

Black Hole + Neutron Star Binaries in Globular Clusters

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Black Holes in Dense Star Clusters - January 19, 2015

Dynamical Models

Inputs:

- Static, King background cluster models with evolved stellar populations
- 5-20% of neutron stars and 1-40 stellar mass BH are retained
- Vary cluster structure, binary population, binary fraction

Evolution:

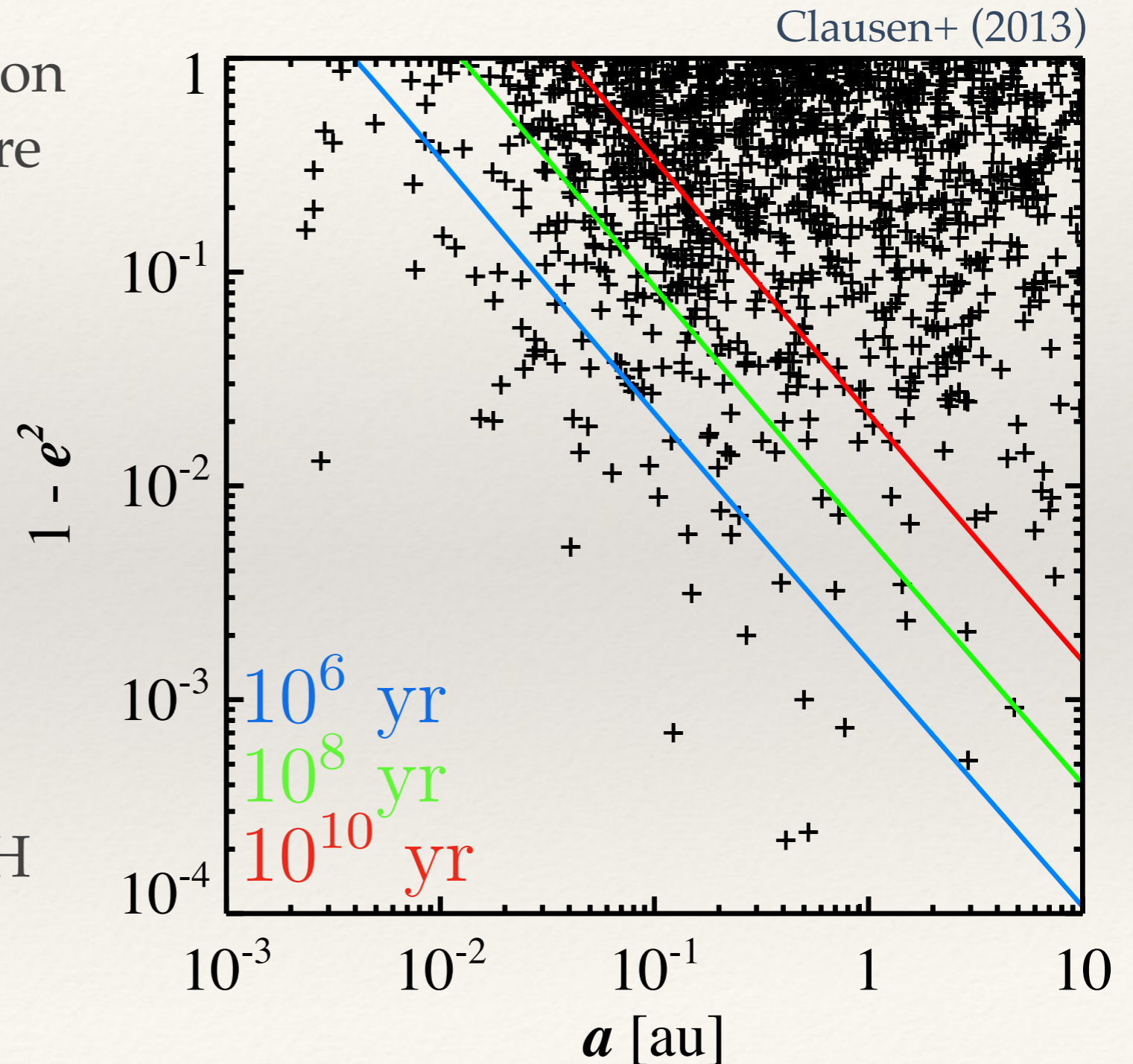
- Perform 2,000 realizations of a black hole binary's evolution
- Fokker-Planck evolution of binary's orbit
- Compute the probability that the binary will interact with a background star along its path

Three-body Encounters:

- Interested in cases that result in a neutron star exchanging into the binary.

