

# GRBs and Gravitational Waves

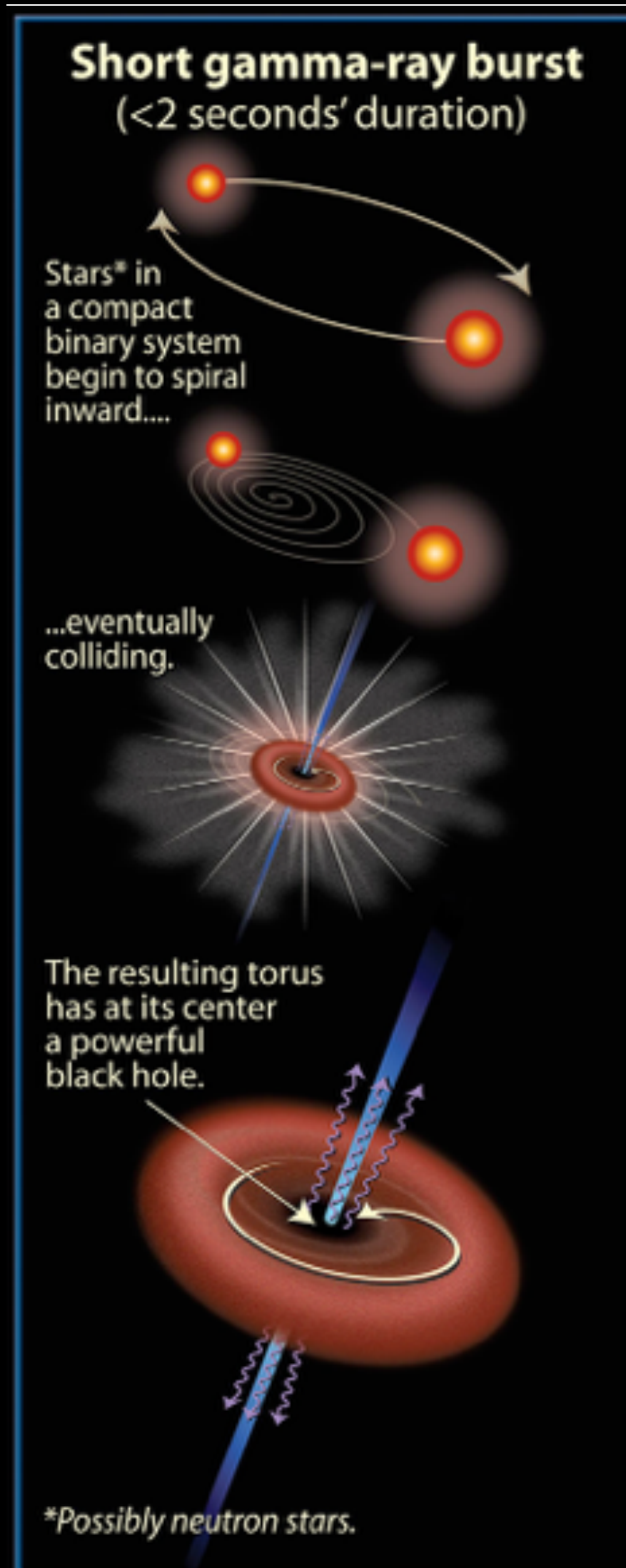
**Adam Goldstein**

**Universities Space Research Association  
at Marshall Space Flight Center**

**[AGoldstein@usra.edu](mailto:AGoldstein@usra.edu)**



# BNS—GRB Association

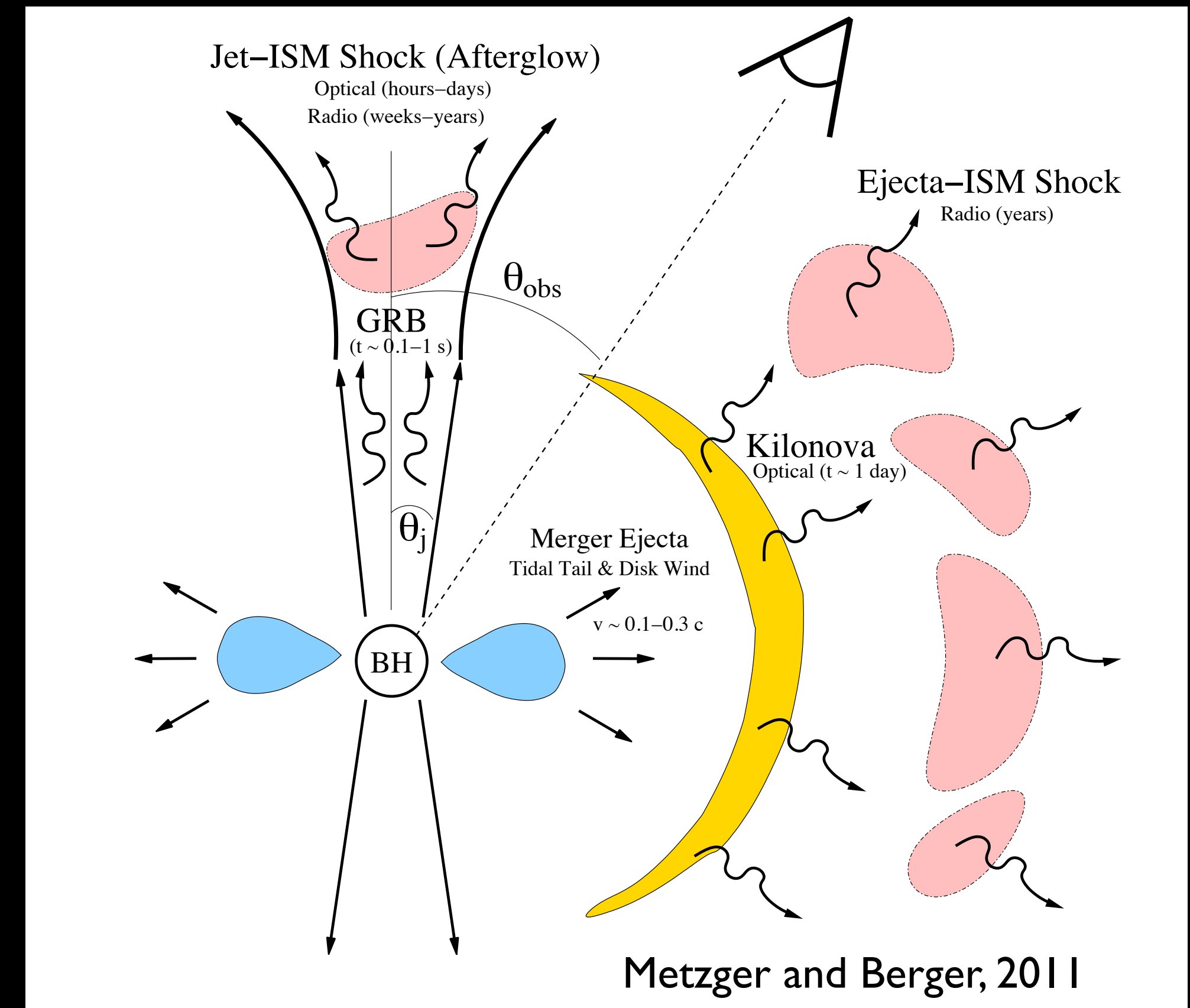


## GW

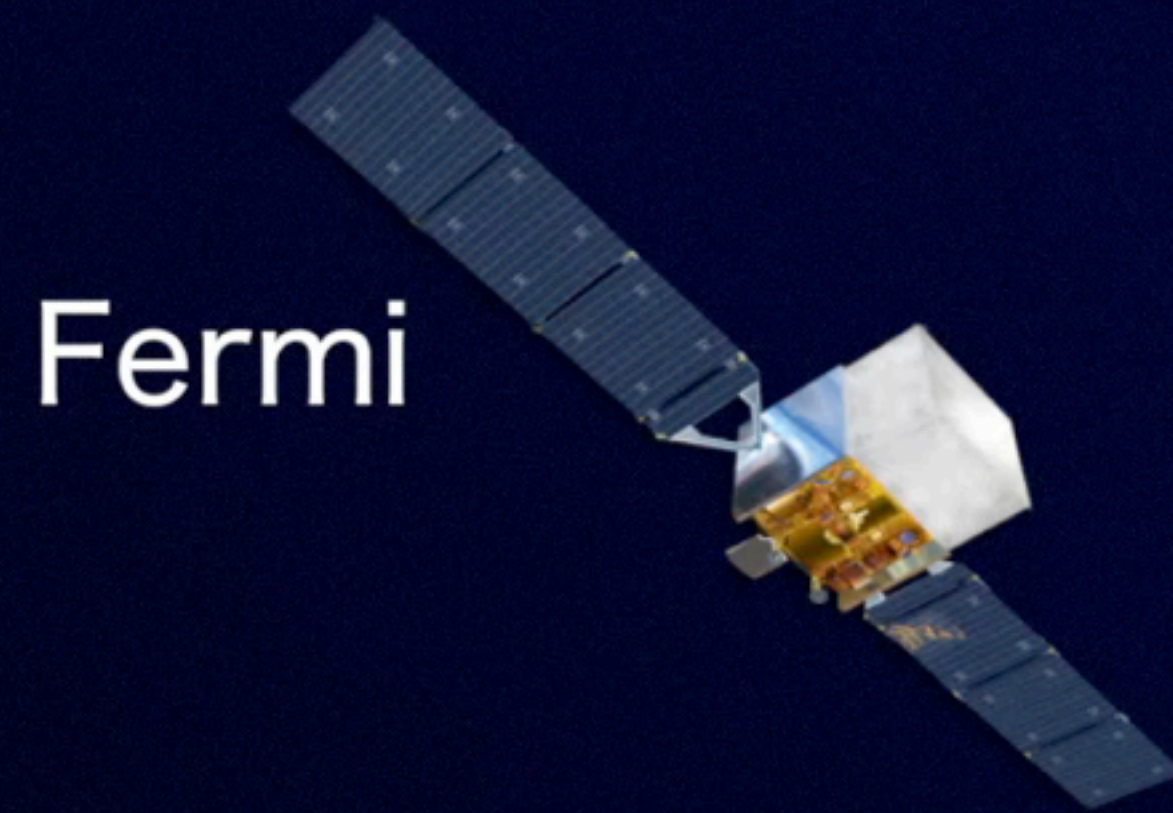
- In-spiral confirms CBC progenitor model
- Information about binary system parameters
- precise merger time
- standard candle  $\rightarrow$  luminosity distance

## EM

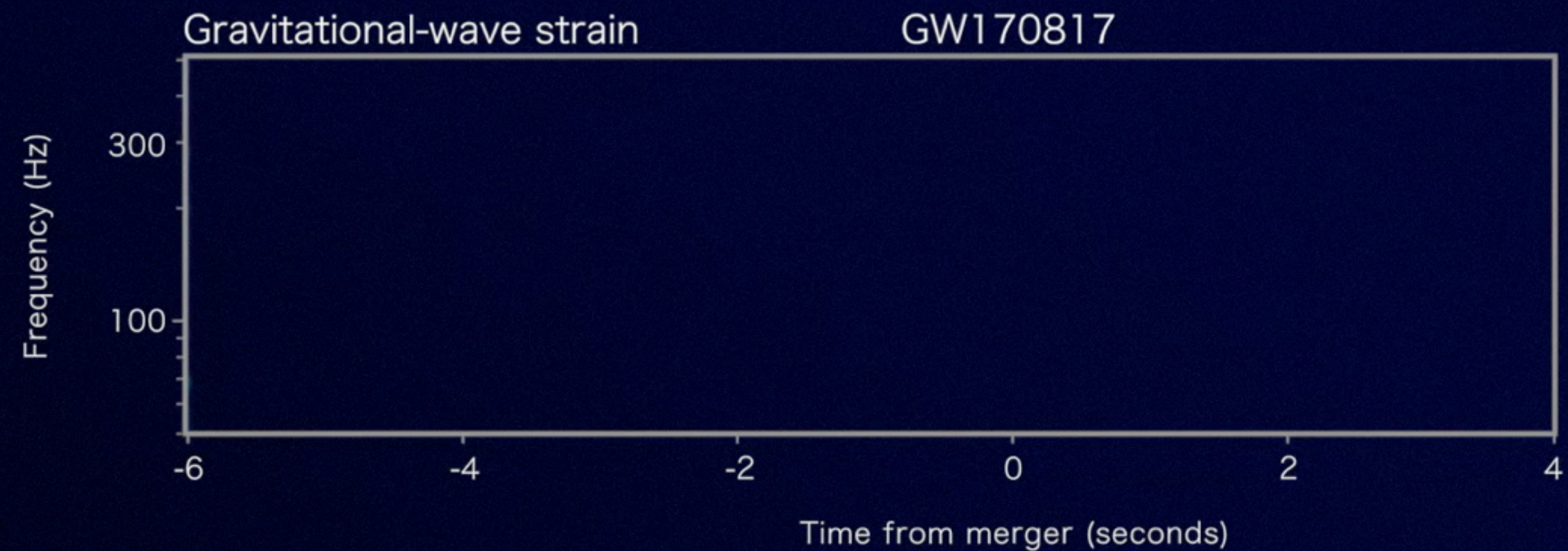
- Detection confidence
- EM energetics
- X-ray or optical afterglow gives precise location
- Breaks degeneracy in binary parameter estimation
- Host galaxy/redshift
- Local environment information



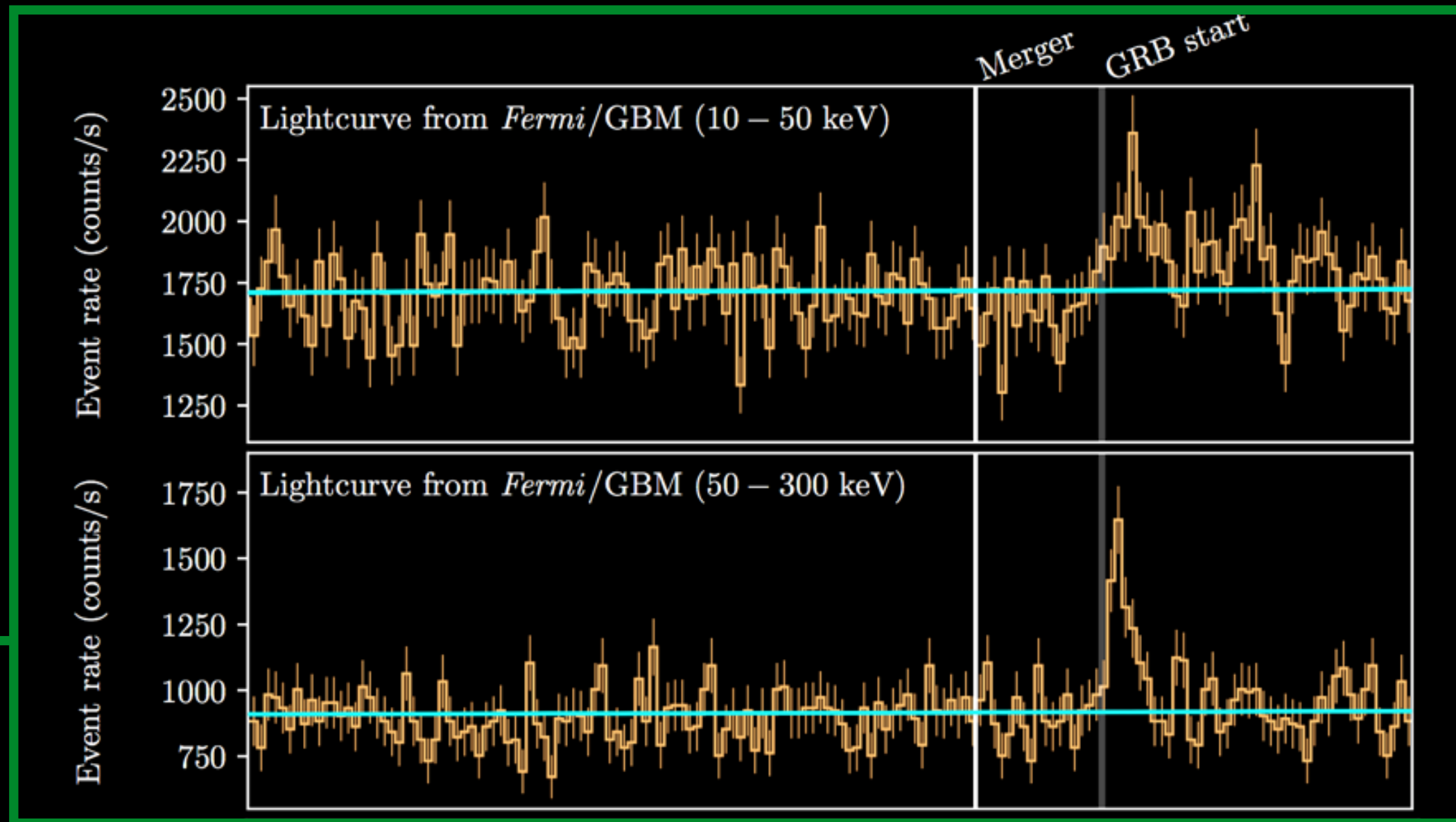
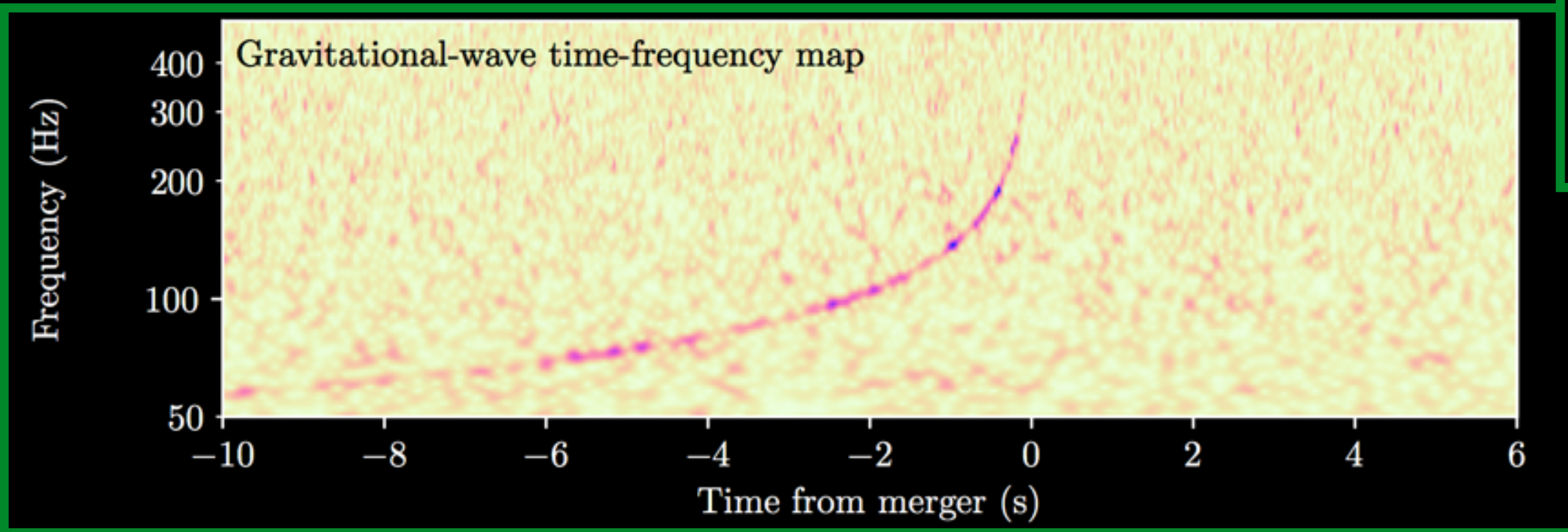
# GW170817 — GRB 170817A



