

# Coalescing compact binaries and Gravitational wave astronomy

Archana Pai, IIT Bombay



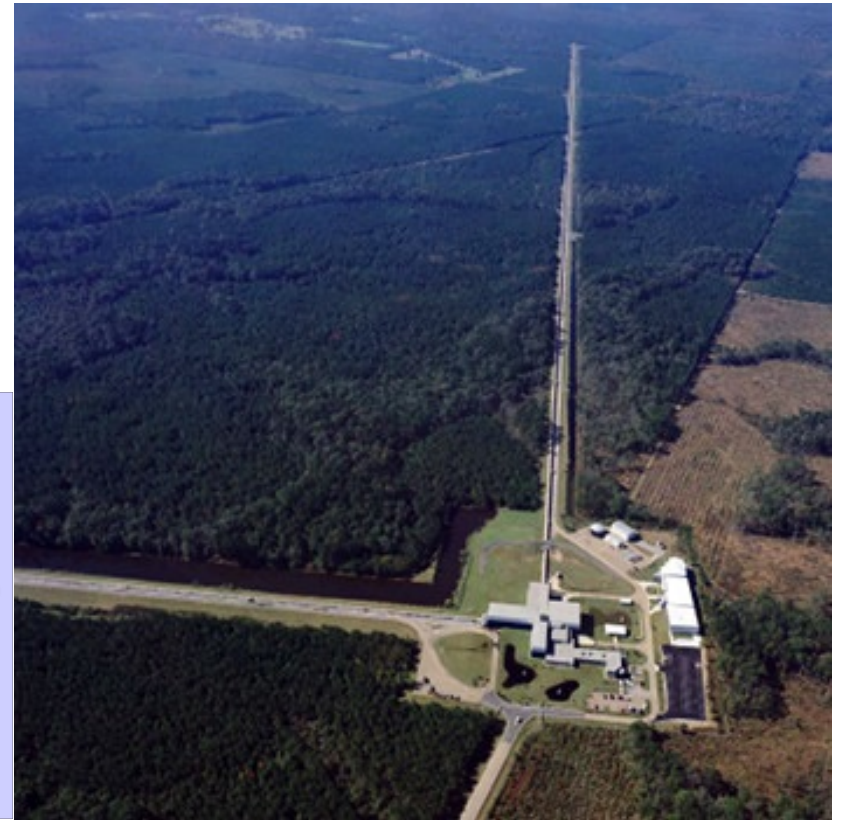
# **Beginning of Gravitational Wave Astronomy**

# Advanced LIGO detectors

Hanford, Washington



Livingston, Louisiana



# STORY BEGINS ON SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

## GraceDB — Gravitational Wave Candidate Event Database

HOME	SEARCH	CREATE	REPORTS	RSS	LATEST	OPTIONS	DOCUMENTATION	AUTHENTICATED AS: ARCHANA PAI	
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### Basic Info

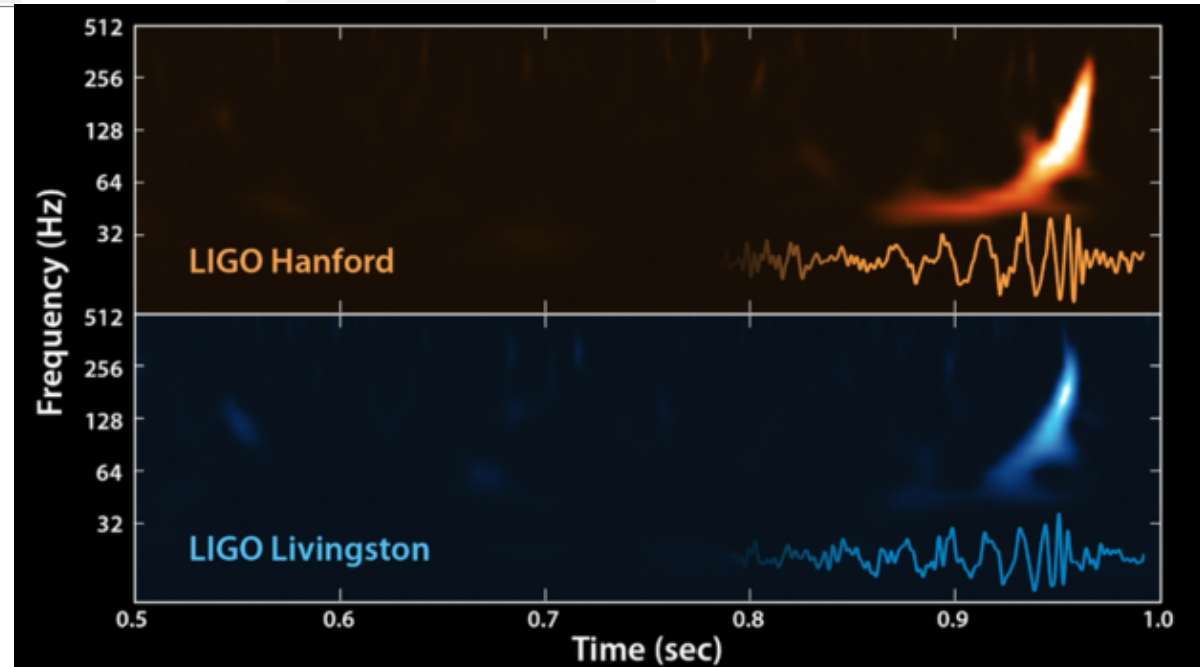
UID	Labels	Group	Pipeline	Search	Instruments	GPS Time Event Time	FAR (Hz)	Links	UTC Submitted
G184098	H1OK L1OK	Burst	CWB	AllSky	H1,L1	1126259462.3910	1.178e-08	<a href="#">Data</a>	2015-09-14 09:53:51 UTC

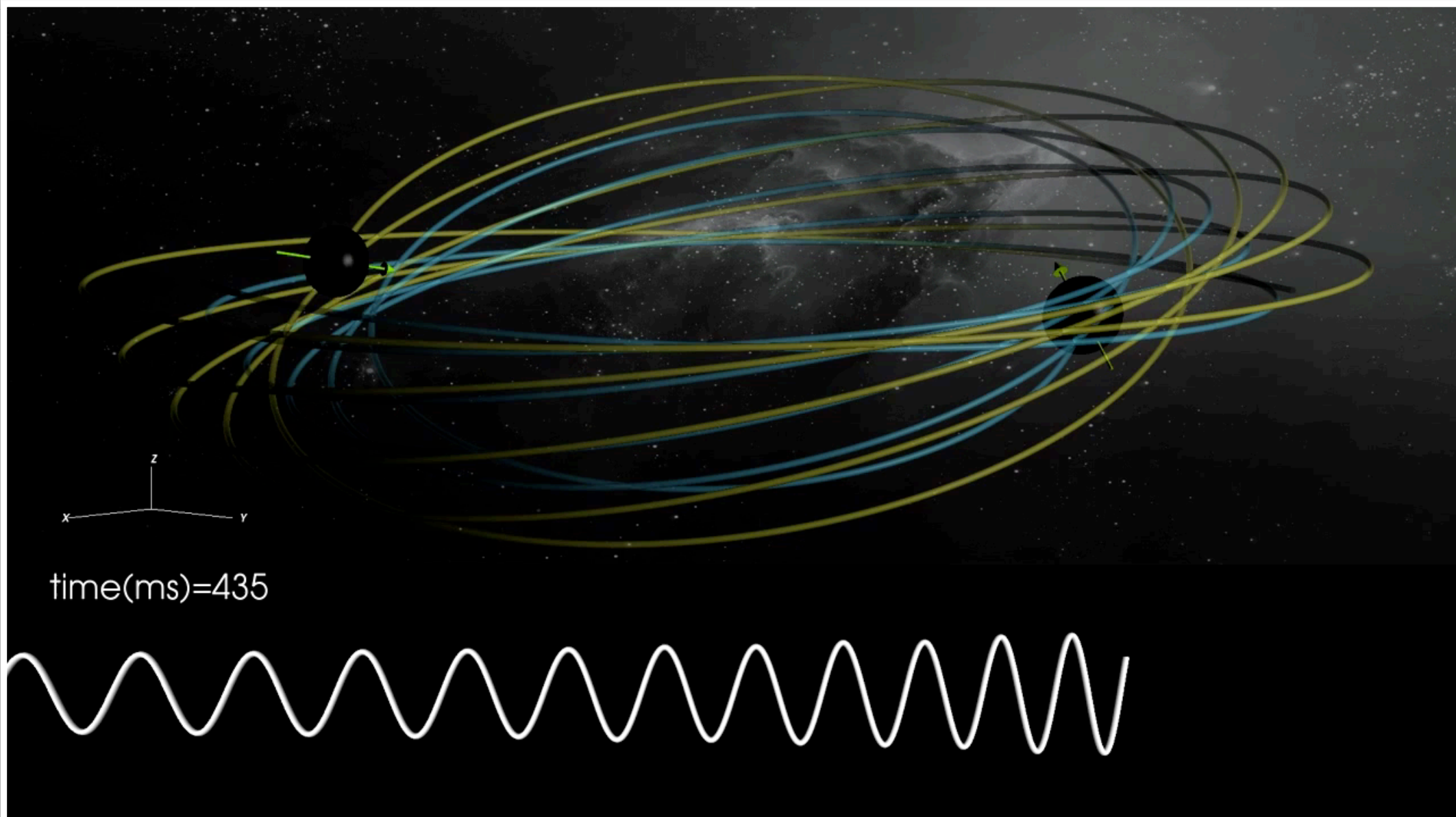
### Analysis-Specific Attributes

start_time	1126259461	central_freq	123.8285	false_alarm_rate	
start_time_ns	750000000	bandwidth	51.8386	ligo_axis_ra	130.9219
duration	2.477e-02	amplitude	1.410e+01	ligo_axis_dec	4.4808
peak_time	None	snr	23.4521	ligo_angle	None
peak_time_ns	None	confidence		ligo_angle_sig	None

A GENERIC GRAVITATIONAL WAVE SEARCH  
ALGORITHM SHOWS AN ALERT

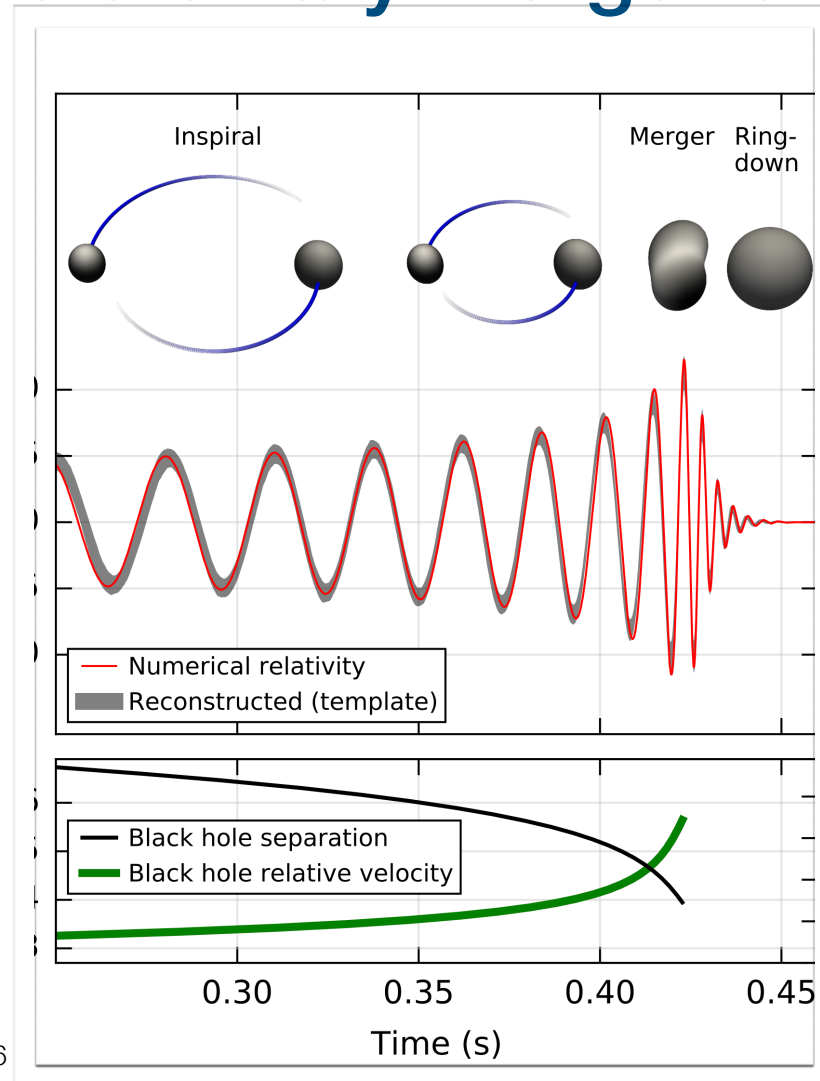
LVC, PRL 116, 061102 (2016)





