



Gravitational Waves

Jose María Ezquiaga

Niels Bohr Institute

jose.ezquiaga@nbi.ku.dk

ezquiaga.github.io

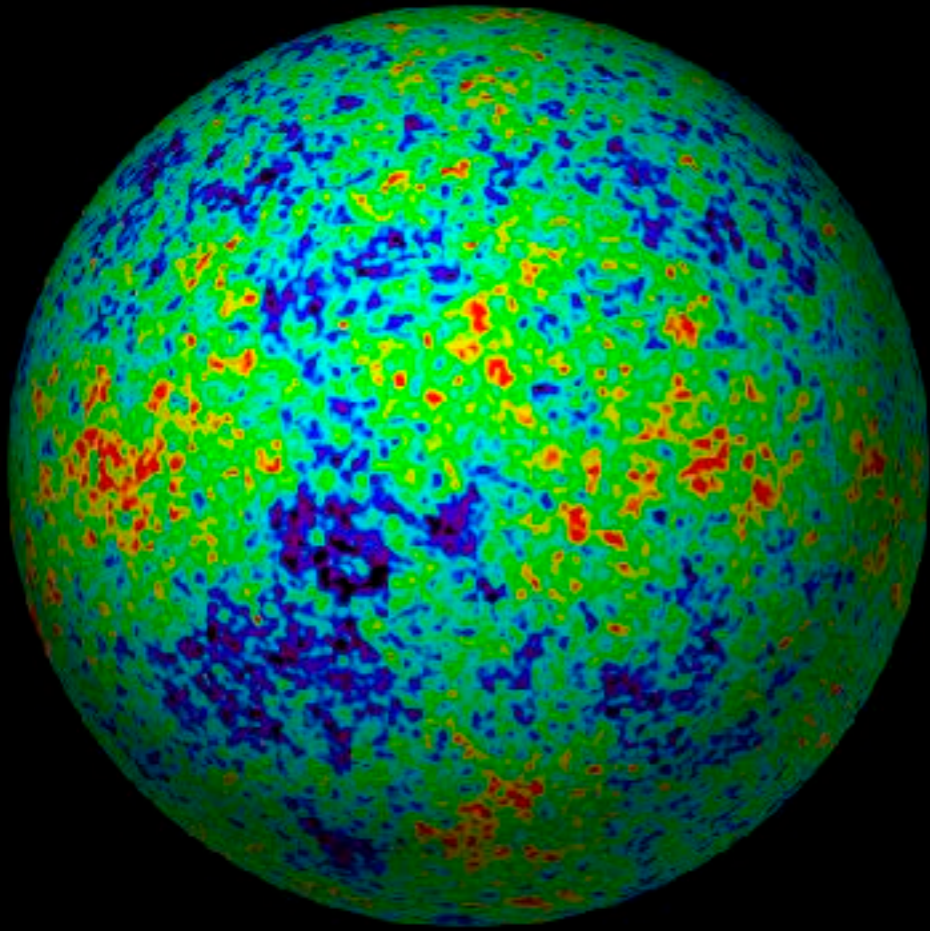
VILLUM FONDEN



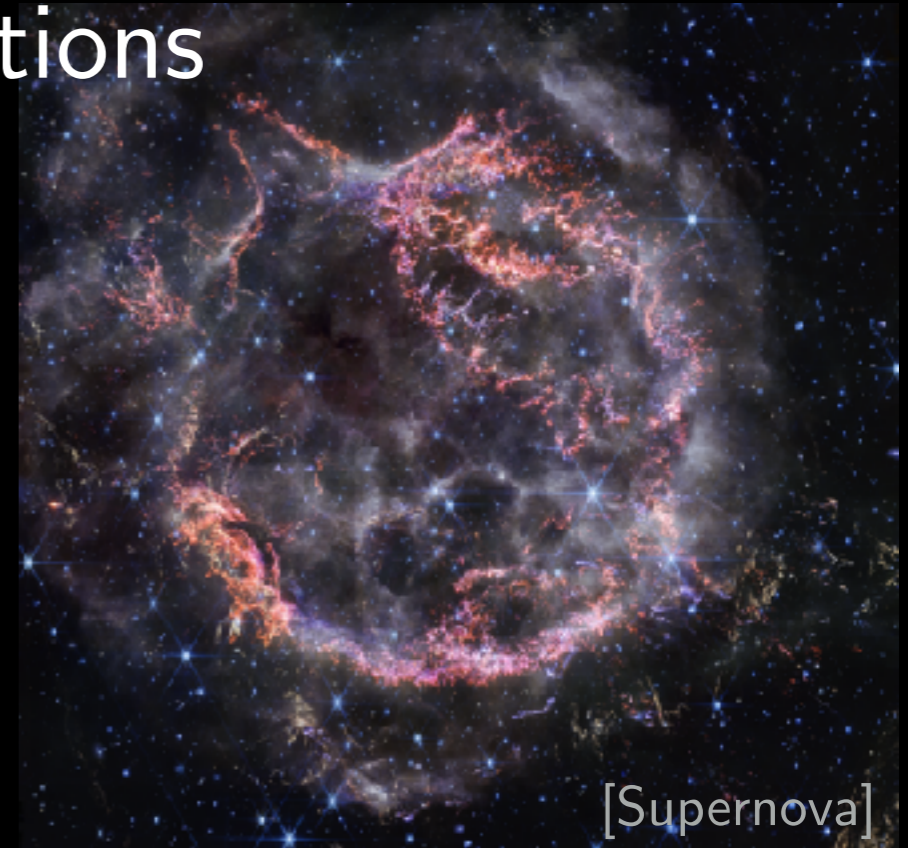
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[Diego Rivera]

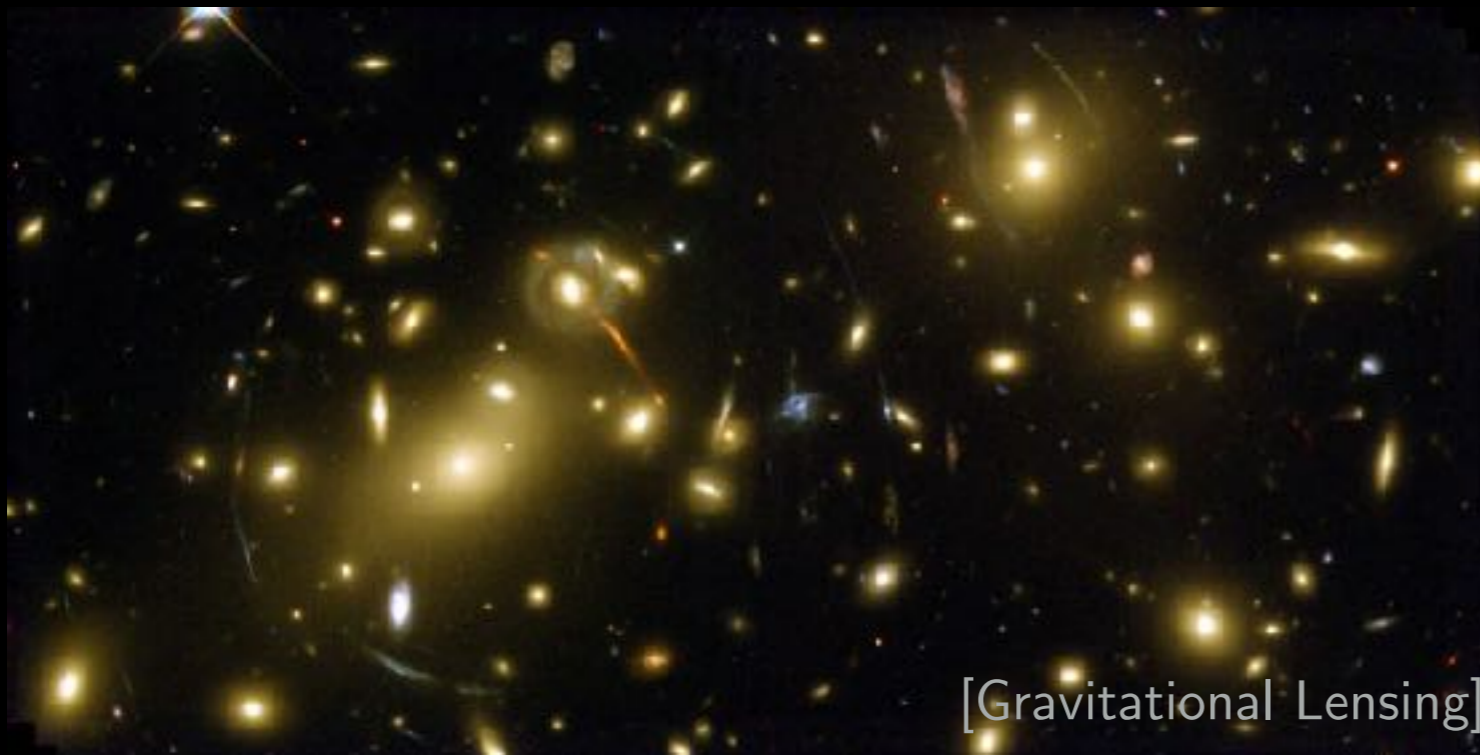
A plethora of cosmological observations



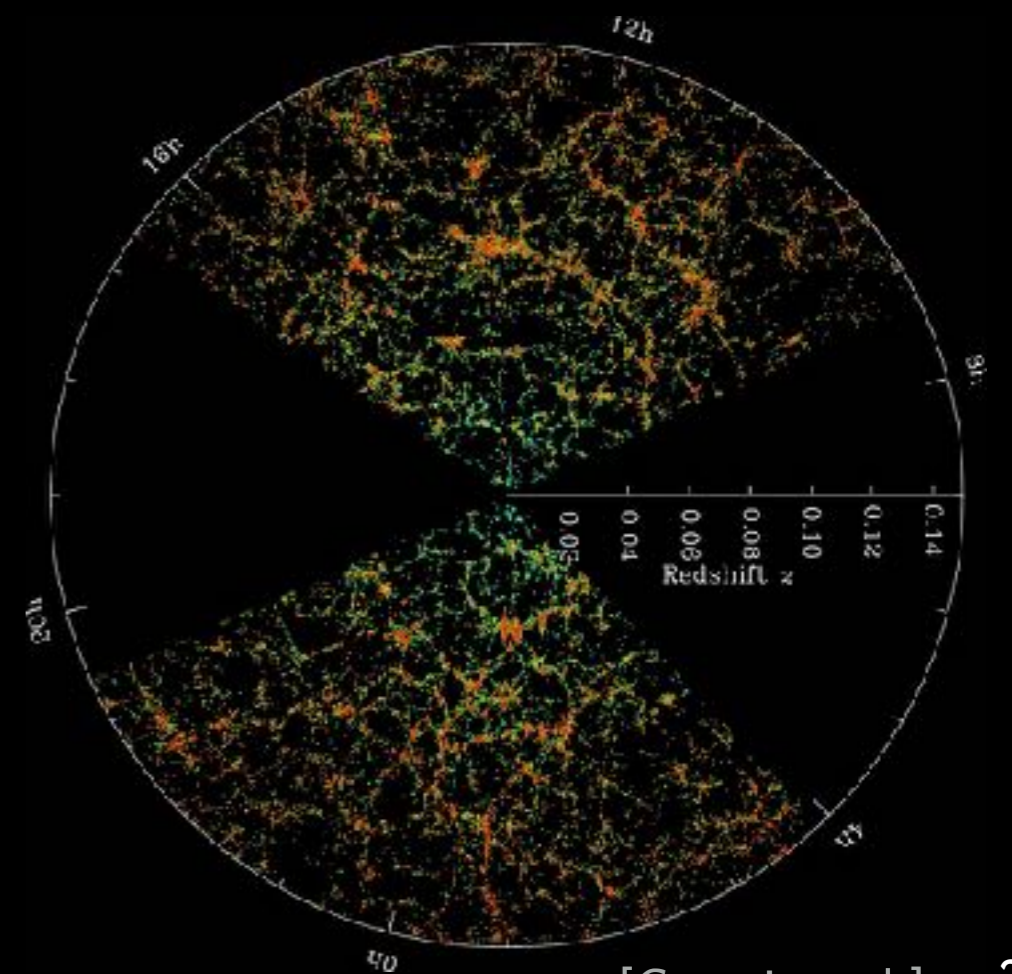
[Cosmic microwave background]



[Supernova]

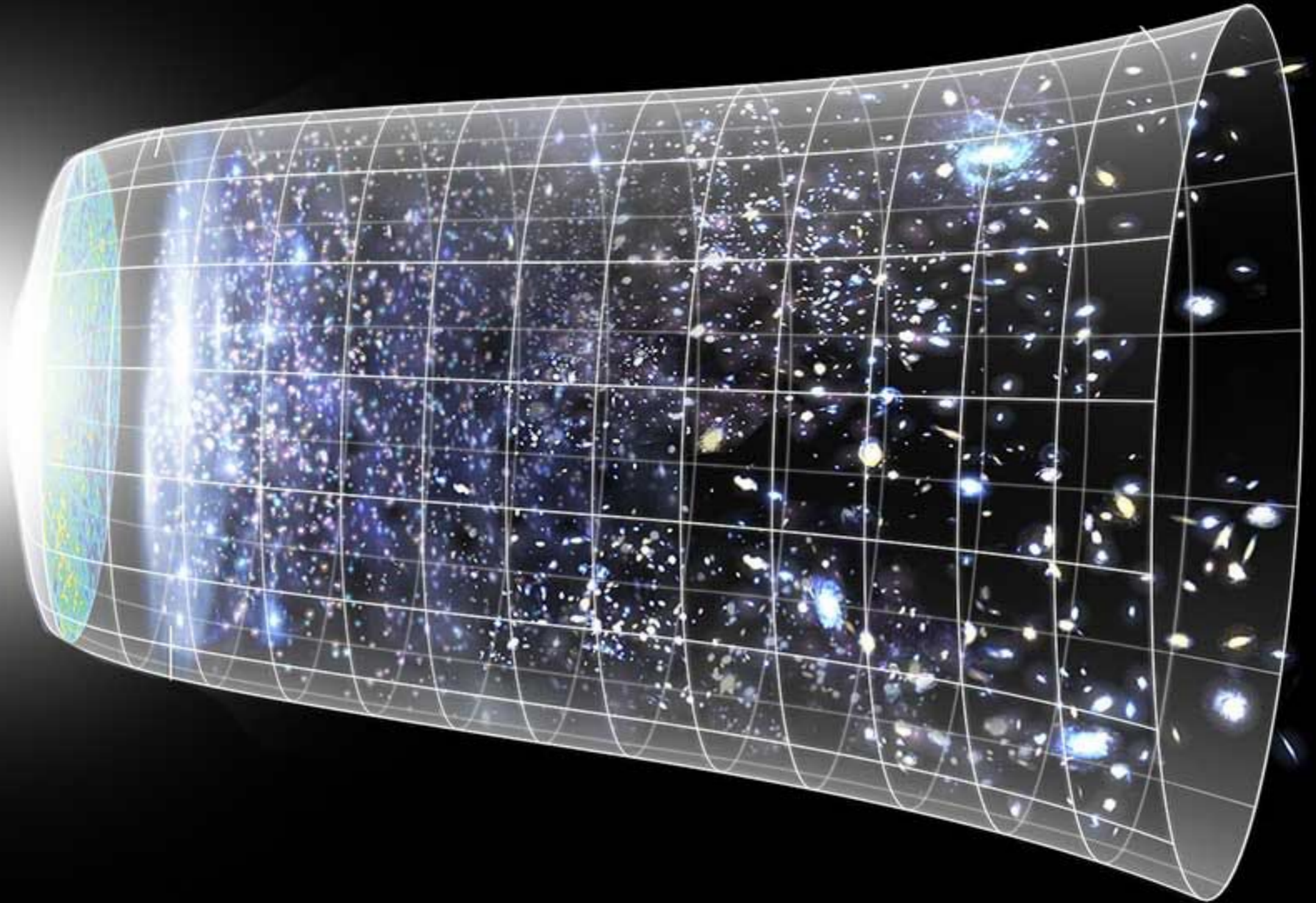


[Gravitational Lensing]



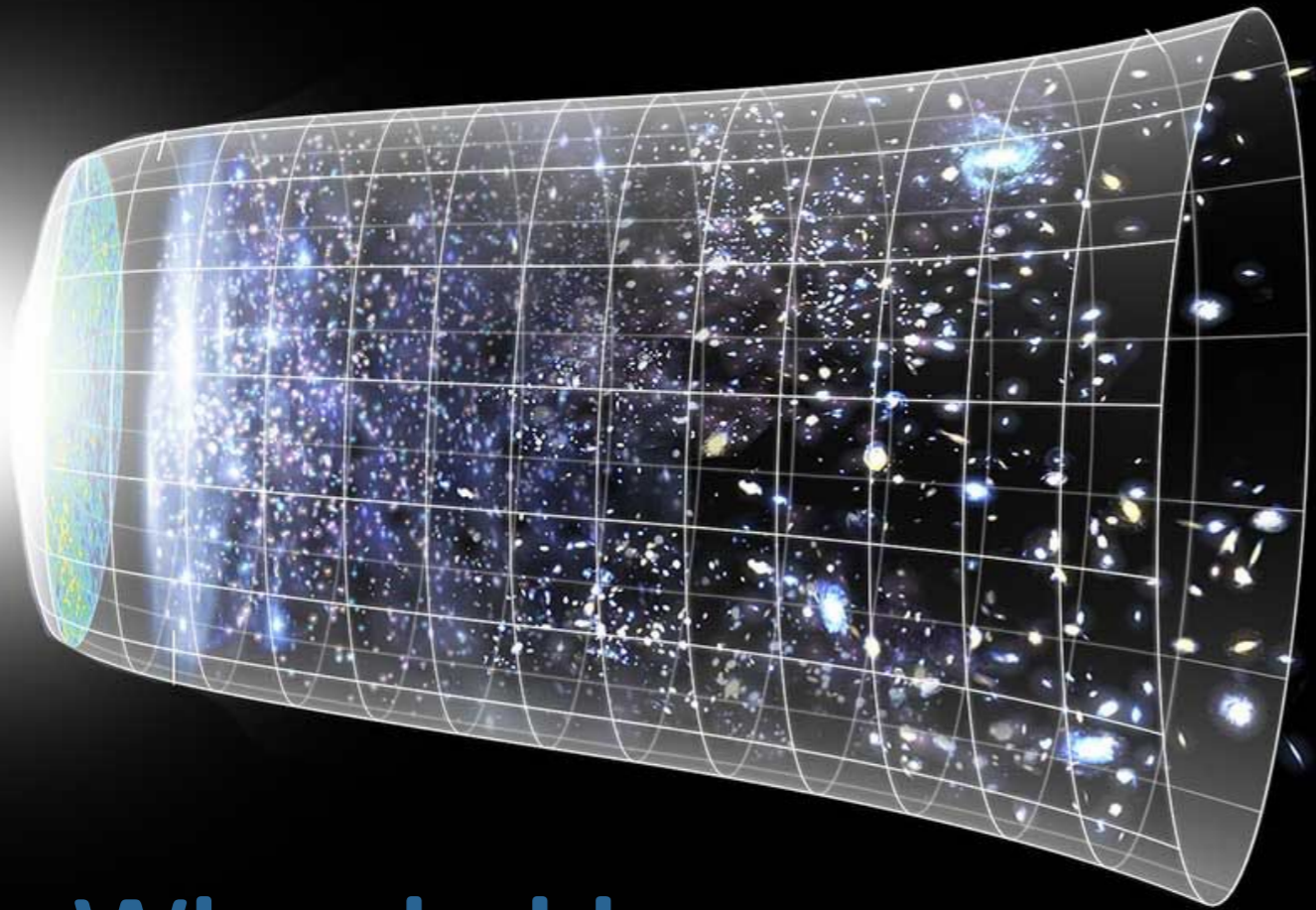
[Cosmic web]

The **standard** cosmological model...



...13.8 billion years of cosmic history

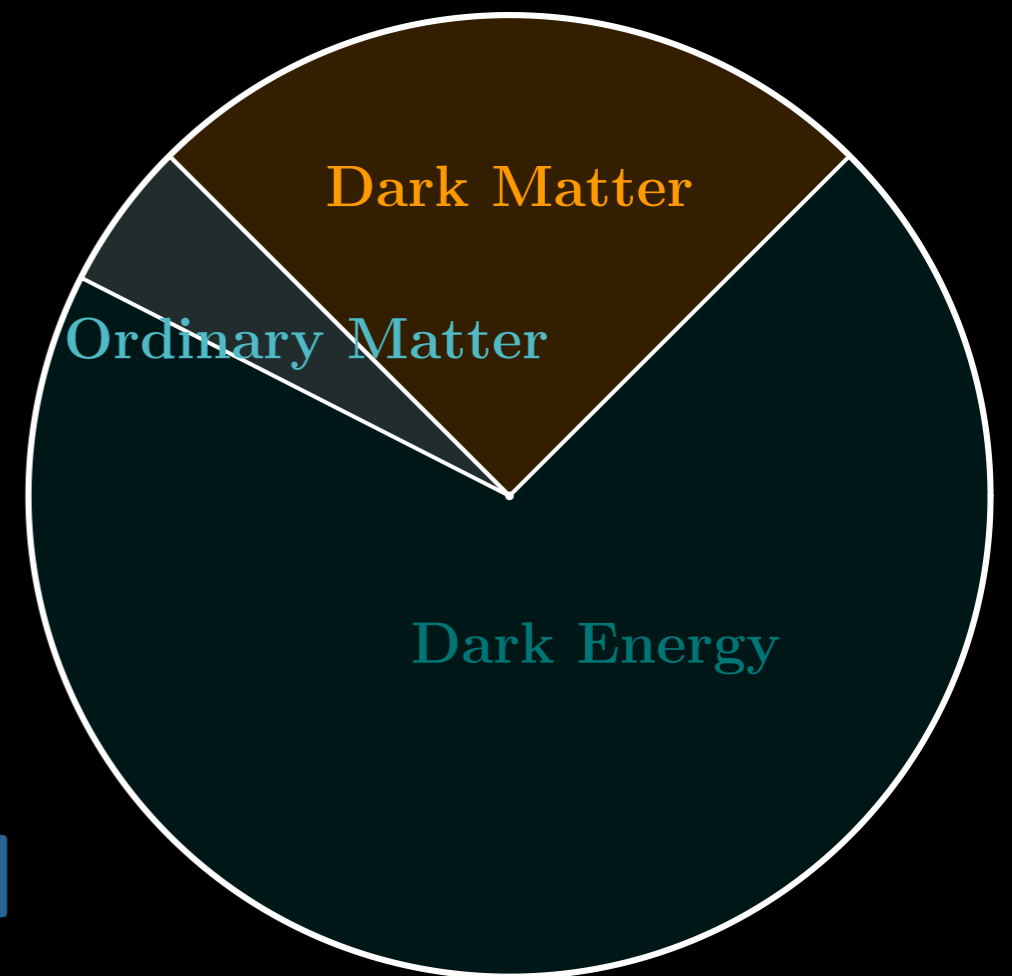
We **don't** understand the basics of our Universe



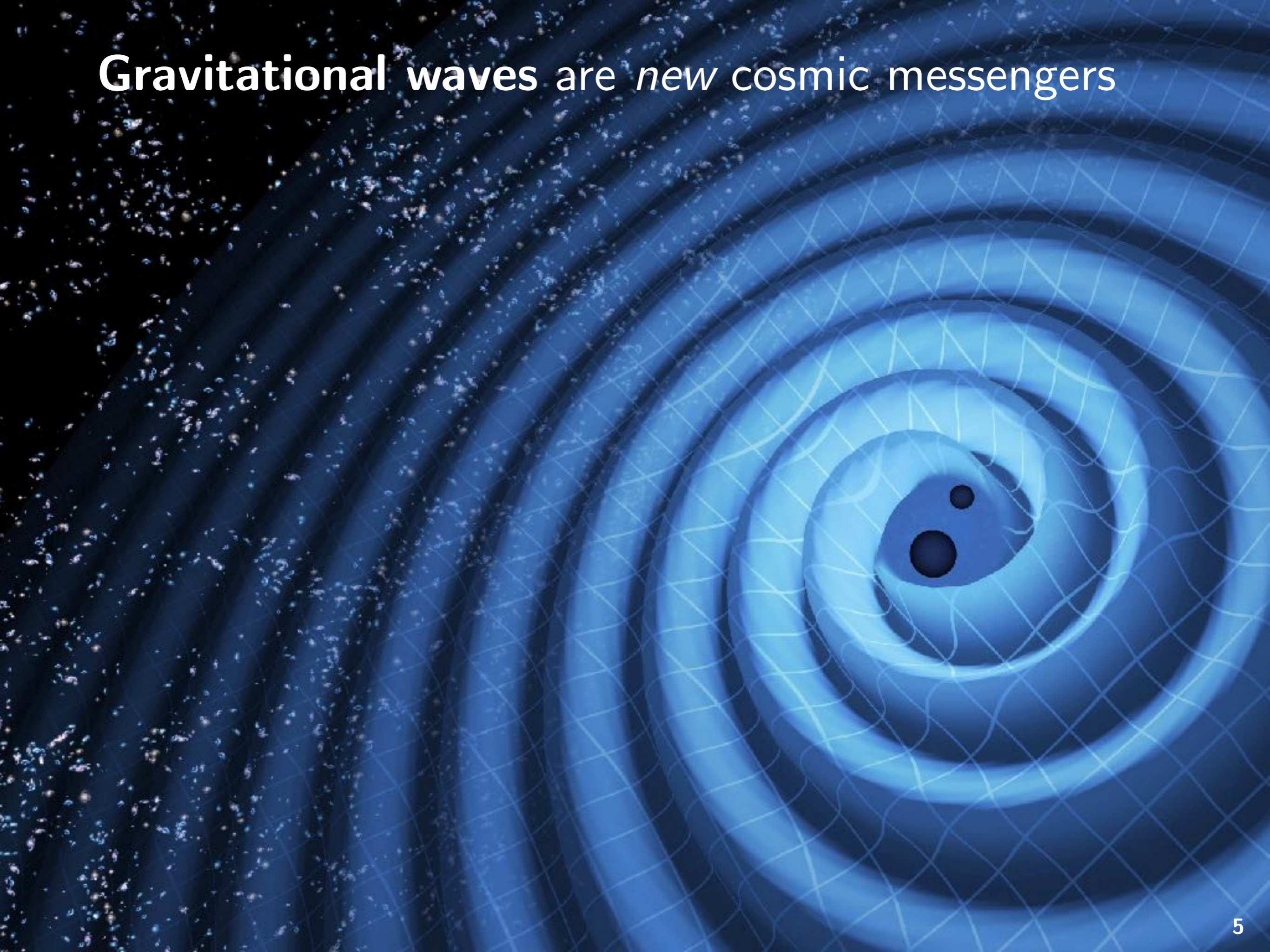
Why the Universe expands ever faster?

What holds galaxies together?

Is Einstein gravity valid at cosmological scales?



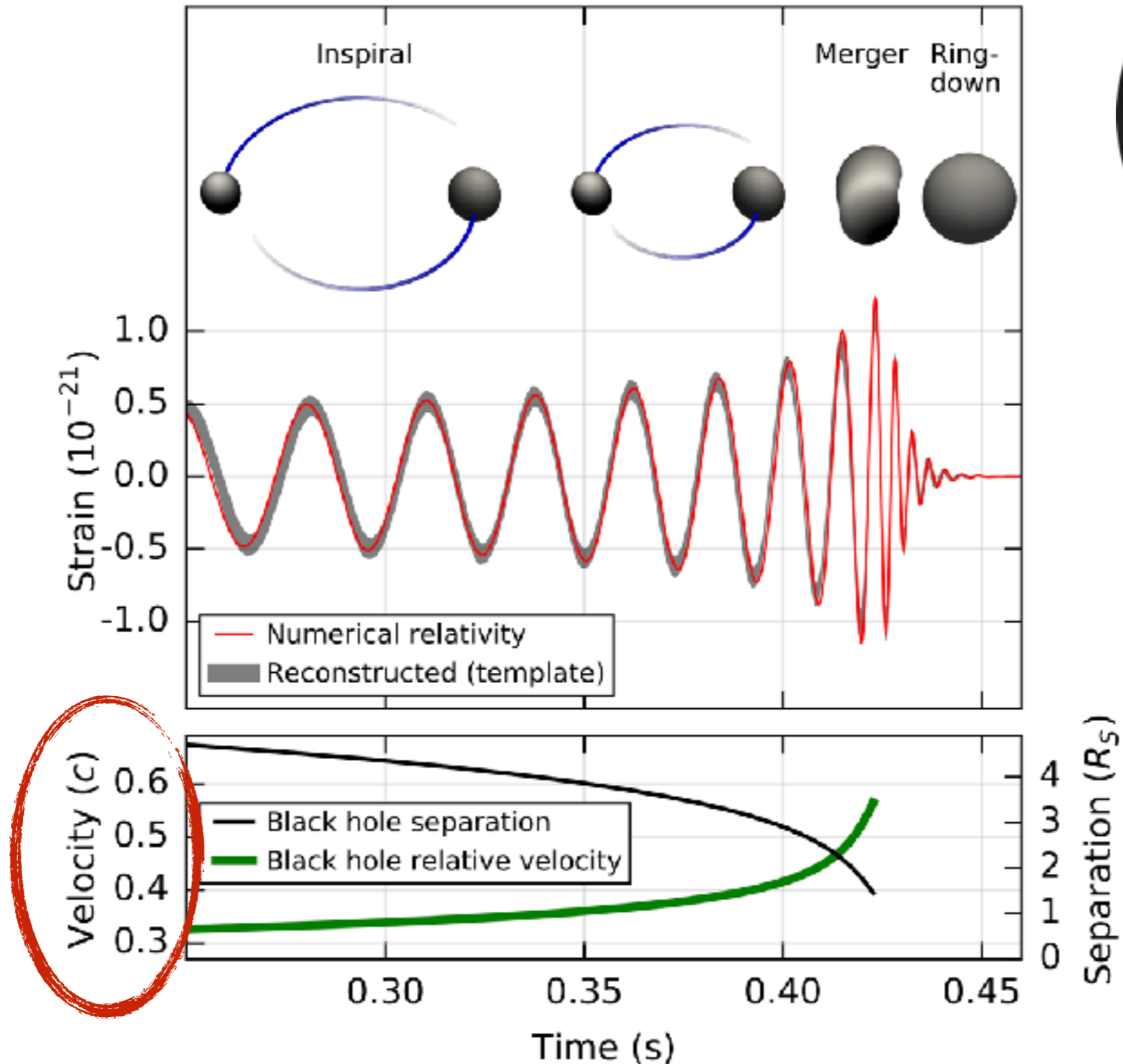
Gravitational waves are *new* cosmic messengers



Gravitational waves from stellar-mass **binary black holes**



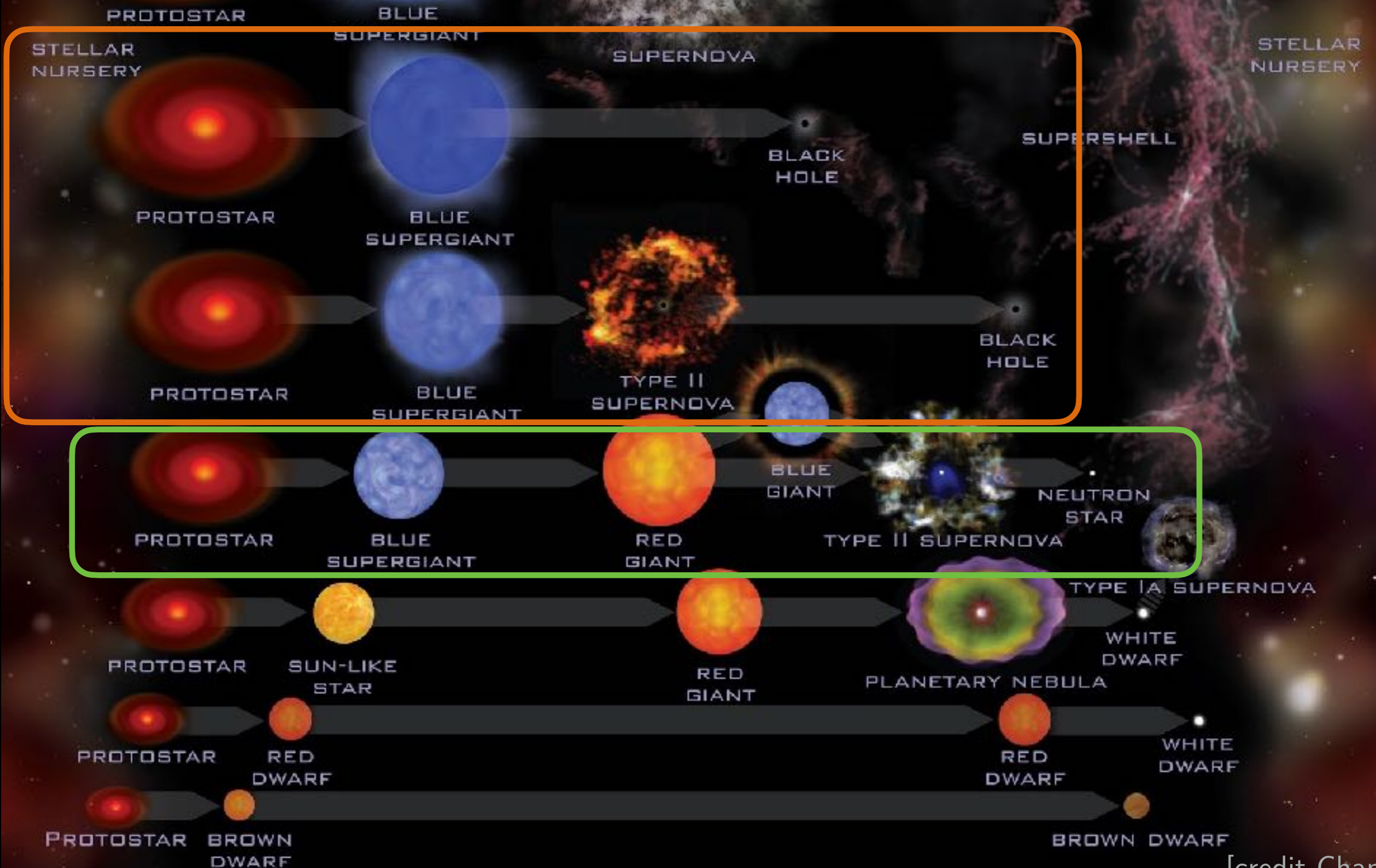
Strong-field gravity

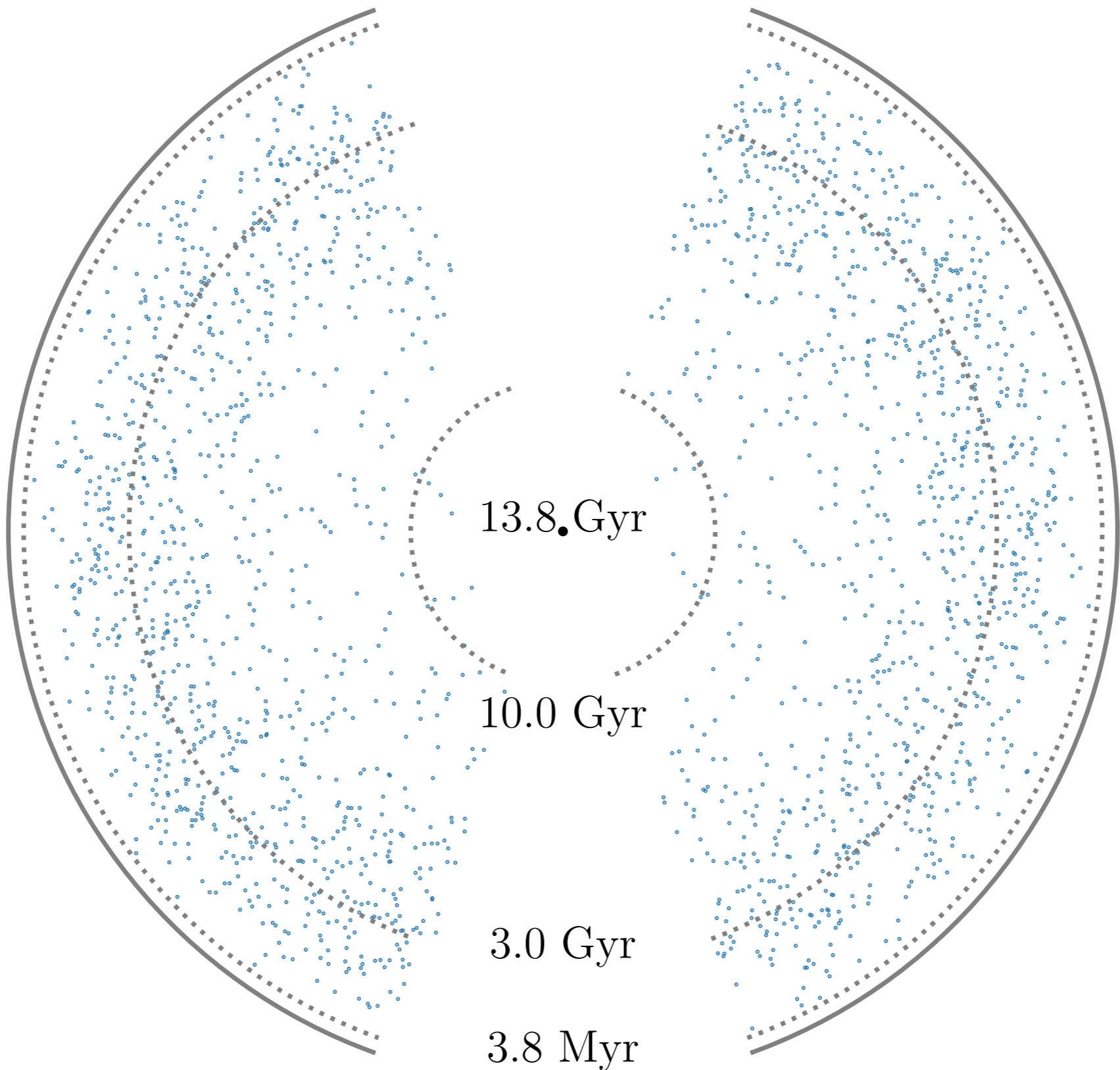


[First detection, GW150914]

Stellar evolution

How, when, where?



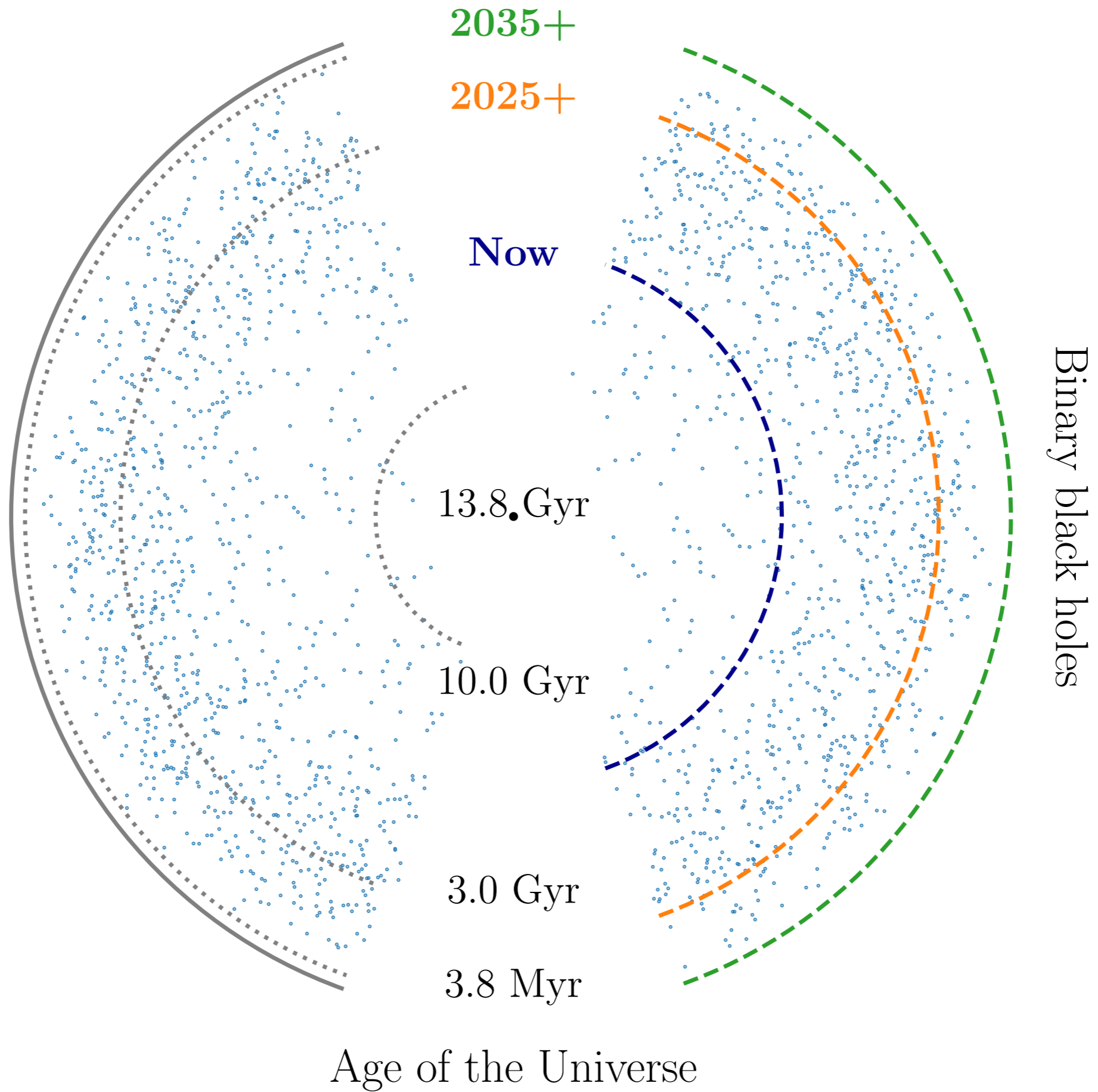


Binary black holes

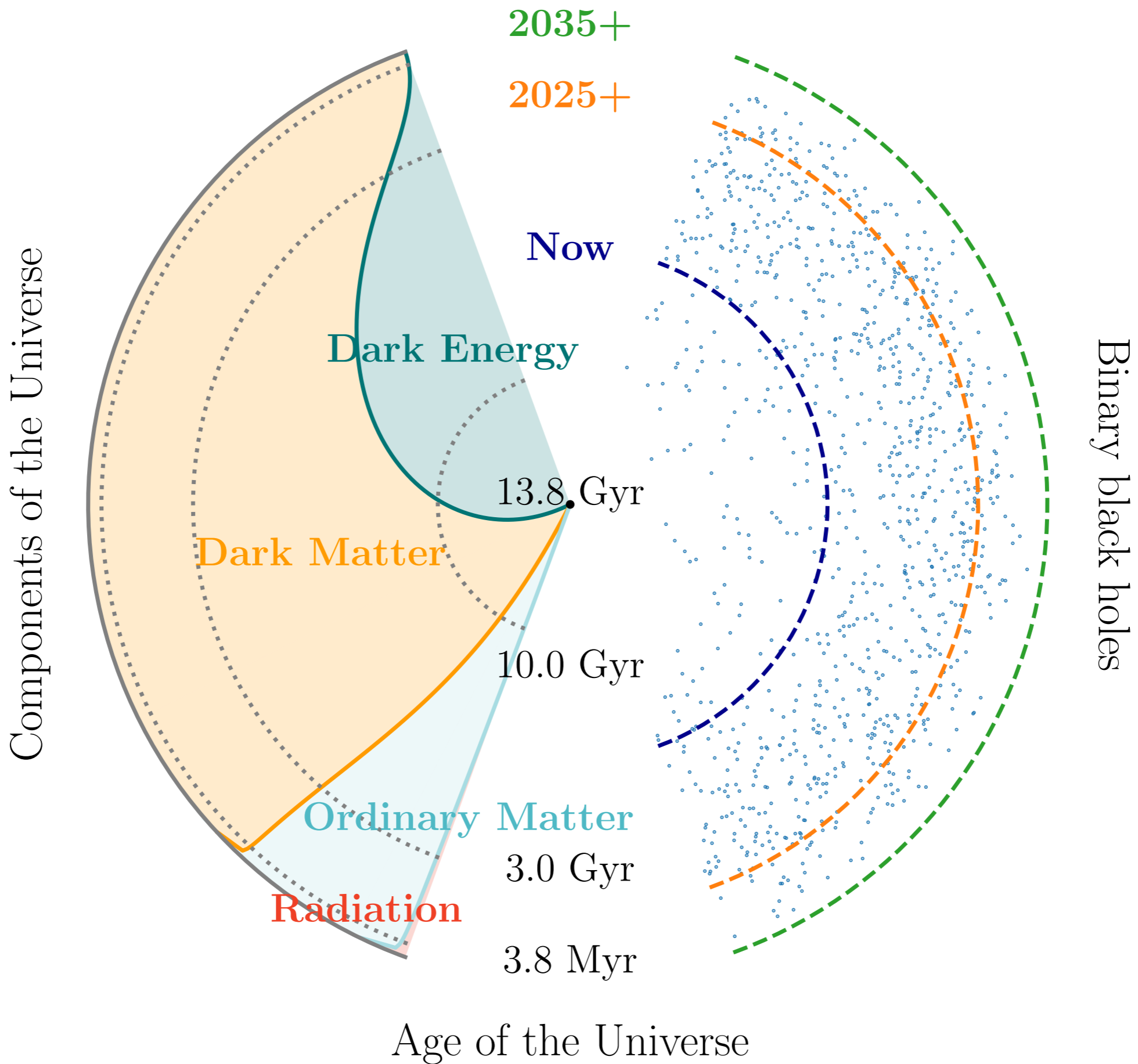
Age of the Universe

*stellar mass
binary black holes

Gravitational Wave horizons



Gravitational Wave horizons



The plan

0. Motivation: gravity, astrophysics, cosmology
1. *A crash-course* on gravitational waves
 - linearized Einstein's equations, quadrupole formula, compact binary coalescences
2. The new era of gravitational-wave astronomy
 - detectors, matched-filtering, data analysis, current observations, next generation detectors
3. *Standard siren* cosmology
 - bright, dark and spectral sirens, status and future prospects
4. Gravitational wave *lensing*
 - lensing regimes (geometric/wave optics), current search efforts, science case

The plan - *warm up*



- Please, raise your hand if...
 - You are in the *first* year of your PhD
 - In your *second* year?
 - You have studied before a *course* with “gravitational waves” in the title
 - You have published a *paper* with the words “gravitational waves” written somewhere
 - In the *title*?
 - You have already seen the *monkeys* in the hotel :)

The plan - *practicalities*

- Please ask *questions!* (during and after the lectures)
- The goal of these lectures is to give an *overview* of gravitational wave astronomy and its application to cosmology
 - I will avoid technical derivations. Focus on compact binaries
 - There are many slides. No need to cover them all!
- Detailed derivations can be found in my lecture notes:
ezquiaga.github.io/lectures/Lecture_Notes
 - Also references to seminal papers and books
- The slides contain references [in brackets] with links to papers/sources
 - QR code linking to the slides
- *Remember, please ask questions!*
(during and after the lectures)



1. A crash-course on
gravitational waves

Gravitational waves in flat space

- Perturbations around Minkowski

$$g_{\mu\nu}(t, \vec{x}) = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}(t, \vec{x})$$

$$|h_{\mu\nu}(t, \vec{x})| \ll 1$$



- Einstein field equations

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R = 8\pi GT_{\mu\nu}$$

- Gravitational wave propagation

$$\square h_{\mu\nu} = -16\pi G \left(T_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}\eta_{\mu\nu}T \right)$$

Gravitational wave properties

- Wave equation in vacuum $\square h_{\mu\nu} = 0$

- Wave ansatz
$$h_{\mu\nu}(x) = \text{Re} \left[A_{\mu\nu}(x) e^{i\theta(x)} \right]$$
$$k_\mu \equiv \partial_\mu \theta$$
$$A_{\mu\nu} \equiv A \epsilon_{\mu\nu}$$

- Highly oscillatory phase: $\theta \rightarrow \theta/\varepsilon$
- Leading order: *gravitational wave follow null geodesics*

$$\eta_{\mu\nu} k^\mu k^\nu = 0$$

- Next to Leading order: *gravitons conserved + parallel transport*

$$\nabla^\mu (A^2 k_\mu) = 0 \quad k^\alpha \nabla_\alpha \epsilon_{\mu\nu} = 0$$

Gravitational wave polarizations

- Counting degrees of freedom:

Symmetric 4D tensor $\epsilon_{\mu\nu} = \epsilon_{\nu\mu}$: **10**

Lorenz gauge $\nabla^\mu h_{\mu\nu} = 0$: **10 - 4 = 6**

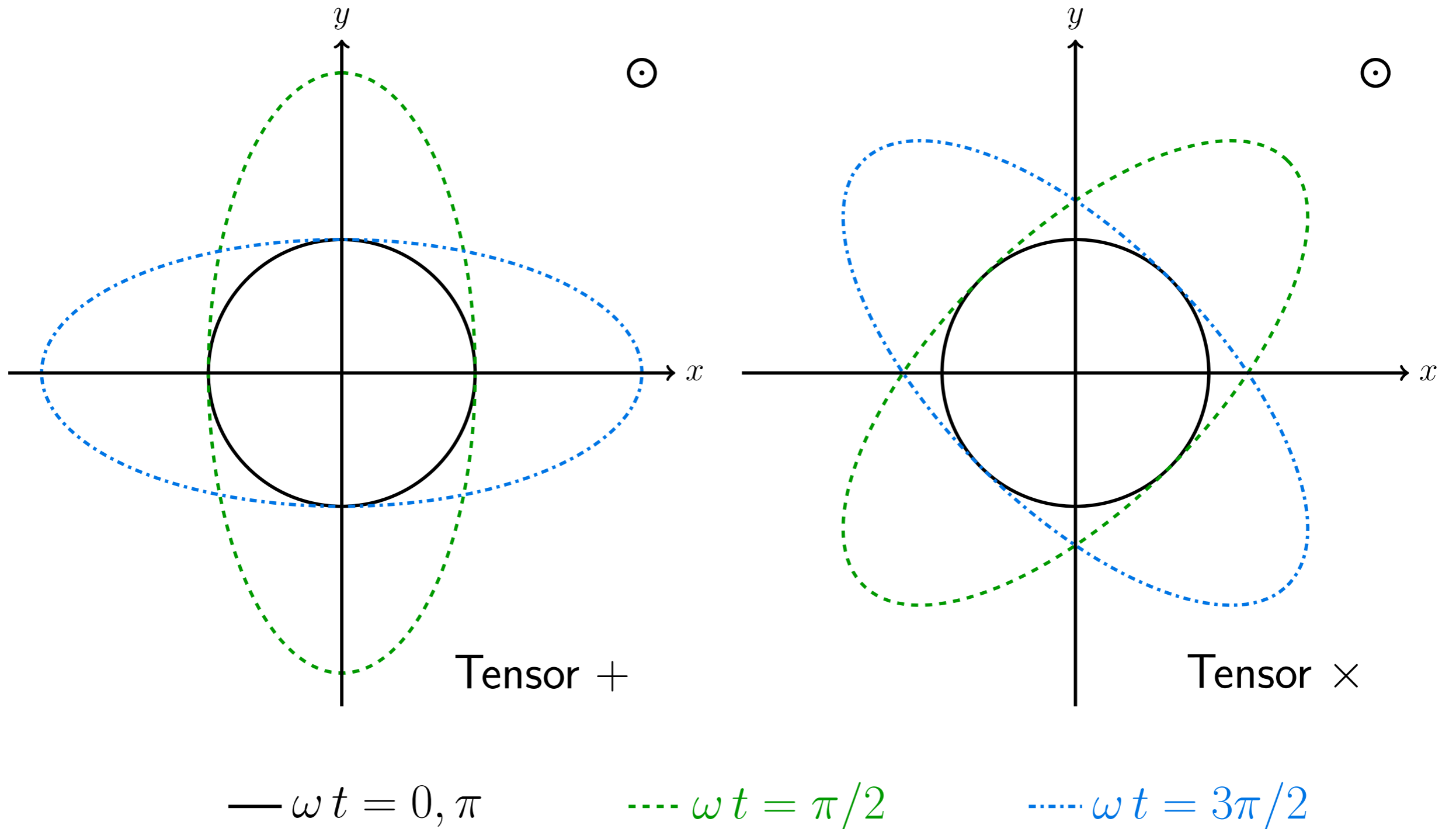
Residual gauge $\epsilon_{0\mu} = 0$: **10 - 4 - 4 = 2**

- Polarization decomposition:

$$\epsilon_{\mu\nu}(x) = \epsilon_+(x)\hat{\epsilon}_{\mu\nu}^+ + \epsilon_\times(x)\hat{\epsilon}_{\mu\nu}^\times$$

$$\epsilon_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon_+ & \epsilon_\times & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon_\times & -\epsilon_+ & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Gravitational Wave Polarizations



Gravitational waves in curved space

- Perturbations around curved background

$$g_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}^{\text{B}} + h_{\mu\nu}$$

- Definition is not unique, short-wave approx.

$$\lambda_{\text{gw}} \ll L_{\text{B}} \sim |R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\rho}^{\text{B}}|^{-1/2}$$

- We can fix the transverse-traceless gauge in vacuum $\nabla^{\mu} h_{\mu\nu} = h = 0$

- Wave equation

$$\square h_{\mu\nu} + 2R_{\mu\alpha\nu\beta}^{\text{B}} h^{\alpha\beta} = 0$$

New interactions!

$$\partial g_{\mu\nu}^{\text{B}}$$

$$\partial\partial g_{\mu\nu}^{\text{B}}$$



Gravitational waves in cosmology

- Perturbations around homogeneous and isotropic backgrounds

$$g_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}^{\text{FLRW}} + h_{\mu\nu}$$

- GWs unambiguously defined + scalar-vector-tensor decomposition
- Wave equation in vacuum

$$\square^{\text{FLRW}} h_{ij} + 2R_{ijkl}^{\text{FLRW}} h^{jl} = 0$$



$$h''_{ij} + 2\mathcal{H}h'_{ij} + \nabla^2 h_{ij} = 0$$



$$h_{ij}(\eta, \mathbf{x}) \simeq \frac{1}{a(\eta)} h_{ij}^{\text{flat}}(\eta, \mathbf{x})$$

Gravitational wave generation

- Different regimes



- Rewriting the field equations:

$$\square \bar{h}_{\mu\nu} = -16\pi G T_{\mu\nu} + \mathcal{O}(h^2) \equiv -16\pi G \tau_{\mu\nu}$$

- Green's function solution: $\bar{h}_{\mu\nu} = h_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}h$

$$\bar{h}_{\mu\nu}(t, \vec{x}) = 4G \int d^3x' \frac{\tau_{\mu\nu}(t - |\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|, \vec{x}')}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|}$$

Quadrupole formula

- Far zone solution: *expand large distances*
- Near zone solution: *expand small velocities v/c*
- Leading Newtonian limit: *match near and far zone solutions*

$$h_{ij}^{TT}(t, \vec{x}) = \frac{2G}{c^4 r} \frac{d^2 Q_{ij}^{TT}(t - r/c)}{dt^2}$$

*Amplitude scales
inversely with distance*

*Gravitational waves
sourced by accelerated
quadrupole moment*

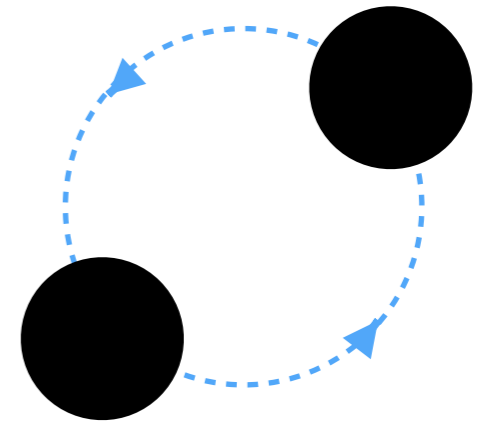
$$Q^{ij} \equiv \int d^3x \tau^{00}(x) \left(x^i x^j - \frac{1}{3} r^2 \delta^{ij} \right)$$

Compact binary coalescence

- At leading order in post-Newtonian expansion

$$h_+(t) = h_c \left(\frac{1 + \cos^2 \iota}{2} \right) \cos [\Phi(t)]$$

$$h_\times(t) = h_c \cos \iota \sin [\Phi(t)]$$



$$\mathcal{M}_c = (m_1 m_2)^{3/5} / (m_1 + m_2)^{1/5}$$

- Amplitude

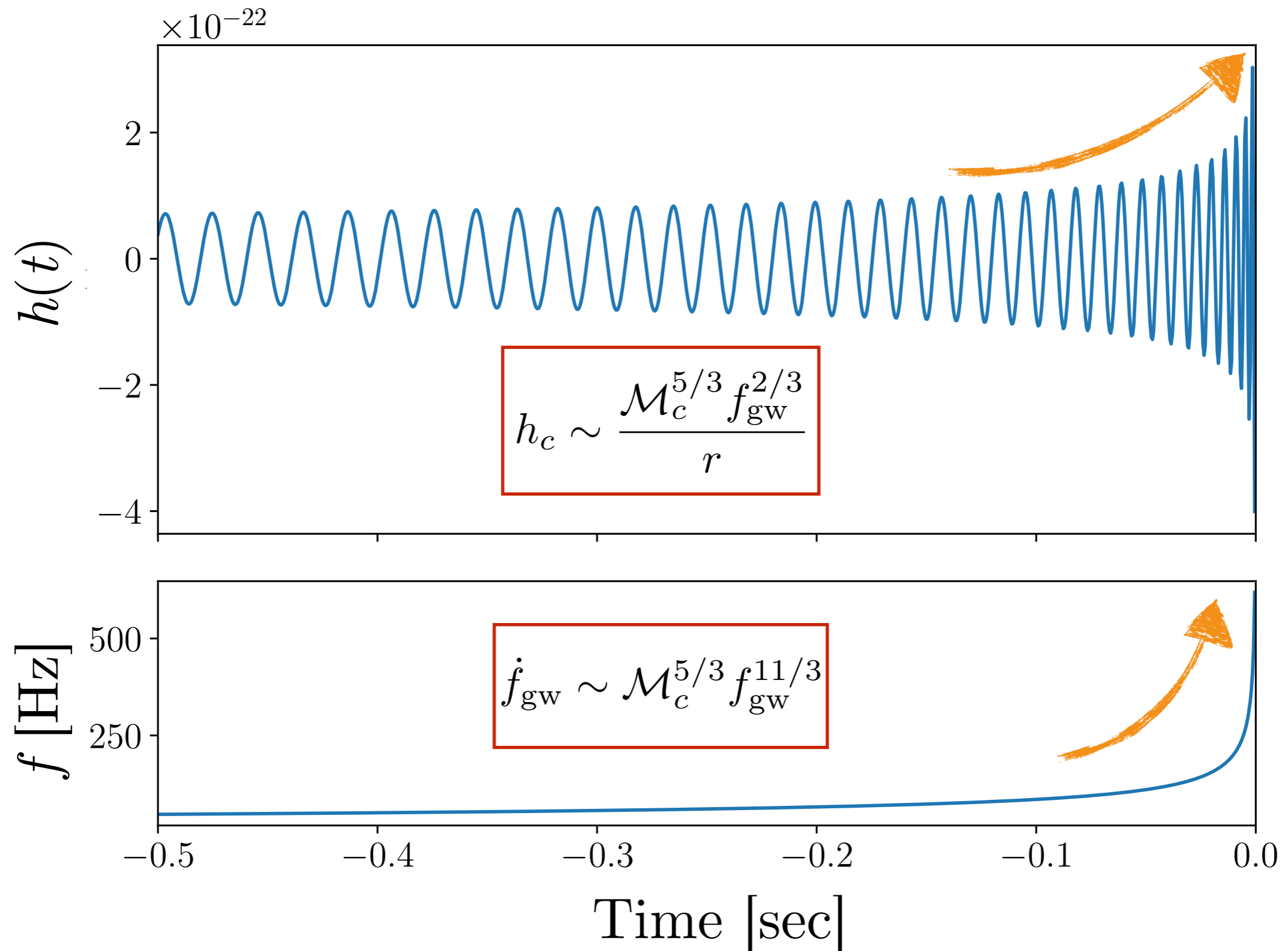
$$h_c \sim \frac{\mathcal{M}_c^{5/3} f_{\text{gw}}^{2/3}}{r}$$

- Frequency

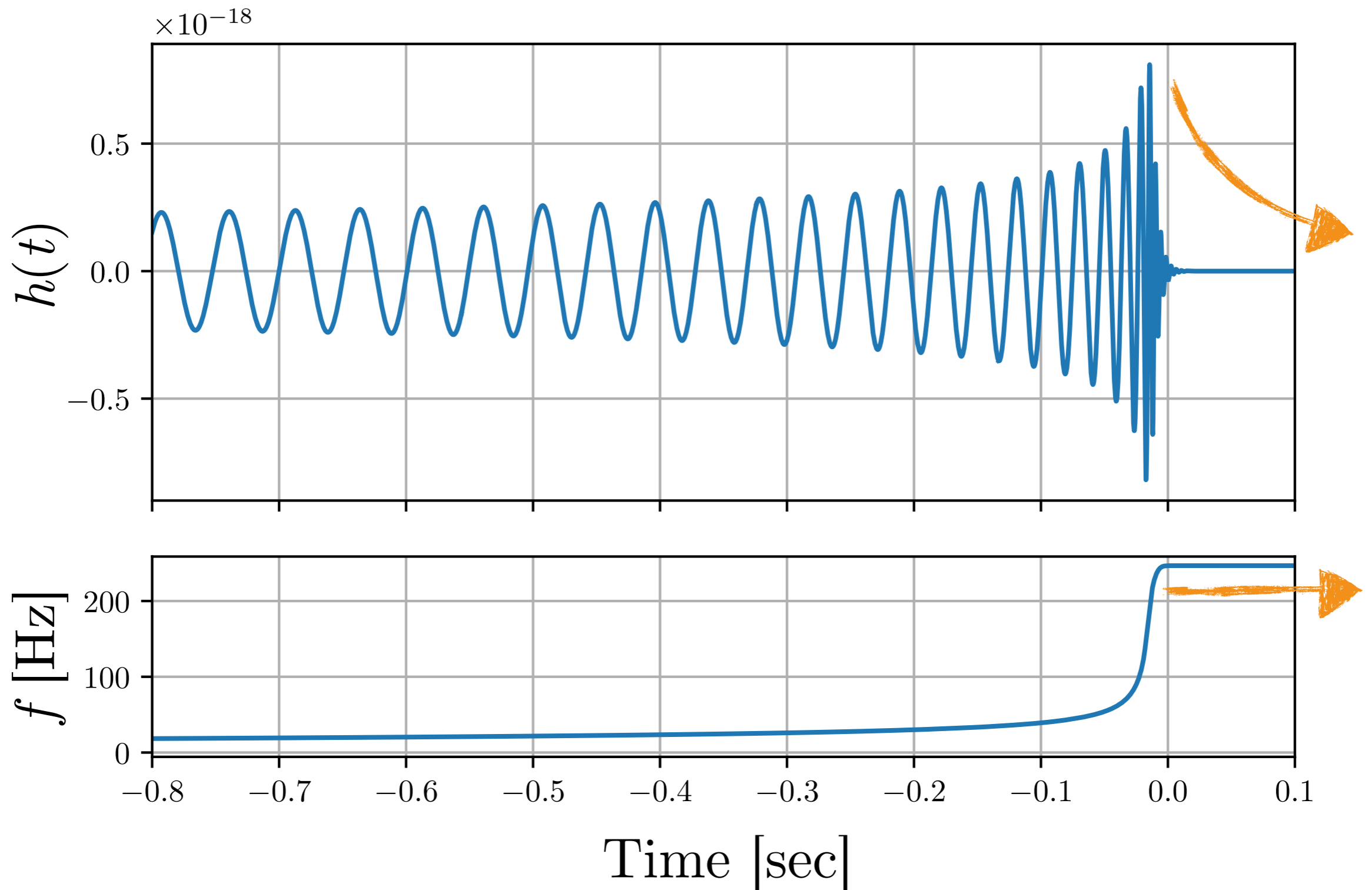
$$\dot{f}_{\text{gw}} \sim \mathcal{M}_c^{5/3} f_{\text{gw}}^{11/3}$$

$$f_{\text{gw}} \sim d\Phi/dt$$

Inspiral - the “chirp”

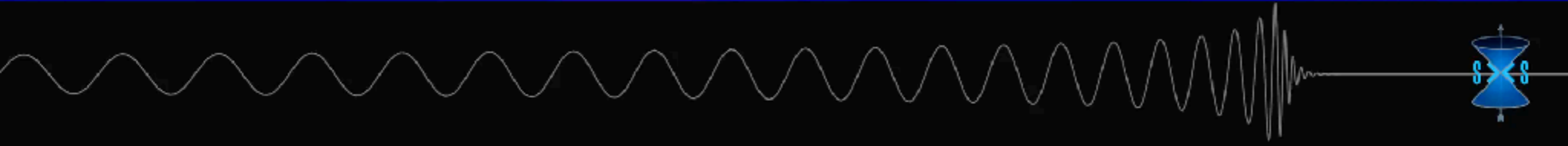
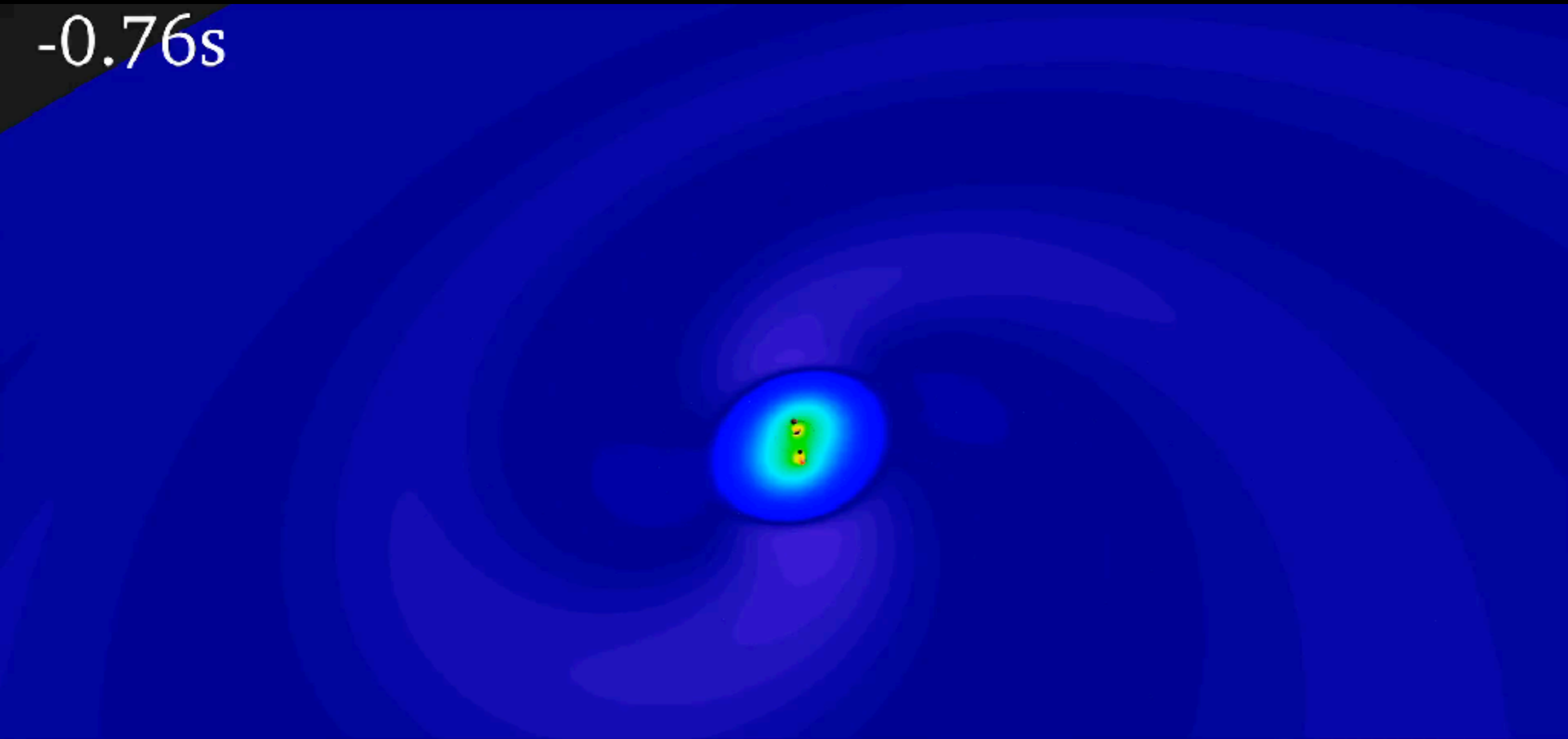


Inspiral-Merger-Ringdown

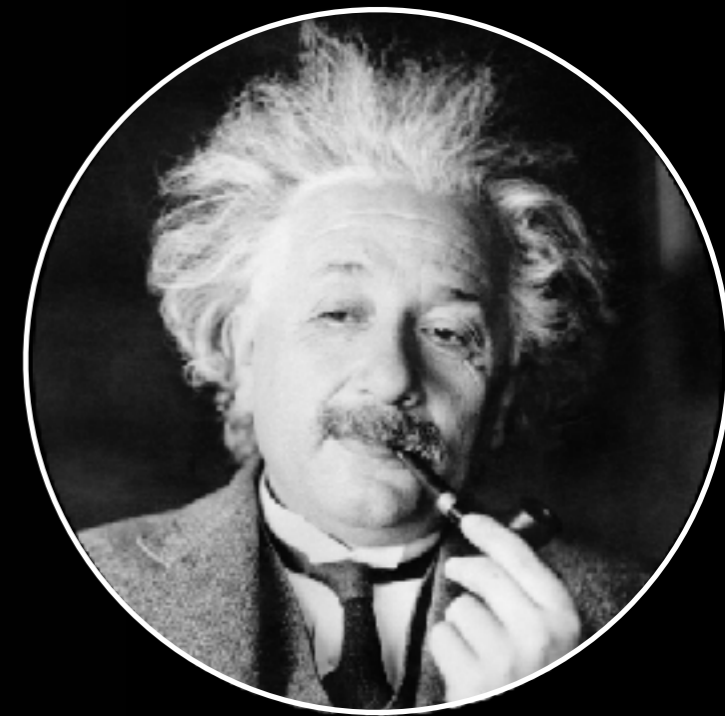
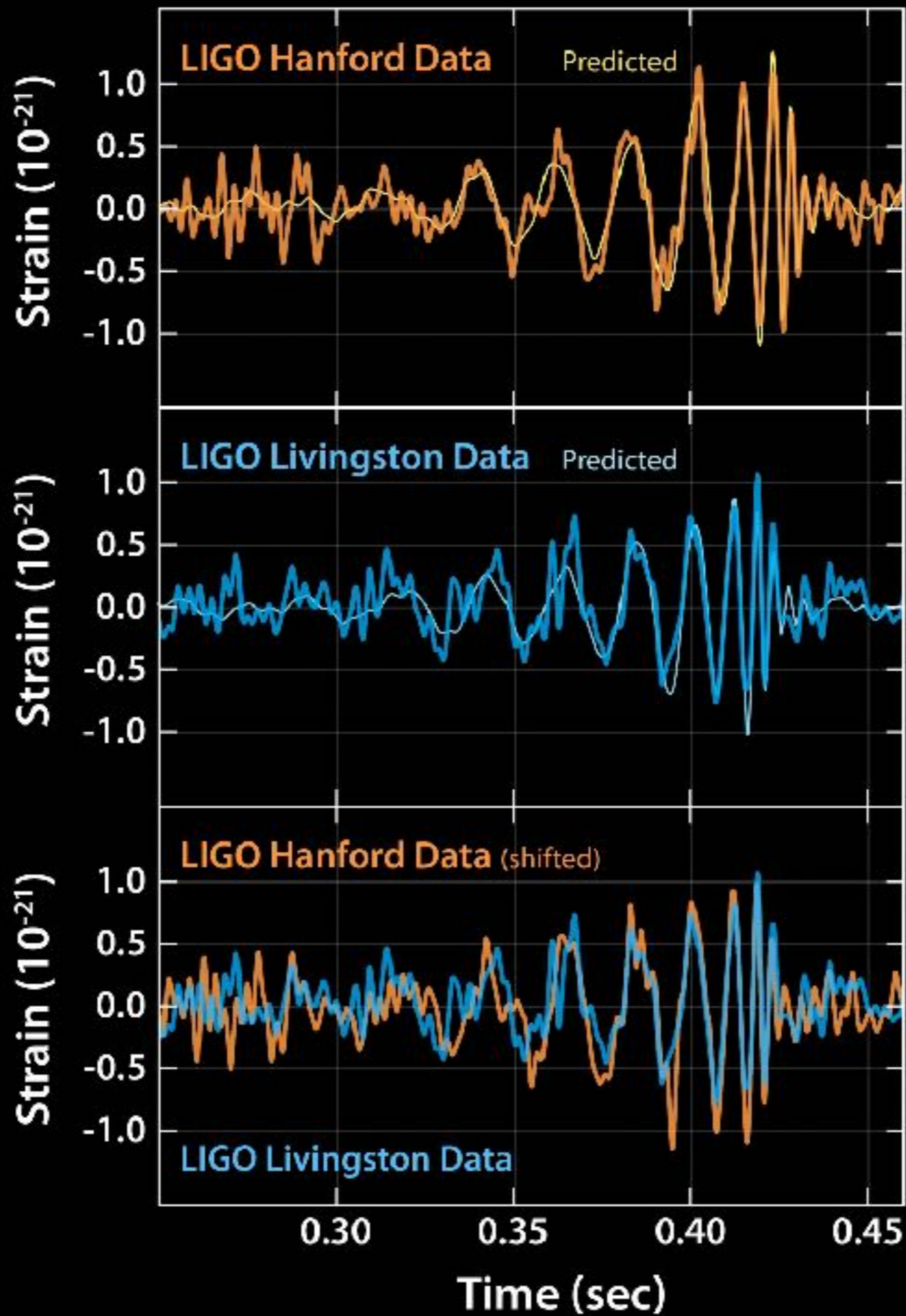


Numerical simulation of a binary black hole merger

-0.76s



[Credit: SxS Collaboration]



Cosmological compact binary coalescence

- Compact binaries at cosmological distances

$$h_c(t_{\text{obs}}) \sim \frac{\mathcal{M}_c^{5/3} f_{\text{gw}}^{2/3}}{a(t_{\text{obs}}) r}$$

$$f_{\text{gw}} = (1 + z) f_{\text{obs}}$$



$$\mathcal{M}_z = (1 + z) \mathcal{M}_c$$

$$h_c(t_{\text{obs}}) \sim \frac{\mathcal{M}_z^{5/3} f_{\text{obs}}^{2/3}}{d_L^{\text{gw}}}$$

$$d_L^{\text{gw}} = d_L^{\text{em}} = a_0 (1 + z) \int_0^{z_{\text{src}}} \frac{dz}{H(z)}$$

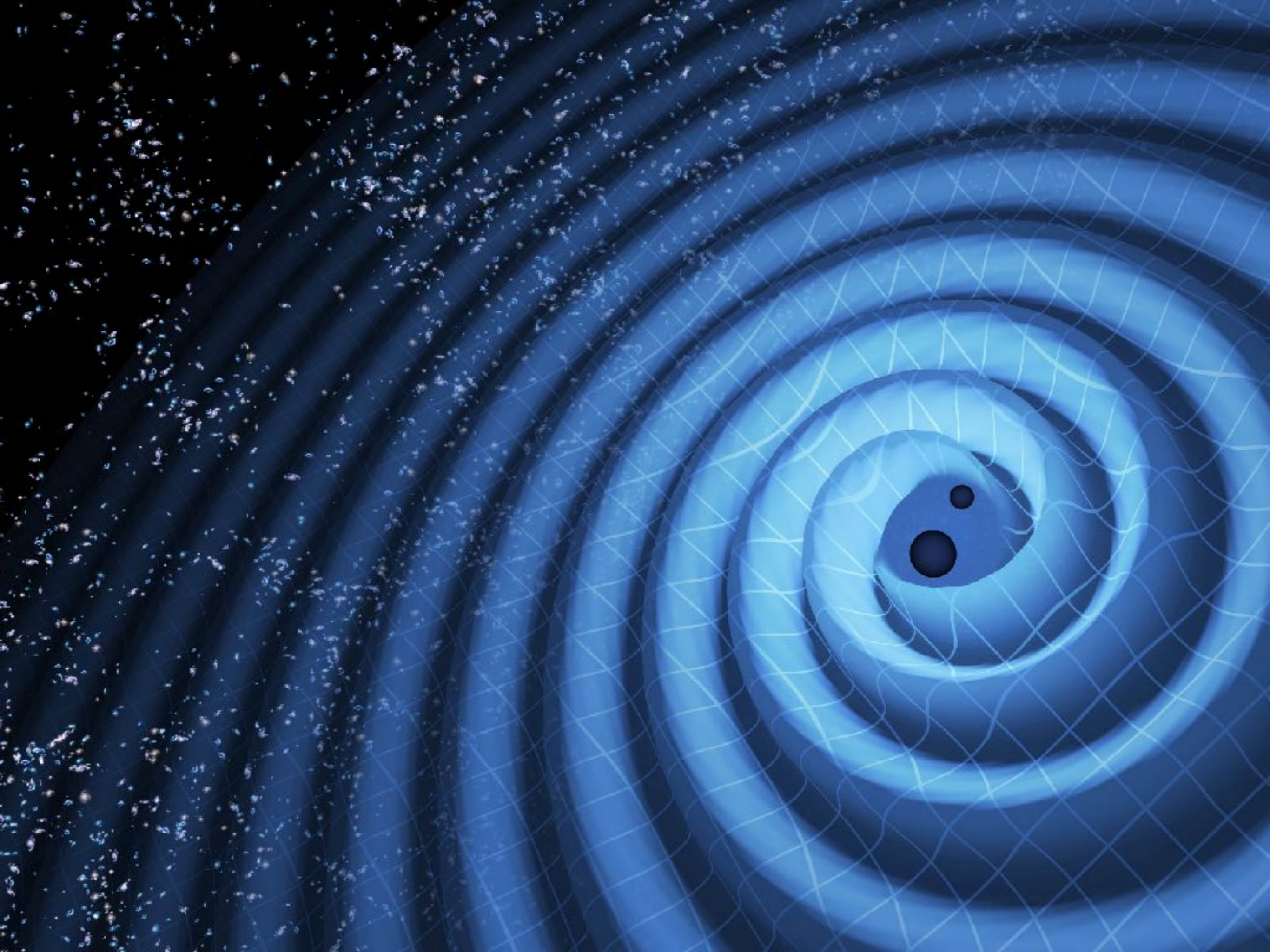
GW's amplitude scale with the inverse of the luminosity distance!

Their amplitude is sensitive to the expansion rate of the Universe!

1. Key takeaways

- Gravitational waves are *linear perturbations* of space-time that propagate across the Universe
- They propagate along *null geodesics* and carry only *two polarizations*
- Gravitational waves are sourced by the *second time derivative* of the *quadrupole moment*
- Compact binary coalescences produce sizable gravitational waves with a *chirping* waveform
- On a cosmological background, amplitude scales inversely with the *luminosity distance*

2. The new era of gravitational-wave astronomy

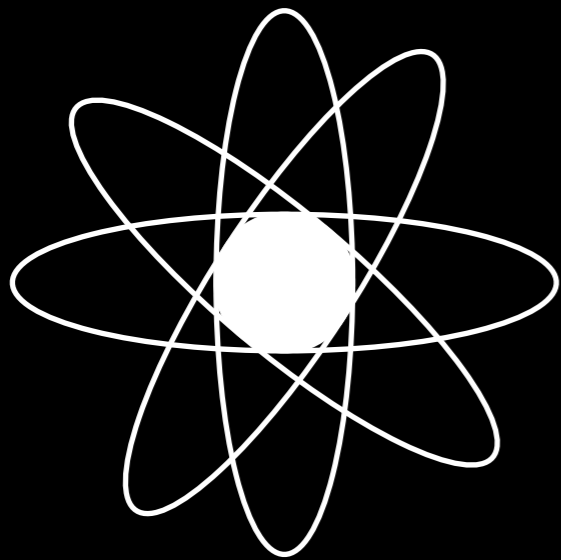




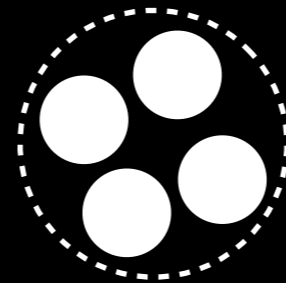
[Credit: R. Hurt, Caltech/MIT/LIGO Lab]

The variation in the distance is minuscule

0.00000000000000000001 meters



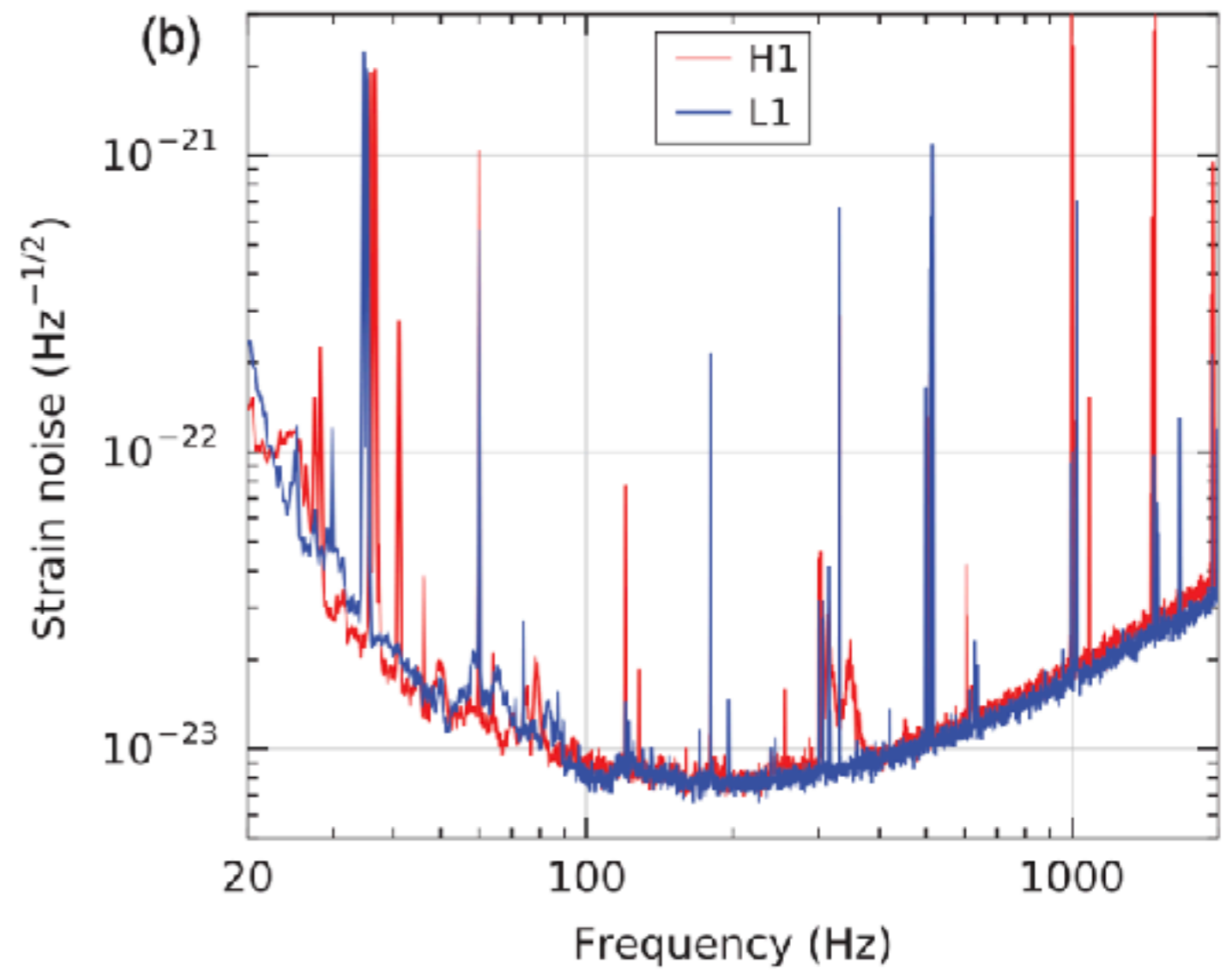
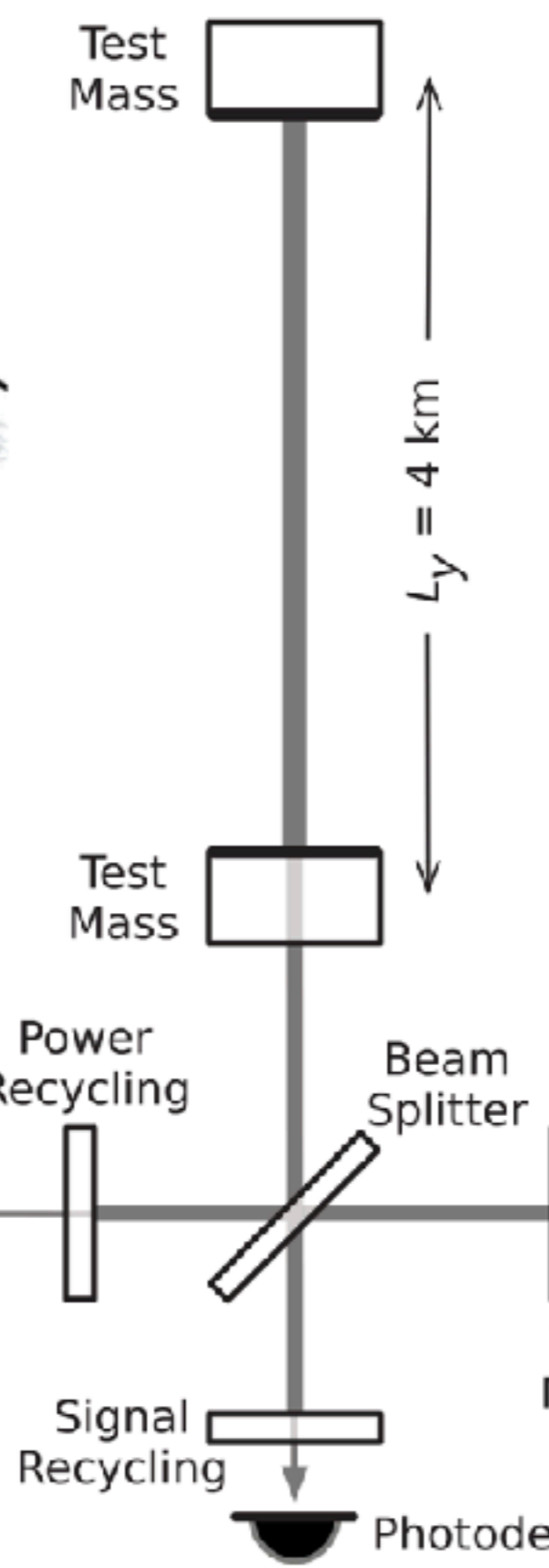
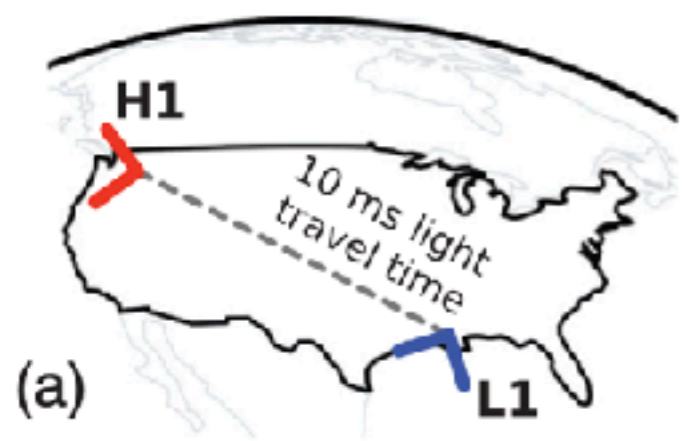
atom: 10^{-10} meters



nucleus: 10^{-15} meters



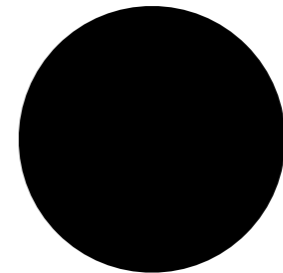
GW effect: 10^{-18} meters



Tuned for detecting compact objects

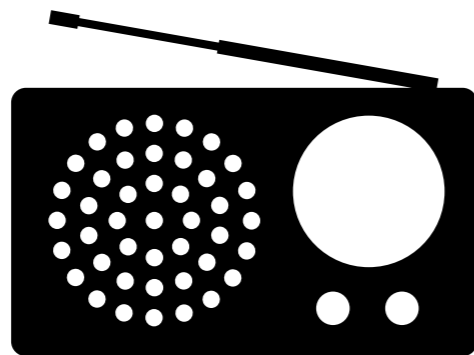
$$f \sim \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{1}{2t_{\text{Sch}}} \sim 800\text{Hz} \left(\frac{10M_{\odot}}{M} \right)$$

$$h \sim \mathcal{O}(1) \cdot \frac{r_{\text{Sch}}}{r} \sim 10^{-23} \left(\frac{1\text{Gpc}}{r} \right) \left(\frac{M}{10M_{\odot}} \right)$$



$$r_{\text{Sch}} = 2GM/c^2$$

Coincides audible frequencies



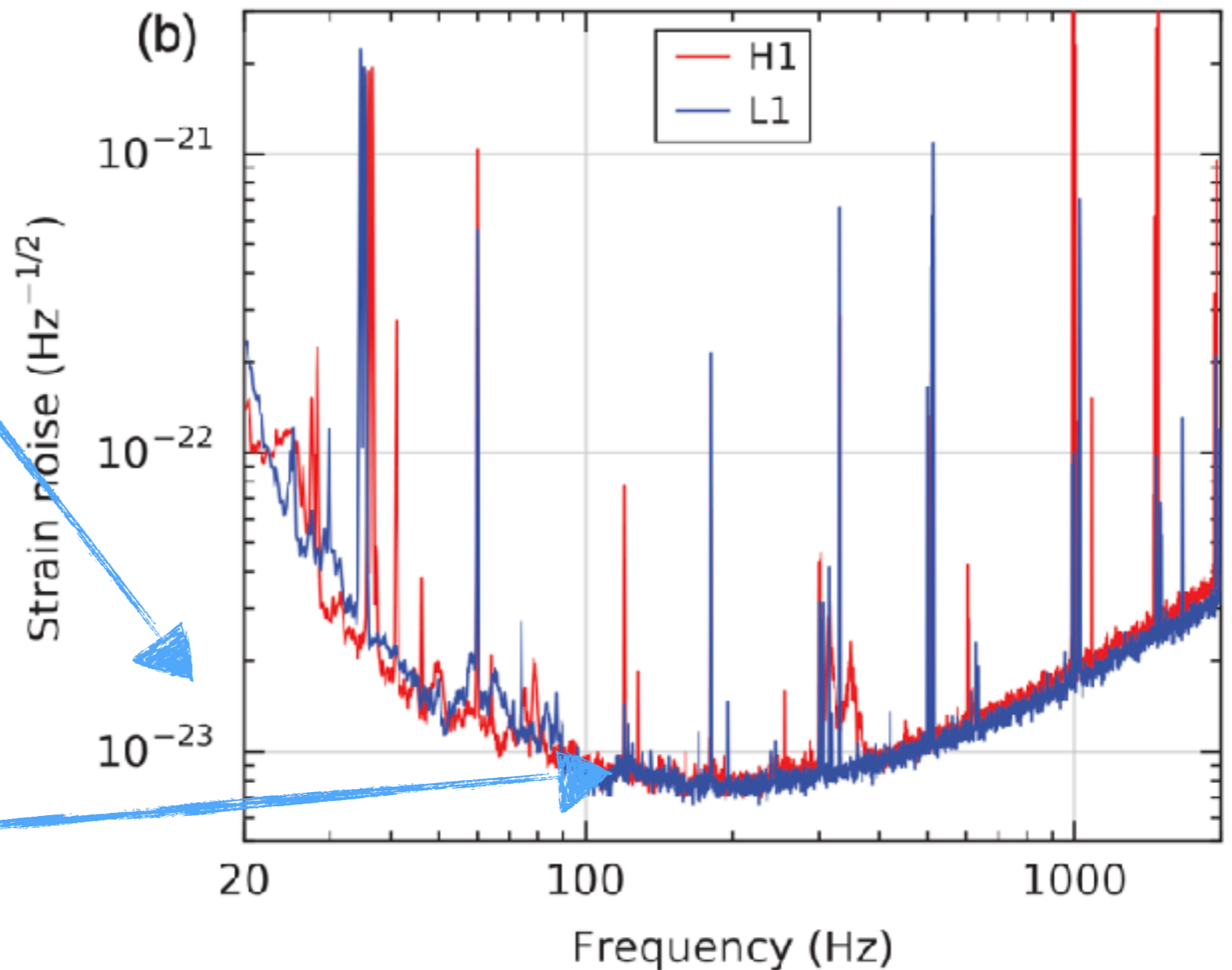
Cosmological distance

$$\frac{1\text{Gpc}}{c} \sim 3\text{Gyr} \sim 0.2t_{\text{Uni}}$$

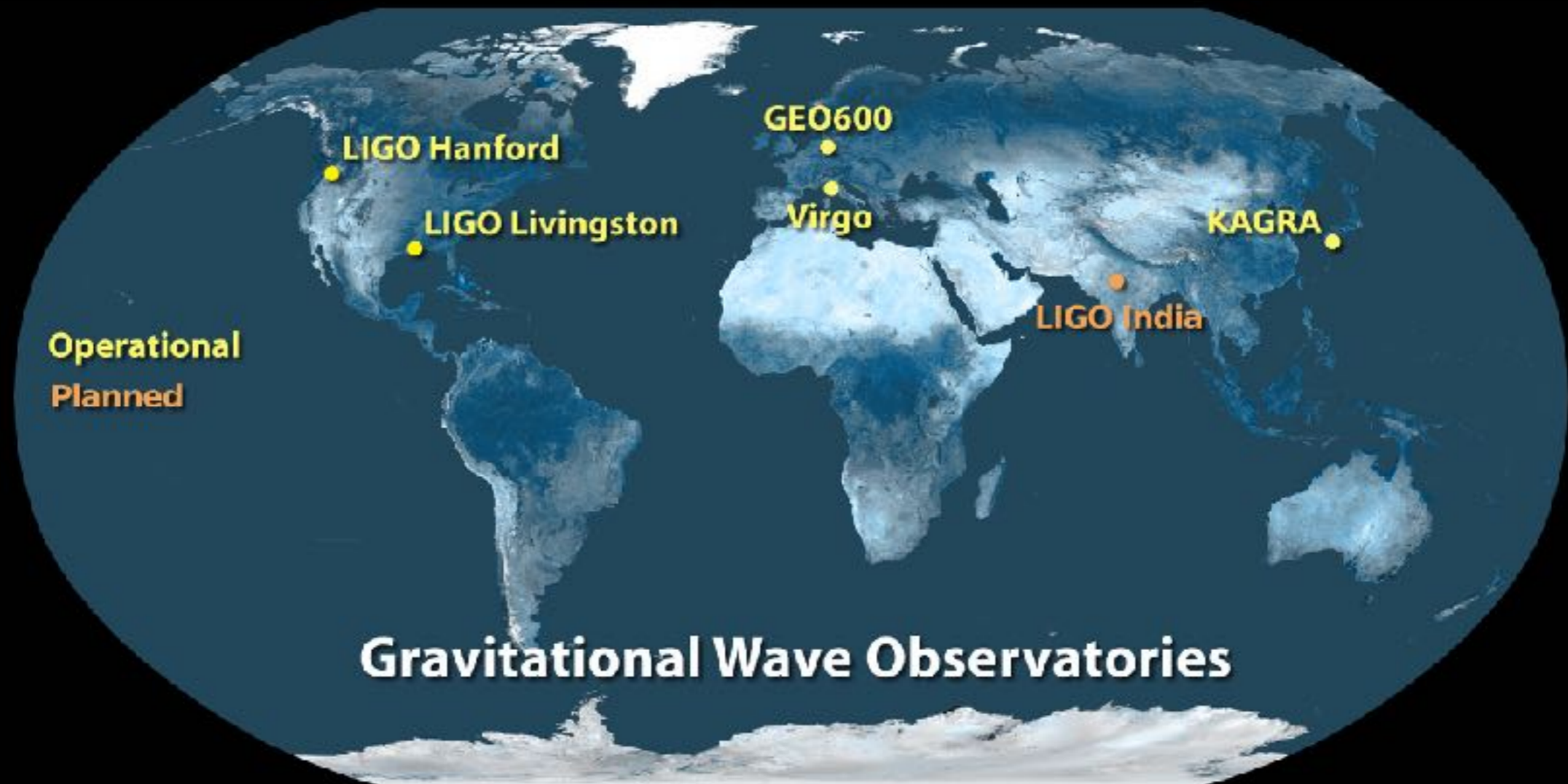
Tuned for detecting compact objects

$$h \sim 10^{-23} \left(\frac{1\text{Gpc}}{r} \right) \left(\frac{M}{10M_{\odot}} \right)$$

$$f \sim 800\text{Hz} \left(\frac{10M_{\odot}}{M} \right)$$



The era of gravitational wave astronomy is **here!**



[Hanford, US]



[Livingston, US]



[Virgo, Italy]



[KAGRA, Japan]

Gravitational wave detectors

- Detectors are defined by their *noise*, $n(t)$
- Some simplifying assumptions:

$$\text{Stationary: } R(\tau) \equiv \langle n(t)n(t + \tau) \rangle$$

$$\text{Ergodic: } \langle n \rangle = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} n(t) dt$$

$$\text{Zero-mean: } \langle n(t) \rangle = 0$$

$$\text{Gaussian: } \langle \tilde{n}^*(f)\tilde{n}(f') \rangle = \frac{1}{2} S_n(f) \delta(f - f')$$

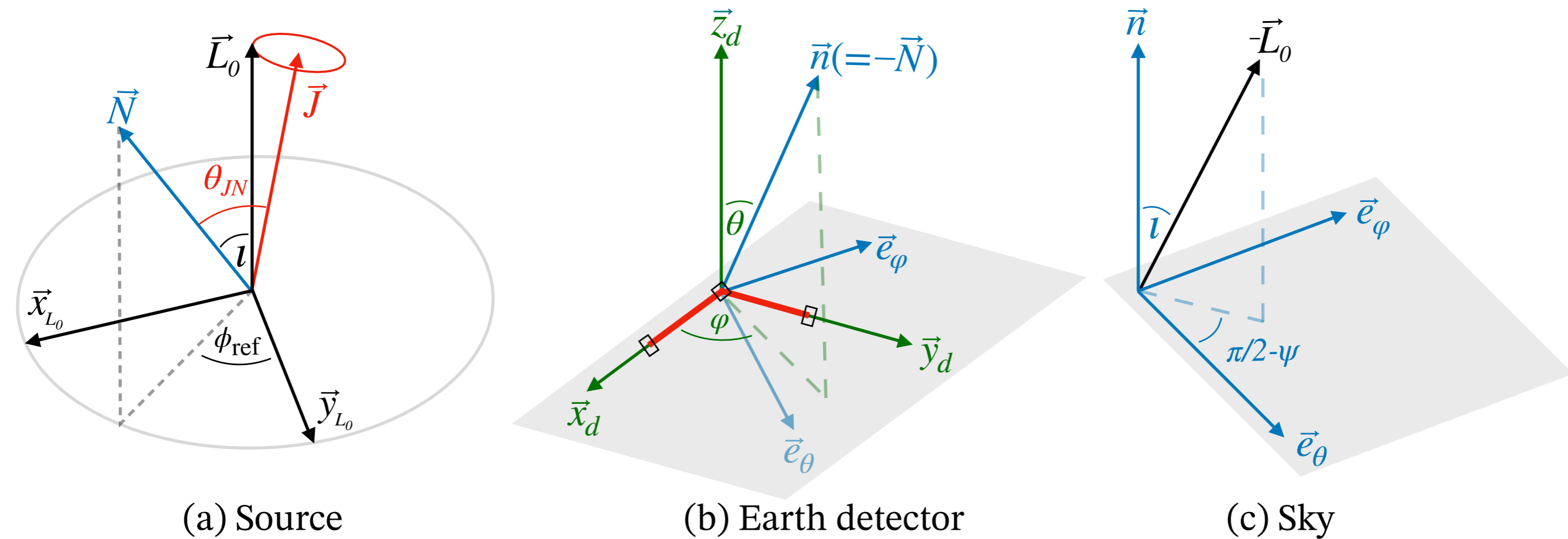
- Probability of noise realization $n(t)$

$$p_n[n(t)] \propto \exp \left[-2 \int_0^\infty \frac{|\tilde{n}(f)|^2}{S_n(f)} df \right]$$

