

# The Origin of Hypervelocity Stars and GC S-stars, GC pulsars and hyperfast pulsars

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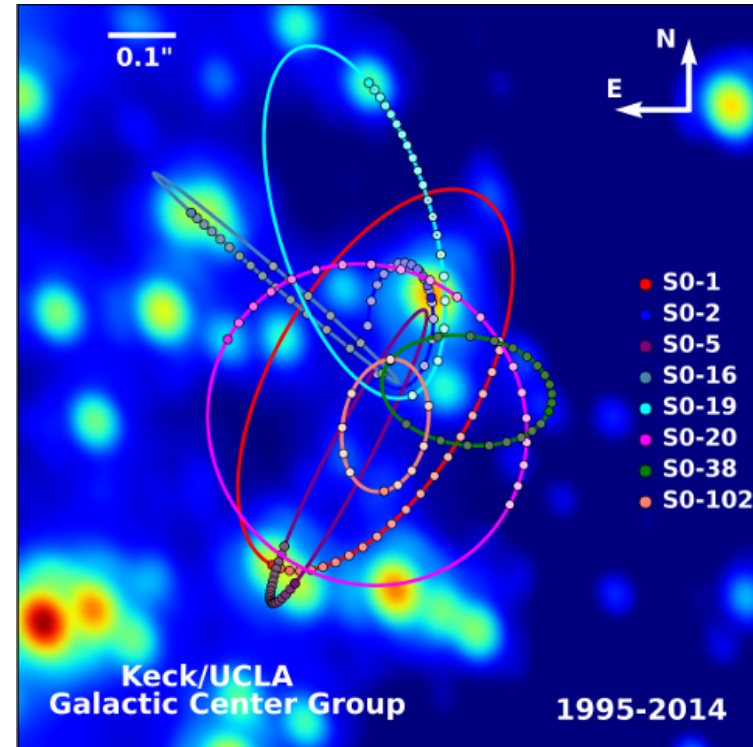
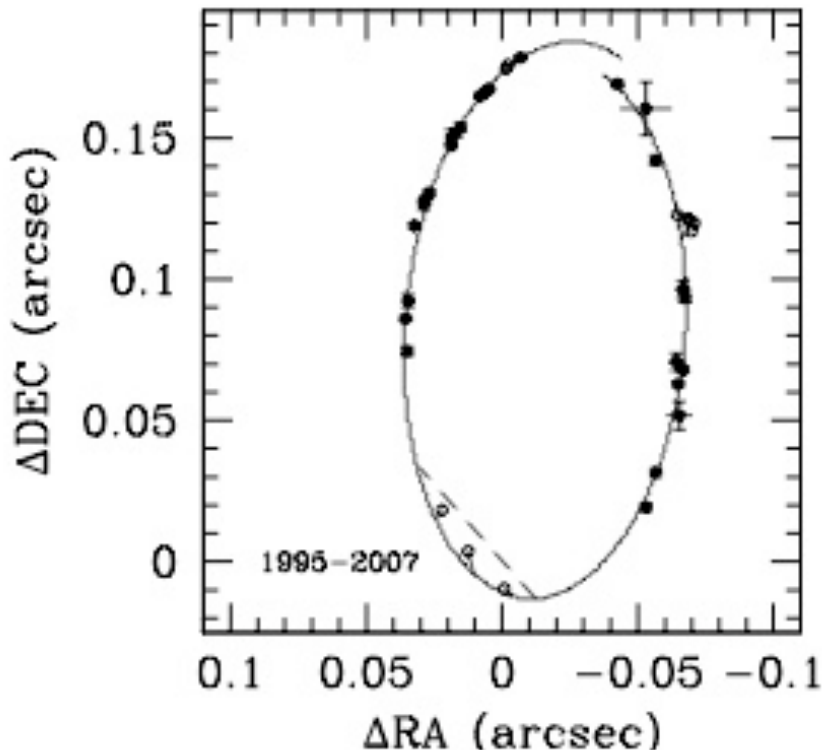
**Collaborators: Fupeng ZHANG (SYSU)  
Qingjuan YU (KIAA)**

- **Constraining the spin of the massive black hole at the Galactic center via the motion of a surrounding star (Qingjuan YU)**
- **On testing the Kerr metric in the GC via star orbits: the effects of stellar perturbations (Fupeng ZHANG)**

# Outline

- **Background: GC S-stars, and hypervelocity stars**
- **Dynamical models: Tidal breakup of binary stars in the vicinity of the GC MBH**
- **Confronting observations with models**
- **Model predictions**
- **Summary**

# Introduction: evidence for an MBH in the GC



**Velocities & Orbits  
of Stars → Mass**

$$M_{\bullet} = rv^2 / G$$

$$M_{\bullet} = 4 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$$

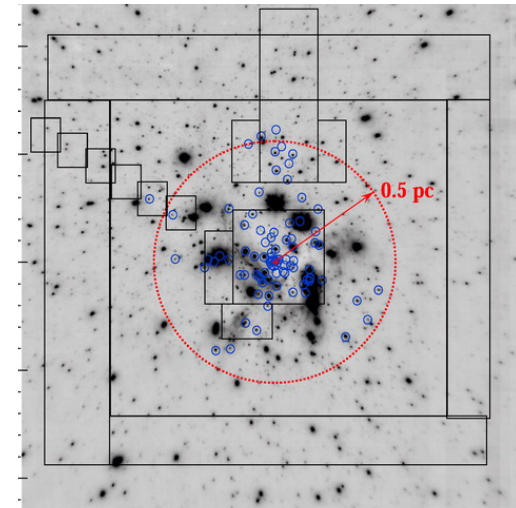
# Introduction: Galactic center

A unique laboratory for stellar dynamics and black hole physics

## ❖ Stellar structures in the Galactic Center (GC)

- **Young stellar disk(s): 0.04-0.5pc**  
clockwise rotating stellar disk (CWS)  
+ a counter clockwise disk?
- **S-stars: <4000AU (isotropic)**  
the closest one to the MBH (<1000AU)  
(S0-2/S2, S0-102)

**Interplay between stars and MBH**

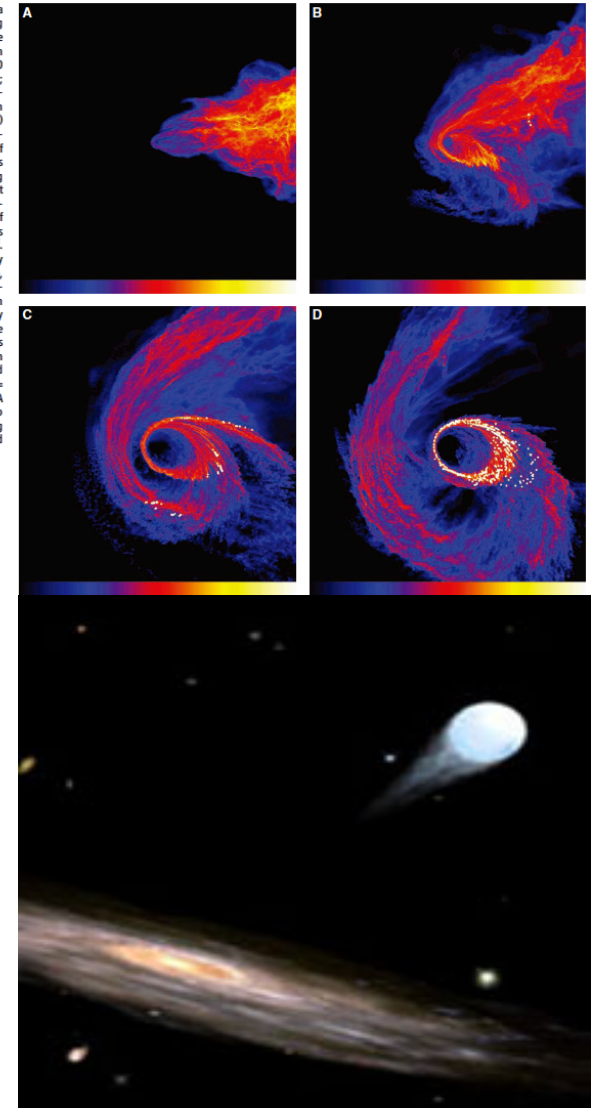


# Introduction: formation of S-stars

- ❖ **Stellar disks:** stars were formed in a gaseous disk (in situ)
- ❖ **S-stars:**  $<4000\text{AU}$  (tidal force)
  - **Youth paradox:** (Ghez et al. 2003)
    - ✧ Rejuvenation of old stars?
    - ✧ Migration of stars from the stellar disk? (Madigan+ 2009; Baruteau+ 2011, Chen+ 2014)
    - ✧ **Exchange captures?** (Gould & Quillen 2003)  
**Hills mechanism (tidal breakup of binaries)**
- ❖ **What are the origins of the S-stars? Are there any bright stars closer to the central MBH than the known S-stars?**
- ❖ **Can the closest one be used to probe the metric of the GC MBH or the distribution of background stars (stellar remnants)?**

