

Cosmological constraints from the 3rd observing run of Advanced LIGO, Virgo and KAGRA

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Outline

- The third observing run
- Cosmological analyses with standard sirens
- Using the black hole mass distribution for cosmological inference
- Using galaxy catalogues for cosmological inference
- What's next?

The third observing run

The third LVK observing run

The third observing run from April 2019 to March 2020 with a 1 month break for commissioning.

Total number of gravitational waves observed to date (with probability of astrophysical origin > 0.5): 90

GWTC-3 catalogue: [arXiv:2111.03606](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.03606)



Aerial view of Virgo. Credit: The Virgo Collaboration



KAGRA. Credit: ICRR, Univ. of Tokyo



LIGO Livingston. Credit: Caltech/MIT/LIGO Lab

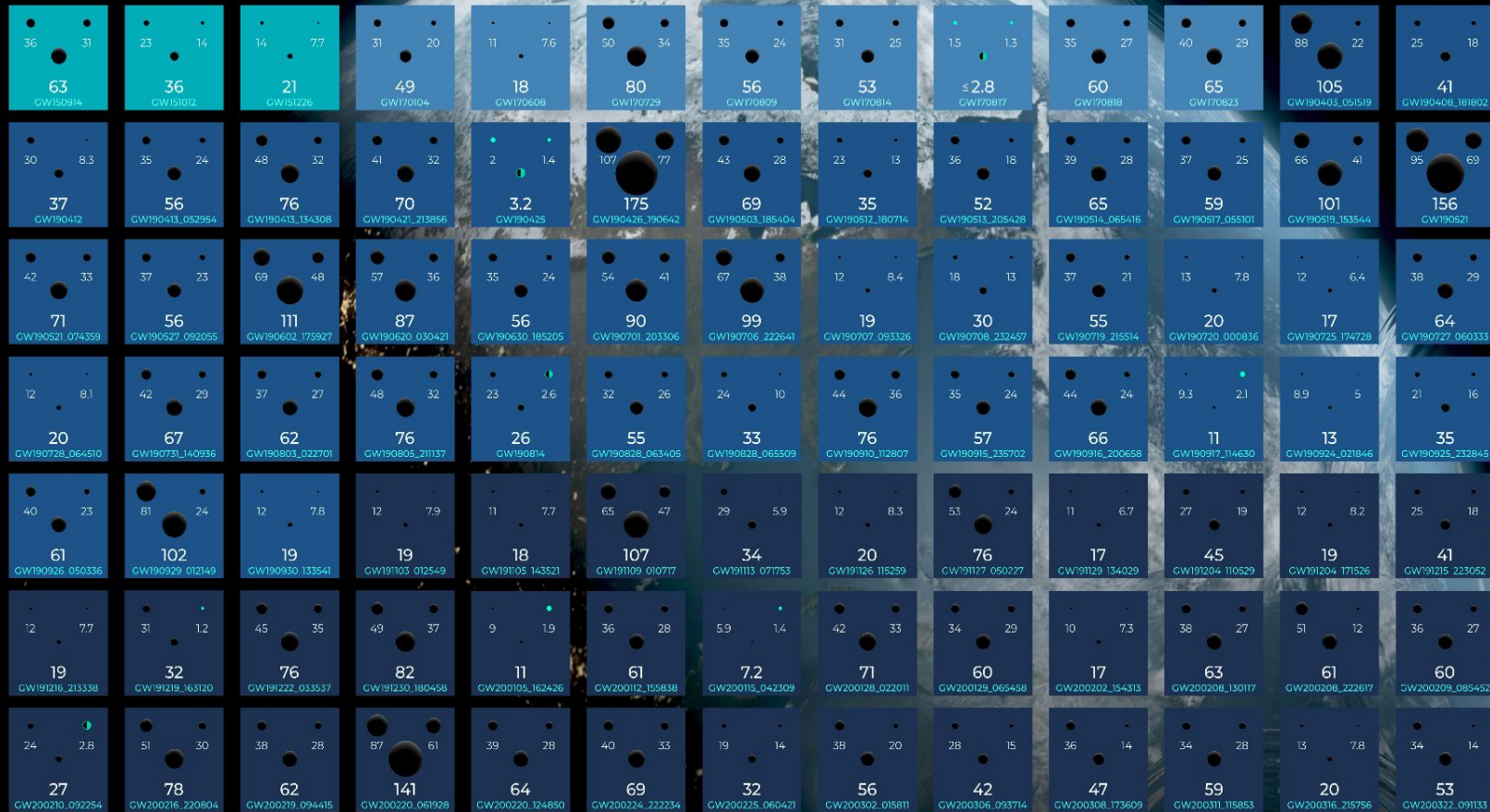


LIGO Hanford. Credit: LIGO

OBSERVING
01
2015 - 2016

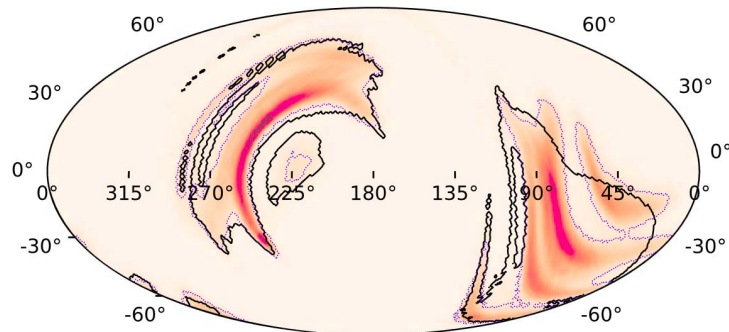
02
2016 - 2017

03a+b
2019 - 2020



A selection of interesting events

- **GW190425**: the second binary neutron star to be detected. Around 160 Mpc away. Detected by L1, V1.
- **GW191219, GW200105, GW200115**: first confident NSBH detections
- **GW190814**: an asymmetric mass compact binary. Only 240 Mpc away, and localised to 18.5 deg^2 .



The LIGO Scientific Collaboration and the Virgo Collaboration, *Astrophysical Journal Letters* 892 (2020) L3

Cosmological analyses with standard sirens

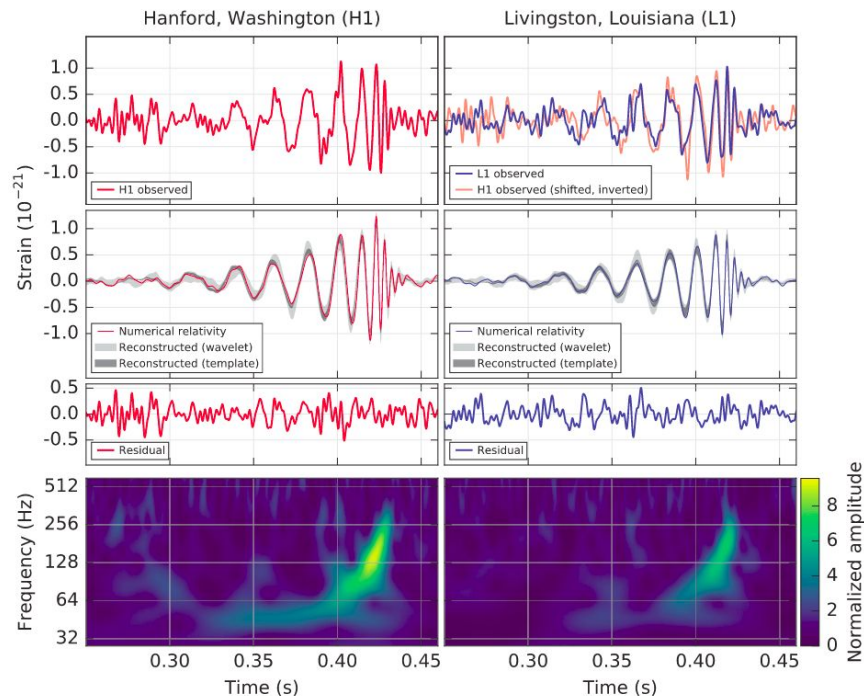
Gravitational waves as standard sirens

Signal amplitude is (inversely) proportional to luminosity distance to source, and independent of the cosmic distance ladder:

$$A = \frac{\mathcal{M}_z}{d_L} f(\mathcal{M}_z, t)$$

Redshifted chirp mass:

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



The LIGO Scientific Collaboration and Virgo Collaboration,
Phys. Rev. Lett. **116**, 061102 – Published 11 February 2016

Cosmological analyses with standard sirens

“Bright sirens”

An **EM counterpart** is observed and used to obtain the host galaxy redshift.

AKA the EM counterpart method

“Dark sirens”

No EM counterpart observed. **Galaxy surveys** are used to provide redshift estimates for potential host galaxies.

AKA the galaxy catalogue method

“Spectral sirens”

No EM counterpart or galaxy survey is used. Features in the **mass distribution** of the GW population break the mass-redshift degeneracy.