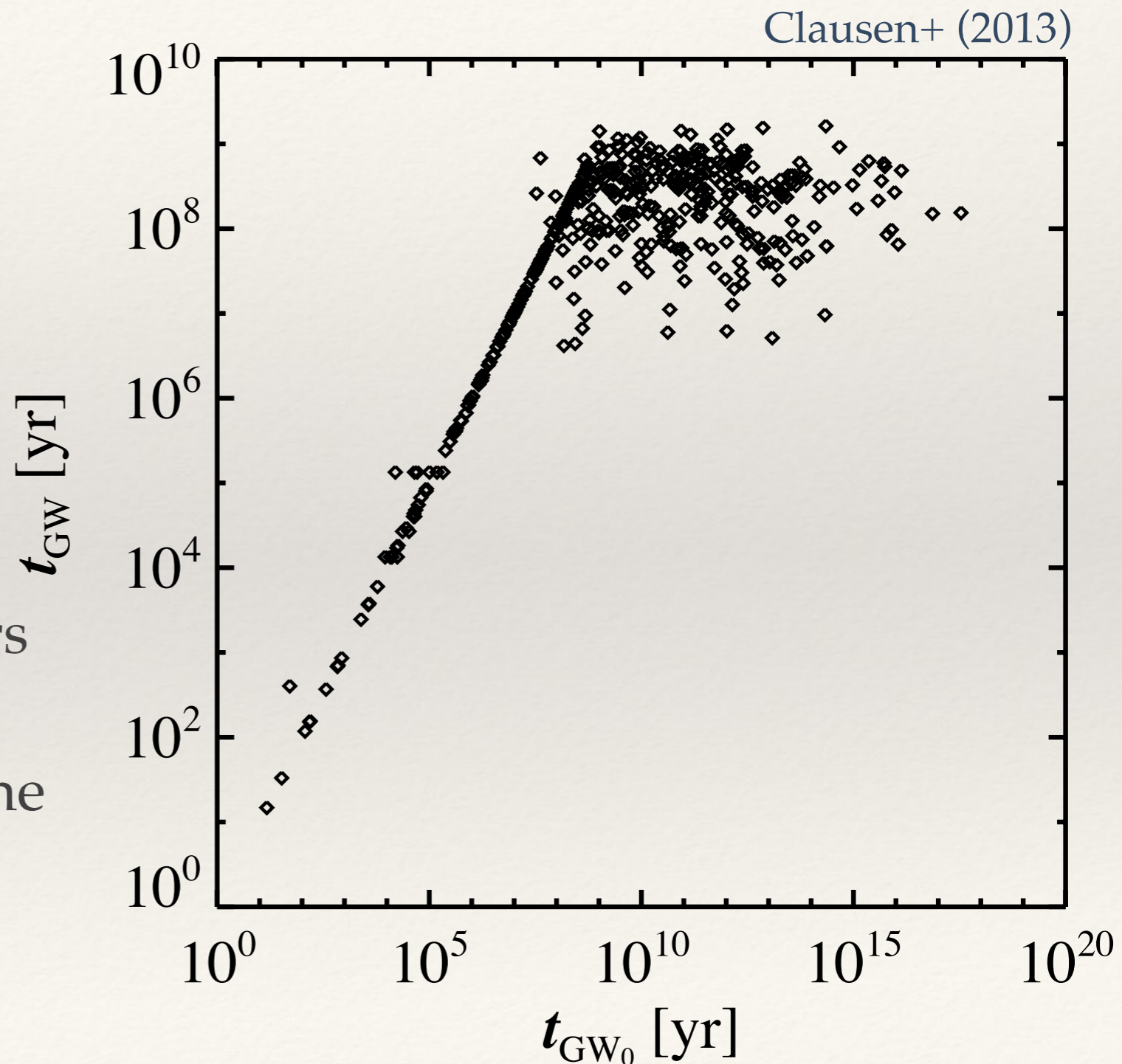
Dynamically Formed BH+NS

- ❖ Efficiency of BH+NS formation is sensitive to cluster structure and binary fraction
 - ▶ 0.2% of the realizations produce BH+NS in low concentration, low binary fraction simulations
 - ▶ 86% of the realizations in high concentration high binary fraction produce BH+NS



BH+NS Mergers

- ❖ Low concentration clusters:
 - ▶ Encounters with massive WDs destroy BH+NS binaries.
- ❖ High concentration clusters:
 - ▶ Encounters with single stars after the formation of the BH+NS binary accelerate the merger process.



Merger Recoils

❖ Merging compact binaries are “kicked” due to anisotropic emission of gravitational radiation.

▶ $7 M_{\odot} + \text{NS}$:

$$v_{\text{kick}} = 70 - 140 \text{ km s}^{-1}$$

Etienne+ (2009); Shibata+ (2009);

