

Title: Rattle and Shine: Joint Detection of Gravitational Waves and Light from the Binary Neutron Star Merger GW170817

Date: Nov 06, 2017 02:00 PM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/17110067>

Abstract: <p>The much-anticipated joint detection of gravitational waves and electromagnetic radiation was achieved for the first time on August 17, 2017, for the binary neutron star merger GW170817. This event was detected by Advanced LIGO/Virgo, gamma-ray satellites, and dozens of telescopes on the ground and in space spanning from radio to X-rays. In this talk I will describe the exciting discovery of the optical counterpart, which in turn led to several detailed studies across the electromagnetic spectrum. The results of the observations carried out by our team include the first detailed study of a "kilonova", an optical/infrared counterpart powered by the radioactive decay of r-process nuclei synthesized in the merger, as well as the detection of an off-axis jet powering radio and X-ray emission. These results provide the first direct evidence that neutron star mergers are the dominant site for the r-process and are the progenitors of short GRBs. I will also describe how studies of the host galaxy shed light on the merger timescale, and describe initial constraints on the Hubble Constant from the combined GW and EM detection. </p>

Rattle and Shine: The Joint Detection of Gravitational Waves and Light from the Binary Neutron Star Merger GW170817

Dark Energy Camera / CTIO
i-band
Time Relative to 2017 August 17



+0.5 days

Credit: P. S. Cowperthwaite / E. Berger
Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

Edo Berger (Harvard University)

*K. Alexander, P. Blanchard, R. Chornock, P. Cowperthwaite, T. Eftekhari, W. Fong, D. Kasen,
R. Margutti, B. Metzger, M. Nicholl, M. Soares-Santos, P. Williams, +DES*

Short Gamma-Ray Bursts and the Electromagnetic Counterparts of Gravitational Wave Sources

*Edo Berger
Harvard University*

Perimeter Institute — September 2013

Short Gamma-Ray Bursts and the Electromagnetic Counterparts of Gravitational Wave Sources

- Since short GRBs are most likely NS-NS systems, we have already seen the on-axis EM counterparts of mergers
- The detection of EM counterparts to GW sources is challenging; optical/ γ -ray searches offer the best approach

Edo Berger
Harvard University

Perimeter Institute — September 2013

The Key Players



Ashley Villar



Kate Alexander



Phil Cowperthwaite



Peter Blanchard



Tarraneh Eftekhari

Matt Nicholl

Peter Williams

Wen-fai Fong
(Northwestern)

Raffaella Margutti
(Northwestern)

Ryan Chornock
(Ohio University)



Where to Find All the Details

*The Electromagnetic Counterpart of the Binary Neutron Star Merger
LIGO/Virgo GW170817**

** Published on October 16, 2017*

Where to Find All the Details

*The Electromagnetic Counterpart of the Binary Neutron Star Merger LIGO/Virgo GW170817**

- I. **Discovery of the Optical Counterpart Using the Dark Energy Camera** (Soares-Santos, EB et al.)
- II. **UV, Optical, and Near-infrared Light Curves and Comparison to Kilonova Models** (Cowperthwaite, EB et al.)
- III. **Optical and UV Spectra of a Blue Kilonova from Fast Polar Ejecta** (Nicholl, EB et al.)
- IV. **Detection of Near-infrared Signatures of r-process Nucleosynthesis with Gemini-South** (Chornock, EB et al.)
- V. **Rising X-Ray Emission from an Off-axis Jet** (Margutti, EB et al.)
- VI. **Radio Constraints on a Relativistic Jet and Predictions for Late-time Emission from the Kilonova Ejecta** (Alexander, EB et al.)
- VII. **Properties of the Host Galaxy and Constraints on the Merger Timescale** (Blanchard, EB et al.)

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- VIII. **A Comparison to Cosmological Short-duration Gamma-Ray Bursts** (Fong, EB et al.)

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Where to Find All the Details

- **How Many Kilonovae Can Be Found in Past, Present, and Future Survey Datasets?** (Scolnic, EB et al.)
- **Multi-messenger Observations of a Binary Neutron Star Merger** (Abbott et al. + EB)
- **A gravitational-wave standard siren measurement of the Hubble constant** (Abbott et al. + EB)
- **Improved constraints on H_0 from a combined analysis of gravitational-wave and electromagnetic emission from GW170817** (Guidorzi et al.)
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<http://kilonova.org>

Papers, popular level and technical materials, **data**

An Unparalleled Story of Firsts

- First gravitational wave detection of a neutron star binary merger
- **First joint detection of gravitational waves and electromagnetic radiation**
- First direct confirmation that short GRBs result from neutron star binary mergers

An Unparalleled Story of Firsts

- First gravitational wave detection of a neutron star binary merger
- First joint detection of gravitational waves and electromagnetic radiation
- First direct confirmation that short GRBs result from neutron star binary mergers
- First detection of an off-axis short GRB
- First direct evidence for *r*-process nucleosynthesis in a neutron star binary merger
- First evidence that *r*-process nucleosynthesis is dominated by neutron star binary mergers
- First use of a neutron star binary merger “standard siren” approach to measuring the Hubble Constant
- Best constraints on the relative speed of light and gravity

Outline

- What can we learn from EM counterparts?
- What can we learn about EM counterparts from short GRBs?
- What kinds of EM counterparts do we expect?
- GW170817 from radio to gamma-rays
 - *Discovery of the optical counterpart*
 - *UV/optical/IR light curves: multiple ejecta components + origins*
 - *Optical/IR spectroscopy: r-process nucleosynthesis*
 - *Radio / X-ray detections: off-axis jet + connection to short GRBs*
 - *Host galaxy properties: merger timescale*
 - *Hubble constant constraints*
- Future directions

Electromagnetic Counterparts: Why & What

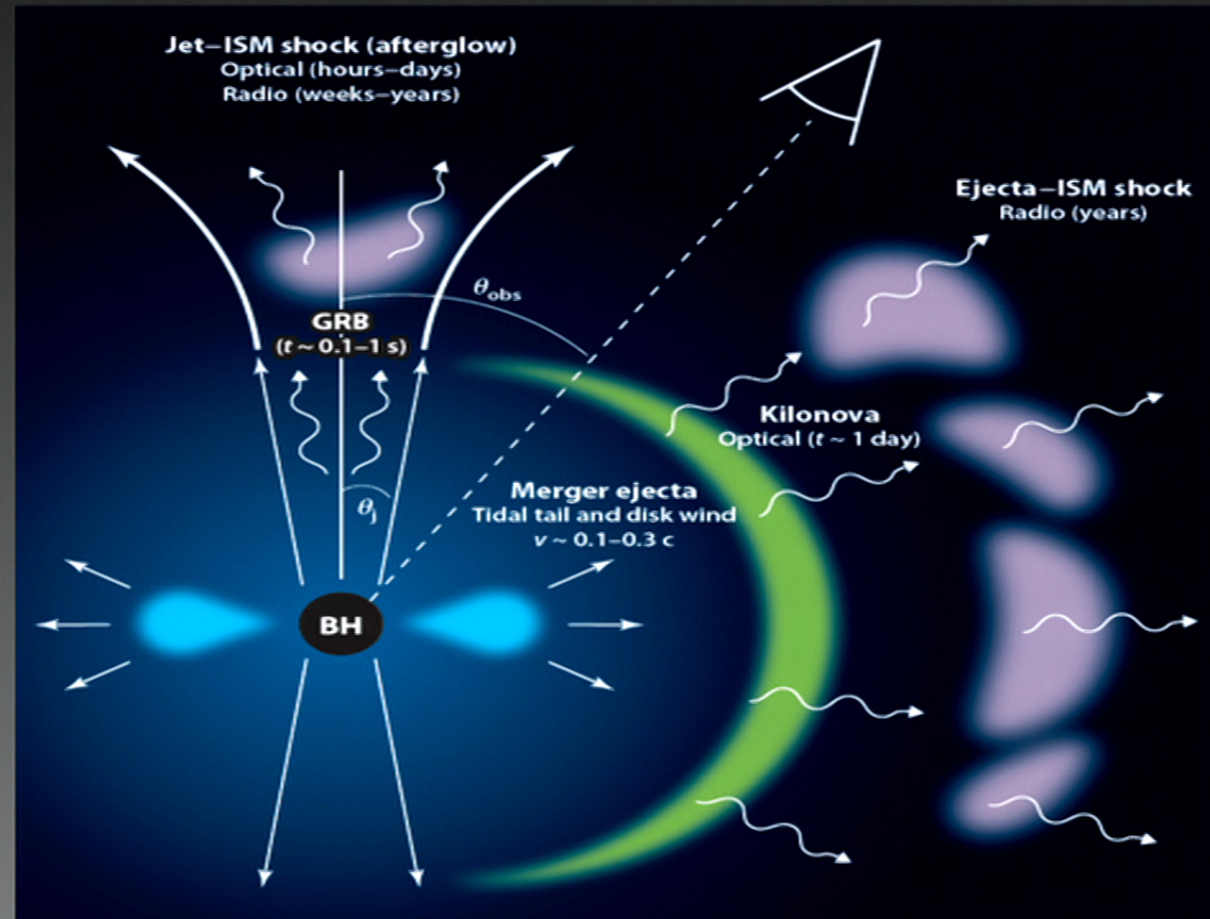
- Distance
- Host / context
- Behavior of matter
- Nature of remnant

Electromagnetic Counterparts: Why & What

- Distance
- Host / context
- Behavior of matter
- Nature of remnant

Predicted EM emission beamed and isotropic, relativistic and non-relativistic, multi- λ .

(short GRB, kilonova, ejecta/ISM interaction, speculative components)



Metzger & EB 2012

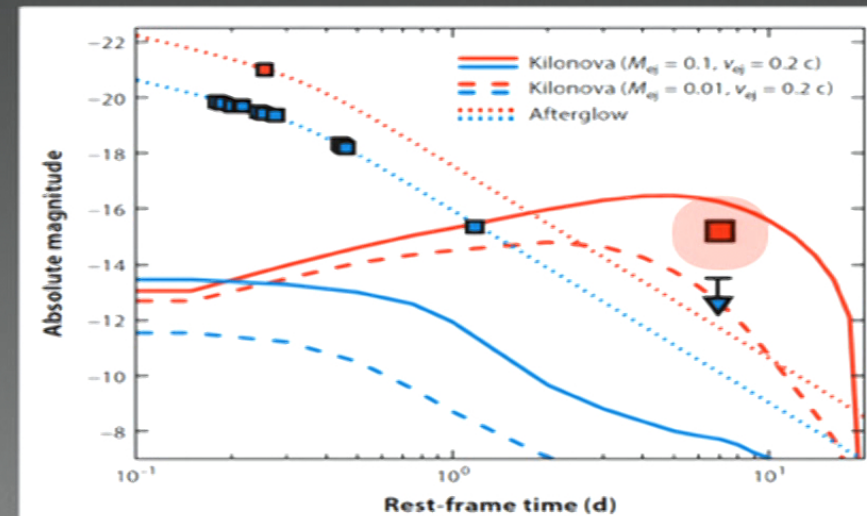
Short GRBs as BNS Merger Counterparts

- No SNe / elliptical hosts \Rightarrow old progenitor population
- Host galaxy demographics \Rightarrow broad delay-time distribution ($P \propto T^{-1}$; consistent with Galactic BNS)
- Spatial offset distribution \Rightarrow natal kicks of $\sim 10-10^2$ km/s
- Afterglows $\Rightarrow E_K \sim \text{few} \times 10^{49}$ erg, $n \sim 0.01$ cm $^{-3}$, $\theta_{\text{jet}} \sim 10^\circ$

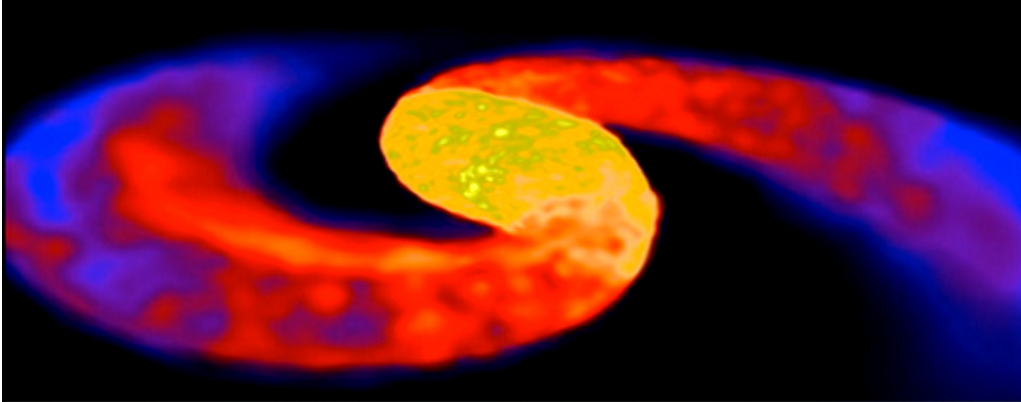
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- GRB130603B \Rightarrow signature of *r*-process nucleosynthesis?

EB et al. 2013; Tanvir et al. 2013



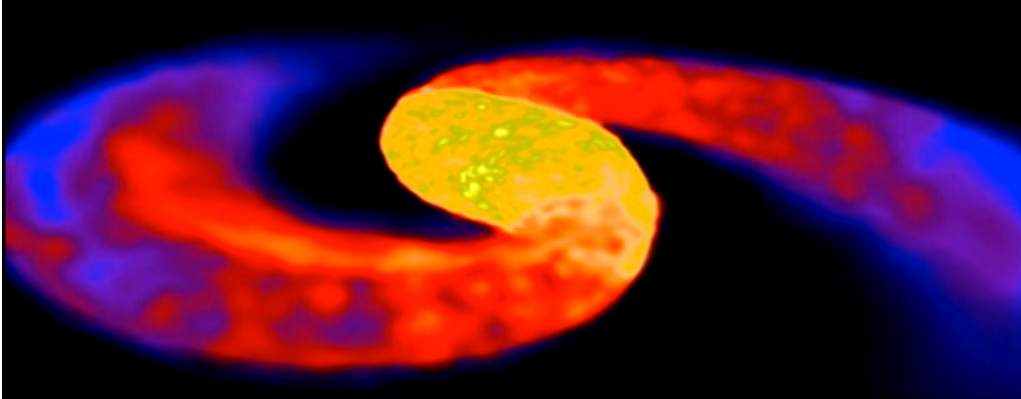
r-Process Nucleosynthesis: “Kilonova”



- Tidal tails
- Shocked interface
- Accretion disk outflows

Li & Paczynski 1998; Metzger et al. 2008; Rosswog et al. 2012; Kasen et al. 2013

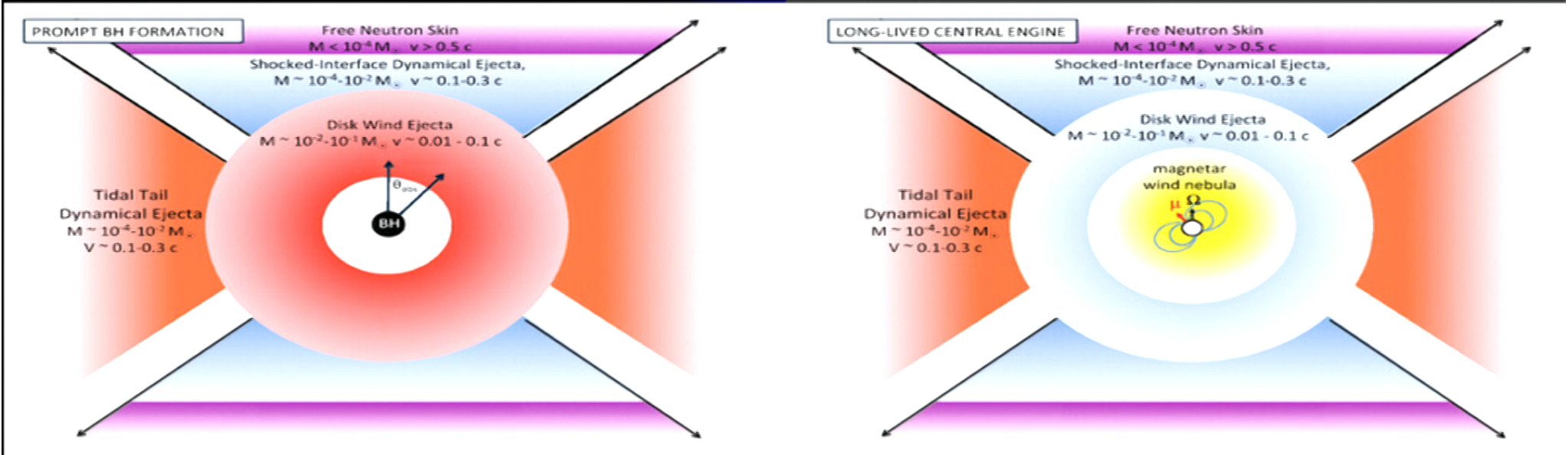
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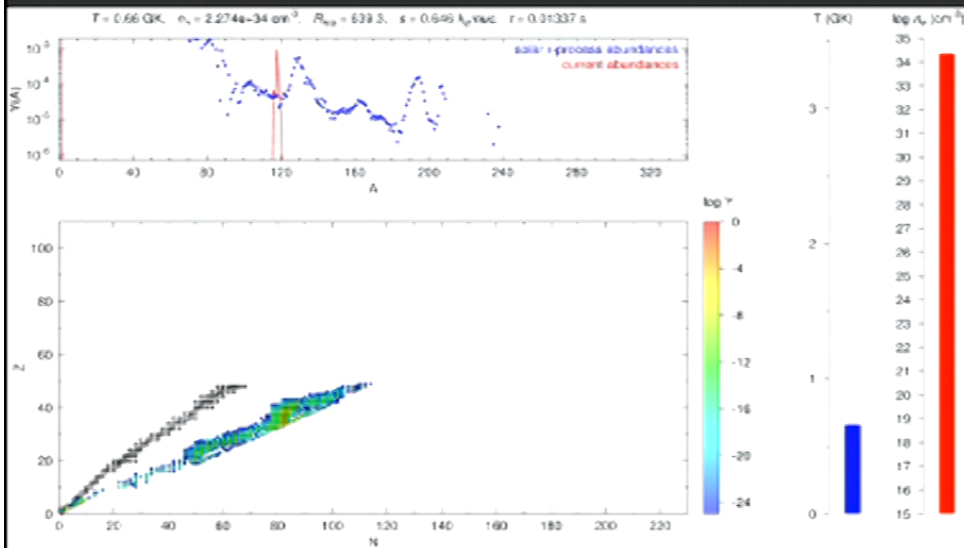
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Metzger 2017



r-Process Nucleosynthesis: “Kilonova”

Decompressed n-rich ejecta
⇒ *r*-process ($A > 130$)



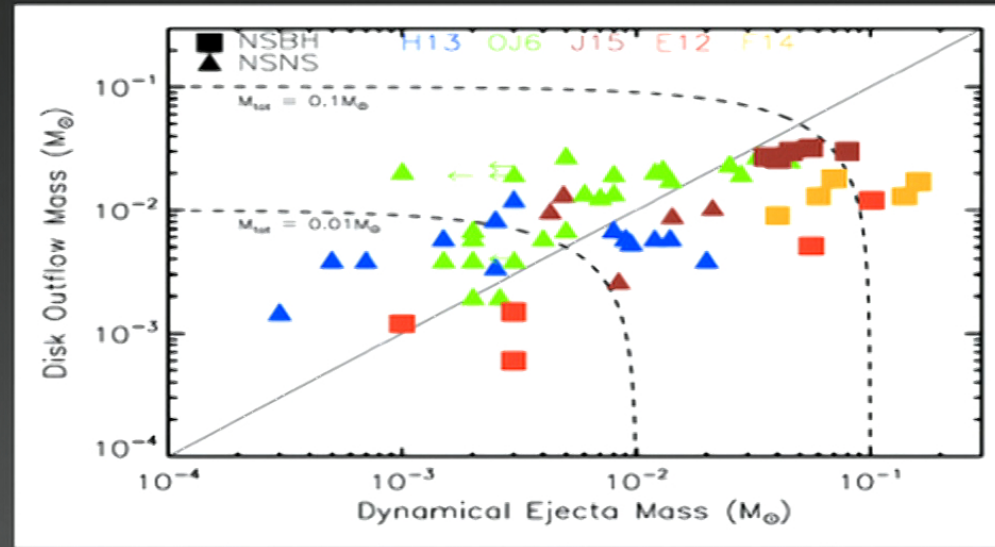
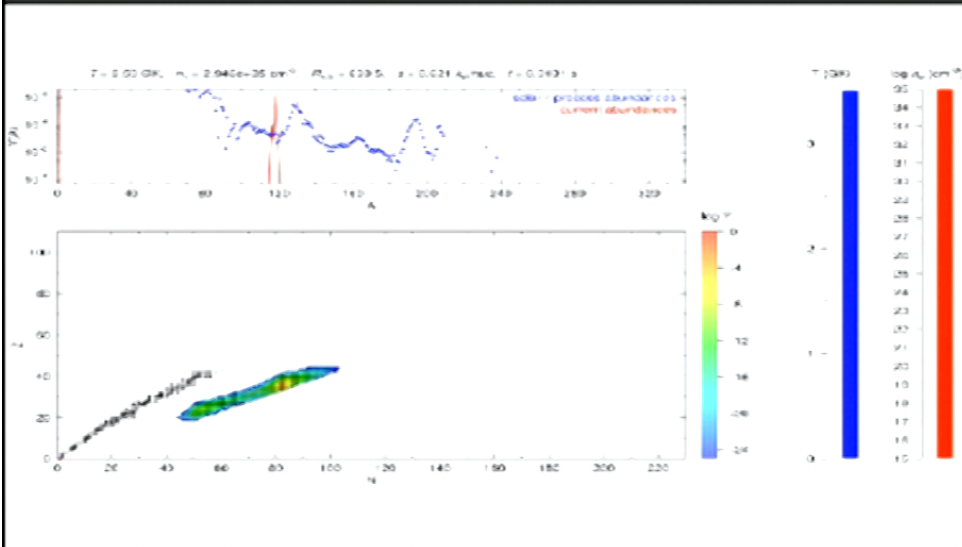
Gabriel Martinez Pinedo

r-Process Nucleosynthesis: “Kilonova”

Decompressed n-rich ejecta
 \Rightarrow r-process ($A > 130$)

