

# The observational evidence of **intermediate-mass black holes**

Ref paper: Greene et al. 2020 (Greene, J.-E., Strader, J., & Ho, L.-C. 2020, *araa*, 58, 257)

## Outline

- 一 : **Introduction & Formation paths for IMBHs**
- 二 : **Stellar and gas dynamical Searches for IMBHs**
- 三 : **Reverberation mapping & single-epoch & scaling relations**
- 四 : **Fundamental plane depend on  $L_{\text{xray}}$  &  $L_{\text{radio}}$**
- 五 : **X-ray spectra or QPO (quasi-periodic oscillation)**
- 六 : **IMBHs searches with transient phenomena & microlensing**

# — : Introduction & Formation paths

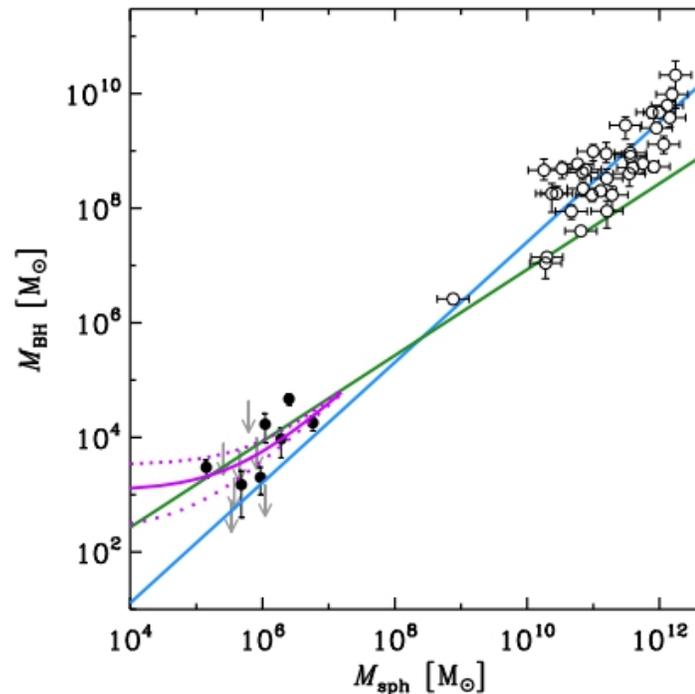
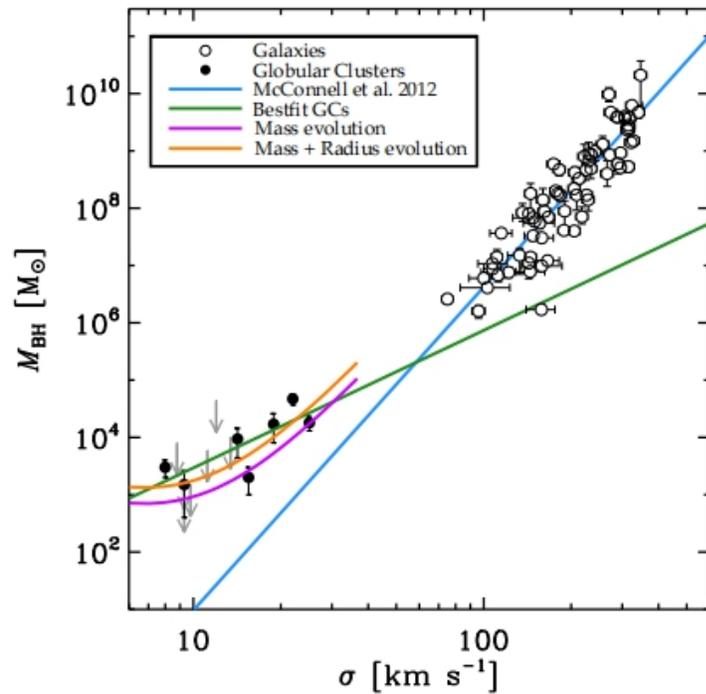
---

## 1.1 Definition

- . **Intermediate mass black holes (IMBHs)** are an elusive class of **black holes** that are expected to lie in the  $10^2 - 10^5 M_{\odot}$  range, between the firmly established **stellar mass black holes** and  $>10^6 M_{\odot}$  **super-massive black holes**.
- . **Stellar mass black holes** :  $M_{bh} \sim \text{Several } M_{\odot} - 10^2 M_{\odot}$
- . **Supper mass black holes (SMBH)** :  $M_{bh} > 10^6 M_{\odot}$

# — : Introduction & Formation paths

## 1.1 Motivation



Are intermediate-mass black holes deviating from the scaling relations?

$M_{\bullet} \sim \sigma$  and  $M_{\bullet} \sim M_{\text{stellar}}$  relation for supermassive black holes and IMBHs.  
Kruijssen & Lützgendorf 2013

# — : Introduction & Formation paths

## 1.1 Motivation

1

- To understand the formation of **supermassive black holes** and their co-evolution with their host galaxies.

2

- **Extending scaling relations** to this regime may **provide unique insight** into the evolution of black holes, along with the feedback for dwarf galaxies.

3

- IMBHs will also be **a major source of gravitational radiation.**

# — : Introduction & Formation paths

---

## 1.1 Motivation

As observations of **young quasars** push to earlier and earlier times (e.g., Fan et al. 2006, Mortlock et al. 2011, Bañados et al. 2018), the community has recognized the significant challenge of **creating such massive black holes** so quickly (e.g., Haiman 2013); this has led researchers to search for a **theoretical mechanism** that makes **massive black hole seeds**, which further motivates searches for **IMBHs**.