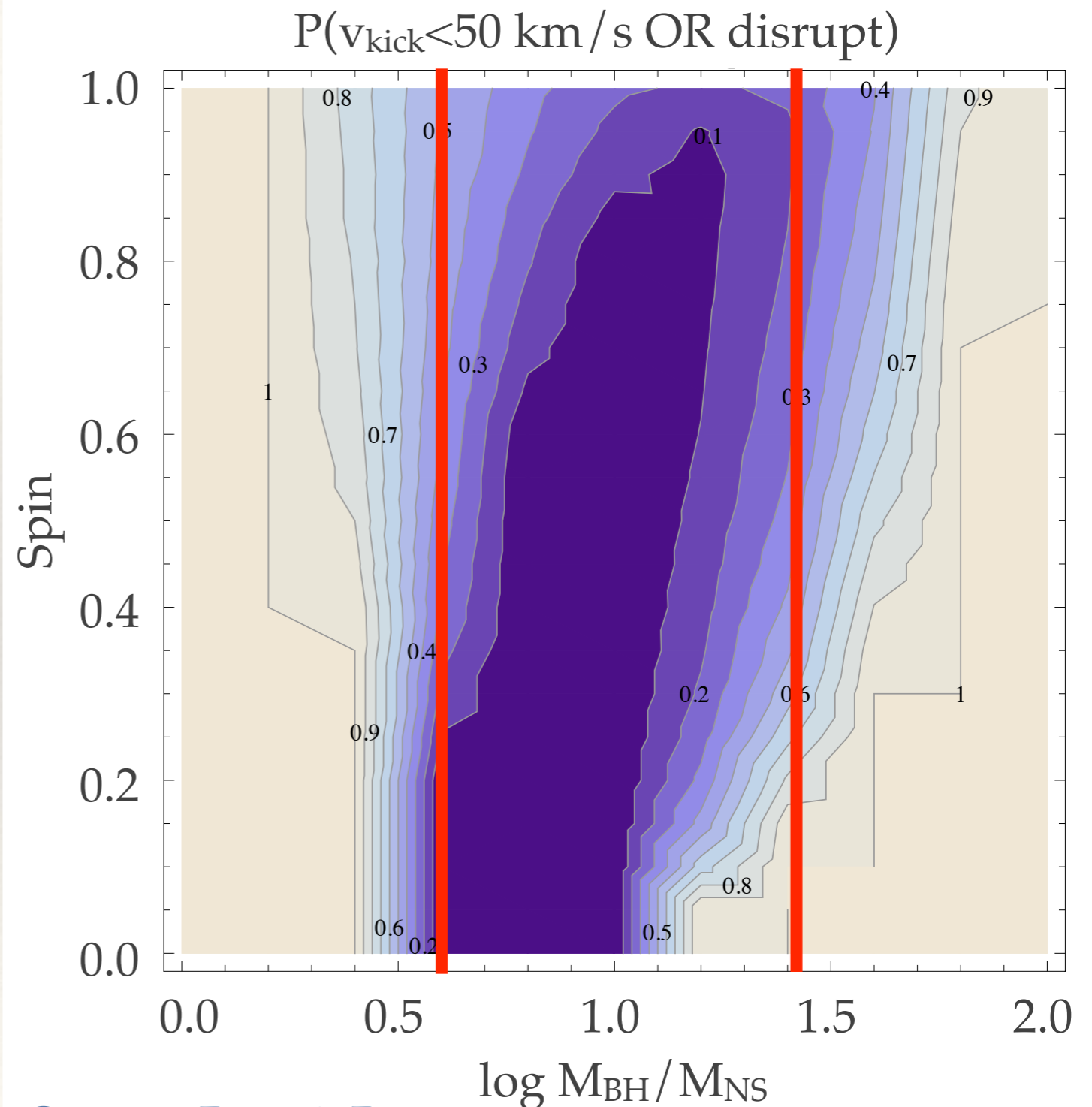
Foucart+ (2011)

▶ $35 M_{\odot} + \text{NS}$:

$$v_{\text{kick}} = 10 - 100 \text{ km s}^{-1}$$

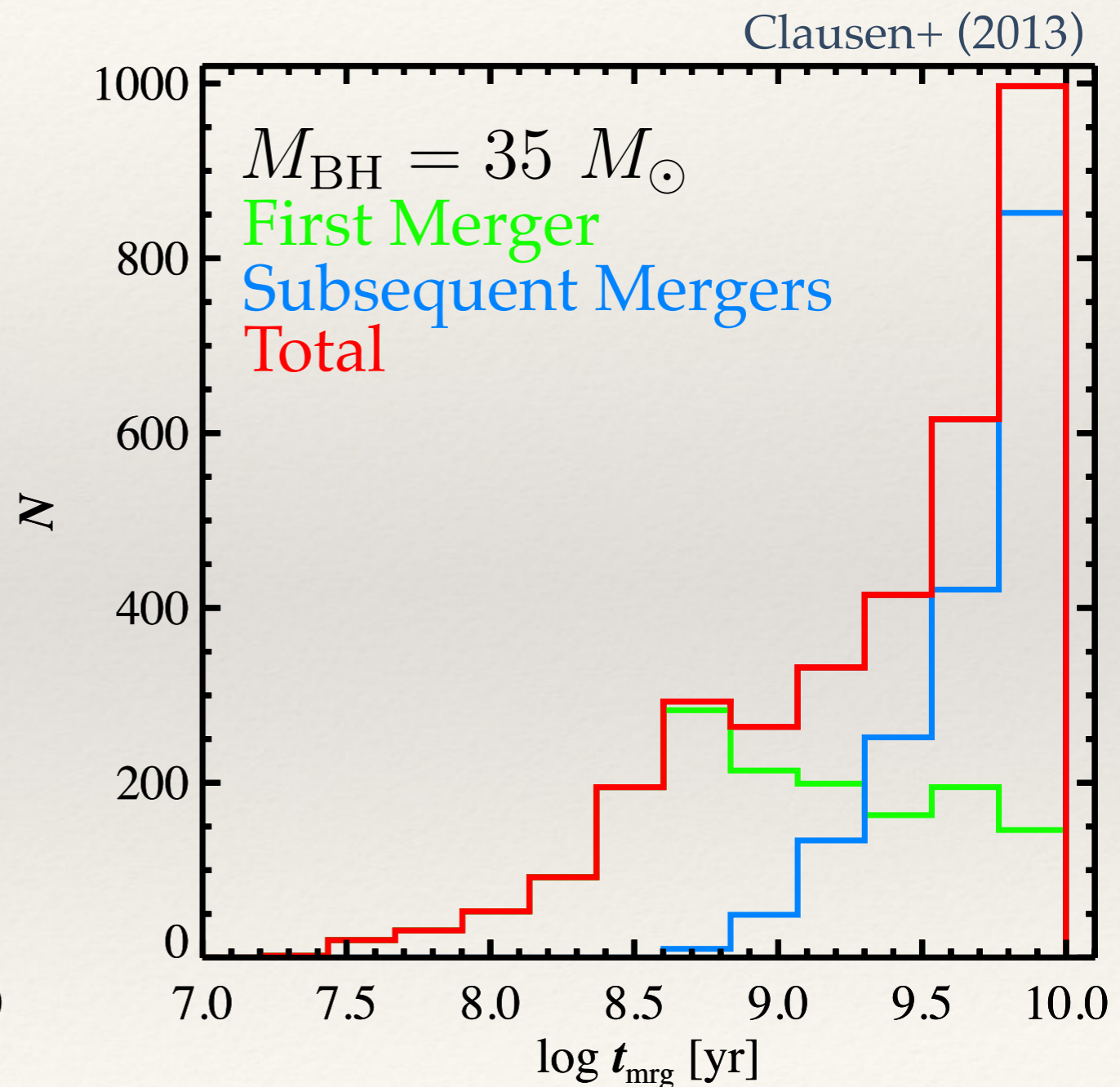
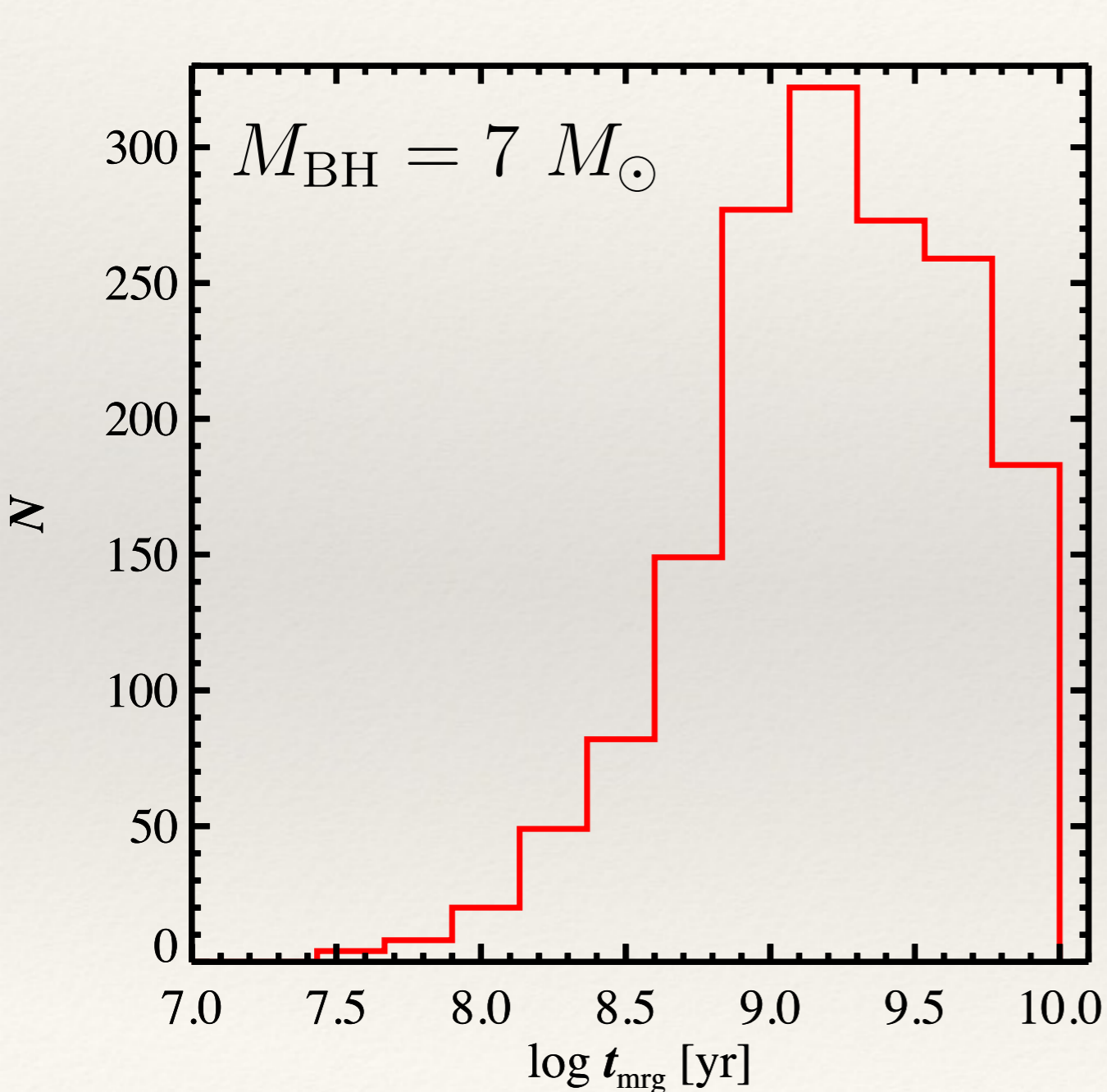
Gonzalez+ (2007); Campanelli

+ (2007)



Courtesy: Francois Foucart

BH-NS Merger Time Distributions



Are the mergers detectable?

