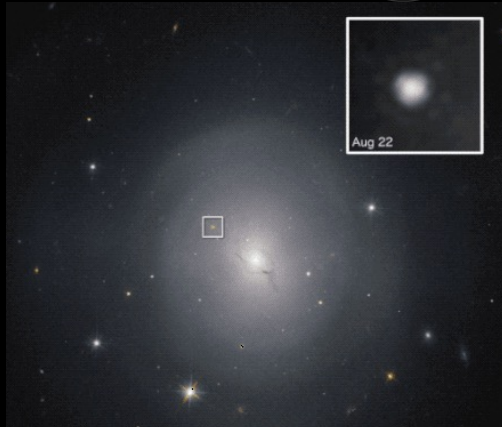
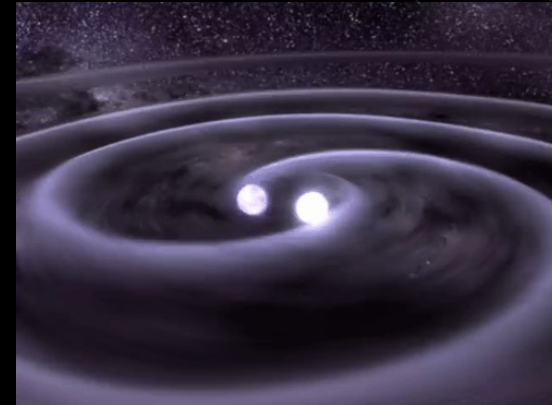
The background features a dark field with several overlapping circular patterns. A prominent scale on the left side ranges from 40 to 260 in increments of 10. Various circular elements, including solid and dashed lines, and arrows are scattered across the scene, suggesting a technical or astronomical theme.

AUTONOMOUS REAL-TIME DECISION-MAKING IN THE ERA OF MULTI-MESSENGER ASTRONOMY

NIHARIKA "ARI" SRAVAN
DREXEL UNIVERSITY



Electromagnetic
Waves

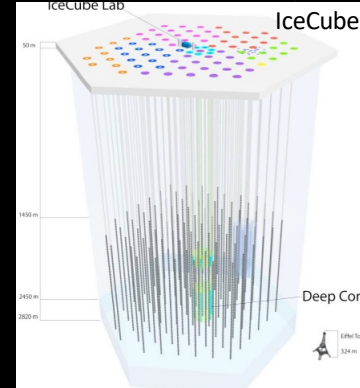


Gravitational
Waves





Electromagnetic waves

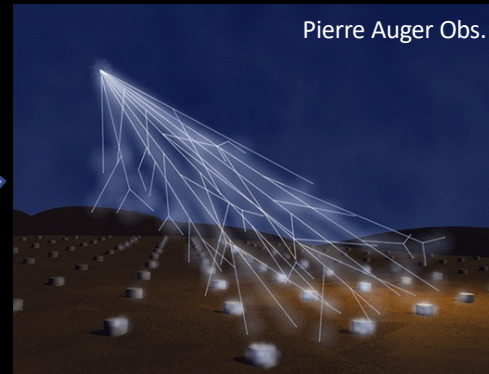


Neutrinos

MULTI-MESSENGER ASTRONOMY (MMA)



Gravitational Waves



Cosmic Rays

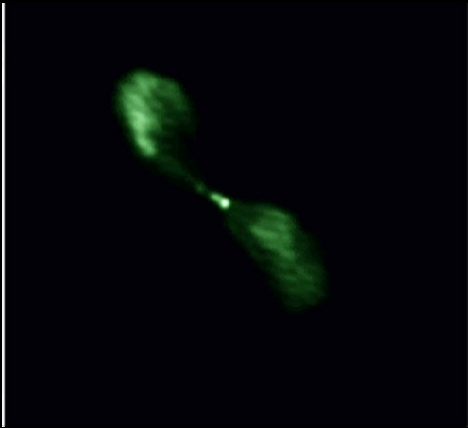
Supernovae



Kilonovae



Active Galactic Nuclei

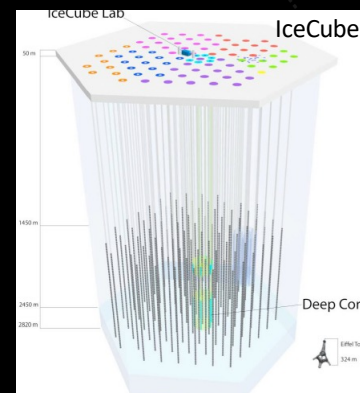


Tidal Disruption Events





Electromagnetic waves

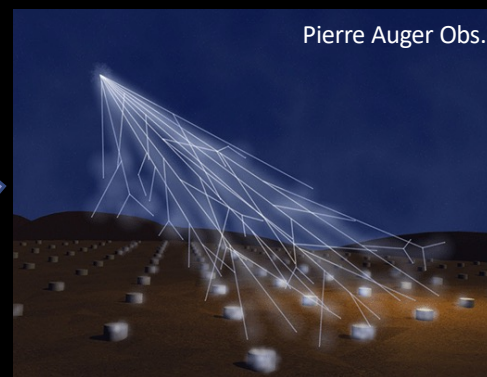


Neutrinos

MULTI-MESSENGER ASTRONOMY (MMA)

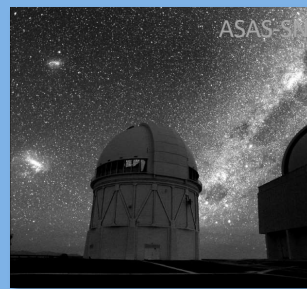


Gravitational Waves



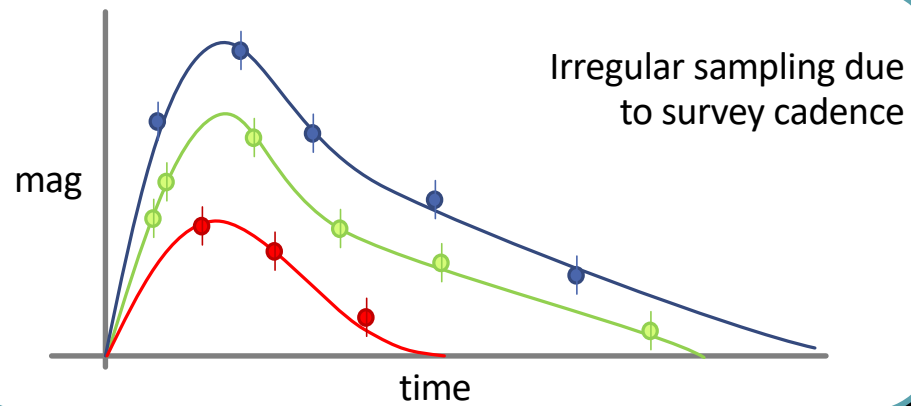
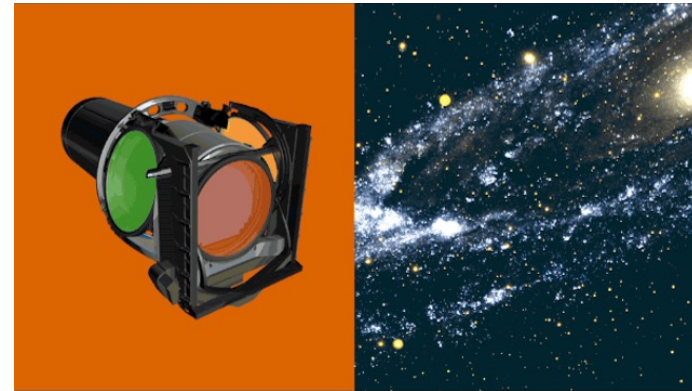
Cosmic Rays

CRITICAL COMPONENT ARE
SURVEYS THAT SCAN THE SKY AT
SET INTERVALS (CADENCE)



MULTI-COLOR LIGHT CURVES

(MULTI-CHANNEL TIME SERIES)



RUBIN OBSERVATORY



- #1 flagship of US community, recommended by National Research Council since 2010, jointly funded by NSF and DOE
- Ten year survey (LSST) starting 2026
- ~ 10 million alerts/night or 20TB per night
- Broadcast worldwide within 60s
- 37 billion light curves
 - 6 filters (u,g,r,i,z,y or 320–1050 nm, 3 day cadence)



25TB per day

RUBIN OBSERVATORY



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ZWICKY TRANSIENT FACILITY (ZTF)

