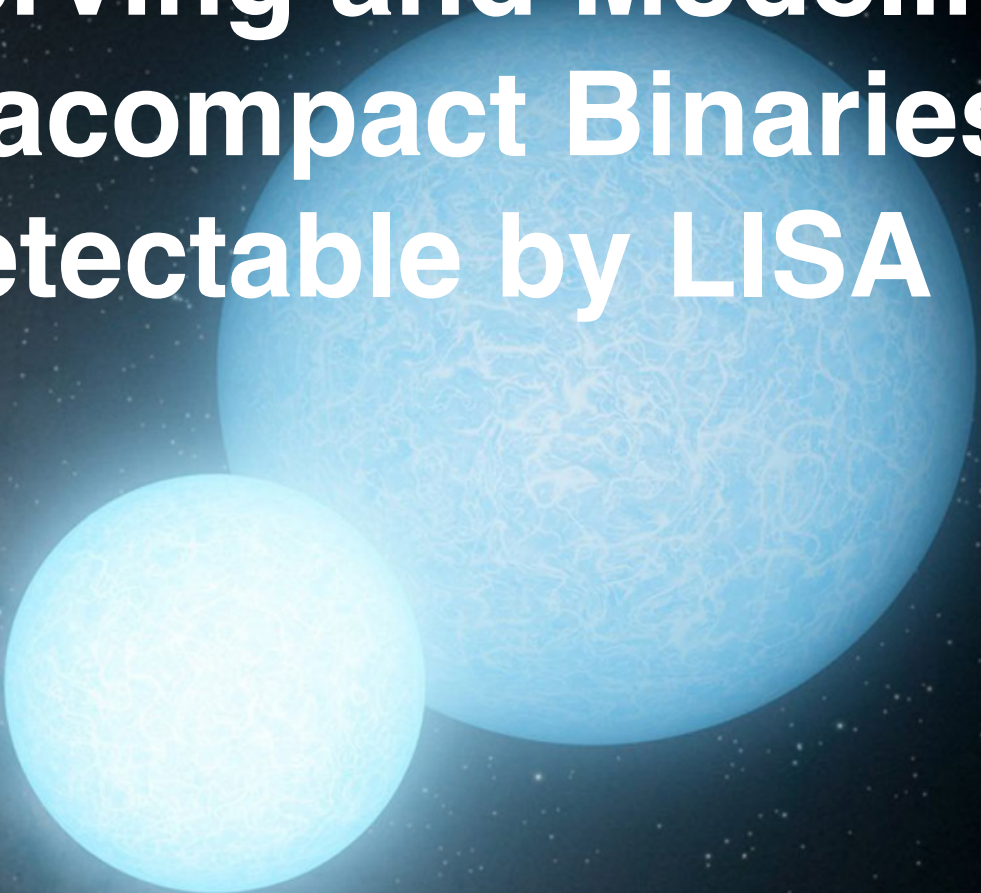


# Observing and Modeling Ultracompact Binaries Detectable by LISA

Two blue, textured spheres of different sizes are positioned in the center of the slide. The larger sphere is in the background, and the smaller one is in the foreground, partially overlapping it. The background is a dark space filled with numerous small white stars.

Olivia Cooper  
Smith College 2020  
LIGO SURF 2019

Mentors: Michael Coughlin, Shreya Anand

Image credit: Caltech/IPAC

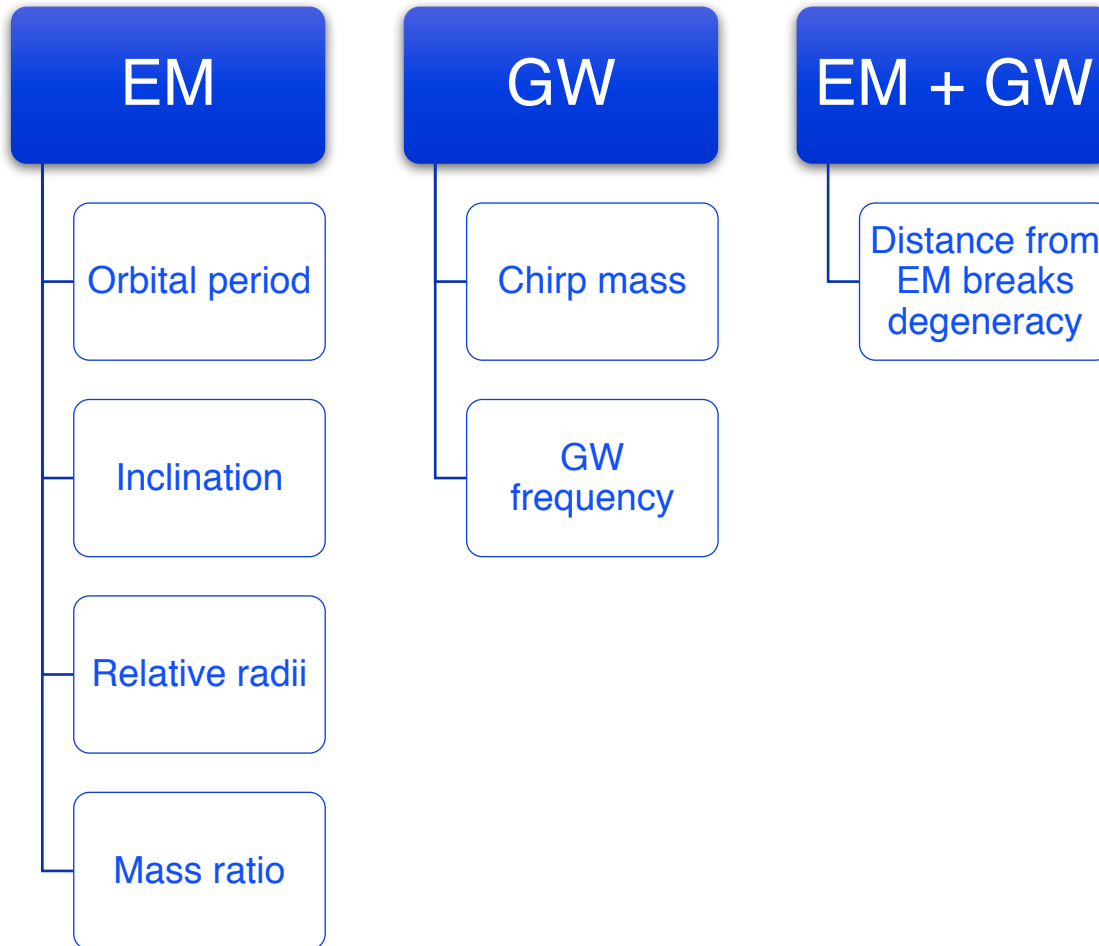
# Outline

---

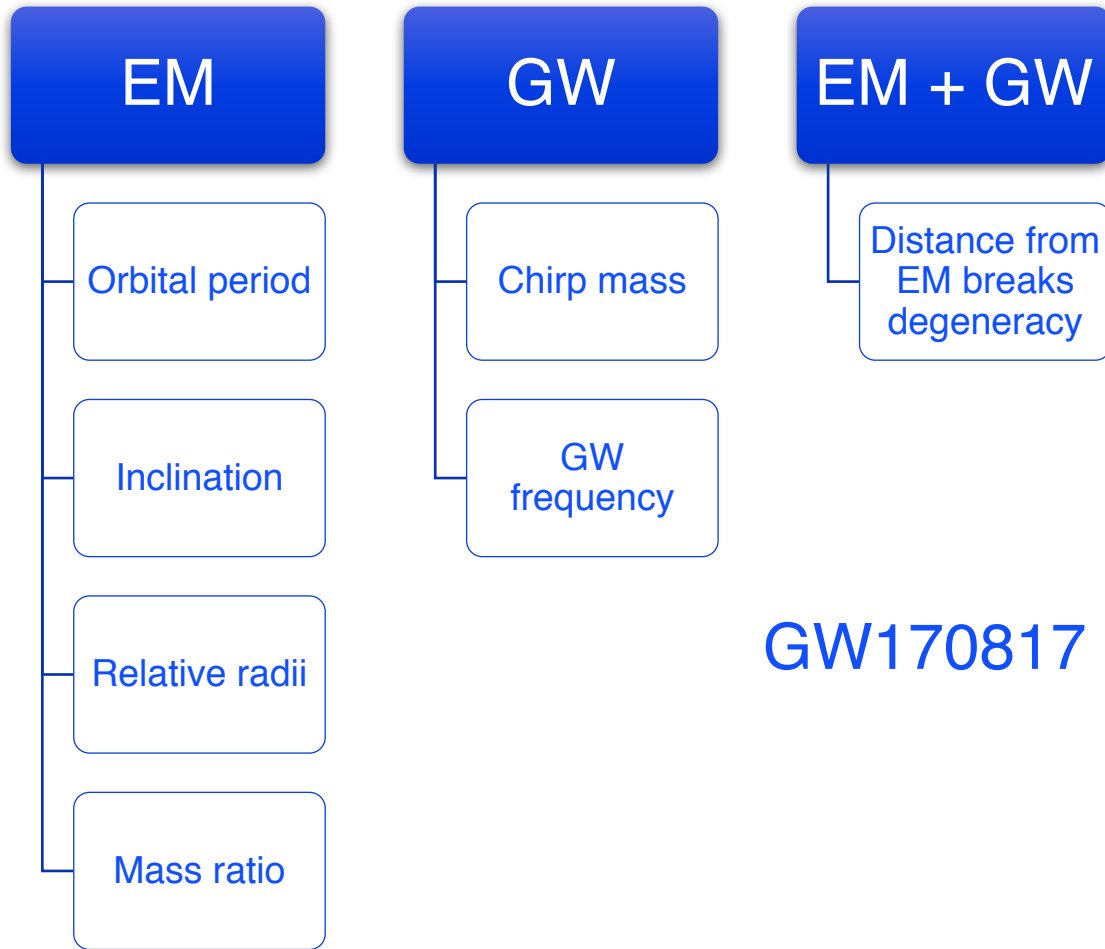
- Multi-messenger astrophysics
- LISA
- Ultracompact binaries
  - » White dwarf binaries
  - » Low-mass X-ray binaries
- Simulations
- Observations
- Future work



# Multi-messenger Astrophysics

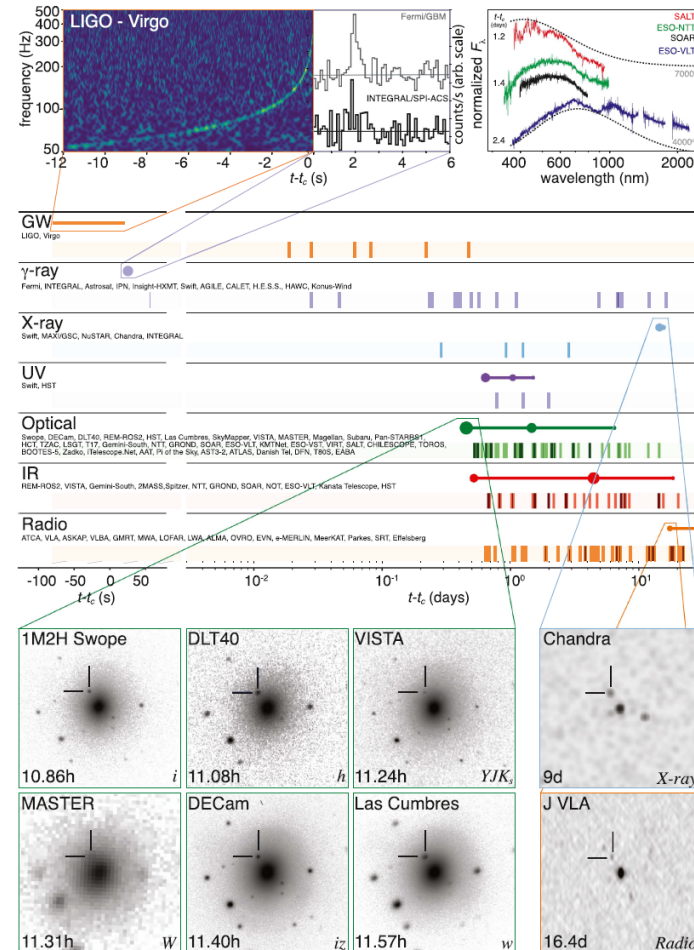


## Multi-messenger Astrophysics



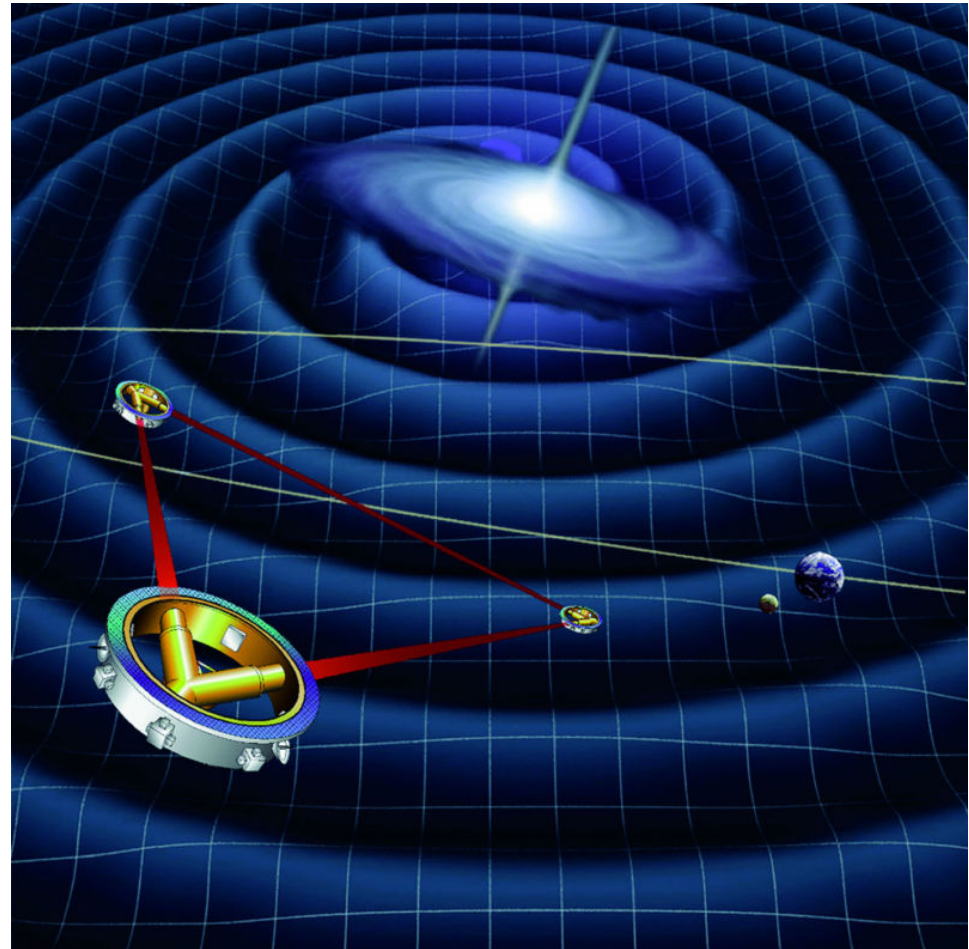
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ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL LETTERS, 848:L12 (59pp), 2017 October 20

