

# Effects of Superradiance in Active Galactic Nuclei

with Himanshu Verma, Kingman Cheung, Joseph Silk [arXiv: 2404.09955]

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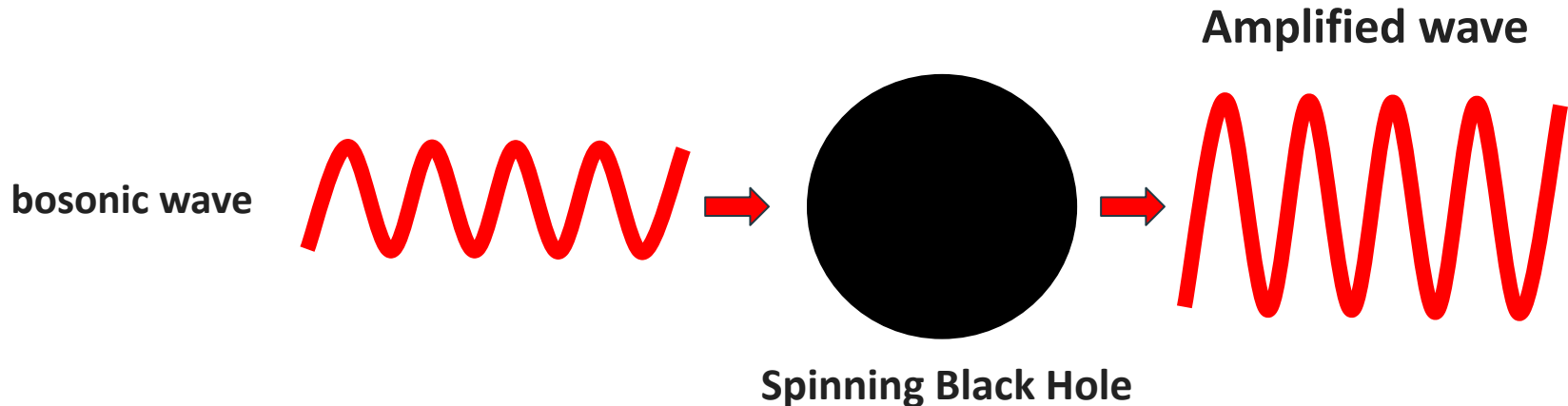
TeV Particle Astrophysics Conference  
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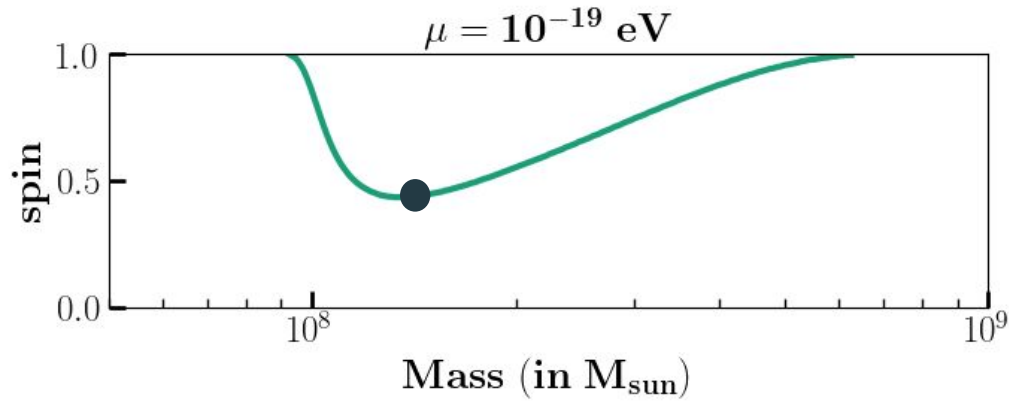
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# Black Hole Superradiance

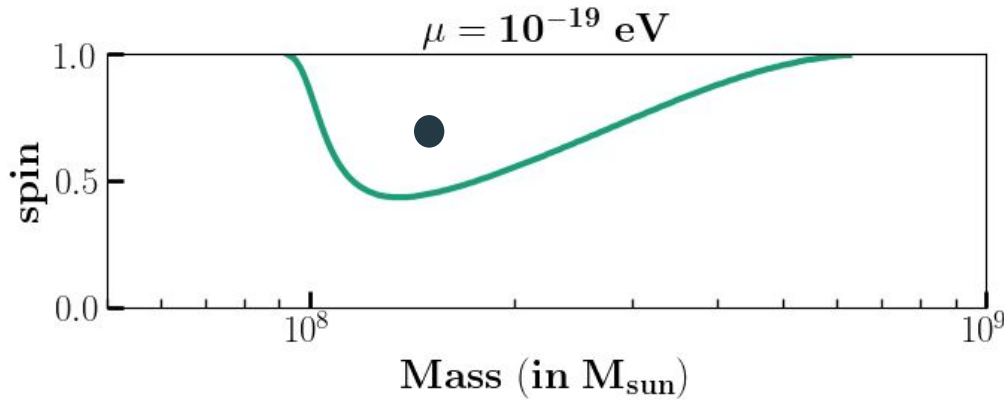
- Spinning supermassive BH opens a room for ultralight scalar particles to get produced through a phenomenon- **Superradiance (SR)**
- A bosonic cloud grow near the BH, *draining* the angular momentum of the BH



# Observational signatures of Superradiance

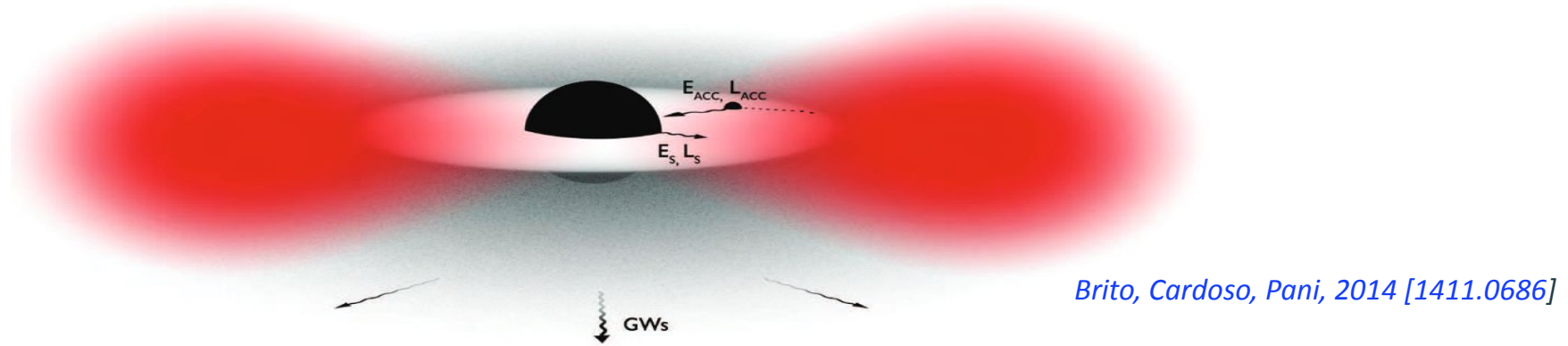


# Observational signatures of Superradiance



Observation of a BH inside the depletion region in the Regge plane exclude the scalar

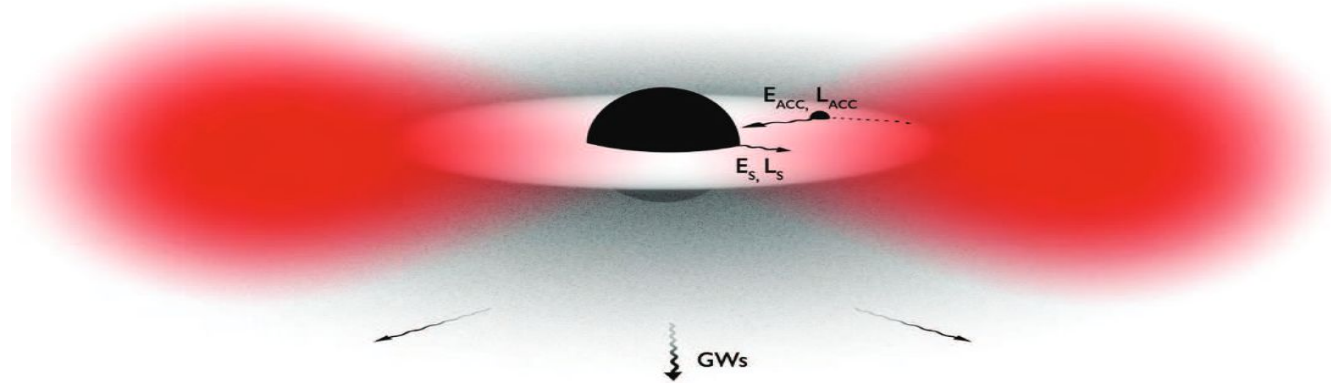
# Realistic environment for BH Superradiance: The Active Galactic Nucleus (AGN)



- **Key points:** Role of accretion in adding mass and angular momentum to the BH
- 2 competing process: Spin up- accretion, Spin down- Superradiance

# Question

How do the characteristics of AGN alter due to Superradiance history of the BH?



# Key Findings

As the accreting SMBH spins down due to superradiance:

- **Sudden drops** in the time-variation of the luminosities of AGNs in various wavelength bands.
- Observation of **depletion regions** in various planes of band-luminosities and  $f_{\text{Edd}}$  and **accumulation** of AGN along the boundaries of the depletion region.

# Superradiance in a nutshell

- *Condition of Superradiance(SR):*

$$\omega_R < m\Omega,$$

$\omega_R, \Omega$  = angular velocity of the particle and BH

- *Consequence of Superradiance:* Growth of scalar cloud, BH loses mass and angular momentum.

- Angular momentum lost till :  $\tilde{a} \sim \tilde{a}_{\text{critical}} = 4\alpha m / (m^2 + \alpha^2),$

gravitational fine structure constant -  $\alpha \sim GM\mu$



# Luminosity, Eddington Ratio of AGN

- Total Luminosity :  $L = \epsilon(\tilde{a}) \dot{M}_{\text{disk}} c^2$  *Fanidakis et al, 2011, MNRAS, 410, 53*

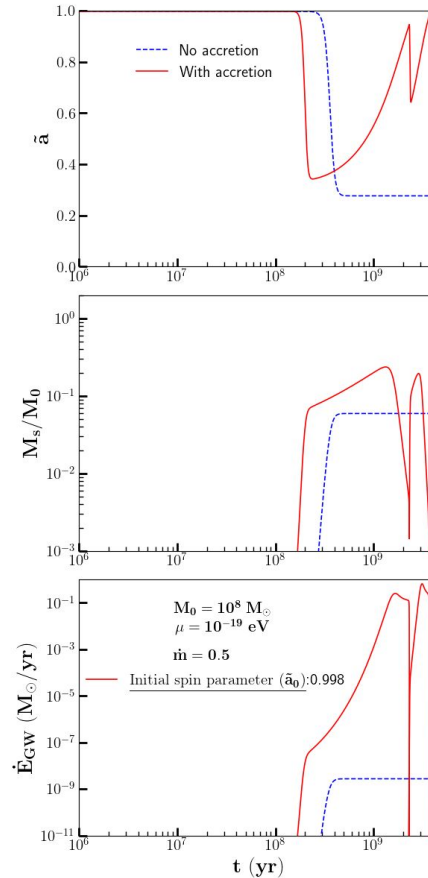
↓  
Radiative efficiency

$$\dot{m} \equiv \dot{M}_{\text{disk}} c^2 / L_{\text{Edd}} \qquad L = \epsilon(\tilde{a}) \dot{m} L_{\text{Edd}}.$$

$$L_{\text{Edd}} = \frac{4\pi G M m_p c}{\sigma_T} \approx 1.26 \times 10^{38} \text{ erg/s} \frac{M}{M_{\odot}}$$

