

# Long gravitational-wave transients and their detectability



**Universitat**  
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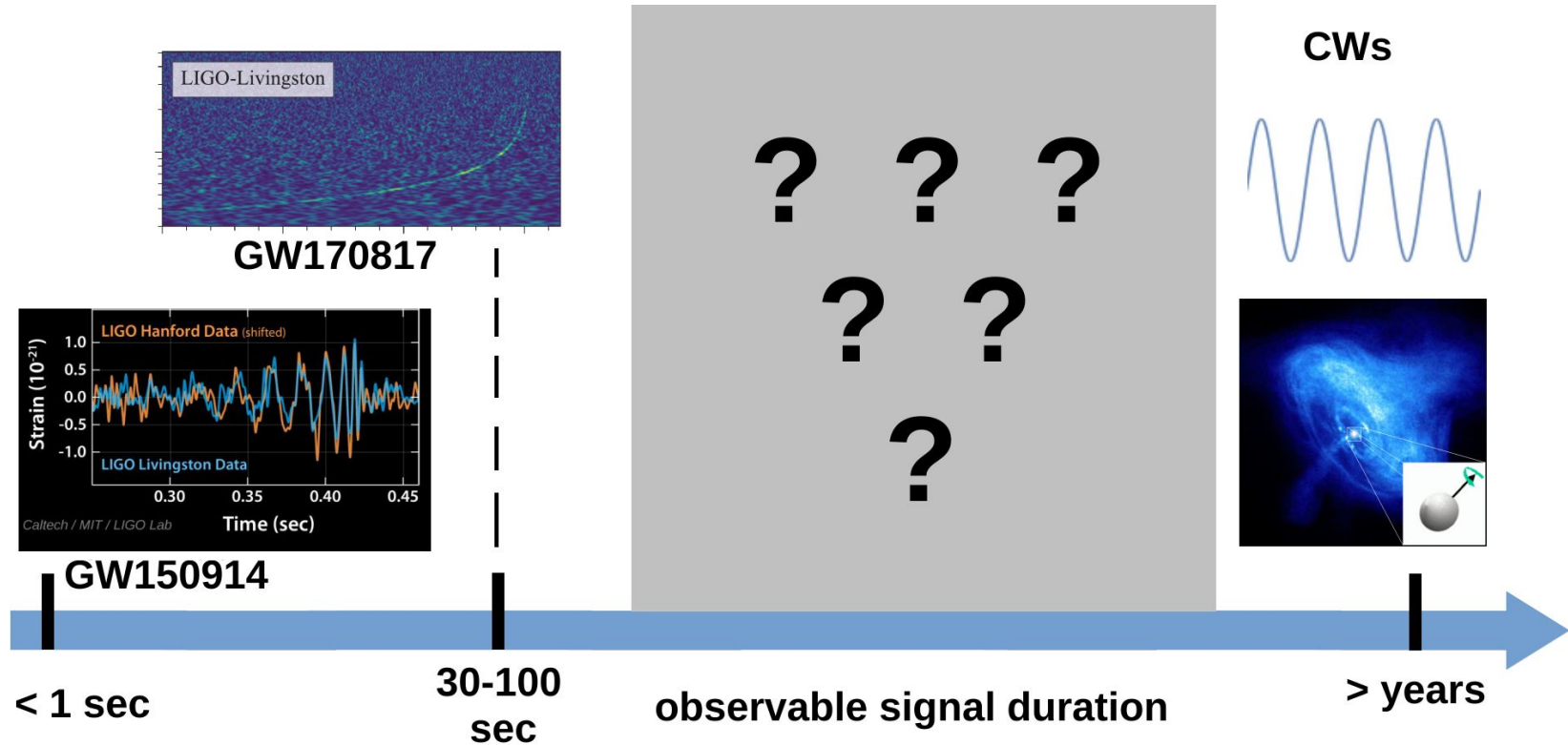
David Keitel

(IAC3 / Universitat de les Illes Balears)

2024/11/22

**IAC3** Institute of Applied Computing  
& Community Code.

# long-duration CW-like transients

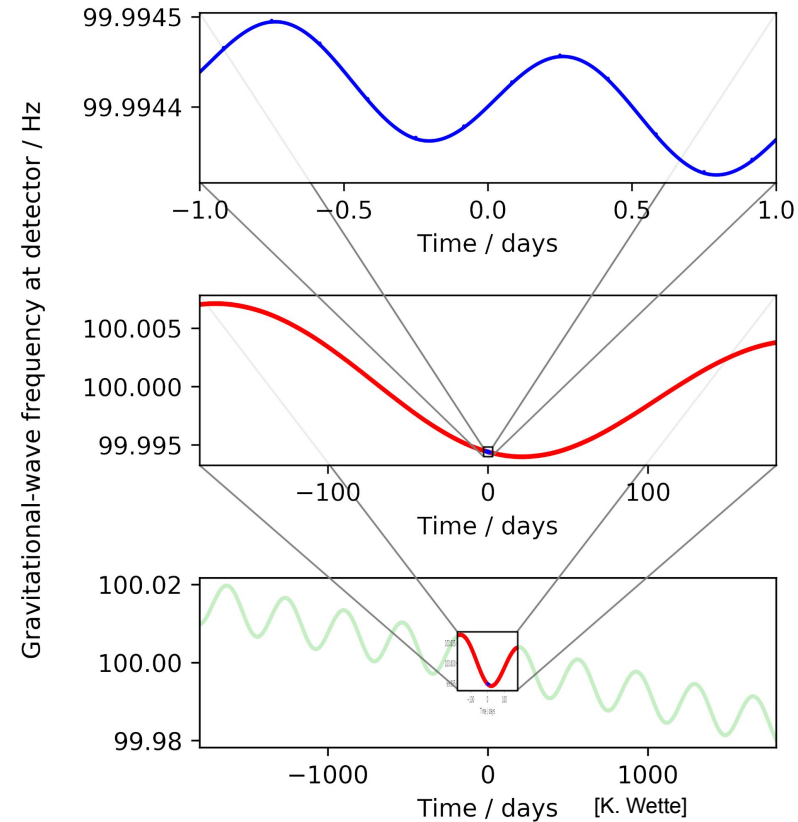
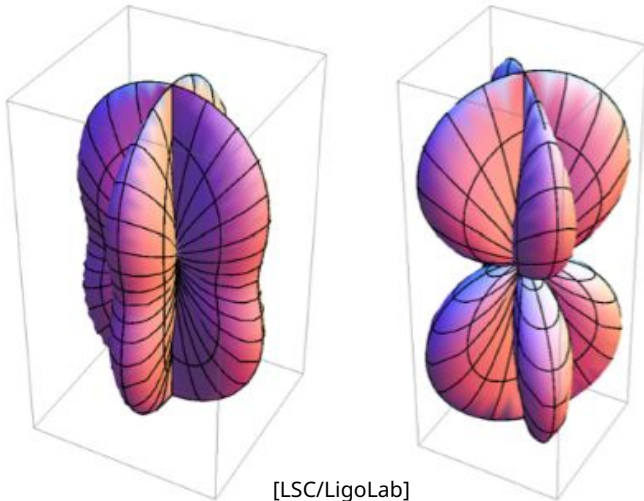


- newborn neutron stars (BNS merger remnants / supernovae)
- pulsar glitches

- magnetar and X-ray pulsar bursts
- vector boson clouds
- low-mass PBH binaries

# “CW-like” transients?

- quasi-monochromatic signals:  
very slow evolution of frequency and amplitude
- signal duration < observing time
- but often long enough for time-varying
  - antenna response
  - Doppler effect between source and Earth



$$h(t; \mathcal{A}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}) = F_+(t; \mathbf{n}, \psi) A_+ \cos [\phi_0 + \phi(t; \boldsymbol{\lambda})] + F_\times(t; \mathbf{n}, \psi) A_\times \sin [\phi_0 + \phi(t; \boldsymbol{\lambda})]$$

