

# Cosmology with gravitational wave standard sirens: current results and future prospects

**Nicola Tamanini**

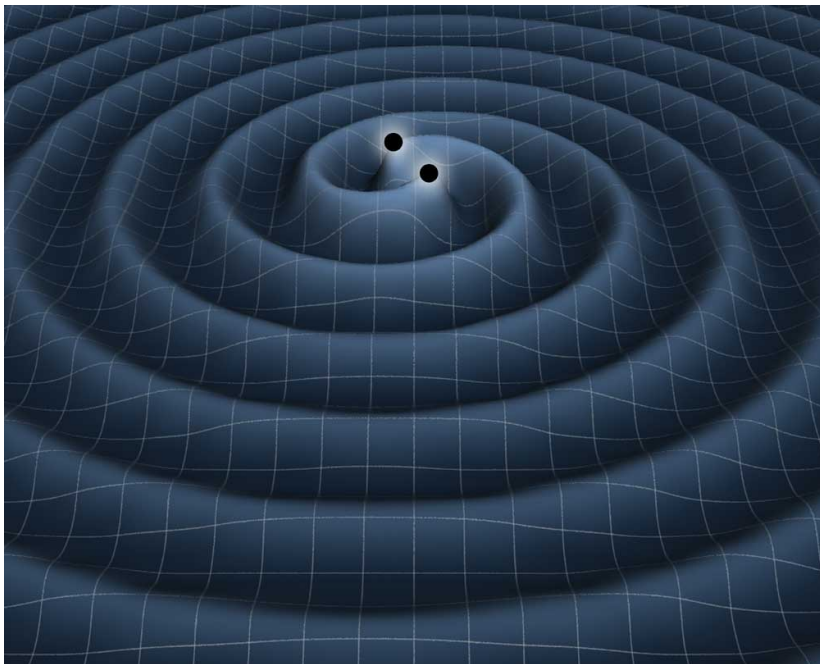


Max-Planck-Institut  
für Gravitationsphysik  
(Albert-Einstein-Institut)

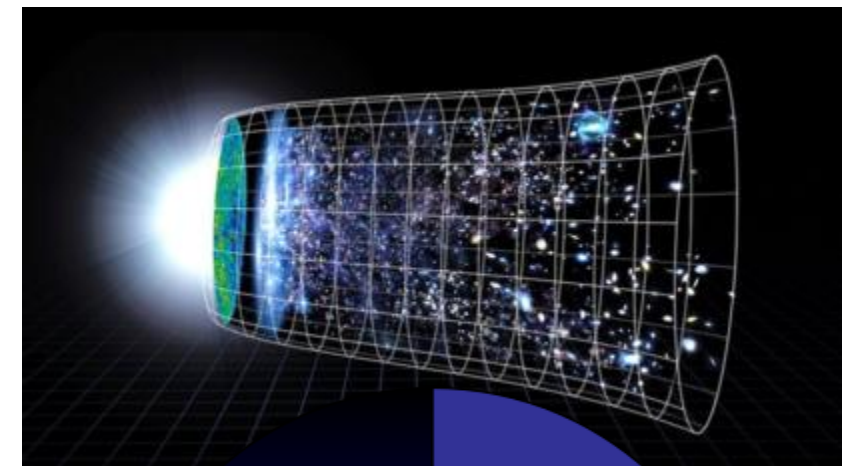
PONT2020 - 10/12/2020

# Outline

**How can we use GW observations to probe the cosmic expansion?**

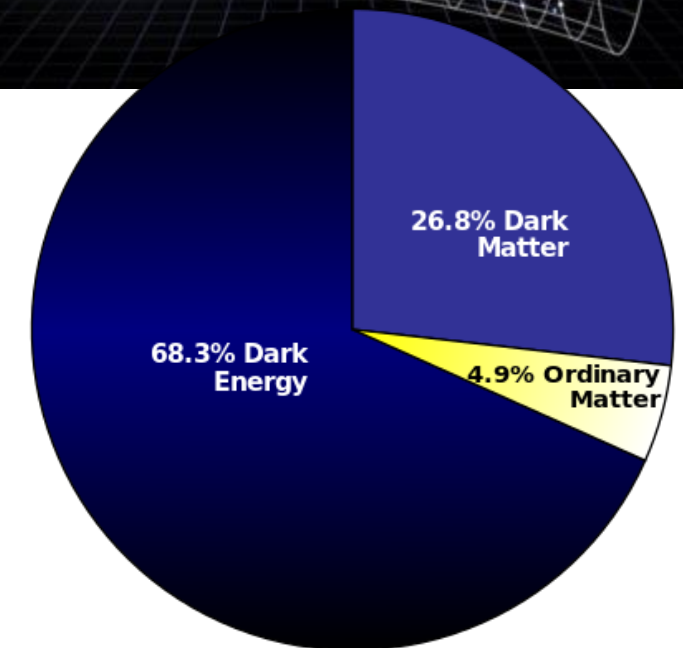


**Standard**  
←→  
**Sirens**



## Outline:

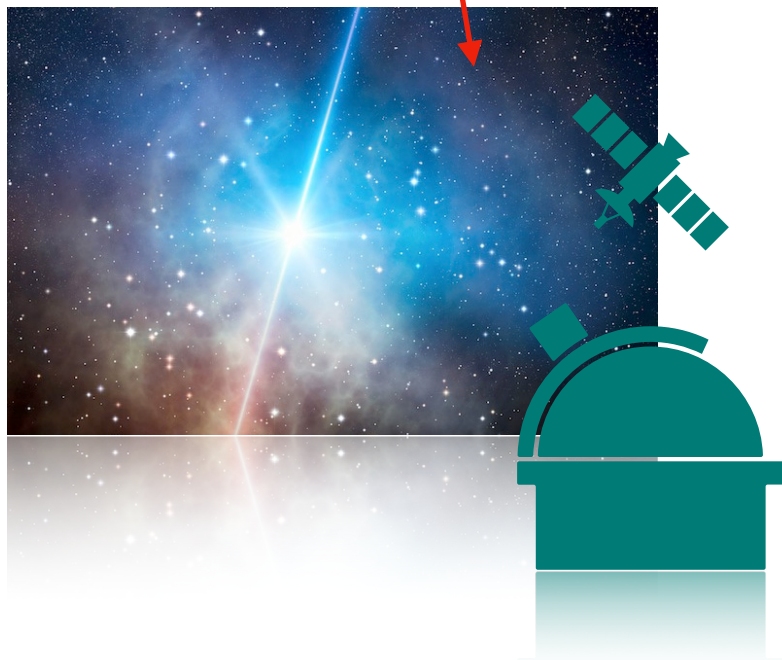
- What are standard sirens?
- Current results from LIGO/Virgo
- Forecasts for ground-based detectors
- Forecasts for LISA



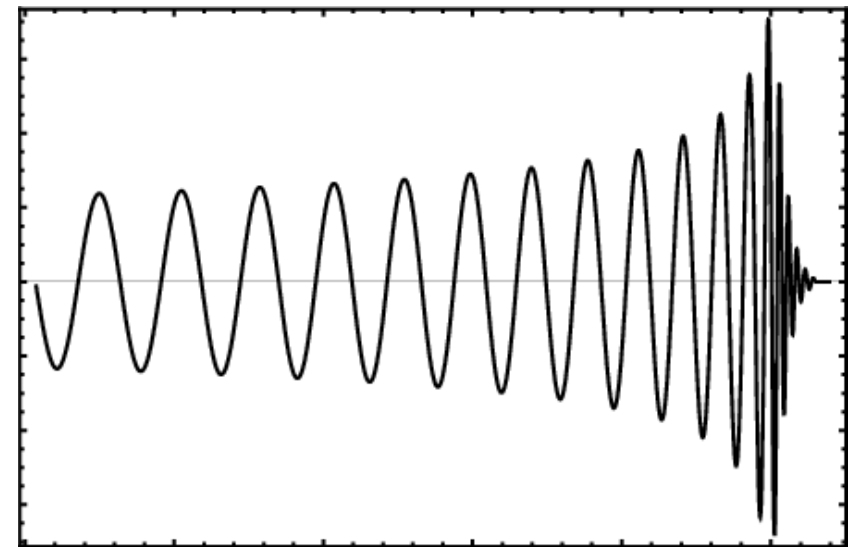
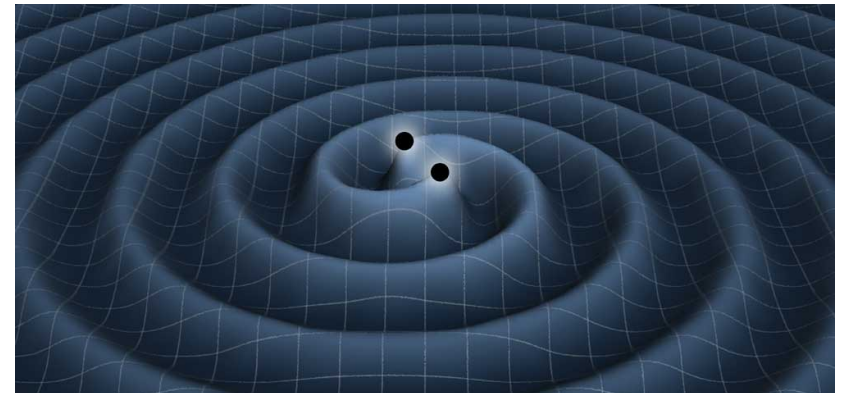
# What are standard sirens?

**Standard sirens** are GW events that can be used as absolute cosmological distance indicators

- **Luminosity distance** estimated from GW signal
- **Redshift** obtained from EM observations



[Schutz, *Nature* (1986)]



$$h_{\times} = \frac{4}{d_L} \left( \frac{GM_c}{c^2} \right)^{\frac{5}{3}} \left( \frac{\pi f}{c} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}} \cos \iota \sin \Phi(t)$$

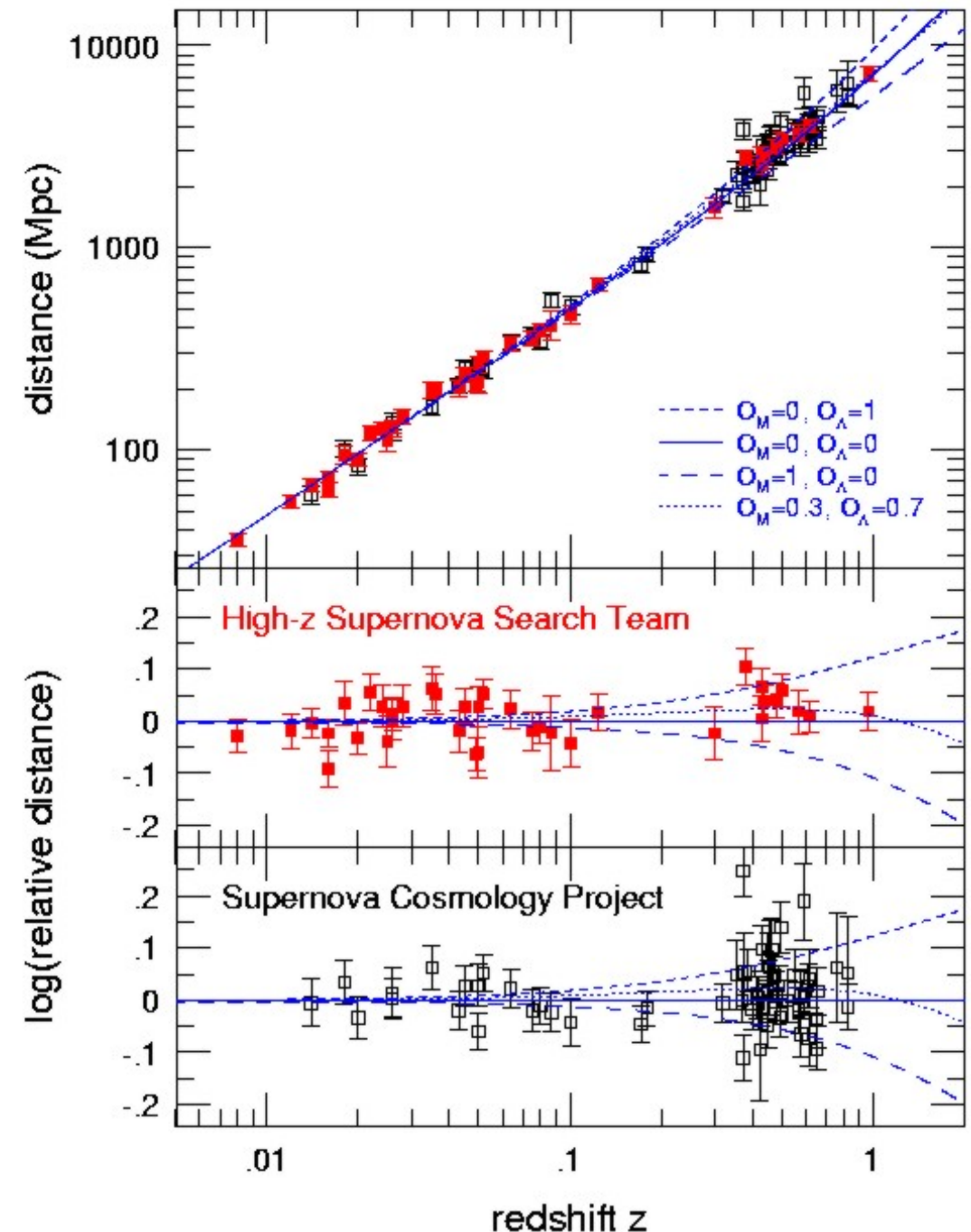
# What are standard sirens?

