

# The kilonova - short GRB connection in the Multi-Messenger era

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INAF – Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera



Credit: National Science Foundation/LIGO/Sonoma University/A. Simmonet

# Swift & Short GRBs

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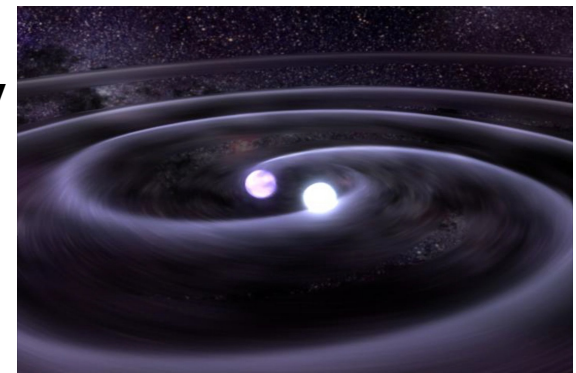
Since 2005, with the advent of the *Swift* satellite, the discovery of short GRB afterglows and the identification of their host galaxies made possible to measure their distances and study their energy scales and environments.

To date, *Swift* detected ~150 short GRBs (~9/yr):

- ~15% with an extended emission
- ~75% with a X-ray afterglow detected
- ~15% with no X-ray afterglow detection in spite of prompt XRT slew
- ~35% with an optical afterglow detected
- ~5% with a radio afterglow detected
- ~25% with a redshift measurement (mainly from host galaxy spectroscopy -> importance of precise, arcsec, position for host galaxy association)

Berger 14  
Fong+15  
D'Avanzo15

**A lot of science cases related to short GRBs**  
**Main issue: the quest for progenitors**



# Compact object mergers: what we do expect

## Diverse delay times:

- A mix of early and late type host galaxies

## Kicks/migration from birth site:

- Offsets
- No correlation with UV/optical HG light
- Diversity in the environment (ev. channel)

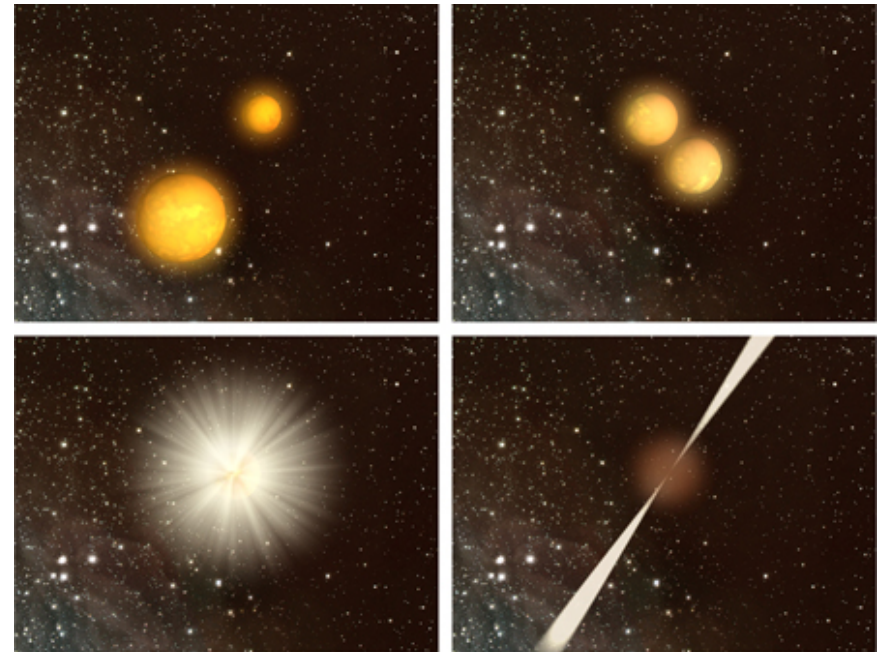
## No associated supernova

## Remnant (magnetar/BH?)

## Emission geometry (jet?)

## Kilonova association

## Gravitational waves



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The Neutron Stars Merging Scenario

ESO PR Photo 32c/05 (October 6, 2005)



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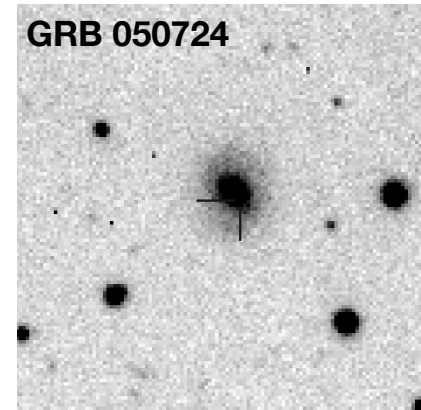
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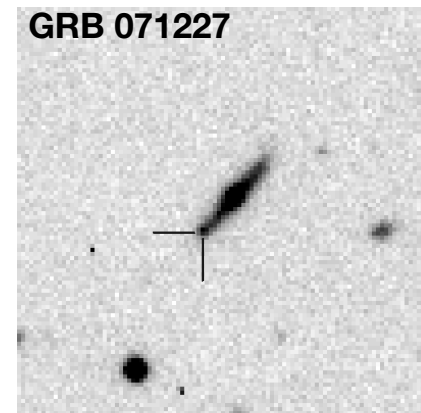
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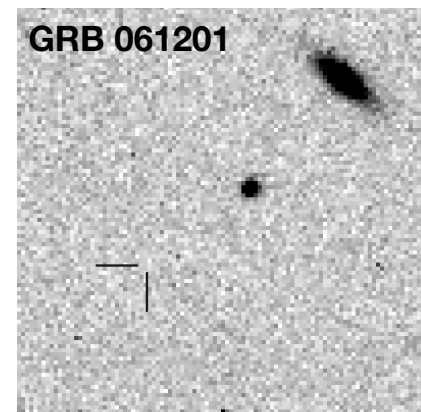
## Gravitational waves



early type



late type



hostless

Barthelmy+05  
Malesani+07  
Stratta+07  
PDA+09  
Fong+13  
Berger14



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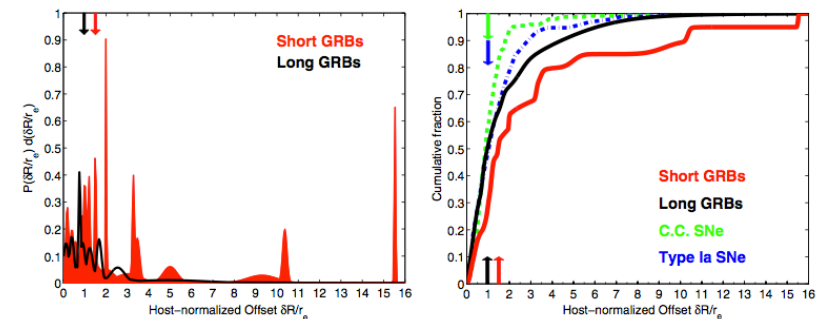
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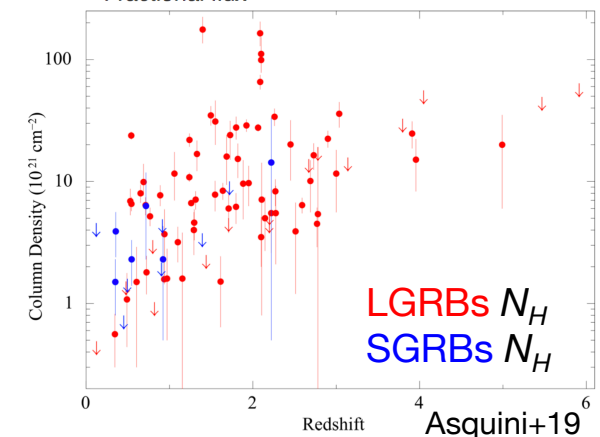
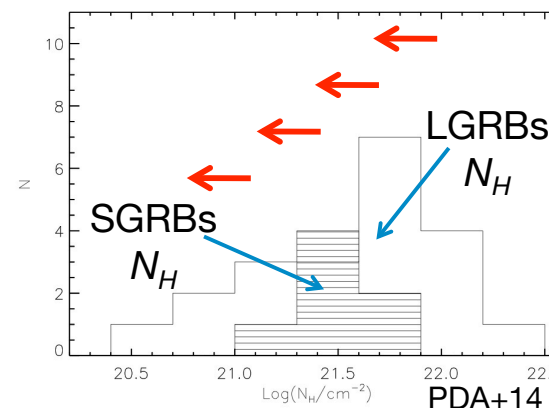
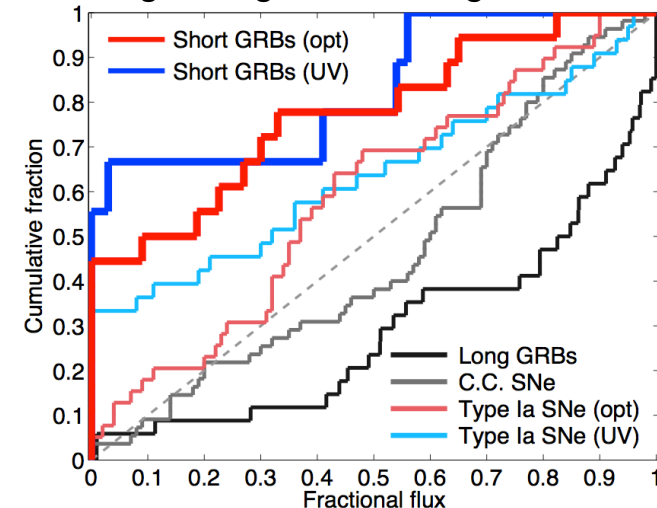
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Fong & Berger 2013; Berger 2014



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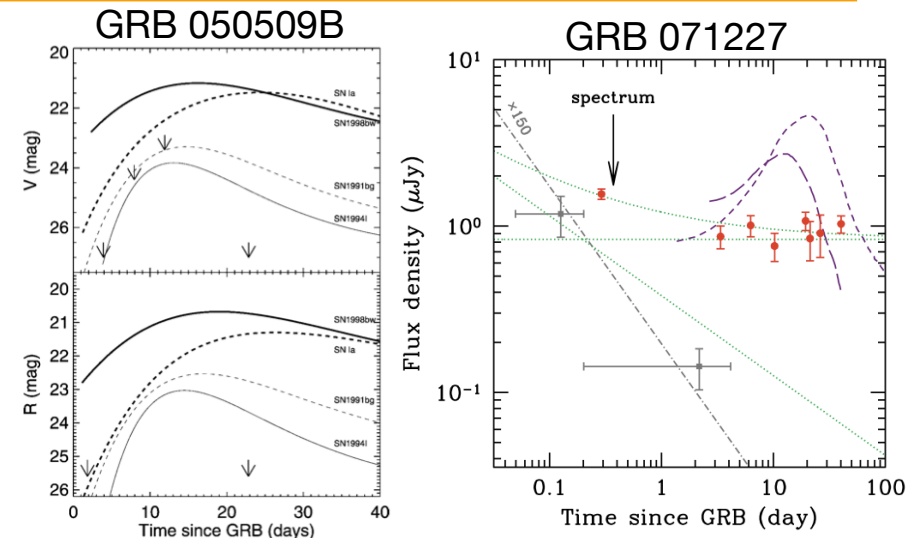
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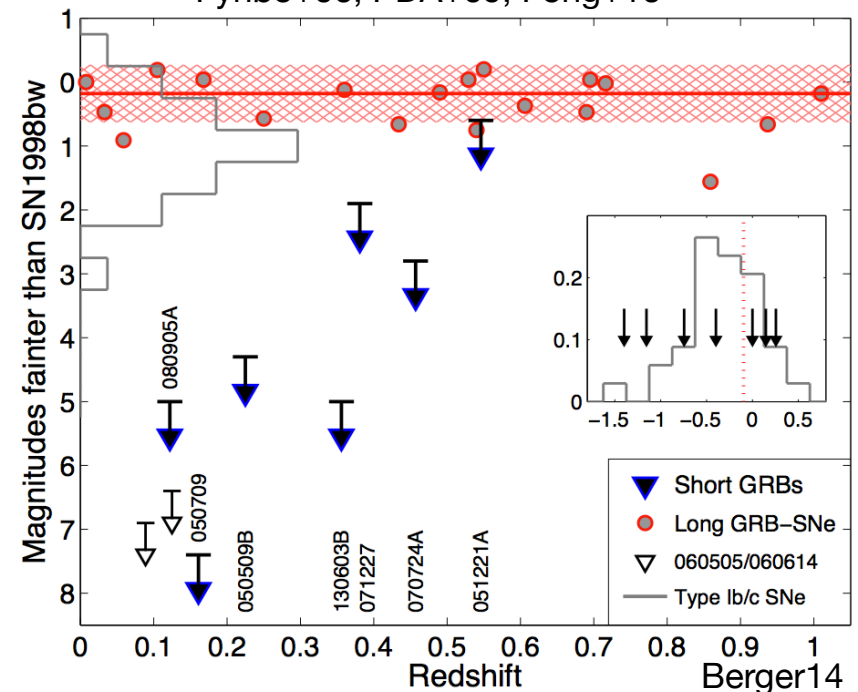
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Hjorth+05; Covino+06; Della Valle+06;  
Fynbo+06; PDA+09; Fong+16



