

# **LISA-Athena synergies for detecting GW and HE counterparts of supermassive binary BH mergers**

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Alberto Mangiagli

Collaborators: Marta Volonteri, Chiara Caprini, Sylvain Marsat, Susanna Vergani, Nicola Tamanini, Henri Inchauspe, Lorenzo Speri

Laboratoire Astroparticule et Cosmologie (APC)

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## Outline

- Multimessenger astronomy with massive BH binary (MBHBs)
- Electromagnetic (EM) and gravitational waves (GWs) emissions from MBHBs
- EMcps from a realistic MBHBs population

## THE SPECTRUM OF GRAVITATIONAL WAVES

Observatories  
& experiments

Ground-based  
experiment



Space-based observatory



Pulsar timing array



Cosmic microwave  
background polarisation



Timescales

milliseconds

seconds

hours

years

billions of years

Frequency (Hz)

100

1

$10^{-2}$

$10^{-4}$

$10^{-6}$

$10^{-8}$

$10^{-16}$

Cosmic fluctuations in the early Universe

Cosmic  
sources

Supernova

Pulsar

Compact object falling  
onto a supermassive  
black hole

Merging supermassive black holes

Merging neutron  
stars in other galaxies

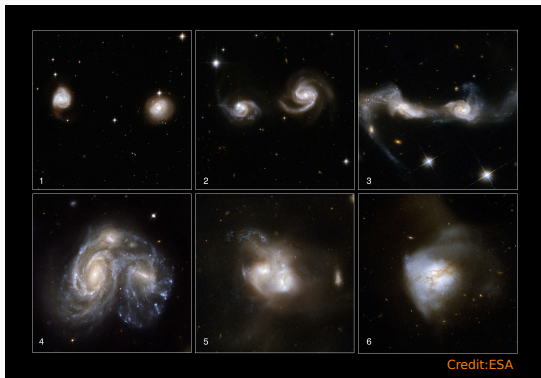
Merging stellar-mass black holes  
in other galaxies

Merging white dwarfs  
in our Galaxy

# Massive black hole binaries (MBHBs)

$$\text{MBH} \sim 10^{5-7} M_{\odot}$$

We currently believe that MBHBs are hosted at the center of galaxies



When two galaxies merge, the MBHBs in their center form a binary and, eventually, merge emitting gravitational waves (GWs)

The path to coalescence is still unclear and long: from  $\sim 10$  kpc to  $10^{-3}$  pc

- Dynamical friction with gas and stars is efficient down to  $\sim$ pc scales
- 3-body interactions?
- Refill of loss cone?

Large uncertainties in the event rate:  
from few to several hundreds per year

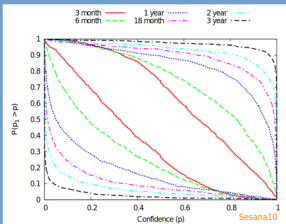


# Why MBHBs?

## The importance of MBHBs

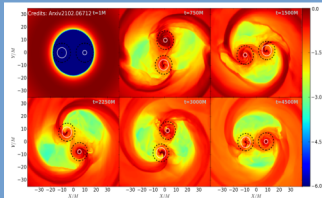
### Astrophysics

Constrain MBHBs formation and evolution scenarios



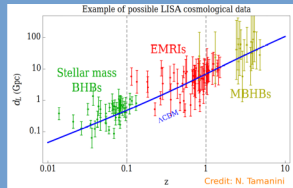
### Multi-messenger

Formation of X-ray corona and jet around newly formed horizons



### Cosmology

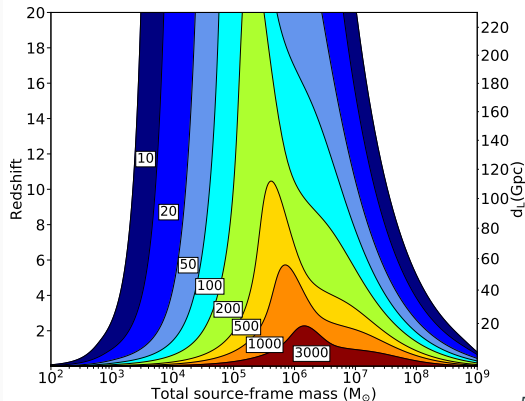
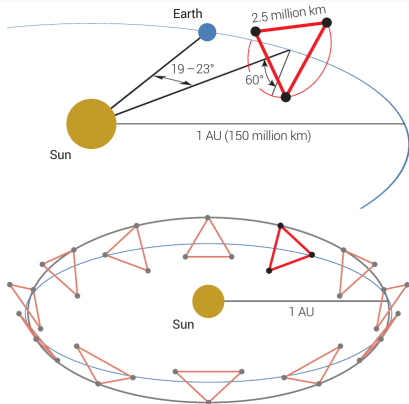
Testing the expansion rate of the Universe



# Observing the entire Universe with GWs

In mid-2030s LISA (Laser Interferometer Space Antenna) will observe the GWs from the coalescence of MBHBs in the entire Universe (ArXiv:1702.00786)

- 3rd Large class mission selected by European Space Agency (ESA)
- Successfully ended Phase A - Now in Phase B1 - Mission Adoption at end 2023



# Exploring the high energetic Universe in X-ray

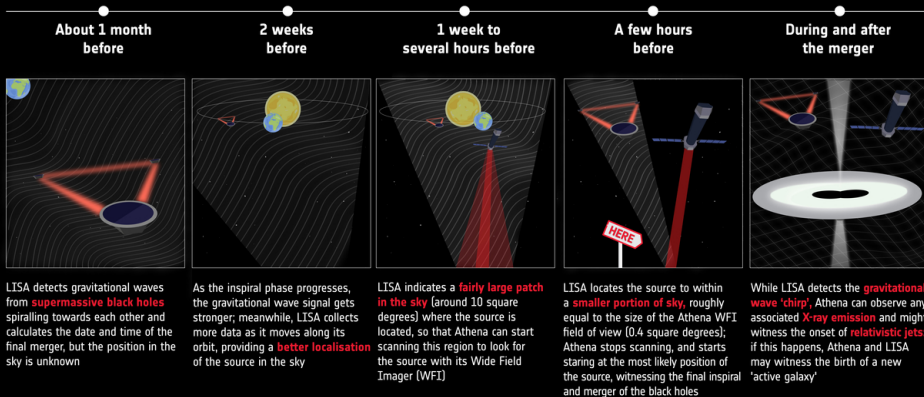
In the same period, Athena (Advanced Telescope for High Energy Astrophysics) will observe the X-ray emission from accretion-powered objects

