

Intermediate-mass ratio inspirals in massive star clusters: detection perspectives for current and future GW detectors

Manuel Arca Sedda



ET Symposium
OSB-Div 3 session

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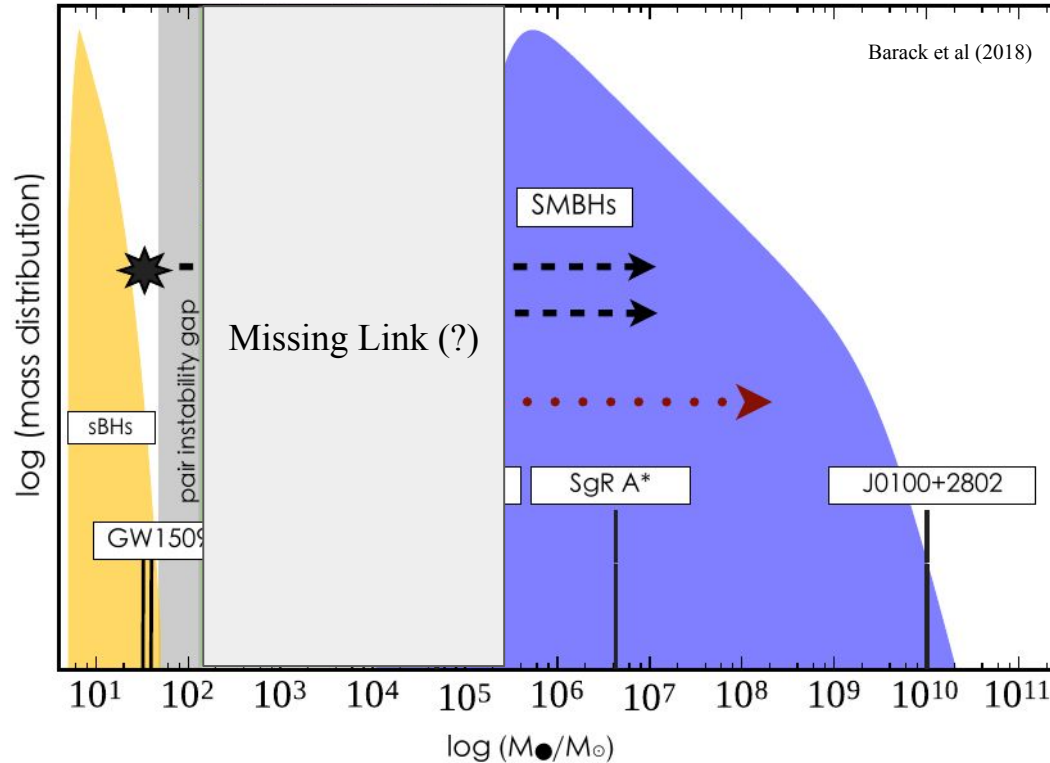


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SUMMARY

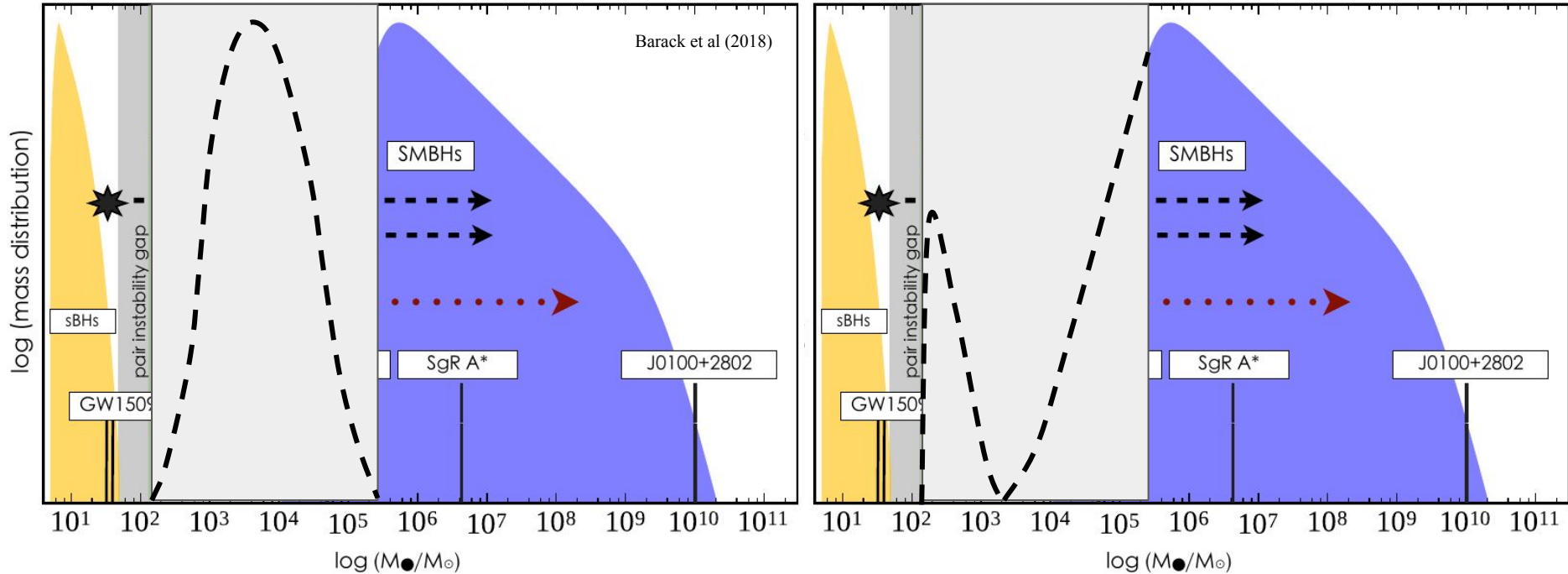
1. IMBHs: what we do and don't know
2. The build-up of IMBHs in massive clusters
3. Growing IMBHs via repeated IMRI phases in Globular Clusters
4. Implications for current and future GW detectors: IMRIs cosmic merger rate