# — : Introduction & Formation paths

## 1.2 Formation paths:

1

- **Direct-Collapse Channels:** is that of **collapsing gas clouds forming a massive seed black hole** without passing through all the phases of stellar evolution.

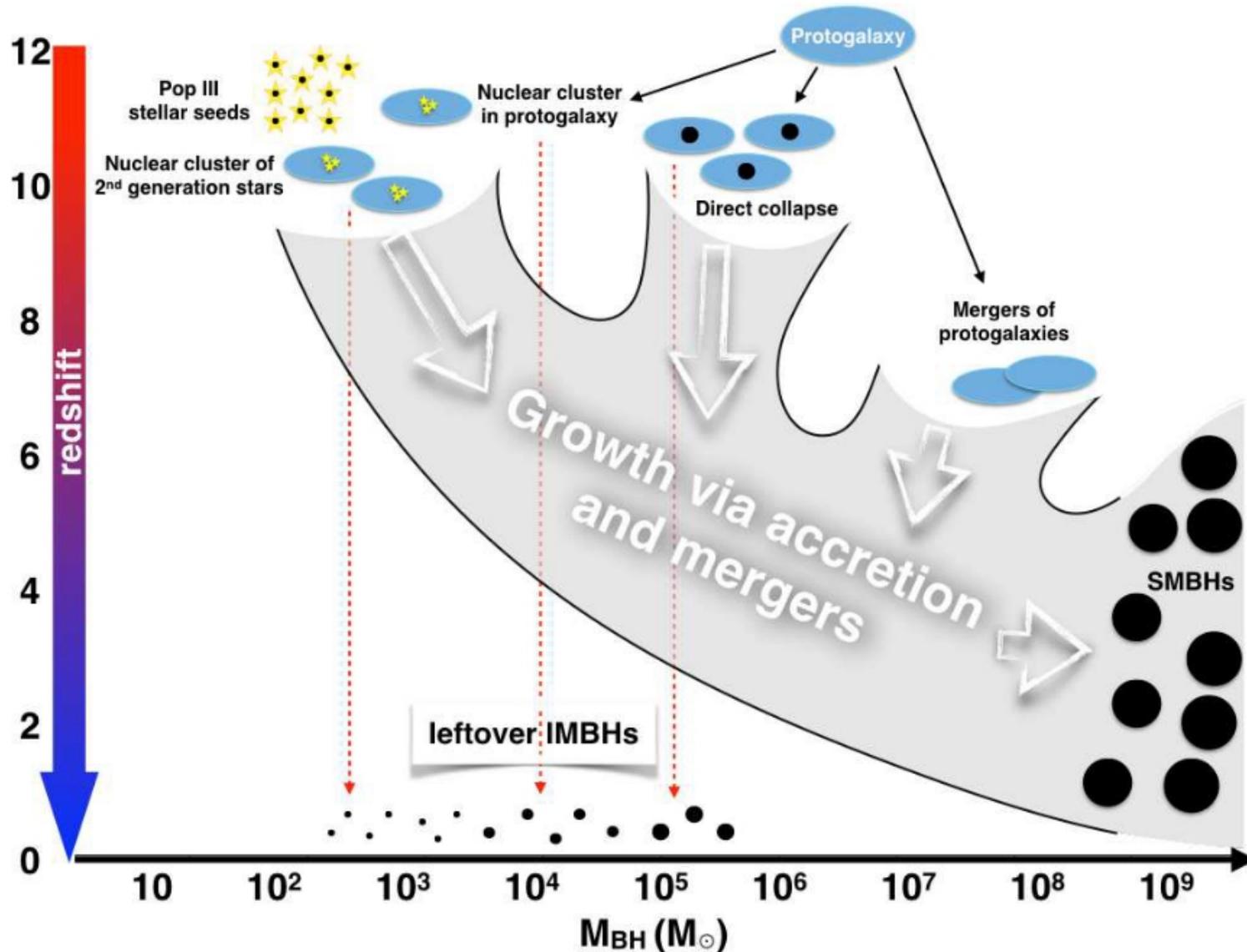
2

- **Seeding model: IMBHs are evolved from Population III stars.** The first generation of stars (Pop III) formed from truly metal-free primordial gas (molecular hydrogen ) in the high-redshift Universe.

3

- **Gravitational Runaway:** A final class of models generates  $\sim 10^3\text{--}10^4 M_{\odot}$  black holes in a gravitational runaway event **within a dense stellar cluster.**

# — : Introduction & Formation paths



From Mezcua et al. (2017):  
Formation scenarios for IMBHs. Seed BHs in the early Universe could form from **Population III stars**, from mergers in dense stellar clusters formed out either from the **second generation of stars** or from inflows in protogalaxies, or from **direct collapse of dense gas in protogalaxies**, and **grow via accretion and merging to  $10^9 M_{\odot}$  by  $z \sim 7$** . SMBHs could also directly form by **mergers of protogalaxies at  $z \sim 6$** . Those seed BHs that did not grow into SMBHs can be found in the local Universe as **leftover IMBHs**.