AKA the redshifted masses method

Using the black hole mass distribution for cosmological inference

Cosmological + population inference with N_{obs} GW events

Individual GW event likelihoods

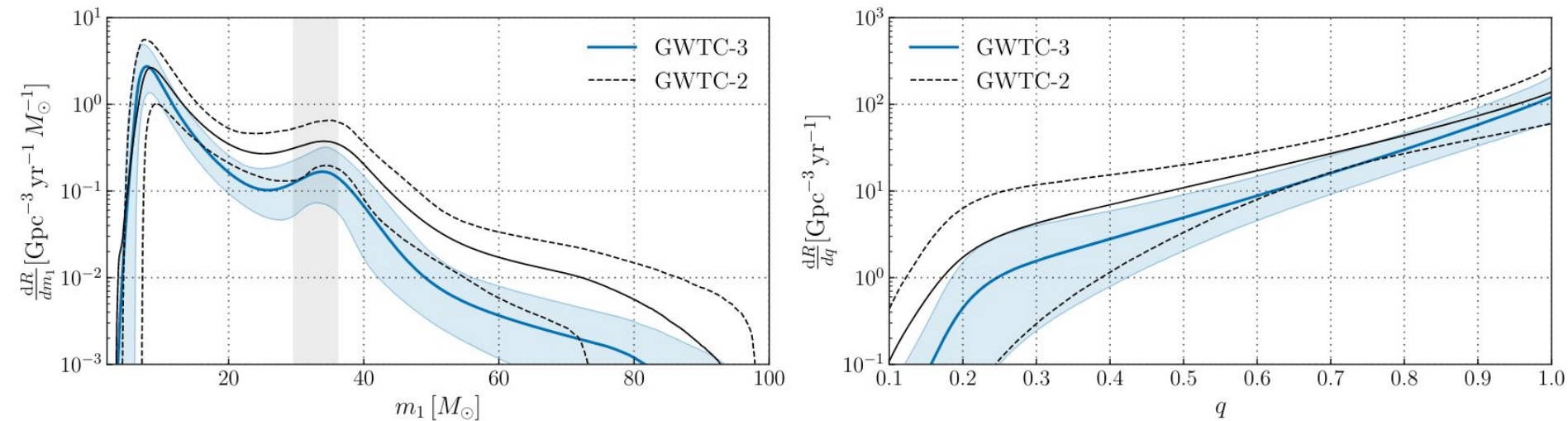
priors

$$p(\Phi|\{x\}, N_{\text{obs}}) = p(\Phi) \prod_{i=1}^{N_{\text{obs}}} \frac{\int p(x_i|\Phi, \theta) p_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\Phi) d\theta}{\int p_{\text{det}}(\theta, \Phi) p_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\Phi) d\theta},$$

**Probability of detecting
a GW from the
population**

$$m_i = \frac{m_i^{\text{det}}}{1 + z(D_L; H_0, \Omega_m, w_0)}.$$

Black hole mass distribution



The LIGO Scientific Collaboration, the Virgo Collaboration and the KAGRA Collaboration,
Phys. Rev. X **13**, 011048, March 2023

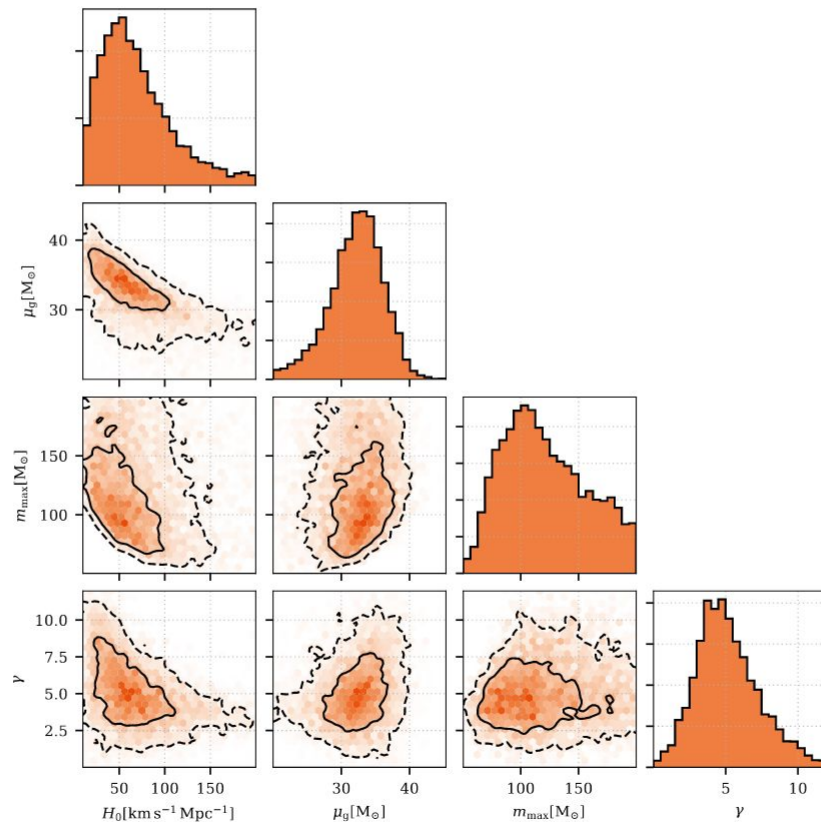
Correlation of cosmological and population parameters

Preferred model: powerlaw + peak

m_{max} (maximum black hole mass)

μ_g (position of the peak in the primary mass distribution)

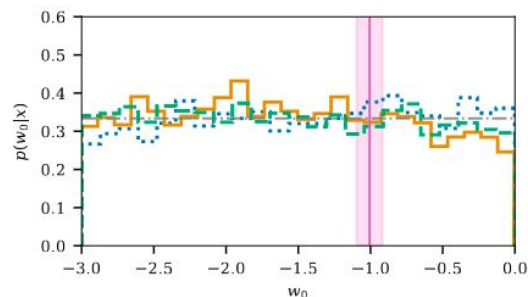
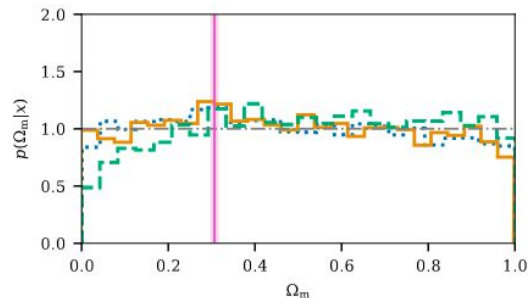
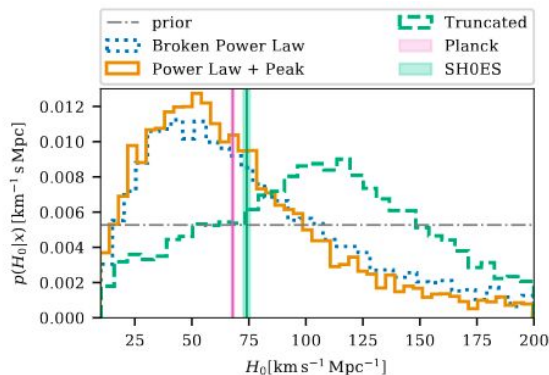
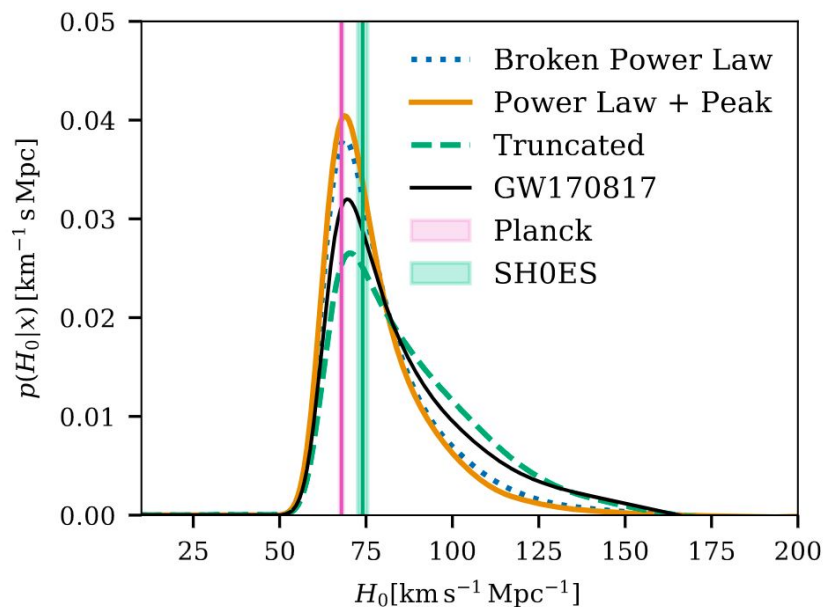
γ (low- z power-law slope of a Madau-Dickinson-like merger rate)



Results from redshifted masses

Marginal posteriors on H_0 , Ω_m and w_0 using 42 binary black holes with SNR > 11, for 3 different mass models.