Alexander + Antonini + Chen + Perets + many other talks

Fig. 1. The evolution of a  $10^4 M_\odot$  molecular cloud falling toward a  $10^6 M_\odot$  supermassive black hole. (A) The region within 1.5 pc of the black hole,  $\sim 32,000$  years after start of evolution; colors denote the column density on a logarithmic scale from  $0.01 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$  to  $100 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$ . (B) Image at 42,000 years, showing the region within 1 pc of the black hole; color scale is from  $0.025 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$  to  $250 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$ . (C and D) Images at 47,000 and 51,000 years, showing the region within 0.5 pc of the black hole; color scale is from  $0.1 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$  to  $1000 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$ . Although the cloud is tidally disrupted by the black hole, some of the material is captured by the black hole to form an eccentric disk that quickly fragments to form stars. These are illustrated by the white dots and have eccentricities between  $e = 0.6$  and  $e = 0.76$  and semimajor axes between  $a = 0.11 \text{ pc}$  and  $a = 0.19 \text{ pc}$ . A small population of stars also forms quite early, becoming visible in (B) and being ejected from the system in (D).



# Hypervelocity stars (HVSs) in the Galactic halo

**Table 1**  
HVS Survey Stars with  $v_{\text{rf}} > +275 \text{ km s}^{-1}$

HVS	$v_{\odot}$ ( $\text{km s}^{-1}$ )	$v_{\text{rf}}$ ( $\text{km s}^{-1}$ )	$g_0$ (mag)	$T_{\text{eff}}$ (K)	$\log g$ ( $\text{cm s}^{-2}$ )	$v \sin i$ ( $\text{km s}^{-1}$ )	mass ( $M_{\odot}$ )	$M_g$ (mag)	$R_{GC}$ (kpc)	$t_{\text{flight}}$ (Myr)	$(\mu_{\alpha}, \mu_{\delta})_{GC}$ ( $\text{mas yr}^{-1}$ )	Catalog
HVSs												
1	$831.1 \pm 5.7$	673.1	19.688	$11192 \pm 450$	$3.91 \pm 0.20$	$158 \pm 36$	$3.23 \pm 0.13$	$-0.36 \pm 0.31$	$107 \pm 15$	$138 \pm 19$	-0.09, -0.35	SDSS J090744.99+024506.89
4	$600.9 \pm 6.2$	551.5	18.314	$14547 \pm 598$	$4.15 \pm 0.21$	$77 \pm 40$	$4.24 \pm 0.16$	$-0.71 \pm 0.33$	$70 \pm 10$	$106 \pm 16$	-0.20, -0.77	SDSS J091301.01+305119.83
5	$545.5 \pm 4.3$	650.1	17.557	$12000 \pm 350$	$3.89 \pm 0.13$	$132 \pm 37$	$3.58 \pm 0.11$	$-0.67 \pm 0.25$	$50 \pm 5$	$66 \pm 7$	-0.45, -1.21	SDSS J091759.47+672238.35
6	$609.4 \pm 6.8$	501.4	18.966	$12190 \pm 537$	$4.30 \pm 0.23$	$170 \pm 55$	$3.06 \pm 0.11$	$+0.25 \pm 0.27$	$58 \pm 7$	$95 \pm 12$	-0.58, -0.66	SDSS J110557.45+093439.47
7	$526.9 \pm 3.0$	402.0	17.637	$12000 \pm 500$	$3.80 \pm 0.10$	$47 \pm 35$	$3.76 \pm 0.12$	$-0.95 \pm 0.26$	$53 \pm 6$	$103 \pm 12$	-0.65, -0.64	SDSS J113312.12+010824.87
8	$499.3 \pm 2.9$	408.3	17.939	$11000 \pm 1000$	$3.75 \pm 0.25$	$320 \pm 60$	$3.42 \pm 0.20$	$-0.69 \pm 0.40$	$58 \pm 10$	$112 \pm 18$	-0.32, -0.84	SDSS J094214.03+200322.07
9	$616.8 \pm 5.1$	458.8	18.639	$11637 \pm 520$	$3.84 \pm 0.21$	$306 \pm 72$	$3.54 \pm 0.16$	$-0.71 \pm 0.34$	$77 \pm 12$	$136 \pm 21$	-0.29, -0.45	SDSS J102137.08-005234.77
10	$467.9 \pm 5.6$	416.7	19.220	$11278 \pm 524$	$4.38 \pm 0.23$	$37 \pm 60$	$2.65 \pm 0.11$	$+0.65 \pm 0.24$	$53 \pm 6$	$100 \pm 12$	-0.73, -0.73	SDSS J120337.85+180250.35
12	$552.2 \pm 6.6$	416.5	19.609	$12098 \pm 622$	$4.62 \pm 0.28$	$78 \pm 88$	$2.73 \pm 0.14$	$+0.55 \pm 0.28$	$67 \pm 8$	$127 \pm 17$	-0.41, -0.55	SDSS J105009.59+031550.67
13	$569.3 \pm 6.1$	423.9	20.018	$11054 \pm 775$	$4.00 \pm 0.35$	$238 \pm 43$	$3.05 \pm 0.18$	$-0.10 \pm 0.40$	$107 \pm 19$	$201 \pm 39$	-0.22, -0.34	SDSS J105248.30-000133.94
14	$537.3 \pm 7.2$	409.4	19.717	$11030 \pm 545$	$3.90 \pm 0.24$	$162 \pm 42$	$3.18 \pm 0.15$	$-0.34 \pm 0.35$	$105 \pm 16$	$202 \pm 32$	-0.21, -0.38	SDSS J104401.75+061139.02
15	$461.0 \pm 6.3$	328.3	19.153	$11132 \pm 526$	$4.05 \pm 0.23$	$125 \pm 44$	$2.99 \pm 0.12$	$+0.05 \pm 0.32$	$67 \pm 10$	$149 \pm 23$	-0.46, -0.52	SDSS J113341.09-012114.25
16	$429.8 \pm 7.0$	346.2	19.334	$10388 \pm 657$	$3.96 \pm 0.29$	$259 \pm 53$	$2.85 \pm 0.15$	$+0.08 \pm 0.35$	$71 \pm 12$	$152 \pm 26$	-0.50, -0.51	SDSS J122523.40+052233.84
17	$250.2 \pm 2.9$	435.8	17.427	$12350 \pm 290$	$3.80 \pm 0.09$	$96 \pm 42$	$3.91 \pm 0.09$	$-1.06 \pm 0.19$	$49 \pm 4$	$89 \pm 8$	-0.69, +0.00	SDSS J164156.39+472346.12
18	$237.3 \pm 6.4$	446.2	19.302	$11993 \pm 507$	$4.08 \pm 0.21$	$96 \pm 41$	$3.27 \pm 0.12$	$-0.14 \pm 0.30$	$80 \pm 11$	$143 \pm 21$	+0.39, -0.16	SDSS J232904.94+330011.47
19	$592.8 \pm 11.8$	492.0	20.061	$12900 \pm 784$	$4.53 \pm 0.29$	$137 \pm 78$	$3.12 \pm 0.17$	$+0.12 \pm 0.34$	$98 \pm 15$	$164 \pm 28$	-0.31, -0.39	SDSS J113517.75+080201.49
20	$512.1 \pm 8.5$	396.6	19.807	$11149 \pm 640$	$4.21 \pm 0.28$	$275 \pm 46$	$2.79 \pm 0.12$	$+0.42 \pm 0.31$	$76 \pm 11$	$150 \pm 24$	-0.41, -0.48	SDSS J113637.13+033106.84
21	$356.8 \pm 7.5$	391.9	19.730	$13229 \pm 950$	$4.16 \pm 0.31$	$65 \pm 88$	$3.70 \pm 0.21$	$-0.44 \pm 0.42$	$113 \pm 21$	$224 \pm 47$	-0.18, -0.45	SDSS J103418.25+481134.57
22	$597.8 \pm 13.4$	488.7	20.181	$11145 \pm 850$	$4.35 \pm 0.30$	$94 \pm 68$	$2.66 \pm 0.16$	$+0.56 \pm 0.34$	$85 \pm 13$	$142 \pm 25$	-0.38, -0.43	SDSS J114146.44+044217.29
23	$259.3 \pm 9.8$	423.2	20.201	$10996 \pm 768$	$3.99 \pm 0.29$	$48 \pm 88$	$3.04 \pm 0.16$	$-0.10 \pm 0.38$	$112 \pm 20$	$210 \pm 40$	+0.12, -0.30	SDSS J215629.01+005444.18
24	$492.5 \pm 5.3$	357.6	18.855	$11231 \pm 542$	$4.12 \pm 0.24$	$179 \pm 43$	$2.93 \pm 0.12$	$+0.19 \pm 0.30$	$56 \pm 7$	$117 \pm 17$	-0.55, -0.63	SDSS J111136.44+005856.44

