Dynamical Formation of Merging Binary Black Holes in Massive Star Clusters: A Cosmological Approach





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CSSMERGE

LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA observed GW events (GWTC-3)

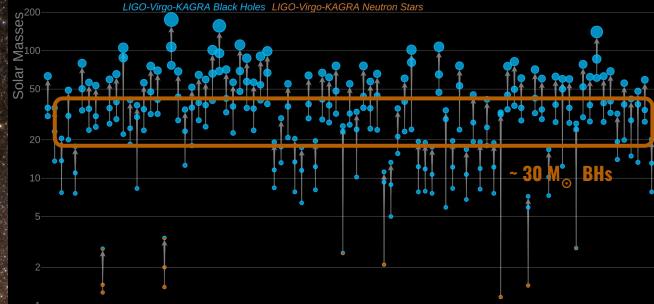
Masses in the Stellar Graveyard

LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Black Holes LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Neutron Stars Masse Solar

LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA | Aaron Geller | Northwestern

LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA observed GW events (GWTC-3)

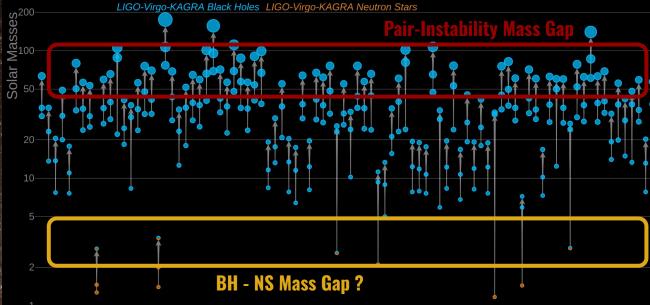
Masses in the Stellar Graveyard



LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA | Aaron Geller | Northwestern

LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA observed GW events (GWTC-3)

Masses in the Stellar Graveyard



LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA | Aaron Geller | Northwestern

Formation scenarios

Credits: ALMA (ESO/NAOJ/NRAO), Alves et al.

ISOLATED

DYNAMIGAL

Credits: NASA/ESA HST

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ISOLATED

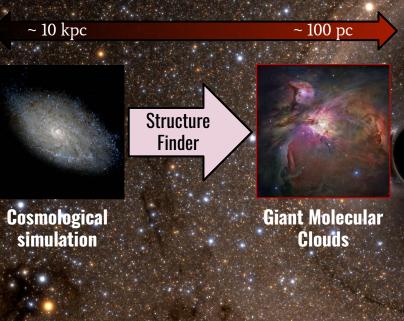
Zevin et al. (2020): One Channel to Rule Them All? — multiple formation channels required to interpret LVK catalog of GW detections

DYNAMIGAL

Credits: NASA/ESA HST

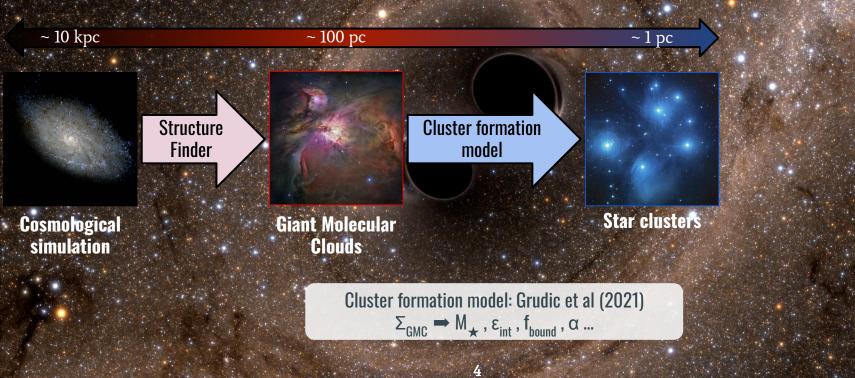
Population of BBHs in cosmological simulations

