

Multimessenger Galactic Astronomy

with Double White Dwarfs

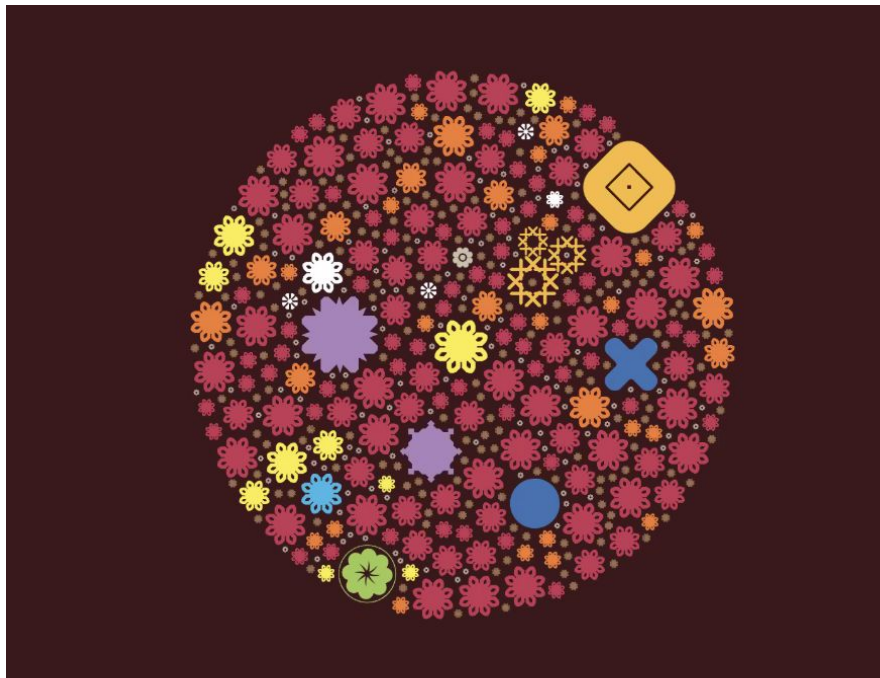


Image credit: David McCandless

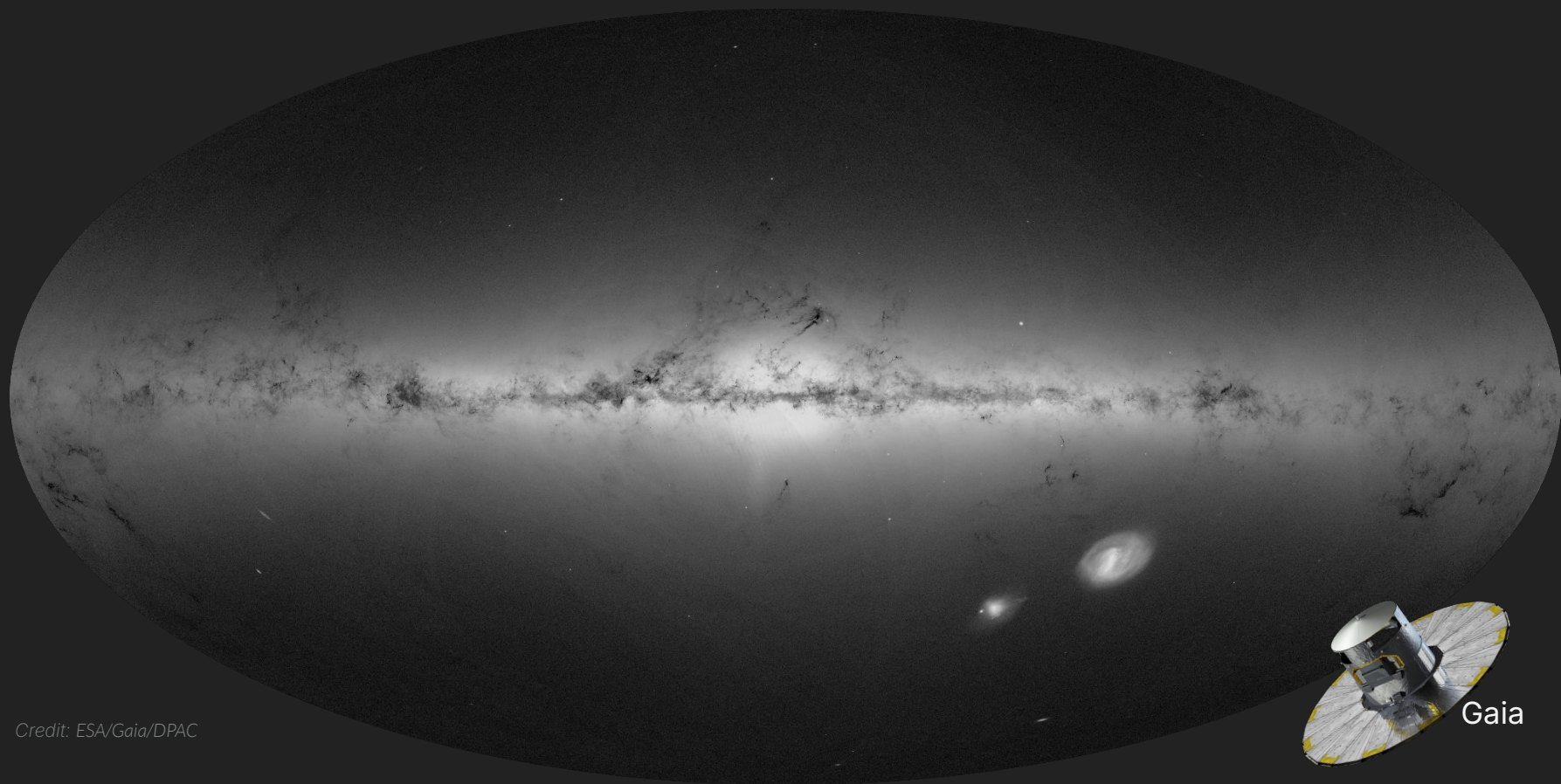
Valeriya Korol

MPI for Astrophysics

LISA Science Team

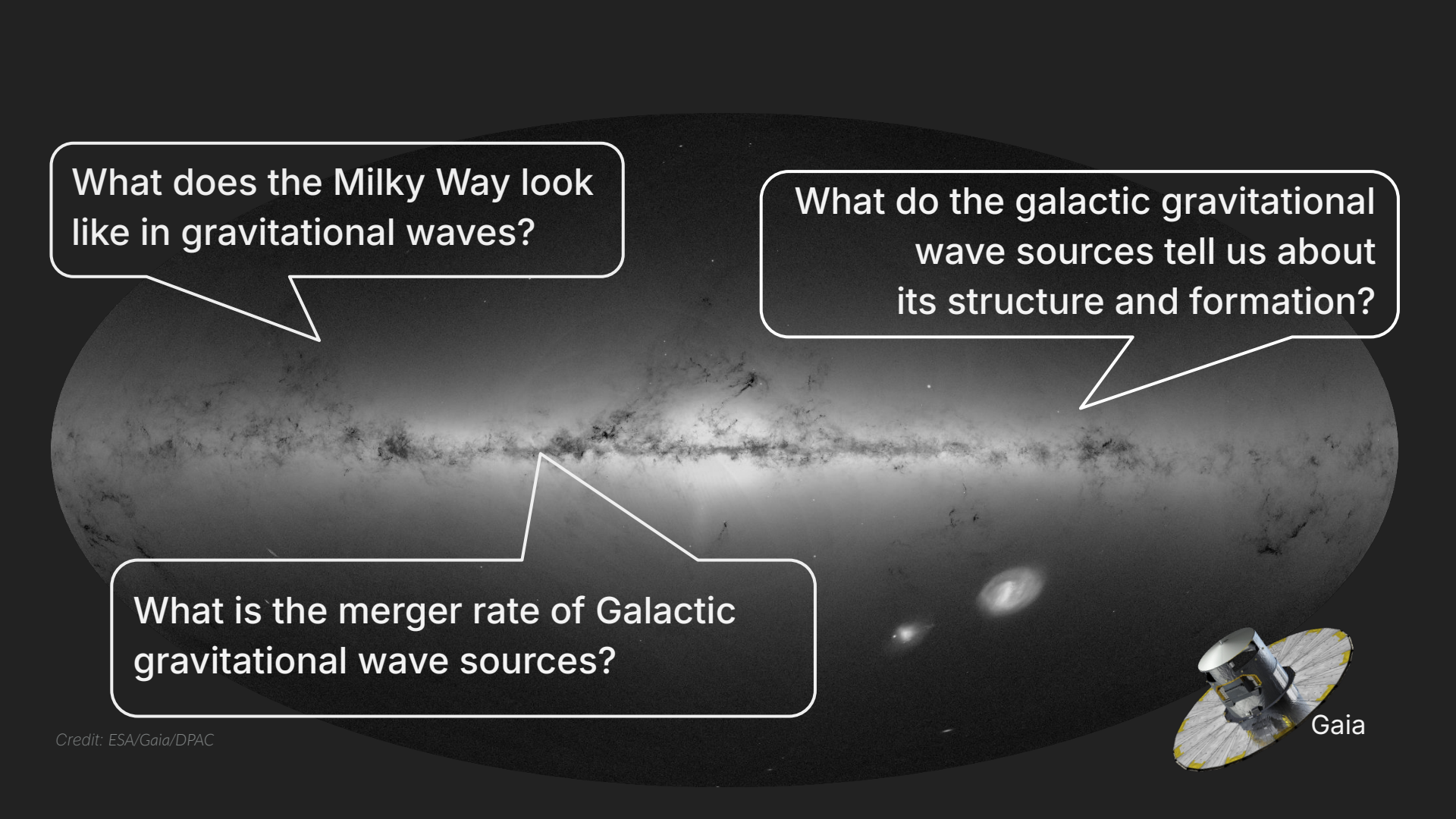
korol@mpa-garching.mpg.de

valeriakorol.com



Credit: ESA/Gaia/DPAC

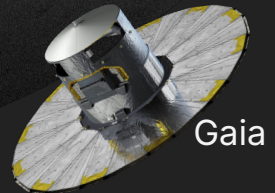
Gaia



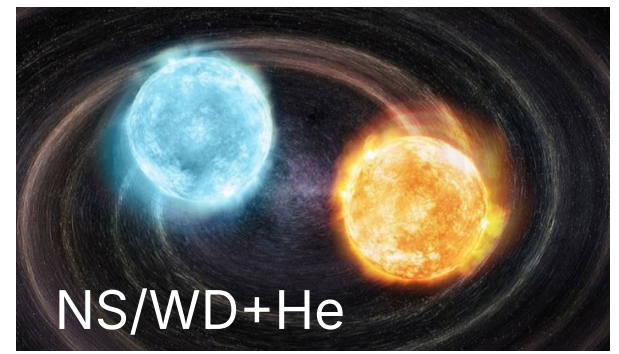
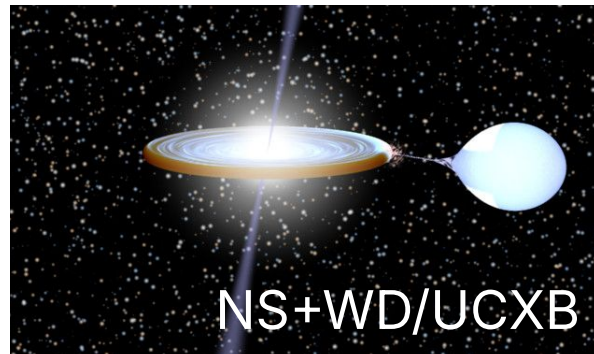
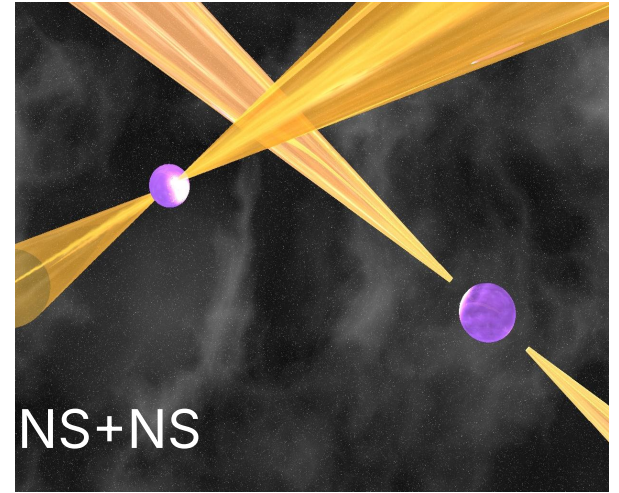
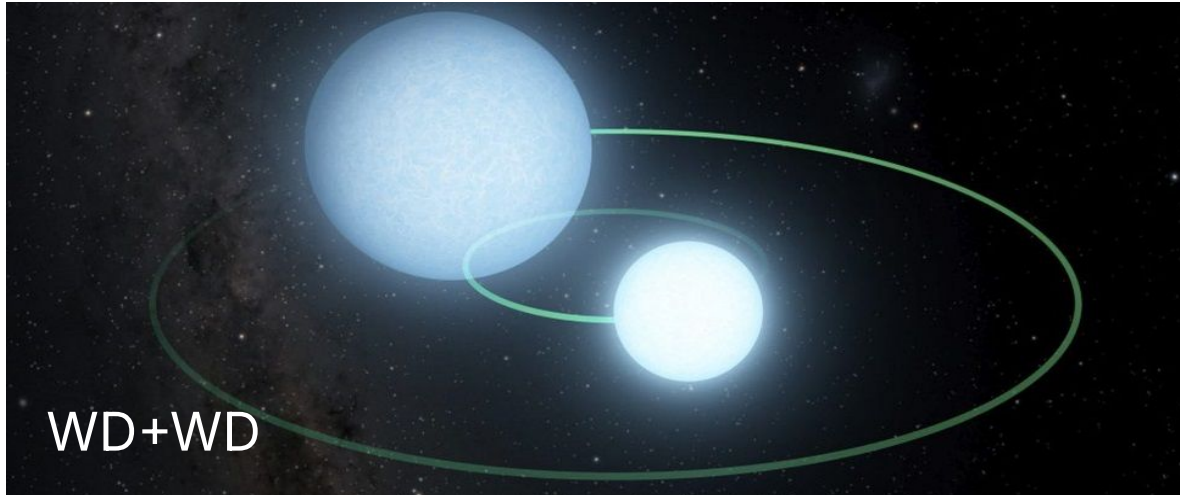
What does the Milky Way look like in gravitational waves?

What do the galactic gravitational wave sources tell us about its structure and formation?

What is the merger rate of Galactic gravitational wave sources?



GALACTIC GRAVITATIONAL WAVE SOURCES

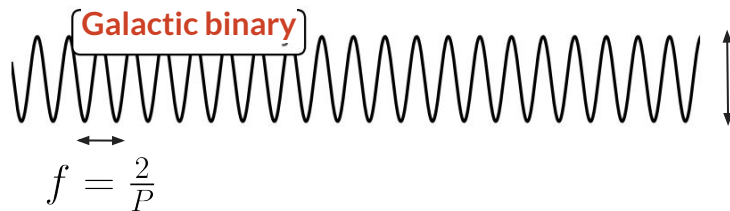


GRAVITATIONAL WAVES FROM GALACTIC COMPACT BINARIES

Galactic binaries emit **continuous, nearly sinusoidal** GW signals.

