

Black-hole remnants from black-hole–neutron-star mergers

Francesco Zappa¹, Sebastiano Bernuzzi¹, Francesco Pannarale^{2,3}, Michela Mapelli^{4,5,6,7}, and Nicola Giacobbo^{4,5,6}

¹*Theoretisch-Physikalisches Institut, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena, 07743, Jena, Germany*

²*Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Roma “Sapienza”, Piazzale A. Moro 5, I-00185, Roma, Italy*

³*INFN Sezione di Roma, Piazzale A. Moro 5, I-00185, Roma, Italy*

⁴*Physics and Astronomy Department Galileo Galilei,*

University of Padova, Vicolo dell’Osservatorio 3, I-35122, Padova, Italy

⁵*INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Padova, Vicolo dell’Osservatorio 5, I-35122, Padova, Italy*

⁶*INFN-Padova, Via Marzolo 8, I-35131 Padova, Italy and*

⁷*Institut für Astro- und Teilchenphysik, Universität Innsbruck, Technikerstrasse 25/8, A-6020, Innsbruck, Austria*

Observations of gravitational waves and their electromagnetic counterparts may soon uncover the existence of coalescing compact binary systems formed by a stellar-mass black hole and a neutron star. These mergers result in a remnant black hole, possibly surrounded by an accretion disk. The mass and spin of the remnant black hole depend on the properties of the coalescing binary. We construct a map from the binary components to the remnant black hole using a sample of numerical-relativity simulations of different mass ratios q , (anti-)aligned dimensionless spins of the black hole a_{BH} , and several neutron star equations of state. Given the binary total mass, the mass and spin of the remnant black hole can therefore be determined from the three parameters $(q, a_{\text{BH}}, \Lambda)$, where Λ is the tidal deformability of the neutron star. Our models also incorporate the binary black hole and test-mass limit cases and we discuss a simple extension for generic black hole spins. We combine the remnant characterization with recent population synthesis simulations for various metallicities of the progenitor stars that generated the binary system. We predict that black-hole–neutron-star mergers produce a population of remnant black holes with masses distributed around $7M_{\odot}$ and $9M_{\odot}$. For isotropic spin distributions, nonmassive accretion disks are favoured: no bright electromagnetic counterparts are expected in such mergers.

Introduction.— Mergers of a stellar-mass black hole (BH) and a neutron star (NS), hereafter BHNS, are expected sources of gravitational waves (GWs) detectable by ground-based laser-interferometers and possibly accompanied by electromagnetic counterparts [1–7]. No GW observations of BHNS binaries have been made to date. The 90% confidence upper limit on their merger rate is $610 \text{ Gpc}^{-3} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ [8]. To prepare these observations quantitative general-relativistic theoretical models of the GW and merger outcome are required.

Numerical-relativity (NR) simulations of BHNSs are the only means to study BHNS mergers [2–4, 9–18]. Simulations indicated that the NS tidal disruption is a characteristic feature of the dynamics of quasi-circular BHNS mergers. On the contrary, quasi-circular binary NS mergers with mass ratio $q \lesssim 2$ do not present significant tidal disruption, e.g., [19, 20]. Physically, tidal disruption is expected if the binary reaches a characteristic radius r_{TD} before the innermost stable circular orbit (ISCO), the radius of which we denote by r_{ISCO} . r_{TD} is expected to scale in the same way as the mass-shedding radius r_{MS} , which is determined by the condition that the BH tidal force overcomes the NS self-gravity at the stellar surface R_{NS} : $r_{\text{TD}} \lesssim r_{\text{MS}} \propto q^{1/3} R_{\text{NS}}$, with a weak dependency on the BH spin [21]. For a Kerr BH of mass M_{BH} , $r_{\text{ISCO}} = M_{\text{BH}} f(a_{\text{BH}})$, where $f(a_{\text{BH}}) \in [1, 9]$ is a monotonically decreasing function

of the BH dimensionless spin parameter a_{BH} ¹ [22]. Because $R_{\text{NS}}/M_{\text{BH}} = (qC)^{-1}$, where $C = M_{\text{NS}}/R_{\text{NS}}$ is the NS compactness, the ratio that regulates the onset of tidal disruption is $\xi = r_{\text{TD}}/r_{\text{ISCO}} \propto C^{-1} q^{-2/3} f(a_{\text{BH}})^{-1}$. Thus, tidal disruption depends on three physical parameters: the binary mass ratio, the BH spin and the NS compactness.

Simulations have shown that tidal disruption occurs for BHNSs with $q \lesssim 3$ if the BH is non-spinning, or its spin is anti-aligned with the orbital angular momentum. Generally speaking, large, aligned BH spins $a_{\text{BH}} \gtrsim +0.5$ favour tidal disruption because spin-orbit interactions push the ISCO radius to smaller values. As an example, $r_{\text{ISCO}} = 1 M_{\text{BH}}$ for a Kerr BH with $a_{\text{BH}} = +1$, as opposed to $r_{\text{ISCO}} = 6 M_{\text{BH}}$ for a non-spinning BH. Disruption is also favored by low values of the NS compactness, which are related to stiff equations of state, that also imply large NS tidal deformabilities [23, 24]. Note that, for a fixed NS mass, large deformabilities imply large NS radii and small binary mass ratios correspond to small BH masses.

Tidal disruption leads to the formation of an accretion disk in the merger remnant. Simulations predict remnant disks with baryon (rest) masses as large as $\gtrsim 0.1M_{\odot}$ [25, 26], thus creating the conditions to ignite a short gamma-ray burst (SGRB) [27–29]. Kyu-

¹ The dimensionless parameter range is $a_{\text{BH}} \in [-1, 1]$ accounting for anti- and aligned spins.

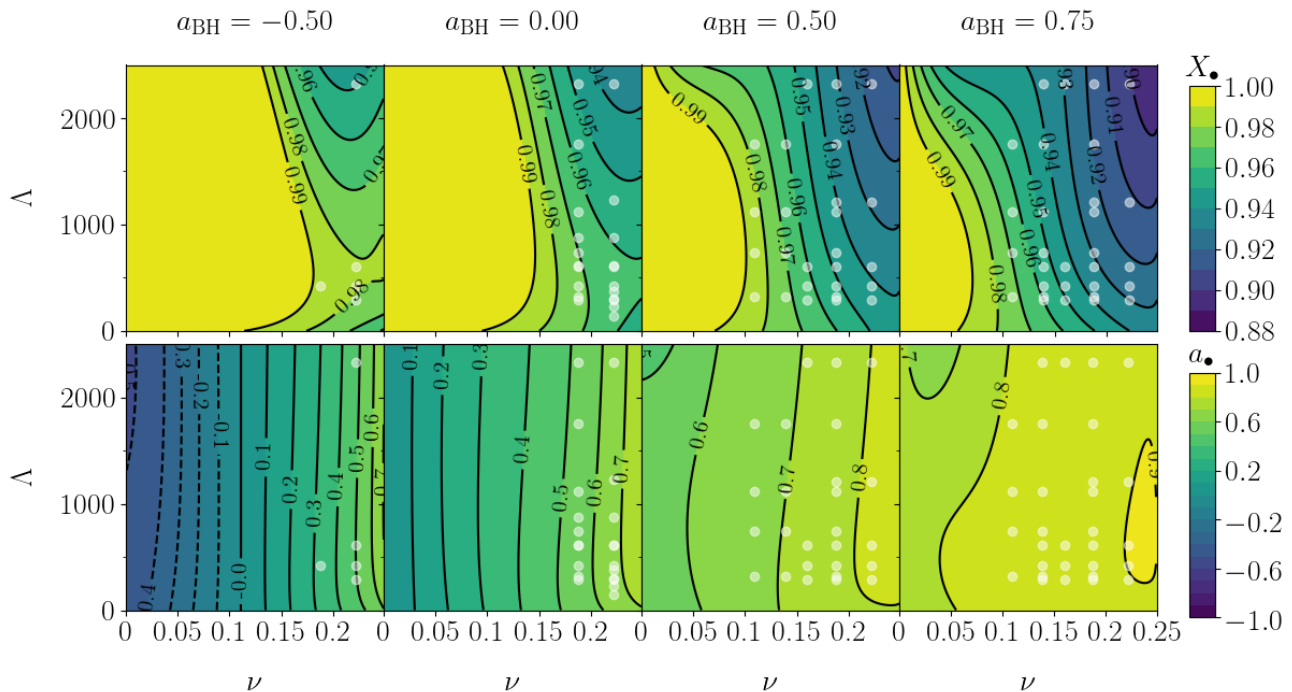


FIG. 1. Contour plots of the remnant BH mass divided by the binary mass $X_{\bullet} = M_{\bullet}/M$ (top) and of the dimensionless spin parameter a_{\bullet} (bottom) as a function of the symmetric mass ratio ν and of the NS tidal polarizability parameter Λ , at fixed values of the initial BH spin parameter a_{BH} . The values of a_{BH} correspond to those of the NR simulations. White markers indicate the NR data used to construct the model.

toku *et al.* [2] tentatively classify the phenomenology of BHNS mergers into three classes, based on the ratio ξ . For Type-I and Type-III mergers, tidal disruption occurs far from or close to the ISCO; for Type-II it does not occur and the NS plunges onto the BH, because the tidal disruption radius is located well within the ISCO. The three classes differ by their GW spectra and the disk masses. Type-II mergers are typically characterized by $q \gtrsim 3$, $a_{\text{BH}} \lesssim 0$ and have a GW spectrum very similar to binary black holes (BBHs), e.g. [30–34].