Gravitational wave detectors

- Detectors are also defined by their *antenna response*

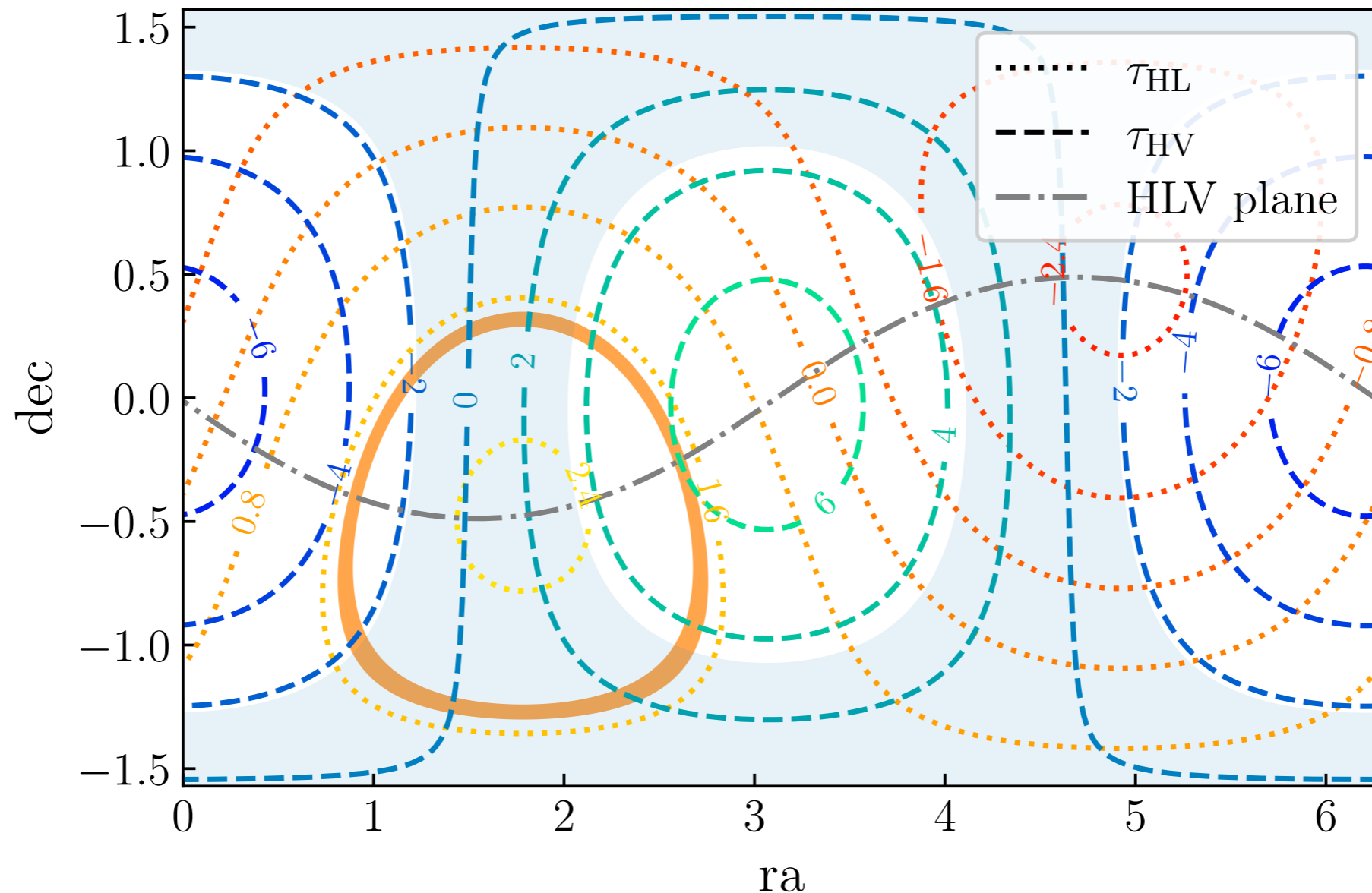
$$h(t) = h_+(t)F_+(\hat{n}) + h_\times(t)F_\times(\hat{n})$$



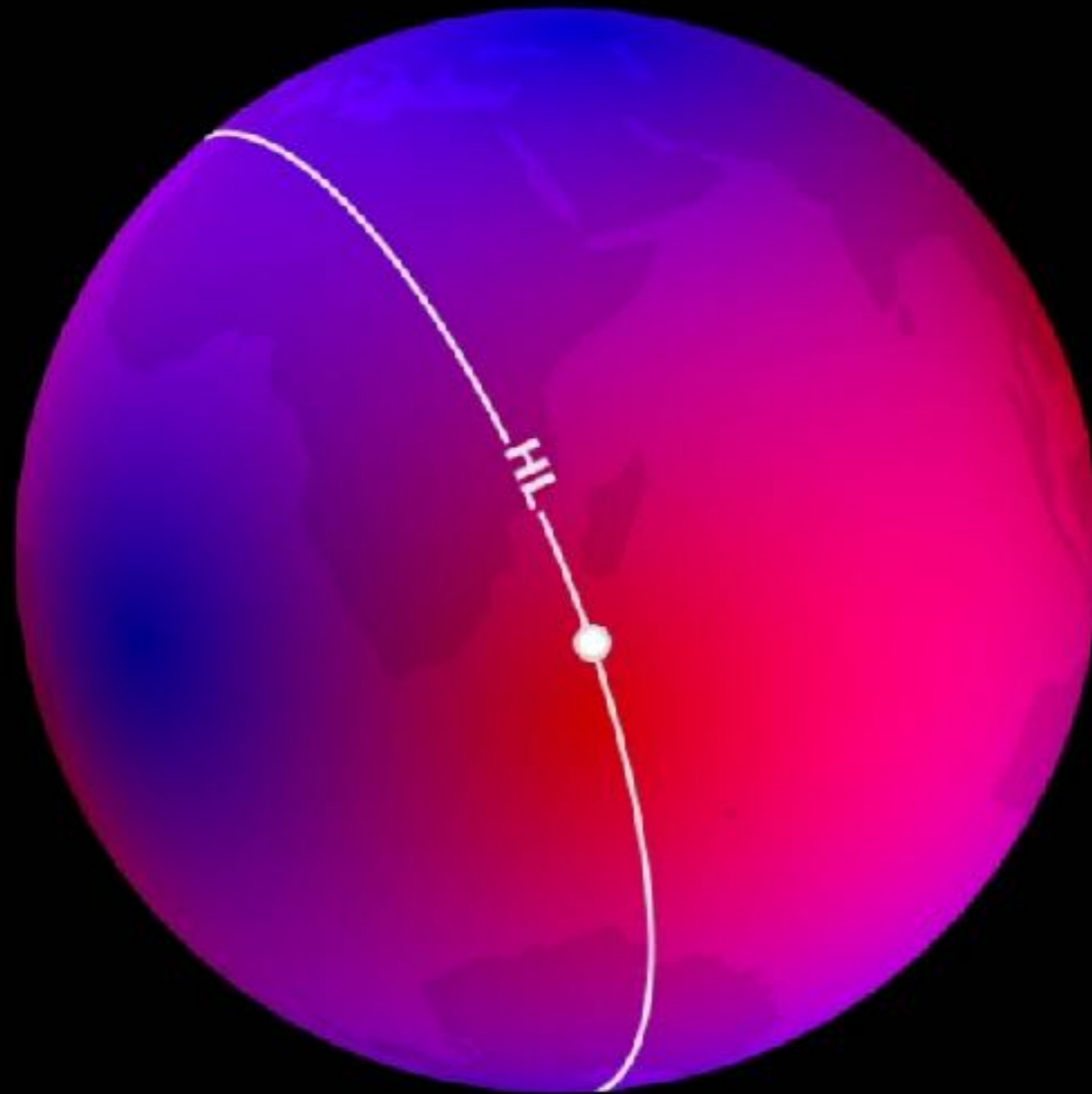
Sky localization

- The arrival time difference between two detectors defines a ring in the sky

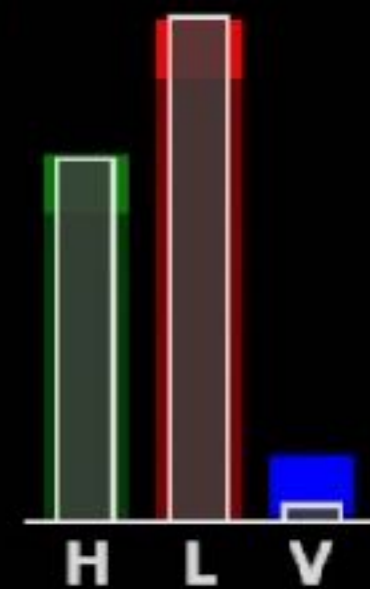
$$\Delta t_{d_1 d_2} = \vec{n} \cdot \vec{r}_{d_1 d_2} / c$$



Sky localization



AMPLITUDE
CONSISTENCY



Matched-filtering

- The data stream: $d(t) = s(t) + n(t)$

- Filter data: $\hat{d} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt d(t)K(t)$

- Signal to noise:
$$S/N = \frac{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} df \tilde{s}(f) \tilde{K}^*(f)}{\sqrt{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} df \frac{1}{2} S_n(f) |\tilde{K}(f)|^2}}$$

- Define noise weighted inner product

$$(a|b) \equiv \operatorname{Re} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\tilde{a}^*(f) \tilde{b}(f)}{S_n(f)/2} \right] = 4 \operatorname{Re} \left[\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\tilde{a}^*(f) \tilde{b}(f)}{S_n(f)} \right],$$

- Rewrite S/N:

$$S/N = \frac{(u|s)}{\sqrt{(u|u)}} \quad \tilde{u}(f) = \frac{1}{2} S_n(f) \tilde{K}(f)$$

Matched-filtering

- Signal to noise: $S/N = \frac{(u|s)}{\sqrt{(u|u)}}$

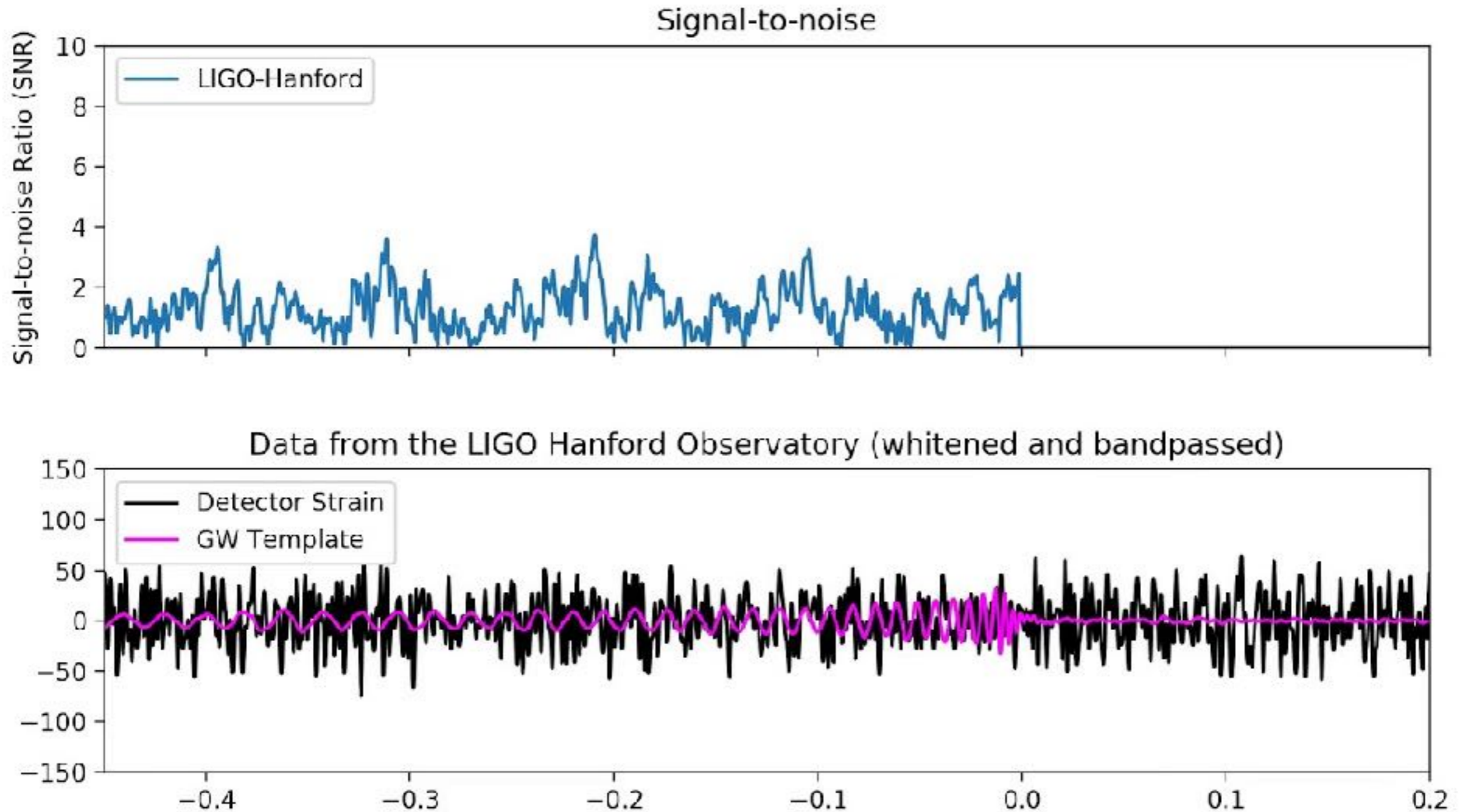
- Optimal filter when u is parallel to s

$$\tilde{K}(f) \propto \frac{\tilde{s}(f)}{S_n(f)}$$

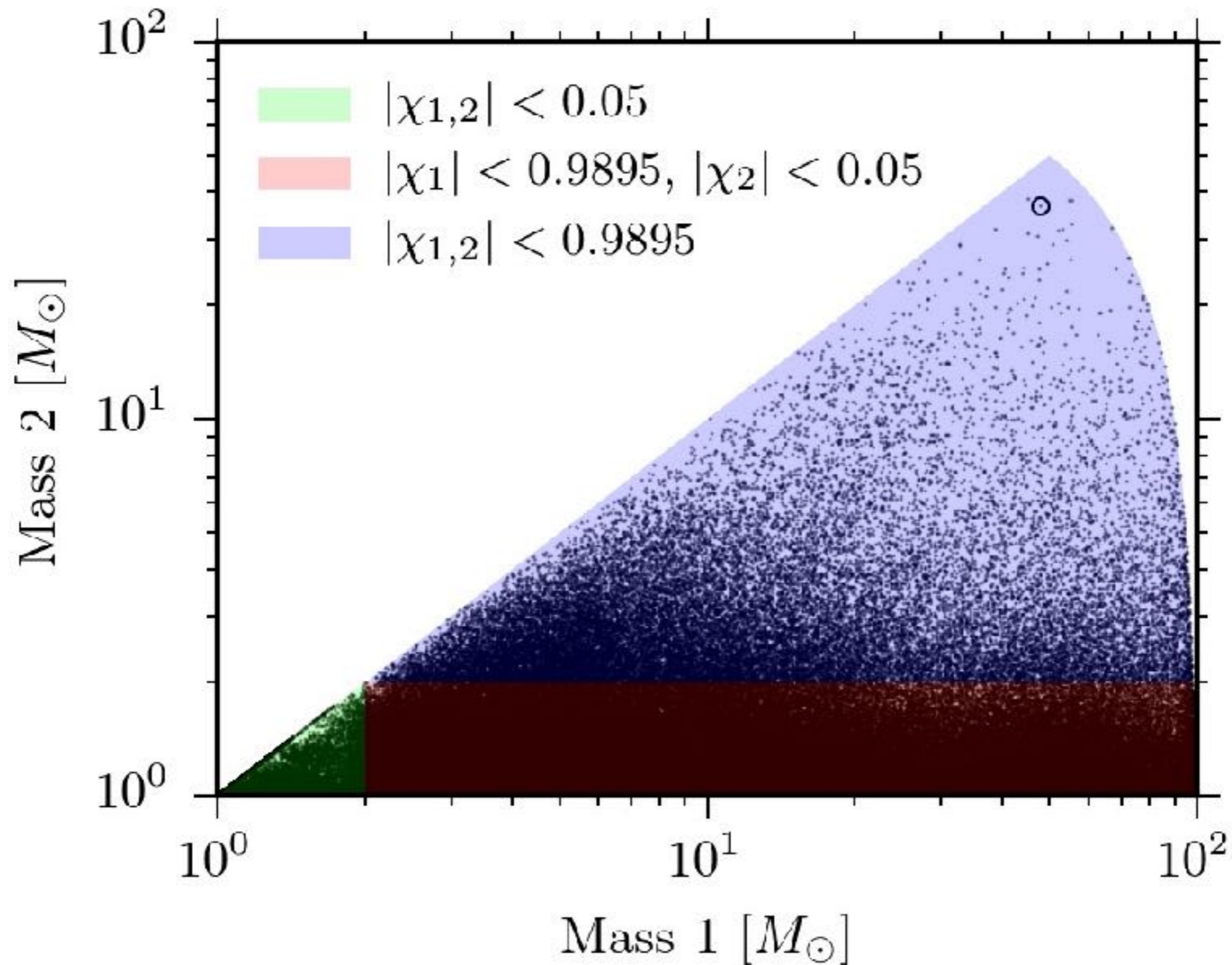
- Optimal signal-to-noise ratio

$$\rho_{\text{opt}}^2 = (h|h) = 4\text{Re} \left[\int_0^\infty \frac{|\tilde{h}(f)|^2}{S_n(f)} \right]$$

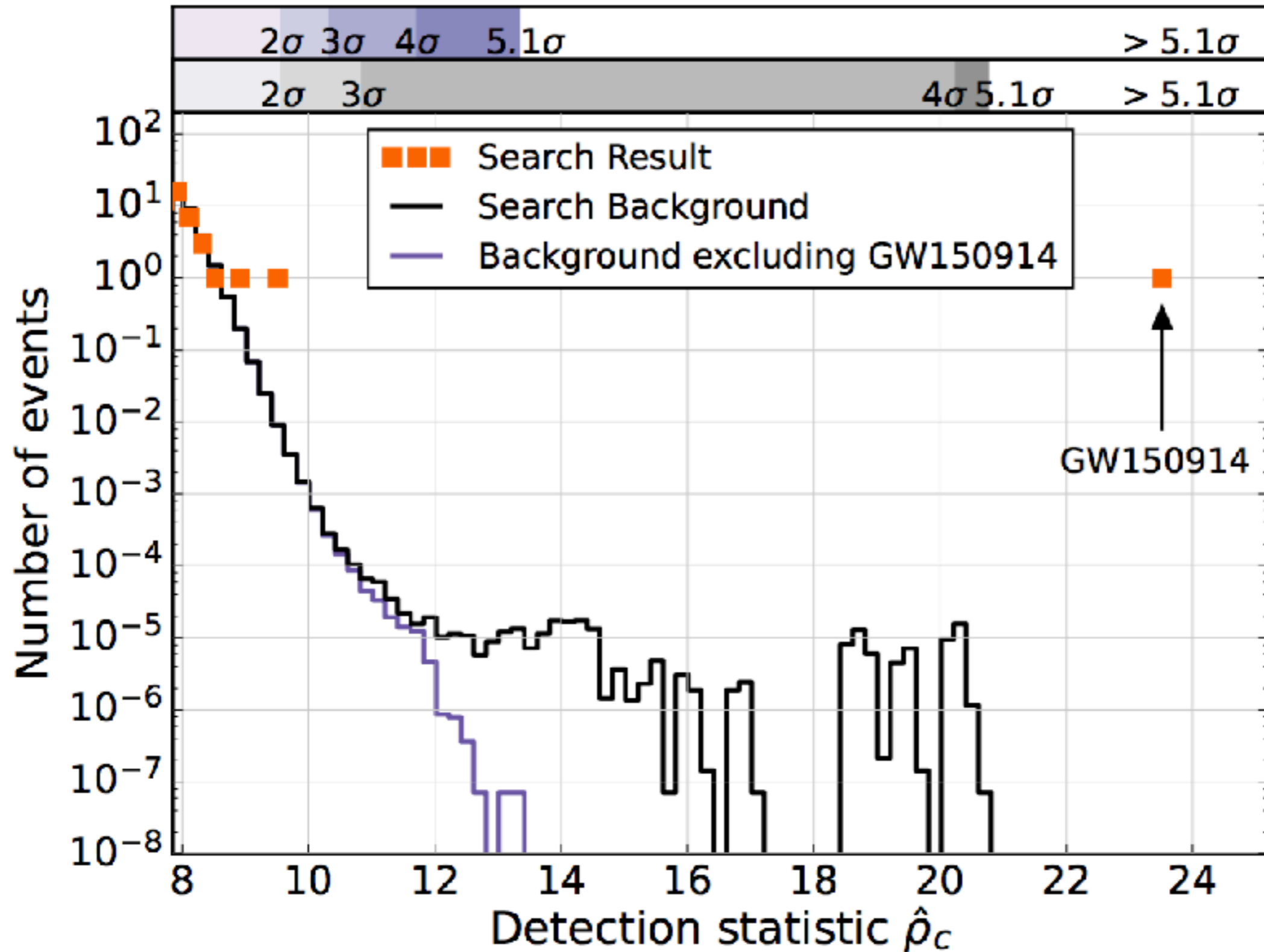
Matched-filtering



Matched-filtering



Detection statistics



Parameter estimation

- If we subtract the the right signal to the data, we should recover the noise

$$n(t) = d(t) - s(t)$$

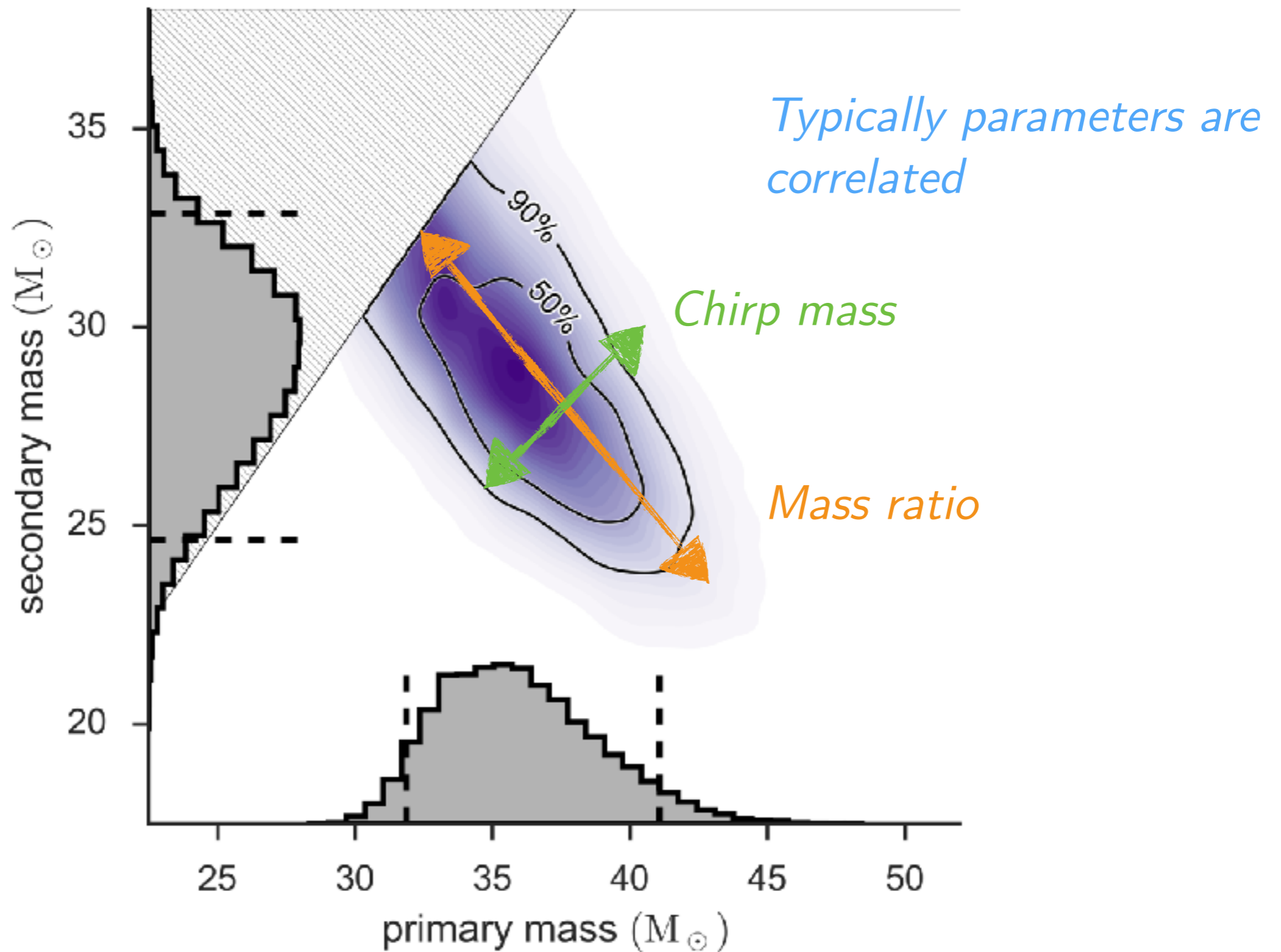
- Assuming Gaussian noise, the likelihood of the data is

$$\begin{aligned}\Lambda(d|\theta) &\propto \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} (d - h(\theta) | d - h(\theta)) \right] \\ &= \exp \left[(d|h(\theta)) - \frac{1}{2} (h(\theta)|h(\theta)) - \frac{1}{2} (d|d) \right]\end{aligned}$$

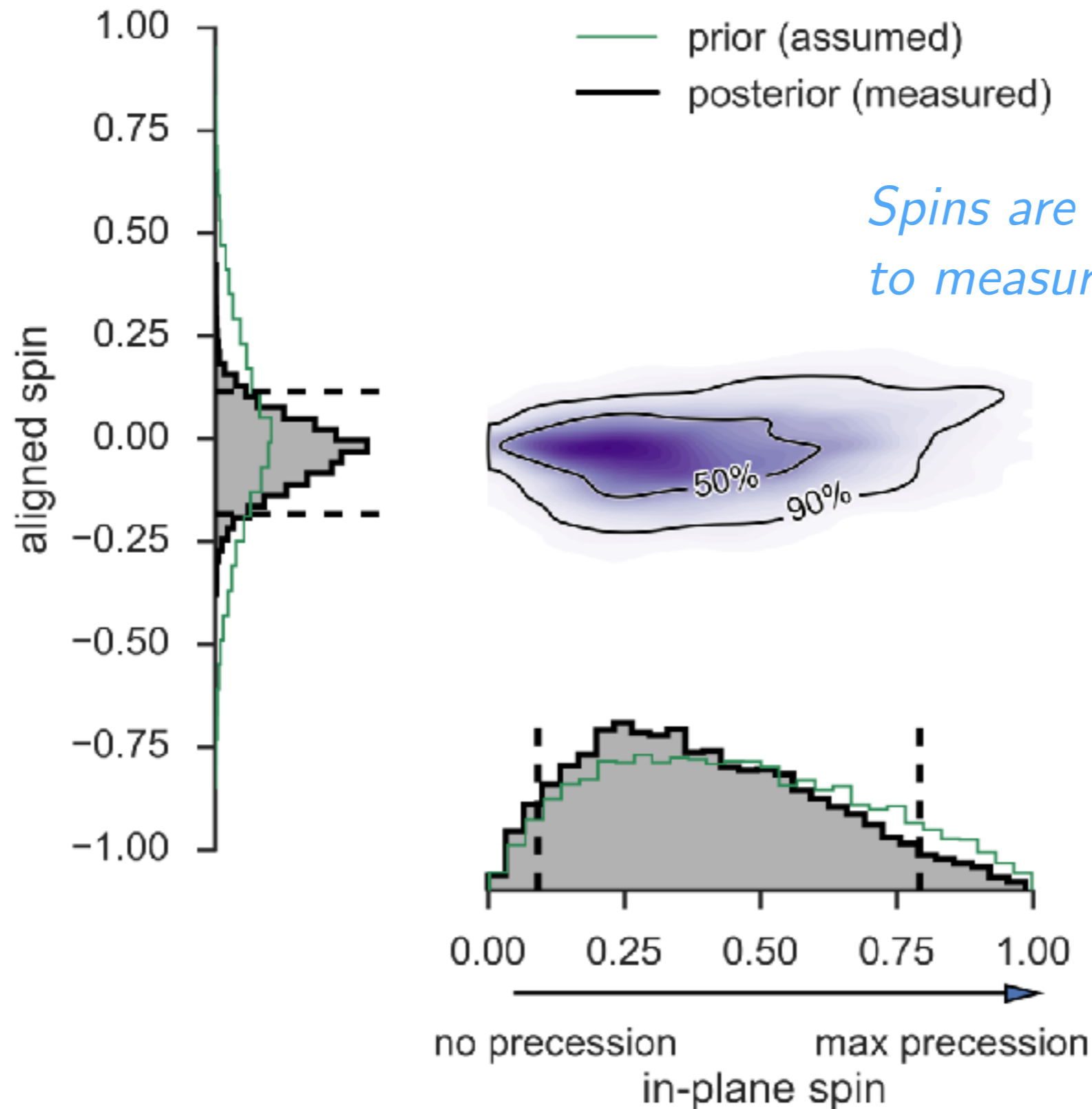
- The posterior distribution of a parameter (Bayes theorem)

$$p(\theta|d) \propto p(\theta) \exp \left[(d|h(\theta)) - \frac{1}{2} (h(\theta)|h(\theta)) \right]$$

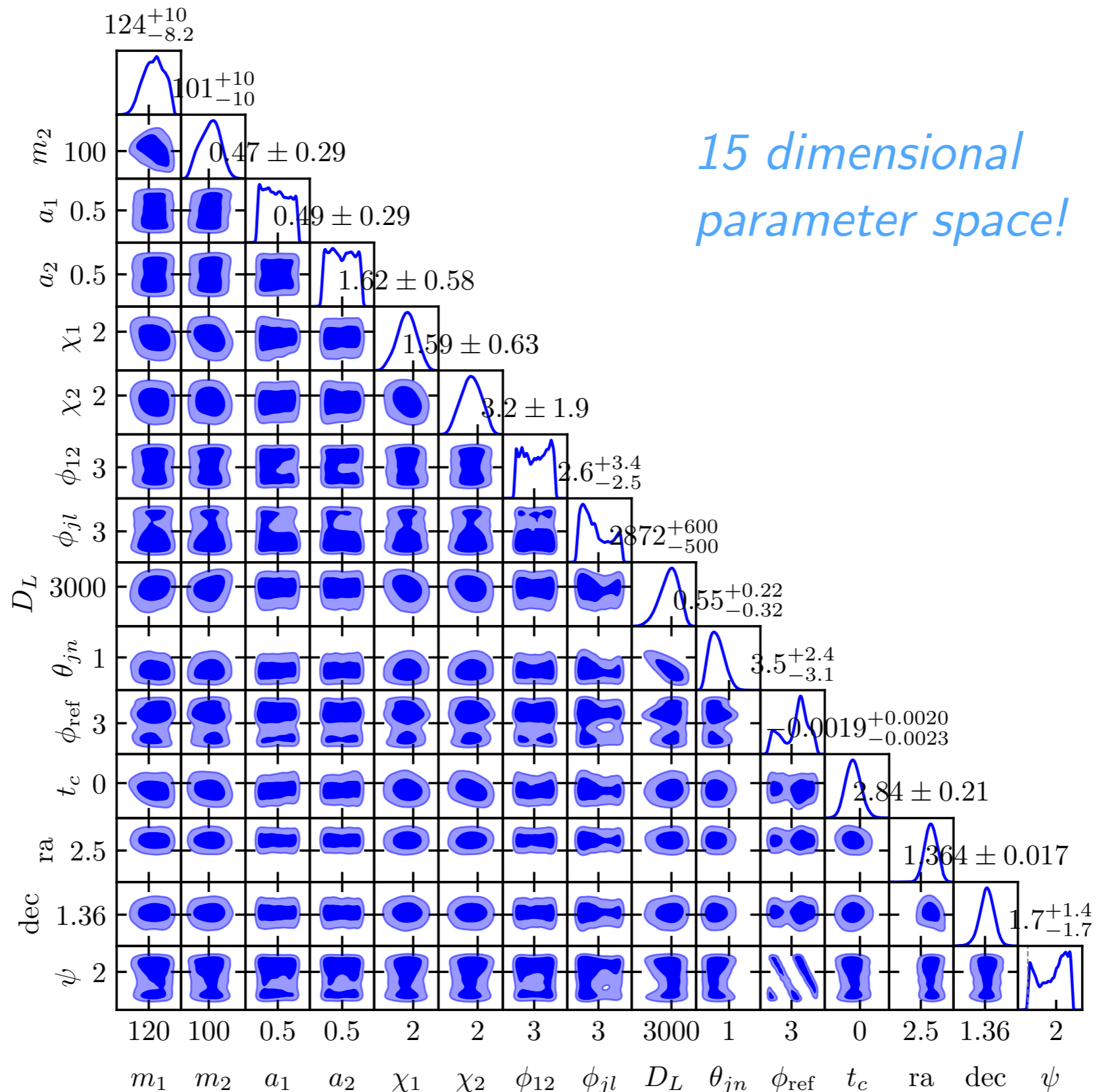
Parameter estimation



Parameter estimation



Parameter estimation



Measurement uncertainty

- In the high signal-to-noise limit, inferred parameters are close to the maximum likelihood (ML) value

$$\theta^i = \theta_{\text{ML}}^i + \Delta\theta^i$$

- Expanding the likelihood around this value (first contribution quadratic)

$$p(\theta|d) \propto \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \Gamma_{ij} \Delta\theta^i \Delta\theta^j \right]$$

$$\Gamma_{ij} = (\partial_i \partial_j h | h - s) + (\partial_i h | \partial_j h) \approx (\partial_i h | \partial_j h)$$

- **E.g.** $\tilde{h}(f) = A e^{i\phi}$

$$\sigma_{\ln A} = \sigma_{\phi} = 1/\rho$$

Population inference

- The posterior distribution of the hyper-parameters

$$p(\lambda|\{d_i\}) \propto p(\lambda)p(\{d_i\}|\lambda) = p(\lambda) \prod_{i=1}^{N_{\text{obs}}} \frac{p_{\text{pop}}(\theta_i|\lambda)}{\int d\theta p_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\lambda)}$$

- Including selection effects

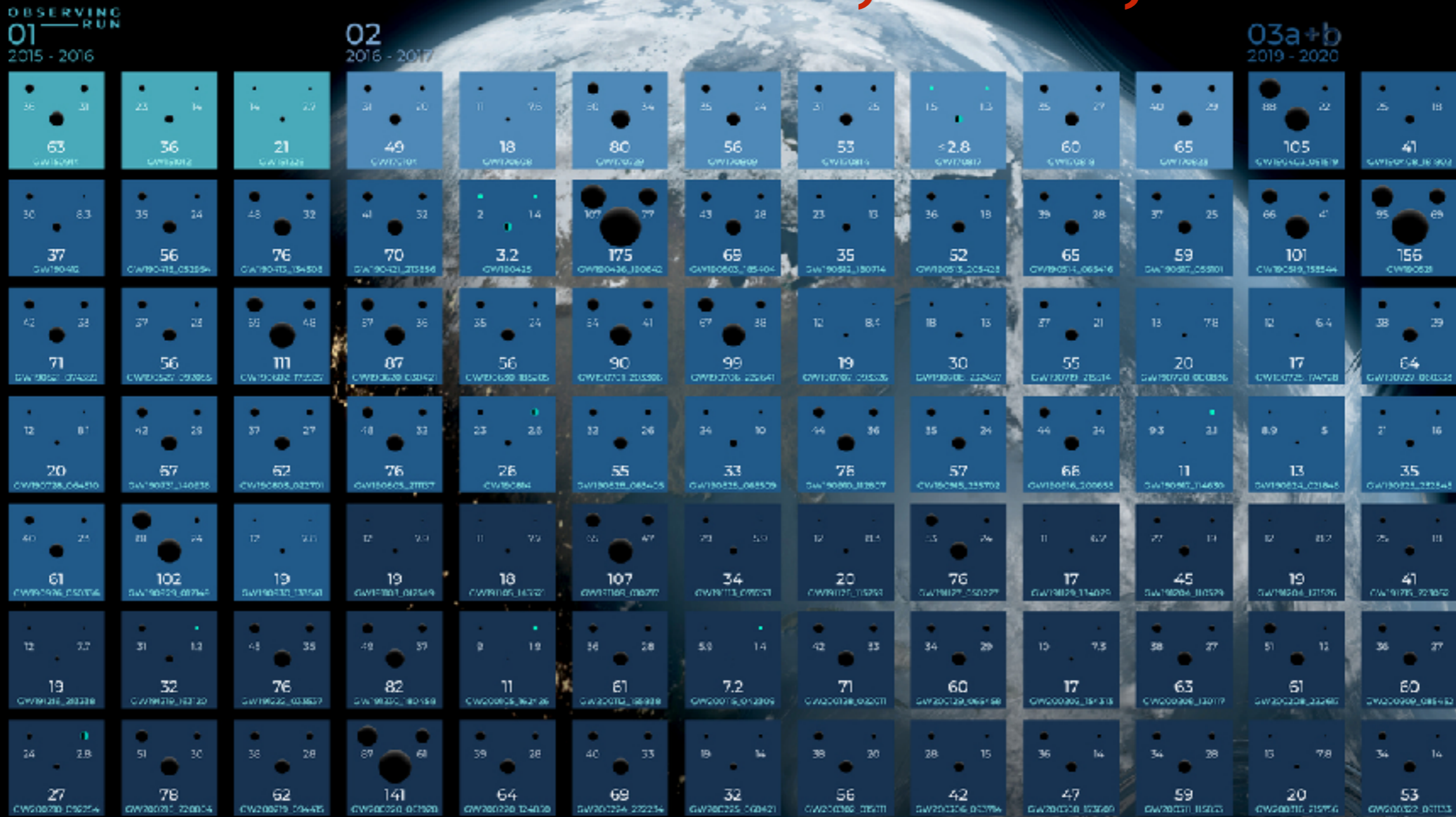
$$p(\{d_i\}|\lambda) = \prod_{i=1}^{N_{\text{obs}}} \frac{p_{\text{pop}}(\theta_i|\lambda)p_{\text{det}}(\theta_i)}{\int d\theta p_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\lambda)p_{\text{det}}(\theta)} = \prod_{i=1}^{N_{\text{obs}}} \frac{p_{\text{pop}}(\theta_i|\lambda)}{\int d\theta p_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\lambda)p_{\text{det}}(\theta)}$$

- Including measurement uncertainties

$$p(\{d_i\}|\lambda) = \prod_{i=1}^{N_{\text{obs}}} \frac{\int d\theta p(\theta|d_i)p_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\lambda)}{\int d\theta p_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\lambda)p_{\text{det}}(\theta)}$$

The era of gravitational wave astronomy is here!

~100 events: BBH, BNS, NSBH

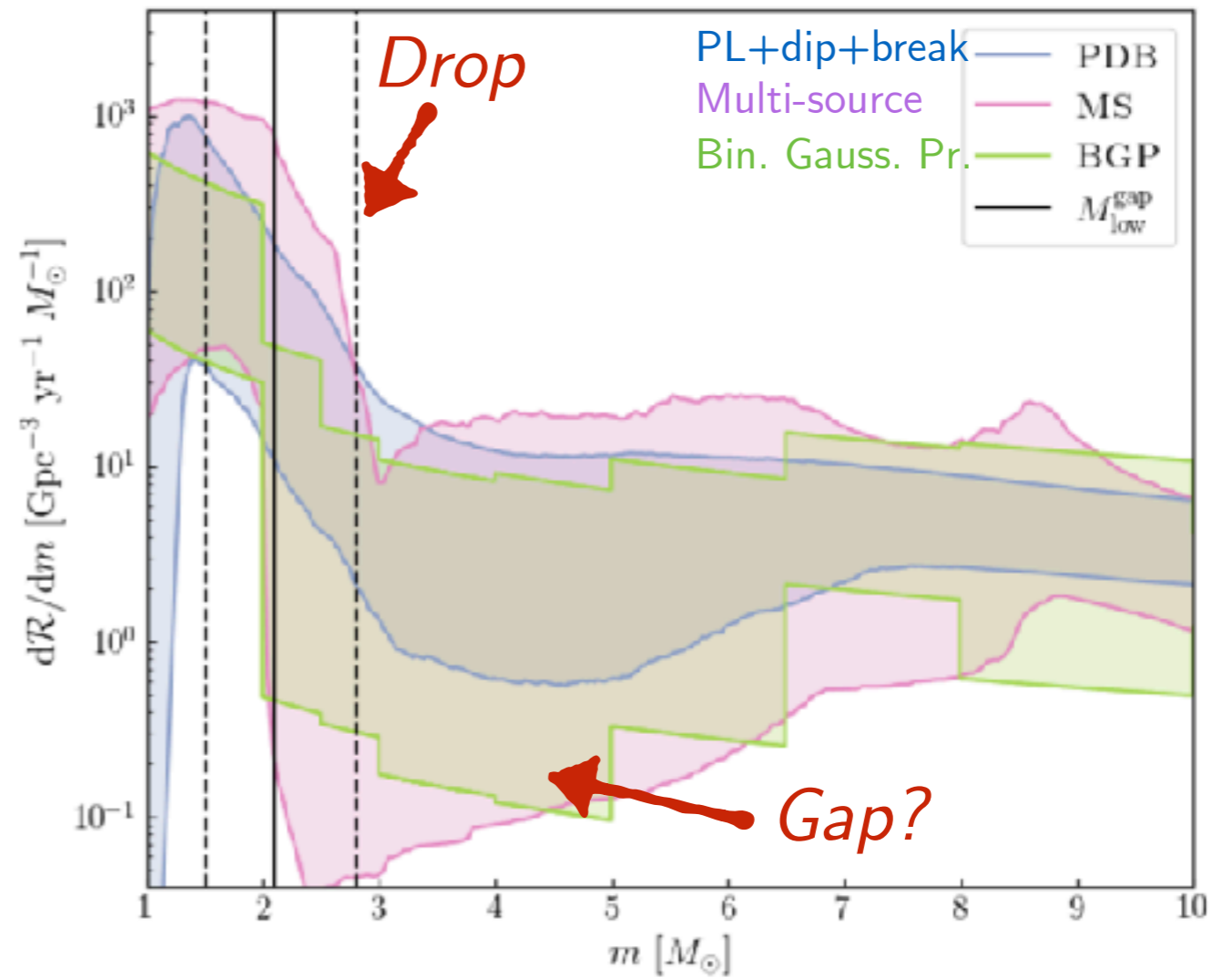


GRAVITATIONAL WAVE
MERGER
DETECTIONS
SINCE 2015

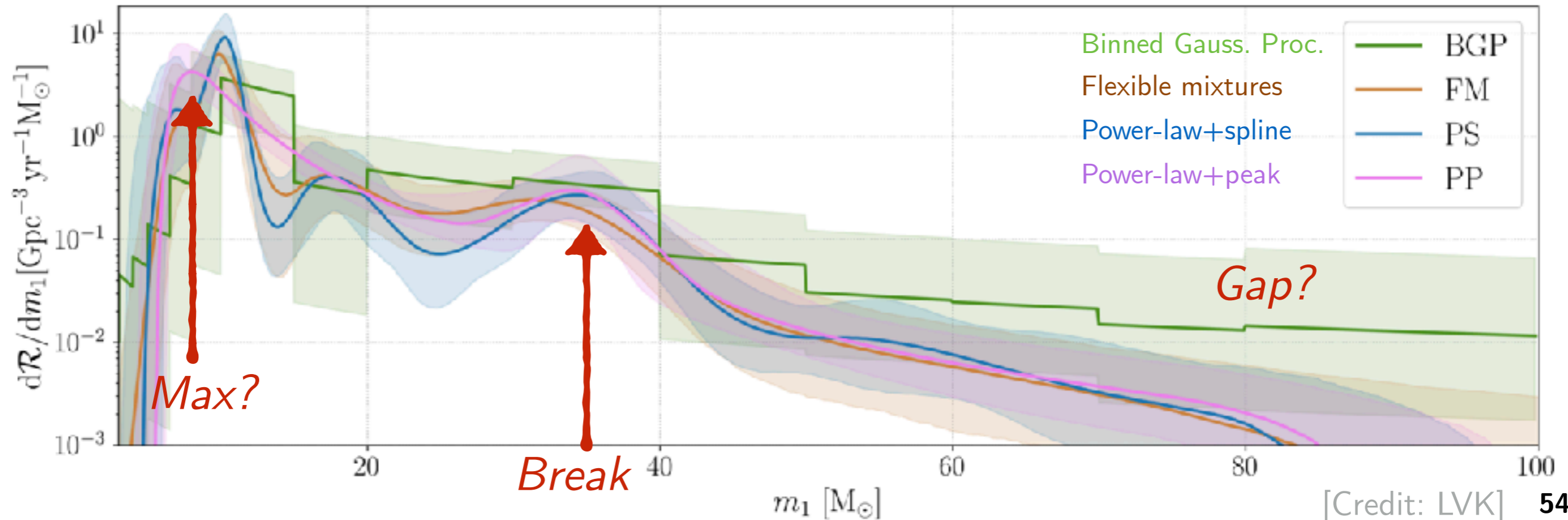


GWTC-3 popula

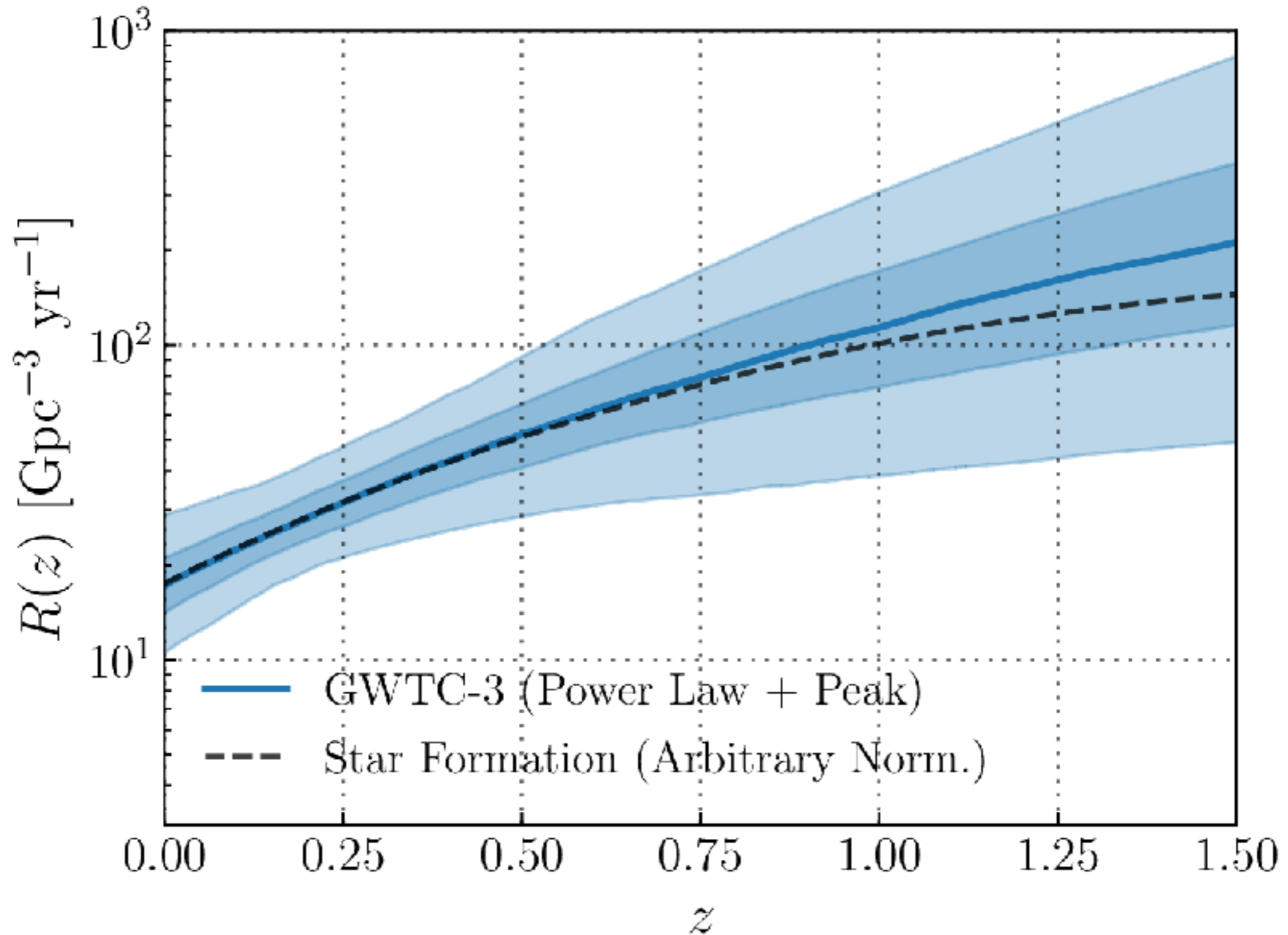
Low-mass mass distribution



BBH mass distribution

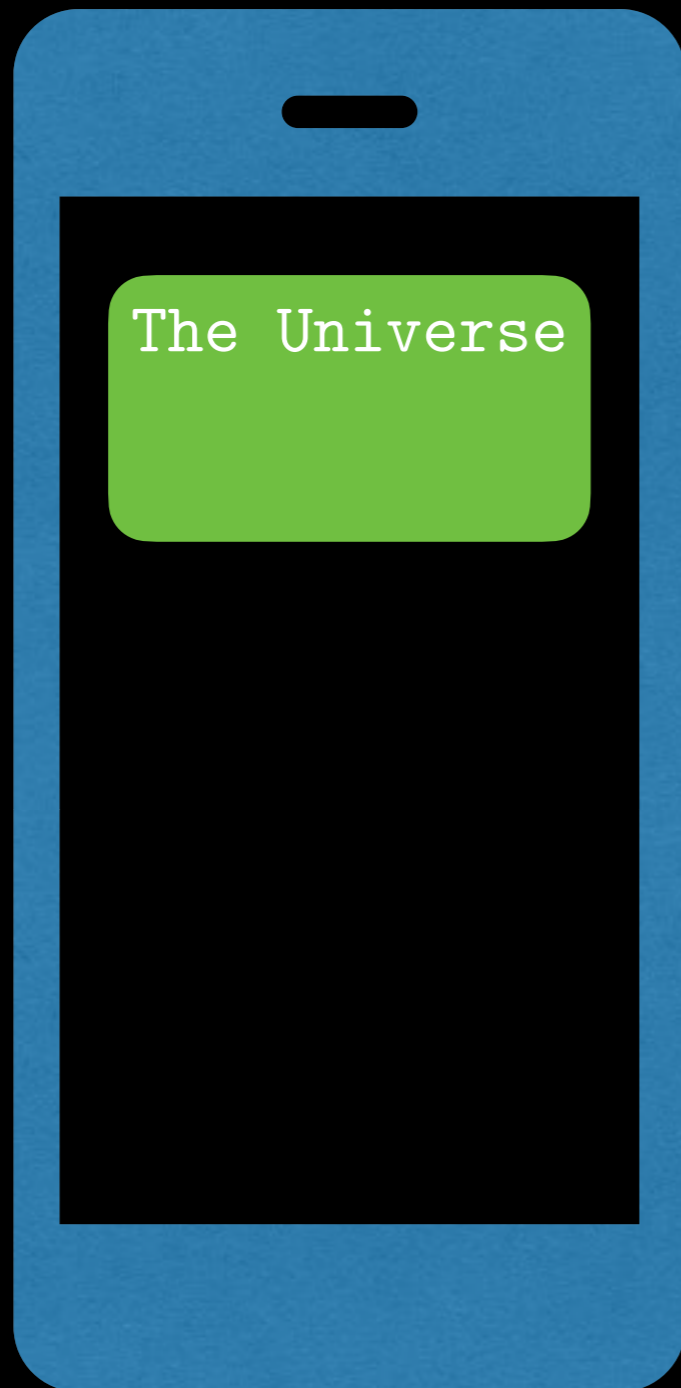


GWTC-3 population



O4 is happening!

