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# Gravitational waves transients : Sources and Searches

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and Applications



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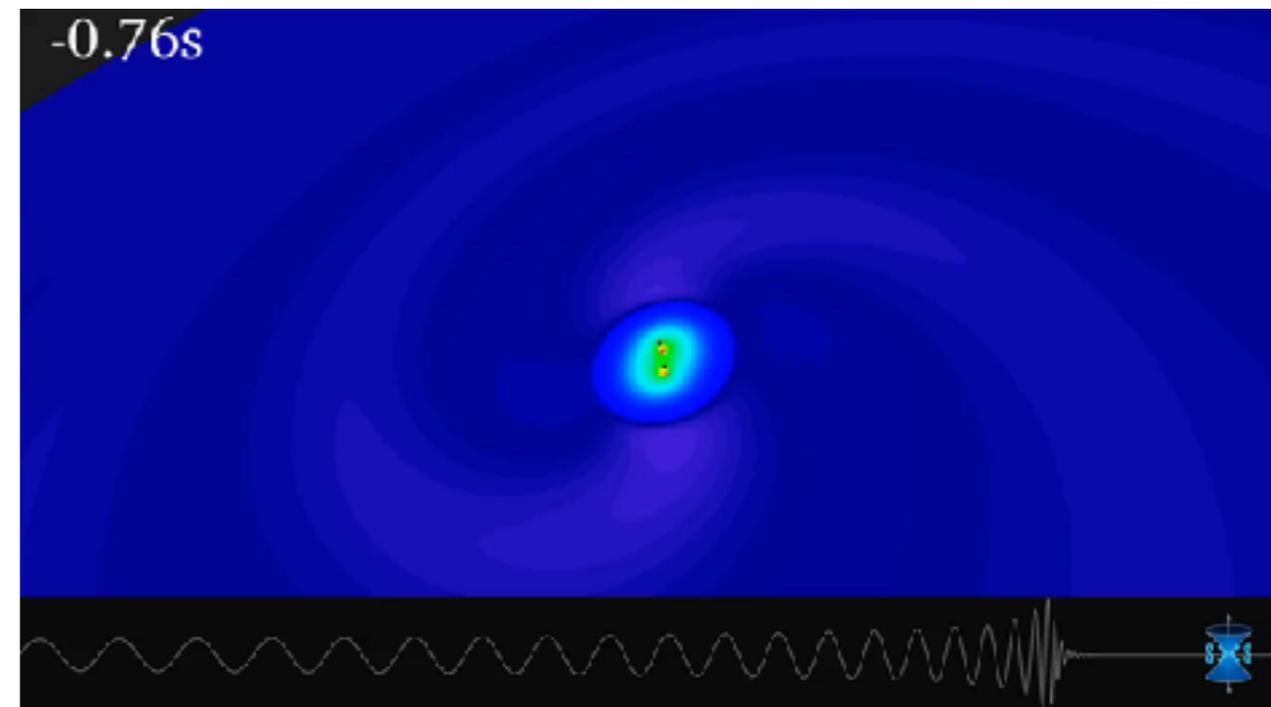
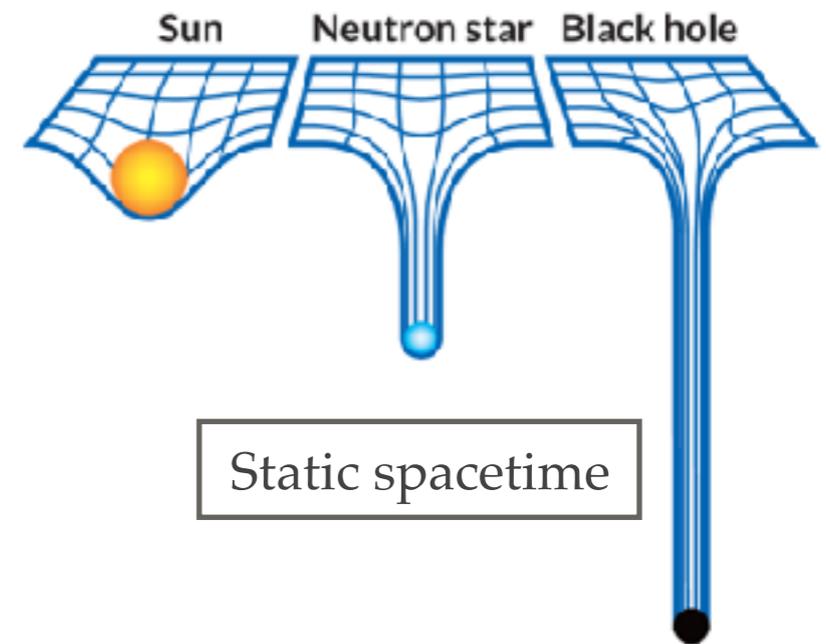
# Outline

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- Gravitational waves
- A brief history of gravitational waves
- Sources and searches
  - “Known” transient sources
  - Modelled searches
  - Un-modelled searches
  - Modelled sources in un-modelled search
  - Computation of background and significance
  - Data quality and glitches
- Gravitational Waves observations : A proof that the system works
- Future outlook

# Gravitational Waves

- ❖ **Spacetime** is a mathematical quantity and is defined as a 4 dimensional, smooth, connected (affine and torsion free connection) Lorentzian Manifold  $(M,g)$ , this implies that the metric  $(g)$  has signature  $(3,1)$  or  $(1,3)$
- ❖ This metric determines the geometry of spacetime
- ❖ In GR spacetime is a **deformable object**, gravity is responsible for this, perturbation on spacetime are represented as perturbation of the metric
- ❖ The tensorial perturbation of this metric are known as **gravitational waves**
- ❖ It has two polarisation : plus + and cross x
- ❖ We observed for the first time this fundamental process of nature i.e. **dynamical spacetime** on Sept. 14th



Dynamical spacetime  
Credits: SXS collaboration

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# A brief history of gravitational waves : formalism

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- ❖ **1916** : final formulation of the Einstein's field equations of general relativity
- ❖ **1918** : the effect of gravitational waves (GWs) was calculated, resulting in Einstein's famous "quadrupole formula"
- ❖ **1936** : Einstein rejects the existences of gravitational waves calling it an artefact of linearisation
- ❖ **1957 - 1970** : Goldberg, Pirani, Bondi, Sachs and others proved the physical reality of GWs
- ❖ **1991 - now** : Damour, Iyer, Blanchet et al develops post-Newtonian theory for compact binary coalescence and further developments are going on (valid during inspiral)
- ❖ **1999 - now** : Buonanno, Damour et al develops effective one body approach for two body dynamics (valid till late inspiral)
- ❖ **2005 - now** : Numerical relativity matured and provides exact solutions for compact binaries

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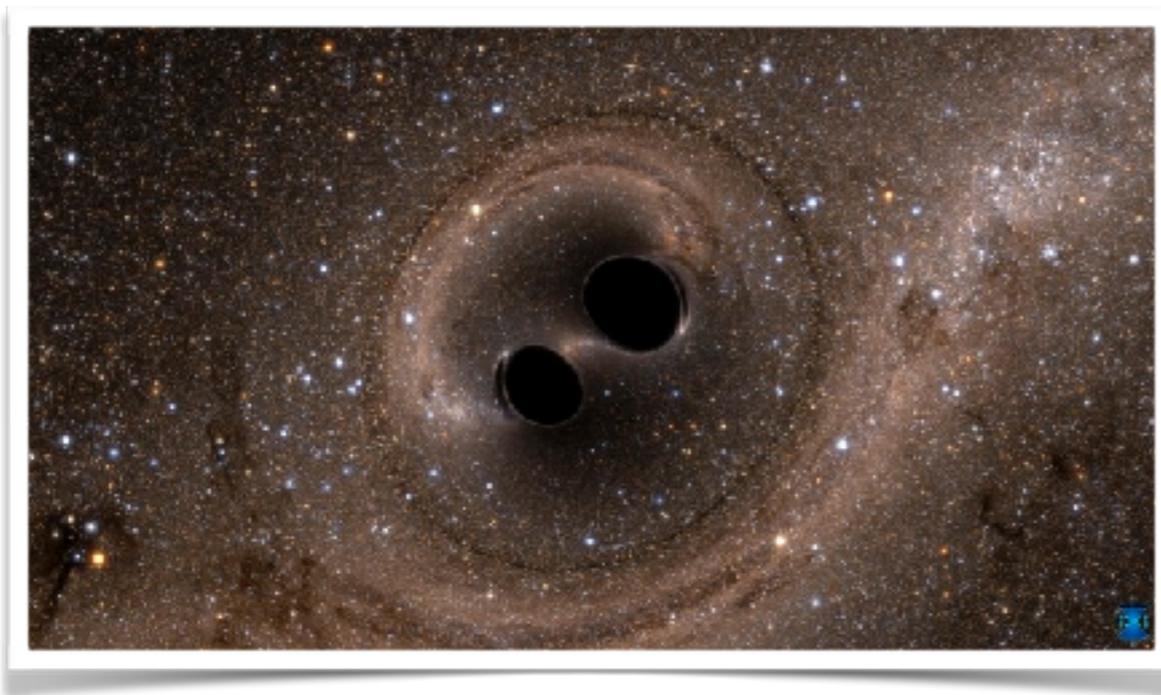
# A brief history of gravitational waves : experiments

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- ❖ **1962** : Russian physicists M. E. Gertsenshtein and V. I. Pustovoit publish paper sketch optical method for detecting gravitational waves
- ❖ **1969** : Physicist Joseph Weber claims gravitational wave detection using massive aluminium cylinders—replication efforts fail
- ❖ **1972** : Rainer Weiss of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge independently proposes optical method for detecting waves
- ❖ **1974** : Astronomers discover pulsar orbiting a neutron star that appears to be slowing down due to gravitational radiation—work that later earns them a Nobel Prize
- ❖ **1995** : Construction starts on GEO600 gravitational wave detector in Germany, which partners with LIGO and starts taking data in 2002
- ❖ **1996** : Construction starts on VIRGO gravitational wave detector in Italy, which starts taking data in 2007
- ❖ **2002–2010** : Runs of initial LIGO—no detection of gravitational waves
- ❖ **2007** : LIGO and VIRGO teams agree to share data, forming a single global network of gravitational wave detectors
- ❖ **2015** : Advanced LIGO begins initial detection runs in September
- ❖ **2016** : On 11 February, NSF and LIGO team announce successful detection of gravitational waves
- ❖ **2016 - now** : Major upgrades in the detectors and the two LIGOs detected gravitational waves from binary black hole merger

