

Deep-learning emulators and hierarchical Bayesian inference: application to gravitational-wave astronomy

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arXiv:2203.03651

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ML-INFN weekly meeting

(online)



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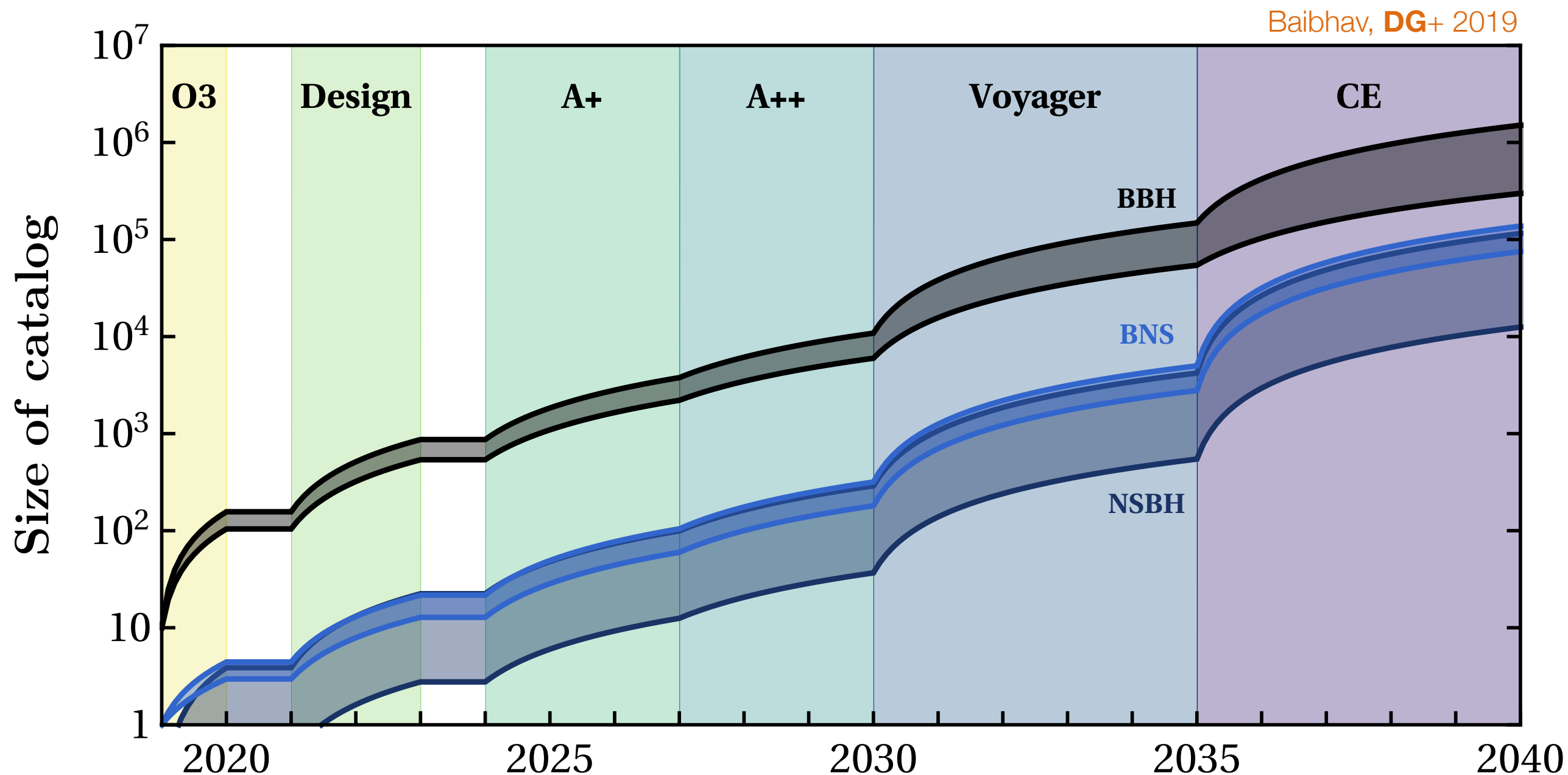
90 waves and counting

Discovering are piling up!

About 90 black-hole binary mergers detected so far.

Will become millions in ~20 years!

LIGO 2021



Can black holes really make it?

Power emitted in gravitational waves:

$$\frac{da}{dt} = -\frac{64 G^3 M^3}{5 c^5 a^3} \frac{q}{(1+q)^2}$$

Peters 1964



GW-driven inspiral timescale

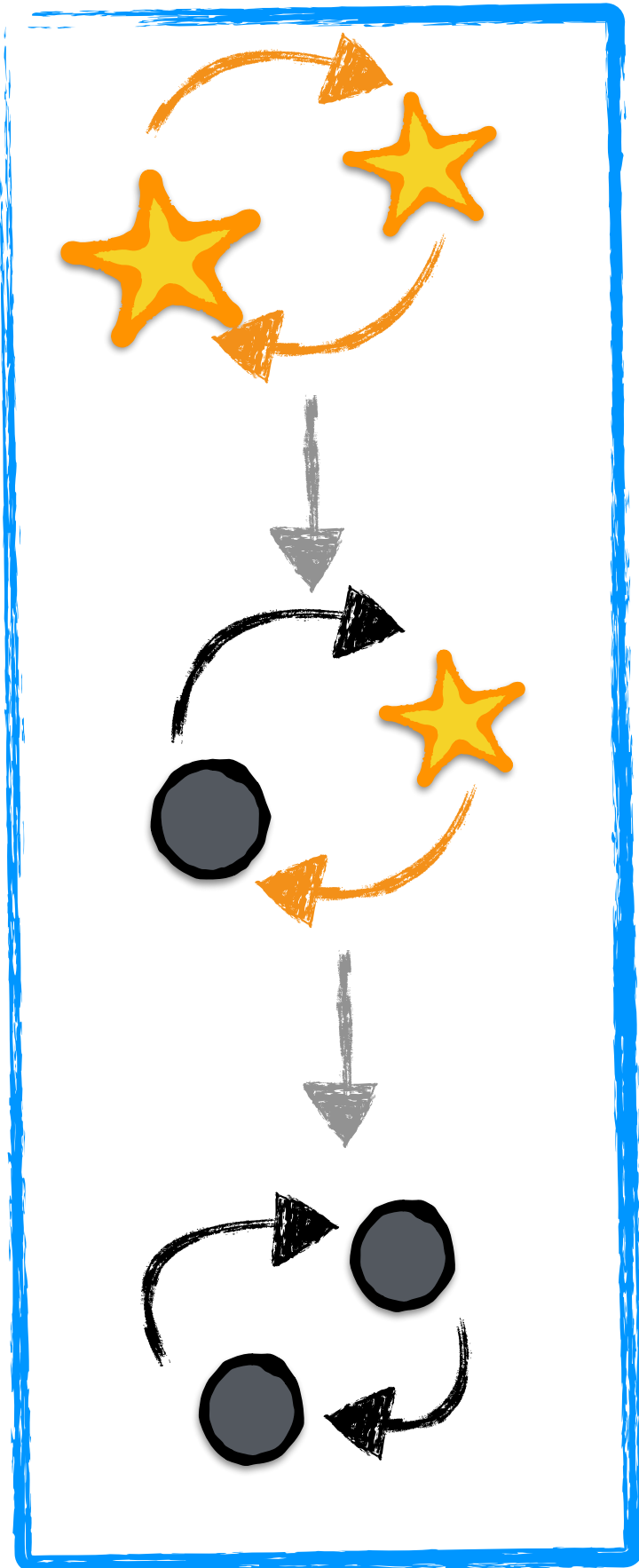
$$t_{\text{GW}} \sim a \frac{dt}{da} \sim a^4$$

Gravitational waves are efficient below

$$a_{\text{GW}} = 1.2 \times 10^{11} \left(\frac{t_{\text{GW}}}{1.4 \times 10^{10} \text{yr}} \right)^{1/4} \left(\frac{M}{M_{\odot}} \right)^{3/4} \text{cm} \sim 10 R_{\odot} \quad \text{stellar-mass BHs}$$

Relativity alone cannot explain the LIGO events,
we need some **astrophysics**

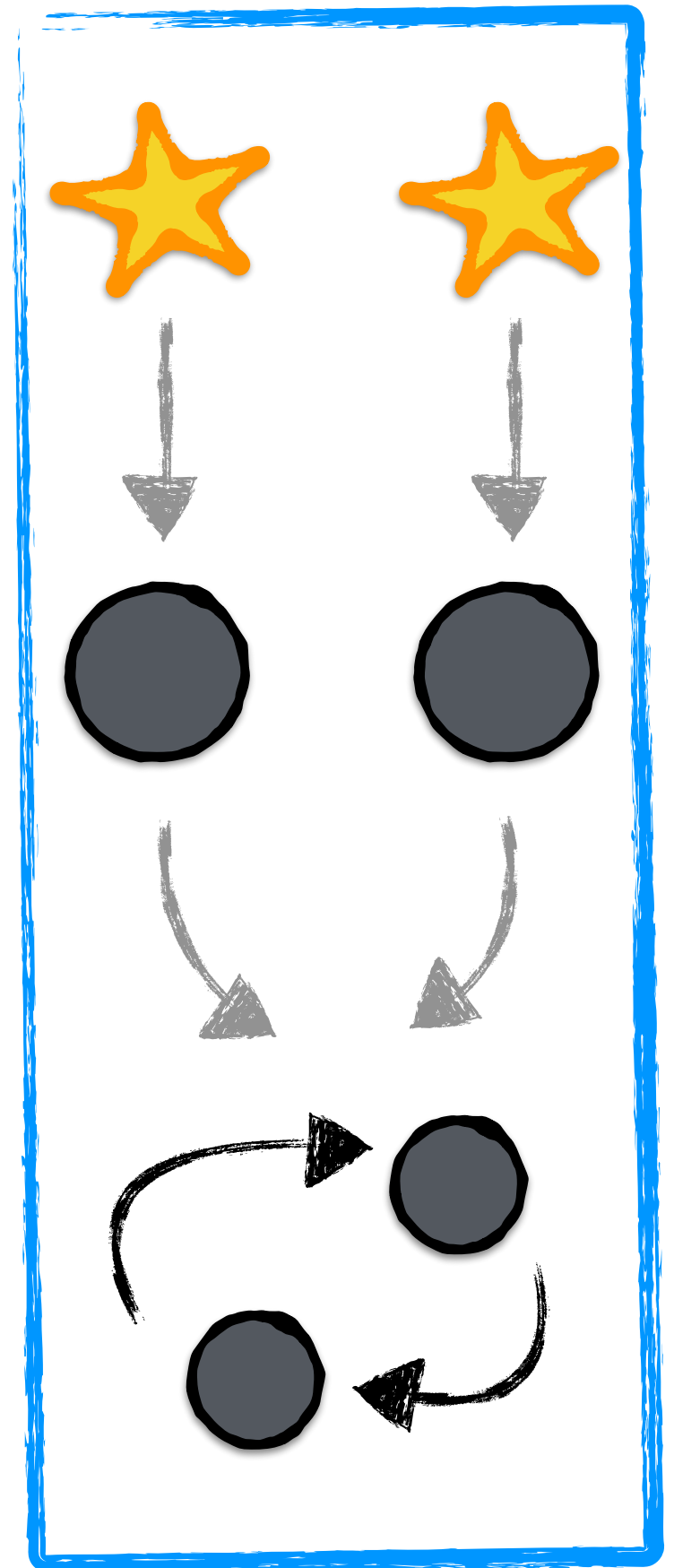
Have we been together for so long?



