



Multimessenger & EM follow-up
GW150914 and beyond

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*On behalf of the LIGO Scientific Collaboration
and the Virgo Collaboration*

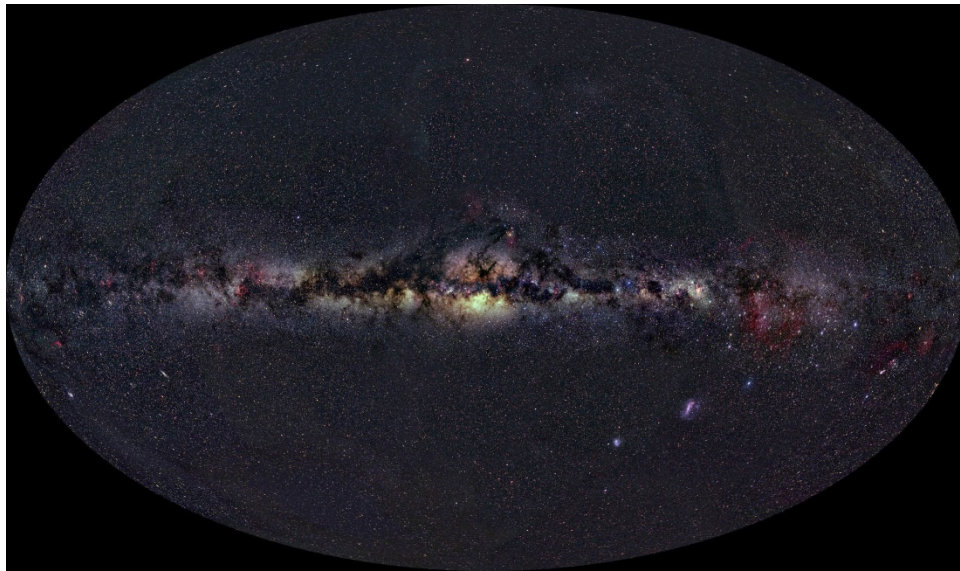
Gravitational Wave Festival



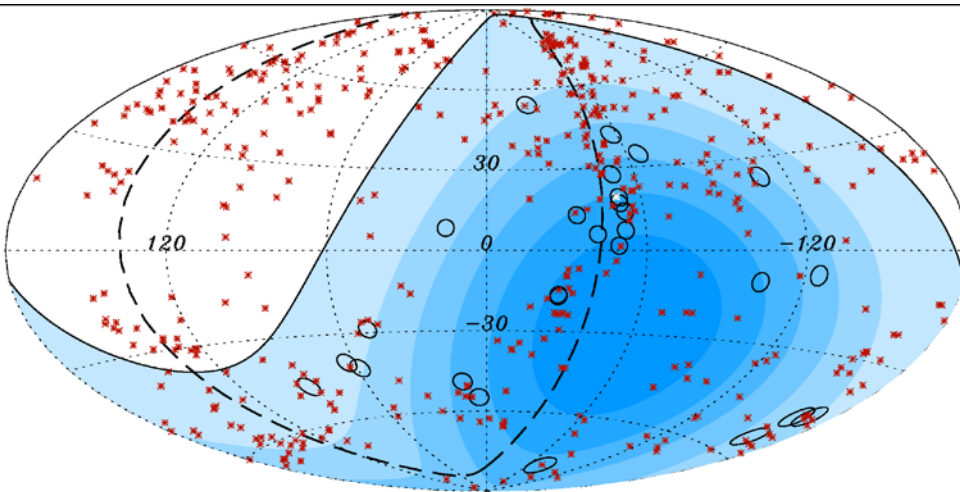
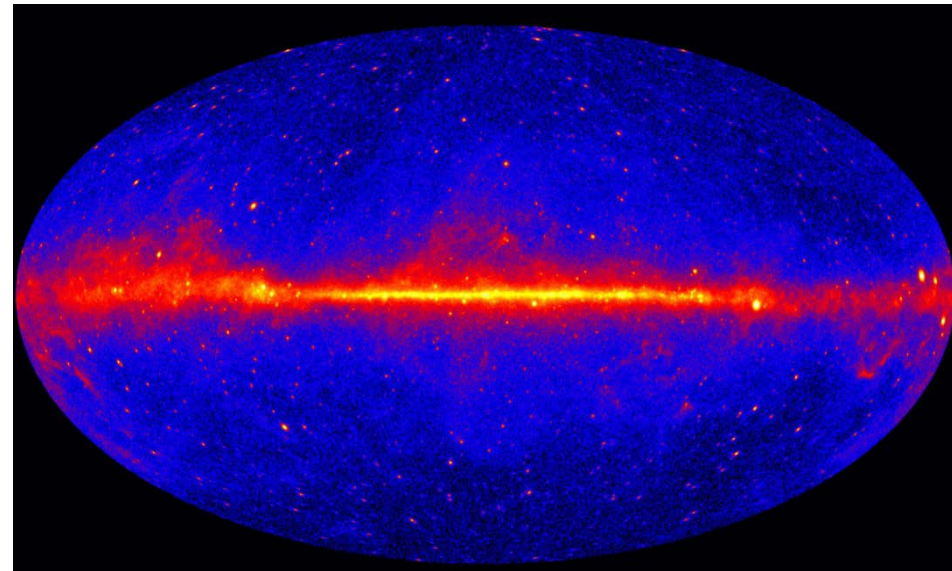
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UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA

The multi-messenger sky today

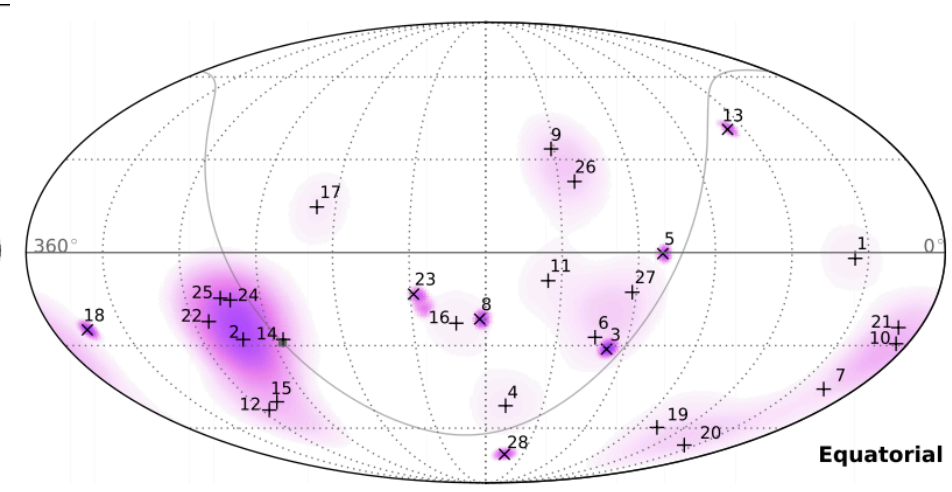
Optical (APOD)



Gamma rays > 0.1 GeV (Fermi-LAT, 2013)



Cosmic rays > 57 EeV (Auger, 2007)