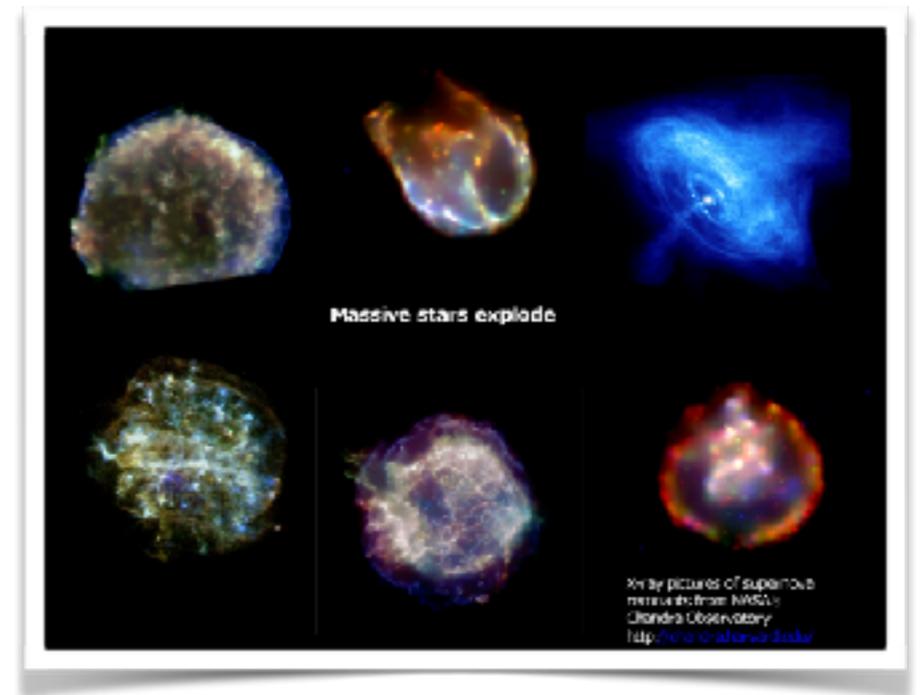
# Sources and searches : “known” transient sources

## Modelled Sources



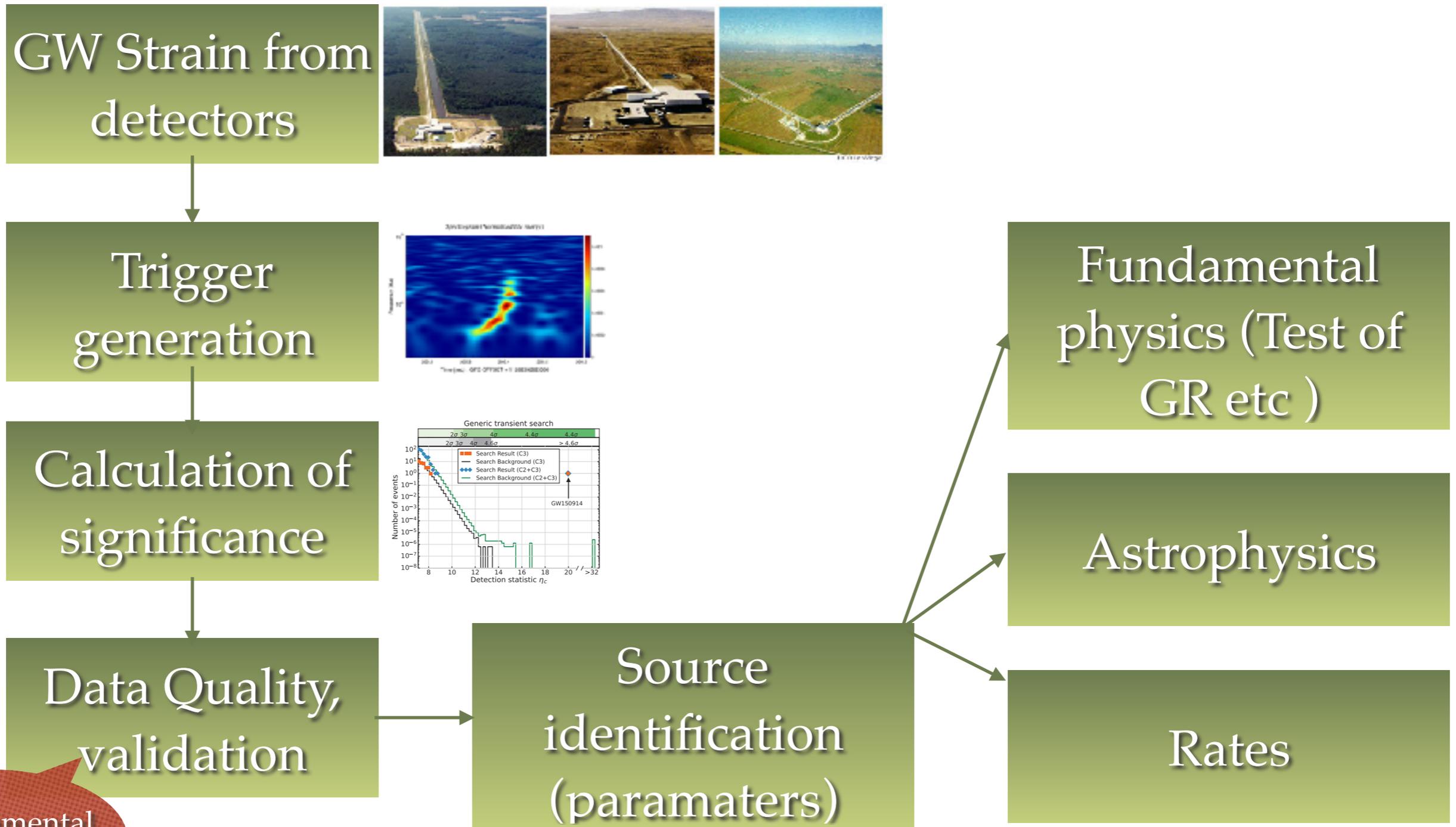
- ❖ Compact binary coalescence
  - ❖ Binary Neutron Stars
  - ❖ Binary Black Holes
  - ❖ Black Hole - Neutron Stars
- ❖ Cosmic strings

## Un -Modelled Sources



- ❖ Supernovae
- ❖ Some non vanilla CBC
  - ❖ highly eccentric
  - ❖ highly precessing, high mass ratio etc
  - ❖ exotic CBC
- ❖ Surprises

# Sources and searches : Generic scheme for gravitational wave search



# Sources and searches : Detector response

- ❖ GWs interferometers are not pointing type detectors, detector's response is directionally dependent called as detector response given in TT gauge as

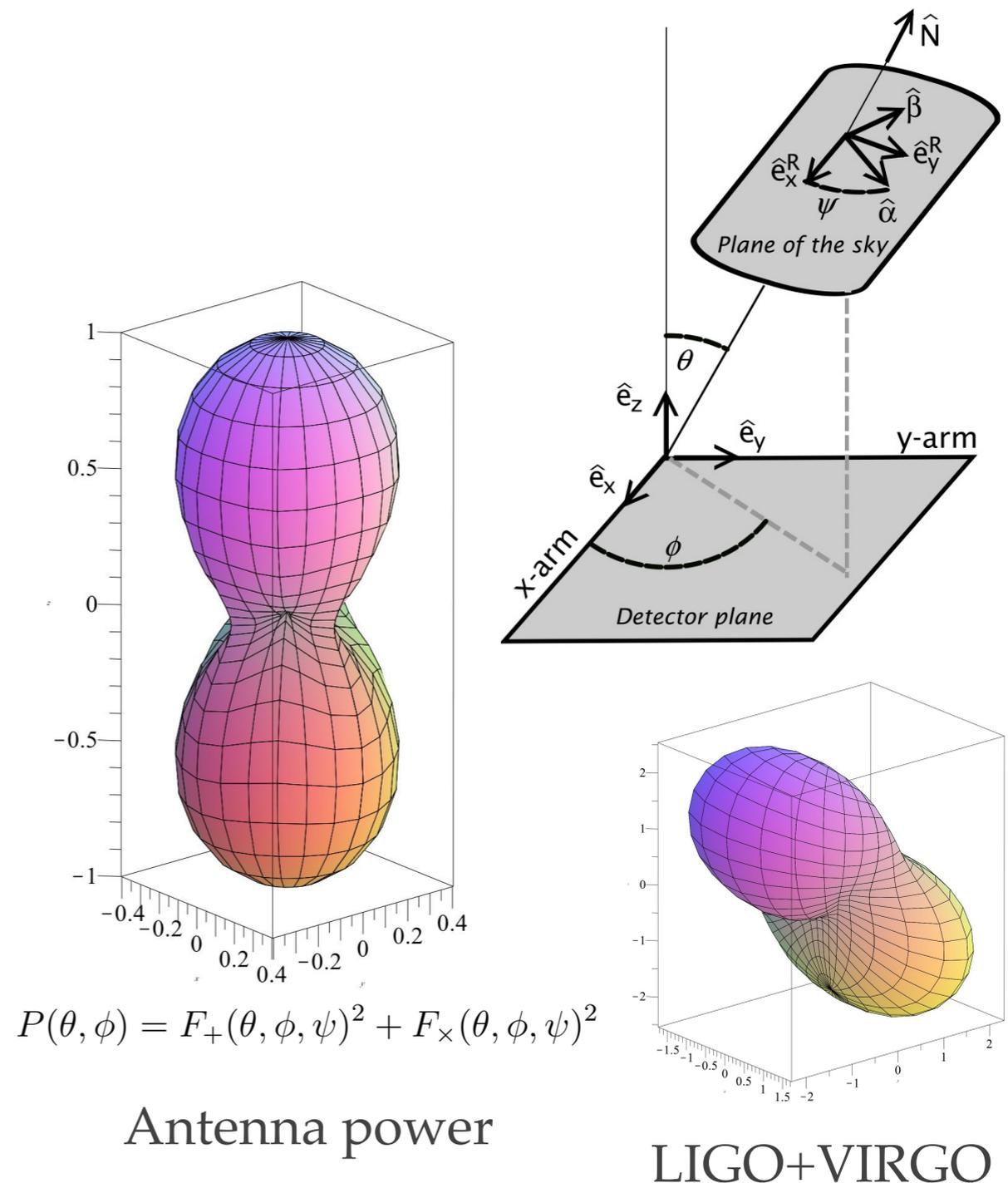
$$\xi(t) = F_+(\Theta, \Phi, \Psi)h_+(t) + F_\times(\Theta, \Phi, \Psi)h_\times(t)$$

- ❖ Where

$$F_+(\Theta, \Phi, \Psi) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos^2 \Theta) \cos 2\Phi \cos 2\Psi - \cos \Theta \sin 2\Phi \sin 2\Psi$$