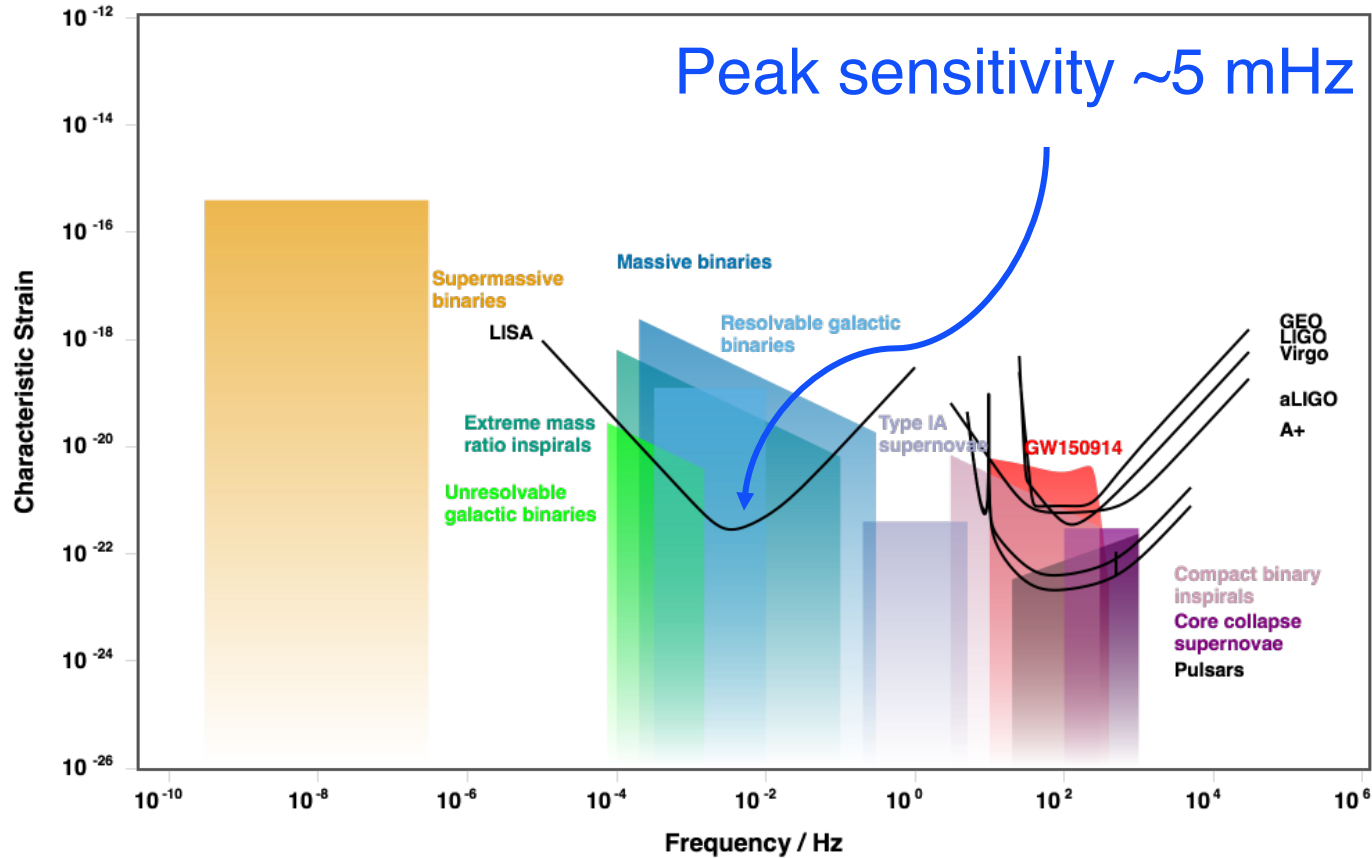


# LISA

- 3 test masses, 6 laser links
- 2.5 million km arms
- Earth trailing heliocentric orbit



# LISA





The LIGO logo consists of several concentric, light gray circles of varying radii, centered in the top-left corner of the slide. To the right of these circles, the word "LIGO" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**LIGO**

# LISA Verification Binaries

---

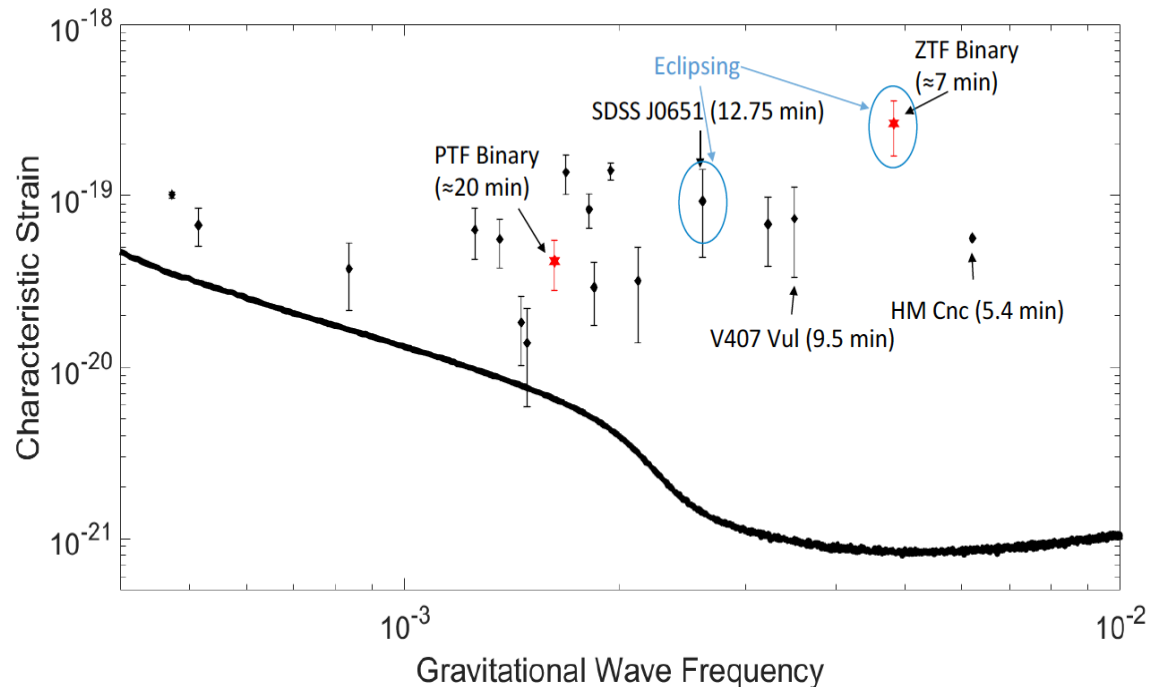
DCC: [T1900360-v1](#)

*Olivia Cooper, LIGO SURF 2019*

Figure credit:  
Burdge+ 2019

# LISA Verification Binaries

- Identify LISA sources in EM
  - »  $P \sim$  minutes - hours
- Predict GW waveform
  - » monochromatic
- Calibrate LISA GW signal



