

Unlocking the unseen Universe with gravitational waves

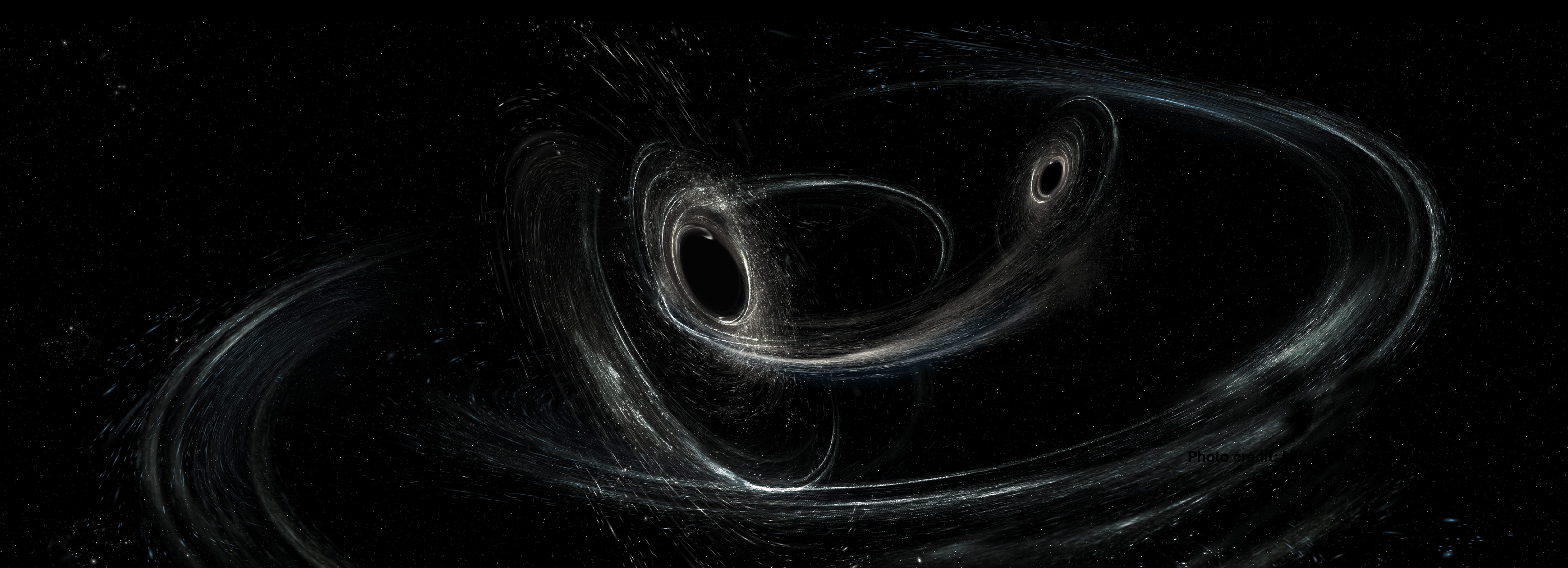


Photo credit: LIGO



Jess McIver
CASCA - Toronto
June 4, 2024

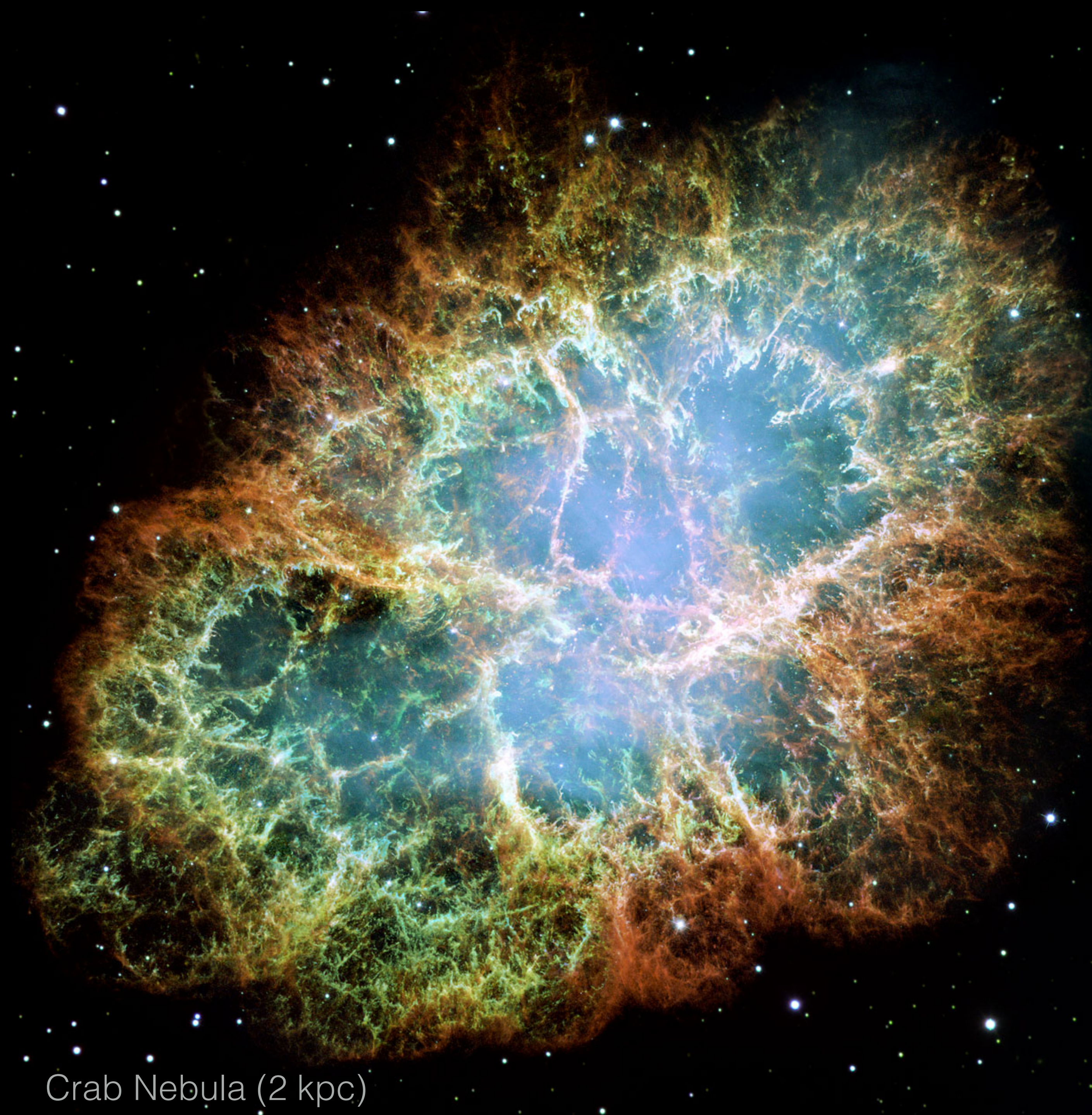


THE UNIVERSITY
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA









Crab Nebula (2 kpc)

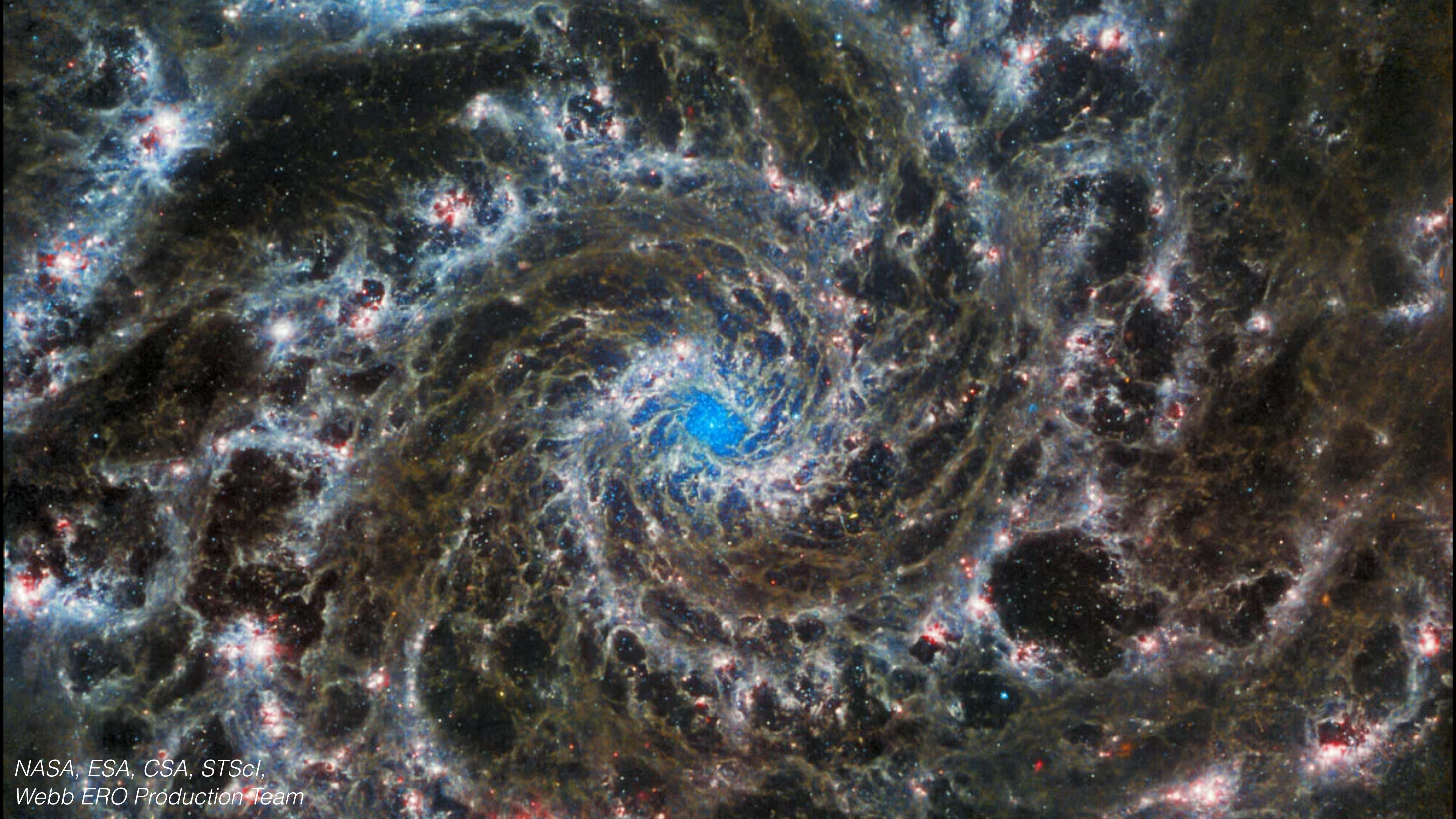
HST: NASA



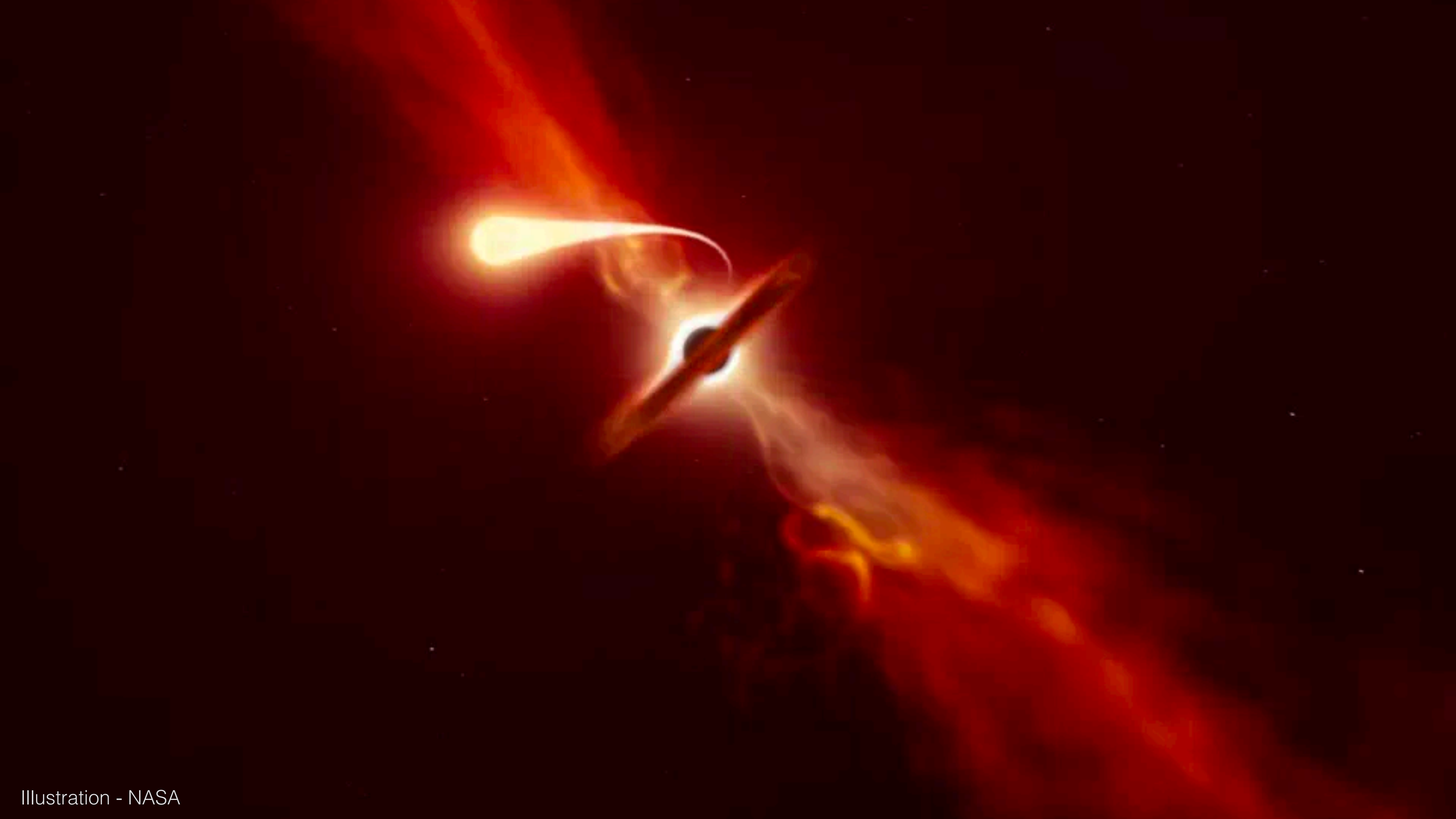


UGC2847 (10 Mpc): Keck 10m



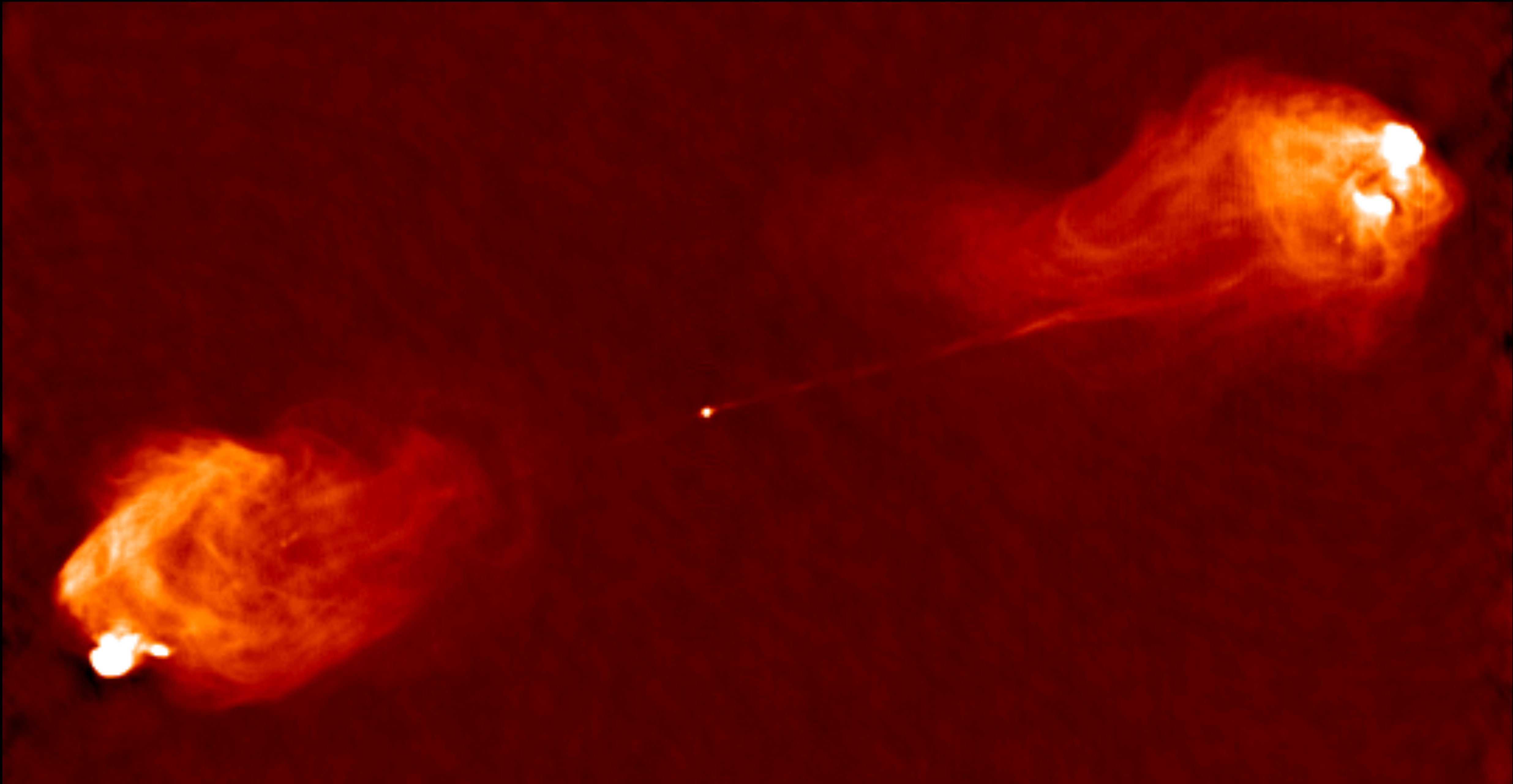


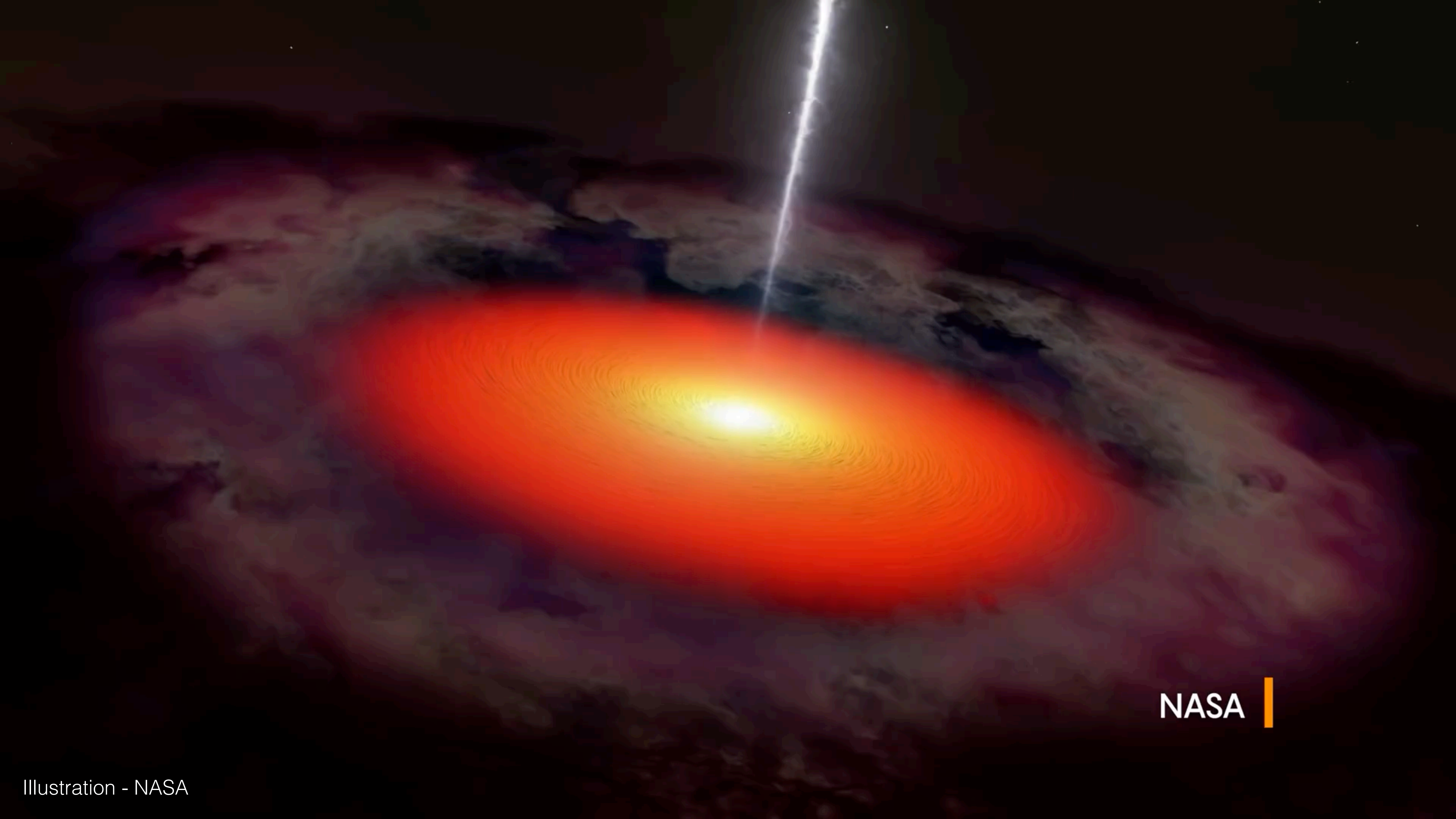
*NASA, ESA, CSA, STScI,
Webb ERO Production Team*



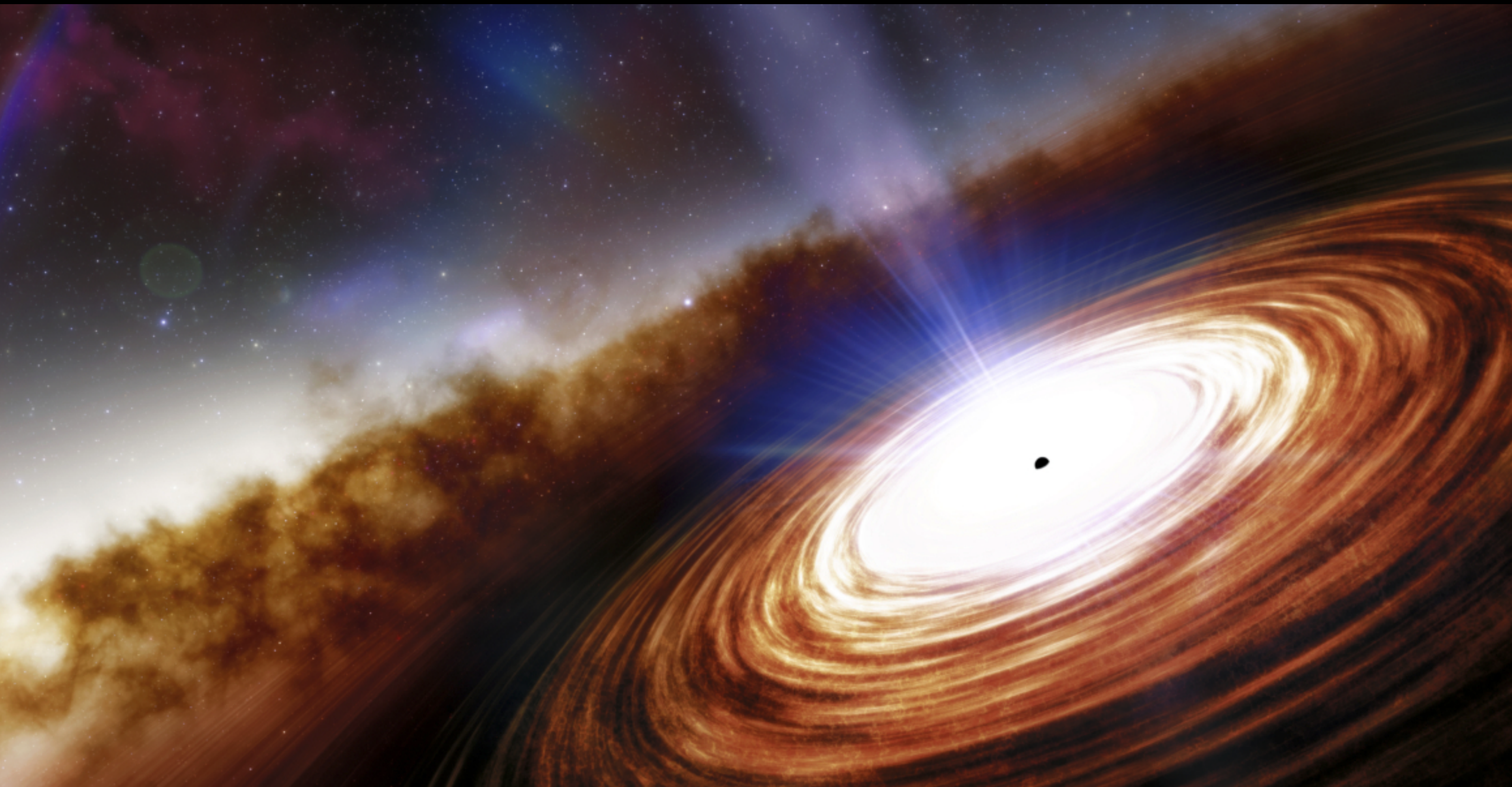


M87 (17 Mpc) SMBH- Event Horizon Telescope





NASA |







A visualization of gravitational waves as concentric, glowing purple and blue ripples expanding outwards from a central point. In the center, two bright, glowing spheres are visible: one is a vibrant yellow-white, and the other is a smaller, purple-hued sphere. The background is a deep black space filled with numerous small, distant stars.