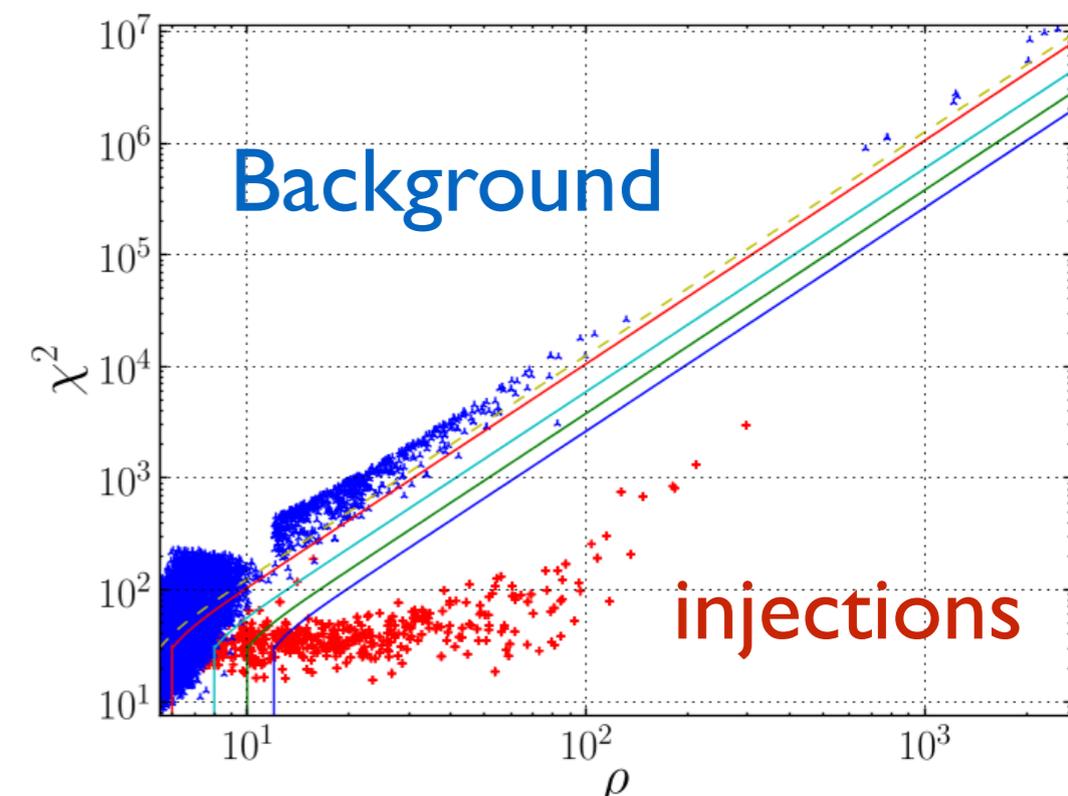
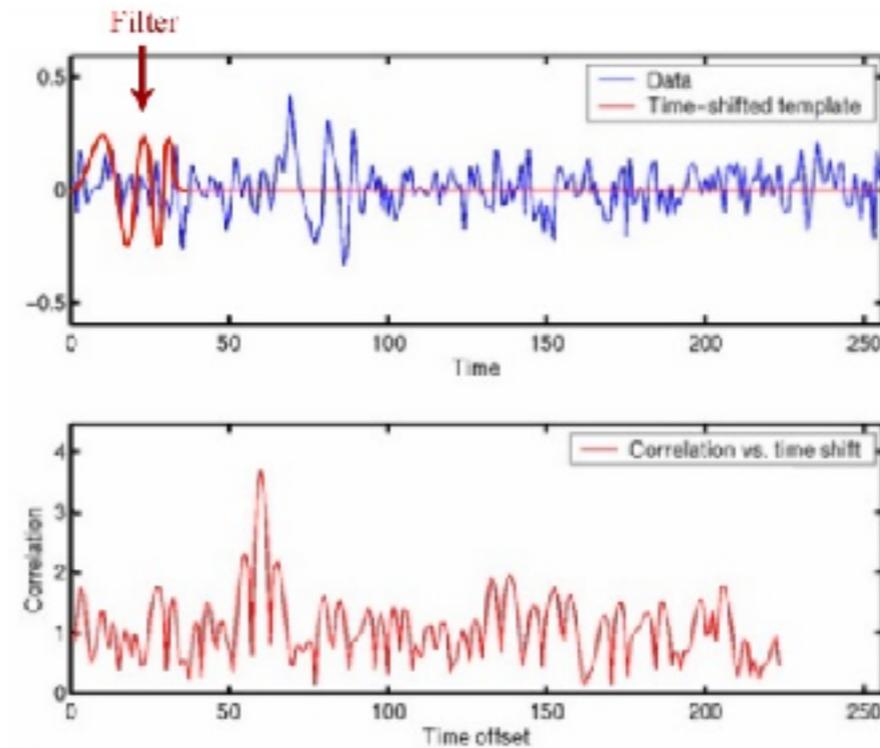
$$F_\times(\Theta, \Phi, \Psi) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos^2 \Theta) \cos 2\Phi \sin 2\Psi - \cos \Theta \sin 2\Phi \cos 2\Psi$$

- ❖ and  $h_\times(t)$  and  $h_+(t)$  are the source parameters



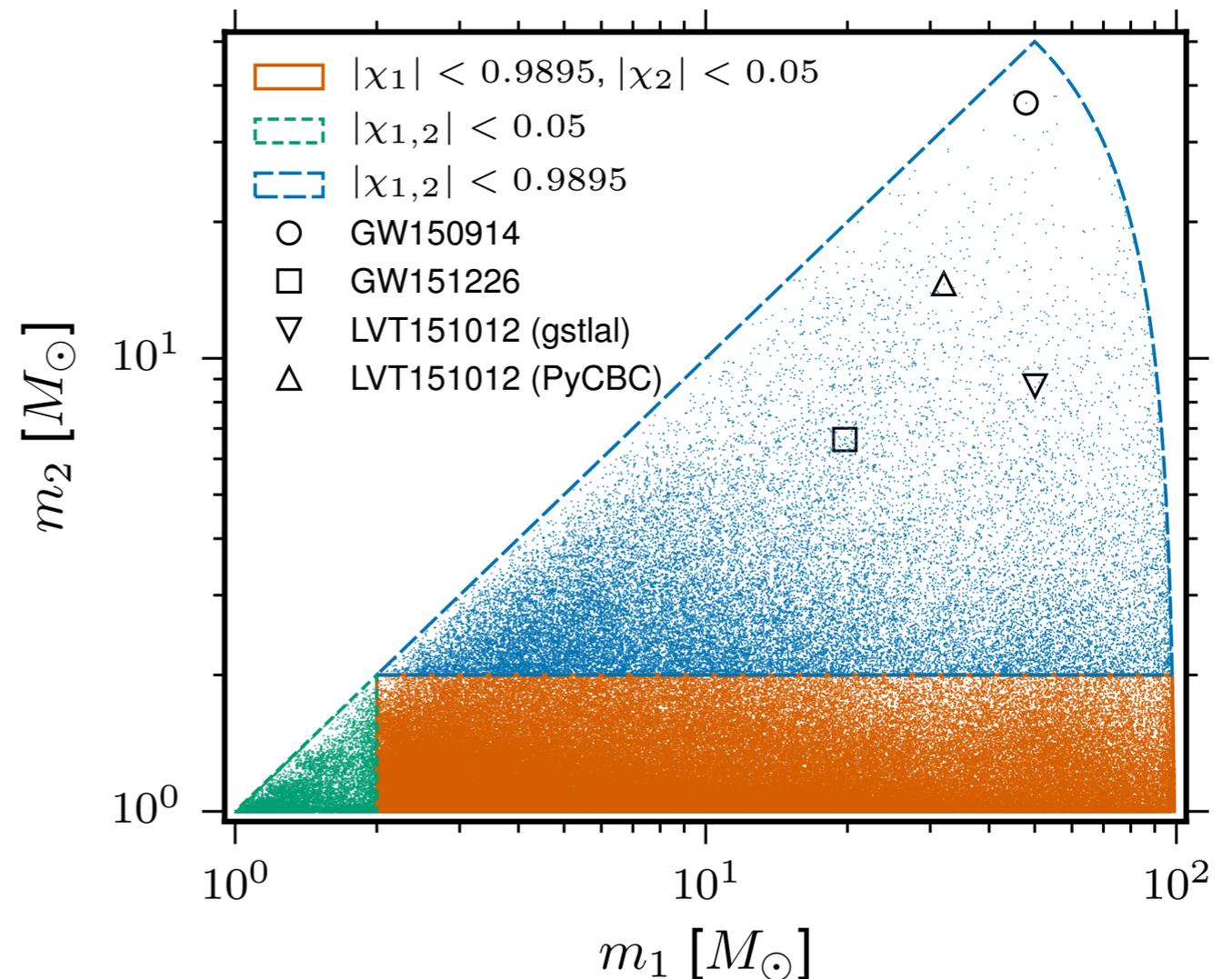
# Sources and searches : Modelled search for CBC sources

- ❖ Uses waveform models to search for CBC signals in the data, this technique is called **Matched Filtering**
- ❖ It uses the correlation between the data and various waveform models called **templates**
- ❖ The goal is to find the optimal template which would maximise the **signal to noise ratio**
- ❖ The consistency check is performed by a **chi-squared test**



# Sources and searches : Modelled search for CBC sources

- ❖ The four-dimensional search parameter space (component masses and spins) covered by the template bank shown projected into the component-mass plane.
- ❖ The colours indicate mass regions with different limits on the dimensionless spin parameters  $\chi_1$  and  $\chi_2$ .
- ❖ The trigger gives the first guess of masses, spins and strength
- ❖ Sky map is generated shortly after the trigger generation



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# Sources and searches : Modelled search for CBC sources