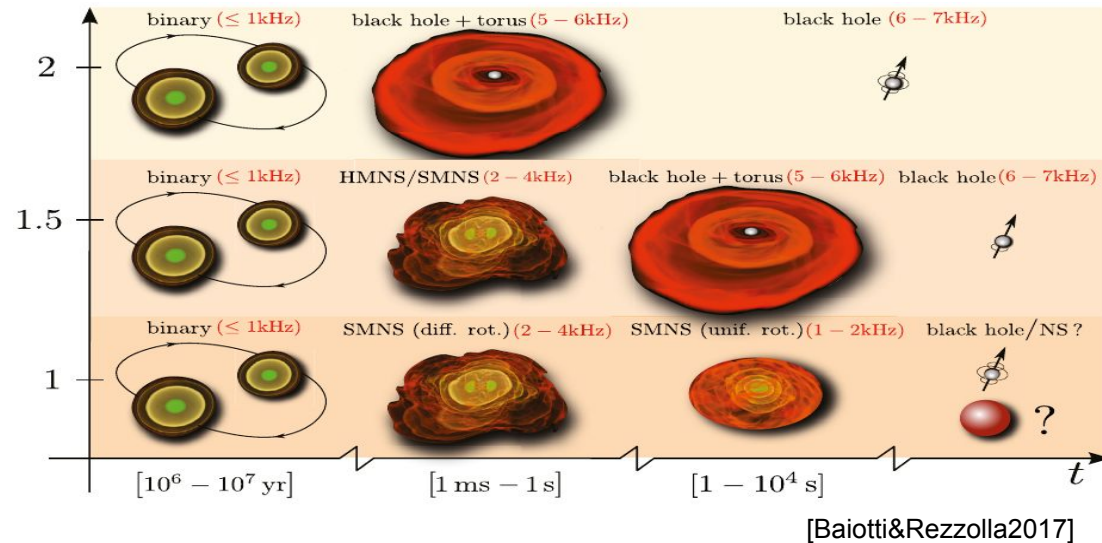
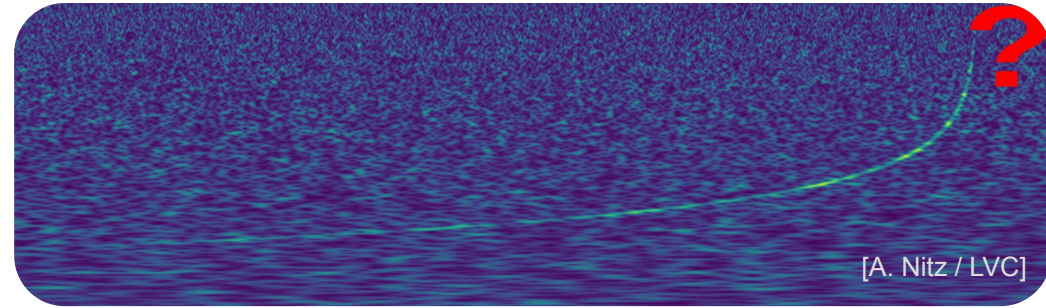
# 1. BNS remnants



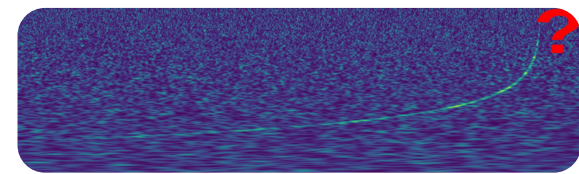
- GW170817:
  - BNS merger
  - $M_{\text{tot}} \approx 2.74 M_{\text{sun}}$
  - $d \approx 40 \text{ Mpc}$

[[Abbott+ PRL119,161101 \(2017\)](#)]

- What was the remnant?
  - direct collapse to BH?
  - [H/S]MNS  $\rightarrow$  BH?
  - stable NS?
- answer would tighten EoS constraints
- indirect EM evidence for 2) [e.g. Gill+ [ApJ876:139 \(2019\)](#)], but no direct measurement



# BNS remnants



THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL LETTERS, 851:L16 (13pp), 2017 December 10

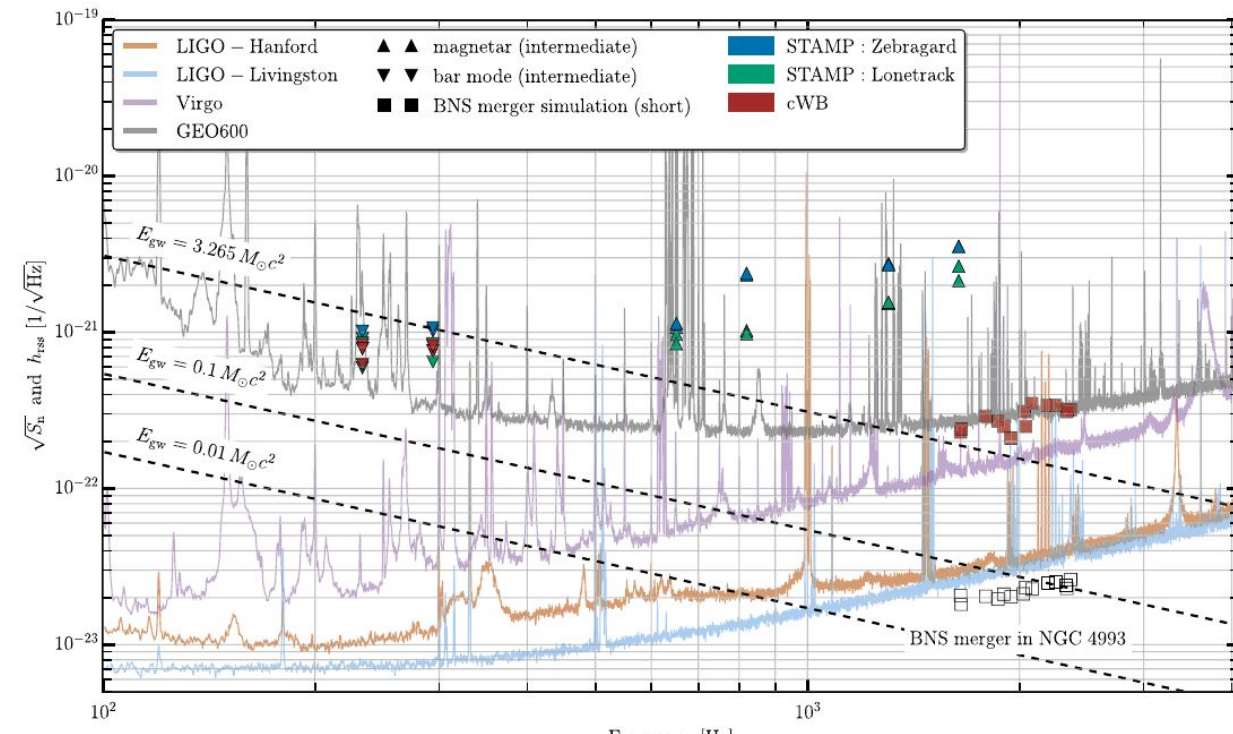
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<https://doi.org/10.3847/2041-8213/aa9a35>



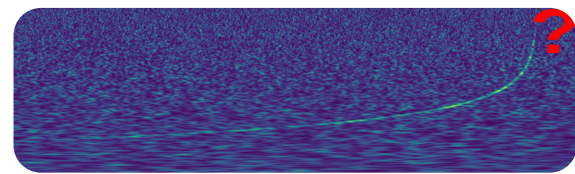
## Search for Post-merger Gravitational Waves from the Remnant of the Binary Neutron Star Merger GW170817

LIGO Scientific Collaboration and Virgo Collaboration



- short (<1s) and intermediate-duration (<500s) searches
- GW burst methods
- model-dependent sensitivity estimates:
  - NR postmerger (<1s)
  - bar modes
  - NS (“magnetar”) spin-down

# BNS remnants

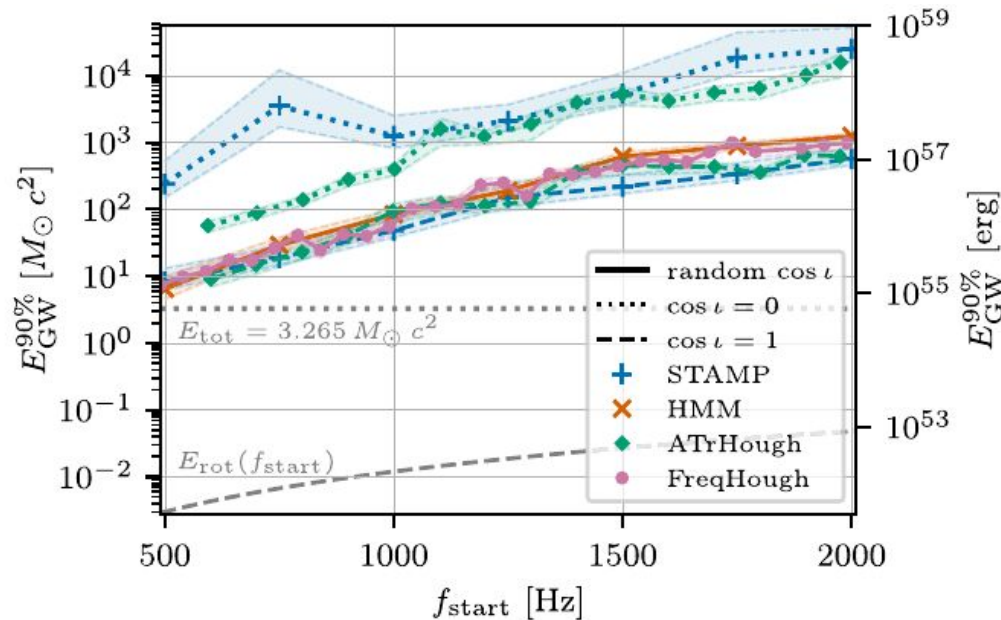
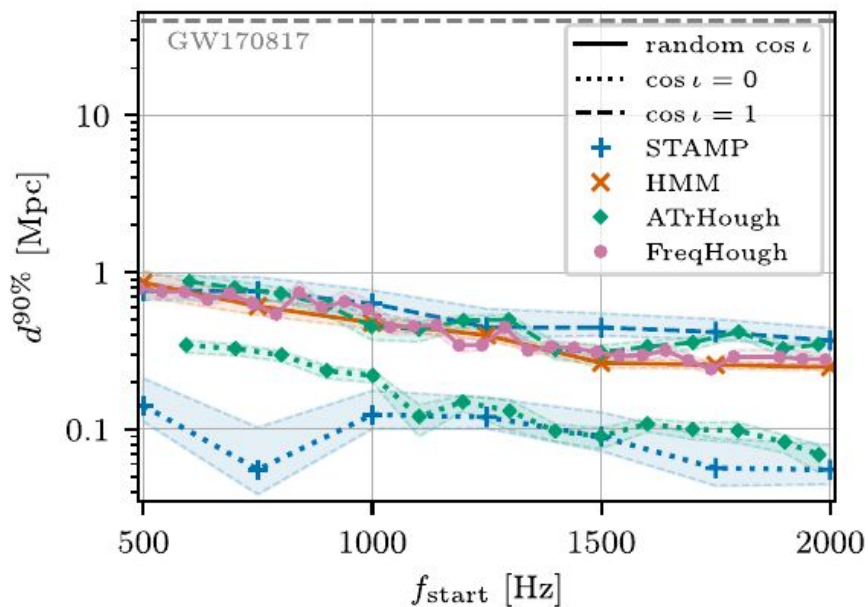


THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 875:160 (19pp), 2019 April 20  
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<https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/ab0f3d>

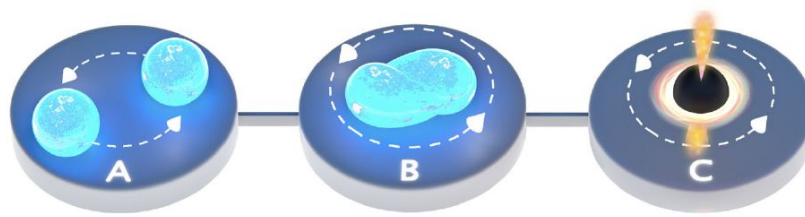


## Search for Gravitational Waves from a Long-lived Remnant of the Binary Neutron Star Merger GW170817



- CW methods
- NS (“magnetar”) spin-down
- up to 8.5 days

# BNS remnants

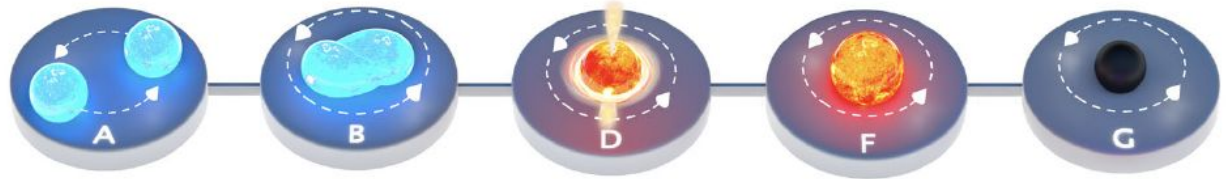


[Sarin&Lasky  
[GRG53:59 \(2021\)](#)]

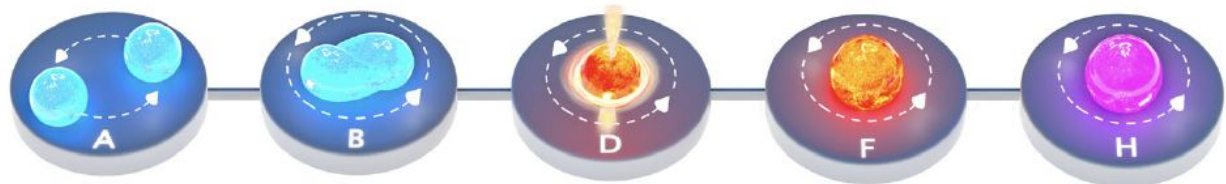
**Fig. 2** A post-merger remnant of mass  $M \gtrsim 1.5 M_{\text{TOV}}$  will immediately collapse to form a black hole with an accretion torus and jet



**Fig. 3** A post-merger remnant of mass  $1.2 M_{\text{TOV}} \gtrsim M \gtrsim 1.5 M_{\text{TOV}}$  will form a hypermassive neutron star which will collapse to a black hole on a timescale  $\mathcal{O}(1 \text{ s})$



**Fig. 6** A post-merger remnant of mass  $1.0 M_{\text{TOV}} \leq M \lesssim 1.2 M_{\text{TOV}}$  will form a supramassive neutron star, which will collapse to a black hole on a timescale  $\lesssim 10^5 \text{ s}$



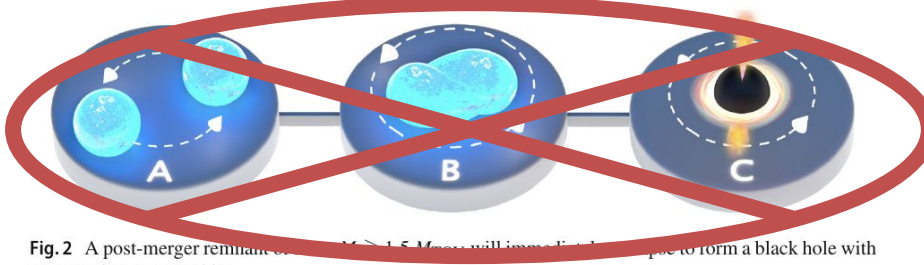
**Fig. 7** A post-merger remnant of mass  $M \leq 1 M_{\text{TOV}}$  will form an infinitely-stable neutron star

Evolution and GW  
emission depend on  
remnant mass and  
nuclear EoS.

# BNS remnants

If we had detected *short* GW transients...

+ probe rich science of complicated immediate post-merger phase



[Sarin&Lasky  
[GRG53:59 \(2021\)](#)]

Fig. 2 A post-merger remnant of mass  $M \gtrsim 1.5 M_{\text{TOV}}$  will immediately collapse to form a black hole with an accretion torus and jet



Fig. 3 A post-merger remnant of mass  $1.2 M_{\text{TOV}} \gtrsim M \gtrsim 1.5 M_{\text{TOV}}$  will form a hypermassive neutron star which will collapse to a black hole on a timescale  $\mathcal{O}(1 \text{ s})$

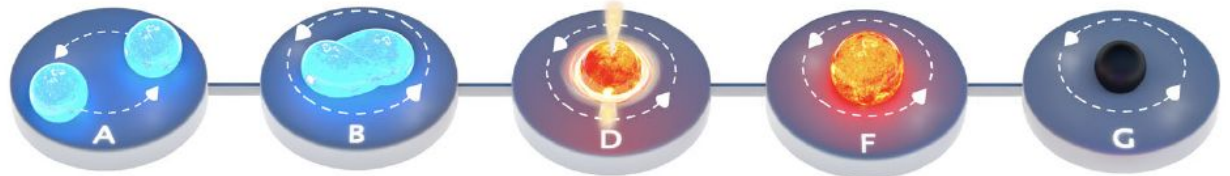


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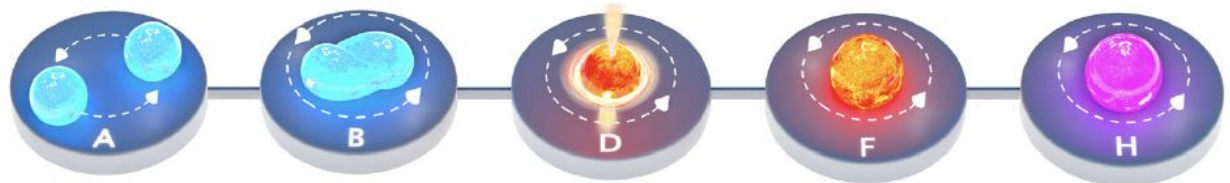


Fig. 7 A post-merger remnant of mass  $M \leq 1 M_{\text{TOV}}$  will form an infinitely-stable neutron star



# BNS remnants

If we had detected *long* GW transients...