Ejecta mass: $\sim 10^{-3} - 0.1 M_{\odot}$

Metzger 2017



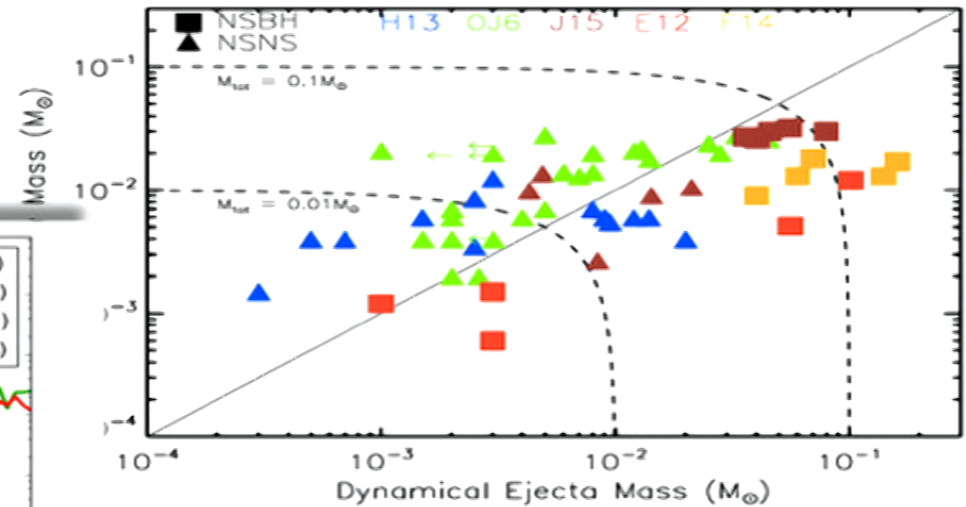
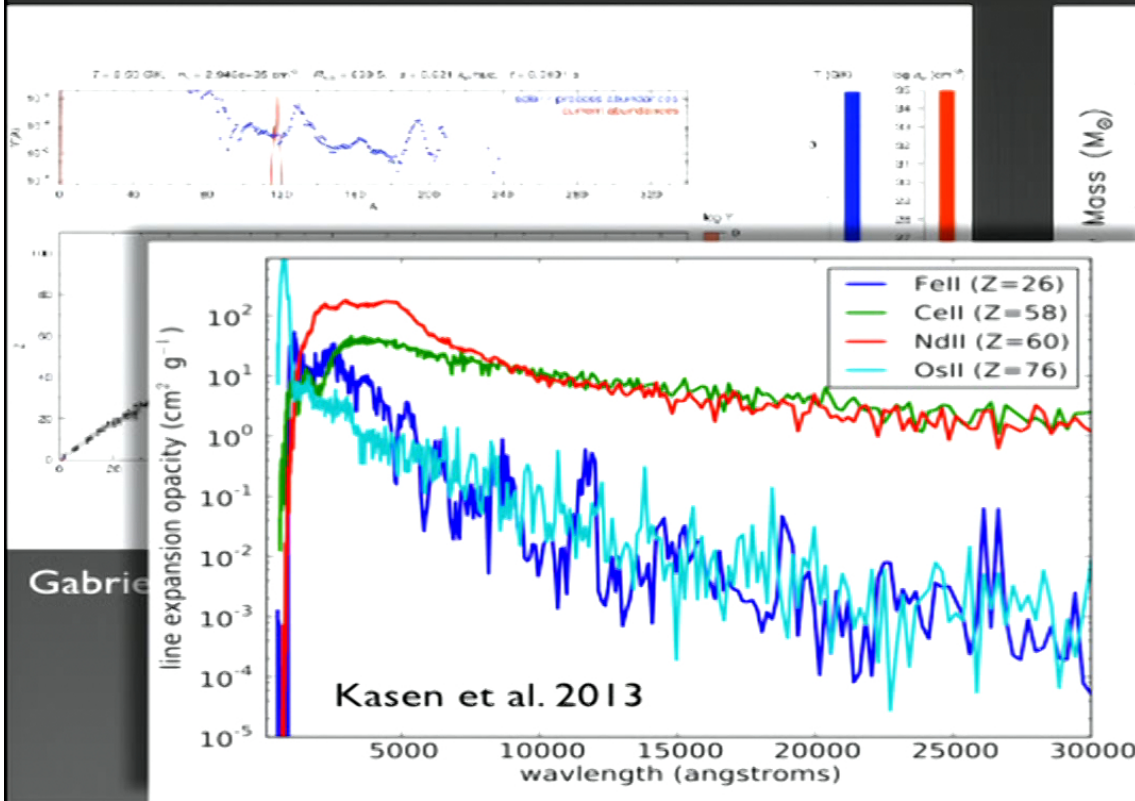
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Metzger 2017



Opacity: $\sim 100 \times \kappa_{\text{Fe}}$ (10–100 cm^2/g in optical) if lanthanides are present

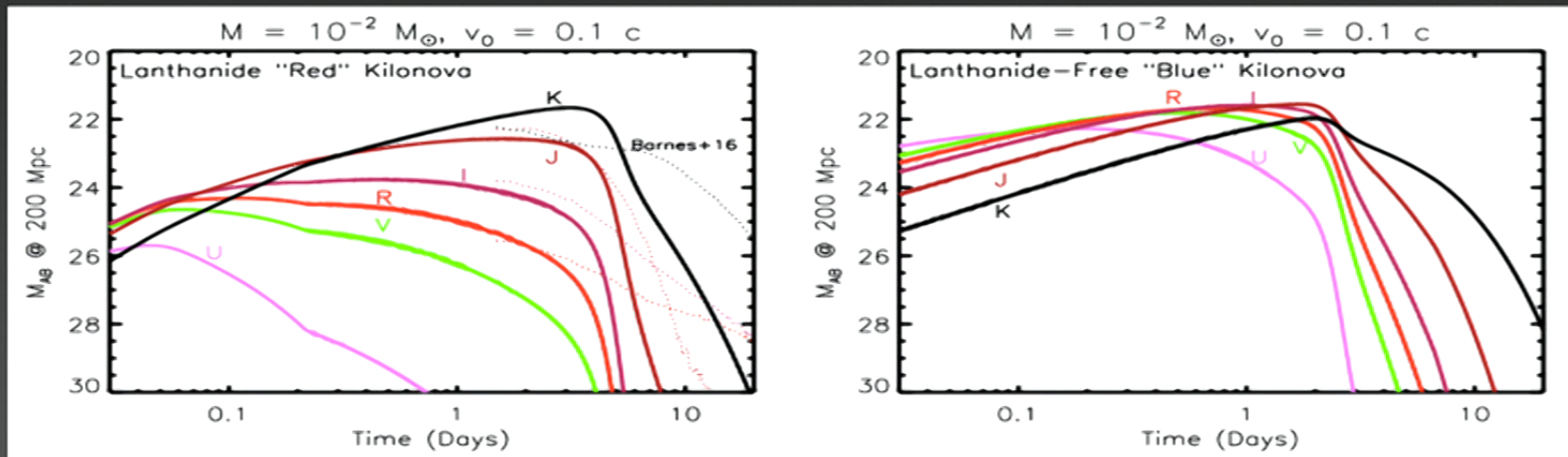
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To calculate light curves: heating rate from *r*-process decay, opacities from *r*-process nuclei (lanthanides), ejecta masses and velocities from simulations

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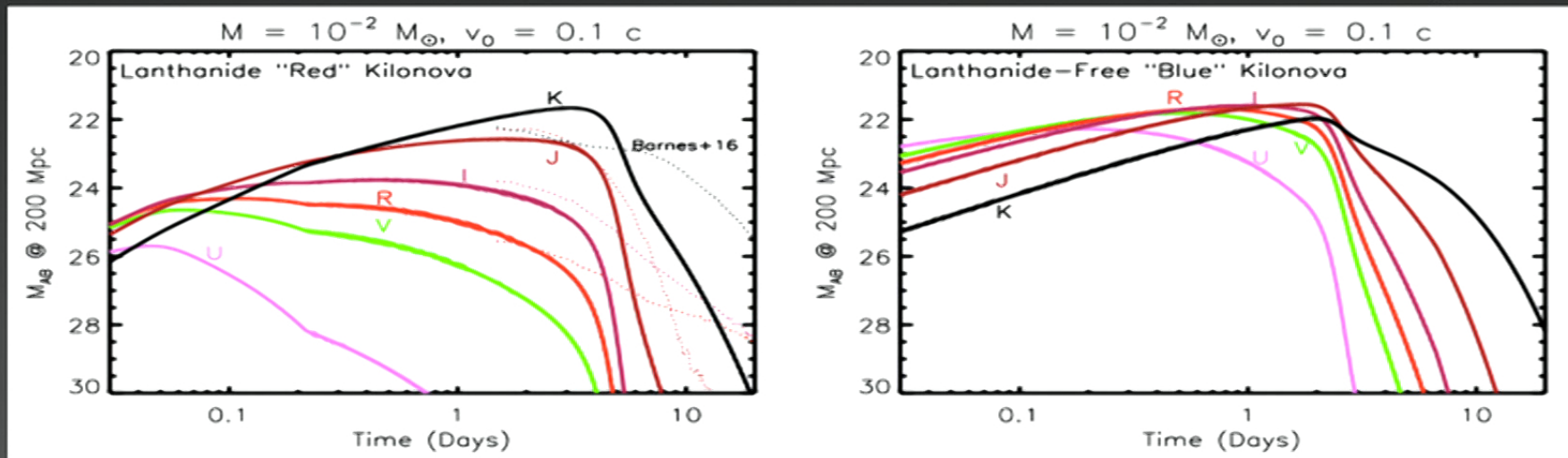
IR-peaked; ~ 1 week

Optical-peaked; ~ 1 day

r-Process Nucleosynthesis: “Kilonova”

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Metzger 2017



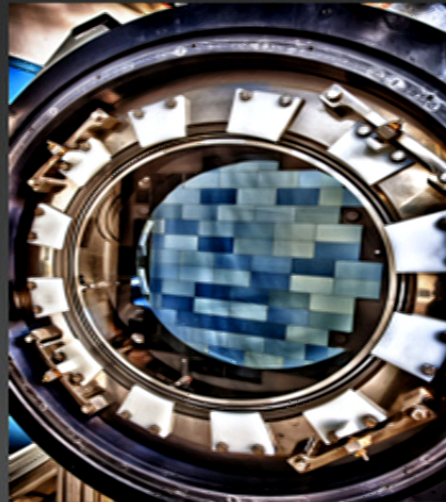
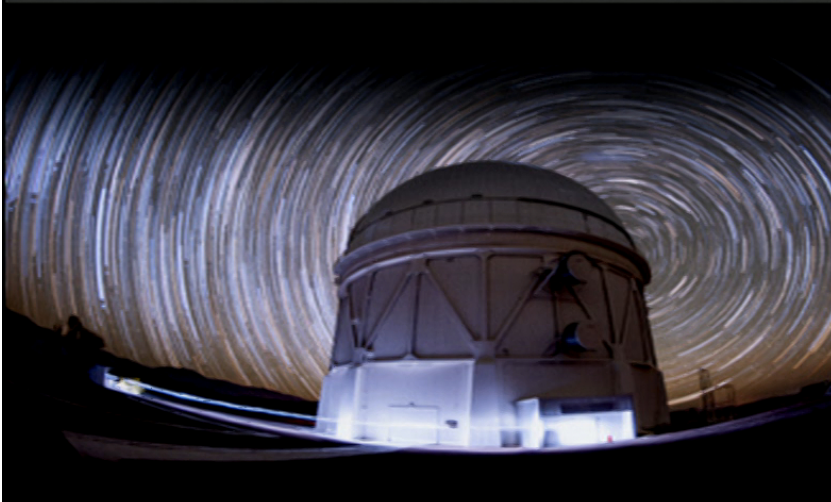
IR-peaked; ~ 1 week

Optical-peaked; ~ 1 day

Challenge: faint, rapid, (potentially red) transient in $\sim 100 \text{ deg}^2$

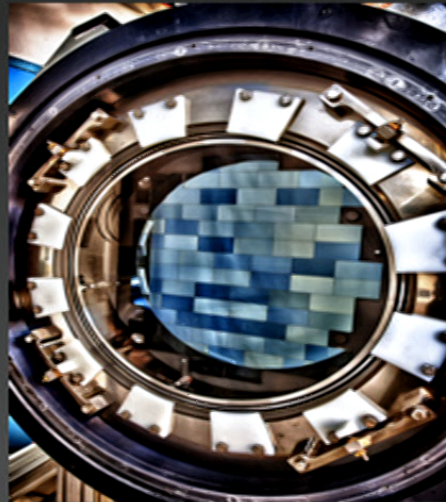
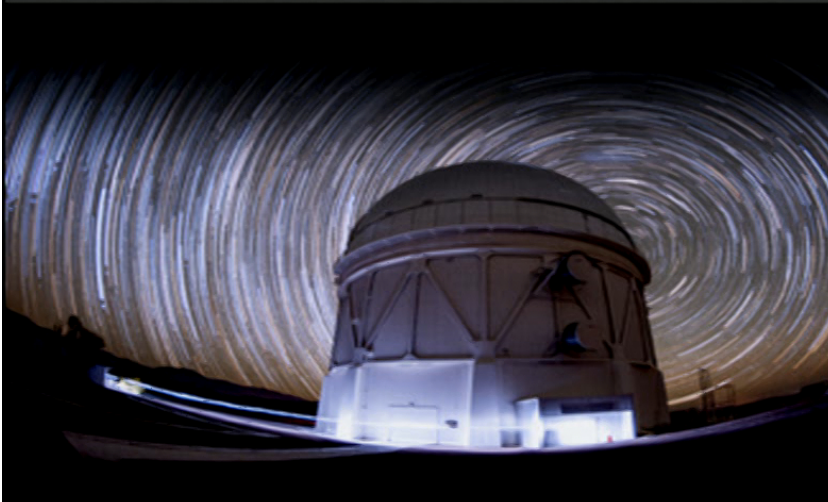
Our Follow-up Program

Deep, red, wide-field imaging: Dark Energy Camera on the Blanco 4-m telescope at CTIO



Our Follow-up Program

Deep, red, wide-field imaging: Dark Energy Camera on the Blanco 4-m telescope at CTIO



Upon detection: Optical/IR light curves & spectra (DECAM, Gemini, Magellan, HST), radio/mm (VLA, ALMA), X-rays (Chandra)

Our Follow-up Program

Deep, red, with
4-m telescopes

Edo Berger
PI of Berger Time-Domain Research
Group at Harvard

Signature



Date April 14, 2014

Gabriela Gonzalez
LSC Spokesperson

Signature



Date April 5, 2014

David Reitze
Director of LIGO Laboratory

Signature



Date April 5, 2014

Bernard Schutz
GEO 600 Principal Investigator for Data
Analysis

Signature



Date April 5, 2014

the Blanco

Upon detection
(Magellan, HST),
Previous follow up

LIGO-M1400047.VIR-0150-14

5

Jean-Yves Vinet
Virgo Spokesperson

Signature



Date April 5, 2014

Federico Ferrini
Director of EGO

Signature



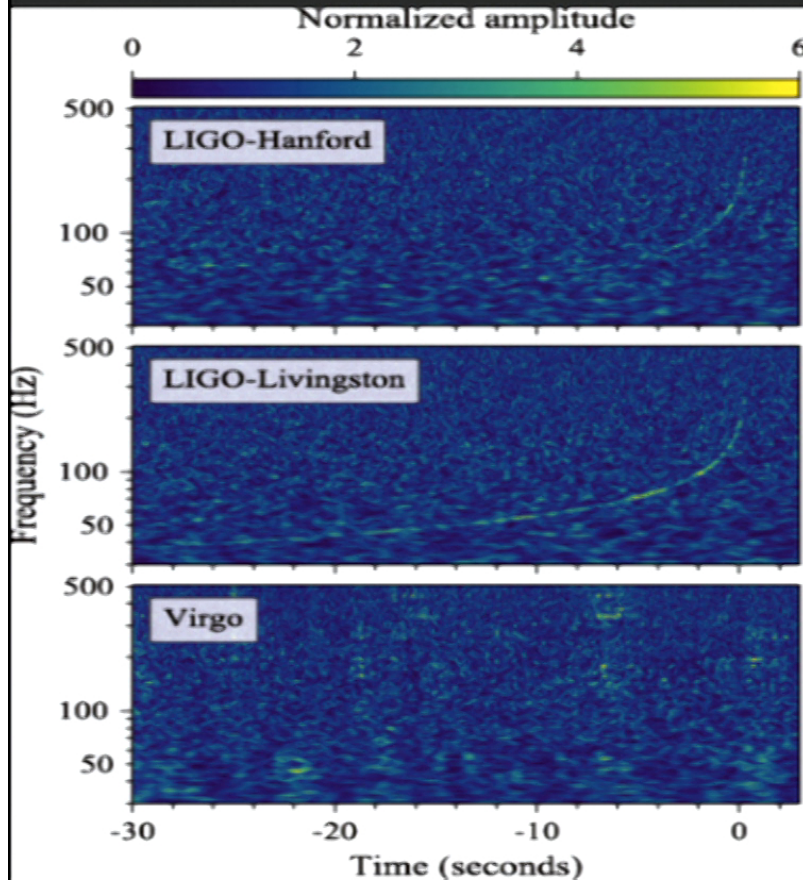
Date April 5, 2014

am, Gemini,

VI70814

GW170817: The Chirp Heard Around the World

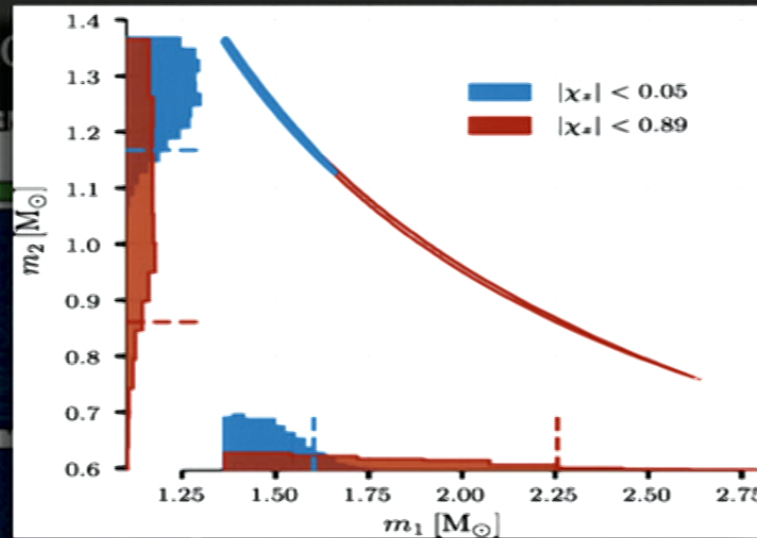
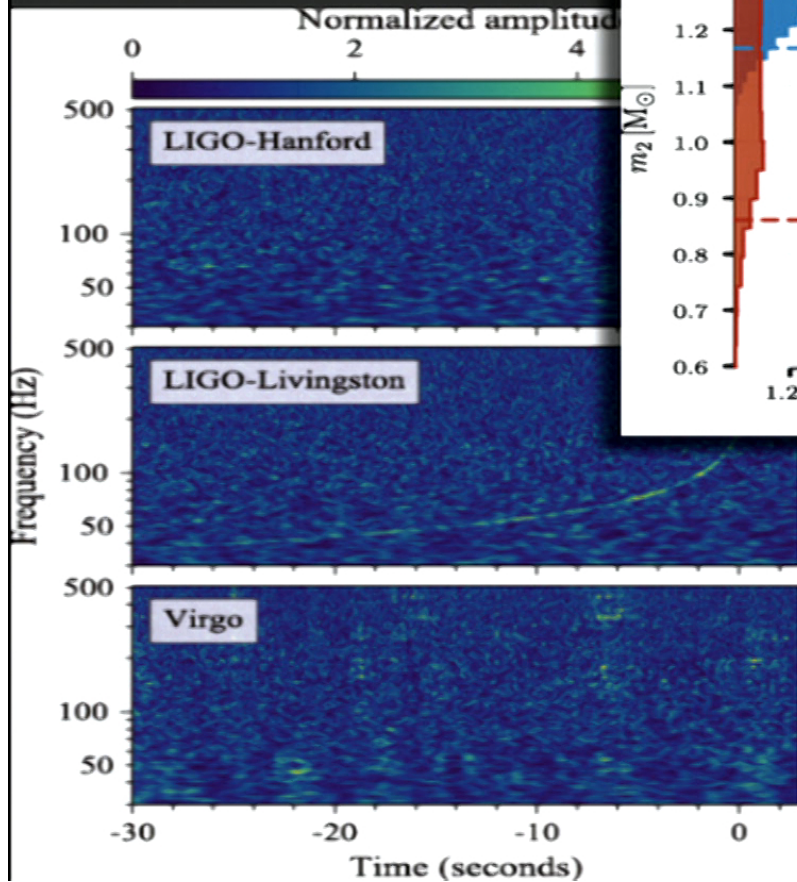
2017 August 17 12:41:04 UT



