

# GW190521

The most massive black hole collision observed so far

## Discovery

21 May 2019

## Distance

17 billion light years away

## 3 Detectors

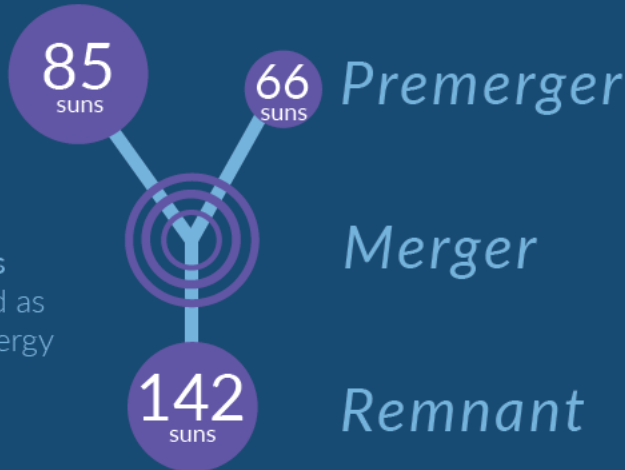
Three detectors made the observation: the two LIGO detectors in the USA and Virgo in Italy.

Binary Black Hole Merger

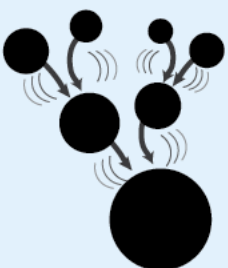


High Masses

This is the heaviest pair of black holes which have ever been observed colliding.

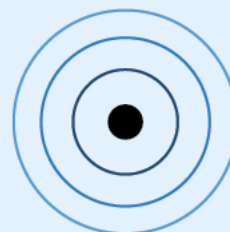


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## Origin Story

The black holes which collided to make GW190521 are so massive that we're not sure how they were formed. One option is that they are both the result of previous black hole collisions.



## Ringdown

The black hole formed in the collision continues to vibrate after the merger, and "rings" like a bell for a while. This lets us test our theories.



Once again Einstein's General Relativity passed this test.