

Radio counterparts of GWs

Alessandra Corsi

Physics & Astronomy Department Texas Tech University

VULCANO WORKSHOP 2018 Frontier Objects in Astrophysics and particle Physics

Welcome to the era of GW astrophysics!



LIGO, Virgo, and partners make first detection of gravitational waves and light from colliding neutron stars



GW170817: e.g., Abbott et al. 2017, PRL, 119, 1101; Abbott et al. 2017, ApJ, 848, L12; Abbott et al. 2017, ApJ, 848, 13; Goldstein et al. 2017, ApJL, 848,2; references therein (AND MANY MORE!)



Courtesy:Varun Bhalerao





Ruling out a top-hat off-axis jet





Ruling out a top-hat off-axis jet





Structured jet

Morphology of GW170817 outflow



loka & Nakamura 2017, arXiv:171005905

Rossi et al. 2004, MNRAS, 354, 86

Why do we care? Geometry matters!



Successful structured jet (jet+cocoon)

- After yrs of circumstantial evidence, we now have direct proof that sGRBs are NS-NS mergers.
- After 20 years of searching, we have found an off-axis GRB jet.
- sGRB rate traces NS/NS rate.
- ◆ Viewing angle constrains orbital inclination → Helps break degeneracies in GW studies...

Cocoon only (choked jet)

- Establishes diversity of central engine outcomes. Some launch jets, others fail.
- Short GRB rate < NS/NS rate.</p>
- Expect a larger number of EM counterparts than off-axis jet:
 - Wide-angle ejecta are visible over a wider solid angle.
 - Cocoon may boost early UV/ blue kilonova brightness?

Radio light curve monitoring alone will likely not break all model degeneracies





How common is GWI708I7?





Prompt collapse to BH may suppress blue kilonova (due to lack of neutrino flux which prevents formation of heavy r-process elements)?

GWI708I7-like events: blue and red kilonovae and cocoon. Fraction

of such mergers where the jets escape through the polar ejecta yet to be determined. Possibly, relativistic jets escape cleanly without interacting with polar ejecta, precluding cocoon formation?

Advanced detectors expected progress





Abbott et al., Living Reviews in Relativity 19, 1 (2016)

GW170817-like transient @ 120 Mpc: We need the next generation VLA!





The next generation VLA (ngVLA)





The ngVLA projected sensitivity



Prospects for radio polarization studies





some degree of "order"

polarization.

 \rightarrow appreciable degree of linear

Structured jet: energy and speed of ejecta components depend on polar angle → Emitting surface asymmetric for misaligned observers.





ngVLA+VLBA imaging: on-axis jet @150d





ngVLA+VLBA imaging: off-axis jet @IOd





ngVLA+VLBA imaging: off-axis jet @150d



Conclusion and future prospects



- LIGO-Virgo have made first direct measurements of GWs!
- Merging binary black hole and neutron star systems have been observed for the first time!
 'a scientific revolution'
- Plans are underway to improve LIGO (and Virgo) sensitivity for O3 and beyond.
- Don't forget to also improve radio facilities!



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Extreme and Explosive Astrophysics

- Radio/X-ray follow-up of supernovae and other transients.
- Observational studies of dynamics of dense star clusters.
- Accretion onto black holes and neutron stars, jets, GRBs. **Stellar Populations in Nearby Galaxies**
- X-ray binary populations of nearby galaxies.

Gravitational-Wave Physics and Astronomy

- GWs from GRBs, pulsars, magnetars with LIGO.
- Radio, optical, and X-ray follow-up of gravitational waves.
- Theoretical studies of neutron stars and black holes. . Instrumentation and Collaborations

STROBE-X – X-ray Timing and Spectroscopy on Dynamical Timescales from Microsecs to Yrs.

- Small telescopes for photometric follow-up of targets from exoplanet transit surveys.
- We are part of: CTA, DLT40, GROWTH, LIGO, ngVLA. •



WHERE? Lubbock, (West) Texas - USA



QUESTIONS? Contact us:



A. Corsi



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J. Romano



Future of ground-based GW astronomy





Expectations for NS-NS rates





Prospects for ngVLA+VLBA imaging: isotropic fireball



A puzzling EM counterpart





Instead of bright γ -rays from an on-axis relativistic jet, just a red kilonova, and a relatively prompt radio/X-ray afterglow, we saw γ rays a factor of ~1000 weaker than for ordinary short GRBs, an early blue kilonova, and late radio/X-ray emission.



A successful structured jet - continued





A successful structured jet





GW170817: Sky localization





Combination of LIGO, Virgo, Fermi, and Integral localizations for GW170817: final patch is about 30 sqr deg in area.

Credit: LIGO / Virgo

NS-NS merger @ 40 Mpc



Credit: European Southern Observatory Very Large Telescope

Abbott et al., ApJL, 848:L12, 2017





GW170817: 1st LIGO-Virgo NS merger





The gravitational-wave strain amplitude of GW170817 is of the order of 10⁻²² and so is not visible in the bottom panel

Abbott et al. 2017, PRL, 119, 1101