



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM



# Parameter estimation for the binary black hole merger GW150914

**Christopher Berry**

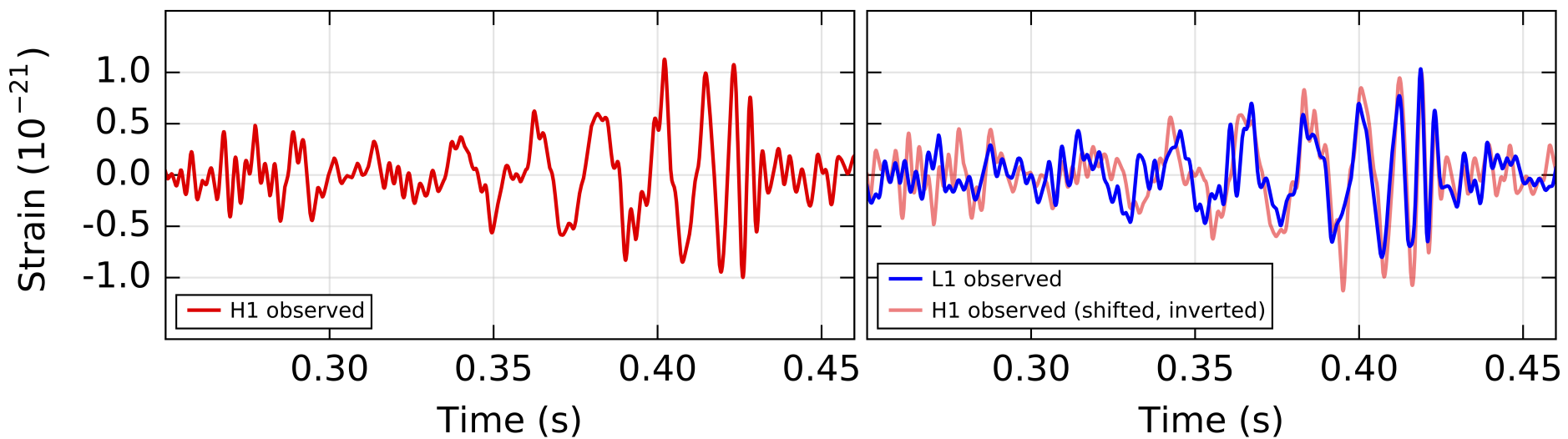
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@cplberry