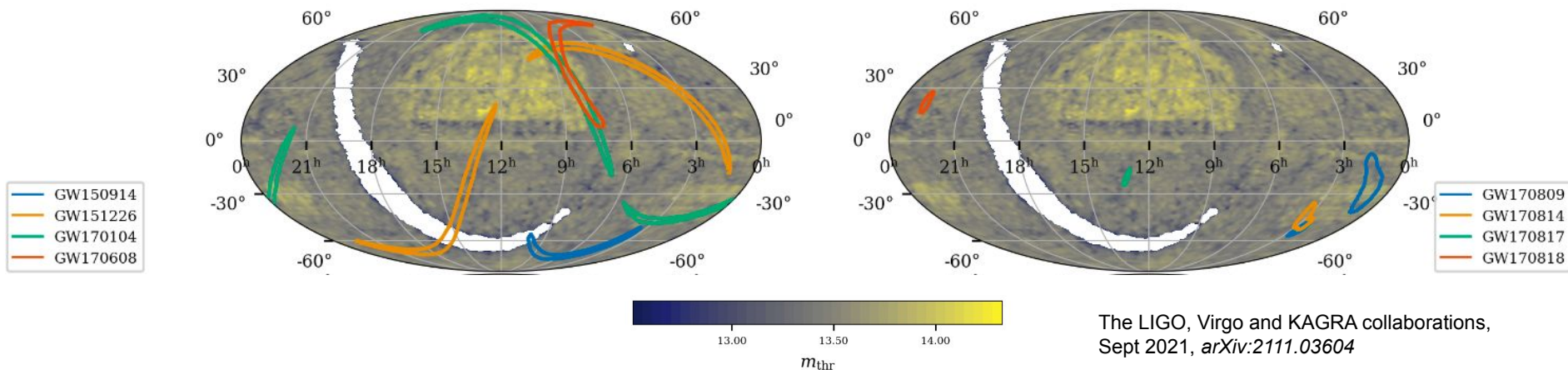
$$H_0 = 68^{+12}_{-8} \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$$



Using galaxy catalogues for cosmological inference

The galaxy catalogue

The galaxy catalogue analysis made use of the GLADE+ galaxy catalogue [1], constructed from the GWGC, 2MPZ, 2MASS XSC, HyperLEDA, and WISExSCOSPZ galaxy catalogues, and the SDSS-DR16Q quasar catalogue.

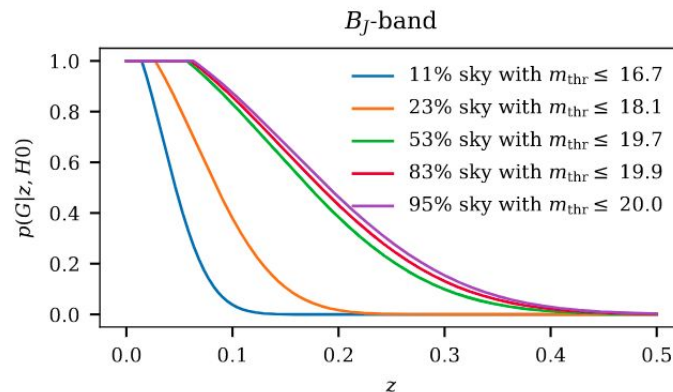
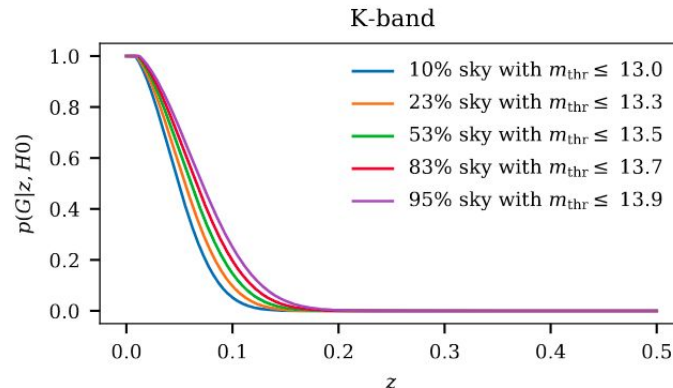


The LIGO, Virgo and KAGRA collaborations,
Sept 2021, [arXiv:2111.03604](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.03604)

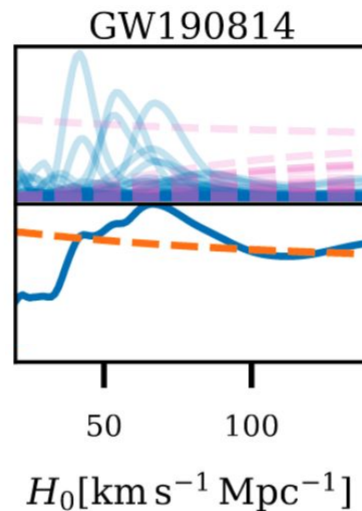
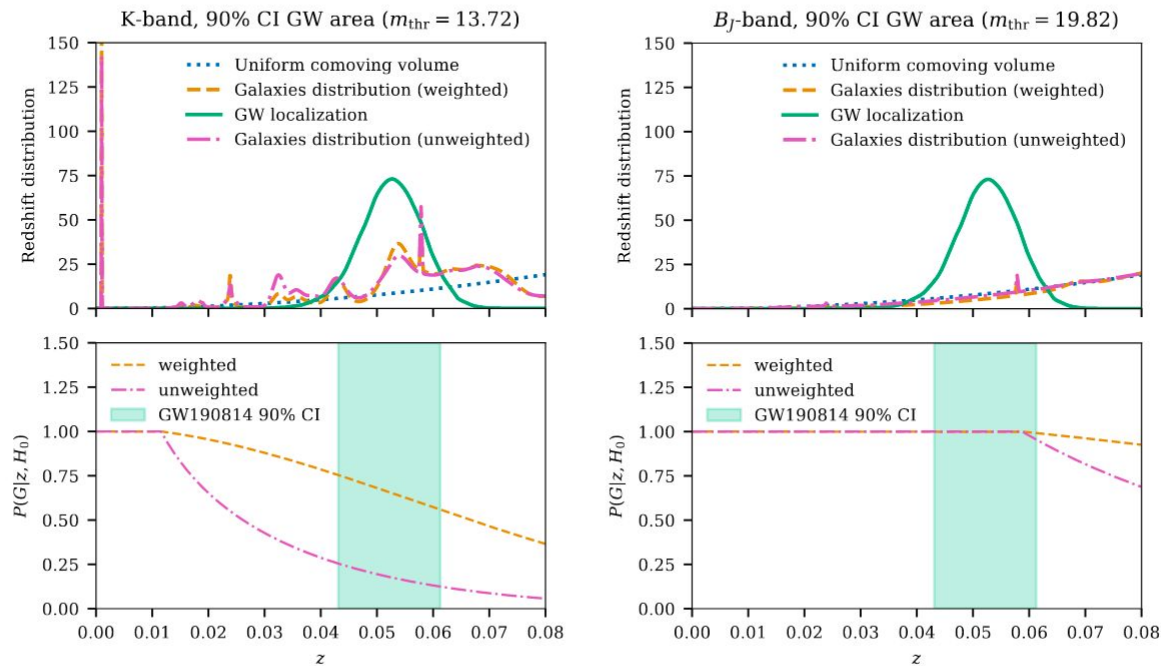
Galaxy catalogue incompleteness

Catalogue completeness is computed on a pixel-by-pixel basis:

$$P(G|z, H_0) = \frac{\int_{L_{\text{thr}}}^{L_{\text{max}}} \phi(L) L dL}{\int_{L_{\text{min}}}^{L_{\text{max}}} \phi(L) L dL}.$$

