

# Lifetimes and aspect ratios



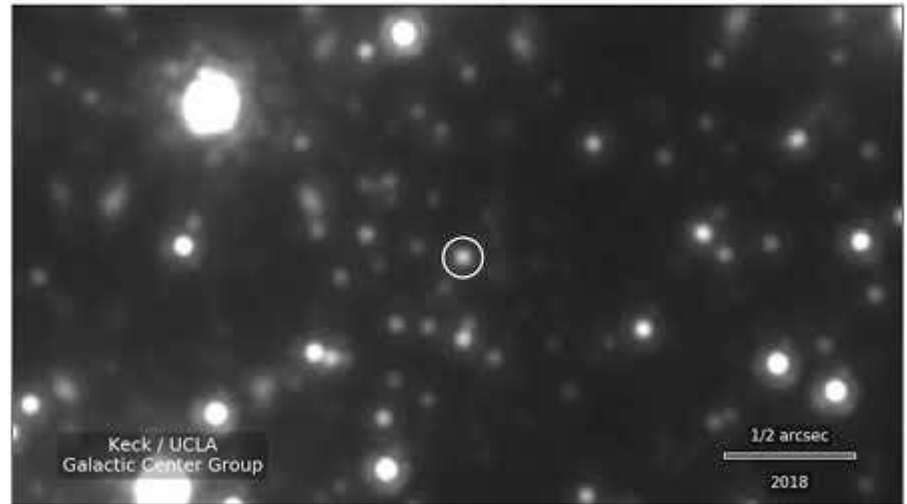
# Our nearest galactic nucleus

Pericenter  $\sim$  few  $1000r_g$

Genzel++ 2018

$N_{\text{sBH}} \sim 2 \times 10^4$

Hailey++ 2018



The diagram shows a central supermassive black hole (SMBH) with mass  $M_{\text{SMBH}}$ . A pre-existing submillimeter galaxy (sbh, pre) is shown as a small black dot with a circular arrow indicating rotation. A new submillimeter galaxy (sbh, new) is shown as a cluster of yellow stars. The diagram illustrates the interaction between the sbh, pre and the SMBH, leading to the formation of the sbh, new. Key parameters shown include the disk radius  $r_{\text{disk}}$  and the binary separation  $r_b$ . The background is a large orange oval representing the galaxy's disk, with several black dots representing other stars or galaxies in the field.

McKernan, Ford++ 2014

Bartos++ 2017

## Stone++ 2017

McKernan, Ford++ 2018

Image credit: O'Dowd

# LIGO-Virgo's GW190706 came from an AGN

Distance means (low mass) IMBH

Progenitors both  $>50M_{\text{sun}}$

Formed from prior mergers

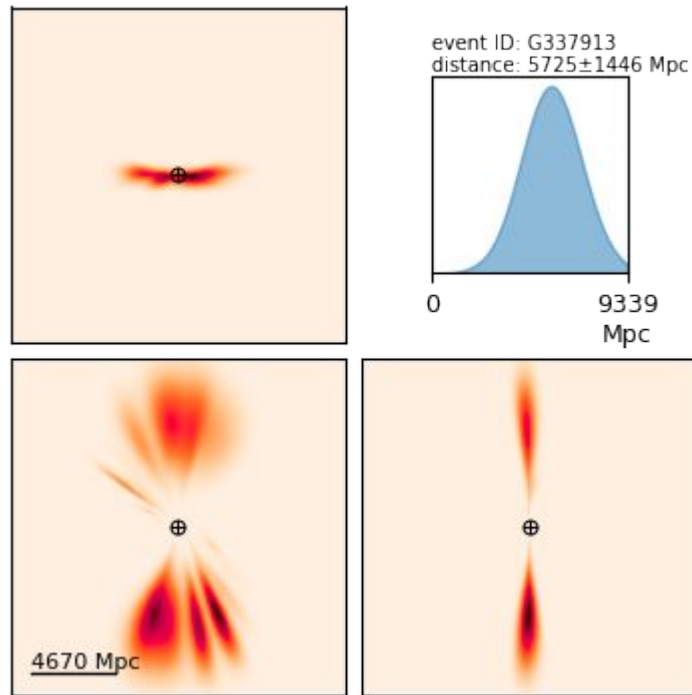
Where  $v_{\text{esc}} > 50 \text{ km/s}$  (Gerosa & Berti 2019)

So a galactic nucleus, but why **AGN**?

Hierarchical mergers

McKernan, Ford++ 2018; 1702.07818

Yang++ 1906.09281



From GraceDB

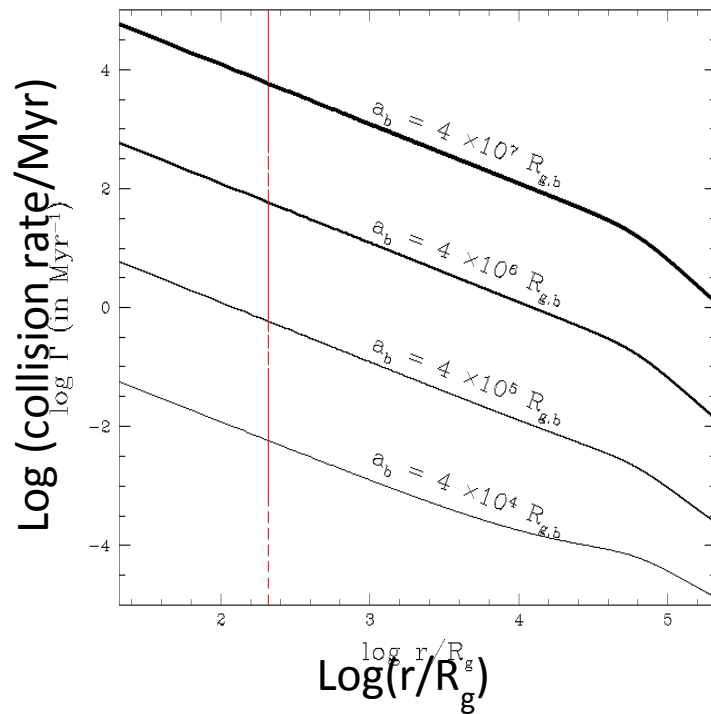
# Assume GR

- Isolated, circularized binary

$$\tau_{\text{GW}} = \left(\frac{5}{64}\right) \left(\frac{c^5}{G^3}\right) \frac{a_{\text{bin}}^4}{M_{\text{bin}}^2 \mu_{\text{bin}}}.$$