# LISA Verification Binaries

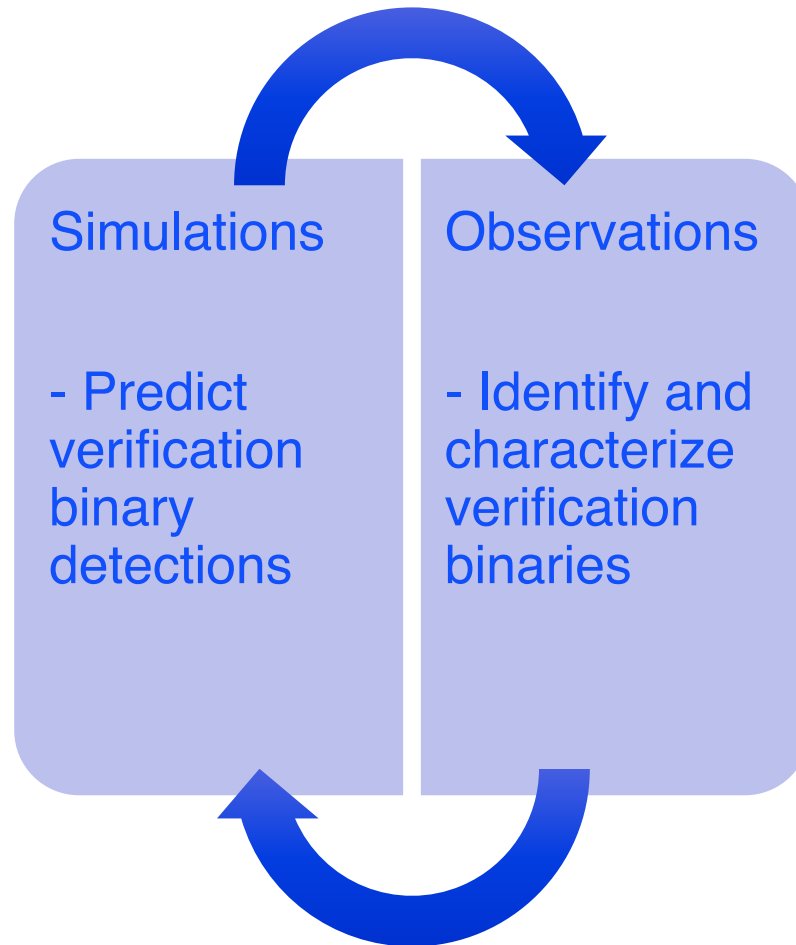


White Dwarf  
Binaries



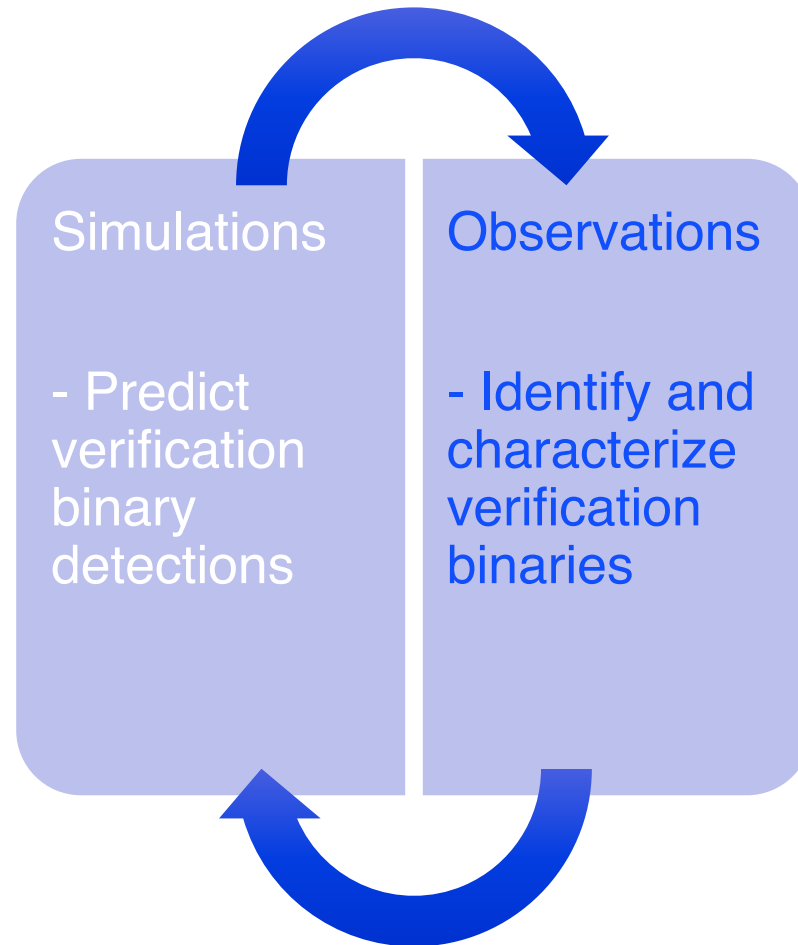
Low-mass X-ray  
Binaries

# LISA Verification Binaries





# LISA Verification Binaries



# Orbital Decay

- Objects in binary orbit give off GW
- As energy is lost, period decreases

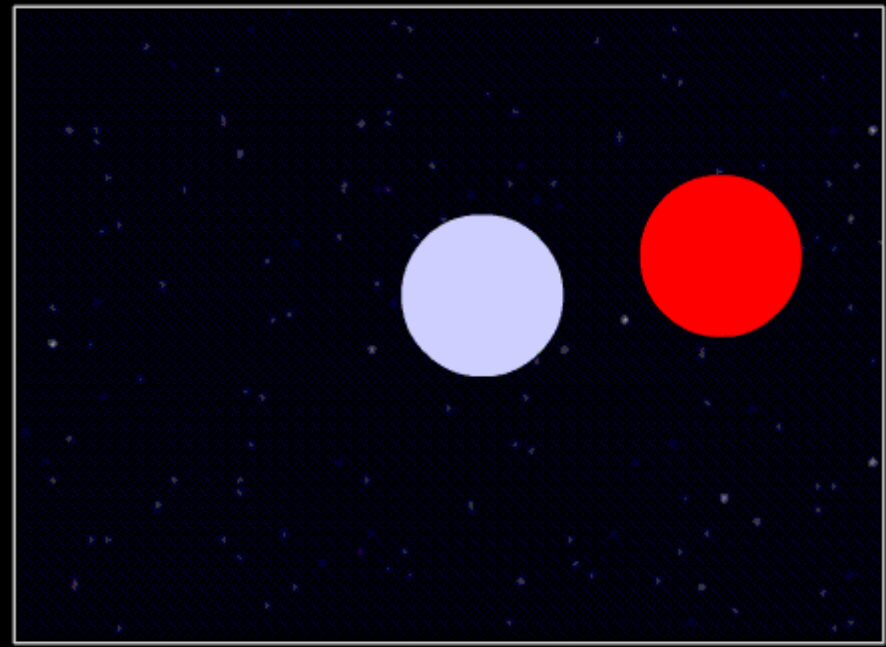
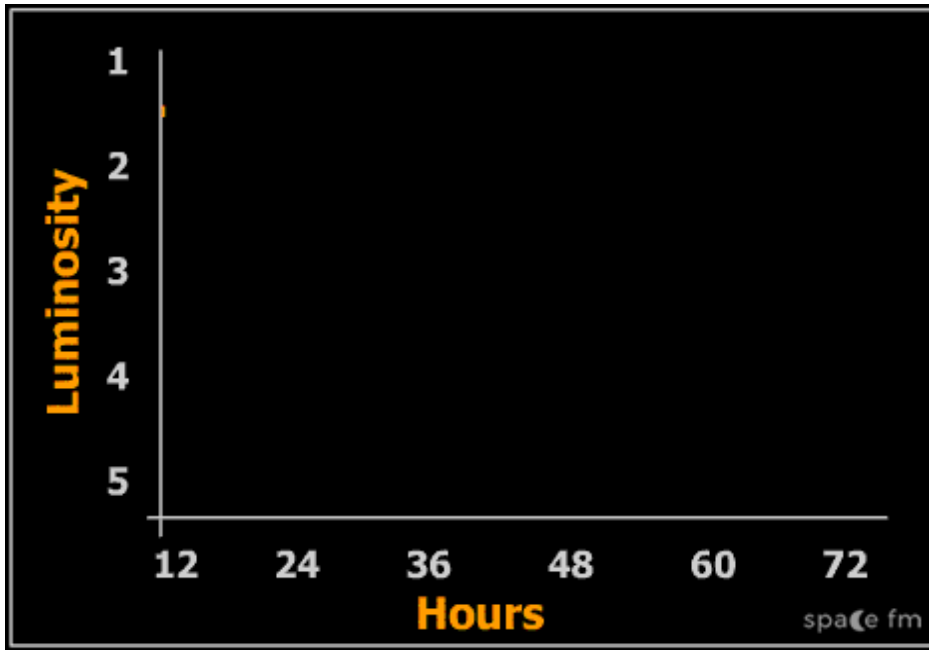
$$\dot{P} = \frac{-96\pi}{5c^5} (\pi G \mathcal{M} f_{gw})^{\frac{5}{3}}$$



Animation credit: NASA/Dana Berry, Sky Works Digital

# Simulated Light Curves

- Construct eclipsing light curve given binary parameters



# Simulated Light Curves

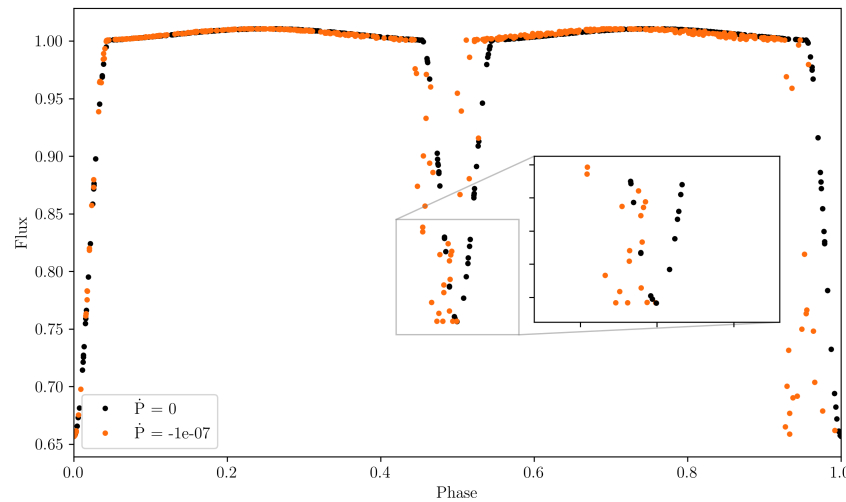
---

- Interpolate light curve over time given decay rate
- Eclipse mid points shift over time
- White dwarf binary
  - »  $-10^{-11}$  s/s



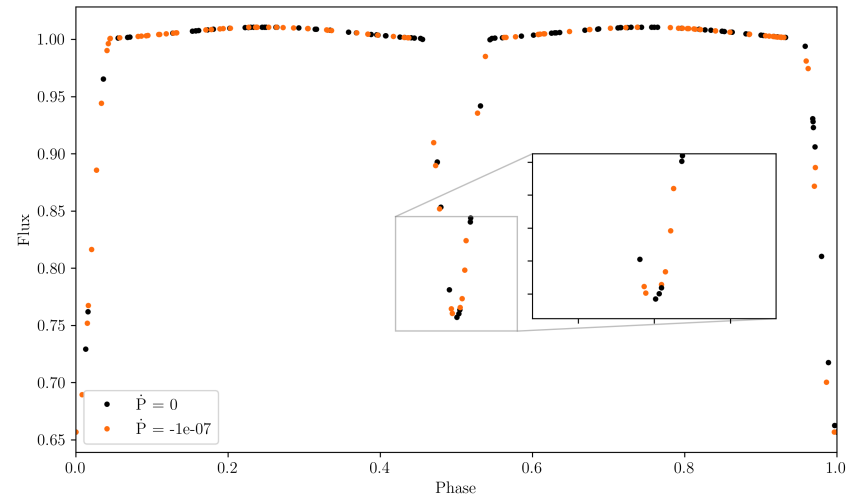
# Simulated Light Curves

- Interpolate light curve over time given decay rate
- Eclipse mid points shift over time
- White dwarf binary  
»  $-10^{-11}$  s/s

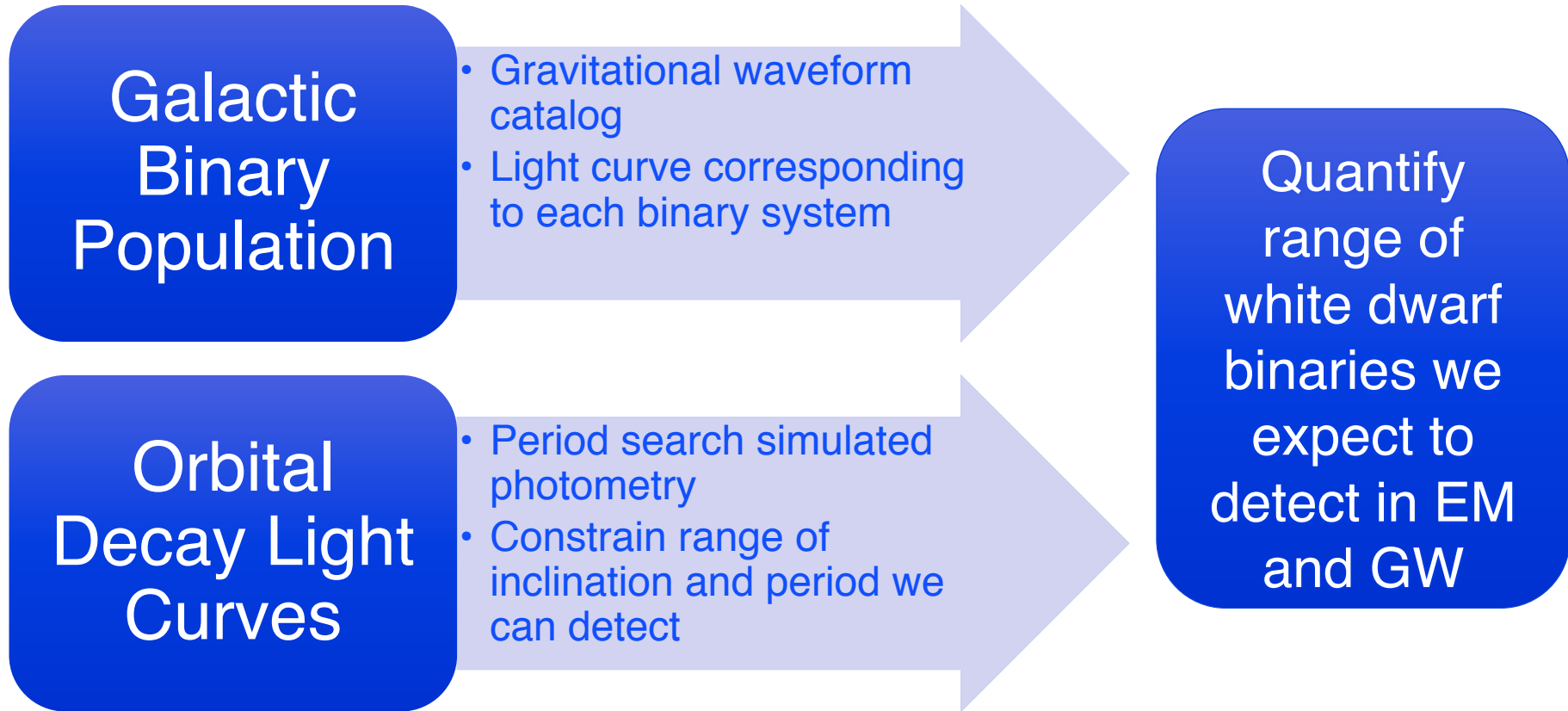


10 years  
(LSST)

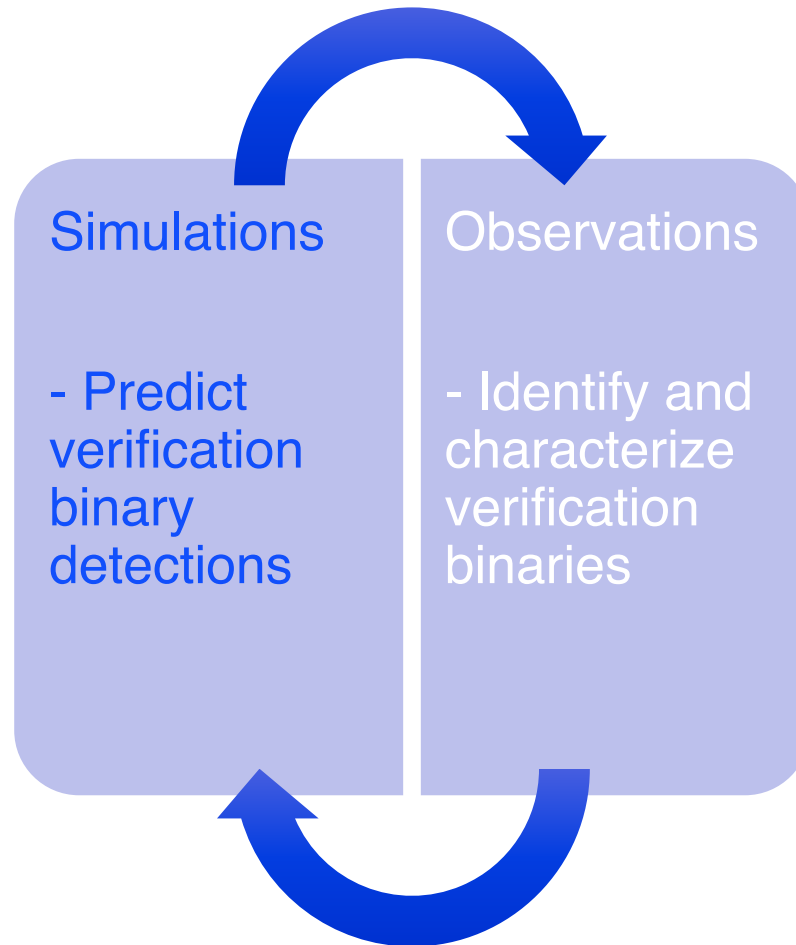
1 year  
(ZTF)