- Eddington Ratio:  $f_{\text{Edd}} \equiv L / L_{\text{Edd}}, \qquad f_{\text{Edd}} = \epsilon(\tilde{a}) \dot{m}.$

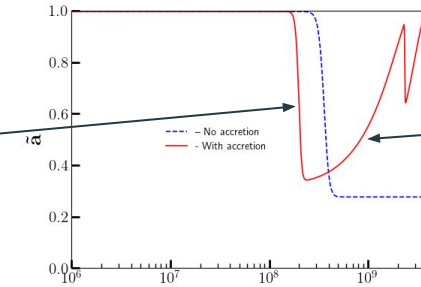
# Time evolution of accreting BH + scalar cloud system



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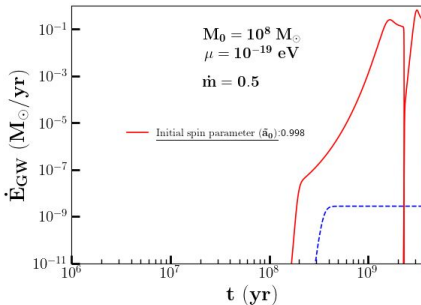
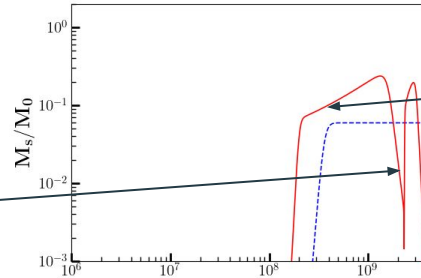
Superradiance-dominated phase

Accretion-dominated phase



GW-dominated phase

Attractor phase



## Luminosity in various bands

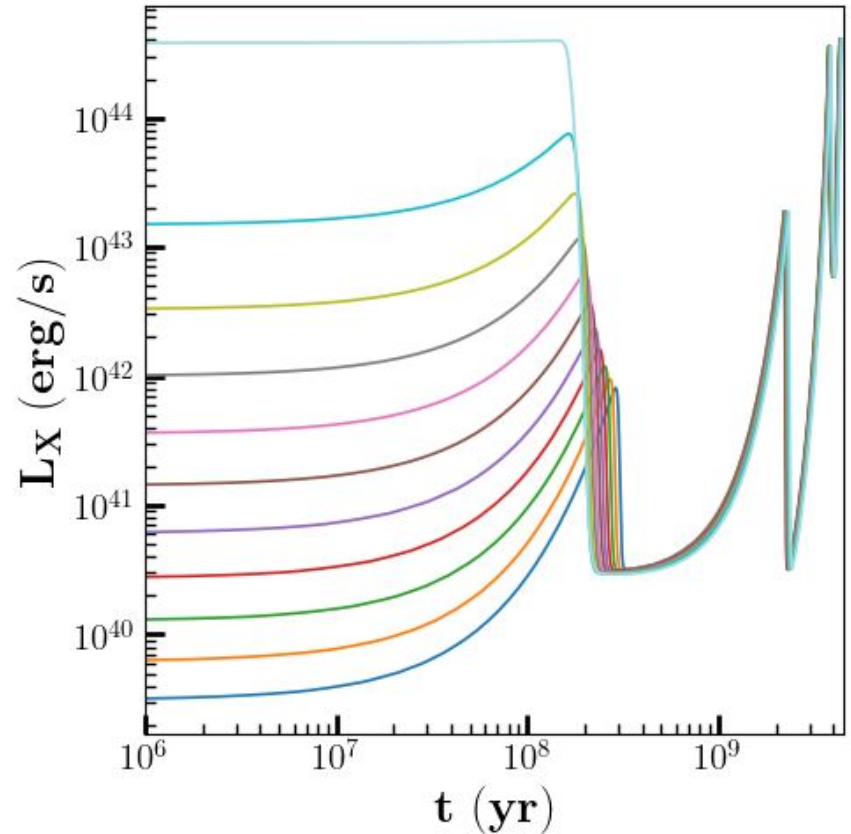
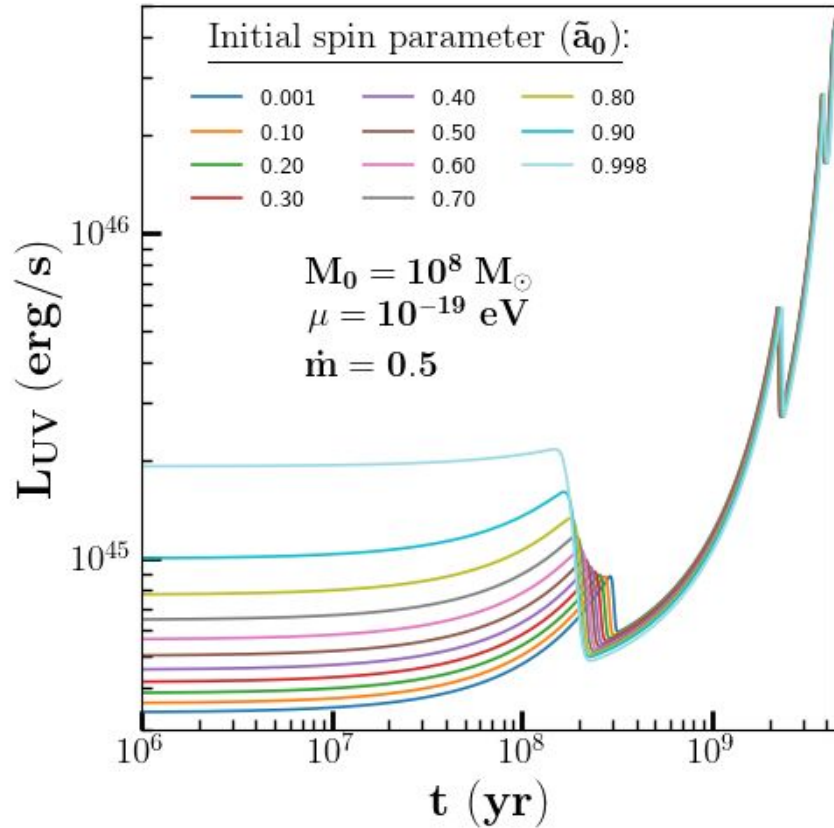
Using Novikov-Thorne model of the accretion disk, get the spin-dependant flux  $F_{\lambda}(\tilde{a}, r)$

$$L_X = \int_{10^{-4}}^{0.01} F_{\lambda} d\lambda,$$

$$L_{UV} = \int_{0.01}^{0.4} F_{\lambda} d\lambda,$$

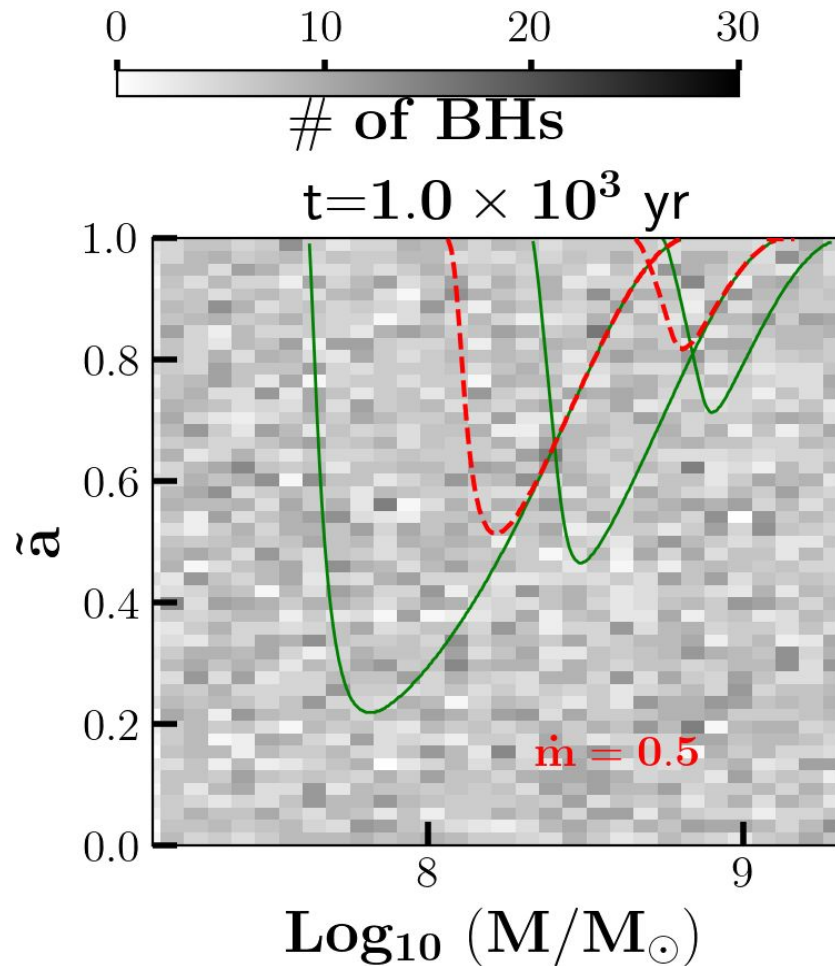
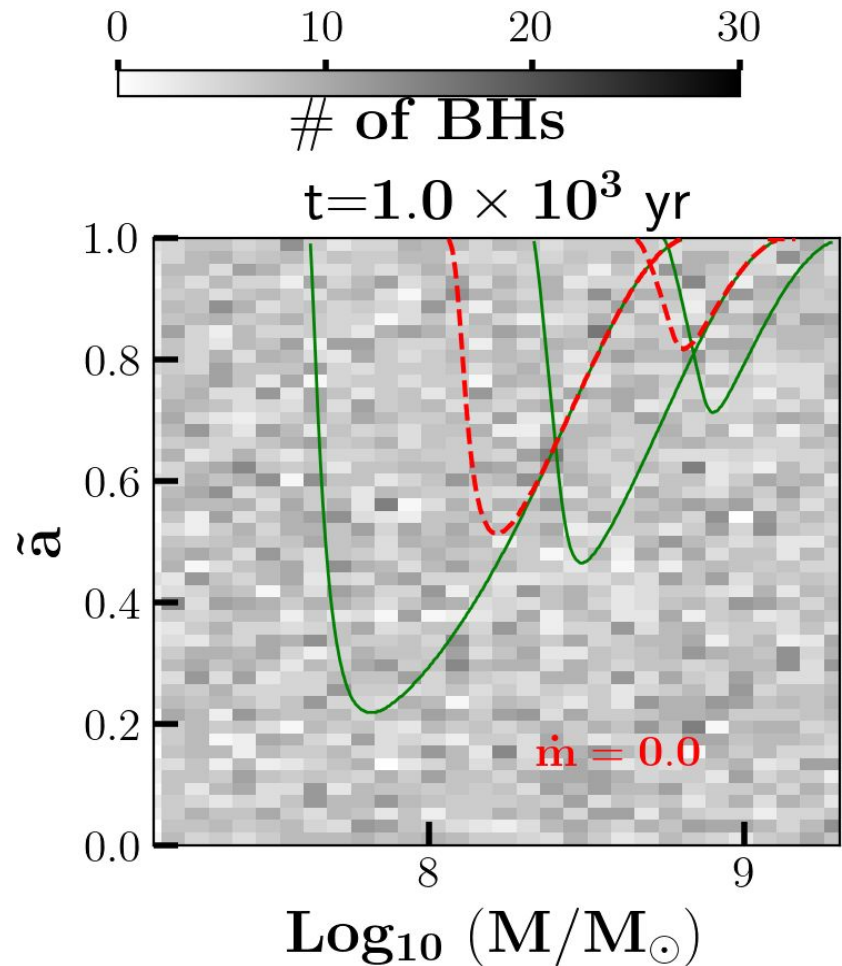
$$L_{\text{Vis-IR}} = \int_{0.4}^{100} F_{\lambda} d\lambda,$$

