

# Dynamics of black holes in dense stellar systems

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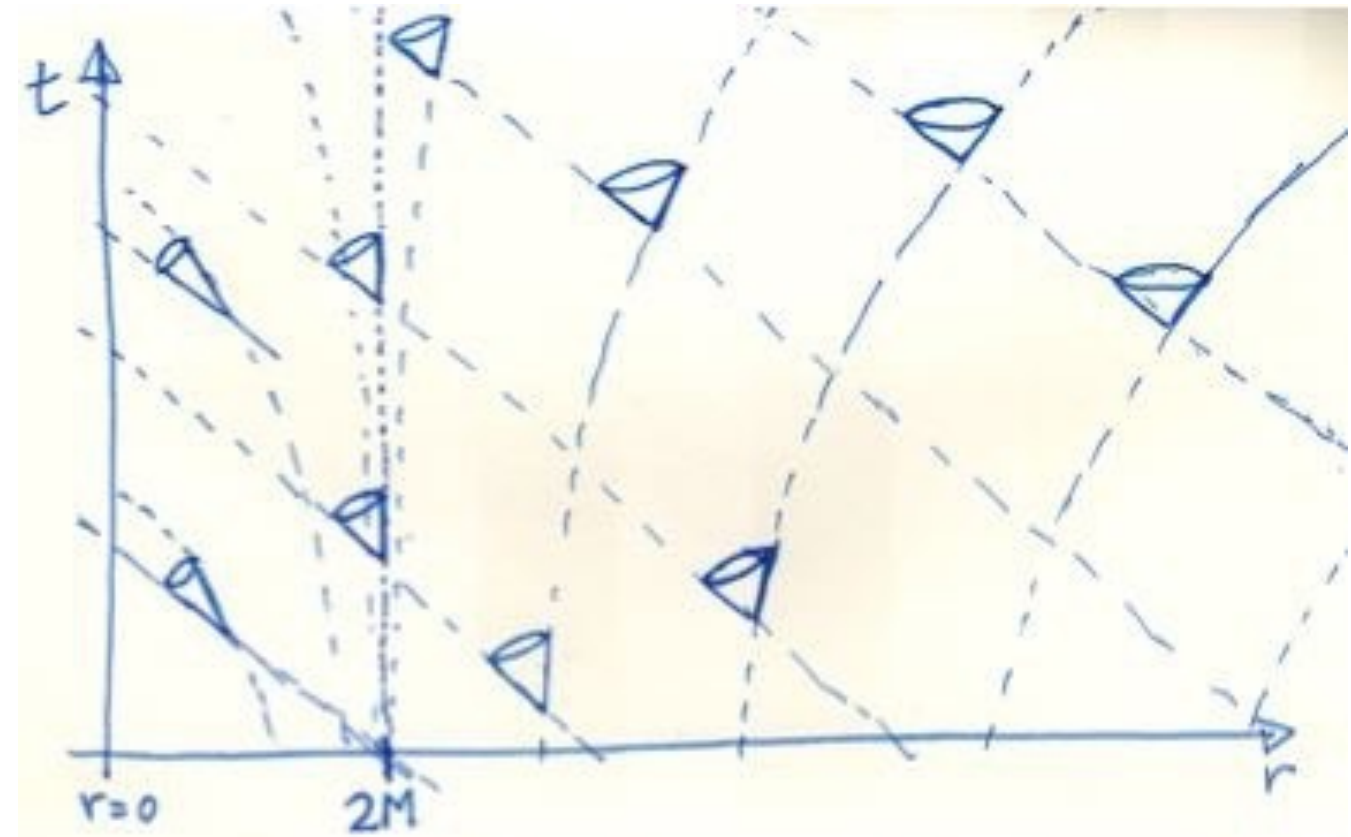
Lecture 1

# Contents

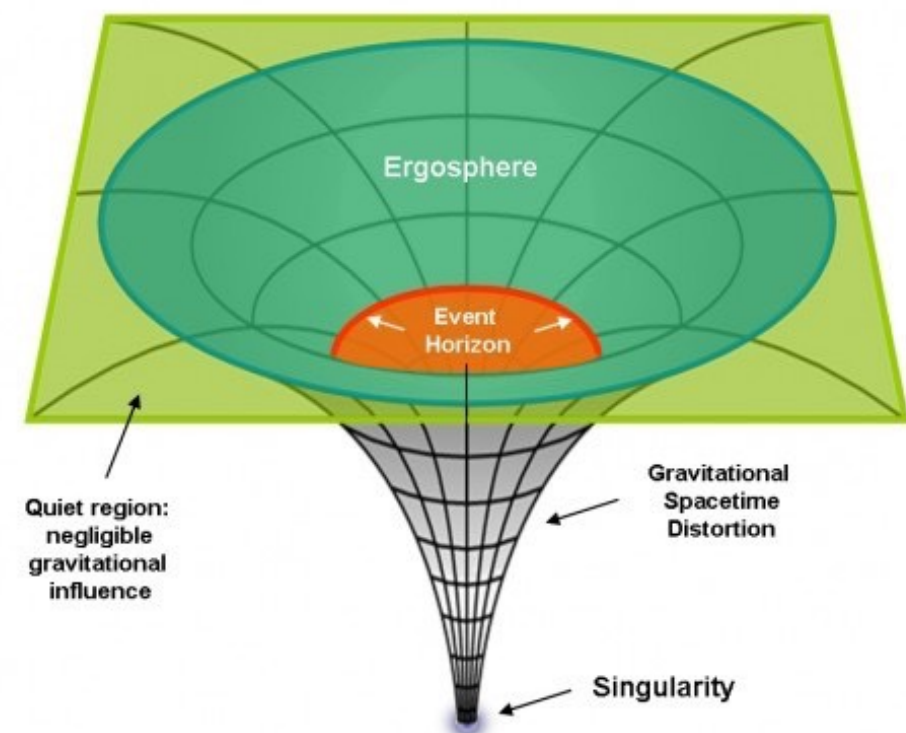
- Introduction: gravitational waves, detectors, basics of stellar dynamics - mass segregation, energy equipartition, core collapse
- Dynamics of stellar mass black holes in clusters: dynamical mechanisms of general-relativistic in-spirals and their observational signatures.
- Effect of black holes on cluster evolution and dynamics, N-body codes, stellar evolution and remnant formation in N-body codes (the BSE framework)

# What is a black hole?

- Relativist's definition: a surface where a photon “continues to stay” and a massive particle can only travel inwards.
- Called a “null hypersurface” or event horizon.
- Necessarily spherically symmetric or axisymmetric in a static spacetime --- ‘no-hair theorem’.
- Mathematically well-studied.



Black Hole Regions



# What is a real (astrophysical) black hole?

Any self-gravitating object that is more massive than  $\gtrsim 3M_{\odot}$  and is “compact”.

Compact => supporting pressure is degeneracy pressure (e.g., white dwarf and neutron star)

Beyond  $\approx 3M_{\odot}$  (the maximum mass of a Neutron Star) there is no known way to support against self-gravitational collapse (unless an energy source is available) - and endless collapse of matter towards a black hole is assumed.

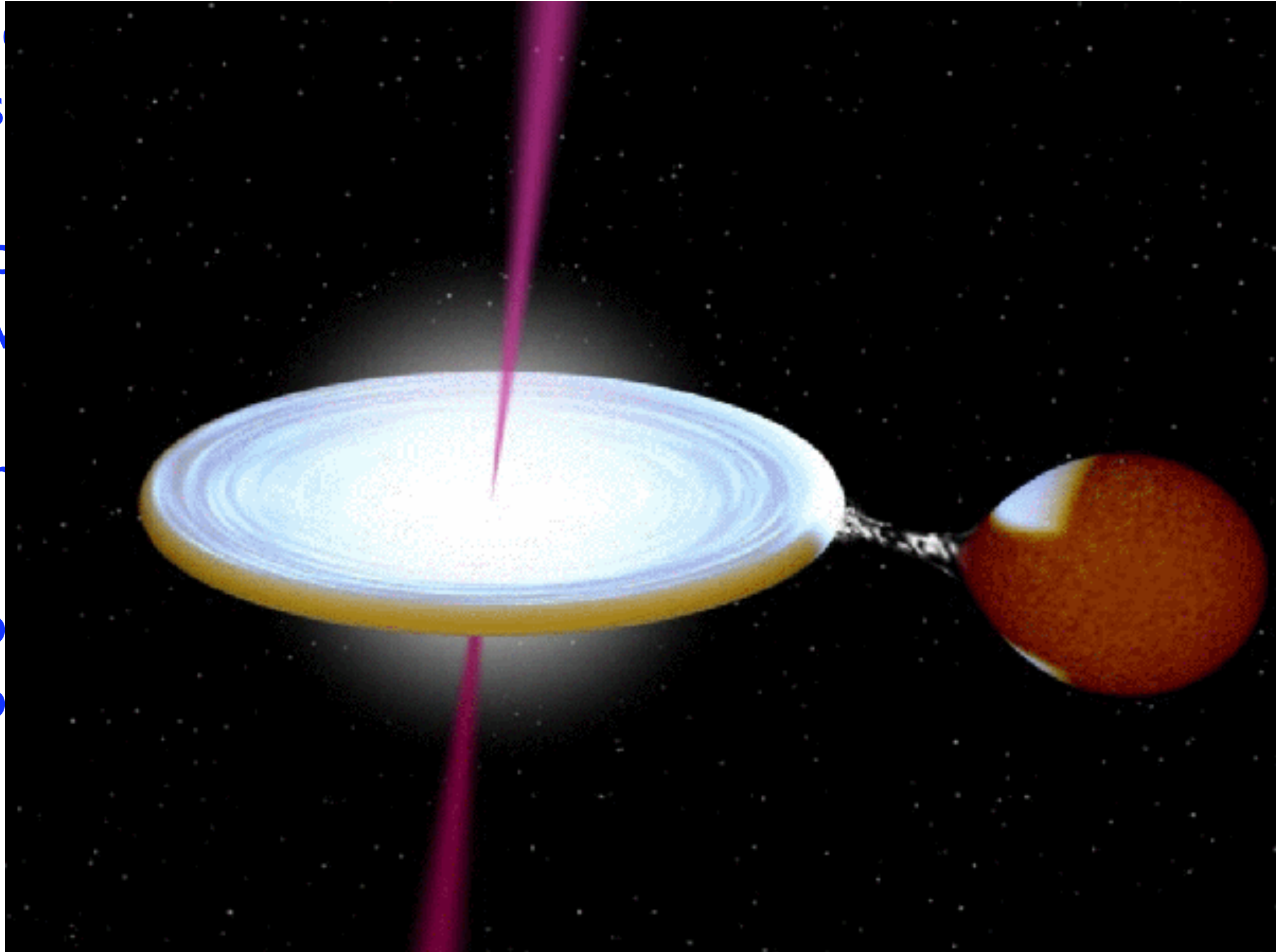


# What is a real (astrophysical) black hole?

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# What is a real (astrophysical) black hole?

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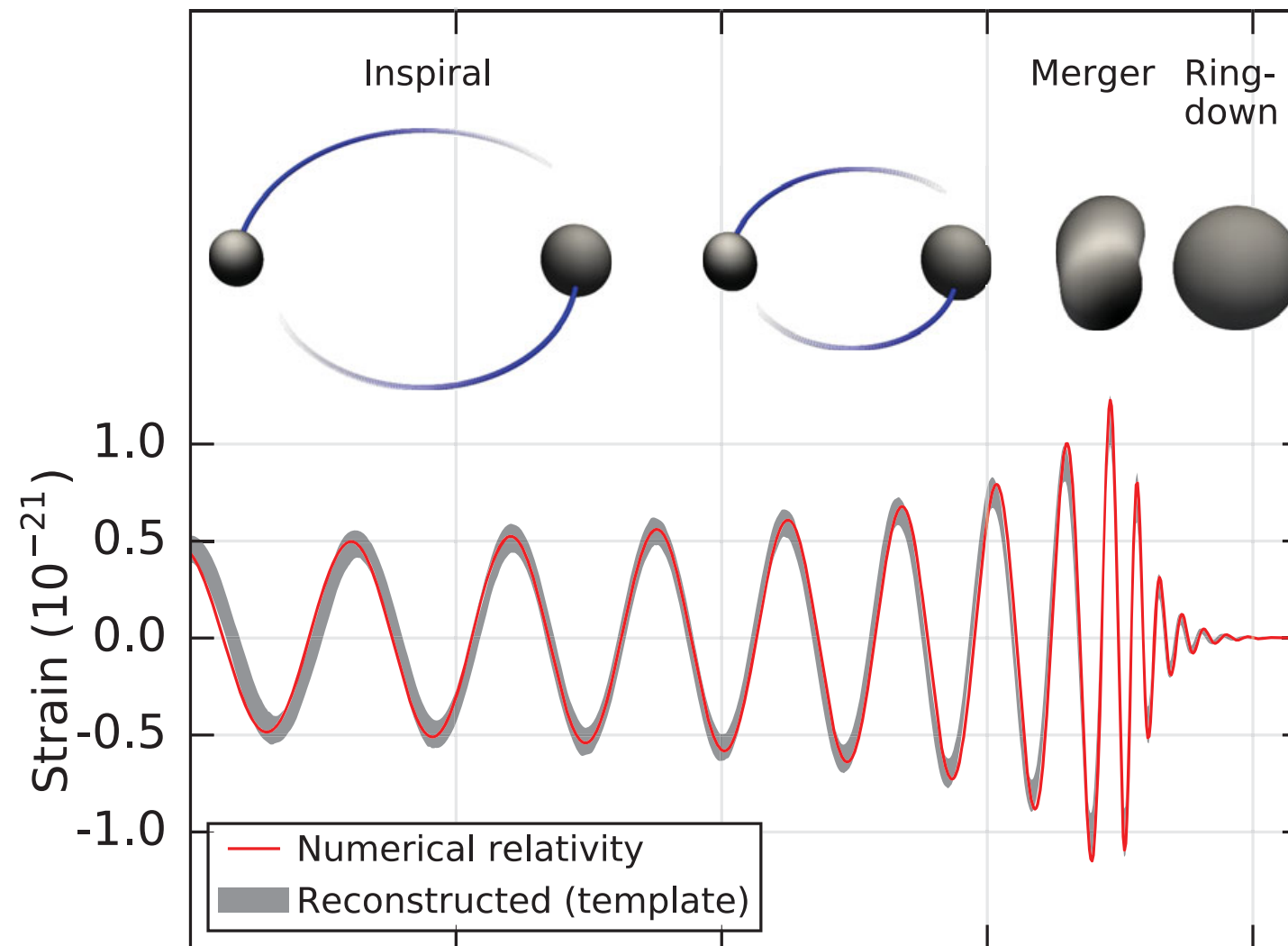
Beyond  $\approx 3M_{\odot}$  (the maximum mass of a Neutron Star) there is no known way to support against self-gravitational collapse (unless an energy source is available) - and endless collapse of matter towards a black hole is assumed.

# Celestial black holes: wide (inferred) mass-range

- Stellar mass black holes (BH)  $M_{BH} < 100M_{\odot}$   
--- end products of massive stars.
- Intermediate mass black holes (IMBH) (?)  
 $\sim 10^2 M_{\odot} - \sim 10^4 M_{\odot}$  — *existence still unclear!*  
formed via runaway merger of stars in clusters, gas accretion by seed stellar BHs, direct collapse of massive ‘first stars’.
- Supermassive black holes (SMBH)  $M_{BH} > 10^5 M_{\odot}$   
galaxies’ central engines, e.g., active galactic nuclei, radio galaxies: possible formation by matter infall at galaxy center, galaxy-galaxy mergers

# First *\*direct\** detection of gravitational waves

## GW150914



[From LIGO Scientific Collaboration PRL 116, 061102 (2016)]

Direct detection of gravitational-waves (GW) from merging binary black holes is the most unambiguous detection of black holes and its parameters (mass, spin) and, of course, the best proof of Einstein's general relativity.

The best and the strongest proof of Einstein's general theory of relativity, to date.

A very strong if not the best evidence so far of the existence of black holes.

Paves the most unambiguous way to weigh black holes and measure their spins through the same measurement.

The 2017 Nobel Prize in Physics (to **Rainer Weiss, Barry Barish, and Kip Thorne** of the LIGO-VIRGO Collaboration)

**Einstein's Field Equations**  
(Mathematical form of Einstein's Gravity)

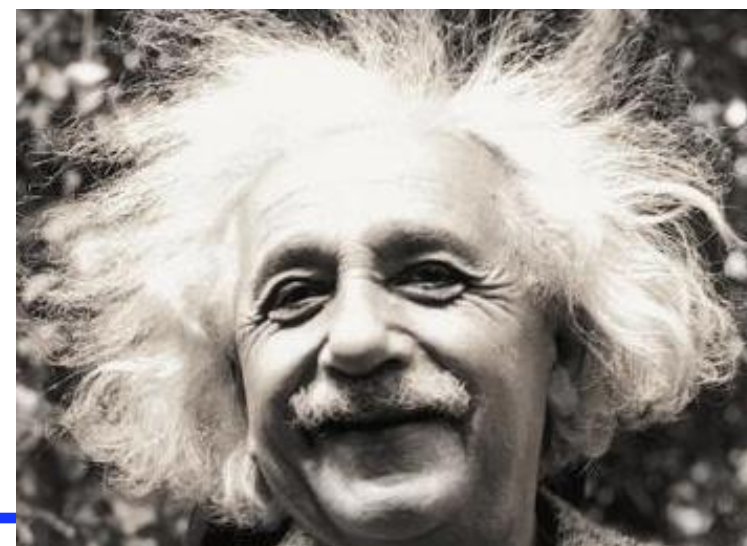
*General Theory of Relativity*

Scalar curvature      Newton's Gravitational constant      stress energy tensor.

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R + g_{\mu\nu}\Lambda = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4}T_{\mu\nu}$$

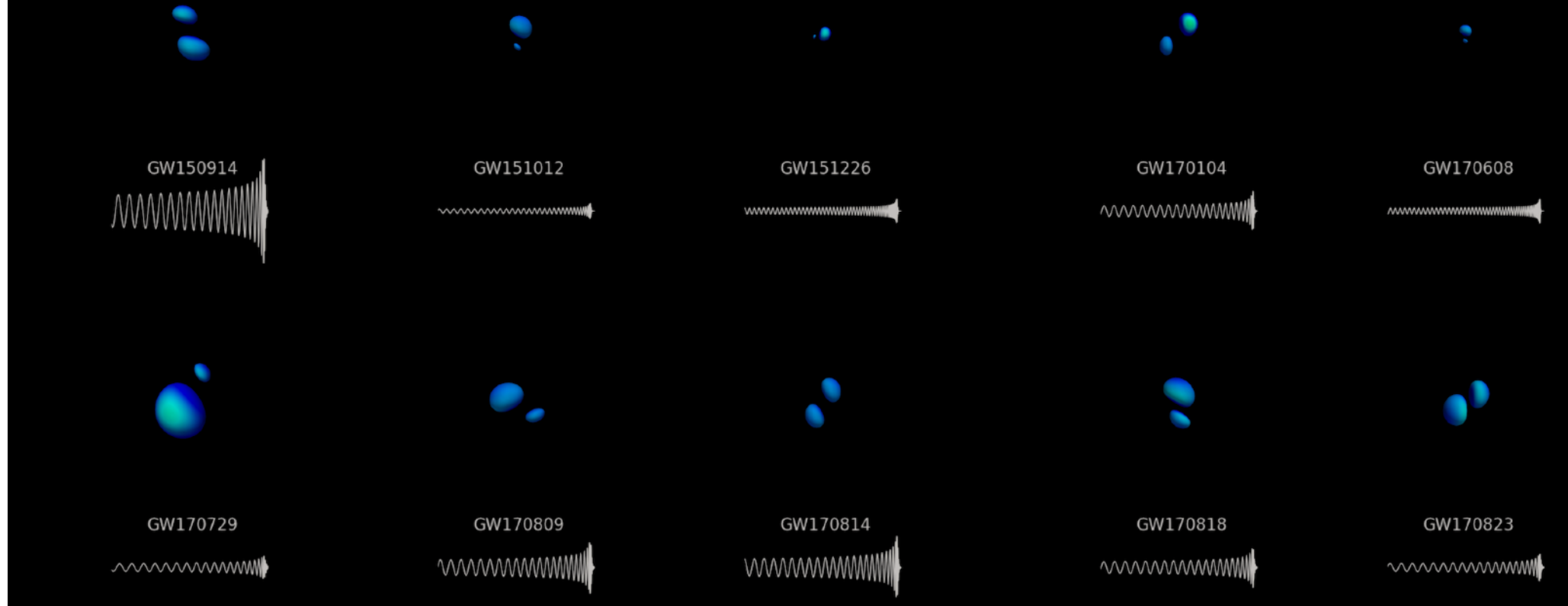
Ricci curvature tensor      metric tensor      cosmological constant      light speed in vacuum

The diagram shows the mathematical equation for Einstein's Field Equations. Colored arrows point from descriptive labels to specific parts of the equation: a blue arrow from 'Scalar curvature' to  $R_{\mu\nu}$ ; a pink arrow from 'Ricci curvature tensor' to  $R_{\mu\nu}$ ; a green arrow from 'metric tensor' to  $g_{\mu\nu}$ ; a green arrow from 'cosmological constant' to  $\Lambda$ ; a pink arrow from 'Newton's Gravitational constant' to  $G$ ; an orange arrow from 'stress energy tensor.' to  $T_{\mu\nu}$ ; and a green arrow from 'light speed in vacuum' to  $c$ .