- 2nd Large class mission selected by ESA
- AGN, transients, gas in intergalactic medium and more
- Strong synergies with LISA



The *additional* science [...] the two missions could achieve may provide breakthroughs in scientific areas beyond what each individual mission is designed for (Athena-LISA Synergy Working Group) (ArXiv:2120.15677)

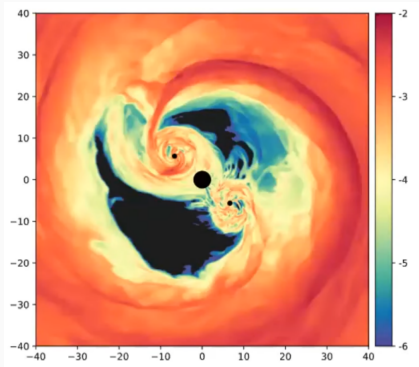
## → HOW CAN LISA AND ATHENA WORK TOGETHER?



# What EM emission do we expect?

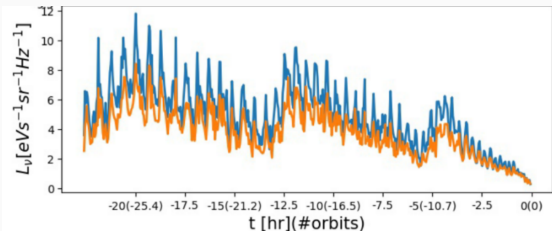
- No transient AGN-like emission has been associated unambiguously to a MBHBs
- Uncertainties on BH of  $10^{5-7} M_{\odot}$  concerning bolometric correction, obscuration, spectra and variability

## During the inspiral ...



- The binary excavates a cavity
- Two bright minidisks around each BHs emitting in X-ray
- Gas streams flowing in the cavity
- Periodicities due to the orbital motion of the binary might be clear signatures (Dal Canton, AM +19)  
( Bowen+18, Gold+14, Haiman+17, Tang+18, Nobel+21, Combi+22, ... )

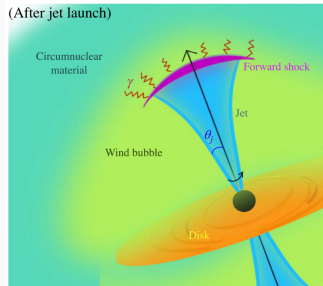
# What EM emission do we expect?



However, close at merger, minidisks might be depleted  $\Rightarrow$  Reduction in luminosity ( Tang+18 )

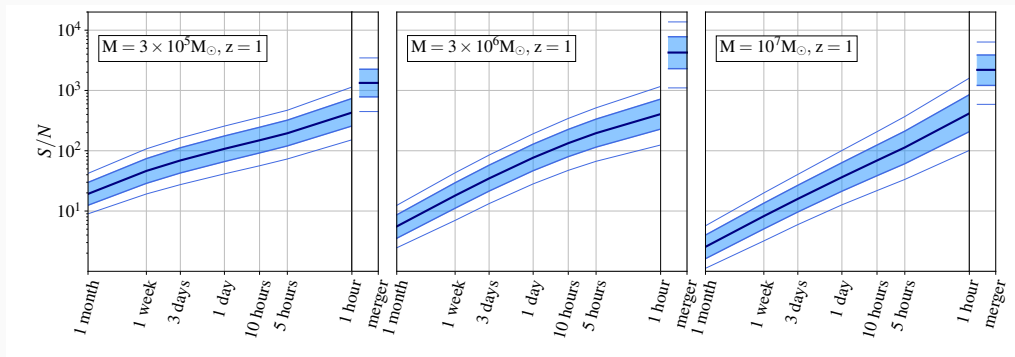
## Post-merger signatures

- Disk-rebrightening (Rossi+10)
  - ✓ In-plane kicks for BHs with spins aligned along the orbital momentum
  - ✗ Might be too weak to be observed
- Afterglow emission (Yuan+21)
  - ✓ Broad band emission from radio to X-ray
  - ✗ Delays from days to months



# What information LISA can provide?

MBHBs can be detected days or weeks before merger

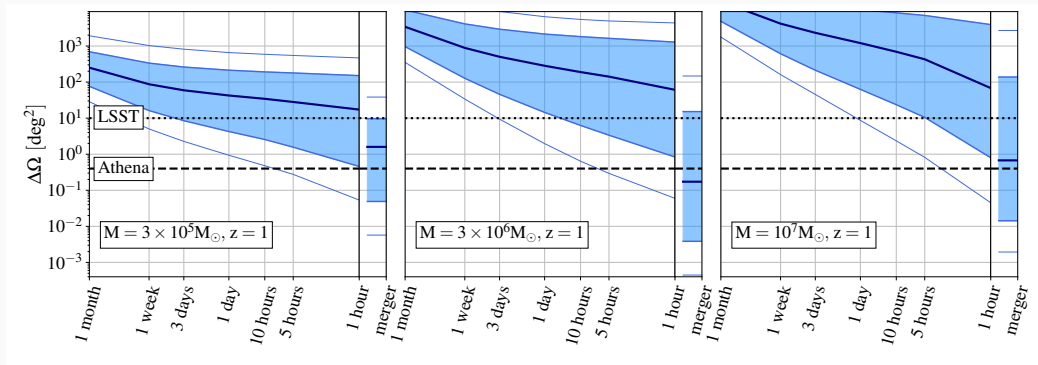


During the inspiral LISA can provide additional information: individual BH mass, spins and luminosity distance can be constrained to  $\sim 5\%$  *before* merger

What about the **sky localization**?