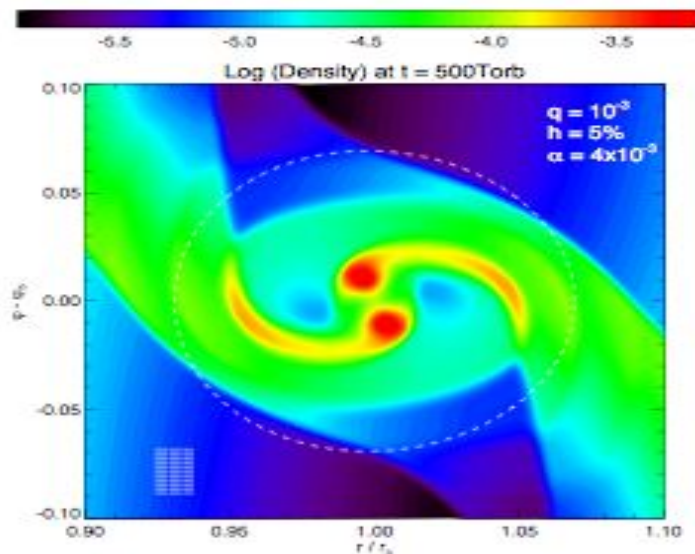
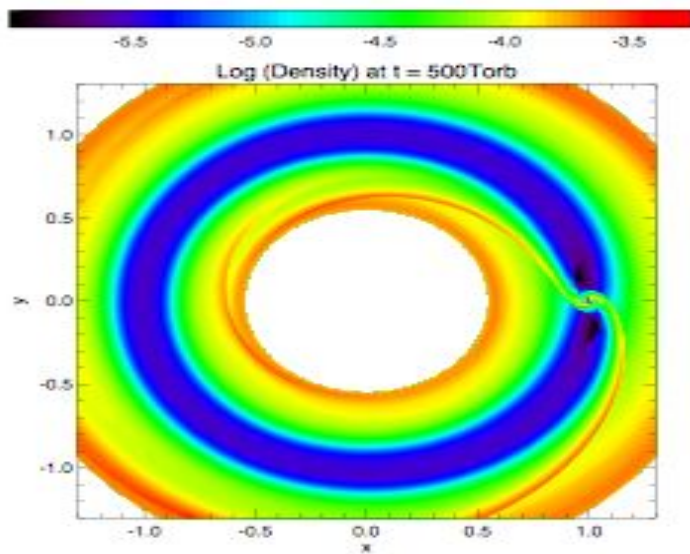
- $M_1 = 15M_{\text{sun}}, M_2 = 10M_{\text{sun}}, a_b = 4\text{AU}$
- $t_{\text{GW}} = 10^5 t_{\text{Hubble}}$

# Collisions in NSCs



Leigh, Geller, McKernan, Ford + 2018

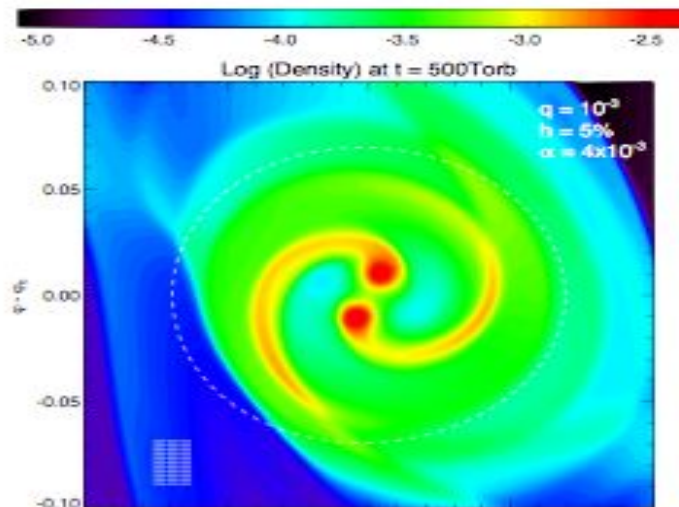
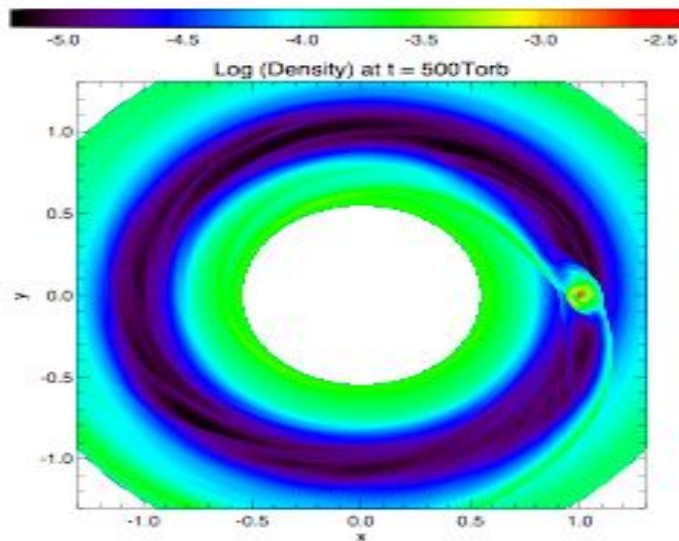
# Wakes within Hill sphere harden binary



