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ABSTRACT

We explore the effects of long term secular perturbations on the distribution of dark matter particles around Supermassive Black Hole (BH) binaries. We show that in the hierarchical (in separation) three-body problem, one of the BHs and a dark matter particle form an inner binary. Gravitational perturbations from the BH companion, on a much wider orbit, can cause the dark matter particle to reach extremely high eccentricities and even get accreted onto the BH, by what is known as the Eccentric Kozai-Lidov (EKL) mechanism. We show that this may produce a torus-like configuration for the dark matter distribution around the *less* massive member of the BH binary. We first consider an Intermediate BH (IMBH) in the vicinity of our Galactic Center, which may be a relic of a past minor merger. We show that if the IMBH is close enough (i.e., near the stellar disk) the EKL mechanism is very efficient in exciting the eccentricity of dark matter particles in near-polar configurations to extremely high values where they are accreted by the IMBH. We show that this mechanism is even more effective if the central BH grows in mass, where we have assumed adiabatic growth. Since near-polar configurations are disrupted, a torus-like shape is formed. We also show that this behavior is also likely to be relevant for Supermassive BH binaries. We suggest that if the BHs are spinning, the accreted dark matter particles may linger in the ergosphere and thereby may generate self-annihilations and produce an indirect signature of potential interest.

1. INTRODUCTION

Observations suggest that most local galaxies host central supermassive black holes (SMBH, e.g., Kormendy & Richstone 1995; Richstone et al. 1998; Ferrarese & Ford 2005). Thus, within the hierarchical structure formation paradigm, major galaxy mergers may result in the formation of SMBH binaries (e.g., Di Matteo et al. 2005; Hopkins et al. 2006; Robertson et al. 2006; Callegari et al. 2009). The evolution of these binaries is highly dependent on the conditions of the host galaxies. Numerical experiments for spheroidal gas-poor galaxies suggest that these binaries can reach parsec separation and may stall there (e.g., Begelman et al. 1980; Milosavljević & Merritt 2001; Yu 2002).

Observations of SMBH binaries are challenging, however already few systems and several potential candidates have been observed between sub- to few hundreds of parsec separations (e.g., Sillanpaa et al. 1988; Rodriguez et al. 2006; Komossa et al. 2008; Bogdanović et al. 2009; Boroson & Lauer 2009; Dotti et al. 2009; Batcheldor et al. 2010; Deane et al. 2014; Liu et al. 2014). Furthermore, several quasar pairs (from which SMBH pairs are inferred) with kpc-scale separations have been found in merging galaxies (e.g., Komossa et al. 2003; Bianchi et al. 2008; Comerford et al. 2009; Liu et al. 2010b,a; Green et al. 2010; Smith et al. 2010; Fu et al. 2011). Here we

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focus on SMBH binaries and explore the effects of their gravitational potential on their Dark Matter (DM) halos.

Another possible configuration that we consider here is a binary consisting of a SMBH and an intermediate mass black hole (IMBH). For this configuration, a low mass galaxy merging into a more massive galaxy needs to harbor an IMBH and keep its original DM halo. This scenario was considered recently by Rashkov & Madau (2013) who showed that if seed central Black Holes (BHs) are common in the first galaxies, then relics of IMBHs should be present in the galactic bulge and halo. They showed that some of these IMBHs may retain "their own" DM sub-halos. In addition, the possibility of the existence of an IMBH in the central inner parsec of the Milky Way Galaxy has been suggested in the literature due to both observational and theoretical reasons (e.g., Hansen & Milosavljević 2003; Maillard et al. 2004; Gürkan & Rasio 2005; Gualandris & Merritt 2009; Chen & Liu 2013; Rashkov & Madau 2013). However, the existence of such an IMBH is still controversial. For example, Trippe et al. (2008) showed that the dynamics of the old stellar cluster in the Galactic Center is well described by a relaxed system with no evidence for any large-scale disturbance by an IMBH. In contrast, Merritt et al. (2009) showed that the dynamical properties of the S-star cluster are consistent with the nearby existence of an IMBH. Some constraints on the possible IMBH mass and distance from the galactic center already exists; these exclude the existence of very massive IMBHs in a very narrow band

of distances from the central SMBH (e.g. Gualandris & Merritt 2009; Chen & Liu 2013).

Here we study the outcome of SMBH gravitational perturbations on the DM particles around a less massive companion (either a SMBH or an IMBH). The SMBH can drive the DM particles to extremely high eccentric orbits until they are plunging into the BH. This may produce a torus-like configuration for the DM particle distribution around the less massive member of the BH binary.

The DM distribution in the centers of galaxies has been studied extensively in the literature. Rotation curve analyses of low-surface-brightness spiral galaxies yield low, core-like DM densities in the centers of these galaxies (e.g. Burkert 1995; Salucci & Burkert 2000; de Blok & Bosma 2002; de Blok 2005; Gentile et al. 2005). Although some effects may be missing in these interpretations, such as non-circular motions and gas pressures (e.g. Simon et al. 2005; Spekkens et al. 2005; Valenzuela et al. 2007) it is likely that such effects cannot account for significant deviations from core-like density distributions (e.g. Gentile et al. 2005). On the other hand, N-body simulations suggest the existence of a density cusp in the center (e.g., Dubinski & Carlberg (1991), Navarro et al. (1996, 1997) and see Kuhlen et al. (2012) for a review). These simulations can determine the halo density profile on scales $0.01 - 1$ of the virial radius of the halo, which is of the order of ~ 100 kpc, for a Milky Way-like galaxy. Thus, estimating the density on sub-parsec scales requires extrapolation from these results. If these extrapolations are correct, and because of the large gravitational potential well in the center, DM particle decays or annihilations may be enhanced. This can lead to a potentially detectable signature despite the uncertain effects of baryonic effects on core scales (Pontzen & Governato 2012).

Gondolo & Silk (1999) showed that in the presence of an adiabatically growing massive black hole (MBH) at the center of the Galaxy, the density profile can redistribute, forming a spike in the DM density, around the central black hole (MBH). The assumption in this study is that the MBH accretes mass via spherically-symmetric infall of gas, which would lead to an increase of the density of the matter around it (Peebles 1972; Young 1980). This may also lead to an enhanced rate of DM particle decays or annihilations[2]. It is interesting to note that stellar heating would soften any DM profile at the galactic center, to an expected $\sim r^{-3/2}$ profile as inferred for the old stars near the galactic center. However, considering, for example the case of M87, stellar dynamical heating is ineffective at the lower DM density and higher velocity dispersion in the core, hence the DM spike remains (Vasiliev & Zelnikov 2008).

In recent years, the prospect of detecting a signature of DM has captured the community's interest (e.g. Bergström et al. 1998; Ullio et al. 2001; Merritt et al. 2002; Bertone et al. 2005; Bertone & Merritt 2005; Bertone et al. 2007, 2009; Hooper & Linden 2011; Bringmann et al. 2012; Weniger 2012; Buchmüller & Garny 2012; Daylan et al. 2014). Specifically, the recent claims for the 130 GeV line-like feature (Bringmann et al. 2012) and the excess emission at $1 - 3$ GeV energies may be

interpreted as the signature of DM annihilations in the inner parts of the Galaxy (Hooper & Linden 2011; Su & Finkbeiner 2012; Finkbeiner et al. 2013; Daylan et al. 2014).