IMBHs: what we do and don't know



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Do IMBHs constitute a special class of IMBHs? What is the IMBH mass spectrum?



IMBHs: what we do and don't know

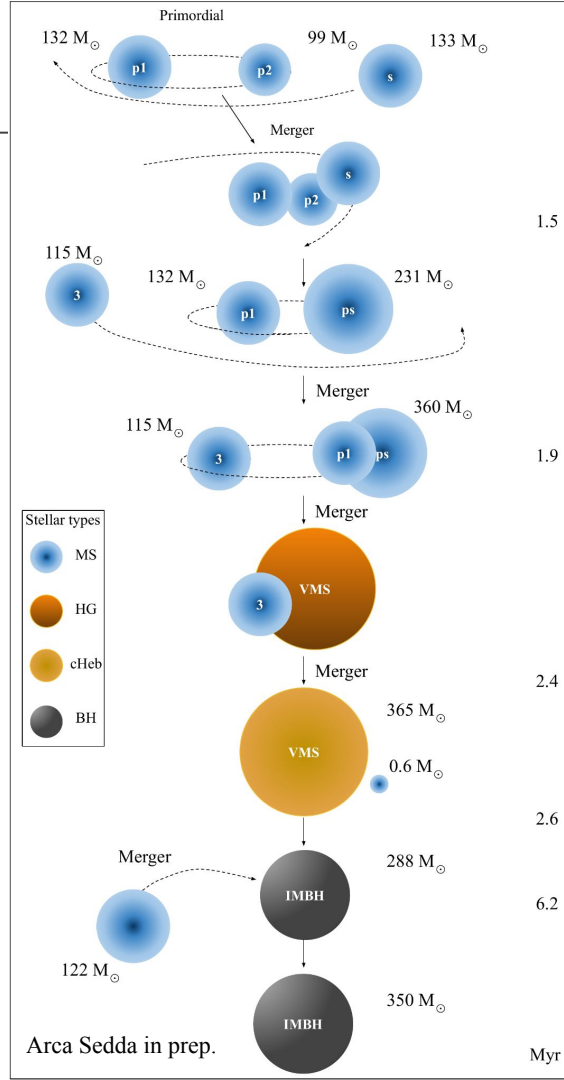
Do IMBHs constitute a special class of IMBHs?

Answer the question requires to find a (few) process(es) capable of growing IMBHs in the whole $10^{-5}M_{SUN}$ mass range

The build-up of IMBHs in massive clusters

Four (uncertain) formation channels:

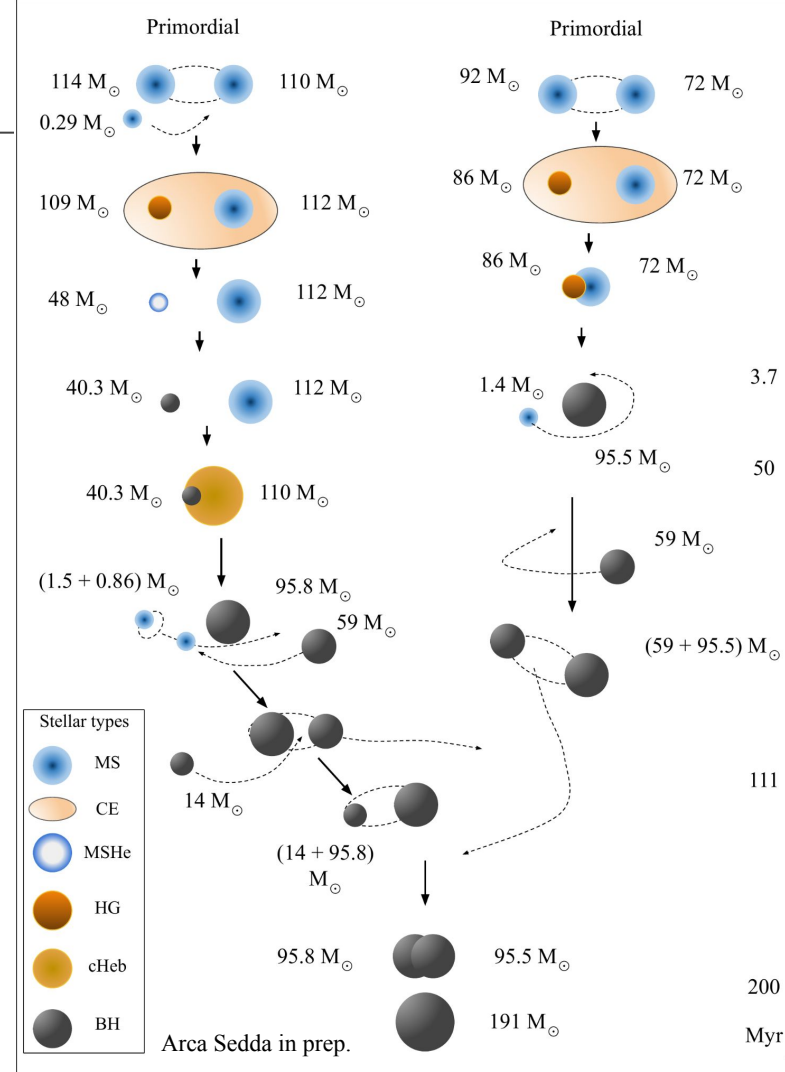
1. Stellar collisions build-up a very massive star (VMS) $M = 200\text{--}500 M_{\text{SUN}}$ and directly collapse to an IMBH; (Portegies-Zwart and McMillan02, Glebbeek+09, Di Carlo+19, Arca Sedda+23)