# — : Introduction & Formation paths

## 1.3 Formation paths:

Model	Redshift	Tooth fairies	$F_{\text{occ}} 10^8$	$F_{\text{occ}} 10^9$	# Mpc <sup>-3</sup> nuclei	$M_{\text{BH}}$ today	# Mpc <sup>-3</sup> wander
Direct collapse	$z > 10$	UV background pristine gas	0.2–0.4	0.4–0.8	0.1–0.15	$10^4$ – $10^6$	0.1–0.3
Population III	$z > 15$	Super-Eddington accretion	0.2–1.0	0.5–1.0	0.1–0.4	$10^4$ – $10^6$	0.1–0.3
Fast runaway	All	BH retention high stellar density	0.1–0.7	0.1–1.0	0.02–0.25	$10^3$ – $10^5$	>0.3
Slow runaway	All	BH retention high $\sigma_*$	0.1–0.7	0.1–1.0	0.02–0.25	$10^3$	>0.3

Table show the range of occupation fractions and implied number densities for each seed formation channel. **The direct-collapse** numbers are based on **Bellovary et al. (2019)**, and the **Population III** numbers are based on **Ricarte & Natarajan (2018)**. Roughly  $\sim 0.1\%$  mass fractions are predicted from gravitational runaway scenarios.

# 二 : Stellar and gas dynamical Searches for IMBHs

---

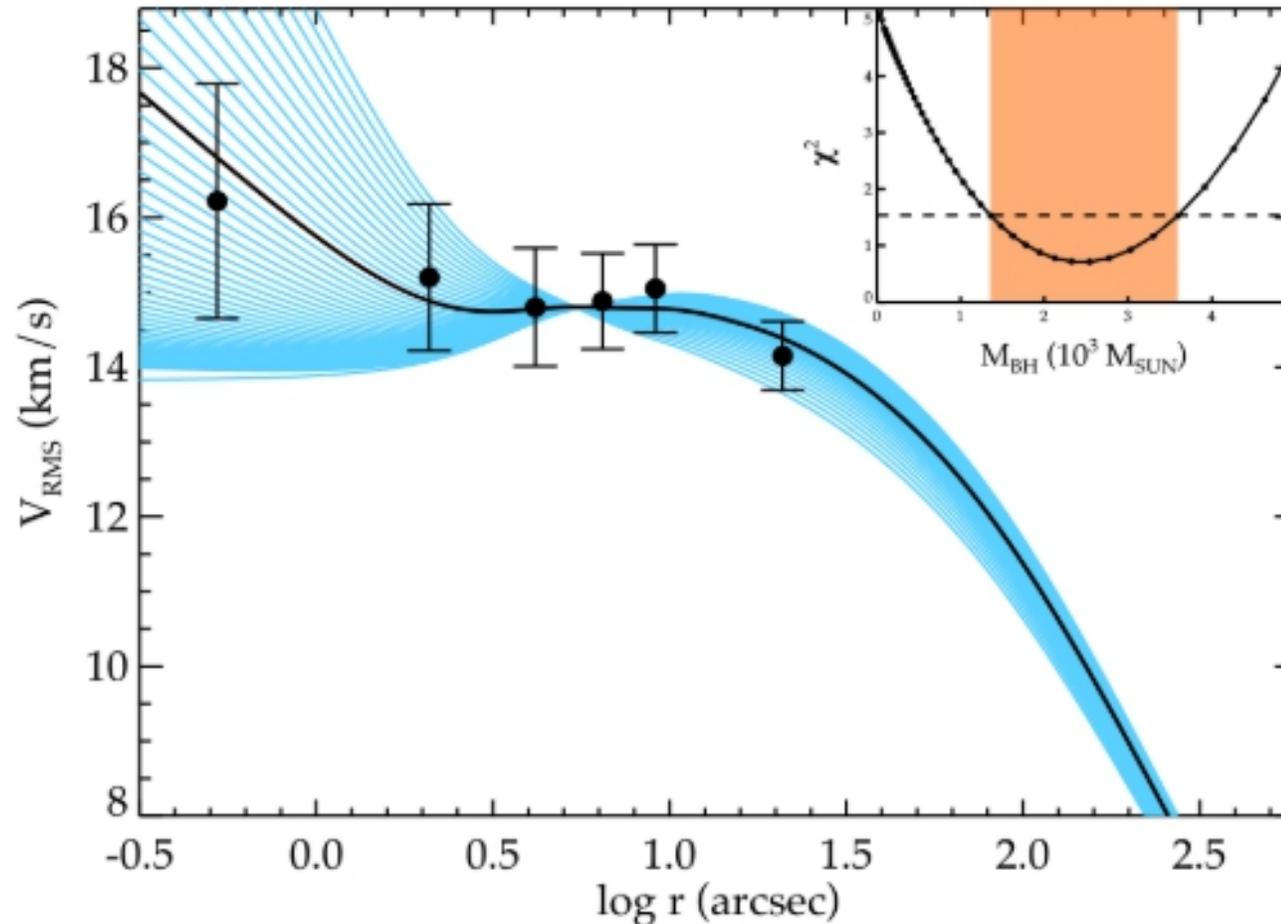
## 2.1 Dynamics from Integrated Light Measurements

- The **kinematics** can be measured from either **stars or gas in small radius for the vicinity** of the black hole.
- The stellar-mass profile is modeled from the light, which is then converted to a mass profile by solving for the **stellar mass-to-light ratio (M/L)** (e.g., Gebhardt & Thomas 2009).

For **stellar-dynamical modeling**, state-of-the-art codes use **Schwarzschild modeling** (Schwarzschild 1979) to jointly model the mass density of the central black hole, stars, and darkmatter by orbit superposition (e.g., Rix et al. 1997, Gebhardt et al. 2003).

