How to 'Cook' Merging Binary Black Holes as Discovered by Advanced LIGO

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AND RESEARCH IN ASTROPHYSICS

The Youngest Revolution in Astrophysics



Gravitational Waves from Binary Black Hole Mergers

"... we have detected gravitational waves..."-LSC (Feb. 11, 2016)

Hanford

Livingstone



- GWs from merging binary black holes are detected!
- Three Detections in OI Run (50 days):
 - GWI50914: $M_{1,2} \sim [36, 29] M_{sun}, z \sim 0.1$
 - LVT151012: $M_{1,2} \sim [23, 13] M_{sun}, z \sim 0.2$
 - GWI51226: $M_{1,2} \sim [14, 8] M_{sun}, z \sim 0.1$

Plan of the talk

- Astrophysical channels to form binary black holes that would merge within a Hubble time
 - In isolation
 - Dynamical channels

Dynamical formation of BH—BH binaries in star clusters

- Physical processes, properties of BH binaries, key differences from field (undisturbed) population, implications for LIGO
- Future goals on this topic
 - Including, extending simulations to nuclear clusters, distinguishing formation channels based on observed properties



- From (isolated) massive binary star evolution
 - Traditional channel



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 - Traditional channel
 - Chemically homogeneous evolution

Chemically Homogeneous Evolution



Chemically Homogeneous Evolution

Mandell & de Mink 2016



Chemically Homogeneous Evolution

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- From (isolated) massive binary star evolution
 - Traditional channel
 - Chemically homogeneous evolution
- As part of 'primordial' black holes
- Through stellar dynamics in dense star clusters

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 Through stellar dynamics in dense star clusters



Collaboration

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