An analytical formula for the BH remnant mass and dimensionless spin can be found using mass and angular momentum conservation arguments [35, 36] (see also [37]). That approach builds on estimates of the radiated energy and the binary orbital angular momentum based on the expressions for test particles on Kerr background at ISCO, and on the disk mass fits of [25]. Results are accurate to a few percent, which is comparable to the energy radiated in GWs. The largest uncertainty comes from the disk mass estimates in simulations e.g. [26, 38].

In this work we model the remnant of BHNS using NR data. Using a state-of-art synthetic population we predict that the most likely BHNS mergers are of Type-II, leading to a population of light remnant BHs. Throughout this work we use geometric units $c = G = 1$ unless otherwise stated.

Remnant mass and spin.— Given the gravitational binary mass $M = M_{\text{BH}} + M_{\text{NS}}$, we map the remnant

mass and spin parameters of BHNS mergers as follows:

$$F : (\nu, a_{\text{BH}}, \Lambda) \rightarrow (X_{\bullet}, a_{\bullet}) . \quad (1)$$

where $X_{\bullet} = M_{\bullet}/M$ and $a_{\bullet} = S_{\bullet}/M_{\bullet}^2$, M_{\bullet} and S_{\bullet} being the mass and spin of the remnant BH, respectively. Above, $\nu = q/(1+q)^2 \in [0, 1/4]$ is the symmetric mass ratio ($q = M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\text{NS}} \geq 1$), spanning from the test-mass ($\nu = 0$) to the equal-mass ($\nu = 1/4$) limit. a_{BH} is the dimensionless spin of the initial BH, that is aligned with the binary orbital angular momentum. The quantity Λ is the NS quadrupolar tidal polarizability dimensionless parameter [23], $\Lambda = 2k_2/(3C^5)$, where k_2 is the gravitoelectric quadrupolar Love number, a monotonically decreasing function of the compactness C [24]. Λ describes tidal interactions at the leading order in post-Newtonian dynamics. Typically, $\Lambda \sim 100 - 2500$ for NS in BHNS systems, depending on the NS mass and equation of state (EOS).

We use data of NR simulations of quasi-circular BHNS mergers described in [2, 9, 11] and collected in the Supplementary Material (SM). These simulations adopt different neutron star matter EOSs and (anti-)aligned BH spin values.

The NS spin on the contrary is neglected and currently not accounted for in our models; however, this is expected to be a good approximation of realistic systems [39, 40].

The data cover the following parameter intervals: $\Lambda \in [100, 2500]$, $\nu \in [0.109, 0.222]$, and $a_{\text{BH}} \in [-0.5, 0.75]$.

The mapping F is summarized in Figure 1; technical details on its construction are provided in the SM.

The remnant BH mass scaled to M is given by

$$X_{\bullet} = 1 - \frac{E_{\text{GW}}}{M} - \frac{M_{\text{disk}}}{M}, \quad (2)$$

where E_{GW} is the total energy radiated in GWs during the coalescence and M_{disk} is the disk contribution to the gravitational energy which cannot be directly measured in the simulations². In BBH mergers finite mass-ratio effects are repulsive, implying that the GW emission is more efficient for larger ν . The same effect is present in the BHNS dynamics: Figure 1 shows that the smallest values of X_{\bullet} are obtained for larger values $\nu \rightarrow 1/4$. The precise behaviour of X_{\bullet} , however, depends on the competition between the energy emitted in GWs and the effect of tidal disruption, as per Eq. (2). For non-spinning BHNS binaries (second column in Figure 1), one observes that the value of X_{\bullet} slightly increases with respect to the BBH case as $\Lambda > 0^+$ and for a given ν . Tidal disruption does not occur for small values of $\Lambda \sim 0$, so this effect is solely due to the fact that tidal interactions are attractive and reduce the emission of GWs with respect to the $\Lambda = 0$ case (i.e., E_{GW} decreases so X_{\bullet} grows, with $M_{\text{disk}} \simeq 0$). As Λ becomes sufficiently large (and $\nu \rightarrow 1/4$), tidal disruption occurs and only part of the remnant mass contributes to the final BH mass. Consequently, as Λ increases beyond a certain critical value, X_{\bullet} starts to decrease because part of the NS mass is not swallowed by the BH but becomes part of the disk. Note that the peak mass is more pronounced for $\nu \rightarrow 1/4$ and disappears for sufficiently small ν (Type-II mergers).

Focusing on spin effects, at a given ν , the remnant mass decreases for increasing $a_{\text{BH}} > 0$ because the ratio ξ increases. This is a consequence of the repulsive character of the spin-orbit interaction for aligned (positive) spins. Notably, the peak for small Λ is no longer present for sufficiently large values of a_{BH} . For $a_{\text{BH}} < 0$, the spin-orbit interactions are attractive, i.e., they have the same sign as tidal interactions. As a consequence, for smaller a_{BH} 's, X_{\bullet} increases and the peak at small Λ is more pronounced.

For non-spinning BBHs, the remnant BH spin S_{\bullet} is expected to decrease for increasing ν , due to the same finite mass-ratio effect described above. Due to the M_{\bullet}^2 normalization, however, a_{\bullet} shows the opposite behaviour. In the BHNS case, the remnant BH has a larger dimensionless mass-rescaled spin with respect to the BBH case and it increases with Λ , for small $\Lambda > 0$. This happens because the NS compactness is smaller and less angular momentum is dissipated via GWs. Above a peak value,

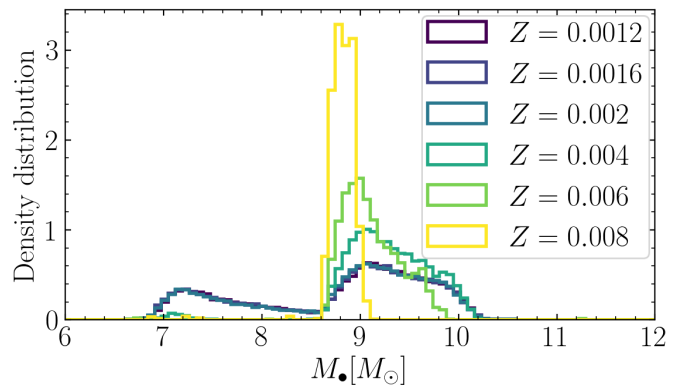


FIG. 2. The remnant BH mass distribution inferred from the remnant to a different value of the metallicity Z of the progenitor stars. In this plot we employ the SLy EOS and the fiducial isotropic spin distribution peaked around $\langle a_{\text{BH}} \rangle = 0.2$.

however, tidal disruption occurs and the angular momentum redistributes into the disk that forms around the remnant BH.

For $|a_{\text{BH}}| \lesssim 0.5$ and a given value of ν , the final a_{\bullet} is roughly linear in a_{BH} [see Eq. (4) and [2]]. For $a_{\text{BH}} \gtrsim +0.75$, one recovers $a_{\bullet} \sim a_{\text{BH}}$, as expected.

Although our models are developed from non-precessing BHNS data, they can be extended to the case of generic BH spins [36, 41, 42]. The simplest extension — which we adopt — is to map the initial spin

$$a_{\text{BH}} \rightarrow a_{\text{BH}} \cos \beta = a_{\text{BH}}^z, \quad (3)$$

where β is the angle between the initial BH spin and the orbital angular momentum \mathbf{L} . In this case the model will yield a_{\bullet}^z instead of a_{\bullet} . This prescription also assumes that the direction of the total angular momentum $\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{L} + \mathbf{S}$ is approximately preserved and so the direction θ of the final spin is given by the projection $\cos \theta = \hat{\mathbf{J}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{L}}$. Predictions in the precessing case agree with the simulations of [13], (see SM).

Binary and remnant population. — We now apply the formalism described in the previous section to a BHNS population merging at redshift $z \leq 1$ and constructed by convolving the binary population-synthesis from the MOBSE code [43–45] with the Illustris cosmological simulation ([46–48], see [49–51] and the SM for details). In particular, we adopt run CC15 α 5 of [51] where the common-envelope parameter is $\alpha = 5$ and natal kicks are drawn from a Maxwellian distribution with a single root-mean square velocity $v_{\sigma} = 15 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ for both electron-capture and core-collapse supernovae. Larger kicks would enable the merger of more massive BHNSs (moderate kicks do not break the binary but increase its eccentricity, shortening the merger time of massive BHNSs, see [44] for details), but would not affect the minimum BHNS mass (See Figure 5 of [51]). In run

² In this formula for mass conservation, we neglect a term $M_{\text{ejecta}} \ll M_{\text{disk}}$ for the ejecta mass.