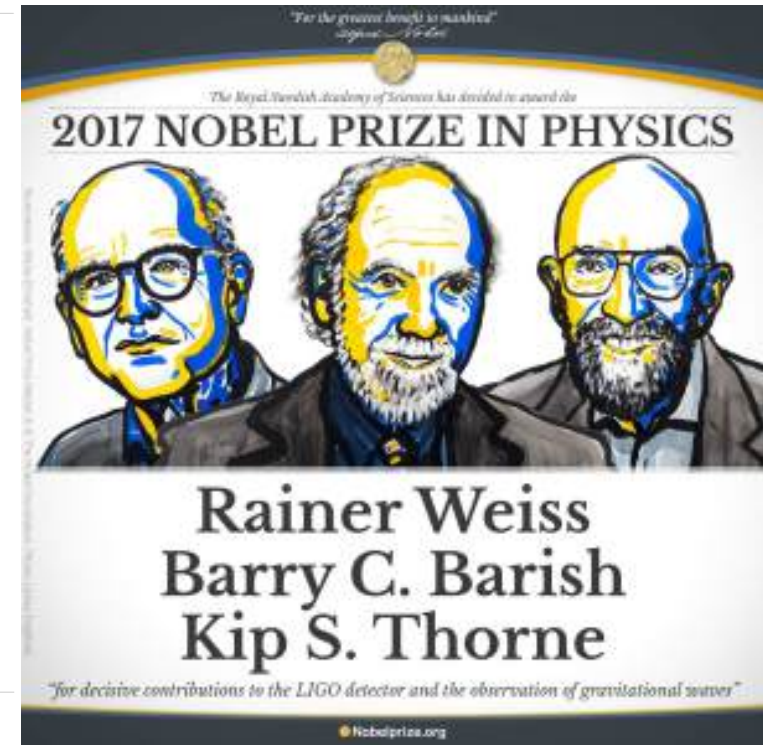
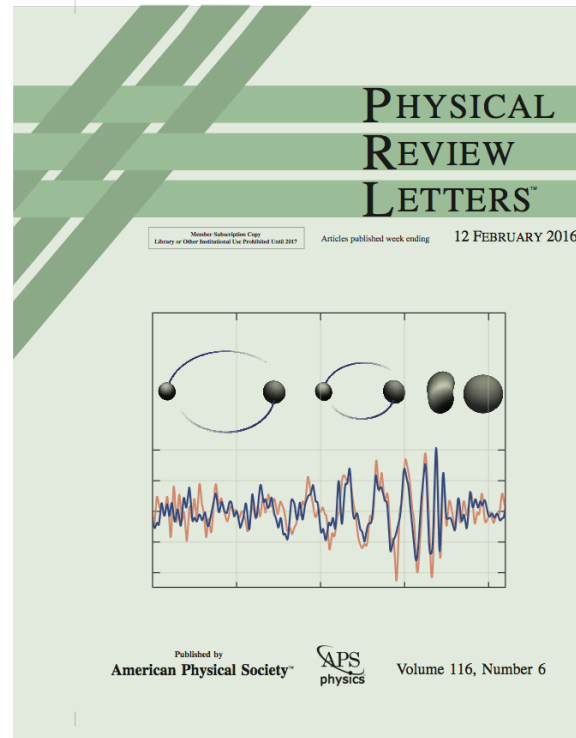
# GW150914: First black hole binary merger event

- Collision of two stellar mass black hole of masses **36-29 Msun** into a kerr black hole.
- Located at the distance of **1.33 billion light years (450 Mpc)**
- Signal duration of gravitational wave was **200 msec.**
- Remnant black-hole of **62 Msun**
- Highly relativistic system produced peak strain of  $h \sim 10^{-21}$
- Power radiated in GW is equivalent to **3Msun.**



# Four Firsts from the discovery

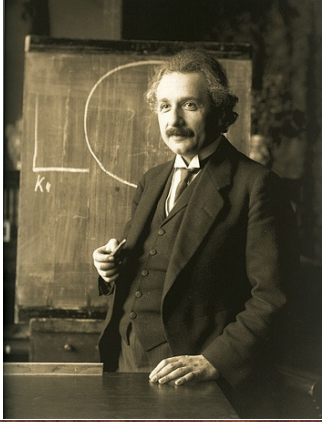
- **First** direct detection of gravitational waves
- **First** direct observation of stellar mass black holes in a binary system
- **First** direct evidence of collision of black holes in the binary system
- **First** direct evidence of existence of stellar mass black holes  $> 25$  Msun



For decisive contributions to the LIGO And  
The observation of gravitational waves  
**2017 Nobel Prize in Physics**

# Some background



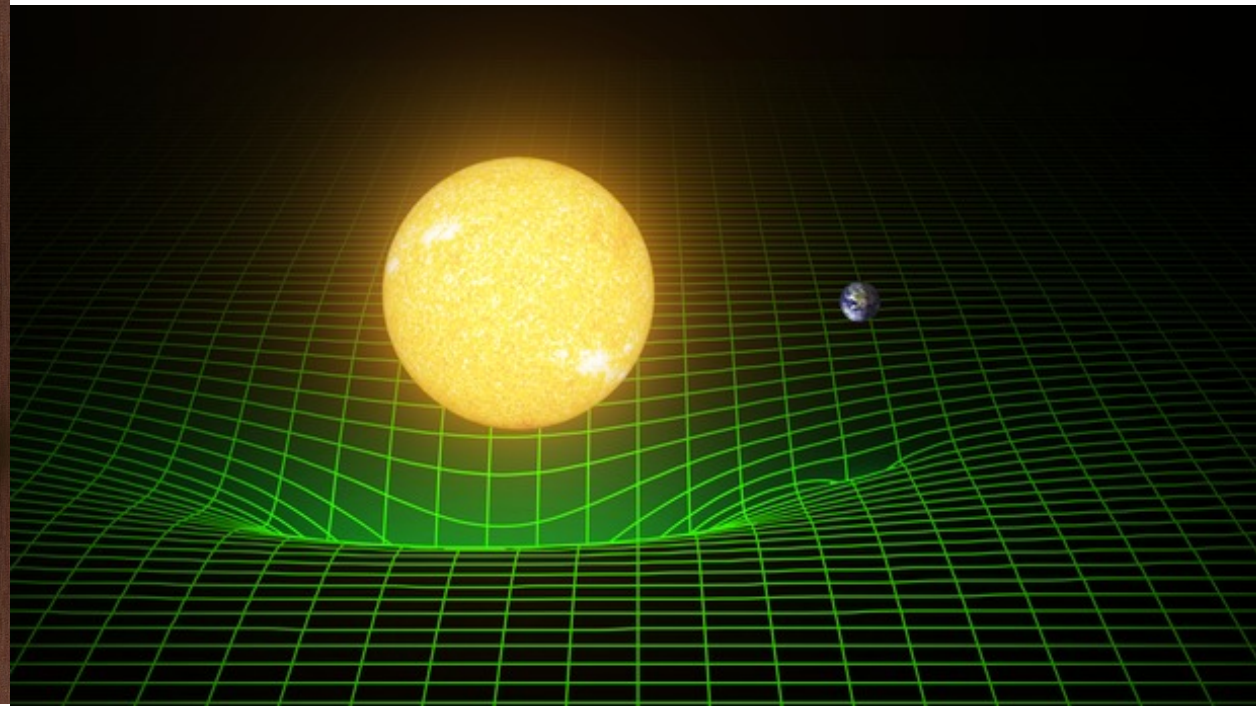
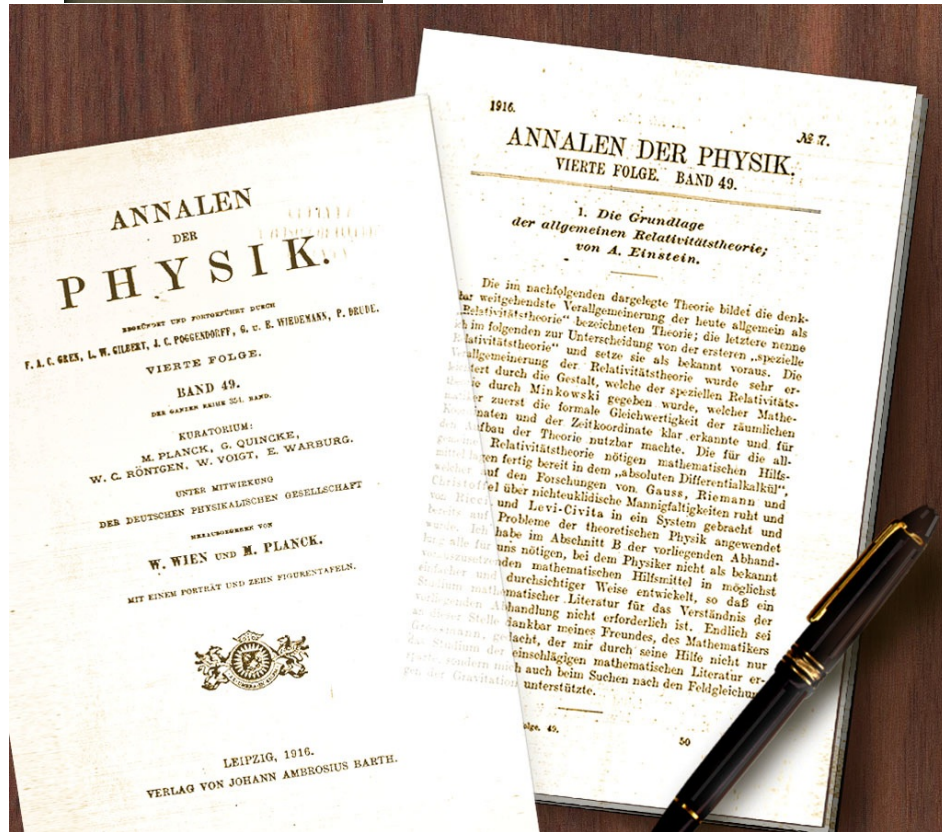


# General Theory of Relativity (1916)

Equivalence Principle: Motion under gravity is a problem of geometry.

