

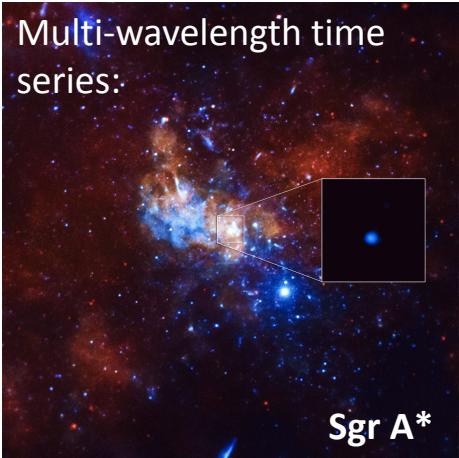
# SMBH Binaries: Observations II

Chengcheng Xin (Columbia) & Daryl Haggard (McGill)

# Daryl Haggard (McGill University)

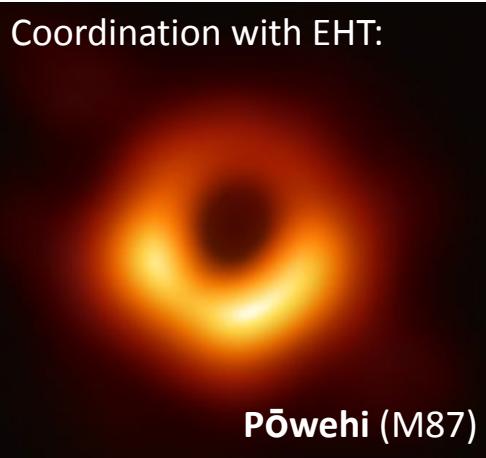


Multi-wavelength time series:



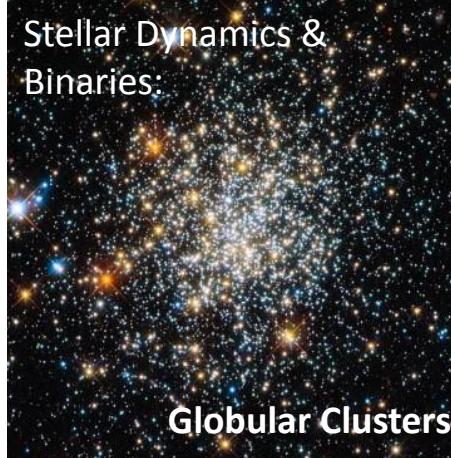
Sgr A\*

Coordination with EHT:



Pōwehi (M87)

Stellar Dynamics & Binaries:



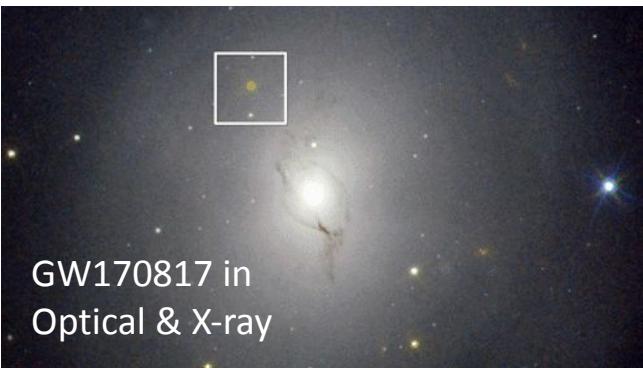
Globular Clusters

I work on... observations of black holes (and neutron stars) w/ time domain, multi-wavelength and multi-messenger obs

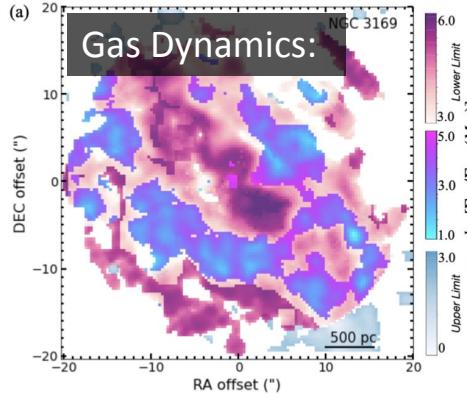
At KITP I want to... study variability signatures of accretion in BH binaries and how we combine EM and GW to learn more

Curious to here more... prospects for binary black hole detection and characterization with ngEHT and ngVLA

GW170817 in Optical & X-ray

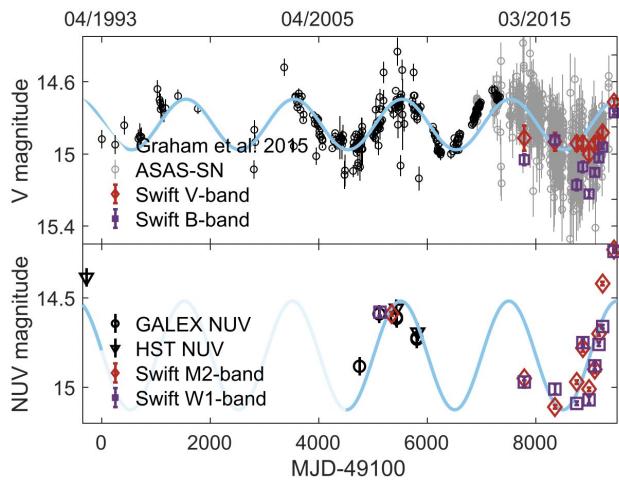


+ GW, of course!