The waveform describing such signals is defined by 8 (up to 11) parameters:

$$\{\mathcal{A}, f, \dot{f}, \lambda, \beta, \iota, \psi, \phi_0\}$$

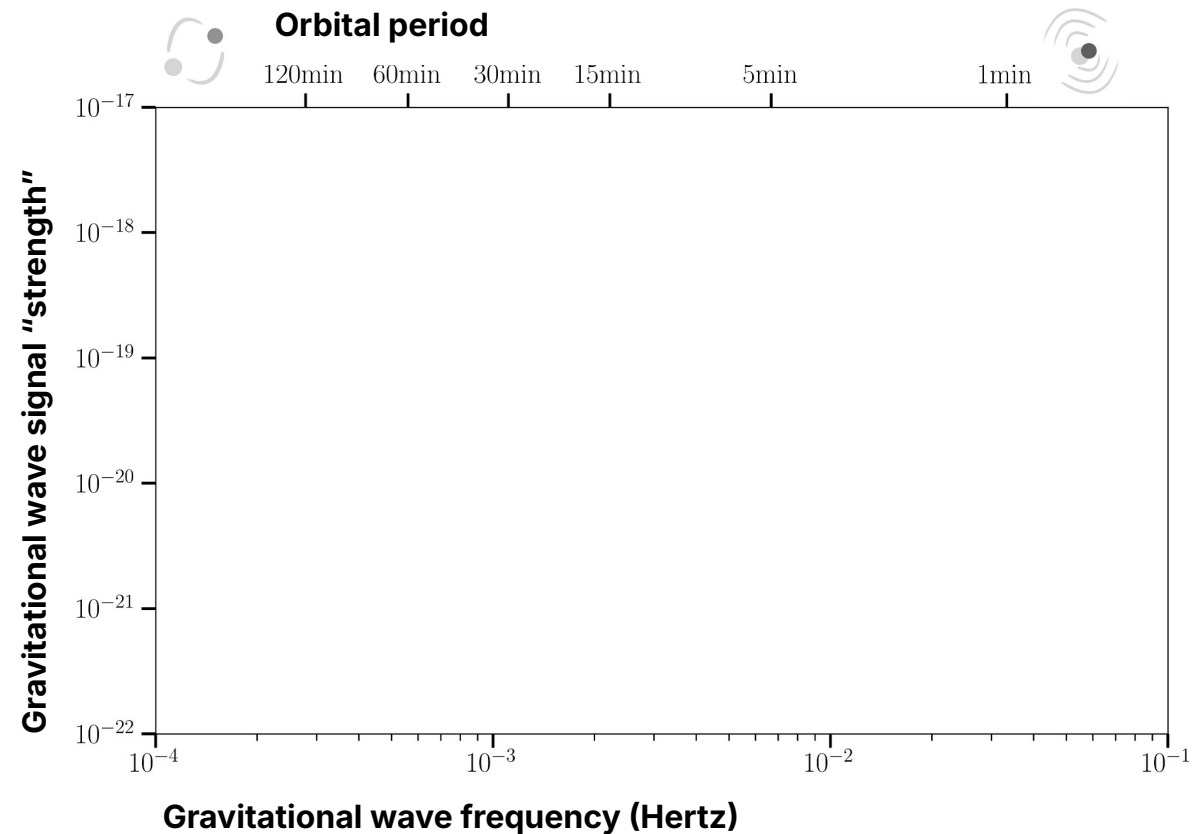


The diagram illustrates a sinusoidal gravitational wave signal. A box labeled "Galactic binary" is positioned above the wave. Below the wave, a double-headed arrow indicates the period P , with the frequency $f = \frac{2}{P}$ written below it. To the right of the wave, the strain amplitude h is given by the equation $h \propto \frac{\mathcal{M}^{5/3} f^{2/3}}{d} \sim 10^{-22}$.

Change in frequency due to GW radiation $\dot{f} \propto f^{11/3} \mathcal{M}^{5/3} \sim 1 \text{ nHz yr}^{-1}$

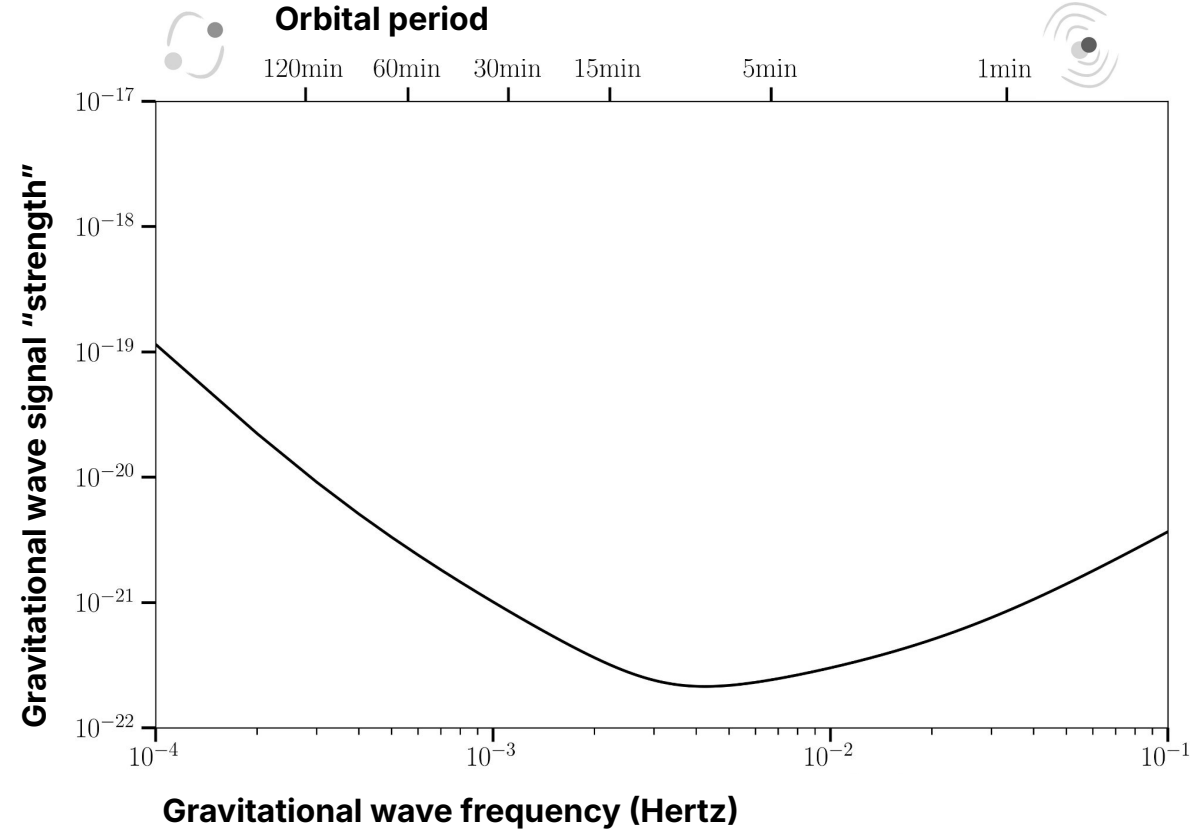
LISA WILL REVEAL **UNSEEN COMPACT BINARY SYSTEMS**

Living Review Amaro et al. /w Korol et al. 2023



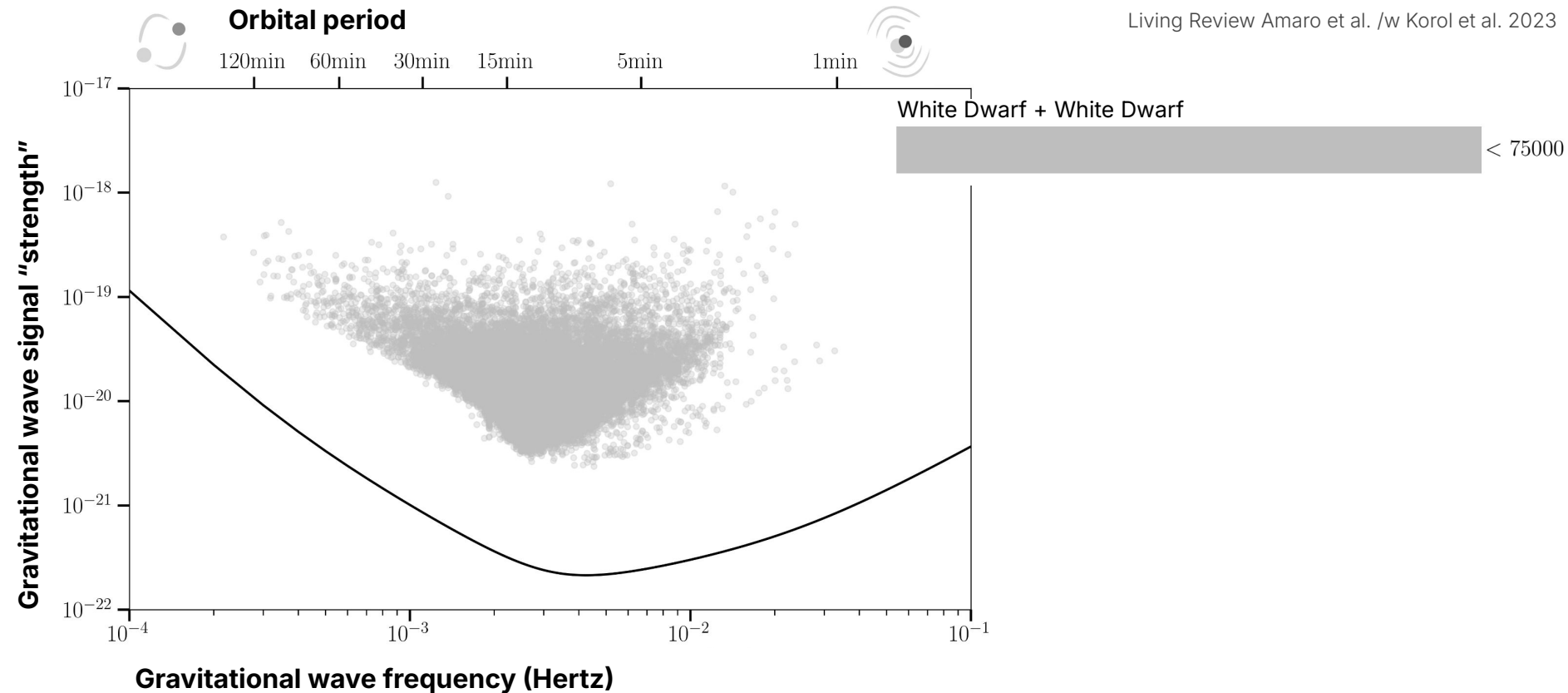
LISA WILL REVEAL **UNSEEN COMPACT BINARY SYSTEMS**

Living Review Amaro et al. /w Korol et al. 2023



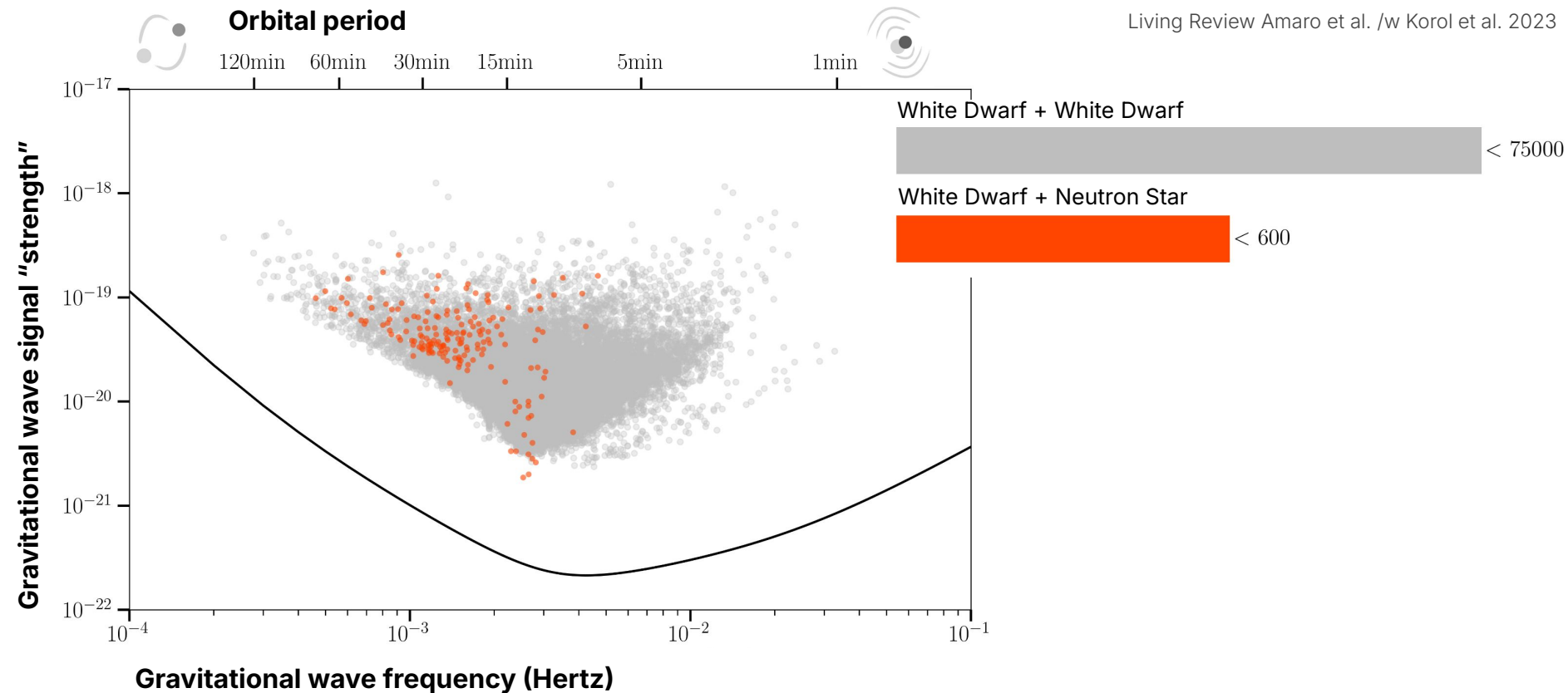
LISA WILL REVEAL UNSEEN COMPACT BINARY SYSTEMS

Living Review Amaro et al. /w Korol et al. 2023



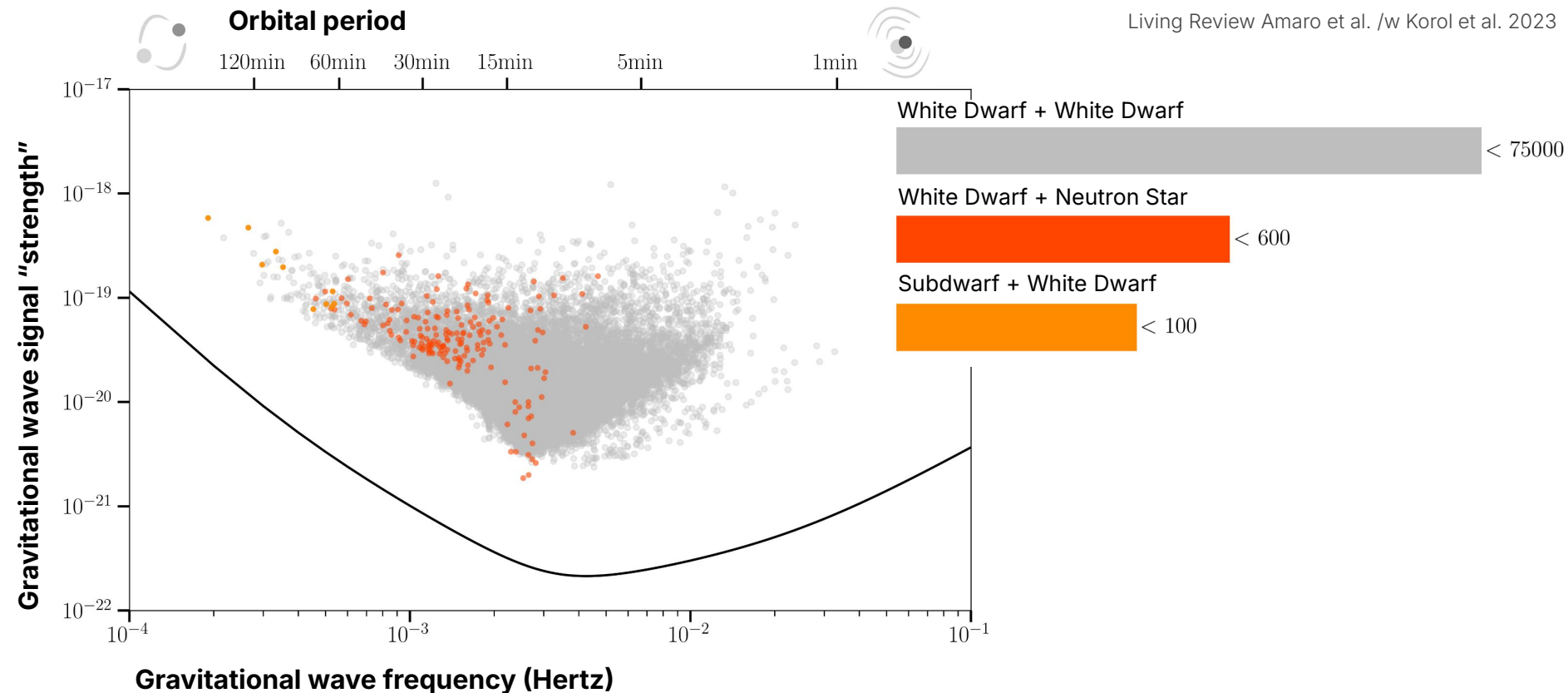
LISA WILL REVEAL UNSEEN COMPACT BINARY SYSTEMS

