

Title: Nuclear astrophysics with gravitational wave observations

Speakers: Jocelyn Read

Series: Colloquium

Date: December 13, 2023 - 2:00 PM

URL: <https://pirsa.org/23120019>

Abstract: Gravitational-wave observatories have established a new field of transient astronomy. The most recent LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA catalog, GWTC-3, identified 90 merging binaries, which range from a double neutron star with a total mass of 2.7 at 40 Mpc (GW170817) to a double black hole with a total mass of 150 at 5.3 Gpc (GW190521). These observations have many connections to nuclear astrophysics. They are revealing the remnants of stellar evolution and supernovae in merging binary systems, they are constraining event rates and astrophysical environments for heavy-element nucleosynthesis, and they are illuminating the dense matter dynamics inside the cores of merging neutron stars. Here, I will describe the imprint of dense matter on gravitational waves, the implications of existing observations for nuclear physics, and some prospects for the coming years including the science potential of proposed next-generation observatories like Cosmic Explorer.

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Zoom link <https://pitp.zoom.us/j/99015121355?pwd=NStOc2srbEJXdW9aSTJJbDk4RWZhcz09>

# Gravitational waves and Nuclear Astrophysics

Jocelyn Read  
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California State University Fullerton



Neutron Stars Merging,  
CSUF GWPAC Artist-in-Residence Eddie Anaya



- Fundamentals of gravitational-wave astronomy
- Using gravitational waves to learn about:
  - What physics governs the lives and deaths of stars?
  - What is the origin of the elements?
  - What's inside a neutron star?
- Going deeper: Modeling gravitational-wave sources
- Future detectors

# GW: Mass in motion

- Curvature of spacetime changes around moving objects  
→ change propagates at speed of light
- Linearized Einstein Equations of General Relativity → wave equation
- Metric change modifies the distance between freely-falling objects

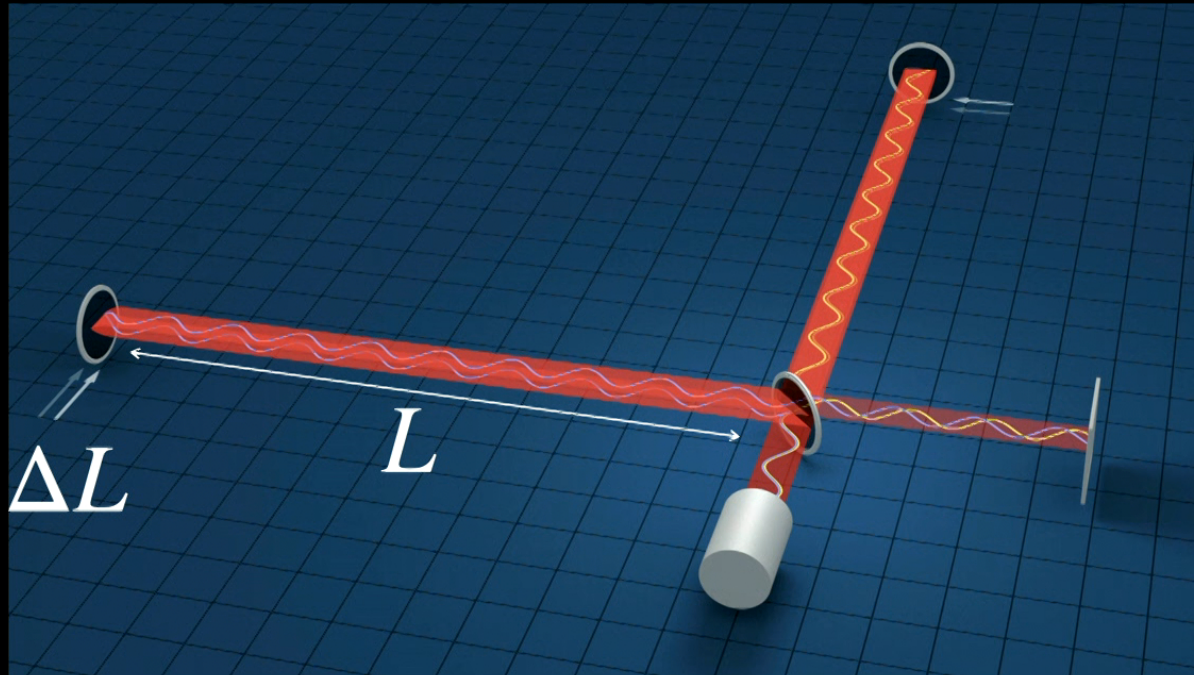


Moon passing Earth  
as seen from NASA's DSCOVR spacecraft (NASA/NOAA)  
at the L1 Point between the Earth and the Sun, 5 light seconds from Earth



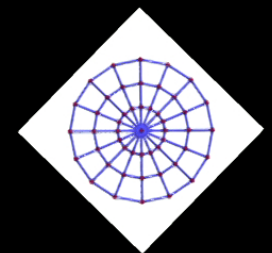
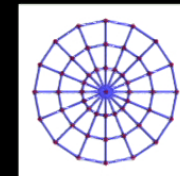
# GW: Strain

Test masses follow stretch and squeeze of spacetime



Gravitational-wave  
strain

$$h = 2 \frac{\Delta L}{L}$$



# Sources of gravitational waves

Oscillatory source  
mass  $M$ , size  $s$ , frequency  $f$   
Distance to source  $r$

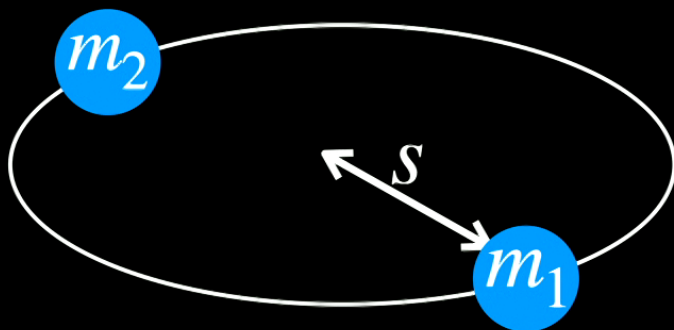
Quadrupole moment  $Q \sim Ms^2$

$$h \sim \frac{\ddot{Q}}{r} \sim GM \frac{f^2 s^2}{c^4 r}$$



# Sources of gravitational waves

Oscillatory source  
mass  $M$ , size  $s$ , frequency  $f$   
Distance to source  $r$

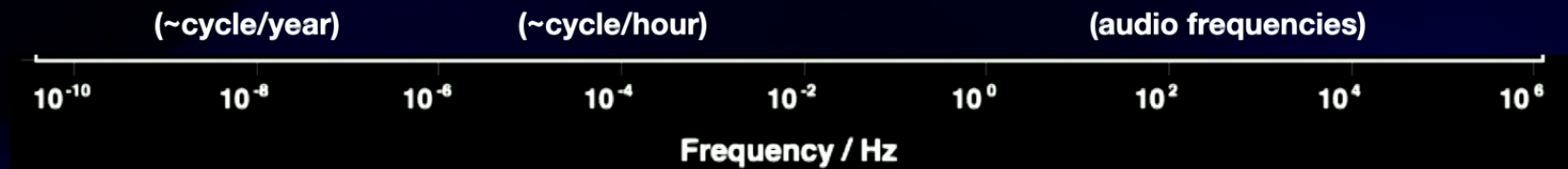


Quadrupole moment  $Q \sim Ms^2$

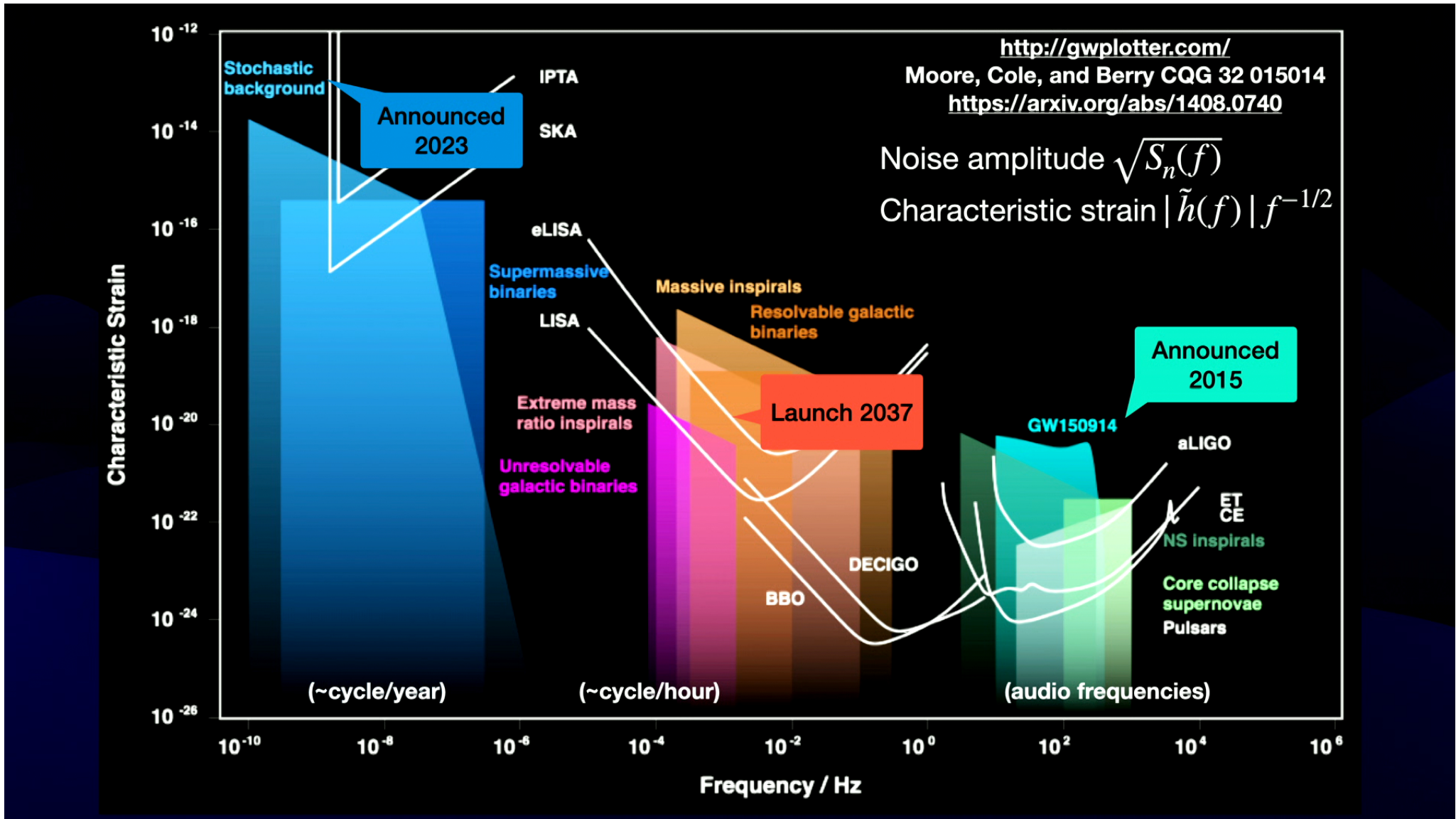
$$h \sim \frac{\ddot{Q}}{r} \sim GM \frac{f^2 s^2}{c^4 r} \sim \frac{G}{c^2} \frac{M}{r} \frac{v_{\perp}^2}{c^2}$$

e.g. binary orbit with:  
mass  $M$ , size  $s$ , orbital frequency  $f$

# The Gravitational-wave Spectrum







# Ground-based gravitational-wave observatories



LIGO<sub>H</sub>

Kagra



LIGO<sub>L</sub>



LIGO<sub>I</sub>

GEO600

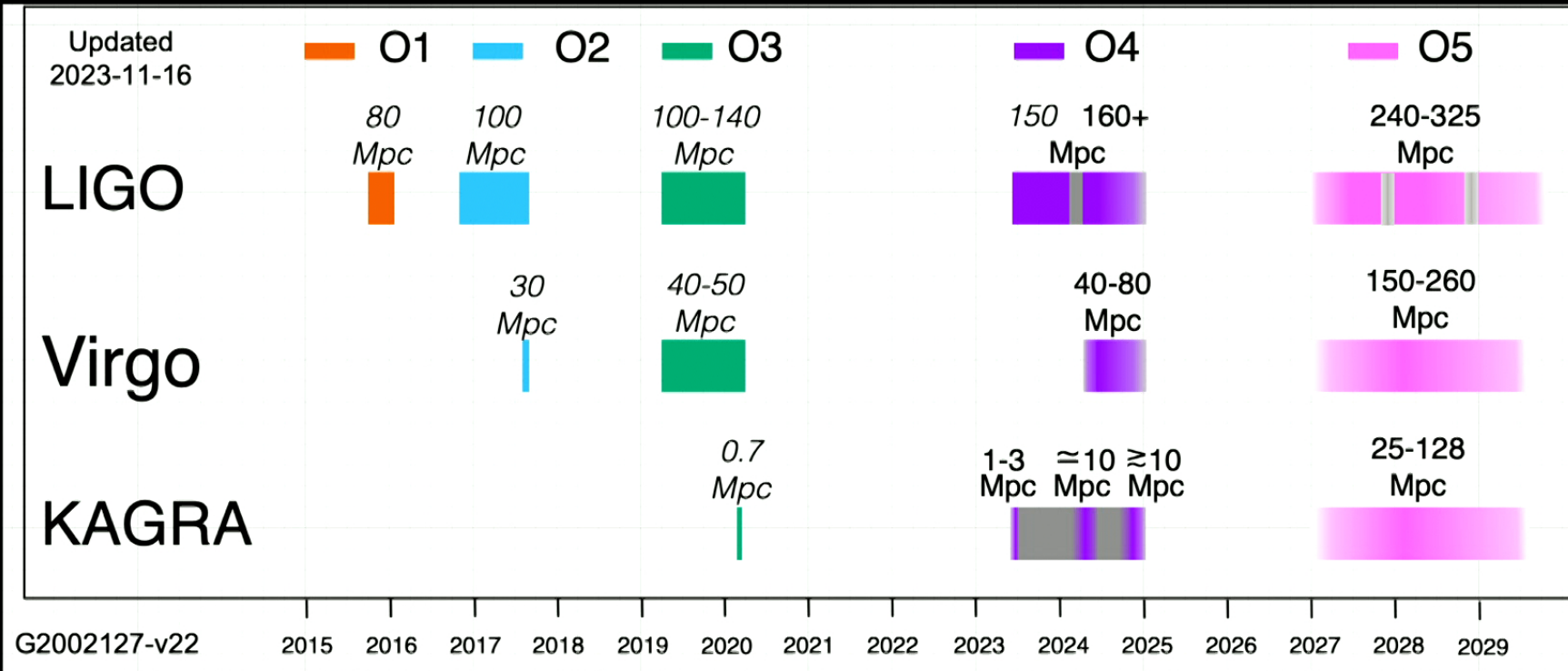
Virgo





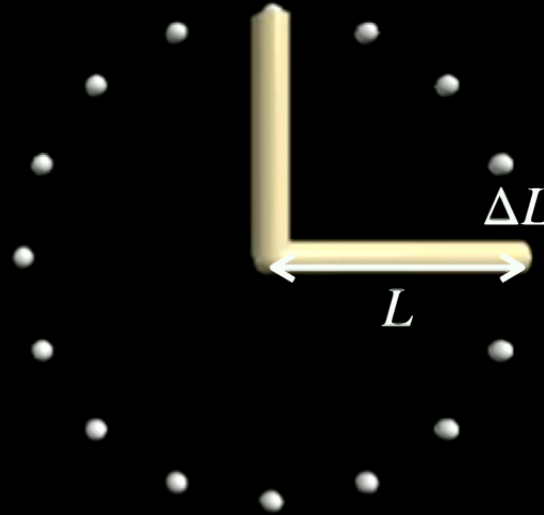


# Observing in the “Advanced” Era

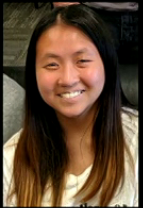


Ranges: Sky average distance to double neutron star with SNR 8

# Compact binary source



$$h = 2 \frac{\Delta L}{L} \sim 10^{-21} \frac{100 \text{ Mpc}}{r} \frac{M}{1.4 M_{\odot}} \frac{R_S}{s}$$