- Escaping away from the Milky way halo (hypervelocity)
- Distance from  $\sim 40 \text{ kpc}$  to  $\sim 120 \text{ kpc}$  from the GC
- Mainly type B stars ( $3-4 M_{\odot}$ )

Brown et al. 2014, 2015



# Hypervelocity stars (HVSs)

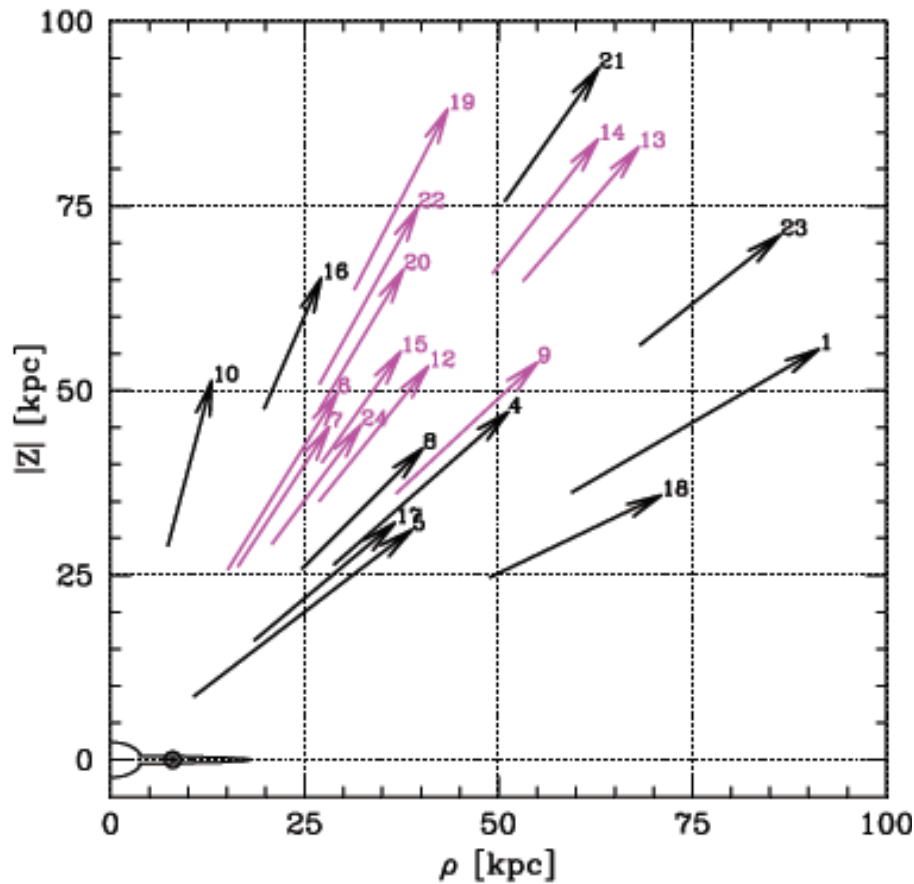
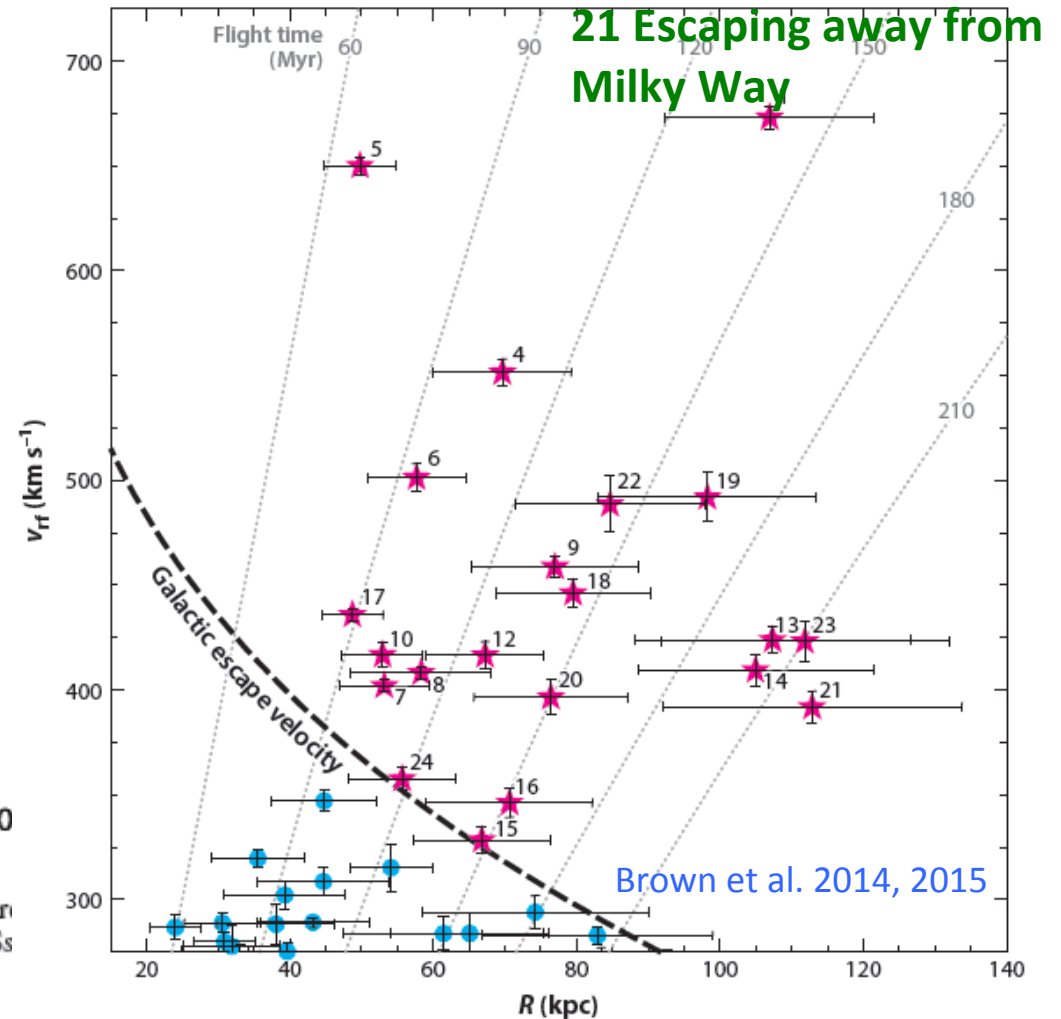


Figure 5. HVSs plotted in Galactic cylindrical coordinates. Arrow lengths are scaled to  $v_{rf}$ , and arrow tips are located at the present positions of the HVSs. Magenta arrows are those objects clumped together around Leo.