Living Review Amaro et al. /w Korol et al. 2023



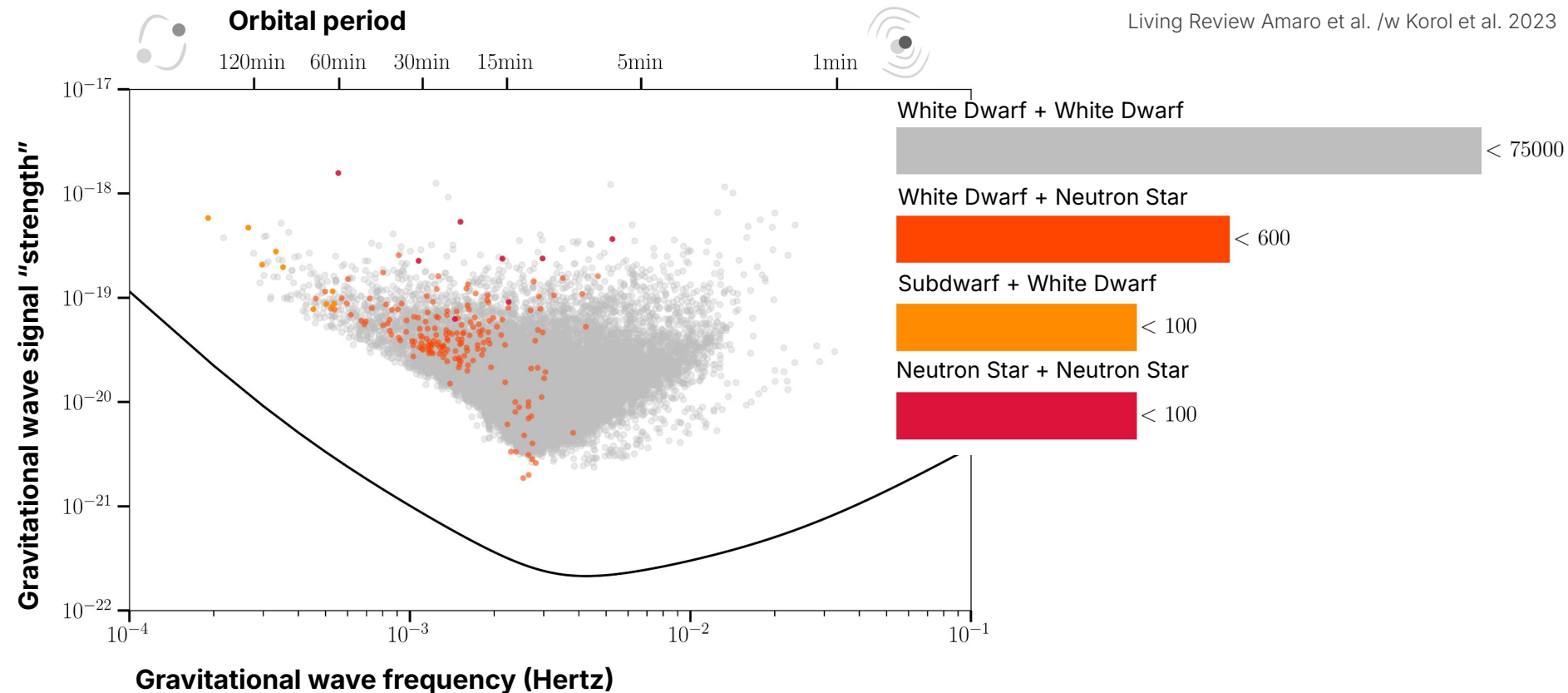
LISA WILL REVEAL UNSEEN COMPACT BINARY SYSTEMS

Living Review Amaro et al. /w Korol et al. 2023



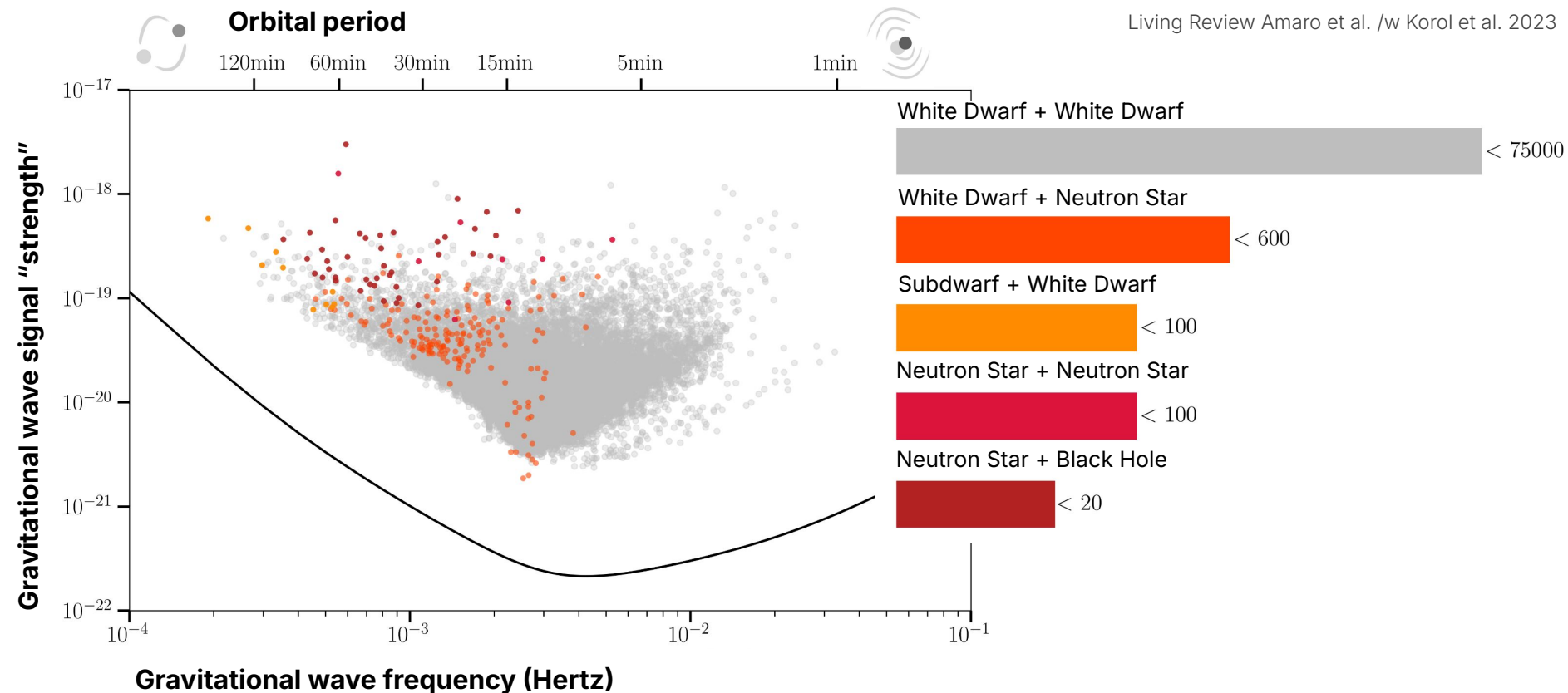
LISA WILL REVEAL UNSEEN COMPACT BINARY SYSTEMS

Living Review Amaro et al. /w Korol et al. 2023



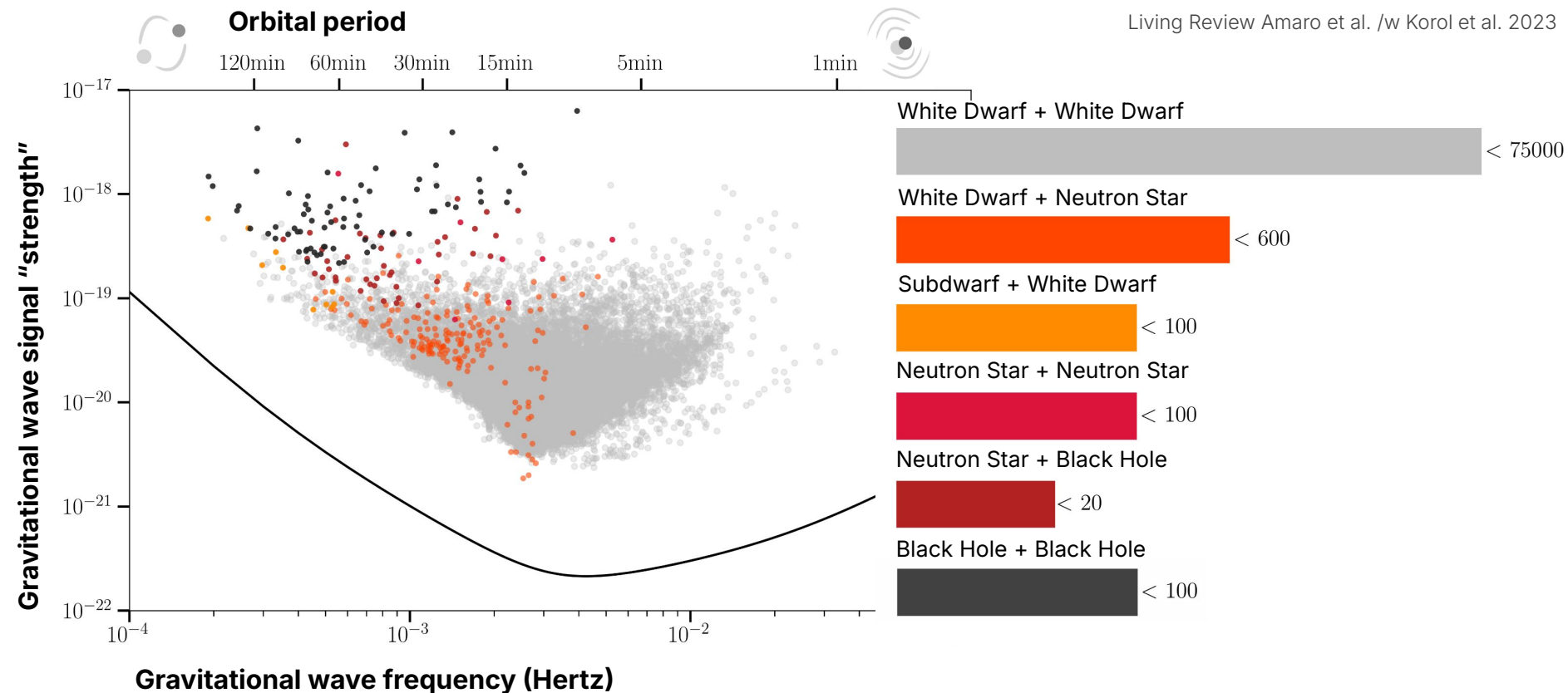
LISA WILL REVEAL UNSEEN COMPACT BINARY SYSTEMS

Living Review Amaro et al. /w Korol et al. 2023



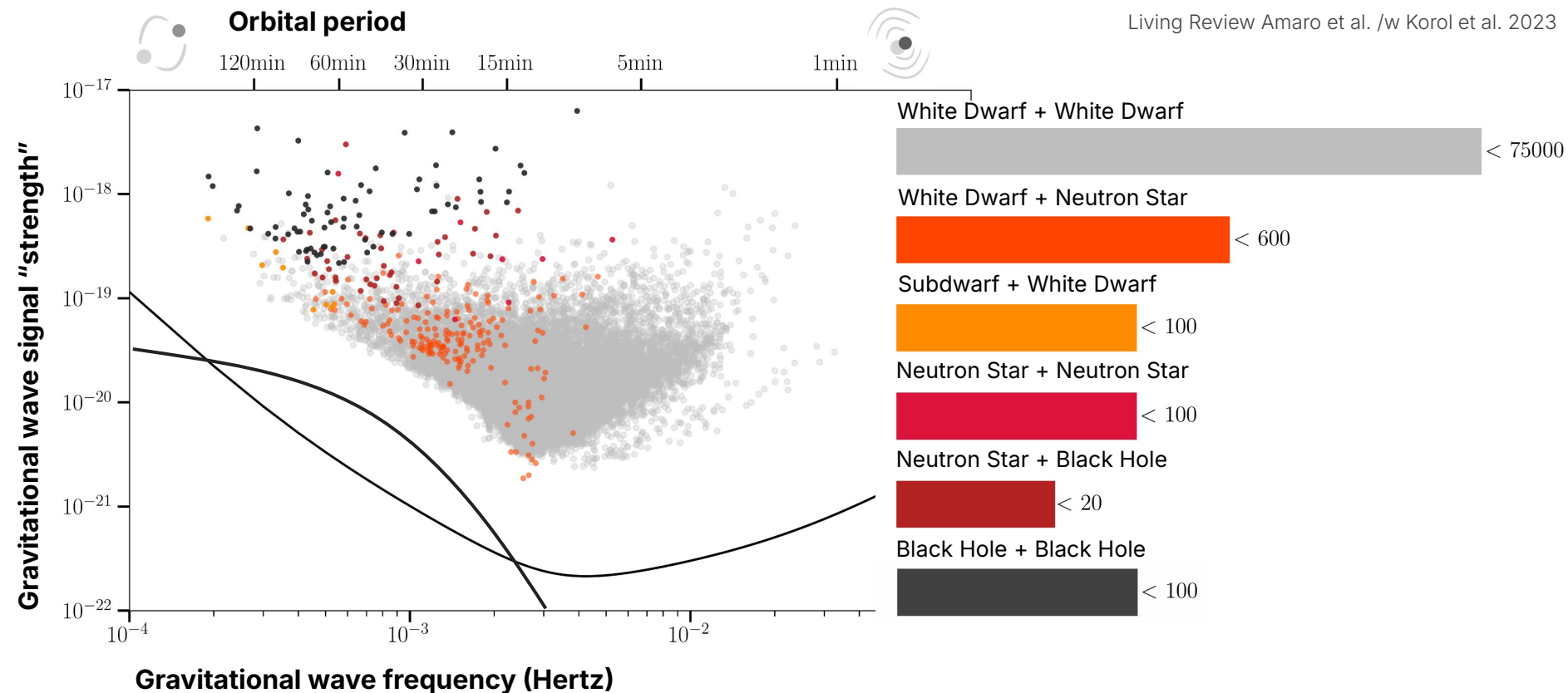
LISA WILL REVEAL UNSEEN COMPACT BINARY SYSTEMS

