

Please Read Chapter 9 of S&G Active galactic nuclei

Course evaluations are open ! Due before Dec 11

<https://www.irpa.umd.edu/Assessment/CourseEval/CourseEval.html>

Have you been challenged and learned new things? Have I been effective, responsive, respectful, engaging, etc?-or dull,boring, stodgy, unprepared?

Your responses are strictly anonymous. I only see the statistics.

Helps me and future students!



## How Luminous Can They Be

### Eddington limit:

- assume spherical symmetry infalling matter experiences radiation pressure from the release of energy by the infalling matter
- Balancing gravity with radiation pressure calculate the outward force due to Thomson scattering by the electrons; scattering from protons is much less efficient because of their larger mass. (eqs. 9.3 and 9.4 in S&G)

- Force of gravity on test mass  $m$  from black hole mass  $M_{\text{BH}}$

$$F = Gm_p M_{\text{BH}}/r^2; m_p \text{ is the proton mass}$$

Radiation force on test mass  $F_{\text{rad}} = \sigma_T L/4\pi r^2$   $\sigma_T$  is the Thompson cross section

Set the two equal to each other

$$L_{\text{Eddington}} \sim 1.3 \times 10^{38} \text{ M}/M_{\odot} \text{ ergs/sec}$$

Notice that this is MUCH more efficient than nuclear burning (~6% for accretion. 0.4% for nuclear fusion)

## Some Scales (Rees 1984)

A central mass  $M$  has a gravitational radius

$$r_g = \frac{GM}{c^2} = 1.5 \times 10^3 M_8 \text{ cm}, \quad M_8 \text{ is the mass in } 10^8 \text{ solar mass units}$$

where  $M_8$  is the mass in units of  $10^8 M_\odot$ . The characteristic minimum time scale for variability is

$$r_g/c \simeq 500 M_8 \text{ s.} \quad \text{light crossing time} \quad 2.$$

A characteristic luminosity is the ‘‘Eddington limit,’’ at which radiation pressure on free electrons balances gravity:

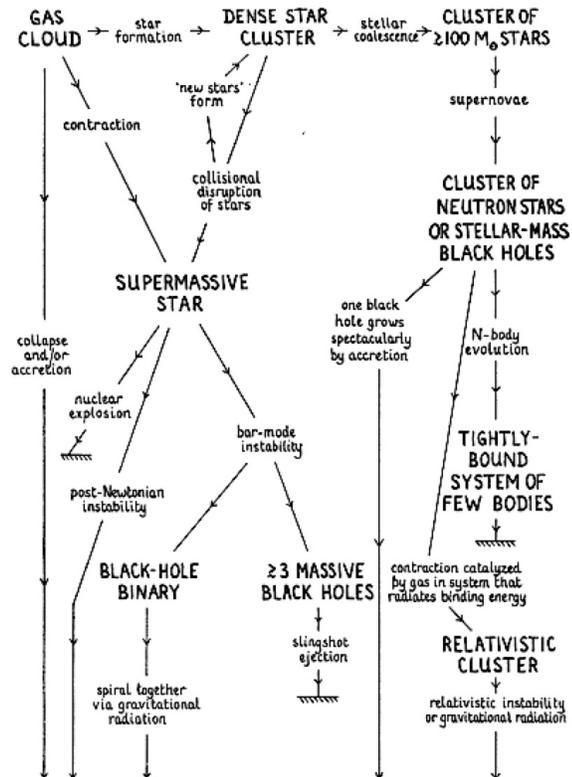
$$L_E = \frac{4\pi GMm_p c}{\sigma_T} \simeq 1.3 \times 10^{46} M_8 \text{ erg s}^{-1}. \quad 3.$$

Related to this is another time scale

$$t_E = \frac{\sigma_T c}{4\pi G m_p} \simeq 4 \times 10^8 \text{ yr.} \quad \text{The time scale to grow a black hole if it were accreting at the Eddington luminosity} \quad 4.$$

## How do we get supermassive black holes

In a dense region all roads lead to a black hole (Rees 1984 ARAA)

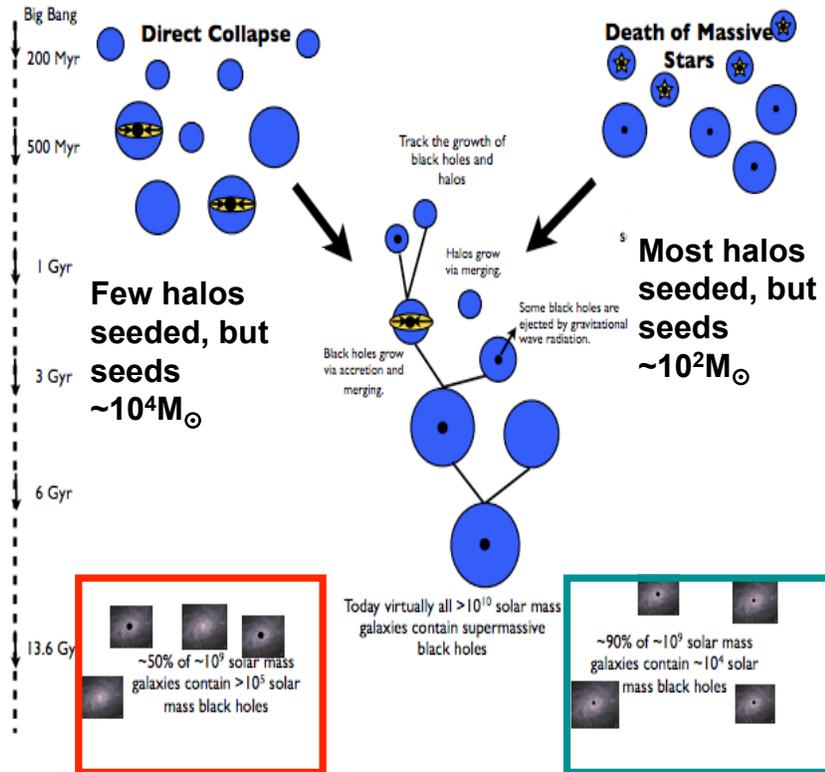


massive black hole

## 2 Scenarios for Birth of SMBHs

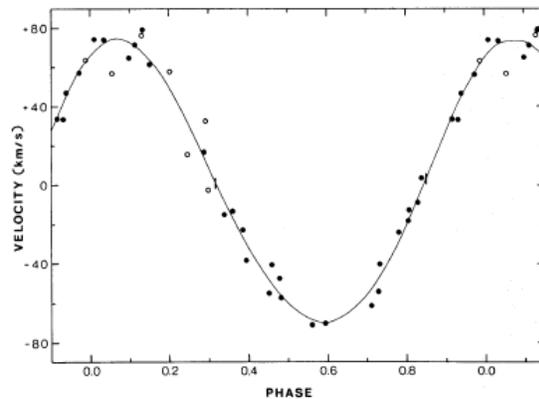
How do SMBHs get started??  
Detect  $M \sim 10^9 M_{\odot}$  BH at  $z \sim 7$  - need to grow fast!