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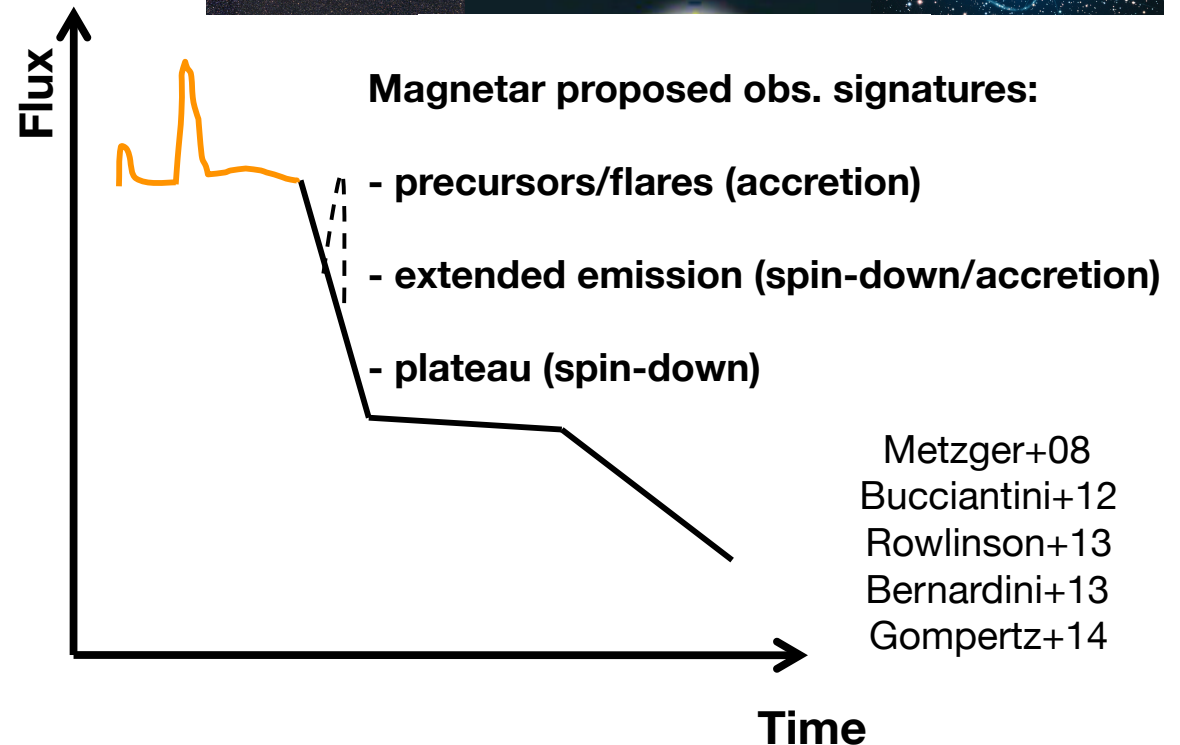
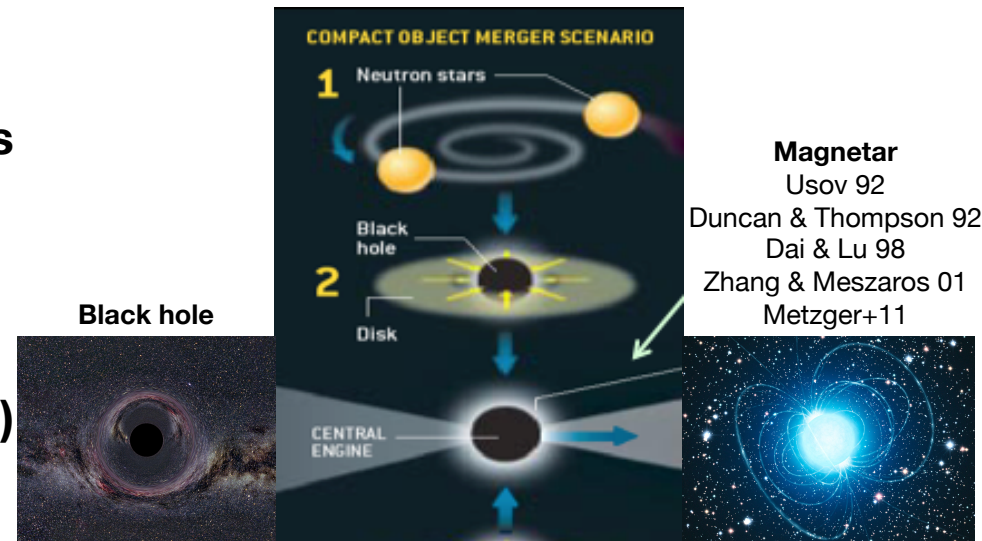
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Maria Grazia  
Bernardini  
talk





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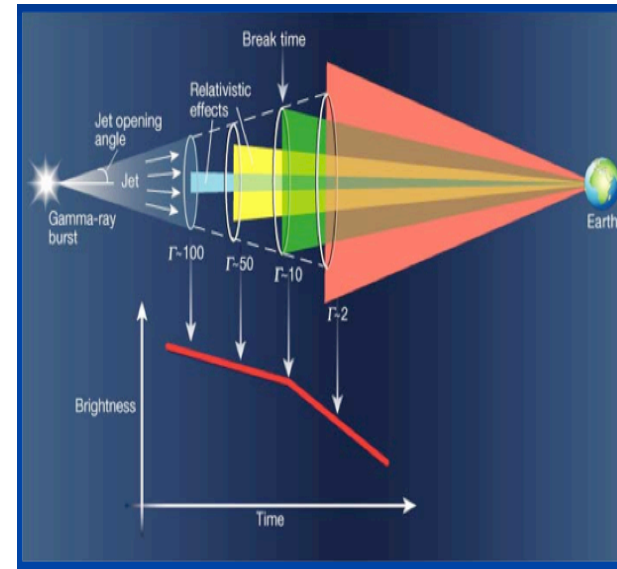
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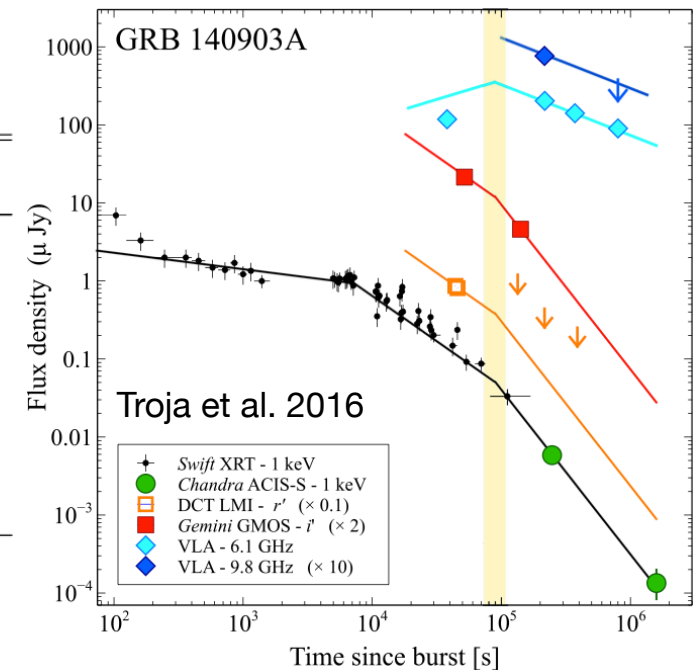
## Kilonova association

## Gravitational waves



Short GRB Opening Angles				
GRB	Band <sup>a</sup>	$\theta_j$ (deg)	$\delta t_{\text{last}}^b$ (days)	Reference
050709	O	$\gtrsim 15^\circ$	16.2	1
050724A	X	$\gtrsim 25^\circ$	22.0	2
051221A	X	$6-7^\circ$	26.6	3
090426A	O	$5-7^\circ$	2.7	4
101219A	X	$\gtrsim 4^\circ$	3.9	5, This work
111020A	X	$3-8^\circ$	10.2	6
111117A	X	$\gtrsim 3-10^\circ$	3.0	7, 8
120804A	X	$\gtrsim 13^\circ$	45.9	9, This work
130603B	OR	$4-8^\circ$	6.5	10
140903A	X	$\gtrsim 6^\circ$	3.0	11, This work
140930B	X	$\gtrsim 9^\circ$	23.1	This work

$$\langle \theta_{\text{jet}} \rangle \sim 10^\circ \text{ Fong et al. 2015}$$



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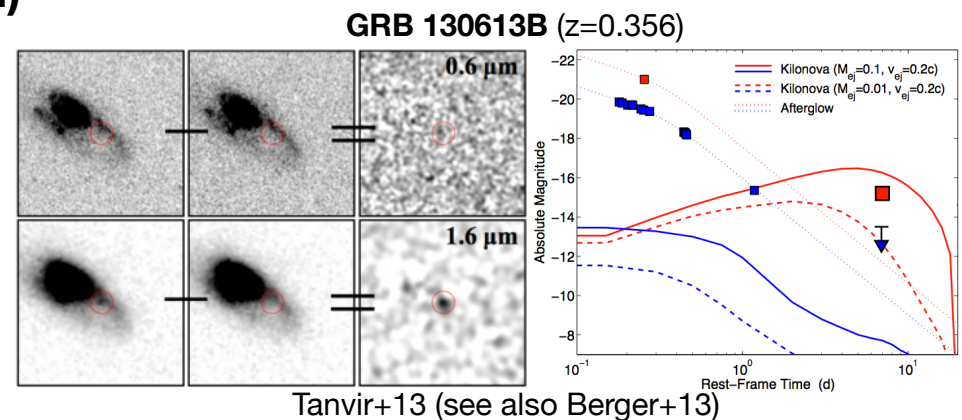
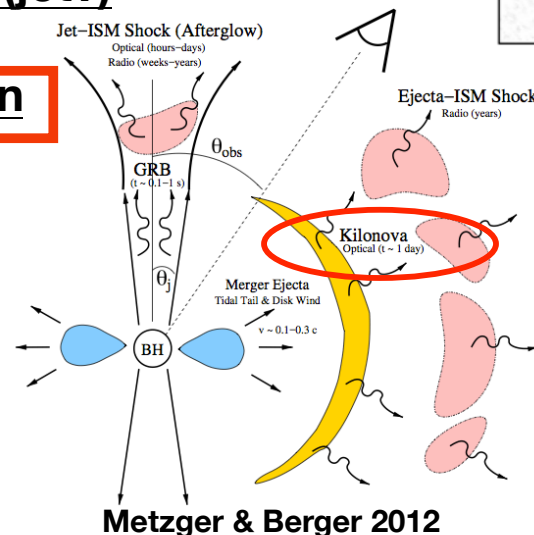
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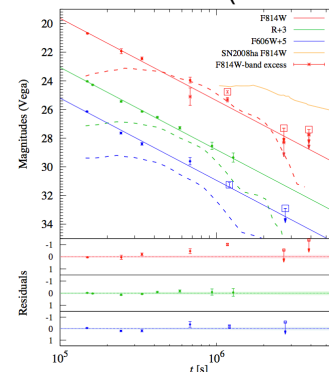
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## Kilonova association

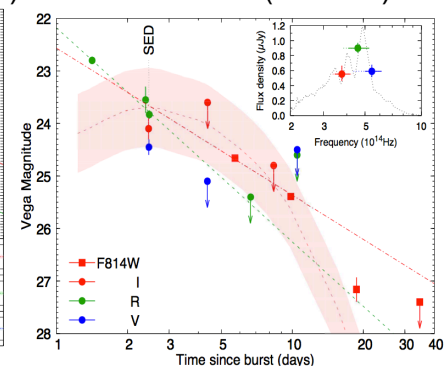
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GRB 060614 ( $z=0.125$ )



GRB 050709 ( $z=0.160$ )



Yang+15; Jin+15; Jin+16

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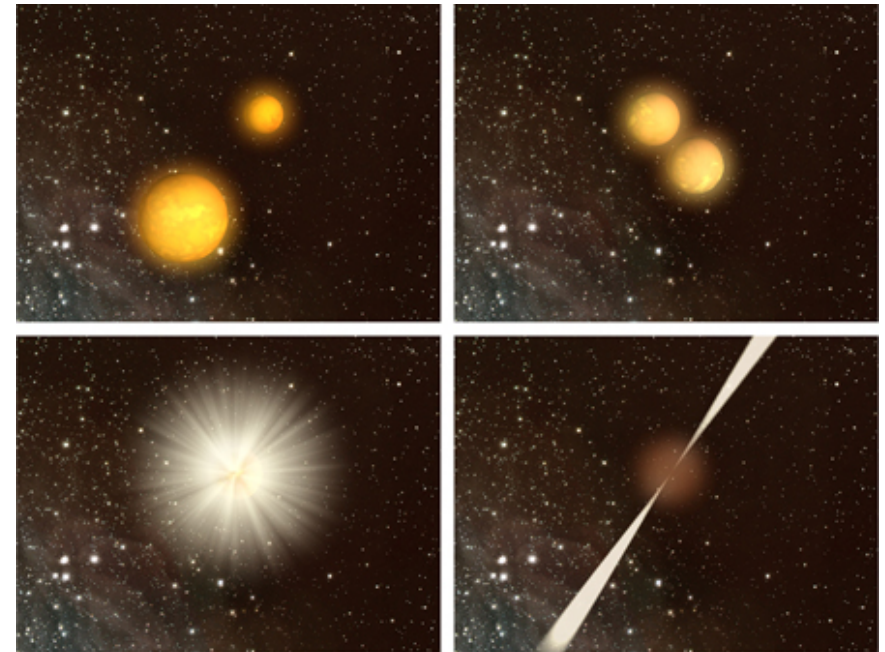
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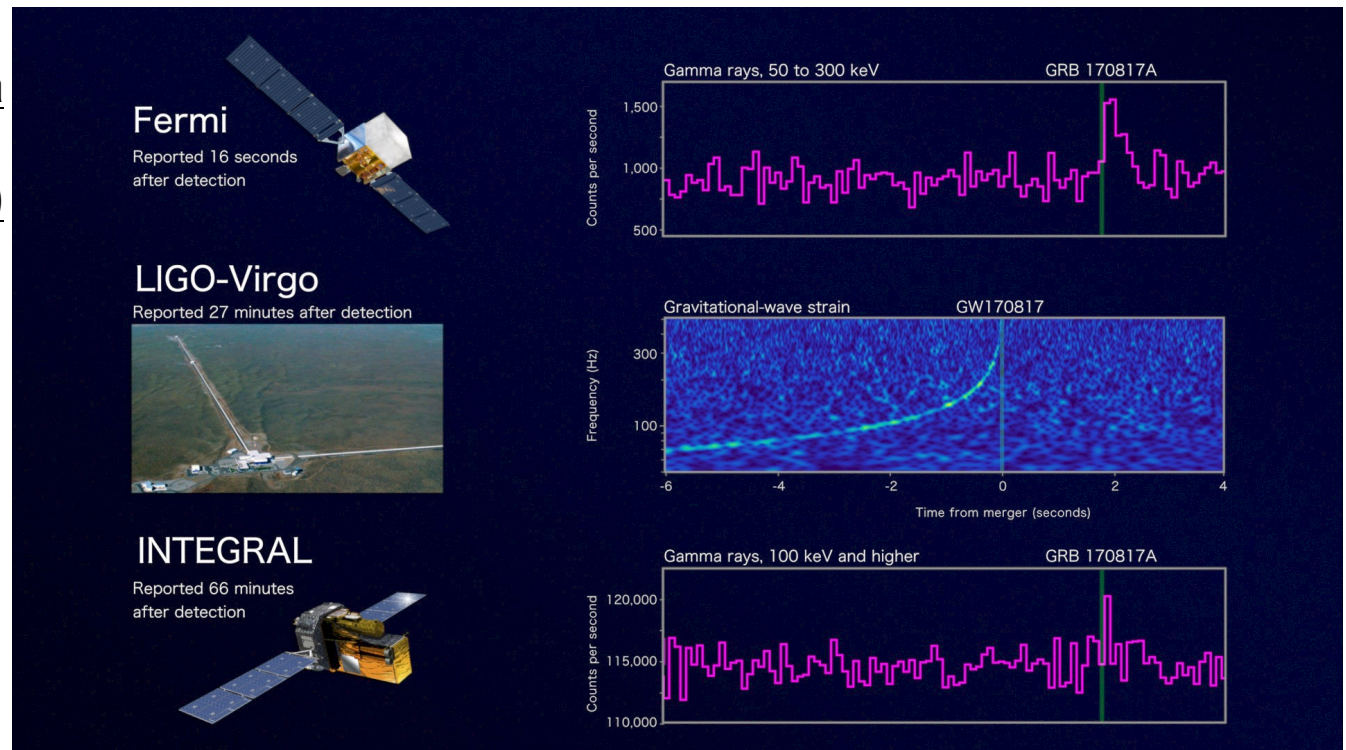
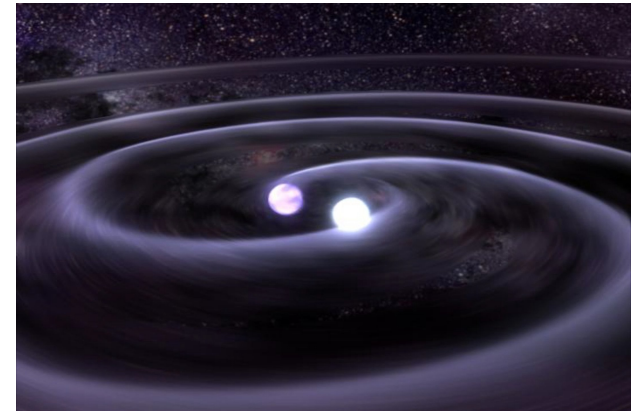
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Goldstein+17; Savchenko+17

