Reanalyzing the Relationship Between X-ray PSD Breaks and Black Hole Mass

Rachael Merritt

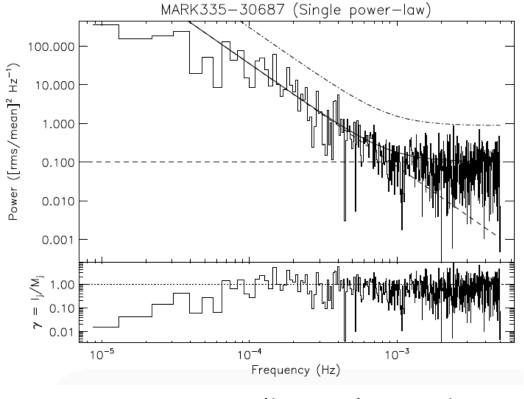
Georgia State University

AGN Storm Collaboration Meeting

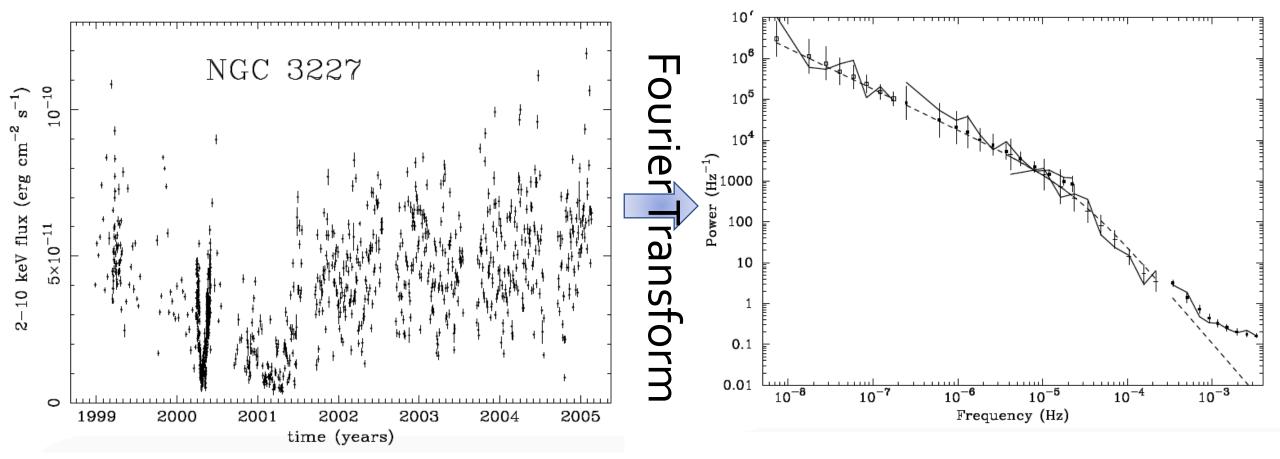
Atlanta, Georgia 18 August 2017

Power Spectral Density Functions

- Radio-quiet AGN X-ray variability equivalent to red noise (Uttley&McHardy, 2005)
- Short scale (higher frequency)
 - Hours → Days
 - Slope ~ -2
- Long Scale (lower frequency)
 - Weeks → Years
 - Slope ~ -1



Making PSDs



NGC 3227 (Uttley & McHardy, 2005)

AGN v. BH-XRB

- Is SMBH behavior scaled up stellar mass BH behavior?
 - Narrow line Seyfert I
 - Similar to BH-XRB in high/soft state
 - Broad line Seyfert
 - Similar to BH-XRB in low/hard state
- Broad band PSD better test
 - Accretion
 - PSD shape is different between BH-XRB states

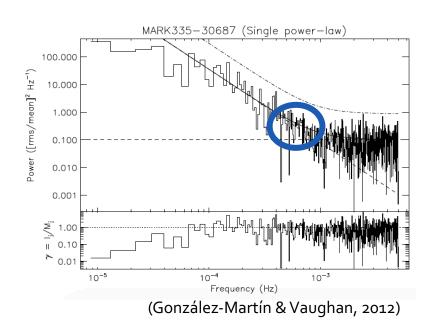
Fitting the Breaks

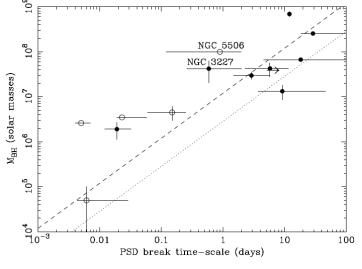
• Slope changes at some bend frequency, v_b (González-

Martín&Vaughan, 2012)

 $\bullet v_b$ scales inversely with mass of BH

- Fitting the PSD
 - Power law
 - Broken power law
 - Bending power law
 - ???





(Uttley&McHardy, 2005)

Going Forward

- •Has anything changed?
 - New Masses
 - New Sources
- •What is the best way to characterize v_b ?
- Be consistent across the board
 - Systematics?
 - ???