

# Gravitational waves: where we are

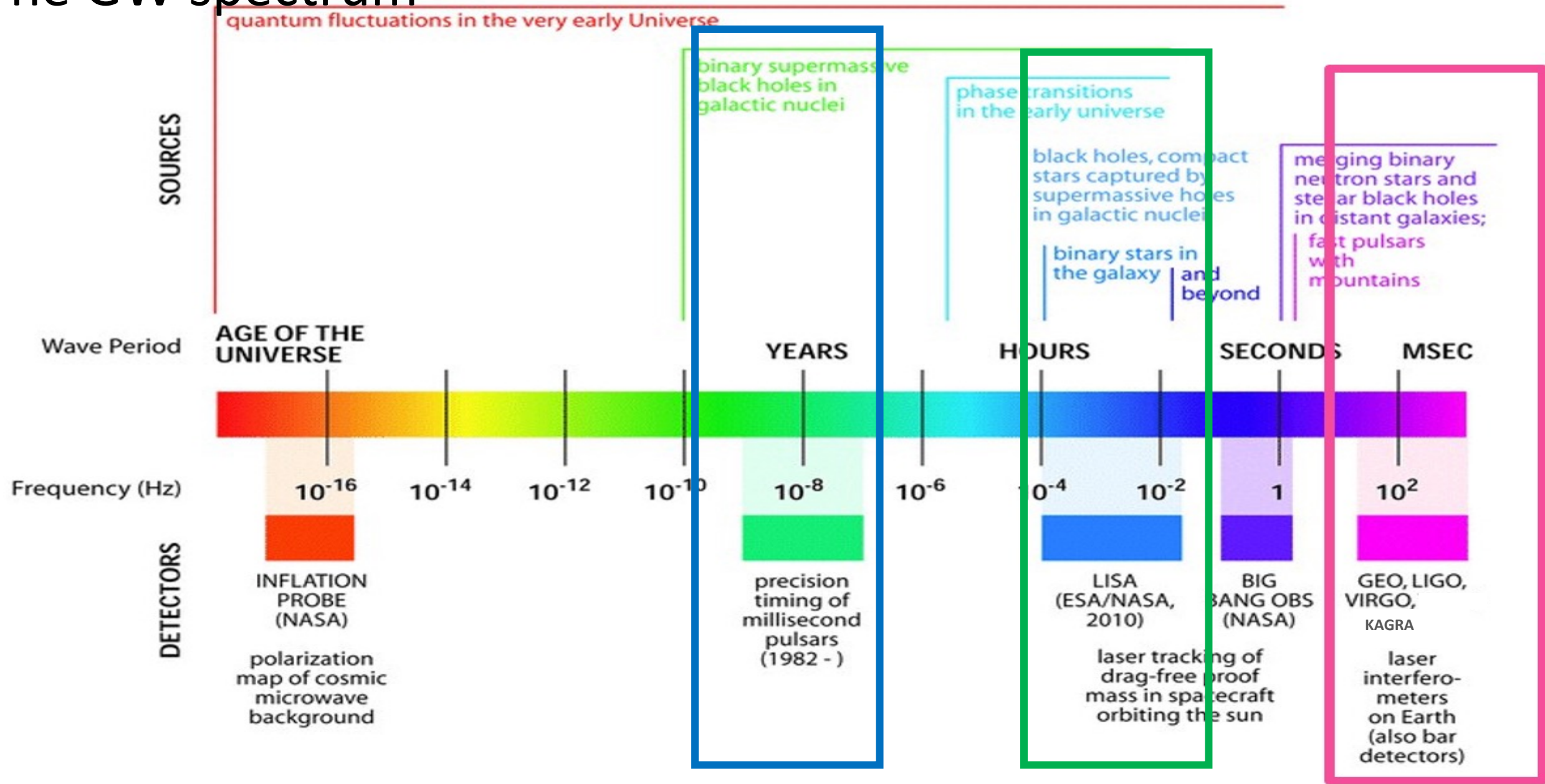


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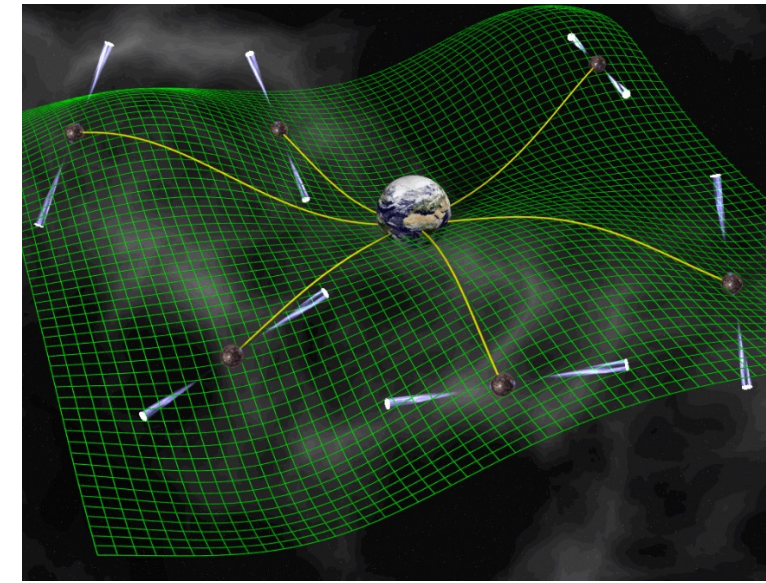
# The GW spectrum



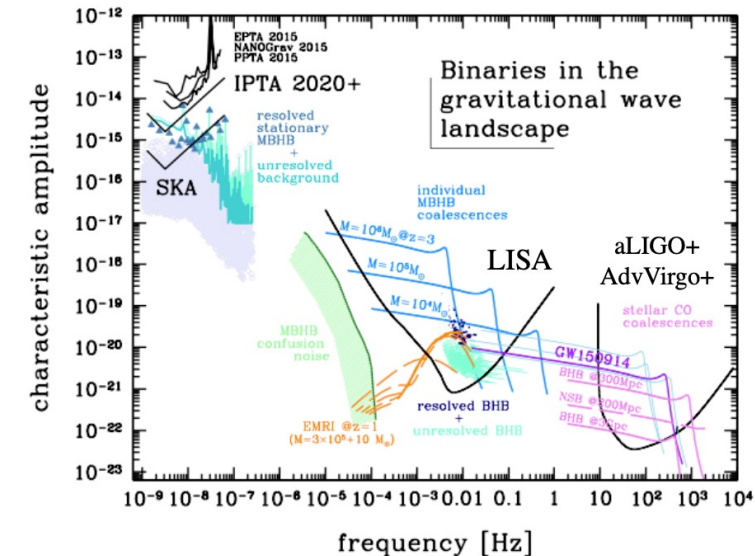
# The success of PTA - Pulsar Timing Array

See the M. Falxa's presentation: Wednesday parallel session of this conference

- A Pulsar Timing Array (PTA) exploits the rotational stability of a sample of the rapidly spinning “recycled” pulsars to detect GWs in the frequency range  $10^{-7}$  -  $10^{-9}$  Hz.
- The radio wave emitted by the pulsar and received on the Earth probes the distance between these two bodies in a similar way of the light bouncing between two mirrors set at a enormous distance.
- By analysing the timing signals emitted by an array of pulsars, it is possible to probe the space metric on distances of the order of parsec and detect GWs.
- PTAs is sensitive to GW emitted by supermassive black holes in the early stage of their inspirals and study the population of supermassive black holes binaries in the universe



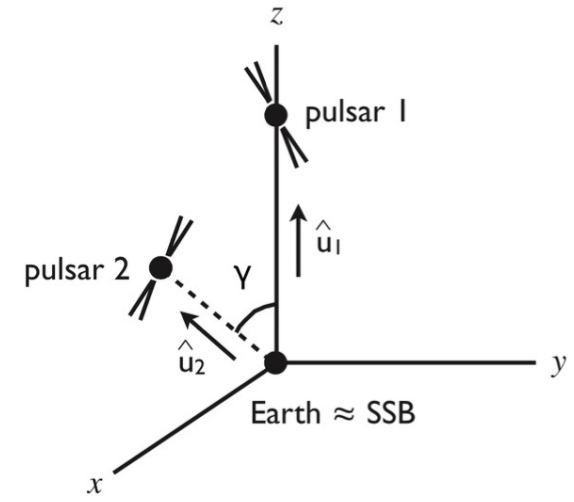
Courtesy of David J. Champion.



Courtesy of Alberto Sesana.

# The Hellings and Downs signature

Hellings, R.W.; Downs, G.S. "Upper limits on the isotropic gravitational radiation background from pulsar timing analysis". *Astrophysical Journal Letters*. 265: L39–L42. (1983)

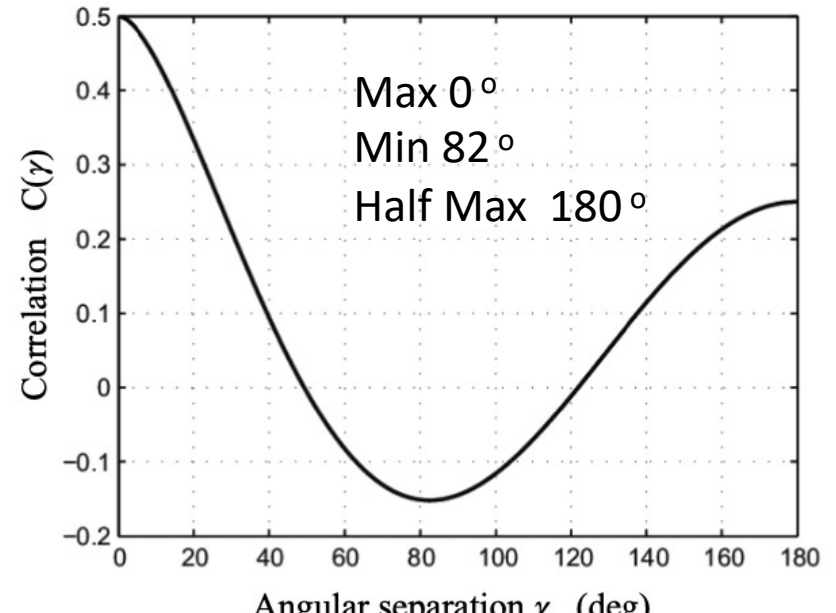


- The solar system barycenter (SSB) and a rotating super stable pulsar in our galaxy are the opposite ends of the radio travel path in space, perturbed by GWs and monitored by the radio-observers on Earth

- We consider several pairs of pulsars (an array).
  - A GW stochastic background produces a distinctive correlation between **pairs** pulsars.
  - The correlation function  $C$  (called the Hellings and Down curve) depends on the angular separation  $\gamma$  of the pulsar of pair.

- The signal from a stochastic GW background will be correlated across the sightlines of pulsar pairs, while that from the other noise processes will not!

$$C(\gamma) = \frac{3}{2} \left[ \frac{1 - \cos \gamma}{2} \log \left( \frac{1 - \cos \gamma}{2} \right) - \frac{1}{6} \frac{1 - \cos \gamma}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \right]$$

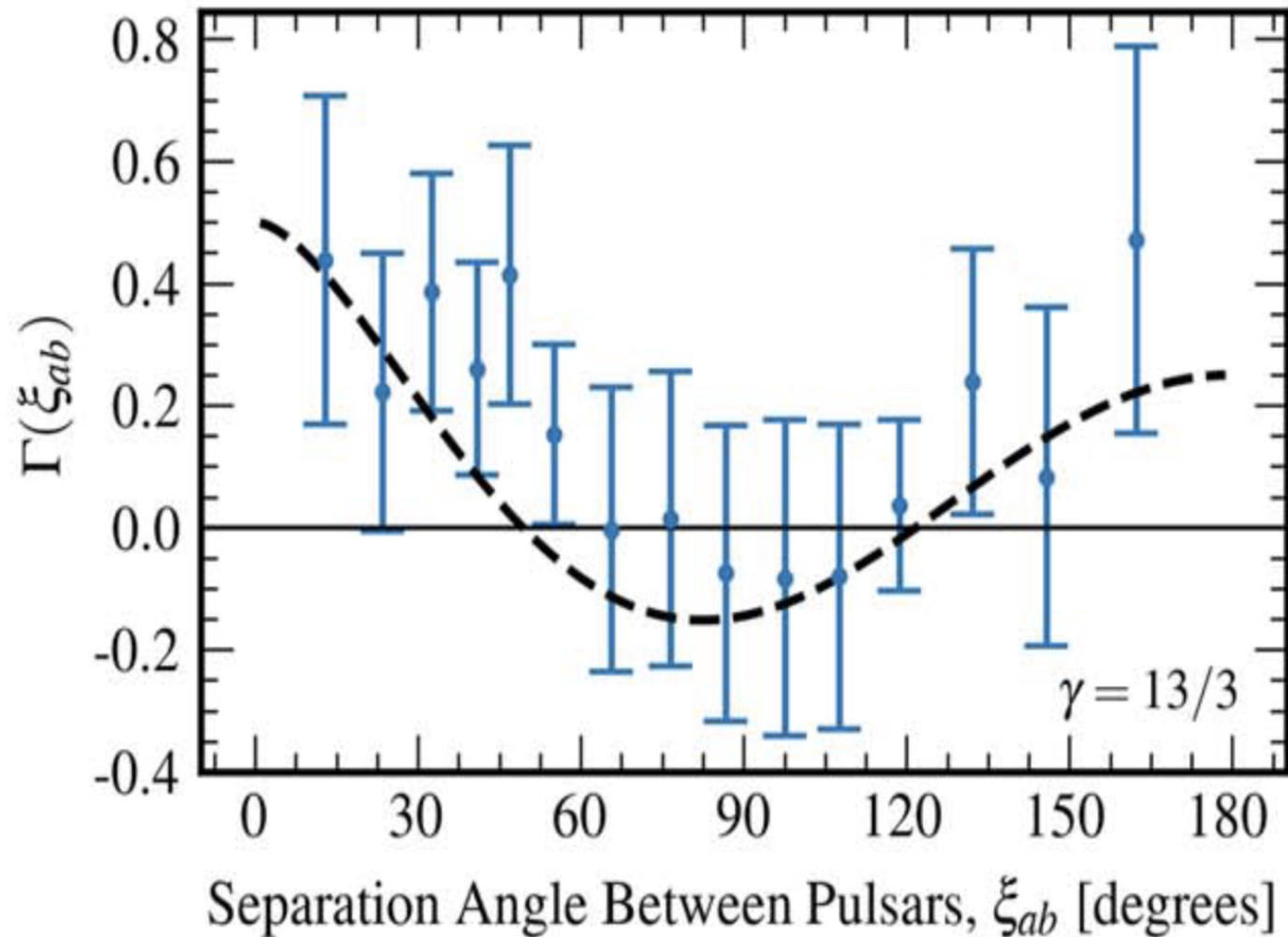


# IPTA - International pulsar timing array



- 2020 NANOGrav collaboration (12.5 years data - 68 pulsars): evidence for a stochastic process with common strain amplitude and spectral index across all pulsars
- June 2023 IPTA announce: evidence for a GW stochastic background.
  - NANOGrav provided a first measurement of the Hellings-Downs curve
  - EPTA claims similar result.
  - Combination of IPTA data should give a  $5\sigma$  evidence
- CPTA (using FAST) reported a  $4.6\sigma$  evidence monitoring 57 pulsars in 41 months

# The evidence of stochastic GW around $10^{-8}$ Hz



Hellings-Downs inter-pulsar correlations from a gravitational-wave background.

- Bayesian analysis  $\sim 3.5 \sigma$
- Frequentist analysis  $\sim 3.5 - 4 \sigma$

Possibly background from supermassive black hole binaries.

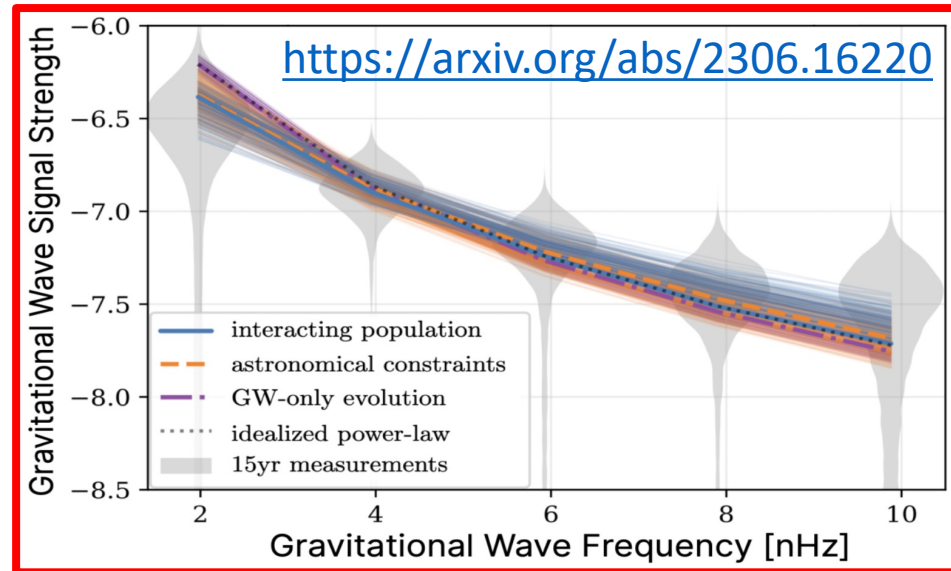
- *NANOGrav* - G. Agazie et al 2023 *ApJL* 951 L8
- *PPTA* - D. J. Reardon et al 2023 *ApJL* 951 L6
- *EPTA and InPTA* - J. Antoniadis et al. *A&A*, 678, A50 (2023)
- *CPTA* - H. Xu et al 2023 *Res. Astron. Astrophys.* 23 075024

# Cosmological or Astrophysical GW background?

Look at the amplitude and shape of the observed GW spectrum

$$\Omega_{GW}(\nu) = \frac{1}{\rho_c} \frac{d\rho_{GW}}{d\log(\nu)} = \frac{\nu}{\rho_c} \frac{d\rho_{GW}}{d\nu} \quad \text{with} \quad \rho_c = \frac{3c^2 H_0^2}{8\pi G}$$

The main suspect: SMBHBs (SuperMassive BBHs) population in the Universe: superposition of unresolved binaries



$$\Omega_{GW}(\nu) = \Omega_\alpha \left( \frac{\nu}{\nu_{ref}} \right)^\alpha$$

*GWB spectra from simulated SMBH binary populations that best fit the 15 yr free-spectrum data*