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- ❖ Benefits

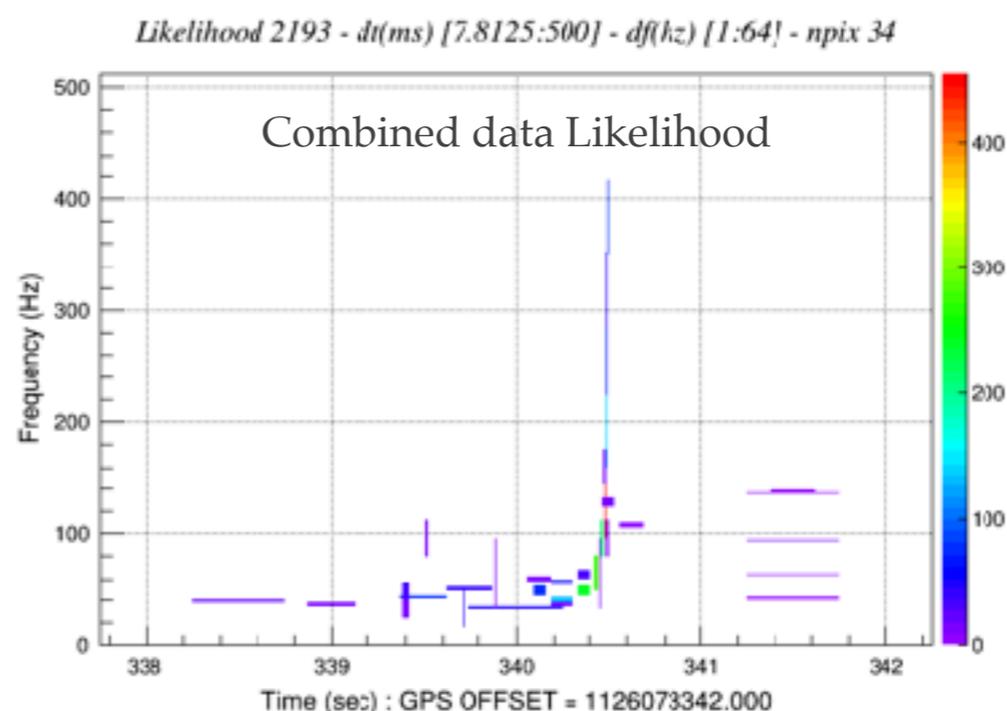
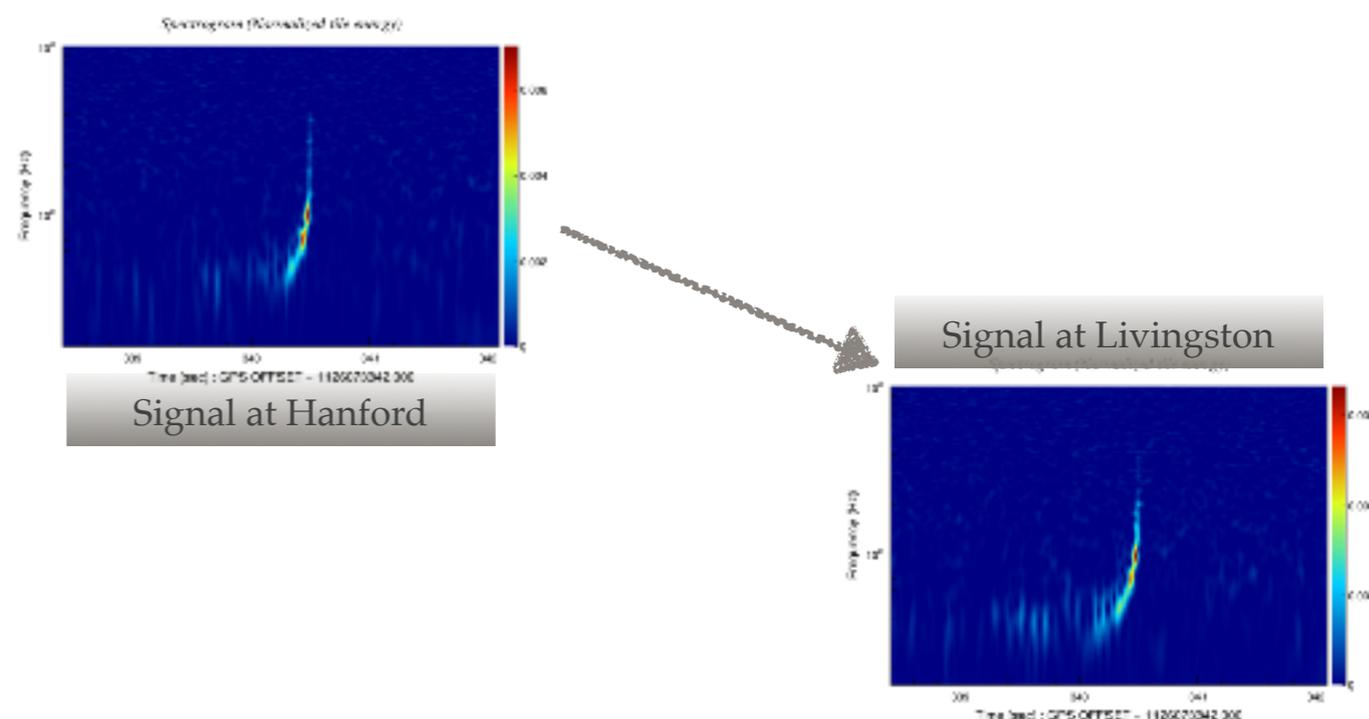
- ❖ Near optimal sensitivity for modelled signals with known parameters
- ❖ Confirmation of the source of the event

- ❖ Limitations

- ❖ Less / No sensitivity to poorly modelled or un-modelled signals

# Sources and searches : Un-modelled search

- ❖ Uses the estimation of excess energy in the detectors
- ❖ Exploits the presence of signal (energy) in multiple detectors to appear coherently i.e. consistent in time and sky location
- ❖ Data is combined from the networks of detectors
- ❖ No templates / waveforms models are required / used



# Sources and searches : Un-modelled search schematic 1

Read Data

Data conditioning

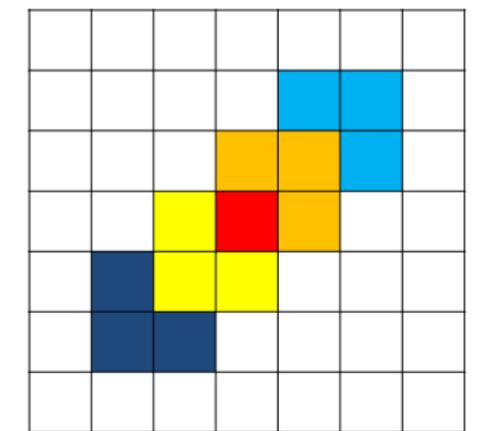
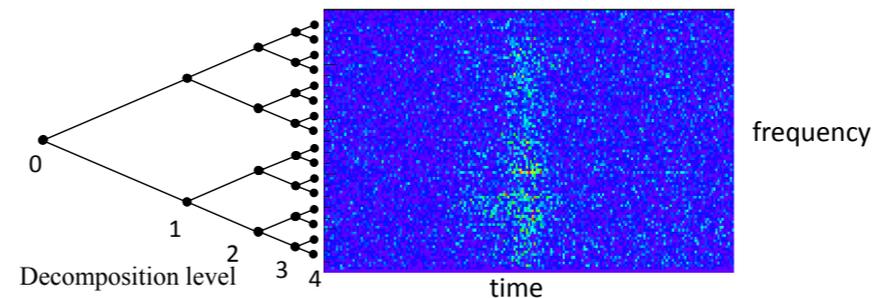
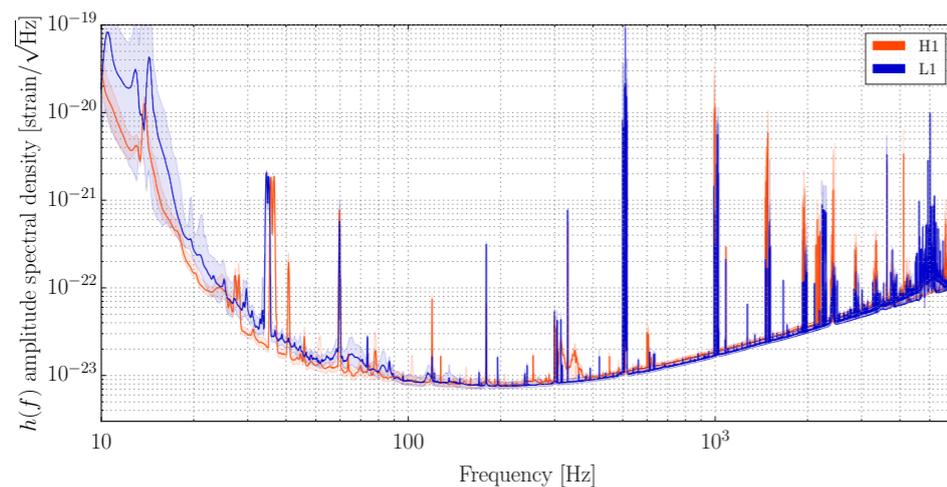
Time frequency transform and selection of pixels

Clustering

- ❖ Regression to get rid of stationary noise (resonances)
- ❖ Non uniform noise in frequency are conditioned with whitening

- ❖ TF transform such as WDM are used
- ❖ Pixels which are over the threshold from the data conditioning step are selected

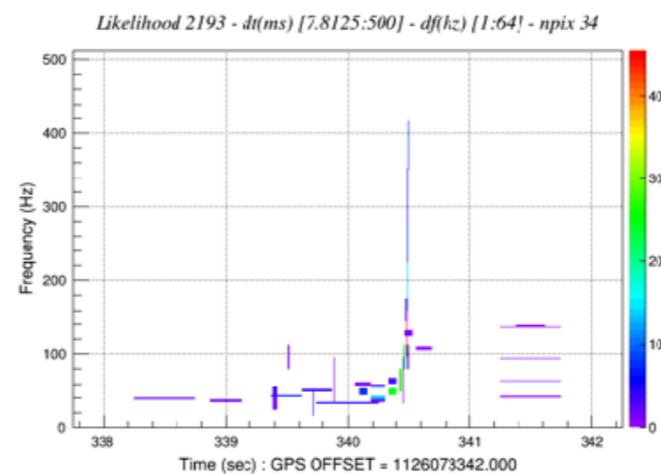
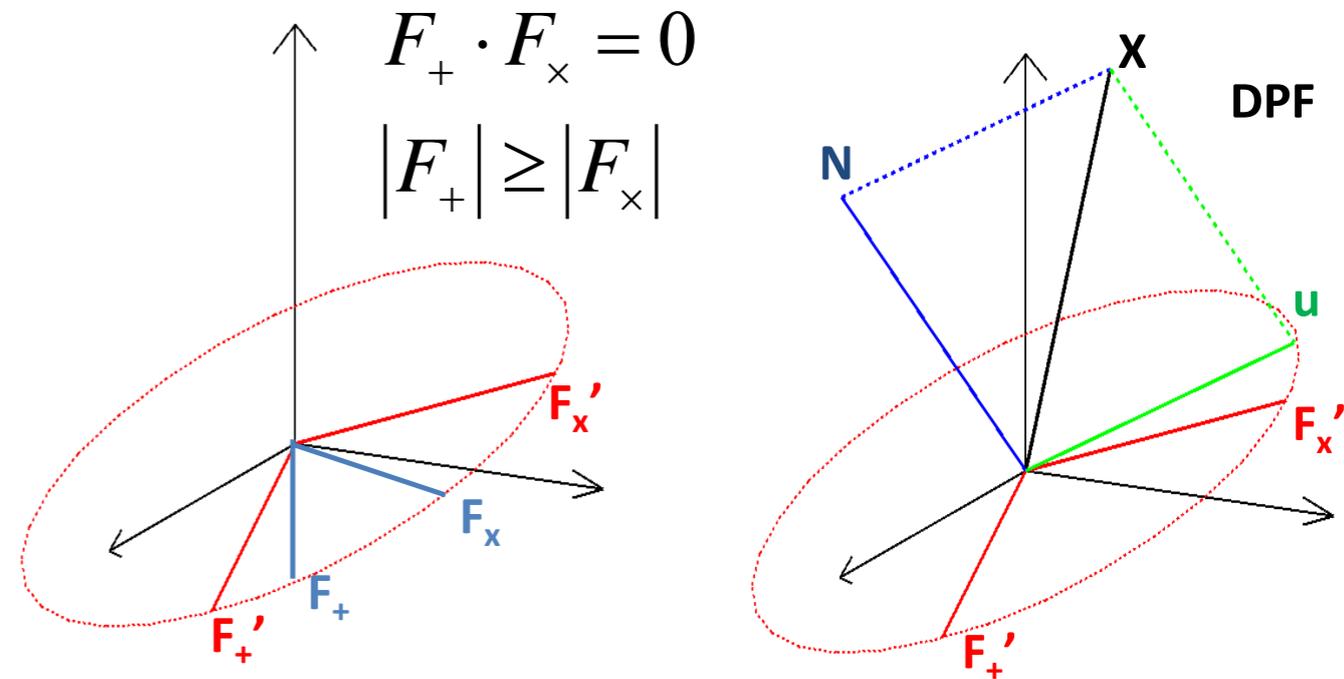
- ❖ Pixel with most energy and surrounding pixels are selected
- ❖ Various methods to cluster