+ probe baby NS dynamical evolution (supported ellipticity, braking index)

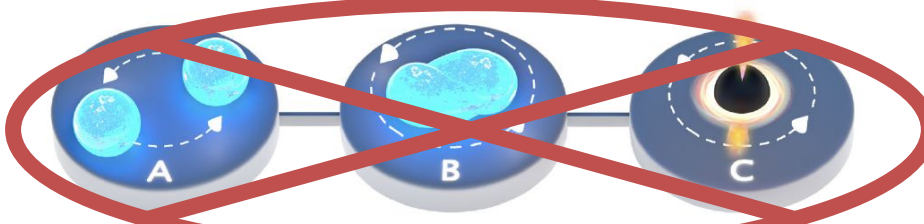


Fig. 2 A post-merger remnant of mass  $M > 1.5 M_{\text{TOV}}$  will immediately collapse to form a black hole with an accretion torus and jet

[Sarin&Lasky  
[GRG53:59 \(2021\)](#)]

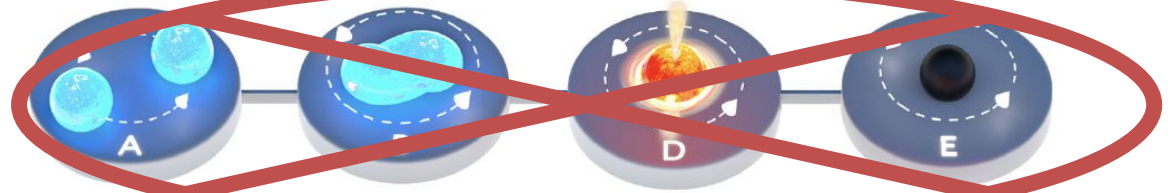


Fig. 3 A post-merger remnant of mass  $1.0 M_{\text{TOV}} < M < 1.5 M_{\text{TOV}}$  will form a hypermassive neutron star which will collapse to a black hole on a timescale  $\mathcal{O}(1 \text{ s})$

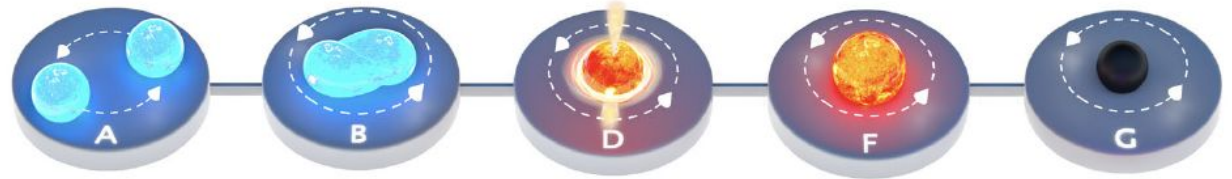


Fig. 6 A post-merger remnant of mass  $1.0 M_{\text{TOV}} \leq M \leq 1.2 M_{\text{TOV}}$  will form a supramassive neutron star, which will collapse to a black hole on a timescale  $\lesssim 10^5 \text{ s}$

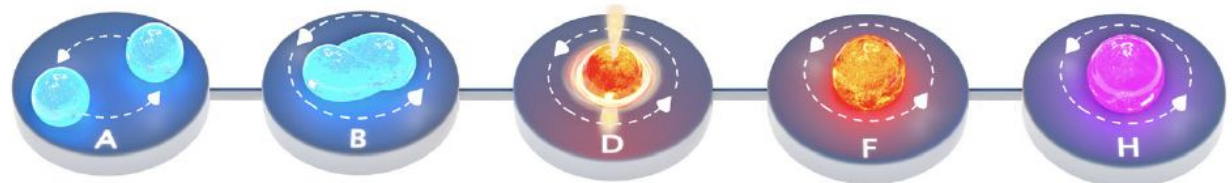


Fig. 7 A post-merger remnant of mass  $M \leq 1 M_{\text{TOV}}$  will form an infinitely-stable neutron star

# BNS and supernovae remnants

- BNS remnants: heavy and might have higher ellipticities, but rare at low distances (local merger rate:  $10\text{--}1700 \text{ Gpc}^{-3} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  from GWTC-3 [LVK PRX13,011048 (2023)])
- regular newborn NSs from core-collapse supernovae:  $R=1.63\pm 0.46 (100 \text{ yr})^{-1}$  per MW [Rozwadowska+ [New Astro. 83,101498 \(2021\)](#)]

- shared signal model:  
rapid “power-law” spindown

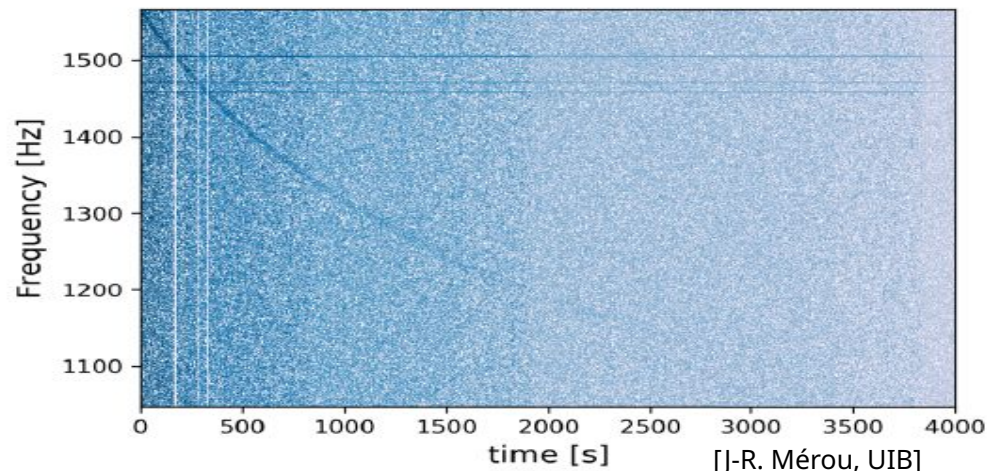
$$\dot{\Omega} = -k\Omega^n \longrightarrow h_0(t) = \frac{4\pi^2 G}{c^4} \frac{I_{zz} \epsilon f_{\text{gw},0}^2}{d} \left(1 + \frac{t}{\tau}\right)^{\frac{2}{1-n}}$$

- often called “ms magnetar” model  $n=3$  magnetic dipole,  $n=5$  mass quadrupole GWs,  $n=7$  r-mode GWs [Lasky+ <https://dcc.ligo.org/T1700408/public>]

- still monochromatic

$$f_{\text{gw}}(t) = f_{\text{gw},0} \left(1 + \frac{t}{\tau}\right)^{\frac{1}{1-n}}$$

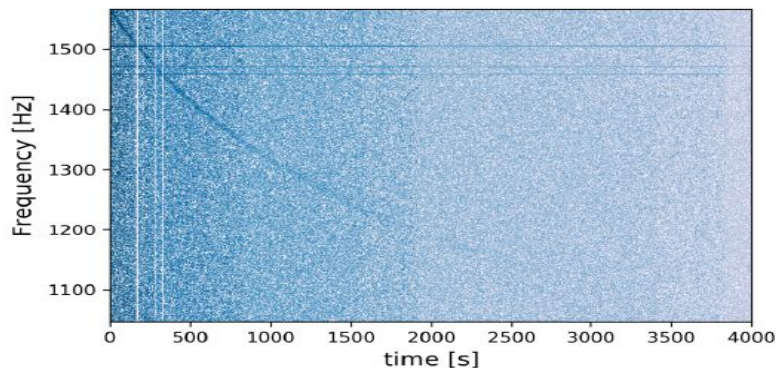
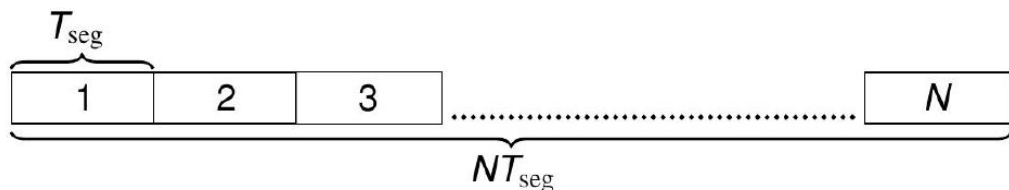
- with LVK, limited to ~few Mpc, 3G detectors: ~dozens Mpc



# BNS and supernovae remnants

- Search challenges: rapid spindown, will cross many instrumental artifacts
- various semi-coherent CW search methods have been adapted and used for GW170817

[Abbott+ [ApJ875:160 \(2019\)](#)]



[J.-R. Mérou, UIB]