<https://gracedb.ligo.org/superevents/public/O4/#>





Gravitational Waves

DAY 2

Jose María Ezquiaga

Niels Bohr Institute

jose.ezquiaga@nbi.ku.dk

ezquiaga.github.io

[Diego Rivera]

Please log in to view full database contents.

LIGO/Virgo/KAGRA Public Alerts

- More details about public alerts are provided in the [LIGO/Virgo/KAGRA Alerts User Guide](#).
- Retractions are marked in **red**. Retraction means that the candidate was manually vetted and is no longer considered a candidate of interest.
- Less-significant events are marked in **grey**, and are not manually vetted. Consult the [LVK Alerts User Guide](#) for more information on significance in O4.
- Less-significant events are not shown by default. Press "**Show All Public Events**" to show significant and less-significant events.

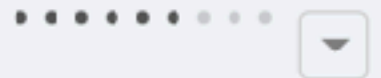
O4 Significant Detection Candidates: **167** (186 Total - 19 Retracted)

O4 Low Significance Detection Candidates: **2839** (Total)

Show All Public Events

Page 1 of 13. [next](#) [last](#) »

SORT: EVENT ID (A-Z) ▾



Event ID	Possible Source (Probability)	Significant	UTC	GCN	Location
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[S241201ac](#)

BBH (97%), Terrestrial (3%)

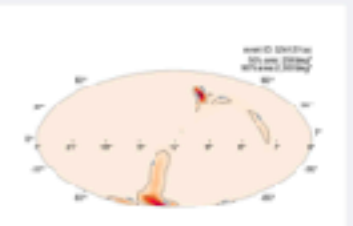
Yes

Dec. 1, 2024

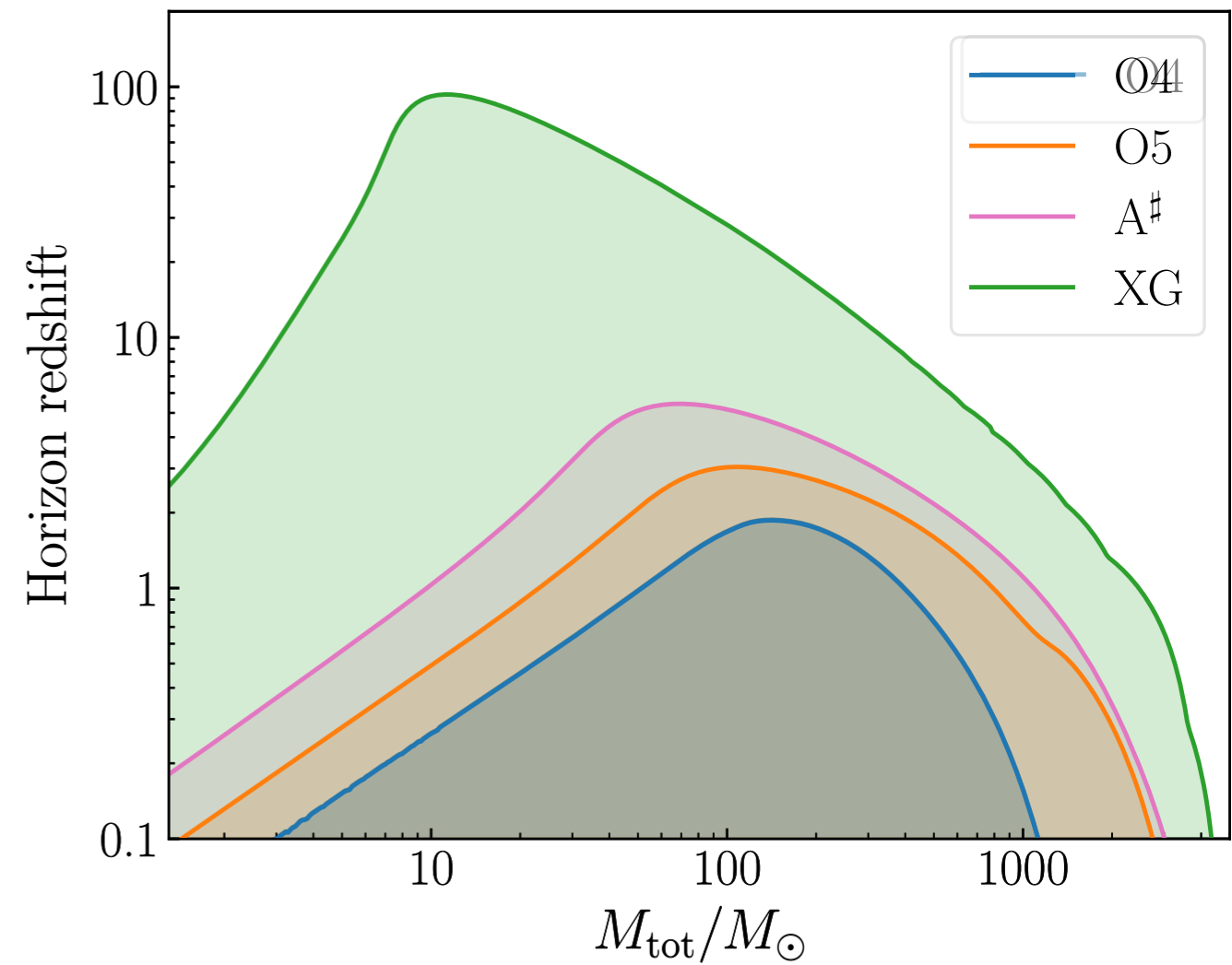
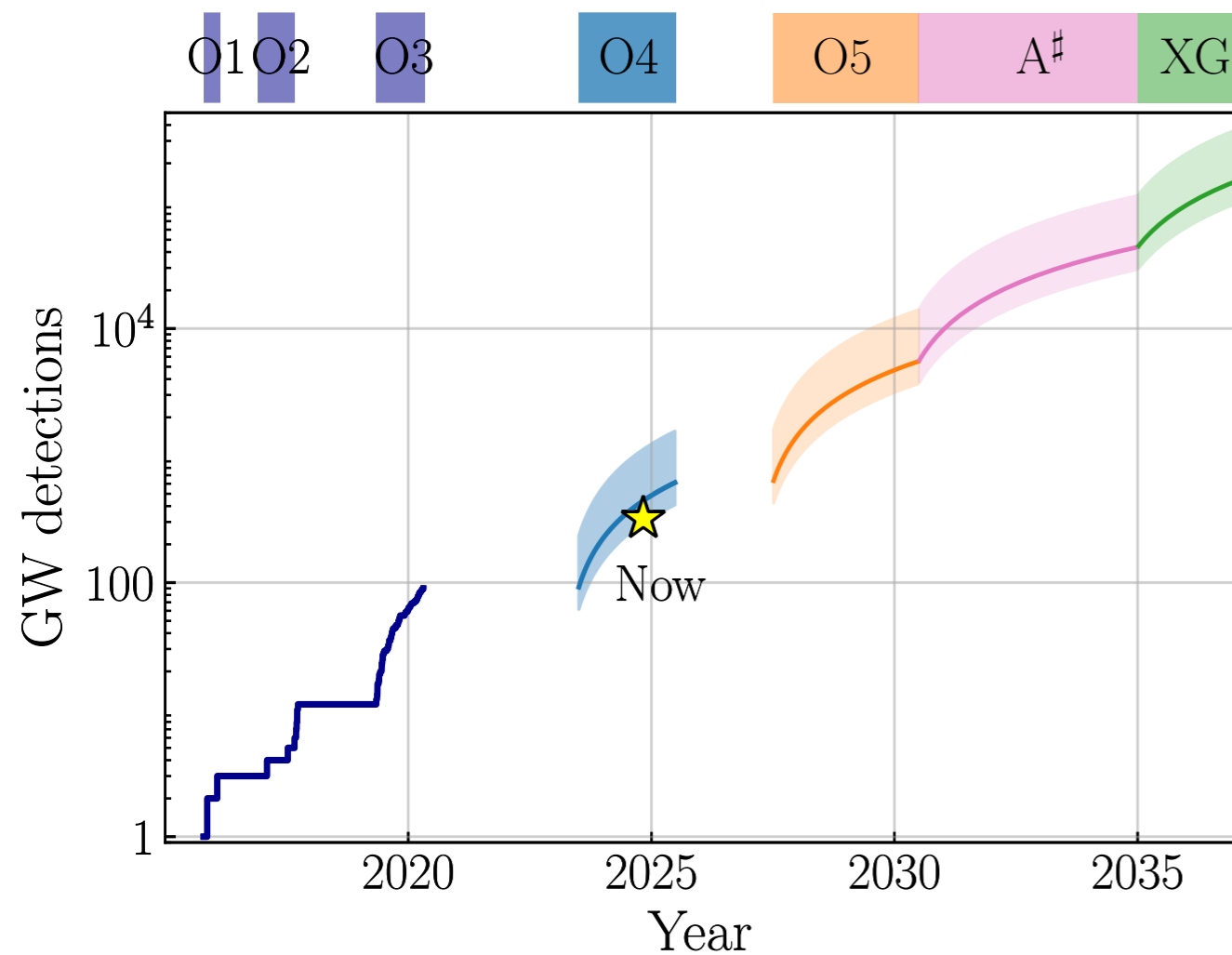
05:57:58 UTC

[GCN Circular Query](#)

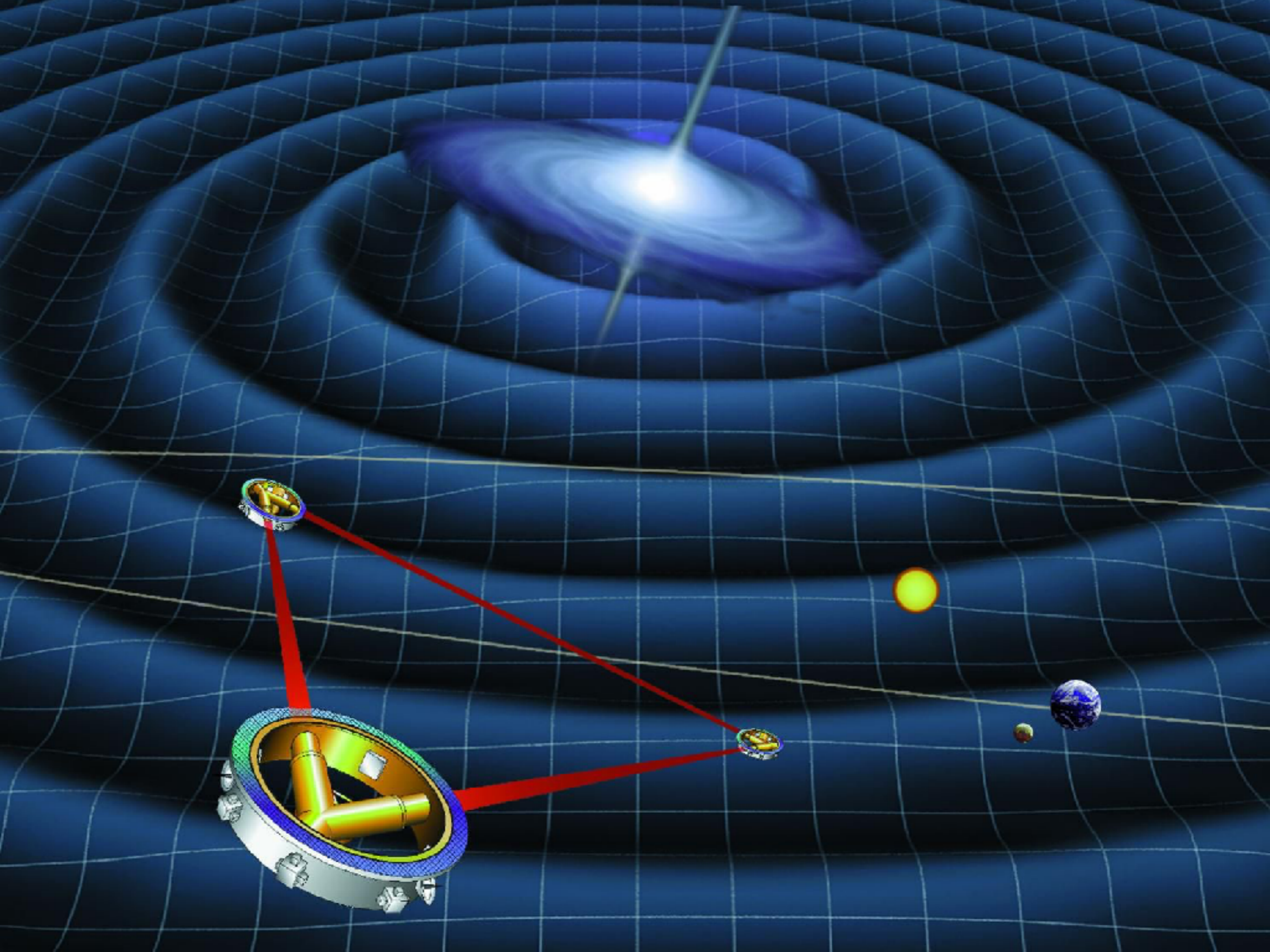
[Notices | VOE](#)

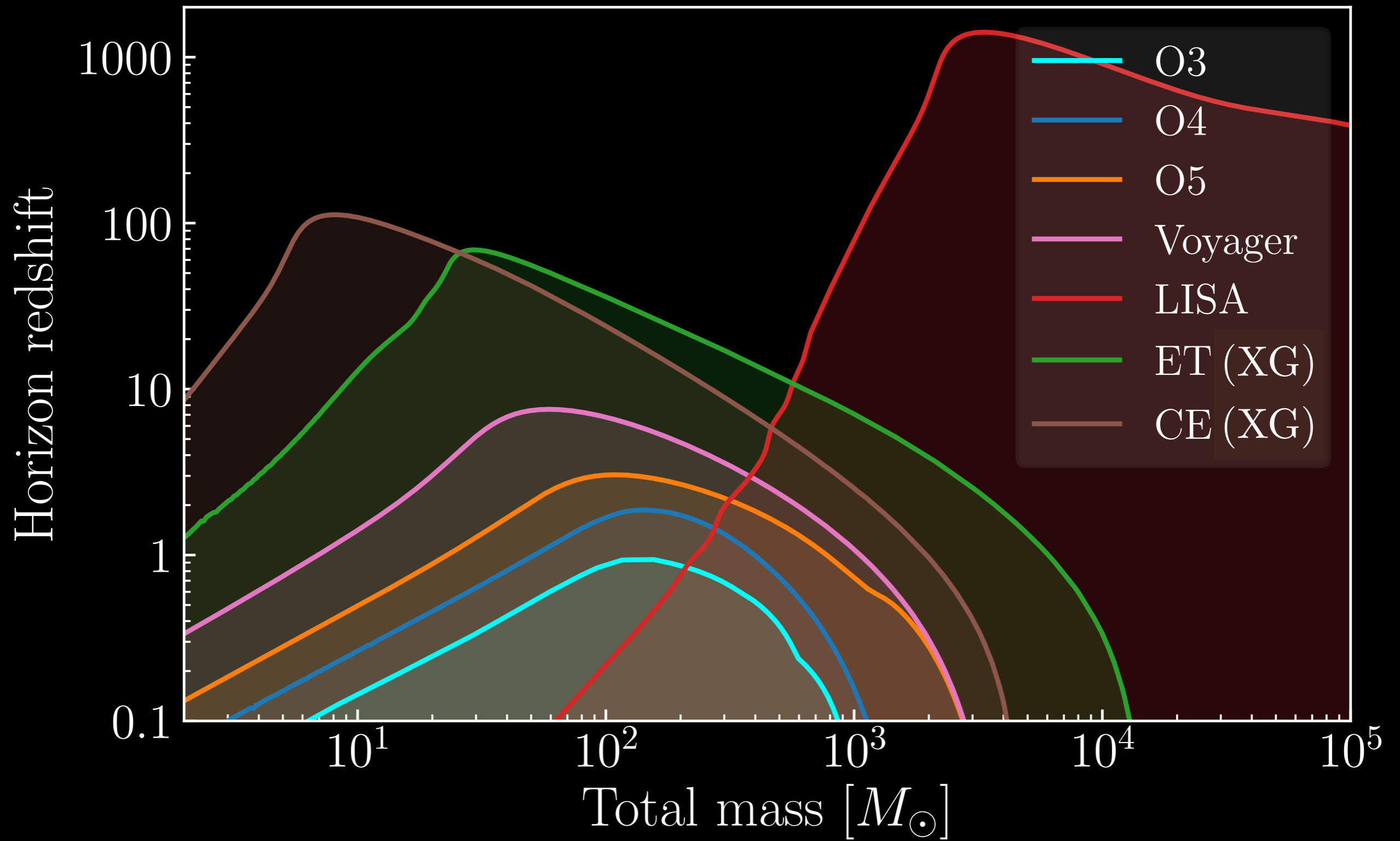


The future: “big data” & distant Universe



[XG = next-generation detector = Cosmic Explorer / Einstein Telescope]



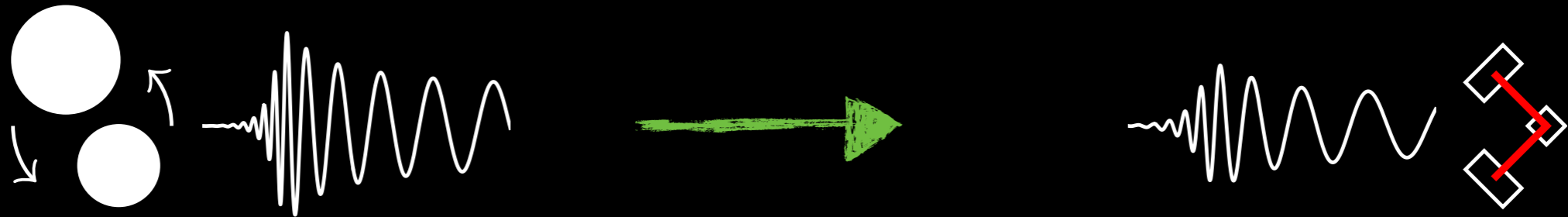


2. Key takeaways

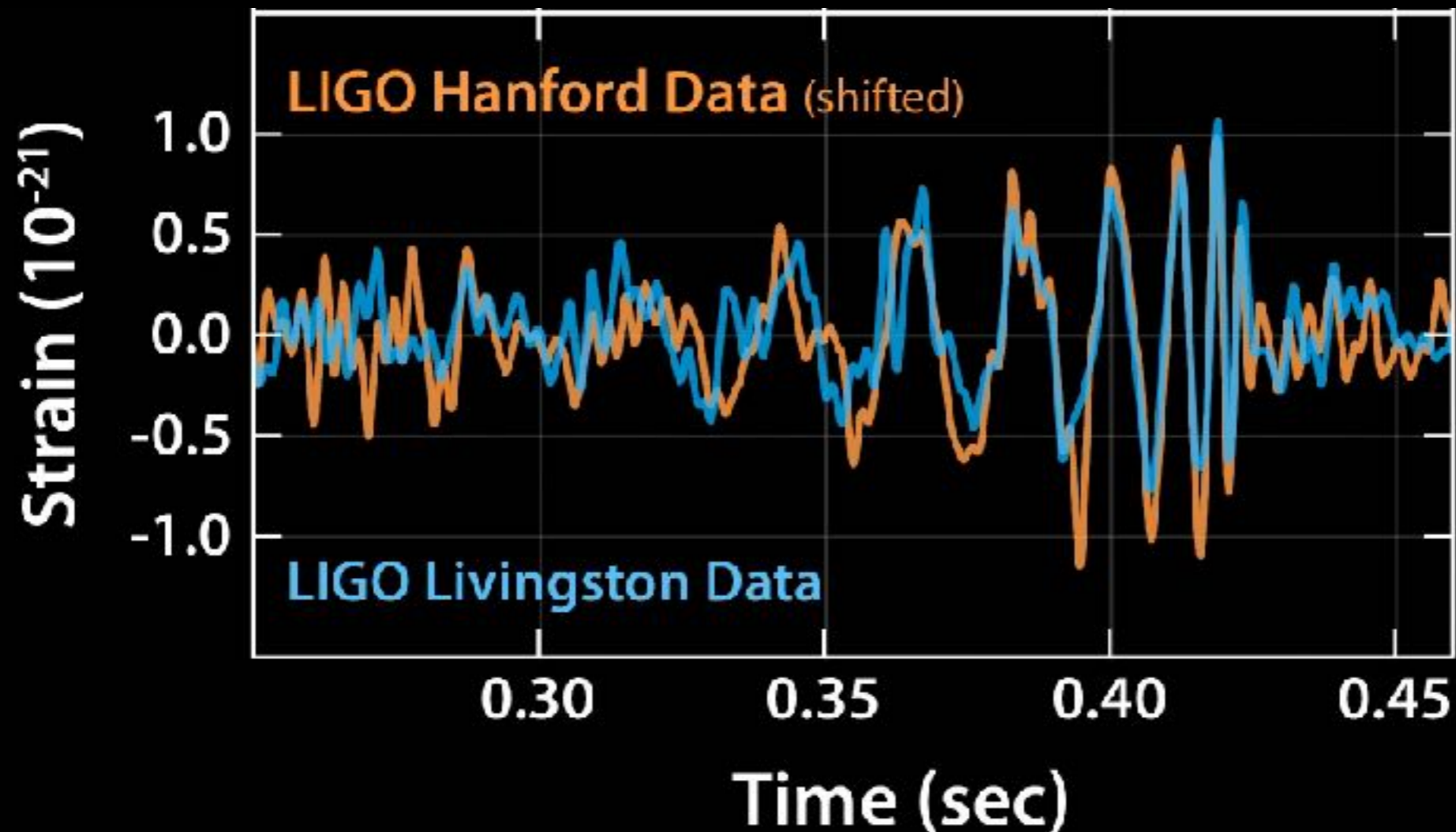
- Gravitational waves detectors are describes by their *noise* and *antenna pattern* function
- The *optimal signal to noise* is given when the filter matches the signal
- Data stream can be *matched filtered* using a template bank. An event is found when it cannot be explained by noise background
- Once an event is detected, we can infer the parameters. This is a *15D* parameter space
- Almost *300* significant candidates since the first observation. *Many* more to come in the *future*!

3. Standard siren cosmology

Gravitational waves are **standard sirens**



[general relativity predicts waveform]



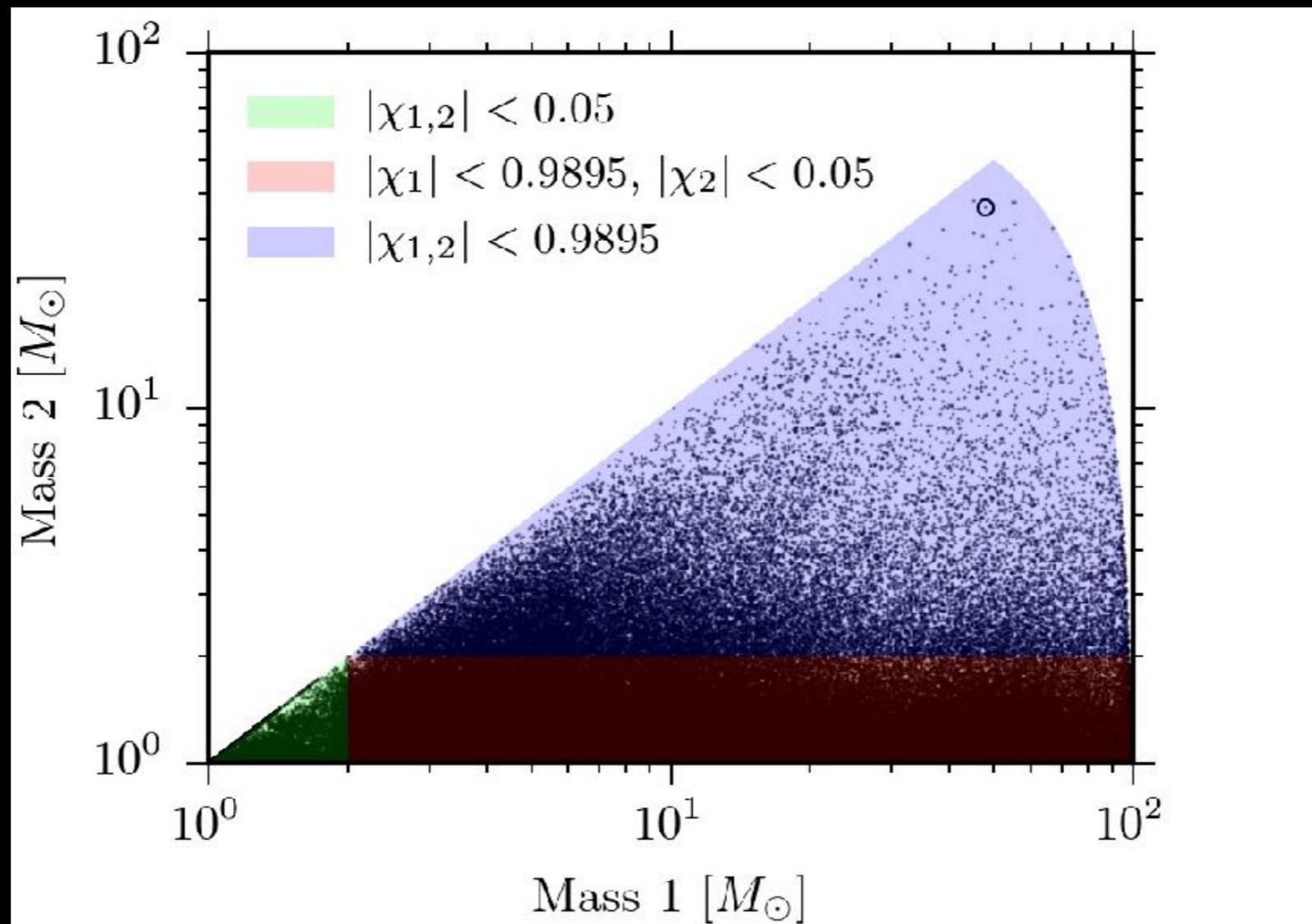
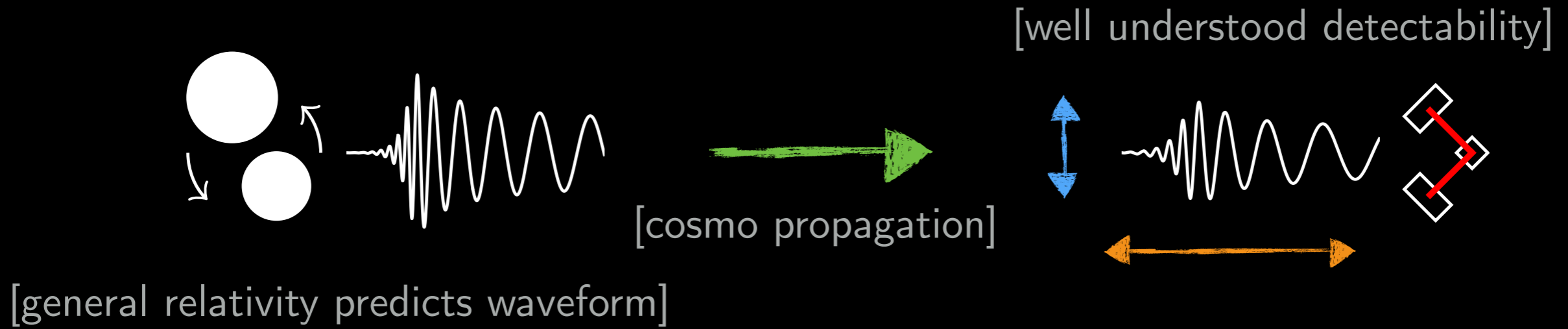
Gravitational waves are **standard sirens**



[general relativity predicts waveform]

$$h_c(t_{\text{obs}}) \sim \frac{\mathcal{M}_z^{5/3} f_{\text{obs}}^{2/3}}{d_L^{\text{gw}}}$$

Gravitational waves are **standard sirens**



Gravitational waves are **standard sirens**

[well understood detectability]



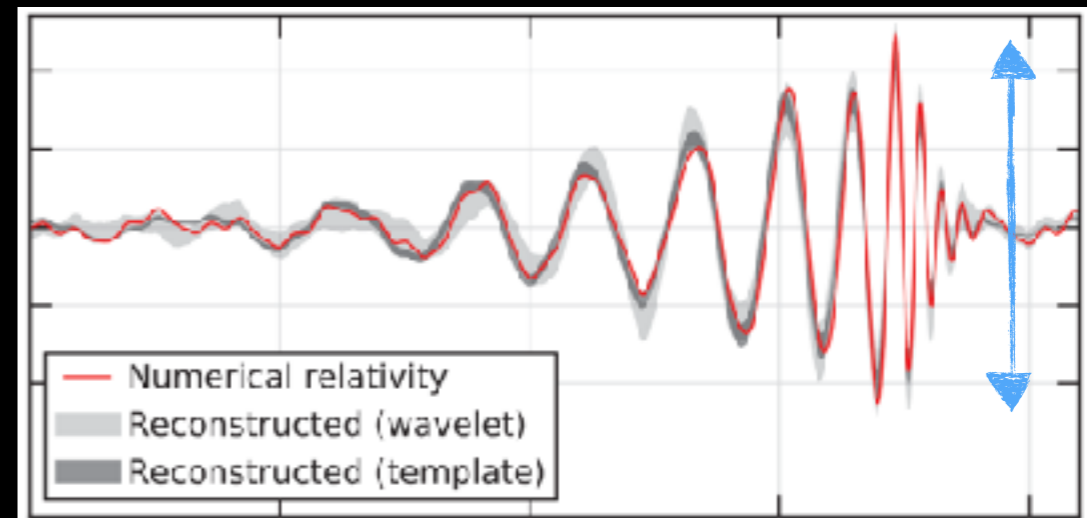
$$d_L(z)$$

[GW Hubble diagram]

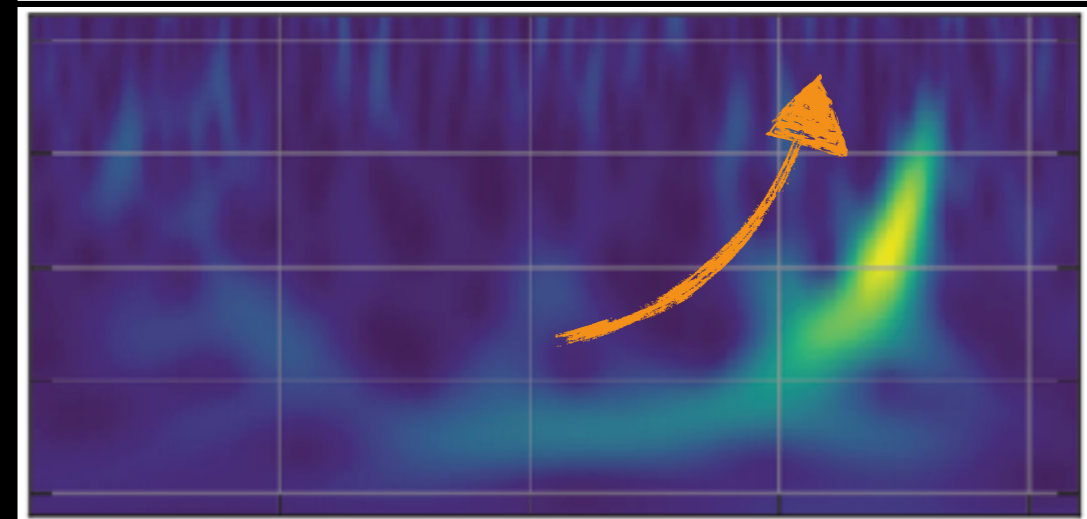
$$m_{\text{det}} = (1 + z)m$$

[Interplay with astrophysics]

strain



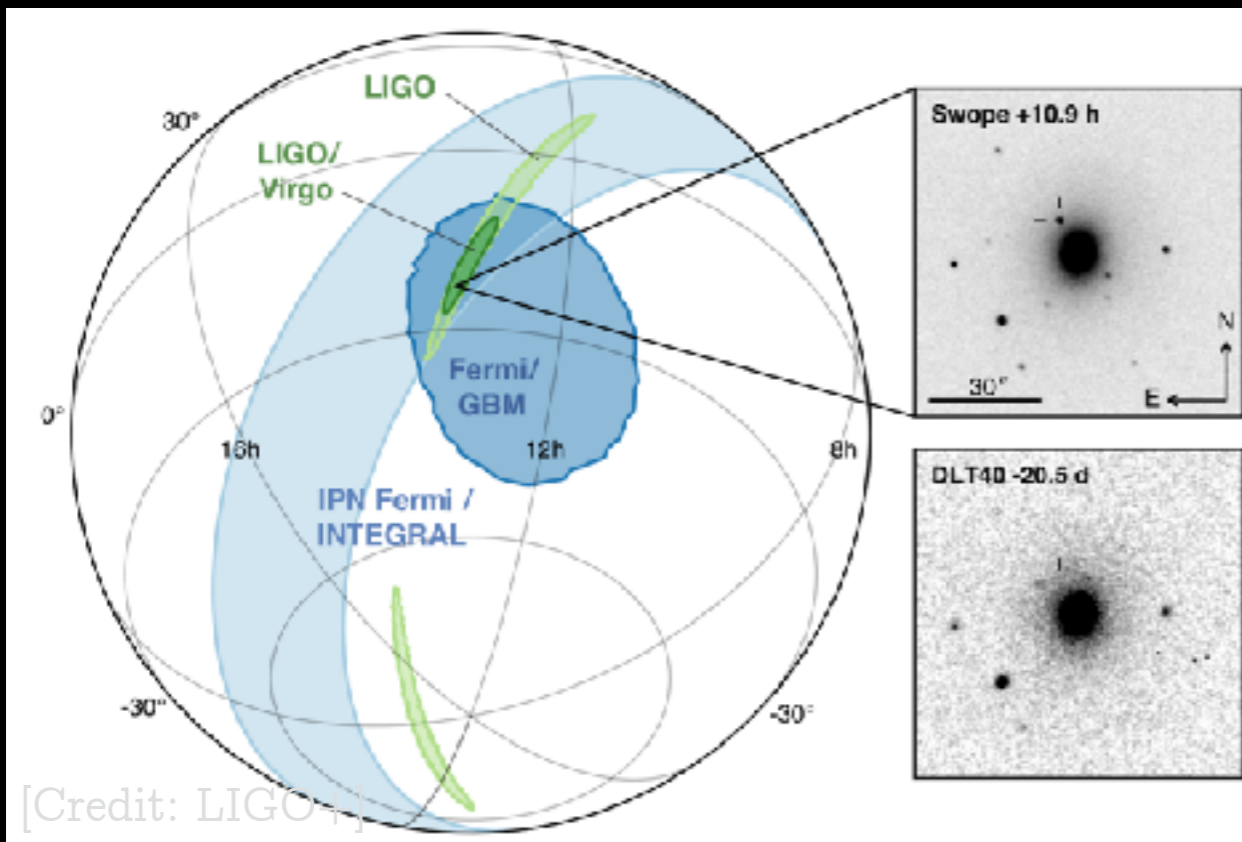
frequency



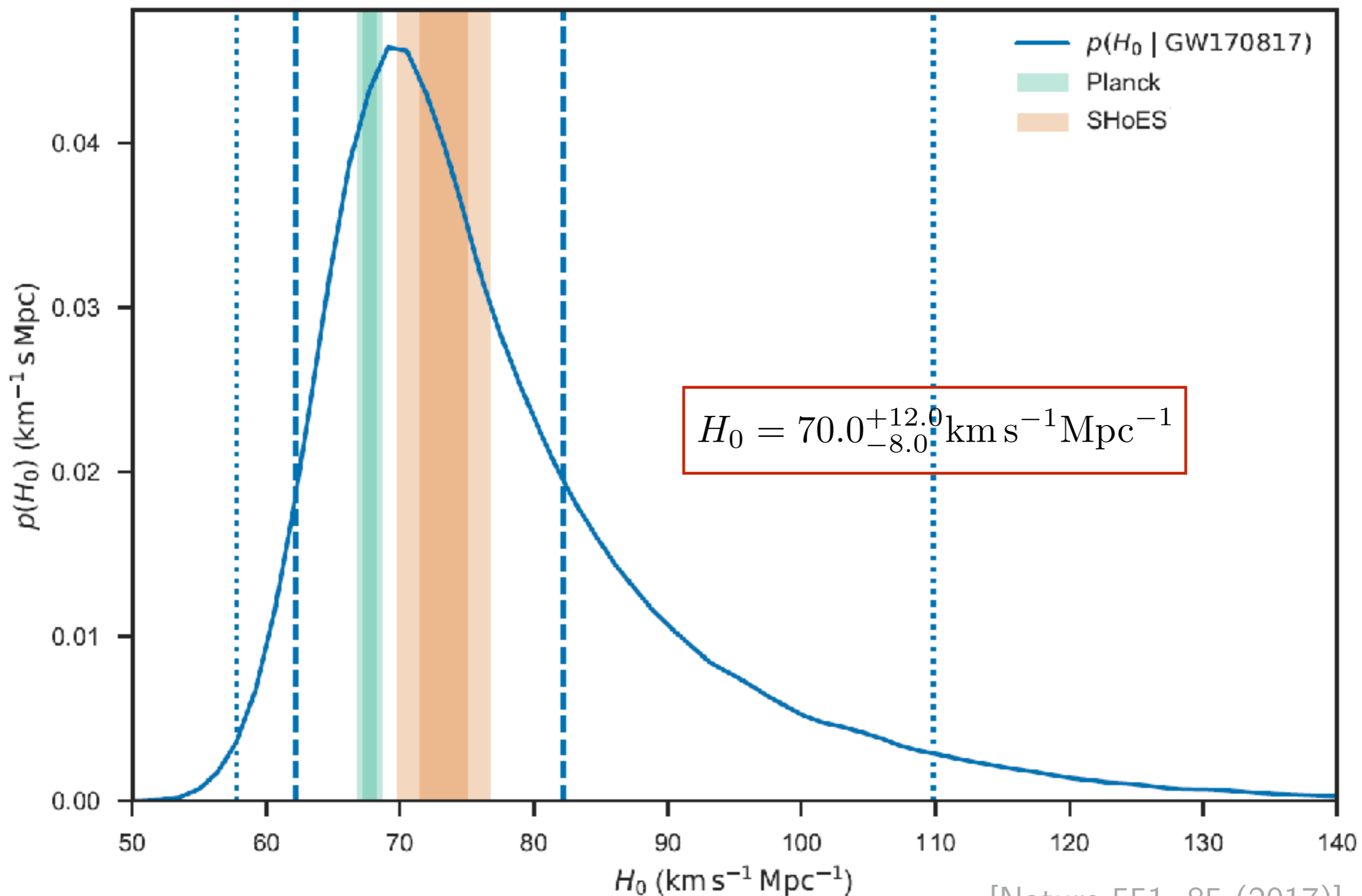
time

BRIGHT SIRENS

- Redshift from electromagnetic counterpart (e.g. identifying host galaxy)
- GW170817
- Need matter around merger: **neutron stars!**, AGN?
- Bright counterpart at high- z ?

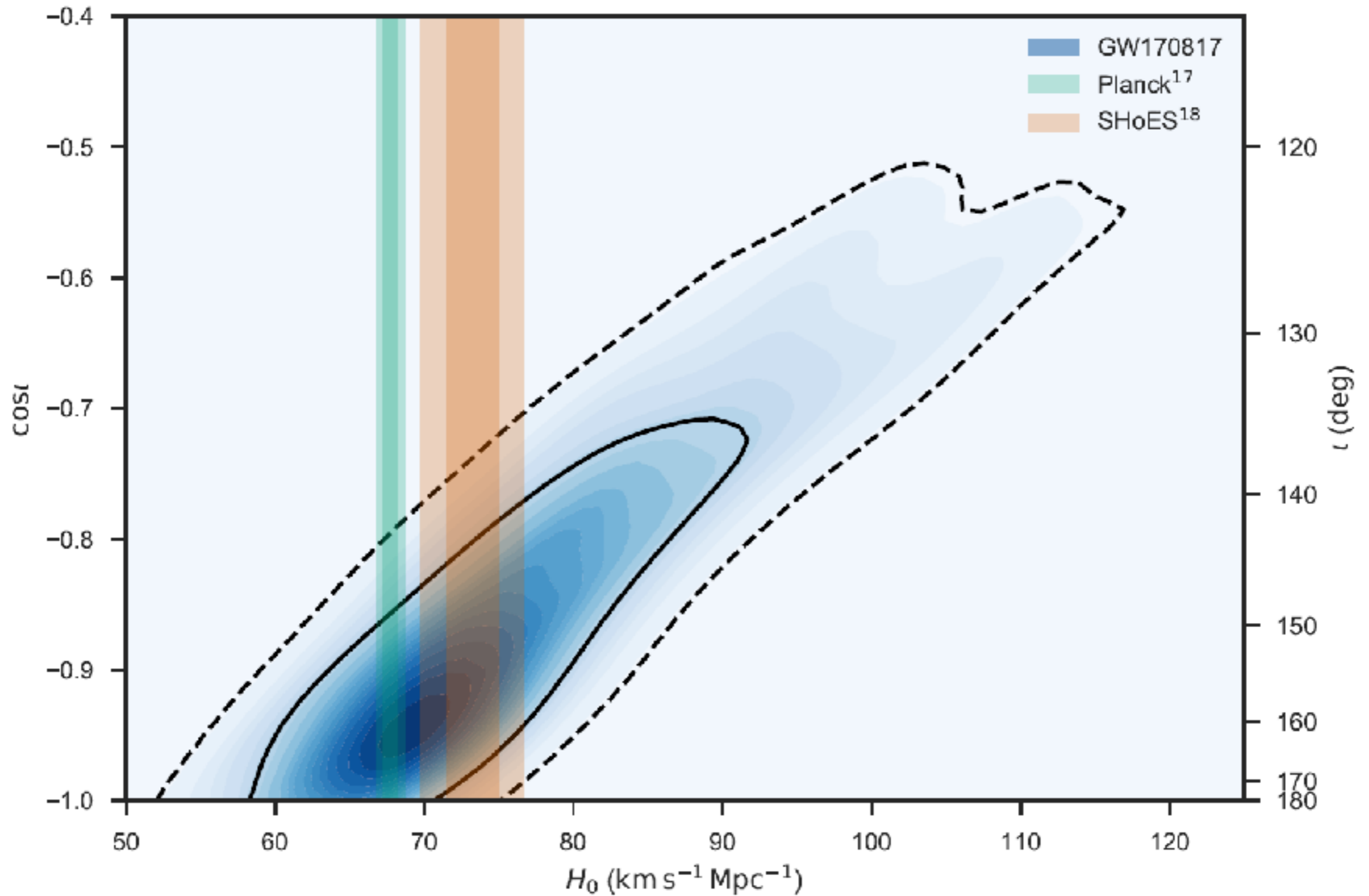


Bright sirens

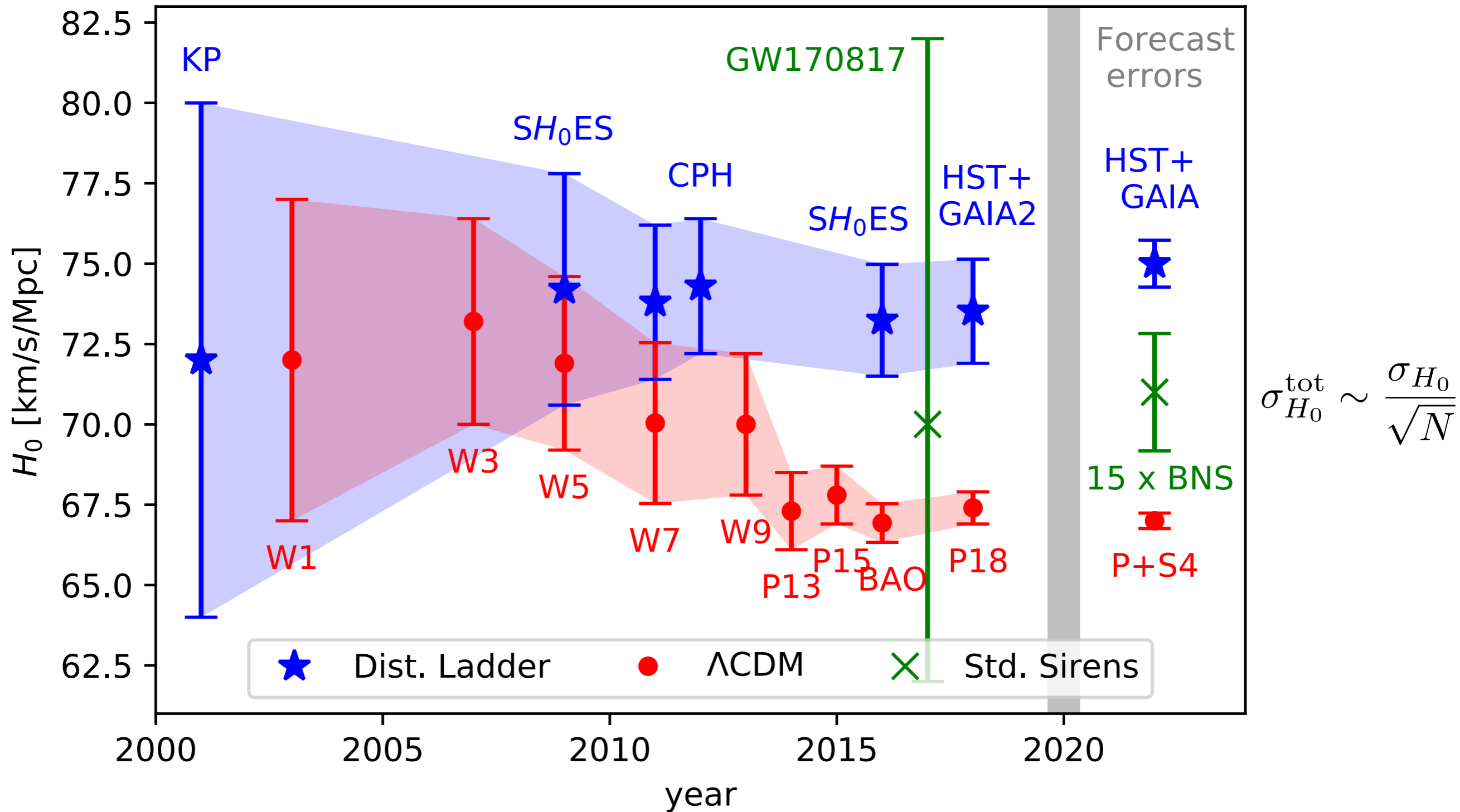


Inclination matters!

[recall Enrico's talk]



Solve Hubble tension?



