

# Suppression of superkicks in BBH inspiral

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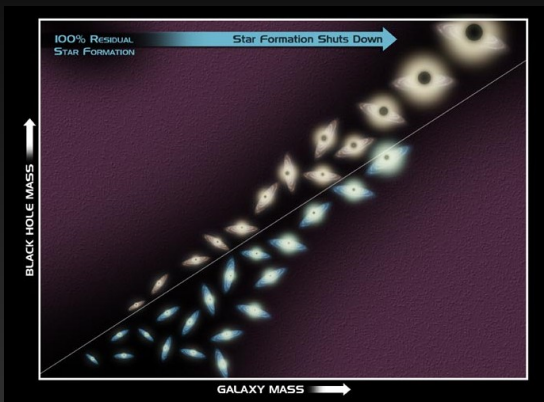
Pizza Seminar, Bellaterra, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2011

E. Berti, M. Kesden



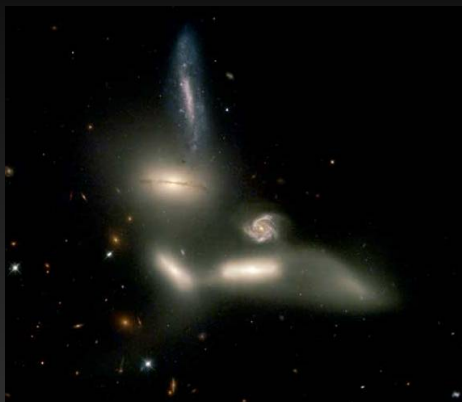
# Introduction

- Galaxies ubiquitously harbor BHs
- BH properties correlated with bulge properties  
e. g. J. Magorrian *et al.*, AJ 115, 2285 (1998)



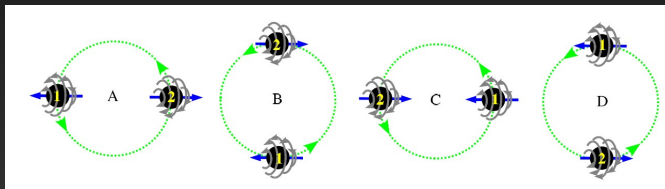
# Introduction

- Most widely accepted scenario for galaxy formation: hierarchical growth; “bottom-up”
- Galaxies undergo frequent mergers, especially elliptic ones

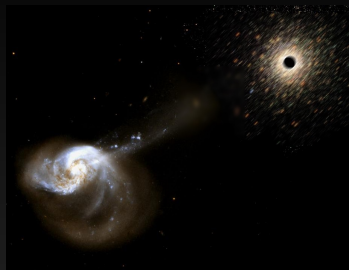


# Superkicks

- Numerical relativity breakthroughs in 2005  
Pretorius, PRL 95, 121101 (2005)  
Campanelli, Lousto, Marronetti & Zlochower, PRL 96, 111101 (2006)  
Baker, Centrella, Choi, Koppitz & van Meter, PRL 96, 111102 (2006)
- NR now able to accurately calculate kicks
- **Superkicks**: up to several 1000 km/s  
González, Hannam, Sperhake, Brüggmann & Husa, PRL 98, 231101 (2007)  
Campanelli, Lousto, Zlochower & Merritt, ApJ 659, L5 (2007)
- $>$  escape velocities from giant galaxies!



# Ejection/displacement of SMBHs possible



- Doppler shifts of BLR vs. NLR: 2,650 km/s  
Komossa *et al.*, ApJ 678, L81 (2008)
- Isophotal analysis of M87: central BH displaced  
Betcheldor *et al.*, ApJ 717, L6 (2010)
- **Still:** Virtually every E galaxy observed has a BH!

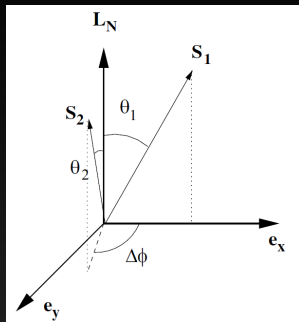
# Possible explanations

- Superkicks are a relatively special configuration  
 $q = \frac{1}{10} \dots 1$  EOB study  $\Rightarrow \sim 10\%$  of kicks  $\gtrsim 500 \dots 1000$  km/s  
Schnittman & Buonanno, ApJ 662, L63 (2007)
- Torques from accreting gas can align  $\vec{S}$  with  $\vec{L}$ :  $10\dots 30^\circ$   
Bogdanović, Reynolds & Miller, ApJ 661, L147  
Dotti *et al.*, MNRAS 402, 682 (2010)
- Efficiency depends on accretion flow and sufficient gas
- **New mechanism** to suppress superkicks:  
GW driven inspiral aligns  $\vec{S}_1$  and  $\vec{S}_2$  provided more massive BH is partially aligned.  
Kesden, Sperhake & Berti, PRD 81, 084054 (2010)  
Kesden, Sperhake & Berti, ApJ 715, 1006 (2010)