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With these two measurements one can then fit the **distance-redshift relation** and obtain constraints on the **cosmological parameters** (similarly to *standard candles*  $\Rightarrow$  type-Ia SNs)

$$d_L(z) = \frac{c}{H_0} \frac{1+z}{\sqrt{\Omega_k}} \sinh \left[ \sqrt{\Omega_k} \int_0^z \frac{H_0}{H(z')} dz' \right]$$

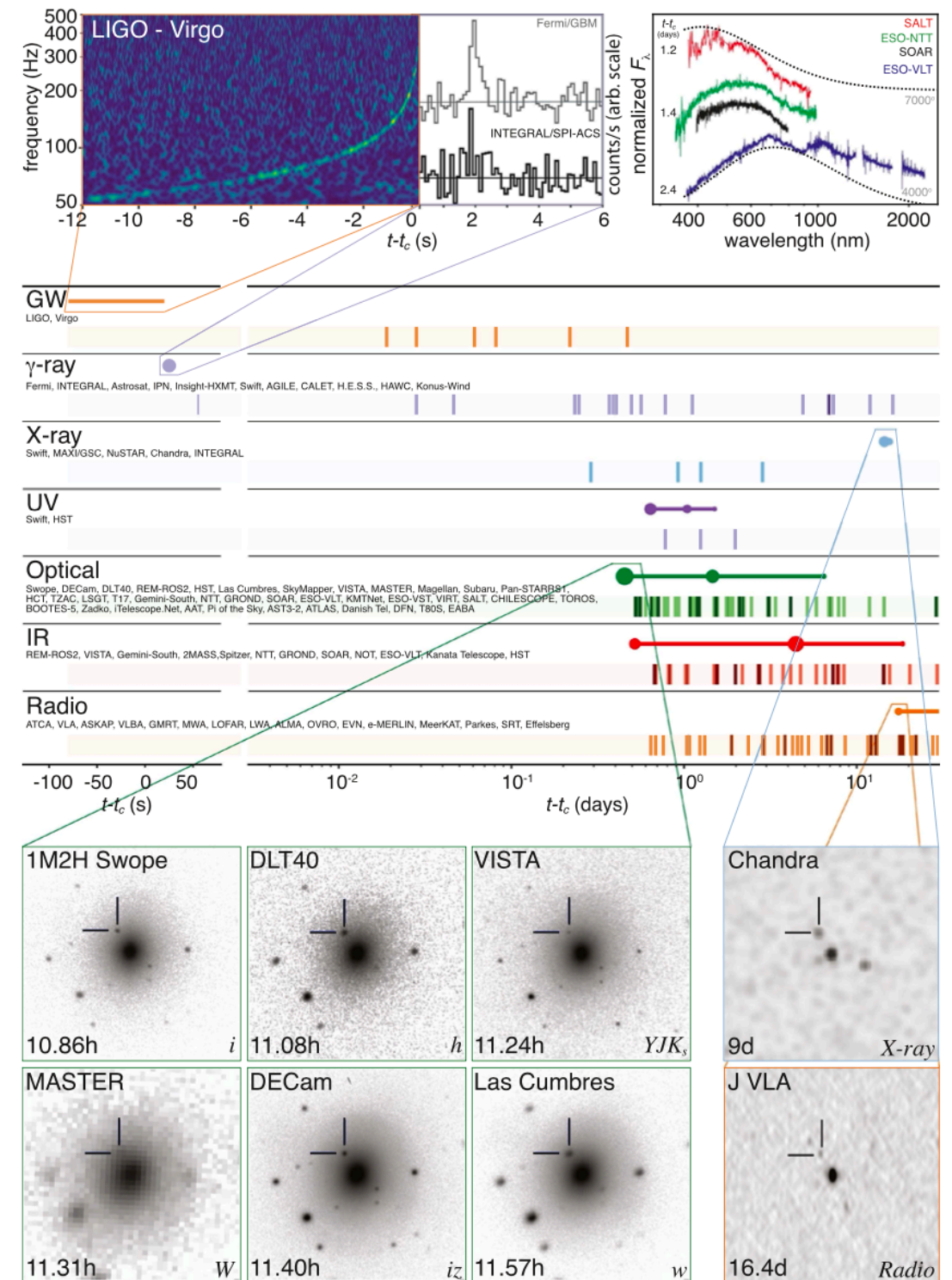
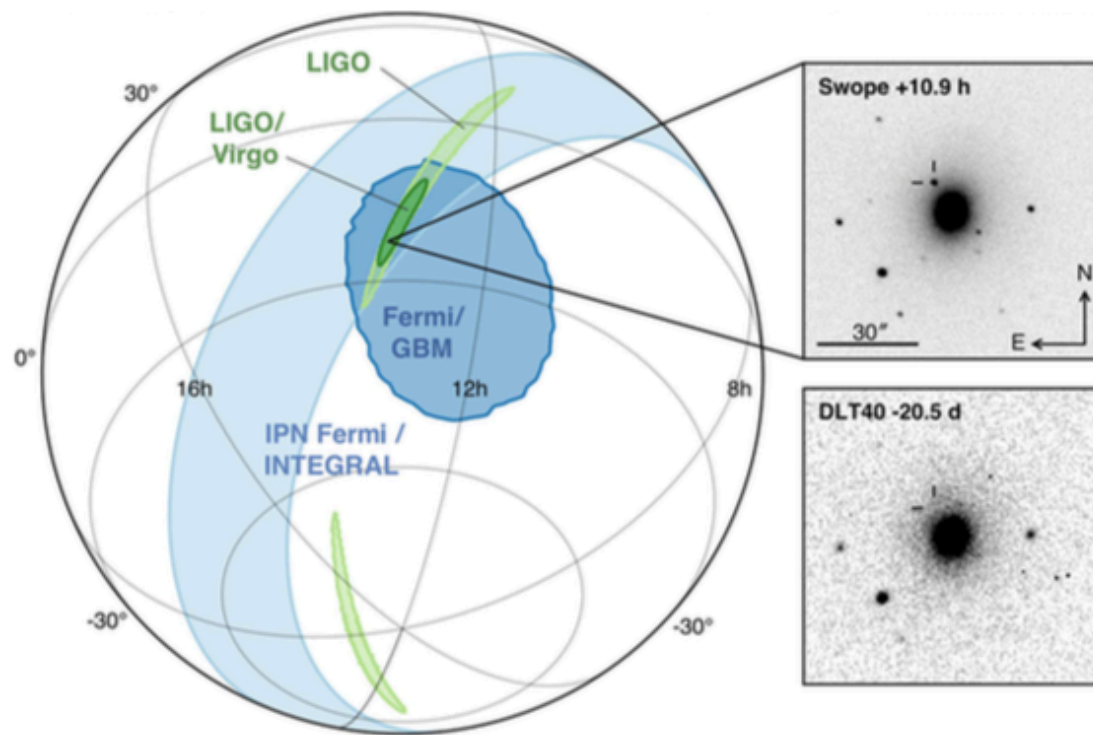




# How to get redshift information

## Two main approaches to obtain redshift information:

- Identify the host galaxy through a (transient) EM counterpart
- Cross-correlate sky position with galaxy catalogs

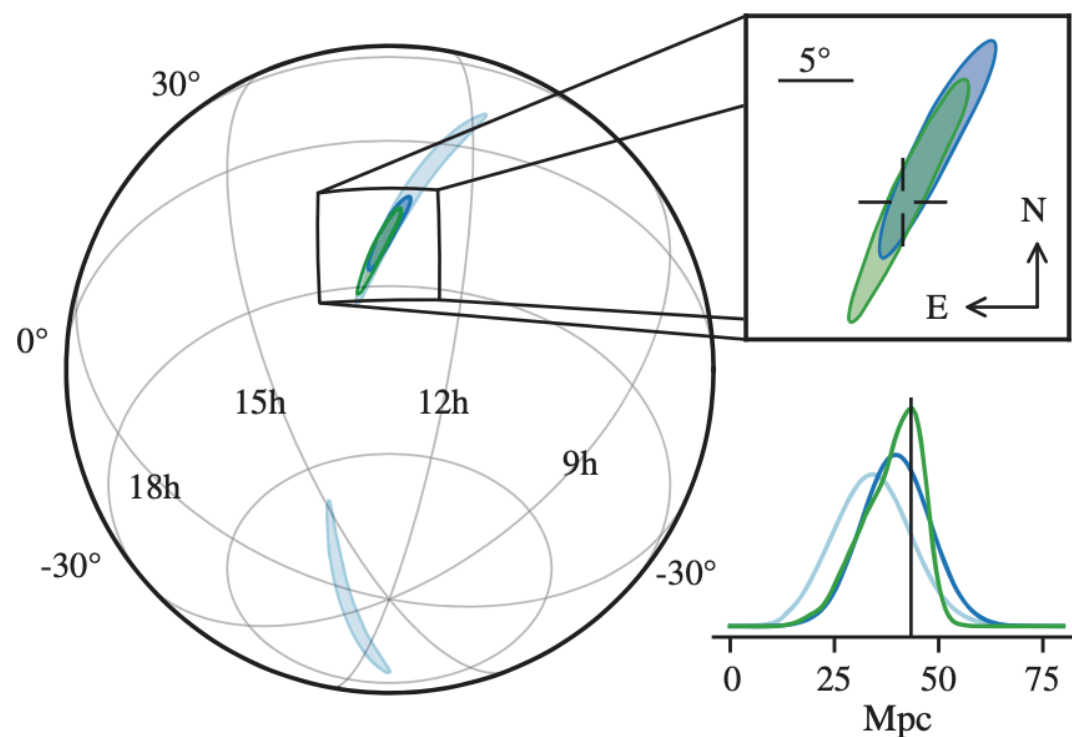


**Example: GW170817** [LVC+, *ApJL* (2017)]

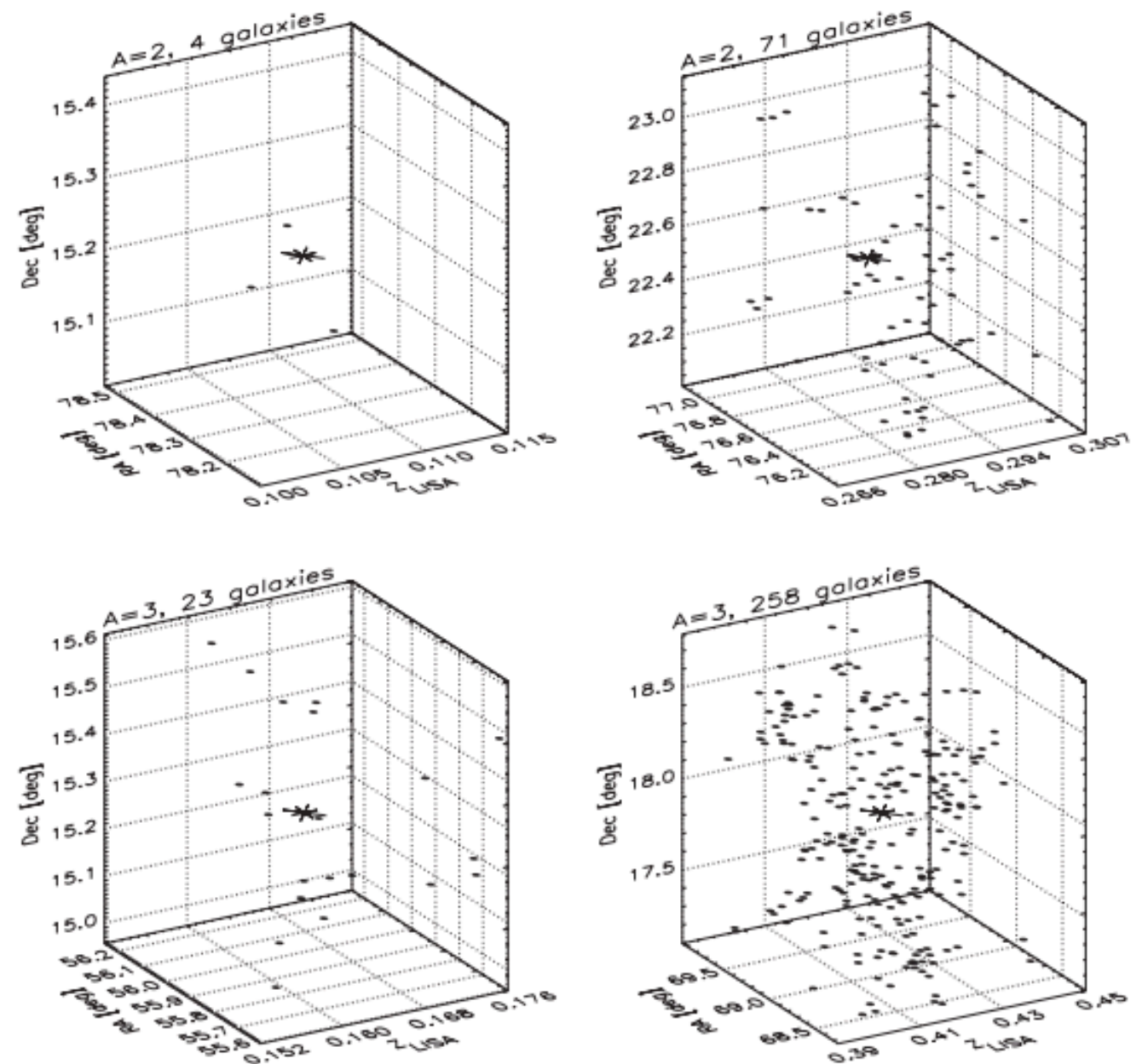
# How to get redshift information

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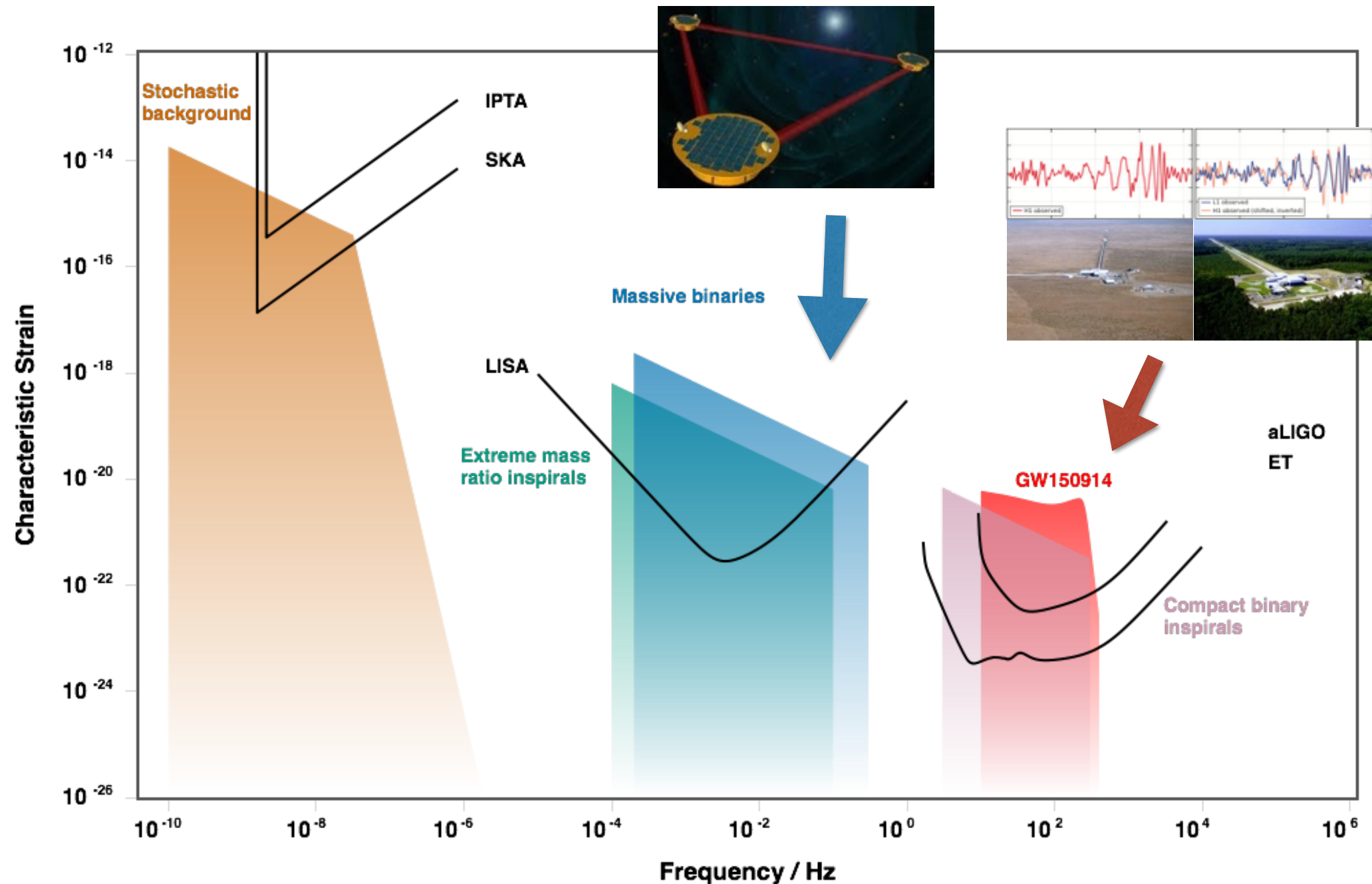
[MacLeod & Hogan, *PRD* (2008)]