Brown et al. 2014, 2015

**HVSs as a prediction of Hills mechanism (and others) are detected by later observations!**



# Tidal breakup of binary stars

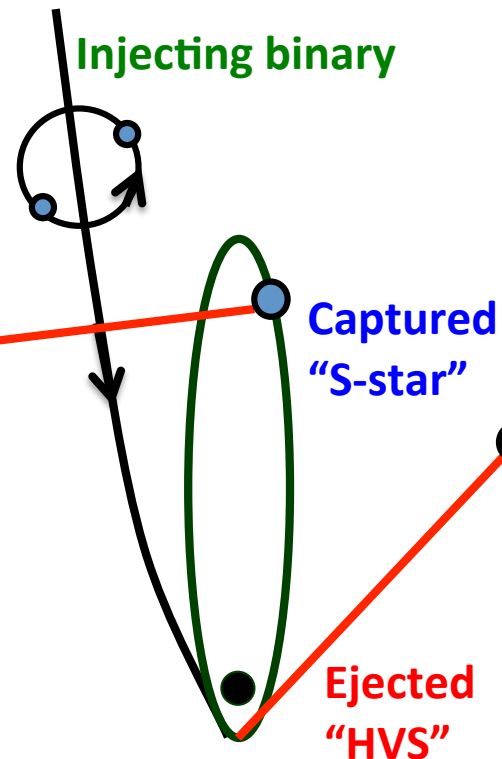
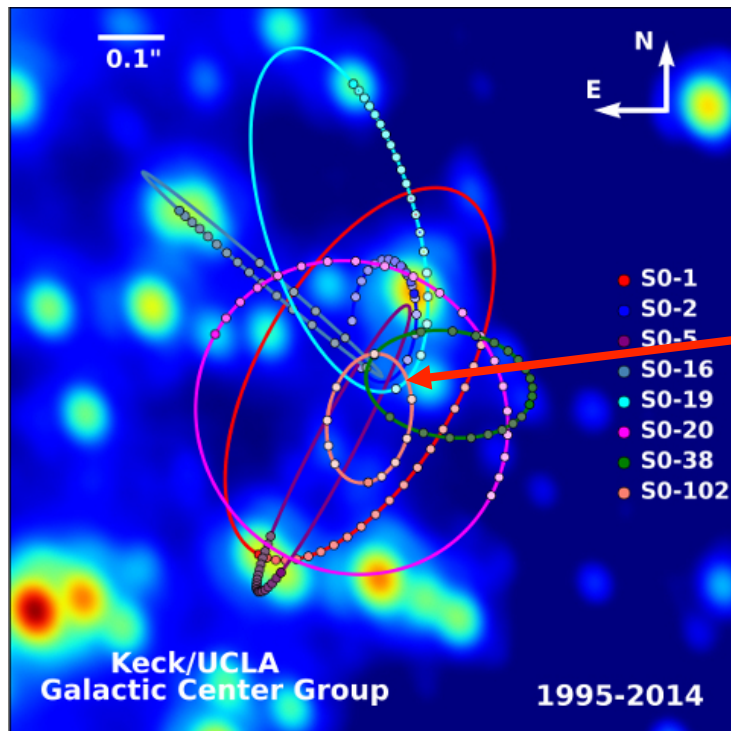
(Hills 1988; Yu & Tremaine 2003)

## ❖ Tidal breakup of binary stars in the vicinity of the MBH

➤ captured component: S-star (<4000AU)

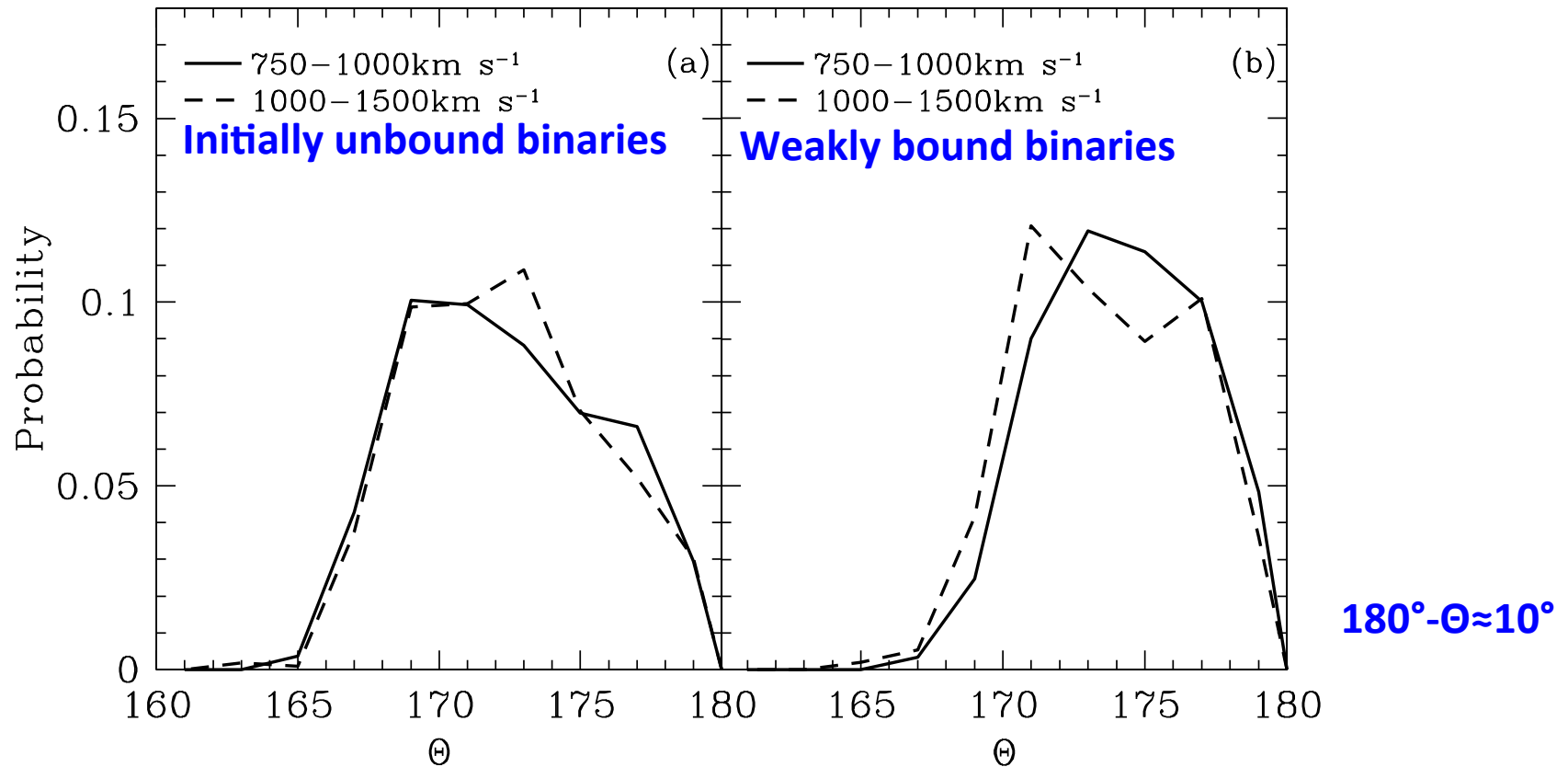
(Gould & Quillen 2003)

➤ ejected component: hypervelocity star (>700km/s)



HVSs as a prediction of the Hills mechanism (and others) are confirmed by later observations!

# Tidal breakup of binary stars



**HVSs can well memorize the injecting directions of their progenitors, i.e., the ejecting direction of an HVS is almost anti-parallel to the injecting direction of its progenitor.**

Lu et al. 2010

Zhang et al. 2010

# Summary on the observational statistics for HVs and GC S-stars

## HVs:

- **Mass**  
~3-4 $M_{\odot}$ ; B-type
- **Number: ~21(24)**  
(~100)
- **Spatial distribution: anisotropic**
- **Distance distribution**
- **Velocity distribution**

## S-Stars

- **Mass**  
~7-15 $M_{\odot}$ ; B-type
- **Number: ~17 (<4000AU)**
- **Spatial distribution: isotropic**
- **Semi-major axis distribution**
- **Eccentricity distribution**

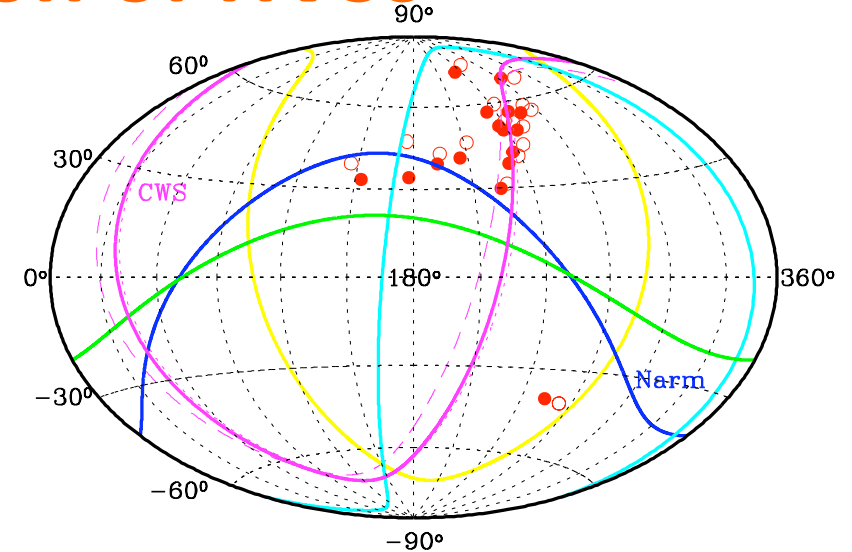
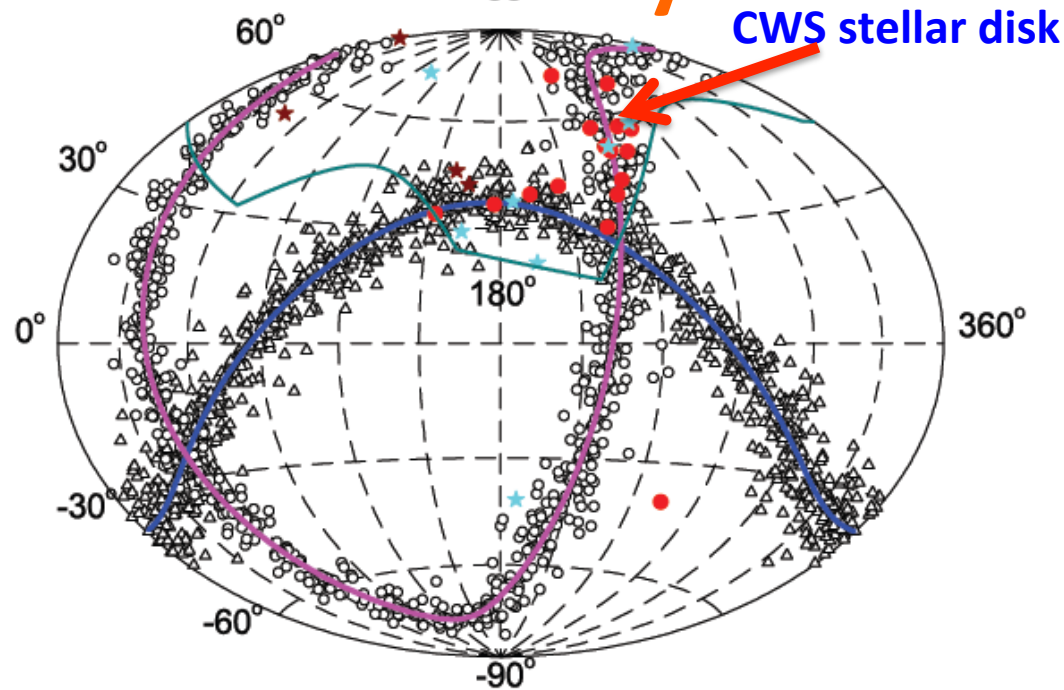
Consistent?