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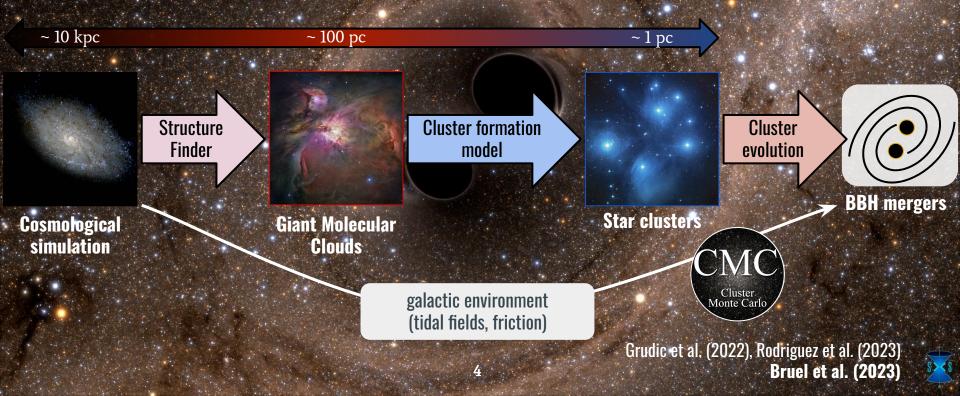


Grudic et al. (2022), Rodriguez et al. (2023) Bruel et al. (2023)

Population of BBHs in cosmological simulations



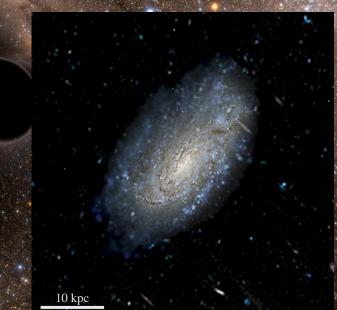
Population of BBHs in cosmological simulations



Cosmological simulations as realistic environments for star and star cluster formation

FIRE: Feedback In Realistic Environments (Hopkins et al. 2014)

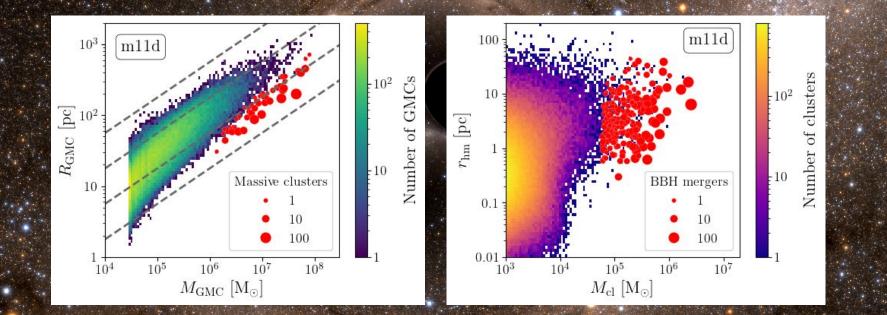
Simulation		M _h [M _☉]	<i>M</i> ★ [M _☉]
SMC	mllq	1.6×10^{11}	6.1×10^{8}
	mlli	7.8×10^{10}	9.2×10^{8}
- LMC	mlle	1.7×10^{11}	1.4×10^{9}
	m11h	2.1×10^{11}	3.6×10^{9}
	m11d	3.2×10^{11}	3.9×10^{9}
MW	m12i	1.2×10^{12}	6.7×10^{10}



