The first black holes

Marta Volonteri

Institut d'Astrophysique de Paris

M. Habouzit, Y. Dubois, M. Latif (IAP) A. Reines (NOAO) M. Tremmel (University of Washington) F. Pacucci (SNS)



High-redshift quasars and local MBHs



High-redshift quasars

Very bright quasars in the SDSS with z>6 (Willott et al., 2003; Fan et al., 2006; Jiang et al., 2009)

Detection of a 2×10^9 M_{sun} BH at z=7 and a 10^{10} M_{sun} BH at z=6.3

(Mortlock et al., 2011, Wu et al. 2015)



<u>Requirement</u>:

- Need to grow at the Eddington limit for the whole time ($M_0 \sim 300$ M_{sun}) or 60% of the time ($M_0 \sim 10^5 M_{sun}$)

Eddington limit?

Gas infalls from the galaxy: how does the galaxy know that it has to feed the MBH exactly at the Eddington limit?

Super-Eddington *accretion* does not imply highly super-Eddington *luminosity*

Trapping of radiation: photons are advected inward with the gas, rather than diffuse out

Luminosity highly suppressed $L \propto \ln(M)$



Only short periods needed to ease constraints (e.g. MV & Rees 2005; MV, Silk & Dubus 2015; Pacucci, MV et al. 2015a,b; Lupi et al. 2016)

High-redshift AGN

No detection in X-ray stacking of LBGs at z>6: $L_X < 10^{42} \text{ erg/s}$ (Willott 2011; Fiore et al. 2012; Cowie et al. 2012; Treister et al. 2013)

Searches for point sources in deep X-ray fields has also led to inconclusive results (Giallongo et al. 2015; Weigel et al. 2015; Cappelluti et al. 2015)

High-redshift MBHs

The billion solar masses MBHs powering the observed z>6 quasars are the tip of the iceberg

Very biased, dense halos

What do we expect for *normal* MBHs in *normal* galaxies?

Growing black holes in growing galaxies



Romulus, Tremmel + 2015

How do MBHs form?





Density map BHs form only in high gasdensity regions

Metallicity map BHs form in low-metallicity regions

How do MBHs grow in galaxies?



Initial mass function of "seed" MBHs

Ramses 10 Mpc Cosmological Volume, ~80pc resolution

Habouzit, MV, Dubois 2016

How do galaxies feed normal MBHs?

Low-mass BHs in low-mass galaxies: fragile environment

Interplay between SN feedback and MBH accretion: SN feedback is sufficient to energize the gas and suppress accretion (Dubois+14) How do galaxies feed normal MBHs?

SETH Ramses Cosmological Zoom ~5pc resolution Dubois+14





SETH, Ramses Cosmological Zoom, ~5pc resolution, Dubois, MV+14

How do galaxies feed normal MBHs?



z=0 BHs and AGN (Reines & Volonteri 2015)

10 Mpccosmological volume,~80pc resolution

Growing black holes in growing galaxies



M_{BH} vs galaxy at high redshift



Host galaxy cannot be imaged – use radio maps of CO that traces cold gas => dynamical masses from line widths and beam size

Are MBHs over-massive at high redshift?

- Assume an intrinsic scaling of MBH with galaxy mass
- We measure galaxy mass functions out to z~7

We can estimate MBH properties from the convolution of galaxy mass functions and MBH-galaxy mass relations

$$\phi_{BH} = \phi_{gal} \frac{dM_{gal}}{dM_{BH}}$$

M_{BH} vs galaxy at high redshift



Reines & MV 2015; MV & Reines 2016

M_{BH} vs galaxy at high redshift



Caveat: uncertainties on the stellar mass function => MBH density dominated by MBHs in galaxies below the knee

Reines & MV 2015; MV & Reines 2016

High-redshift MBHs

Current limits/candidates high-z AGN compatible with a population of MBHs similar to low-z counterpart in galaxies of similar mass

How about the high-z quasars?



M_{BH} vs galaxy at high redshift



Current large-shallow surveys select only the most luminous quasars, $L_{bol} > 10^{46}$ erg/s \Rightarrow the most massive

holes at a given stellar mass



Lauer et al. 2007; MV & Stark 2011; MV & Reines 2016

Growing black holes in growing galaxies



Growing black holes in growing galaxies: contribution to reionization

Galaxies form stars and emit ionizing photons

MBHs accrete and emit ionizing photons

Relative Role of Stars and Quasars in Cosmic Reionization

MBHs predicted to contribute 20-50% of ionizing photons (MV & Gnedin 2009)

Growing black holes in growing galaxies: contribution to reionization



High-redshift MBHs

"Ab-normal" MBHs in "normal" galaxies are those that grow fast and can be detected as luminous quasars

"Normal" MBHs in "normal" galaxies may grow slowly

Current limits/candidates high-z AGN compatible with a population of MBHs similar to low-z counterpart in galaxies of similar mass

Relative role of stars and MBHs in cosmic reionization

Super-critical accretion



Slim disc accretion: L \propto ln(Mdot)

BH accretes all available gas in 10 Myr (compared to 100 Myr for "standard" accretion)

Luminosity sub-Eddington, while accretion super-critical

Pacucci et al. 2015a,b

Eddington limit?

Gas infalls from the galaxy: how does the galaxy know that it has to feed the MBH *exactly* at the Eddington limit?



- Estimate Eddington rate for BHs in Horizon-AGN -- 3x10⁶ Mpc³ (Dubois+14)
- Supercritical inflows possible, ~10% at z>6
- What happens when they reach the MBH?

Volonteri, Silk & Dubus 2015

How do the first black holes shine?



Pacucci et al. 2015

Caveat: super-critical MBHs are fainter!



Slim disc accretion: L \propto ln(Mdot)

Super-critical BHs are short-lived and fainter than Eddington-limited ones

Pacucci et al. 2015

How do the first black holes grow?



Pacucci, MV & Ferrara 2015

Is low metallicity necessary?

(e.g. Bromm & Loeb 2003, Spaans & Silk 2006, Begelman, MV & Rees 2006, Shang et al. 2010, Latif et al. 2013)

Forming a single very massive star makes is easier to form a single very massive BH

Key parameter is the inflow rate on the central object: Mdot>0.01-0.1 Msun/yr

 Primordial gas composition and suppression of H₂ formation by dissociating UV flux help

But they are not necessary conditions

Is low metallicity necessary?



Low metallicity is important if going through a supermassive star phase: models with quasistars* or stellar mass BH mergers do not care about metallicity

*powered by accretion on an embedded BH created by core collapse

MBH vs M_{*} mass function at z=6 vs z=0 M_{*} axis shifted by 4x10⁻³ from MBH





How do galaxies feed normal MBHs?



SN feedback is sufficient to slow MBH growth

Habouzit, MV, Dubois 2016

M_{BH} vs galaxy at high redshift



z=6

Green: MF from AGN luminosity function, assuming <f_{Edd}>=0.6, 75% active fraction (Willott+10)

vanilla: M_{BH}~10⁻³ Mgal low mass: M_{BH}~10⁻⁴ Mgal



Adapted from MV & Reines 2016



Courtesy of A. Marconi

Alexander et al. 2007 + Marconi's additions