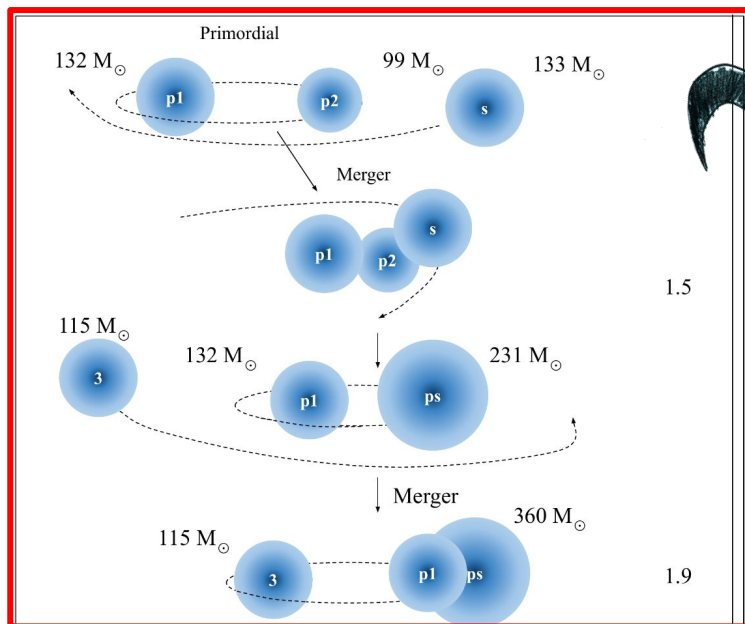
N-body simulations by Rizzuto et al (2021,2022)



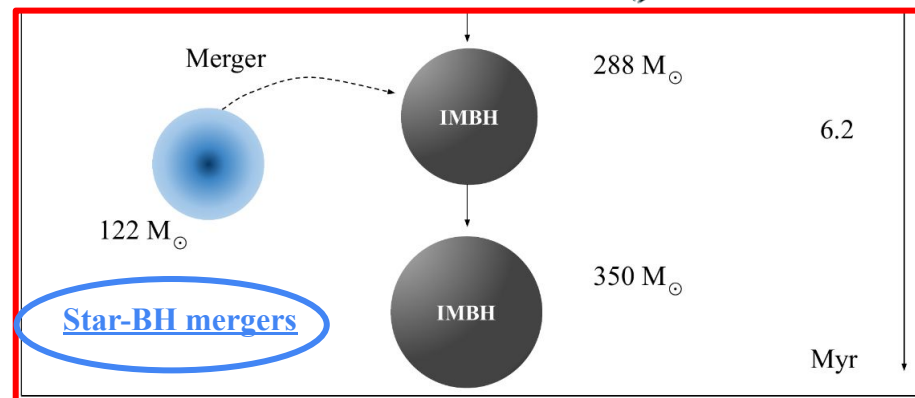
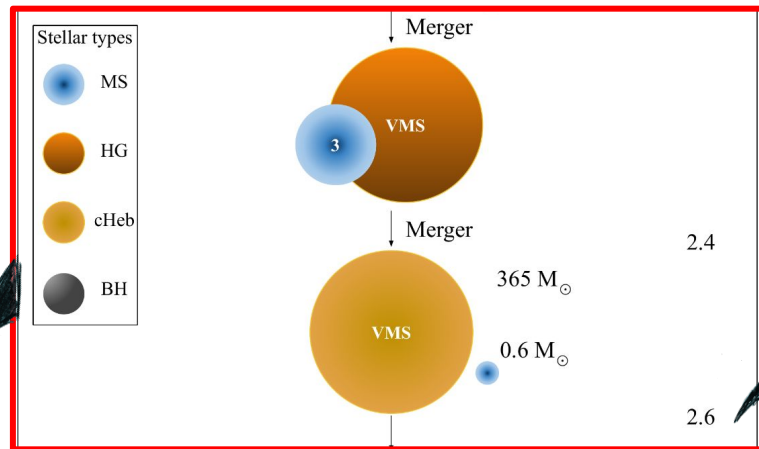
## Star cluster evolution - #8

### Clusters with short collapse times

#### Stellar mergers



Arca Sedda et al (2023)



#### Star-BH mergers

## Star cluster evolution - #9

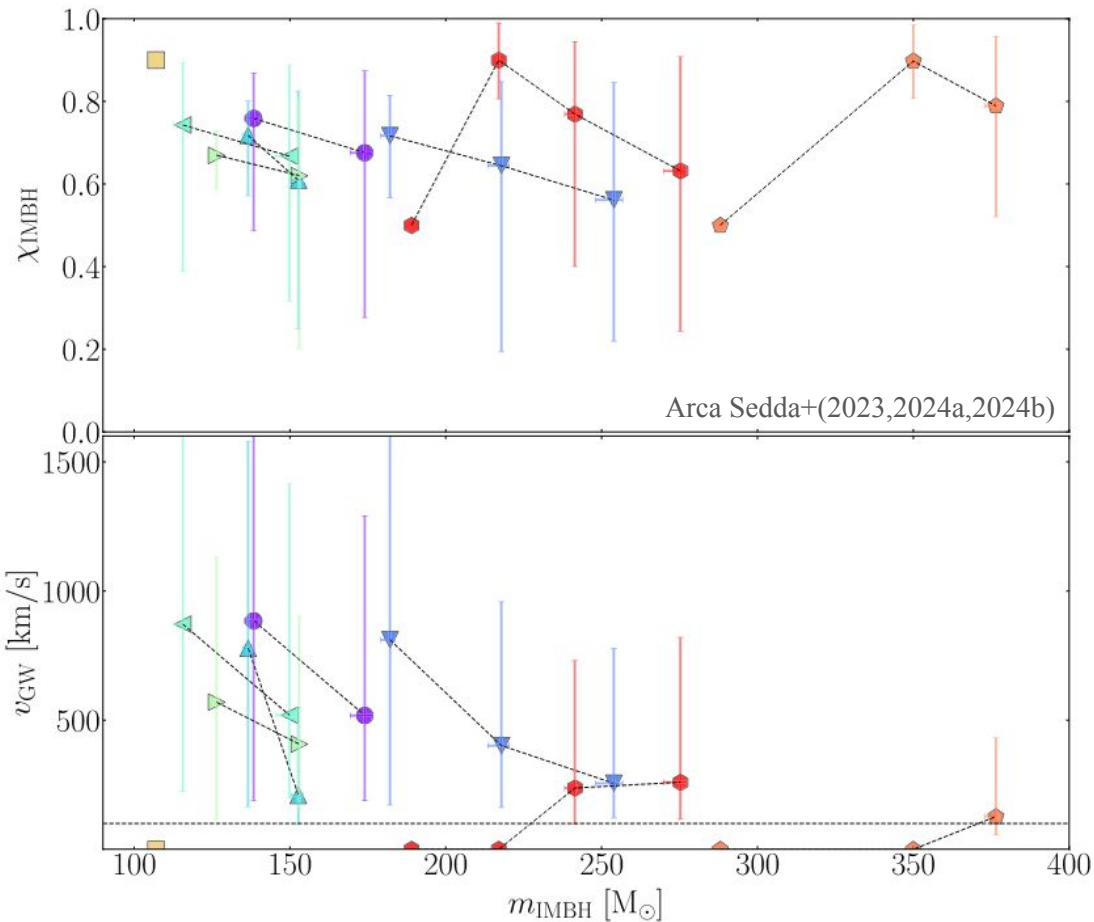
### Clusters with short collapse times

The central escape velocity is roughly

$$v_{\text{esc}} = (34 \pm 3) \text{ km/s} \left( \frac{M}{10^5 M_{\odot}} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{R_{\text{HM}}}{1 \text{ pc}} \right)^{-1/2}$$

While the typical recoil kick received during a strong dynamical encounter is given by (Heggie75)

$$v_{\text{rec}} = \left[ \frac{Gm_1m_2}{a_{\text{fin}}(m_1 + m_2)} \frac{m_p}{m_1 + m_2 + m_p} \left( 1 - \frac{a_{\text{fin}}}{a} \right) \right]^{1/2}$$



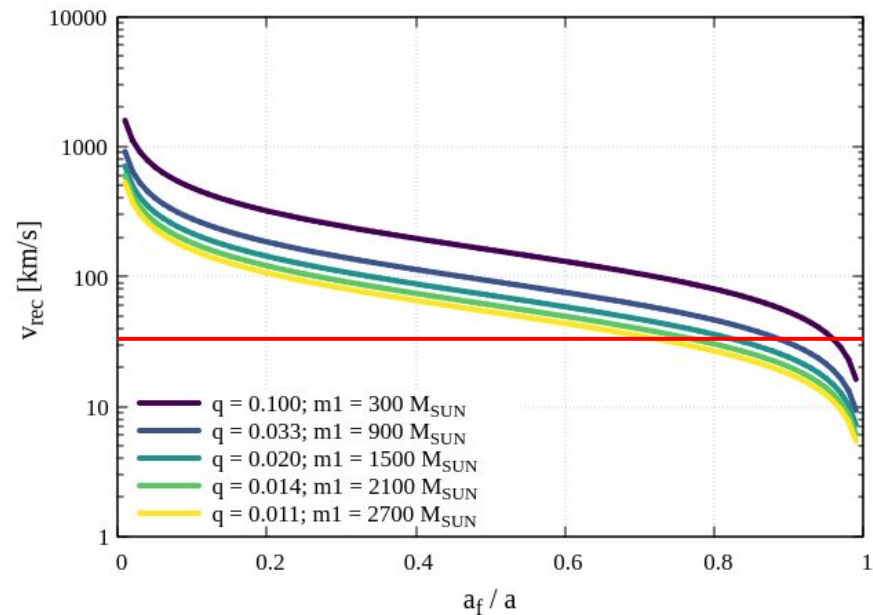
## Star cluster evolution - #9

### Clusters with short collapse times

For  $m_1 \gg m_{2,p}$  the recoil reduces to

$$v_{\text{rec}} \sim 160 \text{ km/s} \times q_{12}^{1/2} \left( \frac{m_p}{30 M_\odot} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{a_f}{1 \text{ AU}} \right)^{-1/2} \left( 1 - \frac{a_f}{a} \right)^{1/2}$$

The more efficient the hardening, the more powerful the kick.



## Star cluster evolution - #9

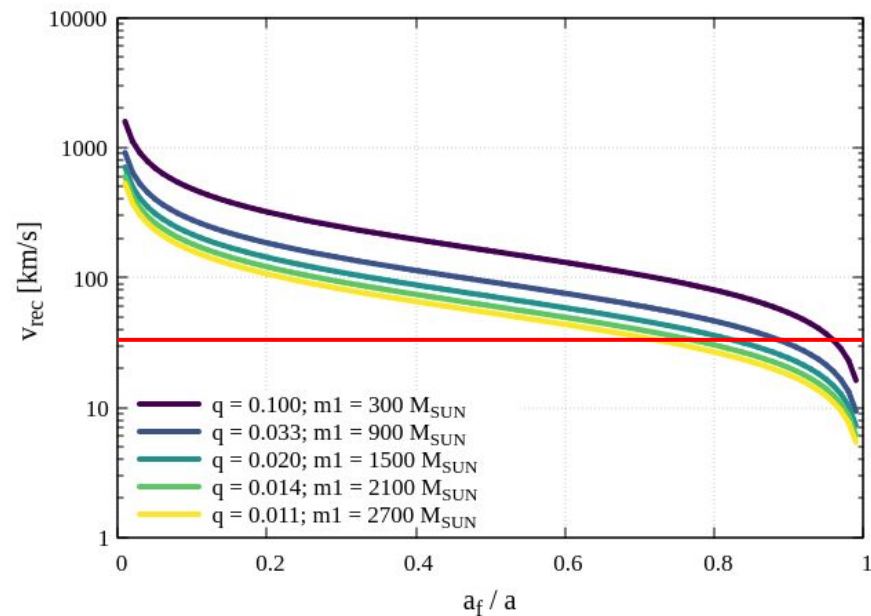
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The more efficient the hardening, the more powerful the kick.