**Yes! I've known you
since you were a star**



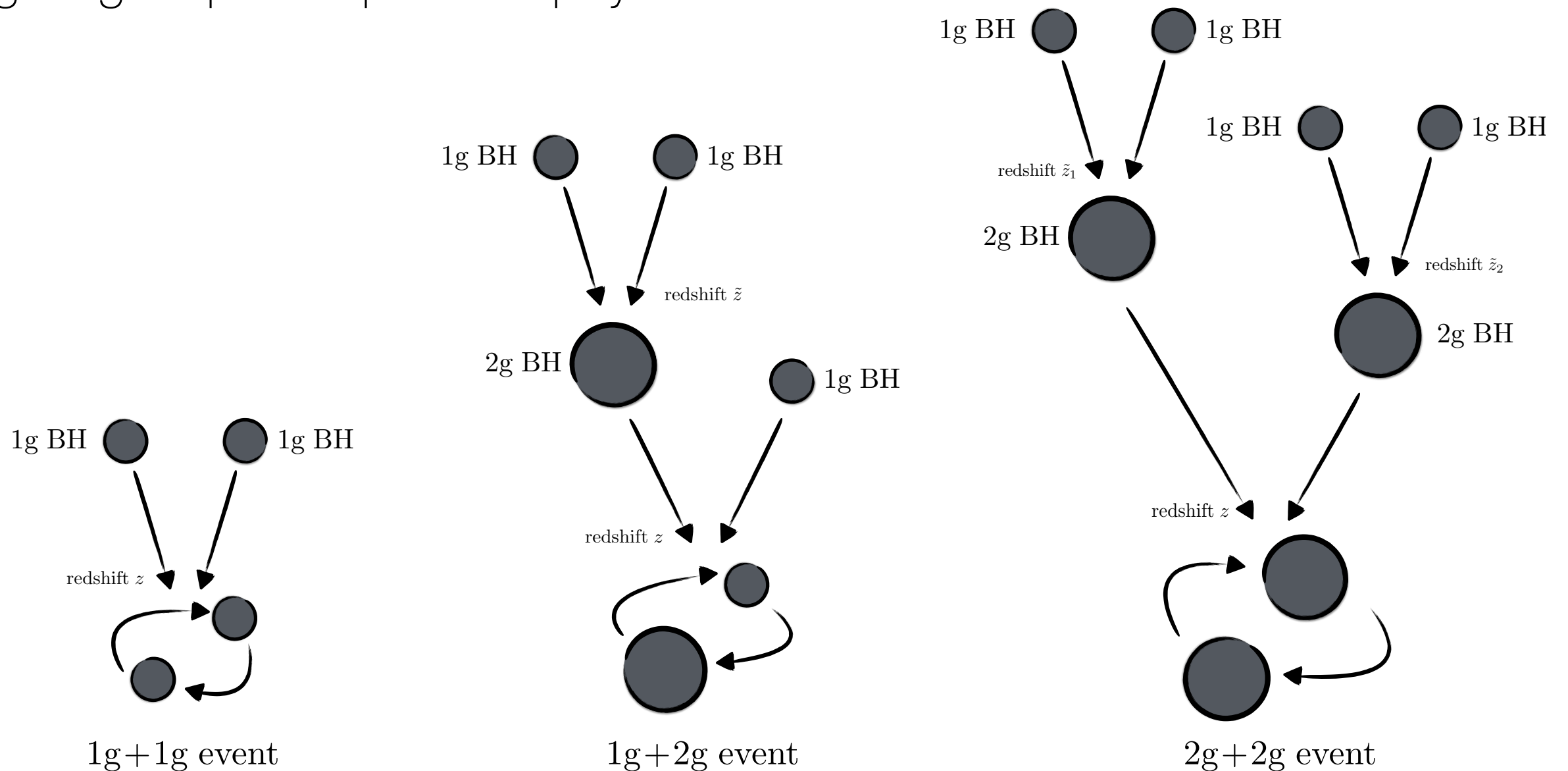
**Don't you remember?
We just met in cluster**



Hierarchical black-hole mergers

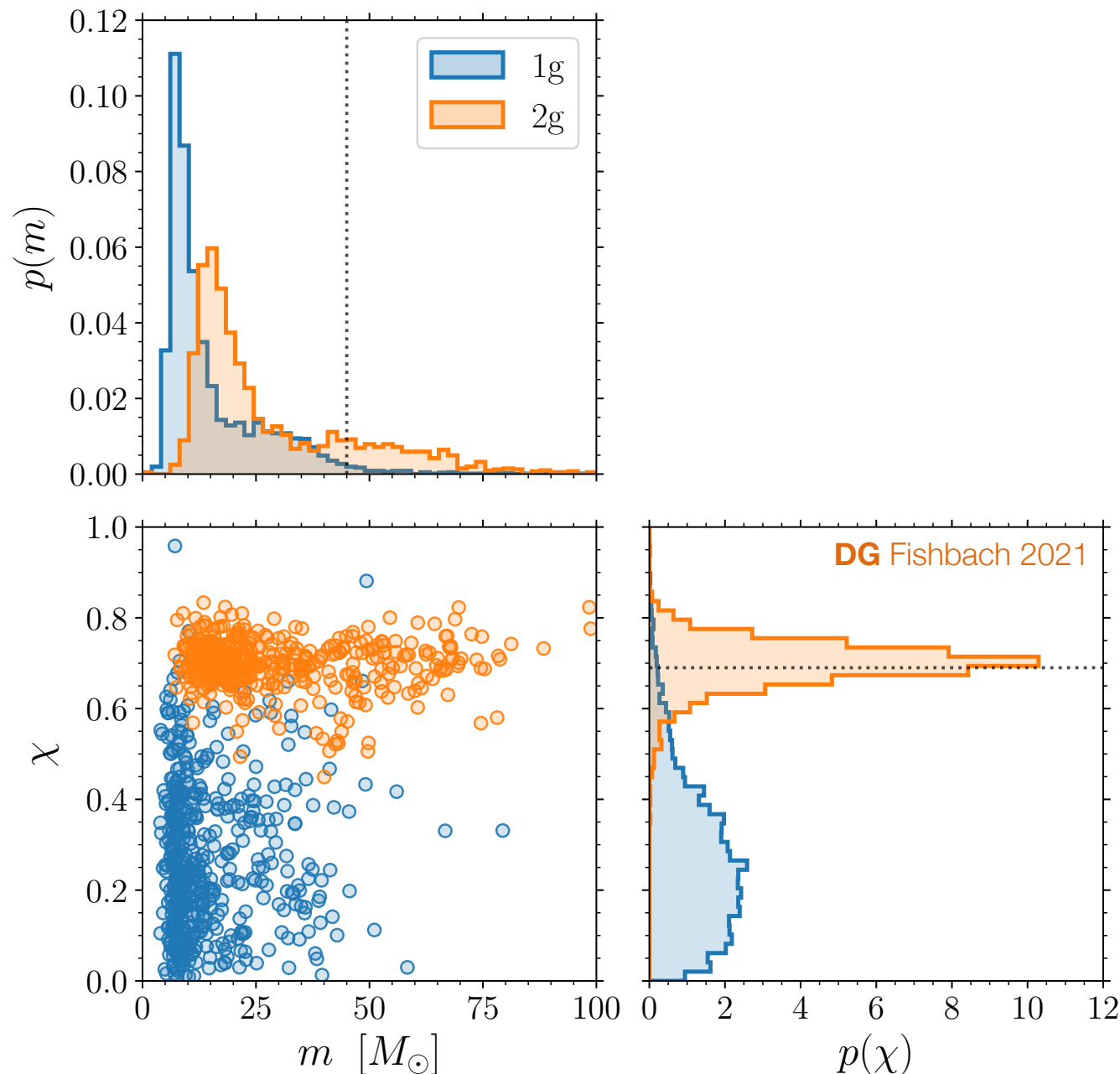
DG Berti 2017

Targeting a specific piece of physics here:



Orthogonal, but complementary to the usual field vs. cluster debate

An explosion of new predictions



- Masses in the pair-instability mass gap
Heger+ 2003, Woosley+ 2007
- Peculiar spin distribution peaked at 0.7
DG Berti 2017, Fishbach+ 2017
- But GW kicks require large escape speed
DG Berti 2019
- Very frequent in AGNs
Yang+ 2019, Tagawa+ 2020
- Promising for GW190412
DG Vitale Berti 2020, Rrogriguez+ 2020
- Leading explanation for GW190521
LIGO/Virgo 2020
- Perhaps several events in the LIGO catalog?
Kimball+ 2021
- An exclusion region
DG Giacobbo Vecchio 2020
- ... but don't overdo it!
Zevin Holz 2022

And many more! Enough for a dedicated review DG Fishbach 2021

Populations, the Bayes way

θ **Single-event parameters:** masses, spins, redshifts

λ **Population parameters:** spectral index of mass distribution, cutoffs

Inhomogeneous Poisson process:

Loredo 2004, Mandel+ 2019,
Thrane, Talbot 2019, Vitale, **DG+** 2022,

$$p(\lambda|d) \propto \pi(\lambda) \sigma^{-N}(\lambda) \prod_{i=1}^N \int p_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\lambda) \mathcal{L}(d_i|\theta) d\theta$$

Population prior

Population posterior

N events...

Population model

Single-event likelihood

Selection effects:
$$\sigma(\lambda) = \int p_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\lambda) p_{\text{det}}(\theta) d\theta$$

Detection probability

What model for the Universe?

Option 1: **Simple, parametrized functional forms**

LIGO/Virgo and many others

↪ Evaluating $p_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\lambda)$ is straightforward and can be done at each likelihood evaluation

But: *Astrophysicists put a lot of effort in simulating stellar evolution, clusters, AGNs, and all of that!*

Option 2:

Can we instead interpret GW data using cool astro predictions *directly*?

↪ Evaluating $p_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\lambda)$ now is a costly simulation...

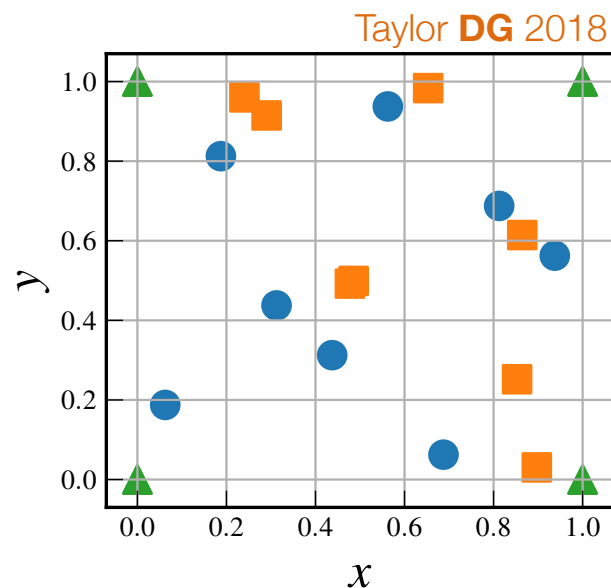
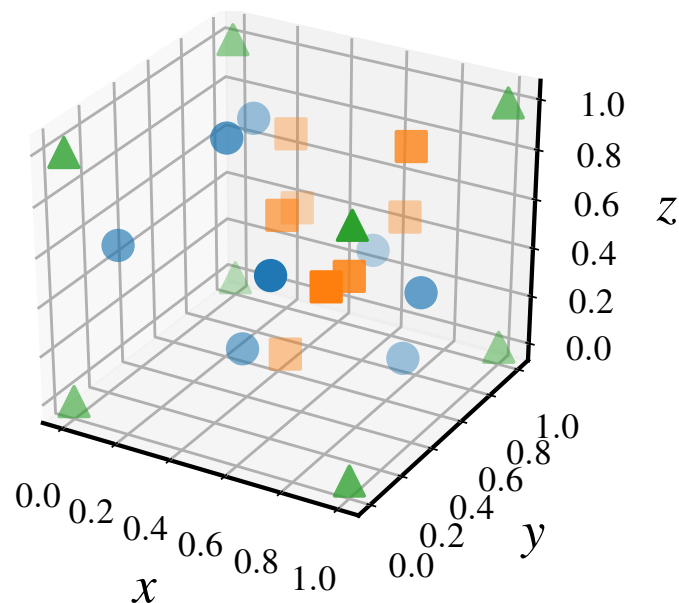
Ingredients in the blender

1. A population synthesis code

I'm not going to even try citing people here! So many excellent studies

- Early prototype with limited set of COMPAS runs Taylor **DG** 2018
- Current application: simple hierarchical merger populations Mould **DG** Taylor 2022
- Hopefully soon: full isolated formation channel inference
- Need help to do dynamics