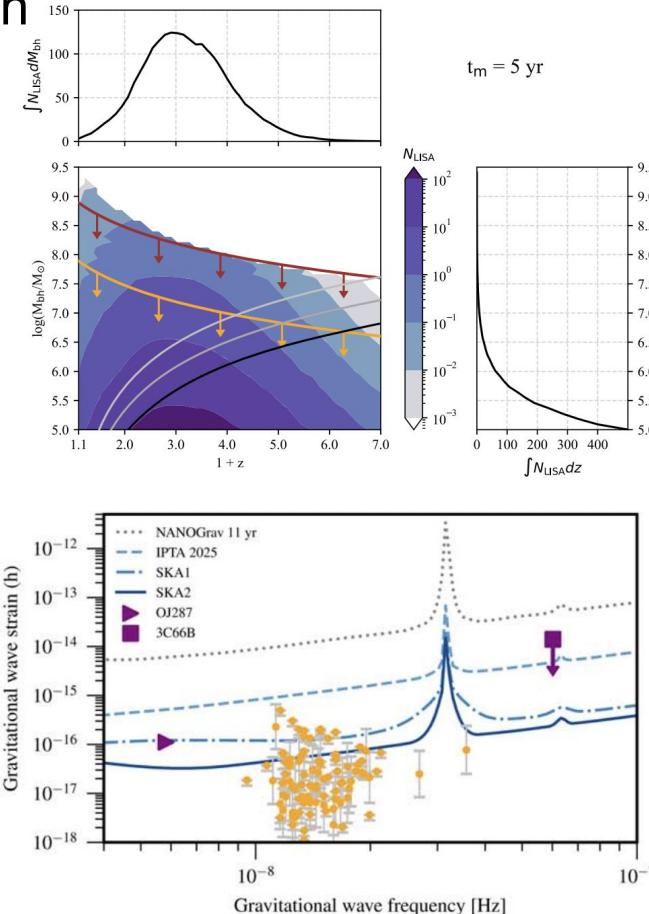


# Chengcheng Xin (Columbia)

PhD advisor: Zoltan Haiman



**PG1302-102** (Graham+2015,  
D'Orazio+2015, Charisi+2017,  
Xin+2020)



Previously..

- UV/Optical Variability of quasars
- SMBH binary candidate – PG1302-102
- PTA constraints on SMBHB candidates (traced by periodic light curves)
- LSST SMBH binary candidates as verification binaries in LISA

Coming soon,

- Dissecting Z-dependent microphysics of massive star radii

# Open Questions: SMBH Observations

1. How well can we pin down the masses (and mass ratios) for SMBH binary candidates? How much uncertainty does this introduce to our models?
  - a. Reverberation mapping
  - b. Width spectral line
  - c. Gravitational wave observations
  - d. Mbh-Mbulge, M-sigma
  - e. Etc. (?)
2. What other parameters are key src of uncertainty (period, separation, selection bias ...)?
3. How comparable (or not) are the sensitivities of different GW instruments (e.g., PTA, LIGO, LISA), in terms of SNR?
4. What do we do with all of the different EM markers for SMBHB candidates? What are the false signals for each?
  - a. Astrometry → confusion, variability on larger scales, precessing disk features
  - b. Emission lines → orbiting disk instabilities, clumps or features in the disk
  - c. Jets → binarity vs. remnants from precession
  - d. Light curve periodicity → QSO variability/damped random walks, red noise, TDE flares
  - e. (Micro)lensing
  - f. Transits
  - g. Fe K-alpha “radial velocity” (+line shapes and variability)

# SMBH Binary Candidates

- **Table/database** of current SMBHB candidates
- Started a spreadsheet (please add your favorites and/or fill out properties); could be converted to searchable table
- Sarah Burke-Spolaoor may have a table in progress (or maybe you do?)
- *Your contributions welcome!!*

Direct methods:														Name
Resolved imaging (radio)														B3 0402+379
Spectroscopic binaries														SDSSJ1430+2303 (Tik Tok)
BLR velocity shifts														QSO J0854+2006 (OJ 287)
Periodicity/variability														PKS 2131-021
AGN flaring														3C 75
microlensing														COSMOS J100043+020637
transits														NGC 6240
FeKalpha 'radial velocity'														SDSS J1502+115
Indirect methods:														PG1302-102 (candidate)
QSO populations														KIC 11606854 (Spikey; cand)
Dual AGN														3C66B (candidate)
Galaxy mergers														

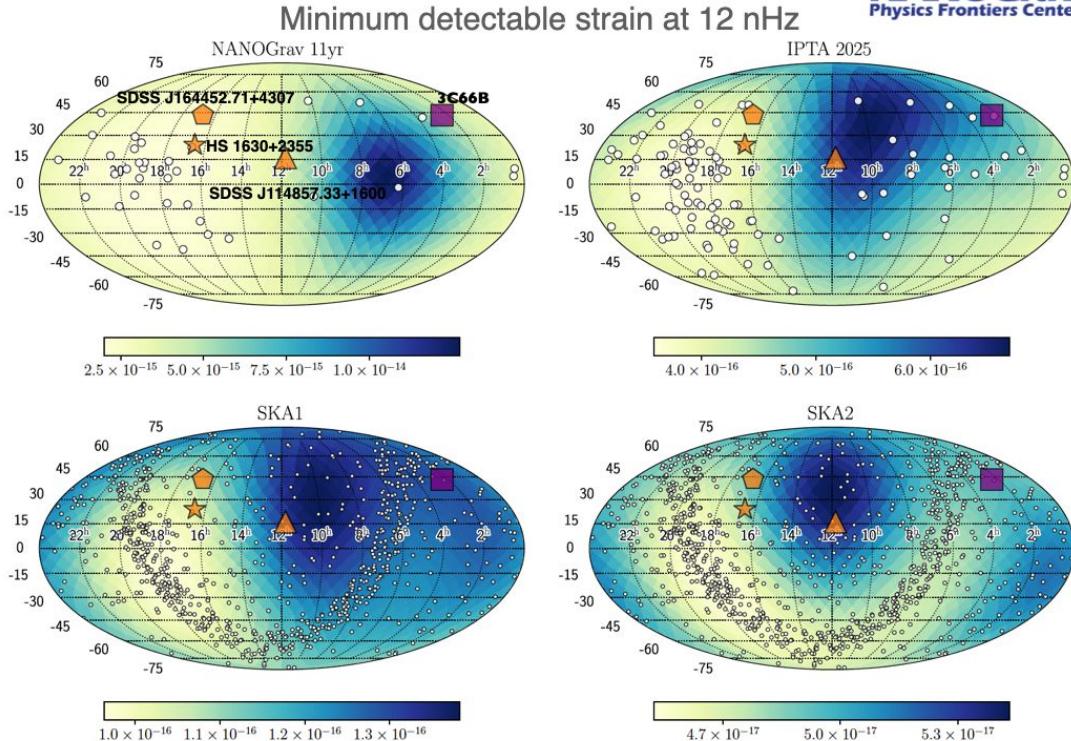
Name	Discovery	Host Type/ Name	R.A.	Dec.	z	$\log M$ [Msun]	Period	q	$\epsilon$	Messenger/ Wavelengths	Claimed Binary Signature(s)	Proj Sep	Conf.	Citation
B3 0402+379	2011	Radio AGN	04:05:49.26	+38:03:32.2	0.0545					radio VLBI	resolved cores, per 7.3 pc	high	Rodriguez+2006; Burke-Spolaoor+2011, Bansal+2017	
SDSSJ1430+2303 (Tik Tok)	2022	Seyfert 1	14:30:16.05	+23:03:44.4	0.081					optical/IR, X-ray	shrinking orbital period	low	<a href="#">arXiv:2201.11633</a>	
QSO J0854+2006 (OJ 287)	1960s	BL Lac	08:54:48.87	+20:06:30.6	0.306					0.7 multi-wavelength	periodicity (obs bac ~0.1 pc	high	numerous; e.g., <a href="#">arXiv:2112.05067</a> ; Sillanpaa et al. 1988; Valt et al. 2016; Dey et al. 2021 <a href="#">ApJ open access</a>	
PKS 2131-021		Blazar			1.285									Owen et al. 1985
3C 75										radio jets	7.2 kpc			
COSMOS J100043+020637	2009				0.36						BLR shift 1300 km/ 2.5 kpc			<a href="#">Comeford+09, Civano+10, Blecha+2013</a>
NGC 6240	2003													
SDSS J1502+115	2011													
PG1302-102 (candidate)	2015		13:05:33	-10:33:19	0.27	~8.3-9.4	5.2 yr	>0.3		Optical, UV, X(?)	periodicity (relativis ~0.009pc			Graham+2015b, D'Orazio+2015b, Xin+2020, etc.
KIC 11606854 (Spikey; cand)	2020				0.918	~7.5	418 d	~0.2	0.5		Doppler boost+self lensin			<a href="#">Hu+2020</a>
3C66B (candidate)	2021													Sudou+2003; Arzoumanian et al. 2020