On behalf of the  
LIGO Scientific & Virgo Collaboration  
DCC G1600269

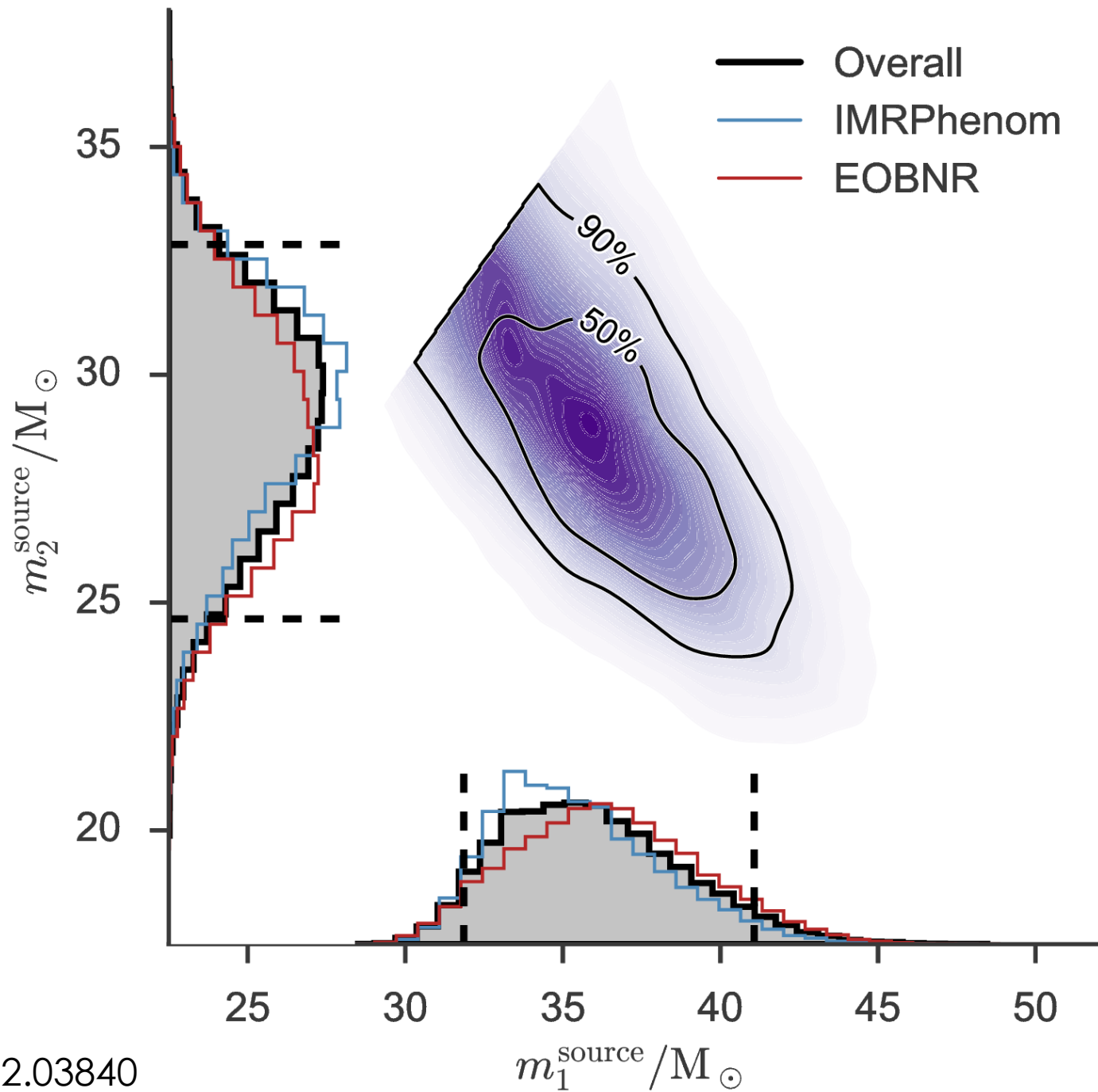
5 April 2016, University of Nottingham

Hanford, Washington (H1)

Livingston, Louisiana (L1)



arXiv:1602.03837



# Bayes' theorem

$$p(\theta|d) = \frac{p(d|\theta) p(\theta)}{p(d)}$$

# Bayes' theorem

The diagram illustrates Bayes' theorem with the following components:

- Posterior:**  $p(\theta|d)$  (enclosed in a blue box)
- Likelihood:**  $p(d|\theta)$  (enclosed in a light blue box)
- Prior:**  $p(\theta)$  (enclosed in a yellow box)
- Evidence:**  $p(d)$  (enclosed in an orange box)

The equation is presented as:

$$p(\theta|d) = \frac{p(d|\theta)p(\theta)}{p(d)}$$

# Likelihood

$$p(d|\theta) \propto \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \sum_k \langle h_k(\theta) - d_k | h_k(\theta) - d_k \rangle \right]$$

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# Likelihood

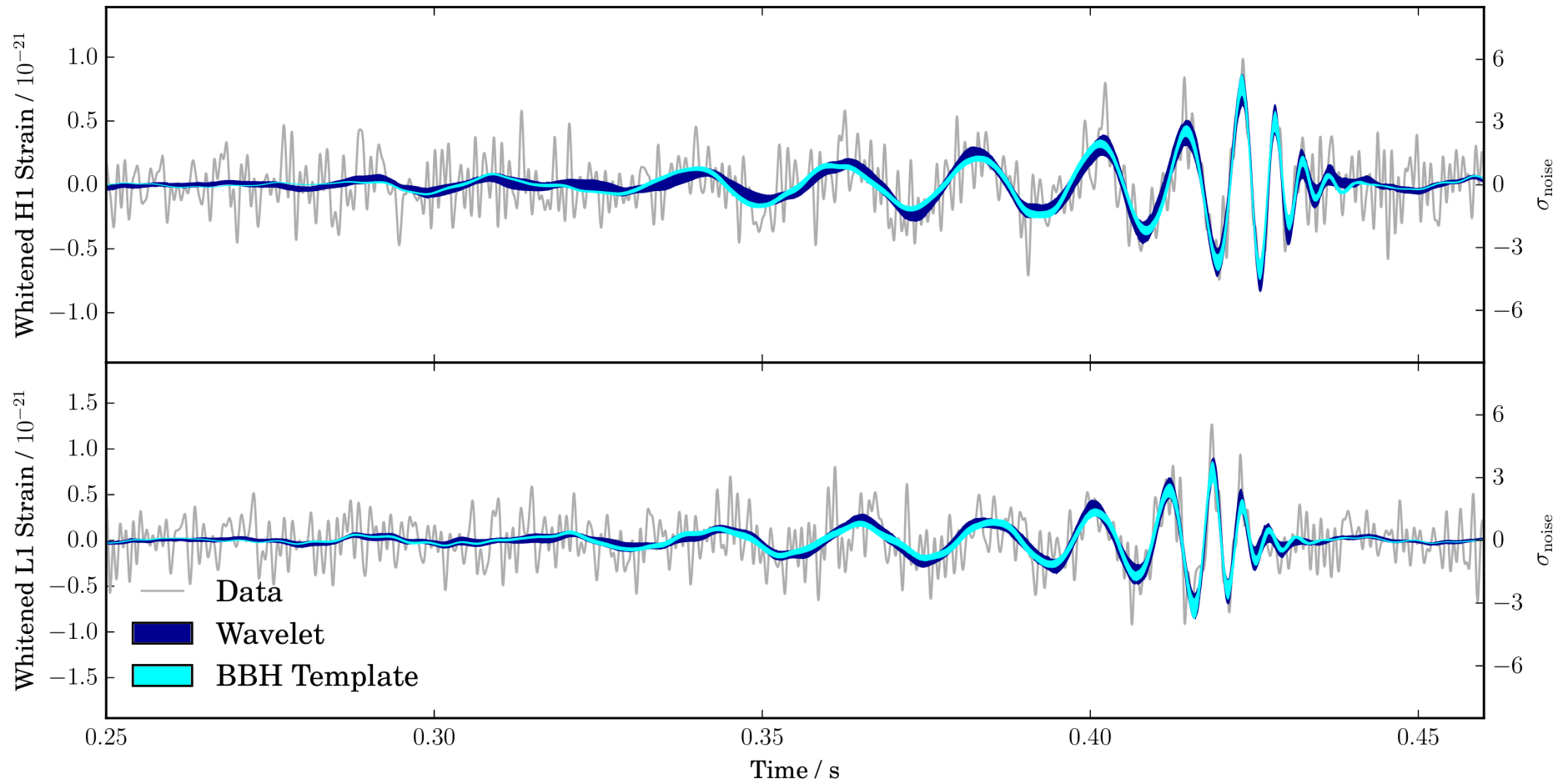
$$p(d|\theta) \propto \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \sum_k \langle h_k(\theta) - d_k | h_k(\theta) - d_k \rangle \right]$$