2. Design a training bank. Space filling algorithms



- Latin hypercubes
- Now working on implementing progressive hypercube sampling

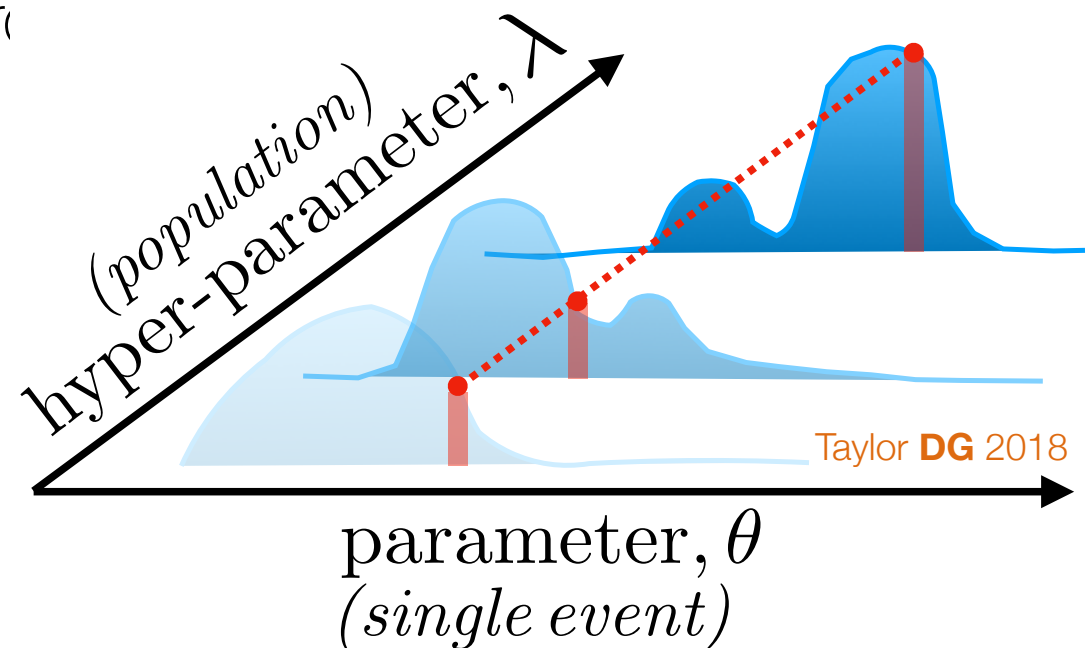
Ingredients in the blender

3. Some form of data compression

- Used principal component analysis successfully Taylor, **DG** 2018
- Tucker decomposition to avoid array raveling?
- Non-linear dimensionality reduction schemes?

4. A powerful conditional density estimation scheme $p_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\lambda)$

- Gaussian process regression
Taylor, **DG** 2018, Wong, **DG** 2019
- FFT-based KDE and a multilayer perceptron
Mould **DG** Taylor 2022
- Autoregressive flows
Wong, Contardo, Ho 2020



Ingredients in the blender

5. A model for the detector $p_{\text{det}}(\theta)$

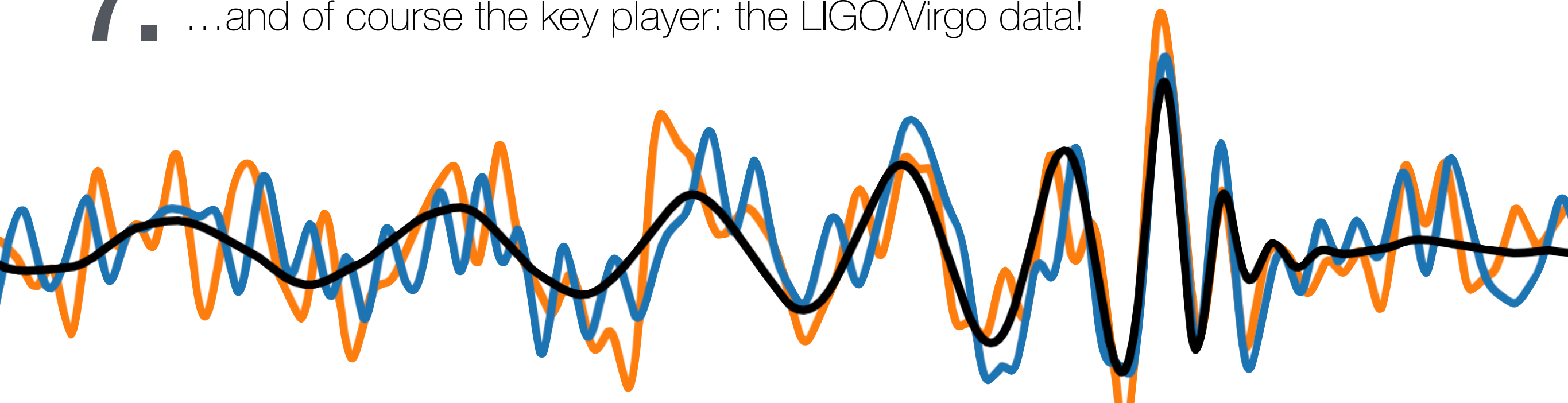
- A simple SNR cut? [Finn Chernoff 1992](#)
- Pipeline injections? [LIGO/Virgo 2019, 2021](#)
- Some attempts at machine-learn the GW detectability.

DG [Pratten Vecchio 2020, Talbot Thrane 2022](#)

6. A sampler for $p(\lambda|d)$

- A vanilla nested sampling for now... but should we?

7. ...and of course the key player: the LIGO/Virgo data!



Just balls of black holes for now....

We need a population that is easy enough for now but non-analytic...

Key idea: **take a parametrized model but allow for hierarchical mergers**

In this talk a cluster is... a “thing” with a given escape speed v_{esc}

DG, Berti 2019, DG Giacobbo Vecchio 2021, Zevin Holz 2022

- Masses: $p(m) \propto m^\gamma$ $m \in [5M_\odot, m_{\text{max}}]$
- Spins: $p(\chi) = \text{const}$ $\chi \in [0, \chi_{\text{max}}]$
- Pairing: $p_{\text{pair}}(m_1) \propto m_1^\alpha$
 $p_{\text{pair}}(m_2|m_1) \propto m_2^\beta$
- Clusters: $p(v_{\text{esc}}) \propto v_{\text{esc}}^\delta$

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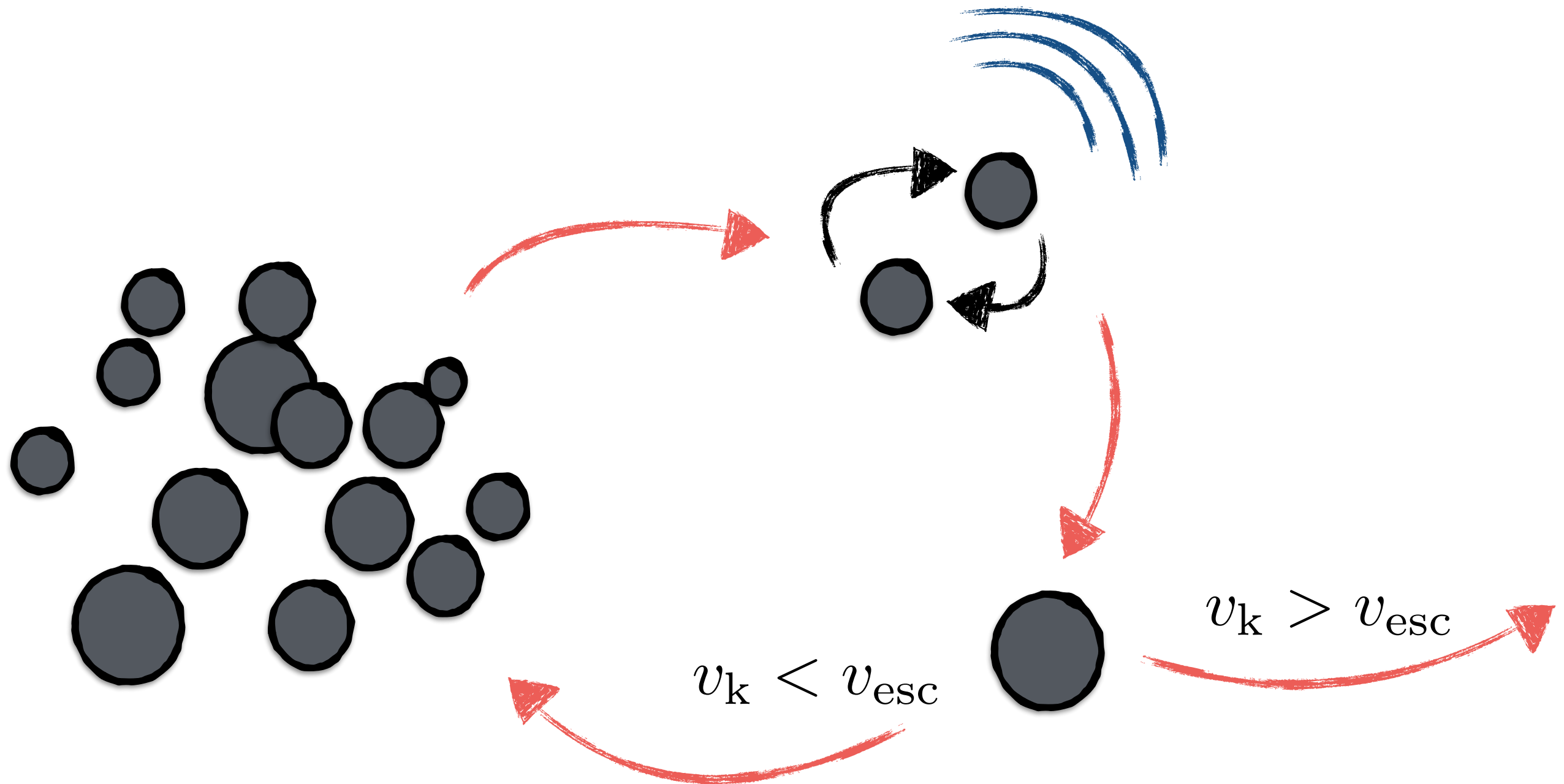
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Six population parameters

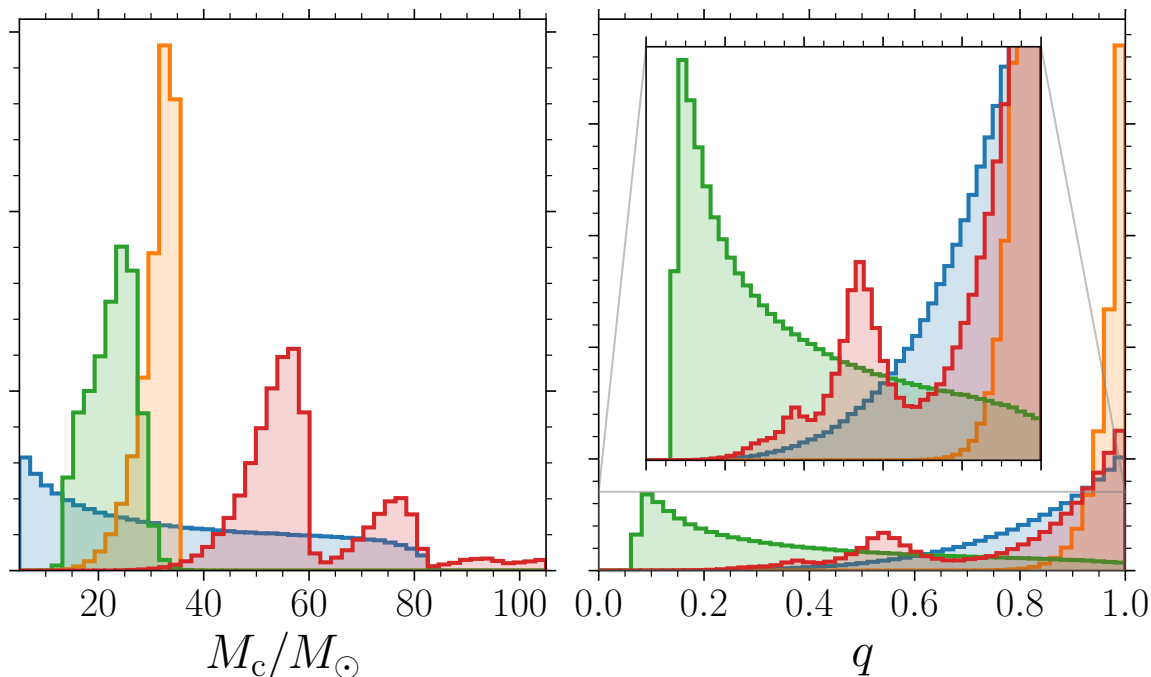
Out of the cluster, one kick at the time



