Black Hole Astrophysics

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Syllabus

1. Introduction

- black hole types,
- blackhole imaging,
- microlensing,
- gravitational wave sources
- supermassive black hole binaries
- 2. Black holes and general relativity
 - Schwarzschild metric
 - Black hole horizon
 - Motion around a black hole
 - Extended black hole spacetime
- 3. Spherical accretion onto black holes
 - Eddington limit
 - Bondi accretion
- 4. Black hole disk accretion
 - Shakura-Sunyaev alpha-disk model
 - Radiatively inefficient accretion flow

- 5. Stellar mass black holes
 - Formation b. X-ray binaries
 - Black hole accretion states
 - Black hole spin
- 6. Supermassive black holes
 - Formation
 - Soltan's argument
 - Mass function
- 7. Active galactic nuclei
 - Electromagnetic observables
 - Spectrum: continuum, broad and narrow spectral lines
 - Unified model of AGN
 - Mass measurement, reverberation technique
- 8. Supermassive black hole correlations and their physical interpretation
- 9. Gravitational wave astrophysics
 - LIGO/VIRGO observations
 - Astrophysical channels to form merging black hole binaries

100 years ago...



Albert Einstein

Karl Schwarzschild

In working out the full consequences of a theory for an extended period of time, one is better off being a pacifist!



Gravitational Lensing by Spinning Black Holes in Astrophysics, and in the Movie *Interstellar*

Oliver James¹, Eugénie von Tunzelmann¹, Paul Franklin¹ and Kip S Thorne² arXiv:1502.03808



Why study black holes?

• Theory of everything

Last step: gravity + quantum physics

- Important in astrophysics
 - Galaxy evolution
 - Most powerful phenomena
 - New frontier: gravitational waves
- Fascinating science
 - curved spacetime
 - time travel?



"The black holes of nature are the most perfect macroscopic objects there are in the universe: the only elements in their construction are our concepts of space and time."— S. Chandrasekhar

"In all cultures studied, the single most important criterion of human beauty and attractiveness to the opposite sex is symmetry of the facial features." – Jones et al, *Nature* 2003

Black hole types in astrophysics

- Supermassive black hole $(10^5 10^{10} \text{ M}_{sun})$
 - Forms in the early universe from the collapse of low metallicity clouds
 - Grows by gas accretion
 - 1 in each galaxy
- Stellar mass black hole $(5 50 M_{sun})$
 - Forms from stars of mass $25 130 M_{sun}$
 - 10 million in a typical galaxy
- Intermediate mass black hole?
 - expected to form from repeated mergers or gas accretion by stellar mass black holes

Stellar Orbits Around SgrA*



 $M_{\rm BH} = (4.5 \pm 0.4) \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$ Ghez et al. 2008; Genzel et al. 2008

Further evidence

- Active galactic nuclei (every 100th galaxy)
 - Very small region (< light year) outshines galaxy
 - Varies over month timescale
 - Relativistic jets 0.999c
 - Gas orbiting the center at 0.1c



- Stellar mass black hole binaries
 - Binary: star + black hole
 - Highly variable X-rays





About 20 binaries in our galaxy where the compact object seems to be too massive to be a neutron star

Supermassive black holes and host galaxies 0.2% of galactic bulge mass = SMBH mass



Black hole mass

Random velocities of stars

Imaging Black Holes

• <u>Testing theory of gas accretion:</u> accretion disks, winds, and jets



Testing General Relativity:

strong field gravity, existence of event horizon

Quantum effects near horizon (firewalls?) Breakdown of GR at the singularity



Physics + Astrophysics: Imaging Black Holes

a=0, r=6M







Broderick & Loeb, 2006, MNRAS, 367, 905

Numerical Simulations (GRMHD)



C. Gammie, J. Dolence, M. Moscibrodzka, H. Shiokawa, P. Leung (2009)

The black hole shadow



Johannsen & Psaltis, 2010, ApJ, 718, 446

Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI) at sub-millimeter wavelengths

Earth-sized "dish" (11 μ as) x (λ / 0.9 mm)

Sgr A* 10 µas [4x10⁶ M_{sun} @ 26k lyr]



OSgrA * is the largest black hole on the sky

10 μas [4 million solar masses @ 26,000 lyr]

M87

$M_{\rm BH} = 6.4 \times 10^9 M_{\odot}$ 1400 times more massive than SgrA*

But 2000 times farther than SgrA*





Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI) at sub-millimeter wavelengths



Polarimetric Imaging

What can we hope to learn with the full EHT?