Living Review Amaro et al. /w Korol et al. 2023

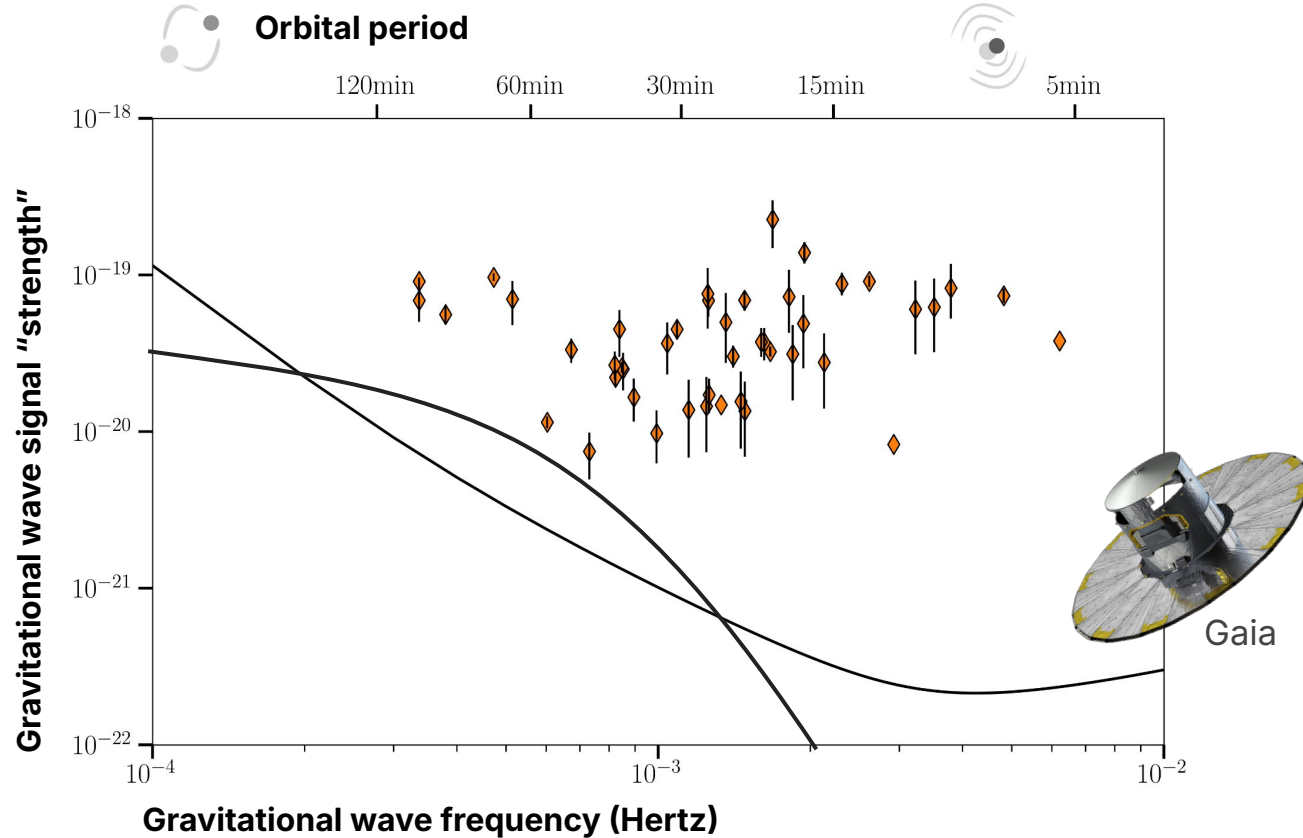


LISA WILL REVEAL UNSEEN COMPACT BINARY SYSTEMS

Living Review Amaro et al. /w Korol et al. 2023



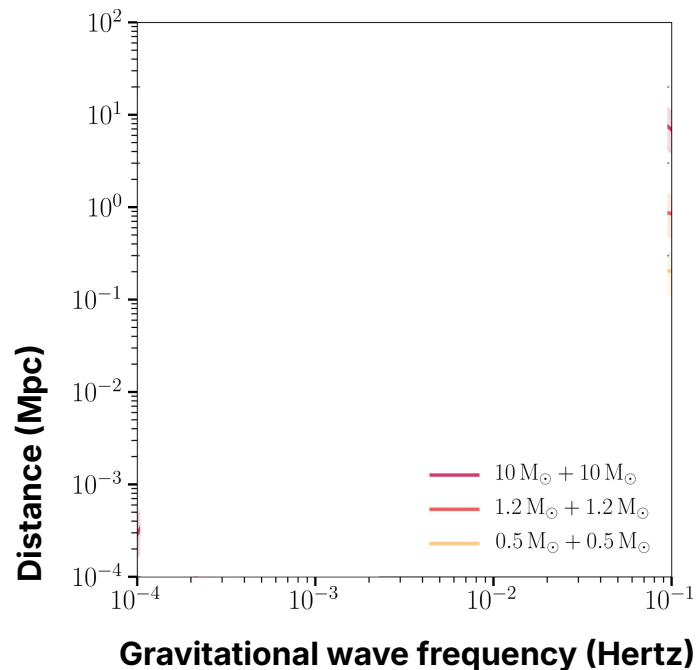
SAMPLE OF **GUARANTEED** LISA SOURCES



Kupfer, Korol et al. 2018, 2024

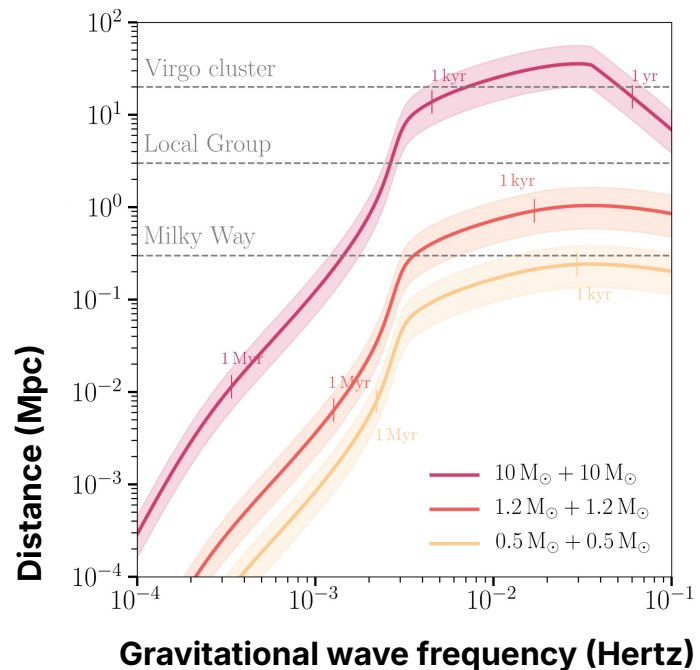
LISA WILL REVEAL UNSEEN COMPACT BINARY SYSTEMS ACROSS THE ENTIRE MILKY WAY

Living Review Amaro et al. /w Korol et al. 2023



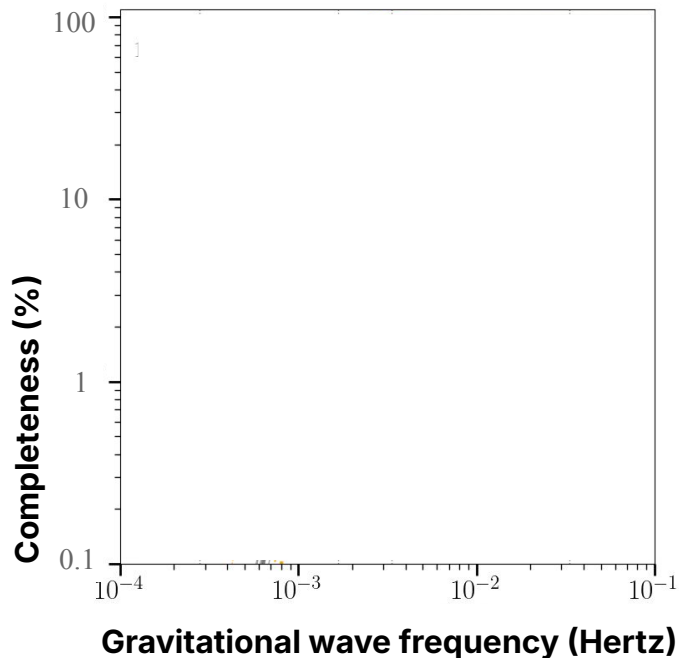
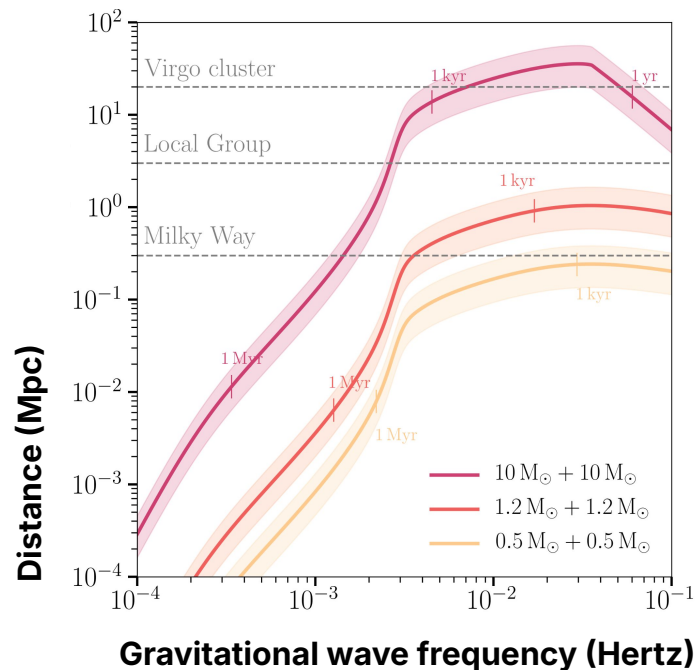
LISA WILL REVEAL UNSEEN COMPACT BINARY SYSTEMS ACROSS THE ENTIRE MILKY WAY

Living Review Amaro et al. /w Korol et al. 2023



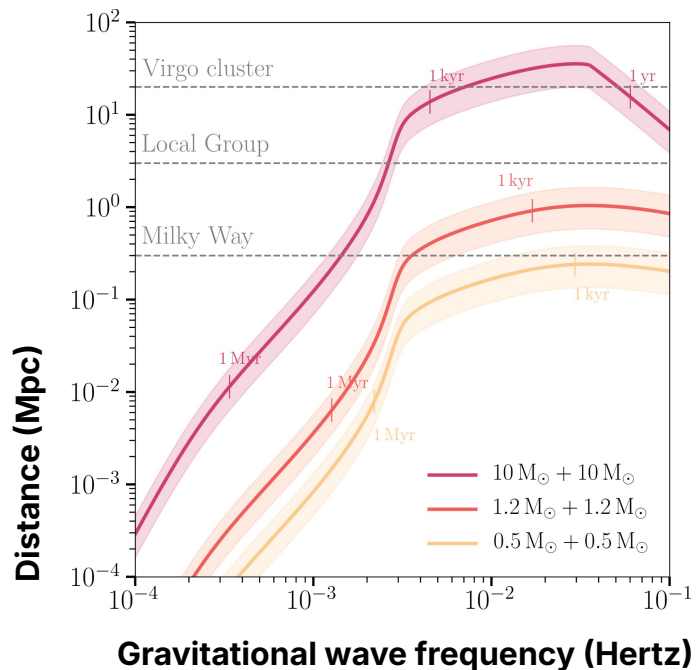
LISA WILL REVEAL UNSEEN COMPACT BINARY SYSTEMS ACROSS THE ENTIRE MILKY WAY

Living Review Amaro et al. /w Korol et al. 2023

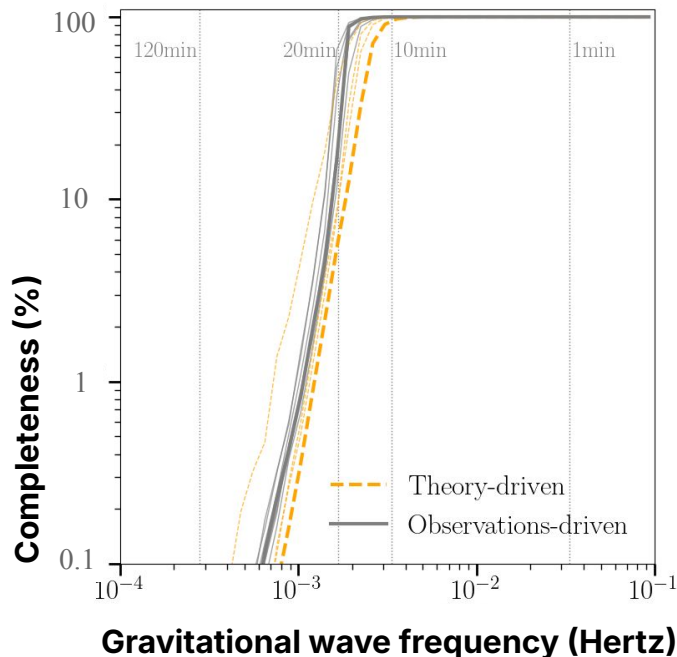


LISA WILL REVEAL UNSEEN COMPACT BINARY SYSTEMS ACROSS THE ENTIRE MILKY WAY

Living Review Amaro et al. /w Korol et al. 2023

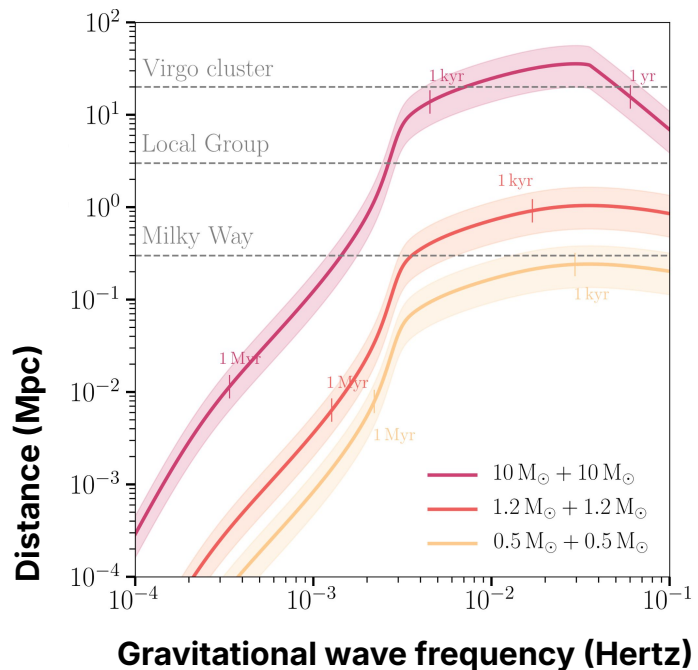


Korol et al. 2024

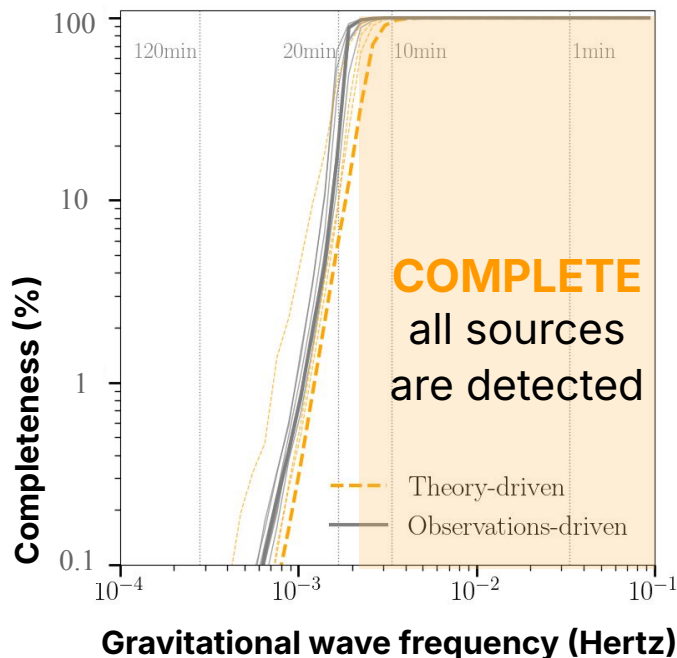


LISA WILL REVEAL UNSEEN COMPACT BINARY SYSTEMS ACROSS THE ENTIRE MILKY WAY

Living Review Amaro et al. /w Korol et al. 2023



Korol et al. 2024



Expected insights on Type Ia supernovae

PROGENITOR DILEMMA: A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Single-degenerate channel

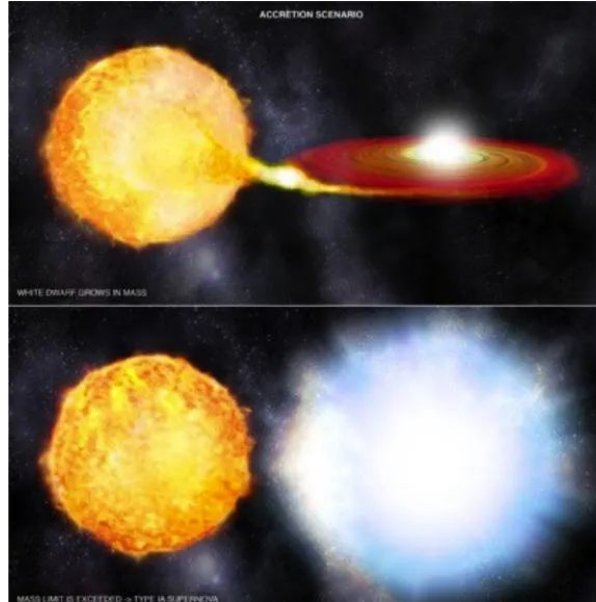
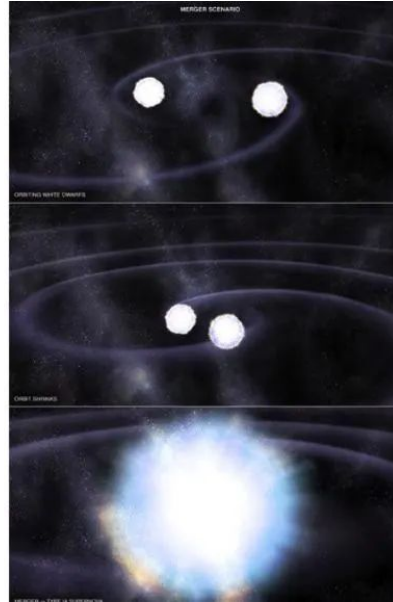