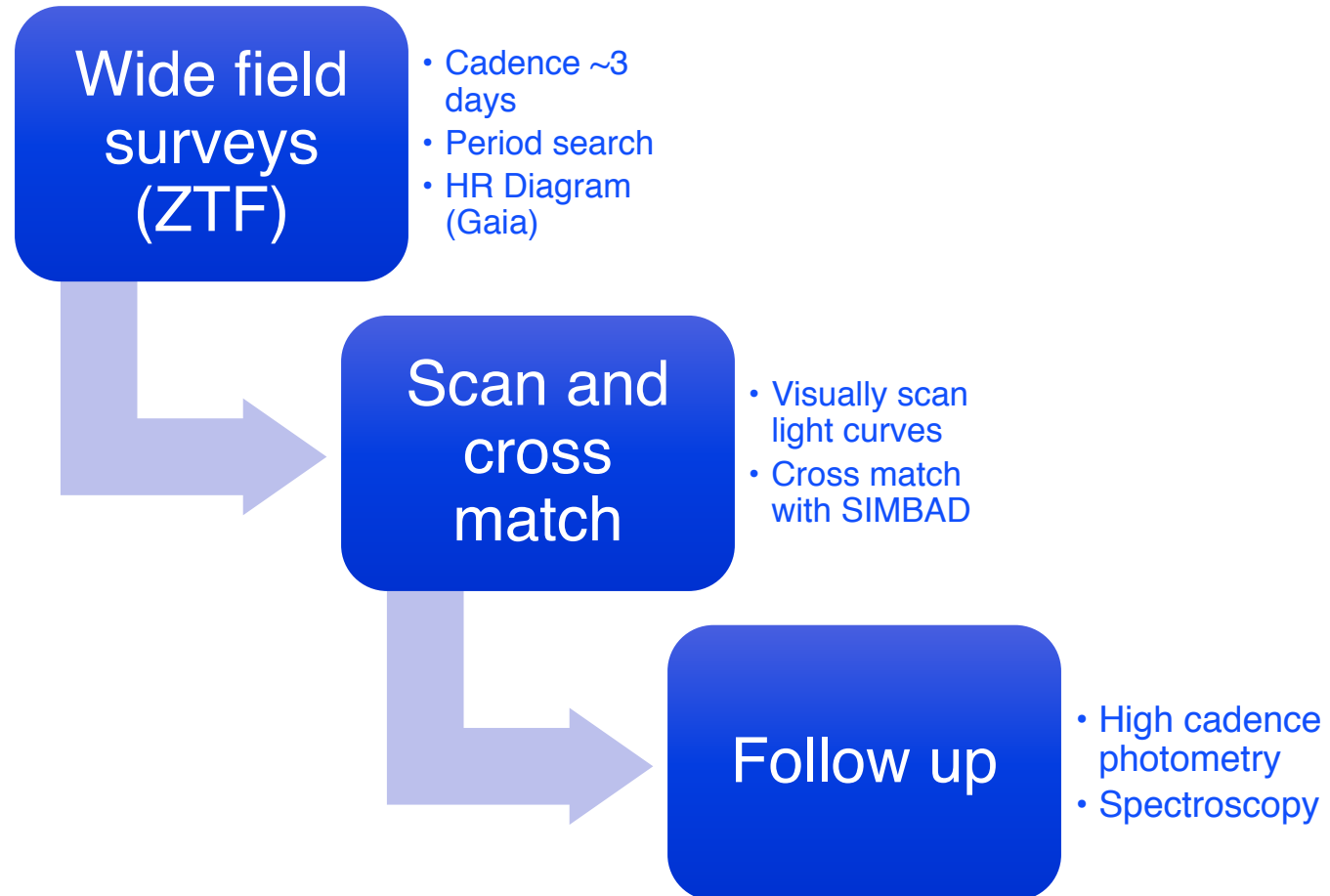
# DWD Simulations



# LISA Verification Binaries

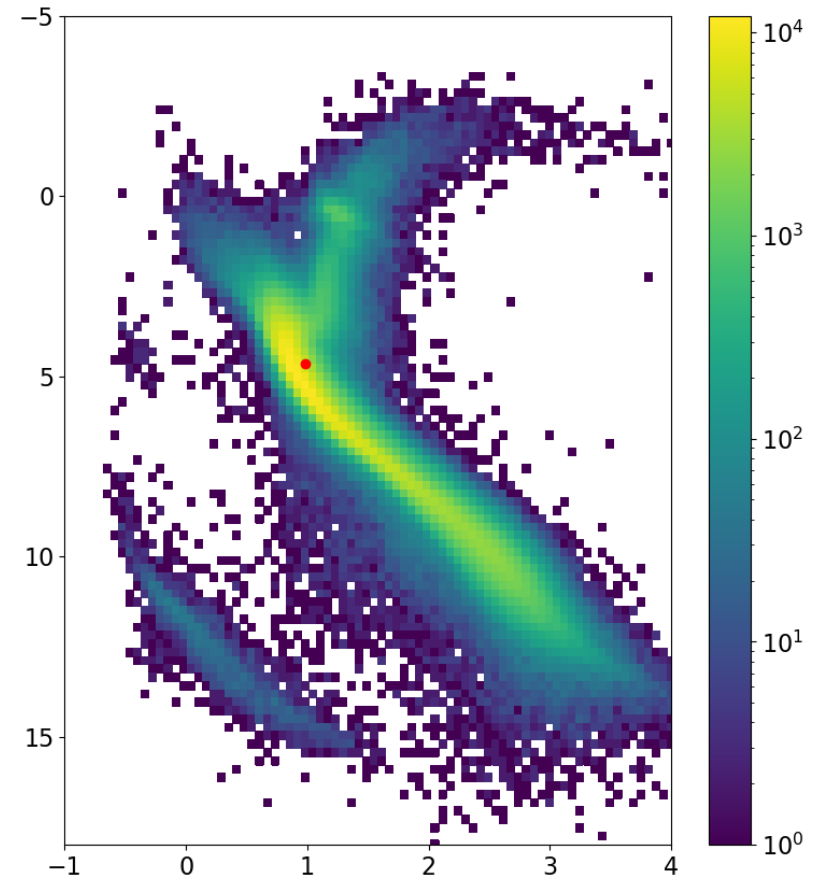
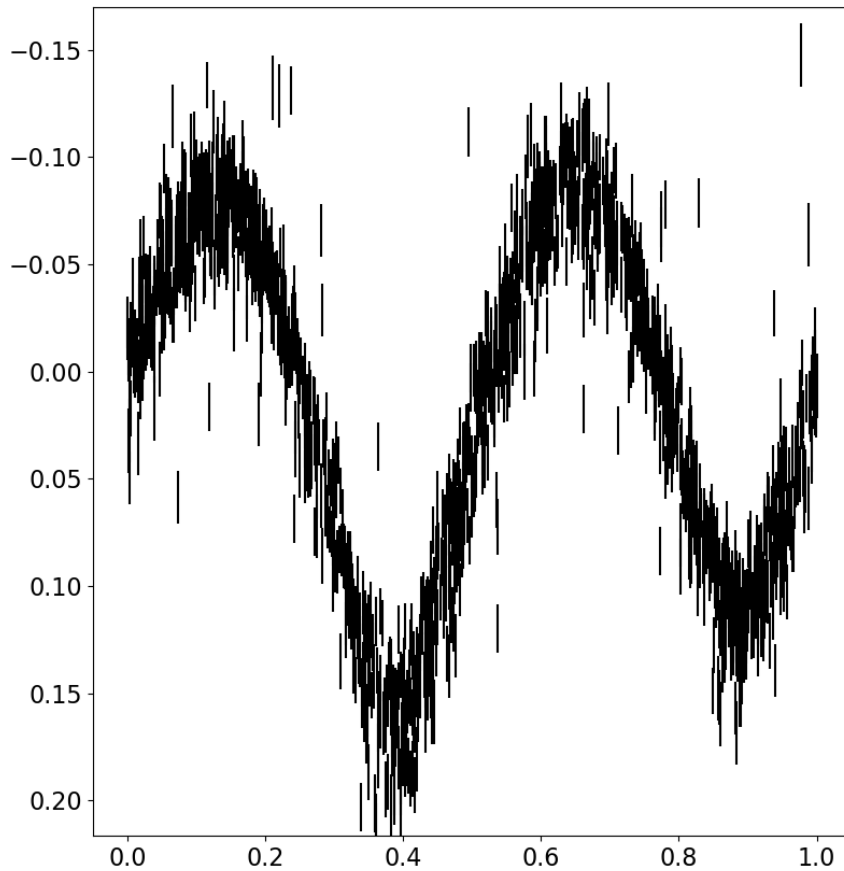


# EM Follow-up



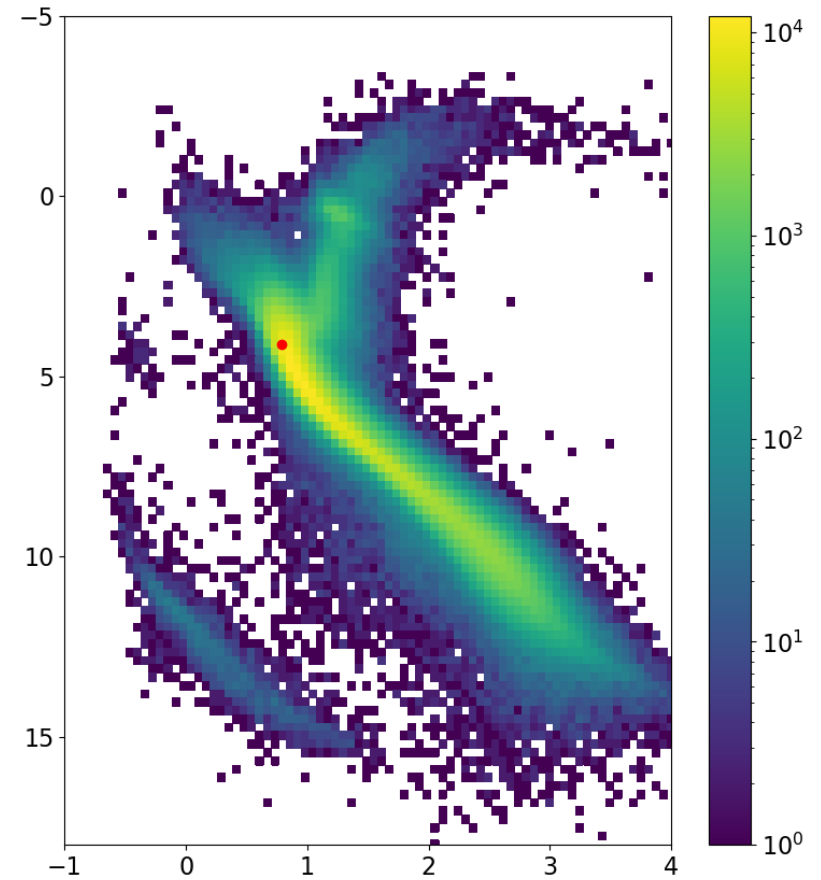
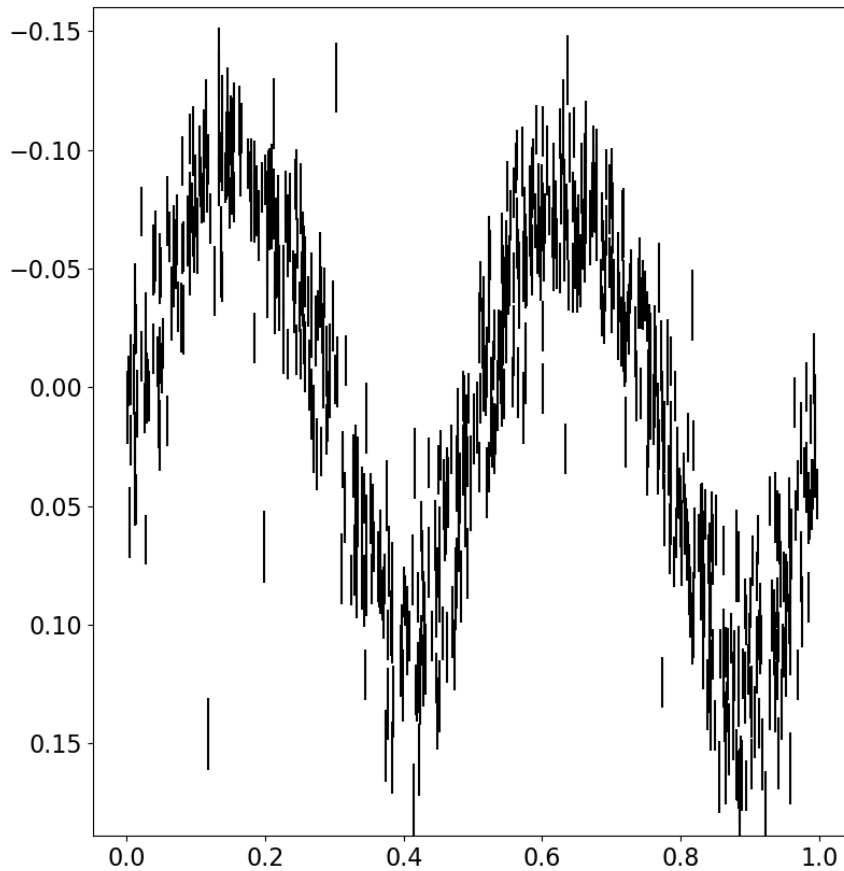


