

# Sources of Gravitational Waves

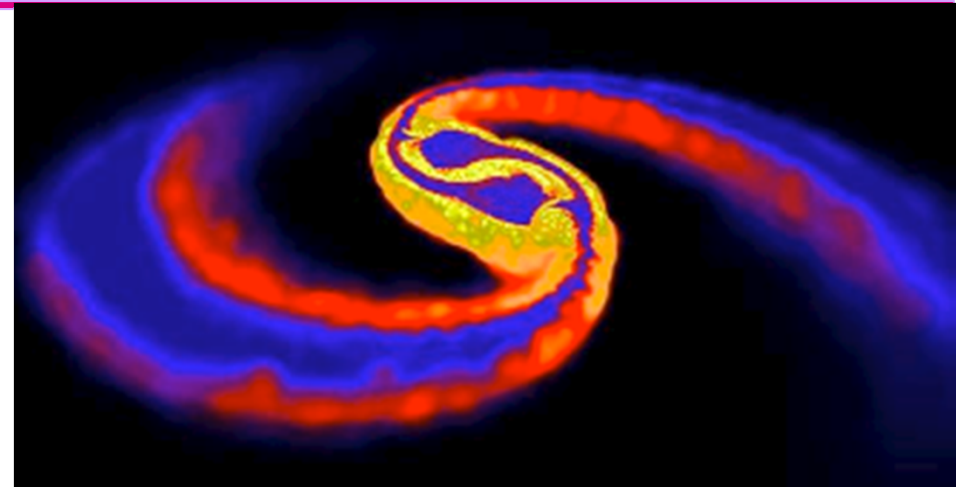
TAUP School, September 2013

- Gravitational waves
- Survey of astrophysical sources and signal morphologies
- Compact Binary Coalescences
- What we can learn: physics and astrophysics

**No discovery  
to report here!**

Alan Weinstein, Caltech

for the LIGO Scientific Collaboration  
LIGO-G1300902



*"Merging Neutron Stars" (Price & Rosswog)*



Fig. 1.1 – LIGO detector with 4 km arms at Livingston, Louisiana



Fig. 1.2 – Virgo Detector, with 3 km arms, at Cascina, near Pisa



# Gravitational wave science

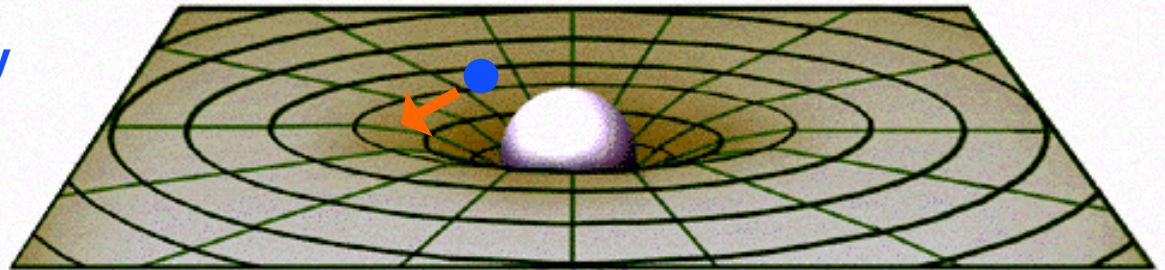
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The **Study of gravitational waves** is at the *frontiers of science* in at least four different fields:

- **General Relativity (GR)** – physics at the extremes: strong (non-linear) gravity, relativistic velocities
- **Astrophysics of compact sources** – neutron stars, black holes, the big bang – the most energetic processes in the universe
- **Interferometric gravitational wave detectors** – the most precise measuring devices ever built
- **GW data analysis** – the *optimal* extraction of the weakest signals possible out of noisy data.

# Gravitational Waves

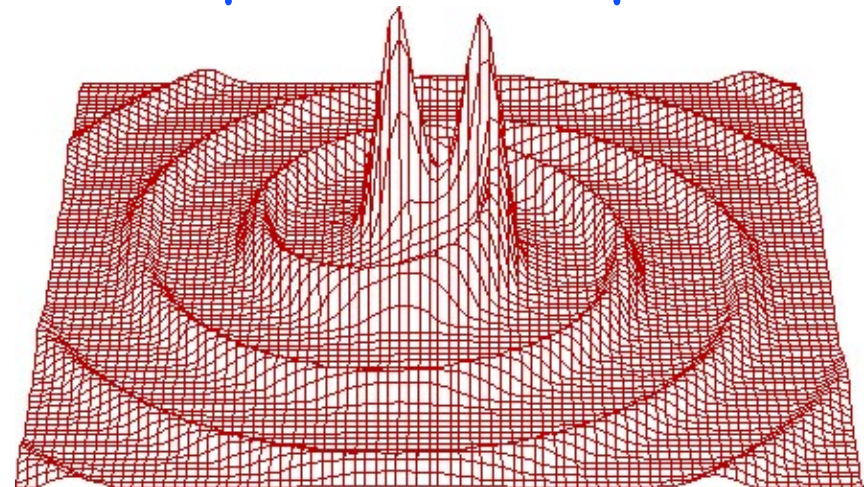
Static gravitational fields are described in General Relativity as a curvature or warpage of space-time, changing the distance between space-time events.



Shortest straight-line path of a nearby test-mass is a ~Keplerian orbit.

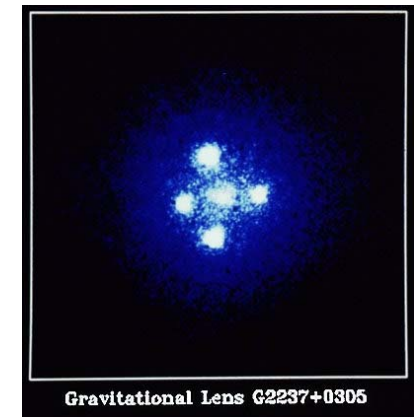
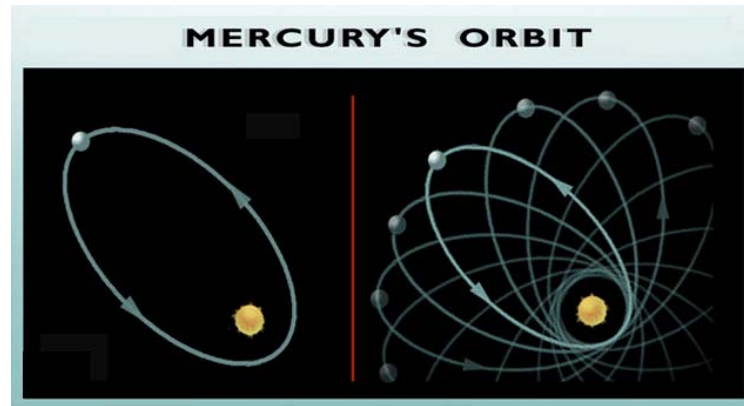
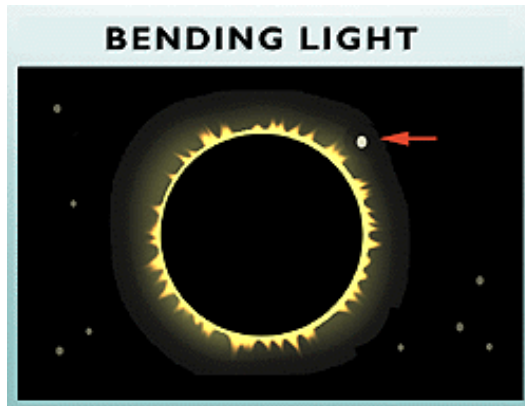
$$G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi T_{\mu\nu}$$

If the source is moving (at speeds close to  $c$ ), eg, because it's orbiting a companion, the "news" of the changing gravitational field propagates outward as gravitational radiation – a wave of spacetime curvature



# Einstein's Theory of Gravitation

## *experimental tests*



### bending of light

*As it passes in the vicinity of massive objects*

First observed during the solar eclipse of 1919 by Sir Arthur Eddington, when the Sun was silhouetted against the Hyades star cluster

### Mercury's orbit

*perihelion shifts forward twice Post-Newton theory*

Mercury's elliptical path around the Sun shifts slightly with each orbit such that its closest point to the Sun (or "perihelion") shifts forward with each pass.

### "Einstein Cross"

*The bending of light rays gravitational lensing*

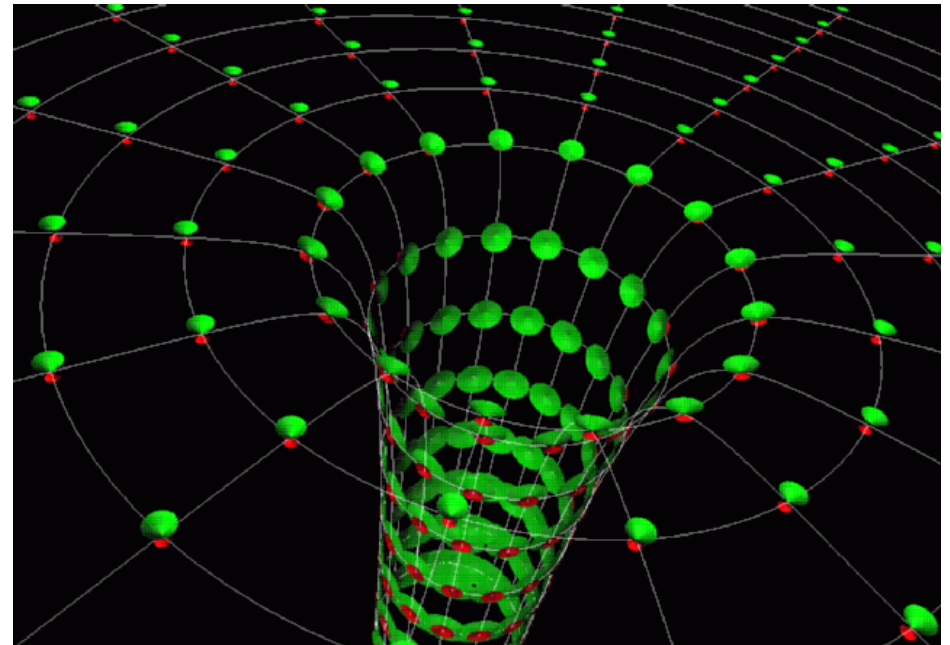
Quasar image appears around the central glow formed by nearby galaxy. Such gravitational lensing images are used to detect a 'dark matter' body as the central object



# Strong-field



- Most tests of GR focus on small deviations from Newtonian dynamics (post-Newtonian weak-field approximation)
- Space-time curvature is a *tiny* effect everywhere except:
  - The universe in the early moments of the big bang
  - Near/in the horizon of black holes
- This is where GR gets *non-linear* and interesting!
- We aren't very close to any black holes (fortunately!), and can't see them with light or other EM radiation...



**But we can search for (*weak-field*) gravitational waves as a signal of their presence and dynamics**

# Nature of Gravitational Radiation

General Relativity predicts that rapidly changing gravitational fields produce ripples of curvature in fabric of spacetime

- Stretches and squeezes space between

“test masses” – strain  $h = \Delta L / L$

- propagating at speed of light

- *mass of graviton = 0*

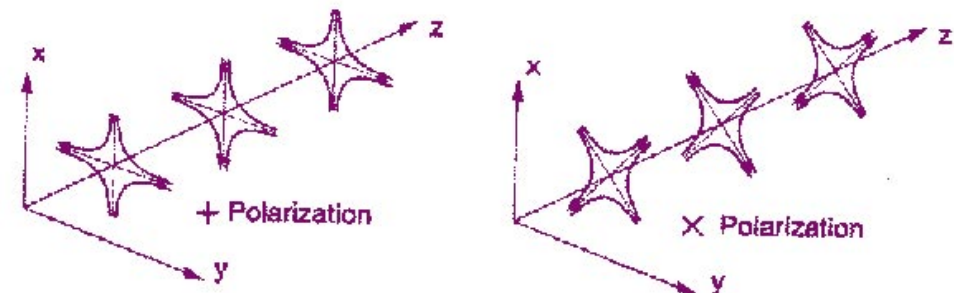
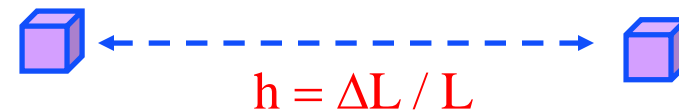
- space-time distortions are **transverse** to direction of propagation

- GW are tensor fields (EM: vector fields)

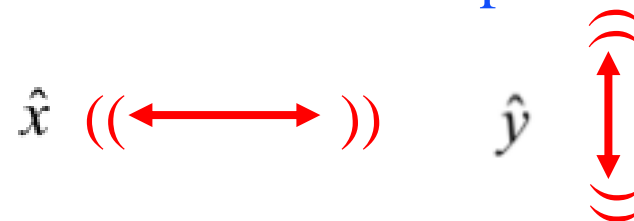
**two polarizations:** plus ( $\oplus$ ) and cross ( $\otimes$ )

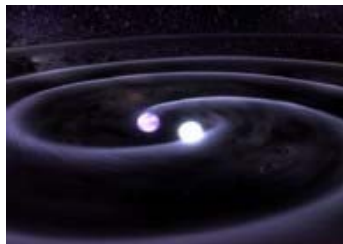
(EM: two polarizations, **x** and **y**)

*Spin of graviton = 2*



**Contrast with EM dipole radiation:**





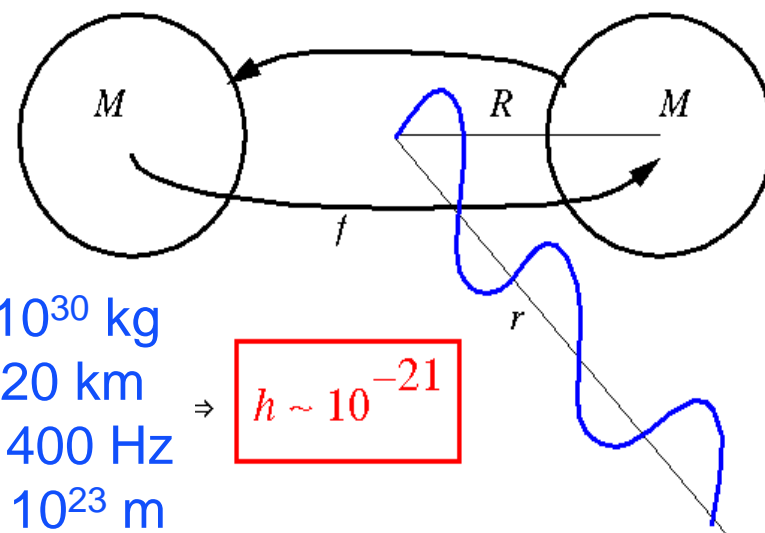
# Sources of GWs

- Accelerating charge  $\Rightarrow$  electromagnetic radiation (dipole)
- Accelerating mass  $\Rightarrow$  gravitational radiation (quadrupole)
- Amplitude of the gravitational wave (dimensional analysis):

$$h_{\mu\nu} = \frac{2G}{c^4 r} \ddot{I}_{\mu\nu} \Rightarrow h \approx \frac{4\pi^2 G M R^2 f_{orb}^2}{c^4 r}$$

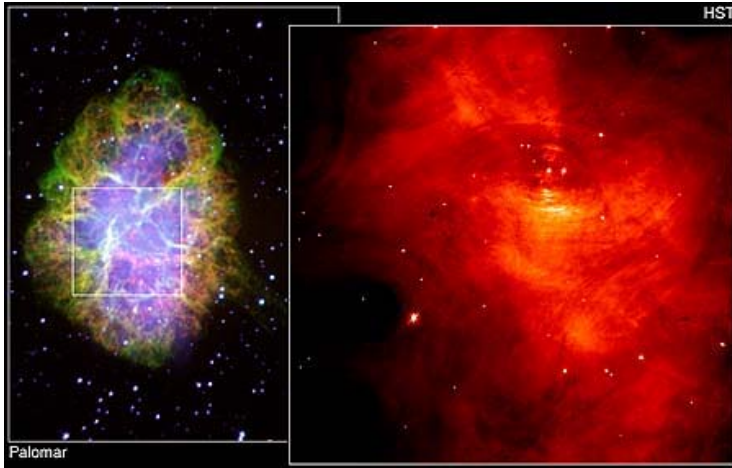
- $\ddot{I}_{\mu\nu}$  = second derivative of mass quadrupole moment (non-spherical part of kinetic energy – tumbling dumb-bell)
- $G$  is a small number! (space-time is *stiff*).
- Waves can carry huge energy with minimal amplitude
- Need huge mass, relativistic velocities, nearby.
- For a binary neutron star pair, 10m light-years away, solar masses moving at 15% of speed of light:

Energy-momentum conservation:  
 energy cons  $\Rightarrow$  no monopole radiation  
 momentum cons  $\Rightarrow$  no dipole radiation  
 $\Rightarrow$  lowest multipole is quadrupole wave



**Terrestrial sources *TOO WEAK!***

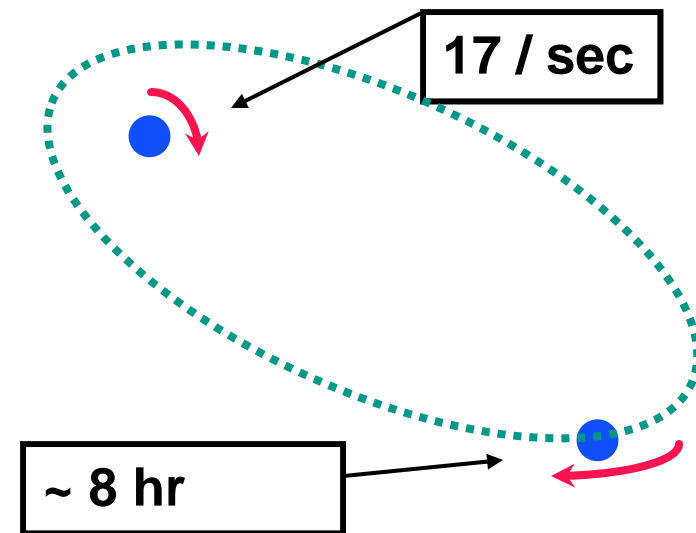
# Hulse-Taylor binary pulsar



- A rapidly spinning pulsar (neutron star beaming EM radiation at us 17 x / sec)
- Orbiting around an ordinary star with 8 hour period
- Only 7 kpc away
- Discovered in 1975, orbital parameters measured continuously over 25 years!