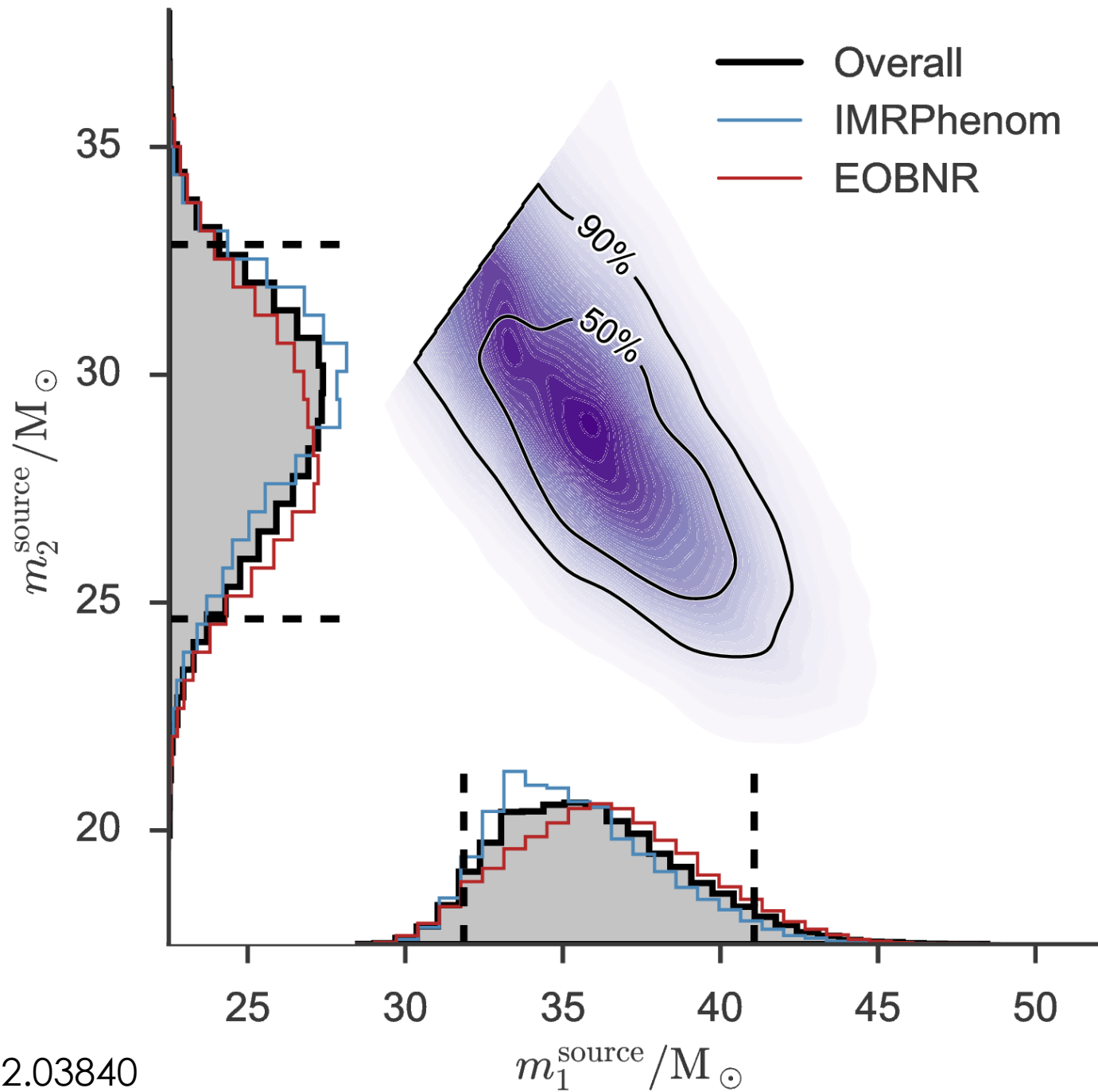
$$h_k(\theta) \rightarrow h_k(\theta) [1 + \delta A_k] \exp [i\delta\phi_k]$$

