

# Formation and Evolution of Black-Hole X-Ray Binaries

## High-Mass companions

Persistent emission  
(3)

### ★ Black- Hole formation

- masses
- progenitors
- asymmetric kicks

## Low-Mass companions

Transient emission  
(14)

### ★ X- Ray Binary formation

- stellar companions
- orbital periods

### ★ Black- Hole X- Ray Binary evolution ★

- conservative or not ?
- persistent or transient ?
- luminosity evolution ?

## Observed Properties:

- ★ Black- Hole masses: 3 - 18  $M_{\odot}$
- ★ Orbital Periods: 0.2 - 35 days
- ★ Donor masses: <1- 2  $M_{\odot}$  , 6.5  $M_{\odot}$   
spectral class: most V, a few III and IV

## Main evolutionary phases:

- ★ BH progenitor and companion
- ★ Common- Envelope and spiral- in
- ★ BH formation
- ★ Roche- lobe overflow and mass transfer

# Black-Hole Masses

?? peaks and gaps and maxima ??

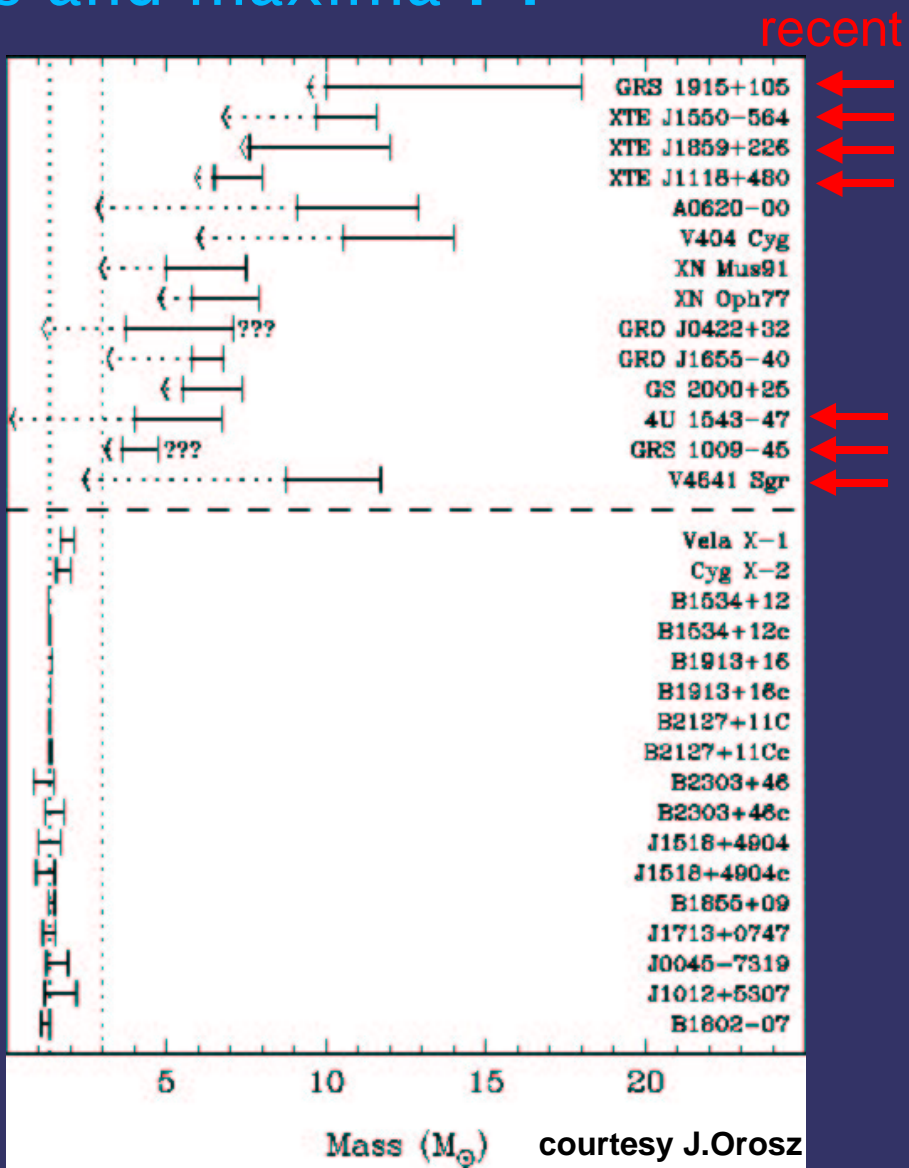
current observations:

Bailyn et al. 1998  
 peak at  $\sim 7 M_{\odot}$   
 (at 50% C.L.)

Bailyn 2001  
 no peak  
 maybe a gap  
 at  $3-5 M_{\odot}$  ?

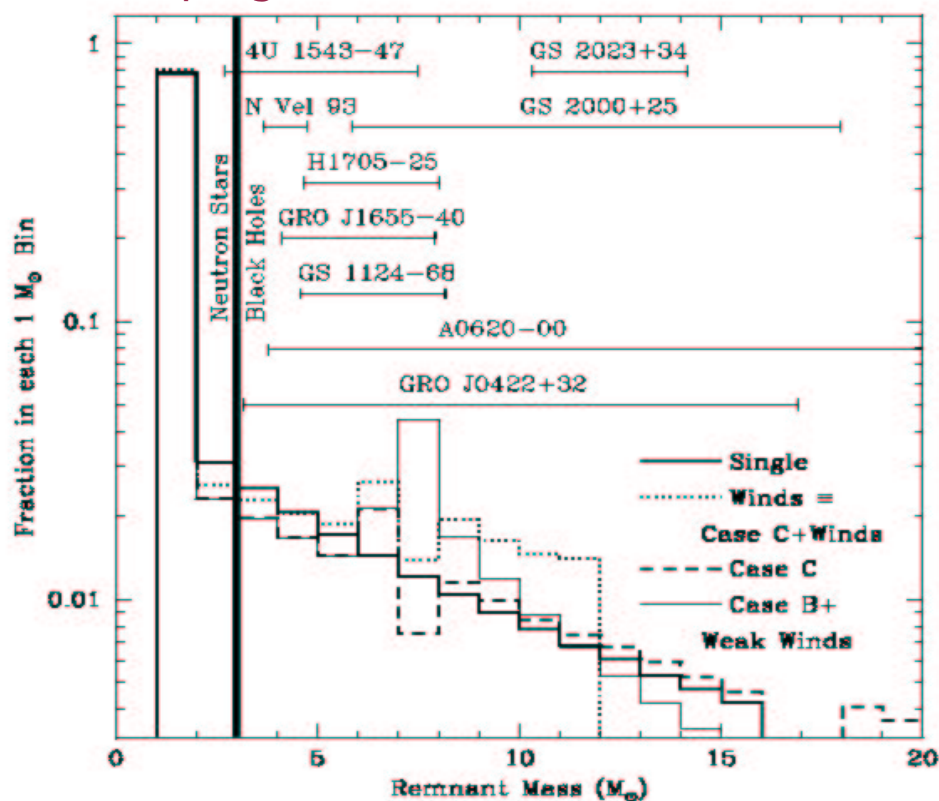
## Maximum BH mass ?

V404 Cyg :  $10-14 M_{\odot}$   
 1915+105 :  $14 \pm 4 M_{\odot}$

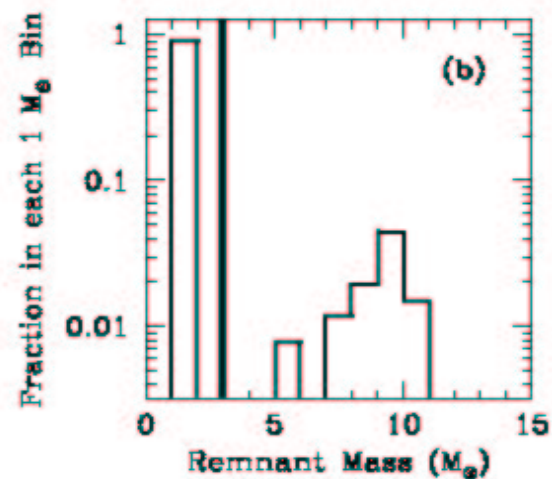


# Black Hole mass distributions "in theory": continuous and roughly flat when effects of stellar winds and binary evolution are included

with current understanding of  
 the dependence of SN explosion energy  
 on progenitor mass



with an artificially induced step  
 in the dependence of SN energy  
 on progenitor mass