## Neutron Binary System

PSR 1913 + 16 -- Timing of pulsars

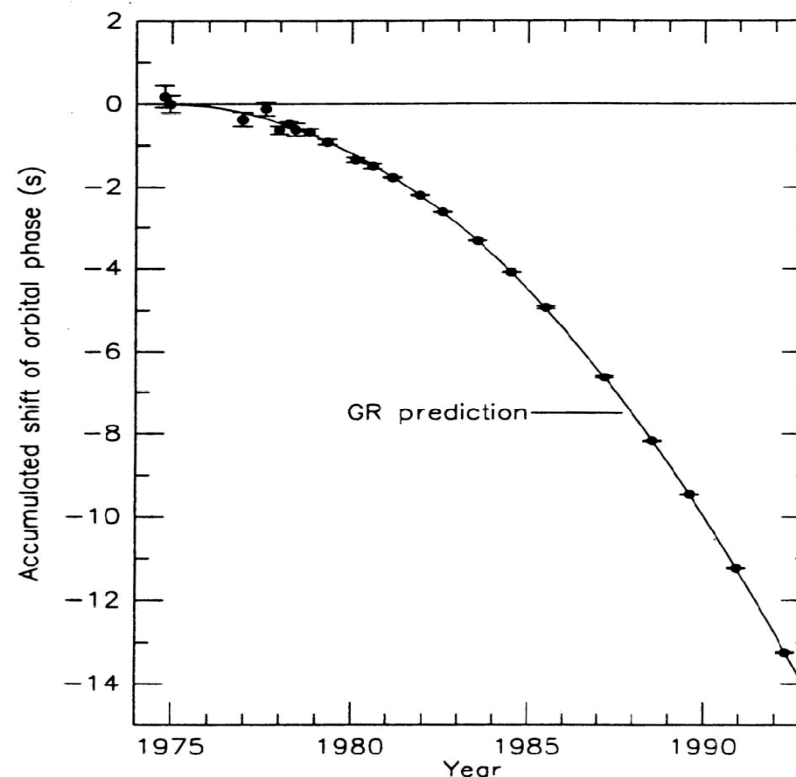




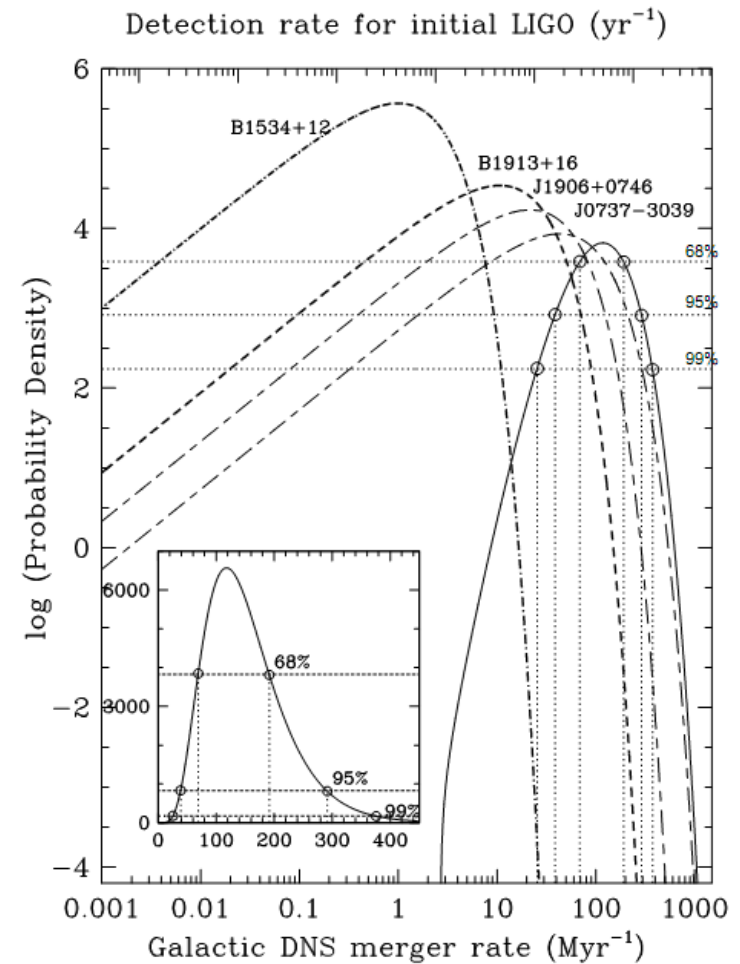
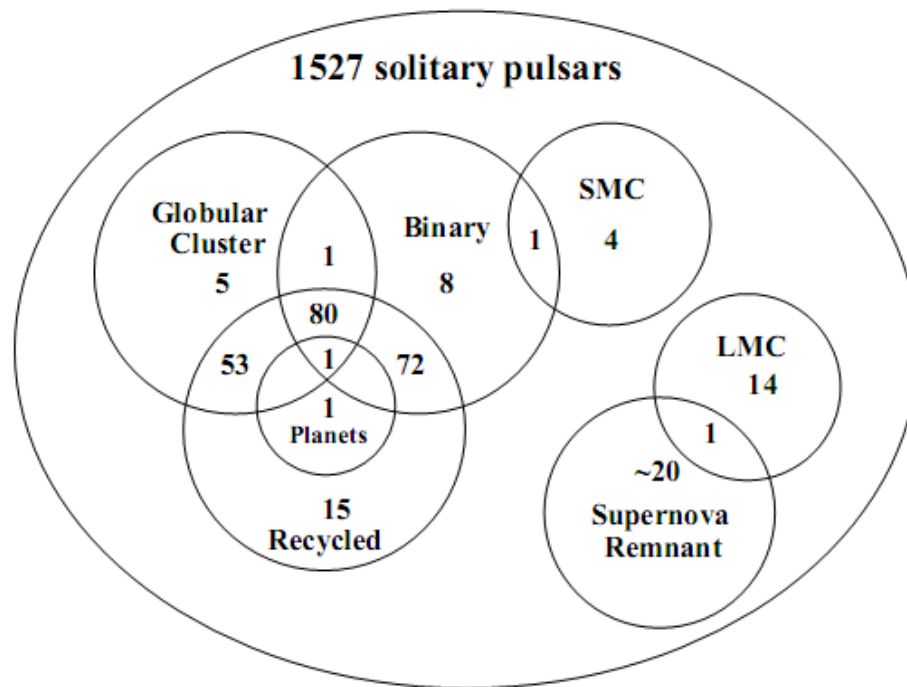
# GWs from Hulse-Taylor binary

## emission of gravitational waves by compact binary system

- Period speeds up 14 sec from 1975-94
- Measured to ~50 msec accuracy
- Deviation grows quadratically with time
- Merger in about 300M years  
( $\ll$  age of universe!)
- shortening of period  $\Leftarrow$  orbital energy loss
- Compact system:  
negligible loss from friction, material flow
- Beautiful agreement with GR prediction
- Apparently, loss is due to GWs!
- GW emission will be strongest near the end:
  - Coalescence of neutron stars!
- Nobel Prize, 1993
- By 2013, there are ~8



# Galactic binary pulsars, and inferred merger rate

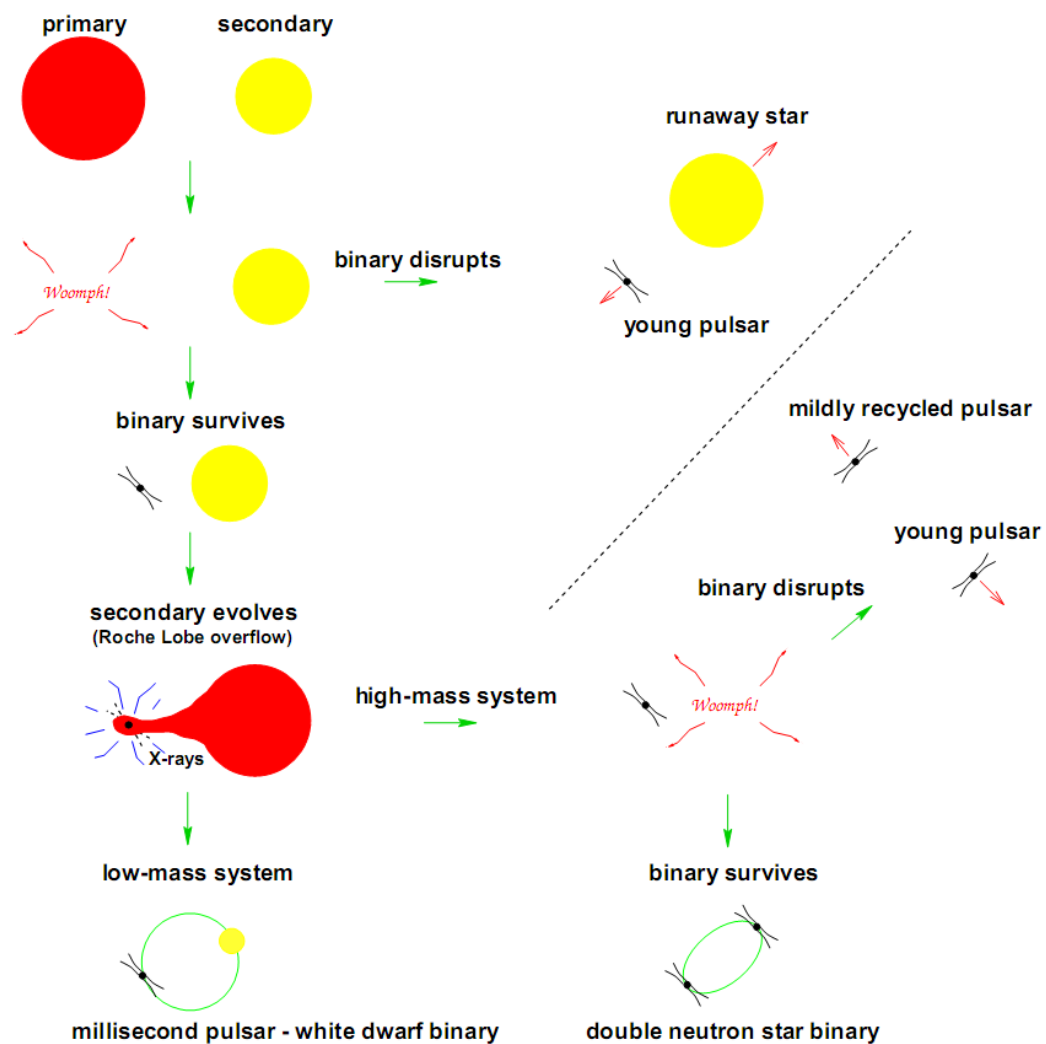


Duncan R. Lorimer

*Living Reviews in Relativity*

<http://www.livingreviews.org/lrr-2008-8>

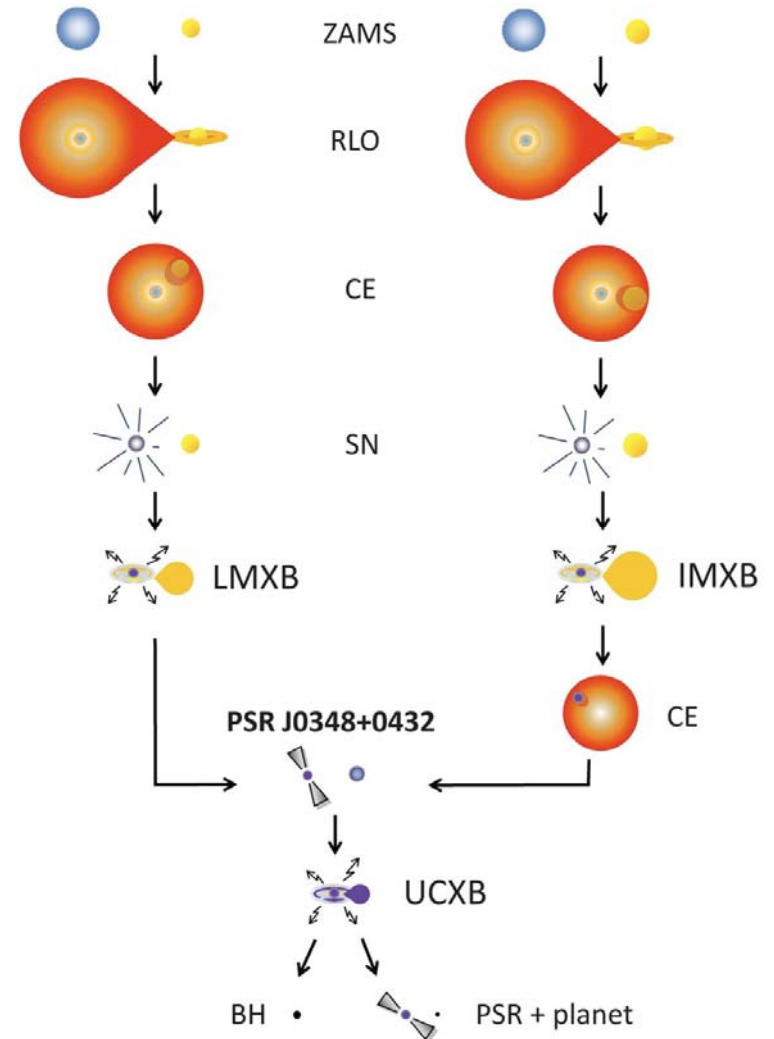
# BNS formation scenario



# Massive Binary Evolution

These systems are the progenitors of:

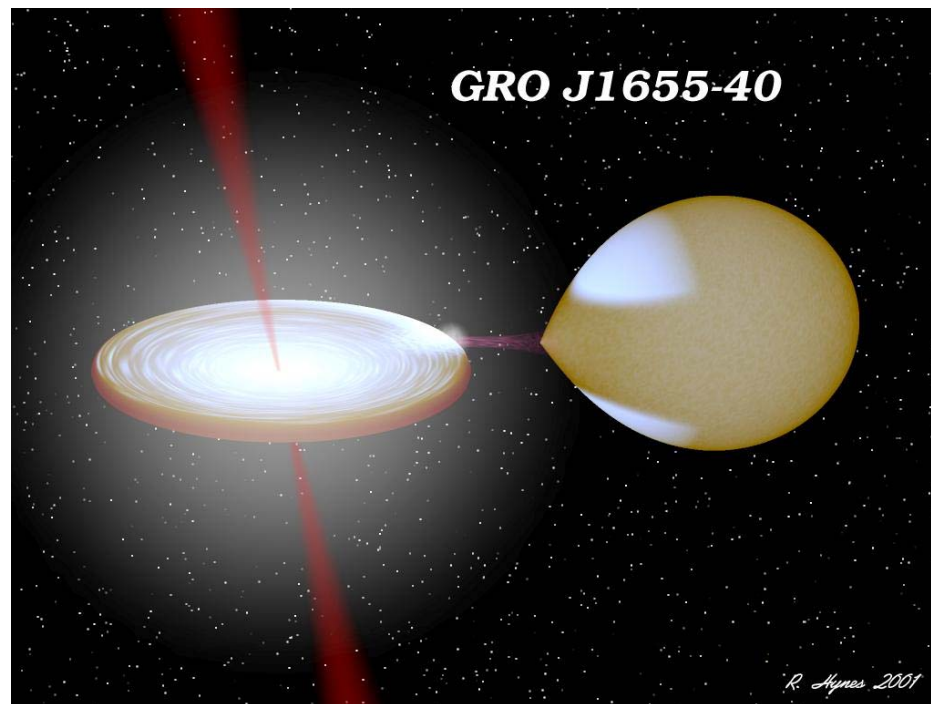
- Type-1a SNe
- Accretion disks
- Millisecond pulsars
- Low-mass X-ray binaries (LMXB)
- High-mass X-ray binaries (HMXB)
- Binary neutron stars (BNS)
- NS-BH
- Binary black holes (BBH)