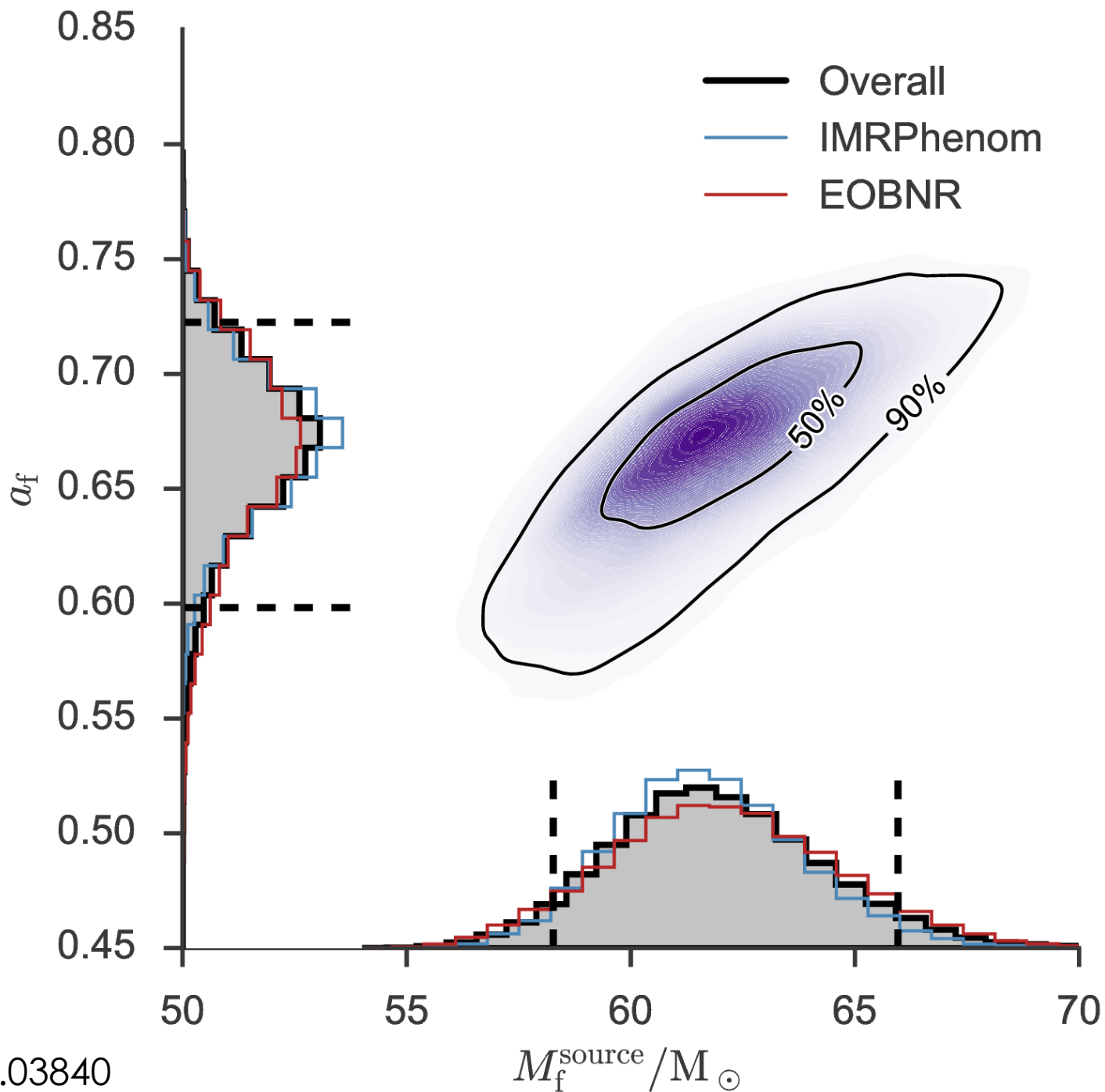
Waveform

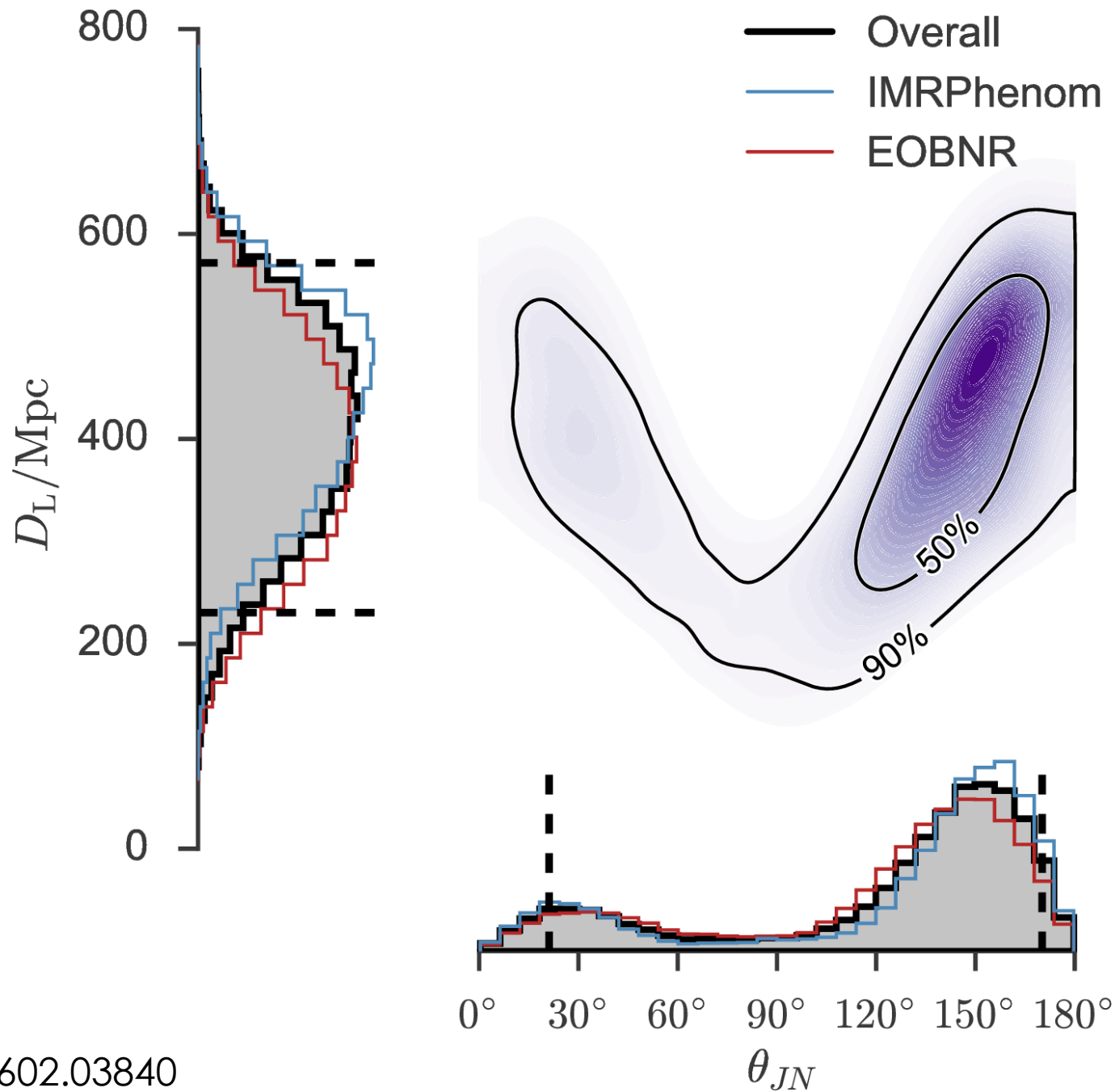


# Waveform



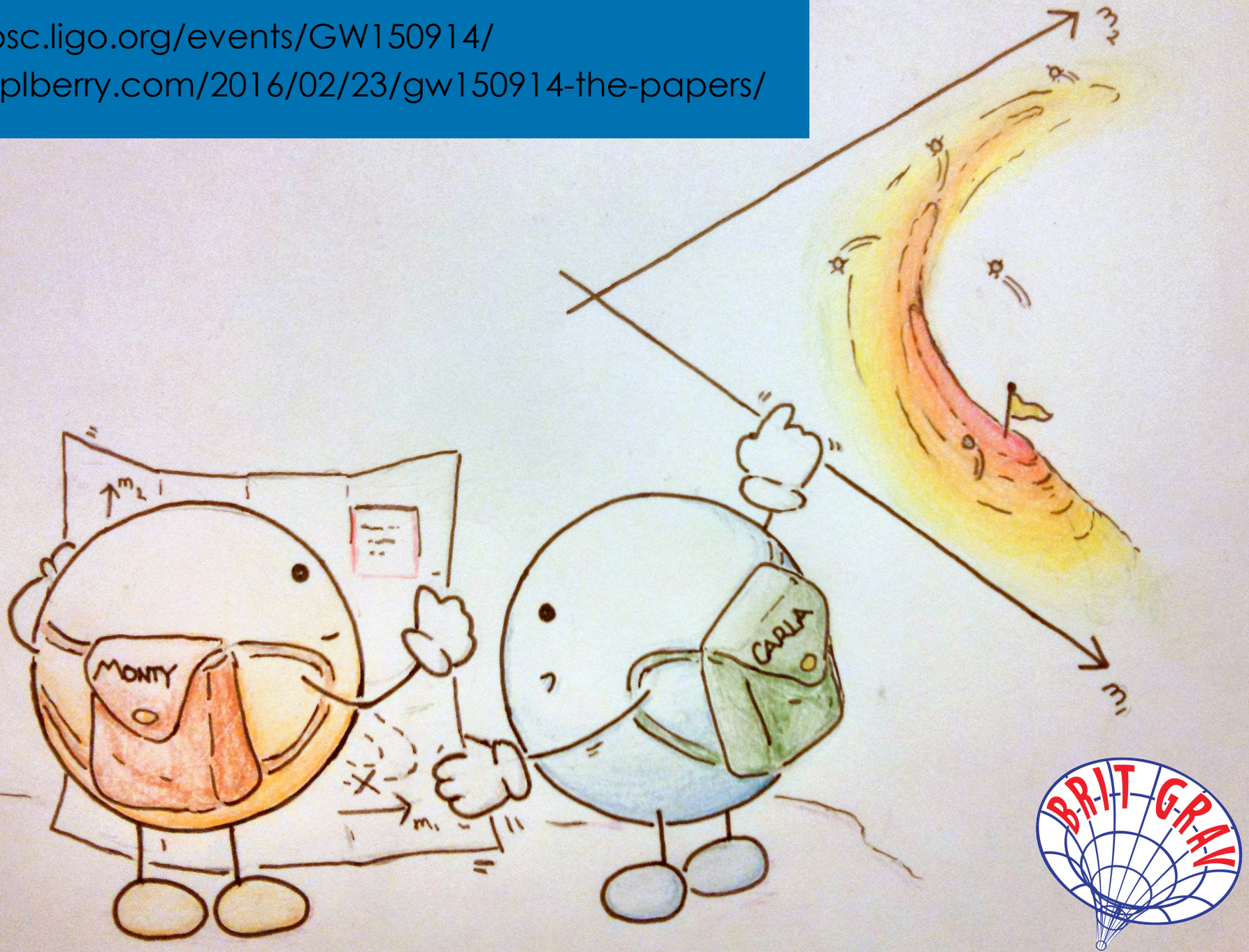






- Gravitational waves encode information about their source
- Some parameters are better measured than others
- Better waveforms and calibration can improve estimates
- Accuracy currently limited by signal-to-noise ratio

[losc.ligo.org/events/GW150914/](http://losc.ligo.org/events/GW150914/)  
[cplberry.com/2016/02/23/gw150914-the-papers/](http://cplberry.com/2016/02/23/gw150914-the-papers/)

