# COALESCING BLACK HOLES IN THE COSMIC LANDSCAPE

### Deciphering the Astrophysics behind the Discovery

#### MONICA COLPI

Department of Physics G. Occhialini University of Milano Bicocca, Italy

"AGN 13: THE BEAUTY AND THE BEAST"

9-12 October 2018













#### GW150914

#### HERE IS THE BEAUTY ! THE MERGER OF TWO PURELY GEOMETRICAL OBJECTS



The LIGO and VIRGO Scientific Collaboration





15-dimensional parameter space

BLACK HOLE COALESCENCE - HYDROGEN ATOM (classical!)

### $(10^6, 10^6) M_{\odot}$ $10^4 M_{\odot} c^2$

#### THE COALESCENCE OF MASSIVE BLACK HOLES



# The Gravitational Universe

- What is the origin of the supermassive black holes and how fast do they grow
- Do "seed black holes" exist?







do they pair in close binaries in situ?



atomic cooling halos illuminated by UV radiation

Black Holes - new, yet unseen objects - "HEAVY SEEDS"





 $\mathcal{M}_{\rm chirp}^{\rm obs} = (1+z)M_{\rm chirp}^{\rm source}$ 



### LISA HORIZON



- LISA horizon extends deep into the epoch of formation of the earliest black holes
- LISA traces the black hole cosmic swift drift to higher masses through accretion & mergers -low mass tail of the supermassive black holes
- spin and mass measurements are carried on with high precision

#### MOCK DATA



How to interpret this MOCK DATA file ?

- DOMINATED BY THE DEGENERACY OF MODELS
- REAL HEAVY SEEDS?
- LIGHT SEEDS (POP III) + ACCRETION?
- RUNAWAY STELLAR COLLISIONS?

ET + LISA can break this degeneracy

#### Black Holes in the Cosmological Framework



Black holes forming in pristine halos and pairing during halo-halo mergers "cosmologically-driven mergers" NO DELAY is included here

### Gravitational Universe



# SPIN

mass and spin are modeled by accretion and merger

- Spin increases from 0 to 1 after accreting (for prograde accretion)  $\sqrt{6}M_{\rm BH,initial}$
- Spin decrease from 1 to 0 after accreting (for retro-grade accretion)  $\sqrt{3}/2M_{\rm BH,initial}$
- Accretion torques lead to fast re-orientation of BH (disc-spin alignment)
- Isotropic versus coherent accretion shape the spins in relation to the environment and feeding process
- Mergers make two coalescing black hole spin up to 0.6578

$$\frac{dM_{\rm BH}}{dt} = (1 - \eta)\dot{M}c^2 = (1 - \eta)\left(\frac{f_{\rm Edd}}{\eta}\right)\frac{M_{\rm BH}}{\tau_{\rm S}},$$
$$\tau_{\rm S} = 45\varepsilon_{0.1}\,{\rm Myrs}$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{J}_{\rm BH}}{dt} = \dot{M} \frac{GM_{\rm BH}}{c} \Lambda_{\rm isco} \hat{\mathbf{I}}(R_{\rm ISCO}) + \frac{4\pi G}{c^2} \int_{\rm disk} \frac{\mathbf{L} \times \mathbf{J}_{\rm BH}}{R^2} dR,$$

 $\mathbf{J}_{\mathrm{disk}}/\mathbf{J}_{\mathrm{BH}}$ 



 $au_{\mathrm{warp}} < au_{\mathrm{al}} < au_{\mathrm{acc}} < au_{M_{\mathrm{BH}}} \sim au_{\mathrm{spin}}.$ 



LISA black holes might be highly spinning regardless the accretion mode

> Dotti, Colpi+ 2013 Sesana+ 2015

#### BINARY SPIN-SPIN ALIGNMENT



Tendency to align with the angular momentum of the circum- nuclear disc

DOTTI et al. 2010 PEREGO et al. 2009

#### MOCK DATA



#### MOCK DATA



### LOW REDSHIFT EVENTS

- the scale of gravitational-wave-driven inspiral is minuscule compared to galactic dimensions
- delays between formation of the binary and coalescence

$$t_{\rm coal} = \frac{5}{256} \frac{c^5}{G^3} \mathcal{G}(e) (1 - e^2)^{7/2} \frac{a^4}{\nu \, M_{\rm B}^3}$$

z = 15 $t_{\rm cosmic} = 0.27 {\rm Gyr}$	$M_{\rm B} = 10^5  M_{\odot}$	$M_{\rm B} = 10^6  M_{\odot}$
$a_{ m GW}$	$ u^{1/4} 2.5 \times 10^4 R_{\rm G} $ $ 0.25 \rm{mparsec} $	$ u^{1/4} 1.4 \times 10^4 R_{\rm G} $ 1.4 mparsec
z = 3 $t_{ m cosmic} = 2.16  { m Gyr}$	$M_{\rm B} = 10^5  M_{\odot}$	$M_{\rm B} = 10^6  M_{\odot}$
$a_{ m GW}$	$ \nu^{1/4}4 \times 10^4 R_{\rm G} $ 0.4 mparsec	$ u^{1/4}4.8 \times 10^4 R_{\rm G} $ 5 mparsec