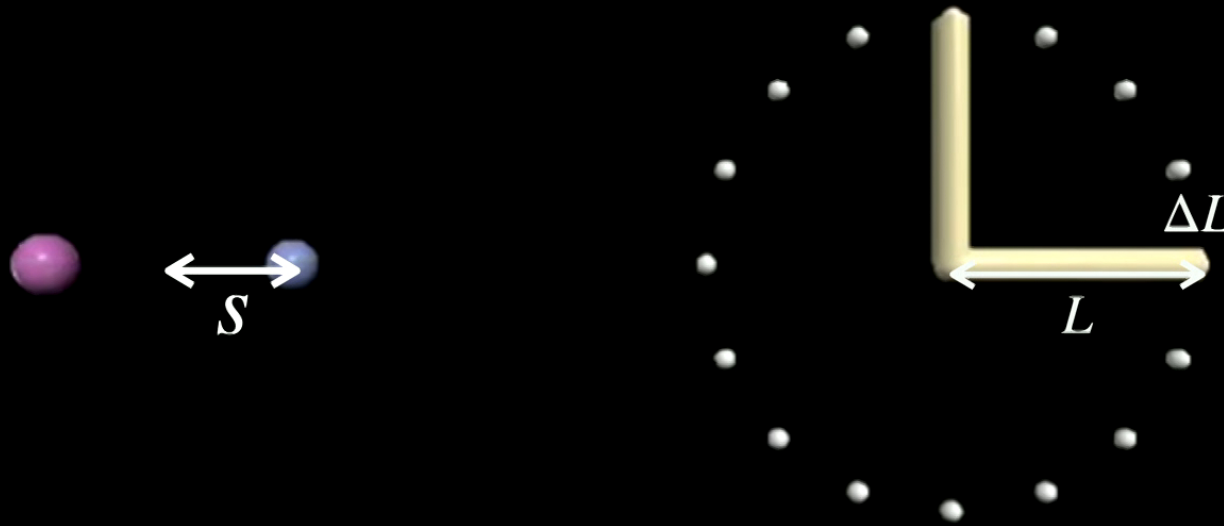


Movie by  
Megan Loh, CSUF

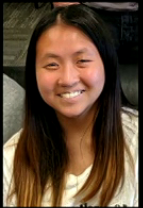
10

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=loZlgl>

# Compact binary source



GW energy flux  $\sim f^2 h^2$ , integrate over sphere  $\sim r^2$

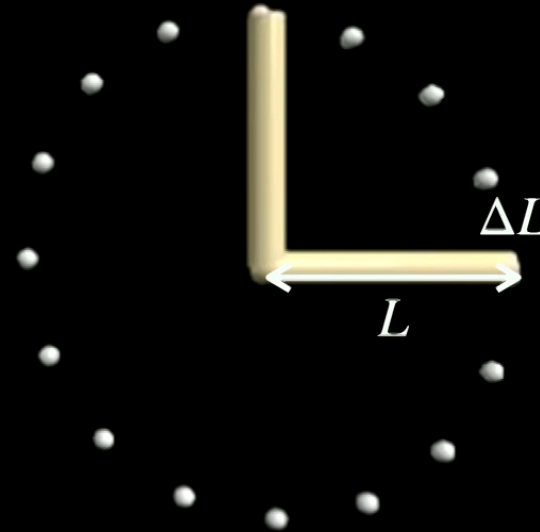
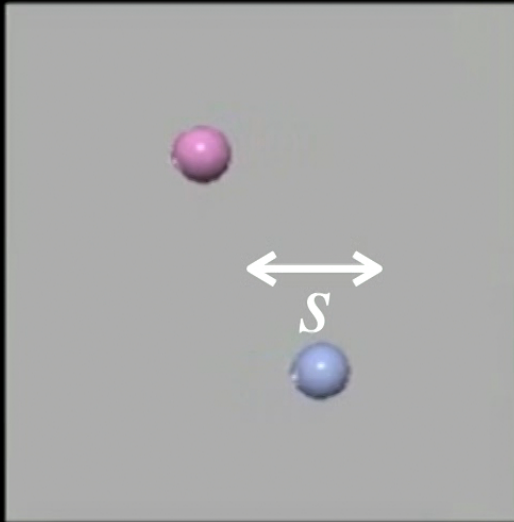


Movie by  
Megan Loh, CSUF

11

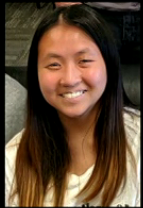
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=loZlgl>

# Compact binary source



GW energy flux  $\sim f^2 h^2$ , integrate over sphere  $\sim r^2$

$$\mathcal{L}_{GW} \sim \frac{c^5}{G} \left( \frac{R_S}{s} \right)^2 \left( \frac{v}{c} \right)^6 \sim 10^{59} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \frac{R_S}{s}$$



Movie by  
Megan Loh, CSUF

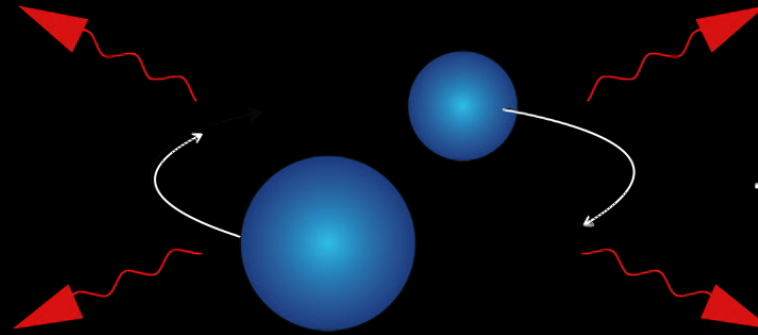
11

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=loZlgl>

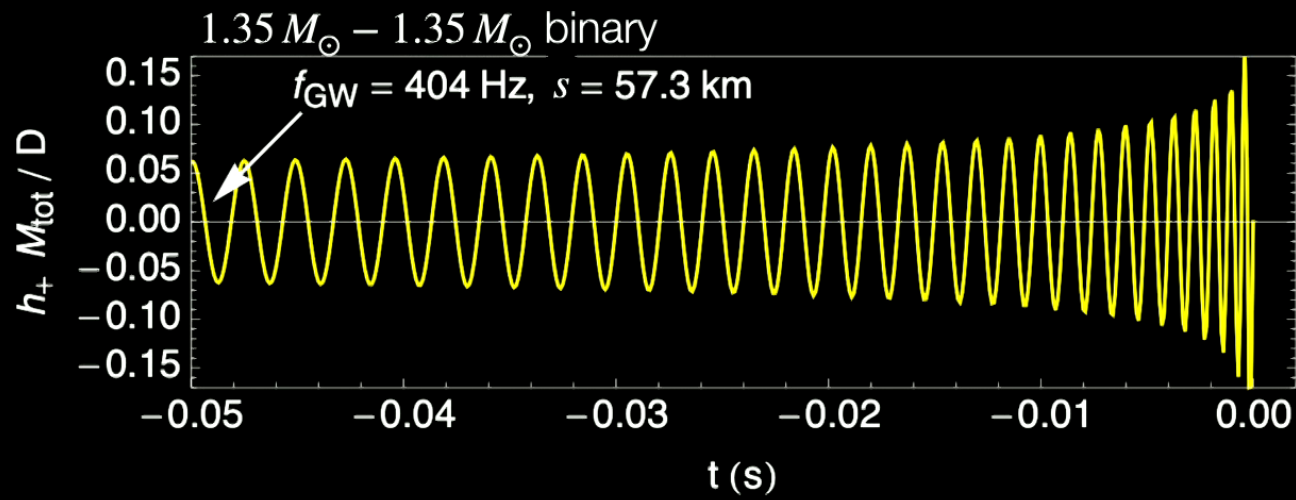


# The “chirp”

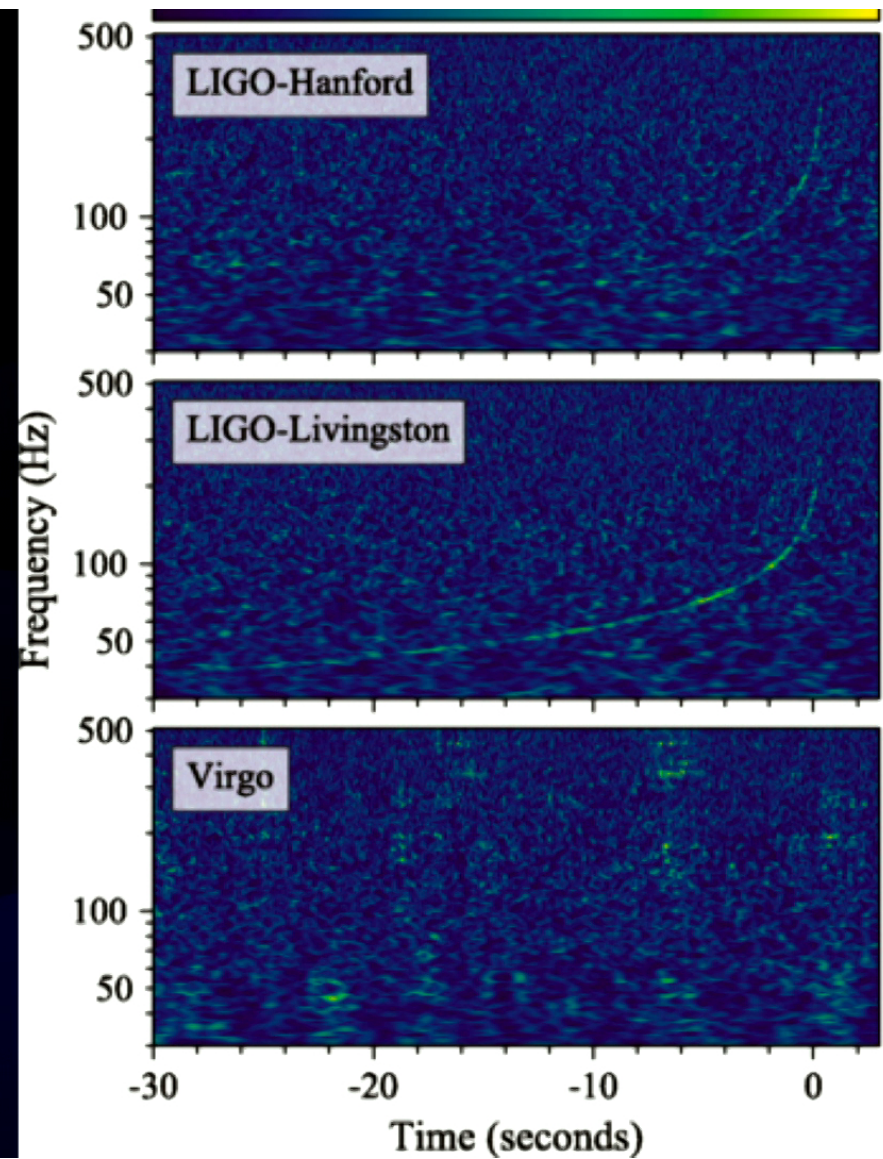
$$\frac{dE}{dt} = -\mathcal{L}_{GW}$$



$$\frac{ds}{dt} = \frac{-\mathcal{L}_{GW}}{dE_{orb}(s)/ds}$$

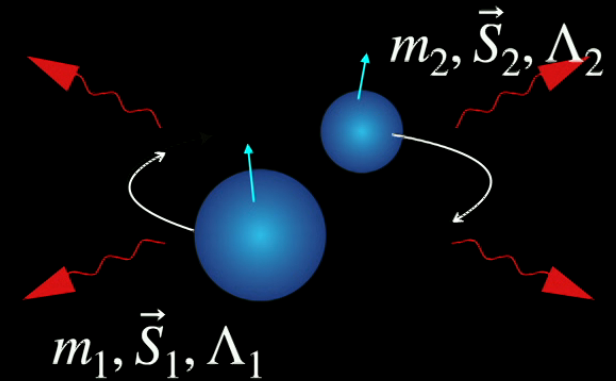


# How do we interpret observational data?



# Source model

- Fourier domain  $h(t) \rightarrow \tilde{h}(f)$



Sky location, orientation

Chirp mass  $\frac{(m_1 m_2)^{3/5}}{(m_1 + m_2)^{1/5}}$

$$\tilde{h}(f) \sim Q(\alpha, \delta, \iota, \psi) \frac{\mathcal{M}}{d_L} f^{-7/6} (1 + \dots) e^{i\phi(f)}$$

Luminosity distance

Amplitude fall-off in frequency domain

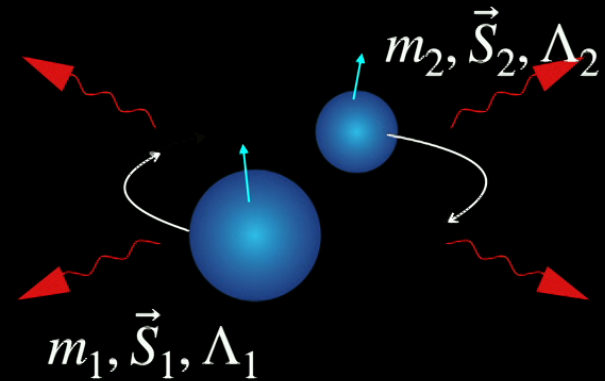
$\phi(f)$  is where the  $(m, \vec{S}, \Lambda)$  magic happens!