**Example: GW170817** [LVC, *ApJL* (2019)]

# Standard siren sources

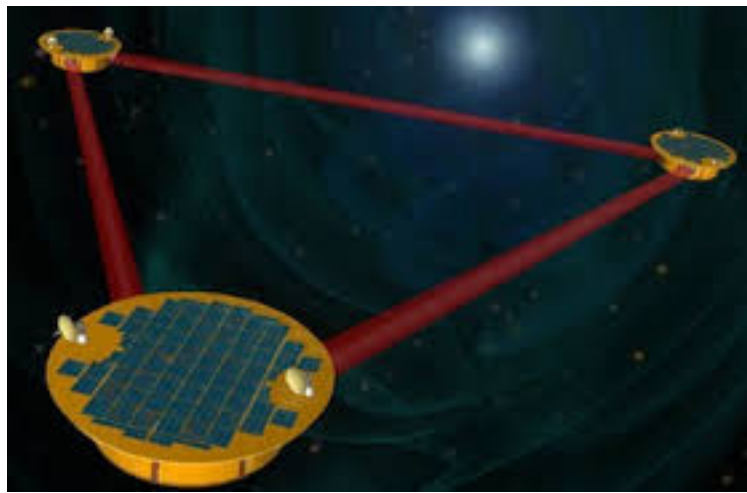
The GW sources that can be used as standard sirens will in general be different for ground-based and space-based detectors





# Standard siren sources

The GW sources that can be used as standard sirens will in general be different for ground-based and space-based detectors



## Standard sirens for LISA:

- Stellar mass BBHs (inspiral only)
- Extreme mass ratio inspirals (EMRIs)
- Intermediate mass BBHs (?)
- **Massive BBHs**

## Standard sirens for LIGO/Virgo/3G:

- Stellar mass BBHs
- **Neutron star binaries**
- **NS-BH binaries**

**\*EM counterparts expected**

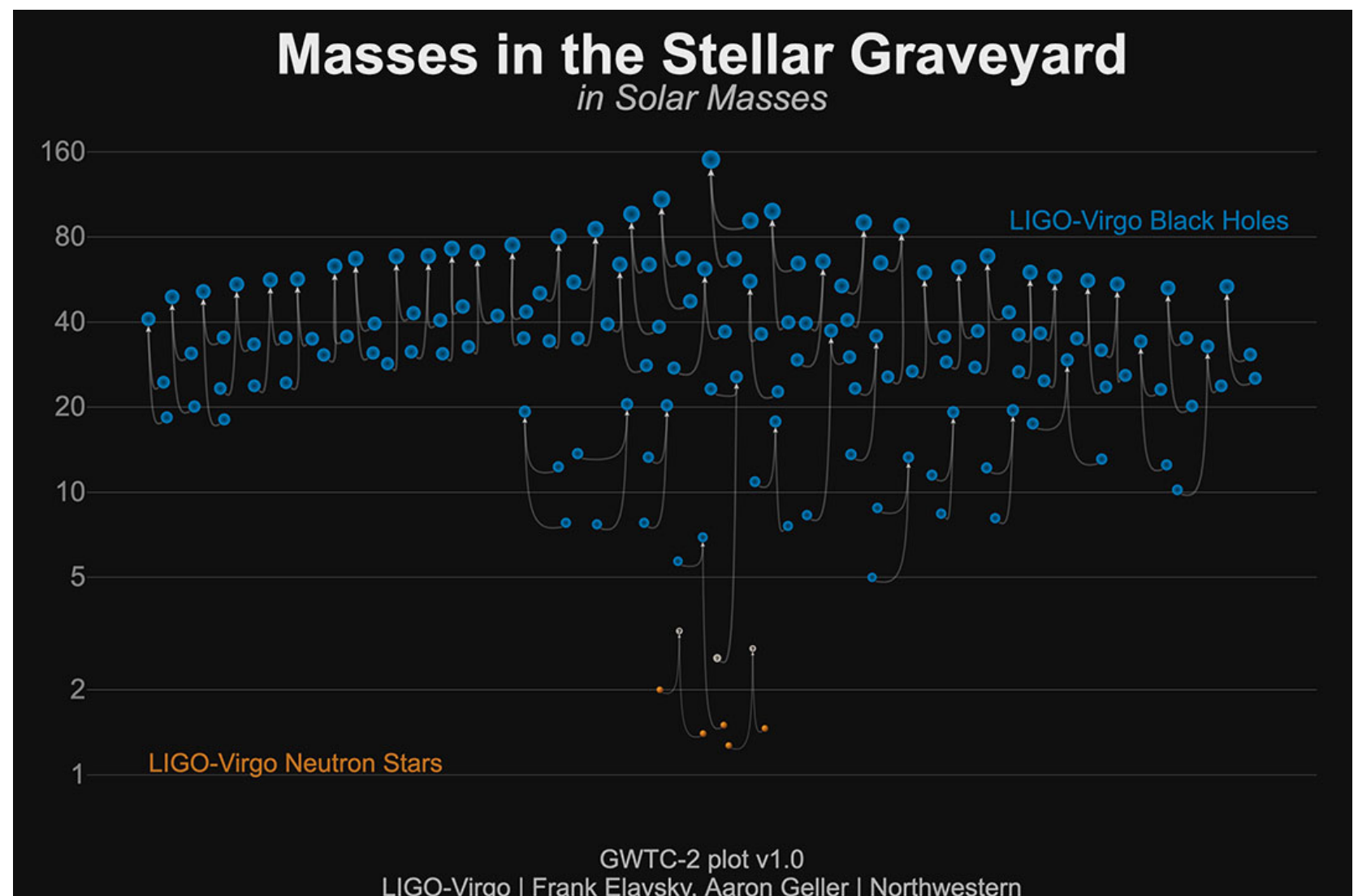


# Current results from LIGO/Virgo

## Status of Earth-based GW observations:

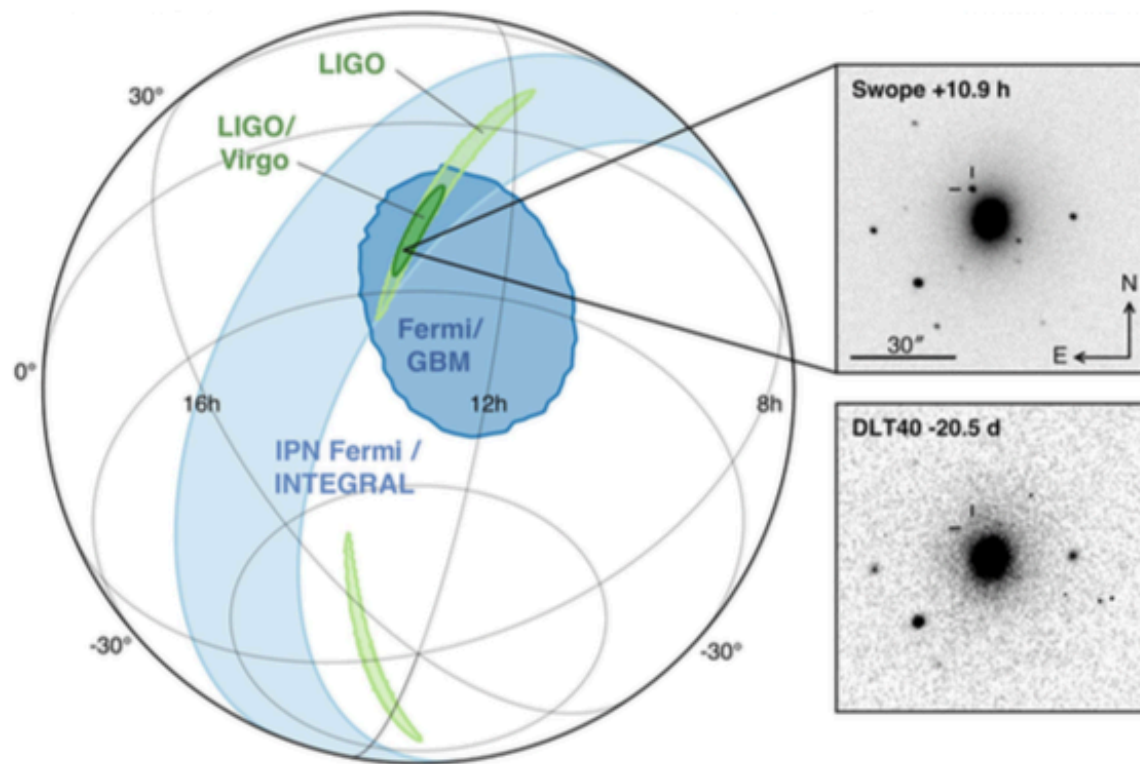
- **O1**: 2015 (completed), LIGO only, 4 months of data, 3 BBHs detected
- **O2**: 2017 (completed), LIGO+VIRGO(only for GW1708xx), 6 months of data, 7 BBHs + 1 BNS (GW170817) [[LVC](#), [PRX \(2019\)](#)]
- **O3**: 2019 (completed), LIGO+VIRGO, 1 year of data, 39 events so far (only from **O3a**) [[LVC](#), [ArXiv \(2020\)](#)]
- **O4**: 2022  
LIGO+VIRGO+KAGRA
- **O5**: ~2024  
LIGO India should join

**50 GW events  
in total so far**



# Current results from LIGO/Virgo

## GW170817: the first ever standard siren

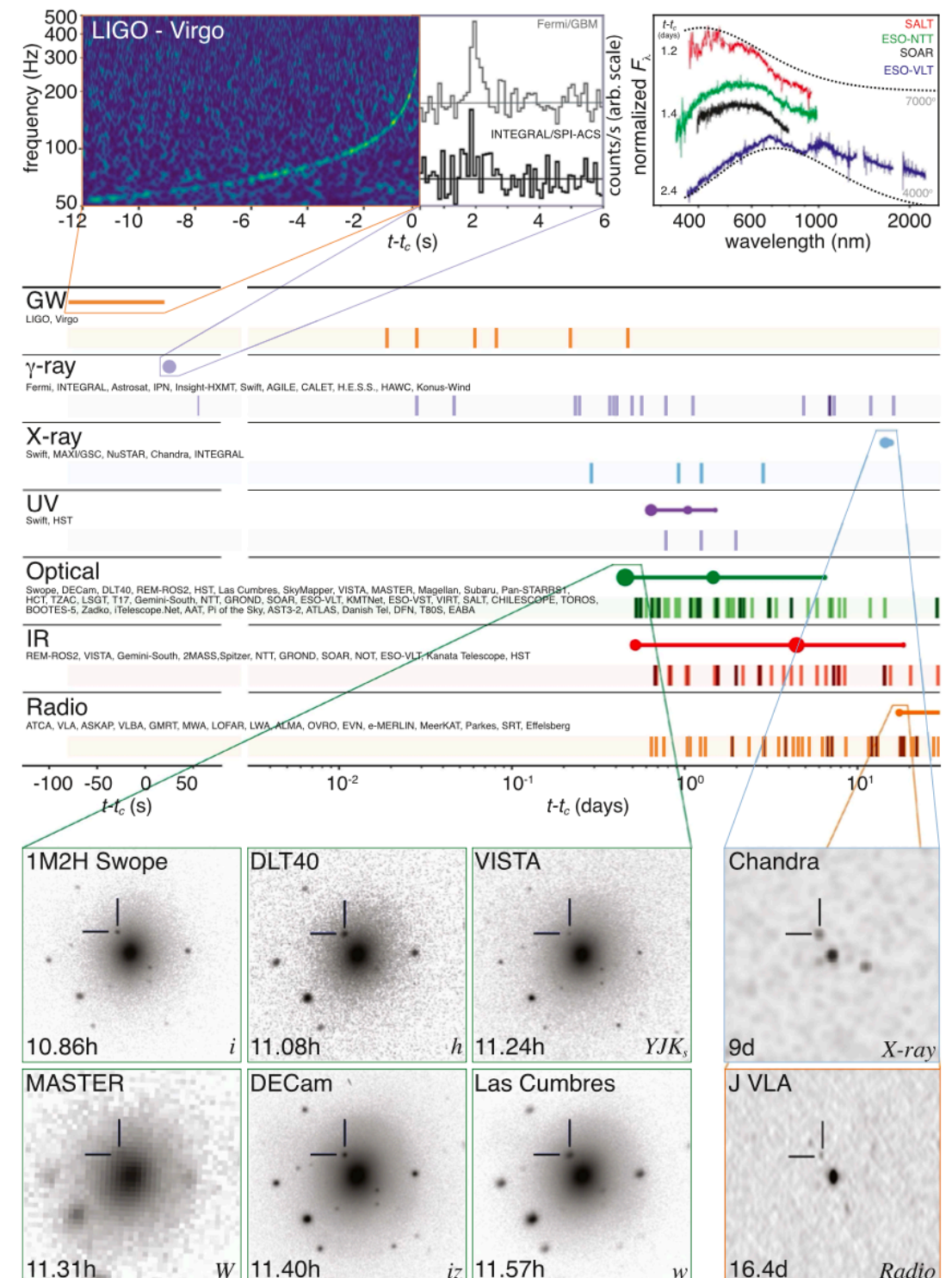


The identification of an EM counterpart yielded the first cosmological measurements with GW standard sirens

