

# Activities at the STAR Institute

(Space Sciences and Technologies  
for Astrophysics Research)

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- ▶ Jean-René Cudell
- ▷ Atri Bhattacharya
- ▷ Vincent Boudart

**Note: I shall not cover E-  
Test**

See Christophe Collette  
Precision Mechatronics Laboratory  
<http://www.pmlab.be>

# Activities

**Analysis of  
gravitational  
waves**



**Neutron  
stars**

**Cosmic ray  
showers and  
strong  
interactions**

**Anisotropies  
and large-  
scale  
structures  
from quasars**

**Lensing  
and  
dark matter**

**Neutrino and  
IceCube  
physics**

**TDCOSMO**

# Gravitational waves

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- **Early detection of neutron star mergers**

*Convolutional neural networks for the detection of the early inspiral of a gravitational-wave signal*, **G. Baltus**, J. Janquart, M. Lopez, A. Reza, S. Caudill and **J.R.C.**, Phys.Rev.D 103 (2021), 102003

- **Detection of unmodeled signals → Vincent's talk**

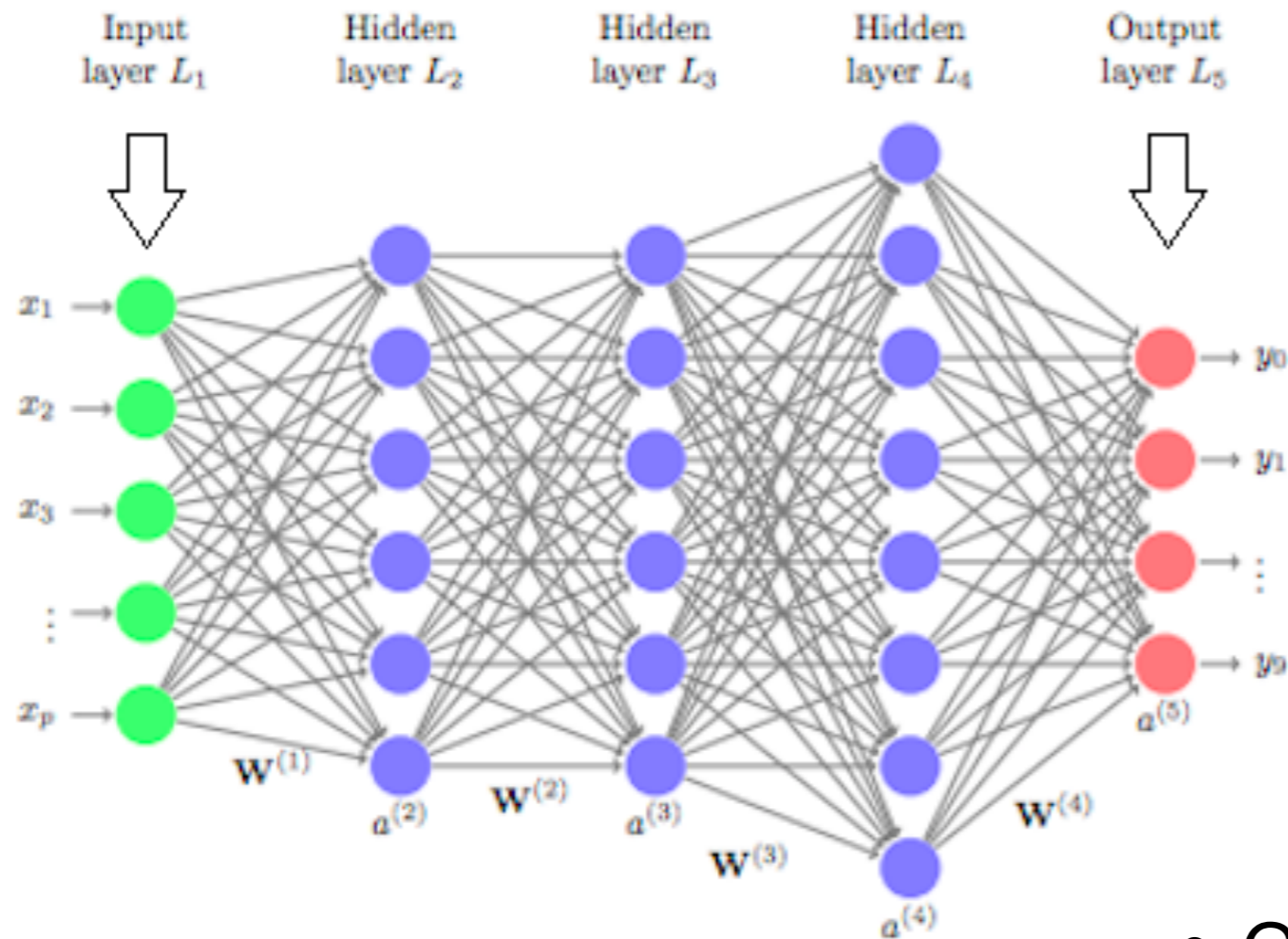
- **Search for primordial black holes**

*The hunt for sub-solar primordial black holes in low mass ratio binaries is open*, K. S. Phukon, **G. Baltus**, S. Caudill, S. Clesse, A. Depasse, **M. Fays** et al., e-Print: 2105.11449 [astro-ph.CO]

- **New Filter for phase lock loop**

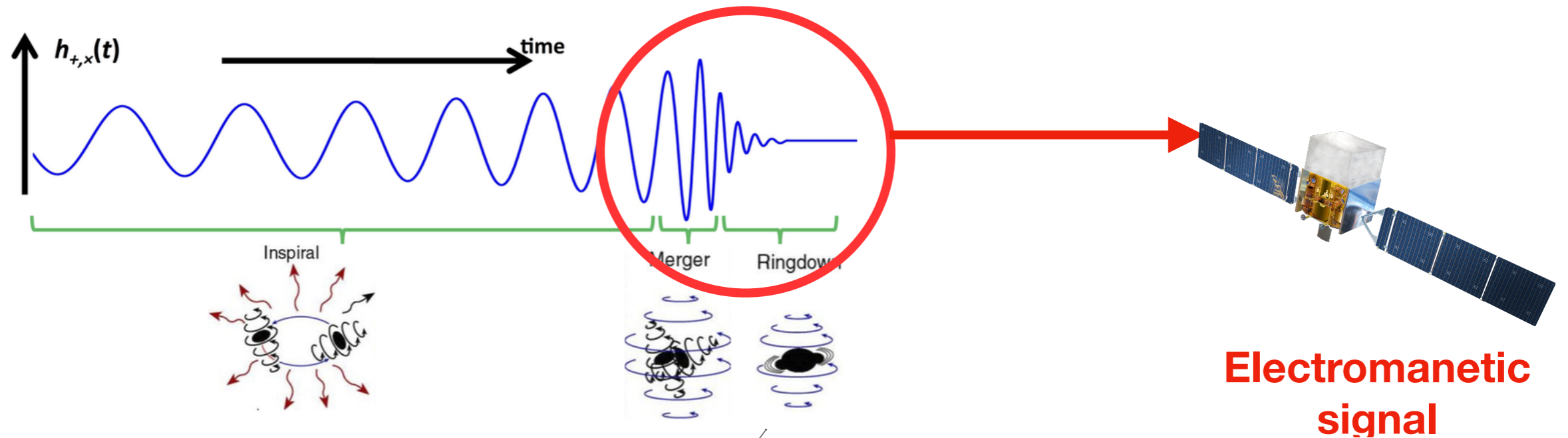
*IWAVE -- An Adaptive Filter Approach to Phase Lock and the Dynamic Characterisation of Pseudo-Harmonic Waves*, Edward J. Daw, Ian J. Hollows, Elliot L. Jones, Ross Kennedy, Timesh Mistry, **Maxime Fays** et al., e-Print: 2109.00104 [physics.ins-det]