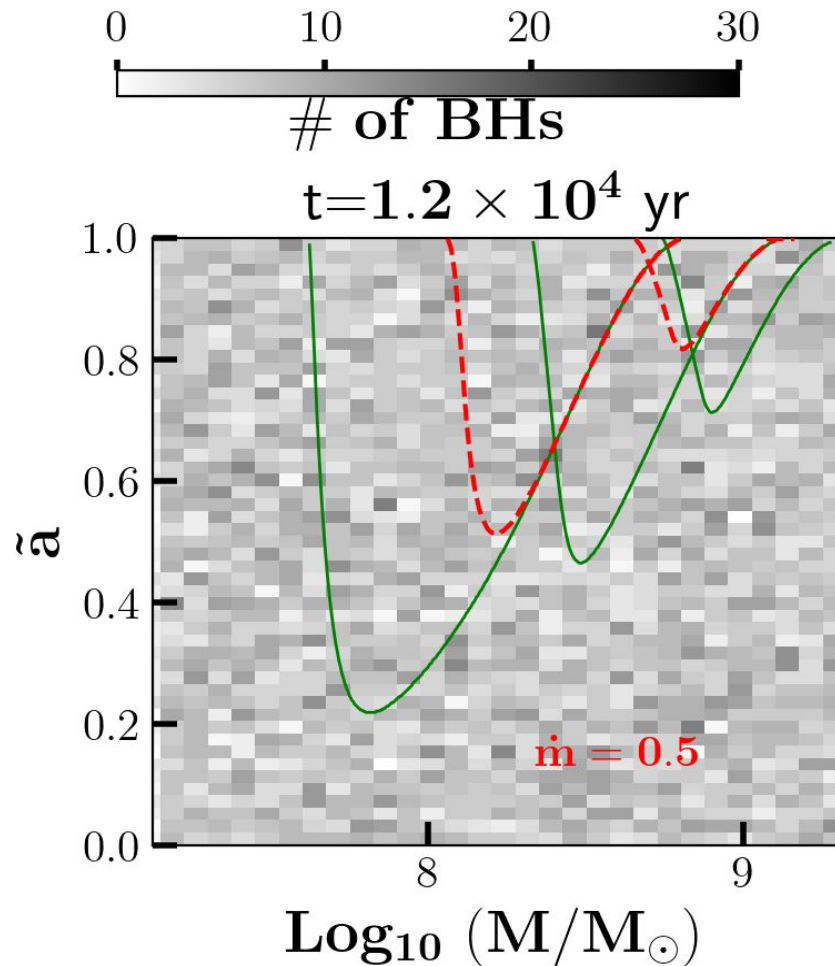
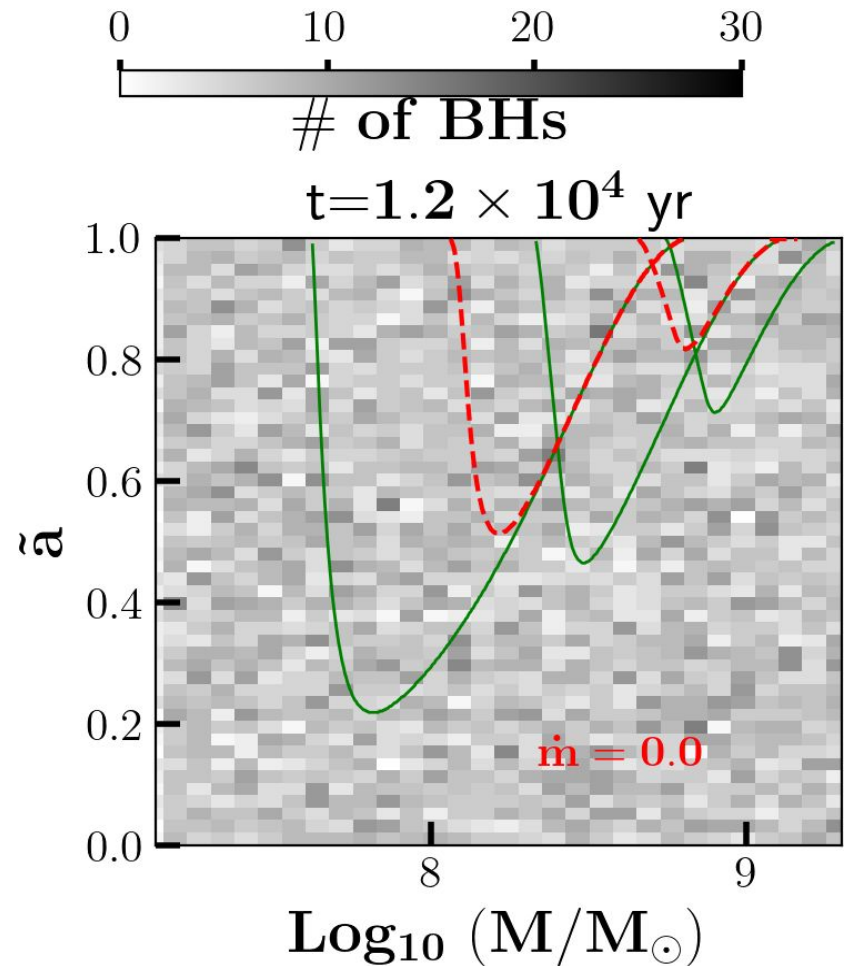
# Luminosity in various bands



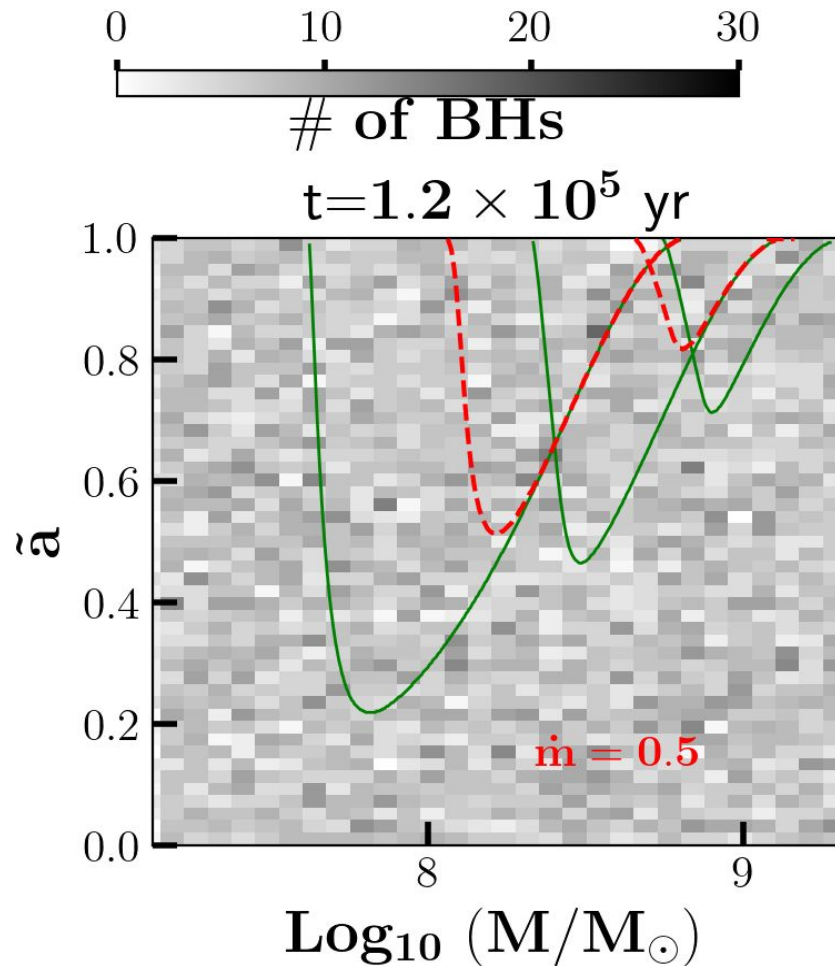
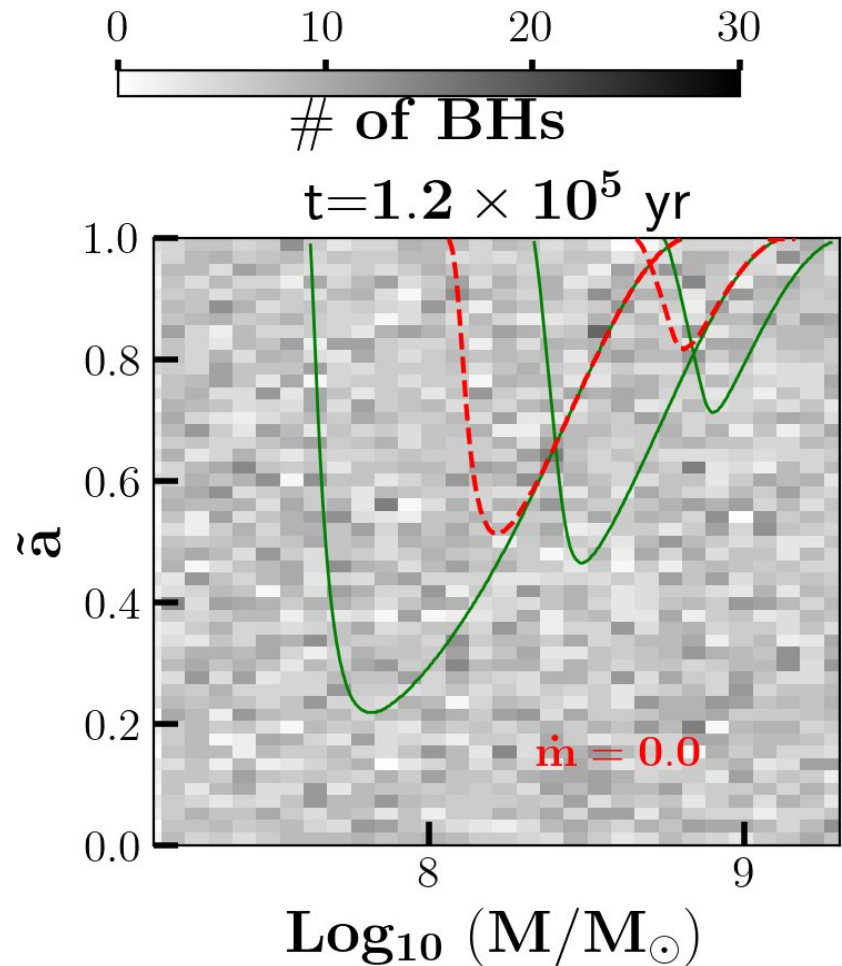