LVC + “partner astronomy groups” (2017)

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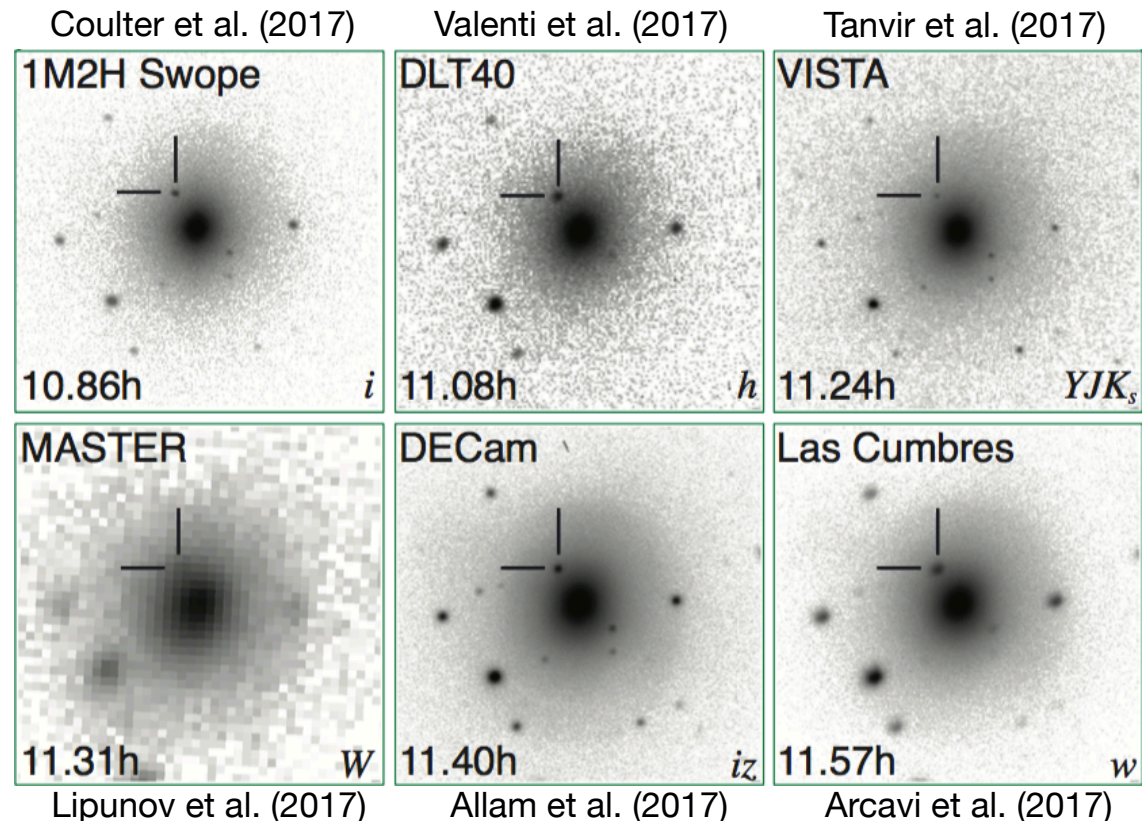
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## AT2017gfo





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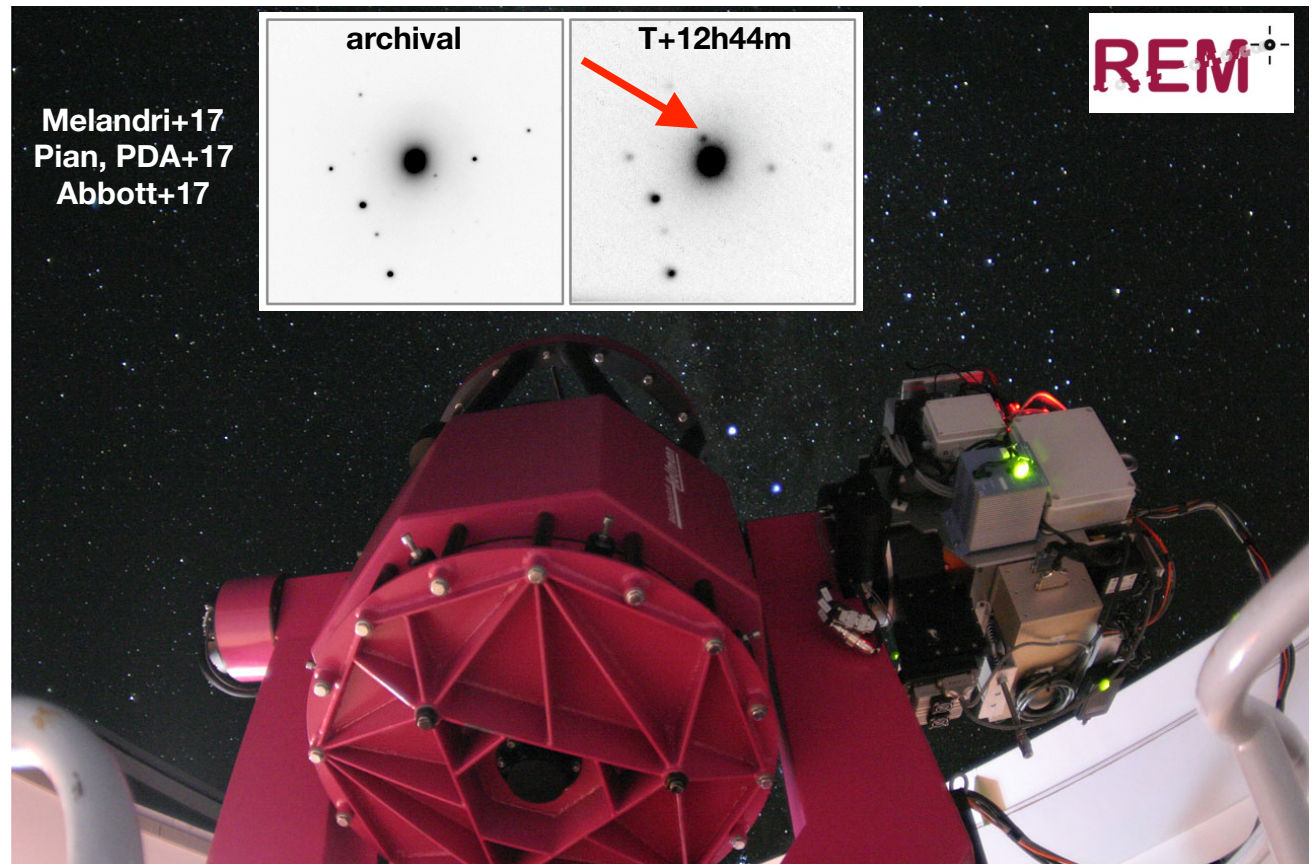
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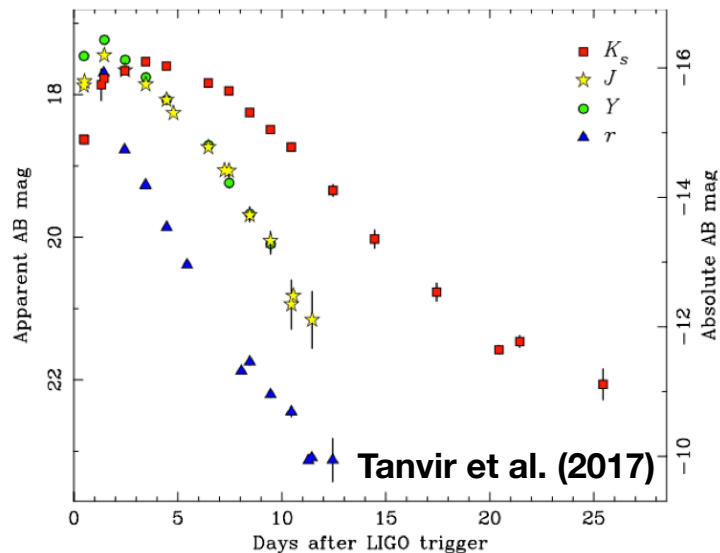
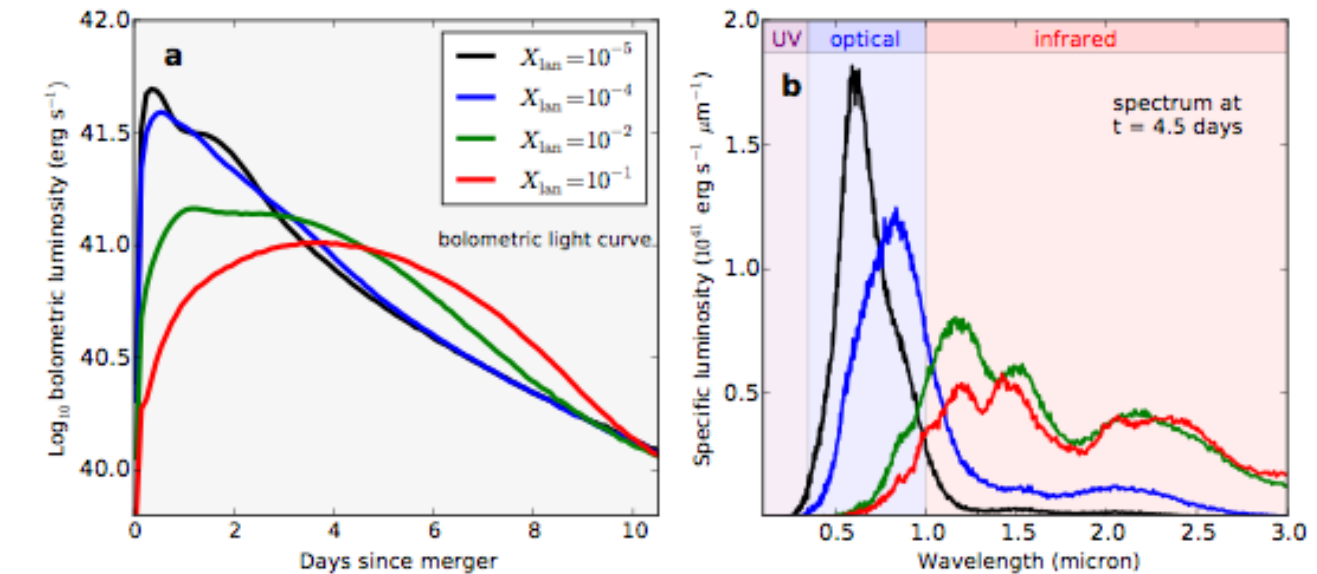
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# The GW 170817 kilonova components