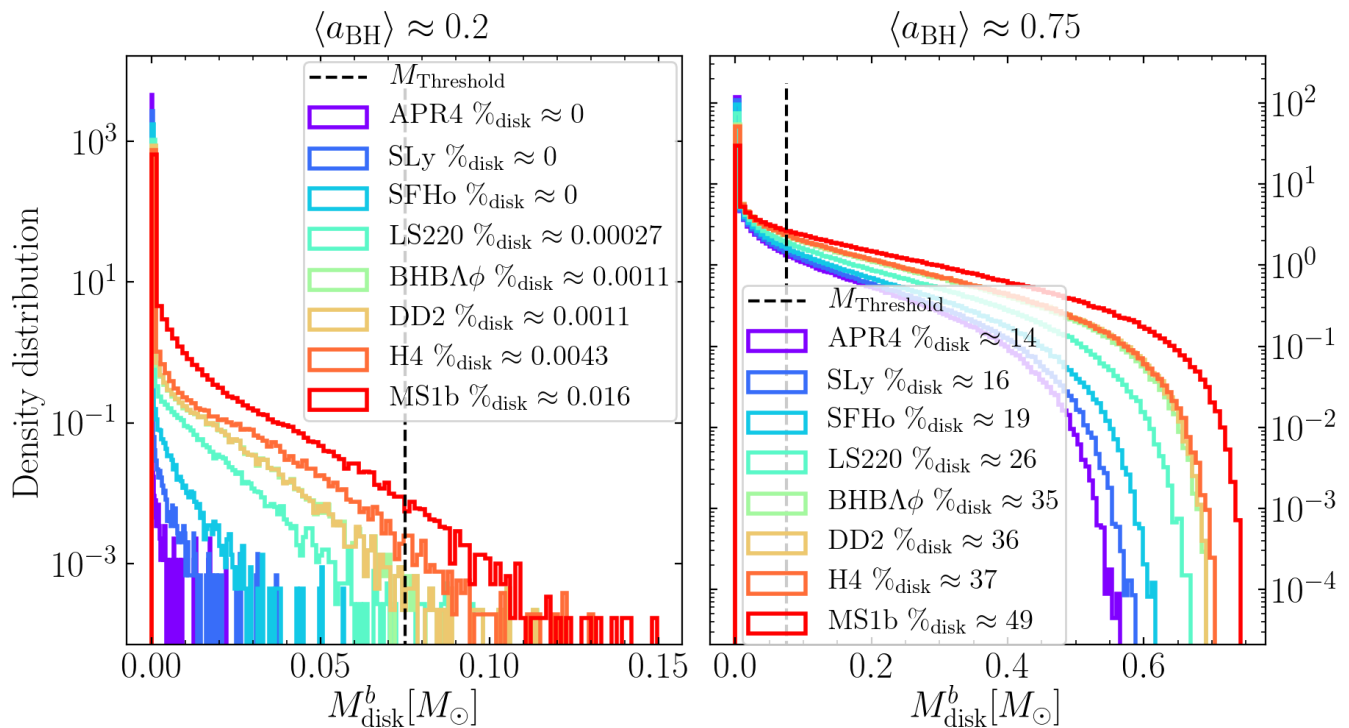


FIG. 3. Remnant disk baryonic mass distribution for different EOSs and for low (left) and high (right) aligned BH spin distributions. The mass threshold represents the minimum mass of the disk that allows the production of SGRBs with 1 s duration. The percentage of binaries with disk mass bigger than the threshold is provided in the legend for each equation of state.

CC15 α 5, the minimum (maximum) mass of a BH (NS) is set to 5 (2) M_{\odot} . This assumption enforces the existence of a mass gap between BHs and NSs, which is suggested by dynamical mass measurements of compact objects in X-ray binaries [52, 53]. BH spins are added by randomly drawing spin magnitudes $|a_{\text{BH}}| \in [0, 1]$ from a truncated Maxwellian distribution with root mean square σ . In this paper, we consider spins isotropically oriented with respect to the binary orbital plane with $\langle a_{\text{BH}} \rangle = 0.2$ as fiducial distribution or aligned spin distributions with $\sigma = (0.1, 0.35, 0.5, 0.7)$, corresponding to average values $\langle a_{\text{BH}} \rangle = (0.2, 0.5, 0.75, 0.95)$. The aligned spin distributions give *upper limits* to the isotropic spin distributions.

The population synthesis predicts BH component masses below $10M_{\odot}$ distributed narrowly about $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 5M_{\odot}$ and $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 8M_{\odot}$ [54]. The population depends very weakly on progenitors' metallicities for $Z \leq 0.002$, but for $Z \geq 0.003$ the smallest BHs are suppressed and only BH with $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 8M_{\odot}$ are found. This is a consequence of the dependence of the delay time (i.e., the time elapsed between the formation of the progenitor stars and the BHNS merger) on the progenitor's metallicity: metal-rich progenitors have longer delay times than metal-poor ones and thus do not merge within the Hubble time, especially if the BH mass is small [Giacobbo et al., In prep.]. Additionally, NS masses $M_{\text{NS}} \gtrsim 1.3M_{\odot}$ are favoured.

In order to compute the merger remnant from the population, we choose a representative set of EOSs, and calculate Λ on the NS population for each EOS. The remnant properties are then determined with Eq. (1) with the prescription of Eq. (3). Remnant masses are shown in Figure 2, while additional plots are reported in the SM. For metallicities $Z \leq 0.002$, we find a bimodal distribution around $M_{\bullet} \sim 7M_{\odot}$ and $M_{\bullet} \sim 9M_{\odot}$ independently from the EOS. Large metallicities produce only the more massive remnants. The remnant spins inferred from Eq. (1) and the isotropic/aligned spin population with $\langle a_{\text{BH}} \rangle \approx 0.2$ are distributed around $a_{\bullet}^z \sim 0.4$ with standard deviation ~ 0.1 .

Using the model of [26], we estimate the baryonic mass of the remnant disk. Figure 3 shows the aligned low spin distribution resulting in $\gtrsim 99\%$ of the remnants with baryonic mass of the disk smaller than $M_{\text{Threshold}}^b = 0.075(M_{\text{NS}}^b/1.5)M_{\odot}$ independently from the EOS. Disk masses above $M_{\text{Threshold}}^b$ are necessary to produce SGRBs of 1 s duration [55, 56]. Remnants with significant disk masses are found for aligned spin distributions with $\langle a_{\text{BH}} \rangle \gtrsim 0.5$. In these cases, the largest disks are found for the stiff EOS corresponding to $\Lambda \gtrsim 1700$. Soft EOS, corresponding to $\Lambda \lesssim 400$, give massive disks only for $\lesssim 20\%$ of the binaries and with $\langle a_{\text{BH}} \rangle \gtrsim 0.75$.

Conclusion.— Our results indicate light and moderately spinning BH remnants surrounded by low-mass accretion disks (Type-II) as the most likely outcome for BHNS if $\Lambda \lesssim 1000$ and the BH has aligned spin $a_{\text{BH}} \lesssim 0.75$. The observation of GW170817 rules out NS with $\Lambda \gtrsim 1800$ ($\gtrsim 2600$) for the low- (high-) spin prior cases [57]. Similarly, large aligned spins might be disfavoured by current GW binary observations [8]. Type-II GW signals are very similar to BBHs. For aligned spins, GW searches will lose less than 1% of events employing BBH templates [58]. On the other hand, estimating Λ from the GW will be challenging, and BHNS mergers might not set constraints on the EOS unless ringdown signatures are resolved [35]. Type-II mergers are also not expected to be accompanied by bright electromagnetic counterparts. Disk masses above $M_{\text{Threshold}}^b$ are rare in our populations, unless BHNSs are characterized by large and aligned BH initial spins, very stiff EOS and/or compact objects with mass $2 - 5 M_{\odot}$ (i.e. within the mass gap suggested by X-ray binaries).

The BH remnant model constructed in this work will be used in GW models for BHNSs [30, 32–34, 36, 59, 60], as well as for modeling the counterparts, e.g. [61–65]. It will thus be one of the key building blocks for upcoming multi-messenger analysis of BHNSs.

We thank Koutarou Kyutoku for discussions and for sharing the NR data used in this work. FZ and SB acknowledge support by the EU H2020 under ERC Starting Grant, no. BinGraSp-714626. FZ and FP acknowledge support from Cardiff University Seedcorn Funding AH21101018. MM acknowledges financial support by the European Research Council for the ERC Consolidator grant DEMOBLACK, under contract no. 770017