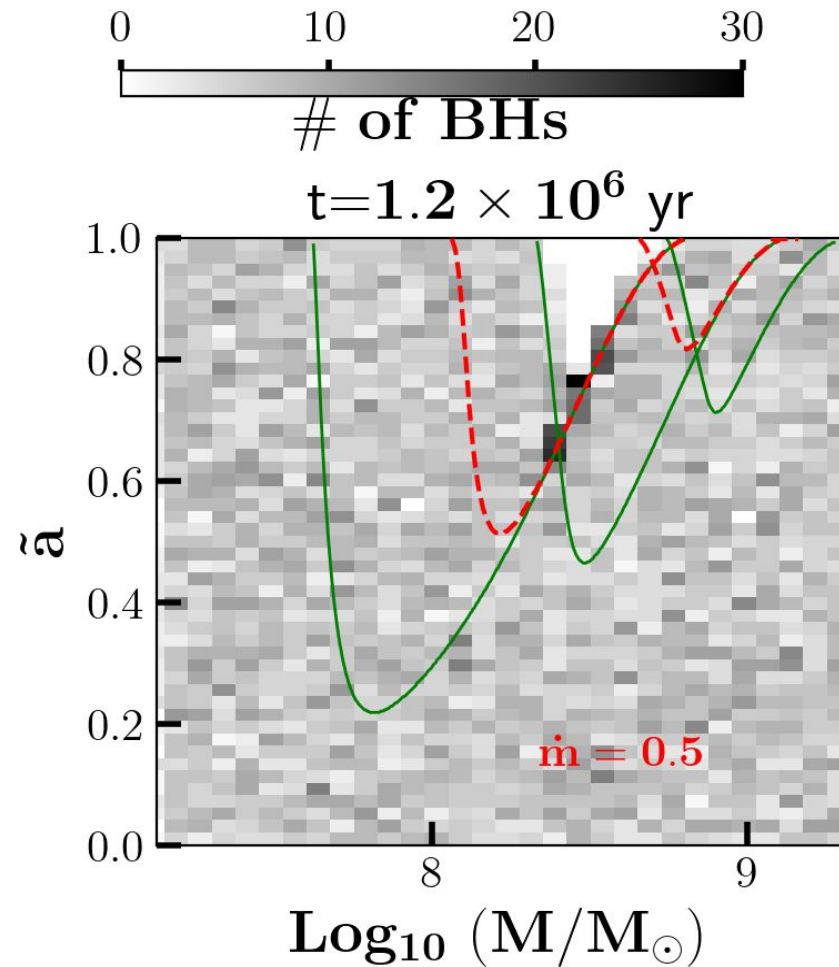
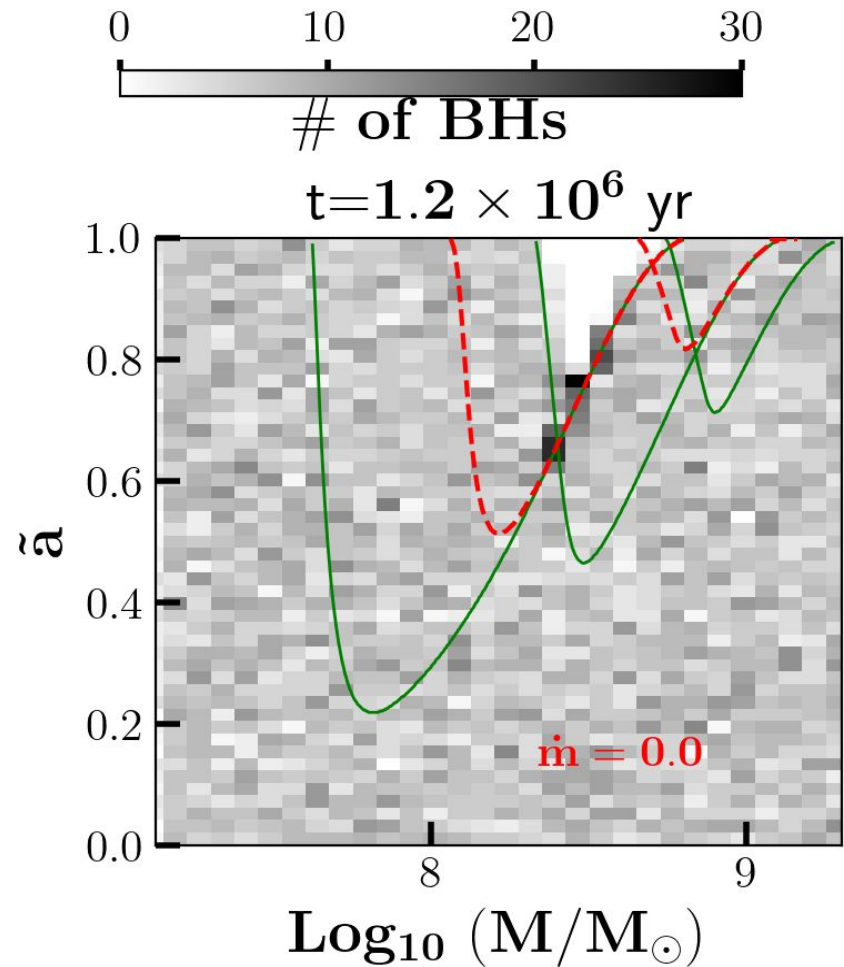
*Distribution of SMBHs at the AGN core*

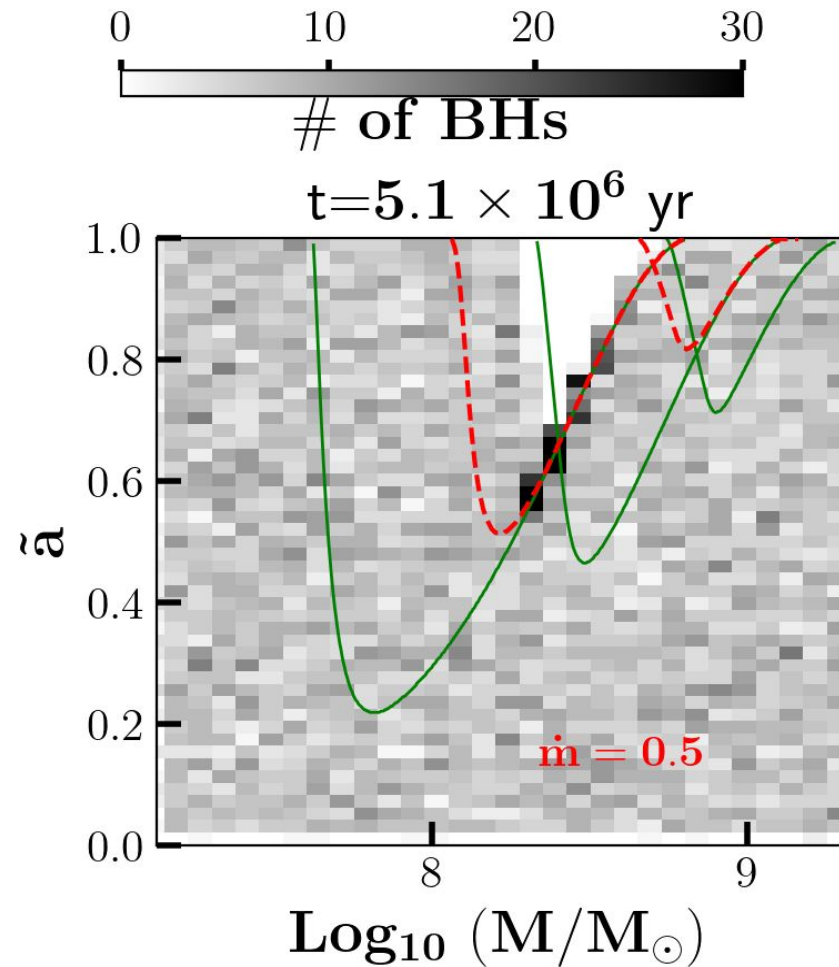
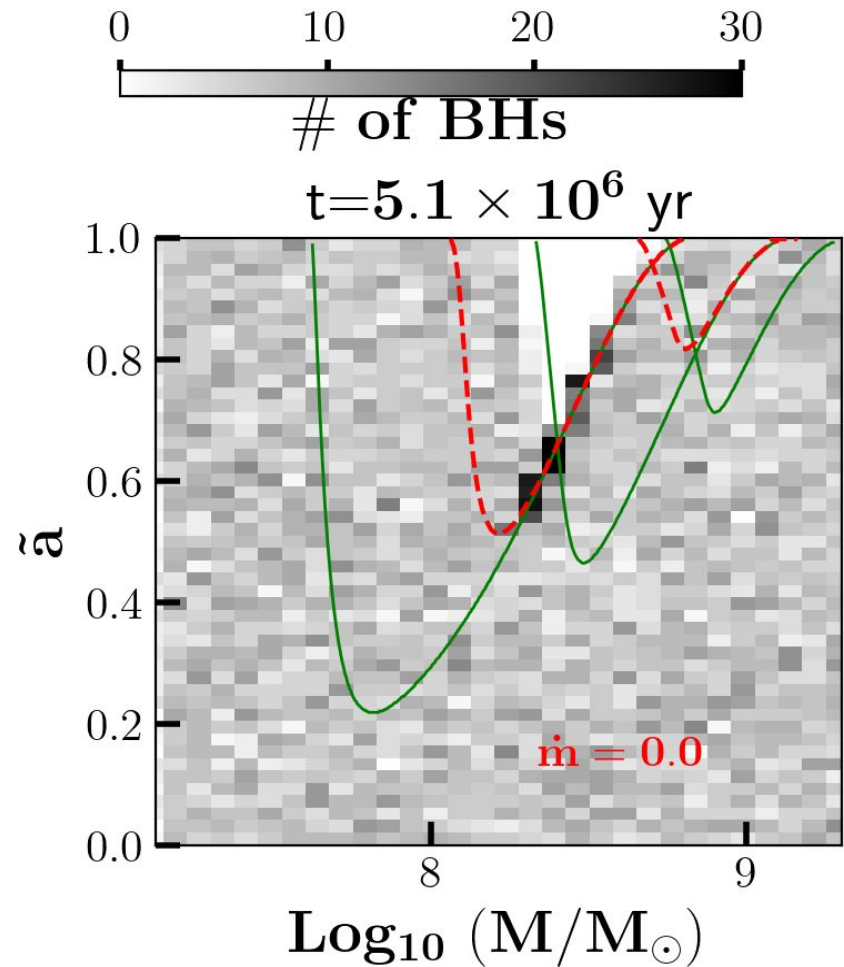