# Machine learning



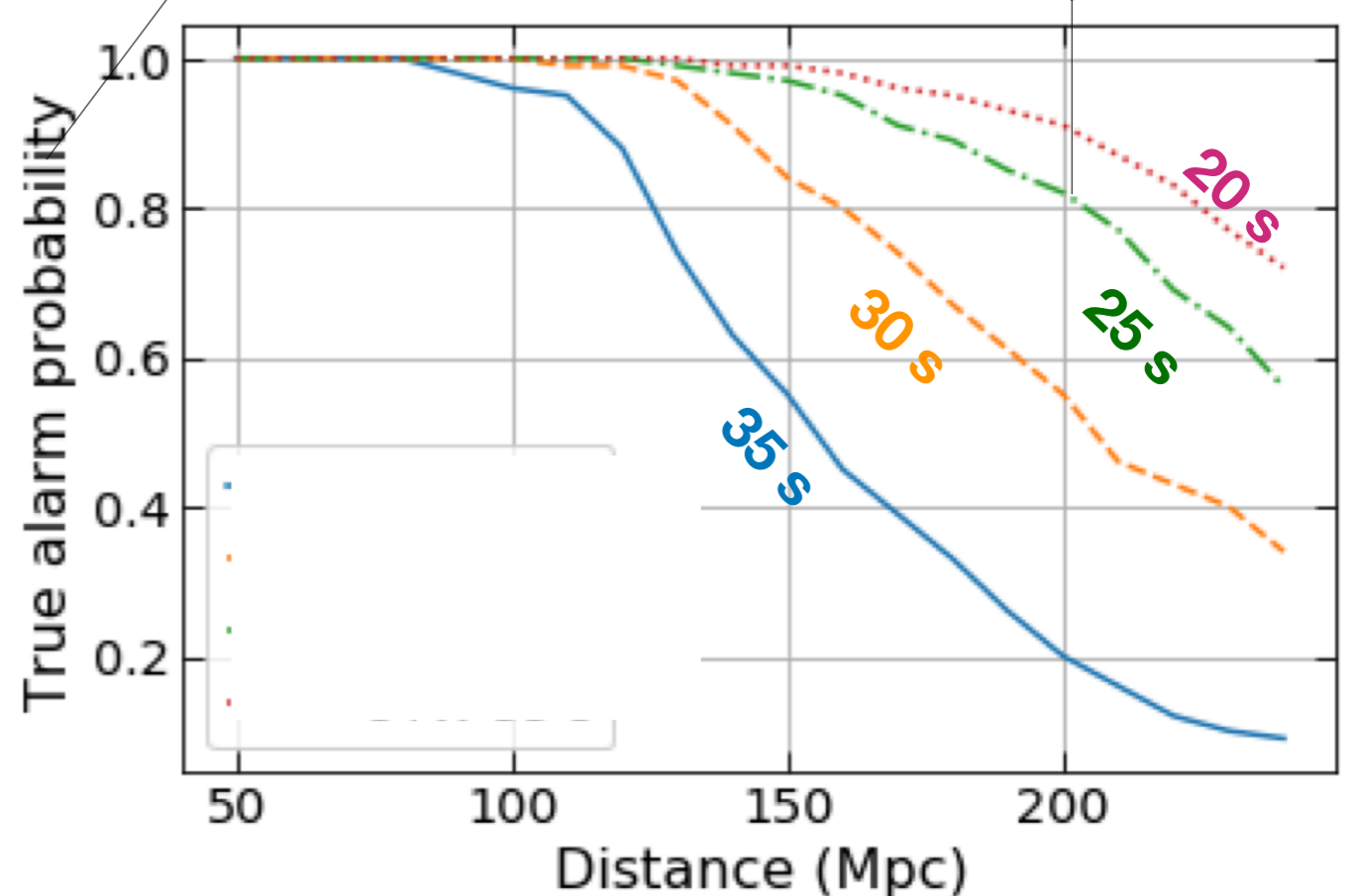
- Good at identifying patterns
- cats/dogs or noise/GWs
- Extremely fast after training
- Massively parallel computing