The IMBH can escape with its companion and possibly merge for the last time outside the cluster



## Star cluster evolution - #9

### Clusters with short collapse times

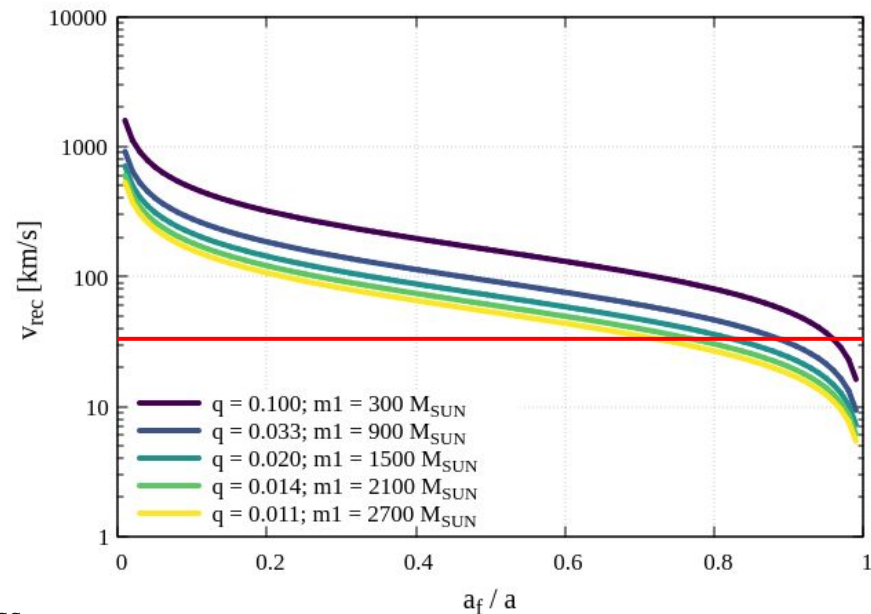
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The more efficient the hardening, the more powerful the kick.

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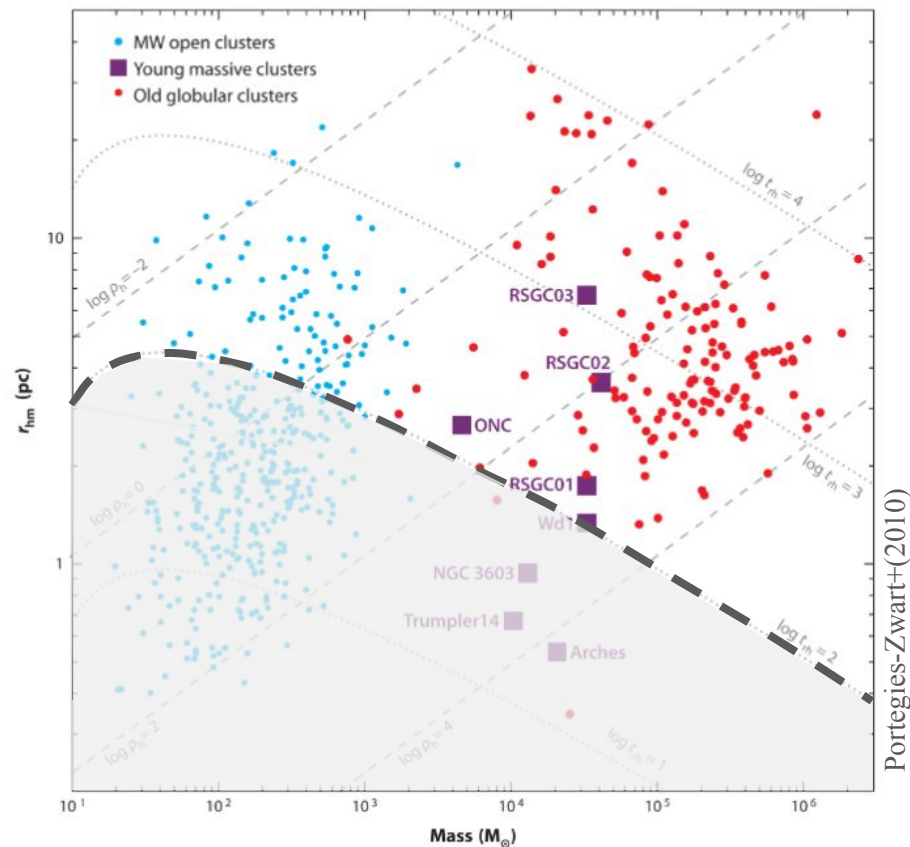
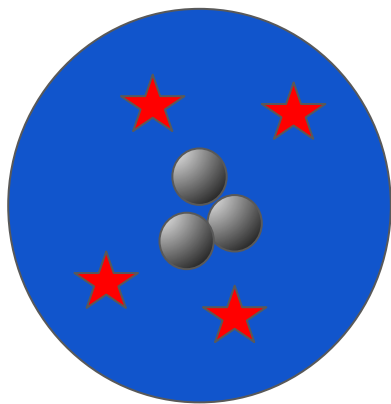
The maximum IMBH mass is generally dictated by the collision process





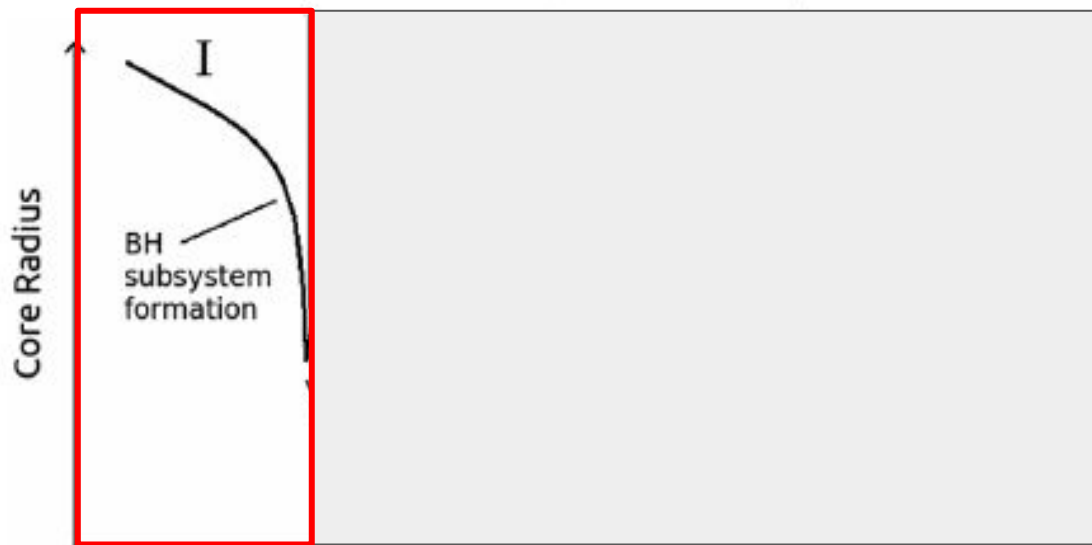
## Star cluster evolution - #10

### Clusters with long collapse times



## Star cluster evolution - #10

### Clusters with long collapse times



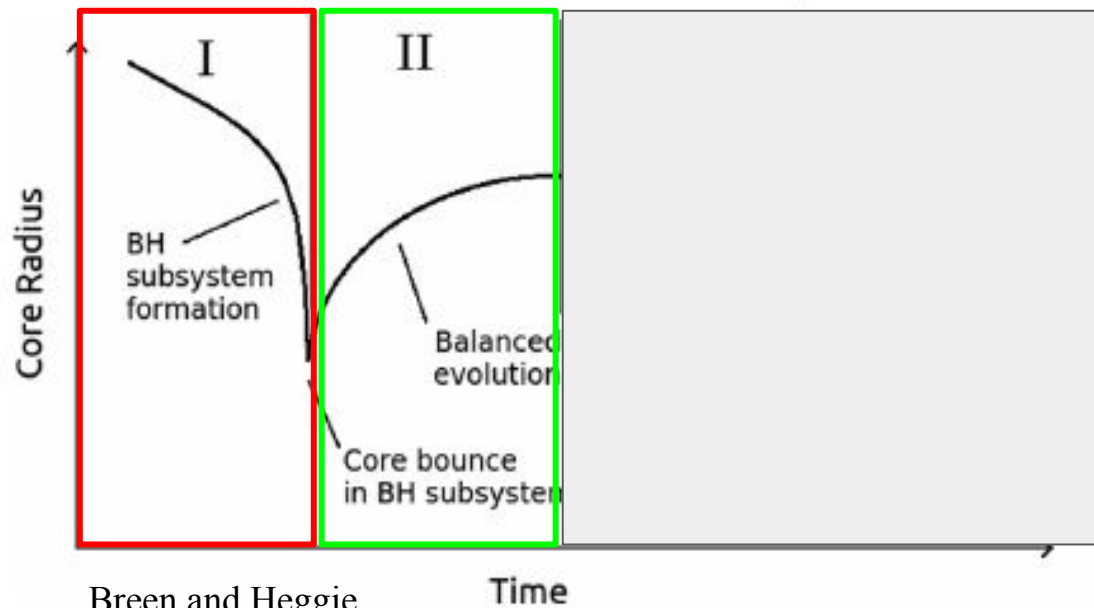
#### Phase I.

The cluster undergoes core-collapse, BHs form a self-interacting subsystem (BHS)

Breen and Hoggie  
(2013a,b)

## Star cluster evolution - #10

### Clusters with long collapse times



Breen and Hoggie  
(2013a,b)

#### Phase I.

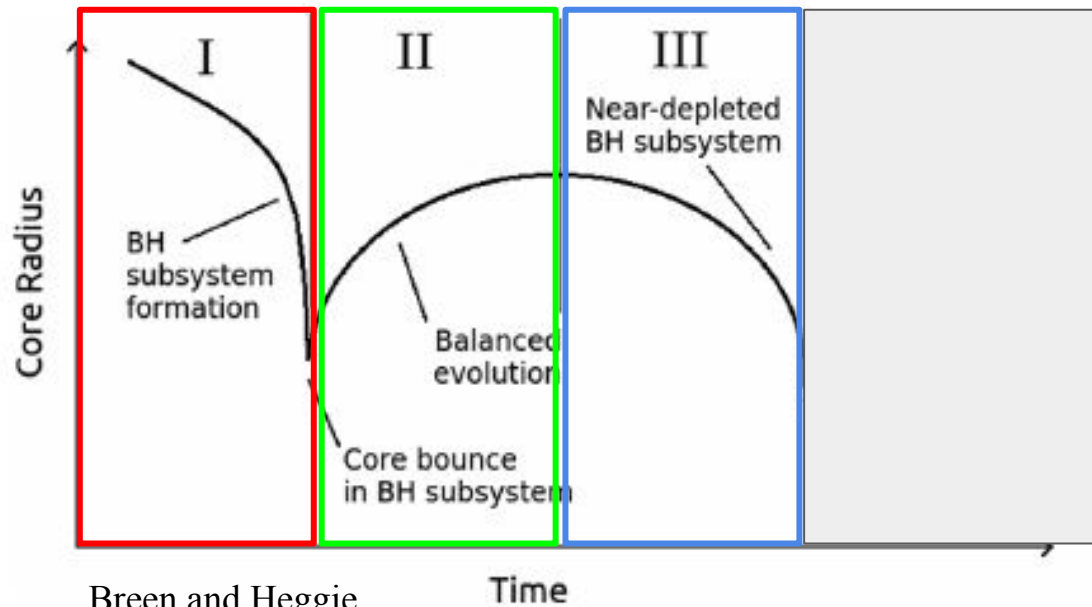
The cluster undergoes core-collapse, BHs form a self-interacting subsystem (BHS)

#### Phase II.

Strong scatterings eject the most massive BHs from the cluster

## Star cluster evolution - #10

### Clusters with long collapse times



#### Phase I.

The cluster undergoes core-collapse, BHs form a self-interacting subsystem (BHS)

#### Phase II.

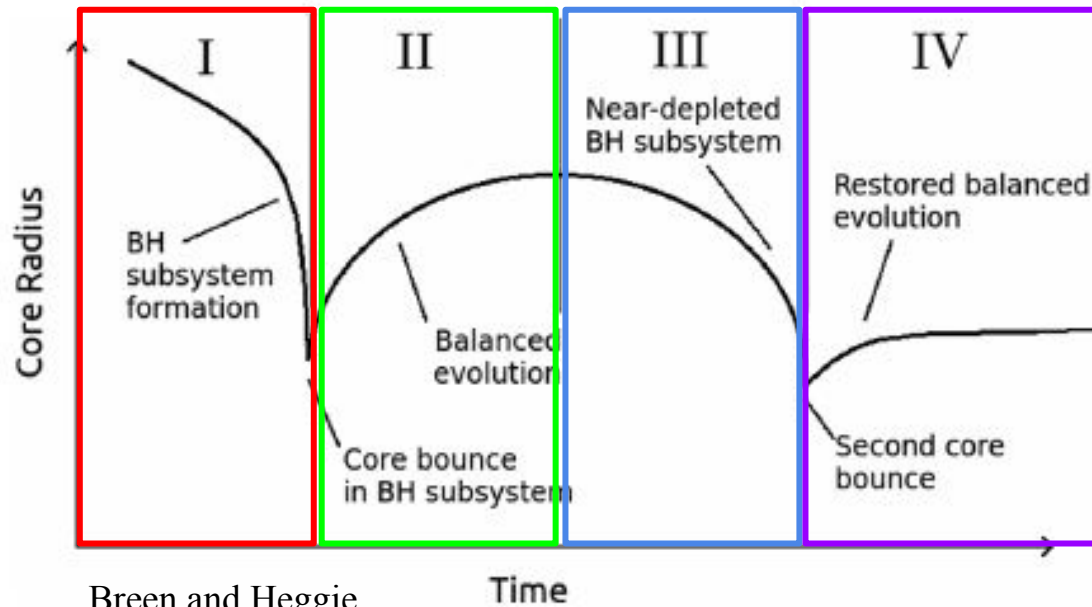
Strong scatterings eject the most massive BHs from the cluster

