# On the orbital period of MAXI J1305-704

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### MAXI J1305-704

- Discovered by MAXI in 2012 (ATel #4024)
- (Likely) BH transient no X-ray bursts, typical BHXRB spectrum
- Strong absorption dips present in *Suzaku* and *Swift* light curves - high inclination source (Shidatsu+2013)
- Disk wind observed by *Chandra* (Miller+2014)



Shidatsu+2013

### Orbital Period

- Shidatsu(+13) determined orbital period to be 9.74h (from measuring time between dips)
- Other estimates have been 1.5h and 2.7h from Swift observations (ATel #4044)
- Clearly difficult to estimate P(orb) with no quiescent optical coverage
- I went back to the Suzaku data and applied timing analysis techniques



#### Suzaku light curve (40ks on-source time) Absorption dips immediately clear

## Timing analysis

- Lomb Scargle periodogram revealed no evidence of a 9.7hr periodicity
- Several candidate periods, two strongest peaks are ~3h and ~5h
- Similar results found from Phase Dispersion Minimization analysis
- Need to look at folds to get a handle on candidate periodicities





Only the 5hr period accurately reproduces the structure of the absorption dips

#### Periodicities

- ~3.2h periodicity does not reproduce dips at all
- Could be attributed to 2 x P(orb) of Suzaku?
- 9.74h period does not appear in timing analysis.
- From a combination of folds and timing analysis,
  5h seems most likely periodicity

## What does this tell us about the donor?

- P=9.74h would require non-MS star: R<R<sub>☉</sub>, M<M<sub>☉</sub>, ρ<ρ<sub>☉</sub> (Shidatsu+13)
- With P=4.98h, using Eggleton formula and sensible mass ratio range, donor —> R=0.55-0.7R<sub>☉</sub>, log(ρ/ρ<sub>☉</sub>) = 0.51
- Completely consistent with low-mass donors K5-M1 (but we need quiescent spectroscopy to be sure!)

### Optical Spectroscopy



#### SALT RSS spectrum in outburst (April 2012) Features typical of LMXBs

### Optical Spectroscopy

- Strong He II λ4686, Balmer double peaked emission lines and Bowen blend
- He II peaks show night-tonight variations
- Can use Bowen spectroscopy to measure mass of the compact object (Steeghs & Casares 2002)
- However, no sharp Bowen features in spectra



#### Hell/Bowen





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## Mass estimates from optical spectrum

- Can use peak separation of Balmer lines to estimate K<sub>2</sub> - velocity semi-amplitude of donor leading to mass function of the system
- Using H $\beta$  —> K2 > 313 km/s —> f(M) > 0.66M $_{\odot}$
- Not actually very useful...Need (as always) quiescent spectroscopy. Hurry up and build E-ELT!
- Can also perform Doppler Tomography to reveal accretion disc structure - analysis ongoing

#### Conclusions

- MAXI J1305-704 previously determined to have P(orb) = 9.74h
- Using timing analysis techniques, we now suggest that P(orb) = 4.98h
- Optical spectrum reveals night-to-night variability of emission features. Unfortunately, no sharp features for Bowen spectroscopy —> no legitimate mass estimate yet!
- Need quiescent observations to get a true handle on system parameters, but these require bigger telescopes