# Dynamics of HVSs and S-stars: assuming Hills mechanism

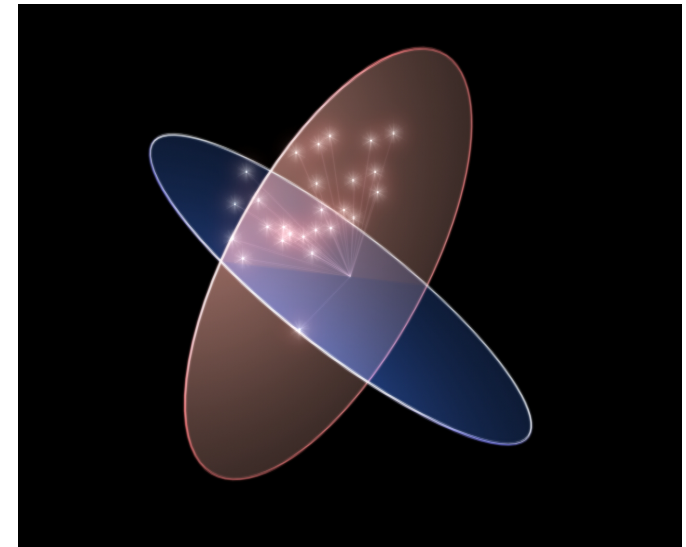
Model ingredient	HVSs	S-Stars
Injecting stellar binaries	From the stellar disk or from infinity; (slowly) scatter to the loss cone; 1-150M <sub>⊙</sub> ; semimajor axis and mass ratio distributions of the binaries; IMF: intermediate top-heavy or others	
Tidal breakup	Ejected	Captured (full 3-body)
Later dynamical evolution	Transport from the GC to the Galactic halo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Non- and Resonant relaxations;</li> <li>✧ GR precession and Gravitational wave decay.</li> </ul>
Stellar evolution	Main sequence or pulsar, SN kick	
	Lu (with Zhang and Yu: 2010a; 2010b; 2013; 2014)	ARMA model by Madigan et al.

# Confronting observations with models: velocity distribution of HVSs



- ❖ **Reproducing most HVS statistics:**
  - **theory: memory of injecting direction;**
  - **observation: consistent with being on two disk planes, one of which is the same as that of the CWS disk in the GC;**
  - **conclusion: HVS probably originated from the GC disk(s).**

Lu et al. 2010



# HVSs from LAMOST

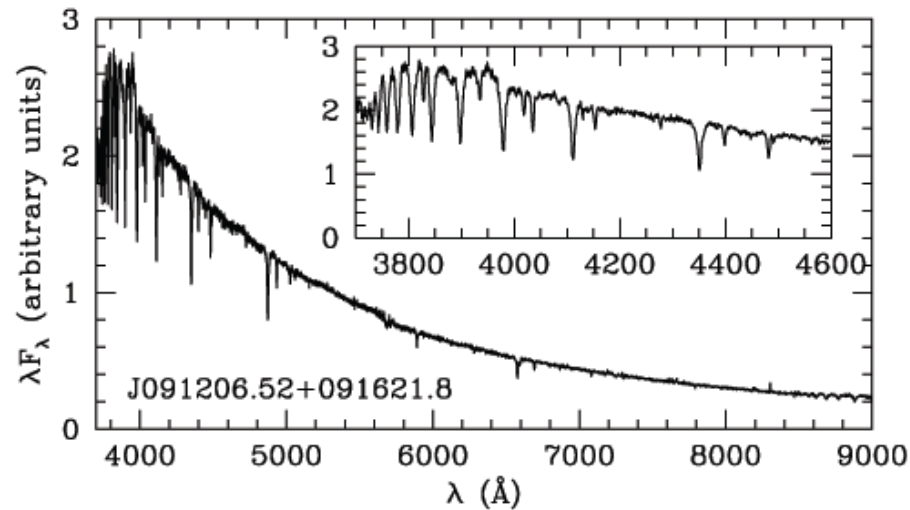
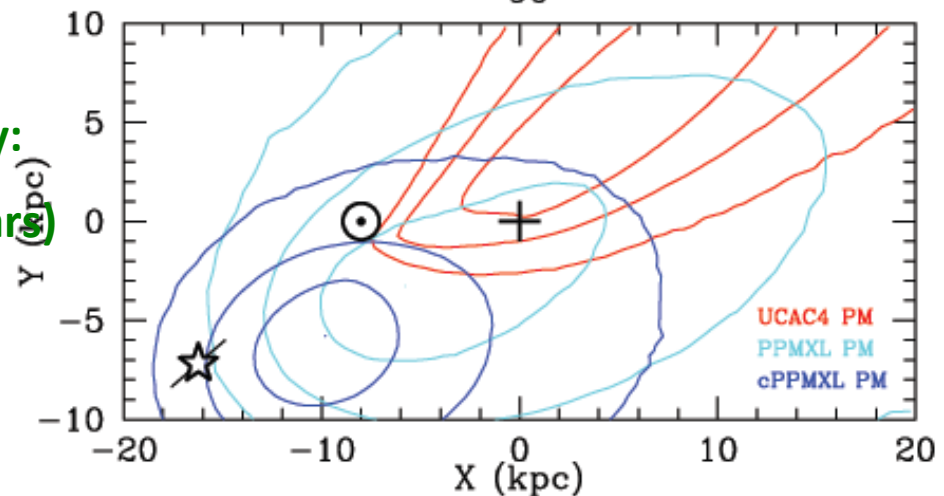
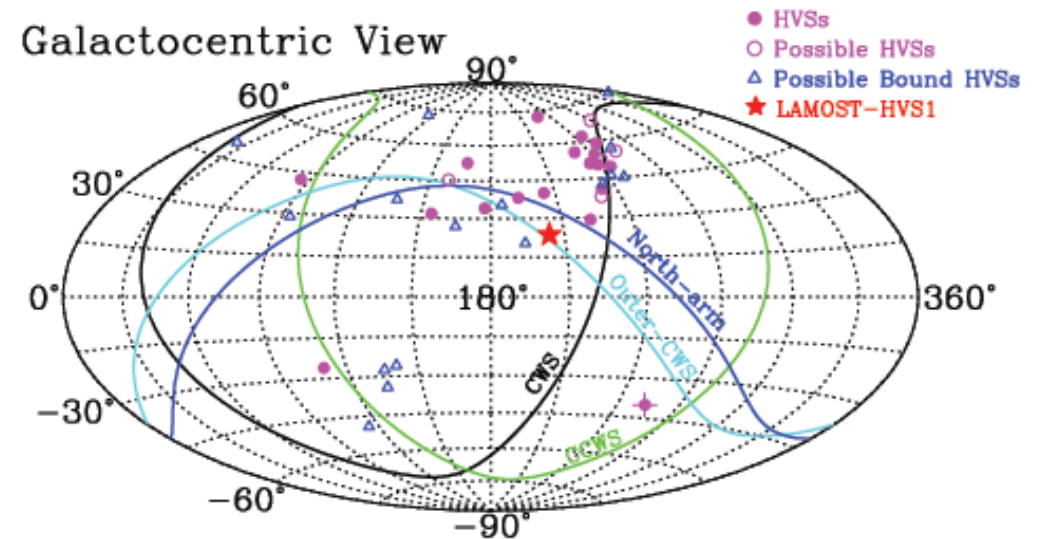


Figure 1. Spectrum of LAMOST-HVS1 taken with the Guo Shoujing Telescope. The inset shows a close-up view of the blue end of the spectrum.