- $a_b \rightarrow a_b/2$  in only  $\sim 10^3 T_{\text{orb,bin}}$

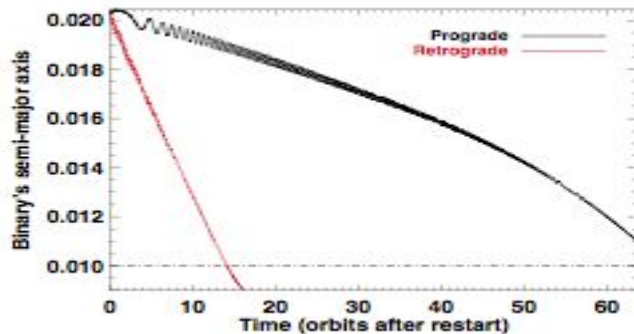
Baruteau+11

# Retrograde binaries harden faster



- $a_b \rightarrow a_b/2$  in only  $\sim 200 T_{\text{orb,bin}}$

Look for Hernandez, Lyra++ 2020

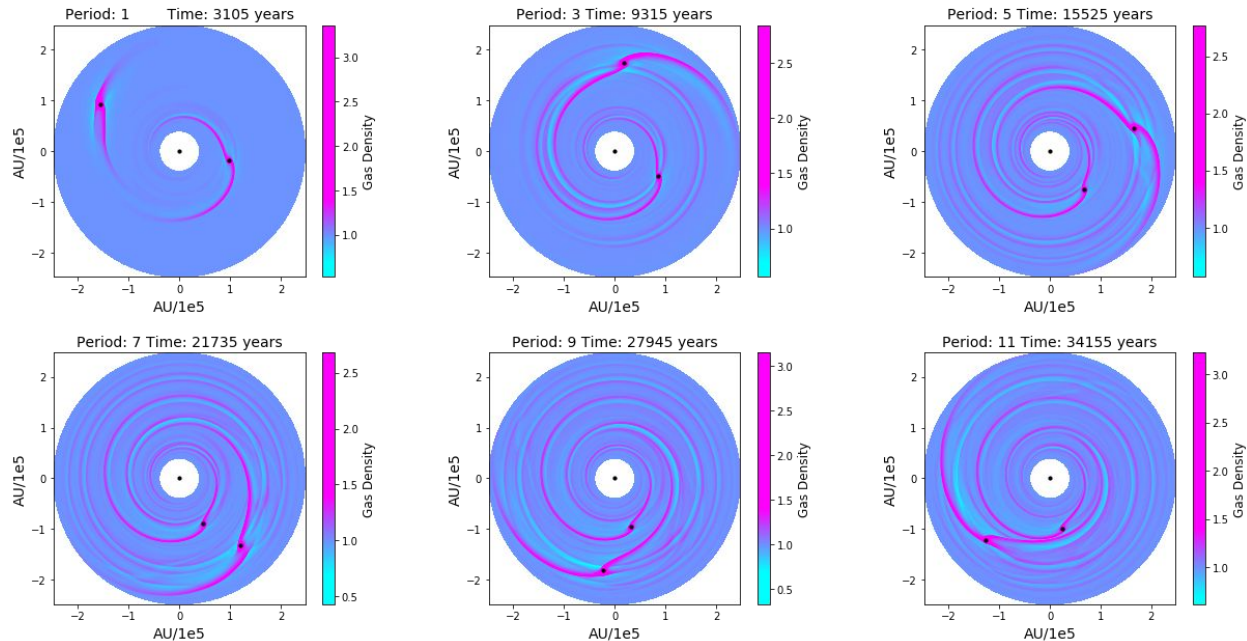


Baruteau+11

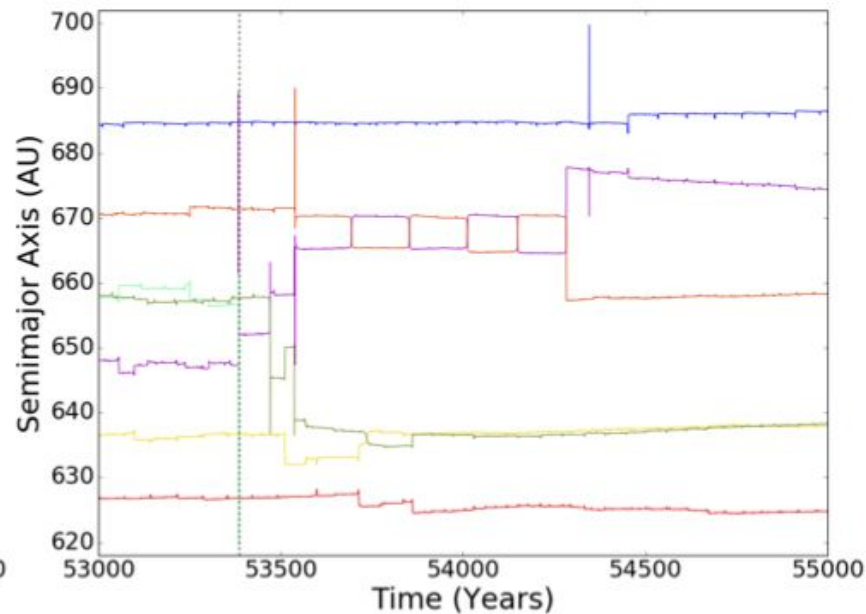
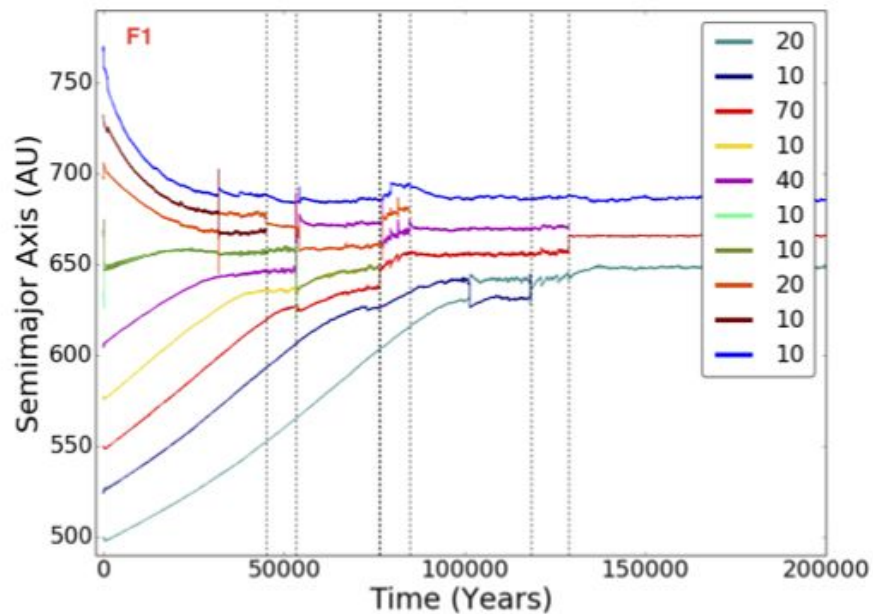


# 2 bodies in a disk

How do  
torques  
change?



# N-body with migration



Secunda ++2018;  
Secunda, Adorno ++ in prep

# A Parameterized Rate Equation

$$\mathcal{R}_A = \frac{N_{GN} N_{sBH} f_{AGN} f_d f_b \epsilon}{\tau_{AGN}}$$

# A Parameterized Rate Equation

Diagram illustrating the parameterized rate equation for AGN rate ( $\mathcal{R}_A$ ).

The equation is:

$$\mathcal{R}_A = \frac{N_{GN} N_{sBH} f_{AGN} f_d f_b \epsilon}{\tau_{AGN}}$$

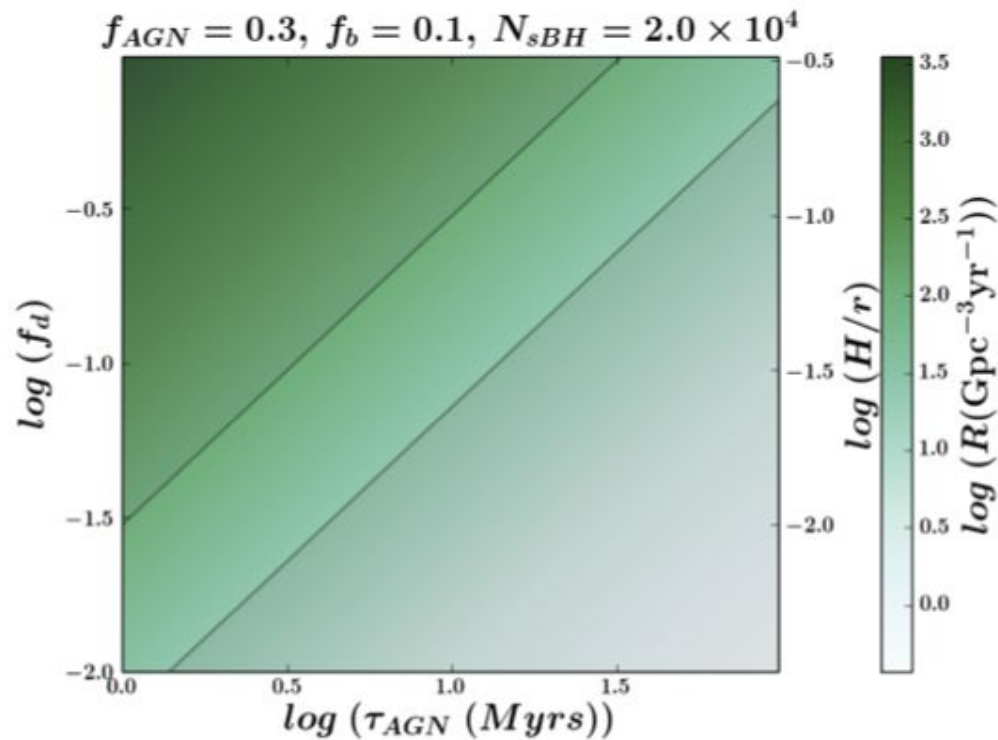
The parameters and their descriptions are:

- # density of galactic nuclei ( $N_{GN}$ )
- # stellar mass BH ( $N_{sBH}$ )
- AGN fraction ( $f_{AGN}$ )
- Frac sBH in disk ( $f_d$ )
- Binary sBH frac ( $f_b$ )
- Ratio Nsbh at  $t_0, i$  to  $i+1$  ( $\epsilon$ )
- AGN lifetime ( $\tau_{AGN}$ )

McKernan, Ford ++ 2018

arXiv:1702.07818

# LINERs: not optically thick RIAFs



# What else can we learn?

Statistical inference: current localization + galaxy catalogs

Bartos++ 2017; Ford++ 2019

EM counterparts: multimessenger sources

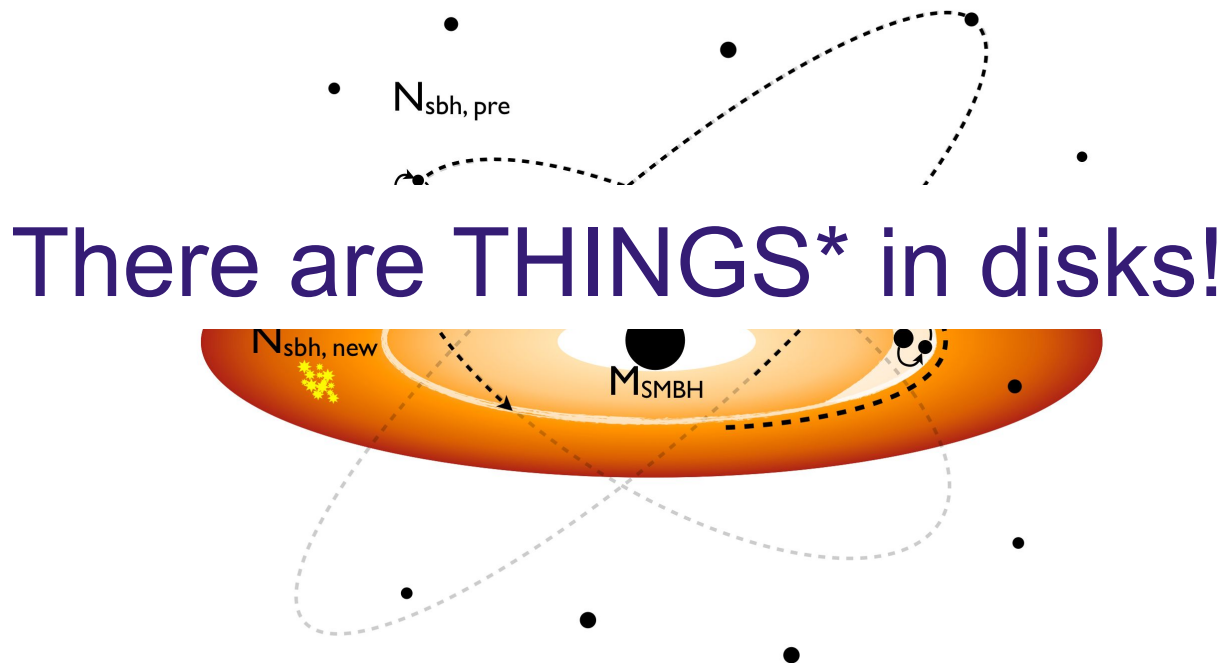
McKernan, Ford++ 2013, 2014, 2015

McKernan, Ford++ 2019: 1907.03746

Make lots of LISA sources

IMBH-SMBH binaries; evolution of multiband BBH

# Summary



\*THINGS may cause: SNe, TDEs, turbulence, heating... and death. Astrophysicists are not liable for any adverse effects. Ask your astrophysicist about THINGS today.

# H/r is not that small

At least in CSQ:

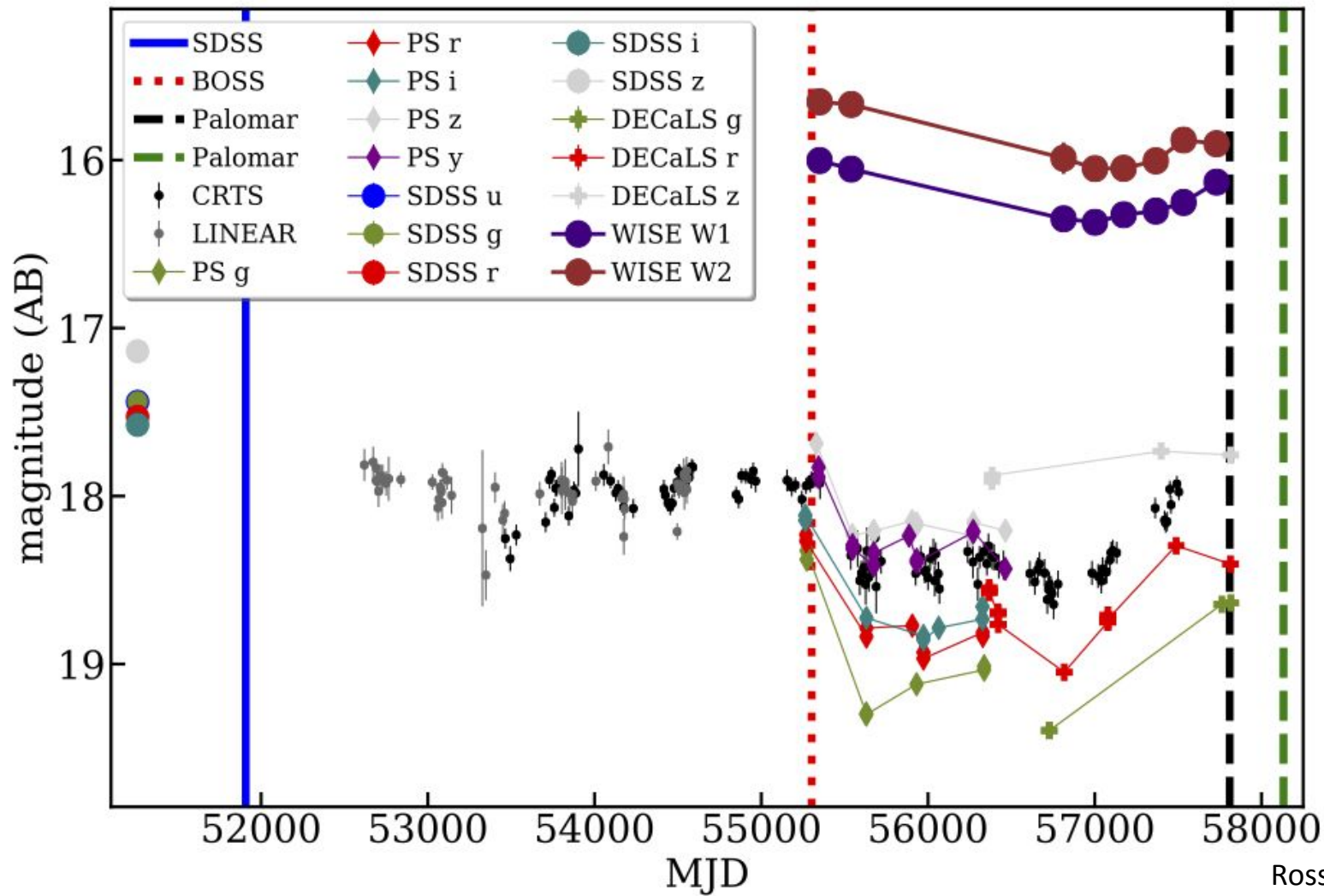
$$t_{\text{orb}} \sim 10 \text{ day} \left( \frac{M_{\text{BH}}}{10^8 M_{\odot}} \right) \left( \frac{R}{150 r_g} \right)^{3/2} \quad (5)$$