Image credits: NASA / CXC / M. Weiss

Double-degenerate channel

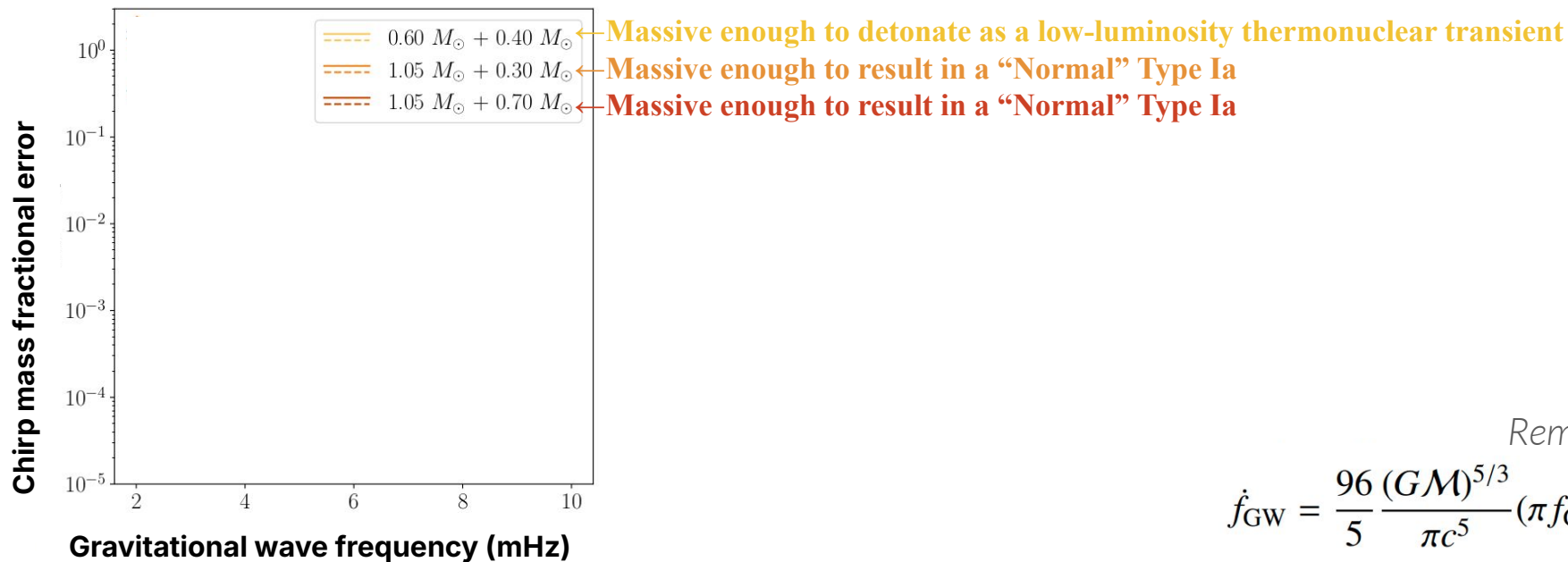
or



This is an oversimplified picture, there are many many nuances to be considered!

Many reviews are published: Livio & Mazzali et al. 2018, Ruiter et al. 2020, Liu et al. 2023 and many others

LISA'S CONSTRAINTS ON THE DOUBLE-DEGENERATE TYPE IA PROGENITORS



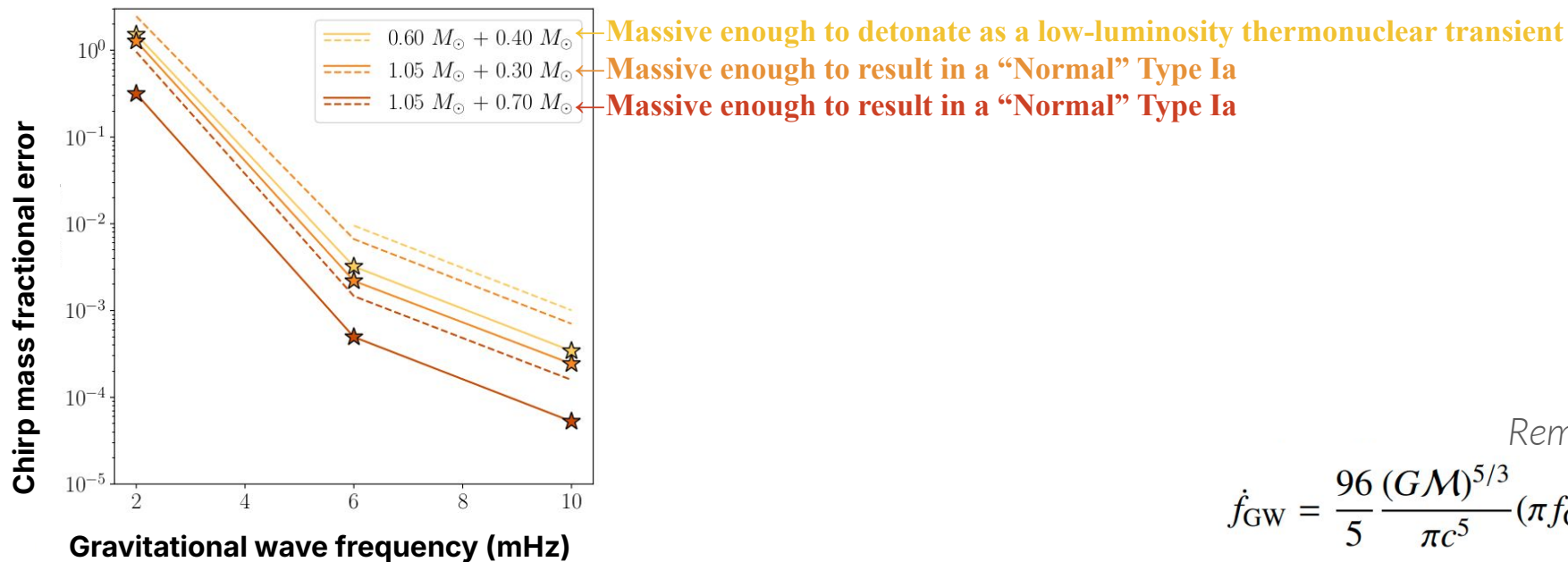
Reminder:

$$\dot{f}_{\text{GW}} = \frac{96}{5} \frac{(G\mathcal{M})^{5/3}}{\pi c^5} (\pi f_{\text{GW}})^{11/3}$$

$$\mathcal{M} = (m_1 m_2)^{3/5} / (m_1 + m_2)^{1/5}$$

LISA'S CONSTRAINTS ON DOUBLE-DEGENERATE TYPE IA PROGENITORS

At GW frequencies near to the merger (< 0.01 Hz)
chirp mass constraints at 0.01-0.001%



Reminder:

$$\dot{f}_{\text{GW}} = \frac{96}{5} \frac{(G\mathcal{M})^{5/3}}{\pi c^5} (\pi f_{\text{GW}})^{11/3}$$

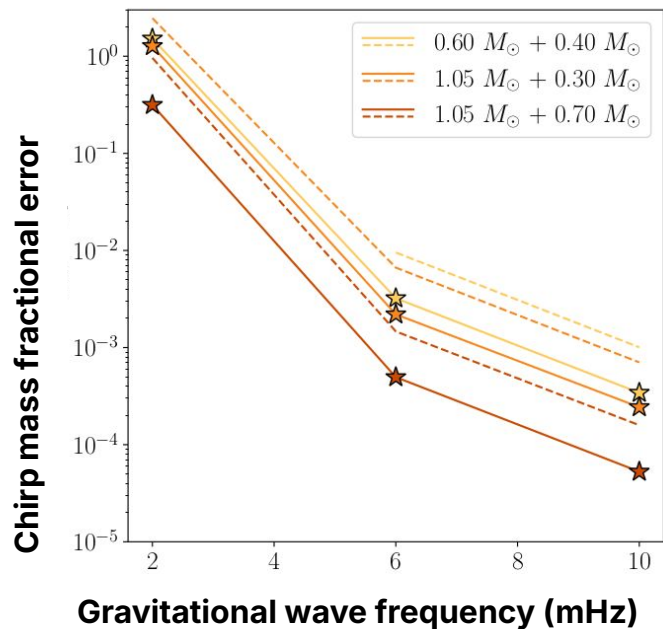
$$\mathcal{M} = (m_1 m_2)^{3/5} / (m_1 + m_2)^{1/5}$$

Based on the Balrog code (Uni. of Birmingham)

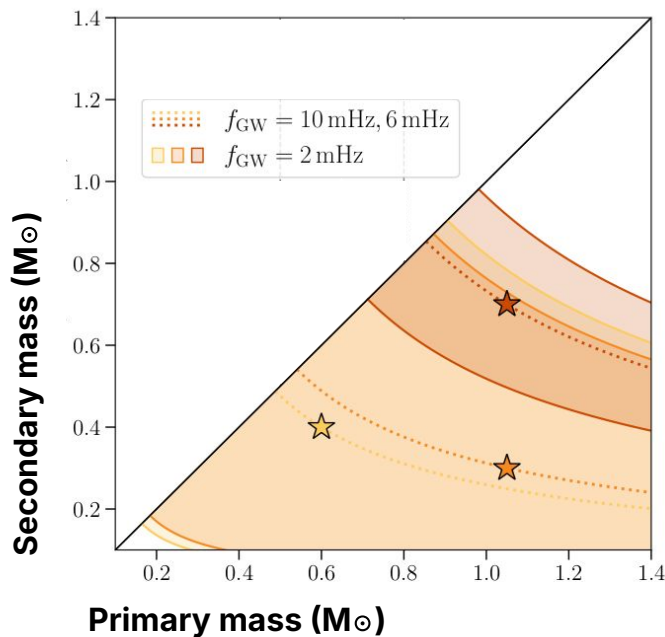
See e.g. Buscicchio et al. 2019, 2021; Roebber et al. 2020; Klein et al. 2022

LISA'S CONSTRAINTS ON DOUBLE-DEGENERATE TYPE IA PROGENITORS

At GW frequencies near to the merger (< 0.01 Hz)
chirp mass constraints at 0.01-0.001%



Chirp mass constraint translates into a **lower bound on the primary mass** making it possible to forecast the possibility and the type of thermonuclear transient.

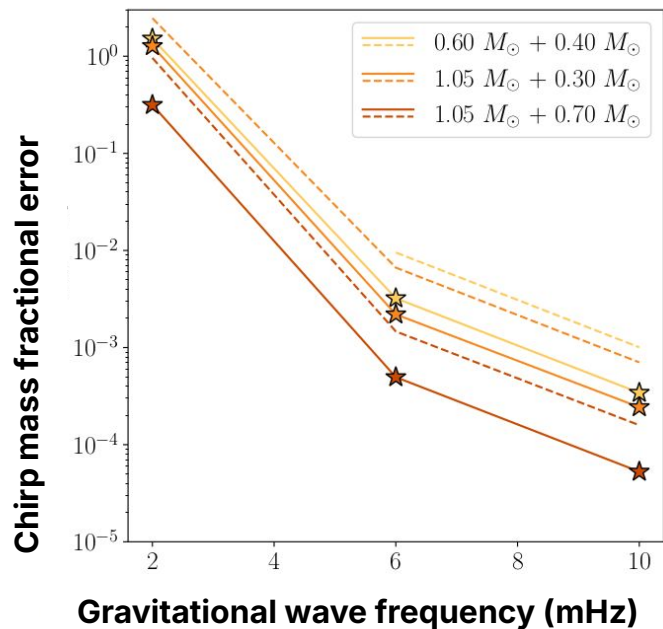


Based on the Balrog code (Uni. of Birmingham)

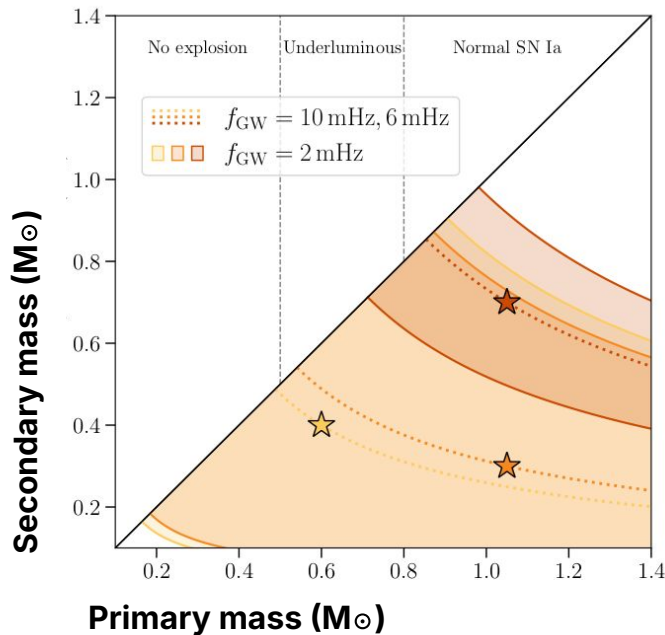
See e.g. Buscicchio et al. 2019, 2021; Roebber et al. 2020; Klein et al. 2022

LISA'S CONSTRAINTS ON DOUBLE-DEGENERATE TYPE IA PROGENITORS

At GW frequencies near to the merger (< 0.01 Hz)
chirp mass constraints at 0.01-0.001%



Chirp mass constraint translates into a **lower bound on the primary mass** making it possible to forecast the possibility and the type of thermonuclear transient.



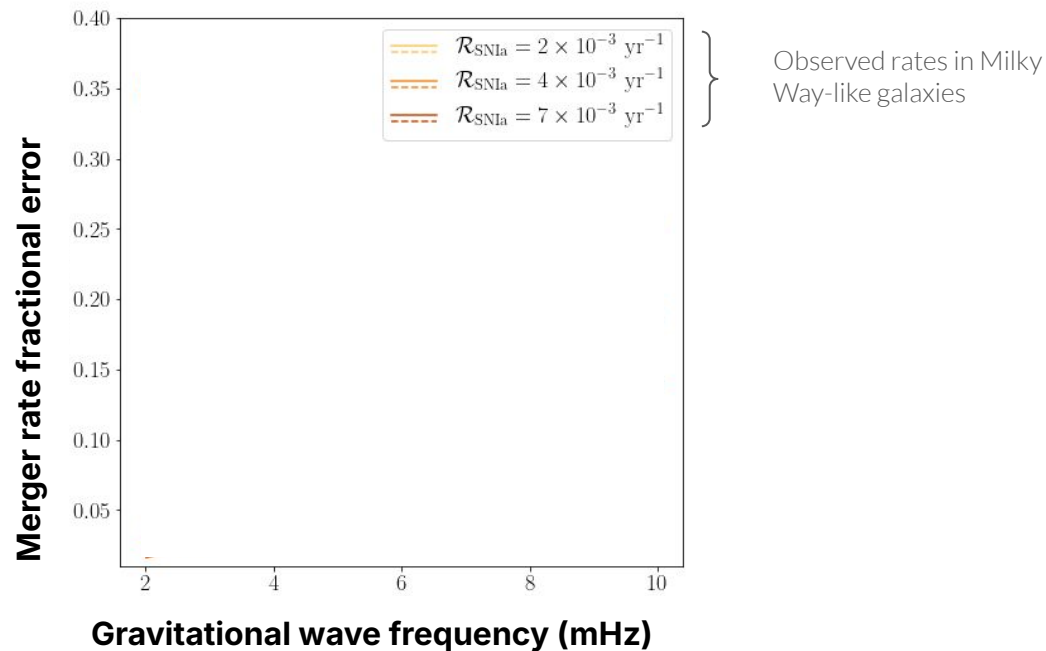
No explosion: $m_1 < 0.5 M_{\odot}$

Thermonuclear explosion but **less luminous than a SN Ia:**
 $0.5 M_{\odot} < m_1 < 0.8 M_{\odot}$

“Normal” SN Ia: $m_1 > 0.8 M_{\odot}$

(based on 1D and 3D hydro-dynamical simulations:
Sim et al. 2010; Shen et al. 2015, 2024; Morean-Fraile et al. 2024)