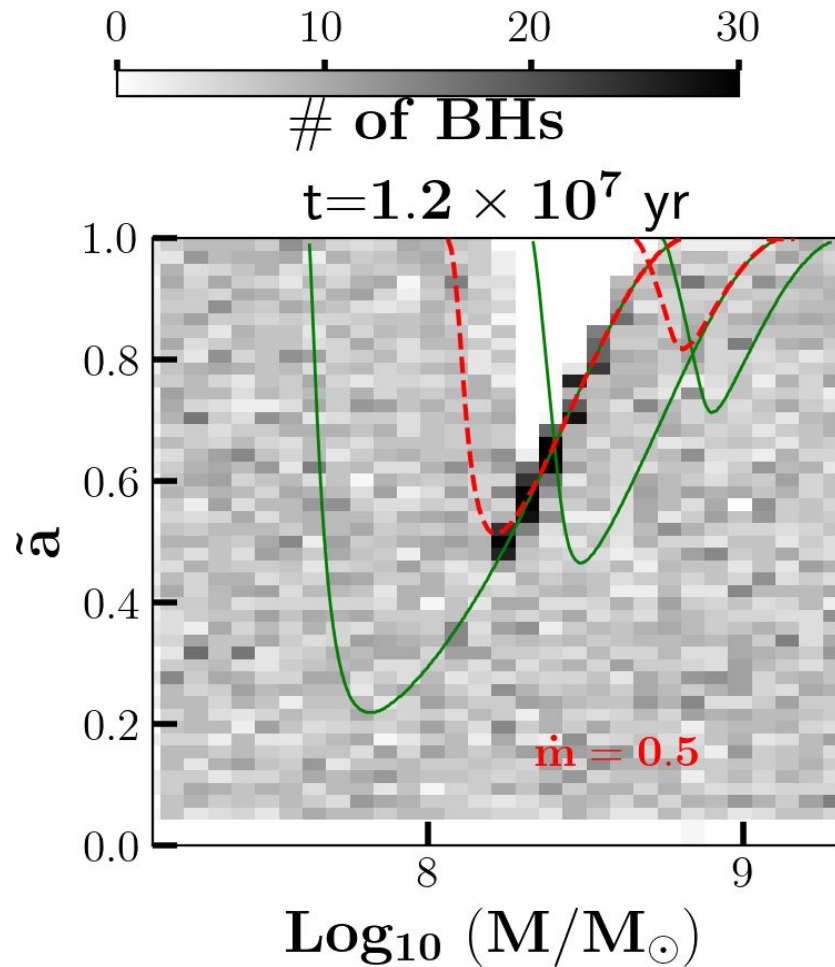
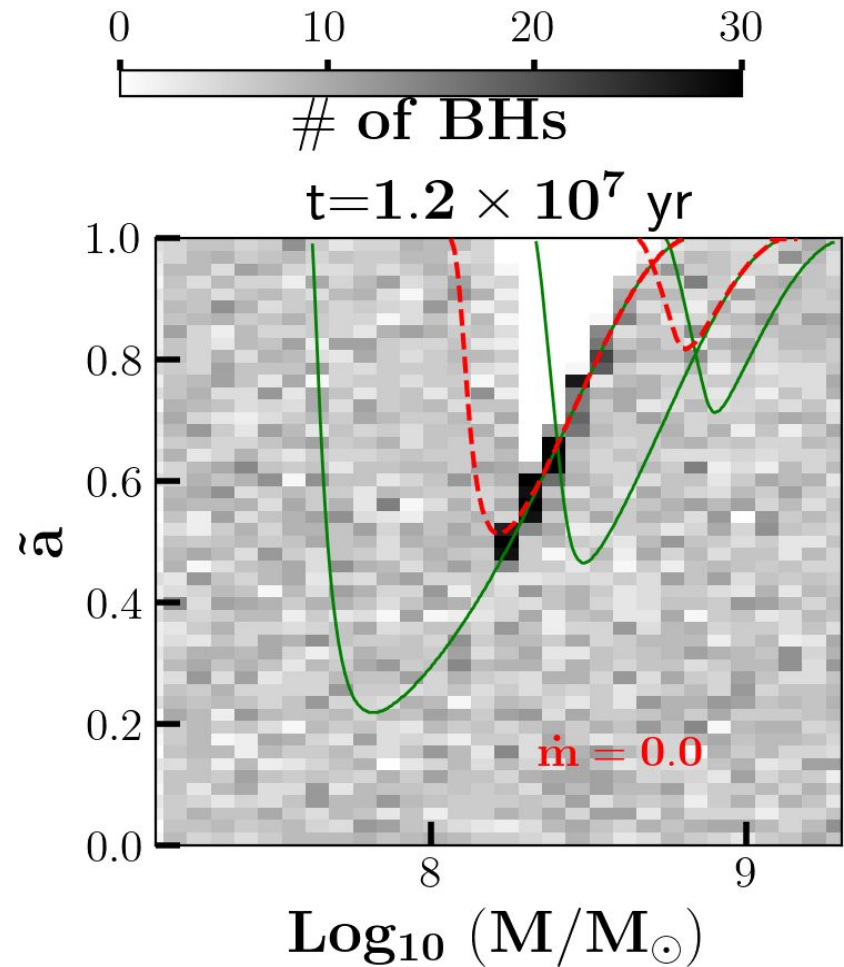


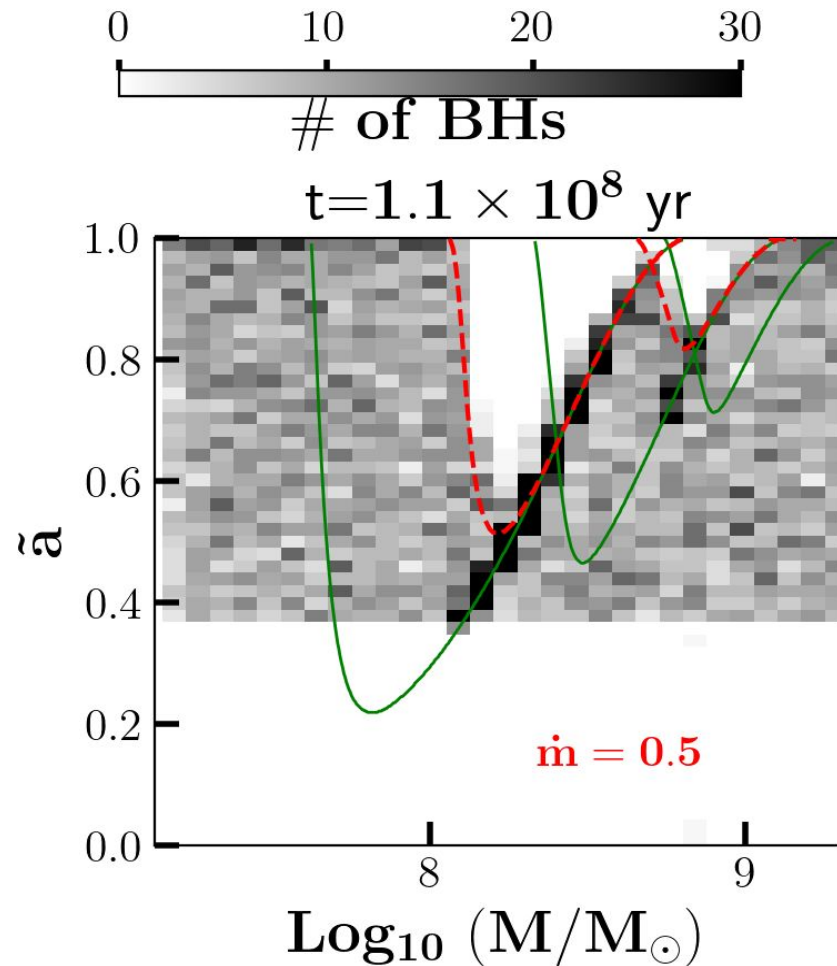
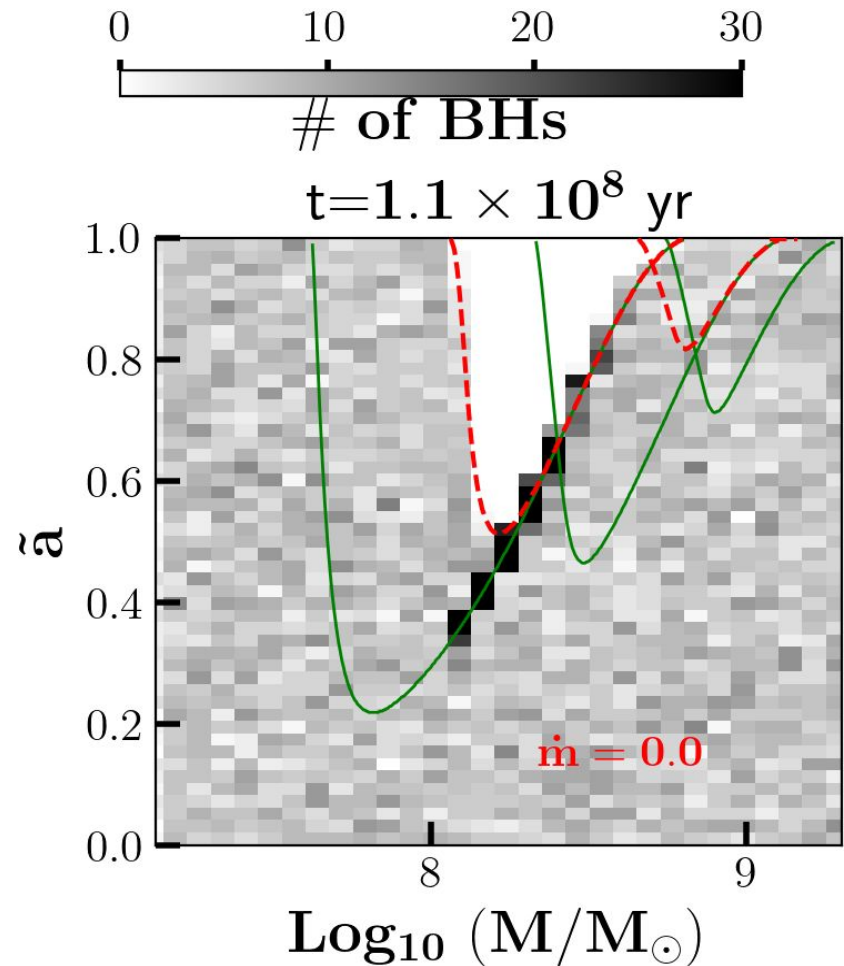


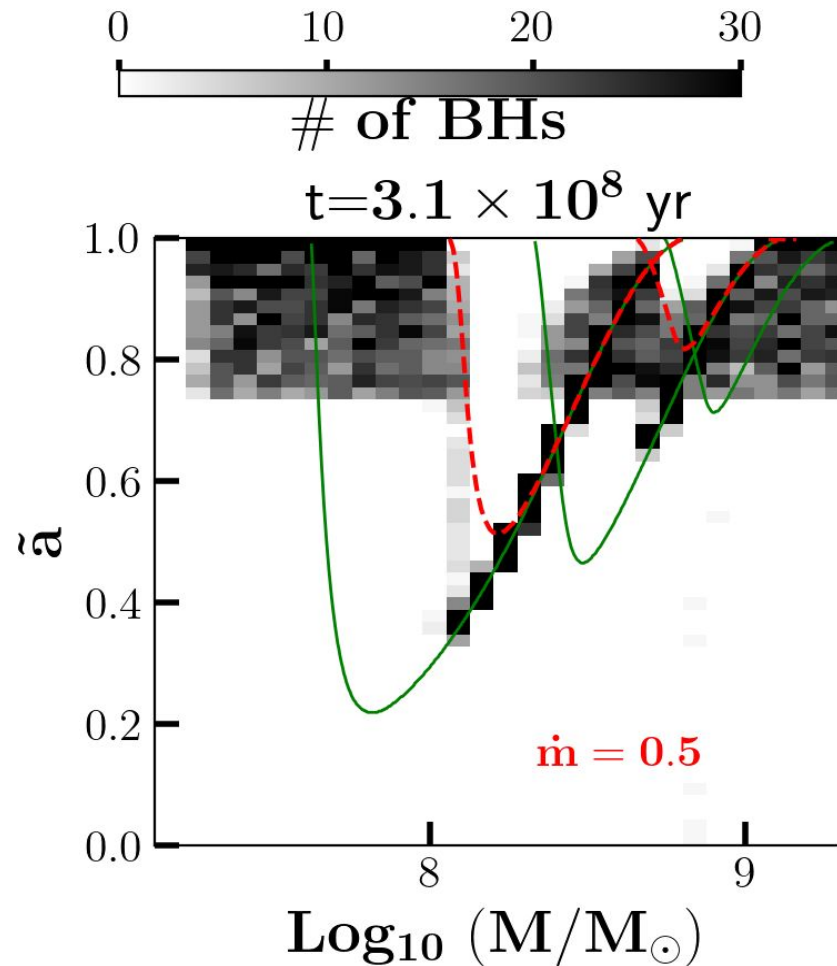
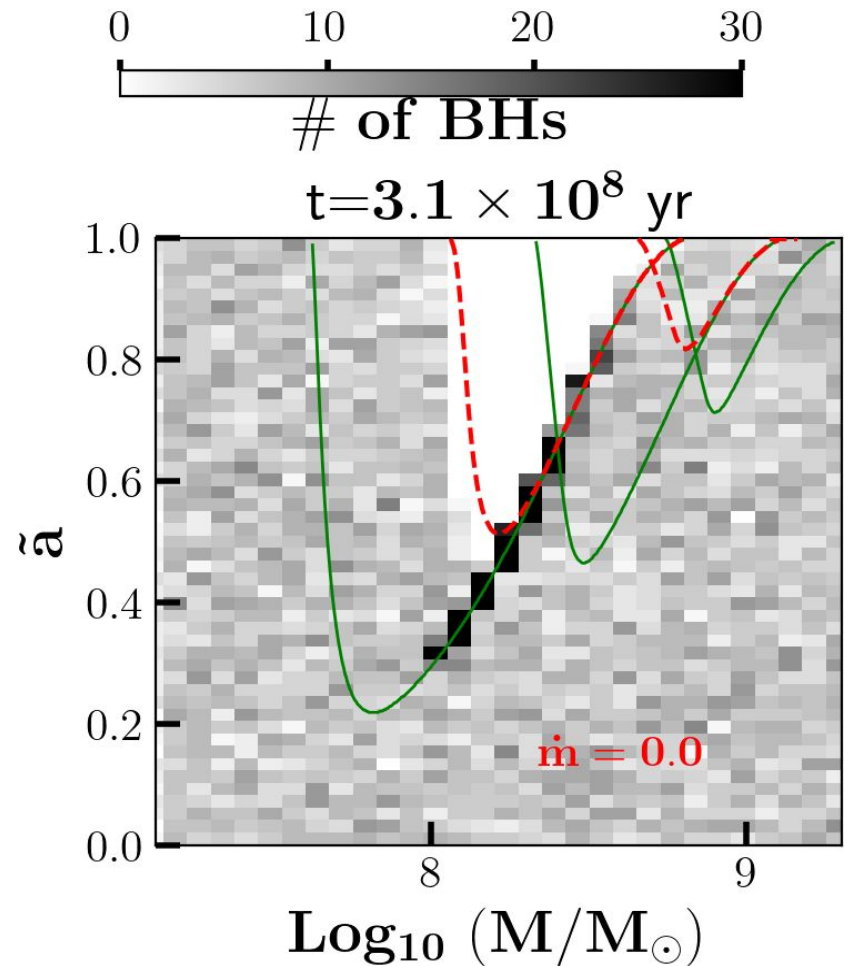