WORK IN PROGRESS...

Contributor: ME + YOU!!!!

# Detection of individual supermassive black hole binaries

- Simulations show that SMBHB may be traced by periodic light curves (*Farris et al. 2014; Roedig et al. 2014; D'Orazio et al. 2016; and more!*).
- Huge MM efforts recently to identify SMBHB host galaxies (*Mingarelli et al. 2017; Sesana et al. 2018; Kelley et al. 2019; Arzoumanian et al. 2021, corr author M. Charisi*)
- Knowing sky location can improve strain by factor of 2, and frequency info improves strain by an OOM (*Arzoumanian et al. 2020, corr authors C. Witt; Aggarwal et al. 2019 corr. author S. Vigeland*)



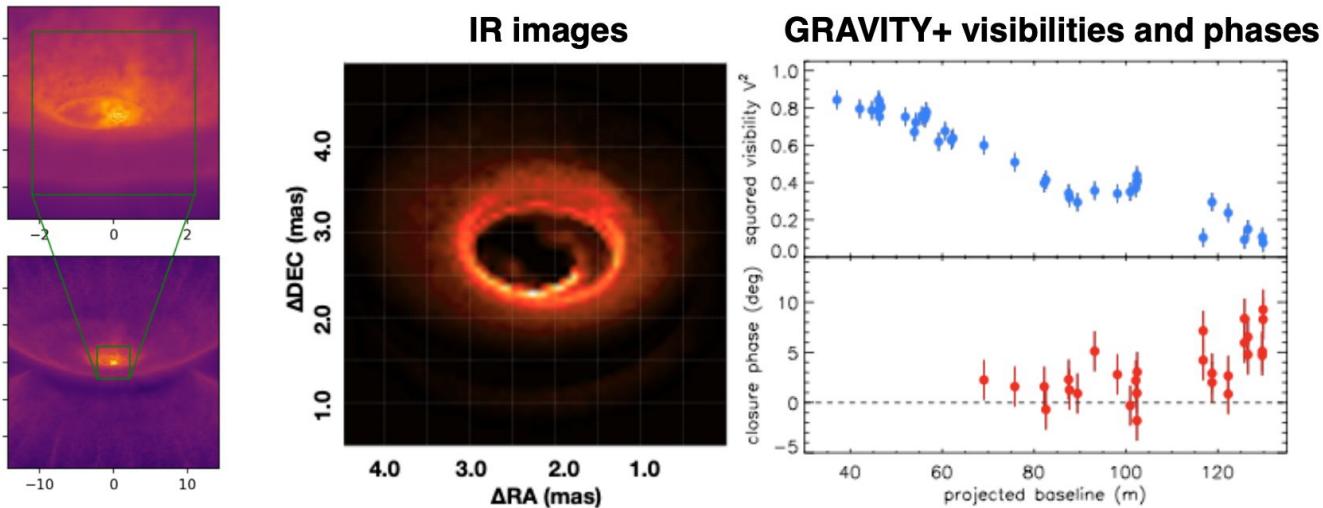
New pulsars with short timespans very useful!

Contributor: Chiara Mingarelli

Around **12** SMBHBs by the end of the decade — may induce anisotropy in GWB

Xin, Mingarelli, Hazboun (2021), pulsar population based on Keane et al. (2015)

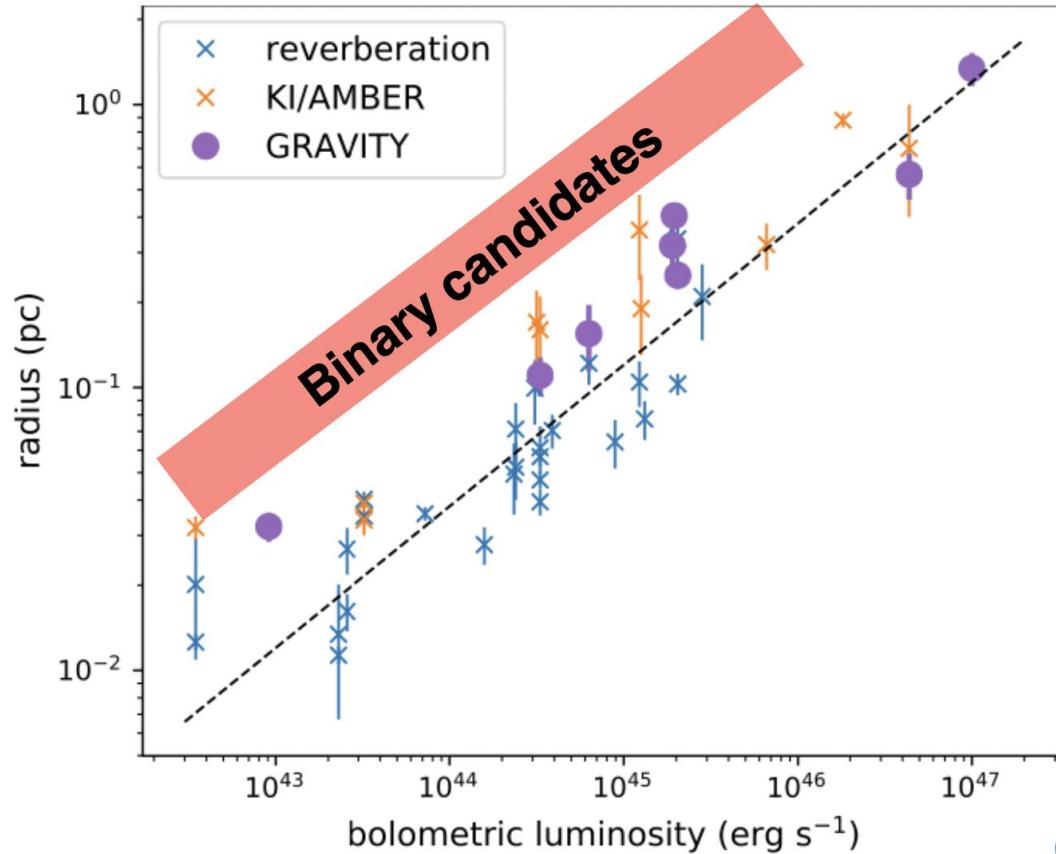
# Near-IR images and interferometry from 3D RHD