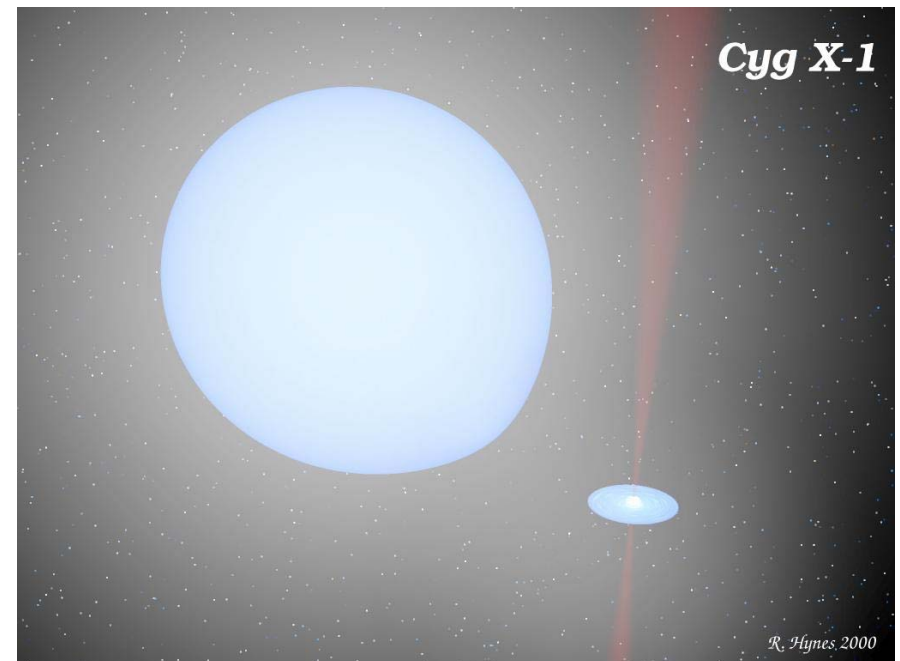
# Progenitors of compact binaries

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- LMXB

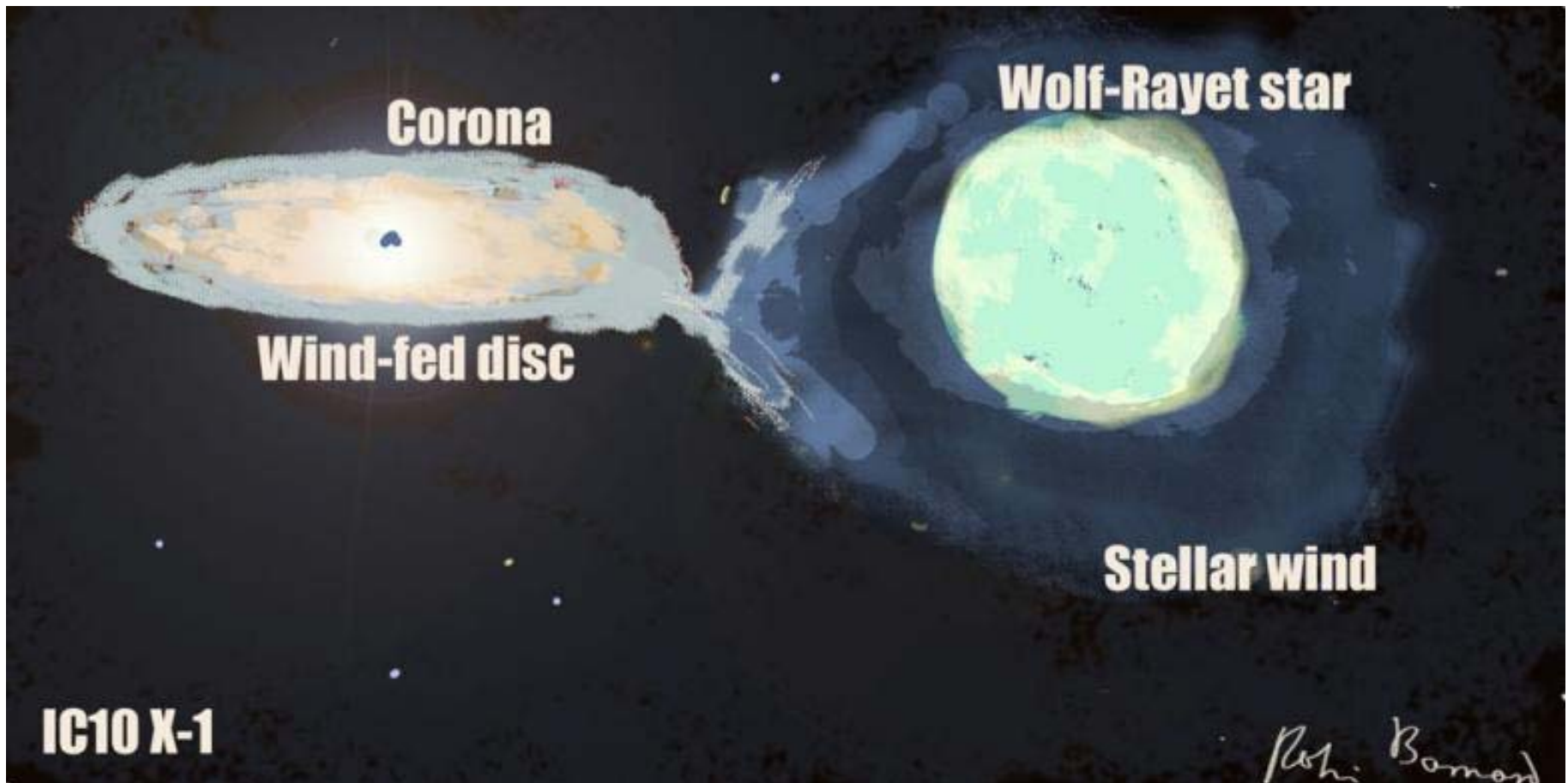


- HMXB



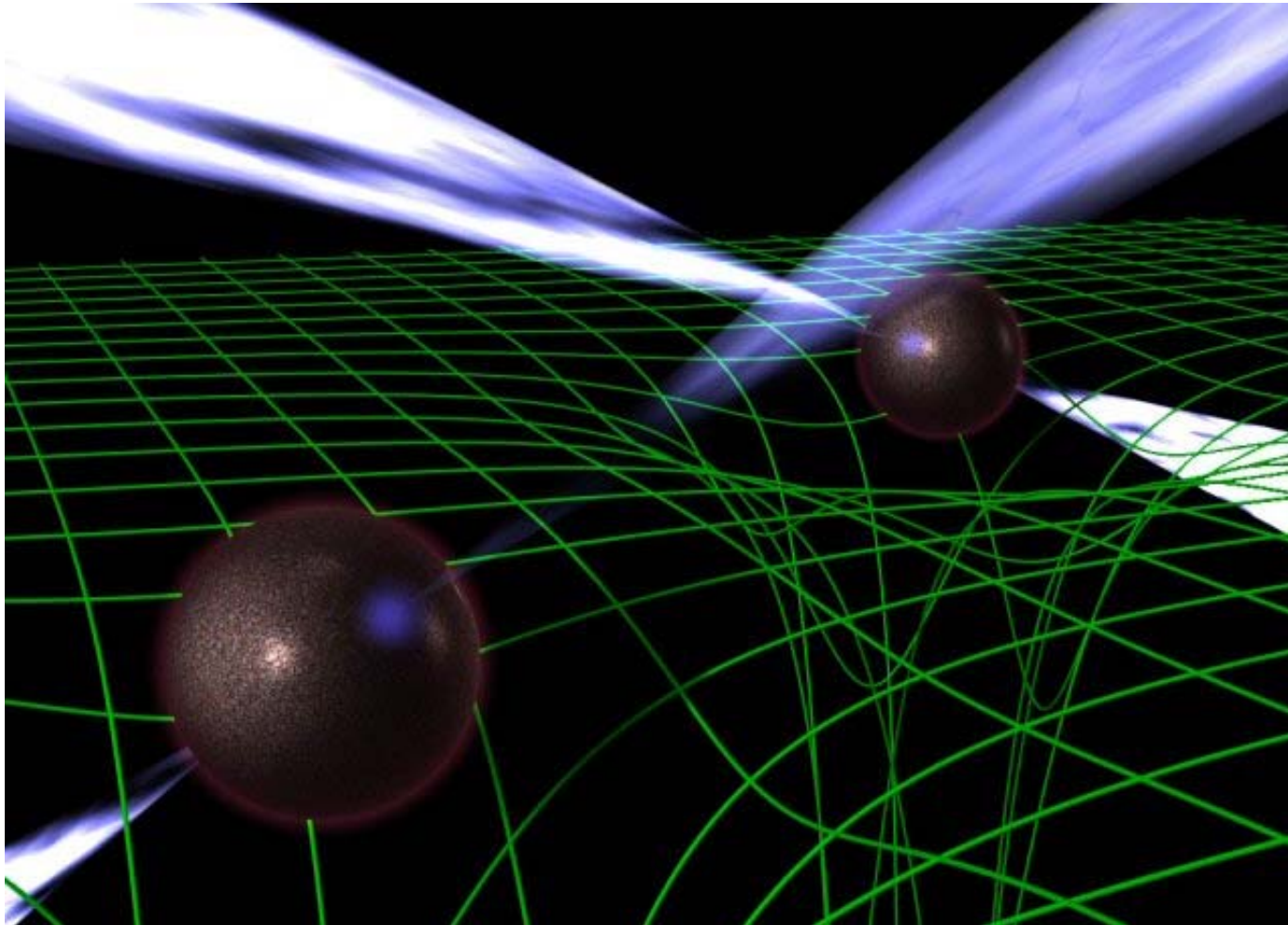
# Progenitors of binary black holes

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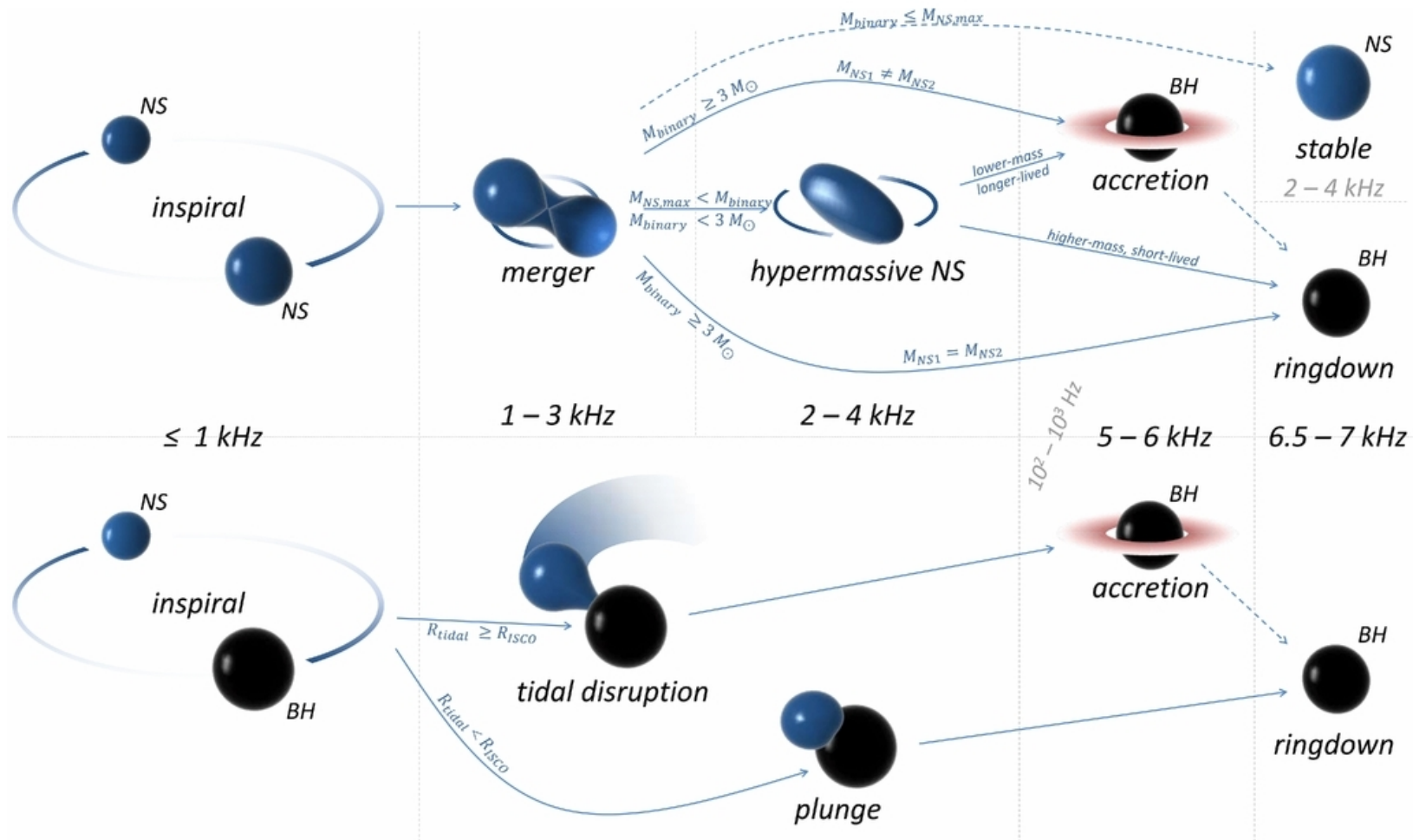
# The double pulsar PSR J0737-3039

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# And in the end ... binary mergers

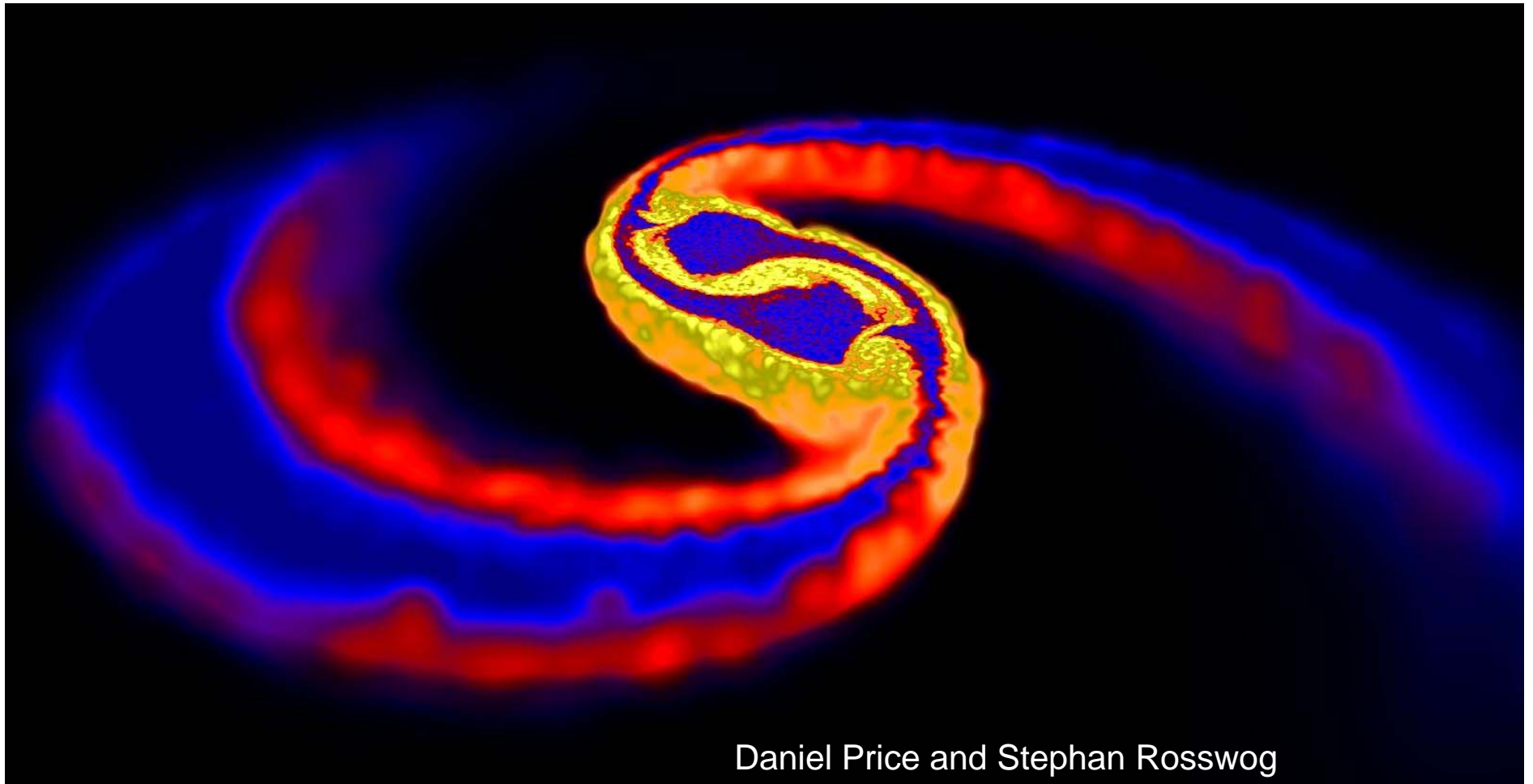
Figure 1 from I Bartos et al 2013 Class. Quantum Grav. 30 123001