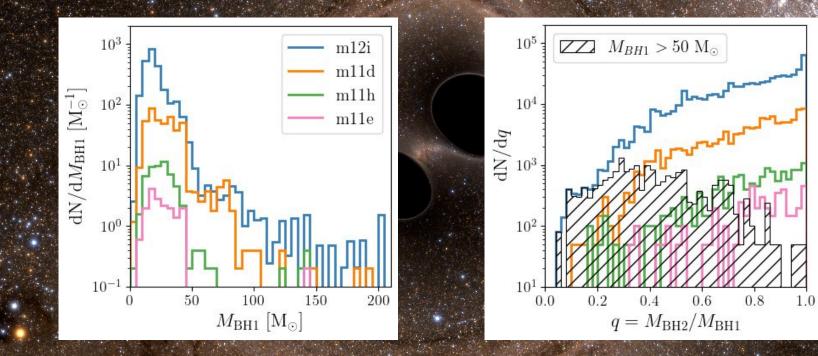
Mock HST image of m12i Credits: P. Hopkins

El-Badry et al. (2017)

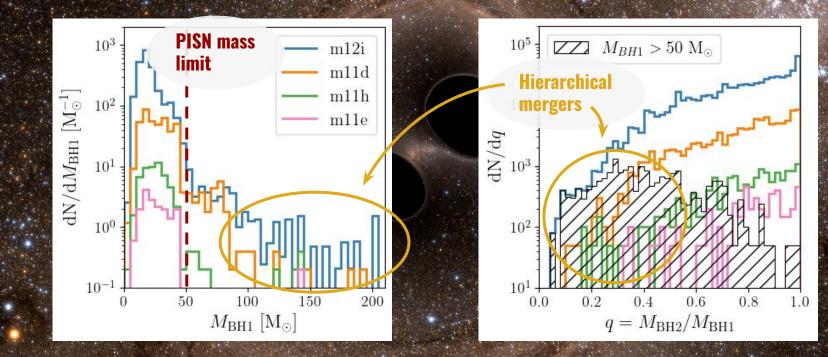
Giant Molecular Clouds (GMCs) and massive cluster formation



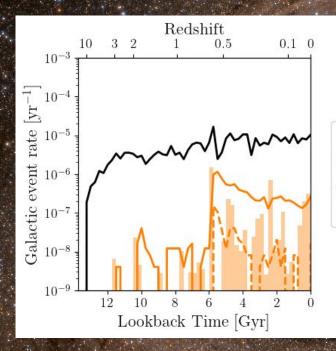
BBH primary masses and mass ratios



BBH primary masses and mass ratios



BBH merger rate

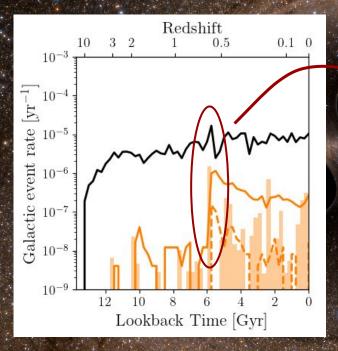


Star formaiton /10⁵M_☉
 Massive cluster formation /10⁵M_☉
 BBH mergers

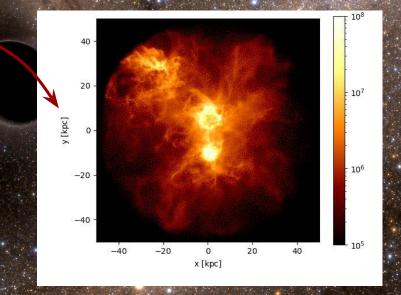
8

- Massive BBH mergers $(M_{\rm BH1} > 50 {\rm M}_{\odot})$

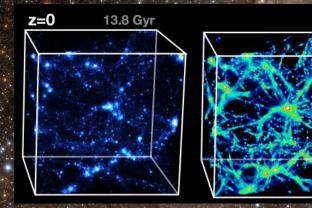
BBH merger rate



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Large volume cosmological simulation

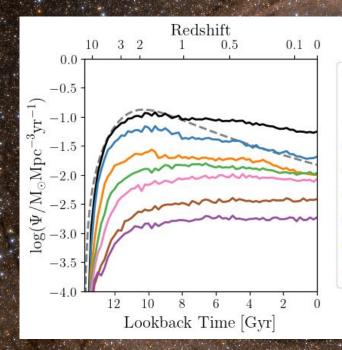


Feldmann et al. (2023)