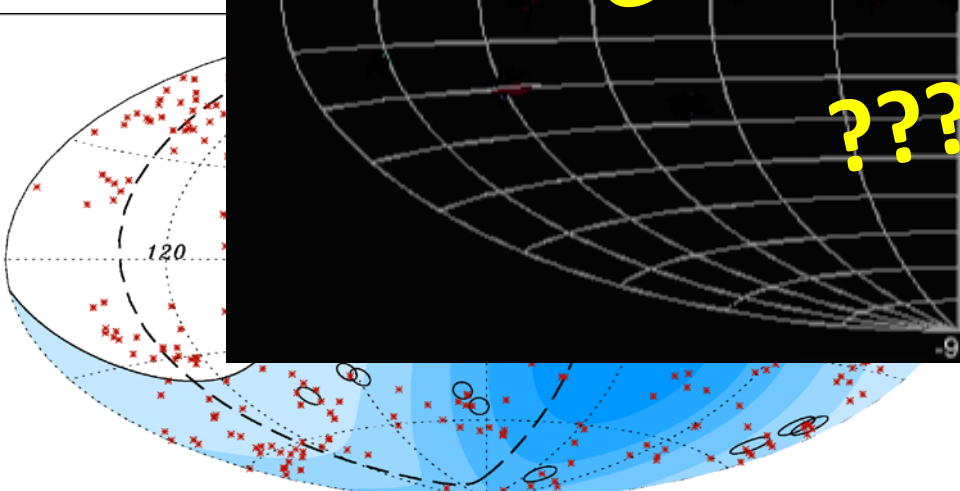
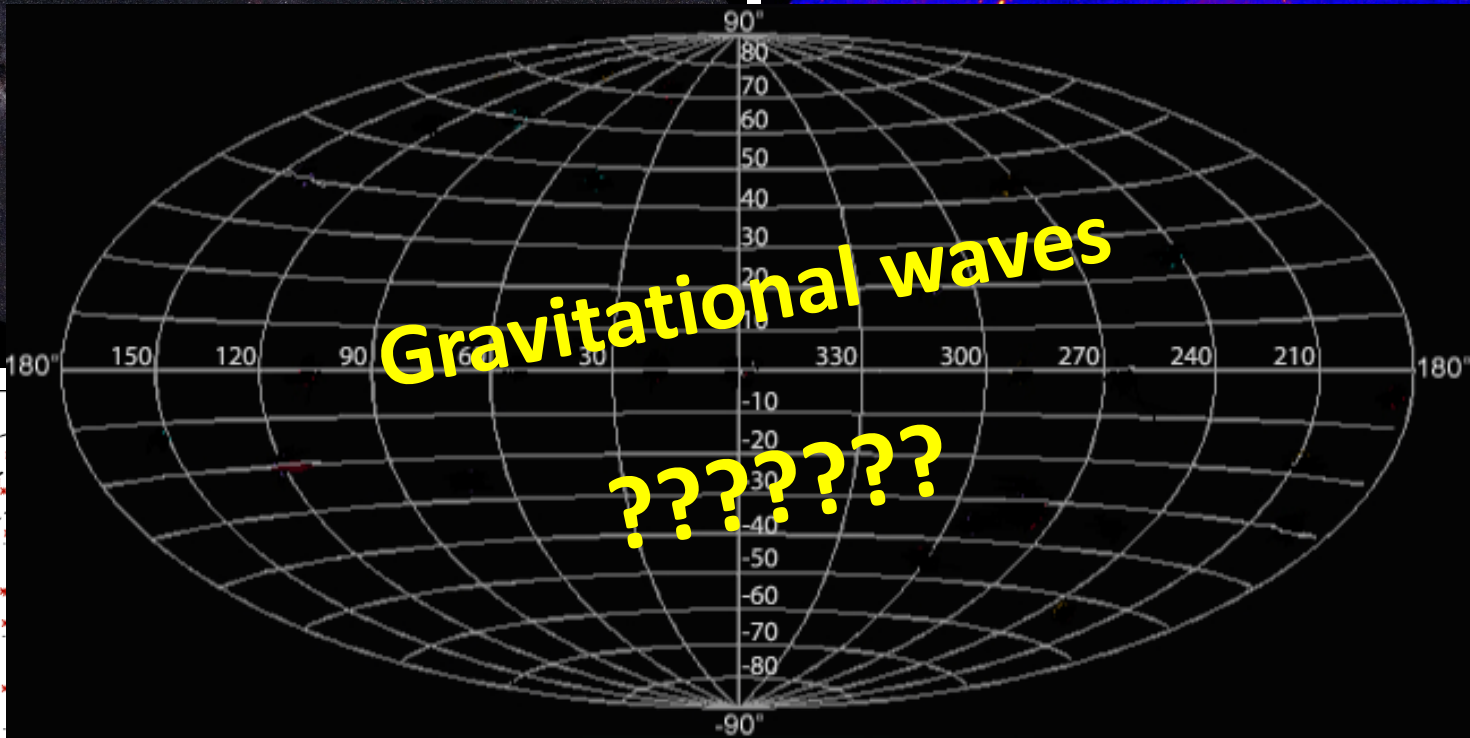
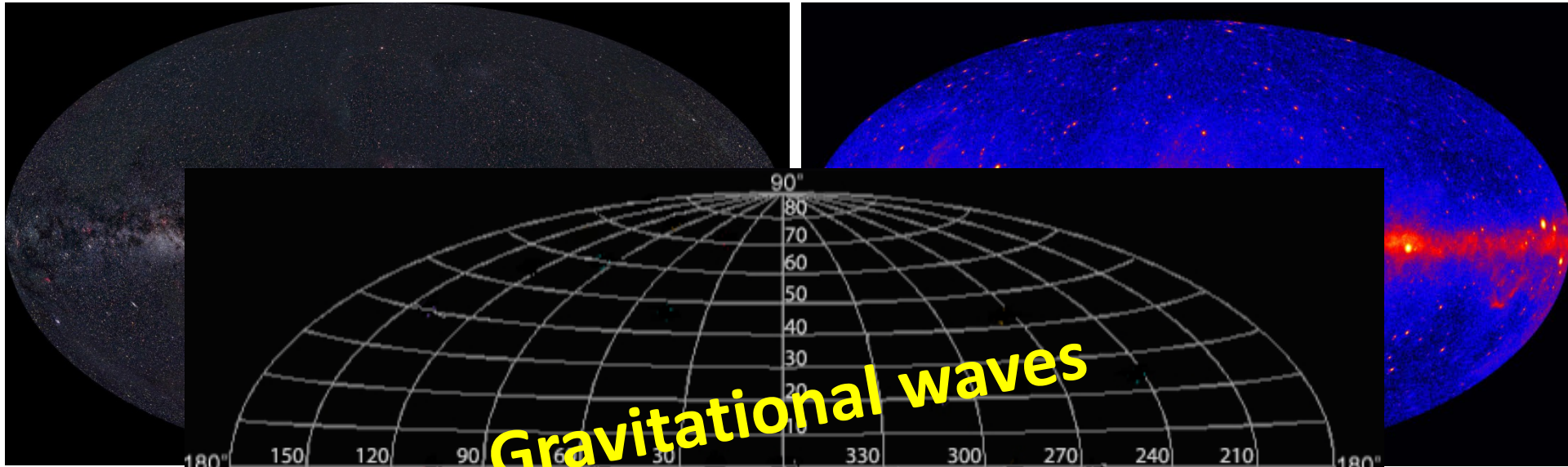