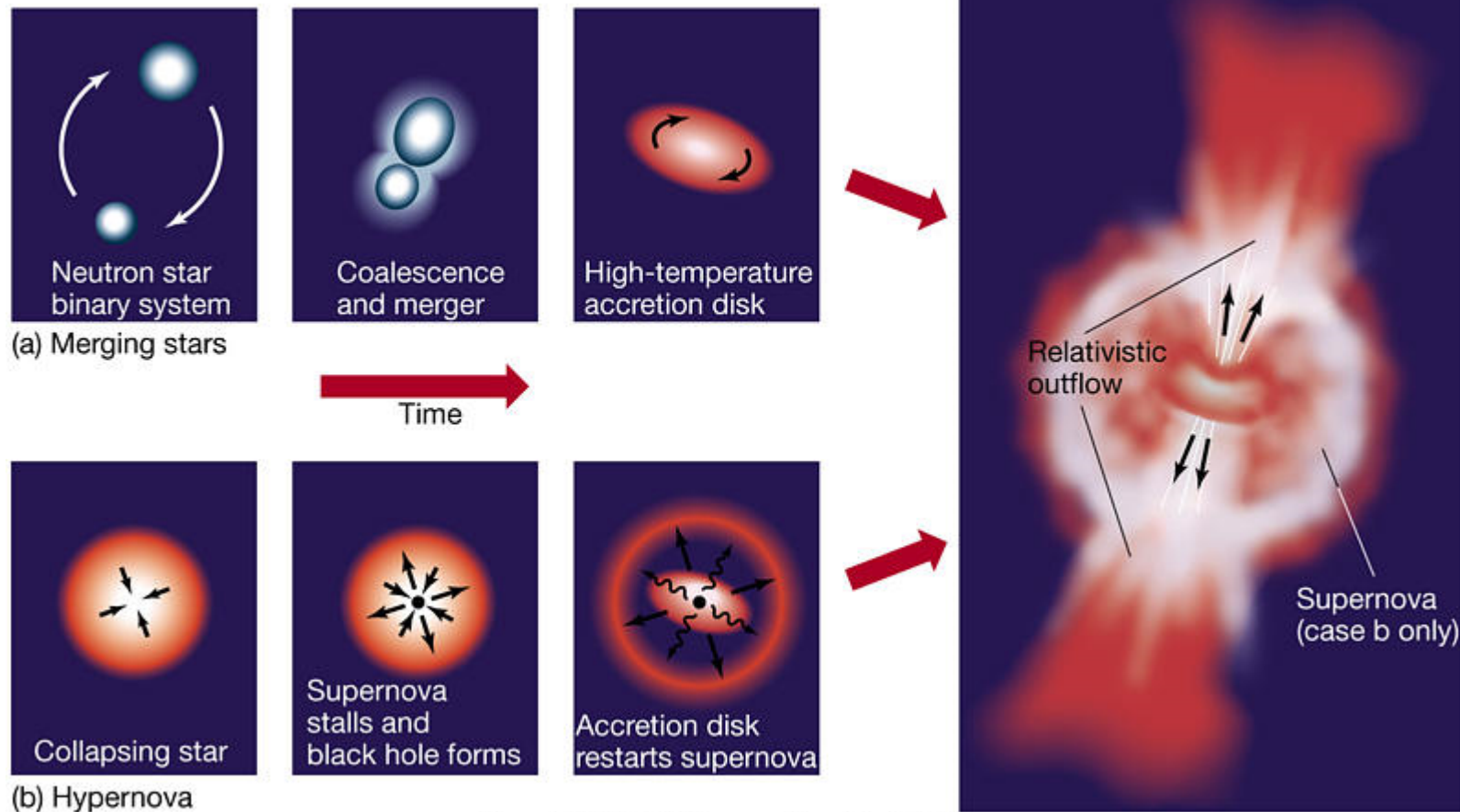
# Binary neutron star mergers

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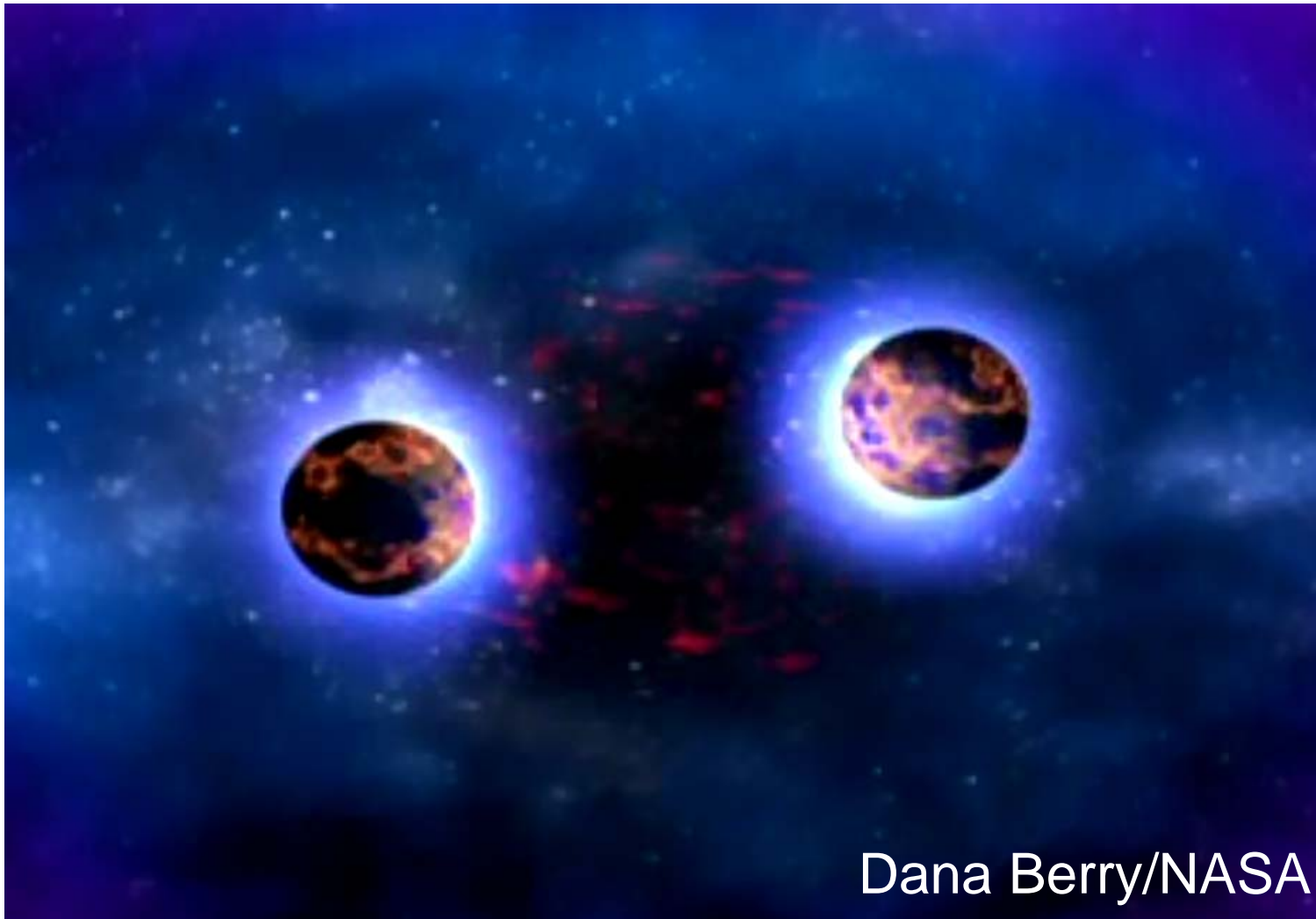


Daniel Price and Stephan Rosswog

# Short-hard and Long-soft GRBs



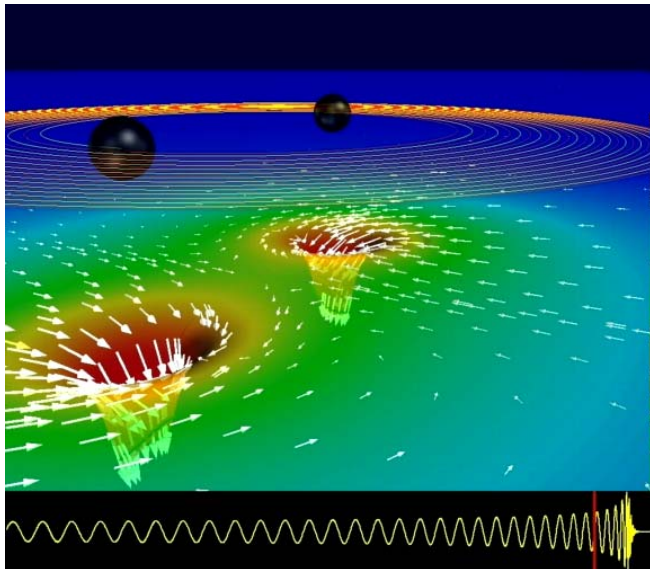
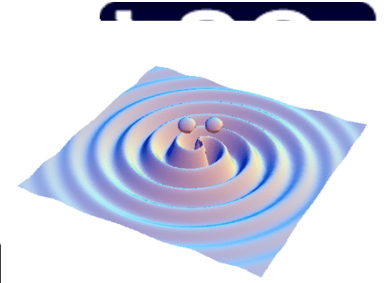
# Binary neutron star merger



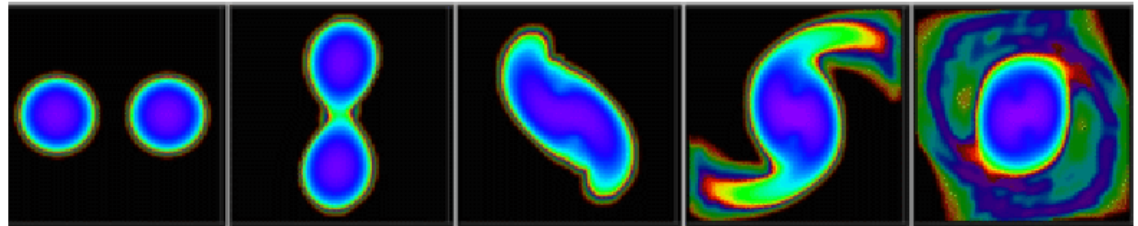
Dana Berry/NASA



# LIGO GWs from coalescing compact binaries (NS/NS, BH/BH, NS/BH)

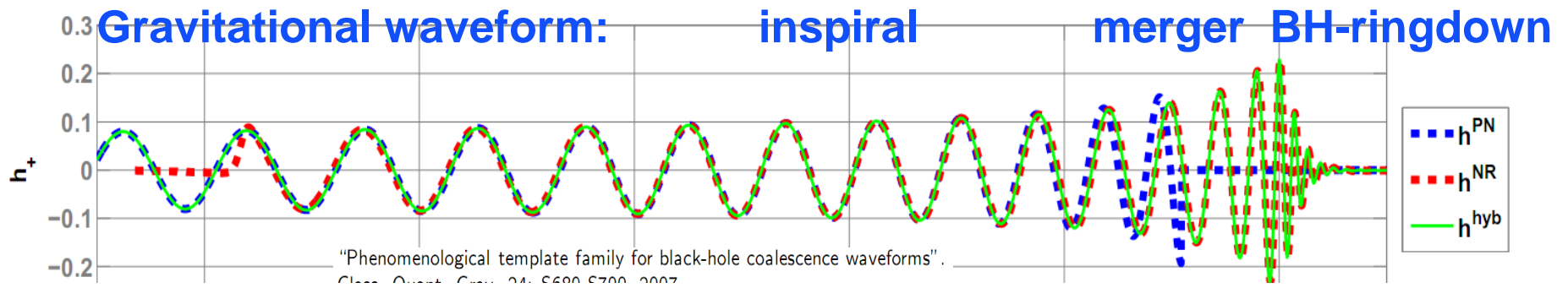


- Neutron star – neutron star (Centrella et al.)



## Tidal disruption of neutron star

A unique and powerful laboratory to study strong-field, highly dynamical gravity and the structure of nuclear matter in the most extreme conditions



**Waveform carries lots of information about binary masses, orbit, merger**

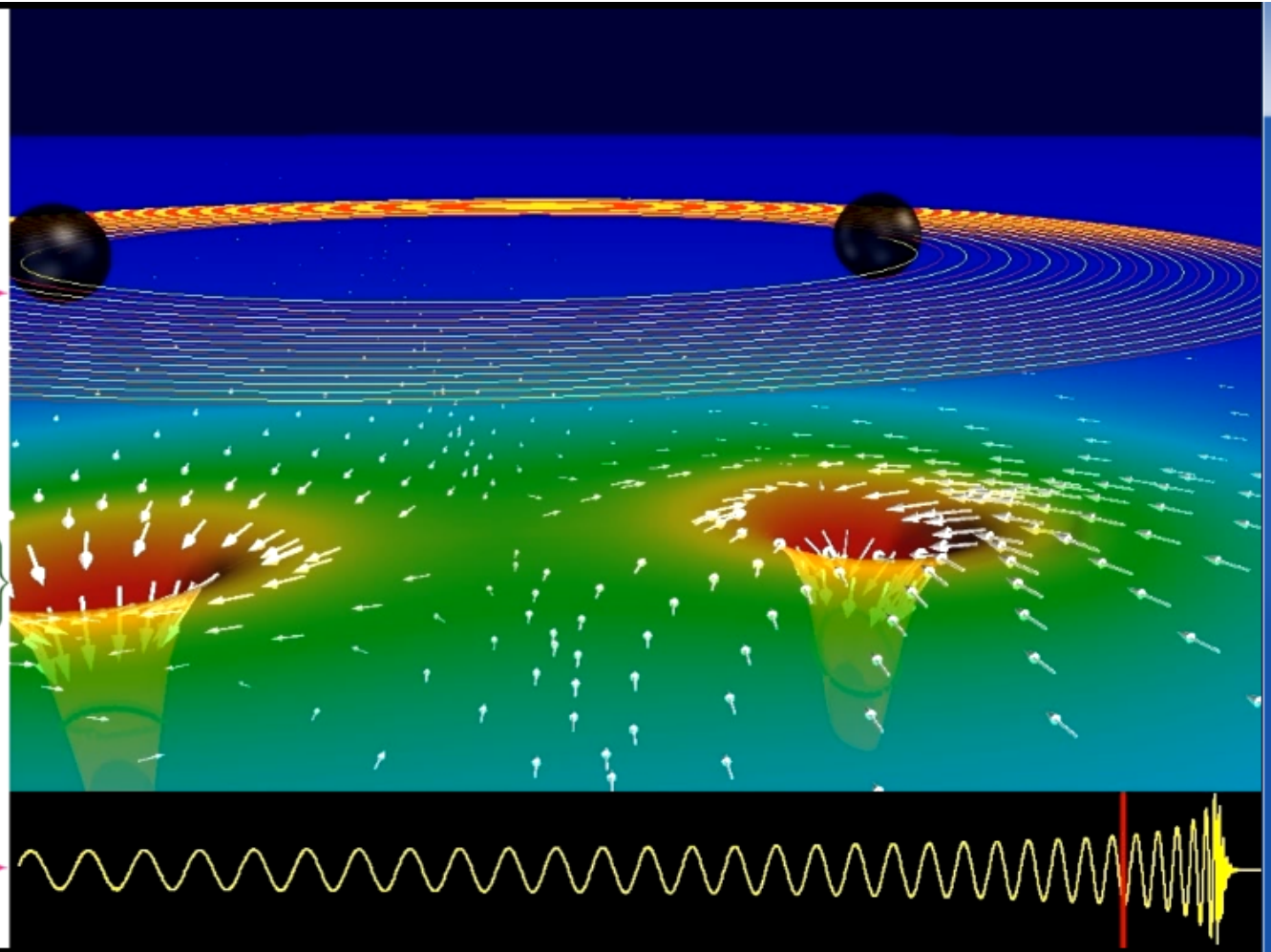
# Binary black hole inspiral, merger, ringdown

