Multi-wavelength follow up of LIGO/Virgo gravitational wave sources

Om Sharan Salafia







Where are we: LVK observing run timeline



(dcc.ligo.org/G2002127-v20)

O4 run – current status (as of 2023-10-02)

GW source candidates so far:

- 49 significant GW candidates ($\sim 2.6\,{
 m wk^{-1}}$)
- 48 most likely binary black hole (BBH) mergers
- 1 most likely a neutron star black hole (NS-BH) merger
- 0 binary neutron star (BNS) mergers so far

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Network status (from gwosc.org):



Is there a missing BNS problem?



gwosc.org/detector_status



Time-volume covered by BNS search in O4 so far (most sensitive detector): $1.8 \times 10^{-3} \, \mathrm{Gpc^3} \, \mathrm{yr}$

O1+O2+O3: $8.1 \times 10^{-3} \, \mathrm{Gpc^3 \, yr}$

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 Number of BNS detected in O1+O2+O3: 2 (GW170817 and GW190425)

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gwosc.org/detector_status

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- Number of BNS detected in O1+O2+O3: 2 (GW170817 and GW190425)
- Expected number of detections in O4 so far: $2 \times 1.8/8.1 = 0.44$ \rightarrow we must likely wait a few more months for the next BNS

Public Alerts

~∕∥• GraceDB

LIGO/Virgo/KAGRA Public Alerts





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Localization capabilities



 \rightarrow median expected 90% localization area: $100 \deg^2$ (3 det) – $500 \deg^2$ (2 det) (based on the simulations in Frostig et al. 2022)

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But what are we looking for?

EM counterparts of BNS & BH-NS mergers



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Ok, but how does all of this look like in O4?

BNS multi-messenger population model



[Barbieri, Salafia+19, Colombo, Salafia+22]

GRB afterglow model



"Standard afterglow" model

- synchrotron emission only
- GRB170817A-like jet structure
- low ISM density $n=5 imes 10^{-3}\,{\rm cm}^{-3}$
- $\epsilon_{\rm e} = 0.1$, $\epsilon_{\rm B} = 10^{-4}$, p = 2.15
- \leftarrow example light curves

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Afterglows from BNS detected by LIGO-Virgo in O4



Colombo, Salafia et al. 2022] Om S. Salafia – Multi-wavelength follow-up of GW sources 20 MAGIC years symposium, La Palma, 2023

SGRB afterglows at TeV energies

SSC light curves @ 40 Mpc



Inclination angle



Other potential VHE emission mechanisms?

GRB211211A: a long GRB from a compact binary merger



[Mei, ..., Salafia, et al. 2022]

Other potential VHE emission mechanisms?

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Summary

- O4 run started ~ 4 months ago
- Significant GW candidates so far: 48 BBH, 1 NSBH, 0 BNS
- First BNS likely in the next few months (hopefully Virgo will have joined then!)
- Prospects for VHE detection of SGRB external shock in association to GW-detected BNS merger in O4: not promising, but I would love to be proved wrong!
- Potential unforeseen additional VHE counterparts: data needed to contrain them!



Backup slides

Kilonovae from BNS detected by LIGO-Virgo in O4



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The EM counterpart search challenge



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Galaxy-targeted search



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How common is the jet?



GW170817 indicates that large fraction of BNS mergers lead to a jet [Salafia et al. 2022; see also Ghirlanda et al. 2019; Beniamini et al. 2019]

What about BH-NS mergers?

NS tidal disruption in a BH-NS merger



Variety of merger remnants



[Figure: Ascenzi+21]

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Meta-stable neutron star remnants







[see e.g. Piro+17; Salafia+2022. DNS data: Farrow+19]



Abbott+19,20]



[see e.g. Piro+17; **Salafia+2022**. DNS data: Farrow+19; GW data: Abbott+19,20]



[see e.g. Piro+17; **Salafia+2022**. DNS data: Farrow+19; GW data: Abbott+19,20]

Marginalizing over EoS uncertainty



(Assuming BH remnant + disk needed for jet launching) [Salafia et al. 2022]

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Need to specify:

- mass distribution, $P(m_1, m_2) \propto d^2 N/dm_1 dm_2$
- equation of state (EoS) of neutron star matter, $p = p(\varepsilon)$
- cosmic merger rate density, $\dot{\rho}_{\rm BNS}(z) = {\rm d}^2 N/{\rm d}t {\rm d}V(z)$

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- cosmic merger rate density, $\dot{\rho}_{\rm BNS}(z) = {\rm d}^2 N/{\rm d}t {\rm d}V(z)$: assume simple t^{-1} delay time distribution convolved to cosmic SFH

GRB prompt emission model



Jet

- "Blandford-Znajek" (require BH+disk remnant)
- $E_{\rm jet}/M_{\rm disk}c^2\sim 10^{-3}$ (Salafia & Giacomazzo 2020)

"Internal dissipation"

- $\bullet \ \ {\rm require} \ \Gamma > 10$
- 15% energy into γ -rays
- fixed comov. spectrum, $3\,\rm keV$ peak

"Cocoon shock breakout"

- GRB170817A-like luminosity and spectrum
- visible only if $\theta_{\rm view} < 60^{\circ}$