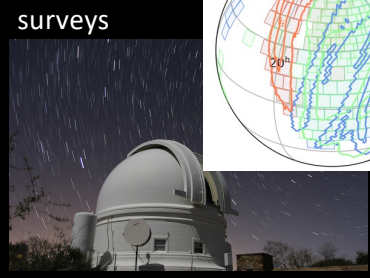
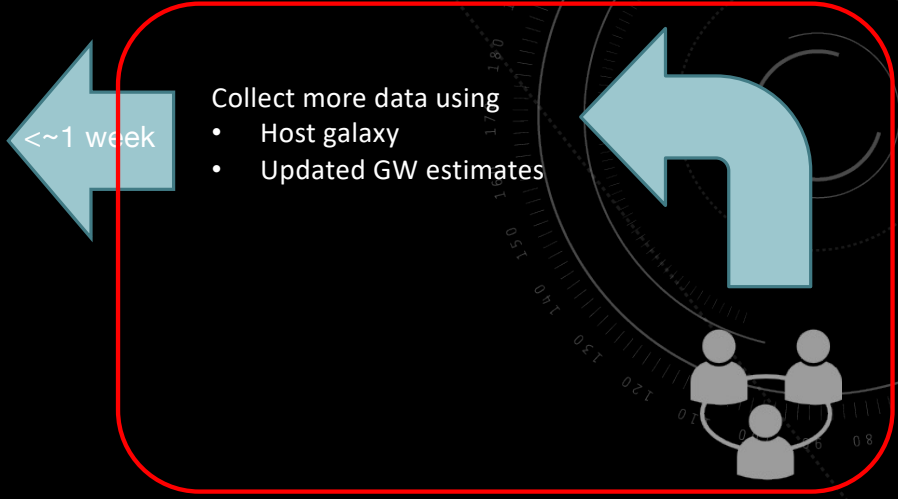
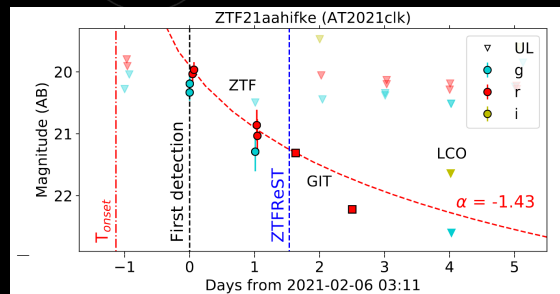
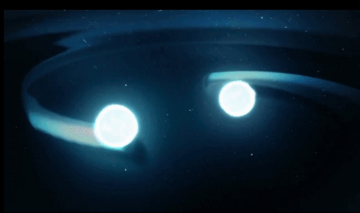


- Pathfinder to Rubin especially for transients
 - Operating at 10% Rubin scale
- Alerts broadcast within ~20 mins
 - Only survey with public real-time alerts
- 2 billion light curves and counting...
 - public survey in 2 filters (g,r, 2 day cadence)
 - private-partnership in i (+ other programs)

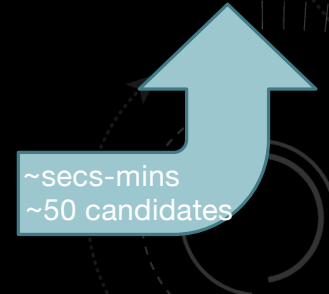


MULTI-MESSENGER SCIENCE

CURRENT PROTOCOLS AND LIMITATIONS

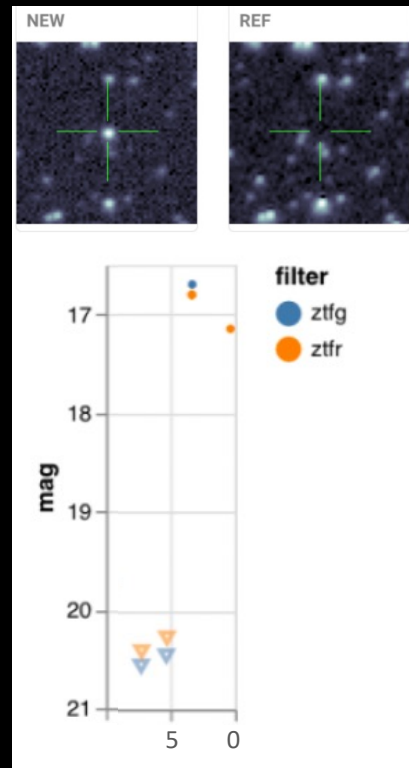
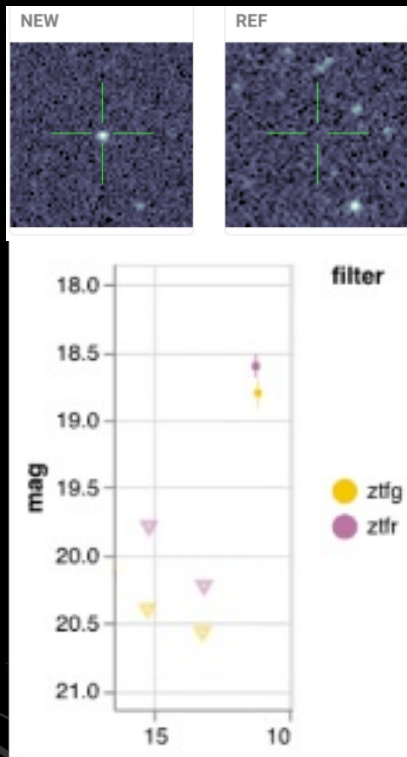


- Automated vetting
- ML real-bogus classifier
 - Not a known source (e.g. AGN)
 - Evolution rate



- Public via GCN
- Event time
 - Sky localization
 - Distance

~50 candidates



Goal:

- Use limited resources to acquire more information to:
 - Identify the event
 - True event prob < 0.05
 - Maximize constraints on interesting light curve physics
- Additional follow-up is critical!
- Classifiers don't answer what to do next and how to adapt

Process needs to be:

- ✓ Free from fatigue/bias
- ✓ Low-latency
- ✓ Scalable

BY MID 2023

LVK will operate at twice the sensitivity

- 50-250 detections a year compared to 20 last time
- Localizations will not improve by much

BY LATE 2025

Rubin will come online and produce 10x as many candidates for human experts to analyze

Follow-up resources will not increase at nearly the same rate

Current protocol not sustainable or suitable to get at statistics



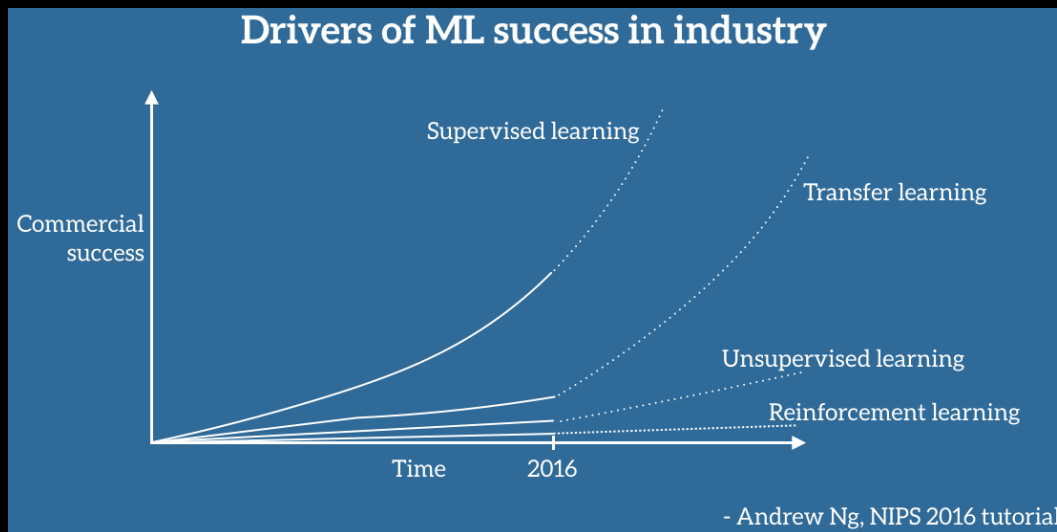


AUTONOMOUS REAL-TIME DECISION-MAKING

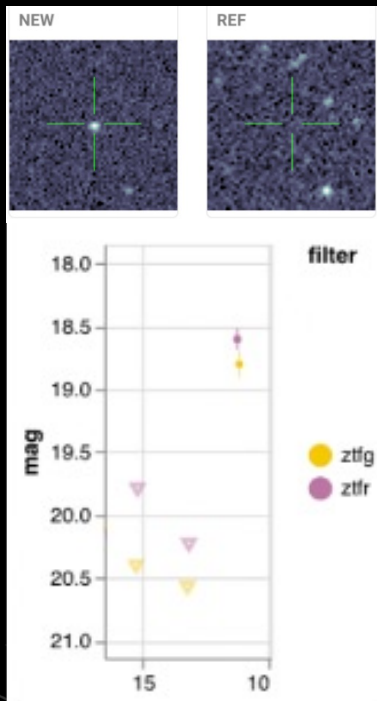
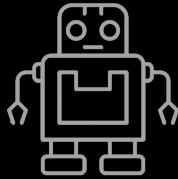
DECISION MAKING UNDER UNCERTAINTY

