



# Ground-based gravitational-wave astronomy

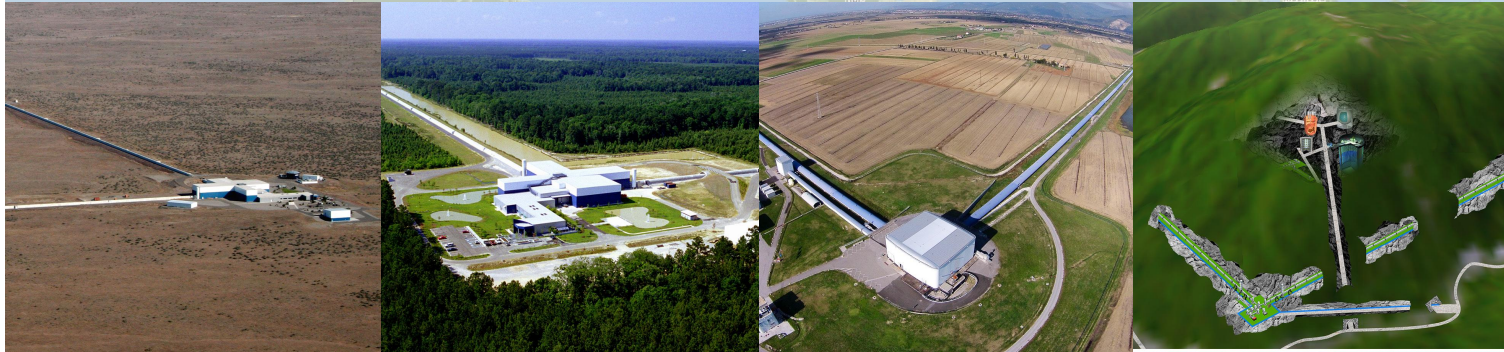
Patrick Brady,  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

for the LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Collaboration  
28 February 2024