#### Phase III.

The energy support from hard binary is missing, the core re-contracts

## Star cluster evolution - #10

### Clusters with long collapse times



Breen and Hoggie  
(2013a,b)

#### Phase I.

The cluster undergoes core-collapse, BHs form a self-interacting subsystem (BHS)

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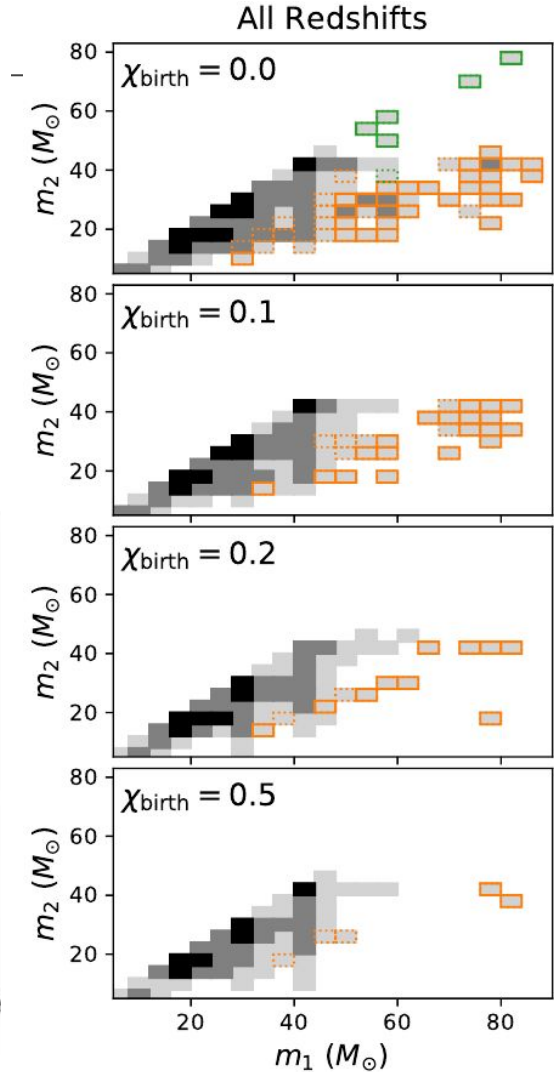
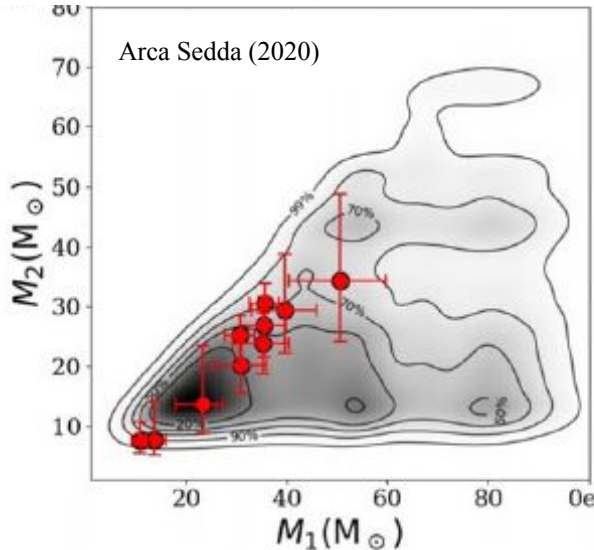
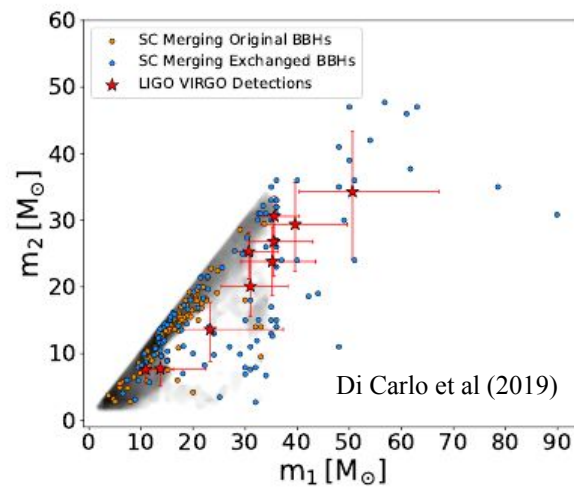
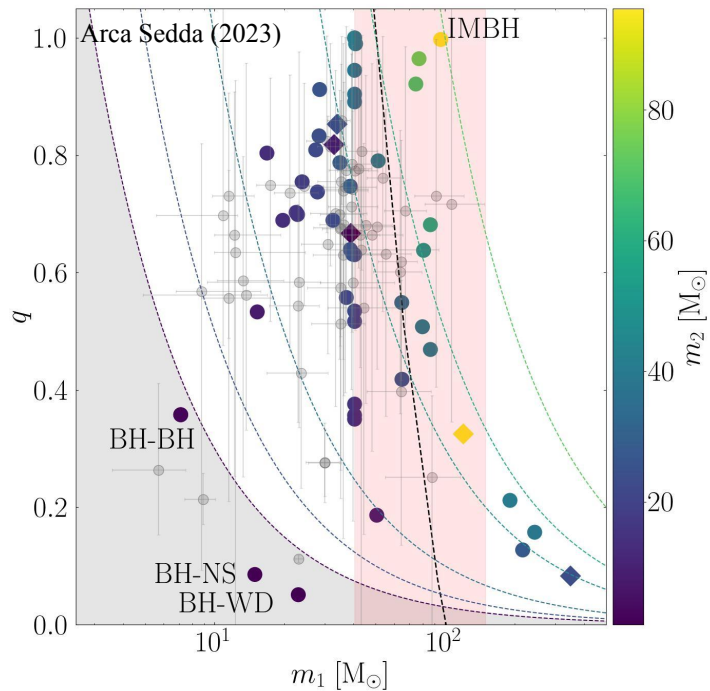
#### Phase III.

The energy support from hard binary is missing, the core re-contracts

#### Phase IV.

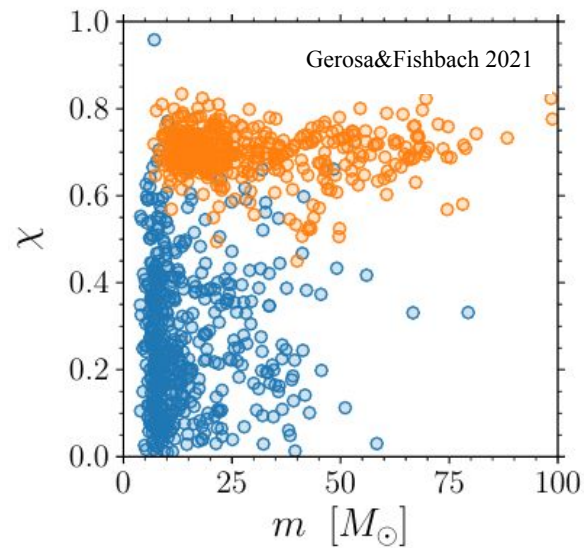
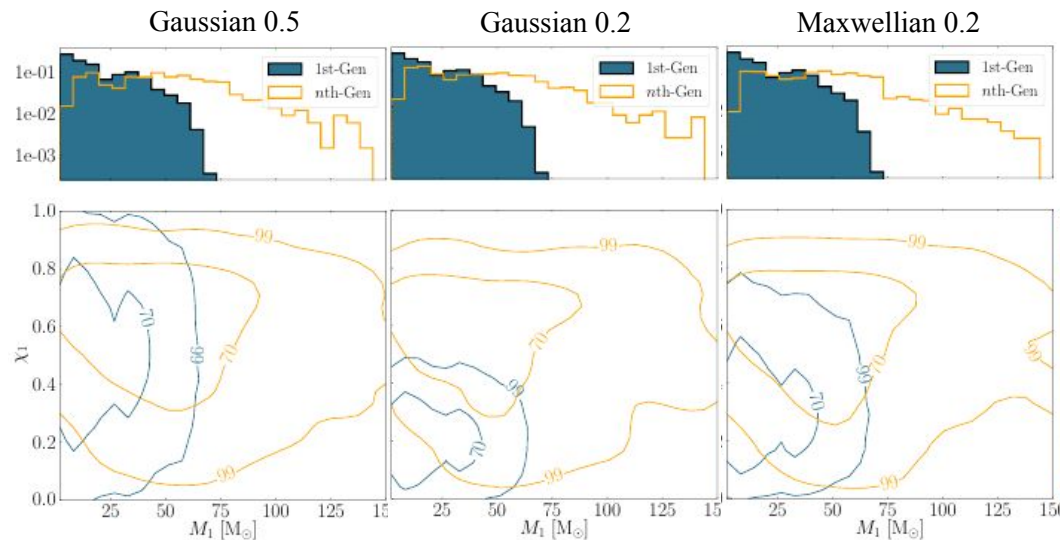
New energetic binaries are formed, core expands and reach a  $\sim$  equilibrium (slow expansion)

## Dynamical formation



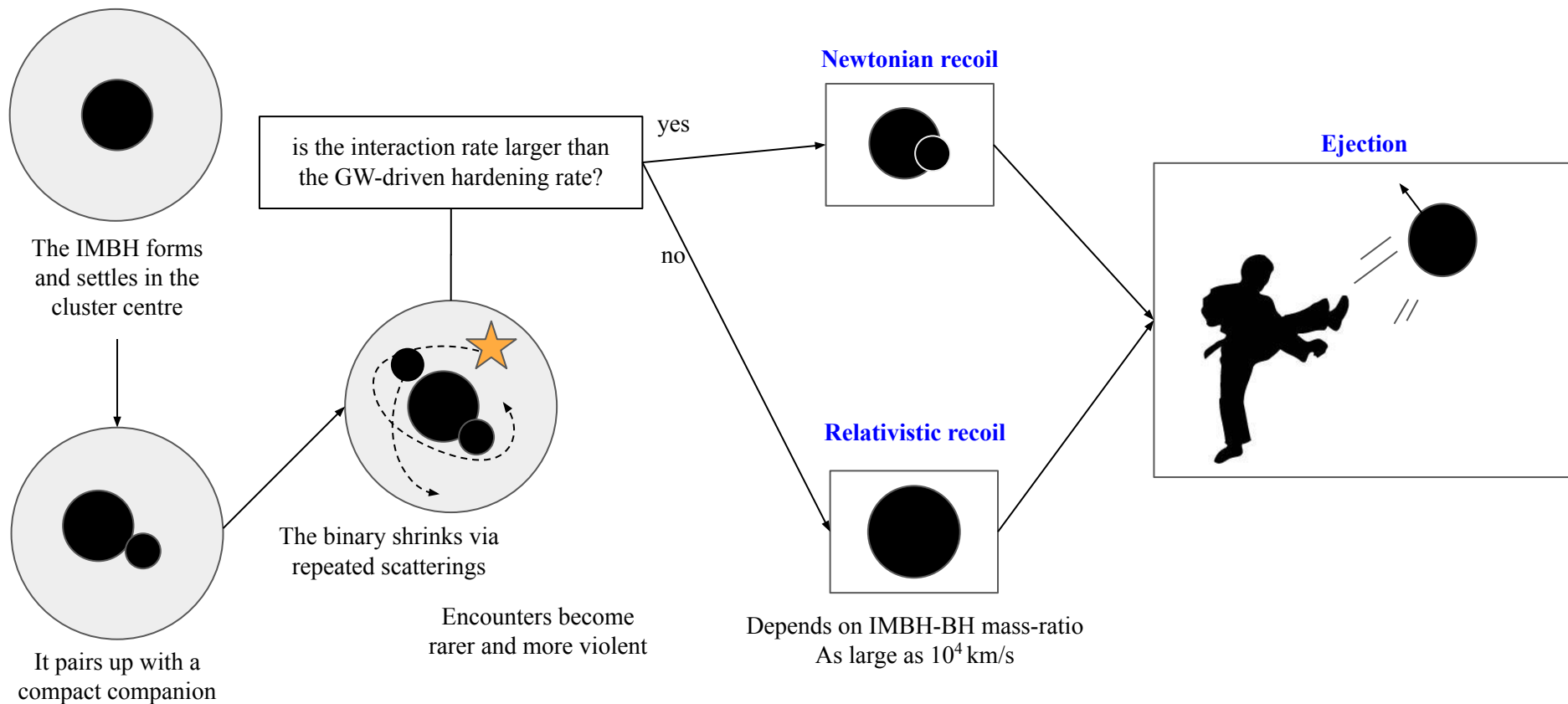


## Dynamical formation



## Dynamical formation

### It's hard to grow up: the impact of Newtonian and relativistic dynamics on IMBH retention



## Dynamical formation

- GWs carry away linear momentum from the binary
- In circular equal-mass binaries, the momentum stolen over one orbit is  $\sim 0$  for symmetry reason
- This IS NOT the case for non equal-mass binaries and/or spinning BHs.