LIGO



# August 17: Timeline of Events (Abridged)



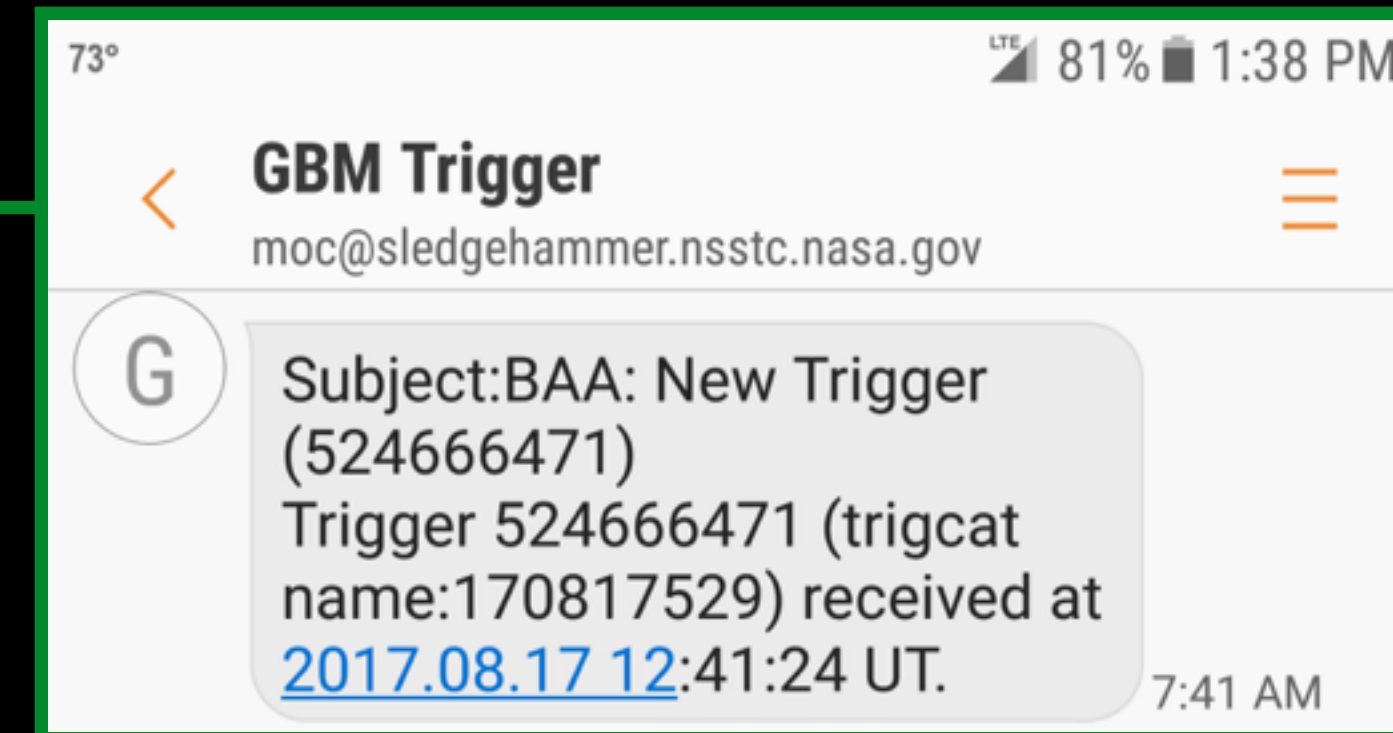
$T_{\text{GW}}$

$T_{\text{GW}} + 1.7 \text{ s}$

# GBM Trigger - The First Notice

<https://gcn.gsfc.nasa.gov/other/524666471.fermi>

```
////////////////////////////////////  
TITLE:      GCN/FERMI NOTICE  
NOTICE_DATE: Thu 17 Aug 17 12:41:20 UT  
NOTICE_TYPE: Fermi-GBM Alert  
RECORD_NUM: 1  
TRIGGER_NUM: 524666471  
GRB_DATE:   17982 TJD; 229 DOY; 17/08/17  
GRB_TIME:   45666.47 SOD {12:41:06.47} UT  
TRIGGER_SIGNIF: 4.8 [sigma]  
TRIGGER_DUR: 0.256 [sec]  
E_RANGE:    3-4 [chan] 47-291 [keV]  
ALGORITHM:  8  
DETECTORS:  0,1,1, 0,0,1, 0,0,0, 0,0,0, 0,0,  
LC_URL:     http://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/FTP/fermi/data/gbm/triggers/2017/bn170817529/quicklook/  
glg_lc_medres34_bn170817529.gif  
COMMENTS:   Fermi-GBM Trigger Alert.  
COMMENTS:   This trigger occurred at longitude,latitude = 321.53,3.90 [deg].  
COMMENTS:   The LC_URL file will not be created until ~15 min after the trigger.
```



First On-board  
● Localization and classification

+16 s

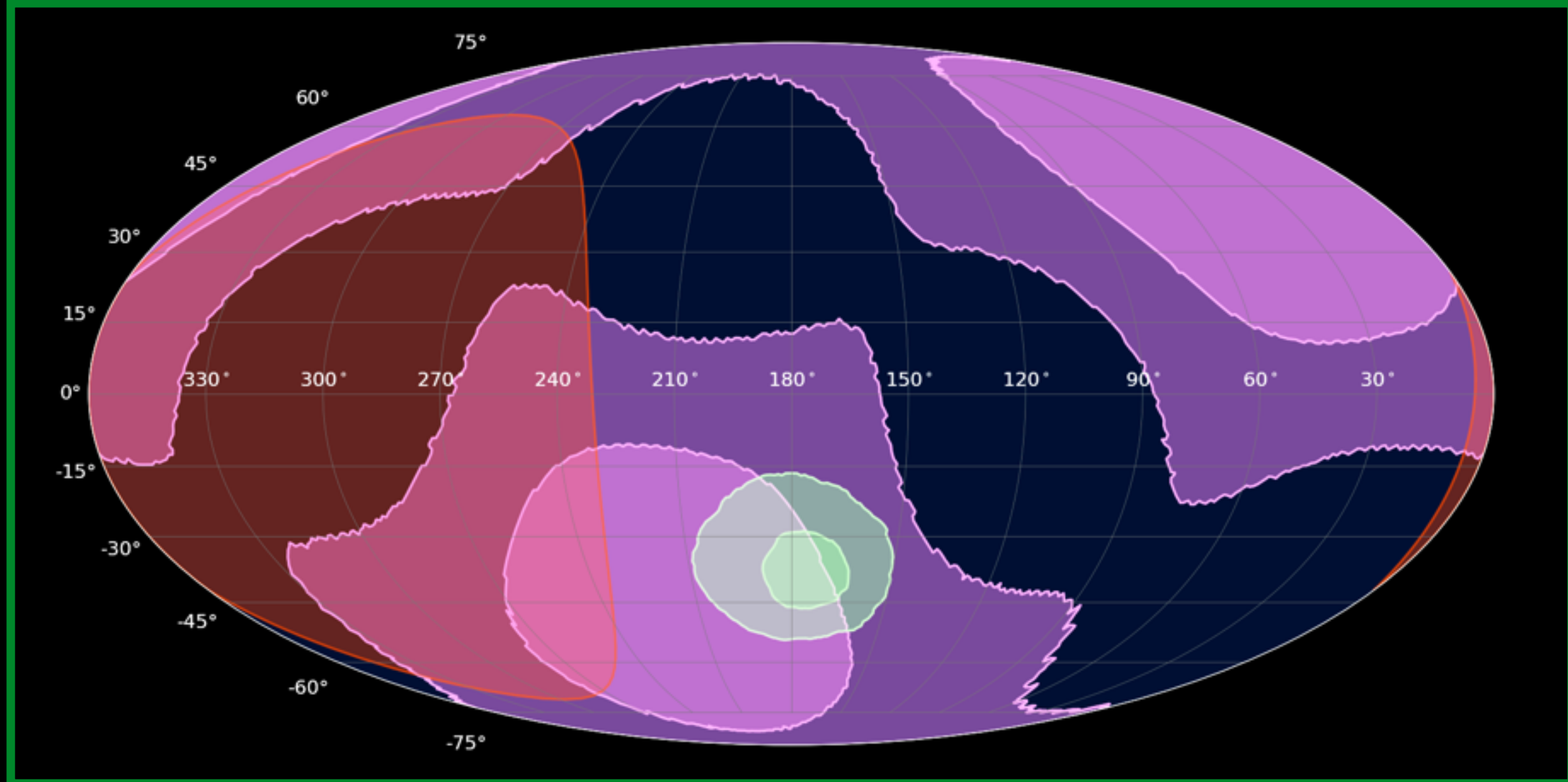
+27 s

# GBM Localization

**Subject:**[gbm+ligo] WAKE UP  
**Date:**Thu, 17 Aug 2017 13:23:13 +0000  
**From:**Littenberg, Tyson B. (MSFC-ST12) <[redacted]>  
**To:**GBM+LIGO <[redacted]>

[ivo://nasa.gsfc.gcn/Fermi#GBM\\_Gnd\\_Pos\\_2017-08-17T12:41:06.47\\_524666471\\_57-431](ivo://nasa.gsfc.gcn/Fermi#GBM_Gnd_Pos_2017-08-17T12:41:06.47_524666471_57-431)

this morning's GBM trigger has a friend....



Automated  
On-ground  
Localization

+40 s

WAKE UP!

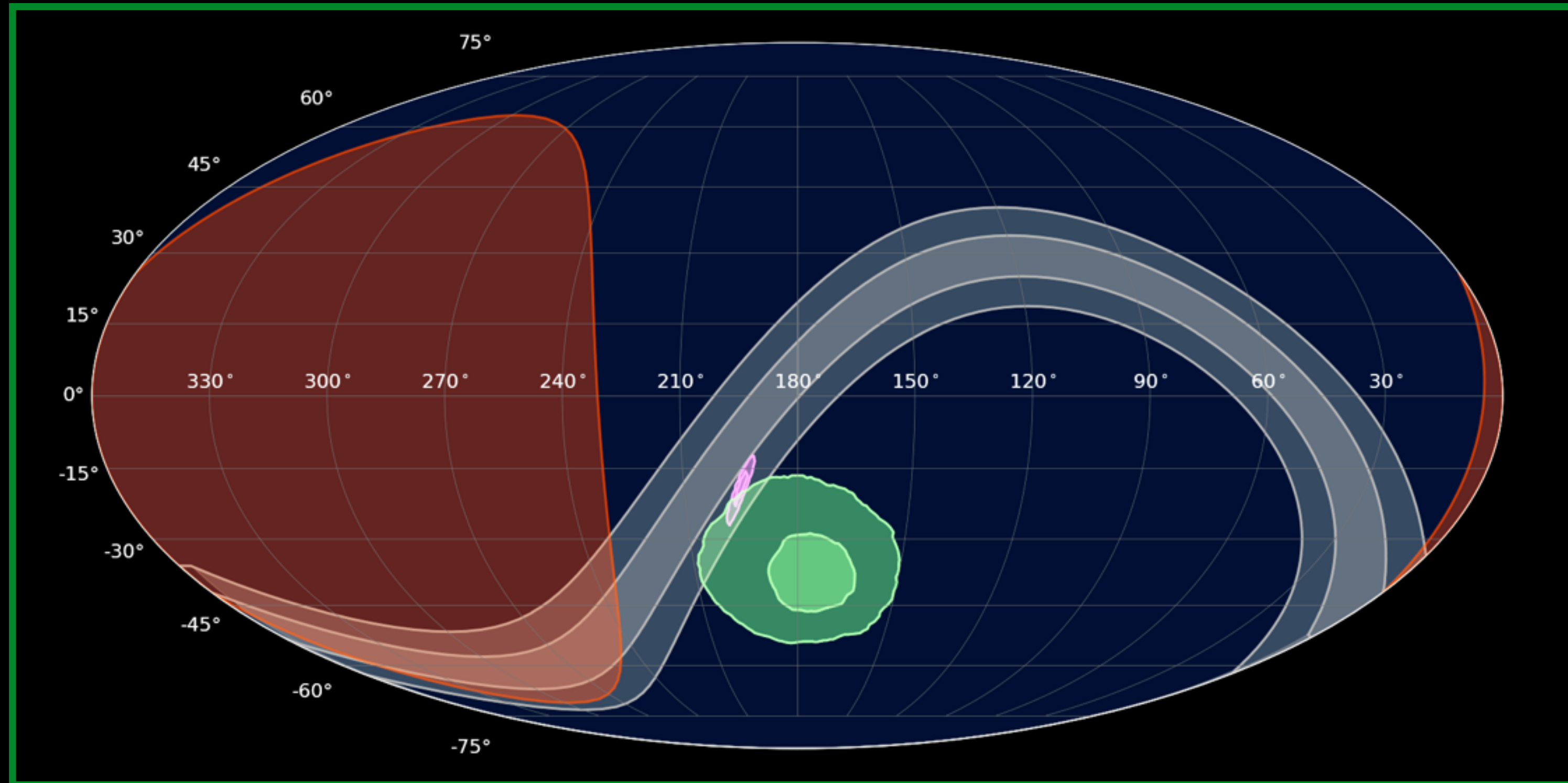
LIGO Report  
on GW Trigger  
Coincident with  
GRB

+40 min

Human-in-the-  
Loop Localization

+45 min

# More Reporting/Updates



GBM Report  
on localization  
and short  
duration GRB

INTEGRAL  
SPI-ACS report  
of a coincident  
weak GRB signal

Pre-planned  
LV-EM  
telecom

Mistaken report  
on IceCube  
neutrino  
candidates

First LIGO/Virgo  
sky map using  
all 3 detectors

IPN report on  
timing annulus  
between GBM  
& SPI-ACS

+67 min

+77 min

+84 min

+5 hr

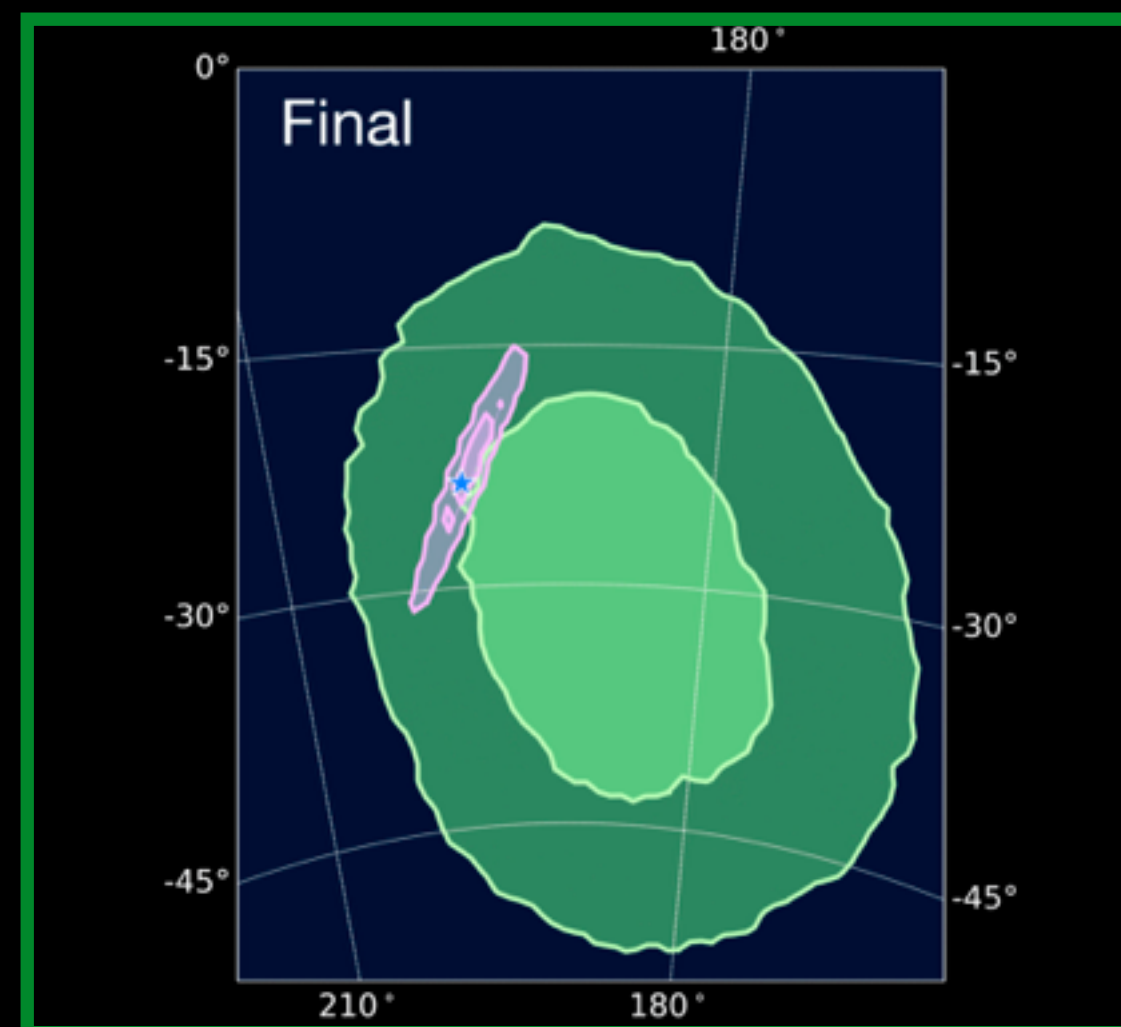
+6 hr

# Continued Reporting

**TITLE:** GCN CIRCULAR  
**NUMBER:** 21520  
**SUBJECT:** GRB 170817A: Fermi GBM detection  
**DATE:** 17/08/17 20:00:07 GMT  
**FROM:** Andreas von Kienlin at MPE <azk@mpe.mpg.de>