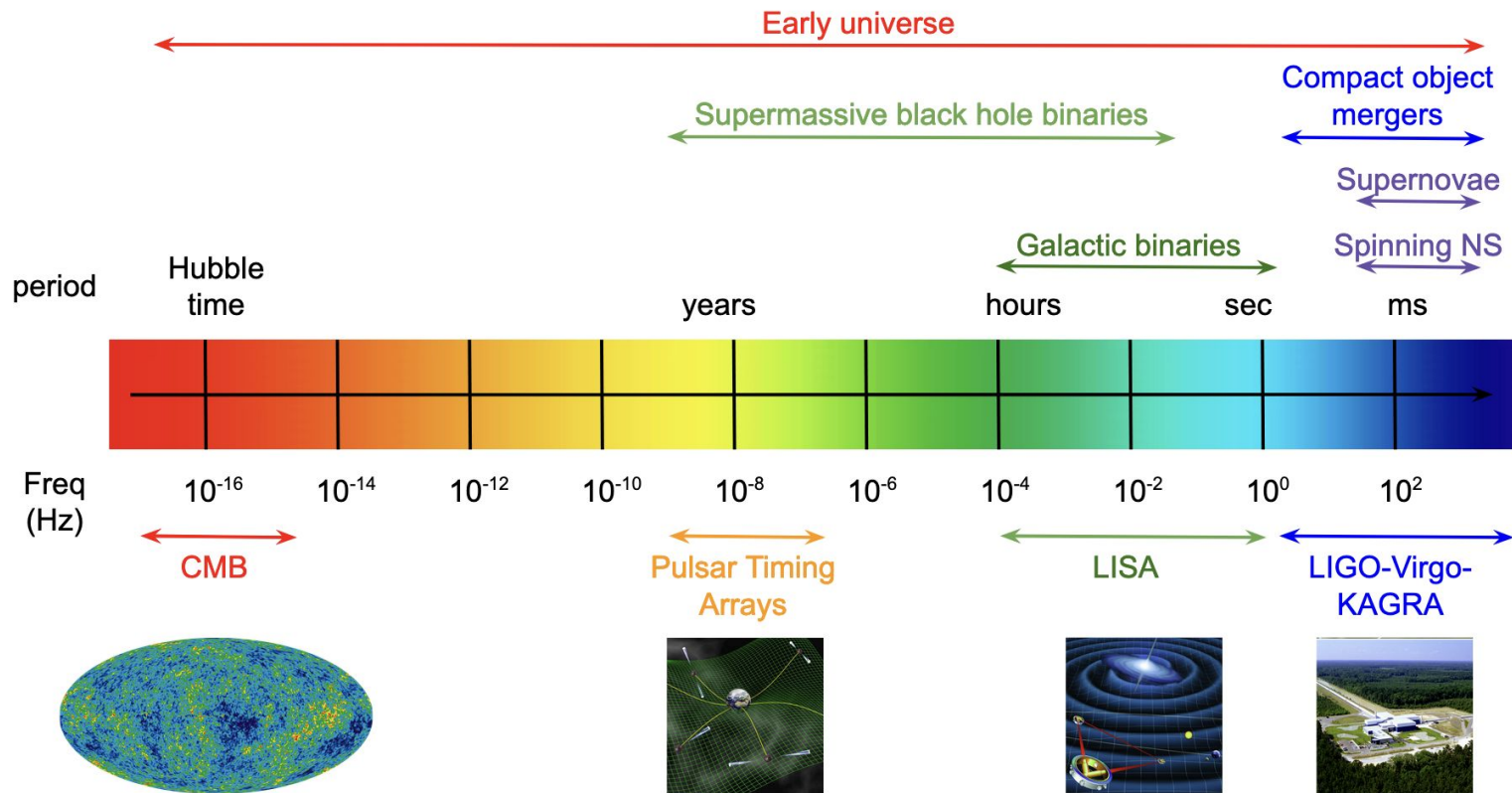


<https://dcc.ligo.org/G2400437>

# International Gravitational-Wave Observatory Network (IGWN)



# Gravitational-wave spectrum

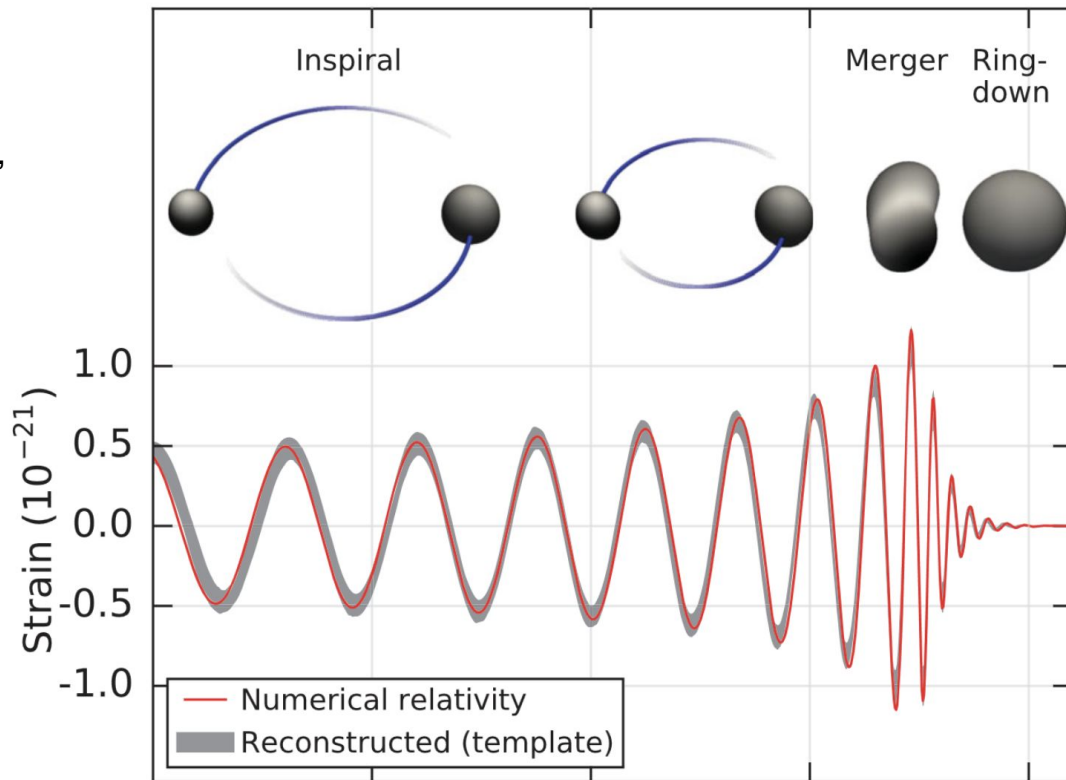


Adapted from: Romano, J.D., Cornish, N.J.  
 Living Rev Relativ 20, 2 (2017).  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s41114-017-0004-1>

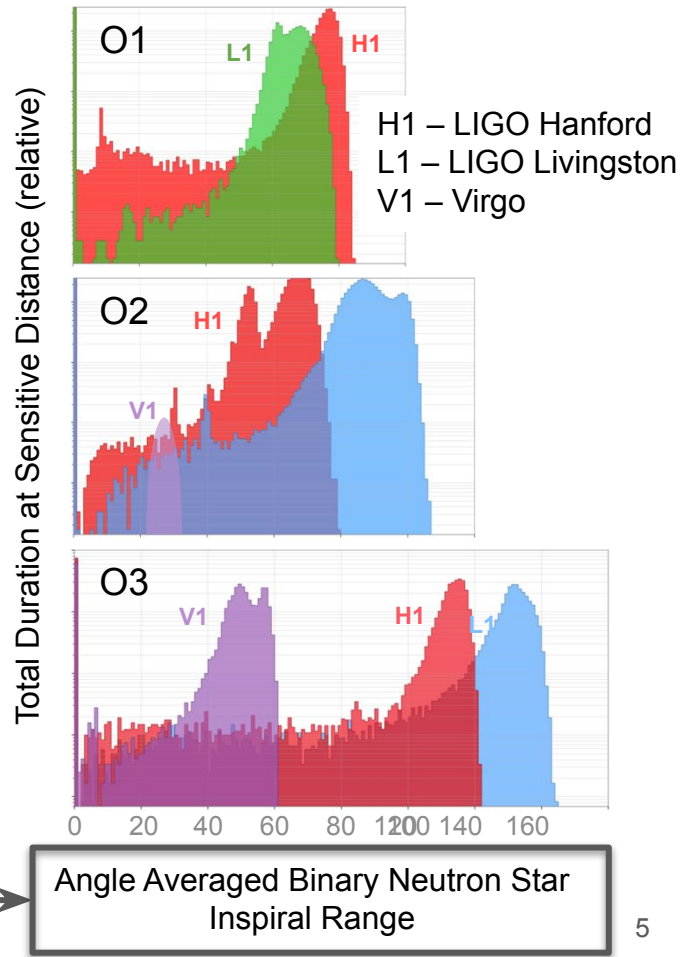
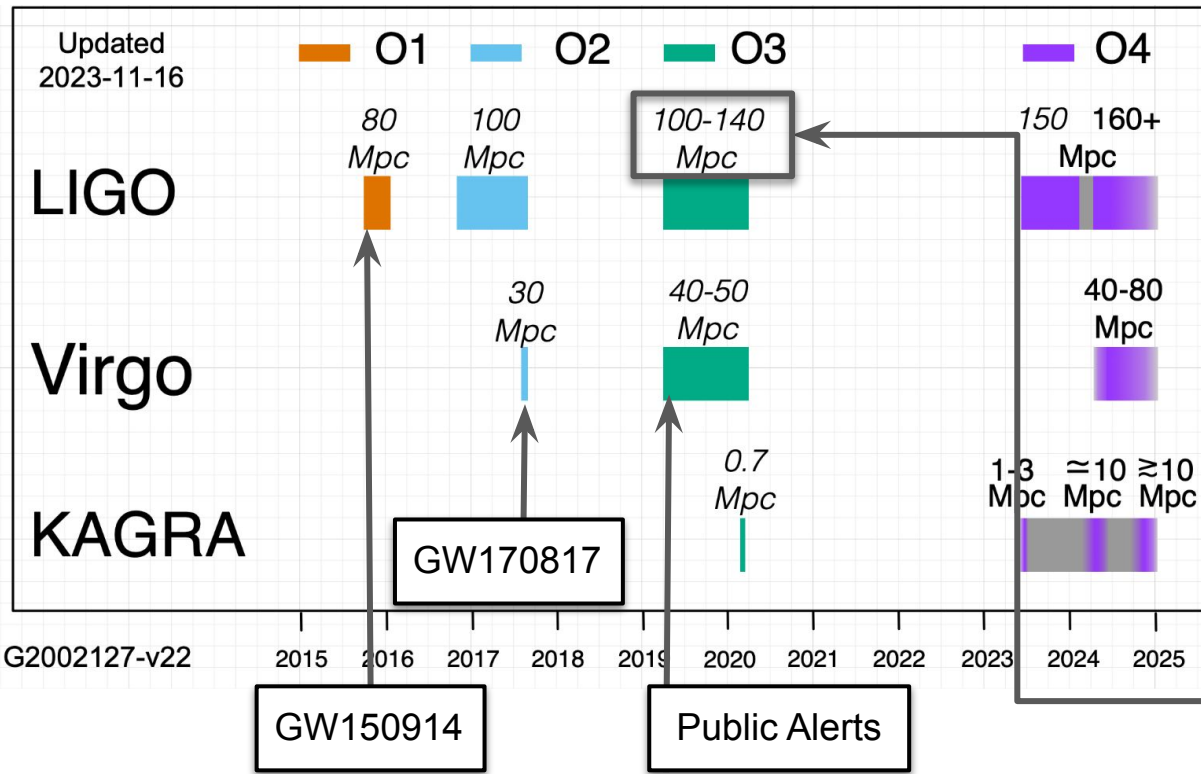
# Compact object mergers