(AM+20, Piro+22 in prep.)

# LISA sky localization for systems at $z = 1$



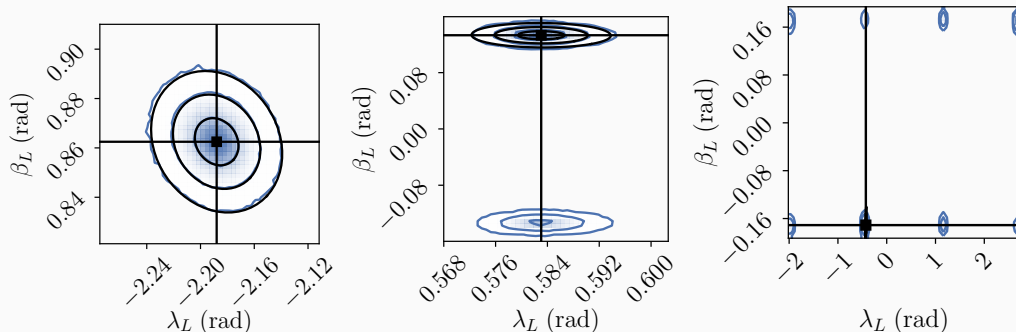
$\Delta\Omega \simeq$  telescope FOV only **close to merger**  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} < 10 \text{ hrs} \quad \text{LSST} \\ \text{merger} \quad \text{Athena} \end{array} \right.$

Large distributions  $\rightarrow$  strong dependence from true binary position



# “Multimodal” LISA events

Systems with multimodal sky posterior distribution from LISA data analysis



- Arise from LISA degeneracy pattern function
- Relevant especially for the inspiral search
- Might pose issues for the search of the EM counterpart

# A realistic population of MBHBs

How many counterparts do we expect over LISA time mission? (AM+2207.10678)

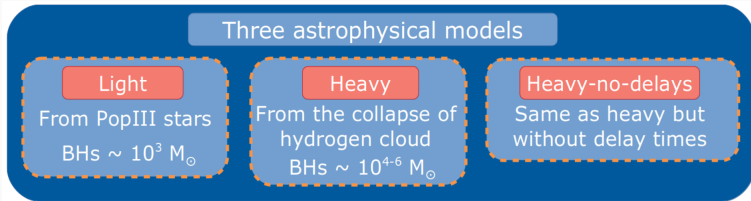
Estimate the number of counterparts over LISA time mission  
and cosmological parameters

## Key improvements respect to previous works

- Improve the modeling of the EM counterpart
- Bayesian parameter estimation for GW signal (Marsat+20) → expensive but realistic

## Starting point

Semi-analytical models: tools to construct MBHBs catalogs (Barausse+12)



# Modeling the EM emission

## Observing strategies

### Optical

*LSST, VRO*

- Identification+redshift
- Deep as  $m \sim 27.5$
- FOV  $\sim 10 \text{ deg}^2$

### Radio

*SKA*

- Only identification
- Deep as  $F \sim 1 \mu\text{Jy}$
- FOV  $\sim 10 \text{ deg}^2$
- Redshift with ELT
- Flare+Jet emission

### X-ray

*Athena*

- Only identification
- Deep as  $F_X \sim 3 \times 10^{-17} \text{ erg/s/cm}^2$
- FOV  $\sim 0.4 \text{ deg}^2$
- Redshift with ELT
- Accretion from catalog or Eddington

## Additional variations

### AGN obscuration (Ueda+14, Gnedin+07)

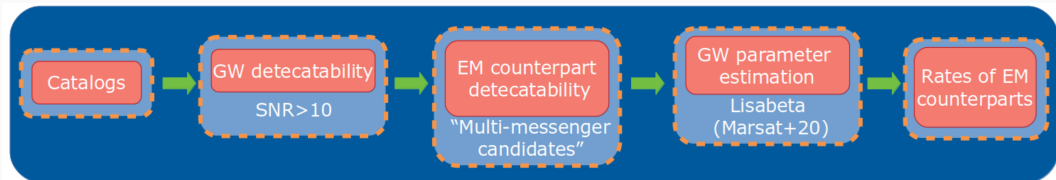
- Affect LSST/VRO and Athena
- Typical hydrogen column density distribution

### Radio Jet (Cohen+06)

- Affect SKA
- Assume a jet opening angle of  $\sim 30^\circ$  (Yuan+21)

# Two main scenarios

## Procedure



## We focus on two scenarios

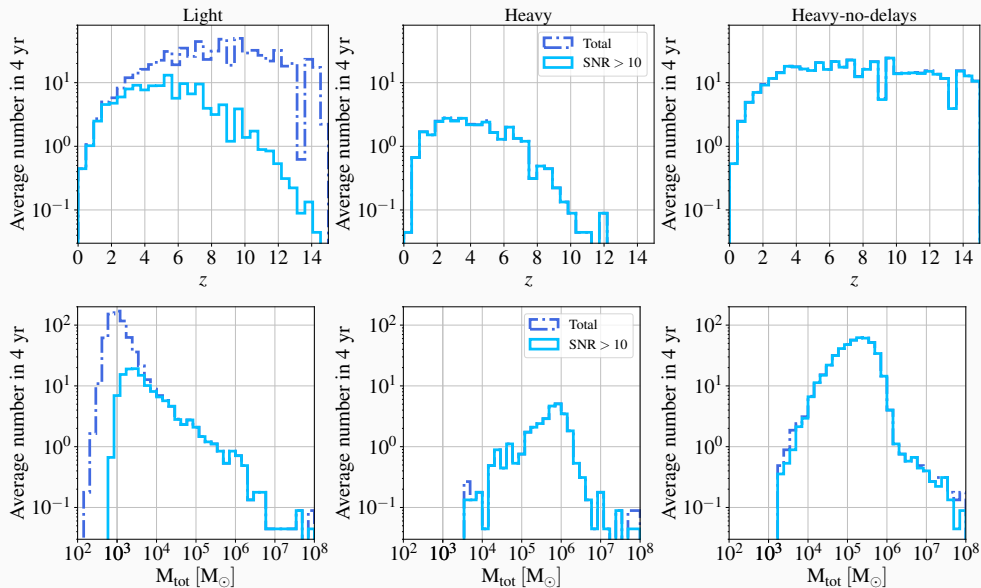
### Maximising

- AGN obscuration neglected
- Isotropic radio emission
- Eddington accretion for X-ray emission