# ZTF Light Curves



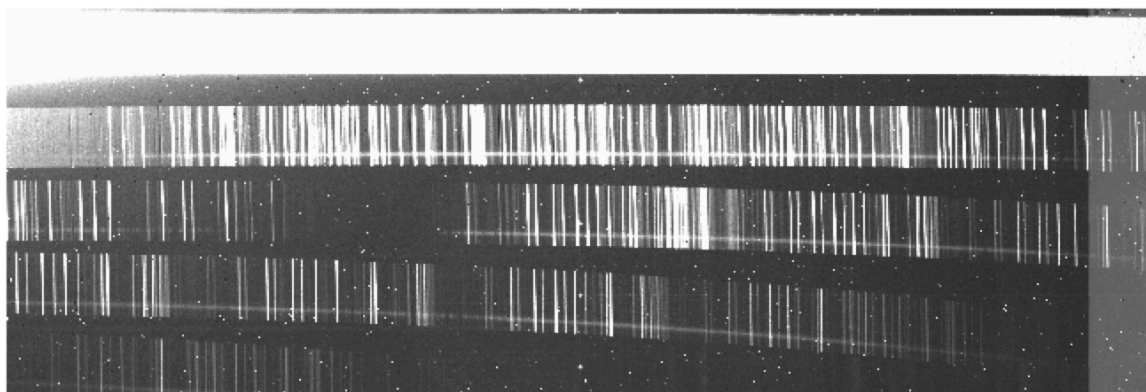
DCC: [T1900360-v1](#)

# ZTF Light Curves

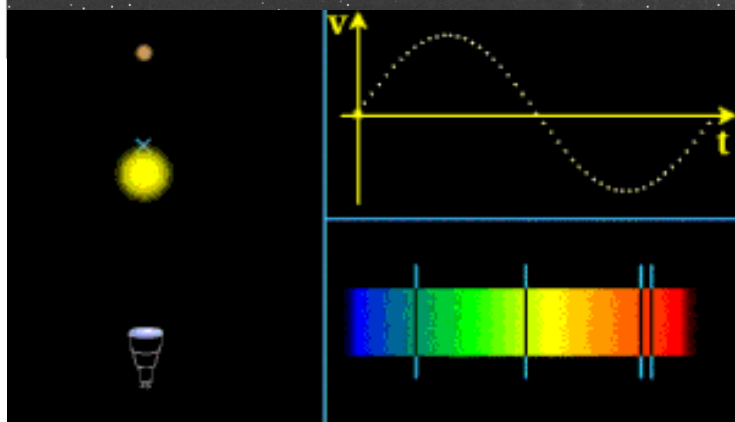


DCC: [T1900360-v1](#)

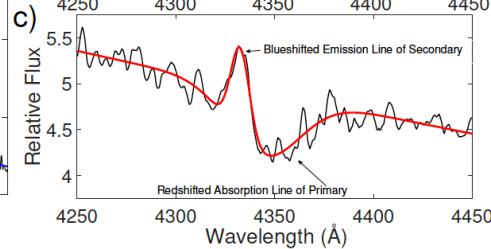
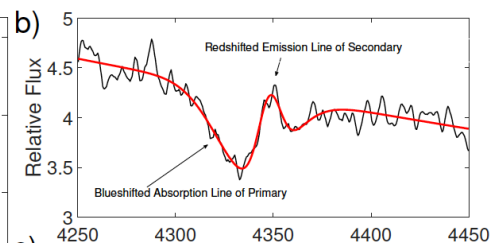
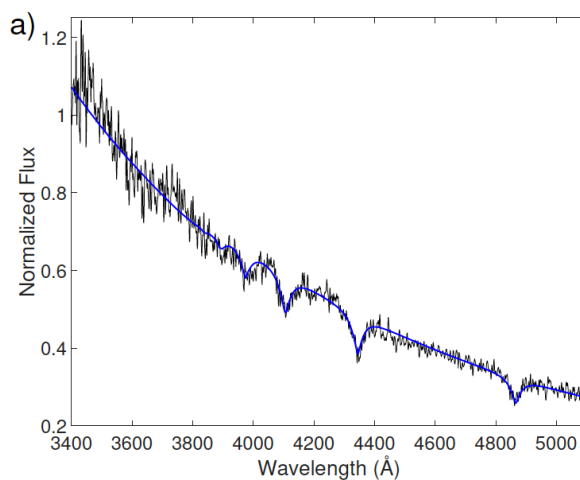
# Spectroscopy



Data reduction  
and analysis



DCC: [T1900360-v1](#)



Animation credit: PLATO

Figure credit: Burdge+ 2019 ([arXiv: 1907.11291](#))

# Spectroscopy

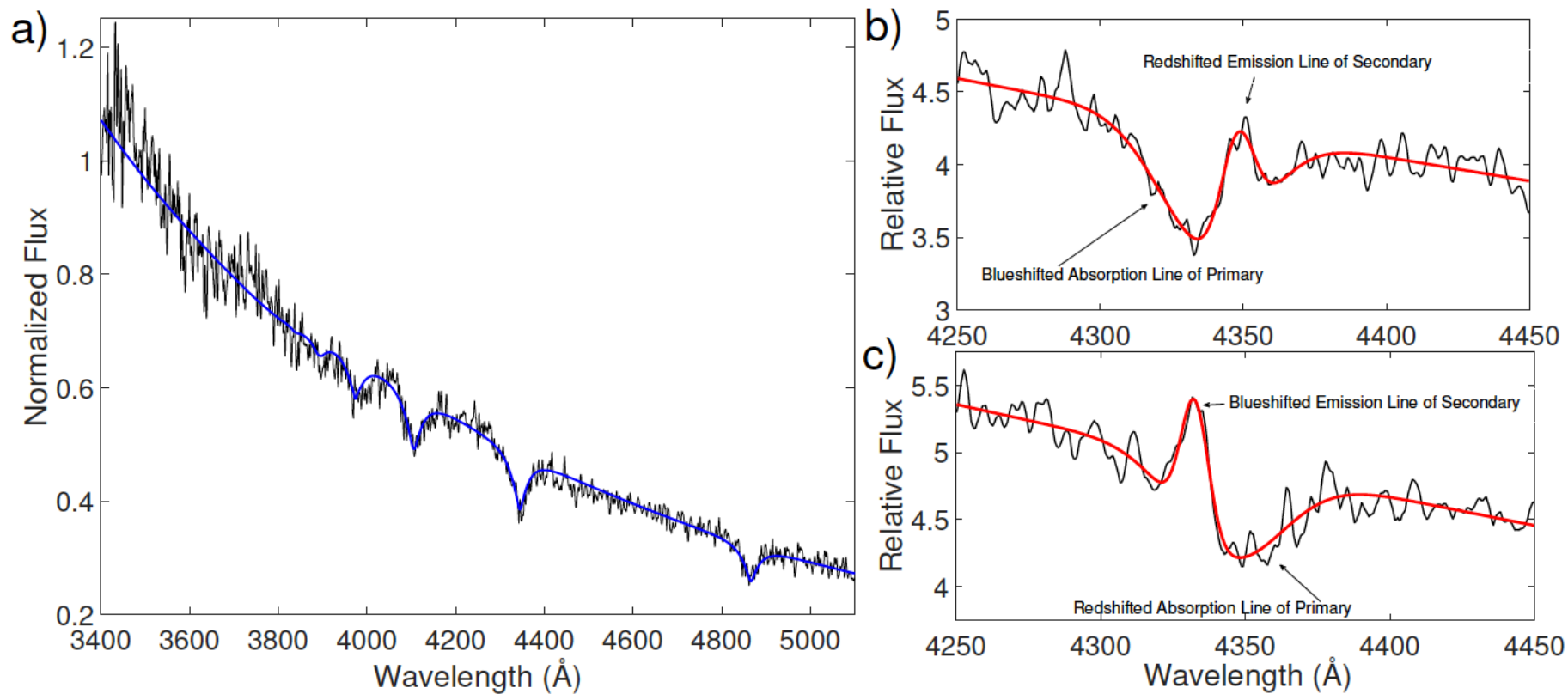
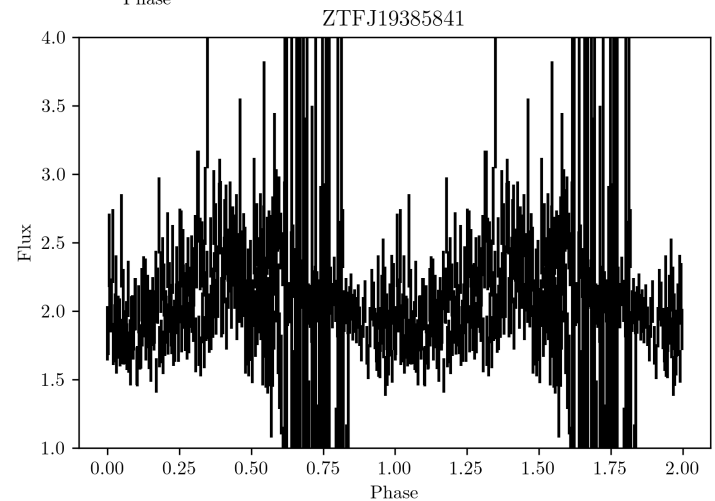
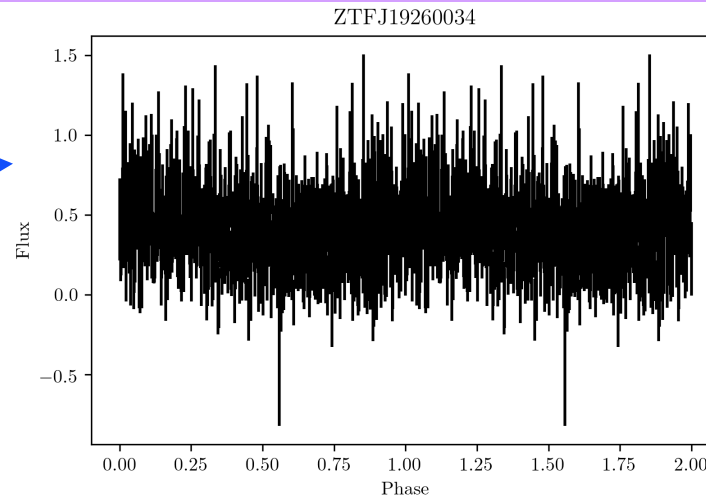
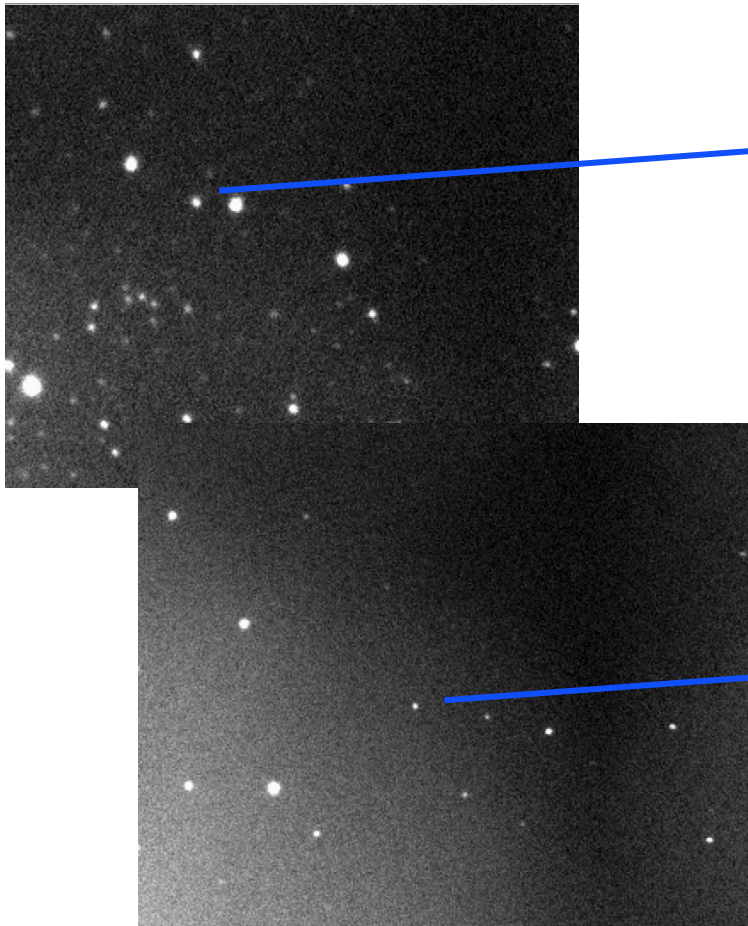


Figure credit: Burdge+ 2019 ([arXiv: 1907.11291](https://arxiv.org/abs/1907.11291))

# KPED Light Curves



DCC: [T1900360-v1](#)