gravitational waves

a new view of the universe



waves come in many forms

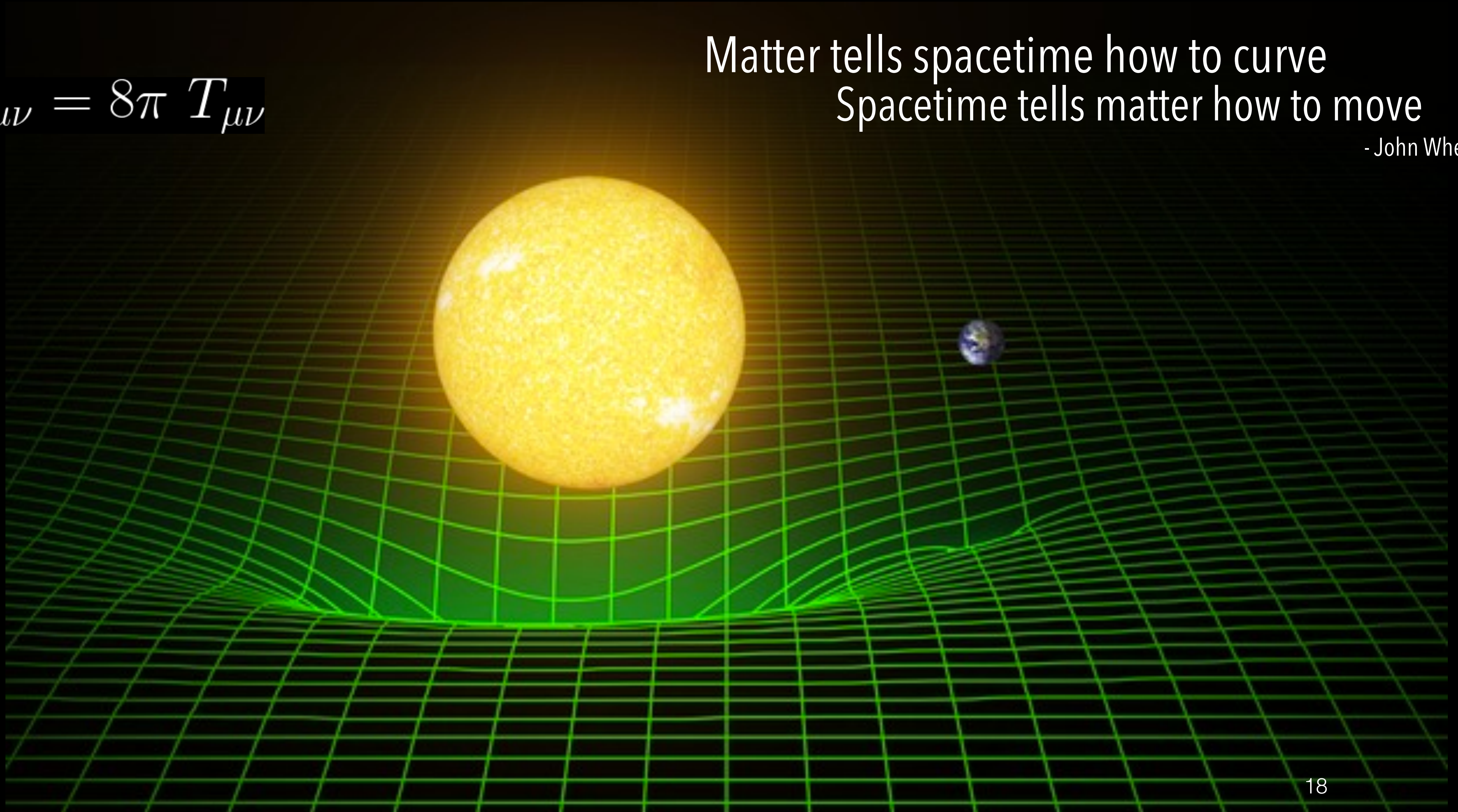


Daniel Lopez: El Cielo de Canarias

Einstein's Gravity: General Relativity

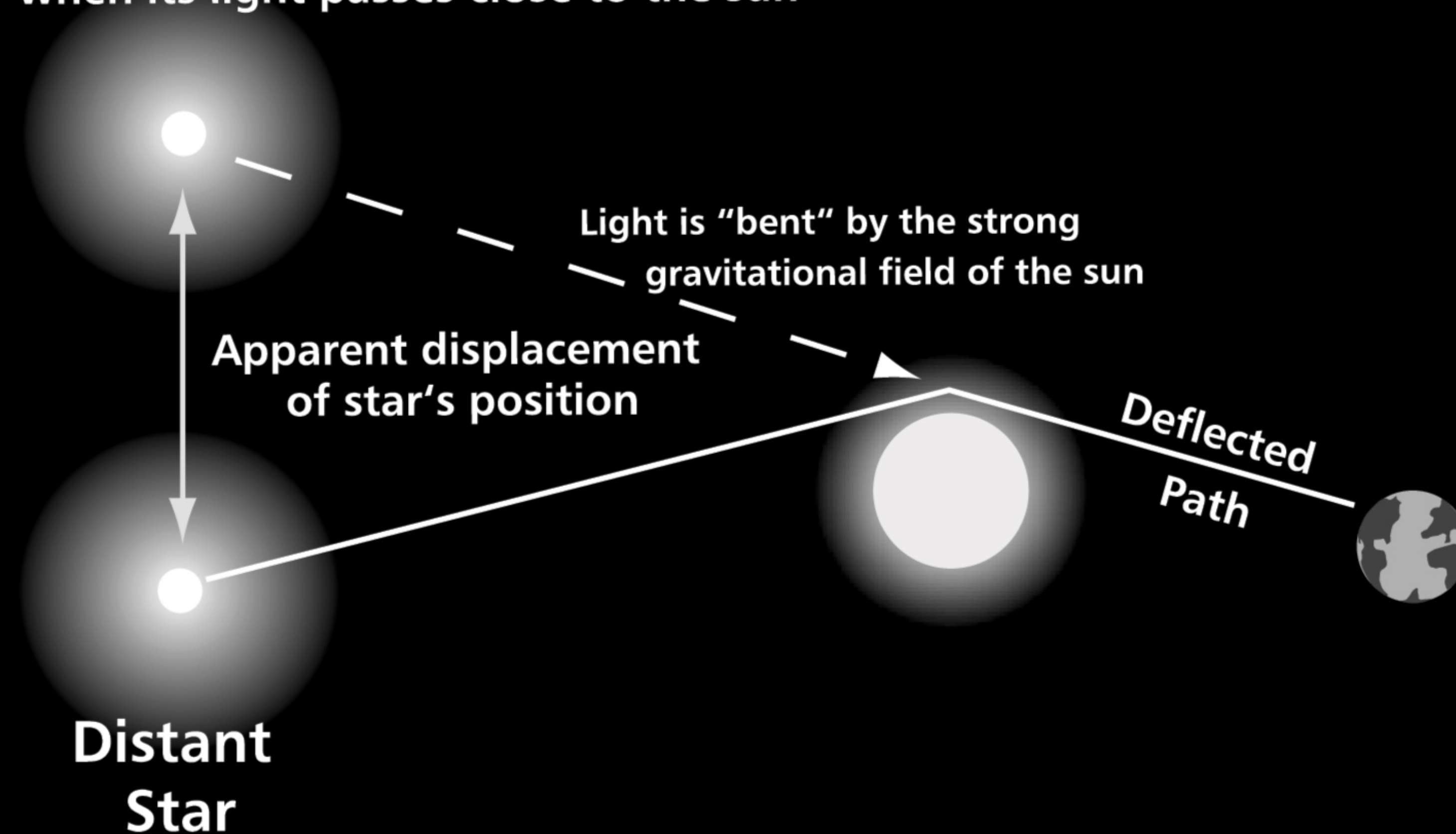
$$G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi T_{\mu\nu}$$

Matter tells spacetime how to curve
Spacetime tells matter how to move
- John Wheeler



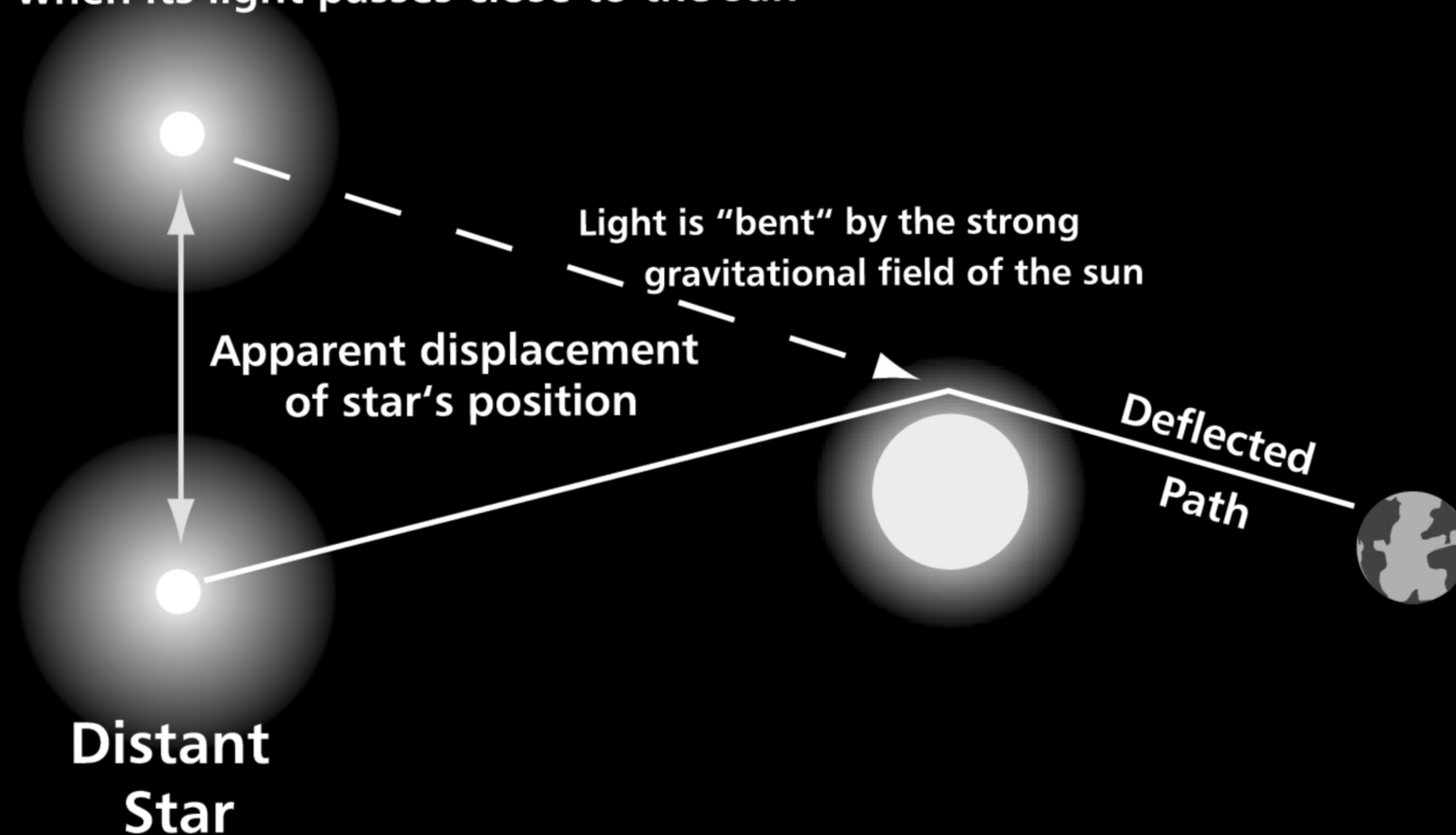
Einstein's prediction: Gravity bends light

Apparent position of a distant star
when its light passes close to the sun



Einstein's prediction: Gravity bends light

Apparent position of a distant star
when its light passes close to the sun



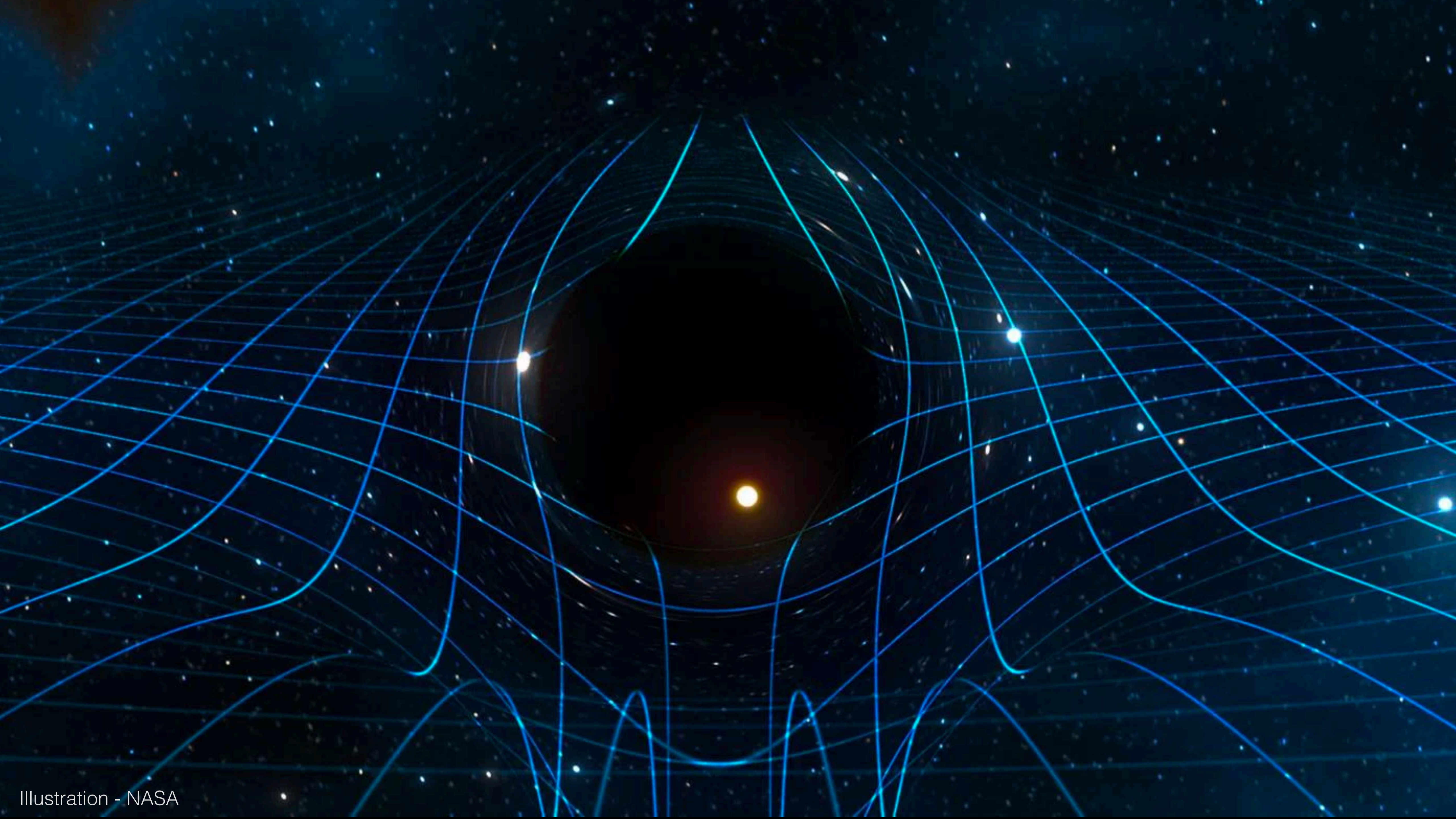
The New York Times.

**LIGHTS ALL ASKEW
IN THE HEAVENS**

EINSTEIN THEORY TRIUMPHS

**Stars Not Where They Seemed
or Were Calculated to be,
but Nobody Need Worry.**

Measured by Eddington in 1919 during a total solar eclipse!



Indirect evidence of gravitational waves

Hulse-Taylor Binary Pulsar
Won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1993!

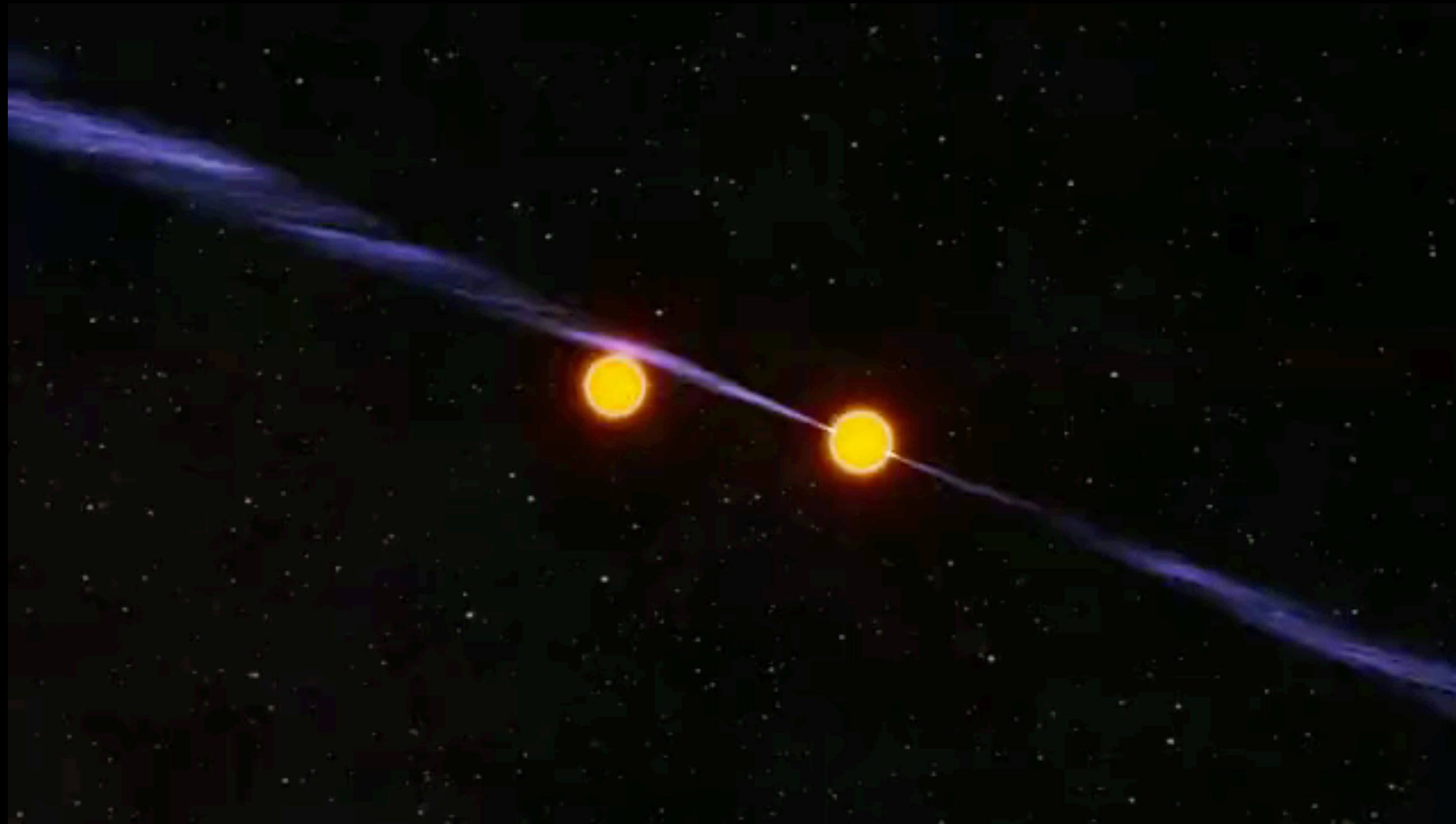
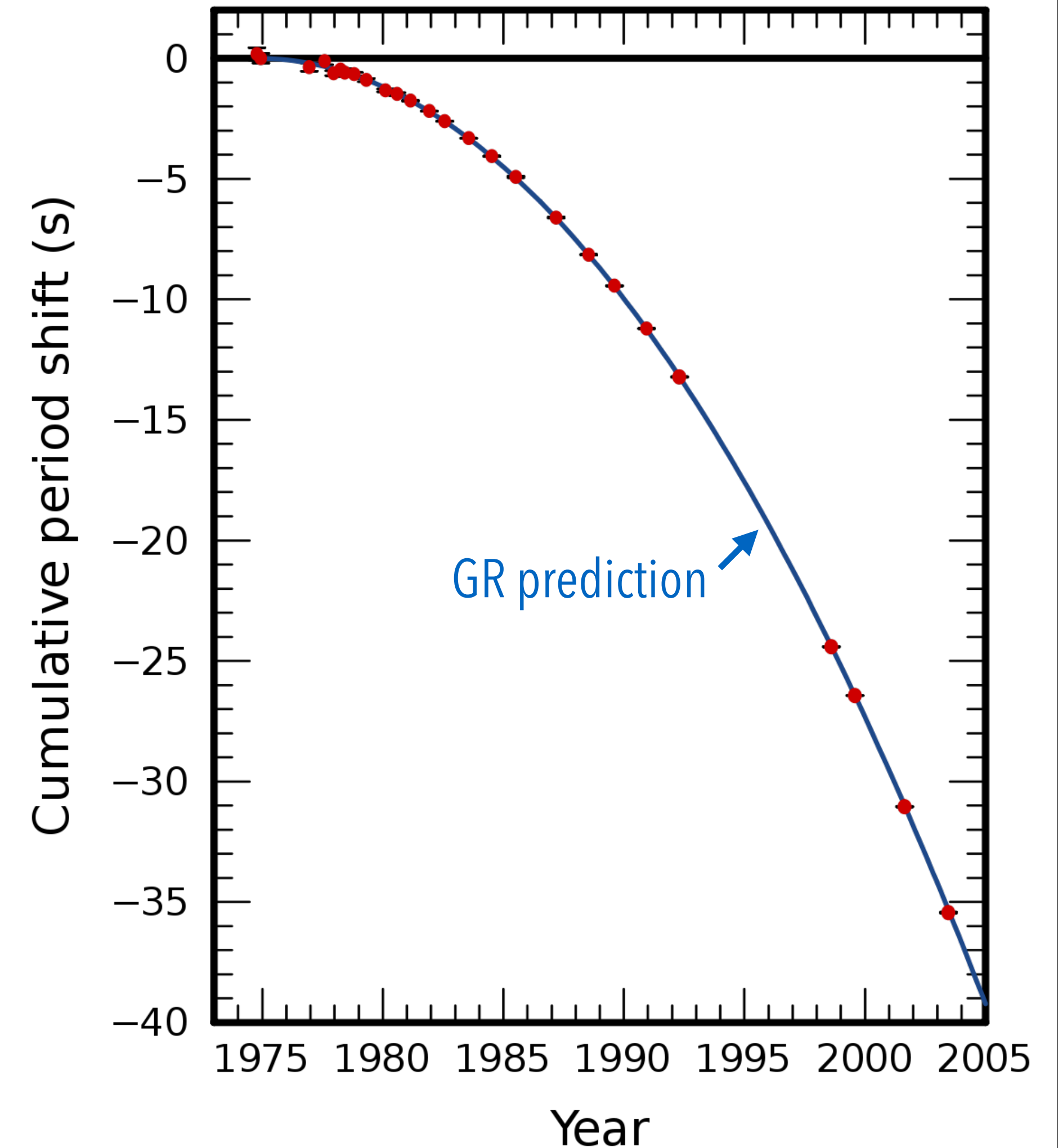