List of 15 host galaxies in LIGO/Virgo sky map volume

GBM science data arrives - GCN Circular giving GRB official name



Updated LIGO/Virgo sky map

GBM report of energetics and initial False Alarm Rate

+6 hr

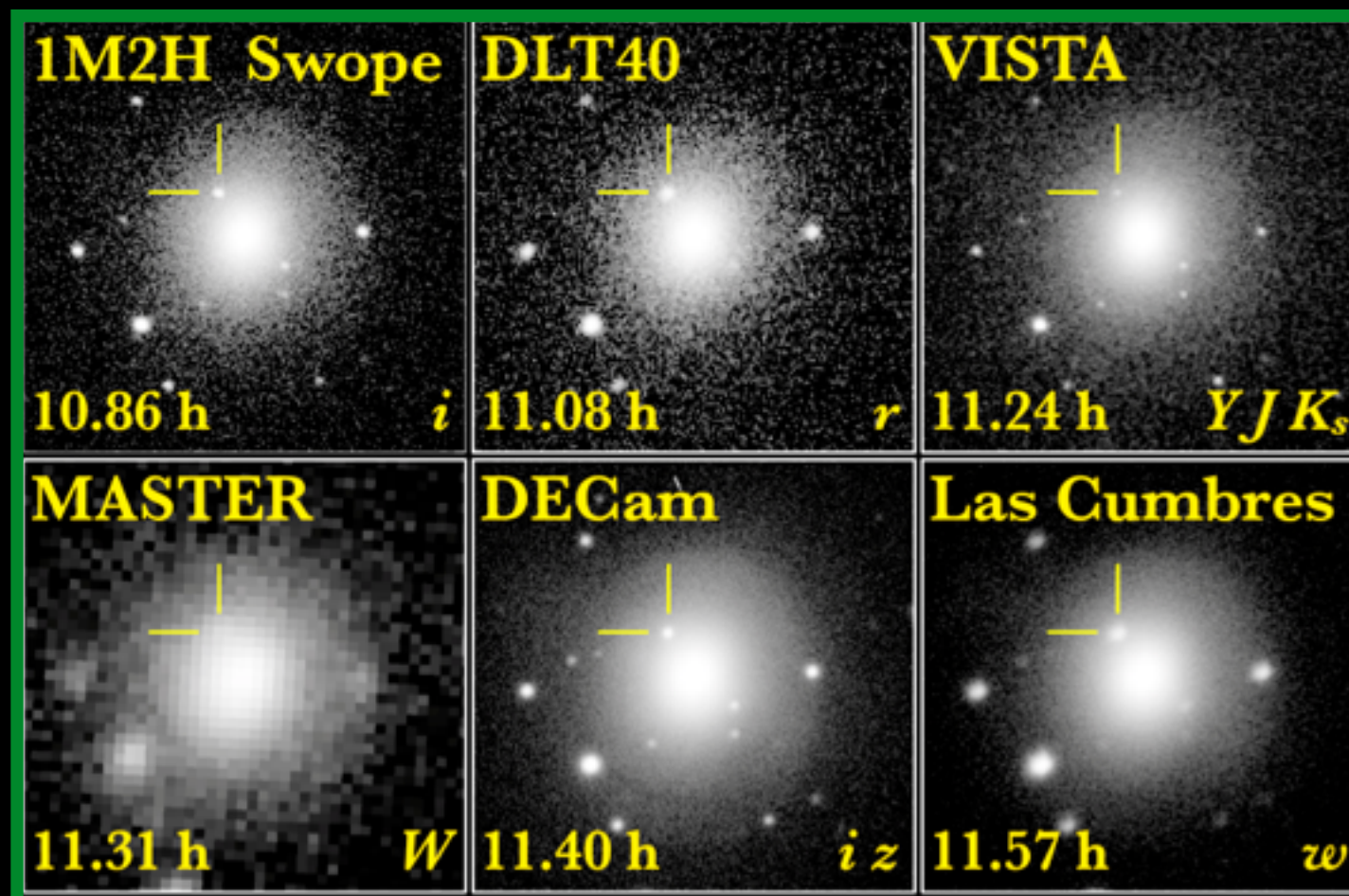
+7 hr

+11 hr

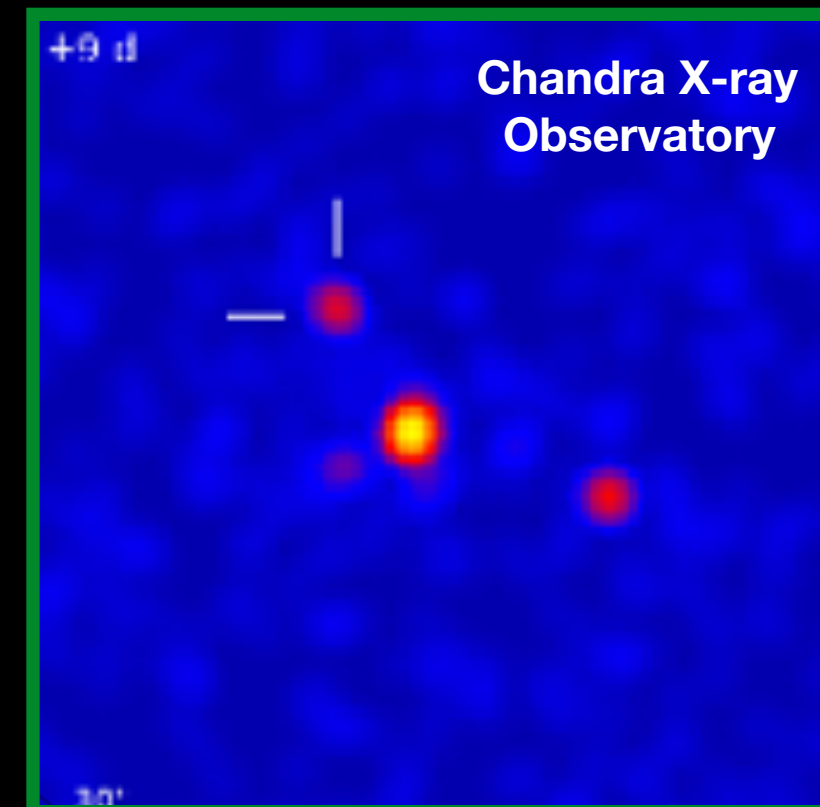
+12 hr



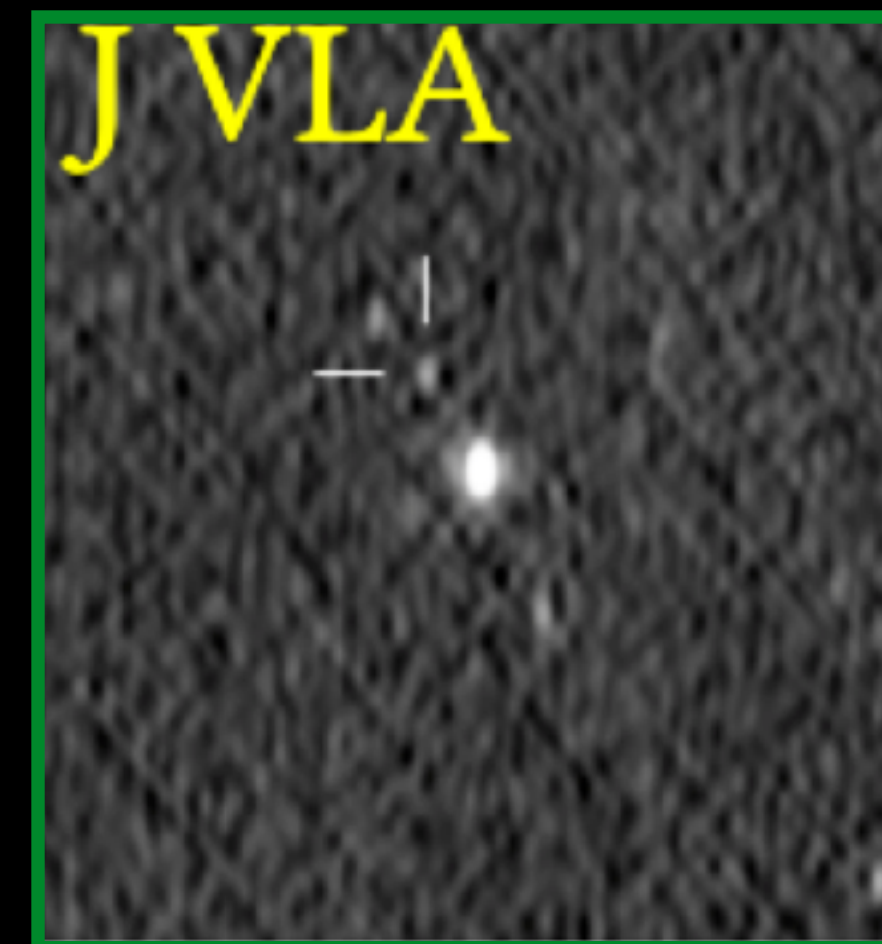
# Electromagnetic Follow-up



Report of Optical Transient by three independent telescopes