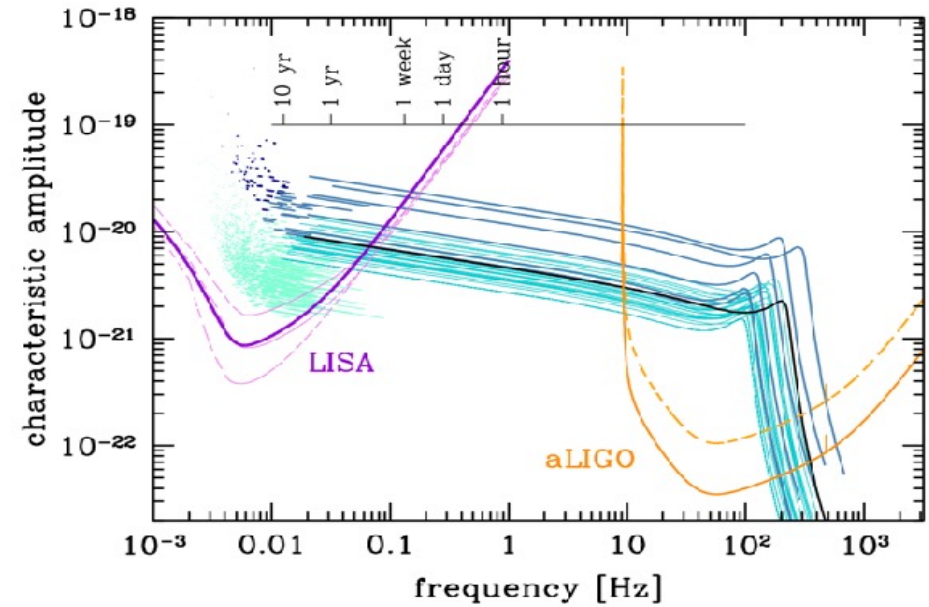
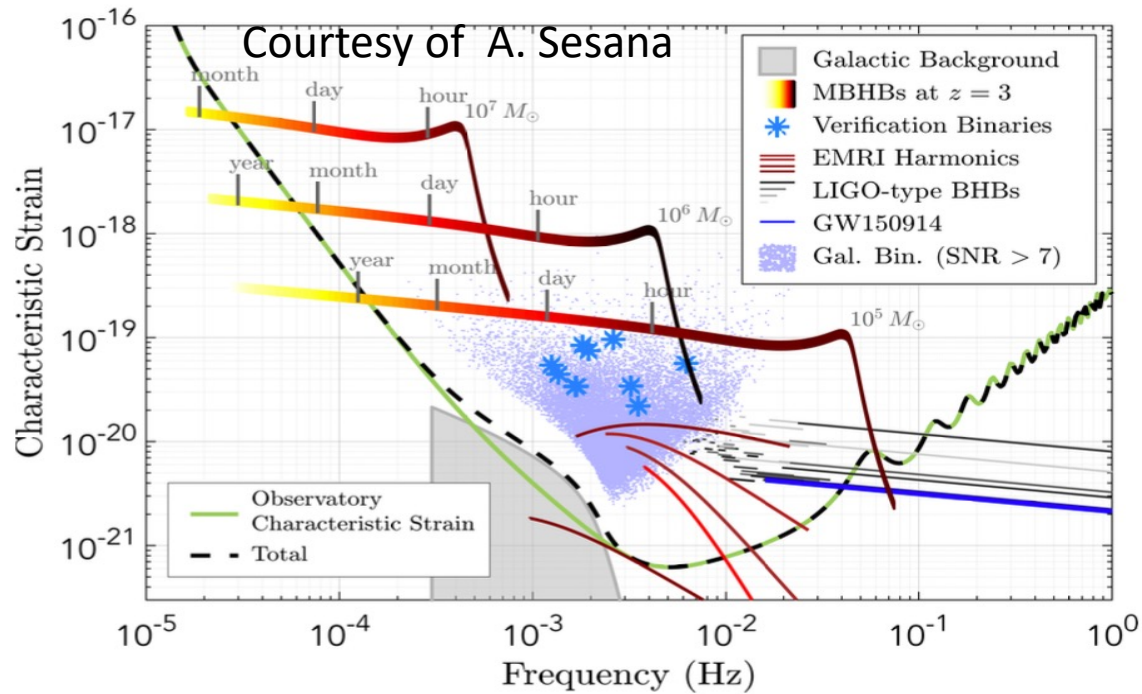
Alternative interpretations Cosmological Background from inflation

(PRL 132, 171002 (2024))

- Cosmic (super)strings,
- First order Phase Transition,
- Gaussian and non-Gaussian scalar fluctuations,
- Audible axions,

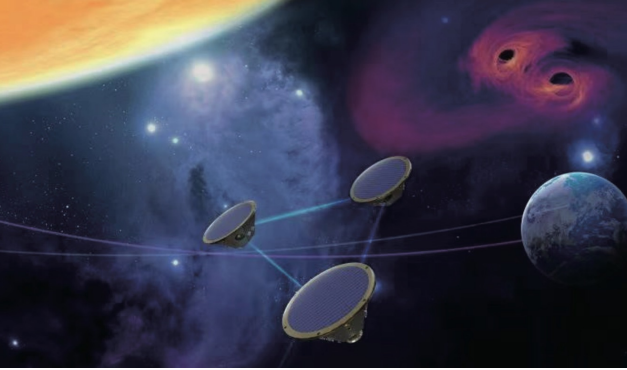
**Additional data is required to resolve the GWB origin!**

# Hunting GW $10^{-4} - 10^{-1}$ Hz $\rightarrow$ Satellite detectors

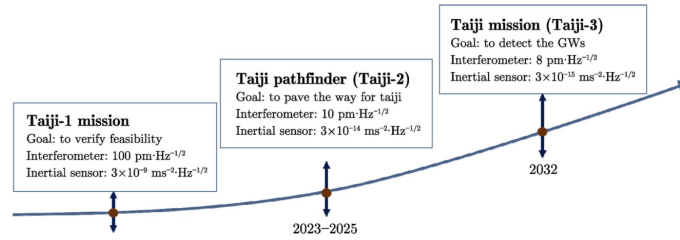


- The formation and the evolutions of the compact binary stars in the Milky Way
- Trace the origin, growth and merger history of Massive BHs
- Probe the dynamics of dense nuclear clusters using extreme mass ratio Inspirals
- Understand the astrophysics of stellar mass black holes
- Explore the fundamental nature of gravity and black holes.
- Probe the rate of expansion of the Universe.
- Understand stochastic GW backgrounds and their implications for the early Universe and TeV-scale particle physics
- Search for GW bursts and unforeseen sources.



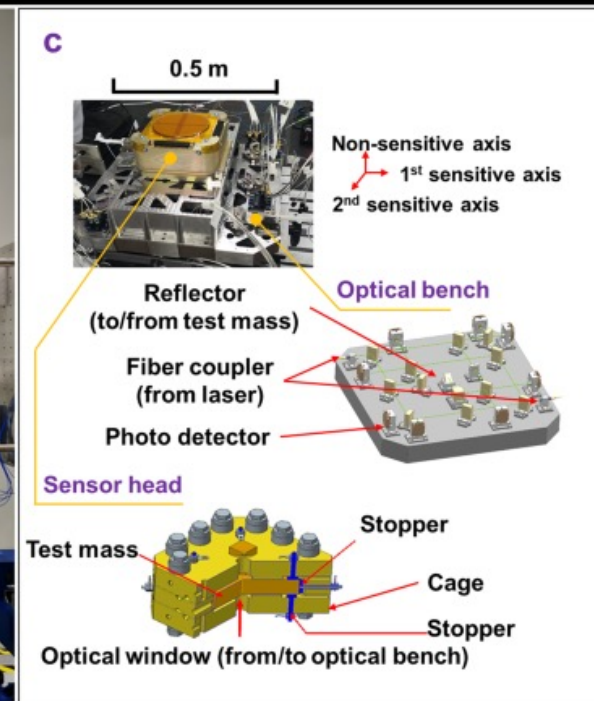
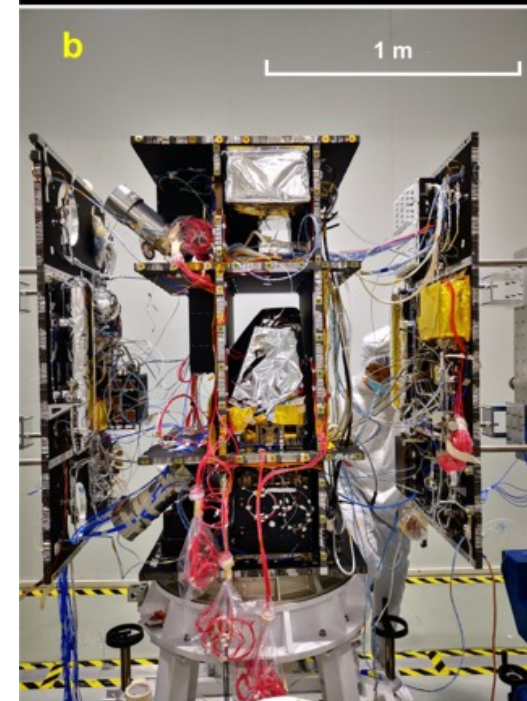
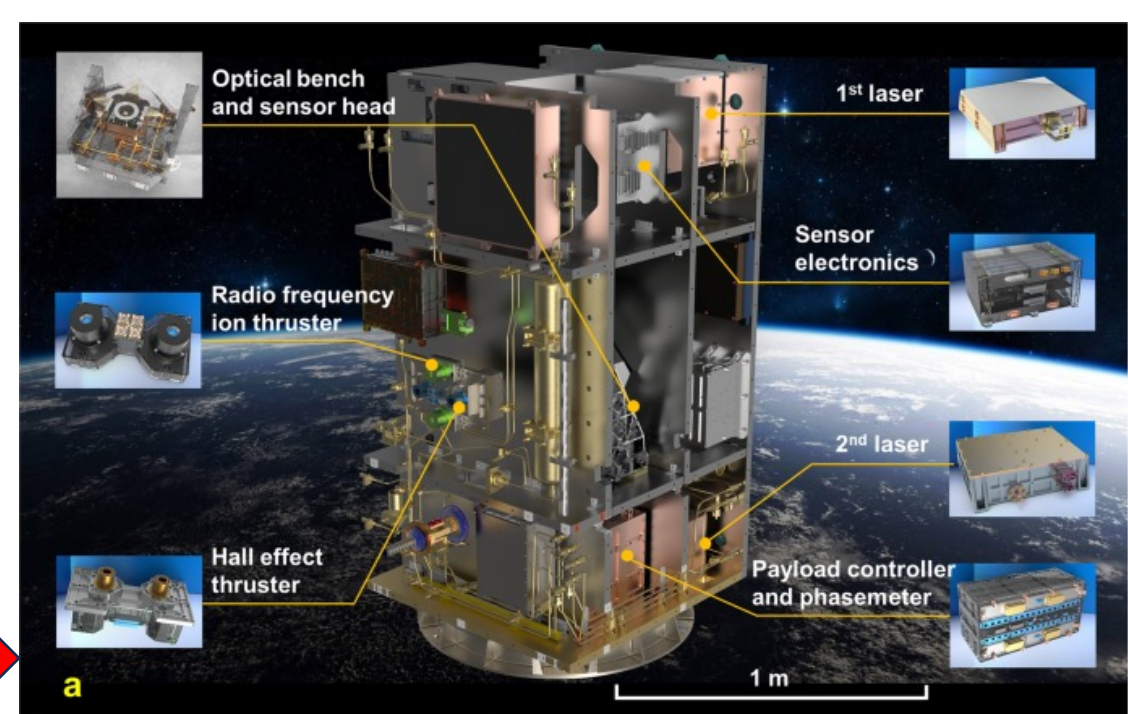


# Taiji



Chinese space gravitational wave detection, 3 step mission (Chin. Acad. Science, Beijing):

- Taiji-1, devoted to prepare the manufacturing technology of the payload. **Approved on 30 August 2018 and set to fly on 31 August 2019.** Successful test of the optical metrology system and the drag-free control system
- Taiji-2: two satellites to demonstrate technology of the inter-satellite laser link. Feasibility successfully finished in 2024 – launch no later than 2030.
- Taiji-3: 3 satellites forming an equilateral triangle in an Earth-like heliocentric orbit. To be launched in the early 2030s

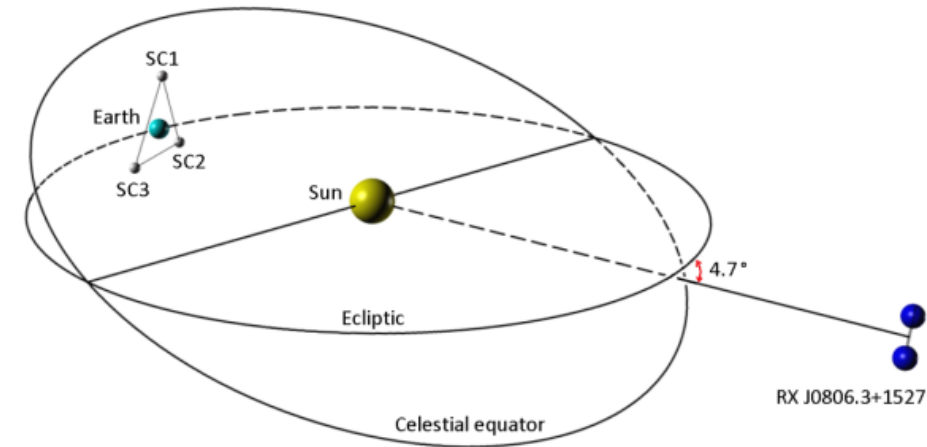


# TianQin - 天琴计划

Space-based GW detector developed by two Chinese teams at Sun Yat-Sen University (in Guangzhou) and Huazhong University of Science and Technology (in Wuhan).

## A 4 Step program

- 1: laser ranging technology. Launch in 2018: goal achieved of a laser ranging satellite to the L2 Lagrange point and an Earth station with single-photon sensitivity.
- 2: satellite with inertial sensing. Launch in 2019: goal achieved to test micronewton propulsion, drag-free control and laser interferometry technologies with in-orbit experiments. Measured a residual acceleration of  $\sqrt{5} \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ ms}^{-2} (\text{Hz})^{1/2}$  at 50 mHz.
- 3: two-satellite mission. Lunched in 2025 to test inter-satellite interferometry and map the gravity field.
- 4: full constellation planned for deployment in 2035



*A triangle of spacecrafts on a geocentric orbit, which is easily reachable for implementation and operation.*

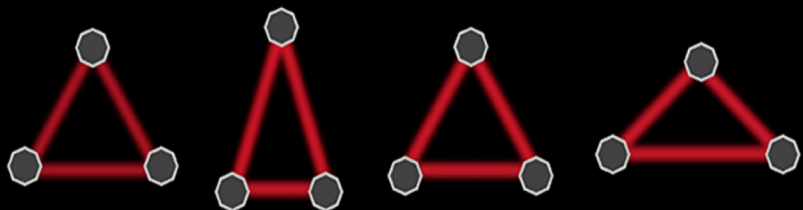
*The orbit radius is  $10^5$  km, yielding an arm of the equilateral triangle  $L = \sqrt{3} \cdot 10^5$  km*

Gravitational waves are ripples in spacetime that alter the distances between objects. LISA will detect them by measuring subtle changes in the distances between **free-floating cubes** nestled within its three spacecraft.

# LISA mission

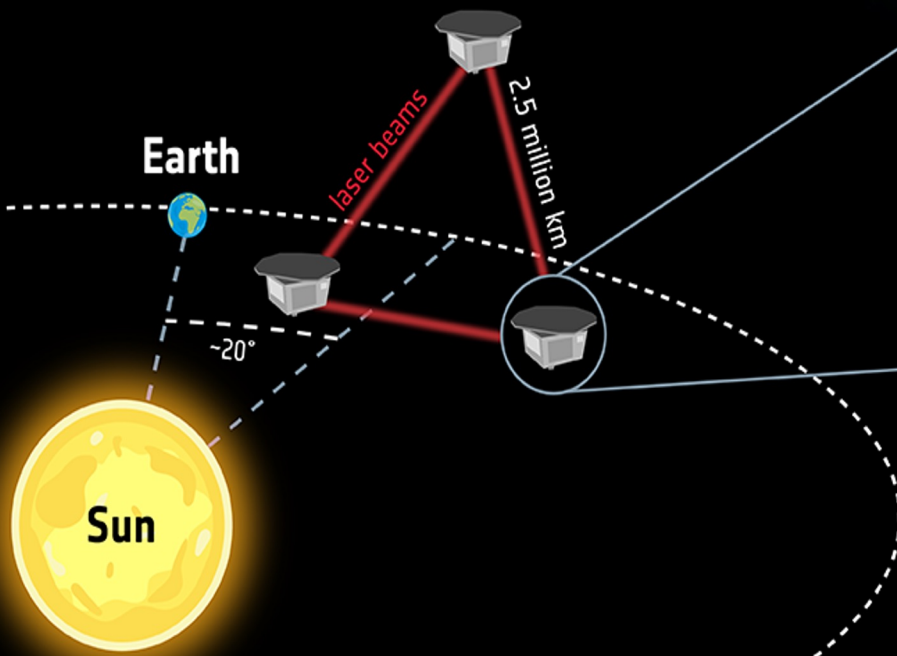
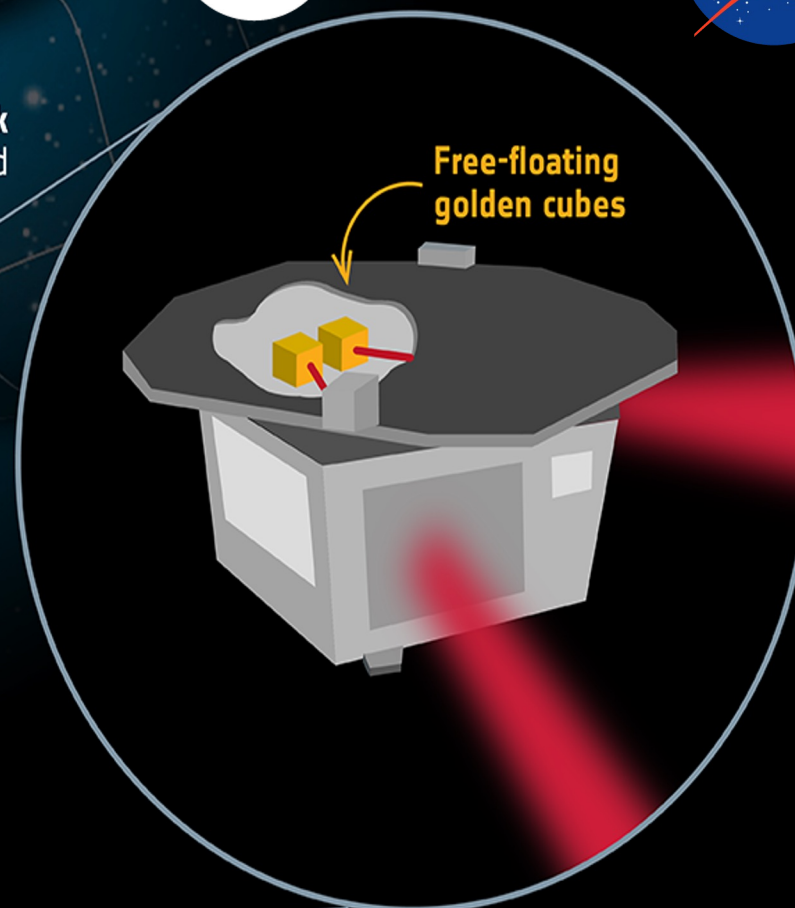


3 identical spacecraft exchange **laser beams**. Gravitational waves change the distance between the **free-floating cubes** in the different spacecraft. This tiny change will be measured by the laser beams.