-
- [1] S. Rosswog, *Astrophys. J.* **634**, 1202 (2005), [arXiv:astro-ph/0508138 \[astro-ph\]](#).
- [2] K. Kyutoku, H. Okawa, M. Shibata, and K. Taniguchi, *Phys. Rev.* **D84**, 064018 (2011), [arXiv:1108.1189 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [3] F. Foucart, M. B. Deaton, M. D. Duez, L. E. Kidder, I. MacDonald, *et al.*, *Phys.Rev.* **D87**, 084006 (2013), [arXiv:1212.4810 \[gr-qc\]](#).
- [4] F. Foucart, M. B. Deaton, M. D. Duez, E. O’Connor, C. D. Ott, R. Haas, L. E. Kidder, H. P. Pfeiffer, M. A. Scheel, and B. Szilagyi, *Phys. Rev.* **D90**, 024026 (2014), [arXiv:1405.1121 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [5] F. Foucart, R. Haas, M. D. Duez, E. O’Connor, C. D. Ott, L. Roberts, L. E. Kidder, J. Lippuner, H. P. Pfeiffer, and M. A. Scheel, *Phys. Rev.* **D93**, 044019 (2016), [arXiv:1510.06398 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [6] V. Paschalidis, *Class. Quant. Grav.* **34**, 084002 (2017), [arXiv:1611.01519 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [7] M. Bhattacharya, P. Kumar, and G. Smoot, (2018), [arXiv:1809.00006 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [8] B. P. Abbott *et al.* (LIGO Scientific, Virgo), (2018), [arXiv:1811.12907 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [9] K. Kyutoku, M. Shibata, and K. Taniguchi, *Phys. Rev.* **D82**, 044049 (2010), [Erratum: *Phys. Rev.* **D84**, 049902(2011)], [arXiv:1008.1460 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [10] K. Kyutoku, K. Ioka, and M. Shibata, *Phys.Rev.* **D88**, 041503 (2013), [arXiv:1305.6309 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [11] K. Kyutoku, K. Ioka, H. Okawa, M. Shibata, and K. Taniguchi, *Phys. Rev.* **D92**, 044028 (2015), [arXiv:1502.05402 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [12] F. Foucart, M. D. Duez, L. E. Kidder, and S. A. Teukolsky, *Phys. Rev.* **D83**, 024005 (2011), [arXiv:1007.4203 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [13] K. Kawaguchi, K. Kyutoku, H. Nakano, H. Okawa, M. Shibata, and K. Taniguchi, *Phys. Rev.* **D92**, 024014 (2015), [arXiv:1506.05473 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [14] Z. B. Etienne, Y. T. Liu, S. L. Shapiro, and T. W. Baumgarte, *Phys. Rev.* **D79**, 044024 (2009), [arXiv:0812.2245 \[astro-ph\]](#).
- [15] Z. B. Etienne *et al.*, *Phys. Rev.* **D77**, 084002 (2008), [arXiv:0712.2460 \[astro-ph\]](#).
- [16] Z. B. Etienne, Y. T. Liu, V. Paschalidis, and S. L. Shapiro, *Phys. Rev.* **D85**, 064029 (2012), [arXiv:1112.0568 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [17] Z. B. Etienne, V. Paschalidis, and S. L. Shapiro, *Phys. Rev.* **D86**, 084026 (2012), [arXiv:1209.1632 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [18] V. Paschalidis, Z. B. Etienne, and S. L. Shapiro, *Phys. Rev.* **D88**, 021504 (2013), [arXiv:1304.1805 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [19] M. Bejger *et al.*, *Astron. Astrophys.* **431**, 297 (2005), [arXiv:astro-ph/0406234](#).
- [20] T. Dietrich, M. Ujevic, W. Tichy, S. Bernuzzi, and B. Brüggmann, *Phys. Rev.* **D95**, 024029 (2017), [arXiv:1607.06636 \[gr-qc\]](#).
- [21] M. Shibata and K. Taniguchi, *Living Rev. Rel.* **14**, 6 (2011).
- [22] J. M. Bardeen, W. H. Press, and S. A. Teukolsky, *Astrophys. J.* **178**, 347 (1972).
- [23] T. Hinderer, B. D. Lackey, R. N. Lang, and J. S. Read, *Phys. Rev.* **D81**, 123016 (2010), [arXiv:0911.3535 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [24] T. Damour and A. Nagar, *Phys. Rev.* **D81**, 084016 (2010), [arXiv:0911.5041 \[gr-qc\]](#).
- [25] F. Foucart, *Phys. Rev.* **D86**, 124007 (2012), [arXiv:1207.6304 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [26] F. Foucart, T. Hinderer, and S. Nissanke, *Phys. Rev.* **D98**, 081501 (2018), [arXiv:1807.00011 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [27] B. Paczynski, *Astrophys. J.* **308**, L43 (1986).
- [28] D. Eichler, M. Livio, T. Piran, and D. N. Schramm, *Nature* **340**, 126 (1989).
- [29] L.-X. Li and B. Paczynski, *Astrophys.J.* **507**, L59 (1998), [arXiv:astro-ph/9807272 \[astro-ph\]](#).
- [30] B. D. Lackey, K. Kyutoku, M. Shibata, P. R. Brady, and J. L. Friedman, *Phys.Rev.* **D85**, 044061 (2012), [arXiv:1109.3402 \[astro-ph.HE\]](#).
- [31] F. Pannarale, E. Berti, K. Kyutoku, and M. Shibata, *Phys. Rev.* **D88**, 084011 (2013), [arXiv:1307.5111 \[gr-qc\]](#).
- [32] F. Pannarale, E. Berti, K. Kyutoku, B. D. Lackey, and M. Shibata, *Phys. Rev.* **D92**, 084050 (2015), [arXiv:1509.00512 \[gr-qc\]](#).
- [33] T. Hinderer *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **116**, 181101 (2016), [arXiv:1602.00599 \[gr-qc\]](#).
- [34] A. Nagar *et al.*, *Phys. Rev.* **D98**, 104052 (2018), [arXiv:1806.01772 \[gr-qc\]](#).

- [35] F. Pannarale, *Phys. Rev.* **D88**, 104025 (2013), arXiv:1208.5869 [gr-qc].
- [36] F. Pannarale, *Phys. Rev.* **D89**, 044045 (2014), arXiv:1311.5931 [gr-qc].
- [37] A. Buonanno, L. E. Kidder, and L. Lehner, *Phys. Rev.* **D77**, 026004 (2008), arXiv:0709.3839 [astro-ph].
- [38] D. Radice, A. Perego, K. Hotokezaka, S. A. Fromm, S. Bernuzzi, and L. F. Roberts, *Astrophys. J.* **869**, 130 (2018), arXiv:1809.11161 [astro-ph.HE].
- [39] L. Bildsten and C. Cutler, *Astrophys. J.* **400**, 175 (1992).
- [40] C. S. Kochanek, *Astrophys. J.* **398**, 234 (1992).
- [41] E. Barausse and L. Rezzolla, *Astrophys. J.* **704**, L40 (2009), arXiv:0904.2577 [gr-qc].
- [42] F. Hofmann, E. Barausse, and L. Rezzolla, *Astrophys. J.* **825**, L19 (2016), arXiv:1605.01938 [gr-qc].
- [43] N. Giacobbo, M. Mapelli, and M. Spera, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **474**, 2959 (2018), arXiv:1711.03556 [astro-ph.SR].
- [44] N. Giacobbo and M. Mapelli, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **480**, 2011 (2018), arXiv:1806.00001 [astro-ph.HE].
- [45] N. Giacobbo and M. Mapelli, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **482**, 2234 (2019), arXiv:1805.11100 [astro-ph.SR].
- [46] M. Vogelsberger, S. Genel, V. Springel, P. Torrey, D. Sijacki, D. Xu, G. Snyder, S. Bird, D. Nelson, and L. Hernquist, *Nature* **509**, 177 (2014), arXiv:1405.1418.
- [47] M. Vogelsberger, S. Genel, V. Springel, P. Torrey, D. Sijacki, D. Xu, G. Snyder, D. Nelson, and L. Hernquist, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **444**, 1518 (2014), arXiv:1405.2921.
- [48] D. Nelson, A. Pillepich, S. Genel, M. Vogelsberger, V. Springel, P. Torrey, V. Rodriguez-Gomez, D. Sijacki, G. F. Snyder, B. Griffen, F. Marinacci, L. Blecha, L. Sales, D. Xu, and L. Hernquist, *Astronomy and Computing* **13**, 12 (2015), arXiv:1504.00362.
- [49] M. Mapelli, N. Giacobbo, E. Ripamonti, and M. Spera, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **472**, 2422 (2017), arXiv:1708.05722.
- [50] M. Mapelli and N. Giacobbo, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **479**, 4391 (2018), arXiv:1806.04866 [astro-ph.HE].
- [51] M. Mapelli, N. Giacobbo, F. Santoliquido, and M. C. Artale, arXiv e-prints (2019), arXiv:1902.01419 [astro-ph.HE].
- [52] F. Özel, D. Psaltis, R. Narayan, and J. E. McClintock, *Astrophys. J.* **725**, 1918 (2010), arXiv:1006.2834.
- [53] W. M. Farr, N. Sravan, A. Cantrell, L. Kreidberg, C. D. Bailyn, I. Mandel, and V. Kalogera, *Astrophys. J.* **741**, 103 (2011), arXiv:1011.1459.
- [54] M. Mapelli and N. Giacobbo, *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.* **479**, 4391 (2018), arXiv:1806.04866 [astro-ph.HE].
- [55] N. Stone, A. Loeb, and E. Berger, *Phys. Rev.* **D87**, 084053 (2013), arXiv:1209.4097 [astro-ph.HE].
- [56] F. Pannarale and F. Ohme, *Astrophys. J.* **791**, L7 (2014), arXiv:1406.6057 [gr-qc].
- [57] Abbott, B. P. and others (LIGO Scientific Collaboration and Virgo Collaboration), *Phys. Rev. X* **9**, 011001 (2019).
- [58] I. Harry, S. Privitera, A. Bohé, and A. Buonanno, *Phys. Rev.* **D94**, 024012 (2016), arXiv:1603.02444 [gr-qc].
- [59] B. D. Lackey, K. Kyutoku, M. Shibata, P. R. Brady, and J. L. Friedman, *Phys. Rev.* **D89**, 043009 (2014), arXiv:1303.6298 [gr-qc].
- [60] F. Pannarale, E. Berti, K. Kyutoku, B. D. Lackey, and M. Shibata, *Phys. Rev.* **D92**, 081504 (2015), arXiv:1509.06209 [gr-qc].
- [61] H. K. Lee, R. A. M. J. Wijers, and G. E. Brown, *Phys. Rept.* **325**, 83 (2000), arXiv:astro-ph/9906213 [astro-ph].
- [62] A. M. Beloborodov, *Astrophys. J.* **539**, L25 (2000), arXiv:astro-ph/0004360 [astro-ph].
- [63] K. Kawaguchi, K. Kyutoku, M. Shibata, and M. Tanaka, *Astrophys. J.* **825**, 52 (2016), arXiv:1601.07711 [astro-ph.HE].
- [64] A. Perego, D. Radice, and S. Bernuzzi, *Astrophys. J.* **850**, L37 (2017), arXiv:1711.03982 [astro-ph.HE].
- [65] C. Barbieri, O. S. Salafia, A. Perego, M. Colpi, and G. Ghirlanda, (2019), arXiv:1903.04543 [astro-ph.HE].
- [66] X. Jiménez-Forteza, D. Keitel, S. Husa, M. Hannam, S. Khan, and M. Pürrer, *Phys. Rev.* **D95**, 064024 (2017), arXiv:1611.00332 [gr-qc].
- [67] D. Keitel *et al.*, *Phys. Rev.* **D96**, 024006 (2017), arXiv:1612.09566 [gr-qc].
- [68] F. Zappa, S. Bernuzzi, D. Radice, A. Perego, and T. Dietrich, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **120**, 111101 (2018), arXiv:1712.04267 [gr-qc].
- [69] C. L. Fryer, K. Belczynski, G. Wiktorowicz, M. Dominik, V. Kalogera, and D. E. Holz, *Astrophys. J.* **749**, 91 (2012), arXiv:1110.1726 [astro-ph.SR].