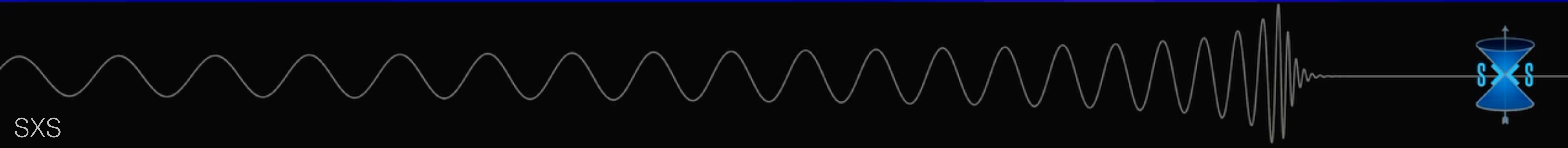
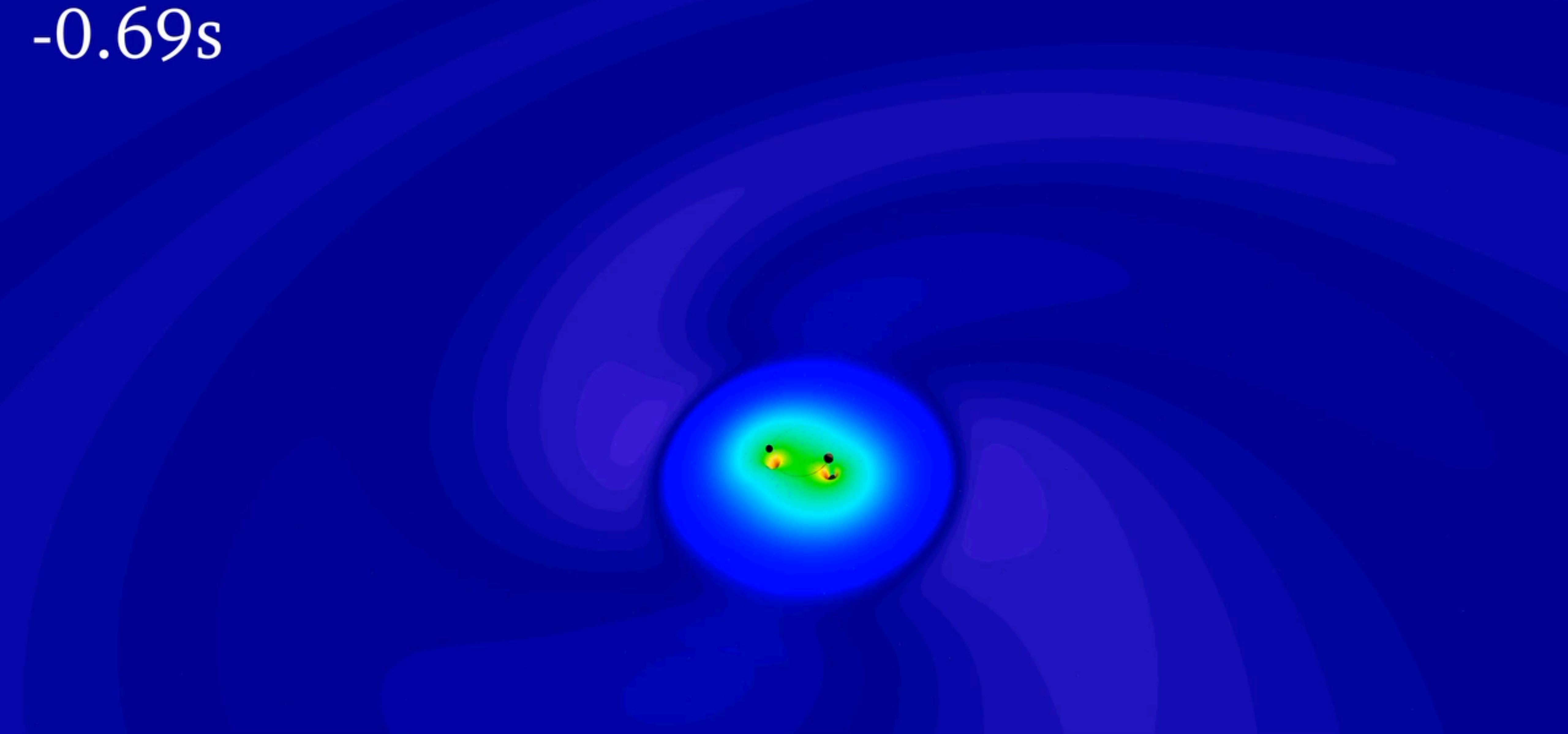
Illustration - John Rowe

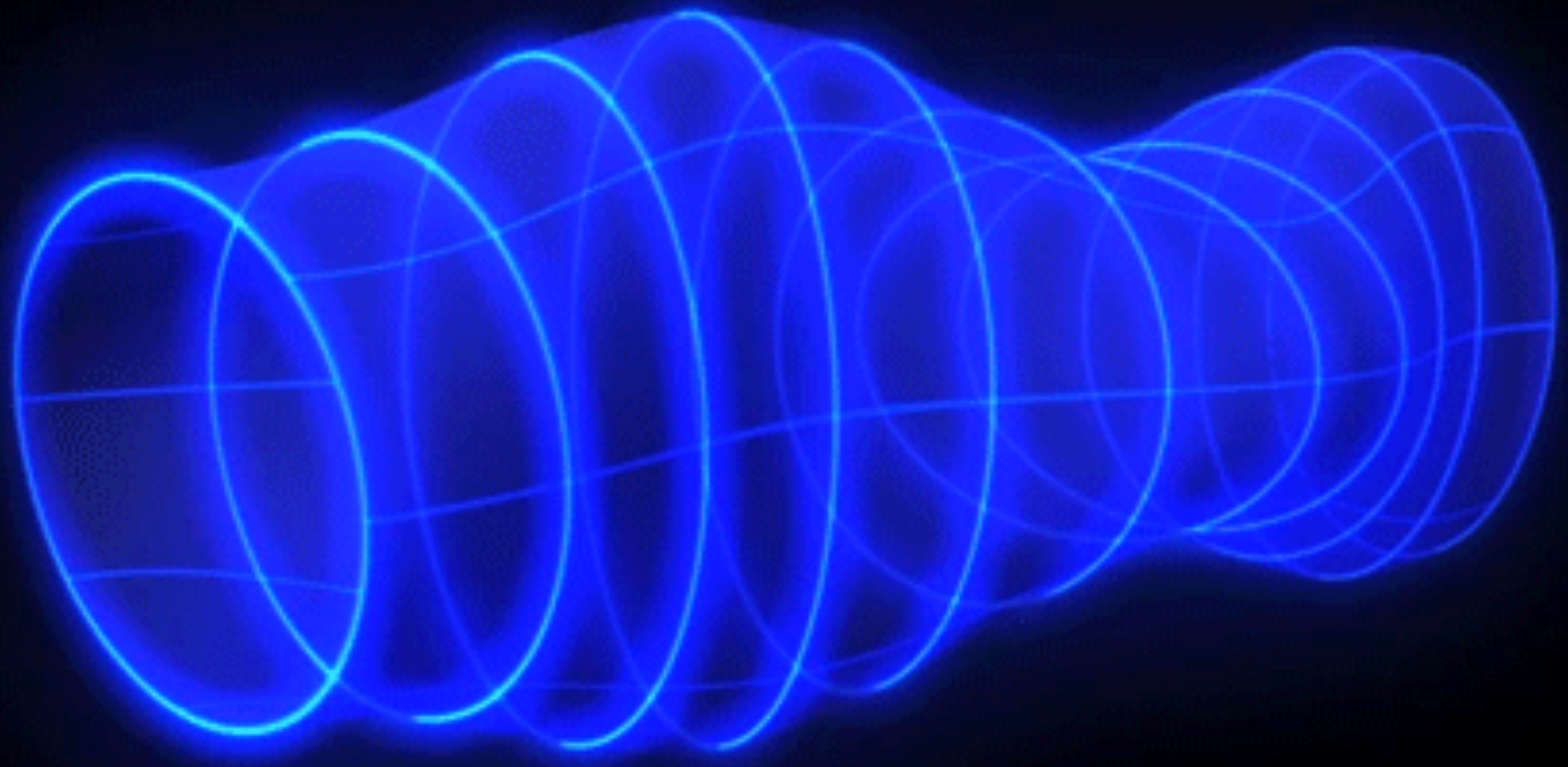


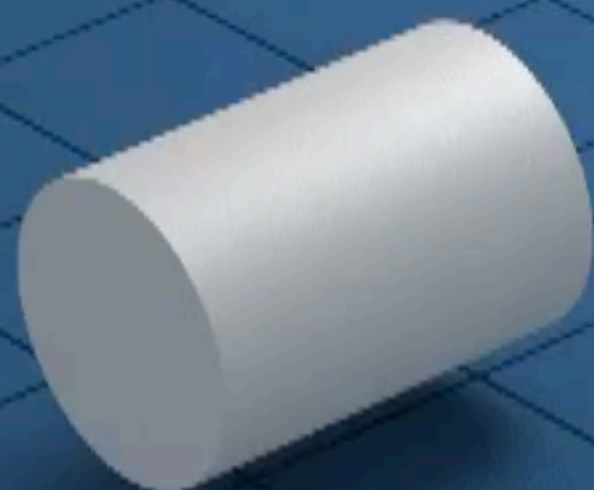
Weisburg, Nice & Taylor, 2010



-0.69s







The background image shows a construction site. In the foreground, there is a large pile of dark blue, textured material, possibly gravel or crushed stone. In the middle ground, a black flatbed truck is parked on a gravel surface. The truck has a crane-like structure mounted on its back. In the background, there are large black pipes or culverts laid out on the ground. The scene is set against a backdrop of trees and a clear sky.

Science

 AAAS



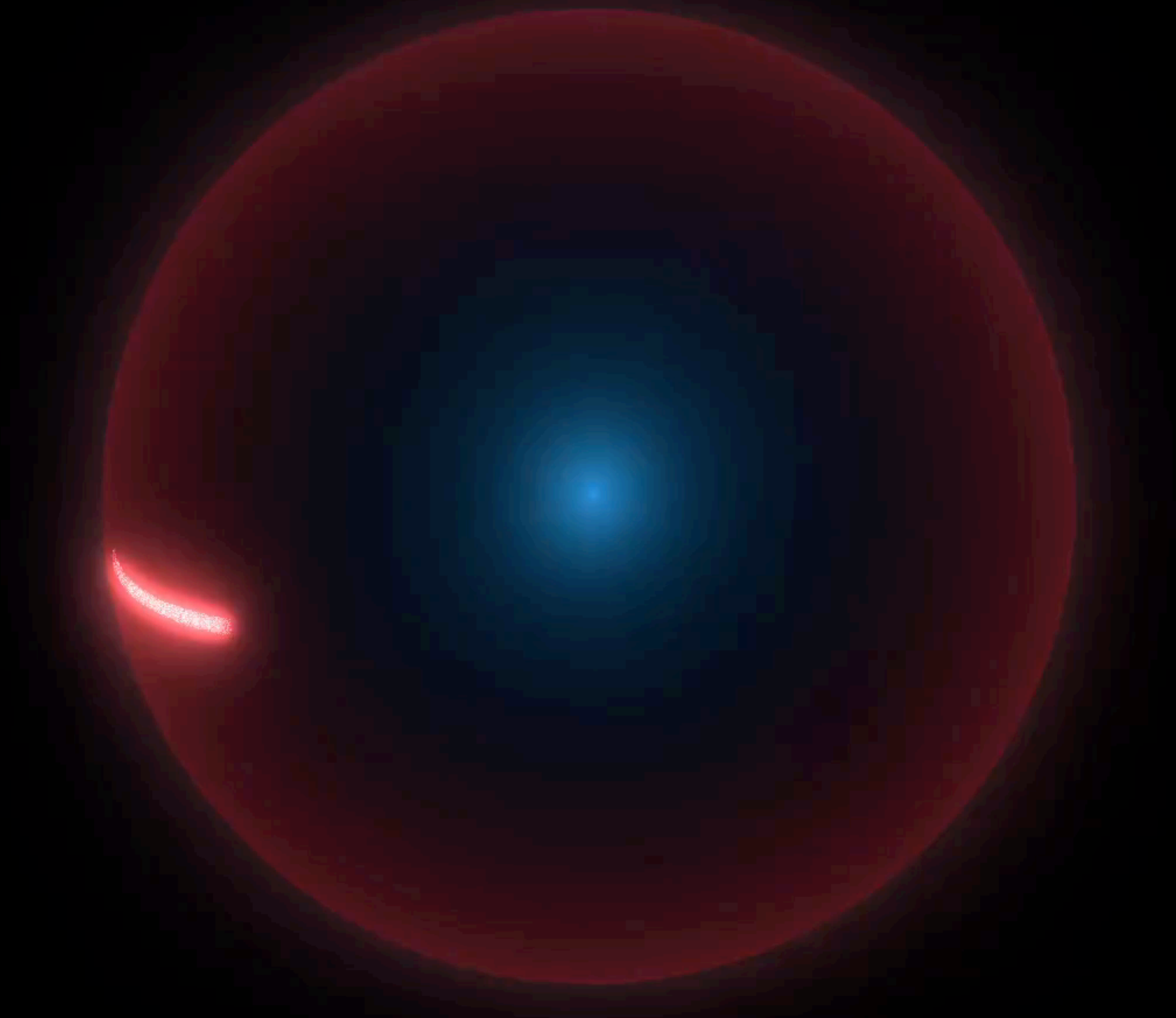
WEST

LIGO: A passion for understanding, Kai Staats

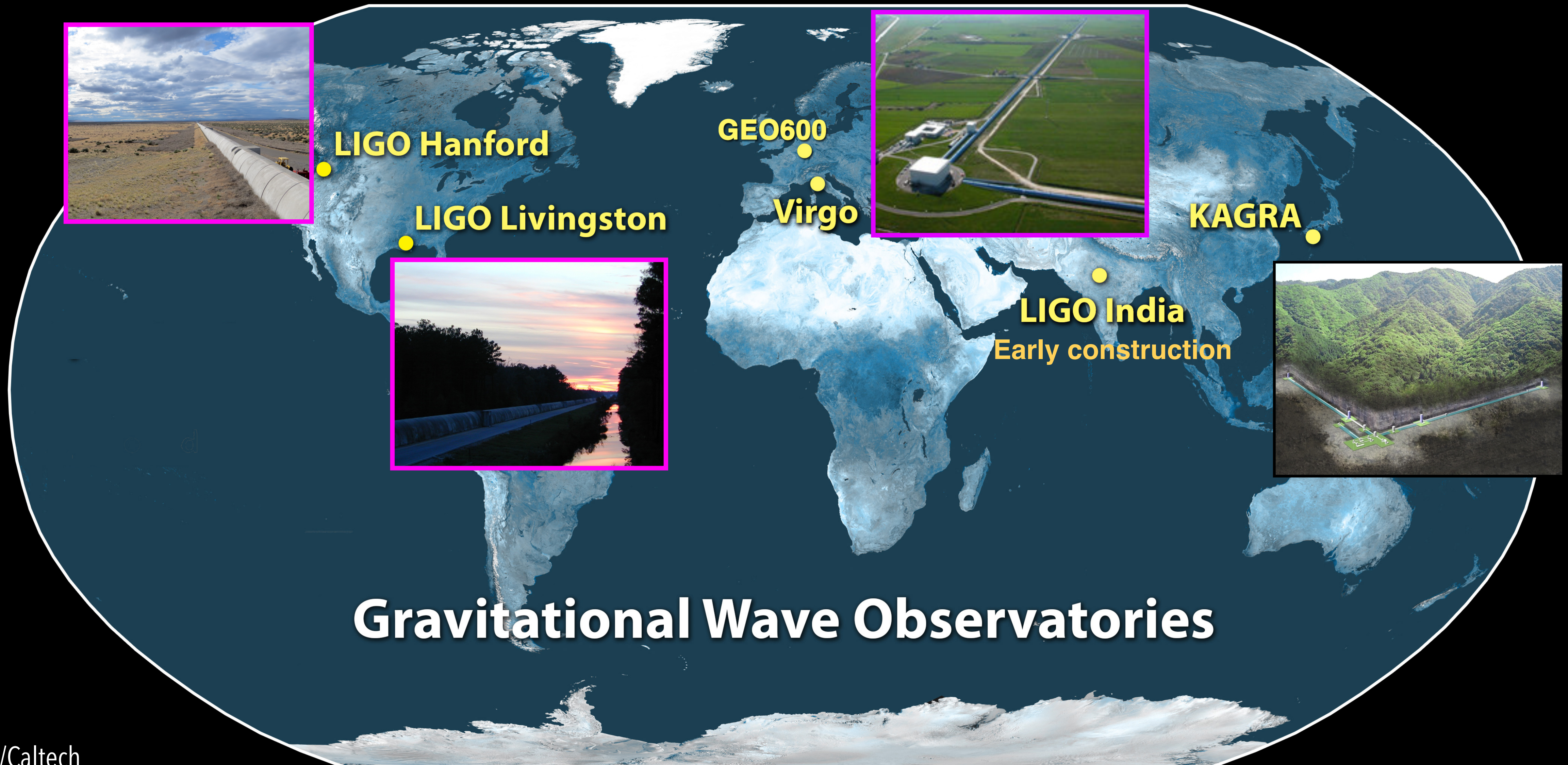


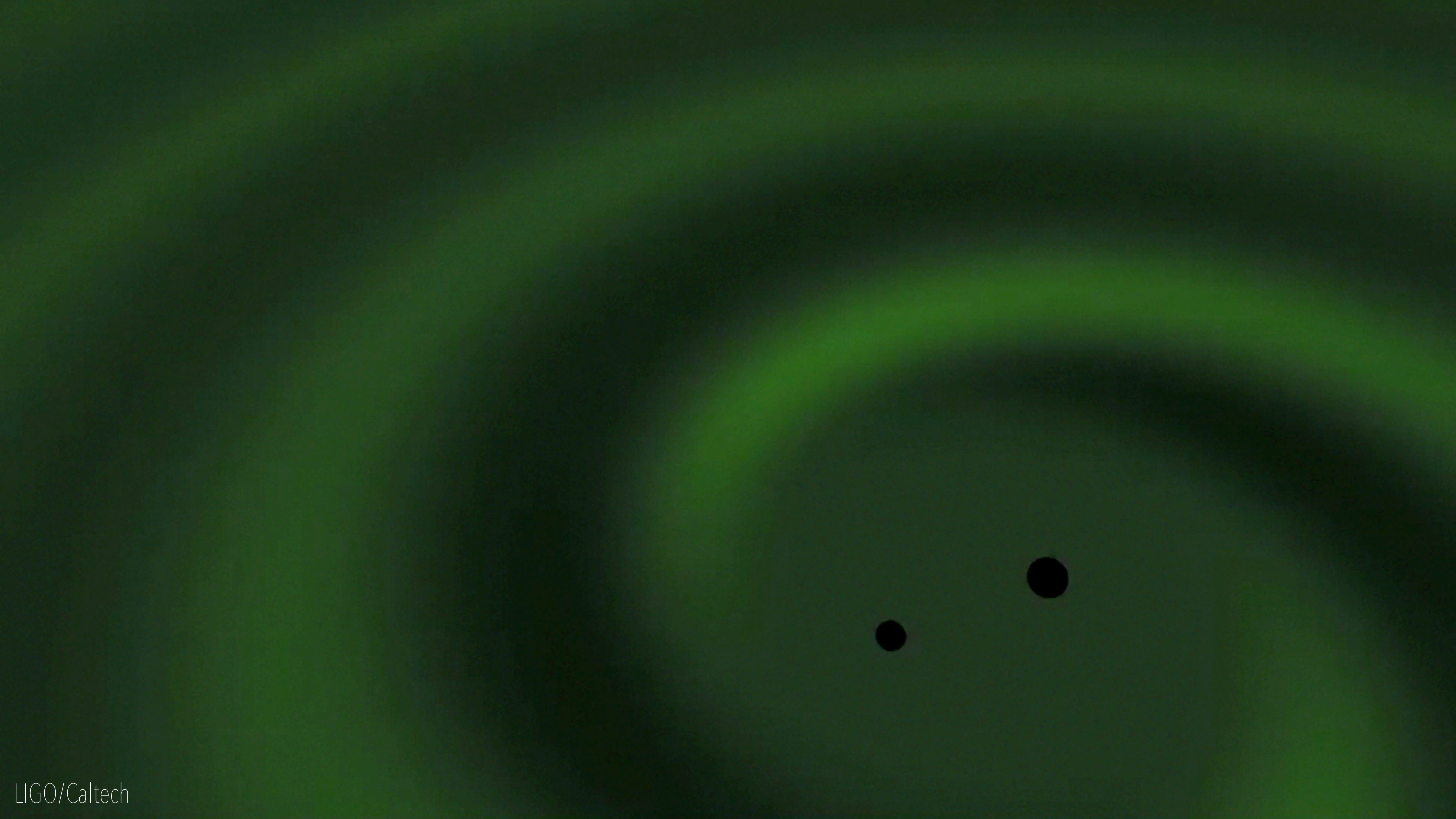
ADVANCED LIGO DOCUMENTARY PROJECT

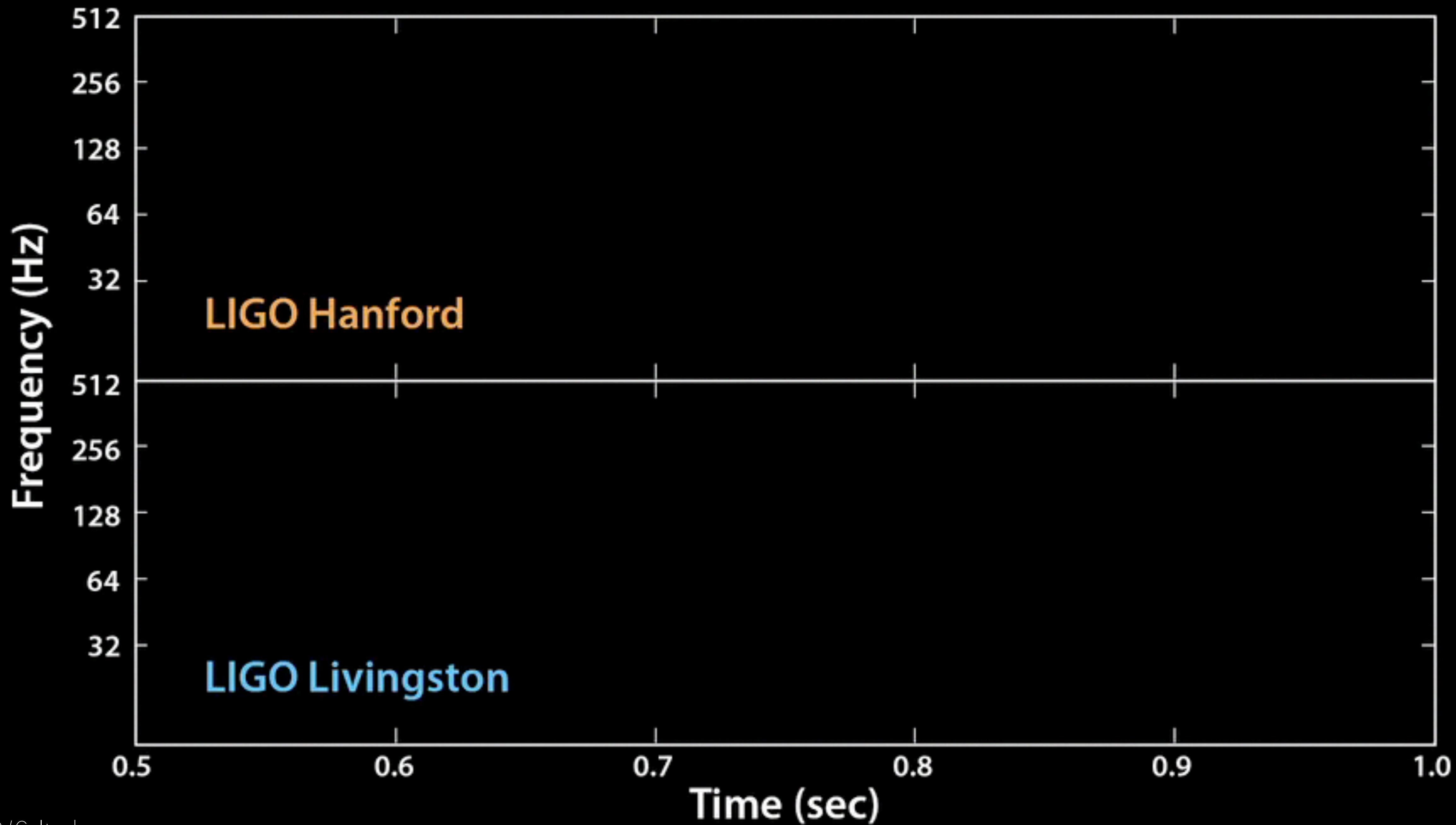
The Advanced LIGO documentary project, Les Guthman