X-ray counterpart reported by Chandra



Radio counterpart reported by VLA

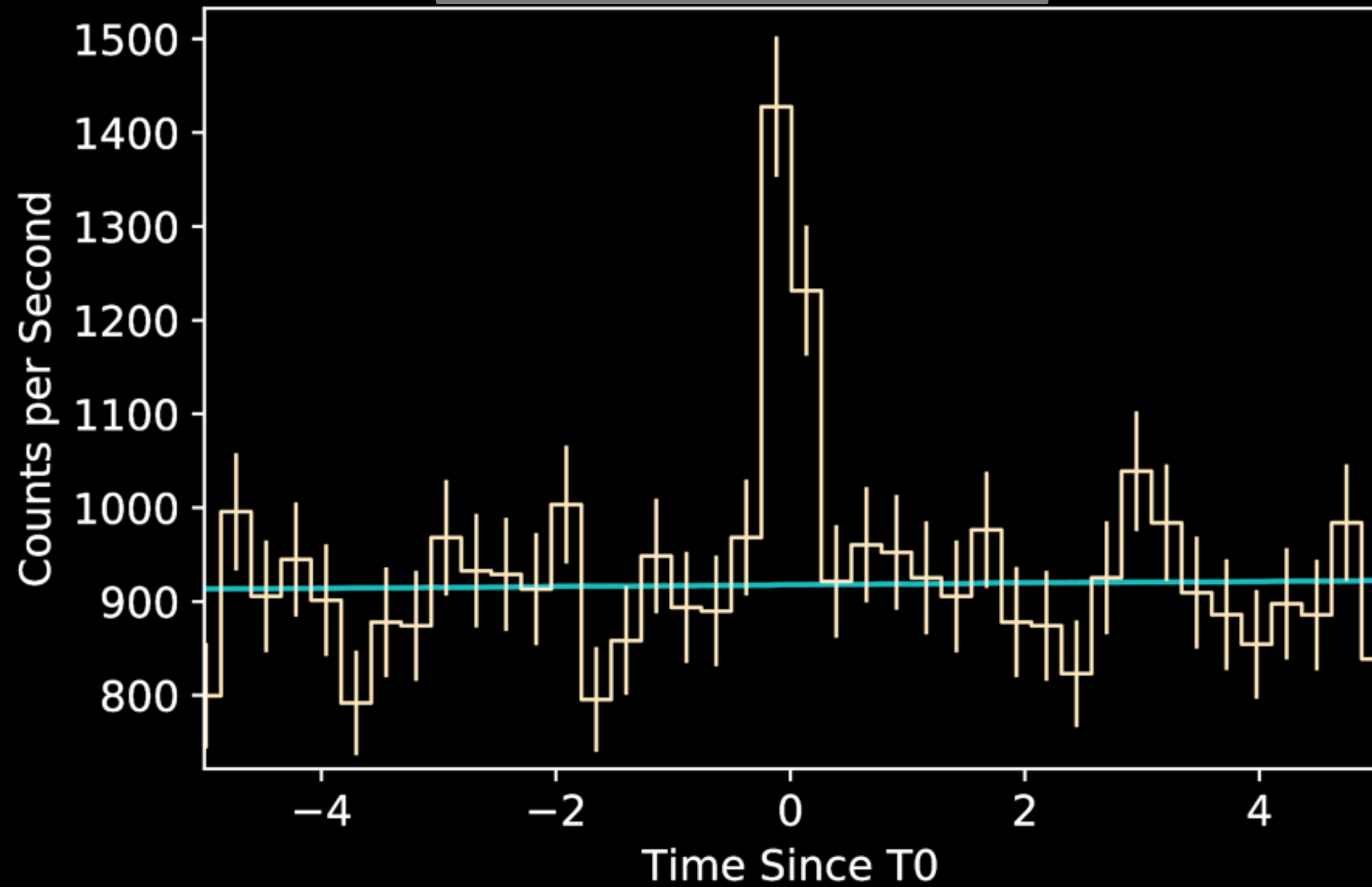
+12-13 hr

+9 day

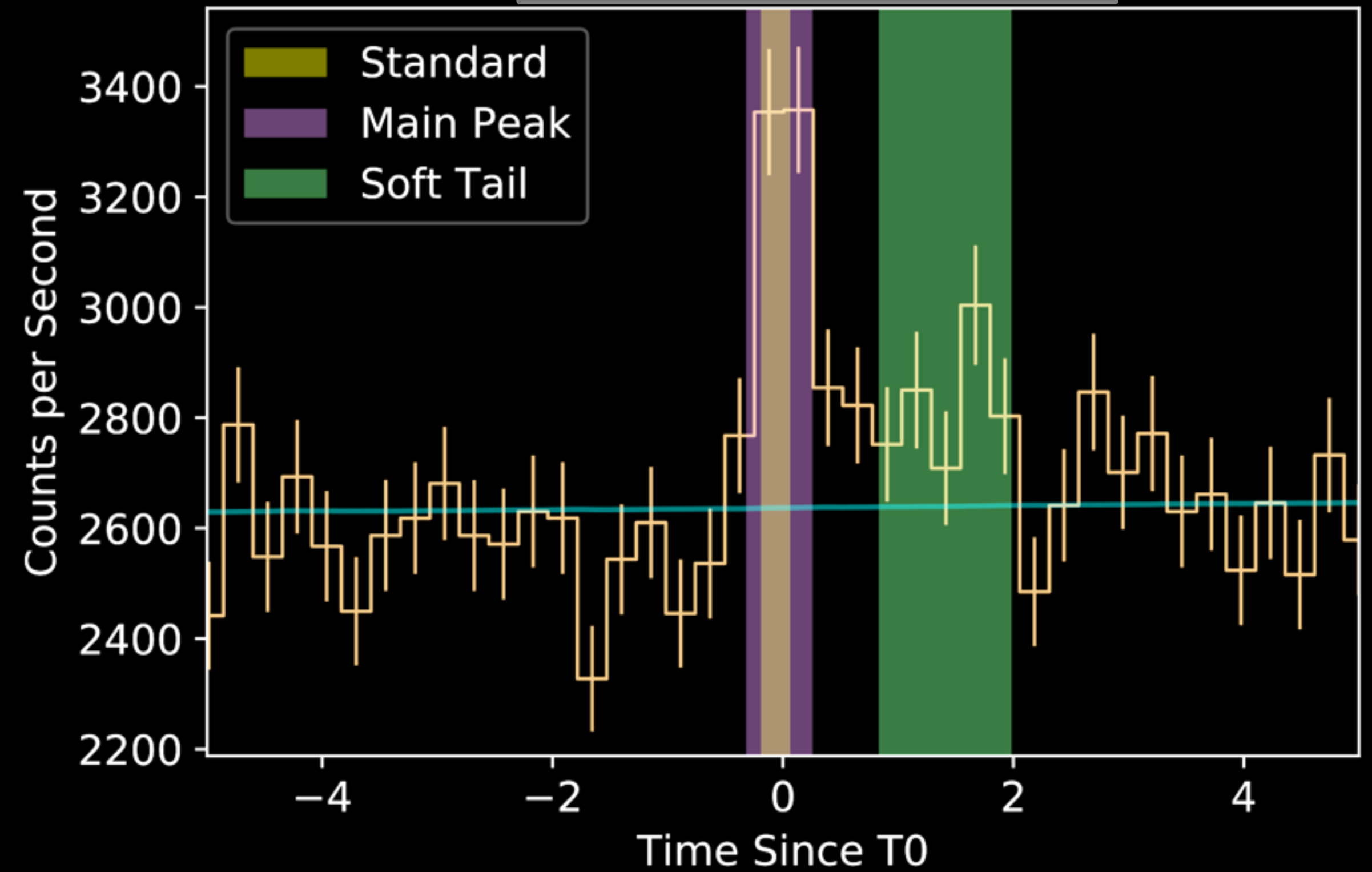
+16 day

# GRB 170817A: A Tail

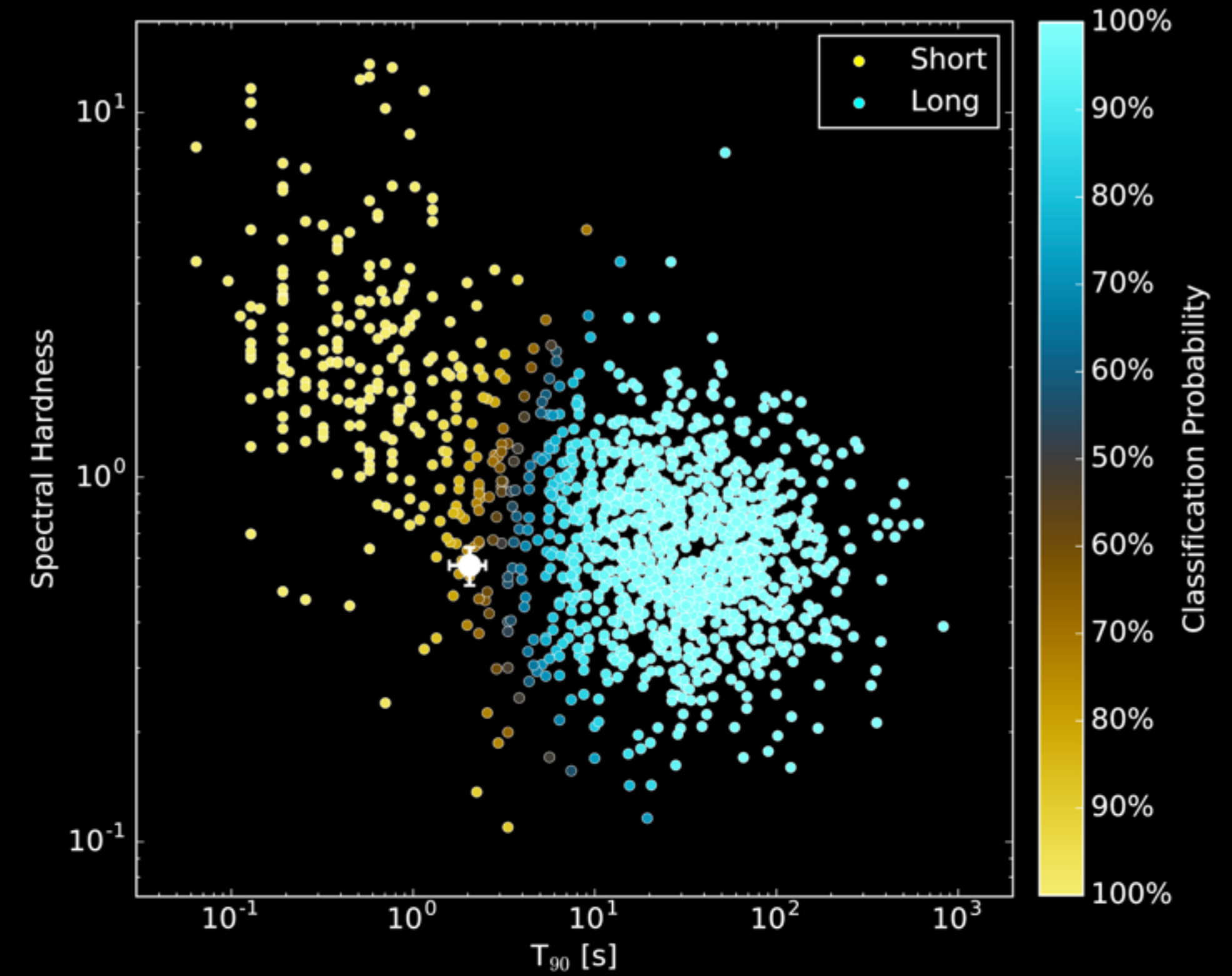
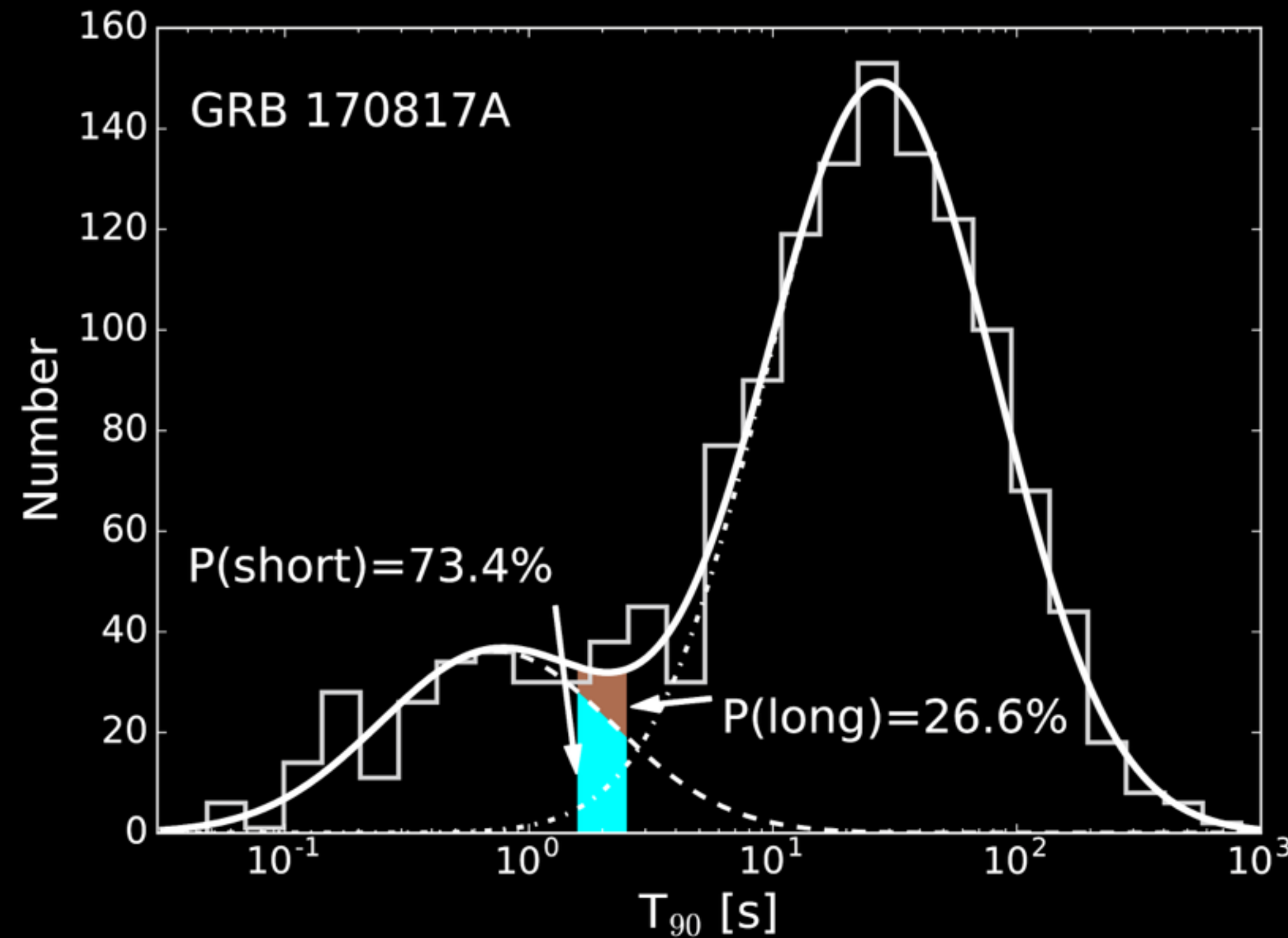
50-300 keV



10-300 keV

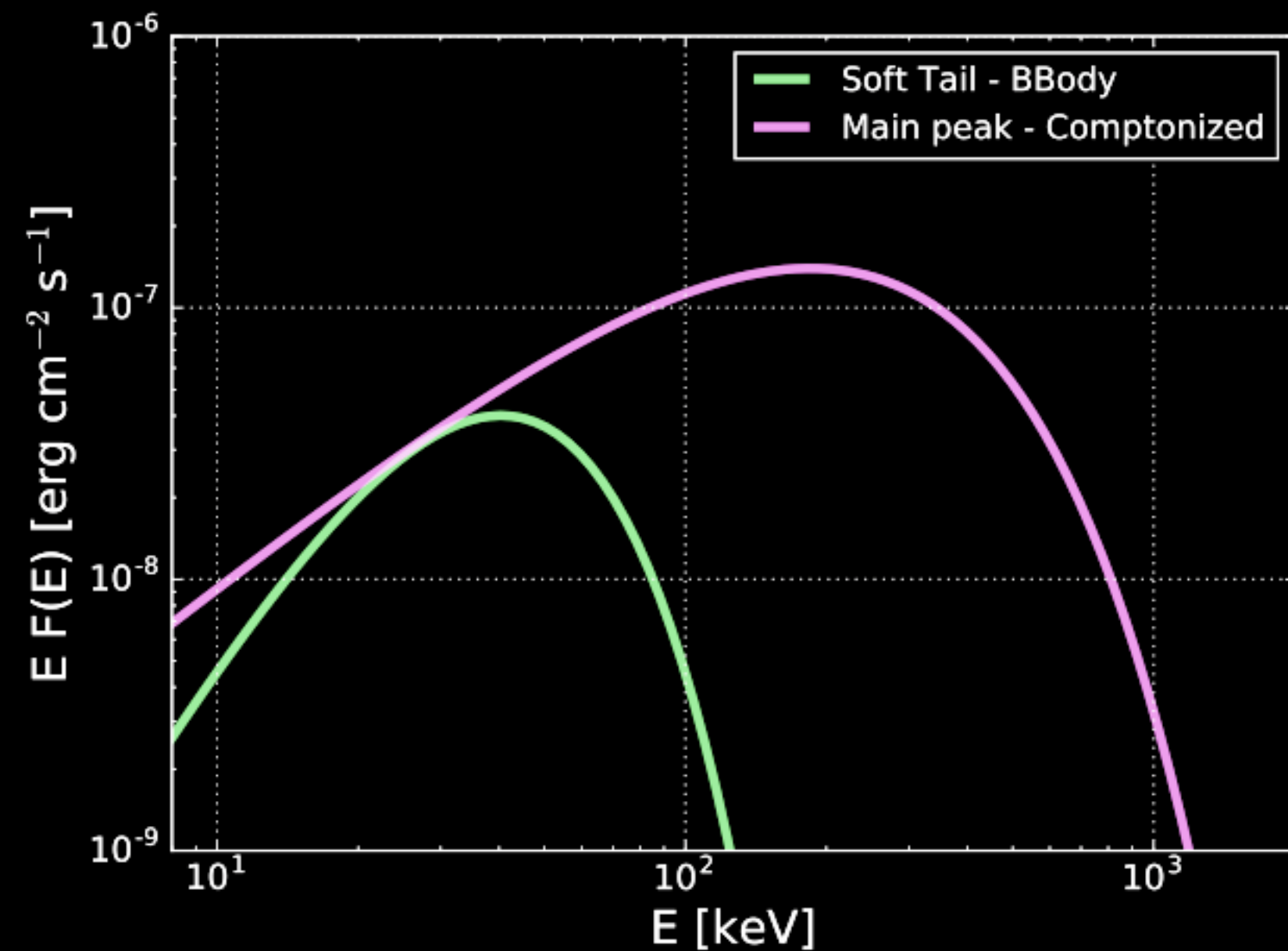
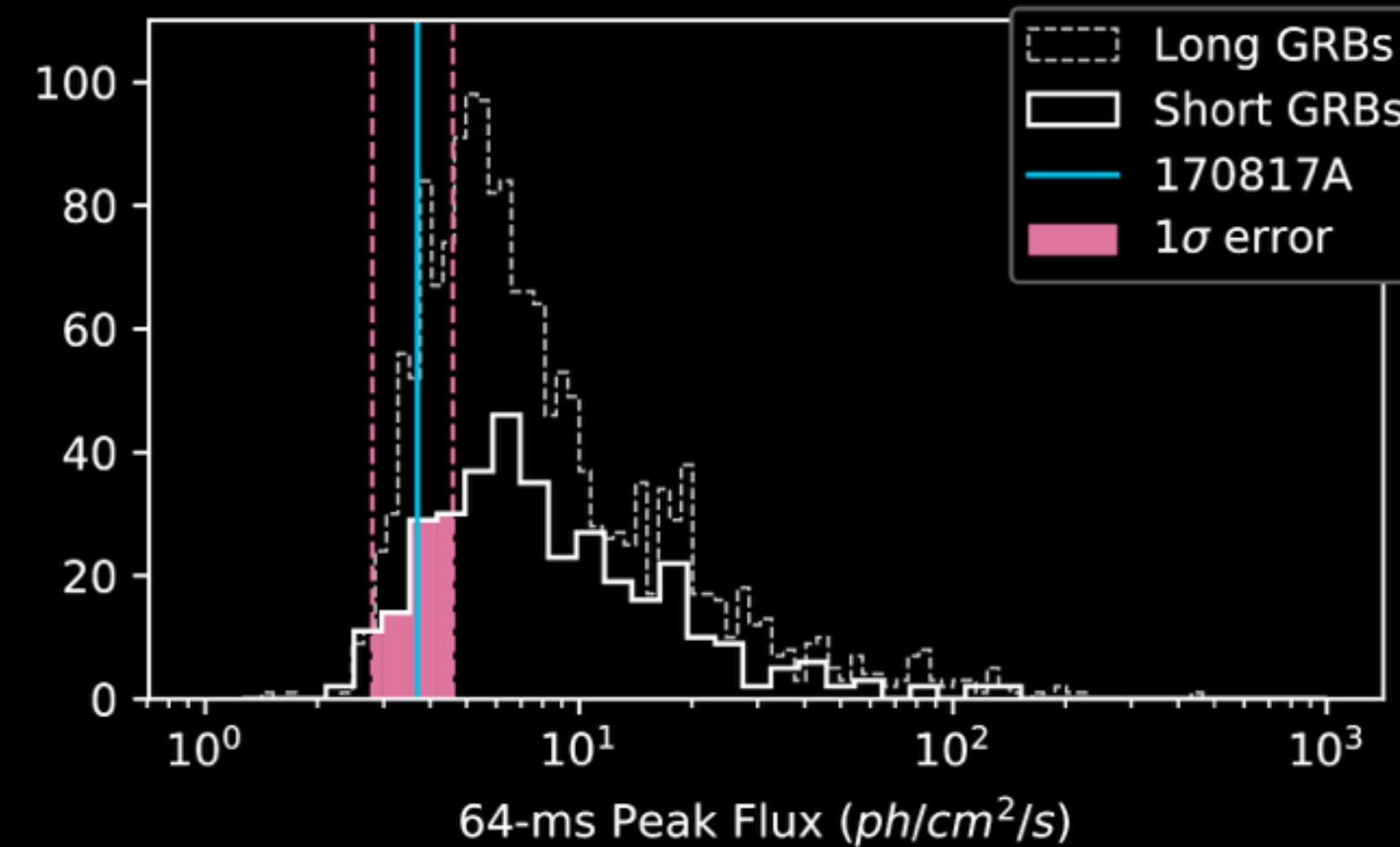
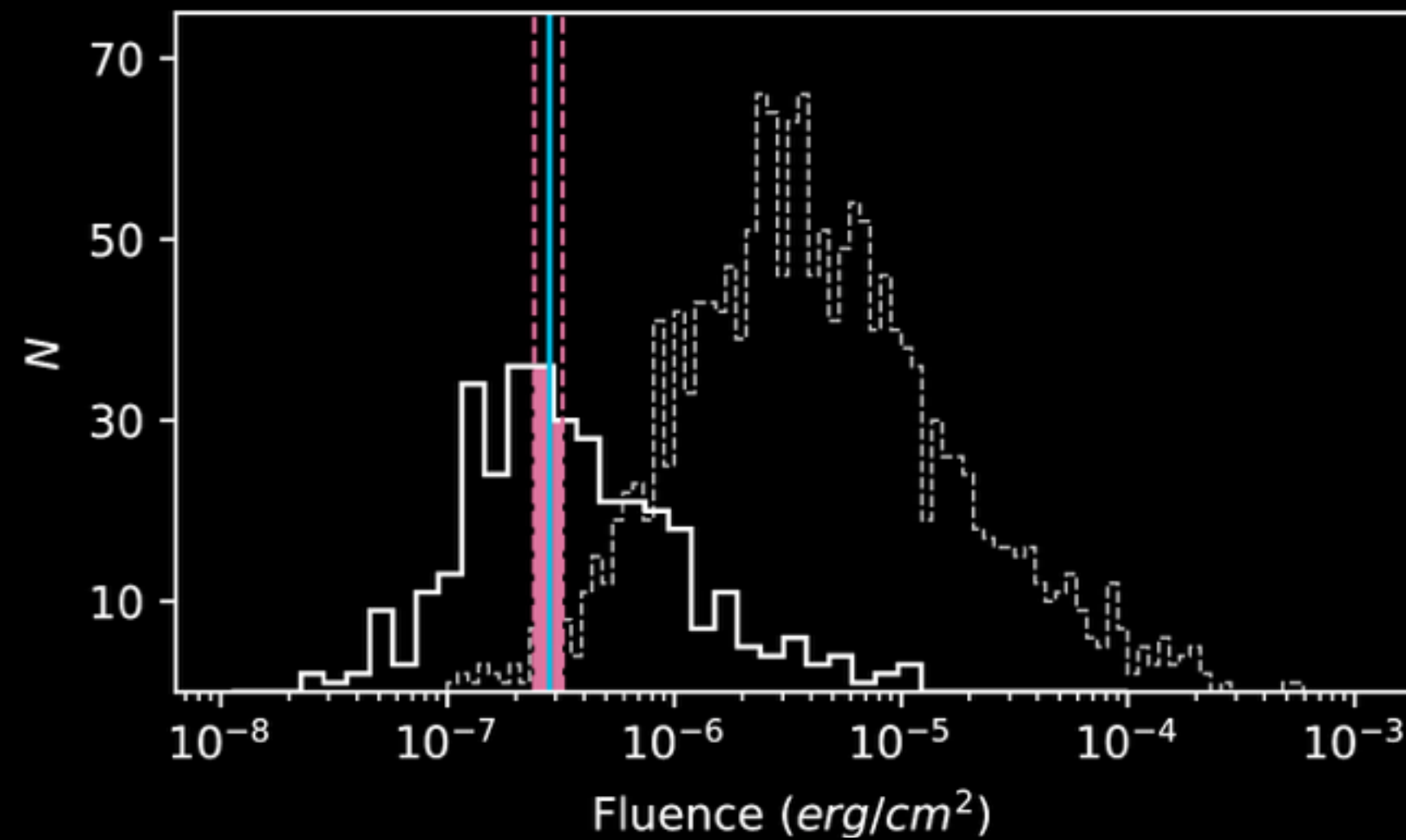


