The Beginnings and Ends of Double White Dwarfs

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Accreting White Dwarf Binaries as Gravitational Wave Sources

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Compact white dwarf (WD) binaries are expected to be the most abundant source detected by the upcoming gravitational-wave observatory, LISA. Based on both observational indications and theoretical studies, a fraction of these close WD binaries are expected to be undergoing mass transfer. The nature of this mass transfer will determine the long-term survival of the systems and will have important implications for the associated gravitational wave signals. In this talk, I will discuss the gravitational wave signals of binaries undergoing mass transfer from a WD donor onto both WD and neutron star accretors. I will also briefly discuss ways these close WD binaries may form dynamically in dense star clusters.

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