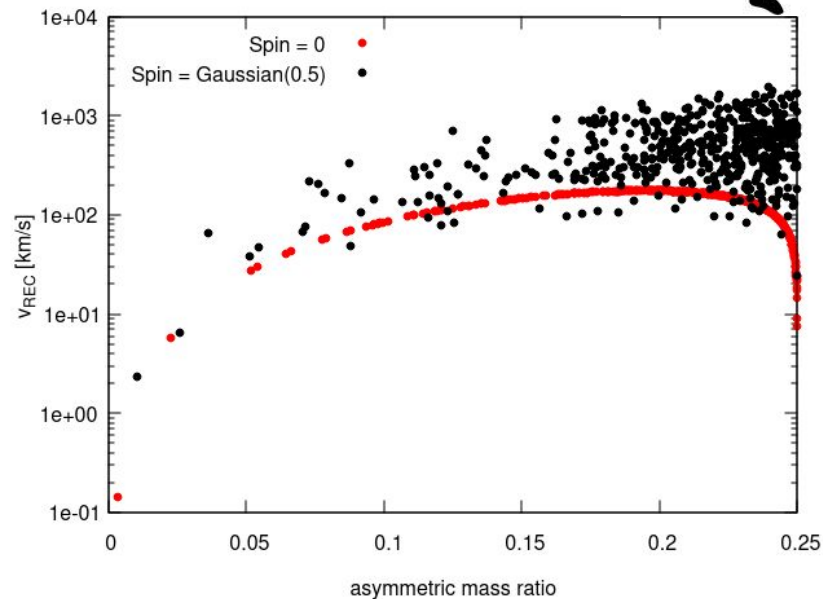
Numerical relativity simulations show that (Campanelli+07, Gonzalez+07, Lousto&Zlochower08, Lousto+12)

$$\mathbf{v}_k = v_m \hat{e}_{\perp,1} + v_{\perp} (\cos \xi \hat{e}_{\perp,1} + \sin \xi \hat{e}_{\perp,2}) + v_{\parallel} \hat{e}_{\parallel},$$

$$v_m = A \eta^2 \sqrt{1 - 4\eta} (1 + B\eta)$$

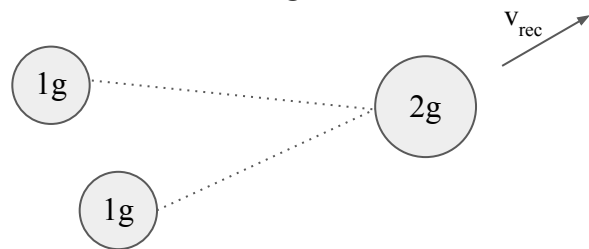
$$v_{\perp} = \frac{H\eta^2}{1 + q_{\text{BBH}}} (a_{2,\parallel} - q_{\text{BBH}} a_{1,\parallel})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 v_{\parallel} = & \frac{16\eta^2}{1 + q_{\text{BBH}}} [V_{11} + V_A \Xi_{\parallel} + V_B \Xi_{\parallel}^2 + V_C \Xi_{\parallel}^3] \\
 & \times |\mathbf{a}_{2,\perp} - q_{\text{BBH}} \mathbf{a}_{1,\perp}| \cos(\phi_{\Delta} - \phi_1).
 \end{aligned}$$



## Dynamical formation

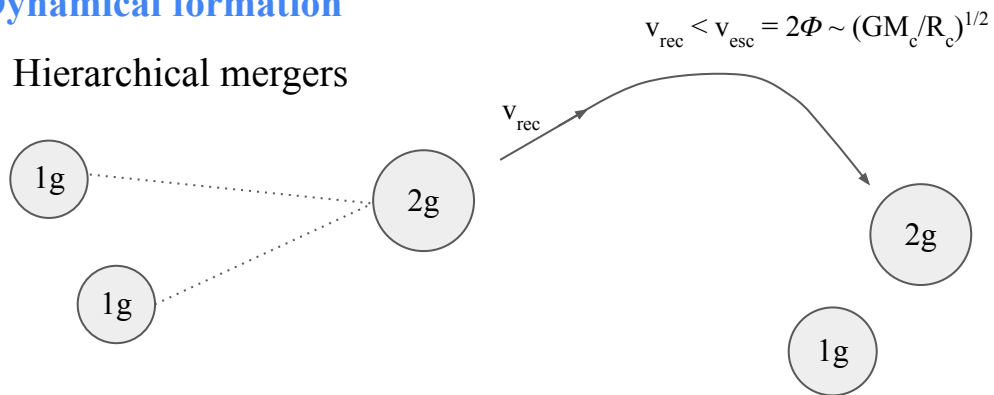
### Hierarchical mergers



$$t = t_{\text{form}} + t_{\text{SEV}} + t_{\text{DF}} + t_{\text{3bb}} + t_{\text{bs}} + t_{\text{mer}}$$

## Dynamical formation

### Hierarchical mergers



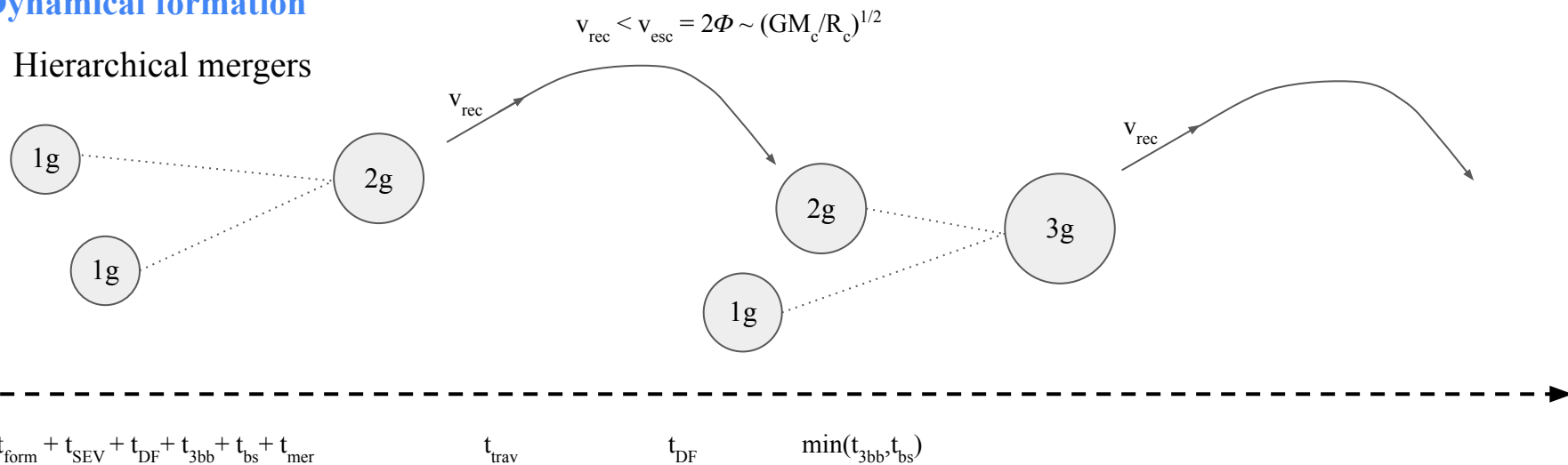
$$t = t_{\text{form}} + t_{\text{SEV}} + t_{\text{DF}} + t_{\text{3bb}} + t_{\text{bs}} + t_{\text{mer}}$$

$$t_{\text{trav}}$$

$$t_{\text{DF}}$$

## Dynamical formation

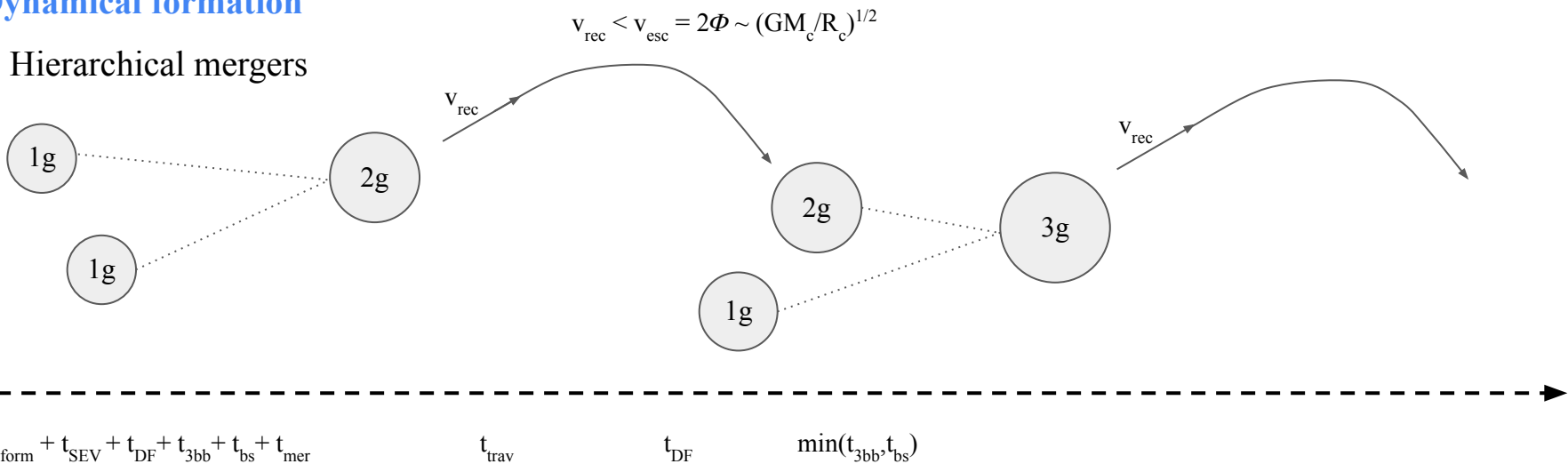
### Hierarchical mergers





## Dynamical formation

### Hierarchical mergers



### Dynamical Mergers:

Natal spins?  
 Mass ratios?  
 Remnant spin?

BH mass function?  
 BH evolution?