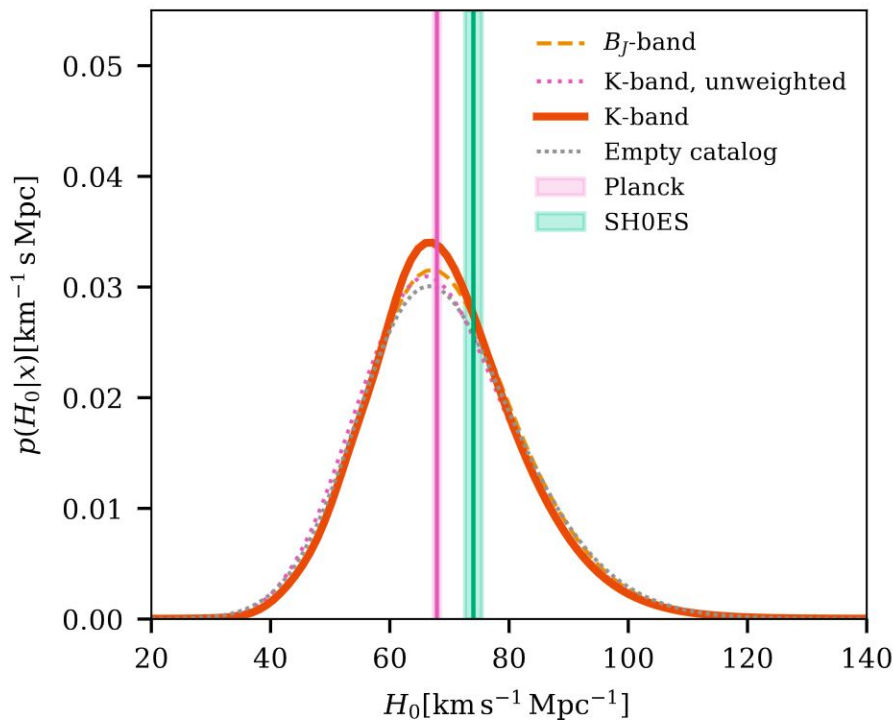


GW190814: the most informative dark siren so far

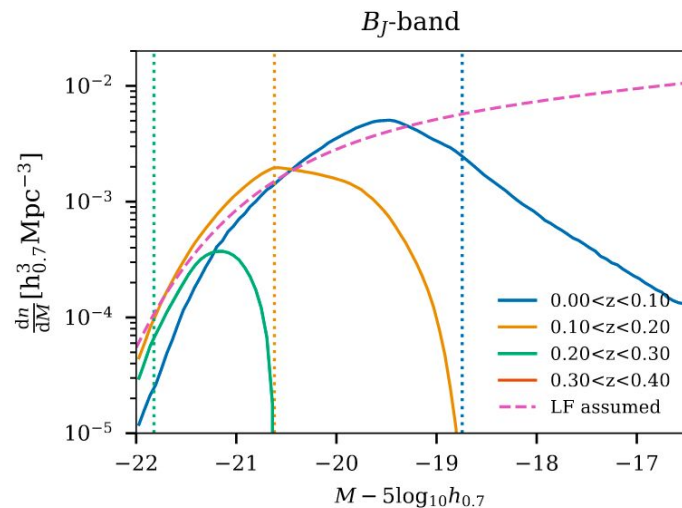
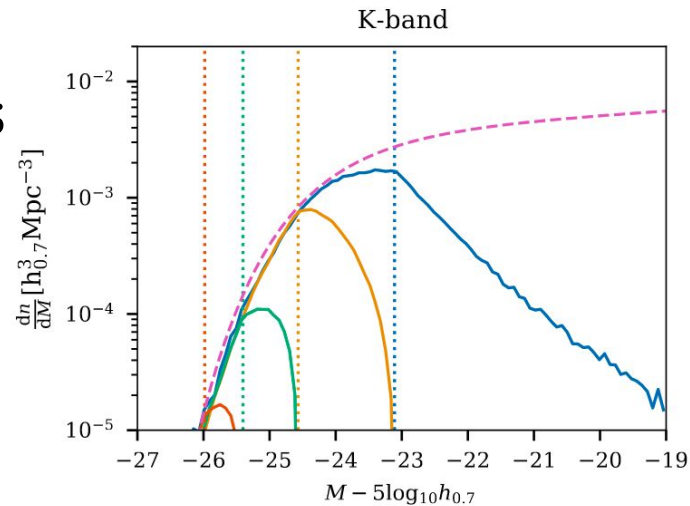


The LIGO, Virgo and KAGRA collaborations, Sept 2021, [arXiv:2111.03604](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.03604)

Impact of catalogue assumptions



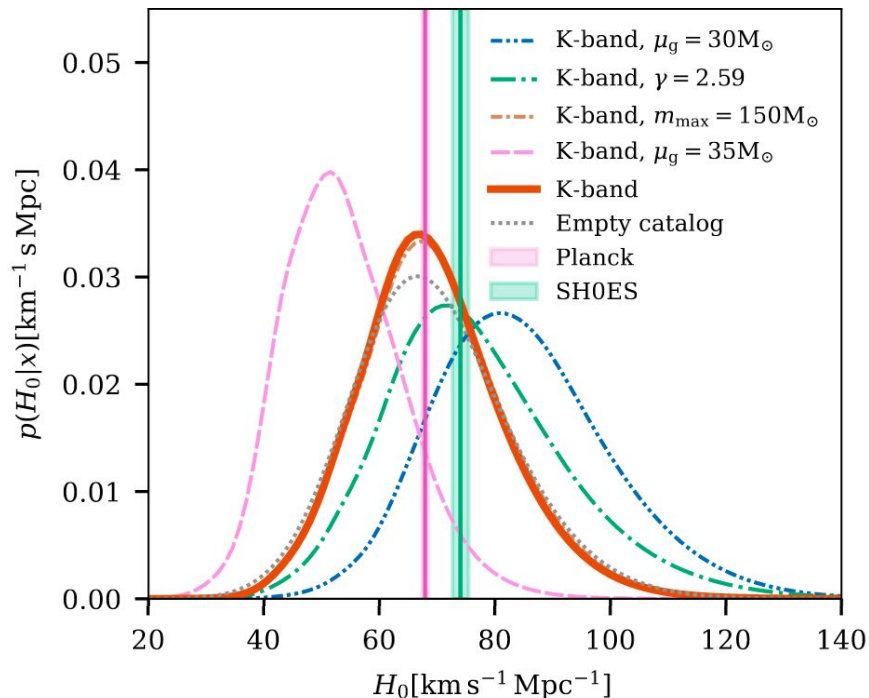
The LIGO, Virgo and KAGRA collaborations,
Sept 2021, [arXiv:2111.03604](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.03604)



Impact of population assumptions

Changing the population parameters which correlate most strongly with $H_0(m_{\max}, \mu_g, \gamma)$, leads to a significant shift in the posterior.

The galaxy catalogue analysis is not separable from redshifted masses.



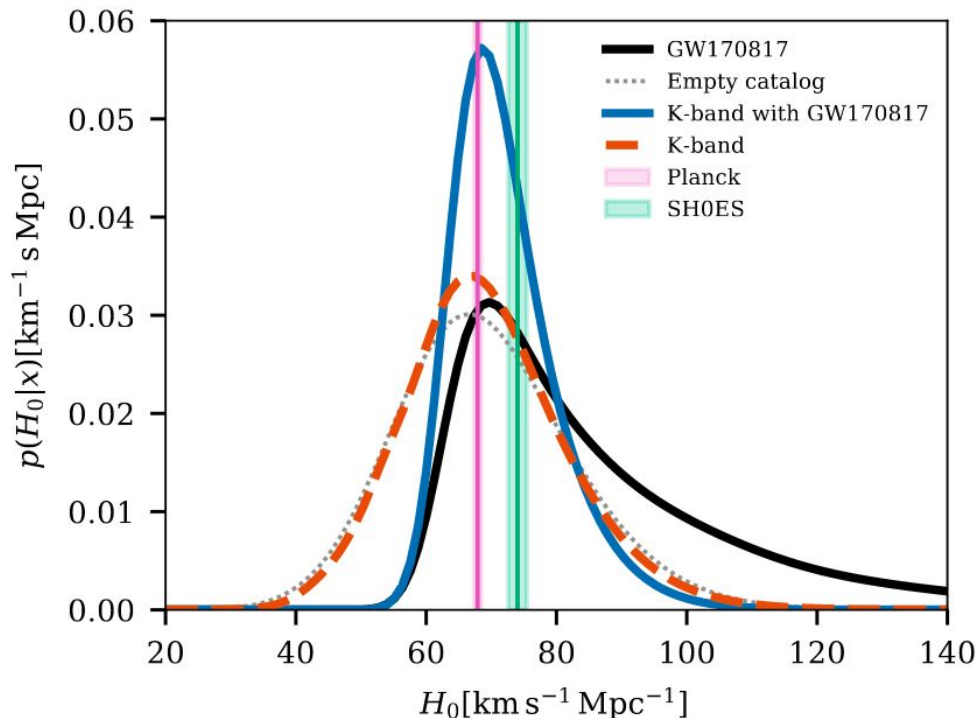
The LIGO, Virgo and KAGRA collaborations,
Sept 2021, [arXiv:2111.03604](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.03604)

Results from galaxy catalogues

Uses 42 BBH detections,
GW190814, two BNS events
and two NSBH events.

All are analysed with the
GLADE+ galaxy catalogue in the
K-band (apart from GW170817).

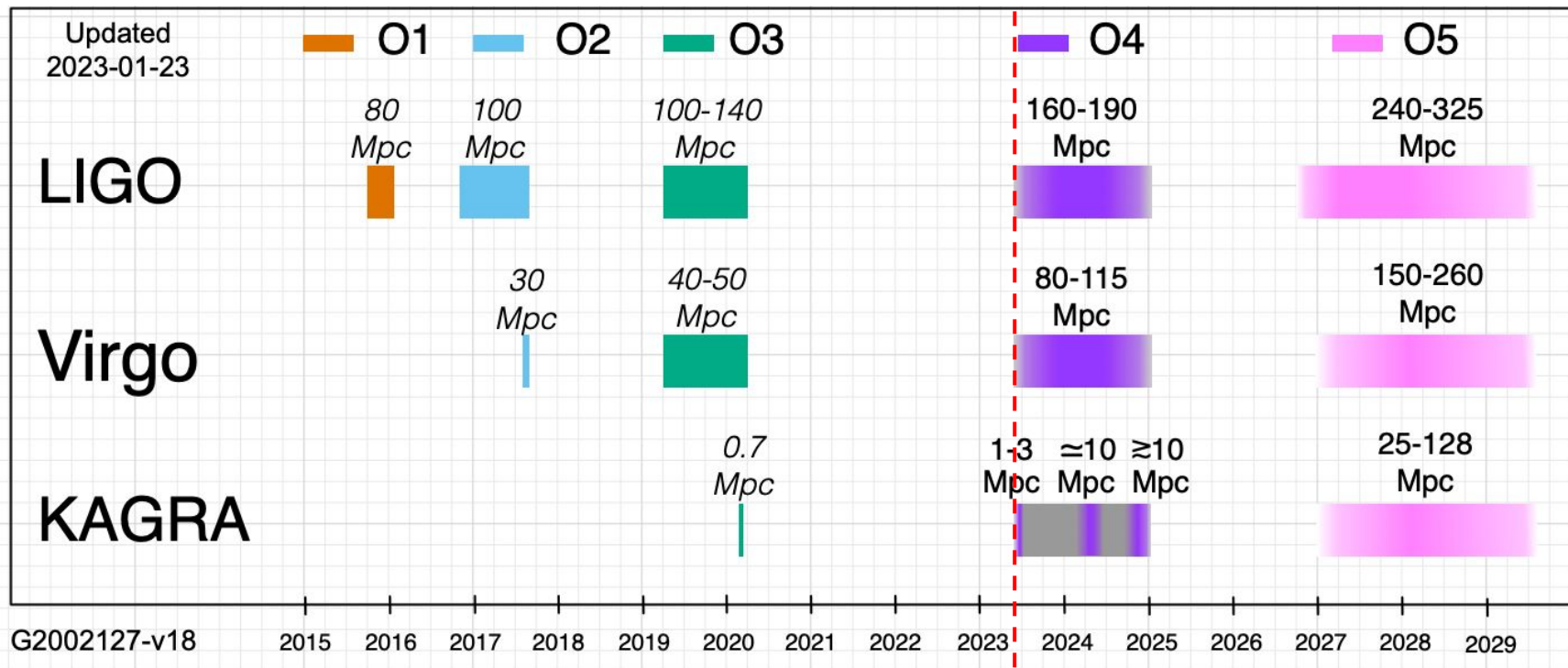
$$H_0 = 68^{+8}_{-6} \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$$



The LIGO, Virgo and KAGRA collaborations,
Sept 2021, [arXiv:2111.03604](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.03604)

What's next?