# LIGO/Virgo release first catalog of gravitational-wave events



## LVC until second observing run (O2): Phys. Rev. X 9, 031040 (2019)

Event	$m_1/M_\odot$	$m_2/M_\odot$	$\mathcal{M}/M_\odot$	$\chi_{\text{eff}}$	$M_f/M_\odot$	$a_f$	$E_{\text{rad}}/(M_\odot c^2)$	$\ell_{\text{peak}}/(\text{erg s}^{-1})$	$d_L/\text{Mpc}$	$z$	$\Delta\Omega/\text{deg}^2$
GW150914	$35.6^{+4.7}_{-3.1}$	$30.6^{+3.0}_{-4.4}$	$28.6^{+1.7}_{-1.5}$	$-0.01^{+0.12}_{-0.13}$	$63.1^{+3.4}_{-3.0}$	$0.69^{+0.05}_{-0.04}$	$3.1^{+0.4}_{-0.4}$	$3.6^{+0.4}_{-0.4} \times 10^{56}$	$440^{+150}_{-170}$	$0.09^{+0.03}_{-0.03}$	182
GW151012	$23.2^{+14.9}_{-5.5}$	$13.6^{+4.1}_{-4.8}$	$15.2^{+2.1}_{-1.2}$	$0.05^{+0.31}_{-0.20}$	$35.6^{+10.8}_{-3.8}$	$0.67^{+0.13}_{-0.11}$	$1.6^{+0.6}_{-0.5}$	$3.2^{+0.8}_{-1.7} \times 10^{56}$	$1080^{+550}_{-490}$	$0.21^{+0.09}_{-0.09}$	1523
GW151226	$13.7^{+8.8}_{-3.2}$	$7.7^{+2.2}_{-2.5}$	$8.9^{+0.3}_{-0.3}$	$0.18^{+0.20}_{-0.12}$	$20.5^{+6.4}_{-1.5}$	$0.74^{+0.07}_{-0.05}$	$1.0^{+0.1}_{-0.2}$	$3.4^{+0.7}_{-1.7} \times 10^{56}$	$450^{+180}_{-190}$	$0.09^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$	1033
GW170104	$30.8^{+7.3}_{-5.6}$	$20.0^{+4.9}_{-4.6}$	$21.4^{+2.2}_{-1.8}$	$-0.04^{+0.17}_{-0.21}$	$48.9^{+5.1}_{-4.0}$	$0.66^{+0.08}_{-0.11}$	$2.2^{+0.5}_{-0.5}$	$3.3^{+0.6}_{-1.0} \times 10^{56}$	$990^{+440}_{-430}$	$0.20^{+0.08}_{-0.08}$	921
GW170608	$11.0^{+5.5}_{-1.7}$	$7.6^{+1.4}_{-2.2}$	$7.9^{+0.2}_{-0.2}$	$0.03^{+0.19}_{-0.07}$	$17.8^{+3.4}_{-0.7}$	$0.69^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$	$0.9^{+0.0}_{-0.1}$	$3.5^{+0.4}_{-1.3} \times 10^{56}$	$320^{+120}_{-110}$	$0.07^{+0.02}_{-0.02}$	392
GW170729	$50.2^{+16.2}_{-10.2}$	$34.0^{+9.1}_{-10.1}$	$35.4^{+6.5}_{-4.8}$	$0.37^{+0.21}_{-0.25}$	$79.5^{+14.7}_{-10.2}$	$0.81^{+0.07}_{-0.13}$	$4.8^{+1.7}_{-1.7}$	$4.2^{+0.9}_{-1.5} \times 10^{56}$	$2840^{+1400}_{-1360}$	$0.49^{+0.19}_{-0.21}$	1041
GW170809	$35.0^{+8.3}_{-5.9}$	$23.8^{+5.1}_{-5.2}$	$24.9^{+2.1}_{-1.7}$	$0.08^{+0.17}_{-0.17}$	$56.3^{+5.2}_{-3.8}$	$0.70^{+0.08}_{-0.09}$	$2.7^{+0.6}_{-0.6}$	$3.5^{+0.6}_{-0.9} \times 10^{56}$	$1030^{+320}_{-390}$	$0.20^{+0.05}_{-0.07}$	308
GW170814	$30.6^{+5.6}_{-3.0}$	$25.2^{+2.8}_{-4.0}$	$24.1^{+1.4}_{-1.1}$	$0.07^{+0.12}_{-0.12}$	$53.2^{+3.2}_{-2.4}$	$0.72^{+0.07}_{-0.05}$	$2.7^{+0.4}_{-0.3}$	$3.7^{+0.4}_{-0.5} \times 10^{56}$	$600^{+150}_{-220}$	$0.12^{+0.03}_{-0.04}$	87
GW170817	$1.46^{+0.12}_{-0.10}$	$1.27^{+0.09}_{-0.09}$	$1.186^{+0.001}_{-0.001}$	$0.00^{+0.02}_{-0.01}$	$\leq 2.8$	$\leq 0.89$	$\geq 0.04$	$\geq 0.1 \times 10^{56}$	$40^{+7}_{-15}$	$0.01^{+0.00}_{-0.00}$	16
GW170818	$35.4^{+7.5}_{-4.7}$	$26.7^{+4.3}_{-5.2}$	$26.5^{+2.1}_{-1.7}$	$-0.09^{+0.18}_{-0.21}$	$59.4^{+4.9}_{-3.8}$	$0.67^{+0.07}_{-0.08}$	$2.7^{+0.5}_{-0.5}$	$3.4^{+0.5}_{-0.7} \times 10^{56}$	$1060^{+420}_{-380}$	$0.21^{+0.07}_{-0.07}$	39
GW170823	$39.5^{+11.2}_{-6.7}$	$29.0^{+6.7}_{-7.8}$	$29.2^{+4.6}_{-3.6}$	$0.09^{+0.22}_{-0.26}$	$65.4^{+10.1}_{-7.4}$	$0.72^{+0.09}_{-0.12}$	$3.3^{+1.0}_{-0.9}$	$3.6^{+0.7}_{-1.1} \times 10^{56}$	$1940^{+970}_{-900}$	$0.35^{+0.15}_{-0.15}$	1666

# LIGO/Virgo release first catalog of gravitational-wave events

GW150914

GW151012

GW151226

GW170104

GW170608

**> 33 (and counting) compact binary merger candidates in O3!**

**Maximum distance observed approx. 4 Gpc**

Event	$\alpha$ (deg)	$\delta$ (deg)	$\Delta\alpha$ (deg)	$\Delta\delta$ (deg)	$\Delta\alpha$ (deg)	$\Delta\delta$ (deg)	$\Delta\alpha$ (deg)	$\Delta\delta$ (deg)	$\Delta\alpha$ (deg)	$\Delta\delta$ (deg)	$\Delta\alpha$ (deg)	$\Delta\delta$ (deg)	Area (deg <sup>2</sup> )
GW150914	85.4	-88.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	82
GW151012	135.1	-38.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23
GW151226	151.7	-35.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	33
GW170104	102.5	-30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21
GW170608	136.2	-63.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	92
GW170729	130.2	-10.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1041
GW170809	35.0 <sup>+8.3</sup> <sub>-5.9</sub>	23.8 <sup>+5.1</sup> <sub>-5.2</sub>	24.9 <sup>+2.1</sup> <sub>-1.7</sub>	0.08 <sup>+0.17</sup> <sub>-0.17</sub>	56.3 <sup>+5.2</sup> <sub>-3.8</sub>	0.70 <sup>+0.08</sup> <sub>-0.09</sub>	2.7 <sup>+0.6</sup> <sub>-0.6</sub>	3.5 <sup>+0.6</sup> <sub>-0.9</sub> × 10 <sup>56</sup>	1030 <sup>+320</sup> <sub>-390</sub>	0.20 <sup>+0.05</sup> <sub>-0.07</sub>			308
GW170814	30.6 <sup>+5.6</sup> <sub>-3.0</sub>	25.2 <sup>+2.8</sup> <sub>-4.0</sub>	24.1 <sup>+1.4</sup> <sub>-1.1</sub>	0.07 <sup>+0.12</sup> <sub>-0.12</sub>	53.2 <sup>+3.2</sup> <sub>-2.4</sub>	0.72 <sup>+0.07</sup> <sub>-0.05</sub>	2.7 <sup>+0.4</sup> <sub>-0.3</sub>	3.7 <sup>+0.4</sup> <sub>-0.5</sub> × 10 <sup>56</sup>	600 <sup>+150</sup> <sub>-220</sub>	0.12 <sup>+0.03</sup> <sub>-0.04</sub>			87
GW170817	1.46 <sup>+0.12</sup> <sub>-0.10</sub>	1.27 <sup>+0.09</sup> <sub>-0.09</sub>	1.186 <sup>+0.001</sup> <sub>-0.001</sub>	0.00 <sup>+0.02</sup> <sub>-0.01</sub>	≤ 2.8	≤ 0.89	≥ 0.04	≥ 0.1 × 10 <sup>56</sup>	40 <sup>+7</sup> <sub>-15</sub>	0.01 <sup>+0.00</sup> <sub>-0.00</sub>			16
GW170818	35.4 <sup>+7.5</sup> <sub>-4.7</sub>	26.7 <sup>+4.3</sup> <sub>-5.2</sub>	26.5 <sup>+2.1</sup> <sub>-1.7</sub>	-0.09 <sup>+0.18</sup> <sub>-0.21</sub>	59.4 <sup>+4.9</sup> <sub>-3.8</sub>	0.67 <sup>+0.07</sup> <sub>-0.08</sub>	2.7 <sup>+0.5</sup> <sub>-0.5</sub>	3.4 <sup>+0.5</sup> <sub>-0.7</sub> × 10 <sup>56</sup>	1060 <sup>+420</sup> <sub>-380</sub>	0.21 <sup>+0.07</sup> <sub>-0.07</sub>			39
GW170823	39.5 <sup>+11.2</sup> <sub>-6.7</sub>	29.0 <sup>+6.7</sup> <sub>-7.8</sub>	29.2 <sup>+4.6</sup> <sub>-3.6</sub>	0.09 <sup>+0.22</sup> <sub>-0.26</sub>	65.4 <sup>+10.1</sup> <sub>-7.4</sub>	0.72 <sup>+0.09</sup> <sub>-0.12</sub>	3.3 <sup>+1.0</sup> <sub>-0.9</sub>	3.6 <sup>+0.7</sup> <sub>-1.1</sub> × 10 <sup>56</sup>	1940 <sup>+970</sup> <sub>-900</sub>	0.35 <sup>+0.15</sup> <sub>-0.15</sub>			1666

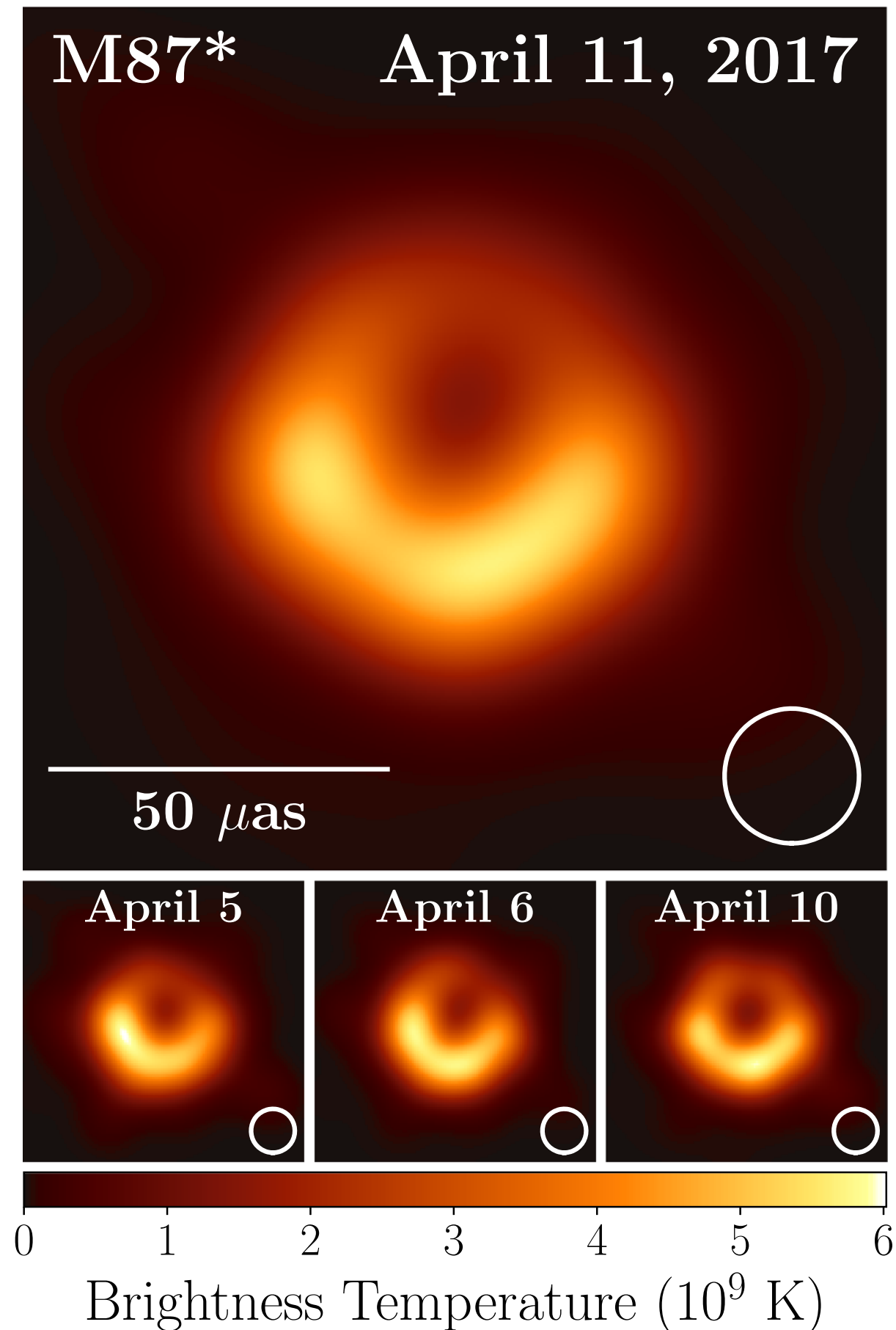


M87\*

April 11, 2017

# First image of the “shadow” of a supermassive black hole

A visual evidence: the image of  
the center of the M87 galaxy  
recorded with the Event Horizon  
Telescope (EHT).



From The EHT collaboration et al.,  
2019, ApJ, 875, L1.

Indirect (but quite compelling) evidence of GW emission is known for 4 decades from radio observations of binary pulsars (compact relativistic binaries)

PSR 1913+16: Hulse & Taylor (1975) [double neutron star binary]

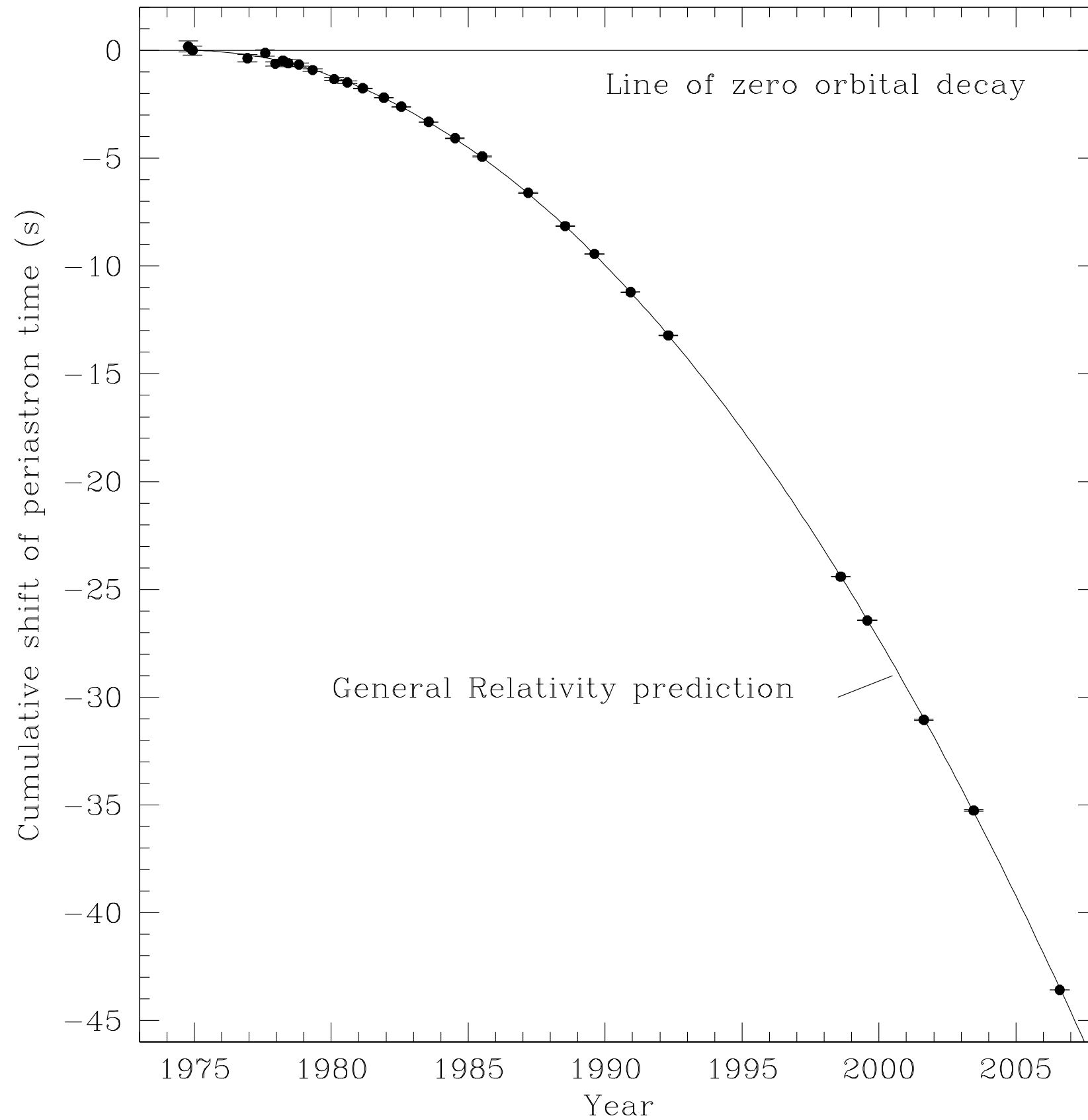
PSR J0348+0432: Antoniadis et al. (2013) [neutron star - white dwarf binary]

Show decay in orbital period decay according to GR

$$\left\langle \frac{da}{dt} \right\rangle = -\frac{64G^3}{5c^5} m_1 m_2 (m_1 + m_2) a^{-3} (1 - e^2)^{-\frac{7}{2}}$$

$$\tau_{\text{mrg}} \approx \frac{5}{64} \frac{c^5 a^4 (1 - e^2)^{7/2}}{G^3 m_1 m_2 (m_1 + m_2)} \left( 1 + \frac{73}{24} e^2 + \frac{37}{96} e^4 \right)^{-1}$$