# KPED Light Curves

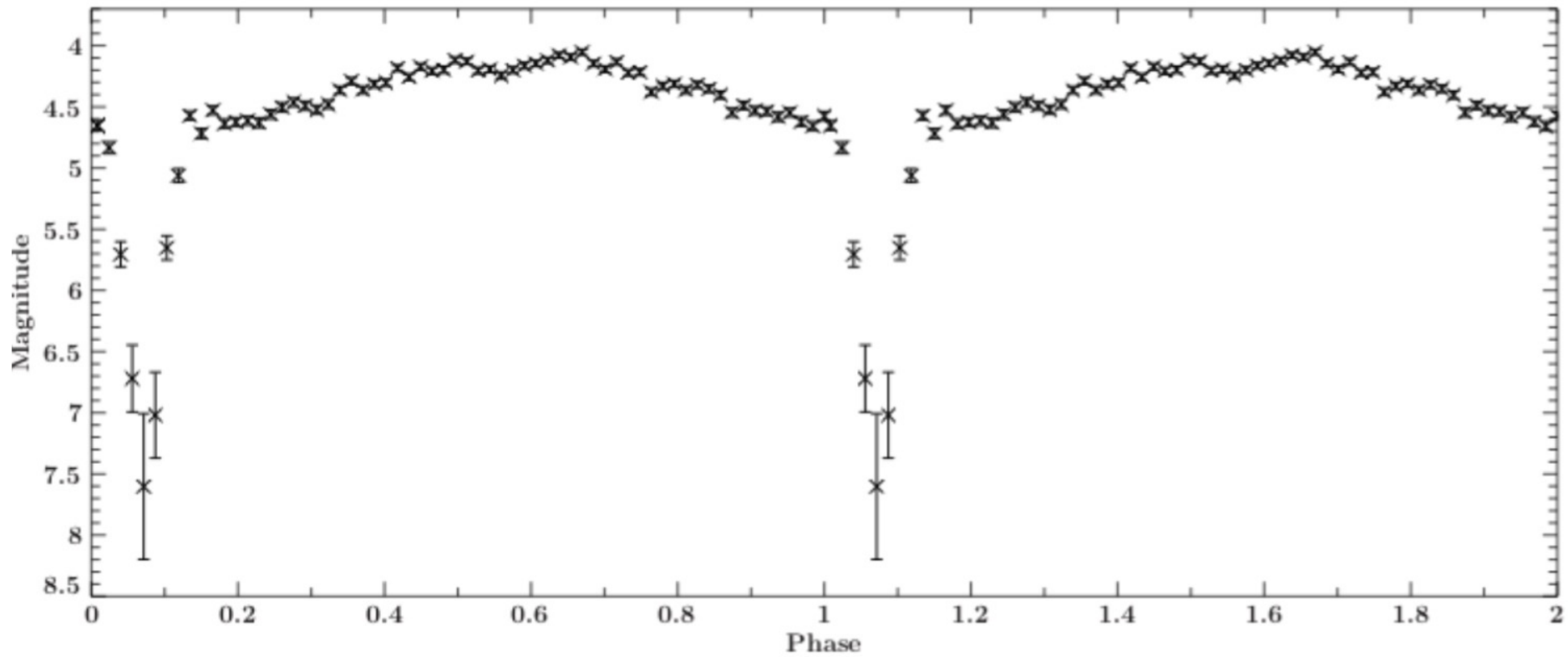


Image credit: Burdge+ 2019

# Conclusions and Next Steps

---

- Multi-messenger astronomy allows us to further constrain a source's astrophysical parameters
- Ultracompact binaries are needed to verify and calibrate LISA
  - » Simulate Galactic Binary population waveforms and photometry
  - » Follow up of wide field sky surveys with high cadence photometry and spectroscopy

# Acknowledgements

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- Michael Coughlin
- Shreya Anand
- Kevin Burdge
- Kishalay De
- Alan Weinstein
- LIGO Lab
- LIGO SURF
- Caltech SFP





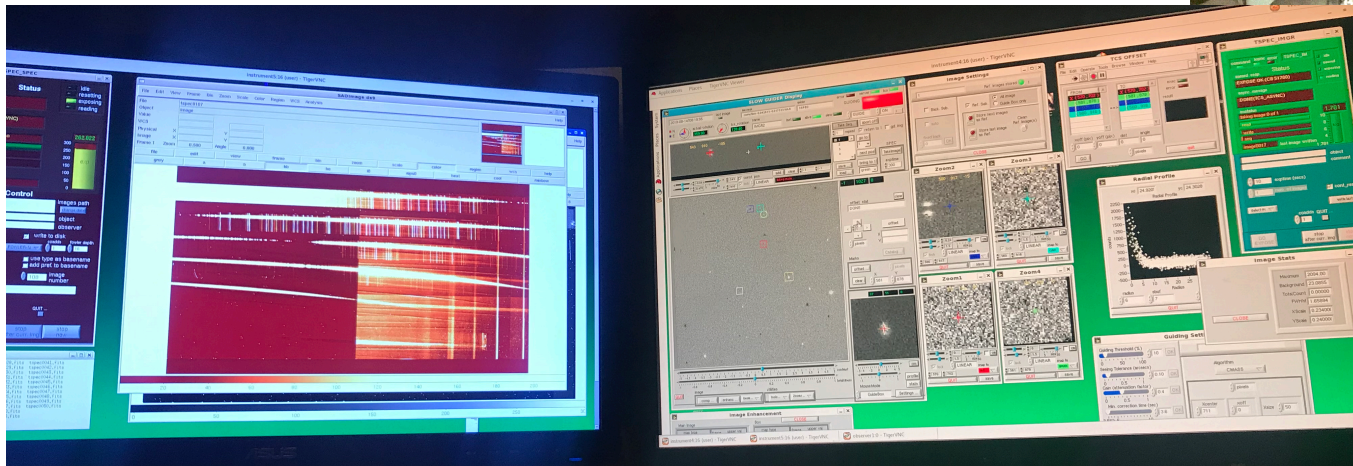
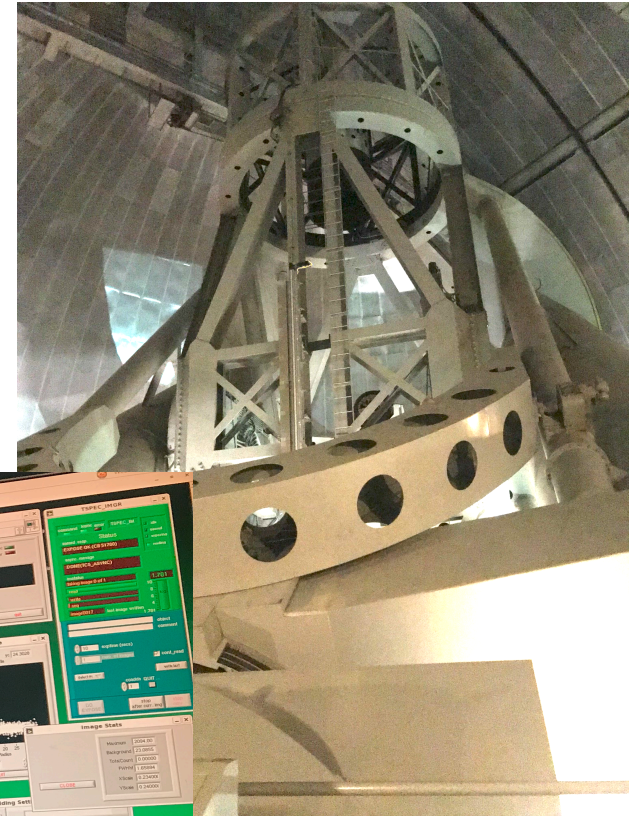


# Additional Slides

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## TSpec

- Palomar 200" Hale telescope
- Triple Spec NIR spectrograph
  - » 1.0 – 2.4  $\mu\text{m}$
- 2 hours of observing
- 1 × 30 arcsecond slit



DCC: [T1900360-v1](#)

*Olivia Cooper, LIGO SURF 2019*

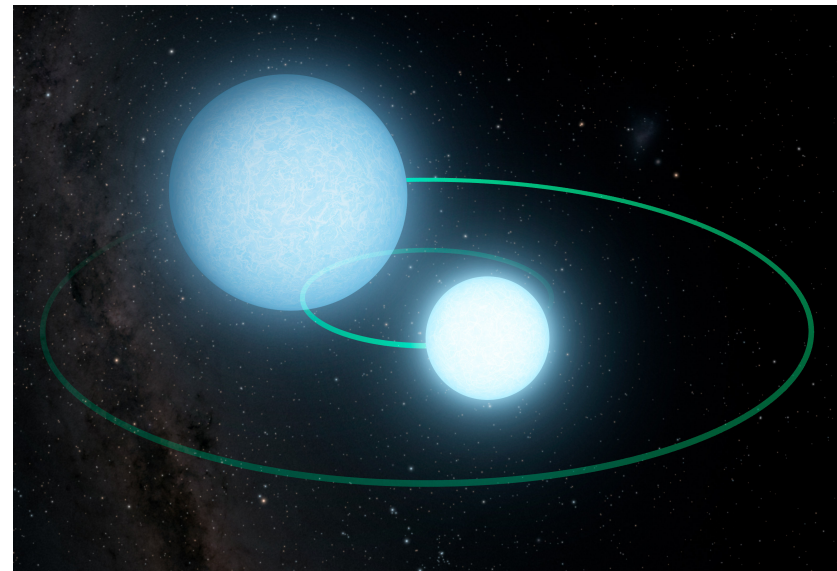
## KPED

- WIYN 2.1 m
- EMCCD
- High cadence photometry
- frame rates  $> 1$  Hz (readout time)
- FOV 4.4' x 4.4'



# J1539: 7 min binary

- 6.91 min period
- GW freq 4.8 mHz
  - » LISA SNR  $\sim 139$  in 4 years
- Surface brightness ratio 0.036
- Quasi-sinusoidal modulation
  - » primary star irradiates one side of secondary
- $\dot{P} = -2.365 \cdot 10^{-11}$  s/s



# Ellipsoidal Modulation

- Ellipsoidal modulation
- Tidal bulges change projected area of star

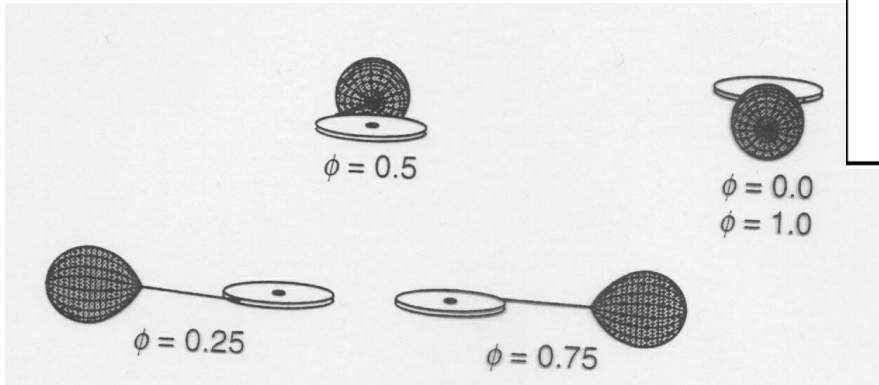
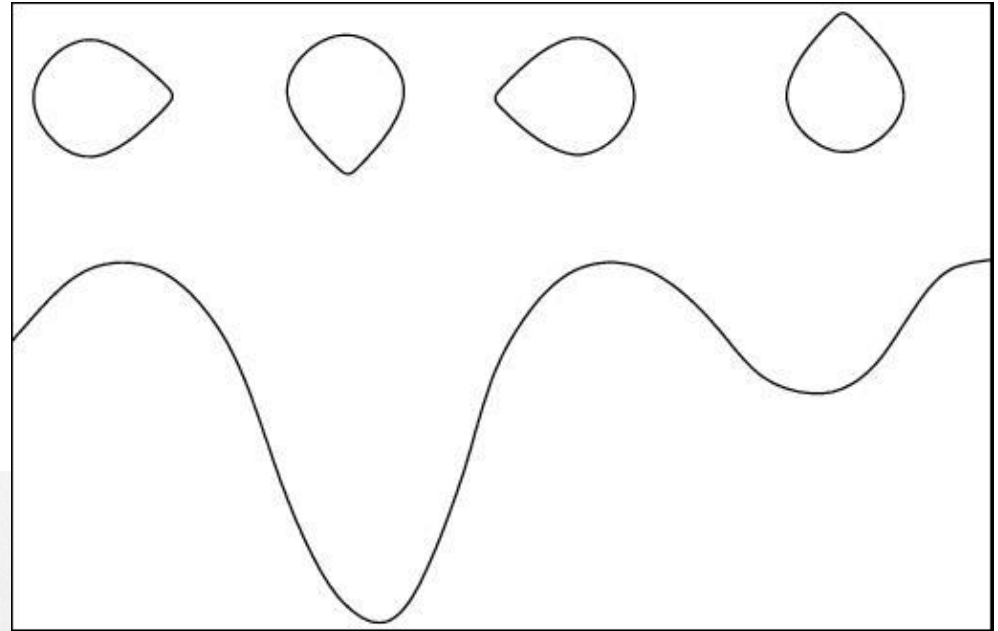


Image credit: Niel Brandt, PSU (L);  
Reed+ 2011 ([arXiv: 1011.0387](https://arxiv.org/abs/1011.0387)) (R)