Distinguish the 2 paths based on the fraction of *small* galaxies that today contain SMBHs  
Greene 2012



## Discovery of black holes

- First evidence for an object which 'must' be a black hole came from discovery of the X-ray source Cygnus X-1
  - Binary star system... black hole in orbit around a massive O-star; period = 5.6 days - not eclipsing
  - Mass of x-ray emitting object 7-13  $M_{\odot}$  - too high for a NS. Object emits lots of x-rays, little optical light.
  - X-rays produced due to accretion of stellar wind from O-star
  - 2kpc away



Velocity curve of the stellar companion  
It is a massive O star

Keplers laws give (where  $K$  is the velocity of the companion)

$$f(M) = P_{\text{orb}} K^3 / 2\pi G = M_1 \sin^3 i / (1 + q)^2.$$

$q = M_2 / M_1$ ,  $i$  is the inclination of the orbit,  $K$  is the velocity

the value of the mass function  $f(M)$  is the absolute minimum mass of the compact star

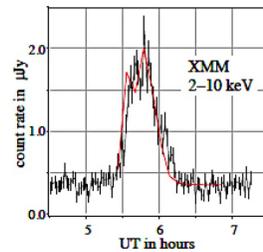
# Stellar Mass Black Holes in the Milky Way

**Table 1.** Confirmed black holes and mass determinations

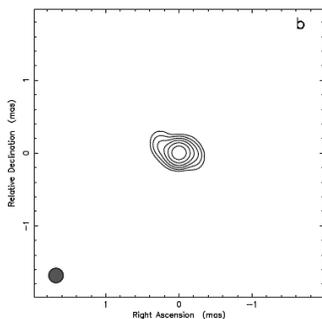
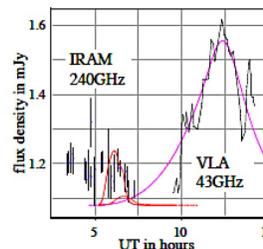
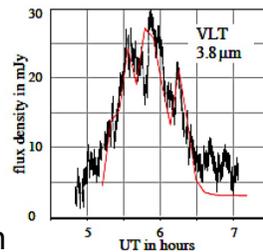
System	$P_{\text{orb}}$ [days]	$f(M)$ [ $M_{\odot}$ ]	Donor Spect. Type	Classification	$M_x$ † [ $M_{\odot}$ ]
GRS 1915+105 <sup>a</sup>	33.5	$9.5 \pm 3.0$	K/M III	LMXB/Transient	$14 \pm 4$
V404 Cyg	6.471	$6.09 \pm 0.04$	K0 IV	"	$12 \pm 2$
Cyg X-1	5.600	$0.244 \pm 0.005$	O9.7 Iab	HMXB/Persistent	$10 \pm 3$
LMC X-1	4.229	$0.14 \pm 0.05$	O7 III	"	$> 4$
XTE J1819-254	2.816	$3.13 \pm 0.13$	B9 III	IMXB/Transient	$7.1 \pm 0.3$
GRO J1655-40	2.620	$2.73 \pm 0.09$	F3/5 IV	"	$6.3 \pm 0.3$
BW Cir <sup>b</sup>	2.545	$5.74 \pm 0.29$	G5 IV	LMXB/Transient	$> 7.8$
GX 339-4	1.754	$5.8 \pm 0.5$	-	"	
LMC X-3	1.704	$2.3 \pm 0.3$	B3 V	HMXB/Persistent	$7.6 \pm 1.3$
XTE J1550-564	1.542	$6.86 \pm 0.71$	G8/K8 IV	LMXB/Transient	$9.6 \pm 1.2$
4U 1543-475	1.125	$0.25 \pm 0.01$	A2 V	IMXB/Transient	$9.4 \pm 1.0$
H1705-250	0.520	$4.86 \pm 0.13$	K3/7 V	LMXB/Transient	$6 \pm 2$
GS 1124-684	0.433	$3.01 \pm 0.15$	K3/5 V	"	$7.0 \pm 0.6$
XTE J1859+226 <sup>c</sup>	0.382	$7.4 \pm 1.1$	-	"	
GS2000+250	0.345	$5.01 \pm 0.12$	K3/7 V	"	$7.5 \pm 0.3$
A0620-003	0.325	$2.72 \pm 0.06$	K4 V	"	$11 \pm 2$
XTE J1650-500	0.321	$2.73 \pm 0.56$	K4 V	"	
GRS 1009-45	0.283	$3.17 \pm 0.12$	K7/M0 V	"	$5.2 \pm 0.6$
GRO J0422+32	0.212	$1.19 \pm 0.02$	M2 V	"	$4 \pm 1$
XTE J1118+480	0.171	$6.3 \pm 0.2$	K5/M0 V	"	$6.8 \pm 0.4$

## The Center of the Milky Way

- The center of the MW is called Sagittarius A\* (SgrA\*) from the name of the radio source at the dynamical center of the MW.
- This is also the location of a weak, time variable x-ray source ( $\log L_x \sim 34$  erg/sec- 100x less than a typical x-ray binary) and IR source
- The radio source is very small (VLBI) ( $< 0.0005'' < 50R_s$  for  $M = 4 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$  BH at  $d = 8$  kpc)
- At SgrA\*  $1'' = 0.04 \text{ pc} = 1.2 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}$ ,  $0.5 \text{ mas} = 6 \text{ AU}$



Radio, near IR and x-ray light curves



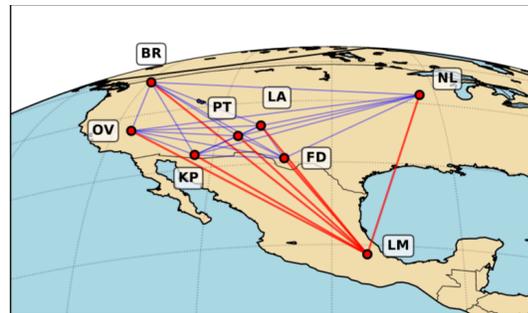
Radio image of SgrA\*  
Goal of the Event Horizon Telescope is to directly image at scales of  $R_s$

# Schwarzschild and Kerr Metric

- for a Schwarzschild BH (non-spinning) the innermost **stable** radius is  $3R_s=6GM/c^2$  - there are no stable circular orbits at smaller radii
  - the binding energy from this orbit is 0.0572 of the rest mass energy
- **$R_s = 2GM_{BH}/c^2 \approx 3xM_{BH}$  km. ( $M$  in solar masses) eq 9.1 in S&G**
- For a Kerr BH (at maximum spin) the innermost stable radius is at  $r_+=GM/c^2$  The spinning black hole drags the the inertial frame-
- The smaller critical radius allows more energy to be released by infalling matter
  - **For a Kerr BH, 0.423 of the rest mass energy can be released.**

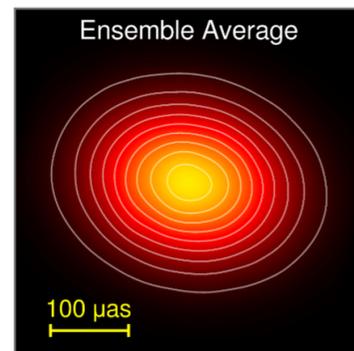
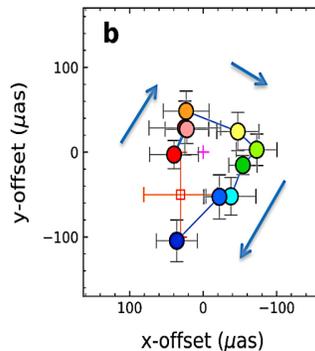
## Best Image of SgrA\*

- $(147 \pm 7 \mu\text{as}) \times (120 \pm 12 \mu\text{as})$ , at position angle  $88^\circ \pm 7^\circ$  (Ortiz-Léon 2016)
- This corresponds  $\sim 6.5 R_s$  for a  $4 \times 10^6 M_\odot$  black hole.
- Detection of orbital motions near the last stable circular orbit of the massive black hole SgrA\* -we are seeing !