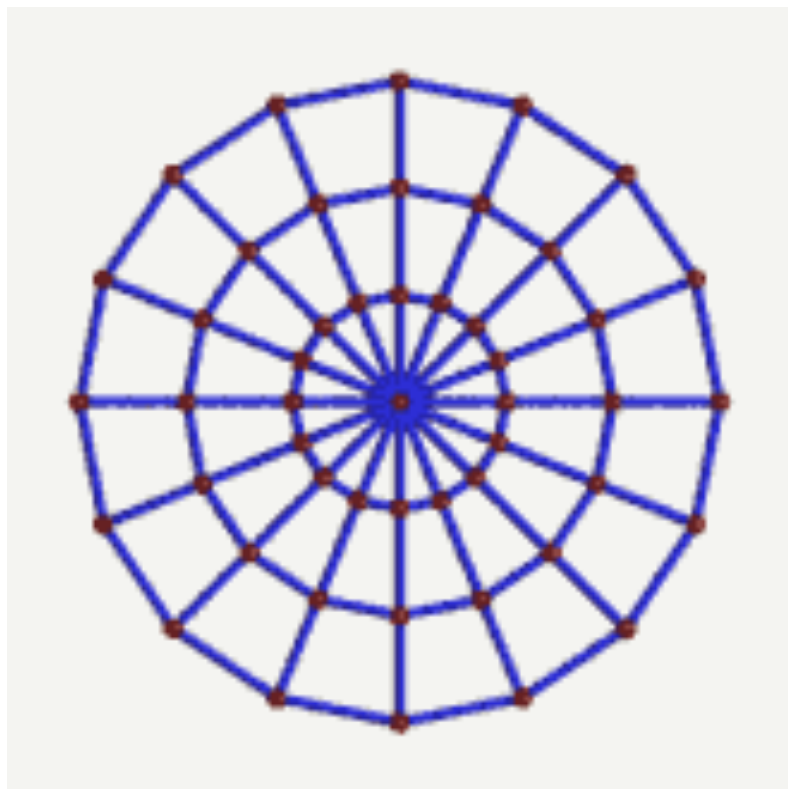
Peters (1964)



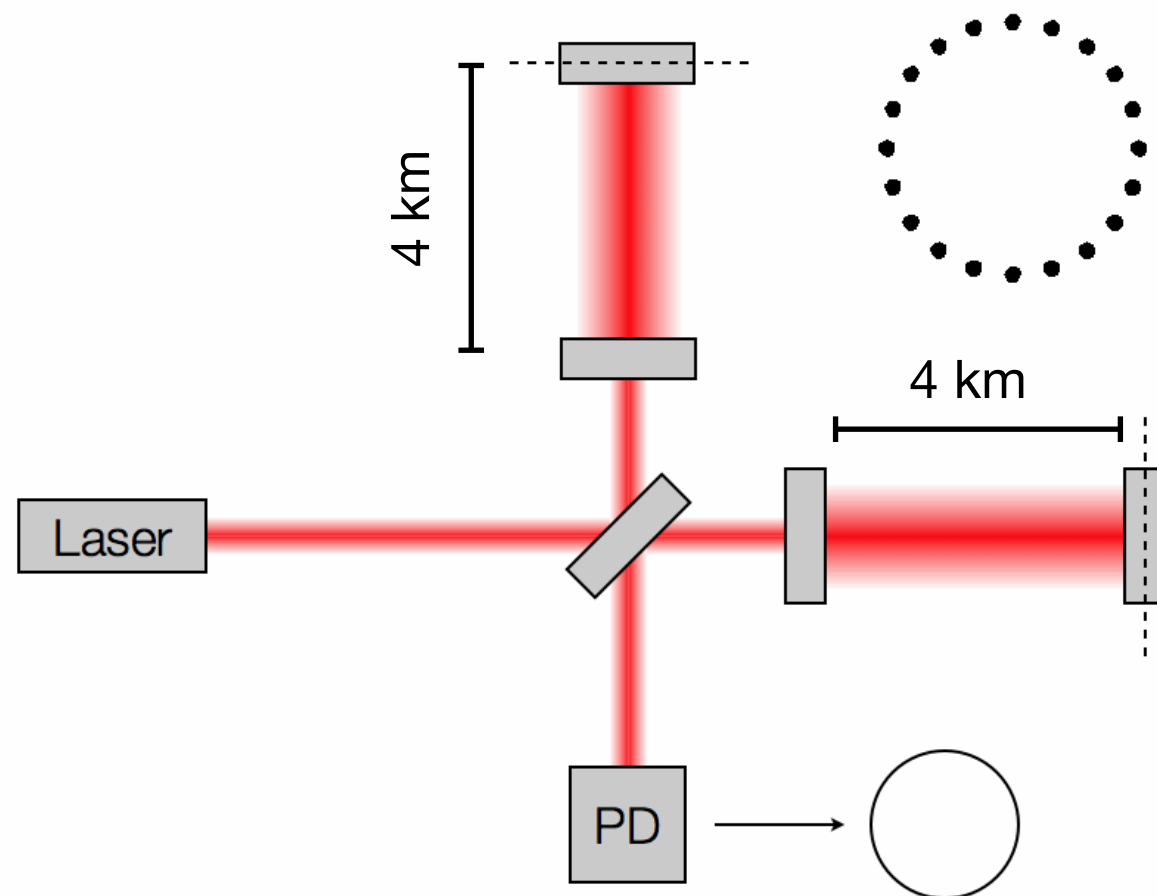
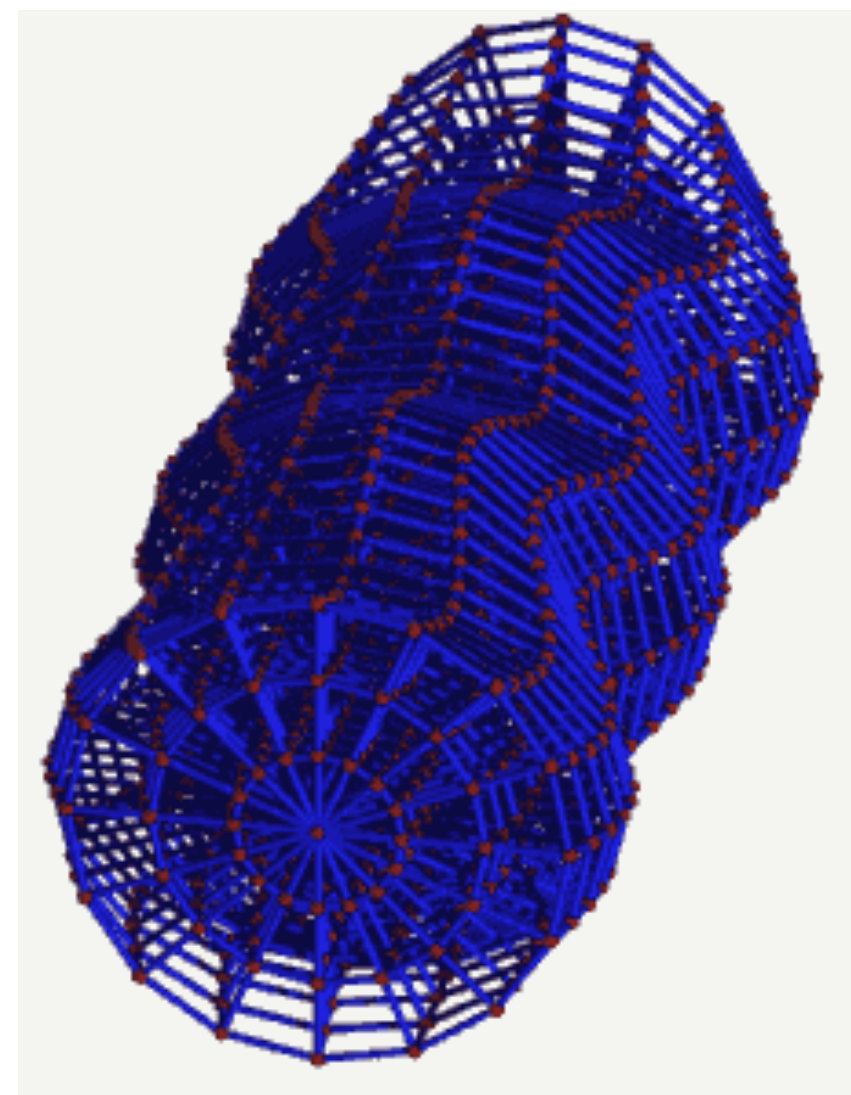
**PSR 1913+16: Weisberg et al. (2010)**

# Sources of gravitational waves

- Binary BH - strongest source of GW. GW emission until “as close as two masses can get”. In-spirals of stellar and supermassive BHs.
- Other compact binaries: BH-NS, NS-NS, WD-WD. BH-NS and NS-NS binaries can produce short GRBs too.
- Surface anomalies on rapidly spinning neutron stars, neutron star glitches
- Supernovae
- Primordial (cosmic) GW background



Animation credit: AEI/Einstein online

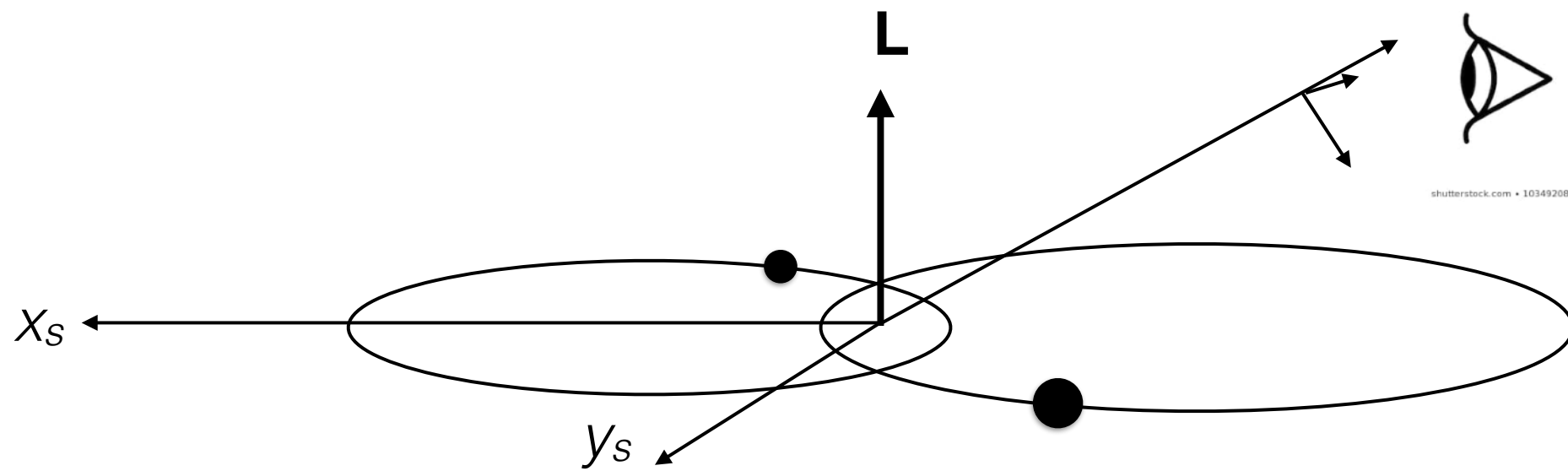


Animation credit: Penn State University

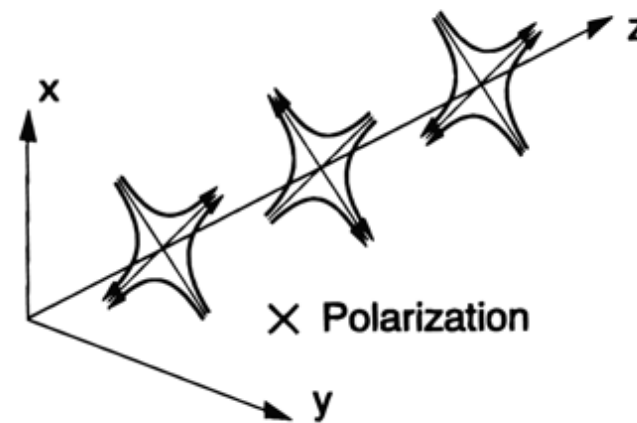
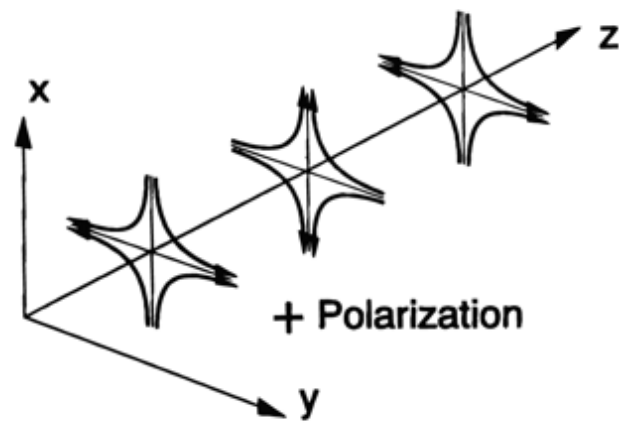
**For LIGO-Virgo (3-4 km arm):**

**Actual mirror displacement:  
~1/1000 th of the proton's diameter**

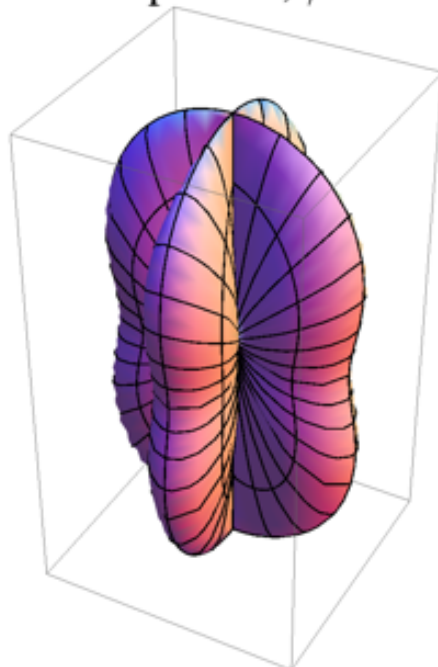
**High-frequency detector:  
10 Hz - 1000 Hz (most sensitive at  
~100 Hz)**