Targeted populations

Tackling inference on four event parameters $\theta = \{M_c, q, \chi_{\text{eff}}, \chi_p\}$

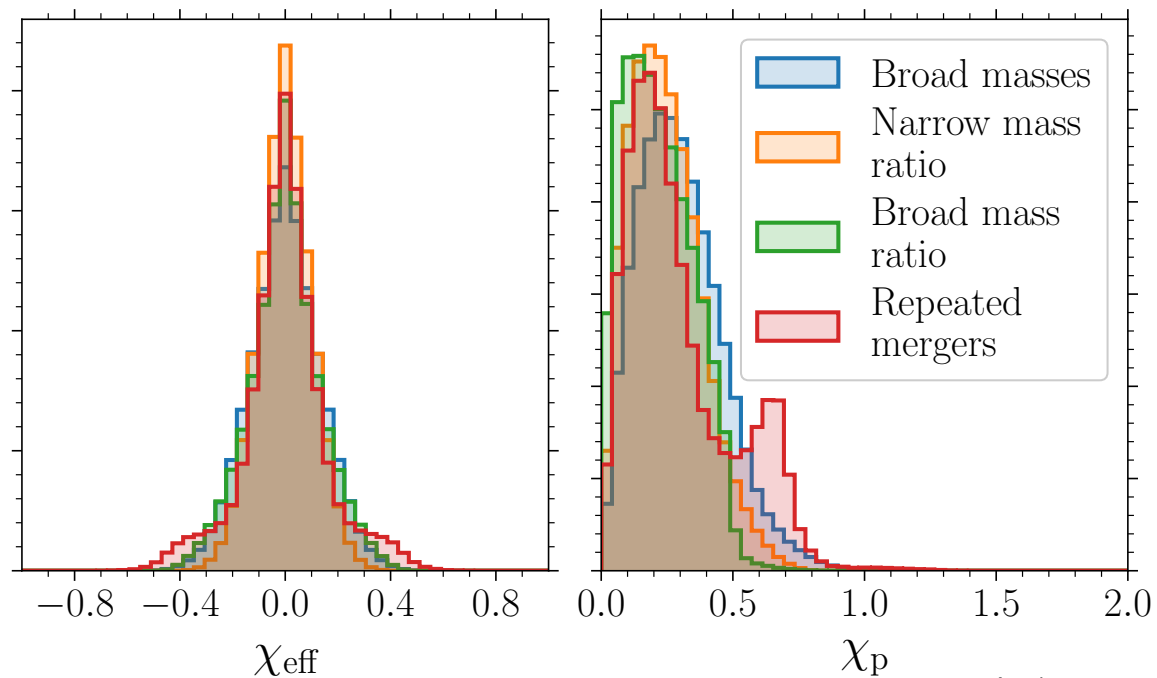
Mould, **DG**, Taylor 2022



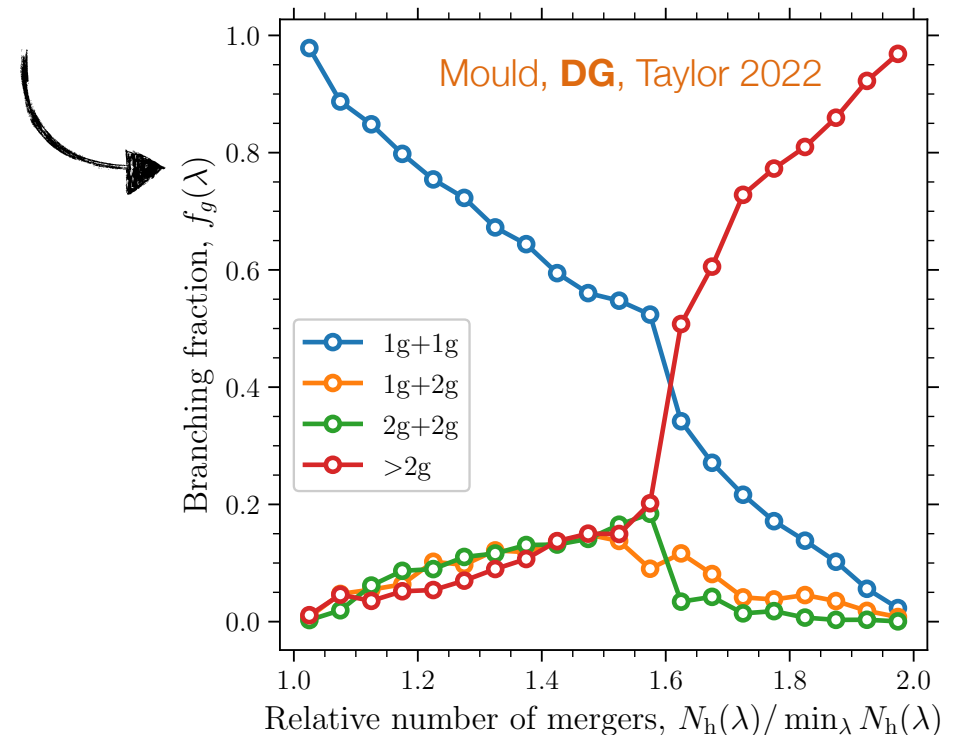
Four representative hyperparameter locations

This is a hard problem!
 Strong correlations, multimodalities,
 spikes, gaps, degeneracies

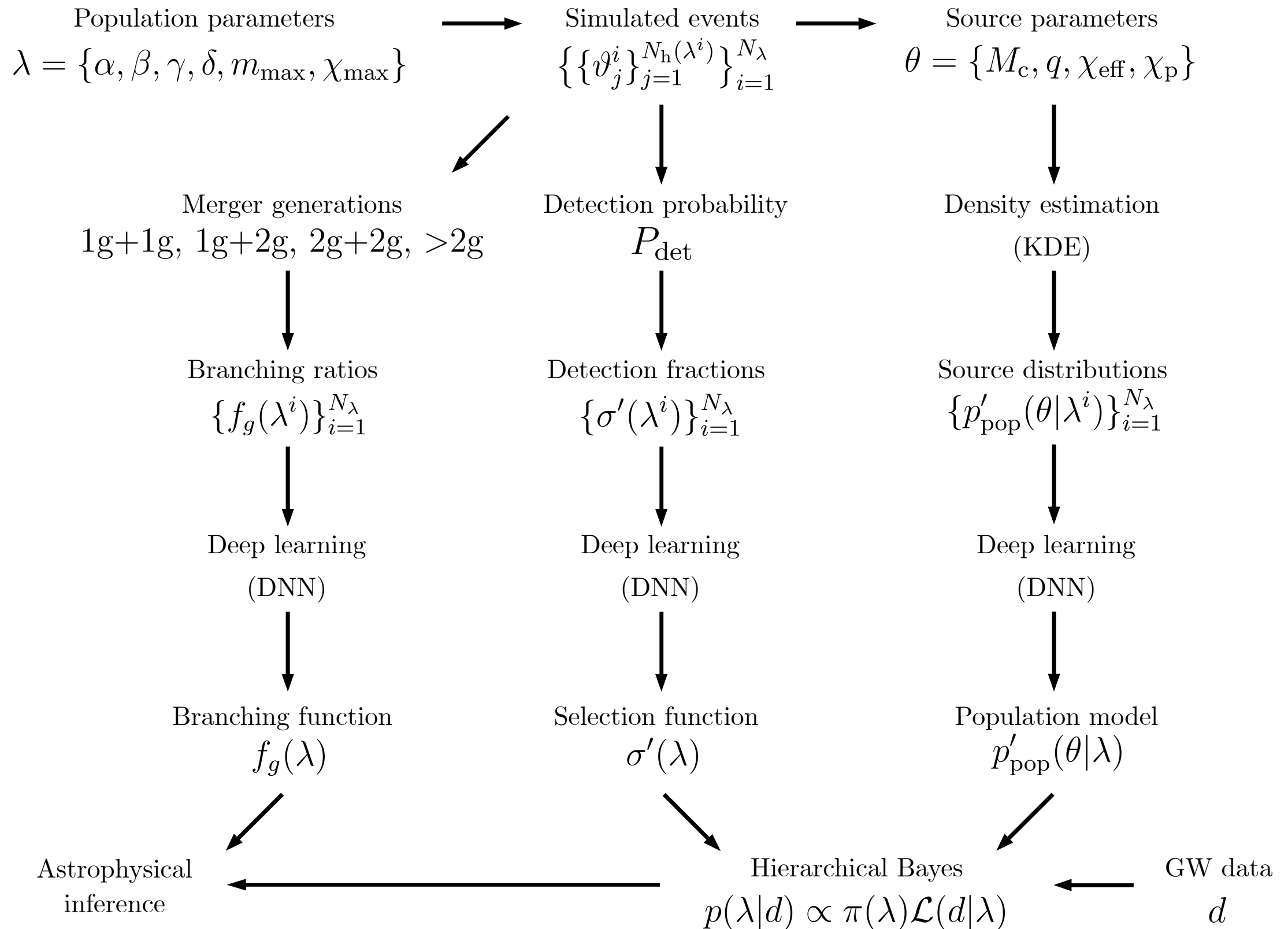
... and we keep track of the merger generation