# II : Stellar and gas dynamical Searches for IMBHs

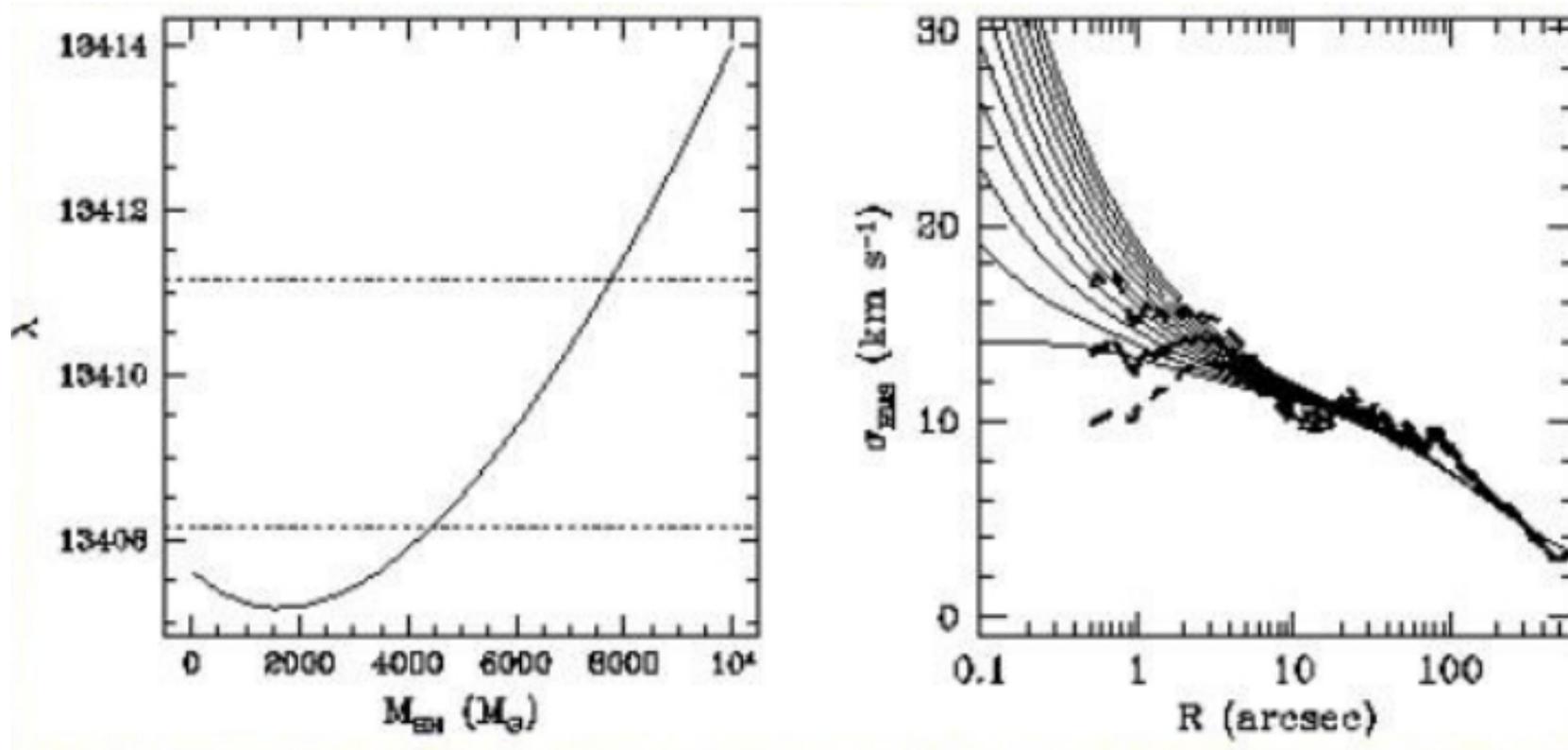
## 2.2 Jeans model



Velocity-dispersion profile of **NGC 6266** along the radial direction overplotted by **Jeans models** (Neumayer & Walcher 2012) with different black-hole masses. The  $\chi^2$  values is shown in the upper right and the best fit model indicated by the black solid line.