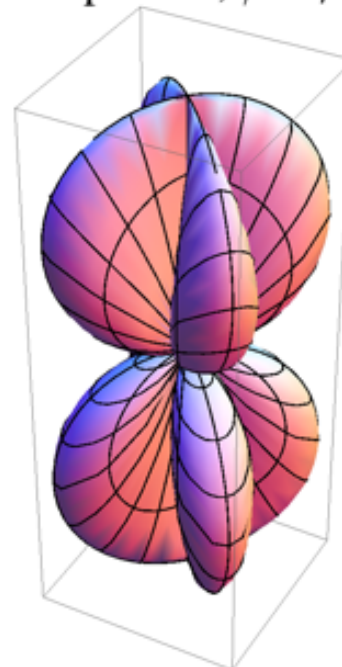
GW from a binary is polarized



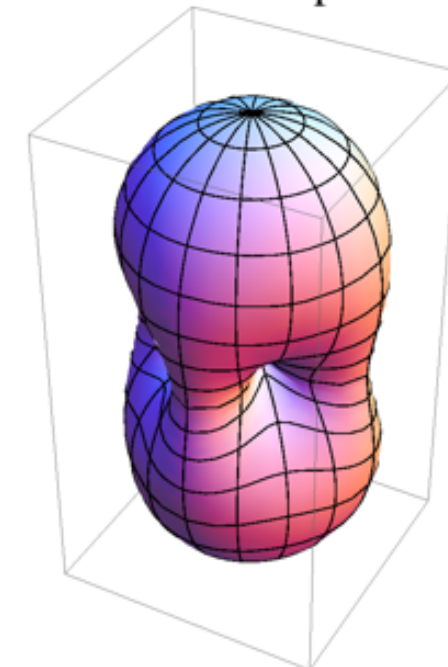
"+" pattern,  $\psi=0$



"x" pattern,  $\psi=\pi/4$

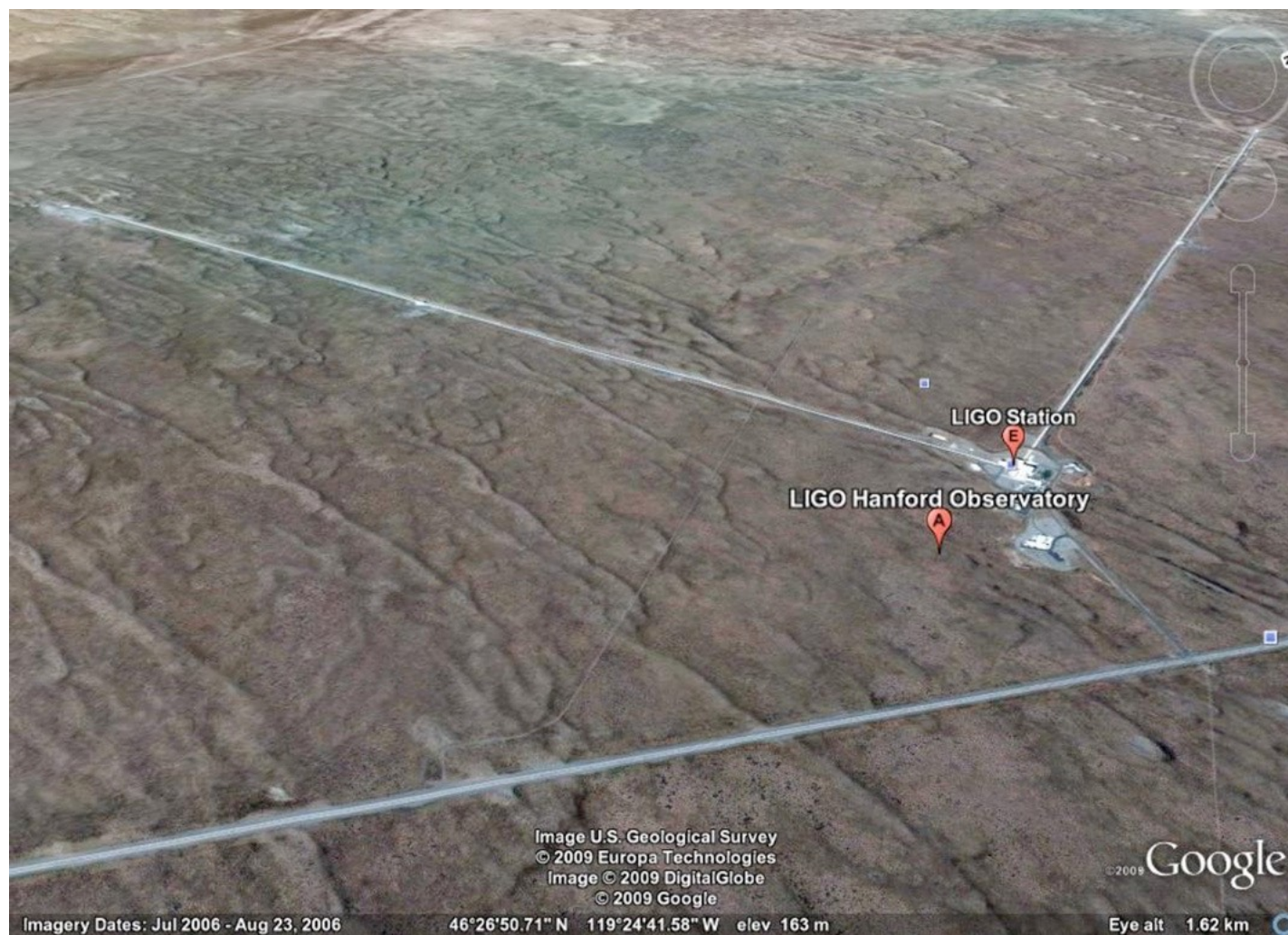


RMS antenna pattern

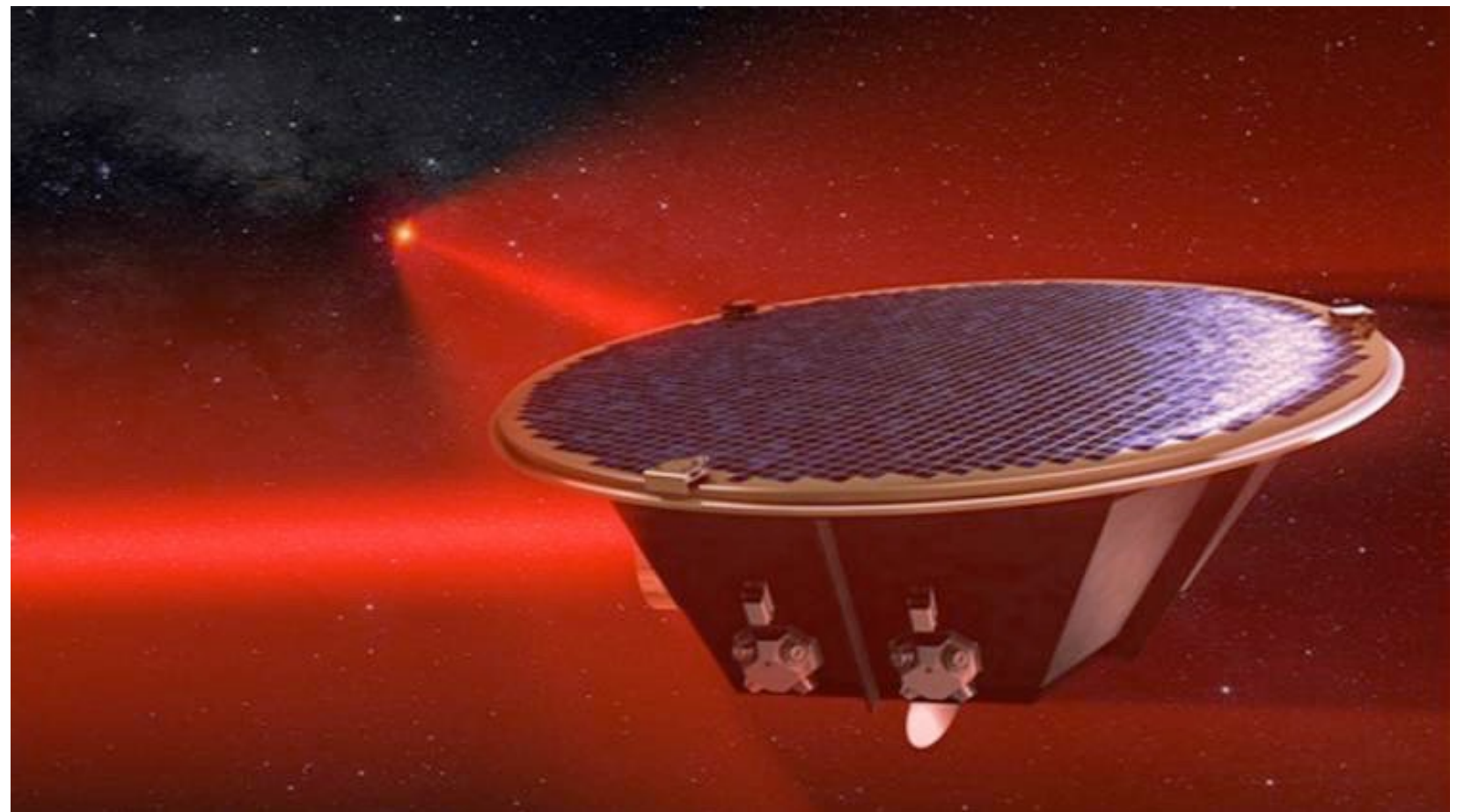




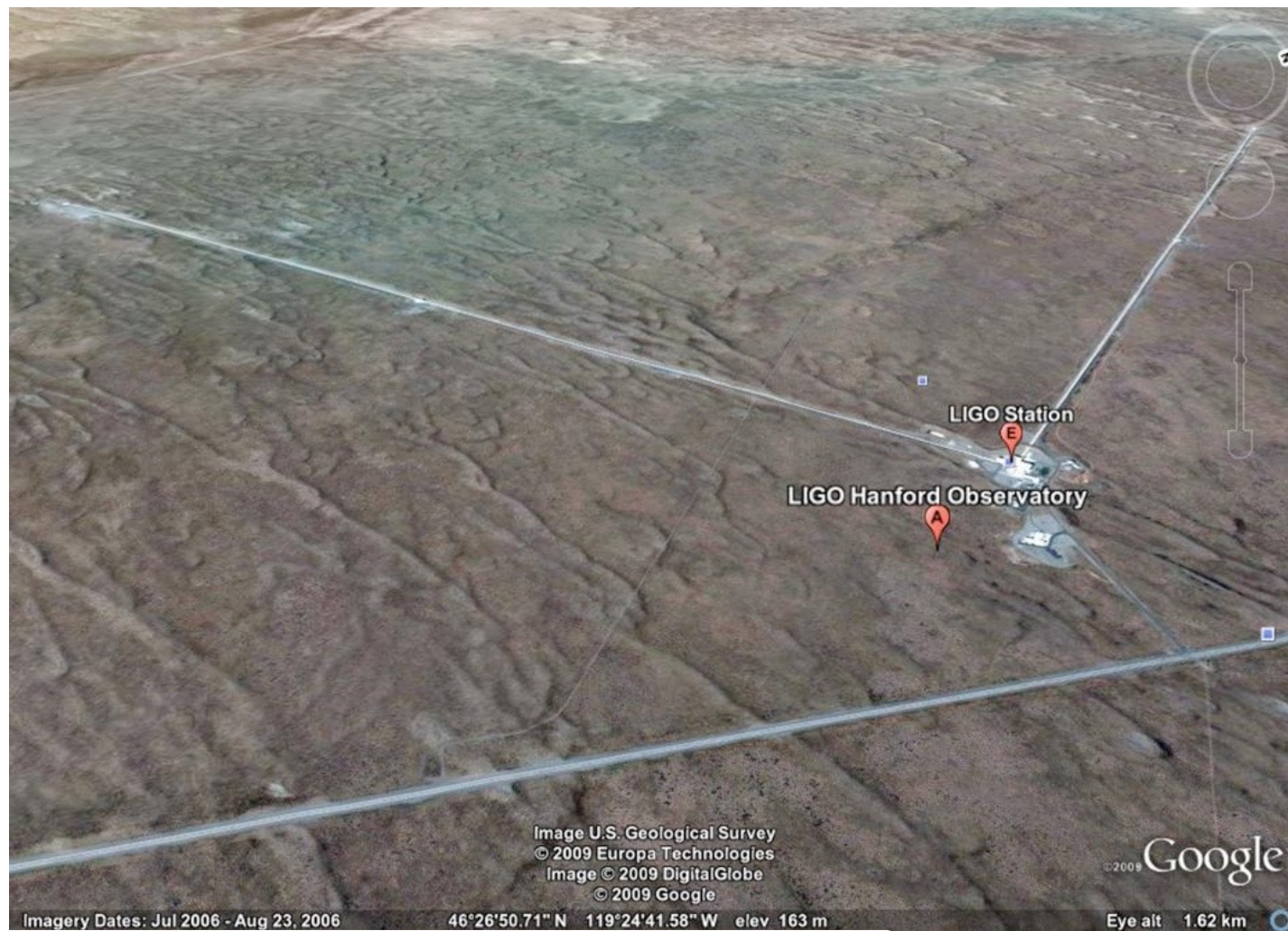
(Advanced) Laser Interferometer Gravitational Observatory (LIGO) at Hanford (also in Livingston and Pisa [Virgo])



(evolving) Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (eLISA)







Stellar black hole and neutron star binary inspirals

Neutron star surface anomalies and glitches

Core-collapse supernovae

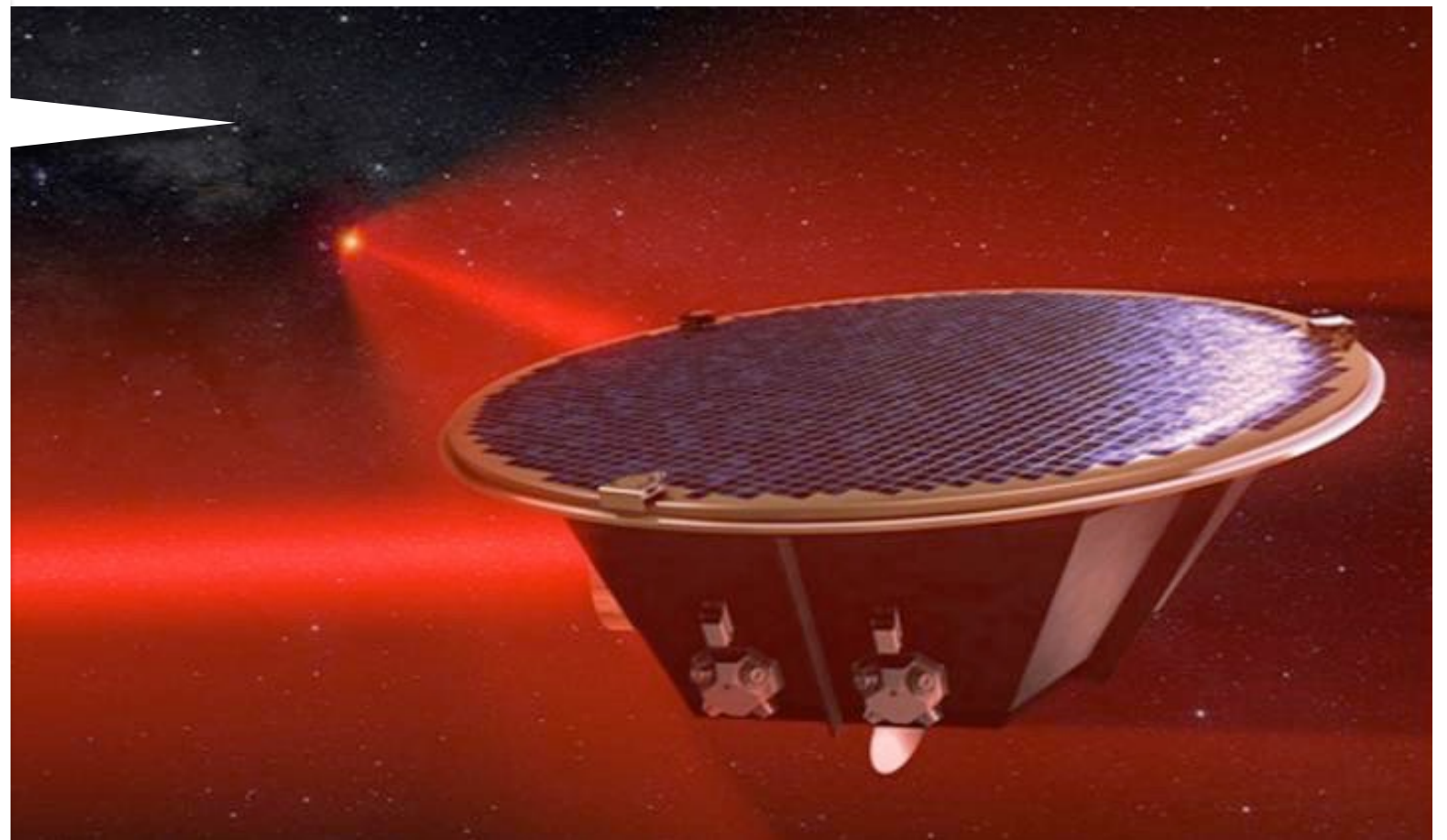
Binary supermassive black hole inspirals

IMBH inspirals

Binary stellar black holes

Binary white dwarfs

Primordial GW





## Pulsar timing arrays (PTA)



Effelsberg radio telescope



Parkes radio telescope

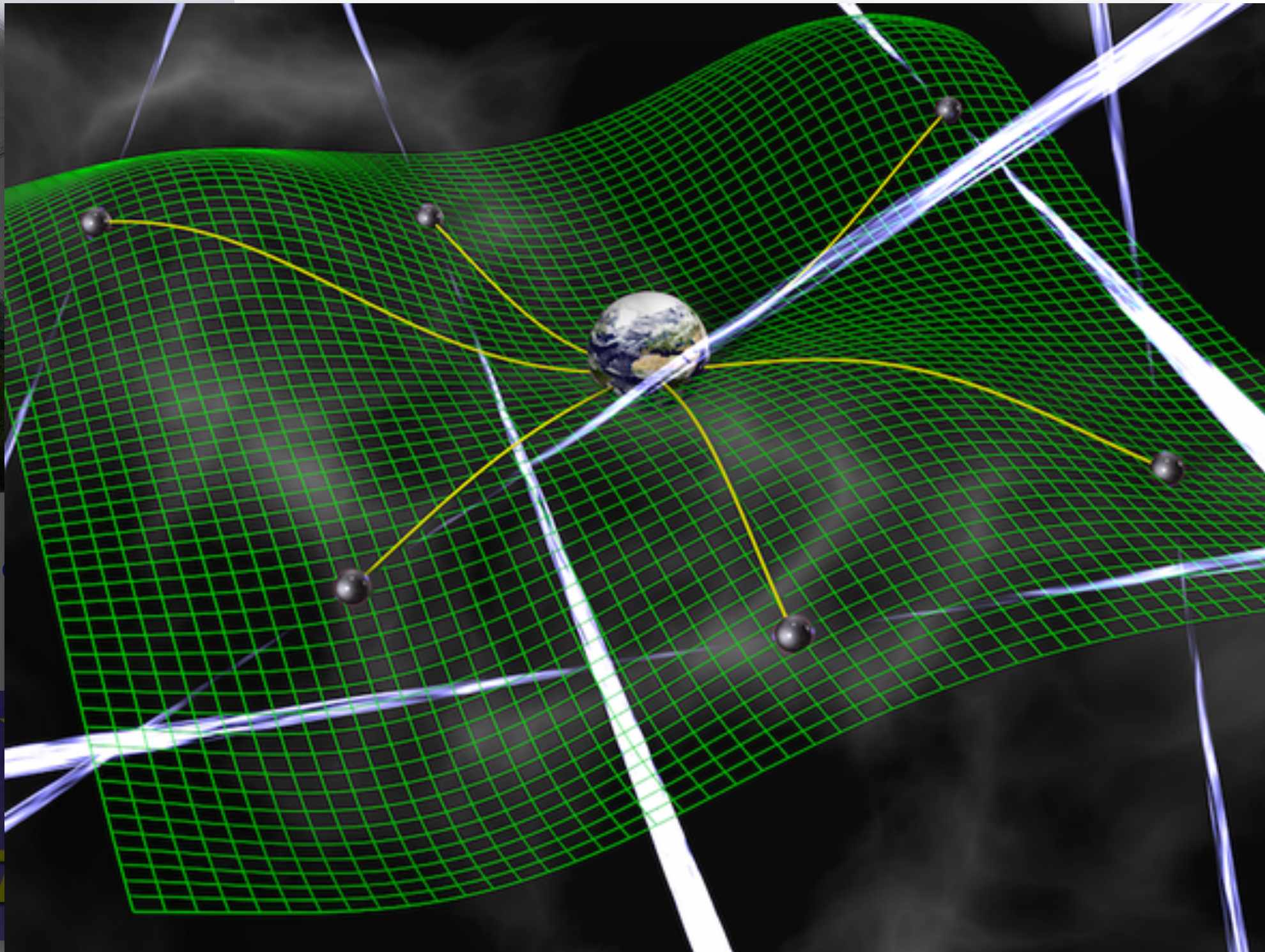
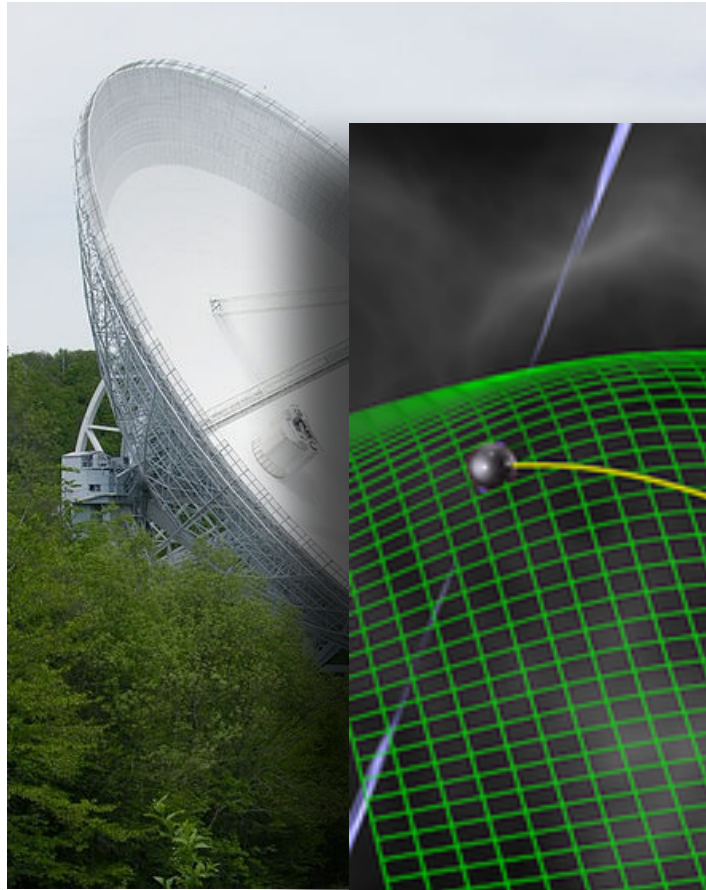
GW detection from correlations in pulse arrival times from an array of pulsars

Binary supermassive BH, GW background

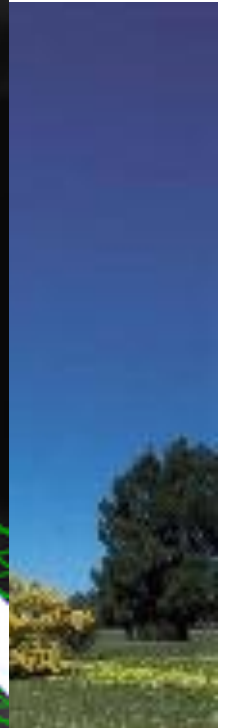




# Pulsar timing arrays (PTA)



Effelsberg radio



PTA

Binary supermassive BH, GVV  
background





## Pulsar timing arrays (PTA)



Effelsberg radio telescope

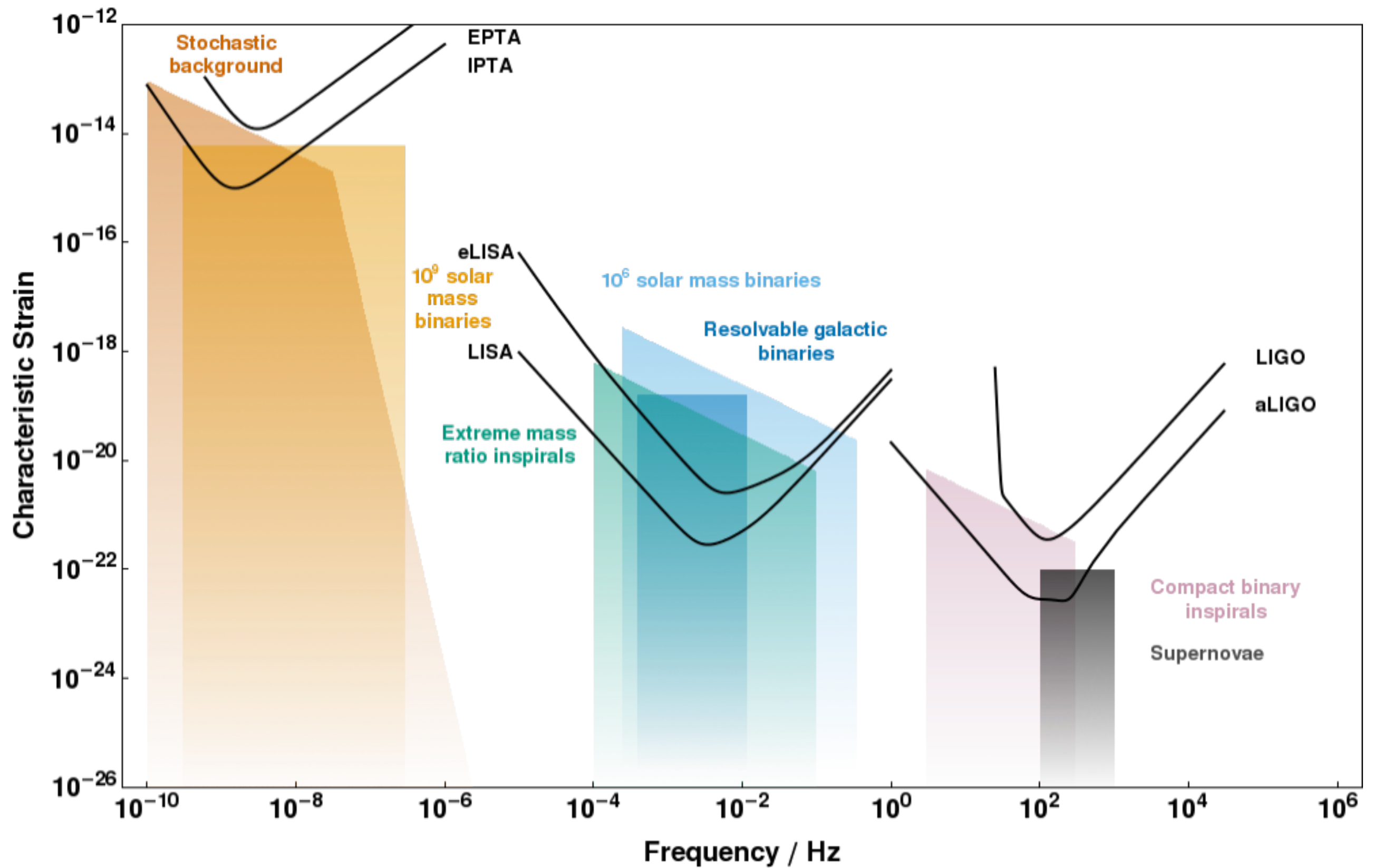


Parkes radio telescope

GW detection from correlations in pulse arrival times from an array of pulsars

Binary supermassive BH, GW background





Credit: Christopher Moore, Robert Cole and Christopher Berry (IoA Cambridge)

## GW frequency from a binary (Wen 2003)

$$f_{\text{GWp}} = \frac{\sqrt{G(m_1 + m_2)}}{\pi} \frac{(1 + e)^{1.1954}}{[a(1 - e^2)]^{1.5}}$$

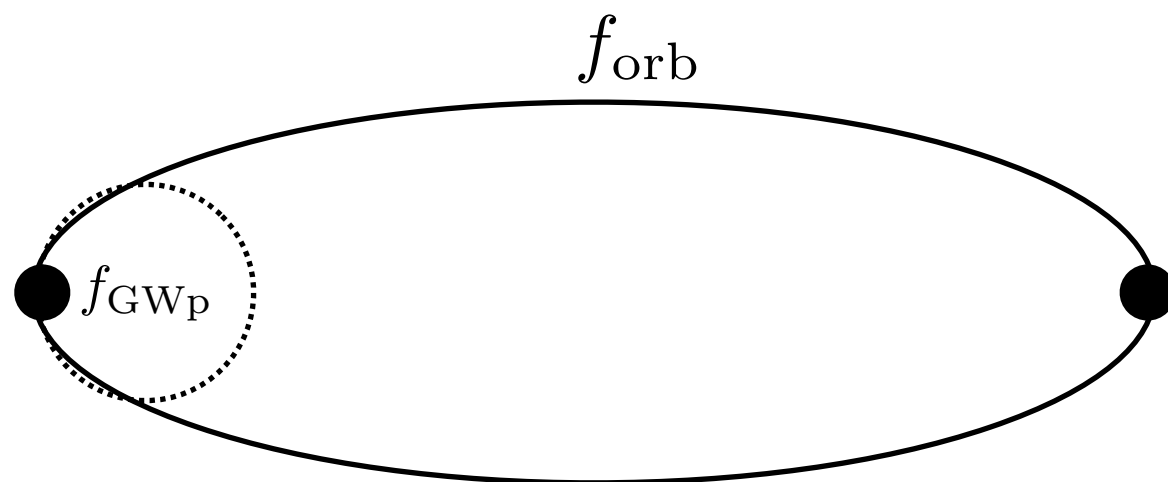
GW from an eccentric binary is polychromatic.  $f_{\text{GWp}}$  represents the frequency with the peak GW power.