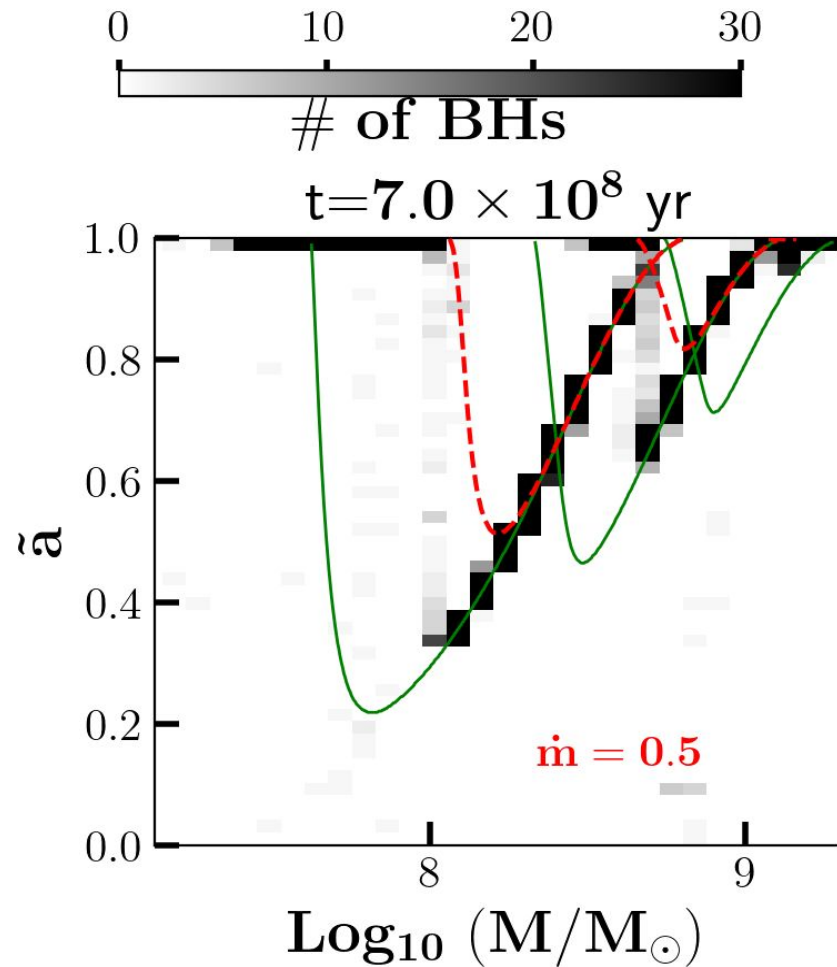
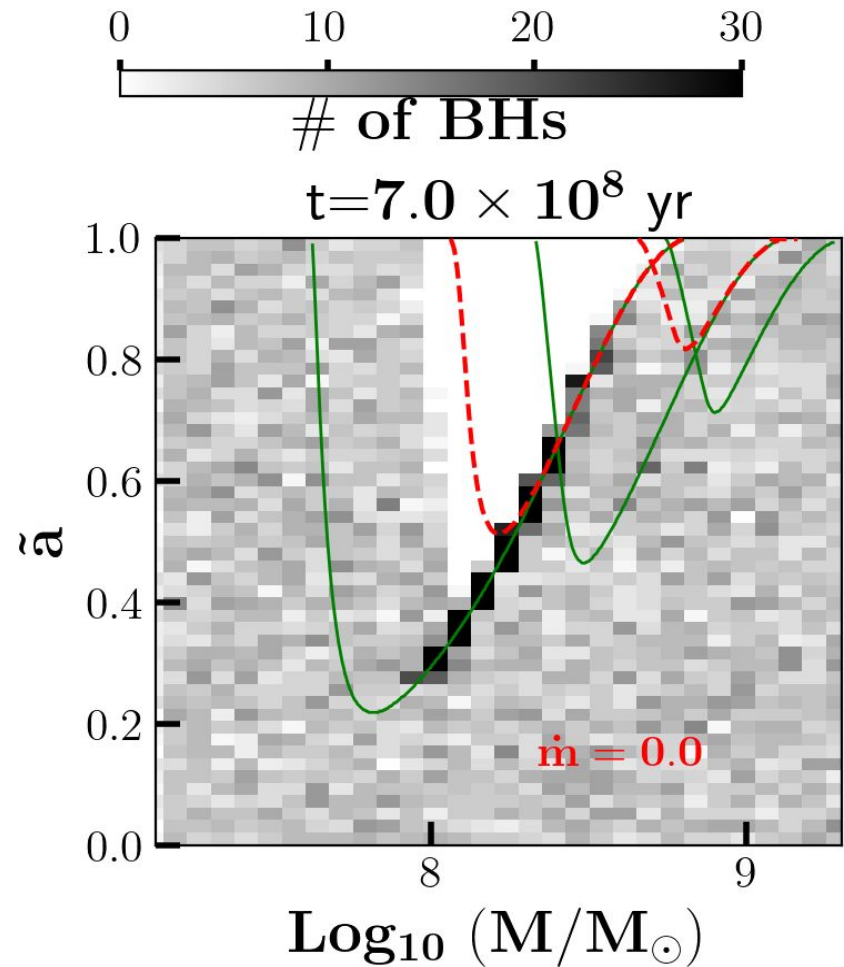








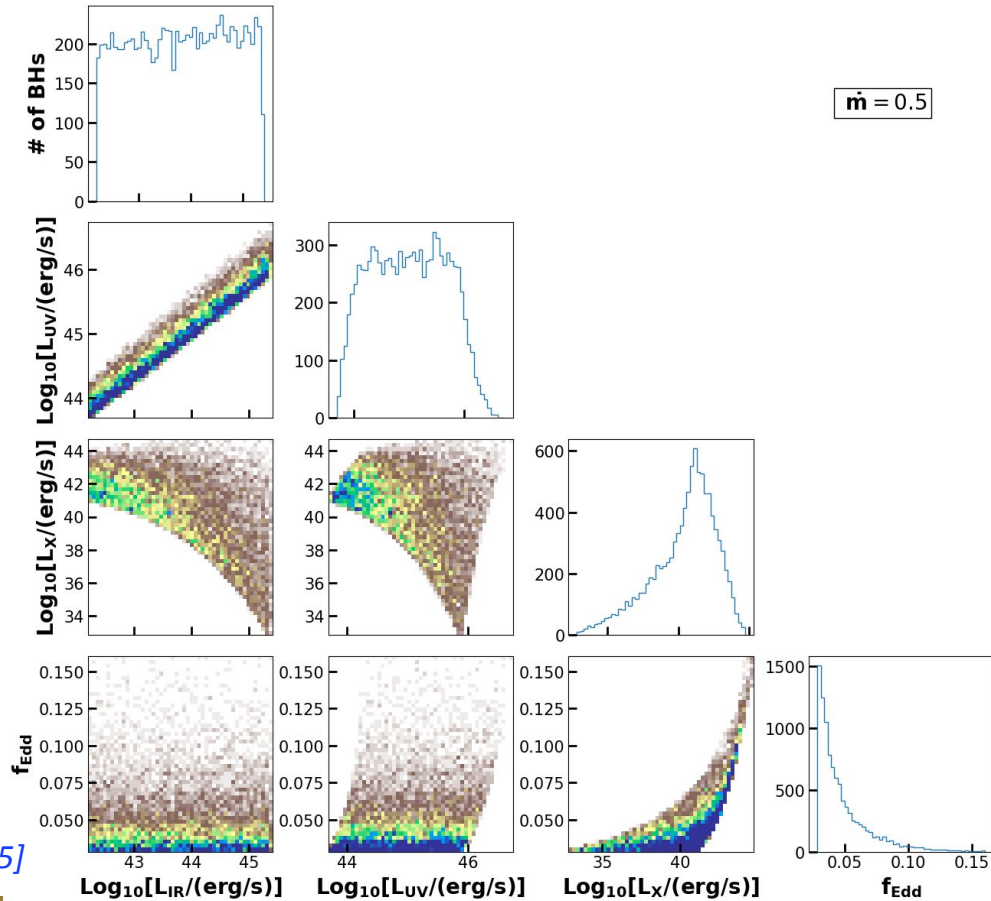
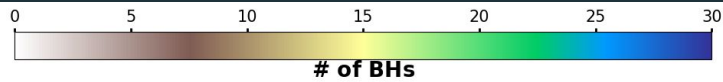


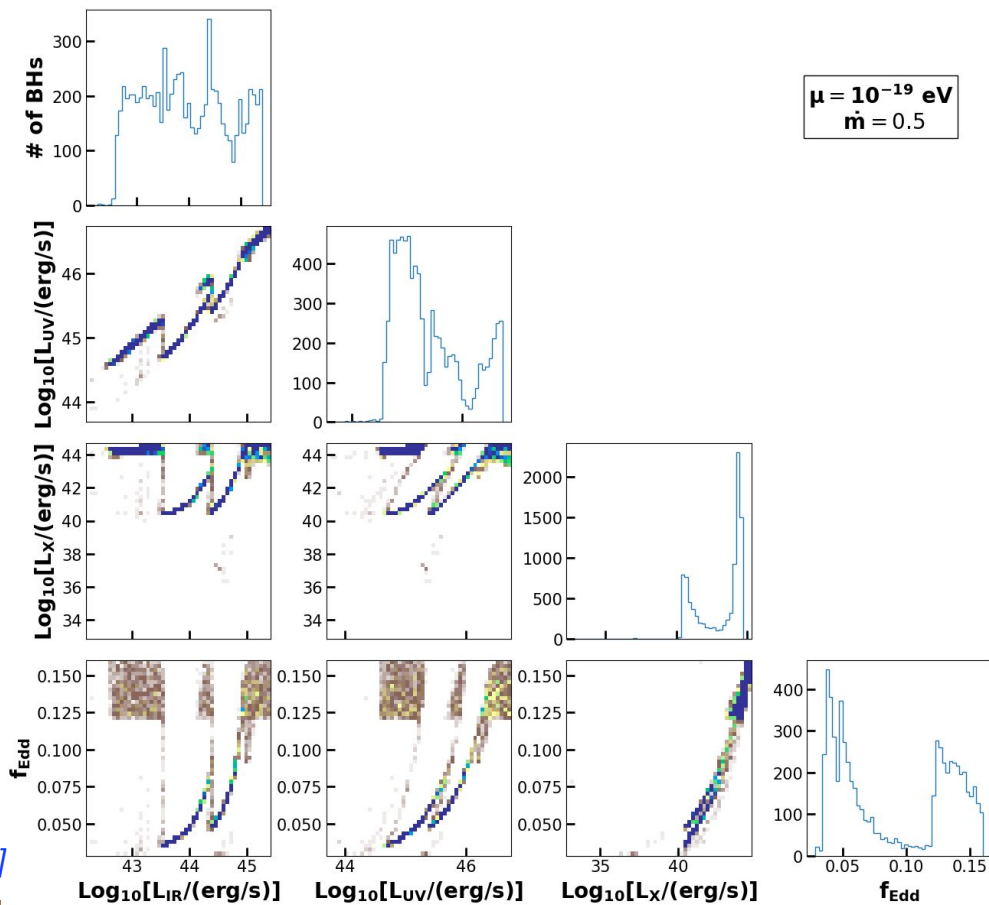
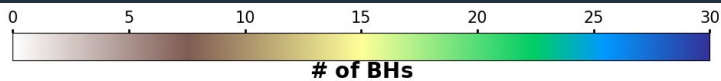