Binary Black Hole Evolution:  
Caltech/Cornell Computer Simulation

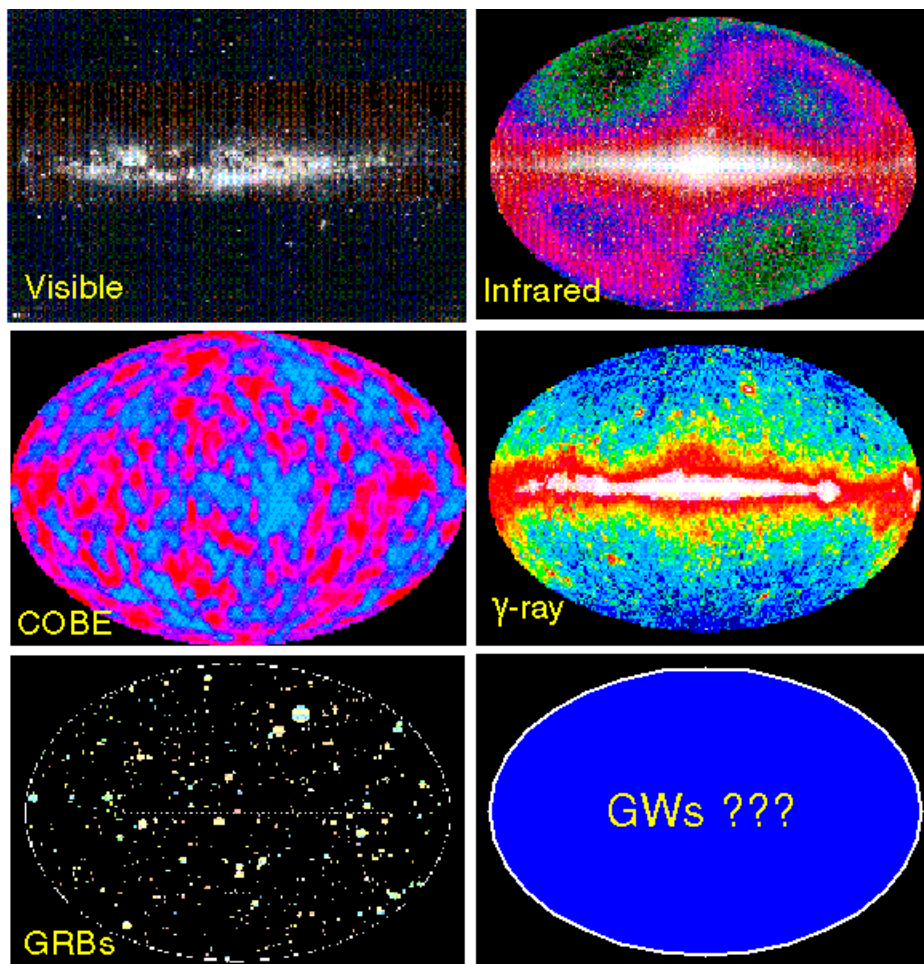
Top: 3D view of Black Holes  
and Orbital Trajectory

Middle: Spacetime curvature:  
Depth: Curvature of space  
Colors: Rate of flow of time  
Arrows: Velocity of flow of space

Bottom: Waveform  
(red line shows current time)



# A NEW WINDOW ON THE UNIVERSE



The history of Astronomy:  
new bands of the EM spectrum  
opened → major discoveries!

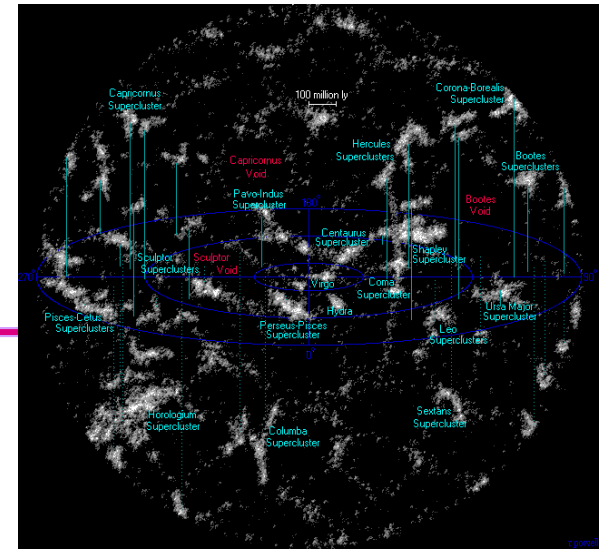
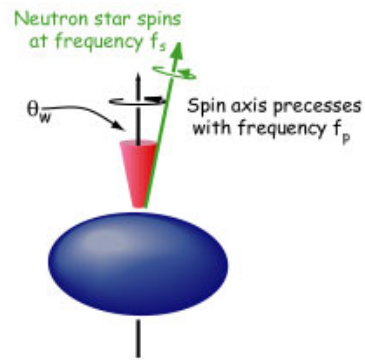
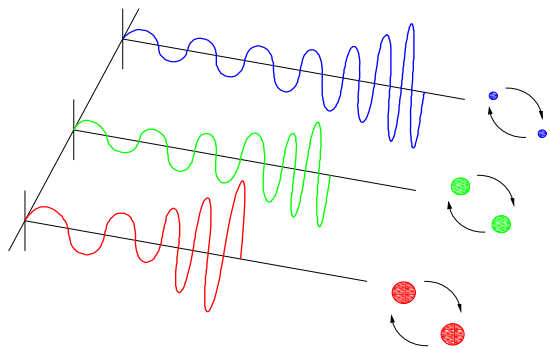
GWs aren't just a new band, they're  
a new spectrum, with very different  
and complementary properties to EM  
waves.

- Vibrations *of* space-time, not *in* space-time
- Emitted by coherent motion of huge masses moving at near light-speed;  
not vibrations of electrons in atoms
- Can't be absorbed, scattered, or shielded.

GW astronomy is a totally new,  
unique window on the universe

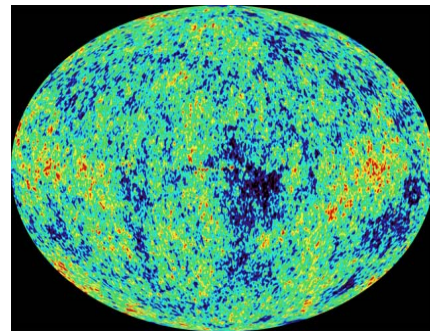
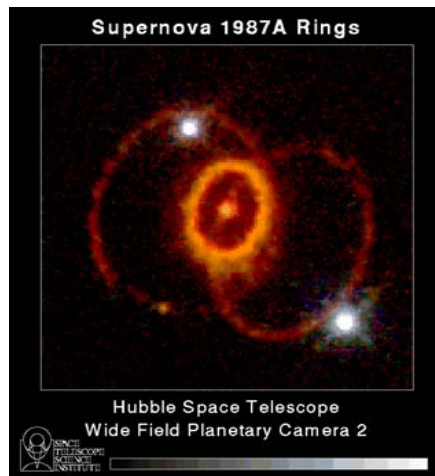


# What will we see?



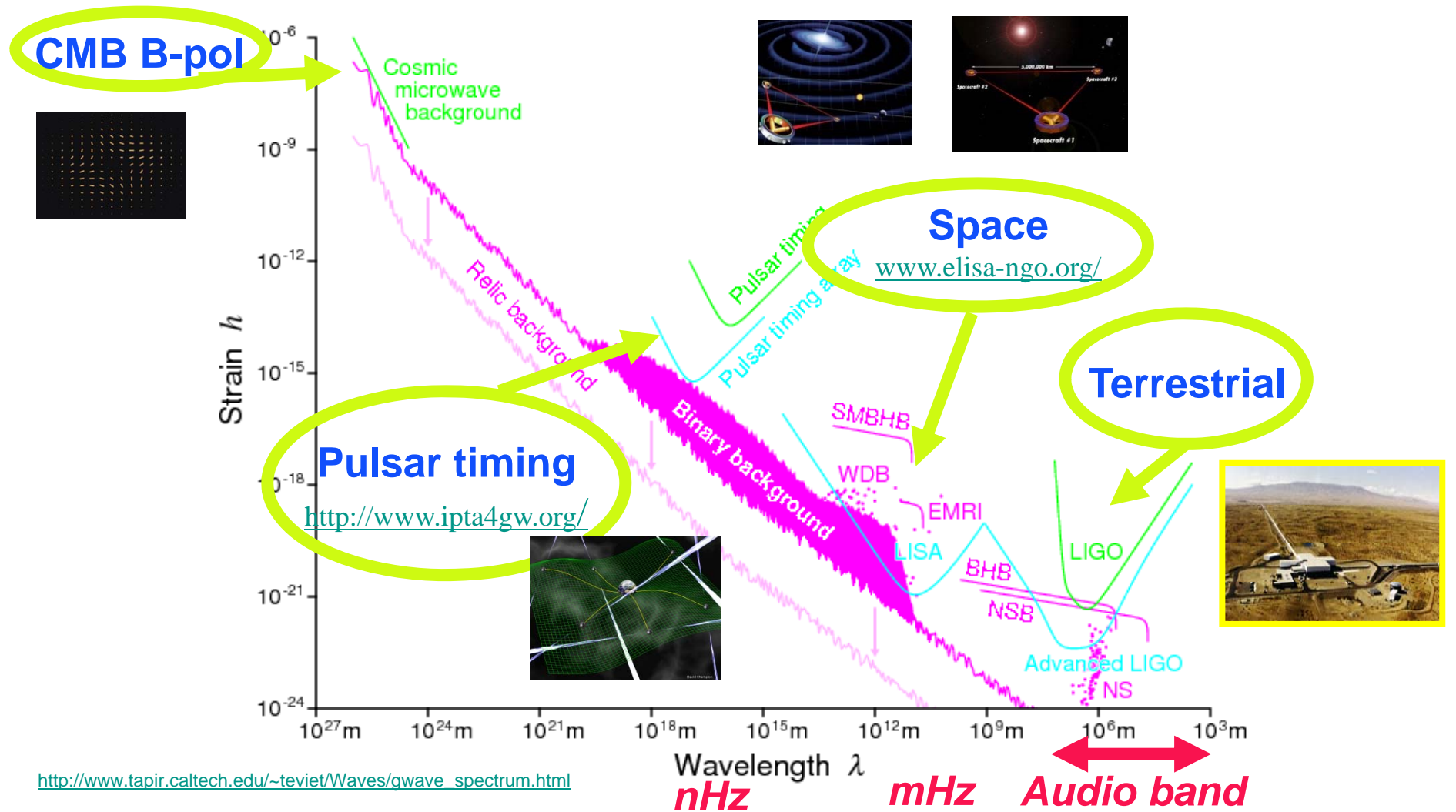
**GWs from the most energetic processes in the universe!**

- Compact Binary Coalescences: black holes orbiting each other and then merging together
- GW bursts of unknown waveform: Supernovas, SGRs, GRB engines
- Continuous waves from pulsars, rapidly spinning neutron stars
- Stochastic GW background from vibrations from the Big Bang



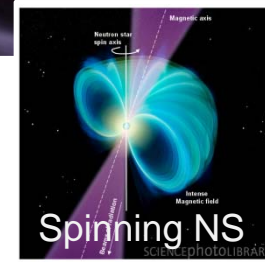
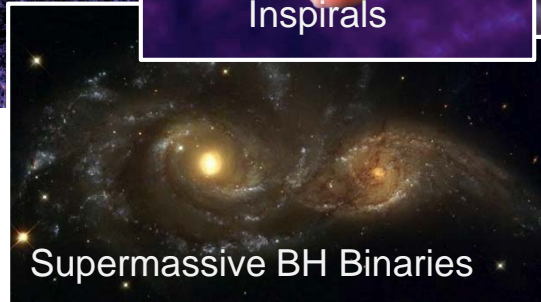
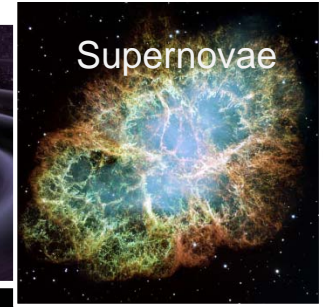
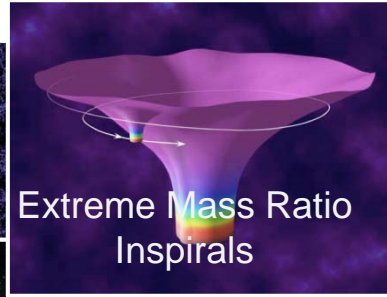
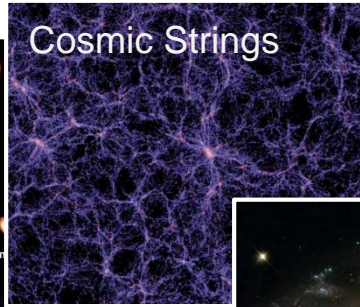
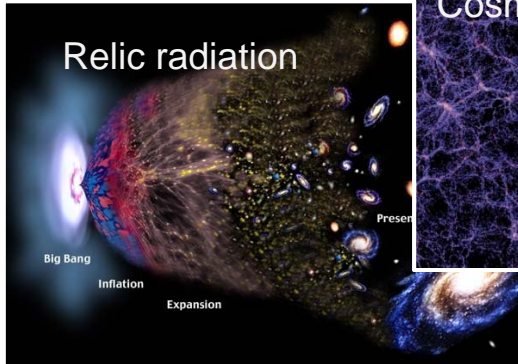
Analog from cosmic microwave background -- WMAP 2003

# Frequency range of GW Astronomy





# The GW Spectrum



$10^{-16}$  Hz

$10^{-9}$  Hz

$10^{-4}$  Hz

$10^0$  Hz

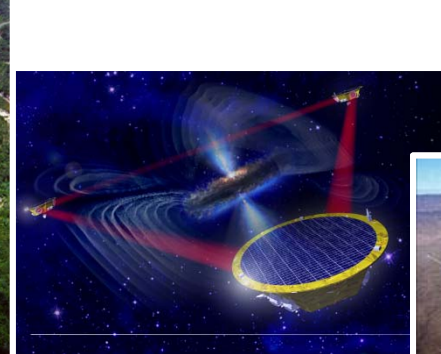
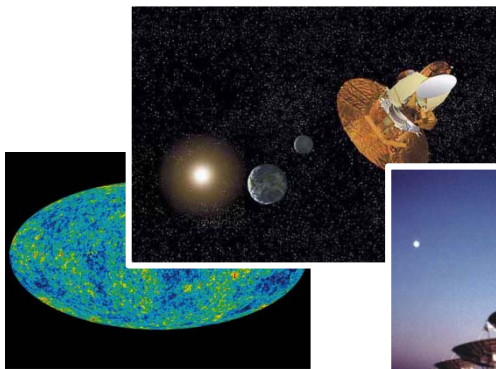
$10^3$  Hz

Inflation Probe

Pulsar timing

Space detectors

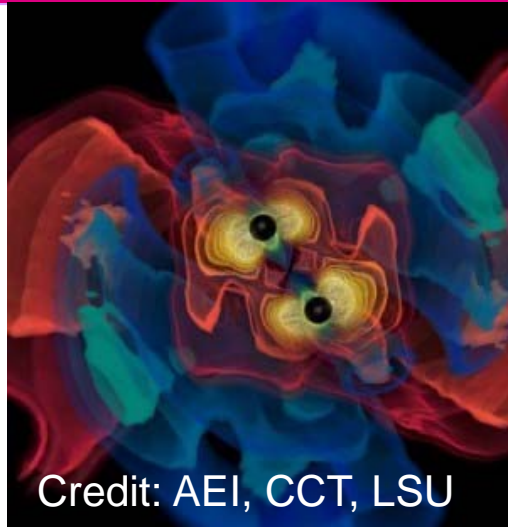
Ground interferometers





# LIGO GW sources for ground-based detectors.

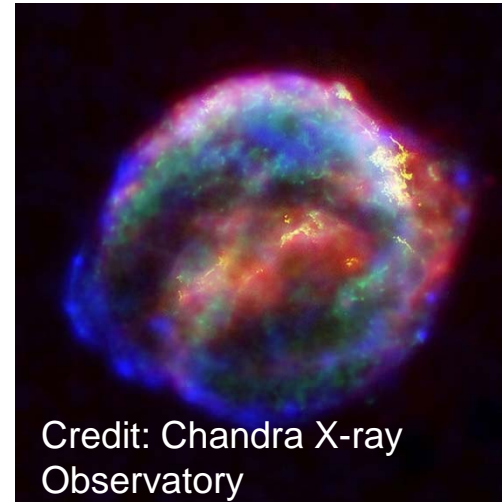
## The most energetic processes in the universe



Credit: AEI, CCT, LSU

Coalescing Compact Binary Systems:  
*Neutron Star-NS, Black Hole-NS, BH-BH*

- Strong emitters, well-modeled,
- (effectively) transient



Credit: Chandra X-ray Observatory

Asymmetric Core Collapse Supernovae

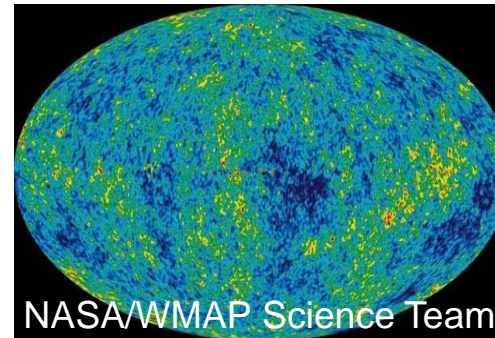
- Weak emitters, not well-modeled ('bursts'), transient
- Cosmic strings, soft gamma repeaters, pulsar glitches also in 'burst' class