*Changes in distances travelled by the laser beams are not to scale and extremely exaggerated*

Powerful events such as **colliding black holes** shake the fabric of spacetime and cause gravitational waves



The launch of the three spacecraft is planned for 2035, on an Ariane 6 rocket.

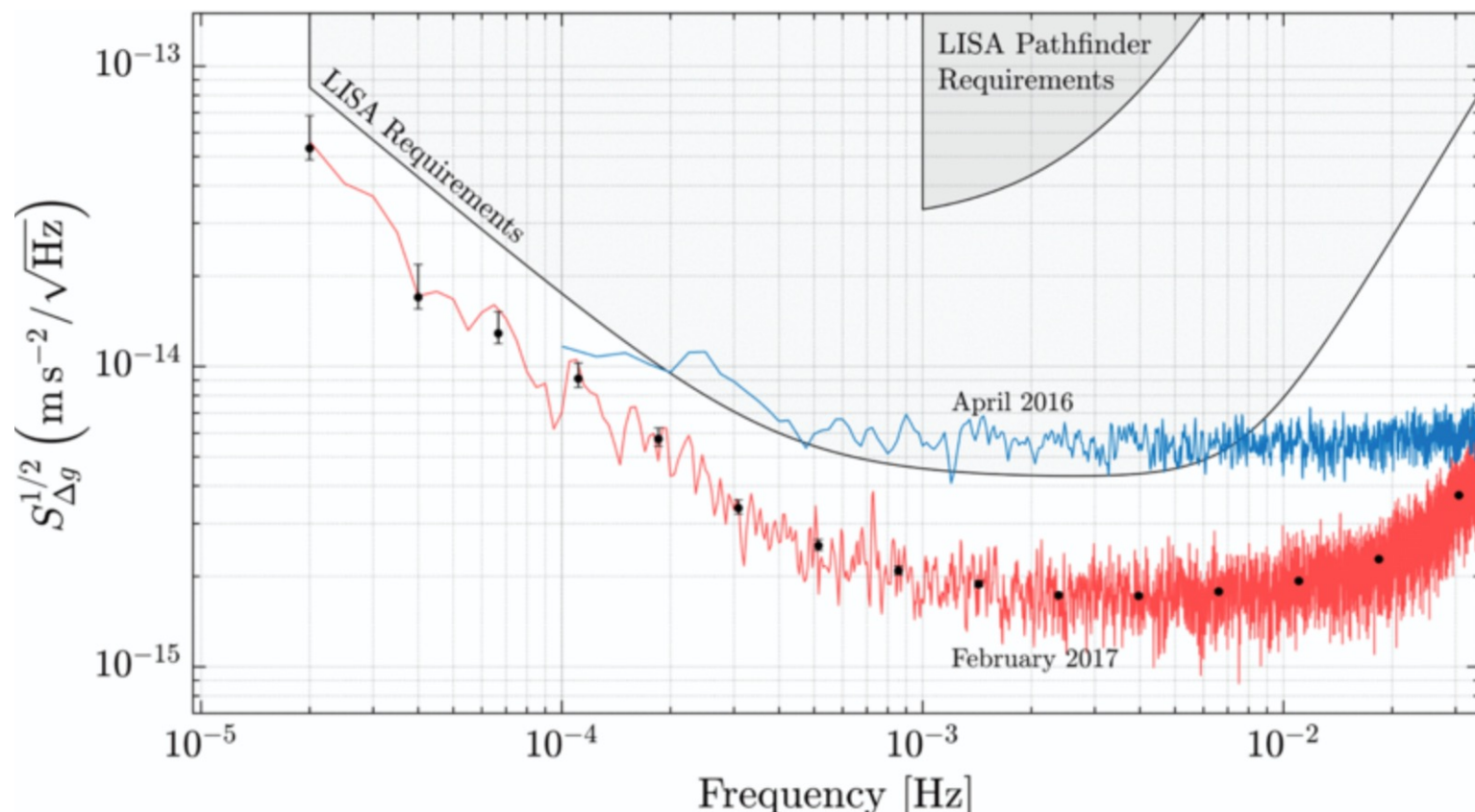
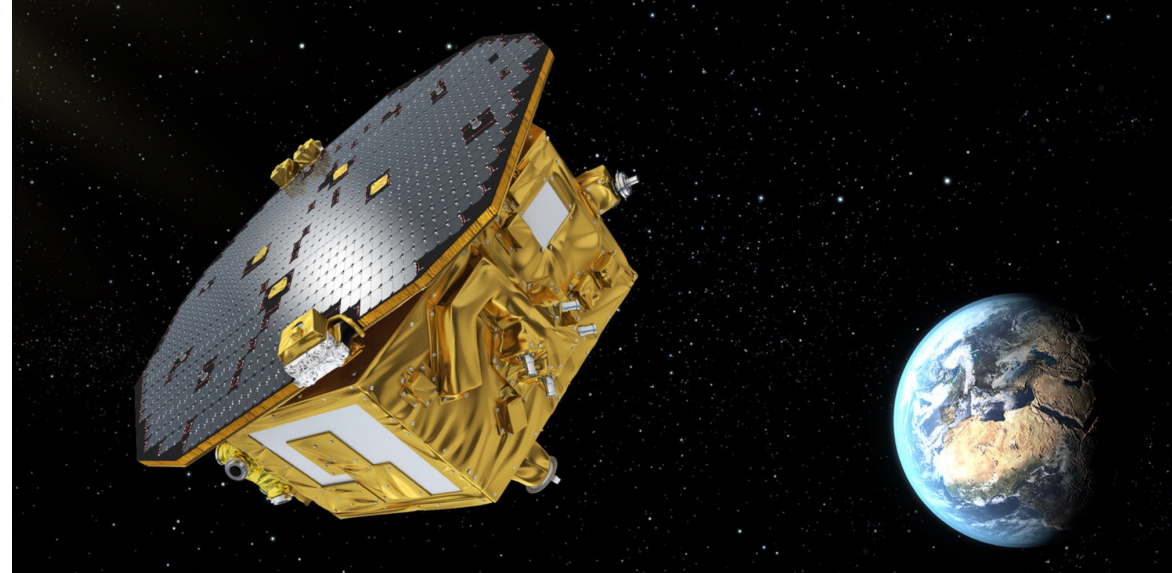


# Technological demonstration of LISA Pathfinder

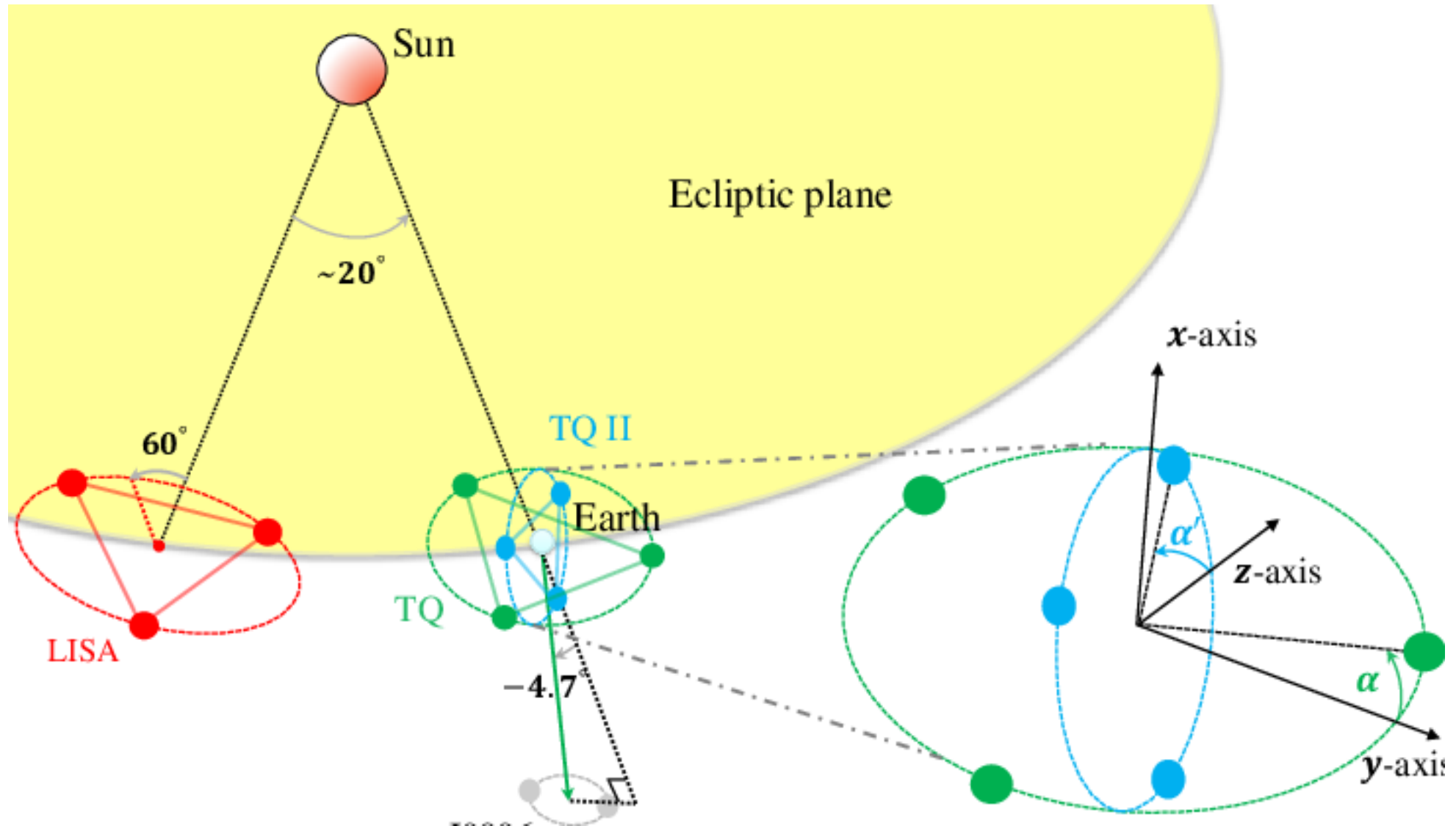
Launch 3/12/2015 - Mission End 30/6/2017

## Main technological goals

- drag-free and attitude control in a spacecraft ( $\mu\text{N}$  thrusters)
- laser interferometry  $10^{-12}$  m resolution at low frequency, in the frequency band  $10^{-3}$  –  $3 \times 10^{-2}$  Hz
- Test of indurance of the different instruments in the space environment



# TianQuin and others GW space detectors: different orbits



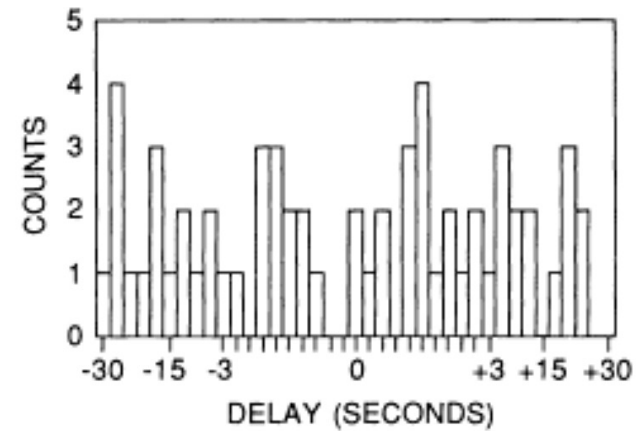


The GW Detector Network on the Earth

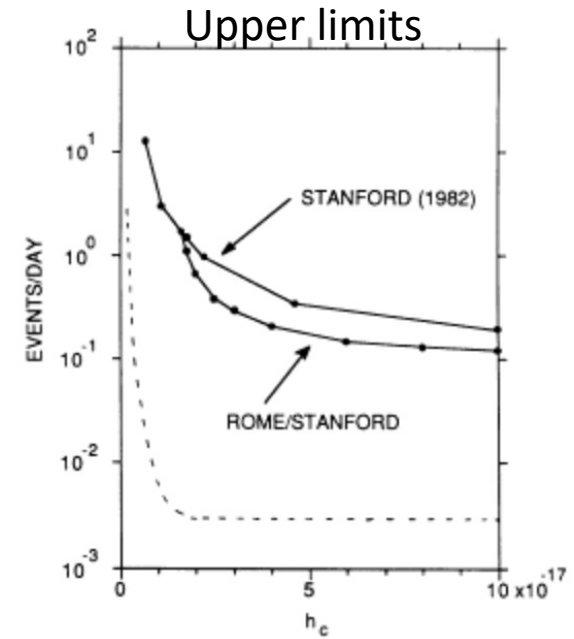
# Historical Note

## 1986: First International Network of GW detectors on the Earth

Amaldi E. et al. (1989), *Astron. Astrophys.*, 216, 325.



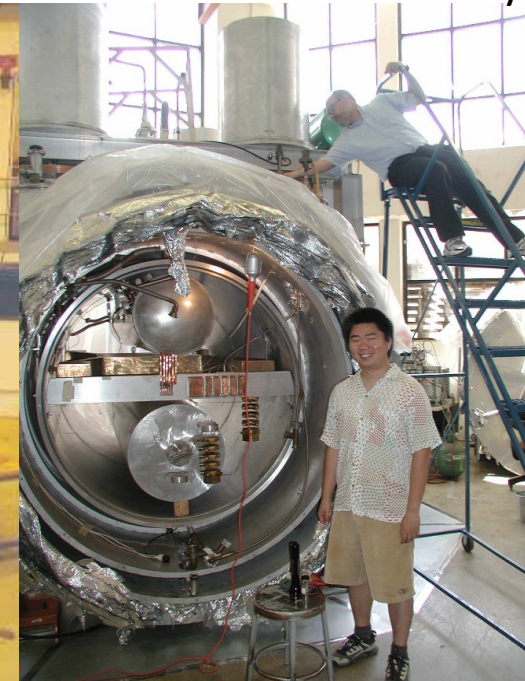
Rome-Stanford Time delay histogram  
threshold  $h_s = 7.5 \times 10^{-18}$



Stanford University

Sapienza University of Rome @ CERN

Louisiana State University





# History of the Agreements between GW Collaborations

- 2007: Agreement for joint data analysis ratified between LIGO and the Virgo Collaboration which operates the Virgo interferometer in Cascina, Italy.
- 2019: Agreement for joint data analysis ratified between LIGO, Virgo, and the KAGRA

M060038-v5 and VIR-0091A  
**Memorandum of Agreement**  
 between  
**VIRGO**  
 and the  
**Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory (LIGO)**

2007



2019

M1900145-v2, VIR-0091A, and JGW-M1910663  
**Memorandum of Agreement**  
 between  
**VIRGO,**  
**KAGRA,**  
 and the  
**Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory (LIGO)**  
 October 2019



LSC (LIGO Scientific collaboration) + Virgo + KAGRA (LVK) membership: ~ 2100 people

*Now, we need to move toward a fully unified collaboration:*

LVK → **IGWN – International Gravitational Wave Network**

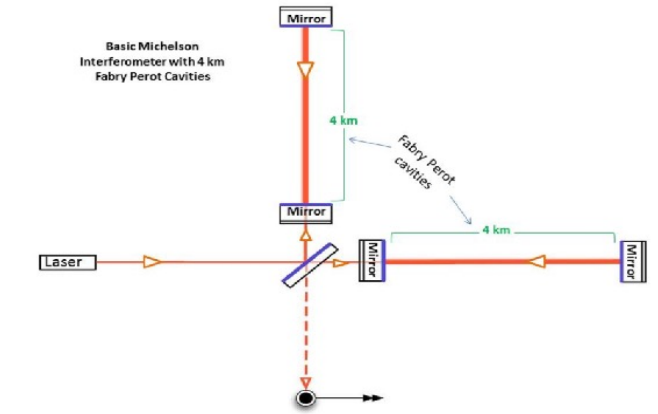
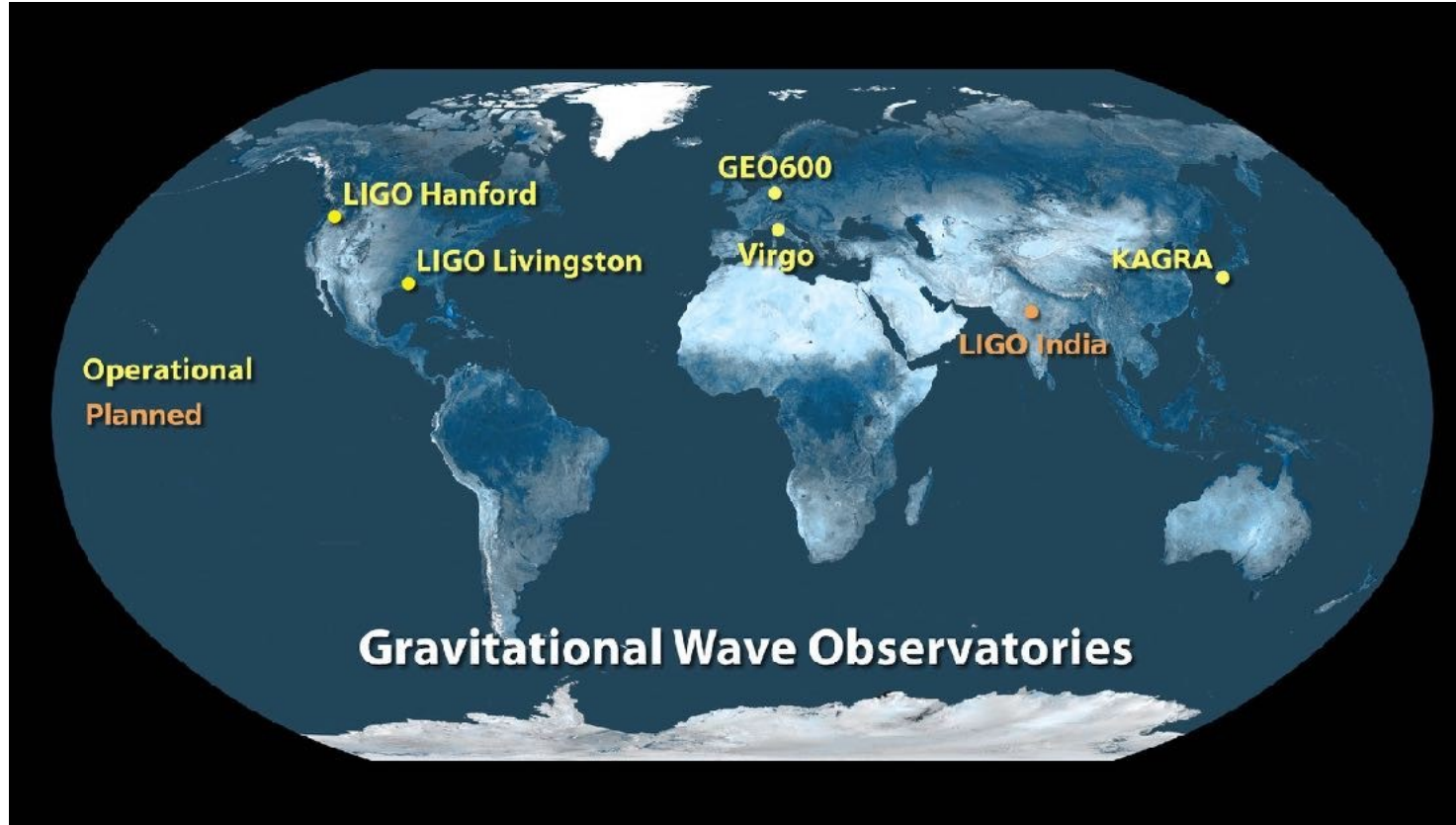
*Discussions among the three collaborations are on going.*