## *Distribution of AGN Characteristics*

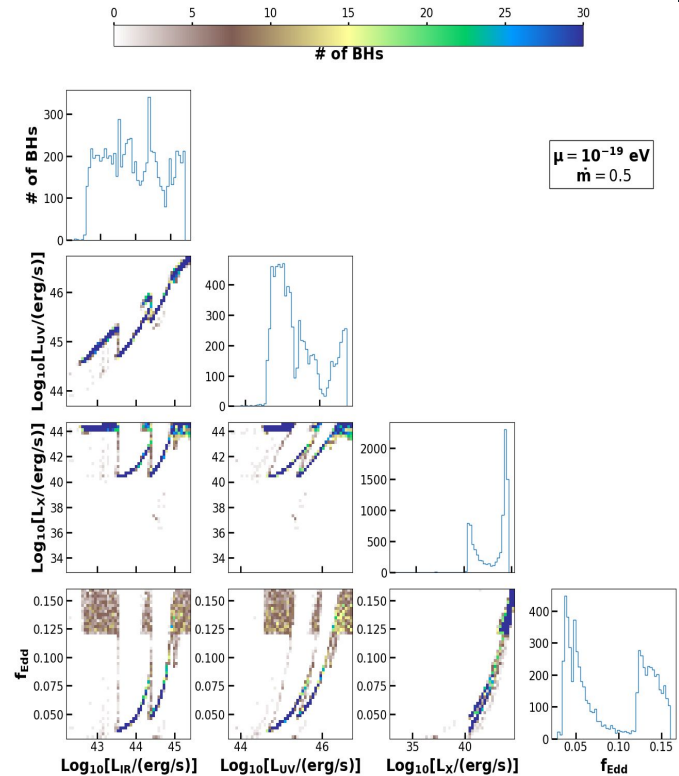






# Summary

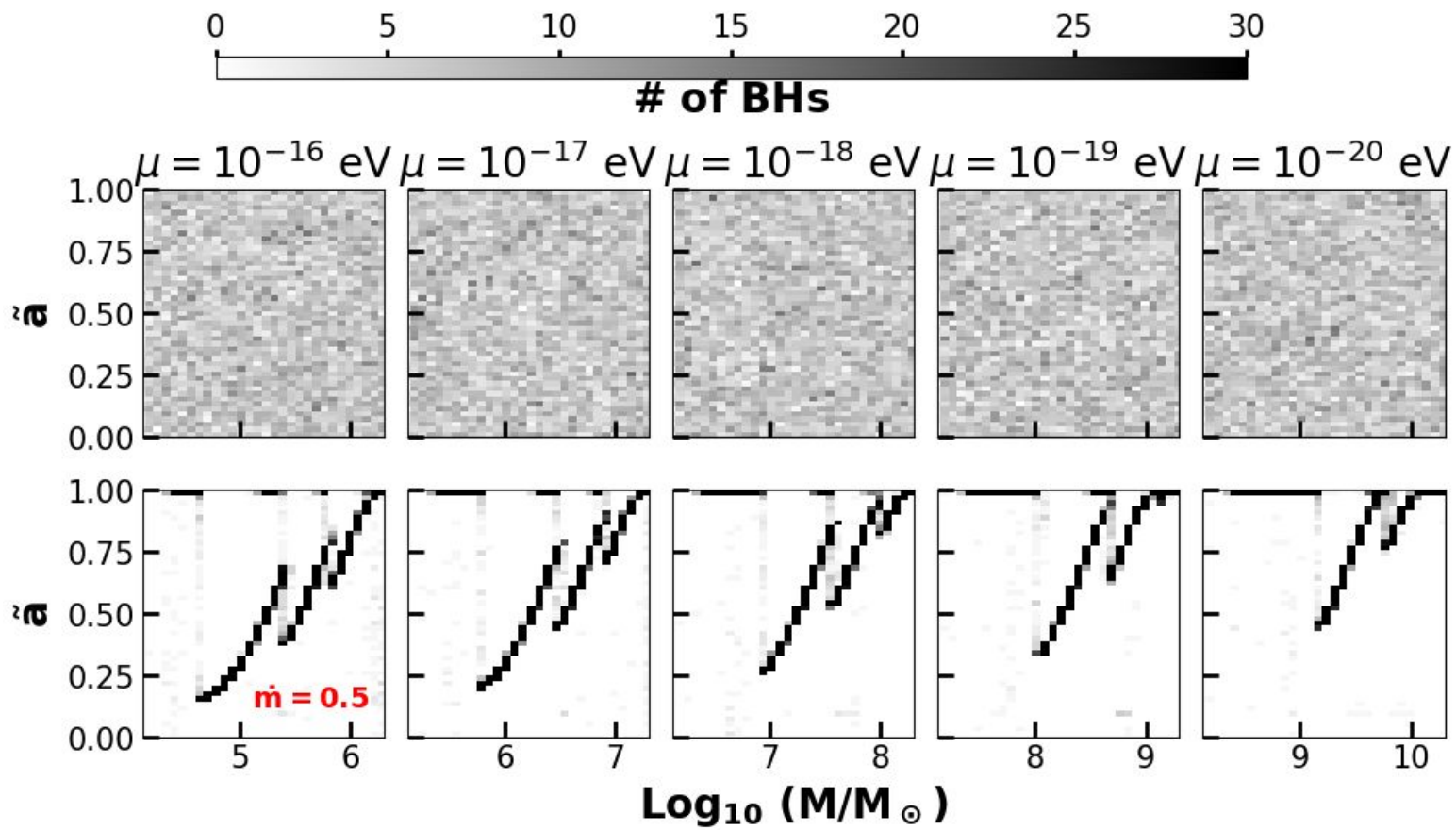
- Accreting SMBH undergoing Superradiance at the core of AGN leads to-  
**Enhanced growth** of scalar cloud and GW emission rate and appearance of higher modes within the age of the universe.
- **Multiple dips** in the luminosity evolution corresponding to timescales of dominant modes of superradiance.
- Observation of **depletion regions** in various planes of band-luminosities and  $f_{\text{Edd}}$  and **accumulation** of AGN along the boundaries of the depletion region.

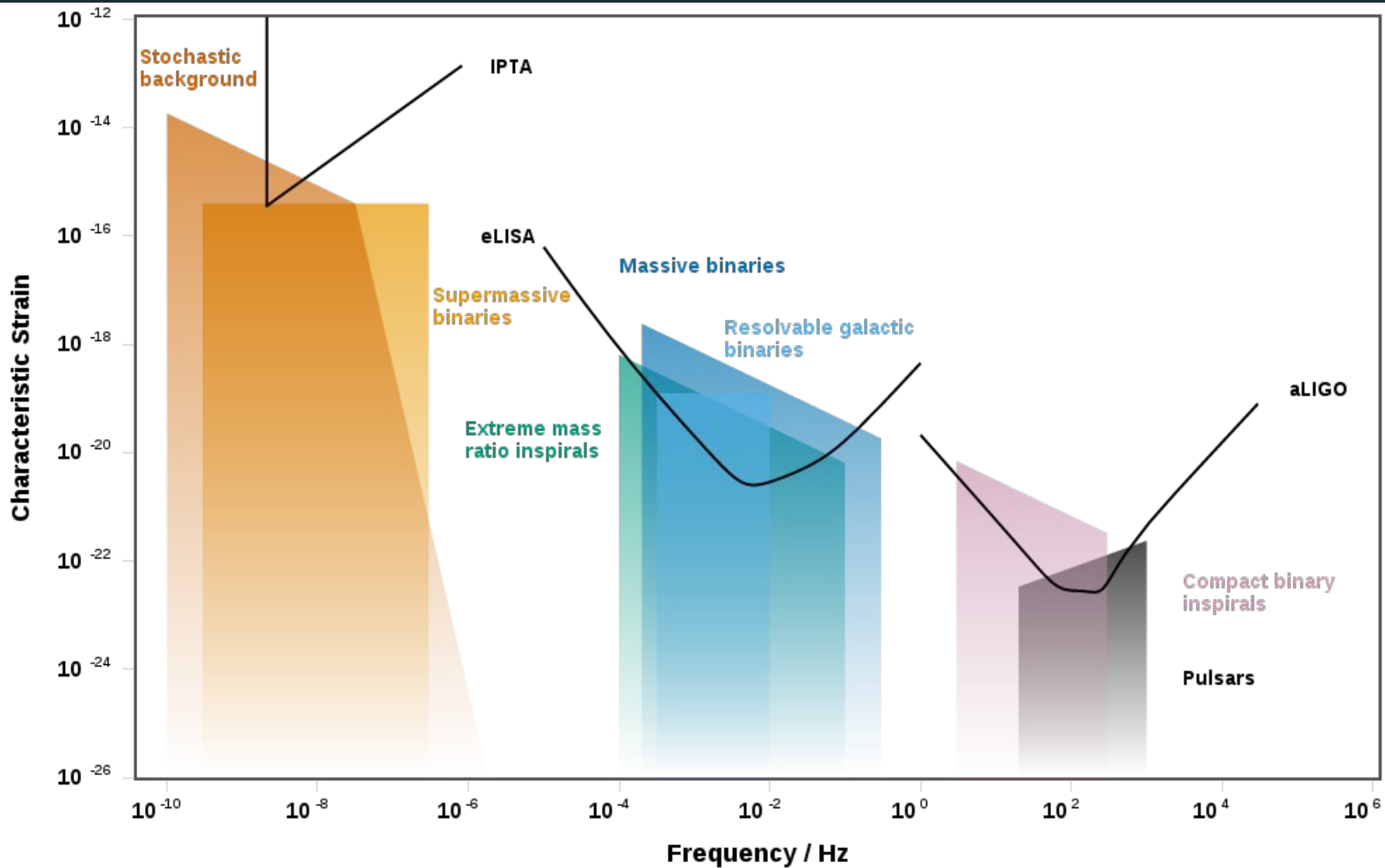




Thank you!

Questions?  
Comments?  
Suggestion?





