

Extreme Mass Ratio Inspirals triggered by Massive Black Hole Binaries: from Relativistic Dynamics to Cosmological Rates



Unsolved problem: Different formation of Extreme Mass Ratio Inspirals



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Binaries: from Relativistic
Dynamics to Cosmological Rates





Giovanni Mazzolari

Extreme Mass Ratio Inspirals triggered by Massive Black Hole Binaries: from Relativistic Dynamics to Cosmological Rates.

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Accepted XXX. Received YYY; in original form ZZZ

ABSTRACT

Extreme mass ratio inspirals (EMRIs) are compact binary systems characterized by a mass-ratio $q = m/M$ in the range $10^{-9} - 10^{-4}$ and represent primary gravitational wave (GW) sources for the forthcoming Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (LISA). While their standard formation channel involves relaxation processes deflecting compact objects on very low angular momentum orbits around the central massive black hole, a number of alternative formation channels has been proposed, including binary tidal break-up, migration in accretion disks and secular and chaotic dynamics around a massive black hole binary (MBHB). In this work, we take an extensive closer look at this latter scenario, investigating how EMRIs can be triggered by MBHBs, formed in the aftermath of galaxy mergers. By employing a suite of relativistic three-body simulations, we evaluate the efficiency of EMRI formation for different parameters of the MBHB, assessing the importance of both secular and chaotic dynamics. By modelling the distribution of compact objects in galaxy nuclei, we estimate the resulting EMRI formation rate, finding that EMRI are produced in a sharp burst, with peak rates that are 10-100 times higher than the standard two-body relaxation channel, lasting for $10^6 - 10^8$ years. By coupling our results with an estimate of the cosmic MBHB merger rate, we finally forecast that LISA could observe $O(10)$ EMRIs per year formed by this channel.

Key words: black hole physics – gravitational waves – celestial mechanics – methods: numerical



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arXiv:2204.05343

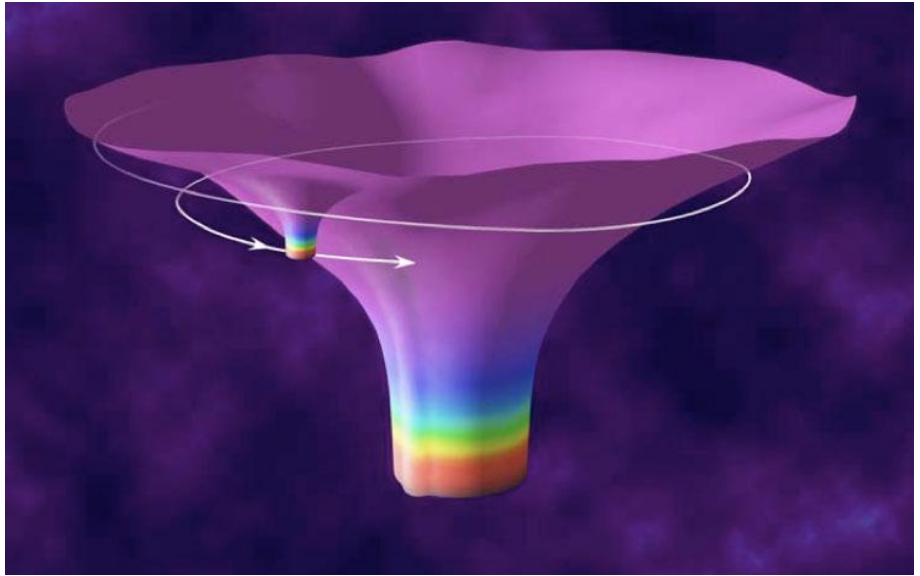
What are EMRIs?

EMRIs features:

Binary systems with mass ratio between 10^{-9} and 10^{-4}

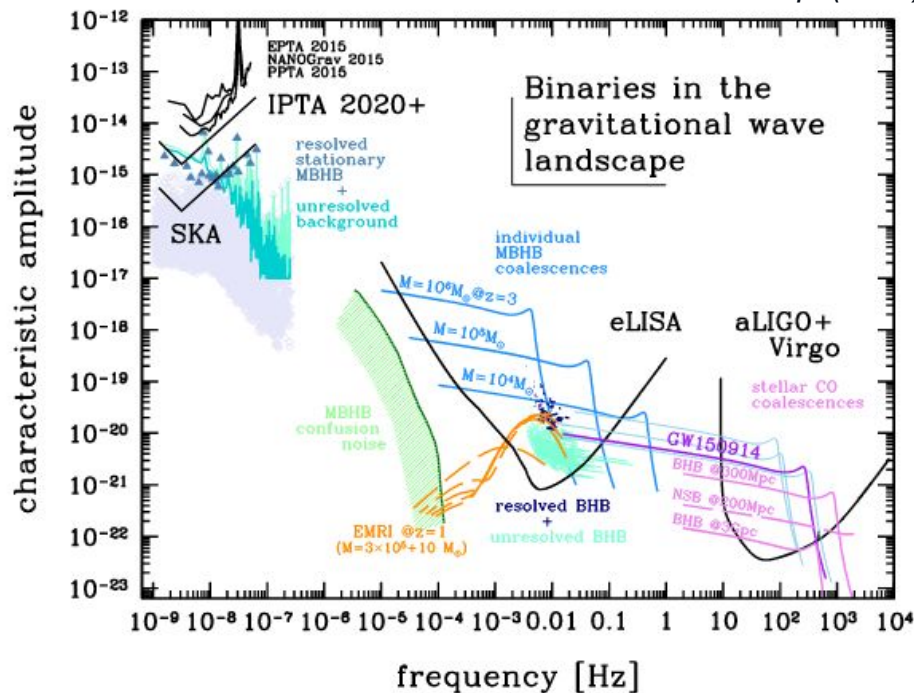
Formed by compact objects (COs)

A classical EMRI example is a binary system formed by **massive BH** + **stellar mass BH**



What are EMRIs?

Sesana & Colpi (2017)



EMRIs will be primary GW sources for LISA science case

$$f_{GW,max} = 4 \times 10^{-3} \left(\frac{M}{10^6 M_{\odot}} \right)^{-1} \text{ Hz}$$

$$h = \sqrt{\frac{32}{5}} \frac{(G M_c)^{5/3}}{c^4 d_L} (\pi f_{GW})^{2/3}$$

Why EMRIs are important?

The extreme mass-ratio makes the GW emission very inefficient

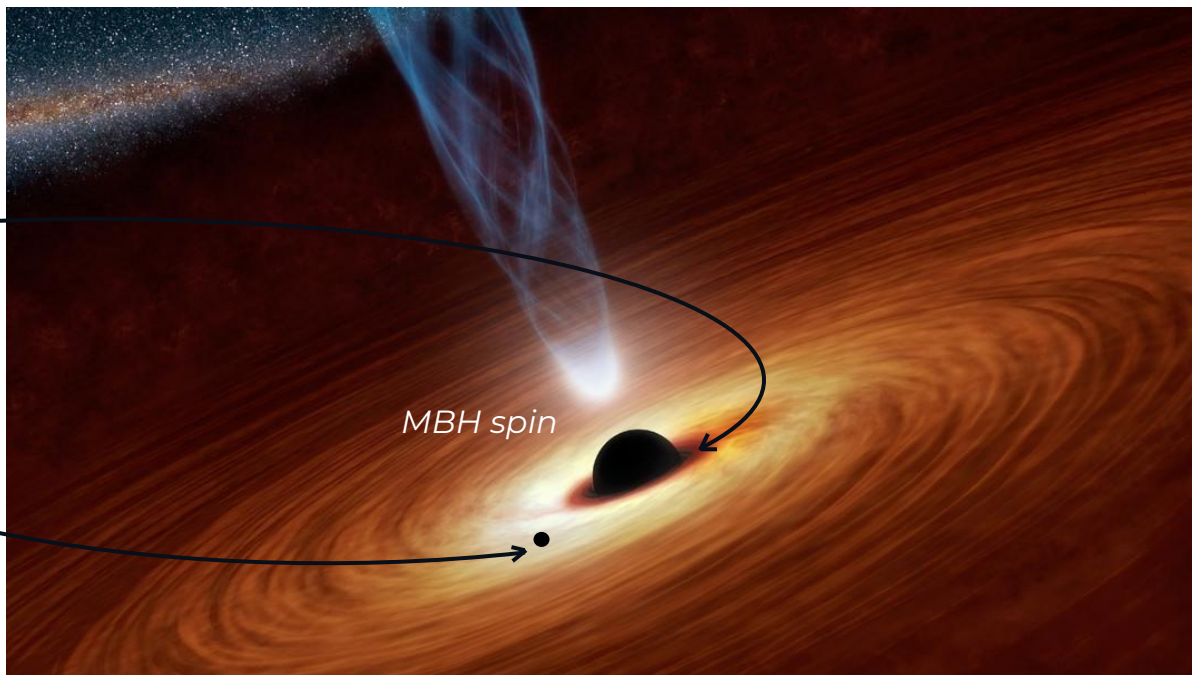
*Orbital parameters
of the binary*

*Redshifted MBH
mass*

*Redshifted BH
mass*

*Kerr quadrupole
mass moment*

*Luminosity distance
of the source*



MBH spin

$10^4 - 10^5$ cycles



Extremely precise measurements

Why EMRIs are important?

Quadrupole
mass moment



Test for GR

Luminosity
distance



Test for
Cosmology

Inclination of
the orbit



Test for the
distribution of COs
around the MBH

Significant
number of EMRIs



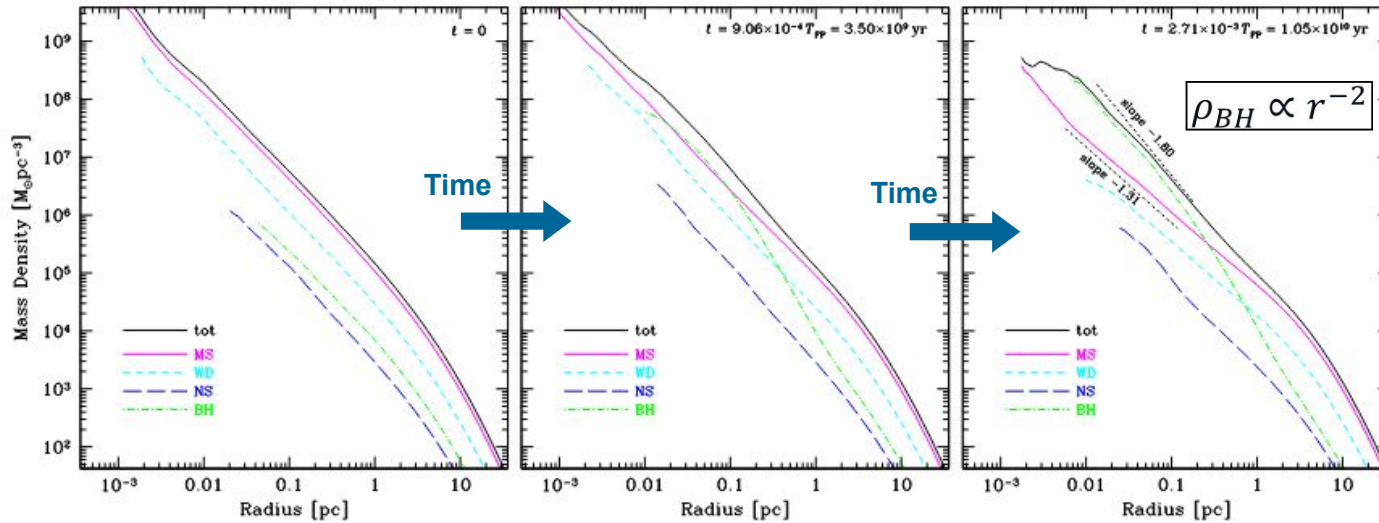
Constrain the MBH
mass function

How do they form?