Abbott et al. 2017

GW170817: The Chirp Heard Around the World

2017 August 17 12:41:00



$$M_1 \approx 1.36 - 1.60 M_\odot$$

$$M_2 \approx 1.17 - 1.36 M_\odot$$

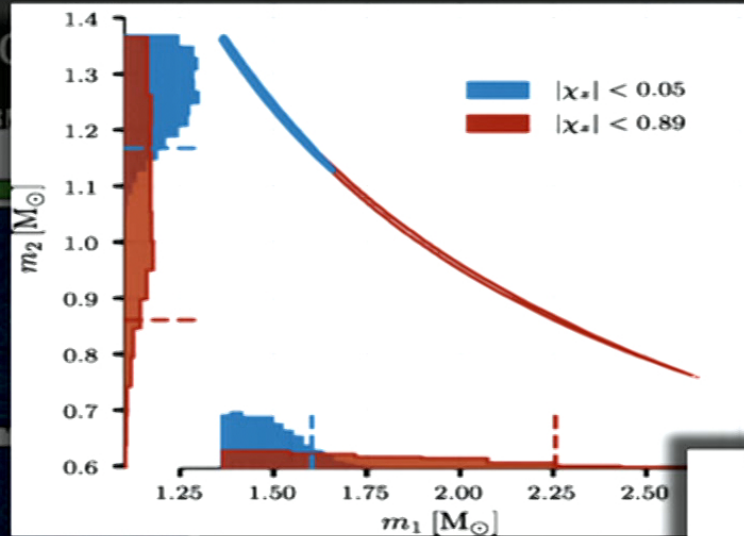
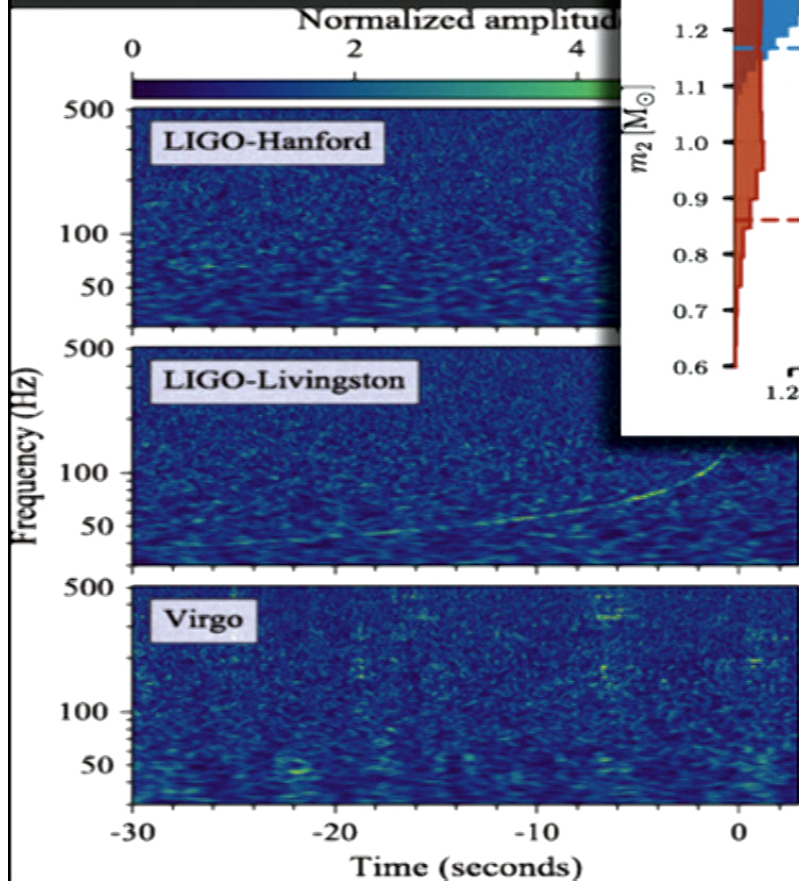
$$q \approx 0.7 - 1$$

$$M_{\text{tot}} \approx 2.74 M_\odot$$

Abbott et al. 2017

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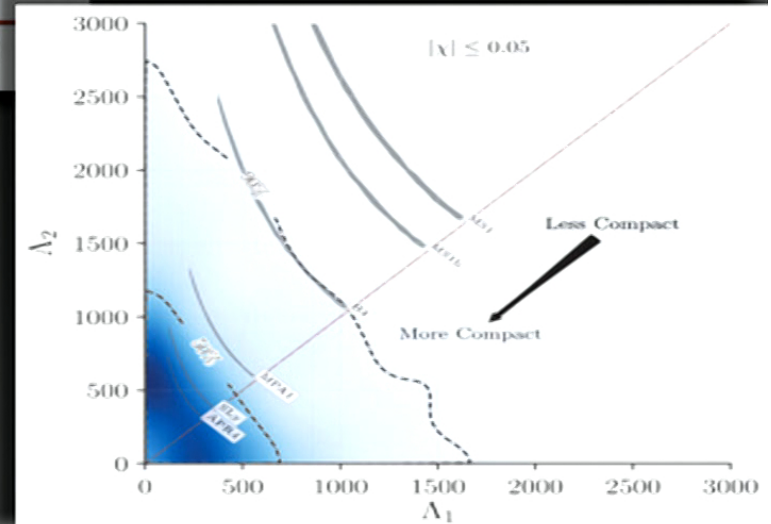
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Tidal deformability

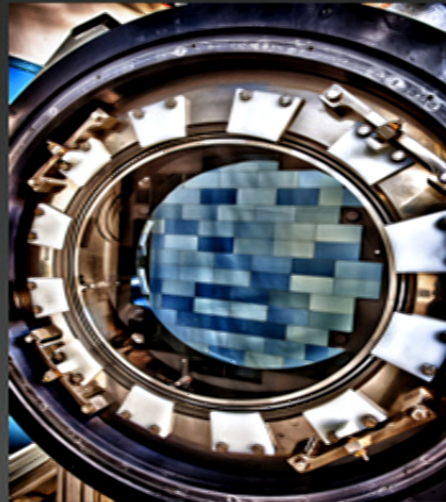
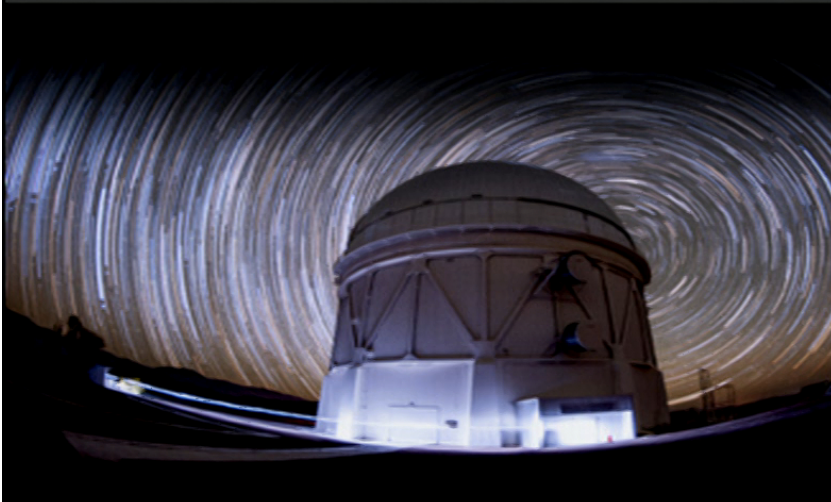
$$\Lambda \approx 10^3$$

Abbott et al. 2017



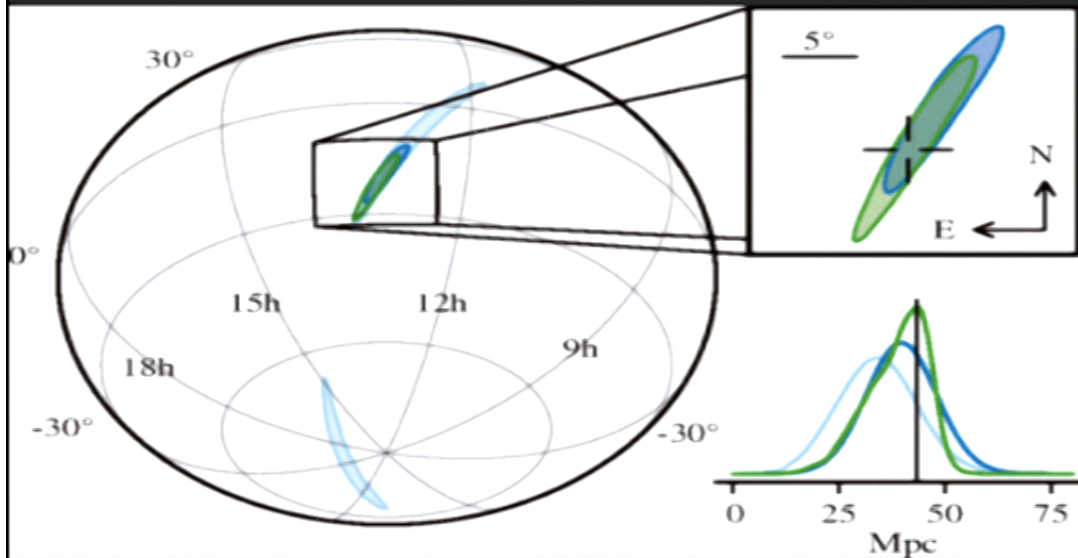
Our Follow-up Program

Deep, red, wide-field imaging: Dark Energy Camera on the Blanco 4-m telescope at CTIO



GW170817: The Chirp Heard Around the World

Abbott et al. 2017



[12:41:04 UT: Merger time]

13:08:16 UT: Online single-detector trigger

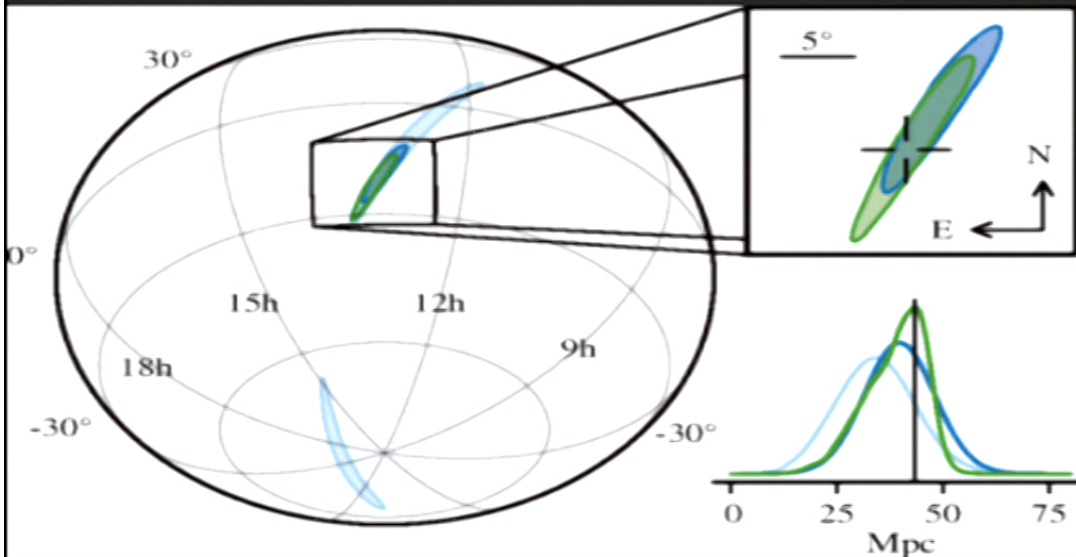
13:21:42 UT: GCN Circular

17:54:51 UT: First LIGO/Virgo map

23:54:40 UT: Revised map

GW170817: The Chirp Heard Around the World

Abbott et al. 2017



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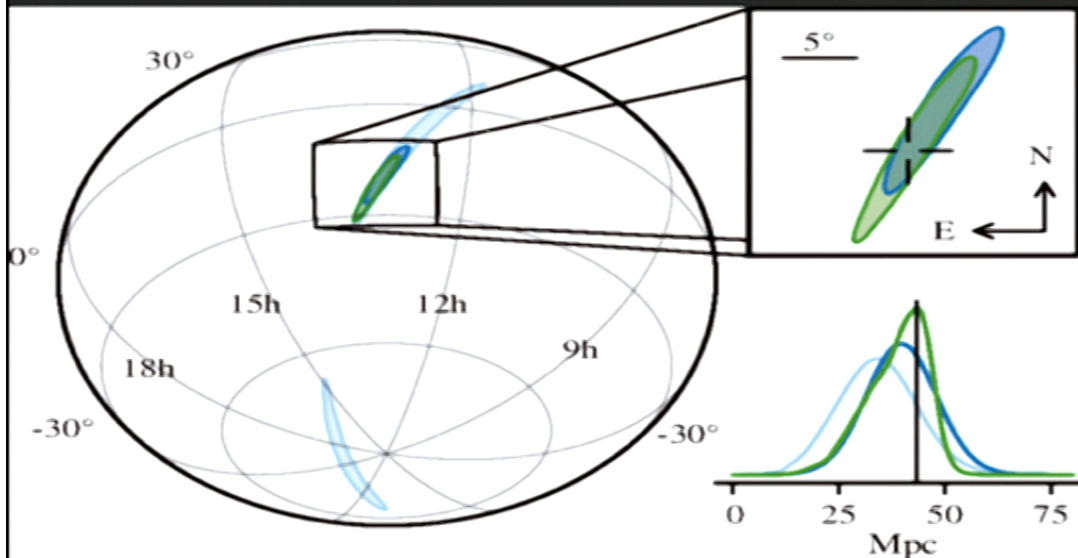
17:54:51 UT: First LIGO/Virgo map

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R.A. = 13^h09^m
Decl. = -25°37'
 $A \approx 30 \text{ deg}^2$
 $d \approx 24\text{--}48 \text{ Mpc}$

GW170817: The Chirp Heard Around the World

Abbott et al. 2017



[12:41:04 UT: Merger time]

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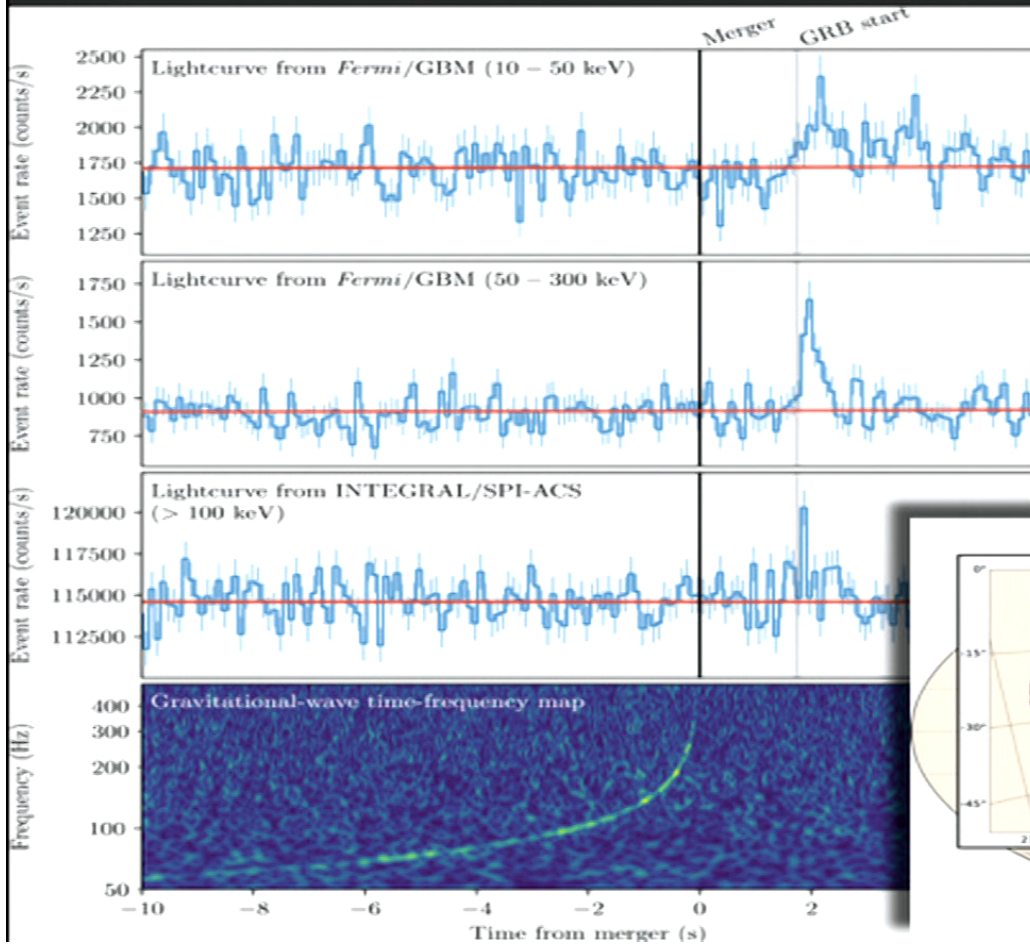
23:54:40 UT: Revised map

A near-miss: 3 weeks earlier (no Virgo);
10 days later (no LIGO/Virgo); >15 deg
further west (too close to Sun)

R.A. = 13^h09^m
Decl. = -25°37'
A ≈ 30 deg²
d ≈ 24–48 Mpc

GRB 170817

Abbott et al. 2017



12:41:06 UT: *Fermi* detection

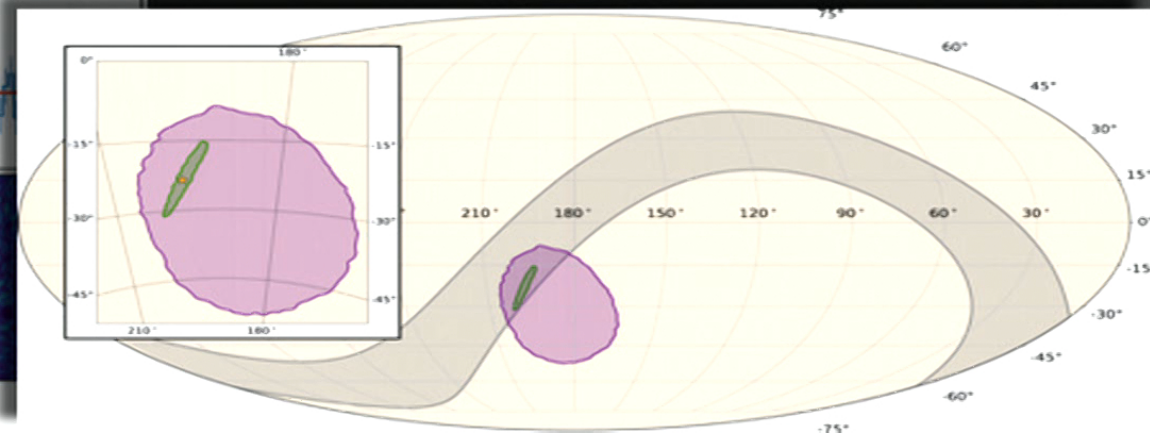
12:41:20 UT: GCN notice

$$P_{cc} \approx 5 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$T_{90} \approx 2.0 \text{ sec}$$

$$F_{\gamma} \approx 1.4 \times 10^{-7} \text{ erg/cm}^2$$

$$E_{\gamma,iso} \approx 2.6 \times 10^{46} \text{ erg}$$



GRB 170817

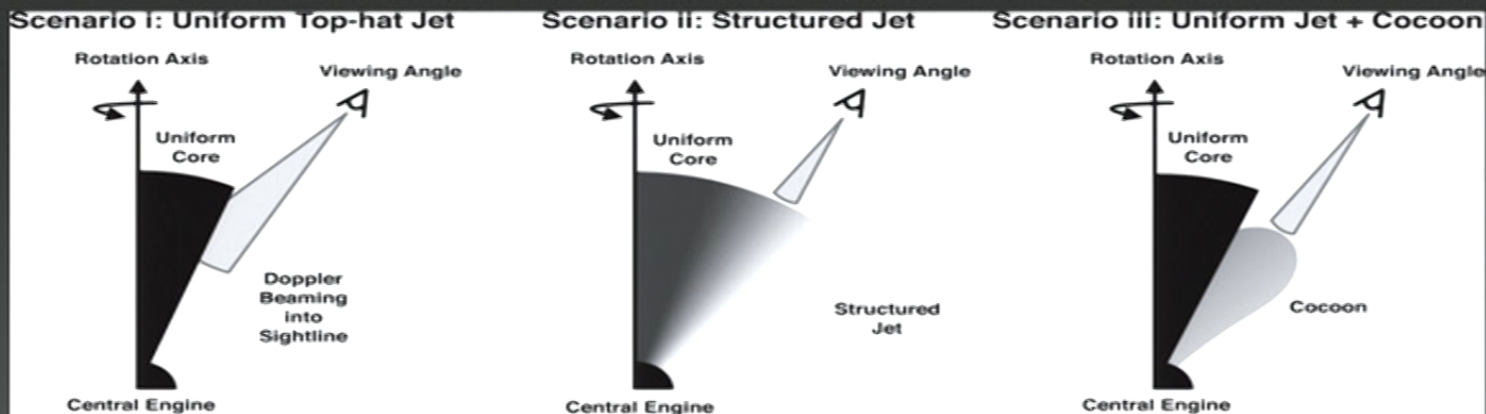
1.7 sec delay between merger and GRB: Could be due to internal shock shell collision time or deceleration time (if external shock)

$E_{\gamma,iso}$ is $\sim 10^4 - 10^5$ times smaller than for typical short GRBs

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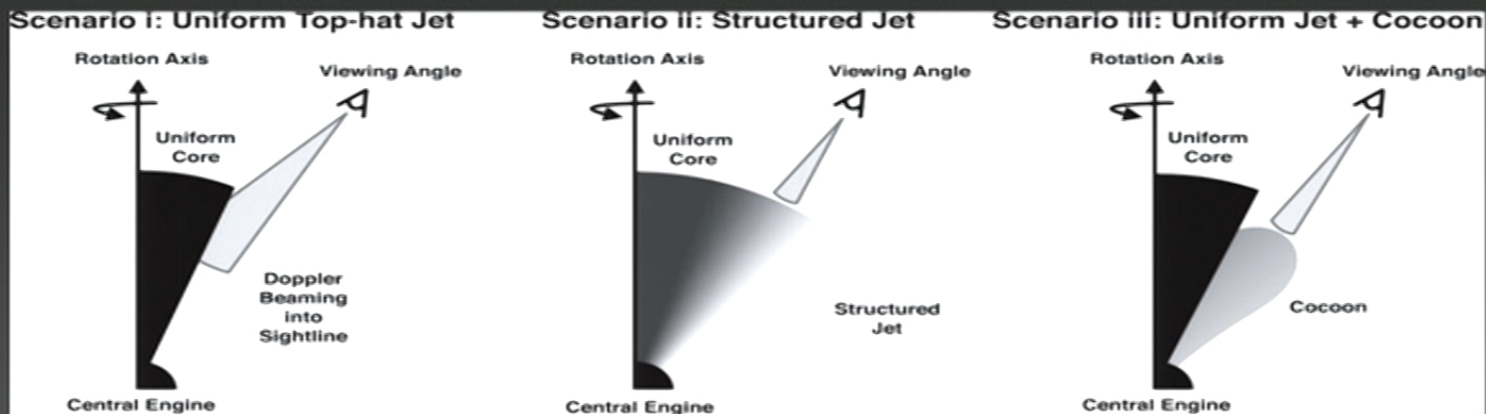
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Abbott et al. 2017

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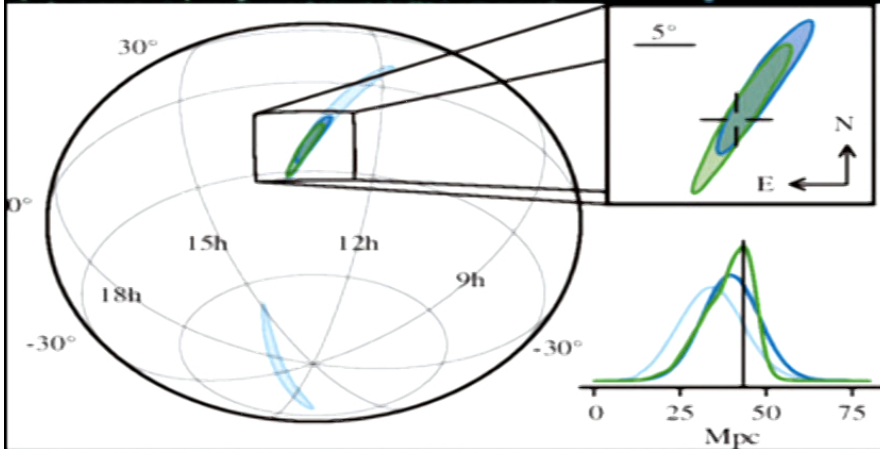
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Abbott et al. 2017

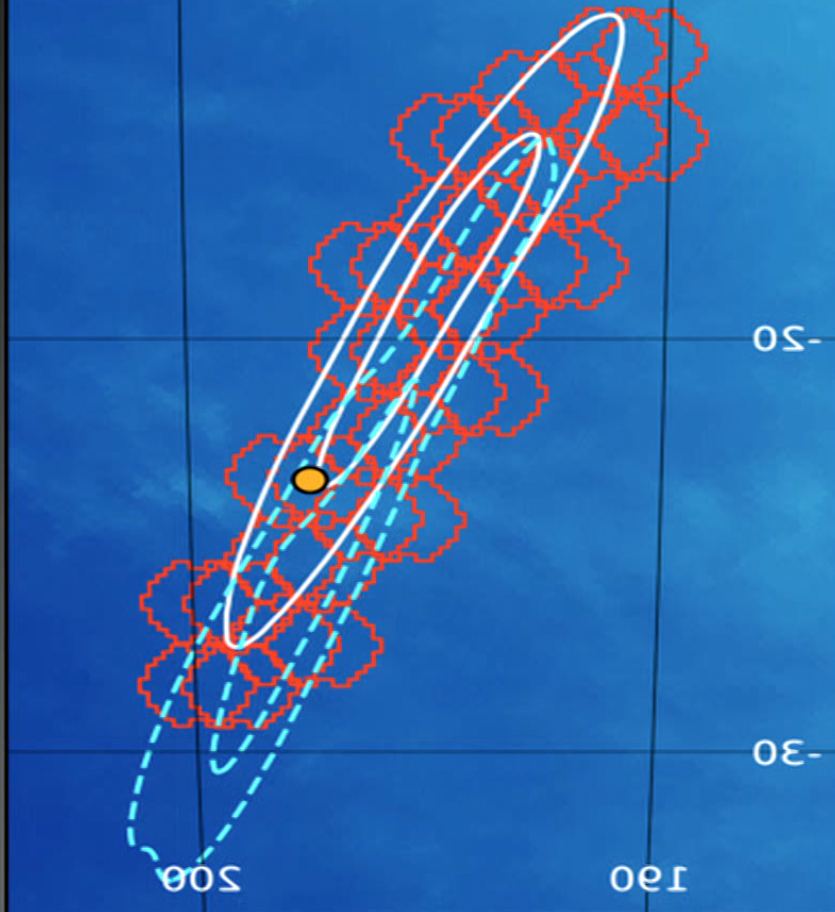
Speed of gravity: $\Delta v/v_{EM} \approx 7 \times 10^{-16}$

Equivalence principle (Shapiro delay): $\gamma_{EM} - \gamma_{GW} \approx 1.2 \times 10^{-6}$

DECam Discovery of Optical Counterpart



Soares-Santos, EB et al. 2017



[17:54:51 UT: First GW sky-map]

23:13 UT: DECam start

[23:54:40 UT: Revised sky-map]

00:05 UT: NGC4993 imaged

18(\times 2) pointings; 30 sec in $i + z$

81% of final map (93% of initial map)

DECam Discovery of Optical Counterpart

From: Ryan Chornock <chornock@ohio.edu>
Subject: Re: All Eyes! G298048. Images will be downloadable here
Date: 18 August 2017 at 02:42:00 CEST

Holy shit.