$$H_0 = 69^{+17}_{-8} \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$$

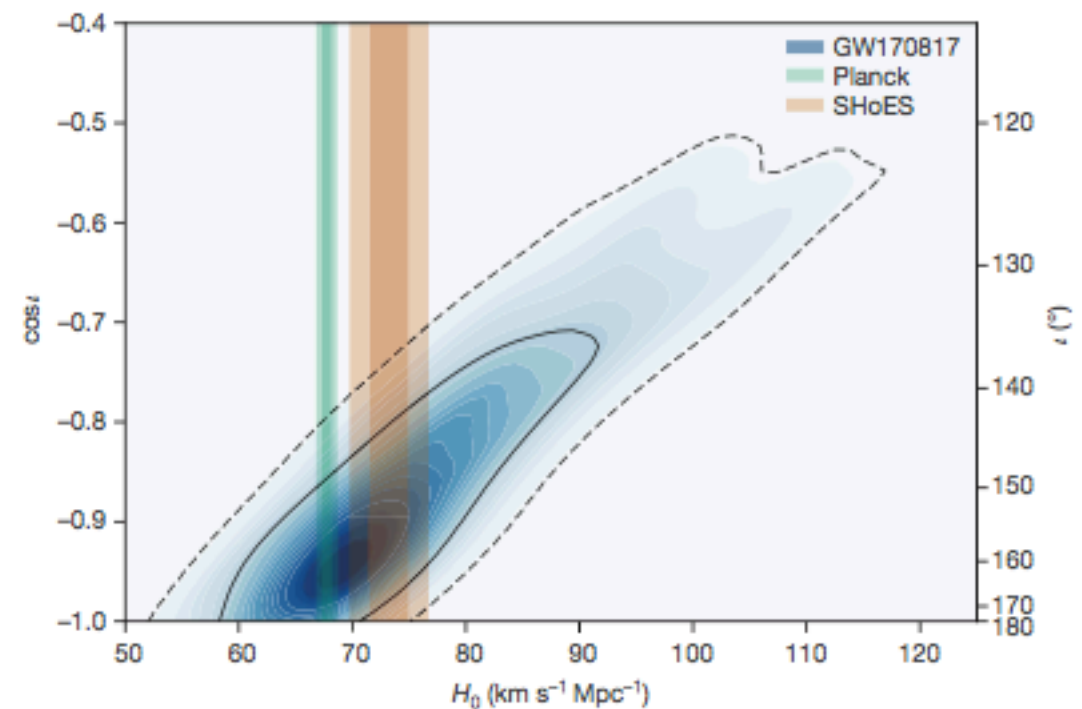
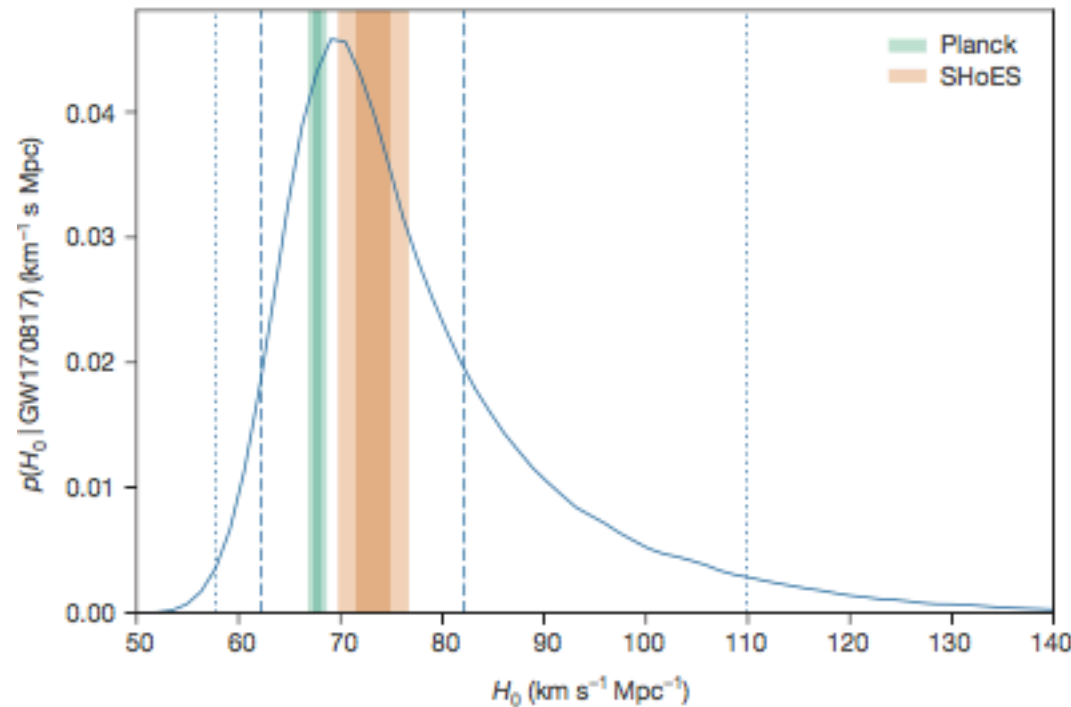
[LVC+, *Nature* (2017)]

[LVC, *PRX* (2019)]



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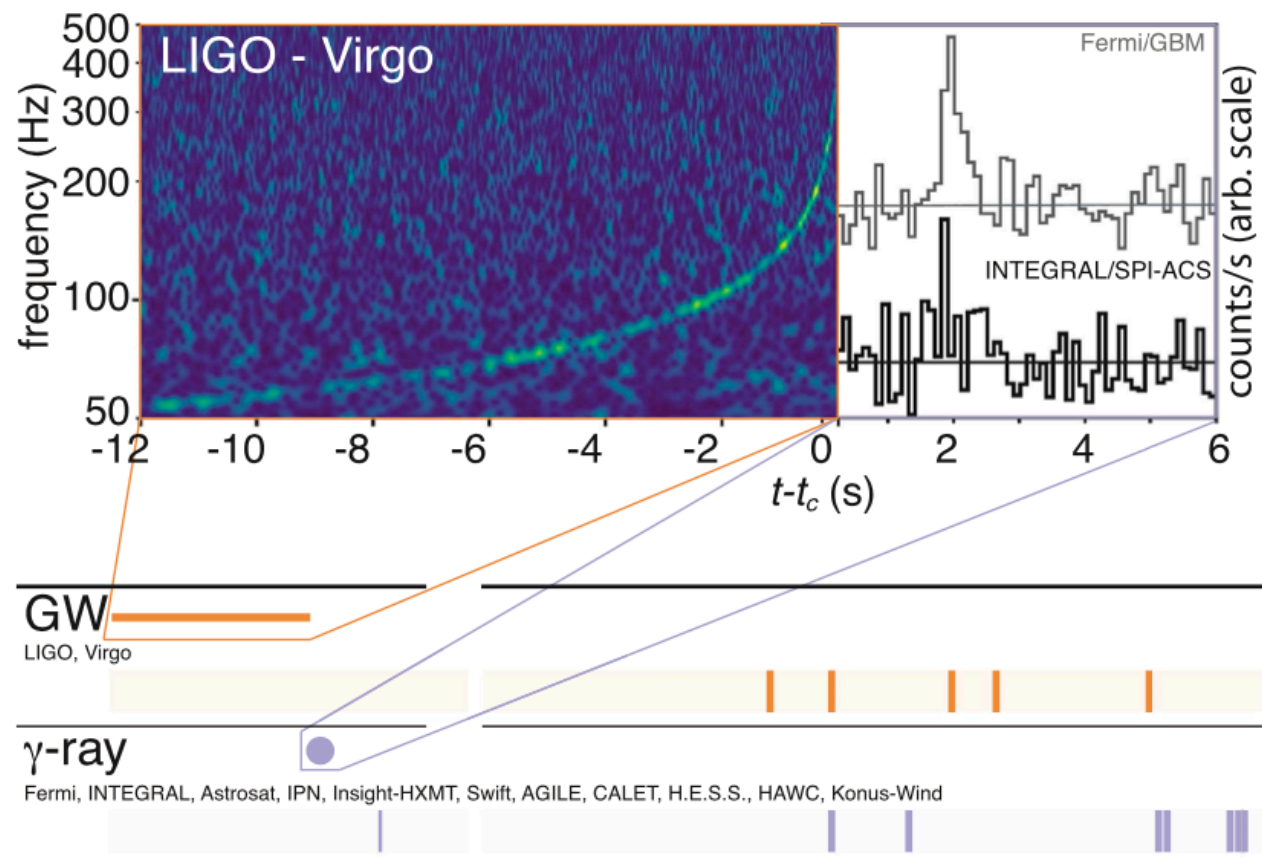
Low-redshift event ( $z = 0.01$ ): only  $H_0$  can be measured (Hubble law)

Results largely in agreement with EM constraints (SNIa/CMB), but not yet competitive with them



# Current results from LIGO/Virgo

## GW170817: the first ever standard siren



The coincident GW-EM detection of GW170817 puts stringent constraints on the speed of GW:

$$v_{\text{gw}} = c^{+7 \times 10^{-16}}_{-3 \times 10^{-15}}$$

This observation rules out several modified gravity models predicting  $v_{\text{gw}} \neq c$  [see e.g. 1807.09241 and refs therein]

[LVC+, *ApJL* (2017)]

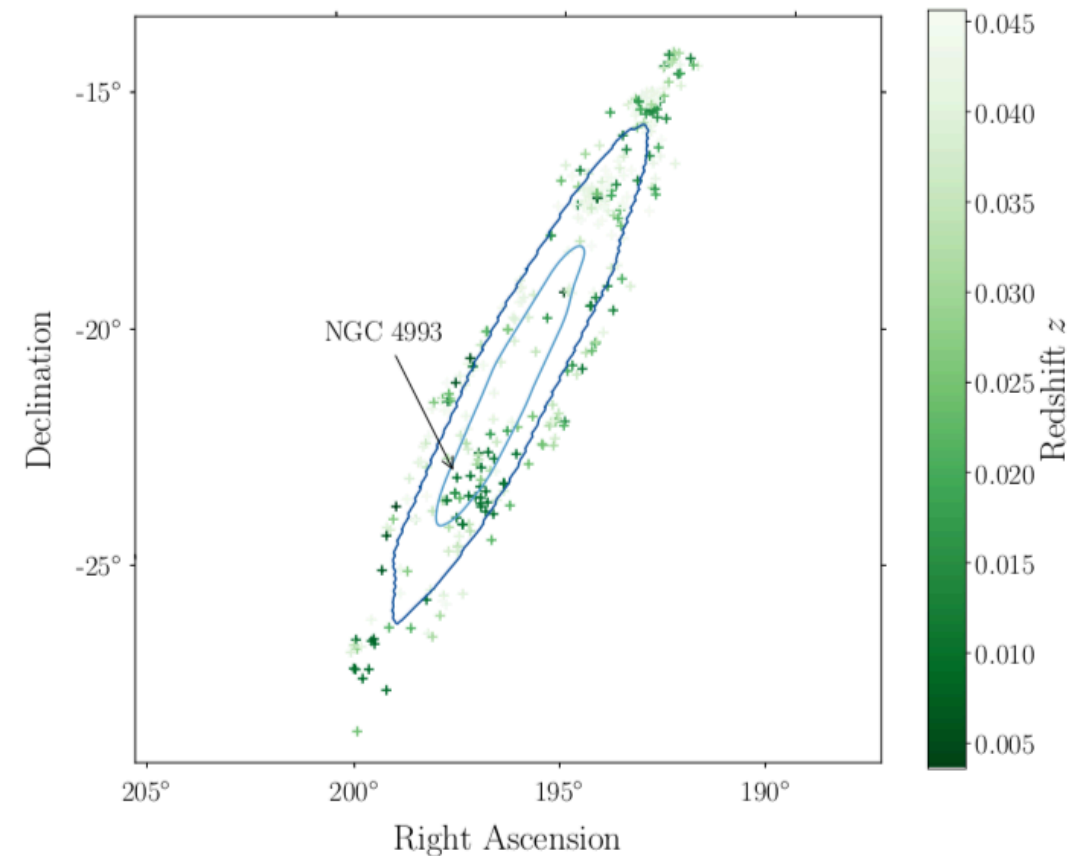
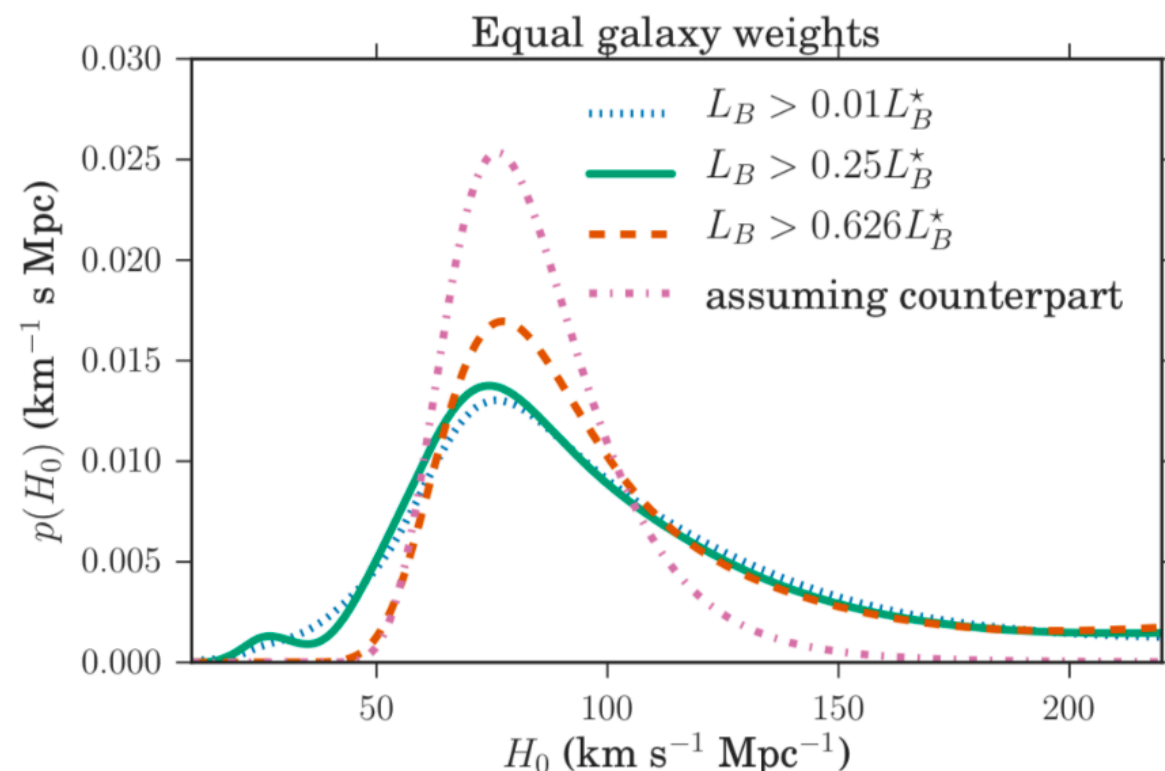
# Current results from LIGO/Virgo

