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Observing the final moments of massive black hole mergers with LISA. JOHN BAKER, NASA-GSFC — Mergers of binary black hole systems are one of the strongest sources of gravitational radiation expected to be observed by LISA. Recent advances in modeling the final merger and ringdown of comparablemass systems, particularly via numerical relativity simulations, are dramatically expanding our understanding of these systems and the radiation they generate. We summarize recent modeling results, highlighting the work of Goddard's numerical relativity group, and apply this emerging knowledge to the problem of observing the final moments of binary black hole mergers with LISA.

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