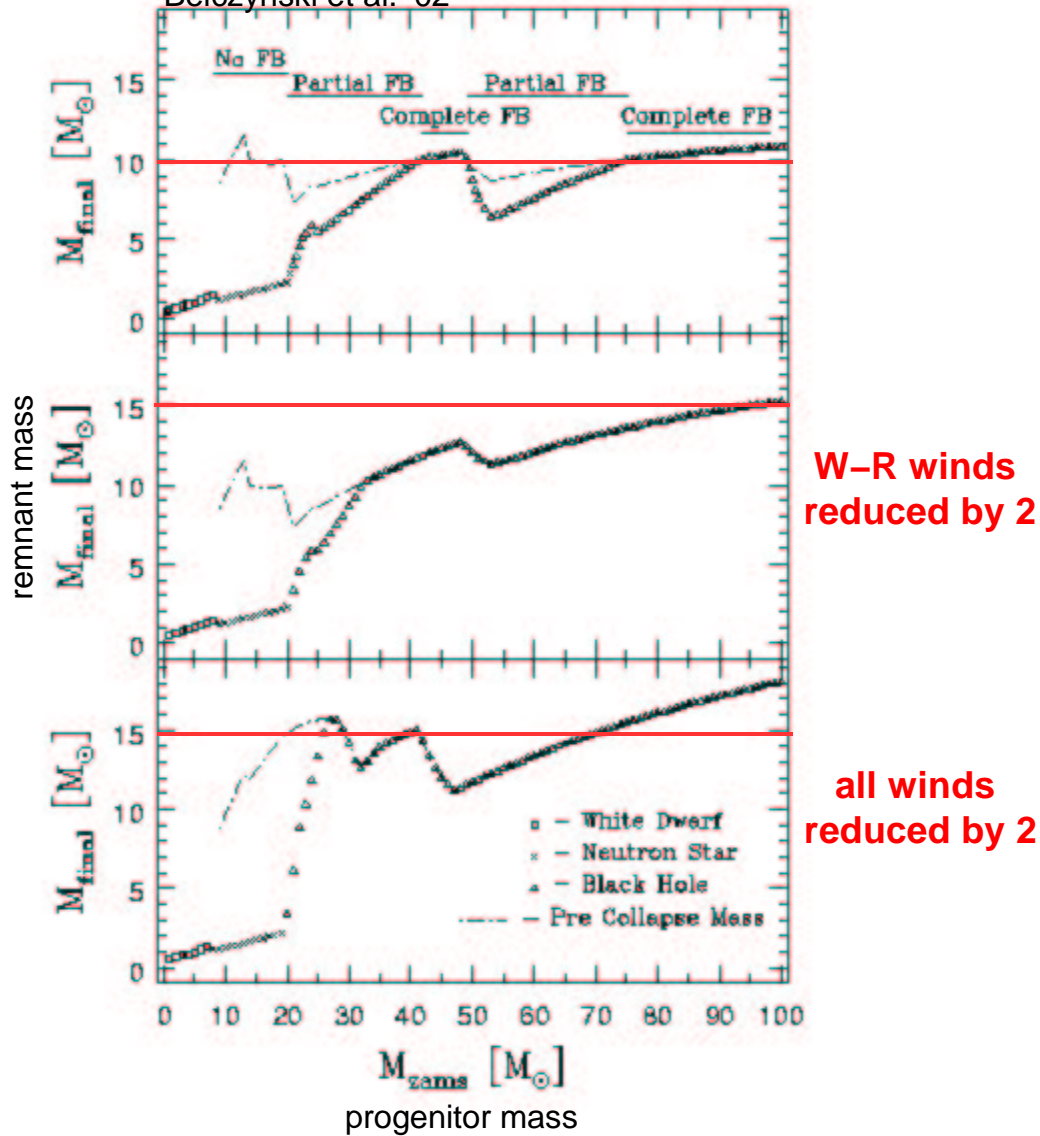


Fryer & Kalogera '01

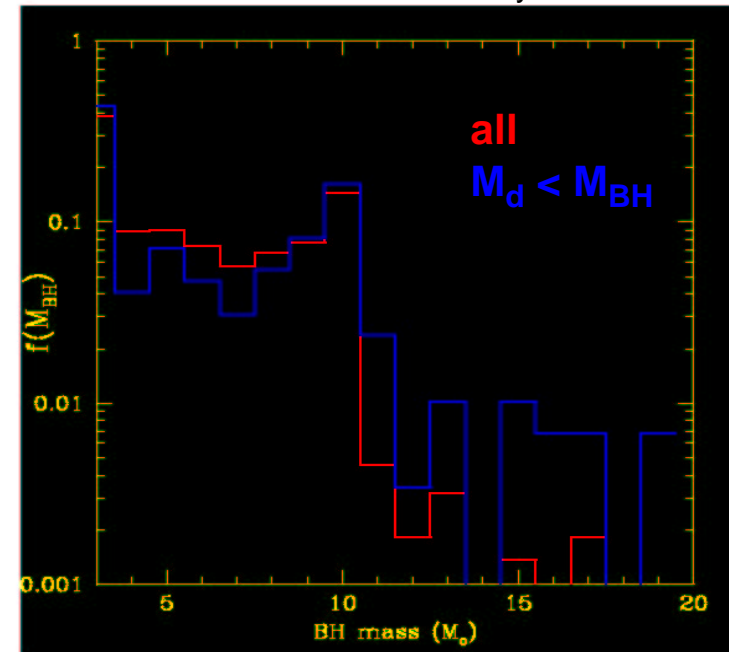
# Maximum BH mass

from single-star evolution:

Belczynski et al. '02