## GW170817: the first ever standard siren

The statistical method has been first applied to GW170817 as a proof-of-principle, pretending that no EM counterpart was observed:

$$H_0 = 70^{+48}_{-23} \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$$

Results not comparable to assuming known host galaxy (EM counterpart)

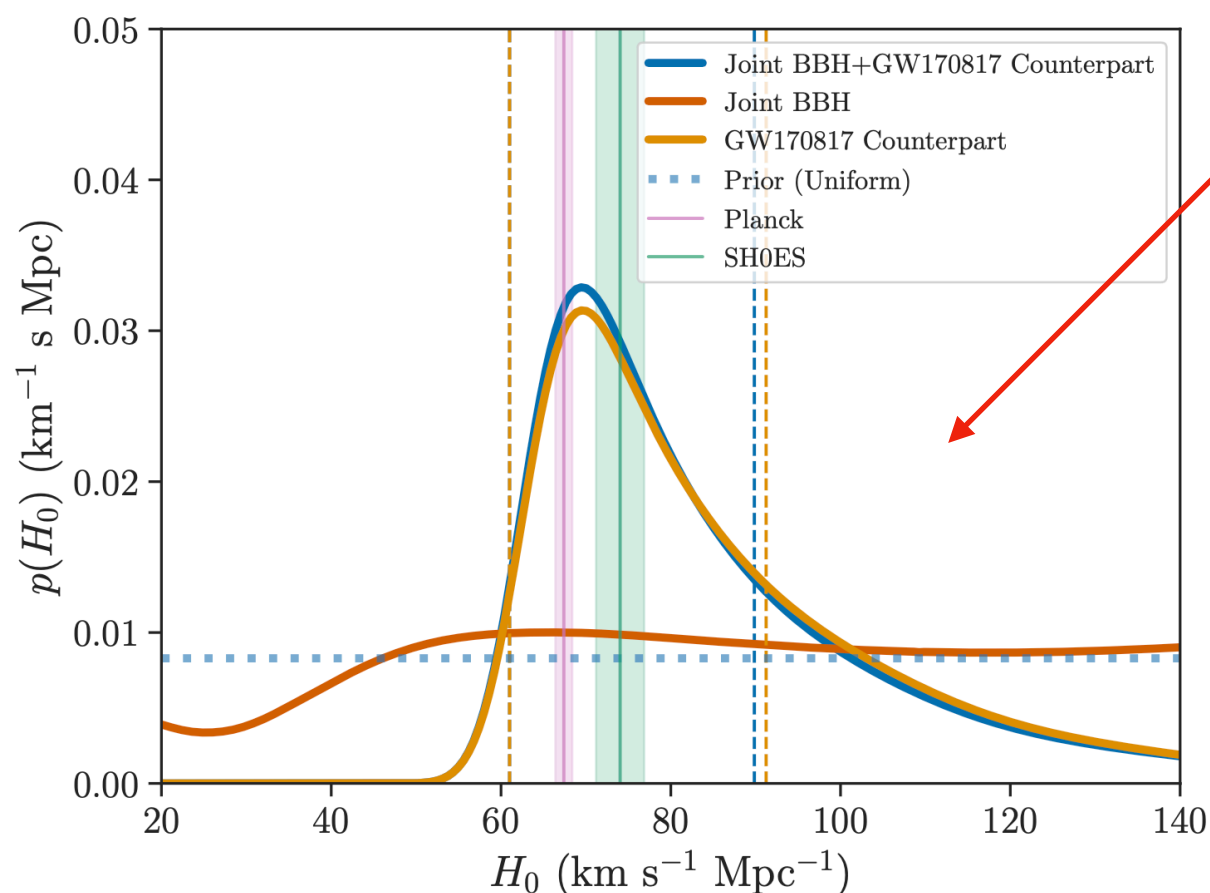


Some lesson learnt however:  
Strong dependence on the completeness and characteristics of the used galaxy catalogs

[Fishbach+, *ApJL* (2019)]

# Current results from LIGO/Virgo

The statistical method has then been applied to combine BBHs events:



LVC results with all O1 and O2 events combined: [\[LVC, ArXiv \(2020\)\]](#)

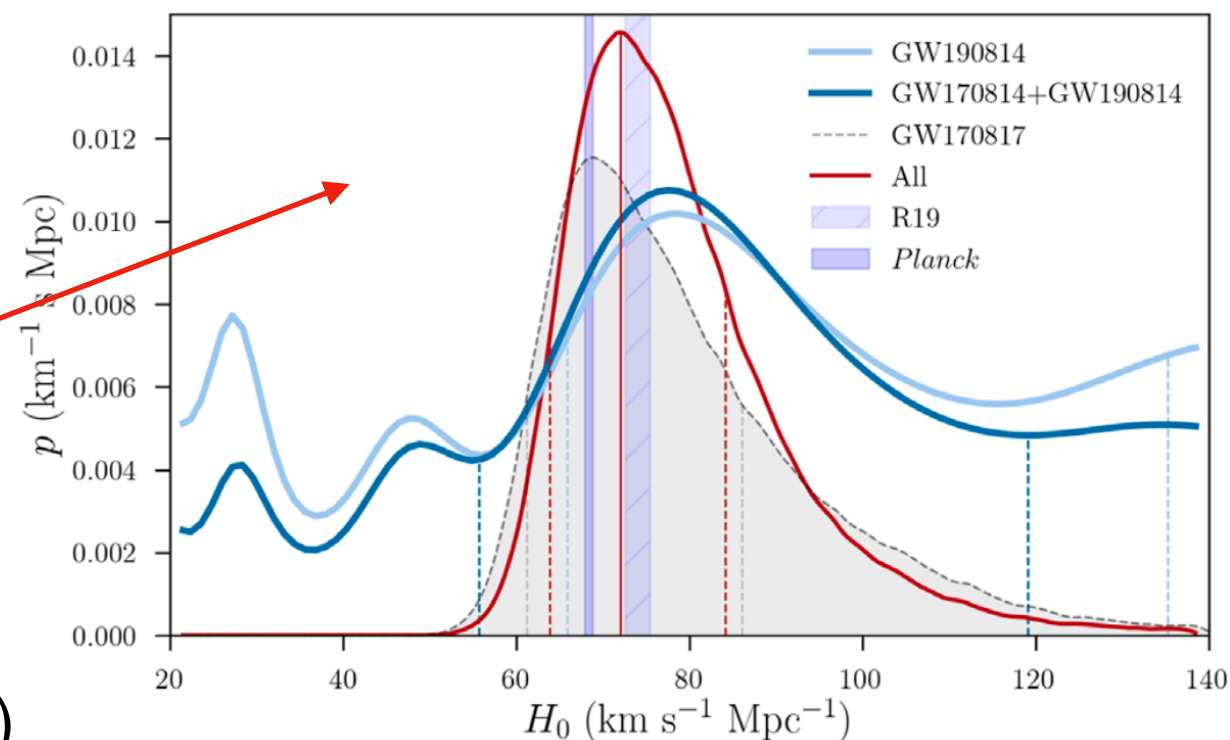
$$H_0 = 69^{+16}_{-8} \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$$

(4% improvement over GW170817 only)

DES results with GW190814 and GW170814: [\[Palmese+, ApJL \(2020\)\]](#)

$$H_0 = 72^{+12}_{-8} \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$$

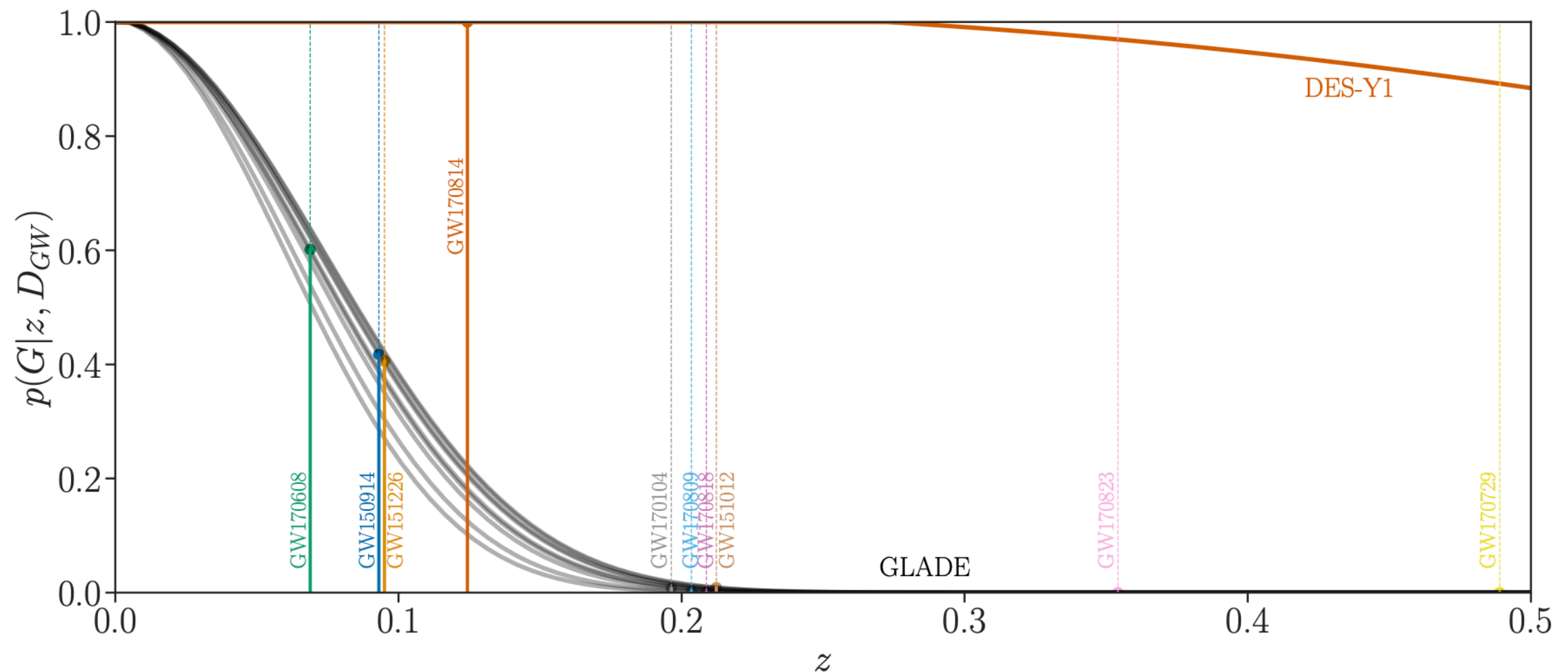
(18% improvement over GW170817 only)





# Current results from LIGO/Virgo

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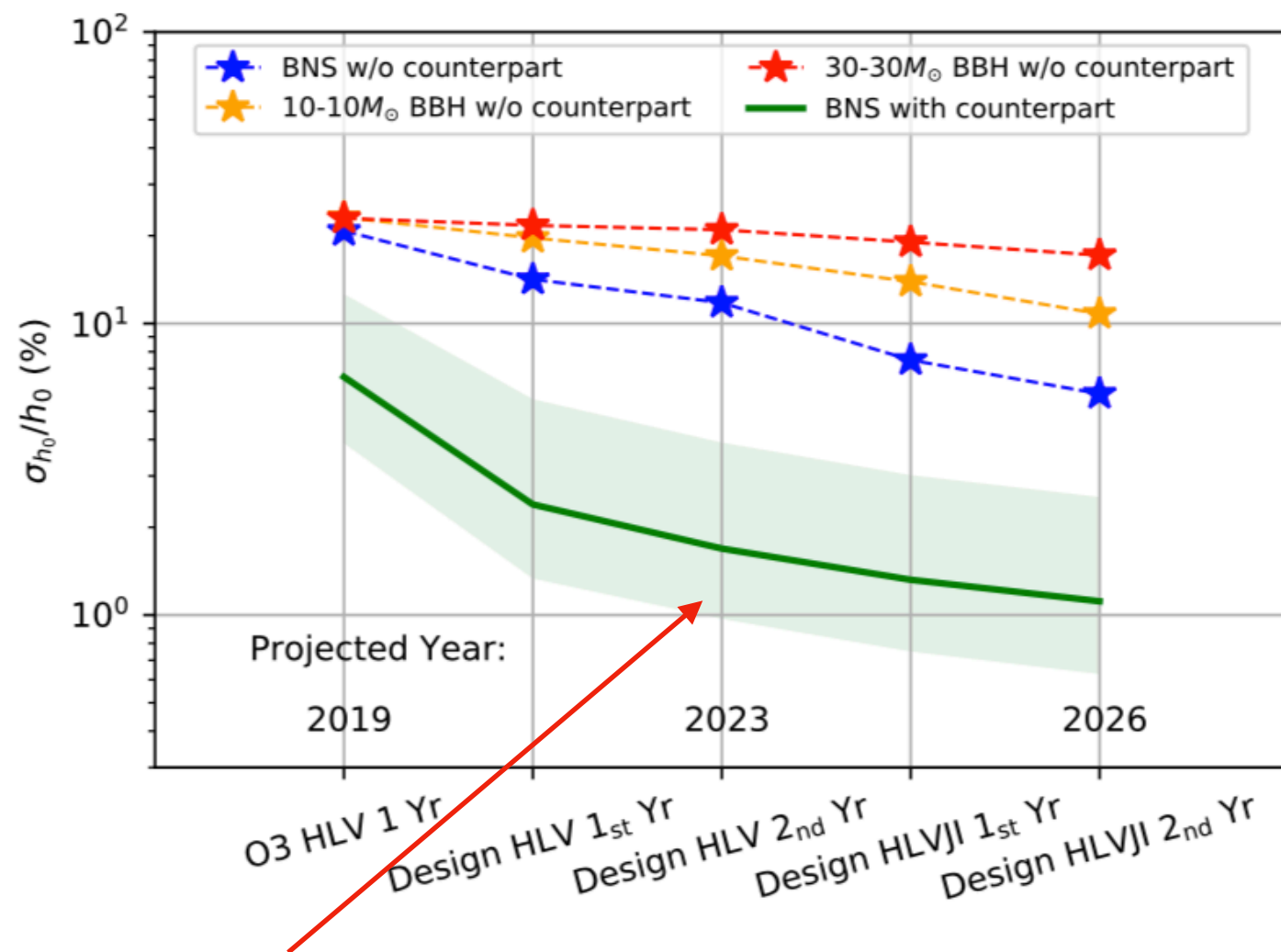


Completeness of galaxy catalogs is the main limitation for the statistical method

[LVC, *ArXiv* (2020)]

# Forecasts for ground-based detectors

The network of ground-based detectors should be able to measure  $H_0$  at few % accuracy before ~2030.