The matter defines the geometry. Geometry decides the trajectories

The weak field and slow motion limit of the theory == Newtonian Gravity



# Measure of strength of gravity

**Compactness parameter :**

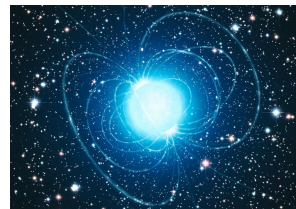
$$\alpha = \frac{2GM}{Rc^2}$$



Sun

Mass ~  $1e30$  kg  
Radius ~ 700,000 km

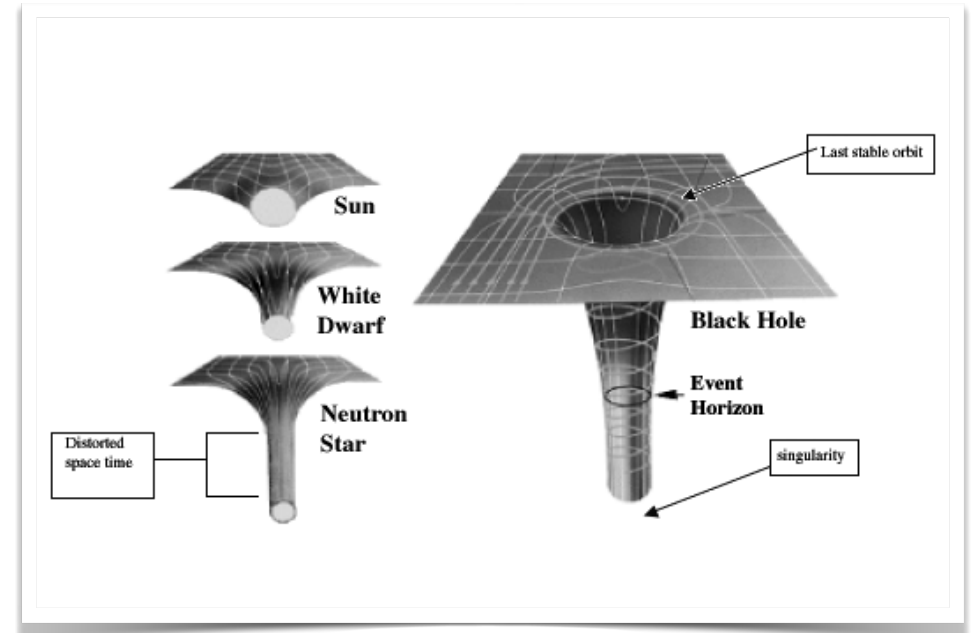
$$\alpha \sim 0.000004$$



Neutron Star (NS)

Mass ~ 1.4 Msun  
Radius ~ 10 km

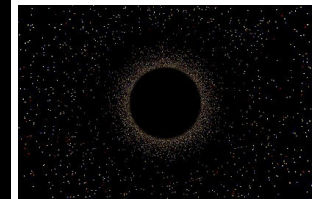
$$\alpha \sim 0.4$$

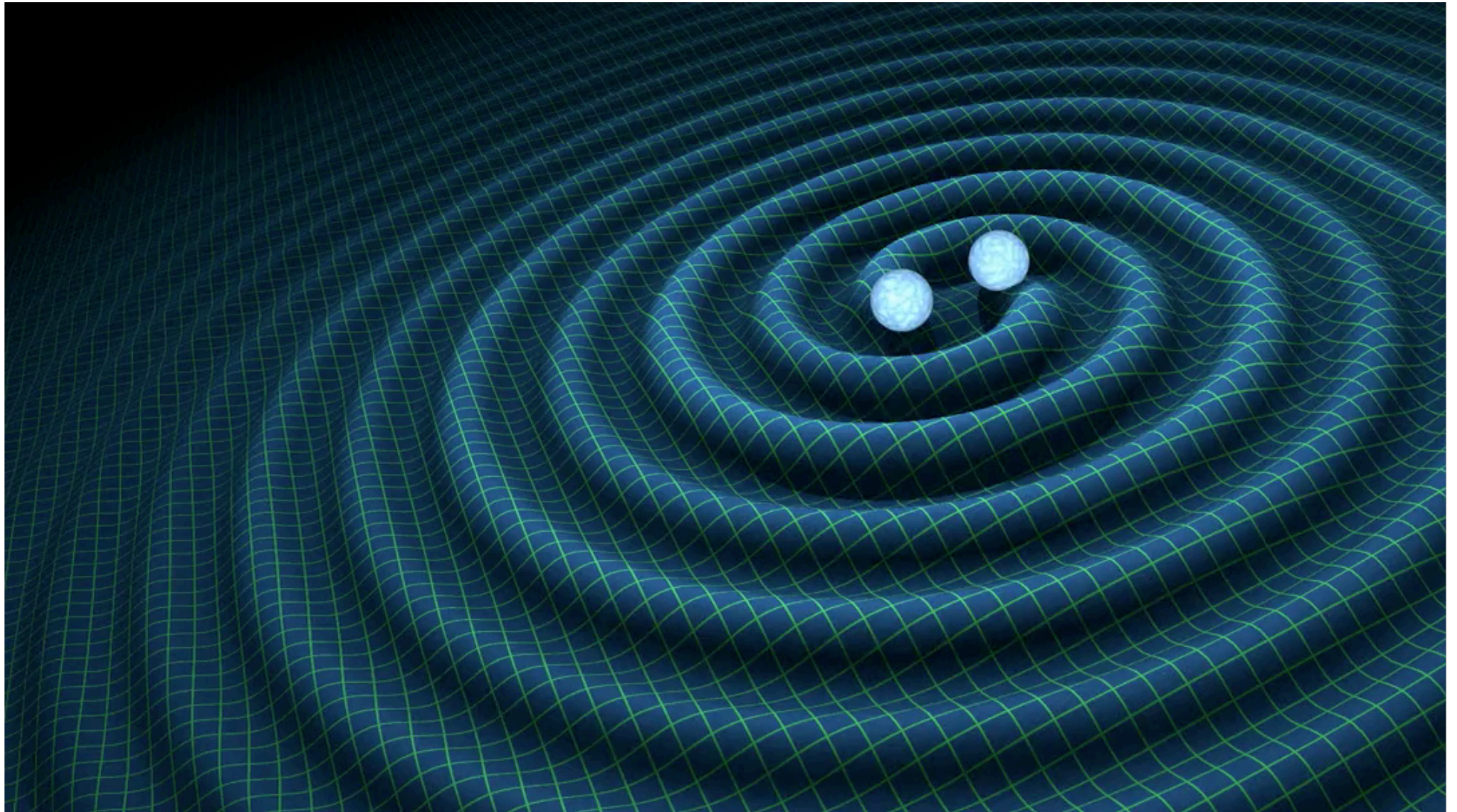


Black Hole (BH)

Mass ~ 3.0 Msun  
Radius ~ 9.0 km

$$\alpha \sim 1$$





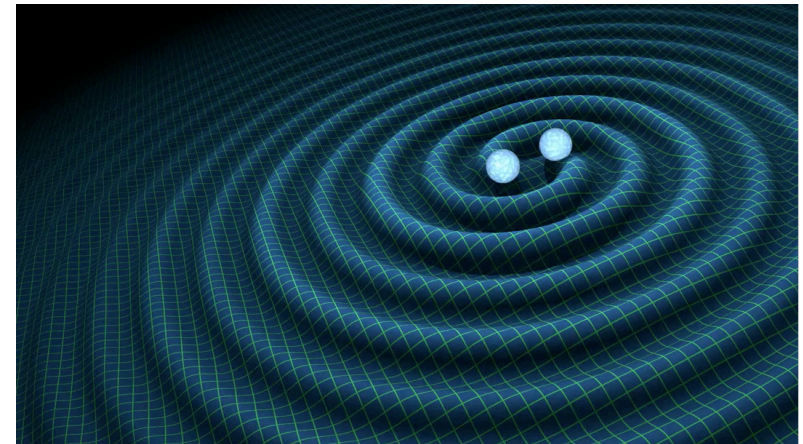
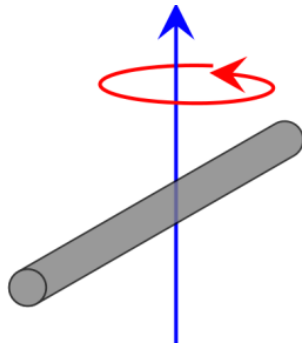
# General Relativity and Gravitational Waves

# Estimate gravitational wave strain $h$

- Gravitational wave amplitude in terms of quadrupole moment  $Q$

$$h = \frac{2G}{rc^4} \frac{d^2Q}{dt^2}$$

- Homework 1: Spinning rod of length 10 meters, spinning at 10Hz and mass of 1 ton located on Moon. Calculate the GW amplitude.



Coalescing compact binary in our galaxy:

NS Binary system located at 5kpc.