Pairs of stellar-mass black holes, neutron stars, or a stellar-mass black hole and neutron star

$$h_{ij} \sim \frac{4GM}{c^4} \frac{v^2}{r}$$



# Observing runs



# The fourth observing run (O4)

- O4 started 24 May 2023: 20 months with up to 2 months commissioning
  - Virgo delayed due to damage to optics; KAGRA renewed commissioning after 1 month.
- Binary detection rates
  - O3 ~ 1 / 5 days
  - O4 ~ 1 / (2.8 days)
- Improved public alerts
  - Localization
  - Classification
  - Latency
  - Early-warning alerts
  - Low-significance alerts
- Improved sensitivity
  - > 150Mpc BNS range

GraceDB Public Alerts ▾ Latest Search Documentation Login

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


O4 Significant Detection Candidates: **81** (92 Total - 11 Retracted)

O4 Low Significance Detection Candidates: **1610** (Total)

[Show All Public Events](#)

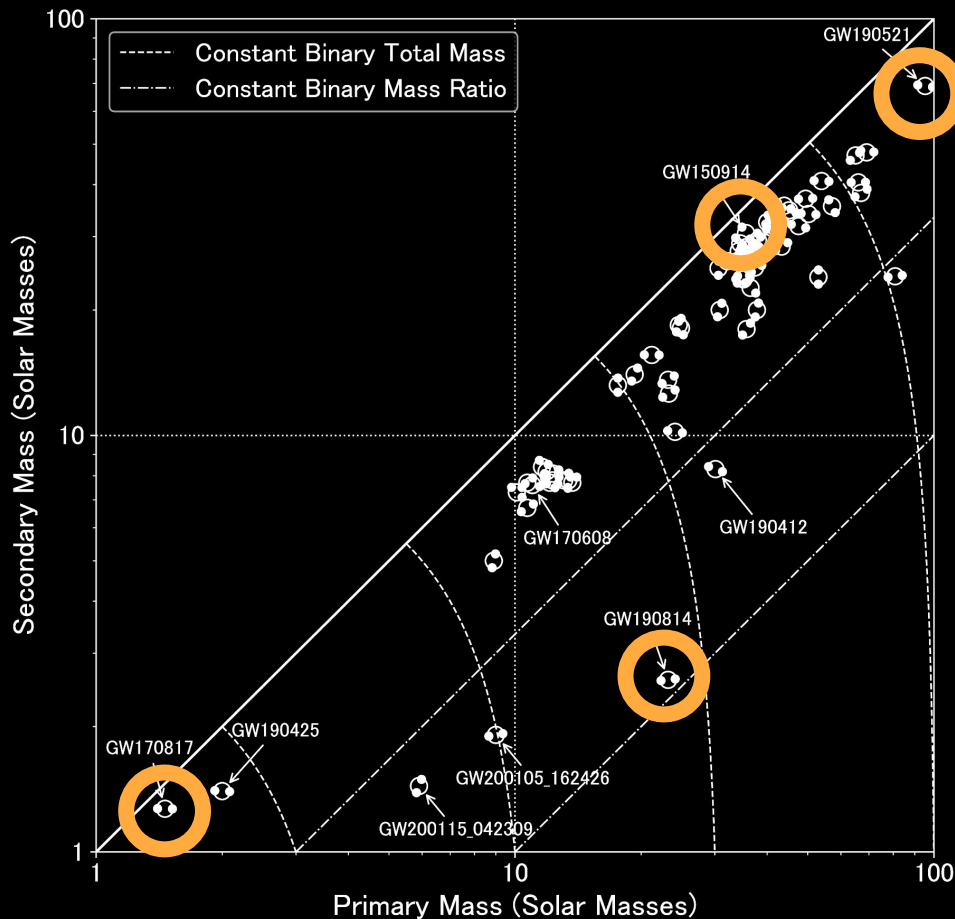
Page 1 of 7, [next](#) [last](#) ▸

SORT: EVENT ID (A-Z) ▾

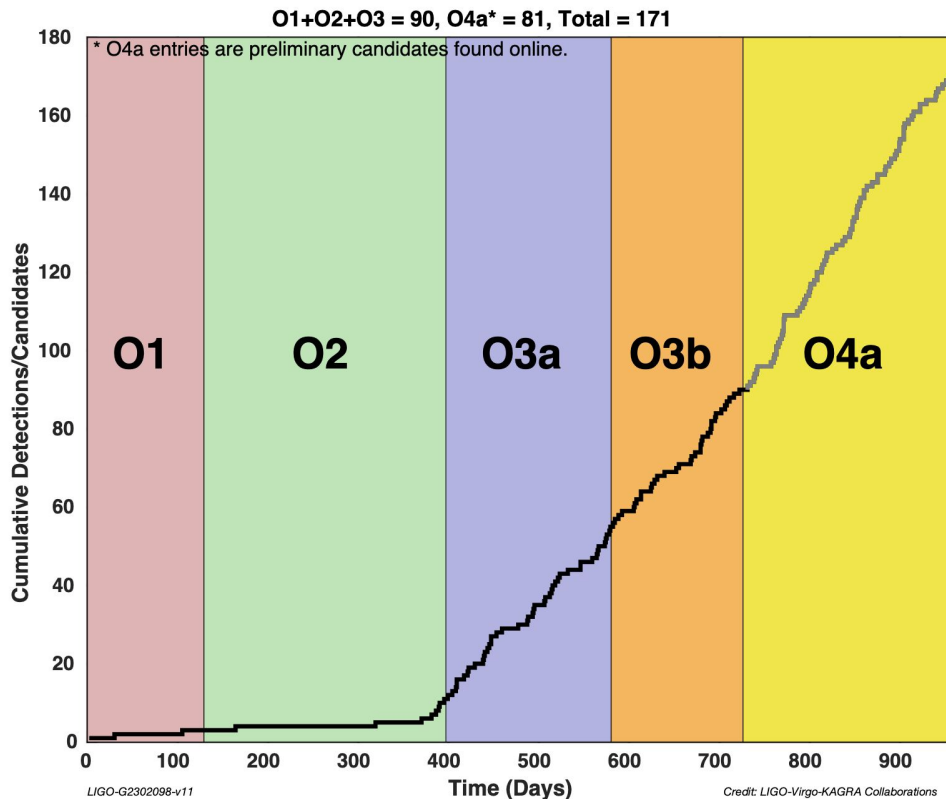
Event ID	Possible Source (Probability)	Significant	UTC	GCN	Location	FAR	Comments
S240109a	BBH (99%)	Yes	Jan. 9, 2024 05:04:31 UTC	<a href="#">GCN Circular</a> <a href="#">Query</a> <a href="#">Notices   VOE</a>		1 per 4.3136 years	
S240107b	BBH (97%), Terrestrial (3%)	Yes	Jan. 7, 2024 01:32:15 UTC	<a href="#">GCN Circular</a> <a href="#">Query</a> <a href="#">Notices   VOE</a>		1.8411 per year	
S240104bl	BBH (>99%)	Yes	Jan. 4, 2024 16:49:32 UTC	<a href="#">GCN Circular</a> <a href="#">Query</a> <a href="#">Notices   VOE</a>		1 per 8.9137e+08 years	