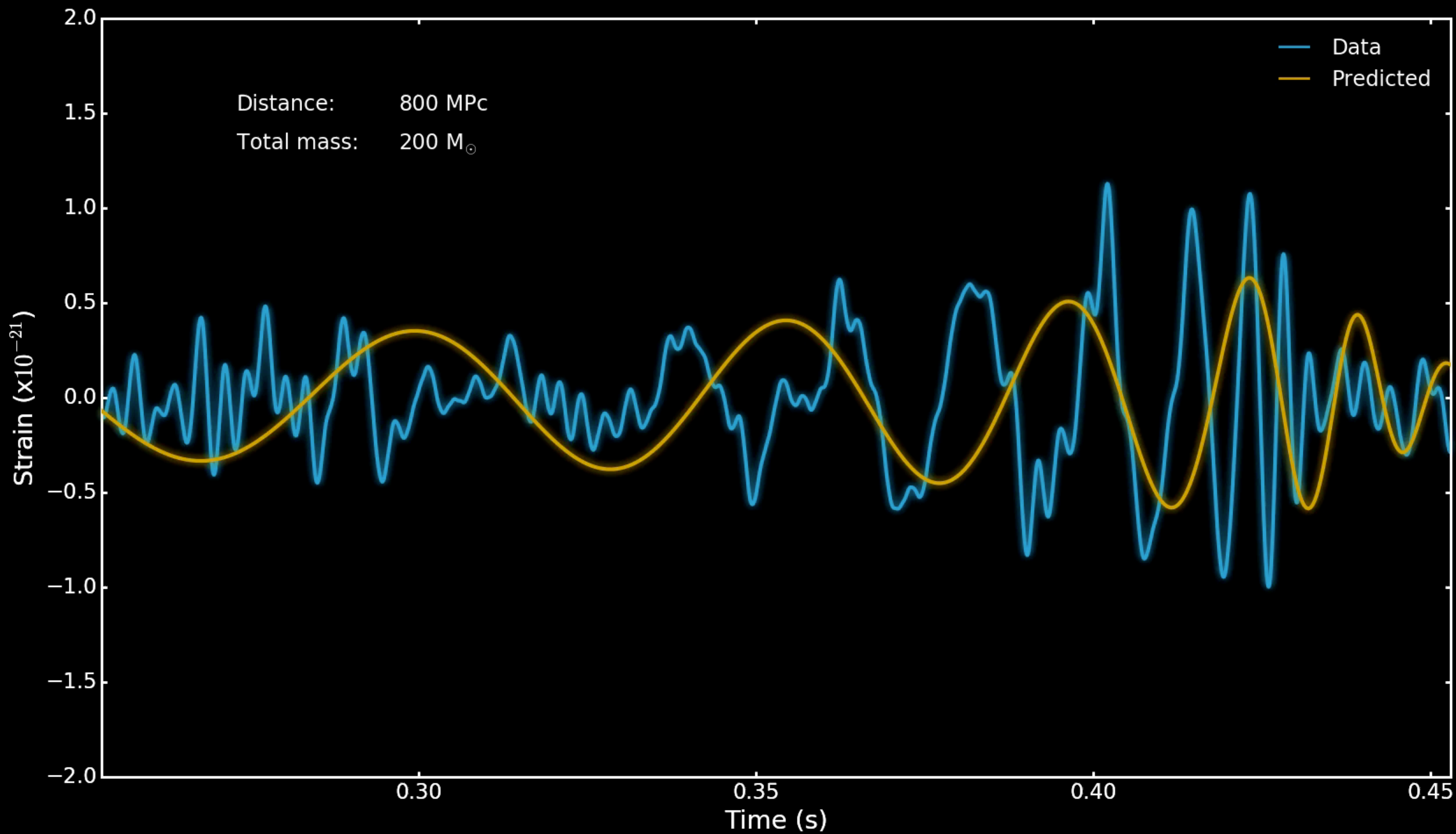


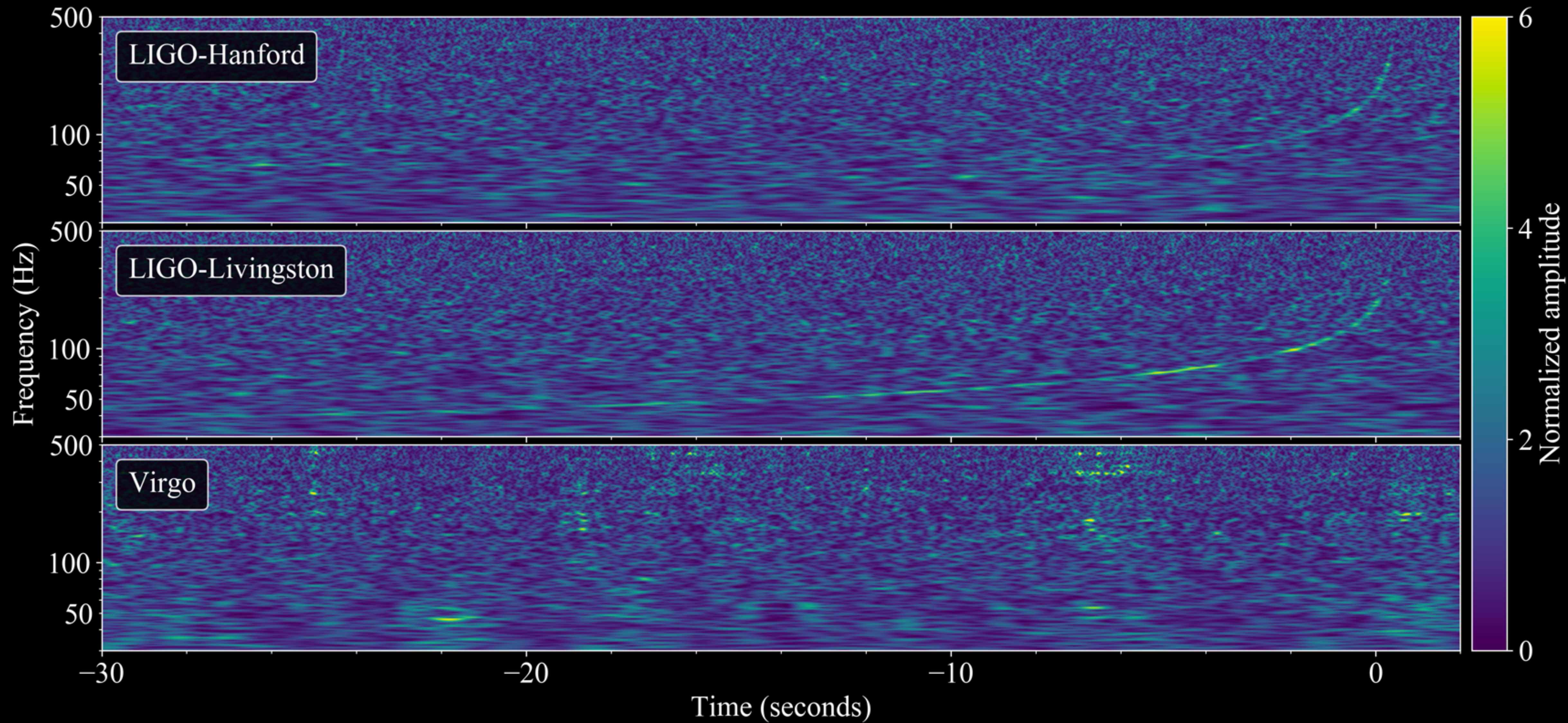
Current GW detector network (IGWN)



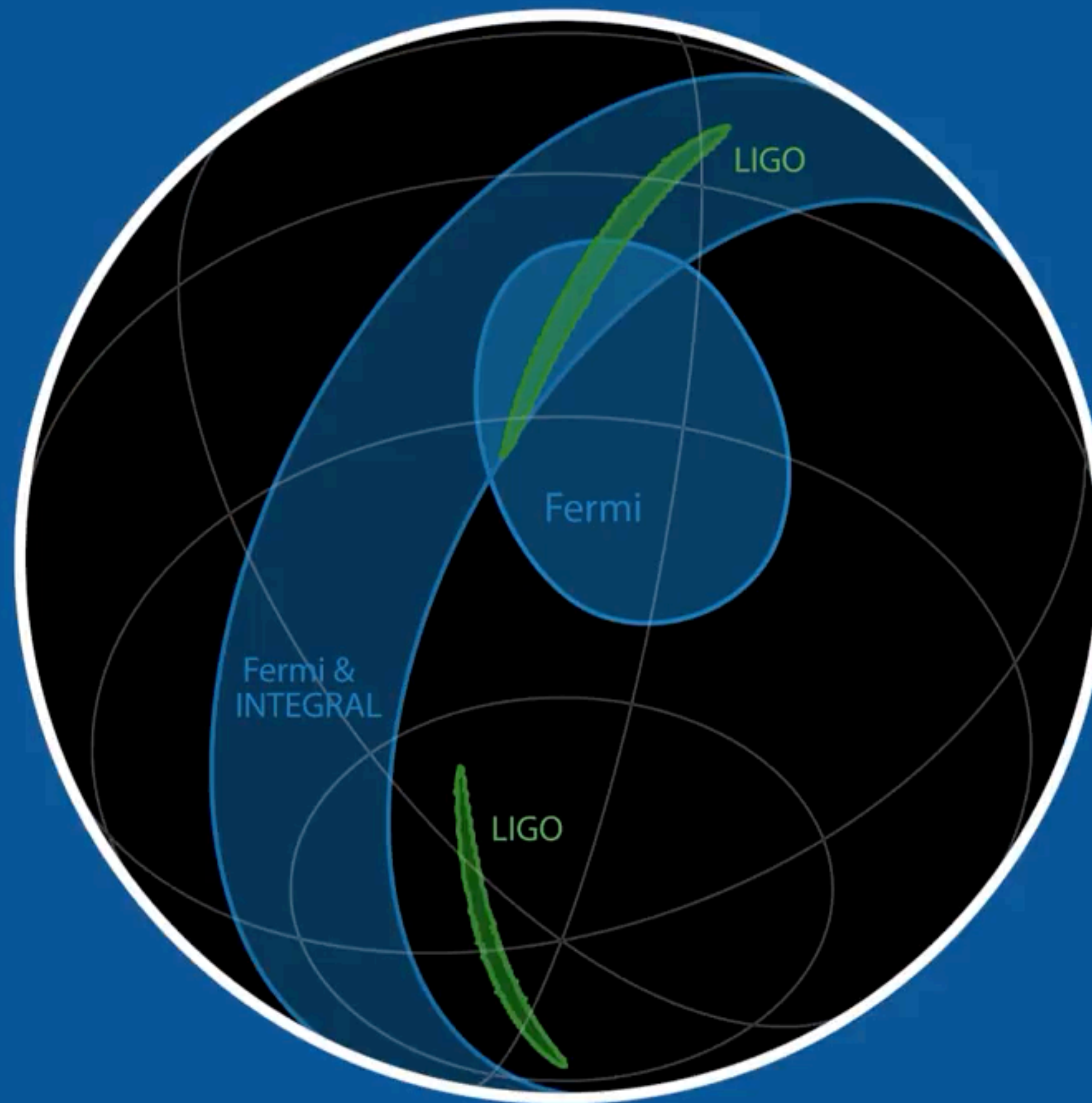








Sky localization with GWs



Discovery of an optical counterpart

SSS17a



August 17, 2017

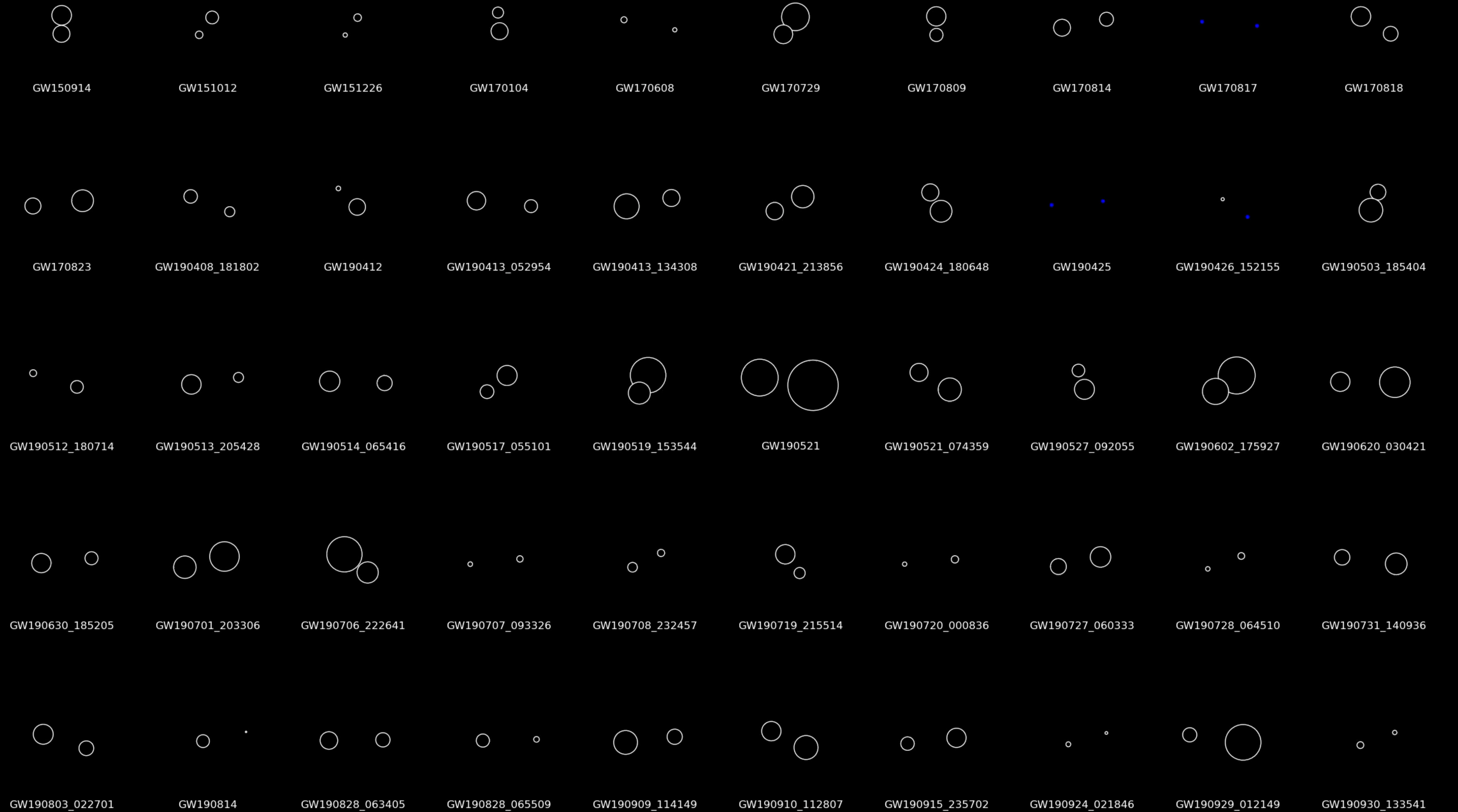


August 21, 2017

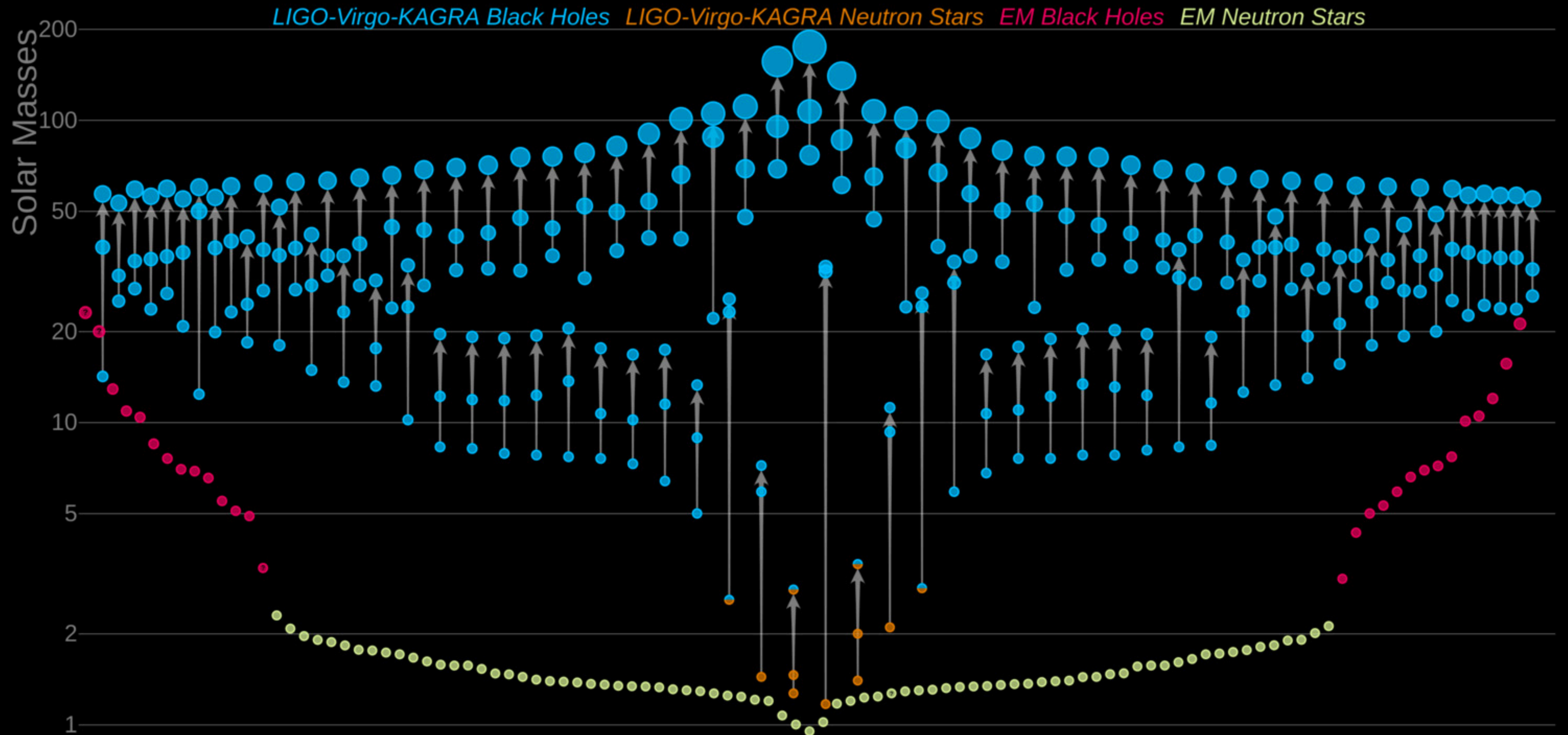
Swope & Magellan Telescopes

The first multi-messenger discovery with GWs

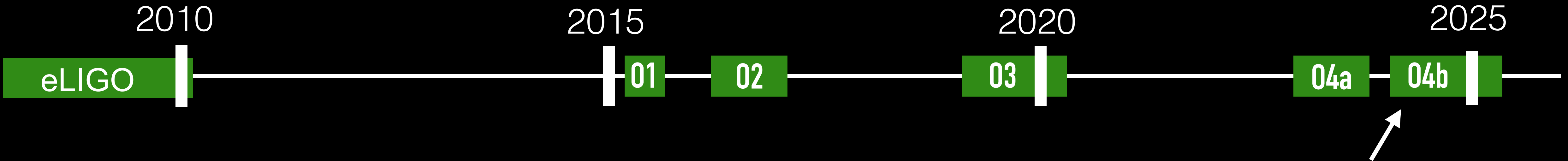




The stellar graveyard



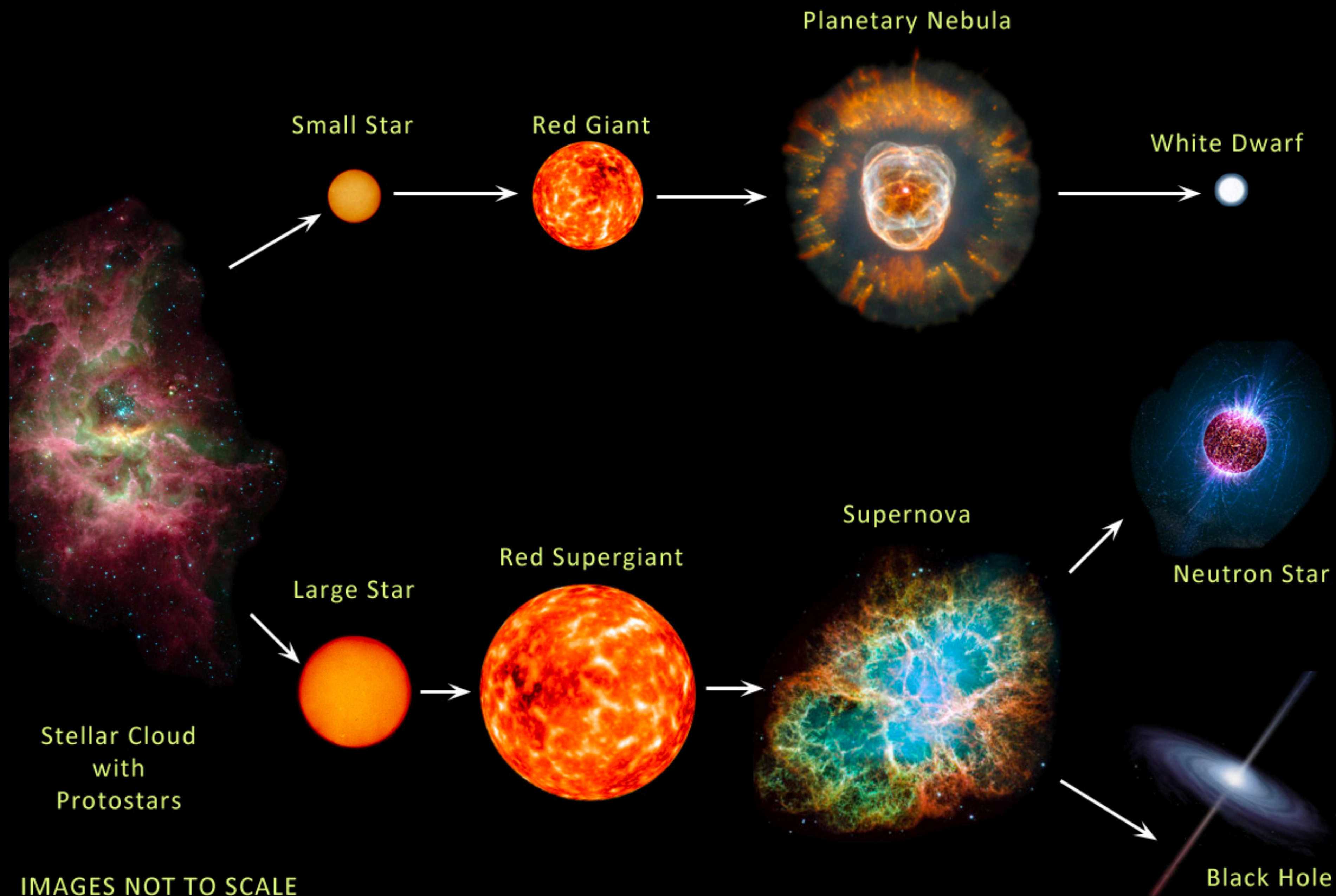
Timeline of Advanced LIGO and Advanced Virgo

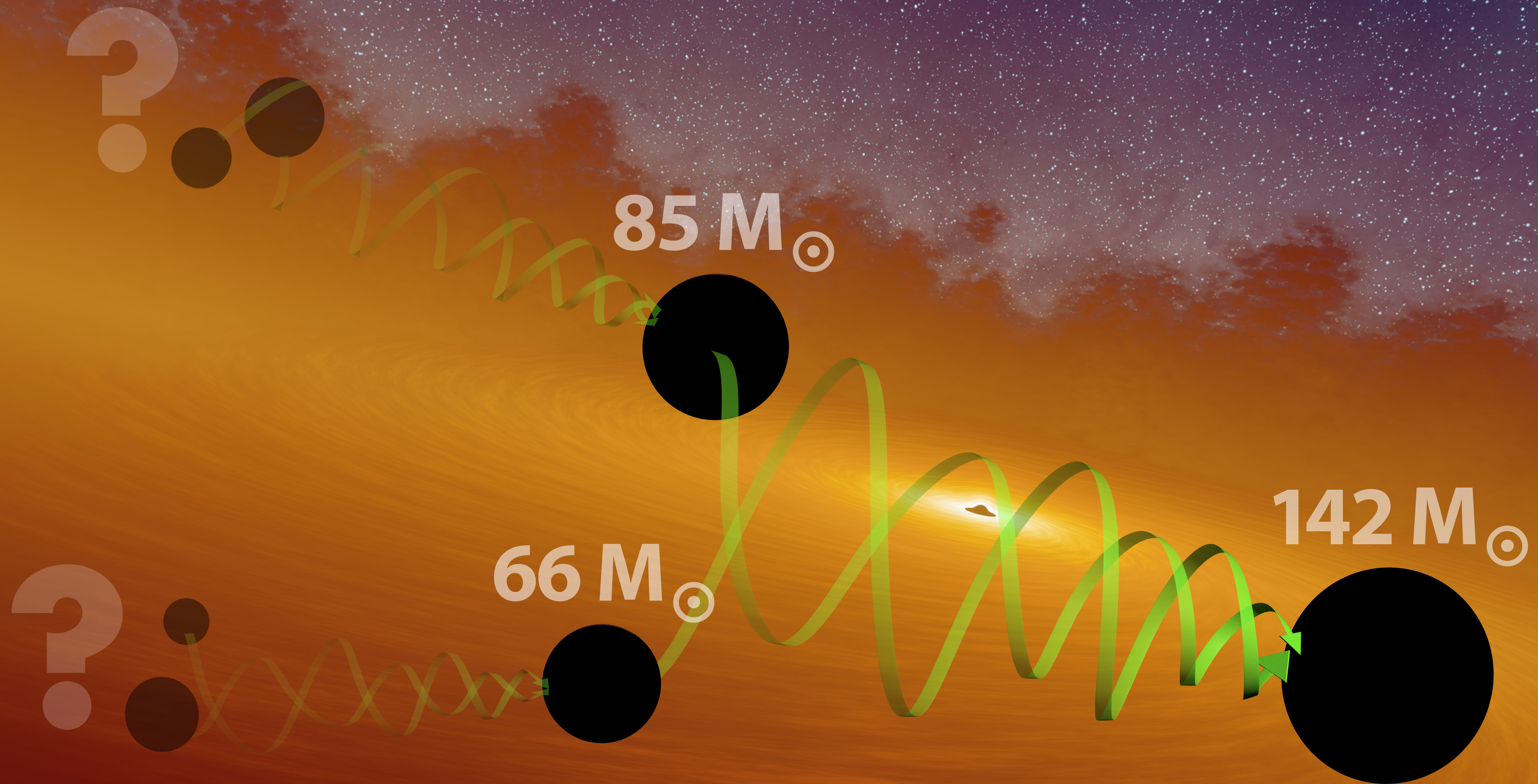


*Mostly
black hole
mergers* →

GraceDB Public Alerts ▾ Latest Search Notifications Pipelines Documentation Logout						
Authenticated as: Jess McIver						
LIGO/Virgo/KAGRA Public Alerts						
O4 Significant Detection Candidates: 105 (119 Total - 14 Retracted)						
O4 Low Significance Detection Candidates: 1946 (Total)						
Event ID	Possible Source (Probability)	Significant	UTC	GCN	Location	FAR
S240429an	Terrestrial (98%), BNS (2%)	Yes	April 29, 2024 05:23:03 UTC	GCN Circular Query Notices VOE		1 per 11.049 years
S240428dr	BBH (>99%)	Yes	April 28, 2024 22:54:40 UTC	GCN Circular Query Notices VOE		1 per 1.5024e+06 years