"face on"

- GRAVITY Collaboration 2018  
[arxiv.org/pdf/1810.12641.pdf](https://arxiv.org/pdf/1810.12641.pdf)



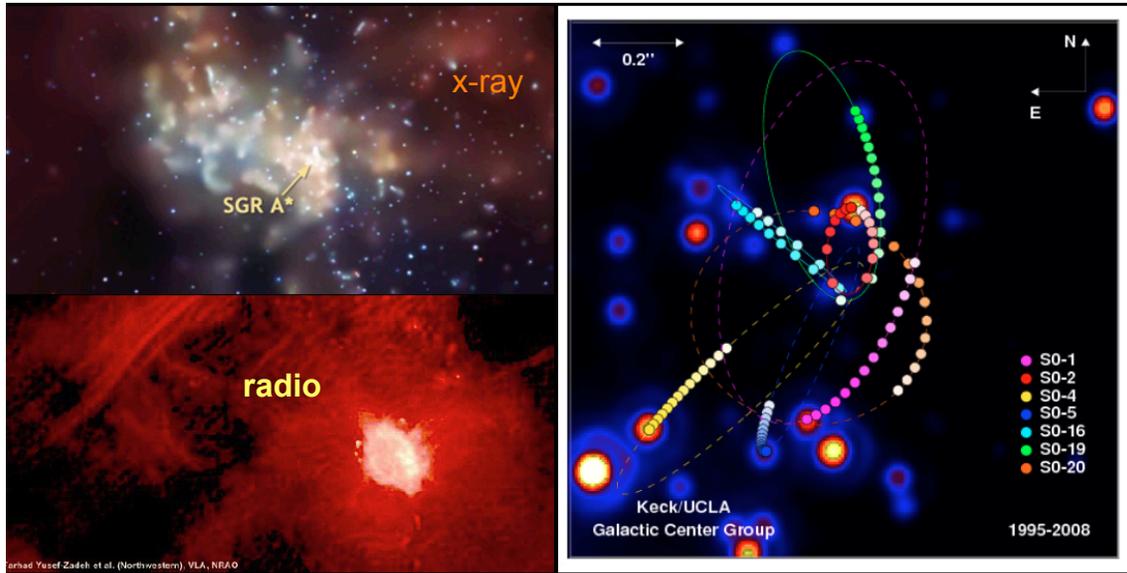
## Some Problems with Sgr A\*

- There is lots of gas for accretion in the galactic center from the ISM and stellar winds
- Yet the observed luminosity is very low ( $L/L_{\text{Edd}} \sim 10^{-10}$ )
- What happens to the accretion energy- where does the mass and energy go
- Sgr A\* is similar to >95% of all massive galaxies- they have big black holes, but low luminosities **TODAY!** (AGN evolution)

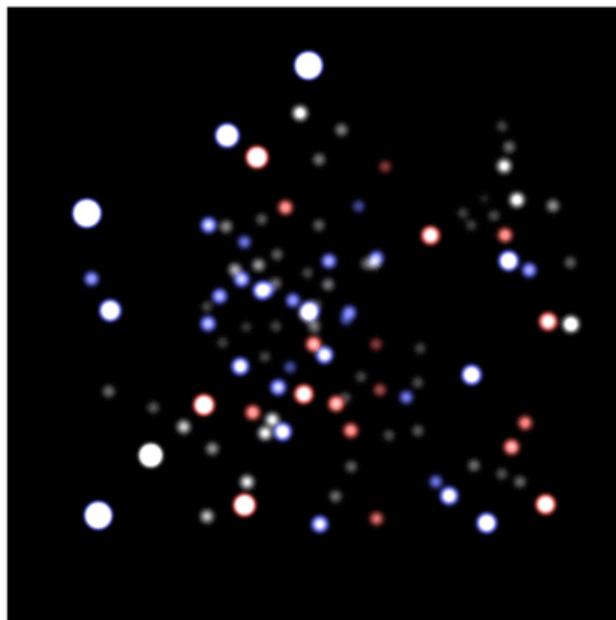


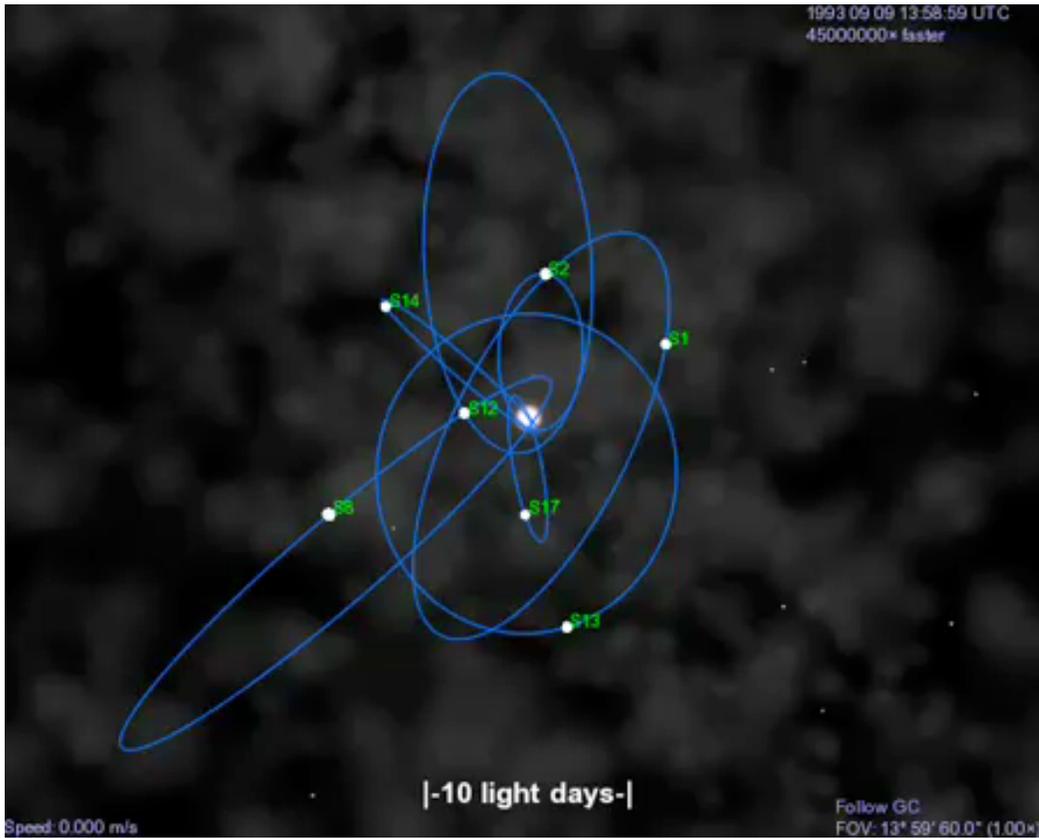
# MW Galactic Center

- galactic centers are 'special' places
- MW galactic center



Motion of Stars Around the Center of the Milkyway- see  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZDxFjq-scvU>  
<http://www.mpe.mpg.de/ir/GC/>