Casey Reed, Penn State

Spinning neutron stars

- (effectively) monotonic waveform
- Long duration



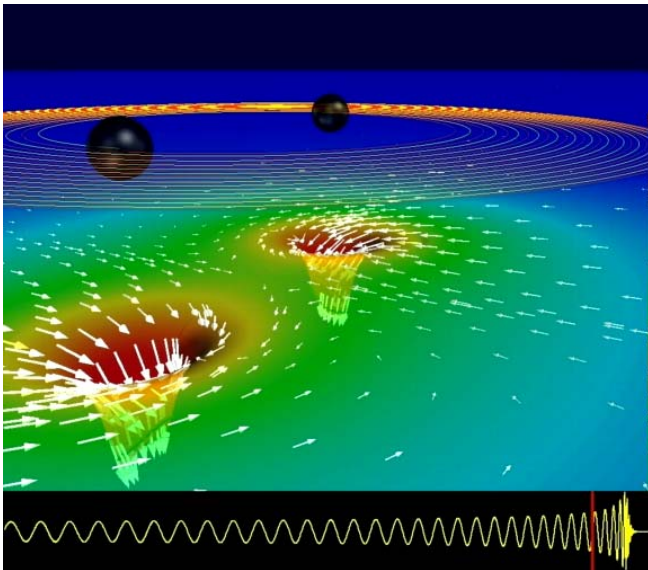
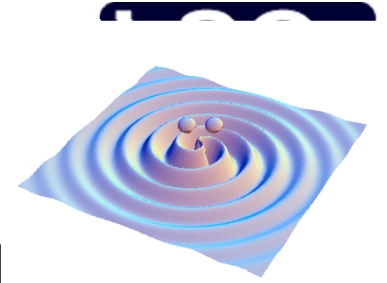
NASA/WMAP Science Team

Cosmic Gravitational-wave Background

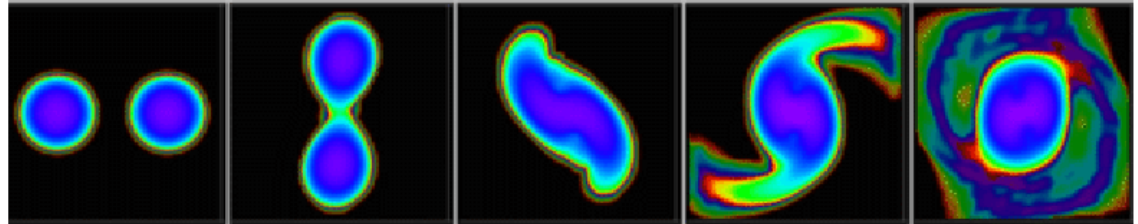
- Residue of the Big Bang, long duration
- Long duration, stochastic background



# LIGO GWs from coalescing compact binaries (NS/NS, BH/BH, NS/BH)

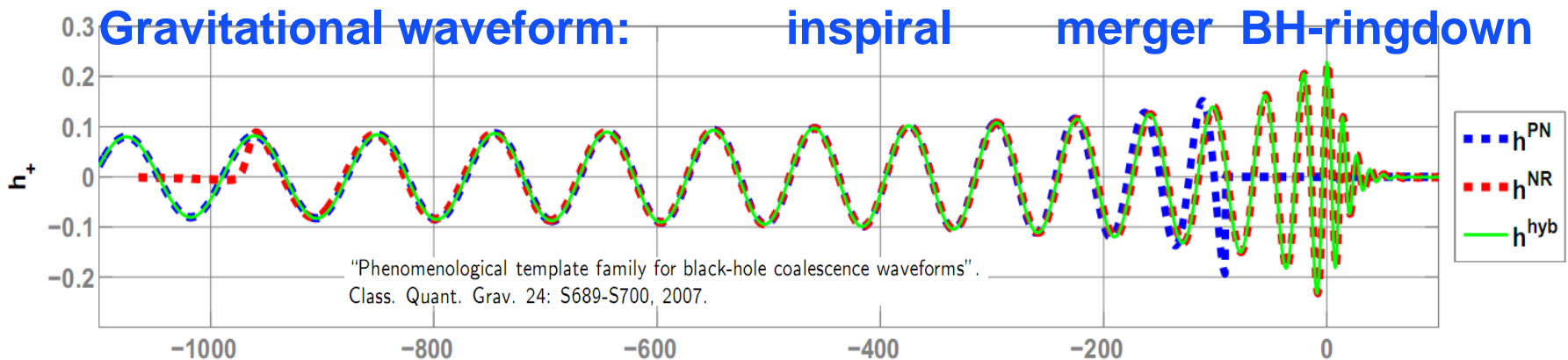


- Neutron star – neutron star (Centrella et al.)

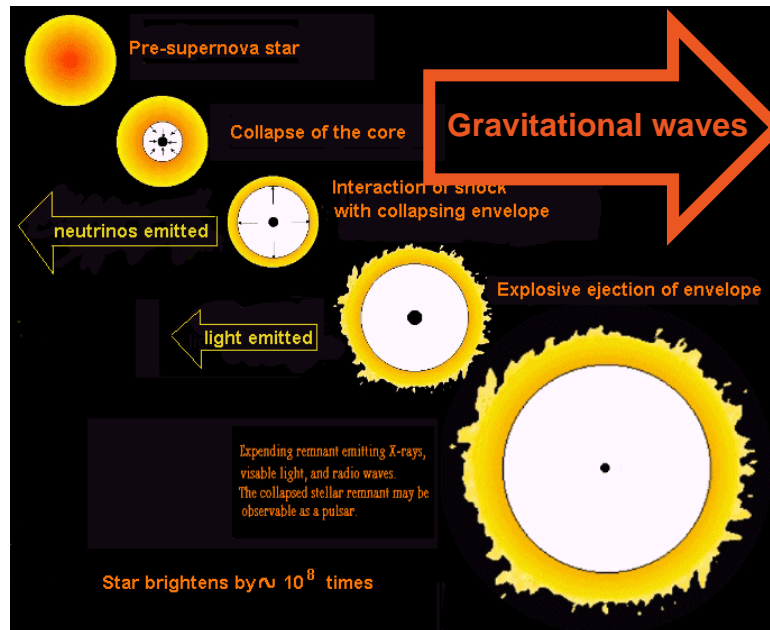


## Tidal disruption of neutron star

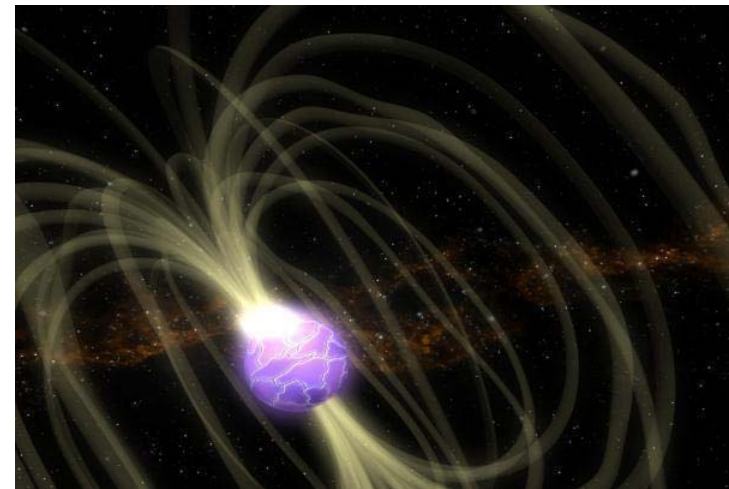
A unique and powerful laboratory to study strong-field, highly dynamical gravity and the structure of nuclear matter in the most extreme conditions



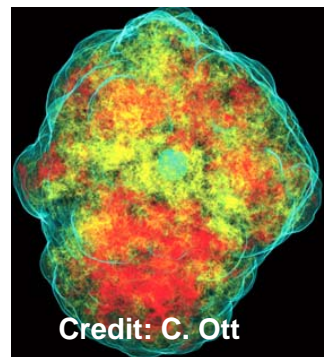
# Unmodeled, short-duration (<math>\lesssim 1\text{ s}</math>) GW Bursts



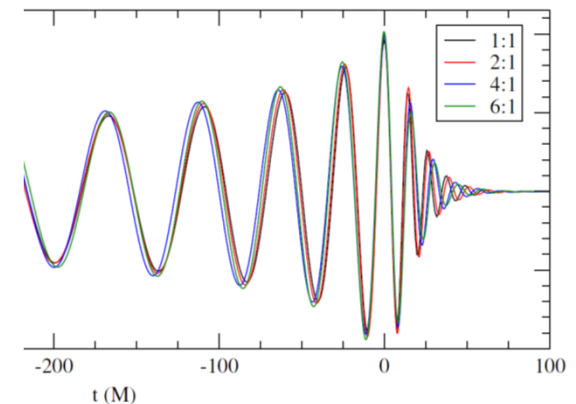
Core collapse supernova



Magnetar flares / storms



High-mass binary merger and ringdown



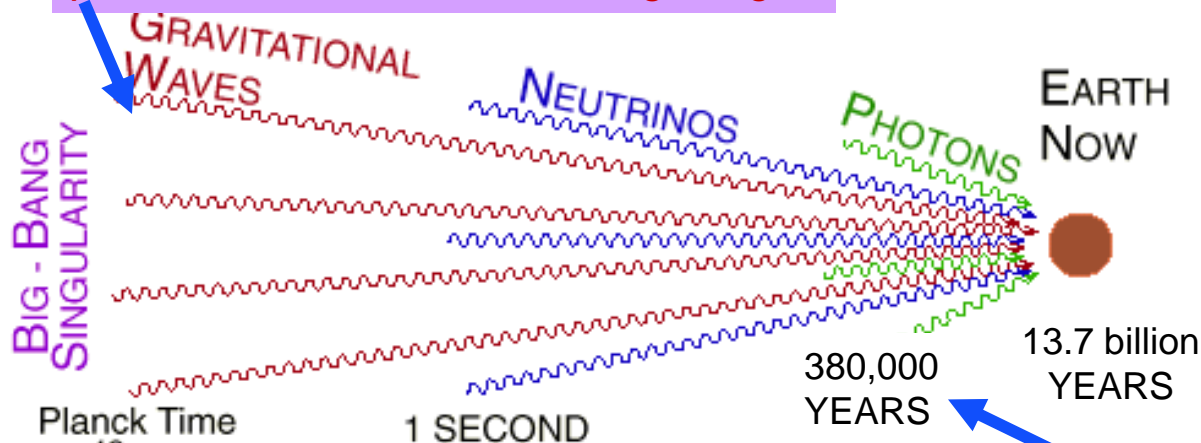
# Gravitational waves from Big Bang

Waves now in the LIGO band were produced  $10^{-22}$  sec after the big bang

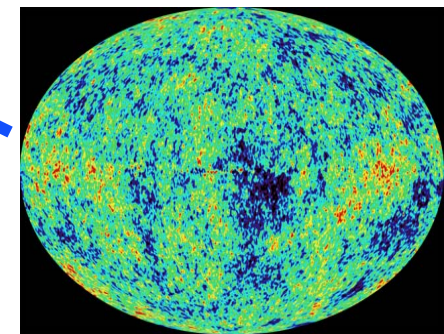
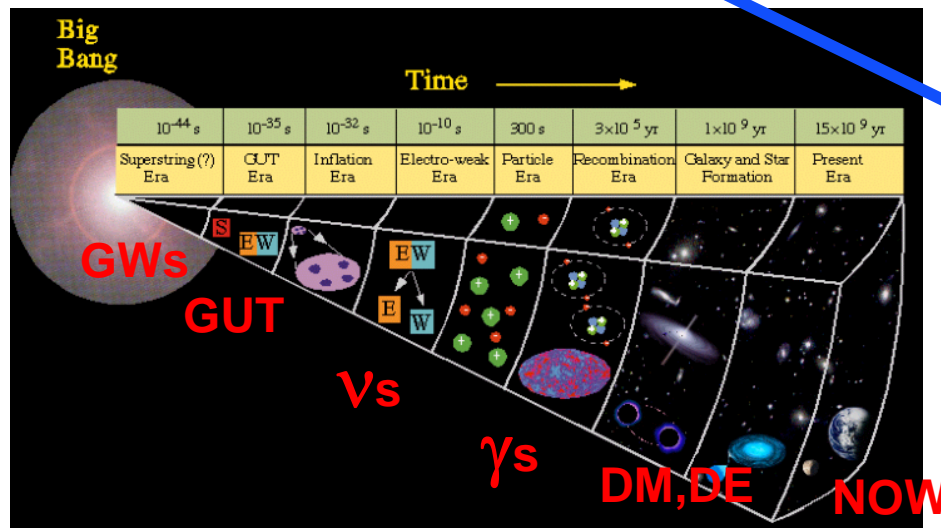
$$\Omega_{GW}(f) = \frac{1}{\rho_c} \frac{d\rho_{GW}(f)}{d \ln f}$$

$$\rho_{GW} = \frac{c^2}{32\pi G} \langle \dot{h}_{ab} \dot{h}^{ab} \rangle$$

$$h(f) = 6.3 \times 10^{-22} \sqrt{\Omega_{GW}(f)} \left( \frac{100 \text{ Hz}}{f} \right)^{3/2} \text{ Hz}^{-1/2}$$

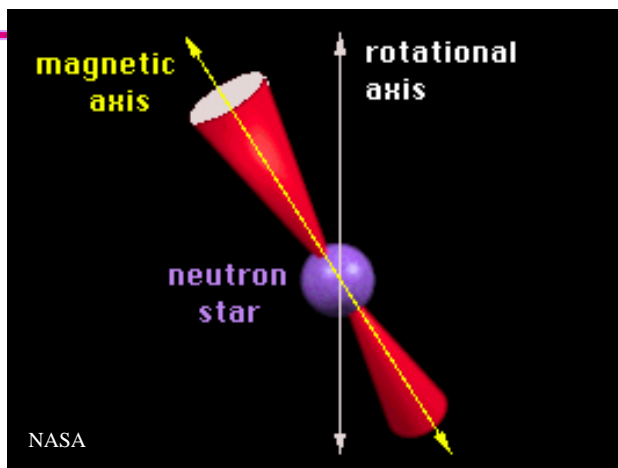


Planck Time  
 $10^{-43}$  SECONDS  
Singularity  
creates  
Space & Time  
of our universe



cosmic microwave background -- WMAP 2003

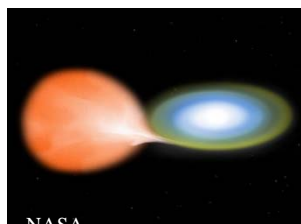
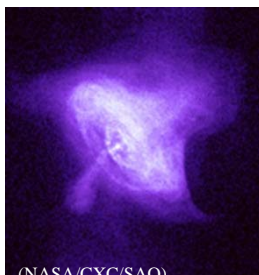
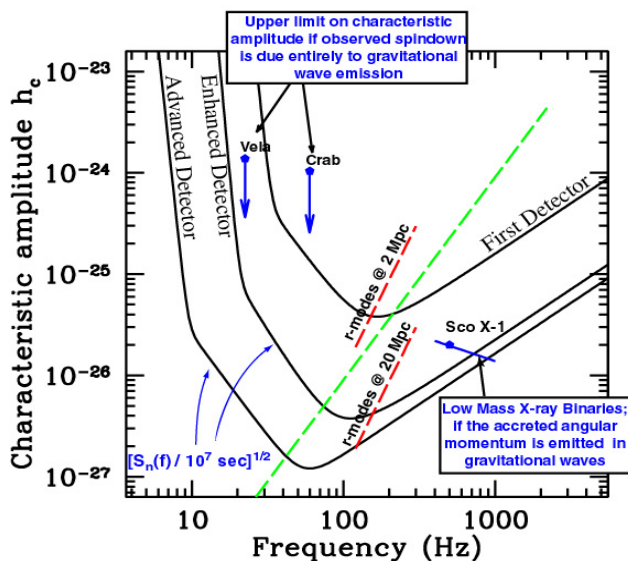
# Pulsars and continuous wave sources



## Pulsars in our galaxy

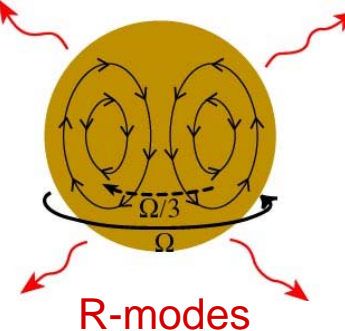
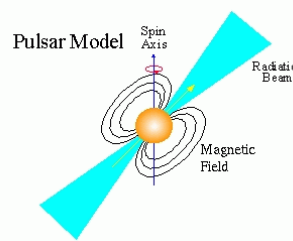
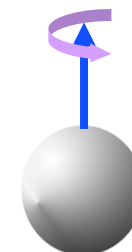
- » non axisymmetric:  $10^{-4} < \epsilon < 10^{-6}$
- » science: EOS; precession; interiors
- » “R-mode” instabilities
- » narrow band searches best