EVOLUTION OF STARS





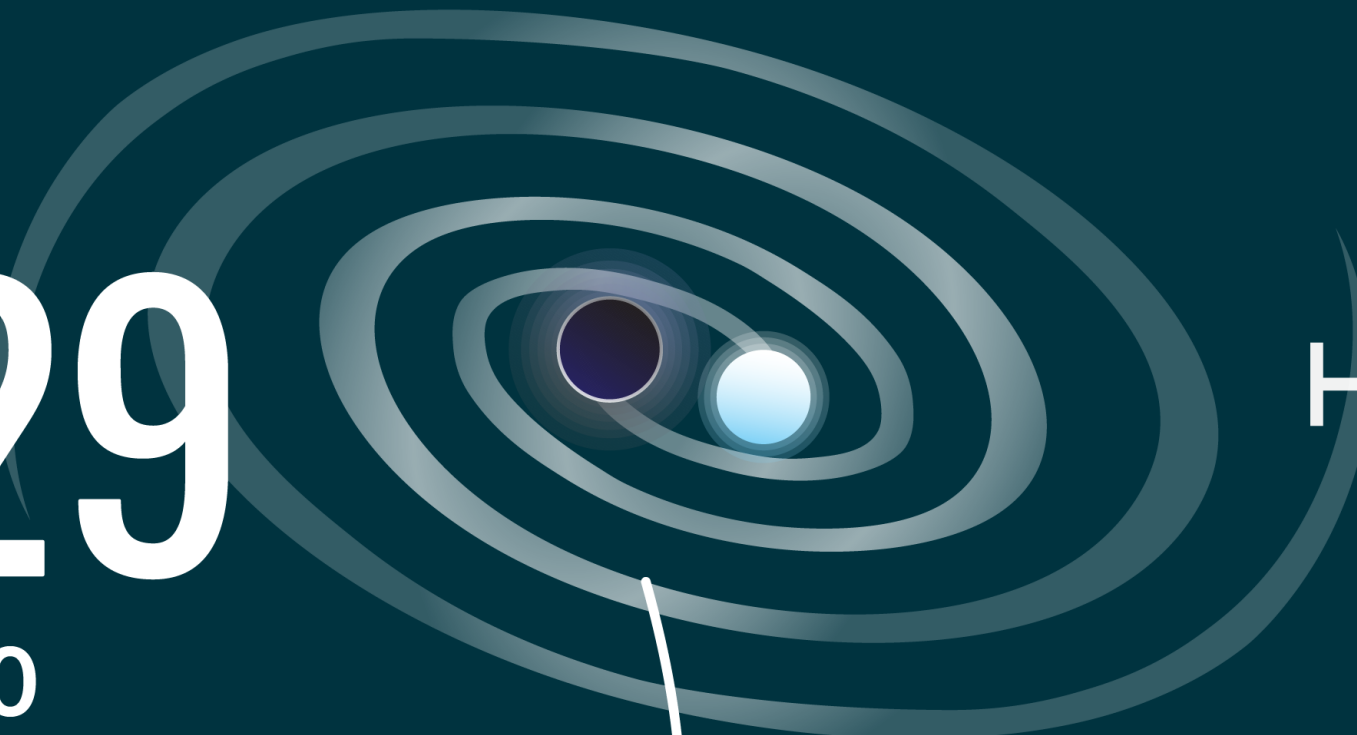
GW190521

Recent news!

Get to know

GW230529

Full name GW230529_181500



~ 650 million light years away



Detectors



- Offline OR not operational
- Online BUT not used for analysis*
- Online AND used for analysis

Discovered on 29 May 2023 at 18h15 UTC

most likely a merger between a Neutron Star & Black Hole (NSBH)



~1.4 M_{\odot}

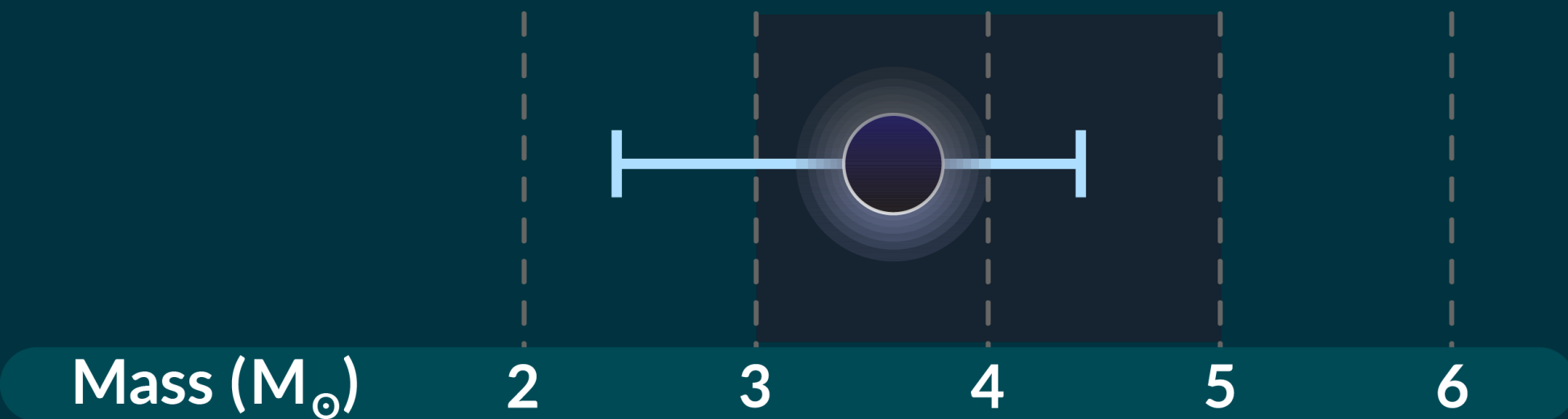


~3.6 M_{\odot}

Most symmetric NSBH event so far

more likely than prior GW NSBHs to have the neutron star ripped apart by the black hole

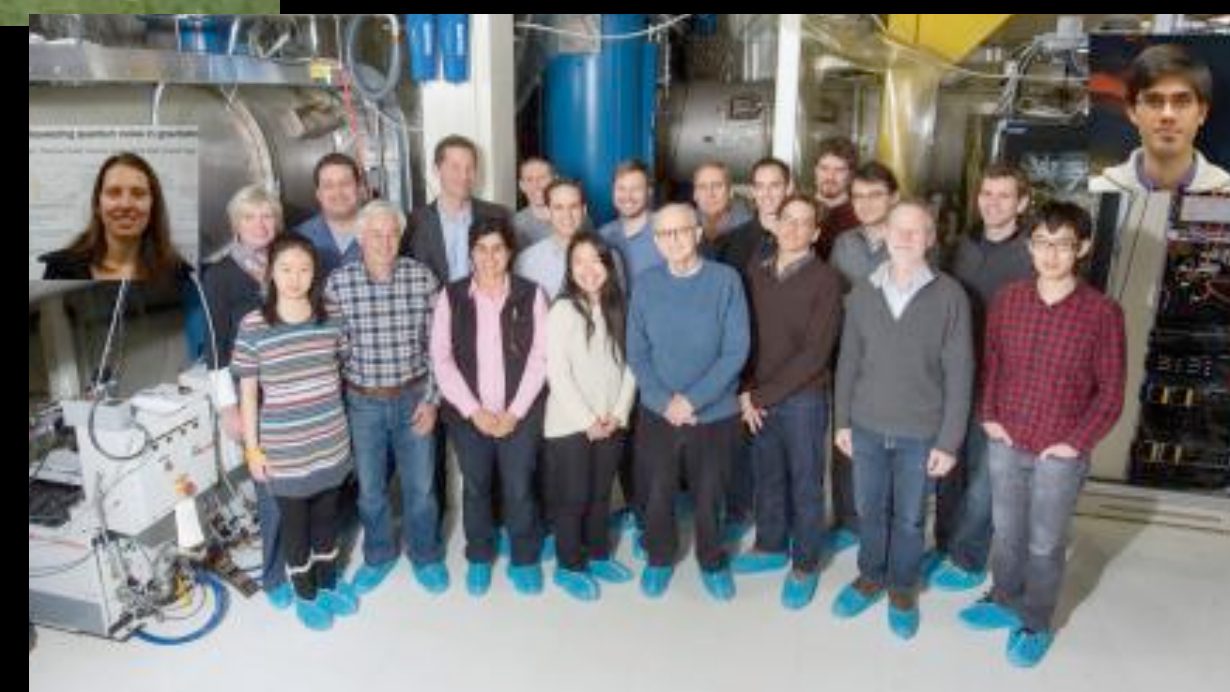
Primary object in lower mass gap
further supports that this region is not empty



* Although the KAGRA detector was in observing mode, its sensitivity was insufficient to impact the analysis of GW230529



Over **1600** people
from **100** institutions
and **20** countries
worldwide!

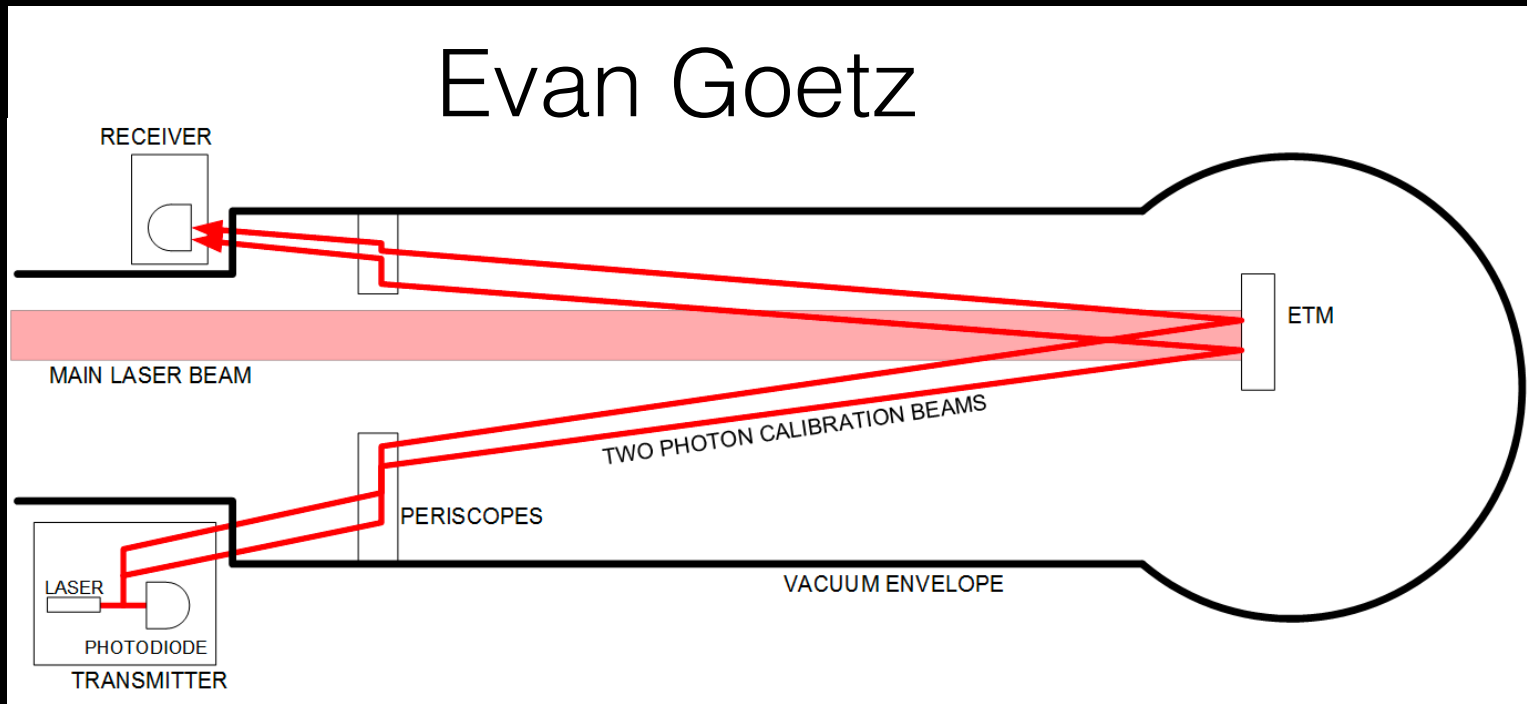


The UBC GW
astrophysics
group



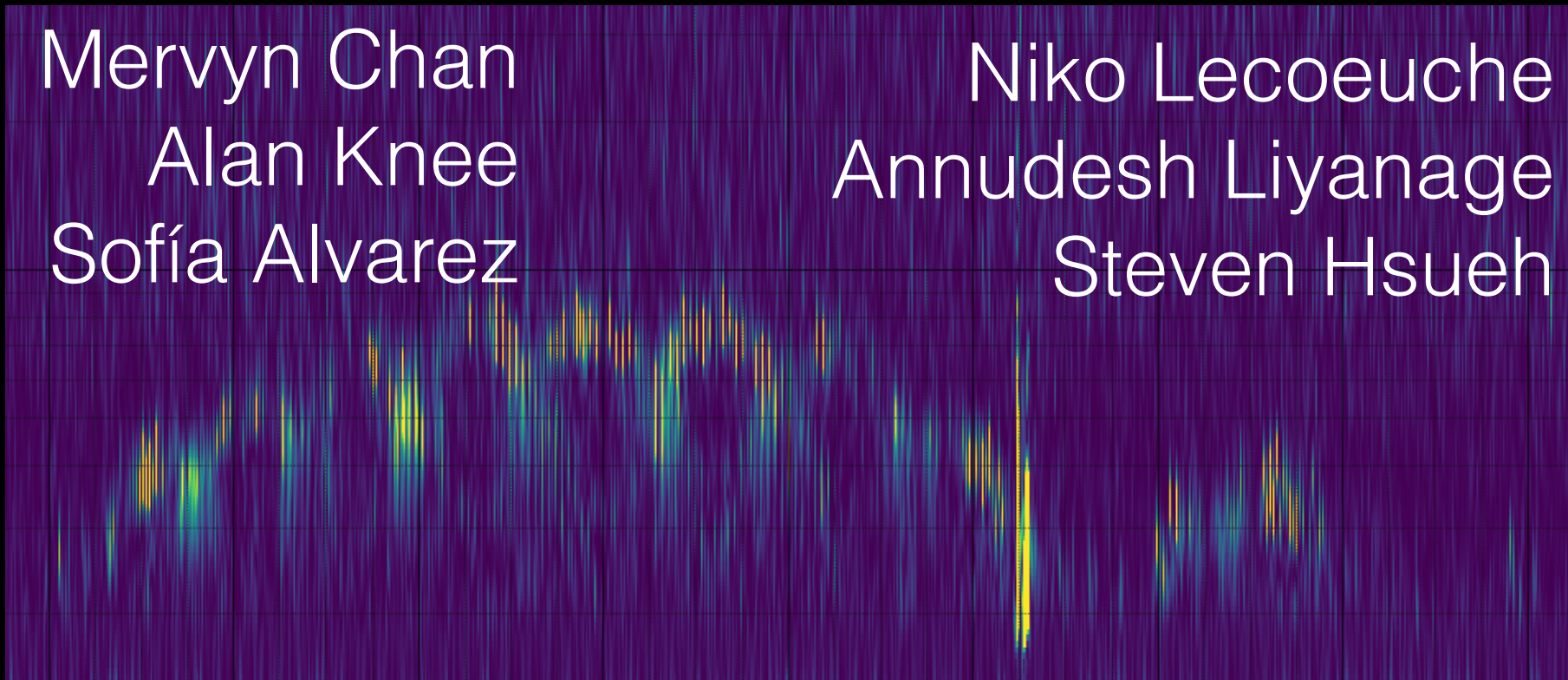
<https://gravitational-waves.phas.ubc.ca/>