Ask me at coffee
 why χ_p goes up to 2... **DG+** 2021

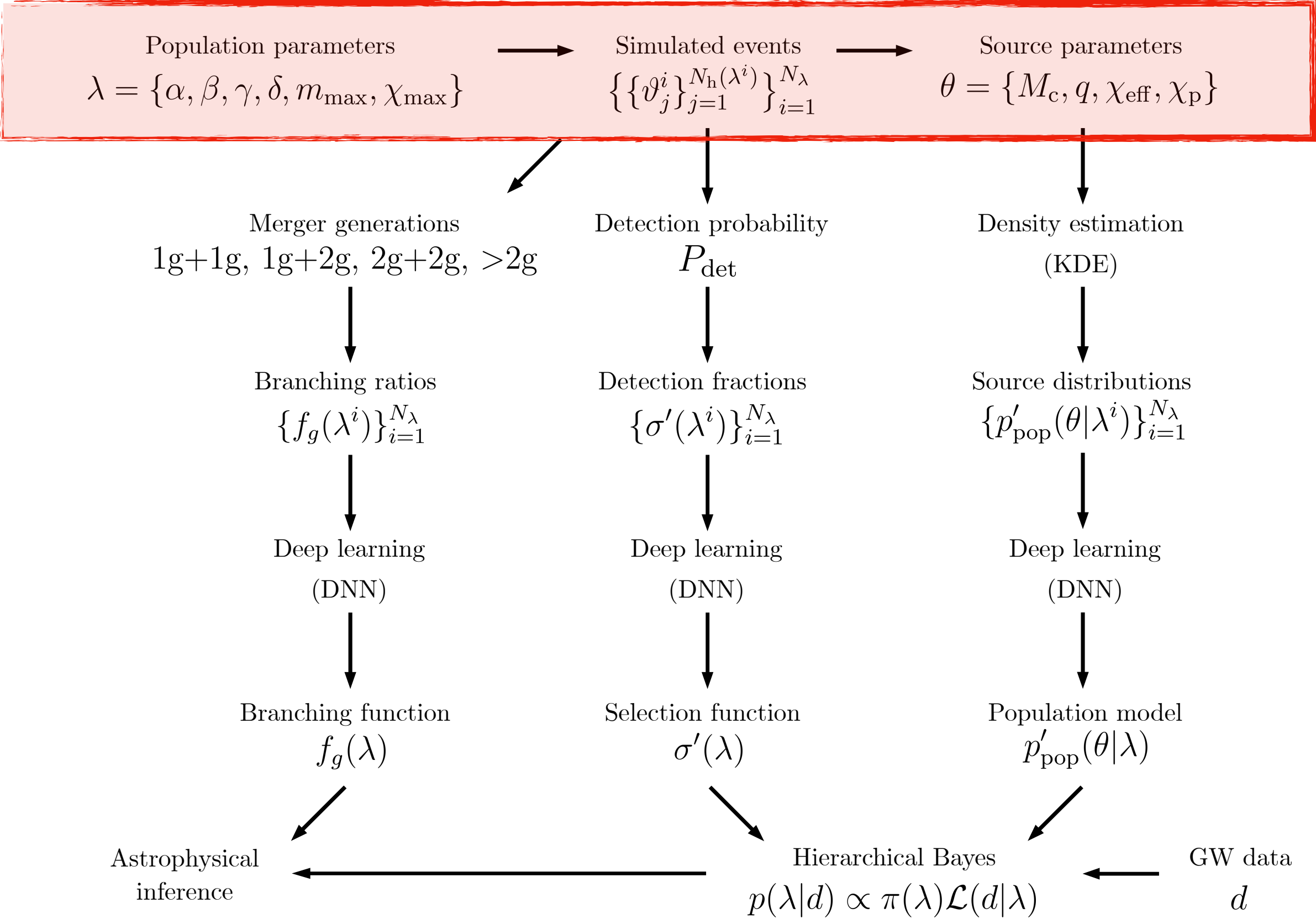


Full pipeline

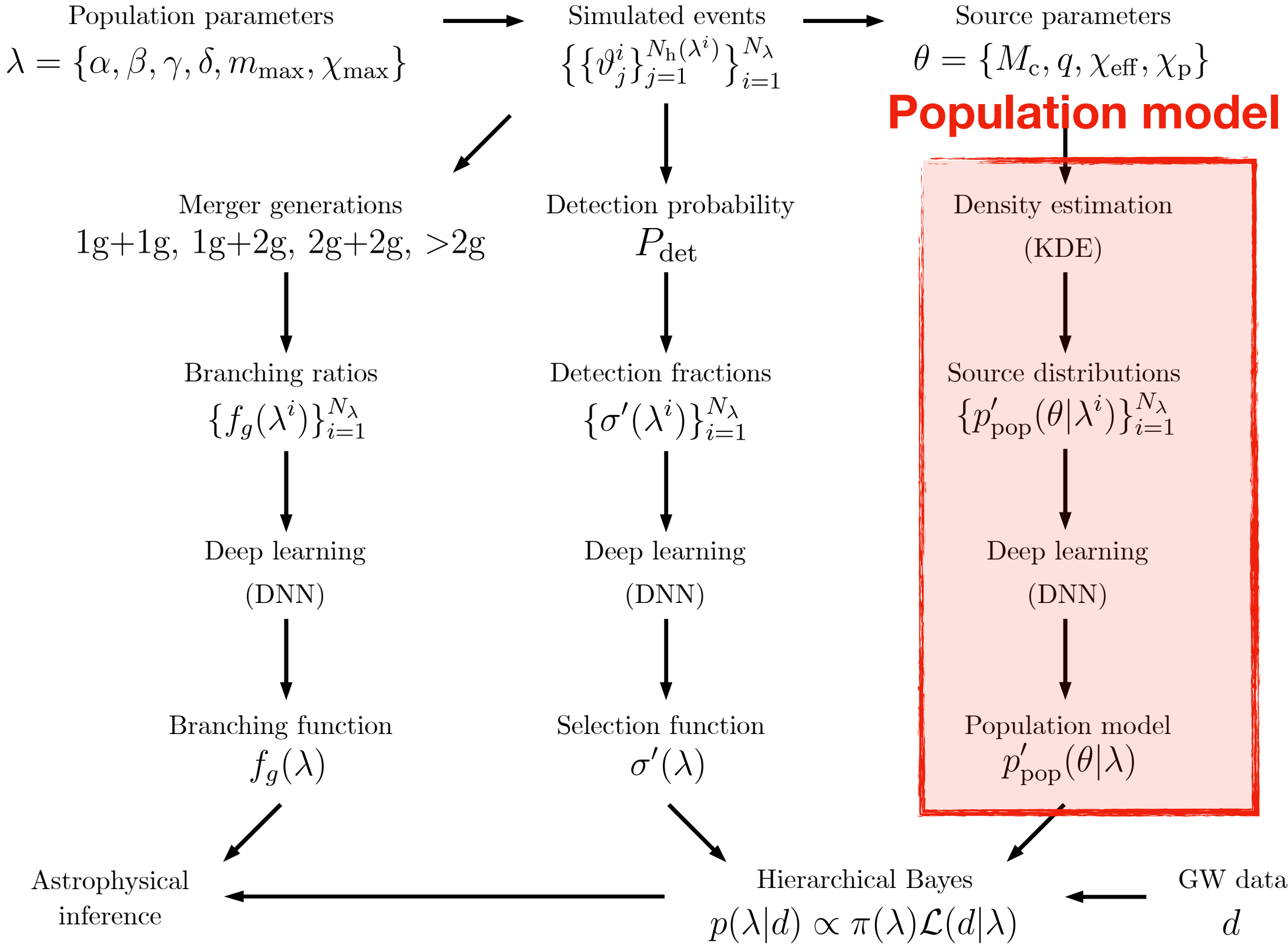


Full pipeline

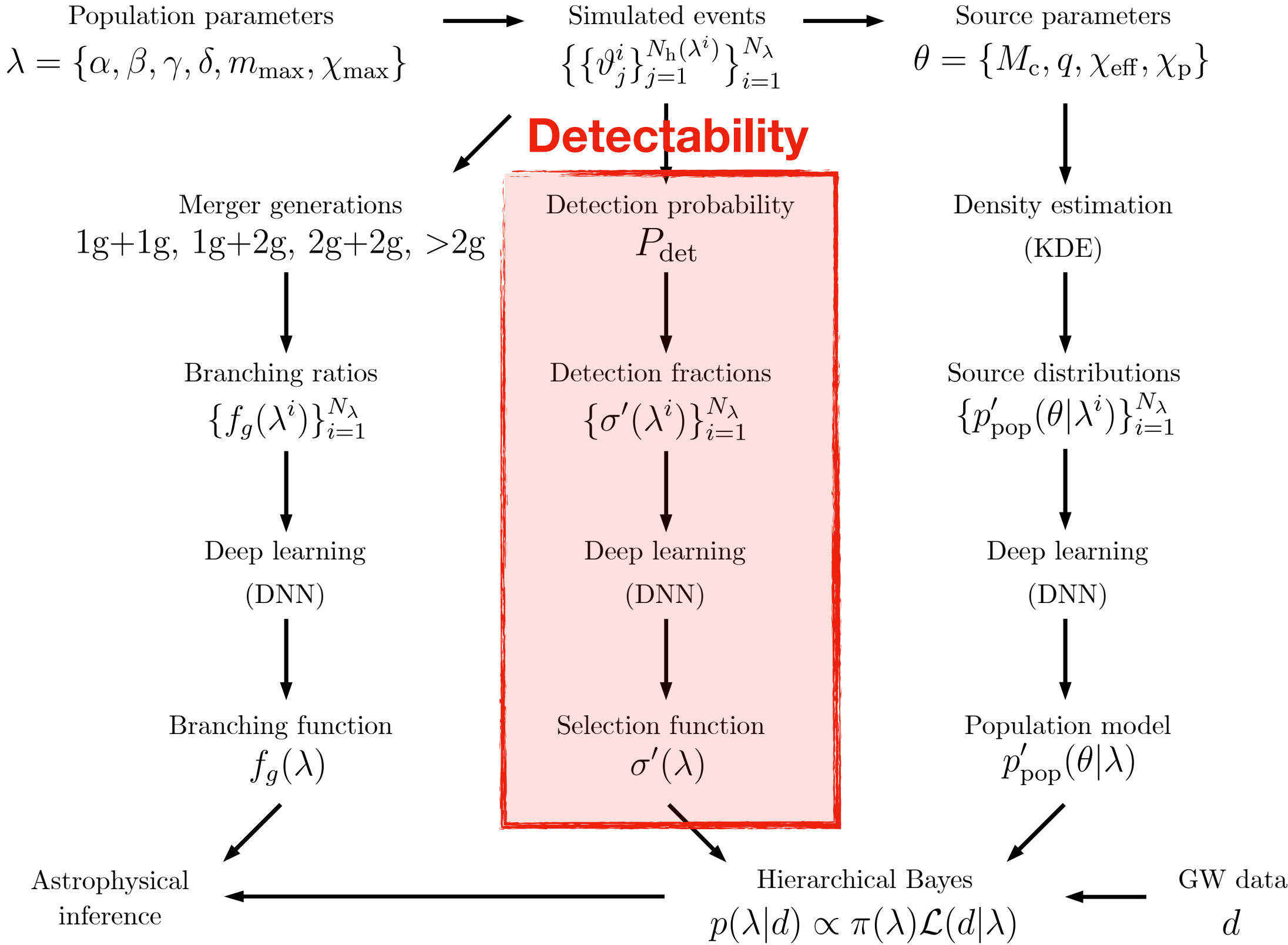
Simulations



Full pipeline



Full pipeline



Population parameters
 $\lambda = \{\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, m_{\max}, \chi_{\max}\}$

Simulated events
 $\{\{\vartheta_j^i\}_{j=1}^{N_h(\lambda^i)}\}_{i=1}^{N_\lambda}$

Source parameters
 $\theta = \{M_c, q, \chi_{\text{eff}}, \chi_p\}$

Detectability

Merger generations
 $1g+1g, 1g+2g, 2g+2g, >2g$

Detection probability
 P_{det}

Density estimation
(KDE)

Branching ratios
 $\{f_g(\lambda^i)\}_{i=1}^{N_\lambda}$

Detection fractions
 $\{\sigma'(\lambda^i)\}_{i=1}^{N_\lambda}$

Source distributions
 $\{p'_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\lambda^i)\}_{i=1}^{N_\lambda}$

Deep learning
(DNN)

Deep learning
(DNN)

Deep learning
(DNN)