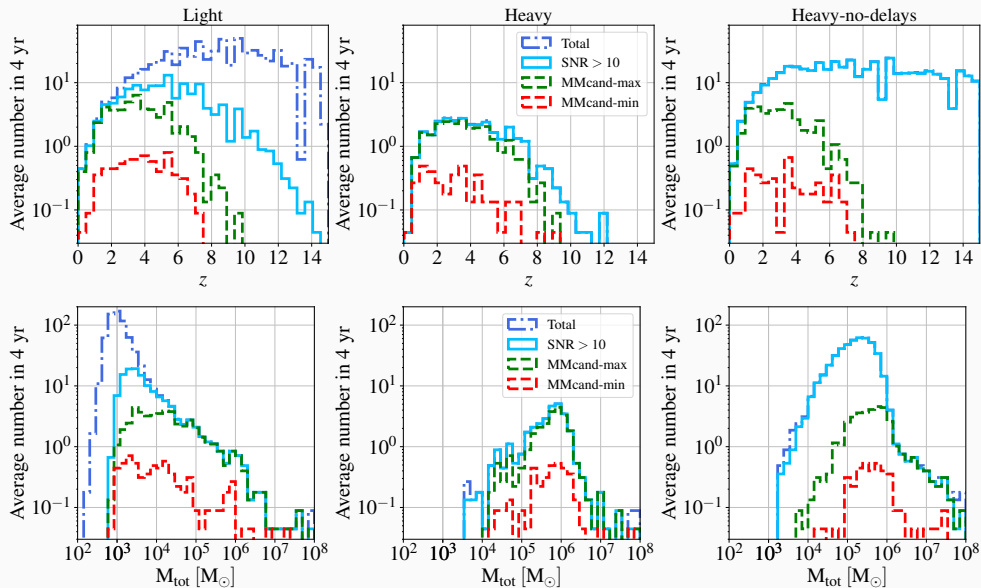
### Minimising

- AGN obscuration included
- Collimated radio emission with  $\theta \sim 30^\circ$
- Catalog accretion for X-ray emission

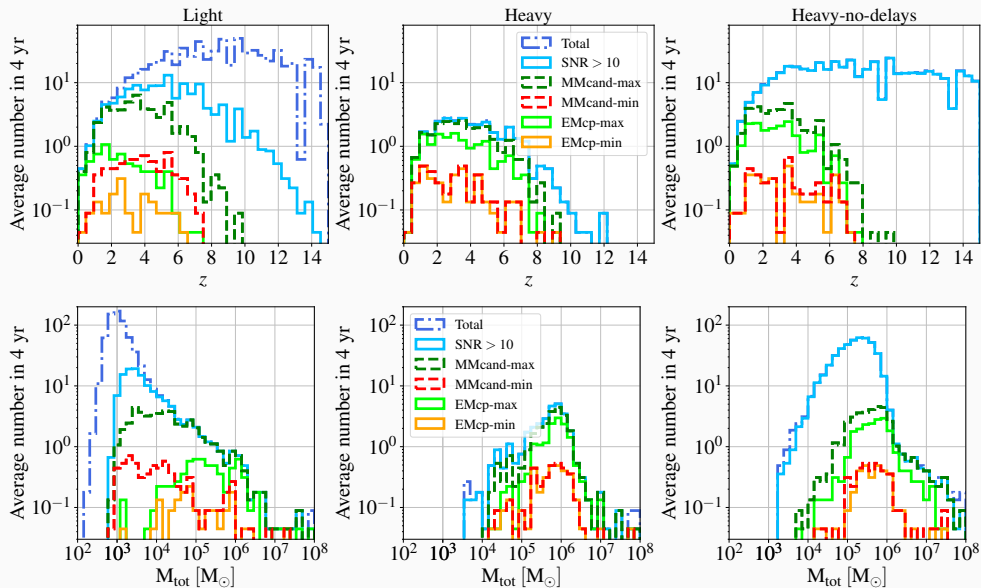
# Redshift and total mass distributions



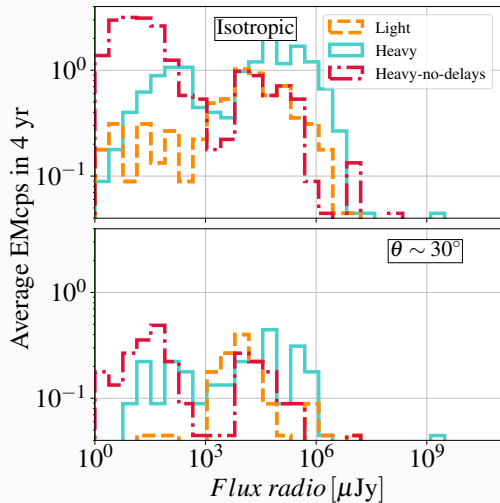
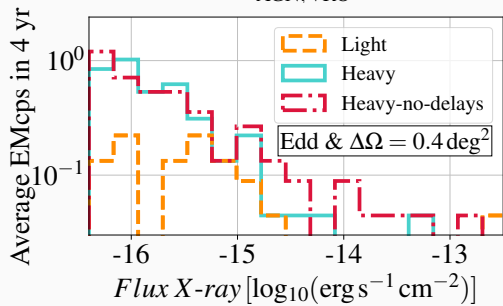
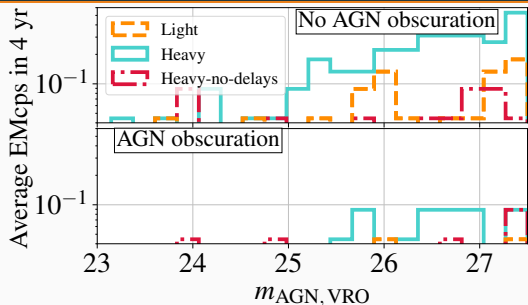
# Redshift and total mass distributions