Merger rate depends critically on the BH mass

$$M_{\text{BH}} \sim 7 M_{\odot}$$

- Mergers occur at high redshift and are undetectable by aLIGO.
- Black holes are extremely rare in high concentration clusters in the current epoch.

$$M_{\text{BH}} \sim 35 M_{\odot}$$

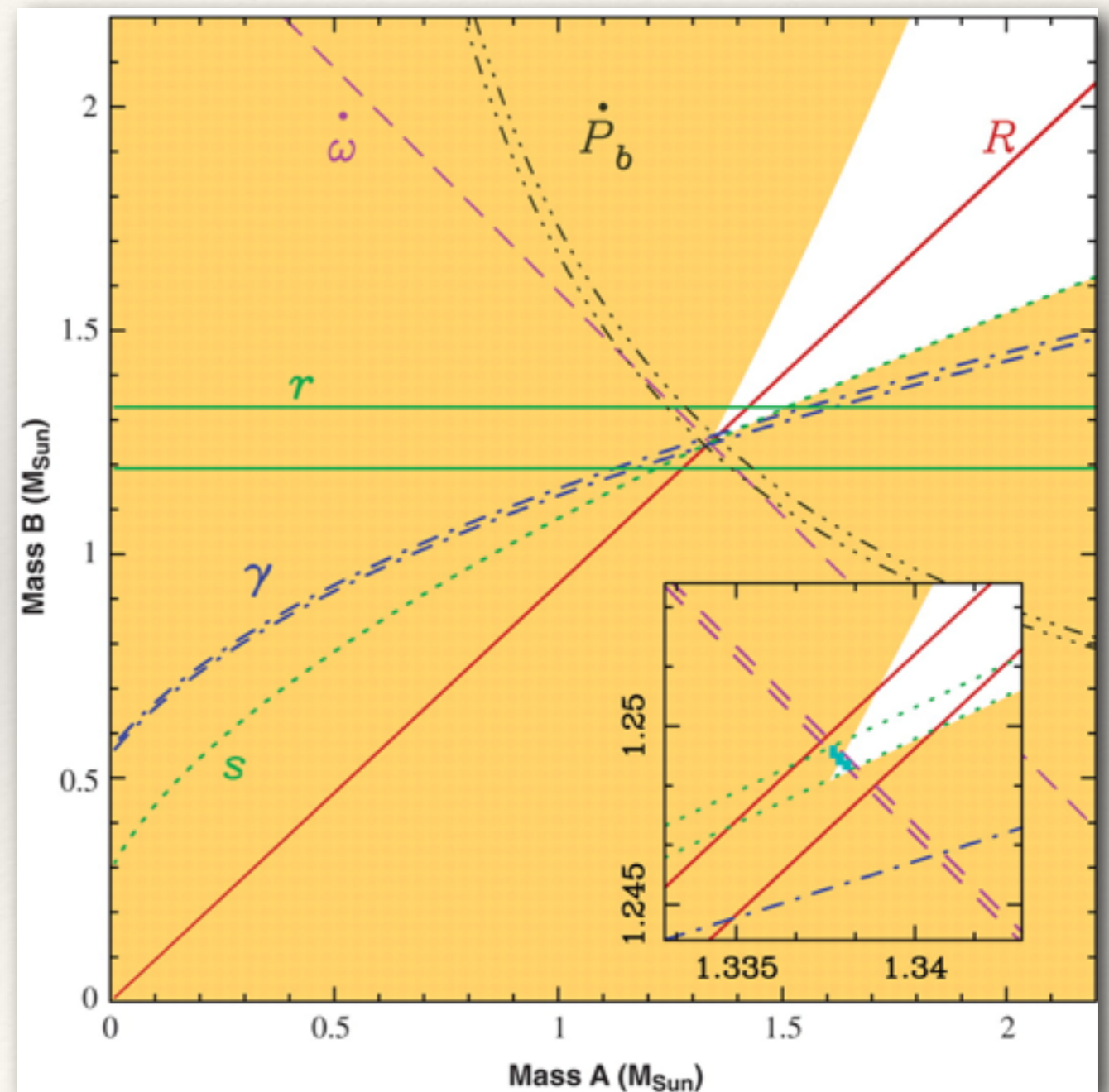
- Predicted aLIGO BH-NS merger detection rate: $0.04 - 0.72 \text{ yr}^{-1}$
- Could be the dominant channel for BH+NS mergers detectable by aLIGO and next generation GW detectors.