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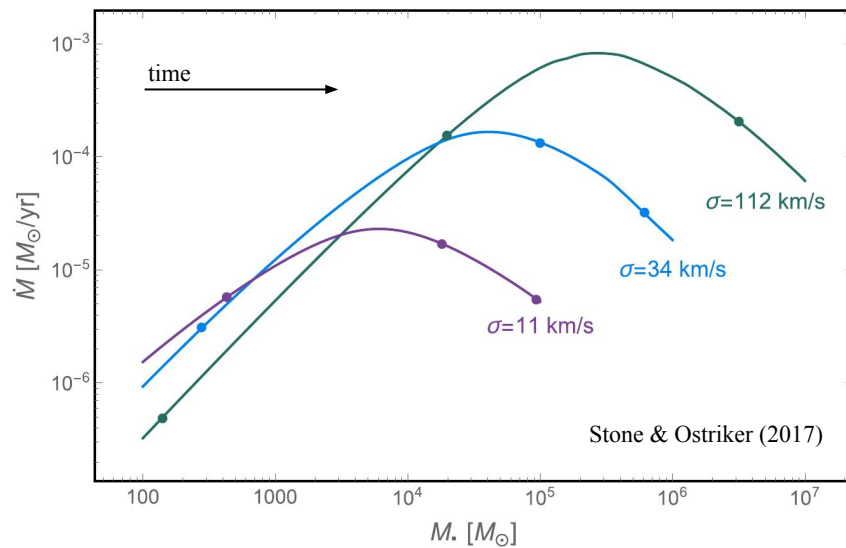
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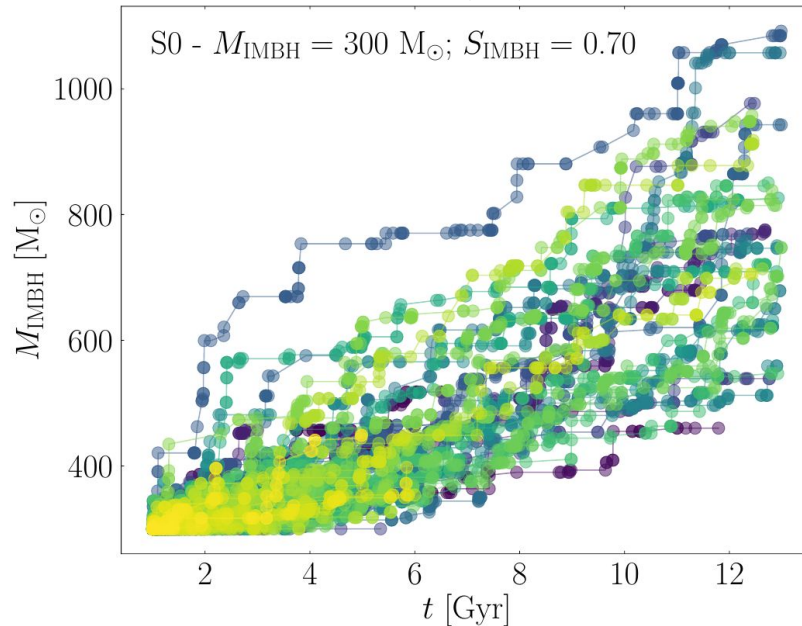


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4. A series of repeated (hierarchical) mergers between stellar BHs
(Miller&Hamilton02, Holley-Bockelmann+08, Fragione&Kocsis18, Arca Sedda+21,23, Mapelli+21, Antonini+19, Maliszewski+22)