Belczynski & VK '02



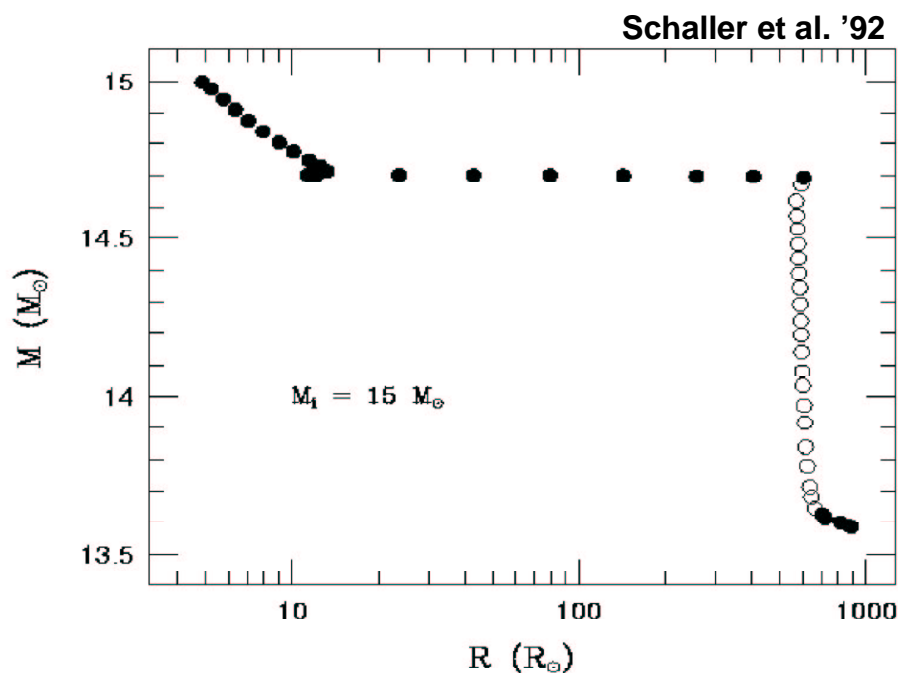
BH masses in X-ray binaries  
at the onset of mass transfer

massive BH more common  
among BH-LMXB ?

