

# Supermassive Black Hole Observations with eLISA

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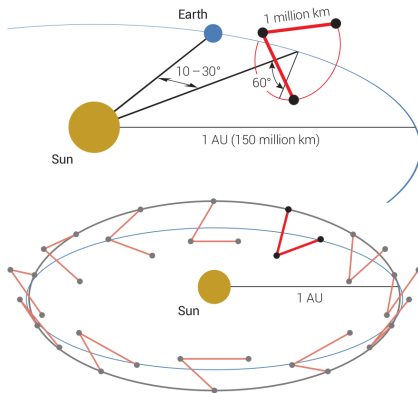
Zurich, Sept. 8 2016

Phys. Rev. D93 024003 (arXiv:1511.05581)

# Outline

- 1 Mission Designs
- 2 Galaxy Evolution Models
- 3 Waveform Models
- 4 Results
- 5 Conclusion

# Orbits sketch



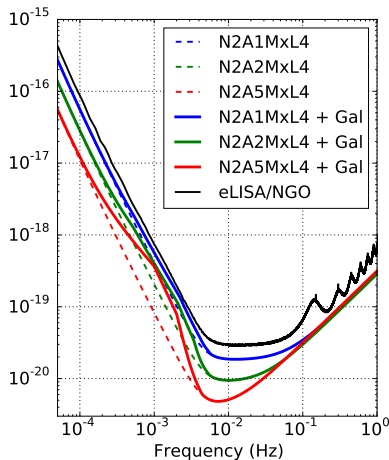
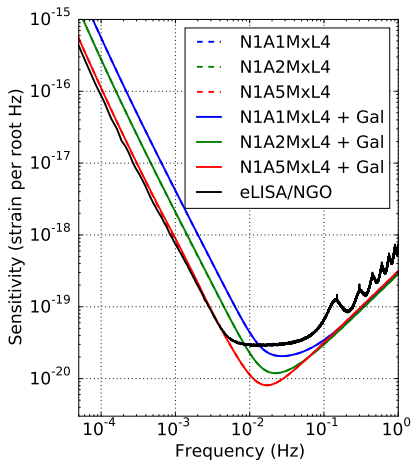
[Image: P. Amaro-Seoane et al., The Gravitational Universe, arXiv:1305.5720]

## Variable parameters

The goals of the study is to compare the science impact of different eLISA design choices.

- Different armlengths: 1Gm, 2Gm, 5Gm.
- Different acceleration noise performance: N2 (Pathfinder design), N1 (10 times worse).
- Different mission durations: 2 years, 5 years.
- Four or six laser links between the satellites.

# Noise curves



# Study

- Simulated 10 realizations of a 5 year merger catalog for 6 different galaxy evolution models.
- Selected 3 representative models.
- Simulated parameter estimation for each system using 24 different mission designs.

# Contents



# Contents

Two different black hole seeds scenarios:

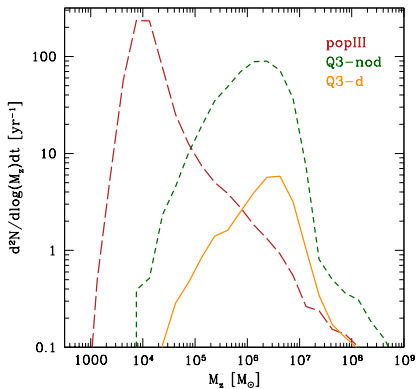
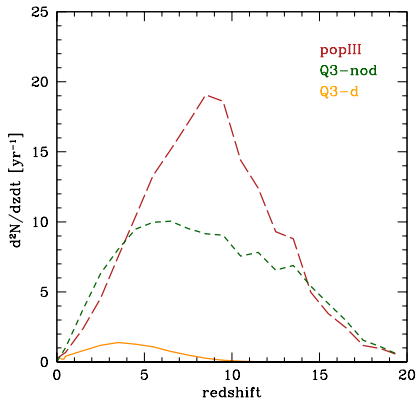
Light seeds: popIII remnants, black holes form with initial masses around  $200M_{\odot}$  between redshifts 15 and 20.

Heavy seeds: black holes are present with masses around  $10^5M_{\odot}$  between redshifts 15 and 20. We considered two models with critical Toomre parameter  $Q_c = 2$  and  $Q_c = 3$ .

Delay between galaxy merger and black hole merger can be important, as black holes can be driven to the center of the merged galaxy on timescales of a few Gyrs.