Timeline of observing runs



We are here

Summary

No confirmed EM counterparts during O3, so two methods were used for cosmological inference on the detected events:

- **Black hole mass distribution**
- **Galaxy catalogue**

Cosmological results provide interesting hints of what is to come, but are not yet competitive with non-GW measurements.

O4 has started and will last for 18 months, which will greatly expand the catalogue of GW detections.

Estimates which combine mass distribution and galaxy catalogue information (plus use of more complete catalogues) will maximise the cosmological information gained.



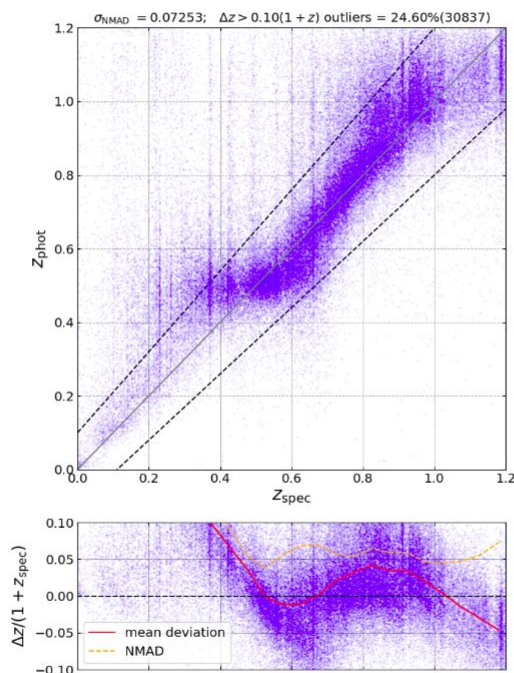
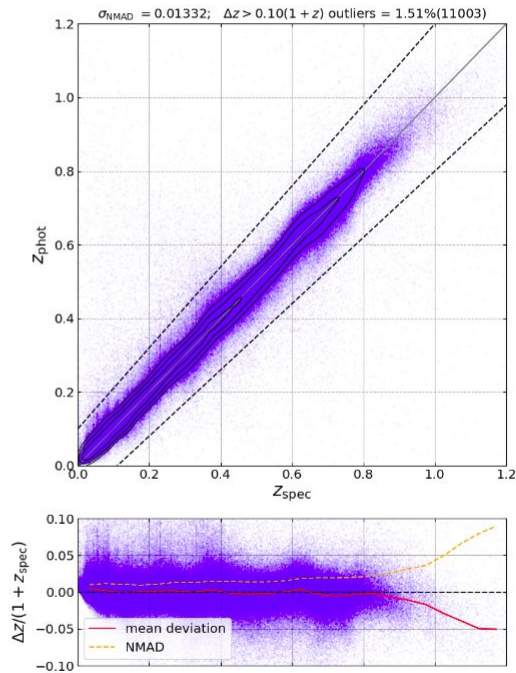
This material is based upon work supported by NSF's LIGO Laboratory which is a major facility fully funded by the National Science Foundation.

Extra slides

Photometric redshifts

Spectroscopic redshifts are costly/time-consuming, so most galaxy surveys provide photometric redshifts.

These are much cheaper, but come with larger uncertainties and can be unreliable at faint magnitudes/high redshifts.

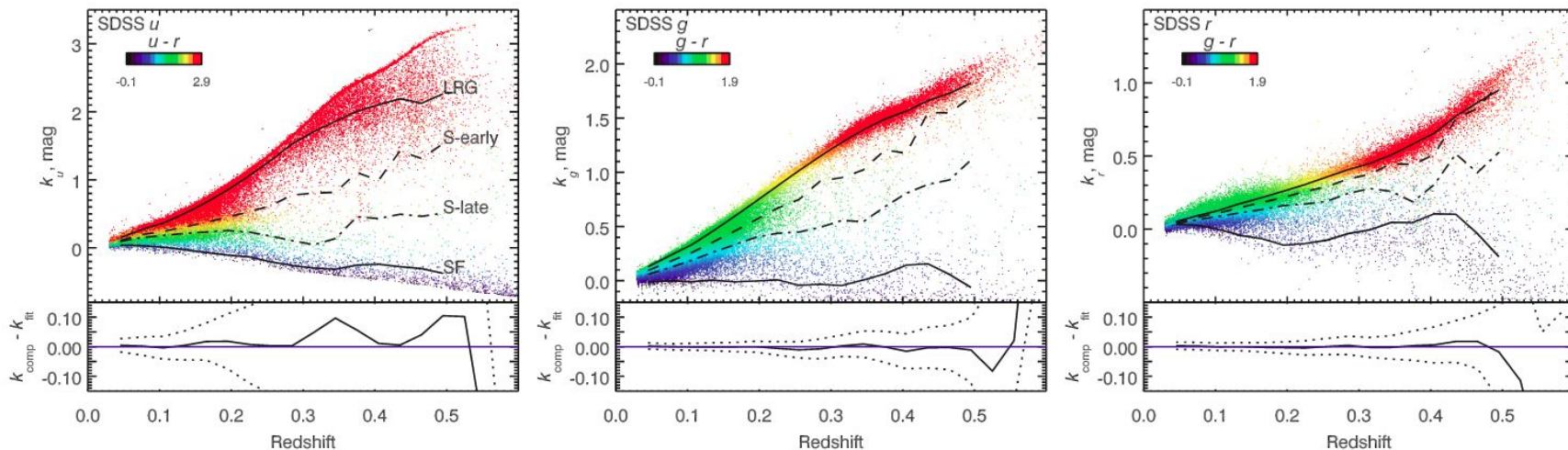


Redshifting of galaxy luminosities

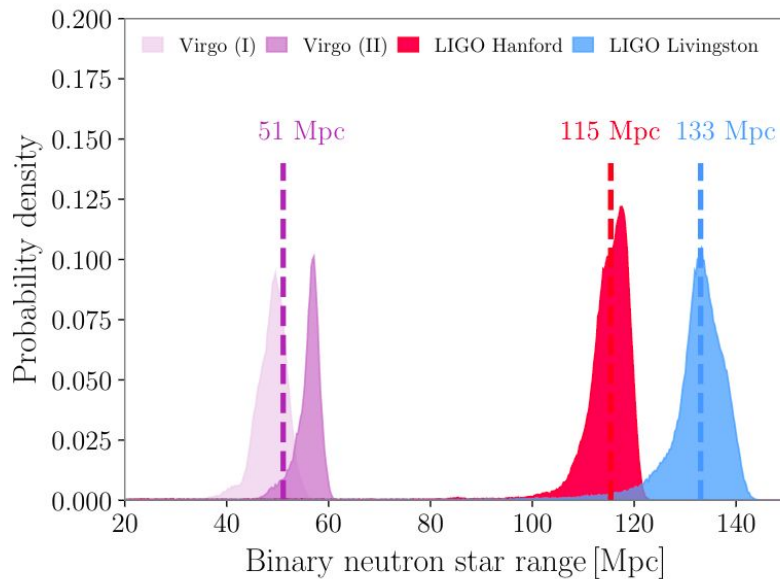
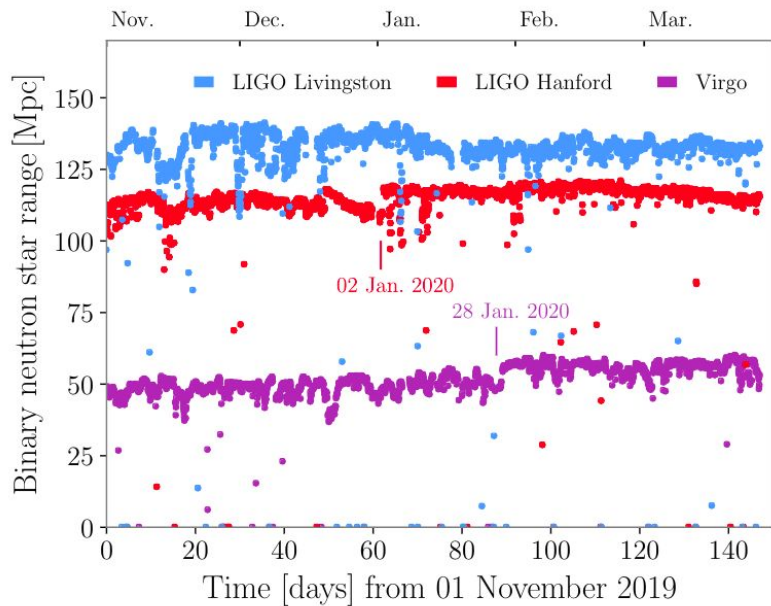
Galaxies don't emit uniformly in all bands. We observe in some band b , but the light detected has been redshifted.