Orbital period: 7.7hrs

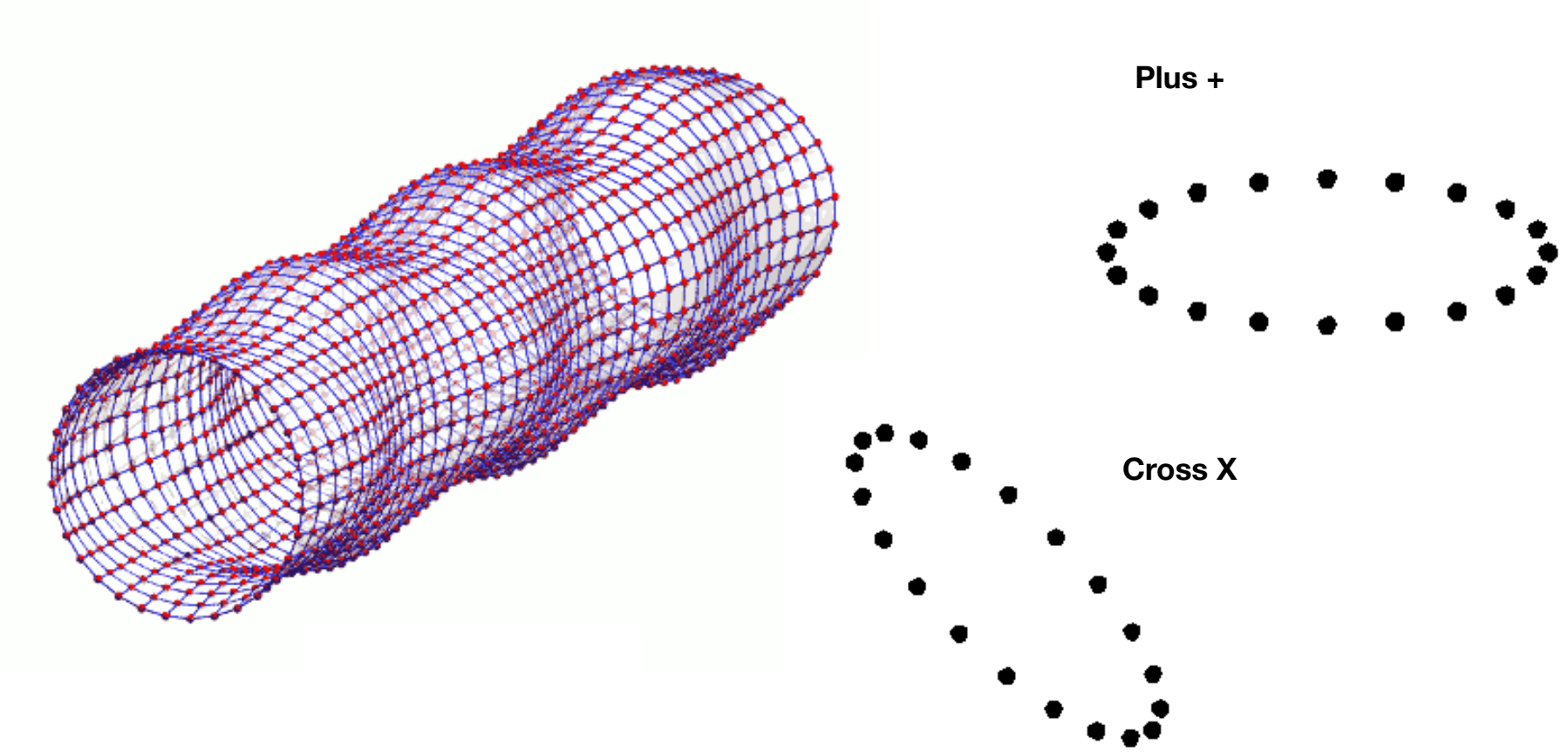
Orbital radius: 1 million km

GW dimensionless amplitude —  $h \sim 10^{-23}$

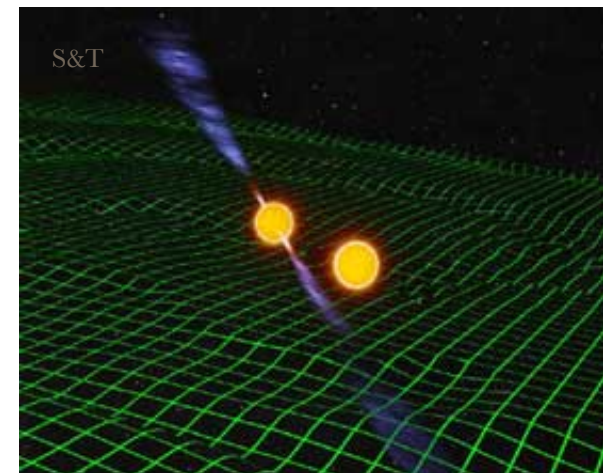
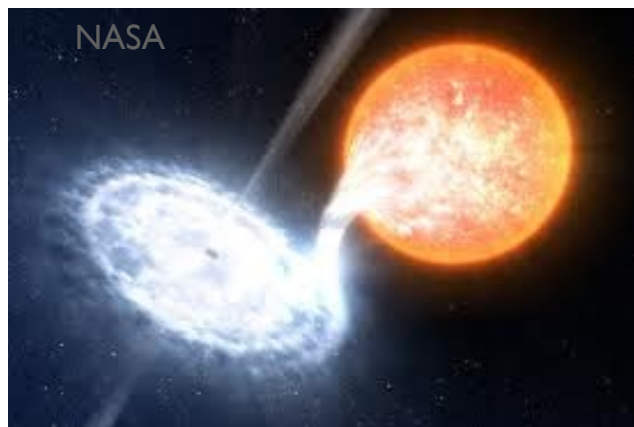
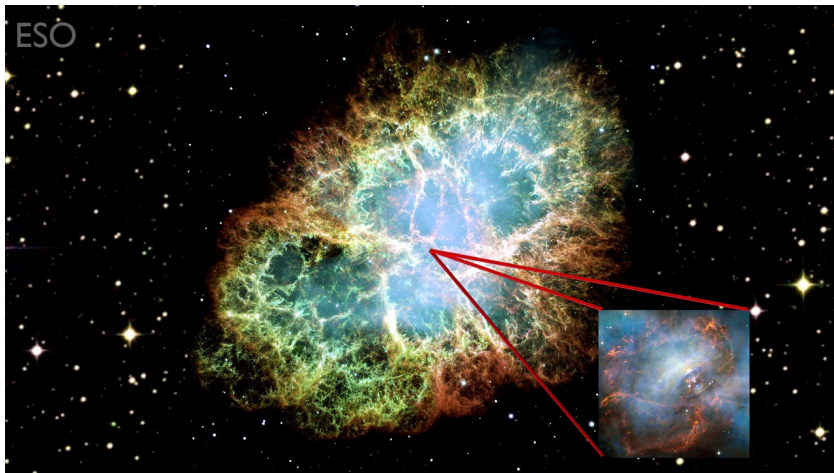
GW frequency — 72 microHz

$$h_{\text{inspiral}} \sim \frac{M_c^{5/3} f^{2/3}}{r}$$

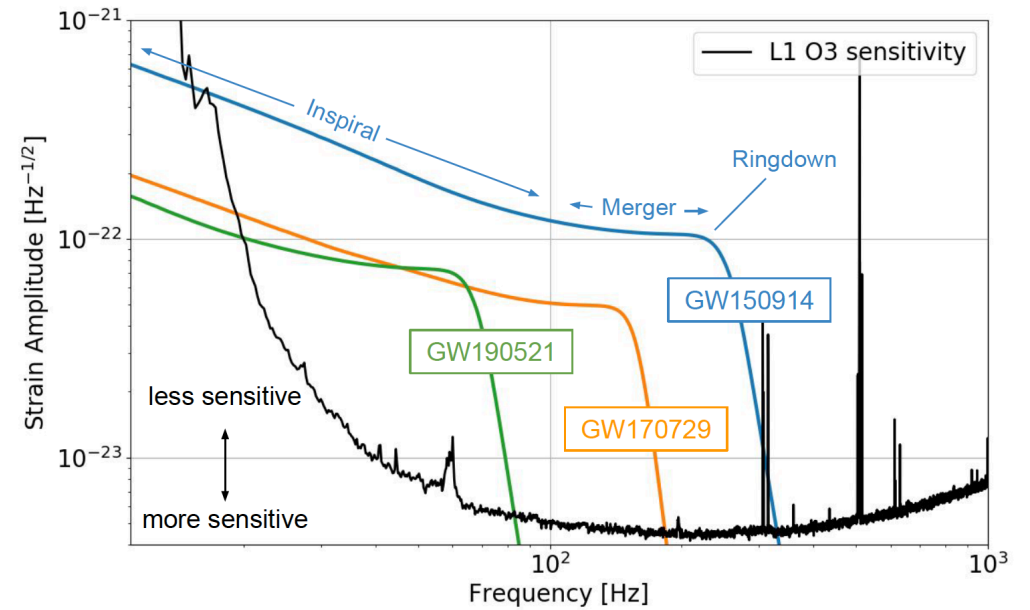
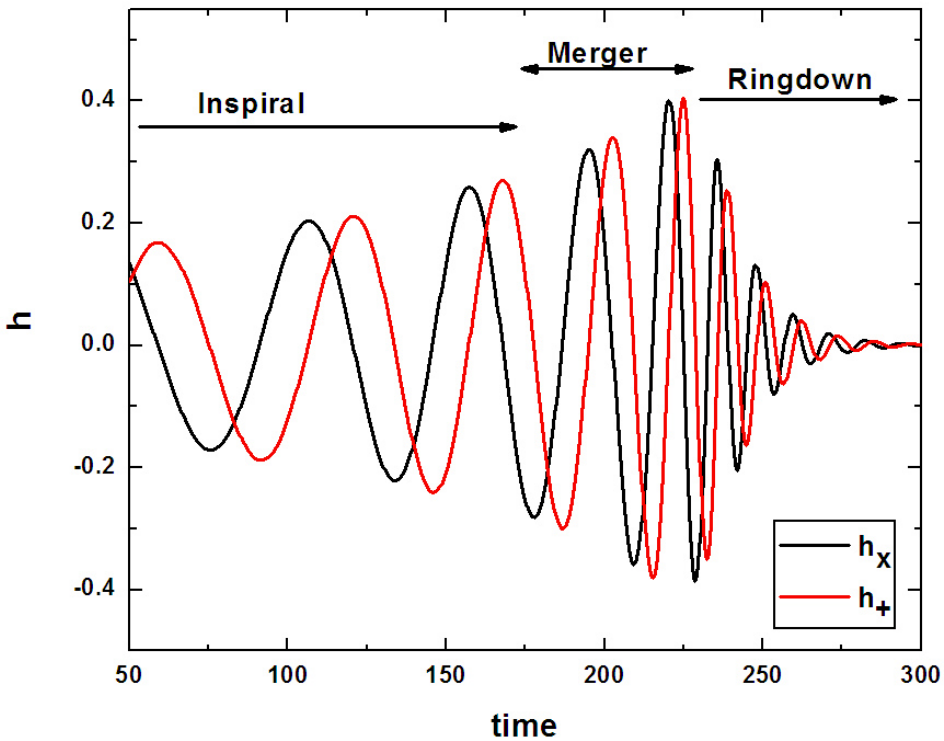
# Gravitational Wave polarizations



# Astrophysical sources of gravitational waves



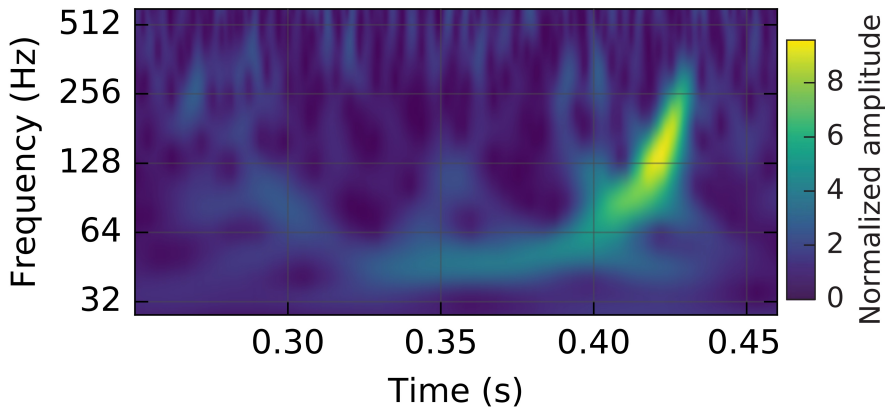
# Coalescing Compact binaries in GW detector



# Coalescing binary and time frequency morphology

LVC, Annalen der Physik (2017)

GW150914 TF morphology



Inspiral phase is characterised by redshifted chirp mass:

$$M_c = \mu^{2/5} M^{2/5} (1+z)$$

Reduced mass
Total mass

GW frequency evolution:

$$f_{GW}^{-8/3}(t) = \frac{(8\pi)^{8/3}}{5} \left( \frac{GM_c}{c^3} \right)^{5/3} (t_c - t)$$

