

Gravitational waves from compact binaries

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Outline

- 1 History of compact-binary research
 - Gravitational waves
 - Physical reality of GWs
 - AM CVn
 - Ultracompact X-ray binaries
- 2 Gravitational-wave sources
 - DWDs
 - CVs
 - AM CVn systems
 - Ultracompact X-ray binaries
 - Pulsar binaries
- 3 Direct detection of gravitational waves
 - Detecting GWs
 - Galactic binaries with LISA
 - Binary inspirals with LIGO/Virgo
- 4 Conclusions

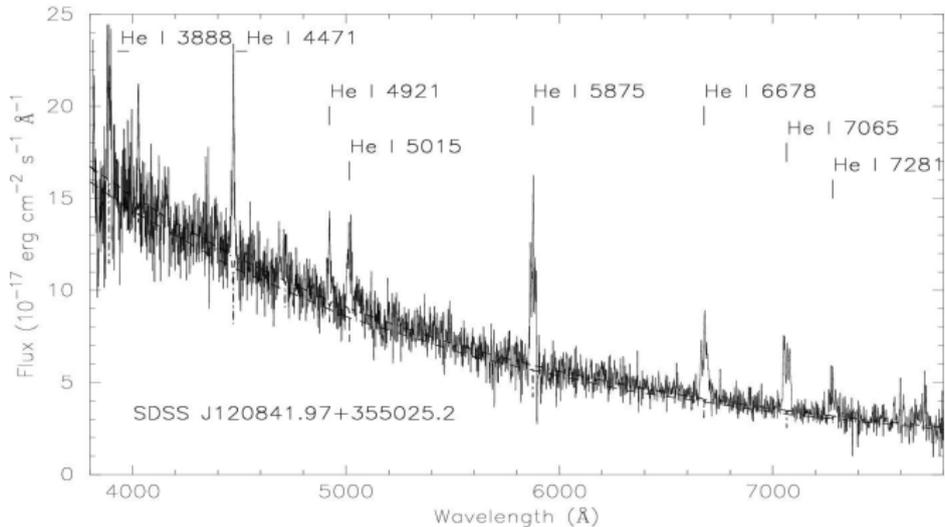
Part 1

History of compact-binary research

Part 2

Gravitational-wave sources

Systematic search for new ultracompacts: SDSS

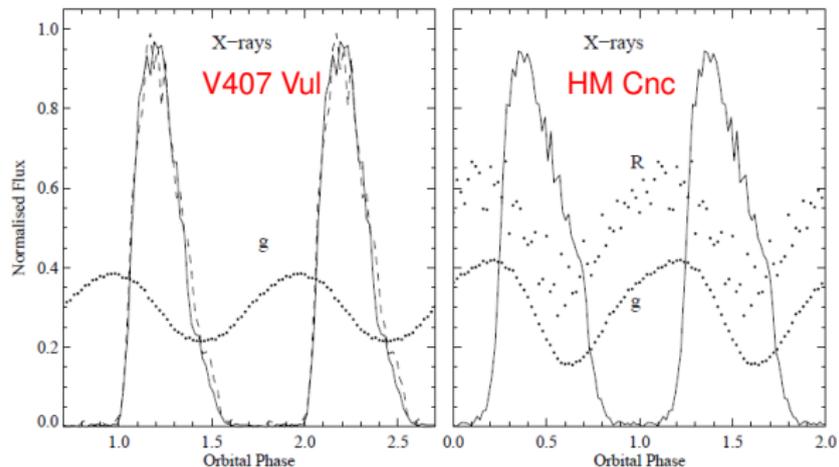


- H poor \rightarrow strong He lines in spectrum
- SDSS spectroscopy and follow-up yielded 13 new systems

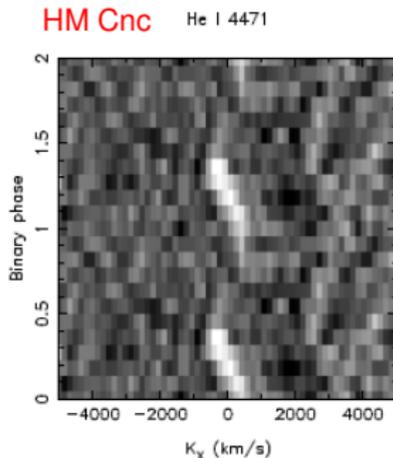
(Roelofs et al. 2005, 2009, Anderson et al. 2005, 2008, Rau et al. 2009)

- Newly discovered systems help determine space density
- Problem: there are $\sim 10\times$ fewer AM CVn systems than theory predicts

First ultracompact systems



(Motch et al. 1996; Israel et al., 1999; Burwitz & Reinsch 2001)

