



Black-hole binaries

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OUTLINE

- Lecture I: Accretion onto compact objects, X-ray binaries, black hole candidates, X-ray pulsars
- Lecture II: High-energy emission and spectra
- Lecture III: Time variability on all scales
- Lecture IV: Radio emission, jets, accretion/ejection
- Lecture V: BH parameters & GR, AGN connection
- Lecture VI: Neutron-Star binaries + ULX + more

The full picture



GR in strong field



XRB

IMBH

AGN

Over the Horizon



GRAVITY FROM EXPERIMENTS

Strong fields •Mergers, GRBs Accreting binaries •BH formation New missions ahead •LIGO/Virgo Extremely weak fields Laboratory ~ Cosmology: Λ **STRONG CURVATURES** STRONG WEAK CURVATURES Weak fields **WANY** •NGO/LISA •Galactic center, M87 •SKA ms radio pulsar ATTA Solar system •Event horizon telescope @ Sgr A* •Binary ms pulsars



CHARACTERISTIC TIME SCALES



500 Hz

GR + OBJECT

- Neutron stars: spin frequency
- Keplerian frequency
- Relativistic precessions:
 - Periastron precession
 - Lense-Thirring precession





1200 Hz



STRONG GRAVITY

1200 Hz 500 Hz

 Keplerian frequency 	Innermost Stable Circular Orbit (ISCO) - <i>Black hole spin</i> Timing and spectral approach
 Periastron precession 100-700 Hz 	Weak limit: Mercury, Double Pulsar Need timing
Lense-Thirring precession 1-50 Hz	Weak limit: Gravity Probe B Need timing

TIME SCALES: EXAMPLE



Double pulsar psrj0737-3039A/B

Clean environment

Not so extreme







- Weight Evidence of BH
- Mass function is indirect
- # Empirical methods:

- Weight Evidence of BH
- Mass function is indirect
- Empirical methods:
 - Ultra-soft spectrum



White & Marshall (1984)

counts/s-keV

sigma

- Weight Evidence of BH
- Mass function is indirect
- Empirical methods:
 - 🗙 Ultra-soft spectrum
 - Hard spectral tails



- Weight Evidence of BH
- Mass function is indirect
- # Empirical methods:
 - 🗙 Ultra-soft spectrum
 - X Hard spectral tails
 - X Strong BLN noise





Reason is evident

- Systems are not that different
- We need a more physical approach

- Presence of a surface
- Inner disk radius



Reason is evident

Disk-blackbody model Early attempts Problems: Model shape Full spectrum Data



Inner disk radius

- Disk-blackbody model: $F_{\nu} = \frac{4\pi h \cos i\nu^3}{c^2 D^2} \int_{R_{\star}}^{R_{out}} \frac{R dR}{e^{h\nu/kT(R)} 1}$ Inner disk: $N = \frac{r_{in}^2}{D^2} \cos \theta$
- Meed precise model

$$f = \left[1 - \left(\frac{R_{\star}}{R}\right)^{1/2}\right]^{1/4}$$

- Meed precise temperature (hardening factor)
- Meed knowledge of absorption

Spin Mass of the black hole

- A black hole has only two parameters
- Accept dynamical masses
- Go for the second (more elusive and interesting) parameter
- Black-hole binaries / black-hole candidates

Spin I: continuum spectra

- If you know your model..
- ...you can do it
- M But:
 - Do you know your model?
 - Instrument? N_H?
 - Complete model?



Spin II: iron lines

- Marrow lines expected
- Relativistic distortions:
 - Doppler effect
 - Relativistic aberration
 - light bending
 - redshift





Spin II: iron lines

- Broad line expected
- Broadening can be used

- Relativistic effects
- GR evidence

(Fifth lecture) now



Spin II: iron lines

- Inclination of disk
- Blue wing
- Red wing

The blue wing gives you the inclination



- Inner disk radius
- Blue wing
- Red wing

- The red wing gives the inner radius
- Again: continuum effects



Fabian (2002)

Tricky points

- Ratio plots
- These are "not" lines





Examples

- Cygnus X-1
- Narrow lines: reflection in outer disk
- Broad line
- Consistent with $\theta \sim 40^\circ R_{in} = 7R_g$



Also consistent with Gaussian

Examples

- XTE J1650-500
 Very broad skewed line

 $R_{in} = 1.24 R_g$

I a = 0.998



Iron-line & timing

In GRS 1915+105: line varies with oscillation

Miller & Homan (2005)

Flux & equiv. width vary





Light bending

- In some AGN, line & continuum vary independently
- Light is bent
- Variable height
- Seen in XTE J1650-500?