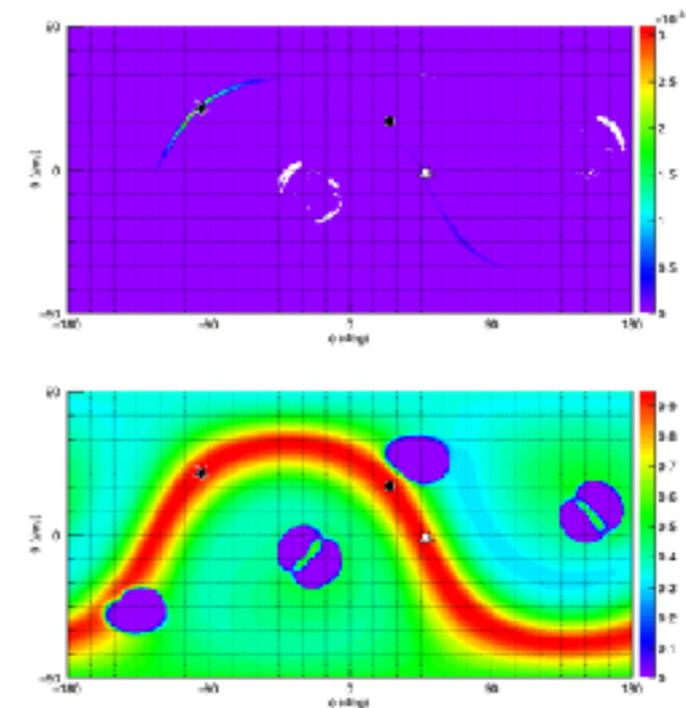
# Sources and searches : Un-modelled search schematic 2

## Likelihood analysis

- ❖ Define a multidimensional space  $N$  = number of detector and detector data on axes
- ❖ Likelihood is wave frame rotation invariant
- ❖ We rotate it in such a way that the antenna pattern function are orthogonal and + is dominant called dominant polarisation frame (DPF)
- ❖ In this frame detector response corresponding to maximum likelihood is projection of data vector  $X$  on the DPF
- ❖ Orthogonal to this plane is the Null Stream (N) which describes the noise
- ❖ Maximum likelihood points to the reconstructed direction
- ❖ We get sky map, polarisation, reconstructed waveform and coherent signal strength as output



**Klimenko+ PhysRevD.**  
**93.042004**



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# Sources and searches : Un-modelled search

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- ❖ Benefits
  - ❖ No dependance on the waveform models
  - ❖ Can detect surprises
- ❖ Limitations
  - ❖ Background is not as clean as the modelled search which limits the sensitivity to the know sources
  - ❖ Single detector triggers are less important

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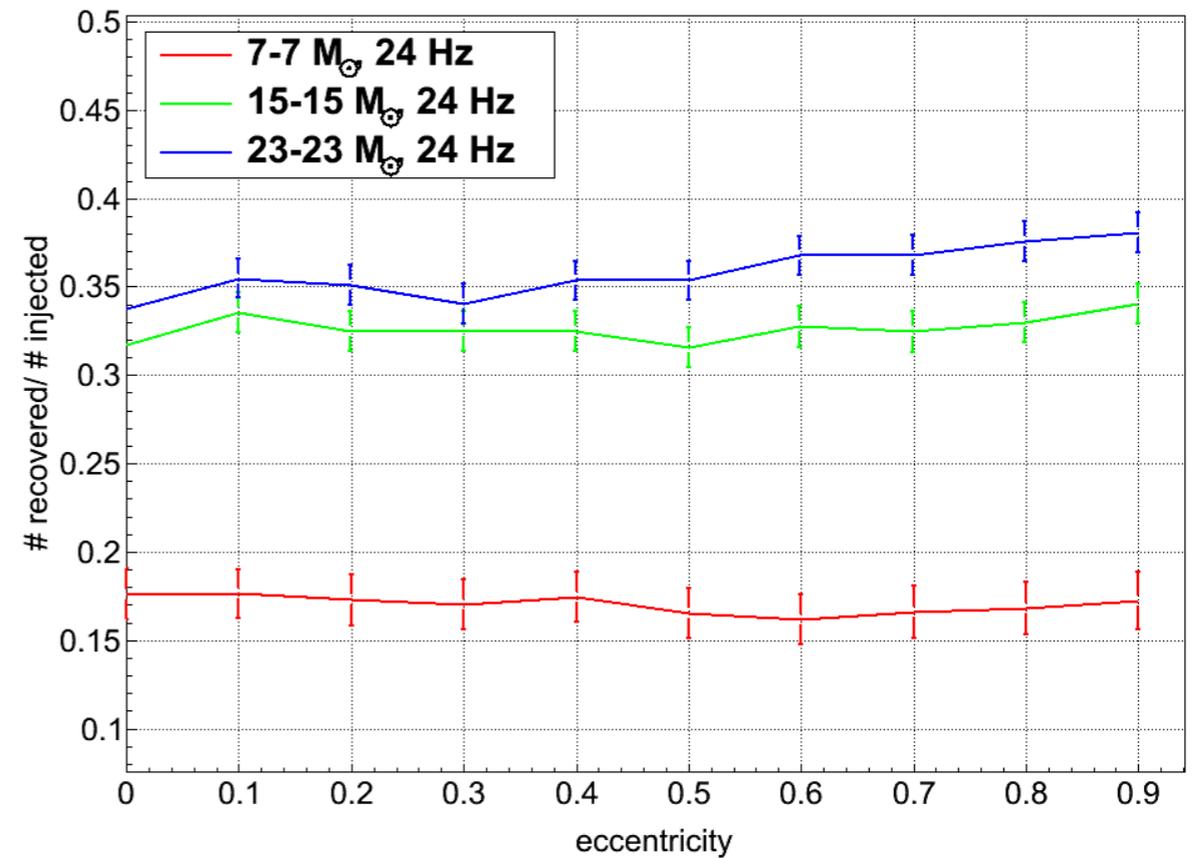
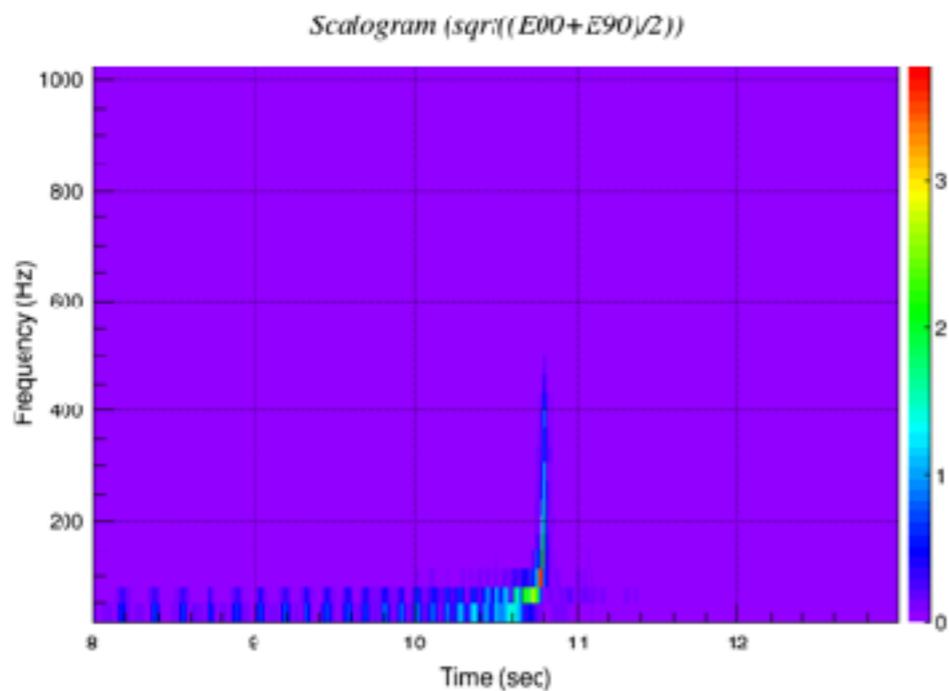
## Sources and searches : CBC sources in un-modelled search

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- ❖ Some “non-vanilla CBC” sources for which the modelling is not precise/expensive are covered by un-modelled searches
  - ❖ eccentric Black Hole binaries
  - ❖ Intermediate mass ratio inspirals
  - ❖ exotic binaries
- ❖ Some CBC sources will have very short presence in our detectors and will be very burst like
  - ❖ Heavy black holes (IMBBH)



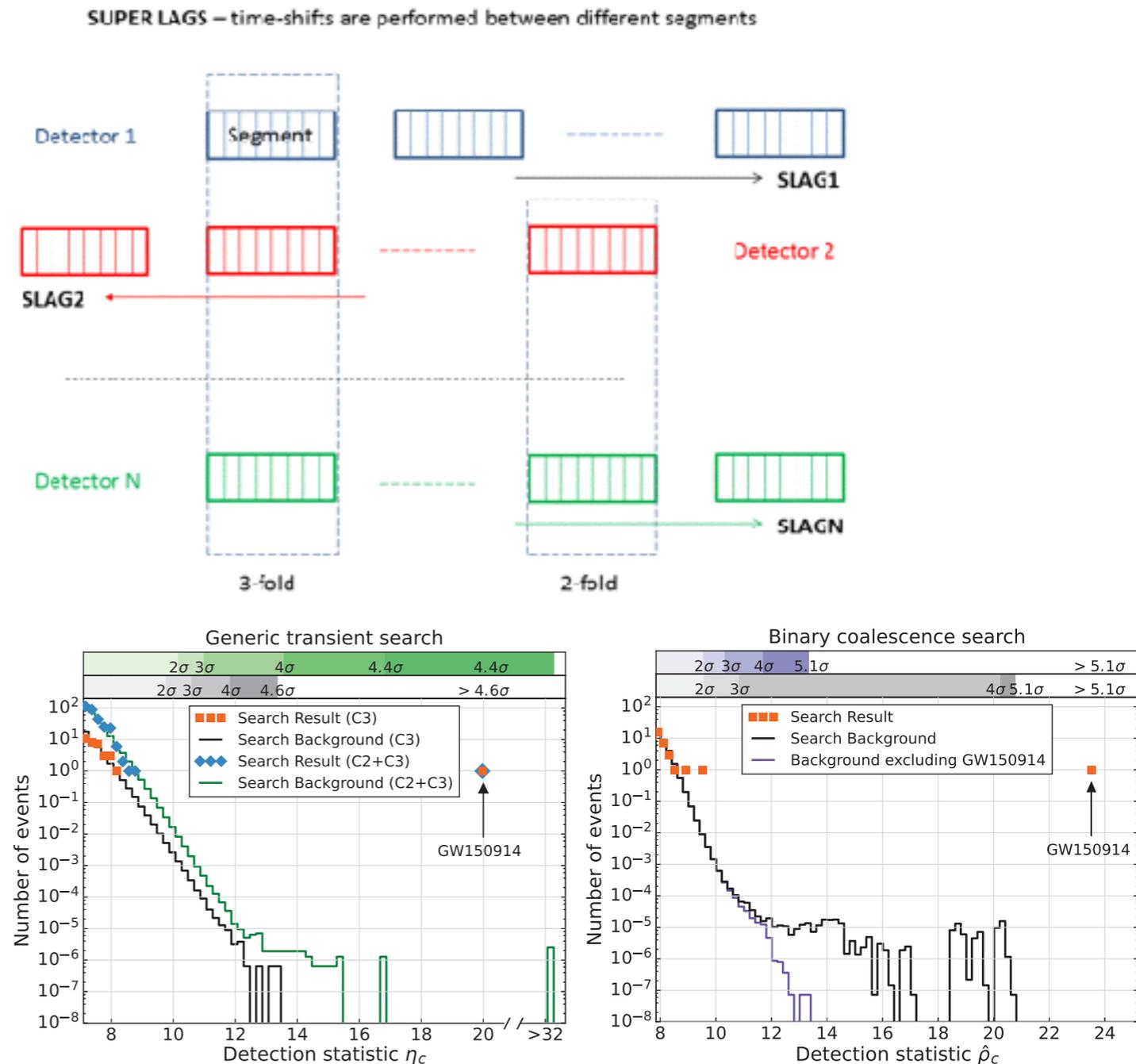
- ❖ An example of eBBH in un-modelled search
- ❖ The efficiency of detection is independent of eccentricity
- ❖ Will be interesting to follow up as they are expected to come from galactic nuclei