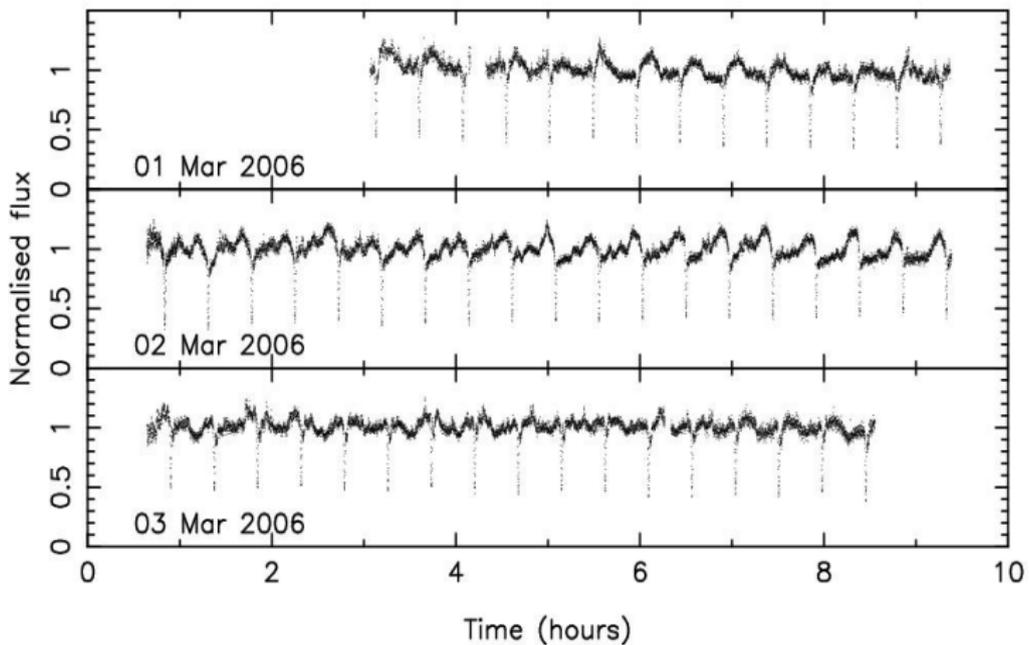


(Roelofs et al. 2010)

- Two systems previously known from X-ray emission
- Ultrashort periods now confirmed using 10 m Keck-telescope:
 - HM Cnc: shortest known period: 5.4 min

First eclipsing system

- Eclipsing systems help in mass determination
- SDSS J0926+3624:



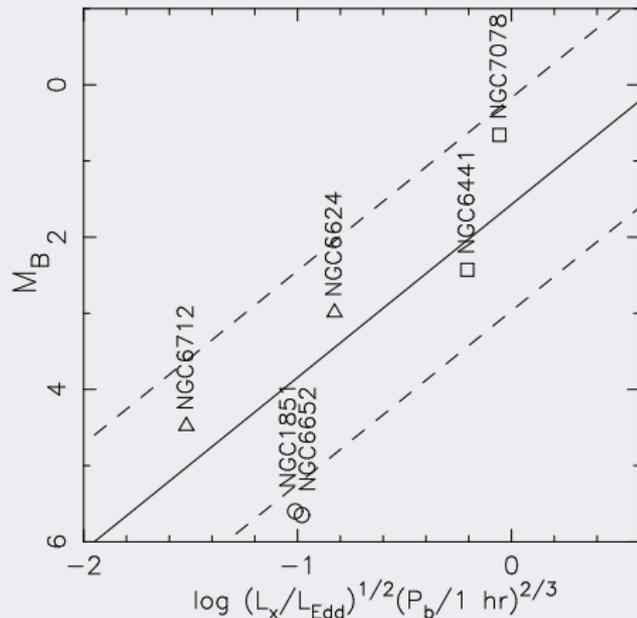
Indirect period indication

Optical vs. X-ray flux

- Optical flux from reprocessed X-rays in disc
- Scales with X-ray flux and size of disc
- Hence,

$$f_{\text{opt}}/f_X \propto R_{\text{disc}} \propto a_{\text{orb}}$$

Van Paradijs & McClintock, 1994



Verbunt & Lewin (2006)

Indirect period indication

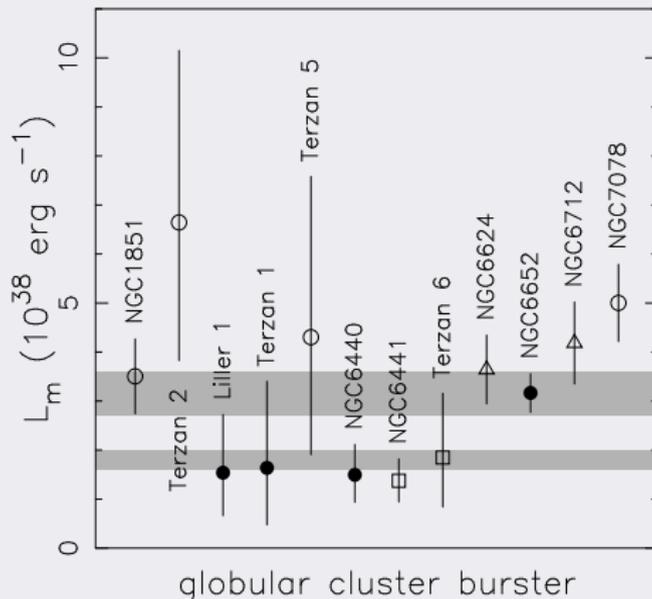
Burst maximum

- Maximum luminosity during burst is Eddington luminosity:

$$L_{\text{Edd}} = \frac{4\pi cGM}{\sigma_T}$$

- Electron scattering cross section depends on hydrogen content:

$$\sigma_T = 0.2 (1 + X) \frac{\text{cm}^2}{\text{og}}$$



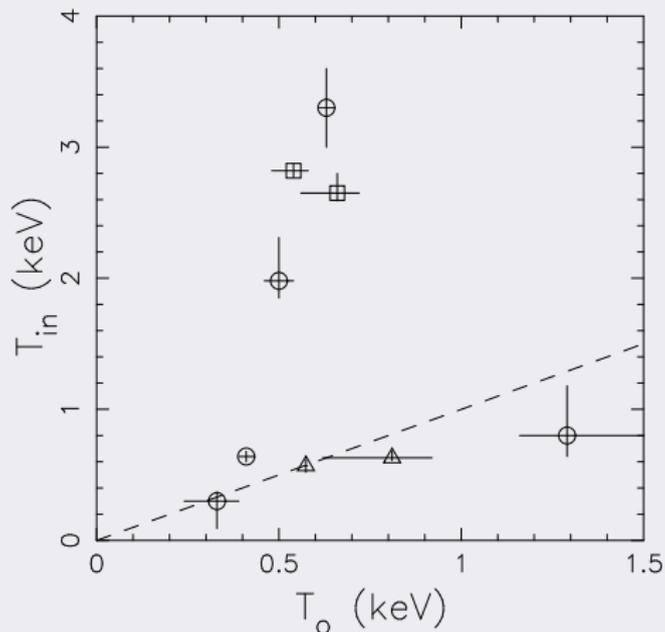
□ normal P △ ultra-short P ○ unknown P

Kuulkers et al. (2003)

Indirect period indication

X-ray spectrum

- Temperature T_0 of the seed photons comes from a Compton model
- Temperature T_{in} is observed from the inner disk
- Ultracompacts show $T_0 \sim T_{\text{in}}$



□ normal P △ ultra-short P ○ unknown P

Adapted from Sidoli et al. (2001)

X-ray sources in globular clusters

Known period information

Cluster	Position	P_{orb}	Indirect indication		
			low f_{opt}/f_x	burst max.	spectrum
NGC 1851	0512–40	?	U	U	U
NGC 6440	1745–20	8.7 hr	—	—	N
NGC 6440	1748–20	57.3 min	—	—	—
NGC 6441	1746–37	5.7 hr	—	N	N
NGC 6624	1820–30	11.4 min	U	U	U
NGC 6652	1836–33	?	U	U	U
NGC 6712	1850–09	21/13 min	U	U	U
NGC 7078	2127+12b	17.1 hr	—	—	—
NGC 7078	2127+12a	22.6 min	—	U	—
Terzan 1	1732–30	?	—	—	—
Terzan 2	1724–31	?	—	U	N
Terzan 5	1745–25	?	—	—	U
Terzan 6	1751–31	12.4 hr	—	—	N
Liller 1	1730–33	?	—	—	—

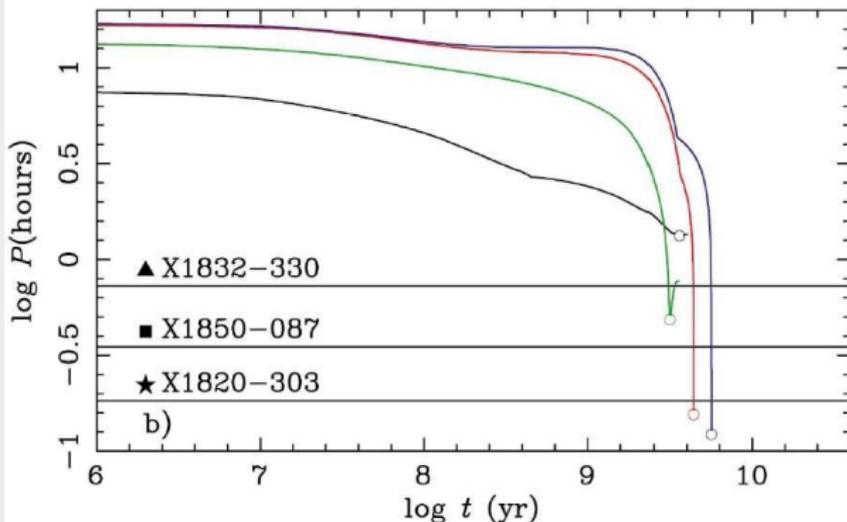
- Up to 7 of the 14 X-ray binaries in globular clusters are ultra-compact!
- 11-min system has negative \dot{P} (see talk by S. Prodan on Thursday)