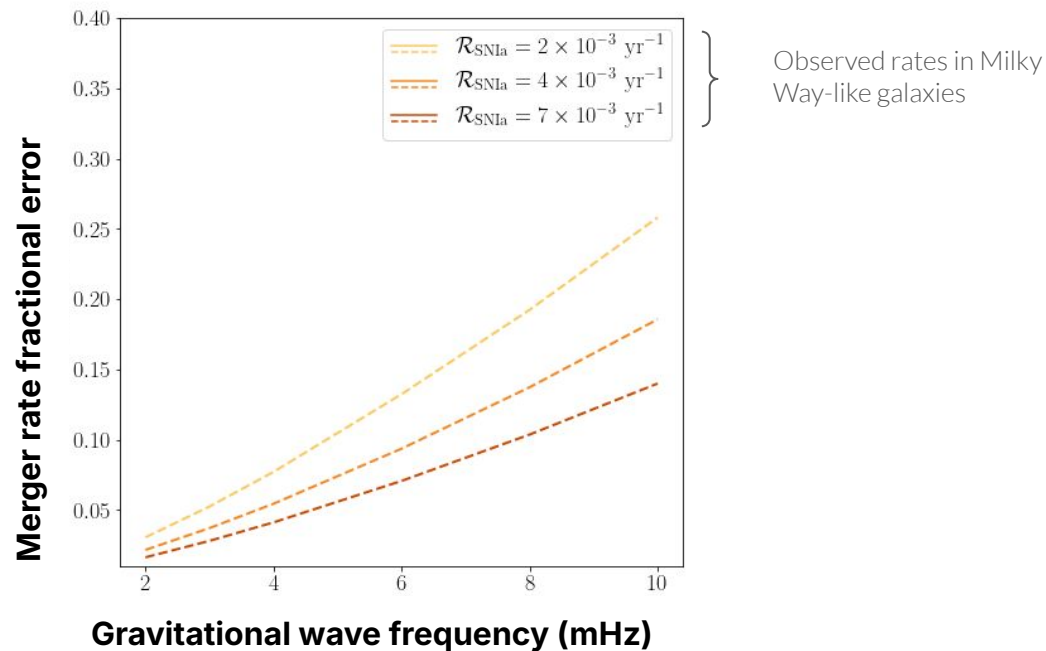
LISA'S CONSTRAINTS ON DOUBLE-DEGENERATE TYPE IA PROGENITORS



Reminder:

$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{SNIa}} = \frac{256(G\mathcal{M})^{5/3}(\pi f_{\text{GW}})^{8/3}}{5c^5} N_{\text{SNIa}}(> f_{\text{GW}}).$$

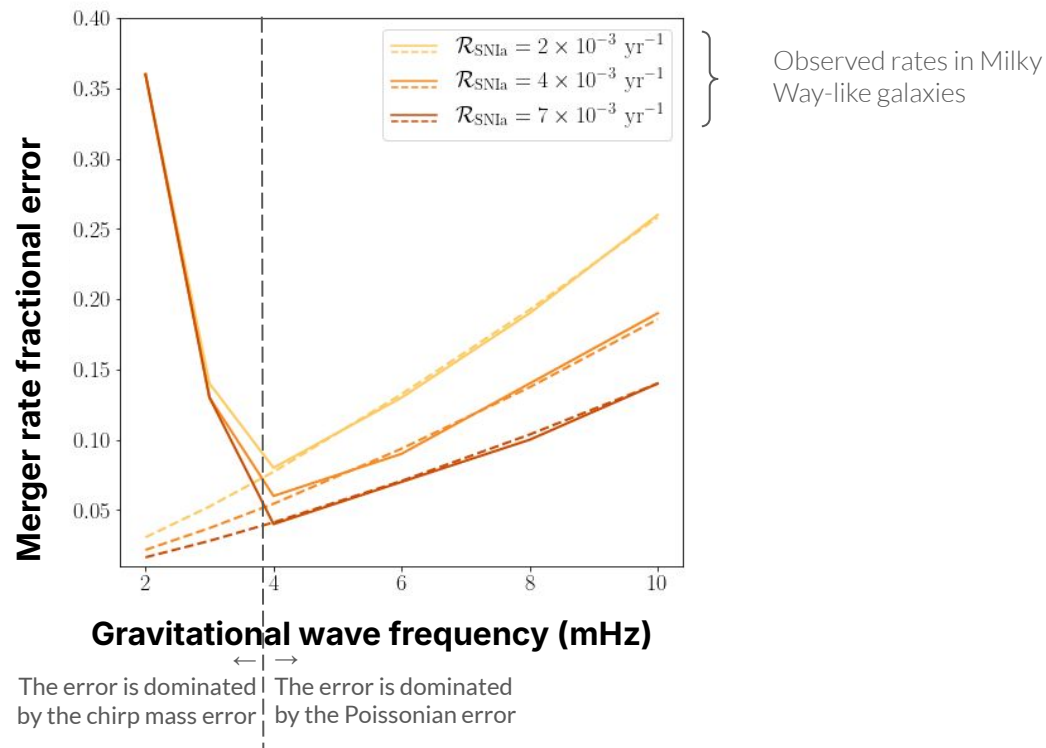
LISA'S CONSTRAINTS ON DOUBLE-DEGENERATE TYPE IA PROGENITORS



Reminder:

$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{SNIa}} = \frac{256(G\mathcal{M})^{5/3}(\pi f_{\text{GW}})^{8/3}}{5c^5} N_{\text{SNIa}}(> f_{\text{GW}}).$$

LISA'S CONSTRAINTS ON DOUBLE-DEGENERATE TYPE IA PROGENITORS

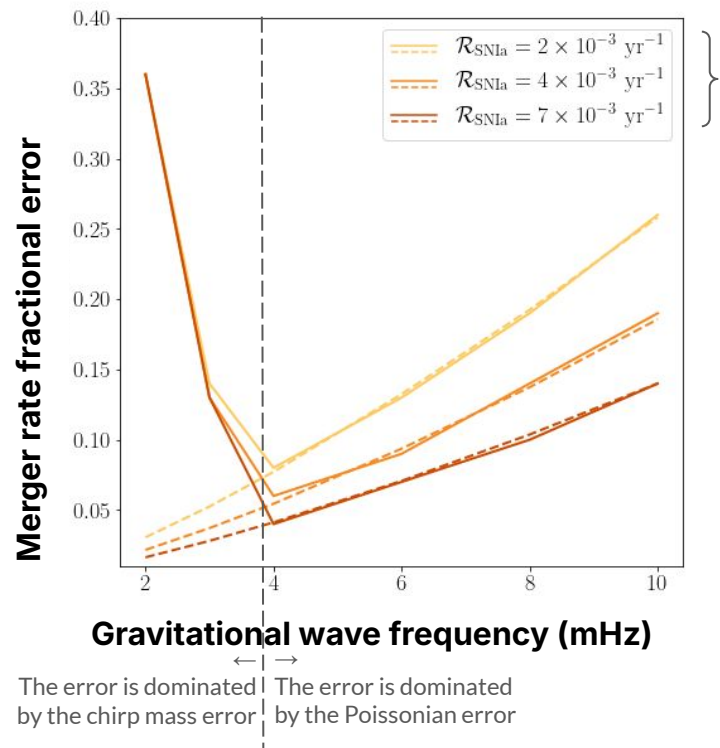


Reminder:

$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{SNIa}} = \frac{256(GM)^{5/3}(\pi f_{\text{GW}})^{8/3}}{5c^5} N_{\text{SNIa}}(> f_{\text{GW}}).$$

LISA'S CONSTRAINTS ON DOUBLE-DEGENERATE TYPE IA PROGENITORS

Constraints on the merger rate of WD+WD binaries in the Milky Way to better than 4–9%



Observed rates in Milky Way-like galaxies

If the merger rate turns out to be consistent with the SNe Ia rate measured based on EM observations in Milky Way-like galaxies, it would be a strong evidence in favour of the double-degenerate scenario.

Reminder:

$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{SNIa}} = \frac{256(GM)^{5/3}(\pi f_{\text{GW}})^{8/3}}{5c^5} N_{\text{SNIa}}(> f_{\text{GW}}).$$

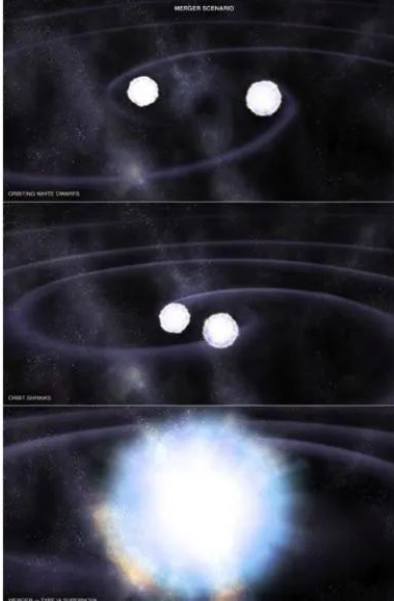


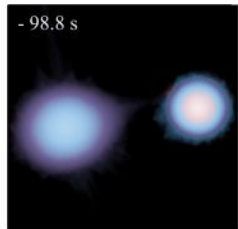
Image credits: NASA / CXC / M. Weiss

There is a 4-7% chance that we will detect a Type Ia supernova with LISA in 10yr

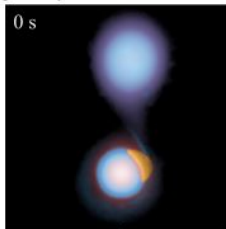
How will it look in gravitational waves?

ASSUMING THAT TYPE IA SUPERNOVAE ARE PRODUCED VIA A **DOUBLE DETONATION** MECHANISM

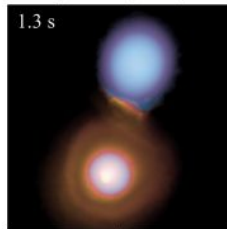
Start of mass-transfer



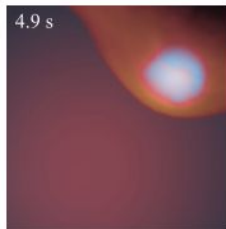
Helium shell ignition on primary



Carbon detonation in primary's core (SN Ia)



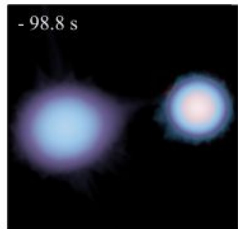
Helium shell ignition on secondary by shockwave



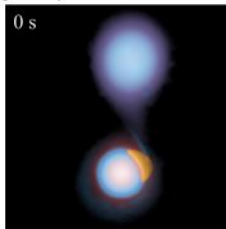
3D hydrodynamical simulation of
a **1.05 M $\odot$ + 0.7 M $\odot$ carbon-oxygen white
dwarf binary** by Pakmor et al. 2022

ASSUMING THAT TYPE IA SUPERNOVAE ARE PRODUCED VIA A **DOUBLE DETONATION** MECHANISM

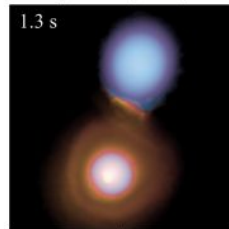
Start of mass-transfer



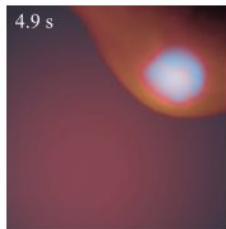
Helium shell ignition on primary



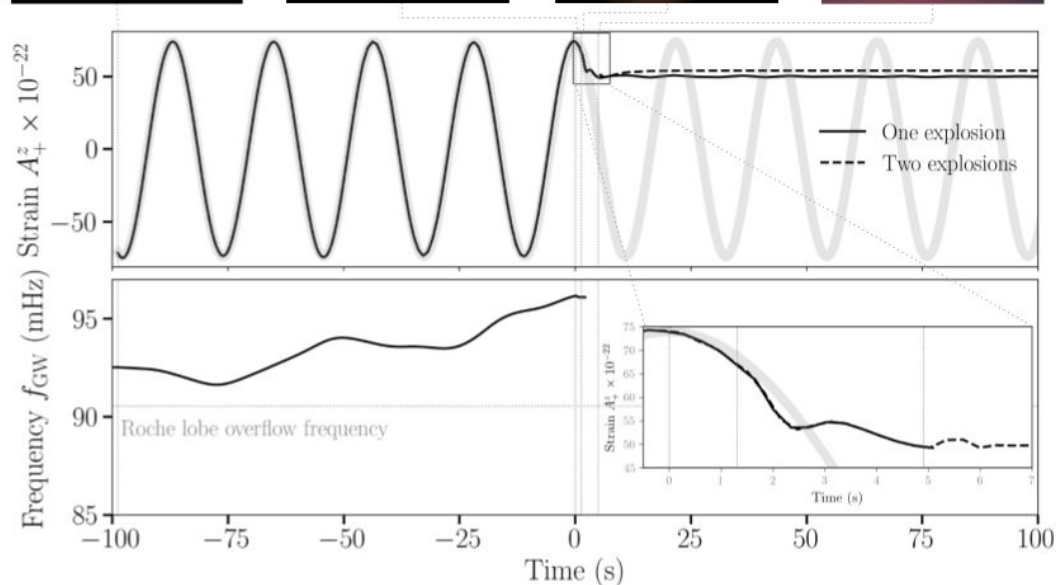
Carbon detonation in primary's core (SN Ia)



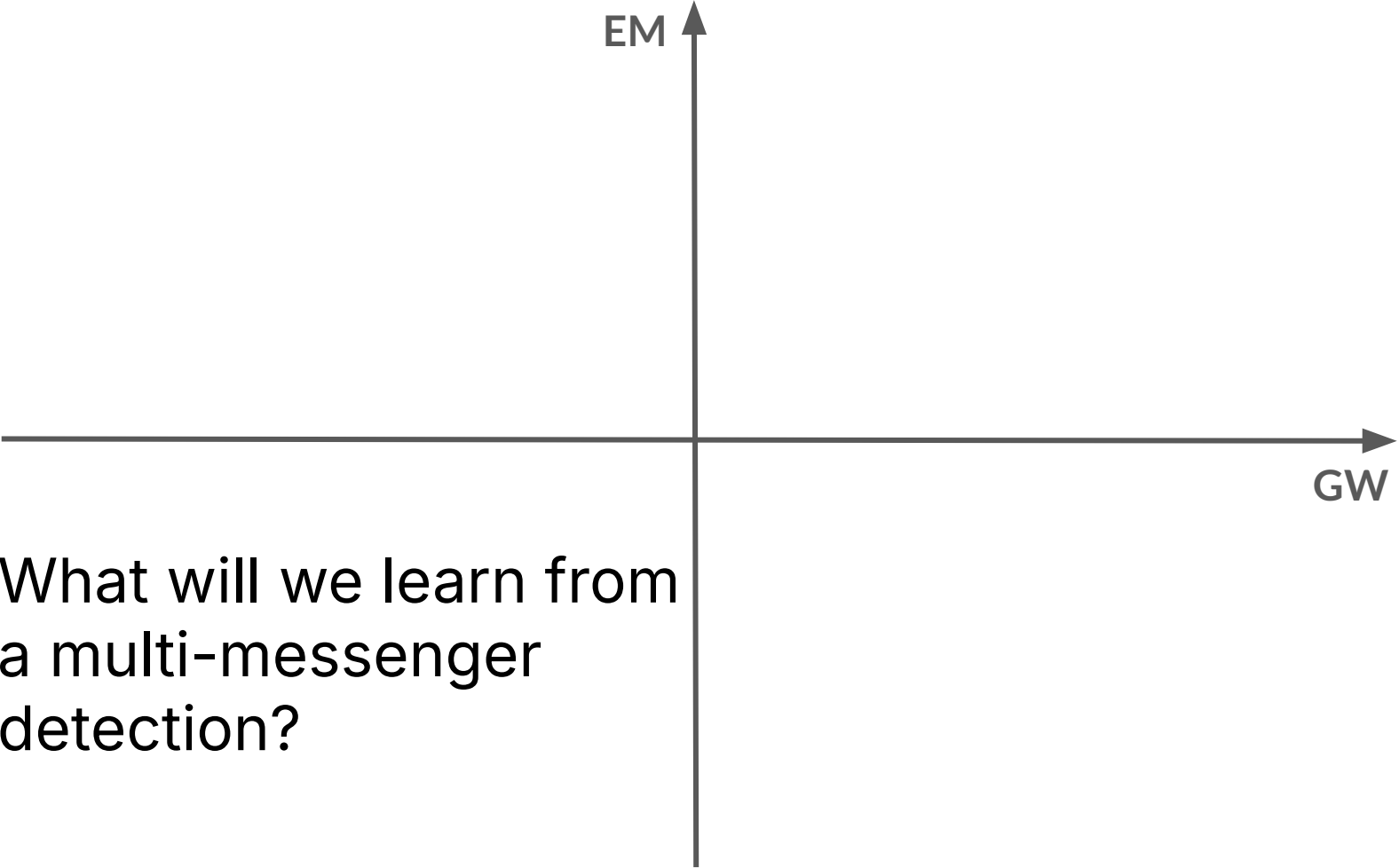
Helium shell ignition on secondary by shockwave



3D hydrodynamical simulation of a **1.05 M $\odot$ + 0.7 M $\odot$ carbon-oxygen white dwarf binary** by Pakmor et al. 2022



Korol et al. 2024 [arXiv:240703935](https://arxiv.org/abs/240703935)
based Morán-Fraile et al. 2023



EM

GW

What will we learn from
a multi-messenger
detection?