A single organization for equitable and efficient sharing of resources and to run a single program (and prioritise the scientific goals)

- Elimination of parallel and independent (and, and inefficient) decision-making processes
- Integration of infrastructure and operations across the network will permit to optimize the available resources



# The present International network of ground-based GW interferometers



GEO - KAGRA joint run in 2020 (2 weeks)

LIGO and Virgo in science mode

KAGRA: expected to join current observing run later on (operations delayed by earthquake in 2024)

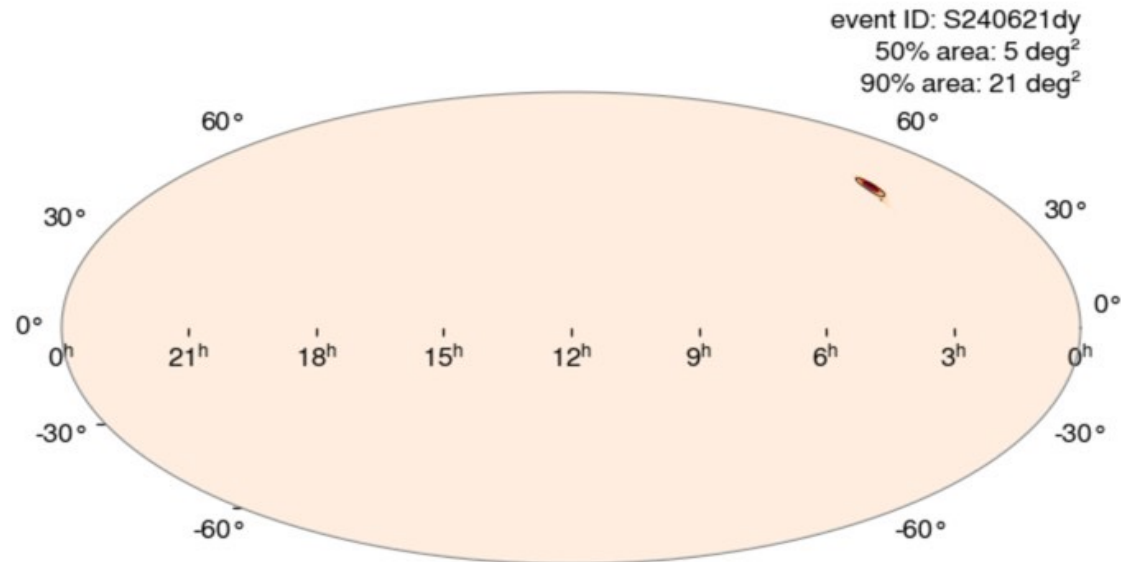
LIGO India → LIGO Aundha → LAO  
'Official' schedule to come online in 2030. Detector based on A+ technologies

The network is crucial for

- source localisation → multimessenger astronomy
- constraints on GW polarisation  $h = h_{+c}F_{+} + h_{\times}F_{\times}$

# Sky localisation of GW sources

- O4 data taking divided in two chunks:
  - ✓ O4a the two LIGO interferometers (LH) only
  - ✓ O4b the two LIGOs + Virgo (LHV)
- Virgo brings substantial improvement on event localization: in O3b LHV localized GW200208\_130117 in a sky area of  $\sim 30 \text{ deg}^2$  (comparable to GW170817).



O4b example: **S240621dy**

2024-06-21 19:51:20 UTC

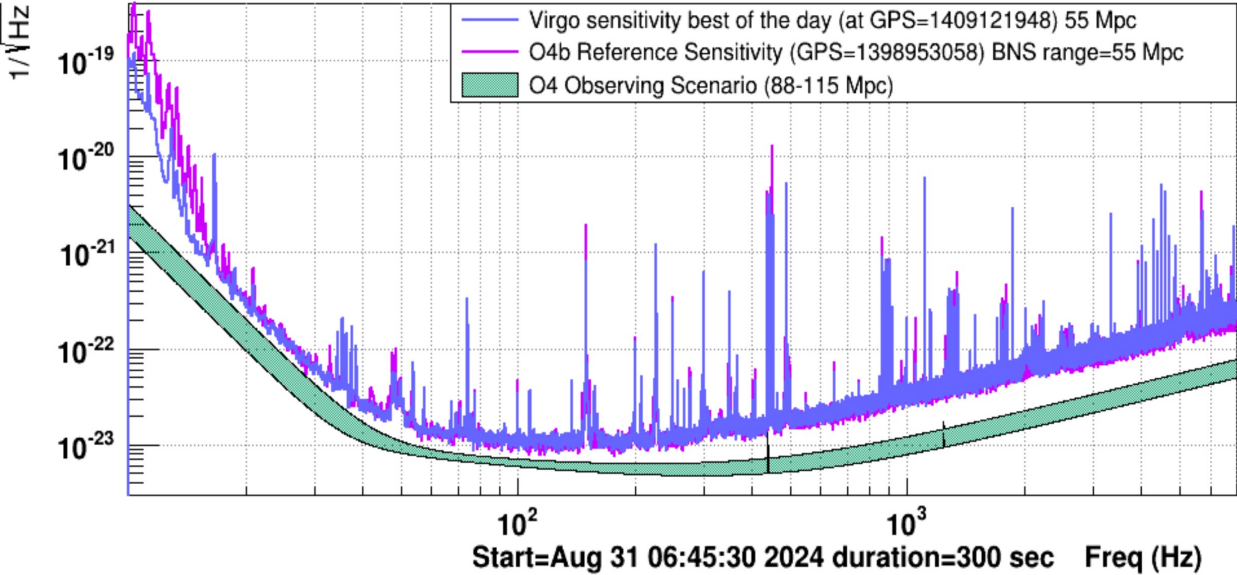
Binary Black Hole event @ 847 Mpc

21 deg<sup>2</sup> (90% confidence area)

<https://gracedb.ligo.org/superevents/S240621dy>

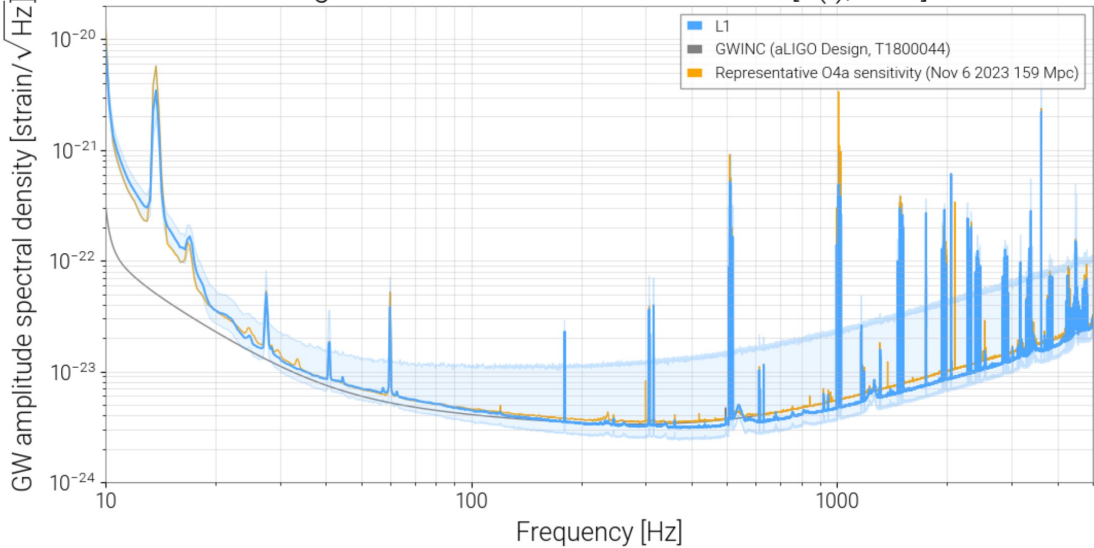
# Detector sensitivities

Virgo Sensitivity for best BNS range of the day (55 Mpc)

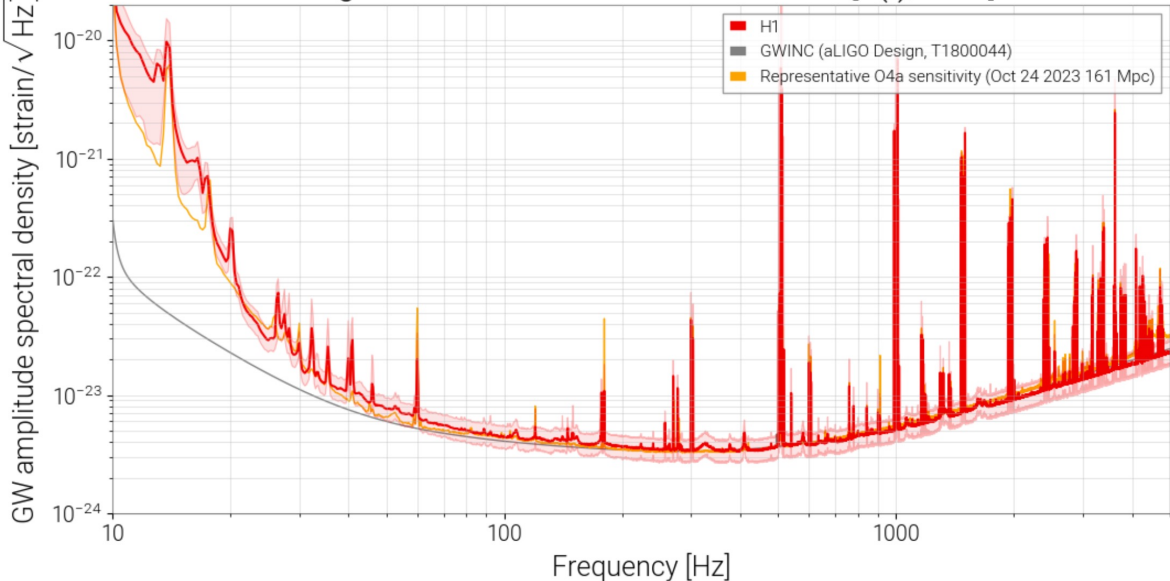


The sensitivity curve of interferometric detectors corresponds to the minimum detectable (SNR=1) metric tensor perturbation  $h(f)$  versus the detection frequency  $f$ .

[1409184018-1409270418, state: Locked]  
L1 gravitational-wave strain NOLINES [ $h(t)$ , GDS]



[1409184018-1409270418, state: Locked]  
H1 gravitational-wave strain NOLINES [ $h(t)$ , GDS]



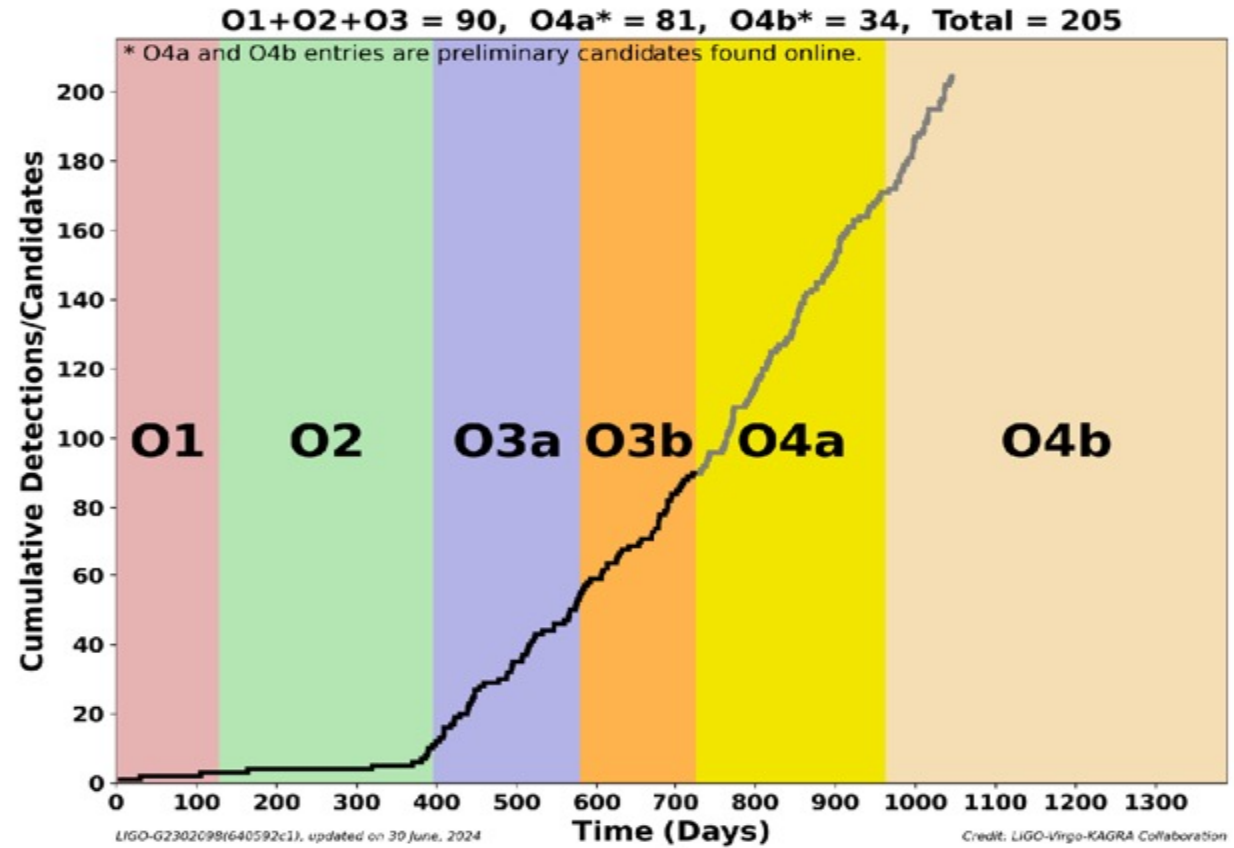
# IGWN detections

## Binary detection rates

- O3 ~ 1 / 5 days
- O4 ~ 1 / (2.8 days)
- O5 ~ 3 / day

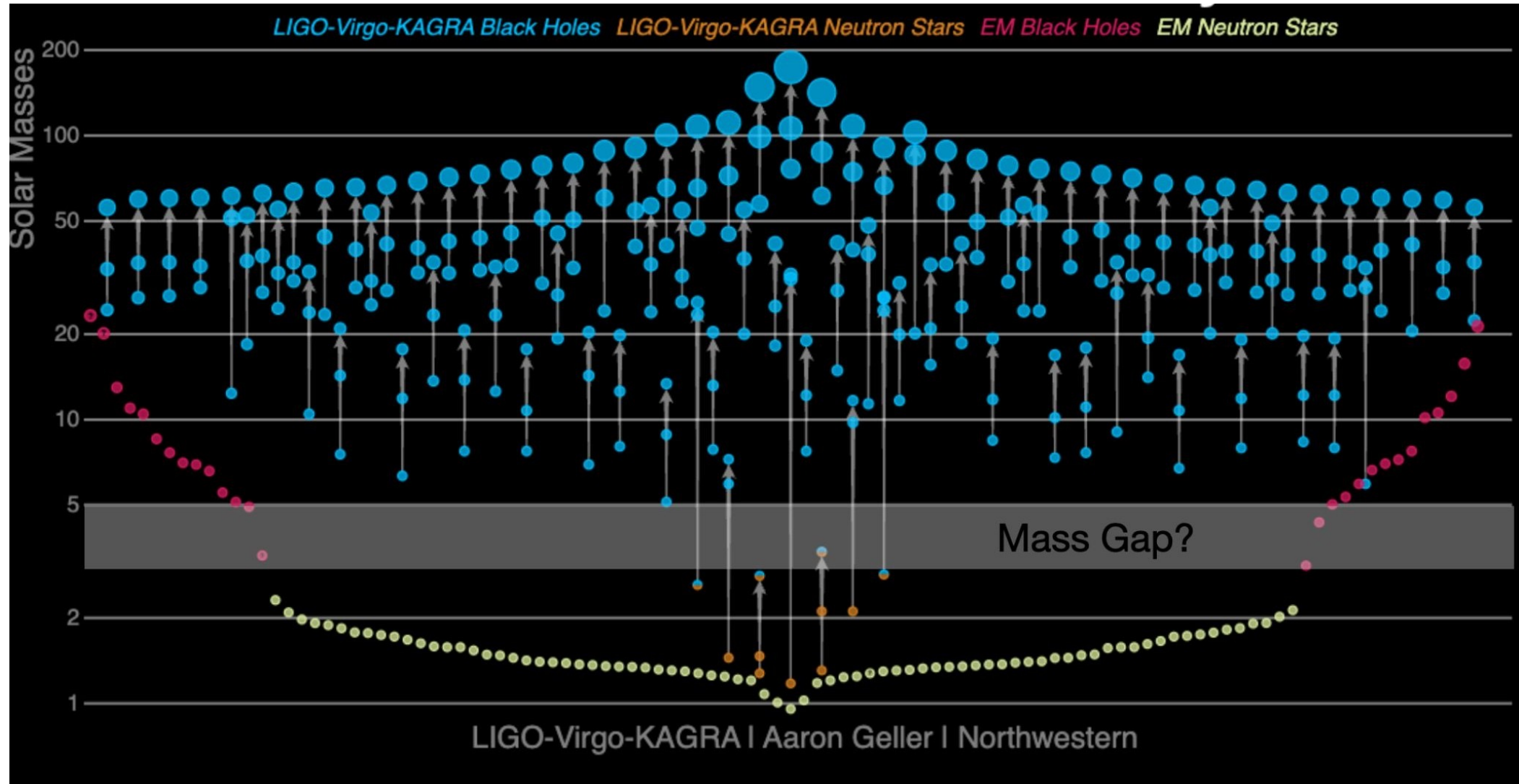
	Data taking period	Number of events
O1	September 12, 2015, January 19, 2016	3
O2	November 30, 2016, August 25, 2017	8
O3	April 1, 2019 September 30, 2019	44+35
	November 1, 2019 April 20, 2020 (premature end due to COVID -19 pandemic)	
O4	May 24, 2023 January 16, 2024	81+ (34)
	April 10, 2024 current	