Here we examine the DM density profile in the case of BH binaries. While supermassive black hole (SMBH) binaries are an expected consequence of galaxy mergers, any intermediate black hole (IMBH) in the vicinity of the Galactic Center can also be considered as a binary, and thereby result in interesting effects. We show that secular (i.e., coherent interactions on time-scales long compared to the orbital period) effects play an important role in shaping the DM density profile. Specifically these effects may result in a torus-like configuration around the less massive binary member.

We first review the relevant secular dynamic physics for this configuration §2. We then apply this to a BH-IMBH binary in the center of our galaxy §3 and then show the effects while considering a growing MBH §3.1. We then show that long-term evolution also plays an important role for SMBH binaries §3.1. We discuss some of the implications of our results in 5.

2. LONG-TERM DYNAMICAL EVOLUTION

We consider the long-term gravitational interactions of a binary BH on the surrounding DM particles (see Figure 1 for a cartoon configuration). We study this configuration in the framework of a hierarchical (in separation) three-body system. Here, dynamical stability requires a hierarchical configuration, in which the *inner binary* - in our case the one consisting of the SMBH and the DM particle (with masses m_1 and $m_{DM} \to 0$, respectively and separation of a_{in}), see Figure 1 - is orbited by a third body, the second SMBH with mass m_2, on a much wider orbit, i.e., the *outer binary*. The outer orbit is at a separation $a_{out} \gg a_{in}$. The two orbits can be eccentric (e_{in} and e_{out}, for the inner and outer orbits, respectively), and inclined with respect to one another, defined as the angle between the two angular momenta (see grey box in Figure 1). In this case the secular approximation (i.e., phase averaged, long term evolution) can be applied, where the interactions between the two non-resonant orbits is equivalent to treating the two orbits as massive wires. Here the line-density is inversely proportional to orbital velocity and the potential is being expanded in semi-major axis ratio (which in this approximation, remain constant), a_{in}/a_{out}, (Kozai 1962; Lidov 1962). This ratio is a small parameter due to the hierarchical configuration. The lowest order of approximation, which is proportional to $(a_1/a_2)^2$ is called quadrupole level.

In early studies of hierarchical secular three-body systems (Kozai 1962; Lidov 1962), the outer orbit was set to be circular and one of the inner binary members is assumed to be a test (massless) particle. In this situation, the component of the inner orbit's angular momentum along the total angular momentum is conserved, and the lowest order of the approximation, (i.e., the quadrupole approximation), is valid. Kozai (1962) and Lidov (1962) found that for initial large mutual inclinations between the inner and outer orbit ($40° \lesssim i \lesssim 140°$, see grey box in Figure 1) and initial small inner orbit eccentricity, the inner orbit's eccentricity and inclination can have large amplitude oscillations.
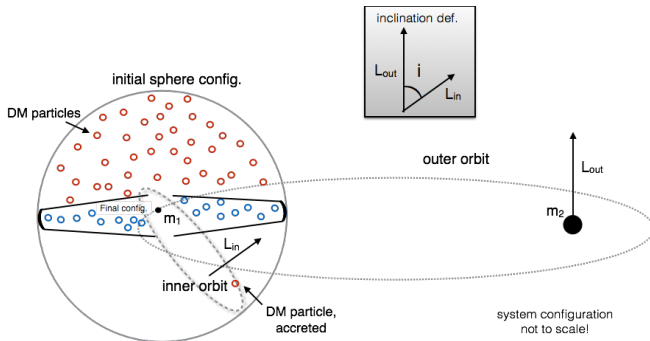
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[2] Note that the old stellar density profile would respond similarly to the DM profile.

Figure 1. Cartoon description of the configuration considered here. Each black hole starts with a sphere of DM particles (the sphere around m_2 not shown in the figure). The particles in a near-polar orbit with respect to the BH binary orbit, will undergo large eccentricity and inclination oscillations. The grey box shows the definition of the inclination i, where $\cos i = \mathbf{L}_{tot} \cdot \mathbf{L}_{in}$

Recently, Naoz et al. (2011a, 2013a) showed that considering systems beyond the test particle approximation, or circular orbits, requires the next level of approximation for a correct representation of the physics, called the octupole–level, which is proportional to $(a_1/a_2)^3$. In this case, the angular momenta component of the inner and outer orbits along the total angular momentum is not conserved. In the octupole level of approximation, the inner orbit eccentricity can reach very high values (Ford et al. 2000; Naoz et al. 2013a; Li et al. 2014b,a; Teyssandier et al. 2013). Furthermore, the inner orbit inclination can flip its orientation from prograde, with respect to the total angular momentum, to retrograde (Naoz et al. 2011a, 2013a). We refer to this process as the *eccentric Kozai–Lidov* (EKL) mechanism.

It has been shown that the Kozai-Lidov mechanism (and specifically the EKL) has important implications in different astrophysical settings, such as triple stars (e.g., Harrington 1969; Mazeh & Shaham 1979; Kiseleva et al. 1998; Fabrycky & Tremaine 2007; Perets & Fabrycky 2009; Thompson 2010; Naoz et al. 2013a; Prodan & Murray 2012; Shappee & Thompson 2013; Prodan et al. 2013; Naoz & Fabrycky 2014) and extrasolar planetary systems with an additional distant companion (e.g., Holman et al. 1997; Fabrycky & Tremaine 2007; Wu et al. 2007; Takeda et al. 2008; Naoz et al. 2011a, 2012; Li et al. 2014b; Teyssandier et al. 2013; Petrovich 2014). In addition, the Kozai-Lidov mechanism has been suggested as playing an important role in both the growth of black holes (BHs) at the centers of dense stellar clusters and the formation of short-period binary BHs (Blaes et al. 2002; Miller & Hamilton 2002; Wen 2003). Furthermore, Ivanova et al. (2010) suggested that the most important formation channels for BH X-ray binaries in globular clusters may be triple-induced mass transfer in a BH-white dwarf binary.

We solve the octupole–level approximation of the hierarchical three-body problem (see Ford et al. 2000; Naoz et al. 2013a), including the 1st post-Newtonian general relativity effects (see Naoz et al. 2013b). We restrict ourselves to the test particle approximation since the DM particle mass is negligible. The relevant octupole level of approximation equations and further discussion of this approximation can be found in Lithwick & Naoz (2011), and (see also Katz et al. 2011; Li et al. 2014a).