## Velocity Distribution of Stars Near the Center of the MW

*A Supermassive Black Hole in the Milky Way*

29

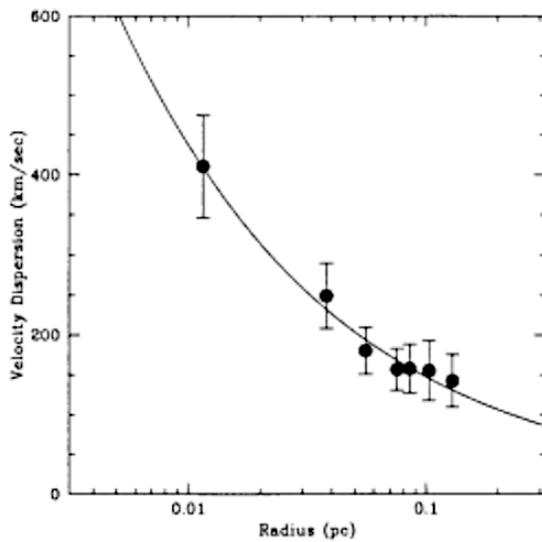


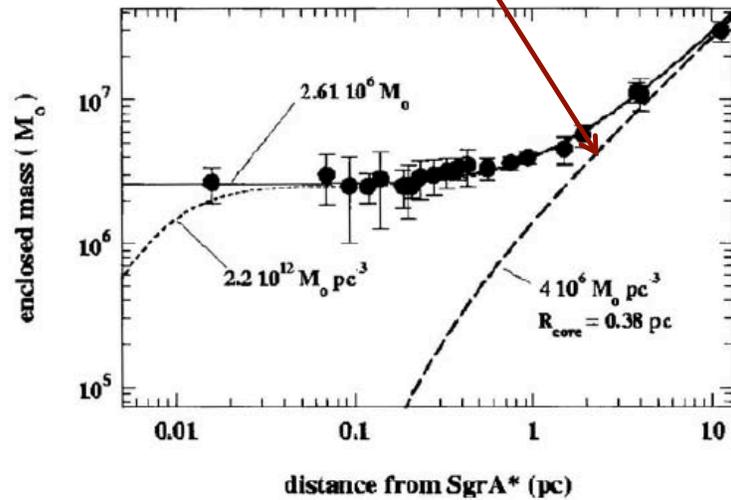
Figure 7. The projected stellar velocity dispersion as a function of projected distance from Sgr A\* is consistent with Keplerian motion, which implies that the gravitational field is dominated by mass within 0.1 pc.

Ghez et al 1998

# MW Center

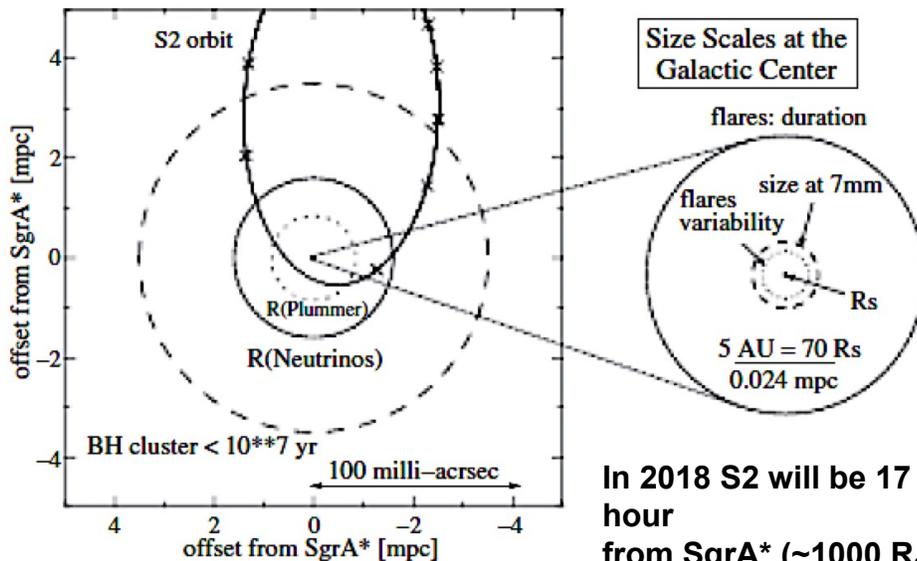
Predicted mass from models of the Milkyway

- Two teams led by R. Genzel and A. Ghez have measured the 3-D velocities of individual stars in the galactic center
- This allows a determination of the mass within given radii
- The inferred density of the central region is  $>10^{12} M_{\odot}/pc^3$



- As shown by Genzel et al the stability of alternatives to a black hole (dark clusters composed of white dwarfs, neutron stars, stellar black holes or sub-stellar entities) shows that a dark cluster of mass  $2.6 \times 10^6 M_{sun}$  and density  $20 M_{sun} pc^{-3}$  or greater can not be stable for more than about 10 million years

the milky way's black hole and the Central Stellar Cluster



Eckart-

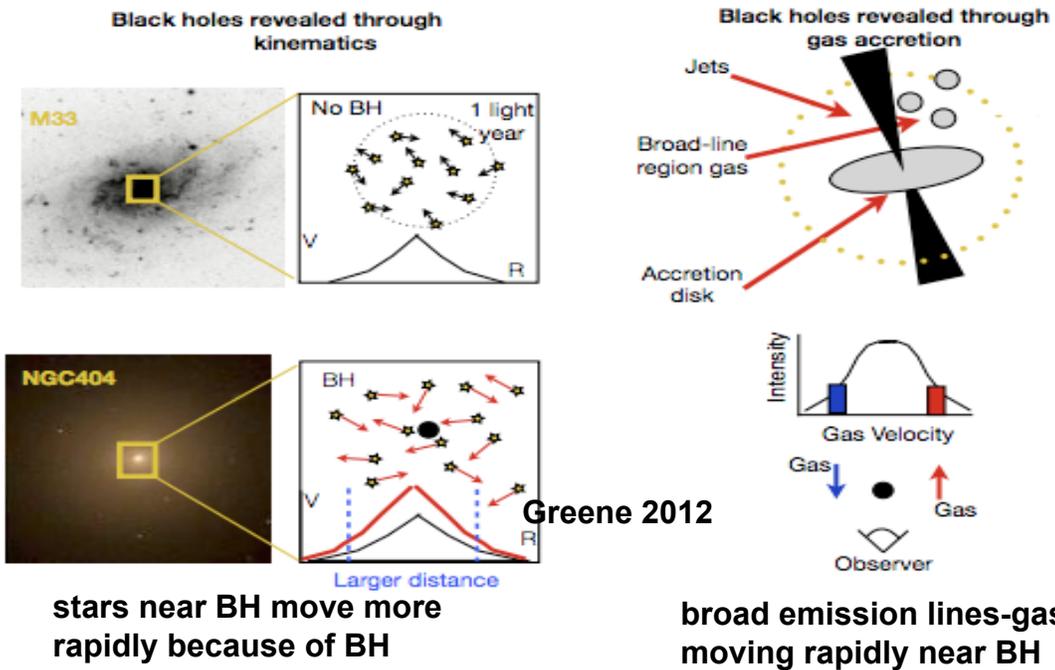
Data has gotten much better- GRAVITY at the VLT-