- Signal duration of gravitational wave is 150 msec.
- Inspiral signal frequency: 30 – 150 Hz
- Inspiral phase gives chirp mass  $M_c \sim 30 M_{\text{sun}}$
- What if NS-BH system? With one NS, BH needs to be at least  $\sim 475 M_{\text{sun}}$
- Would have coalesced much faster and would not reach frequency as high 150Hz.
- Measurement of ringdown frequency gives

$$f_{GW|ringdown} \sim 260 \text{ Hz} \left( \frac{65 M_{\odot}}{M} \right)$$

More detailed data analysis – John Veitch’s talk



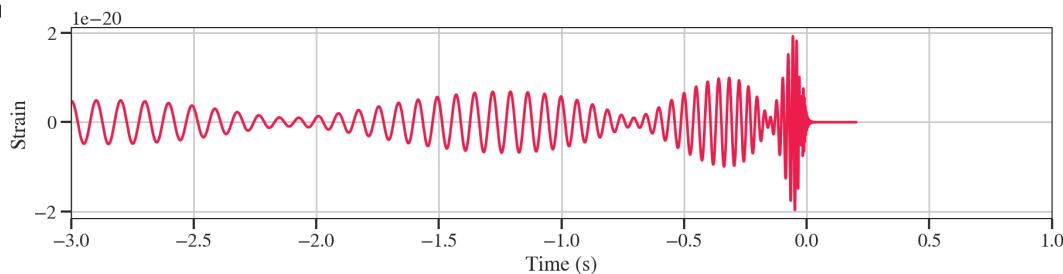
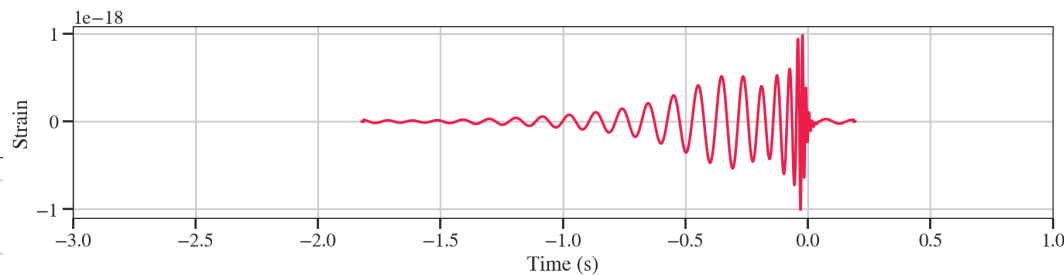
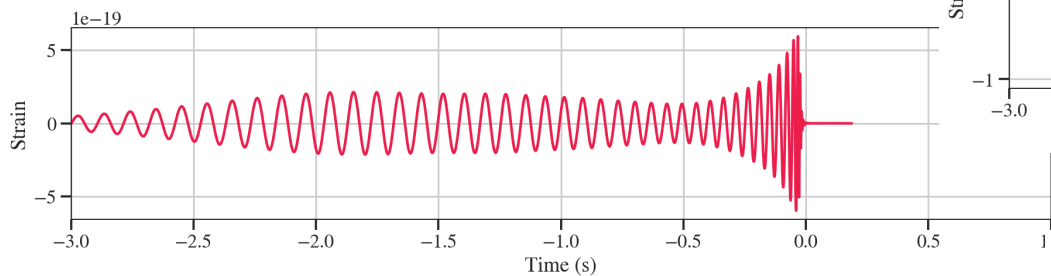
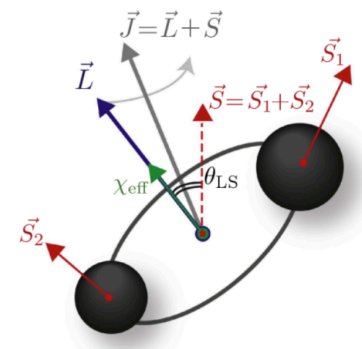
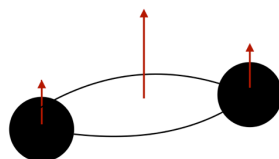
## Homework 2:

**Plot the signal duration of the inspiral phase with respect to total mass.**

**Assume equal mass binary system and consider the signal enters the detector at 15Hz.**

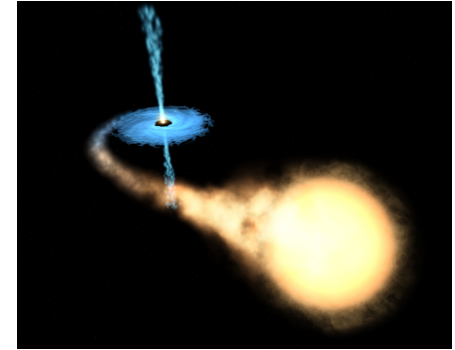
# Compact binary gravitational wave signals

- Masses and spins
- Source location and orientation in the sky
- Spin orientation with respect to the binary orbit : mis-aligned spins give precession



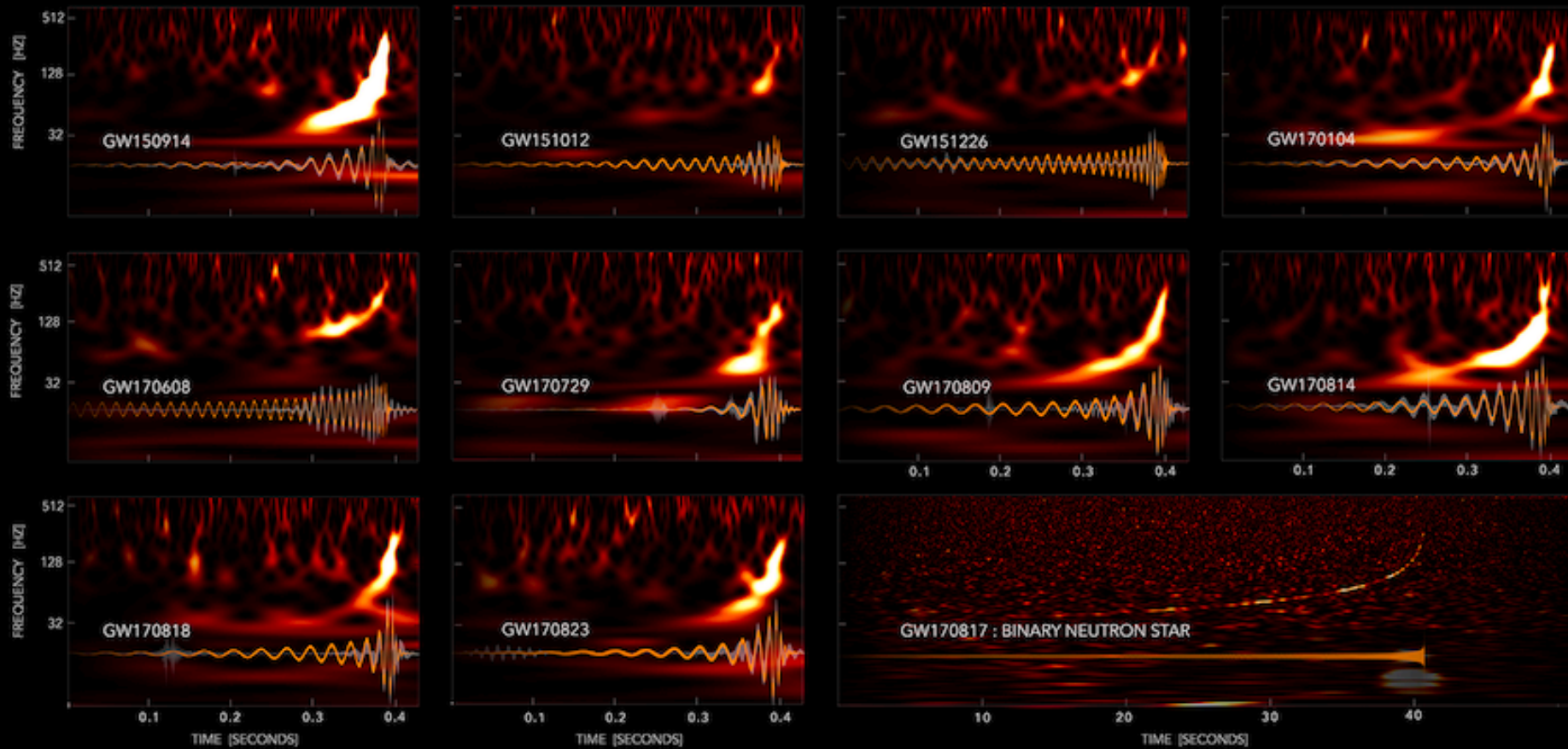
# EM observations: Classification of Black holes

- **Stellar-mass black holes: Black holes with mass  $< 100M_{\text{sun}}$** 
  - Produced due to supernova-core collapse of the massive star
  - Observed so far in X-ray, optical astronomy
- **Supermassive mass black holes: Black holes with mass  $> 1$  million  $M_{\text{sun}}$** 
  - Harbours at the centre of most of the galaxies and acts as engines of the galaxies
- **Intermediate mass black holes: Black holes which fall in-between the two.**
  - Indirect evidence of their existence in the EM astronomy
  - Direct observation of a black-hole with mass  $142 M_{\text{sun}}$  in GW window!  
**(Later in the talk)**



**First two years of gravitational wave astronomy  
(Sept 2015- August 2017)  
First two observing runs of Advanced LIGO and  
Virgo detectors**

# GRAVITATIONAL-WAVE TRANSIENT CATALOG-1



LIGO-VIRGO DATA: [HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.7935/B2H3-4H23](https://doi.org/10.7935/b2h3-4h23)

WAVELET (UNMODELED) EINSTEIN'S THEORY

IMAGE CREDIT: S. GHONGE, K. JANI | GEORGIA TECH

*Result of first two observing runs of LIGO-Virgo detectors O1 (Sept 2015-Jan 2016), O2 (Nov 2016-Aug 2017):  
Binary black holes 210 and Binary neutron star: 1*

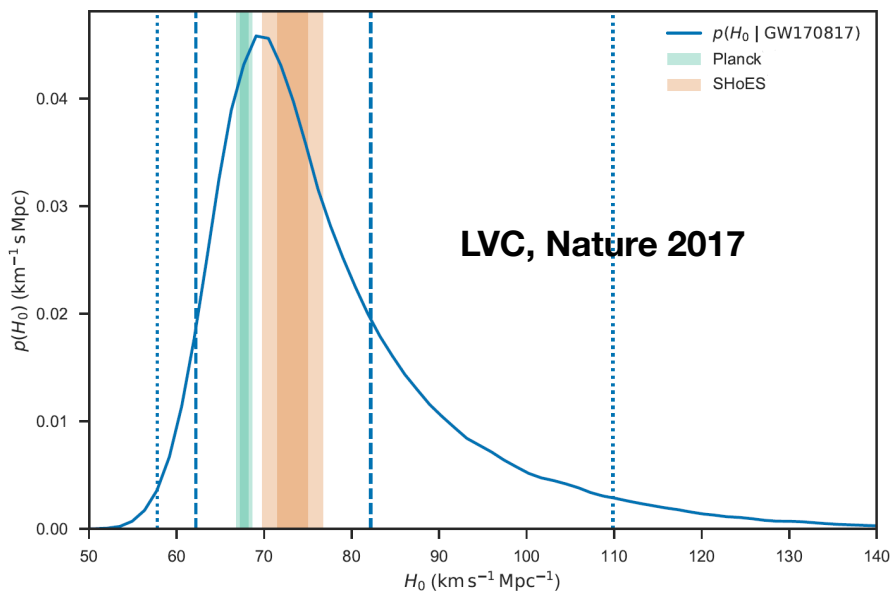
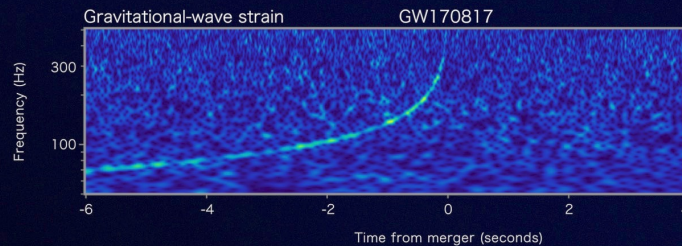
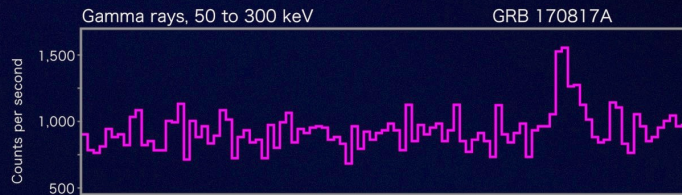
# GW170817: the first binary NS merger

- Jointly observed as binary NS merger event in GW window and short GRB in the EM telescopes
- Closest LIGO-Virgo compact binary merger event
- Closest observed short GRB event @40 Mpc

## • Implications

- Waveforms consistent with Einstein's GR
- Equation of state constraints
- Resolved short GRB progenitor puzzle
- Independent estimation of Hubble's constant with the NGC4993 galaxy association
- Constraint on the speed of gravitational waves