# GW phase $\leftrightarrow$ Orbital phase

$$\phi(f) = 2\pi i f t_c + \phi_c + [\text{const}] (\mathcal{M}f)^{-5/3} + \dots$$

for inspiral a function of leading-order combinations:

- Chirp mass:  $\mathcal{M} = \frac{(m_1 m_2)^{3/5}}{(m_1 + m_2)^{1/5}}$
- Mass ratio:  $q = m_2/m_1$
- Effective spin:  $\chi_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\vec{S}_1/m_1 + \vec{S}_2/m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \cdot \vec{L}$





# GW phase $\leftrightarrow$ Orbital phase

$$\phi(f) = 2\pi i f t_c + \phi_c + [\text{const}] (\mathcal{M}f)^{-5/3} + \dots$$

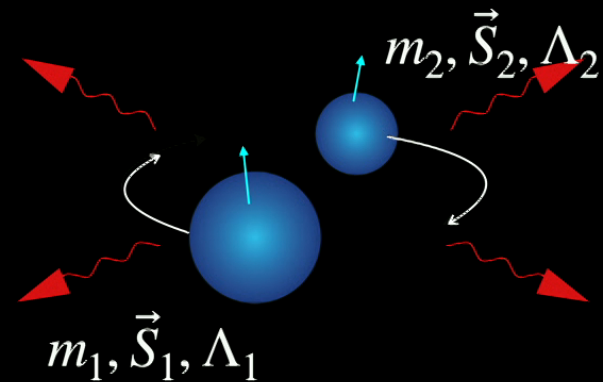
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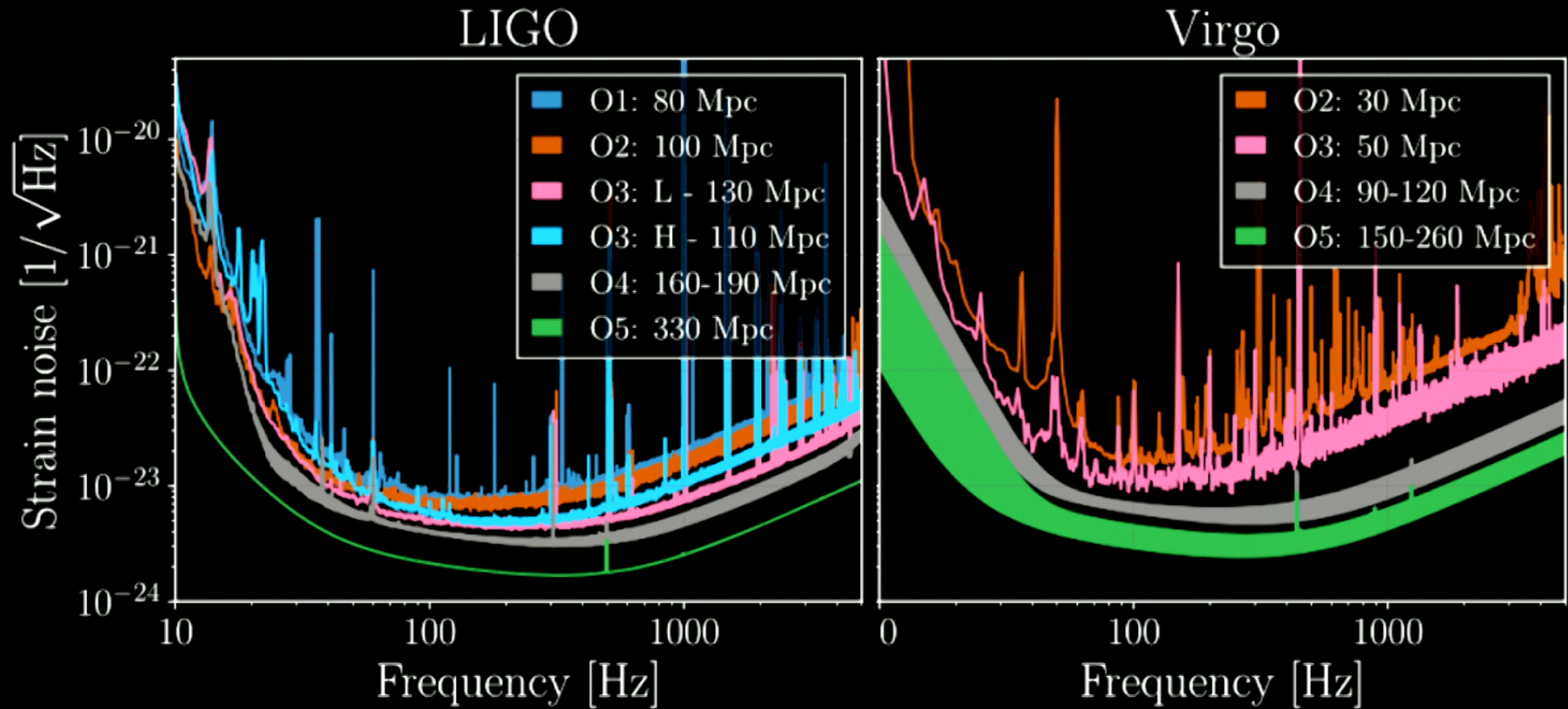
- Mass ratio:  $q = m_2/m_1$

- Effective spin:  $\chi_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\vec{S}_1/m_1 + \vec{S}_2/m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \cdot \vec{L}$

- Effective tide:  $\tilde{\Lambda} = \frac{16 (m_1 + 12m_2)m_1^4\Lambda_1 + (m_2 + 12m_1)m_2^4\Lambda_2}{13 (m_1 + m_2)^5}$



# Strain noise: detector spectral density $\sqrt{S_n(f)}$



LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Observing Scenarios Living Rev Relativ 23, 3 (2020)

# Template Search

Recorded data  $\tilde{d}(f)$  Candidate signal  $\tilde{h}(f)$   $d(t)$

Signal-to-noise ratio

$$\text{SNR} \propto \sum_f \frac{\tilde{d}(f)\tilde{h}^*(f)}{S_n(f)}$$

Optimal statistic in Gaussian noise

Detection pipelines build search statistics (typically some sort of  $\chi^2$  weighted SNR) to help differentiate astrophysical signal from noise transients

SNR

# Template Search

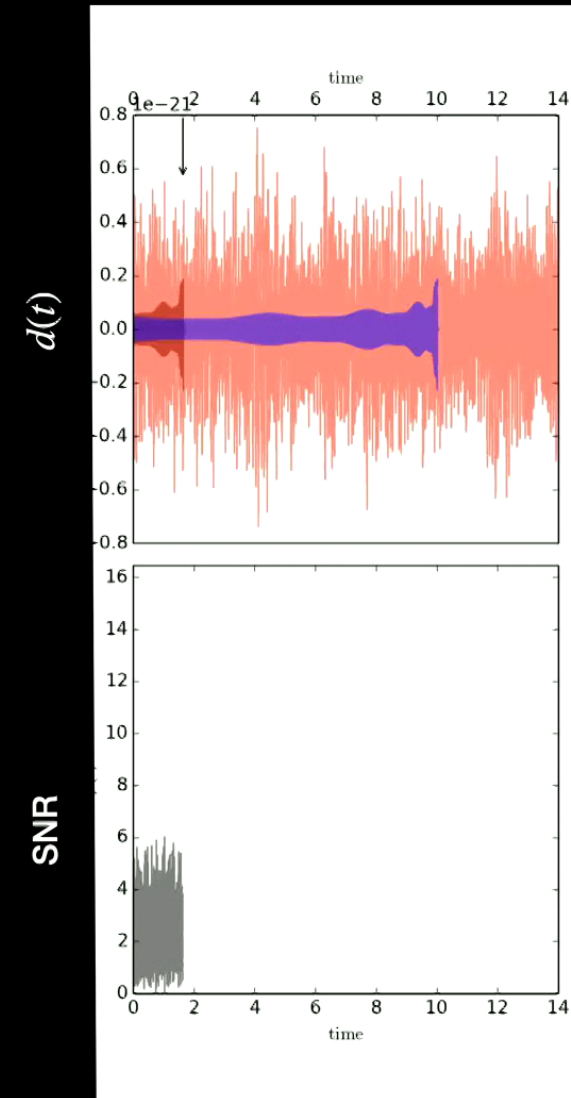
Recorded data  $\tilde{d}(f)$  Candidate signal  $\tilde{h}(f)$

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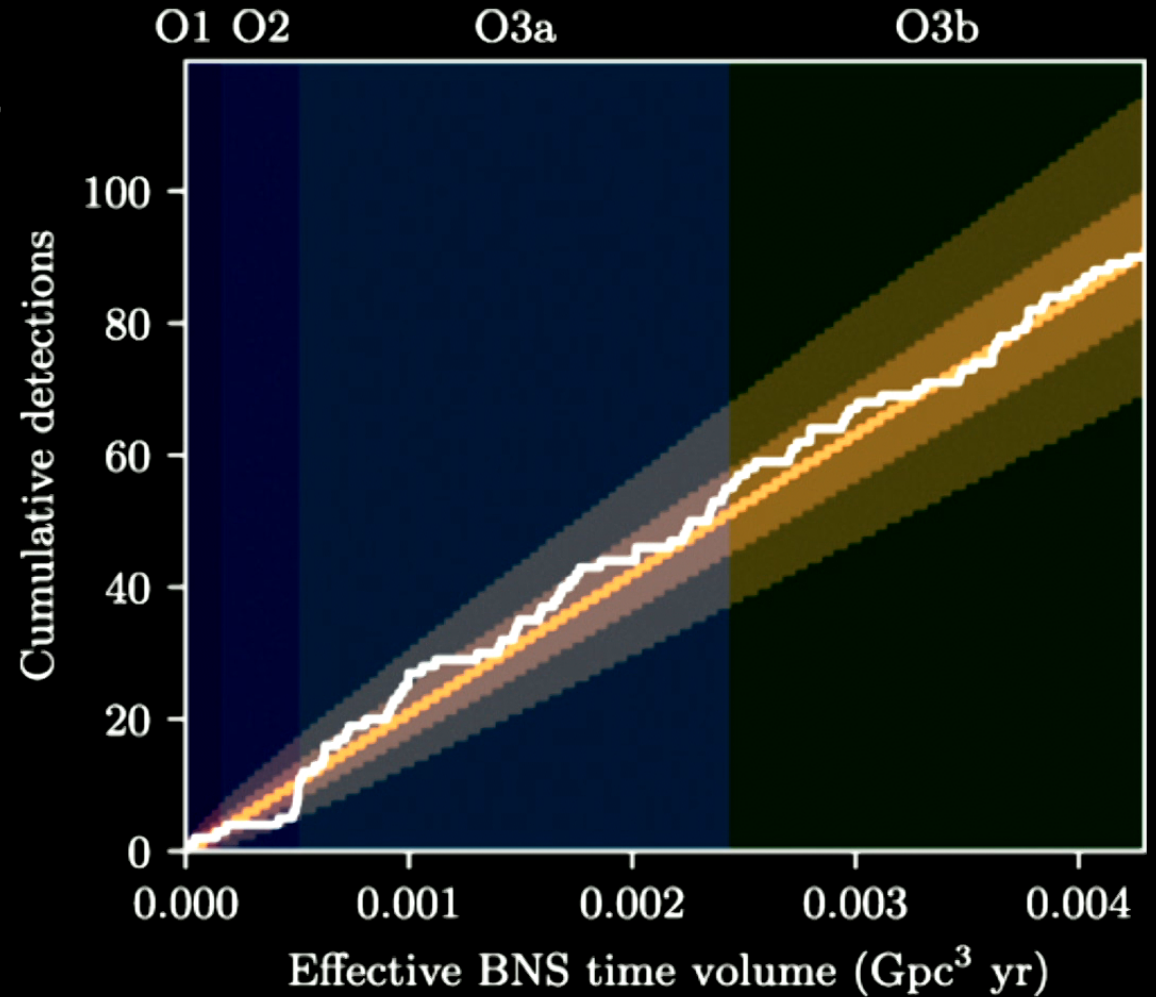