# Redshift and total mass distributions



# EMcps in optical, X-ray and radio



Only few and faint sources in 4 yr



# EMcp rates in 4 yr

(ln 4 yr)	LSST, VRO	SKA+ELT			Athena+ELT		
		Isotropic	$\theta \sim 30^\circ$	$\theta \sim 6^\circ$	Catalog $F_{X, \text{lim}} = 4\text{e-}17$	Eddington $F_{X, \text{lim}} = 4\text{e-}17$	
		$\Delta\Omega = 10 \text{ deg}^2$			$\Delta\Omega = 0.4 \text{ deg}^2$	$\Delta\Omega = 0.4 \text{ deg}^2$	
No-obsc.	0.84	6.8	1.51	0.04	0.49	1.02	Light
	3.07	14.9	2.71	0.04	2.67	3.87	Heavy
	0.53	20.6	3.2	0.04	0.58	4.4	Heavy-no-delays
Obsc.	0.27	6.8	1.51	0.04	0.04	0.37	Light
	0.84	14.9	2.71	0.04	0.22	0.18	Heavy
	0.22	20.6	3.2	0.04	0.09	0.4	Heavy-no-delays

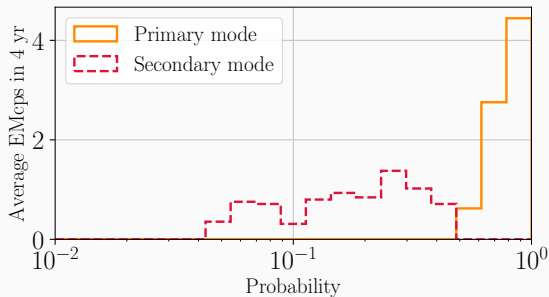
- Dramatic decrease with obscuration and radio jet
- Parameter estimation selects preferentially *heavy*

(ln 4 yr)	Maximising	Minimising
Light	6.8	1.7
Heavy	14.9	3.4
Heavy-no-delays	20.9	3.4

# What about multimodal events?

Focus only on the true binary spot

## Modes probability



## Contribution to the expected rate in 4 yr

	1mode	2modes	8modes
Light	6.3	0.36	0.13
Heavy	10.7	3.9	0.2
Heavy-nd	16.4	3.5	0.4

- 2modes have always one mode more probable than the other
- 8modes provides  $< 1$  counterparts in the entire mission

Multimodal events does not affect (significantly) counterpart estimates

MBHBs multi-messenger will be challenging!

## Concerning the GW signal

- Systems can be detected weeks before merger but the sky localization is poor
- The sky localization improves significantly at merger
- There might be many galaxies in LISA error box (See Lops+22)

## Estimating the number of counterpart for MBHB mergers in LISA

- Large uncertainties on the type of EM emissions we expect
- Most sources are intrinsically faint and at high redshift
- Obscuration decreases the number of EMcps  $\Rightarrow$  We need better modeling and predictions
- Few events  $\Rightarrow$  We need accurately planned follow-up strategies

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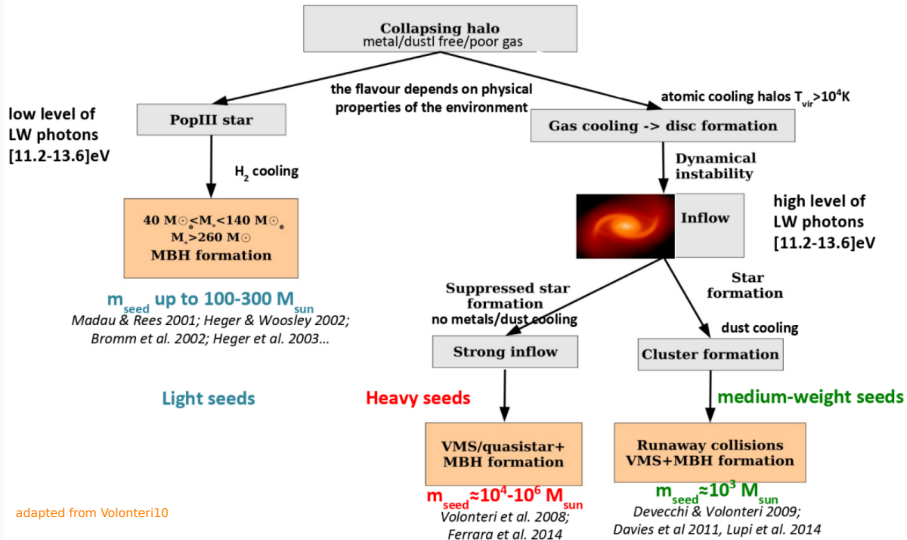
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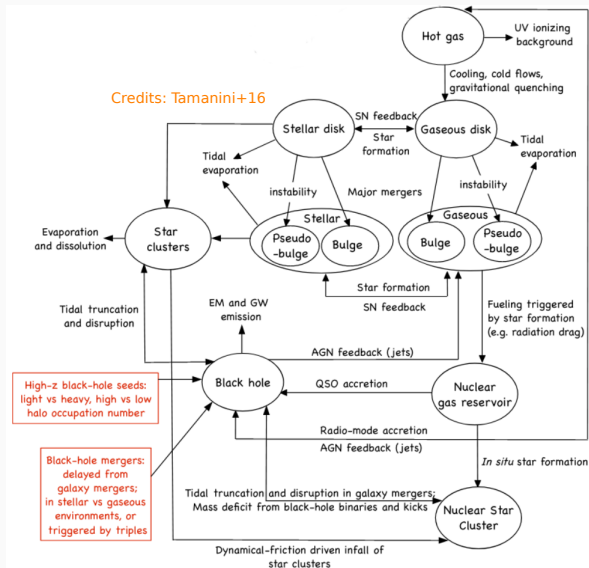
Thanks! Any questions?