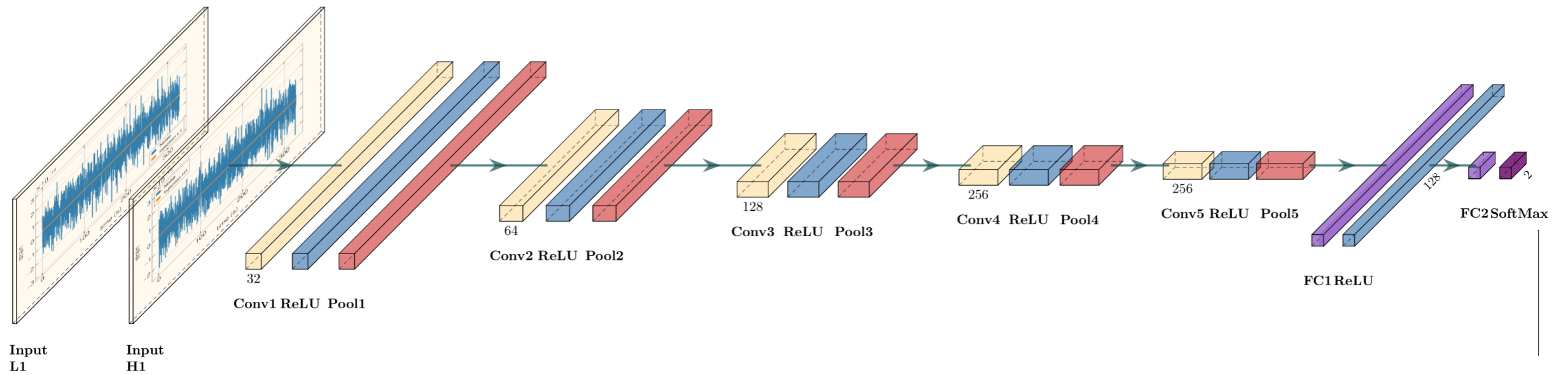
# Convolutional Neural Network for early inspiral detection