Evan Goetz



Mervyn Chan
Alan Knee
Sofía Alvarez

Niko Lecoëuche
Annudesh Liyanage
Steven Hsueh

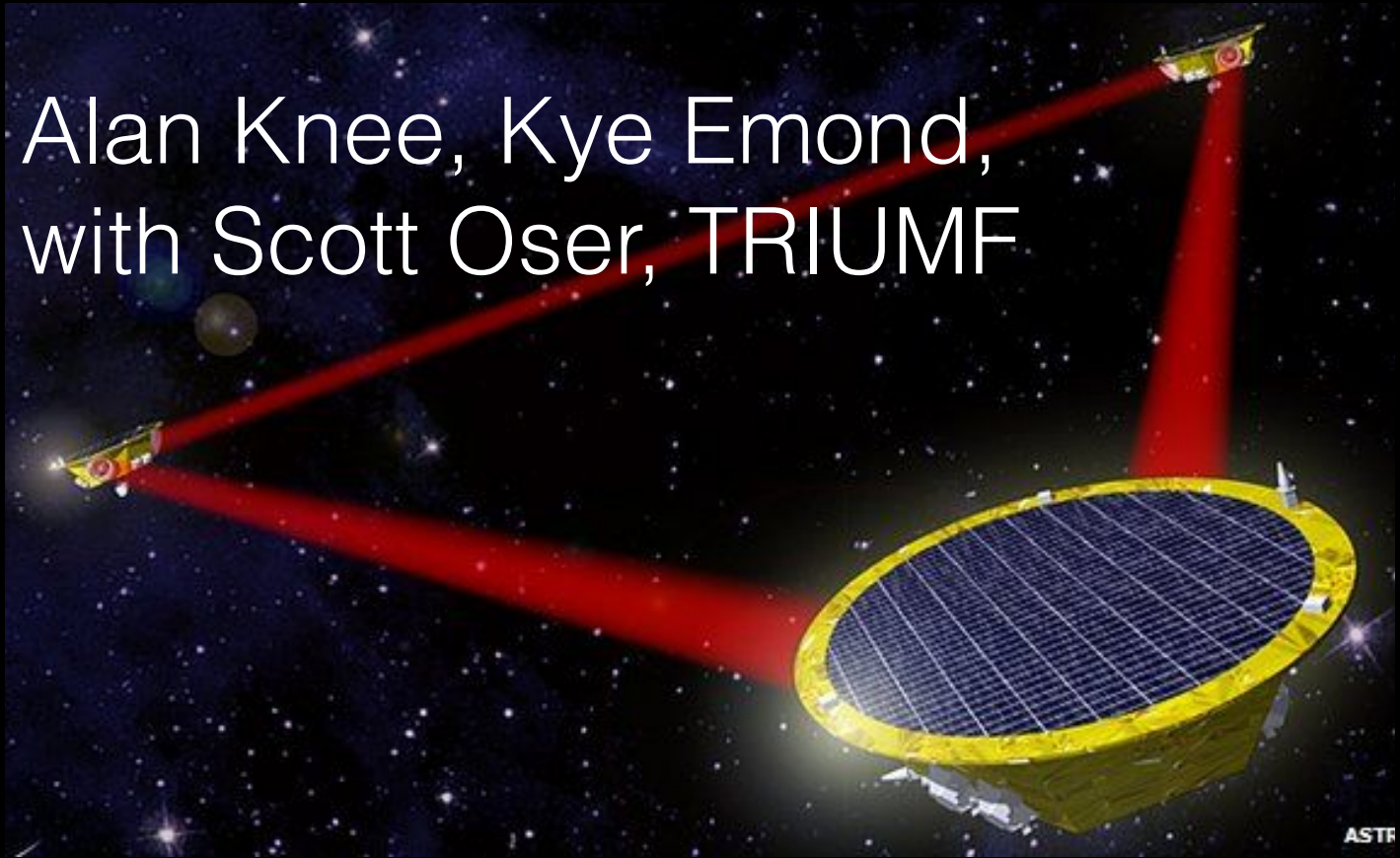


Evan Goetz, Alan Knee,
Neev Shah, Kat Nell

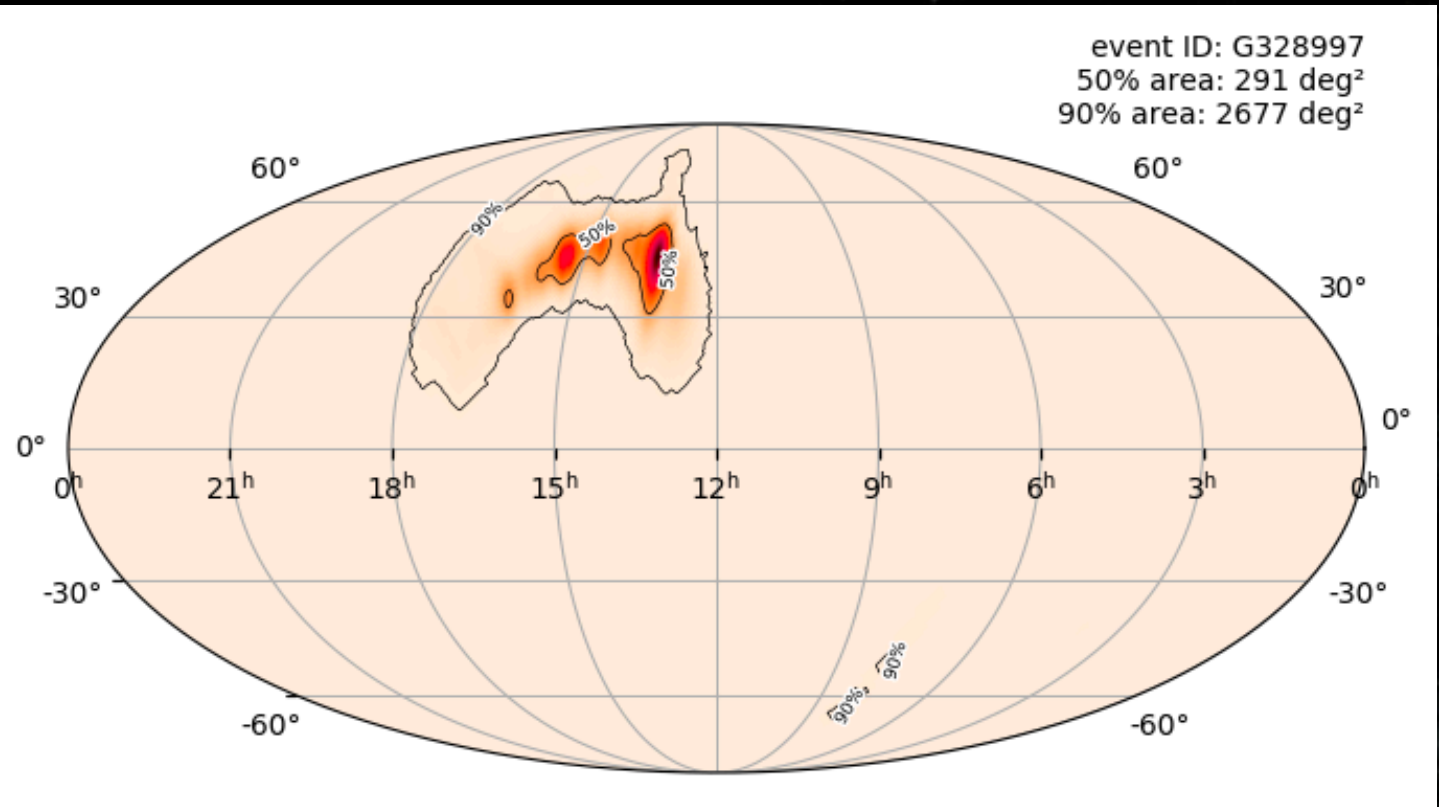


Evan Goetz
Helen Du
Alan Knee

Alan Knee, Kye Emond,
with Scott Oser, TRIUMF



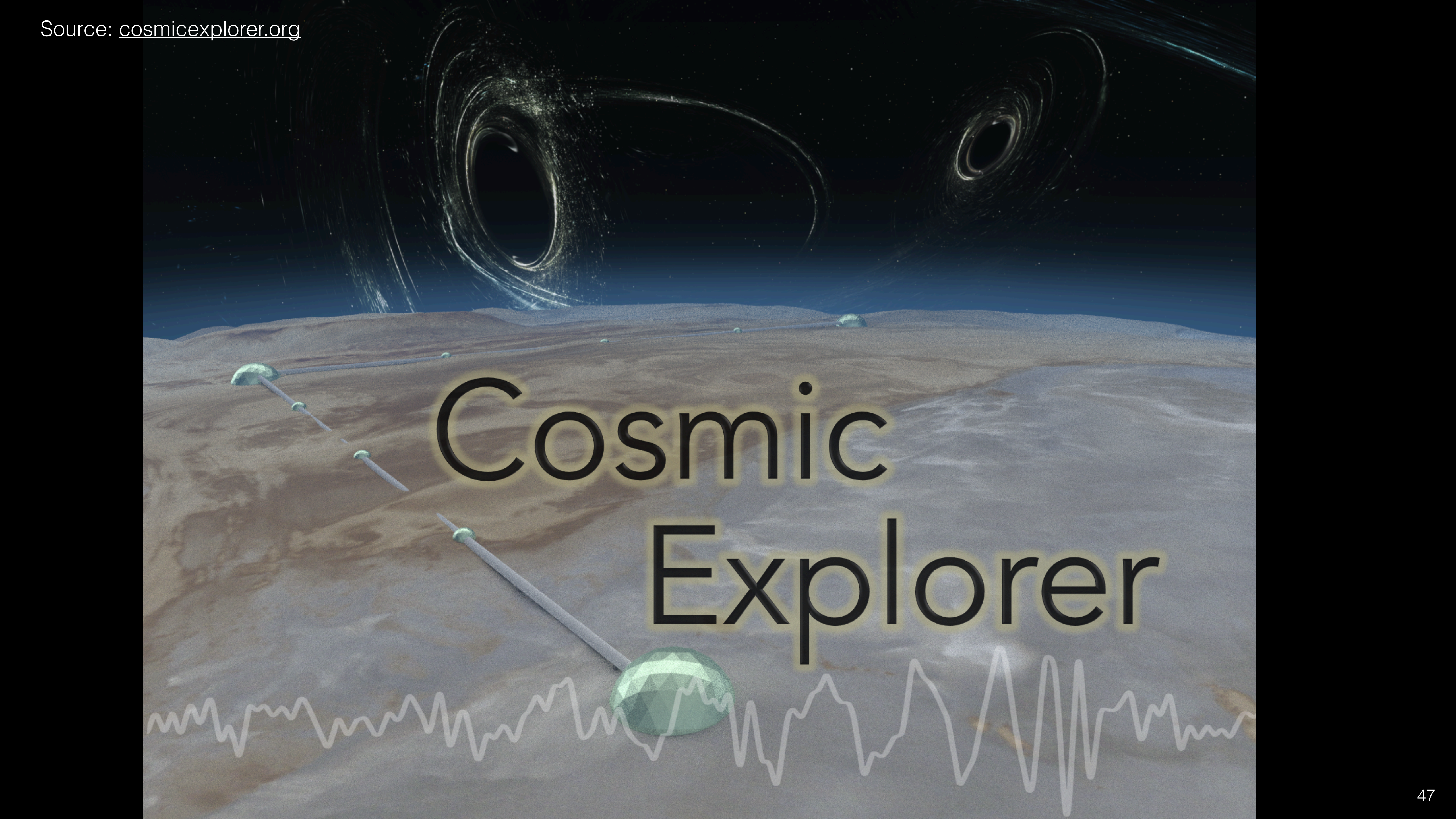
Mervyn Chan, Miriam Cabero

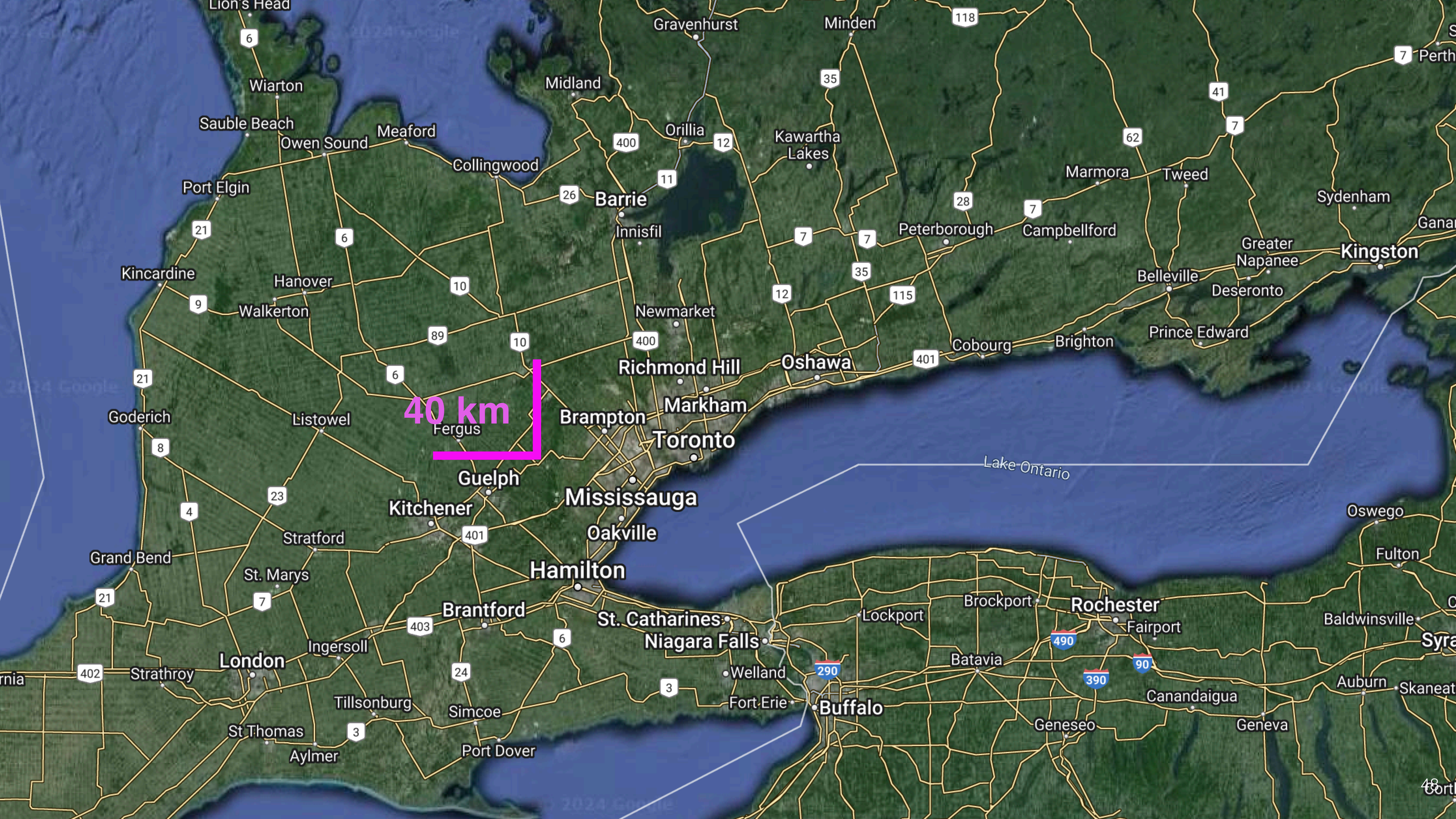


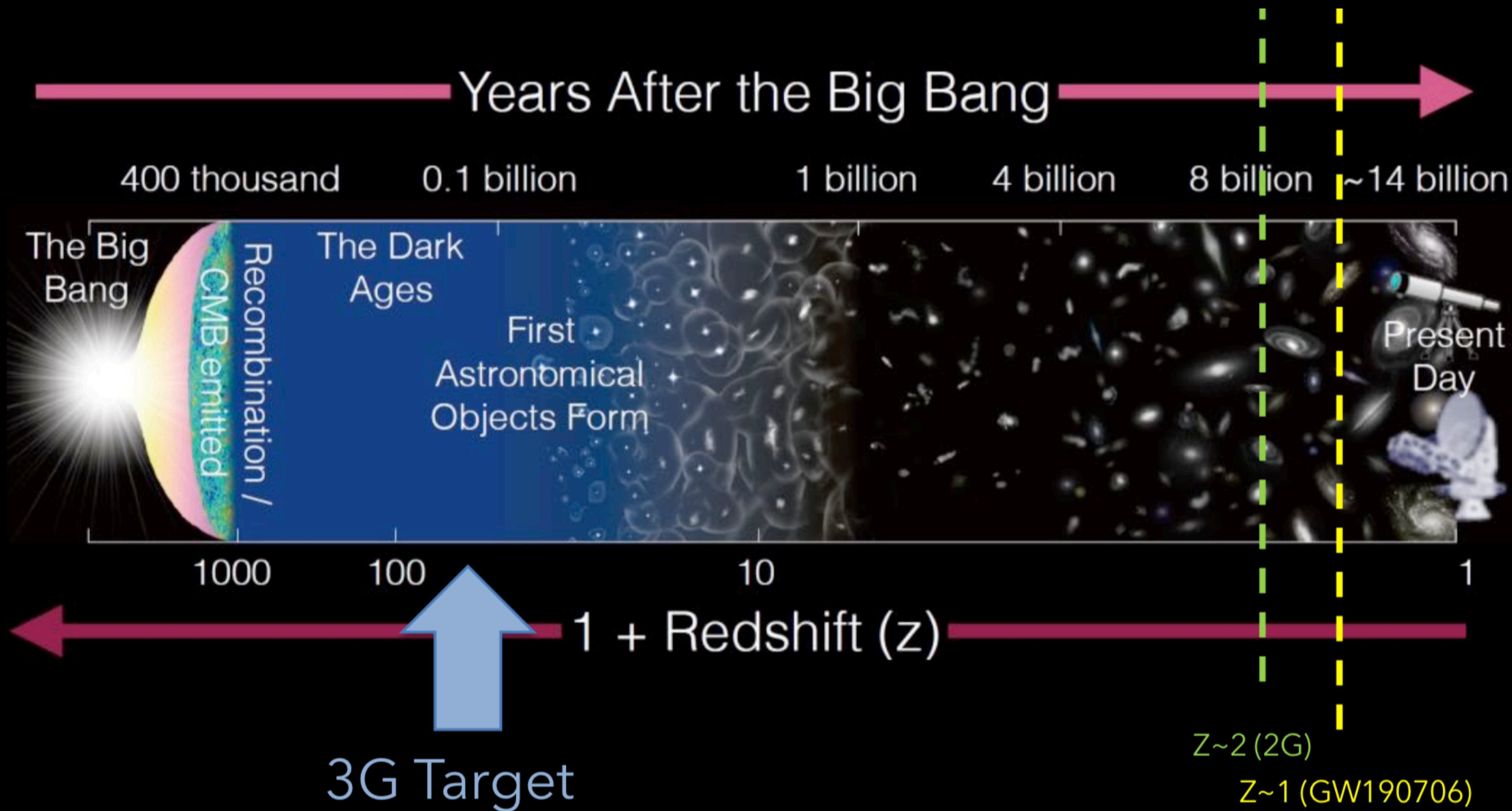
Alan Knee
Heather Fong
Neev Shah
Vaibhav Garg



Cosmic Explorer

A visualization of the Cosmic Explorer project. The background is a dark space with two large, glowing, swirling structures resembling gravitational wells or black holes. In the foreground, a brown, rocky surface is shown. A series of small, green, spherical objects are connected by a thin, light blue line, forming a path across the surface. A larger, green, faceted sphere is positioned at the end of this path. A white, jagged line, resembling a seismic or gravitational wave signal, runs horizontally across the bottom of the image.





Electromagnetic Wave Windows

X-Ray



Optical



Radio



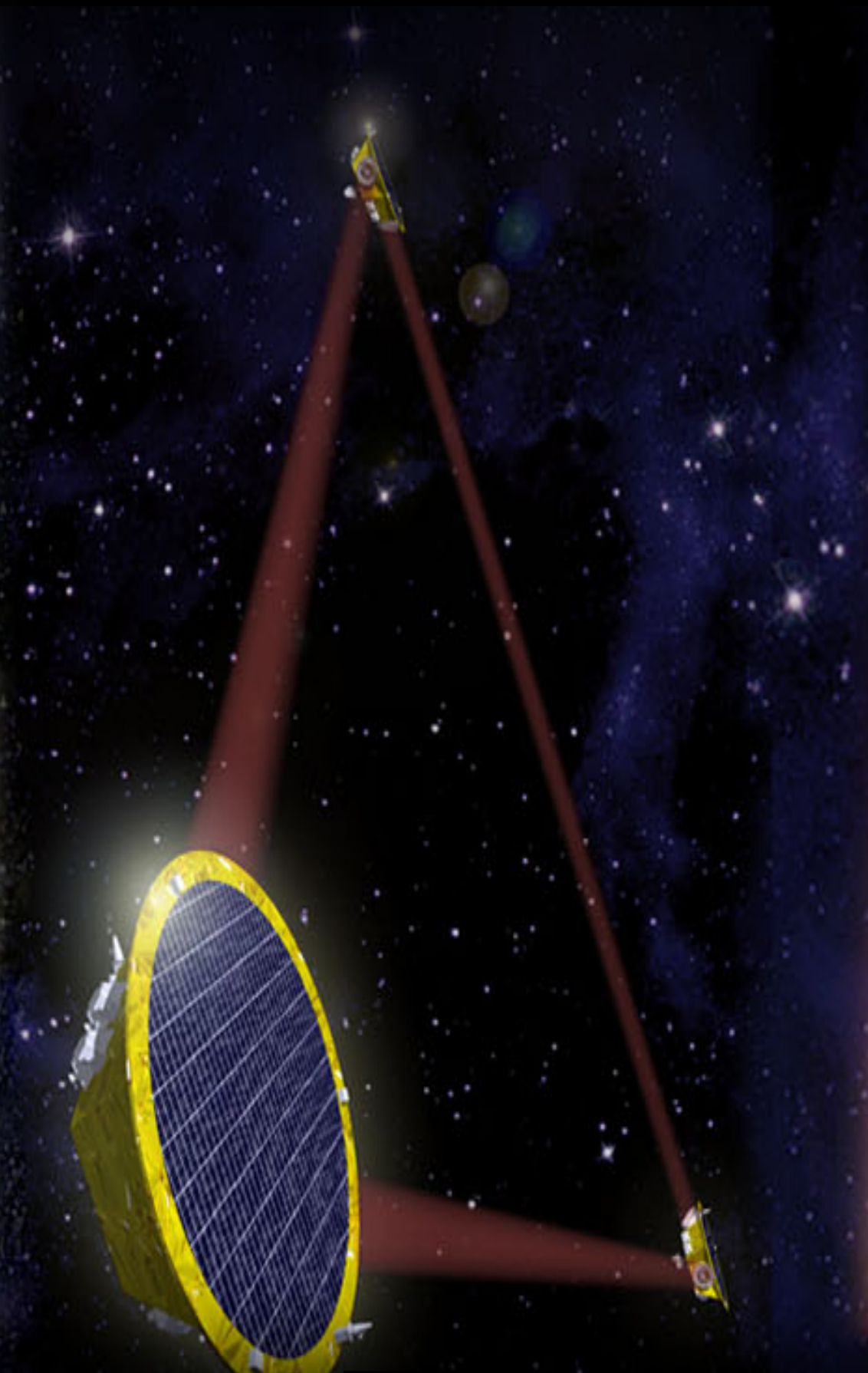
Gravitational Wave Periods

Milliseconds



LIGO/Virgo

**Minutes
to Hours**



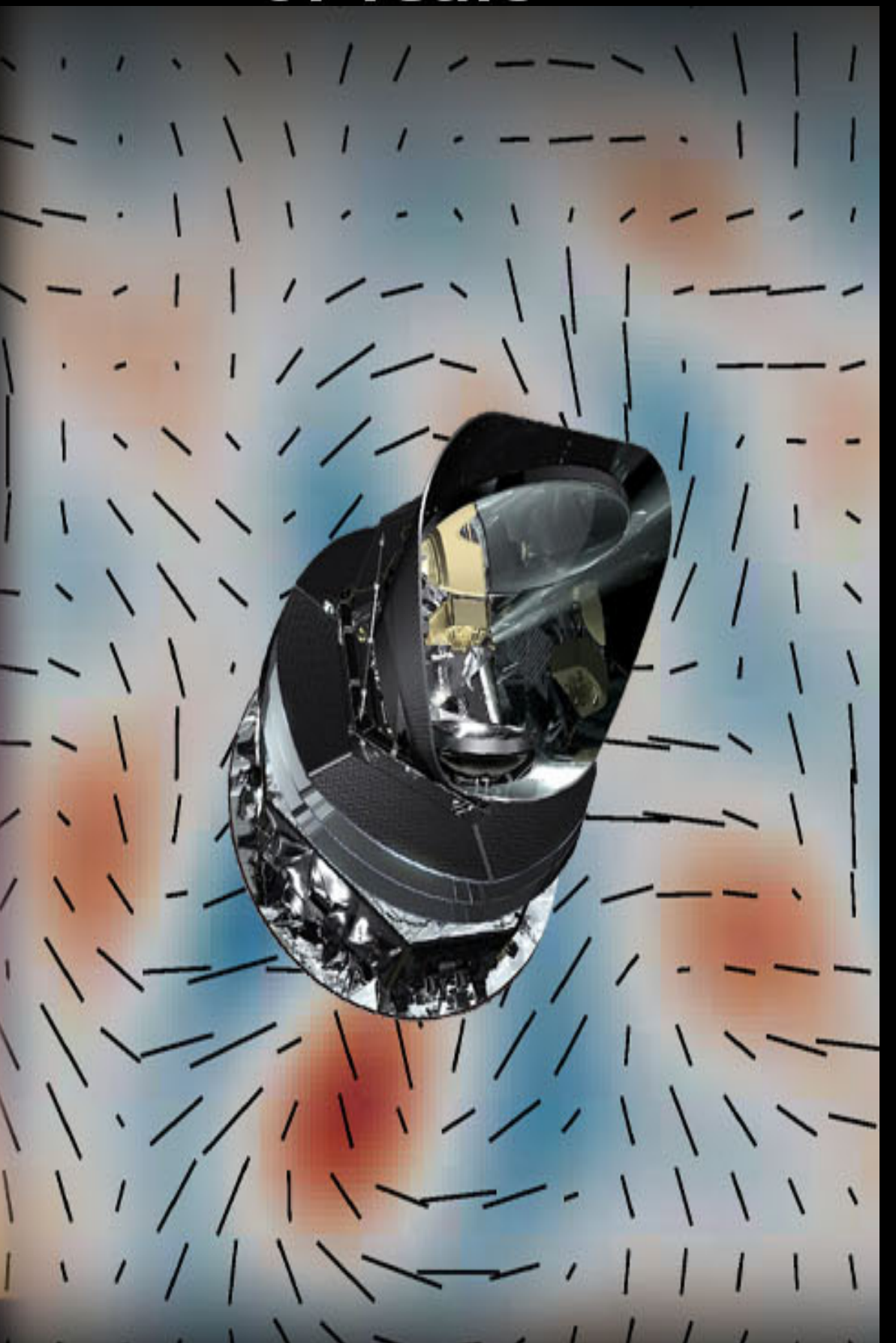
LISA

**Years
to Decades**



Pulsar timing

**Billions
of Years**



CMB polarization

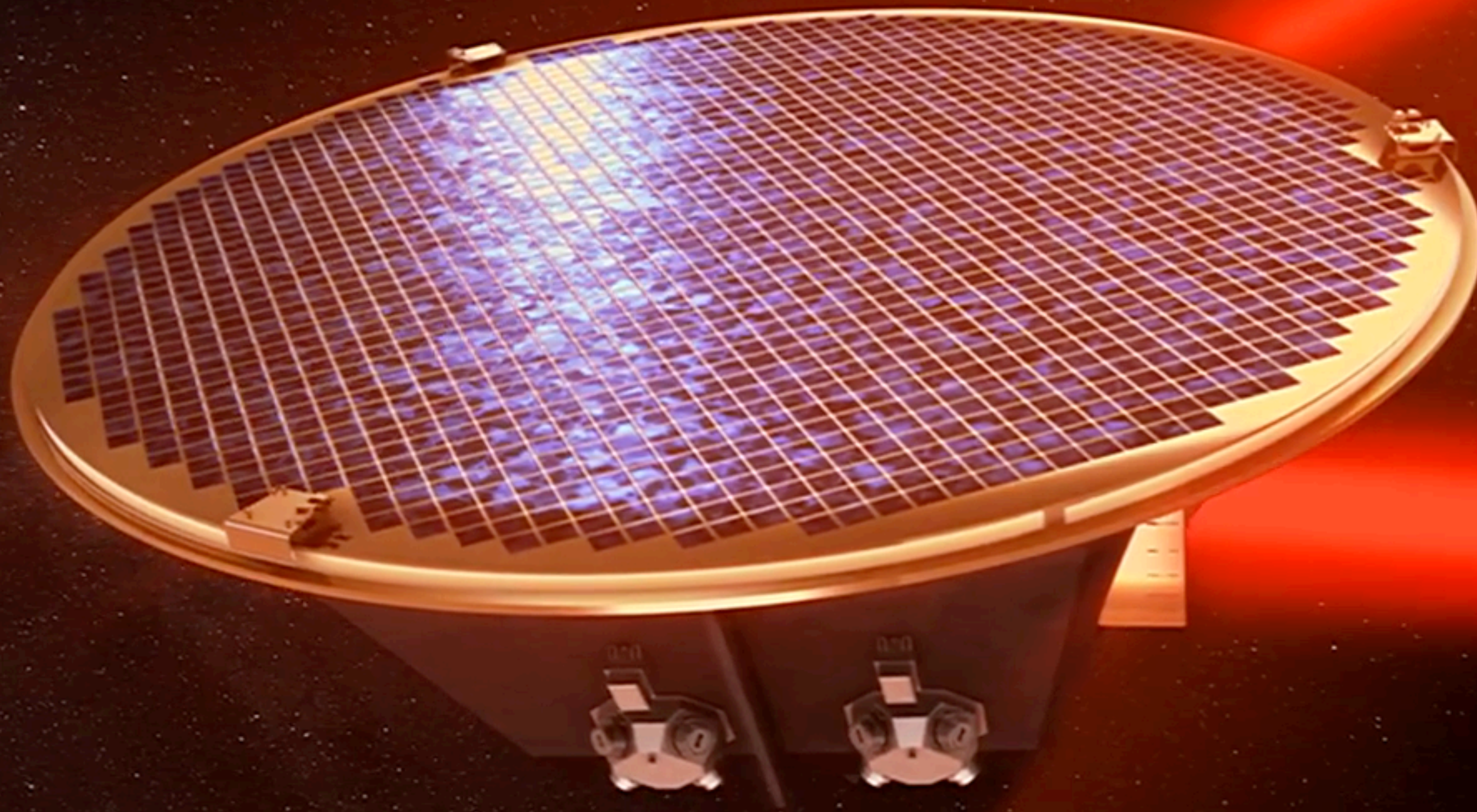


Illustration - NASA



Illustration -NASA

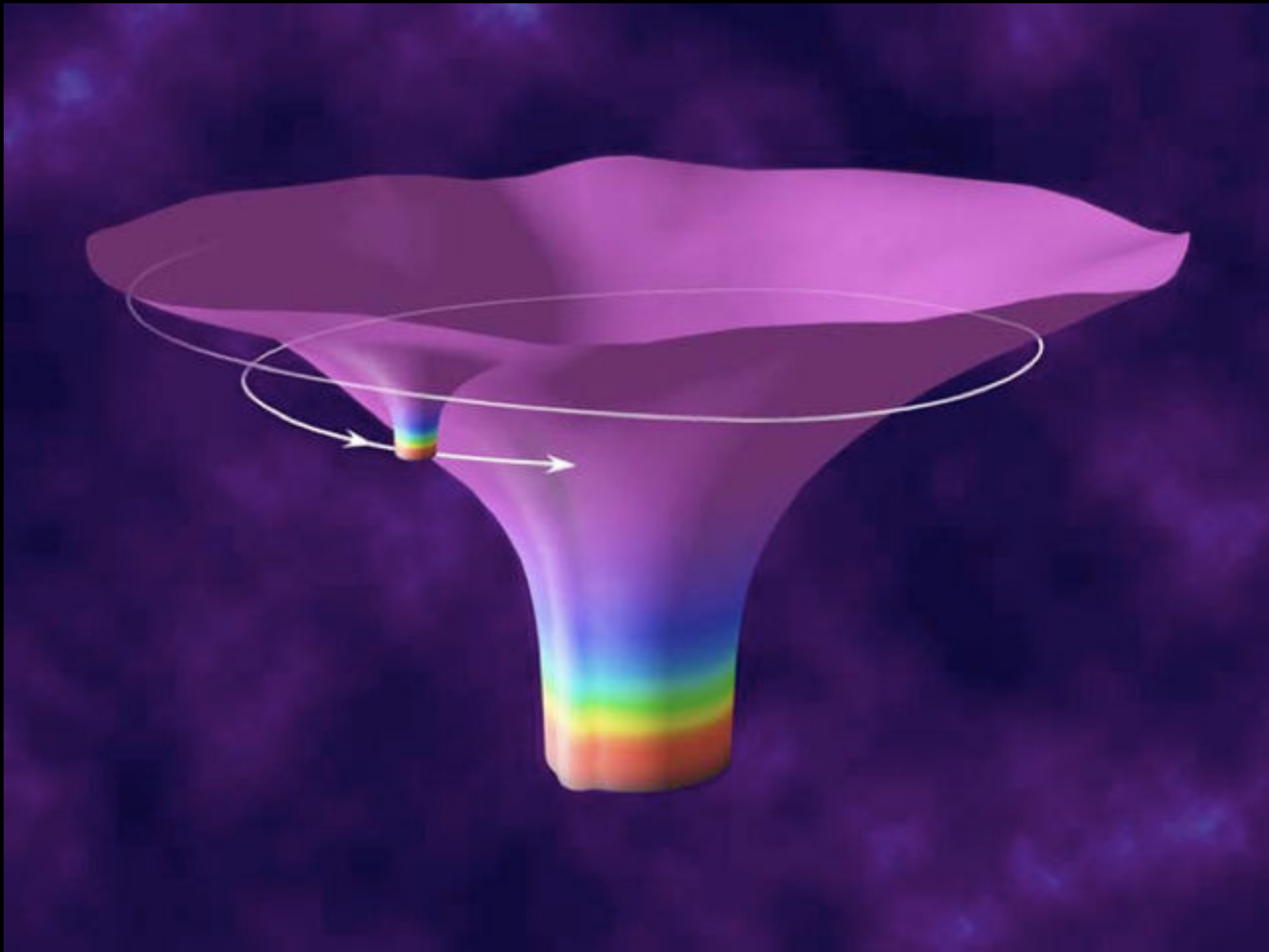


Illustration - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Extreme_mass_ratio_inspiral

