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Combined Gravitational and Electromagnetic observations of Gamma-ray Bursts

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Gamma-Ray Bursts (GRBs) are the brightest events in the universe since the big bang. Detailed studies of the electromagnetic emission from these transient events have show that the short GBRs are likely associated with the merger of two compact objects such as neutron stars. With the start of gravitational wave detection a new window is opened to study these events and their progenitors. The gravitational counter part of a neutron star merger event is expected to be observable by LIGO in the coming years. Furthermore the combined electromagnetic and gravitational detection potential of GRBs allows for a search for more exotic astrophysical objects such as boson and quark stars.

Primary author: KOLE, Merlin Reynaard (Universite de Geneve (CH))

Presenter: KOLE, Merlin Reynaard (Universite de Geneve (CH))

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