<https://astronomynow.com/2016/06/23/>

successful-first-observations-of-galactic-centre-with-gravity-instrument/

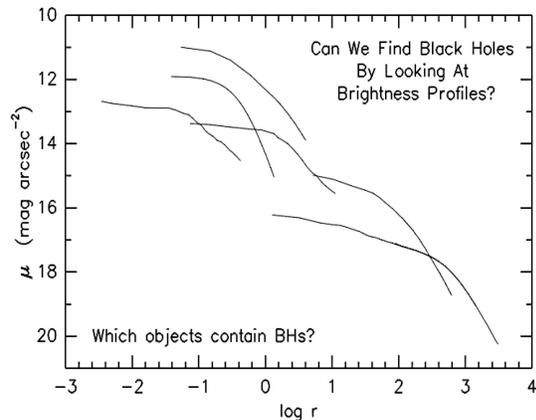
# Finding SMBHs

- Detect SMBHs via presence of an AGN (~10% today) OR
- Via dynamics (motion of stars or gas)... imply ~100% at  $M_{\text{galaxy}} > 10^{10} M_{\odot}$ .



## What About Other Supermassive Black Holes

- At the centers of galaxies- much more distant than SgrA\*
- First idea: look for a 'cusp' of stars caused by the presence of the black hole- doesn't work, nature produces a large variety of stellar density profiles... need dynamical data
- Dynamical data: use the collisionless Boltzman eq (seen this before)
- $V$ =rotational term; velocity dispersion has 3 components  $\sigma_r, \sigma_\phi$

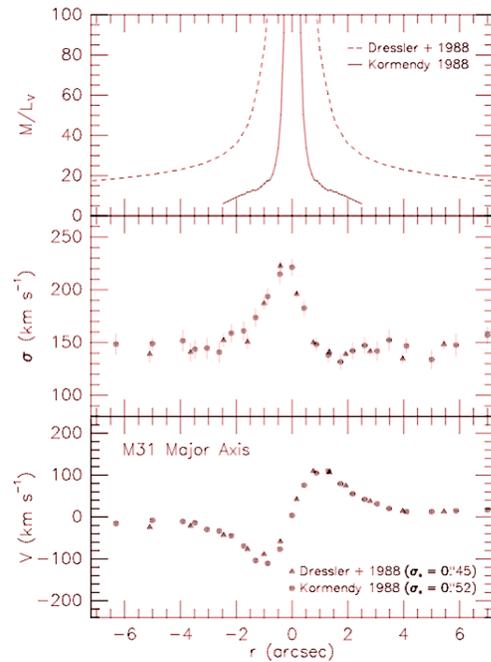


Kormendy and Richstone (2003)

$$M(r) = \frac{V^2 r}{G} + \frac{\sigma_r^2 r}{G} \left[ -\frac{d \ln \nu}{d \ln r} - \frac{d \ln \sigma_r^2}{d \ln r} - \left(1 - \frac{\sigma_\theta^2}{\sigma_r^2}\right) - \left(1 - \frac{\sigma_\phi^2}{\sigma_r^2}\right) \right]$$

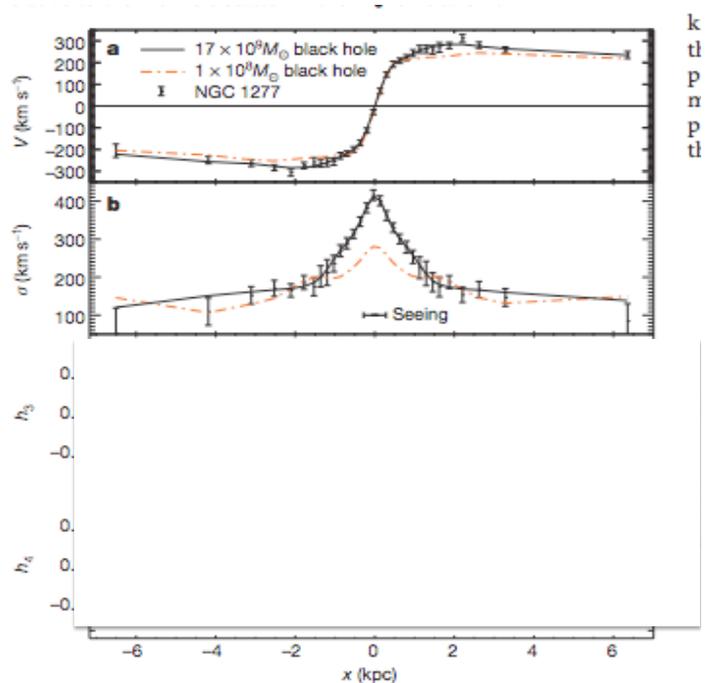
## Example of data for the nearest galaxy M31

- Notice the nasty terms
- $V_r$  is the rotation velocity  $\sigma_r, \sigma_\theta, \sigma_\phi$  are the 3-D components of the velocity dispersion  $\nu$  is the density of stars
- All of these variables are 3-D; we observe projected quantities !
- The analysis is done by generating a set of stellar orbits and then minimizing
- Rotation and random motions (dispersion) are both important.
- Effects of seeing (from the ground) are important: smear the image, reduce BH dynamical signal-



## NGC1277- Velocity Data and BH Mass

- Top is rotation curve vs distance from center
- Middle is velocity dispersion vs distance from center
- 

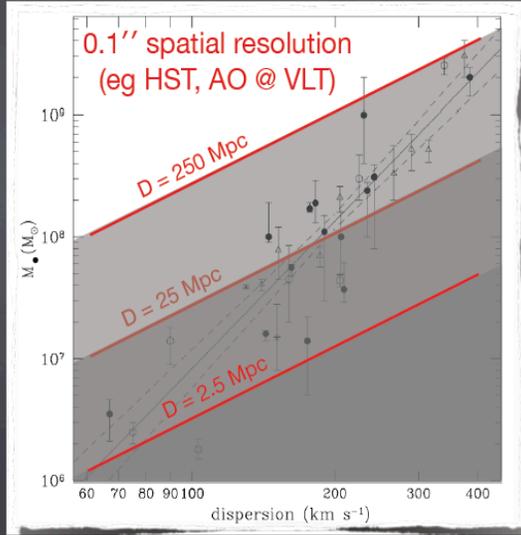


k  
tl  
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nr  
p  
tl

# Direct BH mass measurements

BH sphere of influence  $r_{BH} = \frac{G M_{BH}}{\sigma_*^2} = 10.7 \text{ pc} \left( \frac{M_{BH}}{10^8 M_\odot} \right) \left( \frac{\sigma_*}{200 \text{ km/s}} \right)^{-2}$