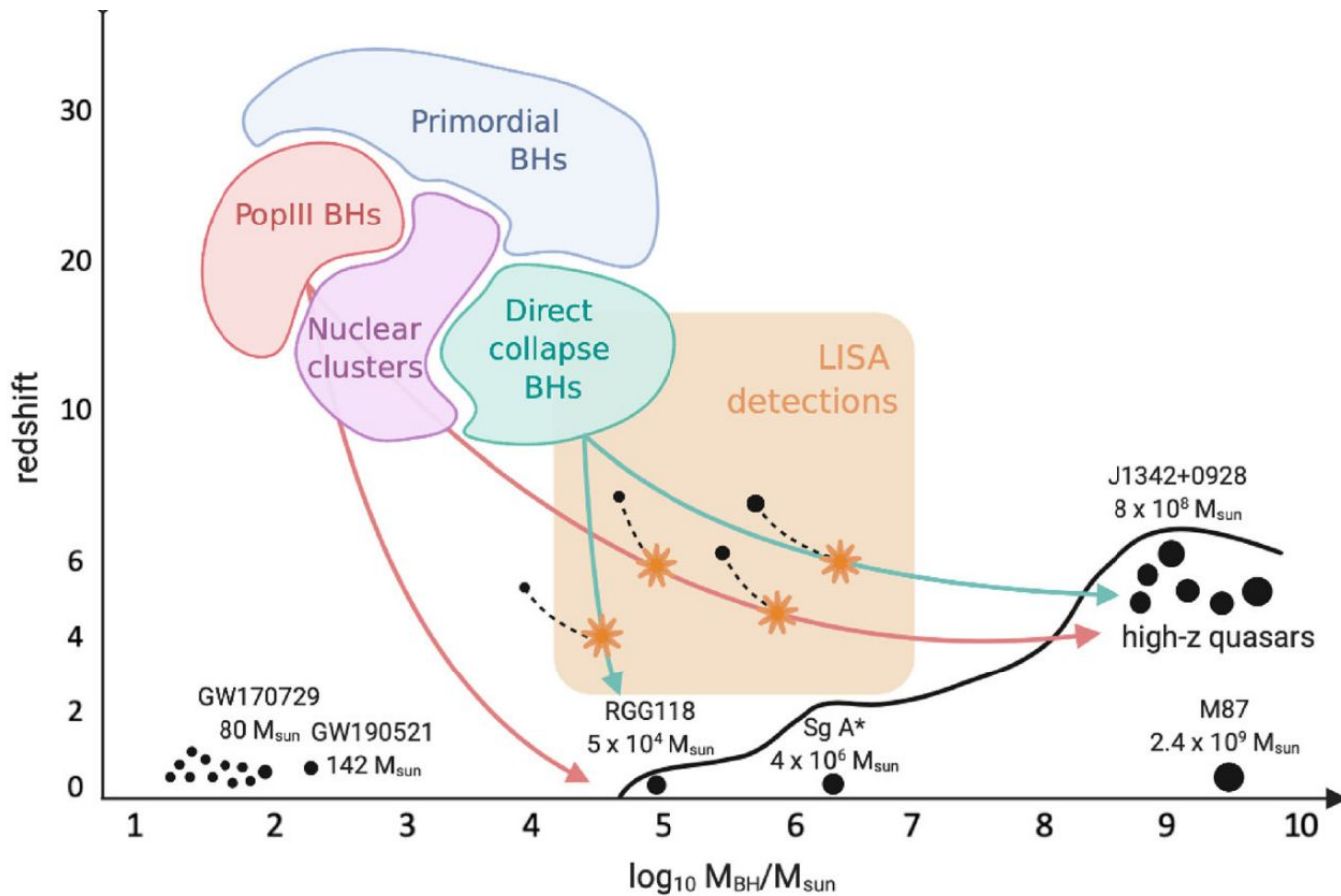
Cluster lifetime?  
 Cluster evolution?

### Isolated Mergers:

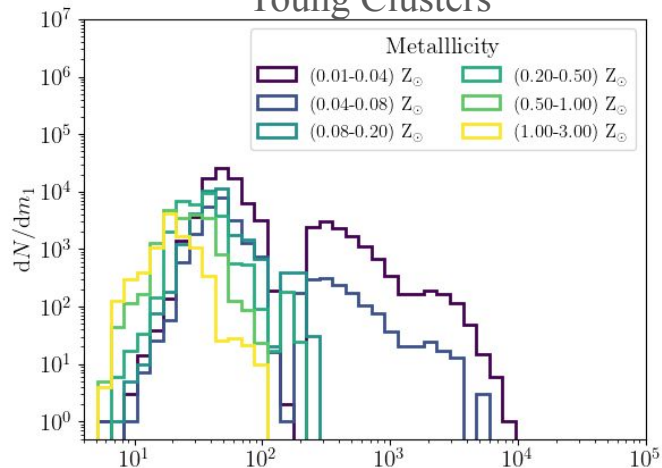
Galaxy velocity  
 curve

$2g + 1g$   
 unlikely

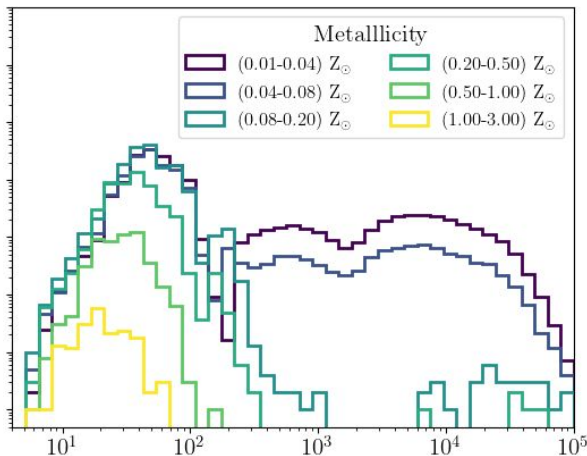
## Dynamical formation



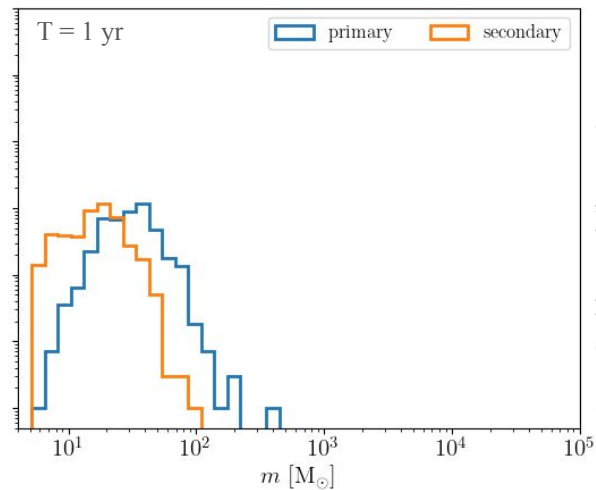
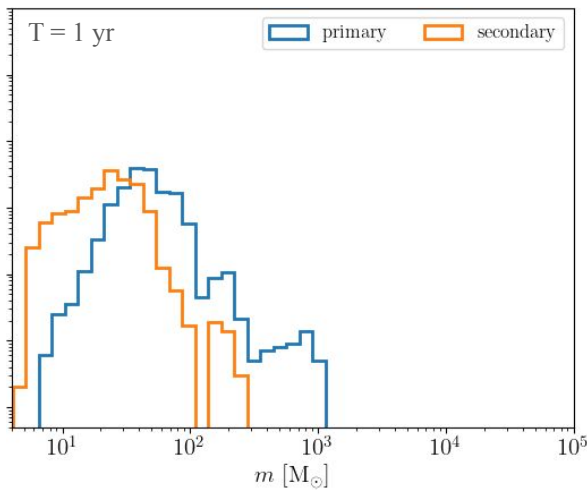
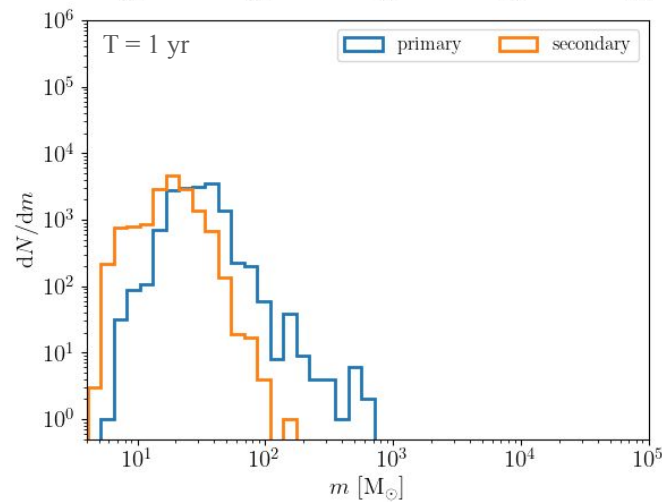
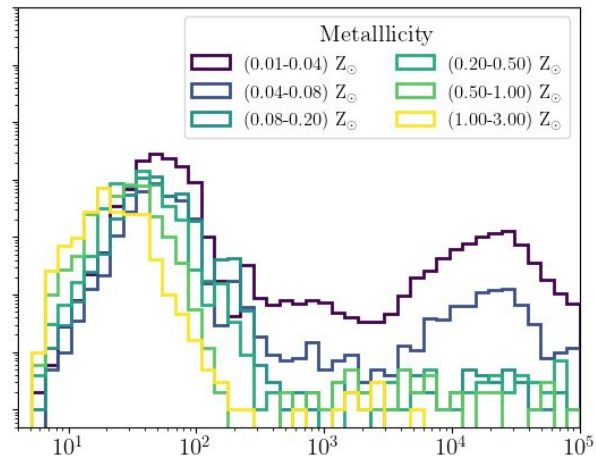
## Young Clusters