TABLE I. Best fit parameters of the remnant model for mass, spin and peak luminosity and the respective determination coefficient R^2 of the fit.

F	k	p_{k10}	p_{k11}	p_{k20}	p_{k21}	R^2
X_\bullet	1	-1.83×10^{-3}	2.39×10^{-3}	4.29×10^{-3}	9.8×10^{-3}	
	2	2.34×10^{-7}	-8.28×10^{-7}	-1.64×10^{-6}	8.08×10^{-6}	0.921
	3	-2.01×10^{-2}	1.32×10^{-1}	6.51×10^{-2}	-1.43×10^{-1}	
a_\bullet	1	-5.44×10^{-3}	7.91×10^{-3}	2.33×10^{-2}	2.48×10^{-2}	
	2	-8.57×10^{-7}	-2.82×10^{-6}	6.61×10^{-6}	4.29×10^{-5}	0.92
	3	-3.04×10^{-2}	2.55×10^{-1}	1.48×10^{-1}	-4.28×10^{-1}	
L_{peak}	1	3.08×10^{-2}	-4.18×10^{-2}	-5.17×10^{-2}	3.19×10^{-1}	
	2	-1.23×10^{-5}	8.84×10^{-6}	1.05×10^{-4}	-3.88×10^{-5}	0.98
	3	3.30×10^{-1}	-3.76×10^{-2}	-9.2×10^{-1}	1.44	

Supplementary Materials

DATA AND MODEL CONSTRUCTION

We construct a model for the mass and spin of the remnant BH based on the following expression

$$F(\nu, a_{\text{BH}}, \Lambda) = F_{\text{BBH}}(\nu, a_{\text{BH}}) \frac{1 + p_1(\nu, a_{\text{BH}})\Lambda + p_2(\nu, a_{\text{BH}})\Lambda^2}{(1 + [p_3(\nu, a_{\text{BH}})]^2\Lambda)^2}, \quad (4)$$

where F_{BBH} are the BBH models for mass and spin developed in [66] and $p_k(\nu, a_{\text{BH}})$ are polynomials of the form

$$p_k(\nu, a_{\text{BH}}) = p_{k1}(a_{\text{BH}}) \nu + p_{k2}(a_{\text{BH}}) \nu^2 \quad (5)$$

$$p_{kj}(a_{\text{BH}}) = p_{kj0} a_{\text{BH}} + p_{kj1}. \quad (6)$$

The model includes by construction the BBH limit for $\Lambda \rightarrow 0$ (no tidal effects) and the test-mass limit for $\nu \rightarrow 0$. Note that the dependence on BH spin is linear. The coefficient $p_3(\nu, a_{\text{BH}})$ is squared in order to avoid a pole in the denominator.

The NR data used for our work is collected in Table II. The values of the best-fit parameters p_{kjl} are reported in Table I; relative differences with respect to the fit are shown in Figure 4. The fits have determination coefficient $R^2 \sim 0.92$ and the residuals are normally distributed with mean ~ 0 and standard deviations $\sim 0.25 \times 10^{-2}$ and ~ 0.01 , respectively. The maximum relative differences are below 1% for the remnant mass fit and below 3% for the the remnant spin; hence, fit uncertainties are smaller than NR errors. The NR data do not extend to $\nu \lesssim 0.1$ and $a_{\text{BH}} \lesssim -0.5 \vee a_{\text{BH}} \gtrsim 0.75$, thus the model effectively extrapolates into those regions. The extrapolation leads in some cases to unphysical values of $X_\bullet > 1$ and $a_\bullet < -1$. This behaviour is fixed by forcing the model to agree with the BBH, i.e., forcing $X_\bullet = 1$ and $|a_\bullet| \leq 1$. We expect that future calibration of the model with new NR data will improve the behaviour for large mass ratios. We stress that BHNSs with mass ratios $q \gtrsim 7$ are in any case effectively indistinguishable from BBHs.

Figure 5 and Figure 6 complement Figure 1 in the main text. Figure 5 shows the model dependencies on Λ for each given value of a_{BH} . We show NR errors in the plot, optimistically taken to be at the 1% level. Note that in the final spin plot the errorbars are smaller than the markers. The contour plots in Figure 6 show the model evaluated on the entire parameter space (the plots in the main section of the paper are here reproduced for completeness).

Finally, we validate the prescription used to extend the model to spin precessing cases. Figure 7 shows the agreement between the model predictions for X_\bullet and a_\bullet using Eq. (3) and the NR data of [13] (not used to determine the model).

GW PEAK LUMINOSITY

The approach used in this paper can be used to estimate the GW peak luminosity, thus complementing the result derived for BBHs and binary NS systems in [67, 68] (see [8] for an application of those results). The GW peak

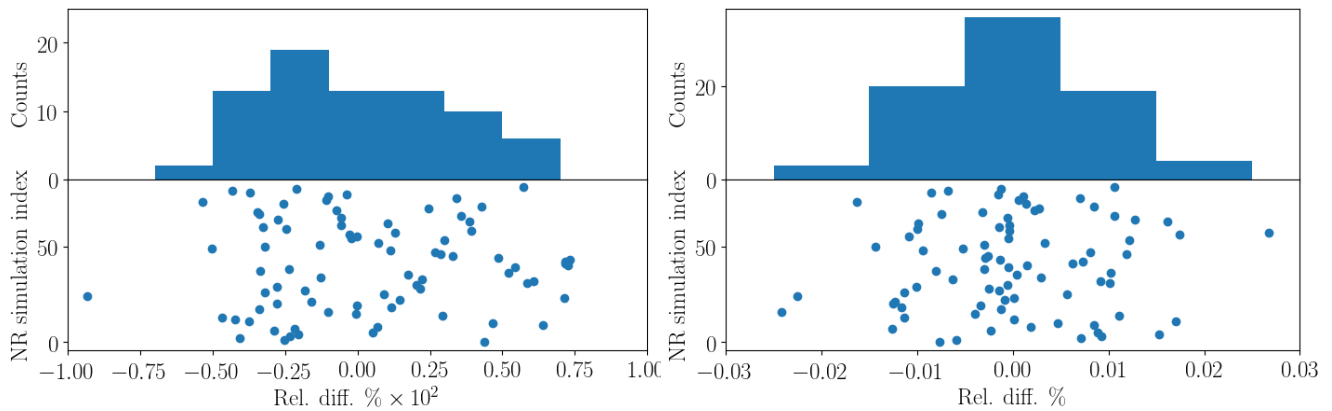


FIG. 4. Relative differences of the data points to the fit. Left panel: X_{\bullet} , the maximum difference is of the order of 1%. Right panel: a_{\bullet} , the maximum difference is below 3%. In both cases the coefficient of determination of the fit is $R^2 \sim 0.92$.

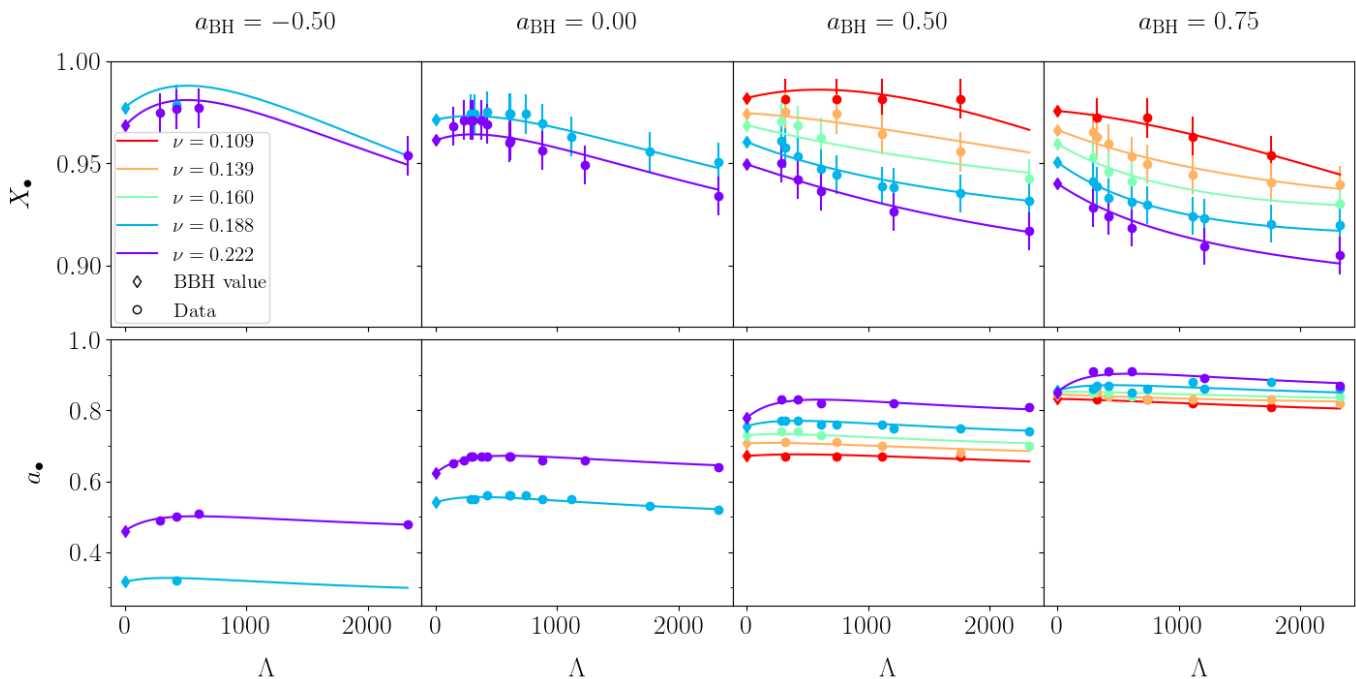


FIG. 5. The remnant BH fractional mass $X_{\bullet} = M_{\bullet}/M$ (top) and dimensionless spin parameter a_{\bullet} (bottom) as a function of the tidal polarizability parameter Λ at given values of the initial BH spin parameters a_{BH} . The values of a_{BH} correspond to those of the NR simulations.