Solution? K corrections

$$M_a = m_b - DM - K$$

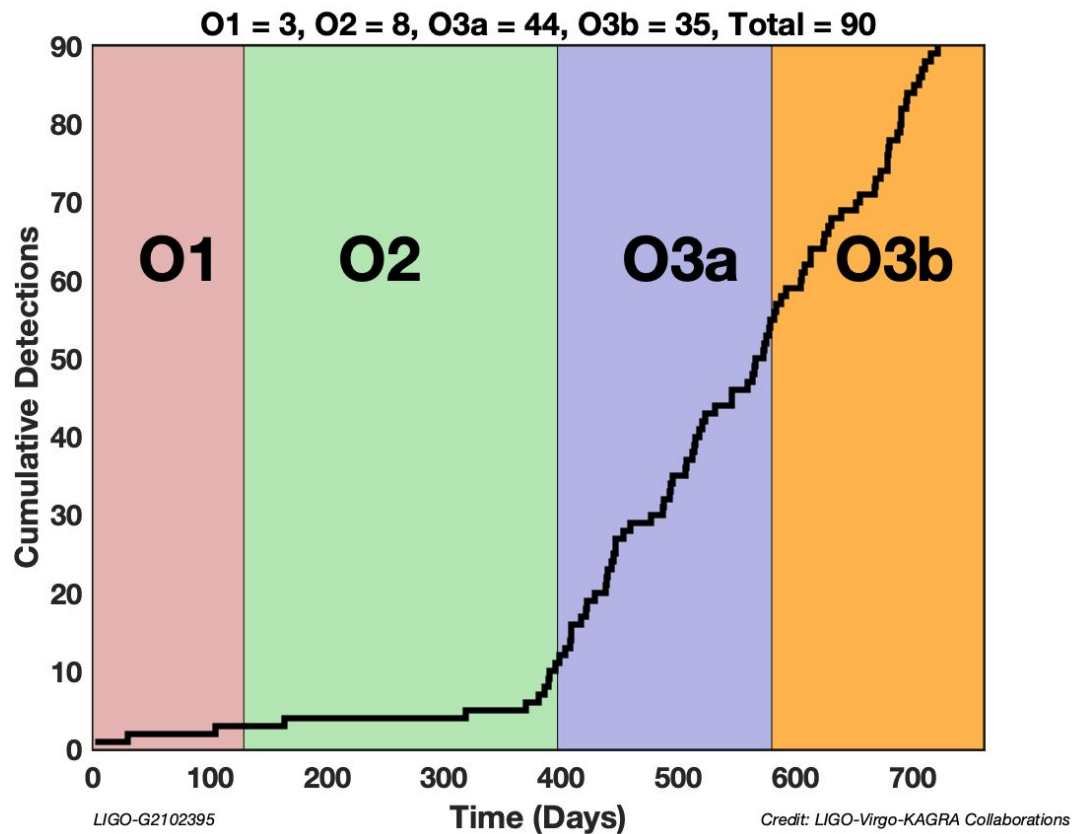


Detector sensitivity

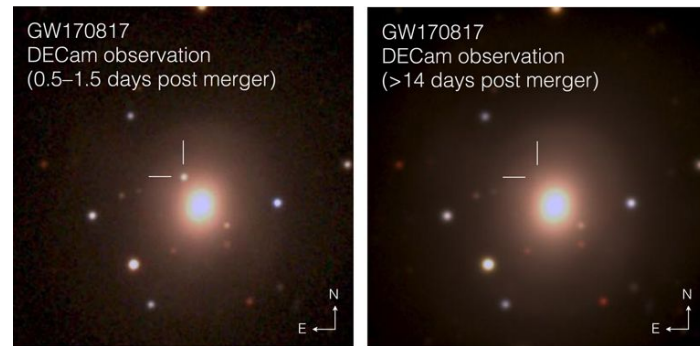
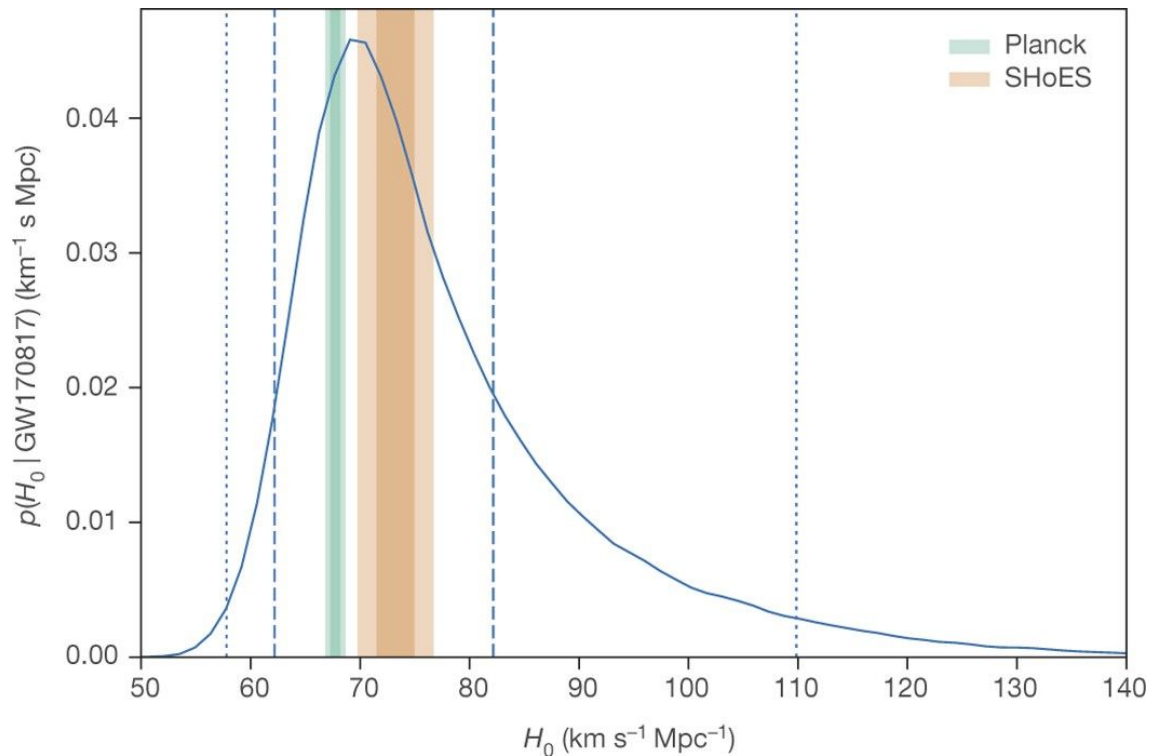


The LIGO Scientific Collaboration, the Virgo Collaboration, the KAGRA Collaboration, Nov 2021, [arXiv:2111.03606](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.03606)

Cumulative detections to date



Bright sirens

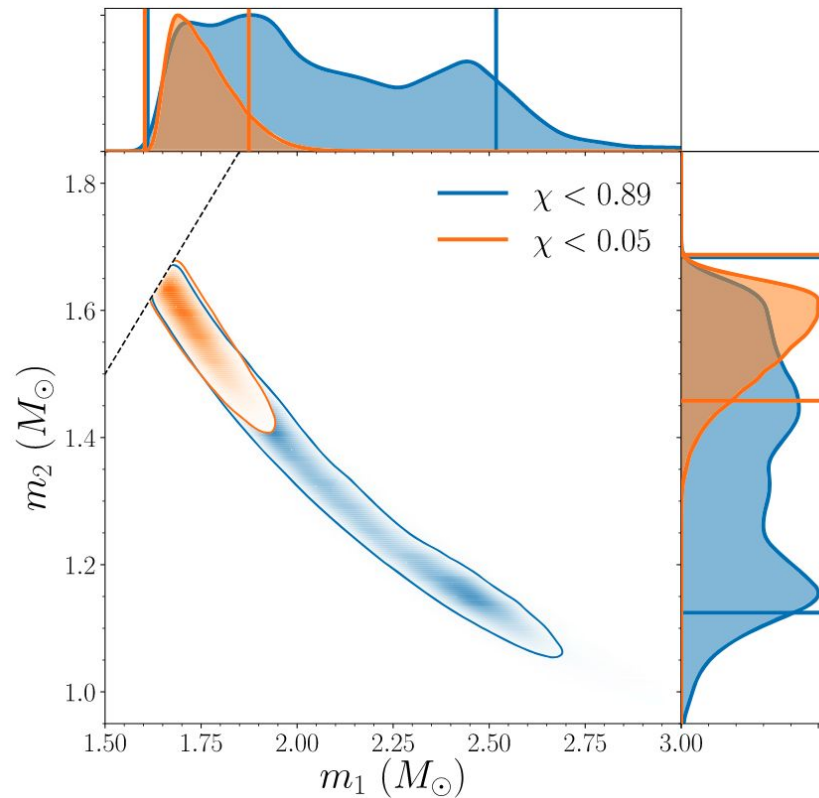
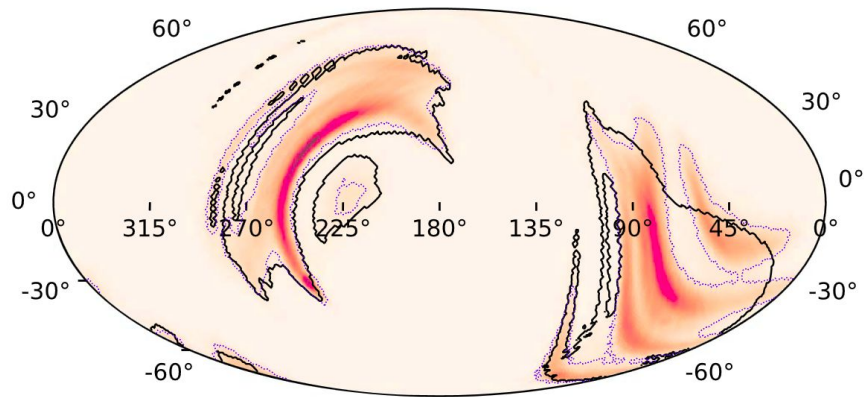