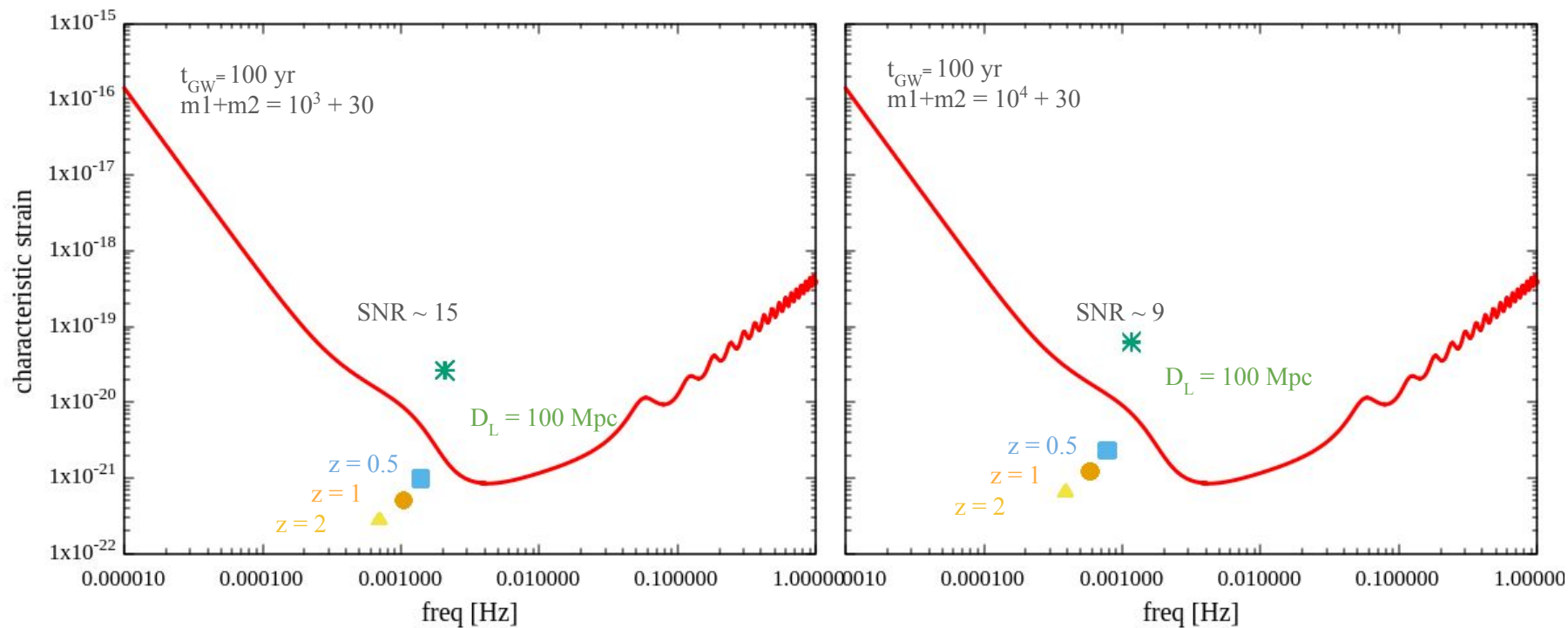
## Globular Clusters



## Nuclear Clusters

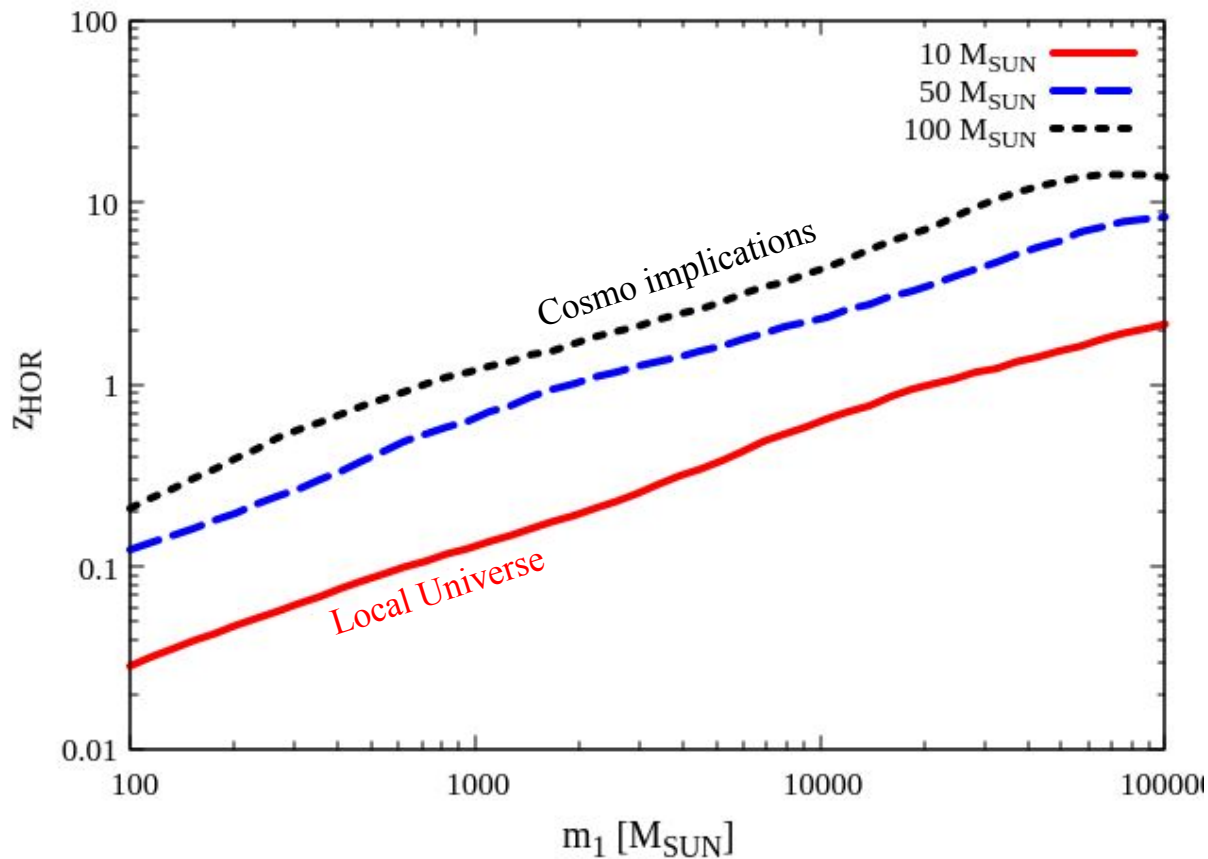


## Dynamical formation

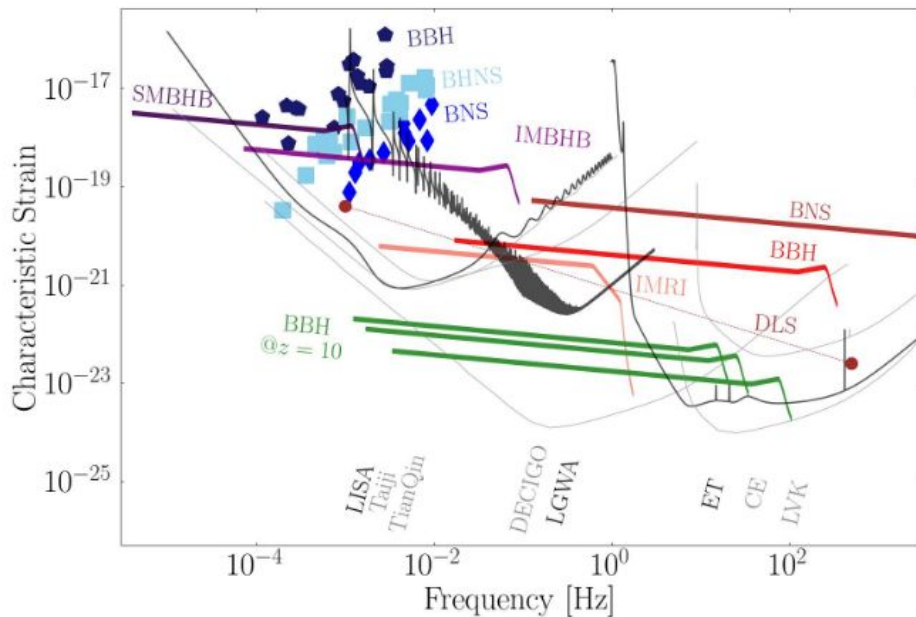


## Dynamical formation Horizon

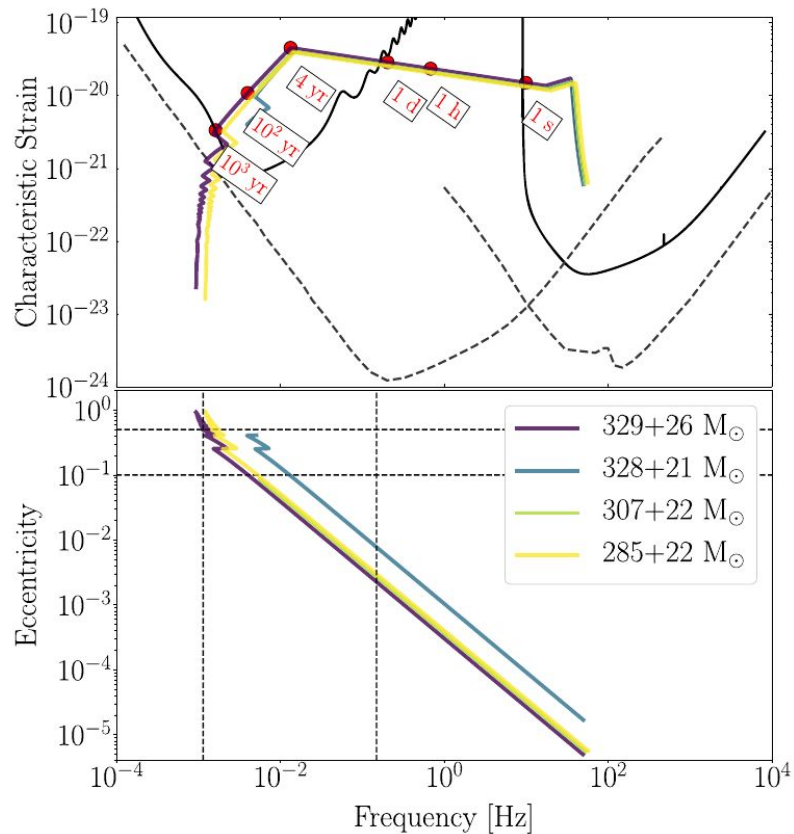
- max redshift at which signal is detected with SNR
- general threshold  $\sim 8$



## Dynamical formation Horizon



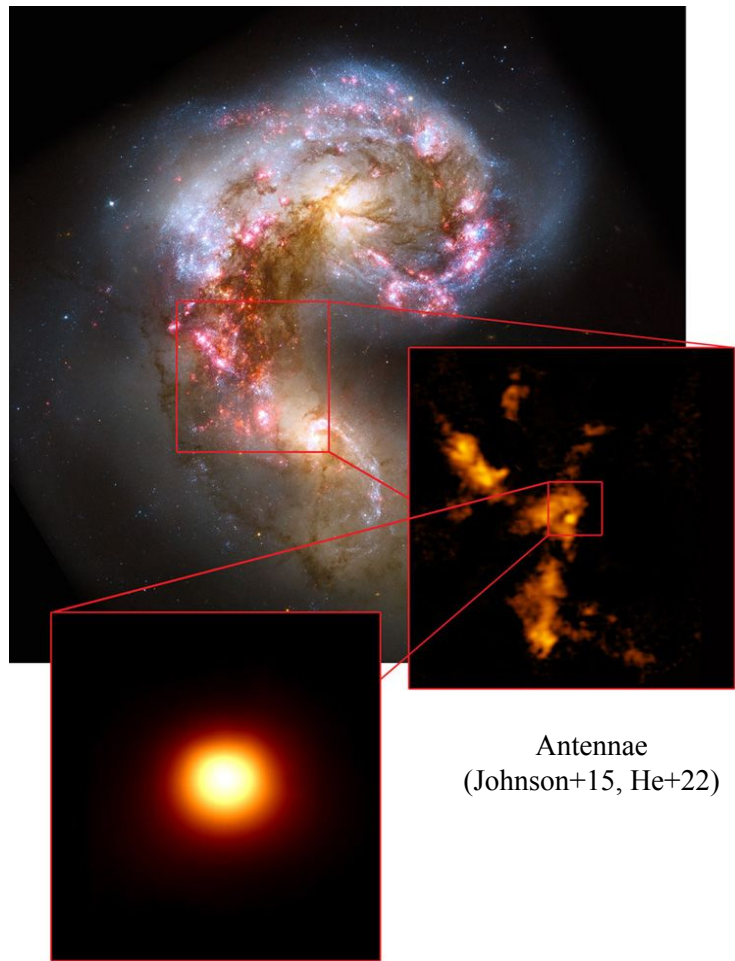
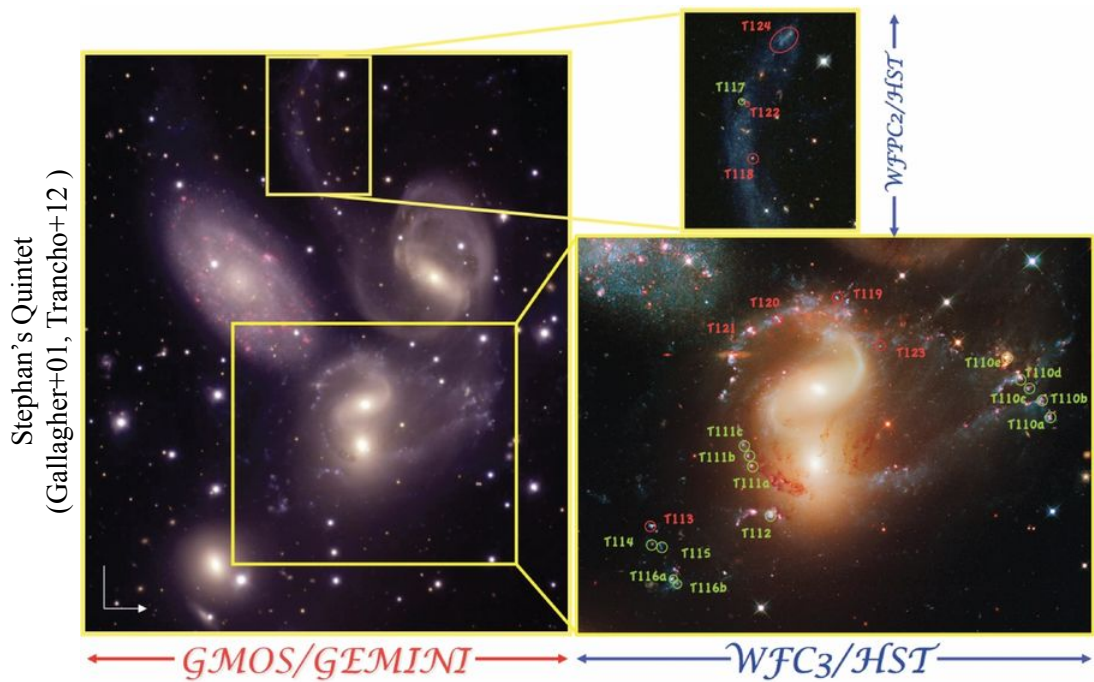
$$z = 0.05; D_L = 230 \text{ Mpc}; T_{\text{obs}} = 4 \text{ yr}; (S/N)_{\text{LISA}} = 20 - 26$$