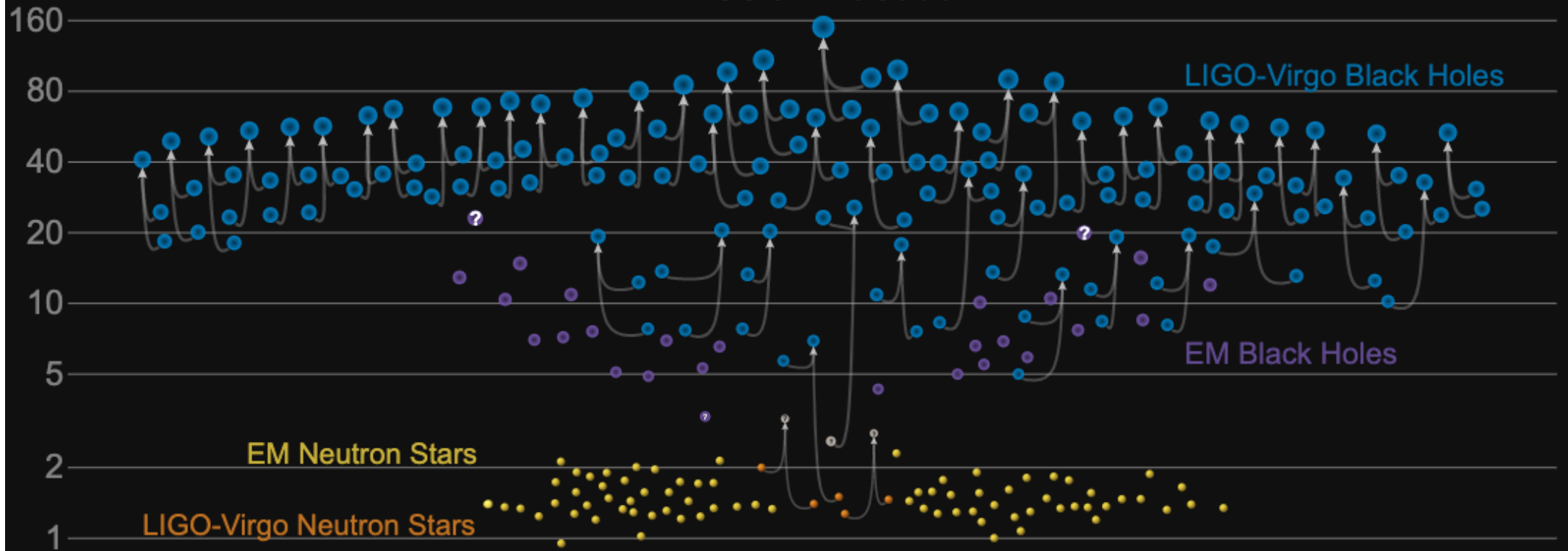
$$-3 \times 10^{-15} \leq \frac{v_{\text{GW}} - v_{\text{EM}}}{v_{\text{EM}}} \leq 7 \times 10^{-16}$$



**First Five years of gravitational wave  
astronomy!**  
**Three observing runs of advanced detectors  
are complete**

# Masses in the Stellar Graveyard

*in Solar Masses*

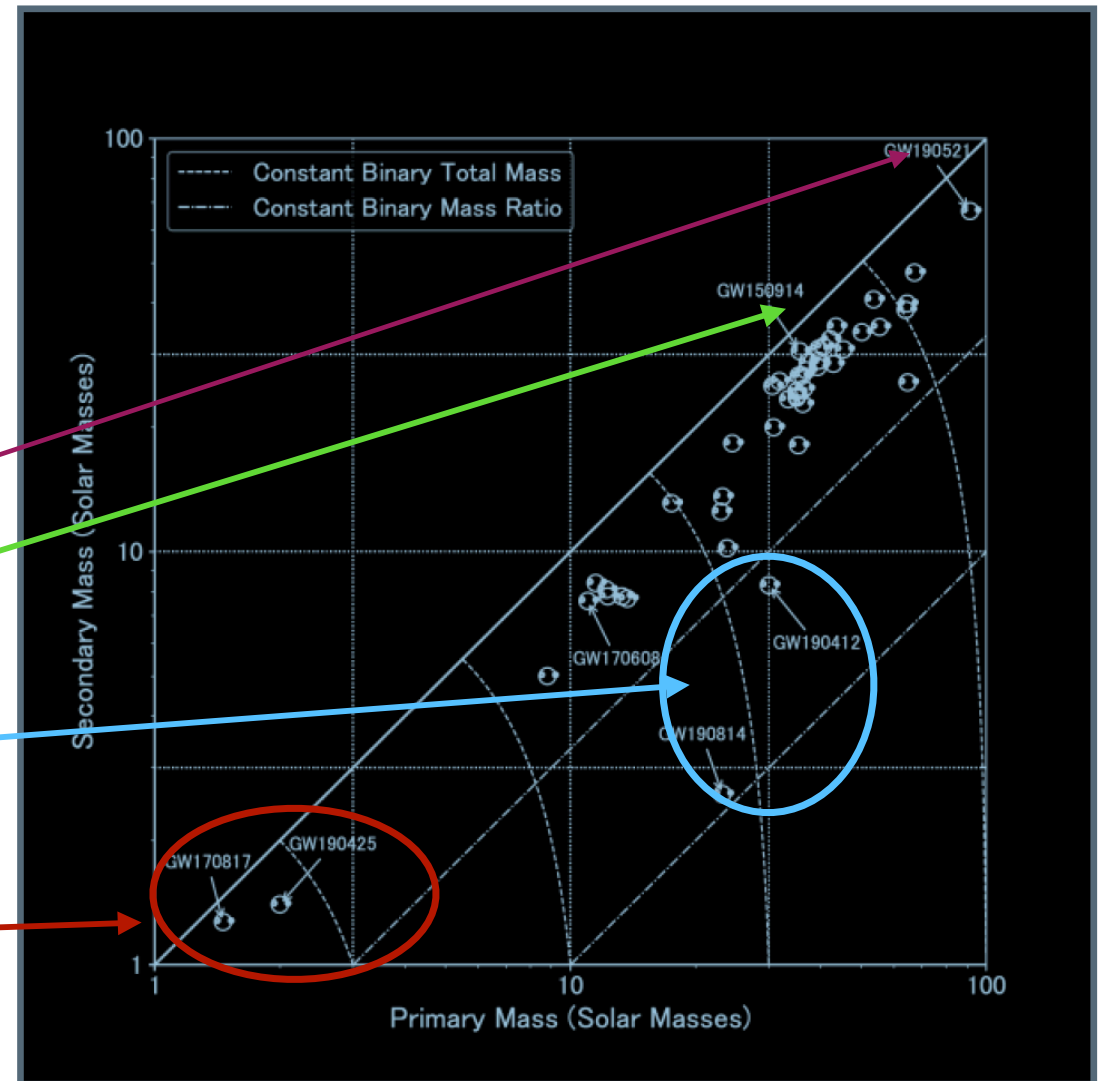


GWTC-2 plot v1.0  
LIGO-Virgo | Frank Elavsky, Aaron Geller | Northwestern



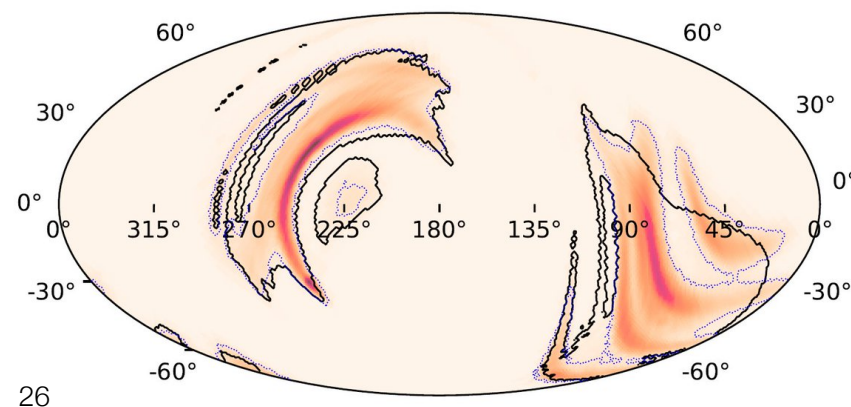
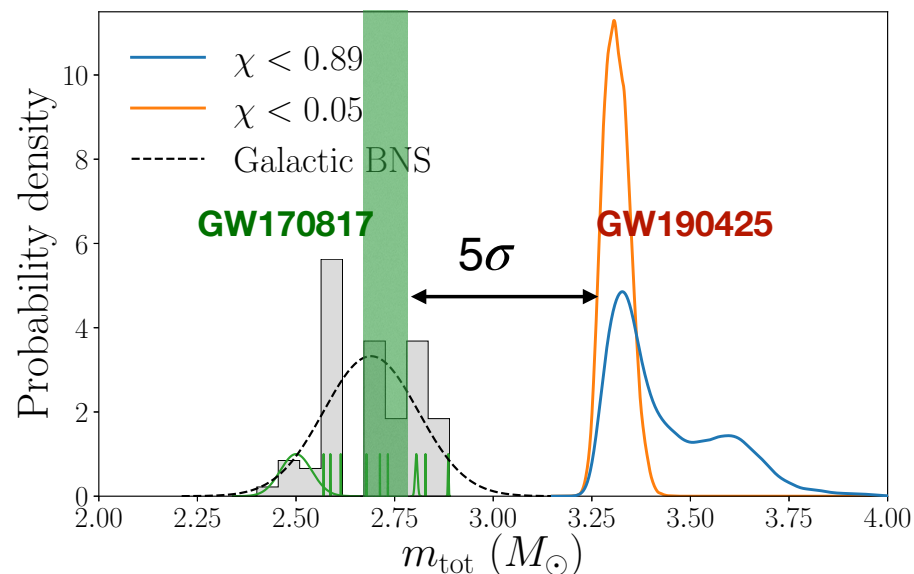
# Masses of the observed compact binaries

- Most of them are **nearly equal mass systems**.
- For a fixed total mass, GW signal from equal mass system is longer (louder) than un-equal mass systems.
- **Most massive remnant: GW190521**
- **First GW detection : GW150914**
- **Two systems showed asymmetry : GW190814 and GW190412**
- **Binary NS : GW170817, GW190425**



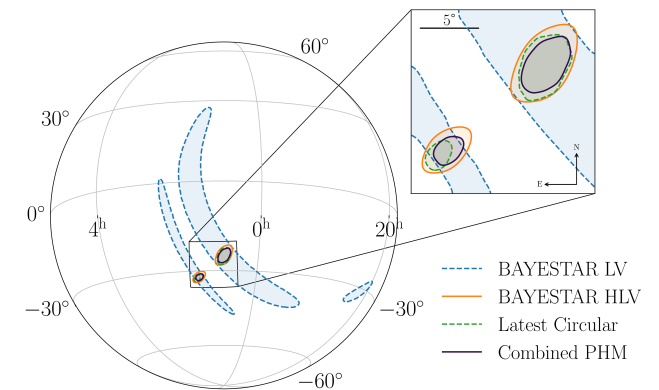
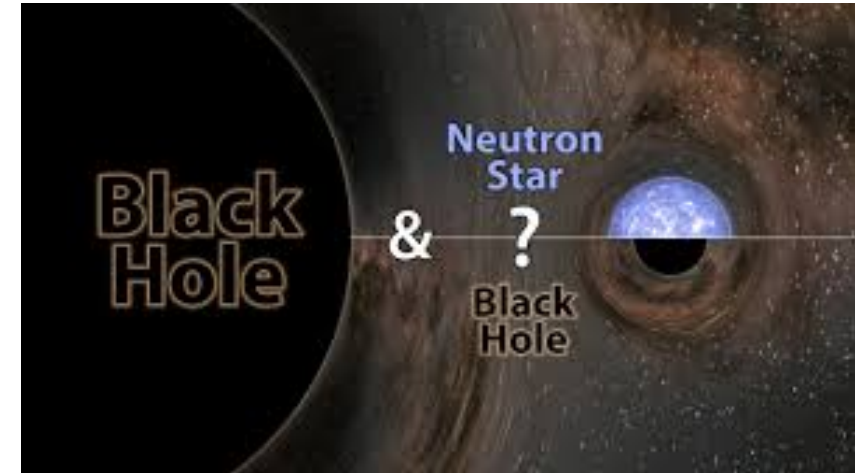
# GW190425: Heaviest NS observed so far