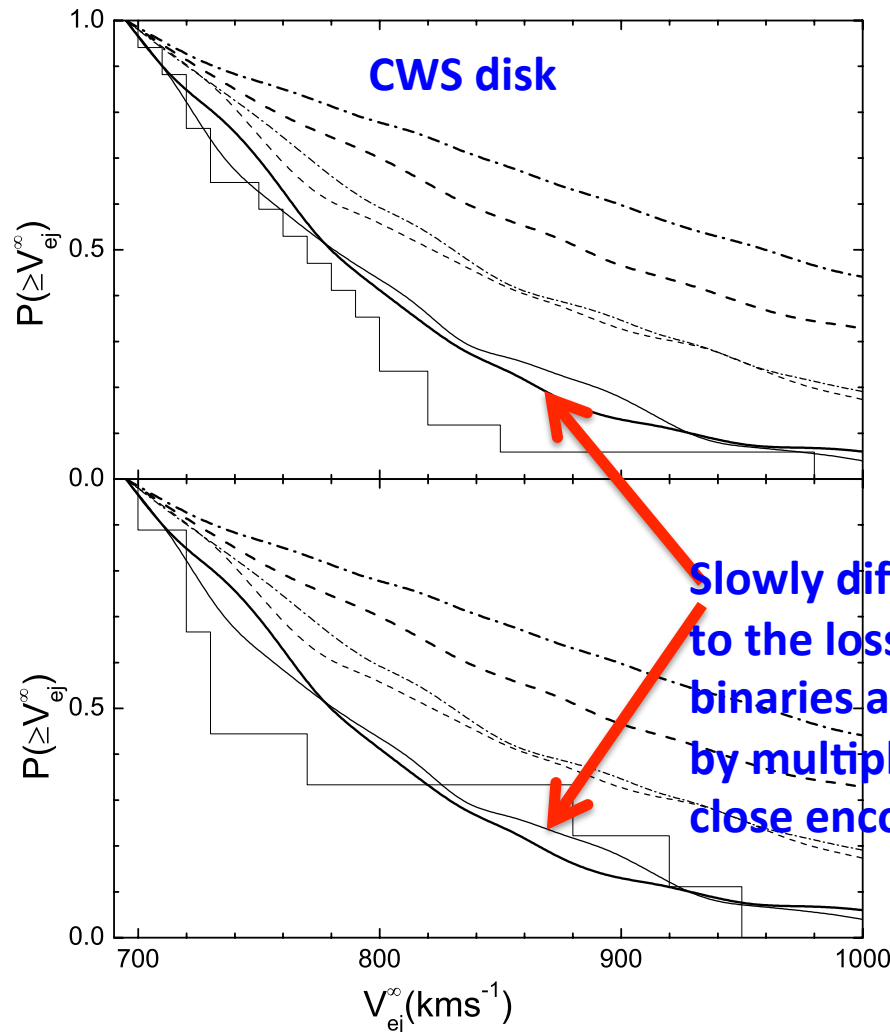
## An HVS found in the LAMOST Galactic survey:

- Mass:  $\sim 9M_{\odot}$  (possible companion of S-stars)
- Velocity:  $v_{\text{rf}} = 477 \text{ km/s}$  ( $\sim 545 \text{ km/s}$ )
- Location:  $\sim 19 \text{ kpc}$  (Galactocentric dist.)
- GC origin: consistent

Another one is recently found in LAMOST.



# Confronting observations with models: velocity distribution of HVs



Assuming several Galactic potential

## Main factors:

- The initial distribution of the semimajor axes of injecting binaries;
- The perturbation that causes the injection of binaries.

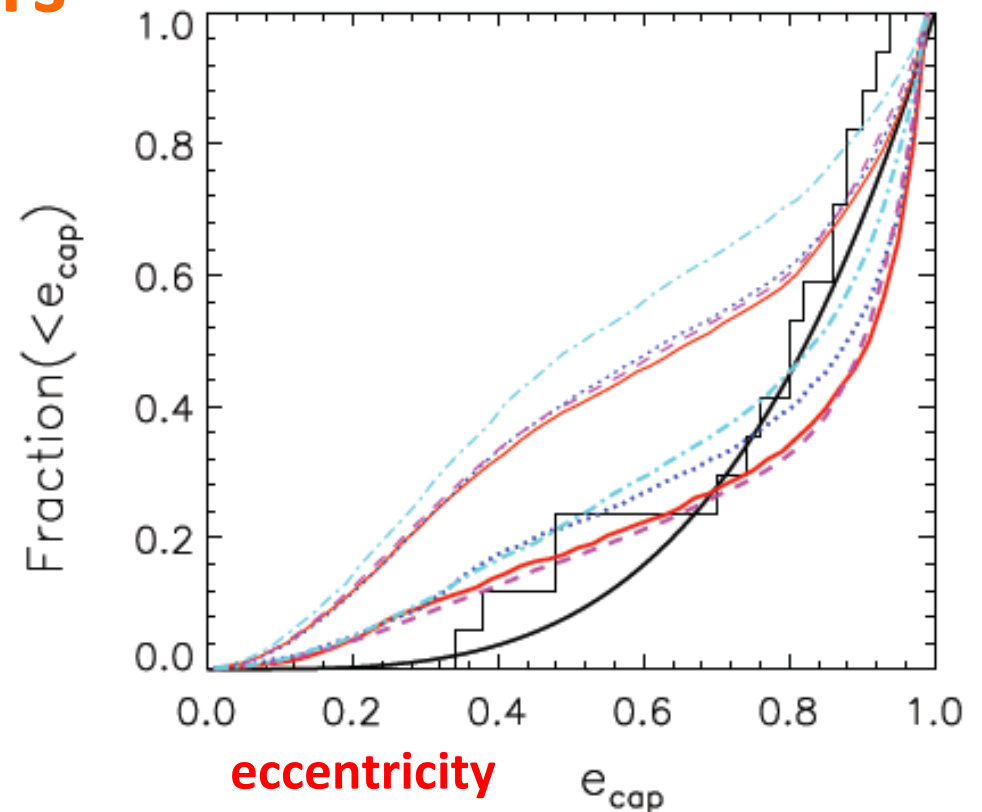
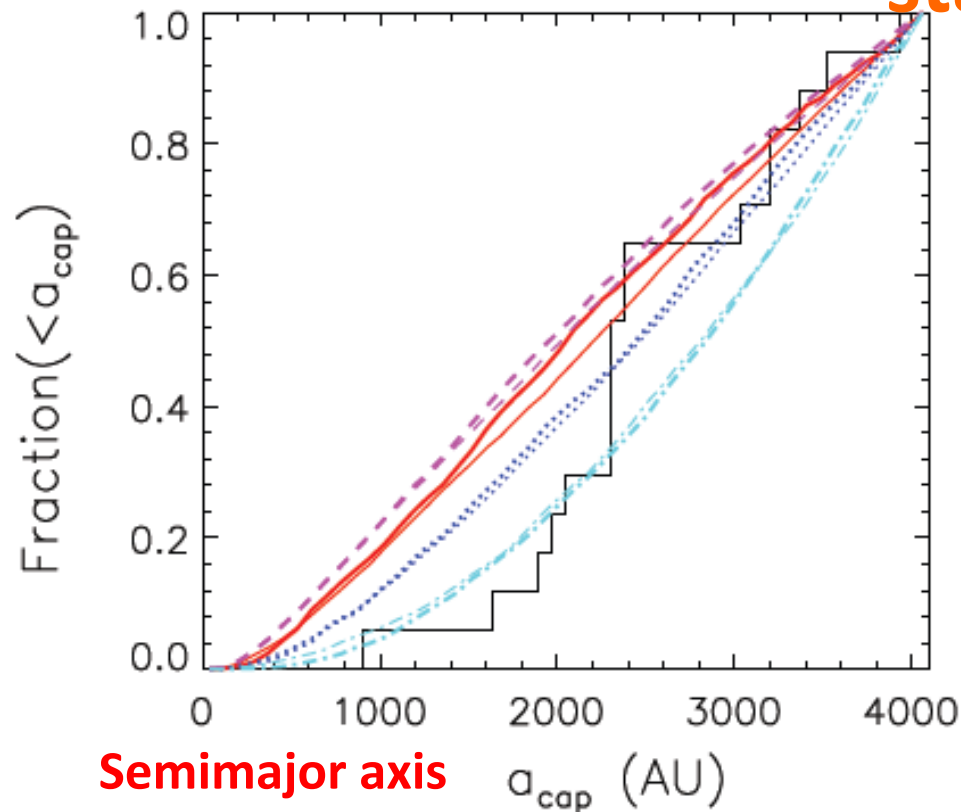
Can be well reproduced if binary stars perturbed onto low-J orbits by diffusion processes/random walk or  $\Delta J \ll J$ .