$\theta_{BH} = 0.11'' \left( \frac{M_{BH}}{10^8 M_\odot} \right) \left( \frac{\sigma_*}{200 \text{ km/s}} \right)^{-2} \left( \frac{D}{20 \text{ Mpc}} \right)^{-1}$

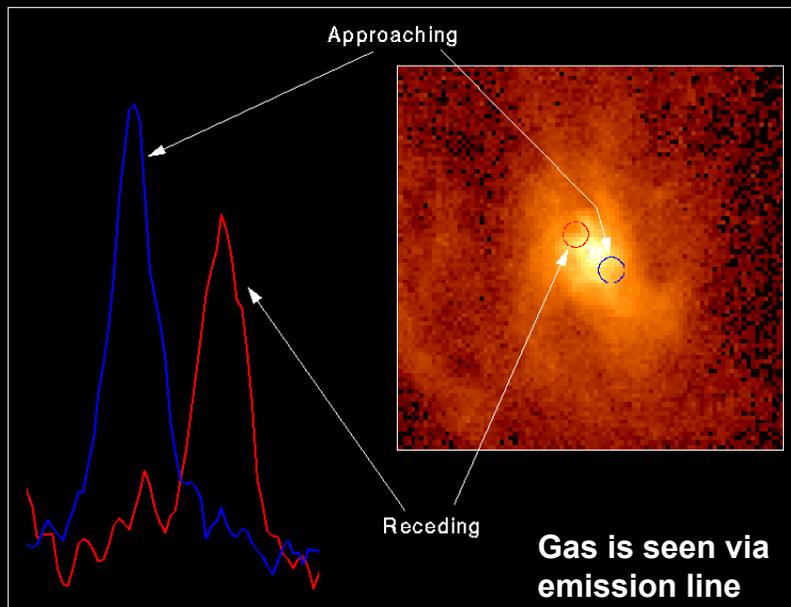


BHs are directly detectable with spatially resolved kinematics ONLY in the local universe

Need to calibrate indirect BH mass estimators like for the cosmological distance ladder

Marconi

## Spectrum of Gas Disk in Active Galaxy M87



Gas is seen via emission line

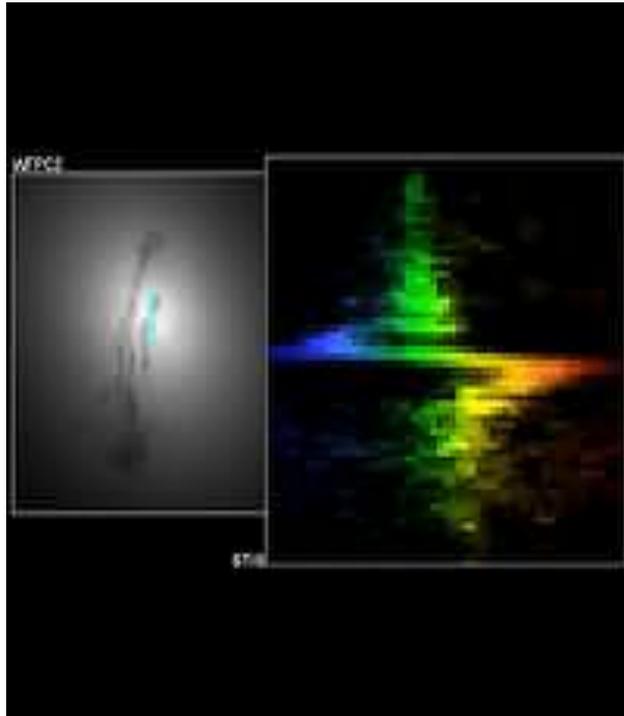
Hubble Space Telescope • Faint Object Spectrograph



Harms et al 1999

## Measuring the Mass of a SuperMassive Black hole

- Image of central regions and Velocity of gas near the center of M84 a nearby galaxy (Bower et al 1998) -
- The color scale maps the range of velocity along the slit, with blue and red color representing velocities (with respect to systemic) that are blueshifted and redshifted, respectively.
- The dispersion axis (horizontal) covers a velocity interval of  $1445 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , while the spatial axis (vertical) covers the central 3 arcsec;



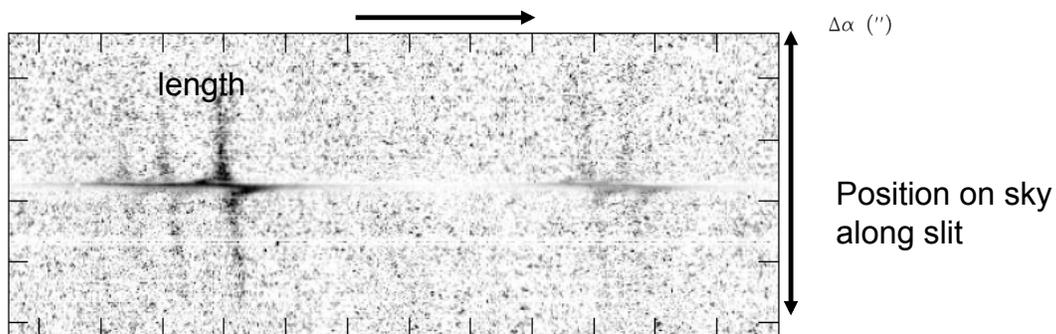
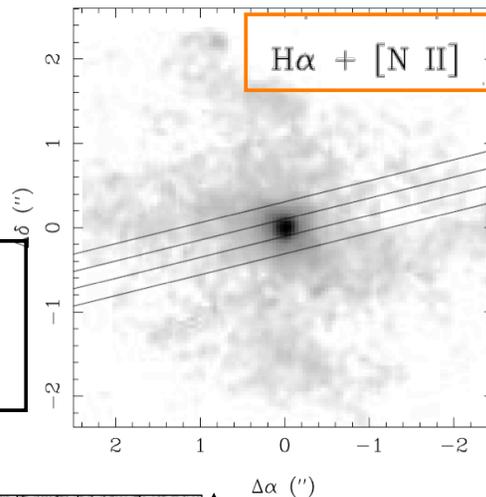
## Measurement of Kinematics o

### Gas

- Image of optical emission line emitting gas around the central region of the nearby giant galaxy M84

### HST STIS Observations of the Nuclear Ionized Gas in the Elliptical Galaxy M84

G. A. Bower, R. F. Green, D.



# Centaurus -A

- 2 dimensional velocity maps for gas and stars allow assumptions to be checked (Neumayer et al, Cappellari et al )