Kasen+17



**Neutron-rich ejecta (low  $e^-$  fraction  $Y_e$ )**

**Strong r-process**

**Very heavy elements ( $A > 140$ )**

**Lanthanide rich**

**Higher opacity**

**Red KN, peak time ~ 1 week**

**Neutron-rich ejecta (high  $e^-$  fraction  $Y_e$ )**

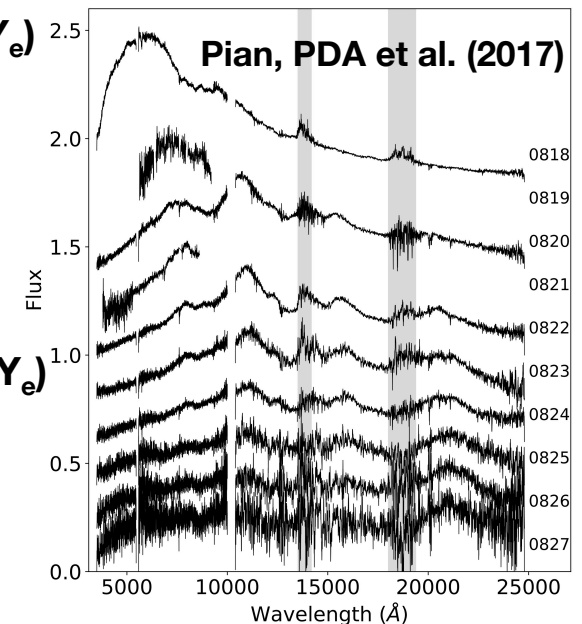
**Strong r-process**

**heavy elements ( $A < 140$ )**

**Lanthanide poor**

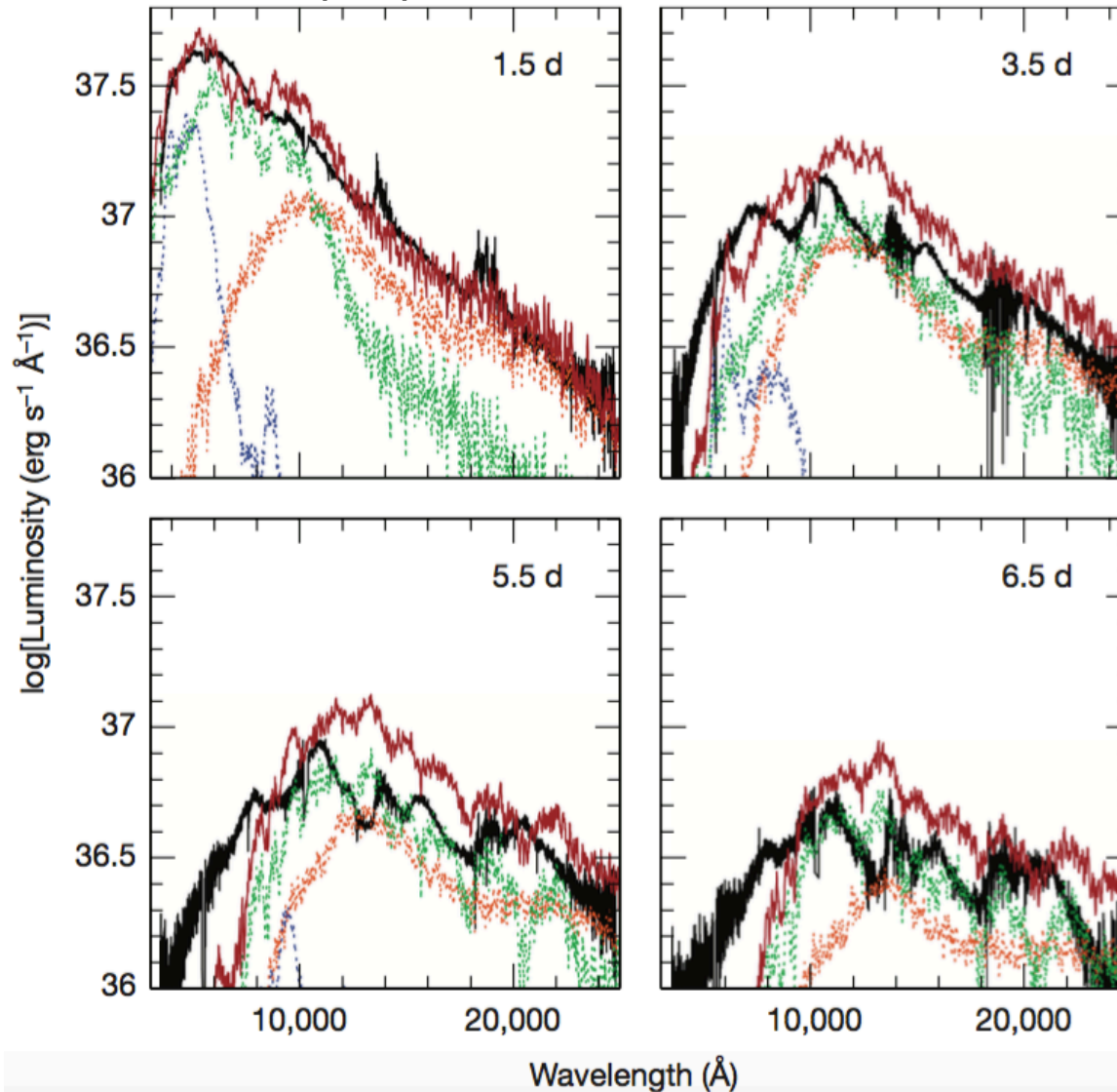
**Lower opacity**

**Blue KN, peak time ~ 1 day**

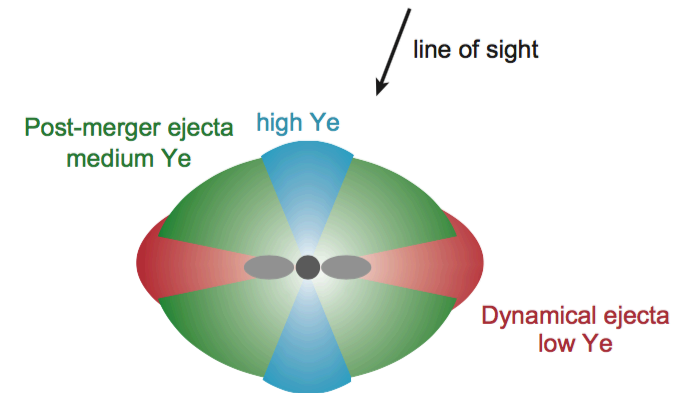


# The GW 170817 kilonova components

Pian, PDA et al. (2017)



Tanaka et al. (2017)



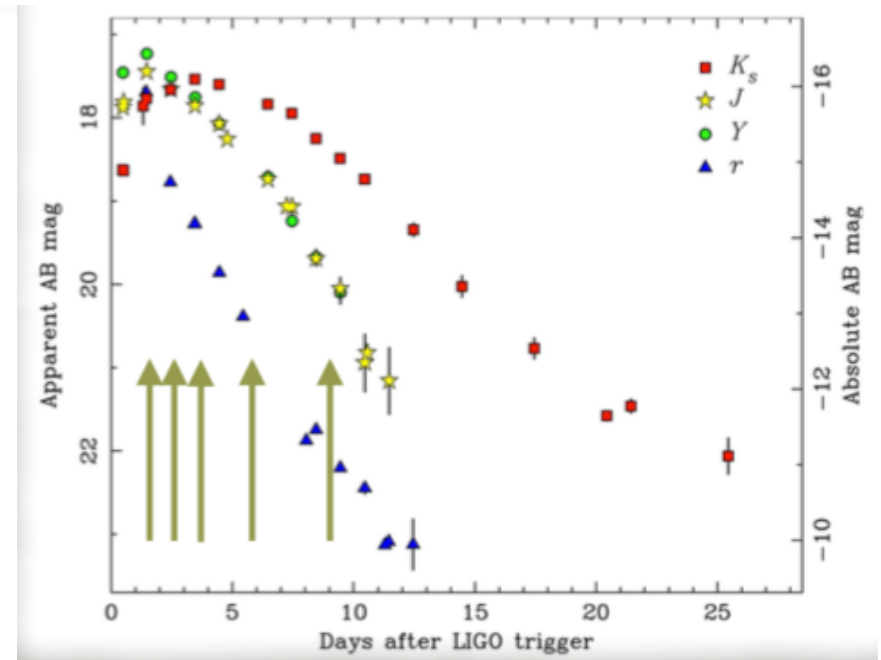
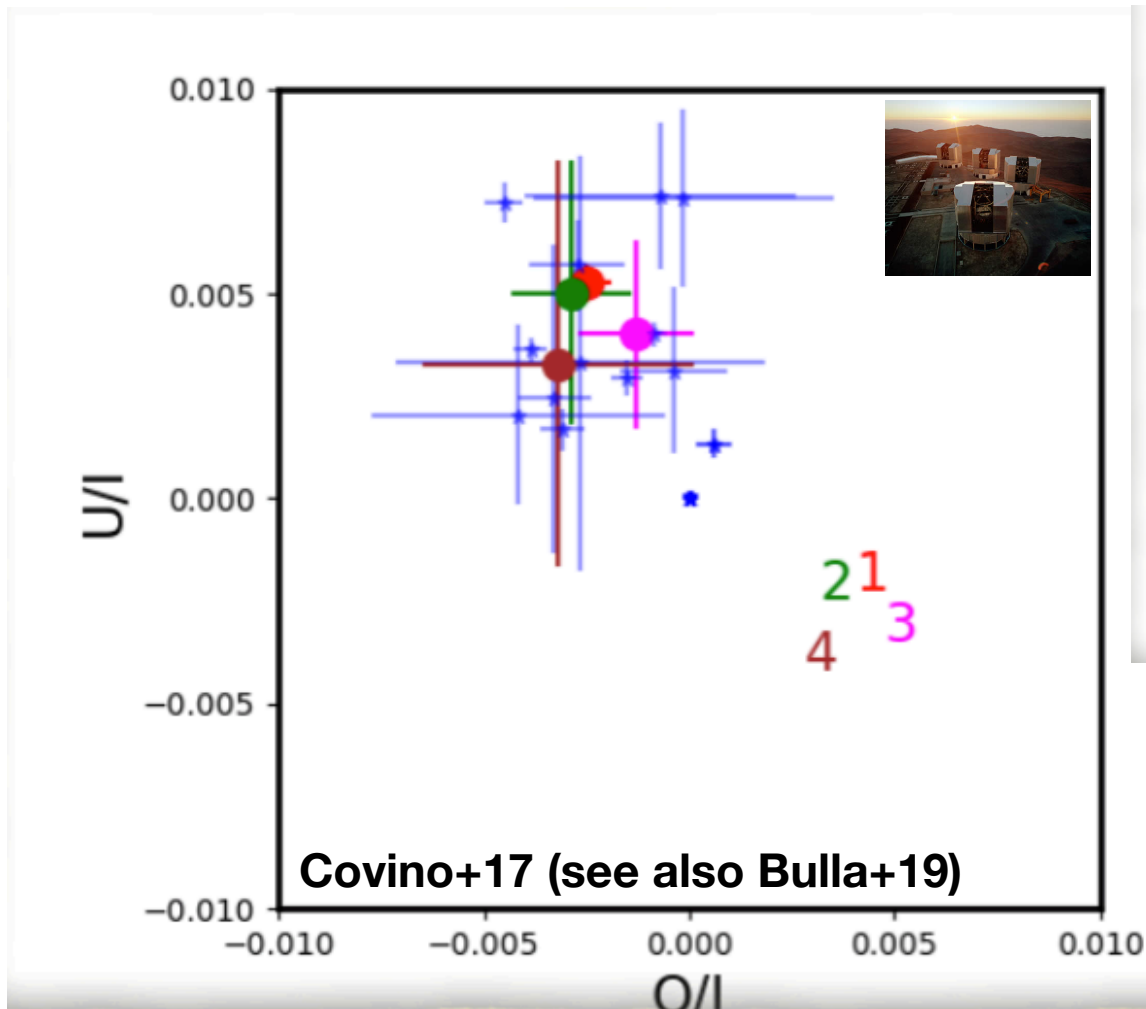
**Three components Kilonova model with different velocity, composition and electron (proton) fraction (low Ye: lanthanide-rich; high Ye: lanthanide-poor)**

**Their sum and rescaling (red) can reproduce the observed spectra (black)**

**0.03-0.05  $M_{\text{sun}}$  ejected mass  
Fast moving dynamical ejecta (0.2c) + slower wind (0.05c)**



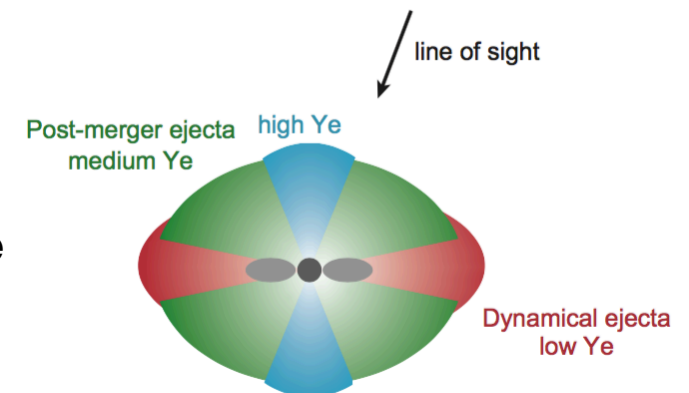
# The GW 170817 kilonova polarimetry



$P < 0.5\% - 0.9\% \rightarrow$  No polarisation

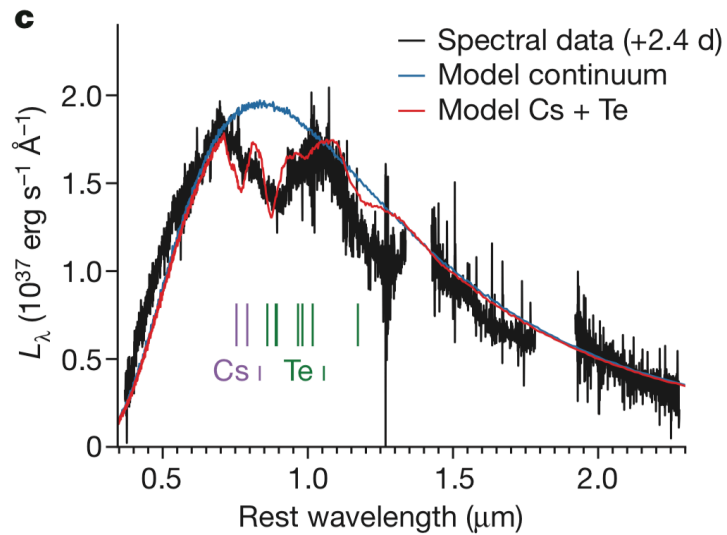
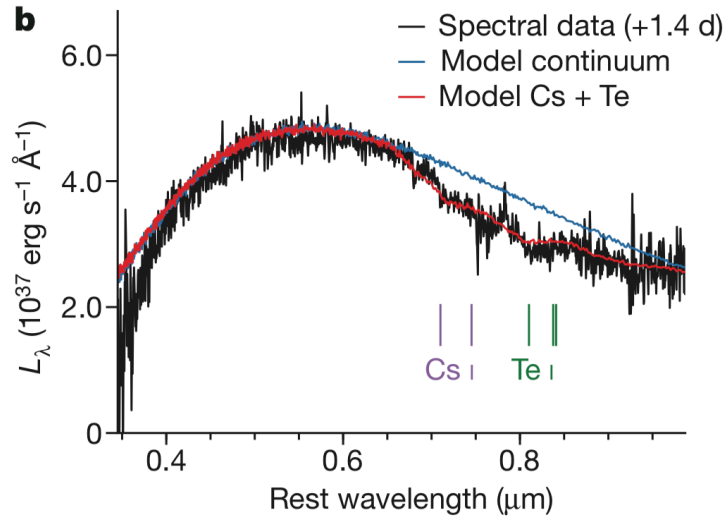
-Early time: rather symmetric emitting region (high latitude viewing angle)