Arca Sedda, Amaro-Seoane, Chen (2021)



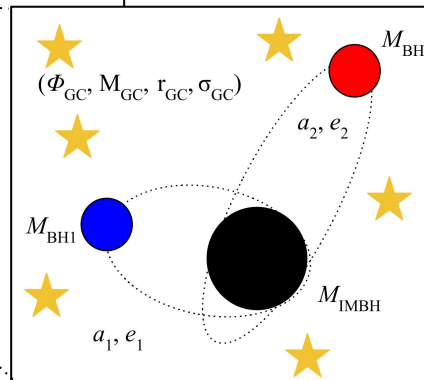
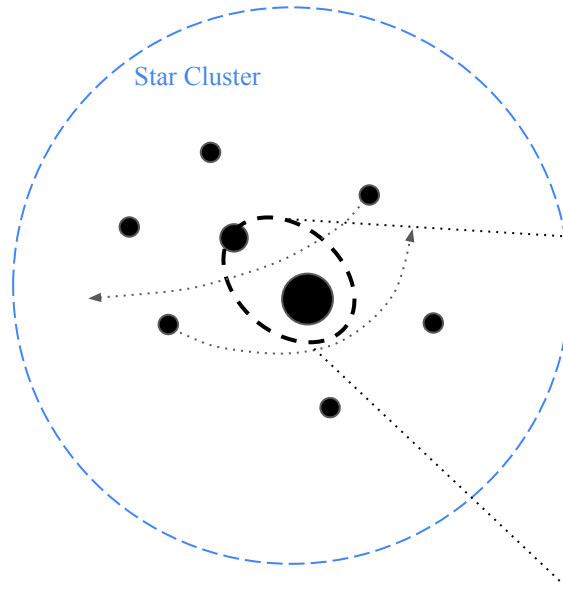
The build-up of IMBHs in massive clusters: hierarchical BH mergers

Light IMRIs: IMBH + compact object (Amaro-Seoane+07)

- IMBH mass ?

- compact object: BHs (2.7%), WDs (16%), NSs (0.2%)

(Arca Sedda+19, see also Konstantinidis+13, MacLeod+16)



Our phase space

(Arca Sedda, Amaro-Seoane, and Chen (2021) A&A)

1. 2 stellar BHs orbiting around 1 IMBH
2. no initial hierarchy
3. PN1, 2, and 2.5 included
4. cluster overall field included

Main properties (28,000 N-body simulations)

- a. IMBH mass: 4 values
- b. Cluster density: 3 cases
- c. BH masses: 3 spectra
- d. Metallicity: 2 values
- e. Orbital distribution: 2 cases

The build-up of IMBHs in massive clusters: hierarchical BH mergers

Main properties (28,000 N-body simulations)

Model	IMBH mass	Star cluster mass	Density profile and slope		Semimajor axis and eccentricity		BH mass spectrum		Metallicity	Models number
	$M_{\text{IMBH}} M_{\odot}$	$M_{\text{GC}} M_{\odot}$	ρ_{GC}	γ_{GC}	a	e	BH	$m_{\text{BH},\text{min}/m_{\text{BH},\text{max}}} M_{\odot}$	Z	N_{sim}
S0	$10^2 - 10^5$	$1.7 \times 10^4 - 1.7 \times 10^7$	Dehnen	0.5	density	thermal	SM17	4 - 53.4	0.0002	$1,000 \times 4$
S1	$10^2 - 10^5$	$1.7 \times 10^4 - 1.7 \times 10^7$	Dehnen	1.0	density	thermal	SM17	4 - 53.4	0.0002	$1,000 \times 4$
S2	$10^2 - 10^5$	$1.7 \times 10^4 - 1.7 \times 10^7$	Plummer	0.0	density	thermal	SM17	4 - 53.4	0.0002	$1,000 \times 4$
S3	$10^2 - 10^5$	$1.7 \times 10^4 - 1.7 \times 10^7$	Dehnen	0.5	density	thermal	O+16	3 - 30	0.0002	$1,000 \times 4$
S4	$10^2 - 10^5$	$1.7 \times 10^4 - 1.7 \times 10^7$	Dehnen	0.5	density	thermal	FLAT	3 - 30	0.0002	$1,000 \times 4$
S5	$10^2 - 10^5$	$1.7 \times 10^4 - 1.7 \times 10^7$	Dehnen	0.5	logflat	thermal	SM17	4 - 53.4	0.0002	$1,000 \times 4$
S6	$10^2 - 10^5$	$1.7 \times 10^4 - 1.7 \times 10^7$	Dehnen	0.5	density	thermal	SM17	4 - 53.4	0.02	$1,000 \times 4$