EM

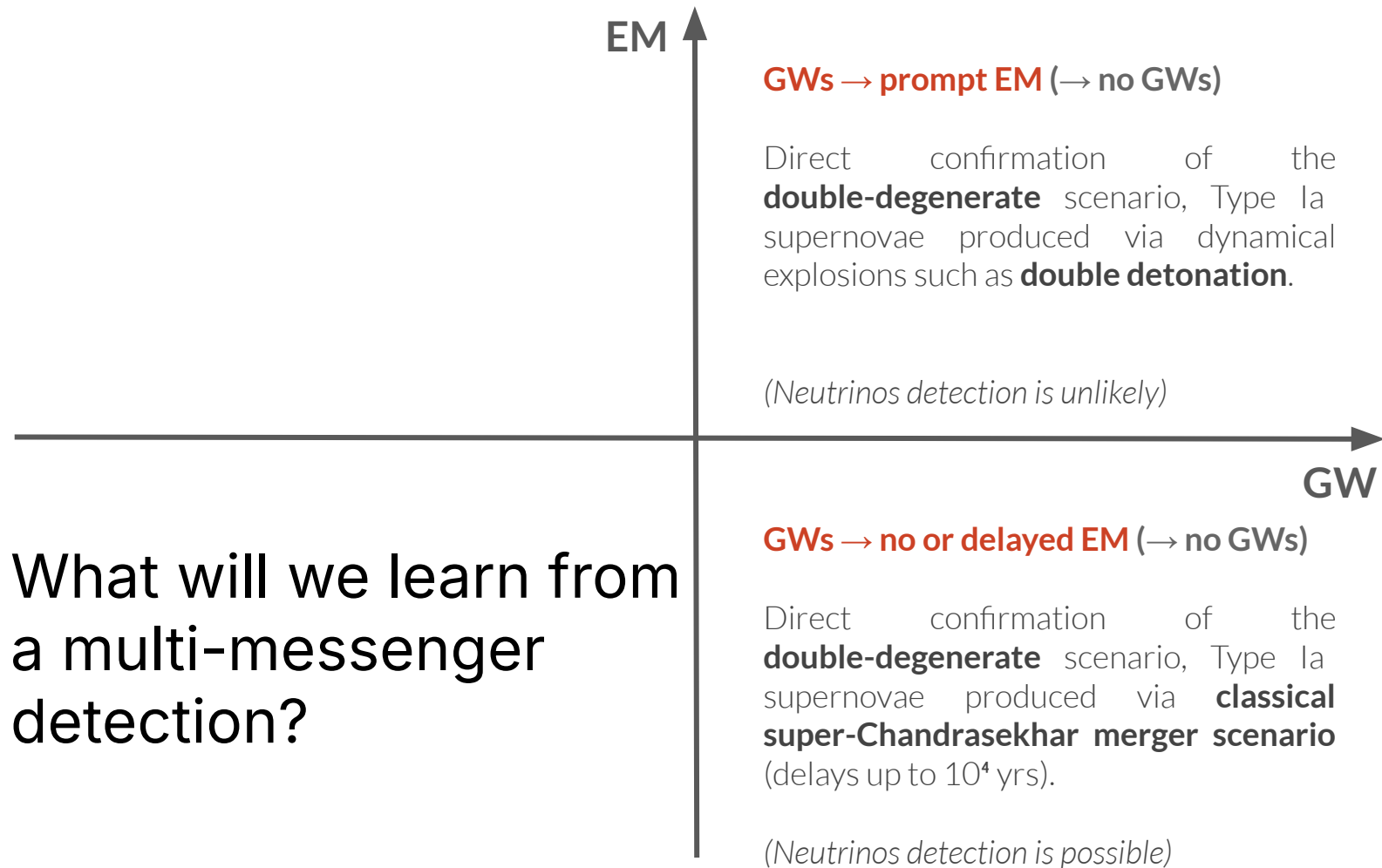
GWs → prompt EM (→ no GWs)

Direct confirmation of the **double-degenerate** scenario, Type Ia supernovae produced via dynamical explosions such as **double detonation**.

(Neutrinos detection is unlikely)

GW

What will we learn from a multi-messenger detection?



EM

Only EM

Indication towards a **single-degenerate** scenario, where GWs signal in the LISA band is not expected or a **double degenerate** merger with a delay time larger than the LISA's mission lifetime.

(Neutrinos detection is possible)

GWs → prompt EM (→ no GWs)

Direct confirmation of the **double-degenerate** scenario, Type Ia supernovae produced via dynamical explosions such as **double detonation**.

(Neutrinos detection is unlikely)

GW

GWs → no or delayed EM (→ no GWs)

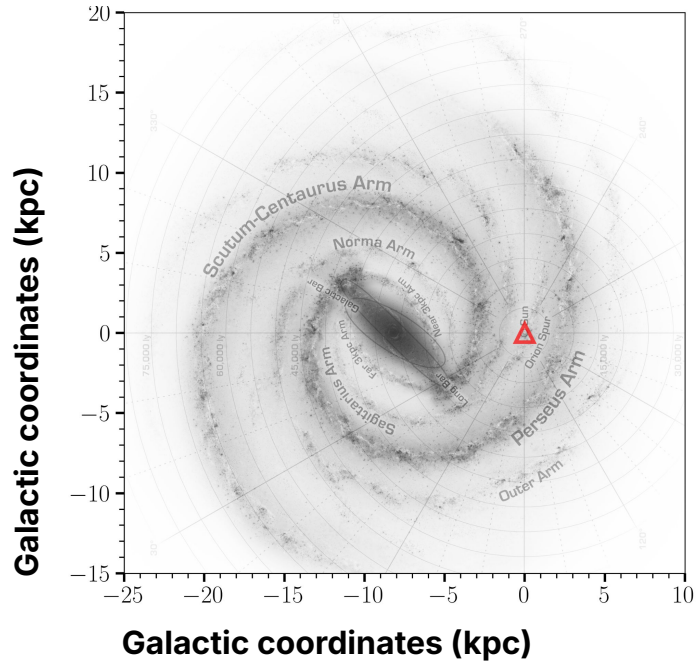
Direct confirmation of the **double-degenerate** scenario, Type Ia supernovae produced via **classical super-Chandrasekhar merger scenario** (delays up to 10^4 yrs).

(Neutrinos detection is possible)

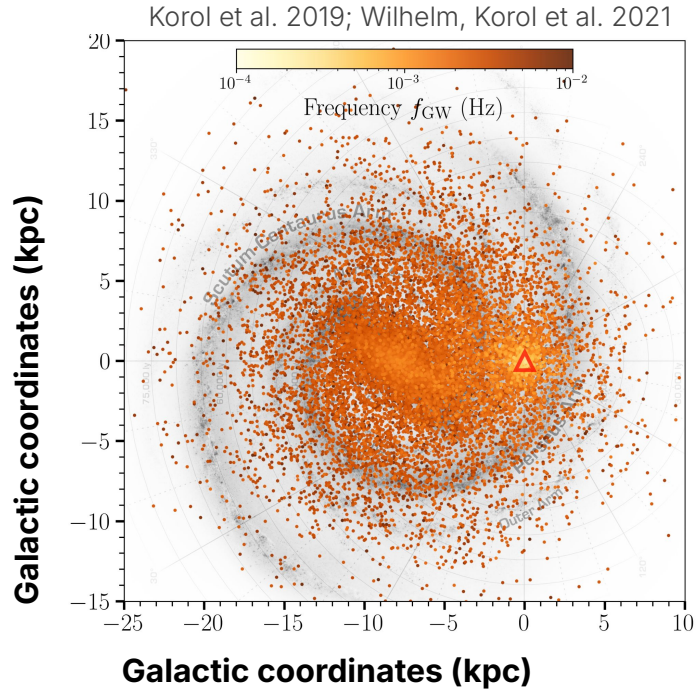
What will we learn from a multi-messenger detection?

Expected insights on **the Milky Way**

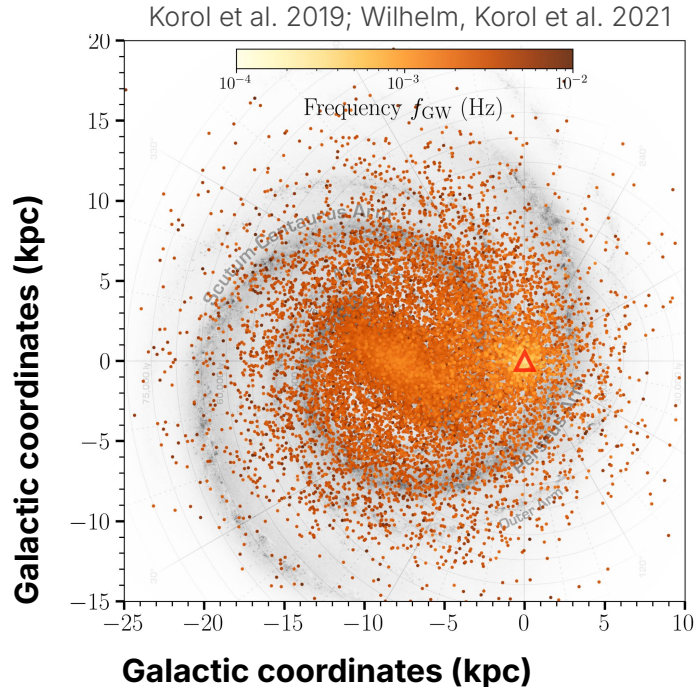
MAKING A **GRAVITATIONAL WAVE MAP** OF THE MILKY WAY



MAKING A **GRAVITATIONAL WAVE MAP** OF THE MILKY WAY



MAKING A **GRAVITATIONAL WAVE MAP** OF THE MILKY WAY



LISA's precision in locating WD+WD binaries will constrain structural parameters of the Milky Way, providing new insights into its shape:

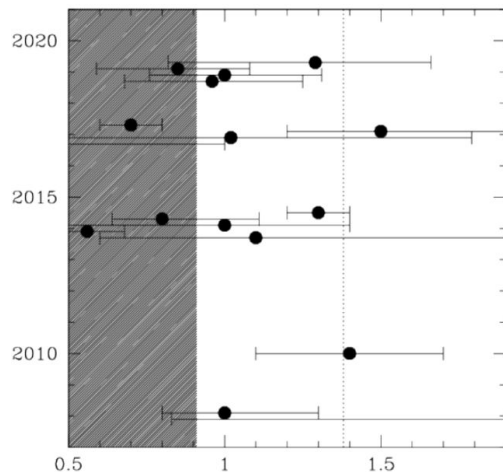
- Bulge Scale Radius: **2%** precision
- Disk Scale Radius: **3%** precision
- Disk Scale Height: **16%** precision
- Bar Axis Ratio: **10%** precision
- Bar Length: **1%** precision
- Bar Orientation Angle: **<1°**

Korol et al. 2019; Wilhelm, Korol et al. 2021
See also Adams et al. 2012, Breivik et al. 2021

THE MILKY WAY IS A UNIQUE LABORATORY TO TEST GALAXY FORMATION THEORIES:

current constraints are still poor

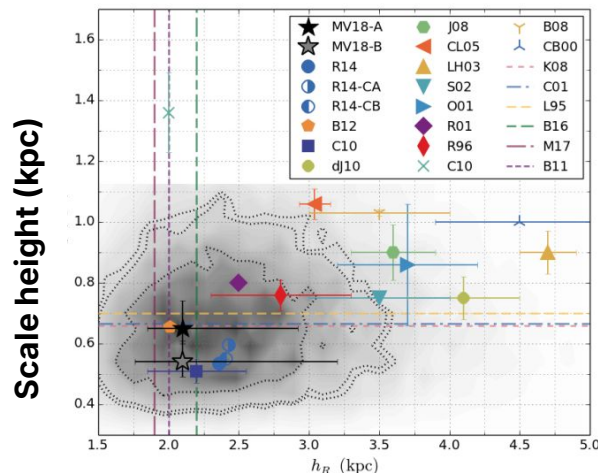
Milky Way's total mass



Total mass x $10^{12} (M_{\odot})$

Zaritsky et al. 2019

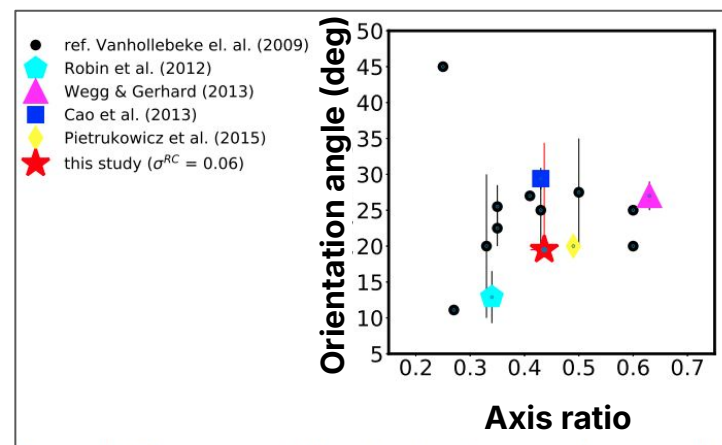
Disc scale parameters



Scale radius (kpc)

Mateu & Vivas 2018

Bar's geometry

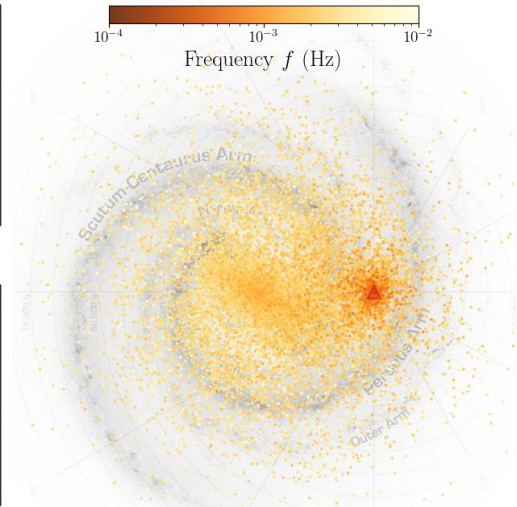


Simion et al. 2017

MAKING A GRAVITATIONAL WAVE **SOUND** MAP OF THE MILKY WAY

In collaboration with **Andrea Valle** (composer), **Luca Ieracitano** (pianist) and **Samantha Stella** (visual artist)
Premiere 29th October 2021, Genoa Science Festival, Genoa, Italy

