

Weighting a beast: how to measure the mass of an accreting Super Massive Black Hole? (INVITED)

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An accreting super massive black hole lurks at the center of AGNs and QSOs. Measuring its mass is not trivial due to the very small size of the sphere of influence, and the high luminosity of the AGN itself when compared to the stars in the host galaxy.

I will review the currently available methods to measure the black hole mass of Type 1 AGNs (reverberation mapping, virial methods, empirical relations, accretion disk fitting), and compare their results and reliability.

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