Black Hole + Millisecond Pulsar

- ❖ If the NS were recycled into a millisecond pulsar before exchanging into a BH-binary, we could observe these systems in the EM-band.
 - ▶ Additional probe of globular cluster BH population
 - ▶ Test of General Relativity in the strong field regime

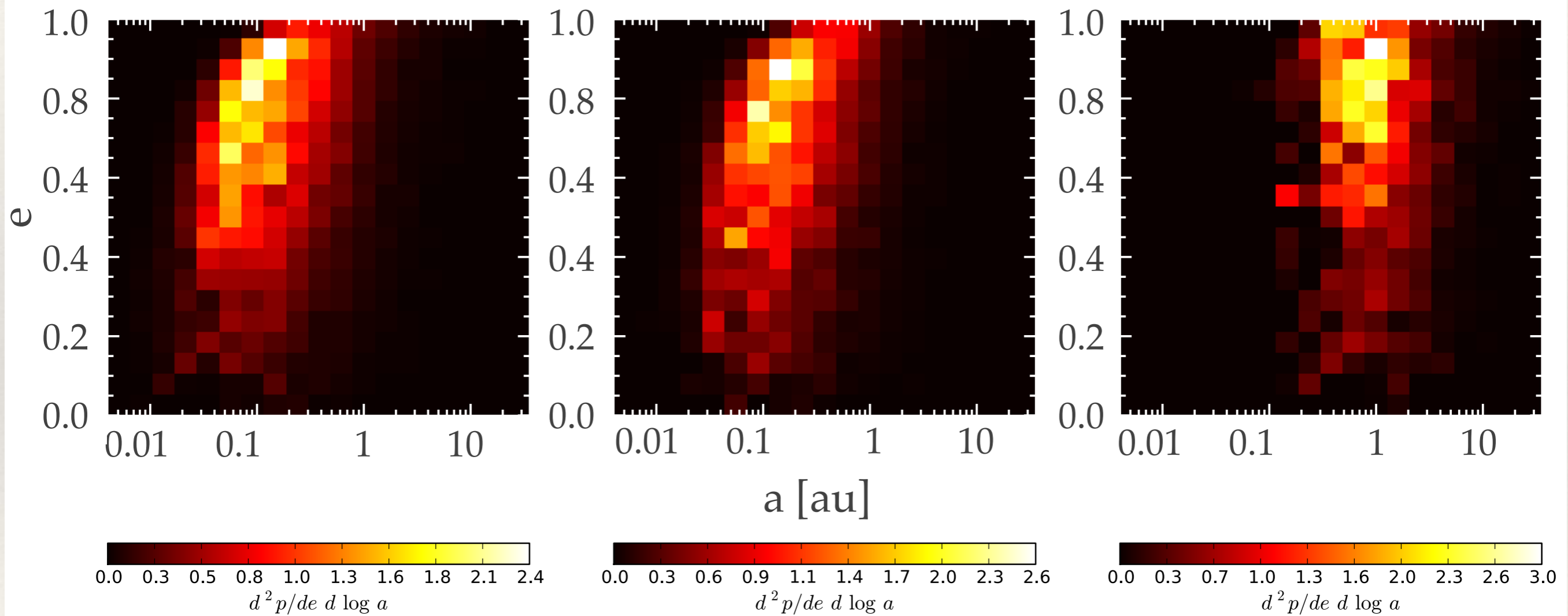
PSR J0737-3039A/B

Kramer+ (2006)