- Classically: Optimal experiment design
- Contemporary ML: Reinforcement learning, optimal sensing

Kirstine Smith (1878-1939)



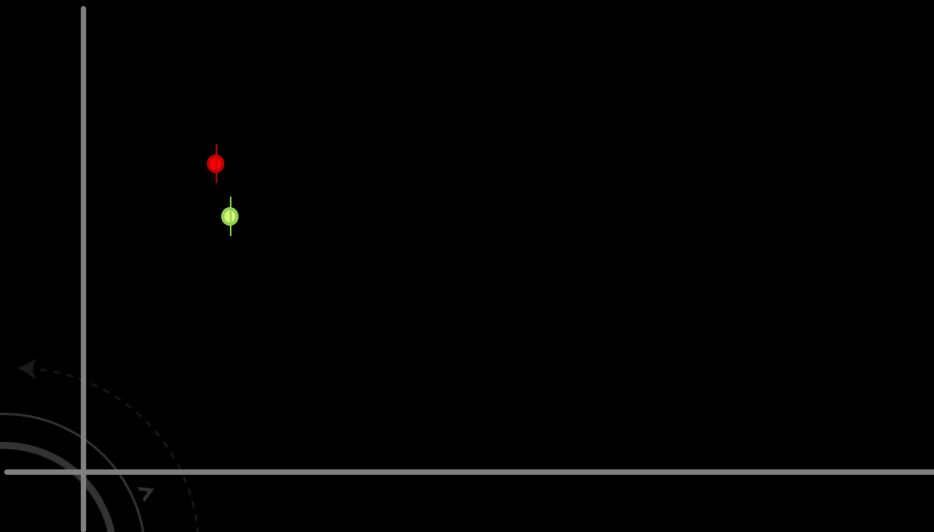
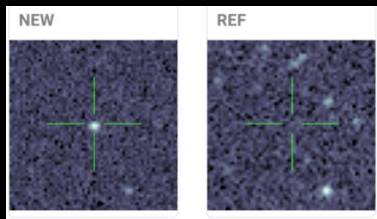
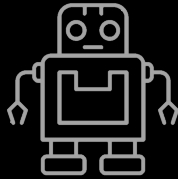
~50 candidates



Goal:

- Use limited resources to acquire more information to:
 - Identify the event
 - Maximize constraints on interesting light curve physics

~50 candidates



Goal:

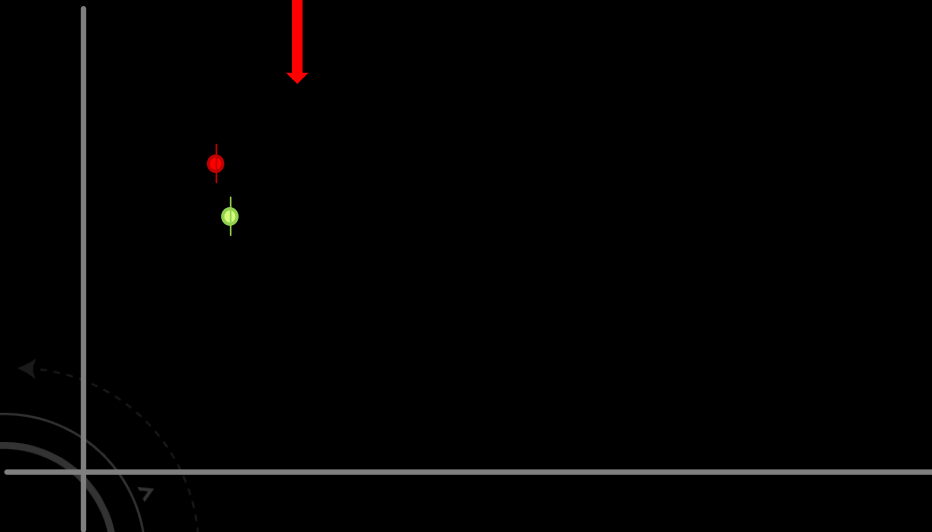
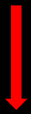
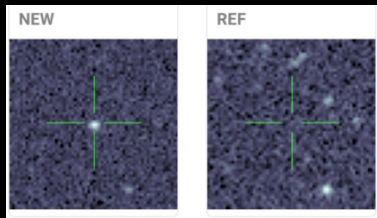
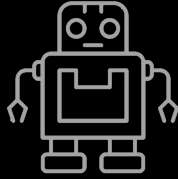
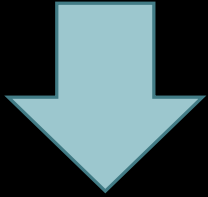
- Use limited resources to acquire more information to:
 - Identify the event
 - Maximize constraints on interesting light curve physics

Step 1:

Define *state space*

- e.g. observed multi-channel light curves

~50 candidates



Goal:

- Use limited resources to acquire more information to:
 - Identify the event
 - Maximize constraints on interesting light curve physics

Step 2:

Define *action* space

- e.g. add data in {g, r, g+r, do nothing}

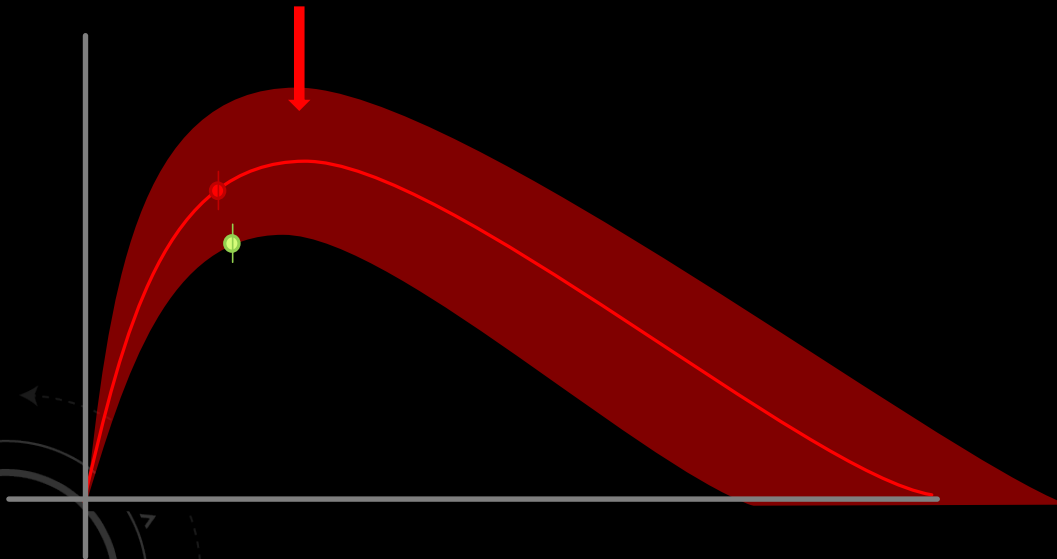
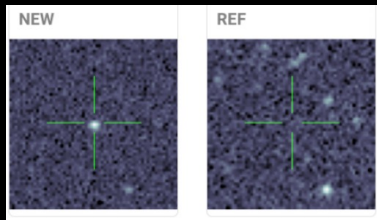
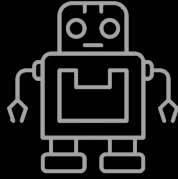
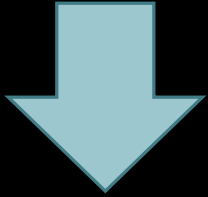
In general, actions can be:

Continuous

Stochastic

With variable cost and/or subject to budget

~50 candidates



Goal:

- Use limited resources to acquire more information to:
 - Identify the event
 - Maximize constraints on interesting light curve physics