MINIUTTI & FABIAN (2004)

Spin III: timing features

- What do all these QPOs and noises mean?
- We are not sure
- In NS, highest frequency: Keplerian?
- A Lower frequencies?

- Inified models needed from correlations
- MS connection

A "model"

Take a test particle in a field







Periastron Precession Frequency: Vper



Nodal Precession Frequency: Vnod (or 2Vnod)







White dwarfs again



Some caveats

CVs?

- Blobs as test particles? Q problem
- Excitation mechanism?
- More advanced model required:
 - Disk annulus response
 - Wortices in the viscous disk



Psaltis & Norman (2000)

Vietri (2001)

Other models

- Disk oscillations and trapped modes
- Disk warping (nodal precession)
- Parametric epicyclic resonance
- Titarchuk's model within sub-keplerian region

- All relate to GR frequencies
- Strong regime!

HFQPO and resonances

Abramowicz & Kluzniak (2001)

- 2:3 ratios, fixed frequencies
- Resonance between orbital and epicyclic frequencies
- It could work...
- … but not for neutron stars
- Which should not be a problem



GRS 1915+105

Belloni & Altamirano (2012)





GRO J1655-40: UNIQUE SOURCE

Only source which shows simultaneous type-C and 2xHFQPO



MODELS CAN BE TESTED

- The Relativistic Precession Model (RPM) predicts three frequencies
- Relativistic frequencies: keplerian, nodal, Lense-Thirring
- We have three frequencies





STELLA & VIETRI 1998; STELLA, VIETRI & MORSINK 1999

THREE EQUATIONS

$$\nu_{\phi} = \pm \frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\frac{M}{r^{3}}\right)^{1/2} \frac{1}{1 \pm a \left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{3/2}}$$

$$\nu_{per} = v_{\phi} \left(1 - \left(1 - \frac{6M}{r} - 3a^{2} \left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{2} \pm 8a \left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{3/2}\right)^{1/2}\right)$$

$$\nu_{nod} = v_{\phi} \left(1 - \left(1 + 3a^{2} \left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{2} \mp 4a \left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{3/2}\right)^{1/2}\right)$$

We have the three frequencies, we can solve for *a,M,r*

MOTTA, BELLONI ET AL. (2014A)

THREE EQUATIONS

$$\nu_{\phi} = \pm \frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\frac{M}{r^{3}}\right)^{1/2} \frac{1}{1 \pm a \left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{3/2}}$$

$$\nu_{per} = v_{\phi} \left(1 - \left(1 - \frac{6M}{r} - 3a^{2} \left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{2} \pm 8a \left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{3/2}\right)^{1/2}\right)$$

$$\nu_{nod} = v_{\phi} \left(1 - \left(1 + 3a^{2} \left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{2} \mp 4a \left(\frac{M}{r}\right)^{3/2}\right)^{1/2}\right)$$
(7)



ISCO AND MAXIMUM FREQUENCIES

$$r_{\rm ISCO} = M \left(3 + Z_2 \mp \left((3 - Z_1) \left(3 + Z_1 + 2Z_2 \right) \right)^{1/2} \right)$$

$$Z_1 = 1 + \left(1 - \frac{a^2}{r_g} \right)^{1/3} \left(\left(1 + \frac{a}{r_g} \right)^{1/3} + \left(1 - \frac{a}{r_g} \right)^{1/3} \right)$$

$$Z_2 = \left(\frac{3a^2}{r_g} + Z_1^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

$$R_{ISCO} = 5.03 R_{g}$$

- No frequencies above maximum values
- Few HFQPO, ~same frequency
- Lots of type-C QPO 0.1-28 Hz