Neutrinos > 30 TeV (Icecube, 2013)

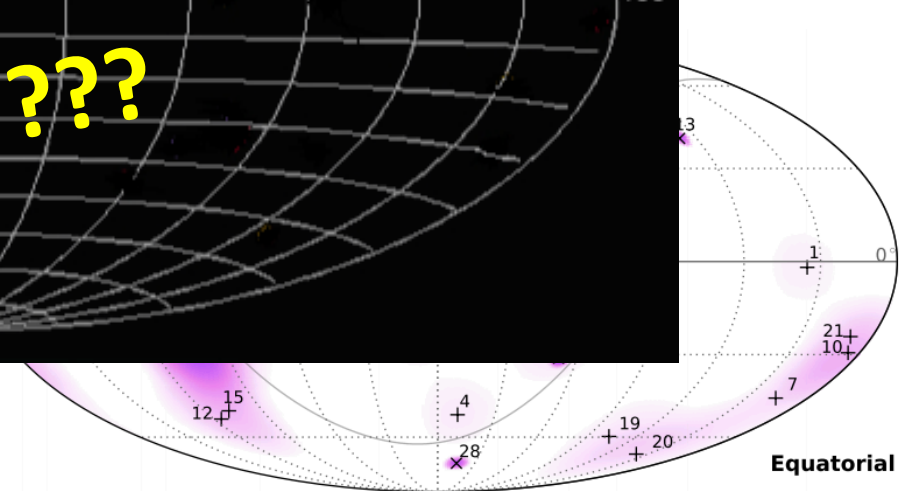
The multi-messenger sky today

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*

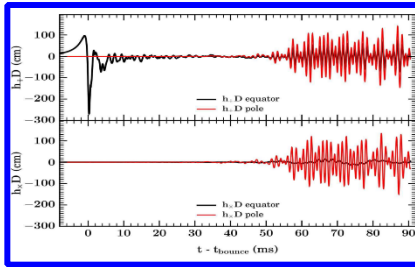
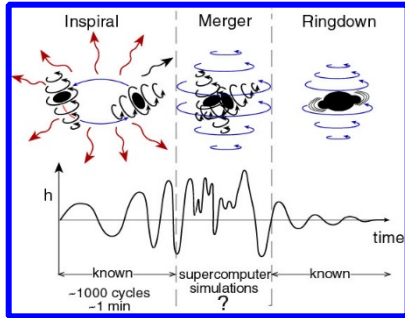
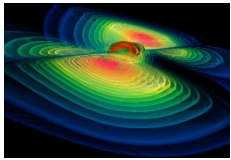
Why joint multimessenger observations?

- **Complementary information:**
 - **GW** → mass distribution
 - **EM** → emission processes, environment
 - **Neutrinos** → hadronic/nuclear processes, etc
- **Give a precise (arcmin/arcsecond) localization (EM but not only)**
 - **Localize host galaxy of a merger**
 - **Identify an EM counterpart with timing signature (e.g. pulsars)**
- **Provide a more complete insight into the most energetic events in the Universe**
- **Explore the physics of the progenitors (mass, spin, distance..) and their environment (temperature, density, redshift..)**
- **Open a new era of multi-messenger (GW, photons, neutrinos, CR) physics**

Expected multimessengers sources detectable by LIGO/Virgo

Transients

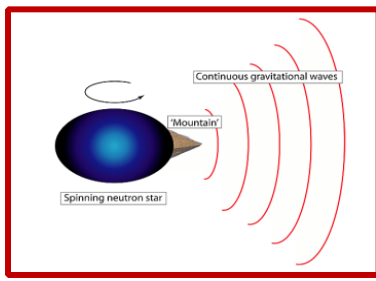
- **Coalescence of compact binary systems (NSs and/or BHs)**
 - Known waveforms (template banks)
 - $E_{gw} \sim 10^{-2} Mc^2$
- **Core-collapse of massive stars**
 - Uncertain waveforms
 - $E_{gw} \sim 10^{-8} - 10^{-4} Mc^2$



Ott, C. 2009

Non transients

- **Rotating neutron stars**
 - Quadrupole emission from star's asymmetry
 - Continuous and Periodic
- **Stochastic background**
 - Superposition of many signals (mergers, cosmological, etc)
 - Low frequency

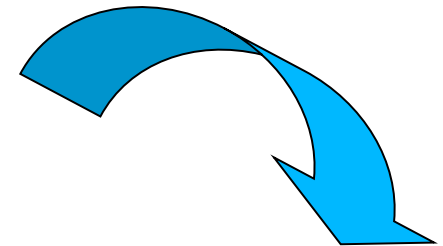
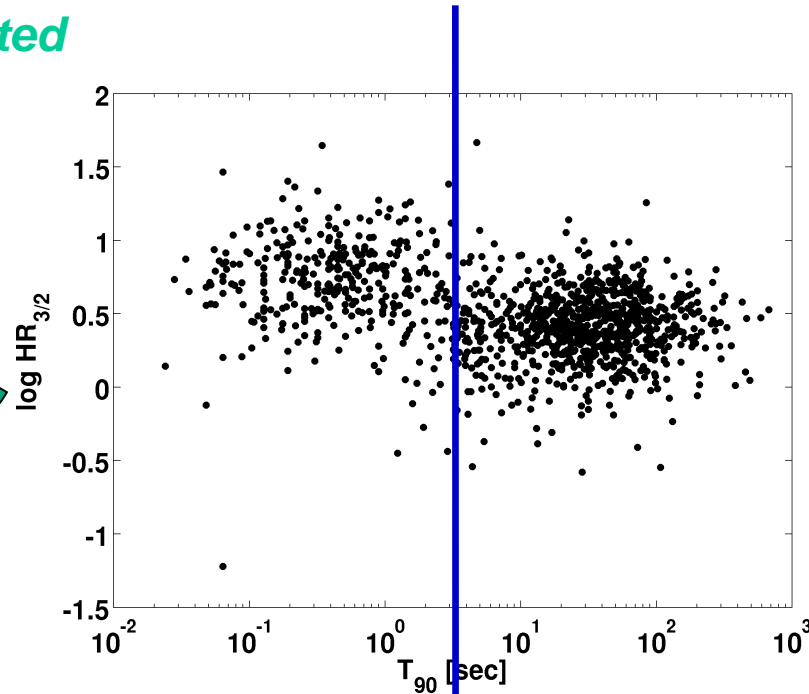
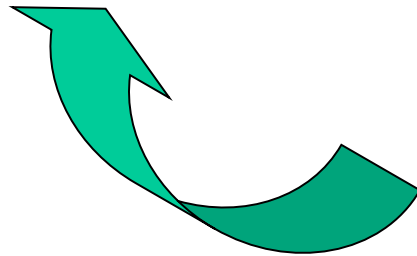


Multimessenger GW/EM: the GRB connection

Gamma Ray Bursts are intense flashes of gamma rays
Very Energetic (up to $E_{\text{iso}} 10^{53}$ erg)

- Short GRBs (<2 s)

*believed to be associated
with mergers*



Multimessenger observations
Key to test associations!