Sensitivity of LIGO to continuous wave sources

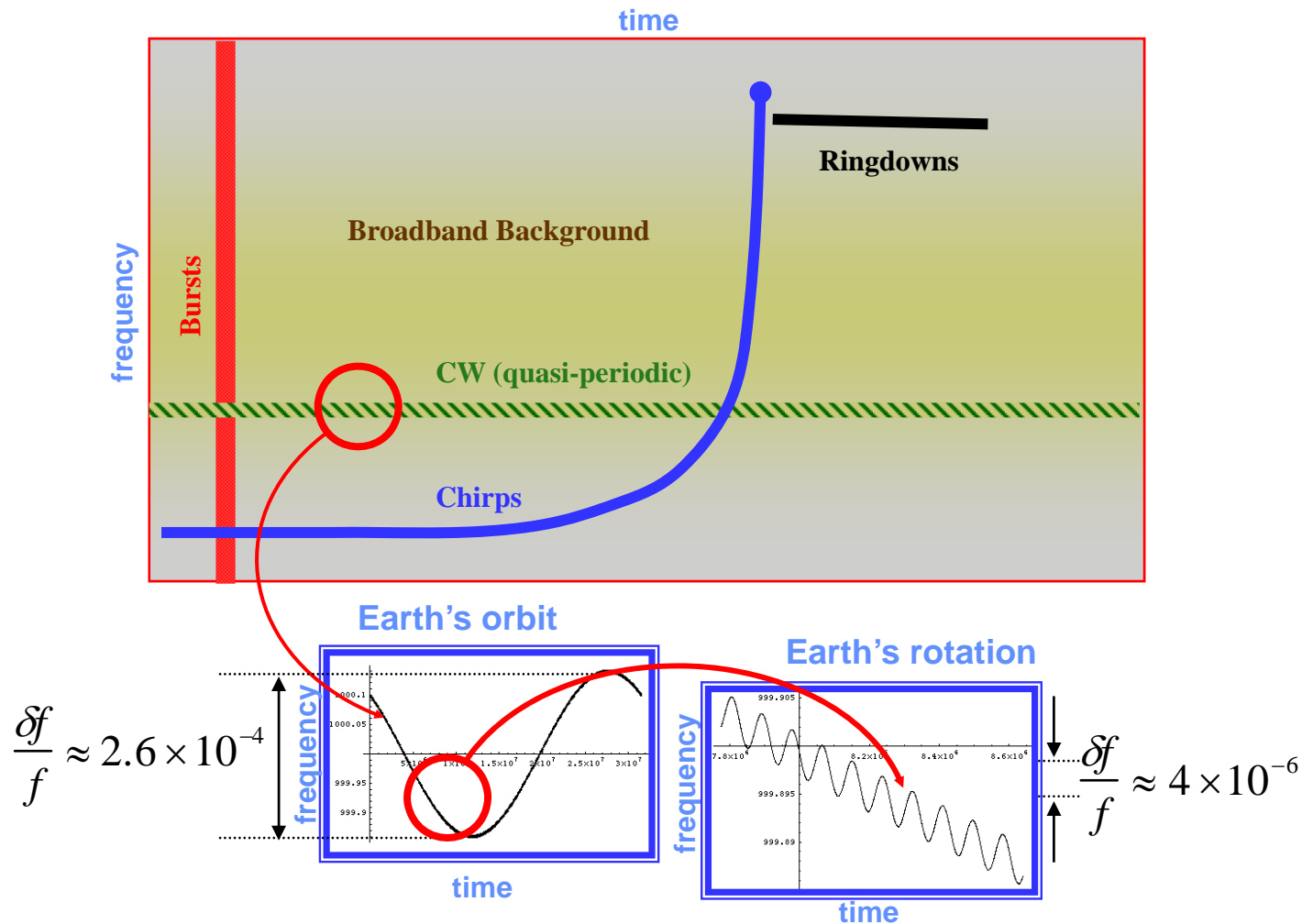


$$h = \frac{4\pi^2 G}{c^4} \frac{I f_{GW}^2}{d} \epsilon$$

$$f_{GW} = 2 f_{ROT}$$

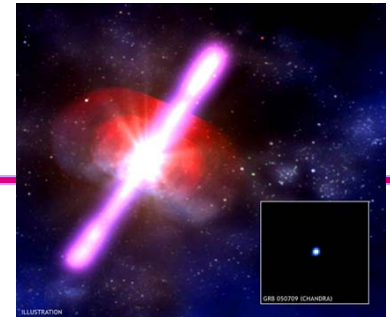


# Frequency-Time Characteristics of GW Sources

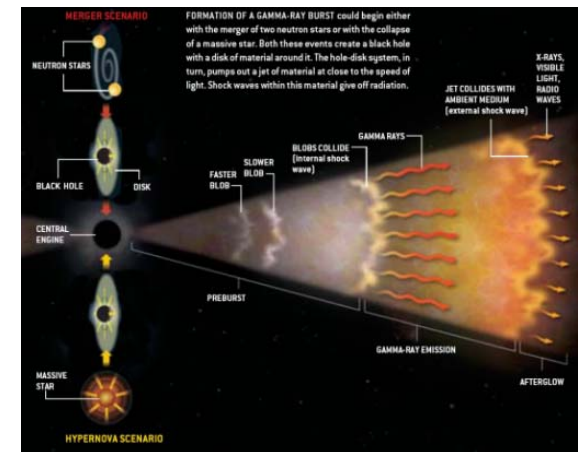




# Astrophysics with joint GW – EM observations



- Short-hard GRBs, with or without the GRB
  - » Confirm (or rule out) merger progenitor
  - » Study progenitor systems, including orientation and beaming
  - » Relate GW and EM energy release
  - » Relate merger parameters to hosts (metallicity, SFR, ...)
- Follow-ups: detect optical afterglow, host galaxy, redshift...
  - » Low latency pipeline, sky localization
- CBC mergers as cosmological standard sirens.
  - » Independent measurement of Hubble constant
  - »  $a(z)$ , dark energy EoS







# GW and EM

## Multi-messenger Astronomy

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### Gravitational Waves:

- » Bulk motion dynamics
- » Binary parameters
- » Direct probe of central engine
- » Progenitor mass
- » GW energetics
- » Luminosity distance

### Light Curve & Spectrum:

- » Precise sky location
- » Host galaxy
- » Gas environment
- » Progenitor star
- » EM energetics
- » Red shift

**more complete picture of progenitor physics**

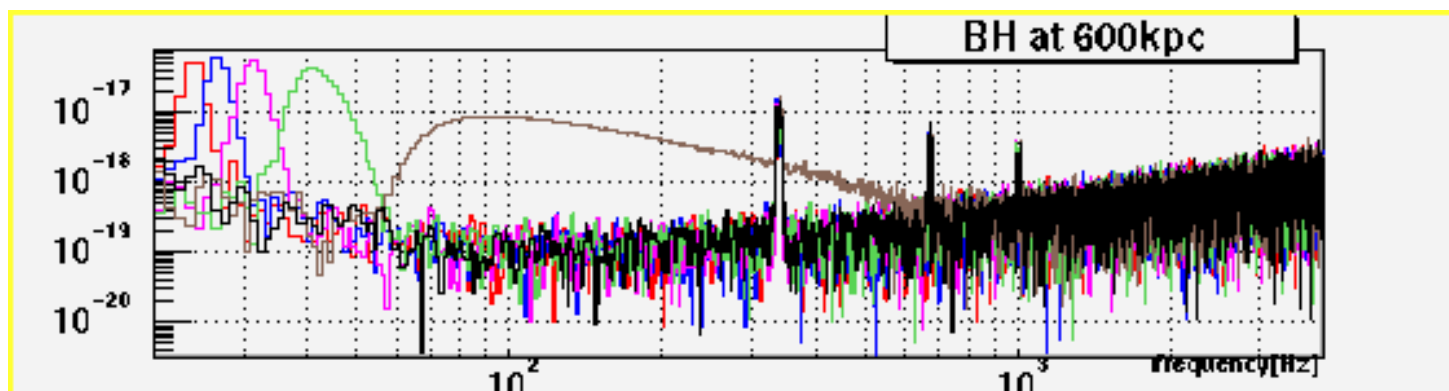
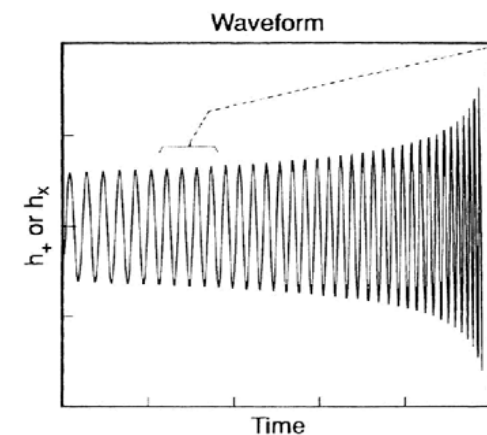
Combining these observations will also

- increase detection confidence,
- allow a measurement of the local Hubble constant.

# The sound of a chirp

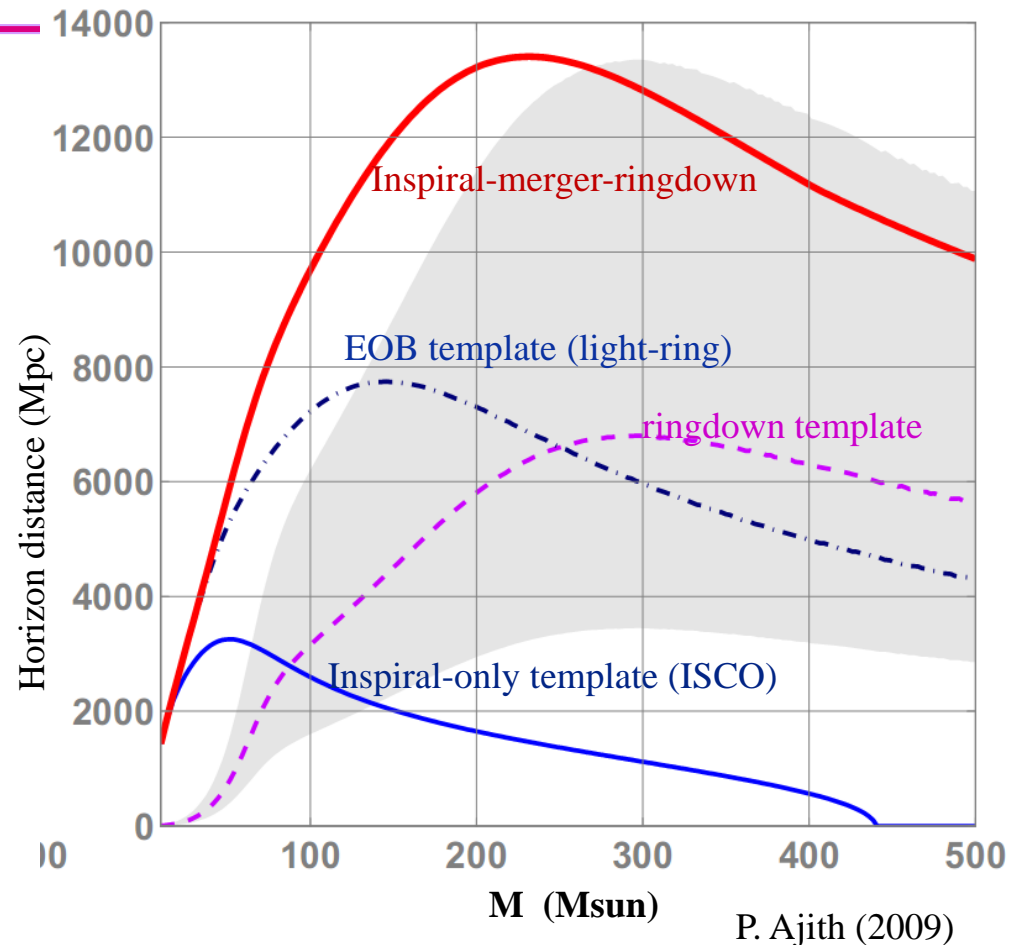
## BH-BH collision, no noise

The sound of a BH-BH collision,  
 Fourier transformed over 5 one-second intervals  
 (red, blue, magenta, green, purple)  
 along with expected IFO noise (black)



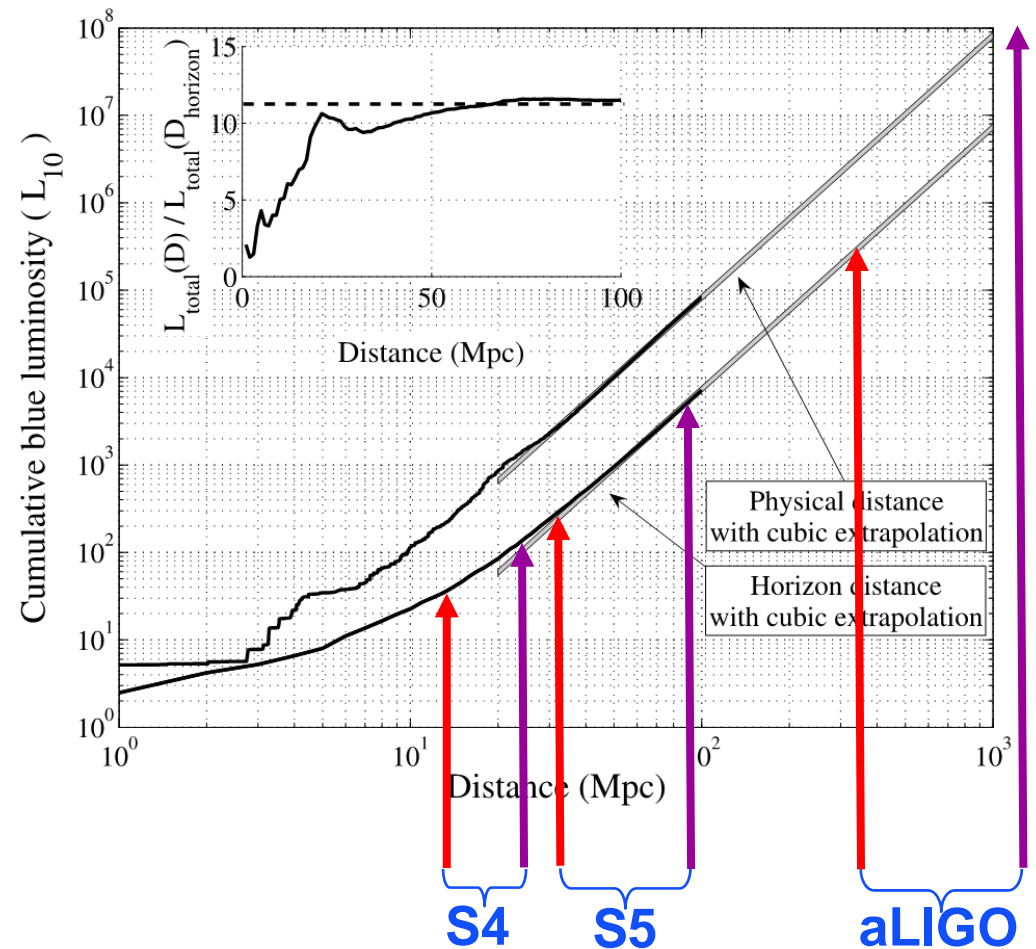
# Horizon distance for compact binary mergers

- **Horizon distance:** Distance in Mpc at which one Advanced LIGO detector can see an optimally-located, optimally oriented binary merger with an SNR=8, as a function of total mass.
- **Averaging over sky location and orientation degrades this by ~2.26.**
- **Important to use the right templates, including IMR, and spin effects!**
- **Experience from Initial LIGO-Virgo suggests that reliable detection is possible with an average SNR/detector ~ 8.**



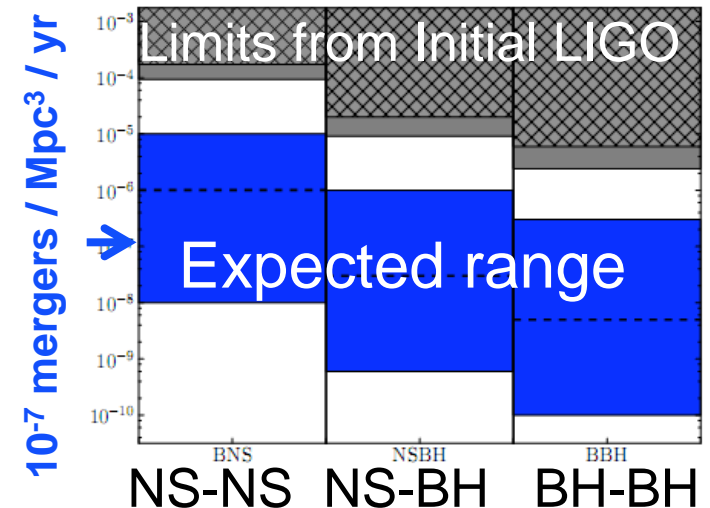
# Expected detection rate: How many sources can we see?