**[Note the strong eccentricity dependence!]**

**Chirp mass**

$$M_{\text{chirp}} \equiv \frac{(m_1 m_2)^{3/5}}{(m_1 + m_2)^{1/5}}$$

$$= \frac{c^3}{G} \left[ \frac{5}{96} \pi^{-8/3} f^{-11/3} \dot{f} \right]^{3/5}$$

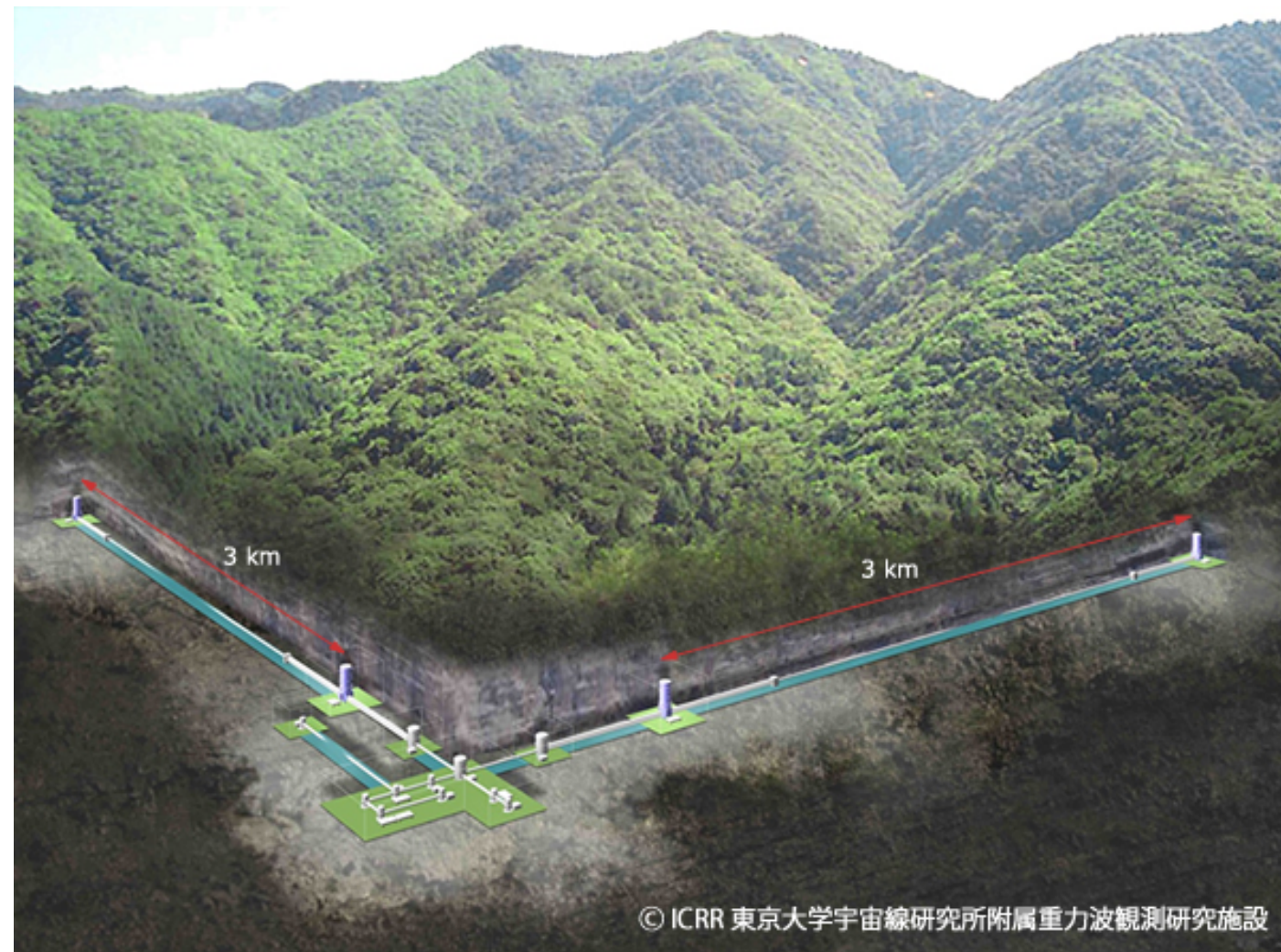


**GW chirp for circular binaries**  
**L. Blanchet et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 74,**  
**3515 (1995)**



# Kamioka Gravitational Wave Detector (KAGRA)

3km-arm interferometer



~ 2019

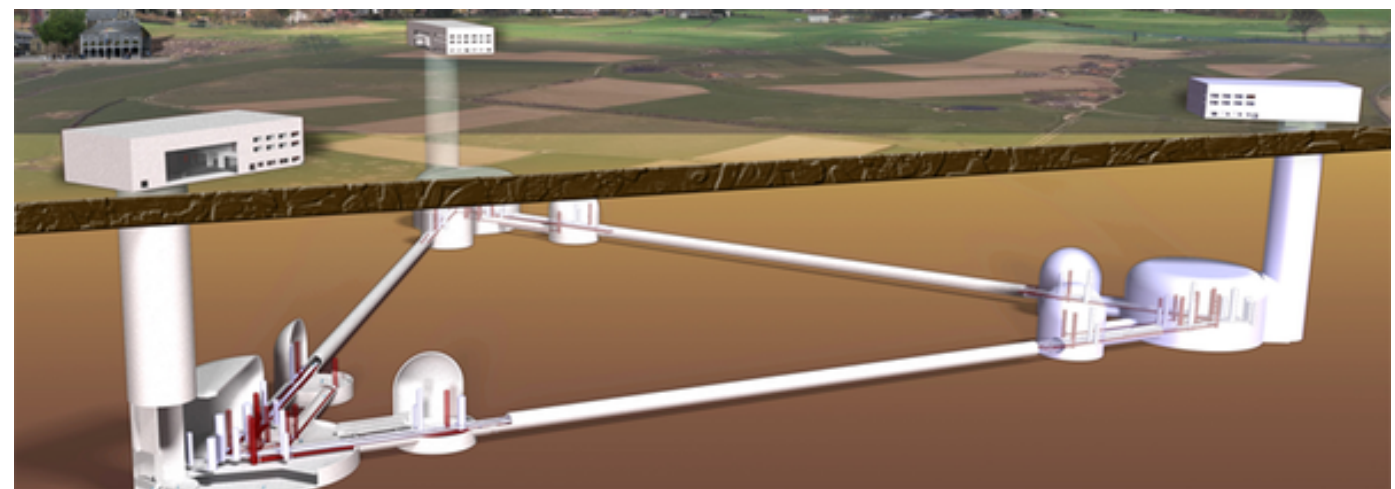




**LIGO-India/IndIGO:** 4 km-arm interferometer. In-principle approval from Indian government. Target: ~ 2024

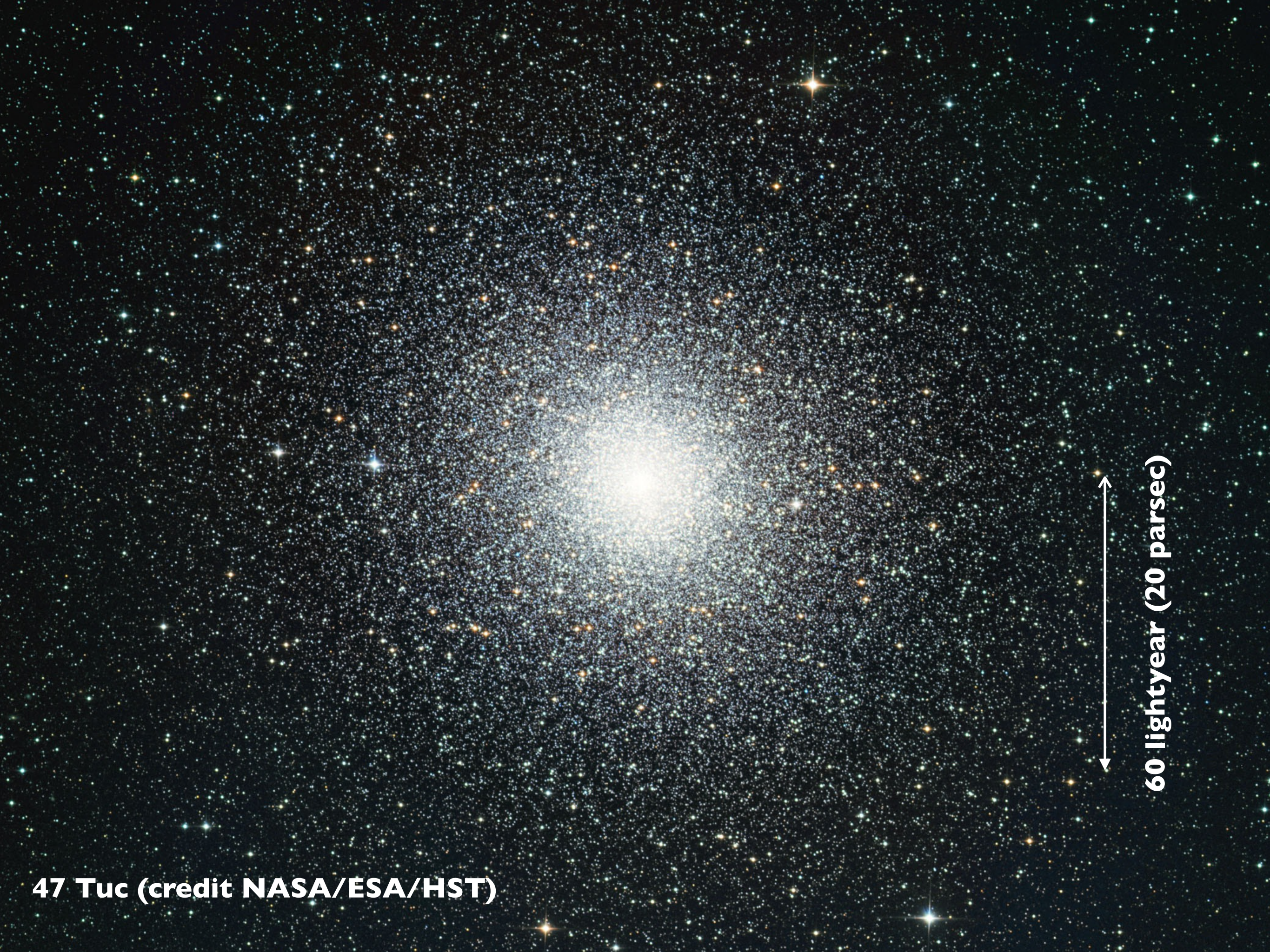


**Einstein Telescope:** 3-arm interferometer, each 10 km long. Low- and high-frequency bands. Concept stage.



**Stellar mass  
black holes in  
star clusters**

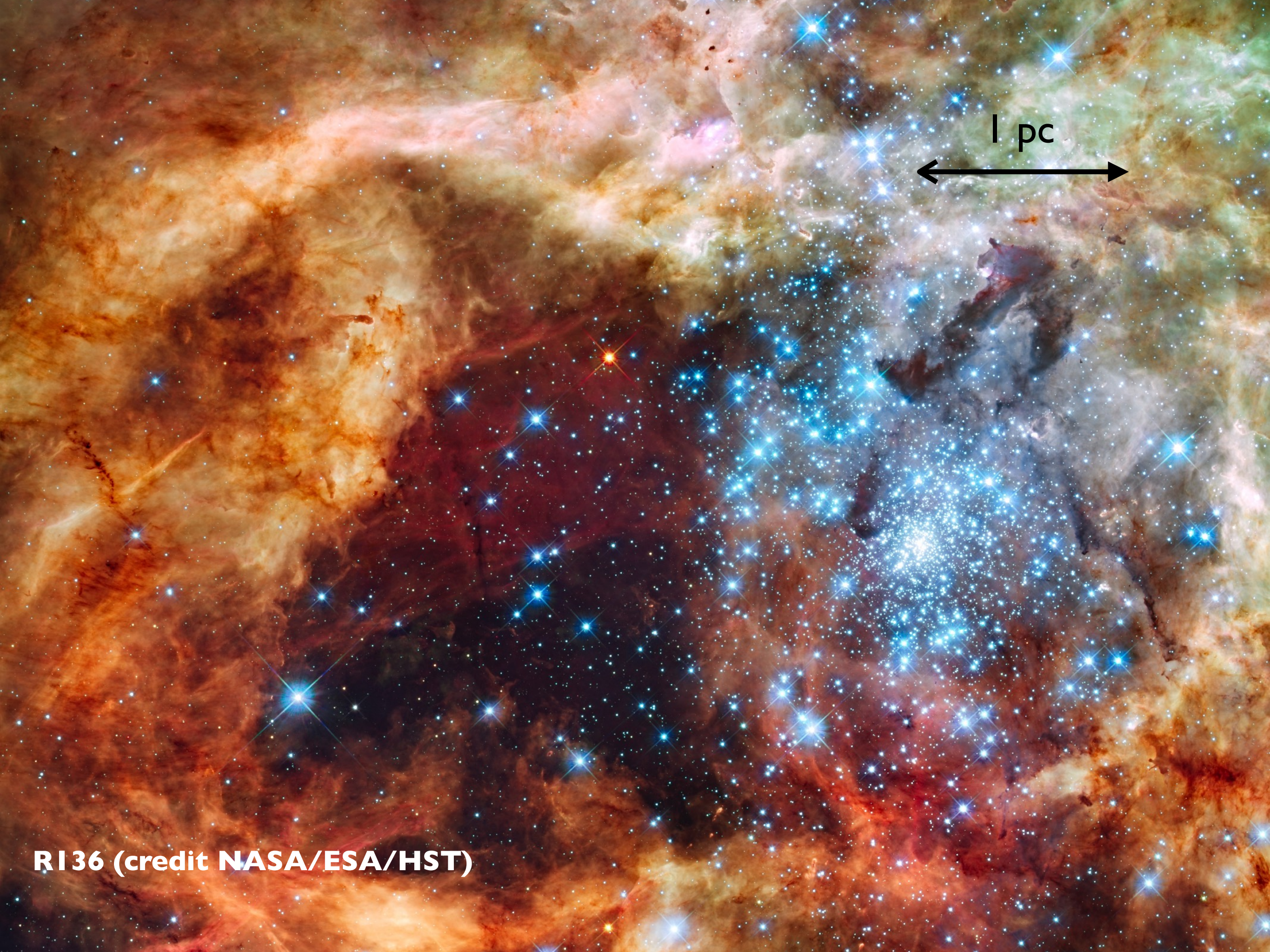




60 lightyear (20 parsec)

47 Tuc (credit NASA/ESA/HST)



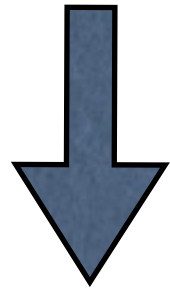


1 pc

RI 36 (credit NASA/ESA/HST)



Zero-age main sequence  
(ZAMS) mass  $\gtrsim 8M_{\odot}$



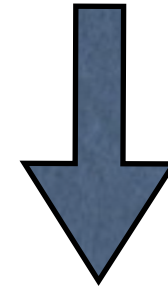
NS

Mass  $\approx 1.4M_{\odot}$  (Chandrasekhar limit) –  $\approx 3M_{\odot}$

Radius  $\sim 10$  Km

Maximum mass & radius depends on equation of state (EOS) of matter at nuclear density

Zero-age main sequence  
(ZAMS) mass  $\gtrsim 18M_{\odot}$



BH

mass depends on (a) stellar metallicity  $Z$   
(b) nature of stellar wind [(c) supernova characteristics]

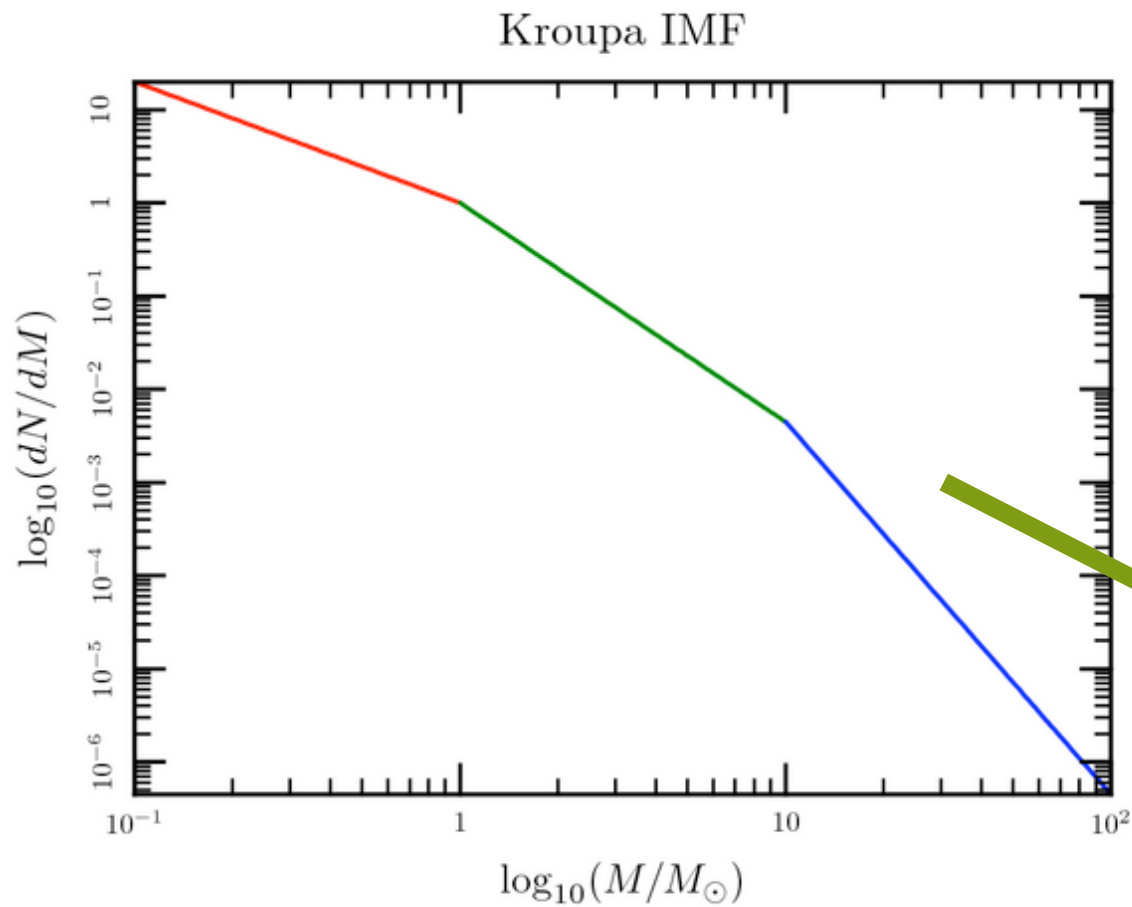
average mass  $\approx 10M_{\odot}$  (low  $Z$ ),  
maximum measured mass so far  
 $\approx 30M_{\odot}$  (IC10 SFR)