At present, 1st preliminary alert sent 1 minute AFTER MERGER during the last run

A CNN can send an alert BEFORE the merger

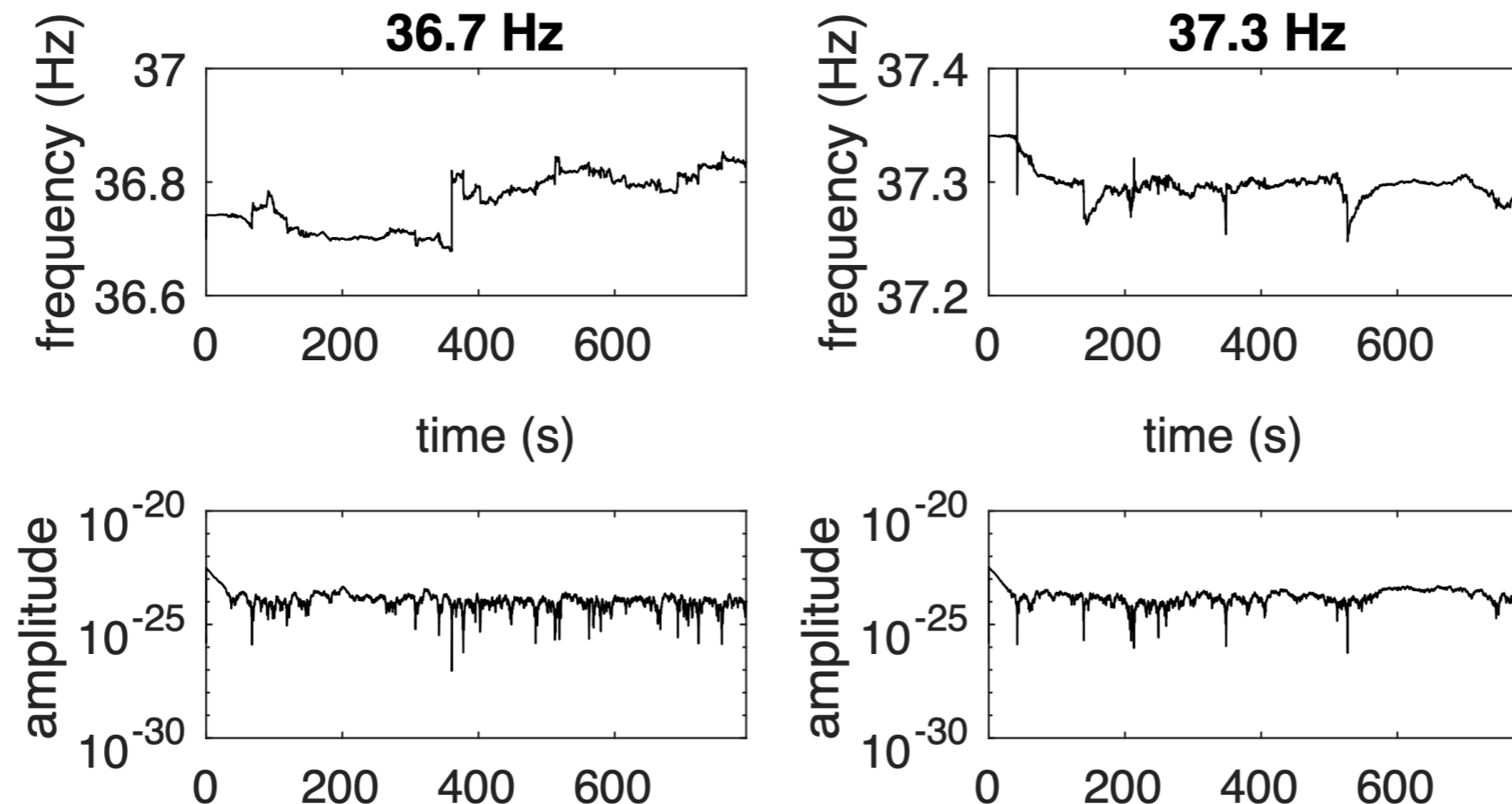




**In progress:**  
 better training and optimized network  
 1st preliminary alert  
 could be sent  
**2 minutes**  
**BEFORE**  
**MERGER**  
 during future runs

# IWAVE filter

- Novel adaptive filtering approach to the dynamic characterisation of waves of varying frequency and amplitude embedded in arbitrary noise backgrounds.
- Characterised by single input parameter with low computational load
- Low latency: real-time tracking on single CPU core  
-> Potential for low-latency searches by removing violin modes, 60 Hz power line, etc...