- Winds/structure **similar to single AGN on large scales** (10+ pc)
- Small scales: one (or 2) mini-torus + CBD emission
  - ▶ size **~8-10x sublimation radius** (visibilities)
  - ▶ “oddities” in the **near-IR SED** → hot-dust poor? to be nailed down
  - ▶ strong phase signal → may not be unique
- GRAVITY+ sensitivity: primarily **nearby universe ( $z \lesssim 0.15$ )**

**Contributor:** Sebastian Hoenig

# Candidate selection from size-luminosity relationship



cnrs



l'Observatoire  
de Paris

IPAG

OBSERVATOIRE  
DE LA CÔTE D'AZUR



Max-Planck-Institut für Astronomie

UNIVERSITÄT BONN



UNIVERSITY OF  
Southampton

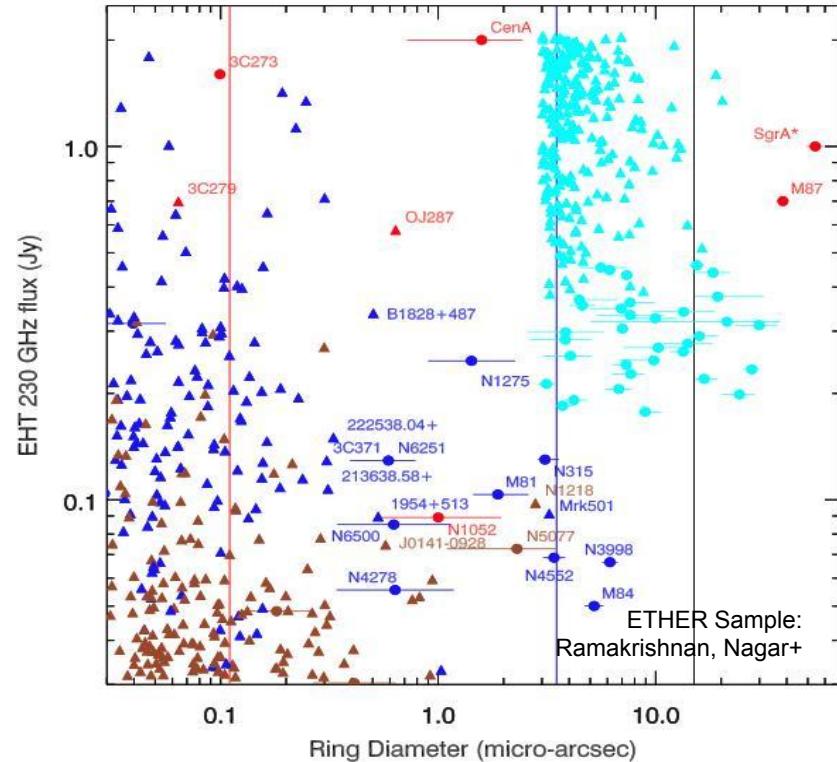
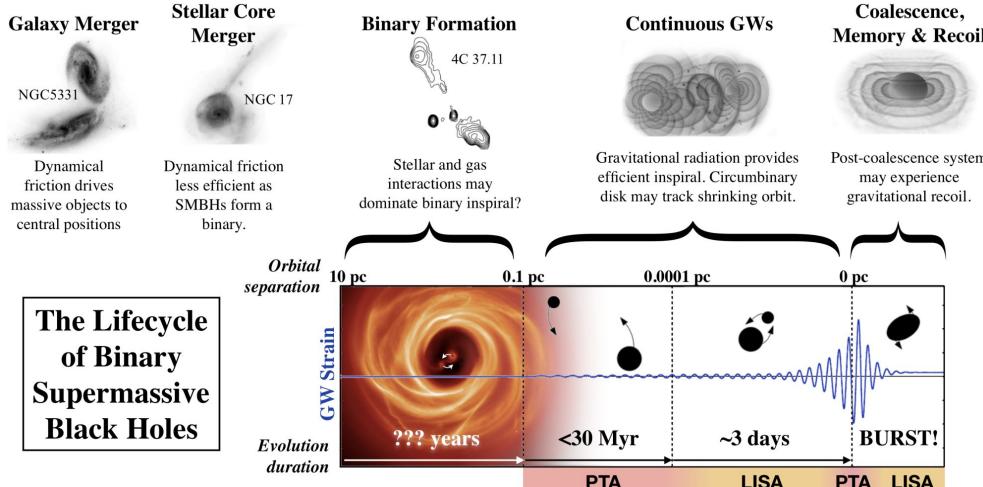


KU LEUVEN

Contributor: Sebastian Hoenig

# Resolving Massive BH Binaries

- **Final-parsec problem:** How do supermassive black hole binaries merge over cosmic time?
- Good fraction of ngEHT's SMBH binaries should emit **nano-Hz GWs**:  
**synergy with PTAs**  
NanoGRAV/EPTA/PPTA (& IPTA) and eventually **LISA** mission



Burke-Spoloar + (2019)