Simulated Image

Reconstructed Image



Michael Johnson, et al. (2015)

Simulated Data: Jason Dexter Polarimetric Imaging: Andrew Chael

THE EVENT HORIZON TELESCOPE

2: Combined Array for Research in Millimeter wave Astronomy – California





1. Submillimeter Array and James Clerk Maxwell Telescope – Hawaii



Gas disk around black hole in M87 (2019)

Imaging BHs II. – microlensing



Imaging BHs II. – microlensing



Black Hole Binaries due to Galaxy Mergers



B. Whitmore (STScI), F. Schweizer (Carnegie Institute),

Binary AGN with 1-10kpc separation at z<0.3



Figure 1: SDSS gri-color composite images of some binary AGNs selected from SDSS. North is up and east is to the left. Each panel is $50 \times 50^{\circ}$. We order the targets with decreasing projected separation r_p , ranging from $r_p = 9.1$ kpc to 1.7 kpc as labeled on each panel.

Shen et al. (2011)

X-ray Image of a binary black hole system in NGC 6240



Komossa et al. 2002

X-ray Cluster Abell 400





0402+379 (Rodriguez et al. 2006-9)



- Projected separation: 7.3 pc,
- Estimated total mass: $\sim 10^9 M_{\odot}$

Subparsec binary



- Projected separation: 0.35 pc,
- Nature September 19, 2017

PG 1302-102: periodicity at 5.2 years



Graham et al. arXiv: 1501.013

Gravitational waves



(Centrella et al. 2007)

Gravitational waves

- Gravitational waves = spacetime distortion
- Propagate with the speed of light
- Relative distortion
- Scales with 1/r with distance
- Two polarizations

Gravitational wave detectors



Laser Interferometric Gravitational wave Obs.

Pulsar Timing Arrays





A new window on the Universe



• EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED!

Known sources

- Advanced LIGO fobserving run
 - O1: 12 September 2015 –19 January 2016
 - O2: December 2016 August 2017
 - O3: February 2019 –
- 11 secure detections in O1,O2 (10 BH-BH, 1NS-NS)
 - GW150914: 14 Sept. 2015
 - > 5.3 sigma

Gravitational wave detections



arxiv:1211.12907



LIGO-Virgo | Frank Elavsky | Northwestern

arxiv:1211.12907



LIGO/VIRGO Collaboration 2018; Zackay+ 2019, Venumadhav+ 2019

Rate of BBH coalescence

GW150914+LVT151012: 2 - 600 Gpc ⁻³ yr ⁻¹

+GW151226: 9 – 240 Gpc ⁻³ yr ⁻¹

+GW170104: 12 - 213 Gpc ⁻³ yr ⁻¹

+7 new BH/BH detections: 29 – 100 Gpc ⁻³ yr ⁻¹

Rate of NS coalescence GW170608: <u>300 – 4700 Gpc ⁻³ yr ⁻¹</u>



arxiv:1211.12907

LIGO/VIRGO Collaboration 2018

What have we learned so far?



- Black holes exist!
 - Have horizons (at least light ring)
 - Theory of relativity is confirmed in strong and time dependent gravity
 - mass of graviton consistent with zero (< 10^{-22} eV), Compton wavelength > 1 light year
- Stellar black holes may be more massive than previously thought!
 - 30 solar mass possible!
- Black hole black hole binaries exist
- collisions are frequent > 30-100/Gpc³/yr
- Big surprise:
 - Electromagnetic gamma ray burst within 0.4 seconds of GW150914 but controversial



Astrophysical origin of mergers

Option 1: stellar binary evolution

Galactic binaries

- 10^11.5 stars in a Milky Way type galaxy
- 10⁷⁻⁸ stellar mass black holes
- Most massive stars are in binaries
 - 25% in triples



Option 2: Dynamical environments

Globular clusters

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- 200 in a Milky Way type galaxy
- 10²⁻³ stellar mass black holes
- Size: 1 pc 10 pc
- Density 10³—10⁵ x higher