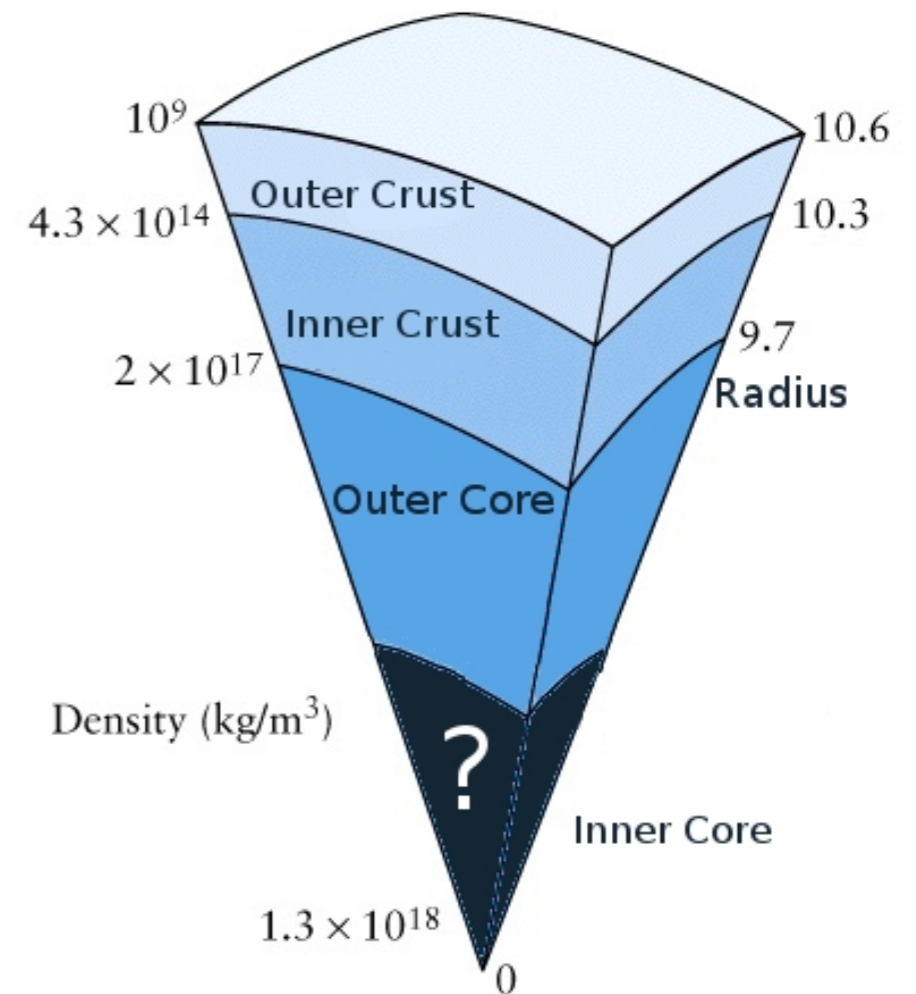
# Modeling neutron star matter

B. Biswas, P. Char, R. Nandi, and S. Bose, PRD 103, 103015 (2021)

➔ tension between nuclear data and astrophysical observations (large radii)

- Use an EOS from a Taylor expansion around the nuclear saturation density and a phenomenological model (piecewise polytropes  $P \propto \rho^\gamma$ ) at high density
- Use Bayesian analysis to determine the transition point.

➔ correctly reproduces neutron star properties along with nuclear matter properties at saturation



# Properties of the secondary component of GW190814

Heaviest neutron star (NS) or smallest black hole (BH)?

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2.50–2.67  $M_{\odot}$  "mystery object" with a 22.2–24.3  $M_{\odot}$  black hole seen in LIGO and Virgo