# Models



# Waveforms

We used three different waveform models:

- A precessing, inspiral-only waveform with higher harmonics (SUA)
- A nonprecessing, IMR restricted waveform (phenomC)
- A set of precessing IMR hybrid waveforms

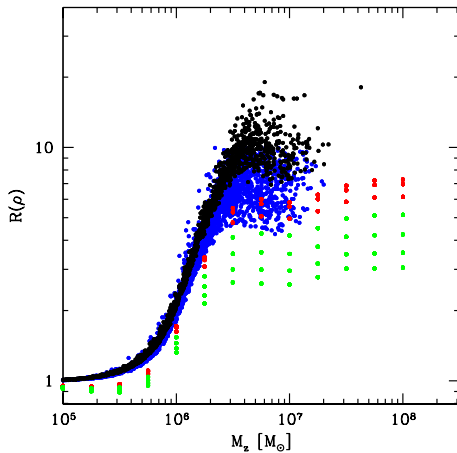
# Parameter Estimation

We use Fisher matrix analysis to compute measurement errors on the parameters, using the SUA waveforms.

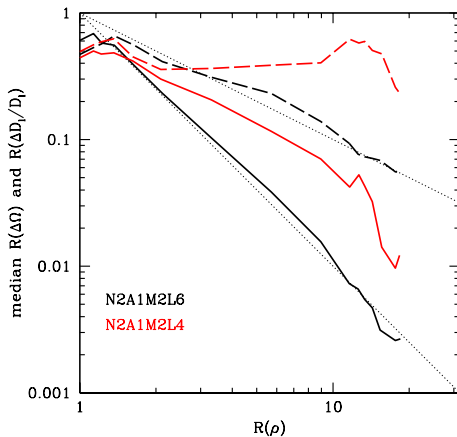
We compute the SNR ratio between IMR and inspiral only to rescale the SUA SNR using the phenomC waveforms.

We rescale the measurement errors on extrinsic parameters using results from the phenomC and hybrid waveforms.

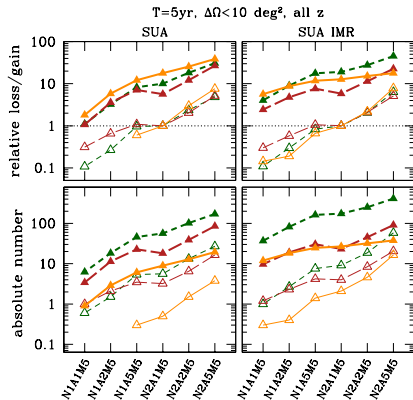
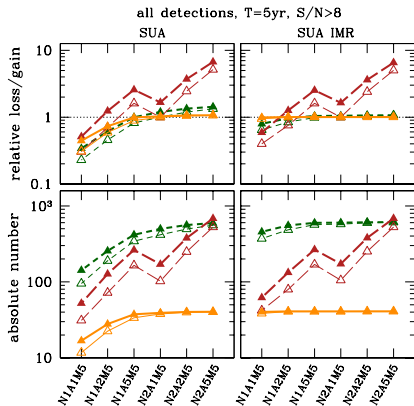
# SNR Gain



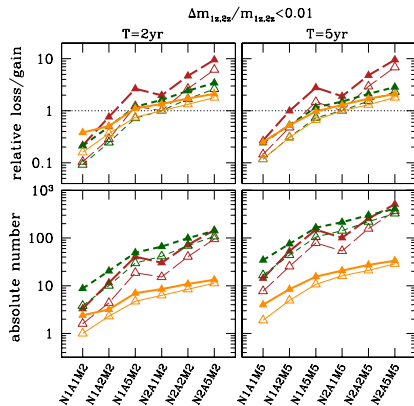
# Measurement Error Gain



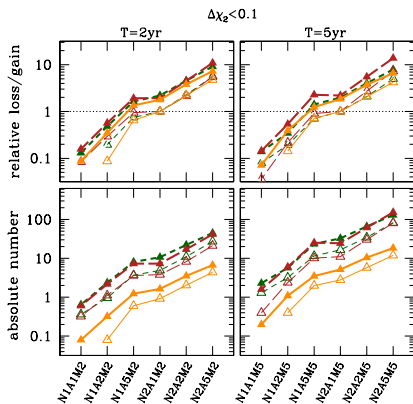
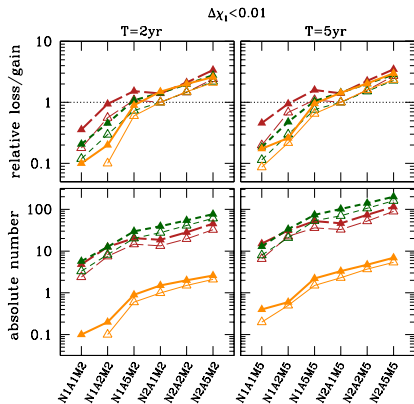
# Total Detections



