# Do Black Holes Really Exist? Good Candidate: Cygnus X-1

- Binary system: 30  $\rm M_{Sun}$  star with unseen companion.
- Binary orbit => companion > 7  $M_{Sun}$ .
- X-rays => million degree gas falling into black hole.



## Supermassive black holes

We find supermassive black holes at the centers of essentially all large galaxies.

Evidence comes from high orbital speeds of nearby gas or stars. Masses range from  $10^6 M_{\odot}$  to  $10^9 M_{\odot}$ .

These objects show themselves by their accretion disks or jets.



### First evidence: NGC4258



#### Supermassive (3 million solar mass) Black Hole at the Galactic Center



### **Shadow of a Black Hole**





### **Shadow of a Black Hole**



Optical image of the host galaxy

Radio image from Event Horizon Telescope



### **Supermassive Binary Black Holes**

3C75  $\implies$  7 kpc separation



0402+379

7 pc separation



### Constraining the Orbit in 0402+379



#### Bansal et al. 2017



Circular orbit at an inclination

Close-up view

### Do black holes exist forever?

- Maybe not: there may be something called *Hawking radiation*.
- Virtual pairs of particles pop in and out of existence. If they are near the event horizon, one might get caught, the other escape, cause the black hole to evaporate. Relevant only for mini-black holes.



the strong gravitational field around a black hole causes pair production



if a pair is produced outside the event horizon, then one member will fall back into the black hole, but the other member will escape and the black hole loses mass

• BHs slowly lose mass and energy by Hawking Radiation

$$t_{evap} \approx (\frac{M}{M_{\odot}})^3 x \, 2x 10^{67} yrs$$

BHs of mass  $< 10^{11}$  kg would have evaporated by now.



### Gravitational Waves



Hanford, Washington

Livingston, Louisiana

LIGO (Laser Interferometric Gravity-Wave Observatory)

#### **Gravitational Waves**



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#### Gravitational Waves



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# Cosmic Explosions

# Greg Taylor (UNM)

### Astro 421

# Announcements

- Review on Th. Nov 17
- Exam 3 on Tu. Nov 22
- Peer review reports due Mo. Nov 28
- Panel review in class on Tu. Nov 29
- Term Paper presentations Dec 6: (10 min each) Jesus, Christine, Talia, Sharleen, Joaquin, Jake, Soumyodipta
- Term Paper presentations Dec 8: (10 min each) Will, Simon, Damen, Tousif, Matthew, Skylar, Prat
- Written paper deadline Dec 12

# HW8/Panel Review

- How to review a scientific proposal
- Read 4 proposals each ~3 pages
- Rank the 4 proposals from best to worst & score 0-5
- Write a brief evaluation consisting of:
  - Two sentences explain the nature of the proposal
  - Paragraph on the strengths
  - Paragraph on the weaknesses
  - Two sentence summary and recommendation
- Peer review reports due noon Mo. Nov 28
- Panel review in class on Tu. Nov 29

# Cassiopeia A: Supernova Remnant



# An early gamma ray-burst



# A Gamma Ray Burst Sampler





# The BeppoSAX Satellite



#### **GRB classification**

- Long bursts
  - > 2 sec, mean 30 sec
  - Afterglows commonly observed
- Short bursts
  - < 2 sec, mean 0.3 sec
  - Fewer afterglows observed



BATSE burst duration

# X-Ray Afterglow from GRB 971214



t=6.5 hrs t=12.5 hrs t=54 hrs

# Optical Afterglow from GRB 971214



Keck Images



HST Image



Implications of GRB host galaxies:

Location matching with SF regions would be consistent with collapsar model etc.



# Optical Afterglow from GRB 080319b



Light Curve

Naked-eye visible for ~30 sec. Distance = 7.5 billion ly  $E_{total} \sim 10^{47} J$  and highly beamed

Impact of discovery of afterglows:

Afterglows have provided crucial info to test GRB models, especially since they have enabled measurement of redshifts

- Confirmation of cosmological distances
- Distance allowed accurate calculations of energy (causality arguments indicate sizes <100 km, time scales ~ seconds)</li>
- Fireball shock model suggested (relativistic expanding debris shells)

Collimation is needed to explain the energy output: the largest ones exceed that available from stellar collapse if the radiation is isotropic.



## WR104 - Looking Down the Barrel of a GRB system 8000 lt-years from us



Tuthill et al.



# Radio Light Curves



### GRB 970508

- First VLBI detection of a GRB Afterglow
- absolute position to < 1 mas
- Size < 10^19 cm (3 lt years)
- Distance > 10000 lt years (Redshift z = 0.835)



Relative Decl. (mas)



Taylor et al 1997

# GRB 030329: The Burst of the Decade

- World-wide armada of optical telescopes
  (~60) observed this burst 24/7
- A very bright burst ( $m_v=12.5$ ). In radio it is 50 times brighter than any previous GRB!
- Better yet at *z*=0.168 it is <u>only</u> 740 Mpc away.
- Still visible in the radio 10 years later







### GRB 030329 Synchrotron Spectrum Basic Parameters: f<sub>m</sub>, nu<sub>m</sub>, nu<sub>a</sub>, spectral index (p) 104 10<sup>3</sup> (And) xnll 10<sup>2</sup> $10^{1}$ • day 0.5 data o extrapolated data 100 10<sup>18</sup> 10<sup>8</sup> $10^{10}$ $10^{12}$ $10^{14}$ $10^{16}$ Frequency (Hz)



### The Optical Transient (OT)







#### VLBA on April 1 (t+2.7 days)







#### April 1

April 6







Resolving the Afterglow

3<sup>rd</sup> Epoch – April 22 VLBA + EB

Beam is 0.45 x 0.15 mas (22 GHz)

Estimated size is 22 GHz : 0.077 +/- 0.036 mas 15 GHz : 0.065 +/- 0.022 mas (10\*\*18 cm) (0.2 pc)

average expansion velocity of 5c









#### $VLBA+Y27+GBT+EB+AR+WB = 0.11 \text{ km}^2$







#### $VLBA+Y27+GBT+EB+AR+WB+NT+MC = 0.12 \text{ km}^2$







#### Death of a very high mass star ( $M > 25 M_{sun}$ )



 $r \approx 10^{15} \text{ cm}$ 

 $r \approx 10^{17} \text{ cm}$ 

#### Soft Gamma ray Repeaters (SGRs)



# The 2004 Dec. 27 Giant Flare





### **Sudden Ionospheric Disturbance (SID)**

- 🗆 X

🐛 SunLog Version 3.0

File Options Comm Settings





Projected baseline length  $(k\lambda)$ 

# Growth of the Radio Afterglow





# **Magnetar burst sequence**



Adapted from Duncan and Thompson 1992





SGR1806-20 : Radio Afterglow has a Steep Spectrum ~  $v^{-0.6}$  at t+7 days down to at least 220 MHz

Flux > 1 Jy at early times and low frequencies.

Visible out to  $\sim 1 \text{ Mpc}$ 



# 8.4 GHz Image of SGR1806



VLA + PT t+430 days

- Long GRBs associated with supernovae
- Short GRBs associated with star-forming and elliptical galaxies (old stellar population, broadly consistent with NS and/or BH coalescence.
   Compact merger or giant flare from magnetar



#### **GRB classification**

- Long bursts
  - > 2 sec, mean 30 sec
  - Afterglows commonly observed
  - From massive stars
- Short bursts
  - < 2 sec, mean 0.3 sec
  - Fewer afterglows observed
  - From compact binaries and/or neutron stars

