



METHODS OF MEASURING SMBH MASSES: STELLAR DYNAMICAL MEASUREMENTS

Remco van den Bosch MPIA

STELLAR DYNAMICS

DATA



All galaxies contain stars



- Gravity is well well understood
- Stars are well suited to measure the mass distributions including the SMBH mass, but also stellar and dark matter component
- As a result, most direct BH mass measurement come from stellar dynamics

STELLAR DYNAMICS

Virial theorem

$$I = \frac{\sigma_{rms}^2 R_g}{G}$$

- Applies to intrinsic 3D properties, but generally we can only observe (part of) a projection.
- Thus dynamical models are needed to `de-project' the galaxies
- All analytical solutions, including Jeans, require strong assumptions (on the anisotropy)
- Jeans models only constrain the second moment:

 \mathcal{N}

- Mass-anisotropy degeneracy
- N-body models are not practical for SMBH masses, due to dynamic range

$$\sqrt{V^2 + \sigma^2}$$

- Orbit-based models do not place any assumptions on the anisotropy (orbit configuration) and can use all kinematic information (higher moments)
- Still imposes some assumptions: equilibrium, geometry
- Contain many parts/steps and numerical integrals, but are all well understood.
- Several implementations exist: Spherical (Magorrian), axisymmetric (NUKERS, van der Marel, Valluri), Triaxial (van den Bosch)





(1)Integrate orbit in the potential and store all the observables, including kinematics



(1)Integrate orbit in the potential and store all the observables, including kinematics



(1)Integrate orbit in the potential and store all the observables, including kinematics

(2) Generate a library of orbits



(1)Integrate orbit in the potential and store all the observables, including kinematics

(2) Generate a library of orbits



(1)Integrate orbit in the potential and store all the observables, including kinematics

(2) Generate a library of orbits



(1)Integrate orbit in the potential and store all the observables, including kinematics

(2) Generate a library of orbits

(3) Construct a superposition using least squares



Loop over all possible mass distributions:

SMBH, viewing angles, stellar mass-to-light ratio and dark matter

Marginalize over all to get to the SMBH mass measurement

Computationally challenging, but not impossible



THE SIZE OF AN ORBIT LIBRARY

- How do you know the orbit library is complete?
- Three conserved quantities: Integrals motions (Energy, Angular momentum and I3) ^N
- In (non-rotating) potentials all orbits pass orthogonally through the x-z plane
- Sampling orbits is thus trivial



THE SIZE OF AN ORBIT LIBRARY

- How do you know the orbit library is complete?
- Three conserved quantities: Integrals motions (Energy, Angular momentum and I3)
- In (non-rotating) potentials all orbits pass orthogonally through the x-z plane
- Sampling orbits is thus trivial
- Sampling schemes differ, but it is easy to show convergence is reached.





van de Ven, de Zeeuw & van den Bosch, 2008

TESTING THE MODELS



Shapiro et al. 2006

NGC3379

- Combination of 4 data sets
- OASIS kinematics near the BH
- SAURON kinematics for the stars



- HST WFPC2 imaging and MDM ground based
- Assumed no DM and oblate axisymmetric





BEST-FIT MODEL Sauron REPRODUCES THE 20 Model of the series of the ser KINEMATICS



-50 V (km/s) 50 160 σ (km/s) 220 -0.15 0.15 -0.15 0.15 h₃ h,



Model

Monday, August 22, 11

Shapiro et al. 2006

NGC3379

- Black hole mass is 1.4e8
- Large scale kinematics needed to break degeneracy.



• Assumed axisymmetry.



TRIAXALITY van den Bosch et al. 2010





- We first tested the axisymmetric case and found the same Mbh and M/L.
- Then we tried triaxial geometries and found a black hole mass that is 3 times bigger, mostly due to a more face-on viewing angle

NGC3379 PREVIOUS ESTIMATES

- 2.5-4.5 e8 Long-slit 21 Magorrian et al (1998)
- I-2 e8 FOS stars 31 Gebhardt et al 2000
- I-3 e8 OASIS axisymmetric Shapiro et al 2006
- 3-5 e8 OASIS triaxial van den Bosch & de Zeeuw 2010
- Changes mostly due to improved (aux.) data.



NGC3379 ANISTROPY

 Orbit distribution is very different, due to box orbits in the center



THE ROLE OF DARK MATTER

- Models measure the enclosed mass, but only where the is information from kinematic data.
- The stellar M/L is over estimated of the DM is not included, which can lower the black hole mass
- Schulze & Gebhardt 2010 showed that the DM only matter when the SOI is not well resolved.



DYNAMICAL MODEL MEASURE ENCLOSED MASS

- Models measure the enclosed mass, but only where the is information from kinematic data.
- M87 black hole mass changed: Gebhardt & Thomas 2007 and Gebhardt et al. 2010 due to inclusion of central AO data.



MEASUREMENTTECHNIQUES

Milky Way	Individual Keplerian Orbits	
MegaMaser	VLBI of H2O Maser Discs	8
Gas Disc	Spectroscopy + warped thin disc	15
Stars	Spectroscopy + dynamical Model	40
AGN	Reverberation mapping/single Epoch	40+

- Different methods work on different galaxies
- Only a couple of cross calibrations exist
- And within the stellar dyn. the assumptions and uncertainties are measured in different ways by different groups (e.g. LOSVDs vs. GH)

WHY ARE THERE FEW BLACK HOLE MASS MEASUREMENTS?

MANY REQUIREMENTS FOR DYNAMICAL ESTIMATES:

Resolve the Sphere-of-influence



Thus HST/STIS or AO. And few available targets

• Plus large scale kinematics and high resolution photometry and large scale photometry for stellar mass model



Batcheldor



WHY ARE THERE FEW BLACK HOLE MASS MEASUREMENTS?

• MANY REQUIREMENTS FOR DYNAMICAL ESTIMATES:

Resolve the Sphere-of-influence

 $R_{soi} = \frac{GM_{\bullet}}{D\sigma^2} \propto \frac{\sigma^{2.2}}{D}$

Thus HST/STIS or AO. And few available targets

• Plus large scale kinematics and high resolution photometry and large scale photometry for stellar mass model

Large scale



Large scale photometry



High resolution photometry







- Long slit spectra with the Marcario Low Resolution
 Spectrograph
- 4200-7400 AA, 180km/s resolution, 2''x2.5' slit
- 367 galaxies observed
- Distances are 40~140 Mpc
- Effectively probing the most massive nearby galaxies
- ~100 more queued





GATEWAY TO MORE BLACK HOLE MASSES



Survey has probed nearly all likely candidates.



GATEWAY TO MORE BLACK HOLE MASSES

- Survey has probed nearly all likely candidates.
- 69 new targets of which 22 with black holes bigger than 10^9 Msun





Monday, August 22, 11

GATEWAY TO MORE BLACK HOLE MASSES

- Survey has probed nearly all likely candidates.
- 69 new targets of which 22 with black holes bigger than 10^9 Msun





Monday, August 22, 11

CONCLUSIONS & QUESTIONS

- Dynamical models are a good way to measure masses of black hole, but also measure other properties of a galaxy, like M/L
- But they require combining several datasets per galaxy
- SMBH masses have changed, but this is mostly due to improvement of data.
- long slit kinematics of nearly all good candidates now exists
- Going forward with the dynamical SMBH mass measurements is it more important to a) do galaxies with extreme properties b) add more consistency c) do comparisons with other methods
- What is the physical interpretation of empirical quantities in the scaling relations (sigma_e)
- Do black holes with a mass of more than 10^10 Msun exist? And if yes, in what nearby galaxy might we expect to find one?