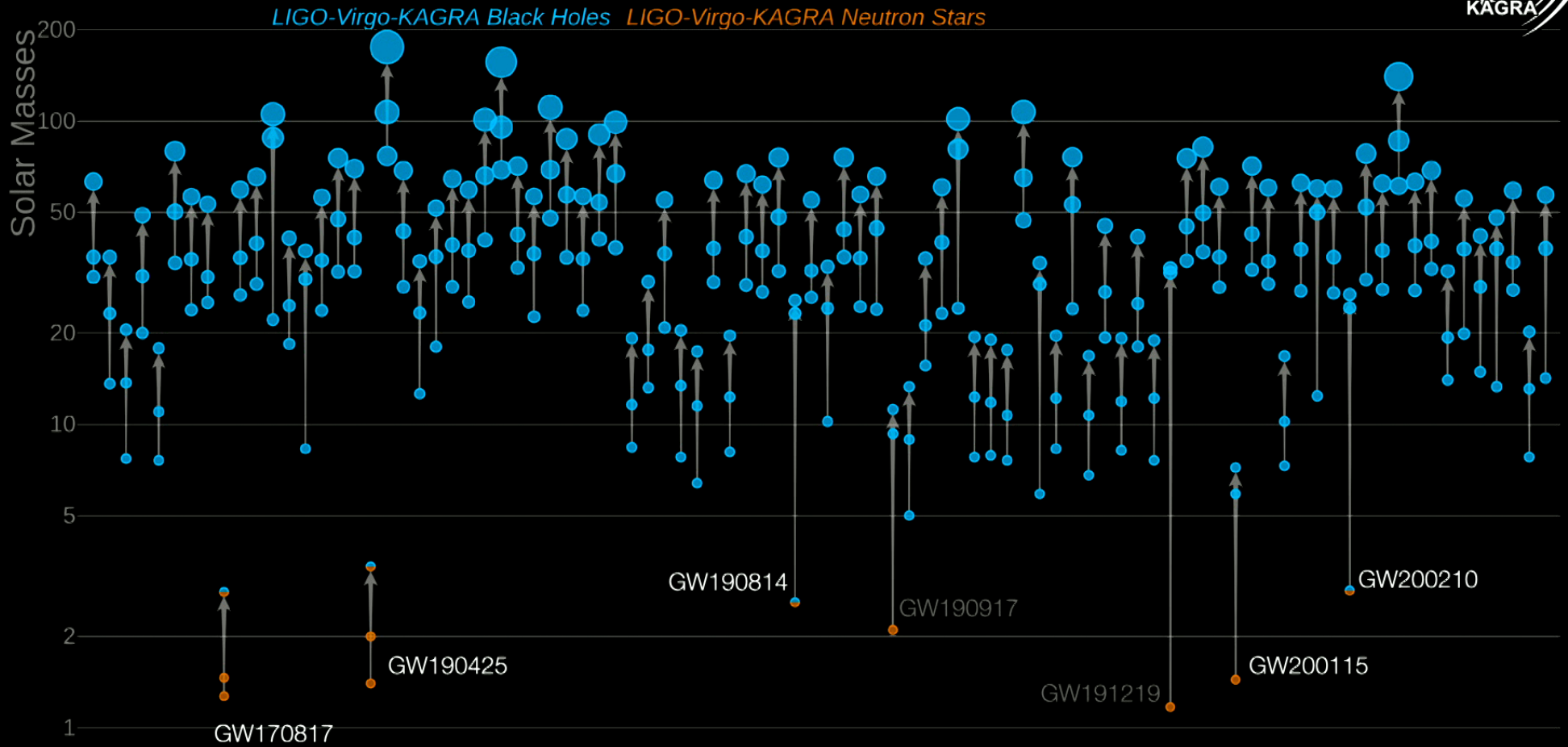


# Signals found

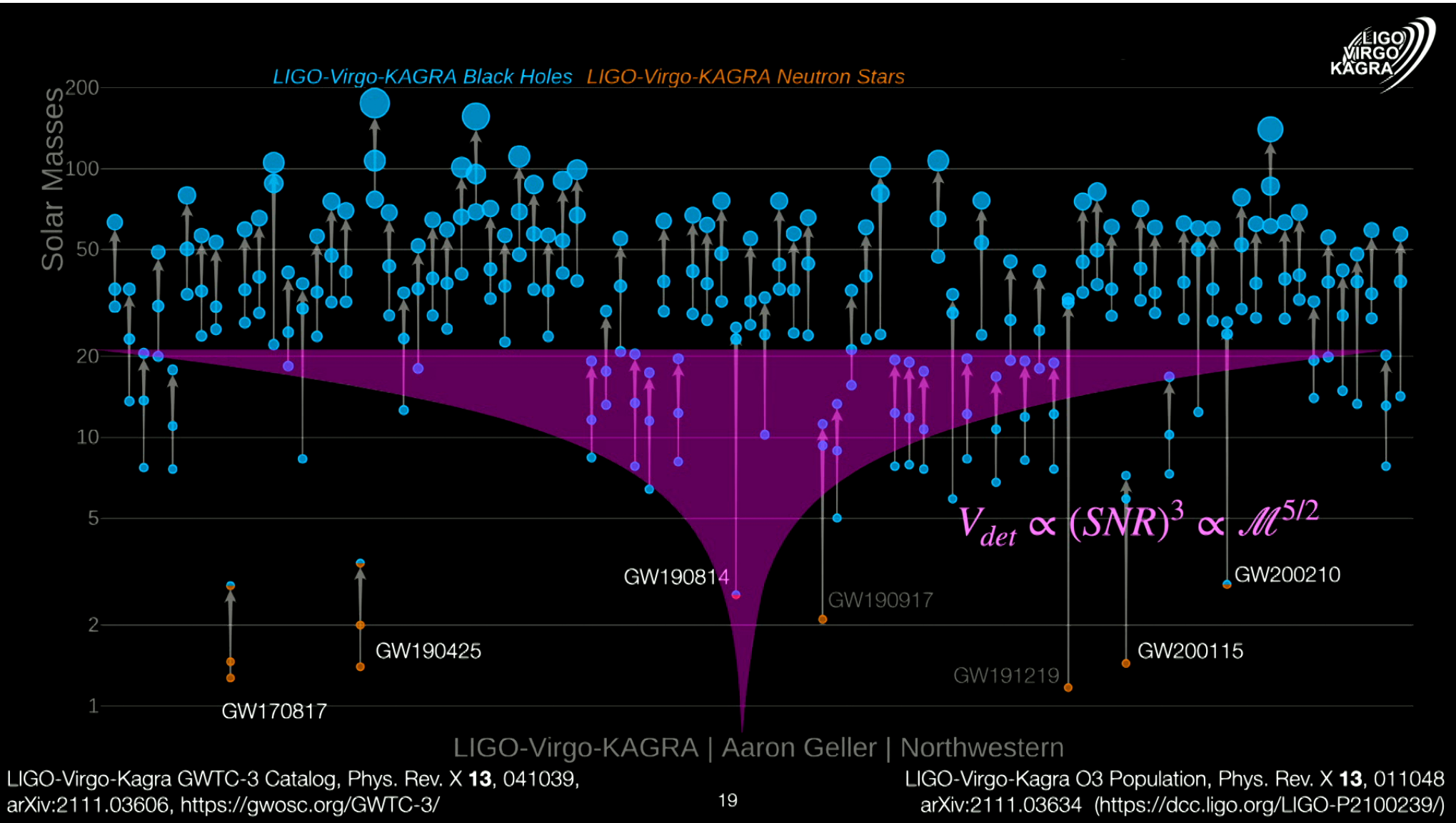
LIGO-Virgo-Kagra GWTC-3 Catalog, Phys. Rev. X **13**, 041039,  
arXiv:2111.03606, <https://gwosc.org/GWTC-3/>

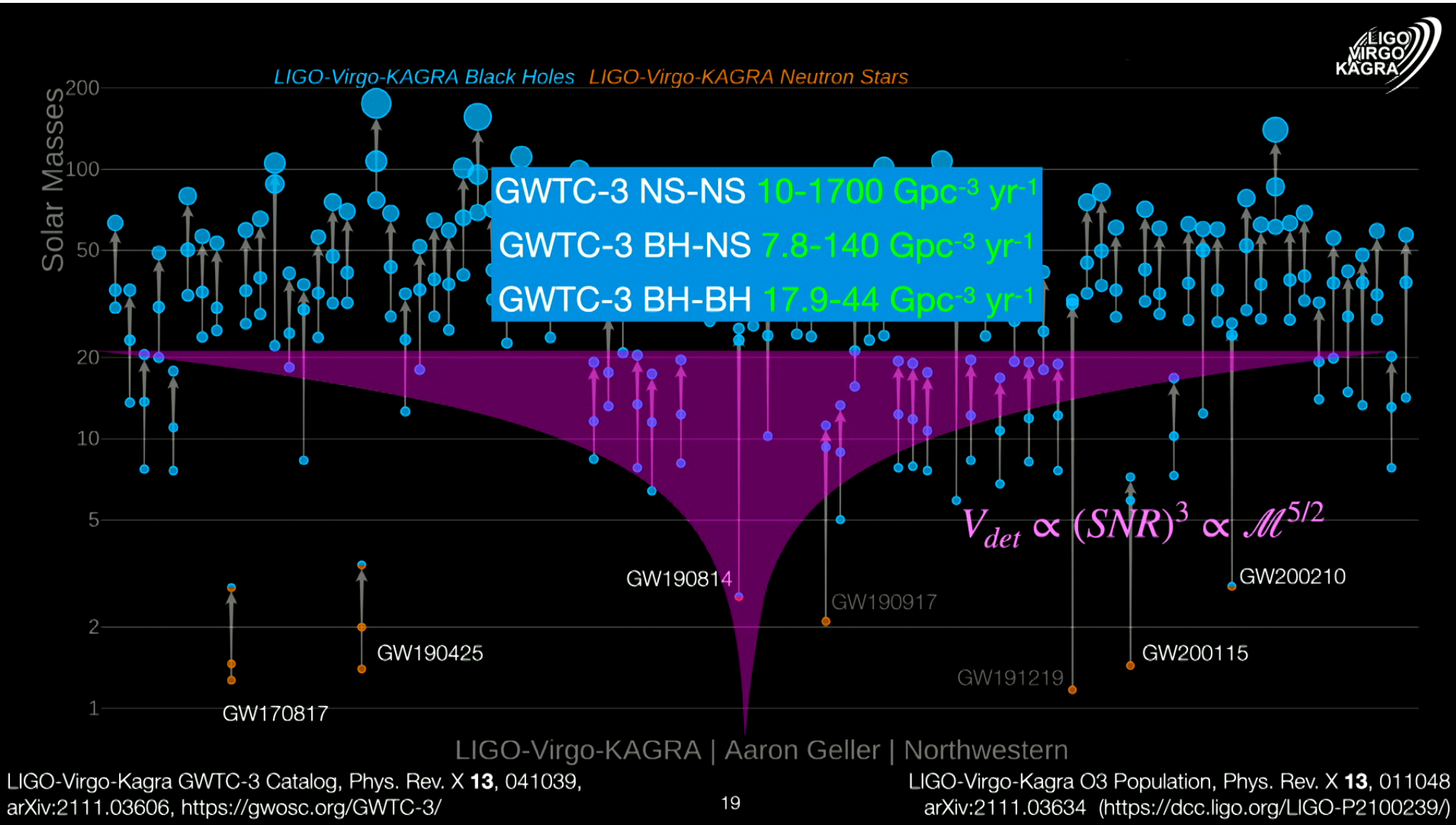
Detections scale with  
observation time  $\times$   
estimated sensitive  
volume





LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA | Aaron Geller | Northwestern



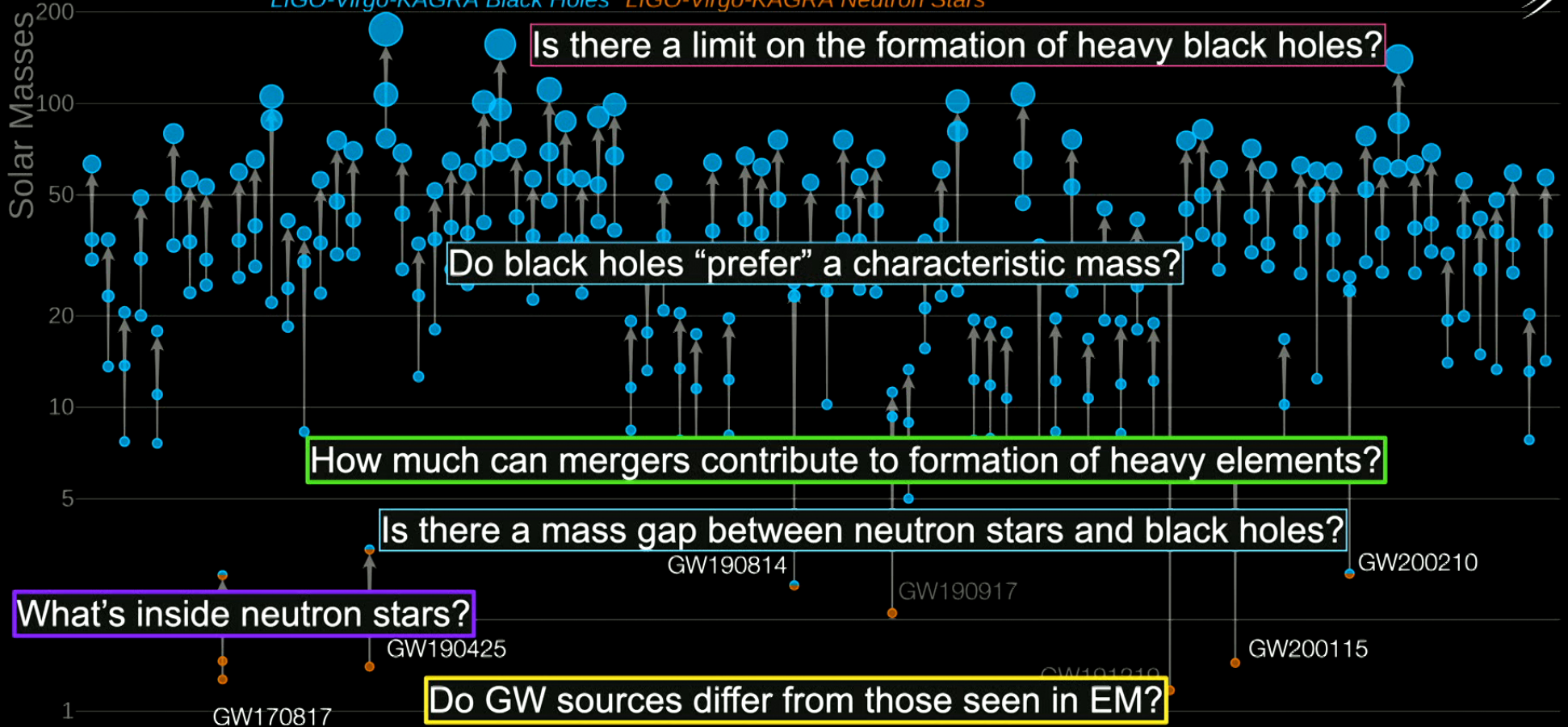




# 01-03



LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Black Holes LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Neutron Stars



LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA | Aaron Geller | Northwestern

LIGO-Virgo-Kagra GWTC-3 Catalog, Phys. Rev. X **13**, 041039, arXiv:2111.03606, <https://gwosc.org/GWTC-3/>

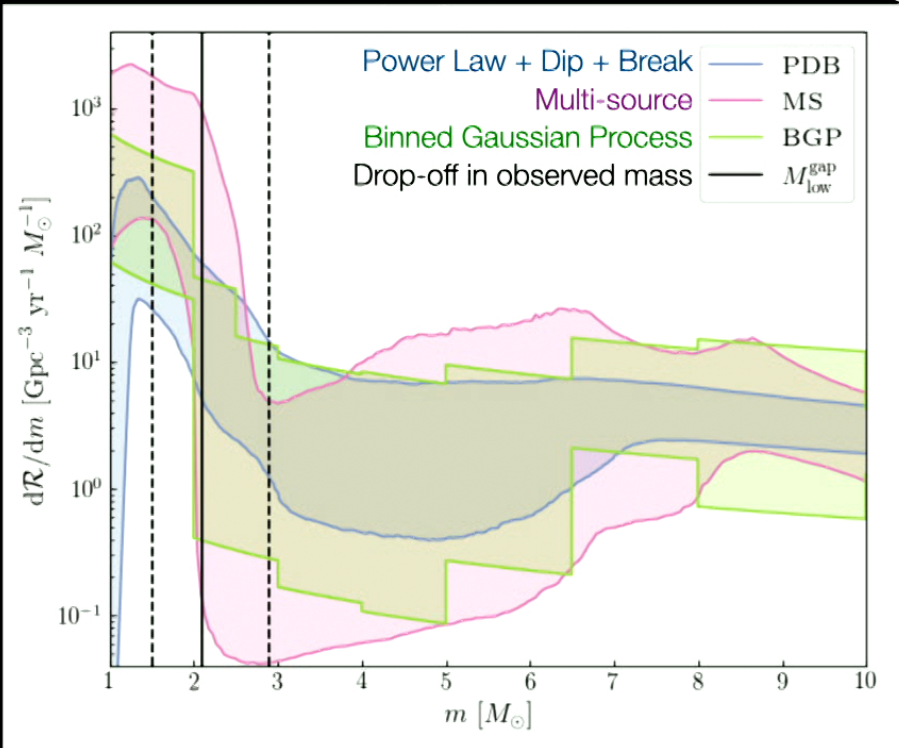
LIGO-Virgo-Kagra O3 Population, Phys. Rev. X **13**, 011048 arXiv:2111.03634 (<https://dcc.ligo.org/LIGO-P2100239/>)