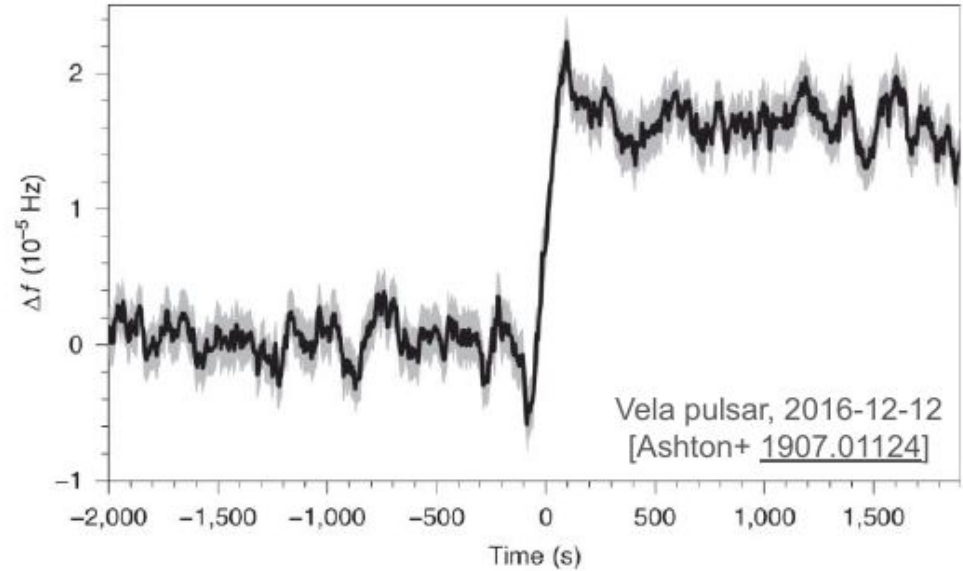
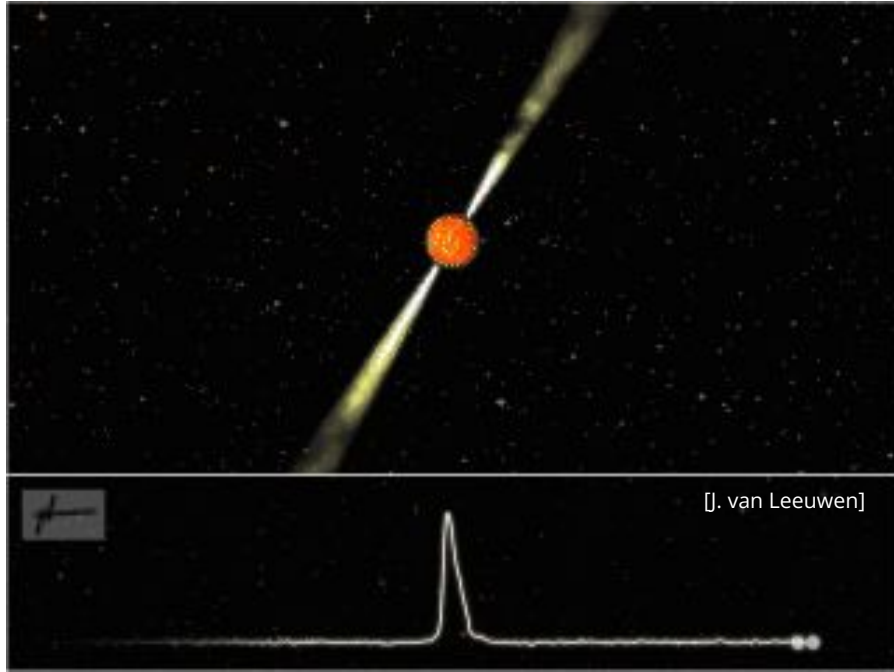


- AdaptiveTransientHough [Oliver, Keitel & Sintes [PRD99,104067 \(2019\)](#)]
- Generalized FrequencyHough [Miller+ [PRD98,102004 \(2018\)](#)]
- HMM-Viterbi [Sun&Melatos [PRD99,123003 \(2019\)](#)]
- alternative neural network ideas [Miller+ [PRD100,062005 \(2019\)](#), Attadio+ [arXiv:2407.02391](#)]

# BNS and supernovae remnants

- Future outlook:
  - Likely need to get at least one order of magnitude better to see anything.
  - Especially high frequencies (~kHz) relevant, so besides ET/CE, also dedicated detectors, like NEMO discussed in Australia, or some concepts in China.
- **Open questions:**
  - Is  $\dot{\Omega} = -k\Omega^n$  general enough? What about evolving  $n(t)$ ? [Grace+ [PRD108,123045 \(2022\)](#)]
  - What maximum ellipticity can newborn NSs sustain, more than mature ones?
  - Is phase coherence realistic?
- **(mildly) crazy ideas:**
  - blind all-sky searches?
  - precovery of EM transients?
  - Bayesian combination of GW searches and EM constraints, e.g. long-duration X-rays [Sarin+ [PRD98,043011 \(2018\)](#)]

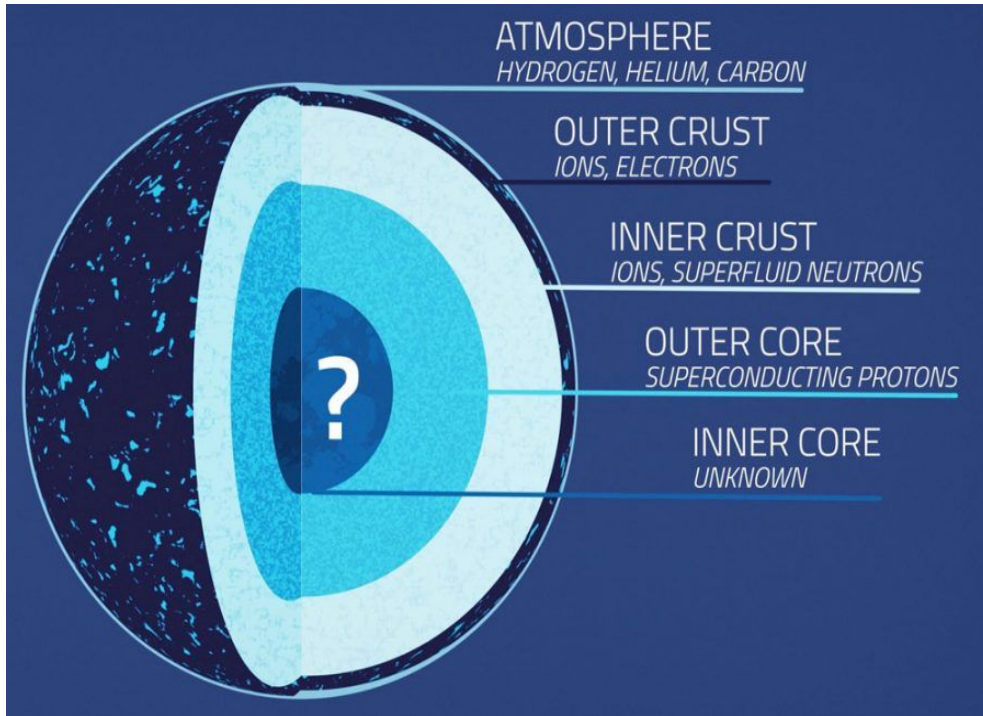
## 2. pulsar glitches



- > 3000 known pulsars [ATNF]
- > 740 known glitches (as of 2022)

$$f_{\text{glitch}}(t) = \Theta(t - T_{\text{gl}}) \left[ \sum_{k=0}^M \frac{\Delta f_{\text{gl}}^{(k)} (t - T_{\text{gl}})^k}{k!} + \delta f_{\text{R}} e^{-(t - T_{\text{gl}})/\tau_{\text{R}}} \right]$$

# glitches as probes of NS physics



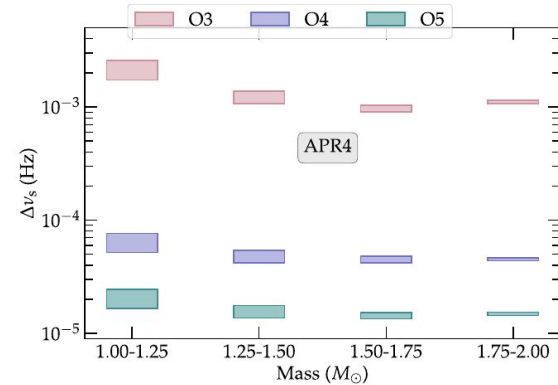
[NASA/Goddard/Conceptual Image Lab]

- pulsars lose energy by EM and GW emission  
→ slow spin-down
- glitches: sudden **spin-up**, followed by relaxation phase with timescale (hours – months)
- energy transfer from internal superfluid
- and/or crustal “starquakes”
- accompanying change in quadrupole moment (e.g. Yim & Jones [MNRAS498,3138 \(2020\)](#))  
→ GW emission

→ How can we search for such GWs from glitching pulsars?