# Framework

- PN equations of motion for precessing, qc BBHs  
Kidder, PRD 52, 821 (1995)
- Quadrupole-monopole interaction  
Poisson, PRD 57, 5287 (1997)
- Spin-spin interaction  
Mikoczi, Vasuth & Gergely, PRD 71, 124043 (2005)
- Adaptive stepsize integrator STEPPERDOPR5
- PN evolution from  $R = 1000 M$  on; **sub-parsec scale**
- Guided by **resonances** which act on timescales  $\gg t_p$   
Schnittman, PRD 70, 124020 (2004)

# Spin-orbit resonances; Schnittman (2004)



- Configurations for which  $\mathbf{L}_N$ ,  $\mathbf{S}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{S}_2$  precess at same frequency
- One parameter family of solutions;  $R$
- $\theta_1$ ,  $\theta_2$ ,  $\Delta\phi$  remain fixed on precession time scale  $t_p$
- These solutions have either  $\Delta\phi = 0^\circ$  or  $\Delta\phi = 180^\circ$



# Evolution in $\theta_1, \theta_2$ plane for $q = 9/11$

$$\theta_1 := \angle(\vec{S}_1, \vec{L}_N)$$

$$\theta_2 := \angle(\vec{S}_2, \vec{L}_N)$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_2$$

$$\vec{S} \cdot \vec{L}_N = \text{const}$$

$$\vec{S}_0 \cdot \vec{L}_N = \text{const}$$

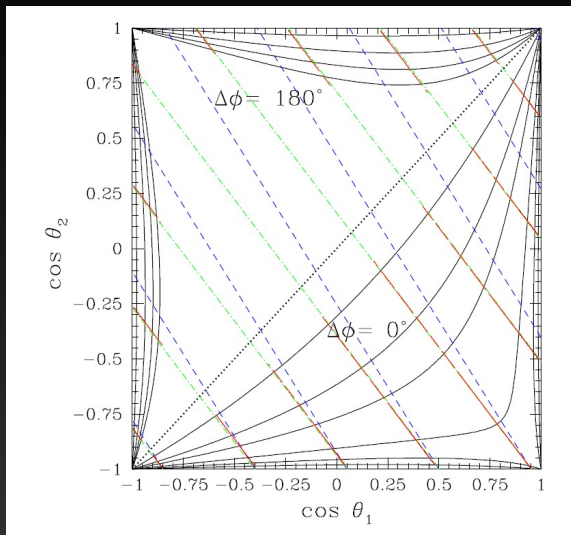
evolution

$\Rightarrow$  BHs approach

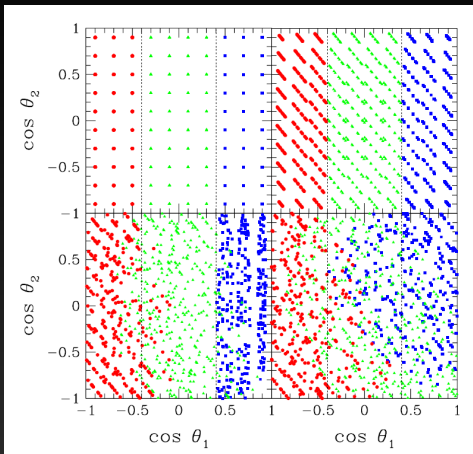
$$\theta_1 = \theta_2$$

$\Rightarrow \vec{S}_1, \vec{S}_2$  align

if  $\theta_1$  small

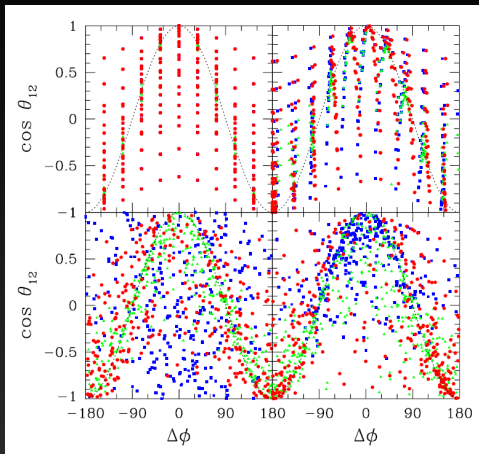


# Distributions in $\theta_1, \theta_2$ plane at different $R$



- Isotropic  $10 \times 10 \times 10$  grid of configurations
- At  $R = 1000 M + \epsilon$ ,  $1000 M$ ,  $100 M$ ,  $10 M$