Backup slides

# Seed BHs formation channels

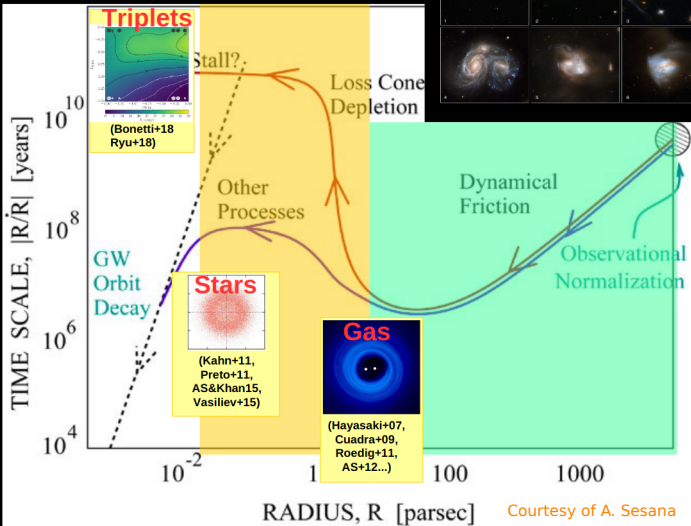


# The physics of the semi-analytical model



# Last parsec problem

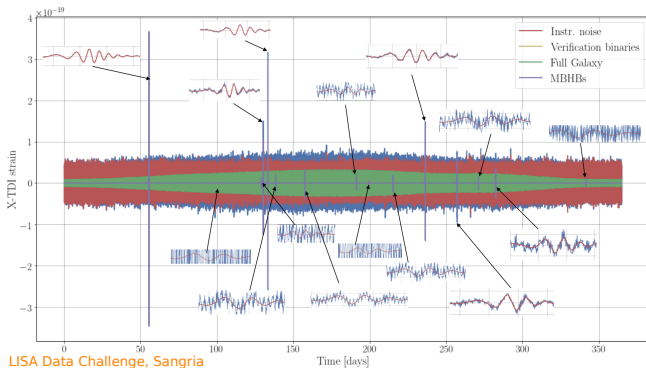
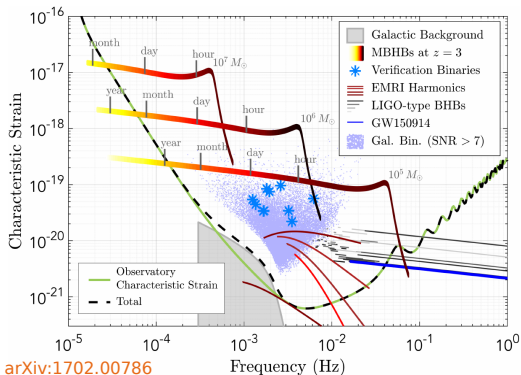
## MBHB dynamics (BBR 1980)





# GW sources in LISA band

- Strong and long-lasting signals
- Strong overlap between signals from different sources → Global fit approach
- Unexplored parameter space → Large uncertainty on rate & sources' properties



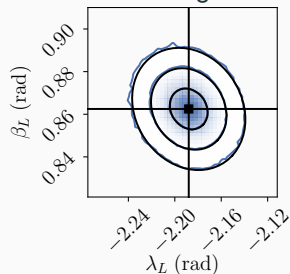
# GW analysis

Number of detected events in 4 yr

	Total catalog	SNR > 10
Light	690.9	129.3
Heavy	30.7	30.4
Heavy-no-delays	475.5	471.1

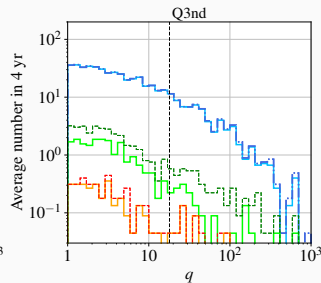
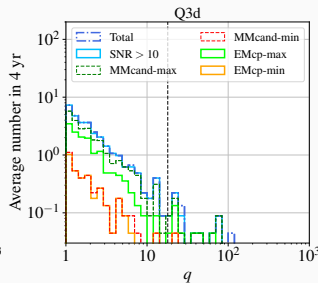
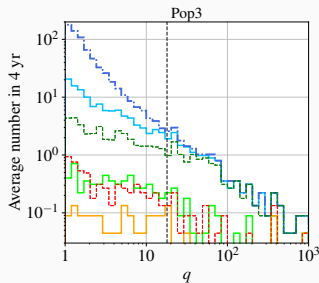
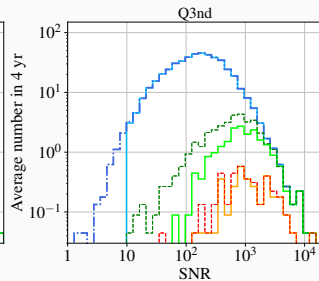
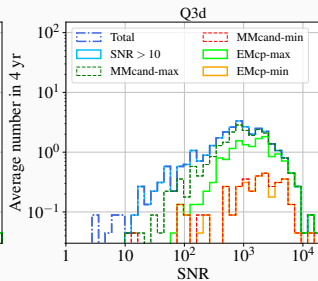
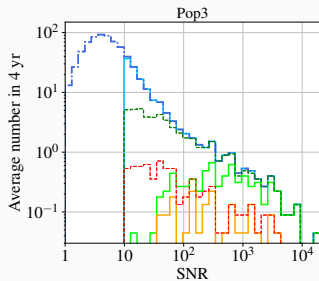
## GW parameter estimation

For multimessenger candidates, we use *lisabeta* (Marsat+2021) for parameter estimation