Magnetic capture

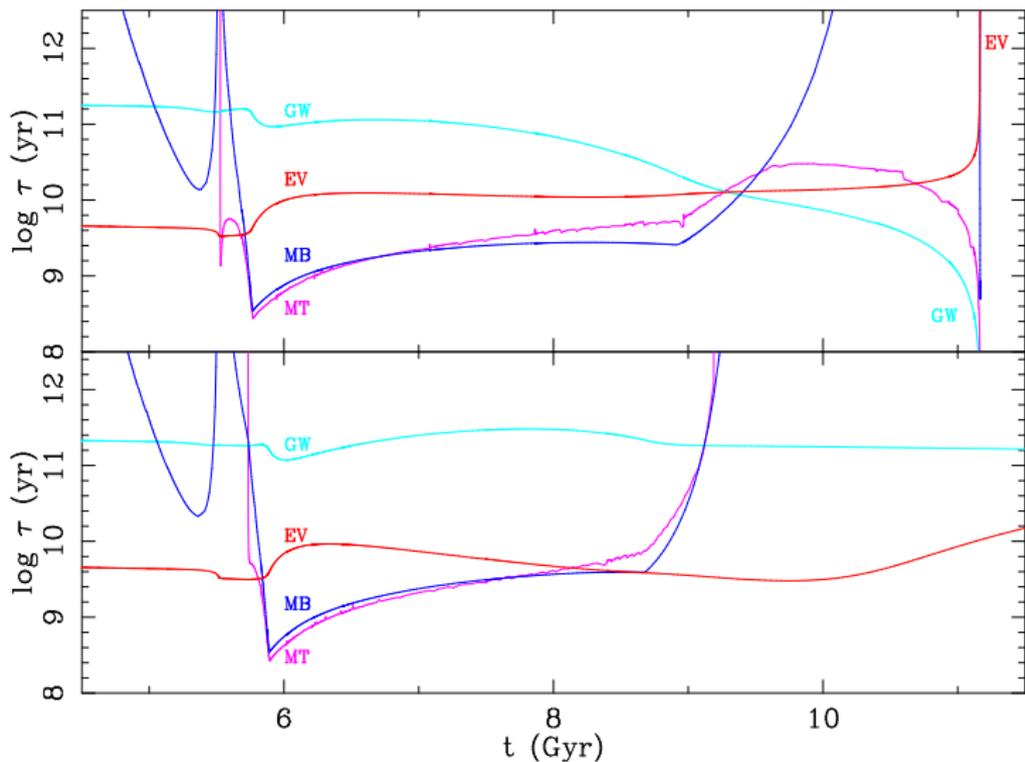
Scenario:

- Low-mass donor, NS accretor
- Mass transfer starts around TAMS
- Lose angular momentum through magnetic braking
- Minimum period can be as low as 5 min.
- Period derivative can be negative during mass transfer

Example:



Magnetic capture: timescales



van der Sluys et al., 2005

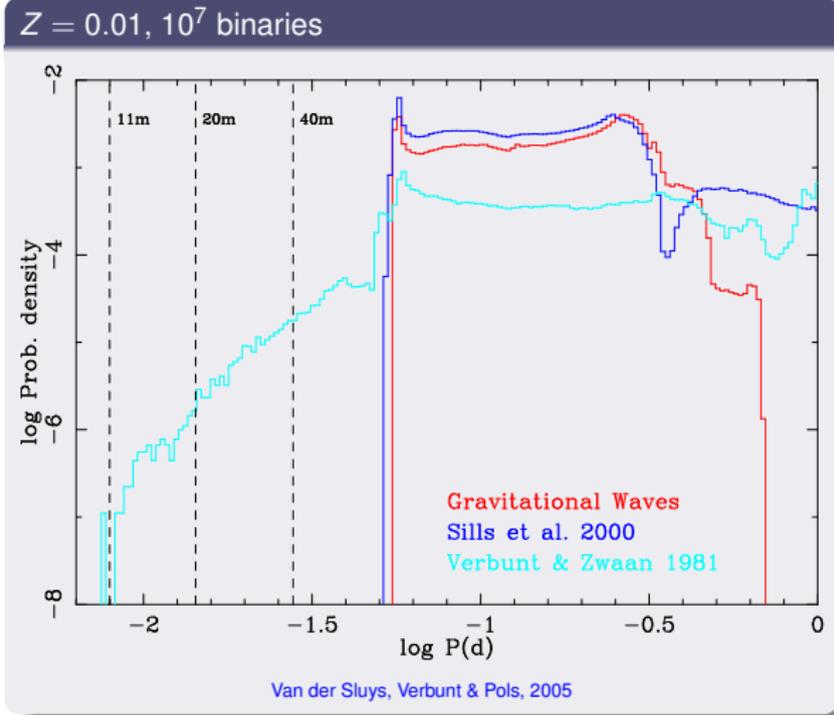
Magnetic capture: statistics

Population synthesis:

- Compute large numbers of binaries
- Use different, more realistic(?) MB prescriptions

Conclusions:

- Very finely tuned input parameters required to produce UCXBs
- Too many longer-period systems produced per 11-minute system
- Lower limit for saturated MB similar to that for no MB
- No systems below ~ 70 min



Direct collisions

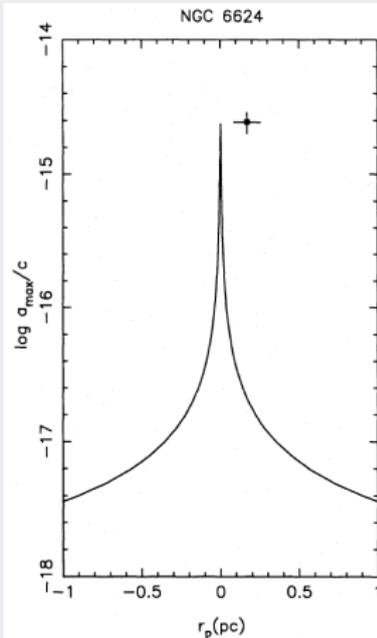
Star collisions occur in GCs:

- Star density up to 10^6 times higher than in solar neighbourhood
- Probability of collisions 10^{12} times higher
- Direct collisions most likely for subgiants
- Binary with NS and core of subgiant is formed

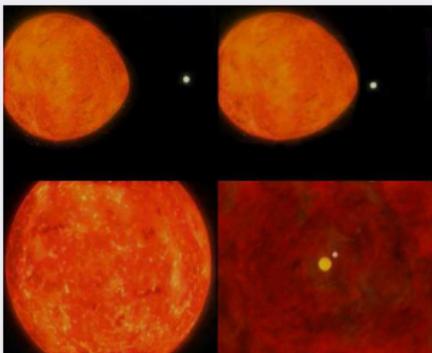
After the collision:

- A NS-WD binary is formed
- Gravitational radiation shrinks the orbit
- Orbital period increases as soon as mass transfer starts
- Observed X-ray binaries should always have positive \dot{P}
- The 11-min system has a measured $\dot{P}/P = -1.8 \pm 0.3 \times 10^{-15} \text{s}^{-1}$

(see talk by S. Prodan on Thursday)



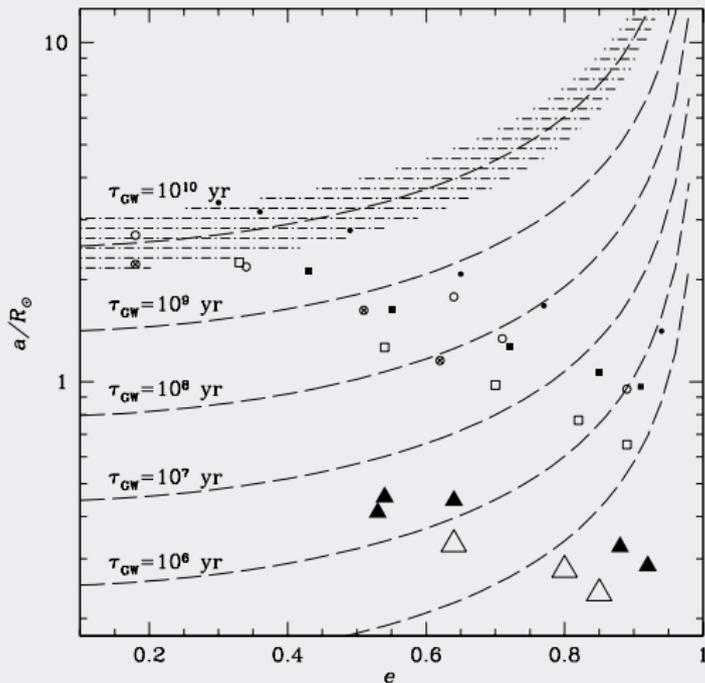
Van der Klis et al., 1993



Direct collisions

NS-subgiant collisions:

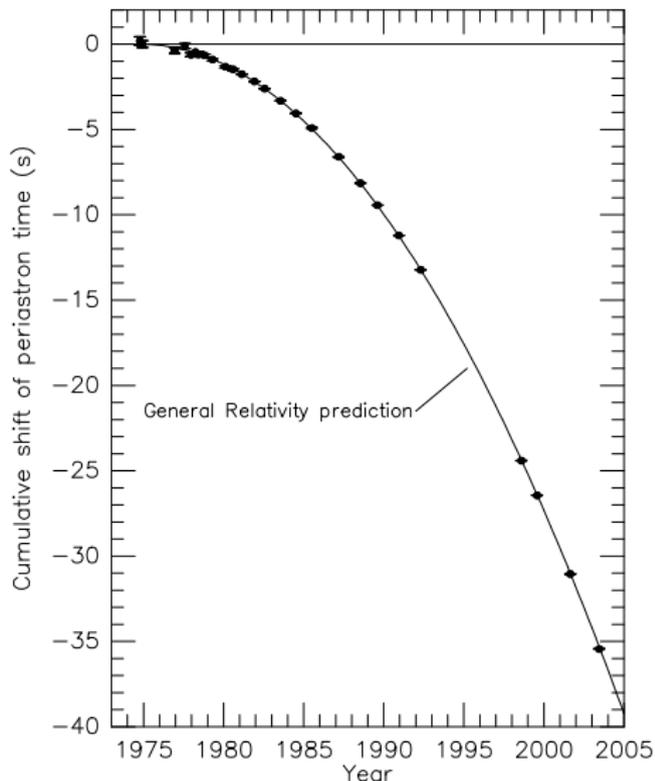
- Open/closed symbols: $0.8, 0.9 M_{\odot}$ star
- Triangles, squares and circles show how far star was evolved
- Symbol size scales with collision probability
- Dashed lines for $1.4 + 0.25 M_{\odot}$
- Hashed area for $M_{\text{tot}} \pm 0.2 M_{\odot}$



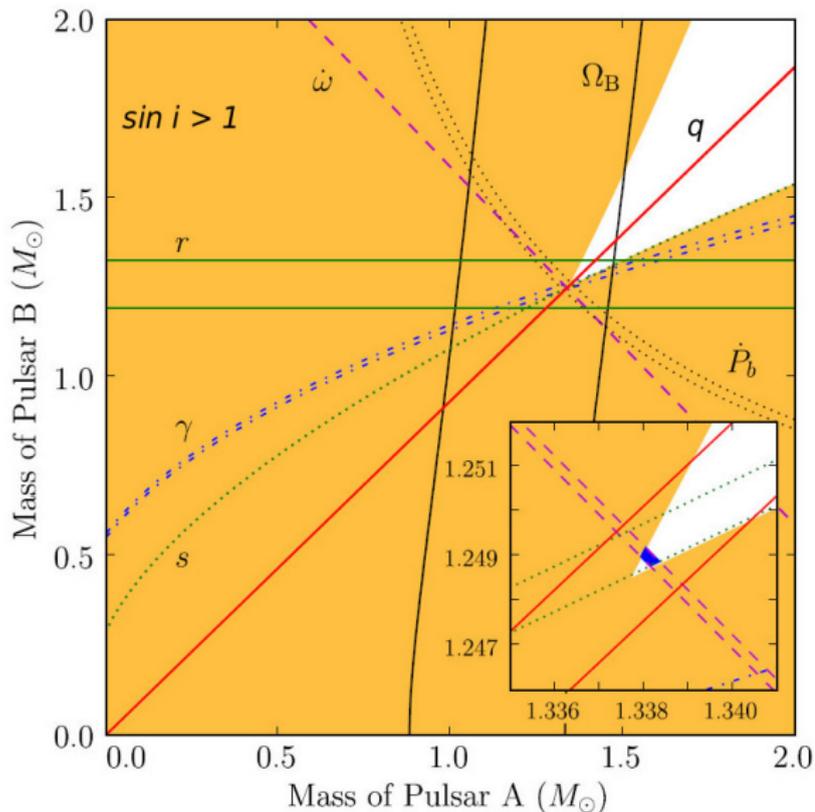
The Hulse-Taylor pulsar

PSR B1913+16:

Fitted Parameter	Value
$a_p \sin i$ (s)	2.3417725 (8)
e	0.6171338 (4)
T_0 (MJD)	52144.90097844 (5)
P_b (d)	0.322997448930 (4)
ω_0 (deg)	292.54487 (8)
$\langle \dot{\omega} \rangle$ (deg/yr)	4.226595 (5)
γ (s)	0.0042919 (8)
\dot{P}_b (10^{-12} s/s)	-2.4184 (9)
$M_{\text{PSR}} (M_\odot)$	1.4414 (2)
$M_{\text{cmp}} (M_\odot)$	1.3867 (2)



The binary pulsar



(Kramer et al., 2006; Breton et al., 2008)

PSR J0737-3039:

- orange region: $\sin i > 1$
- q : mass ratio
- s, r : Shapiro delay shape and range
- $\dot{\omega}$: periastron advance
- P_b : orbital-period decay
- γ : gravitational redshift and time dilation
- Ω_B spin precession rate of pulsar B

Part 3

Direct detection of gravitational waves

Electromagnetic vs. gravitational waves

Electromagnetic waves:

- are waves that propagate **through** spacetime
- are produced **incoherently** by **many (small) atoms**
- have a **short wavelength** compared to their source size
- are caused by the relatively **strong** electromagnetic force
- have frequencies $\gtrsim 10^6$ Hz
- are measured by **energy**
 $\rightarrow L(r) \sim 1/r^2$

Gravitational waves:

- are waves **in the metric** of spacetime
- are produced **coherently** by a **few large masses**
- have a **long wavelength** compared to their source size
- are caused by the **weak** gravitational force
- have frequencies $\lesssim 10^3$ Hz
- are measured by **amplitude**
 $\rightarrow h(r) \sim 1/r$

Why detect them?