- late time: emission from Lanthanide-rich ejecta

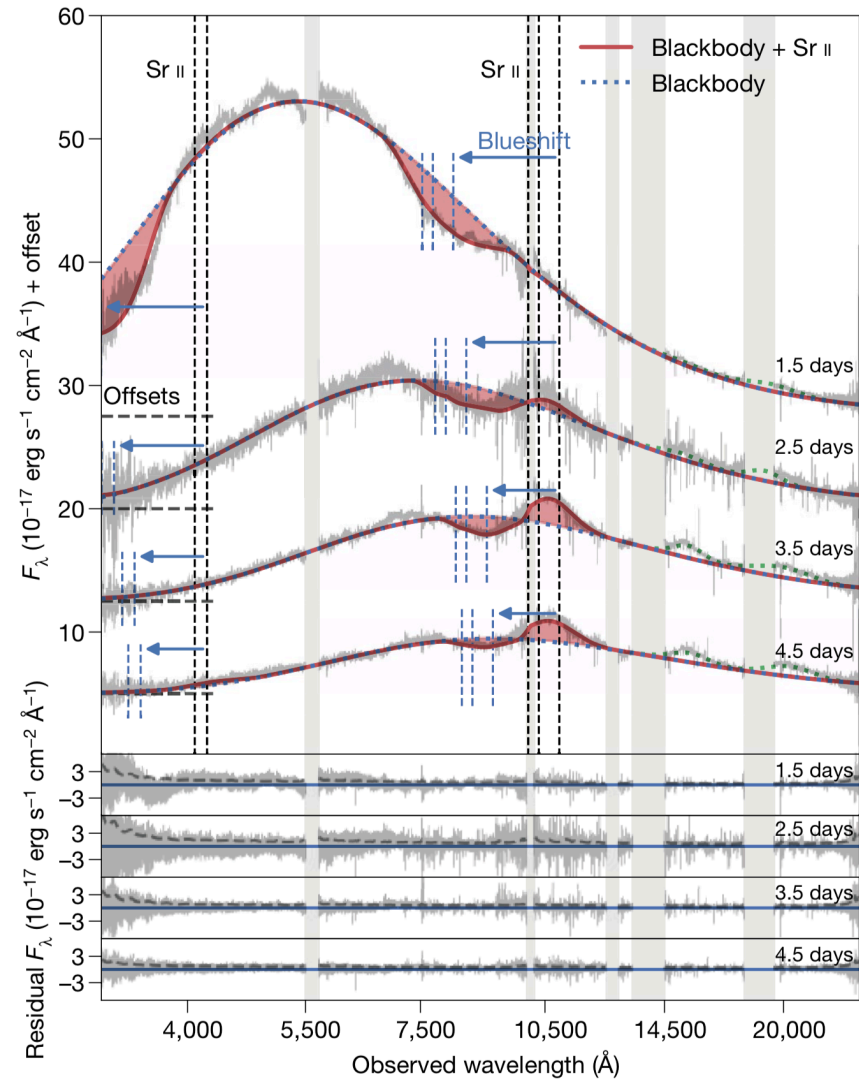


# Heavy elements (possible) signatures

Smartt et al. (2017)



Watson et al. (2019)



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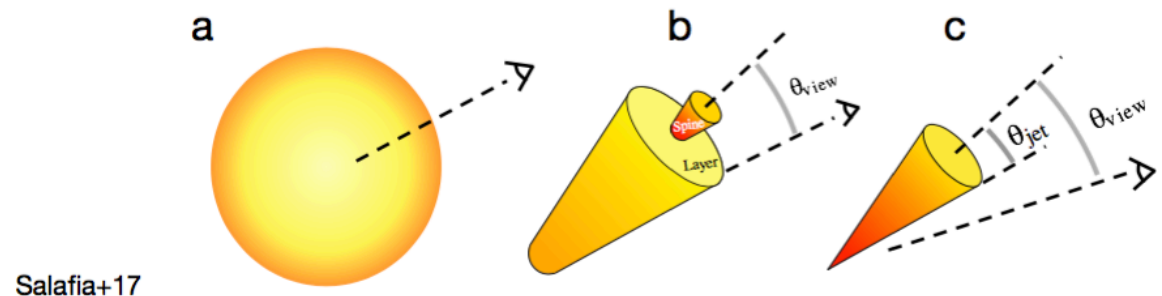
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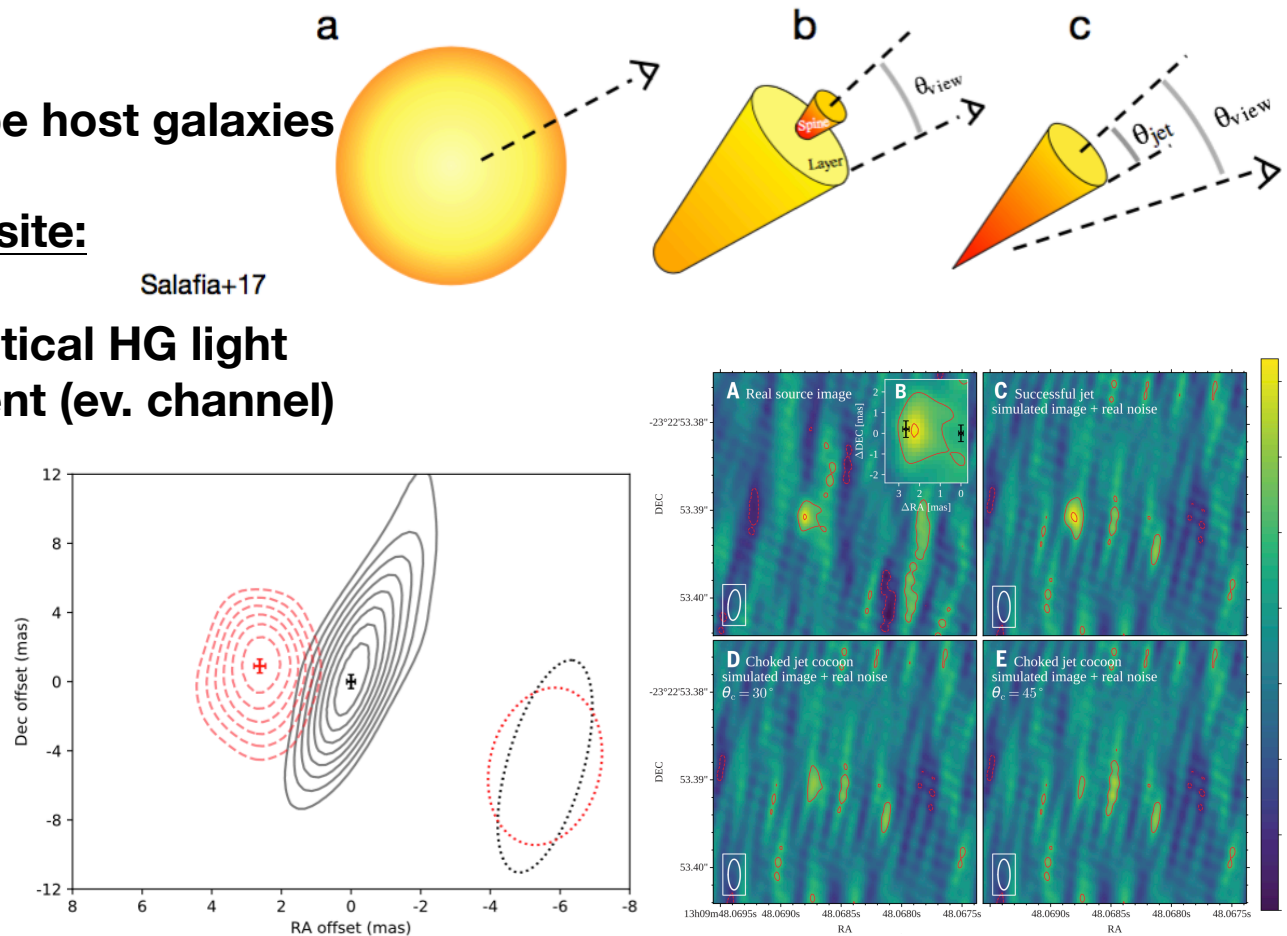
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## VLBI radio data:

- proper (superluminal) motion
- source size  $< 2$  mas

**-> structured jet** with a relativistic core with  $\theta_{\text{jet}} < 5 \text{ deg}$   
and  $\theta_{\text{view}} \sim 20 \text{ deg}$  (Mooley+18; Ghirlanda+19)



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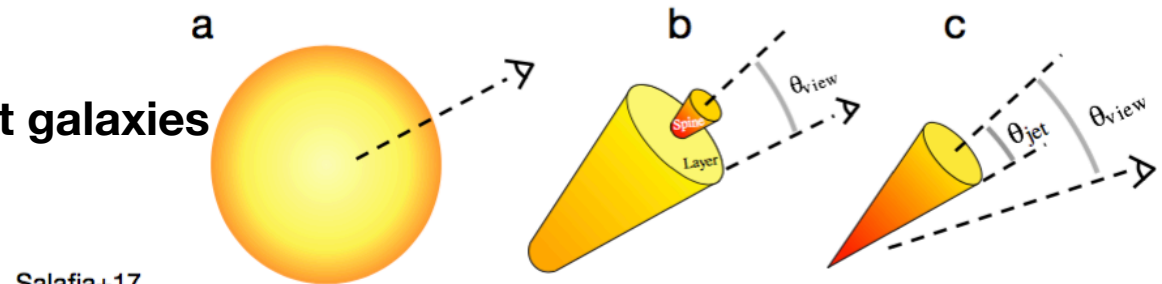
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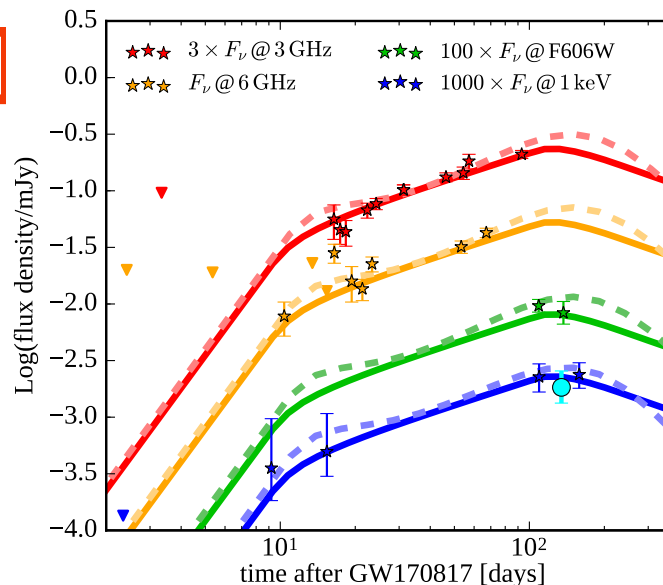
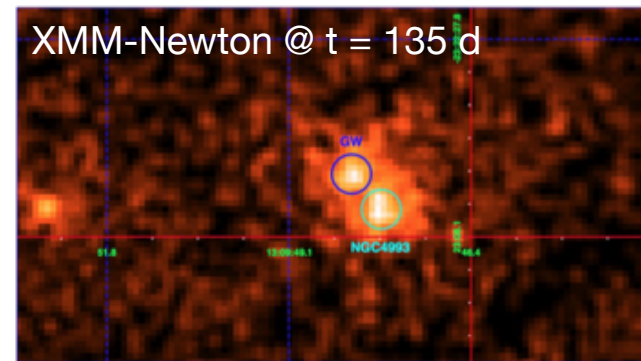
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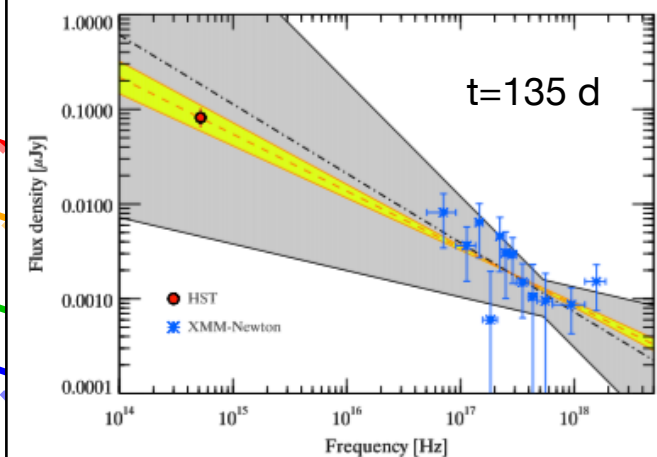
## Gravitational waves