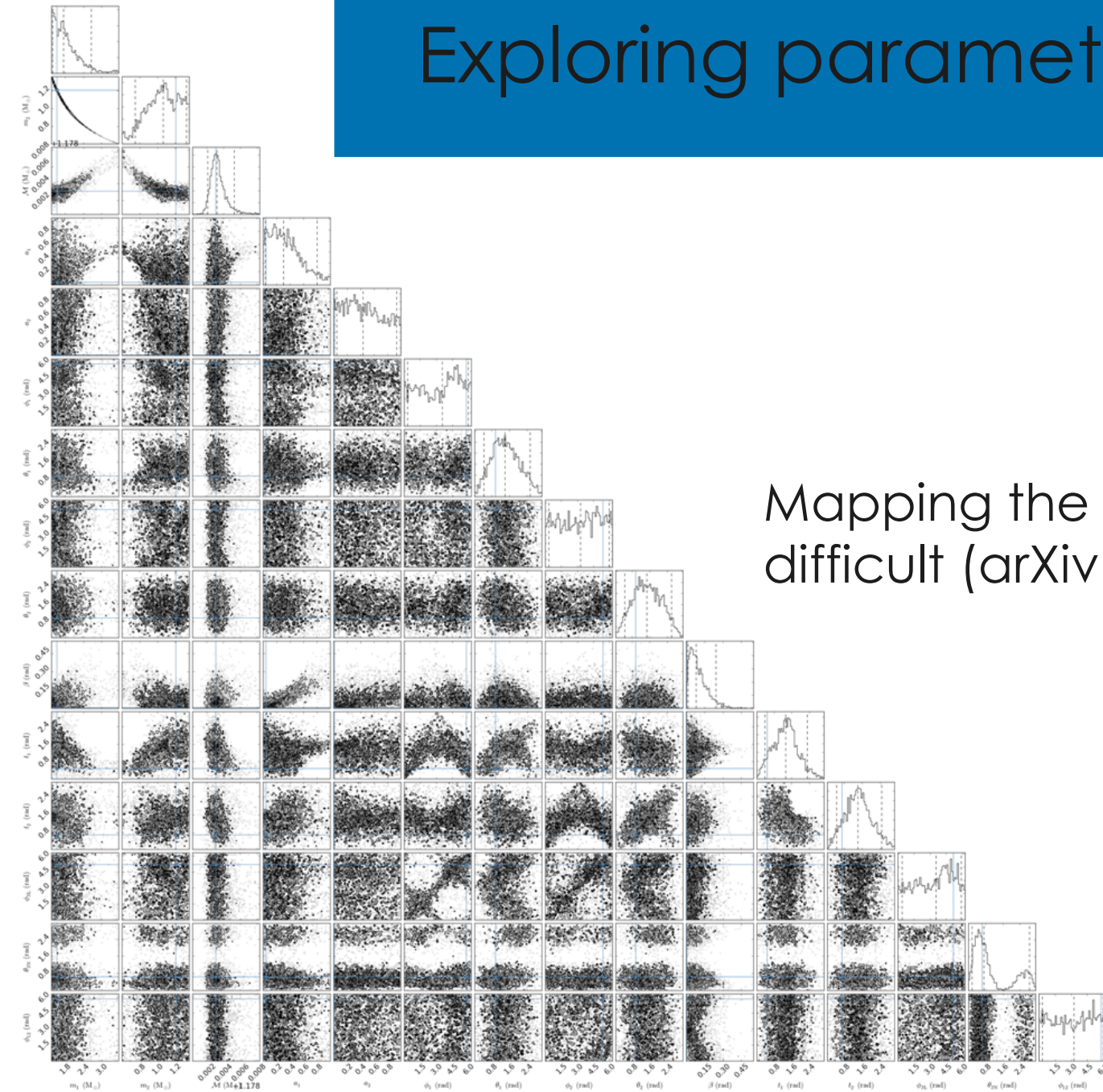


# Chirp mass

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

Chirp mass gives leading-order amplitude and phase evolution (arXiv:0903.0338)