Detections up to June 30, 2024

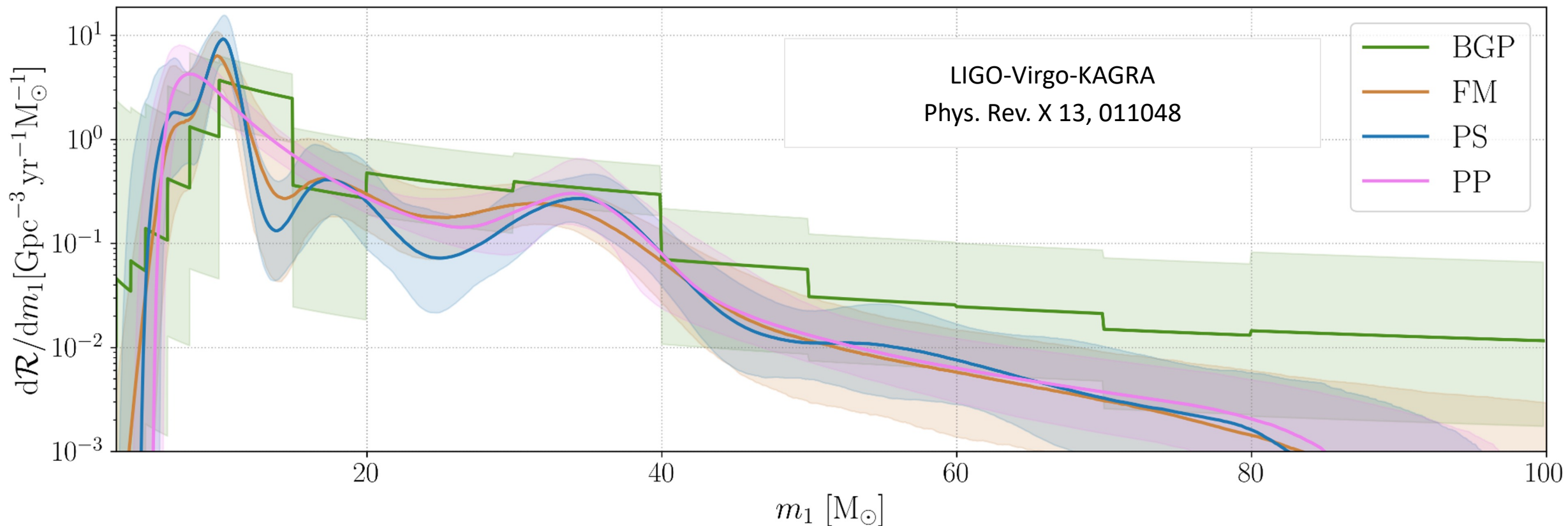


54 → up to September 20, 2024

# Masses in the stellar graveyard



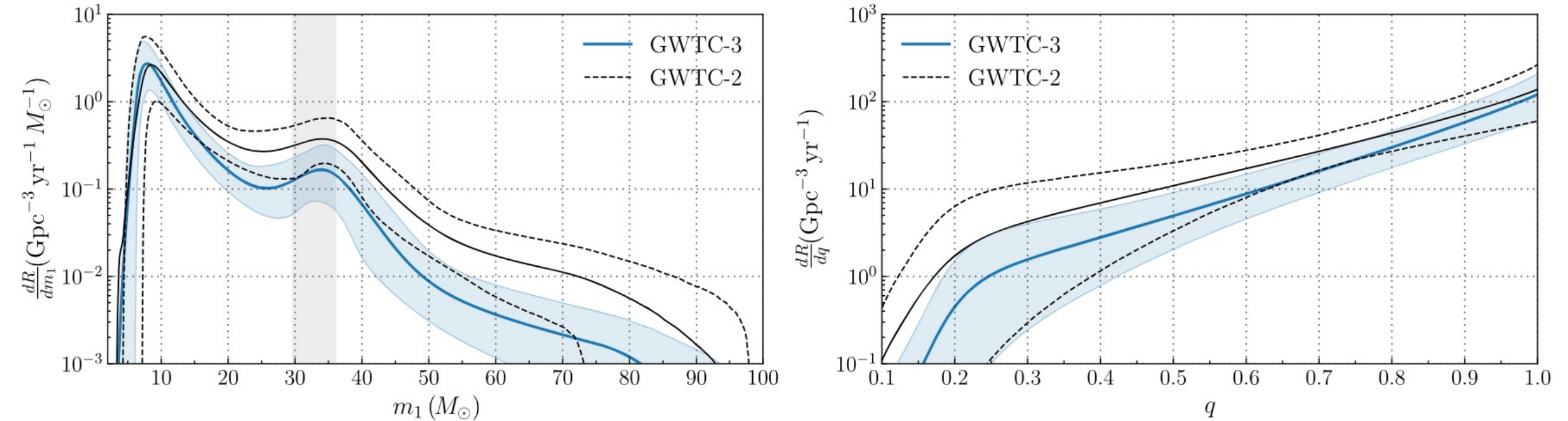
# From one to many: measuring populations



Merger rate density as a function of primary mass using 3 non-parametric models compared to the power-law+peak (pp) model.

# BH mass spectrum in the binaries

Differential merger rate as a function of primary mass  $m_1$  and the mass ratio  $q$  in the binary system

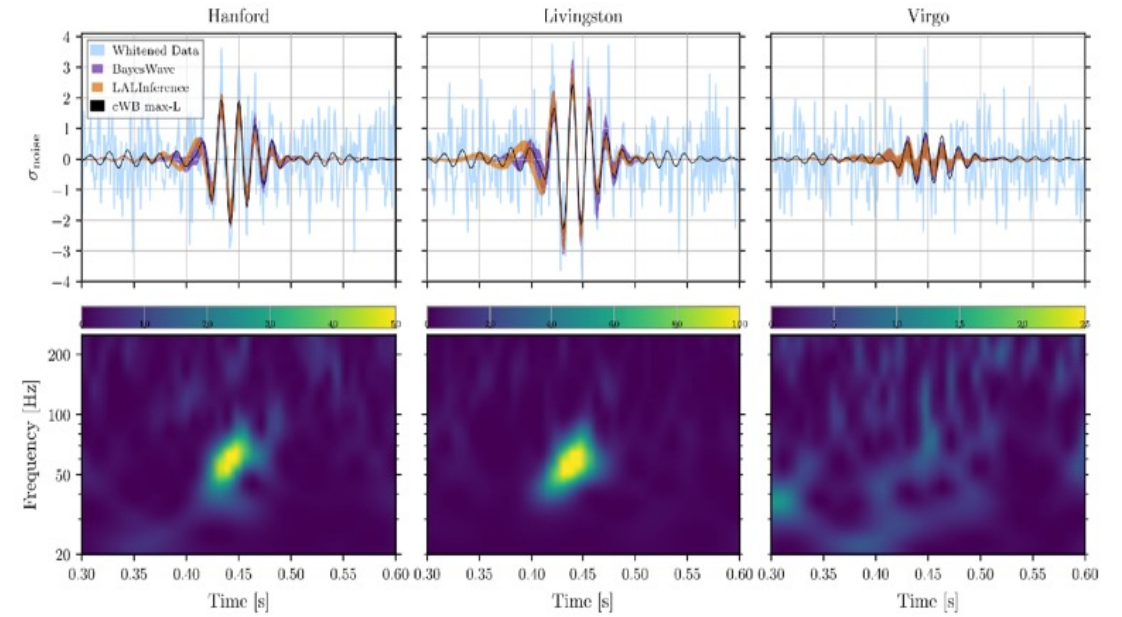
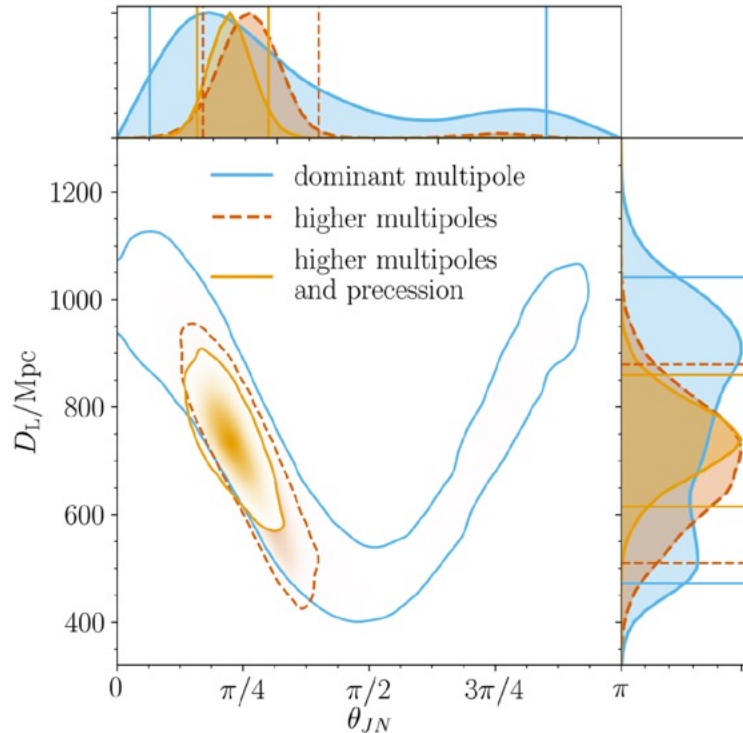


- Mass distribution has substructures
- Mass gap due to air-instability: statistical consistency either with
  - mass gap starting at mass values  $> 75 M_\odot$ ,
  - or
  - no pair instability gap

# Notable BBH events

## GW190412:

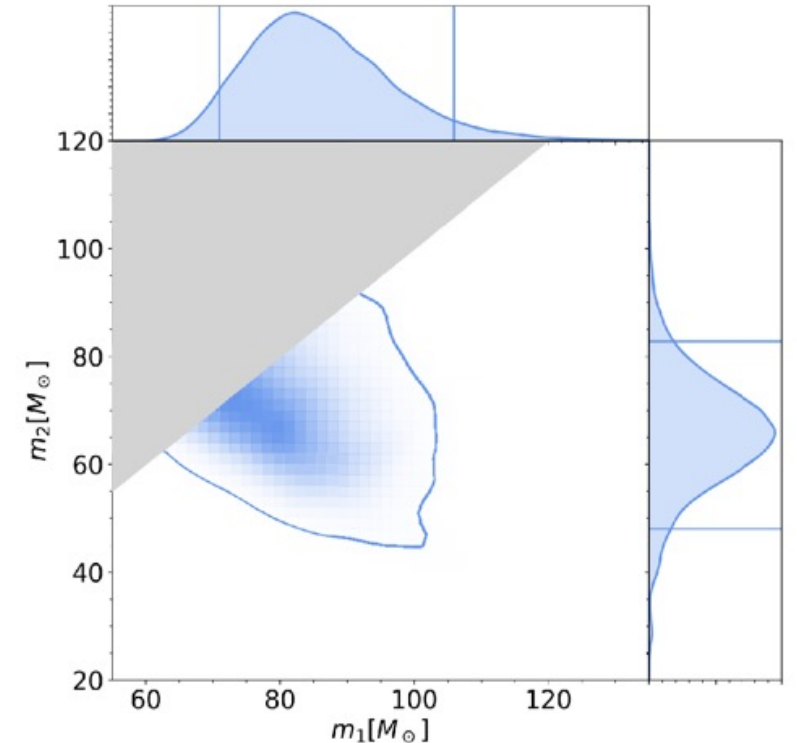
First detection of a BBH with clearly unequal masses. *PRD* 102, 043015 (2020)



**GW190521:** high-mass event, very short duration and suppressed inspiral part.

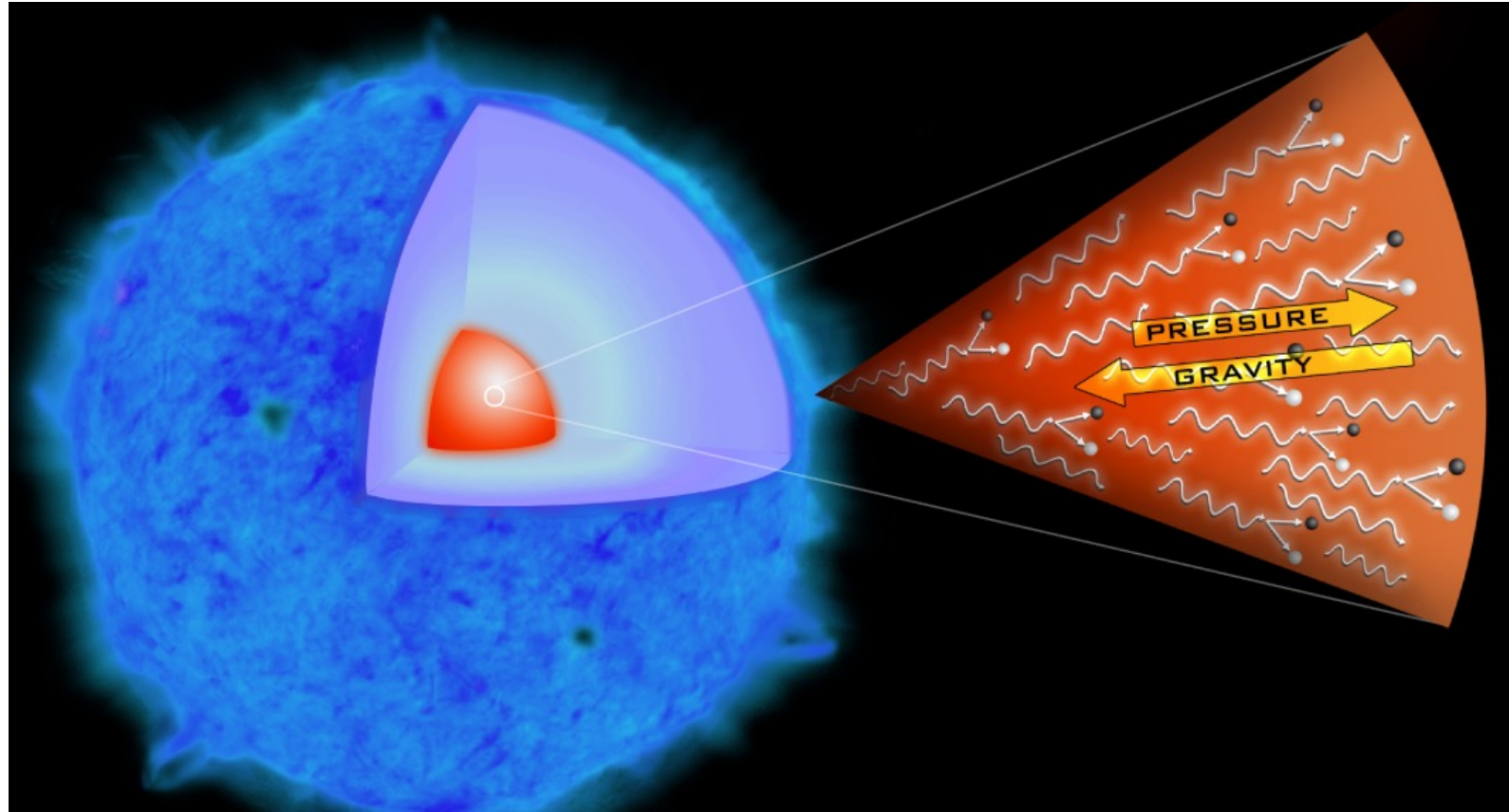
The remnant mass was an intermediate mass BH,

*PRL* 125, 101102 (2020)





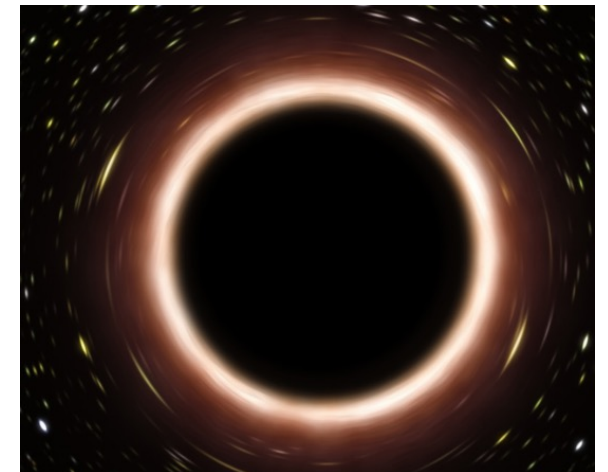
- GW190521
  - Black holes exist in pair instability mass gap (130 - 250  $M_{\odot}$ )