- Long GRBs (>2 s)
- Believed to be associated with core-collapse of massive star

Why an EM follow-up program?

- **EM follow-up is key to find counterparts and do great science**
 - **GW analysis and checks will require time**
 - **Need to avoid misinformation/rumors**
 - **Encourage multiwavelength coverage**
- **EM follow-up program**
 - **Standard MoU to share information promptly while maintaining confidentiality for event candidates**
 - **Once first few (≥ 4) detections, prompt alerts will be made public for high-confidence detections**
- **Status**
 - **More than 70 groups have signed MoU with LIGO & Virgo**
 - **From radio to gamma rays**
 - **Special LVC GCN Notices and Circulars with distribution limited to partners**

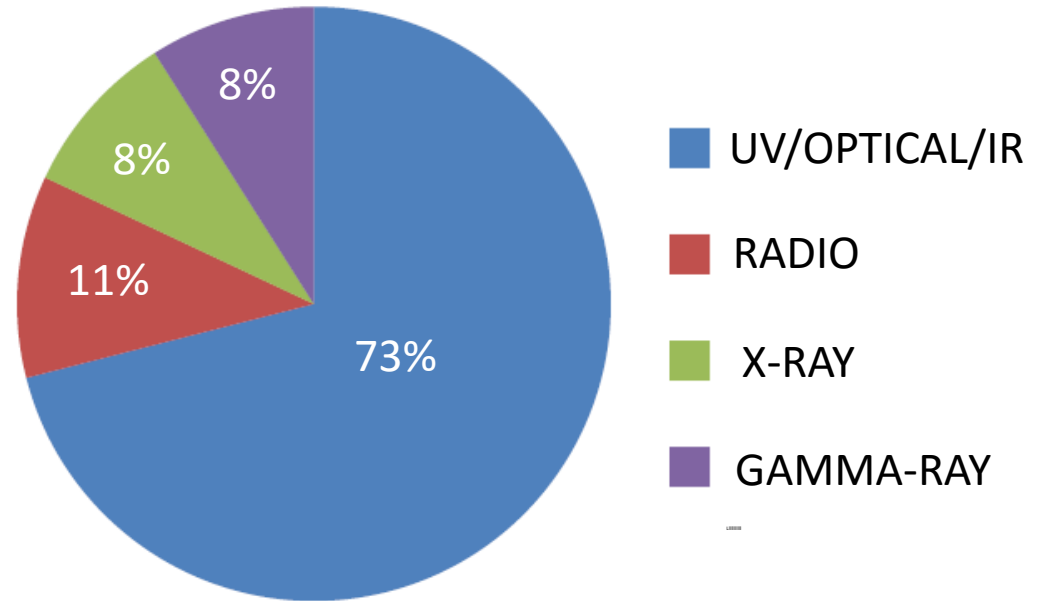


74 MoUs involving

➤ 160 instruments

(space and ground-based facilities)
Full coverage, radio - VHE

➤ **Astronomical institutions, agencies and large/small groups of astronomers** (20 countries)





In 2012, **LVC agreed policy on releasing GW alerts**

*“Initially, **triggers** (partially-validated event candidates) will be **shared promptly only with astronomy partners who have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with LVC involving an agreement on deliverables, publication policies, confidentiality, and reporting.*

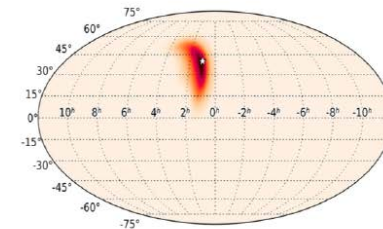
***After four GW events have been published**, further event candidates with high confidence will be **shared immediately with the entire astronomy community**, while lower-significance candidates will continue to be shared promptly only with partners who have signed an MoU.”*

- The first (2014) and second (2015) open call for participation in GW-EM follow-up program (last year) **74 MoUs signed**
- **Third call issued, deadline 7 February 2016**
<http://www.ligo.org/scientists/GWEMalerts.php>

The EM follow-up steps

- Past experience (2009-2010)
 - 30 min latency, optical telescopes+Swift
 - Centralized organization
- Now
 - Few mins latency
 - GCN for MoU partners
 - 74 participating in O1, 63 operating, 25 followed the event
 - 19 orders of magnitude

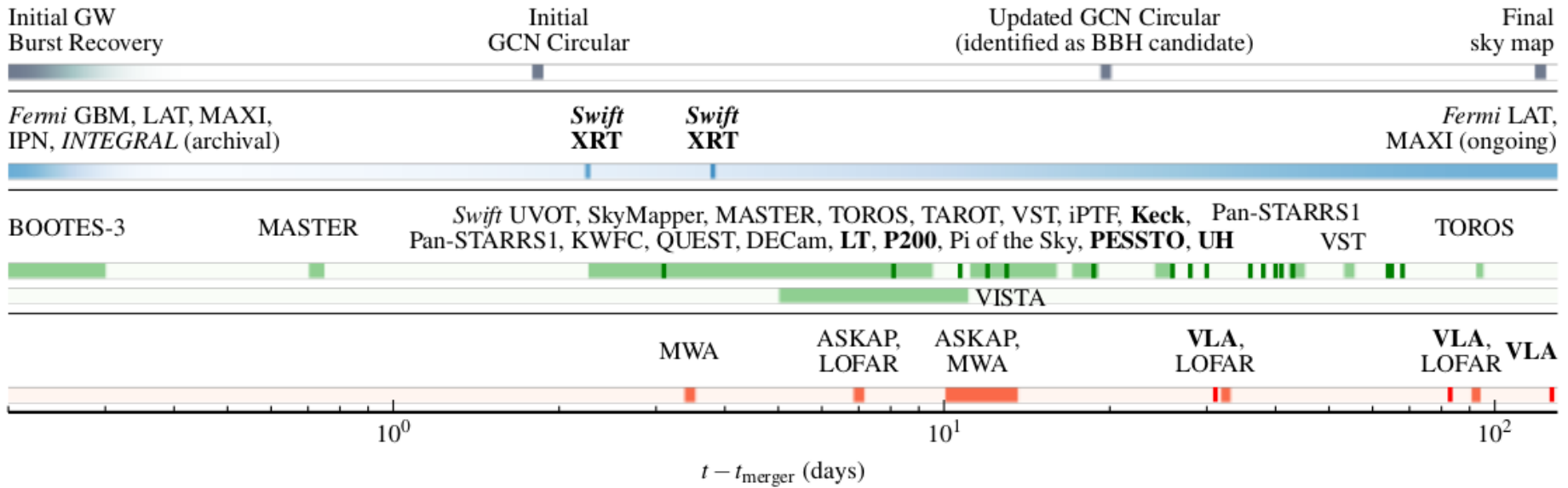
GW alert → Sky localization → EM follow-up