# GRB Type: Short or Long?



- Two classes of GRBs: short (mergers) and long (collapsars)
- These two classes are also spectrally different: short-hard and long-soft
- This GRB is most likely classified as short, although it is spectrally softer than many short GRBs

# Spectra: Average or Peculiar?



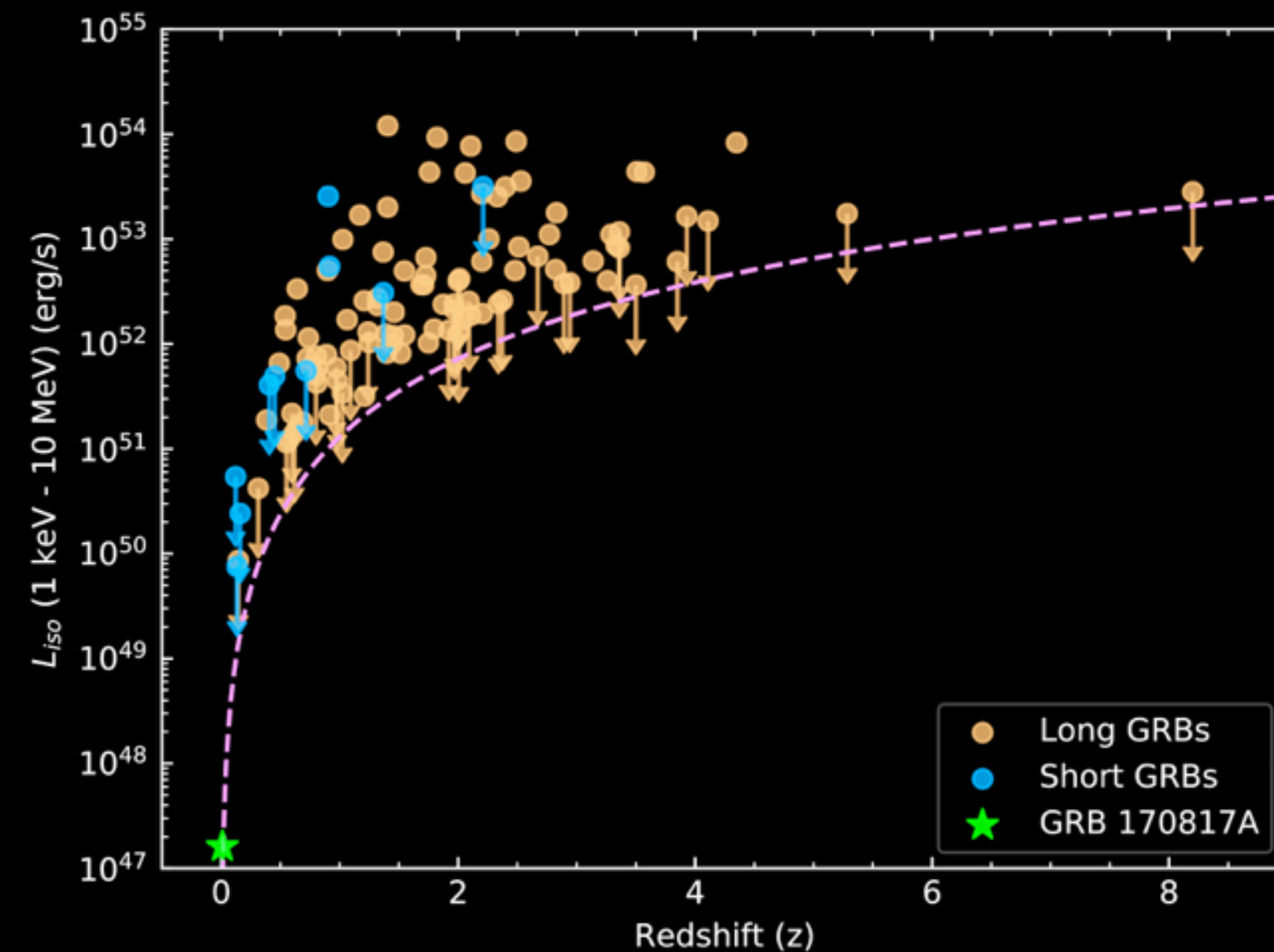
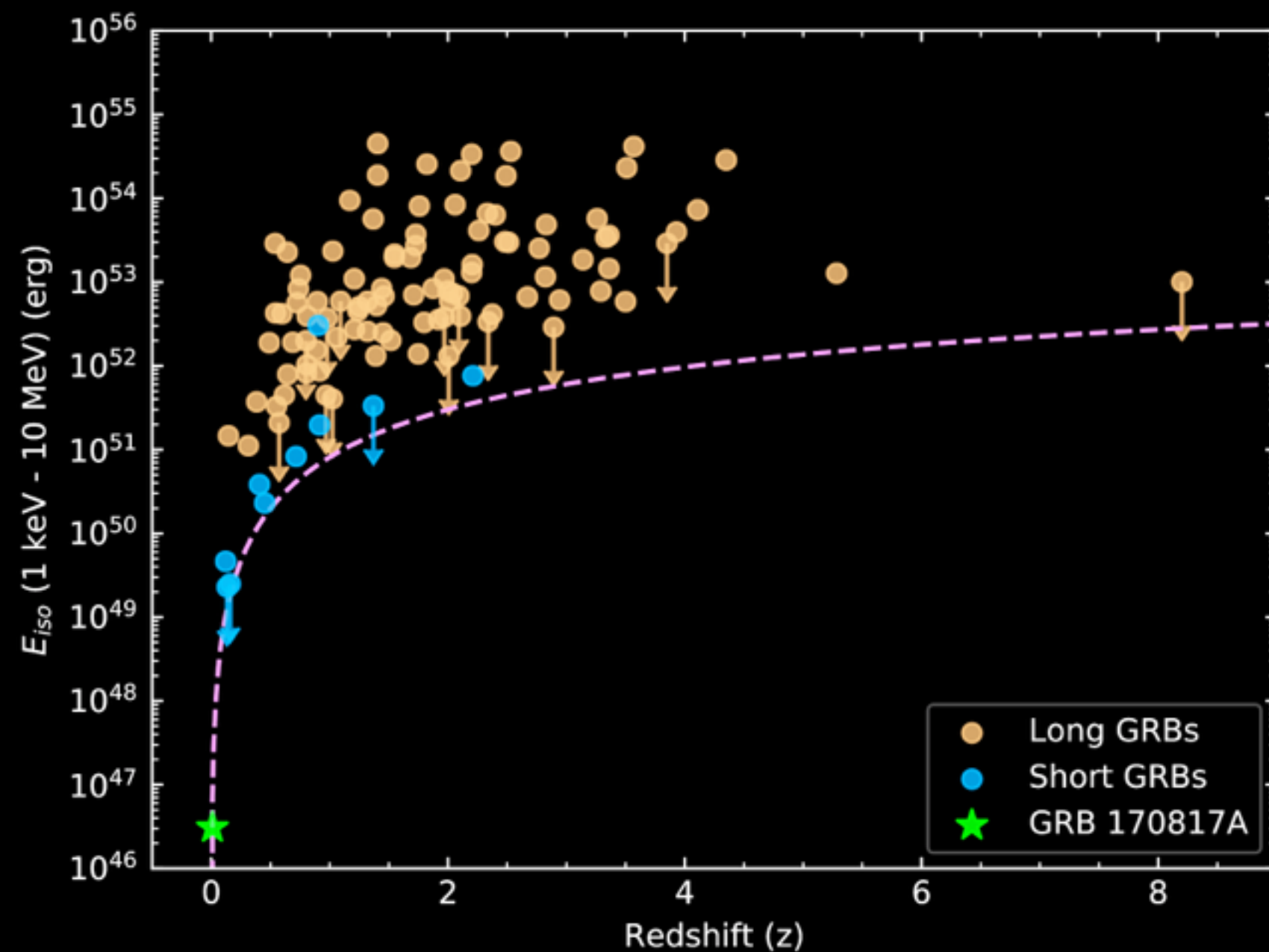
## Standard GBM Catalog analysis

- Average short GRB by fluence
- Lower third in 64 ms peak flux

## Refined analysis

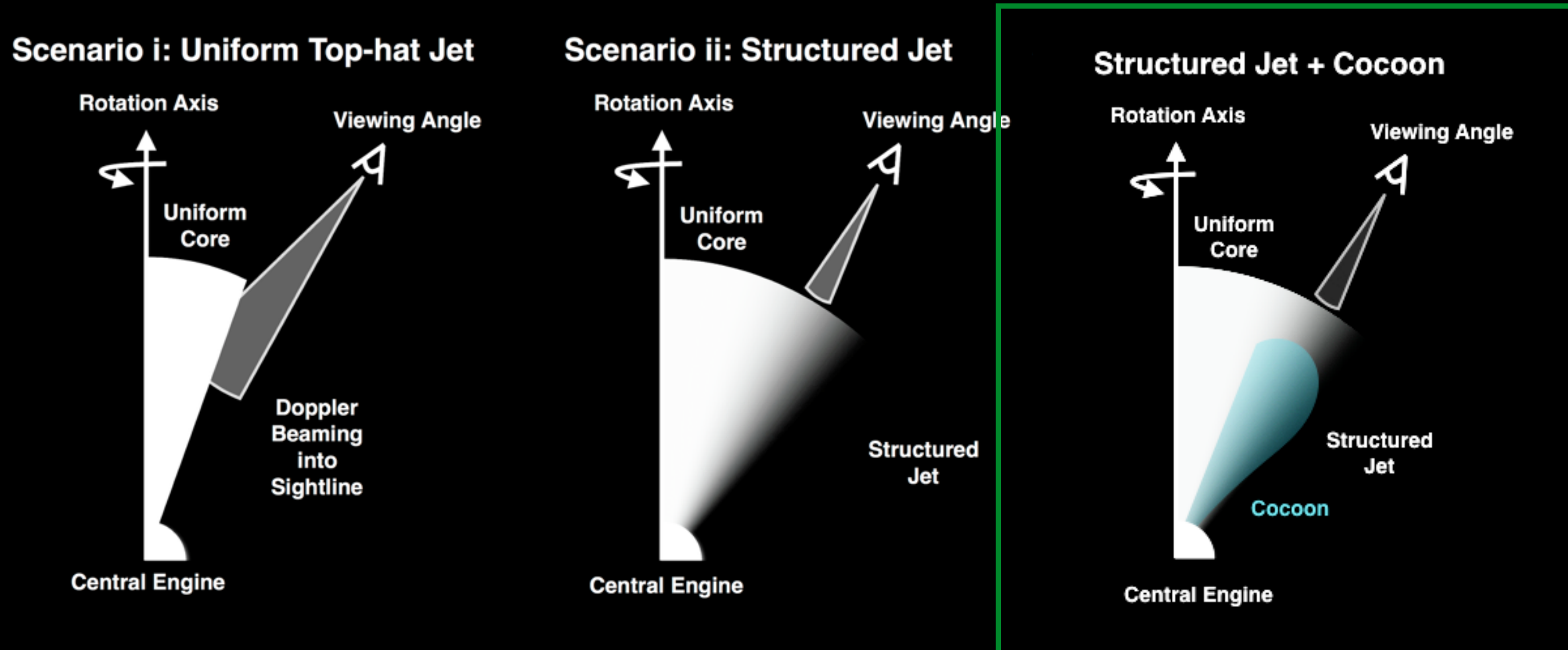
- Two components: initial GRB spike & weak soft tail
- Tail appears thermal—blackbody  $kT \sim 10$  keV

# Energetics? Not Very.



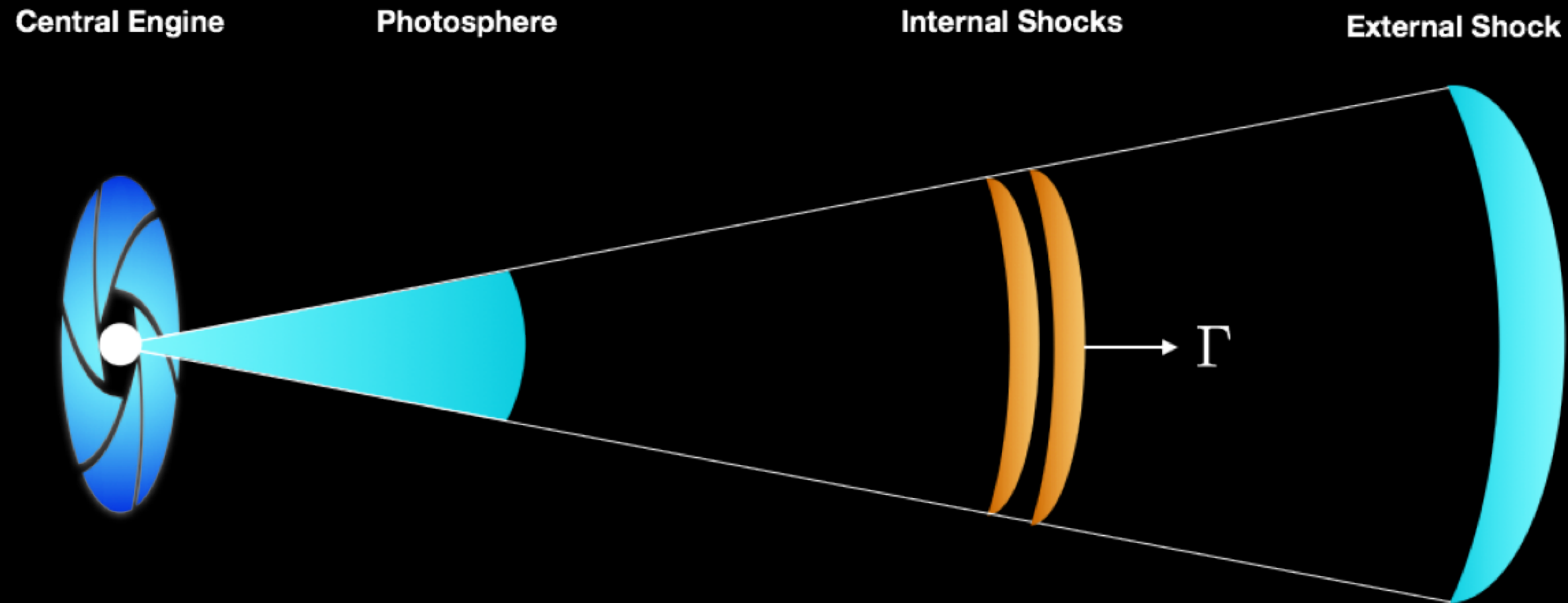
- Estimated peak luminosity and isotropic-equivalent energy is  $\sim 2$ - $3$  orders of magnitude lower than previous observations
- Why the large gap? Malmquist bias.
  - We see bright things far away that look weak, bright things nearby that look bright, and weak things nearby that look weak. We can't see weak things far away.

# GRB Observing Scenarios



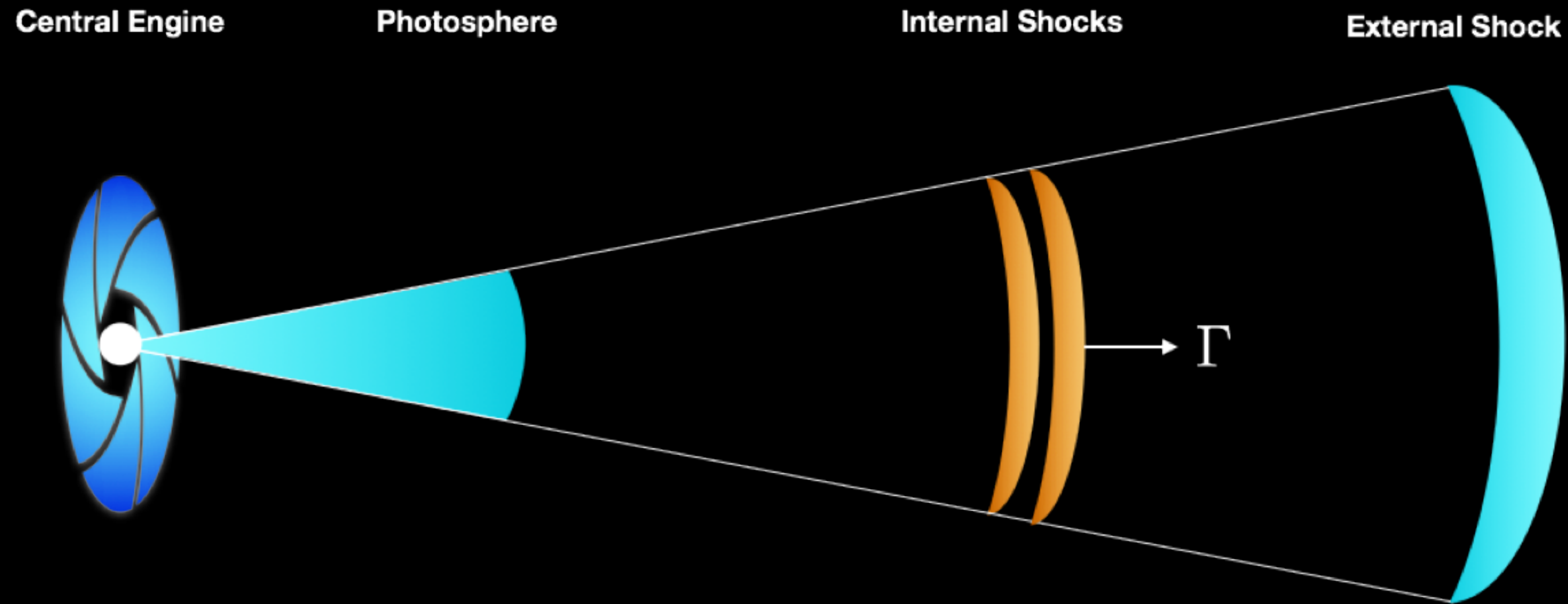
- GW data restricts viewing angle  $< 56$  deg off-axis
- Viewing angle  $< 36$  deg off-axis ( $20 \pm 5$  Mooley+ ArXiv:1806.09693)
- Could be a structured jet with “wings” of shocked material (e.g. Lazzati+ 2018)
- Could be a shock breakout from a “choked” trans-relativistic jet (e.g. Gottlieb+ 2018)