Radius = event-horizon =

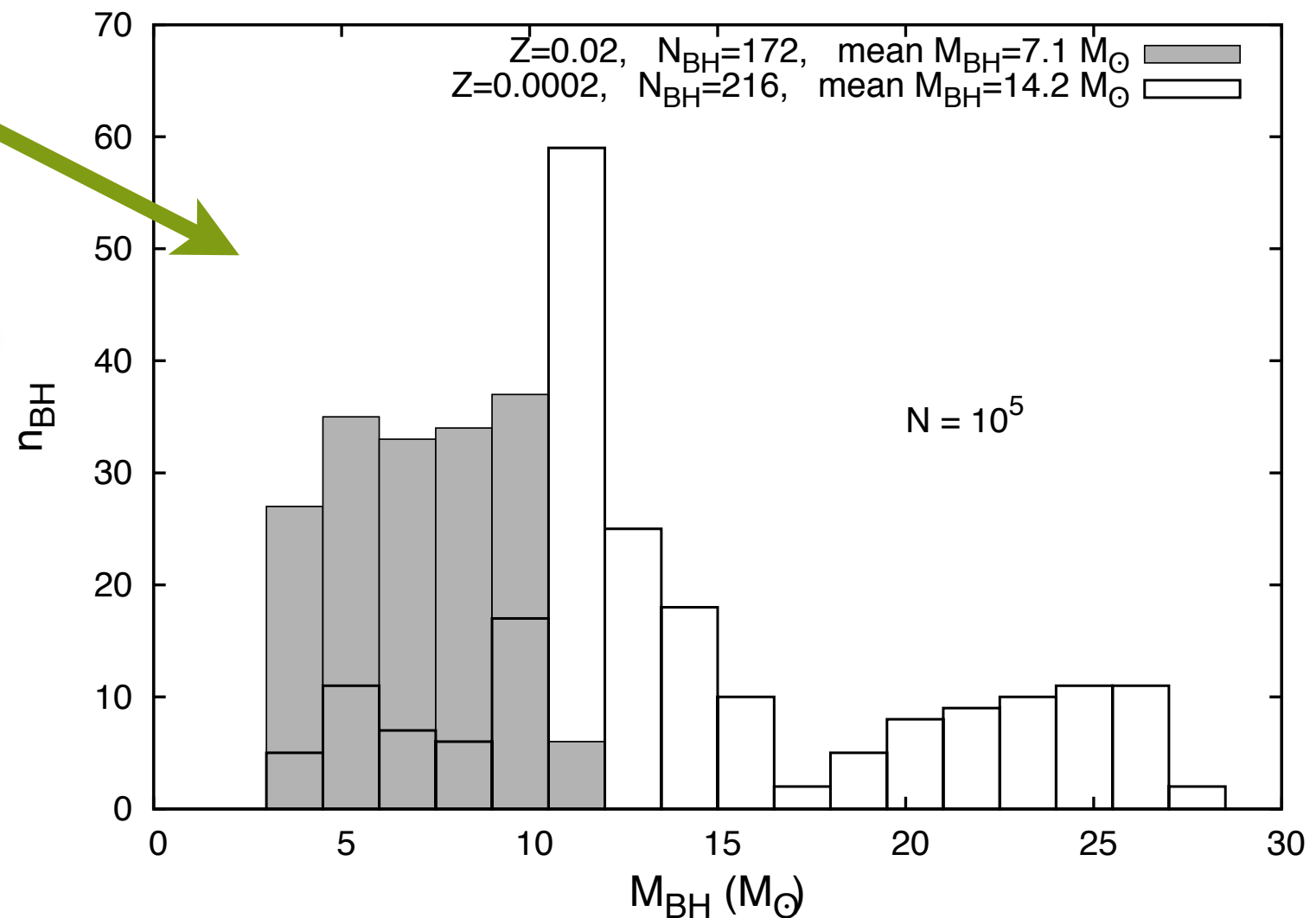
$$\frac{r_s + \sqrt{r_s^2 - 4\alpha^2}}{2},$$

$$r_s = 2GM/c^2, \quad \alpha = J/Mc$$

Massive stars (ZAMS mass  $\gtrsim 18M_{\odot}$ ) evolve in clusters to produce stellar BHs. BH mass function depends on cluster initial mass function (IMF) and metallicity.



Cluster IMF; Kroupa (2001)



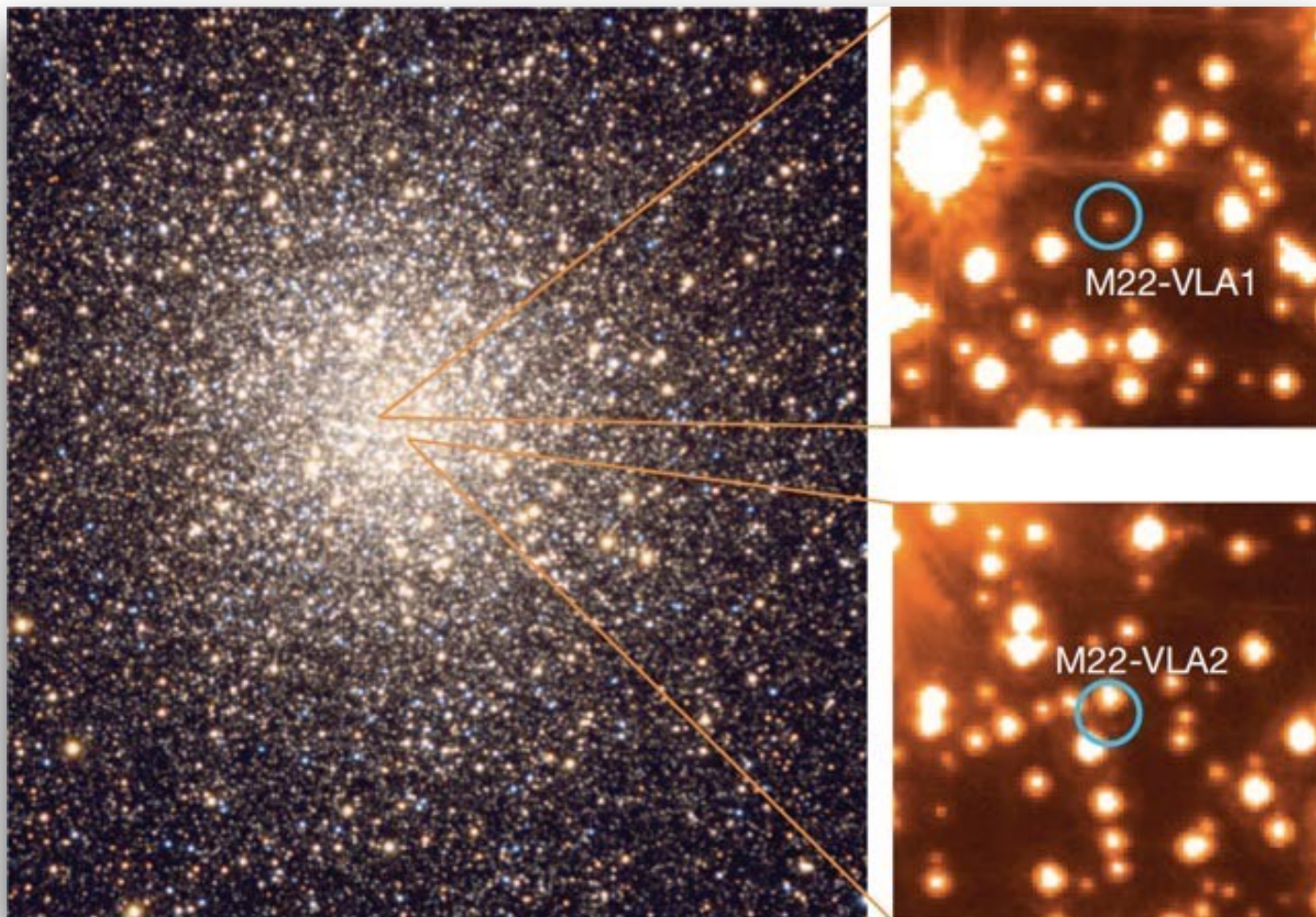
BH mass function

# What happens to these newly formed NSs and BHs ?

- Compact remnants (NS/BH) can receive birth / “natal” velocity kick due to asymmetry in high-velocity supernova ejecta which carries net momentum.
- The observed average natal kick of field NSs is  $\approx 265 \text{ km s}^{-1}$
- Amount of kick for BH uncertain (in theory & observation).
- Can be observationally inferred from “back-tracing” orbital motion of Galactic BH X-ray binaries [e.g., Willems et al., 2005, ApJ, 625, 324, Repetto et al. 2012] --- indicate *very low to high natal kicks*.
- Computations of core-collapse supernova also support a wide range of natal kicks (Janka et al.).
- BH natal kicks controlled by “material fallback” and SN core size. Stars  $\gtrsim 50M_{\odot}$  collapse directly to a BH with no or small kicks.
- “Electron Capture” mechanism produces NSs with small kick velocities.

More on lecture 3!



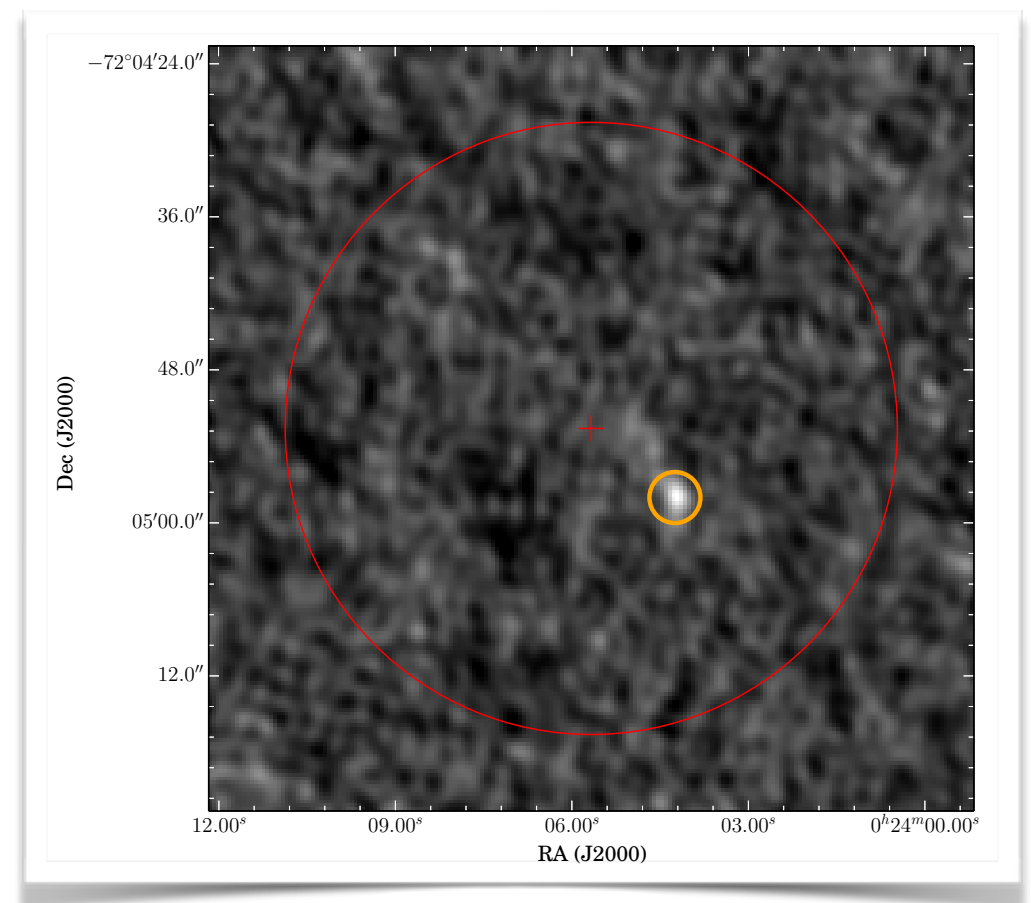


Promising source for LIGO-  
VIRGO gravitational-wave  
detector

... as well for LISA

M22 BH candidates (Strader et al. 2012)

Stellar-mass black holes candidates  
in globular clusters identified in X-  
ray and radio



5.5-GHz image of 47 Tuc core (Miller-Jones et al. 2015)

Also in M62 (Chomiuk et al. 2013); M10 (Shishkovsky et al. 2018)

Accreting BHs are also bright radio sources: radio waves produced by synchrotron emission in jets.

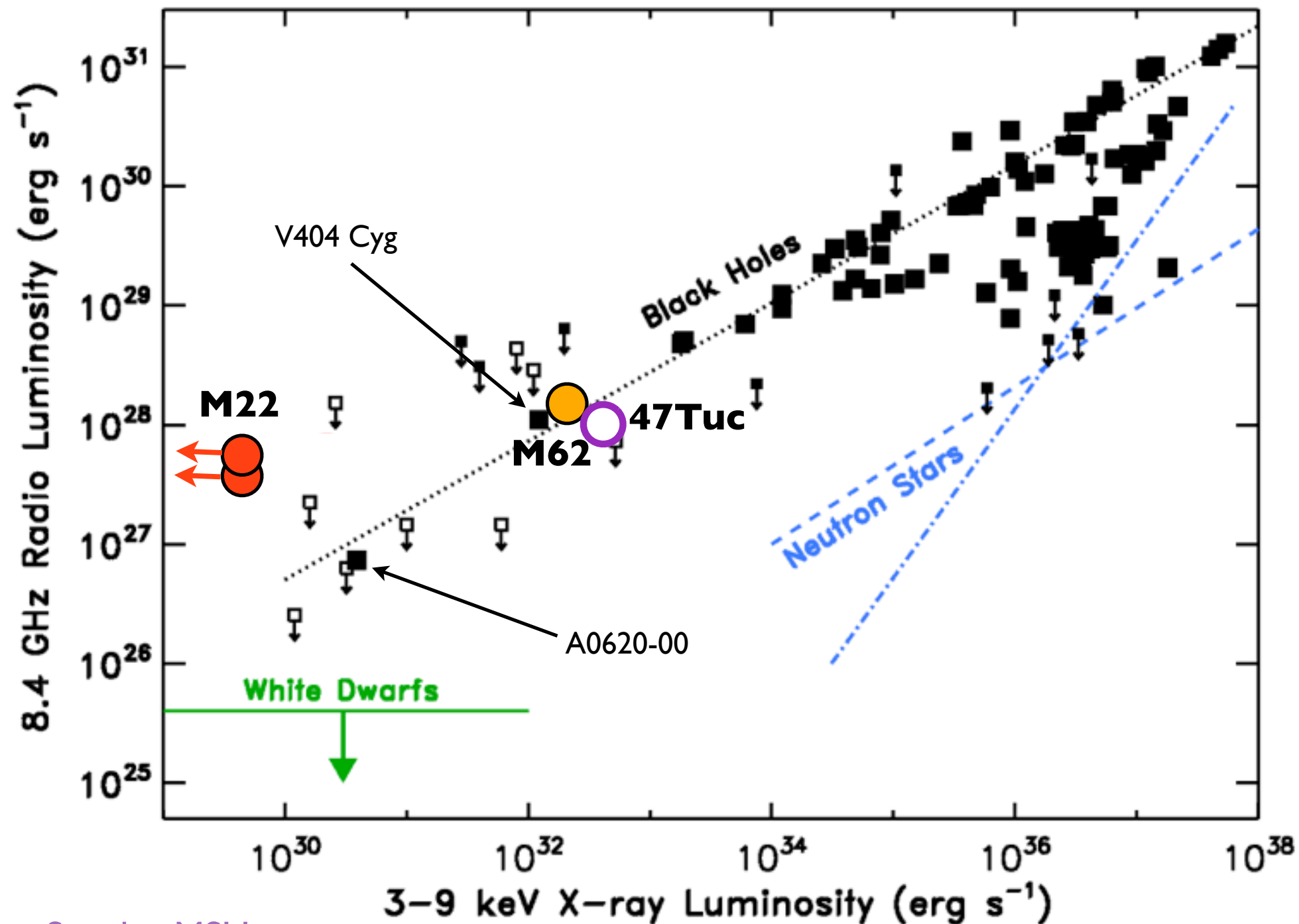
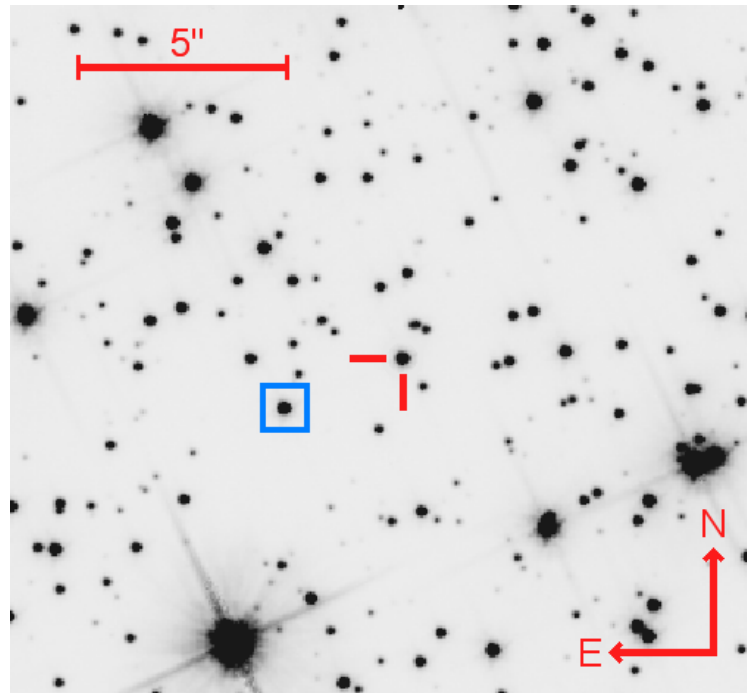
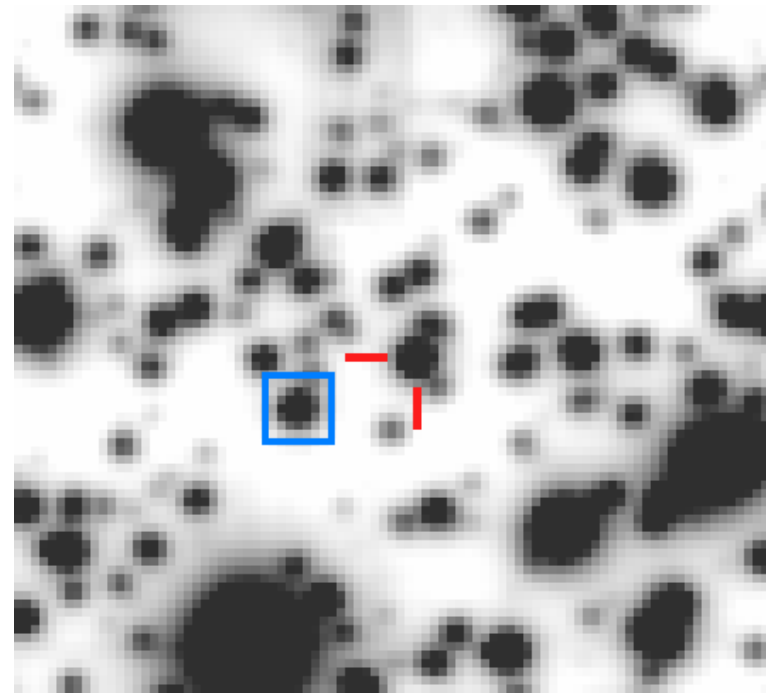