[Colombo+22, see also Salafia+15, Ghirlanda+19, Salafia+20, Salafia+23]



[GRHD simulation from Radice et al. 2016]



• Tidal: $M_{\rm ej} \lesssim 10^{-2} \, {
m M}_{\odot}$, $Y_{\rm e} < 0.2$, $v_{\rm ej} \gtrsim 0.2 \, {
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- Long-lived remnant oscillations: $M_{\rm ej} \sim 10^{-2} \, {\rm M_{\odot}}$,

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Kilonova ejecta – disk



[GR ν MHD simulation from Siegel et al. 2018]

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• ν -driven: $M_{\rm ej} \lesssim 10^{-4} \, {\rm M}_{\odot}$, $Y_{\rm e} > 0.2$, $v_{\rm ej} \gtrsim 0.2 \, {\rm c}$

Kilonova ejecta – disk



[GR ν MHD simulation from Siegel et al. 2018]

- ν -driven: $M_{\rm ej} \lesssim 10^{-4} \, {\rm M}_{\odot}$, $Y_{\rm e} > 0.2$, $v_{\rm ej} \gtrsim 0.2 \, {\rm c}$
- Viscous: $M_{
 m ej}\gtrsim 10^{-2}\,{
 m M}_{\odot}$, $Y_{
 m e}\sim 0.1-0.3$, $v_{
 m ej}\lesssim 0.1\,{
 m c}$

Kilonova emission

 Decompressing NS material → r-process nucleosynthesis (Lattimer & Schramm 1977). Decay of products heats up ejecta: Kilonova emission (Li & Paczynski 1998).

Heating rate:

$$\dot{\epsilon} \sim \dot{\epsilon}_0 (t/t_0)^{-\alpha}$$

where $\dot{\epsilon}_0 \sim 10^{16} \,\mathrm{erg \, s^{-1} \, g^{-1}}$, $t_0 = 1 \,\mathrm{s}$ (e.g. Korobkin et al. 2012) and $\alpha \sim 1.3$ (from Fermi's theory of β decay, see Metzger+2010, Hotokezaka+2017)



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- Ejecta composition depends on electron fraction: Lanthanides produced if $Y_{\rm e} < 0.2$

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- Composition has little effect on heating rate, but big difference in opacity and hence photon diffusion time scale: $\kappa \gtrsim 10 \, \mathrm{cm}^2 \, \mathrm{g}^{-1}$ if Lanthanides present; $\kappa \lesssim \mathrm{few} \, \mathrm{cm}^2 \, \mathrm{g}^{-1}$ otherwise



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Kilonova emission properties

Simple expanding shell toy model

Optical depth:

$$\tau \sim \frac{\kappa M_{\rm ej} \Delta R}{4\pi R^2 \Delta R} = \frac{\kappa M_{\rm ej}}{4\pi (v_{\rm ej} t)^2}$$

Diffusion time:

$$t_{\rm diff} \sim \frac{R}{(c/\tau)} = \frac{\kappa M_{\rm ej}}{4\pi c v_{\rm ej} t}$$

Peak time:

$$t_{\rm diff} = t \sim t_{\rm peak} \rightarrow t_{\rm peak} \sim \sqrt{\frac{\kappa M}{4\pi c v_{\rm ej}}} = 1.5 \,\mathrm{d} \left(\frac{M_{\rm ej}}{10^{-2} \mathrm{M}_{\odot}}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{v_{\rm ej}}{0.1c}\right)^{-1/2} \left(\frac{\kappa}{1 \mathrm{cm}^2/\mathrm{g}}\right)^{1/2}$$

 \rightarrow extremely fast transient

Kilonova emission properties

Peak luminosity:

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$$L_{\rm peak} \sim \dot{\epsilon}(t_{\rm peak}) M_{\rm ej} \sim 4 \times 10^{40} \, {\rm erg/s} \left(\frac{M_{\rm ej}}{10^{-2} {\rm M}_{\odot}}\right)^{1-\alpha/2} \left(\frac{v_{\rm ej}}{0.1c}\right)^{\alpha/2} \left(\frac{\kappa}{1 {\rm cm}^2/{\rm g}}\right)^{-\alpha/2}$$

\rightarrow Less luminous than a supernova

Peak effective temperature:

$$L_{\rm peak} \sim 4\pi (v_{\rm ej} t_{\rm peak})^2 \sigma_{\rm SB} T_{\rm eff}^4$$
$$\rightarrow T_{\rm eff} \sim 5500 \,\mathrm{K} \left(\frac{M_{\rm ej}}{10^{-2} \mathrm{M}_{\odot}}\right)^{-\alpha/8} \left(\frac{v_{\rm ej}}{0.1c}\right)^{(\alpha-2)/8} \left(\frac{\kappa}{1 \mathrm{cm}^2/\mathrm{g}}\right)^{-(\alpha+2)/8}$$

 \rightarrow Optical – Near Infrared

Waveform & SNR



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Kilonova model

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- three components, anisotropic, numerical-relativity-informed
- Arnett-like model, grey opacity in angular bins

[Perego+17, Barbieri+19, Breschi+21]