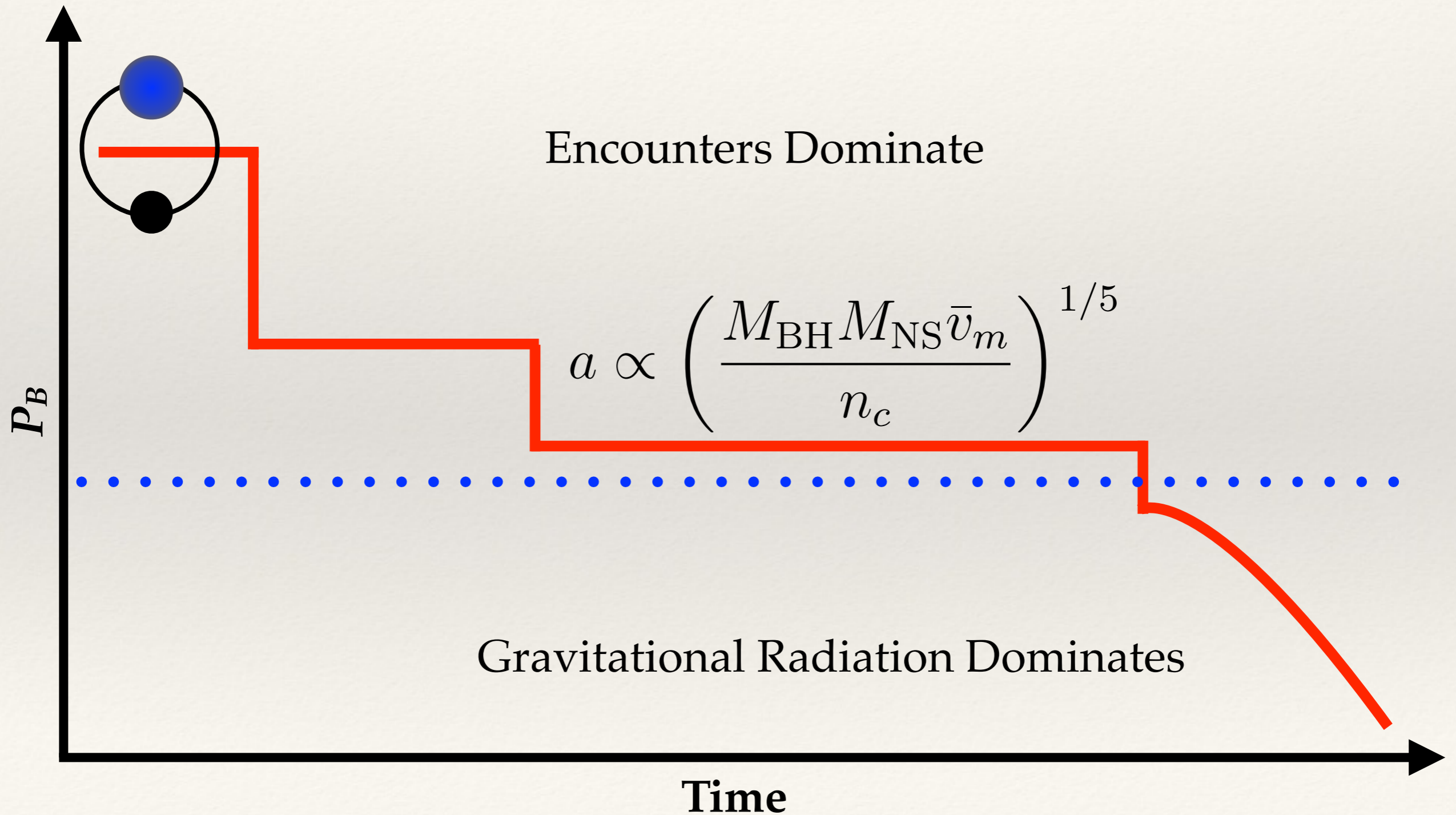


Orbital Parameters

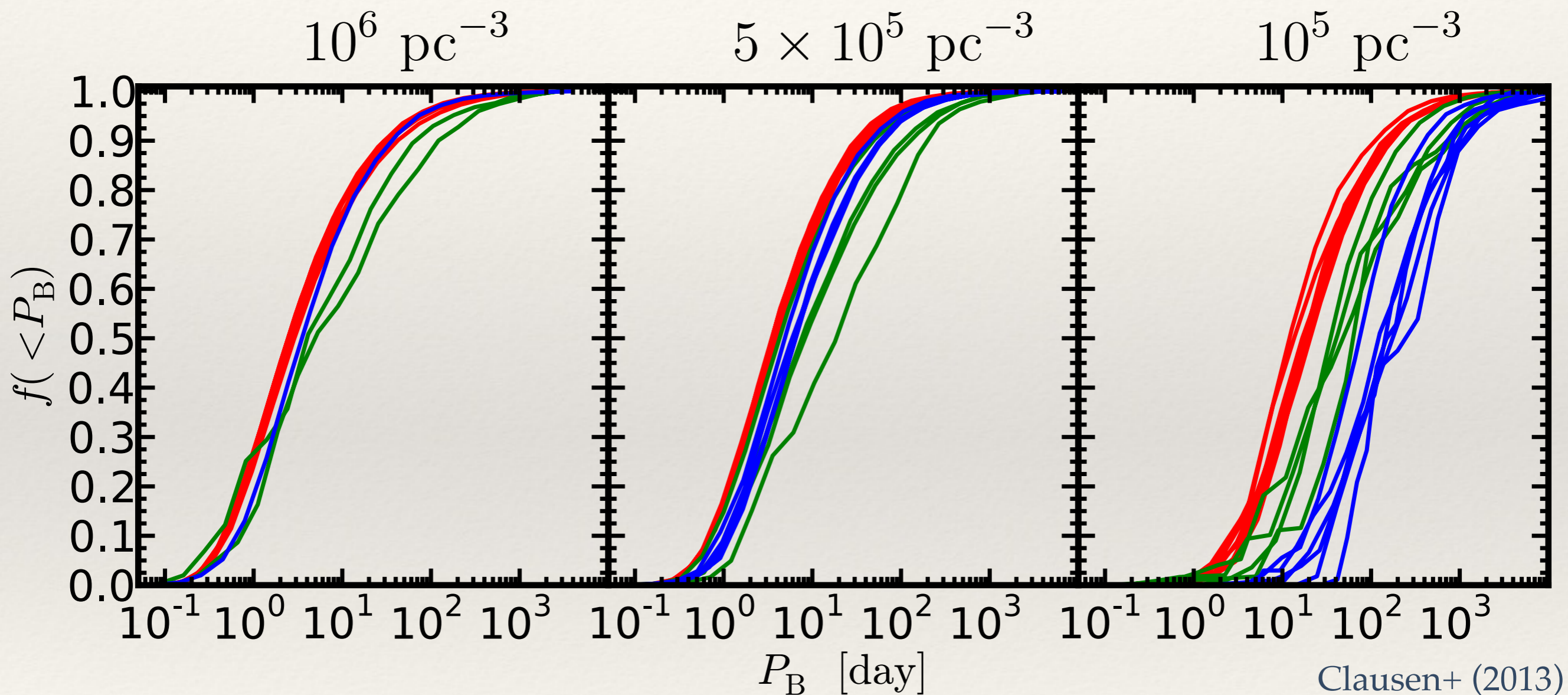
Clausen+ (2014)