Fig. credit: Jay Strader, MSU



(a) HST



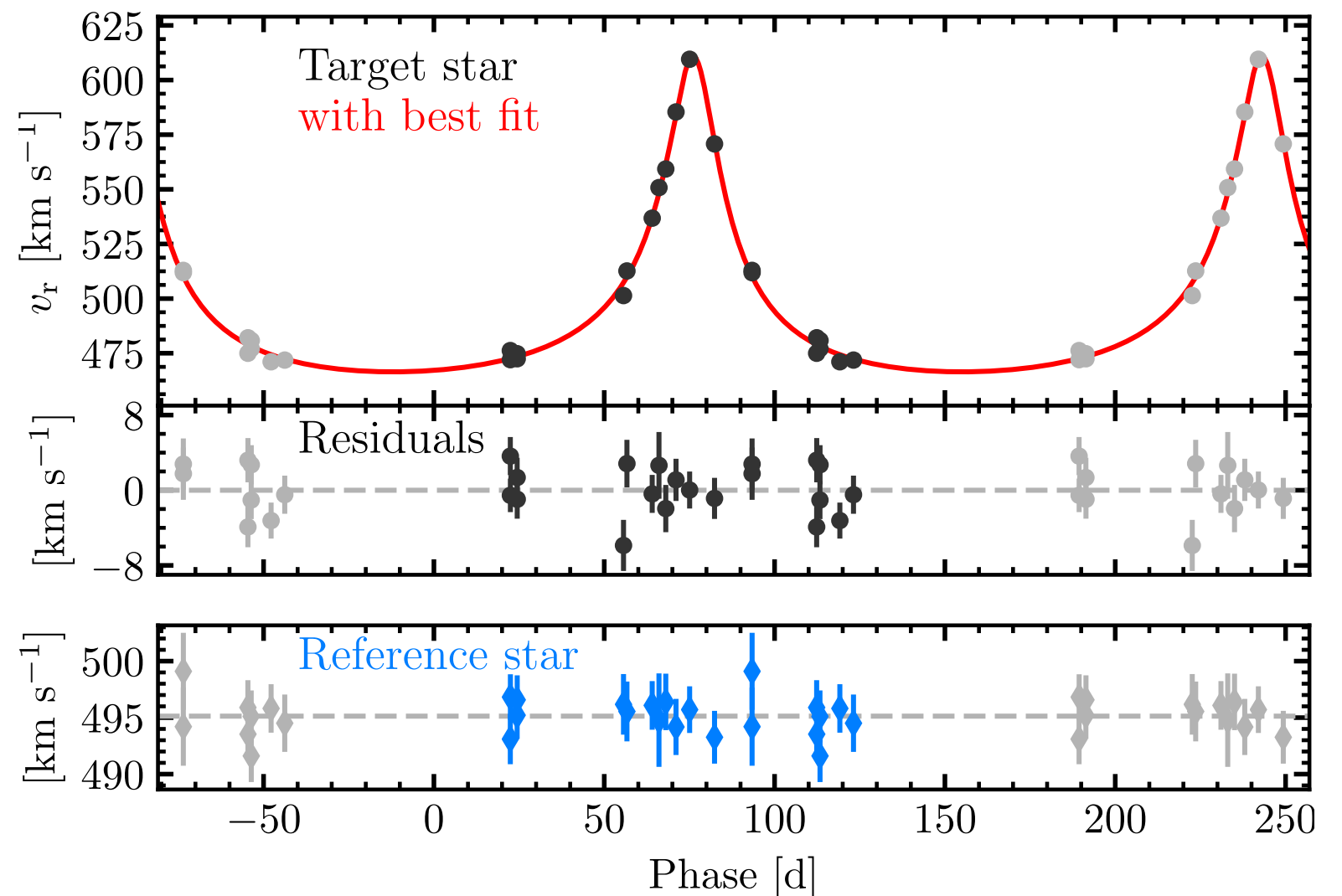
(b) MUSE

**Galactic globular cluster  
NGC 3201 ...**

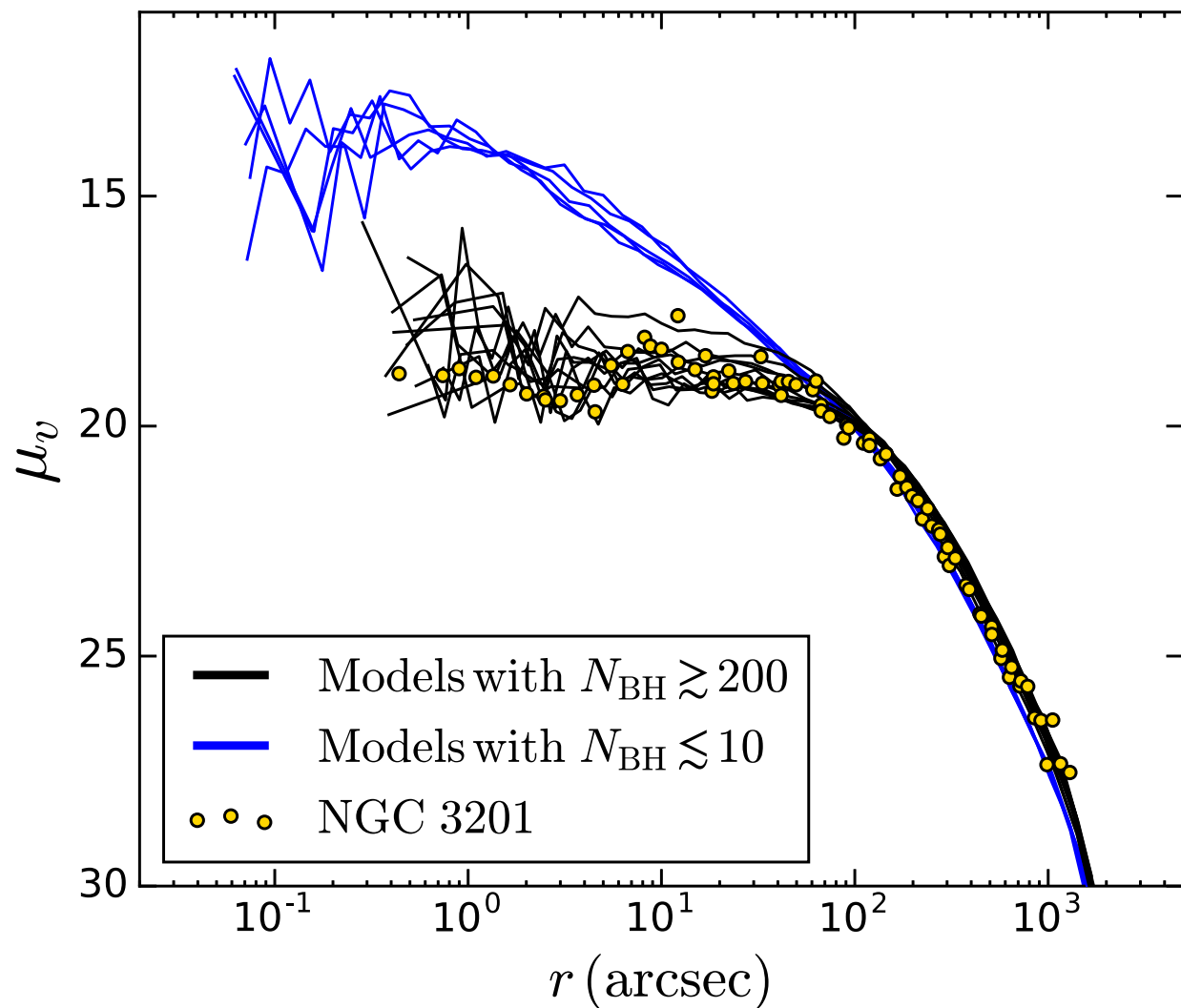
**Stellar-mass BH  
identified through radial-  
velocity measurement**

**HST + VLT/MUSE  
observations infer a stellar-  
mass BH in the cluster from  
its (detached) binary  
companion**

**Giesers et al. 2018, MNRAS,  
475, L15.**

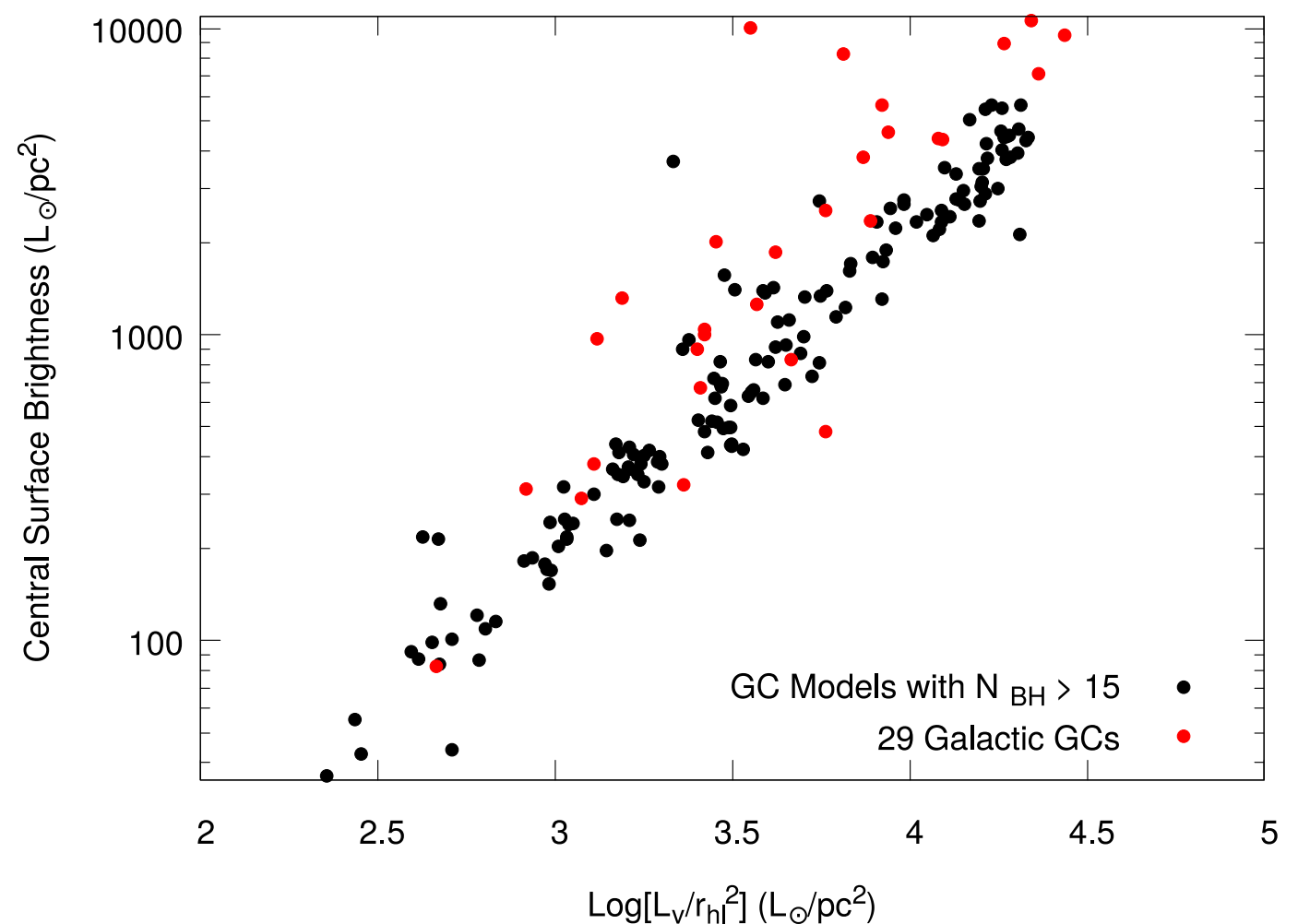


# Model comparison with the observed structure and kinematics of globular clusters (GCs)



**Modelling NGC 3201: Kremer et al. 2018, ApJ, 855, L15**

**Shortlisting BH population-containing Galactic GCs: Askar et al., 2018, MNRAS, 478, 1844**



**So, if a number of BHs retain  
in a cluster at birth what  
happens to them thereafter?**



# The virial theorem of self-gravitating systems

$$2T = -V$$

$$T = \text{total K.E.} \propto \frac{1}{2} M_{cl} \sigma^2 \qquad V = \text{total P.E.} \propto -\frac{M_{cl}^2}{r_h}$$

$M_{cl}$  = total cluster mass

$r_h$  = cluster half-mass radius

$$E = T + V = \frac{V}{2} \propto -\frac{M_{cl}^2}{r_h}$$

$$\sigma \propto \sqrt{\frac{M_{cl}}{r_h}}$$

=> negative specific heat

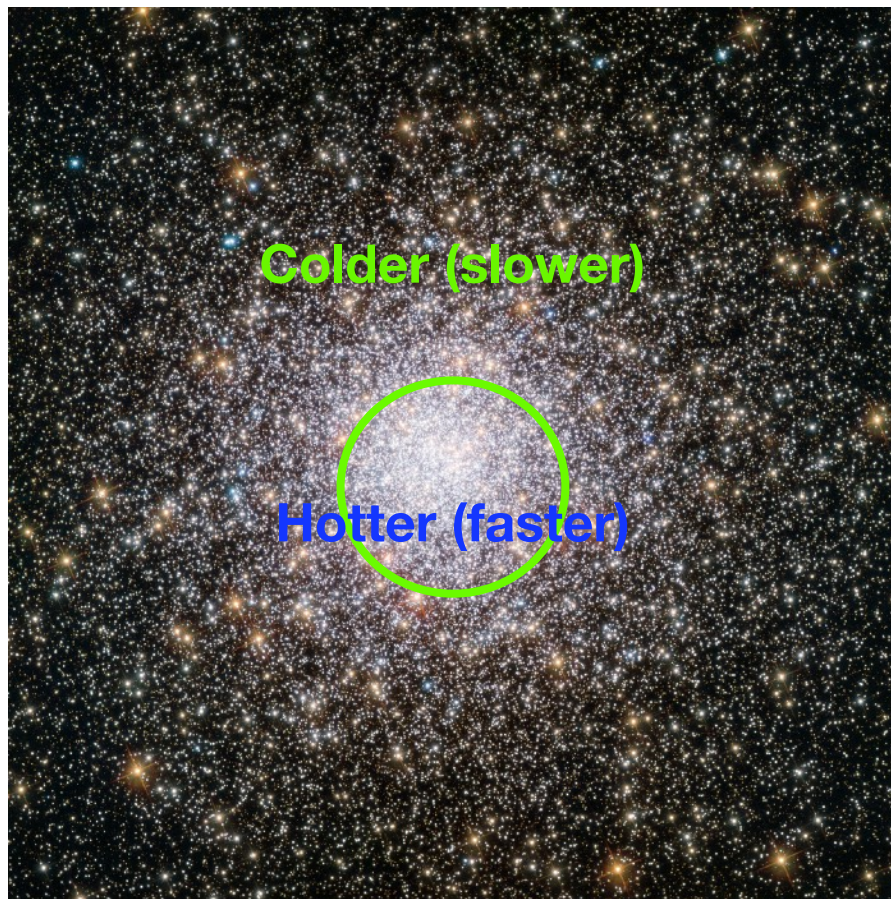
(if I extract energy, the system gets hotter!)

# Evolving off the stable configuration: two-body relaxation

**Two-body relaxation refers to the time evolution of a dynamical system due to the mutual energy exchange of the constituent members - the evolution due to the “granularity” of the internal gravitational force.**

Local relaxation time at radius ‘r’:

$$t_r \approx \frac{0.065 v_m^3}{n m^2 G^2 \ln \Lambda} \quad [\ln \Lambda = \ln(p_{\max}/p_{90}) \sim 10]$$



Relaxation time at half-mass radius assuming virial theorem:

$$t_{rh} \approx 0.138 \frac{N^{1/2} r_h^{3/2}}{m^{1/2} G^{1/2} \ln \Lambda}$$

**In a (quasi) stable stellar configuration, relaxation leads to a net outward flow of energy/heat**

See Spitzer (1987) book for the derivations

## Two-body relaxation (cont)

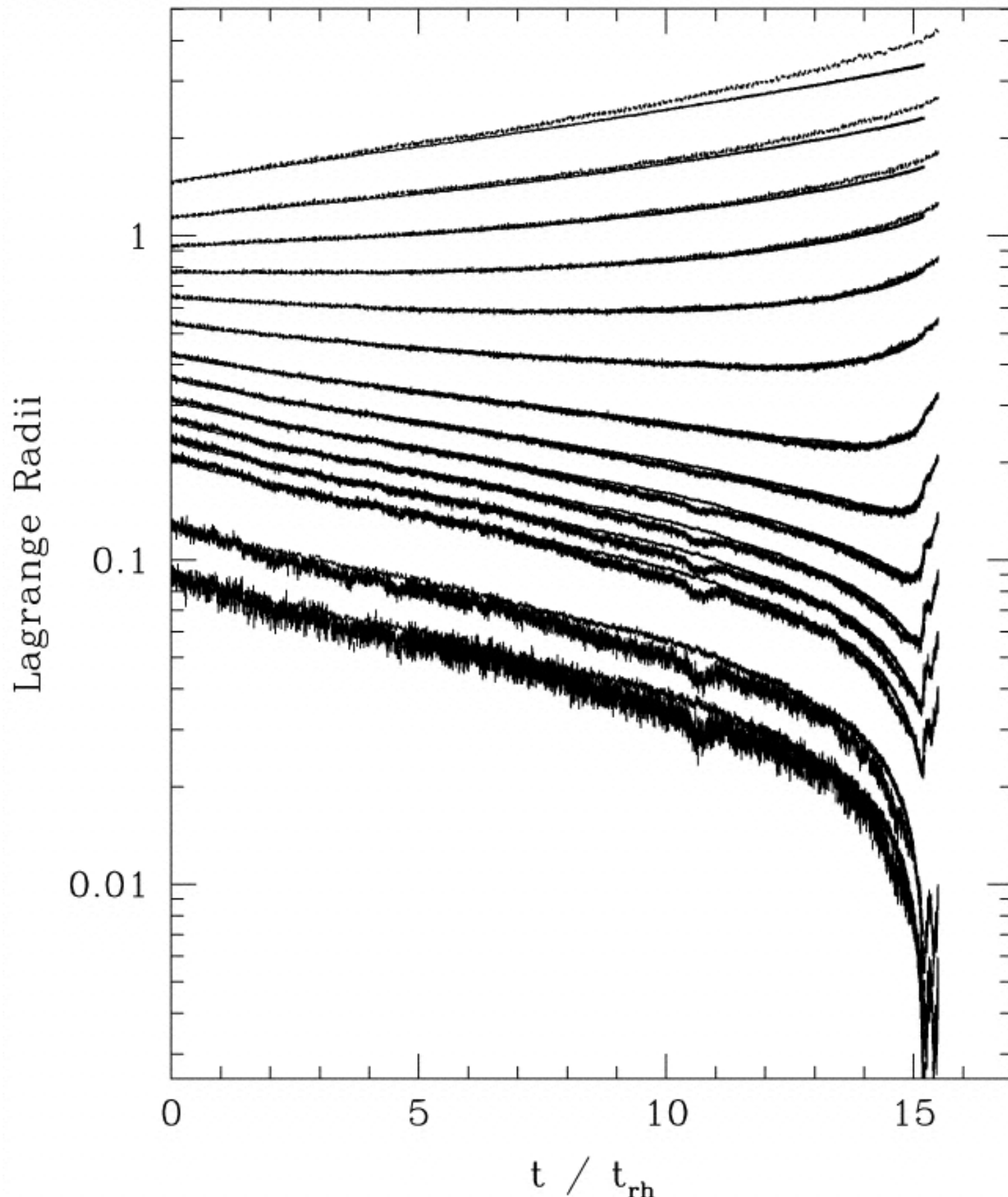
$$t_{\text{rh}} \propto N^{1/2}; \quad r_h = \text{constant}$$

$$t_{\text{rh}} \propto n^{-1/2}; \quad N = \text{constant}$$

Gyr (young massive/open clusters)

$$t_{rh} \sim \begin{array}{ll} \text{Gyr} - t_{\text{Hubble}} & \text{(globular clusters)} \\ \gtrsim t_{\text{Hubble}} & \text{(nuclear clusters, dwarf} \\ & \text{galaxies, UCDs, ellipticals)} \end{array}$$

# Core collapse



Runaway contraction of the core of a star cluster due to *gravothermal instability* in the final phase of dynamical relaxation.