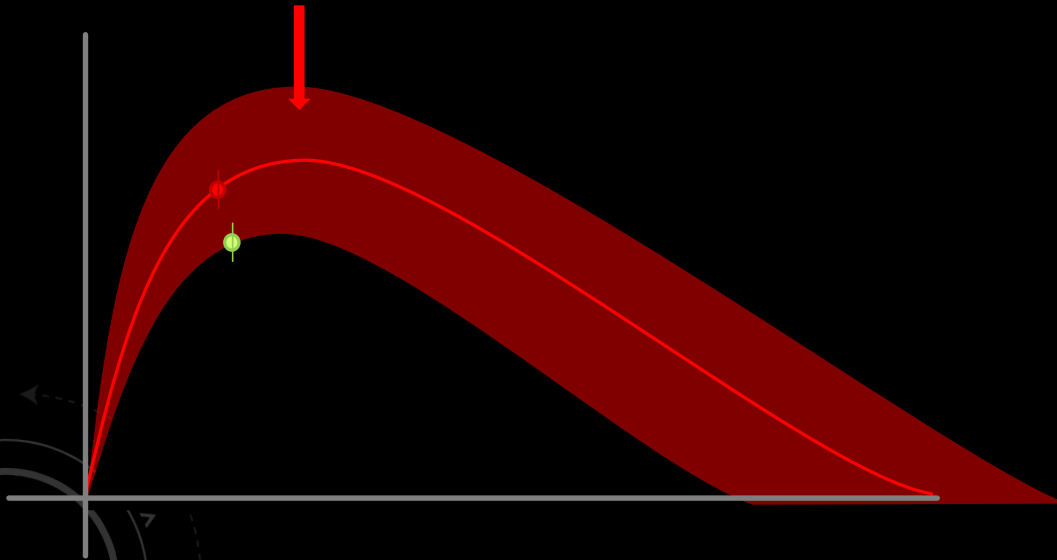
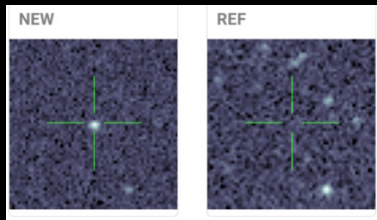
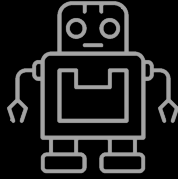
Step 3:

Estimate *outcome states* given actions

Dynamics/transition:

In general can be unknown and/or stochastic

~50 candidates



Goal:

- Use limited resources to acquire more information to:
 - Identify the event
 - Maximize constraints on interesting light curve physics

Step 4:

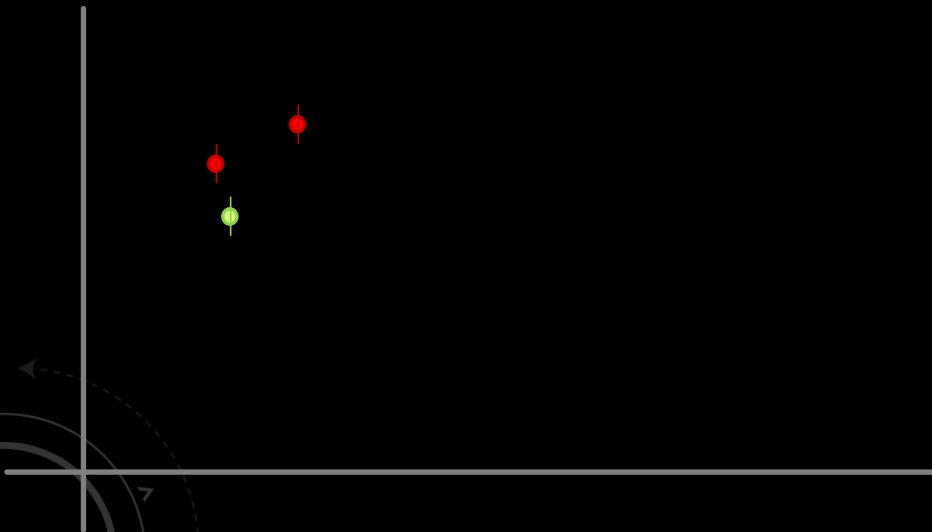
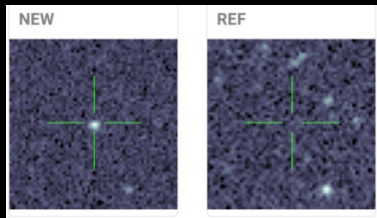
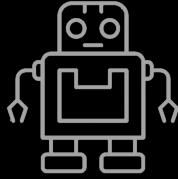
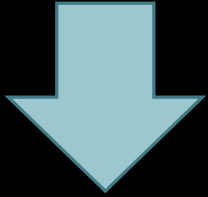
Estimate *utility* of outcome states:

- classification accuracy, TPR, F1-score, etc
- improvement in physics model parameters
- all of the above

In general can be stochastic

Your science!

~50 candidates



Goal:

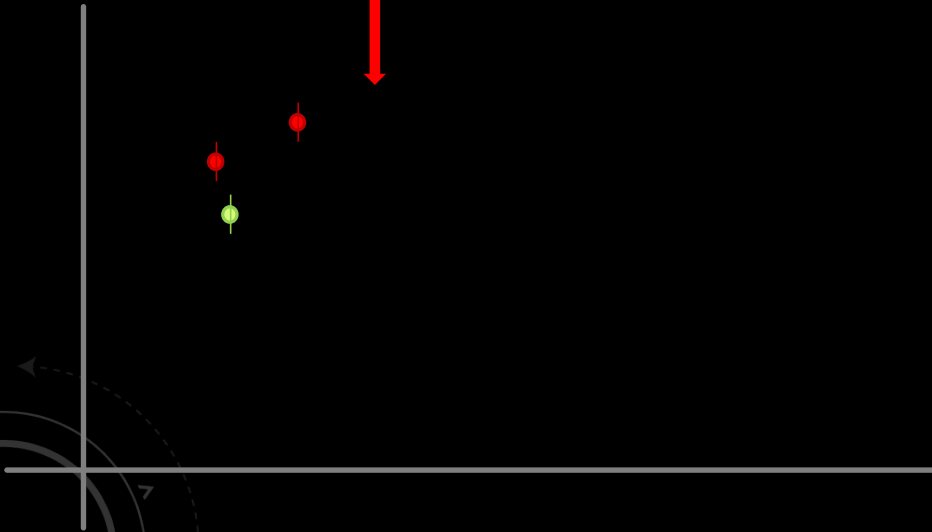
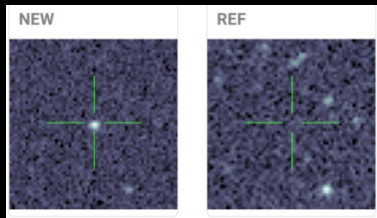
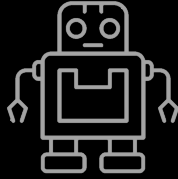
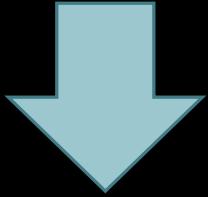
- Use limited resources to acquire more information to:
 - Identify the event
 - Maximize constraints on interesting light curve physics

Step 5:

Take action according to *policy*

- e.g. greedy policy: take action with maximum reward; does not guarantee optimal series of actions
- Commonly $\text{argmax}_a Q(s,a)$

~50 candidates



Goal:

- Use limited resources to acquire more information to:
 - Identify the event
 - Maximize constraints on interesting light curve physics

Step 6:

Adapt to new information
(inc. acquisition failure/latency, survey data)

Finish when episode ends or exhausted budget or
repeat forever



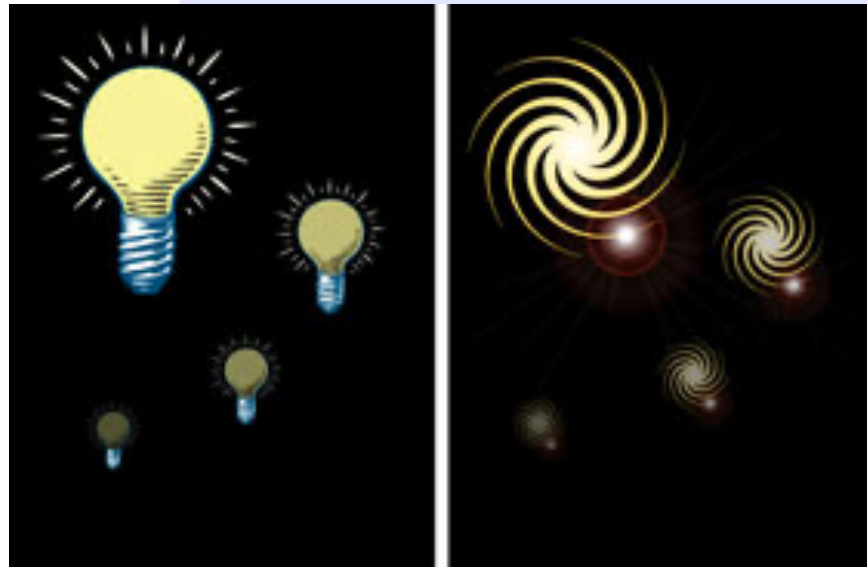
EXAMPLE 1:

MEASURING EXPANSION OF THE UNIVERSE

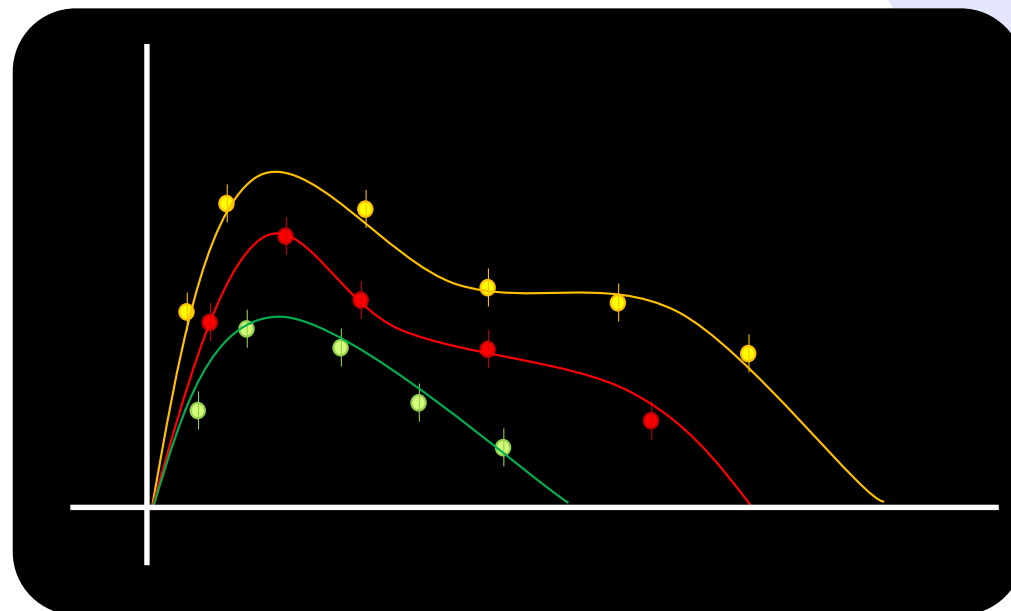
Type Ia Supernovae

Constrain cosmological parameters:
Hubble constant, Dark Energy equation of state, ...

Low redshift samples constrain local
large-scale structure properties:
growth rate, velocity flows



Real-time SN Ia LC
augmentation to
maximize cosmology

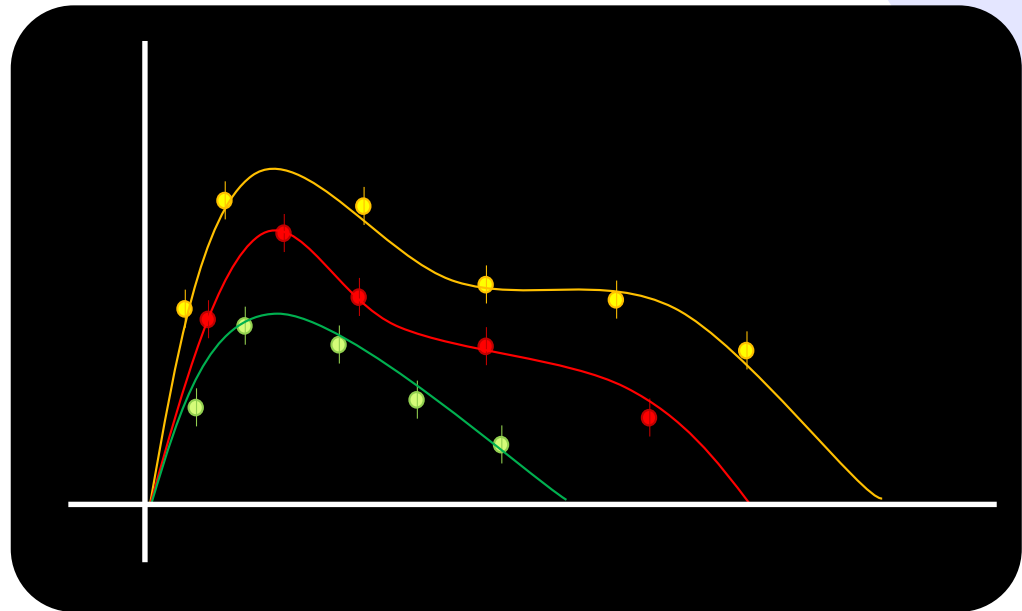


x_0, x_1, c are light
curve fit parameters
(z is spectroscopic)



Cosmology is
 $f(x_0, x_1, c, z)$ for a
sample of SNe

Real-time SN Ia LC
augmentation to
maximize cosmology



Minimize uncertainty on
light curve fit parameters
(in quadrature)



Minimize uncertainty
on cosmology



Problem statement:

Augment photometry to branch-normal SN Ia light curves from ZTF-I public survey (g and r) in g, r, and i to minimize net uncertainty on SALT2 parameters

Problem statement:

Augment photometry to branch-normal SN Ia light curves from ZTF-I public survey (g and r) in g, r, and i to minimize net uncertainty on SALT2 parameters

i-band important for precisely estimating H_0 (Burns+ 2018)

Second peak could help probe SN Ia explosion mechanisms (Folatelli+ 2010)

Data in UV or IR can help better calibrate models (Milne+ 2015)

Algorithm

Non-stationary MDP with finite horizon (60 day episodes)

State space: Observed photometry and expected data from survey (stochastic, 10x monte carlo). Remaining budget allocated randomly*

Action space: {no action, g, r, i, gr, ri, ig, gri}

Deterministic reward model: SALT2 + photo z A-optimality**

Deterministic dynamics model

Upper limit using 2-D Gaussian Process regression over full LC

For real time estimated with encoder-decoder LSTM trained on 10^5 simulated ZTF SNe Ia (slightly lower performance)

New state simulated using 2-D Gaussian Process fit to full LC and fed back the next day

Deterministic on-policy, fixed budget and unit cost

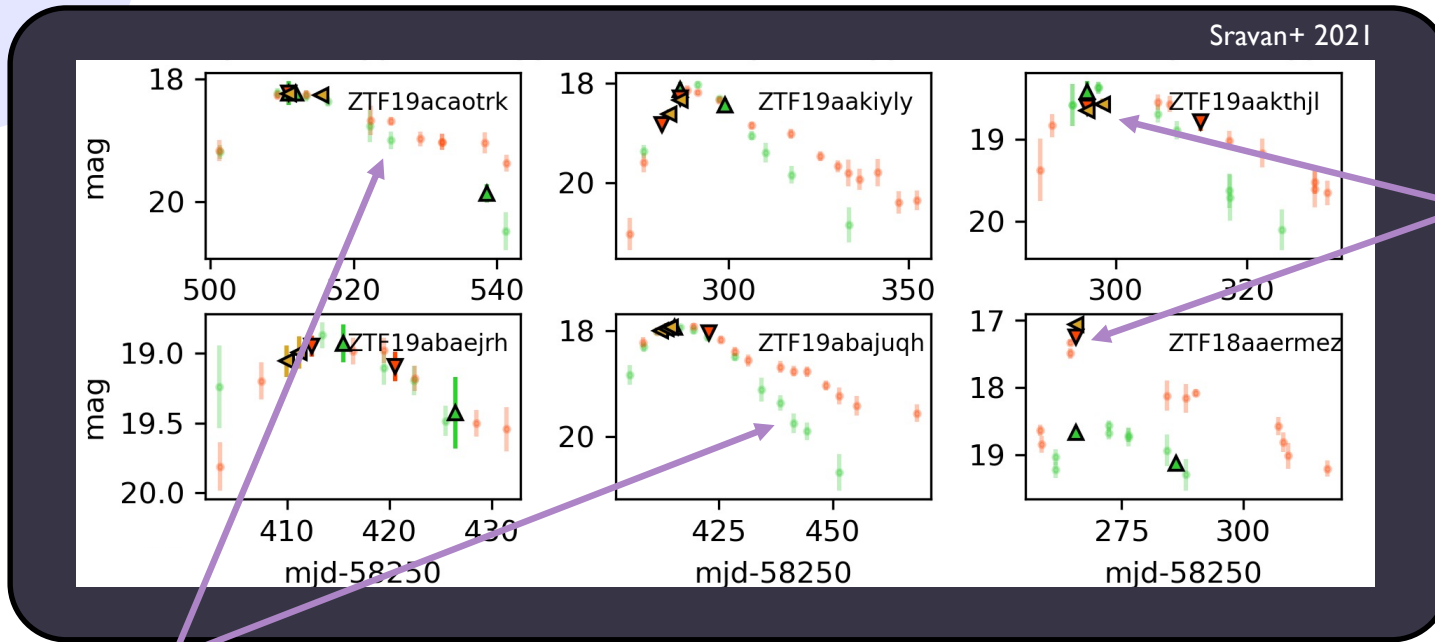
Take modal action with maximum reward and least cost across all rollouts. Threshold ϵ over no action (hyperparameter)