Orbital Evolution



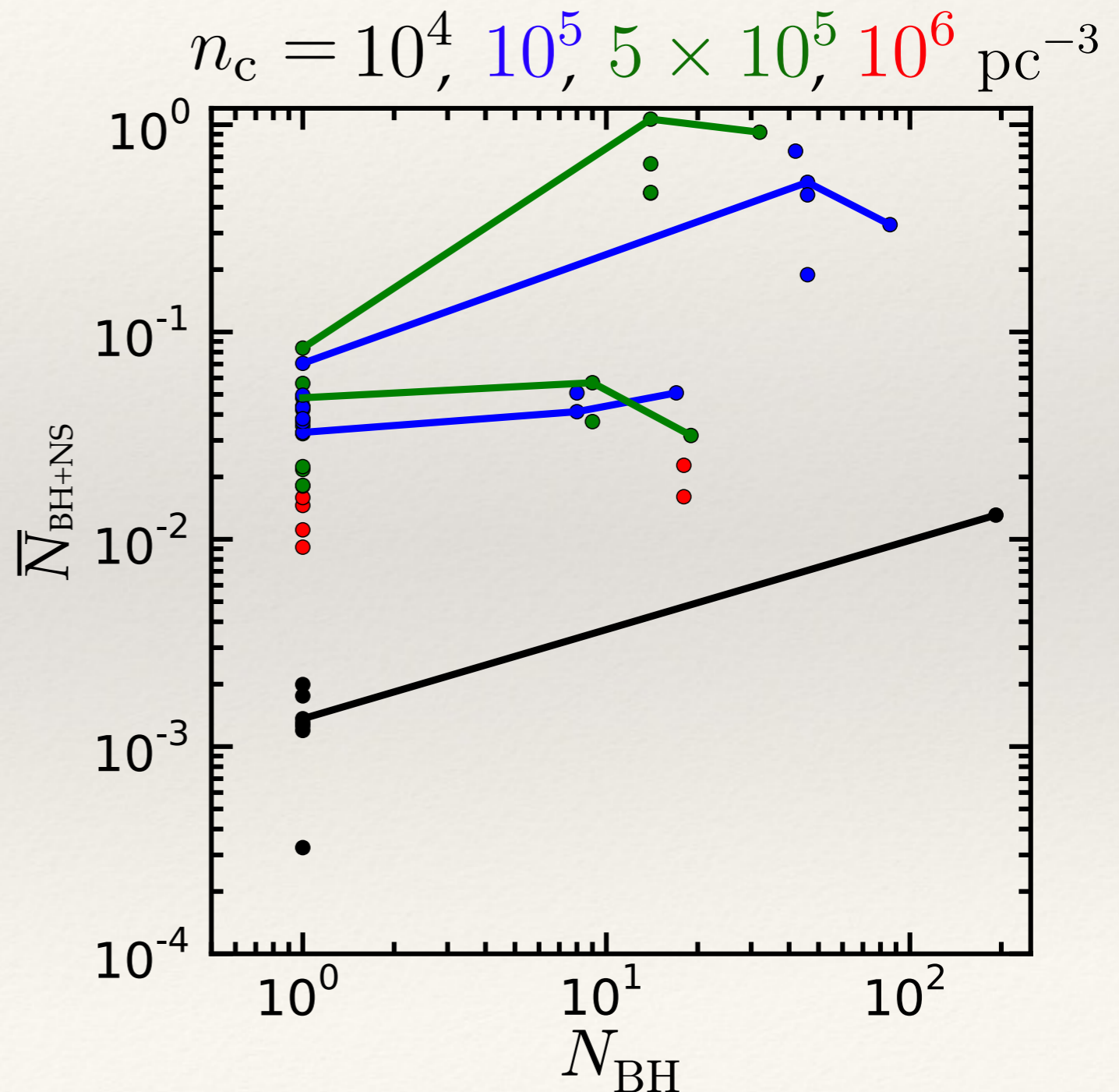
Orbital Periods: Cumulative Distributions



$$M_{\text{BH}} = 7 M_{\odot} \quad M_{\text{BH}} = 15 M_{\odot} \quad M_{\text{BH}} = 35 M_{\odot}$$

BH+NS Binary Population Size

- ❖ Even with 200 BHs, $\bar{N}_{\text{BH+NS}}$ is only 0.01 in low density clusters
- ❖ In moderate density clusters:
 - ▶ $\bar{N}_{\text{BH+NS}}$ grows with N_{BH} if there are ~few dozen BHs
 - ▶ $\bar{N}_{\text{BH+NS}}$ drops at large N_{BH}



Can We Find A BH+MSP?

$$N_{\text{BH+MSP}} = \bar{N}_{\text{BH+MSP}} \times f_{\text{GC}} \times f_{\text{MSP}} \times f_{\text{BH}} \times N_{\text{GC}}$$

- Our models predict that the upper limit on the number of dynamically formed BH+MSP binaries in the Milky Way is ~ 10
- $N_{\text{BH+MSP}} = f_{\text{BH}} \times (0.7 \pm 0.5)$
- Likely BH+MSP binary hosts include the clusters 47 Tuc, Terzan 5, NGC 1851, NGC 6266, and NGC 6441
- Should be $f_{\text{BH}} \times 100$ BH+MSP binaries detectable by SKA

Summary

- ❖ BH+NS binary formation is enhanced by a factor of 100 in globular clusters, but these systems are still extremely rare
- ❖ Searches for BH+NS mergers probe small populations of $\sim 30 M_{\odot}$ black holes.
- ❖ Searches for BH+MSP binaries probe populations of a few dozen, $\sim 7 M_{\odot}$ black holes.