The contribution of the different physical processes

that affect the evolution of the system can be estimated by considering the time-scales of the precessions by the different mechanisms. The time-scale associated with the precession of the inner orbit due to the quadrupole term can be estimated from the canonical equations of motion (e.g. Naoz et al. 2013b), for a test particle

$$t_{\text{quad}} \sim \frac{2\pi a_{out}^3 (1 - e_{out}^2)^{3/2} \sqrt{m_1}}{a_{in}^{3/2} m_2 \sqrt{G}} \ , \qquad (1)$$

where G is the gravitational constant. The time-scale associated with the octupole term is more difficult to estimate due to its chaotic behavior, however, following Naoz et al. (2013b) we give a rough estimate, for the regular part of the evolution in the form of (e.g. Lithwick & Naoz 2011)

$$t_{\text{oct}} \sim \frac{4}{15} \frac{1}{\epsilon} t_{\text{quad}} \ , \qquad (2)$$

for a given inner and outer eccentricity,

$$\epsilon = \frac{a_{in}}{a_{out}} \frac{e_{out}}{1 - e_{out}^2} \ . \qquad (3)$$

The ϵ parameter in Equation (3) is the pre-factor before the octupole level of approximation of the Hamiltonian (e.g., Naoz et al. 2013a; Lithwick & Naoz 2011) furthermore it also can be used as a stability condition (we discusses the stability of the system more below). Note that the more general octupole time-scale depends not only on e_{in} but also on the mutual inclination (e.g. Li et al. 2014b; Teyssandier et al. 2013). However, the octupole time-scale in equation (2) provides a sufficient limiting criterion for the regular high inclination behavior (Naoz et al. 2013b). The octupole level time-scale gives the relevant time-scale to reach extremely large eccentricities. To accrete a DM particle onto a BH, the DM orbit needs to reach an eccentricity of almost unity, and thus the octupole level of approximation plays an important role.

The DM particle orbit around a BH will also process due to general relativity effects. The time-scale of this effect can be estimated as (e.g., Naoz et al. 2013b) :

$$t_{GR} \sim 2\pi \frac{a_{in}^{5/2} c^2 (1 - e_{in}^2)}{G^{3/2} (m_1)^{3/2}} \ , \qquad (4)$$

where c is the speed of light. This precession is taking place in the opposite direction from that which is dictated by the EKL mechanism. Therefore, if the GR precession time-scale is shorter than t_{quad}, eccentricity excitations may be suppressed. However when the two time-scales are similar, the eccentricity may be excited to large values in a resonance-like behavior (Naoz et al. 2013b). Furthermore, as pointed out by Antognini et al. (2013) these systems and packed systems may result in even larger eccentricity excitations due to GR effects (see also Will 2013). We show these time-scales (Equations (1), (2) and (4)) in the bottom panel of Figure 2 as a function of the outer orbit separation a_{out}, for $m_2/m_1 = 400$, $e_2 = 0.7$.

The inner orbit will also precess due to the enclosed mass inside the DM particle orbit, the larger the mass the faster the precession (e.g. Tremaine 2005). Similarly to the GR precession, this precession takes place in the opposite direction from the EKL and thus may suppress
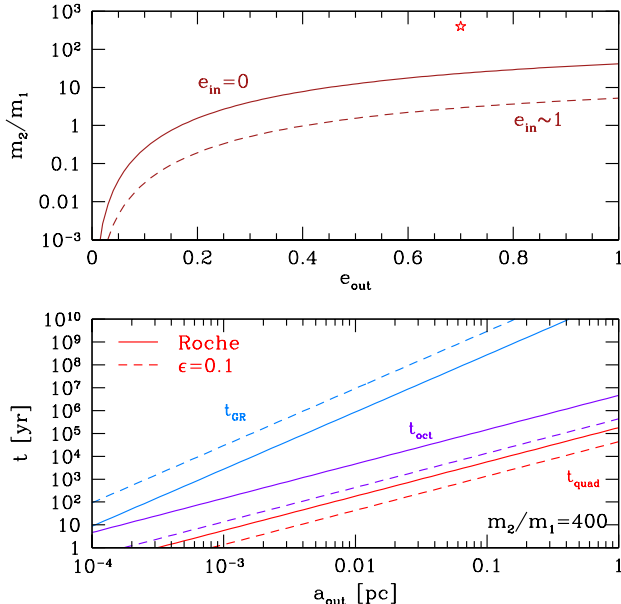
Figure 2. Stability requirements for a hierarchal system and the dynamical time-scales that affect DM particles. **Top panel:** The stability requirements derived from equation (6) as a function of the binary BH eccentricity (e_{out}), for zero inner orbit eccentricity (solid line) and large eccentricity $e_{in} \to 1$ (dashed line). During the evolution, the inner eccentricity oscillates and can reach extremely large values. Thus the dashed line gives the lower stability limit. The red star marks the location of $m_2/m_1 = 400$ and $e_{out} = 0.7$, which are the parameters assumed for the bottom panel. **Bottom panel,** shows the relevant time-scales of the evolution as a function of the outer orbit separation a_{out}, for a system with $m_2/m_1 = 400$ and $e_{out} = 0.7$. We consider the quadrupole time-scale, Eq. (1), the octuple time-scale, Eq. (2) and the inner orbit GR precession time scale Eq. (4), red, purple and blue lines, respectively. For each of these time-scales, we choose two possible inner orbit separations. The first (dashed lines) satisfy the requirement of $\epsilon = 0.1$, while the second (solid line) is the Roche limit [Eq. (5)], for zero inner orbit eccentricity.

eccentricity excitations. It is hard to estimate the mass inside the sphere of influence of a black hole. Estimates from simulations are difficult due to the different dynamical scales (e.g., Rashkov & Madau 2013). Therefore, we extrapolate a core density (i.e., constant density) to the innermost radii from the upper limits mentioned in Merritt (2010). The choice of a core (rather than cusp) distribution is supported by the Quinlan & Hernquist (1997) study that showed that BH binary systems may result in a core distribution of both the DM and stars. Below, we consider a configuration of DM particles around 10^4 $M_\odot$ BH (see Figures 3 - 7). For this configuration and relevant scales (see below), we adopt a density of 1 $M_\odot$ pc^{-3} from Merritt (2010), as an upper limit and we find that the Newtonian time-scales are irrelevant for these configurations (larger than Hubble time). We therefore omit this time-scale from Figure 2. We discuss this physical effect below for the different configurations.

With the time-scales specified above, we now analyze the parameter space. This will yield the configurations that are most likely to be affected by the EKL mechanism. The first condition is hierarchy in separations, where, as mentioned, the ϵ parameter in Equation (3) can be used to determine hierarchy. A system is considered hierarchical as long as $\epsilon < 0.1$, where systems above

this value are more likely to become unstable (e.g., Lithwick & Naoz 2011). For a given mass ratio and e_{out} we find the maximal separation ratio a_{in}/a_{out} that a stable system has. In Figure 2 bottom panel, we show the relevant time scales of this maximal separation (dashed curves).

During the BH binary orbit, DM particles around one of the binary members may be tidally attracted to the other member. The radius at which this happens, also known as the Roche limit, is estimated as:

$$a_{in}(1 + e_{in}) \sim a_{out}(1 - e_{out})\left(\frac{m_1}{m_2}\right)^{1/3} . \quad (5)$$

DM particles around m_1 with larger separations will feel a larger gravitational force from m_2. From this equation and equation (3), we can find the mass ratio that will result in a stable configuration as a function of the BH binary mass ratio, i.e.,

$$\frac{m_2}{m_1} = \frac{1}{3}\left(\frac{e_{out}}{\epsilon(1 + e_{in})(1 - e_{out})}\right)^3 . \quad (6)$$

Setting the stability requirements of $\epsilon = 0.1$, gives a lower limit for the mass relation. We show this relation in the top panel of figure 2. This means that the EKL mechanism may have a significant effect for eccentric BH binaries where the perturber has the larger mass. Therefore, in the configurations considered below, we choose $m_2 > m_1$ and we focus on the DM particle distribution around m_1. For example, in the cartoon in Figure 1 $m_2 > m_1$. Note that since the octupole level of approximation cancels out for $e_{out} \to 0$, (Naoz et al. 2013a), we limit ourselves to eccentric binaries.