Salafia+17

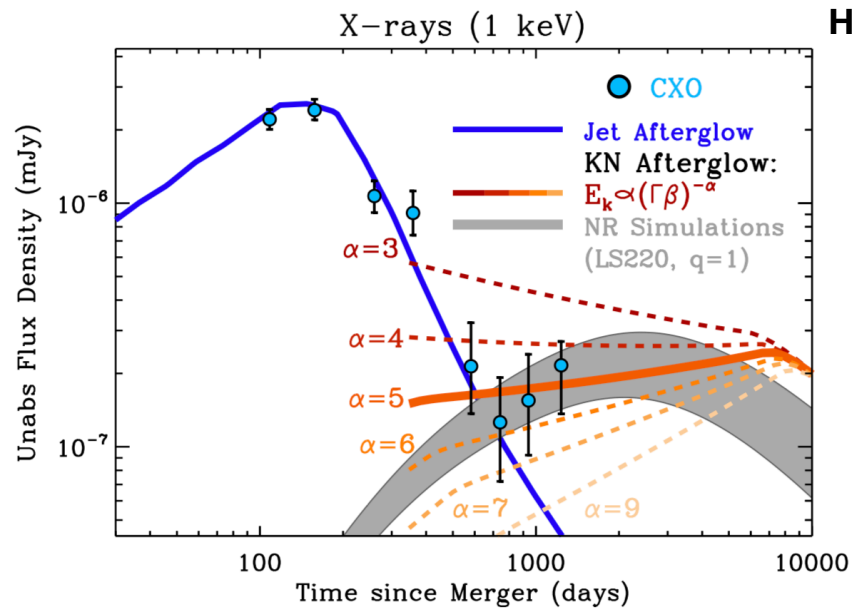


PDA+18

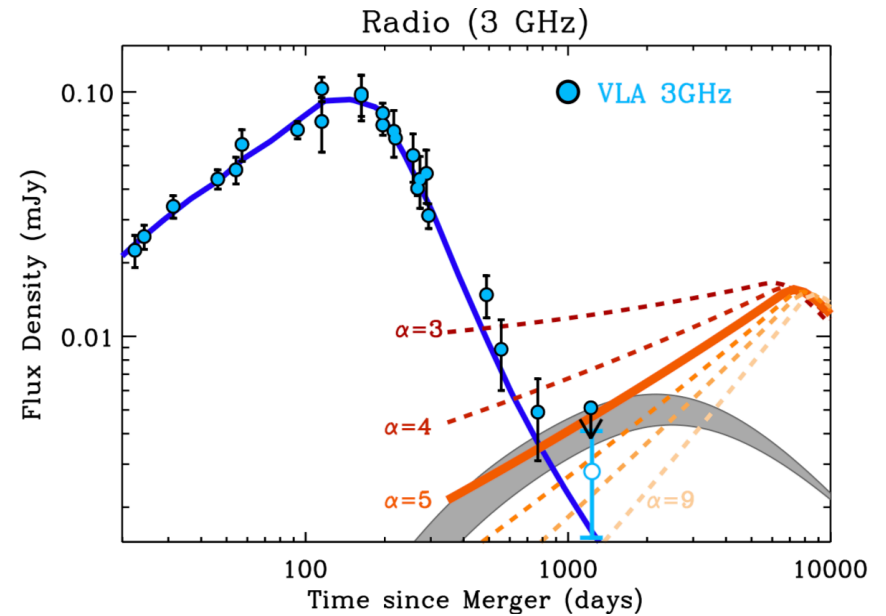


see also Troja+17, 18, 19, 20; Margutti+18; Alexander+18; Fong+19; Hajela+19

# GRB170817A: a puzzling late time emission



Hajela+21

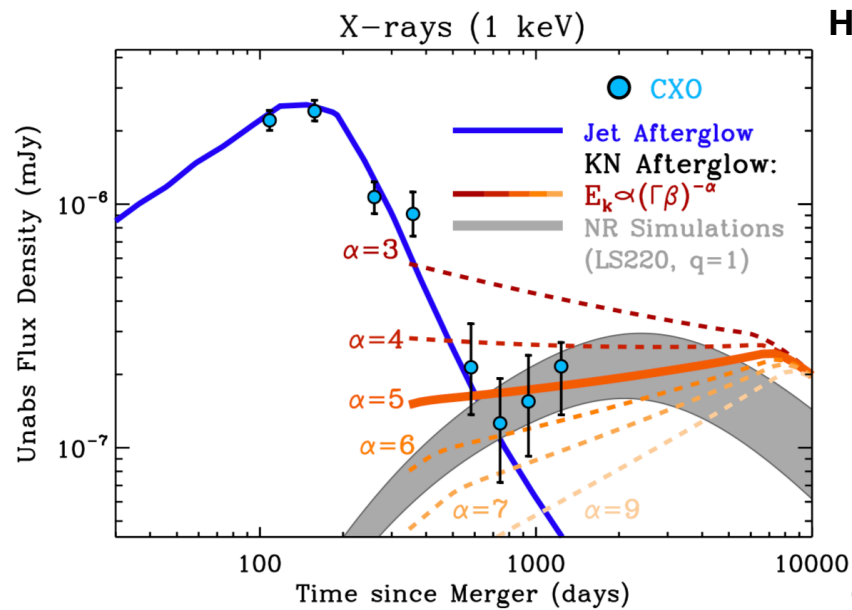


KN afterglow?

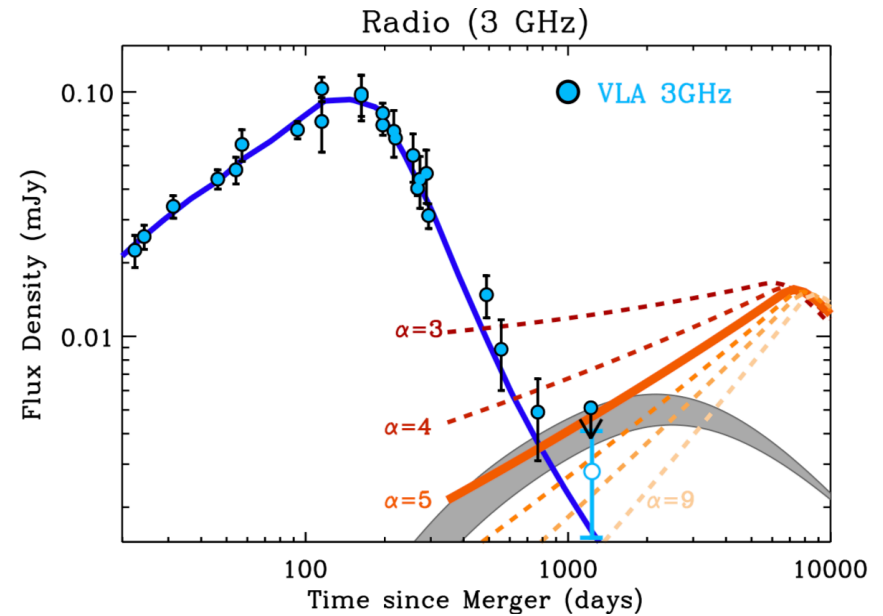
Accretion on  
compact remnant?

Magnetar?

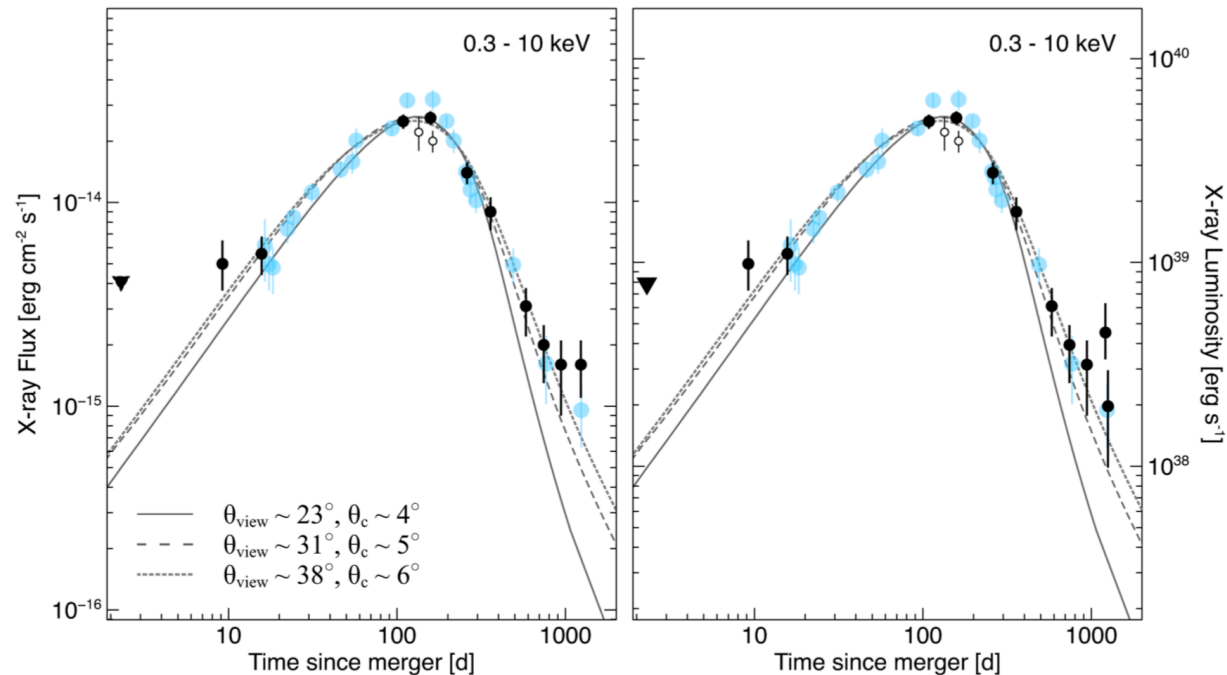
# GRB170817A: a puzzling late time emission



Hajela+21



Troja+21

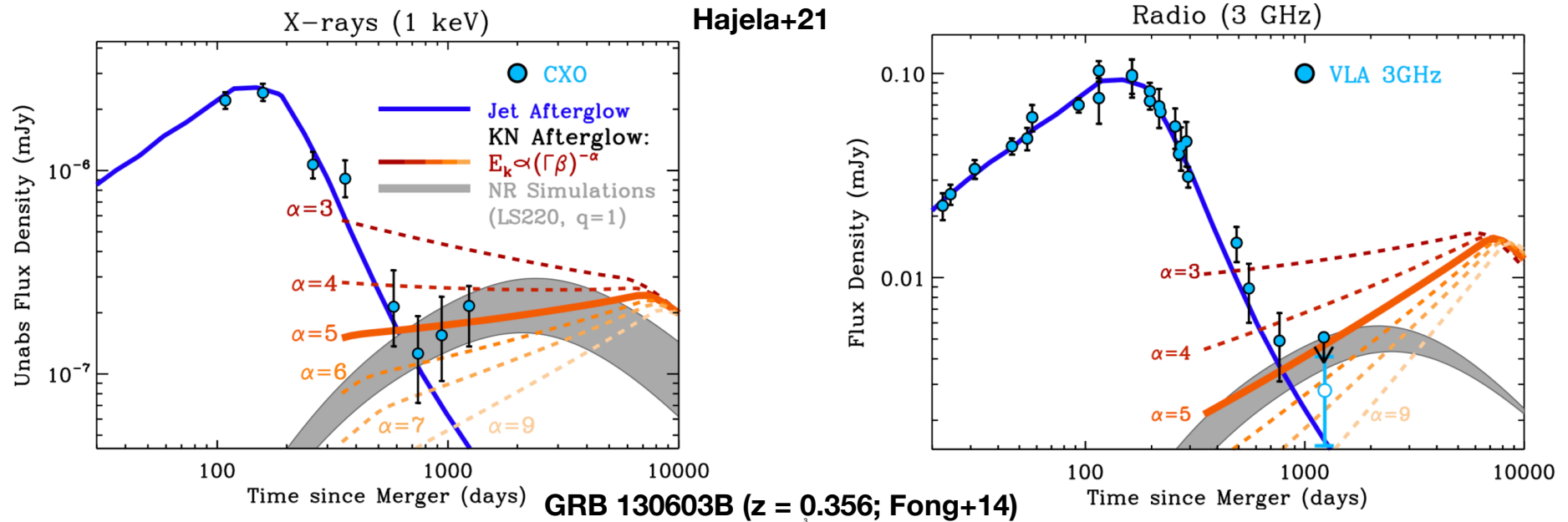


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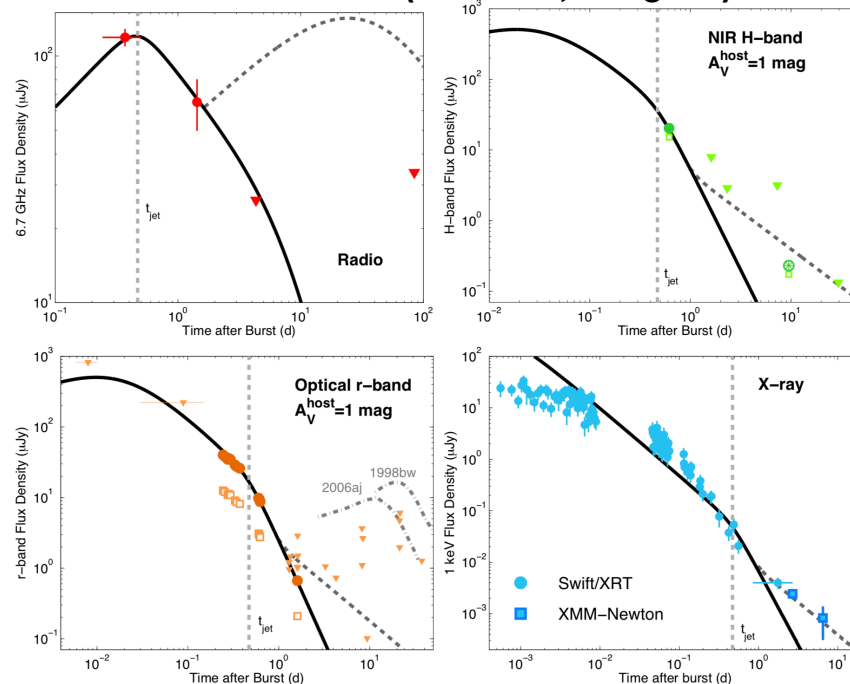
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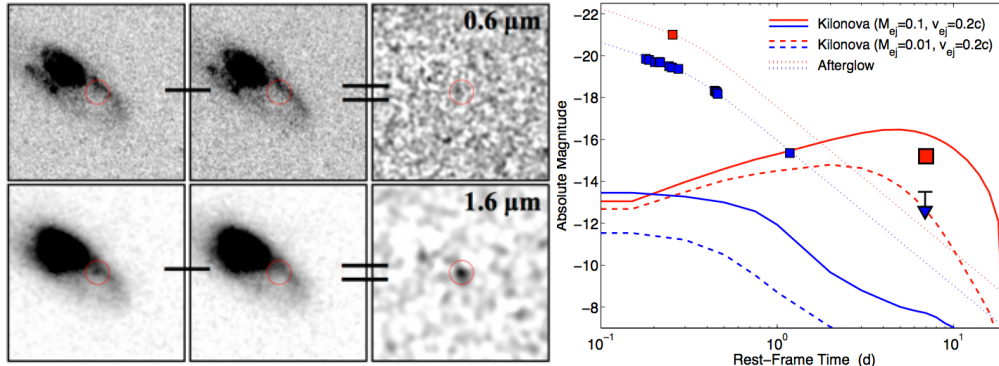
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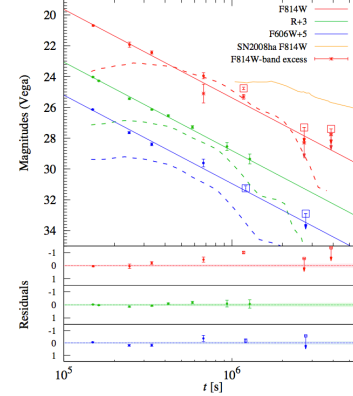