luminosity is computed from the (2, 2) mode of the GW strain,

$$L_{\text{peak}} = \max_t \frac{1}{16\pi} \left(\left| \frac{dh_{22}(t)}{dt} \right|^2 \right) \quad (7)$$

where

$$h_+ - ih_{\times} = \sum_{\ell, m} h_{\ell m}(t) {}^{-2}Y_{\ell, m} \approx h_{22}(t) ({}^{-2}Y_{2,2} + {}^{-2}Y_{2,-2}), \quad (8)$$

and ${}^{-2}Y_{\ell, m}$ are the spin-weighted $s = -2$ spherical harmonics.

Figure 8 shows the peak luminosity model as a function of Λ and for the values of ν and a_{BH} sampled by the NR dataset. The behaviour of L_{peak} closely mirrors the one for X_{\bullet} detailed in the main text. The model for L_{peak} is

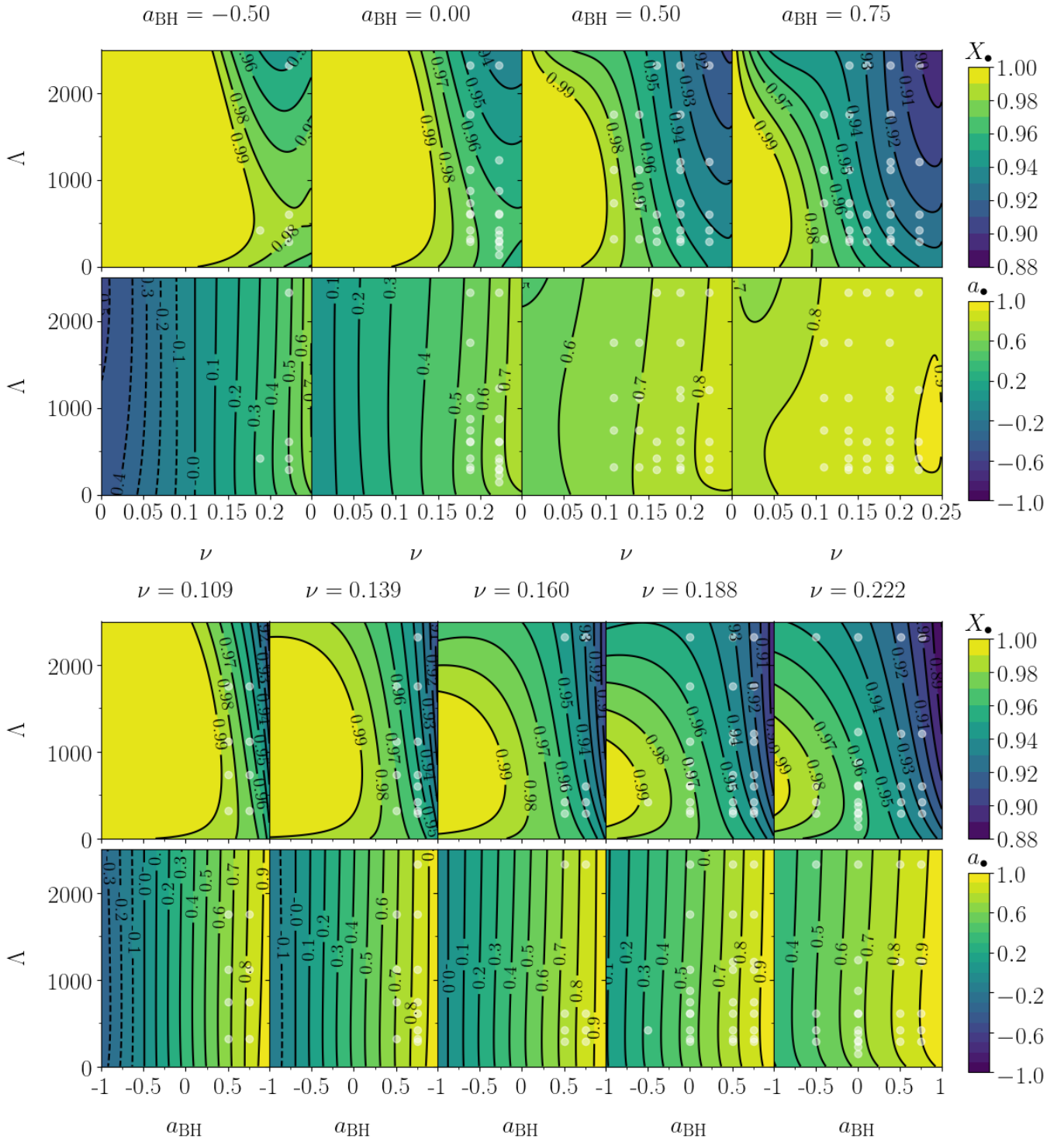


FIG. 6. Top: Contour plots of the remnant BH fractional mass $X_\bullet = M_\bullet/M$ and dimensionless spin parameter a_\bullet as functions of the symmetric mass ratio ν and the NS tidal polarizability parameter Λ at given values of the initial BH spin parameters a_{BH} . The values of a_{BH} correspond to those of the NR simulations. Bottom: The same physical quantities are shown as functions of the initial BH spin parameters a_{BH} and the NS tidal polarizability parameters Λ at given values of the symmetric mass ratio ν . The values of ν correspond to those of the NR simulations. White markers indicate the NR data used to construct the model.

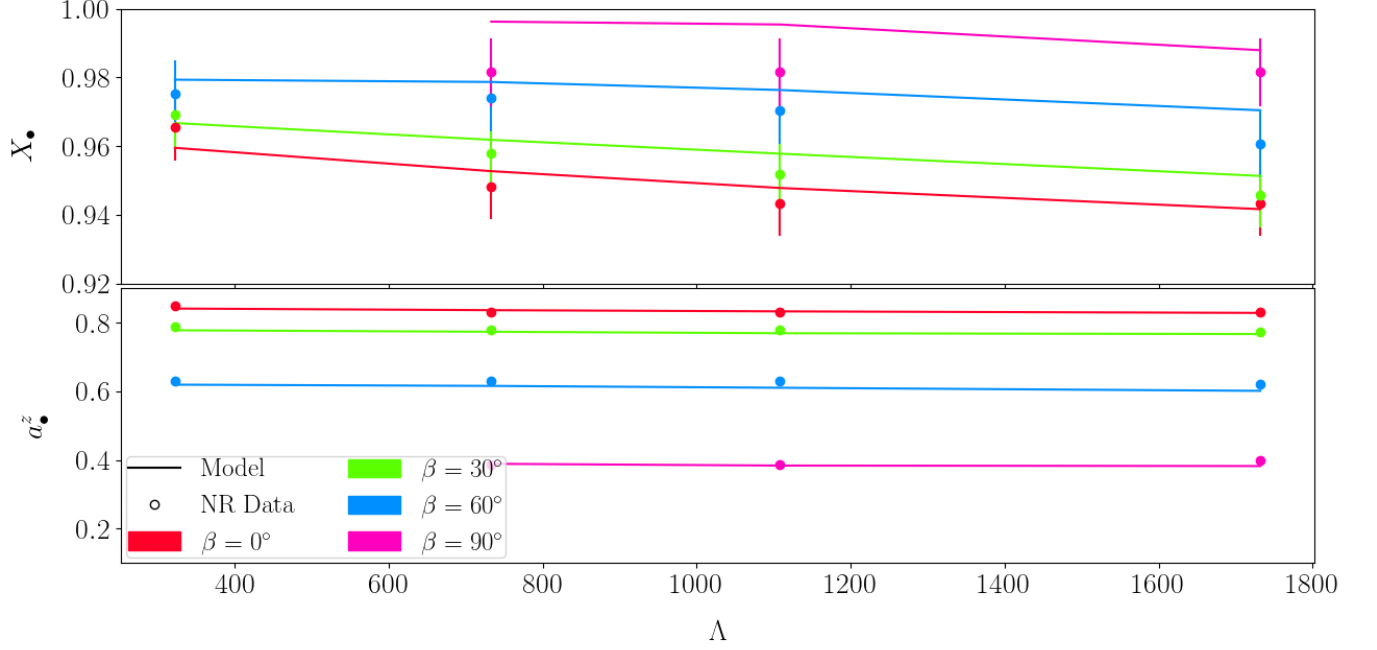


FIG. 7. Model performance for binaries with spin-precession. The model is validated against the numerical data of [13]. β is the angle between the initial orbital angular momentum and the initial BH spin. Note that the exact values of β are slightly different from the ones reported here, as explained in the reference. All these data correspond to fixed values of $(a_{\text{BH}}, q) = (0.75, 5)$ and the errorbars are taken as a 1% of the values.