# GRB Emission Models—Shocking



- First direct measurement of a GRB central engine
- Typical GRB spike
  - Internal shocks, assuming time delay between GW and GRB is due to propagation time, the radius of the relativistic outflow  $< 30$  au, and the size of emitting region  $< \sim 3$  au
  - External shocks, assuming time delay is between GW and GRB is propagation time, Lorentz factor  $\sim 300$ , deceleration radius  $\sim 200$  au

# GRB Emission Models—Shocking



- Soft blackbody tail
  - Photospheric emission can explain this if assume the delay time is the time required for photosphere to become optically thin -> photospheric radius  $\sim 1$  au
  - Photospheric emission has difficulty in explaining non-thermal spike + thermal emission
  - Cocoon emission radius  $\sim 3000-14000$  km, supported by off-axis x-ray observations of trans-relativistic cocoon

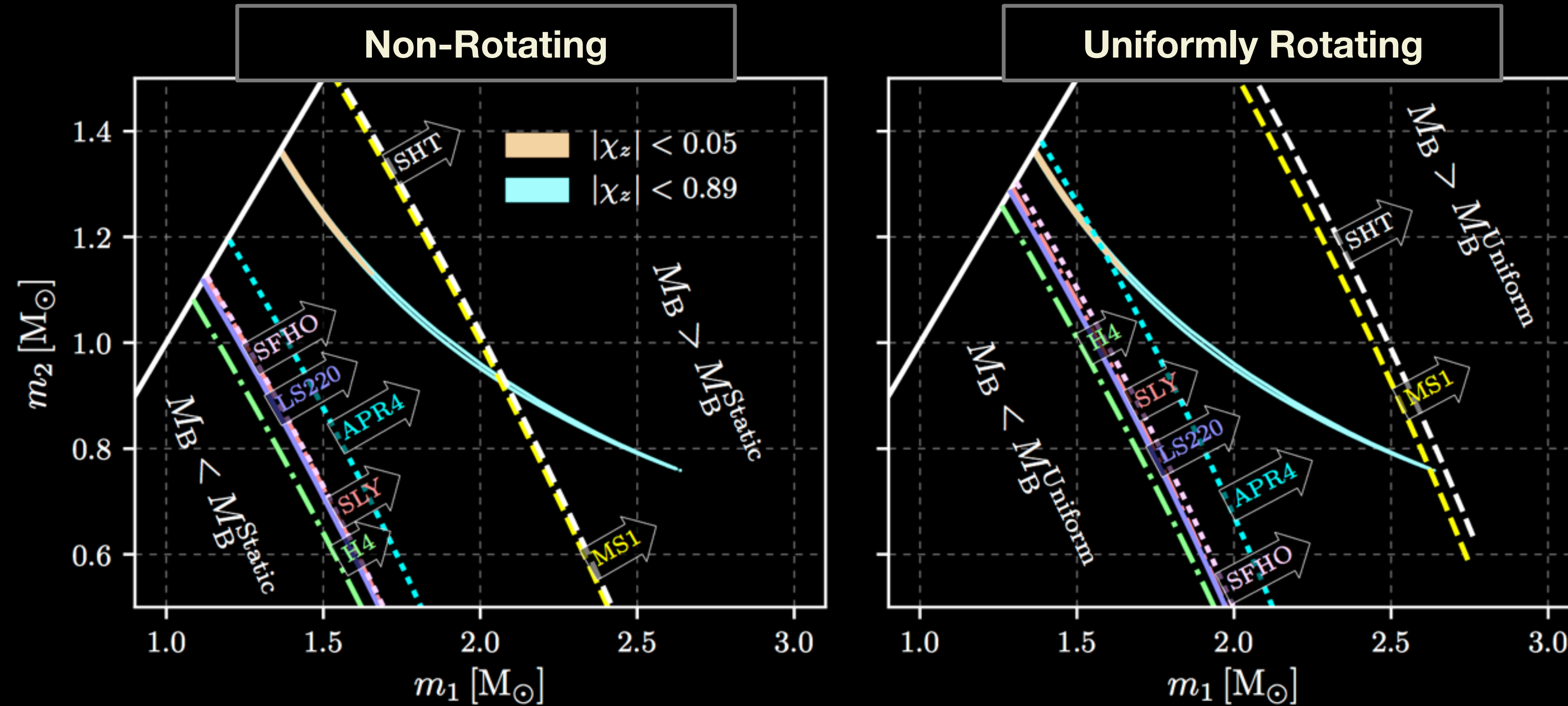


# A Cool Video



N A S A A S T R O P H Y S I C S

# Neutron Star Equation of State



- Testing the “fluffiness” of neutron star material
- Gamma-ray/X-ray upper limits on post-merger emission indicate that any remnant emission must be 2-3 orders of magnitude weaker
- Assuming remnant is a black hole (and not a stable magnetar), the mass of a non-rotating neutron star  $< 3.2\text{-}3.7$  solar mass
- Most massive pulsar:  $(2.01 \pm 0.04)$  solar masses from Antoniadis et al. 2013

# A Race Between Gravity and Light: It's a Tie

- Conservative estimate
- Assume distance = 26 Mpc (lower bound GW 90% credible interval)
- Assume GWs and gamma-rays emitted at same time, OR
- Assume gamma-rays emitted 10 s **after** GWs
- Gravitational waves travel at  $c$  to within one part in one quadrillion
- Rules out some Modified Newtonian Dynamics theories

$$-3 \times 10^{-15} \leq \frac{\Delta v}{v_{\text{EM}}} \leq +7 \times 10^{-16}$$

# The Equivalence Principle

- Equivalence Principle: Gravitational mass == inertial mass
- Can test using Shapiro delay
- Propagation time of massless particles traveling in curved spacetime (through gravitational fields) will be slightly increased compared to flat spacetime

$$\delta t_S = -\frac{1 + \gamma}{c^3} \int_{\mathbf{r}_e}^{\mathbf{r}_o} U(\mathbf{r}(l)) dl$$

$\delta t_S$  = Shapiro delay using the same time bounds

$\mathbf{r}_o$  = observation position,  $\mathbf{r}_e$  = emission position

$U(\mathbf{r})$  = gravitational potential (here the Milky Way's)

$l$  = wave path

$\gamma$  = deviation from Einstein-Maxwell theory

(where  $\gamma_{EM}$  and  $\gamma_{GW}$  are both equal to 1)

$$-1.2 \times 10^{-6} \leq \gamma_{GW} - \gamma_{EM} \leq 2.6 \times 10^{-7}$$

This is 1-2 orders of magnitude lower than the best **absolute** bound on  $\gamma_{EM}$  based Shapiro delay of radio waves

# ApJ Letters Focus Set

## THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL LETTERS

---

### Focus on the Electromagnetic Counterpart of the Neutron Star Binary Merger GW170817

---

#### OPEN ACCESS

#### Multi-messenger Observations of a Binary Neutron Star Merger

B. P. Abbott *et al.* 2017 *ApJL* **848** L12

[+ View abstract](#) [View article](#) [PDF](#)

---

#### OPEN ACCESS

#### Gravitational Waves and Gamma-Rays from a Binary Neutron Star Merger: GW170817 and GRB 170817A

B. P. Abbott *et al.* 2017 *ApJL* **848** L13

[+ View abstract](#) [View article](#) [PDF](#)

---

#### An Ordinary Short Gamma-Ray Burst with Extraordinary Implications: *Fermi*-GBM Detection of GRB 170817A

A. Goldstein *et al.* 2017 *ApJL* **848** L14

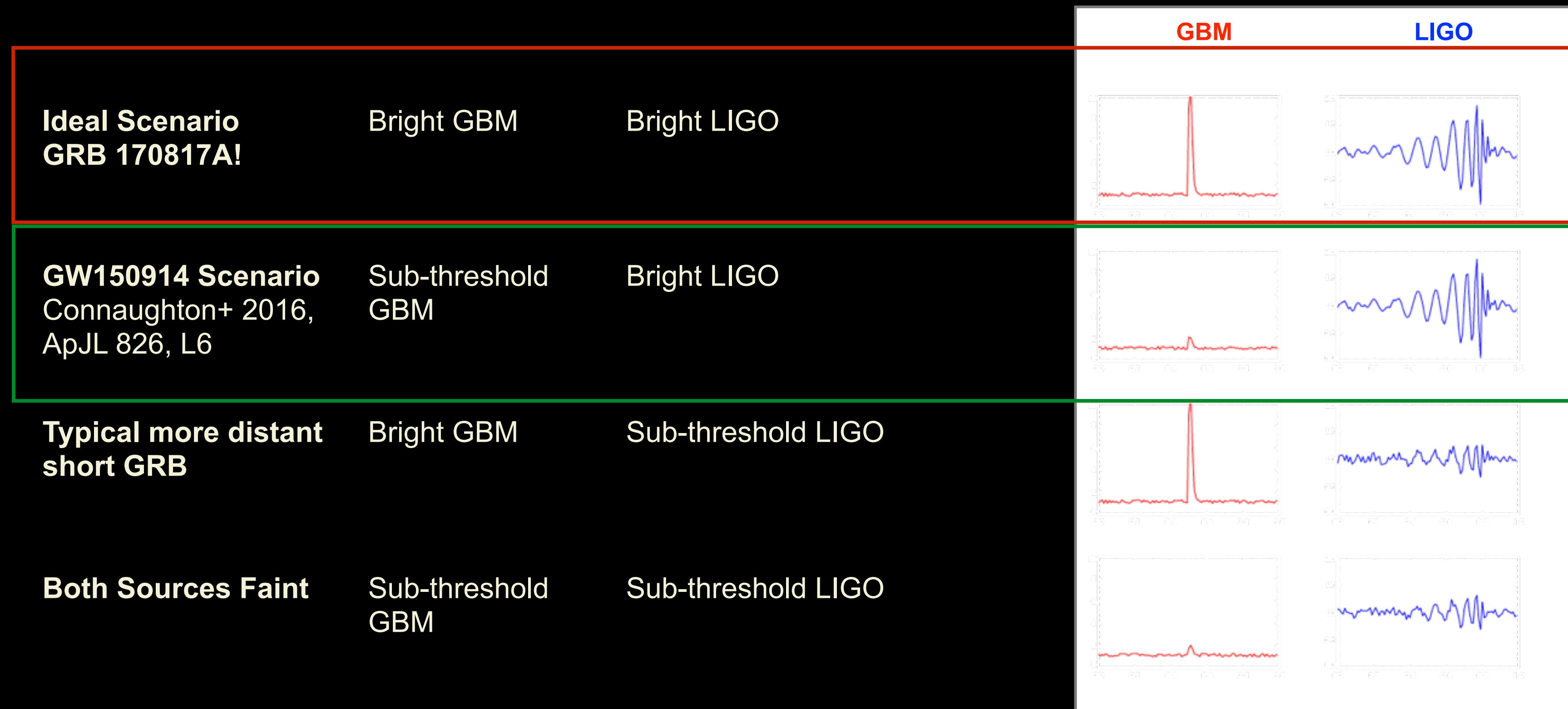
[+ View abstract](#) [View article](#) [PDF](#)

# Fermi Science from GW170817

## Many exciting results from ONE observation!

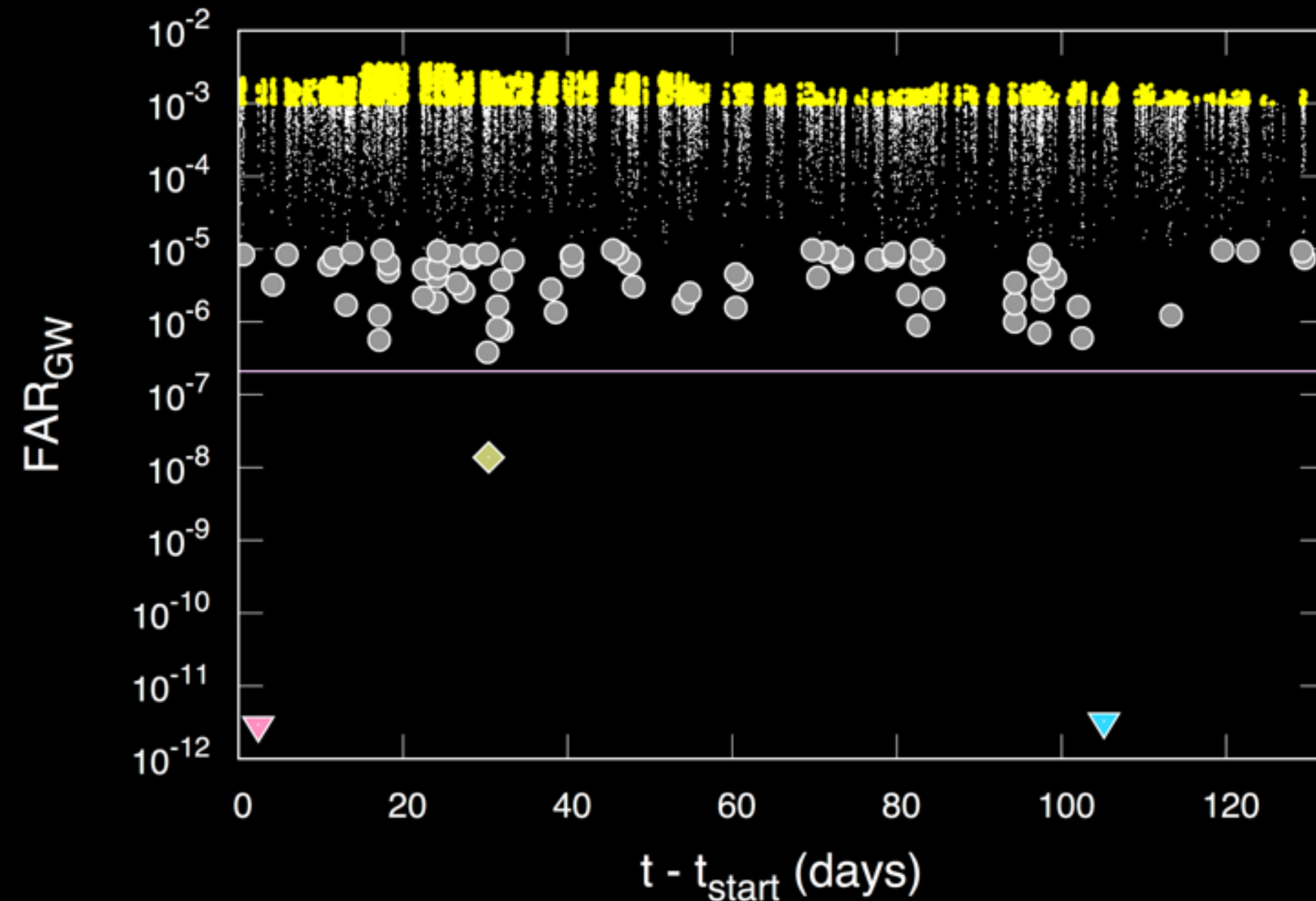
- Relativistic Jet physics — emission radius/timescale, deceleration radius/timescale
- Stellar populations — rate of NS-NS mergers/short GRBs
- Condensed matter physics — Neutron Star Equation of State
- Fundamental physics — measurement of the speed of gravity
- General Relativity — testing the Equivalence Principle between gravity and EM, and Lorentz Invariance Violation

# Joint Sub-threshold Search



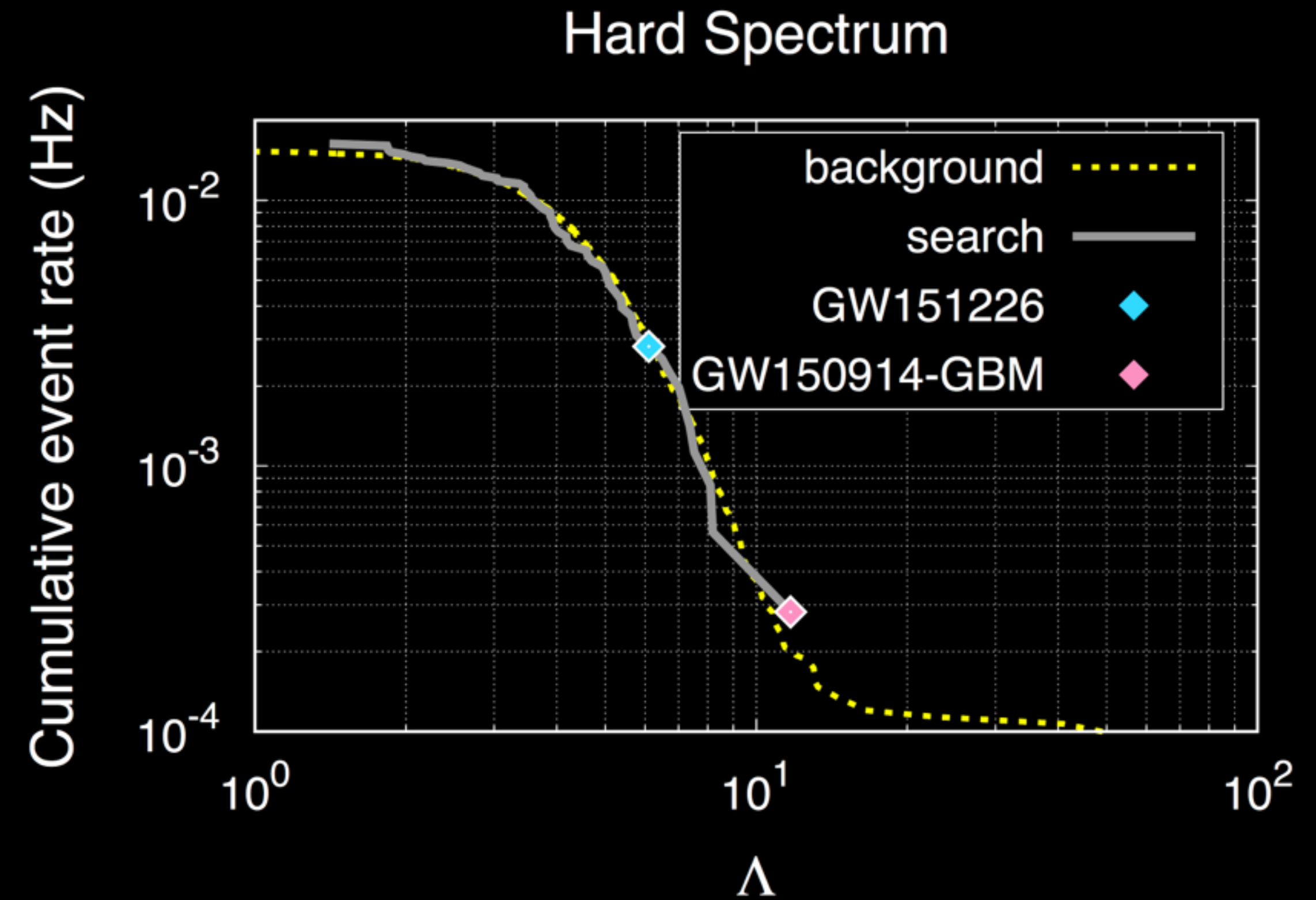
- GBM and LIGO teams working together to develop automated pipelines to search for sub-threshold signals
- Untargeted Search—offline, searches all continuous data, latency ~few hours:  
[https://gcn.gsfc.nasa.gov/fermi\\_gbm\\_subthresh\\_archive.html](https://gcn.gsfc.nasa.gov/fermi_gbm_subthresh_archive.html)
- Targeted Search—searches window around target of interest, deep detector and spectral coherent search
- Detection of sub-threshold signals can push the GW detection distance deeper
- GW/GRB 170817A inspired formulation of joint detection statistic: Ashton+ 2018, ApJ 860, 6

