# The parents of LIGO black holes and their hometown



Vishal Baibhav CIERA, Northwestern University





## Exciting times for a Gravitational wave (astro)physicist



LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA | Aaron Geller | Northwestern

EM Neutron Stars



## Where, when, how were LIGO BHs born?



Isolated

Common envelope, Chemically homogeneous evolution, Triples



Dynamical

Globular clusters, Nuclear star clusters, Young star cluster, Active galactic nuclei

## Black binary formation through field binaries





## The 'separation problem'

 $t_{
m merger} = 13.6\,{
m Gyr} \Big(rac{a}{46R_{\odot}}\Big)^4$ 



## The 'separation problem'

#### ~1000 R







































Mandel & deMink 2016





# Black binary formation in star clusters



# $egin{aligned} extbf{Mass segregation} & extbf{Mass segregation} \ t_{ extbf{Ms}} \sim 100 \, extbf{Myr} \left( rac{M_{ ext{cl}}}{10^7 M_{\odot}} ight)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$



## three body binary formation $BH + BH + BH \rightarrow (BH-BH) + BH$



## binary-single exchanges

BH + (Star-Star)  $\rightarrow$  (BH-Star) + Star BH + (BH - Star)  $\rightarrow$  (BH-BH) + Star

 $\star$ 



### Hardening a binary

BH + (BH - -BH) = BH + (BH - BH)





## Where/when/how were LIGO BHs born?



Isolated

Common envelope, Chemically homogeneous, Triples



Globular clusters, Nuclear star clusters, Young star cluster, Active galactic nuclei

## Where/when/how were LIGO BHs born?

## What GWs can tell us?





Isolated

#### What we don't know?

Mass transfer

Star formation rate Common envelope efficiency Explosion Mass loss mechanism Metallicity evolution Rotational mixing 0 Stellar winds  $(\bigcirc)$ Nuclear reaction rates



Natal kicks

Time delays

Pair instability supernovae

cluster properties

Initial Mass function

BH birth spins

Angular momentum transport

Escape velocities

Initial conditions



Field

#### Cluster



## Discovering the homeland of LIGO binaries?



# Discovering the homeland of LIGO binaries



### Discovering the homeland of LIGO binaries?





Zevin+2020

## Repeated mergers in clusters



#### First generation (1g)

-born from stars

#### Second generation (2g)

-born from previous mergers

 $M_{2g} = 2 M_{1g} \quad \chi_{2g} \approx 0.7$ 

### Can clusters retain their BHs?







### Can clusters retain their BHs?





### Finding 2g black holes in our midst

## Day 27: Natives have accepted me as one of their own

**2g BH** 

1g BH

1g BH

#### 1g BH



### The Mass Gap





### The Mass Gap





## Filling the gap

Mass gap exists due to PISN and PPISN Second-generation mergers fill the gap





## GW190521



 $85 M_{\odot}$   $50 M_{\odot}$   $33 M_{\odot}$ 



## Filling the gap

Mass gap exists due to PISN and PPISN Second-generation mergers fill the gap





# The Spin Gap $a\sim 10^{-2}$

aHe 0.0 -0.5



Fuller, Ma 2019

## **Repeated Mergers can fill the SPIN GAP**





## **Repeated Mergers can fill the SPIN GAP**



1g+2g



2g+2g

## **Repeated Mergers can fill the SPIN GAP**



1g+2g



2g+2g



## Parents of second-generation black holes



## Parents of GW190412



#### Gerosa, Vitale, Berti 2020 (PRL) Rodriguez et al 2020 (ApJL)





## Parents of GW190412

Parents of GW190412 likely had asymmetric masses, q=0.2 and near-zero spins







## Parents of GW190412 and their Hometown





## What GWs can tell us?

Masses Spins Distance



Isolated

#### What we don't know?

Mass transfer

Star formation rate Common envelope efficiency Explosion Mass loss mechanism Metallicity evolution Rotational mixing 0  $\bigcirc$ Stellar winds Nuclear reaction rates



## A promise ...