High densities

→ Dynamical interactions

→ Tidal Disruptions
→ Direct Plunge
→ EMRIs

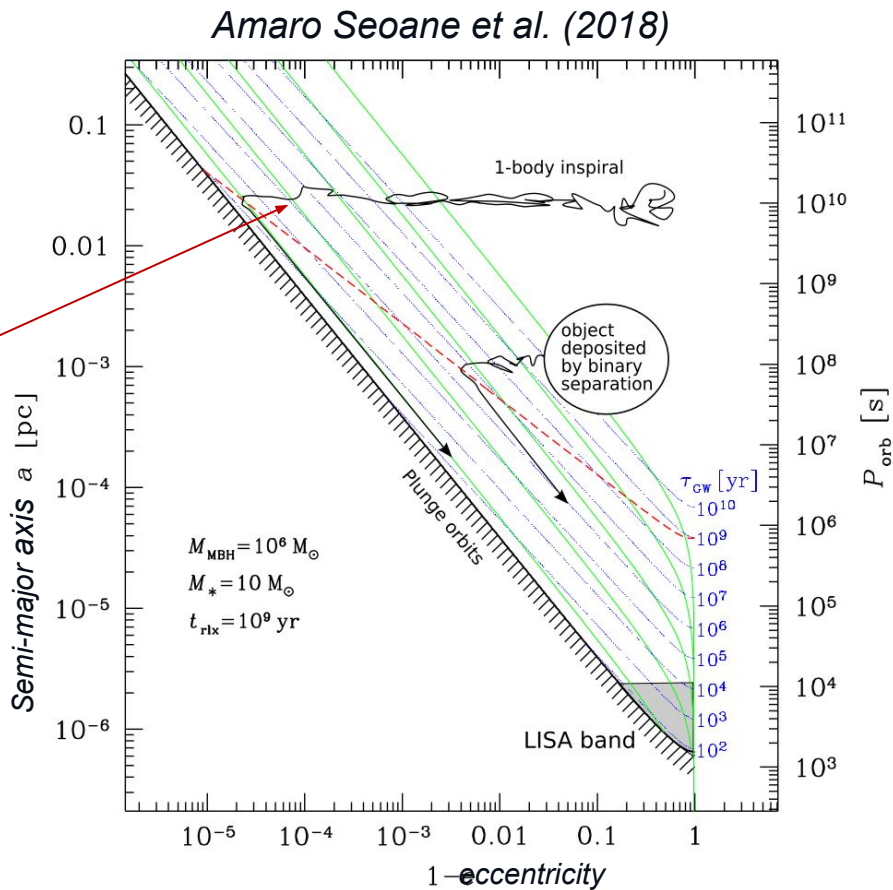


Freitag et al (2006)

How do they form?

Possible dynamical mechanism...

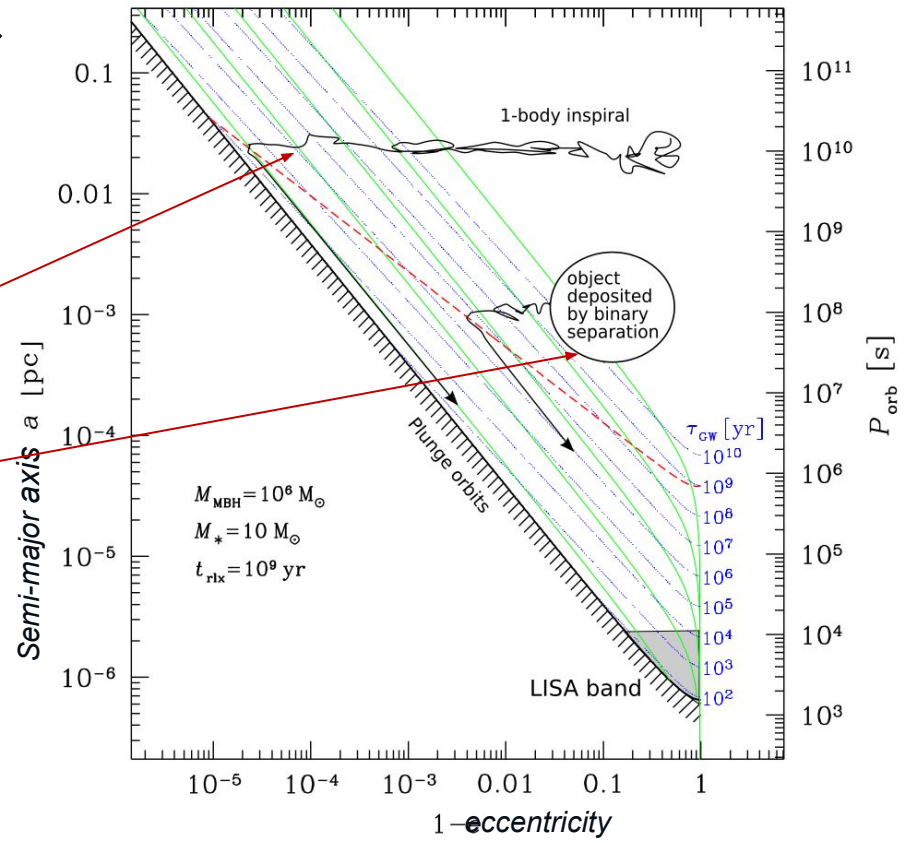
- Standard Channel: EMRI formation is consequence of two bodies relaxation
- Binary Tidal Breakup
- BH migration in the disk of AGNs



How do they form?

Possible dynamical mechanism...

- Standard Channel: EMRI formation is consequence of two bodies relaxation
- Binary Tidal Breakup
- BH migration in the disk of AGNs



How do they form?

... another possibility

EMRI formation in a Massive Black Hole Binary (MBHB)

*Investigated by Bode & Wegg +14 (with a number of simplifying assumptions)
and recently by Naoz+22 (different setup, see next)*



MBHB Channel-Ingredients

We would like to simulate a system featuring:

- Primary MBH
- A cusp of stellar-mass CO around it
- A secondary MBH

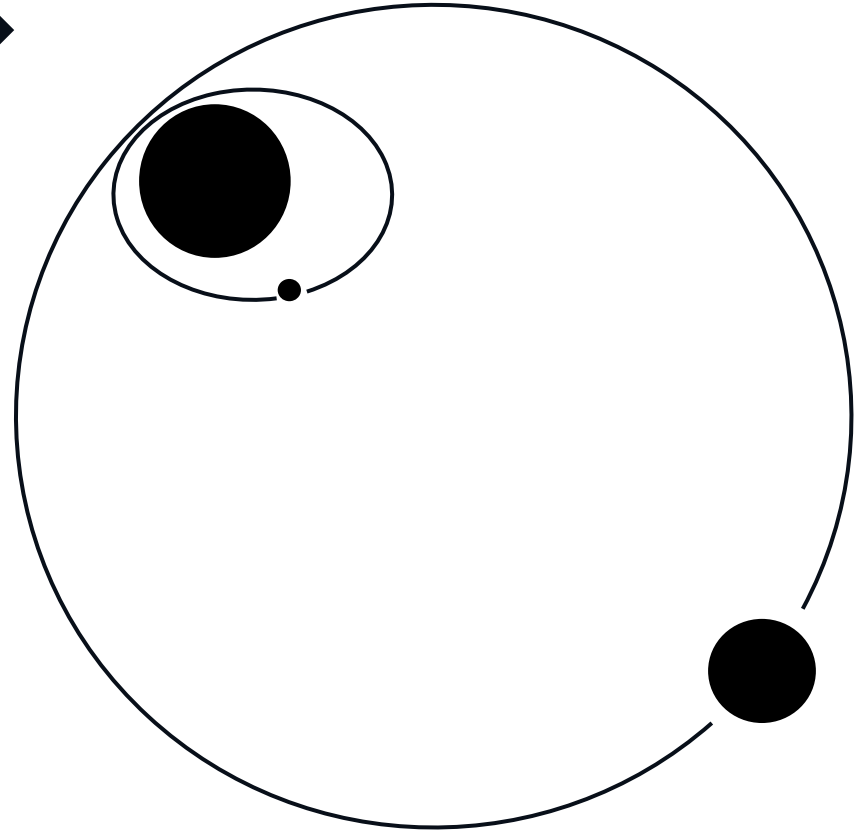
We choose the semi-analytical way, i.e. we pick one CO at a time and simulate a series of three-body systems

(EMRI identified when GW timescale **smaller** than relaxation timescale)

MBHB Channel-Ingredients

Simulations set-up:

- Inner and outer binary : hierarchical triplet



MBHB Channel-Ingredients

Simulations set-up:

- Inner and outer b hierarchical triple
- Post-Newtonian Evolution

Newtonian

$$H_0 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha} \frac{|\vec{p}_{\alpha}|^2}{m_{\alpha}} - \frac{G}{2} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \frac{m_{\alpha} m_{\beta}}{r_{\alpha\beta}}$$

1PN

$$H_1 = -\frac{1}{8} \sum_{\alpha} m_{\alpha} \left(\frac{|\vec{p}_{\alpha}|^2}{m_{\alpha}^2} \right)^2 - \frac{G}{4} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \frac{1}{r_{\alpha\beta}} \left[6 \frac{m_{\beta}}{m_{\alpha}} |\vec{p}_{\alpha}|^2 - 7 \vec{p}_{\alpha} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta} - (\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\alpha})(\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta}) \right] + \frac{G^2}{2} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \sum_{\gamma \neq \alpha} \frac{m_{\alpha} m_{\beta} m_{\gamma}}{r_{\alpha\beta} r_{\alpha\gamma}}$$

2.5PN

$$H_{2.5} = \frac{G}{45} \dot{\chi}_{(4)ij}(\vec{x}'_{\alpha'}, \vec{p}'_{\alpha'}; t) \chi_{(4)ij}(\vec{x}_{\alpha}, \vec{p}_{\alpha})$$