Slide Credit: ngEHT BH WG

Contributor: Daryl Haggard

# Limits on SMBHBs in Galaxies within 500Mpc **GW First**

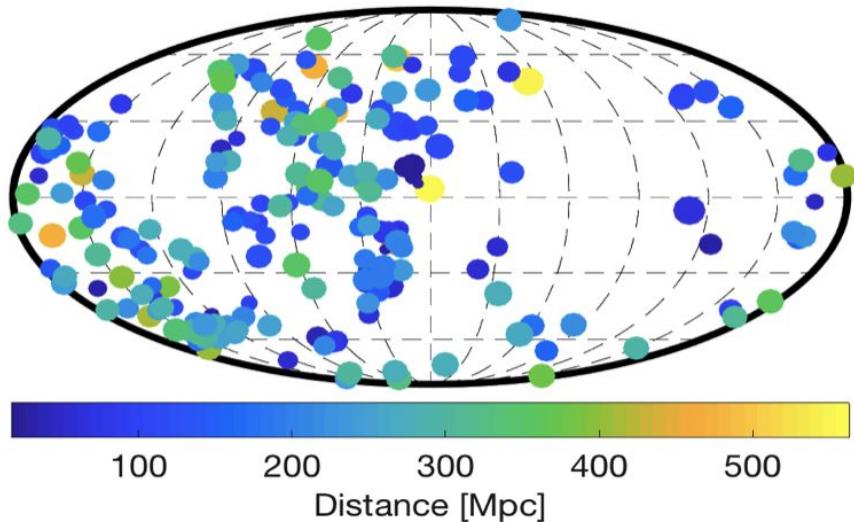
Contributor: Stephan Taylor



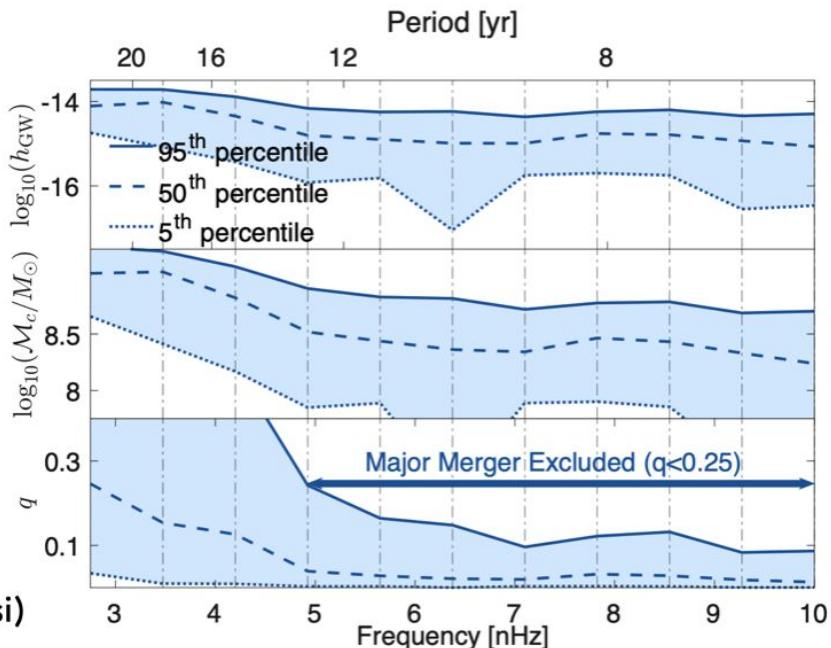
Dr. Maria Charisi

200 massive galaxies in the NANOGrav volume.

- $10^9 M_{\odot}$
- $3 \times 10^9 M_{\odot}$
- $6 \times 10^9 M_{\odot}$
- $10^{10} M_{\odot}$

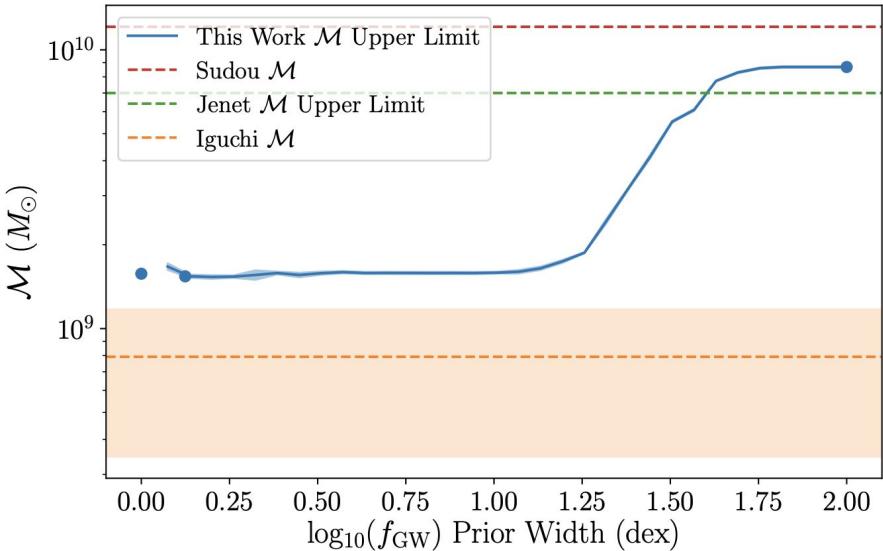


Constraints on mass ratio comparable to Milky Way.



## Multi-Messenger Gravitational Wave Searches with Pulsar Timing Arrays: Application to 3C66B Using the NANOGrav 11-year Data Set

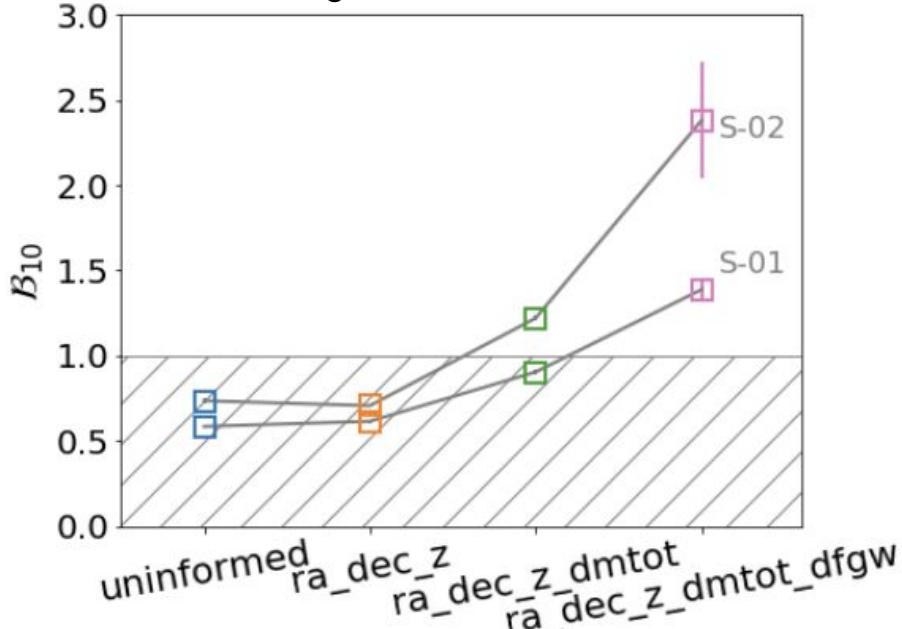
Arzoumanian et al. (2021) [led by Caitlin Witt],  
arXiv:2005.07123



Period and sky-location constraints really help. ***But which period are we seeing in the light-curve?***

## MM Approaches to SMBHB Detection and Parameter Estimation: Implications for Nanohertz GW Searches with PTAs

Liu & Vigeland, arXiv:2105.08087



Exploring detection and PE improvements across the binary parameter space.