# The population of merging compact binaries inferred using gravitational waves through GWTC-3

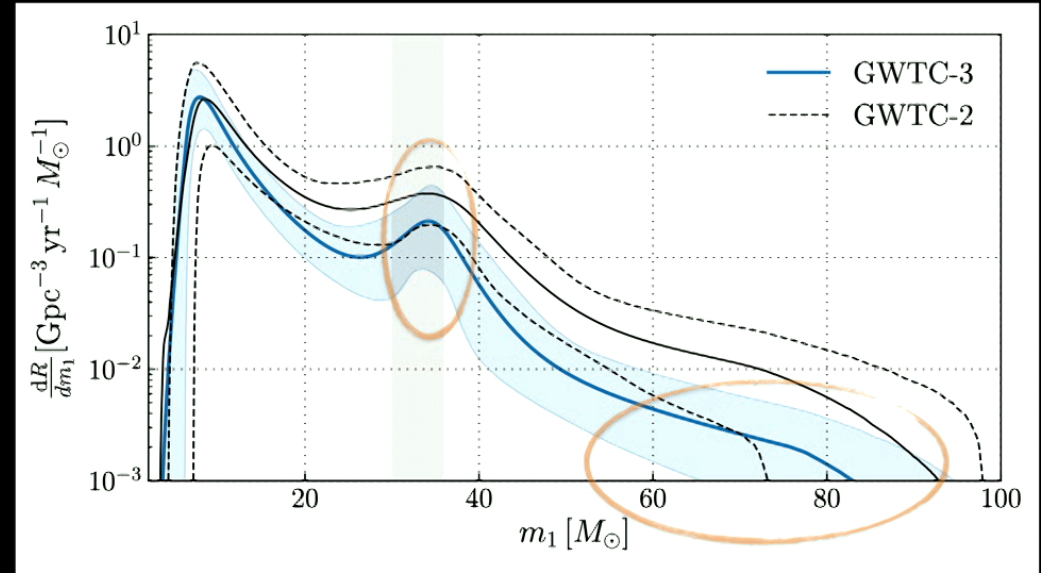
LIGO-Virgo-Kagra, Phys. Rev. X **13**, 011048

arXiv:2111.03634 (<https://dcc.ligo.org/LIGO-P2100239/>)

Lower mass gap above  $\simeq 2.1M_{\odot}$

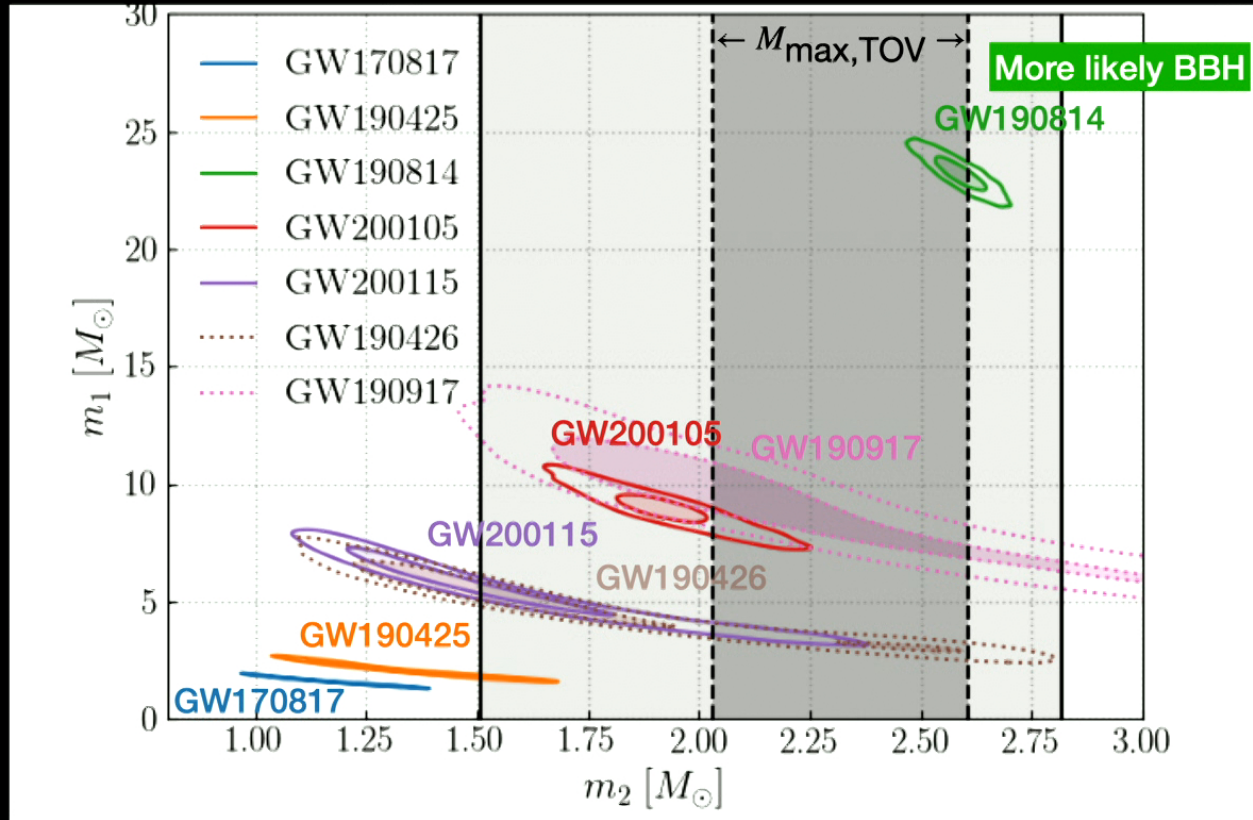


## Structure in the BH mass spectrum



Upper mass gap above  $> 60M_{\odot}$

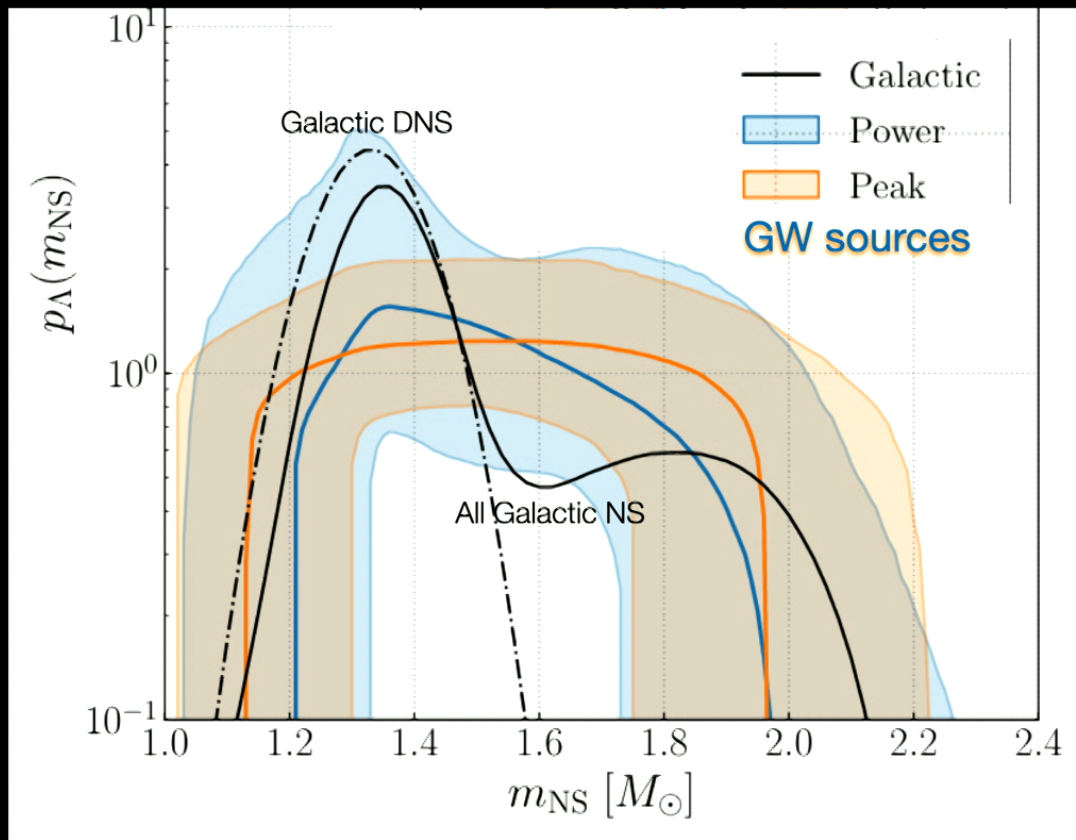
# Low-mass mergers observed through O3



LIGO-Virgo-Kagra, Phys. Rev. X **13**, 011048

arXiv:2111.03634 (<https://dcc.ligo.org/LIGO-P2100239/>)

# NS in GW extend beyond “typical” $1.4 M_{\odot}$



High-mass NS in GW190425, GW200105, GW190917: flatter mass distribution than galactic radio observations

(Here: GW190814 assigned to be BH from EOS expectation)

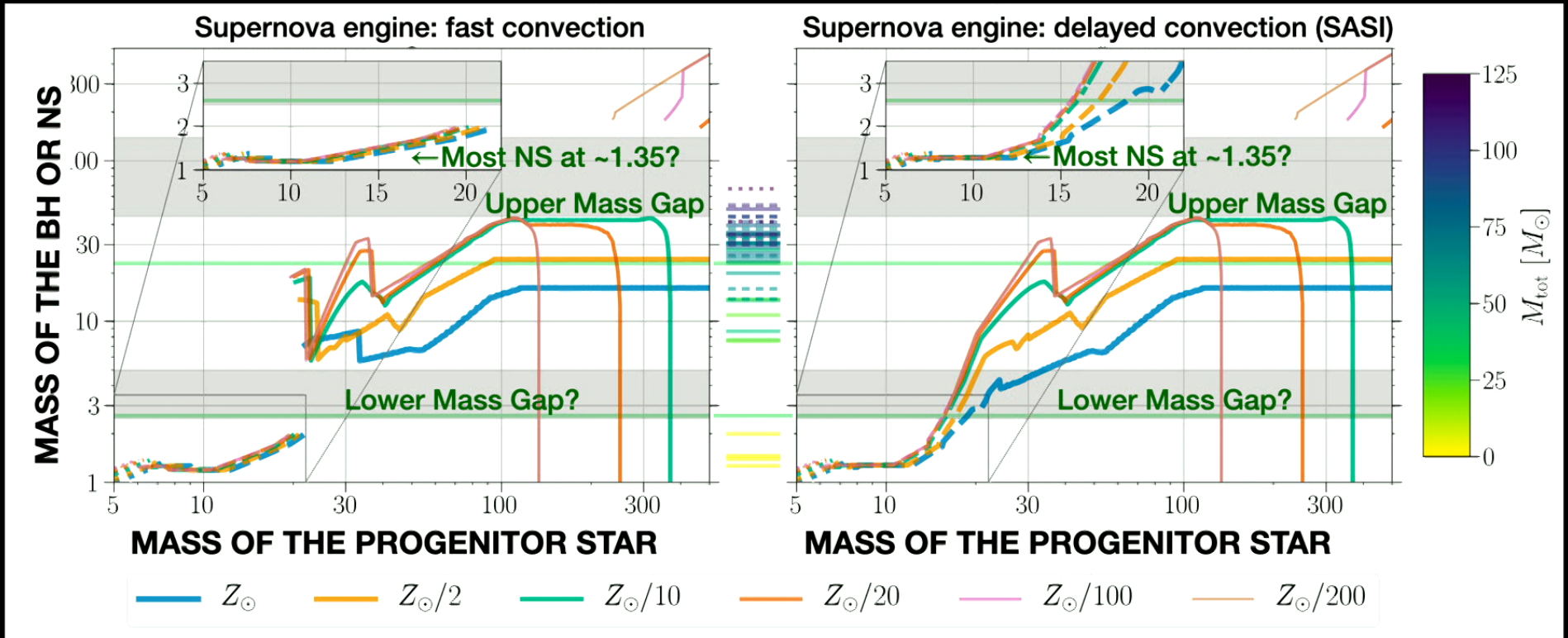
LIGO-Virgo-Kagra, Phys. Rev. X **13**, 011048  
arXiv:2111.03634 (<https://dcc.ligo.org/LIGO-P2100239/>)

Method and related discussion:  
Landry and Read Astrophys. J. Lett. 921, L25 (2021)