Physics:

- direct measurement of GWs and verification of GR
- direct observation of black holes
- verify that GWs travel at the speed of light, *i.e.* that the graviton rest mass = 0
- verify that GWs act transversely, *i.e.* that the graviton spin = 2

Astrophysics: LIGO/Virgo

- the ripping apart of neutron stars, their implosion to a black hole
- black holes eating neutron stars, BH-BH collisions
- core-collapse supernovae
- hills on pulsars

Astrophysics: LISA

- galactic compact binaries
- extragalactic supermassive black holes
- extreme mass-ratio inspirals
- IMBH inspirals?

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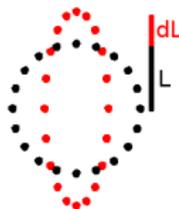
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Gravitational waves

Gravitational waves. . .

- propagate transversely at the speed of light
- are quadrupole radiation at the lowest order
- stretch and squeeze spacetime in two polarisations
- allow us to measure their amplitude

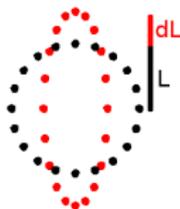


- Strain: $h(t) = h_+(t)F_+(t) + h_\times(t)F_\times(t) = \frac{\delta L(t)}{L} \sim 10^{-22}$

Gravitational waves

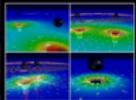
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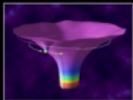


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Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (LISA)



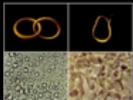
Supermassive
Black Hole Binaries



Compact Object
Captures



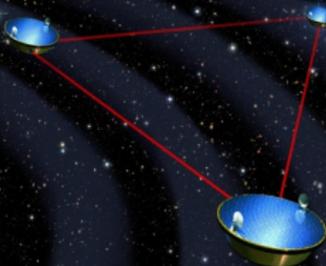
Galactic White
Dwarf Binaries



Cosmic Strings and
Phase Transitions



Gravity is talking. LISA will listen.



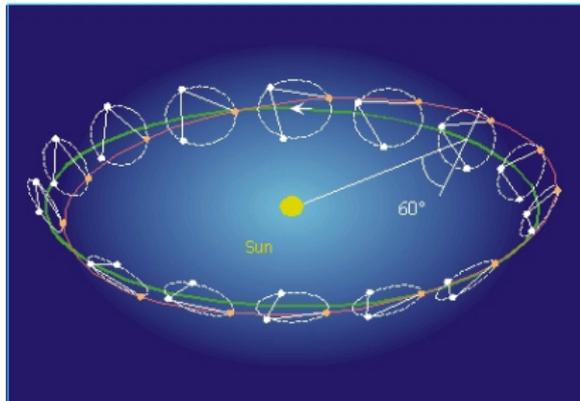
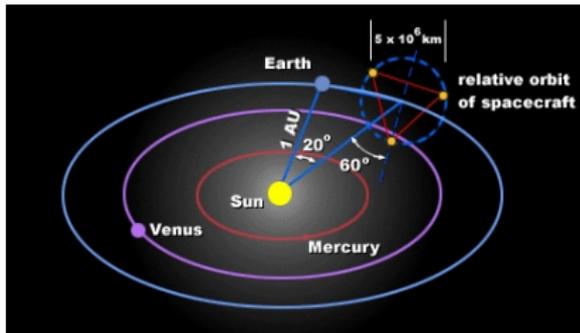
Black Hole Binary at 270,
107 Hz, 100 hours before merger.
Numerical simulation and gravitational
wave and AG background (G. Berti)

Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (LISA)

Mission:

- 3 spacecraft, 6 test masses
- Triangular configuration, arm length $\sim 5 \times 10^6$ km
- Detector is in solar orbit, trailing the Earth by 20° , in a plane inclined by 60°
- 1 Watt laser beams between spacecraft
- Low-frequency sensitivity: 0.1 mHz – 0.1 Hz ($P_{\text{orb}} \sim 20$ s – 5 h)

- Mission length ≥ 5 yr
- LISA Pathfinder must test technology ($\sim 2012?$)
- Launch $\gtrsim 2020 - 2025?$



LISA: Galactic binaries

Detached binaries:

- Double white dwarfs:
 - abundant; most common endpoint of evolution: $\sim 3 \times 10^8$, $\sim 3 \times 10^4$ resolved (Yu & Jeffery, 2010)
 - several tens discovered (e.g. Saffer 1988, Marsh 1995)
 - so far, only few in the LISA band
- White-dwarf–neutron-star binaries:
 - typically WD + pulsar
 - long periods
 - no systems in LISA band found, several expected
- Double neutron stars:
 - earliest discovered (Hulse & Taylor 1975)
 - 8 known
 - PSR J0737–3039 has $P = 2.4$ h ($f = 2.3 \times 10^{-4}$ Hz)