Very optimistic (based on pre-O3 BNS rates)

[Chen+, *Nature* (2018)]

[Chen+, *ArXiv* (2020)]

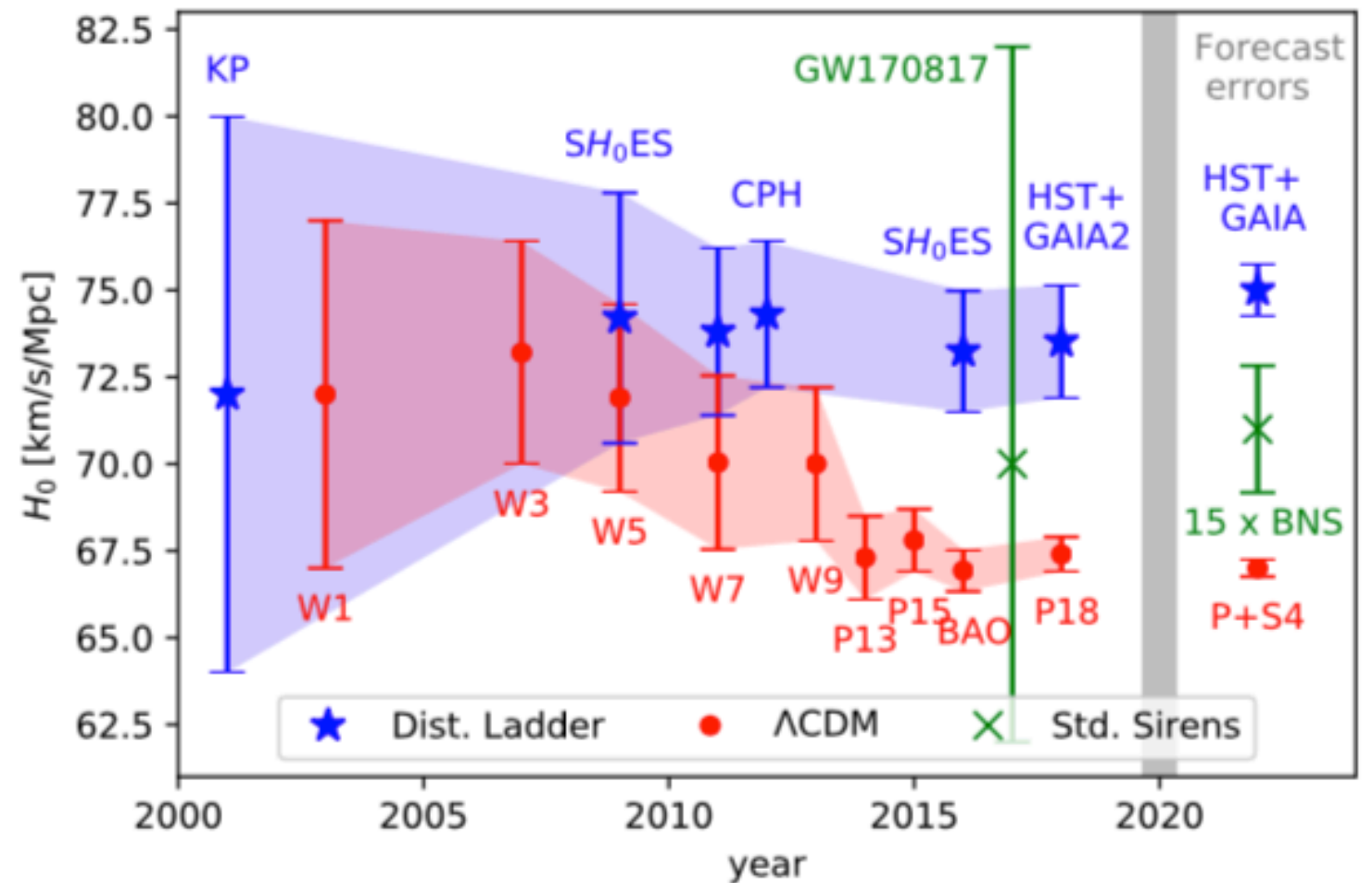
Forecasts for LIGO/Virgo/Kagra+:

- BNSs with EM counterpart:  
~2% constraint on  $H_0$  with ~50 events (but systematics!)
- BNSs without EM counterpart:  
~10% constraint on  $H_0$  with ~50 events
- BBHs without EM counterpart:  
~10% constraint on  $H_0$  with ~15 “well-localised” events ( $\Delta V < 10^4 \text{ Mpc}^3$ )

# Forecasts for ground-based detectors

The network of ground-based detectors should be able to measure  $H_0$  at few % accuracy before ~2030.

A few % constraints on  $H_0$  with GWs could solve the current tension between local and CMB measurements

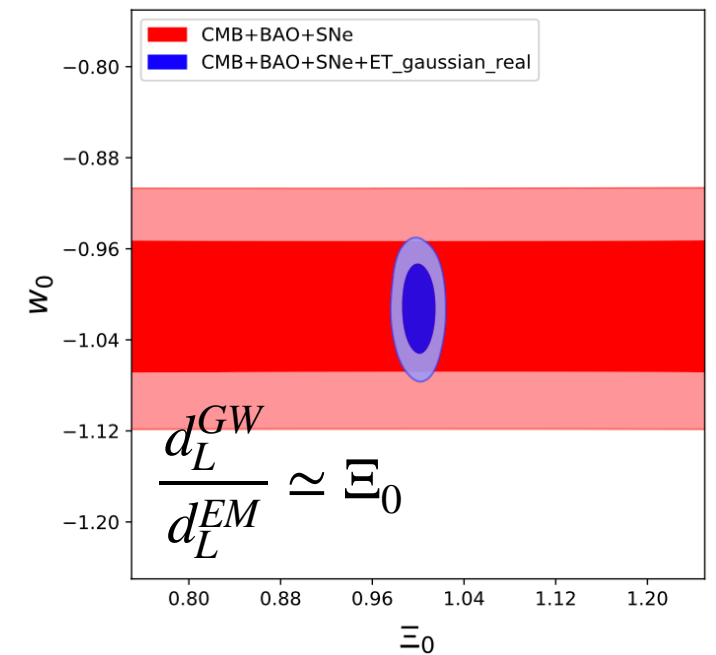
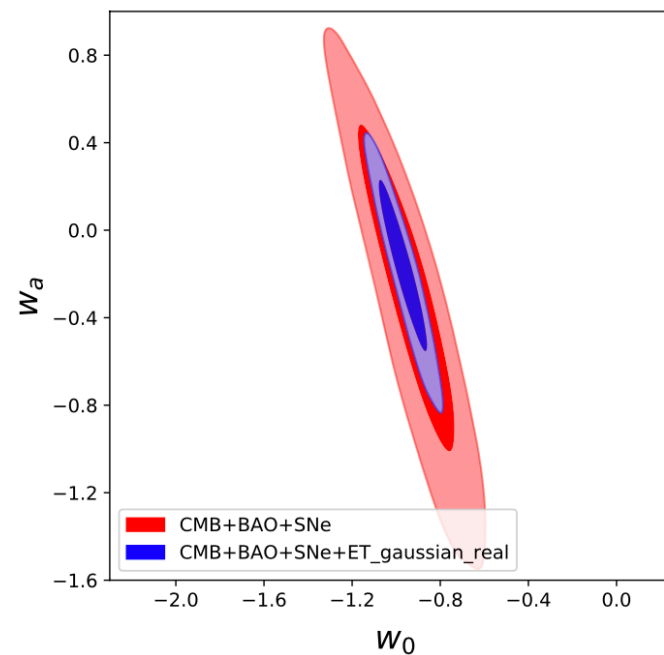
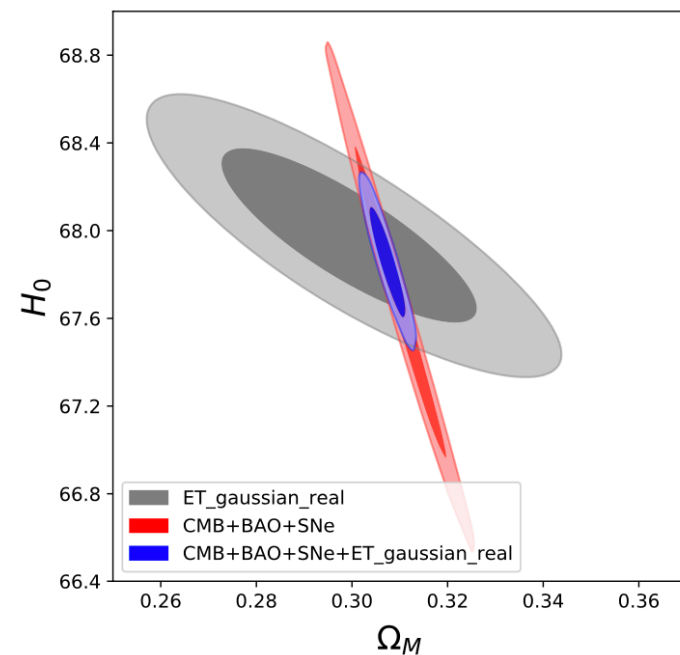


[Ezquiaga & Zumalacarregui,  
*Front. Astron. Space Sci.* (2018)]



# Forecasts for ground-based detectors

In the 2030s 3G detectors will turn GW observations into precise cosmological probes:



*Einstein Telescope* and *Cosmic Explorer* will guarantee:

- % constraints on  $H_0$  or better
- Improved constraints on dark energy
- Strong GW-only tests of GR at cosmic distances (see Zumalacarregui's talk)

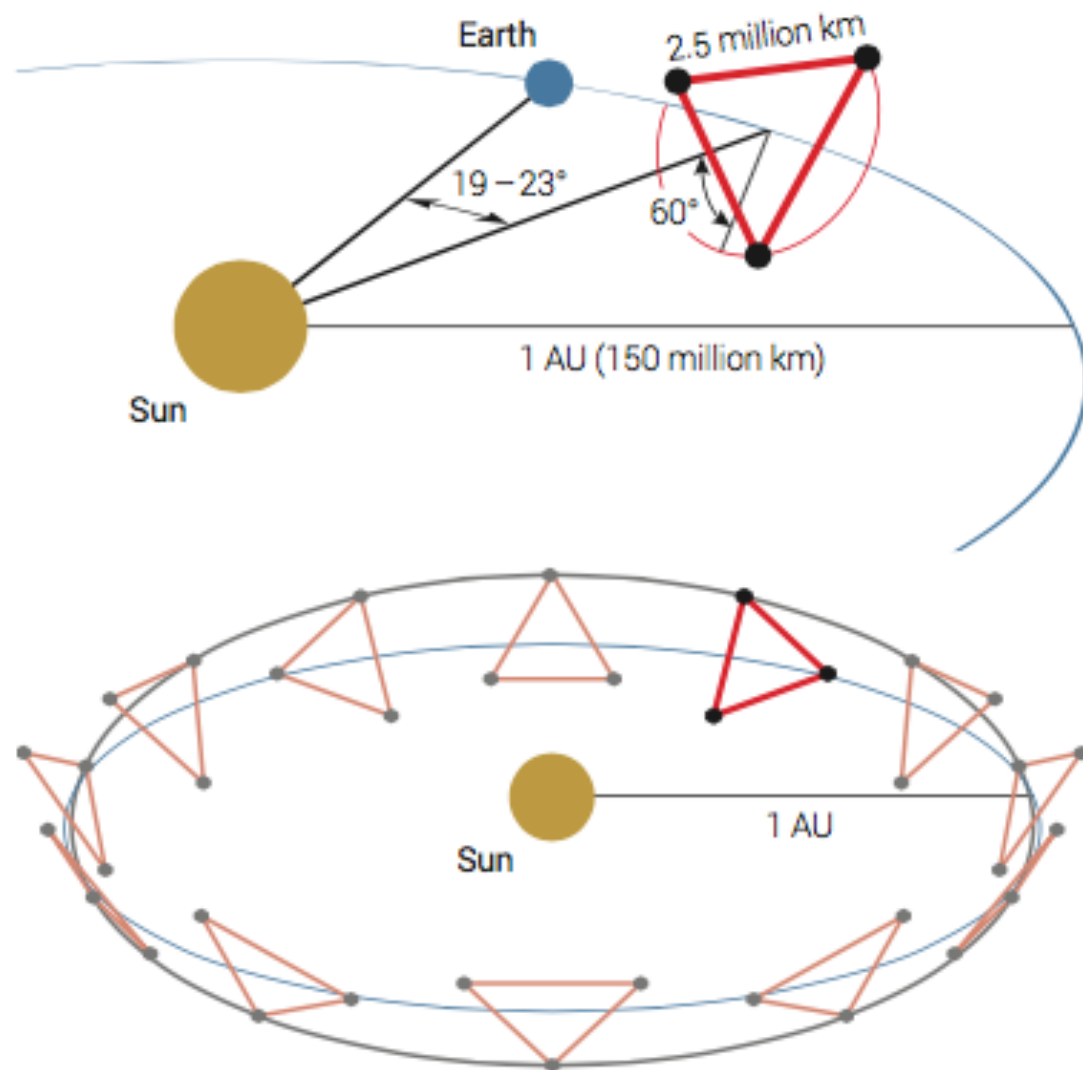
[Belgacem+, *JCAP* (2019)]

Moreover 3G detectors may not need EM counterparts to get the redshift of BNSs, but use the information on their EoS to extract it from the GW signal

[Del Pozzo+, *PRD* (2017)]

# Let's go to space: LISA

## Laser Interferometer Space Antenna



[LISA, *ArXiv* (2017)]

### Design:

- Near equilateral triangular formation in heliocentric orbit
- 6 laser links (3 active arms)
- Arm-length: 2.5 million km
- Mission duration: 4 to 10 yrs
- Launch: 2034