- CBC waveforms have known amplitude  
 $h \sim (GM/c^2 r) \times F(\alpha, \delta, t)$
- Measured detector sensitivity defines a *horizon distance*
- This encloses a known number of sources:  
 $MWEG = 1.7 \times 10^{10} L_s = 1.7 L_{10}$
- From galactic binary pulsars:  
 $R(\text{BNSC}) \sim 10\text{-}170 \text{ /Myr}/L_{10}$
- From population synthesis:  
 $R(\text{BBHC}) \sim 0.1 - 15 \text{ /Myr}/L_{10}$
- To see more than 10 events/yr, we need to be sensitive to  $10^5 - 10^7$  galaxies!



# Expected ranges of binary merger rates

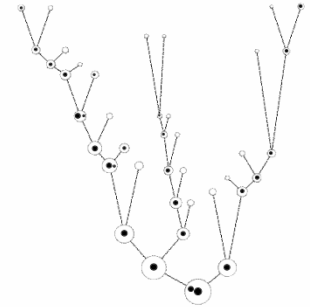
- Estimates of astrophysical event rate (mergers / Mpc<sup>3</sup> / yr) from known NS-NS close binaries in our galaxy, and population synthesis models.
  - LVC, Class. Quant. Grav. 27 (2010) 173001
- Detection range in Mpc (SNR = 8 in one detector, averaged over source sky location and orientation) based on aLIGO Mode 1b noise model ( $P=125$  W,  $T_{\text{SRM}}=20\%$ ,  $F_{\text{SRM}}=0^\circ$ )



System	Masses (M <sub>sun</sub> )	Range (Mpc)	Low rate est. (yr <sup>-1</sup> )	Realistic rate (yr <sup>-1</sup> )	High rate est. (yr <sup>-1</sup> )
NS-NS	1.4/1.4	200	0.4	40	400
NS-BH	1.4/10	410	10	300	
BH-BH	10/10	970	20	1000	

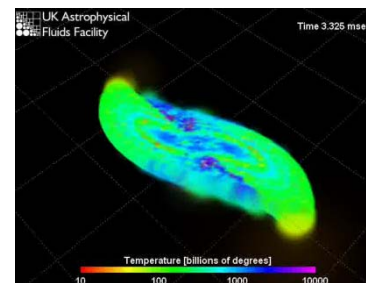
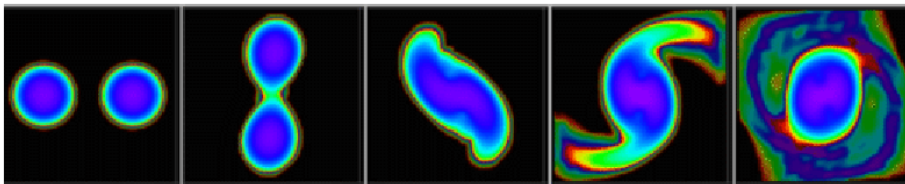
# Astrophysical science with binary mergers

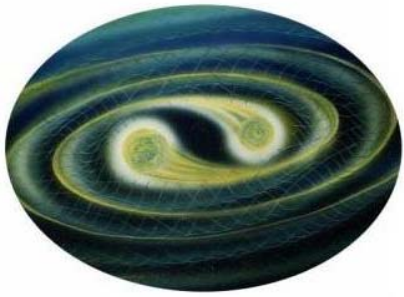
- **Merger rates as function of mass, mass ratio, spin**
  - » Establish existence of black hole binaries
  - » Neutron star mass distribution
  - » Black hole number, mass, spin and location distribution
  - » Search for intermediate-mass black holes
- **Inform / constrain astrophysical source distribution models**
  - » Extract population synthesis model parameters.
  - » Binary formation and evolution history
  - » Explore hierarchical merger scenarios
- **Study matter effects in waveform: tidal disruption, NS EOS.**



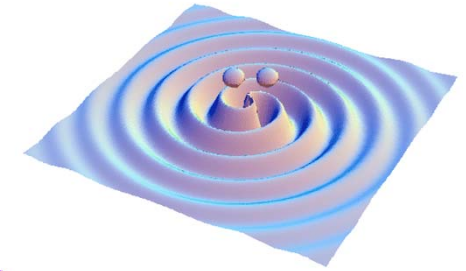
[ciera.northwestern.edu/rasio](http://ciera.northwestern.edu/rasio)

- Neutron star – neutron star (Centrella et al.)

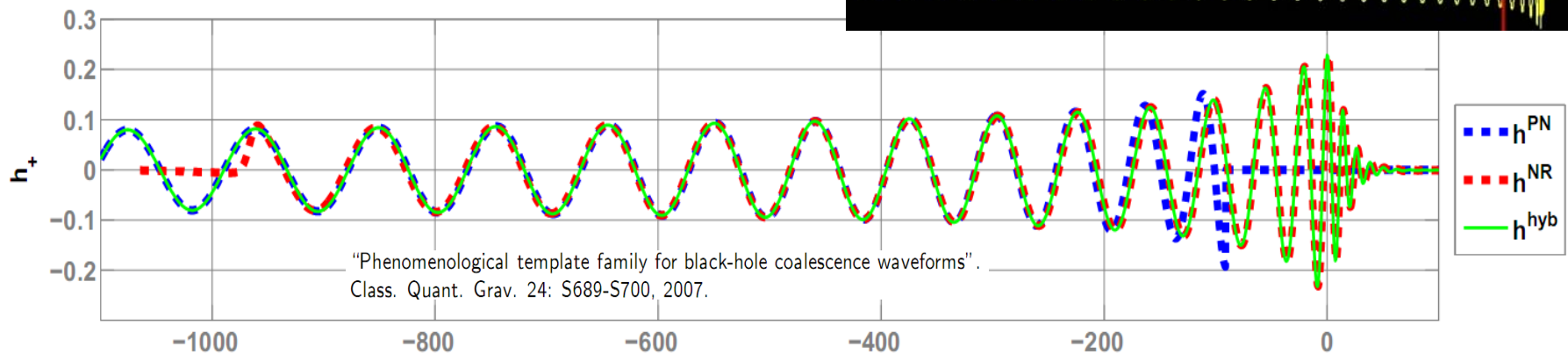
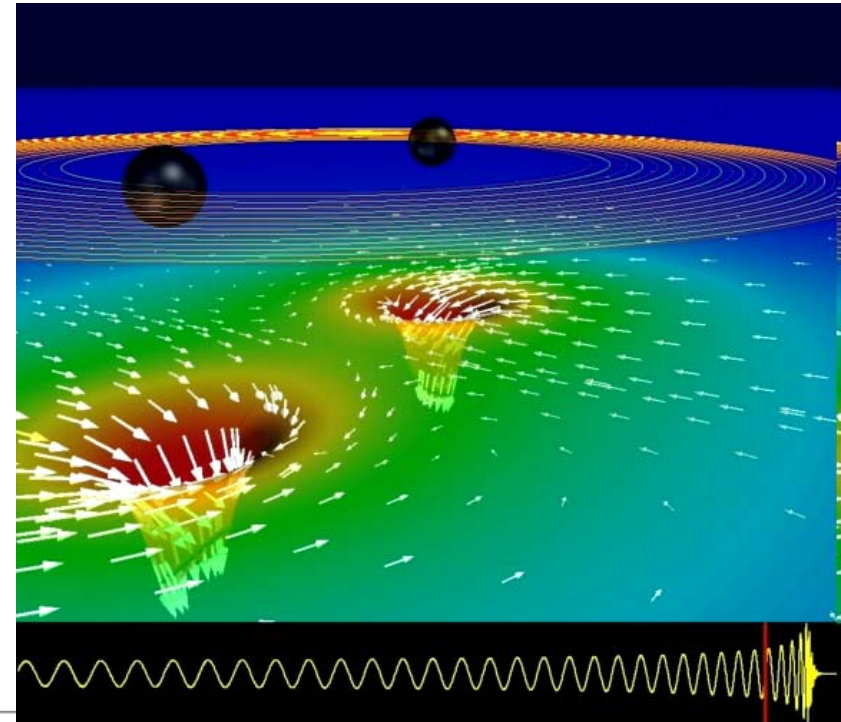




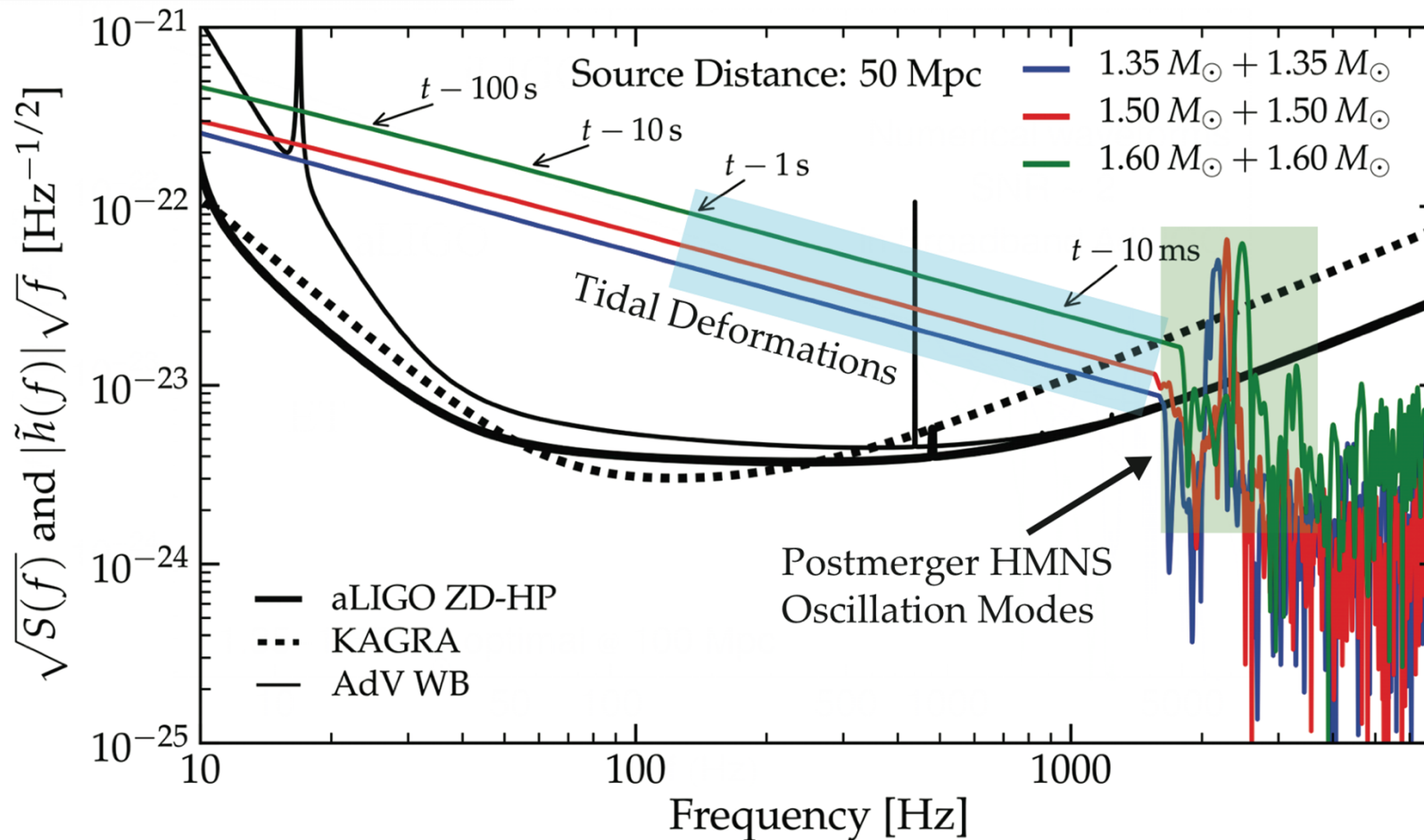
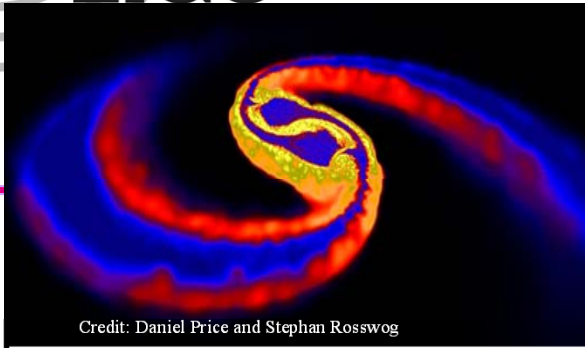
# Understanding Inspiral-Merger-Ringdown



- The key to optimal detection is a well-modeled waveform, especially the phase evolution
- Low-mass systems (BNS) merge above  $\sim 1500$  Hz, where LIGO noise is high - we see the inspiral
- Higher-mass systems (BBH) merge or ring down in-band.
- These systems are unique: highly relativistic, dynamical, strong-field gravity – exactly where Einstein's equations are most non-linear, intractable, interesting, and poorly-tested.
- Numerical relativity is devoted to deriving waveforms for such systems, to aid in detection and to test our understanding of strong-field gravity.
- HUGE progress in the last few years!



# Effects of tidal disruption of neutron stars near merger



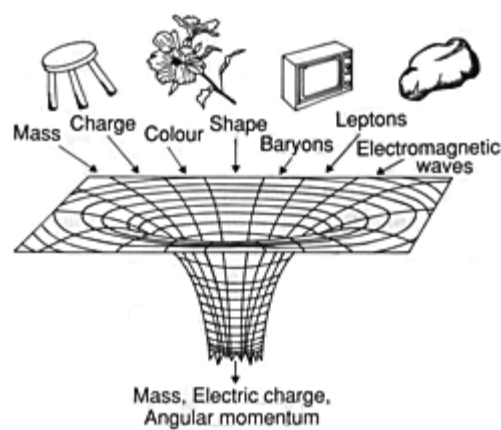
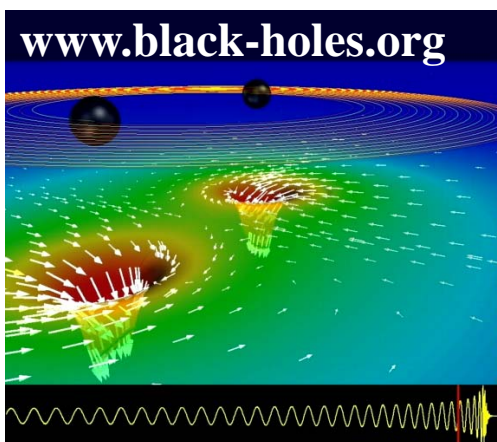
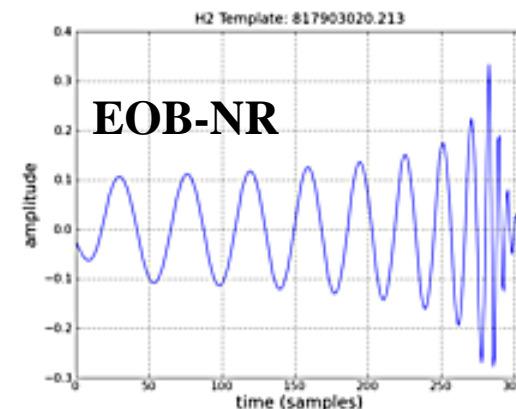


# Testing General Relativity in the strong-field, dynamical regime

- Test post-Newtonian expansion of inspiral phase.

$$\Psi(f) \equiv 2\pi f t_0 + \varphi_0 + \frac{3}{128\eta v^5} \left( 1 + \sum_{k=2}^7 v^k \psi_k \right).$$

- Test Numerical Relativity waveform prediction for merger phase.
- Test association of inspiral and ringdown phases: BH perturbation theory, no-hair theorem.

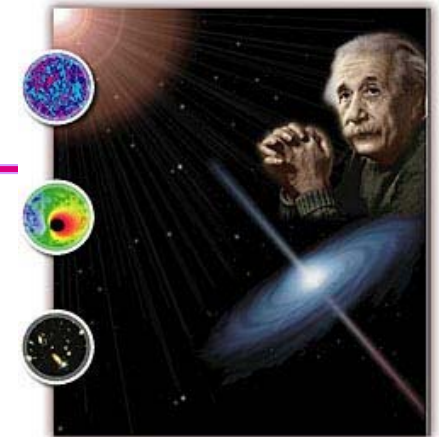


[nonlocal.com/hbar/blackholes.html](http://nonlocal.com/hbar/blackholes.html)



# Testing beyond-GR

- Constrain beyond-GR parameters (Will, 2006)
- Directly measure **speed of gravitational waves**, constrain (or measure) the **mass of the graviton**.
- Constrain (or measure) **longitudinal or other polarizations**.
- Constrain (or measure) **parity-violating effects in wave generation/propagation** (Yunes et al, 2010).
- Constrain “parameterized post-Einsteinian framework” (Yunes & Pretorius, 2009)
- Test specifically for **scalar-tensor and other alternative-gravity theories**





... Fin ...

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We look forward to the coming advanced detector era:

- the discovery and exploration of the GW sky;
- unique tests of General Relativity in the strong-field, highly non-linear and dynamical regime;
- joint observations and discoveries with EM and neutrino telescopes;
- and a rich new branch of astrophysics.

But most of all, we look forward to ...

**the unexpected!**