**V Tiwari+ Phys.Rev. D93 (2016) no.4, 043007**

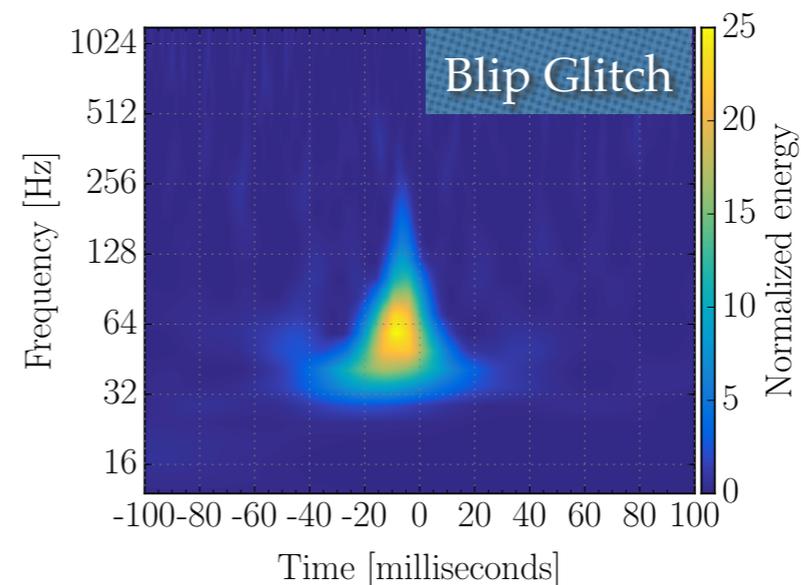
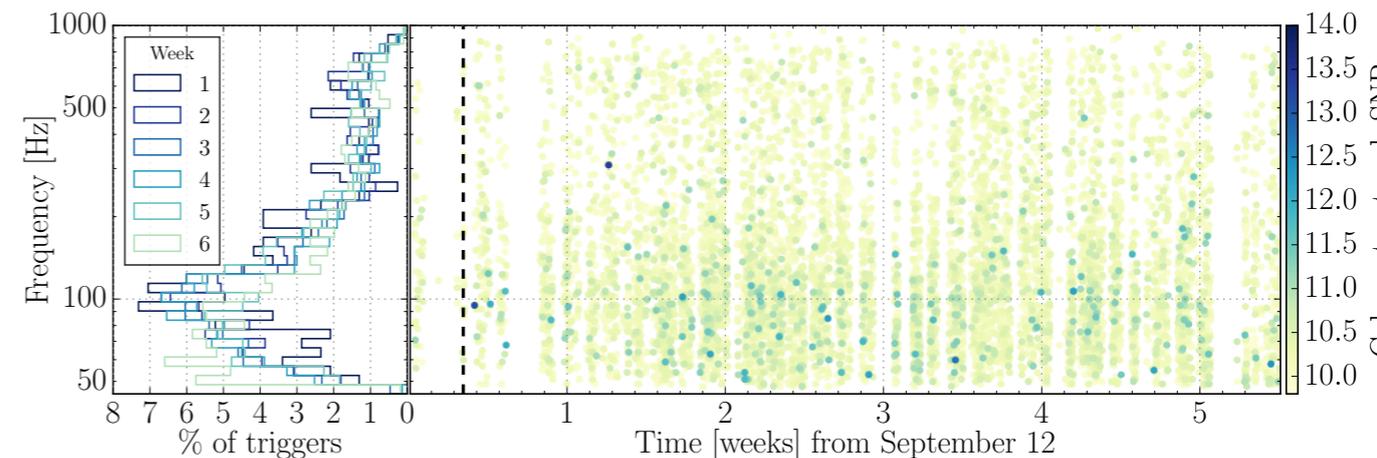
# Sources and searches : background and significance

- ❖ Background is generated by unphysical time sliding the data to eliminate real signals
- ❖ Rank the background triggers (either the modelled way or the unmodelled way) according to the detection statistics
- ❖ estimated p-value from CDF
- ❖ minimum p-value estimate is limited by the number of time slides one can perform
- ❖ There is also a Bayesian way using KDE of foreground and background in SNR chi-squared space.



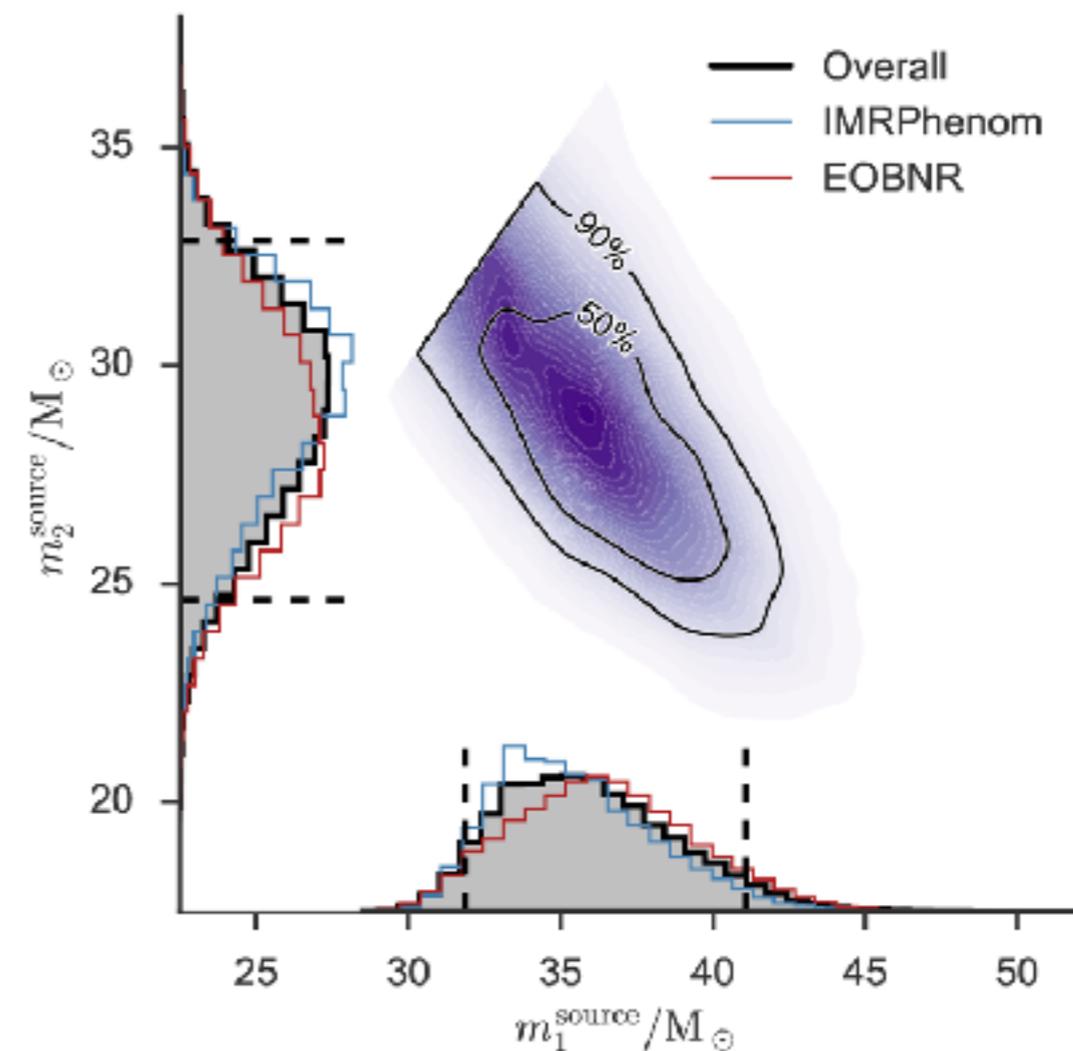
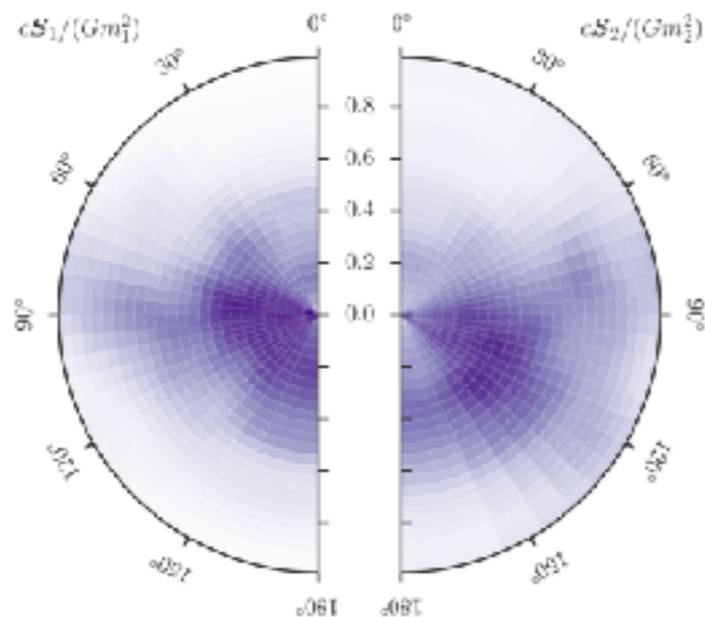
# Sources and searches : Data quality and glitches