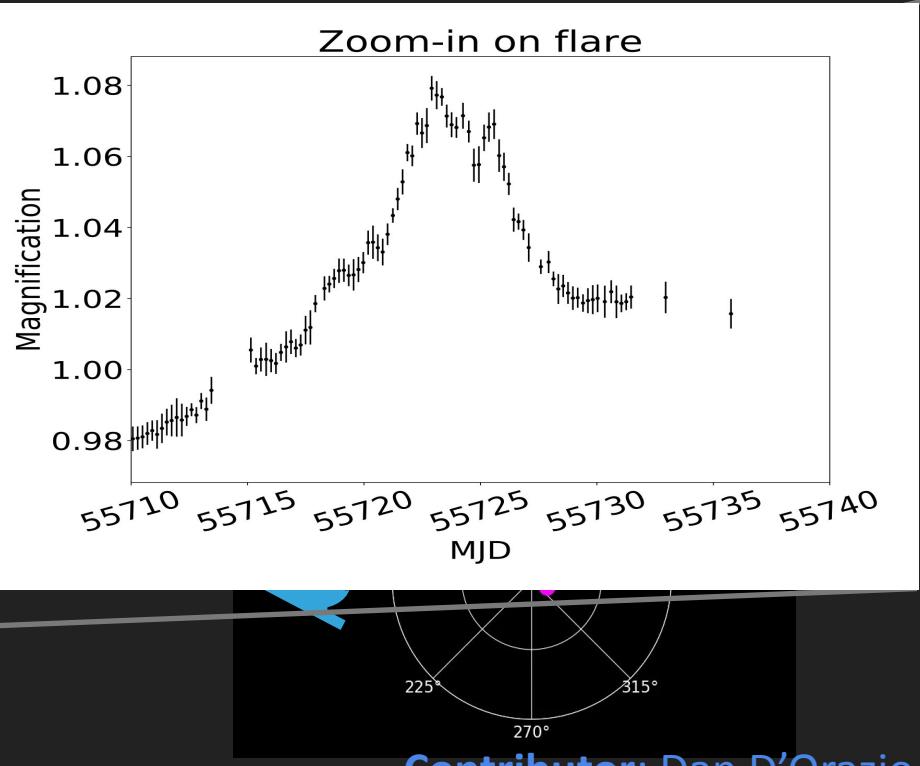
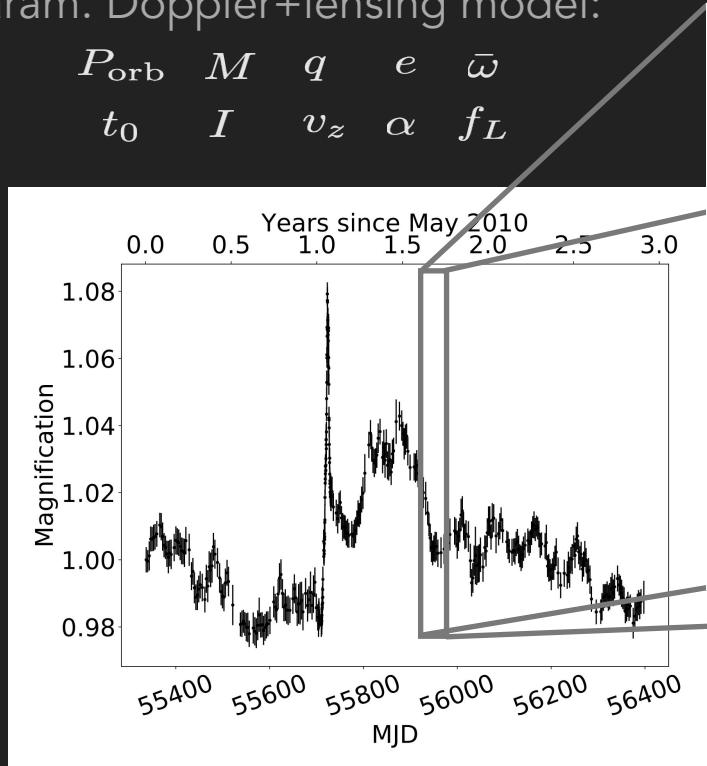
Contributor: Stephan Taylor

# SPIKEY: SELF-LENSING CANDIDATE

Spikey: Kepler identified AGN at  $z=0.918$  (Smith, K.+2018)