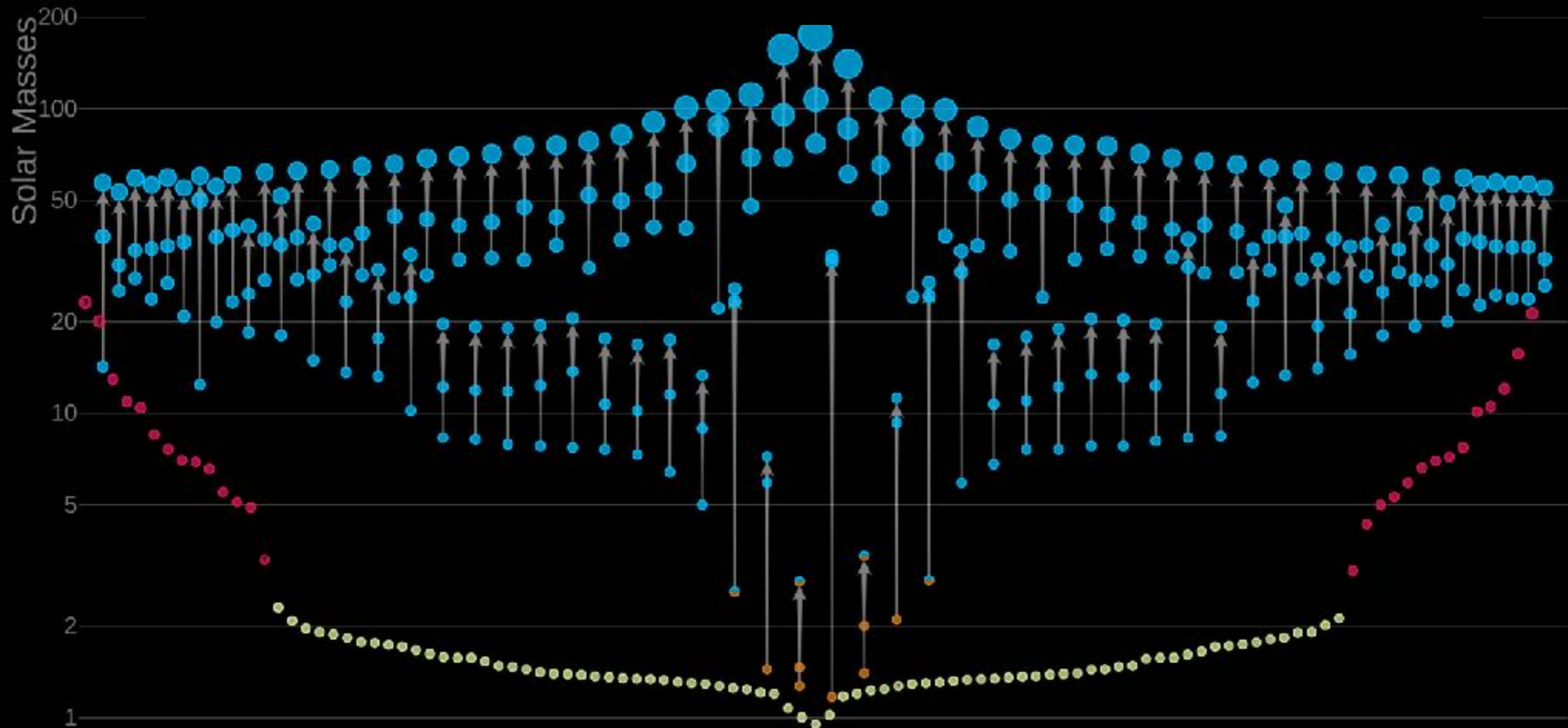
Where are the binary neutron stars?

- O1-O2 BNS rate: **110** — 3840 / Gpc³ / yr (90% CI for 1 model)
 - Confident BNS: GW170817
- O3a BNS rate: **80** — 810 / Gpc³ / yr (90% CI for 1 model)
 - Confident BNS: GW190425
- O3a BNS rate: **10** — 1700 / Gpc³ / yr (90% CI across 3 models)
 - Confident BNS: None
- O4 significant BNS candidates so far: **0?**

Predictions for O4: $7.7^{+11.9}_{-5.7} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ BNS

[2204.07592] 74% kilonova, 2% GRB

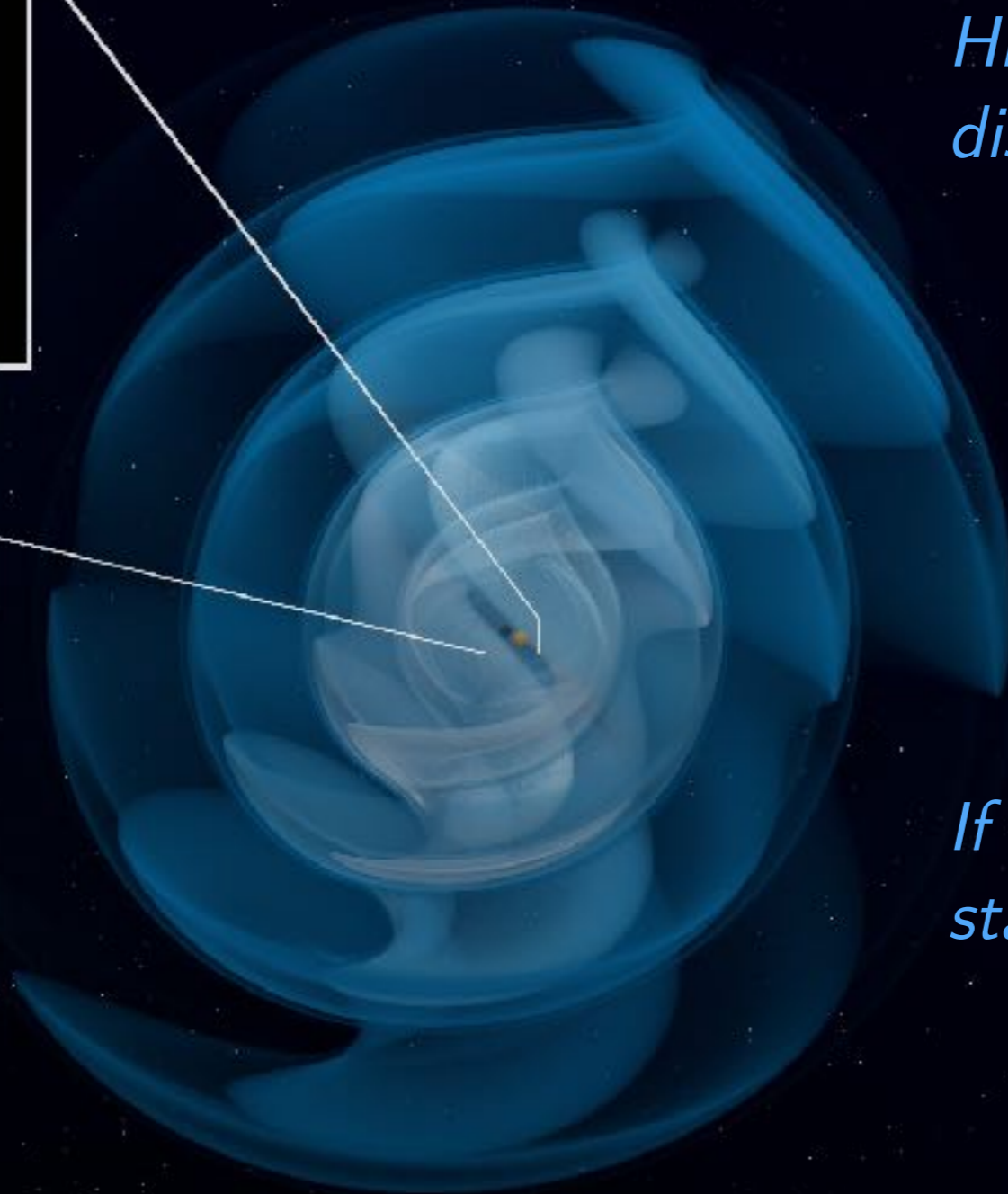
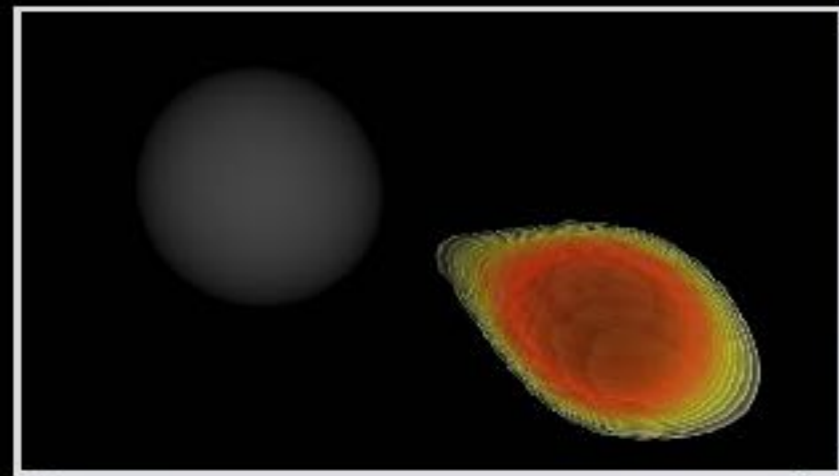
Neutron star - black hole mergers to the rescue?



LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA | Aaron Geller | Northwestern

LVK Black Holes LVK Neutron Stars EM Black Holes EM Neutron Stars

Neutron star - black hole mergers to the rescue?



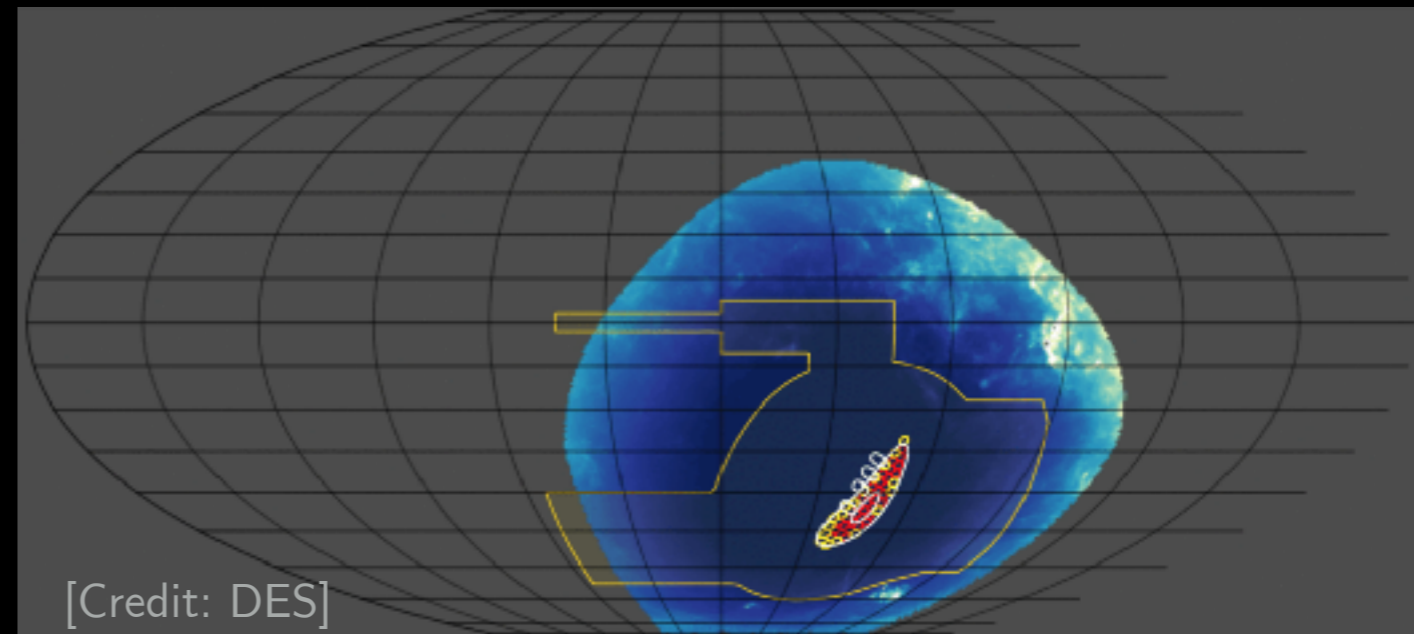
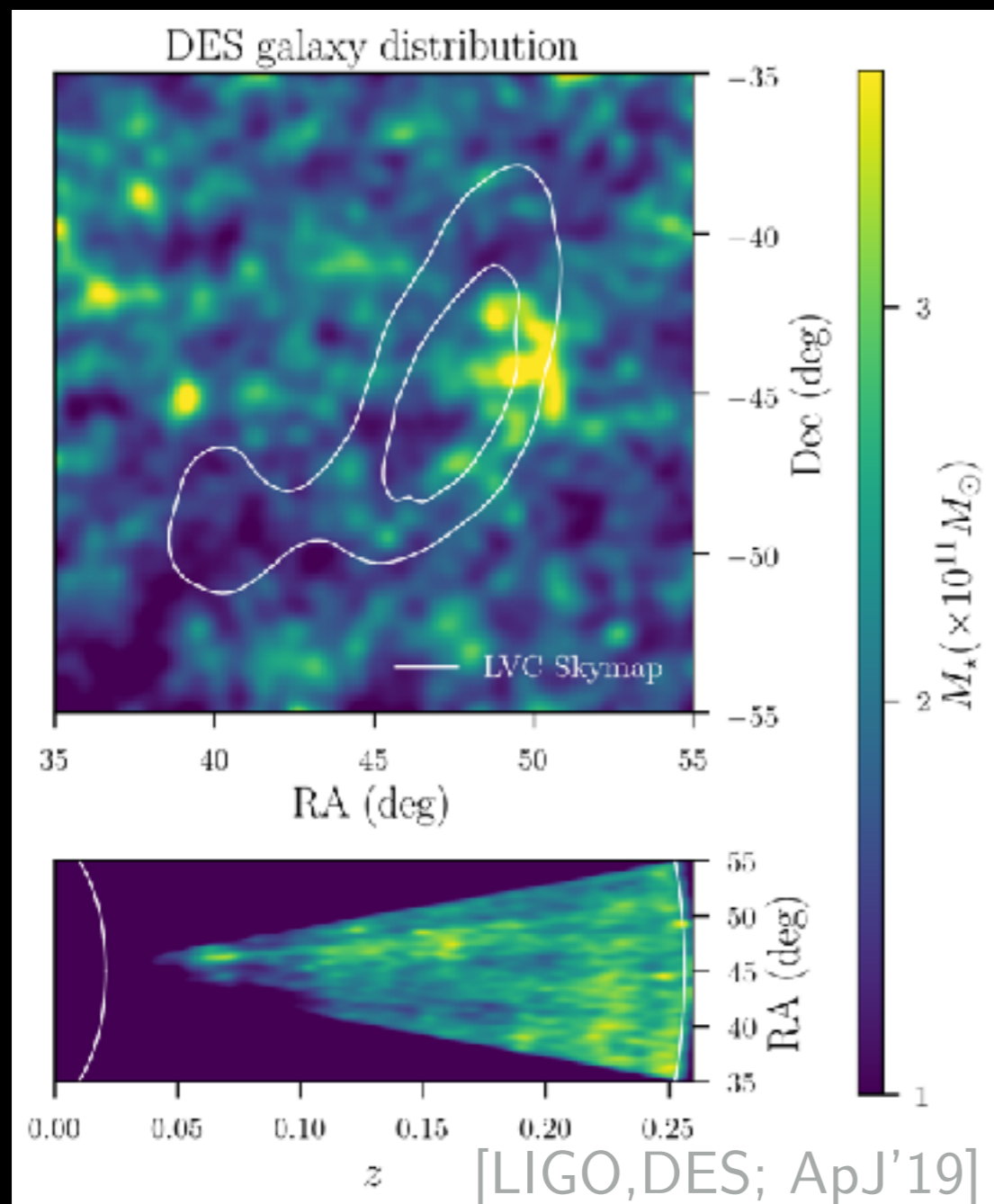
*Higher modes to break
distance degeneracies!*

*If too asymmetric neutron
star is quickly eaten...*



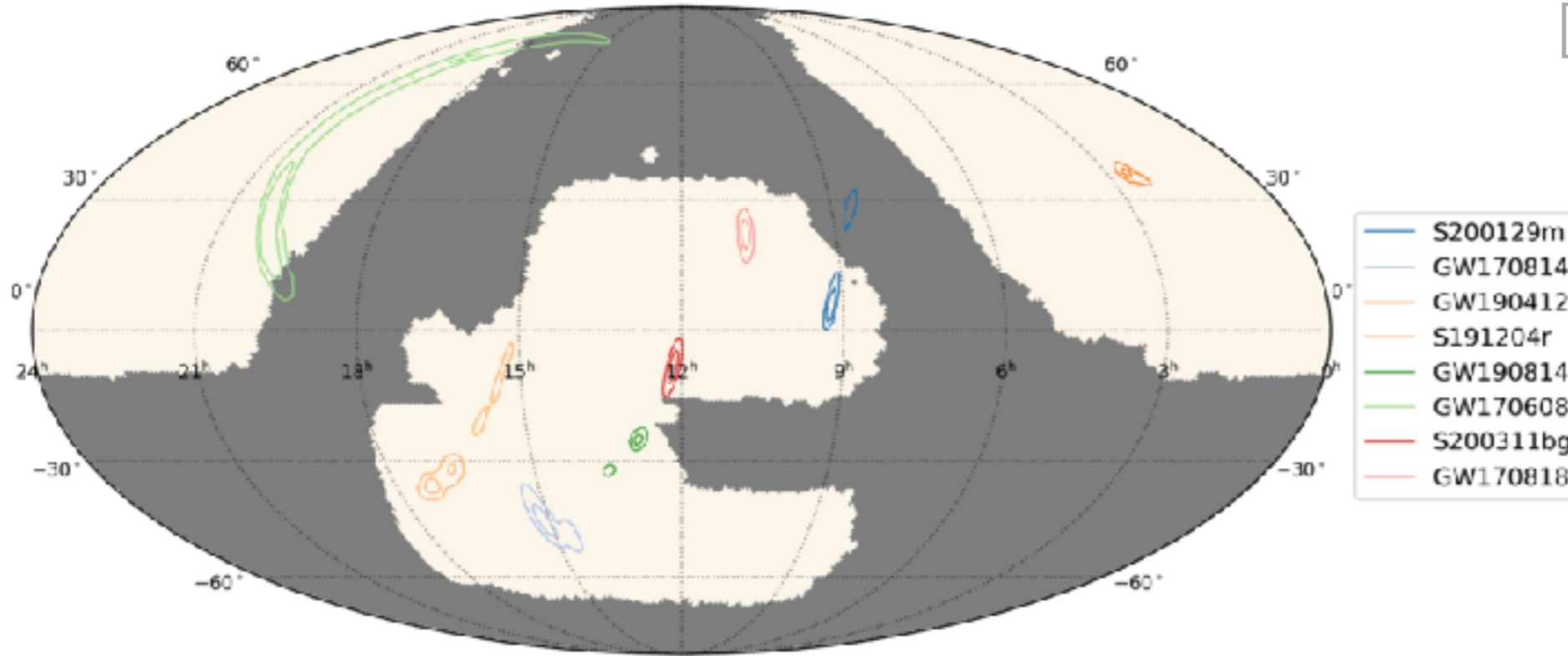
DARK SIRENS

- Statistically infer z from galaxies in localization volume
- E.g. GW170814
- Need good localization and **complete** galaxy catalogs!

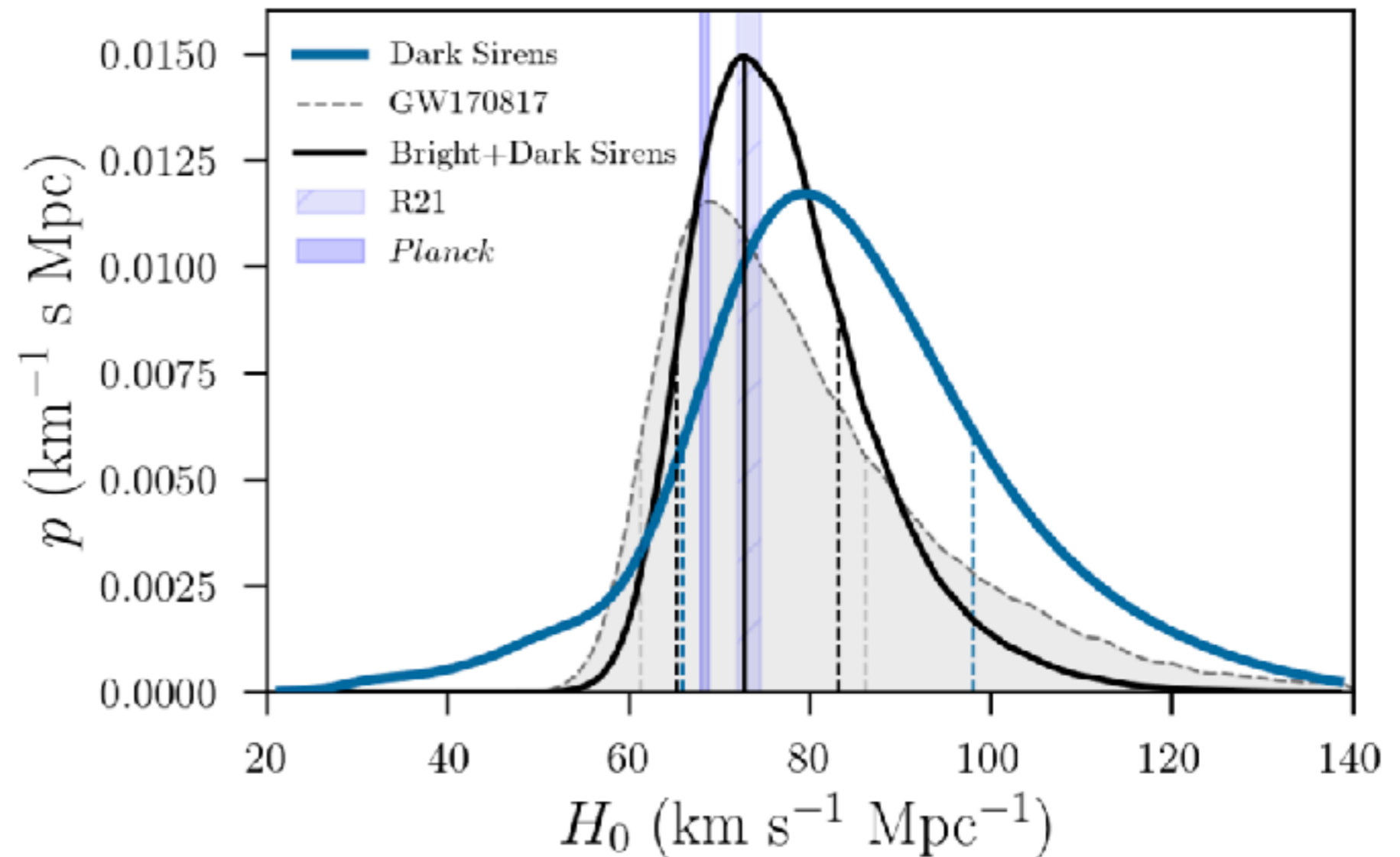


For more details see:
Hitchhiker guide GW galaxy catalog cosmo
([arXiv 2212.08694](https://arxiv.org/abs/2212.08694))

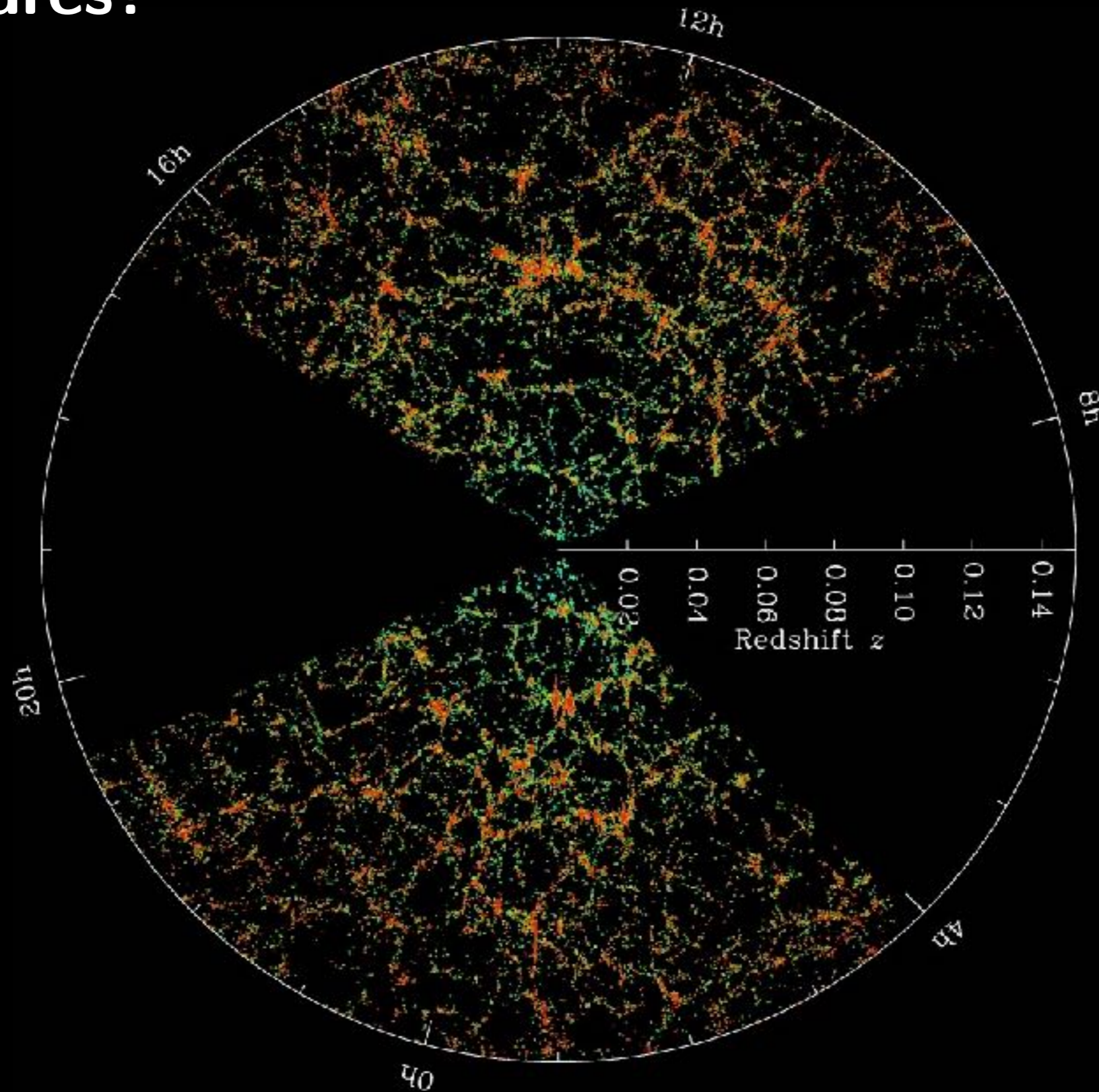
DESI imaging dark siren coverage



Dark sirens



Do binary black holes trace the large scale structures?



Gravitational waves are **standard sirens**

[well understood detectability]



[general relativity predicts waveform]

$$d_L(z)$$

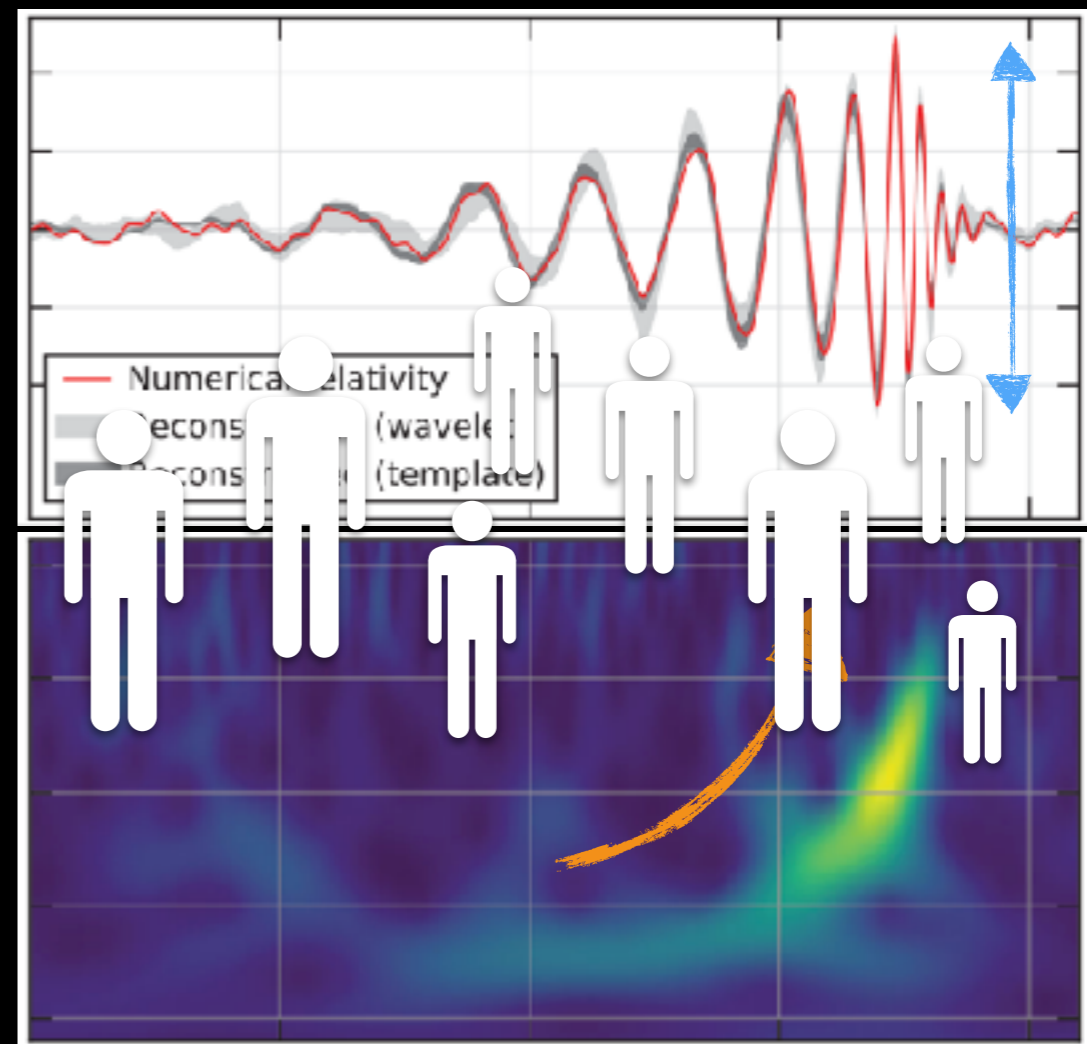
[GW Hubble diagram]

$$m_{\text{det}} = (1 + z)m$$

[Interplay with astrophysics]

strain

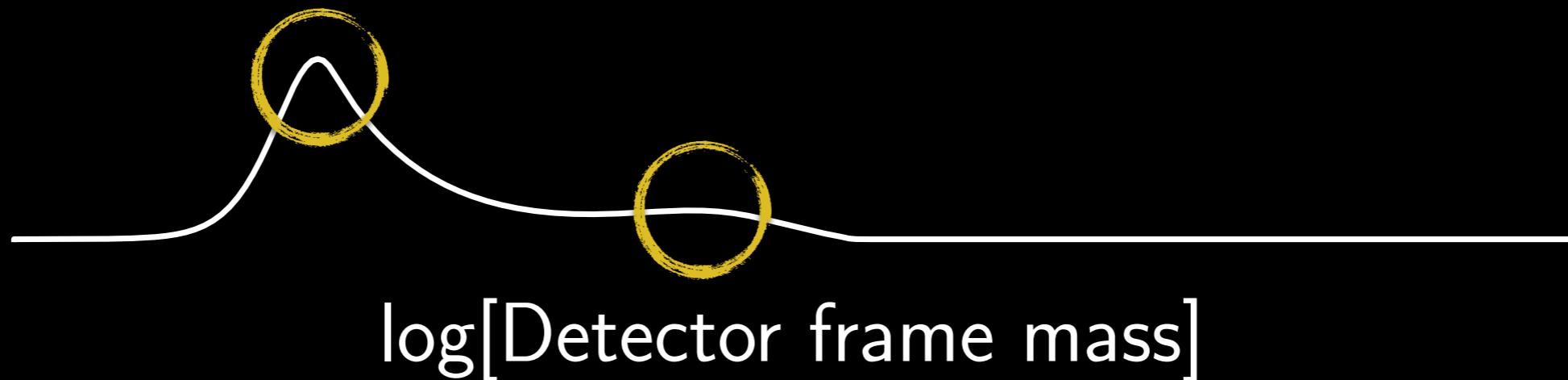
frequency



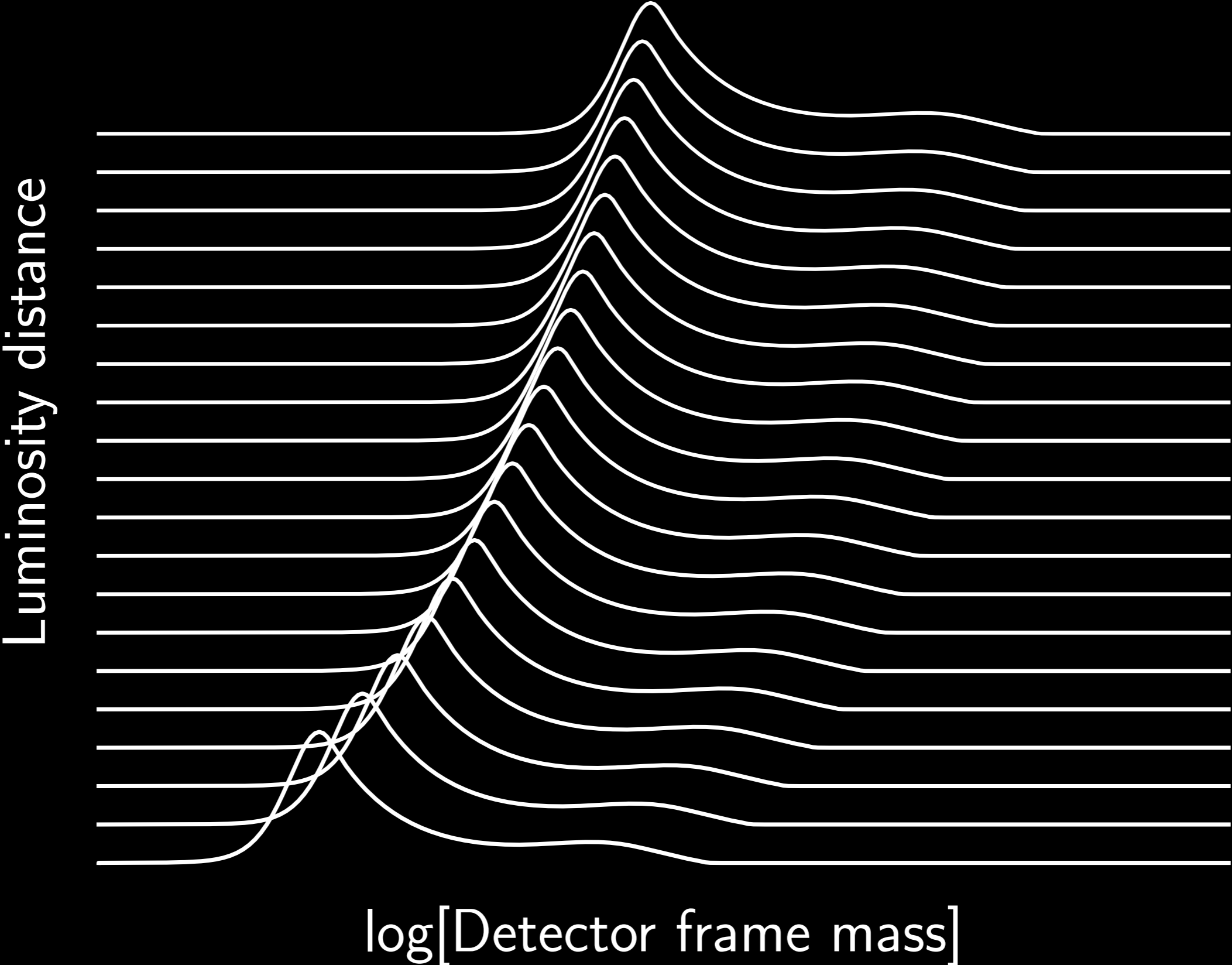
time

SPECTRAL SIRENS

$$\{d_L(z), m_{\text{det}} = (1+z)m\}$$



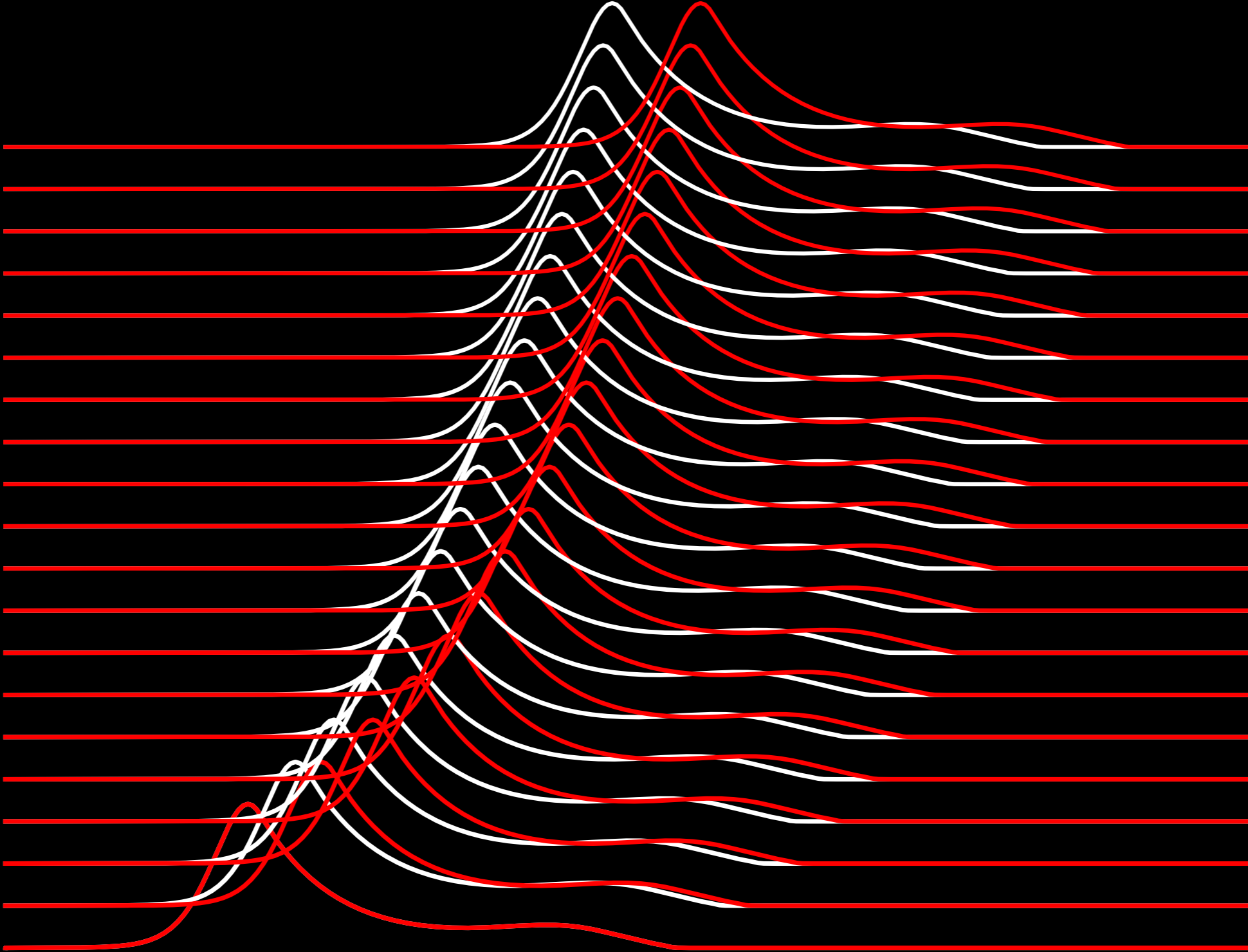
SPECTRAL SIRENS



SPECTRAL SIRENS

higher H_0

Luminosity distance

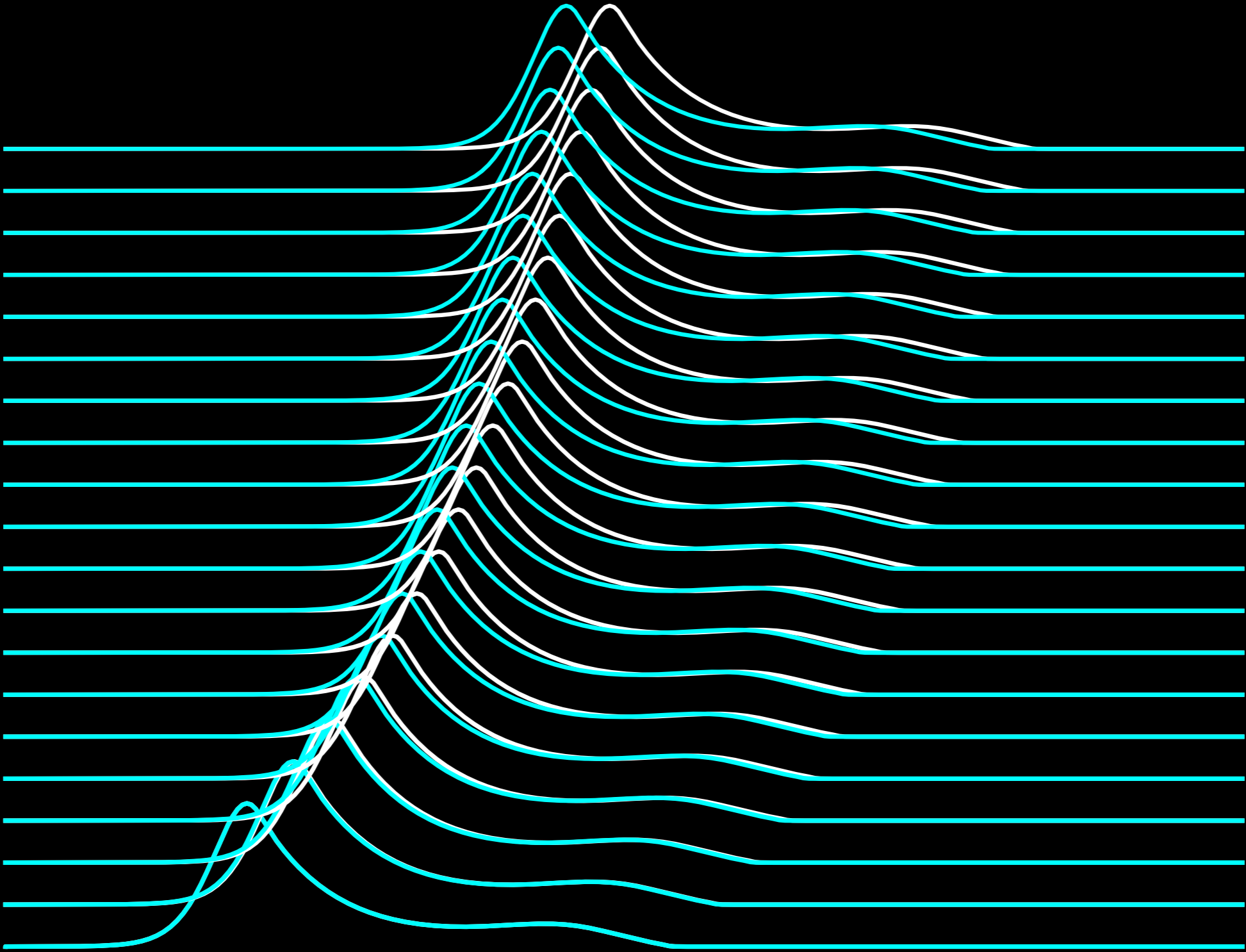


log[Detector frame mass]

SPECTRAL SIRENS

lower Ω_m

Luminosity distance



log[Detector frame mass]

All compact binaries are standard sirens, no electromagnetic information is necessary



Ezquiaga & Holz; *Spectral sirens: Cosmology from full mass distribution of compact binaries* (PRL '22, [arXiv 2202.08240](https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.08240))

[\[Chernoff&Finn'93\]](#)

[\[Roy+'24\]](#)

[\[Farr+'19\]](#)

[\[Mastrogiovanni+'21\]](#)

[\[Ezquiaga&Holz'20\]](#)

[\[Taylor+'11\]](#)

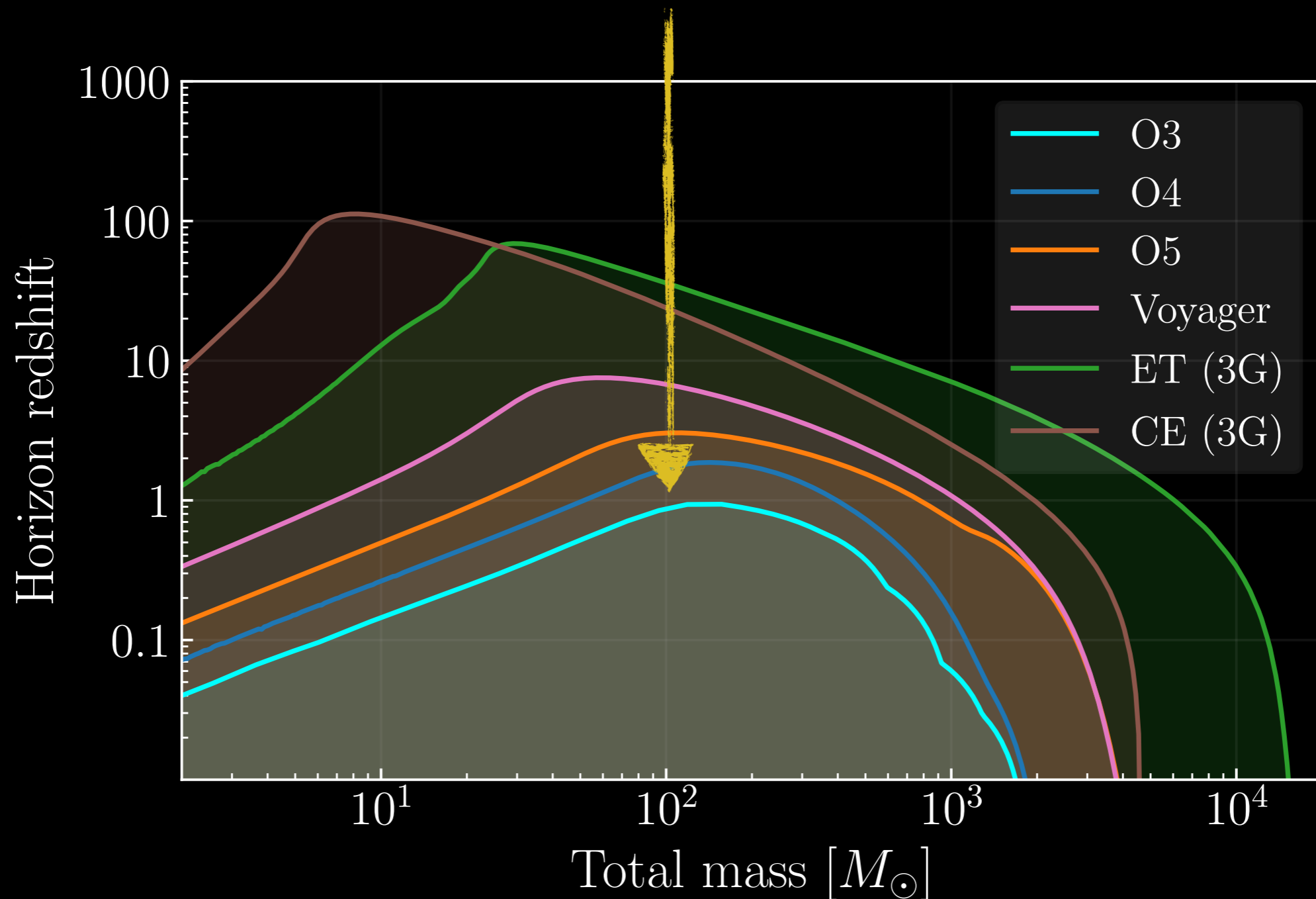
[\[Mali&Esscik'24\]](#)

[\[You+'20\]](#)

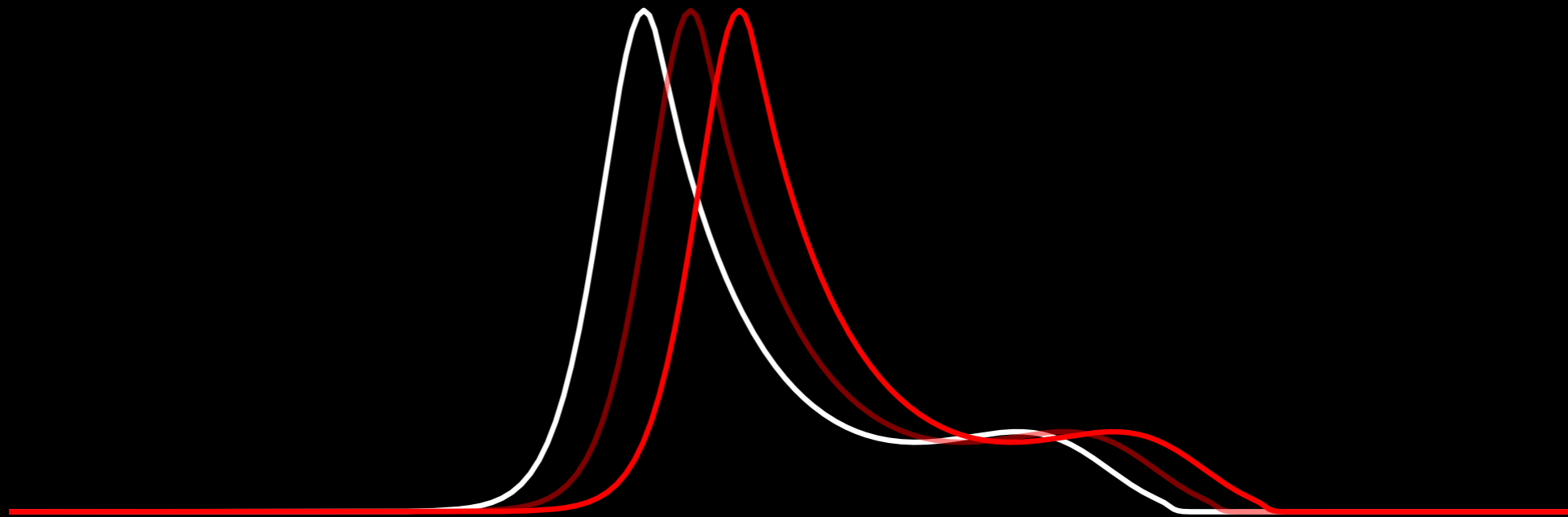
[\[LVC Cosmo GWTC-3 '21\]](#)

All compact binaries are spectral sirens, no electromagnetic information is necessary