# Determination of BH mass distributions:

- Progenitor - remnant mass relationship  
SN mechanism  
mass loss (Fryer et al. '02)  
angular momentum
- Timing of common- envelope episode  
and He- core exposure  
before or after core He burning ?  
(case B) (case C)
- Strength of stellar winds

## Case B or Case C mass transfer ?



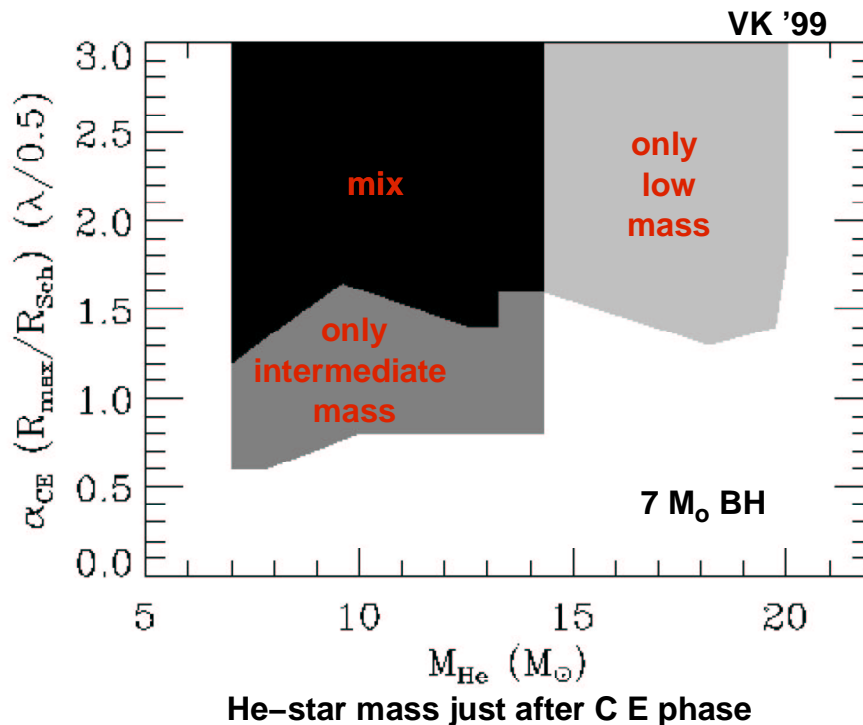
- ➡  $M > 25-30M_{\odot}$  : no radial expansion after core He burning
- ➡ Case B: He core masses smaller
- ➡ Case B: CE survival more difficult > high CE efficiencies
- ➡ Case B: He-star winds important > weak winds

see Portegies Zwart et al. 97; Ergma & vdHeuvel 98; VK 99; Nelemans & vdHeuvel 01

# BH Companions and Orbital Periods

Three years ago

SXT majority: low-mass donors < 1–2  $M_{\odot}$   
short orbital period < 1 day



If this is representative of the true population:

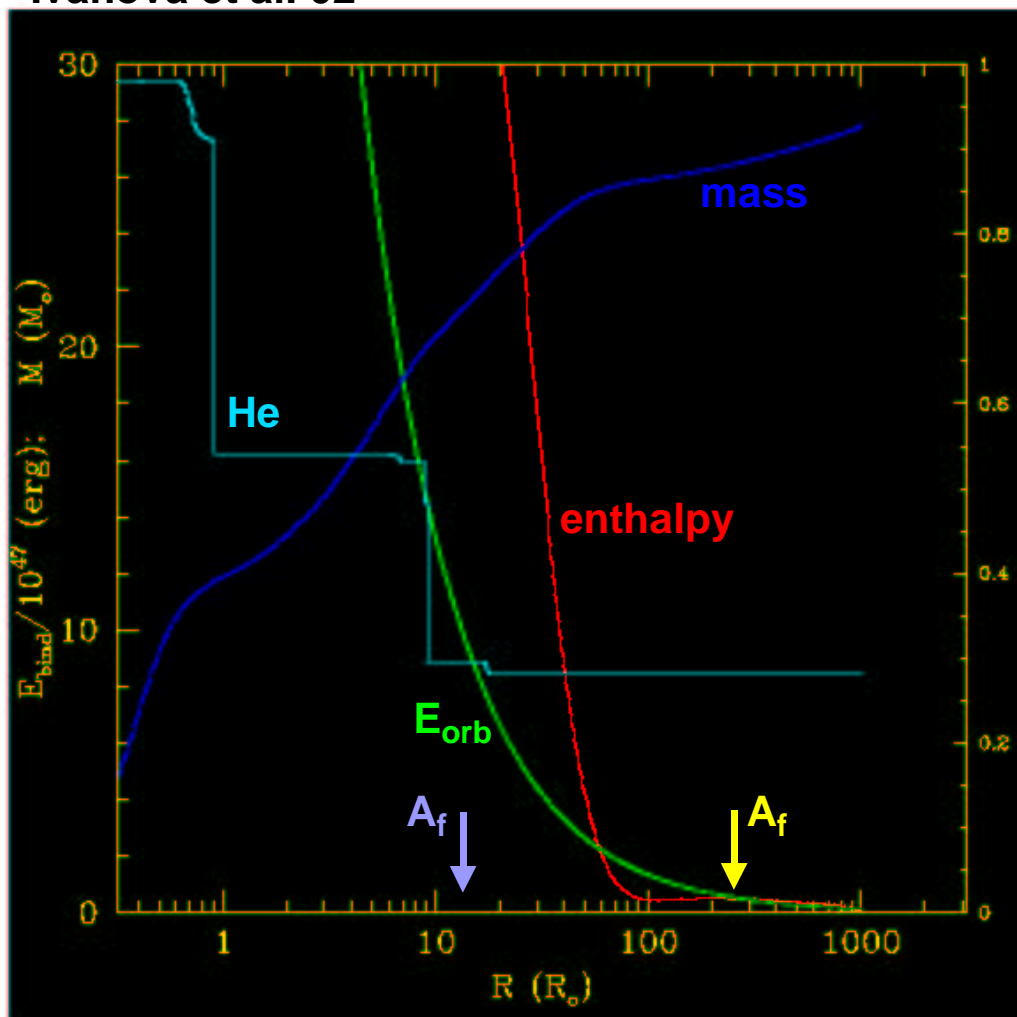
- limited mass loss in winds and BH formation (< 50%)
- high CE efficiency ( $a\lambda \sim 1$ )

**BUT ...**



## Common Envelope Outcome

Ivanova et al. 02



$$\alpha_{\text{CE}}(E_{\text{orb},f} - E_{\text{orb},i}) = - \frac{G M_p M_e}{R}$$

**Stellar structure models are needed even with the 'simple' energy balance argument**

# BH Companions and Orbital Periods

**'Missing' population:**  
except V4641 Sgr!

higher donor masses  
short orbital periods

and longer orbital periods



evolutionary link

**Q:** are they formed or not ?  
how do they evolve ?  
are they transients ?

? BH kicks ?