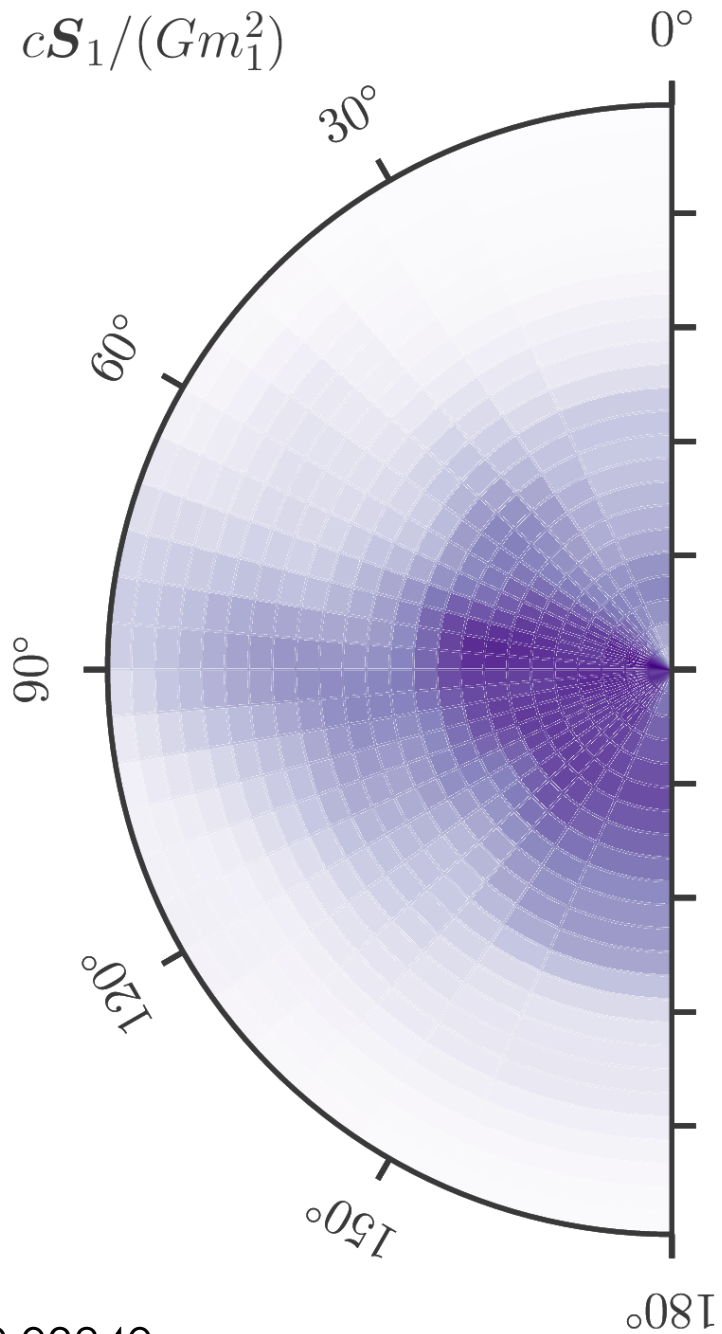
# Exploring parameter space



Mapping the posterior is difficult (arXiv:1409.7215)