- ❖ Answers the important question, was the signal an artefact or real astrophysical one, apart from a random noise fluctuation?
- ❖ The environmental factors effect the ever so sensitive detectors and they are characterised and vetoed, few glitches during last observation run
  - ❖ Anthropogenic (man made)
  - ❖ Seismic activity (earth made)
  - ❖ RF laser modulation noise
  - ❖ “blips” (unknown source )
- ❖ You wanna hunt glitches, here is your opportunity GravitySpy
  - ❖ <https://www.zooniverse.org/projects/zooniverse/gravity-spy>



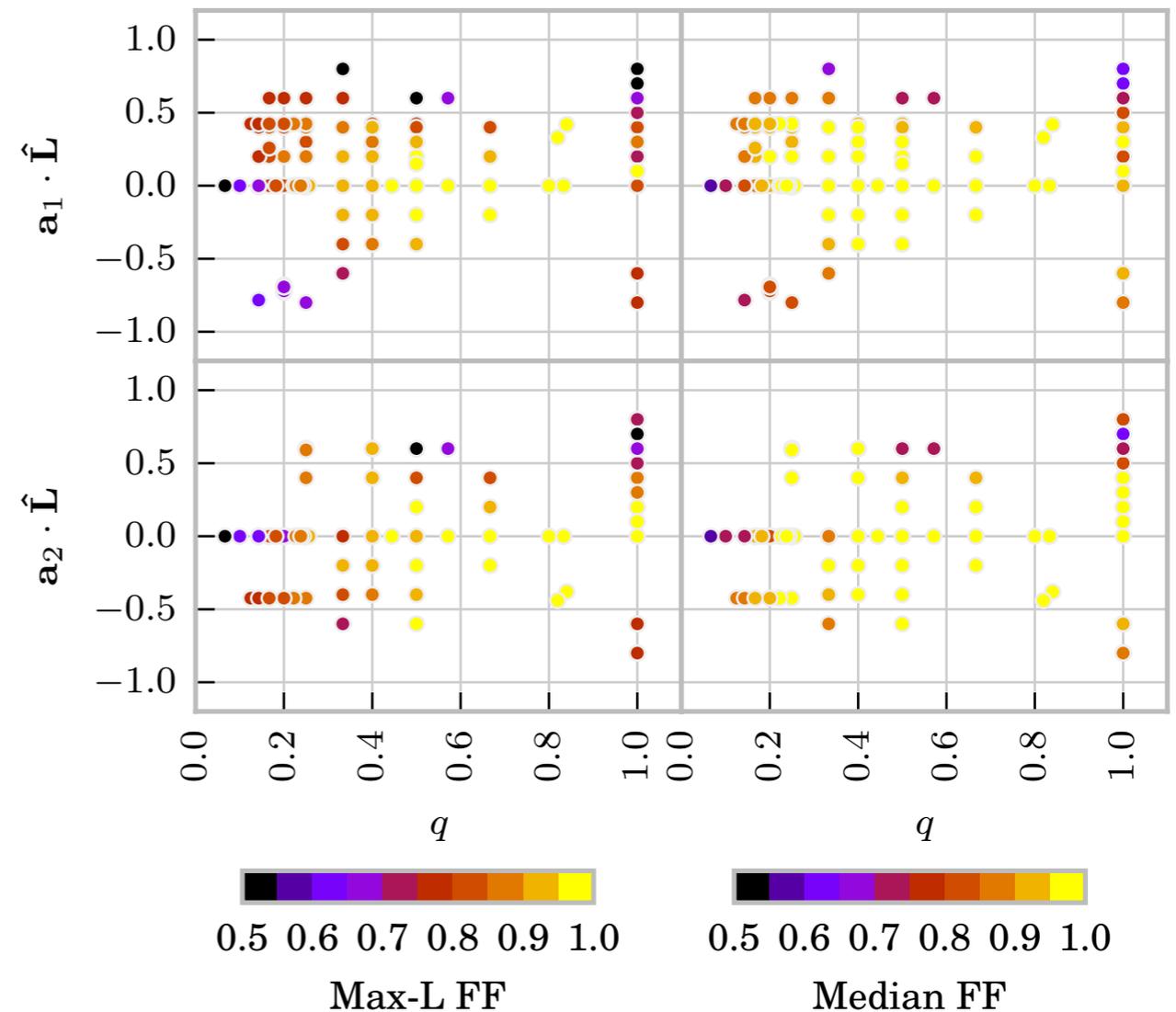
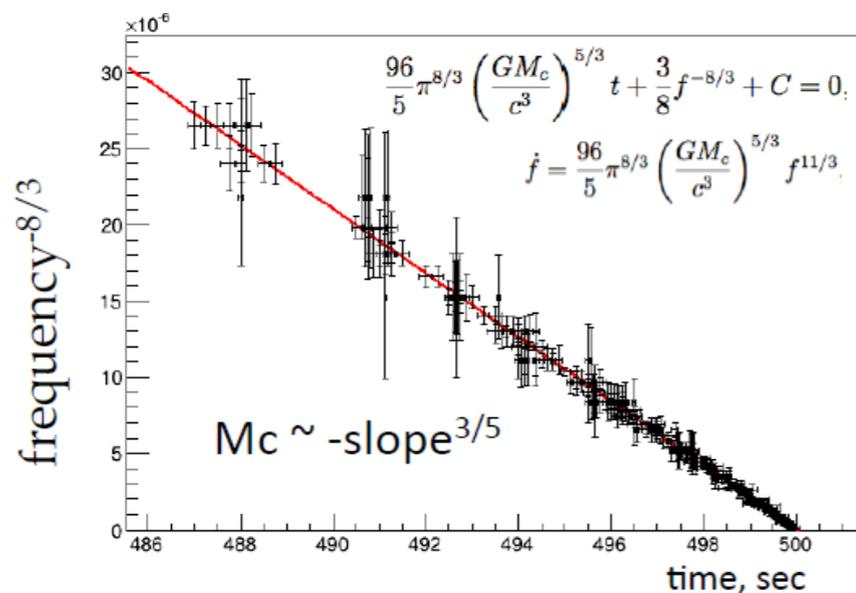
# Sources and searches : Source Identification

- ❖ For the signals for which we have good models we can have straight forward application of Bayes' theorem to get a posterior PDF for various parameters (masses, spins, distance etc )
- ❖ Two waveform models are used namely EOB (effective one body) and IMRPhenom(phenomenological wavefom)



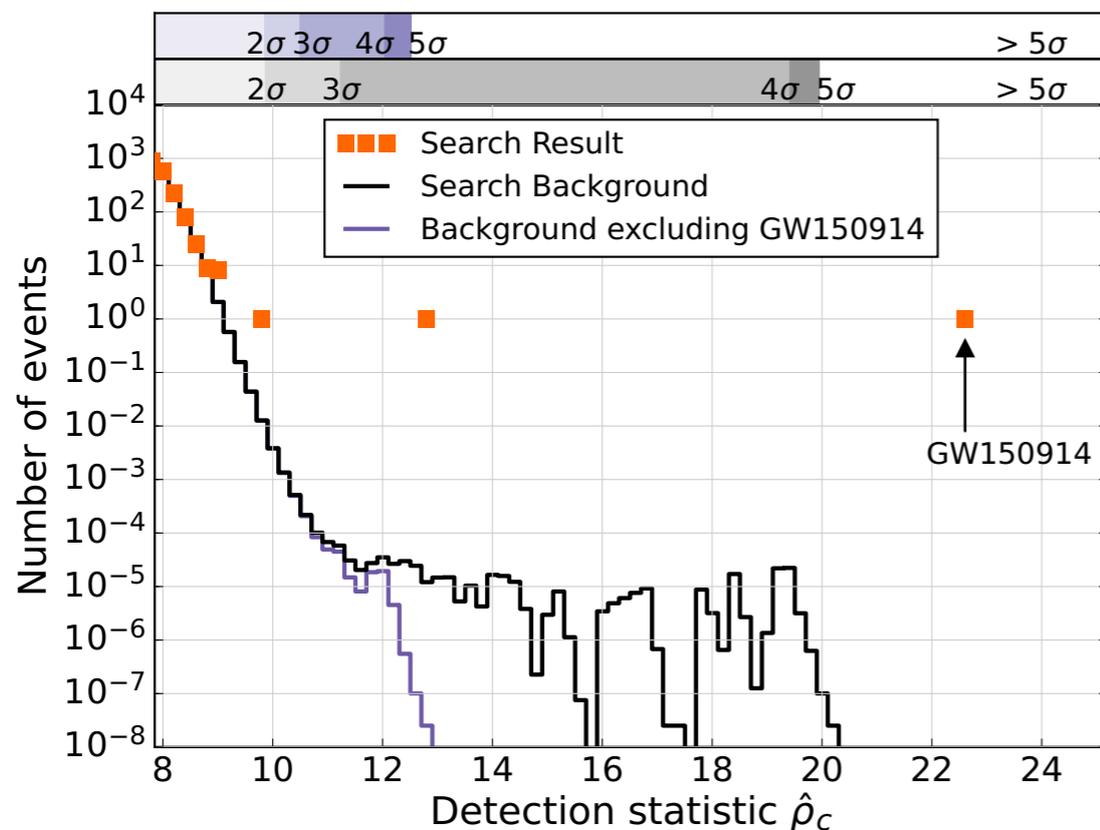
# Sources and searches : Source Identification

- ❖ For the signals not having accurate waveforms
  - ❖ Time frequency behaviour gives a hint about the source
  - ❖ EM counterpart can provide smoking gun for SNs etc
  - ❖ Directly comparing the reconstructed waveform with Numerical relativity