# GWs from pulsar glitches

1) short-duration bursts from f-modes excited at the glitch:  
Lopez+ [PRD106.103037 \(2022\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.10303) → search with e.g. cWB

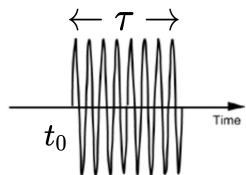


2) long-duration transient GWs: “**tCWs**” [Prix+ [PRD84,023007 \(2011\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/1102.0230)]

standard CW model, but in addition to **phase** and **amplitude parameters**, also consider **transient parameters** defining a **window** in time:

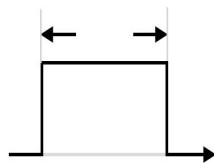
$$\lambda = \{\alpha, \delta, f, \dot{f}, \ddot{f} \dots\} \quad \mathcal{A} = \{h_0, \cos \iota, \psi, \phi_0\} \quad \mathcal{T} = \{t_0, \tau\}$$

$$h(t, \lambda, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{T}) = \omega(t; \mathcal{T}) h(t, \lambda, \mathcal{A})$$



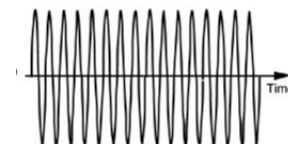
transient CW

=



window function

•



standard CW signal model

# glitch energy budget [Prix+ [PRD84,023007 \(2011\)](#)]

- **indirect upper limit** on emitted GW energy and amplitude: total energy released in glitch
- angular momentum conservation between superfluid and normal component:

$$I_c \delta\Omega + I_s \delta\Omega_s = 0$$

- **superfluid excess energy:**

$$E_s = \frac{1}{2} I_s (\Omega_s^2 - \Omega^2) \approx 4\pi^2 I_s \nu \Delta\nu$$

- **equate with total energy carried by CW-like GWs** with amplitude

$$h_0(t) = \frac{4\pi^2 G}{c^4} \frac{I f^2}{d} \epsilon(t)$$

$$\rightarrow E_{\text{GW}} = \frac{2\pi^2 c^3}{5G} f^2 d^2 \int^T h_0^2(t) dt,$$

glitch excess energy upper limit

$$h_0 \leq \frac{1}{d} \sqrt{\frac{5G}{2c^3} \frac{I}{\tau} \frac{\Delta f_{\text{gl}}}{f}}$$

- fixed energy regardless of transient duration  $\tau$
- SNR increases with same  $\sqrt{\tau}$  as  $h_0$  upper limit  
→ **same detectability for short or long transients**

compare with spindown UL for CWs:

$$h_{\text{sd}} = \frac{1}{d} \sqrt{\frac{5G}{2c^3} I \frac{|\dot{\nu}|}{\nu}}$$

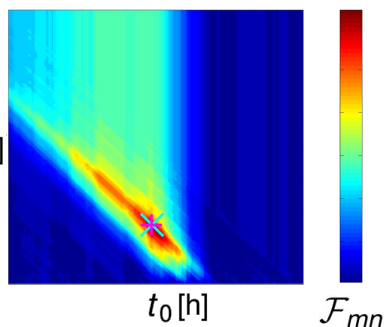
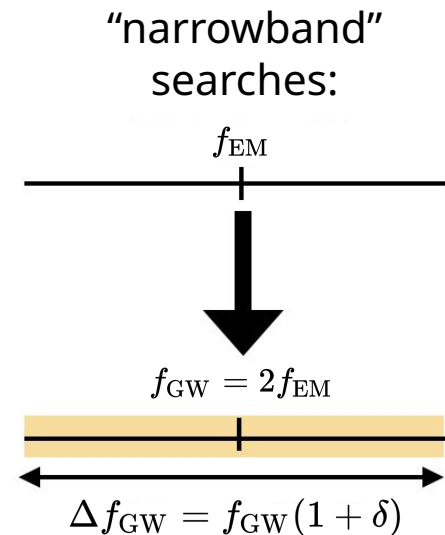


# tCW searches [Prix+ [PRD84,023007 \(2011\)](#)]

Test 2 hypotheses on data  $\mathbf{x}$ :

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{H}_G : \mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{n}(t) \\ \mathcal{H}_{tS} : \mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{n}(t) + \mathbf{h}(t; \lambda, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{T}) \end{cases}$$

likelihood ratio: 
$$\frac{P(\mathbf{x} | \mathcal{H}_{tS}; \lambda, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{T})}{P(\mathbf{x} | \mathcal{H}_G)}$$



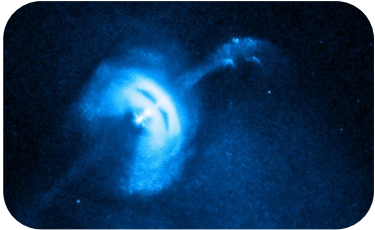
*maximize* over  $\mathcal{A}$  :  
 $\mathcal{F}_{mn} = \mathcal{F}(\lambda, t_{0m}, \tau_n)$   
 “transient  $\mathcal{F}$ -stat map”

either *maximize* over  $\mathcal{T}$   $\max_{\mathcal{T}} \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{x}; \lambda, \mathcal{T})$

...or *marginalize* over  $\mathcal{T}$   $\log_{10} B_{tS/G}(\mathbf{x}; \lambda)$

evaluate over a bank of phase-evolution templates  $\lambda$

# tCW searches so far – O2 open data



[Chandra/NASA]



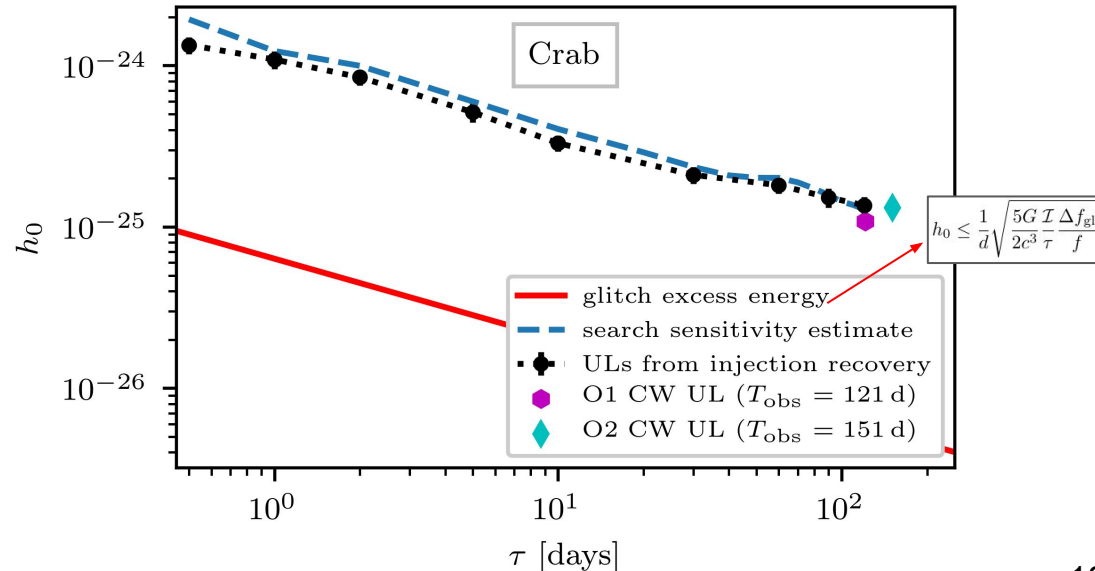
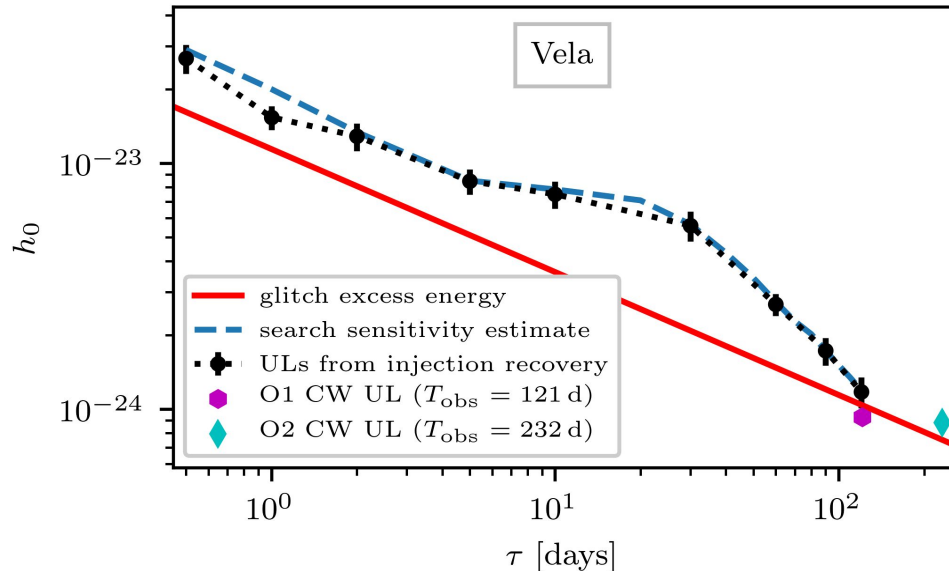
[Chandra/NASA]

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **100**, 064058 (2019)

[\[1907.04717\]](#)

**First search for long-duration transient gravitational waves after glitches in the Vela and Crab pulsars**

David Keitel<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Graham Woan<sup>2</sup>, Matthew Pitkin<sup>2</sup>, Courtney Schumacher<sup>3</sup>, Brynley Pearlstone<sup>2</sup>, Keith Riles<sup>4</sup>, Andrew G. Lyne<sup>5</sup>, Jim Palfreyman<sup>6</sup>, Benjamin Stappers<sup>5</sup>, and Patrick Weltevrede<sup>5</sup>



# tCW searches so far – O3 LVK search

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 932:133 (27pp), 2022 June 20