The build-up of IMBHs in massive clusters: hierarchical BH mergers

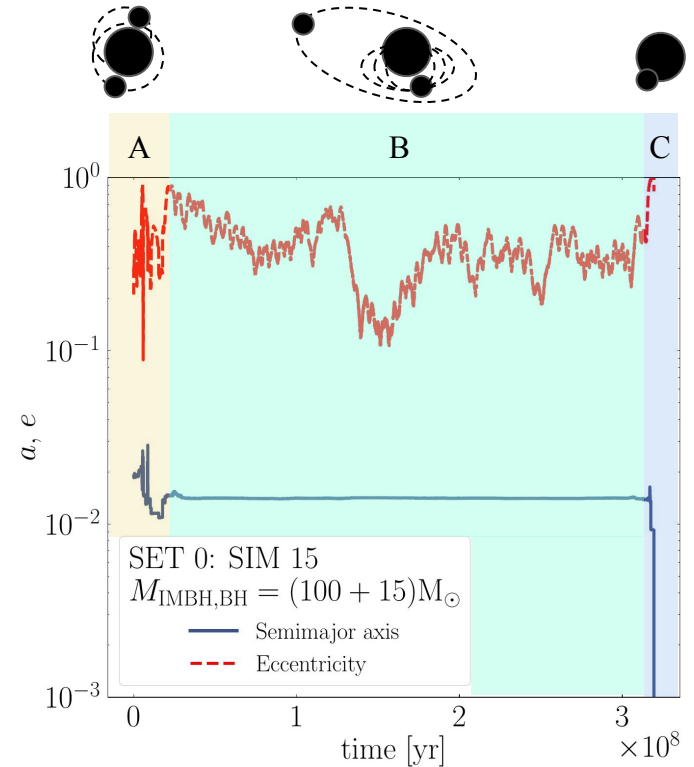
There are three main phases (in most cases):

A. Chaotic: the three BHs interact continuously, exchanges may occur

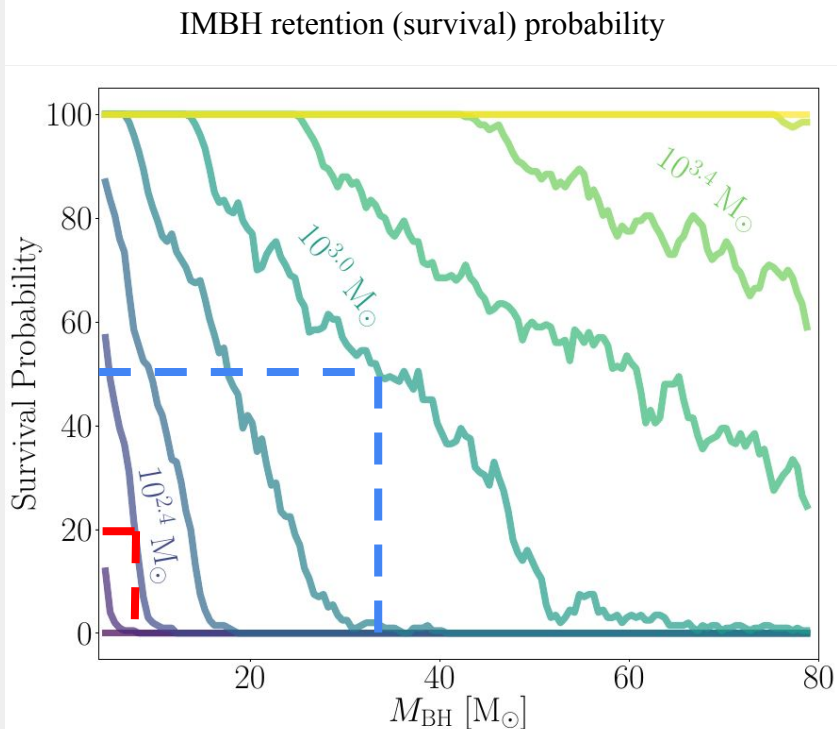
B. Periodic/(mildly) hierarchical: the three objects form a triple, the outer BH exerts perturbations on the inner BH-IMBH binary.

In this phase Kozai-Lidov (-like) oscillations may take place

C. GW emission kicks in and drives the IMBH-BH to merger



The build-up of IMBHs in massive clusters: hierarchical BH mergers



Key result #1

- ❑ One line \rightarrow IMBH and host cluster masses
- ❑ Survival = prob. to be retained upon GW kick

Result:

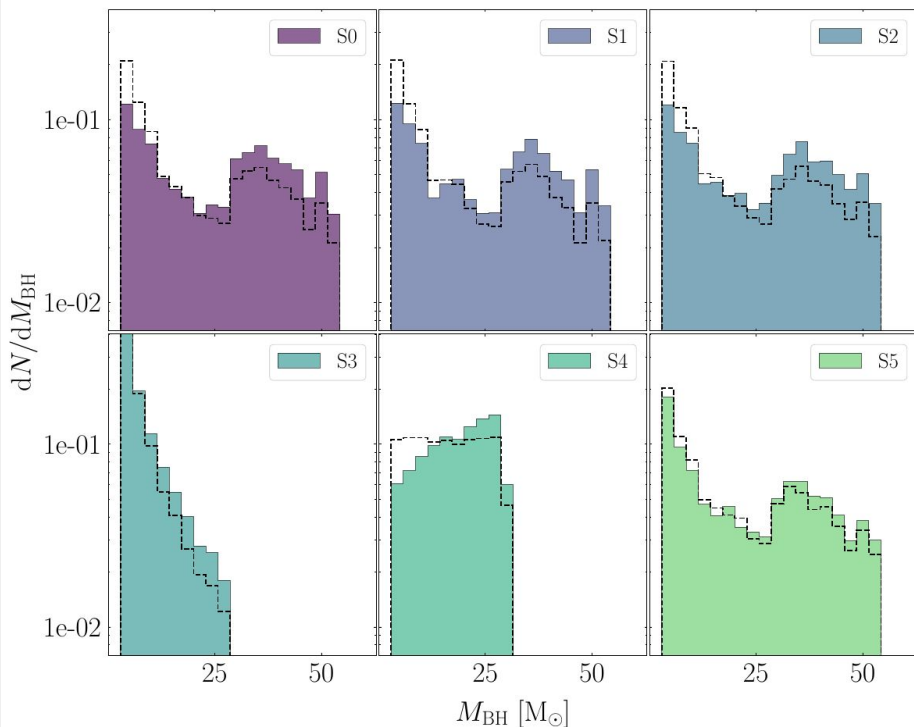
- ❑ $M_{\text{IMBH}} \sim 10^3 M_{\text{SUN}} : P_{\text{SUR}} > 50\%$ only if $M_{\text{BH}} < 35$
- ❑ $M_{\text{IMBH}} \sim 250 M_{\text{SUN}} : P_{\text{SUR}} > 20\%$ only if $M_{\text{BH}} < 10$

Takehome

*it's difficult to retain the merger product
and grow the IMBH mass too*

The build-up of IMBHs in massive clusters: hierarchical BH mergers

IMRIs \rightarrow BH mass spectrum (filled steps)



Key result #2

- Empty step: initial BH mass spectrum
- Filled step: merging BH mass spectrum

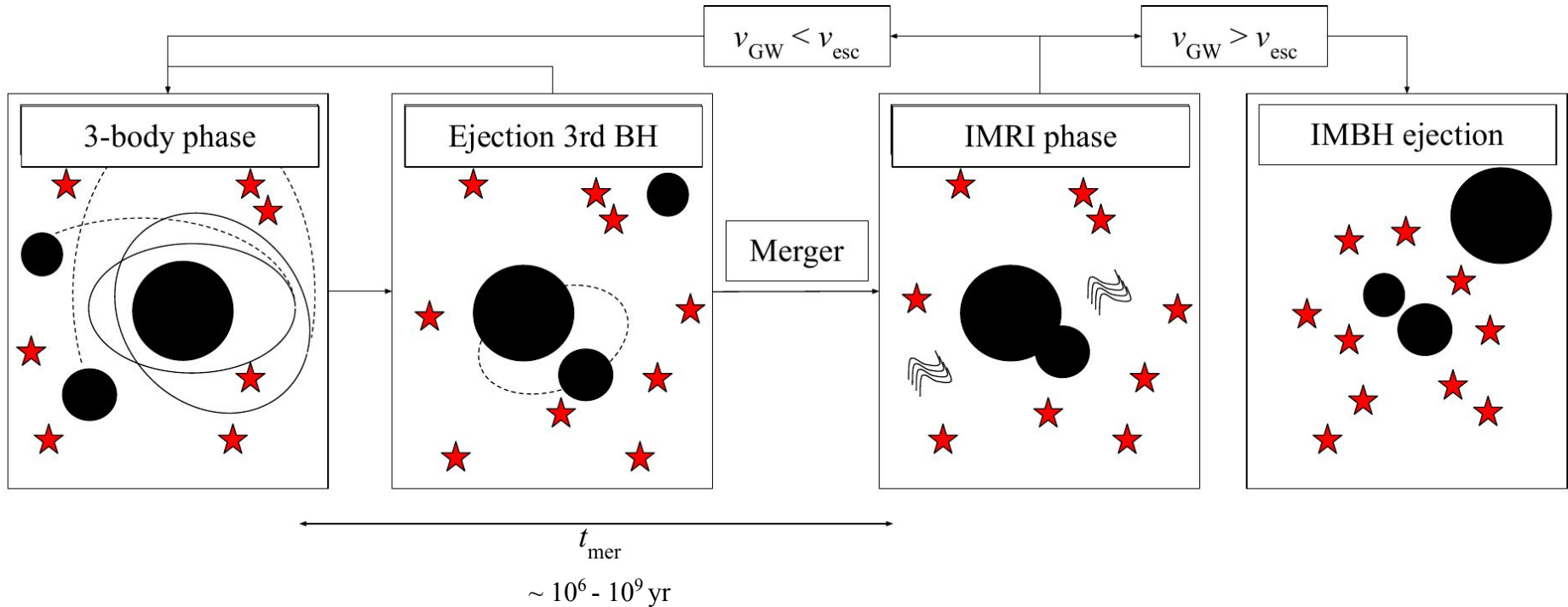
Results:

- IMRIs map the BH mass spectrum

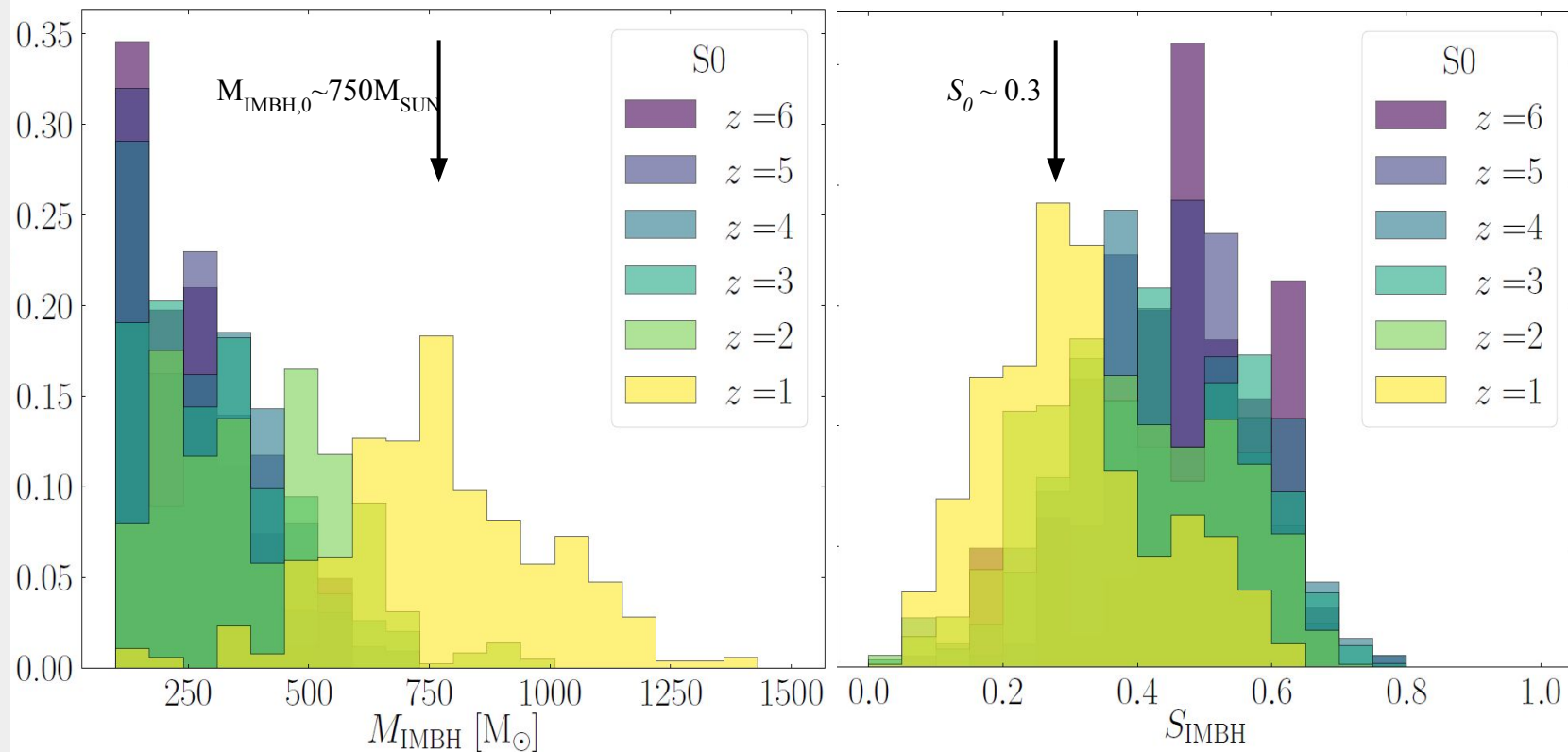
Takehome

*can shed light on the impact of dynamics on stellar BHs
and the BH mass spectrum in clusters*

Growing IMBHs via repeated IMRI phases in Globular Clusters



Growing IMBHs via repeated IMRI phases in Globular Clusters



Implications for current and future GW detectors: IMRIs cosmic merger rate

- Signal to noise ratio (we set $\text{SNR} = 15$, observation time $T_{\text{obs}} = 4 \text{ yr}$):

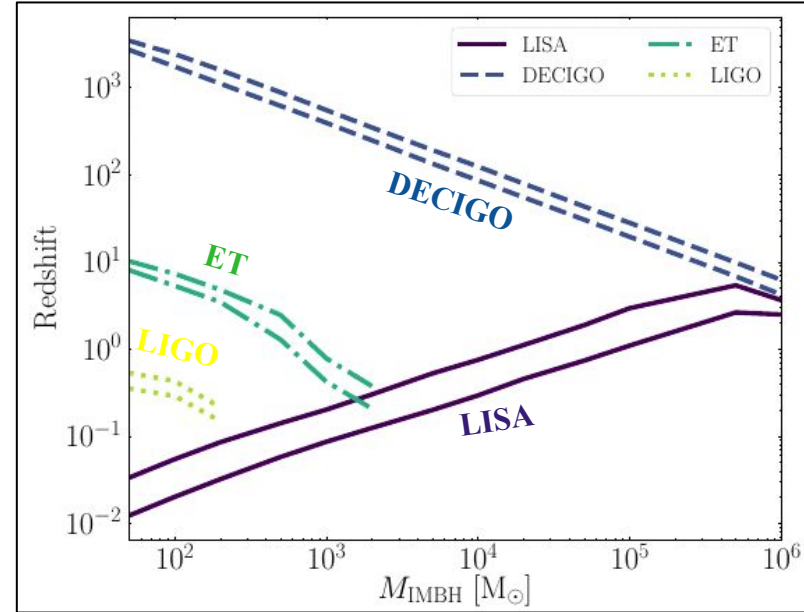
$$\text{SNR}^2 = \int_{f_1}^{f_2} \frac{h_c^2(f, z_{\text{hor}})}{S_n^2(f)} df$$