# Implications for supernovae, binary dynamics...

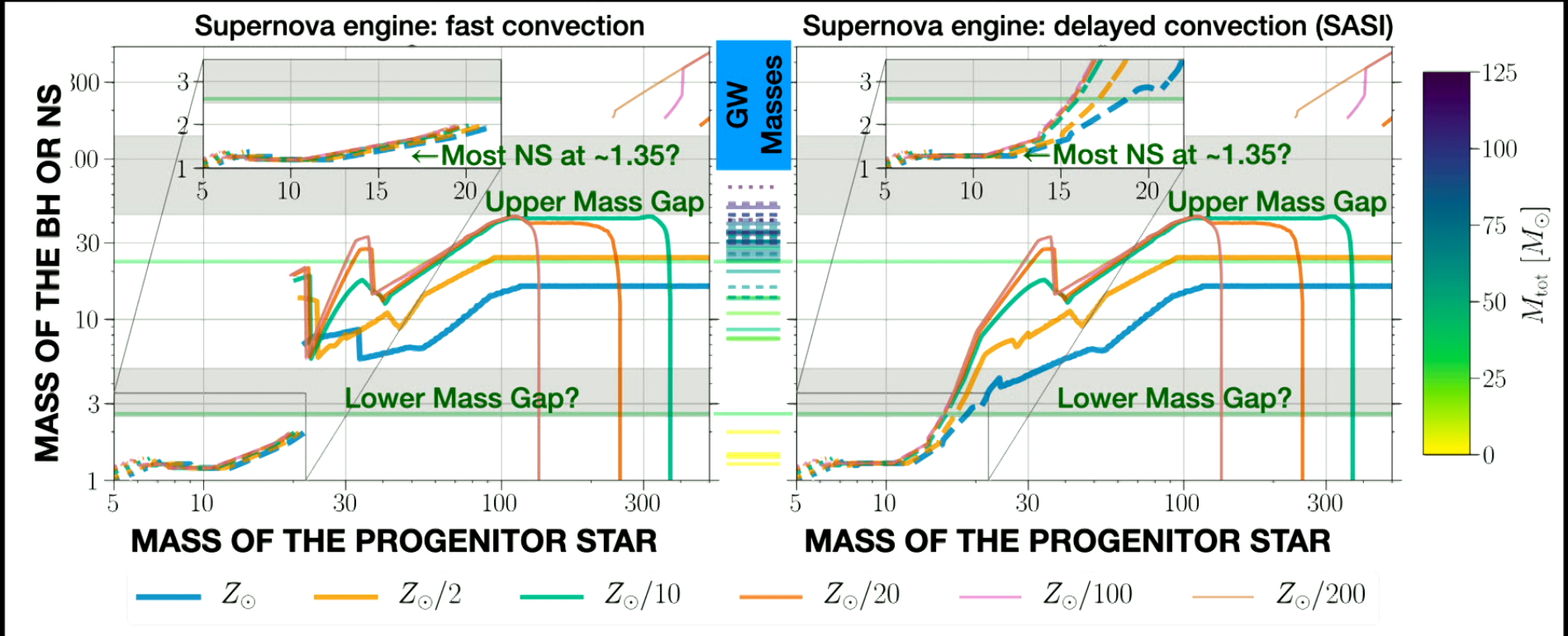
e.g. compare Fast/delayed supernova engine scenarios from Chris Fryer *et al* 2012 *ApJ* 749 91



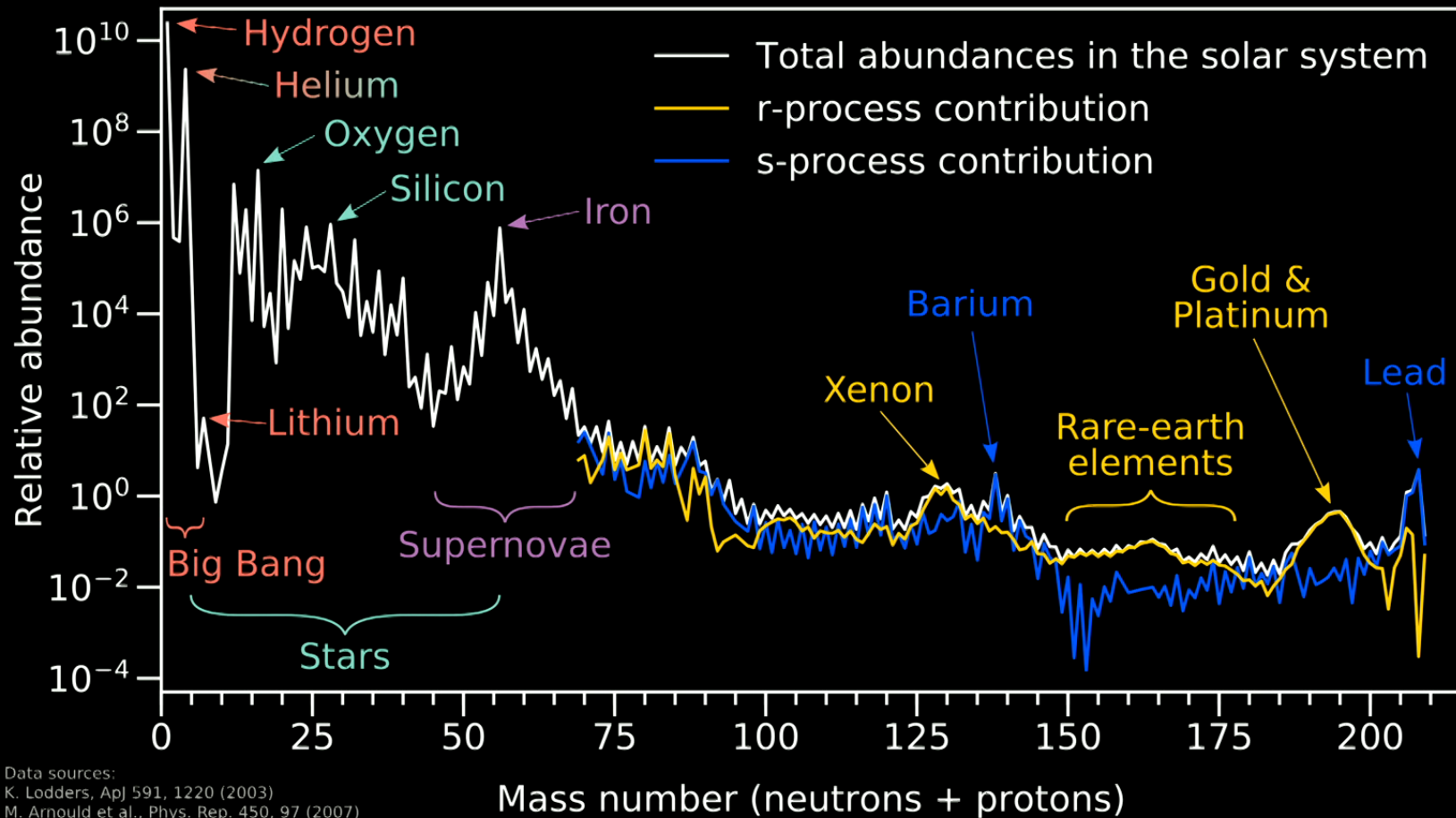


# Implications for supernovae, binary dynamics...

e.g. compare Fast/delayed supernova engine scenarios from Chris Fryer *et al* 2012 *ApJ* 749 91



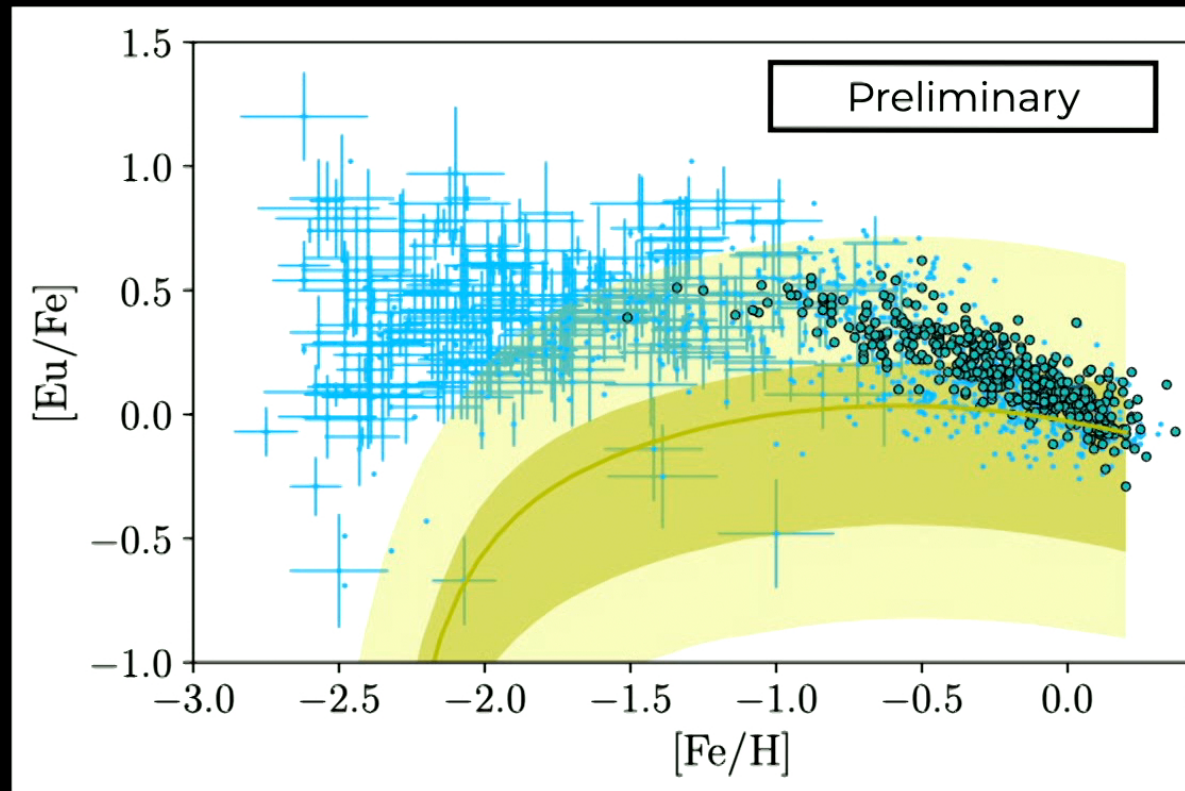
# Where do our elements come from?



Lippuner 2017

# Element abundance in of metal-poor stars:

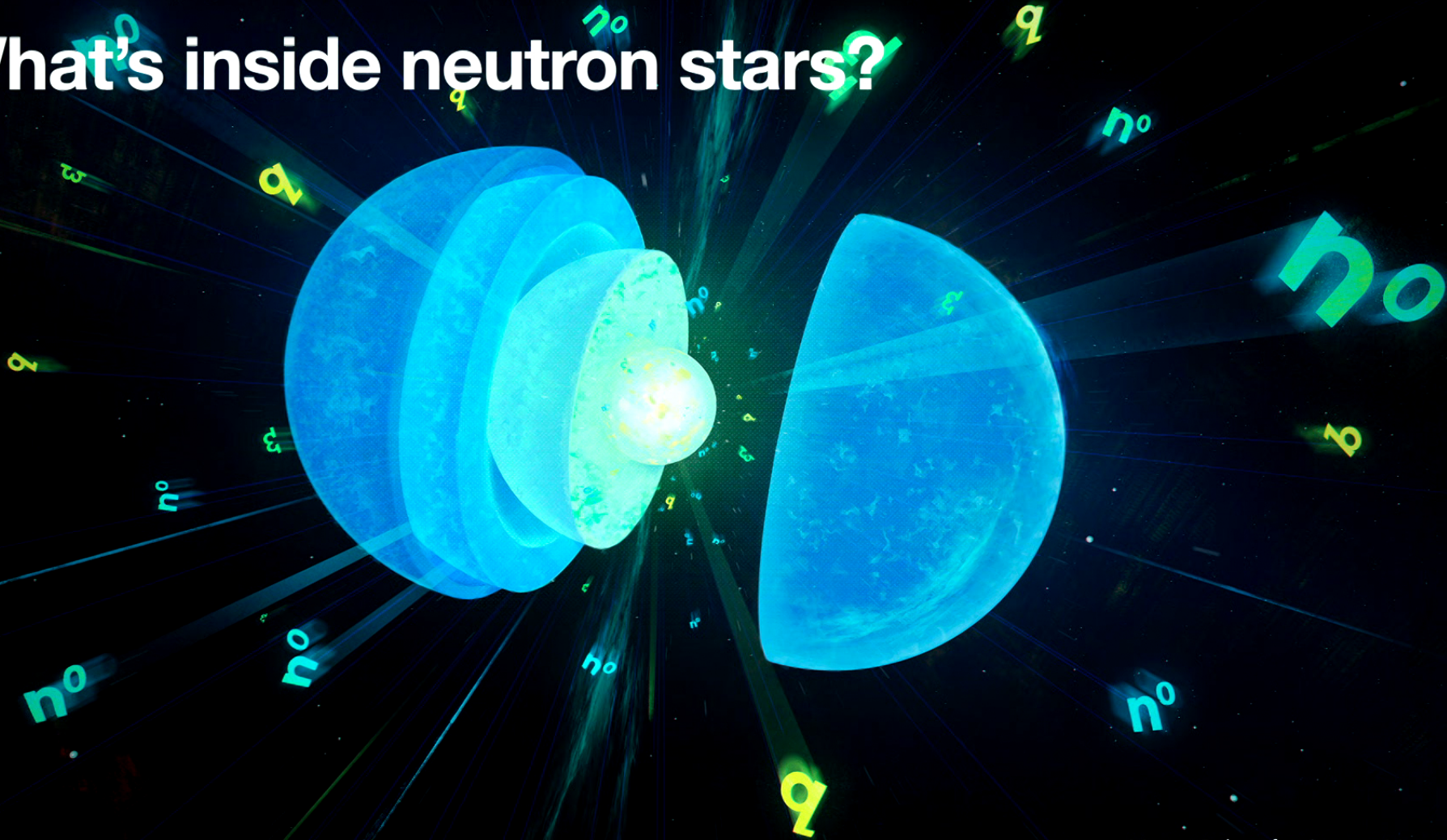
- Merger rates and masses distributions from LVK O3
- EOS distribution from nonparametric inference using LVK/NICER/Pulsar masses
- Ejecta mass per system from simulation-calibrated formulae (see Hsin-Yu Chen et al 2021 ApJL 920 L3)
- Delay from star formation following sGRB (Michael Zevin et al 2022 ApJL 940 L18)
- One-zone chemical evolution