# Detections

- GW150914
  - First astrophysical source
  - Binary black holes exist
- GW170817
  - Binary neutron star mergers are gamma-ray burst progenitors
- GW190521
  - Black holes exist in pair instability mass gap
- GW190814
  - Compact objects exist with masses between 2-5 Msun

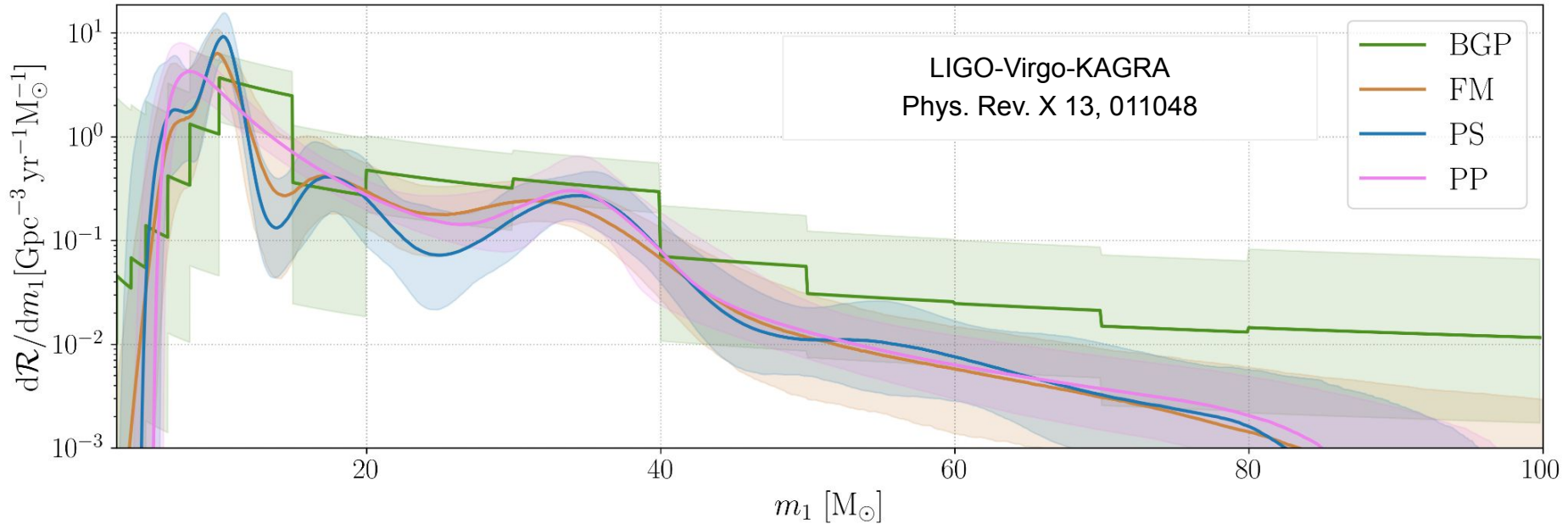


# Detections versus time observing





# From one to many: measuring populations

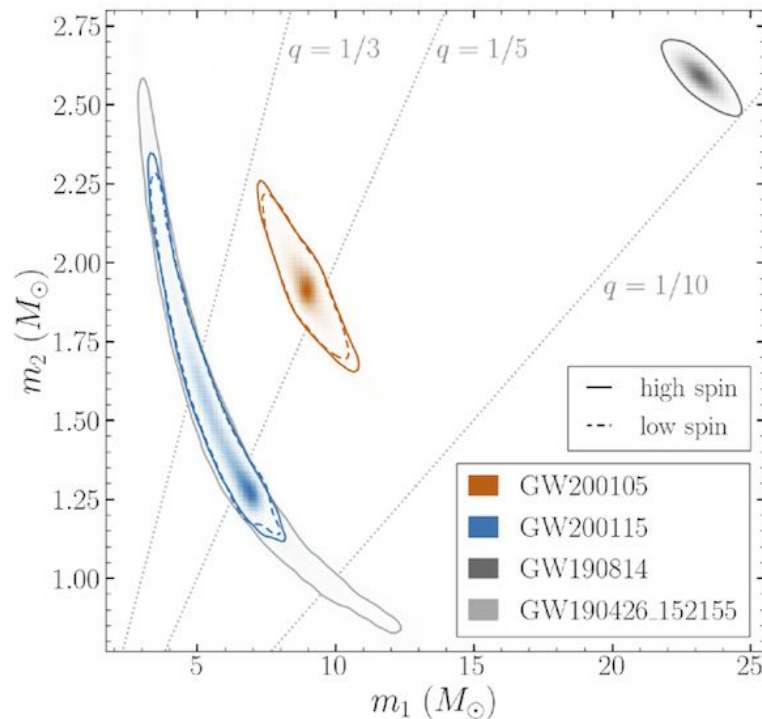


Merger rate density as a function of primary mass using 3 non-parametric models compared to the power-law+peak (pp) model.

# Mergers involving neutron stars

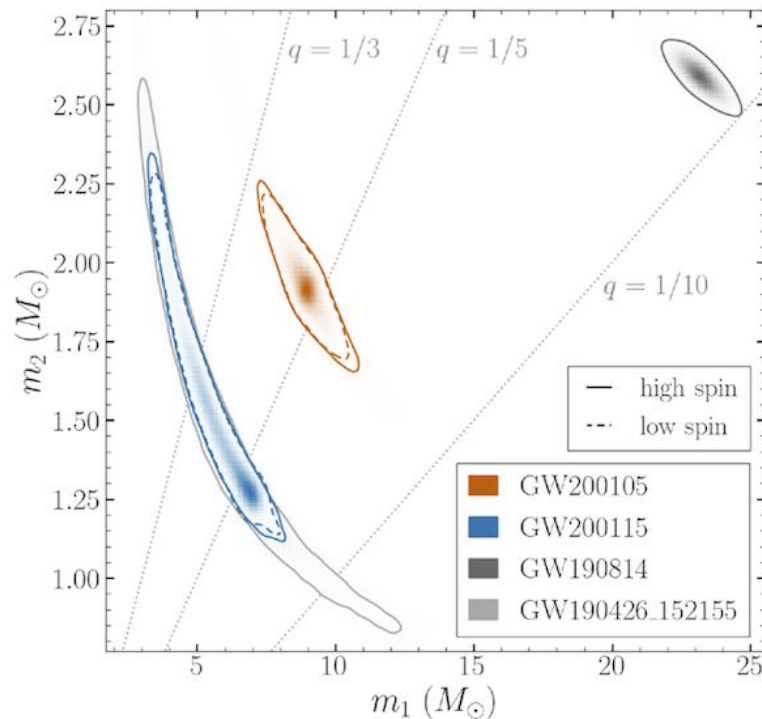
- GW170817 & GW190425
  - Binary neutron star (BNS) merger waves
- GW170817 & GRB 170817A
  - Fractional difference in speed of gravity and the speed of light is between  $-3 \times 10^{-15}$  and  $7 \times 10^{-16}$
- GW170817 & AT 2017gfo
  - Binary neutron star mergers produce kilonova explosions that generate heavy elements