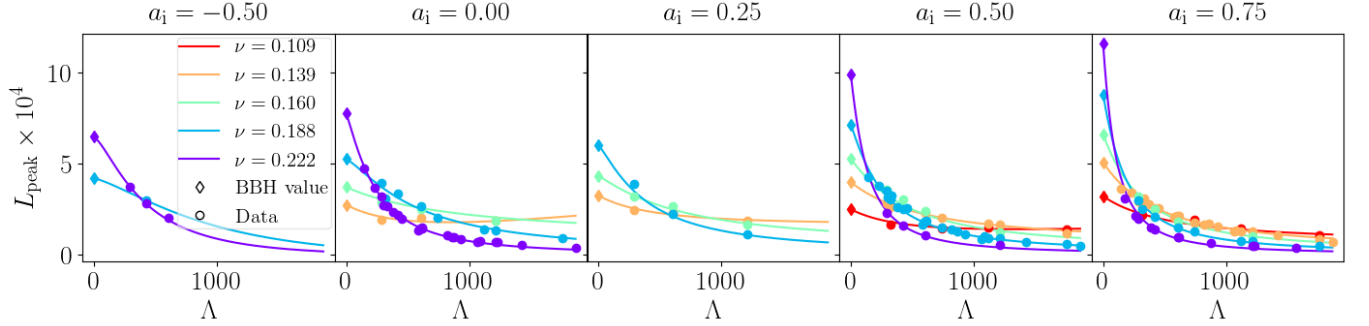


FIG. 8. Distribution of the GW peak luminosity as a function of the NS Λ for all the values of a_{BH} and for all the different values of ν .

slightly different from Eq. (4); in order to avoid negative, unphysical values we fit the ansatz

$$L_{\text{peak}}(\nu, a_{\text{BH}}, \Lambda) = L_{\text{peak BBH}}(\nu, a_{\text{BH}}) \frac{(1 + p_1(\nu, a_{\text{BH}})\Lambda + p_2(\nu, a_{\text{BH}})\Lambda^2)^2}{(1 + [p_3(\nu, a_{\text{BH}})]^2\Lambda)^4}. \quad (9)$$

The best parameters p_{kjl} are reported in Table I. The model delivers results accurate at the 20% level.

The python code which implements these models is available at <https://git.tpi.uni-jena.de/core/bhnsremnant>.

SYNTHETIC POPULATION

The BHNS population is constructed from the results of the binary population-synthesis code MOBSE [43–45] convolved with the Illustris cosmological simulation [46–48], and following the Monte Carlo method already described

in [49, 50]. MOBSE includes up-to-date prescriptions for stellar winds (accounting for the stellar metallicity and luminosity dependence of the mass loss), core-collapse supernovae (SNe), electron-capture SNe and (pulsational) pair instability SNe (see [44] for more details). The interface with the Illustris simulation enables us to know the merger redshift of each simulated BHNS (see [50]). We consider only BHNSs merging at redshift $z \leq 1$.

Here, we adopt run CC15 α 5 discussed in [51]. In this run, we fix common-envelope parameter $\alpha = 5$ and we draw natal kicks from a Maxwellian distribution with one root-mean square velocity $v_\sigma = 15 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ for both electron-capture and core-collapse SNe. Larger kicks would enable the formation of few more massive BHNSs, but would not affect the minimum BHNS mass (see Figure 5 of [51]). The minimum (maximum) mass of a BH (NS) in run CC15 α 5 is set to 5 (2) M_\odot (see the rapid model in [69] for details). This assumption enforces the existence of a mass gap between BHs and NSs, which is mildly suggested by dynamical mass measurements of compact objects in X-ray binaries [52, 53].

BH spins are added in post-processing through a toy model as there is no commonly accepted model to derive BH spins from the properties of their stellar progenitors. We randomly assign BH spin magnitudes $0 \leq |a_{\text{BH}}| \leq 1$ from a truncated Maxwellian distribution with one-dimensional root mean square σ . For the analysis of the remnant black hole distribution we assume spins isotropically oriented with respect to the binary orbital plane with modulus $\langle a_{\text{BH}} \rangle \approx 0.2$ using the prescription for precessing binaries described in the main text. In the disk analysis, by contrast, we consider different aligned spin distributions with $\sigma = (0.1, 0.35, 0.5, 0.7)$ corresponding to means $\langle a_{\text{BH}} \rangle = (0.2, 0.5, 0.75, 0.95)$ because the formulae we use to estimate the disk mass are developed for aligned black hole spins. However, the aligned spin distributions give *upper limits* to the isotropic spin distributions. We assume all NSs have zero spins.

Figure 9 shows the distribution of the BHNS parameters, while Figure 10 shows the distribution of the remnant masses and spins derived from them. Finally, Figure 11 gives an overview of the disk analysis considering different distributions of aligned spins. The disk rest mass is calculated using the model of [26]. For the aligned low-spin distribution with $\langle a_{\text{BH}} \rangle = 0.2$ no massive disk is formed independently from the EOS. An analogous result is obtained for our fiducial isotropic spin distributions (not shown). For the aligned spin distribution with $\langle a_{\text{BH}} \rangle = 0.5$, stiff EOSs give massive disks in $\lesssim 20\%$ of the cases. Note that the MS1b EOS is ruled out by the GW170817 analysis (low-spin priors), while H4 and DD2 are consistent with it. Aligned spins populations with $\langle a_{\text{BH}} \rangle \gtrsim 0.75$ yield more massive disks. Soft EOSs such as APR and SLy admit massive disks in about $\lesssim 20\%$ of the binaries only if $\langle a_{\text{BH}} \rangle \gtrsim 0.95$.

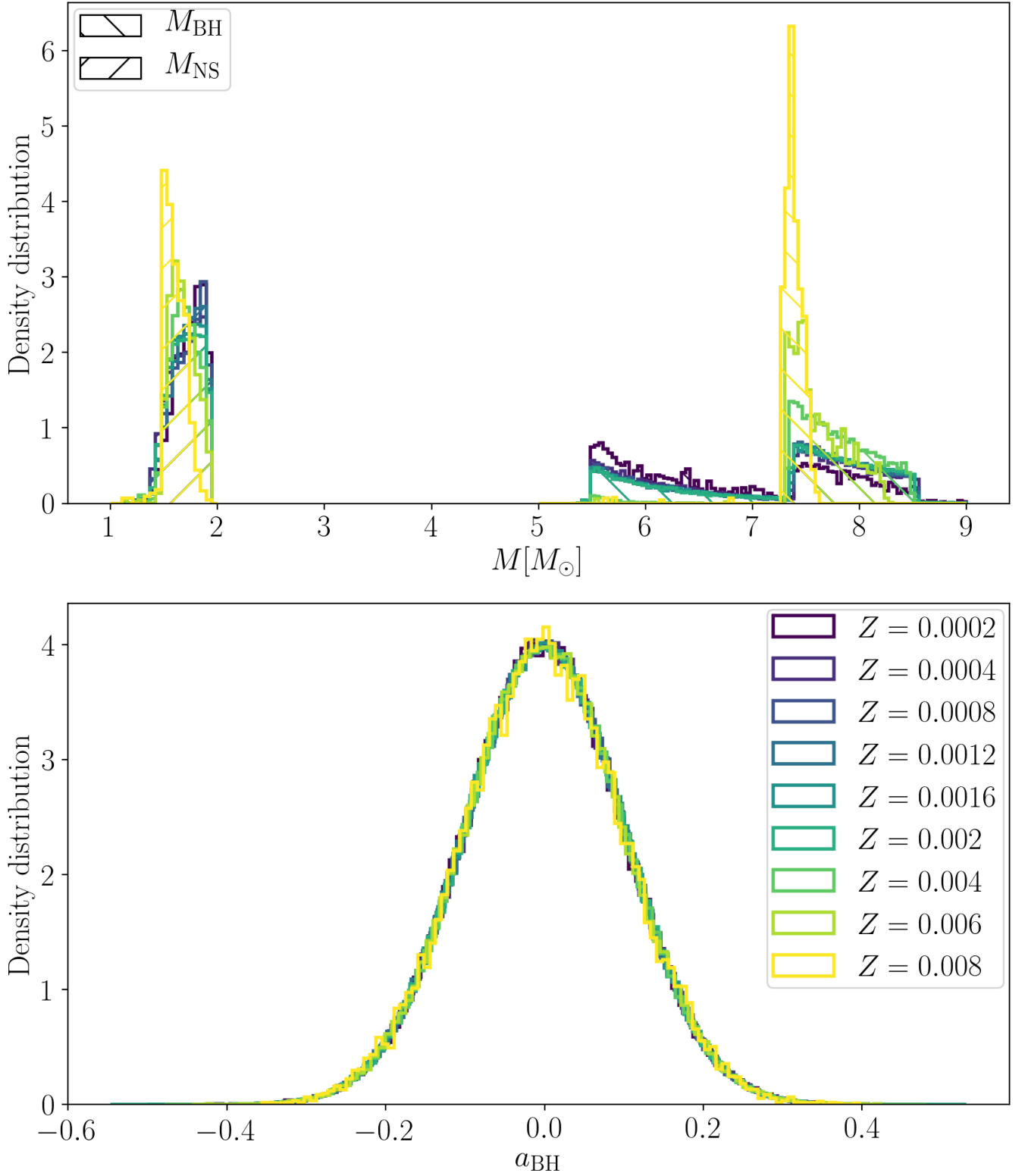


FIG. 9. Distribution of initial component masses of the BHNS systems from population synthesis simulations (top panel) and initial BH spin (bottom panel) for different metallicities.