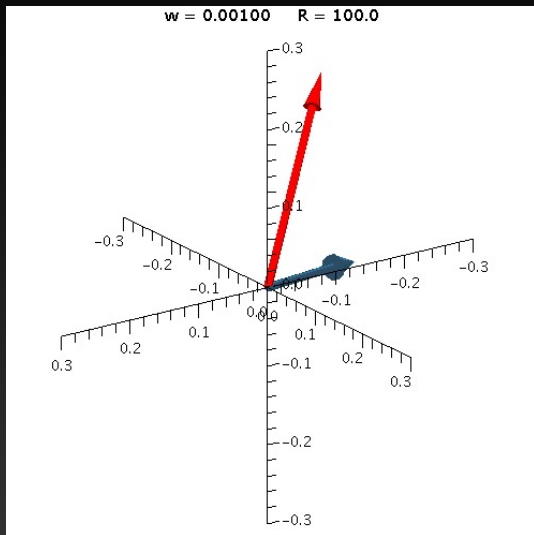
# Distributions in $\theta_{12}$ , $\Delta\phi$ plane at different $R$



- Isotropic  $10 \times 10 \times 10$  grid of configurations
- At  $R = 1000 M + \epsilon$ ,  $1000 M$ ,  $100 M$ ,  $10 M$

# Time evolution of $\vec{S}_1, \vec{S}_2$

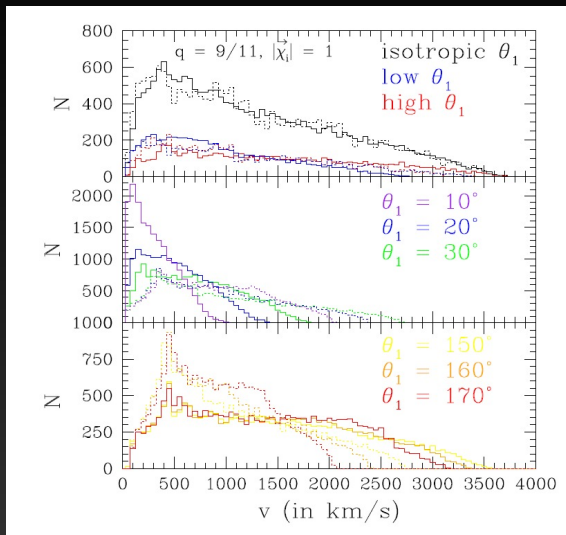
$$q = \frac{9}{11}, \theta_1 = 10^\circ, \theta_2 = 154^\circ, \Delta\phi = 264^\circ$$



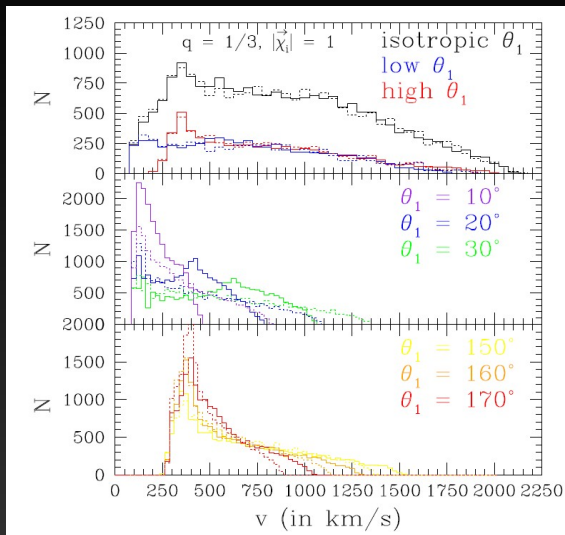
# Calculation of kick

- **Ensemble 1:**  $10 \times 10 \times 10$  in  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \Delta\phi$
- **Ensemble 2:**  $\theta_1 = 10^\circ, 20^\circ, 30^\circ$  with  $30 \times 30$  in  $\theta_2, \Delta\phi$
- **Ensemble 3:**  $\theta_1 = 150^\circ, 160^\circ, 170^\circ$  with  $30 \times 30$  in  $\theta_2, \Delta\phi$
- Spin evolution gives us  $\vec{S}_1, \vec{S}_2, \vec{L}$  at any time
- Use **kick formula** by RIT or Goddard group  
Campanelli, Lousto, Zlochower & Merritt, ApJ 659, L5 (2007)  
Baker *et al.*, ApJ 682, L29 (2008)  
 $\Rightarrow v_{\text{kick}}(r)$
- Compare **kick distribution** with and without PN inspiral