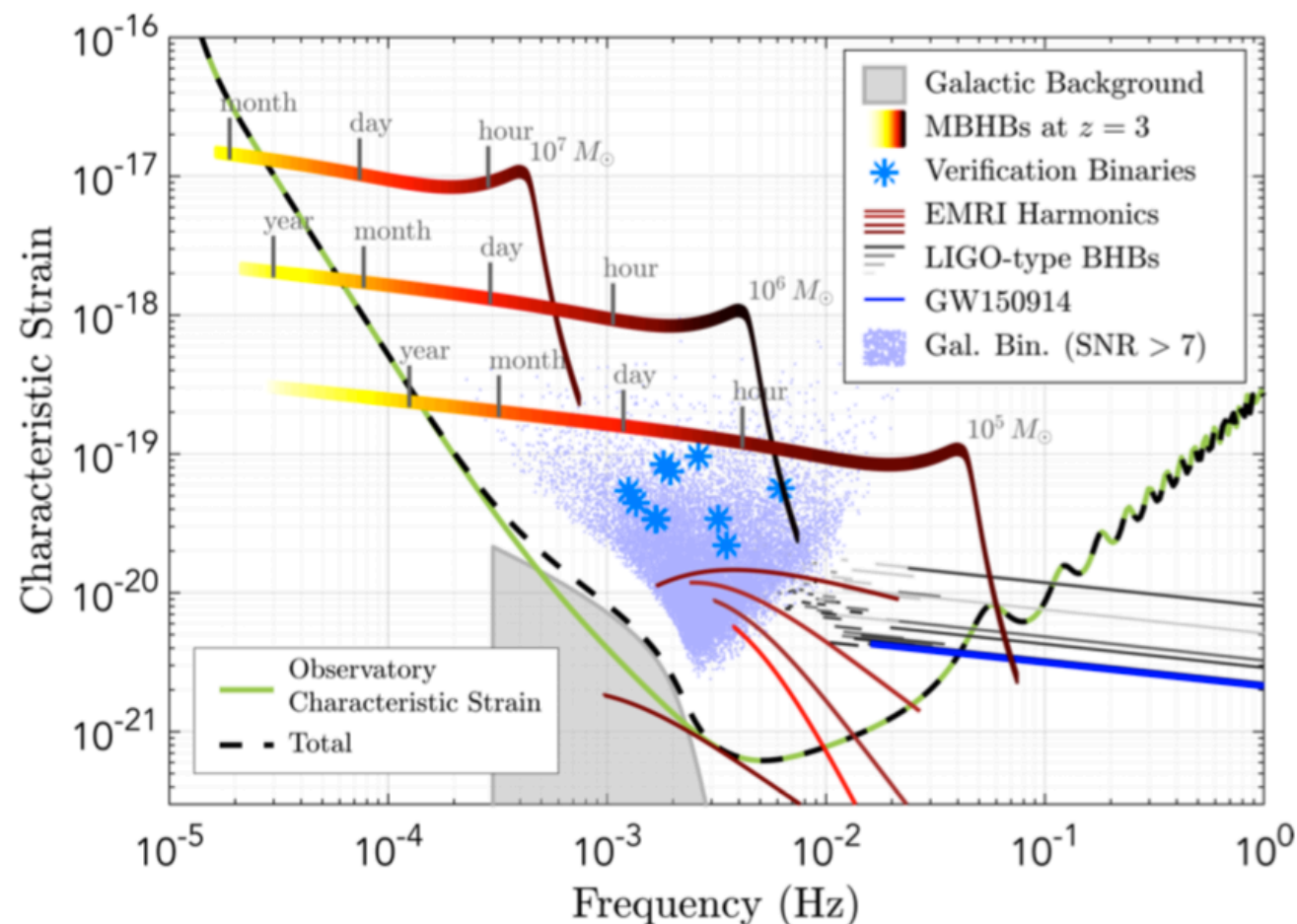
### Standard siren sources:

- Stellar-mass BBHs ( $10 - 100 M_{\odot}$ )
- Extreme mass ratio inspirals (EMRIs)
- **MBHBs** ( $10^4 - 10^7 M_{\odot}$ )
- Intermediate-mass BBHs? ( $\gtrsim 100 M_{\odot}$ )

\*EM counterparts expected

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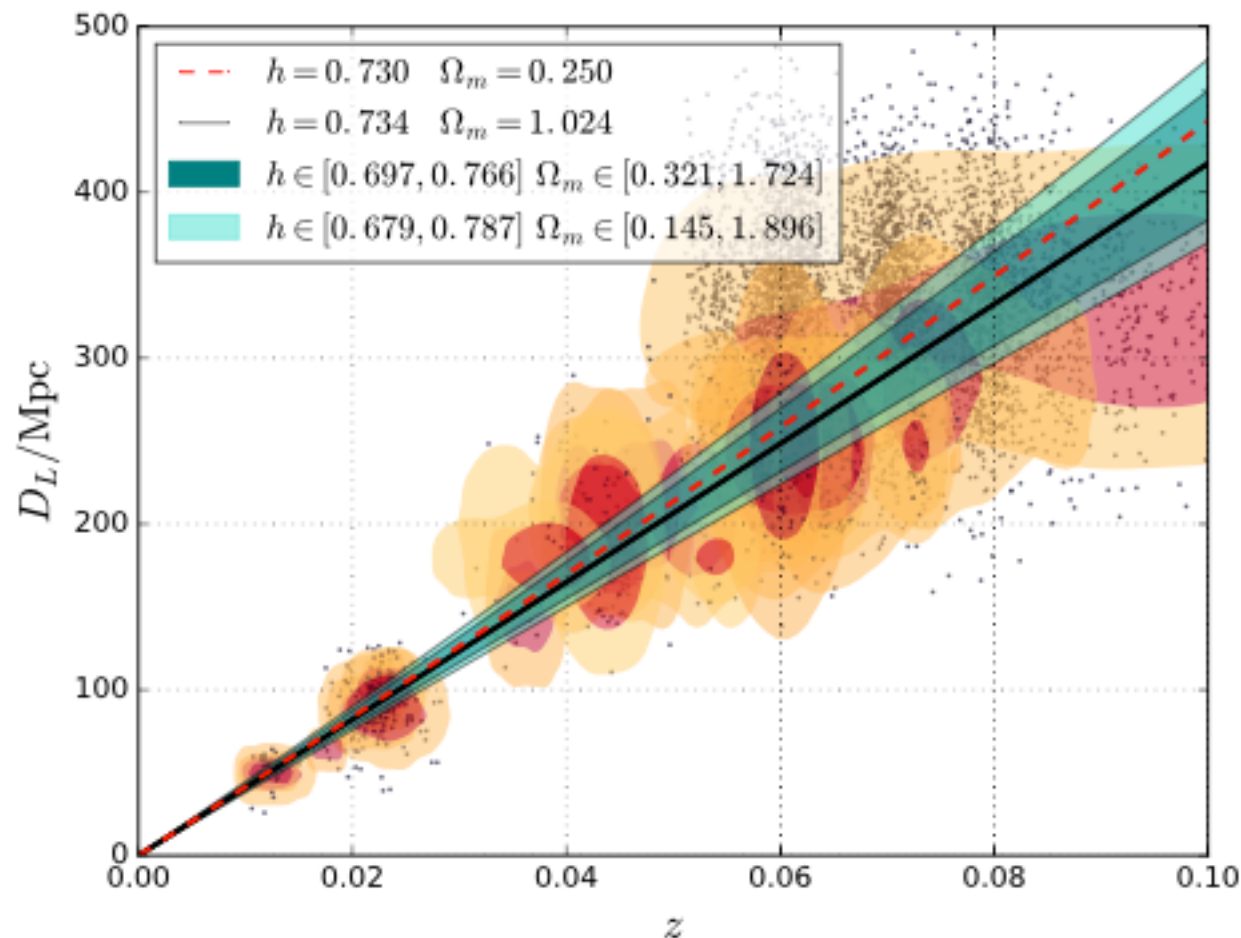
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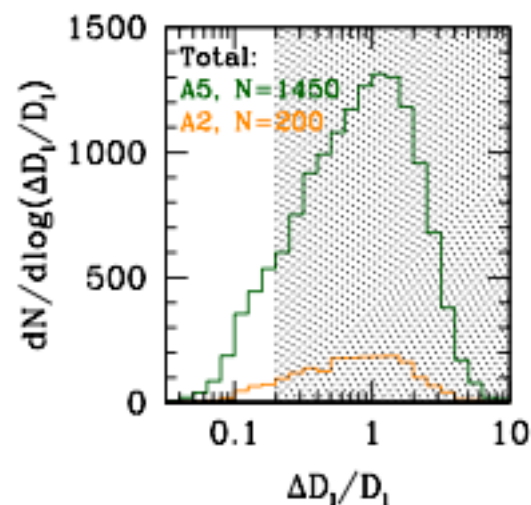
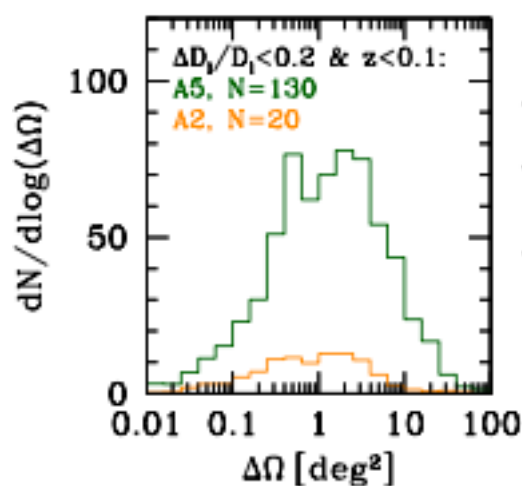
# LISA: stellar-mass BBHs



- Redshift range:  $z \lesssim 0.1$
- No EM counterparts expected
- LISA detections:  $\sim 50/\text{yr}$
- Useful as standard sirens:
  - If  $\Delta d_L/d_L < 0.2$
  - If  $\Delta\Omega \sim 1 \text{ deg}^2$
  - $\Rightarrow \sim 5$  standard sirens / yr

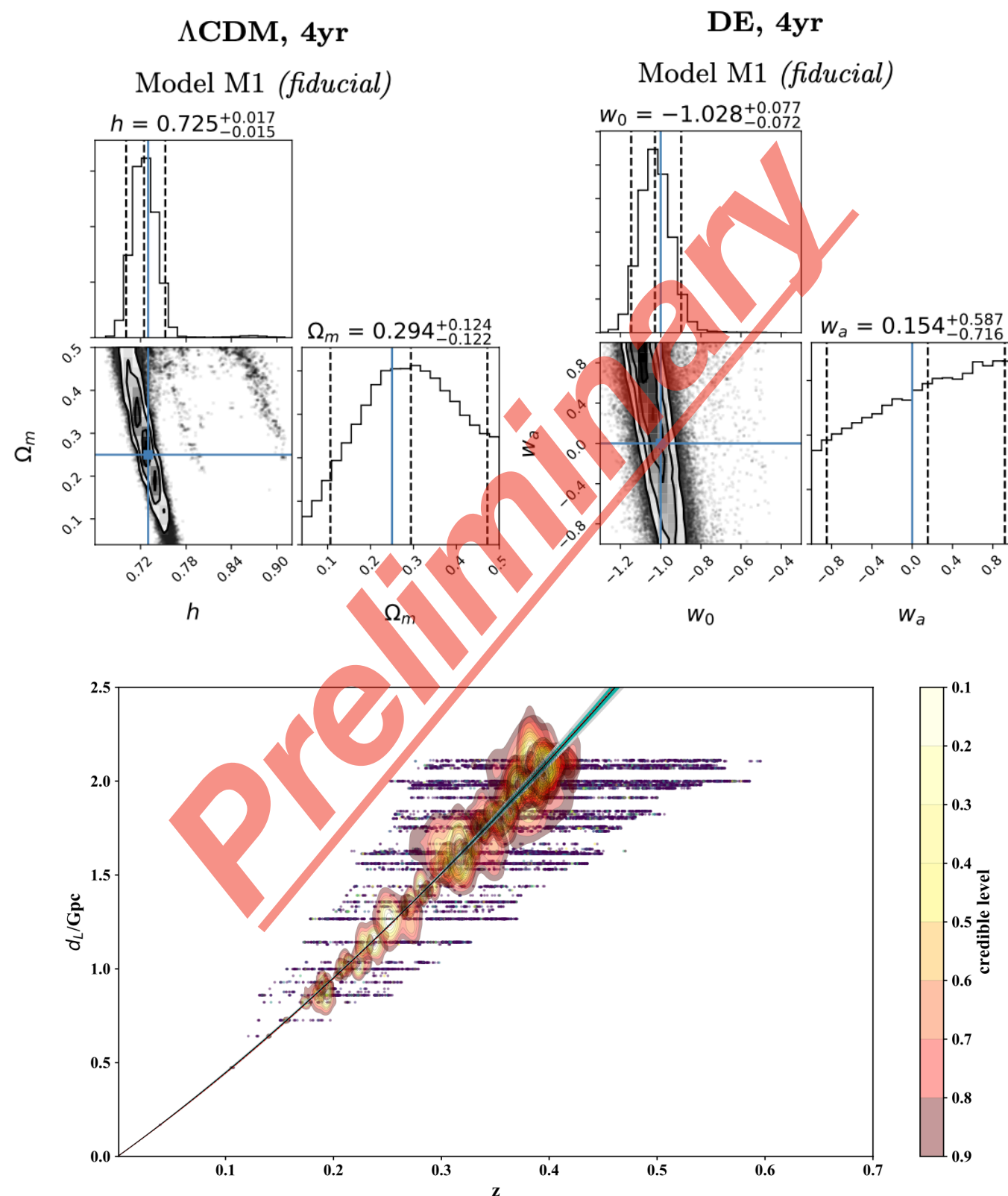
## • Expected results:

- $H_0$  to few %



[Kyutoku & Seto, *PRD* (2017)]  
 [Del Pozzo+, *MNRAS* (2018)]