# Mass determination

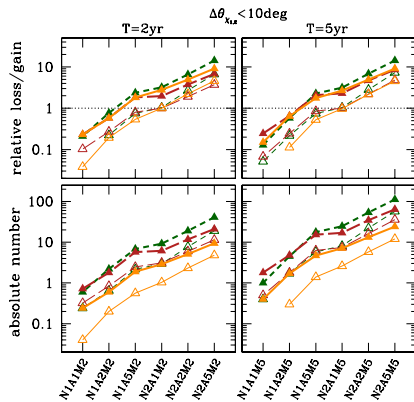


## Spin determination

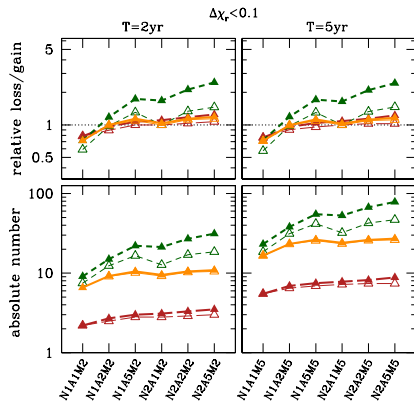




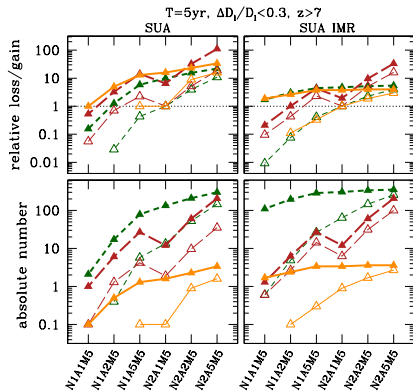
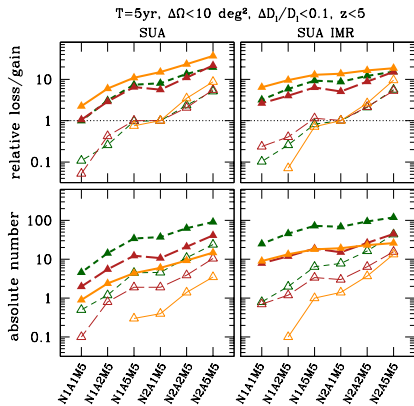
## Spin alignment angle



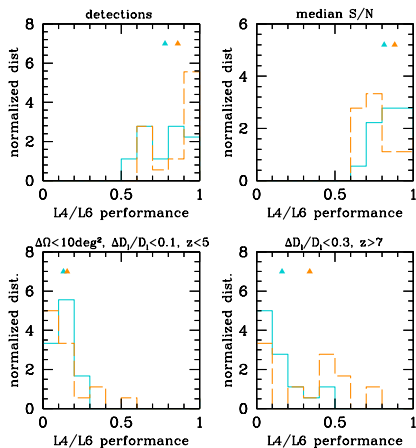
# Remnant spin



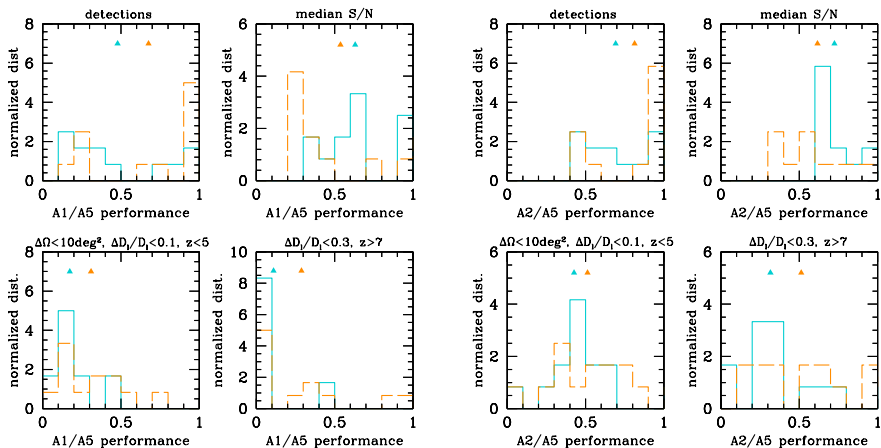
## Astronomy



# Number of Links



## Armlength



# Conclusion

- All designs offer good number of detections and mass determination.
- Good low-frequency noise allows probing feeding mechanism through spin measurements.
- All designs offer good remnant spin measurement.
- To identify electromagnetic counterparts, having six links is important.
- To identify high redshift systems, having six links is also important.
- Overall, reducing the armlength to 2Gm is the least harmful way to reduce cost with respect to classic LISA.