## 二 : Stellar and gas dynamical Searches for IMBHs

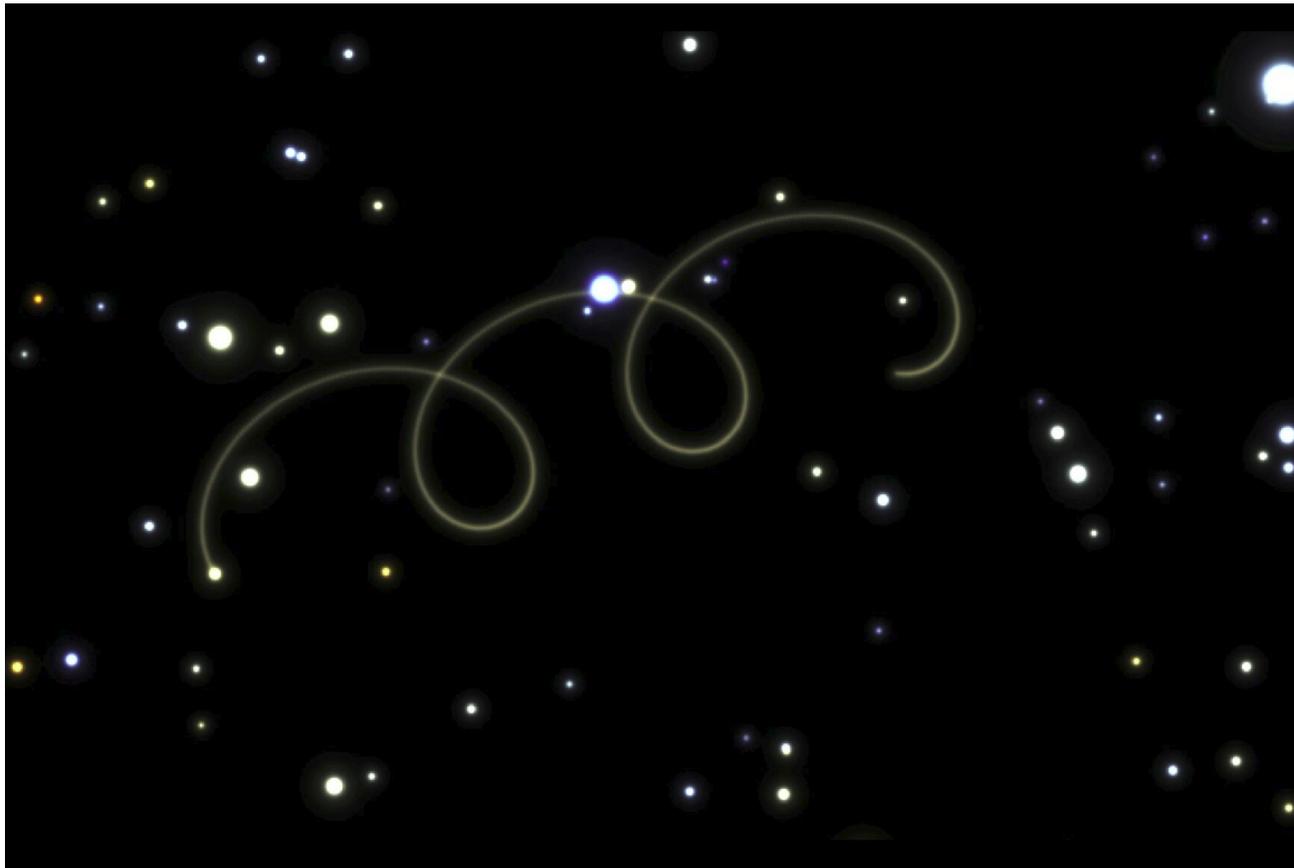
### 2.3 Fokker Planck models (Dull et al. 1997,2003)



The result of M15:  $M_{\text{bh}} = 1.7 (+2.7, -1.7) * 10^3 M_{\odot}$

# ≡ : Stellar and gas dynamical Searches for IMBHs

## 2.4 Proper Motions & Hypervelocity Stars



Proper  
Motions :  
Bound by the  
gravitational of  
IMBH

Hypervelocity  
Stars maybe  
accelerated by  
IMBH.

## ≡ : Reverberation mapping & single-epoch & scaling relations

### 3.1 Reverberation mapping ( For NGC 4395 )

- For objects with **broad emission lines**, reverberation mapping yields information about the **size scale of the broad-line region** (BLR) by measuring the **delay** between the **continuum and line light curve**, emitted from the accretion disk and BLR, respectively (Peterson 2014).
- Combining the BLR radius  $r$  with the line width  $\Delta V$  yields a virial-like mass

$$M_{\text{BH}} = f_{\text{vir}} r (\Delta V)^2 / G, \text{ with } f_{\text{vir}} \text{ the virial constant.}$$