# Kick distributions with and without PN inspiral $q = \frac{9}{11}$



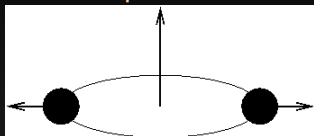
# Kick distributions with and without PN inspiral $q = \frac{1}{3}$



# Even larger kicks: superkick and hang-up

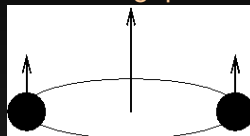
Lousto & Zlochower, arXiv:1108.2009 [gr-qc]

Superkicks

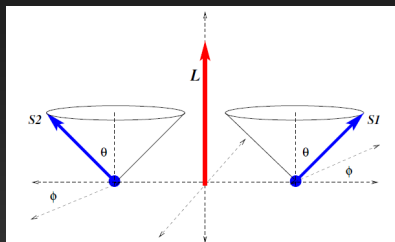


- Moderate GW generation
- Large kicks

Hangup

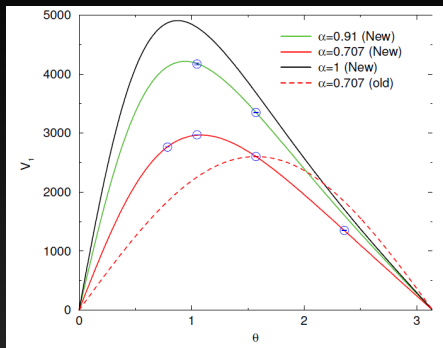


- Strong GW generation
- No kicks



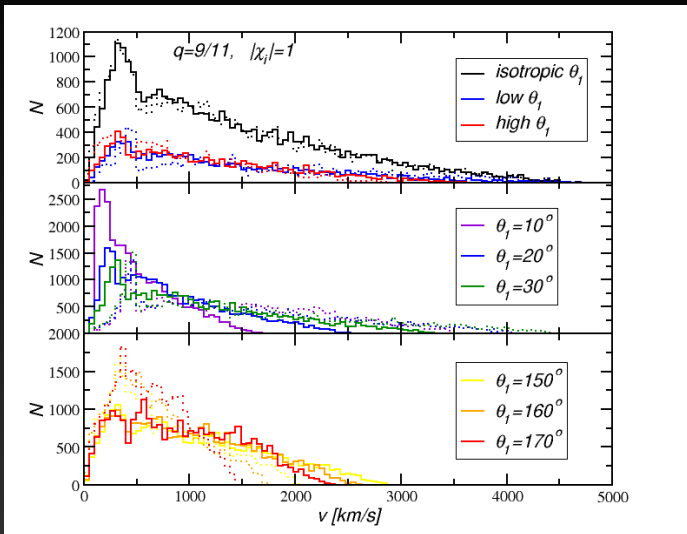


# Superkicks and orbital hang-up

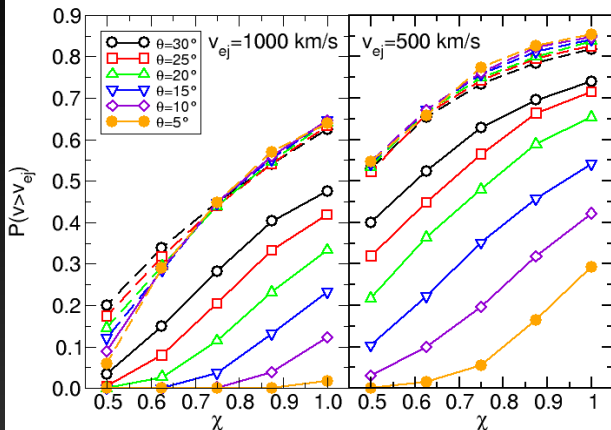


- Maximum kick about 25 % larger:  $v_{\max} \approx 5000$  km/s
- Distribution asymmetric in  $\theta$
- Largest recoil for **partial alignment**

# Kick distributions with and without PN inspiral $q = \frac{9}{11}$



# Ejection probabilities for $v > v_{ej}$



# Conclusions

- GW driven inspiral on subparsec scale aligns (anti aligns)  $\vec{S}_1$ ,  $\vec{S}_2$  if more massive BH initially partially aligned (anti aligned) with  $\vec{L}_N$
- This is true for resonance **and** non-resonance binaries!
- Resonances attract aligned (anti aligned) configurations towards  $\Delta\phi = 0^\circ$  ( $180^\circ$ )
- Accretion torque will partially align  $\vec{S}_1$  with  $\vec{L}_N$
- $\Rightarrow$  spin alignment likely to dominate
- The GW driven alignment substantially suppresses superkicks
- Reconciles superkicks with observation of SMBHs in galaxies
- Superkick suppression still efficient for **hang-up kicks**