B. P. Abbott et al 2017 ApJL 848 L13



# Mergers involving neutron stars

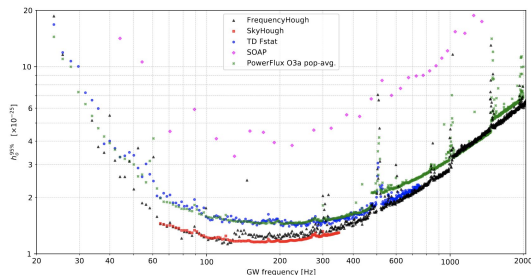
- GW170817 & GW190425
  - Binary neutron star (BNS) merger waves
- O4a
  - Doubled the spacetime volume searched with no new events.
  - Based on O1+O2+O3 rates, expected  $\sim 0.4 - 7$  new events.
- O4b
  - Using naive O123+O4a rates based on public information, expect 0.2 - 3.5 new events in O4b.



# Many other observational results

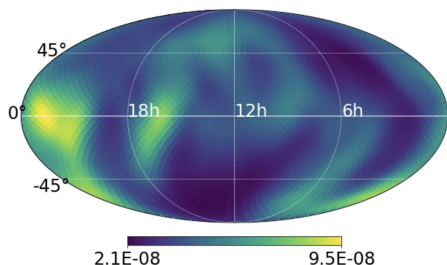
## Limits on waves from pulsars

Phys. Rev. D 106, 102008 (2022)



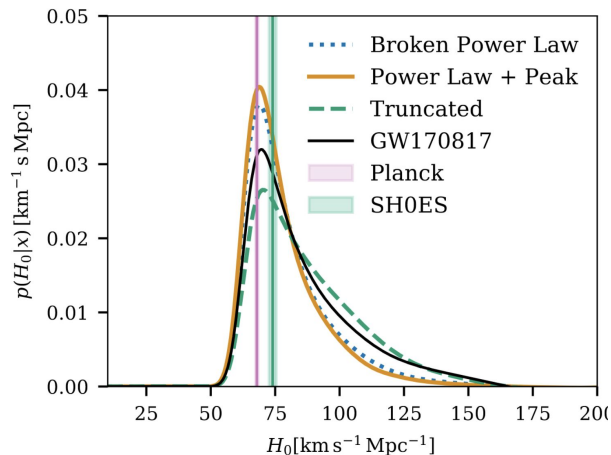
## Stochastic background limits

Phys. Rev. D 105, 122002 (2022)



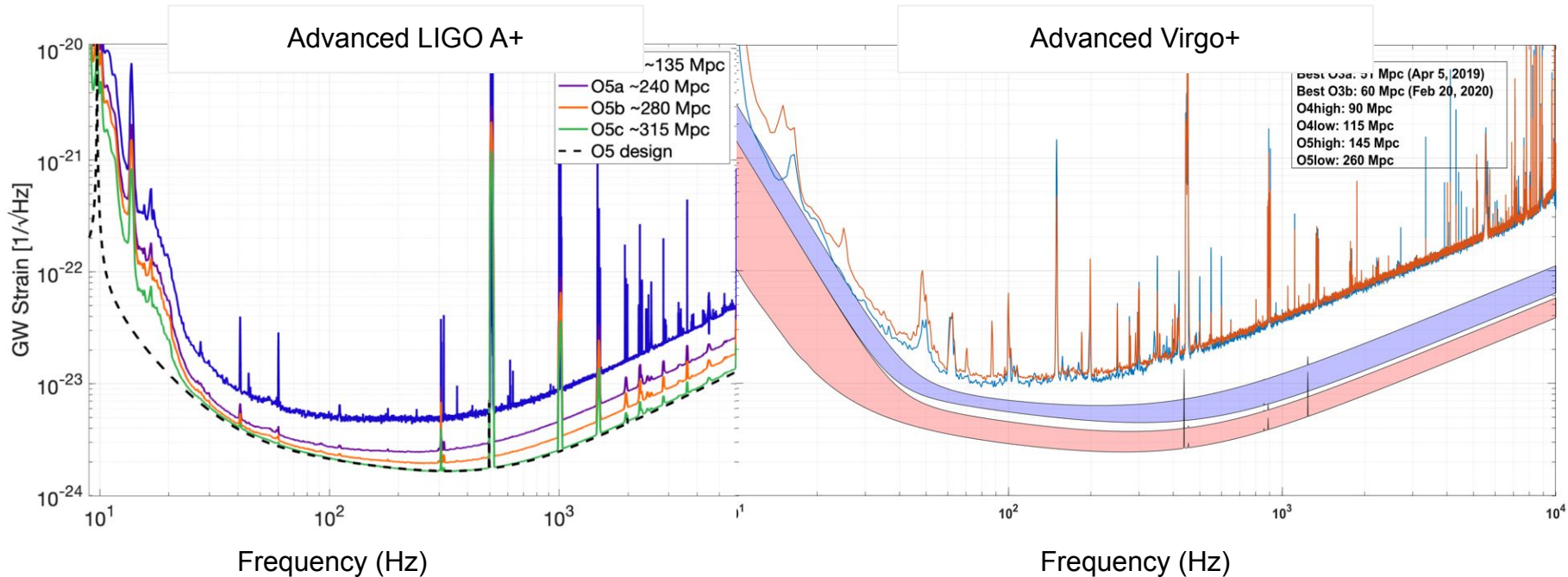
## Hubble constant measurements

Astrophys. J. 949, 76 (2023)



And much more!