- IMRIs merger rate:

$$\Gamma_{\text{IMRI}} = \Omega_s \int_{M_1}^{M_2} \int_0^{z_{\text{hor}}} \frac{dn_{\text{IMRI}}}{dM_{\text{IMBH}} dz} \frac{dV_c}{dz} \frac{dz}{1+z} dM_{\text{IMBH}}$$

- Number of IMRIs per unit IMBH mass (3 approaches):

$$\frac{dn_{\text{IMRI}}}{dM_{\text{IMBH}}} = \xi_{\text{BH}} f_{\text{GW}} p_{\text{IMBH}} n_{\text{rep}} \frac{dn}{dM_g dz} \frac{dn_{\text{GC}}}{dM_{\text{GC}}} \frac{dM_{\text{GC}}}{dM_{\text{IMBH}}}$$



Implications for current and future GW detectors: IMRIs cosmic merger rate

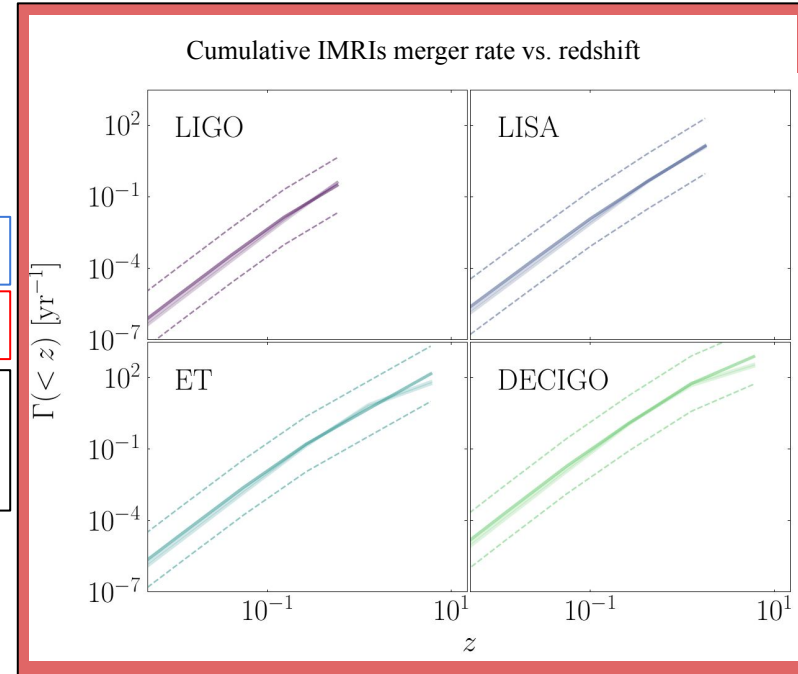
Instrument	M_{SBH} M_{\odot}	z_{max}	$M_{\text{IMBH,max}}$ M_{\odot}	$\Delta\Gamma_1$ yr^{-1}
LIGO	10	0.38	200	0.003 – 0.54
LIGO	30	0.57	200	0.006 – 1.3
LISA	10	0.70	46240	0.024 – 5.1
LISA	30	1.78	46240	0.27 – 56.2
ET	10	6.00	2000	1.9 – 399.7
ET	30	6.00	2000	2.8 – 596.5
DECIGO	10	6.00	46240	15.0 – 3139
DECIGO	30	6.00	46240	15.0 – 3139

LVK: $\sim 1\text{-}2$ IMRIs yr^{-1}

LISA: $\sim 5\text{-}60$ IMRIs yr^{-1}

ET: $\sim 2 - 600$ IMRIs yr^{-1}
DECIGO: $>10^3$ IMRIs yr^{-1}

Nr. of detection per yr



Conclusions

- ✓ Retention probability is rather low ($< 20\%$) for IMBHs less massive than a few $10^2 M_{\text{SUN}}$ in globulars
- ✓ IMRIs map the stellar BH mass spectrum, carrying insights on the impact of dynamics on the BH population
- ✓ Repeated IMRIs lead to a characteristic IMBH mass and spin distribution at redshift $z < 1$
- ✓ ET can detect $\sim 2\text{-}600$ IMRIs per year at $z > 1$, probing the physics of IMRIs and the IMBH mass spectrum