EM event	EM band	timescale
Prompt emission	Gamma rays	<S.
Afterglow	X-ray, optical, radio	Hours-days
Kilonova-macronova	Optical-near IR	Days-months
Radio blast wave	Radio	Months-years

GW150914 follow-up timeline

- t+3 minutes: cWB & oLIB pipelines
 - T+17 min – 14 hr (skymaps)
 - T+2d: first GCN
 - T+3w: BBH identification
 - T+4m: updated FAR (<1/100 yr)



GW150914 sky maps

Skymaps pipelines

- cWB: constrained ML
- OLIB: bayesian
- BAYESTAR: triangulation (based on CBC pipelines)
- LALInference: full details

	Area ^a			θ_{HL}^b	Comparison ^c			
	10%	50%	90%		cWB	LIB	BSTR	LALInf
cWB	10	100	310	43^{+2}_{-2}	—	190	180	230
LIB	30	210	750	45^{+6}_{-5}	0.55	—	220	270
BSTR	10	90	400	45^{+2}_{-2}	0.64	0.56	—	350
LALInf	20	150	620	46^{+3}_{-3}	0.59	0.55	0.90	—

^a Area of credible level (deg^2). Note that the LALInference area is consistent with but not equal to the number reported in [Abbott et al. \(2016e\)](#) due to minor differences in sampling and interpolation.

^b Mean and 10% and 90% percentiles of polar angle in degrees.

^c Fidelity (below diagonal) and the intersection in deg^2 of the 90% confidence regions (above diagonal).

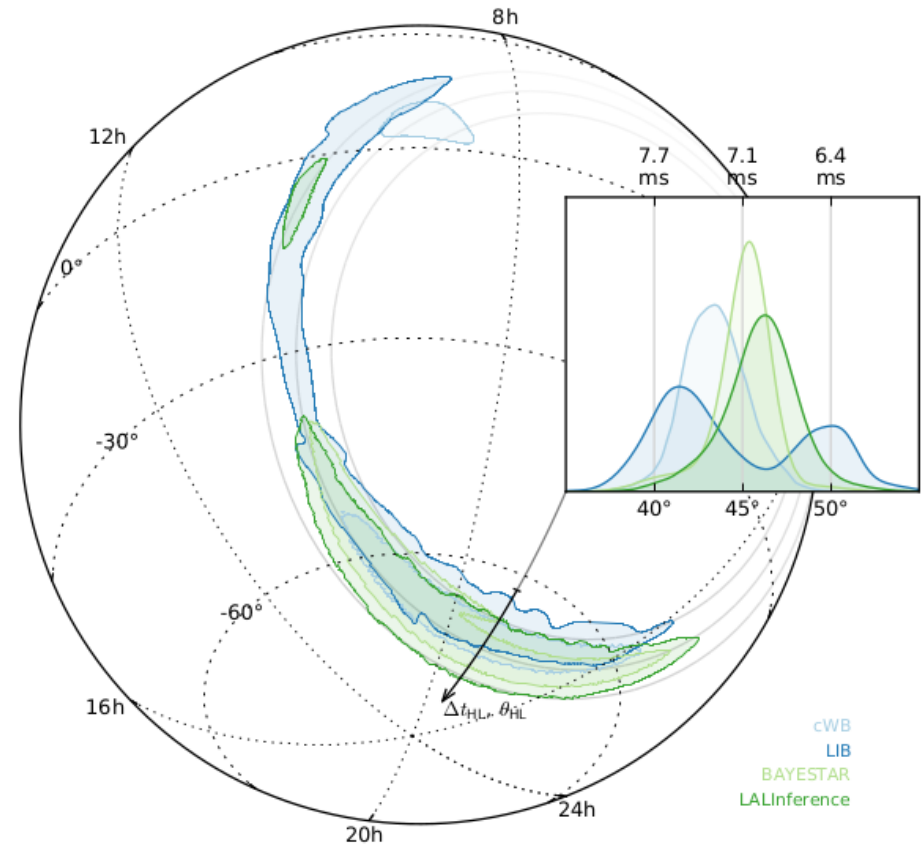
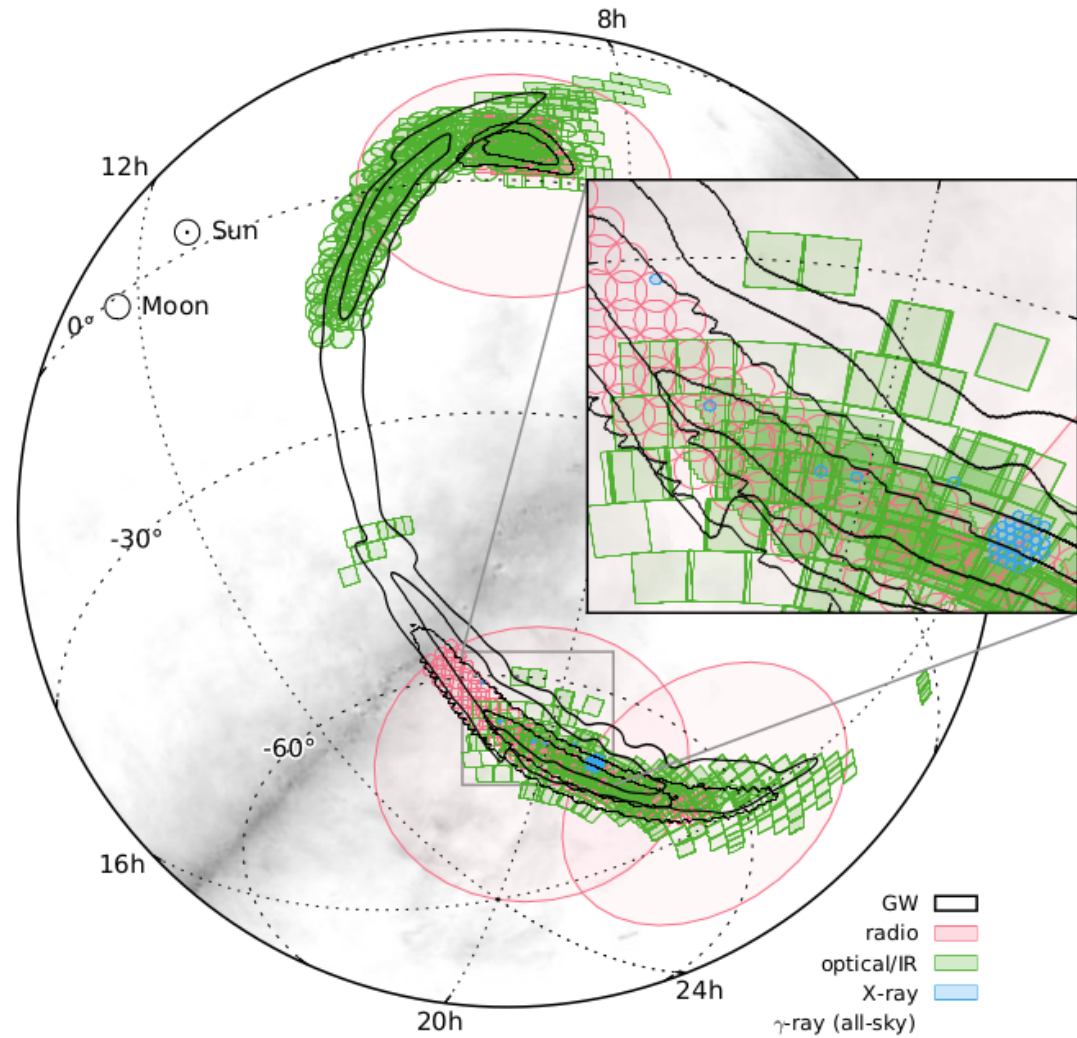


Figure 2. Comparison of different GW sky maps, showing the 90% credible level contours for each algorithm. This is an orthographic projection centered on the centroid of the LIB localization. The inset shows the distribution of the polar angle θ_{HL} (equivalently, the arrival time difference Δt_{HL}).