# Working toward O5 sensitivity

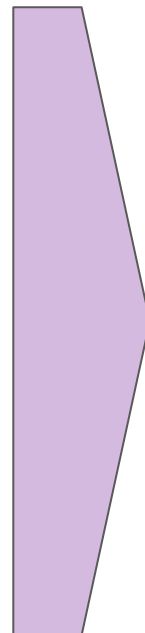
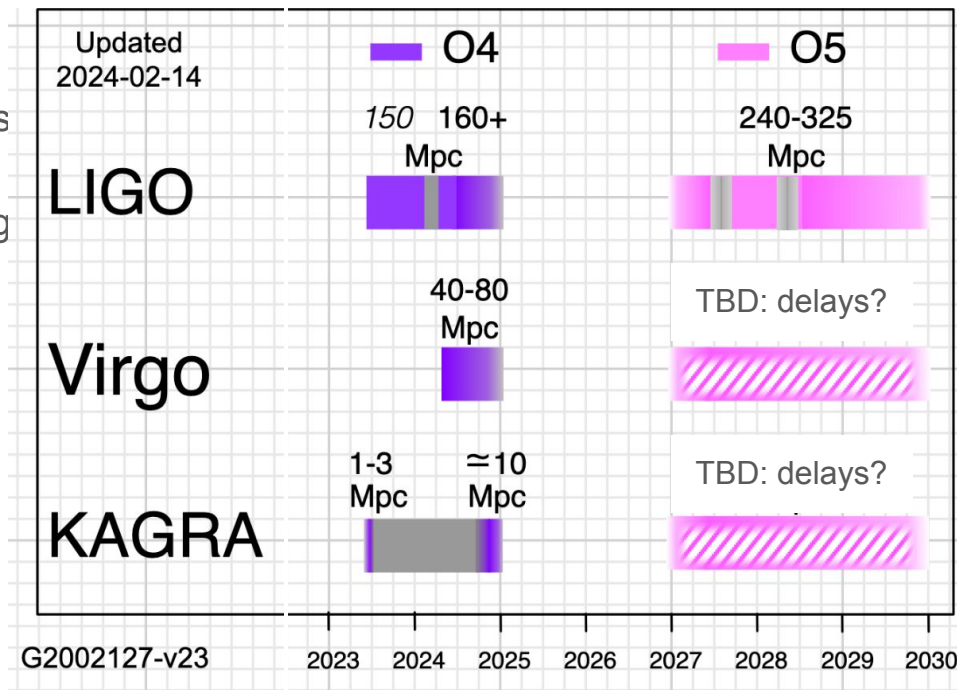


Full Power in the arm cavities: 750 kW  
 Frequency-dependent Squeezing\* level of 6 dB  
 Test Masses with 2x lower coating thermal noise\*

KAGRA will continue to work towards  
 130Mpc goal in O5

# O5 Observing Run

- Current thinking
  - Start is paced by upgrades after O4: 2 years gap.
  - Intersperse commissioning and observations
- Binary detection rates
  - O3 ~ 1 / 5 days
  - O4 ~ 1 / (2.8) days
  - O5 ~ 3 / day
- Other science
  - Improved SNR
  - New sources?



LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA anticipate observing to dovetail with next generation facilities

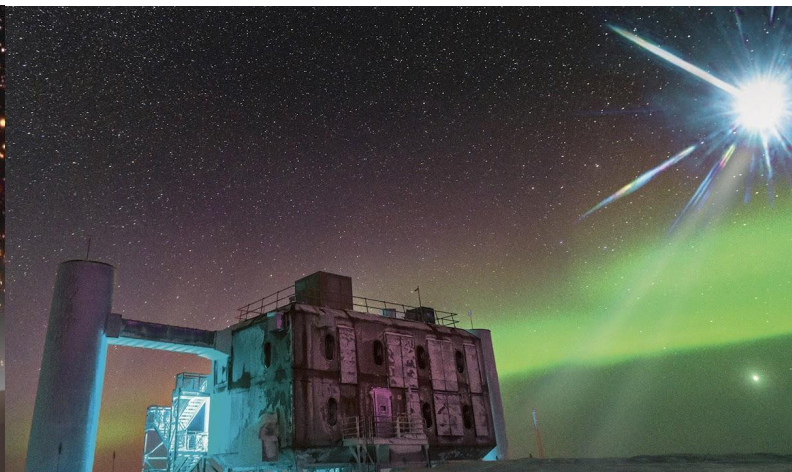
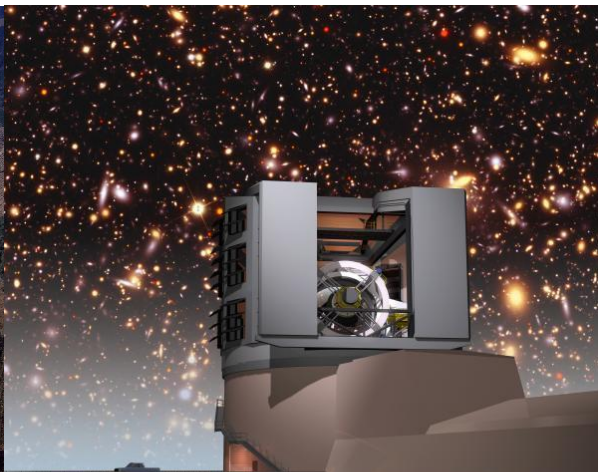
## Early 2030s

- LIGO Aundha Observatory (LAO) is to be constructed in India and operated as part of the LIGO network in the 2030s.
- A#: targeted improvements to the LIGO detectors
  - Report of LSC post-O5 study group [Fritschel et al, <https://dcc.ligo.org/LIGO-T2200287/public>]
  - Achieve close to a factor of 2 amplitude sensitivity improvement with larger test masses, better seismic isolation, improved mirror coatings, higher laser power, better squeezing ...
  - Begin observing at the end of 2031 and observe for several years.
  - A# an engine for observational science and a pathfinder for next-generation technologies.
  - A network including LIGO A# detectors would be a cornerstone for multimessenger discovery.
- Virgo has scoped similar improvements, called VirgoNEXT, with similar timetable. KAGRA is focused on reaching its current target.

# LIGO network is a cornerstone of MMA

- The number of detections per year for four different detector networks for binary neutron stars within  $z = 0.5$

Metric	$\Omega_{90} \text{ (deg)}^2$		
	$\leq 100$	$\leq 10$	$\leq 1$
3A <sup>#</sup>	$1.2^{+1.8}_{-0.9} \times 10^3$	$3.2^{+4.7}_{-2.5} \times 10^2$	$5.0^{+11.0}_{-5.0} \times 10^0$
CE20 + 2A <sup>#</sup>	$8.6^{+13.3}_{-6.4} \times 10^3$	$8.6^{+12.9}_{-6.8} \times 10^2$	$1.7^{+3.3}_{-1.5} \times 10^1$
CE40 + 2A <sup>#</sup>	$9.8^{+15.1}_{-7.3} \times 10^3$	$9.7^{+14.6}_{-7.6} \times 10^2$	$1.8^{+3.8}_{-1.6} \times 10^1$
CE40 + CE20 + 1A <sup>#</sup>	$1.4^{+2.1}_{-1.0} \times 10^4$	$3.4^{+5.3}_{-2.6} \times 10^3$	$9.7^{+15.7}_{-7.7} \times 10^1$