FIREbox

- (22.1 cMpc)³ cosmological simulation
- FIRE-2 baryonic physics model (same as the 6 zoom-in simulations)
- ~ 1000 galaxies with stellar mass $M_{\star} \ge 10^8 M_{\odot}$

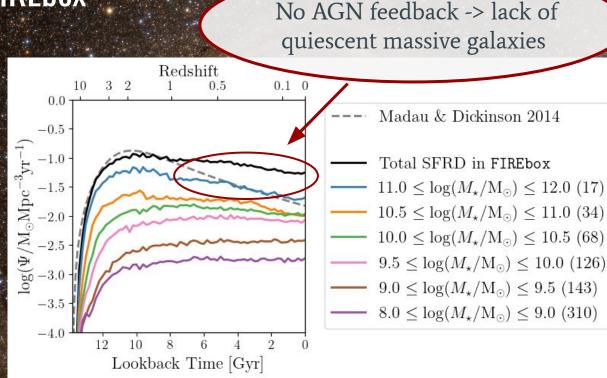
SFRD in FIREbox



- --- Madau & Dickinson 2014
- Total SFRD in FIREbox
- $11.0 \le \log(M_{\star}/\mathrm{M}_{\odot}) \le 12.0 \ (17)$ - $10.5 \le \log(M_{\star}/\mathrm{M}_{\odot}) \le 11.0 \ (34)$
- $10.0 \le \log(M_{\star}/M_{\odot}) \le 10.5 \ (68)$
- $---9.5 \le \log(M_{\star}/\mathrm{M}_{\odot}) \le 10.0 \ (126)$
- $9.0 \le \log(M_{\star}/\mathrm{M}_{\odot}) \le 9.5 \ (143)$
- $8.0 \le \log(M_{\star}/\mathrm{M}_{\odot}) \le 9.0 \ (310)$

10

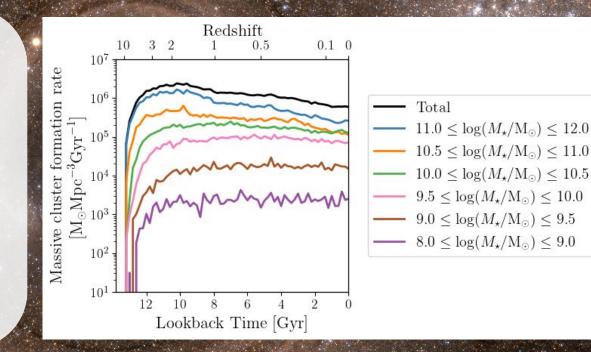
SFRD in FIREbox



10

Cluster formation model

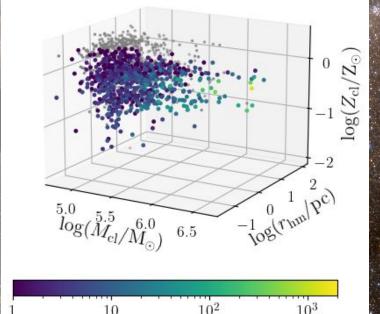
Cluster formation model El Badry et al. 2018 $\Gamma_{GCs} \equiv \dot{M}_{GCs} / SFR$ = $\alpha / 1 + (\Sigma_{GMC} / \Sigma_{crit})^{-\beta}$ $\Sigma_{\rm crit}$ = 3000 M $_{\odot}$ pc⁻² , β = -1 α fit to formation efficiency in our set of zoom-in simulations



BBH mergers in large population of massive star clusters

Grid-matching method

- total of 1500 clusters integrated with CMC in the 6 zoom-in simulations (including interactions with galactic environment)
- parameter space (M_{cl}, r_{hm}, Z_{cl})
- for each cluster sampled associate the BBHs from the closest neighbour in the grid (euclidean distance in log space)