M. Soares-Santos *et al.* 2017
ApJL **848** L16

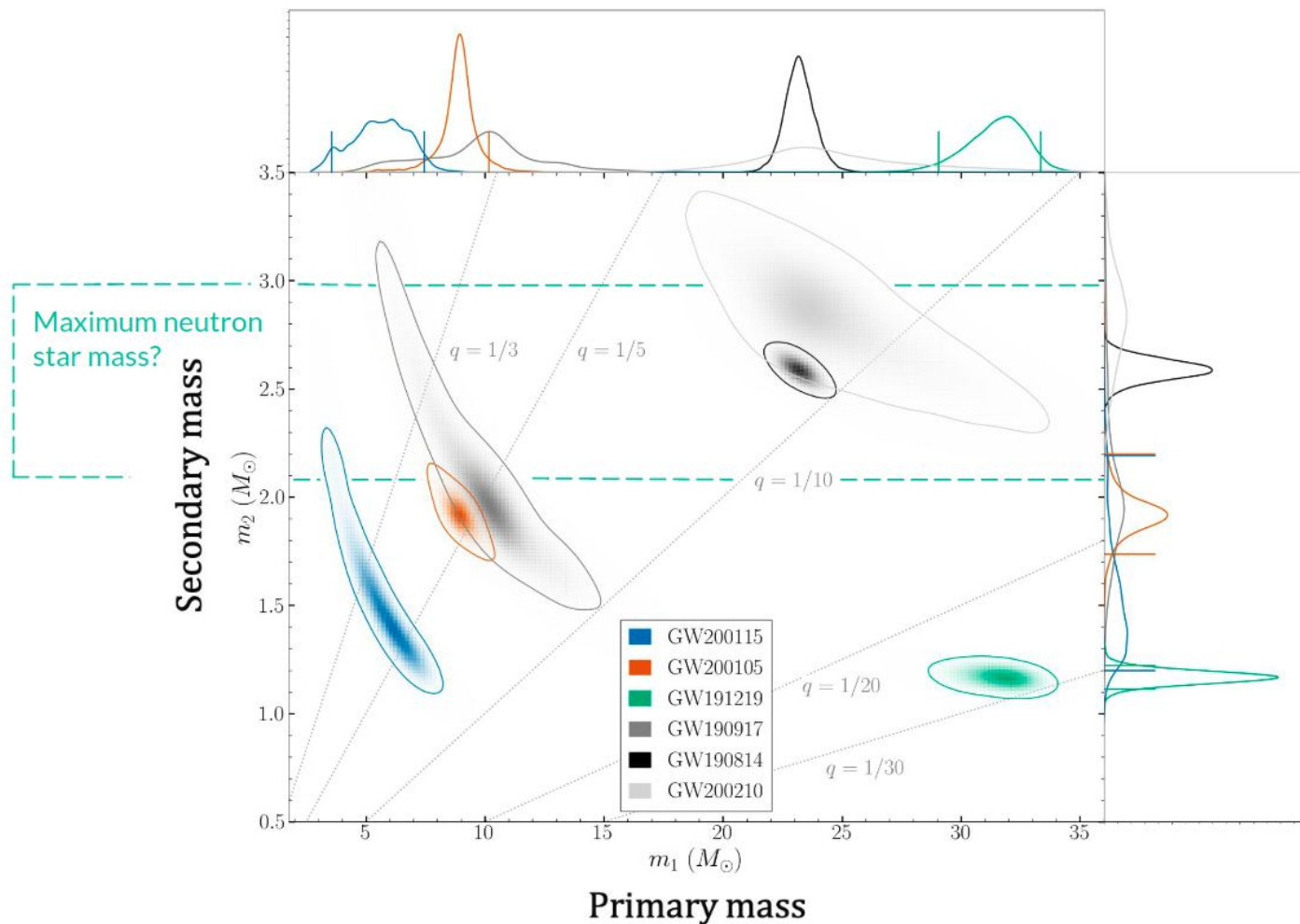
The LIGO Scientific Collaboration and The Virgo Collaboration, The 1M2H Collaboration, The Dark Energy Camera GW-EM Collaboration and the DES Collaboration *et al.* *Nature* **551**, 85–88 (2017).

BNS

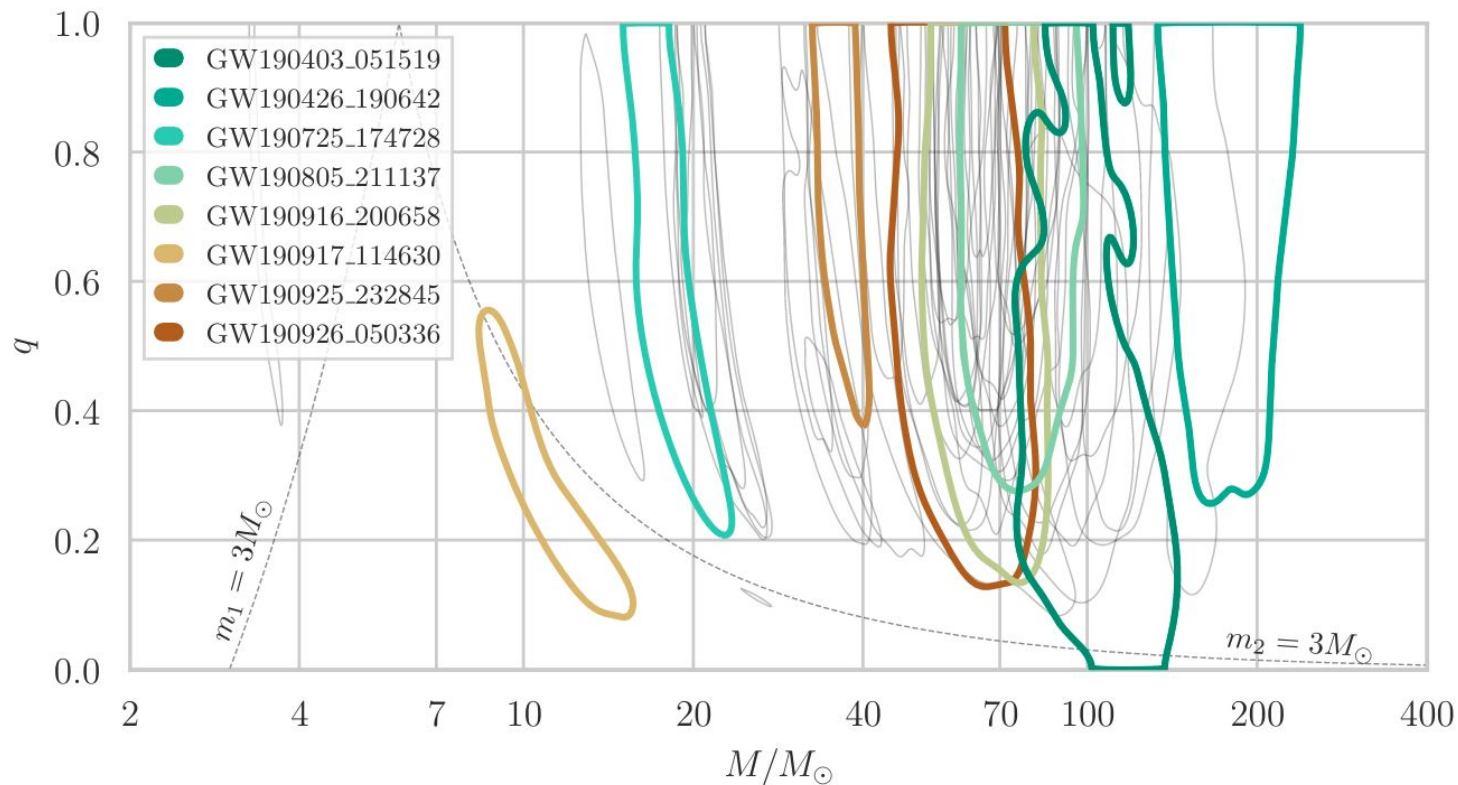
GW190425 is the second binary neutron star to be detected, after GW170817. Around 160 Mpc away.