The bottom panel of Figure 2 shows the relevant time-scales as a function of the outer orbit semi-major axis (a_{out}) for a specific mass relation, i.e., $m_2/m_1 = 400$, and $e_{out} = 0.7$. There are two extreme cases of the inner orbit separation (a_{in}) depicted in this figure. The first is the one that obeys $\epsilon = 0.1$ and the second is the one for which equation (5) is satisfy. As can be seen in the bottom panel of Figure 2, BH binaries at separations $\lesssim 1$ pc and $\gtrsim 10^{-4}$ may result in excitation of the inner binary eccentricity to unity during the lifetime of the system. Below we explore several examples of the relevant configurations.

3. DM PARTICLES AROUND IMBH

We assume an IMBH of 10^4 $M_\odot$, around the central MBH (4×10^6 $M_\odot$) with an eccentricity of $e_{out} = 0.7$. The arguments of pericenter and longitude of ascending nodes were chosen from a uniform distribution. We choose an isotropic distribution for the DM particle inclinations and a uniform distribution for their eccentricity. We explore two examples; in the first one the IMBH is located in the stellar disk at the center of the Galaxy, i.e., $a_{in} = 0.03$ pc (see Figure 3), and in the second example, the outer binary separation is 1 pc (see Figure 5). We chose these values as two representative examples, they are independent of any evidence that IMBH may or may not exists at these distances. We speculate that there is a core density distribution of DM particles around the IMBH. This speculation is supported by the Quinlan & Hernquist (1997) study of BH binary systems, that suggested a core distribution of both the DM and stars may
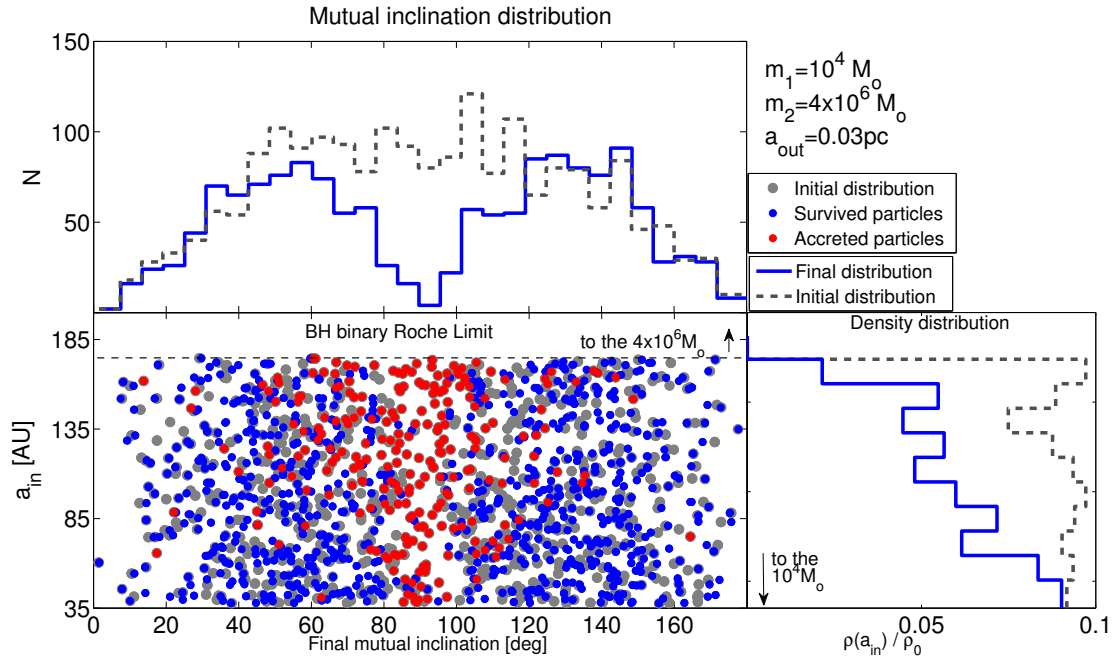
Figure 3. The final DM particles distribution around the IMBH after 10^8 yr of evolution. We consider a IMBH with 10^4 M$_\odot$ at 0.03 pc from the central 4×10^6 M$_\odot$ MBH. *The top panel* shows the initial isotropic distribution (grey dashed line) and the final inclination distribution (blue solid line). *The bottom left panel* shows the DM particle separations (a_{in}, in AU since the particles are very close to the IMBH) vs. the mutual inclination. We show the initial distribution of the particles (light large grey dots), on top of them we mark in red those configurations that resulted in pericenters smaller than r_c. We also overplot here the final mutual inclination of the particles that survived (blue dots). The dashed line shows the Roche-limit separation for circular orbits [Eq. 5] . *The bottom right panel* shows the DM particles distribution normalized to have an integral of unity. We consider the initial distribution (grey dashed line), and the final DM distribution of the particles that survived (blue solid line). The plot shows the result of 1974 runs.

be a result of dynamical interactions of these binary systems. The upper limit inner orbit separation was chosen to be inside the Roche limit [Eq. (5)], where, as implied from Figure 2, the orbit is always stable (i.e., $\epsilon < 0.1$). The two cases yield a similar maximal $\epsilon \sim 0.038$. For practical reasons, we also choose a lower limit for a_{in} to be the separation at which the GR time-scale is equal to the quadrupole time scale (i.e., $t_{quad} \sim t_{GR}$), since below this limit, eccentricity excitations are suppressed (e.g., Fabrycky & Tremaine 2007; Naoz et al. 2013b). Guided by the bottom panel of Figure 2, we integrate the systems for 10^8 yrs for the $a_{out} = 0.03$ pc and for 10^9 yrs for the $a_{out} = 1$ pc. We stop the integration when a particle reaches a pericenter of $r_c = 4m_1 G/c^2$. This value is somewhat arbitrary and was chosen to be consistent with Gondolo & Silk (1999). For 10^4 M$_\odot$ IMBH this value is 3.95×10^{-4} AU ($= 1.92 \times 10^{-9}$ pc).

Stars in the bulge are expected to scatter the DM particles (e.g., Vasiliev & Zelnikov 2008), as well as produce an additional source for the Newtonian precession. However, if the IMBH is the relic of the first galaxies and halos in the early Universe, their baryon fraction and thus the number of stars may be low (e.g. Naoz et al. 2011b; Peirani et al. 2012; Naoz et al. 2013c). Thus, scattering, or heating of DM particles due to stars is negligible in this case. We note that for the configurations considered here, the Newtonian precession becomes comparable to the EKL timescales only if the IMBH retains a very large DM density of about 10^9 M$_\odot$ pc^{-3} close to the IMBH ($\lesssim 200$ AU). As these densities are unlikely, we can safely ignore the contribution of the Newtonian

precession in our calculations below.