We integrate the time evolution following the inner binary orbital timescale

$$H_2 = \frac{1}{16} \sum_{\alpha} m_{\alpha} \left(\frac{|\vec{p}_{\alpha}|^2}{m_{\alpha}^2} \right)^3 + \frac{G}{16} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \frac{(m_{\alpha} m_{\beta})^{-1}}{r_{\alpha\beta}} \left[10 \left(\frac{m_{\beta}}{m_{\alpha}} |\vec{p}_{\alpha}|^2 \right)^2 - 11 |\vec{p}_{\alpha}|^2 |\vec{p}_{\beta}|^2 - 2(\vec{p}_{\alpha} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta})^2 + 10 |\vec{p}_{\alpha}|^2 (\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta})^2 - 12 (\vec{p}_{\alpha} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta})(\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\alpha})(\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta}) - 3(\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\alpha})^2 (\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta})^2 \right] + \frac{G^2}{8} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \sum_{\gamma \neq \alpha} \frac{1}{r_{\alpha\beta} r_{\alpha\gamma}} \left[18 \frac{m_{\beta} m_{\gamma}}{m_{\alpha}} |\vec{p}_{\alpha}|^2 + 14 \frac{m_{\alpha} m_{\gamma}}{m_{\beta}} |\vec{p}_{\beta}|^2 - 2 \frac{m_{\alpha} m_{\gamma}}{m_{\beta}} (\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta})^2 - 50 m_{\gamma} (\vec{p}_{\alpha} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta}) + 17 m_{\alpha} (\vec{p}_{\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\gamma}) - 14 m_{\gamma} (\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\alpha})(\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta}) + 14 m_{\alpha} (\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta})(\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\gamma}) + m_{\alpha} (\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{n}_{\alpha\gamma})(\vec{n}_{\alpha\gamma} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta})(\vec{n}_{\alpha\gamma} \cdot \vec{p}_{\gamma}) \right] + \frac{G^2}{8} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \sum_{\gamma \neq \alpha} \frac{1}{r_{\alpha\beta}^2} \left[2 m_{\beta} (\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\alpha})(\vec{n}_{\alpha\gamma} \cdot \vec{p}_{\gamma}) + 2 m_{\beta} (\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta})(\vec{n}_{\alpha\gamma} \cdot \vec{p}_{\gamma}) \right] + \frac{m_{\alpha} m_{\beta}}{m_{\gamma}} (5(\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{n}_{\alpha\gamma}) |\vec{p}_{\gamma}|^2 - (\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{n}_{\alpha\gamma})(\vec{n}_{\alpha\gamma} \cdot \vec{p}_{\gamma})^2 - 14(\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\gamma})(\vec{n}_{\alpha\gamma} \cdot \vec{p}_{\gamma})) + \frac{G^2}{4} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \frac{m_{\alpha}}{r_{\alpha\beta}^2} \left[\frac{m_{\beta}}{r_{\alpha\beta}^2} |\vec{p}_{\alpha}|^2 + \frac{m_{\alpha}}{m_{\beta}} |\vec{p}_{\beta}|^2 - 2(\vec{p}_{\alpha} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta}) \right] + \frac{G^2}{2} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \sum_{\gamma \neq \alpha} \frac{(n_{\alpha\beta}^i + n_{\alpha\gamma}^i)(n_{\alpha\beta}^j + n_{\alpha\gamma}^j)}{(r_{\alpha\beta} + r_{\beta\gamma} + r_{\gamma\alpha})^2} \left[8 m_{\beta} (p_{\alpha i} p_{\gamma j}) - 16 m_{\beta} (p_{\alpha i} p_{\beta j}) \right] + 3 m_{\gamma} (p_{\alpha i} p_{\beta j}) + 4 \frac{m_{\alpha} m_{\beta}}{m_{\gamma}} (p_{\alpha i} p_{\gamma j}) + \frac{m_{\alpha} m_{\beta}}{m_{\alpha}} (p_{\alpha i} p_{\alpha j}) + \frac{G^2}{2} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \sum_{\gamma \neq \alpha} \frac{m_{\alpha} m_{\beta} m_{\gamma}}{(r_{\alpha\beta} + r_{\beta\gamma} + r_{\gamma\alpha})} \left[8 \frac{\vec{p}_{\alpha} \cdot \vec{p}_{\gamma} - (\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\alpha})(\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\gamma})}{m_{\alpha} m_{\gamma}} - 3 \frac{\vec{p}_{\alpha} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta} - (\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\alpha})(\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\beta})}{m_{\alpha}^2} - 4 \frac{|\vec{p}_{\gamma}|^2 - (\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\gamma})^2}{m_{\alpha}^2} - \frac{|\vec{p}_{\alpha}|^2 - (\vec{n}_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \vec{p}_{\alpha})^2}{m_{\alpha}^2} \right] - \frac{G^3}{2} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \left(\sum_{\gamma \neq \alpha, \beta} \frac{m_{\alpha}^2 m_{\beta} m_{\gamma}}{r_{\alpha\beta}^2 r_{\beta\gamma}} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\gamma \neq \beta} \frac{m_{\alpha}^2 m_{\beta} m_{\gamma}}{r_{\alpha\beta}^2 r_{\beta\gamma}} \right) - \frac{3G^3}{8} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \left(\sum_{\gamma \neq \alpha} \frac{m_{\alpha}^2 m_{\beta} m_{\gamma}}{r_{\alpha\beta}^2 r_{\alpha\gamma}} + \sum_{\gamma \neq \alpha, \beta} \frac{m_{\alpha}^2 m_{\beta} m_{\gamma}}{r_{\alpha\beta}^2 r_{\beta\gamma}} \right) - \frac{3G^3}{8} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \sum_{\gamma \neq \alpha, \beta} \frac{m_{\alpha}^2 m_{\beta} m_{\gamma}}{r_{\alpha\beta} r_{\alpha\gamma} r_{\beta\gamma}} - \frac{G^3}{64} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \sum_{\gamma \neq \alpha, \beta} \frac{m_{\alpha}^2 m_{\beta} m_{\gamma}}{r_{\alpha\beta} r_{\alpha\gamma} r_{\beta\gamma}} \left[18 r_{\alpha\gamma}^2 - 60 r_{\beta\gamma}^2 - 24 r_{\alpha\gamma} (r_{\alpha\beta} + r_{\beta\gamma}) \right] + 60 \frac{r_{\alpha\gamma} r_{\beta\gamma}^2}{r_{\alpha\beta}} + 56 r_{\alpha\beta} r_{\beta\gamma} - 72 \frac{r_{\beta\gamma}^3}{r_{\alpha\beta}} + 35 \frac{r_{\beta\gamma}^4}{r_{\alpha\beta}^2} + 6 r_{\alpha\beta}^2 \left] - \frac{G^3}{4} \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \frac{m_{\alpha}^2 m_{\beta}^2}{r_{\alpha\beta}^3}$$

2PN

MBHB Channel-Ingredients

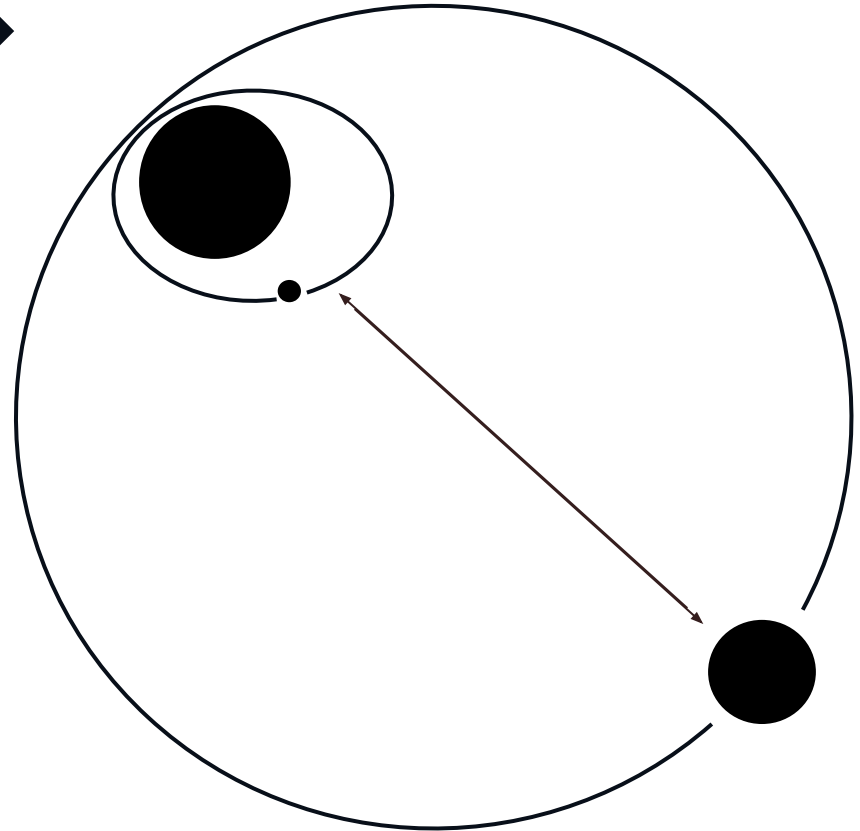
Simulations set-up:

- Inner and outer binary : hierarchical triplet
- Post-Newtonian Evolution
- Stellar potential
- Hardening

$$\dot{a} = -a^2 \frac{GH\rho}{\sigma}$$

$$\dot{e} = a \frac{GHK\rho}{\sigma}$$

Added through a fictitious force in the direct 3-body integrator

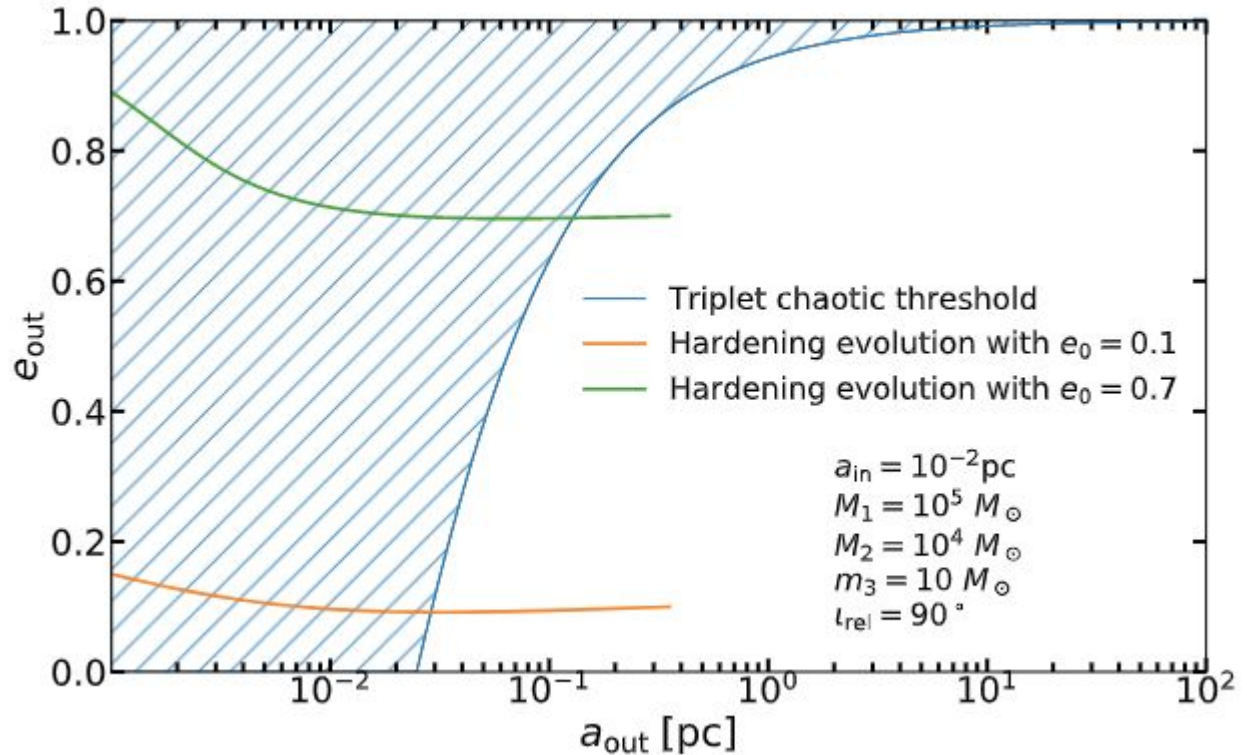


Stellar hardening

$$\dot{a} = -a^2 \frac{GH\rho}{\sigma}$$
$$\dot{e} = a \frac{GHK\rho}{\sigma}$$

Stellar hardening brings the secondary MBH closer to the inner binary.