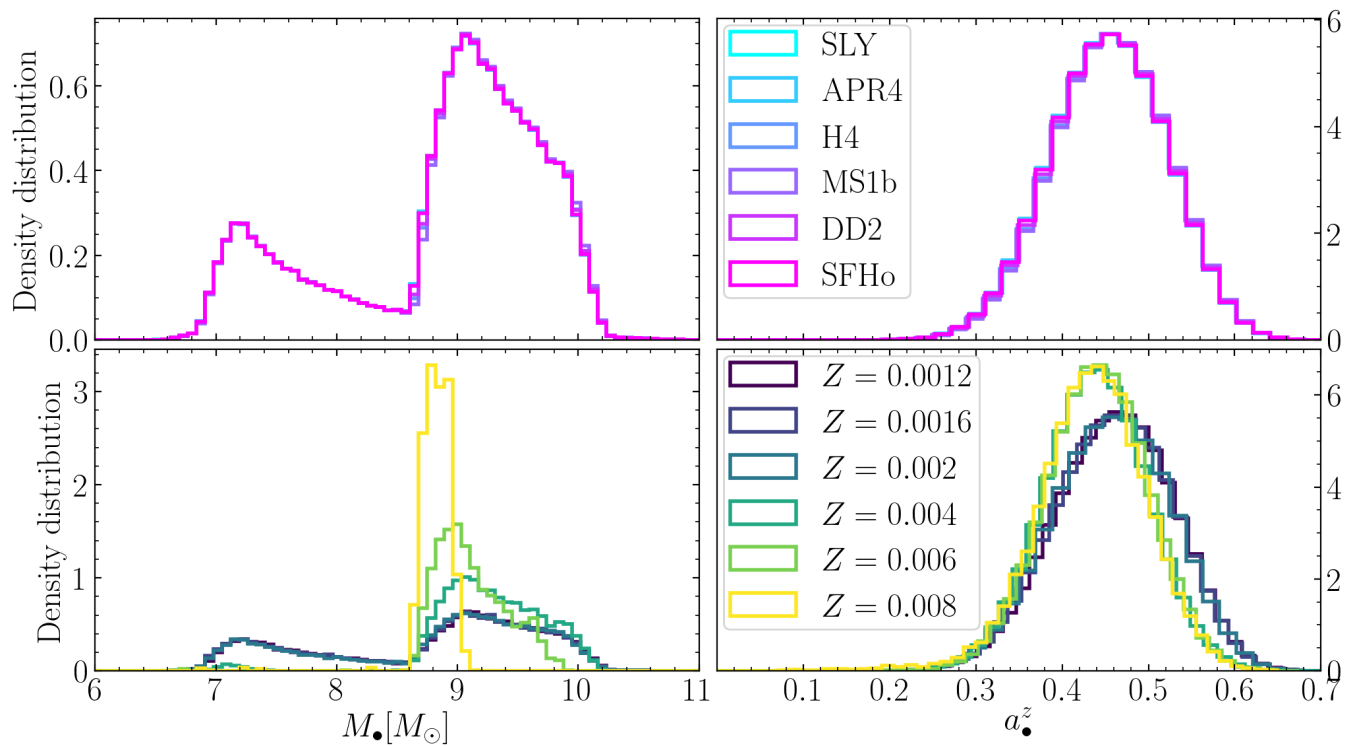


FIG. 10. Final BH mass distribution (left) and final BH spin distribution (right) for different equations of state (top panels) and for different metallicities (bottom panels). Note that the prescription for precessing BHs is employed and so the z -component of the spin is reported. In this plot we employ the fiducial isotropic spin distribution peaked around $\langle a_{\text{BH}} \rangle = 0.2$ and the SLy EOS is used in the bottom panels.

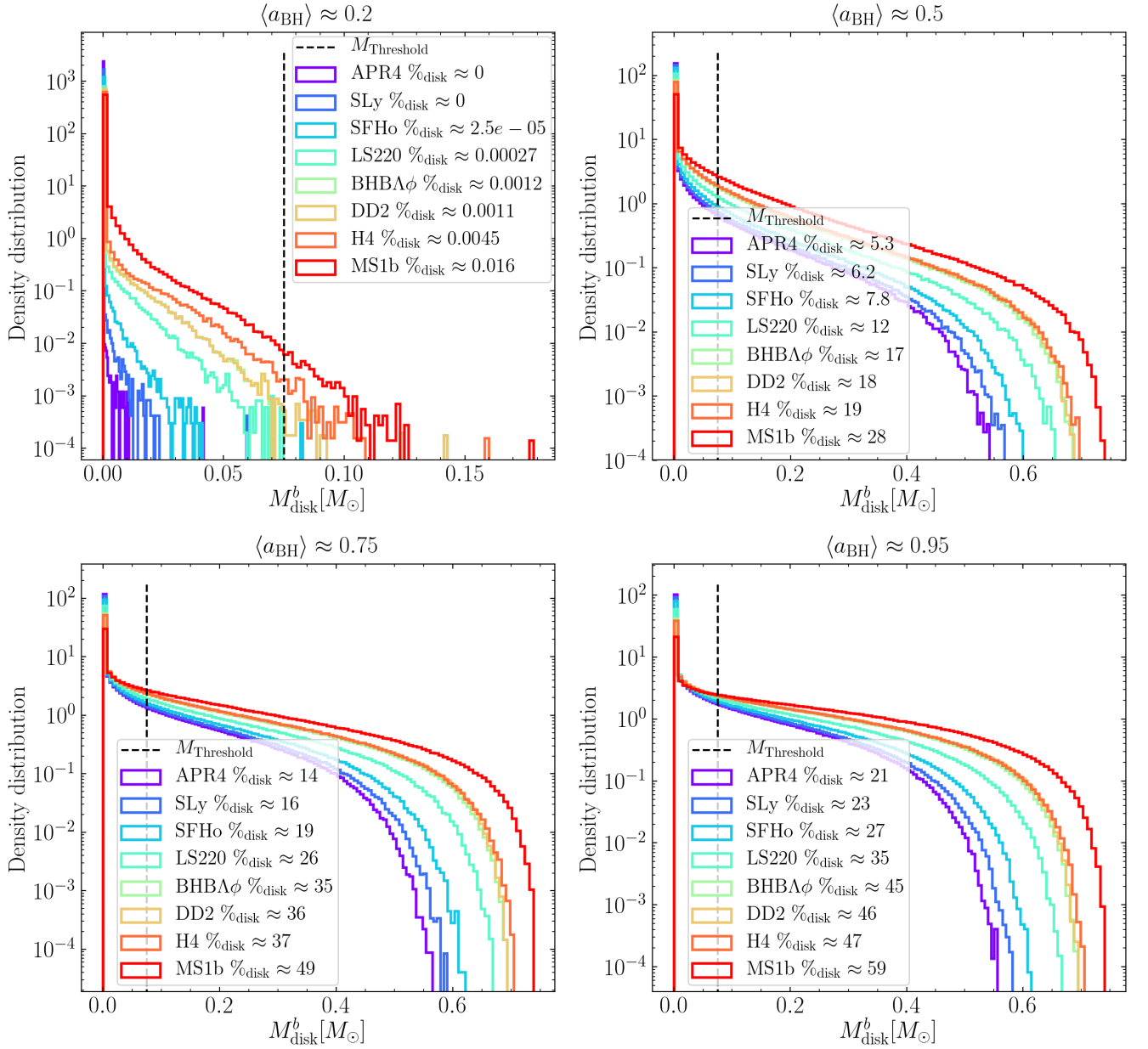


FIG. 11. Baryonic mass distributions of the remnant disk for different equations of state and under the assumption of aligned BH spins. The mass threshold represents the minimum mass of the disk that allows the production of SGRBs with 1 s duration. Each panel corresponds to a distribution of the initial BH spin peaked around the value reported on top. The percentage of binaries with disk mass bigger than the threshold is given in the legend for each EOS. These results have to be considered *upper limits* to the isotropic spins case.

TABLE II – continued from previous page

Name	EOS	q	ν	M_{NS}	a_{BH}	$M\Omega_0$	C	M	k_2	Λ	X_\bullet	a_\bullet	L_{peak}
125Hss-Q5M135a75	125Hss	5	0.139	1.35	0.75	-	0.1435	8.10	0.0970	1062	-	-	1.283e-04
Bs-Q5M135a75	Bs	5	0.139	1.35	0.75	-	0.1856	8.10	0.0751	227	-	-	3.430e-04
Hss-Q5M135a75	Hss	5	0.139	1.35	0.75	-	0.1577	8.10	0.0850	580	-	-	2.099e-04
Bl-Q5M135a75	Bl	5	0.139	1.35	0.75	-	0.1798	8.10	0.0941	333	-	-	3.077e-04
HBs-Q5M135a75	HBs	5	0.139	1.35	0.75	-	0.1723	8.10	0.0855	375	-	-	2.775e-04
Hl-Q5M135a75	Hl	5	0.139	1.35	0.75	-	0.1638	8.10	0.1085	613	-	-	2.139e-04
HBl-Q5M135a75	HBl	5	0.139	1.35	0.75	-	0.1716	8.10	0.1013	453	-	-	2.576e-04
15Hl-Q5M135a75	15Hl	5	0.139	1.35	0.75	-	0.1497	8.10	0.1223	1084	-	-	1.356e-04