# The Variable Sky

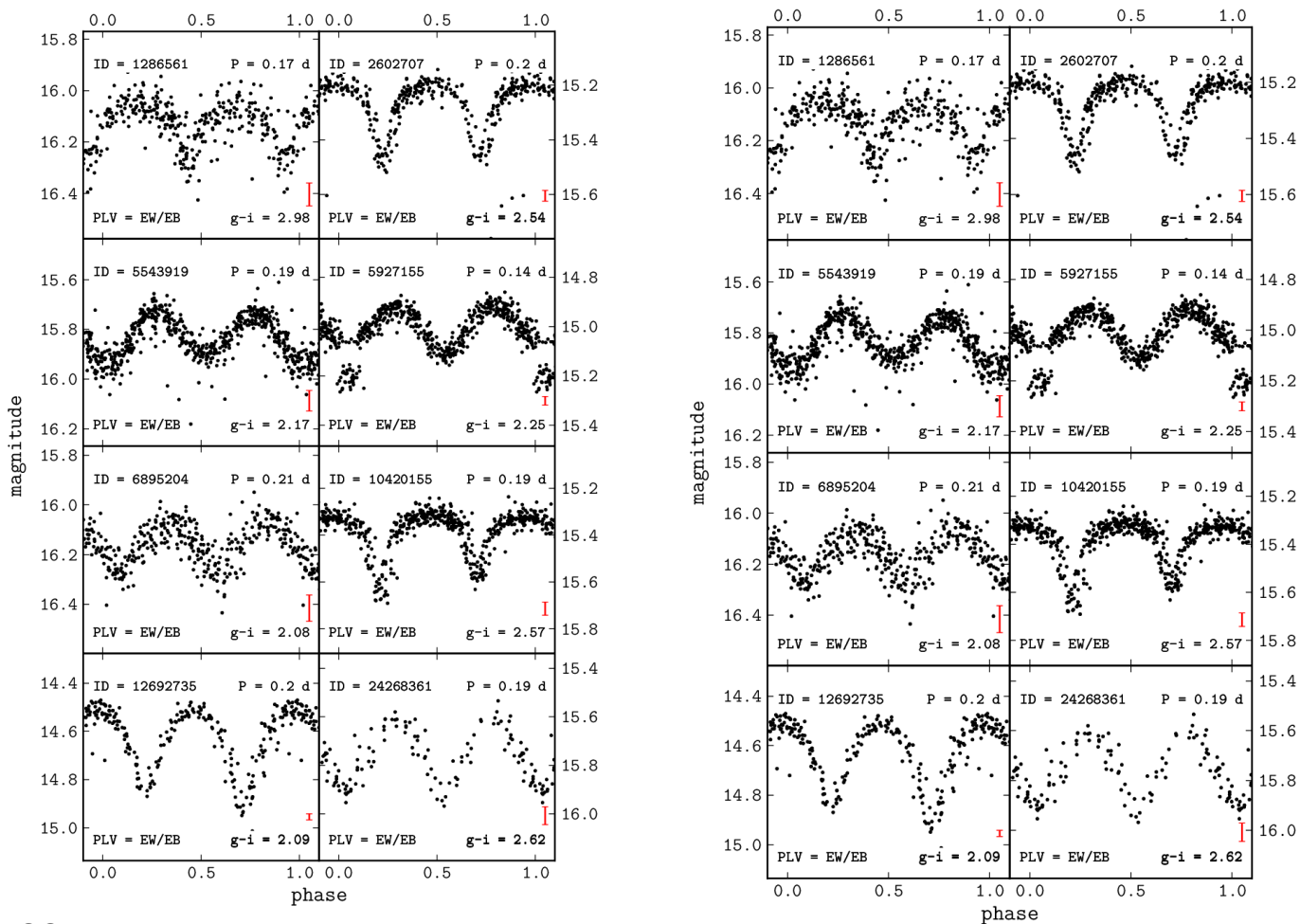
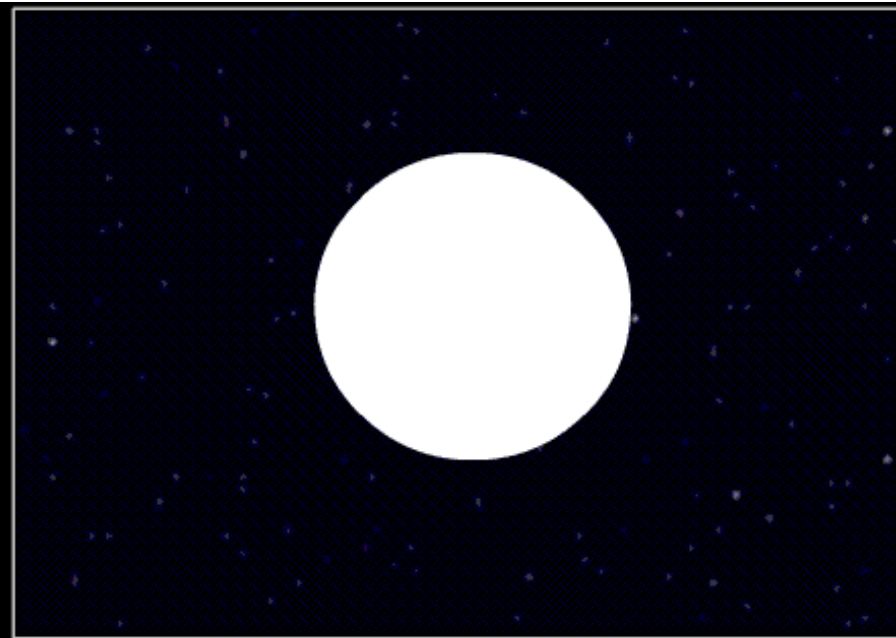
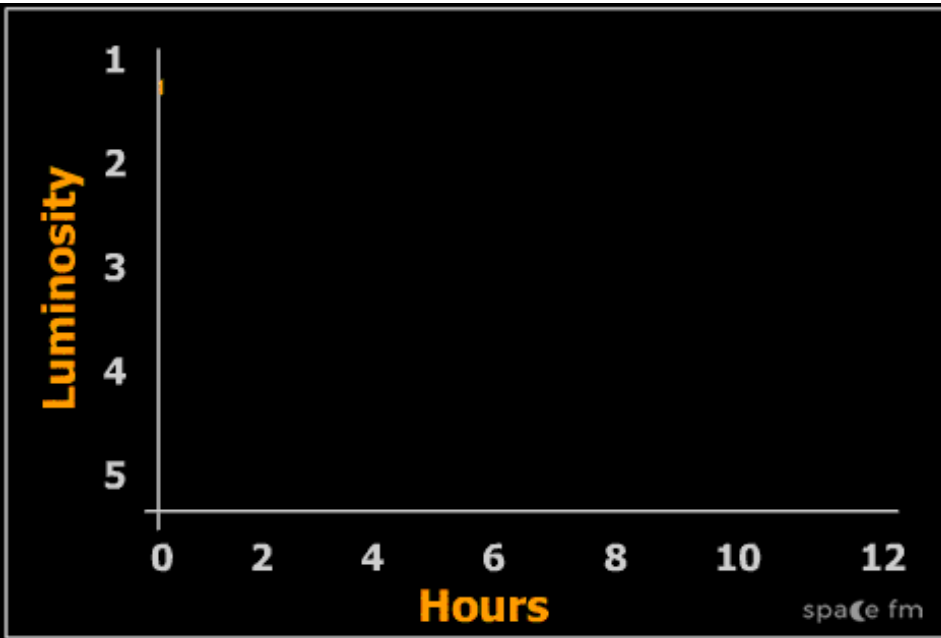


Image credit:  
 Palaversa+ 2013  
 (arXiv:1308.0357)

DCC: [T1900360-v1](#)

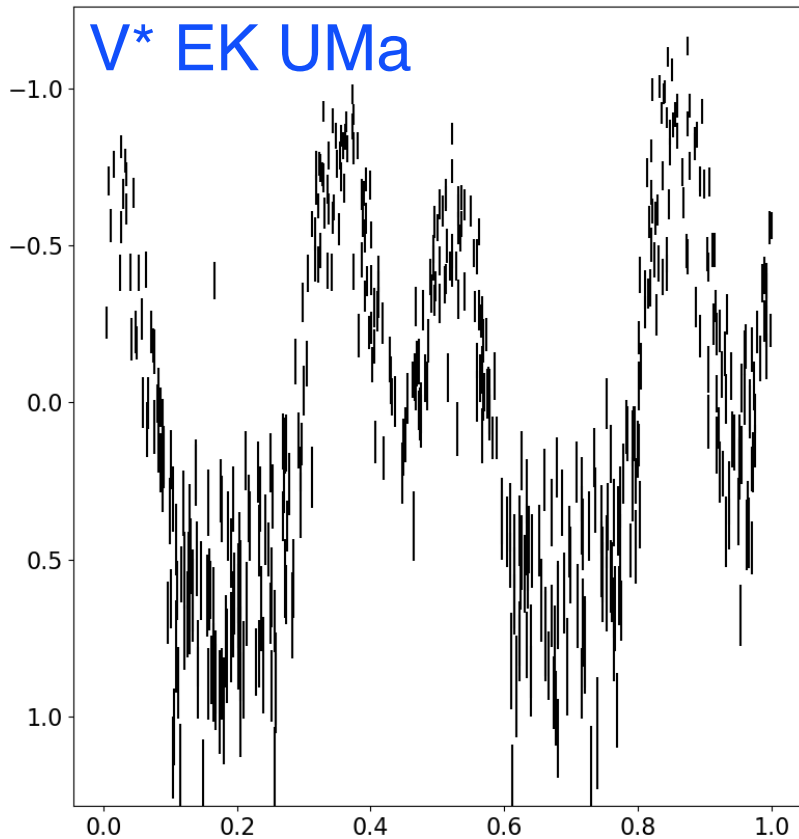
Olivia Cooper, LIGO SURF 2019

# Pulsating White Dwarfs

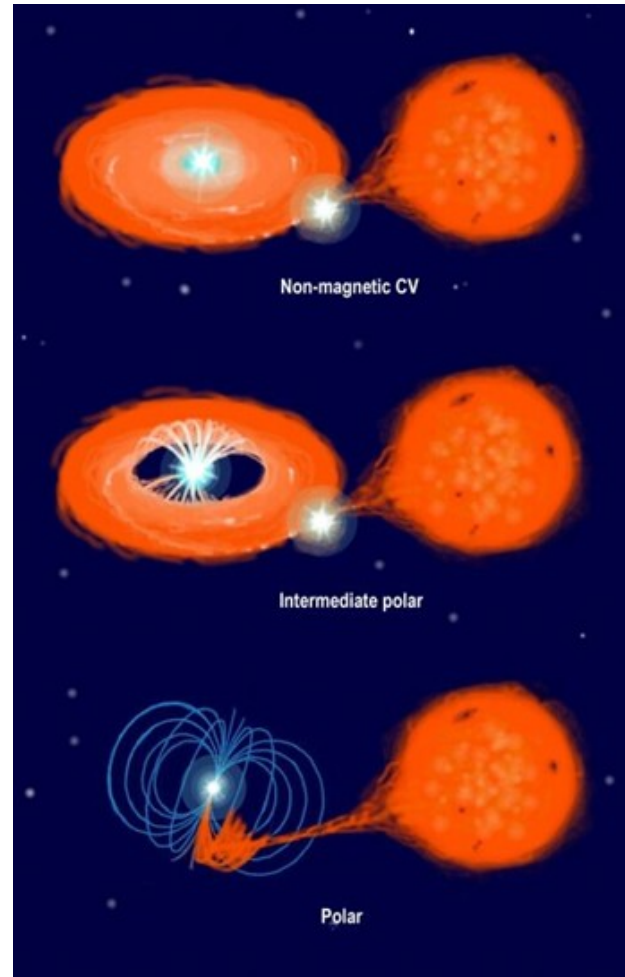


Animation credit:  
space.fm

# More ZTF Light Curves



DCC: [T1900360-v1](#)



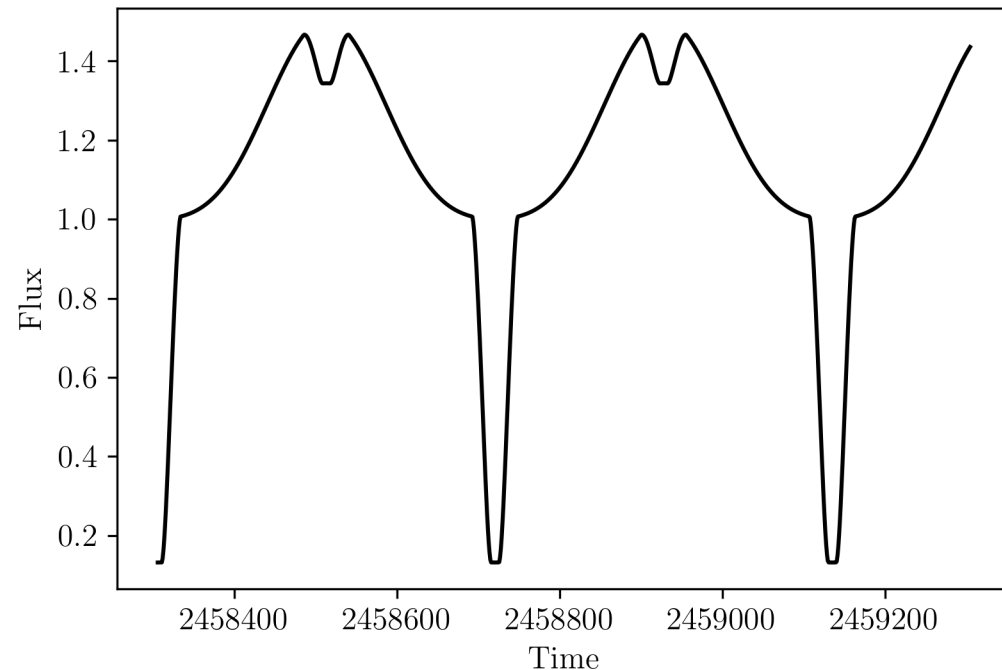
Olivia Cooper, LIGO SURF 2019

Image credit: Ivan L. Andronov



# elc

- Builds eclipsing binary light curves
- Input binary parameters
  - » Relative radii
  - » Inclination
  - » Mass ratio
  - » Star spots
  - » etc
- Pierre Maxted (2016)