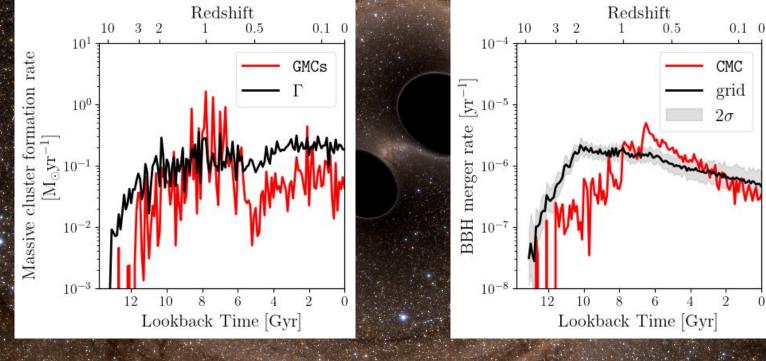
Number of merging BBHs

10

Bruel et al. (in prep)

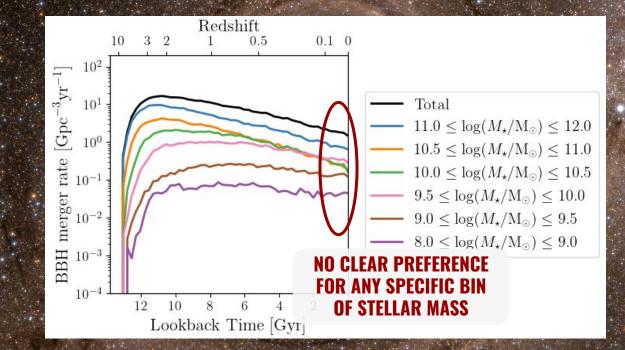
 10^{3}

Validation test: cluster formation + grid-matching in MW-like m12i



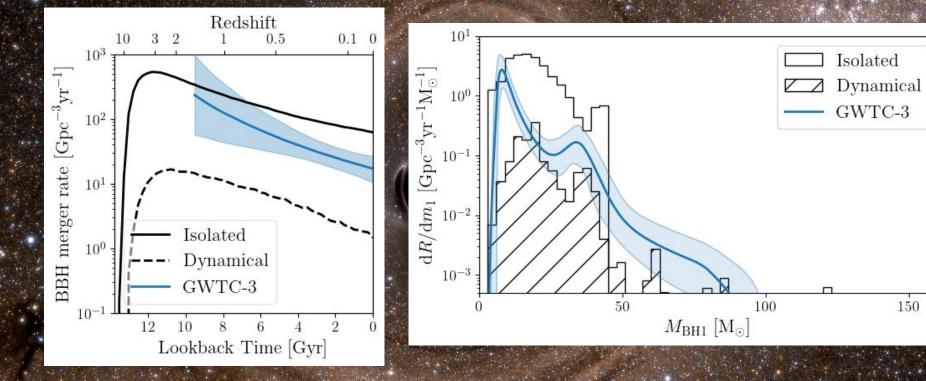
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BBH merger rate density in different bins of galaxy stellar mass



Comparison with isolated channel





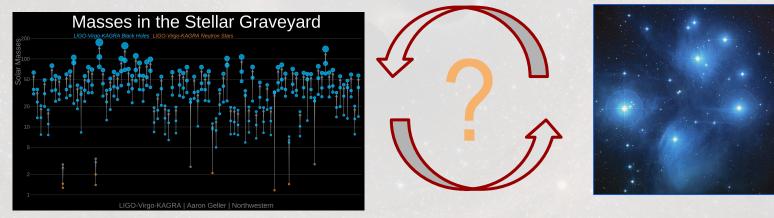
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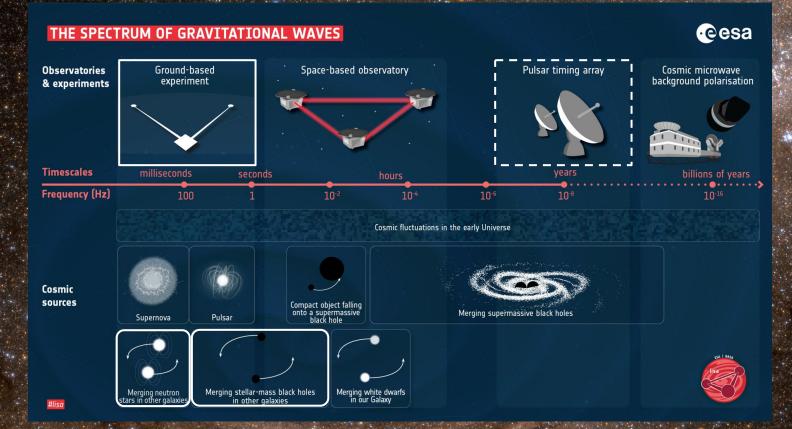
Summary