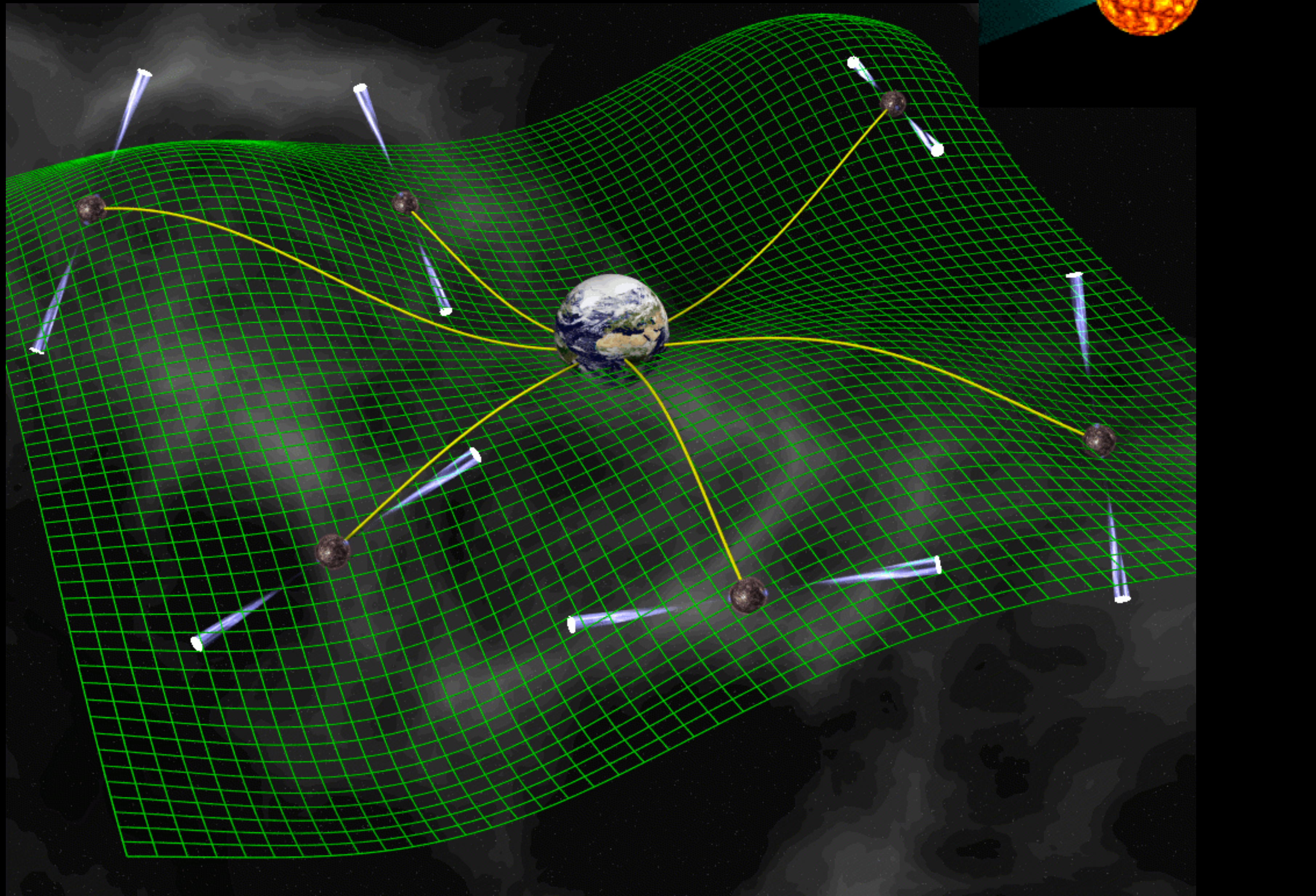


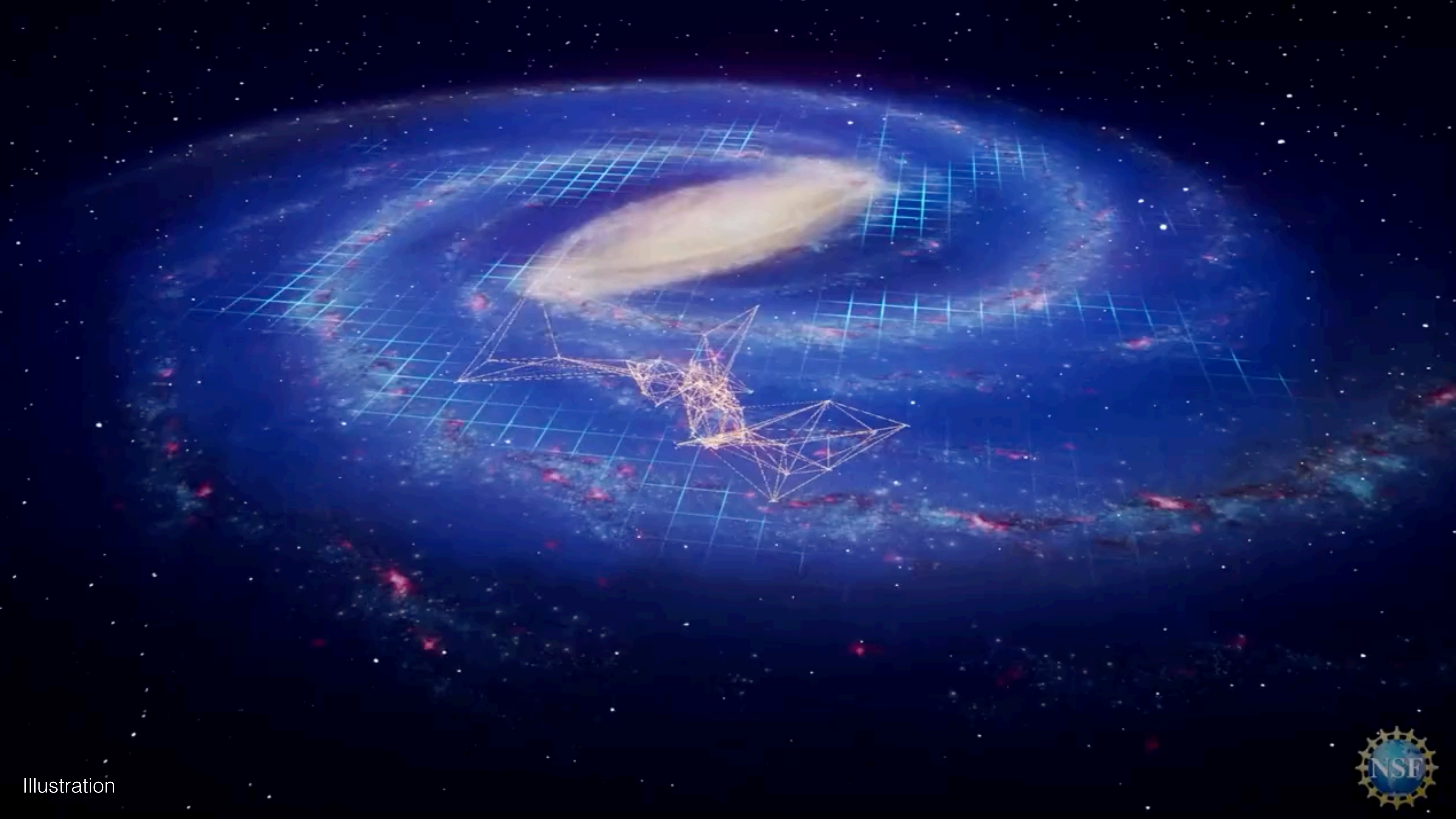
Merging galaxies NGC 2623. NASA/ESA (Hubble)





Pulsar Timing Arrays





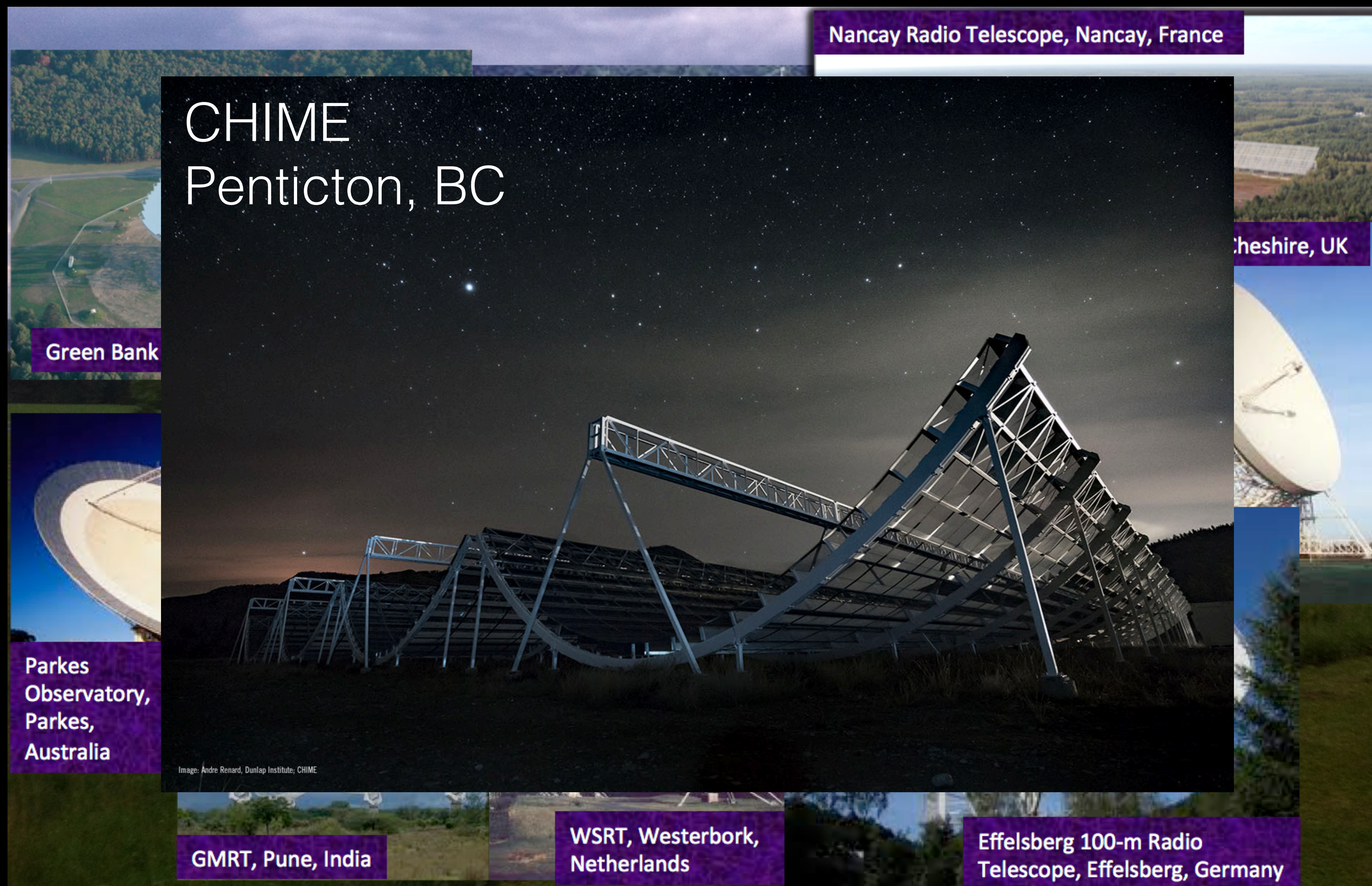
Illustration



An International Radio Telescope Effort

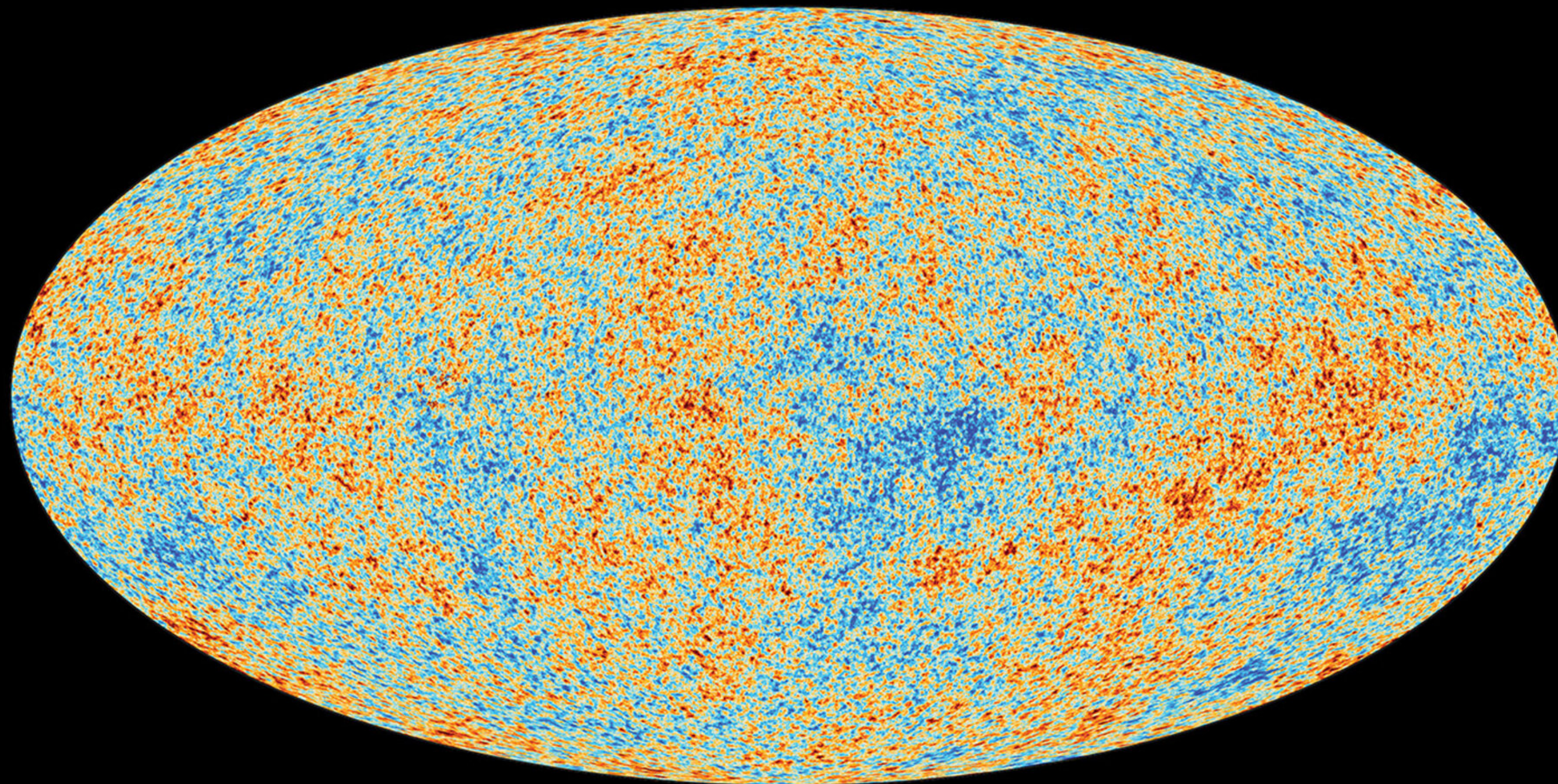


An International Radio Telescope Effort

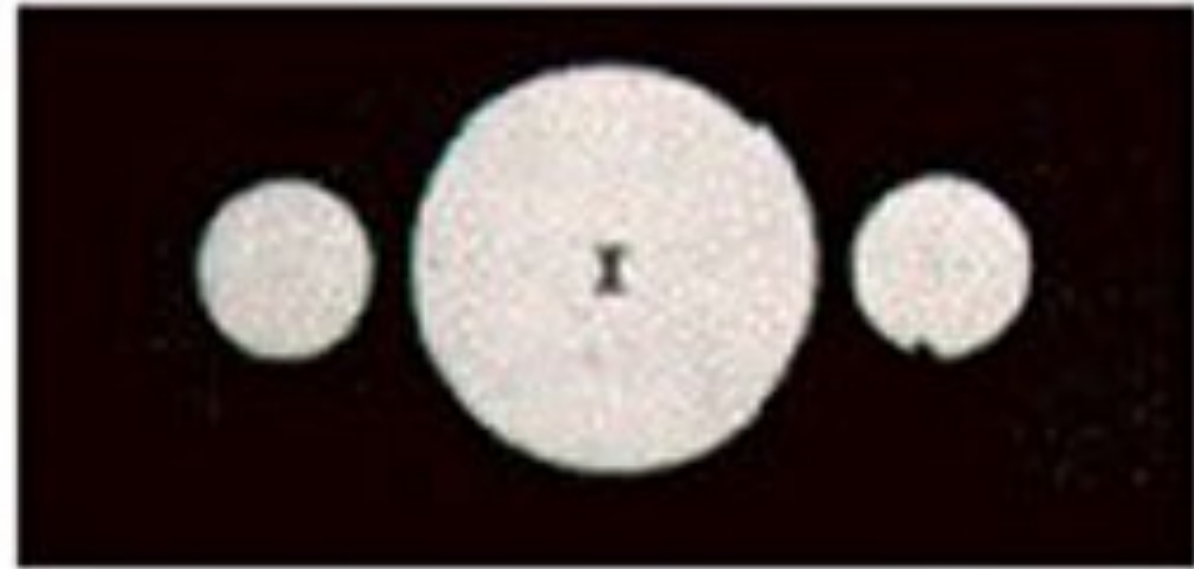


→ THE COSMIC MICROWAVE BACKGROUND

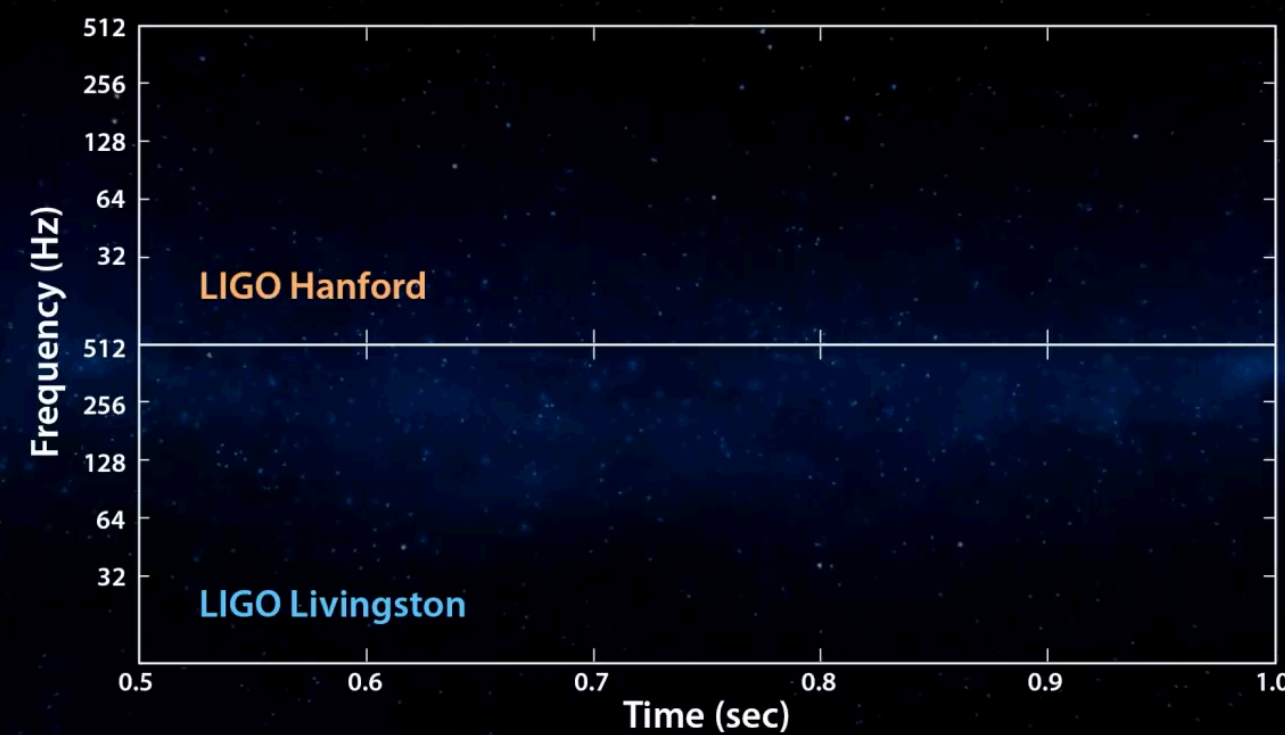
Planck Legacy Release 2018



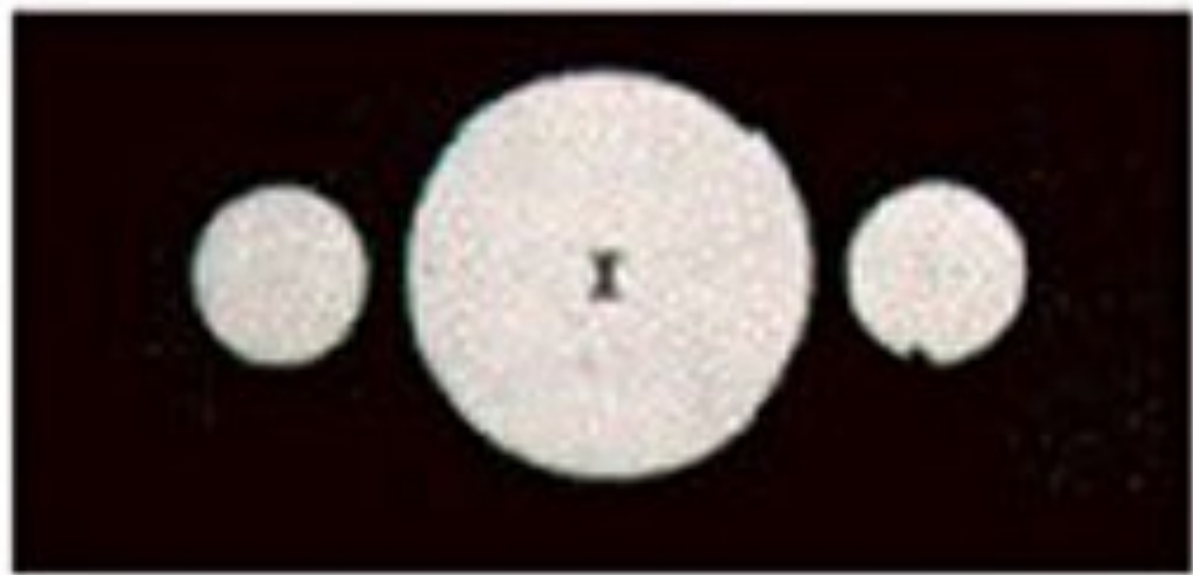
This is just the beginning of gravitational wave astrophysics!



Galileo first sketch
1610



This is just the beginning of gravitational wave astrophysics!