Check out NGC 4993 in DECam_00668440.fits.fz[N5]

Attached is tonight's image + ps1-3pi.

Galaxy is at 40 Mpc.

-R

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DECam
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Archival PS I

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DECam
discovery



GW170817
DECam observation
(0.5–1.5 days post merger)



GW170817
DECam observation
(>14 days post merger)



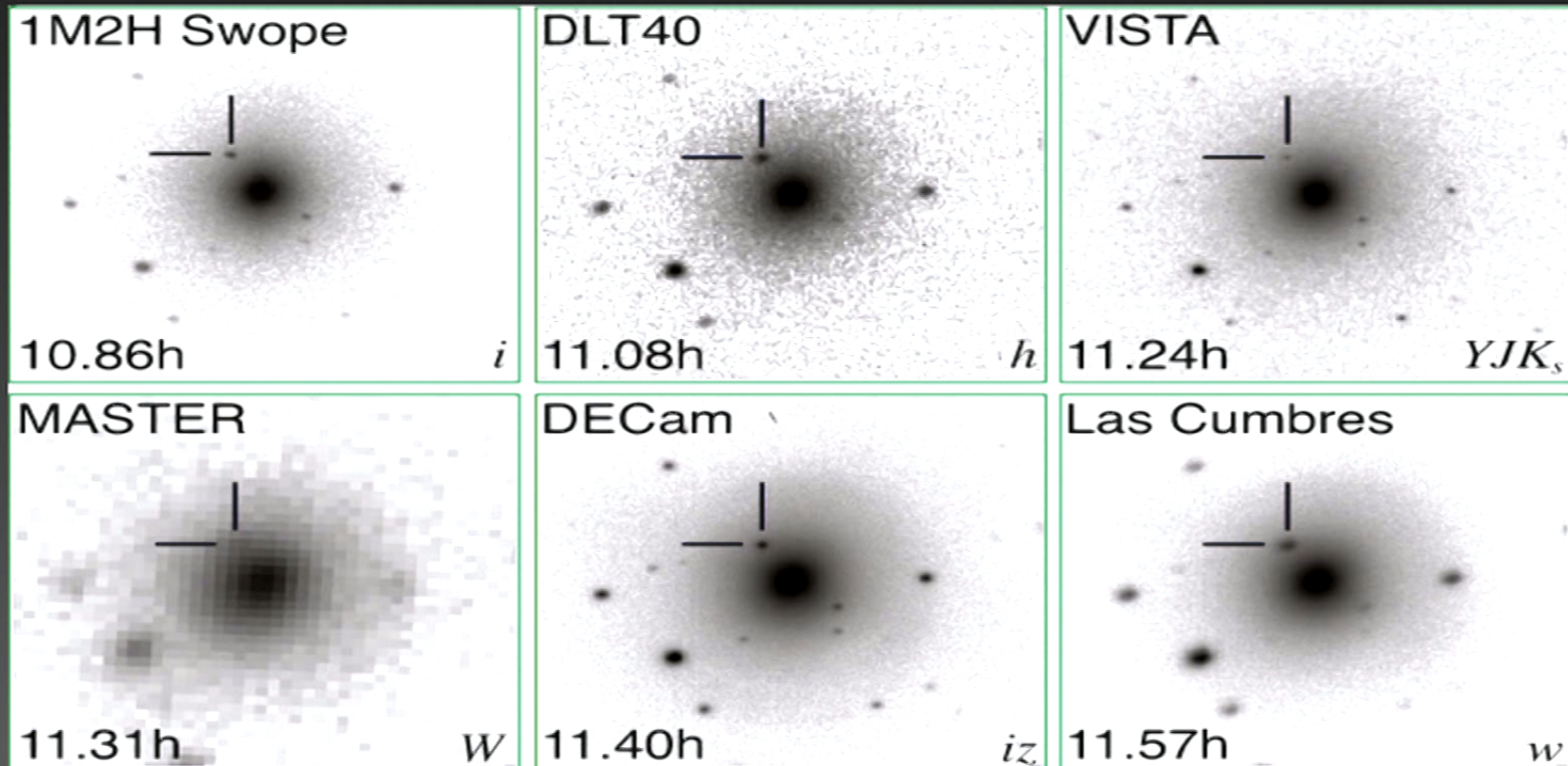
Dark Energy Camera / CTIO
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Time Relative to 2017 August 17

+7.5 days

Credit: P. S. Cowperthwaite / E. Berger
Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

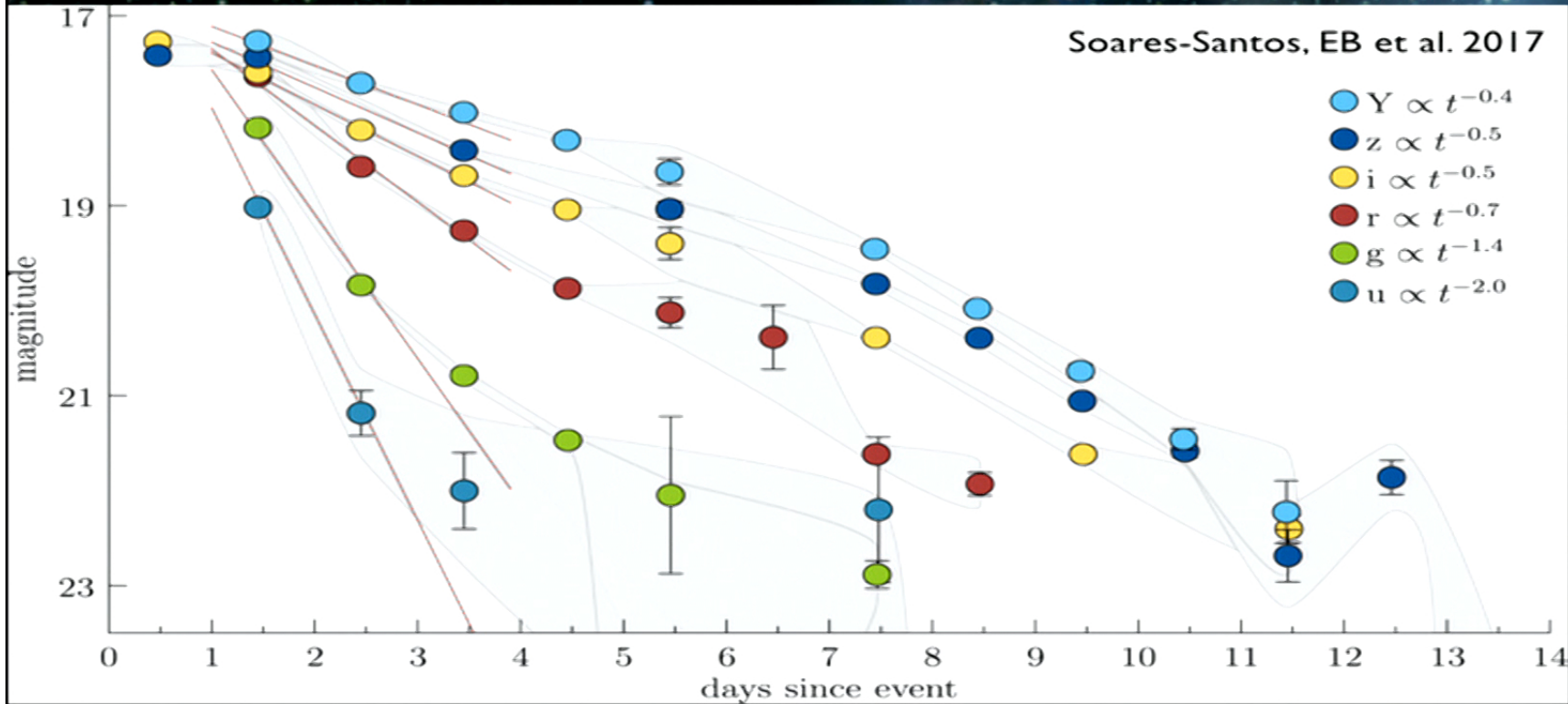
Discovery of the Optical Counterpart

Abbott et al. 2017



Independently imaged by 6 telescopes before detection was announced

DECam Discovery of Optical Counterpart



Rapid fading and reddening with time

Tracked to ~2 weeks thanks to 4-m aperture telescope

DECam Discovery of Optical Counterpart

Table 2

Number of Candidates at Each Selection Stage, Sorted by *i*-band Magnitude

mag(<i>i</i>)	Raw	Cut 1	Cut 2	Cut 3
15.5–16.5	4	0	0	0
16.5–17.5	11	7	3	1
17.5–18.5	26	15	7	0
18.5–19.5	296	63	27	0
19.5–20.5	1163	167	44	0
Total	1500	252	81	1

65 deg²: 1500 candidates with detection in *i* or *z* to ~20.5 mag

Soares-Santos, EB et al. 2017

DECam Discovery of Optical Counterpart

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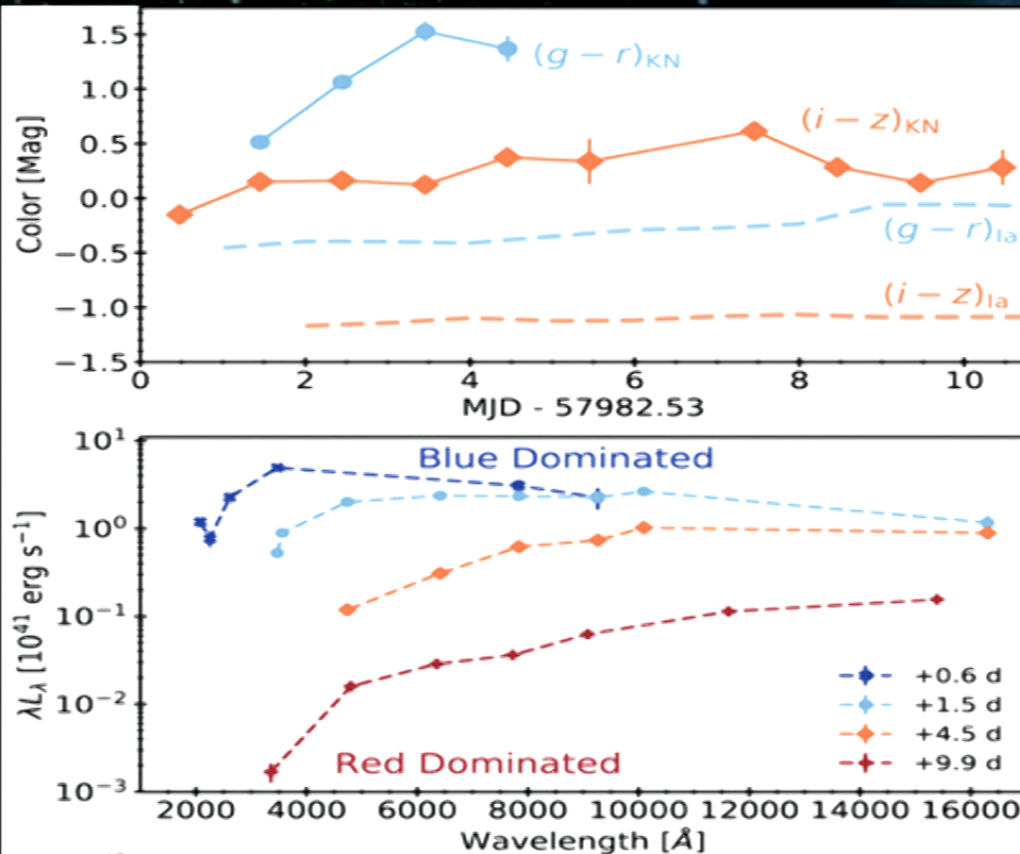
1. Astrophysical
2. *i* + *z* detection
3. faded by >5-sigma in 2 weeks

}

1 candidate

Soares-Santos, EB et al. 2017

Light Curves & Kilonova Models



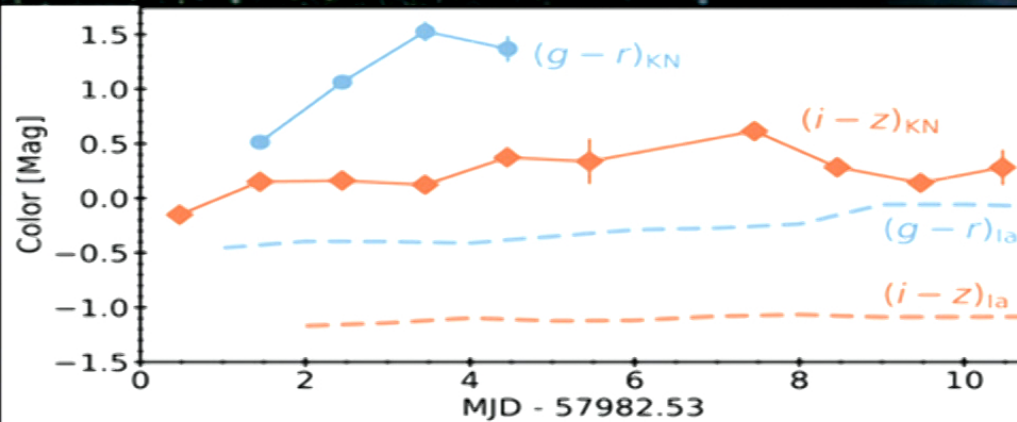
DECam, Gemini, Swift, Hubble

Transient significantly redder than a normal SN

Rapidly reddens from $\sim 0.4 \mu\text{m}$ (0.5 days) to $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$ (4.5 days)

Cowperthwaite, EB et al. 2017

Light Curves & Kilonova Models

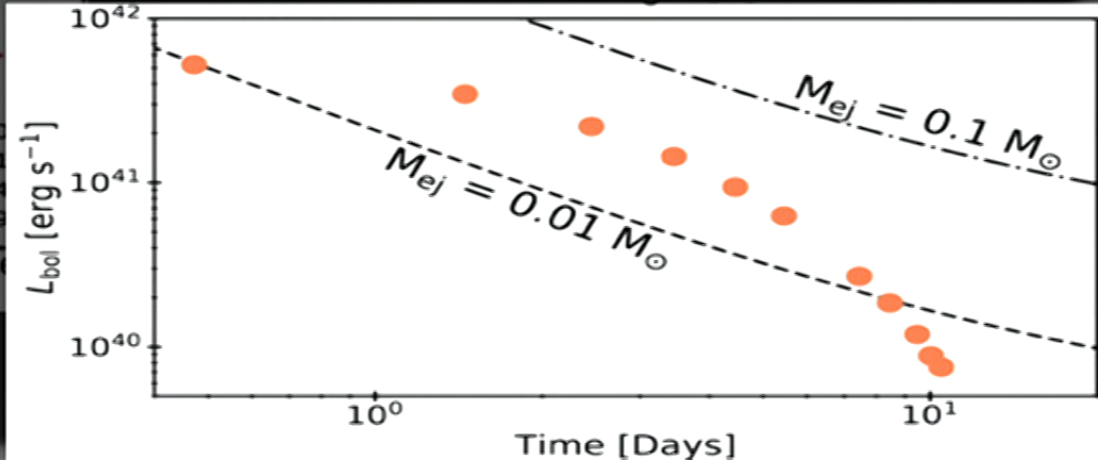
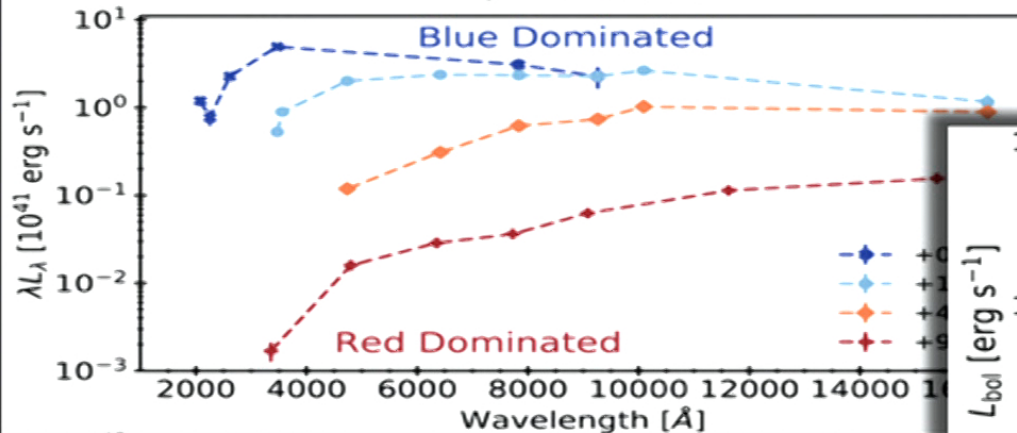


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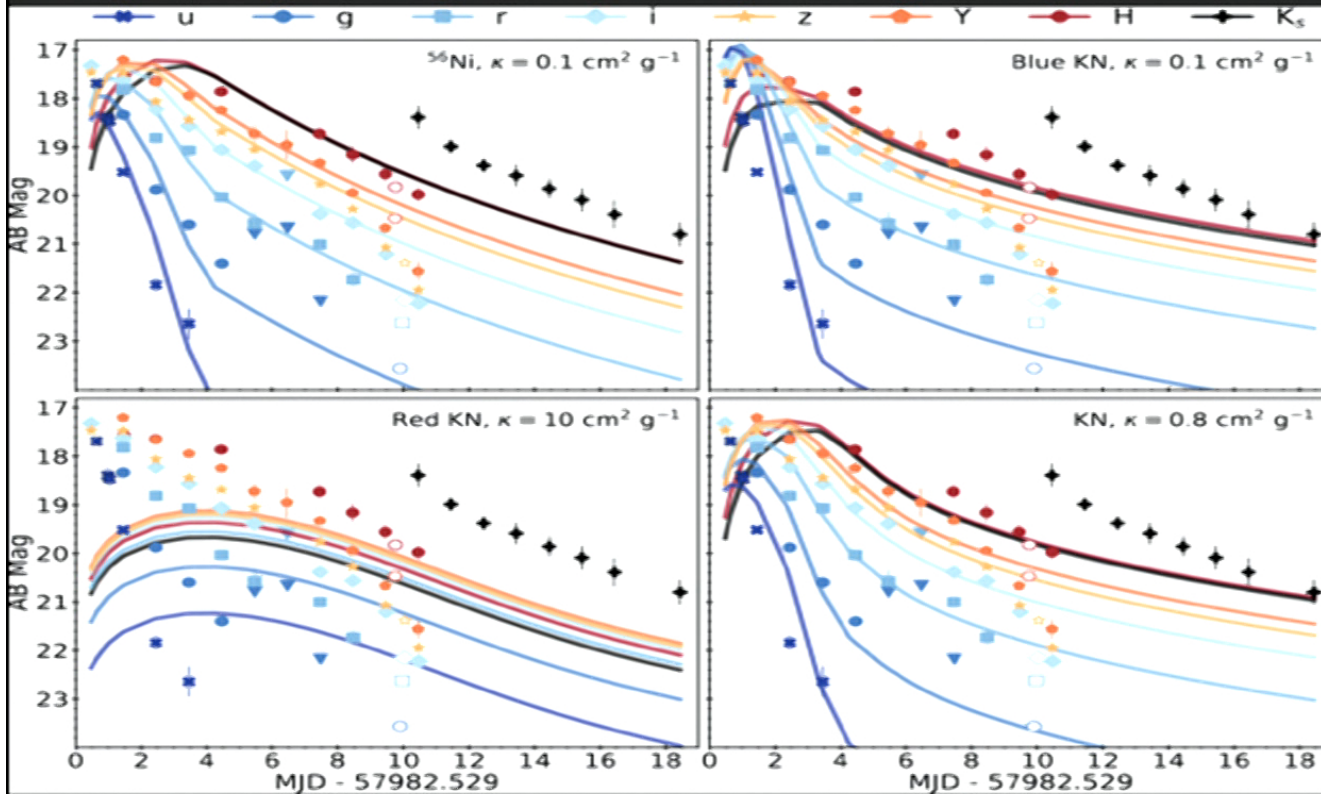
Rapidly reddens from $\sim 0.4 \mu\text{m}$ (0.5 days) to $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$ (4.5 days)