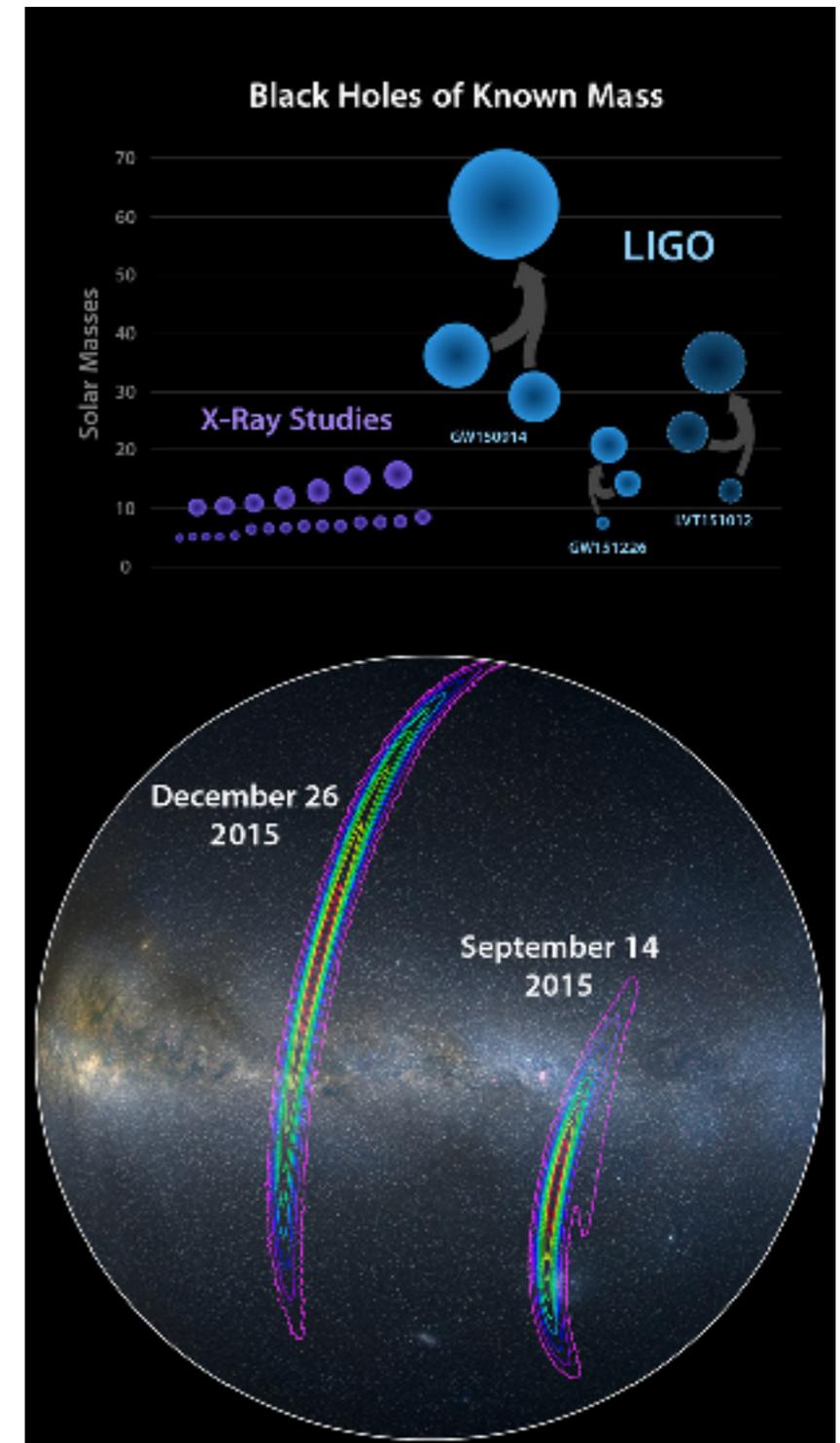


# Gravitational Waves observations : A proof that the system works

- ❖ Using the prescribed machinery we have detected two events both binary black holes
- ❖ We are starting to fill up the gravitational waves transients sky
- ❖ O2 will start soon and VIRGO will join breaking a lot of degeneracies in the parameters



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# Gravitational Waves observations : Exciting times ahead

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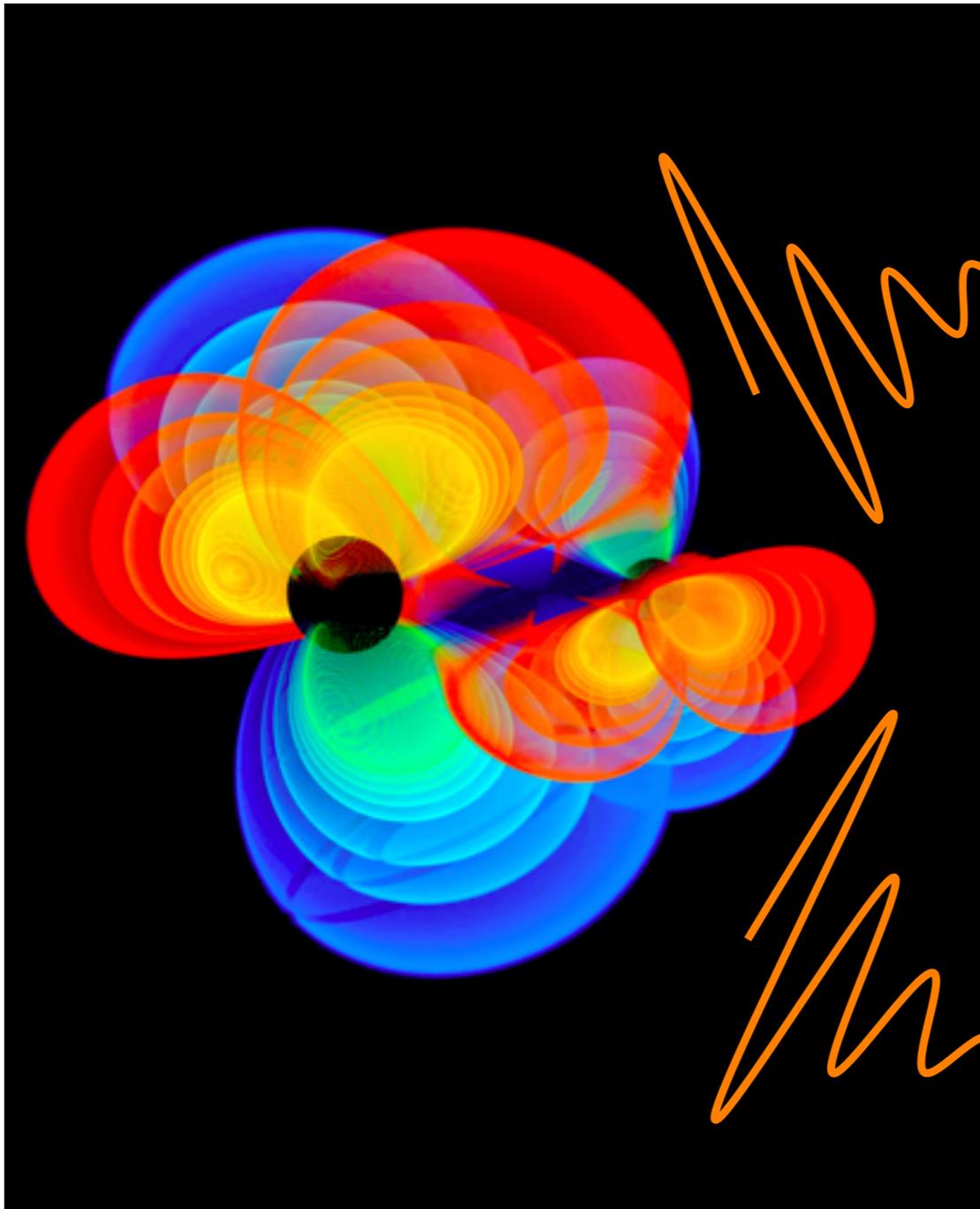
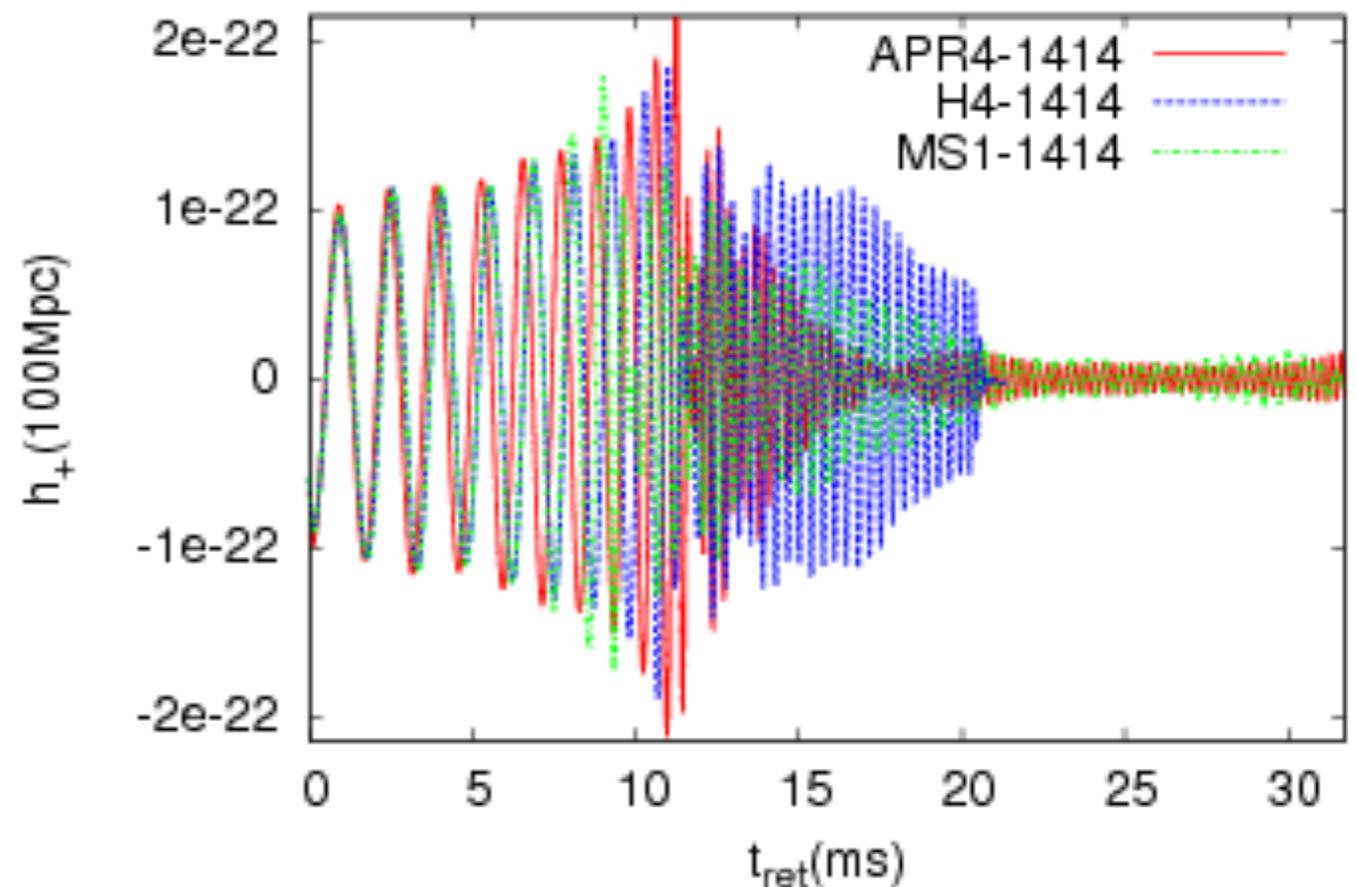


Image Courtesy : ICRAR

- ❖ Black Holes are inevitable in GR
- ❖ We have detected two events both binary black holes mergers, but the story is far from finished, we want to see
  - ❖ Long adiabatic inspiral
  - ❖ Higher harmonics
  - ❖ Constrain Hawking's area theorem
  - ❖ Late time QNM
  - ❖ Constrain Cosmic Censorship and no hair theorem

# Gravitational Waves observations : Exciting times ahead

- ❖ Black holes are pure spacetime we look forward to detect some matter
  - ❖ Detect a Binary Neutron Star
    - ❖ With EM counterpart (GRBs and afterglows)
    - ❖ constrain Equation of State
  - ❖ Detect Collapsing star
    - ❖ With EM counterpart and neutrinos
    - ❖ understand the mechanism
- ❖ Be surprised



Choptuik+ arXiv:1502.06853

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# Thank you

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“Yesterday’s discovery is today’s calibration and tomorrow’s background.”

*–Richard Feynman*