- Primary: 1.6-2.5  $M_{\text{sun}}$  — on the higher end. Most massive pulsar PSR 0740-6620 has mass 2.05-2.24  $M_{\text{sun}}$
- Total mass: 3.3-3.7  $M_{\text{sun}}$   
Heaviest system so far. Large deviation from the total mass distribution of the galactic NS binaries
- Large sky map 8000 sq. deg
- No confirmed EM and neutrinos detected, so far
- Distance: 150 Mpc



# GW190814: Most asymmetric compact binary

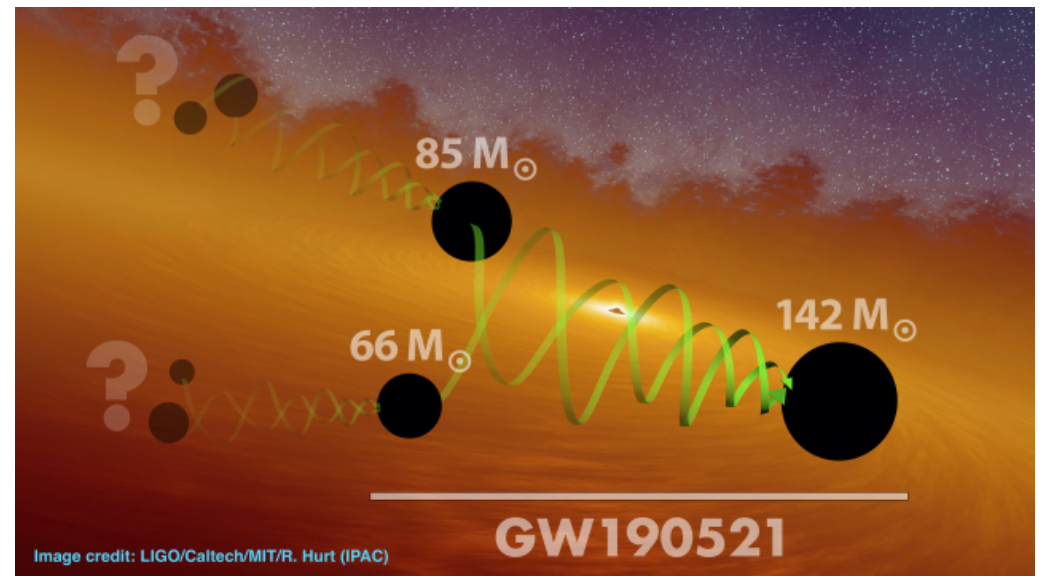
- 23.2 Msun + 2.6Msun  $\rightarrow$  25.6 Msun
- Secondary is either lightest BH/heaviest NS. Though no clear evidence of NS but can not be ruled out.
- Distance: 240 Mpc
- **Raises important challenges on the compact binary formation scenarios**
- **Evidence of Higher order modes.**
- Sky localisation of 20 square degrees — best sky-localised compact binary so far with no EM counterpart
- Implications: Obtain Hubble's constant using the galaxies in the sky-patch. Not so constraining given the single observation (More later)



LVC, ApJ Lett. 896, 2 (2020)

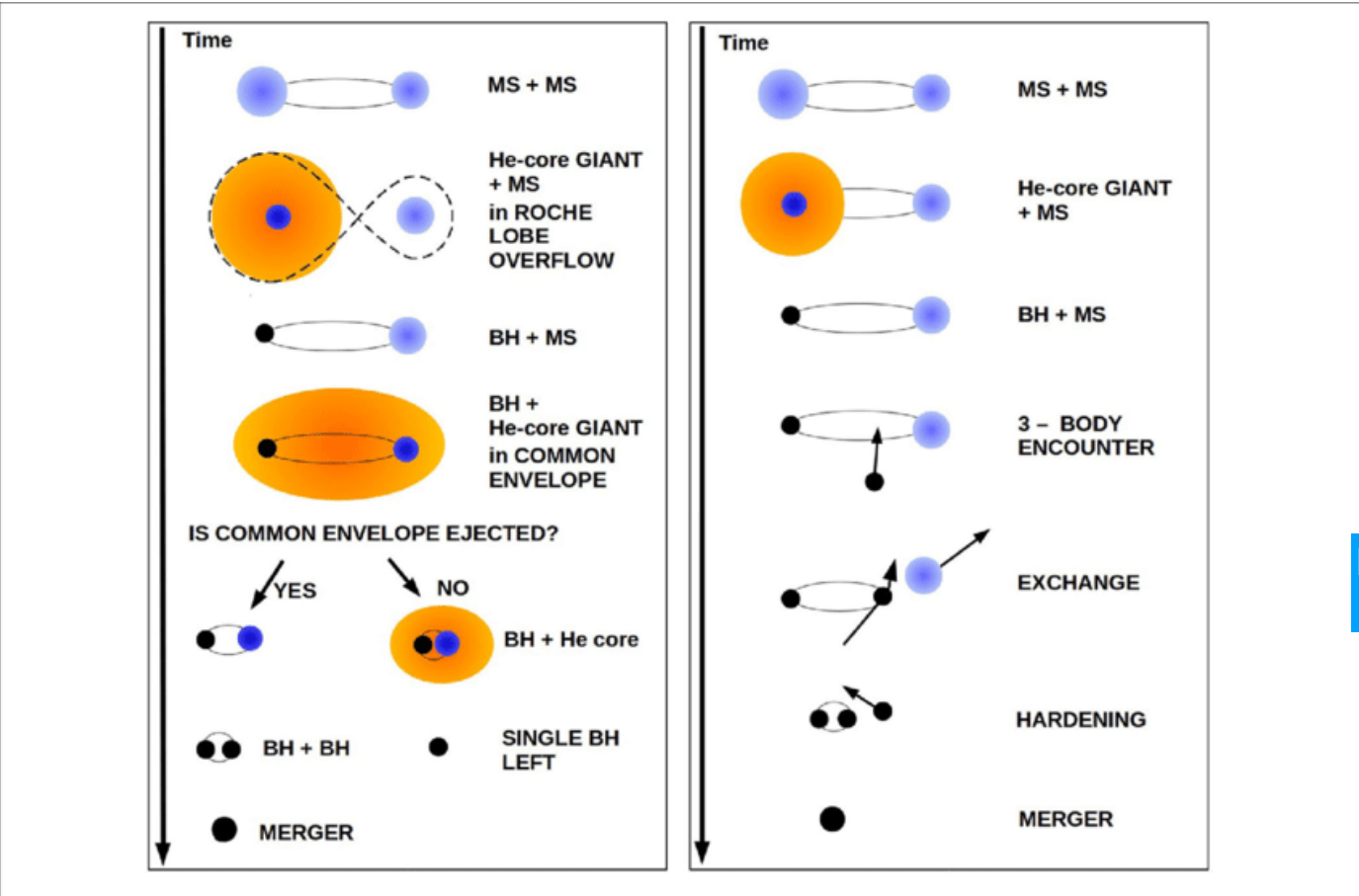
# GW190521: Most massive black hole binary so far!

- Most massive stellar binary BBH system observed so far.
- Most distant GW source @ 5Gpc.
- Remnant mass is an IMBH (142 Msun).
- First direct evidence of existence of IMBH with mass below 1000 Msun.
- Possibility of massive black hole formation channel other than core collapse supernova