Branching function
 $f_g(\lambda)$

Selection function
 $\sigma'(\lambda)$

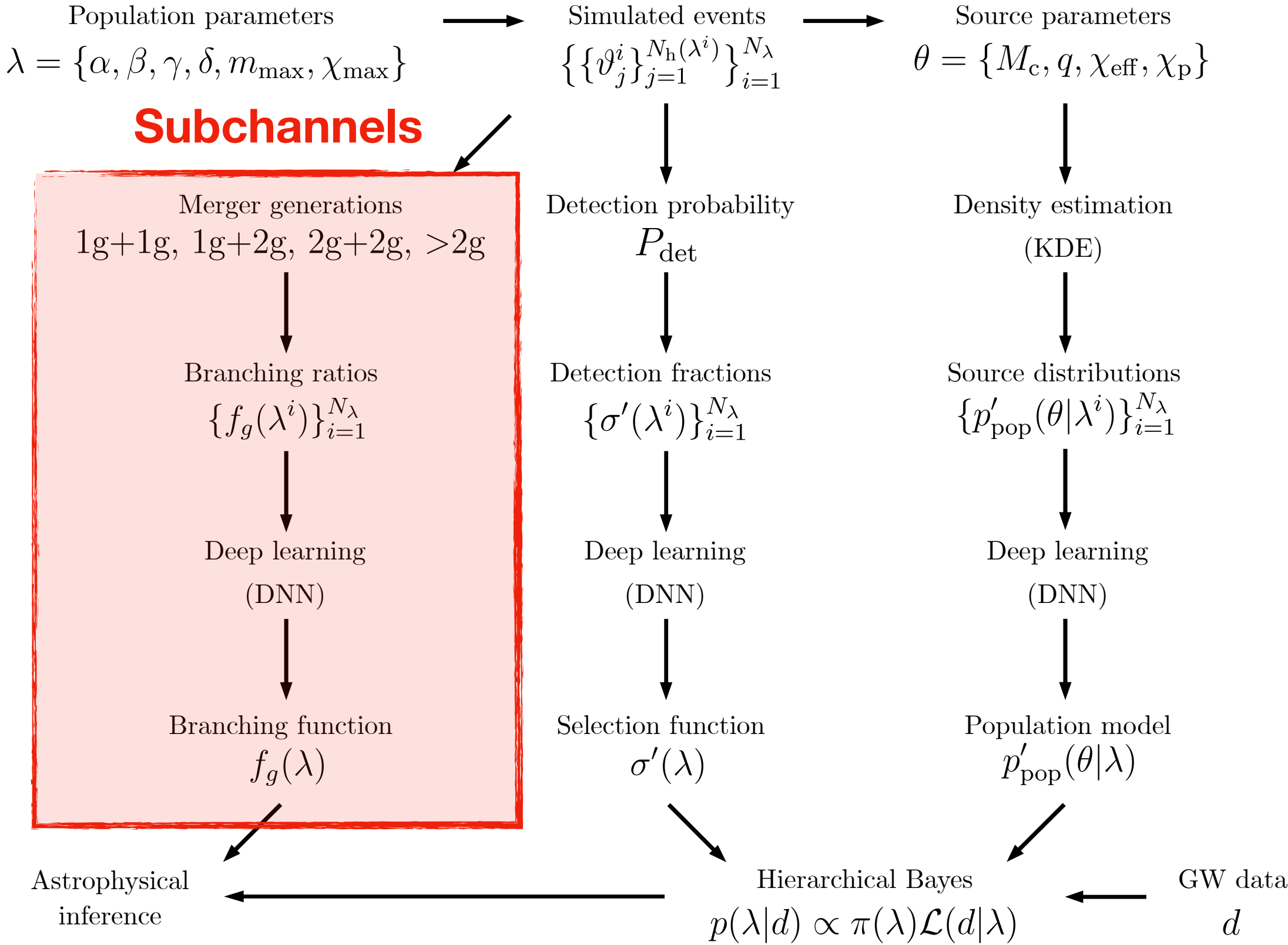
Population model
 $p'_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\lambda)$

Astrophysical
inference

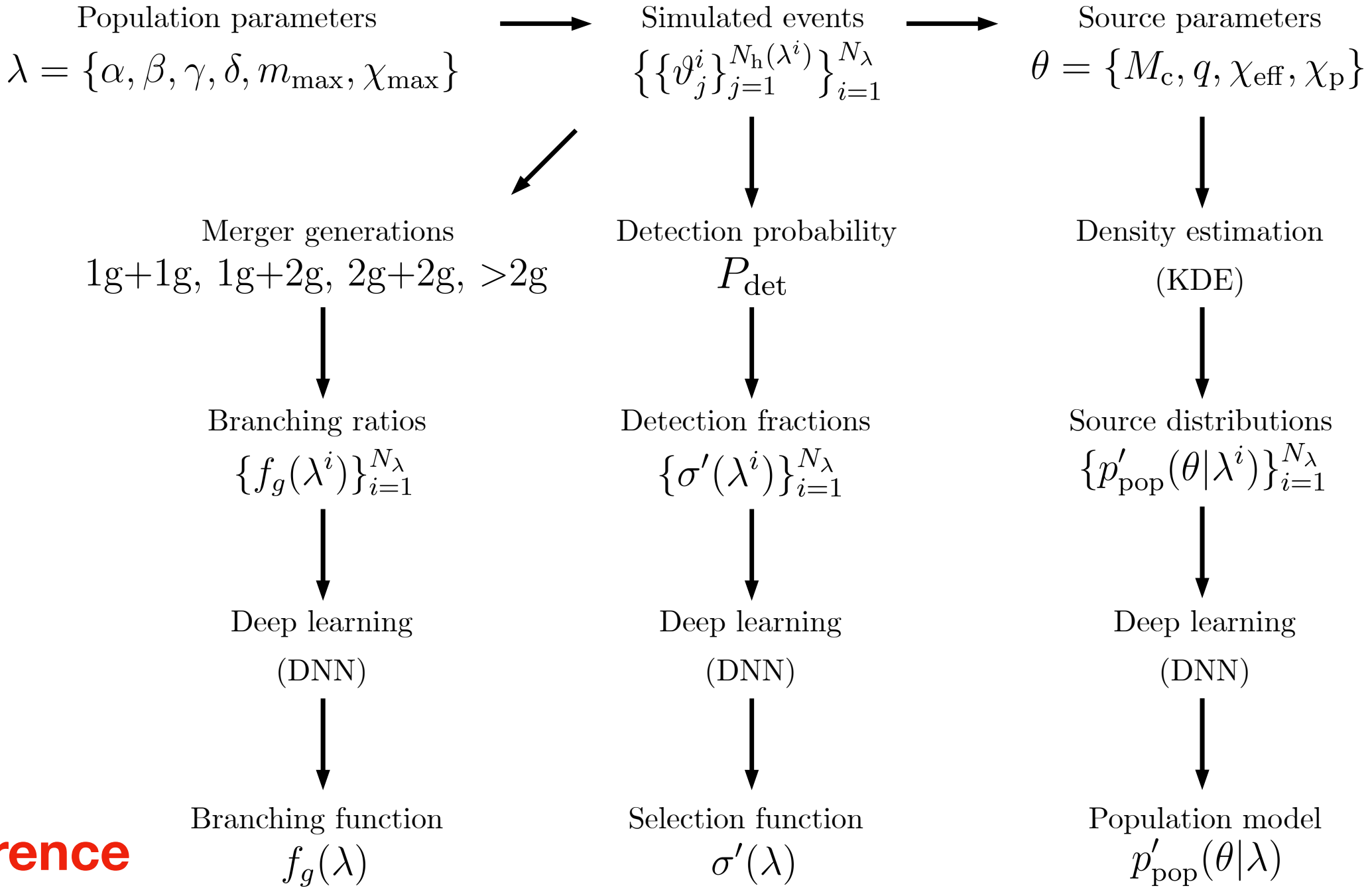
Hierarchical Bayes
 $p(\lambda|d) \propto \pi(\lambda)\mathcal{L}(d|\lambda)$

GW data
 d

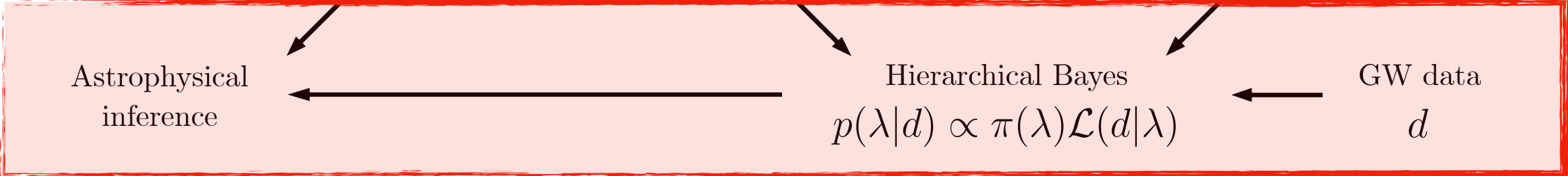
Full pipeline



Full pipeline



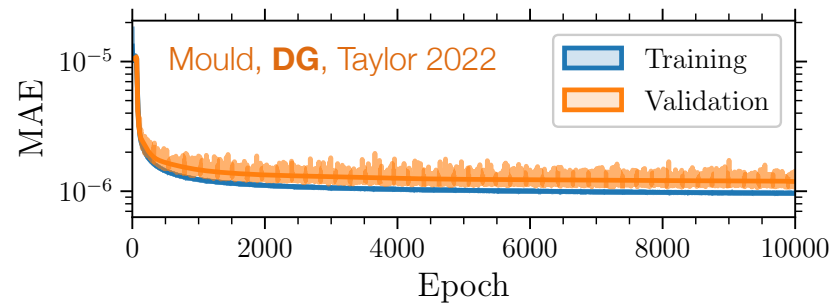
Inference



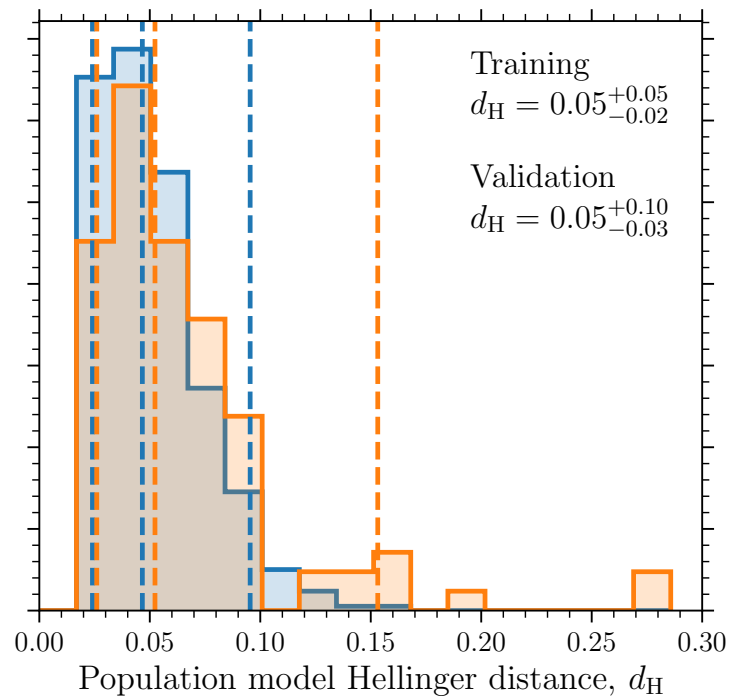
Population neural network

- A fully connected network
- A total of ~70k parameters!
- Implemented in Google's Tensorflow
- Fast (~days) training on GPU

Layer	Neurons	Activation	Parameters
Input	10	—	0
Dense 1	128	RReLU	1408
Dense 2	128	RReLU	16,512
Dense 3	128	RReLU	16,512
Dense 4	128	RReLU	16,512
Dense 5	128	RReLU	16,512
Output	1	Absolute value	129
Total			67,585