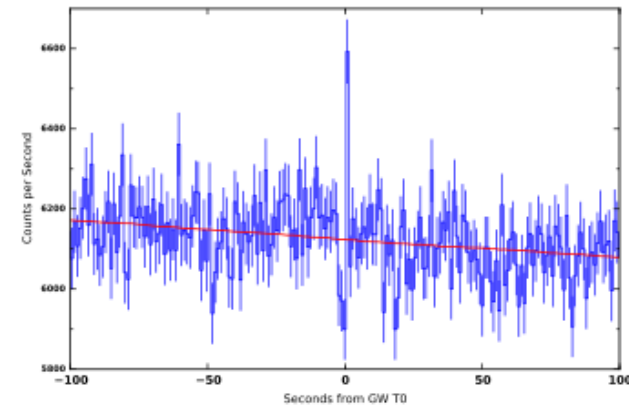
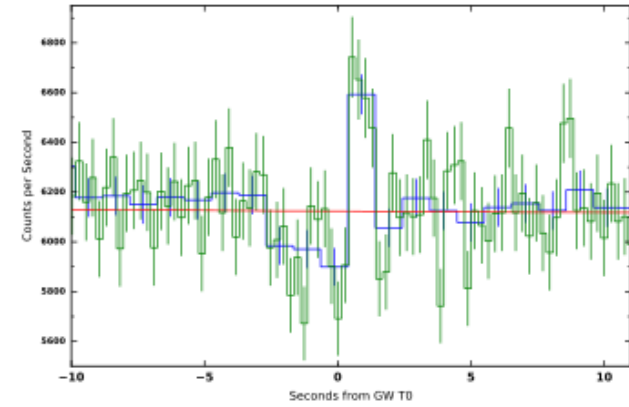
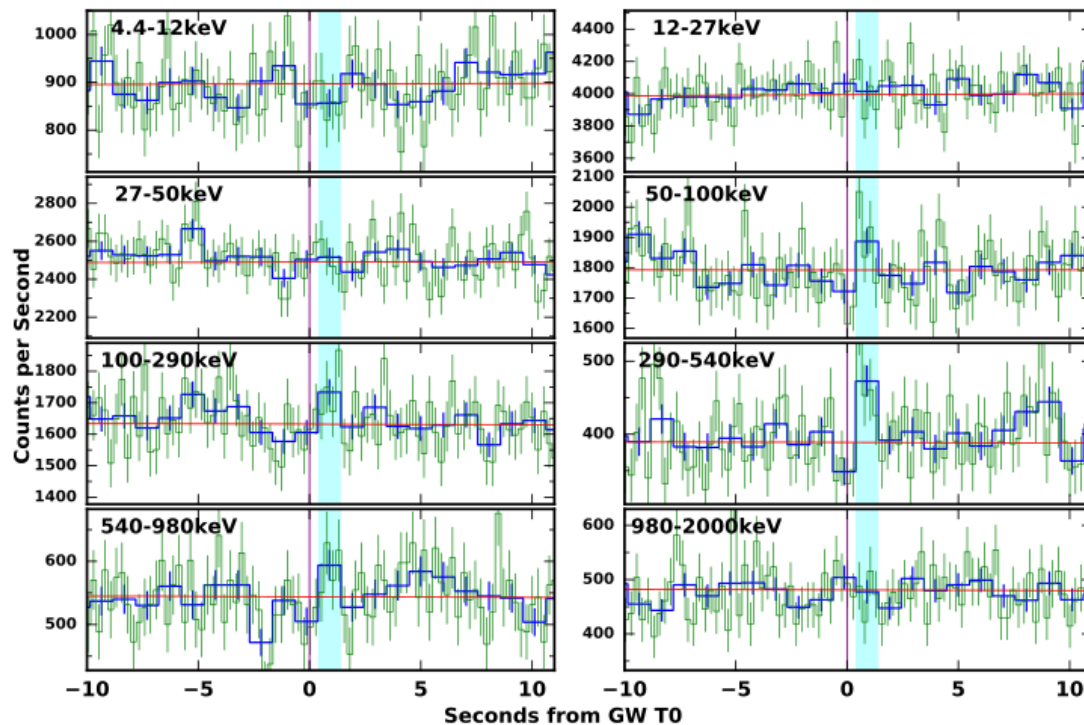
GW150914 coverage

- 19 teams involved
- Repointing (optical)
- Archival (X & gamma)
- Deep follow-up (optical/radio)



The GBM transient

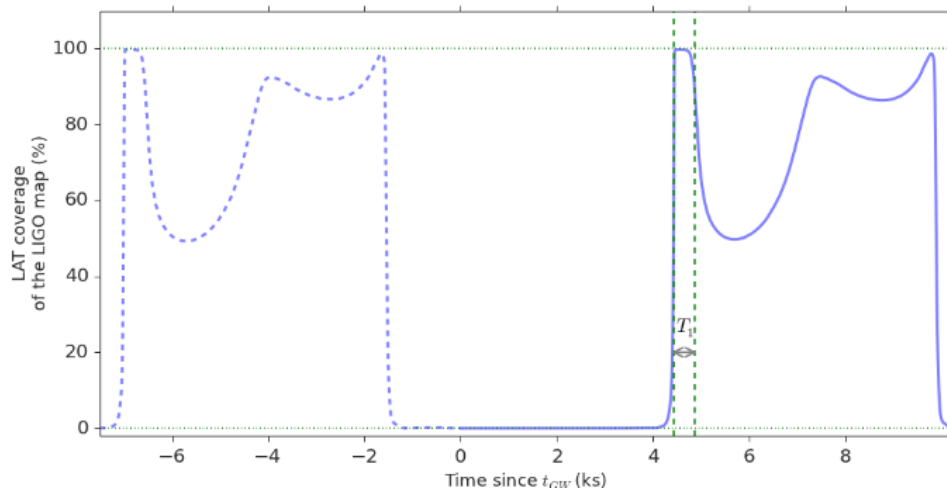
- Detector:
 - Full unocculted sky
 - Scintillators, from keV to $\sim 30\text{MeV}$
 - No triggers from standard onboard or offline pipelines
- Results
 - Specific “subthreshold” pipeline (Blackburn+15)
 - $\text{dt} \sim 0.4\text{s}$, lasting $\sim 1\text{ sec}$
 - Estimated FAR = 0.002
 - Localization 199 sq deg, close to Earth limb
 - Spectrum: PL + cutoff
 - Estimated flux: $1.8\text{e}49\text{ erg/s}$
 - Trial factors?