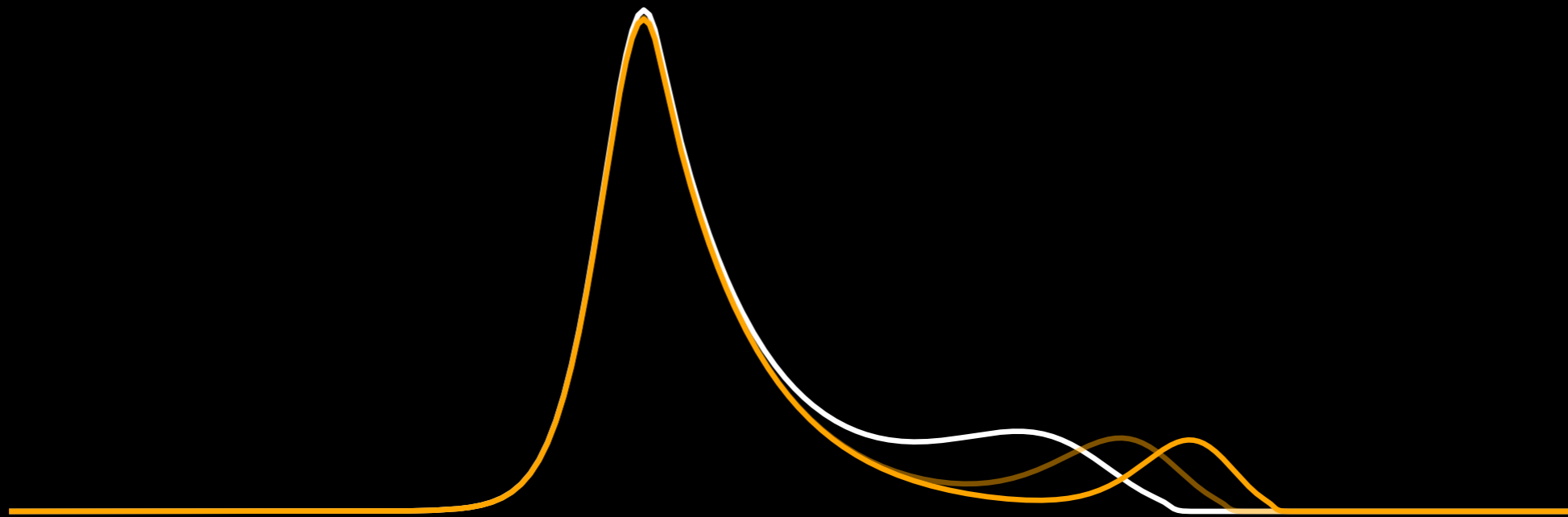
Currently, binary black holes most promising



Cosmology



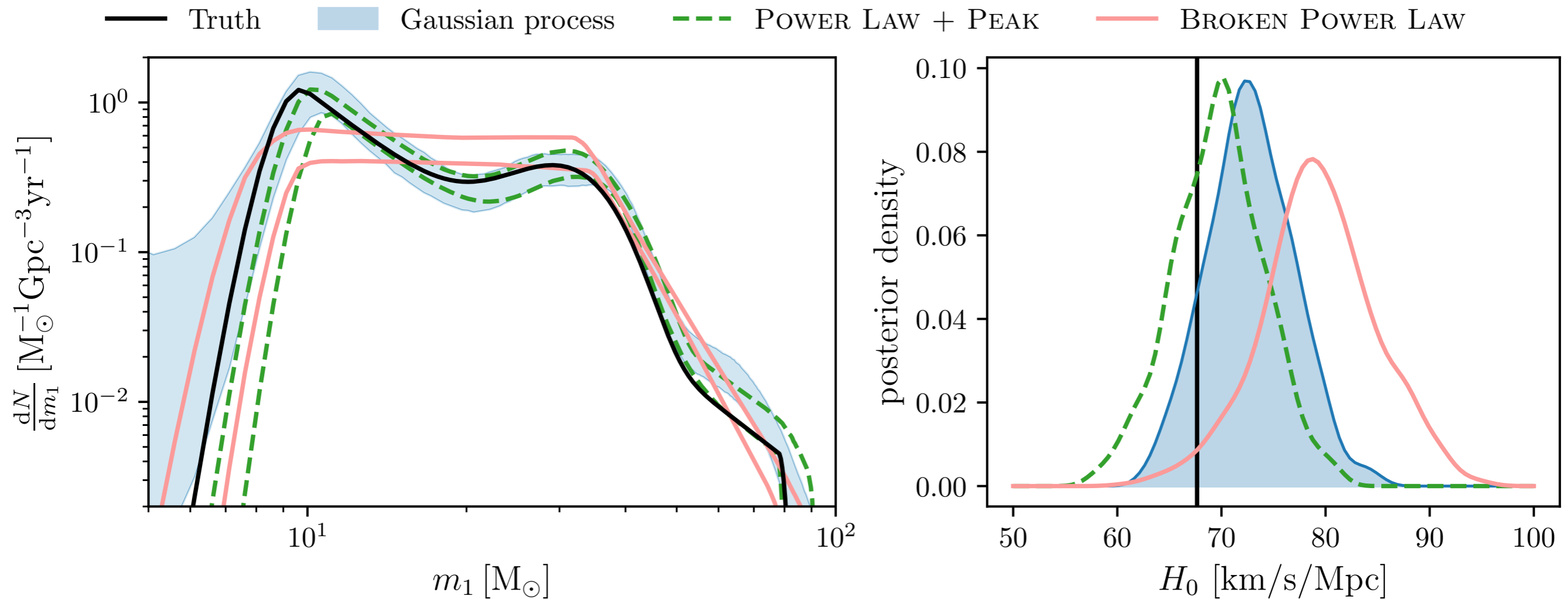
Astrophysics



$\log[\text{Detector frame mass}]$

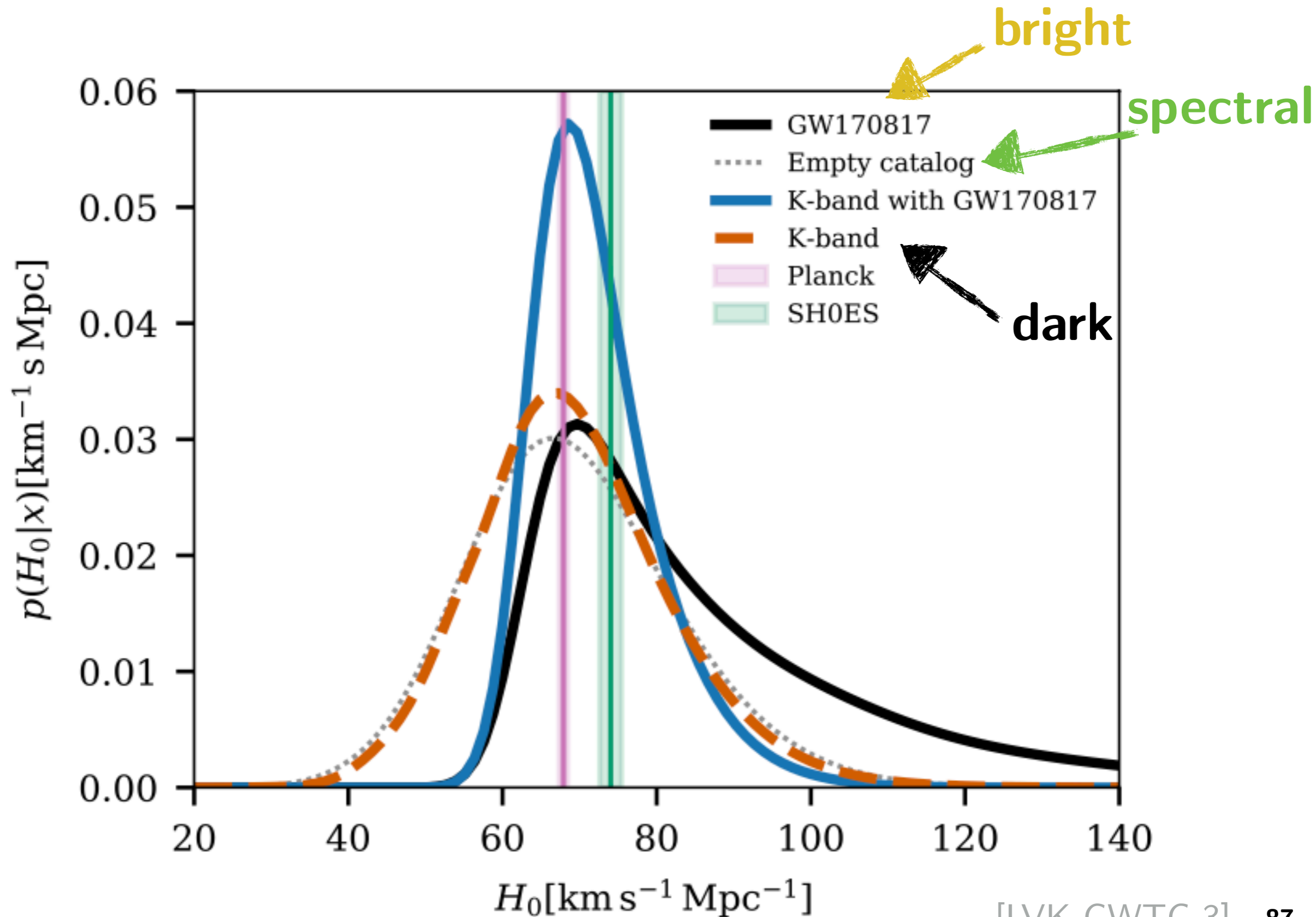
Non-parametric reconstruction

Unbiased cosmological inference *without* prior assumptions

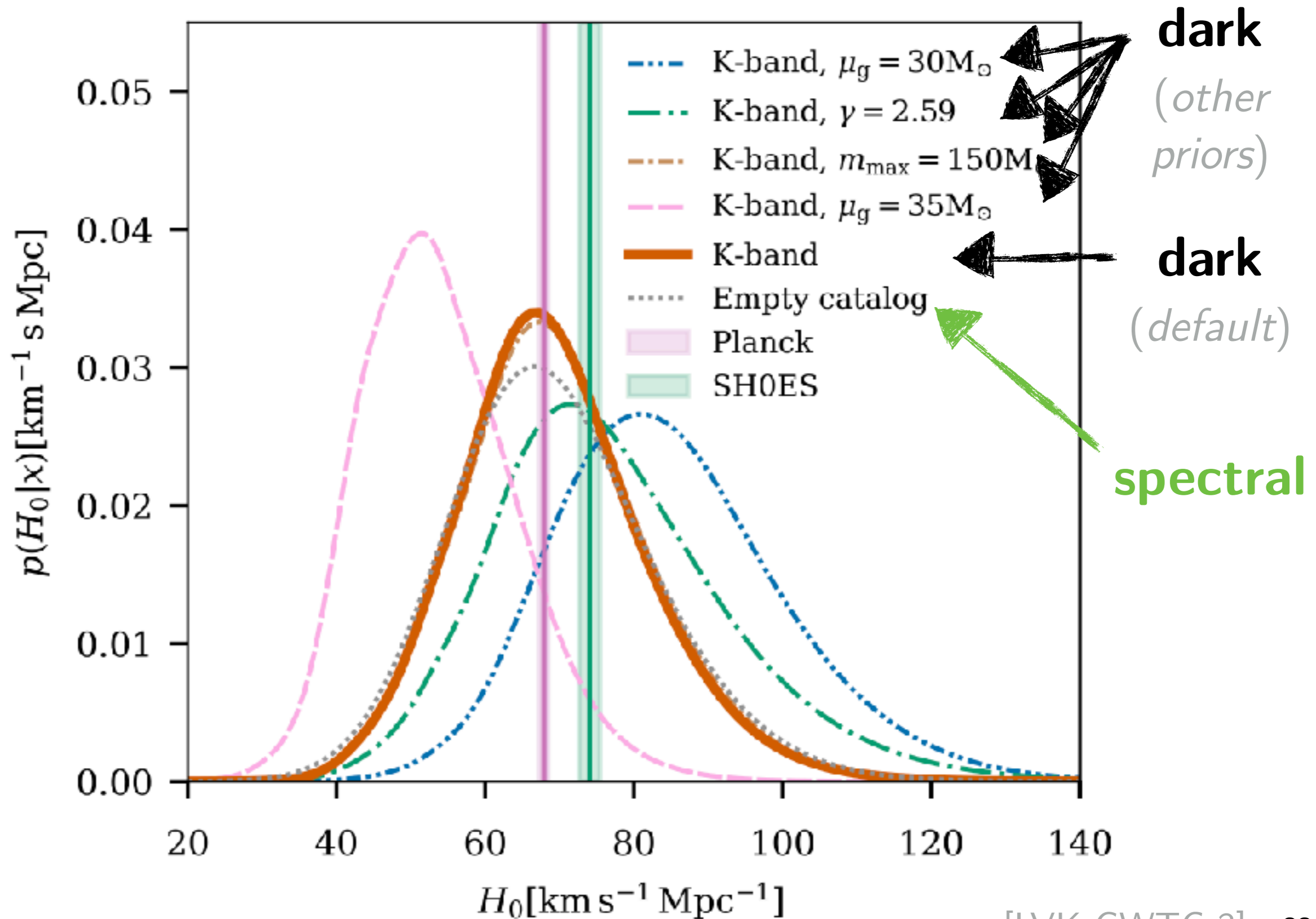


[Farah et al.; ApJ'24]

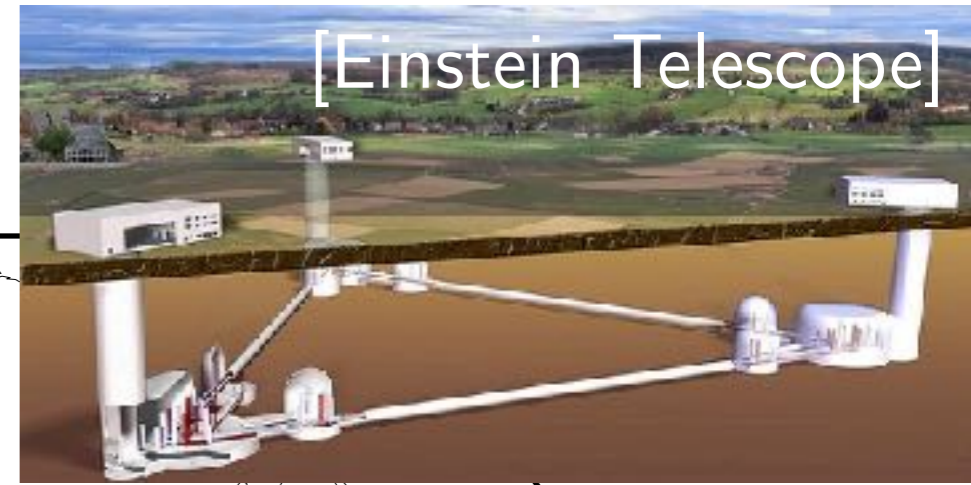
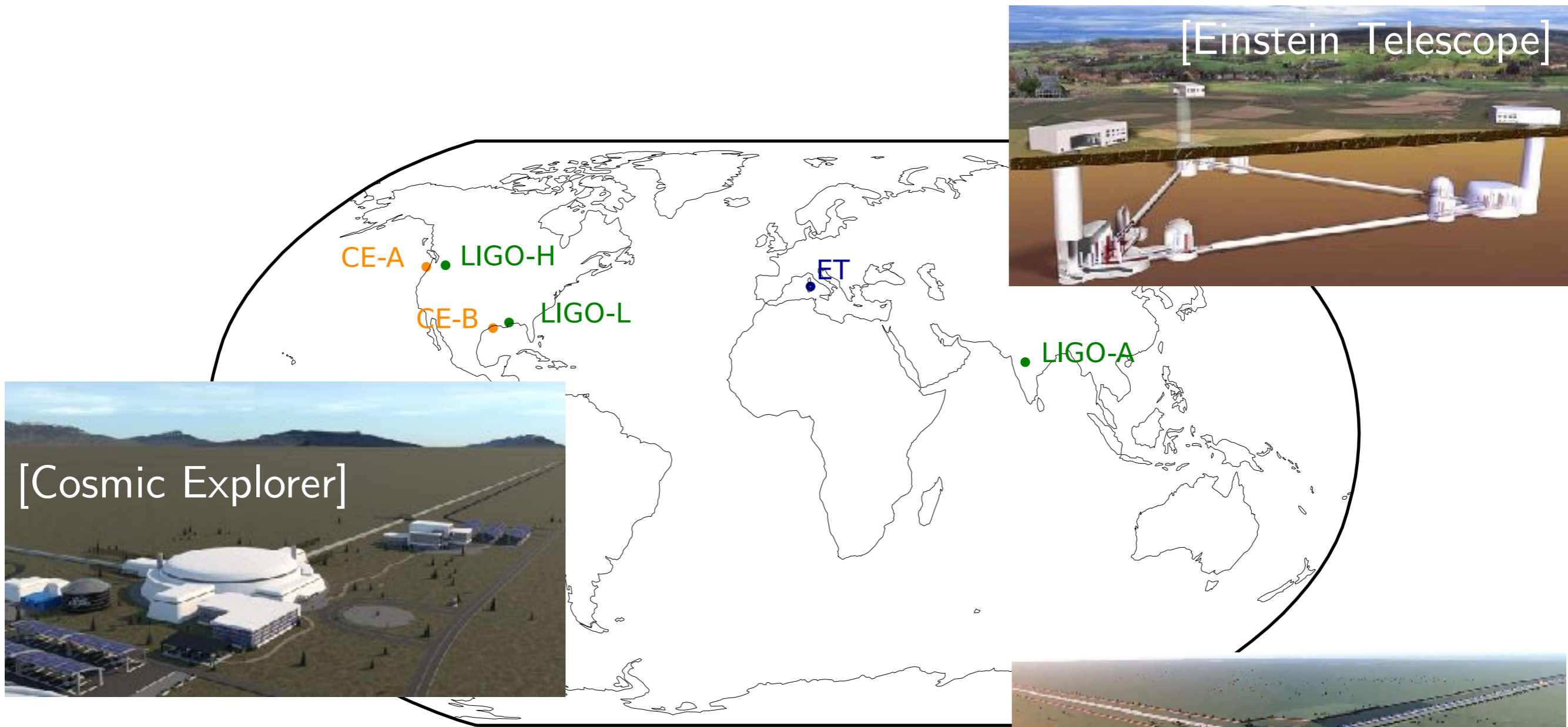
Standard sirens: *current results*



Standard sirens: *current results*



Standard sirens: *forecasts*



Bright sirens at higher distances

- If the Dark Energy equation of states evolves in time

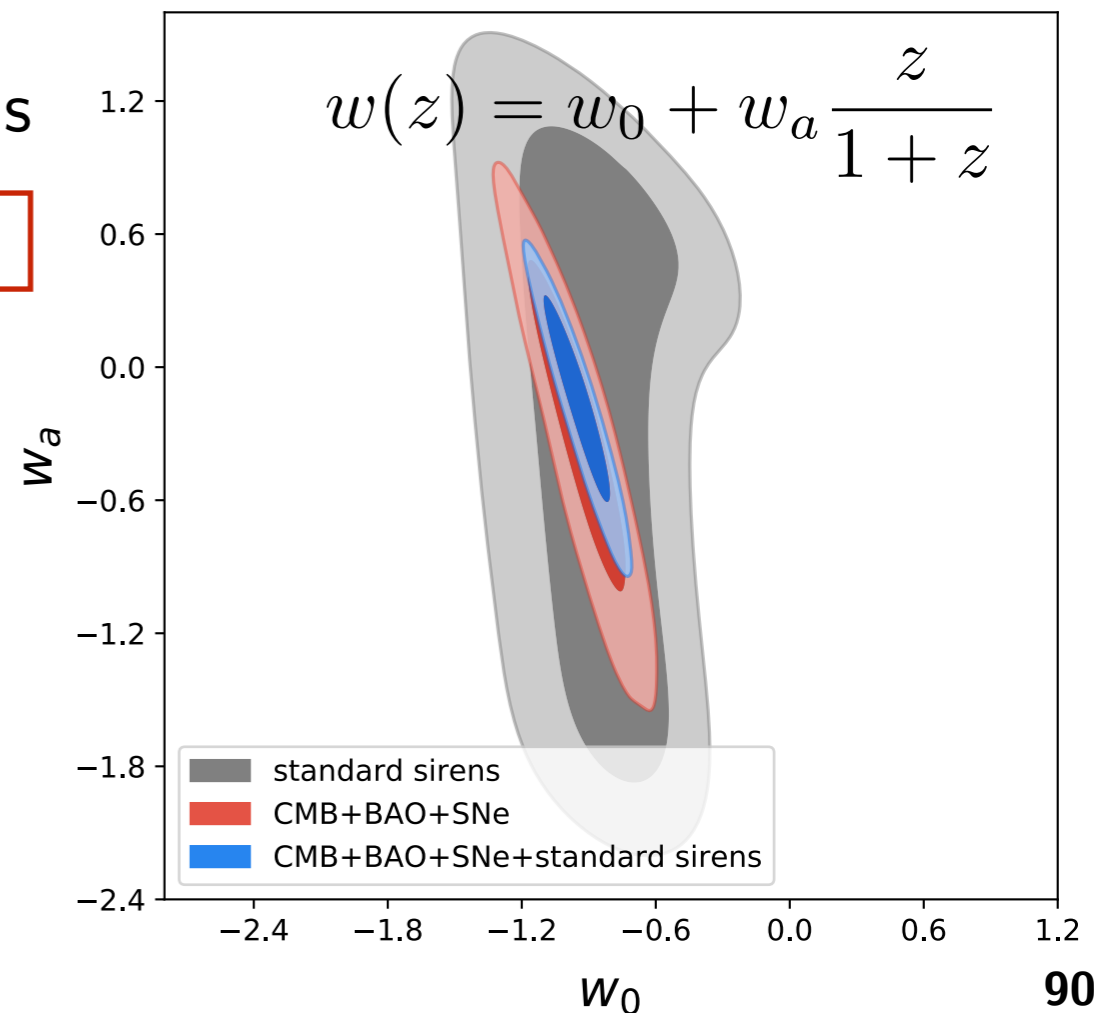
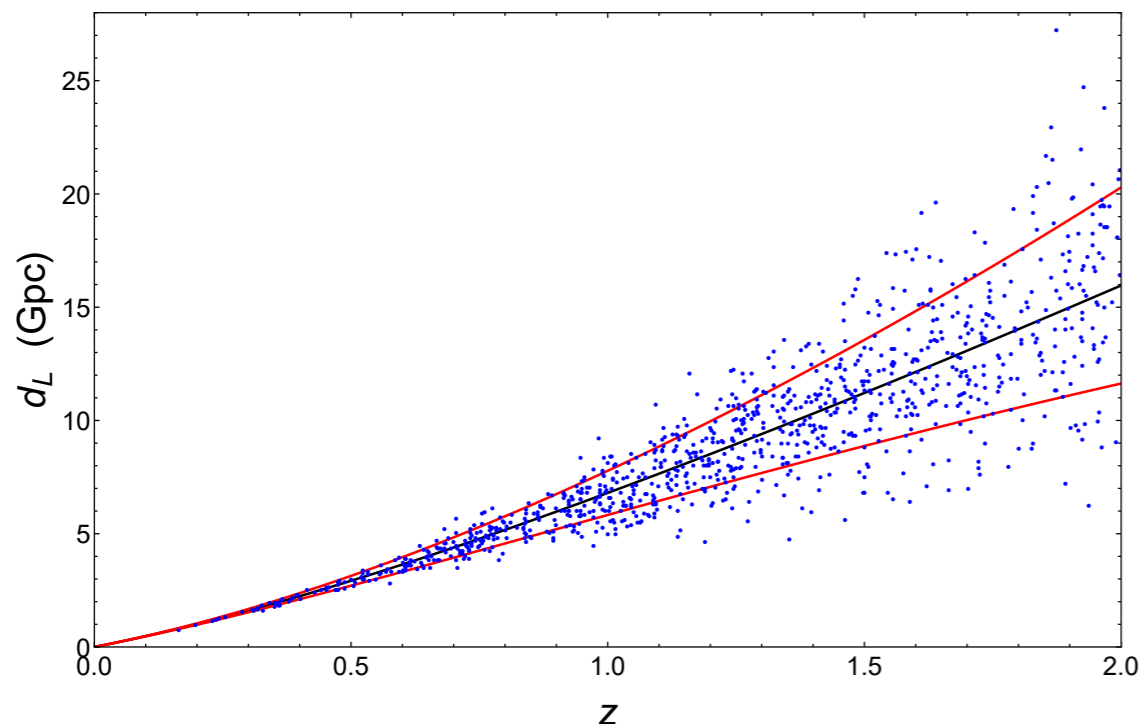
$$\Omega_{\text{DE}}(z) = \Omega_{\Lambda}(1+z)^{3(1+w_0)} e^{-3 \int_0^z \frac{w(z')-w_0}{1+z'} dz'}$$

$$d_L^{\text{gw}} = a_0(1+z) \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{H_0 \sqrt{\Omega_{M,0}(1+z')^3 + \Omega_{\text{DE}}(z')}}}$$

- Einstein Telescope with 1000 standard sirens

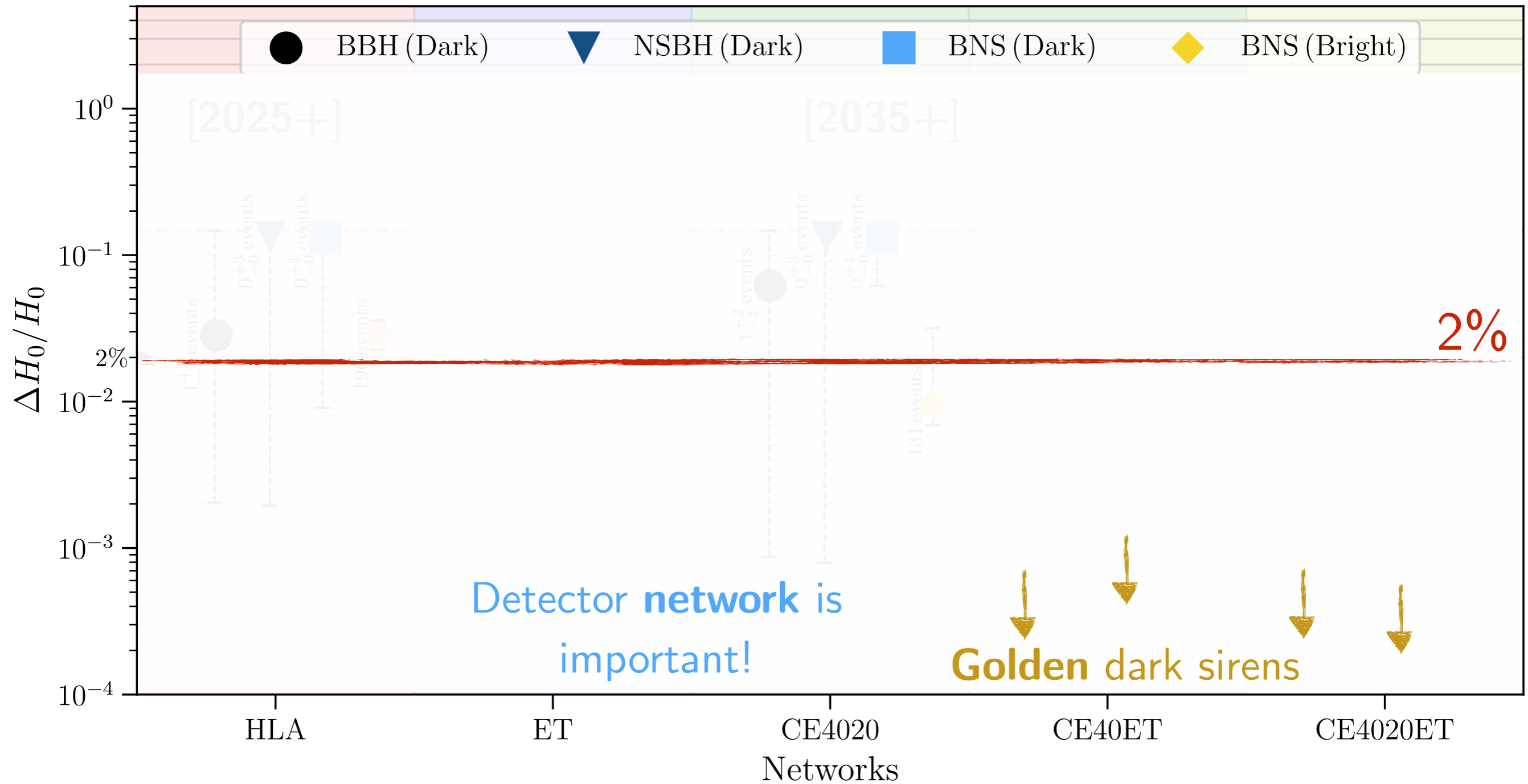
[Belgacem et al.'18]

$$\sigma_{w_0}/w_0 \sim 20\%$$



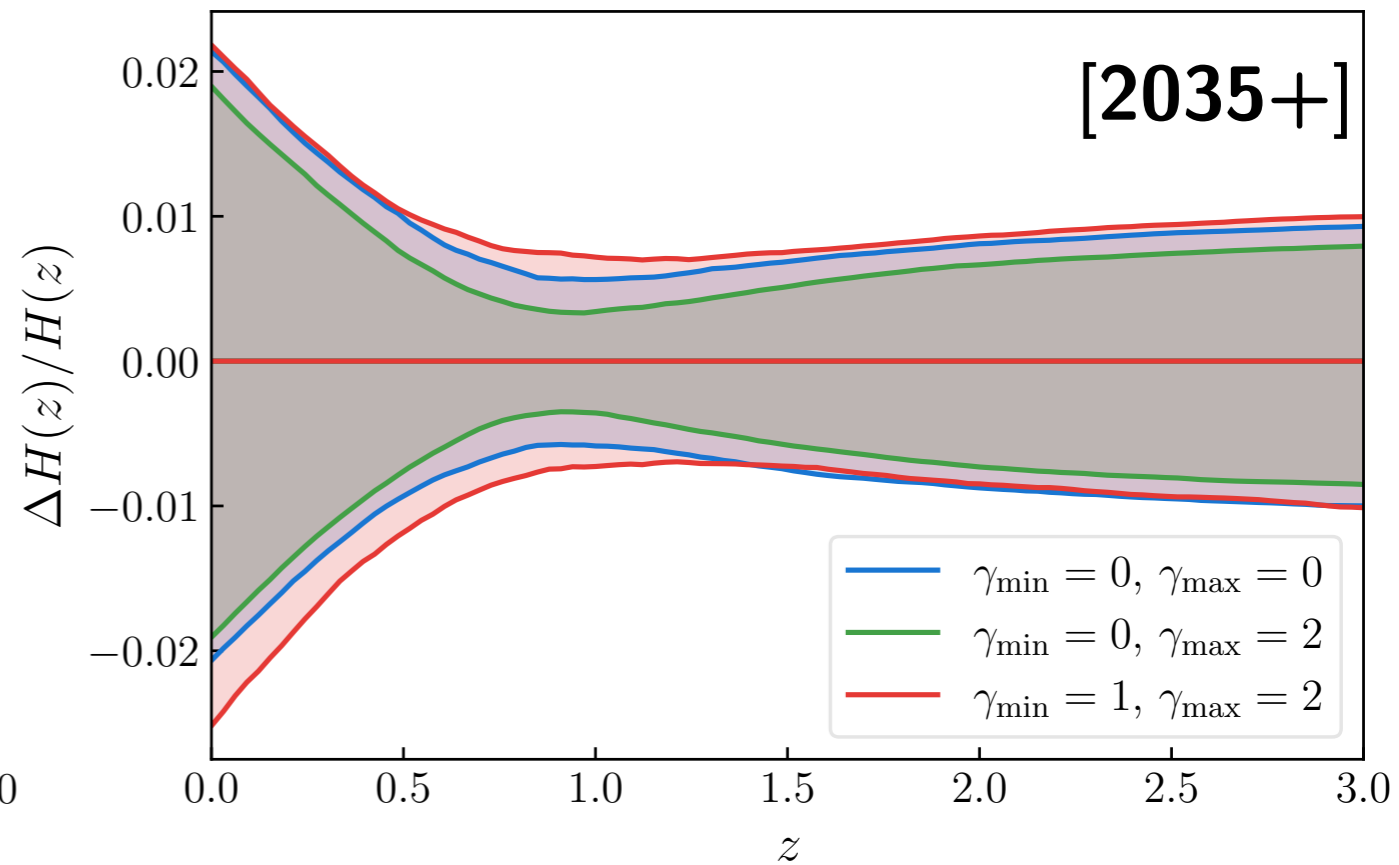
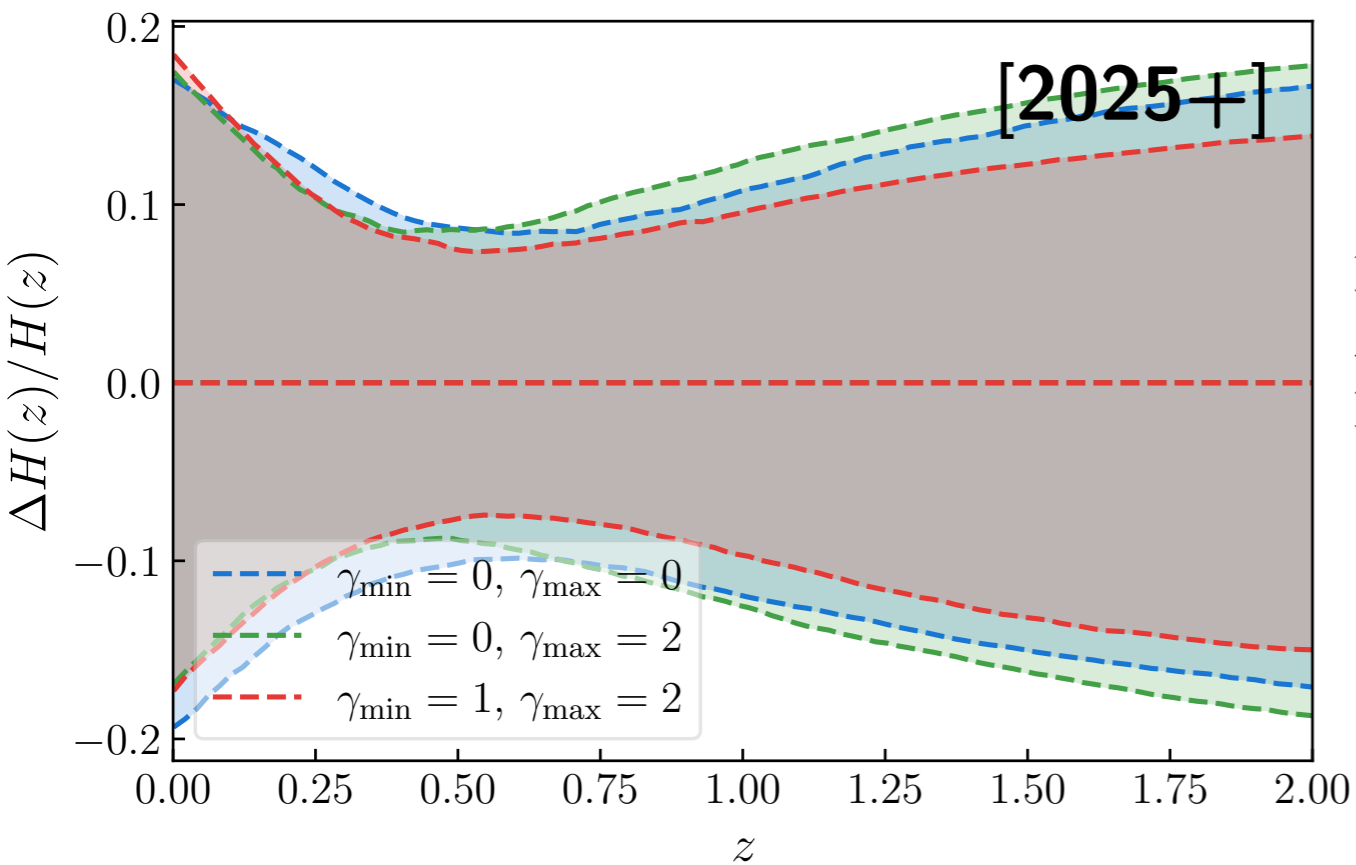
H_0 (also) with dark sirens

H: Hanford (US)
 L: Livingston (US)
 A: Aundha (India)
 ET: Einstein Telescope (EU)
 CE: Cosmic Explorer (US)



Spectral sirens: *forecasts*

[BBHs between NSBH and PISN gap]



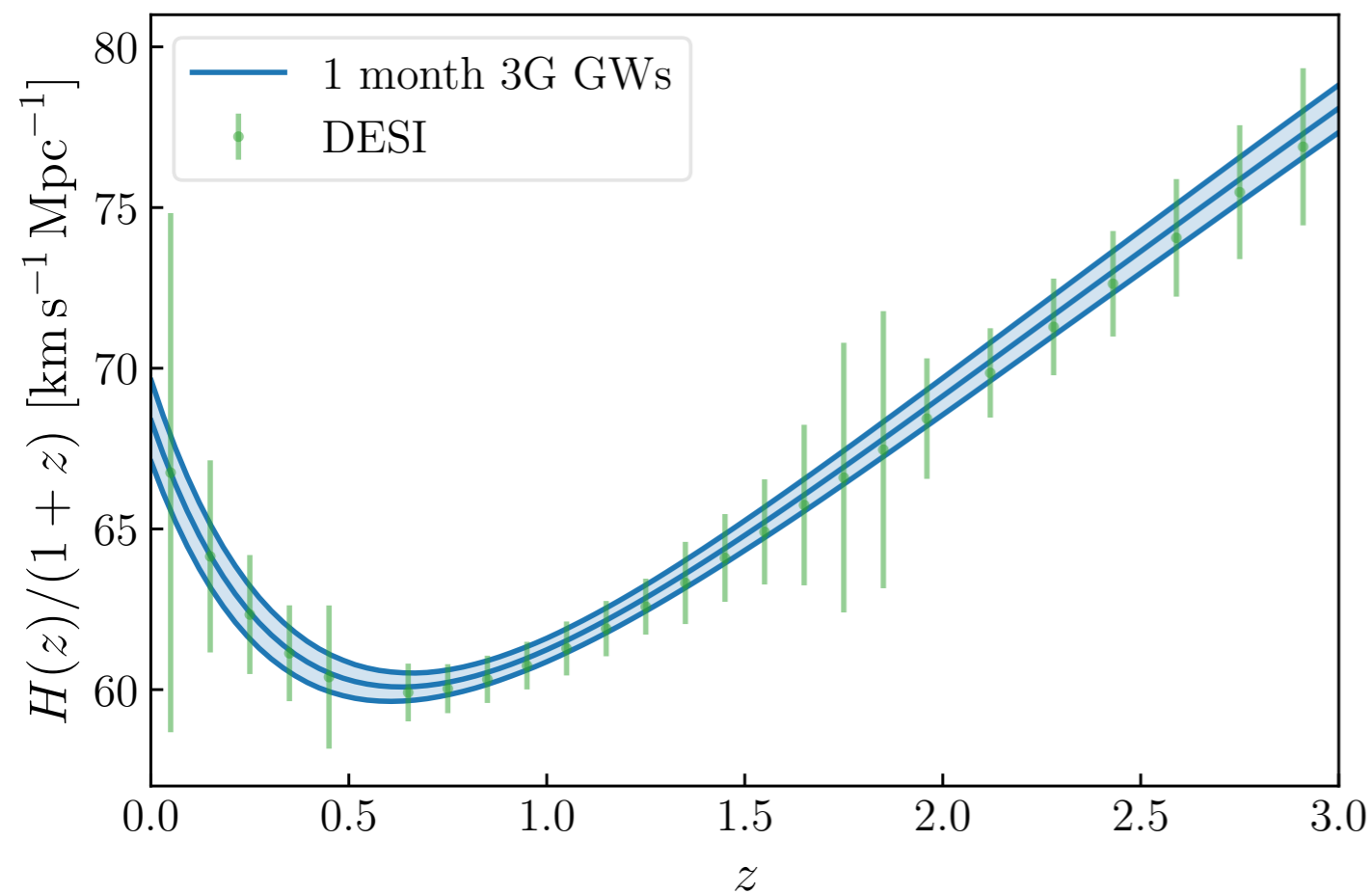
2G: <10% within 1 year at approx. $z=0.7$

3G: Sub-percent within 1 month. High-redshift!

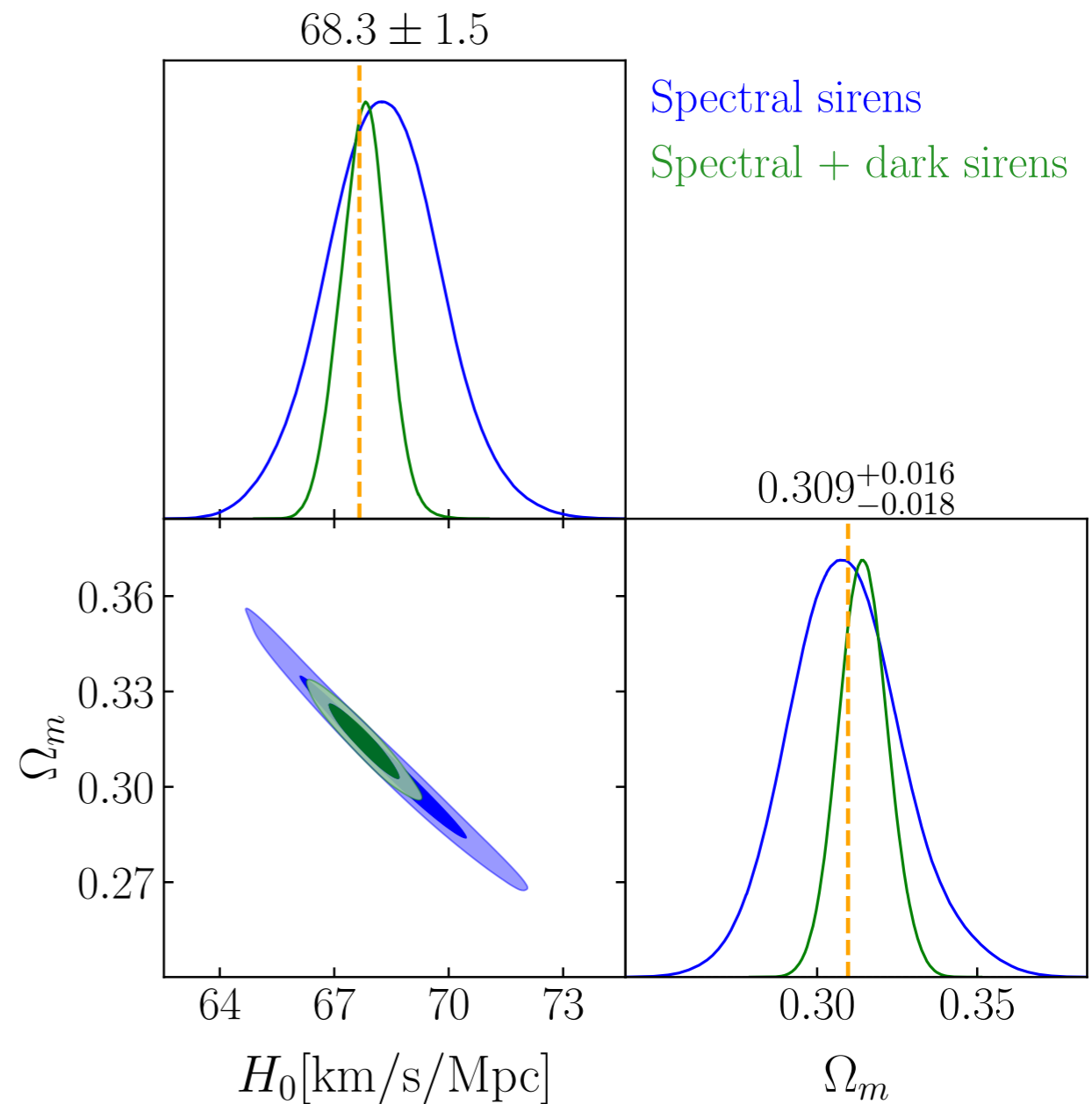
Expansion rate at high redshift $H(z)$

Combining sirens **sub-percent** precision across cosmic history!