**The result of NGC4395:  $M_{\text{bh}} = (3.6 \pm 1.1) \times 10^5 M_{\odot}$  from Peterson et al. 2005**

## ≡ : Reverberation mapping & single-epoch & scaling relations

---

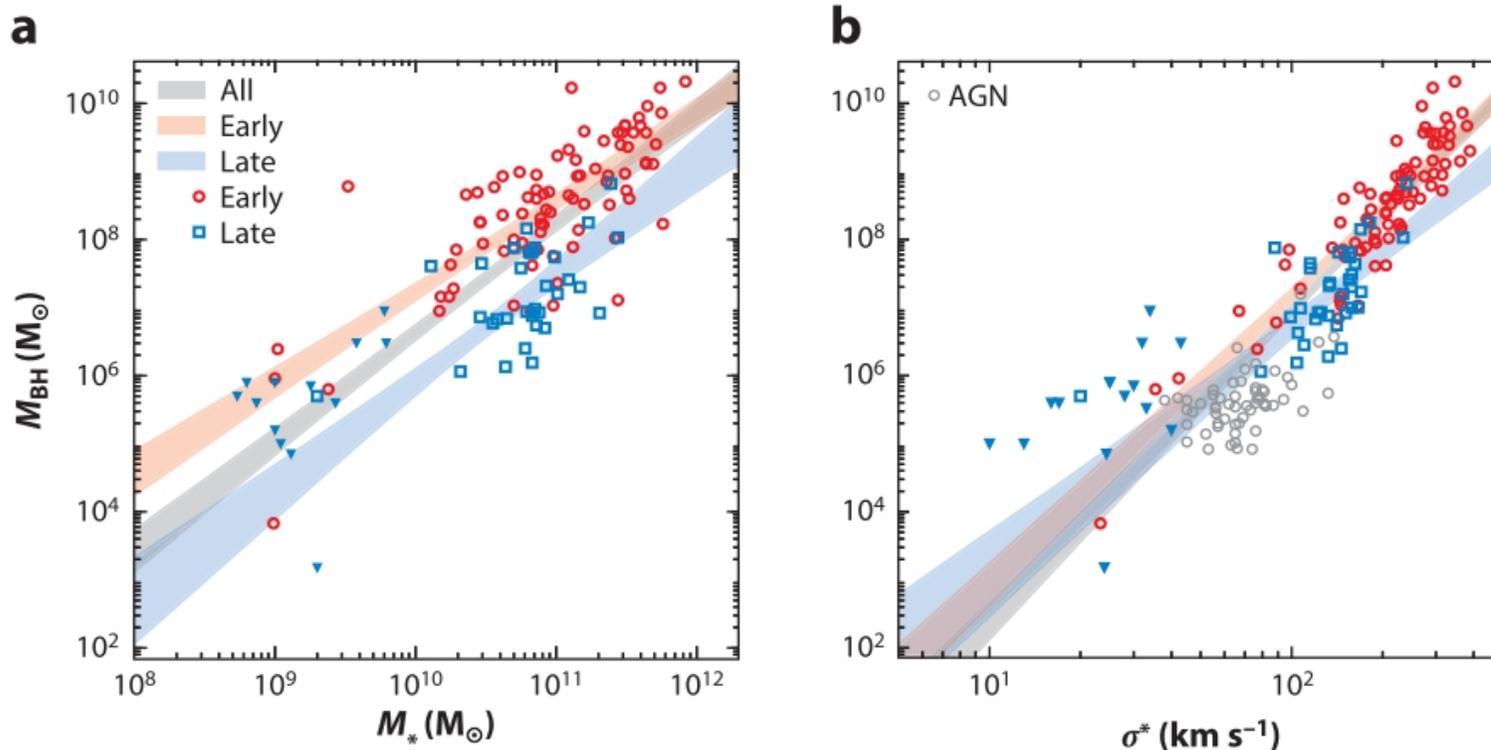
### 3.2 Single-epoch

- The single-epoch Verill method has been further calibrated via reverberation mapping (RM) (e.g., Vestergaard & Peterson 2006; Bentz et al. 2013).
- This method assumes that the BLR gas is following the virial relations, and posits the existence of a radius-luminosity (R-L) relation (Bentz et al. 2013).
- Using the virial constant and the radius–luminosity relation, we can calculate **single-epoch virial masses** for Type I AGNs.

$$M_{\text{BH}} = f_{\text{vir}} r (\Delta V)^2 / G, \text{ with } f_{\text{vir}} \text{ the virial constant.}$$