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[\[2112.10990\]](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/ac6ad0)

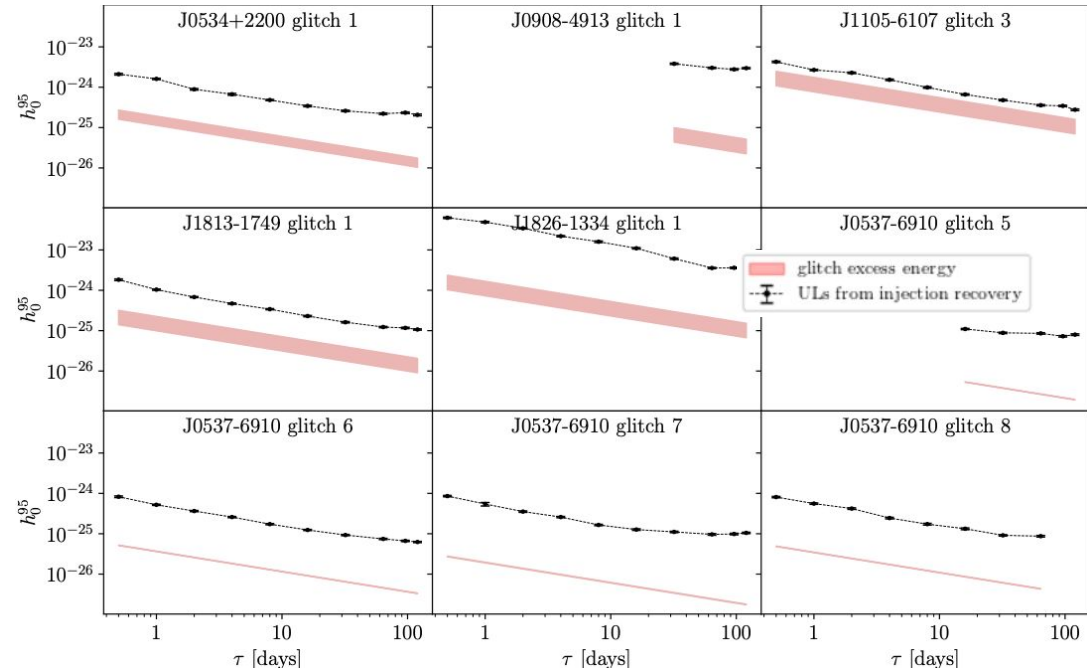
<https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/ac6ad0>



## Narrowband Searches for Continuous and Long-duration Transient Gravitational Waves from Known Pulsars in the LIGO-Virgo Third Observing Run

- improved version of O2 search: better setup [\*] of template banks, BtS/G statistic [\*\*), “distromax” method [\*\*\*) for setting thresholds

<p><b>J0534+2200</b></p> <p><math>f_{GW} \sim 60</math> Hz</p> <p>glitched on 2019/07/23</p>	<p><b>J0537-6910</b></p> <p><math>f_{GW} \sim 123</math> Hz</p> <p>3 glitches in 2019, 1 glitch in 2020</p>	<p><b>J0908-4913</b></p> <p><math>f_{GW} \sim 19</math> Hz</p> <p>glitched ~ 2019/10/09</p>
<p><b>J1105-6107</b></p> <p><math>f_{GW} \sim 31</math> Hz</p> <p>glitched ~ 2019/04/09</p>	<p><b>J1813-1749</b></p> <p><math>f_{GW} \sim 45</math> Hz</p> <p>glitched ~ 2019/08/03</p>	<p><b>J1826-1334</b></p> <p><math>f_{GW} \sim 20</math> Hz</p> <p>glitched on 2020/01/31</p>



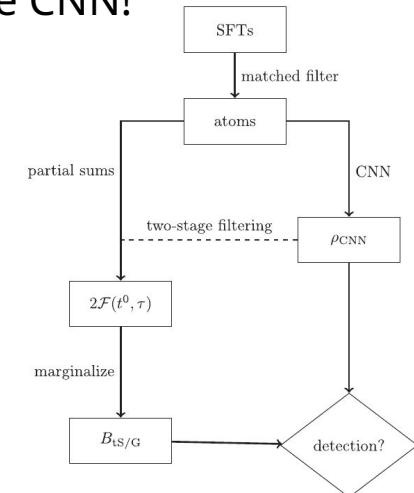
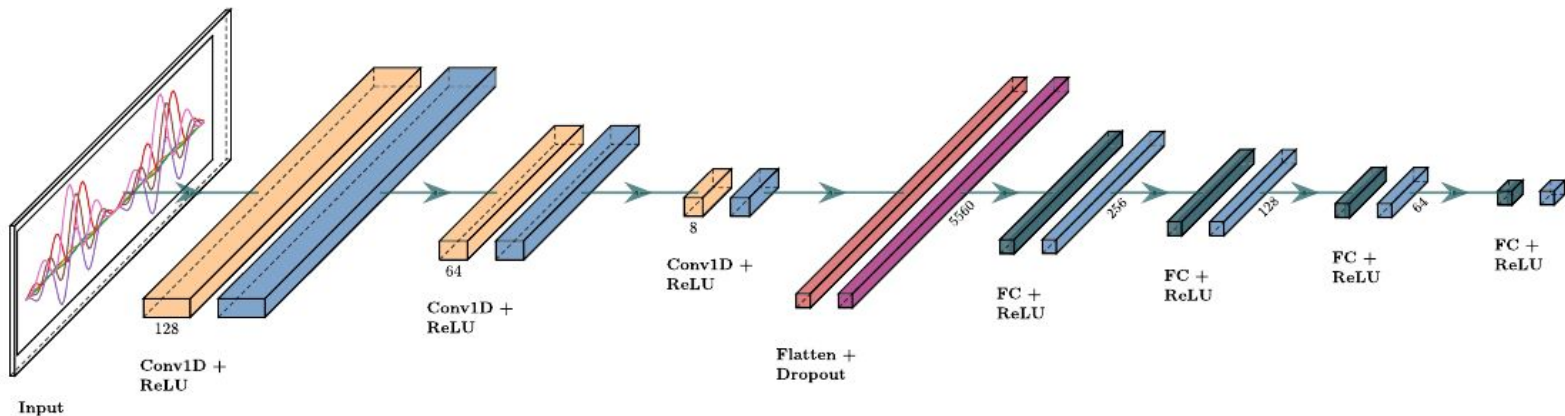
[\*] [2201.08785](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/ac6ad0); [\*\*) [1104.1704](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/ac6ad0); [\*\*\*) [2111.12032](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/ac6ad0)

# tCWs with CNNs

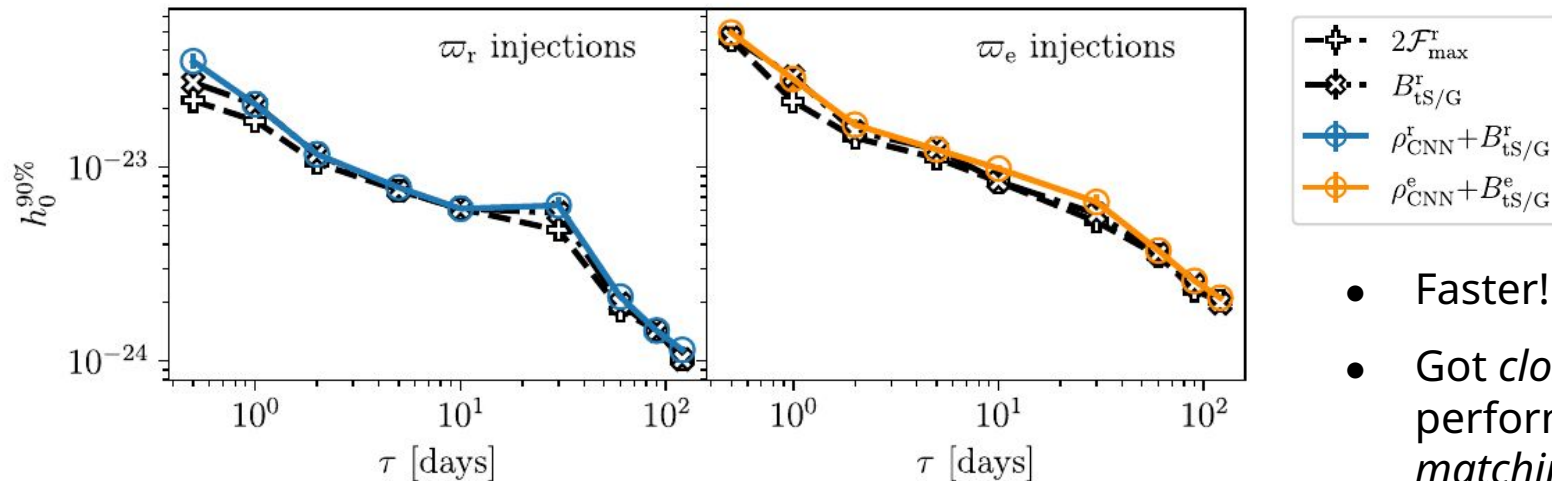
## Convolutional neural network search for long-duration transient gravitational waves from glitching pulsars

Luana M. Modafferi<sup>1B,\*</sup>, Rodrigo Tenorio<sup>1B,†</sup> and David Keitel<sup>1B,‡</sup>

- transient  $\mathcal{F}$ -stat searches are computationally limited, mainly from trying many  $(t_0, \tau)$  combinations
- finding a (t)CW in time-frequency data is basically *pattern recognition*
- Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) are great at doing that fast. (At least for cats and dogs.)
- But actually limited in finding the very weak, narrow, long tracks. (see Joshi&Prix [2305.01057](#))  
→ our hybrid approach: feed matched-filter intermediate data products to the CNN!