$L_{bol} \sim E_{r\text{-process}} (M_{ej} \sim \text{few } \% M_{\odot})$



Cowperthwaite, EB et al. 2017

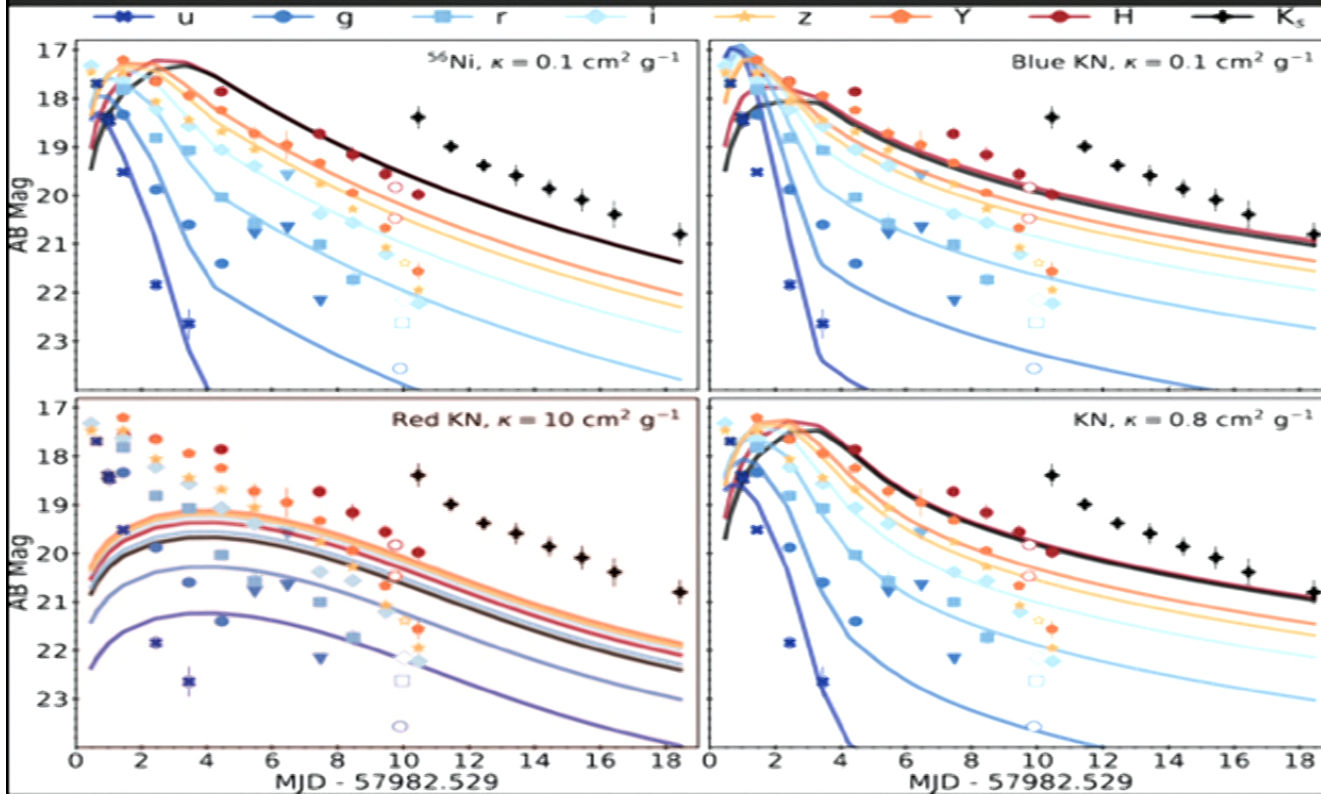
Light Curves & Kilonova Models



Ruling out models:

Cowperthwaite, EB et al. 2017

Light Curves & Kilonova Models



Cowperthwaite, EB et al. 2017

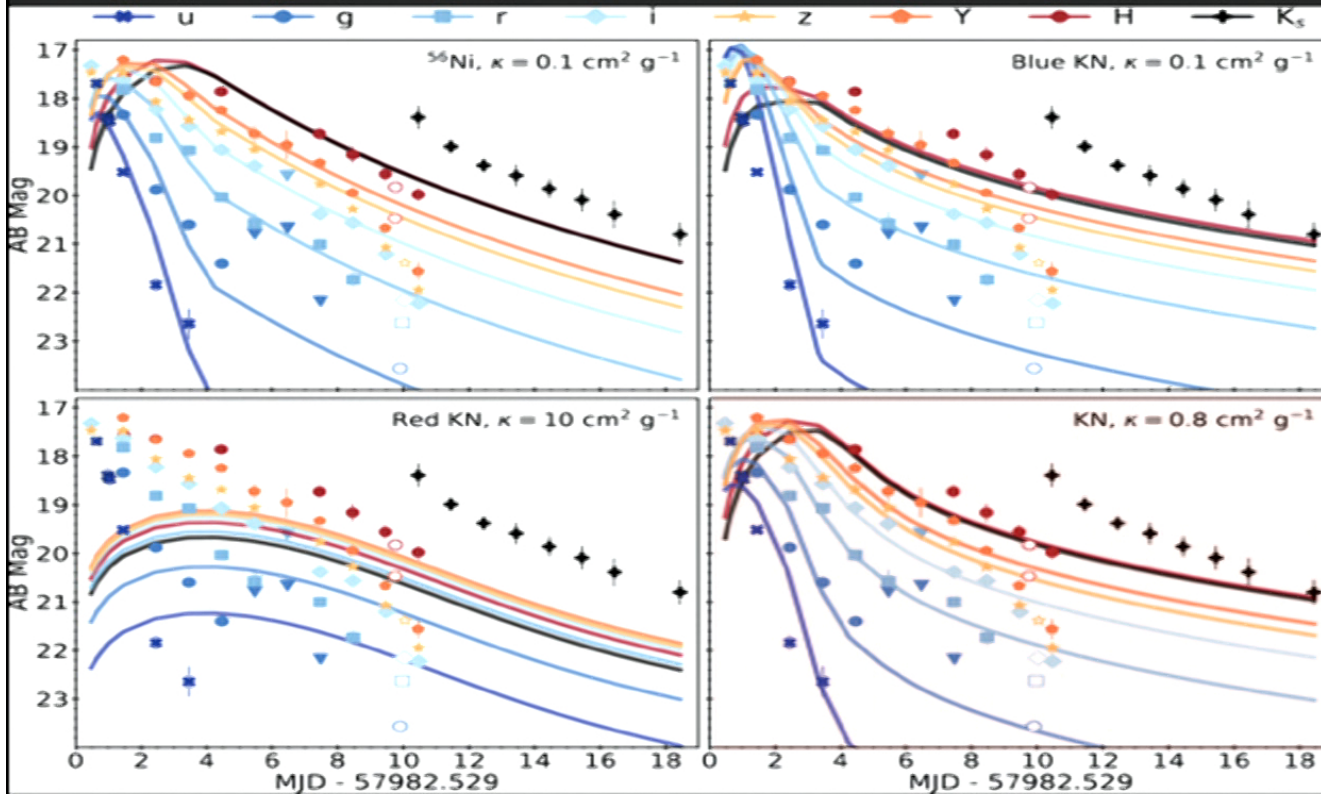
Ruling out models:

⁵⁶Ni radioactivity and Fe-peak opacity

r-process radioactivity and Fe-peak opacity

r-process radioactivity and lanthanide opacity

Light Curves & Kilonova Models



Cowperthwaite, EB et al. 2017

Ruling out models:

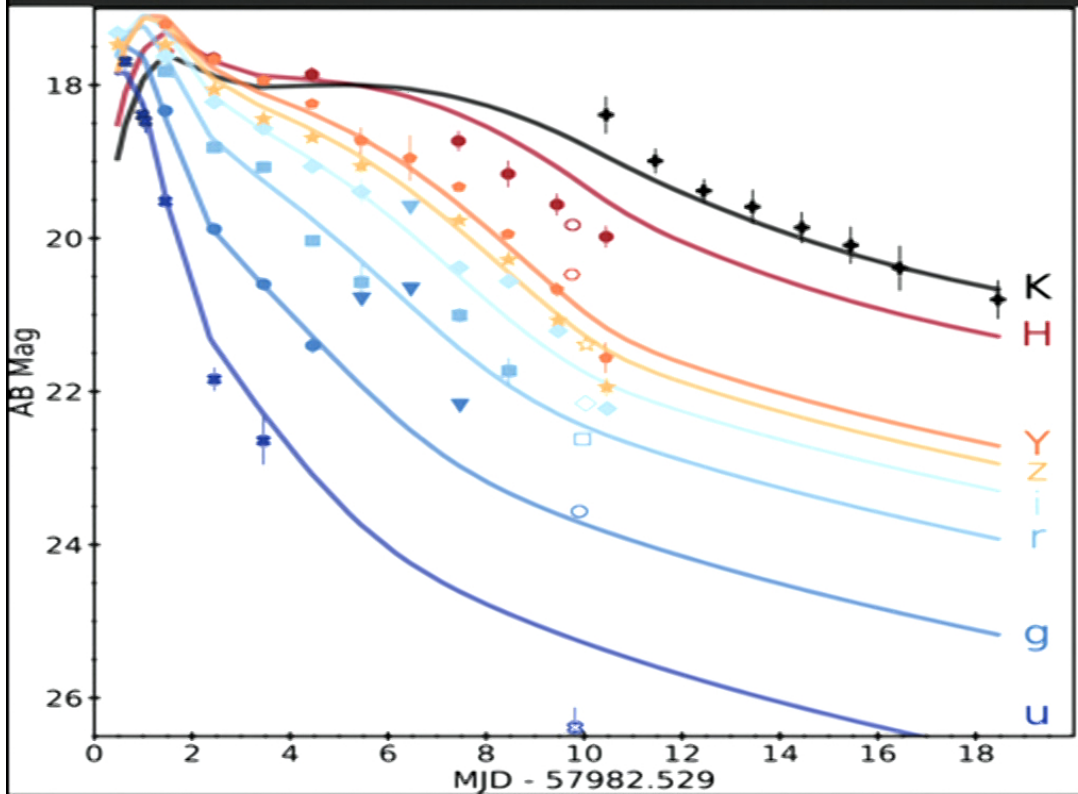
^{56}Ni radioactivity and Fe-peak opacity

r -process radioactivity and Fe-peak opacity

r -process radioactivity and lanthanide opacity

r -process radioactivity and variable opacity

Light Curves & Kilonova Models

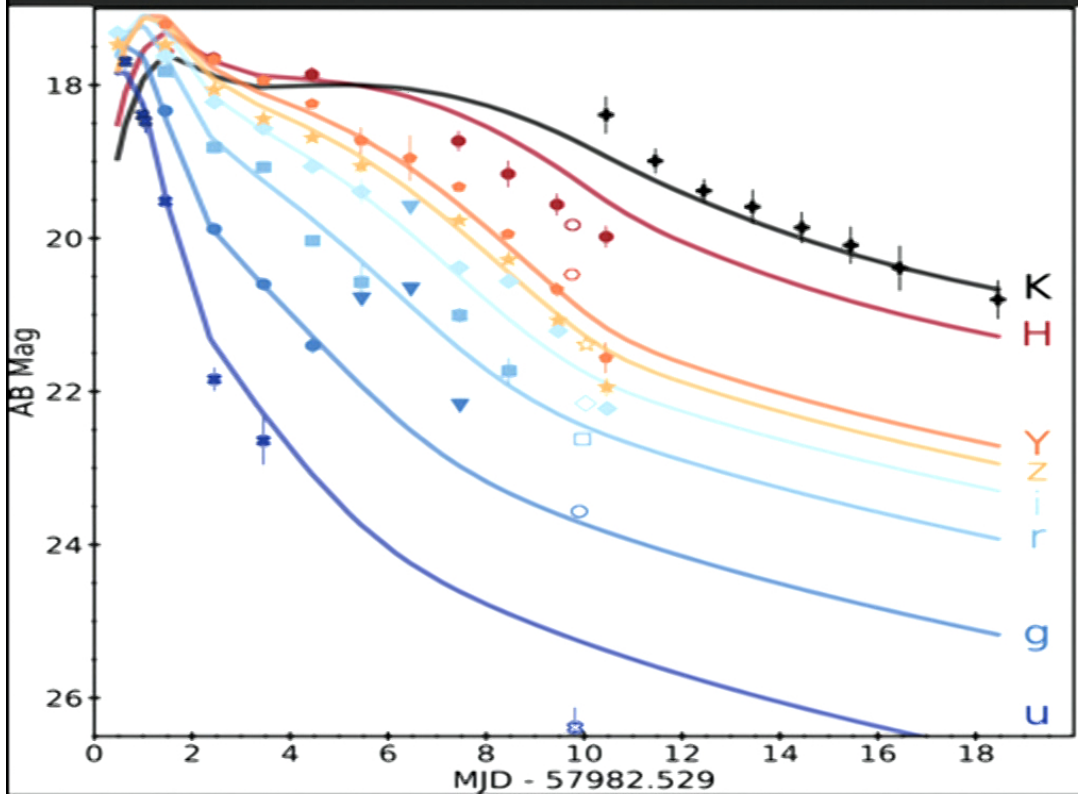


Cowperthwaite, EB et al. 2017

What does work?

**All models use the modular open source code MOSFiT; all data and model setups are public*

Light Curves & Kilonova Models



Cowperthwaite, EB et al. 2017

What does work?

Two-component model:

Blue: $M_{ej} \sim 0.02 M_{\odot} / v_{ej} \sim 0.3c$

Red: $M_{ej} \sim 0.04 M_{\odot} / v_{ej} \sim 0.1c$

Three-component model:

Blue: $M_{ej} \sim 0.02 M_{\odot} / v_{ej} \sim 0.3c$

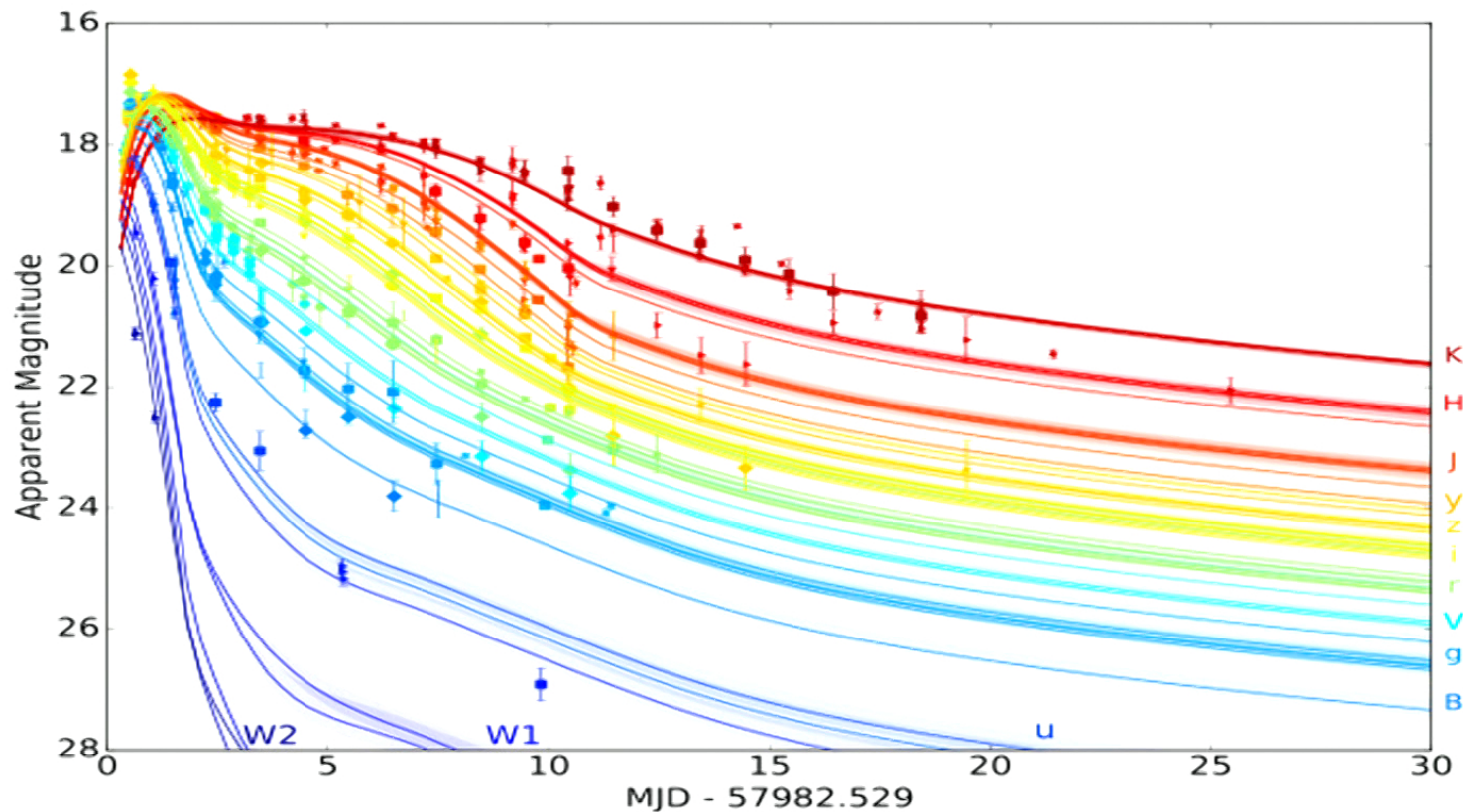
Purple: $M_{ej} \sim 0.03 M_{\odot} / v_{ej} \sim 0.1c$

Red: $M_{ej} \sim 0.01 M_{\odot} / v_{ej} \sim 0.1c$

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Light Curves & Kilonova Models

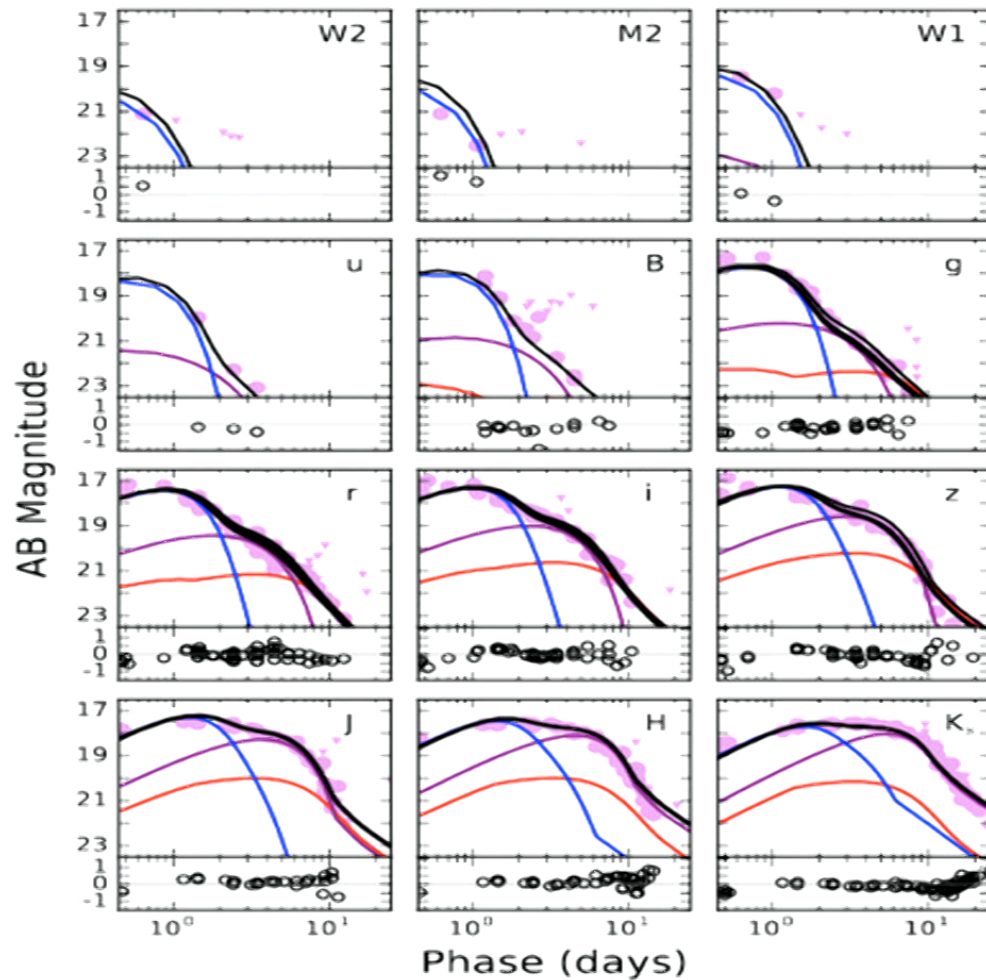
Villar, EB et al. 2017



Aggregated,
homogenized
& **public** (625
data points!)