The triplet's doom is the dynamical instability, a regime where secular theory cannot be employed



See Naoz+22 for a different approach considering the secular formalism

MBHB Channel

Interactions:

Secular



Lidov-Kozai oscillations



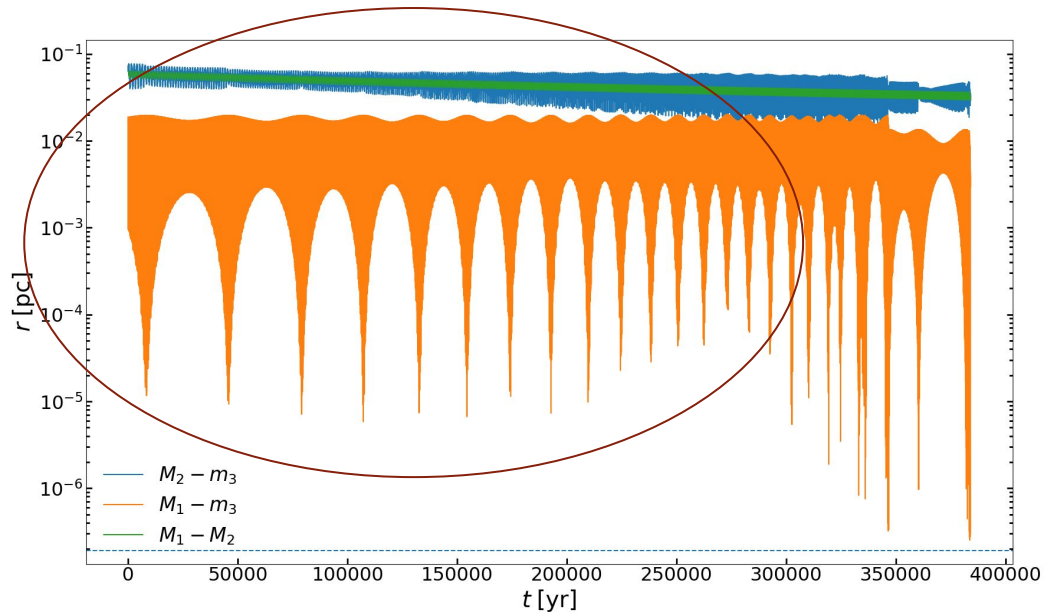
Exchange between relative inclination and eccentricity of the inner binary

GR precession generally damp the process

Relative separations between the three objects during one simulation

M1-M2 -> outer binary

M1-m3 -> inner binary



MBHB Channel

Interactions:

Chaotic



Hierarchy is lost

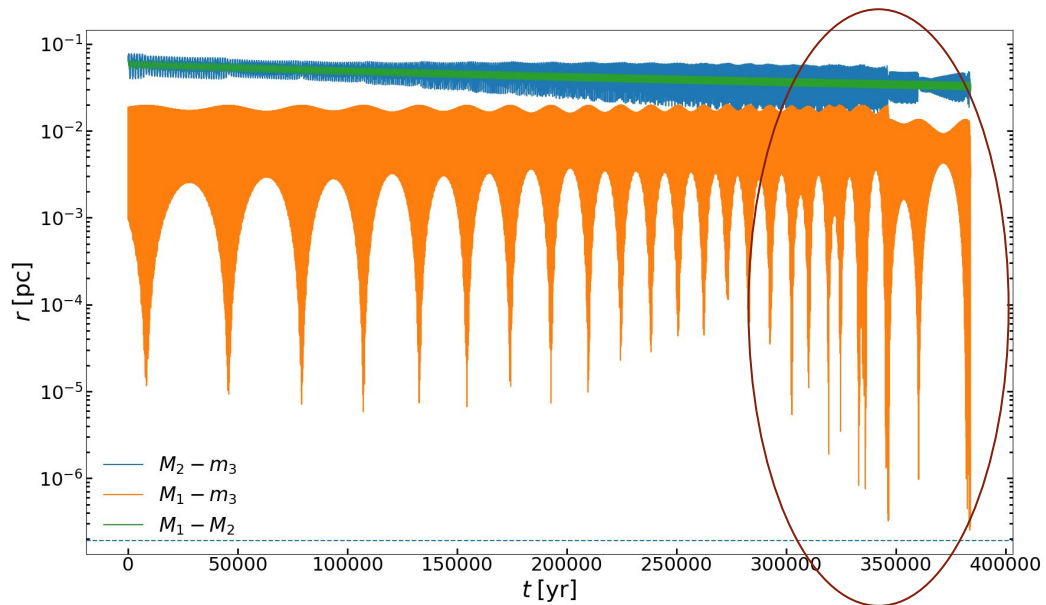


Strong encounters

Relative separations between the three objects during one simulation

M_1 - M_2 -> outer binary

M_1 - m_3 -> inner binary



MBHB Channel

Parameter space:

Mass of the primary MBH M_1 :

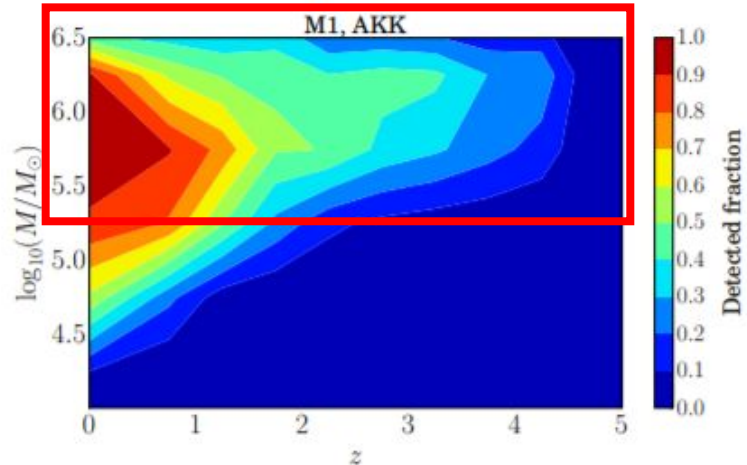
$3 \times 10^5, 10^6, 3 \times 10^6 M_\odot$

MBHs mass ratio $q = M_2/M_1$:

0.003, 0.01, 0.03, 0.1

MBHB eccentricity e_{out} :

0.1 and 0.7



Expected EMRIs detected fraction with respect to the mass of the primary MBH and the redshift

Babak, Gair & Sesana (2017)

Grand total of 480.000
simulations

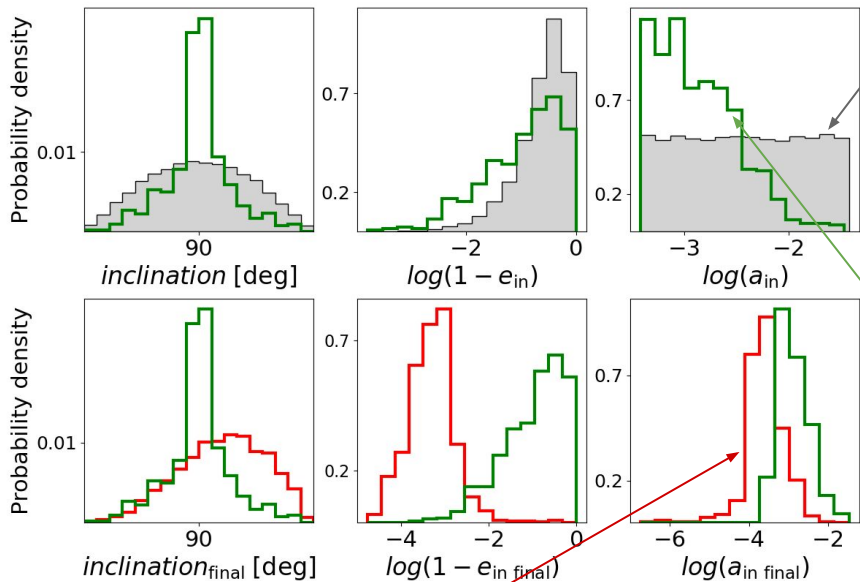
MBHB Channel

EMRI features:

$M_1=3 \times 10^5$ $q=0.1$ $e_{\text{out}}=0.1$

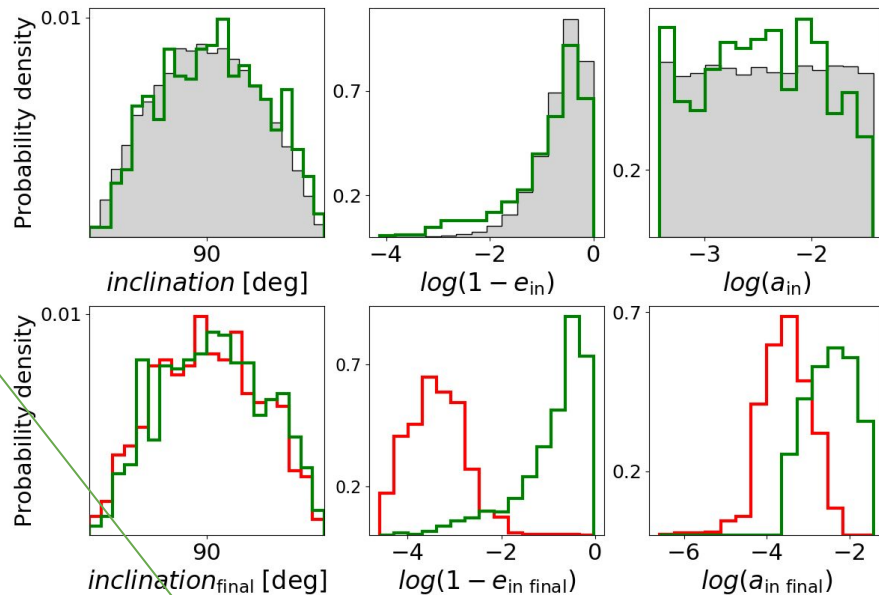
Initial conditions

$M_1=3 \times 10^5$ $q=0.003$ $e_{\text{out}}=0.1$



@ simulation end

Initial parameters of identified EMRIs



MBHB Channel

Number of EMRIs:

- Low q , high MBHB eccentricity

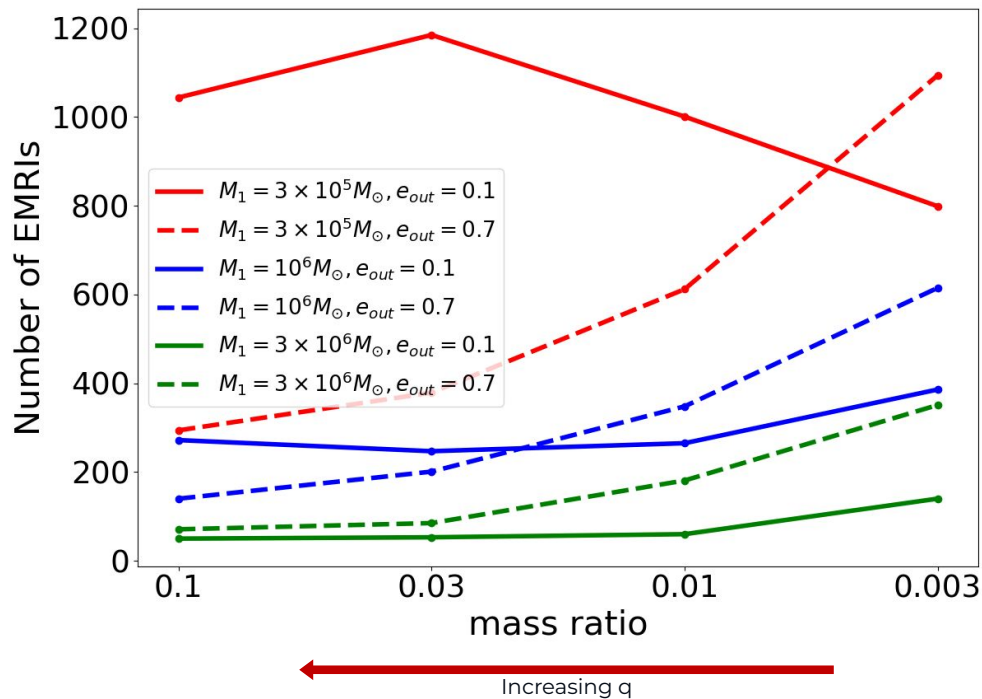


Chaotic Interactions

- High q , low MBHB eccentricity



Secular Interactions



More EMRIs as q decreases

MBHB Channel

EMRIs formation rate for fixed MBHB

$$\sim 10^{-6} - 10^{-5} \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

10-100 times larger
than the standard
two-body relaxation
channel!

| $M_1 = 3 \times 10^5 M_\odot$ | | $\mathcal{N}_{\text{EMRISIS}}$ | $\langle T_{\text{tot}} \rangle$ [yr] | Rates [yr^{-1}] |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| q | $e_{\text{out},0}$ | | | |
| 0.1 | 0.1 | 43.7 | 5.5×10^6 | 2×10^{-5} |
| | 0.7 | 11.4 | 3.7×10^6 | 5×10^{-6} |
| 0.03 | 0.1 | 60.7 | 1.1×10^7 | 10^{-5} |
| | 0.7 | 23.3 | 7.7×10^7 | 5×10^{-6} |
| 0.01 | 0.1 | 82.3 | 1.6×10^7 | 8×10^{-6} |
| | 0.7 | 45.0 | 1.7×10^7 | 4×10^{-6} |
| 0.003 | 0.1 | 100.2 | 3.9×10^7 | 4×10^{-6} |
| | 0.7 | 93.2 | 4.4×10^7 | 2×10^{-6} |

| $M_1 = 10^6 M_\odot$ | | $\mathcal{N}_{\text{EMRISIS}}$ | $\langle T_{\text{tot}} \rangle$ [yr] | Rates [yr^{-1}] |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| q | $e_{\text{out},0}$ | | | |
| 0.1 | 0.1 | 45.6 | 4.3×10^6 | 2×10^{-5} |
| | 0.7 | 22.6 | 5.2×10^6 | 6×10^{-6} |
| 0.03 | 0.1 | 58.9 | 8.8×10^6 | 10^{-5} |
| | 0.7 | 41.5 | 1.0×10^7 | 6×10^{-6} |
| 0.01 | 0.1 | 127.9 | 1.8×10^7 | 10^{-5} |
| | 0.7 | 88.8 | 2.5×10^7 | 4×10^{-6} |
| 0.003 | 0.1 | 222.5 | 5.7×10^7 | 5×10^{-6} |
| | 0.7 | 218.2 | 6.6×10^7 | 4×10^{-6} |

| $M_1 = 3 \times 10^6 M_\odot$ | | $\mathcal{N}_{\text{EMRISIS}}$ | $\langle T_{\text{tot}} \rangle$ [yr] | Rates [yr^{-1}] |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| q | $e_{\text{out},0}$ | | | |
| 0.1 | 0.1 | 25.1 | 4.3×10^6 | 9×10^{-6} |
| | 0.7 | 34.9 | 6.4×10^6 | 8×10^{-6} |
| 0.03 | 0.1 | 59.9 | 8.9×10^6 | 10^{-5} |
| | 0.7 | 54.0 | 1.2×10^7 | 7×10^{-6} |
| 0.01 | 0.1 | 97.0 | 2.1×10^7 | 7×10^{-6} |
| | 0.7 | 218.4 | 3.1×10^7 | 10^{-5} |
| 0.003 | 0.1 | 274.9 | 7.2×10^7 | 6×10^{-6} |
| | 0.7 | 362.1 | 9.8×10^7 | 5×10^{-6} |

MBHB Channel

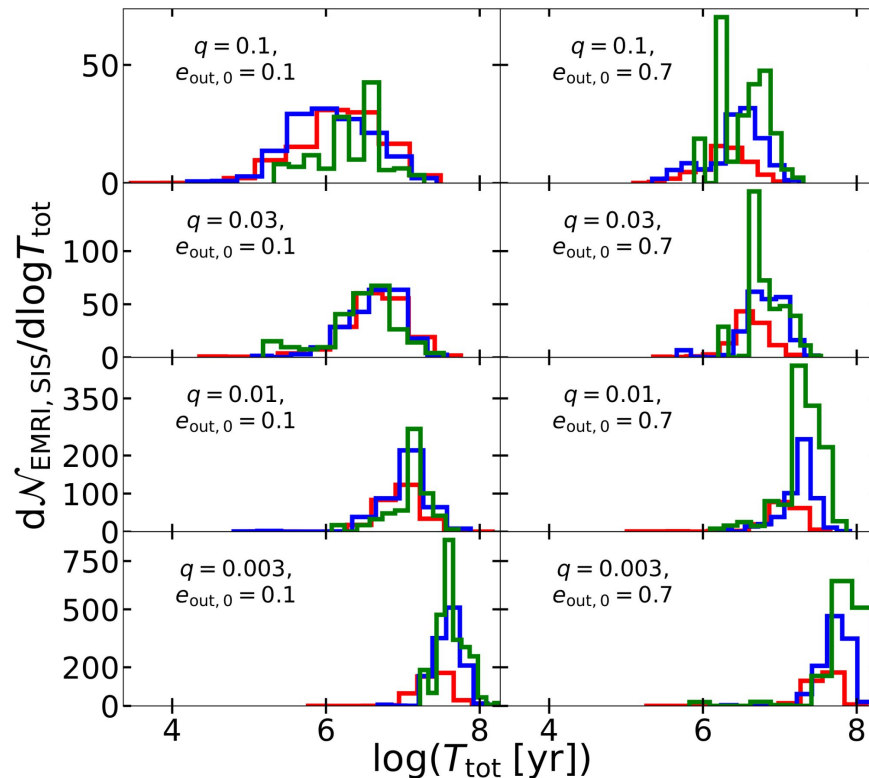
EMRIs formation rate for fixed MBHB

$$\sim 10^{-6} - 10^{-5} \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

10-100 times larger

than the standard
two-body relaxation
channel!

In this channel we have an
EMRIs **formation burst!**



Time distribution of EMRIs formation. The three colors refer to the different values of M_1 : $M_1=3 \times 10^5$ $M_1=10^6$ $M_1=3 \times 10^6$

Smaller q take longer

MBHB Channel

Cosmological EMRIs Formation Rate



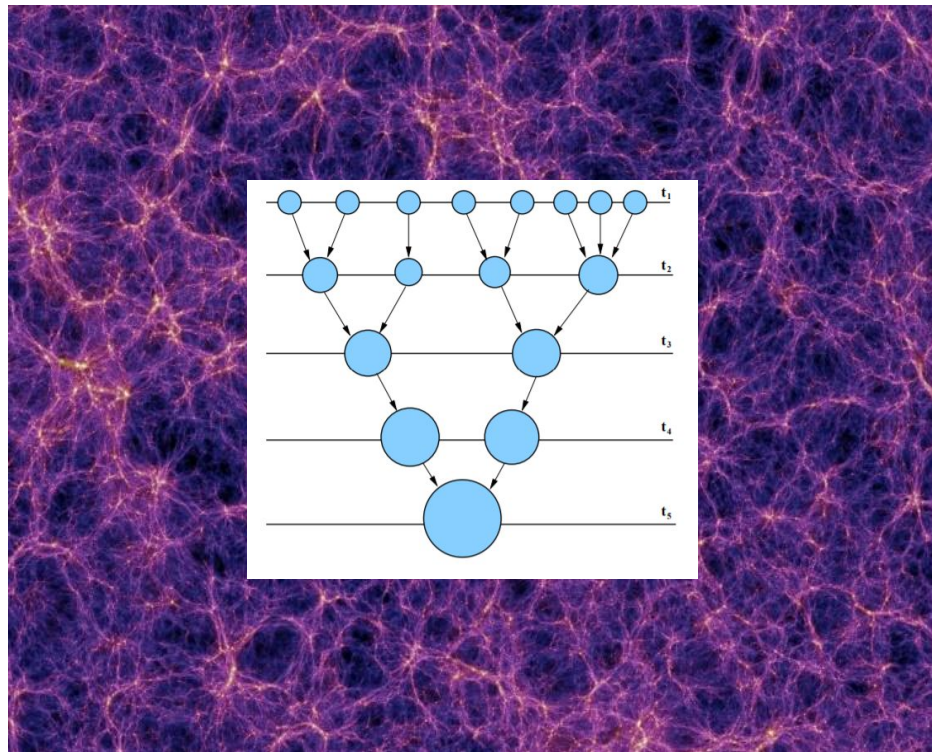
MBHB Formation Rate



Semi Analytical

Cosmological model:

L-Galaxies

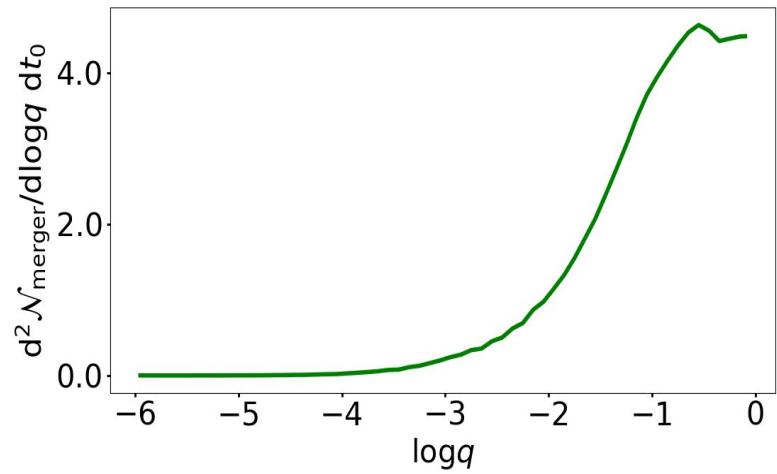
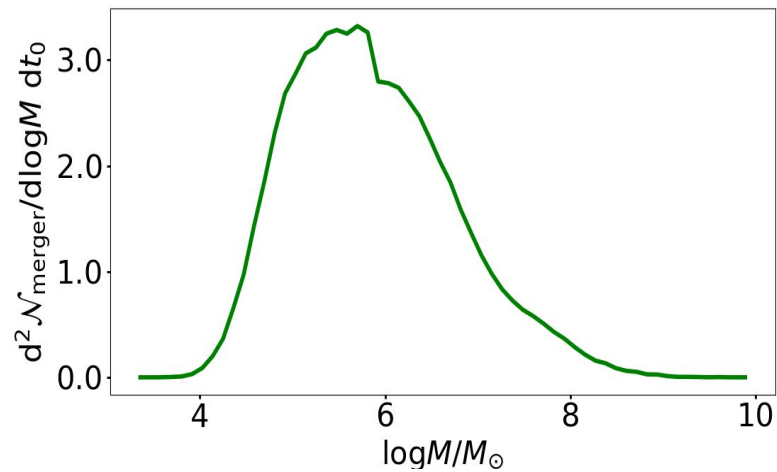
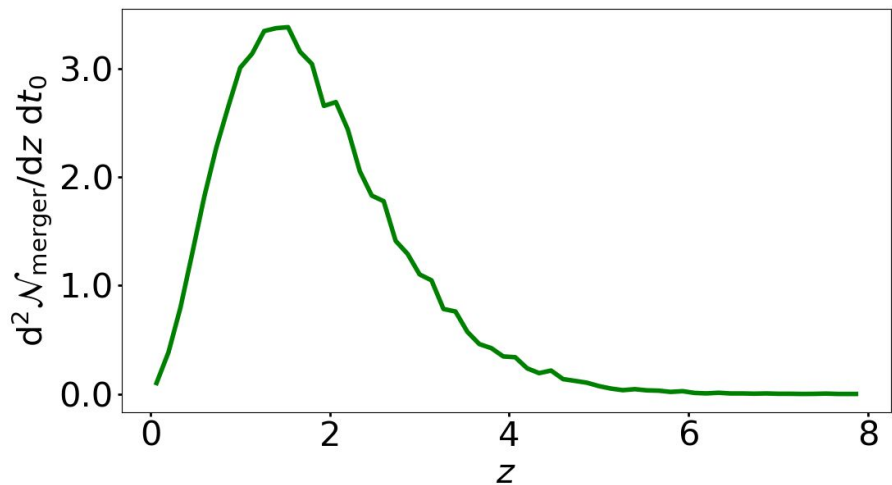


Note: No galactic delays in this version! MBHB merger rate could be slightly different

MBHB Channel

MBHB formation rate:

$\sim 7 \text{ yr}^{-1}$



MBHB Channel

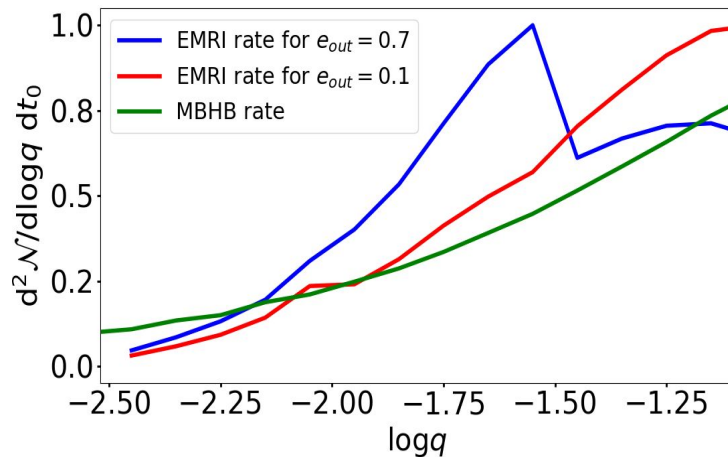
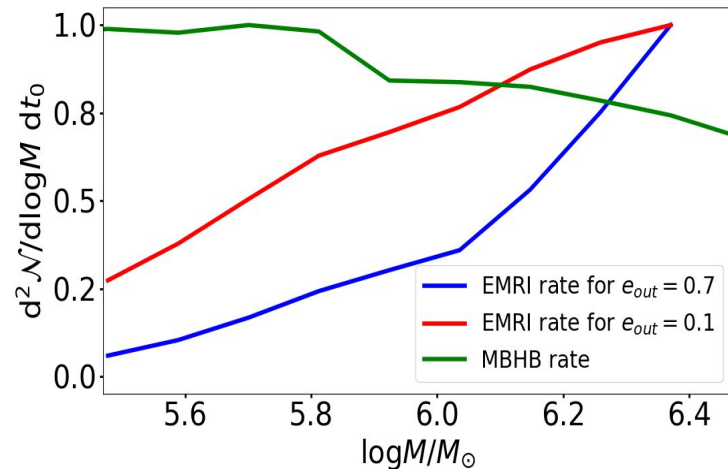
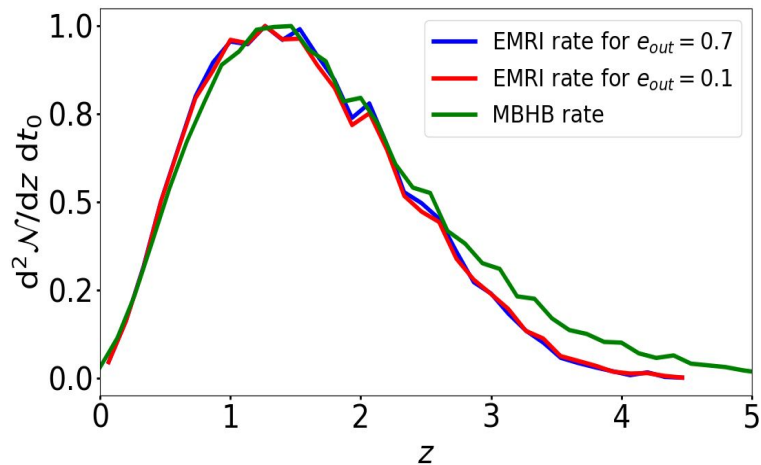
Cosmological EMRIs formation rate:

$\sim 74 \text{ yr}^{-1}$

for $e_{out} = 0.1$

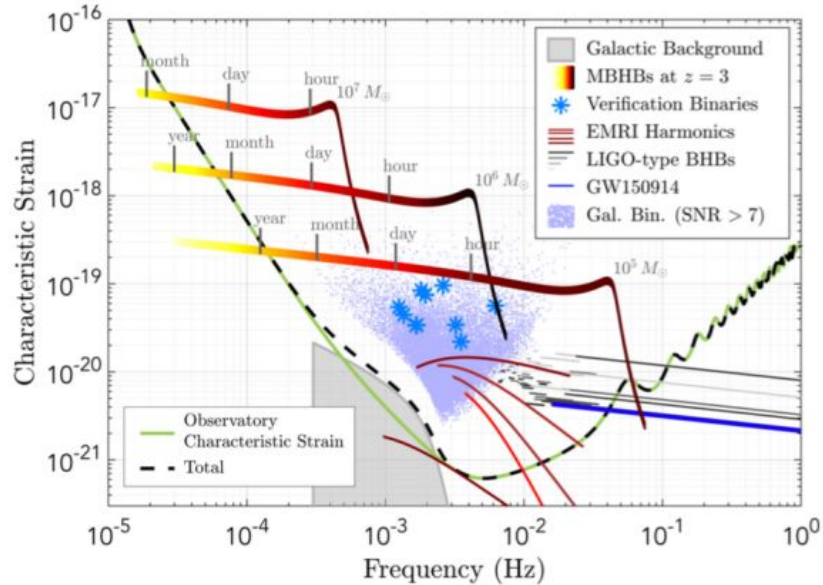
$\sim 64 \text{ yr}^{-1}$

for $e_{out} = 0.7$



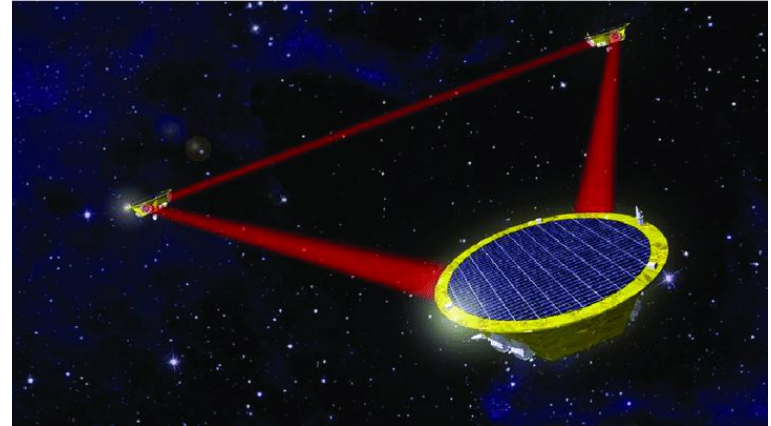
LISA

LISA requirement document (2018)



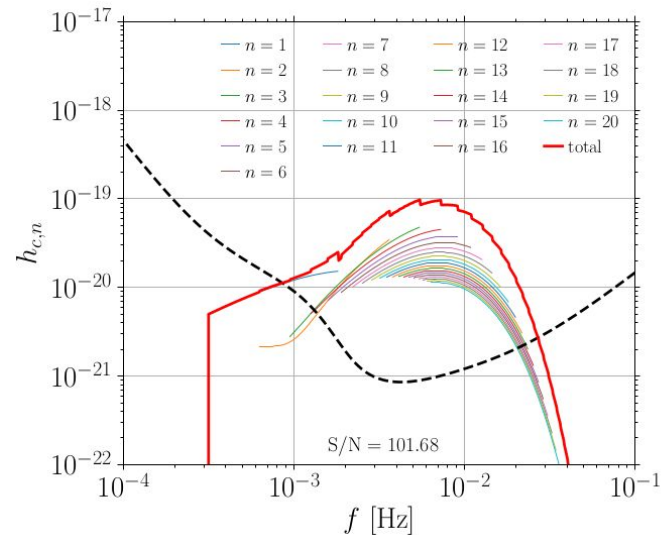
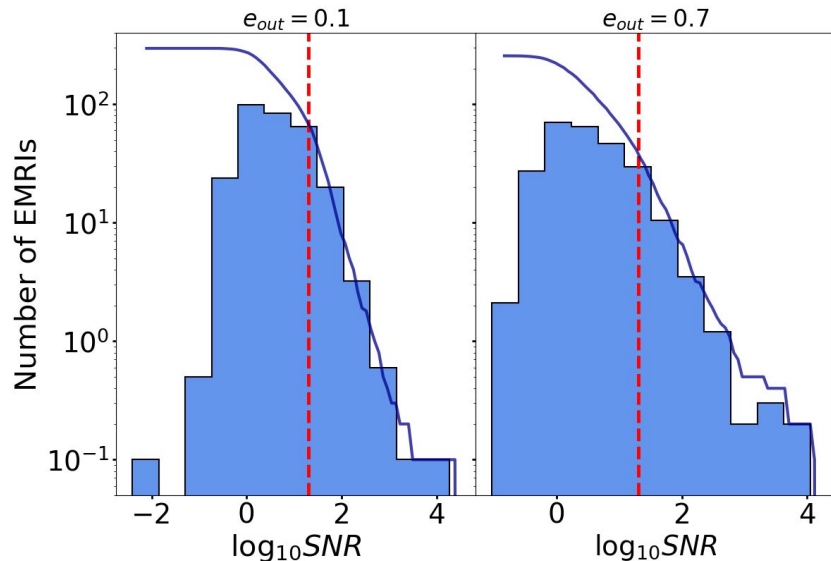
GW sources in the LISA band:

- **MBHB** ($10^4 < M_{MBH}/M_{\odot} < 10^7$) coalescence out to $z > 20$
- **IMBHB** ($10^2 < M_{IMBH}/M_{\odot} < 10^4$) coalescence out to $z > 10$
- **EMRIs** out to $z \sim 2 - 3$
- Early stages of **COs binaries** evolution



MBHB Channel

EMRI detection with LISA \rightarrow SNR > 20



Detected fraction:

42 on 296 EMRIs (15%)

for $e_{out} = 0.1$

Bonetti & Sesana (2020)

During **4 yrs** of LISA mission

27 on 256 EMRIs (10%)

for $e_{out} = 0.7$

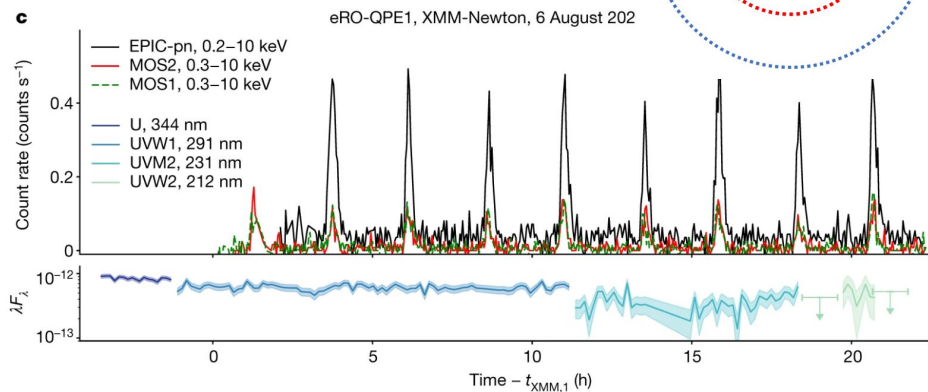
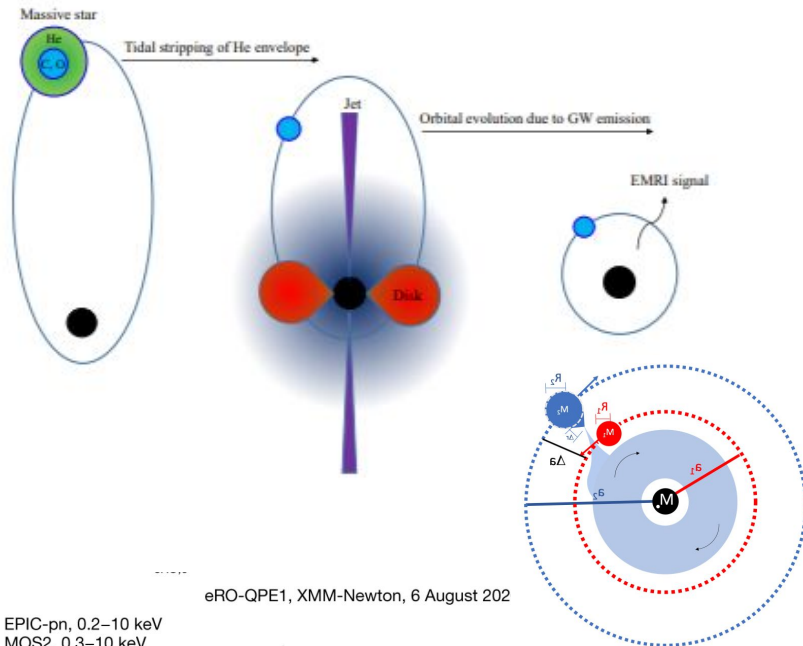
Conclusions and Future Perspectives

- The formation rate from the single MBHB is 10-100 greater with respect to the standard channel
 - There is an EMRIs formation burst
 - The MBHB channel is not negligible (10% of all detectable the EMRIs)
- Implementation of the code also with spinning MBHs and stochastic kicks
 - Introduce different stellar potential
 - Wider parameter space
 - Use the results of a SAM implemented also with the MBHB dynamics
 - Investigate any distinctive properties of EMRIs from this MBHB channel (high eccentricity? preferred inclination? perturbation in the GW waveform?....)

EM Counterpart?

Quasi-Periodic Eruptions (QPE, Miniutti+19, Giustini+20, Arcodia+21,22)

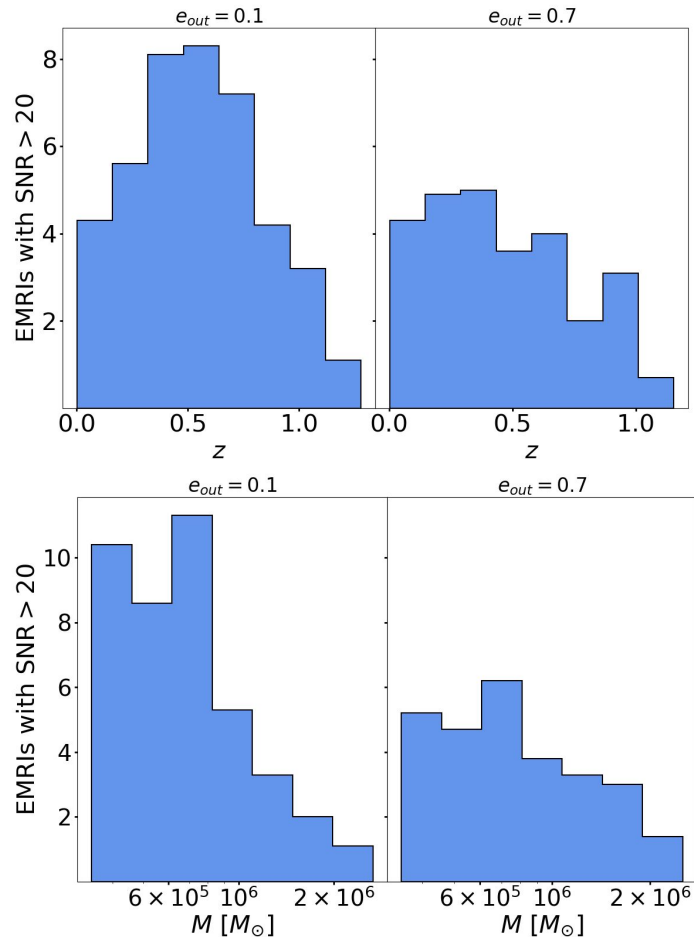
- Tidal stripping of the He envelope of a massive star (Wang+19)
- WDs on high ecc orbit filling up their Roche lobes and feeding the MBHs during their pericenter passages (King20, Chen+22, King22)
- Main sequence star undergoing stable or unstable mass transfer (Krolik+22, Linian+22)
- Multiple EMRIs interacting among them (Metzger+22)



MBHB Channel

On average we can expect around ~10 detections per yr from this channel, with most of them concentrated at smaller primary masses

LISA sensitivity selects low primary masses



EMRI rates for SIS

SIS density profile:

$$\rho_{\text{BH}} = \frac{\sigma^2}{2\pi G r^2}.$$

BH number per semi-major axis interval:

$$\frac{dN_{\text{BH,SIS}}}{da} = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \frac{\rho_{\text{BH}}(a)}{m_{\text{BH}}} a^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi = \frac{2\sigma^2}{m_{\text{BH}}G},$$

$$N_{\text{BH,SIS}}(a) = \frac{2\sigma^2}{m_{\text{BH}}G} a.$$

If we now divide the variability range of the BH's semi-major axis in 20 log bins equally spaced, with separations x_j, x_{j+1} , the number of BHs in the j -th bin will be:

$$N_{\text{BH,SIS}}(j) = \frac{2\sigma^2}{m_{\text{BH}}G} (10^{x_{j+1}} - 10^{x_j}).$$

Using the following proportion:

$$N_{\text{EMRI,SIS}}(j) : N_{\text{BH,SIS}}(j) = N_{\text{EMRI,sim}}(j) : N_{\text{BH,sim}}$$

and defining the weights:

$$w_j = \frac{N_{\text{BH,SIS}}(j)}{N_{\text{BH,sim}}},$$

we finally obtained the expected number of EMRIs in a SIS-like cusp starting from those detected in simulations:

$$N_{\text{EMRI,SIS}} = \sum_j N_{\text{EMRI,sim}}(j) w_j.$$

Equation summary

Relaxation time

$$t_{\text{rlx}} = 1.2 \times 10^{11} \left(\frac{\sigma}{100 \text{kms}^{-1}} \right)^{7.47} \text{ yr}$$

Segregation Time

$$t_{\text{sgr}} = (0.1 - 0.25) t_{\text{rlx}}$$

Condition for EMRI identification

$$T_{\text{GW}}(a, e) \leq (1 - e)t_{\text{rlx}}$$

Evolution with GW emission

$$\begin{cases} \frac{de}{dt} = -\frac{304}{15} \frac{G^3 \mu M^2}{c^5 a^4 (1 - e^2)^{-5/2}} \left(e + \frac{121}{304} e^3 \right) \\ \frac{da}{dt} = -\frac{64}{5} \frac{G^3 \mu M^2}{c^5 a^3} F(e) \end{cases}$$

LK oscillations

$$\sqrt{1 - e_{\text{in}}^2} \cos(t_{\text{rel}})$$

GR precession

$$\delta\omega_{\text{GR}} = \frac{6\pi G(M_1 + m_3)}{a_{\text{in}}(1 - e_{\text{in}})^2 c^2} + \frac{3\pi G^2(18 + e_{\text{in}}^2)(M_1 + m_3)^2}{2a_{\text{in}}^2(1 - e_{\text{in}})^2 c^4}$$

Hardening equations

$$\begin{cases} \dot{a} = -a^2 \frac{G\rho H}{\sigma} \\ \dot{e} = a \frac{G\rho H K}{\sigma} \end{cases}$$