No significant overfitting

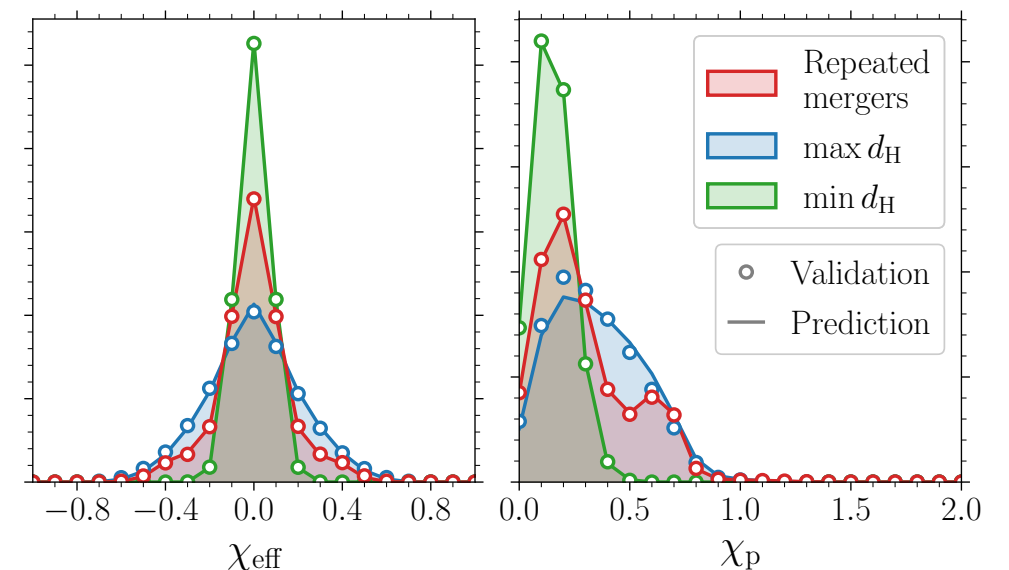
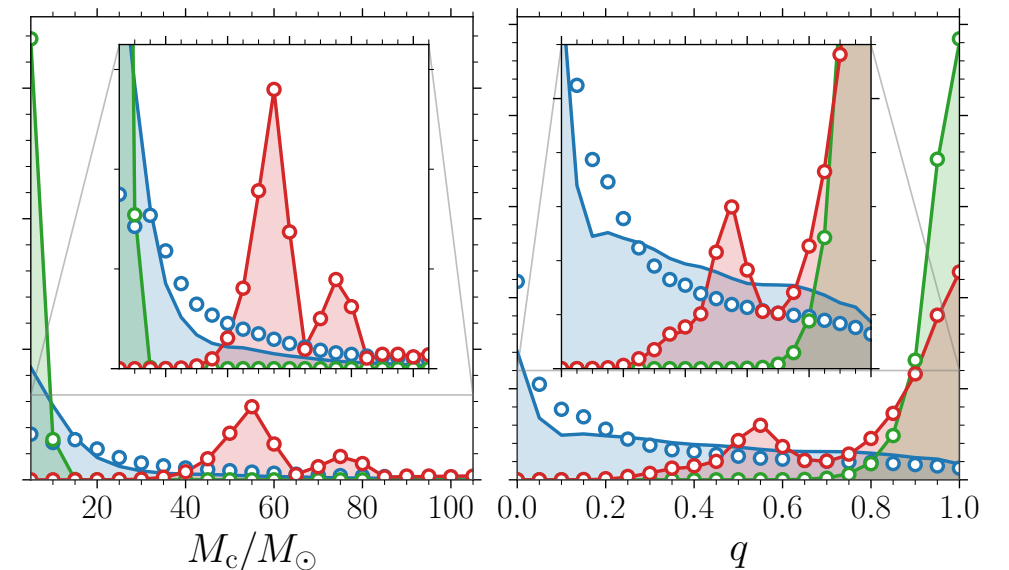


Interpolated distributions are statistically the same

Able to capture spikes and almost-discontinuous features

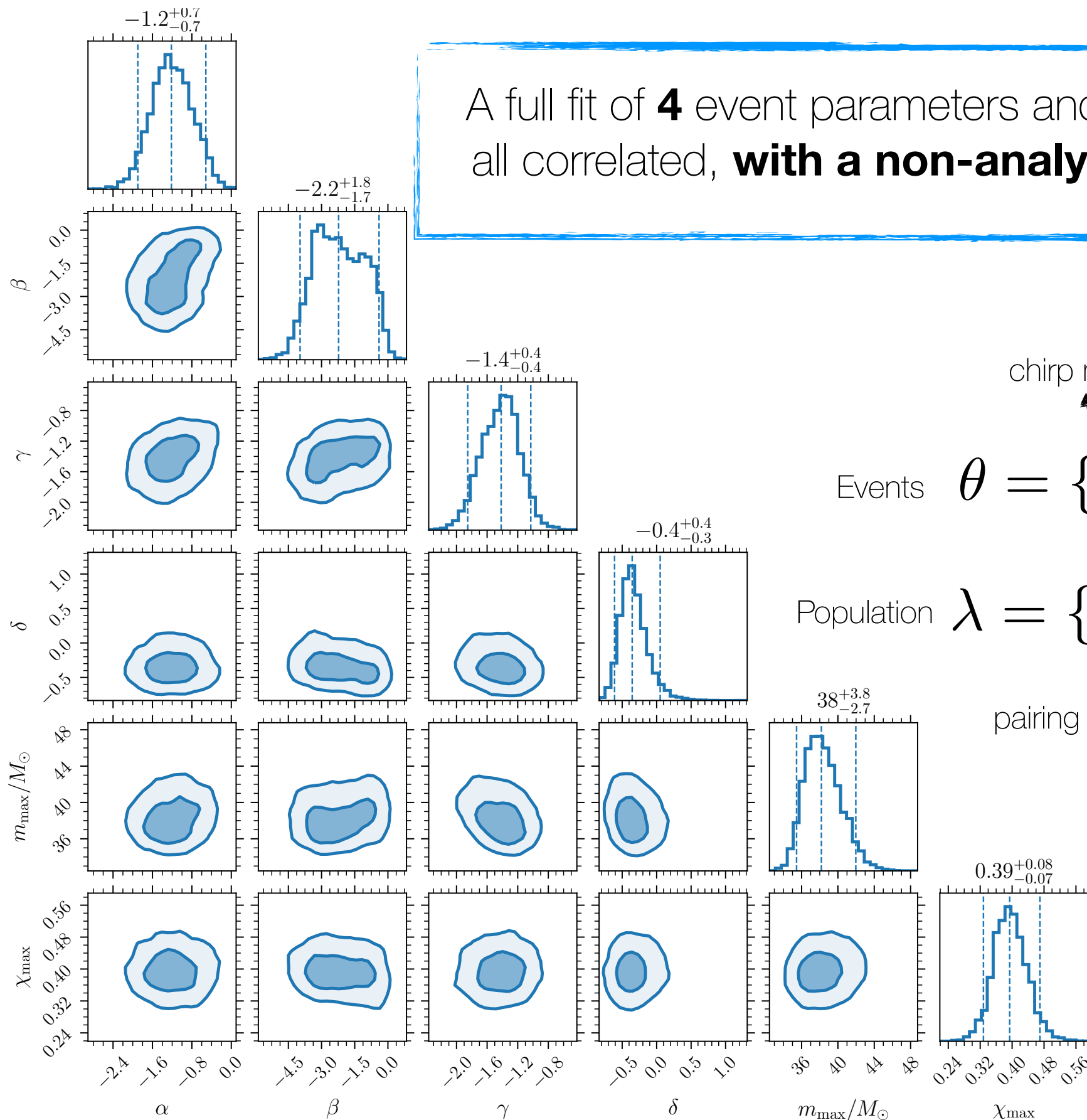
$$d_H(p, q)^2 = 1 - \int \sqrt{p(x)q(x)} dx.$$

Mould, DG, Taylor 2022



Full GWTC3 results

A full fit of **4** event parameters and **6** population parameters, all correlated, **with a non-analytical population model!**



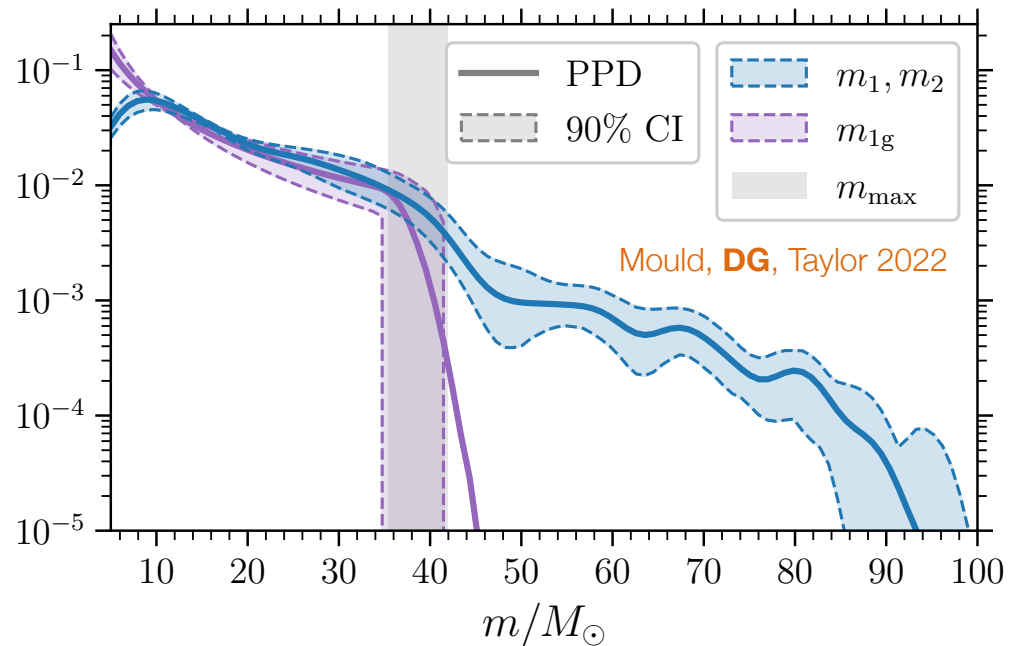
Events $\theta = \{M_c, q, \chi_{\text{eff}}, \chi_p\}$

chirp mass effective spin
 mass ratio precession

Population $\lambda = \{\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, M_{\max}, \chi_{\max}\}$

pairing 1g mass slope max 1g mass
 pairing escape speeds max 1g spin

Inference and predictions

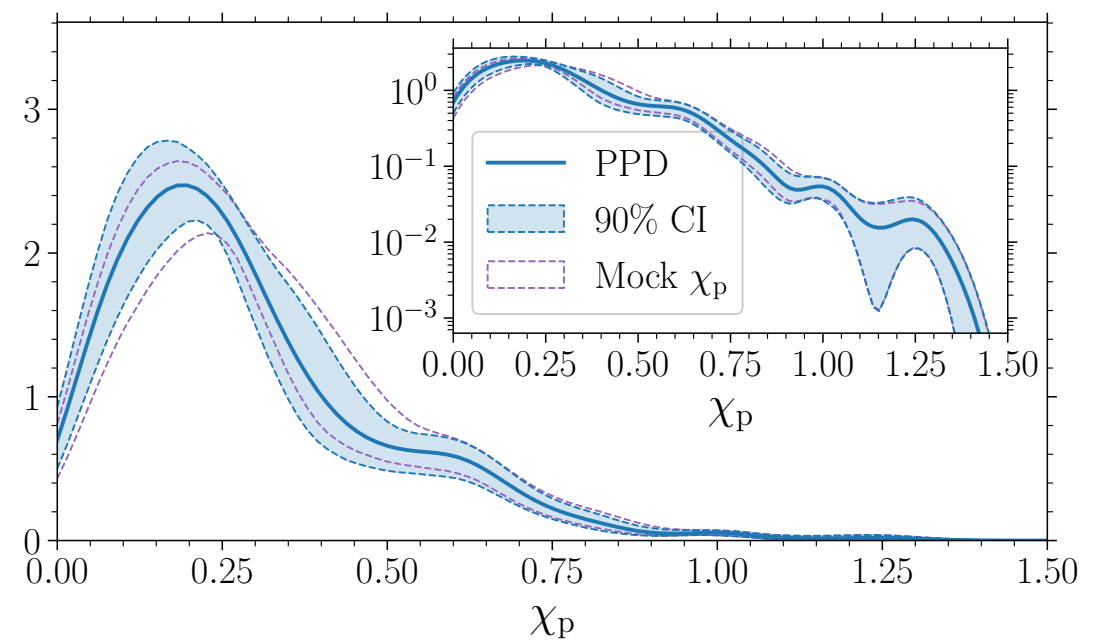
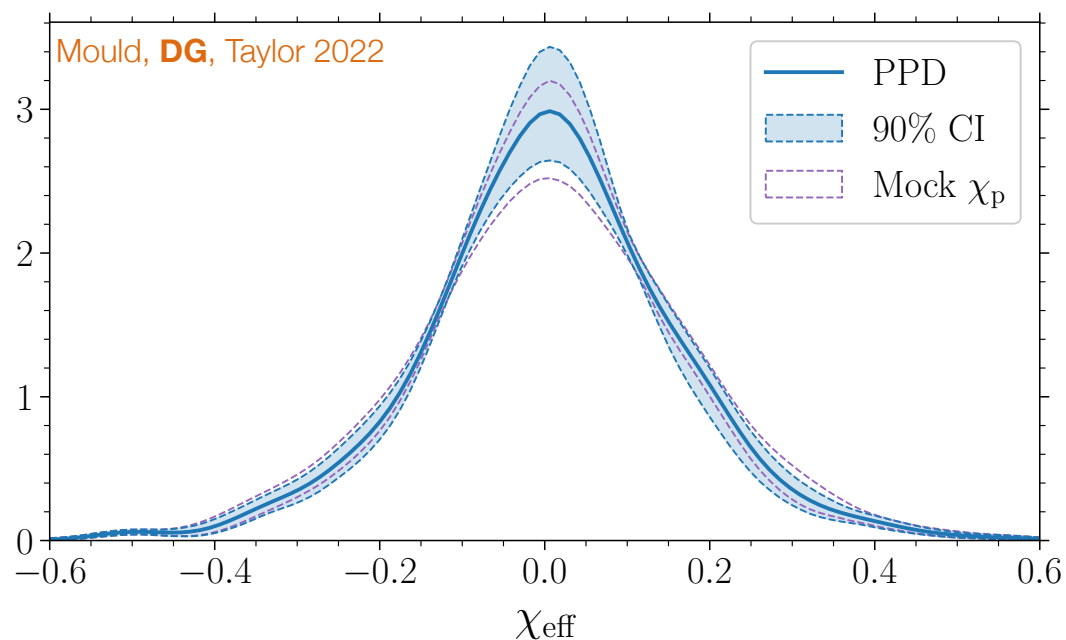