# Many (claimed) KNe

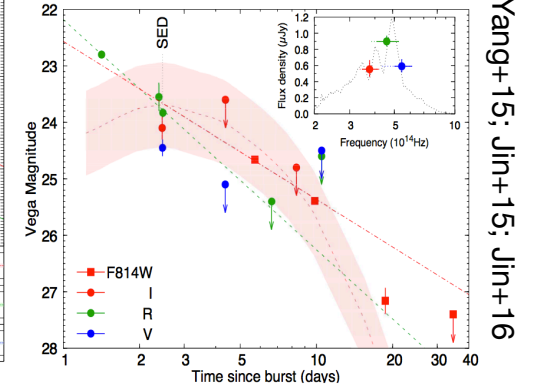
**GRB 130613B** ( $z=0.356$ ) Tanvir+13; Berger+13



**GRB 060614** ( $z=0.125$ )

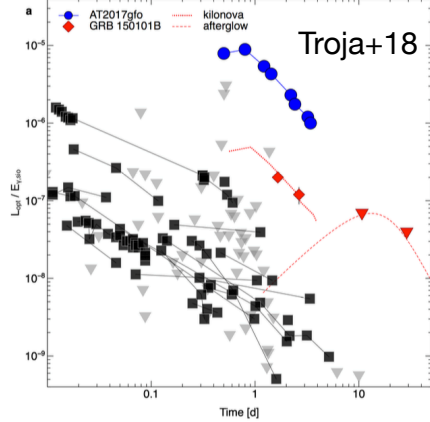


**GRB 050709** ( $z=0.160$ )

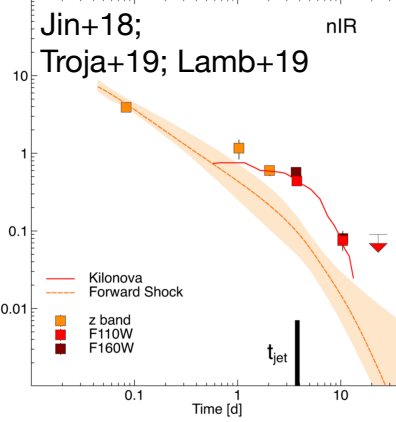


Yang+15; Jin+15; Jin+16

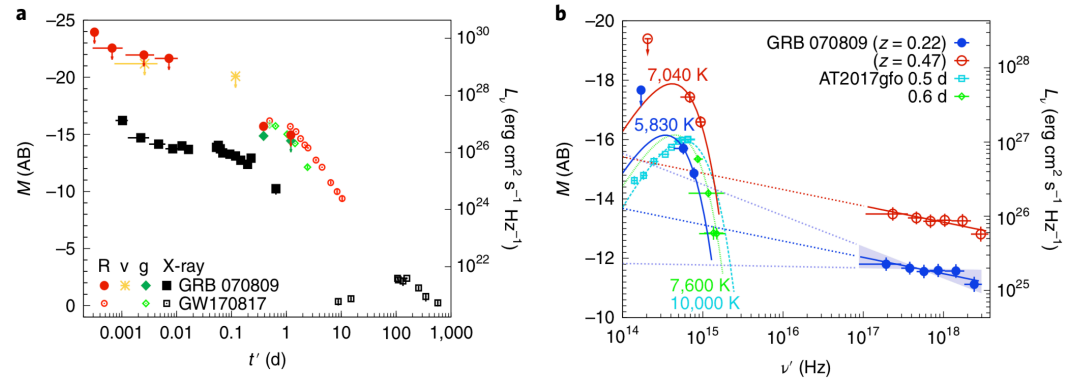
**GRB 150101B** ( $z=0.134$ )



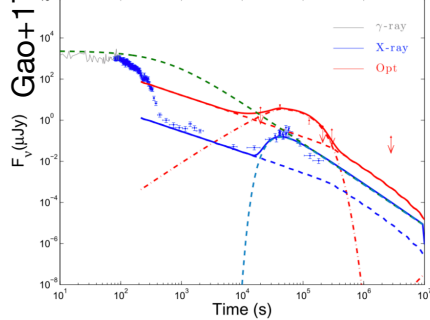
**GRB 160821B** ( $z=0.161$ )



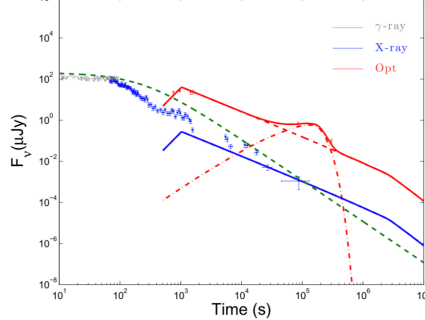
**GRB 070809** ( $z=0.22$  or  $z = 0.47$ ; Jin+20)



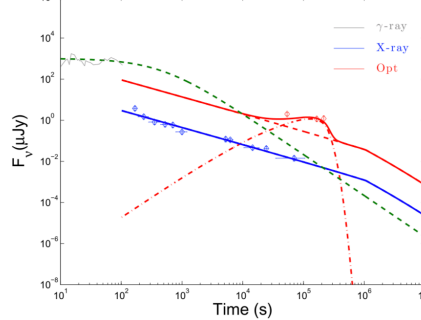
**GRB 050724** ( $z=0.258$ )



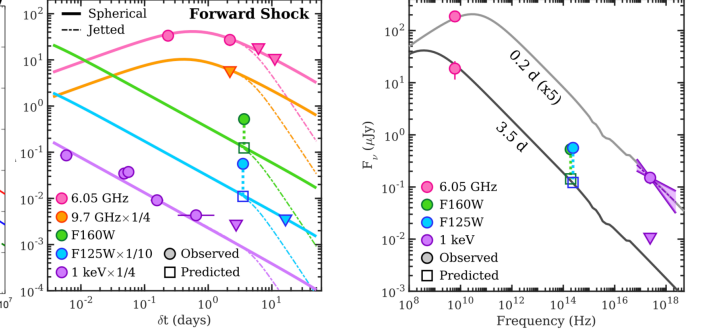
**GRB 070714B** ( $z=0.923$ )



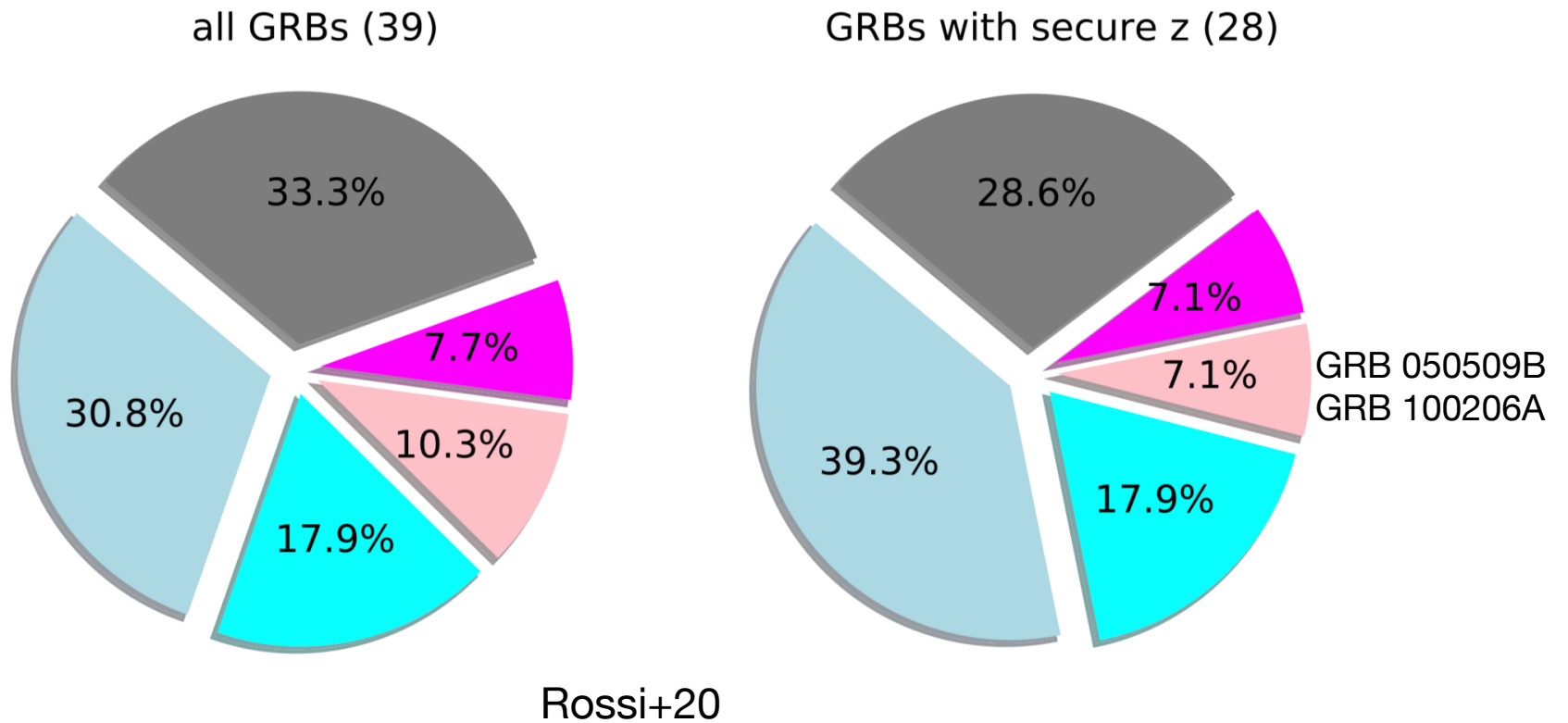
**GRB 061006** ( $z=0.438$ )



**GRB 200522A** ( $z=0.5536$ ; Fong+20)

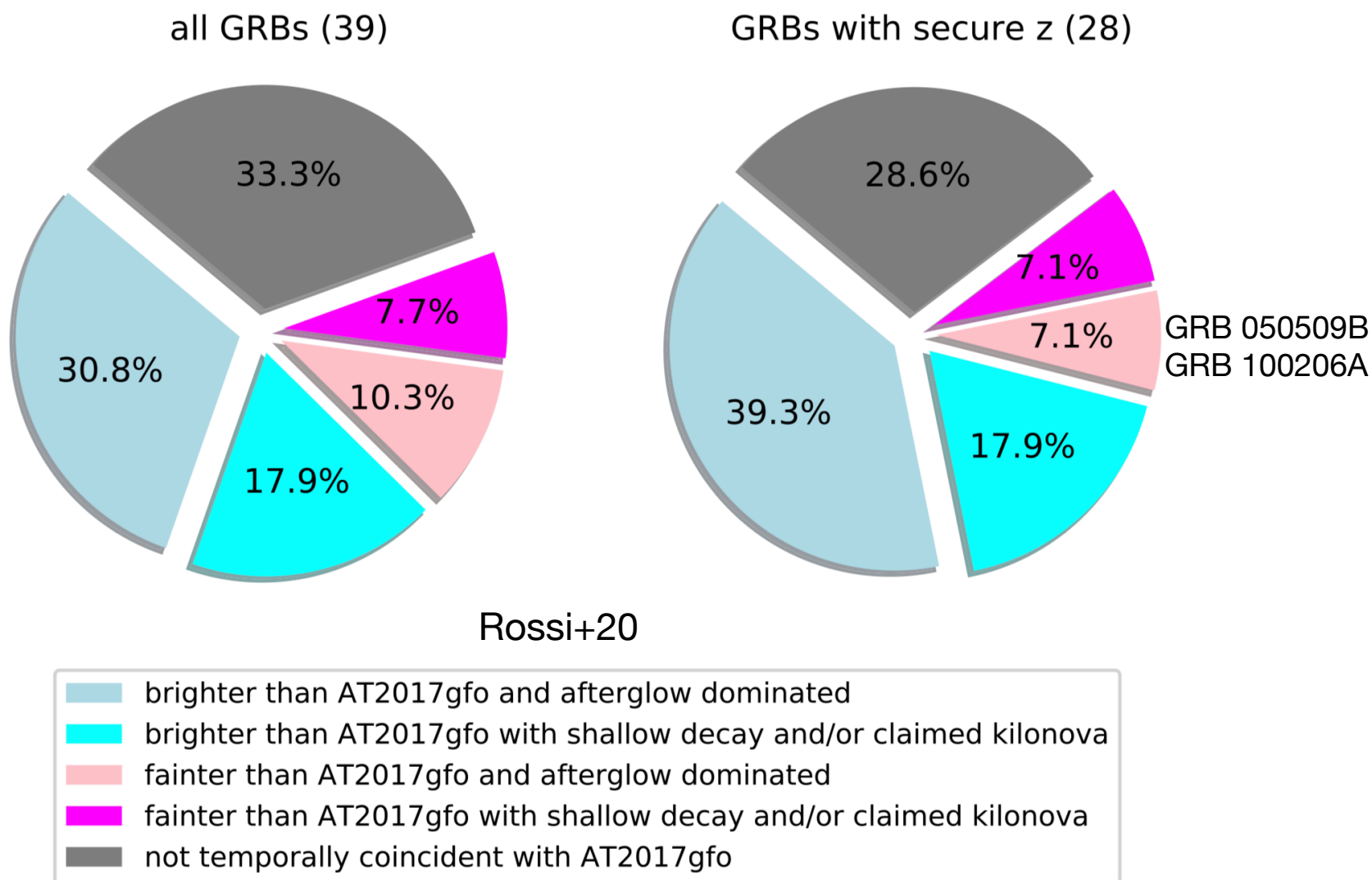


# A KN for every short GRB?



- brighter than AT2017gfo and afterglow dominated
- brighter than AT2017gfo with shallow decay and/or claimed kilonova
- fainter than AT2017gfo and afterglow dominated
- fainter than AT2017gfo with shallow decay and/or claimed kilonova
- not temporally coincident with AT2017gfo