 $a \propto \nu^{1/4} M^{3/4}$ 



black hole dynamics in massive circum-nuclear gas discs on ~(100 - 1)pc





- fragmentation from inside out occurs on a timescale smaller than the orbital decay time
- dense gaseous clumps form, interact, merge to form fewer and larger clump, and migrate to the centre
- clumps can have masses comparable or larger than the black hole masses
- high density contrast leading to a completely different dynamics

Souza Lima+2016, del Valle+2015, Fiacconi+2013



- no-circularization
- scattering off the disc plane postponed merger
- rare cases in which the secondary black hole is drag inside a clump rapidly to the centre
- spread in the delay times (stochastic dynamics): 2–100 Myrs

### type II migration in a circum-binary disc



Courtesy by Zoltan Haiman +2017

 black holes deposit orbital angular momentum exciting both leading and trailing spiral waves opening a gap of twice the size of the binary separation

> Kocsis+ 2007,2012; MacFadyen+2008; Roedig et al. 2011,12,14; D'Orazio et al. 2013; Farris et al. 2015; Dunhill et al. 2015; Tang et al. 2017; Maureira-Fredes 2018; Dotti+2015



- turbulence and gravitational torques maintain the contact between the disc and the black hole
- the two black holes "migrate" inwards
- the gap "follows" the binary
- mini discs and not empty cavity



# electromagnetic counterparts



- DUAL AGN (NGC6240)
- BINARY AGN long search for and still under search
- EM-counterpart @ coalescence -kseconds prior merging

$$\Delta\Omega\approx 0.5\,deg^2\,\rho_3^{-7/4}\qquad {}^{\rho_3}\,->\,{\rm SNR}\,{}^{=}\,10^3$$





### Summary



- The gravitational universe promises many new discoveries
- New way of observing black holes: binary and GW signal
- Study of the EM signature of a binary coalescence events
- Search for strategies to recognize these transient events
- Search for synergies with Athen
- ... please join the effort
- ..... please join the effort in understanding the dynamics critical for assessing the rate and the binary black holes mass spectrum

# take home message

- black hole dynamics is a very complex problem
- presence of a massive stellar cusp leads to swift coalescence (z-dependent? wait until z~4-5?)
- presence of large inflows of gas produce scatter in the delay times
- setting the "clock" is both a cosmological and local problem
- it is still difficult to quantify the level of broadening of the time delay distribution in the formation of ET-LISA coalescing binary black holes: 10 Myrs - 4 Gyrs

### • ANCILLARY SLIDES

#### portrait of an isolated gas-rich major (1:4) merger



# take home message

- black hole dynamics is a very complex problem
- presence of a massive stellar cusp leads to swift coalescence (z-dependent? wait until z~4-5?)
- presence of large inflows of gas produce scatter in the delay times
- setting the "clock" is both a cosmological and local problem
- it is still difficult to quantify the level of broadening of the time delay distribution in the formation of ET-LISA coalescing binary black holes: 10 Myrs - 4 Gyrs

#### primary black hole



### portrait of a cosmological merger



$$m_1^{\rm BH} = 10^8 \,\rm M_\odot$$

$$m_2^{\rm BH} = 3 \times 10^7 \,\rm M_\odot$$

Khan, Mayer, Fiacconi 2016

• first ab initio simulation of a galaxy group @ z=3.5 from Argo cosmological simulation



spirals undergoing a major merger (1:3.6 mass ratio) on a sinclined by 67 degrees

Spintang procedure to attail a force resolution of 5 pc - Direct N-Body code (mass resolution 6000 gas, 10,000 stars, "100,000 dark matter)

$$M_{2,*} \sim 10^{10} M_{\odot}$$
$$M_{1,*} \sim 3.6 \times 10^{10} M_{\odot}$$
$$M_{\text{halo}} \sim 10^{13} M_{\odot} @ z = 0$$





effective black hole mass enhanced by an episode of star formation

Take home message

- nuclear inflows of gas and episodes of star formation in the vicinity of the black holes are instrumental in creating the conditions for rapid pairing as they enhance the effective mass of the black hole and thus the dynamical friction drag
- provide the reservoir of stars for the <u>slingshot mechanism</u> to become effective in the triaxial potential of the new galaxy
- stars are "key players" for the merger to stay on clock with the "help" of gas: having a higher degree of dissipation/ability to loose angular momentum gaseous stream lead to formation of stellar cusps
- just a single simulation with "massive" black holes