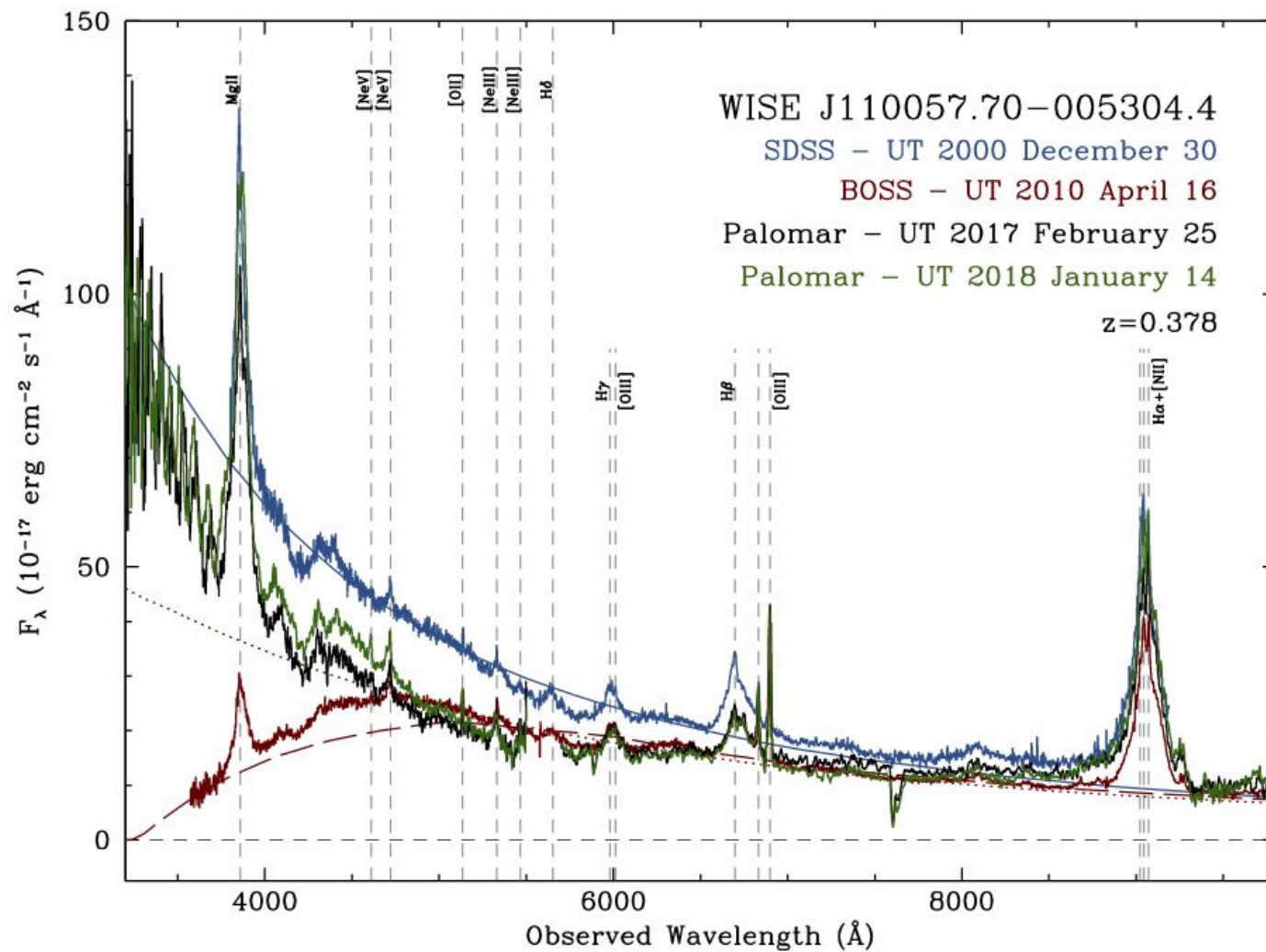
$$t_{\text{th}} \sim 1 \text{ yr} \left( \frac{\alpha}{0.03} \right)^{-1} \left( \frac{M_{\text{BH}}}{10^8 M_{\odot}} \right) \left( \frac{R}{150 r_g} \right)^{3/2} \quad (6)$$

