## Tips For Finding Massive Black Hole Binaries: (have any?)



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## Massive Black Hole Binaries (MBHBs)



 $M_{\rm bin} \sim 10^6 \rightarrow 10^{10} {\rm M}_{\odot}$ 

- Most energetic gravitational wave sources in the Universe - probe of gravity
- \* Can teach us about the mutual evolution of galaxies and MBHs
- \* How do we find them? They don't (necessarily) exist in vacuum!

### Electromagnetic MBHB evidence/searches



#### EM signatures: Binary gas accretion Periodic accretion



Binary BH accretion rate: \*can exceed the rate for a single BH \*can be uniquely modulated

D'Orazio+2016, Shi & Krolik 2015, Farris+2014 D'Orazio, Haiman, & MacFadyen (2013) EM signatures: Binary gas accretion Doppler-boosted modulation



 $\ln \nu$ 



$$T_{\nu}^{\text{obs}} = D^{3-\alpha} F_{\nu}^{\text{rest}}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{d \ln F_{\nu}}{d \ln \nu}$$



### MBHB candidate: PG 1302-102



Graham+2015, Nature

D'Orazio, Haiman, Schiminovich 2015, Nature

## Variability in the IR: A lighthouse in the dust?



## Variability in the IR: A lighthouse in the dust?



IR light curves: phase shifted + diminished amplitude

#### Dust Reverberation Model

\*Dust is in a torus centered on the periodic MBHB source \*Dust is optically thick to UV/optical and optically thin to IR \*Integrated blackbody flux observed at retarded time  $R_d$ 



#### Dust Reverberation Model



In: Binary period and inclination, torus
inner radius, inclination and opening angle
Out: IR amplitude and phase relative to
UV/optical

## (Analytic) Results



# Implication for PG 1302?



### Summary for IR from MBHB systems

Relative Variability Amplitude - Depends on ratio of dust light travel time to source variability period

IR Phase Lags - Quarter cycle difference between isotropic and Doppler sources

Orphan IR variability - IR periodic variability, with no UV/optical component

PG 1302 - IR emission consistent with dust reprocessing by a thin dusty disk at ~1-4pc - cannot yet distinguish between Doppler and isotropic cases.

Inferring the MBHB population IR predictions provide more evidence for vetting MBHB candidates Multi-wavelength Population Studies ~150 new MBHB Candidates from Graham+2015b –

Charisi+2015(x's)