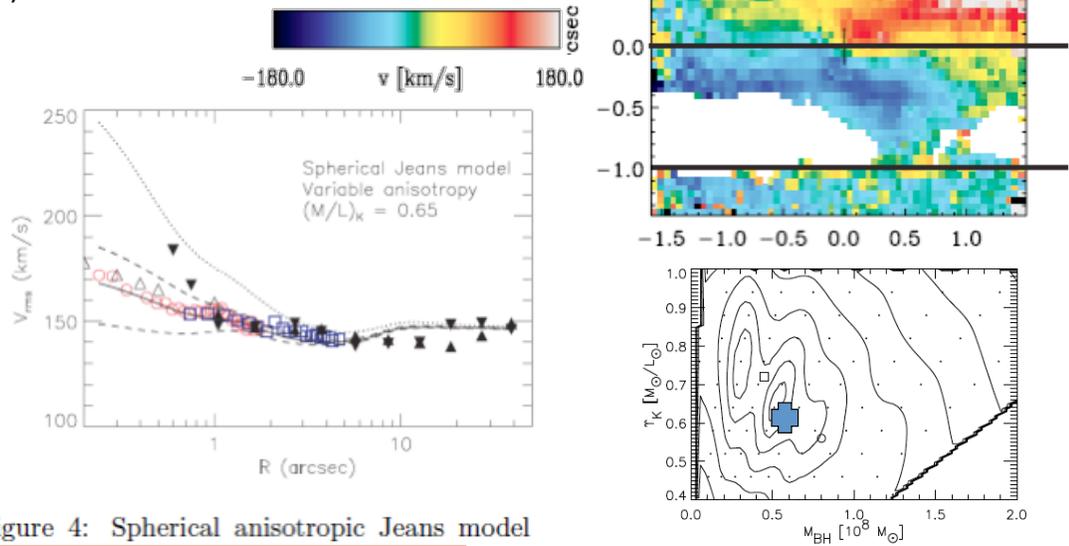
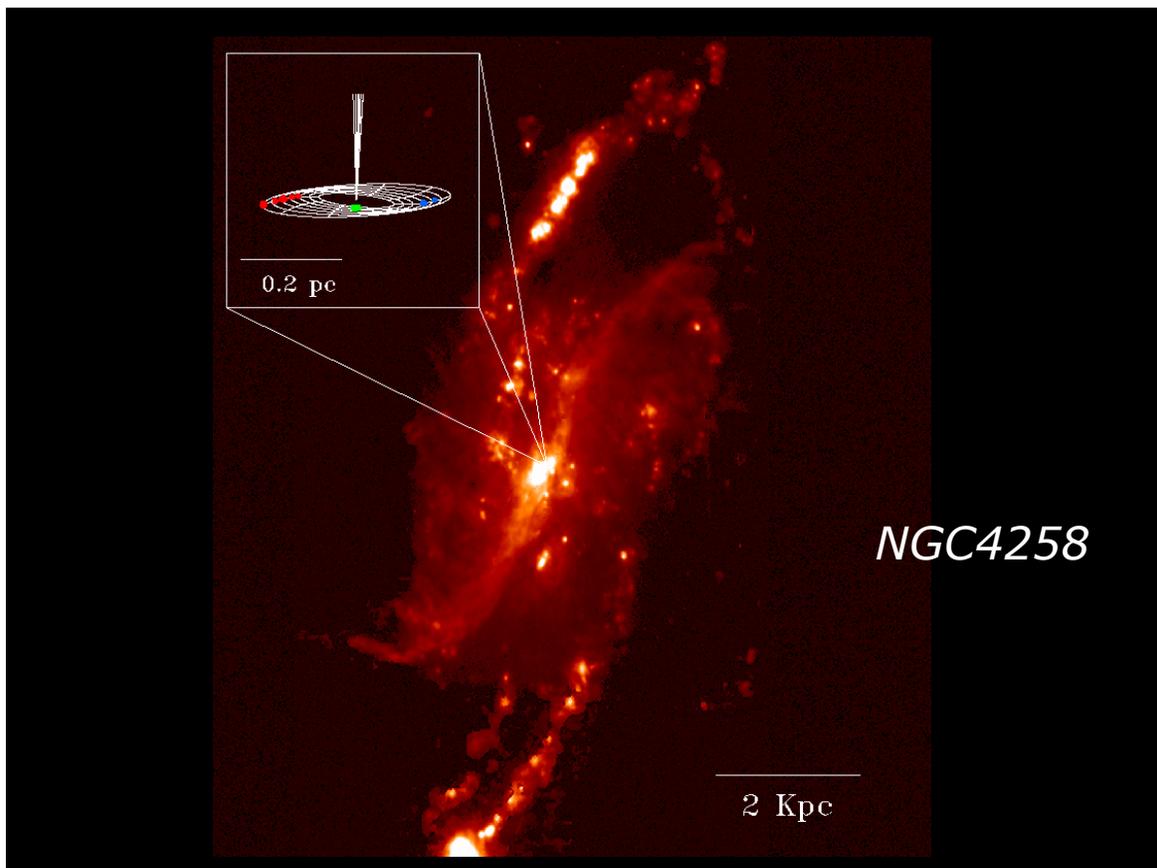


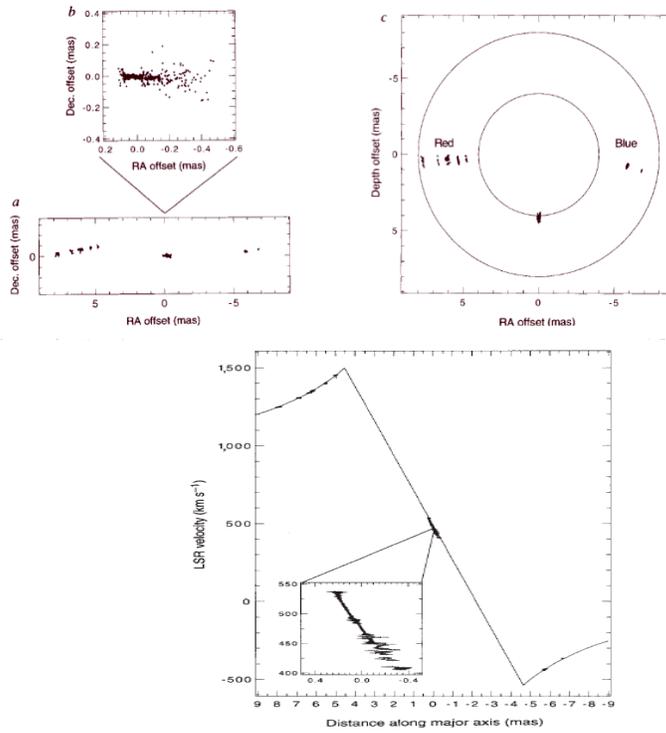
Figure 4: Spherical anisotropic Jeans model

$M_{BH} = (5.5 \pm 3.0) \times 10^7 M_{\odot}$ . Constraints from stars compared to those from Gas Velocities