# LISA: Extreme Mass Ratio Inspirals



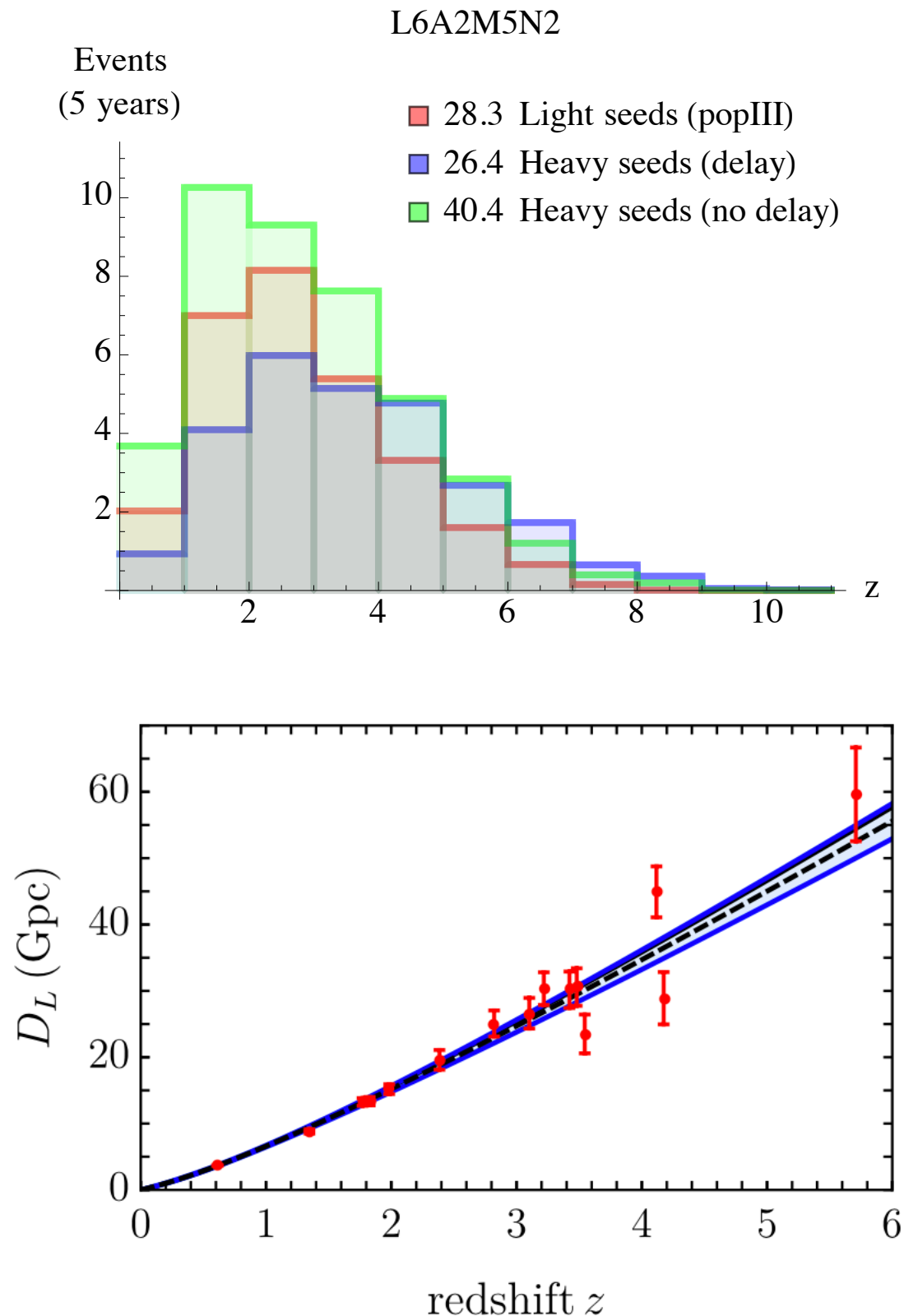
- Redshift range:  $0.1 \lesssim z \lesssim 1$
- No EM counterparts expected
- LISA detections: 1 to 1000/yr
- Useful as standard sirens:
  - If  $\Delta d_L/d_L < 0.1$
  - If  $\Delta\Omega < 2 \text{ deg}^2$
  - $\Rightarrow \sim 1$  to 100 standard sirens / yr
- **Expected results (preliminary):**
  - $H_0$  between 1 and 10 %
  - $w_0$  between 5 and 20 %

[MacLeod & Hogan, *PRD* (2008)]

[Babak+, *PRD* (2017)]

[Laghi, Tamanini+, *in prep.* (2021)]

# LISA: massive BBHs



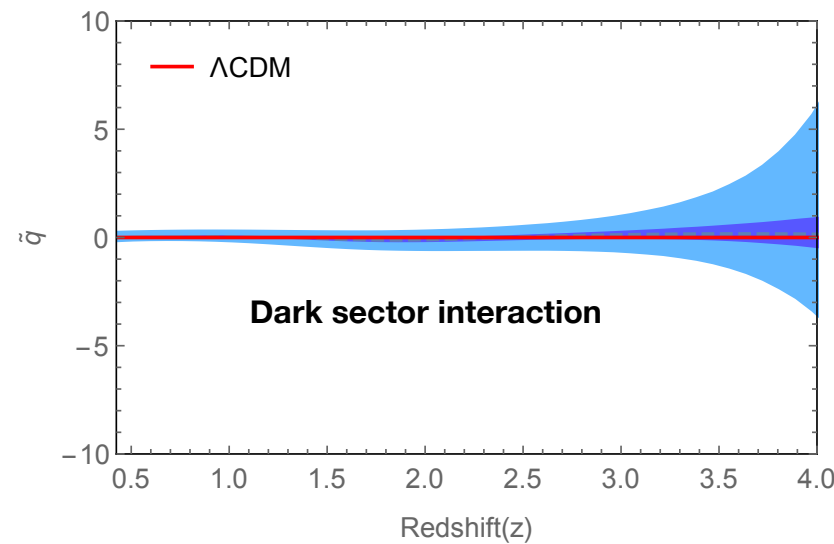
- Redshift range:  $z \lesssim 10$
- EM counterparts expected
- LISA detections: 1 to 100/yr
- Useful as standard sirens:
  - If  $\Delta d_L / d_L \lesssim 0.1$  (include lensing)
  - If  $\Delta \Omega < 10 \text{ deg}^2$
  - $\Rightarrow \sim 4$  standard sirens / yr (with EM counterpart)
- **Expected results:**
  - $H_0$  to few %

[Tamanini+, *JCAP* (2016)]  
 [LISA CosmoWG, *JCAP* (2019)]  
 [Speri, Tamanini+, *ArXiv* (2020)]

# LISA: massive BBHs

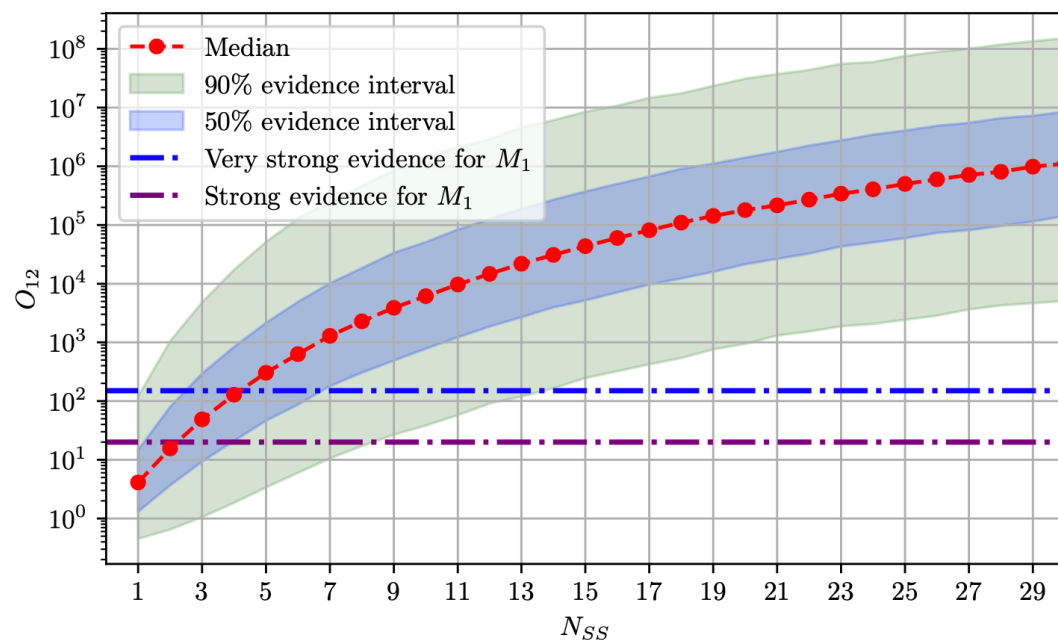
LISA MBHB data will be very useful to probe  $\Lambda$ CDM at high-redshift

## Test alternative cosmological models



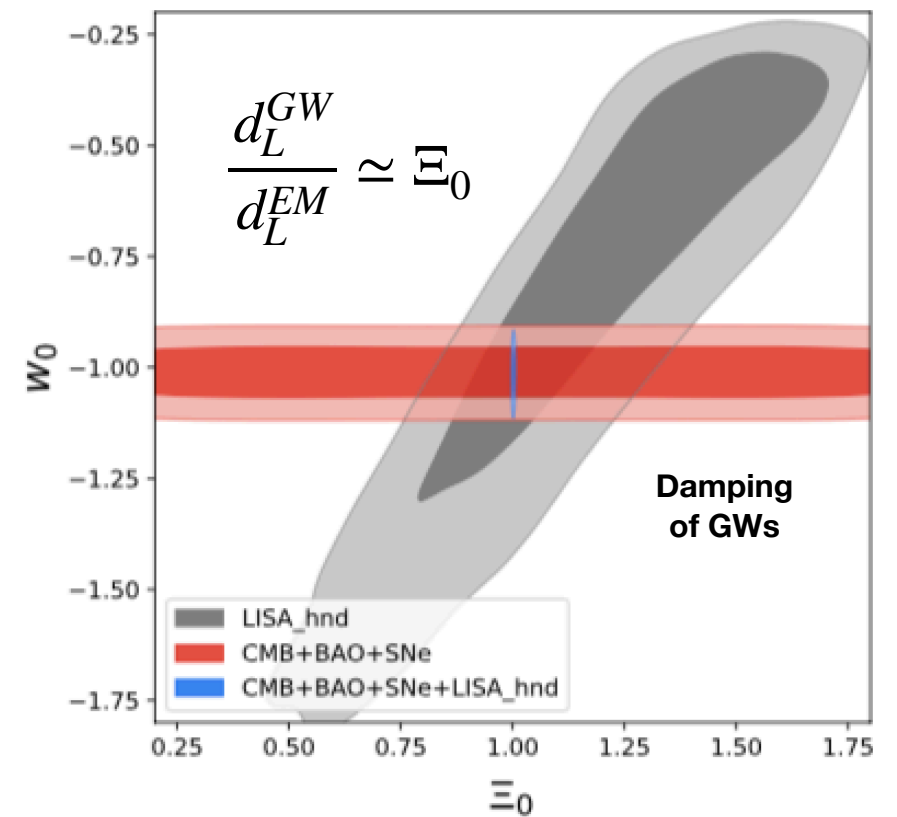
[Caprini & Tamanini,  
*JCAP* (2016)]  
[Cai, Tamanini, Yang,  
*JCAP* (2017)]

## Test quasars Hubble diagram



[Speri,  
Tamanini+,  
*ArXiv* (2020)]

## Test modified gravity



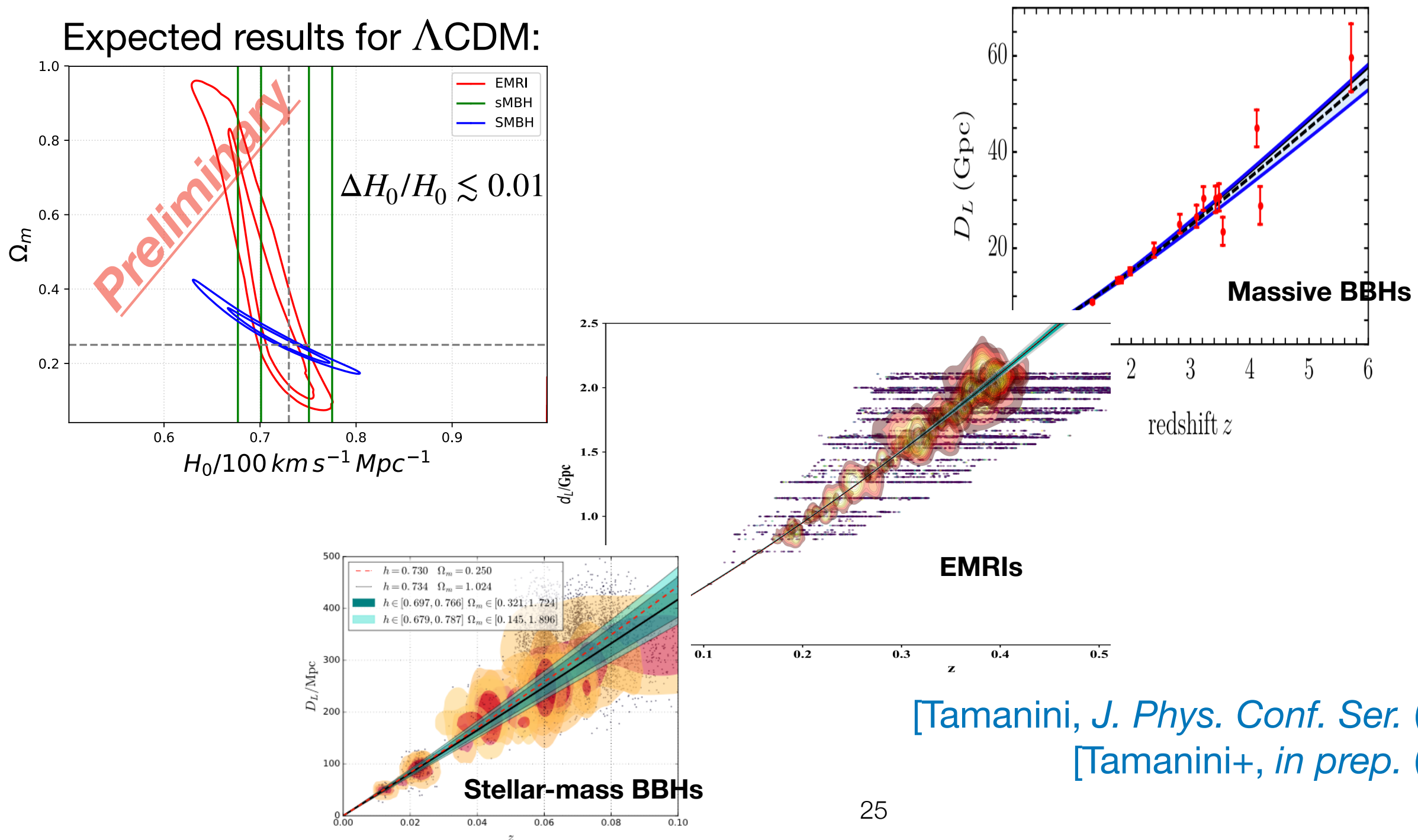
[LISA CosmoWG, *JCAP* (2019)]  
(see Zumalacarregui's talk)



# LISA as a cosmological probe

The combination of different standard sirens will allow LISA to measure the expansion of the universe from  $z \sim 0.01$  to  $z \sim 10$

Expected results for  $\Lambda$ CDM:



[Tamanini, *J. Phys. Conf. Ser.* (2017)]  
[Tamanini+, *in prep.* (2021)]

# Conclusions

- Standard sirens are excellent distance indicators:
  - They do not require calibration and are not affected by systematics
  - Can be used with or without an EM counterpart
- Standard sirens with ground-based detectors:
  - Three possible sources:
    - SOBHBs (no EM cp), NSBs (EM cp) and NS-BH (?)
  - First standard siren discovered: GW170817
  - Future observations useful for tension on  $H_0$
- Standard sirens with LISA:
  - Three possible sources:
    - SOBHBs (no EM cp), EMRIs (no EM cp), MBHBs (EM cp)
  - Probing the cosmic expansion from  $z \sim 0.01$  to  $z \sim 10$
  - High-redshift tests of alternative cosmological models and modified gravity