# All-O1 Offline Follow-up Analysis



GBM+LVC, 2019

- 59 LIGO triggers
- ~2500 Background triggers ( $FAR > 1$  per 15 min)
- No above threshold or blind sub-threshold gamma-ray counterparts

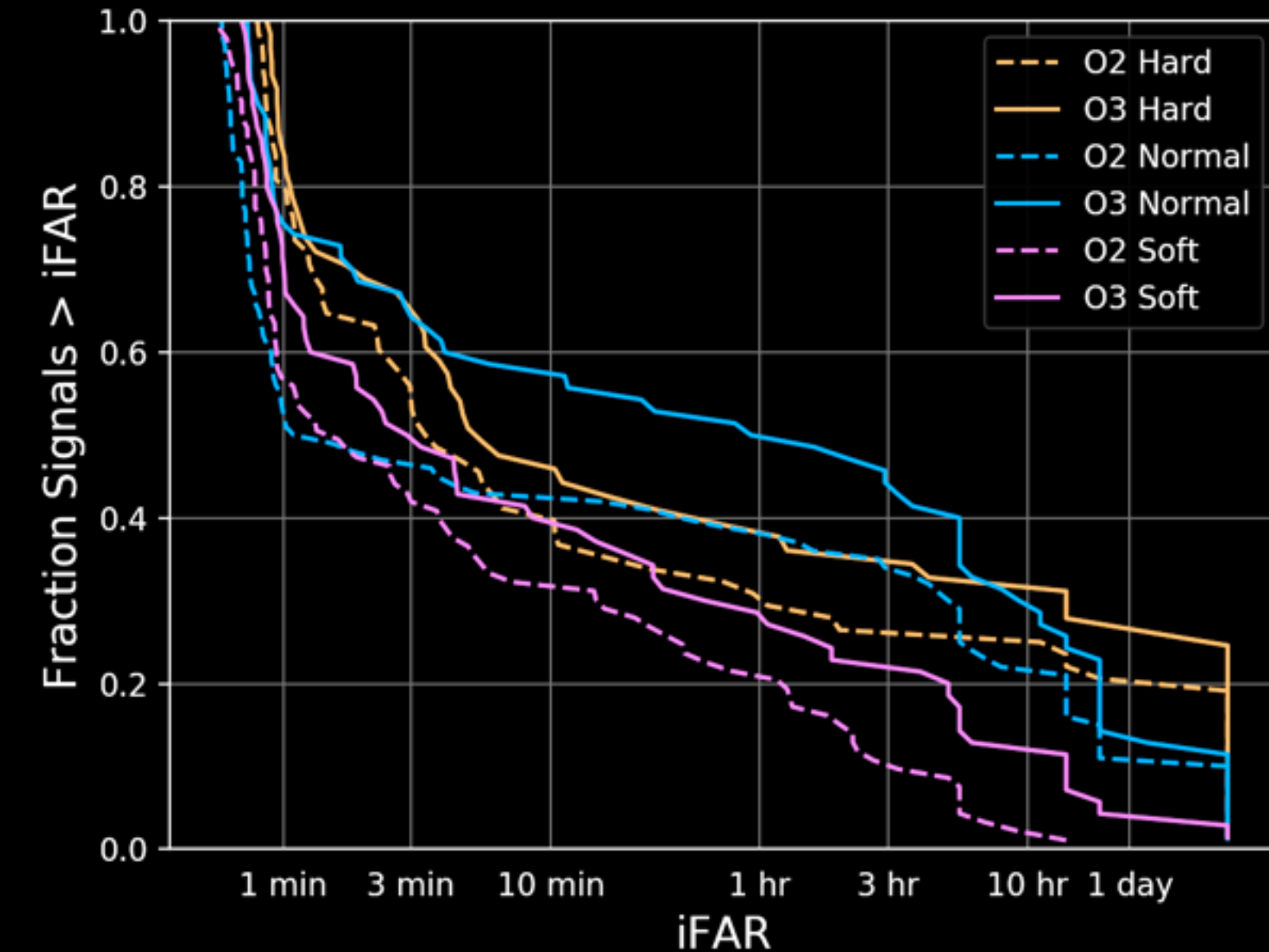


- Search performed over 3 template spectra
- GW150914-GBM candidate is most significant at  $FAR \sim 3 \times 10^{-4}$  Hz
- GW150914-GBM has lowest post-trials FAP, too high to declare an unambiguous EM counterpart



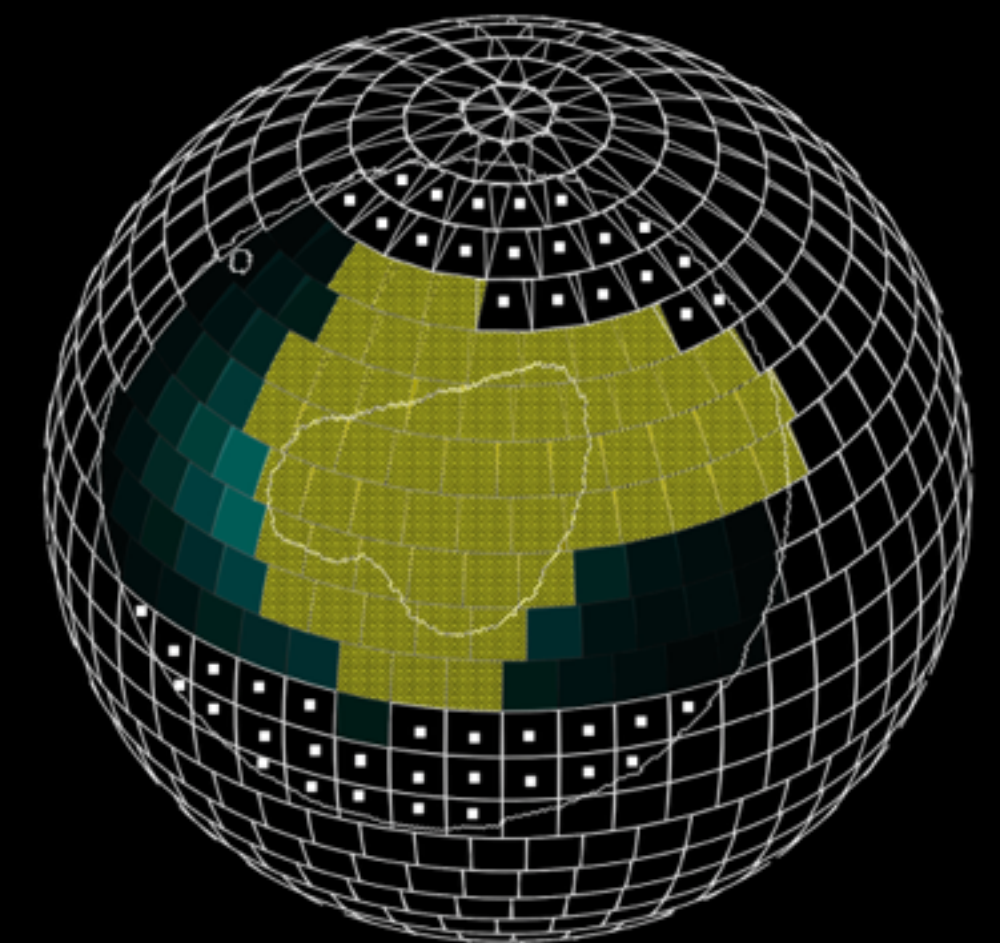
# Fermi GBM During O3

- Untargeted Search
  - Over 40 confirmed sub-threshold short GRBs
  - Using as a calibration sample for classification
- Targeted Search
  - >10x faster than in O2
  - More sensitive — lower background FAR, increased detection statistic
- Reporting of coincident triggers
  - Independent triggers
  - Single IFO GW triggers + GBM signal (realtime)
  - Triggers where either GBM or LIGO/Virgo are sub-threshold (~hours delay)
- Prompt, combined skymaps
- Enable follow-up, interested wide-field telescopes: ZTF, GOTO, EveryScope, MASTER



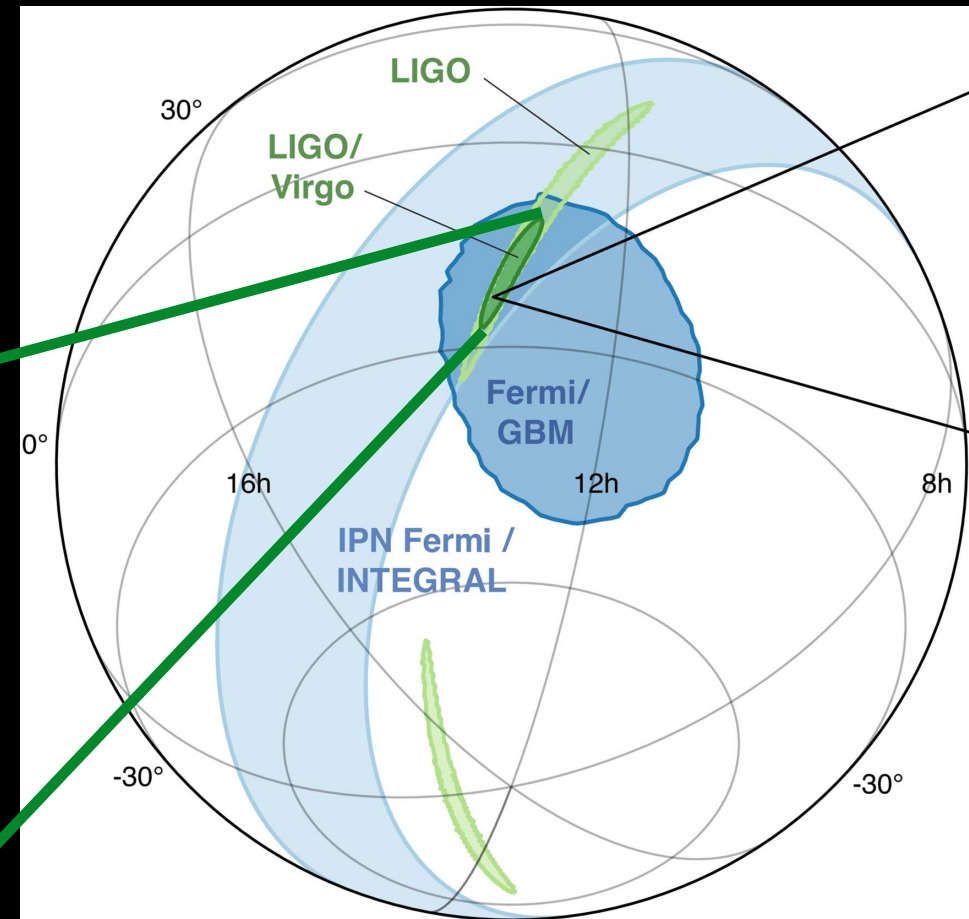
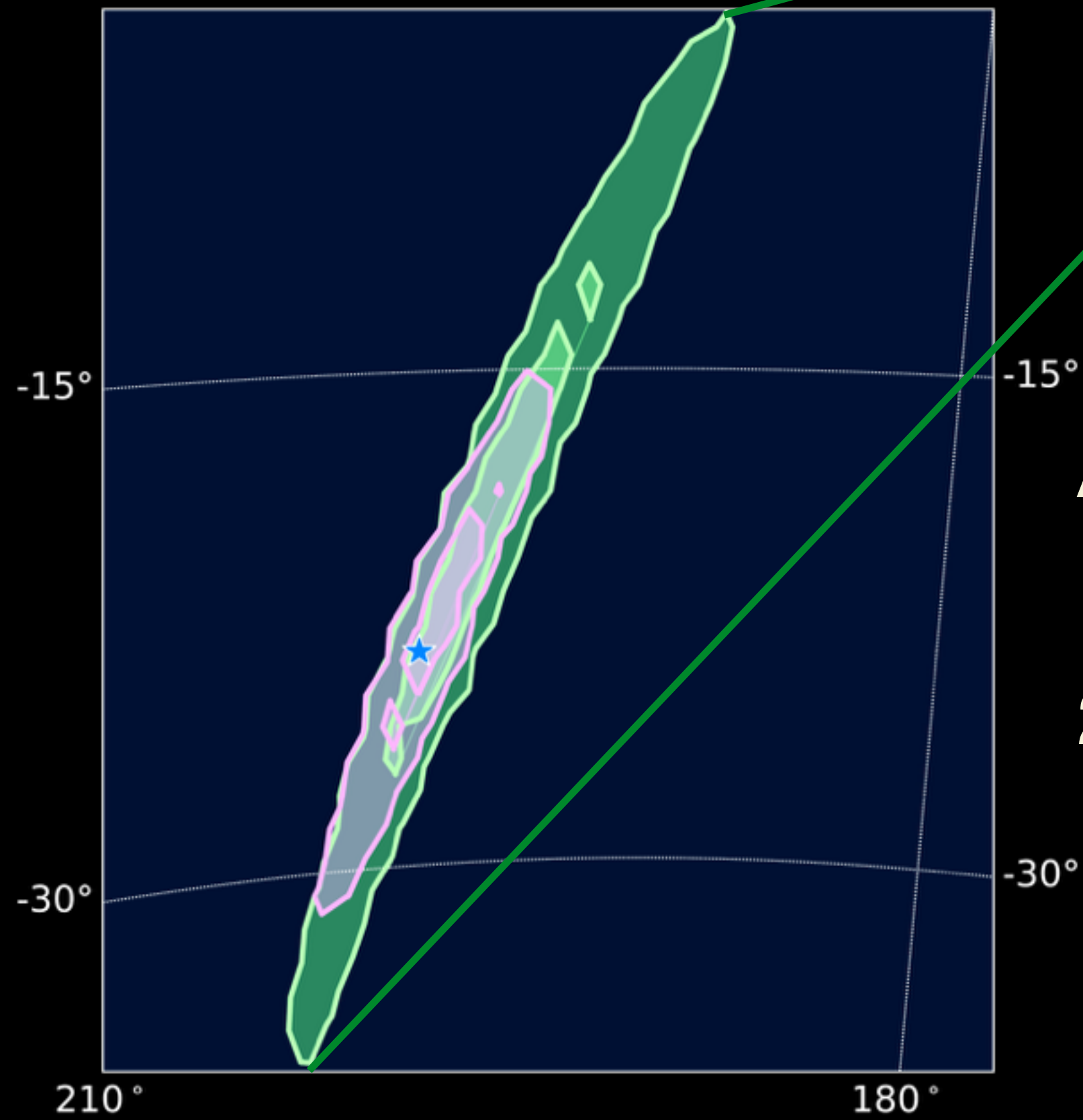
ZTF — 2900 deg<sup>2</sup>  
followup!