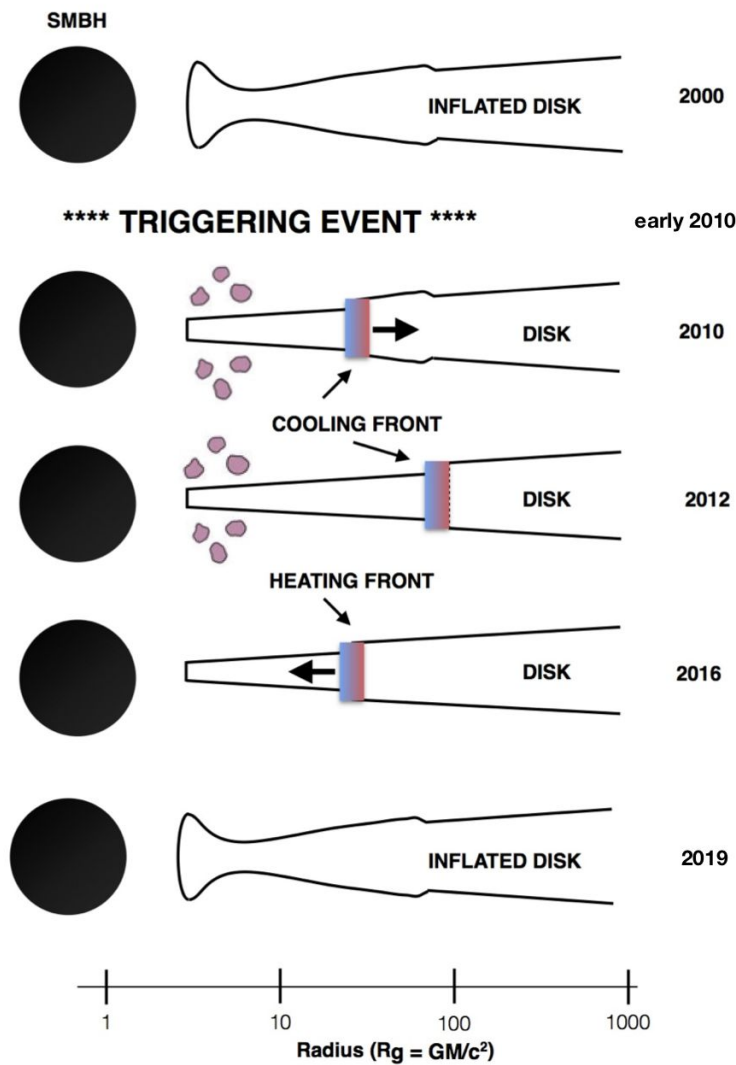
$$t_{\text{front}} \sim 20 \text{ yr} \left( \frac{h/R}{0.05} \right)^{-1} \left( \frac{\alpha}{0.03} \right)^{-1} \left( \frac{M_{\text{BH}}}{10^8 M_{\odot}} \right) \left( \frac{R}{150 r_g} \right)^{3/2} \quad (7)$$

$$t_{\nu} \sim 400 \text{ yr} \left( \frac{h/R}{0.05} \right)^{-2} \left( \frac{\alpha}{0.03} \right)^{-1} \left( \frac{M_{\text{BH}}}{10^8 M_{\odot}} \right) \left( \frac{R}{150 r_g} \right)^{3/2} \quad (8)$$





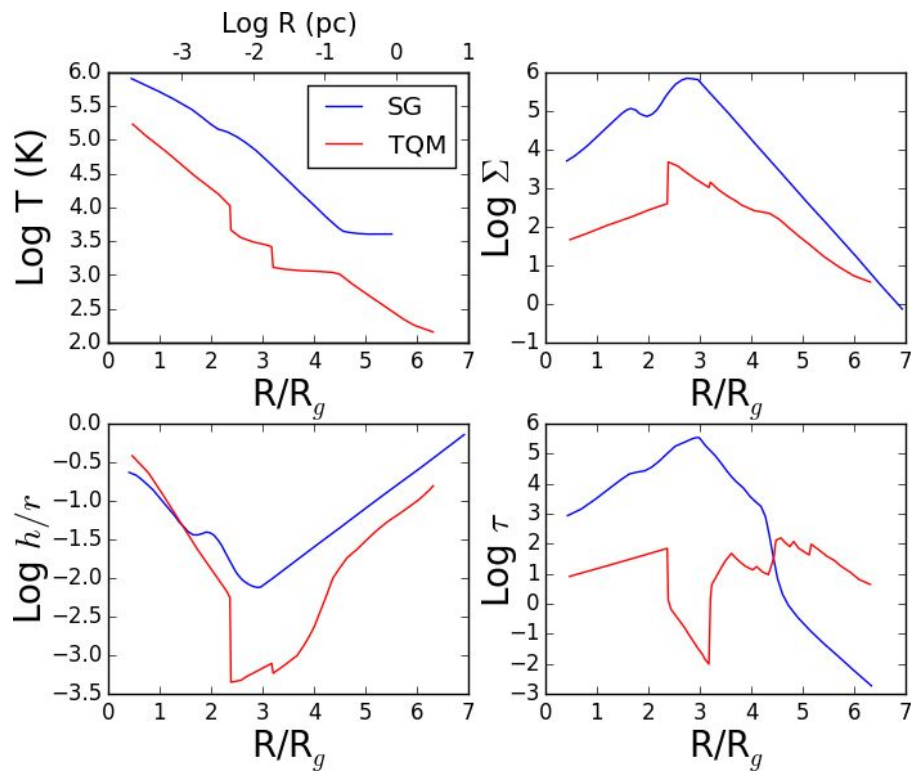




# Spin

$$\vec{\chi}_{\text{eff}} = \frac{M_1 \vec{S}_1 + M_2 \vec{S}_2}{M_1 + M_2} \bullet \vec{L}_b.$$