# ≡ : Reverberation mapping & single-epoch & scaling relations

## 3.3 Scaling relations

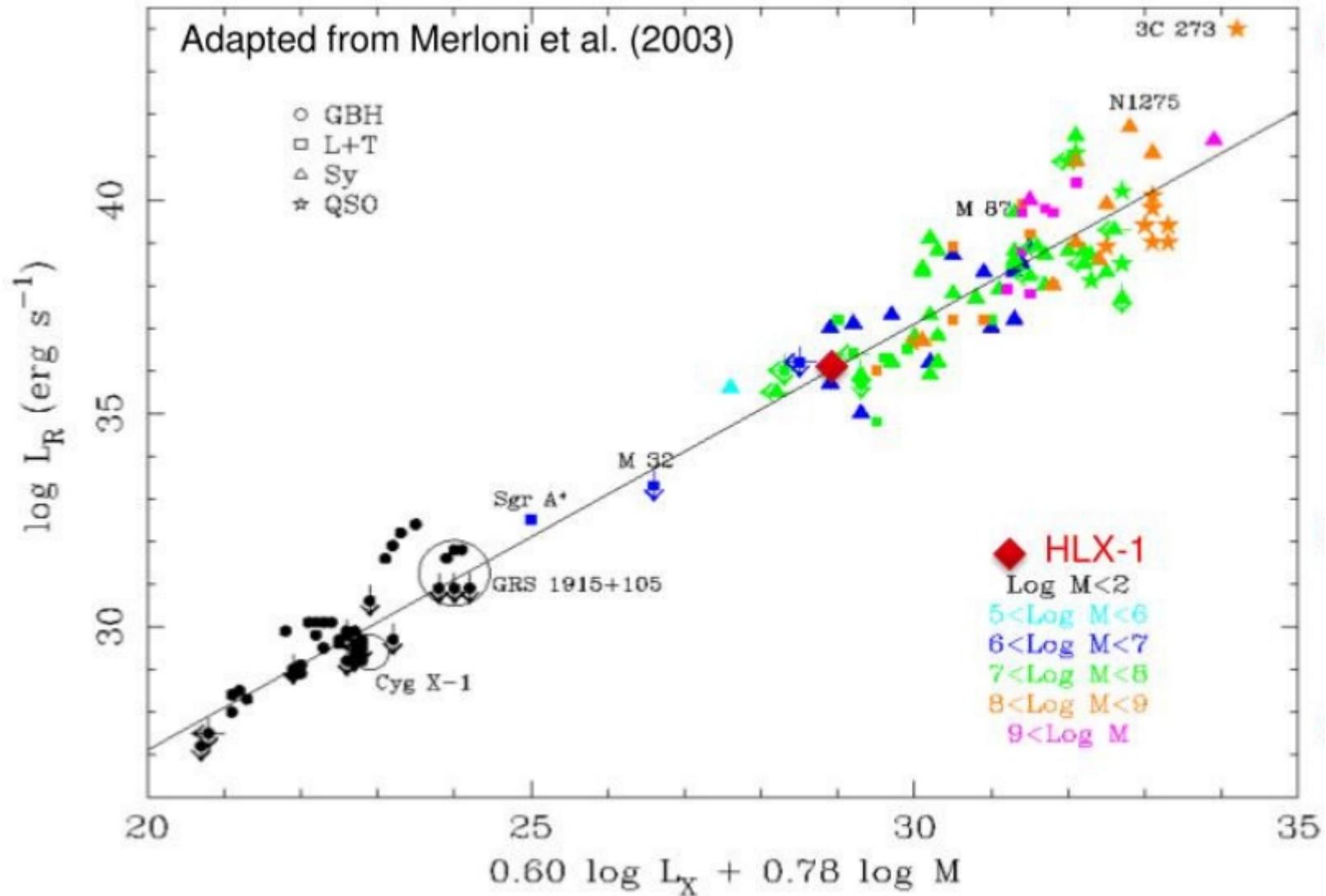


The relationship between  $M_{\text{BH}}$  and  $M_*$  for dynamical early-type galaxies (red open circles) and late-type galaxies (blue open squares), and dynamical upper limits (blue triangles). We show fits to the early- and late-type galaxies (red and blue shaded regions) and the full sample (gray) (Xiao et al. 2011).

## 四 : Fundamental plane depend on $L_X$ & $L_R$

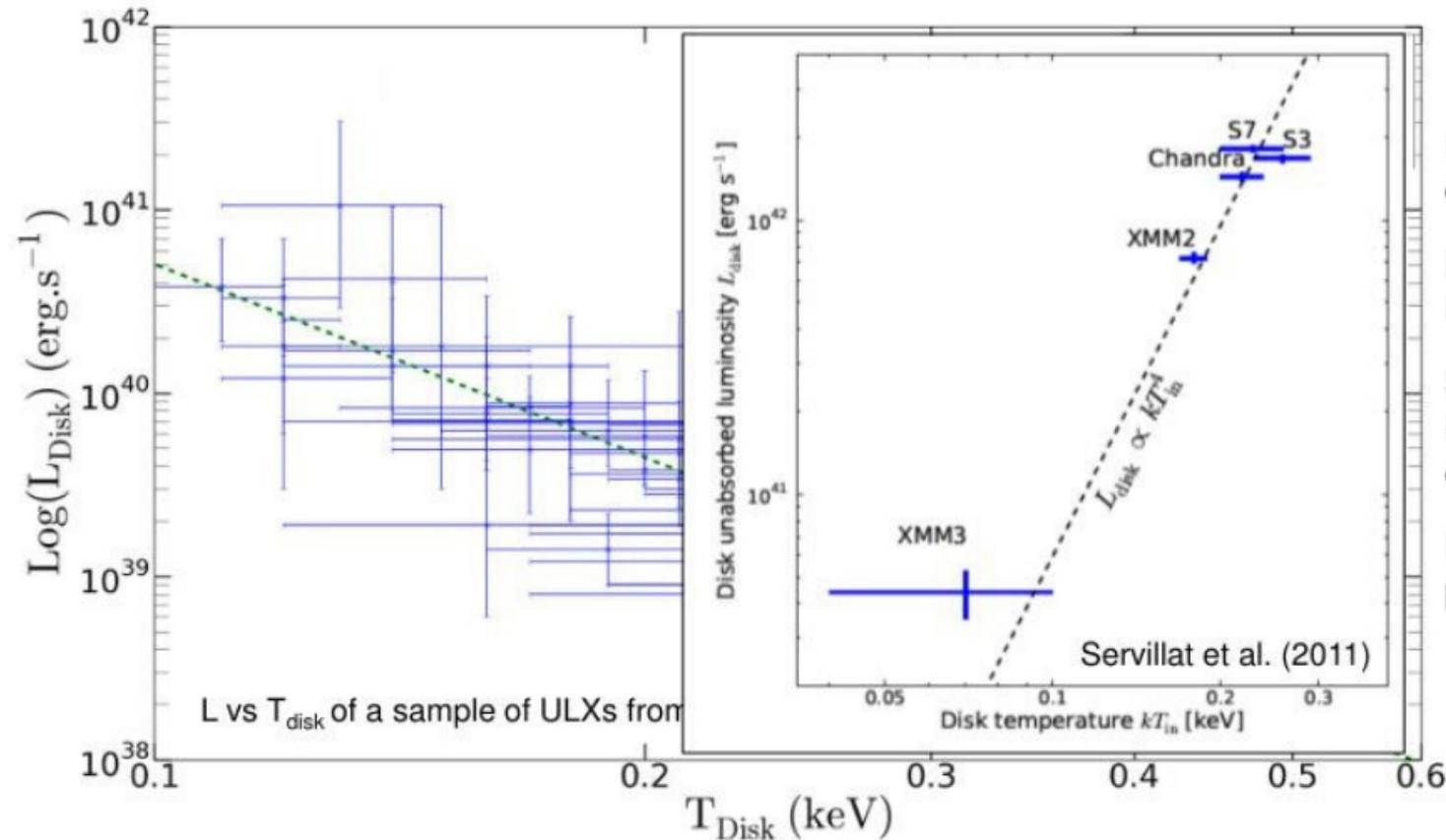
- Combining **radio emission** with **X-rays** could be even more effective at probing AGNs with **very low Eddington ratios**.
- Observationally, the **X-ray luminosity ( $L_X$ )**; a product of the accretion rate and radiative efficiency) and the **radio continuum luminosity ( $L_R$ )**; a measure of the jet power) scale with **the mass of the black hole** in a simple manner, such that a combination of these three quantities forms a tolerably clean two-dimensional sequence (**the fundamental plane**) in three-dimensional space.
- The best-fit: **Gültekin et al. (2019)** is  $\log (M/10^8 M_\odot) = (1.09 \pm 0.10) \log(L_R/10^{38} \text{ erg s}^{-1}) - (0.59 \pm 0.16) \log (L_X/10^{40} \text{ erg s}^{-1}) + (0.55 \pm 0.22)$ .
- One is that among **X-ray binaries**,  $L_R/L_X$  can vary by a factor of at least a few at fixed  $L_X$  (e.g., Jonker et al. 2012).