Coughlin+ 2019



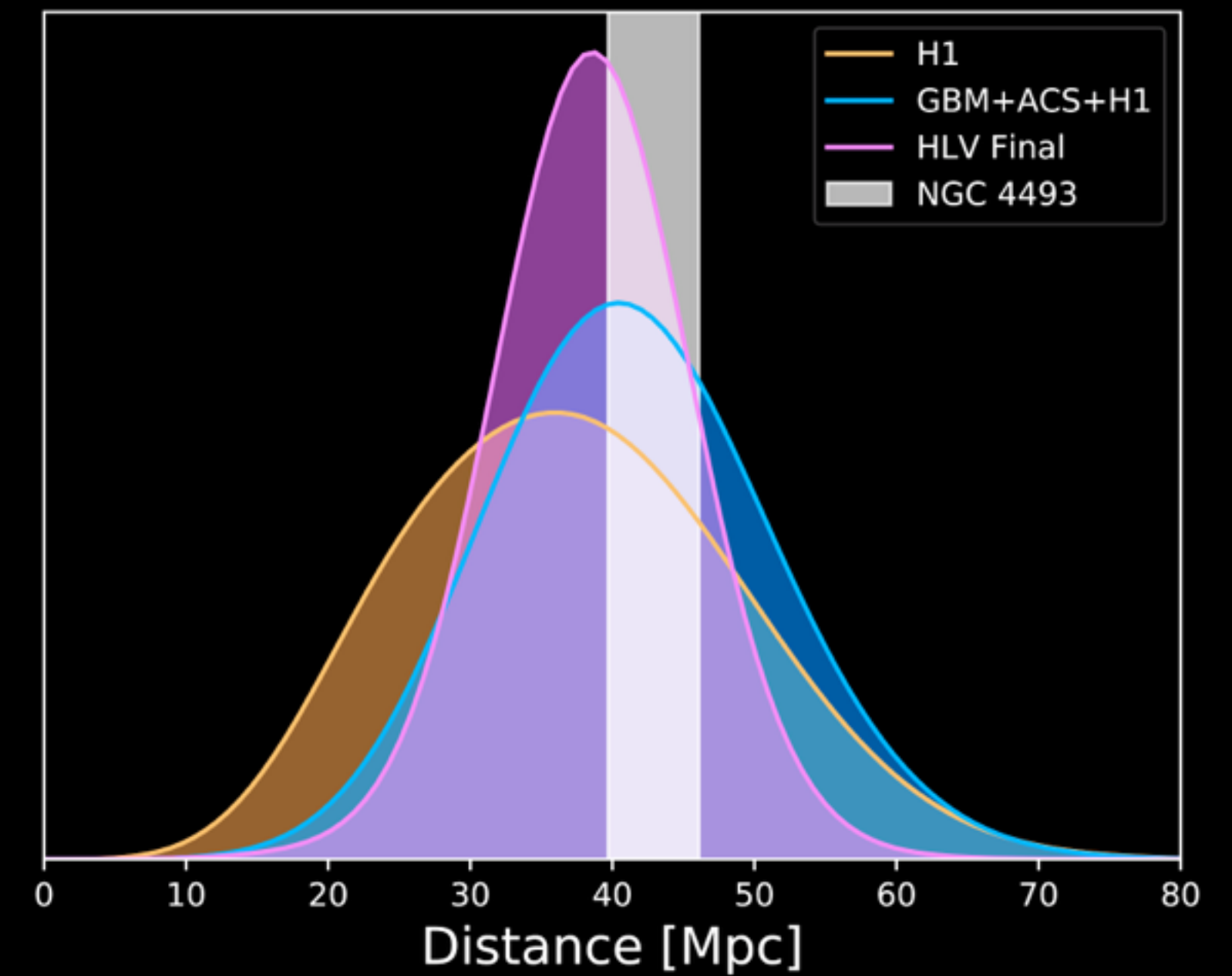
# Fermi GBM During O3

GBM initial+HL



Average localization improvement:  
1 interferometer: 90%  
2 interferometers: 80%

Distance Posteriors

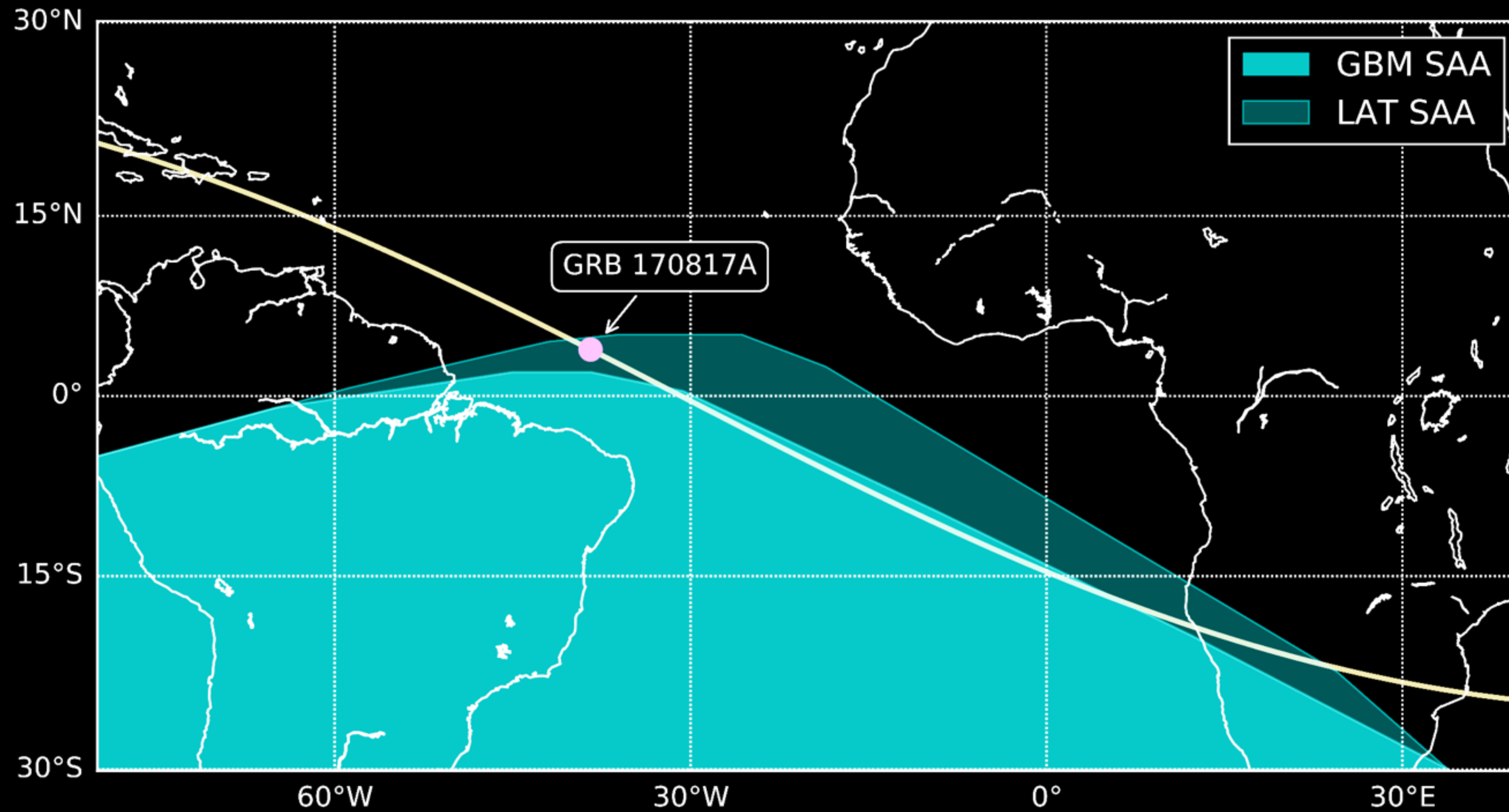


# Fermi: The Multi-Messenger Observatory



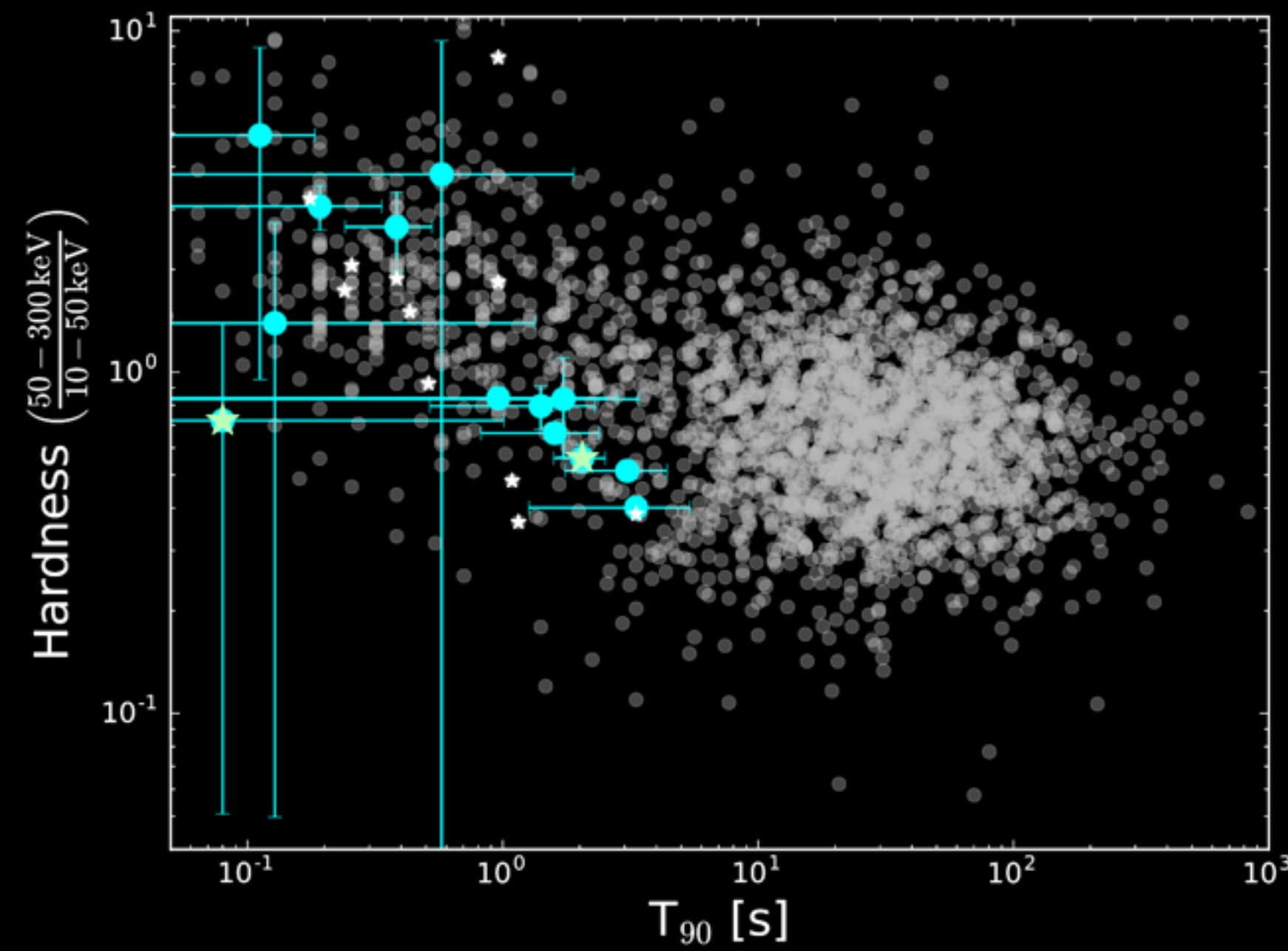
# Backup

# A Cautionary Tale on SAA Boundaries



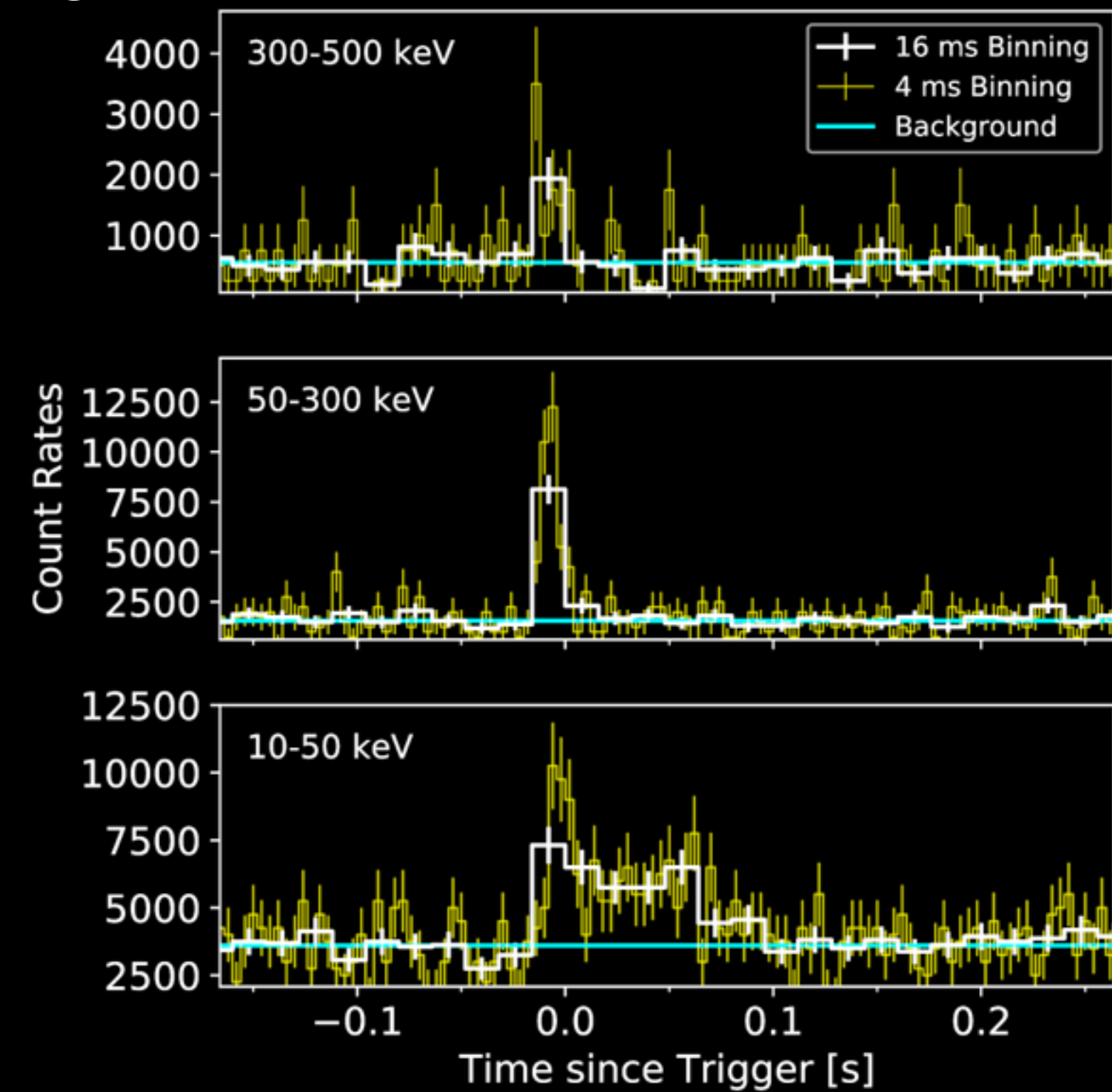
# GRBs Similar to 170817A

- Similar  $\rightarrow$  short and has a similar soft (blackbody?) tail
  - 12 GRBs similar to 170817A (including 150101B) over 10 years
  - Short GRBs ranging in duration from  $\sim 0.1$  to  $\sim 3$  s
  - Tail not part of natural hard-to-soft spectral evolution observed in many GRBs
- 
- Could be signatures of low- $z$  binary neutron star mergers
  - Most short GRBs do not have this observed tail, far away  $\rightarrow$  too weak to be observed?
  - Only 170817A and 150101B have measured redshift



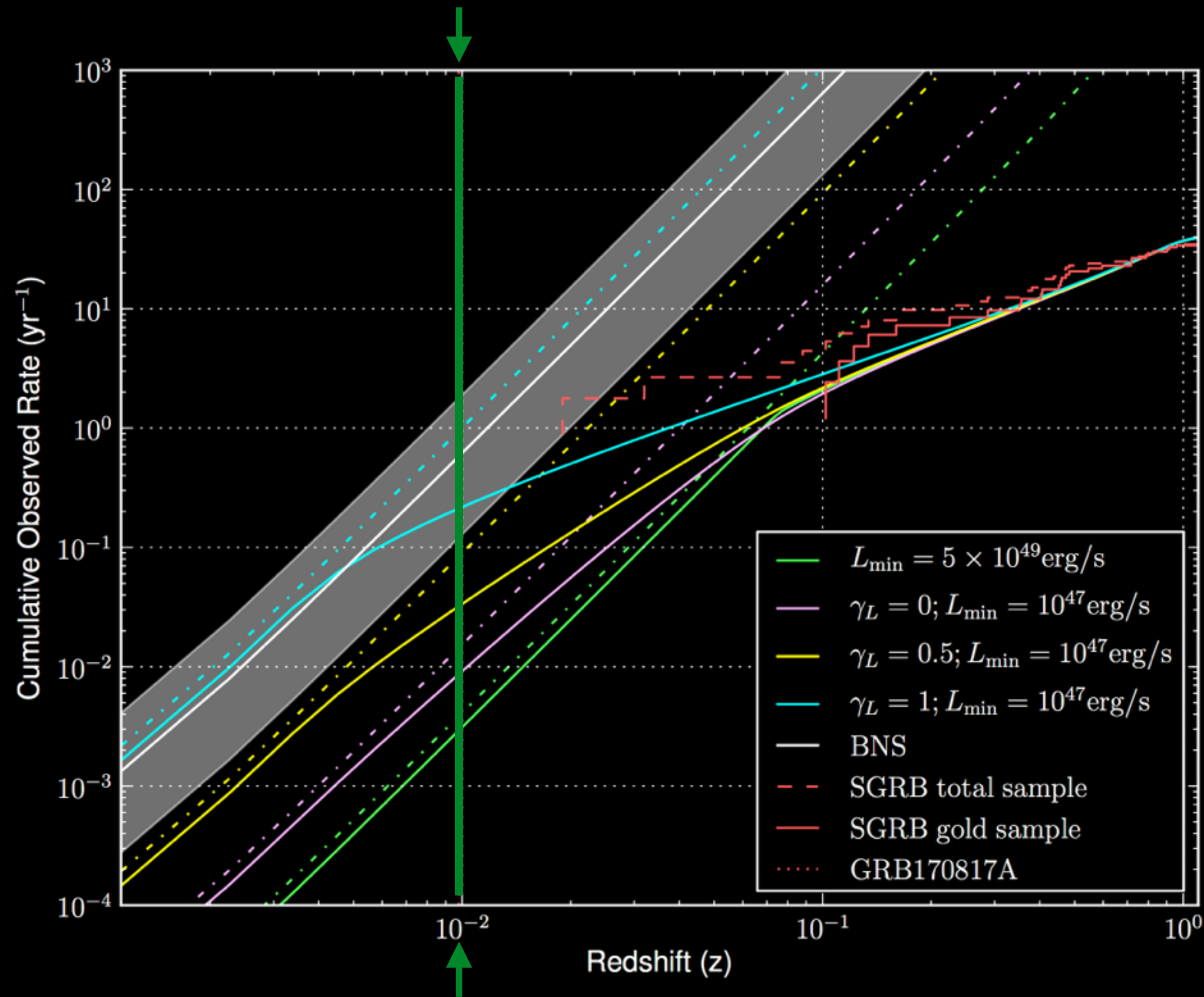
von Kienlin+ 2019, in press  
arXiv: 1901.06158

## GRB 150101B



Burns+ 2018, ApJL, 863, L34

# Will We Ever See Another One?



- Short GRBs at  $< 40$  Mpc are rare
- O3 Predicted Rates
  - GW detections of BNS: 1-50/year
  - GW-GRB detections: 0.1-1.4/year
- LIGO/Virgo Design
  - GW detections of BNS: 6-120/year
  - GW-GRB detections: 0.3-1.7/year