* substitutes expected **optimal** actions for expected **naïve** actions

** Distance error in quadrature. Note: $\min \chi^2 \neq \max$ likelihood

Gap filling

Resolves phase with high variability (first and second peaks+valleys)



Survey light curve

Augmented photometry to minimize uncertainty on cosmology

Improvement in SALT2 parameters over naïve* strategy

2-5% more improvement for faint SNe Ia (peak > 18.5 mag)
Due to gap filling, **strong prospects for Rubin**

Budget	Usage	$\delta(\sigma_{x0})$	$\delta(\sigma_{x1})$	$\delta(\sigma_c)$	$\delta(\sigma_z)$
3	2	2%	3%	5%	6%
6	5	3%	5%	4%	6%
9	7	5%	6%	5%	11%

Sravan+ 2021

**Adding data itself can lead to improvement!

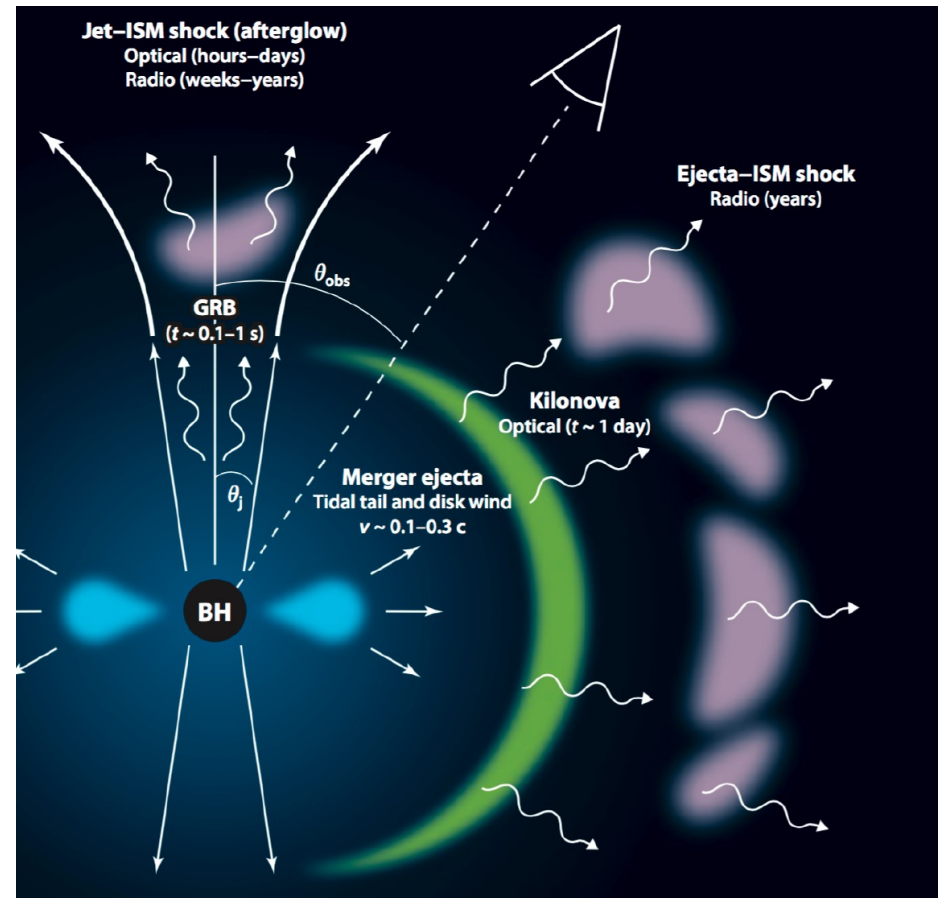


EXAMPLE 2:

IDENTIFYING GRAVITATIONAL WAVE ELECTROMAGNETIC COUNTERPARTS

Kilonovae

- UVOIR transients
- Probe nucleosynthesis in ejecta due to merger and associated power sources and the NS EoS
- Robust counterparts to most BNS and some NSBH mergers
- Short lived ($< \sim 1$ week) and faint



Berger 2014

The logo for Pythia is a dark purple square with a lighter purple circle on the left side. The word "Pythia" is written in white, sans-serif font across the center of the circle.

Pythia

Reinforcement learning agent that strategizes follow-up to identify kilonovae

- Learns to evaluate the explore/exploit tradeoff
- Solves the credit assignment problem from any delayed consequences
- Adapts to new information, from its own actions or other sources

Toy sequential decision making under uncertainty problem:

- 9 transients, one of which (always) is the true kilonovae (min photometry = 1)
 - Contaminants are SNe, unassociated GRB afterglows, shock breakout (do not include observational significance)
- Follow-up in ZTF g, r, or i (300s exposure) per day
 - Finite horizon – 6 days (no action on day 1)
- Reward 1 if agents adds data to the kilonova else 0
 - Maximize the number of follow-up to the true kilonova (non-model specific objective with the expectation that more data ~ better constraints)

Pythia

- Learns online (collecting new experiences) in simulated environment
- Linear VFA (state-action value $Q = x(s,a)^T \omega$)
- $x(s,a)$ is a CNN-autoencoder (for order invariance) representing the light curves with forecasted outcomes per action
- Learns ω via stochastic gradient descent and Adam optimizer

Algorithm SARSA and TD(0) target

Initialize w to small random weights

Set $\epsilon_0 = 1$

for $k = 1, M$ **do**

▷ For each episode

$\epsilon \leftarrow \epsilon_0 / k^n$

Initialize s_1

for $t = 1, \text{horizon}$ **do**

With probability ϵ select random action a_t

otherwise select $a_t = \max_a \hat{Q}(s_t, a_t; \hat{w})$

Execute action and observe reward r_t and next state s_{t+1} from environment

With probability ϵ select random action a_{t+1}

otherwise select $a_{t+1} = \max_a \hat{Q}(s_{t+1}, a_{t+1}; \hat{w})$

Set $\Delta \hat{w} \leftarrow [r_t + \gamma \hat{Q}(s_{t+1}, a_{t+1}; \hat{w}) - \hat{Q}(s_t, a_t; \hat{w})] \nabla_w \hat{Q}(s_t, a_t; \hat{w})$