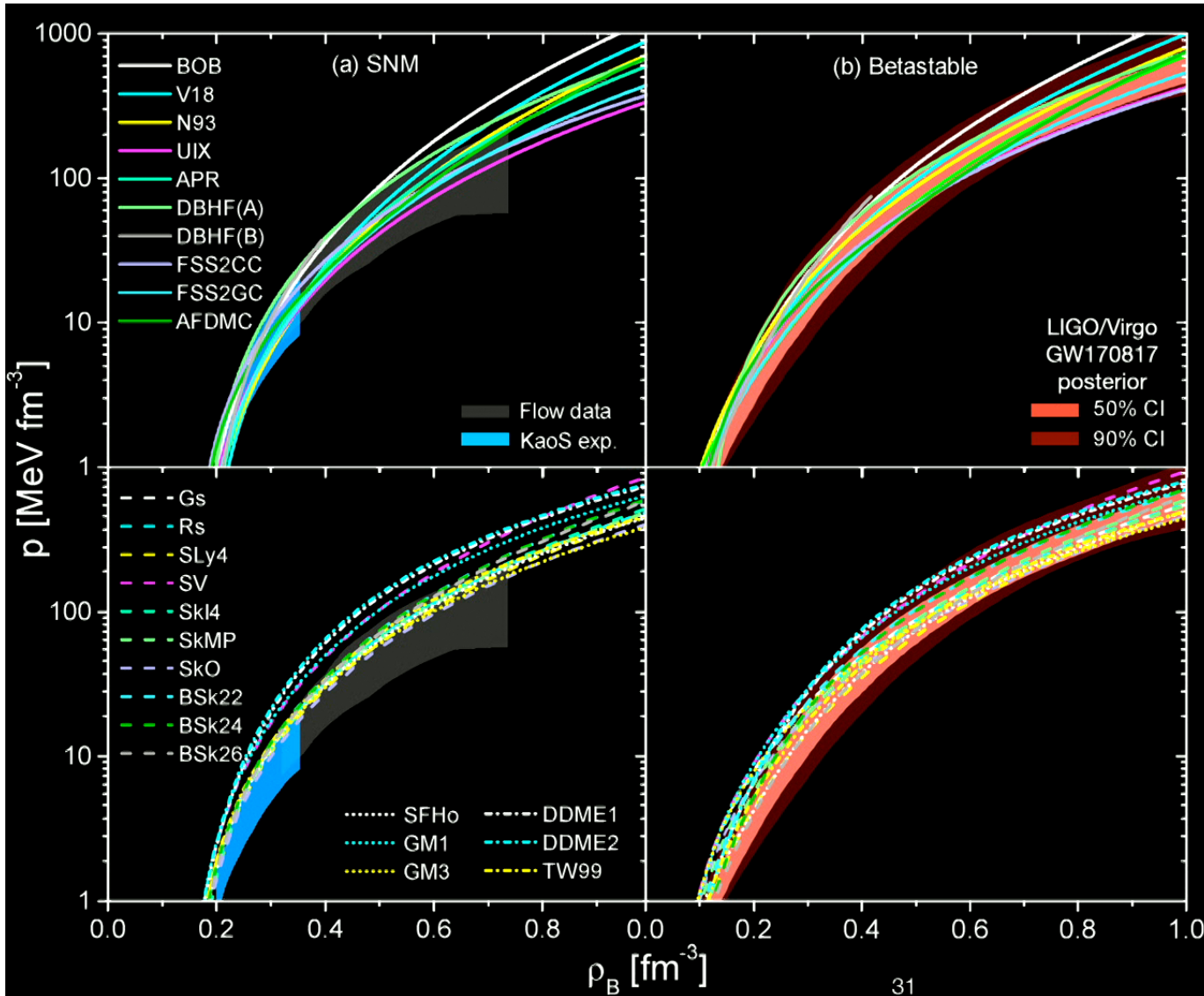
NS contribution: Hsin-Yu Chen, Phil Landry, J Read, D. Siegel, in prep



# What's inside neutron stars?



Maciej Rebisz for Quanta Magazine



# Matter above nuclear density

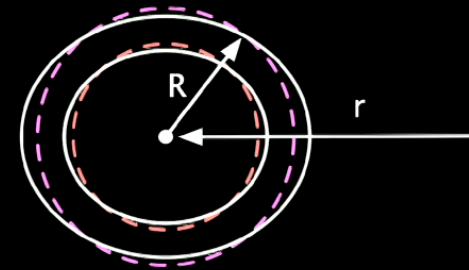
- Nucleon interactions plus many-body forces
- Range of methods and approximations at increasing density

Burgio, G.F.; Schulze, H.-J.; Vidaña, I.; Wei, J.-B. A Modern View of the Equation of State in Nuclear and Neutron Star Matter. *Symmetry* **2021**, *13*, 400.

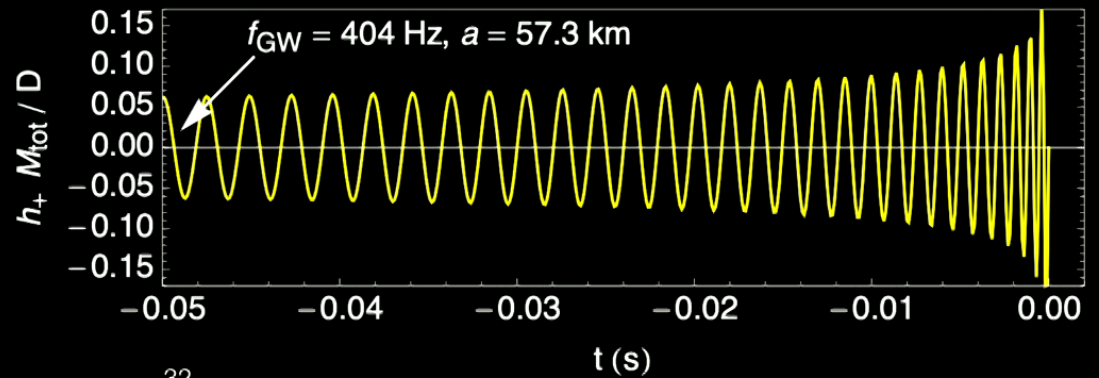


# Changing the chirp

- Additional orbital energy lost to the deformation of the stars
- Tidal bulges add a little extra quadrupole, GW luminosity



$$\frac{ds}{dt} = \frac{-\mathcal{L}_{GW}}{dE_{orb}(s)/ds}$$

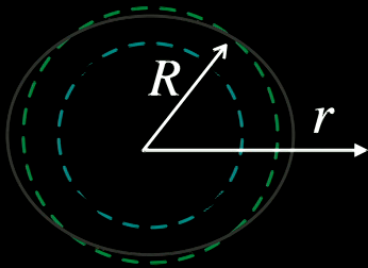


# Relativistic tides

## matter responds to a companion

- Deformability **defined** by linear perturbation of cold equilibrium star

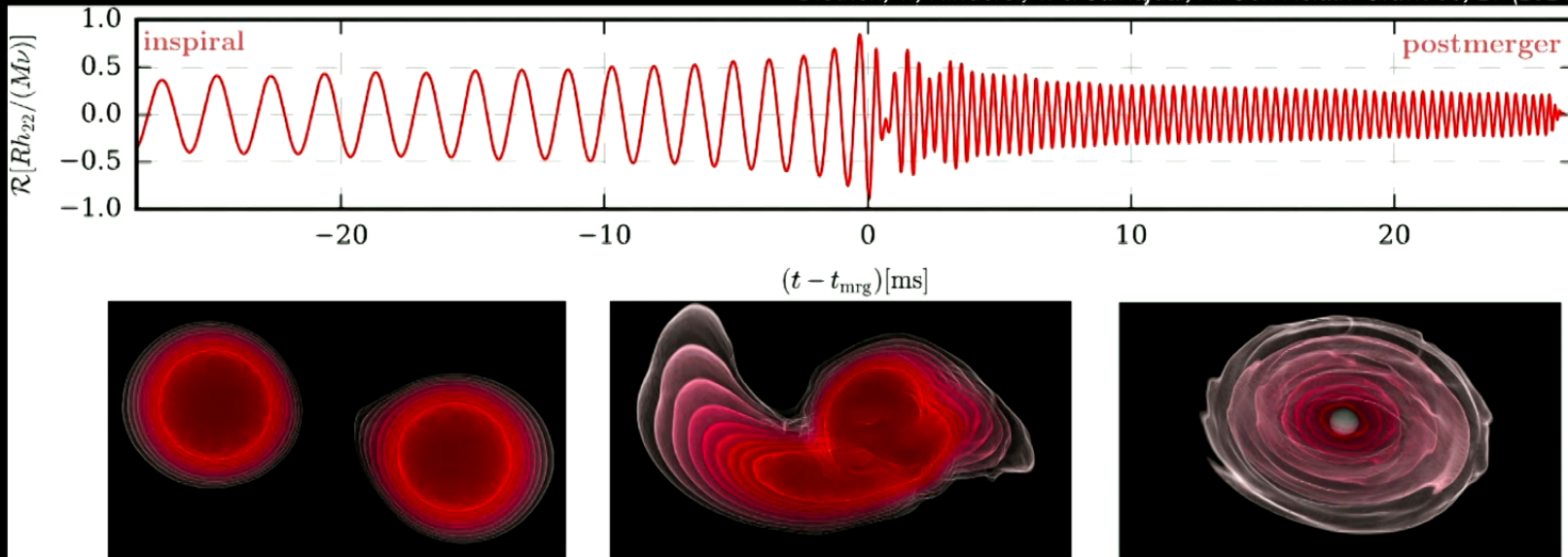
Ratio of quadrupole term  $\sim \frac{1}{r^3}$  and external tidal term  $\sim r^3$



Dimensionless form:

$$\Lambda_i = \frac{\lambda_i}{m_i^5} = \frac{2}{3}k_2 \left( \frac{R_i}{m_i} \right)^5$$

- $R$  radius,  $m$  mass of star  $\leftarrow$  *most EOS impact on tides*
- $k_2$  relativistic love number  $\approx 0.05\text{--}0.15$ 
  - Mass distribution inside the star (polarization), not surface deformation
  - $k_2 = 0$  for BH (some discussion in literature)



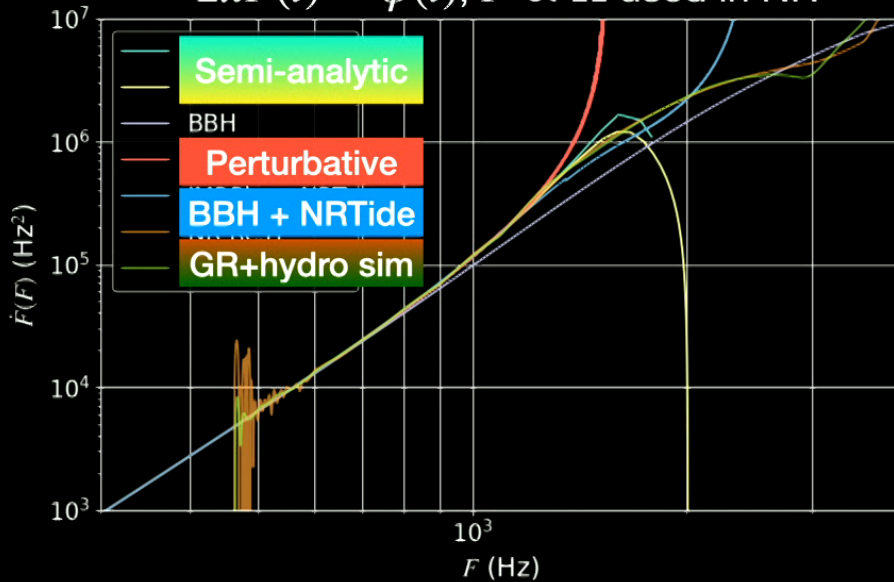
- We use a perturbative property of isolated stars ( $\Lambda_1, \Lambda_2$ ) as an **effective** descriptor of matter effects in gravitational-wave models **through to merger**

(Based on GR+Hydro simulation: Read et al 1306.4065, Bernuzzi et al 1402.6244, Dietrich, & Tichy 1706.02969, ... )  
 (Empirical quasi-universal relation: Yagi *Phys. Rev. D* 89, 043011 (2014), Chan et al *Phys.Rev.D*90 (2014))

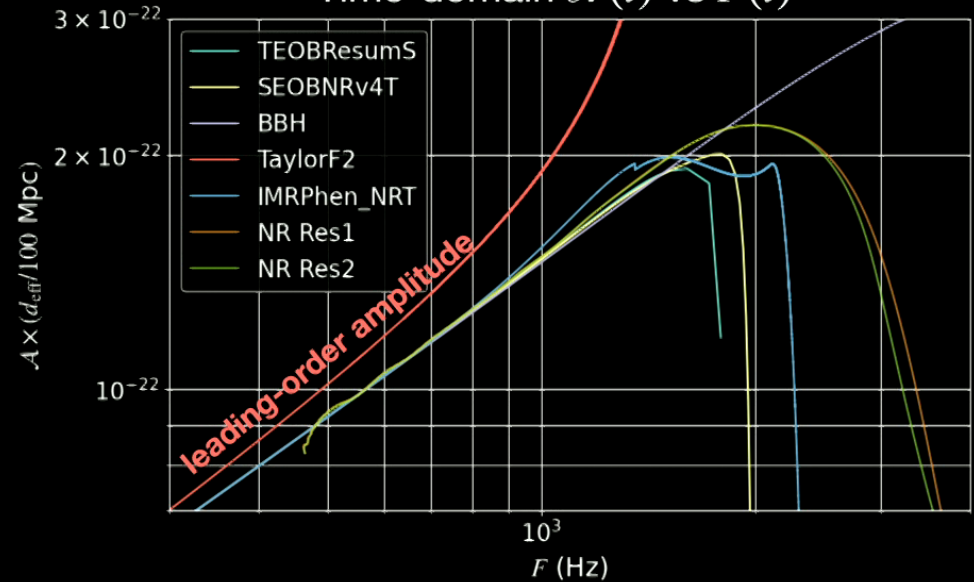
- **In XG era:** additional parameters needed to describe waveforms  
 (e.g Carson et al *Phys. Rev. D* 99, 083016 (2019), Pratten et al *Nat Commun* 11, 2553 (2020).