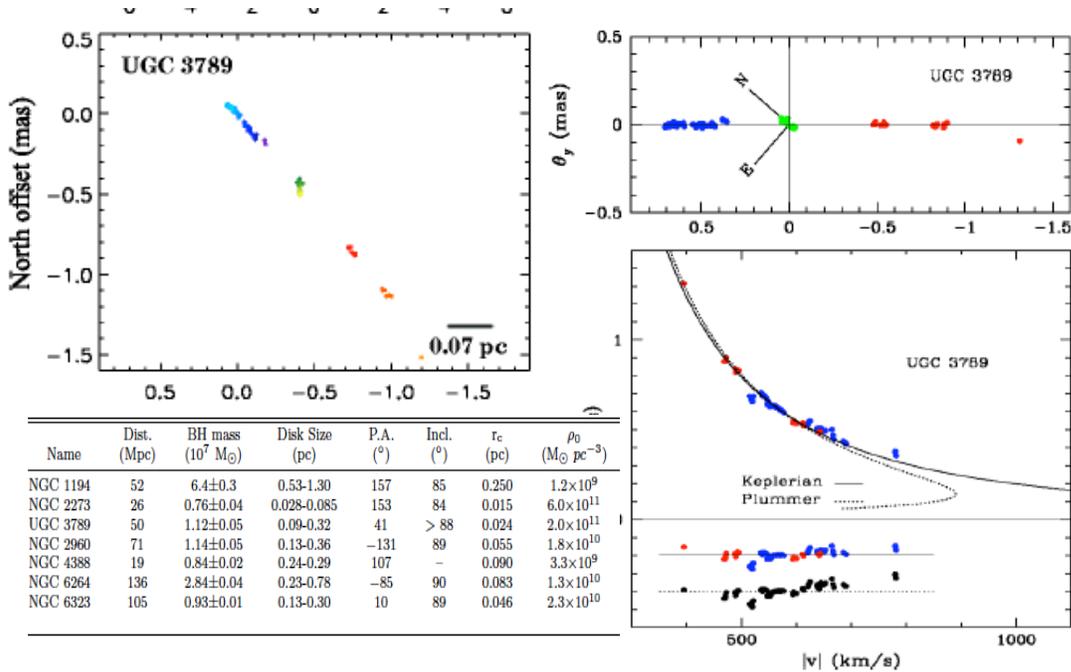


# Use of Masers for an AGN BH Masses

- The nearby galaxy NGC4258 has a thick disk which is traced by water maser emission
- Given the very high angular and velocity resolution possible with radio observations of masers the dynamics of the system are very well measured.

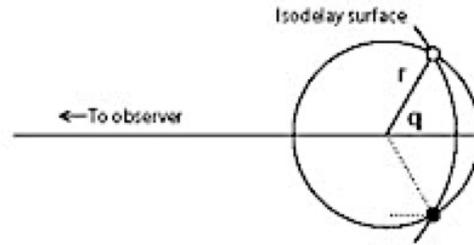


## Other Masers

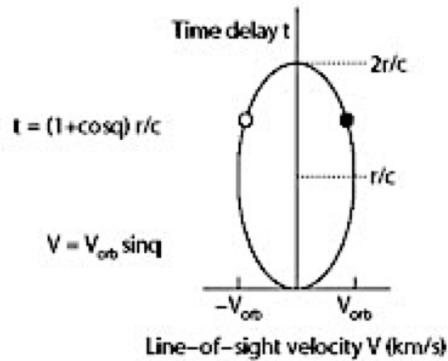


# What About AGN in General??

- The enormous luminosity of AGN comes from accretion onto a black hole
- However the 'glare' of the black hole makes measuring the dynamics of stars and gas near the black hole very difficult



- Technique: reverberation mapping (Peterson 2003)
  - The basic idea is that there exists gas which is moderately close to the Black Hole (the so-called broad line region) whose ionization is controlled by the radiation from the black hole
  - Thus when the central source varies the gas will respond, with a timescale related to how far away it is



## Virial Mass Estimates

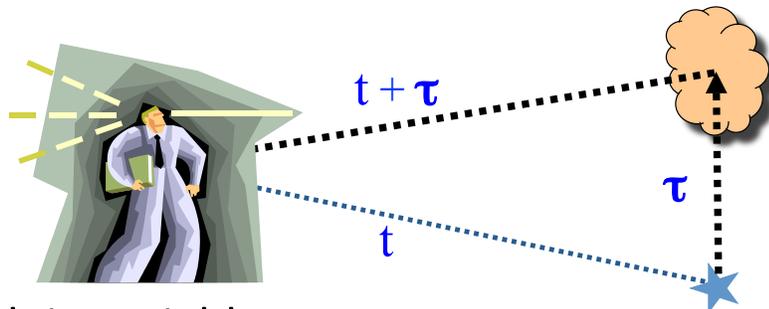
$$M_{BH} = f v^2 R_{BLR} / G$$

Reverberation Mapping:

- $R_{BLR} = c \tau$

- $v_{BLR}$

Line width in variable spectrum

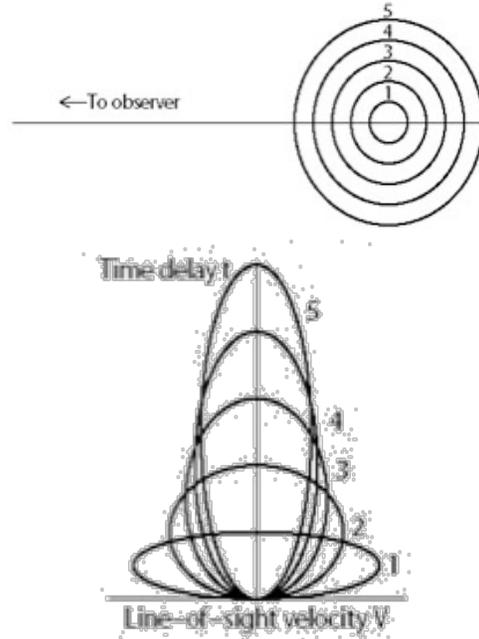


# The Geometry

- Points  $(r, \theta)$  in the source map into line-of-sight velocity/time-delay  $(V, \tau)$  space according to  $V = -V_{\text{orb}} \sin(\theta)$ , where  $V_{\text{orb}}$  is the orbital speed, and  $\tau = (1 + \cos(\theta))r / c$ .
- The idea is that the broad line clouds exist in 'quasi-Keplerian' orbits and respond to the variations in the central source. Lower ionization lines are further away from the central source.
- So

$$M_{\text{BH}} = frV^2/G$$

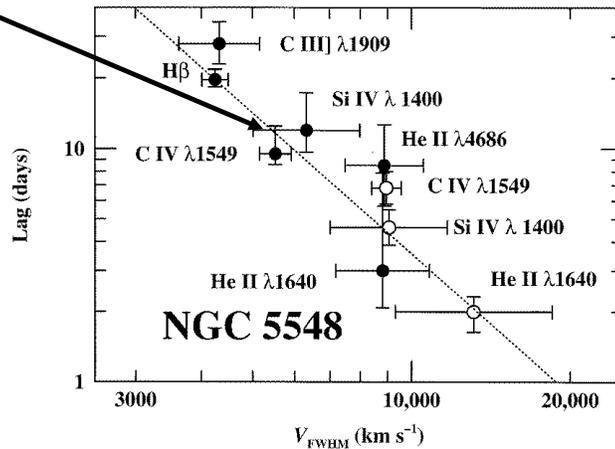
$f$  is a parameter related to geometry- and the orbits of the gas clouds- assumption is that gas is in a bound orbit around the BH



$r=ct$ , where  $t$  is the time delay

## What is Observed??

- The higher ionization lines have a larger width (rotational speed) and respond faster (closer to BH)
- Line is consistent with idea of photoionization, density  $\sim r^{-2}$  and Keplerian motions dominating the line shapes ( $v \sim r^{-1/2}$ )
- Such data exist for  $\sim 40$  sources
- At present  $M_{\text{BH}}$  can be estimated to within a factor of a few:  $M \propto \text{FWHM}^2 L^{0.5}$



Dotted line corresponds to a mass of  $6.8 \times 10^7 M_{\odot}$   
Peterson and Wandel 1999

# End of Mass Determination