$c\mathcal{S}_1/(Gm_1^2)$



$0^\circ$

0.8

0.6

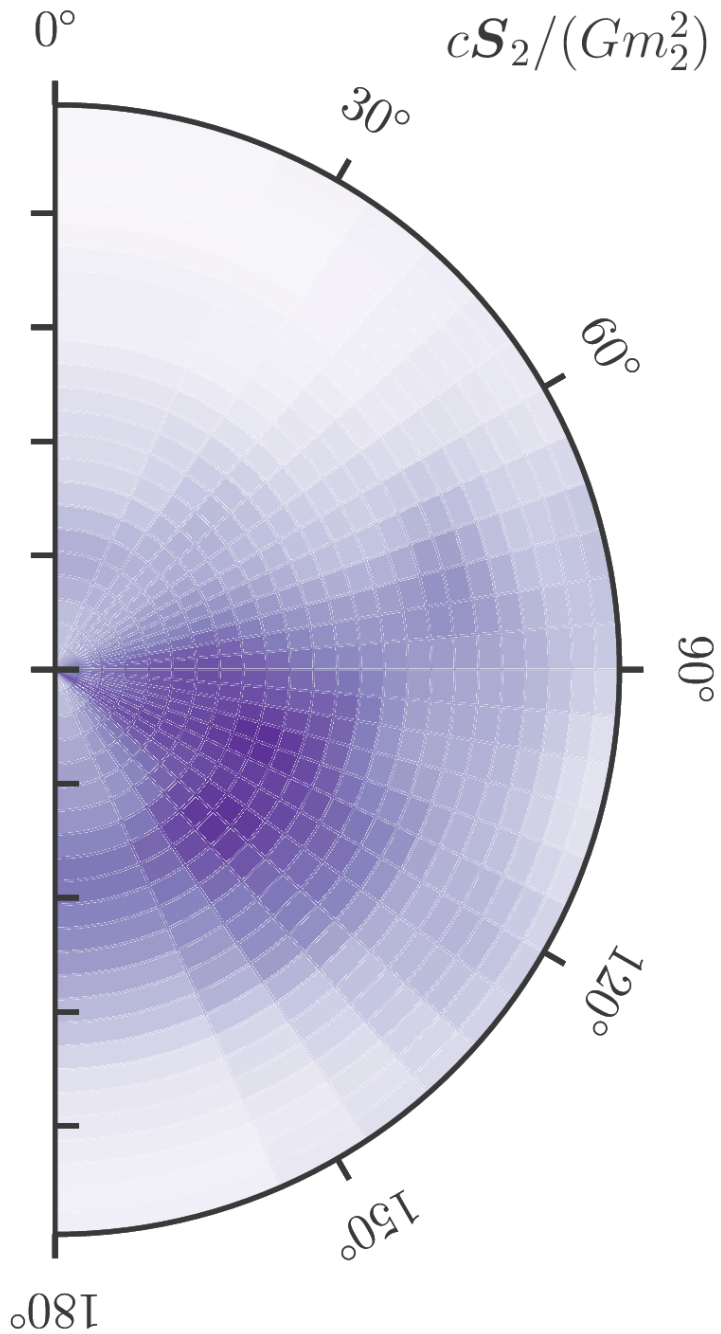
0.4

0.2

0.0

$180^\circ$

$c\mathcal{S}_2/(Gm_2^2)$



$30^\circ$

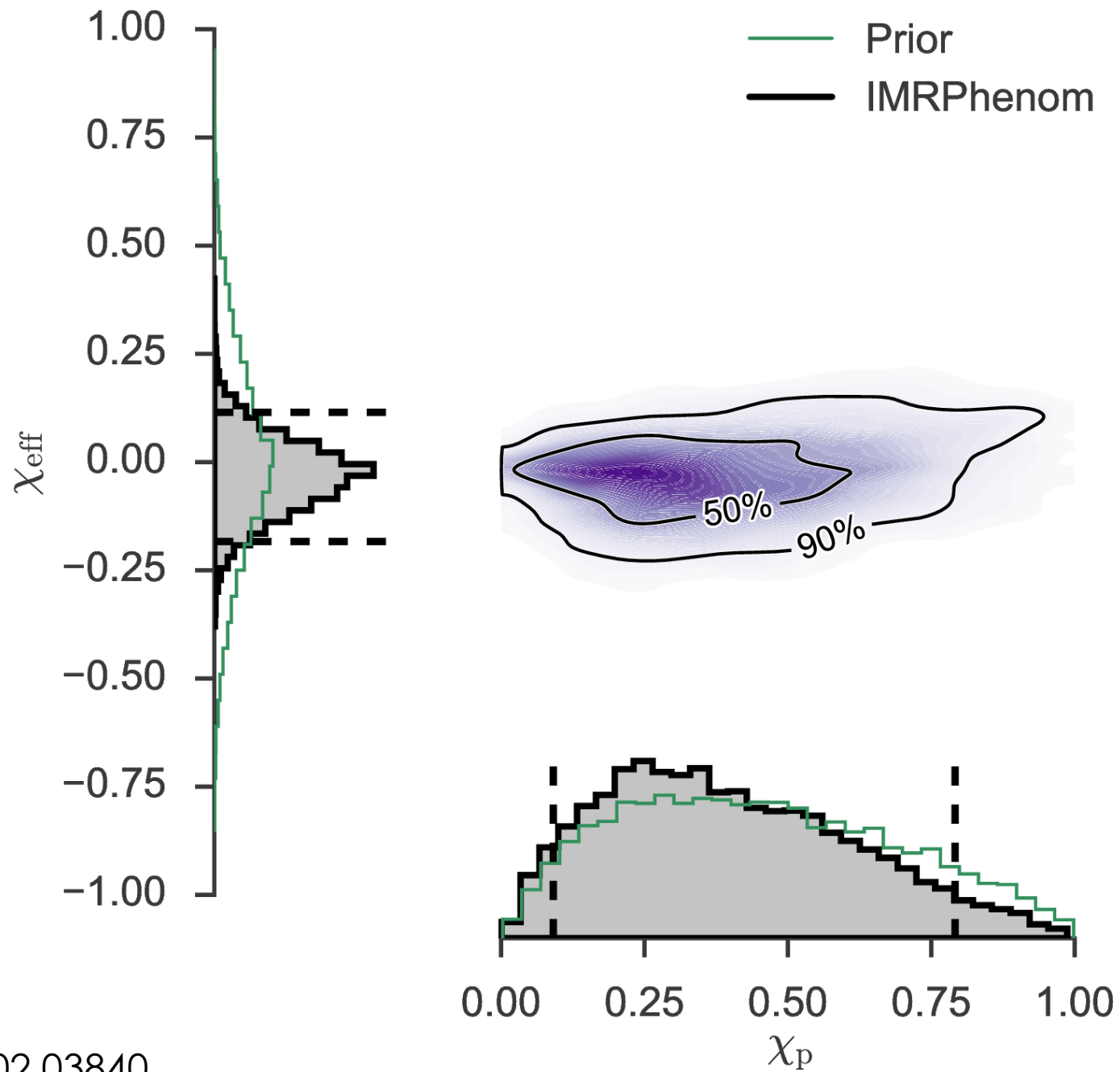
$60^\circ$

$90^\circ$


$120^\circ$


$150^\circ$

$180^\circ$







# The First Two Years of Electromagnetic Follow-Up with Advanced LIGO and Virgo

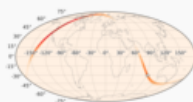
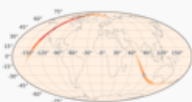
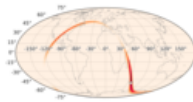
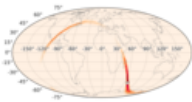


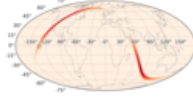
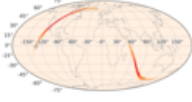
 [Singer et al. 2014](#)  
arXiv:1404.5623

 [Berry et al. 2015](#)  
arXiv:1411.6934

[www.ligo.org/scientists/first2years/](http://www.ligo.org/scientists/first2years/)

This web page additional online related to the "Two Years of Electromagnetic Follow-Up with Advanced LIGO and Virgo" and paper "Parameter Estimation for Binary Neutron Star Coalescences"

Catalog of simulated events and sky maps for two-detector, HL, 2015 configuration. This is the same configuration as the 2015 tab, except that the simulated detector noise is data from initial LIGO's  sixth science run, recoloured (filtered) to have the same PSD as the early Advanced LIGO configuration. See also ASCII tables of  simulated signals,  detections, and  parameter-estimation accuracies in [Machine Readable Table](#) format.

event ID	sim ID	network	SNR			BAYESTAR			LALINFERENCE_NEST			sky maps	
			net	H	L	50%	90%	searched	50%	90%	searched	BAYESTAR	LALINFERENCE_NEST
4532	899	HL	13.9	10.1	9.5	180	750	190	170	790	150		
4572	1243	HL	13.2	10.0	8.7	230	830	45	200	920	33		
4618	1768	HL	10.8	8.0	7.3	160	540	220	130	440	280		
4647	1964	HL	12.4	8.6	9.0	260	890	1200	190	780	780		
4711	2704	HL	10.7	8.0	7.1	370	1200	300	450	1600	520	