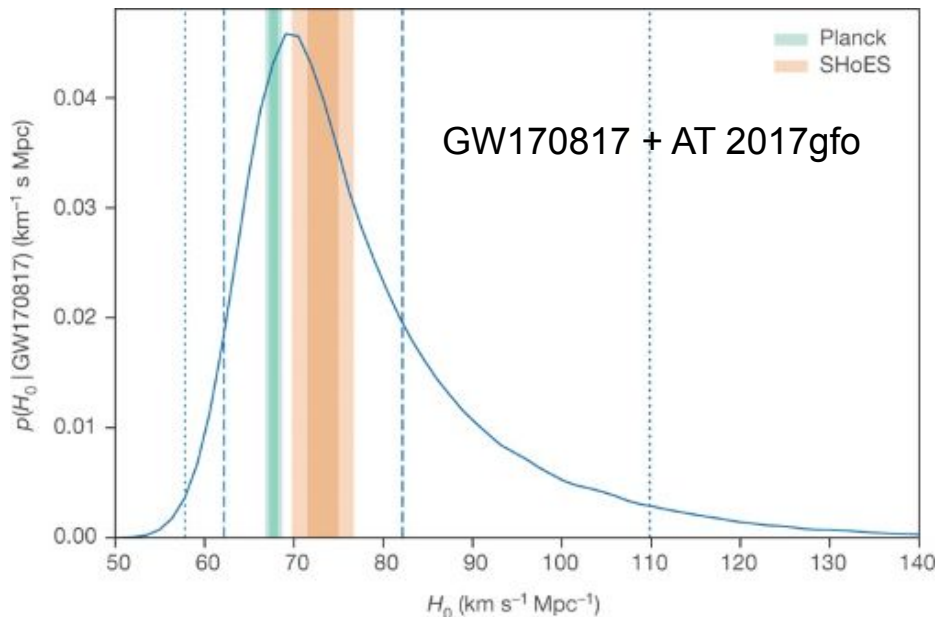




# Cosmology with gravitational waves

- Gravitational waves from binaries are standard sirens
  - Measure the luminosity distance to the source and redshifted masses
  - Cannot measure redshift directly
- Get redshift some other way
  - Electromagnetic counterpart, e.g. GW 170817, GRB 170817A, AT 2017gfo
- Sub-percent accuracy with many
  - Cross correlate with galaxy redshifts [Schutz, *Nature* **323**, 310 (1986)]
  - Mass scale imprinted on spectrum of detected binary mergers [Will M. Farr et al 2019 *ApJL* 883 L42]

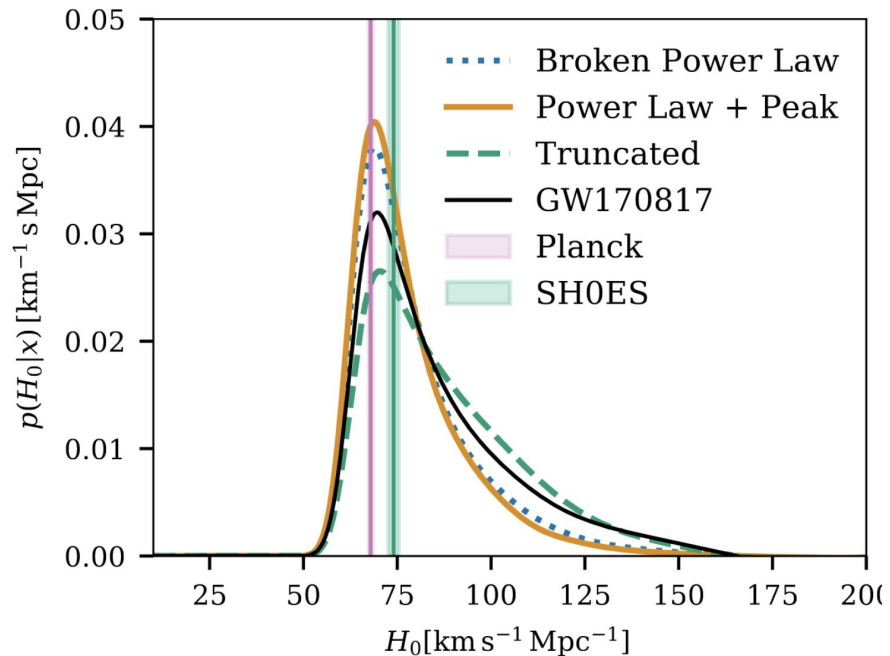
B P Abbott *et al.* *Nature* **551**, 85–88 (2017) doi:10.1038/nature24471



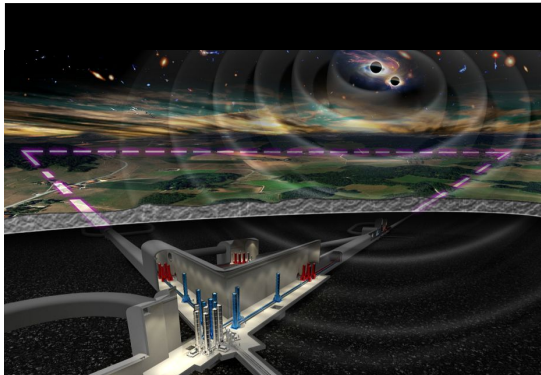
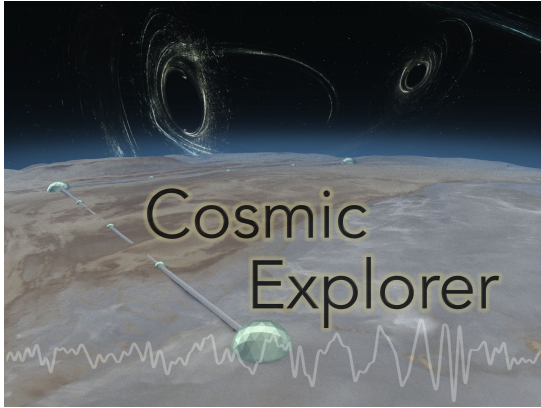
# Challenges for cosmology with GW

- Binaries with detectable EM counterparts are rare
  - If ~~~ 5-10~~ 3 BNS mergers are detected in O4, expect fewer than  $\sim 1$  detectable kilonova.
  - GRBs further away, but only a fraction beamed to Earth.
- Sub-percent accuracy with many
  - Completeness of galaxy catalogs decreases rapidly with redshift.
  - Mass scales are highly uncertain, e.g. maximum black hole mass from PISN, or must be measured simultaneously.

R Abbott et al. arXiv:2111.03604  
(2021)