Large perturbations lead to too flat velocity distribution.

Elena Rossi and Reem Sari's talks  
Empty loss cone: slowly diffused  
Through the boundary of the loss cone



# Confronting observations with models: s-stars



## ❖ Reproducing most of the S-star statistics

### ➤ semi-major axis distribution

(importance of relaxation resonance and GR dynamics)

### ➤ eccentricity distribution

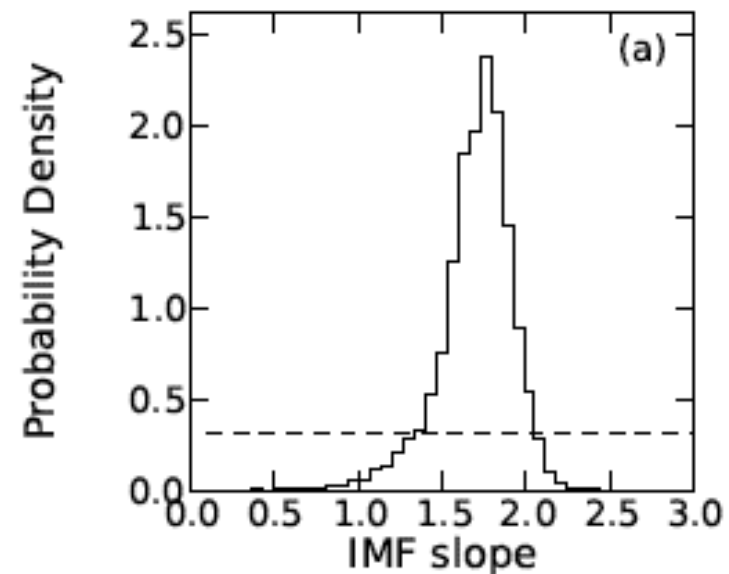
Lu with Zhang & Yu (2010; 2013)

# Stellar mass function: top heavy

- The number ratio of HVs/S-stars can be re-produced if the stellar initial mass function is **top-heavy**, with MF slope  $\sim -1.6$  (a requirement).  
Zhang, Lu, & Yu 2013
  - A steeper IMF leads to a too large number ratio of HVs to GC S-stars; a shallower one  $\rightarrow$  a too small number ratio.

- Recent observation suggests that the IMF slope of the young cluster in the GC is  $-1.7 \pm 0.2$ , **consistent with our model result.**

**A further support for the common origin of the GC S-stars and the HVs.**



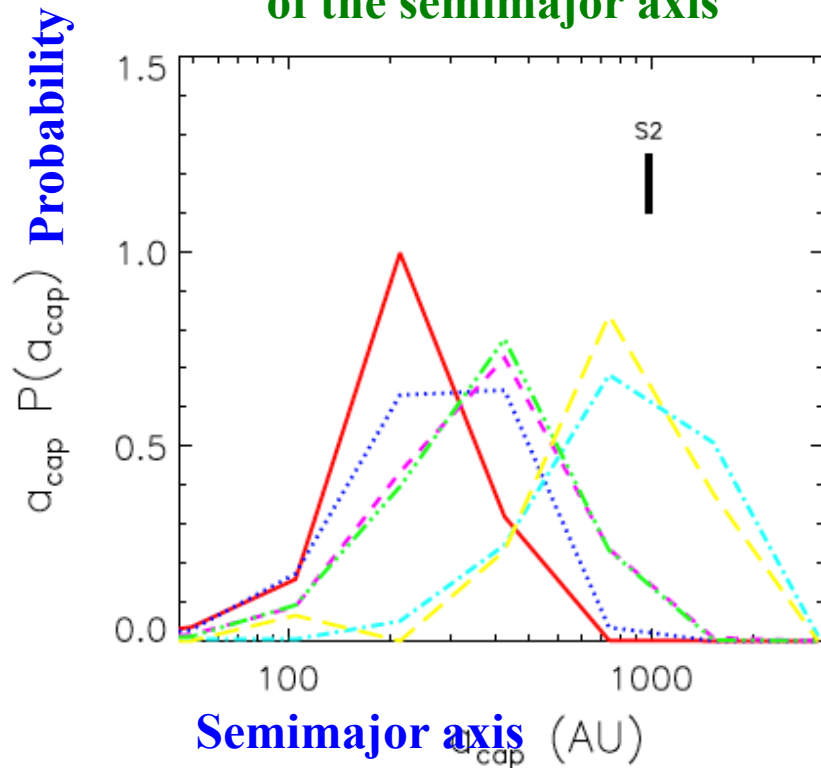
(Lu, J. et al., 2013; Jessica's talk)

# Model predictions

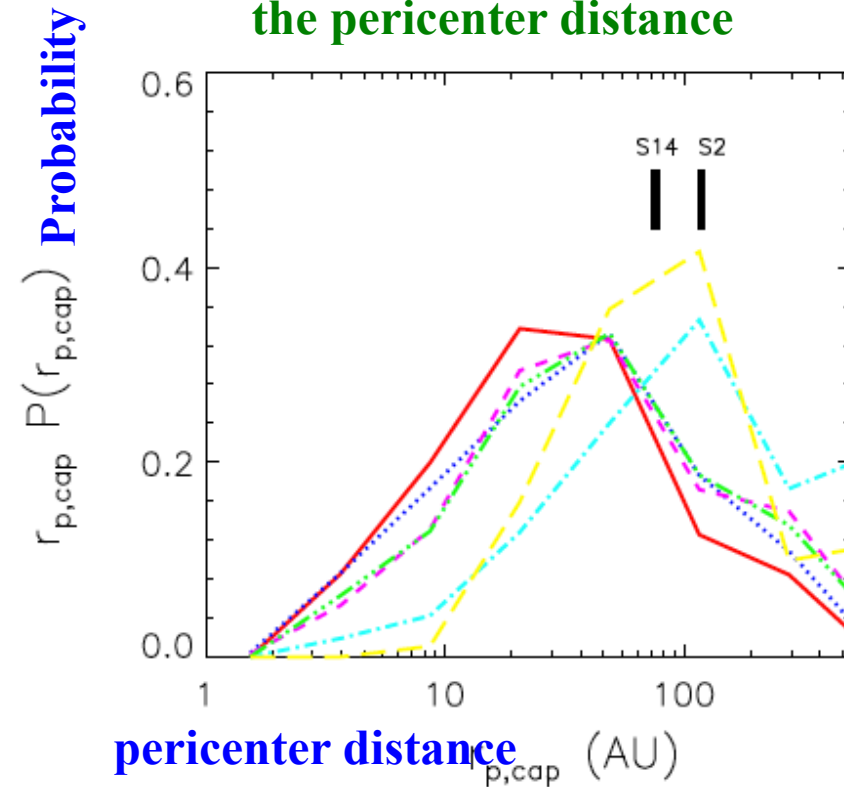
- ❖ **Locations of HVSs at the southern hemisphere**
- ❖ **Ejected companions of the S-stars:**
  - ~20 - 60 detectable HVSs ( $\sim 7-15M_{\odot}$ ) in the Galactic bulge and halo
  - located in a distance  $< 30\text{kpc}$  from the GC, radial velocity  $\sim -500-1500\text{ km/s}$ , and proper motion  $\sim 5-20\text{ mas/yr}$  (the first HVS found by LAMOST  $\sim 9M_{\odot}$ )
- ❖ **Captured companions of the detected HVSs**
  - ~20-30 captured stars ( $\sim 3-7M_{\odot}$ ) in the GC ( $\leq 4000\text{AU}$ )
  - the innermost one:  $\sim 300-1000\text{AU}$
- ❖ **Pulsars in the GC**
  - ~100 within  $4000\text{AU}$ ; ~10 within  $1000\text{AU}$  (also Pfahl & Loeb 2004, Dexter & O'Leary 2014)
  - the innermost one:  $\sim 120-460\text{AU}$
- ❖ **Hyperfast pulsars in the Galactic halo** (resulting from explosion of massive HVSs and S-stars)
  - ~several to ten hyperfast pulsars ( $> 1500\text{ km/s}$ )