Connaughton+16
(arxiv:1602.03920)

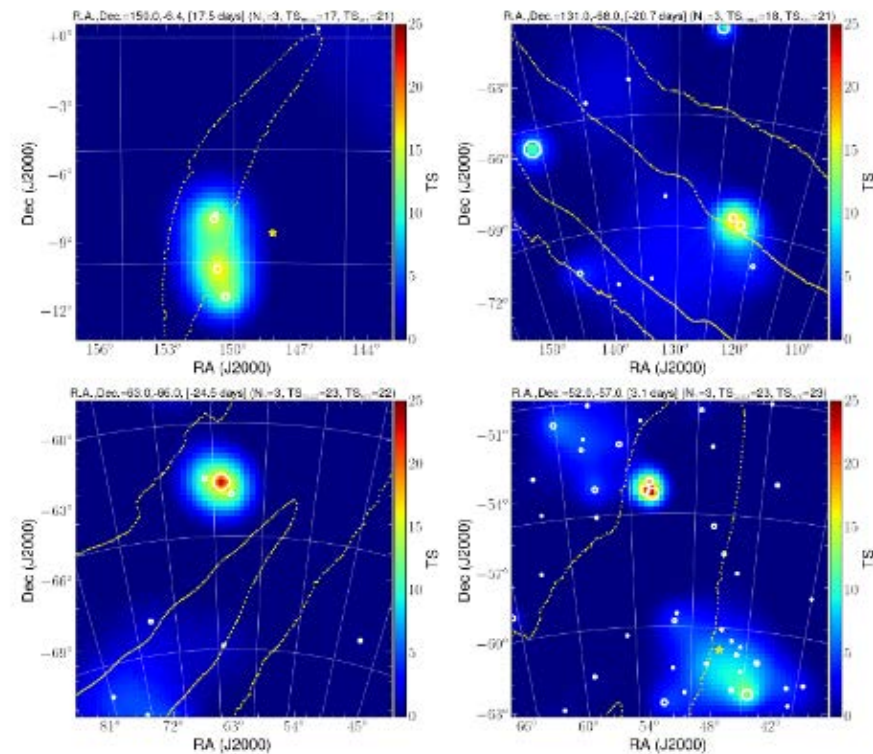
The view of the Fermi-LAT

- Other analysis by high-energy facilities to confirm/disprove GBM transient
- Fermi LAT
 - Large fov (2.4 sr), survey mode (t=95 m)
 - High-energy (>100 MeV) gamma rays
 - Results:
 - Coverage started from t+70 m
 - No triggers on automatic pipeline
 - No significant excesses on short and long-based ad hoc pipelines



LAT coverage

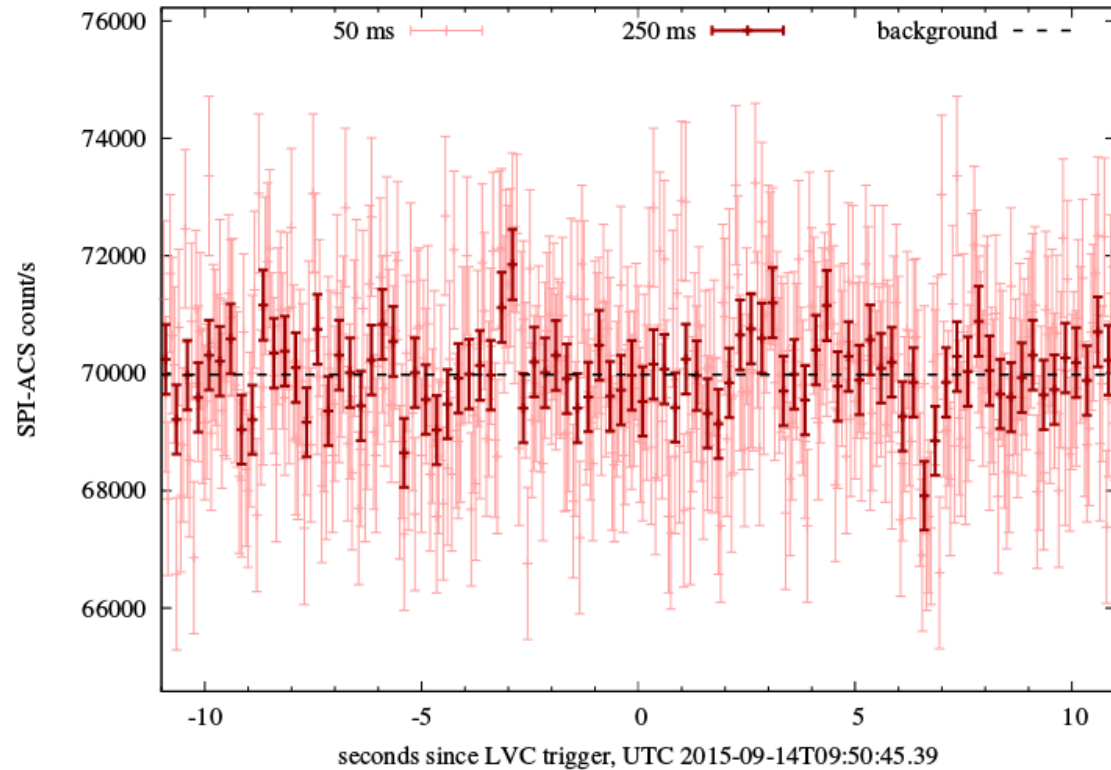
Ackermann+16
(arxiv:1602.04488)



Top sources in 60-day window

The view of INTEGRAL and Swift

- INTEGRAL
 - SPI-ACS: all-sky monitor, $E > 75$ keV
 - Operating during the GW trigger
 - Peak of 0.5 s at $t + 26.4$ s
 - Effective area 30-40 x GBM one
 - $F < 1e48$ erg/s
- Swift
 - 2% oLIB
 - No new sources
 - Evans+16 (arxiv:1602.04735)



LAT coverage

Savchenko+16
(arxiv:1602.04180)

Optical, IR, radio

- Optical
 - Tiled and galaxy-oriented
 - Tens of candidates, later observed deeper
 - Candidates compatible with normal population of SN, AGN, etc..
- Radio coverage up to t+4 months