Masses

- Repeated mergers populate the upper mass gap
- 1g cutoff ok with pair instability SN?
- Additional structure in the gap due to higher generations

Spins

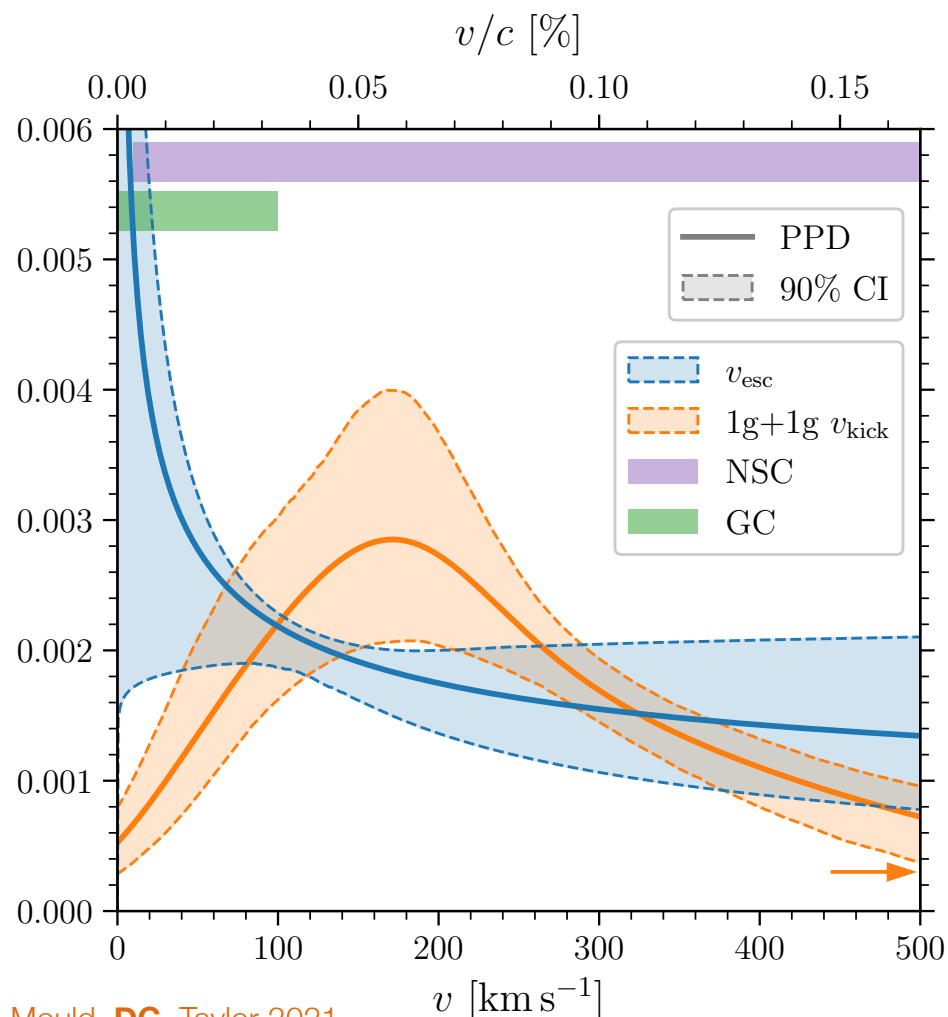
- Fat tails in the effective spin
- Fine structures in spin precession



Inference and predictions

Escape speeds

- Easy to infer secondary population parameters (here the escape speed)
- But can go crazy! Metallicity, environments, etc

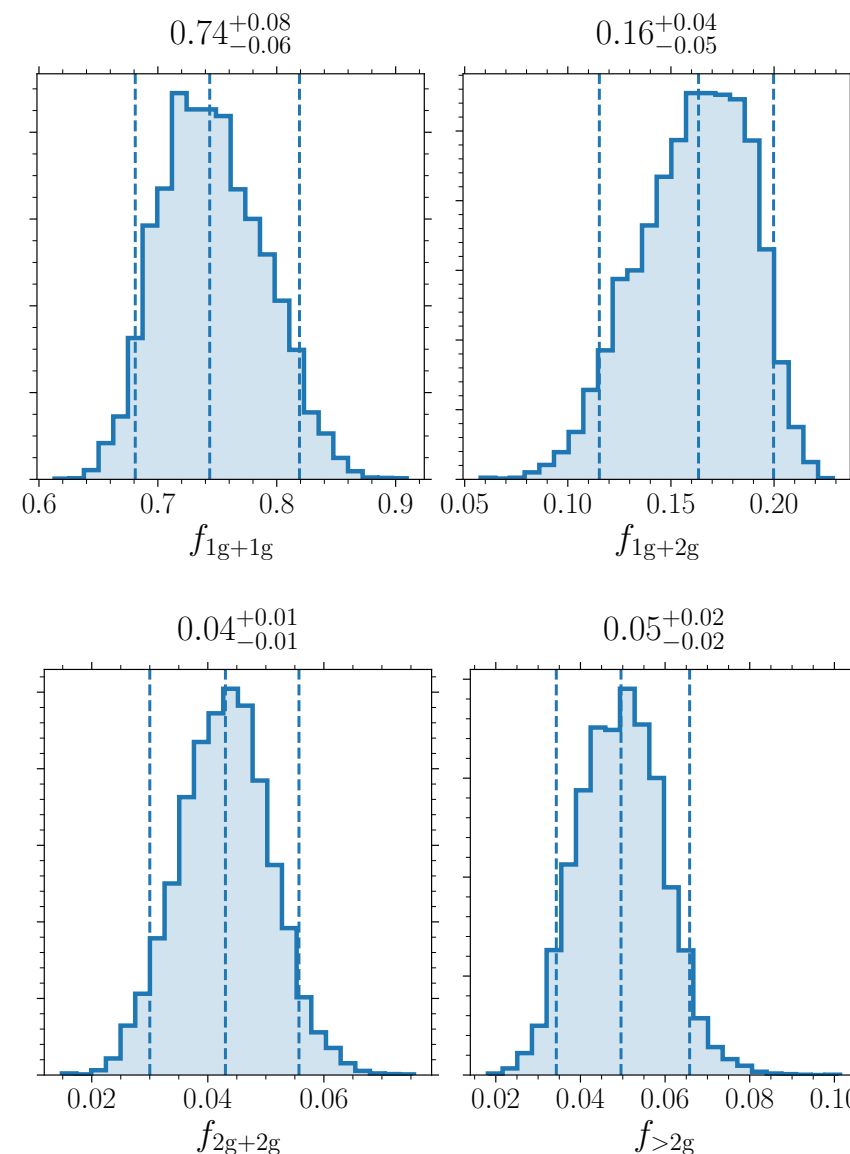


Mould, **DG**, Taylor 2021

Generations

- If we allow for hierarchical mergers, the fit wants to go there! cf e.g. [Kimball+ 2021](#)
- Easy to infer subchannels (here the generation)
- But can go crazy! Any label in the population...

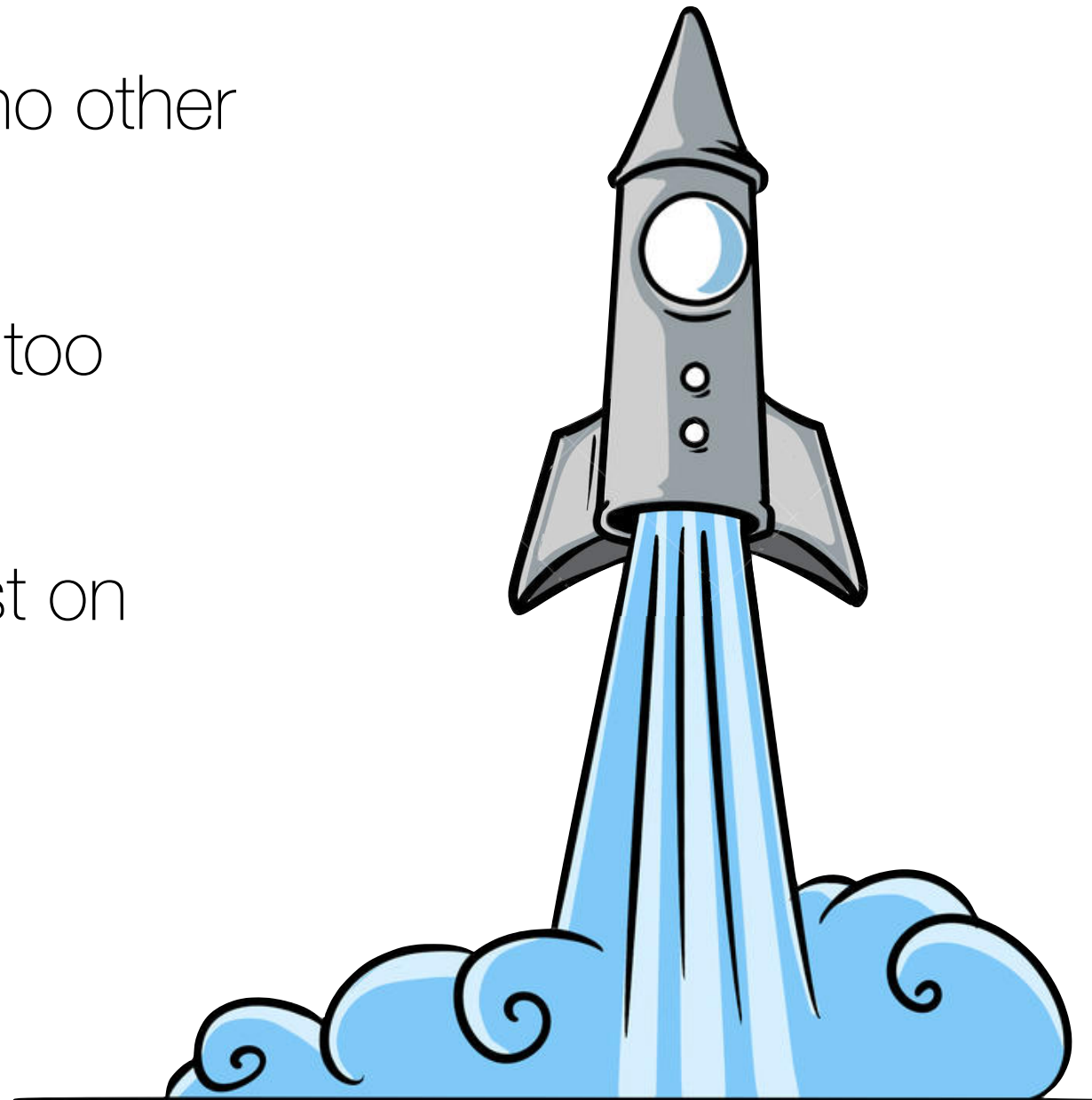
Mould, **DG**, Moore, in prep



Mould, **DG**, Taylor 2022

Ready for launch

- A complete, highly optimized population inference pipeline designed to digest outputs of astrophysical simulations and GW data
- **Deep learning is crucial here** (no other way, I think)
- Current astrophysics is admittedly too simple...
- ...but we're ready to use this beast on state-of-the-art models!



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