ISCO AND MAXIMUM FREQUENCIES



MOTTA, BELLONI ET AL. (2014A)

NOISE FREQUENCIES FIT IN



QPO WIDTH

- QPOs from the same radius
- Width due to radius jitter?
- We can jitter the radius: 1.74-2.4% is sufficient

QPO type	simulated width $(\Delta \nu)$ [Hz]	Observed width $[Hz]$
Type-C QPO	2.11 - 2.90	2.1 - 4.2
Upper HFQPO	41.58 - 57.66	21.54 - 57.70
Lower HFQPO	26.77 - 36.83	24.06 - 37.74

MOTTA, BELLONI ET AL. (2014A)

SPIN COMPARISON

- Our value: a = 0.29 + 0.01 Motta, Belloni et al. (2013)
- Continuum: a = 0.65 0.75 SHAFEE ET AL. (2006)
- Refl.+Cont: a = 0.94-0.98 MILLER ET AL. (2009)
- Reflection: a > 0.9

MILLER ET AL. (2009)

SOURCE #2 + MODEL

- GRO J1655-40 was the only source with 3 peaks (plus mass to check
- XTE J1550-564 has two peaks (type-C + HFQPO): plus dynamical mass we have again three parameters
- Use the mass instead of deriving it

XTE J1550-564: THE NEXT BEST It shows simultaneous type-C and 1xHFQPO



MOTTA ET AL. (2014B)

THREE EQUATIONS



MOTTA ET AL. (2014B)

ISCO AND NOISE



QPO WIDTH

• We can jitter the radius: 5.3=5.7% is sufficient

OTHER MEASUREMENTS

- Our value: a = 0.34 + 0.01 MOTTA ET AL. (2014B)
- Refl.+Cont: a = 0.49 (-0.20+0.13) STEINER ET AL. (2012)

INCLINATION EFFECTS

If a relativistic effect in the disk, dependence expected



MOTTA ET AL. (2015)

INCLINATION EFFECTS

- Type-C QPO: stronger at high inclinations: disk+GR
- Type-B QPO: stronger at low inclinations: jet
- Noise: no (weak) dependence: propagation in the disk

Radii, radii, radii...

- Continuum spectra
- Broadened mission lines
- Timing features
- Compton reflection / light bending

Meed a consistent picture

Timing / line attempt

Altamirano et al. (2009), Sanna et al. (2014)



COMPARISON OF METHODS



The AGN connection

- Must be similar
- Accretion/ejection
- Different time scales
- Scaling
- Many more systems



The fundamental plane



The fundamental plane



AGN timing

- Difficult techniques
- Important for AGN studies

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Analysis then timing





Timing plane

McHardy et al. (2006)

- AGN power spectra
- All soft-state?
- Break: mass scaling?
- Does not work with AGN



Dependence on both *M* and *M*?

Timing plane

McHardy et al. (2006)

- \circledast Best fit: $T \propto M^{2.1} L_{Bol}^{-0.98}$
- Radiatively efficient (sot state)
- Therefore L_{bol} ⇔ \dot{M}

 $T \propto \frac{M}{\dot{m}/\dot{m}_{Edd}}$





Körding et al. (2007) AGN extension 12 • • • XTE J1118 GX 339-4 Δ XTE J1550-564 10 ▲▲▲ 1655 🗆 🗆 🗆 Cyg X-1 HS ▷ ▷ ▷ GRS 1915 1550 1998+2000 8 $\Delta \Delta \Delta AGN$ ▶ ▶ ▶ XTE J1650-500 $\log \nu_t M^2$ + + + GS 1354-644 Δ 6 4 2 0 16 18 20 22 24 26 $\text{Log} \dot{M} [\text{g/s}]$

MS extension

Körding et al. (2007)





Accretion/ejection?

Like GRS 1915+105?

Marscher et al. (2002)

Year



AGN QPOs

Only one serious case: RE J1034+396. Gierlins

Gierlinski et al. (2008)