Interacting binaries:

- AM CVn stars:
 - white dwarf accretes He-rich material from a compact donor (e.g. Warner 1995)
 - periods 5.4 – 65 min
- Ultracompact X-ray binaries:
 - ~ 27 known, 8 with known periods 11–50 min
 - donor typically He rich, sometimes CO rich
 - up to half of the 14 observed LMXBs in GCs is ultracompact

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LISA: verification binaries

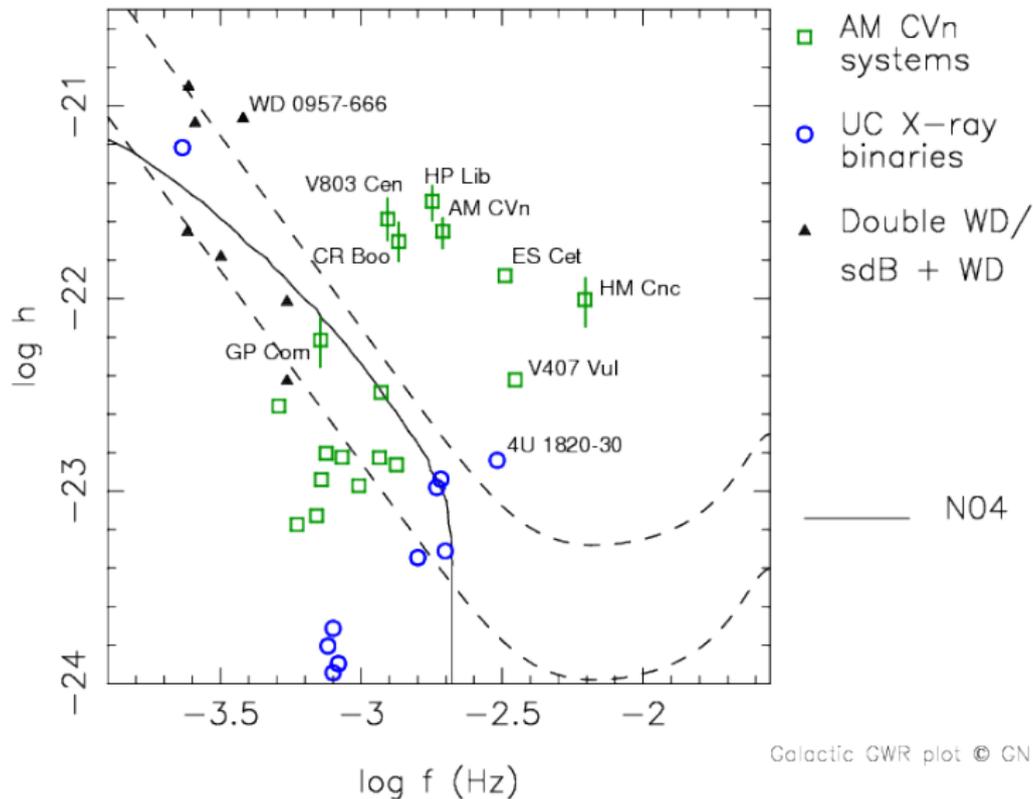
Properties of known binaries:

Type	Number	P (min)	$M_1 (M_\odot)$	$M_2 (M_\odot)$	d (pc)
AM CVn	25	5.4 – 65.1	0.55 – 1.2	0.006 – 0.27	100 – 3000
CVs	6	59 – 85	$\gtrsim 0.7$	0.10 – 0.15	43 – 200
DWDs	5	60 – 200		0.2 – 0.6	100 – 1100
UCXBs	5	11 – 20	$\sim 1.4?$	0.03 – 0.06	5k – 12k

http://www.astro.ru.nl/~nelemans/dokuwiki/doku.php?id=lisa_wiki

- \dot{P} measured for:
 - AM CVns RX J0806.3+1527 and V407 Vul
 - LMXB 4U 1820–30
- 3 out of 5 UCXBs are in globular clusters

LISA: verification binaries



Galactic GWR plot © GN

Conclusions

LISA ...

- ... will see CVs, AM CVns, UCXBs and **many** DWDs
- ... has its data analysis underway
- ... needs a successful Pathfinder mission and perhaps a LIGO/Virgo detection to convince politicians
- ... is broken if it doesn't see AM CVn stars as soon as it is switched on

LIGO/Virgo ...

- ... have been up, running and observing for a few years
- ... have a working data-analysis pipeline
- ... have not found any (cosmological) sources yet
- ... have as one of their large uncertainties the unknown number of binaries (and especially black holes) in the universe
- ... will detect 1 source per year – a few sources per day from 2014/2015 on

End. . .