16 individual
data sets; 38
instruments; 35
filters. About
10% of the data
had to be
corrected or
discarded due
to inadequate
photometry

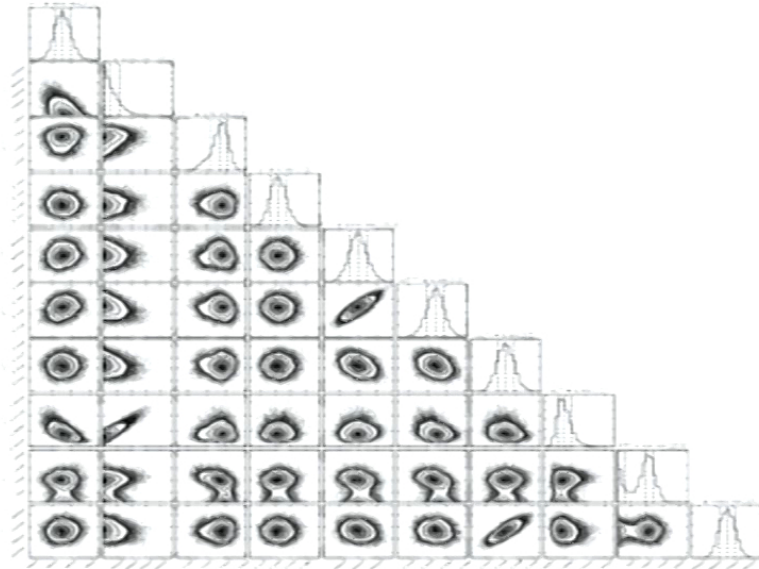
Light Curves & Kilonova Models



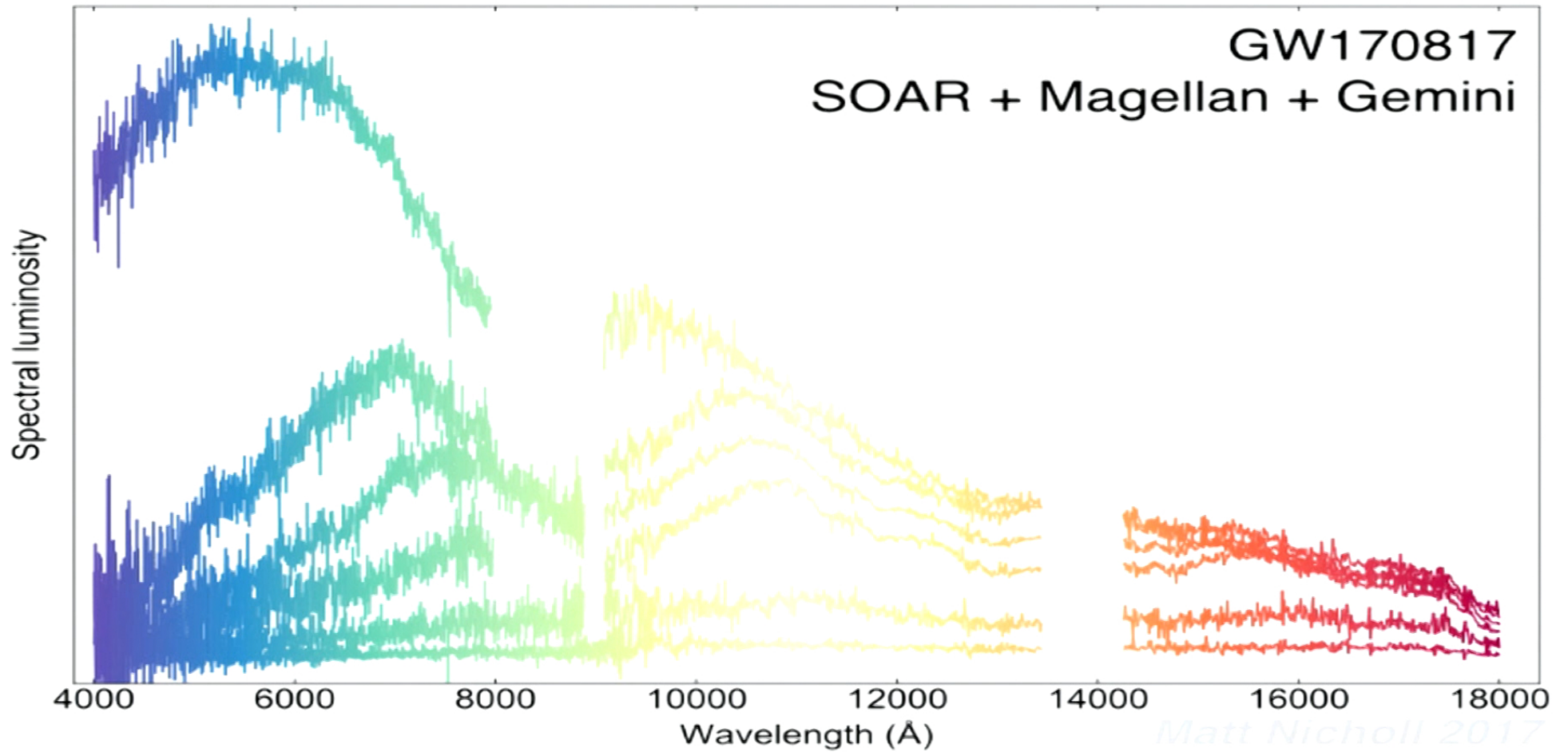
Three-component model:

- Blue: $M_{ej} \approx 0.016 M_{\odot} / v_{ej} \approx 0.27c$
- Purple: $M_{ej} \approx 0.040 M_{\odot} / v_{ej} \approx 0.14c$
- Red: $M_{ej} \approx 0.009 M_{\odot} / v_{ej} \approx 0.08c$

Villar, EB et al. 2017

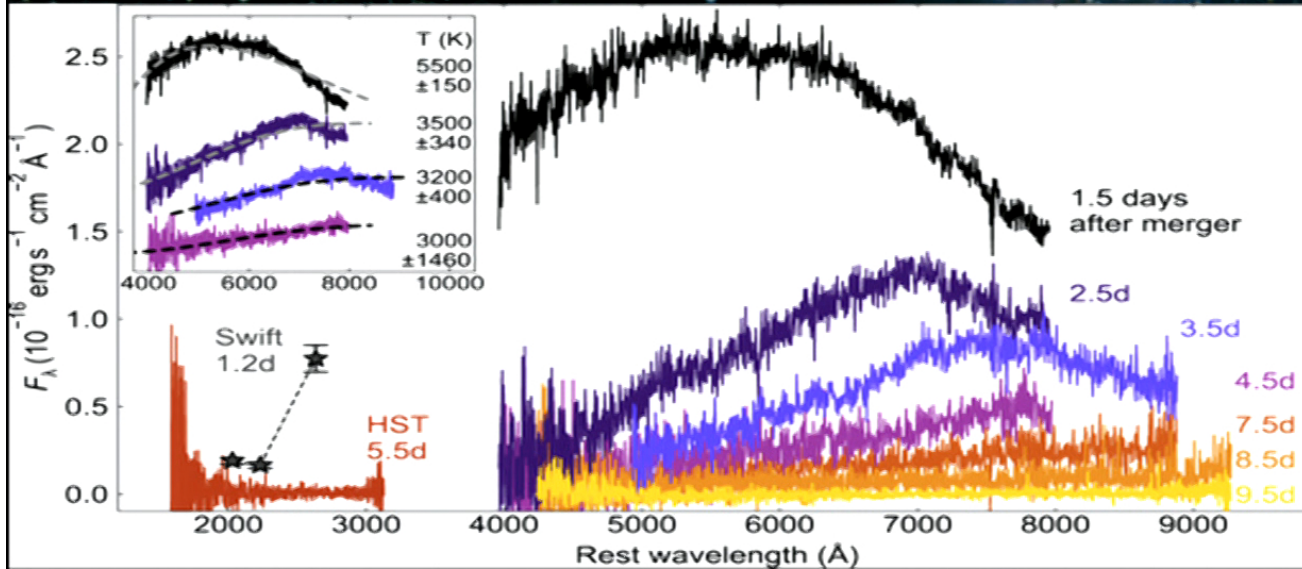


Spectroscopy



Spectroscopy: Optical

Nicholl, EB et al. 2017



Optical spectra rapidly evolve from blue to red

At >2 days significant absorption in blue relative to blackbody emission

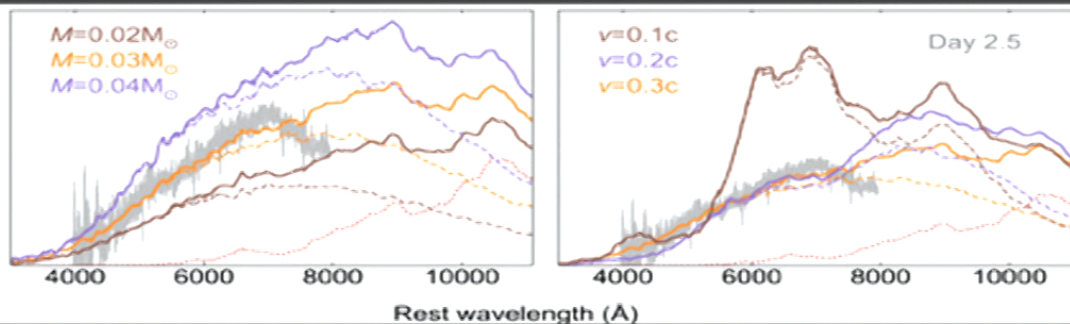
Spectroscopy: Optical

Nicholl, EB et al. 2017

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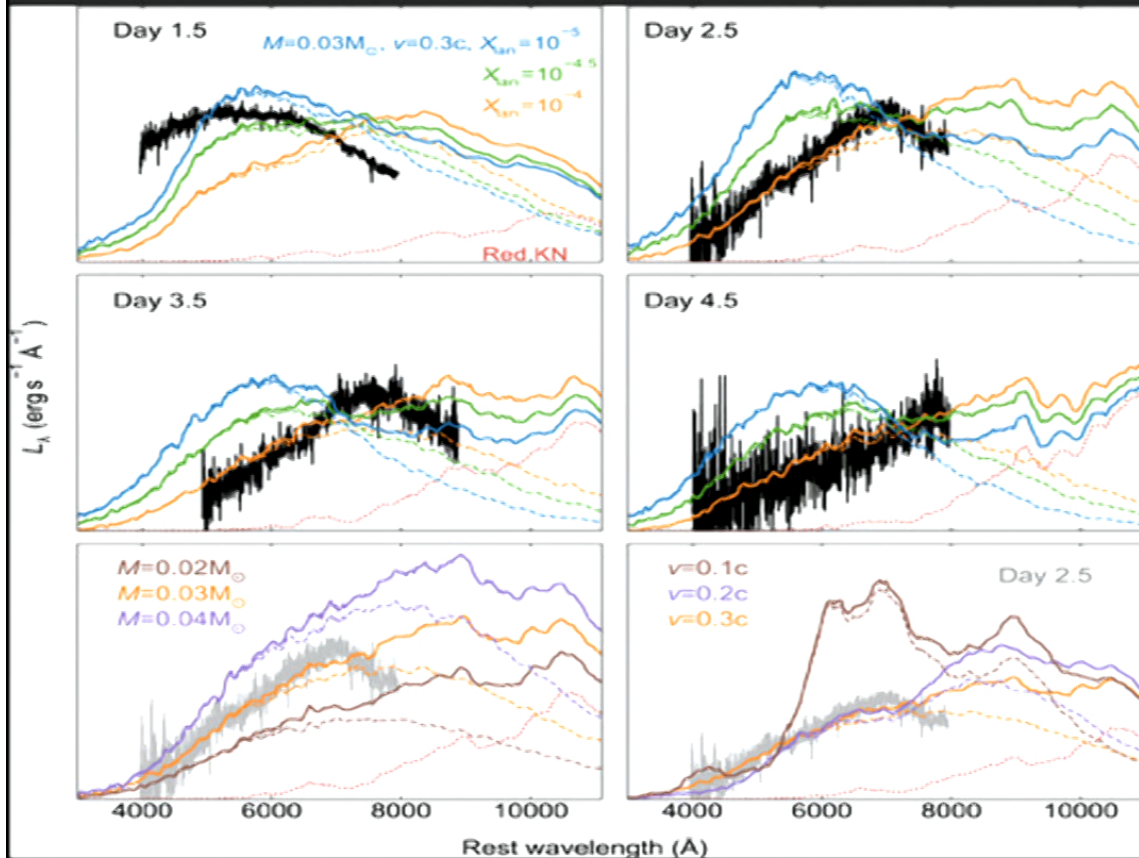
Light curve modeling

$$\text{Blue: } M_{ej} \sim 0.02 M_{\odot} / v_{ej} \sim 0.3c$$



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Nicholl, EB et al. 2017



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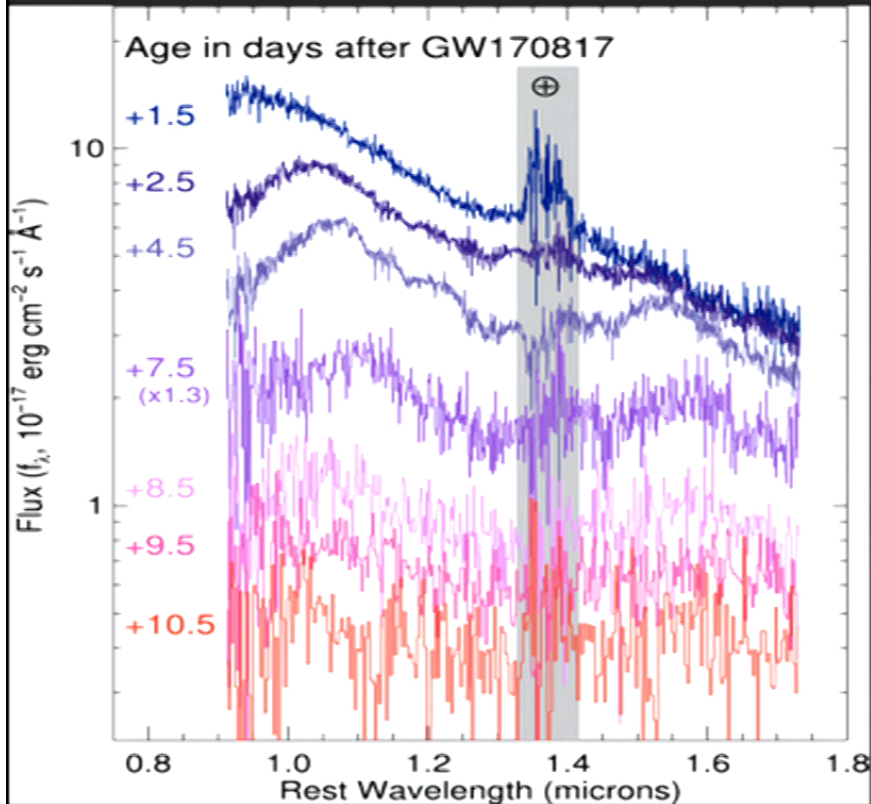
$$\text{Blue: } M_{ej} \sim 0.02 M_{\odot} / v_{ej} \sim 0.3c$$

Lanthanide fraction from spectra at 2.5-4.5 days is low, $\sim 10^{-4}$

Even lower at 1.5 days (chemical gradient?)

Spectroscopy: Near-IR

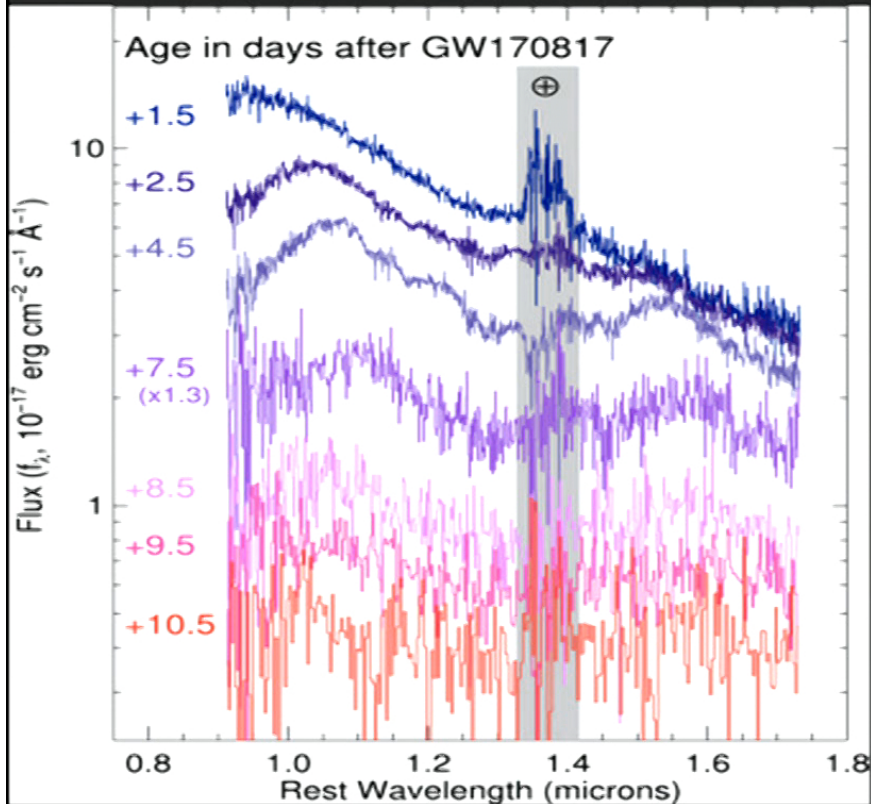
Chornock, EB et al. 2017



Unlike in the optical, the near-IR spectra show clear spectral features (i.e. lower velocity)

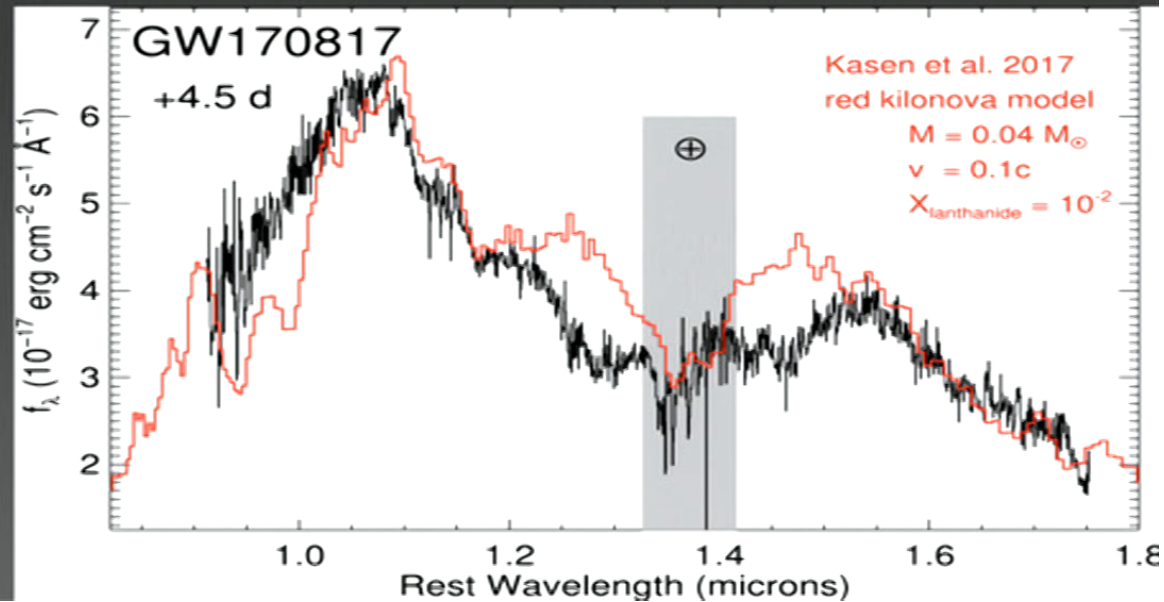
Spectroscopy: Near-IR

Chornock, EB et al. 2017

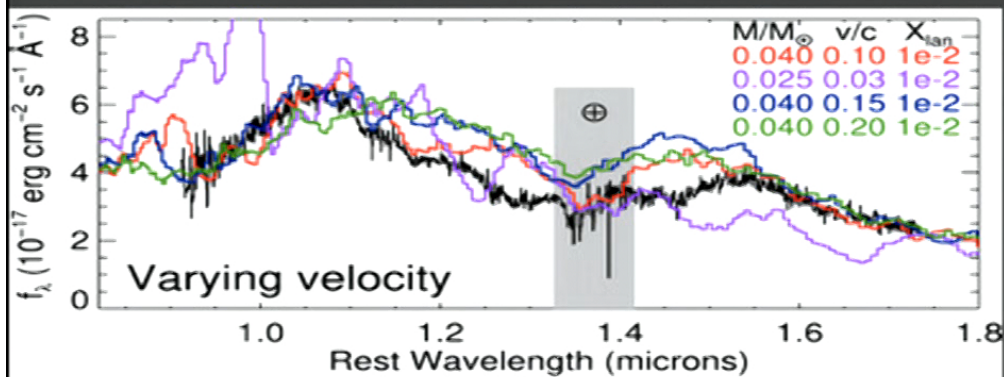
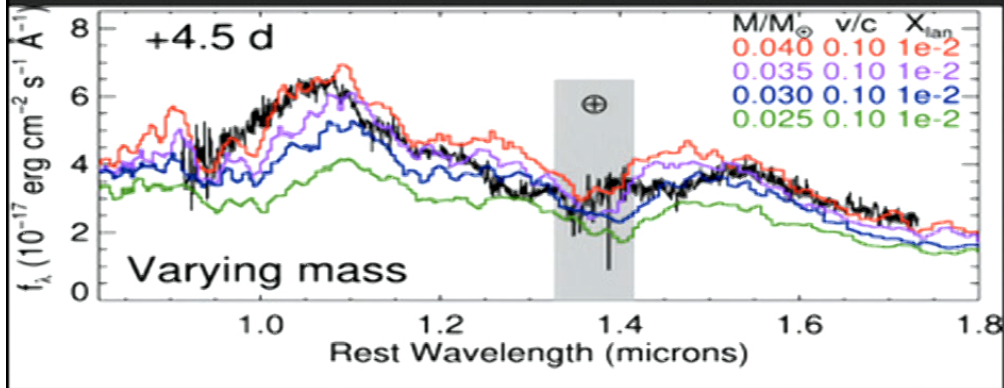


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Spectra well matched by red kilonova model



Spectroscopy: Near-IR

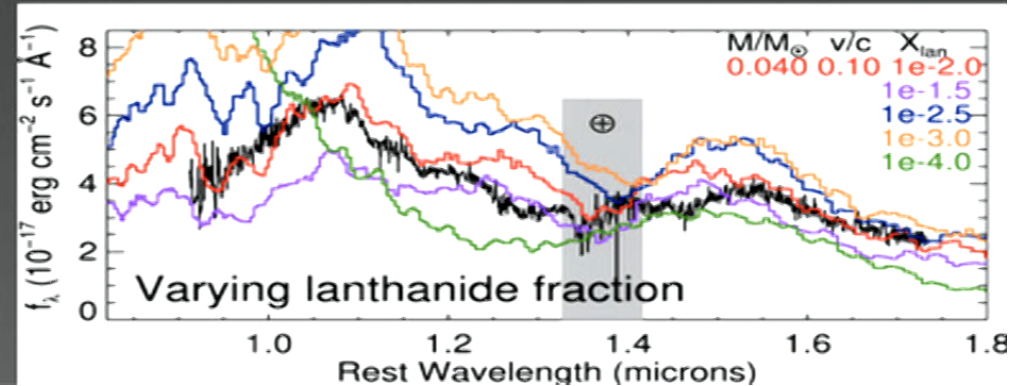


$$M_{\text{ej}} \sim 0.04 M_{\odot} / v_{\text{ej}} \sim 0.1c$$

Light curve modeling

$$\text{Red: } M_{\text{ej}} \sim 0.05 M_{\odot} / v_{\text{ej}} \sim 0.1c$$

Lanthanide fraction inferred from near-IR spectra at >4.5 days is high, $\sim 10^{-2}$



Optical/Near-IR: Implications

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- Evidence for distinct ejecta components with a **wide range of lanthanide fractions** (opacities, geometries?)