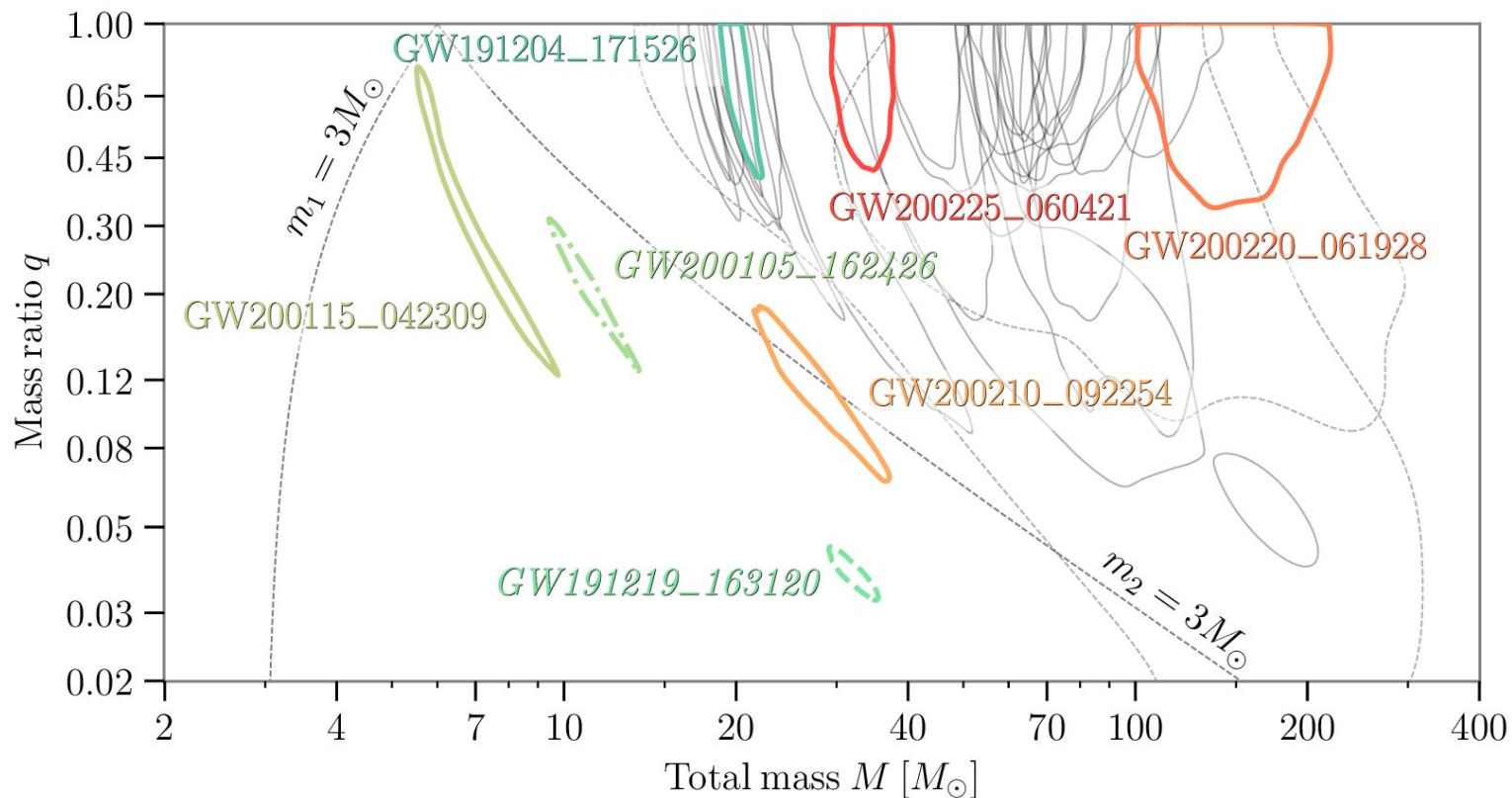
NSBHs



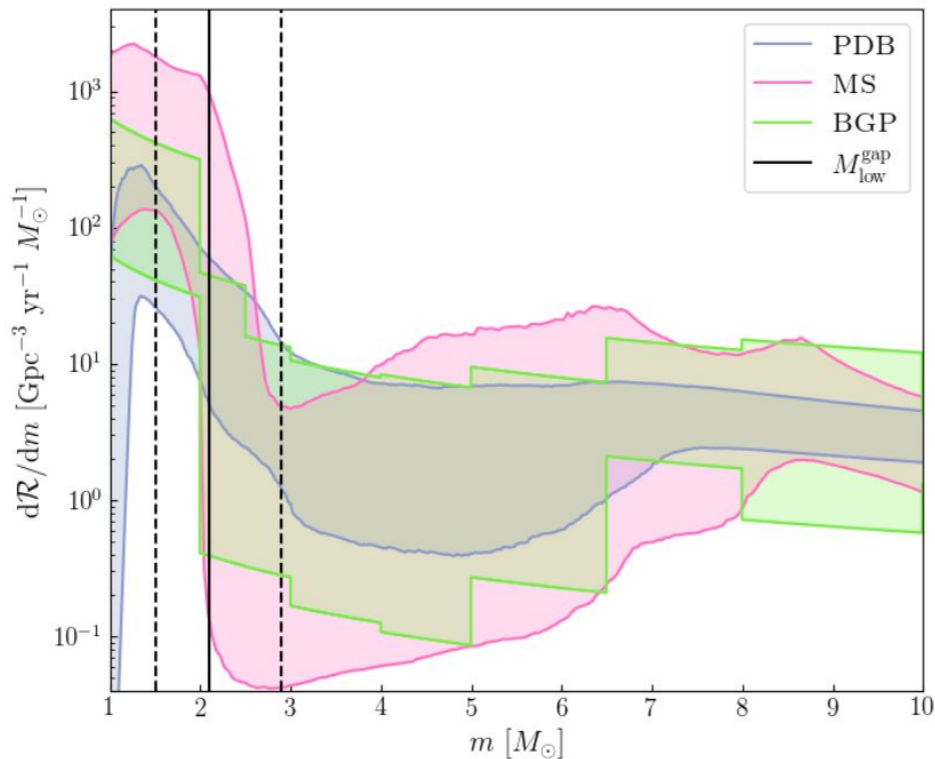
Events from O3a



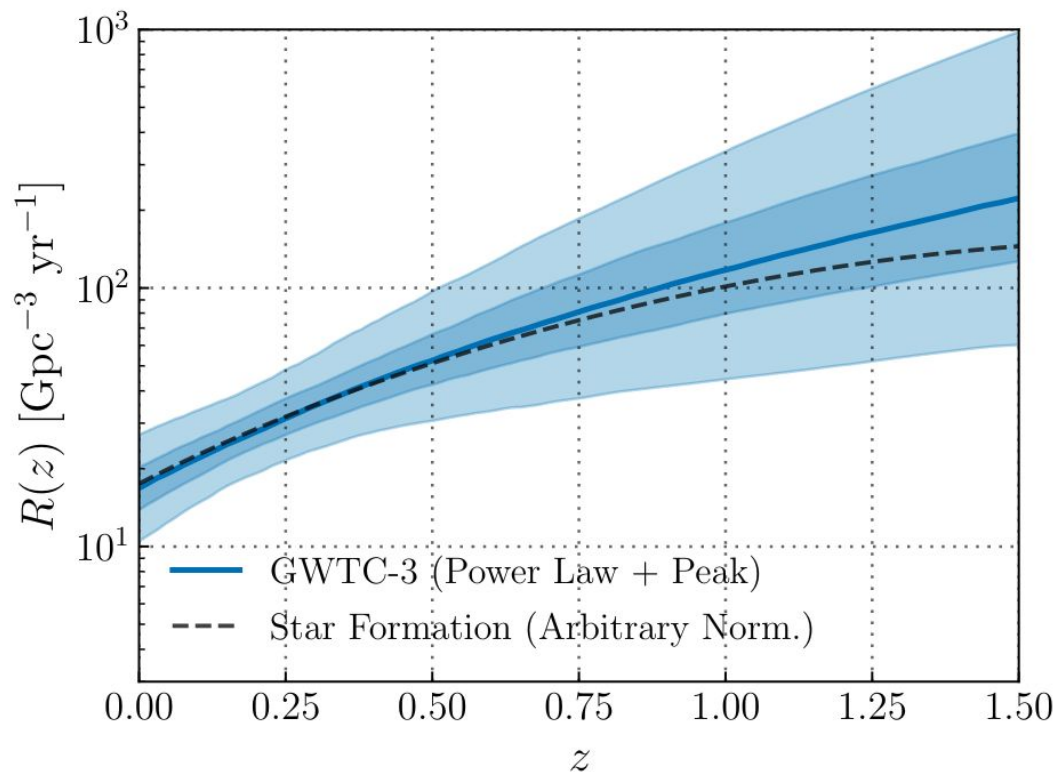
Events from O3b



Lower mass gap



Evolution of merger rate with redshift



The LIGO Scientific Collaboration, the Virgo Collaboration and the KAGRA Collaboration,
Phys. Rev. X **13**, 011048, March 2023