## 四： Fundamental plane depend on $L_X$ & $L_R$



# 五 : X-ray spectra

## 5.1 The ULX spectra of HLX-1 (Straub et al. 2014)



For Shakura-Sunyaev  
 $\alpha$ -discs:  $L_{\text{disk}} \sim T_{\text{in}}^4$

However, for most ULXs:  
 $L_{\text{disk}} \sim T_{\text{in}}^{-3.5}$

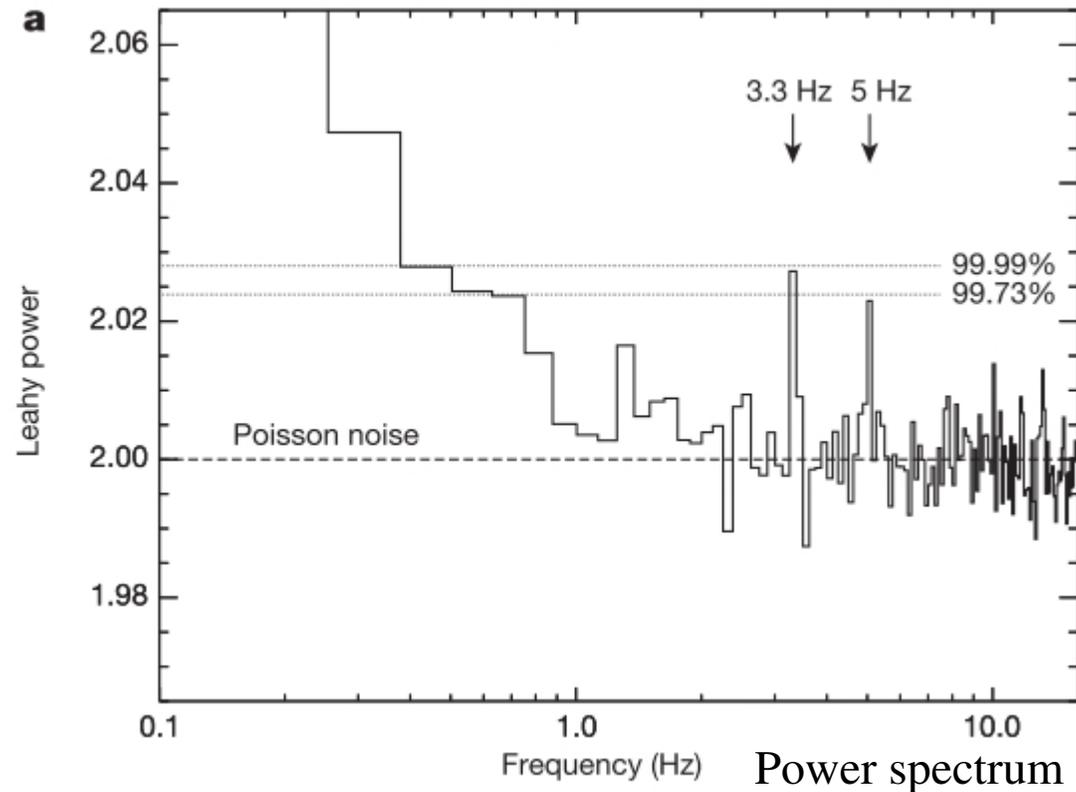
Soft component for bulk of  
ULXs most likely from  
outflow such as disc-wind

HLX-1 soft excess varies as  
predicted for an  $\alpha$ -disc

**The result of HLX-1:  $M_{\text{bh}} \sim 10^4 - 2 \times 10^5 M_{\odot}$**

# 五 : X-ray QPOs

## 5.2 The X-ray QPOs of M82 X-1 ( Pasham et al. 2014 )



Estimate the mass using the **relativistic precession model** (Motta et al.2014), from which we get a value of  $415 \pm 63$  solar masses.

**The result of M82 X-1:  $M_{\text{bh}} = 415 \pm 63 M_{\odot}$**

## 六 : IMBHs searches with transient phenomena

---

### 6.1 Tidal Disruption Events

- TDEs are the electromagnetic signature that may result if a star passes within its tidal radius of a black hole (e.g., Rees 1988).
- In principle it is **possible** to derive MBH from modeling of the TDE **light curve itself** (Lodato et al. 2009, Guillochon & Ramirez-Ruiz 2013, Mockler et al. 2019), as **the emission** from these events depends on **both the mass and radius of the star** and **the mass of the black hole** (e.g., Law-Smith et al. 2017).
- An **X-ray-detected transient** that is a likely TDE with an  $M_{\text{BH}} - \sigma^*$ -based mass estimate of  $1.3\text{--}6.3 \times 10^5 M_{\odot}$  (Maksym et al. 2013).

***Thank You !***