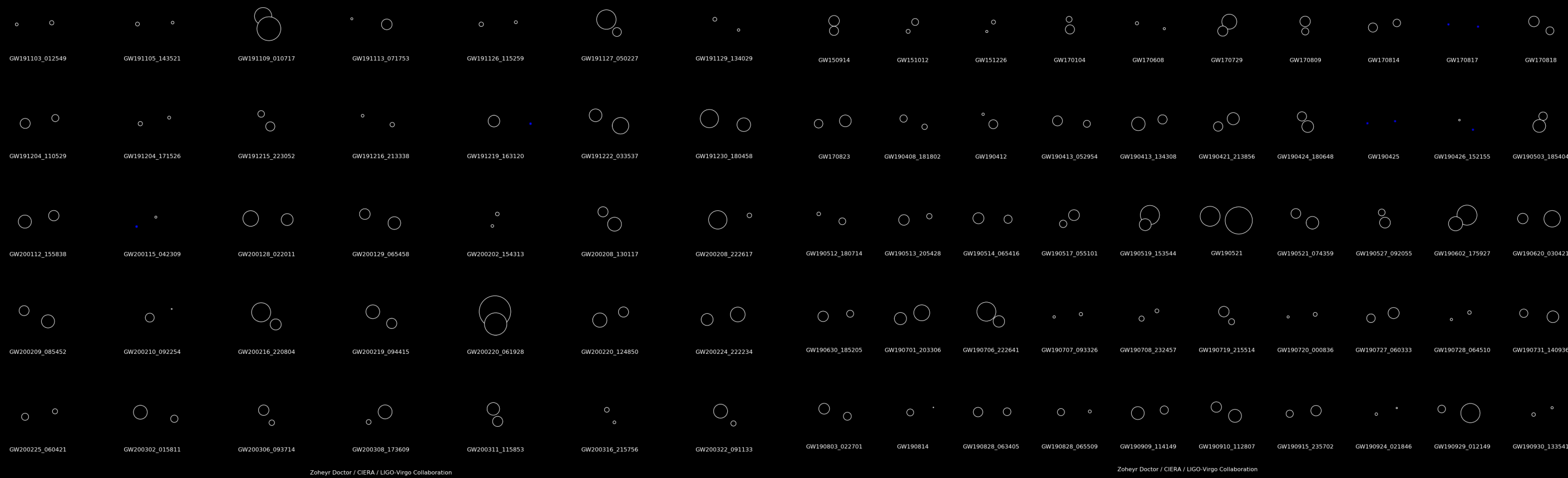
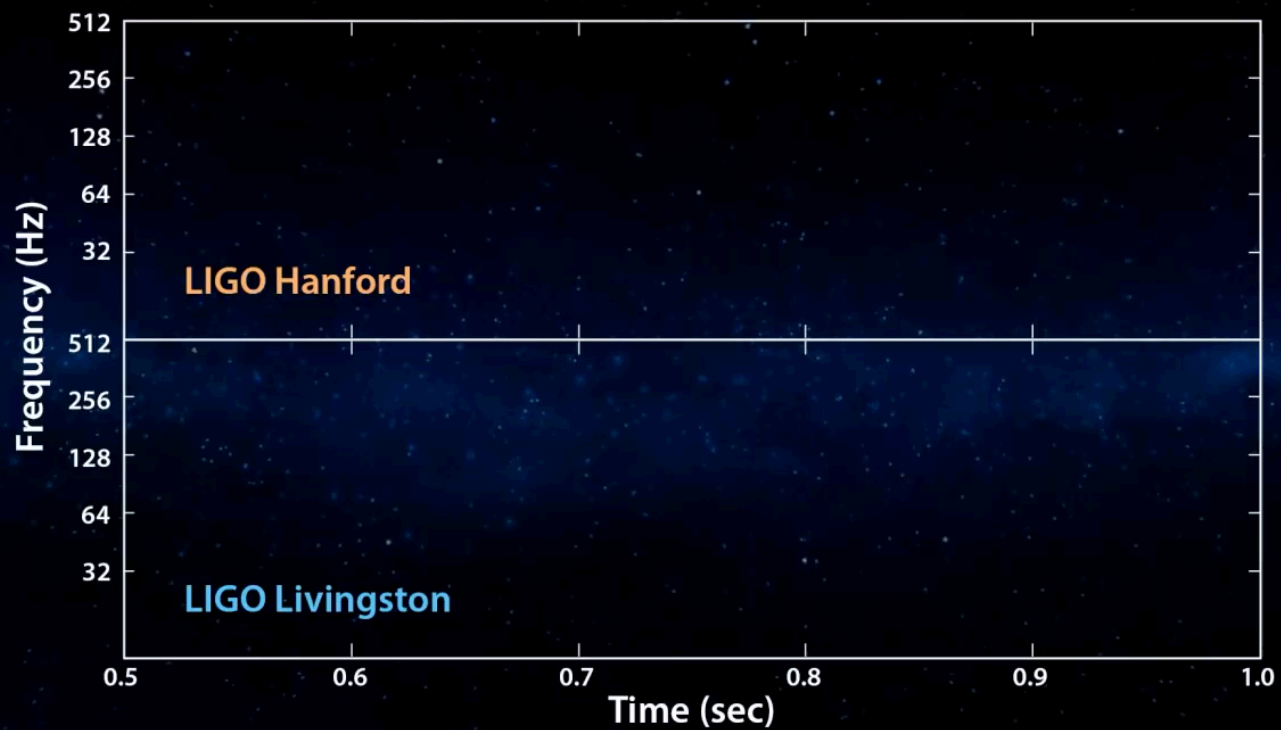


Galileo first sketch
1610

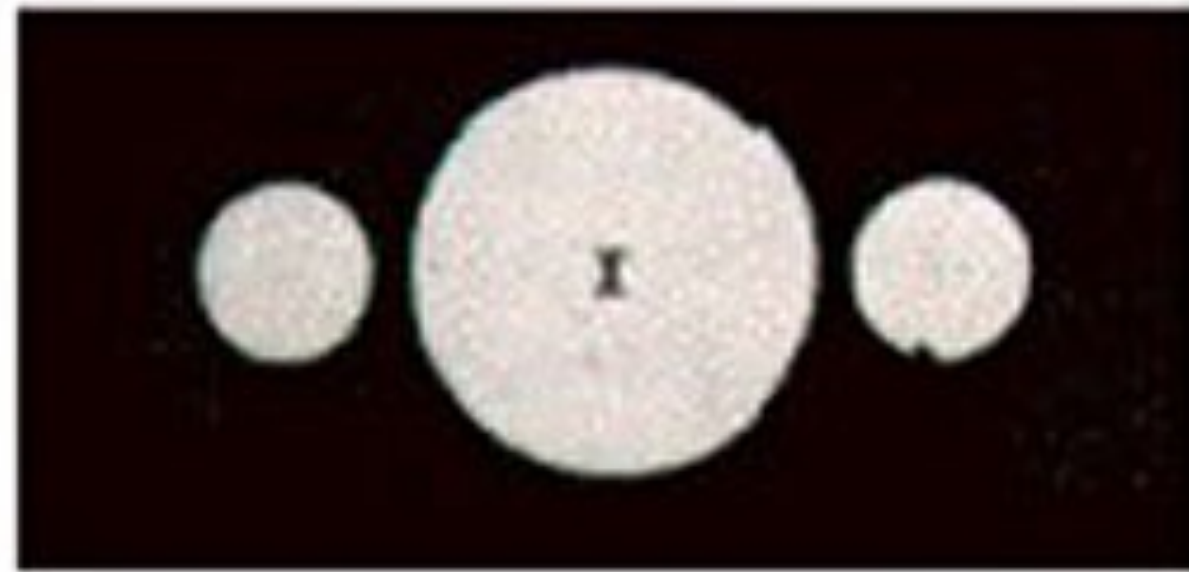


Better telescope
1616

Rice



This is just the beginning of gravitational wave astrophysics!

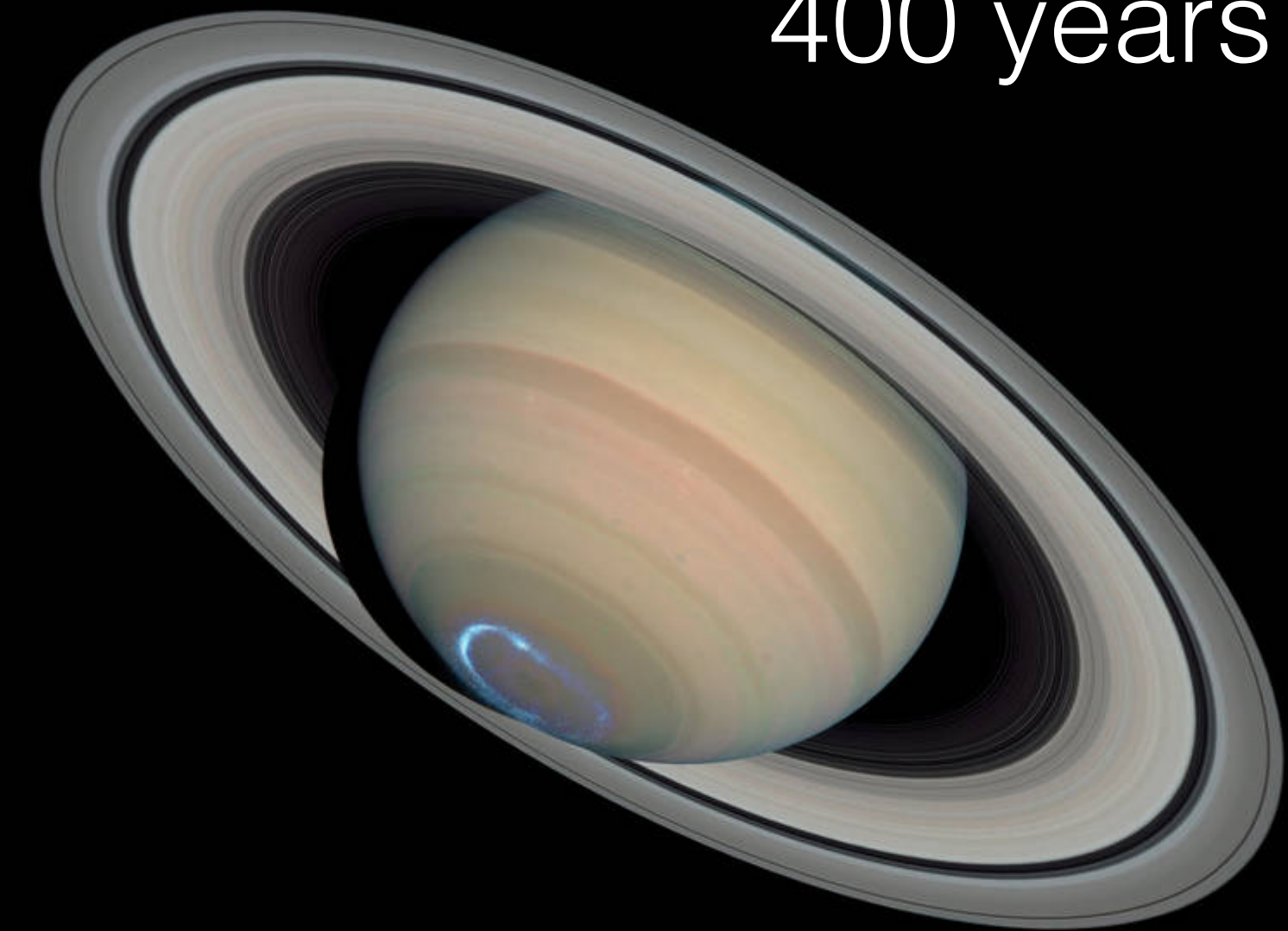


Galileo first sketch
1610

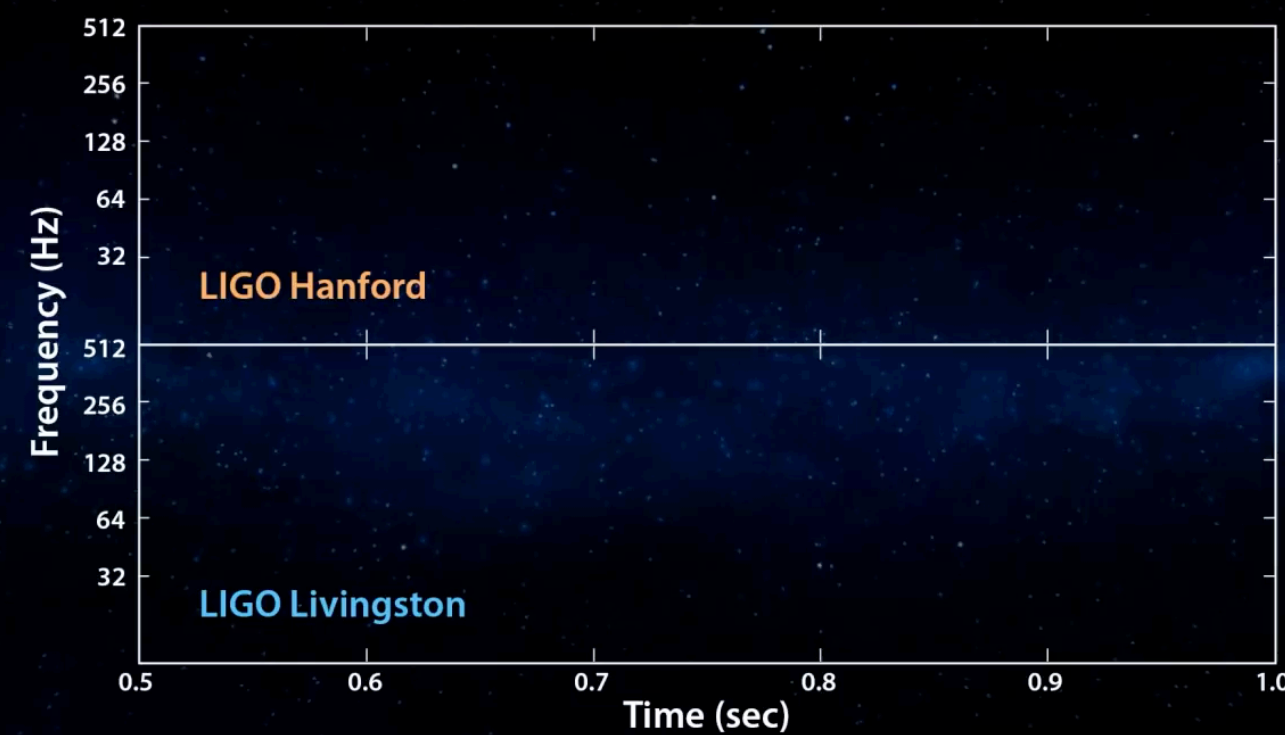


Better telescope
1616

Rice

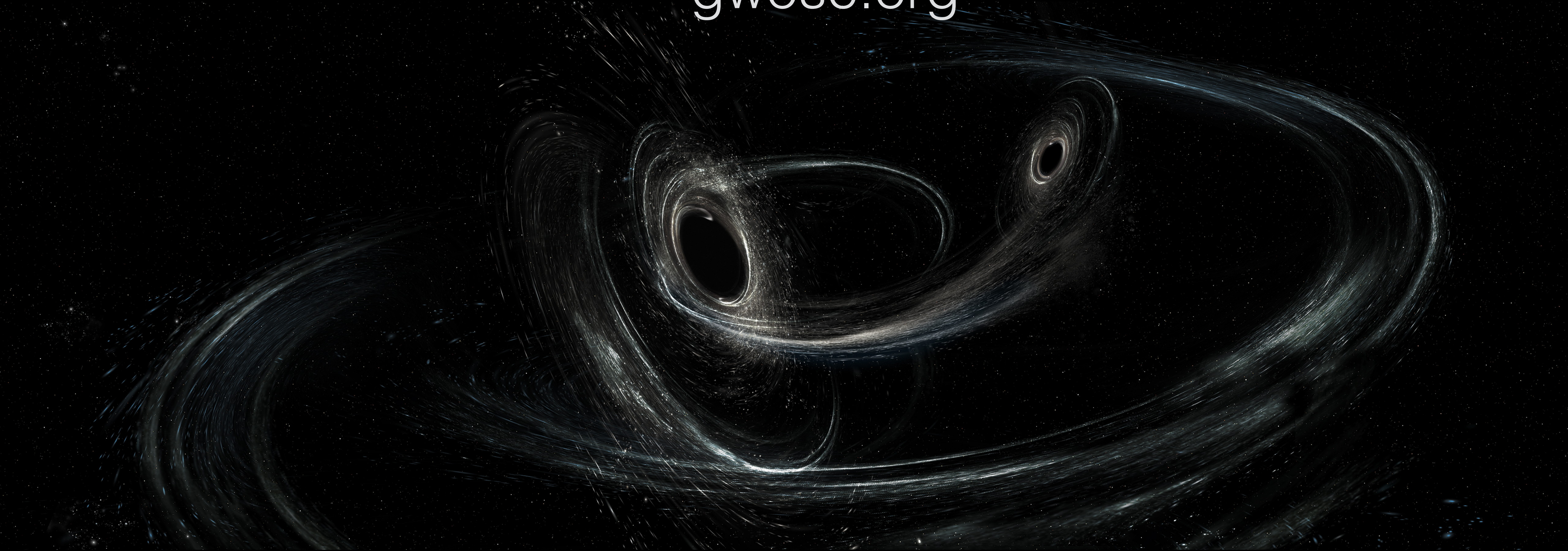


HST



?

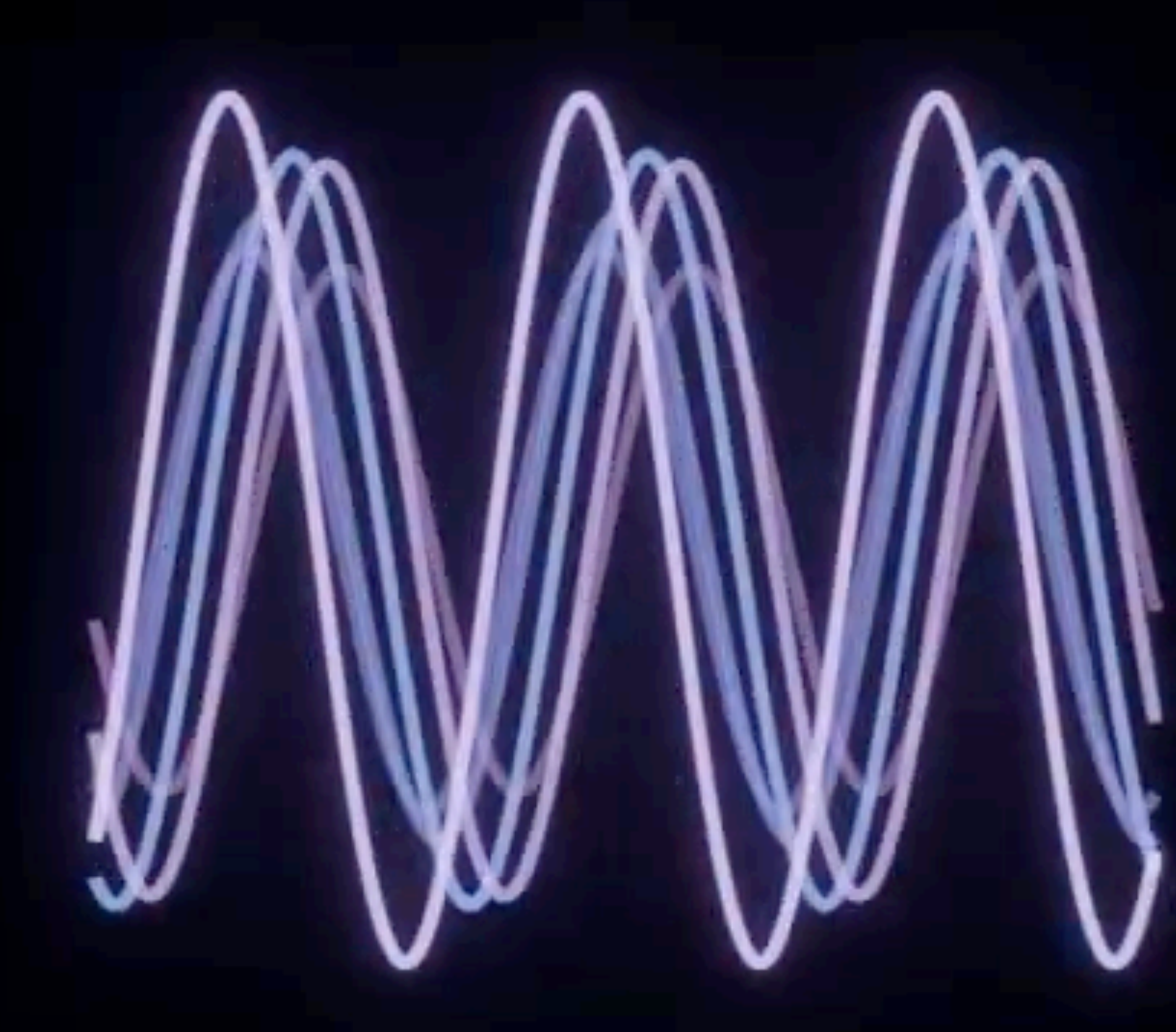
Visit the Gravitational Wave Open Science Centre:
gwosc.org



Help us out on GravitySpy.org!

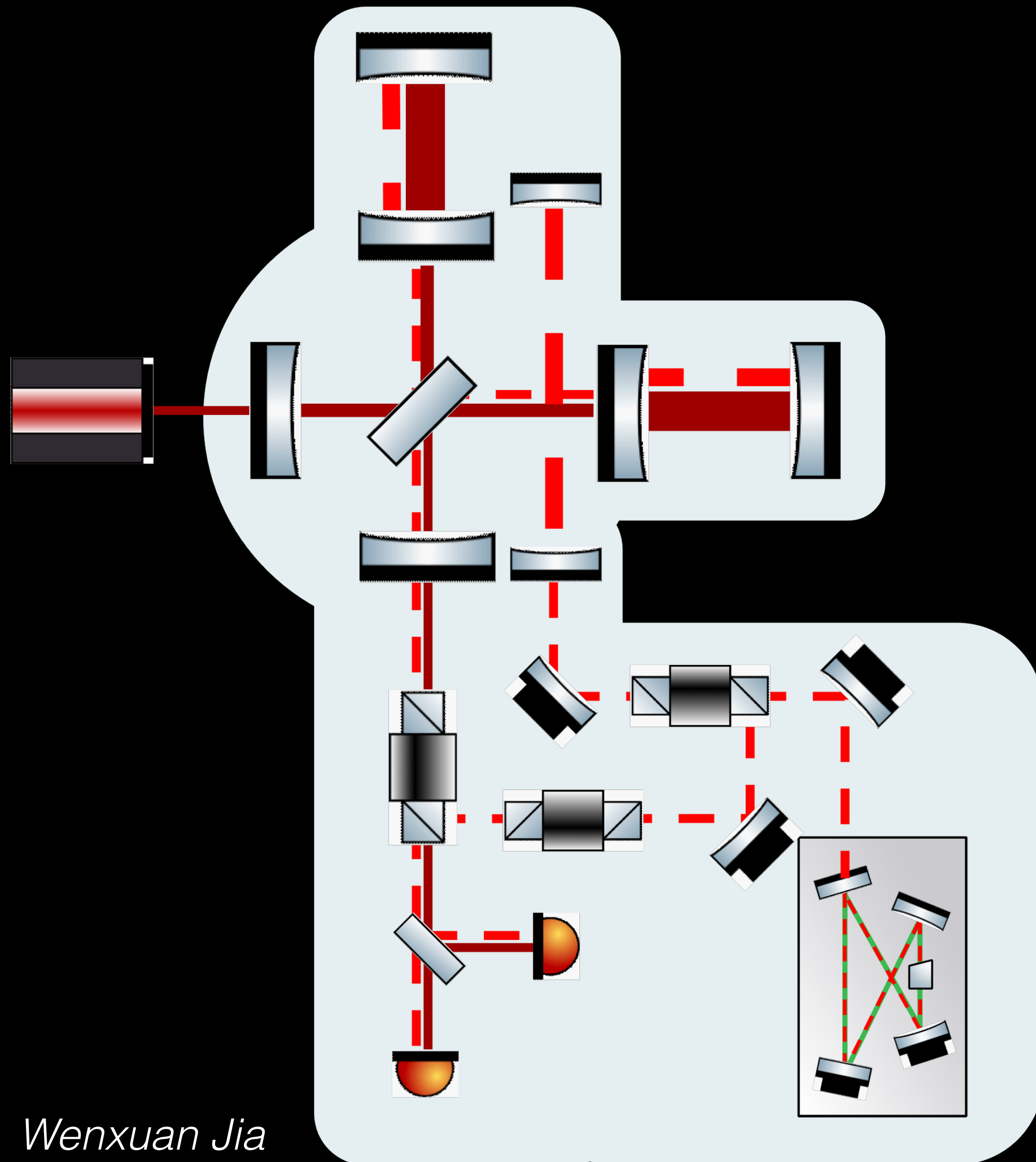
Quantum Physics

But due to quantum physics, there will always be uncertainty (noise) in the light wave



This noise limits LIGO's sensitivity to weak signals

New for O4: a 300 m filter cavity



Wenxuan Jia



LIGO Lab