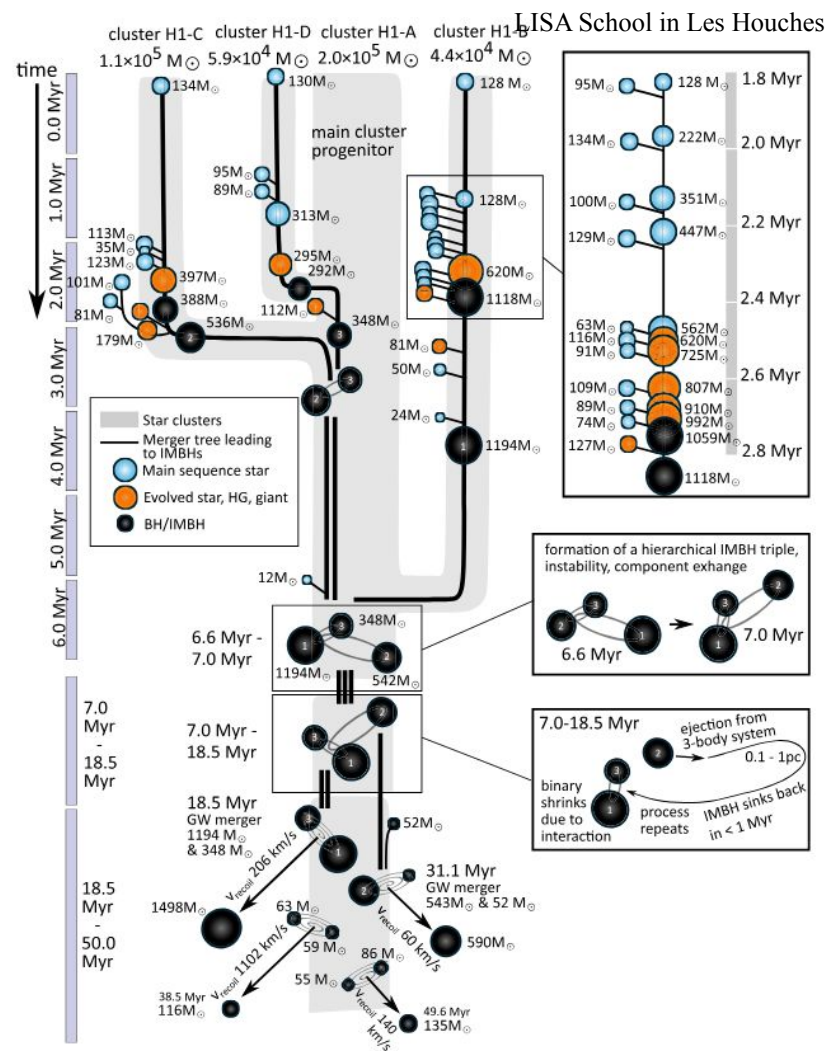
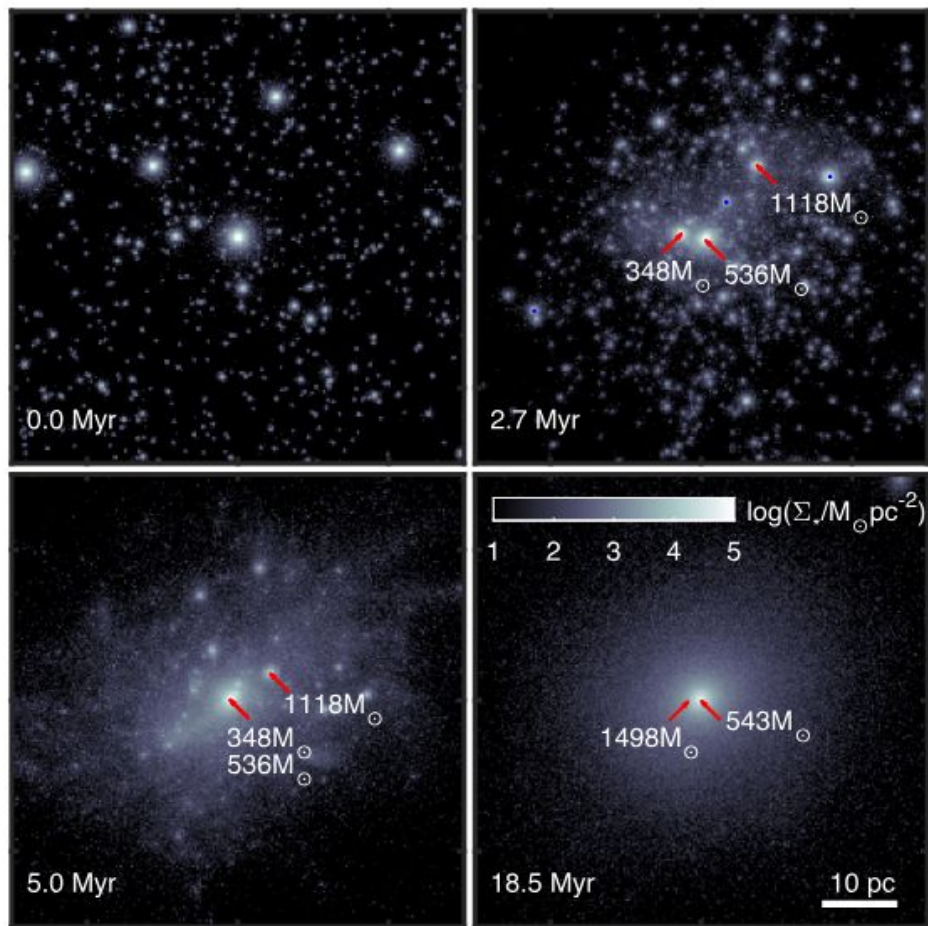




## IMBH binaries in merging clusters

- Interacting regions in merging galaxies are site of intense bursts of star formation (triggered by compression of gas and increase in the gas density, e.g. Maji+17)
- SC complexes form in relatively small boxes ( $10^2$  pc)  $\rightarrow$  interactions and mergers (e.g. Fellauer&Kroupa02)



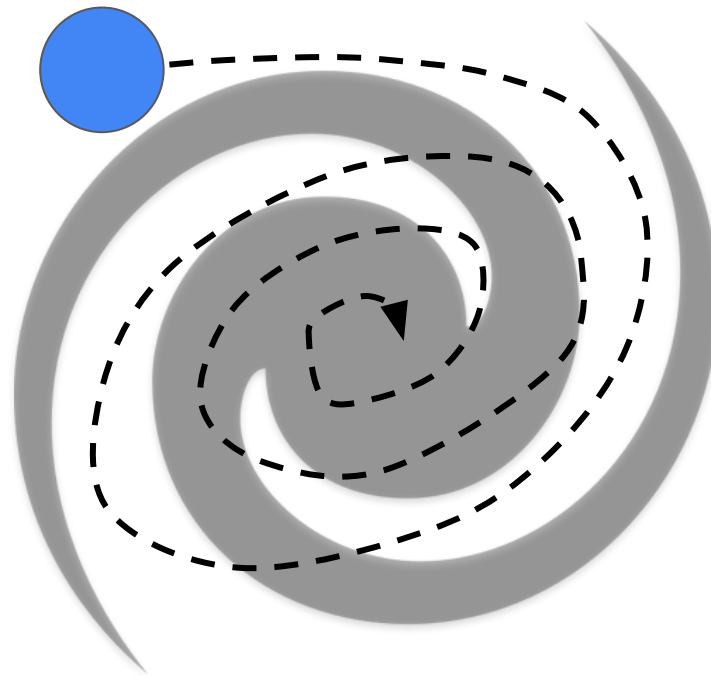
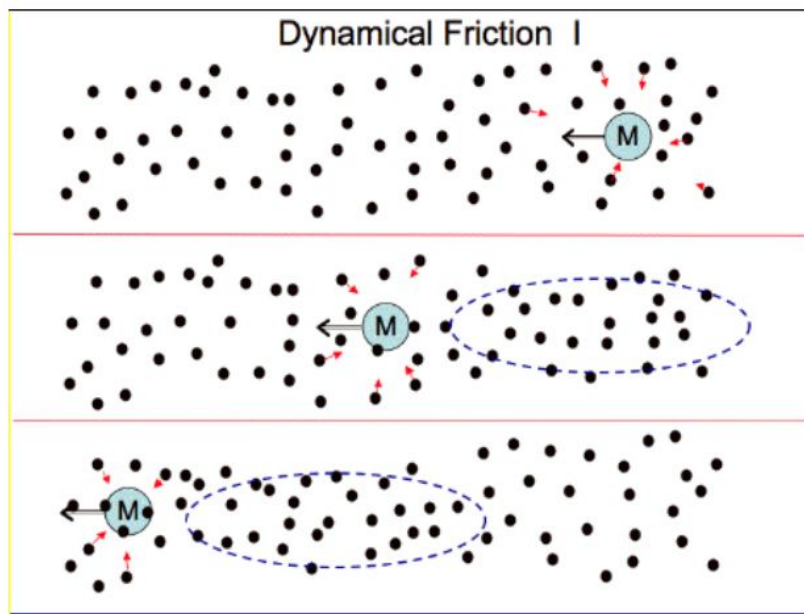


# IMBHs as gravitational-wave sources: heavy - IMRIs

- Merging star cluster in galactic centres

Main processes: dynamical friction (Chandrasekhar 1943, Binney&Tremaine08):

$$\left. \frac{d\mathbf{v}_M}{dt} \right|_{\mathbf{v}_m} = -2\pi \ln(1 + \Lambda^2) G^2 m(M + m) \int f(\mathbf{v}_m) d^3\mathbf{v}_m \frac{(\mathbf{v}_m - \mathbf{v}_M)}{|\mathbf{v}_m - \mathbf{v}_M|^3},$$



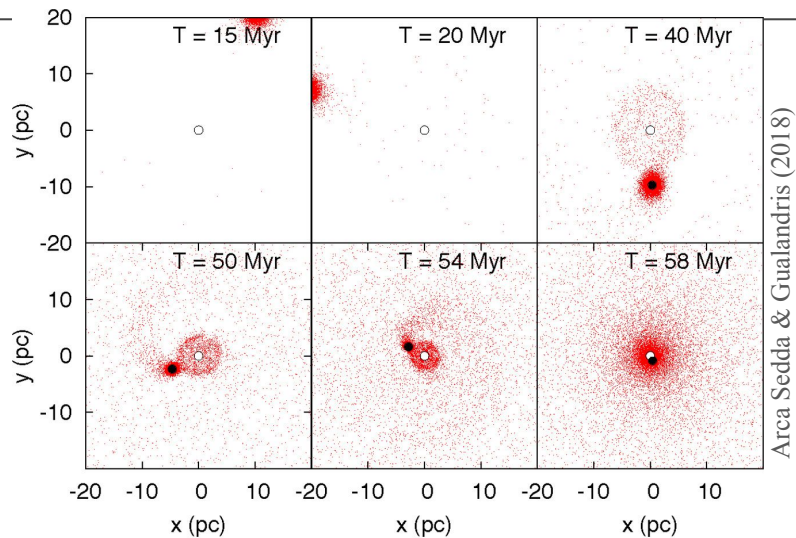
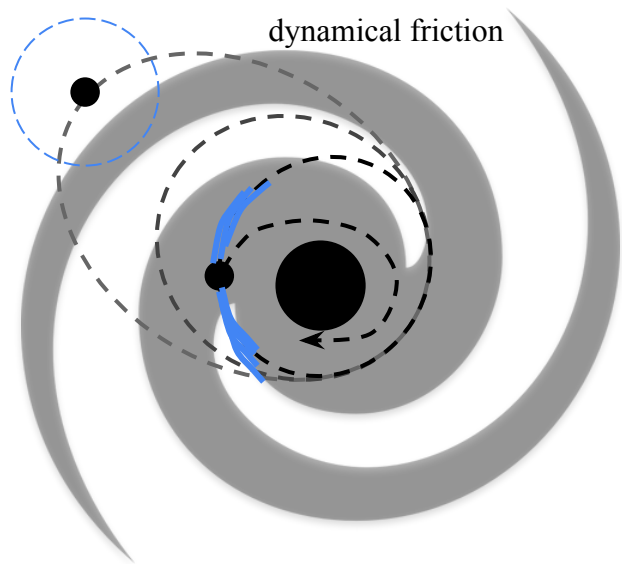