# Models of $h(t) = \mathcal{A}(t)e^{i\psi(t)}$

$2\pi F(t) = \dot{\psi}(t)$ ,  $\dot{F} \propto \dot{\Omega}$  used in NR



Time-domain  $\mathcal{A}(t)$  vs  $F(t)$

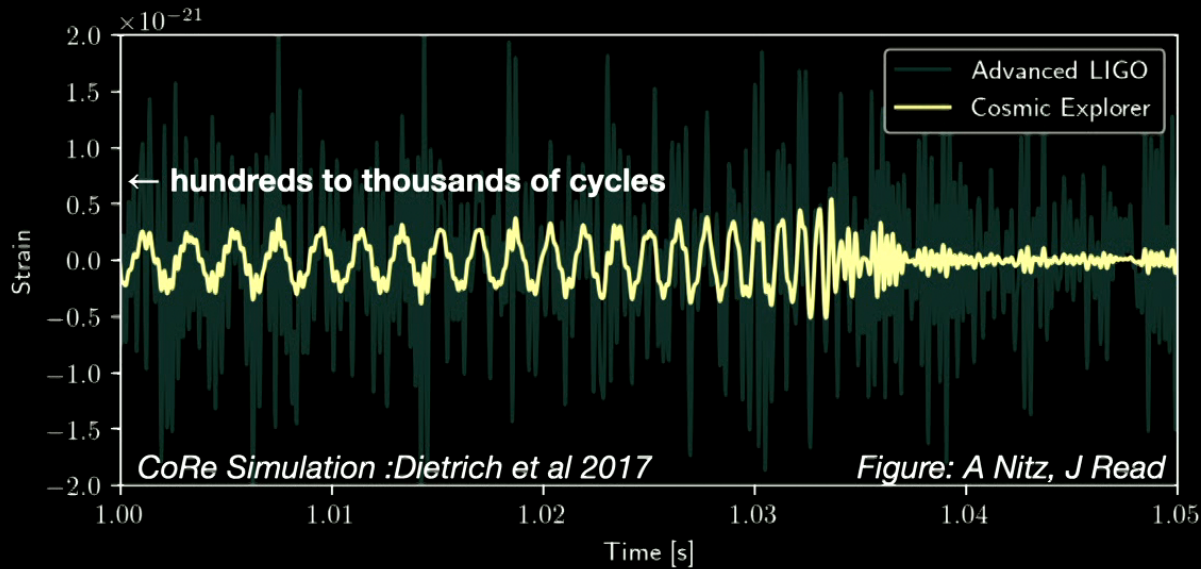


NR - high-res CoRe sim 'BAM:0095' with SLy EOS  
 Spline smoothing for  $\dot{F}$  before taking derivative  
 $m_1$  &  $m_2$ : 1.349998 for all waveforms shown

From Sly:  $\Lambda_1$  &  $\Lambda_2 = 390.1104$   
 used for TEOBResumS, SEOBNRv4T,  
 TaylorF2, and IMRPhenomPv2\_NRT

Jocelyn Read 2023 Class. Quantum Grav. 40 135002

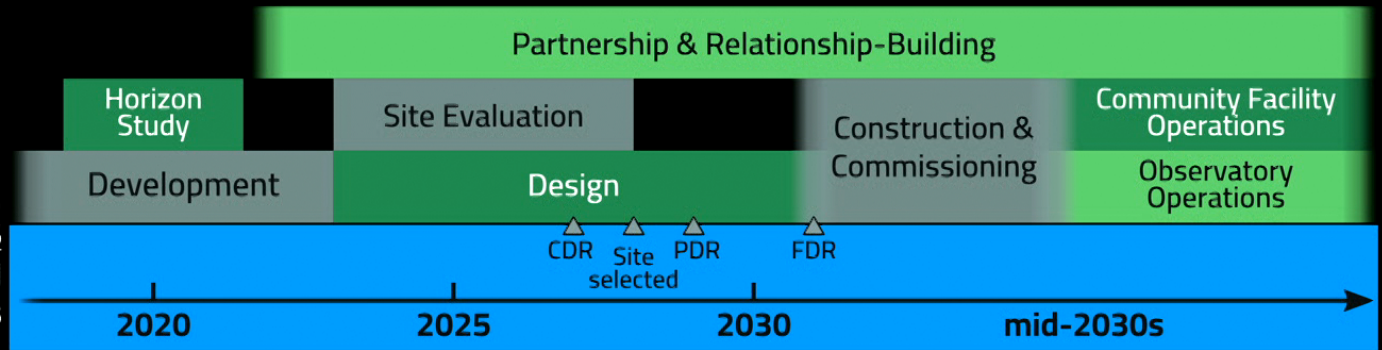
# 170817-like inspiral



“Today’s rare events are tomorrow’s precision physics”

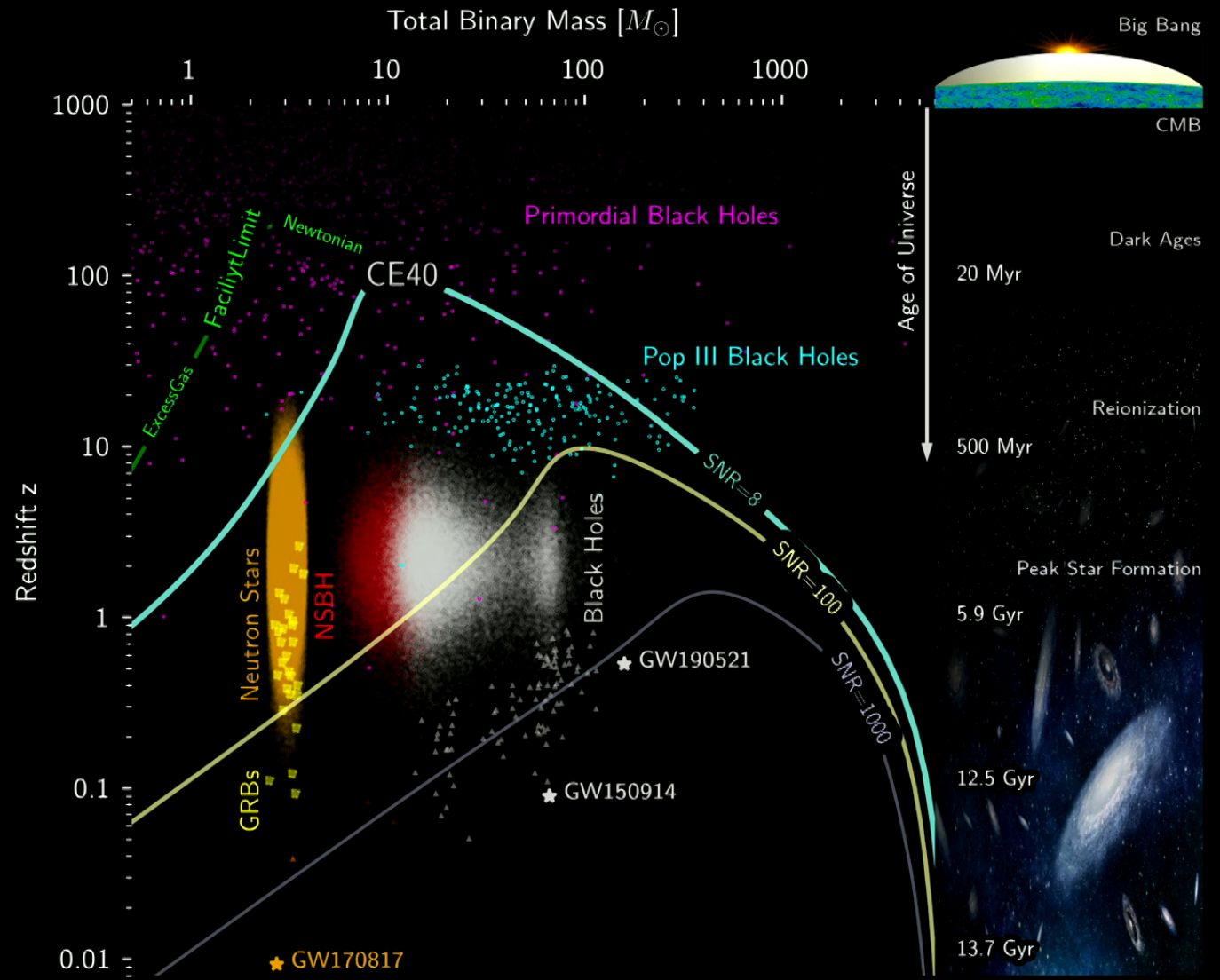
## US Timeline

White Paper for NSF MSCAC ngGW ,  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2306.13745>  
 Site evaluation and design funded  
 by NSF starting 2023



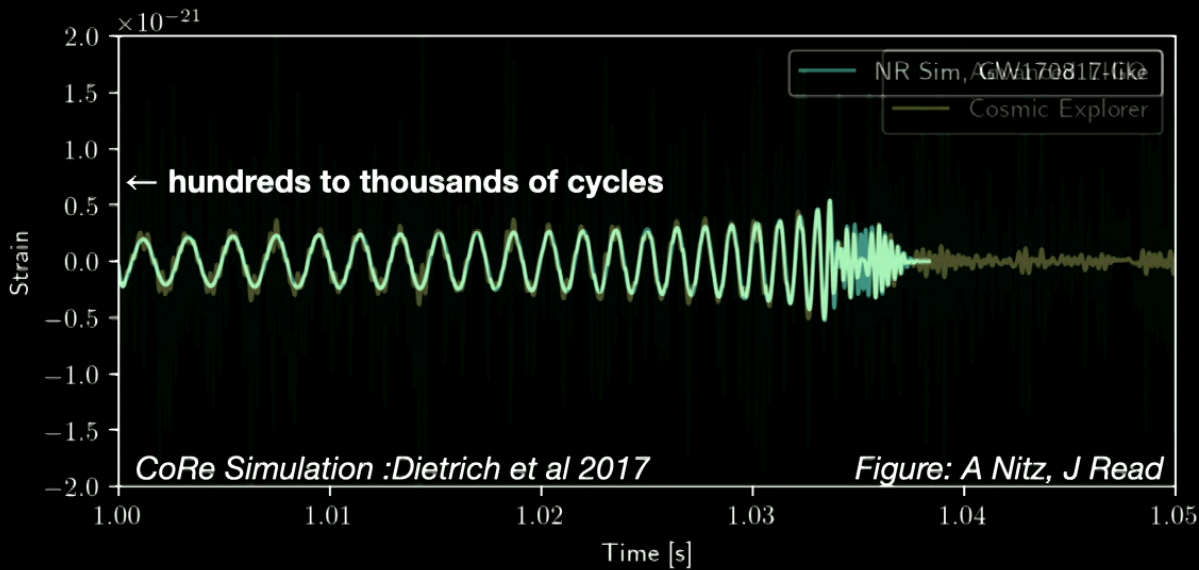


# XG Universe



White Paper for NSF MSCAC ngGW ,  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2306.13745>

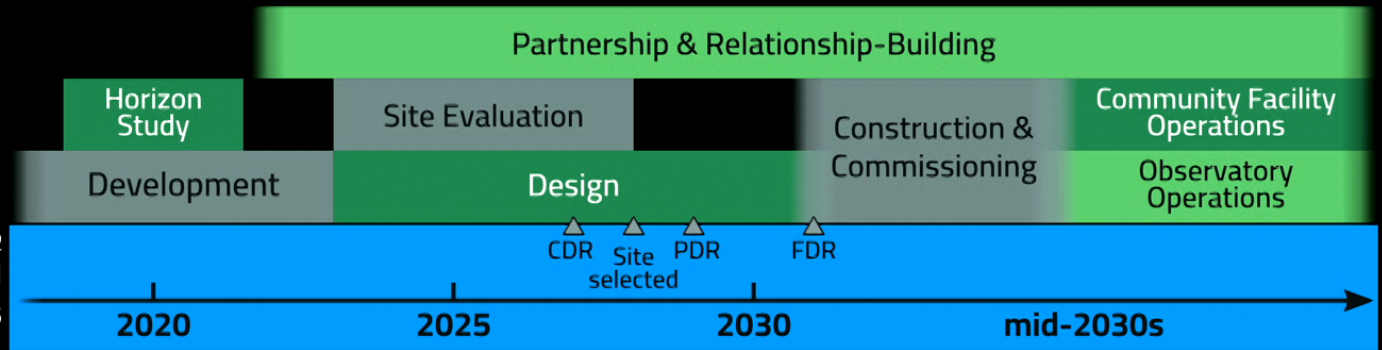
# 170817-like inspiral



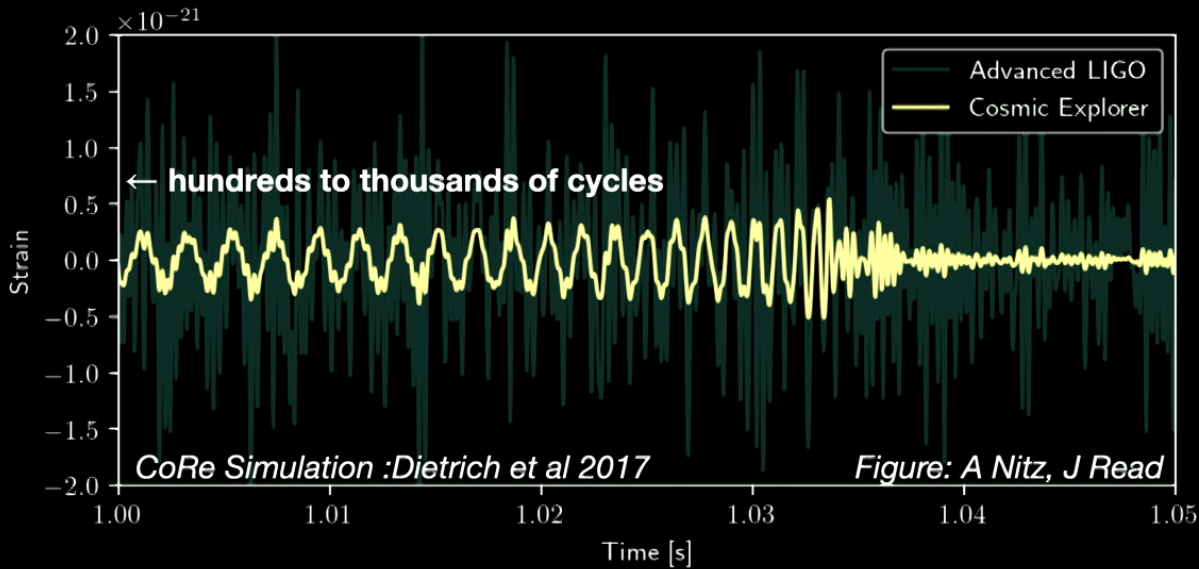
“Today’s rare events are tomorrow’s precision physics”

## US Timeline

White Paper for NSF MSCAC ngGW ,  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2306.13745>  
 Site evaluation and design funded  
 by NSF starting 2023



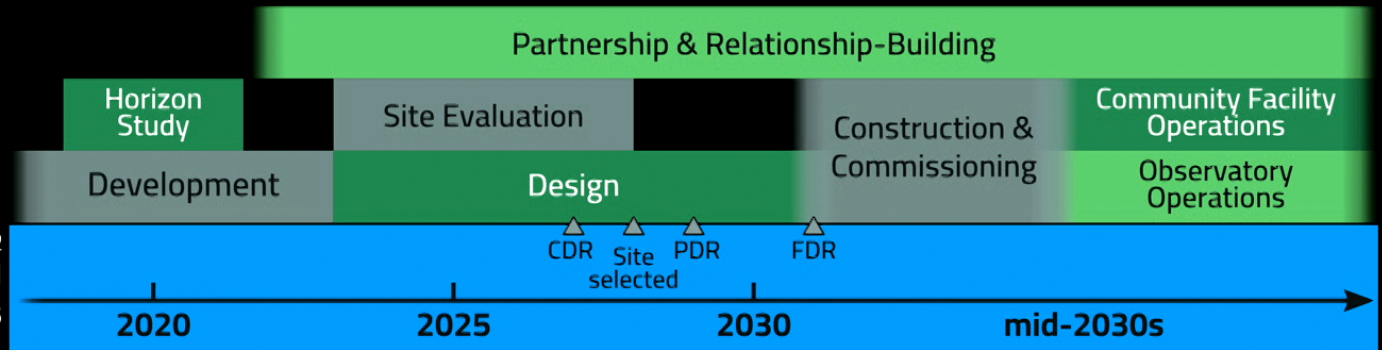
# 170817-like inspiral



“Today’s rare events are tomorrow’s precision physics”

## US Timeline

White Paper for NSF MSCAC ngGW ,  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2306.13745>  
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57