▷ : Loss is MSE between TD(0) target³ substitute for Q^* and current Q

Update $\hat{w} \leftarrow \hat{w} + \alpha \Delta \hat{w}$

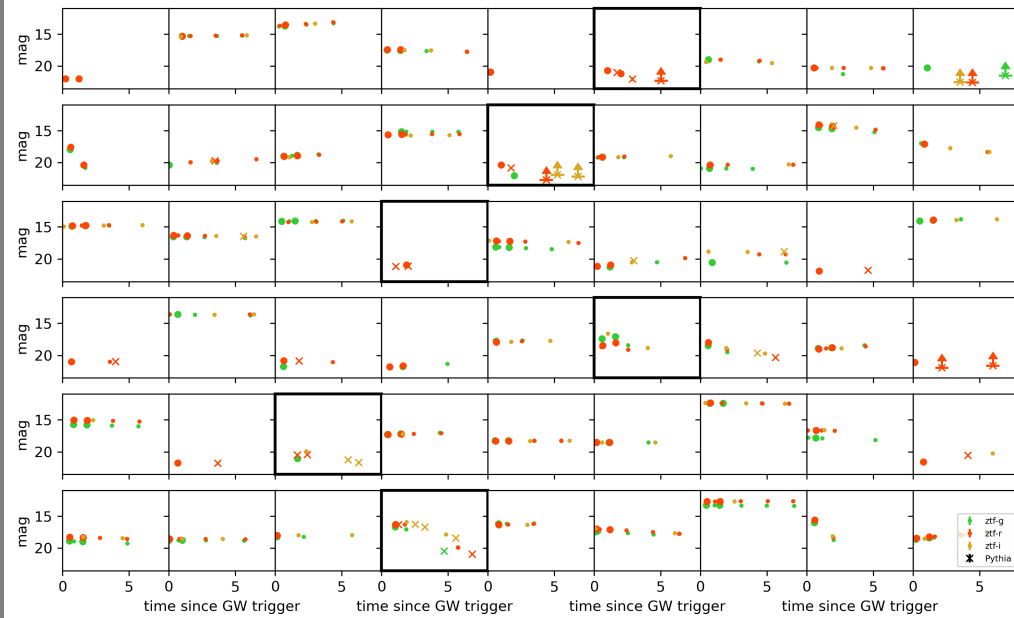
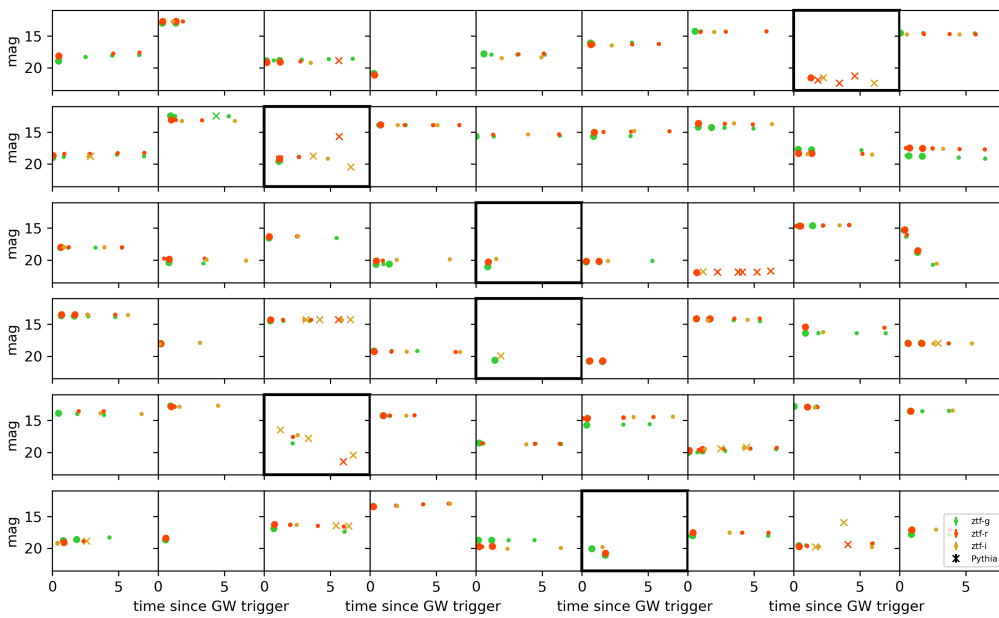
▷ α is using Adam

end for

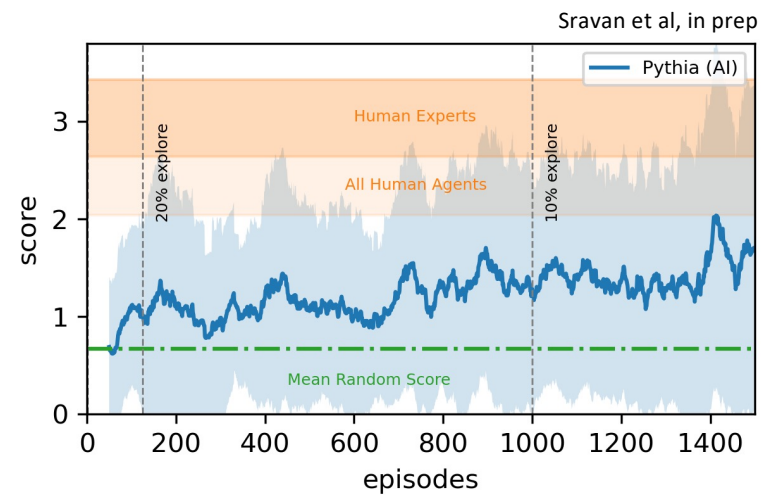
end for

AI v humans

agent	score	frac
Pythia	1.84	0.81
Non-expert 1	2.04	0.54
Non-expert 2	3.15	0.86
Expert 1	2.64	0.76
Expert 2	2.74	0.78
Expert 3	2.94	0.72
Expert 4	3.43	0.9



PYTHIA



Linear VFA hypothesis class not sufficiently rich representation of true Q function

- Benefit is theoretical convergence guarantee. Demonstrates problem learnable!

Shifting to deep Q networks:

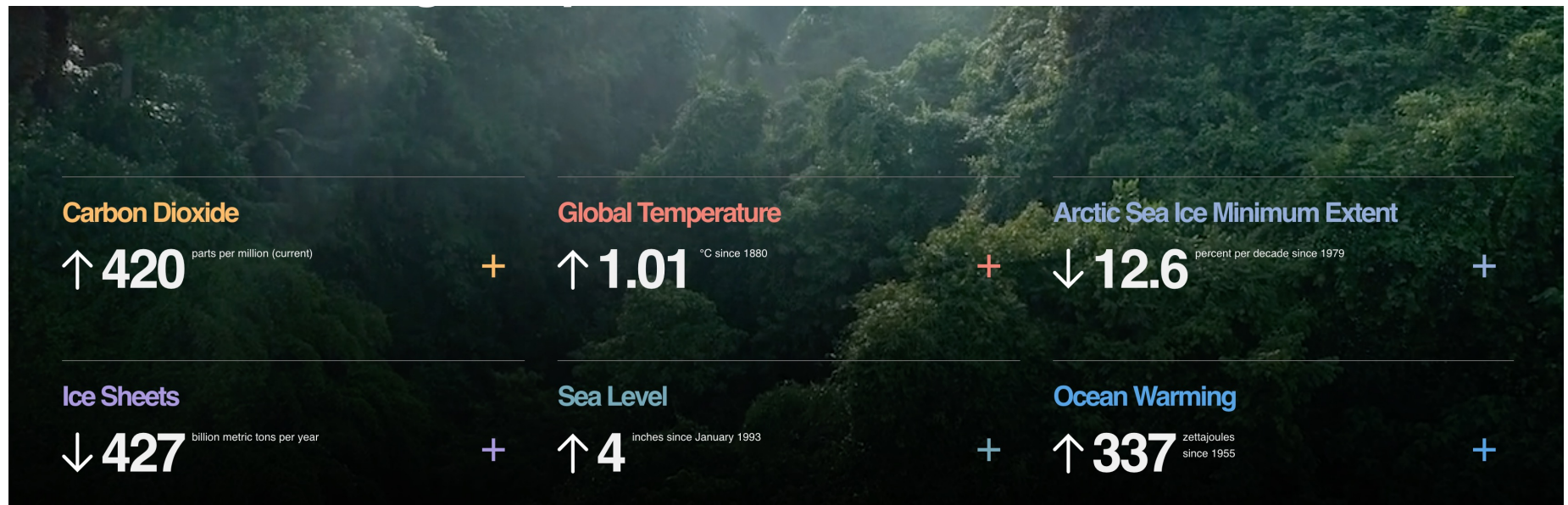
- Will remove two-step learning, one for $x(s,a)$ in supervised/unsupervised learning and one for Q via Bellman updates in RL
- Efficient evaluation of realistic large action space, can have vector instead of scalar output

Carbon Footprint

Estimated emissions: 1210 kg of CO₂eq. assuming carbon efficiency of 0.432 kgCO₂eq/kWh