# IMBHs as gravitational-wave sources: heavy - IMRIs

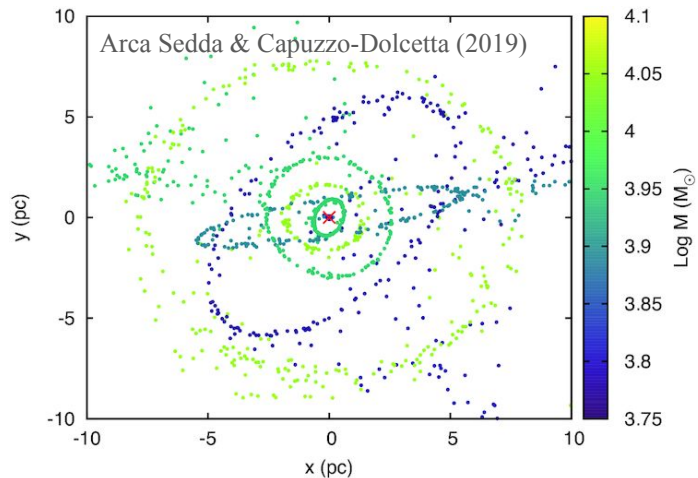
## Heavy IMRIs: IMBH + SMBH

- Minor galaxy mergers & Nuclear clusters

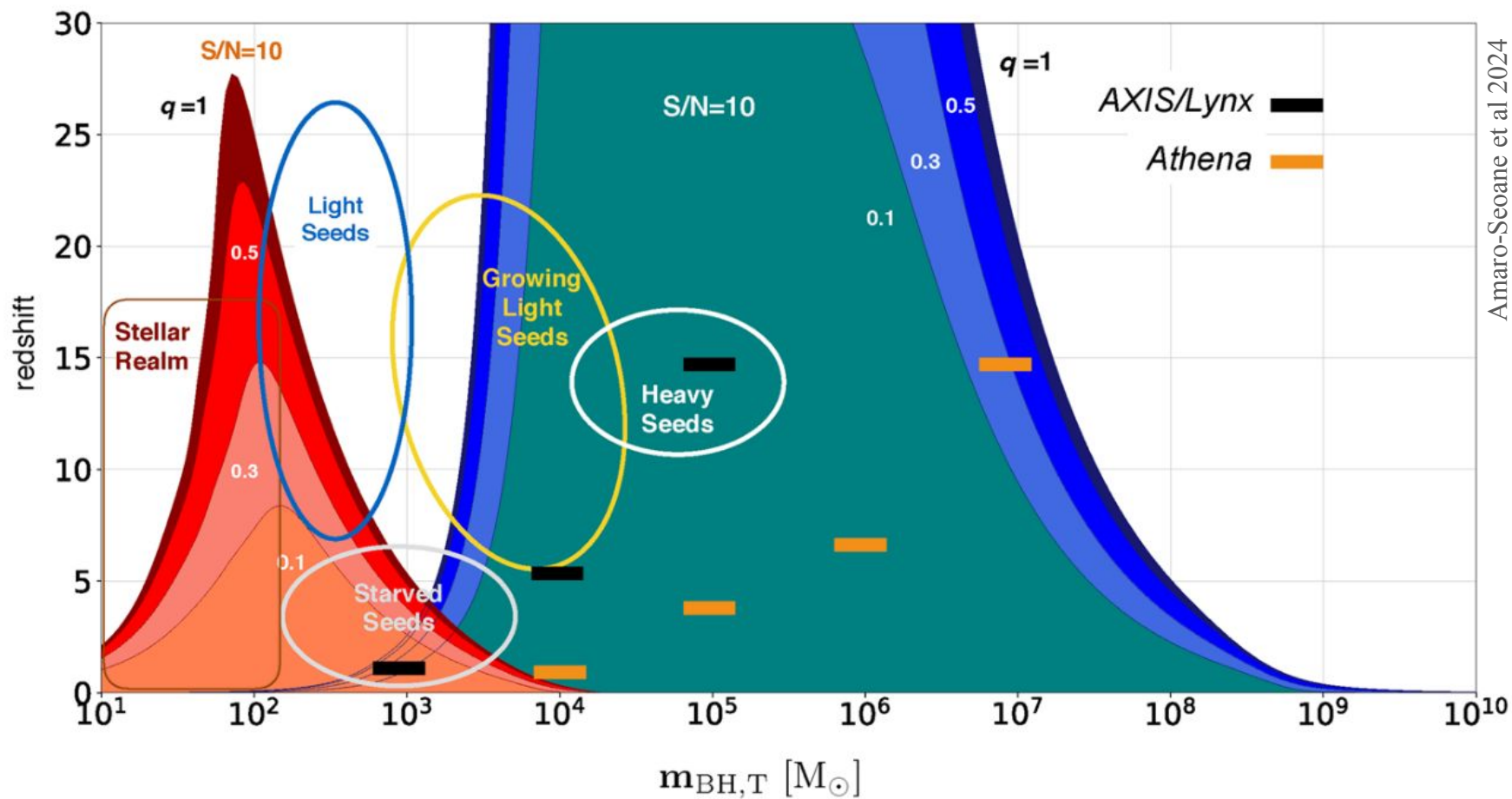
(Ebisuzaki+01, Portegies-Zwart+06, Arca Sedda&Gualandris18,  
Arca Sedda&Capuzzo-Dolcetta19, Fragione22)

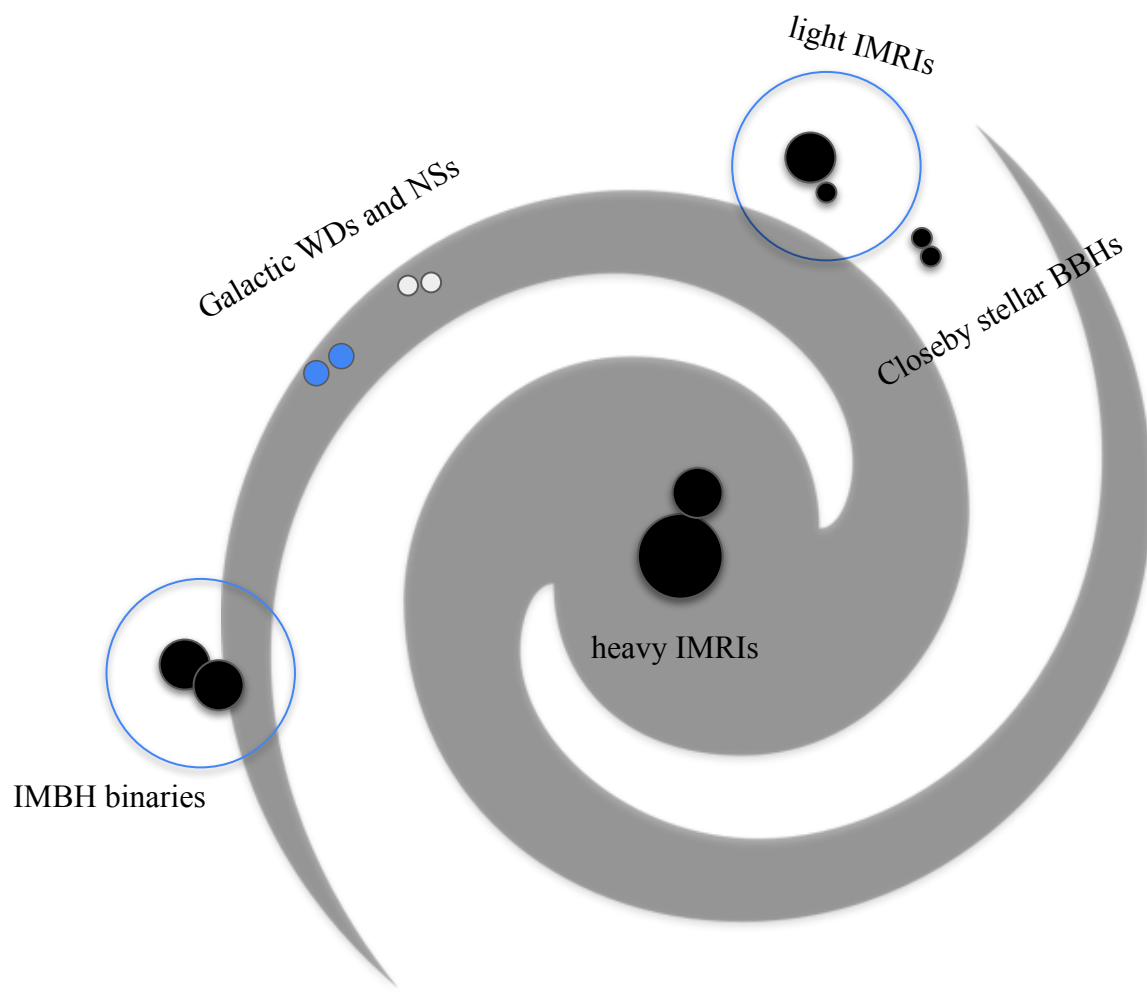


Arca Sedda & Gualandris (2018)



Arca Sedda & Capuzzo-Dolcetta (2019)



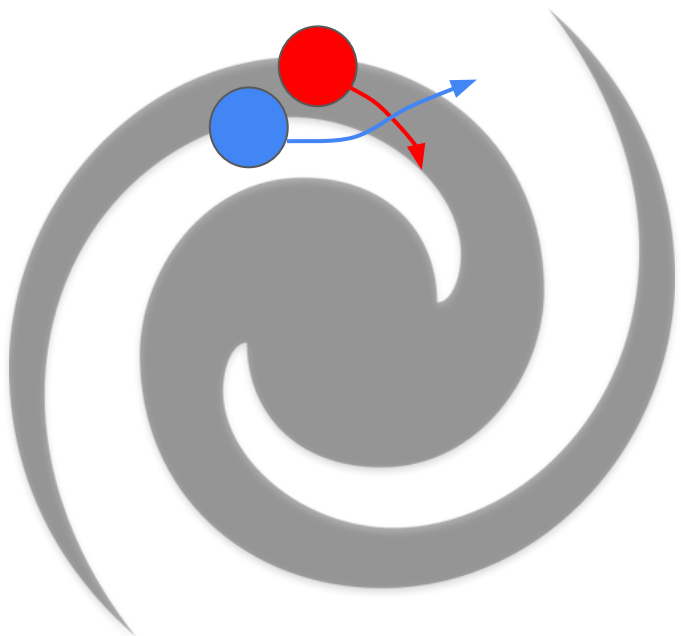






# IMBH binaries in merging clusters

- Merging star cluster in galactic discs



- In a MW-sized galaxy we expect 1 SC merger per Gyr (e.g. Khopersov+18)

- If  $P_{\text{IMBH}} \sim 20\% \rightarrow 1\text{-}2$  IMBHB per galactic disc in 10 Gyr (e.g. Arca Sedda & Mastrobuono-Battisti 19)

- At redshift  $< 1$  the number of MW-like galaxies is (e.g. Abadie+10)

$$N_G = \frac{4\pi}{3} \left( \frac{D_L}{1\text{Mpc}} \right)^3 (2.26)^{-3} 0.0116$$

- Naively, the number of mergers per yr

$$z < 1 \rightarrow R = 0.1 \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

$$z < 2 \rightarrow R = 1.7 \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

$$z < 3 \rightarrow R = 7.4 \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

# IMBH binaries in merging clusters

## MBH binary evolution

**Phase #1:** host systems merge

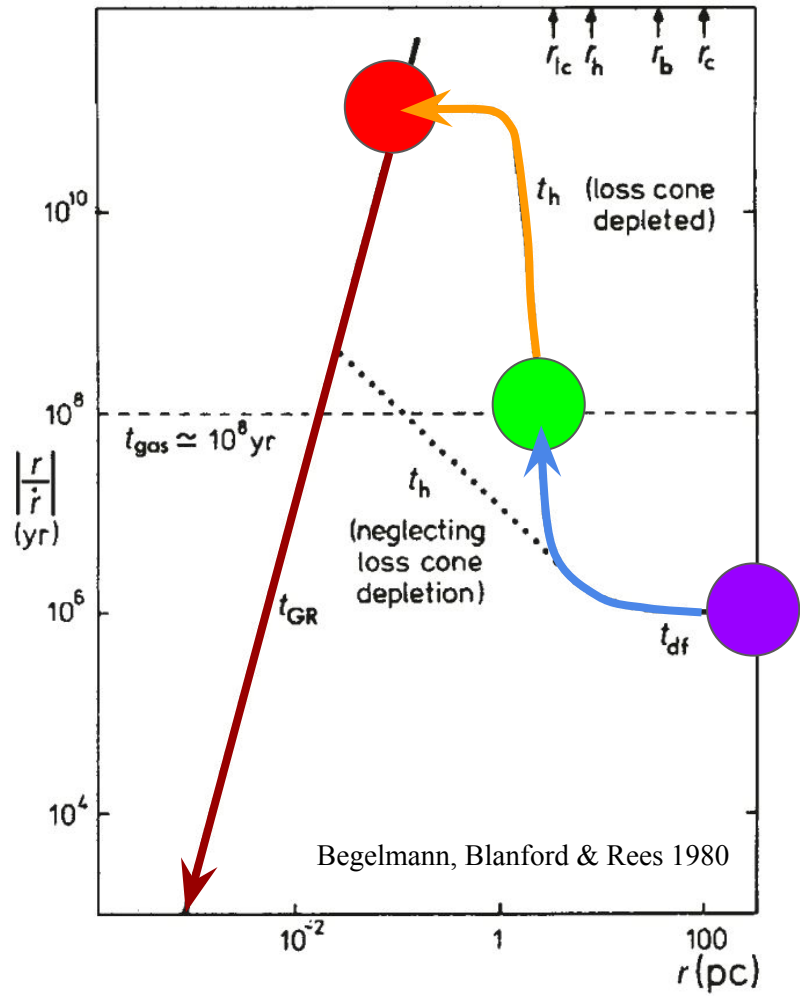
**Phase #2:** the MBHs inspiral in the merger remnant owing to dynamical friction

**Phase #3:** the MBHs find each other and form a bound pair

**Phase #4:** close passages of stars with angular momentum  $<$  than a threshold (loss cone) pass through the MBH binary orbit and steal energy, causing the hardening

**Phase #5:** the binary shrunk so much that GW emission becomes the dominant hardening process

**Phase #6:** the MBH binary merge and the remnant receives a kick as large as  $10^4$  km/s



# IMBH binaries in merging clusters

## MBH binary evolution

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See Elisa Bortolas' lecture tomorrow!!