# Period Search

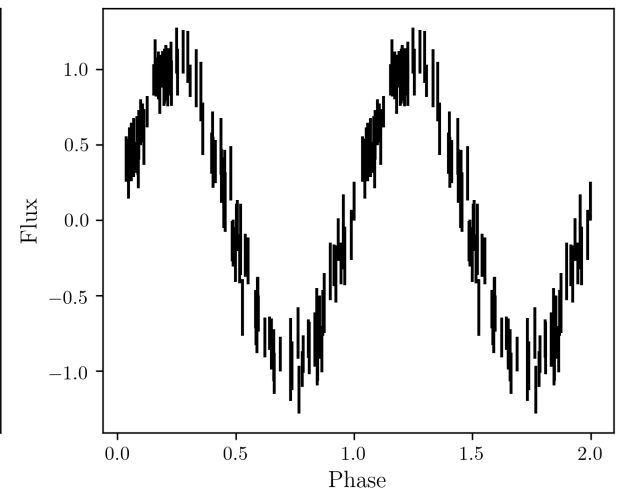
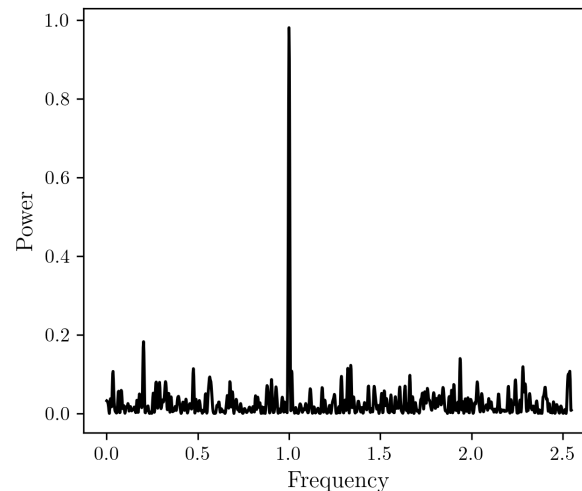
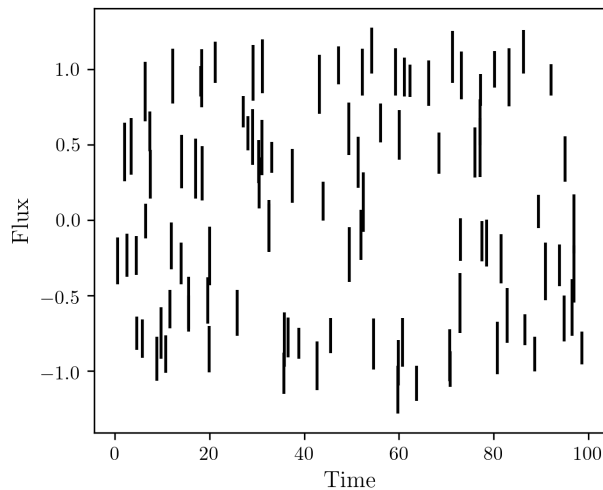
- **Lomb-Scargle**

- » Fourier power versus frequency or period

- **Conditional Entropy**

- » 2D histogram, axes are time and magnitude

- » Modulate over time bin, minimize scatter



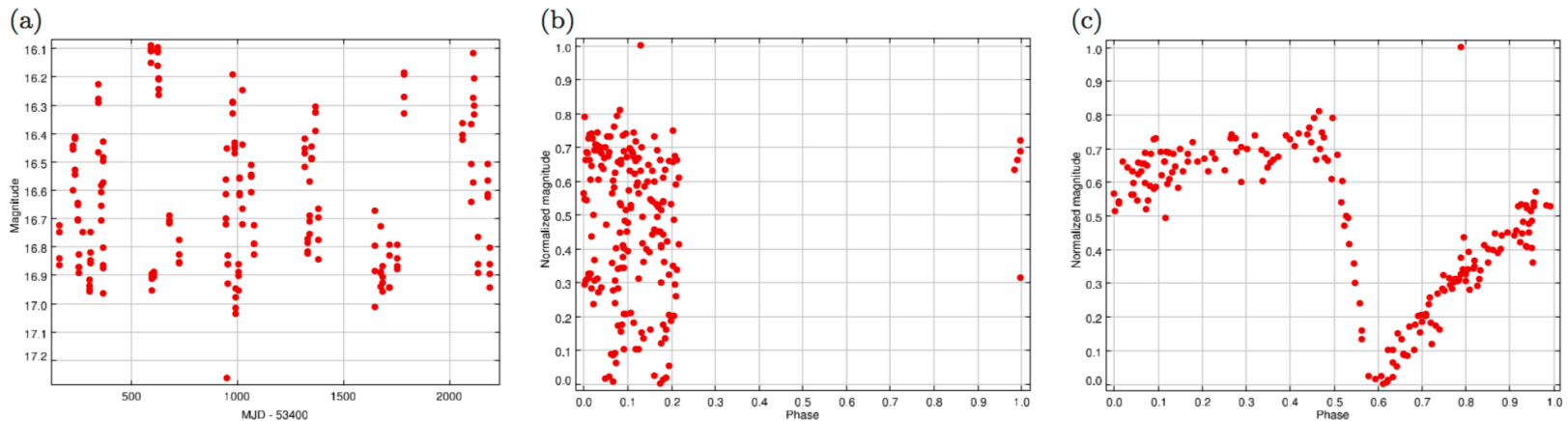
DCC: [T1900360-v1](#)

*Olivia Cooper, LIGO SURF 2019*

# Period Search

- Lomb-Scargle
  - » Fourier power versus frequency or period
- Conditional Entropy
  - » 2D histogram, axes are time and magnitude
  - » Modulate over time bin, minimize scatter

**Figure 1.** This shows the light curve of a typical type AB RR Lyrae from CRTS (Drake et al. 2013) (a) folded at the trial period which minimizes the entropy (b) and conditional entropy (c).



DCC: [T1900360-v1](#)

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Figure credit: Graham+  
2013 (arXiv: 1306.6664) 37

# Known Verification Binaries

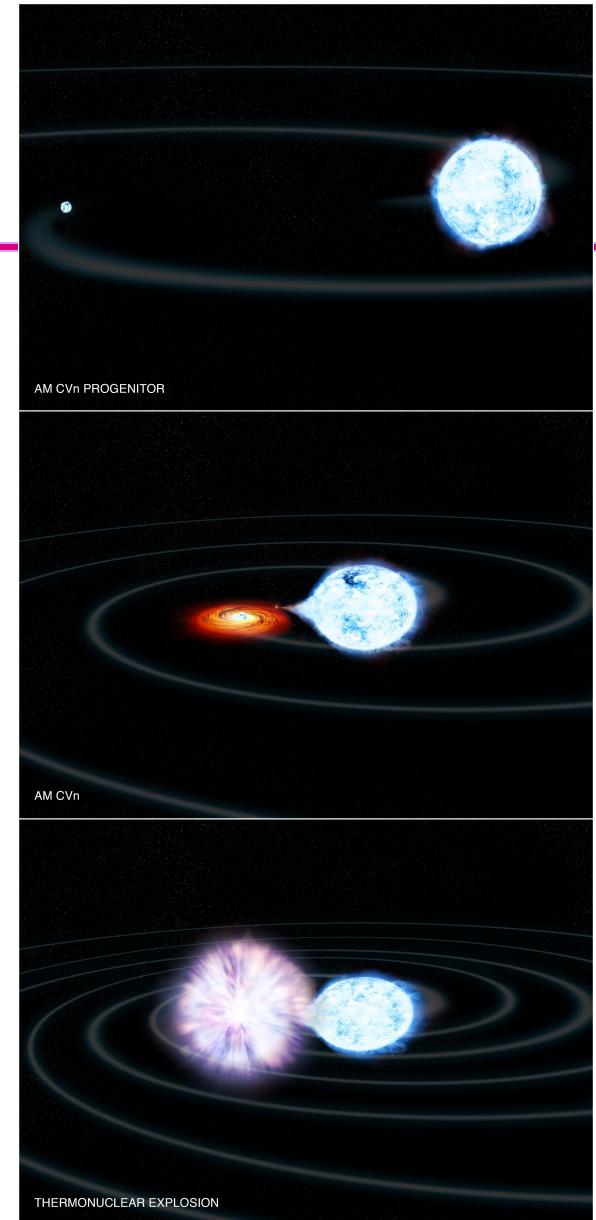
**Table 1.** Physical properties of the known verification binaries. Masses and inclination angles in brackets are assumed and based on evolutionary stage and mass ratio estimations

Source	$l_{\text{Gal}}$ (deg)	$b_{\text{Gal}}$ (deg)	Orbital period (sec)	$m_1$ ( $M_{\odot}$ )	$m_2$ ( $M_{\odot}$ )	$i$ (deg)	Refs.
<b>AM CVn type</b>							
HM Cnc	206.9246	23.3952	321.529	0.55	0.27	$\approx 38$	1,2
V407 Vul	57.7281	6.4006	569.395	[0.8±0.1]	[0.177±0.071]	[60]	3
ES Cet	168.9684	-65.8632	620.21	[0.8±0.1]	[0.161±0.064]	[60]	4
SDSS J135154.46-064309.0	328.5021	53.1240	943.84	[0.8±0.1]	[0.100±0.040]	[60]	5
AM CVn	140.2343	78.9382	1028.73	0.68±0.06	0.125±0.012	43±2	6,7
SDSS J190817.07+394036.4	70.6664	13.9349	1085.7	[0.8±0.1]	[0.085±0.034]	10 - 20	8,9
HP Lib	352.0561	32.5467	1102.70	0.49-0.80	0.048-0.088	26-34	10,11
PTF1 J191905.19+481506.2	79.5945	15.5977	1347.35	[0.8±0.1]	[0.066±0.026]	[60]	12
CXOGBS J175107.6-294037	359.9849	-1.4108	1375.0	[0.8±0.1]	[0.064±0.026]	[60]	13
CR Boo	340.9671	66.4884	1471.3	0.67-1.10	0.044-0.088	30	11,14
V803 Cen	309.3671	20.7262	1596.4	0.78-1.17	0.059-0.109	12 - 15	11,15
<b>Detached white dwarfs</b>							
SDSS J065133.34+284423.4	186.9277	12.6886	765.5	0.247±0.015	0.49±0.02	86.9 <sup>+1.6</sup> <sub>-1.0</sub>	16,17
SDSS J093506.92+441107.0	176.0796	47.3776	1188.0	0.312±0.019	0.75±0.24	[60]	18,19
SDSS J163030.58+423305.7	67.0760	43.3604	2389.8	0.298±0.019	0.76±0.24	[60]	18,20
SDSS J092345.59+302805.0	195.8199	44.7754	3883.7	0.275±0.015	0.76±0.23	[60]	18,21
<b>Hot subdwarf binaries</b>							
CD-30°11223	322.4875	28.9379	4231.8	0.54±0.02	0.79±0.01	82.9±0.4	22

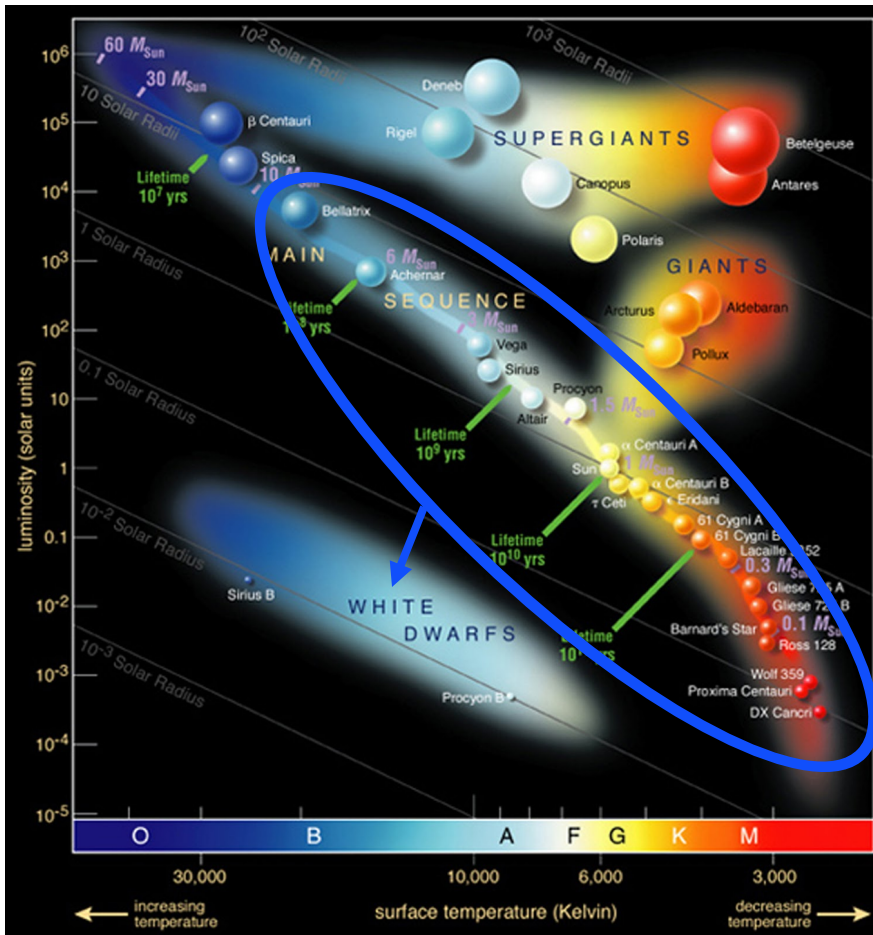
[1]Strohmayer (2005), [2]Roelofs et al. (2010), [3]Ramsay et al. (2002), [4]Espaillat et al. (2005), [5]Green et al. (2018a), [6]Skillman et al. (1999), [7]Roelofs et al. (2006), [8]Fontaine et al. (2011), [9]Kupfer et al. (2015), [10]Patterson et al. (2002), [11]Roelofs et al. (2007c), [12]Levitan et al. (2014), [13]Wevers et al. (2016), [14]Provencal et al. (1997), [15]Roelofs et al. (2007a), [16]Brown et al. (2011), [17]Hermes et al. (2012), [18]Brown et al. (2016c), [19]Kilic et al. (2014), [20]Kilic et al. (2011), [21](Brown et al. 2010), [22]Geier et al. (2013)

# AM CVn

- Cataclysmic variable
- Hot blue binary system
- White dwarf accretes H-poor material from companion



## HR Diagram



- Stellar evolution dependent on initial mass



# Stellar Remnants