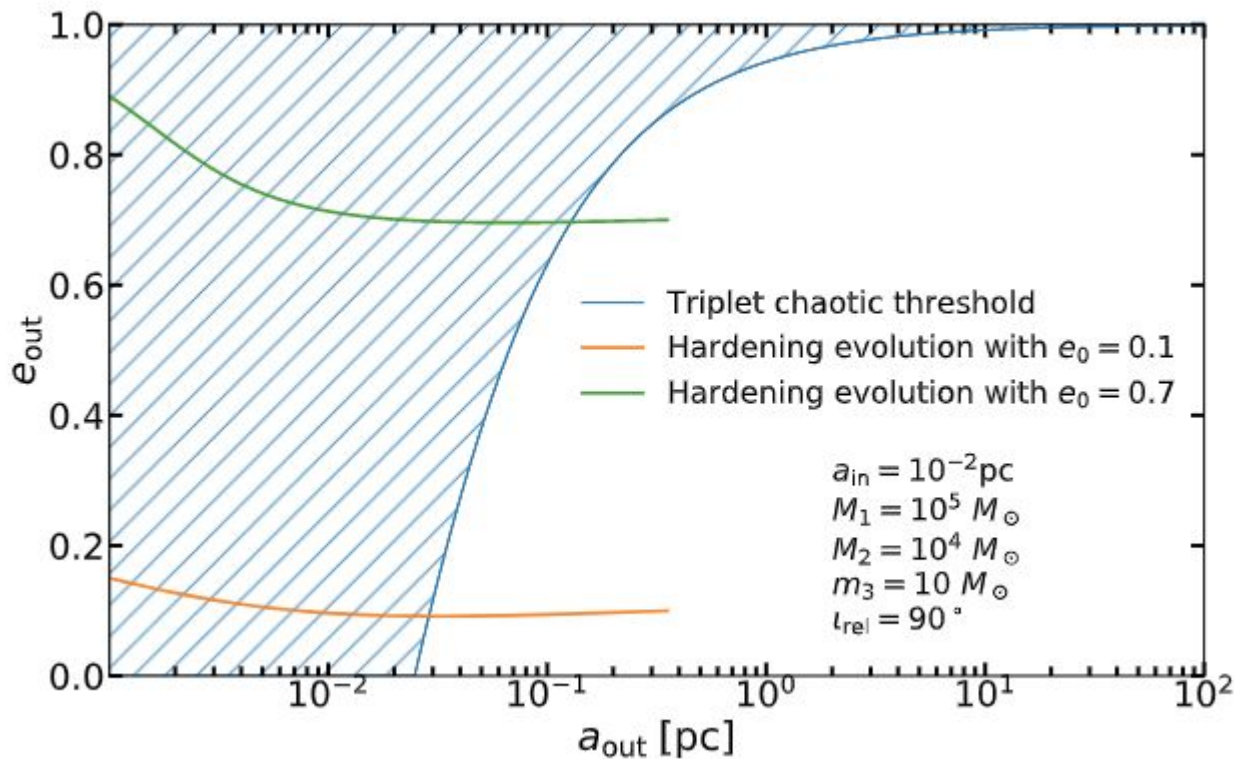
Stellar hardening

$$\dot{a} = -a^2 \frac{GH\rho}{\sigma}$$
$$\dot{e} = a \frac{GHK\rho}{\sigma}$$

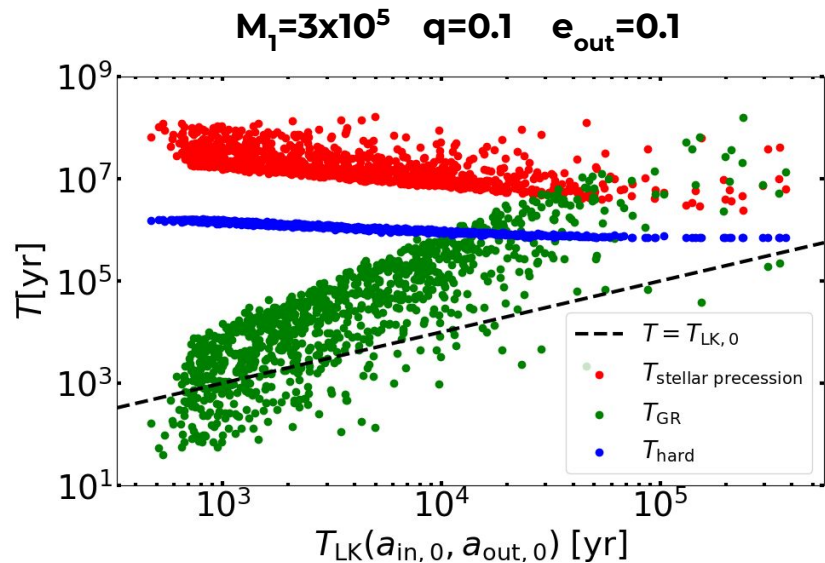
We need to initialise the system into hierarchical configuration, but we also want to be efficient and we start integration at

$$a_{\text{out}} = 2a_{\text{chaos}}(a_{\text{in}}, e_{\text{out}})$$

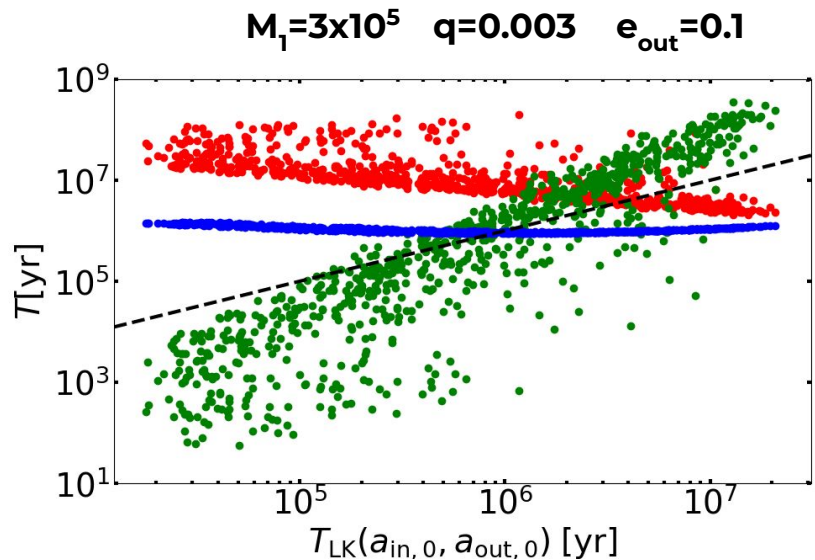
the initial eccentricity is chosen at binary formation thus we assign the eccentricity according to the hardening tracks



MBHB Channel



EMRI features:



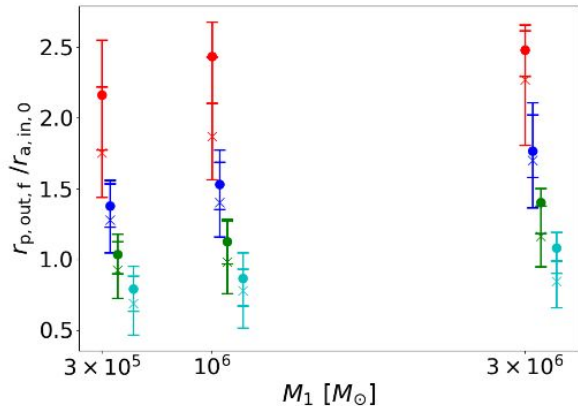
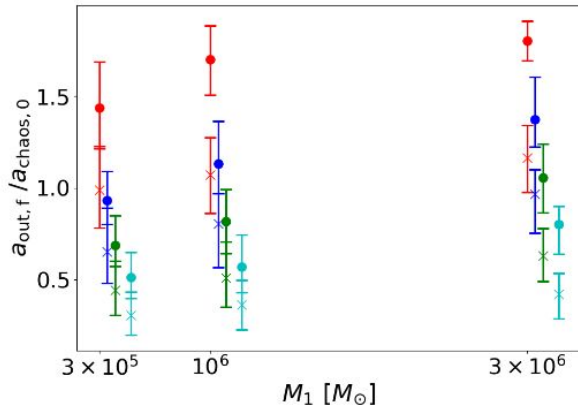
$$T_{\text{LK}} = \frac{2}{3\pi} \frac{M_1}{M_2} \frac{P_{\text{out}}^2}{P_{\text{in}}} (1 - e_{\text{out}}^2)^{3/2} \propto \frac{1+q}{q}.$$

$$T_{\text{hard}} = \frac{\sigma_{\text{inf}}}{G\rho_{\text{eff,inf}}} \int_{a_{\text{in},0}}^{a_{\text{out},0}} \frac{da}{a^2 H(a)},$$

$$T_{\text{GR}} = \frac{\pi}{\delta\omega_{\text{GR}}} P_{\text{in}},$$

$$T_{\text{star}} = \frac{\pi}{\delta\omega_{\text{star}}} P_{\text{in}},$$

Simulation outcomes



| $M_1 = 3 \times 10^5 M_\odot$ | | EMRIs | DPs | Swap | Ejections | Unresolved |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------|------|------|-----------|------------|
| q | $e_{out,0}$ | | | | | |
| 0.1 | 0.1 | 1044 | 2466 | 7568 | 8921 | 1 |
| | 0.7 | 294 | 157 | 6937 | 12613 | 0 |
| 0.03 | 0.1 | 1185 | 2279 | 4923 | 11608 | 5 |
| | 0.7 | 379 | 211 | 5432 | 13978 | 0 |
| 0.01 | 0.1 | 1001 | 1180 | 4797 | 13012 | 10 |
| | 0.7 | 612 | 399 | 5237 | 13751 | 1 |
| 0.003 | 0.1 | 799 | 584 | 5958 | 12616 | 43 |
| | 0.7 | 1094 | 558 | 5590 | 12750 | 8 |
| $M_1 = 10^6 M_\odot$ | | EMRIs | DPs | Swap | Ejections | Unresolved |
| q | $e_{out,0}$ | | | | | |
| 0.1 | 0.1 | 272 | 2391 | 8031 | 9324 | 0 |
| | 0.7 | 140 | 206 | 7016 | 12638 | 0 |
| 0.03 | 0.1 | 247 | 2194 | 5379 | 12180 | 0 |
| | 0.7 | 201 | 283 | 5441 | 14075 | 0 |
| 0.01 | 0.1 | 265 | 1231 | 5020 | 13480 | 4 |
| | 0.7 | 348 | 518 | 5338 | 13796 | 0 |
| 0.003 | 0.1 | 386 | 683 | 6315 | 12606 | 10 |
| | 0.7 | 615 | 737 | 6011 | 12631 | 6 |
| $M_1 = 3 \times 10^6 M_\odot$ | | EMRIs | DPs | Swap | Ejections | Unresolved |
| q | $e_{out,0}$ | | | | | |
| 0.1 | 0.1 | 50 | 2115 | 8515 | 9320 | 0 |
| | 0.7 | 71 | 282 | 6837 | 12810 | 0 |
| 0.03 | 0.1 | 53 | 1851 | 5704 | 12391 | 1 |
| | 0.7 | 85 | 335 | 5563 | 14017 | 0 |
| 0.01 | 0.1 | 60 | 1059 | 5498 | 13383 | 0 |
| | 0.7 | 181 | 602 | 5391 | 13825 | 1 |
| 0.003 | 0.1 | 140 | 844 | 6770 | 12245 | 1 |
| | 0.7 | 351 | 922 | 6452 | 12275 | 0 |

Table 1. Final outcomes of the simulations divided according to the mass of the primary, the mass-ratio and the initial outer eccentricity. The last column contains the number of simulations that kept reaching the integration time limit of 150 minutes after three restarts, which are discarded.