- GW190814
  - Compact objects exist with masses between 2-5  $M_{\odot}$



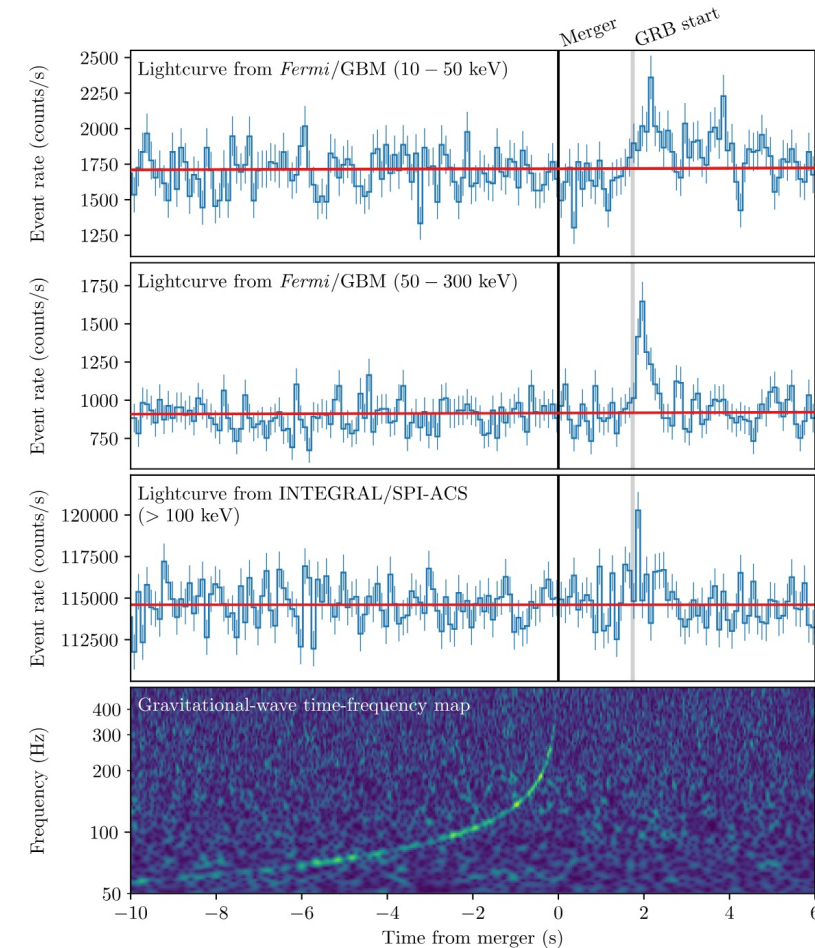
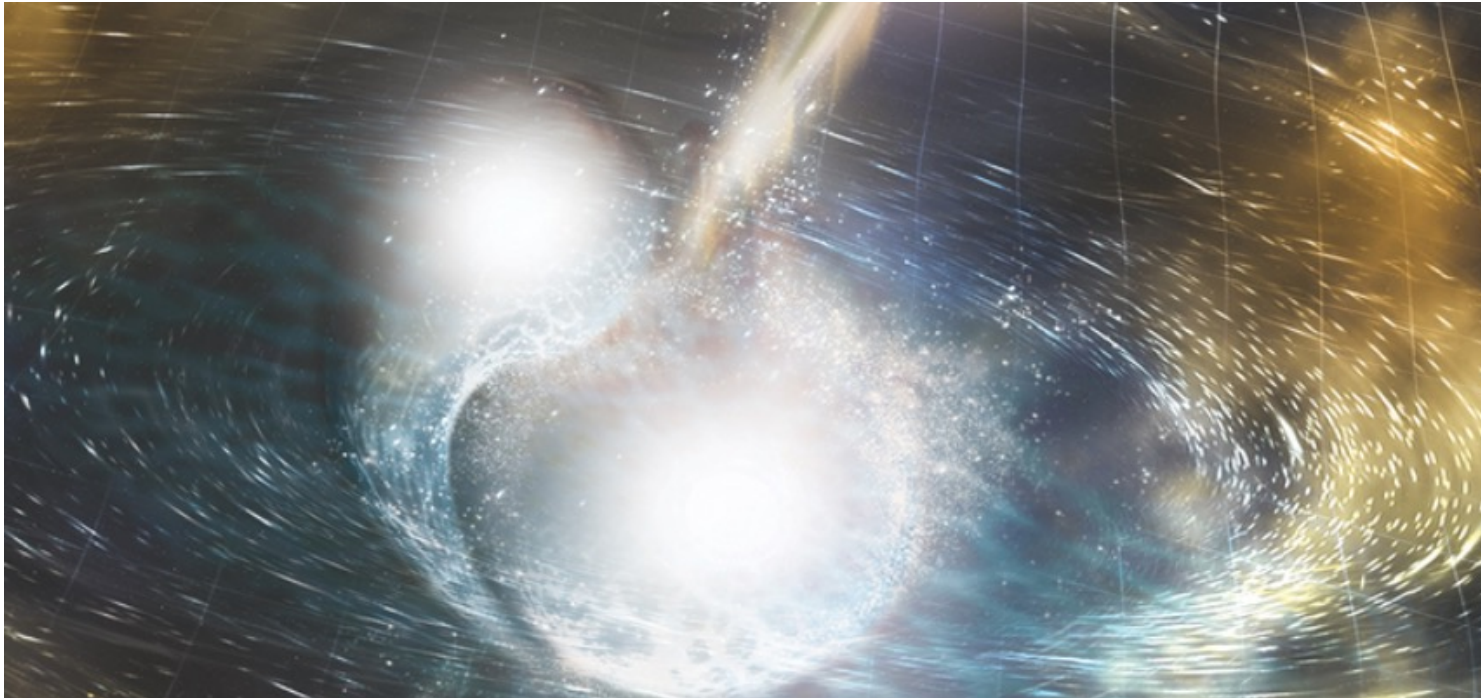
<- ? ->



# NS and multi-messenger astronomy

Coordinated observation and interpretation of multiple signals: *successful case of GW170817*:

- Binary NS merger in the galaxy NGC 4993 observed by the LIGO/Virgo collaboration.
- Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope and INTEGRAL observed gamma rays after 1.7 seconds.
- Optical counterpart SSS17a detected 11 hours later at Las Campanas Observatory,
- Then, observations the Hubble Space Telescope, the Dark Energy Camera, UV Neil Gehrels Swift Observatory, Chandra X-ray Observatory and Karl G. Jansky Very Large Radio Array Radio
- Non-observation of neutrinos was attributed to the jets being strongly off-axis.



# Public alerts <https://gracedb.ligo.org/>

04 significant candidates 154 \*

Retracted events are shown in red

04 low significant candidates 2302 \*

(for an extended multimessenger follow up)

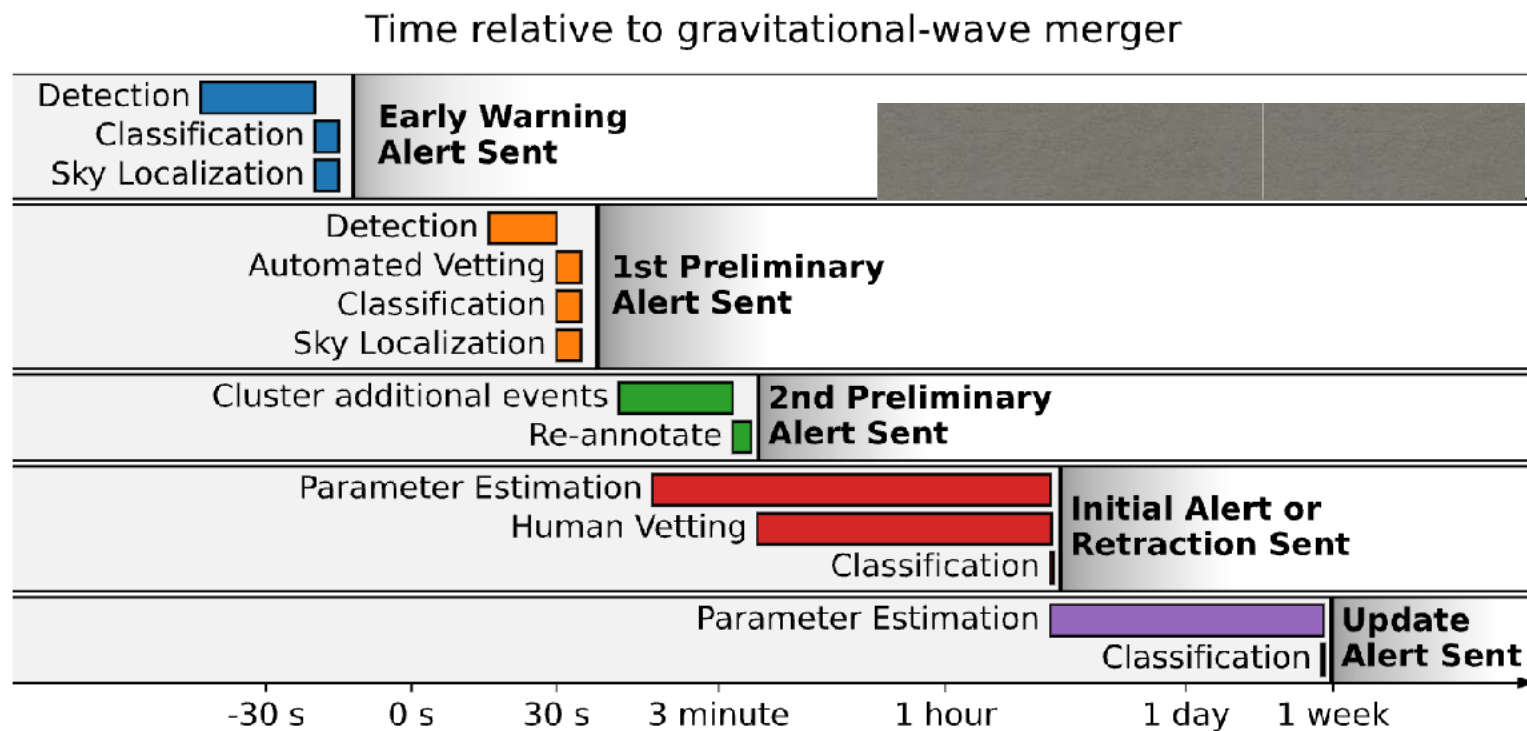
\* Numbers recorded on September 1, 2024

More details in

[IGWN | Public Alerts User Guide](#)

## • [IGWN Alert Contents](#)

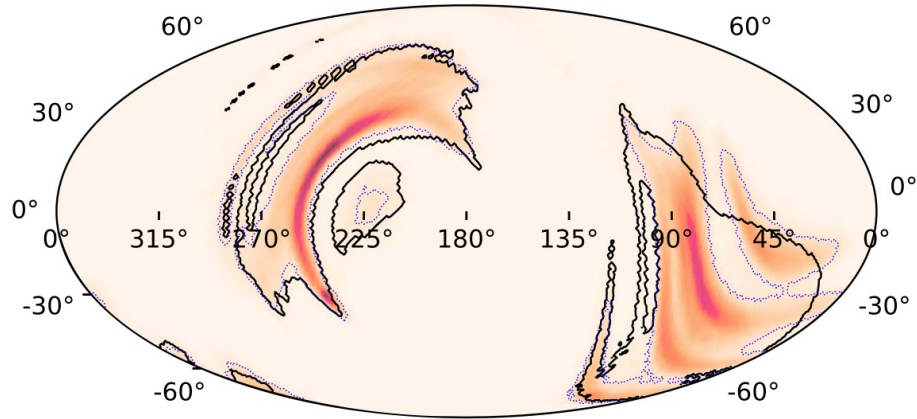
- [Notice Types](#)
- [Notice Formats](#)
- [Notice Contents](#)
- [Circular Contents](#)
- [Not Included in Alerts](#)
- [Notice Examples](#)
- [Public Annotations](#)



For an alternative way to track the event detections see

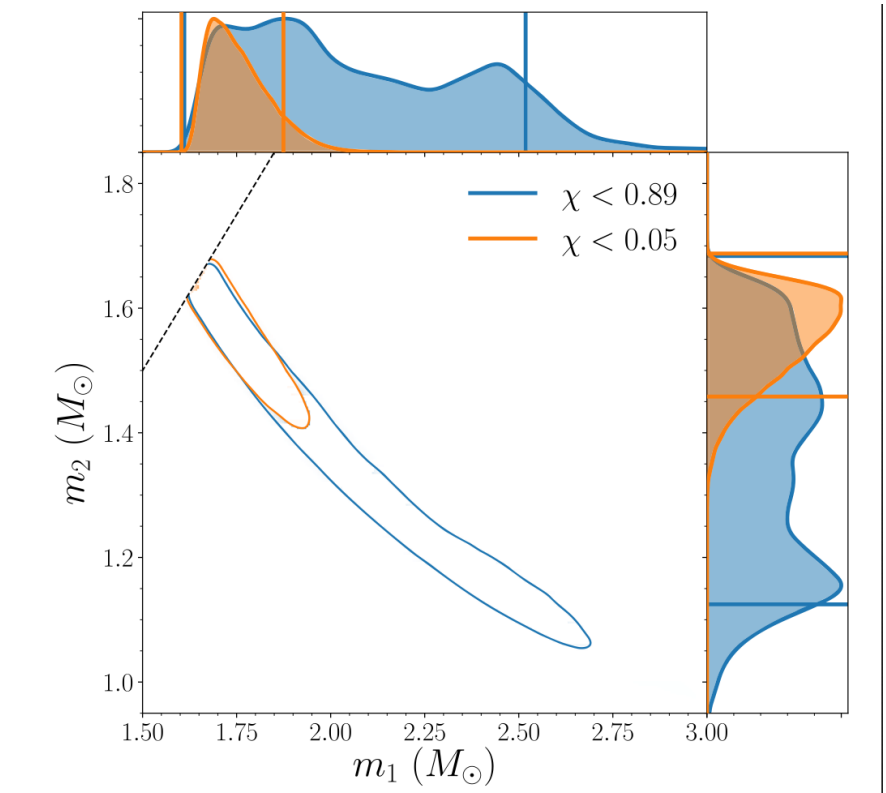
[Gravitational Wave Treasure Map](#)

# Second confident event identified as a BNS merger: GW190425



Source Properties for GW190425

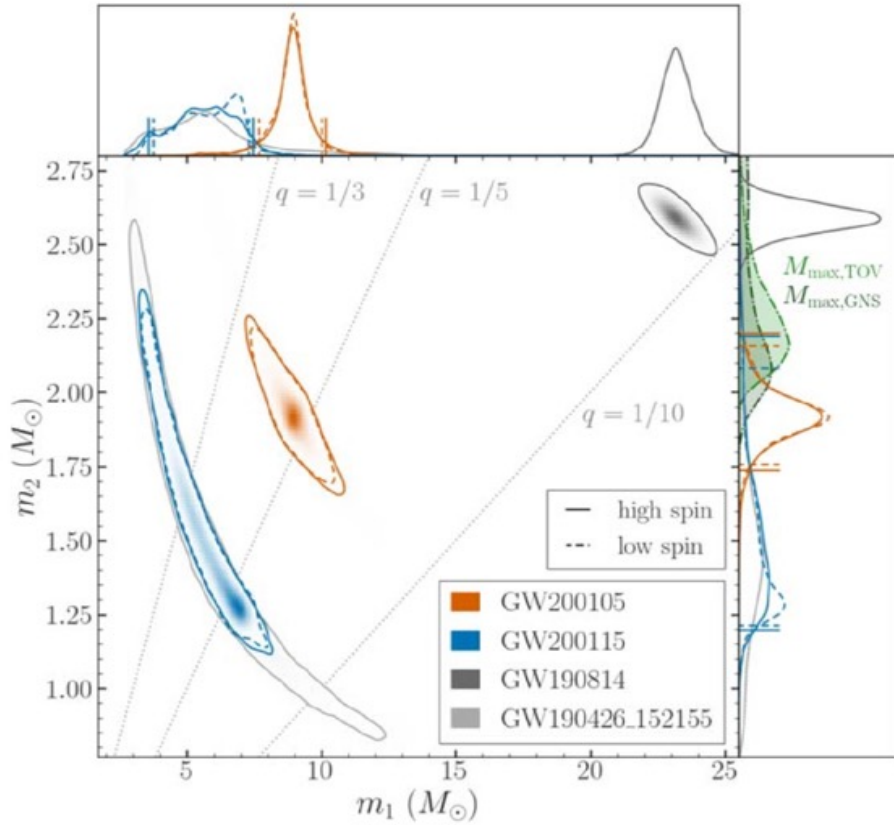
	Low-spin Prior ( $\chi < 0.05$ )	High-spin Prior ( $\chi < 0.89$ )
Primary mass $m_1$	1.60–1.87 $M_\odot$	1.61–2.52 $M_\odot$
Secondary mass $m_2$	1.46–1.69 $M_\odot$	1.12–1.68 $M_\odot$
Chirp mass $\mathcal{M}$	1.44 $^{+0.02}_{-0.02}$ $M_\odot$	1.44 $^{+0.02}_{-0.02}$ $M_\odot$
Detector-frame chirp mass	1.4868 $^{+0.0003}_{-0.0003}$ $M_\odot$	1.4873 $^{+0.0008}_{-0.0006}$ $M_\odot$
Mass ratio $m_2/m_1$	0.8 – 1.0	0.4 – 1.0
Total mass $m_{\text{tot}}$	3.3 $^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$ $M_\odot$	3.4 $^{+0.3}_{-0.1}$ $M_\odot$
Effective inspiral spin parameter $\chi_{\text{eff}}$	0.012 $^{+0.01}_{-0.01}$	0.058 $^{+0.11}_{-0.05}$
Luminosity distance $D_L$	159 $^{+69}_{-72}$ Mpc	159 $^{+69}_{-71}$ Mpc
Combined dimensionless tidal deformability $\tilde{\Lambda}$	$\leq 600$	$\leq 1100$



Mainly a single detector event:  
 SNR LLO 12.5  
 SNR Virgo 2.5 (below det. treshold 4)

Total mass and chirp mass larger than any known BNS

# Confident detections of *mixed binaries*: NSBH GW200105 and GW200115



- No evidence of tidal effect on NS companion
- Low-mass BHs, less compact NS and high prograde spins favor tidal disruption