# A KN for every short GRB?

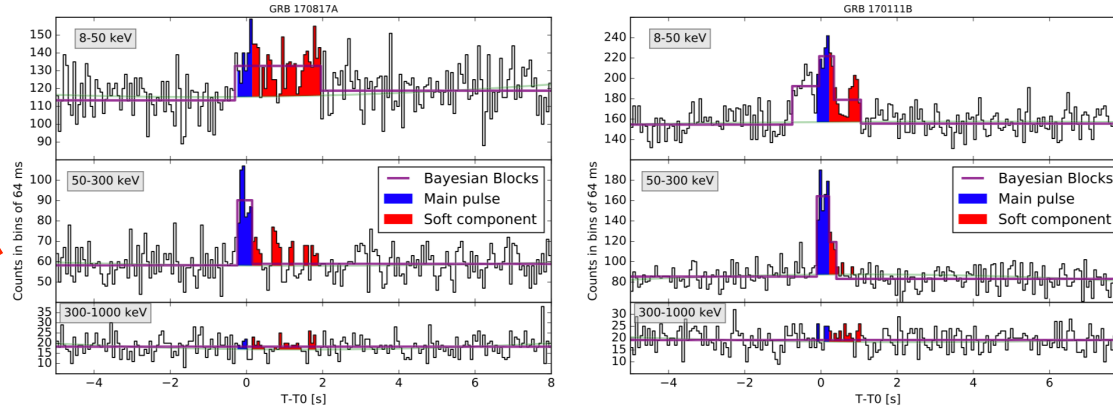


Another interesting finding of this work is that the luminosity of the blue KN component (when present) can vary significantly, while the red component seems to have always almost the same luminosity.

# Searching for GRB 170817A – like events

von Kienlin+19

Talk by Andreas  
von Kienlin



**Figure 1.** Left: composite light curves using NaI(Tl) detectors in the 8–50 keV (top panel), 50–300 keV (middle panel), and 300–1000 keV (bottom panel) energy ranges for GRB 170817A. Right: same, but for GRB 170111B. Blue marks the main pulse, red is the soft tail, and the procedure to find their span is given in Section 2.3. The observed pretrigger soft emission of GRB 170111B is later discussed in Section 4.

**Table 2**

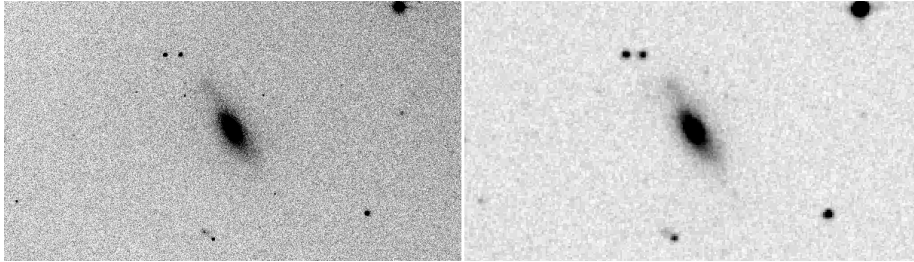
Standard *Fermi*-GBM Burst Catalog Parameters of the Final Sample of 13 Candidate GRBs, which Includes the Reference GRB 170817A

GRB Name	Trigger ID <sup>a</sup>	Time (UTC)	Durations		Localization			Total Fluence (erg cm <sup>-2</sup> ) × 10 <sup>-7</sup>	Peak Flux (64 ms) (ph cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	Detect. <sup>b</sup>	References
			T90 (s)	T50 (s)	R.A. (deg.)	Decl. (deg.)	Error (deg.)				
GRB 081209A <sup>c</sup>	bn081209981	23:41:56.39	0.192 ± 0.143	0.128 ± 0.143	45.3	63.5	4.9	14.66 ± 1.49	25.4 ± 1.2	KW, S, <sup>d</sup> A	Golenetskii et al. (2008a, 2008b)
GRB 100328A <sup>c</sup>	bn100328141	03:22:44.60	0.384 ± 0.143	0.192 ± 0.091	155.9	47.0	4.8	10.01 ± 0.24	13.4 ± 0.8		Abadie et al. (2012)
GRB 101224A	bn101224227	05:27:13.86	1.728 ± 1.68	0.192 ± 0.286	285.9	45.7	0.1 <sup>e</sup>	1.92 ± 0.27	6.7 ± 1.0	S	Krimm et al. (2010), Nugent & Bloom (2010), Xu et al. (2010), Golovnya et al. (2011)
GRB 110717A <sup>c</sup>	bn110717180	04:19:50.66	0.112 ± 0.072	0.032 ± 0.023	308.5	-7.9	7.5	2.51 ± 0.12	18.5 ± 1.8	KW, IA	<i>Fermi</i> -GBM Only
GRB 111024C <sup>c</sup>	bn111024896	21:30:02.24	0.960 ± 1.032	0.256 ± 0.143	91.2	-1.8	13.2	3.80 ± 0.16	7.4 ± 1.2	IA	<i>Fermi</i> -GBM Only
GRB 120302B <sup>c</sup>	bn120302722	17:19:59.08	1.600 ± 0.779	0.512 ± 0.466	24.1	9.7	13.9	1.19 ± 0.16	6.2 ± 1.5		<i>Fermi</i> -GBM Only
GRB 120915A <sup>f</sup>	bn120915000	00:00:41.64	0.576 ± 1.318	0.320 ± 0.091	209.4	67.3	5.9	5.06 ± 0.26	6.0 ± 0.9	IA, SW	<i>Fermi</i> -GBM Only
GRB 130502A	bn130502743	17:50:30.74	3.328 ± 2.064	2.304 ± 0.572	138.6	-0.1	0.0 <sup>e</sup>	6.27 ± 0.35	6.6 ± 1.4	S, OT	Troja et al. (2013), Malesani et al. (2013), de Ugarte Postigo et al. (2013), Gorosabel et al. (2013), Breeveld & Troja (2013)
GRB 140511A <sup>f</sup>	bn140511095	02:17:11.56	1.408 ± 0.889	0.256 ± 0.181	329.8	-30.1	8.8	3.71 ± 0.32	9.4 ± 1.0		<i>Fermi</i> -GBM Only
GRB 150101B	bn150101641	15:23:34.47	0.08 ± 0.928	0.016 ± 0.023	188.0	-11.0	0.0 <sup>e</sup>	2.38 ± 0.15	10.5 ± 1.3	S, IA, C, X, z	Troja et al. (2018), Burns et al. (2018), Fong et al. (2016)
GRB 170111B <sup>f</sup>	bn170111815	19:34:01.39	3.072 ± 1.318	0.32 ± 0.091	270.9	63.7	6.7	5.96 ± 0.12	7.6 ± 1.0		<i>Fermi</i> -GBM Only
GRB 170817A	bn170817529	12:41:06.47	2.048 ± 0.466	1.28 ± 0.405	197.5	-23.4	0.0 <sup>e</sup>	2.79 ± 0.17	3.7 ± 0.9	L, z, C, IA, <i>HST</i> and more	Abbott et al. (2017a)
GRB 180511A <sup>f</sup>	bn180511364	08:43:35.79	0.128 ± 1.207	0.032 ± 0.045	250.4	-8.2	15.1	1.53 ± 0.21	9.2 ± 1.0	IA	<i>Fermi</i> -GBM Only



# No luck during O3

## Most promising event: GW 190814



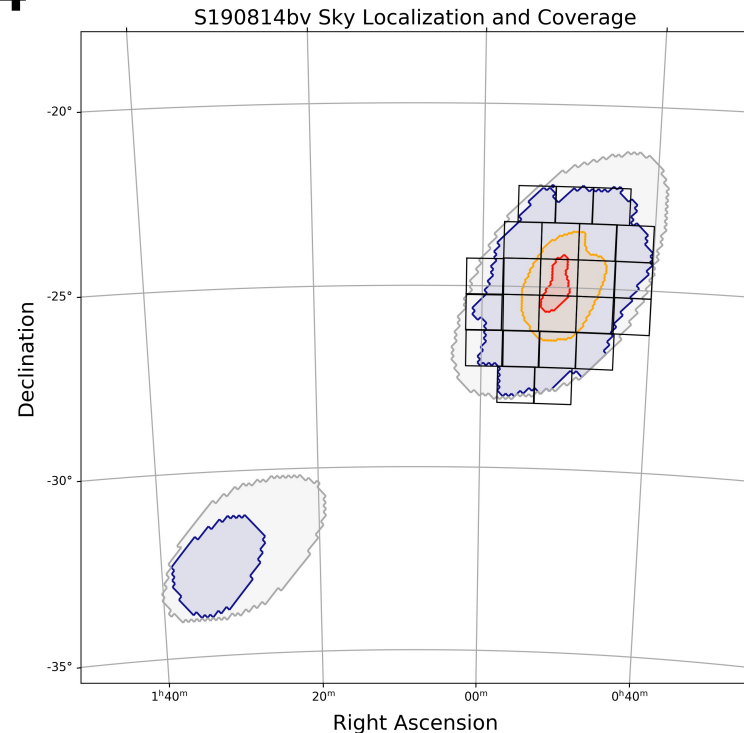
**GTC, VLT, LBT, WHT, TNG, NOT, LT,  
GROND coordinated  
observations of more than 70 galaxies,  
over multiple epochs within the 90%  
localization of the GW**

**Talk by Enrico  
Cappellaro**

+

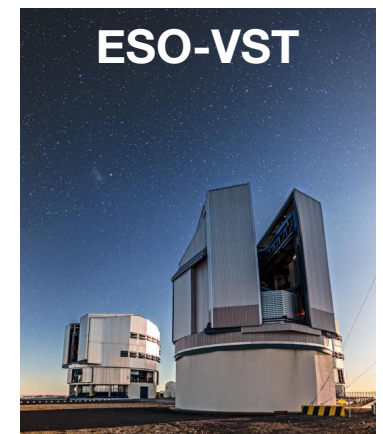
**Wide-field observations  
(VST, VISTA, PS, ATLAS, GOTO)**

**ENGRAVE collaboration  
(Ackley+20)**



### 5 VST epochs

$\Delta t$	r AB mag	Probability
+11.5 h	20.9	60.7%
+1.5 d	21.9	71.5%
+4.3 d	21.7	87.7%
+7.2 d	21.8	87.7%
+14.5 d	22.0	87.7%

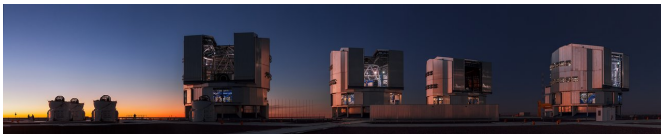


# Looking towards O4

## Search (& follow-up) European teams



**Governing Council:** M. Branchesi, E. Brocato, P. D'Avanzo, J. Hjorth, P. Jonker, E. Pian, S. Smartt (Chair), J. Sollerman, D. Steeghs, N. Tanvir.  
**Executive Committee:** S. Covino, A. Levan (Chair), K. Maguire, D. Malesani, S. Vergani.



### A collaboration of ~ 200 ESO scientists

Approved program during Oct 2018 – Mar 2020 fully covering O3. Time for EM counterparts **follow-up** on every useful **VLT** instrument + **ALMA**.

Talk by Enrico  
Cappellaro



**VIN ROUGE**

[www.star.le.ac.uk/nrt3/VINROUGE/](http://www.star.le.ac.uk/nrt3/VINROUGE/)



[www.grawita.inaf.it](http://www.grawita.inaf.it)

The **GW** Optical  
Transient Observer  
**GOTO**

[www.goto-observatory.org](http://www.goto-observatory.org)



[www.pessto.org](http://www.pessto.org)

and more

# Conclusions

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- **GW 170717 / GRB 170817A / AT2017gfo results:**
  - Definition and consolidation of successful follow-up strategies
  - First EM counterpart (at all wavelengths)
  - First unambiguous observational evidence for a kilonova
  - Evidence for kilonovae as a heavy elements factory
  - ‘Smoking gun’ for short GRB progenitors
  - Clues on short GRB outflow geometry and properties: first evidence for a structured jet
- **The search for SGRB/KN events (old and new events) looks promising**
- **No good events in O3, waiting for O4**
- **Still a number of open issues**
  - how many KN types?
  - what is the origin of the blue component?
  - are KNe associated to every short GRB?
  - can KNe unveil the nature of the NS-NS remnant?