In Figure 3 we consider the $a_{out} = 0.03$ pc case after 10^8 yr of evolution. As depicted in this figure, the DM particles around the IMBH are redistributed due to the EKL mechanism with a conical void almost perpendicular to the binary MBH-IMBH orbit, and peaks around $\sim 40°$ and $\sim 140°$ (known as the Kozai angles). These angles are associated with the quadrupole level separatrix (e.g. Morbidelli & Henrard 1991; Lithwick & Naoz 2011; Li et al. 2014a). In the top panel of this figure, we show the initial inclination distribution of all DM particles (set to be isotropic, i.e,. uniform in $\cos i$), and the final distribution of the particles that survived, where the two peak distribution yields a torus-like configuration. The particles in the near polar configuration have crossed the r_c limit and we assumed they were accreted onto the IMBH. About 21% of all runs in that configuration had a pericenter smaller than the r_c limit .

In the bottom left panel of figure 3, we show the initial separations of the DM particles (a_{in}, which remain constant in the secular approximation) and the inclinations of DM particles (grey dots). We mark in red those configurations that crossed the r_c limit (those particles, assumably accreted by the IMBH, and thus they do not reach a final stable configuration). We also over-plot the final configuration of the particles that survived (blue dots). The resulted distribution as a function of the DM separation from the IMBH is shown in the right bottom panel. We consider the initial distribution (chosen to be uniform), and the final distribution of the survived particles.
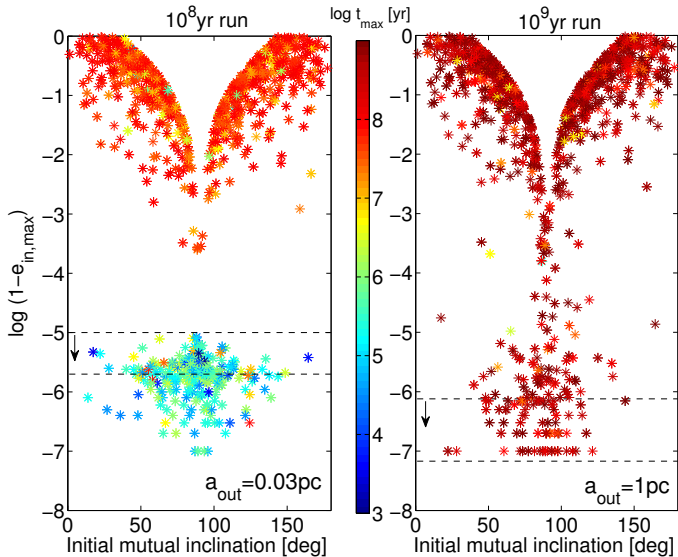
Figure 4. The maximum eccentricity (presented as $1 - e_{in}$) reached during the evolution as a function of the initial inclination. We consider a IMBH with 10^4 M$_\odot$ at 0.03 pc *left panel* and 1 pc *right panel* from the central 4×10^6 M$_\odot$ MBH. The different colors indicate the time in years that the maximal value was recorded. Note that about 1% of the runs (in both cases) reached $e_{max} = 1$ and are not seen in this Figure. These systems represent about 80% from all the systems that crossed the r_c limit in the $a_{out} = 1$ pc case. The horizontal lines are the maximum eccentricities (minimum $1 - e_{in}$) the DM particles need to achieve to cross the r_c, for the upper and lower limit of the DM initial sphere. For the $a_{out} = 0.03$ pc case (left panel) these are 2×10^{-6} and 10^{-5}, respectively. While for the $a_{out} = 1$ pc case (right panel) these are 6.8×10^{-8} and 7.6×10^{-7}. Integration was stopped when $1 - e_{in}$ reached the r_c value. See Figures 3 and 5 for the corresponding separation and final mutual inclination distributions.

Closer to the IMBH, particles need to be excited to somewhat less eccentric orbits ($1 - e_{in} \sim 10^{-5}$ at our lower limit, compared to the 2×10^{-6} from the edges of the Roche sphere). However, most of the particles that were accreted by the IMBH arrived from larger distances (as depicted in Figure 3 bottom panels). This is because these configurations have larger ϵ, where the EKL mechanism is more effective. Li et al. (2014a,b) showed that this eccentricity range is easy to achieve in the test particle approximation if the EKL mechanism is efficient. Most of the particles that were accreted, reached their high eccentricities in less than $\sim 3 \times 10^5$ yrs of evolution[3], as depicted in Figure 4. Overall after 10^8 yrs, this mechanism yields a torus-like configuration with a diluted DM density further away from the IMBH.

In Figure 5, we consider the case of an IMBH-MBH binary separated at 1 pc. We integrate this configuration up to 1 Gyr, (see Figure 2, for the reason for the different integration time). Here (Figure 5, bottom panel) we show the pericenter value (which will better clarify the underlying behavior for this example than the just the separation) as a function of the mutual inclination. Note that in this case parsec units are more
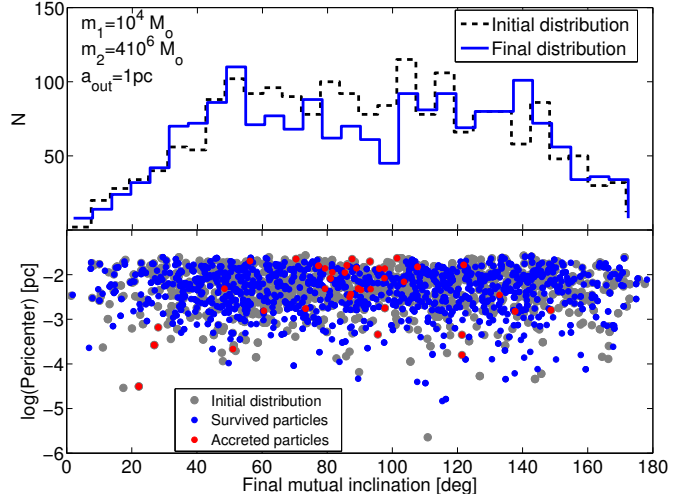
Figure 5. The final DM particles distribution around the IMBH after 10^9 yr of evolution. We consider a IMBH with 10^4 M$_\odot$ at 1 pc from the central 4×10^6 M$_\odot$ MBH. *The top panel* shows the initial isotropic distribution (grey dashed line) and the final inclination distribution (blue solid line). *Bottom panel* shows the final pericenter (in pc) as a function of the final inclination (blue dots); we also show the initial pericenter distribution as a function of the *initial* inclination in blue, and we marked in red those configuration that resulted in pericenters smaller than r_c. The plot shows the result of 1975 runs.

suitable than AU. In this configuration, the inner DM orbits that would be effected from the EKL mechanism (i.e., those for which $t_{quad} > t_{GR}$) are more than an order of magnitude further away from the $a_{out} = 0.03$ pc case (~ 520 AU, compared to the ~ 37 AU, respectively). Furthermore, the Roche limit is also further away from the IMBH (~ 5820 AU, compared to the ~ 177 AU in the $a_{out} = 0.03$ pc case). Therefore, the eccentricity that DM particles need to achieve in order to cross the r_c limit is much higher, and ranges between $1 - e_{in} \sim 7.6 \times 10^{-7} - 6.8 \times 10^{-8}$.