# Model predictions: the innermost captured star with mass $\sim 3-7M_{\odot}$ Testing GR

Probability distribution  
of the semimajor axis

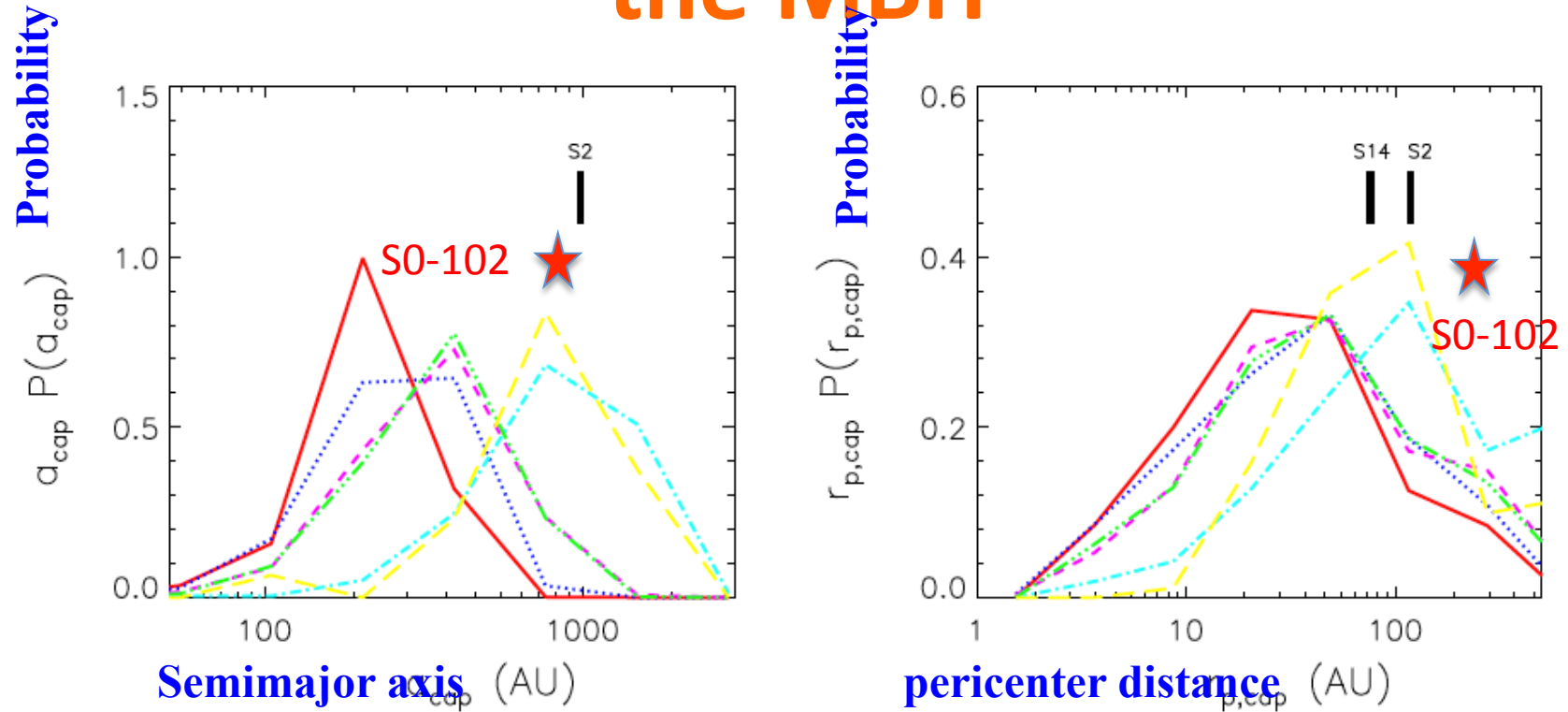


Probability distribution of  
the pericenter distance



The innermost one is expected to have a semimajor axis  $\sim 300-1500$  AU and a pericenter distance  $\sim 10-200$  AU (depending on different injection models) with a significant probability of being closer to the MBH than S2.

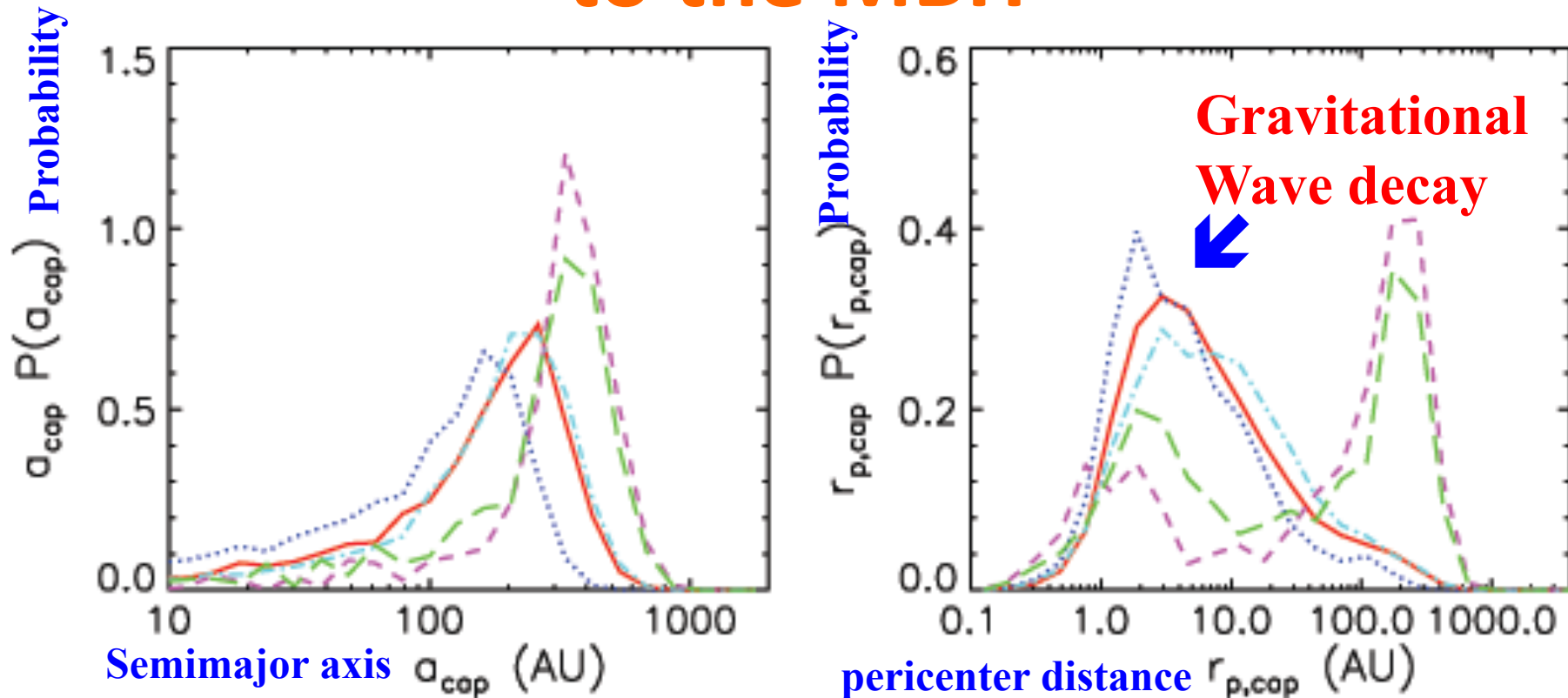
# Model predictions: the closest star to the MBH



The predicted probability distribution of the semimajor axis and pericenter distance of the closest star is well consistent with the new observations.

Zhang et al. (2013, 2014)

# Model predictions: the closest pulsar to the MBH



The predicted probability distribution of the semimajor axis and pericenter distance of the closest pulsar to the central MBH.  
(even closer to the MBH than the captured S-stars)

Zhang, Lu, & Yu (2014)

# Summary

- **Almost all the discovered HVs are spatially consistent with being located on two thin disk planes, similar to the orientations of some GC structures (CWS disk and North arm of the mini-spiral?), which supports the GC origin.**
- **We investigate the link between the HVs and the GC S-stars under the hypothesis that they both are the products of tidal breakup of the same population of stellar binaries by the central MBH. Most of the statistical properties of the detected HVs and GC S-stars could be reproduced under some binary injecting models.**
- **We predict the statistical distributions of their companions (ejected companions for GC S-stars and captured companion for HVs) and the pulsars resulting from those ejecting stars and captured stars, which may be tested by future observations.**