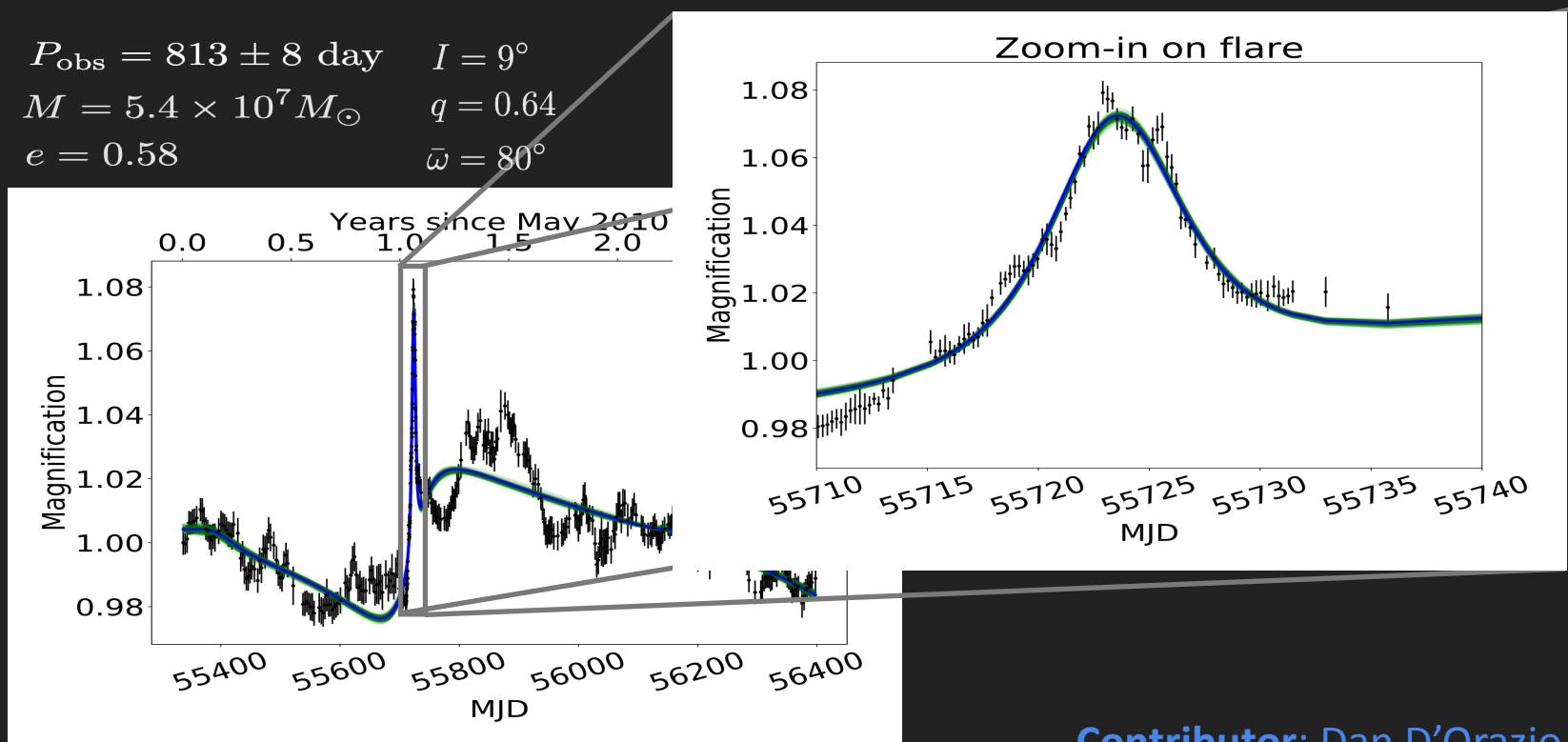
10 param. Doppler+lensing model:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} P_{\text{orb}} & M & q & e & \bar{\omega} \\ t_0 & I & v_z & \alpha & f_L \end{array}$$