Closer to the Roche limit, where ϵ is closer to its maximal value, and the EKL mechanism is most efficient, the eccentricity that the needs to be reached for a particle to be accreted is extremely large and thus overall this mechanism is less effective in accreting particles onto IMBH, with only $\sim 4\%$ of the particles being accreted. Increasing the integration time by a factor of ~ 10 will allow the system to explore larger parts of the parameter space and potentially slightly increase the maximal eccentricity (and thus the fraction of accreted particles will slightly increase). Note that the test particle EKL is well characterized by two parameters; ϵ and the system energy, (e.g. Lithwick & Naoz 2011), and the energy of the system is determined by the initial values of e_{in}, e_{out}, i and the argument of periapsis, which were chosen from the same distribution for the two cases. Therefore, the $a_{out} = 0.03$ pc represents a rescaled version of the $a_{out} = 1$ pc case. Thus, since the former did not produce large numbers of systems with eccentricity exceeding $1 - e_{in} < 10^{-7}$, (see Figure 4, where only about 1% of all runs have reached $e_{in,max} = 1$ and are not depicted in this figure), we do not expect that increasing the integration time for the $a_{out} = 1$ pc, will significantly

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[3] Note that this time-scale does not directly relates to the flip time-scale (roughly estimated from the octupole time-scale) since we require extremely large eccentricities values

produce more accreted particles.

The inclination distribution in this case, shows less deviation from an isotropic distribution, simply because the near-polar configuration is not significantly depleted. These configurations are a natural consequence of the EKL mechanism, as shown for example in Teyssandier et al. (2013), Figure 15 (top left panel) for $e_{out} = 0.7$. The two-peak inclination distribution between the Kozai angles in the $a_{out} = 0.03$ pc is a result of the depletion of the near-polar configurations.

The extremely large eccentricities of the DM particles imply that in some cases the double average approximation used here breaks down, where the angular momentum of the DM particle changes on timescale similar to its orbit timescale (Katz & Dong 2012; Antognini et al. 2013; Antonini et al. 2014; Bode & Wegg 2014). This does not change our result of a torus-like final configuration, it simply means that those systems are poorly described by our approximation and their eccentricity may become even larger during the orbital evolution (e.g., Antognini et al. 2013; Antonini et al. 2014).

Note that a possible caveat to this calculation is the assumption that the IMBH eccentricity remains constant throughout the evolution. However, as shown in Madigan & Levin (2012) the evolution of an IMBH's eccentricity in the Galactic Center can be secular in nature. They showed that interactions with the stellar environment can cause either circularization or even excite the IMBH's eccentricity. This highly depends on the number of stars inside the IMBH orbit and the initial orientation of the IMBH orbit compared to the other stars. If the IMBH orbit will be circularized, ϵ will be reduced and thus the above effect will be suppressed.

3.1. Adiabatic growth of MBH

Gondolo & Silk (1999) considered the effect of a growing MBH on the DM distribution around the MBH. They showed that this growth will result in an enhancement of the DM density close to the MBH. Here we also consider the effects of the growing *massive* black hole on the DM distribution around the IMBH. We consider a Salpeter MBH growth with the following relation:

$$M_{BH}(t) = M_{MB,0}(e^{t/t_{ST}}) , \qquad (7)$$

where $M_{MB,0}$ is the initial black hole mass, and $t_{ST} = 5 \times 10^7$ yr is the typical growth time. Note that we do not expect the IMBH to grow significantly in mass since its surrounding is most likely deprived of gas.

The MBH growth will shrink the binary BH separation and thus results in increasing ϵ. The latter may produce eccentricity excitations for larger parts of the parameter space. As shown in the example in Figure 6, low amplitude eccentricity and inclination oscillations (at the beginning of the evolution) can be excited to larger values as the outer orbit a_{out} shrinks and ϵ rises. As shown in this figure, the large eccentricity drives the pericenter of the DM particle beyond the r_c limit.

The growth of the perturber mass enables larger parts of the parameter space to be affected by the EKL mechanism, as depicted in Figure 7. We show this behavior by running Monte-Carlo simulations, for an IMBH-MBH binary (10^4 - 10^6 M$_\odot$, respectively) set initially at 0.03 pc, other initial conditions are identical to those in Figure 3.
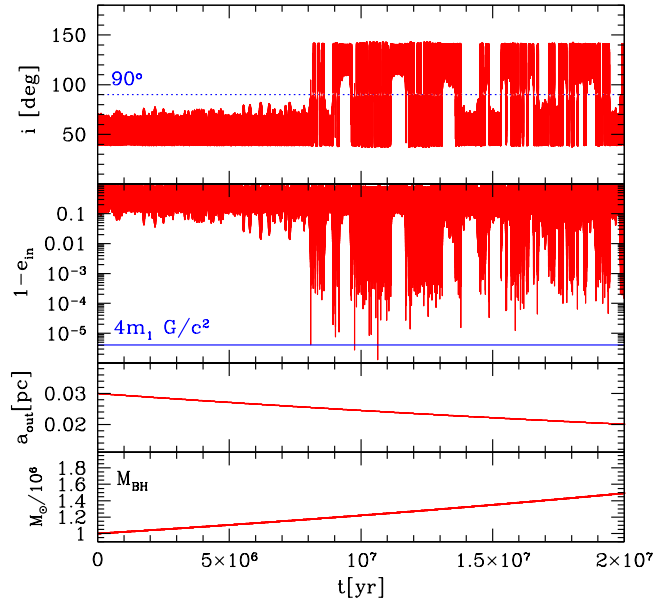

Figure 6. An example of the effect of adiabatic growth of the MBH on the dynamics of the DM particles as a function of time, taken from one of the Monte-Carlo runs shown in Figure 7. We consider from top to bottom the orbit mutual inclination, the inner orbit eccentricity (showed as $1 - e$) the outer orbit separation, a_{out} and the perturbed mass. The system initial conditions are a 10^4 M$_\odot$ IMBH with a DM particle at 97.9 AU. The IMBH is located 0.03 pc from a MBH set initially on 10^6 M$_\odot$. The mass of the MBH grows according to Equation (7). The other parameters considered for the system are: $e_{out} = 0.7$, $e_{in} = 0.005$, $i = 66.8°$ and the argument of periapsis of the inner and outer orbits were initially set to be $90.13°$ and $155.09°$ respectively. For the given inner orbit separation, we also show the corresponding eccentricity to the r_c limit. For the purposes of this figure, we have continued the evolution beyond this limit.

Figure 7 shows the result after the MBH grows by about a factor 2, where about 56% of all DM particles reached the $4m_1G/c^2$ limit. The DM particles around the IMBH formed a very diluted disk. It has similar features to the torus formed around the IMBH in the static MBH case, but here the torus is confined to smaller angles, with a significant reduction of the DM density (see right panel in Figure 7).