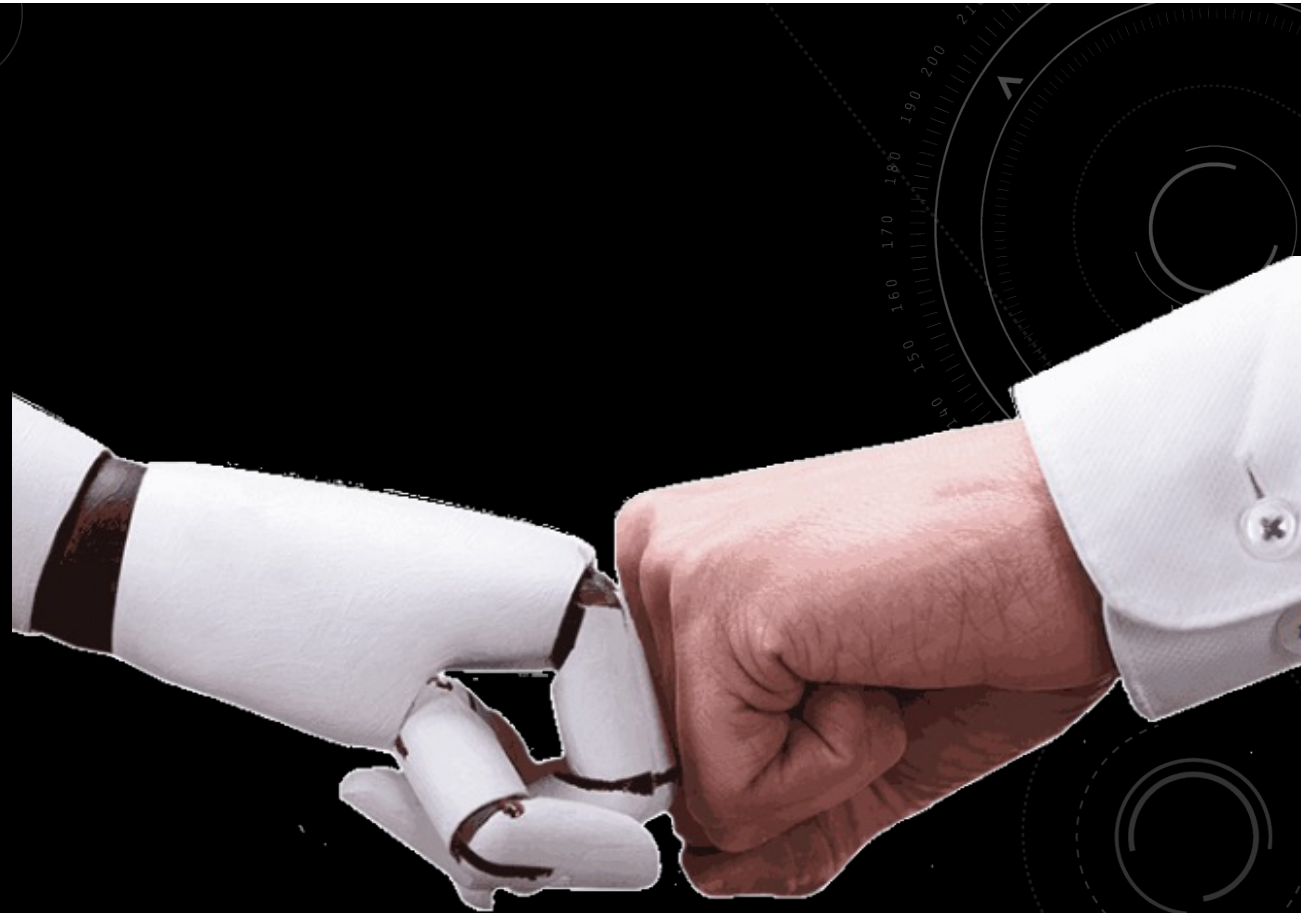
Approximately equal to:

- One round trip LAX-JFK (1180 Kg CO₂)
- 4900 km driven in an average combustion engine car



OUTLOOK

- Target maximizing constraints on the NS EoS and e.g. place constraints on maximum non-rotating NS mass
- Kilonova diversity with large samples
- Prepare for Rubin
 - Deeper and high SNR events
 - Motivates effective low-latency use of expensive space-based follow-up resources
- Other messengers!



OUTLOOK

- Flexible to address any situation where real-time decisions need with resource limitations
- Approaches such as these are the ultimate human-machine symbiosis
 - Reduce burden of tedious work (especially for well-defined science cases)
 - Leave innovation and discovery to humans (?)





BACKUP CONTENT



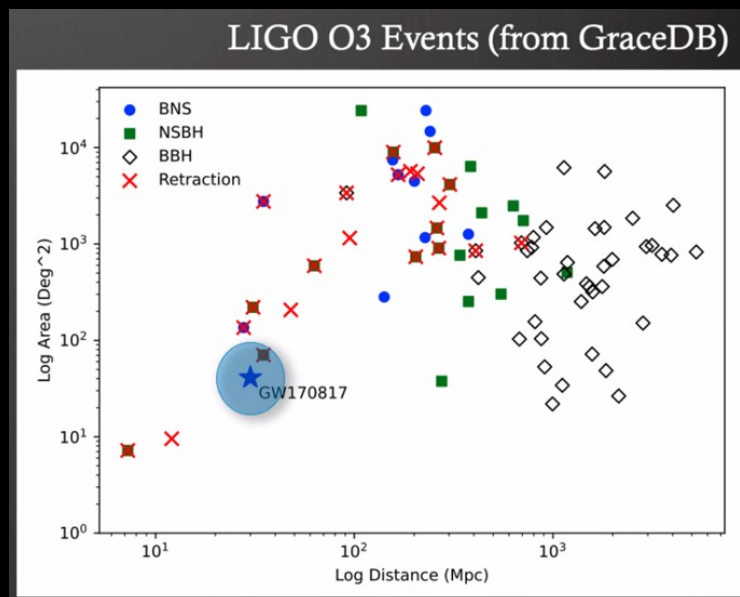
REFITT FOR ZTF

- Training dataset:
 - “Classical” SNe (Ia, II, IIIn, IIb, Ib, Ic, Ic-BL) simulated from ZTF BTS, PS1, and all historic classified SNe with sdssg, sdsr photometry
 - 5k per type spanning flat z space 0-0.8 for SN Ia, 0-0.1 for CC SNe
- ML and forecasting:
 - Multi-D Gaussian Process LC fit
 - use k similar training LCs using Xception penultimate vector of modal training class (implemented as balltree)
 - align with cross-correlation
- Daily run at 0900PT (10 mins on 24 cores)
 - Ingested via Antares: within 60 d of trigger, <21 d since last photo, at least 3 photo with at least two in the same band >5 hours apart
- Recommendations for:
 - Photometry for events approaching peak and not in ZTF’s observing plan
 - Classifications within |1wk| of forecasted peak
 - Anomalies (poor forecast)

WHY ONLY GW170817?

Petrov+ 2021 (adapted)

- For O3:
 - Median skymap size ~ 4000 sq deg
 - Median distance:
 - BNS ~ 240 Mpc
 - NSBH ~ 320 Mpc



Run	BNS	NSBH	BBH
Median 90% credible area (deg ²) ^a			
O3	1672 ⁺⁹⁴ ₋₁₁₀	1970 ⁺¹¹⁰ ₋₁₁₀	1069 ⁺⁴³ ₋₄₁
O4	1820 ⁺¹⁹⁰ ₋₁₇₀	1840 ⁺¹⁵⁰ ₋₁₅₀	335 ⁺²⁸ ₋₁₇
O5	1250 ⁺¹²⁰ ₋₁₂₀	1076 ⁺⁶⁵ ₋₇₅	230.3 ^{+7.8} _{-6.4}
Median luminosity distance (Mpc) ^a			
O3	176.1 ^{+6.2} _{-5.7}	337.6 ^{+10.9} _{-9.6}	871 ⁺³¹ ₋₂₈
O4	352.8 ^{+10.3} _{-9.8}	621 ⁺¹⁶ ₋₁₄	1493 ⁺²⁵ ₋₃₃
O5	620 ⁺¹⁶ ₋₁₇	1132 ⁺¹⁹ ₋₂₃	2748 ⁺³⁰ ₋₃₄
Annual number of detections ^{cd}			
O3	5 ⁺¹⁴ ₋₅	13 ⁺¹⁵ ₋₉	24 ⁺¹⁸ ₋₁₂
O4	34 ⁺⁷⁸ ₋₂₅	72 ⁺⁷⁵ ₋₃₈	106 ⁺⁶⁵ ₋₄₂
O5	190 ⁺¹¹⁰ ₋₁₃₀	360 ⁺³⁶⁰ ₋₁₈₀	480 ⁺²⁸⁰ ₋₁₈₀