Galactic nuclei



- 10⁶⁻⁷ M_{sun} supermassive black hole
- 10^{4–5} stellar mass black holes
- Size: 1 pc 10pc
- Density 10^6 10^10 x higher



encounter rate ~ density^2

 $\Gamma = (4\pi r^3) n_{\bullet}^2 \sigma_{cs} v$ $d \ln r$

Option 3: Dark matter halo

Dark matter halo

- 10x more mass than in stars
- 10¹⁰ primordial mass black holes?
- Rates match if
 - 100% of dark matter is in 30 Msun **single BHs** (Bird et al 2016)
 - RULED OUT BY OBSERVATION OF a GLOBULAR CLUSTER IN A DWARF GALAXY (Brandt et al. 2017)
 - Newer studies: 1% of dark matter in BHs is sufficient (Ali-Haimud et al 2017)
 - 0.1% of dark matter is in primordial **binary BHs** after inflation (Sasaki et al 2016)
- 30 Msun primordial BHs form when T ~ 30 MeV (Carr 1975)
 - standard model does not have any phase transitions at this temperature

Are there intermediate mass black holes?

Theory

Formation

- Early universe:
 - collapse of the first stars
- Globular clusters
 - runaway collisions
 - mergers of stellar mass black holes
 - dynamical friction
 - ightarrow IMBH deposited in the galactic center
- In accretion disk

Observational constraints



~ 50 IMBHs within 10 pc

Gualandris & Merritt '09

Big questions

• How did they form?

– collapse of gas or first stars, runaway collisions in dense star clusters?

• How do they grow?

- Gas accretion, collisions, or eating stars?

- How do they influence their environment?
- How do they launch jets? flares?
- Why/where do they merge so often?
- Are they really black holes?



- Black holes exist
- Supermassive black holes are at the center of galaxies
- Supermassive black holes are engines of extremely bright emission
- Black hole shadows may be resolved
- Gravitational waves are an important new window on the Universe
- Many open questions



Imaging BHs III. – stellar transit



Lucky coincidences:

- Many stars are orbiting around supermassive black holes
- The size of supermassive black hole horizon is comparable to the size of a star



Imaging BHs III. – stellar transit



Lucky coincidences:

- Many stars are orbiting around supermassive black holes
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Prediction:

- transit duration hours week
- probability 10⁻⁴
- transit depth 10⁻³ to 1

Bence Beky & Bence Kocsis (2013)

Imaging BHs III. – stellar transit

Main sequence O star 10⁻² 150 $R_{\star} = 11 R_{Sun}$ 100 a = 0 $\lambda = 145 \text{ nm}$ 50 $\bigcup_{\mathcal{V}_{\mathsf{proj}}(R_{\mathsf{g}})}$ 10⁻³ 0 -50 10^{-4} -100 -150 -200 -150 -100 -50 100 150 200 0 50 $x_{\rm proj}~(R_{\rm g})$ 30 1 $R_{\star} = 11 R_{Sun}$ 20 10^{-1} a = 0hv = 200 eV $\underset{Y_{\text{proj}}(R_{g})}{\mathsf{X-ray}}$ 10 10⁻² 0 10⁻³ -10 10⁻⁴ -20 10⁻⁵ -30 -30 20 -40 -20 -10 0 10 30 $x_{\rm proj} (R_{\rm g})$

Red giant 300 $R_{\star} = 110 R_{Su}$ 10^{-1} 200 a = 0 $\lambda = 145 \text{ nm}$ 100 $y_{\rm proj} \left(R_{\rm g}
ight)$ 10⁻² 0 -100 10⁻³ -200 -300 100 200 300 400 -400 -300 -200 -100 0 $x_{\text{proj}}(R_{\text{q}})$ 1 80 R = 110 R_{Sun} 60 10⁻¹ a = 040 hv = 200 eV10⁻² $y_{\rm proj} \left(R_{\rm g}
ight)$ 20 0 10⁻³ -20 10⁻⁴ -40 -60 10⁻⁵ -80 -50 -100 50 100 0 $x_{\rm proj} (R_{\rm g})$

Bence Beky and Bence Kocsis (2013)