**BH formation: symmetric** → **asymmetric**  
**direct** → **SN + fallback**

- White & van Paradijs '98: space distribution of BH XRBs  
**no or very small kicks**
- Podsiadlowski et al. '99: GRO J1655–25 radial velocity  
Fryer & VK '02: **small kicks necessary**
- Nelemans et al. '00: reanalysis of radial velocities  
**marginal agreement without kicks**

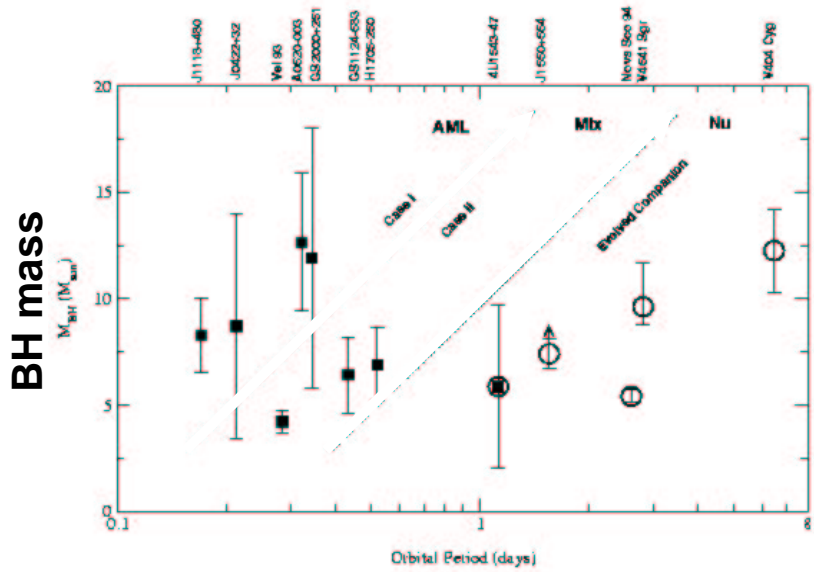
→ **XTE J1118+480** Mirabel et al. '01  
orbital dynamics reconstruction possible  
peculiar orbit > motion in the Galactic potential

- sample of **proper motion measurements**
- kicks: necessary or not ?
  - BH kick magnitude relative to NS kicks
  - kick – BH mass correlation ?

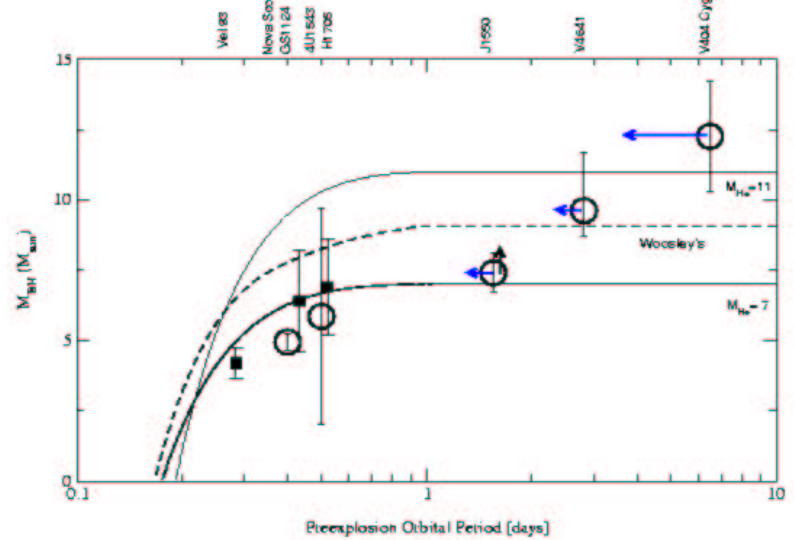
# BH Masses and Orbital Periods

? correlation ? effects of angular momentum ?

Lee et al. '01



Observed orbital period



Orbital period before BH formation

## reconstruction:

- pre-collapse orbit
- mass transfer
- magnetic braking
- tidal coupling of high-mass helium stars

hard to tell ...

## How about the next three years ?

account for *XRB evolution* to use *observed systems* to understand *BH XRB formation*

- mass transfer calculations for black hole binaries
  - dynamical evolution in the Galactic potential
  - detailed treatment of the CE phase
- 
- can a gap at low BH masses be induced by mass transfer?
  - what are the relative lifetimes of persistent and transient emission phases for various initial binary properties?
  - are BH kicks necessary to explain the observed kinematic properties?