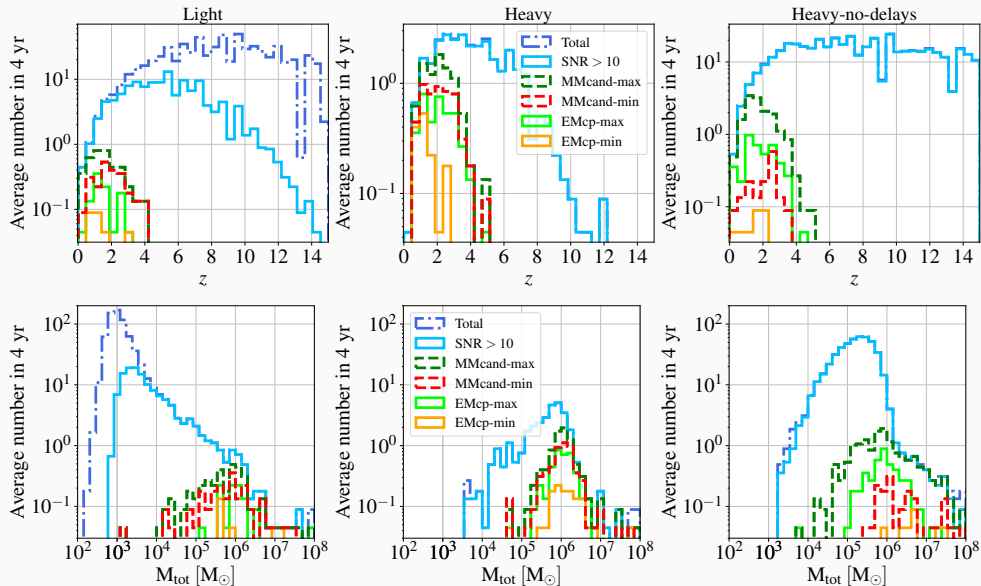


- MCMC formalism
- Include both low- and high-frequency LISA response
- Tested with independent codes

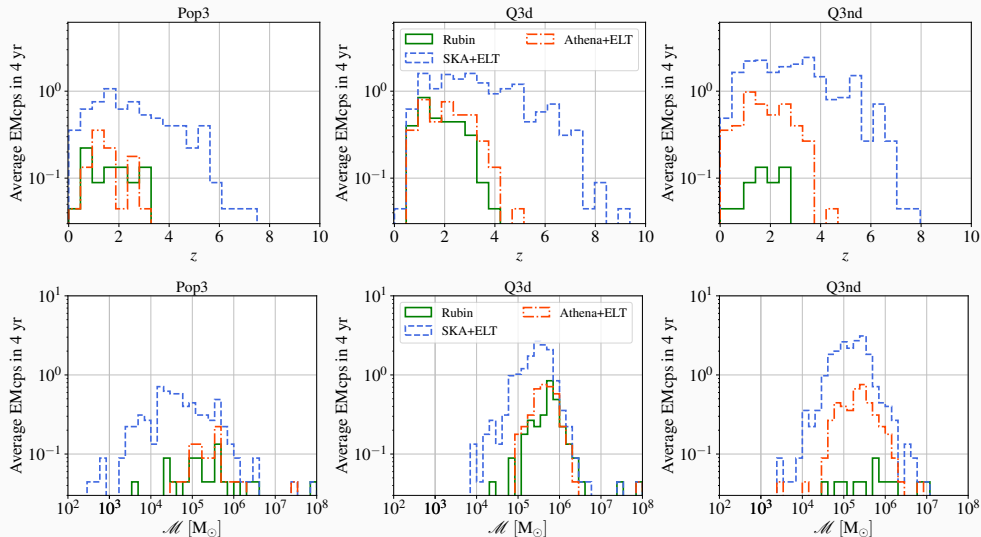
# SNR and mass ratio distributions



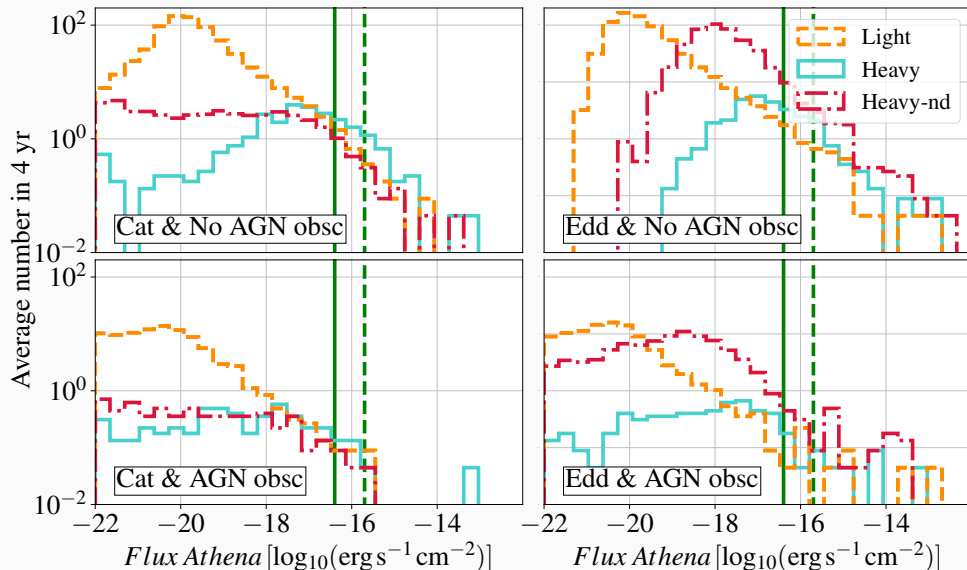
# Redshift and total mass distributions for Athena