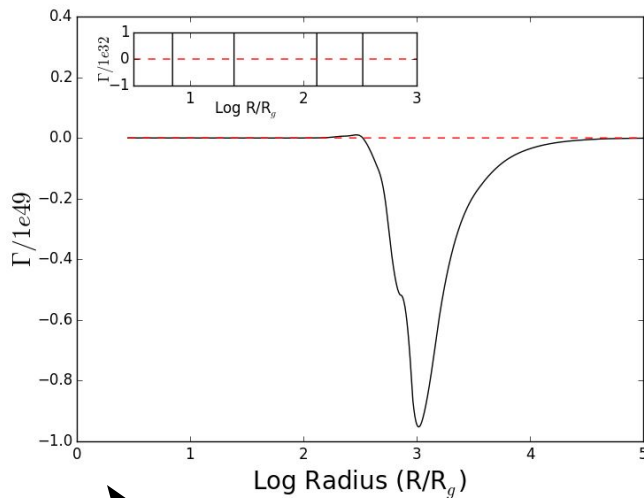
# AGN disk models



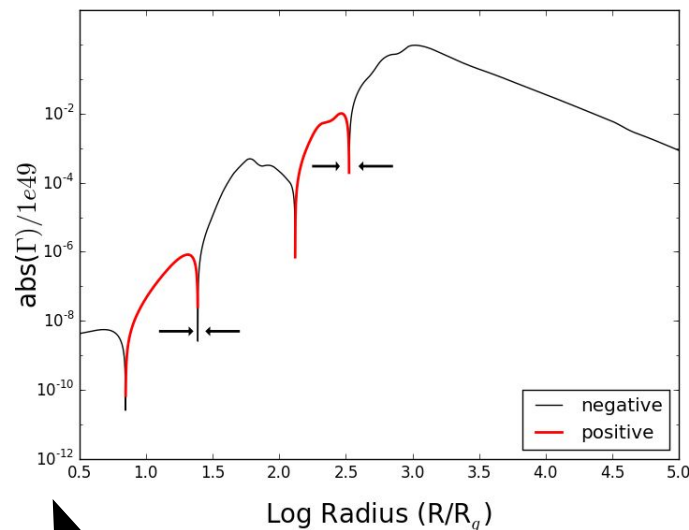
Sirko & Goodman 2003

Thompson, Quataert & Murray 2005

# Migration traps in S&G model



Linear scale



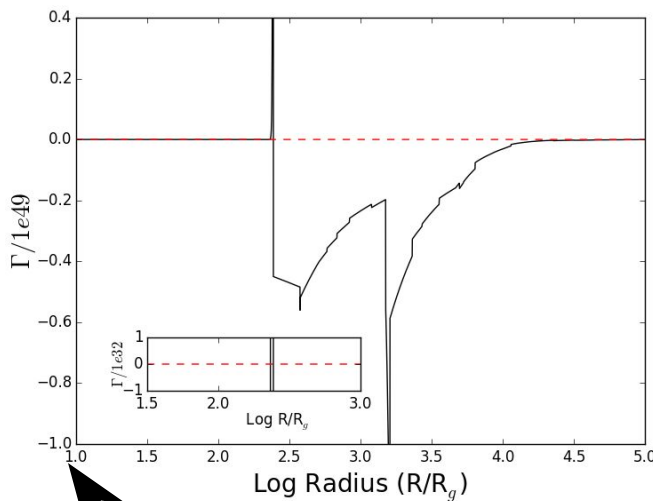
Log scale

Bellovary, MacLow, McKernan & Ford 2016

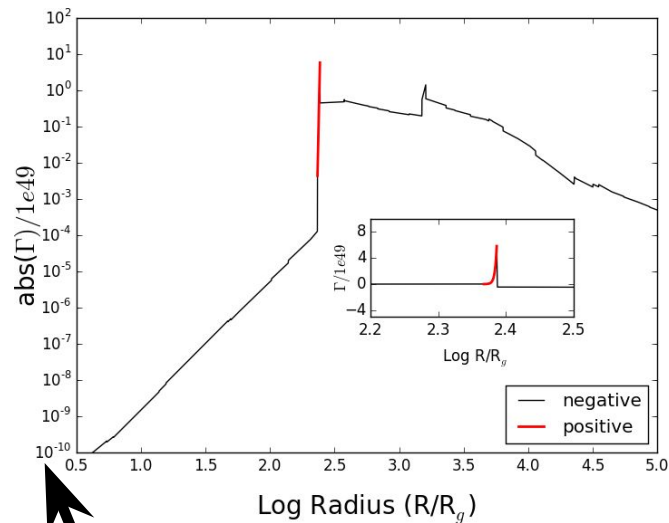
Sirko & Goodman 2003 disk model: **TWO TRAPS**

24.5 and 331  $R_g$

# Migration traps in TQM model



Linear scale



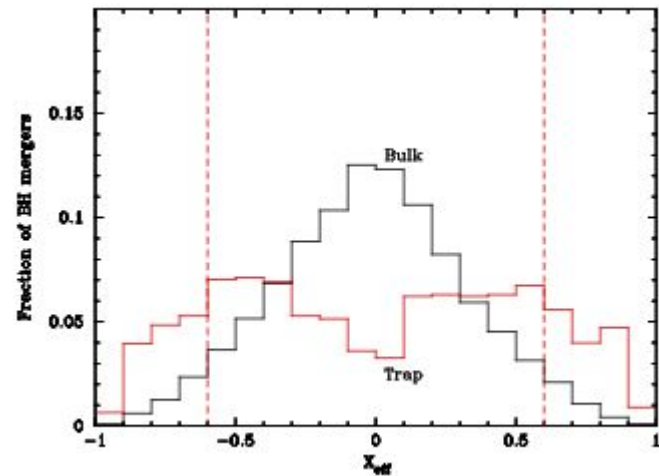
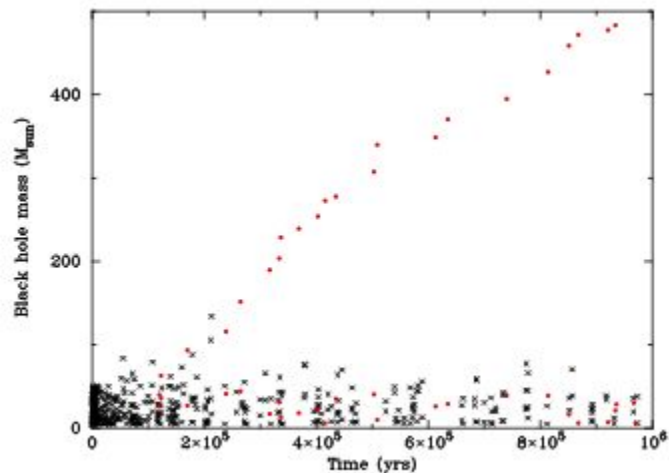
Log scale

Bellovary, MacLow, McKernan & Ford 2016

Thompson Quataert & Murray 2005 disk model: **ONE TRAP**

245  $R_g$

# BBH mergers in AGN disks






# A Parameterized Rate Equation

$$\mathcal{R}_A = \frac{N_{GN} N_{sBH} f_{AGN} f_d f_b \epsilon}{\tau_{AGN}}$$

# A Parameterized Rate Equation

# density of  
galactic nuclei

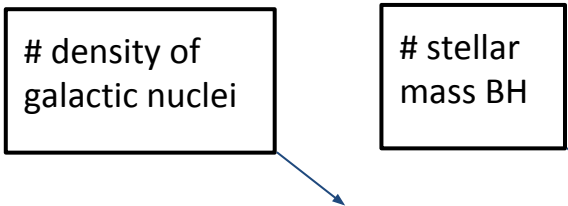


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# A Parameterized Rate Equation