# CNN upper limits on O2 Vela glitch



- Faster!
- Got *close* to pure  $F$ -stat performance, but *not quite matching* it.

## Limitations:

- Allowing for flexible amplitude evolution, but fixed to tCW frequency evolution model.
- Faster than pure transient  $F$ -stat, but still far too slow for going beyond known pulsars.

→ new approach needed for  
 “All-Sky All-Frequency All-Time”  
 searches for unknown glitchers!

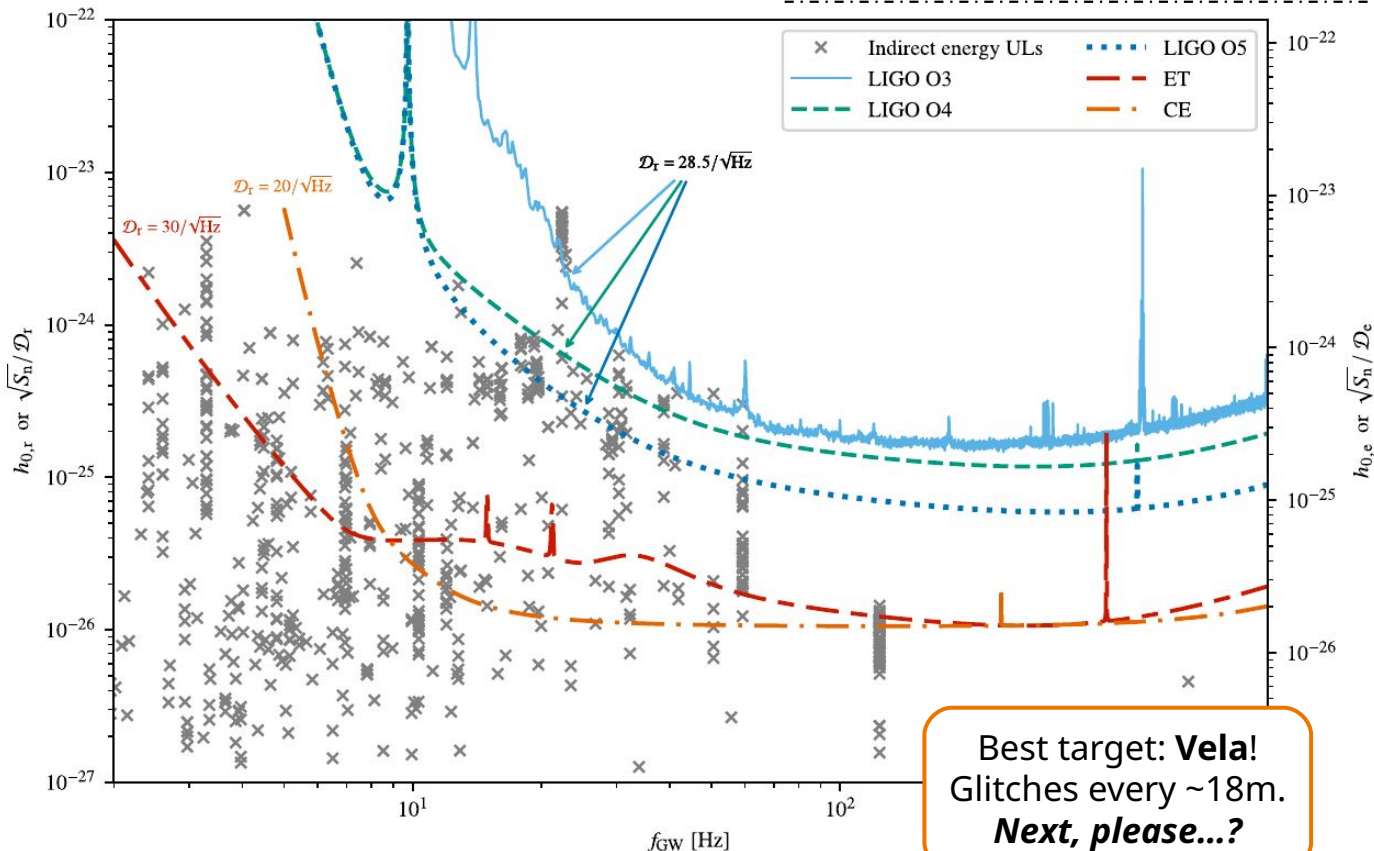
# tCWs: prospects

- ATNF + Jodrell glitch catalogues
- 740 known glitches (2022/10/11)
- extrapolate future prospects

## Prospects for detecting transient quasi-monochromatic gravitational waves from glitching pulsars with current and future detectors

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- Sensitivity depth  $\mathcal{D} \equiv \sqrt{S_n}/h_0$   
[Behnke+2014, Dreissigacker+2018]  
estimated for *realistic* searches

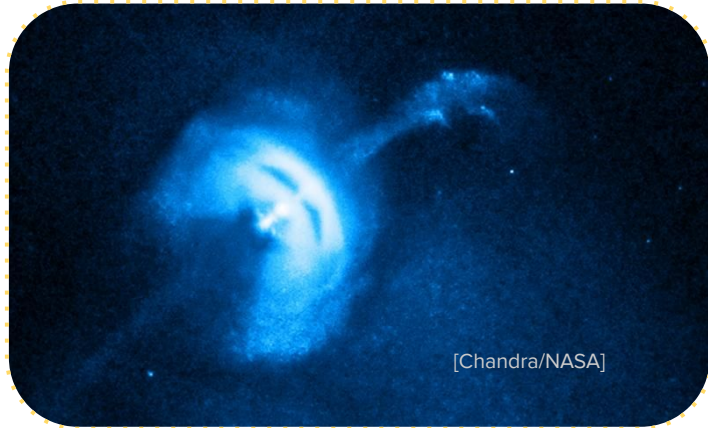
- compare indirect energy UL:

$$h_0 \leq \frac{1}{d} \sqrt{\frac{5G \mathcal{I} \Delta f_{gl}}{2c^3 \tau} \frac{1}{f}}$$

- plot for duration  $\tau = 10$  d
- longer/shorter  $\tau$ :  
push *both* markers *and* curves  
down/up by  $\sqrt{\tau}$   
→ same detectability

Best target: **Vela!**  
Glitches every ~18m.  
**Next, please...?**

# ...2024: Vela glitched again!



- Vela pulsar: nearby (287pc),  $f_{\text{rot}} \sim 11 \text{ Hz} \rightarrow f_{\text{gw}} \sim 22 \text{ Hz}$
- strong glitches ( $\Delta f / f \sim 10^{-6}$ ) every 1.5 years or so.
- first LSC search for short bursts from 2006 glitch [[Abadie+2011b](#)].
- first tCW search on O2 open data for 2016 glitch [[Keitel+2019](#)].
- no glitch during O3, last in 2021, then got lucky in O4!



E. Zubieta+,  
Argentine Institute of Radio  
astronomy  
[\[www.astronomerstelegam.org/  
?read=16608\]](http://www.astronomerstelegam.org/?read=16608)

*We observed a glitch occurring  
between MJD 60428.96 (2024-04-28 23h UTC)  
and MJD 60431.84 (2024-05-01 20h UTC). [...] change  
in the pulsar rotation period of  $dF_0/F_0 = 2.3E-6$  [...]*



(also confirmed by other  
radio telescopes and FERMI)

J. Palfreyman,  
Mt. Pleasant Telescope,  
Tasmania  
[\[www.astronomerstelegam  
.org/?read=16615\]](http://www.astronomerstelegam.org/?read=16615)

*glitch epoch of MJD 60429.869615 +/- 3.84691e-05  
 $dF_0/F_0$  of 2.40976e-06 +/- 4.88083e-10*

# tCWs from pulsar glitches

- **Open questions:**

- How to build a “transient mountain”? Does this actually happen?
- How much of the liberated energy would really be available for this?
- How much in other channels (e.g. “kicked r-modes”)?
- How deep into the NS could we look?
- Which glitchers are the best targets?
- How flexible do we need to be with the  $f(t)$  and  $A(t)$  model?

- **(mildly) crazy ideas:**

- Can we already constrain physics with non-detections below the optimistic UL?
- blind all-sky, all-frequency, all-time searches for “dark glitches”



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