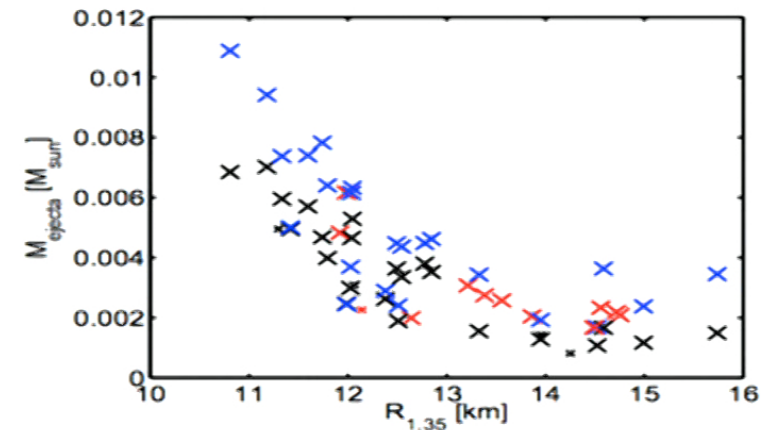
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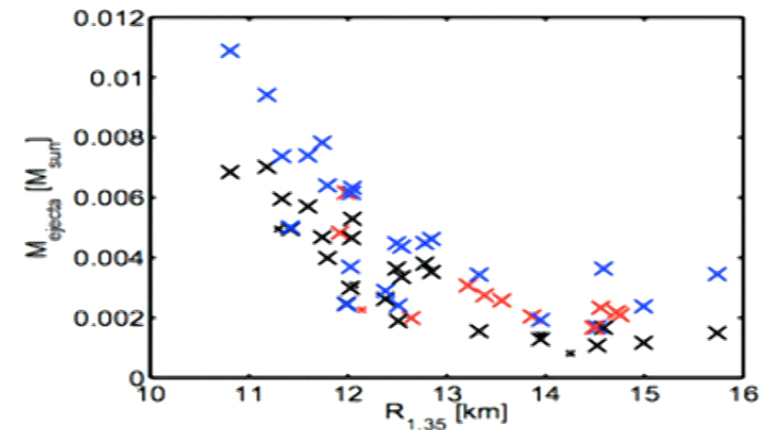
Bauswein et al. 2013



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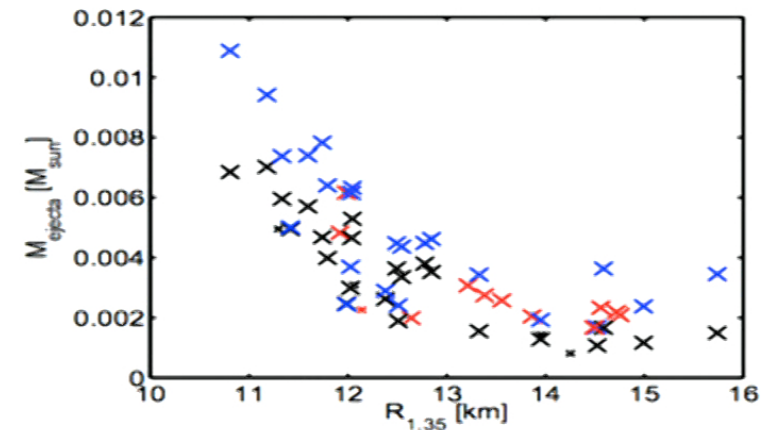
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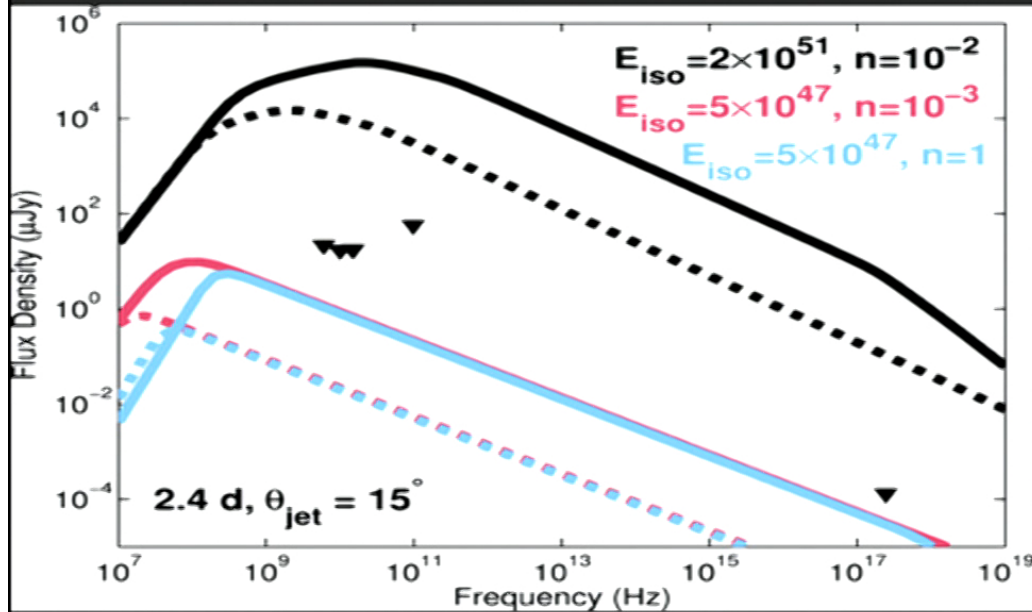
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- Tidal tail component likely sub-dominant to disk wind

Bauswein et al. 2013



Radio Counterpart: Off-axis Jet

Alexander, EB et al. 2017 (also Hallinan et al. 2017)

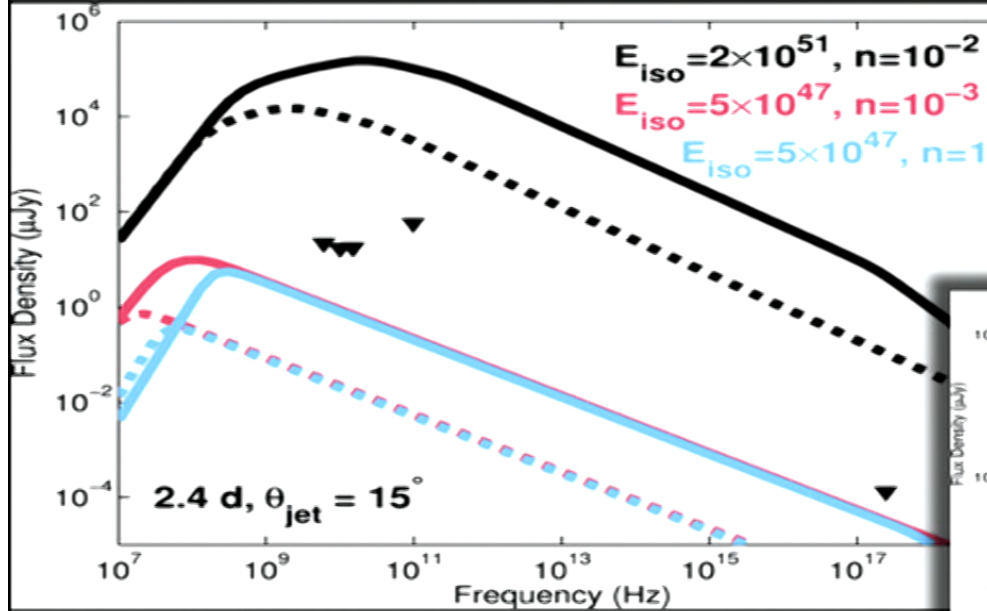


We obtained the first radio observation (VLA) 2.5 hours after discovering the optical counterpart. The source remained undetected until ~ 2 weeks post-merger

The non-detections rule out a typical short GRB on-axis

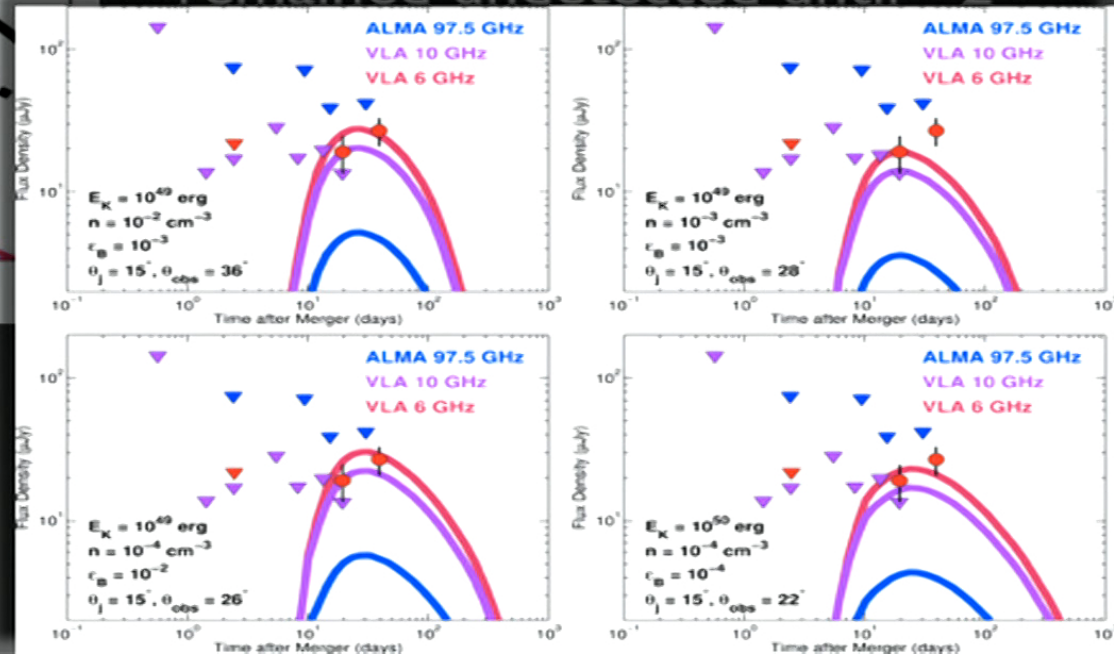
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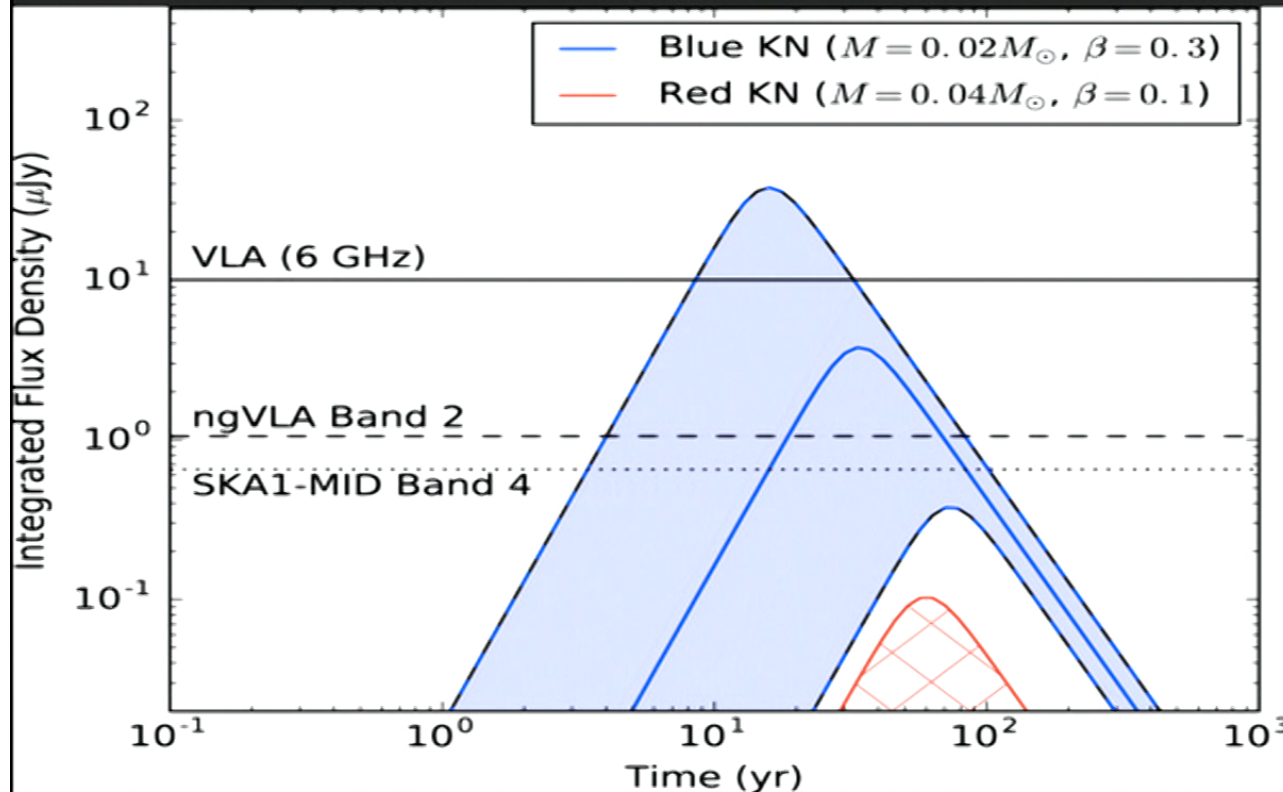
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Late onset can be explained with an off-axis jet: $E_K \sim \text{few} \times 10^{49}$ erg, $n \sim 0.01 \text{ cm}^{-3}$, $\theta_{\text{obs}} \sim 20\text{--}40^\circ$



Radio Counterpart: Kilonova

Alexander, EB et al. 2017

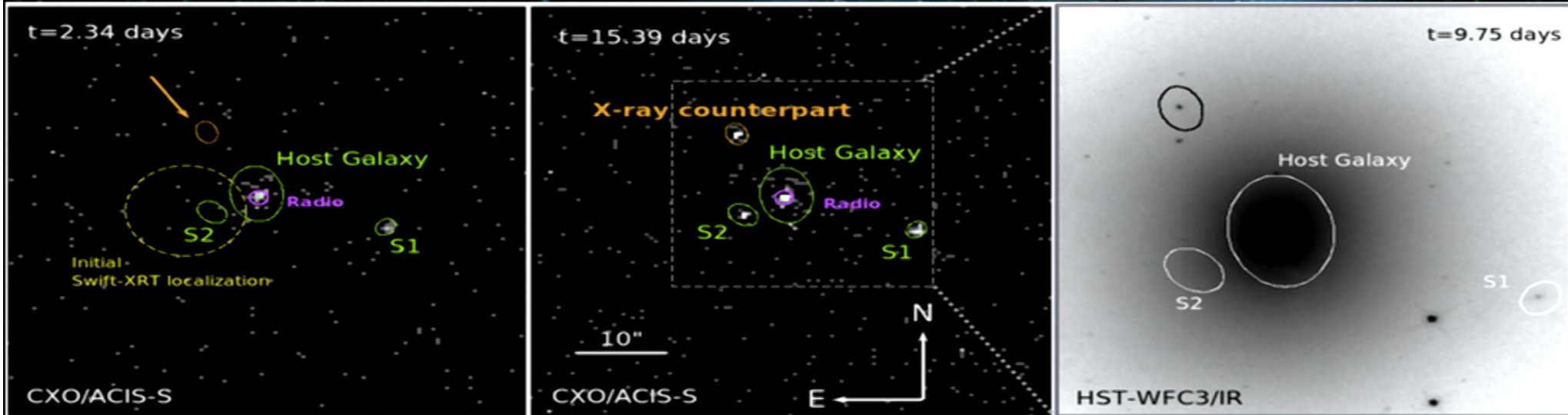


We also expect radio emission from the kilonova ejecta

The timescale is much longer since the ejecta mass is higher than for the relativistic jet

Weak (but detectable) emission in \sim decade...

X-ray Counterpart



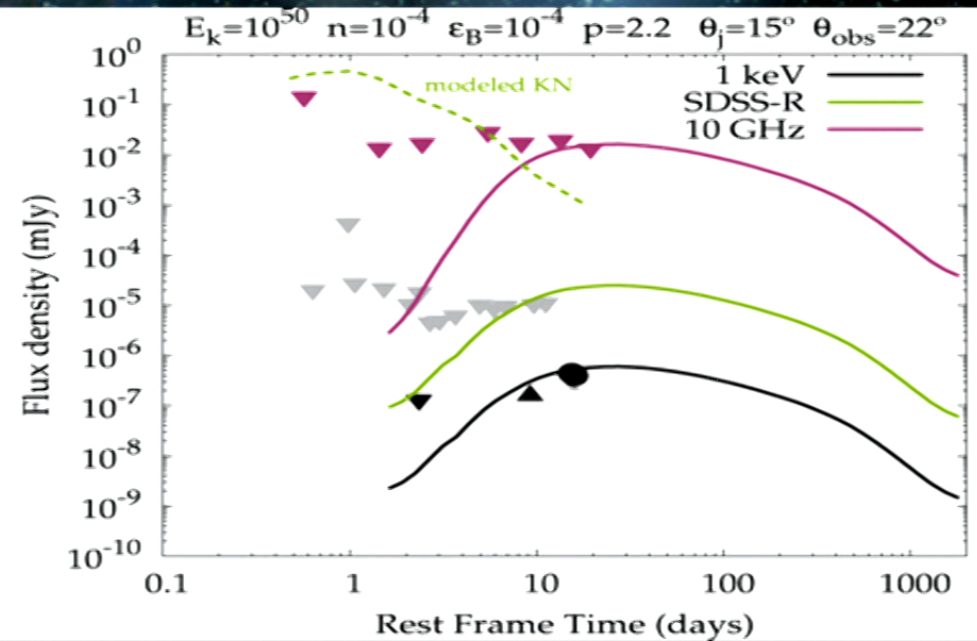
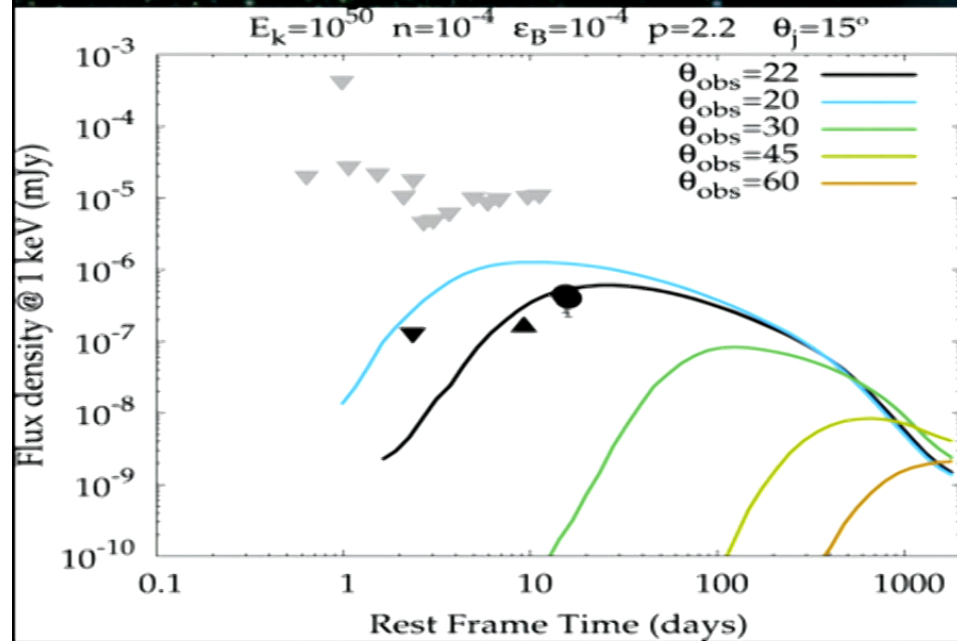
Margutti, EB et al. 2017 (also Troja et al. 2017)

First X-ray observations carried out with *Swift*/XRT ~ 4 hours after optical discovery (non-detection)

First deep observation with Chandra at 2.3 days (non-detection)

X-ray emission detected at $\sim 10-15$ days

X-ray Counterpart: Off-axis Jet



The late-onset X-ray and radio emission are consistent with the same off-axis jet model

The off-axis optical emission is much fainter than the kilonova

Margutti, EB et al. 2017

Radio/X-ray: Implications

- On-axis afterglow typical of short GRBs is ruled out
- A late (on-axis / isotropic) afterglow onset, due to deceleration of a mildly relativistic outflow can explain the X-ray data but violates the radio limits

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- A central engine origin of the X-ray emission is ruled out since the kilonova ejecta has an X-ray optical depth of $\sim 10^2$
- The radio and X-ray data are consistent with a relativistic jet with $E_K \sim \text{few} \times 10^{49}$ erg, $n \sim 0.01 \text{ cm}^{-3}$, $\theta_{\text{obs}} \sim 20\text{--}40^\circ$ typical of short GRBs

Host Galaxy

Blanchard, EB et al. 2017

GW 170817 Optical Counterpart



NGC 4993
HST/ACS

Offset from the host center
is 2.2 kpc

1 kpc

Credit: P. Blanchard / E. Berger / Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