Core-collapse of model cluster (tidally truncated  $W_0 = 3$  King model) without primordial binaries & no stellar evolution.

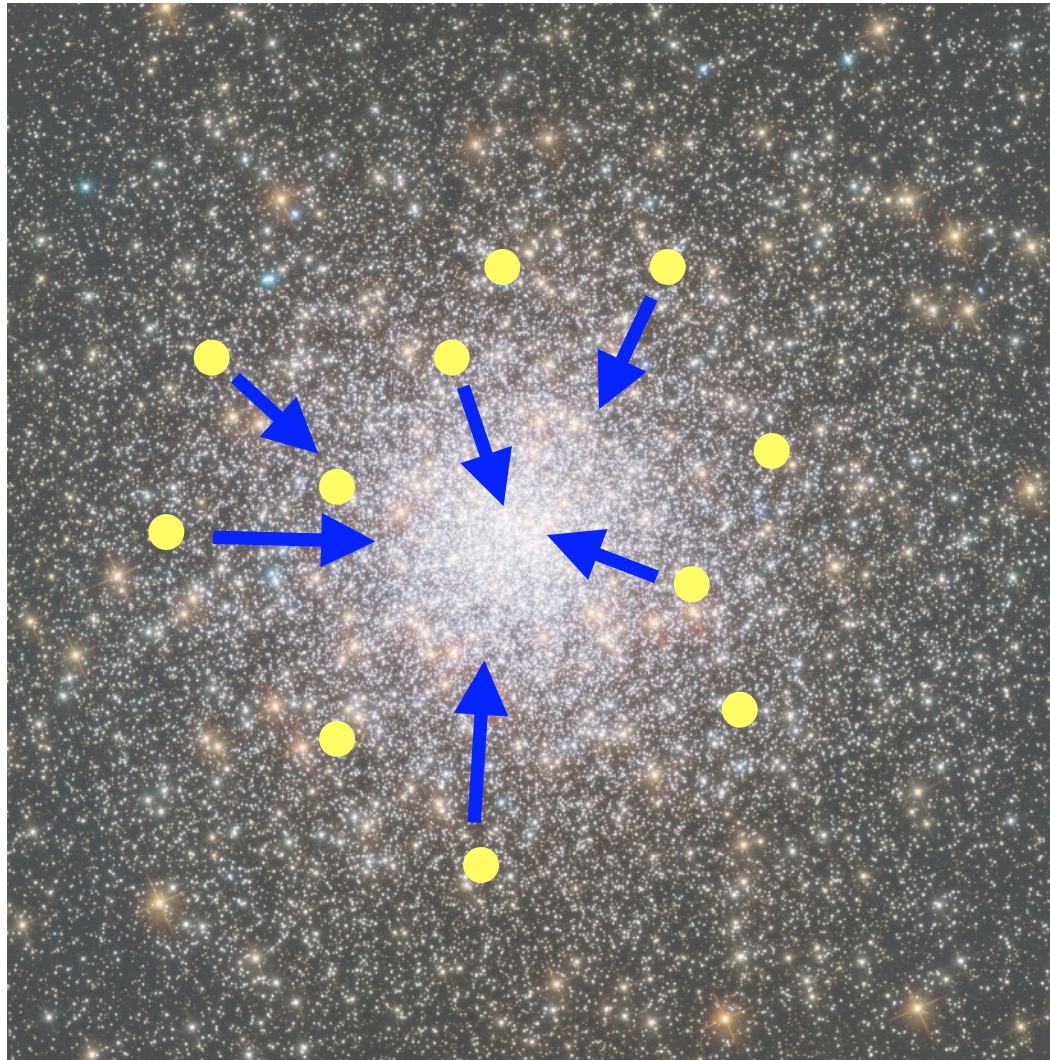
Monte-Carlo computation superposed with corresponding N-body computation.

From Joshi et al. (2000).

$$t_{cc} \approx 15t_{rh}(0)$$

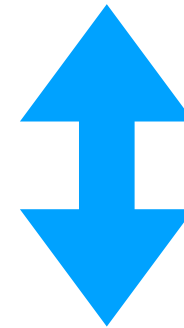


# Multi-mass systems: energy equipartition



Two-body energy exchange leads to **energy equipartition** among various mass groups, simultaneously with relaxation.

(Tendency of)  
**Energy equipartition**



**Mass segregation**

Spatial separation among various mass groups: heavier entities occupy smaller radii

$$\frac{t_{\text{eq}}}{t_{r1}} = \frac{3\pi^{1/2}}{16} \frac{m_1}{m_2} \left( 1 + \frac{\langle v_2^2 \rangle}{\langle v_1^2 \rangle} \right)^{3/2}, \quad m_2 > m_1$$

$$\text{If } \langle v_1^2 \rangle \approx \langle v_2^2 \rangle, \quad \frac{t_{\text{eq}}}{t_{r1}} \approx \frac{m_1}{m_2}$$

See,  
Heggie & Hut (2003)  
Spitzer (1987)



# Multi-mass systems: mass stratification instability

If the more massive sub-group is sufficient in number and/or they are sufficiently heavy, they may never achieve energy equipartition.

This will cause continual / runaway sinking towards cluster center.

“Mass stratification” or “Spitzer” instability.

The Spitzer mass-stratification instability criterion:

$$\chi > \chi_{\max} = 0.16$$

$$\chi = \frac{M_2}{M_1} \left( \frac{m_2}{m_1} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

$m_1$  = mass of background component  
 $m_2$  = mass of heavier component  
 $M_X$  = total mass of component  $X$

See Lyman Spitzer’s book for a derivation.

**Spitzer instability leads to a core-collapse of the heavier sub-group.**

Taking  $m_1 = m_* = 0.3, m_2 = m_{\text{BH}} = 10.0$  as for the standard IMF we have, for Spitzer Instability to occur,

$$\frac{M_{\text{BH}}}{M_*} > 8.3 \times 10^{-4}$$

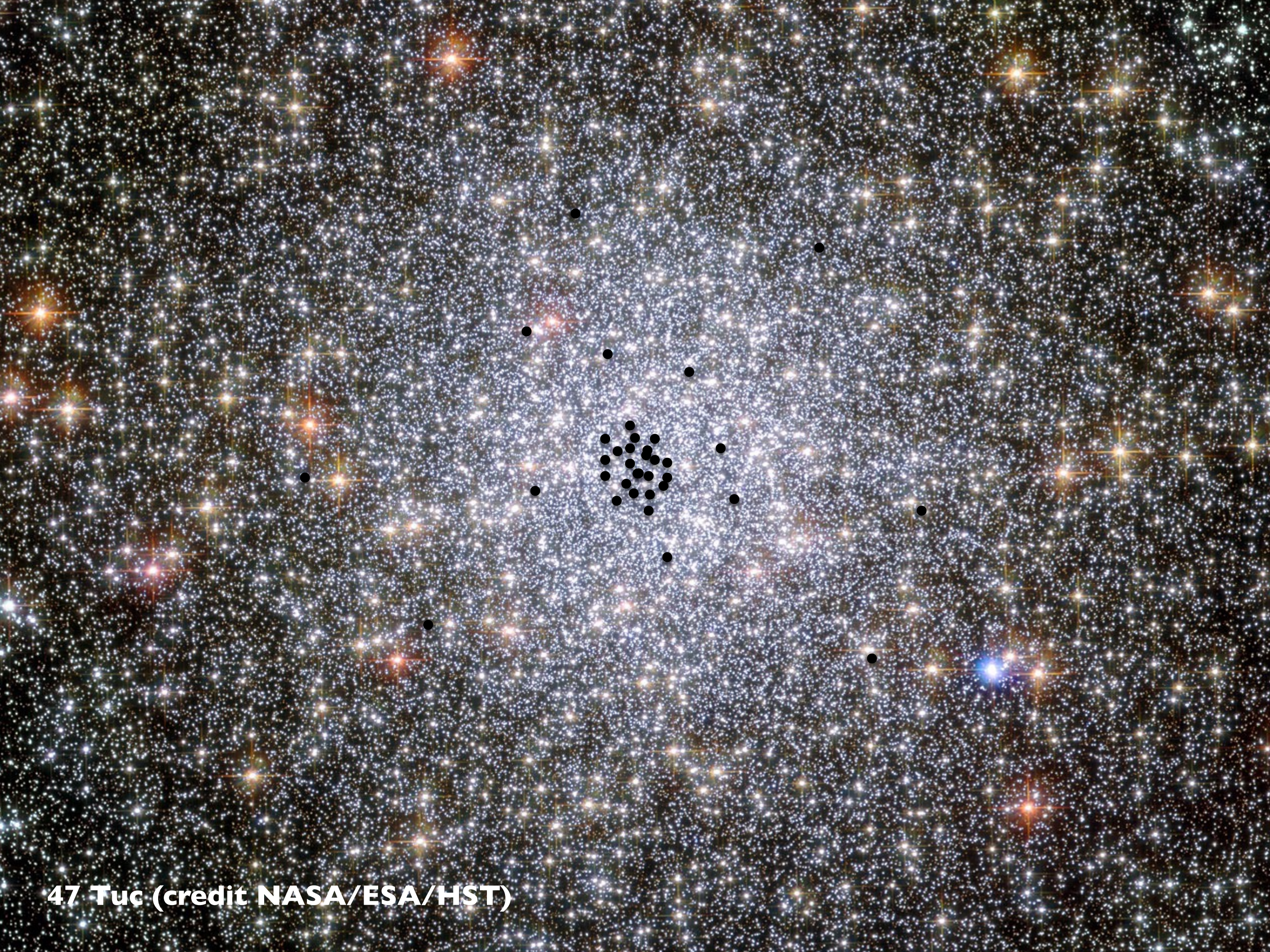
This can be easily achieved by retaining  $< 10\%$  of the stellar-mass BHs in the cluster after their birth.

### **The formation of a dense, central sub-cluster of BHs**

$$t_{\text{seg,BH}} \approx \frac{\langle m_* \rangle}{\langle m_{\text{BH}} \rangle} t_{\text{cc}} \quad t_{\text{cc}} \approx 15 t_{\text{rh}}(0)$$

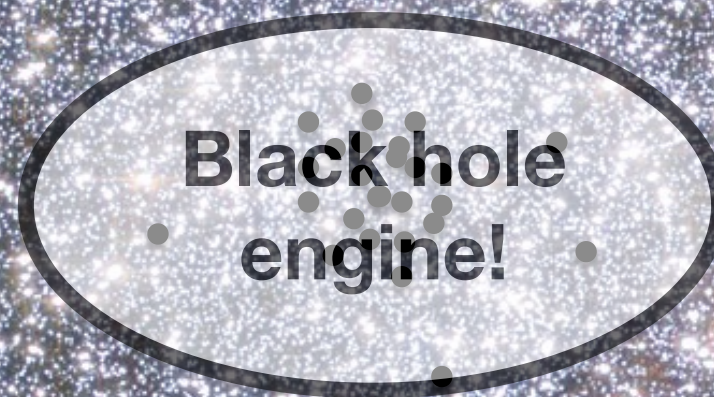
(If too few BHs retain, they would still remain centrally concentrated due to the dynamical friction of the background stars)





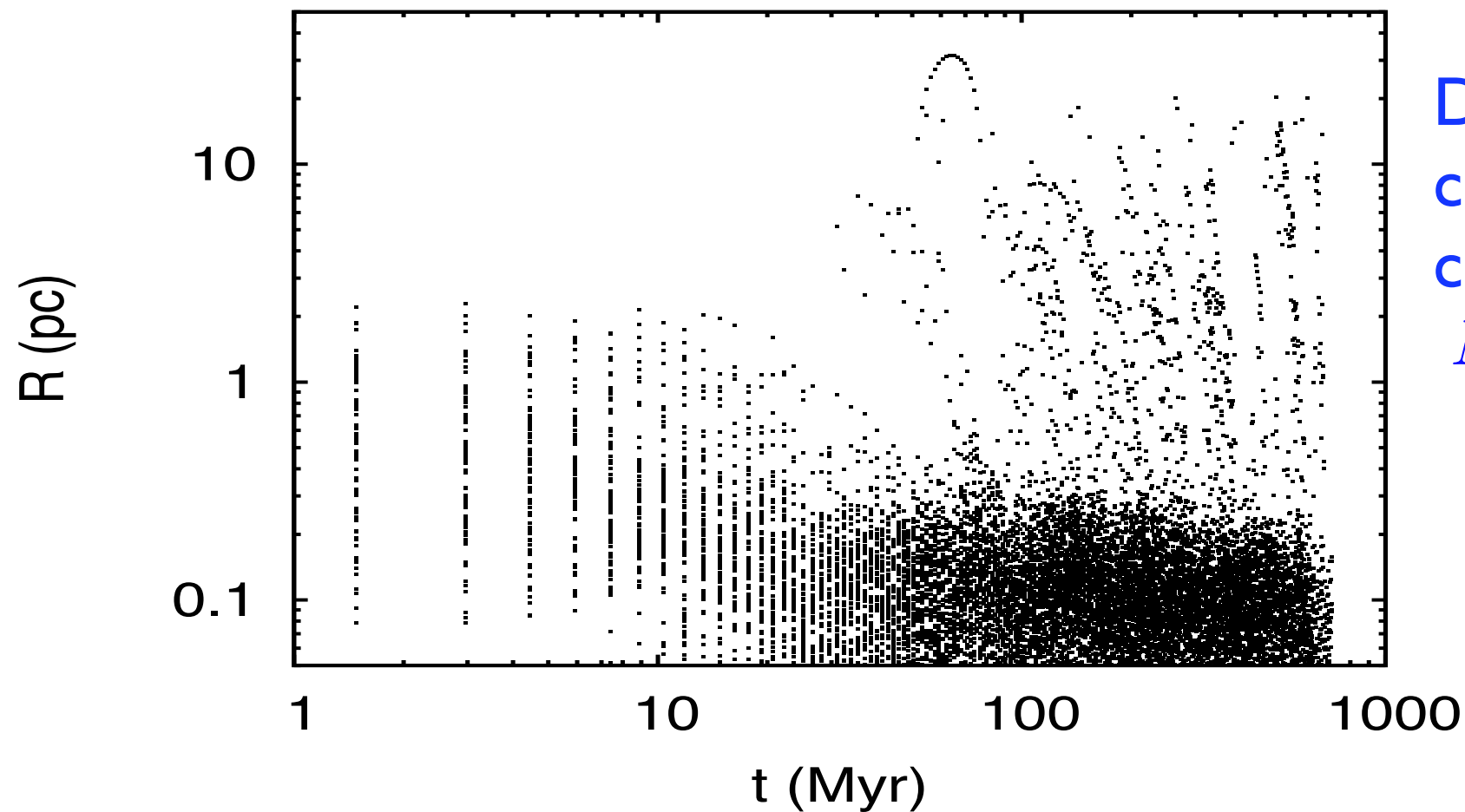
**47 Tuc (credit NASA/ESA/HST)**





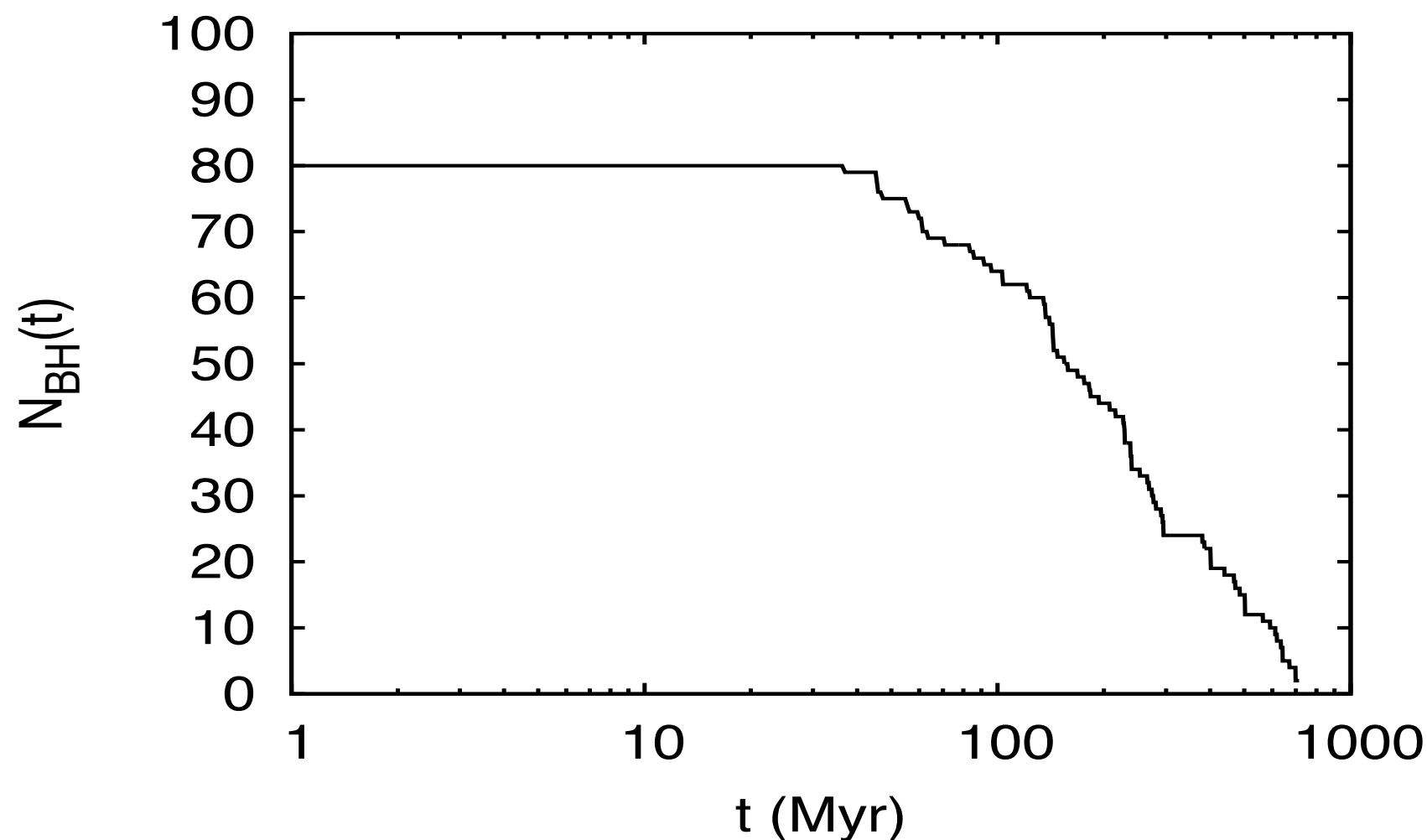
**47 Tuc (credit NASA/ESA/HST)**





Direct N-body  
computation of  $N = 4.5 \times 10^4$   
cluster,  $r_h(0) = 1 \text{ pc}$ ,  
 $N_{BH} \approx 100$  (full retention).

Banerjee, S., et al., 2010,  
MNRAS, 402, 371



Two phases: (a) initial  
segregation:  $N_{BH} \approx \text{const}$   
(b) formation of BH-core:  
 $N_{BH}$  depletes due to  
super-elastic dynamical  
encounters.

*BH-core (or “Dark core”)  
phase have potential for a  
wide variety of physical  
phenomena*



# Multiple core collapse

**~ Gyr - > Hubble time: Core-collapse of rest of the cluster**

Not all episodes are necessarily directly observable!

see, e.g.,:

Morscher, M., et al., 2015, ApJ, 800, 9

Chatterjee, S., et al., 2017, ApJ, 834, 68

**~ 100 Myr - Gyr : Core-collapse of BHs**

**~ Myr - 10 Myr: Core-collapse of massive stars**

## What happens after core collapse?

The core collapse (of a sub-component) can only be halted (or reversed) once dynamical energy-generation processes in the collapsed core begin

Energy generation occurs due to close binary-single interactions (more on Lecture 2!)

Leads to an overall expansion of the cluster

Post-core-collapse dynamical evolution is self-regulatory:

“central (dynamical) energy generation of a (post-core-collapse) cluster is controlled by the energy demands of the bulk of the cluster”

- Hénon M., 1975, Proc. IAU Symp. Vol. 69, p.133 (the Hénon's principle)

Self-similar model (see Spitzer or Heggie & Hut; use the relaxation time formula):

$$M_{cl} \propto t^{-\nu}$$

$$r_h \propto t^{(2+\nu)/3}$$

$$v_m^2 \propto t^{-(2+4\nu)/3}$$