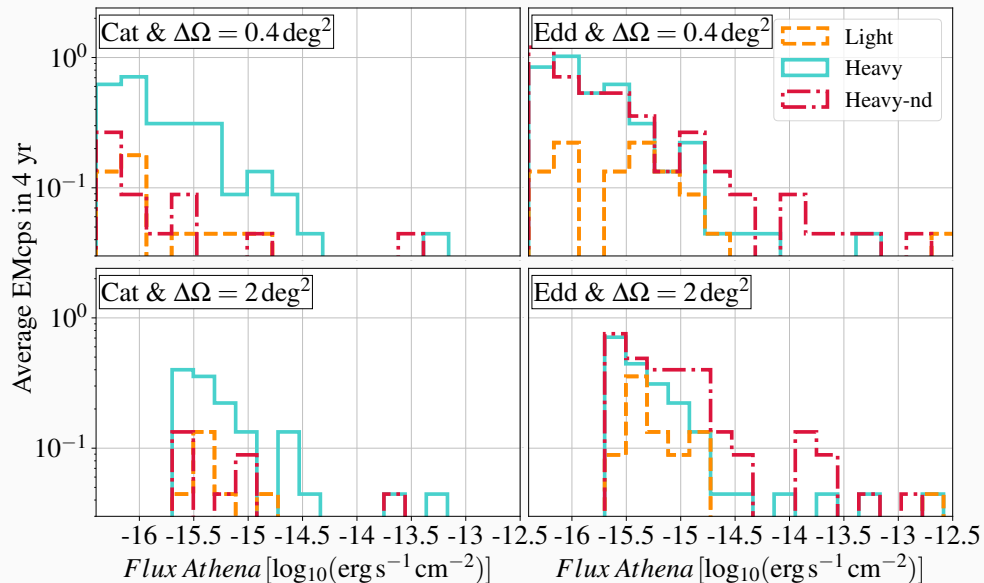
# Redshift and total mass distributions for each strategy



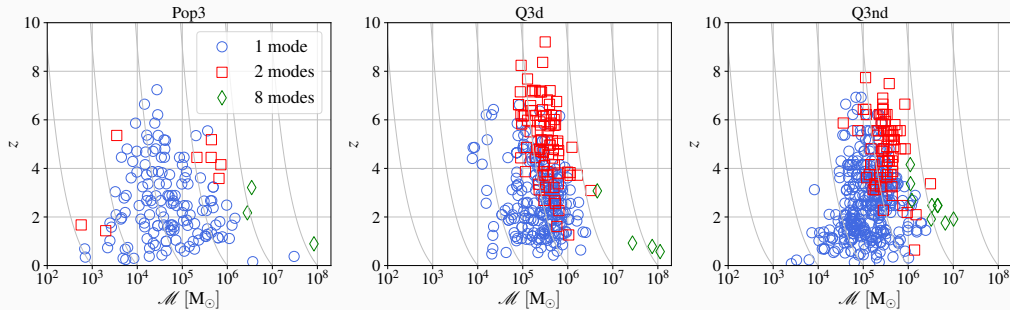
# Distribution of X-ray fluxes



# EMcps in X-ray (No obscuration) with Athena



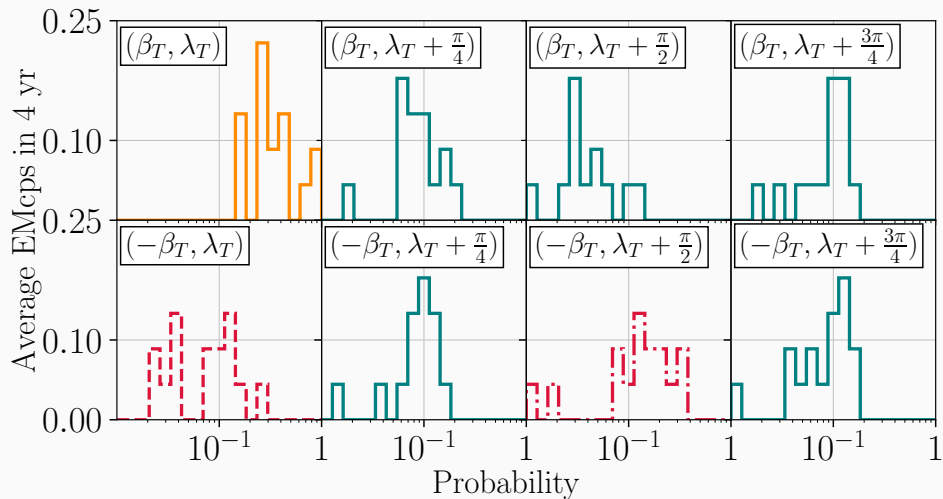
# Multimodal events



- 1mode systems are the vast majority
- 2mode systems appear at high mass and high redshift
- Still large spread across sub-populations



## Probability for 8modes systems



# Luminosity distance and redshift estimates

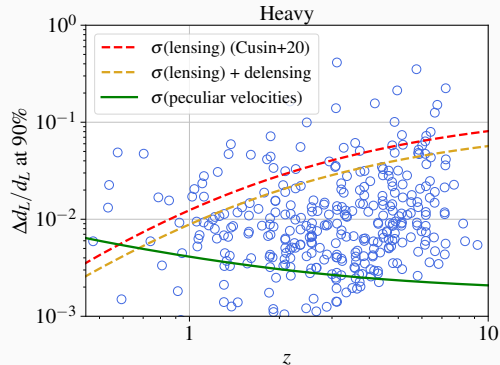
## Luminosity distance

- Accurate estimate of luminosity distance  $\rightarrow \frac{\Delta d_L}{d_L} < 10\%$
- Lensing relevant for  $z \gtrsim 2 - 3$
- Peculiar velocities are negligible

## Redshift measurements

LSST/VRO

Photometric measurements with  
 $\Delta z = 0.03(1 + z)$  (*Laigle + 19*)



ELT

	$m_{\text{ELT}} < 27.2$	$27.2 < m_{\text{ELT}} < 31.3$
$z < 1$	$\Delta z = 10^{-3}$	No $z$ measure
$1 < z < 5$		$\Delta z = 0.5$
$z > 5$		$\Delta z = 0.2$

# Galaxies in LISA error boxes