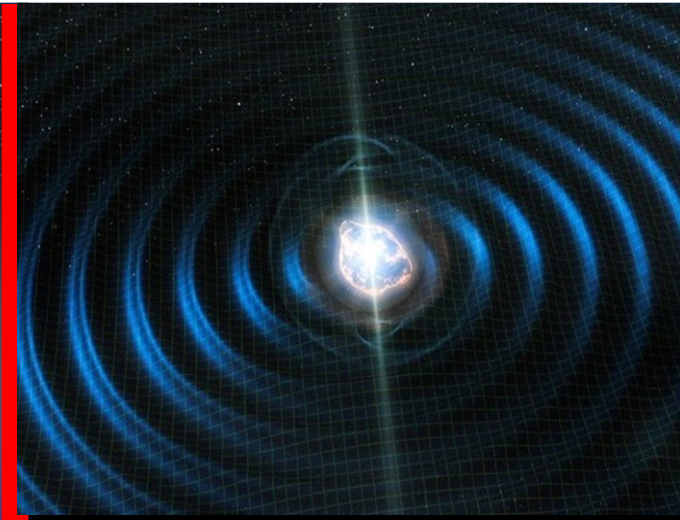
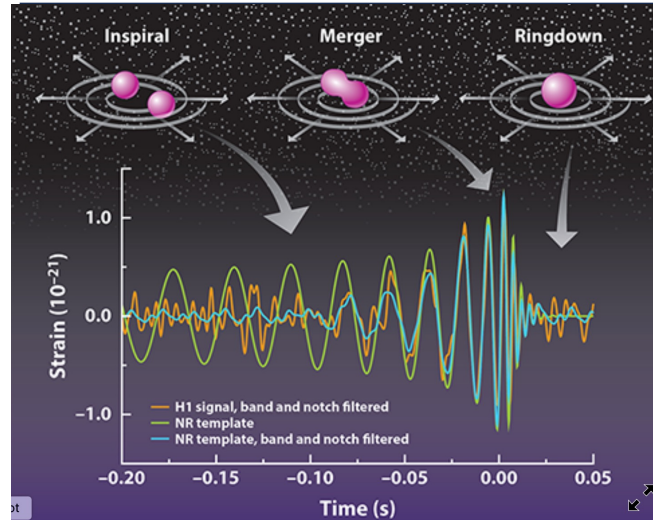
	GW200105		GW200115	
	Low Spin	High Spin	Low Spin	High Spin
	$(\chi_2 < 0.05)$	$(\chi_2 < 0.99)$	$(\chi_2 < 0.05)$	$(\chi_2 < 0.99)$
Primary mass $m_1/M_\odot$	$8.9^{+1.1}_{-1.3}$	$8.9^{+1.2}_{-1.5}$	$5.9^{+1.4}_{-2.1}$	$5.7^{+1.8}_{-2.1}$
Secondary mass $m_2/M_\odot$	$1.9^{+0.2}_{-0.2}$	$1.9^{+0.3}_{-0.2}$	$1.4^{+0.6}_{-0.2}$	$1.5^{+0.7}_{-0.3}$
Mass ratio $q$	$0.21^{+0.06}_{-0.04}$	$0.22^{+0.08}_{-0.04}$	$0.24^{+0.31}_{-0.08}$	$0.26^{+0.35}_{-0.10}$
Total mass $M/M_\odot$	$10.8^{+0.9}_{-1.0}$	$10.9^{+1.1}_{-1.2}$	$7.3^{+1.2}_{-1.5}$	$7.1^{+1.5}_{-1.4}$
Chirp mass $\mathcal{M}/M_\odot$	$3.41^{+0.08}_{-0.07}$	$3.41^{+0.08}_{-0.07}$	$2.42^{+0.05}_{-0.07}$	$2.42^{+0.05}_{-0.07}$
Detector-frame chirp mass $(1+z)\mathcal{M}/M_\odot$	$3.619^{+0.006}_{-0.006}$	$3.619^{+0.007}_{-0.008}$	$2.580^{+0.006}_{-0.007}$	$2.579^{+0.007}_{-0.007}$
Primary spin magnitude $\chi_1$	$0.09^{+0.18}_{-0.08}$	$0.08^{+0.22}_{-0.08}$	$0.31^{+0.52}_{-0.29}$	$0.33^{+0.48}_{-0.29}$
Effective inspiral spin parameter $\chi_{\text{eff}}$	$-0.01^{+0.08}_{-0.12}$	$-0.01^{+0.11}_{-0.15}$	$-0.14^{+0.17}_{-0.34}$	$-0.19^{+0.23}_{-0.35}$
Effective precession spin parameter $\chi_\rho$	$0.07^{+0.15}_{-0.06}$	$0.09^{+0.14}_{-0.07}$	$0.19^{+0.28}_{-0.17}$	$0.21^{+0.30}_{-0.17}$
Luminosity distance $D_L/\text{Mpc}$	$280^{+110}_{-110}$	$280^{+110}_{-110}$	$310^{+150}_{-110}$	$300^{+150}_{-100}$
Source redshift $z$	$0.06^{+0.02}_{-0.02}$	$0.06^{+0.02}_{-0.02}$	$0.07^{+0.03}_{-0.02}$	$0.07^{+0.03}_{-0.02}$

# Potential GW sources for the interferometers on the Earth

Short signals

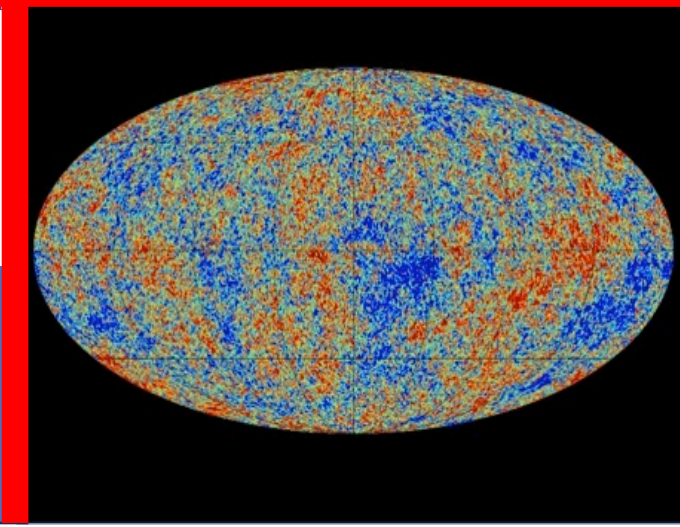
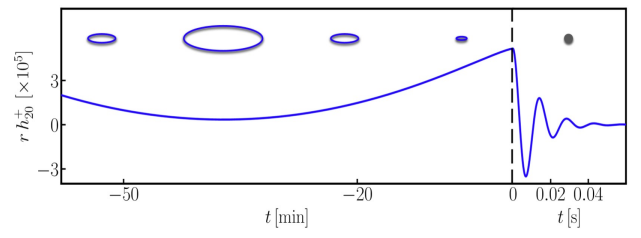
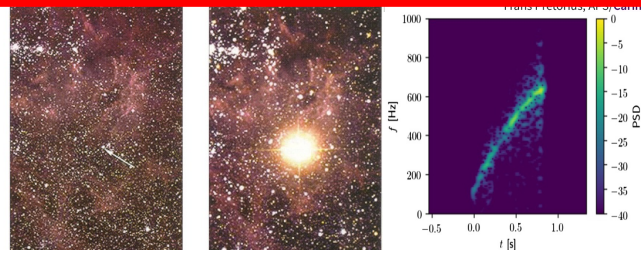
Long signals

Coalescence of binary systems



*Non-axisymmetric  
Spinning neutron stars  
+ emission  
associated to clouds  
of exotic particles*

Core-collapse  
Supernovae, neutron  
star excitations, cosmic  
strings...



*GW stochastic background  
Unresolved CBCs,  
Primordial BHs,  
Cosmological*

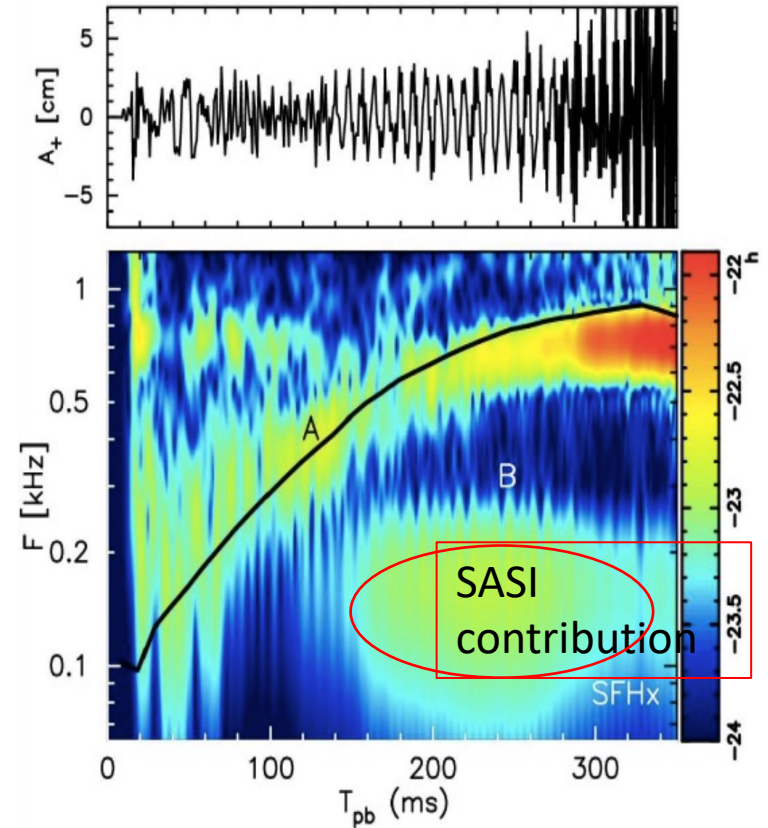
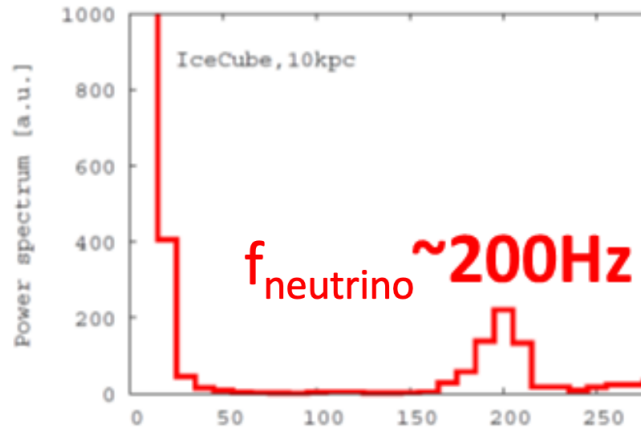
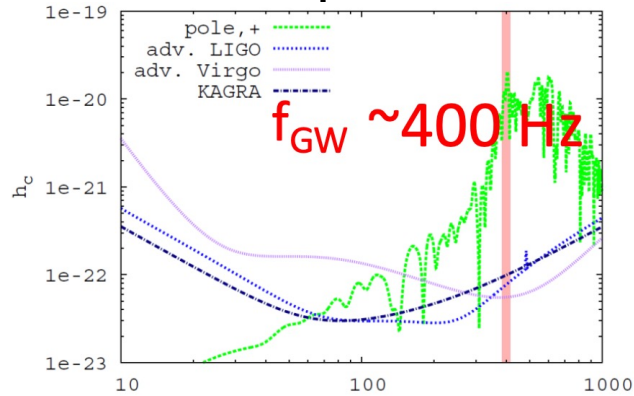
# Hunting a SUPER Multimessenger event: CCSNe

See talk of M. Drago et al. and A. Veuro et al. poster during this conference

Observation of both neutrinos and gravitational waves from a core-collapse supernova will yield a wealth of information on the explosion mechanism !!!

We will infer fundamental parameters of the system and crucial physics aspects of the process:

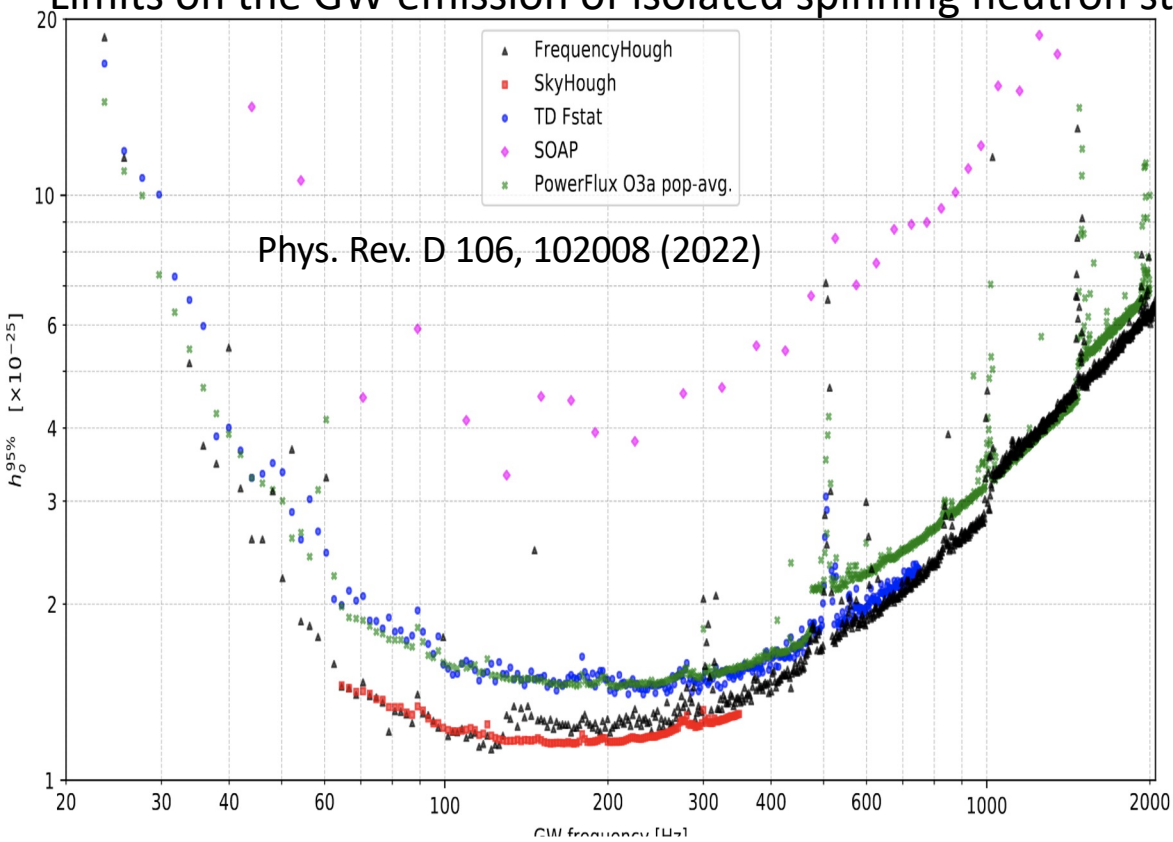
- the structure and angular momentum of the progenitor star,
- the equation of state of nuclear matter at high densities and low entropies



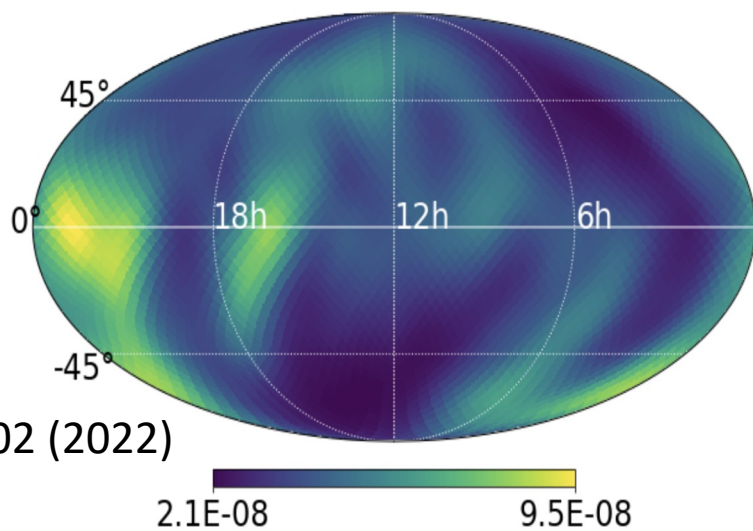
Standing Accretion Shock Instability- SASI mechanism imprinting both  $\nu$  and GW signals

FIG. 1. In each set of panels, we plot (top) gravitational wave amplitude

# Limits on the GW emission of isolated spinning neutron stars

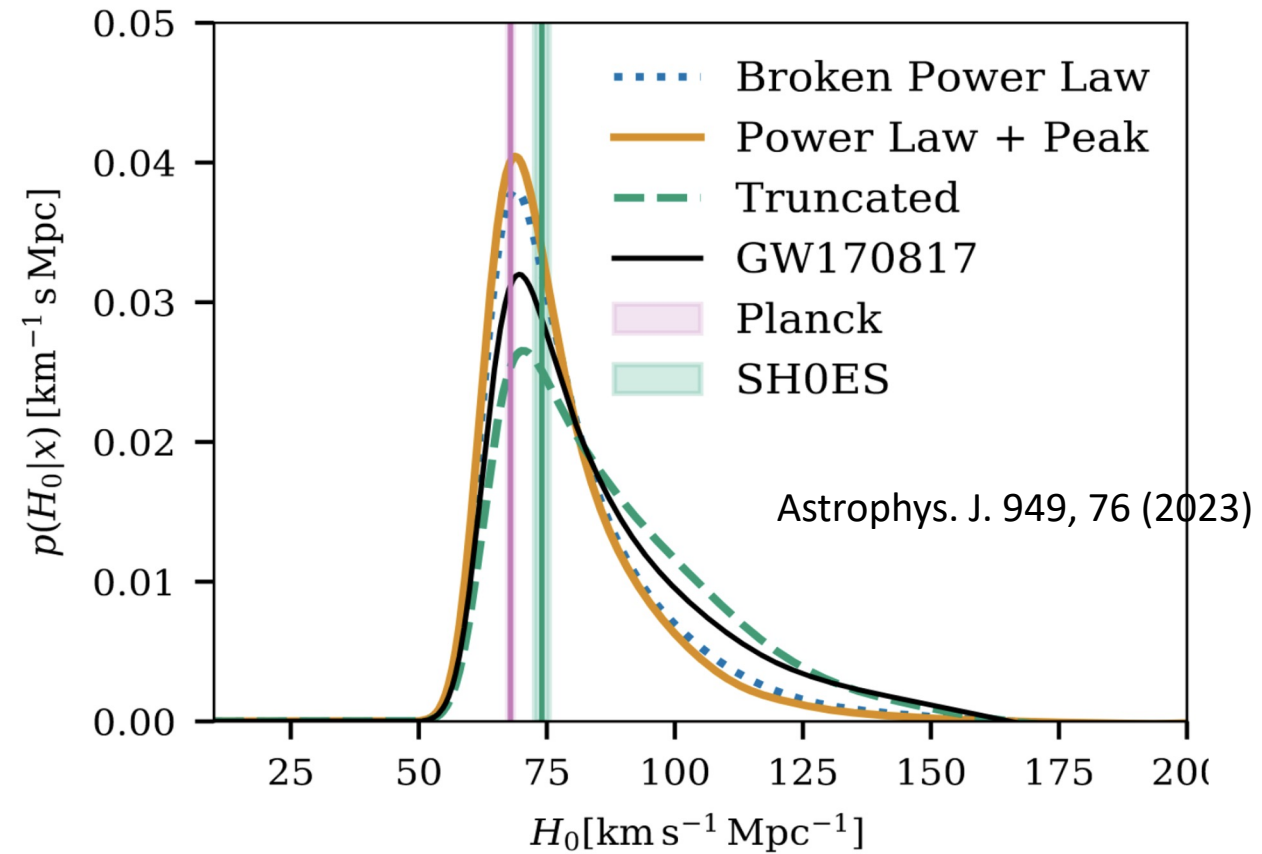


## Upper limits on Stochastic background



# Other results

## Hubble-Lemaître constant: GW measurement





# GW interferometers as Dark matter detectors

*PRD 105, 063030 (2022) and arXiv:2403.03004 [astro-ph.CO]*

- Dark matter is expected to cause time-dependent oscillations in the mirrors of the interferometers, which would lead to a differential strain on the detector.

