

Abstract Submitted
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Quasars with a Kick¹ ERIN BONNING, Southwestern University/UT Austin, GREG SHIELDS, SARAH SALVIANDER, UT Austin — Mergers of spinning black holes can result in the final black hole receiving a ‘kick’ from gravitational radiation of up to several thousand km/s. A recoiling super-massive black hole in an AGN can retain the inner part of its accretion disk, providing fuel for continuing activity. A search for evidence of such kicks in AGN spectra from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS) leads us to place upper limits on the incidence of high velocity recoils in AGN. Other observational signatures will be discussed, including brief flares in soft X-rays that may occur when marginally-bound material falls back onto the moving accretion disk.

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