4. DM PARTICLES AROUND SMBH

The behavior described here is not limited to MBH-IMBH binaries. As depicted in Figure 2, the mechanism depends on the mass ratio and the semi-major axes ratio of the two orbits, as well as the eccentricity of the outer orbit. We therefore expand our study to the effects of the EKL mechanism on DM particles distribution in the case of Supermassive Black Hole (SMBH) binaries. As mentioned above, these type of binaries are an expected result of major galaxy mergers, and their formation has been studied extensively using hydrodynamic simulations (e.g., Di Matteo et al. 2005; Hopkins et al. 2006; Robertson et al. 2006; Callegari et al. 2009). Assuming that during a galaxy merger a SMBH binary is formed with a large mass ratio, we study the effect of the EKL mechanism on the DM particle distribution around the less massive SMBH (see Figure 2).

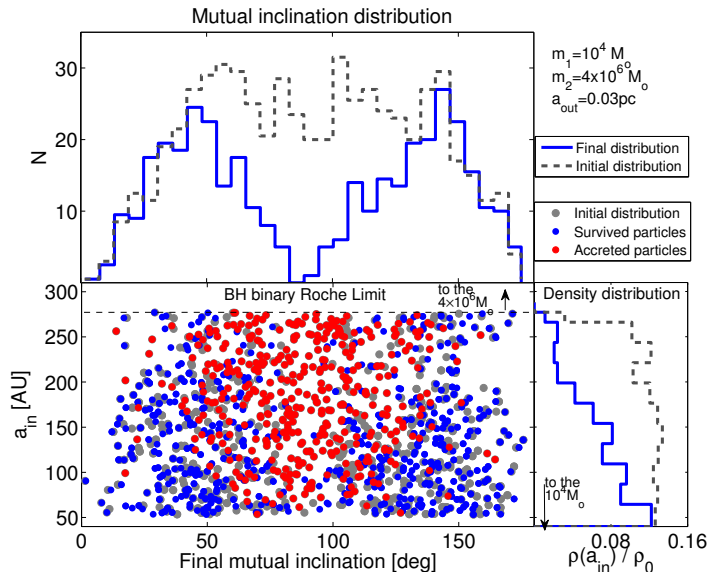The probability of forming a SMBH binary with a large mass ratio is hard to estimate. It depends on the dynami-

Figure 7. The final DM particles distribution around IMBH with a growing MBH. Results are shown after the MBH grows by a factor of ∼ 2. Same line and color convention as figure 3, $a_{out} = 0.03$ pc, with MBH set initially to 10^6 M$_\odot$. The plot shows the result of 1195 runs.
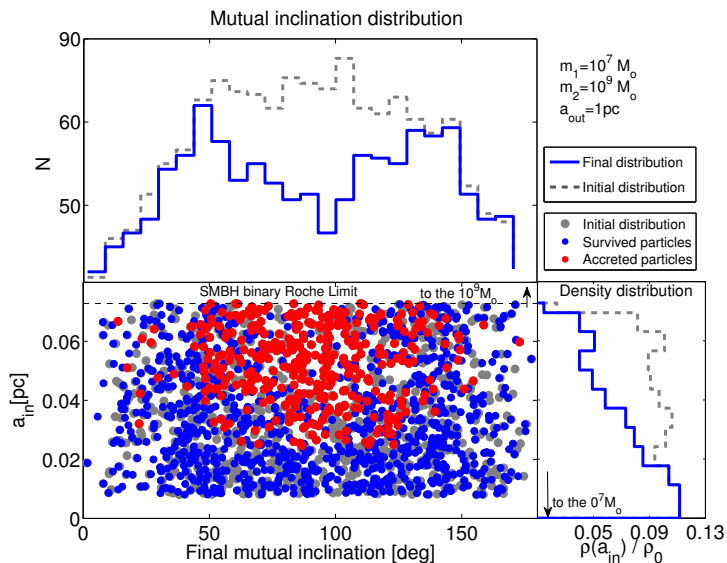

Figure 8. The final DM particles distribution around SMBH after 1Gyr of evolution. We consider $m_1 = 10^7$ M$_\odot$ at 1 pc from the $m_2 = 10^9$ M$_\odot$. Same line and color convention as Figure 3. The plot shows the result of 1500 runs.

cal friction time-scale, and thus the mass ratio of the host galaxy will play an important role. Khan et al. (2012) studied the formation of BH binaries through galaxy minor mergers and concluded that such systems on a tight orbit are possible. They have looked at a mass ratio of 1 : 10 and found relatively efficient SMBH inspiral. Here we have extrapolated their results to 1 : 100 ratio. However, the probability of forming such systems still needs

to be quantified. Furthermore, gravitational wave emission can cause black holes to recoil at escape speeds and wander around the halo of a galaxy after the BHs merger (e.g., Merritt et al. 2004; Campanelli et al. 2007; Blecha & Loeb 2008). Thus they may not be present at the center of galaxies to form SMBH binaries in subsequent mergers. However this is more significant for small mass ratio SMBH binaries (e.g., Lousto et al. 2012).

In Figure 8 we show the result of the final distribution of DM particles around a 10^7 M$_\odot$ SMBH in a binary configuration with 10^9 M$_\odot$ SMB, with $a_{out} = 1$ pc and $e_{out} = 0.7$, after 1 Gyr of integration time. In this example no growth of the BH mass was assumed. In this configuration the DM particle density was also chosen from a core distribution, i.e., uniform in separation as expected for SMBH binaries in elliptical galaxies (e.g., Quinlan & Hernquist 1997)[4]. The arguments of the pericenters and longitudes of ascending nodes were chosen from a uniform distribution. We choose an isotropic distribution for the DM particles inclinations and a uniform distribution for their eccentricity. Similarly to the examples showed in §3, the upper limit inner orbit separation was chosen to be inside the Roche limit, which implies $\epsilon < 0.09$. We note that the Newtonian precession is comparable to t_{oct} for densities of about 10^7 M pc^{-3} in the inner parts ($\lesssim 0.08$ pc) of the 10^7 M$_\odot$ BH.

About 29% of all DM particles have accreted onto the SMBH due to the EKL mechanism. DM particles with $\epsilon < 0.034$ (corresponding to $a_{in} < 0.025$ pc) did not accrete onto the SMBH (see figure 8 bottom panels). Therefore an incomplete torus was formed. However, particles with extremely small pericenters could mostly survive in low inclination orbit configurations. Of course similarly to the example shown in section 3.1, growth of the BHs as a function of time can allow larger parts of the parameter space to be affected by the EKL mechanism.

Note that stars in a bulge mass of ∼ 10^7 M$_\odot$ can scatter the DM particles (Vasiliev & Zelnikov 2008). We assume a uniform eccentricity distribution, which may account for this effect. However if the scattering takes place on much shorter time-scales then the secular timescale, it can change the DM particle separations and thus our secular approximation may not be valid.

5. DISCUSSION

We have studied the dynamical evolution of DM particles around BH binaries. In this hierarchical configuration, a DM particle and the BH are considered as an inner binary. The companion BH, on a much wider orbit, causes gravitational perturbations on the inner binary. We showed that this secular evolution (and specifically the *eccentric Kozai–Lidov* (EKL) mechanism) plays an important role in redistributing the DM particles around the *less* massive member of the BH binary. The EKL mechanism can drive the DM particles that are initially in a near-polar configuration to very large eccentricities that may result in their accretion onto the BH. Depletion near the polar axis yields a torus-like configuration.