Optical									
DECam	i, z	$i < 22.5, z < 21.5$	3.9, 5, 22	100	38	14	14	11	18344, 18350
iPTF	R	$R < 20.4$	3.1, 3, 1	140	3.1	2.9	0.0	0.2	18337
KWFC	i	$i < 18.8$	3.4, 1, 1	24	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.1	18361
MASTER	C	< 19.9	-1.1, 7, 7	590	56	35	55	49	18333, 18390, 18903, 19021
Pan-STARRS1	i	$i < 19.2 - 20.8$	3.2, 21, 42	430	28	29	2.0	4.2	18335, 18343, 18362, 18394
La Silla-QUEST	g, r	$r < 21$	3.8, 5, 0.1	80	23	16	6.2	5.7	18347
SkyMapper	i, v	$i < 19.1, v < 17.1$	2.4, 2, 3	30	9.1	7.9	1.5	1.9	18349
Swift UVOT	u	$u < 19.8$ (gal.)	2.3, 1, 1	3	0.7	1.0	0.1	0.1	18331
	u	$u < 18.8$ (LMC)	3.4, 1, 1						18346
TAROT	C	$R < 18$	2.8, 5, 14	30	15	3.5	1.6	1.9	18332, 18348
TOROS	C	$r < 21$	2.5, 7, 90	0.6	0.03	0.0	0.0	0.0	18338
VST	r	$r < 22.4$	2.9, 6, 50	90	29	10	14	10	18336, 18397
Near Infrared									
VISTA	Y, J, K_S	$J < 20.7$	4.8, 1, 7	70	15	6.4	10	8.0	18353
Radio									
ASKAP	863.5 MHz	5–15 mJy	7.5, 2, 6	270	82	28	44	27	18363, 18655
LOFAR	145 MHz	12.5 mJy	6.8, 3, 90	100	27	1.3	0.0	0.1	18364, 18424, 18690
MWA	118 MHz	200 mJy	3.5, 2, 8	2800	97	72	86	86	18345

Theoretical interpretations

- General consensus
 - Stellar BBH do not produce EM emission
- However..
 - Very dense environments
 - Maybe not BHs? (strange stars, etc..)
 - Fragmentation of a massive core
 - 12 papers citing GBM (and counting)

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ELECTROMAGNETIC COUNTERPARTS TO BLACK HOLE MERGERS DETECTED BY LIGO

ABRAHAM LOEB¹

Draft version February 24, 2016

ABSTRACT

Mergers of stellar-mass black holes (BHs), such as GW150914 observed by LIGO, are not expected to have electromagnetic counterparts. However, the Fermi GBM detector identified a γ -ray transient 0.4 s after the gravitational wave (GW) signal GW150914 with consistent sky localization. I show that the two signals might be related if the BH binary detected by LIGO originated from two clumps in a dumbbell configuration that formed when the core of a rapidly rotating massive star collapsed. In that case, the BH binary merger was followed by a γ -ray burst (GRB) from a jet that originated in the accretion flow around the remnant BH. A future detection of a GRB afterglow could be used to determine the redshift and precise localization of the source. A population of standard GW sirens with GRB redshifts would provide a new approach for precise measurements of cosmological distances as a function of redshift.

Fermi GBM signal contemporaneous with GW150914 - an unlikely association

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ABSTRACT

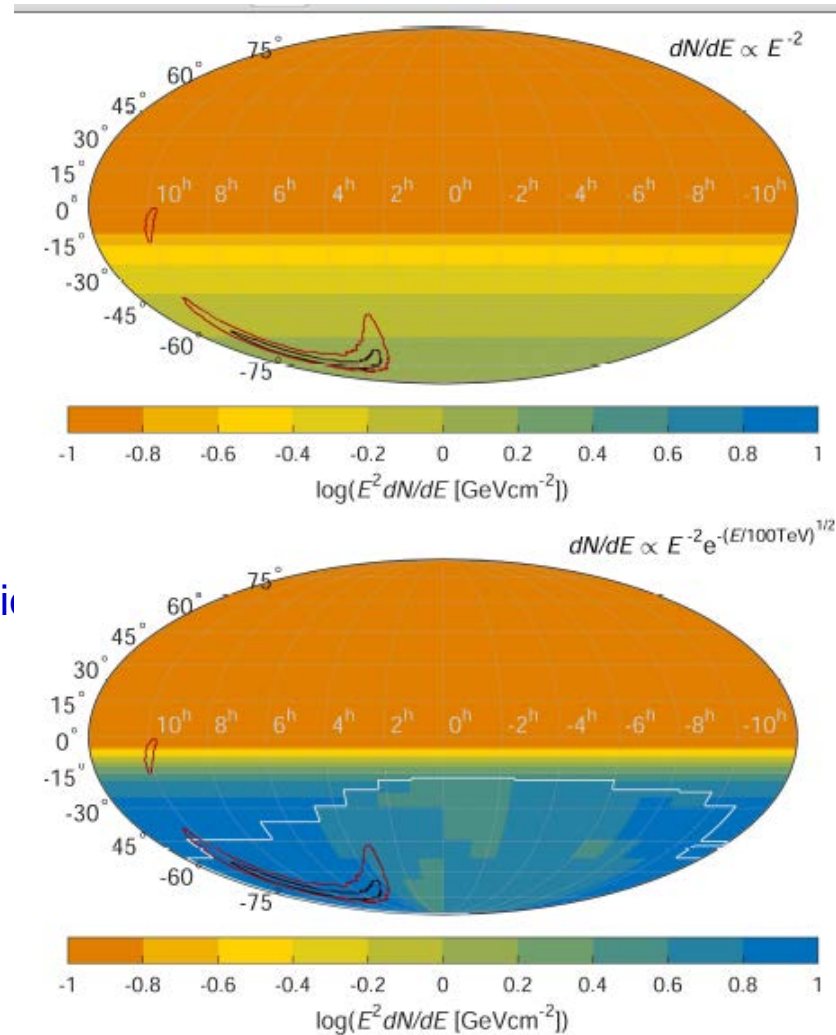
The physical constraints required by the association of the Fermi GBM signal contemporaneous with GW150914 - radiative power of 10^{49} erg s⁻¹, and corresponding magnetic fields on the black hole of the order of 10^{12} Gauss - are astrophysically highly implausible. Combined with the relatively high random probability of coincidence of 0.22 percents, we conclude that the electromagnetic signal is likely unrelated to the BH merger.

Lyutikov+16
(arxiv:1602.07352)

Loeb+16
(arxiv:1602.04735)

Multimessenger: GW+neutrinos

- IceCube and ANTARES operational
 - Search for coincident emission
 - Joint detection would provide good angular resolution
- Results
 - No neutrinos coincident with GW150914
 - Within 500 s, 3(0) neutrinos detected by IceCube(ANTARES), consistent with atmospheric neutrino
 - Constrain the source $\rightarrow E_{\text{vtot}} < 1e52-1e54$ erg



ANTARES+IceCube+LSC+Virgo
(arxiv:1602.05411)

Conclusions

- GW and photons provide complementary information
 - Multimessenger observations extremely promising
- Multimessenger approach is key to study the most extreme objects in the Universe
 - Natural laboratories to probe fundamental physics
 - Transients (e.g. GRBs)
 - Also, other sources (e.g. neutron stars)
- GW150914 provided a first test for EM follow-up campaign
 - Great synergy and coverage
 - Suggested interesting theoretical scenarios
- Future
 - Not just BBH: what about BNS/NSBH?
 - Order $1e5$ galaxies: EM counterpart is key to understand the source
 - Virgo contribution crucial to improve localization

A new, growing community*

ready for the new challenges of the gravitational wave physics

*New perspectives on the violent Universe: unveiling the physics of compact objects with joint observations of gravitational waves and electromagnetic radiation (FIRB 2012, Branchesi, Razzano, Mapelli)