*Dark photon mass interval  $10^{-14} - 10^{-11} \text{ eV}/c^2 \rightarrow$  oscillation frequencies 10 - 2000 Hz,*

- All LIGO-Virgo mirrors are made from fused silica glass
- KAGRA use sapphire for main test mass mirrors and fused silica for other auxiliary mirrors.
- For dark matter coupled to the baryons-leptons number, sapphire mirrors move slightly more than fused silica mirrors because they are slightly more neutron-rich

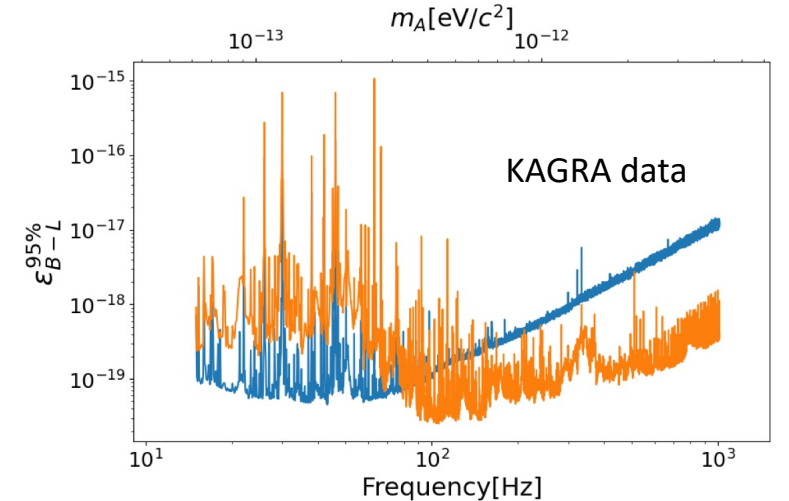
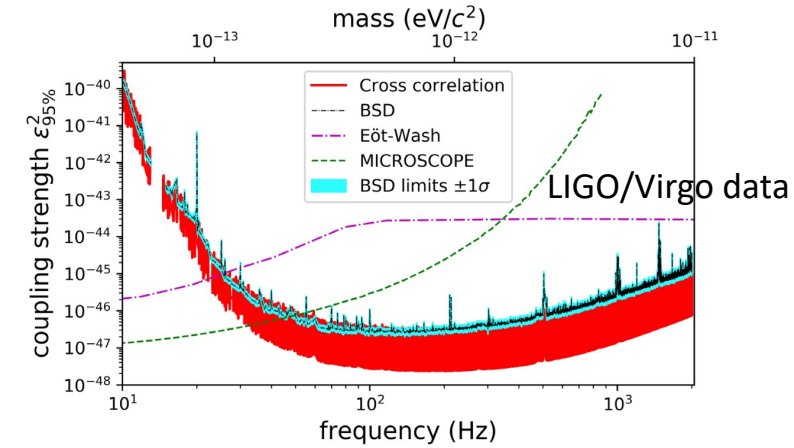


FIG. 5. 95% upper limit on the  $B-L$  gauge coupling constant derived from MICH data (blue line) and PRCL data (orange line). Many narrow peaks observed in lower mass range are due to unknown line artifacts in the lower frequency range.

# Conclusions: since 2015 we shine a dark side of the Universe

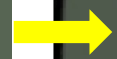
- 2015
  - O1: Gravitational waves from astrophysical sources can be measured.
  - O1: Binary black hole (BBH) systems exist.
- 2017
  - O2: Binary neutron stars (BNS) are progenitors of short gamma ray bursts.
  - O2: BNS mergers produce kilonovae, which produce heavy elements.
  - O2: The speed of gravitational waves equals the speed of light.
  - O2: The Hubble-Lemaître constant can be measured using EM-bright GW ‘sirens’.
  - O2 – O3: The Hubble-Lemaître constant can be measured using dark GW ‘sirens’.
- 2019
  - O3: Black holes with masses in the (pulsational) pair instability gap exist.
  - O3: Black hole – neutron star systems exist.
  - O3: Compact objects exist in the  $2 - 3 M_{\odot}$  mass range.
  - O1-O3: Astrophysical black holes are Kerr black holes
  - O1 – O3: General relativity is valid in the high curvature, high field regime.
  - O1 – O3: Intermediate black holes and stellar mass black holes with mass  $> 20 M_{\odot}$  exist.

2023 Detection of Stochastic Gravitational Wave Background

# IGWN CHECKLIST

- BINARY SYSTEM
- BLACK HOLES
- NEUTRON STARS
  - WITH EM COUNTERPART
- BH-NS
- SUPERNOVAE
- PULSARS
- STOCHASTIC

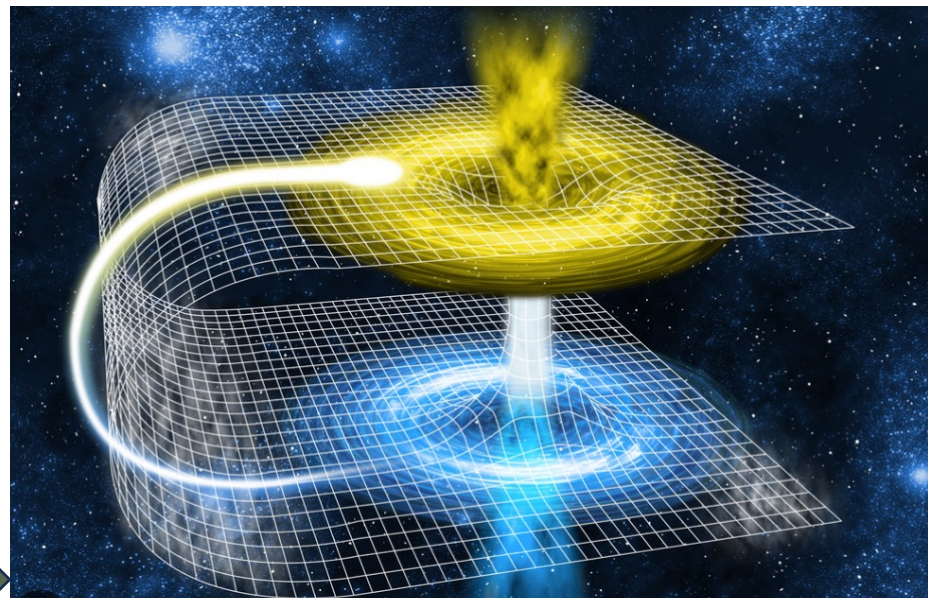
Pulsar timing



.....and Serendipidity



*Thanks for the attention and see you in two years*



Extra slides

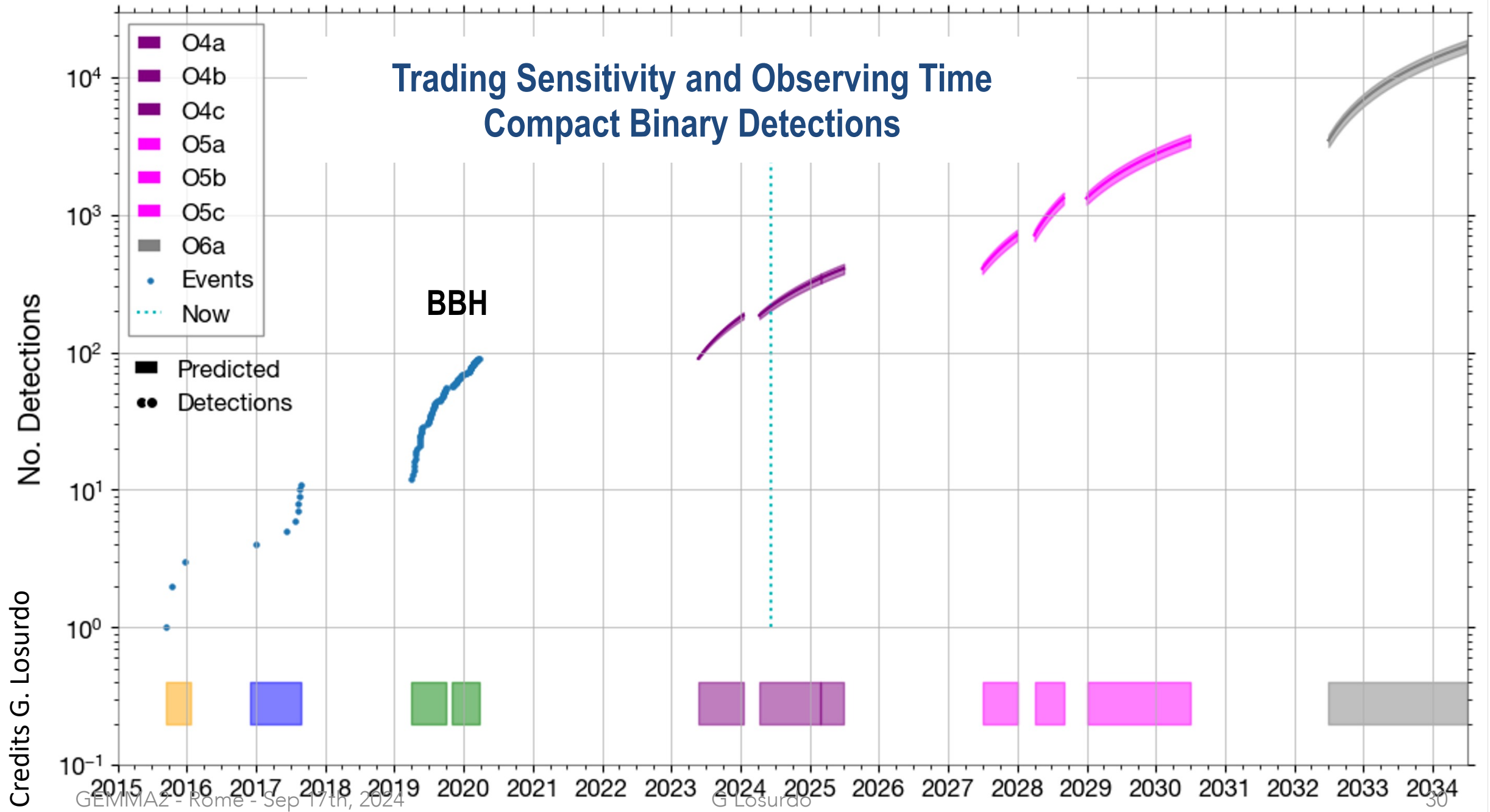


Figure: Amanda Baylor, Cody Messick, PRB

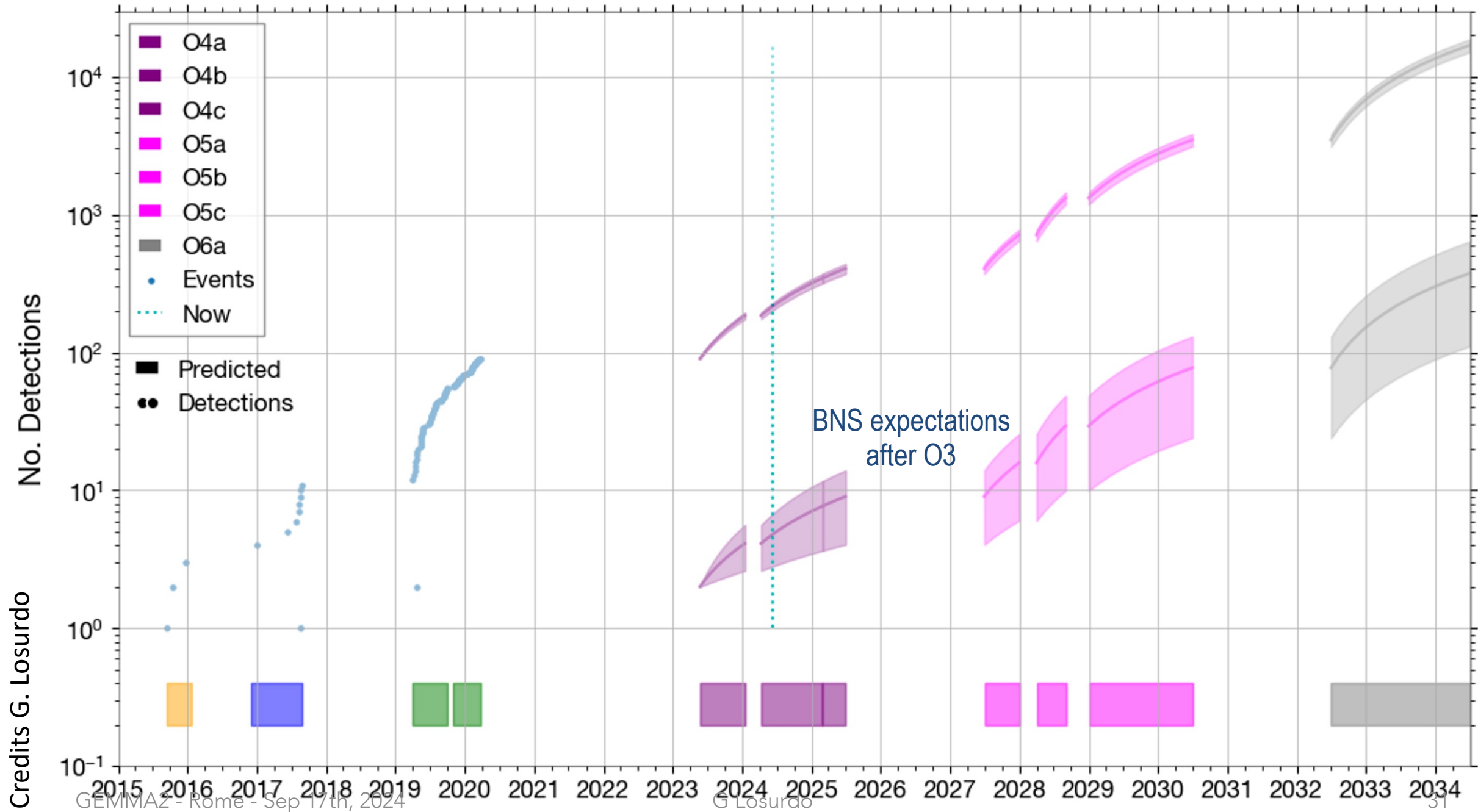


Figure: Amanda Baylor, Cody Messick, PRB

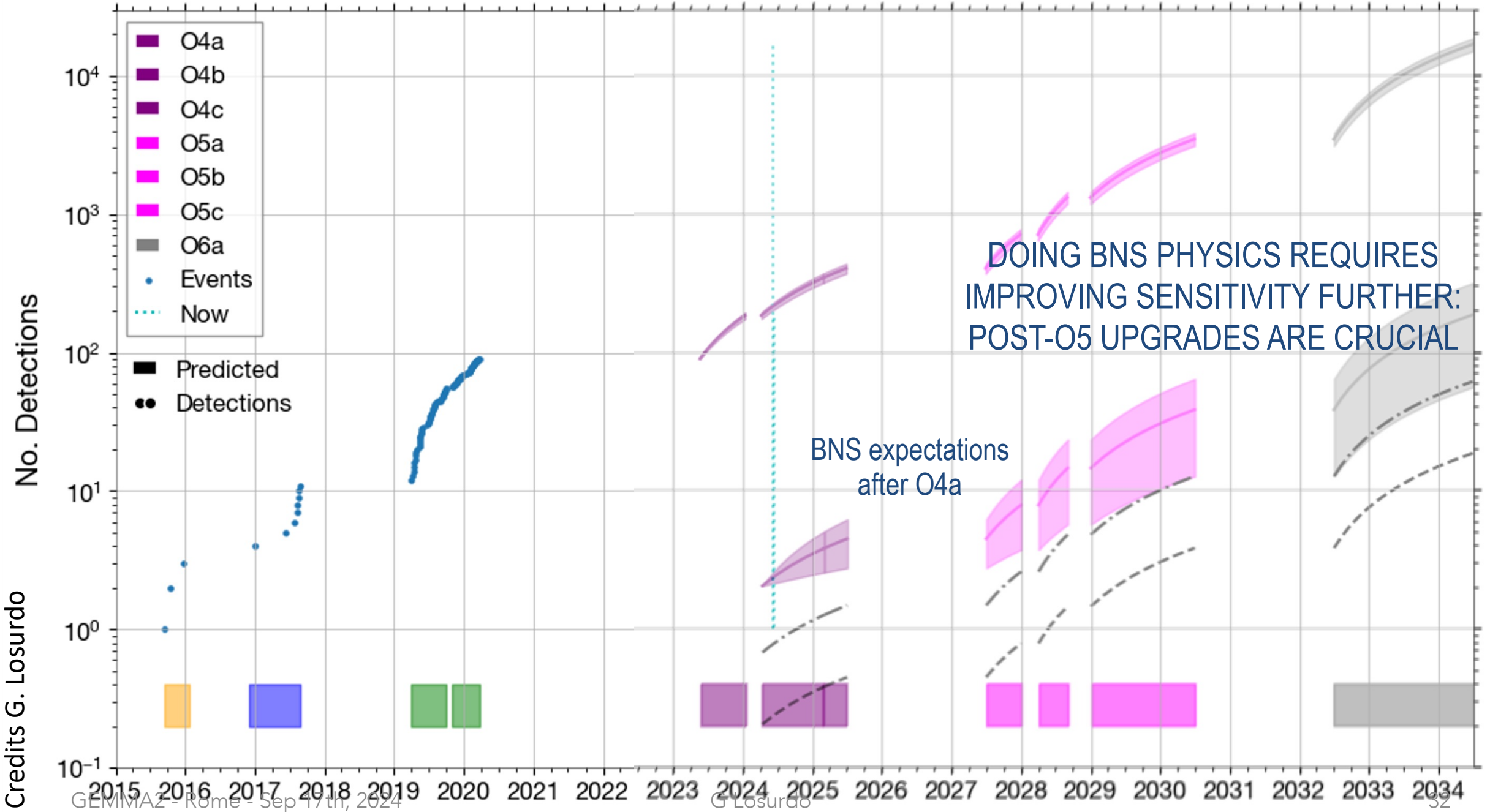


Figure: Amanda Baylor, Cody Messick, PRB