[4] We note however that a torus is formed independently of the initial DM distribution around the BH. Thus, even if these galaxies had a cusp-like DM distribution initially (as suggested by, e.g., Lauer et al. 1995, 2007), the result of a final torus-like configuration is preserved.

We showed that due to stability and time-scale requirements, DM particles around the less massive BH binary member will be affected more from the EKL mechanism (see Figure 2). We considered two main representative examples; an IMBH-MBH binary and a SMBH binary. For the MBH-IMBH binary we assume an IMBH in the vicinity of the galactic center and we explore two scenarios: $a_{out} = 0.03$ pc and $a_{out} = 1$ pc depicted in Figures 3 and 5.

DM particles will accrete onto the IMBH if the pericenter distance can reach extremely large values, which we chose to be $r_c = 4m_1 G/c^2$, following Gondolo & Silk (1999). For an IMBH with 10^4 M$_\odot$, this limit is $r_c = 3.95 \times 10^{-4}$ AU ($= 1.92 \times 10^{-9}$ pc) which corresponds to extremely high eccentricities. In the $a_{out} = 0.03$ pc example this eccentricity ranges from $1 - e_{in} \sim 2 \times 10^{-6}$ to 10^{-5}. This range corresponds to the DM separation distribution around the IMBH, with an upper limit satisfied by the IMBH Roche limit [Eq. 5], and a lower limit for which $t_{quad} \sim t_{GR}$, respectively. For the $a_{out} = 1$ pc example, the eccentricity that DM particles need to reach to cross the r_c limit ranges between $1 - e_{in} \sim 6.8 \times 10^{-8}$ to 7.6×10^{-7}, respectively. The EKL mechanism is very efficient in producing large eccentricities associated with the flip of the orbit (e.g. Naoz et al. 2011a), but the eccentricity does not necessarily reach unity (e.g., Li et al. 2014b). Furthermore, configurations that reach eccentricities with $1 - e_{in} < 10^{-7}$ are harder to achieve (see for detailed analysis in the test particle approximation Li et al. (2014a)). These differences are depicted in Figure 4, which explains why the $a_{out} = 0.03$ pc example shows a larger effect due to the EKL mechanism. Most of the near-polar configurations reached large eccentricities (which represent about 21% of all the runs) on a typical time-scale of 0.3 Myr. The final DM inclination distribution deviates from spherical symmetry and produces a double peak distribution with preference at 40° and 140° (Figures 3, top panel). This yields a torus-like configuration with a diluted DM density further away from the IMBH (as depicted in the cartoon in Figure 1).

We also considered the effect of an adiabatic growth of the MBH (the perturber in our case) on the DM distribution around the IMBH located at $a_{out} = 0.03$ pc from the MBH (Figures 6 and 7). A growing MBH shrinks the separation between the IMBH and MBH, and thus increases the efficiency of the EKL mechanism, as it can tap into larger parts of the parameter space. This has resulted in $\sim 56\%$ accreted particles, and a much thiner torus (see Figure 7).

We suggest that these results may be relevant to indirect DM signatures. If the IMBH is spinning, than these particles arriving into the ergosphere will have an enhanced chance to interact and self-annihilate, with debris emission possibly boosted by the Penrose effect (Bañados et al. 2011; Zaslavskii 2012).

Note that the initial DM distribution around the IMBH does not affect the formation of a torus. It may be significant for studies of the distribution of the DM particles inside the torus or the flux at which DM particles arrive at the IMBH. Therefore, although we have assumed a core distribution around the IMBHs, the result can be easily generalized to other DM distributions.

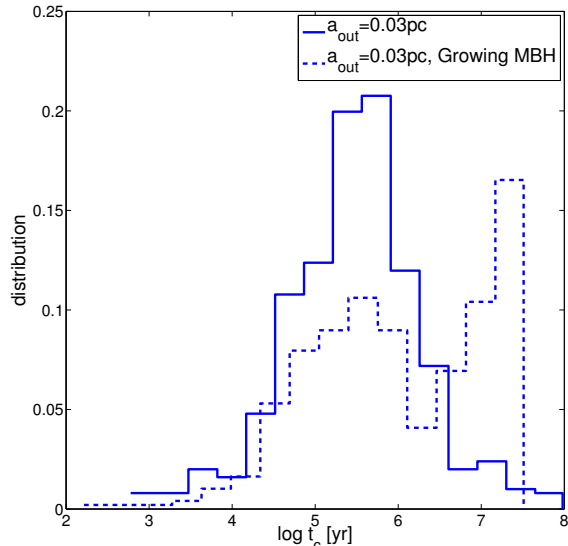In Figure 9 we show the time distribution of cross-

Figure 9. **The time distribution of accreted DM particles**. We consider the IMBH-MBH example setting $a_{out} = 0.03$, without (solid line) and with (dashed line) growing MBH. The distribution is normalized such that the integral of the distribution is unity.

ing r_c for the $a_{out} = 0.03$ pc case, with and without an adiabatically growing MBH. When the MBH does not grow in mass, the EKL mechanism works efficiently in the first few to ten 10^5 yrs (as apparent by the same shape distribution of the two cases). The MBH grows on a Salpeter growth time scale, and already when the MBH grows to about 10% from its original value, ϵ increases as well in about the same amount (and continued to increase). This is enough to re-trigger the EKL mechanism for larger parts of the parameter space (as depicted in Figure 9). Interestingly, the recent interpretations of (Daylan et al. 2014) of the gamma ray signal from the galactic center as an evidence for annihilating DM, located at about 1° on the sky, may also arise due to the presence of dark matter annihilations enhanced around IMBHs close to the central SMBH (see also Finkbeiner & Weiner 2014).

We have also expanded our study and applied this mechanism to SMBH binaries, again focusing on the DM distribution around the less massive member (see Figure 8). We considered a 10^7 M$_\odot$-10^9 M$_\odot$ binary separated at 1 pc and showed that the near-polar outer parts of the DM sphere around the 10^7 M$_\odot$ SMBH will be depleted, yielding a torus-like configuration which is diluted further away from the SMBH. Similarly to the MBH-IMBH DM annihilations arguments, if the SMBH spins, we would expect the DM particles to linger on the ergosphere allowing for the possible occurrence of enhanced and energetic (in centre-of-mass) self annihilation processes.

Finally we note that torus-like configurations of dark matter around a SMBH or an IMBH may be a optional source for gravitational wave signals (Eda et al. 2013)[5]

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[5] Note that Eda et al. (2013) proposed the existence of a spike around the IMBH, while we have assumed a core. However, as

and gravitational lensing enhancements of the IMBH shadow (Inoue et al. 2013). Furthermore, we suggest that the DM torus in combination with the EKL mechanism may have interesting implications for stellar capture as well as dynamical friction of stars, which is highly depended on the density of the DM torus. More detailed calculations are needed to assess these issues.

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mentioned above, the formation of a DM torus does not depend on the initial DM distribution.

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