# Superradiance in a nutshell

- The metric around a rotating BH parameterized in terms of BH mass  $M$  and spin  $a = \tilde{a} M$ ,  
 $\tilde{a}$  dimensionless spin parameter

$$\square \Phi + \mu^2 \Phi = 0$$

$$\Phi = S_{lm}(\theta) \psi(r)/r \exp(-i\omega t + im\varphi)$$

- Energy eigenvalue  $\sim \omega_R + i(m\Omega - \omega_R)$

# Observational signatures of Superradiance

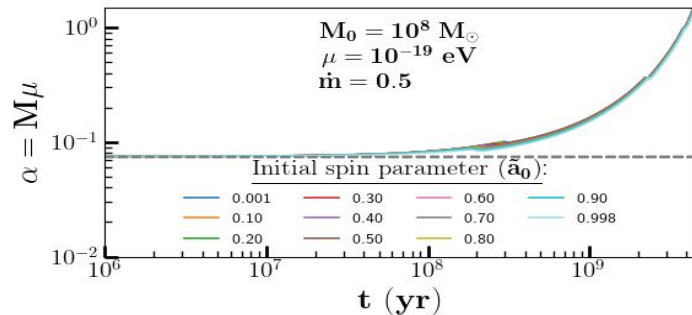
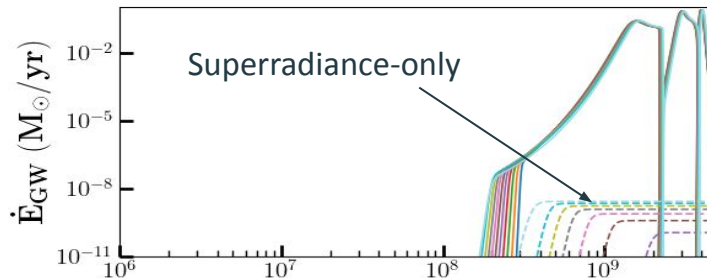
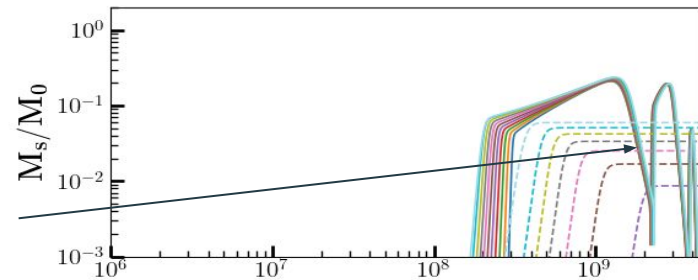
- Interesting signatures of gravitational wave emission emitted from the annihilation of scalars in the cloud around the BH, [Arvanitaki et al. 2015b](#)
- Scalar cloud affecting the black hole images, [Davoudiasl & Denton 2019](#), [Saha et al. 2022](#)
- Depletion region in Regge plane i.e. spin versus mass plane of the BH, [Brito et al. 2014](#)



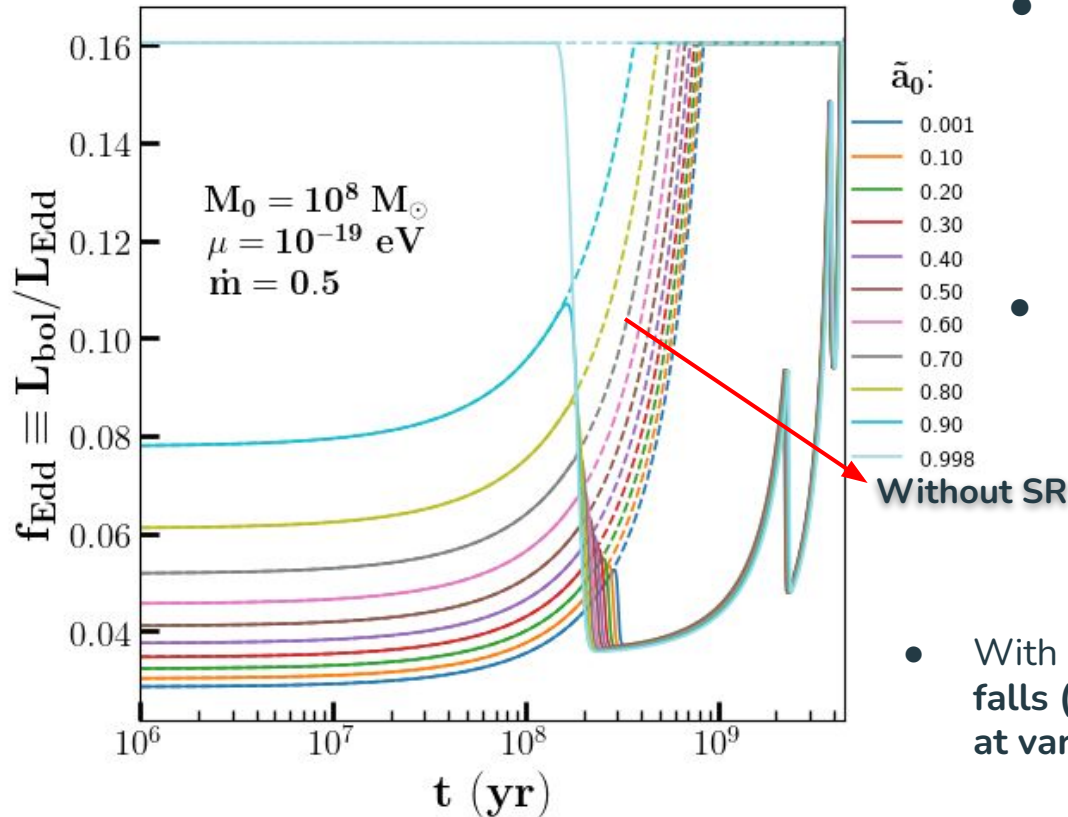
## GW-dominated phase

- GW-dominated phase:** observe an eight-order increase in the peak GW emission rate when accretion is present compared to an isolated BH
 
$$dE_{\text{GW}}/dt \sim (M_s/M)^2 \alpha^{4l+10}$$

*Yoshino H., Kodama H.'14*



# Eddington Ratio



- **sudden drops** at the time-scales corresponding to various modes of superradiant growth.

$$f_{\text{Edd}} = \epsilon(\tilde{a})\dot{m}.$$

- Without scalar field,  $f_{\text{Edd}}$  **monotonically increases with time due to accretion.**

- With SR, no longer monotonically increasing, **falls (due to SR) and rise (due to accretion) at various epochs.**

# Time evolution of BH + scalar cloud system

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = - \sum_{nlm} 2M_s^{nlm} \omega_I^{nlm} + \dot{M}_{\text{Acc}} ,$$

$$\frac{dJ}{dt} = - \sum_{nlm} \frac{2}{\mu} m M_s^{nlm} \omega_I^{nlm} + \dot{J}_{\text{Acc}} ,$$

$$\frac{dM_s^{nlm}}{dt} = 2M_s^{nlm} \omega_I^{nlm} - \dot{E}_{\text{GW}}^{nlm} ,$$

$$\frac{dJ_s^{nlm}}{dt} = \frac{2}{\mu} m M_s^{nlm} \omega_I^{nlm} - \frac{1}{\mu} m \dot{E}_{\text{GW}}^{nlm} ,$$

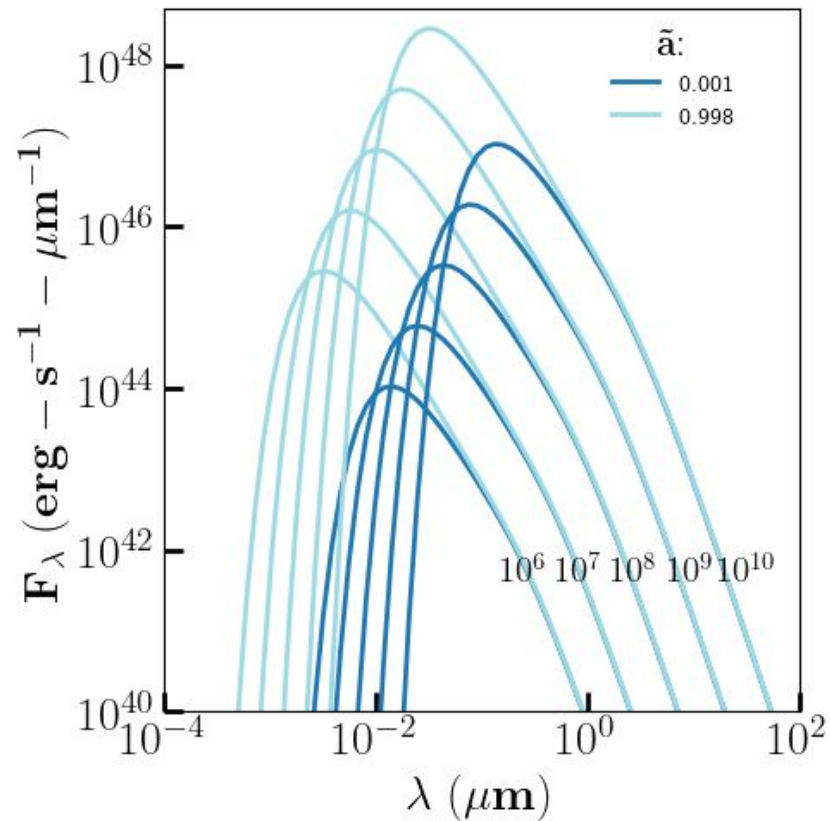
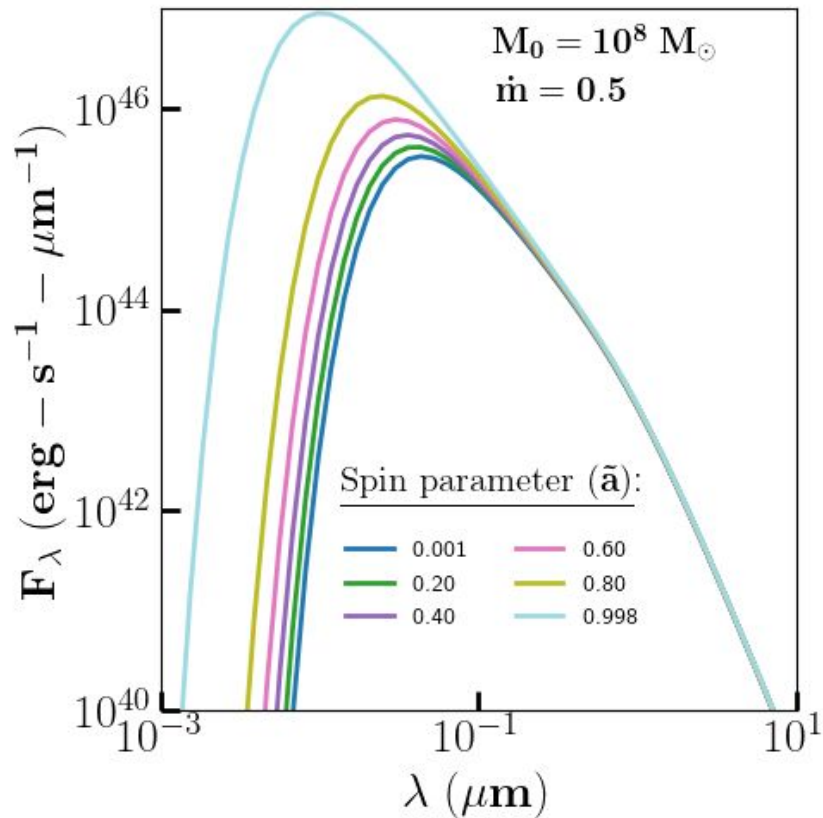
# Accretion disk around Kerr BH: Novikov-Thorne model

$$F(r) = 7 \times 10^{26} \frac{\text{erg}}{\text{s cm}^2} \dot{m} \frac{M_{\odot}}{M} \left( \frac{M}{r} \right)^3 \mathcal{B}^{-1} \mathcal{C}^{-1/2} \mathcal{Q}$$

where  $B$ ,  $C$ ,  $Q$  are functions of BH spin  $\tilde{a}$  and radius  $r$

Spectrum is obtained by integrating the flux, assuming the flux coming from local Black body

$$F_{\lambda} = 2 \int f_{\lambda}(r) r dr d\phi = 4\pi \int f_{\lambda}(r) r dr$$



- Most visible effects in the X-ray and UV band luminosities of AGNs, least effect in Vis-IR: higher energetic photons come from the inner part