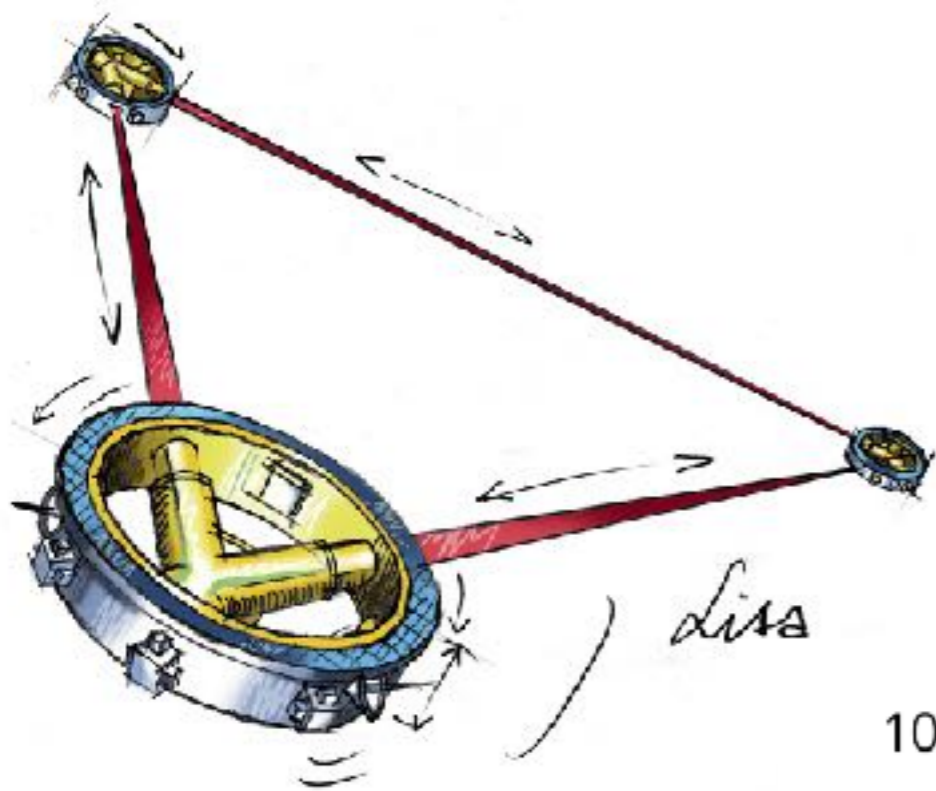
Spectral sirens are competitive
with cosmic surveys



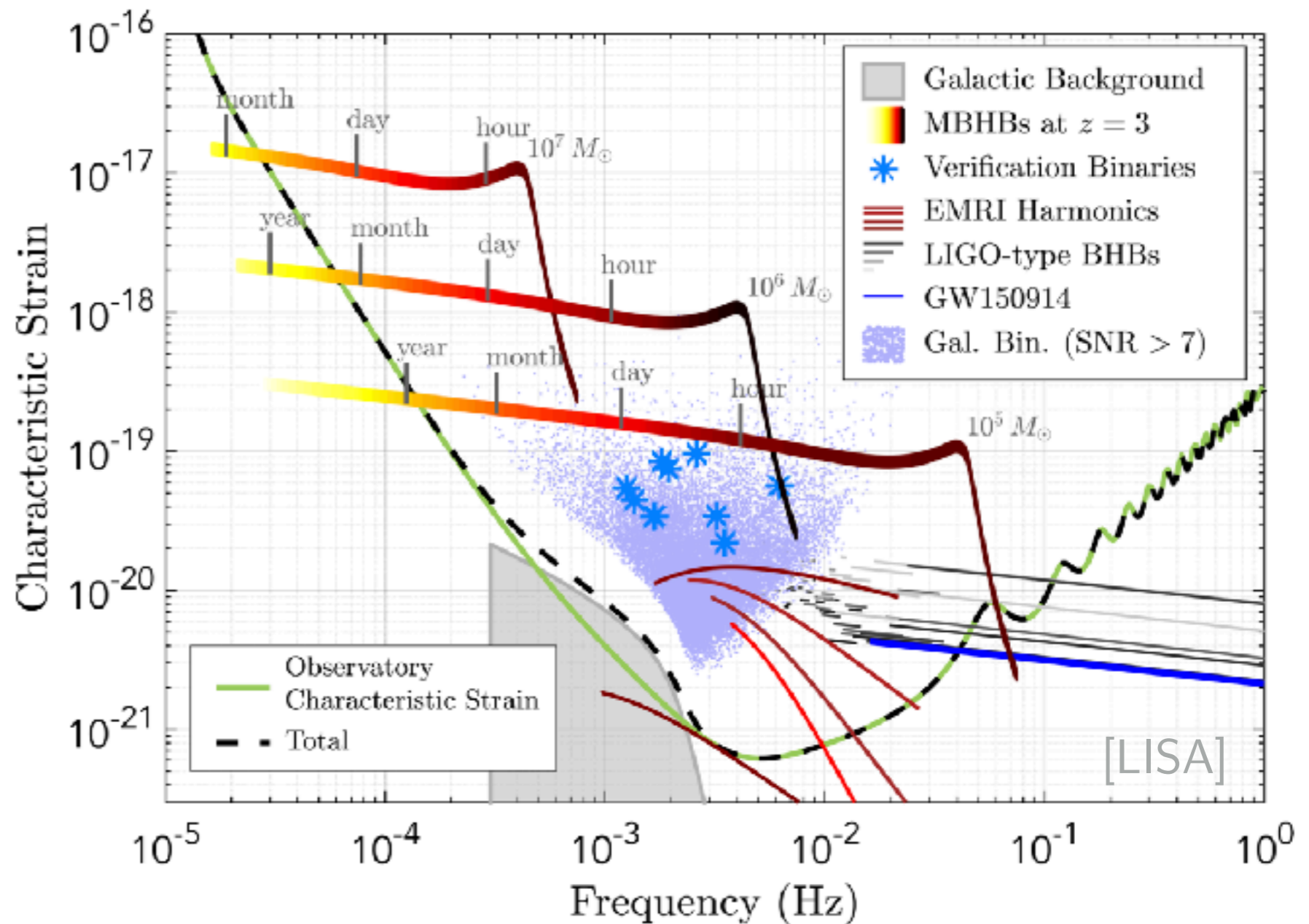
[Ezquiaga & Holz (PRL'22)]



[Chen, Ezquiaga & Gupta (CQG'24)]

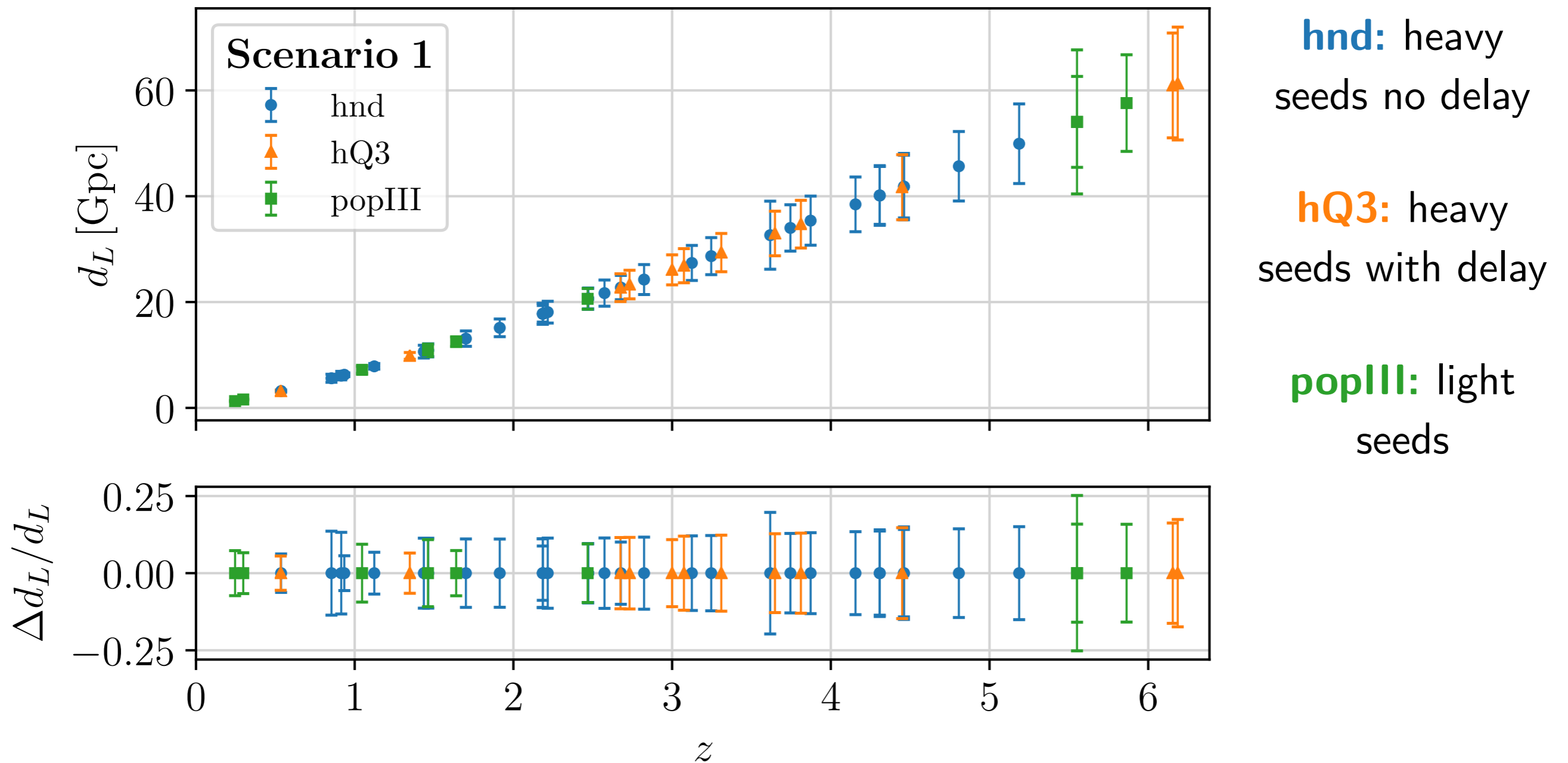


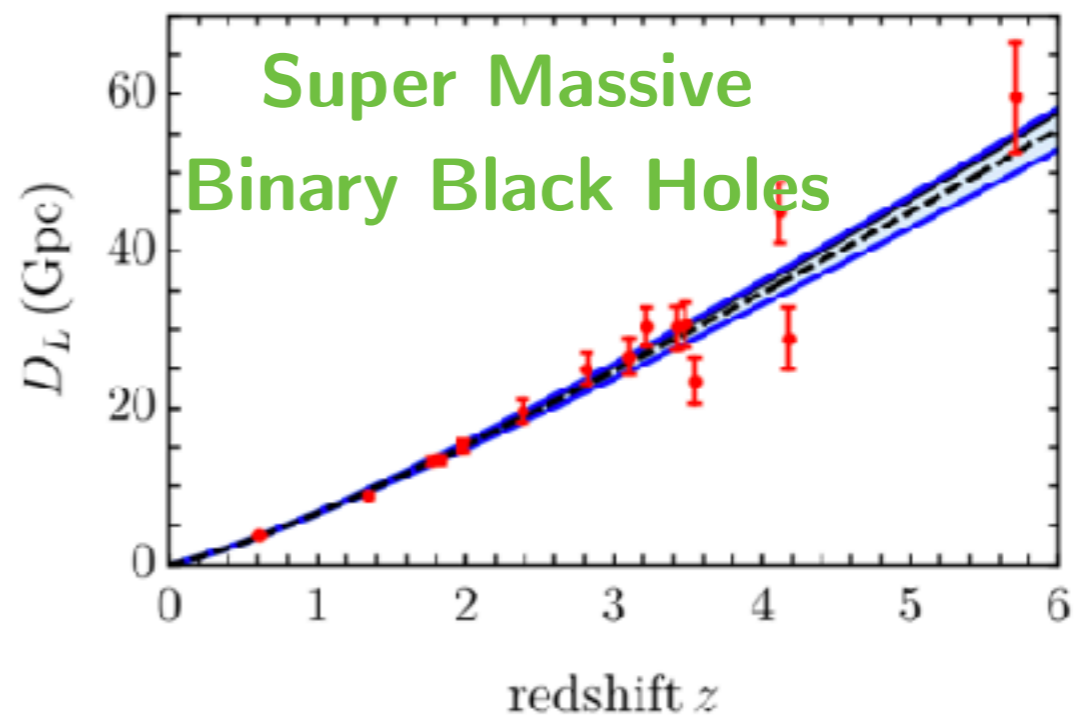
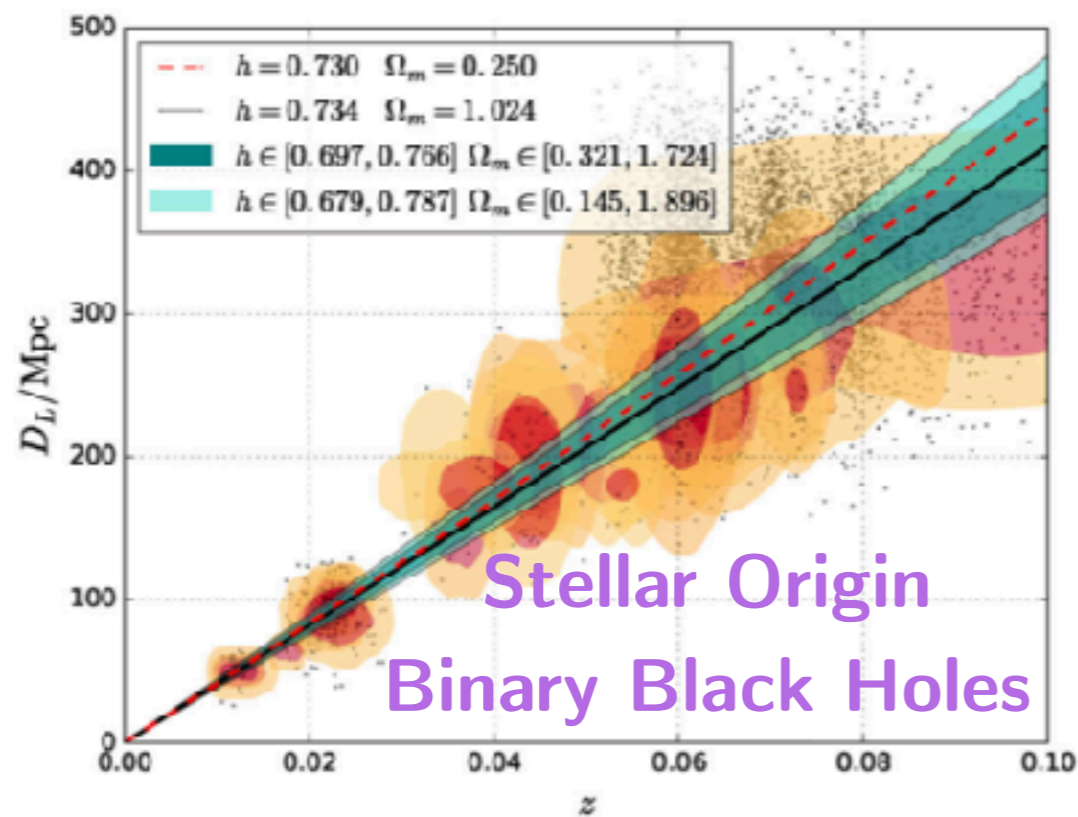
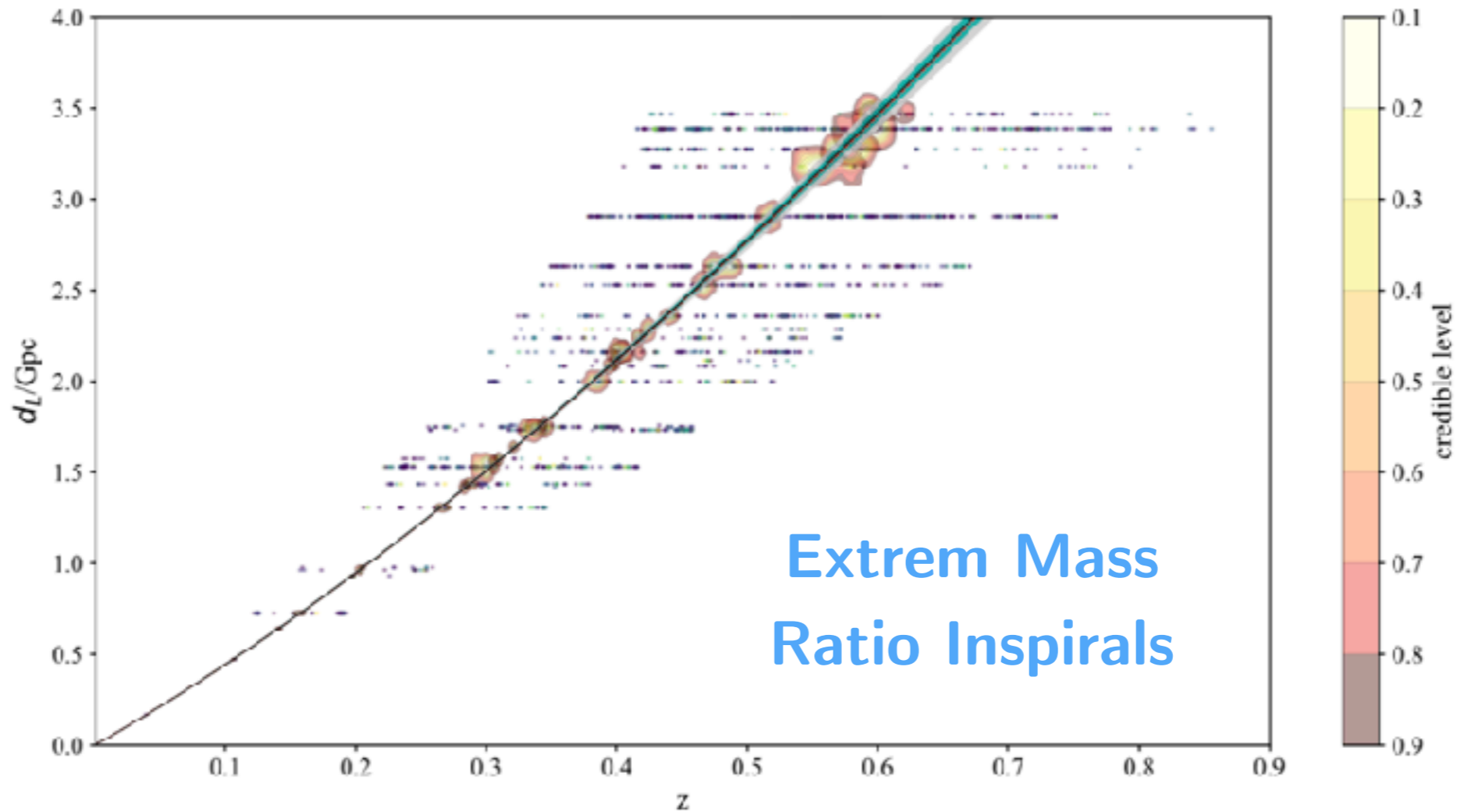
LISA's perspective



LISA forecasts: super massive BBHs

[approx. 10-30 bright sirens (4 yrs)]



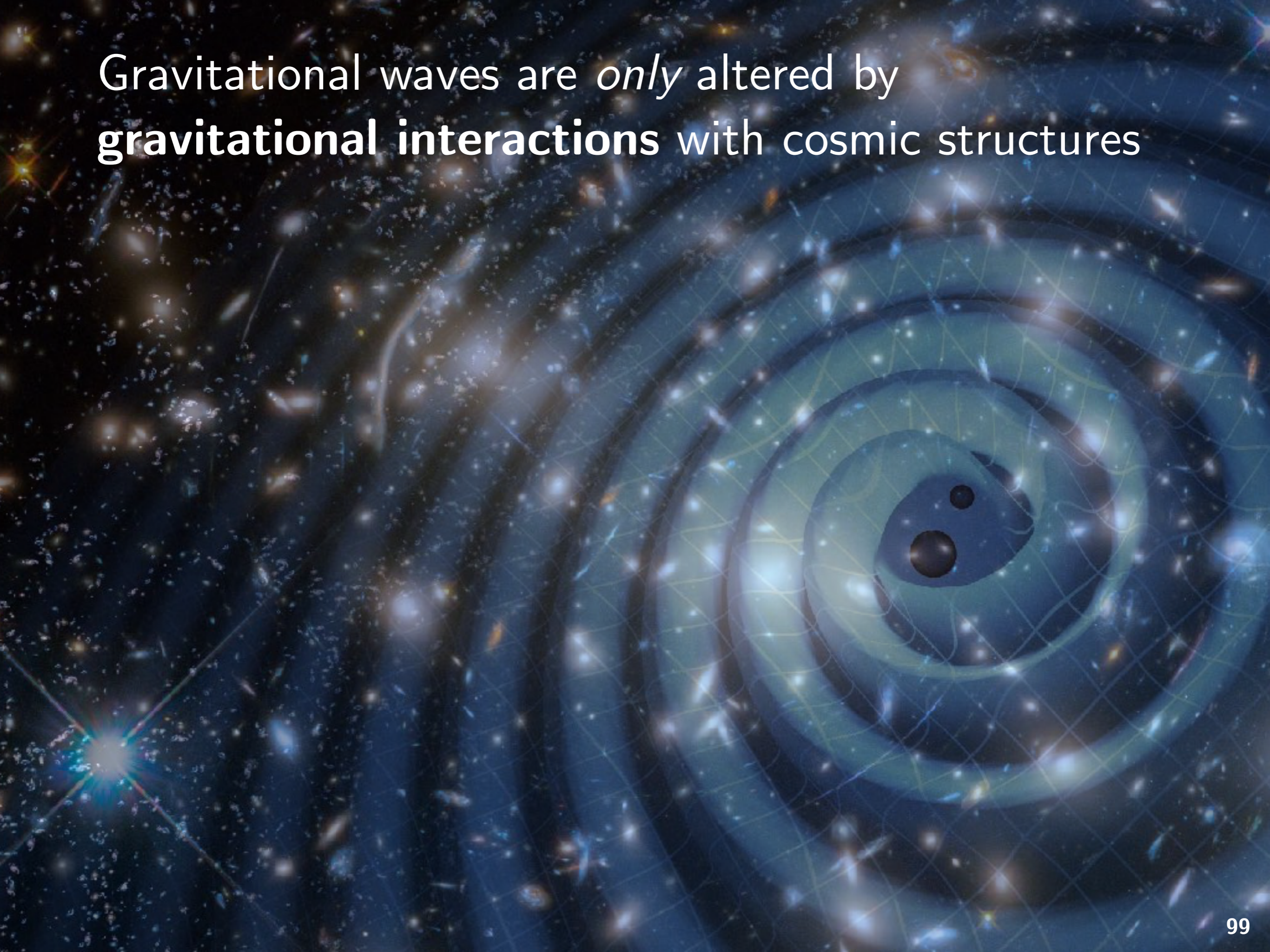


3. Key takeaways

- Gravitational waves carry information about their *luminosity distance* and *redshifted masses*
- With a direct additional information on redshift we have a *bright siren*. Using a galaxy catalog we have a *dark siren*
- Cosmology and astrophysics can be inferred simultaneously using the *spectral siren* method
- Current constraints dominated by *GW170817*. Spectral siren allow to look further.
- In the future, constrain $H(z)$ at high redshift!

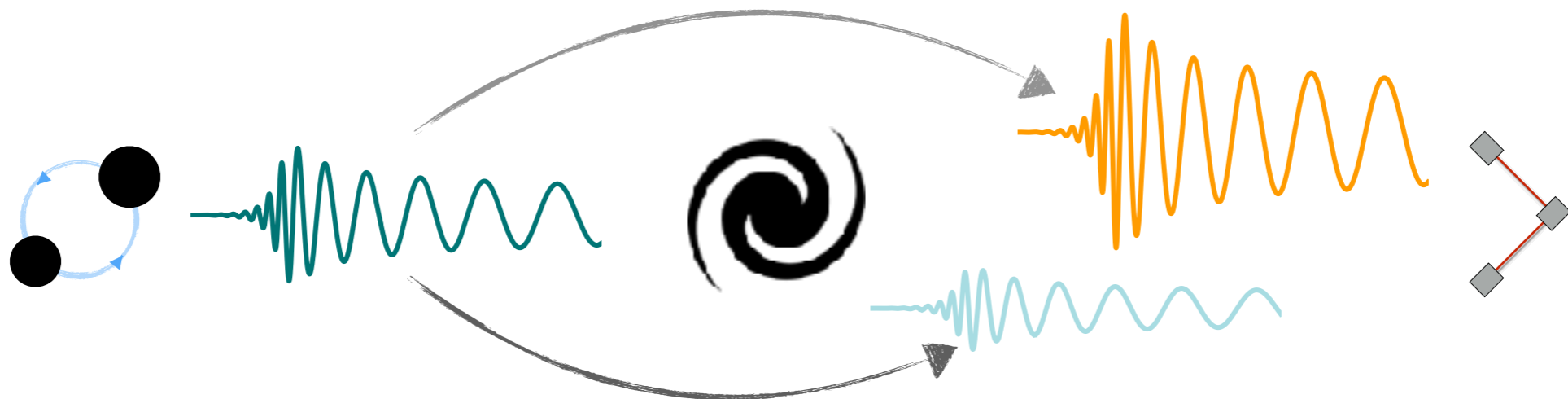
4. Gravitational wave lensing

Gravitational waves are *only* altered by **gravitational interactions** with cosmic structures

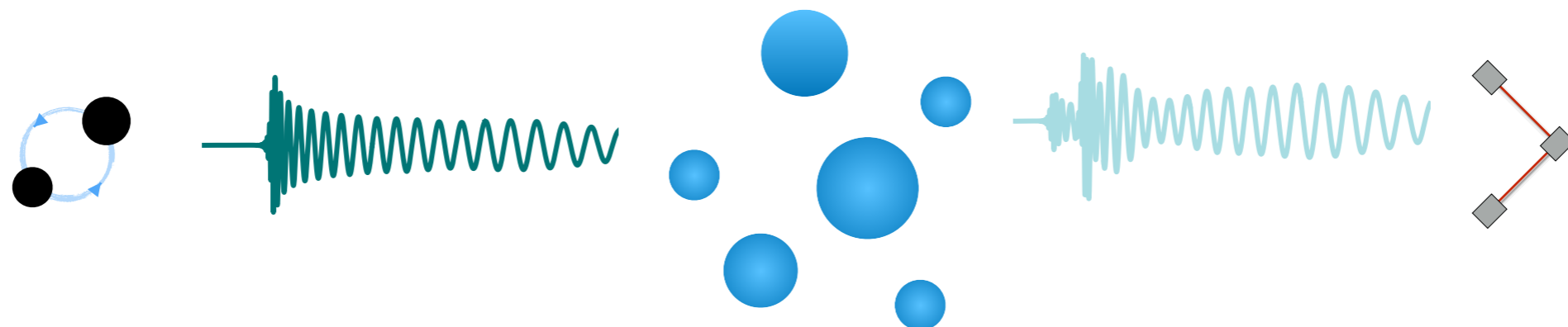


Gravitational lensing - gravitational wave spectrum

Repeated chirps due to strong lensing



Waveform distortions by substructures



Source

Lens

Detector

Gravitational lensing - electromagnetic spectrum



[multiple images]



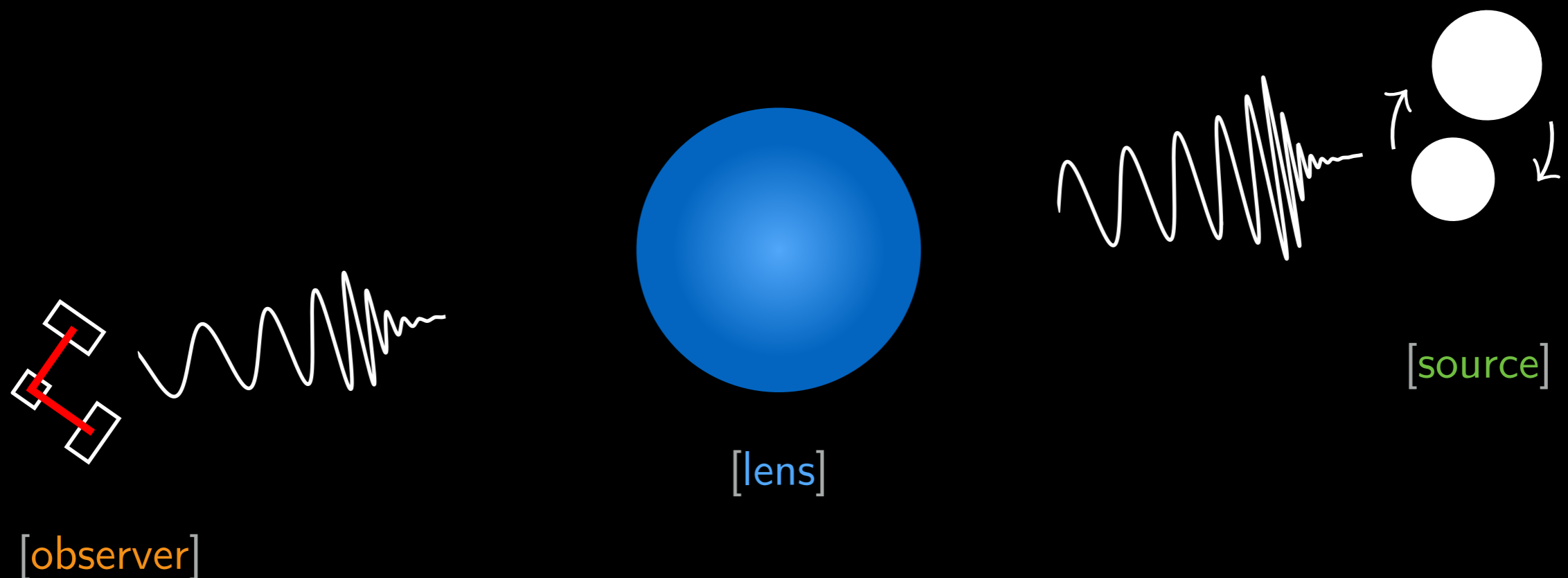
[arcs and rings]

Gravitational lensing

- Solve GW propagation on a **curved** background

$$\square \bar{h}_{\mu\nu} + 2\bar{R}_{\alpha\mu\beta\nu} \bar{h}^{\alpha\beta} = 0$$

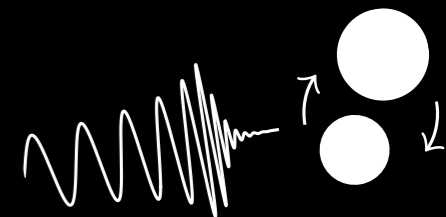
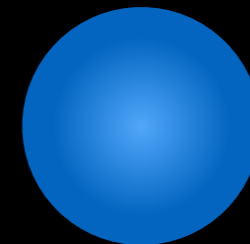
- We want to make a mapping between the **source** and the **observer** through the **lens**



Gravitational lensing

- Solve GW propagation on a **curved** background

$$\square \bar{h}_{\mu\nu} + 2\bar{R}_{\alpha\mu\beta\nu} \bar{h}^{\alpha\beta} = 0$$



- Within **weak-gravity** & **thin lens** approximations, in **Fourier** space:

$$h_L(\omega) = F(\omega, \theta_S) \cdot h(\omega)$$

$$F(\omega, \vec{y}) = \frac{\omega}{2\pi i} \int d^2x \exp[i\omega T_d(\vec{x}, \vec{y})]$$

[Dimensionless variables] $\vec{x} \equiv \vec{\theta}/\theta_*$, $\vec{y} \equiv \vec{\theta}_S/\theta_*$, $\omega \equiv \tau_D \theta_*^2 \omega$

$$T_d \equiv t_d/\tau_D \theta_*^2 \quad \tau_D \equiv (1 + z_L) D_L D_S / c D_{LS}$$

Stationary Phase Approximation

- Solve integral in the limit of highly oscillatory integrand

$$F(w, \vec{y}) = \frac{w}{2\pi i} \int d^2x \exp[iwT_d(\vec{x}, \vec{y})]$$

- Stationary points define the **images**:

$$\left. \frac{\partial t_d}{\partial \theta_a} \right|_{\vec{\theta}=\vec{\theta}_j} = 0$$

$$T_d(\vec{\theta}) \approx T_d(\vec{\theta}_j) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{(a,b)=1}^2 \delta\theta_a \delta\theta_b \frac{\partial^2 T_d(\vec{\theta}_j)}{\partial \theta_a \partial \theta_b} + \dots$$

- Hessian matrix determines magnifications

$$\mu(\theta_j) = 1/\det(T_{ab}(\theta_j))$$

$$T_{ab} \equiv \tau_D^{-1} \partial^2 t_d / \partial \theta_a \partial \theta_b$$

Strong lensing

$$\Delta t_d \cdot \omega \gg 1$$

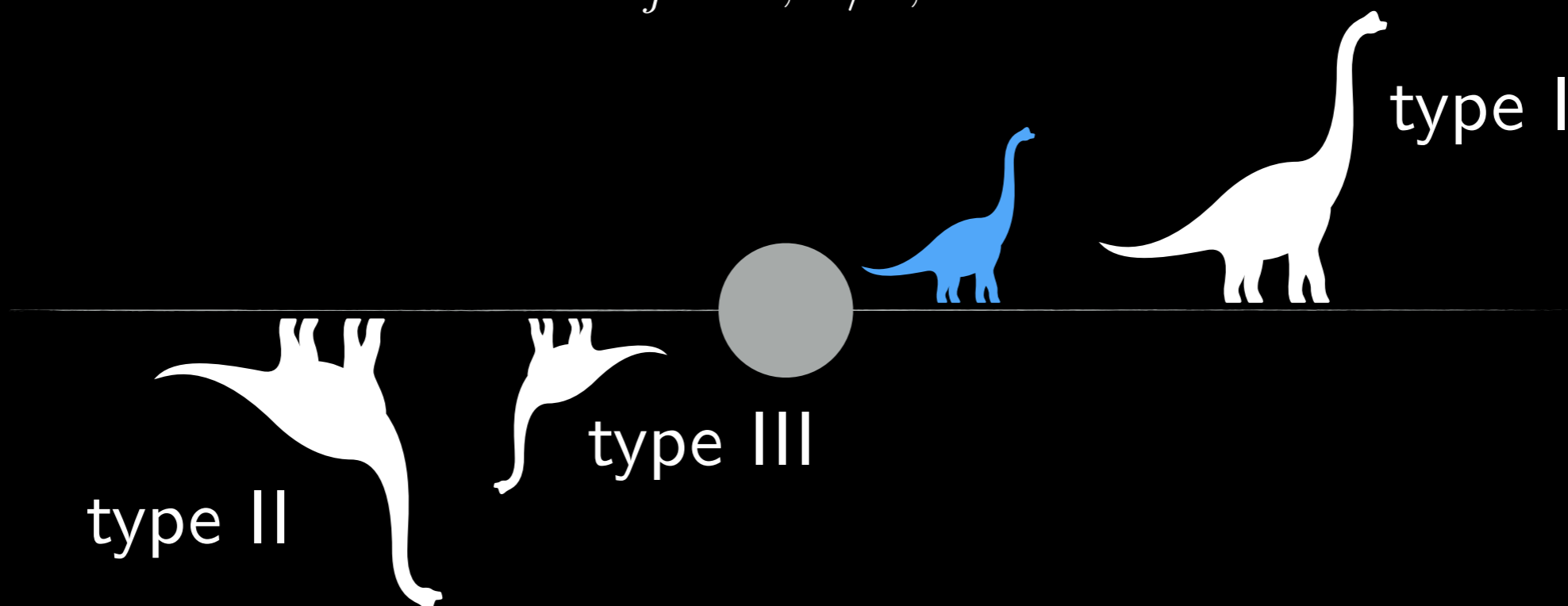
$$h_L(\omega) = F(\omega, \theta_S) \cdot h(\omega)$$

$$F \approx \sum_j |\mu_j|^{1/2} \exp(i\omega t_j - i\pi n_j)$$

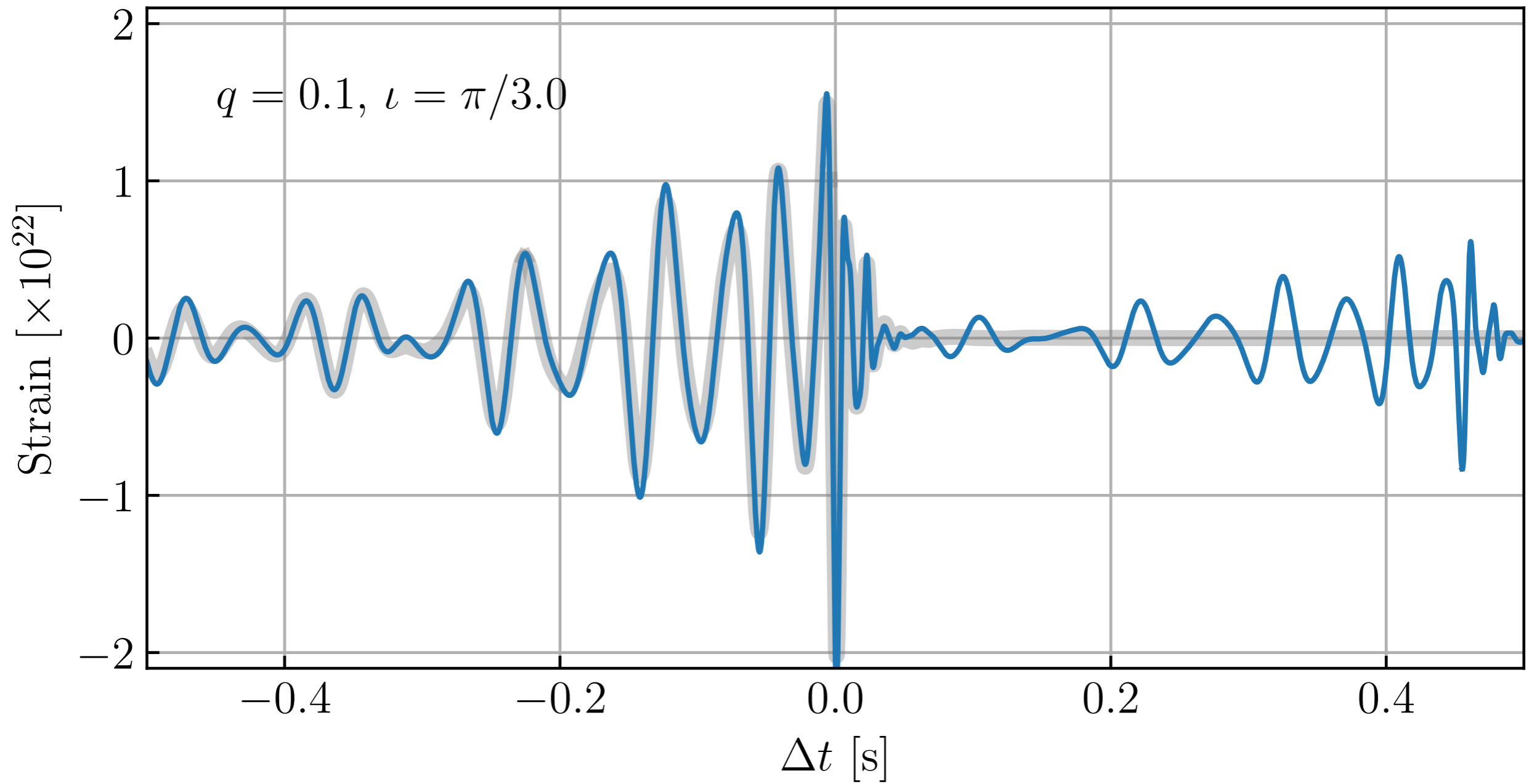
Magnification
Time delay
Phase shift

- Each image type (I, II and III) acquire a different phase shift

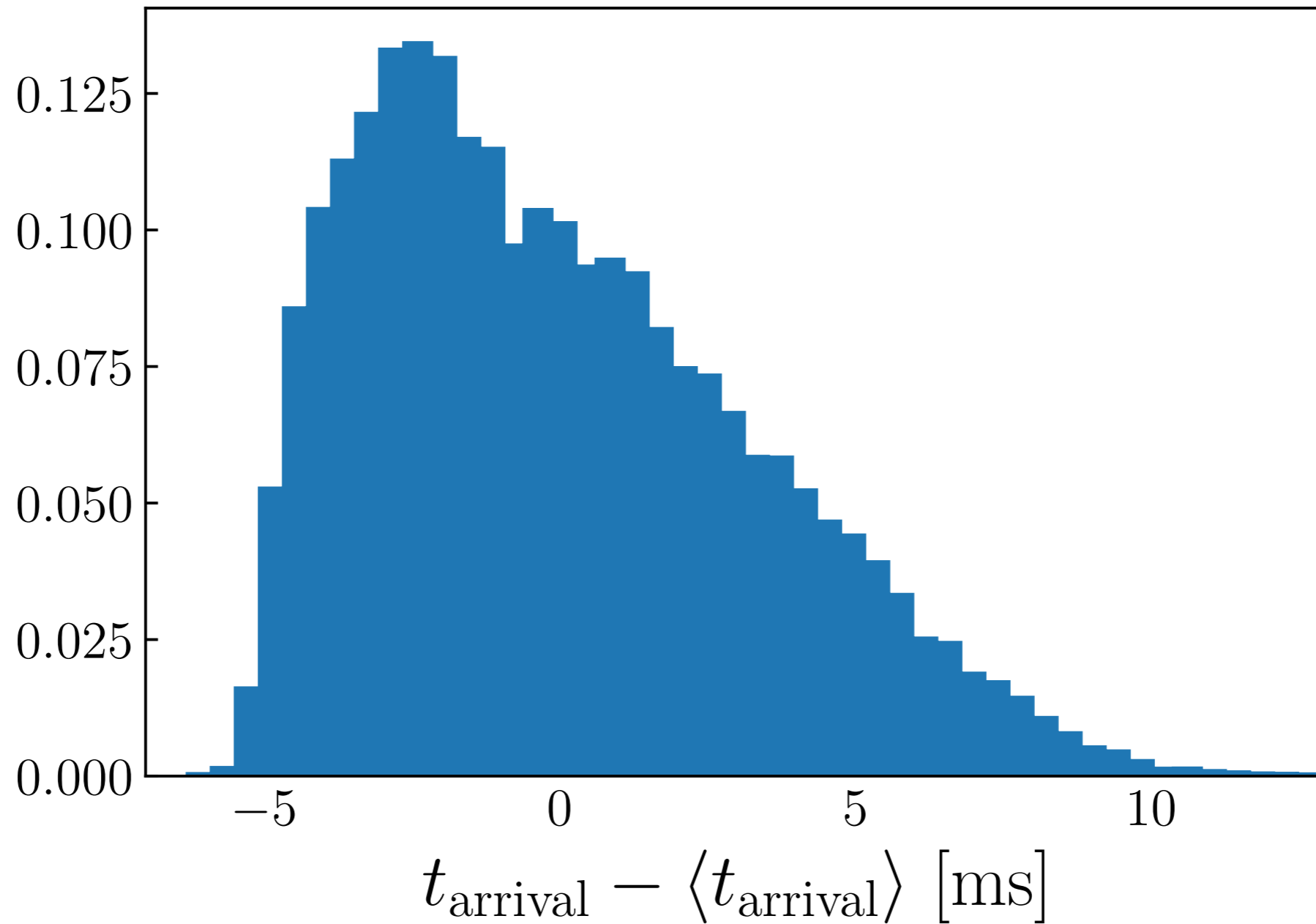
$$n_j = 0, 1/2, 1$$



Repeated, coherent signals

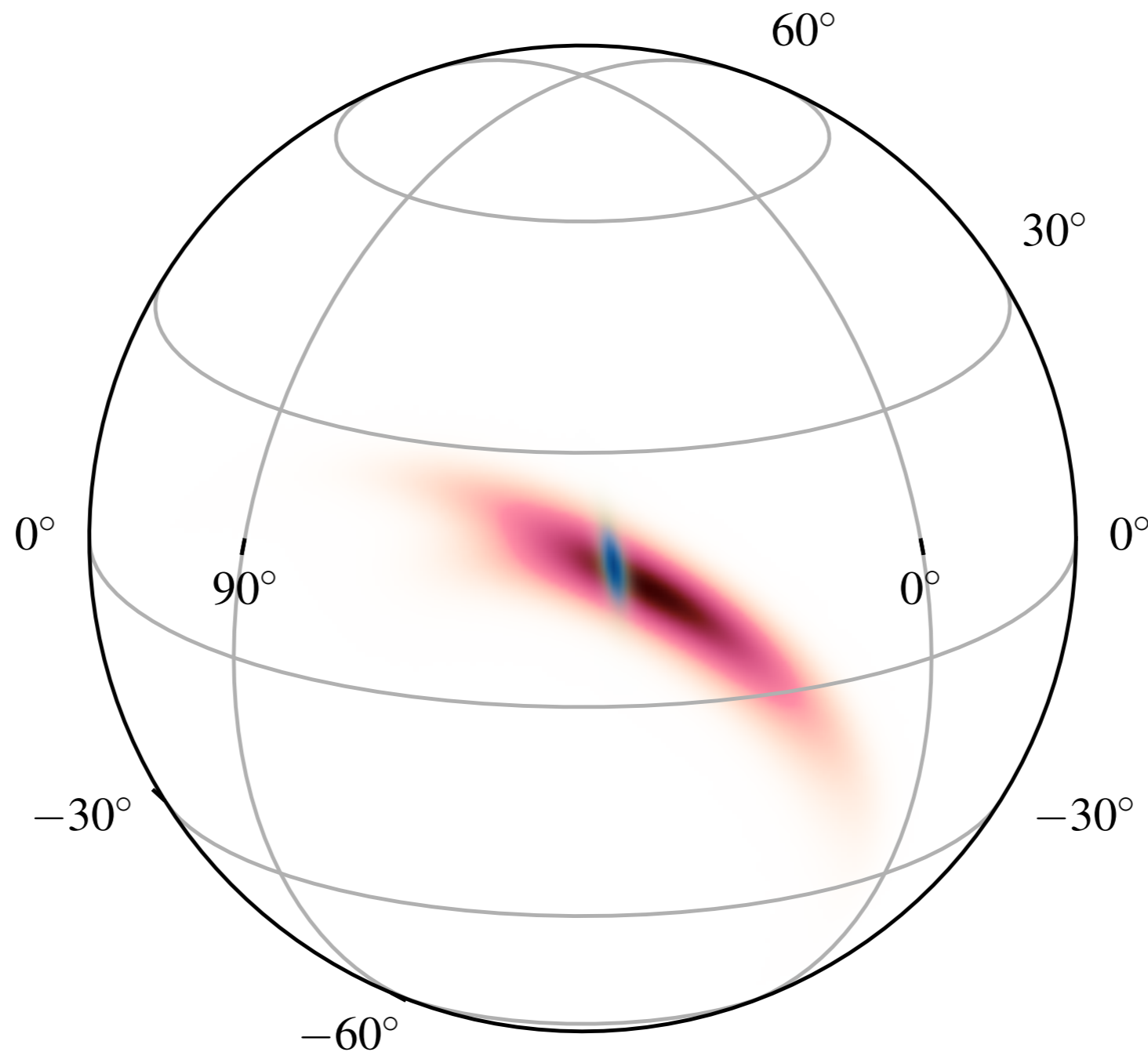


Precise timing



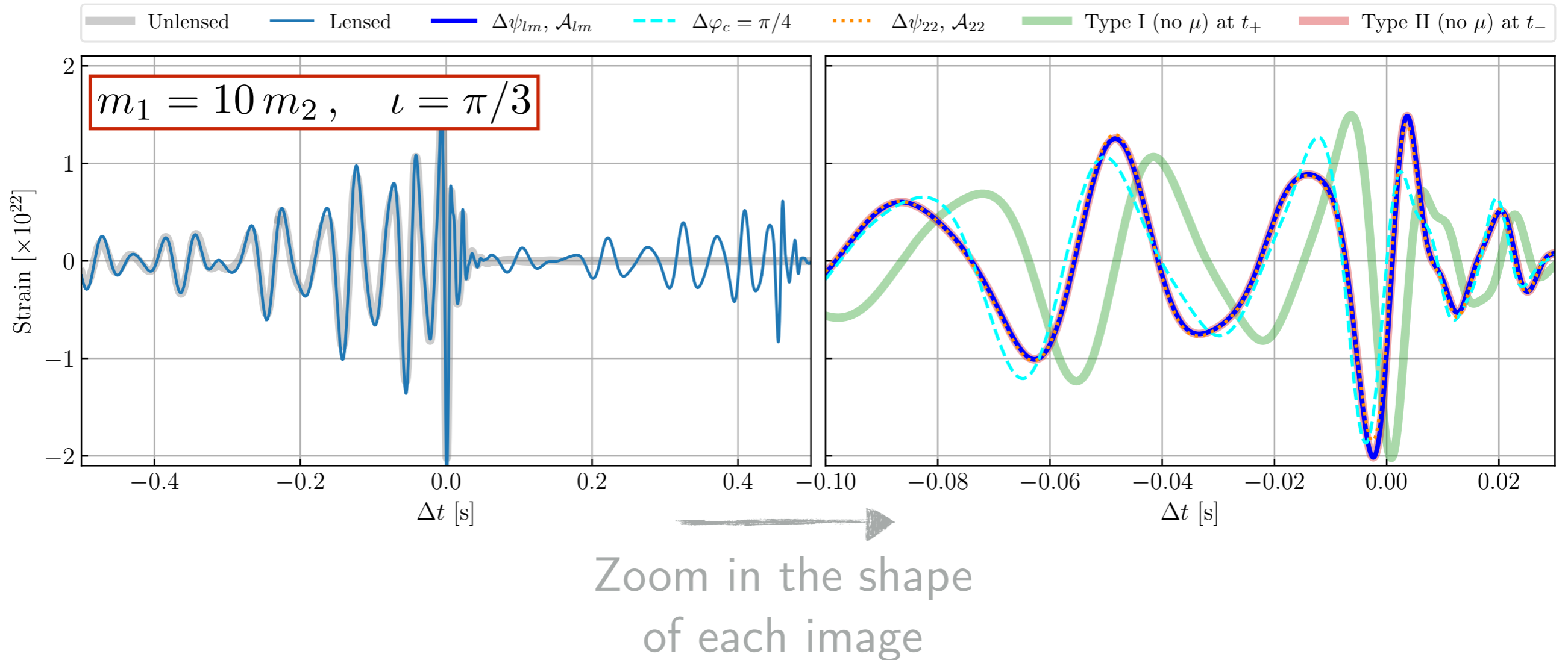
Poor sky localization

$$\theta_E \sim 1'' \sqrt{\frac{M}{10^{12} M_\odot}} \sqrt{\frac{1 \text{ Gpc}}{D}}$$

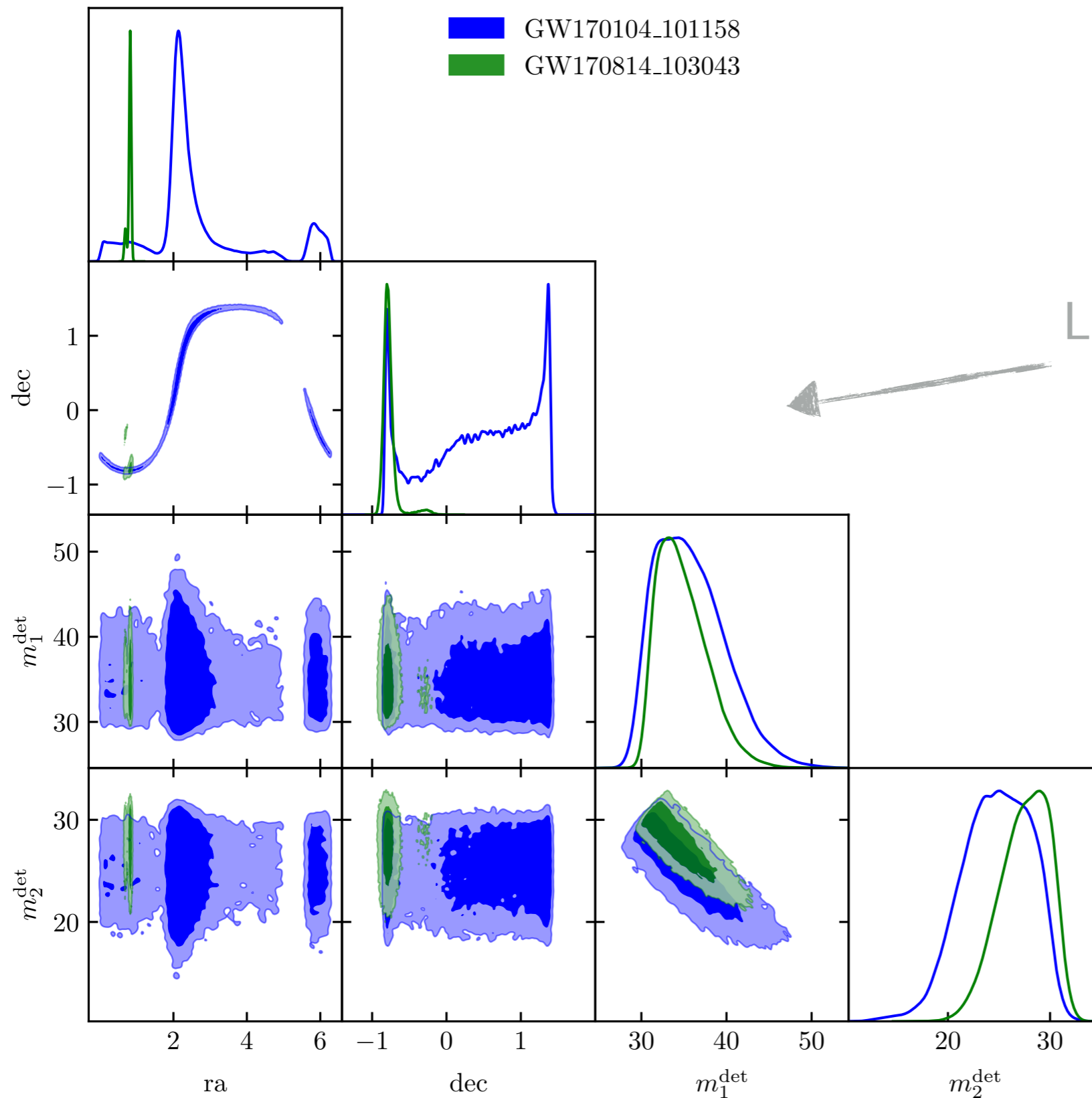


Waveform distortions in **type II** images

- Lensing imprints *small* but *characteristic* modifications in the signals that cannot be mapped to other astrophysical parameters