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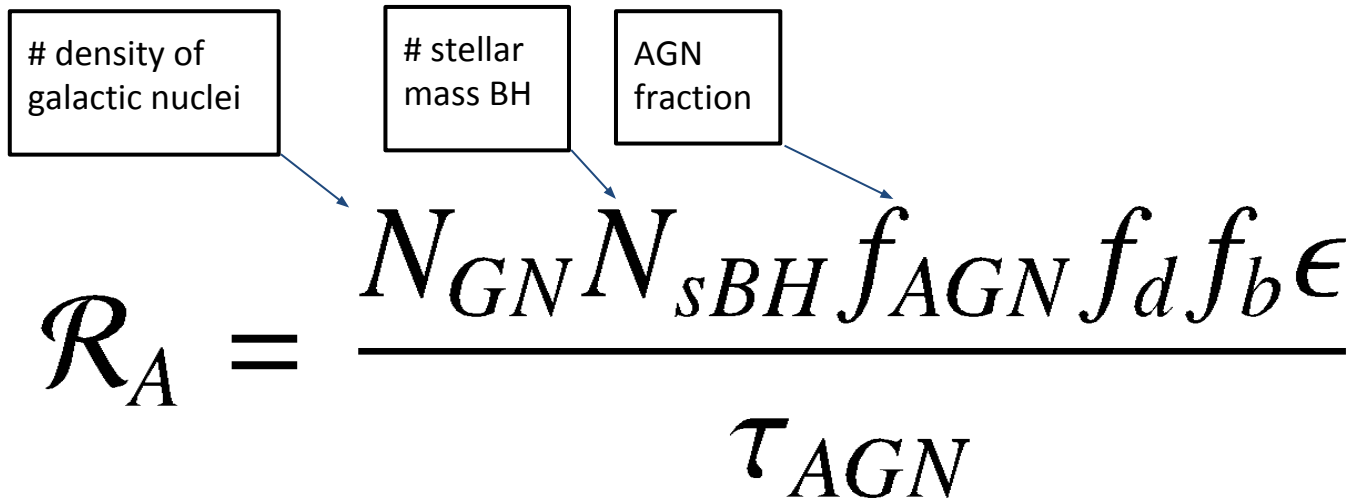
# stellar  
mass BH


$$\mathcal{R}_A = \frac{N_{GN} N_{sBH} f_{AGN} f_d f_b \epsilon}{\tau_{AGN}}$$

McKernan, Ford ++ 2018

arXiv:1702.07818

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$$\mathcal{R}_A = \frac{N_{GN} N_{sBH} f_{AGN} f_d f_b \epsilon}{\tau_{AGN}}$$

McKernan, Ford ++ 2018

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# A Parameterized Rate Equation

# density of galactic nuclei

# stellar mass BH

AGN fraction

Frac sBH in disk

$$\mathcal{R}_A = \frac{N_{GN} N_{sBH} f_{AGN} f_d f_b \epsilon}{\tau_{AGN}}$$

# A Parameterized Rate Equation

The diagram shows five rectangular boxes at the top, each containing a parameter name. Blue arrows point from each box to a corresponding variable in the numerator of the equation below. The boxes are: '# density of galactic nuclei' (points to  $N_{GN}$ ), '# stellar mass BH' (points to  $N_{sBH}$ ), 'AGN fraction' (points to  $f_{AGN}$ ), 'Frac sBH in disk' (points to  $f_d$ ), and 'Binary sBH frac' (points to  $f_b$ ).

$$\mathcal{R}_A = \frac{N_{GN} N_{sBH} f_{AGN} f_d f_b \epsilon}{\tau_{AGN}}$$

# A Parameterized Rate Equation

Diagram illustrating the parameterized rate equation for AGN activity:

Parameters (in boxes) pointing to the numerator:

- # density of galactic nuclei
- # stellar mass BH
- AGN fraction
- Frac sBH in disk
- Binary sBH frac

$$\mathcal{R}_A = \frac{N_{GN} N_{sBH} f_{AGN} f_d f_b \epsilon}{\tau_{AGN}}$$

Parameter (in box) pointing to the denominator:

- AGN lifetime

McKernan, Ford ++ 2018

arXiv:1702.07818

# A Parameterized Rate Equation

Diagram illustrating the parameterized rate equation for AGN rate ( $\mathcal{R}_A$ ).

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- AGN lifetime ( $\tau_{AGN}$ )

McKernan, Ford ++ 2018

arXiv:1702.07818



# Naive timescale argument

- AGN rate dominates quiescent GN rate if

$$f_{\text{AGN}} \left( \frac{t_{\text{b,Q}}}{t_{\text{b,A}}} \right) > 1$$

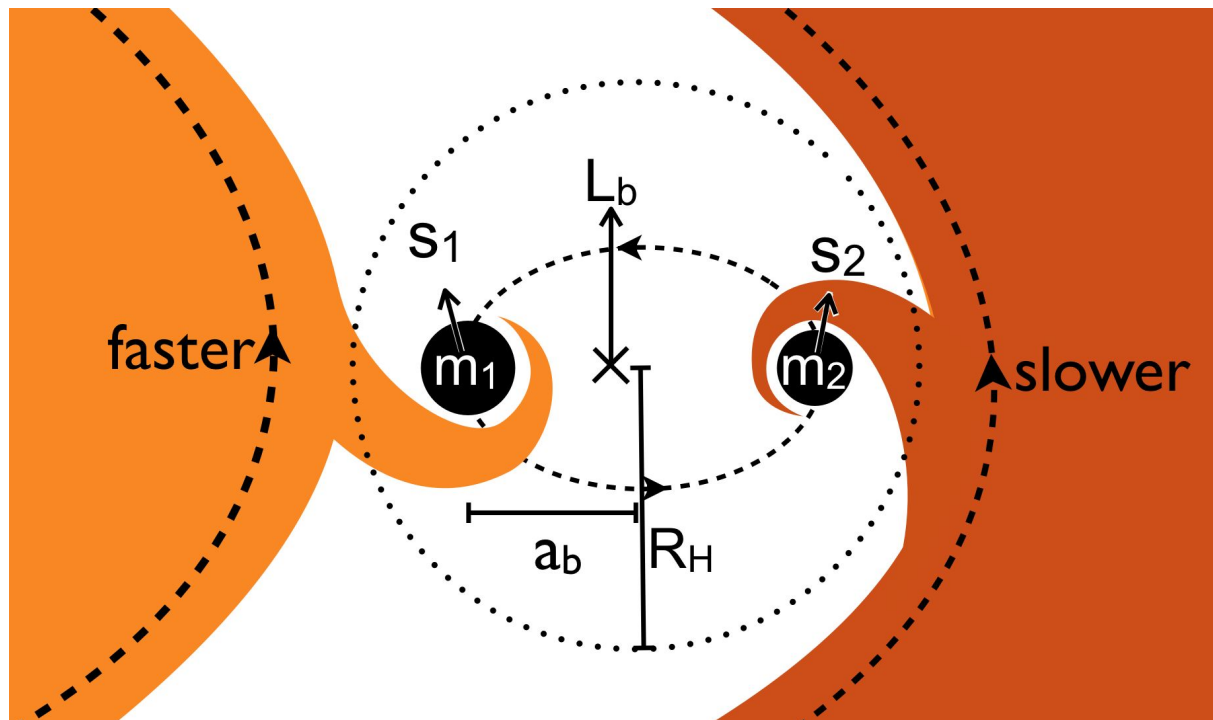
# Naive timescale argument

- AGN rate dominates quiescent GN rate if

$$f_{\text{AGN}} \left( \frac{t_{b,Q}}{t_{b,A}} \right) > 1$$

- If  $f_{\text{AGN}} \sim 0.01$ , just need  $t_{b,A} < 10^{-2} t_{b,Q}$

# Binary merger timescales in disk?



$$R_H = r_b (q/3)^{1/3}$$