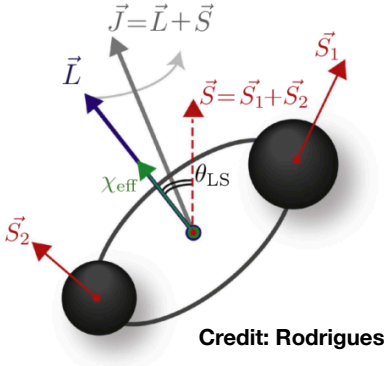


# Black-hole binary formation

Isolated binary formation

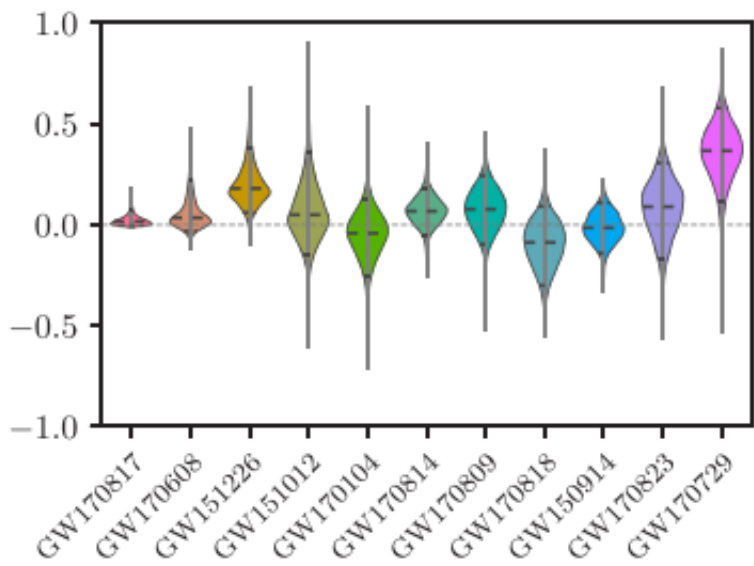


Credit: Michela

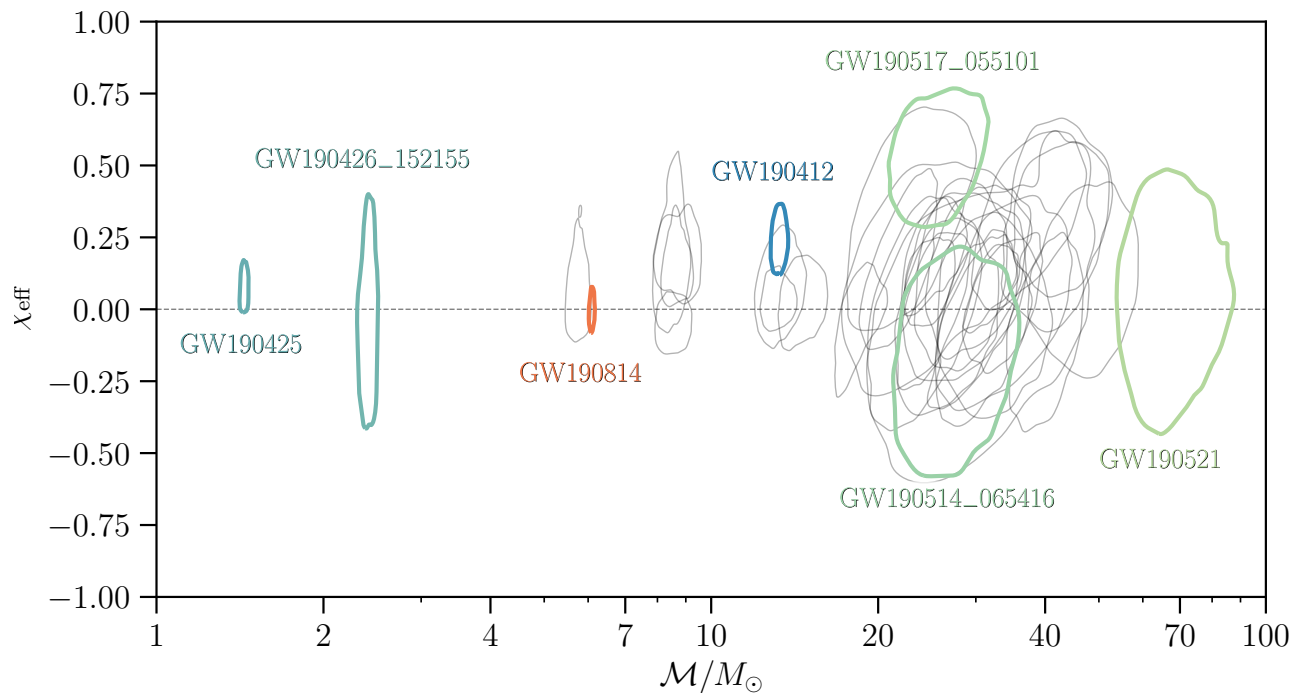


Binary in the crowded environment

# Spins of the binary mergers



LVC, GWTC-1



LVC, GWTC-2

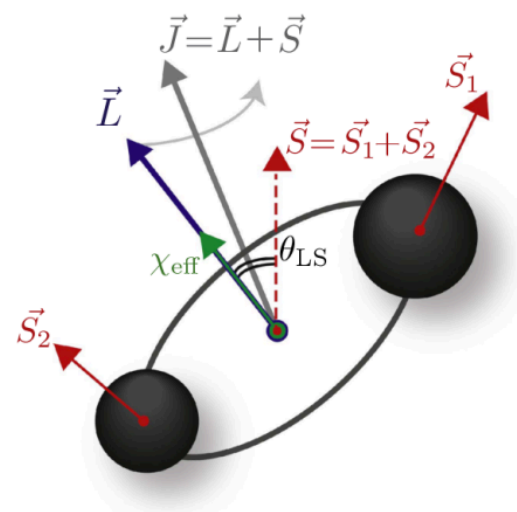
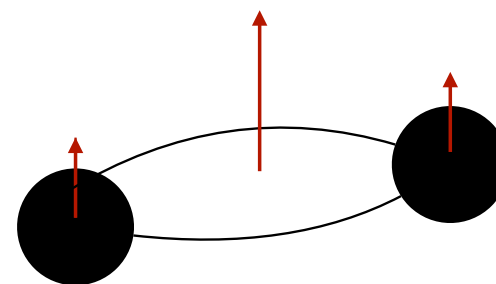
- Most of them are nearly low spin, closed to small

$$\chi_{\text{eff}} = \frac{(m_1 \vec{\chi}_1 + m_2 \vec{\chi}_2) \cdot \hat{L}_N}{M},$$

- Few anti-aligned and some show precession e.g GW170729, GW190517\_055101, GW190514\_065416, GW190521

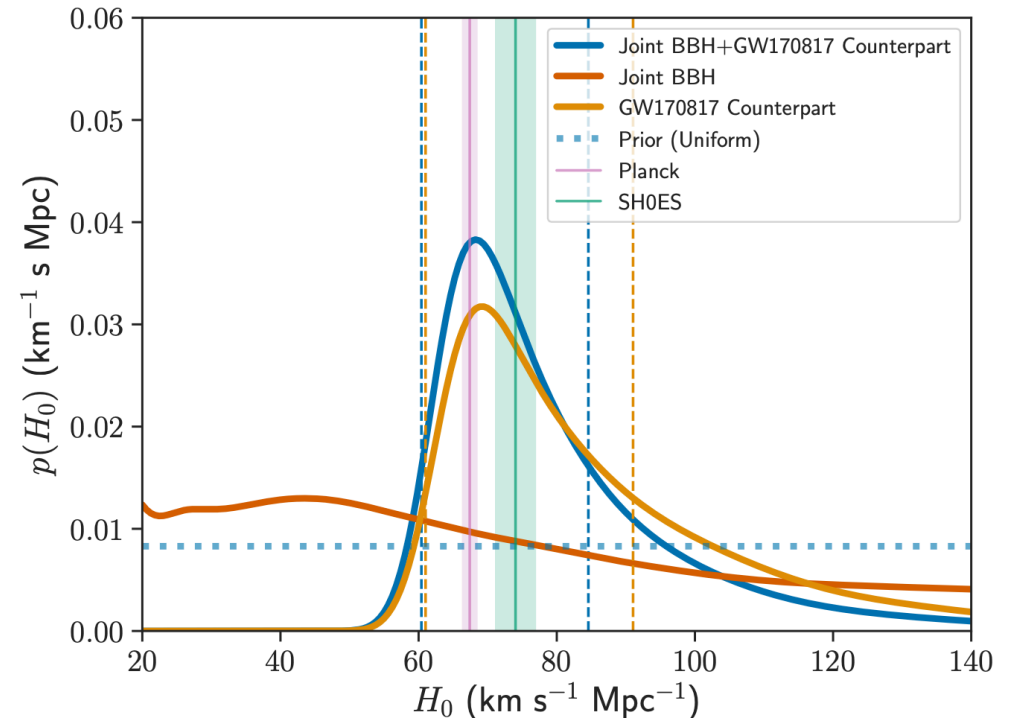
# Observed black-hole binaries in GW astronomy

- Most of them are **nearly equal mass systems**.
- Most of them are **aligned system**.
- Isolated black-holes — **Expected to be aligned**
- Binaries formed in the crowded environment — **Randomly oriented**



# Probing cosmology with GW observations

- Coalescing compact binary observations provide an independent measure of the Hubble's constant
- BNS observation in GW window (Luminosity distance measurement) + associated galaxy and redshift measurement  $\rightarrow$  Hubble's constant [Multi-messenger observation of GW170817]
- Improved sky location of binary BH system with the network + information of known galaxies in the sky-patch with redshift information  $\rightarrow$  Hubble constant estimate





# Astrophysical merger rate estimates

- Binary NS merger rate estimates  $R_{\text{BNS}} = 320^{+490}_{-240} \text{ Gpc}^{-3} \text{ yr}^{-1}$

- Consistent with the lower black hole mass gap of 2.6 Msun- 6 Msun

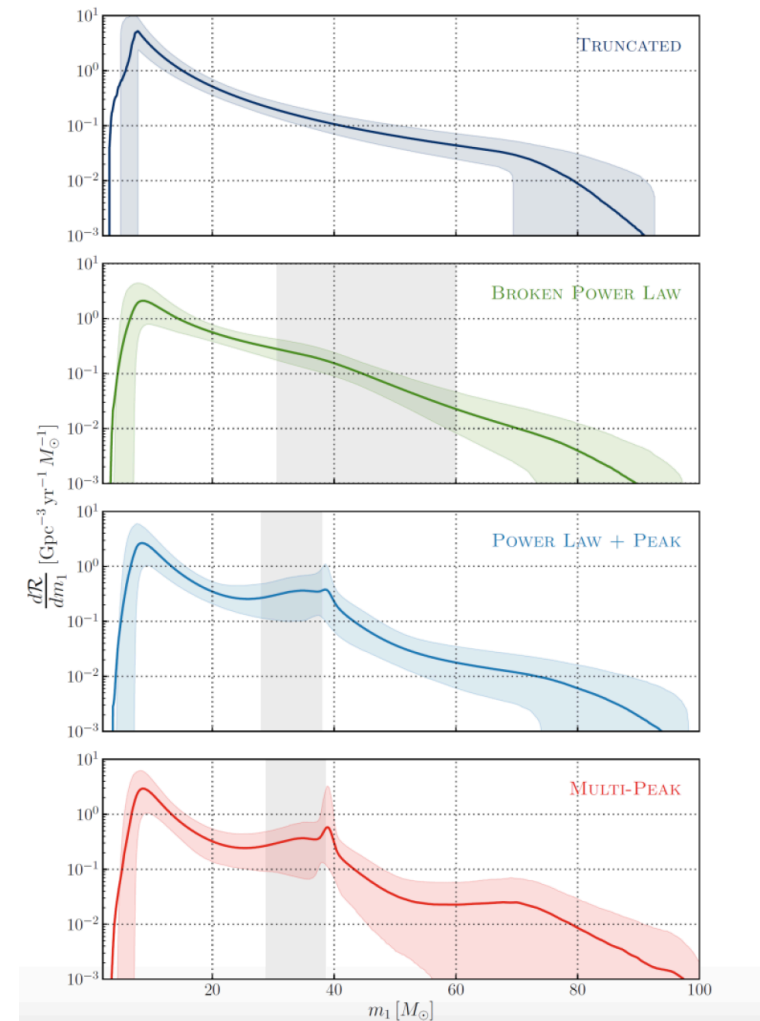
- The detections show evidence of distribution not following a simple power law — Need to account for massive black holes

- Models with peak in the distribution by incorporating Gaussian profile in addition to the power law is preferred by the data.

- Binary BH merger rate estimates

$$R_{\text{BBH}} = 23.9^{+14.9}_{-8.6} \text{ Gpc}^{-3} \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

LVC, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2010.14533>





LIGO Hanford



GEO600



KAGRA

LIGO Livingston

Virgo

LIGO India

Goal is to join observations end of 2019



A third LIGO detector in India (2025/2026)

# Gravitational Wave Observatories

# Thank you for attention

## Stay tuned

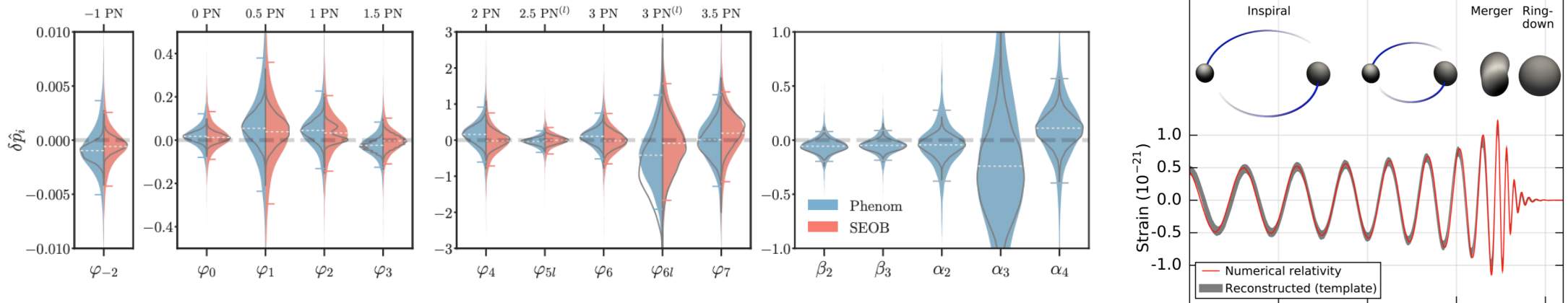
List of resources:

Black hole hunter game — <https://blackholehunter.org/>

GW open science page — <https://www.gw-openscience.org/about/>

Open public alert: <https://gracedb.ligo.org/superevents/public/O3/>

# Testing Einstein's theory with observations



- Signatures of GR are embedded in the Gravitational wave signal.
- Deviations from GR can be captured by matching the data with the predicted GR signal.
- Various parts of the signal are found to be consistent with GR.
- **Observations are consistent with the Einstein's GR.**

# Intermediate mass black holes

- Black holes with mass  $> 100 M_{\text{sun}}$  and mass below supermassive black holes
- IMBH candidates exist in X-ray astronomy
- HLX1: Most promising IMBH candidate
  - Power radiated  $10^{32} \text{ Watts}$   
(million times that of our Sun)
  - Estimated mass  $\sim 100,000 M_{\text{sun}}$
- Direct observation of black hole with mass  $142 M_{\text{sun}}$  in gravitational wave window  
[Later in this talk]