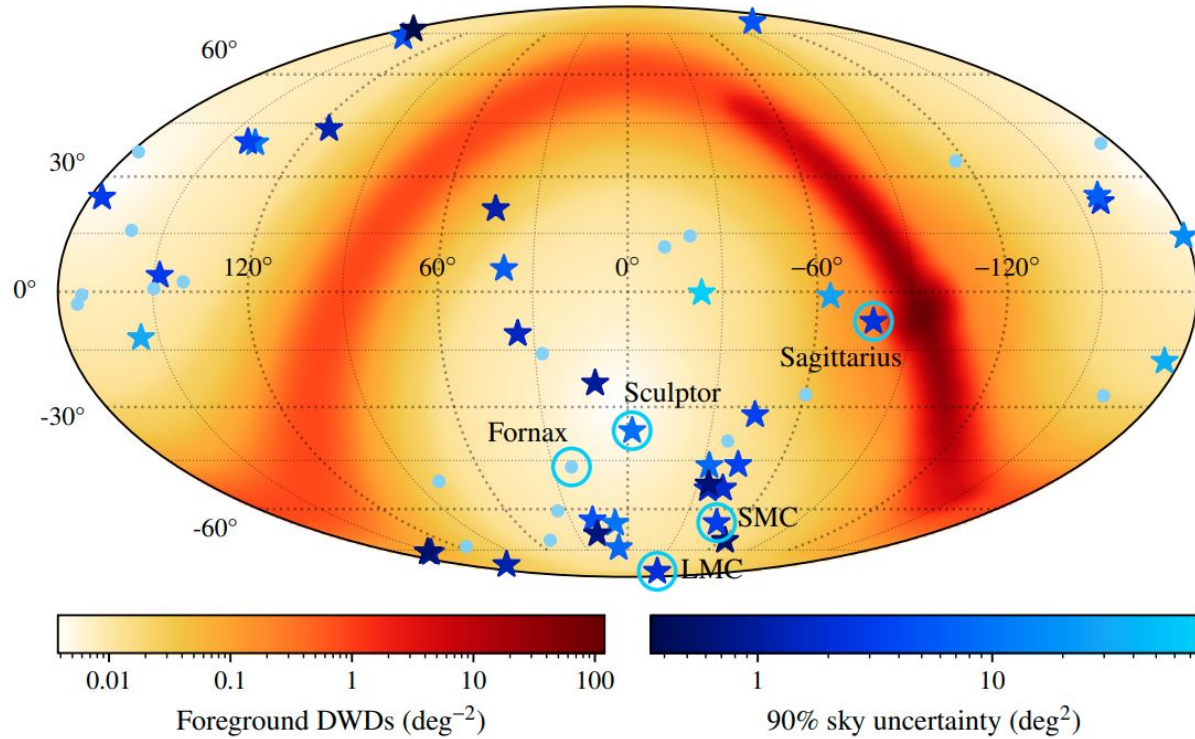
- Australe, I -



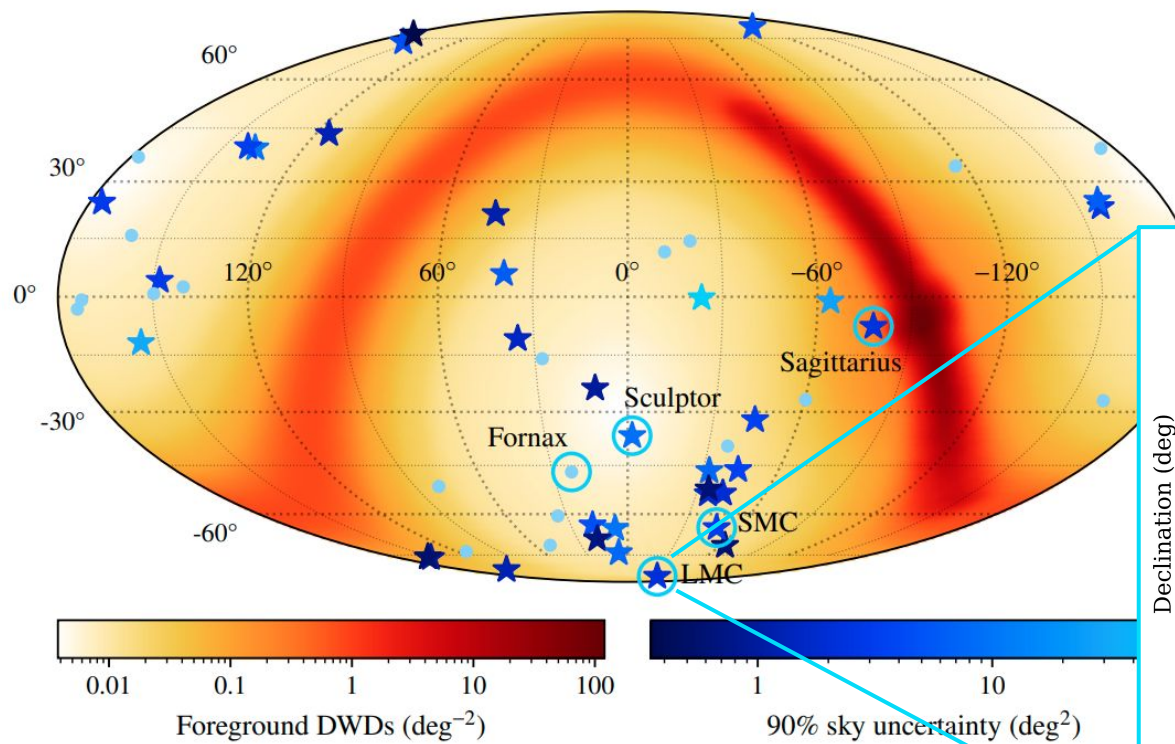
Periplo del latte: [bandcamp/andreavalle/periplo-del-latte](https://bandcamp.com/andreavalle/periplo-del-latte)

For LISA. Music composition from gravitational waves Valle & Korol 2022, [arXiv:2202.04621](https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.04621)

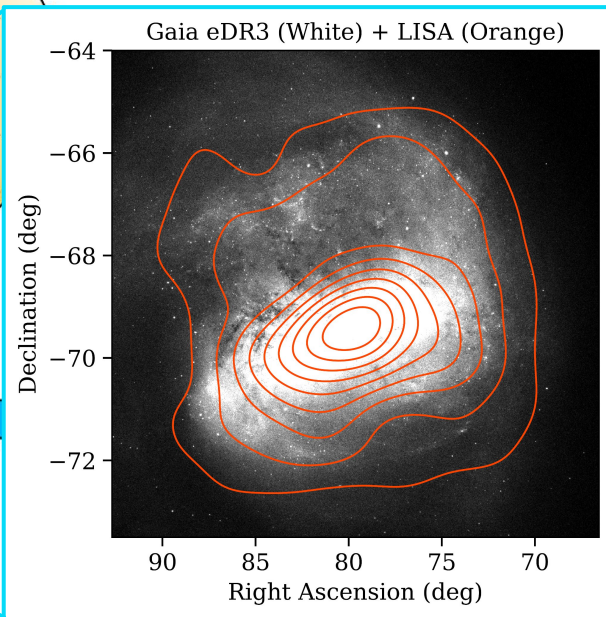
(RE-)DISCOVERING MILKY WAY SATELLITES WITH LISA



(RE-)DISCOVERING MILKY WAY SATELLITES WITH LISA



Keim, Korol et al. (2024)



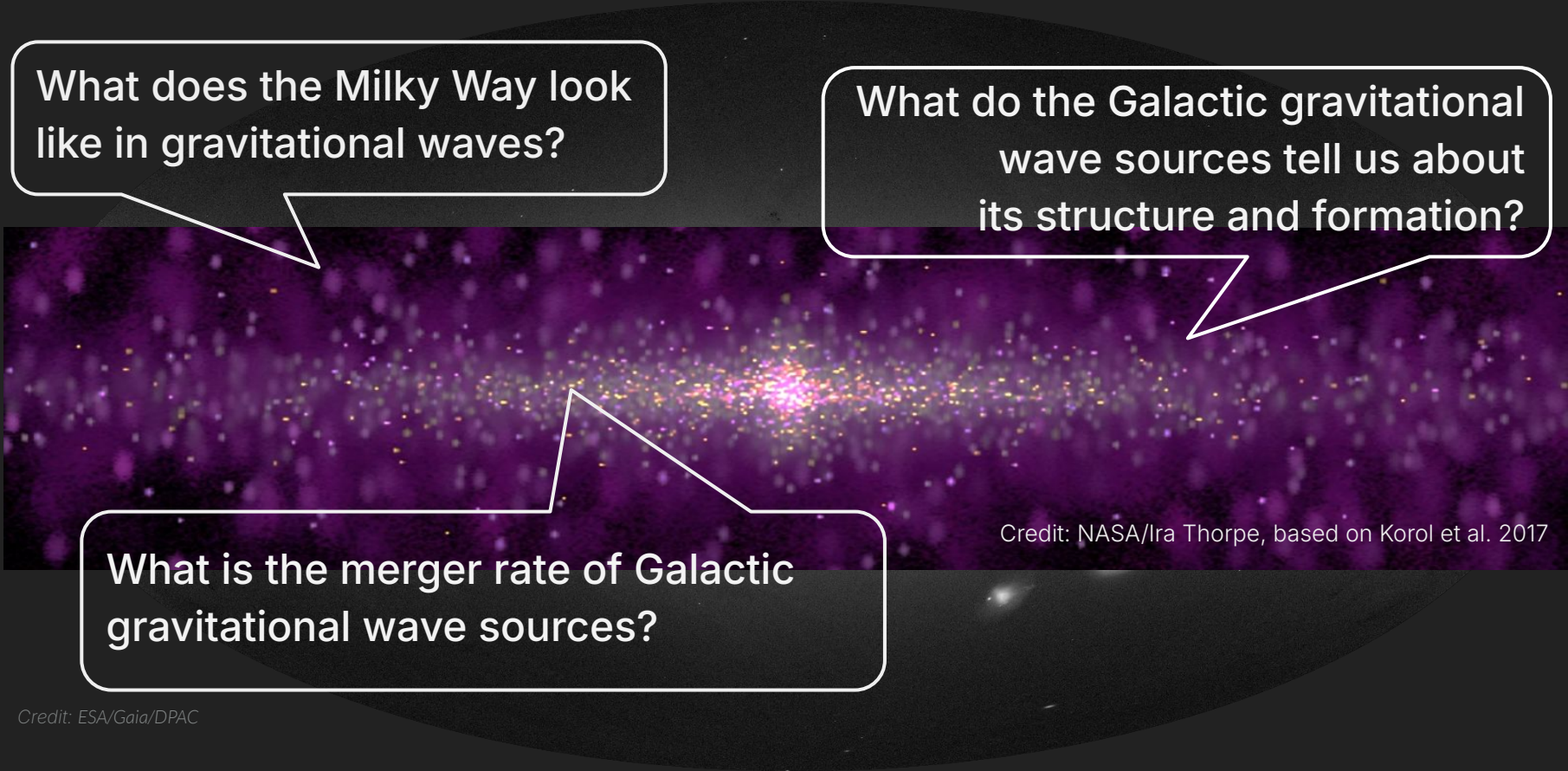
Roebber et al. /w Korol 2020; Korol et al. (2020, 2021); Pozzoli et al. /w Korol (2025)

RECAP

1. Help to unveil Galactic population of stellar “fossils” in binaries
2. Contribute to the solution of the supernova type Ia progenitor problem
3. Map the Milky Way and its satellites

and so much more ...





What does the Milky Way look like in gravitational waves?

What do the Galactic gravitational wave sources tell us about its structure and formation?

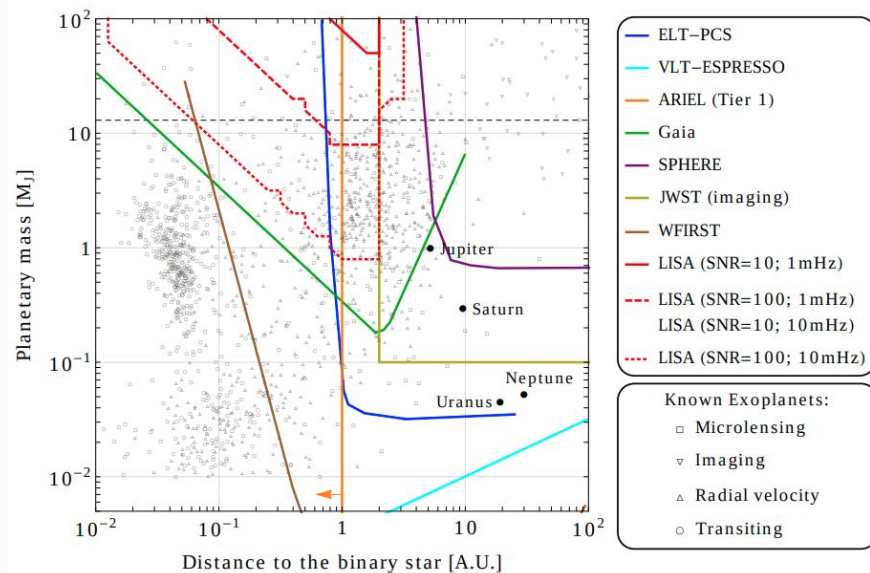
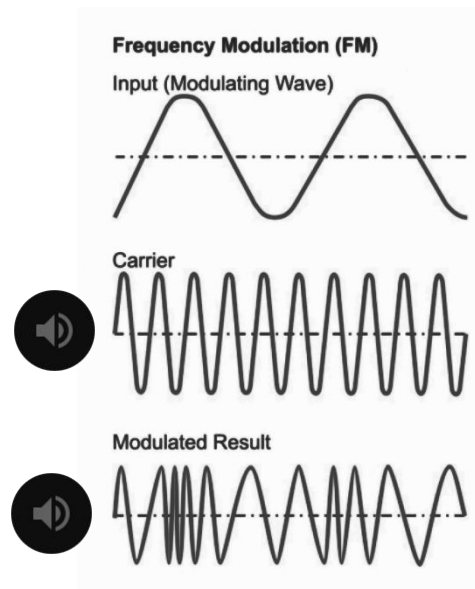
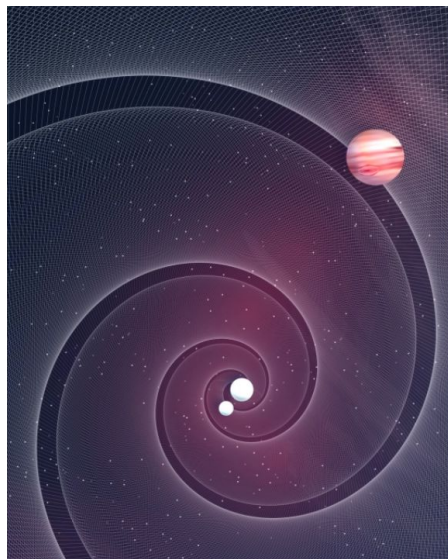
What is the merger rate of Galactic gravitational wave sources?

Credit: NASA/Ira Thorpe, based on Korol et al. 2017

Bonus slides

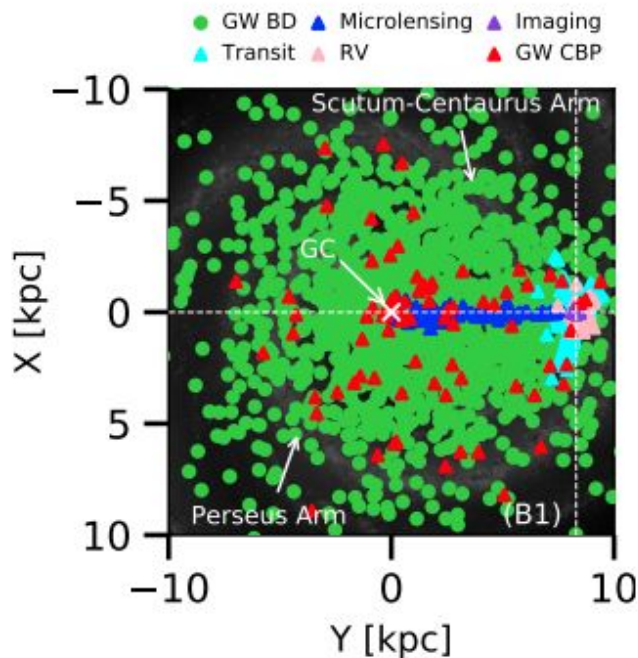
**Expected insights
on exoplanets**

Detecting a new population of **exoplanets** with LISA

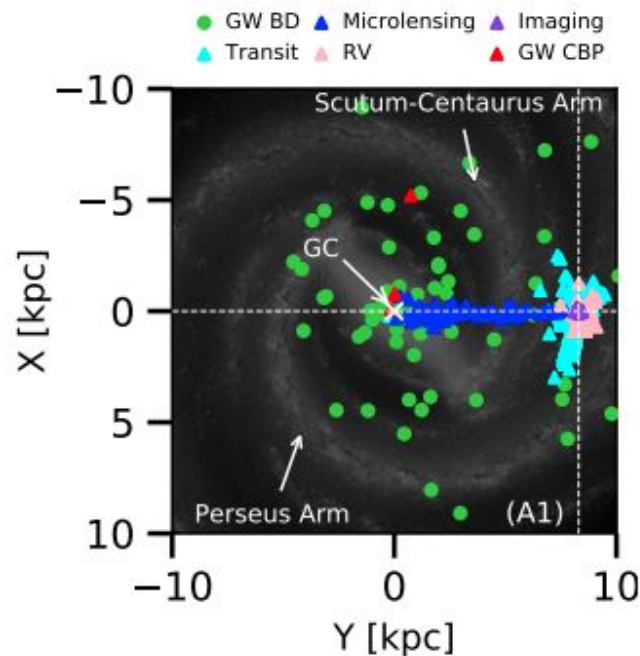


Detecting a new population of **exoplanets** with LISA across the entire Milky Way

Optimistic scenario



Pessimistic scenario



Backup slides