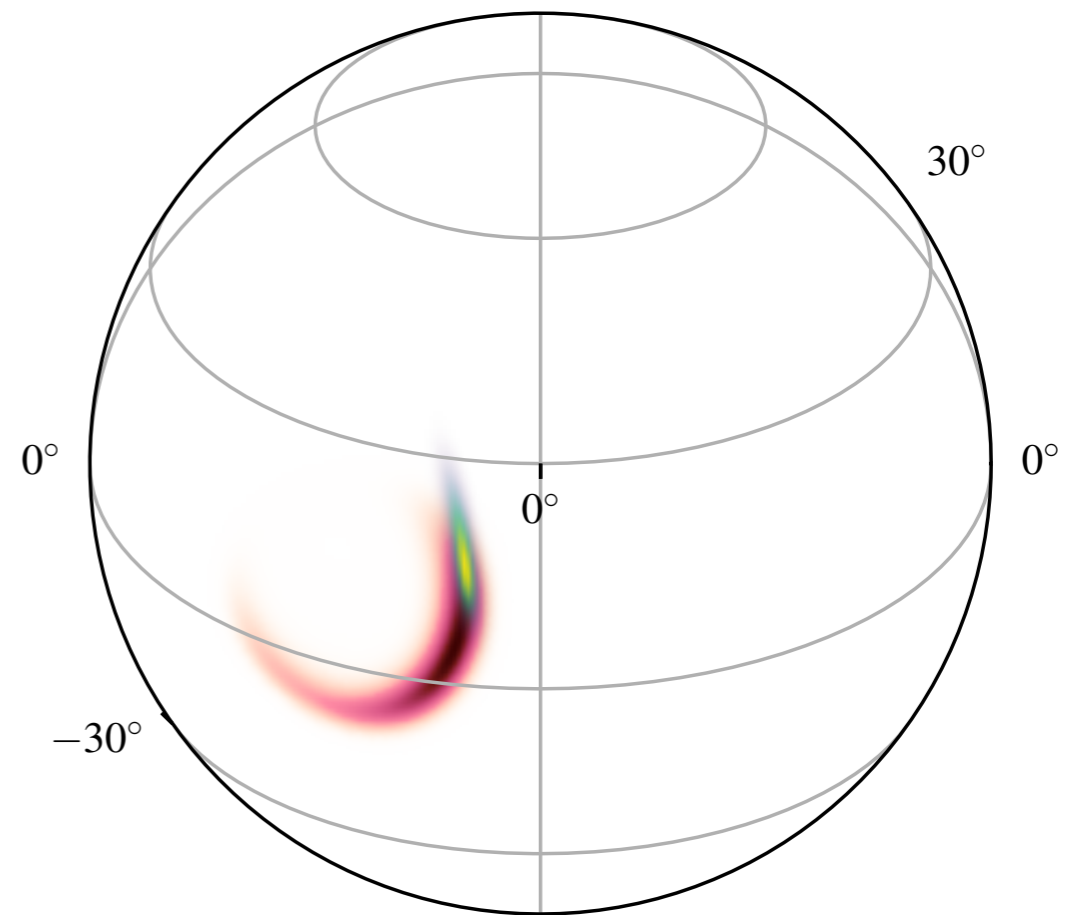
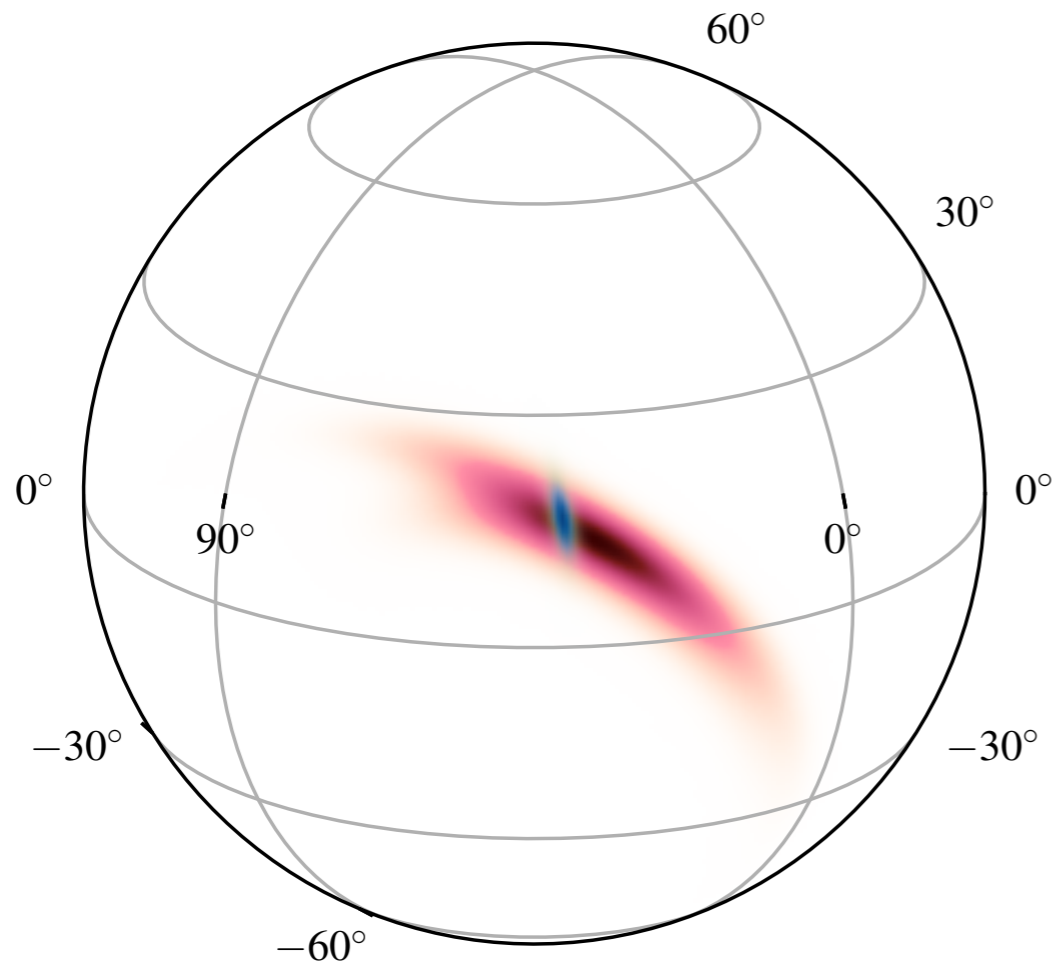
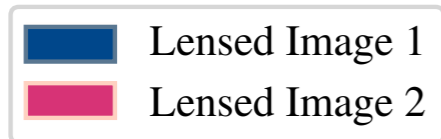


Searching for repeated chirps



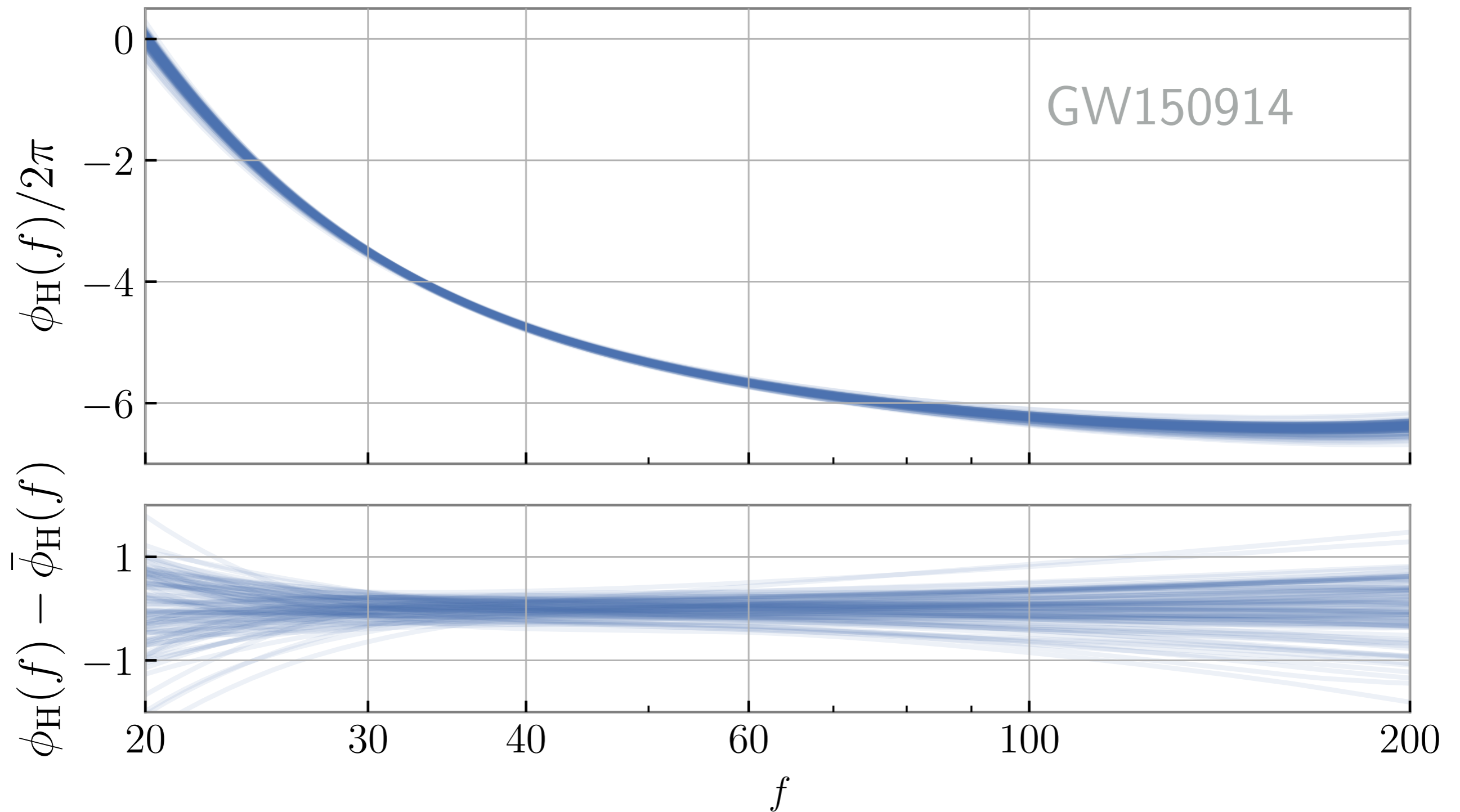
Look for events with similar properties: masses, sky positions, spins...

Searching for repeated chirps

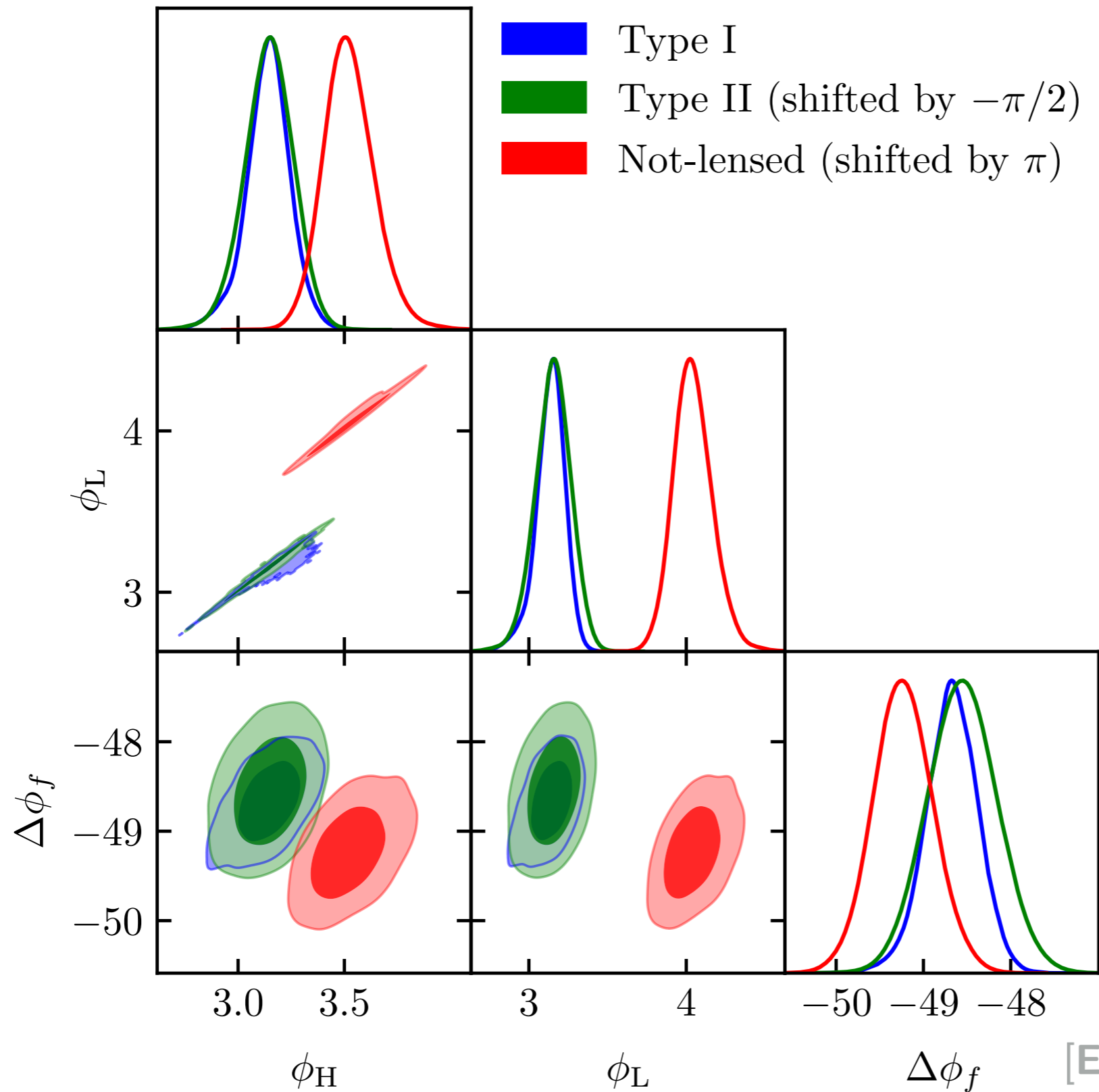


$$N_{\text{false alarm}} \sim N^2$$

Fight false alarms: **phase consistency**



Fight false alarms: **phase consistency**



Wave optics

$$\Delta t_d \cdot \omega$$

- Time delay scales with the lens mass

$$\Delta t_d(y = 1) \simeq 4 \left(\frac{(1 + z_L) M_L}{100 M_\odot} \right) \text{ ms} \quad [\text{point mass lens}]$$

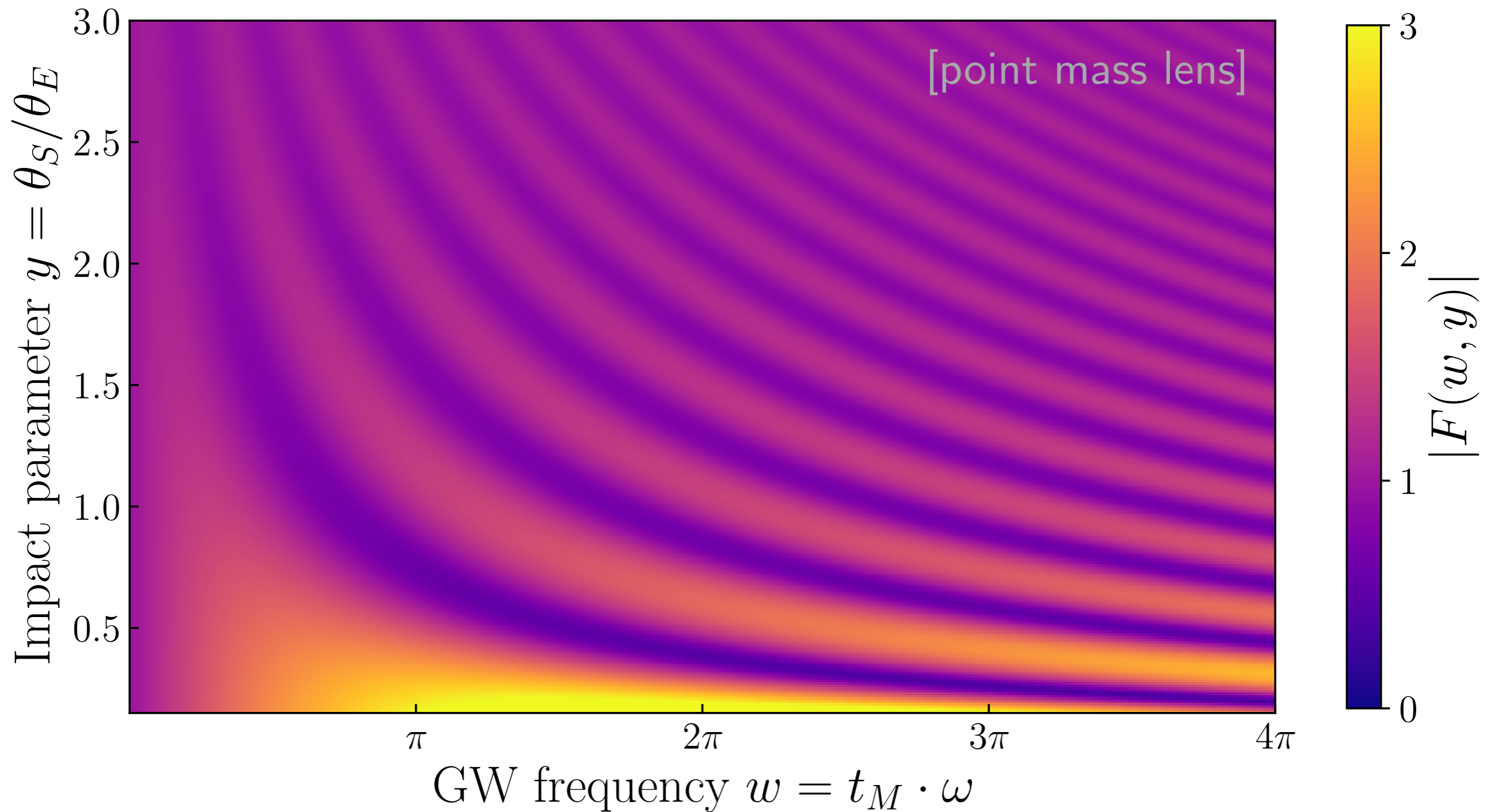
- GW frequency scales with binary mass (*has astrophysical size!*)

$$f \sim \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{1}{2t_{\text{Sch}}} \sim 800 \text{ Hz} \left(\frac{10 M_\odot}{M} \right)$$

- Wave optics regime: $\Delta t_d \cdot \omega \sim 1$

- Low-frequency limit has small lensing $\omega \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow F \rightarrow 1$

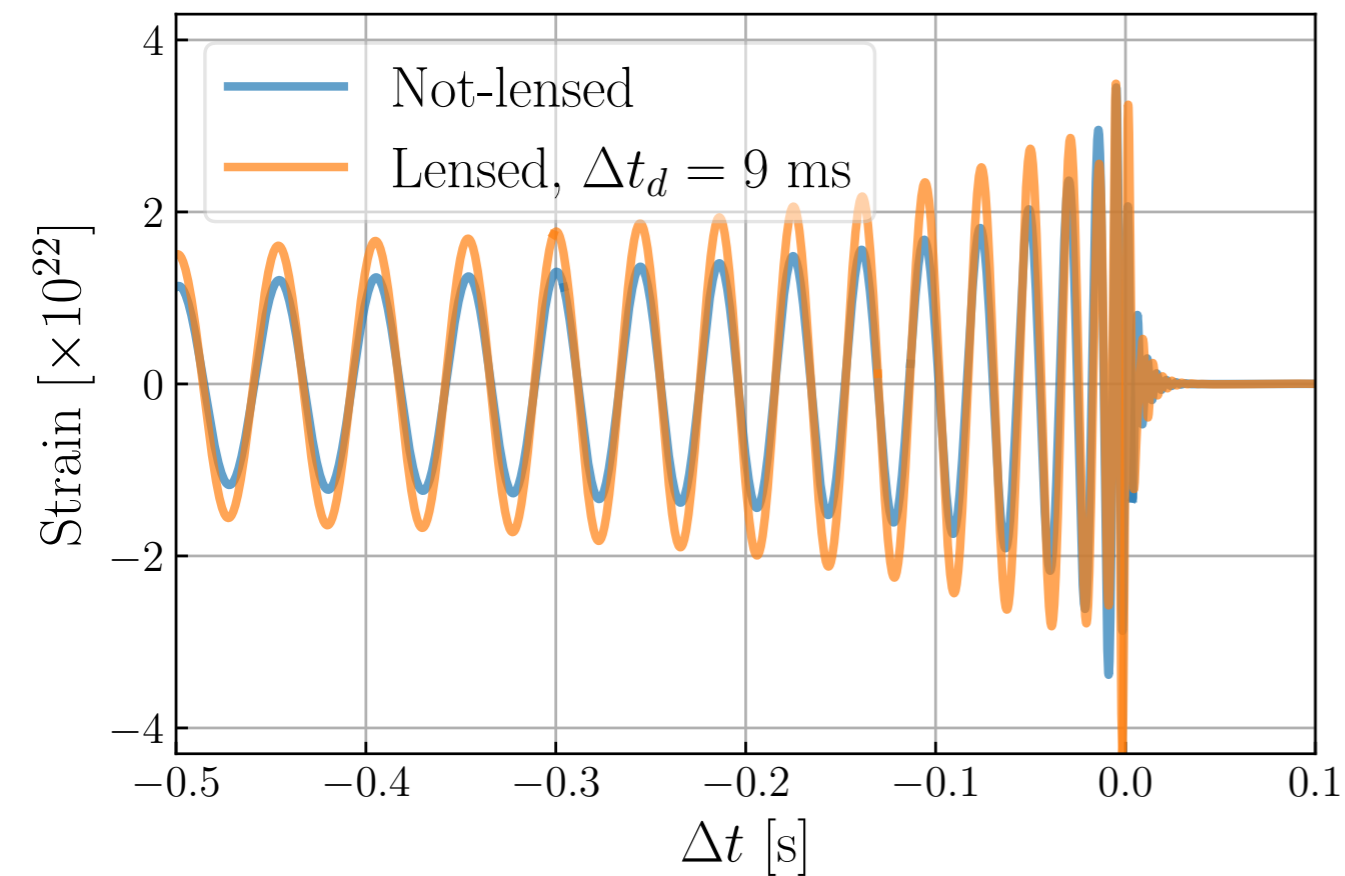
Wave optics: diffraction



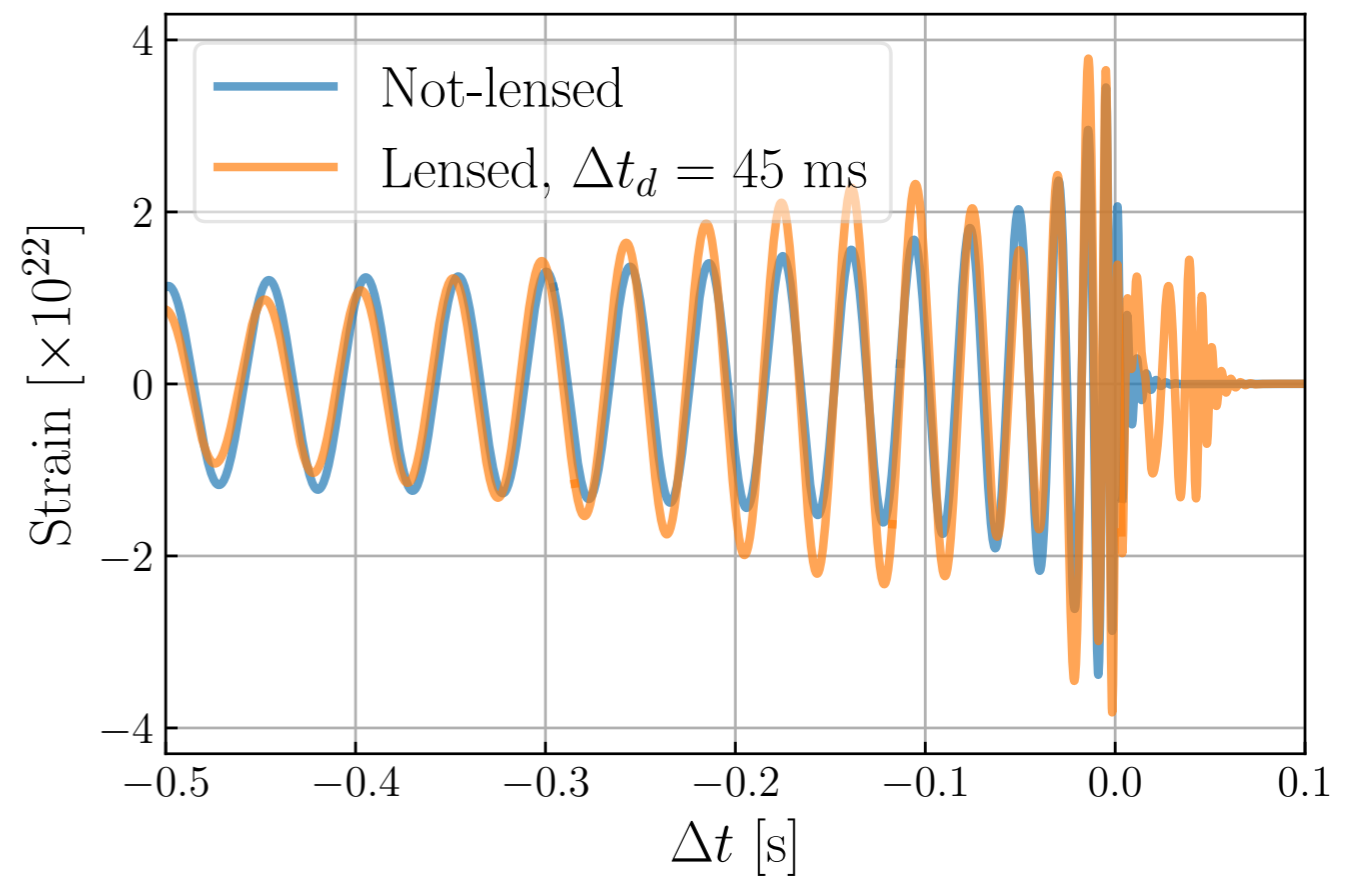
E.g. compact (point) lenses

$$\Delta t_d(y = 1) \simeq 4 \left(\frac{(1 + z_L) M_L}{100 M_\odot} \right) \text{ ms}$$

Diffraction

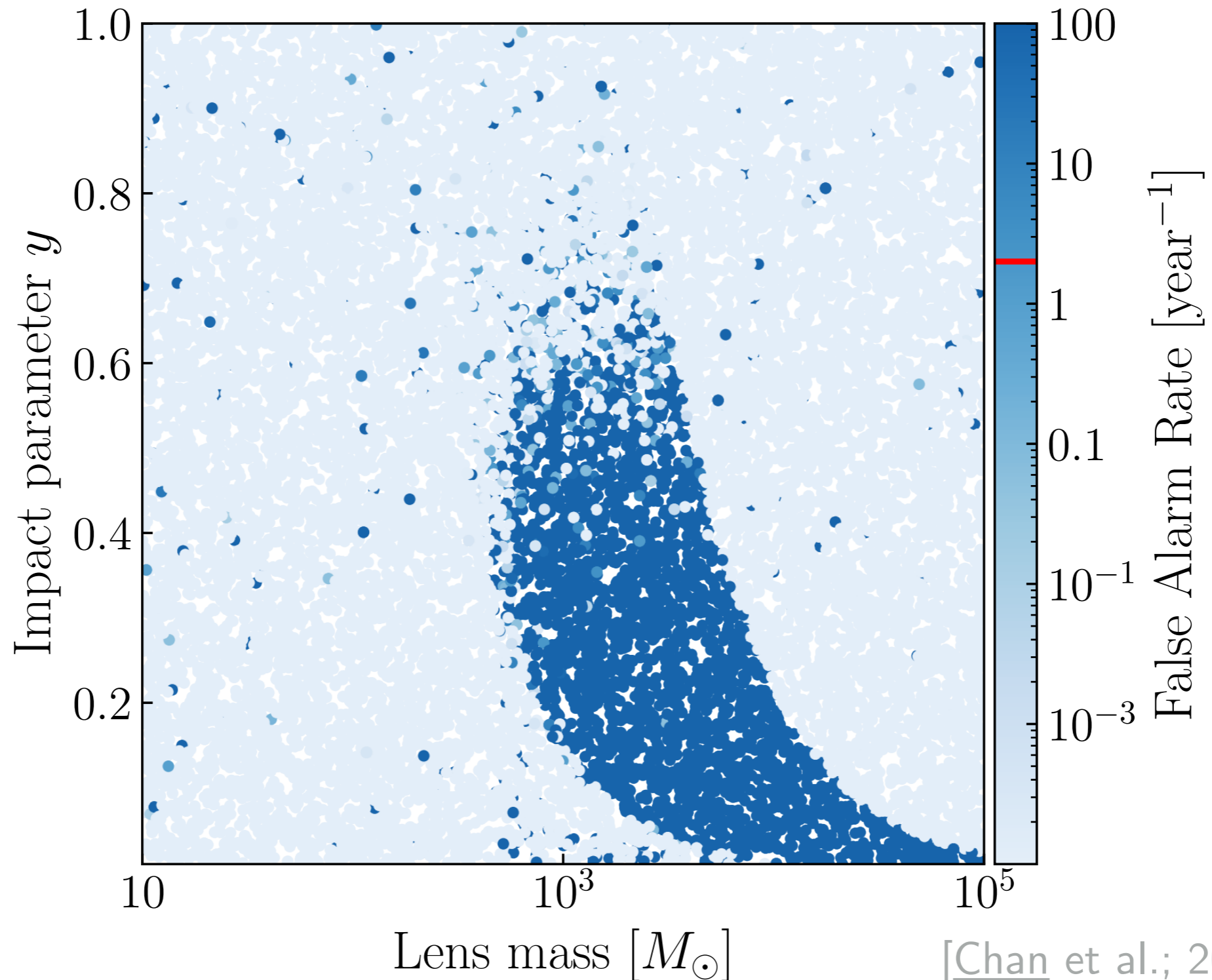


Interference



Searching for distorted lensed GWs

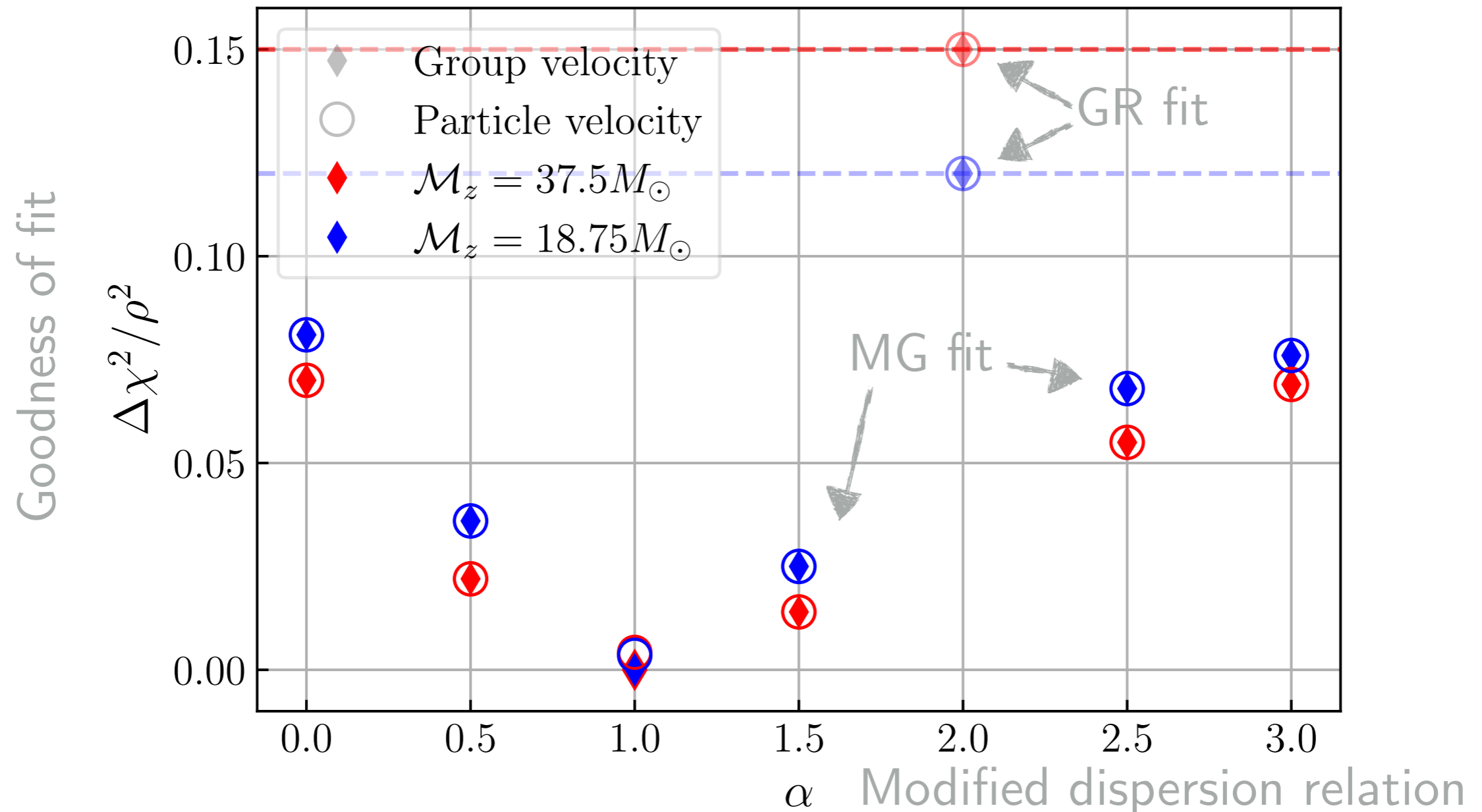
- Highly distorted waveforms could be missed by current searches



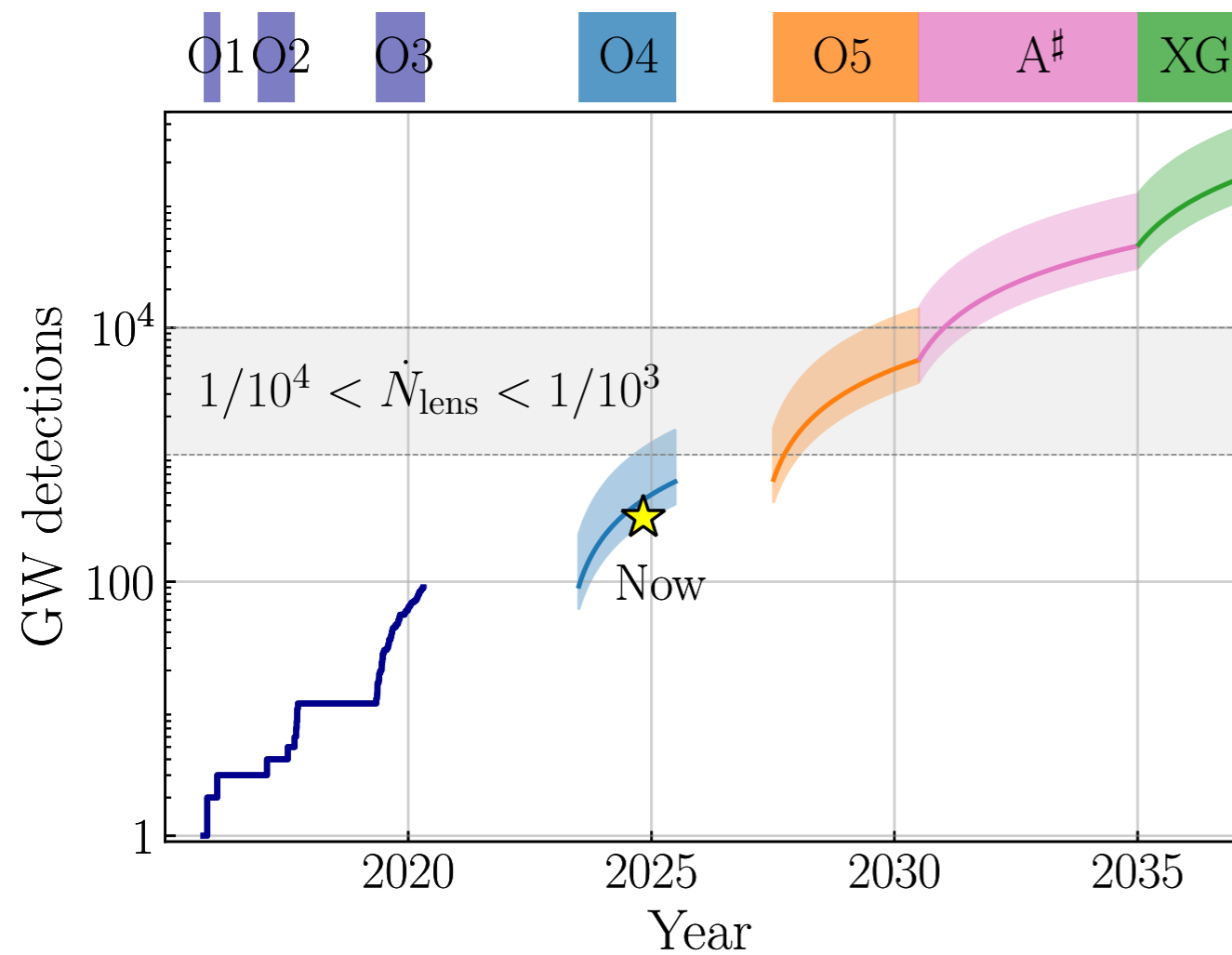
False violations of general relativity

- Lensed waveforms can be different from (unlensed) general relativity waveforms
- **E.g.** type II images

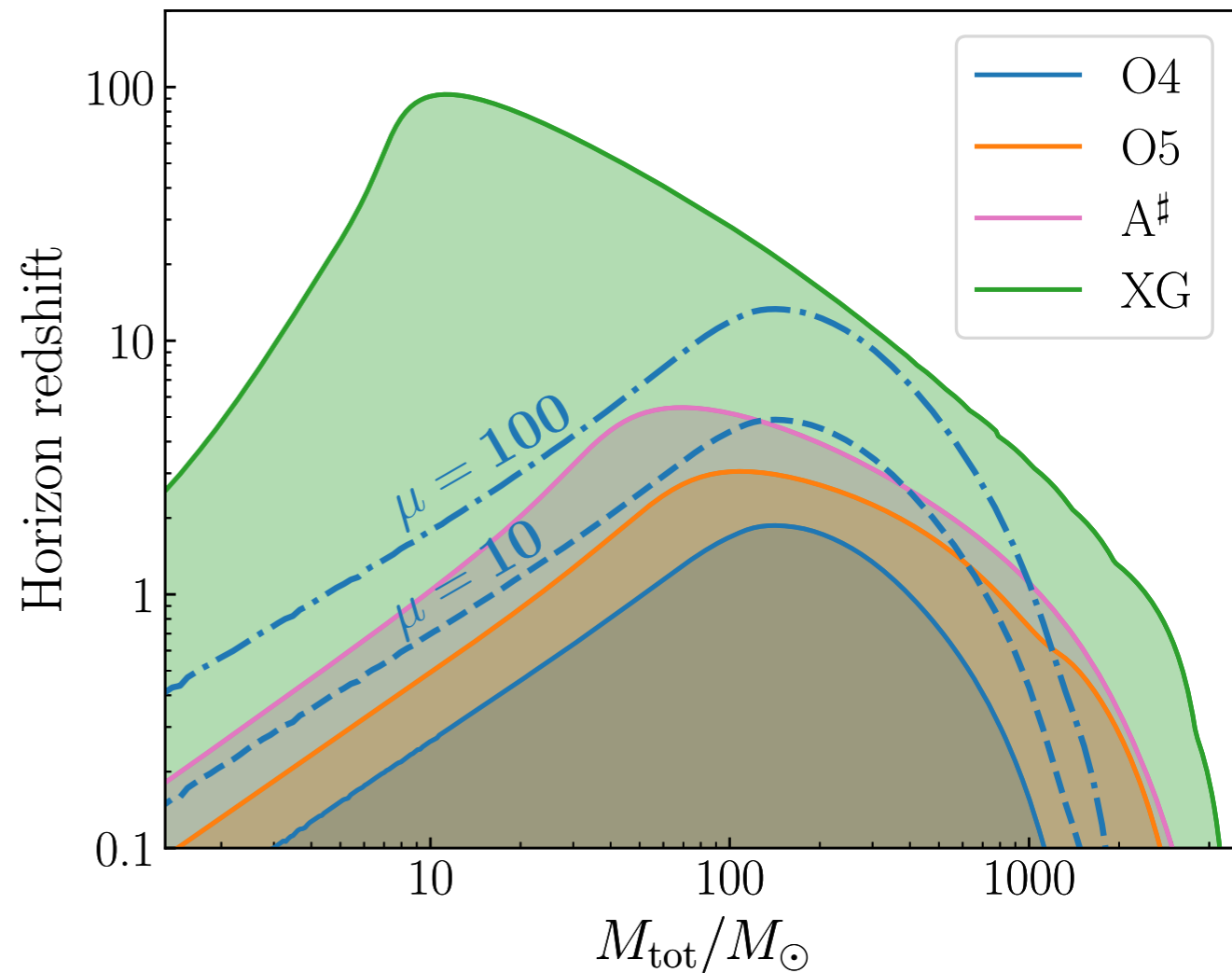
[Ezquiaga, *et al.*; JCAP'22]



Gravitational wave lensing: expanding horizons

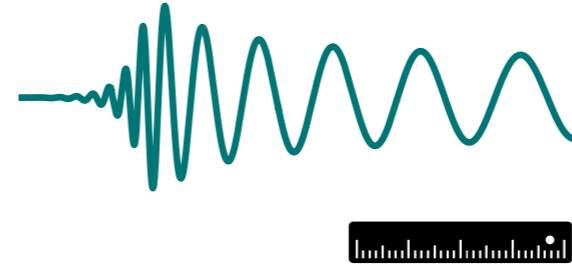
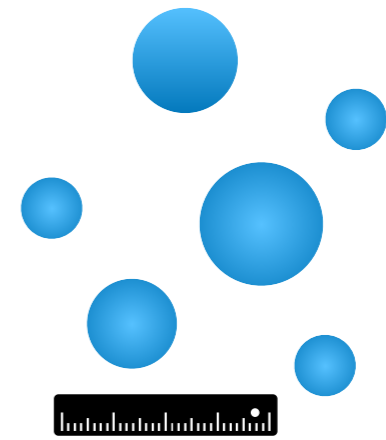
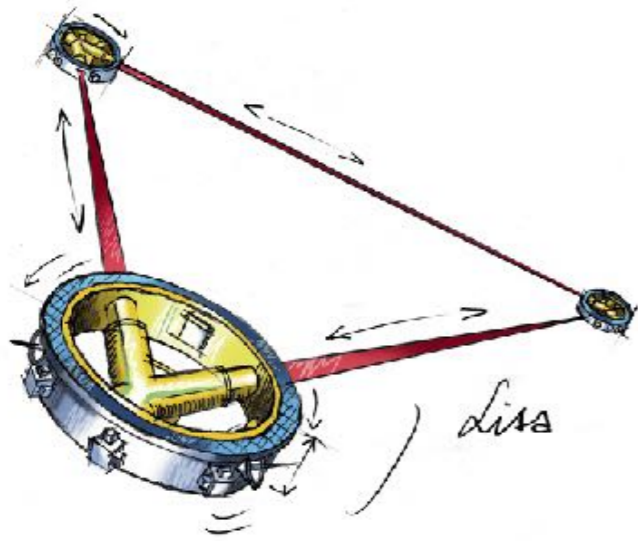


[[Xu](#), [Ezquiaga](#), [Holz](#); ApJ'21]

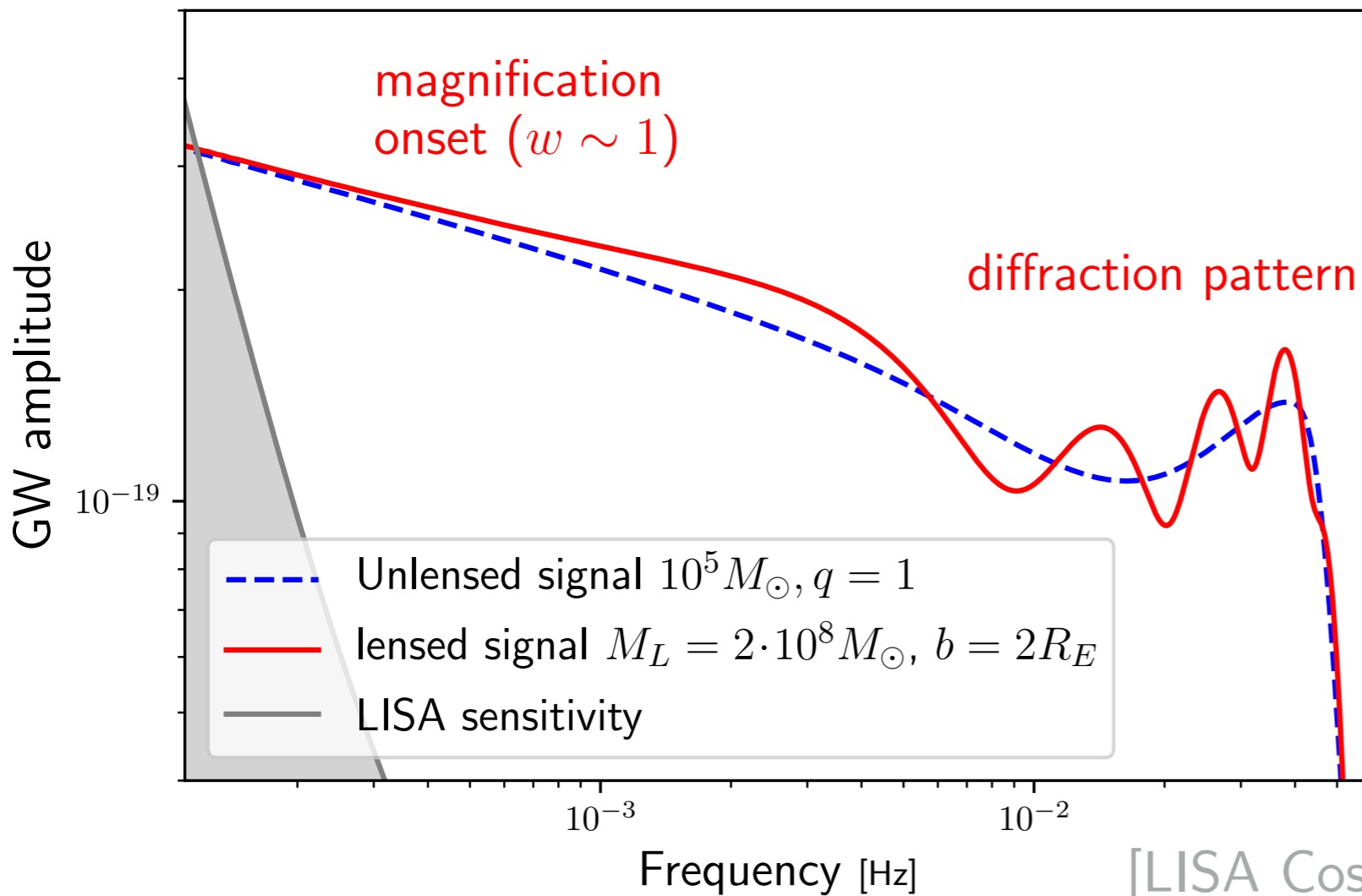


[[Lo](#), [Vujeva](#), [Ezquiaga](#), [Chan](#); 2024]

Probing *dark matter* structures

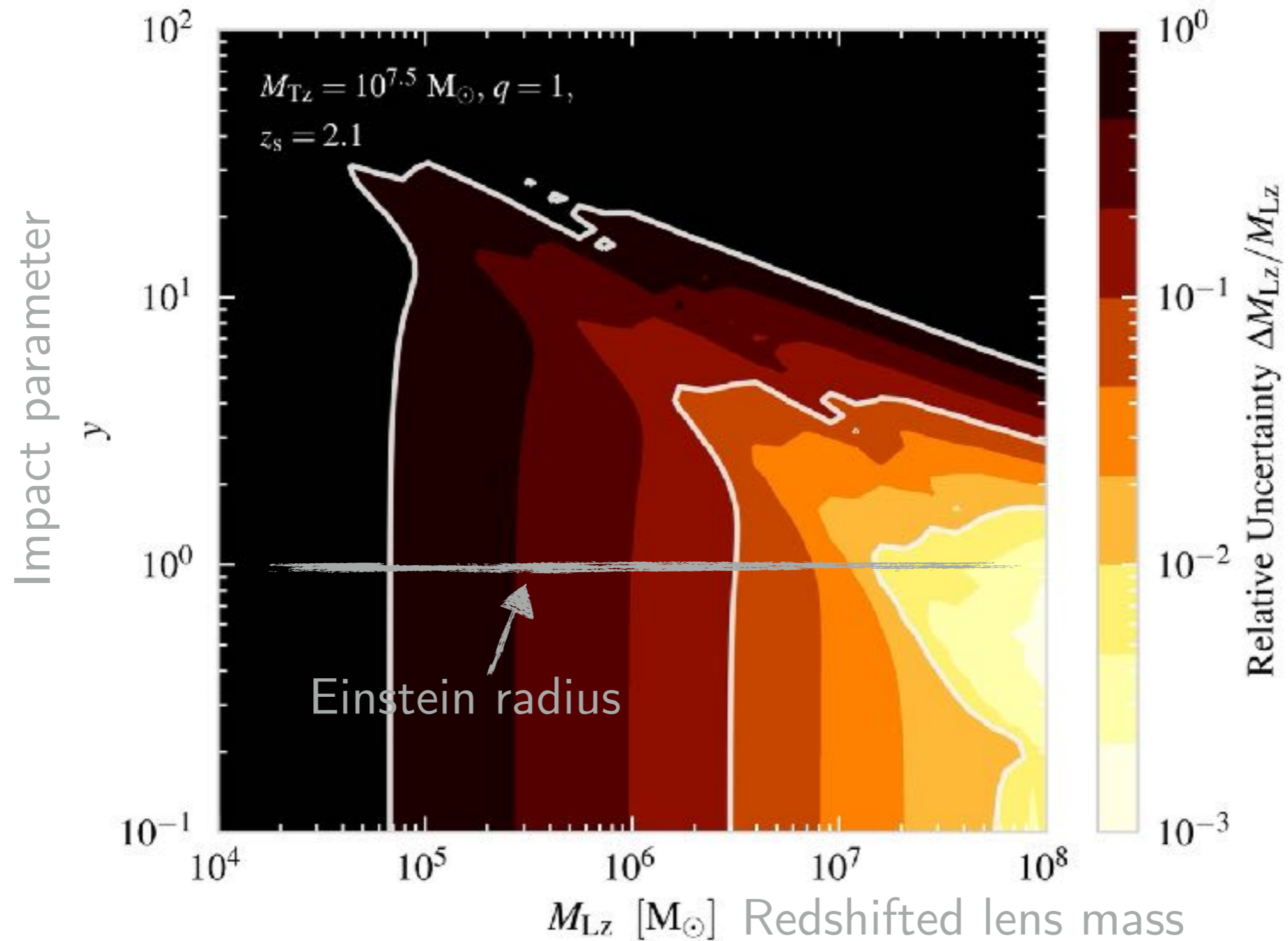


$$\lambda_{\text{gw}} \sim 10^3 \text{ km} \left(\frac{M_{\text{bbh}}}{10 M_{\odot}} \right)$$



[LISA Cosmo white paper]

Increased optical depth in wave optics



4. Key takeaways

- Gravitational waves are *only* altered by *gravitational interactions* with cosmic structures
- Strong lensing may produce *repeated chirps*. Searching for them is difficult, but first detections is around the corner
- Gravitational waves may be diffracted by cosmic structures producing *distorted waveforms*. This is unique!
- There are other unique observational signatures as phase shifts in *type II images*
- Lensed gravitational waves can probe small *compact lenses* and *dark matter subhalos*

Conclusions

Gravitational waves are precious cosmological probes:

- Well understood signals from general relativity
- Coherent detection of waveform
- Expansion rate at high redshift $H(z)$ with **binary black holes** mergers
- Probing origin of the observed black holes and dark matter substructures via **lensing**
- Future of gravitational wave astronomy is exciting.
Join us!

There are **MANY** other things I did not have time to cover:

- cross correlations with other surveys
- stochastic backgrounds
- neutron star equation of state
- tests of gravity
-

Muchas gracias!



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ezquiaga.github.io/joinus