Detected in radio/X-rays: weak AGN

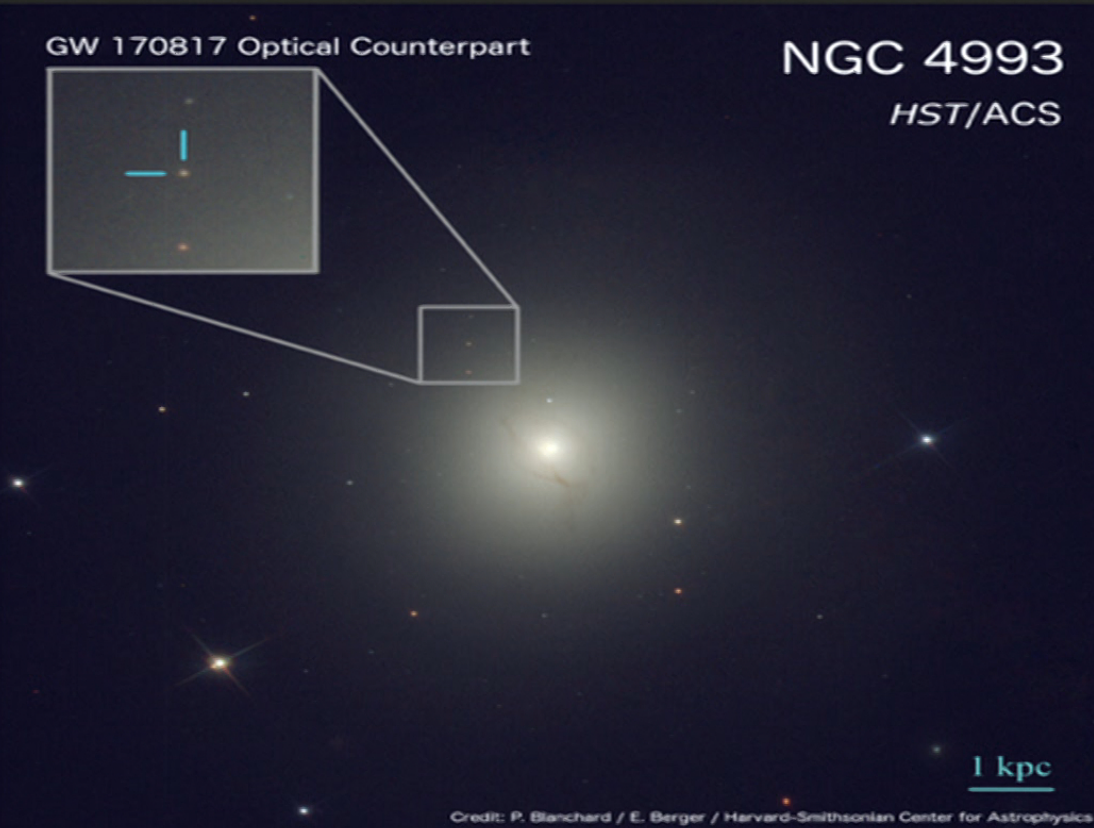
Host Galaxy

Blanchard, EB et al. 2017

GW 170817 Optical Counterpart



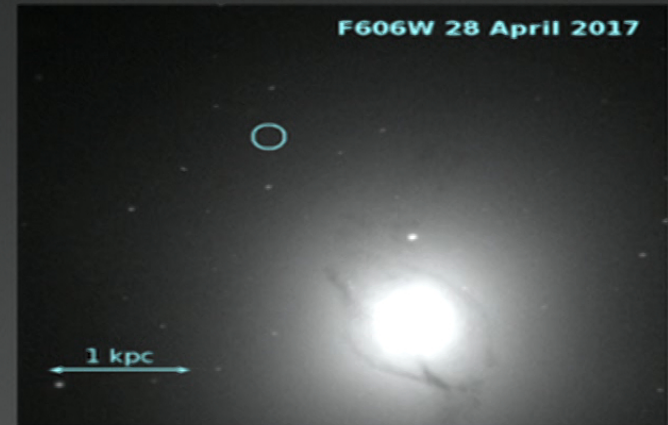
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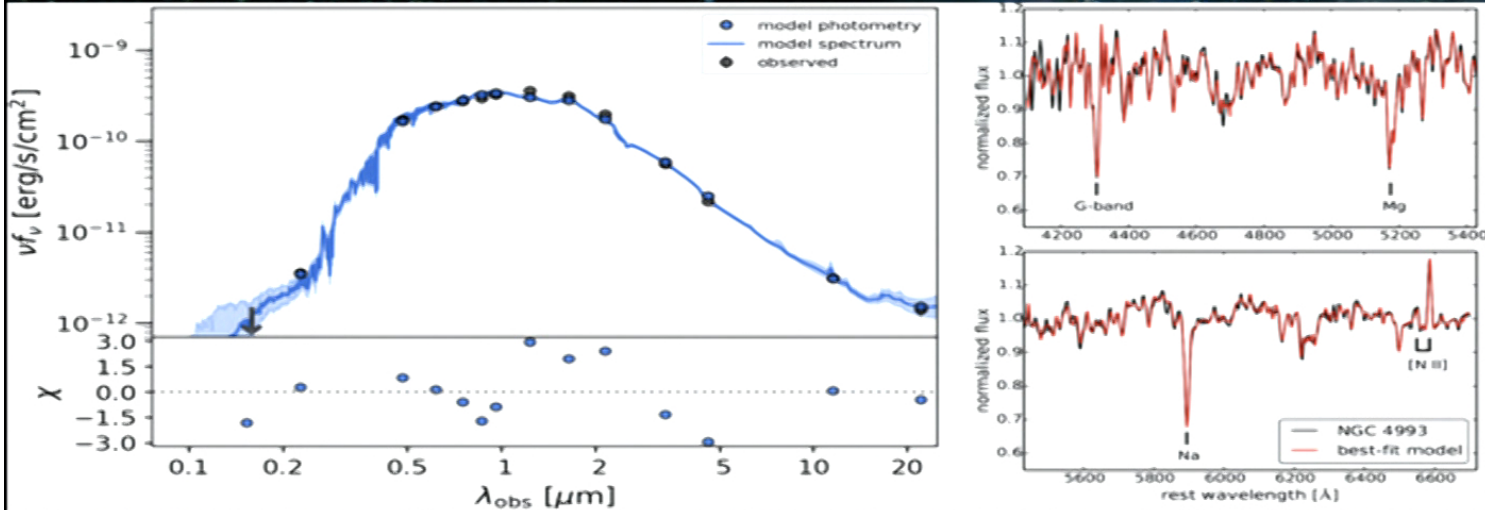
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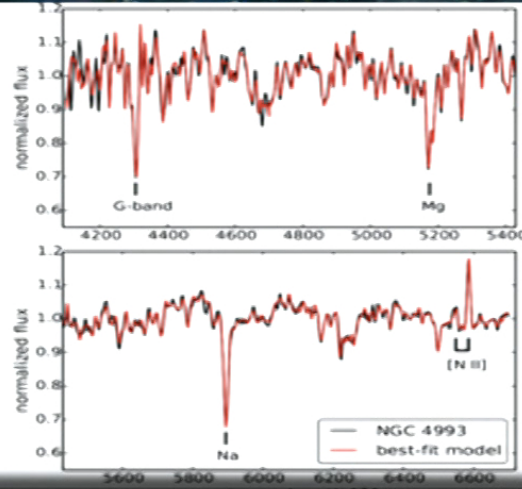
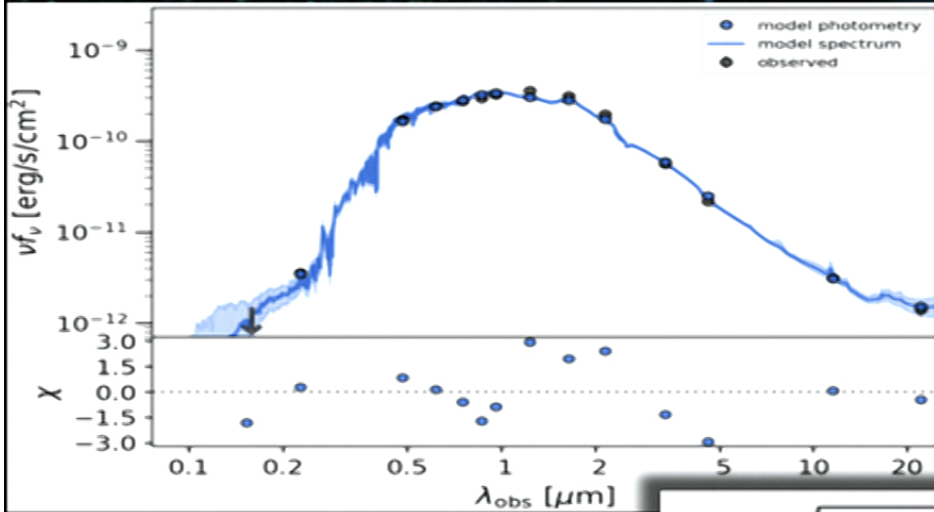
Limit from April 2017 HST
data rules out globular cluster
brighter than the median of
the GC luminosity function

Host Galaxy



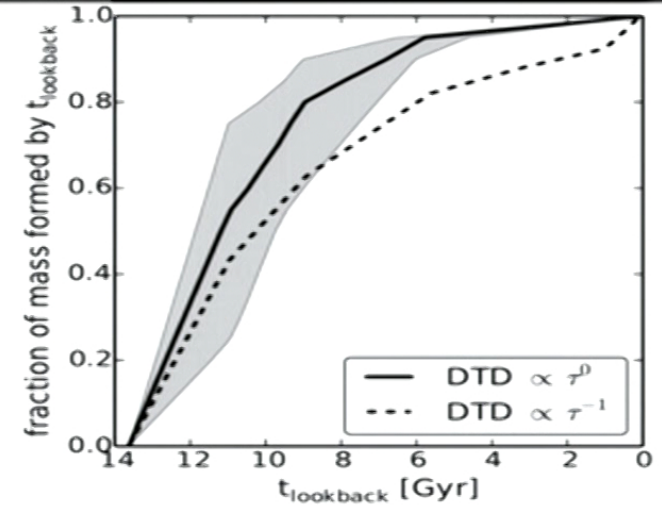
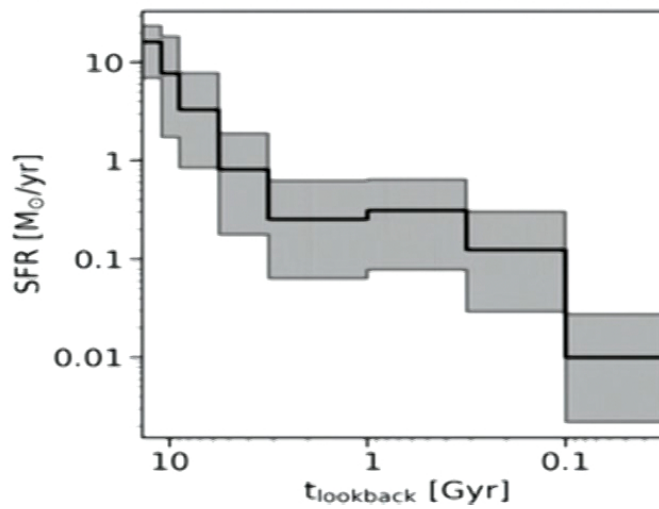
Blanchard, EB et al. 2017

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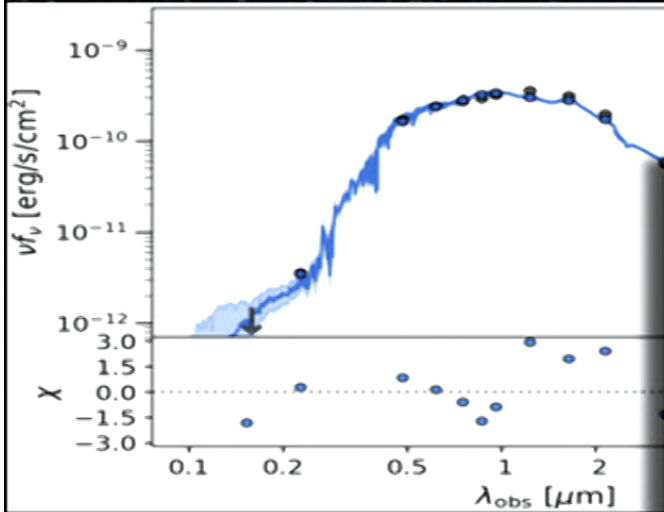


Blanchard, EB et al. 2017

Median stellar
 population age
 ~ 11 Gyr

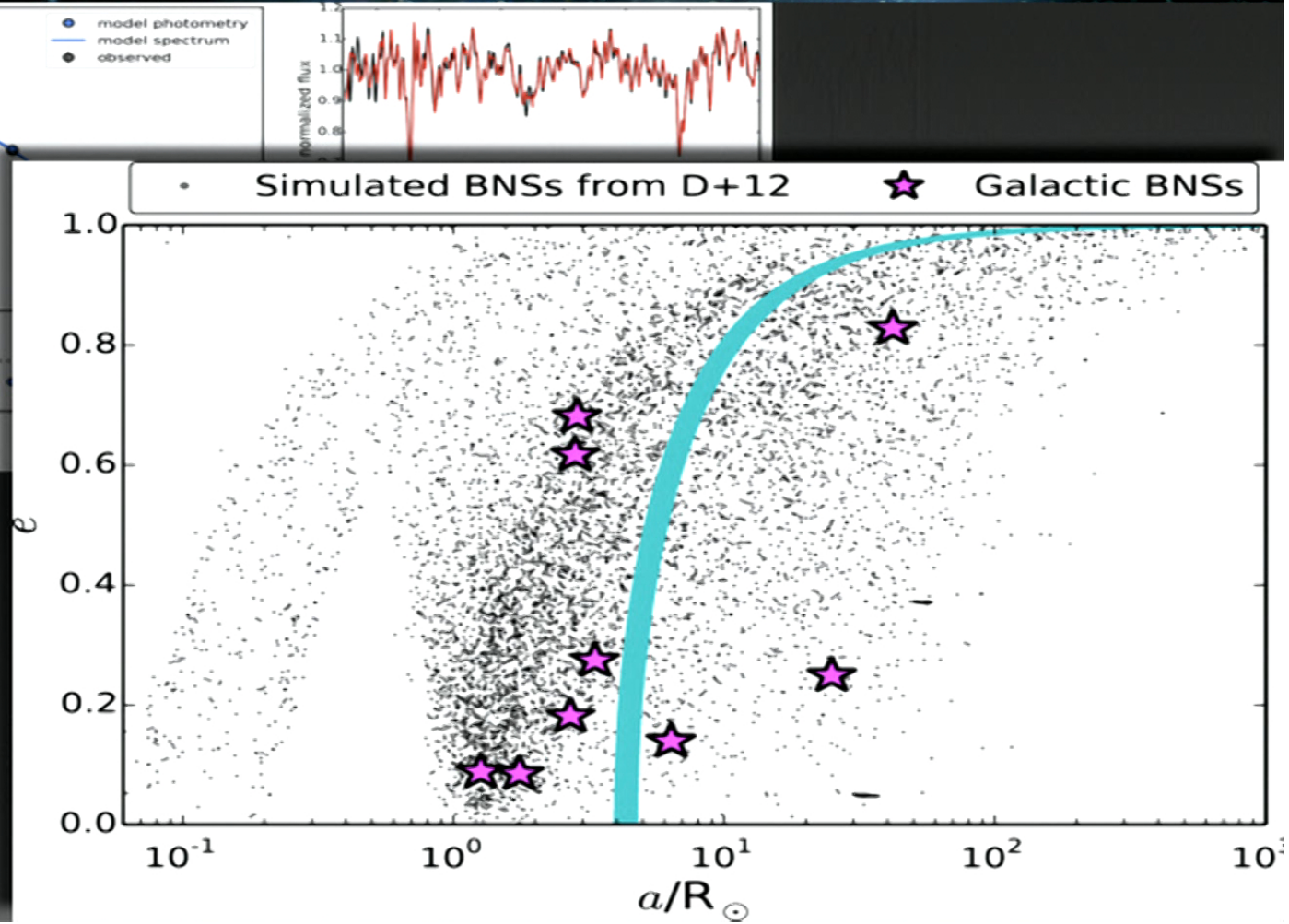


Host Galaxy



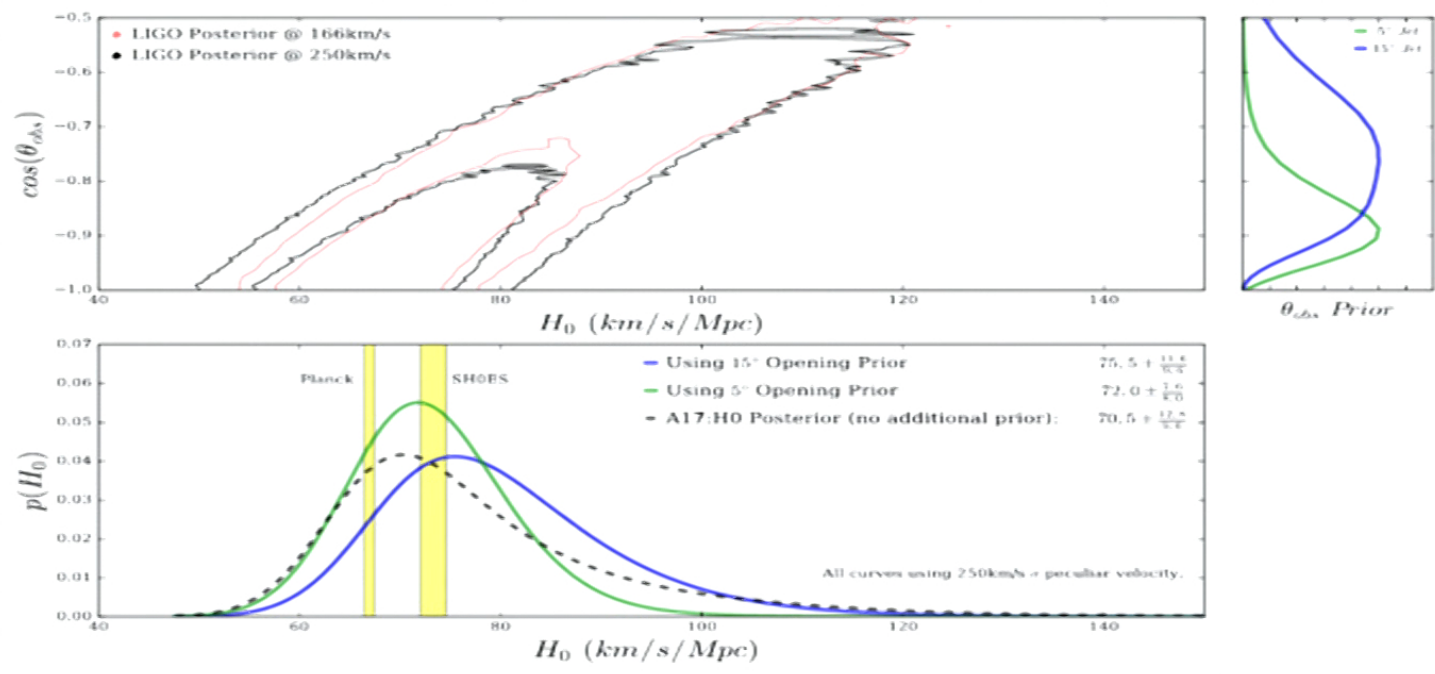
Blanchard, EB et al. 2017

Initial binary separation was $\sim 4.5 R_\odot$



Hubble Constant

Abbott et al. 2017 (+EB); Guidorzi, EB, et al. 2017



Standard Siren:

The combination of distance (GW) and redshift (EM) can be used to measure the Hubble constant ($v = H_0 \times d$)

Future Directions

Advanced LIGO/Virgo O3 should have $1.5\times$ larger sensitivity
⇒ BNS detections to ~ 120 Mpc and $3.5\times$ detection rate

Advanced LIGO/Virgo design will have $2.5\times$ larger sensitivity
⇒ BNS detections to ~ 200 Mpc and $15\times$ detection rate

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For BNS detection at ~ 100 Mpc, search volume $10\times$ larger ⇒
 ~ 500 galaxies ⇒ galaxy-targeting ineffective ⇒ **wide-field
imaging is essential** (even worse at 200 Mpc)

Future Directions

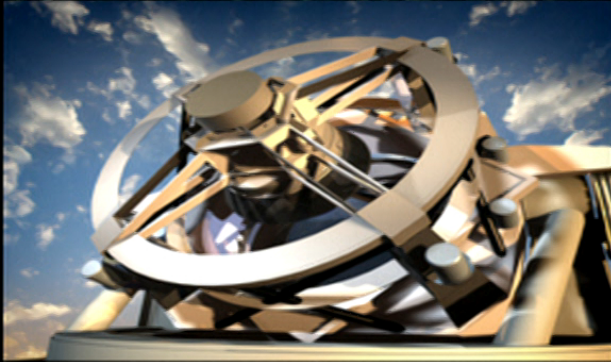
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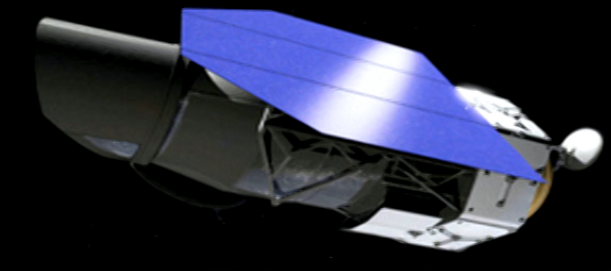
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 ~ 500 galaxies \Rightarrow galaxy-targeting ineffective \Rightarrow **wide-field
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By ~ 2025 a 5-detector network with detections to ~ 200 Mpc,
localizations of $< 10 \text{ deg}^2$ and a rate of > 1 per month; optical
counterparts > 21 mag

Future Directions

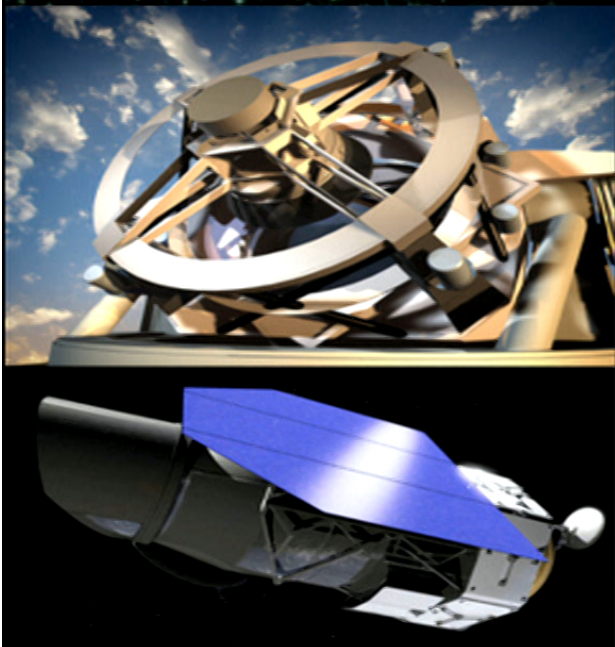


10 deg²
0.35-1 micron
24 mag in 10 sec



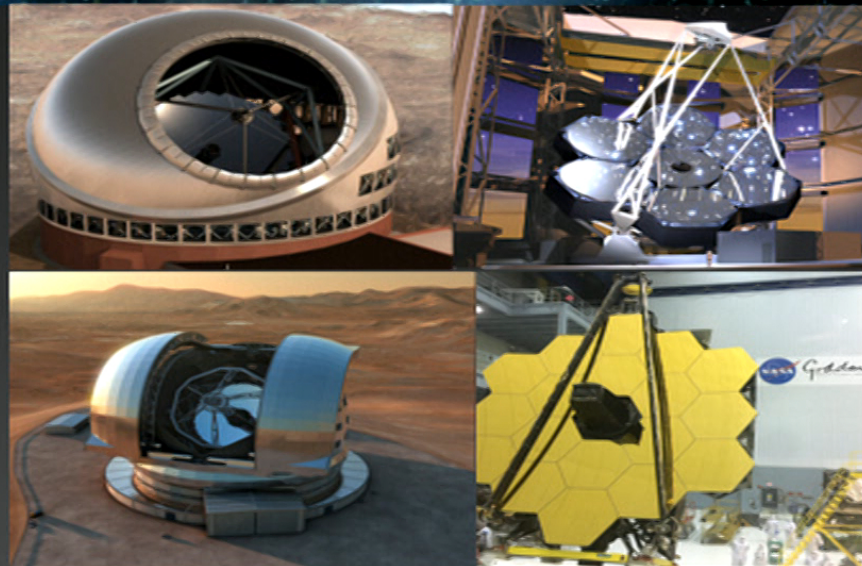
0.6 deg²
0.9-2 micron
25 mag in 5 min

Future Directions



10 deg²
0.35-1 micron
24 mag in 10 sec

0.6 deg²
0.9-2 micron
25 mag in 5 min



Spectra in photospheric
phase to establish velocities
& in the nebular phase to
establish composition

An Unparalleled Story of Firsts

- First gravitational wave detection of a neutron star binary merger
- First joint detection of gravitational waves and EM radiation
- First direct confirmation that short GRBs result from BNS mergers
- First detection of an off-axis short GRB
- First direct evidence for *r*-process nucleosynthesis in a neutron star binary merger
- First evidence that *r*-process nucleosynthesis is dominated by neutron star binary mergers
- First use of a neutron star binary merger “standard siren” approach to measuring the Hubble Constant
- Best constraints on the relative speed of light and gravity

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