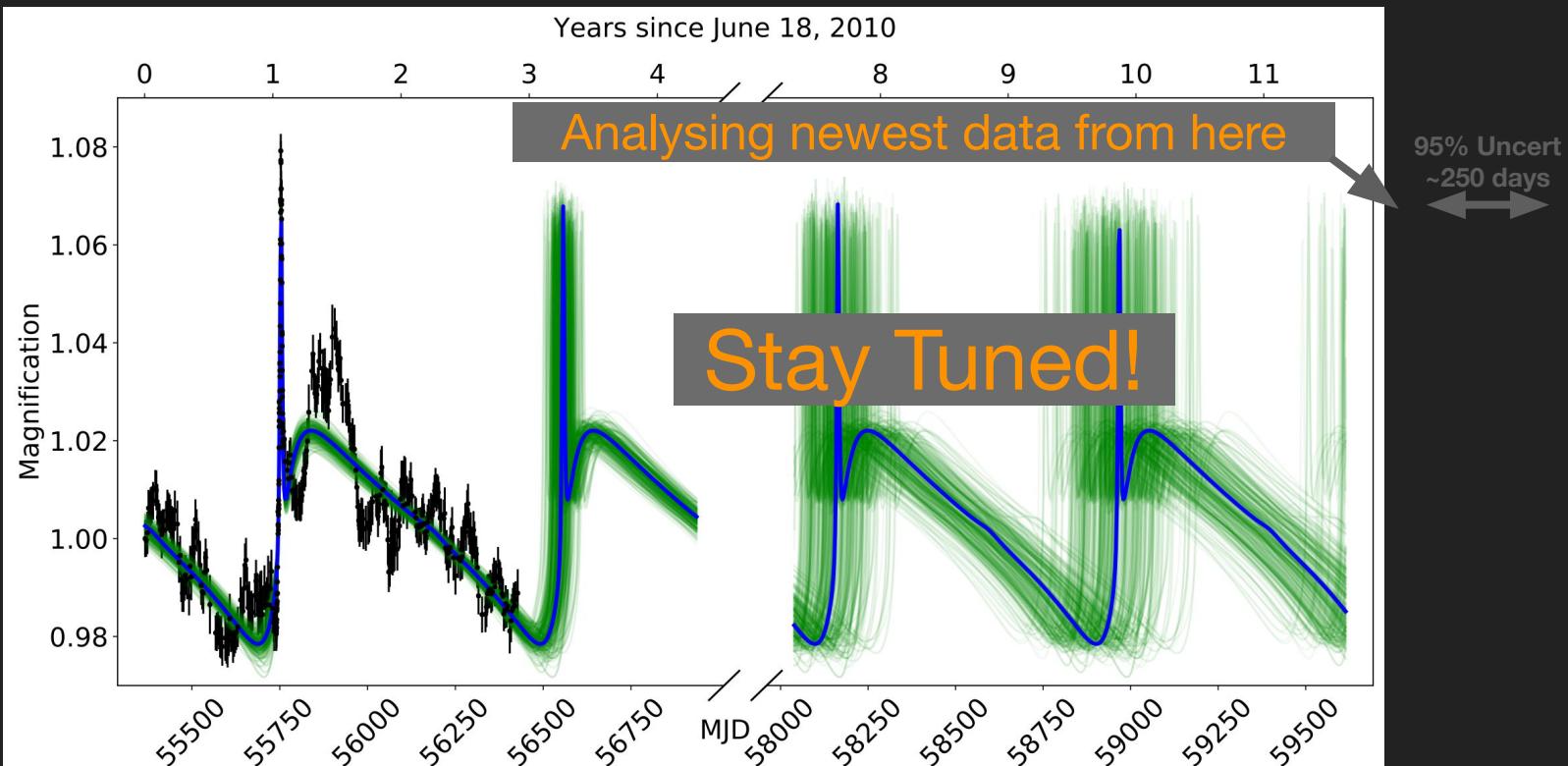


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Contributor: Dan D'Orazio

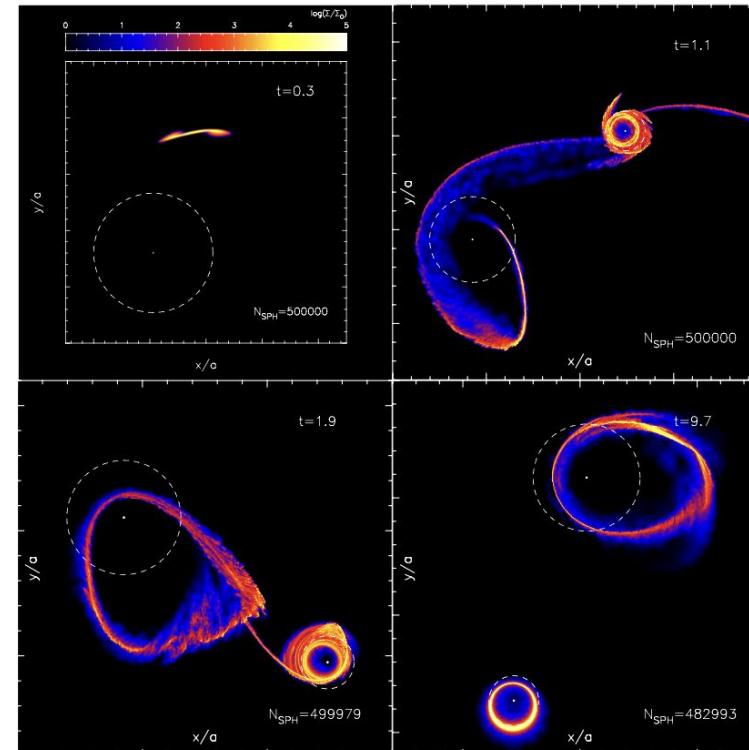
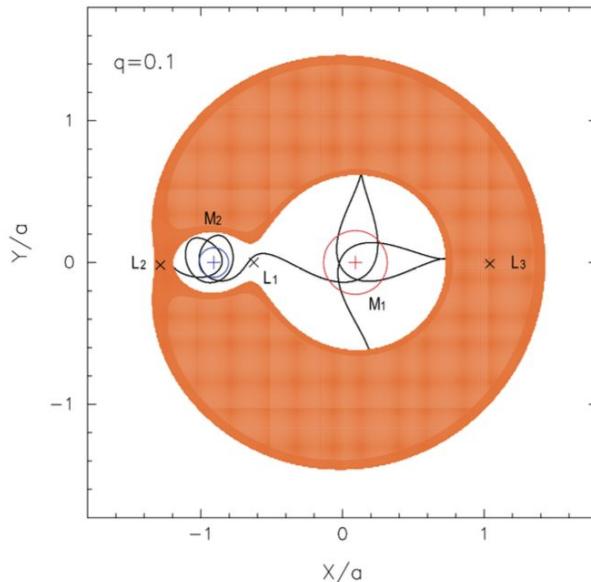
# Tidal disruption of a star by SMBH binaries

Hayasaki & Loeb (2016)

Contributor: Kimi Hayasaki

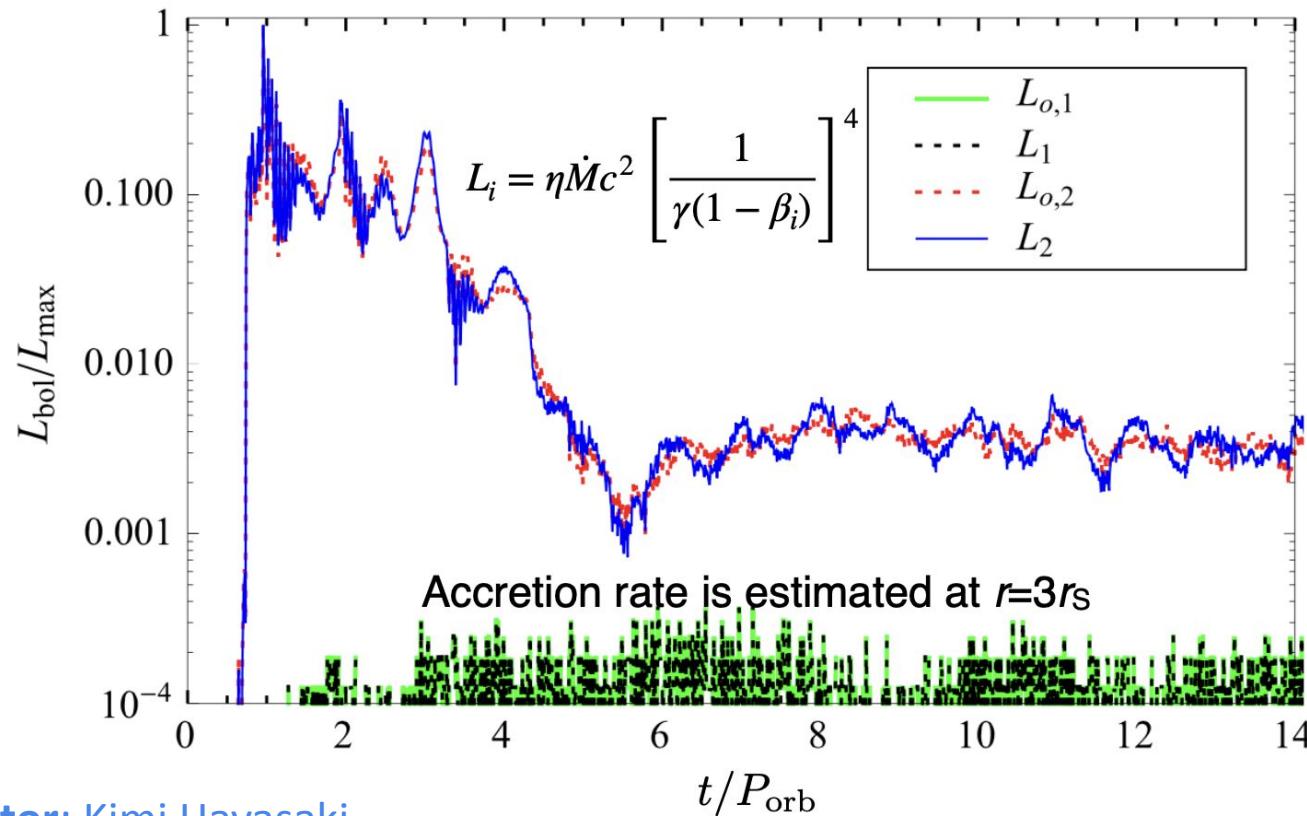
SPH simulation

Test particle simulation



$$m_* = 1M_\odot, r_* = 1R_\odot, M_{\text{BH}} = 10^6M_\odot, a = 100r_S, \text{ and } q = 0.1$$

# Doppler-boosted periodic light curves



Contributor: Kimi Hayasaki

The secondary's luminosity ( $\dot{M}$ ) is much larger