# Next Generation Detectors

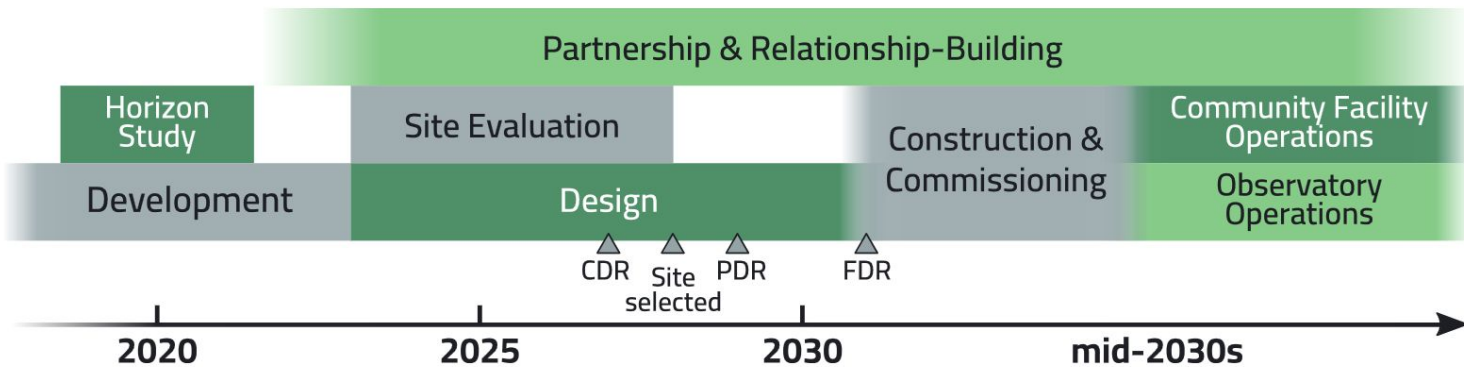
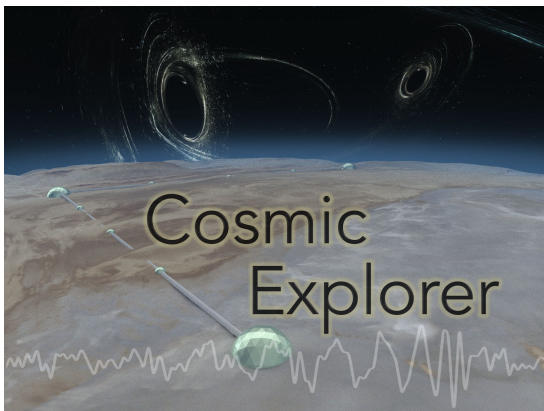


Science		No CE	CE with 2G				CE with ET				CE, ET, CE South							
Theme	Goals	2G	20	40	20+20	20+40	40+40	20	40	20+20	20+40	40+40	20	40	20+20	20+40	40+40	
Black holes and neutron stars throughout cosmic time	Black holes from the first stars	Grey	Grey	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
	Seed black holes	Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
	Formation and evolution of compact objects	Grey	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Dynamics of dense matter	Neutron star structure and composition	Grey	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
	New phases in quantum chromodynamics	Grey	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
	Chemical evolution of the universe	Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Extreme gravity and fundamental physics	Gamma-ray burst jet engine	Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
	Discovery potential	Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Technical risk		Red	Yellow	Orange	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Orange	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Orange	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow

A Horizon Study for Cosmic Explorer  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2109.09882>

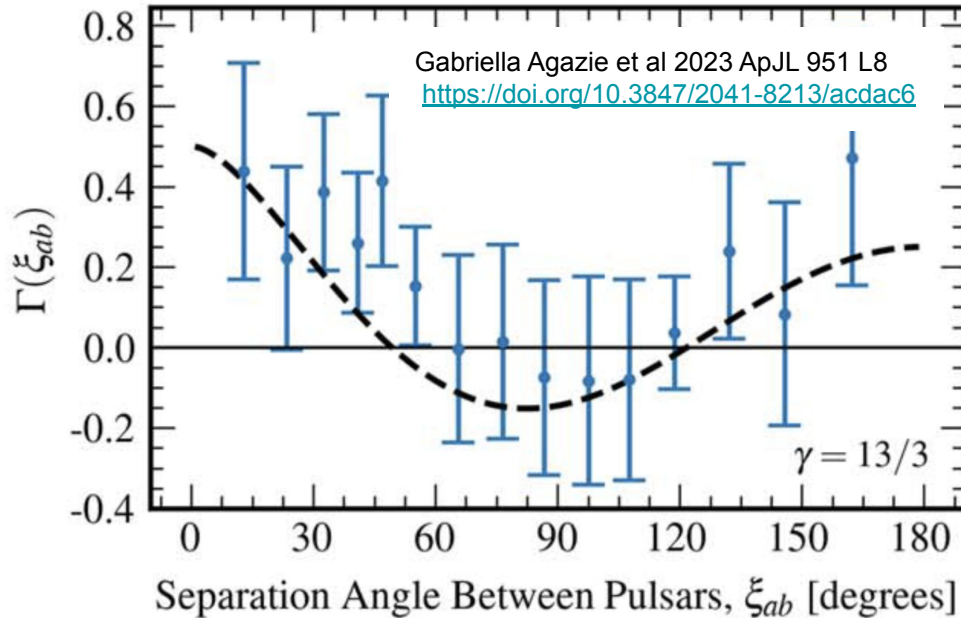


# Cosmic Explorer Timeline





# Recent Pulsar Timing Observations



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

- Bayesian analysis  $\sim 3$  sigma
- Frequentist analysis  $\sim 3.5 - 4$  sigma

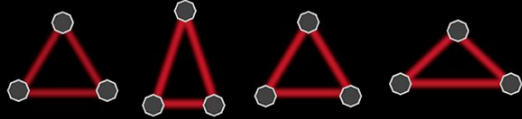
Possibly background from supermassive black hole binaries.

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

# 25 Jan: LISA mission approved!

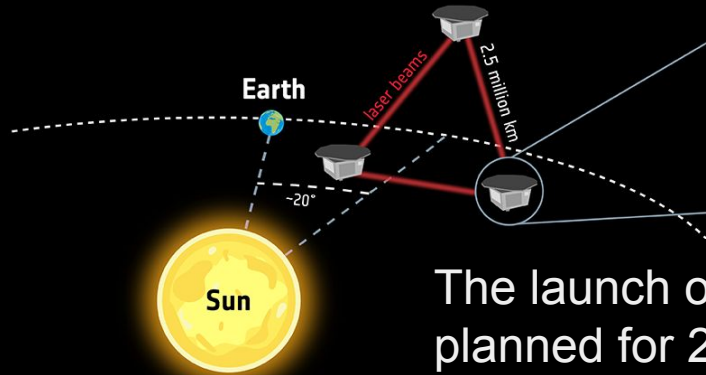
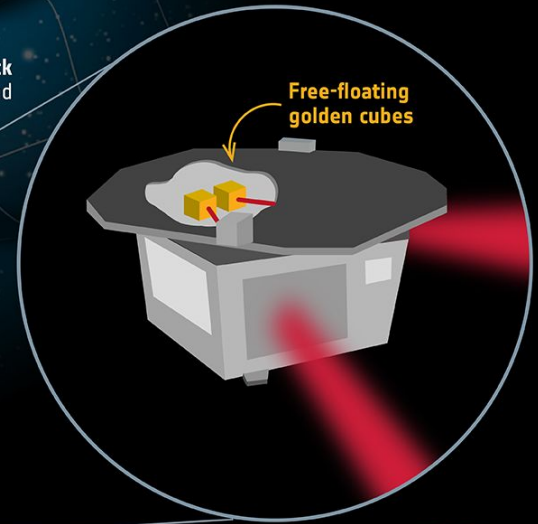
**Gravitational waves** are ripples in spacetime that alter the distances between objects. LISA will detect them by measuring subtle changes in the distances between **free-floating cubes** nestled within its three spacecraft.

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



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

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



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





Thank you!