- formation and evolution of massive star clusters in 'realistic' environments
 - large collection (1500) CMC clusters in wide parameter space, with treatment of tidal fields and dynamical friction
- correlations found between galaxy interactions and the production of massive BBH mergers
 - possible hint to constrain host galaxy for some of the most massive BBH mergers detected
- study of two BBH formation channels using a consistent environment of star and star cluster formation + compatible evolution codes

Outlook

- What can we learn about cluster dynamics from GW observations ?
- What can we learn about the formation of double compact objects from cluster theory/observations ?





Credits: ESA

Gravitational Spiraling of Binary Black Holes (BBHs)

Merger time of a BBH:

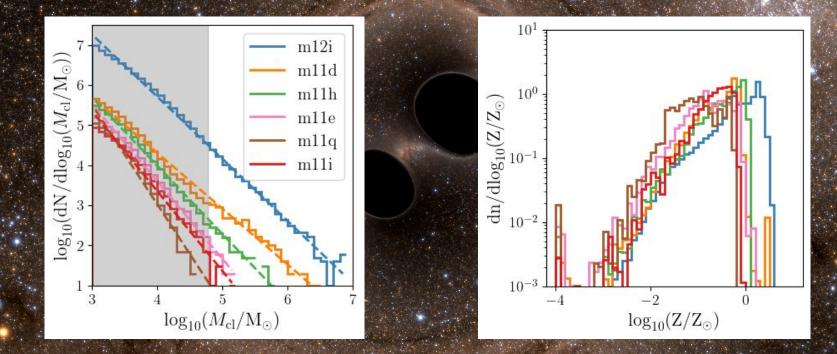
$$au_{
m GW} \sim 14 igg(rac{M}{30 M_{\odot}} igg)^{-3} igg(rac{a_{
m ini}}{50 R_{\odot}} igg)^4 ~ {
m Gyr}$$

Mandel et al. (2022)

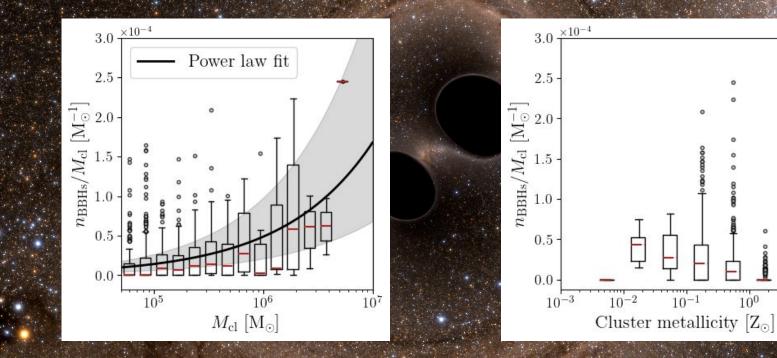
Credits: R. Hurt/Caltech-JPL

PROBLEM: Radius of a Red Supergiant Star: $R \sim 100 - 1000 R_{\odot}$

Star clusters masses and metallicities



Cluster efficiency at producing BBH mergers



 10^{1}

Re-weighting operation in FIREbox