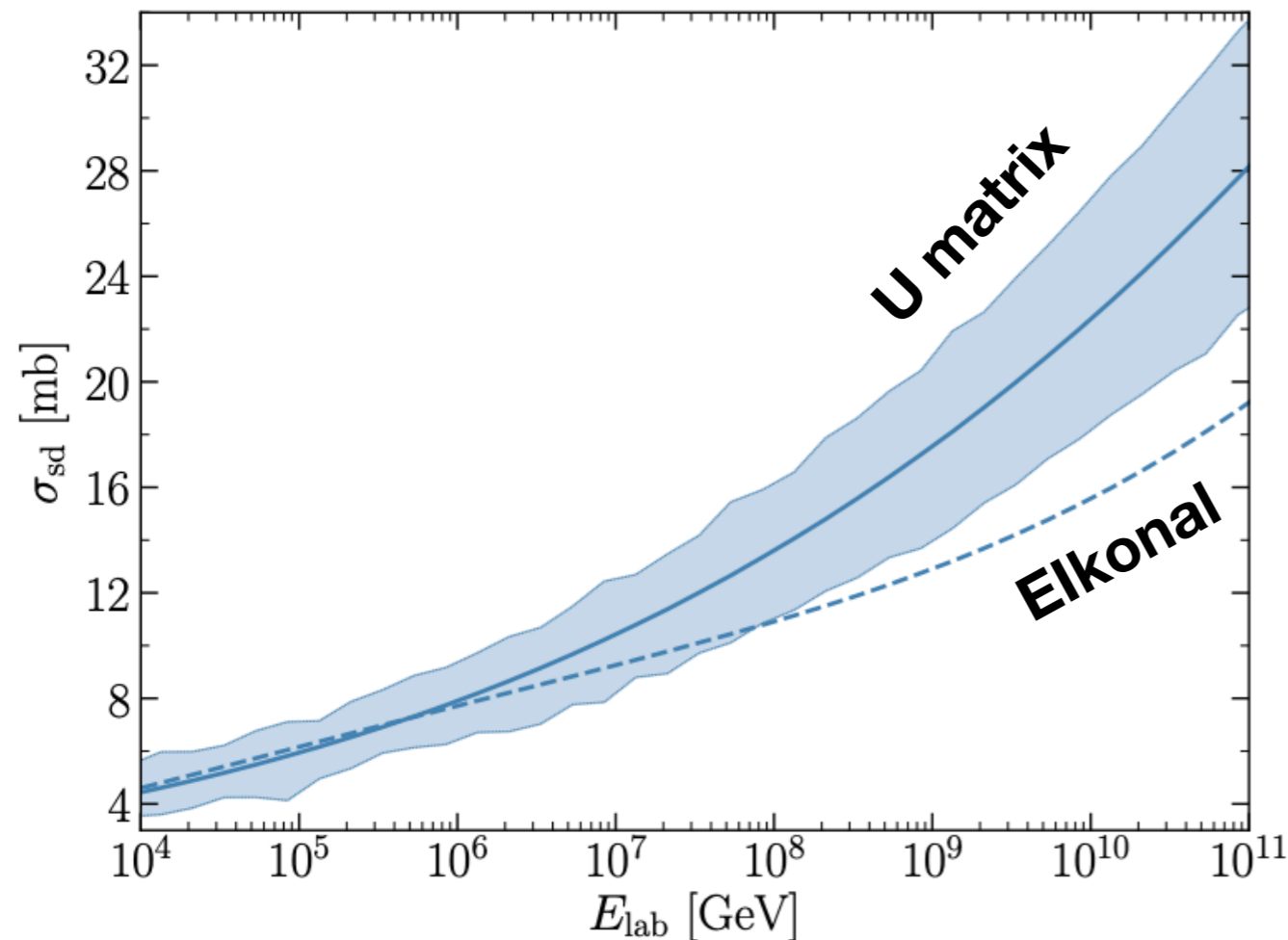
1. Non-rotating NS: We found the probability to be  $\sim 1\%$
2. Fast rotating NS:  $\sim 8\%$  probability being a NS if the highest spinning pulsar has the maximum possible spin in nature.
3. Black hole: It sets an upper bound on the **maximum mass of neutron stars** ( $2.21_{-0.21}^{+0.19} M_{\odot}$ ) assuming the NS and the BH populations do not overlap.

B. Biswas, R. Nandi, **P. Char**, S. Bose, and N. Stergioulas, MNRAS 505, 1600 (2021)

# Cosmic-Ray showers

*Unitarisation dependence of diffractive scattering in light of high-energy collider data*, A. Vanthieghem, **A. Bhattacharya, Rami Oueslati, J.R.C.**, JHEP 09 (2021), 005

*Proton inelastic cross section at ultrahigh energies*, **A. Bhattacharya, J.R.C., R. Oueslati, A. Vanthieghem**, Phys.Rev.D 103 (2021) 5, L051502



## Overlooked uncertainty

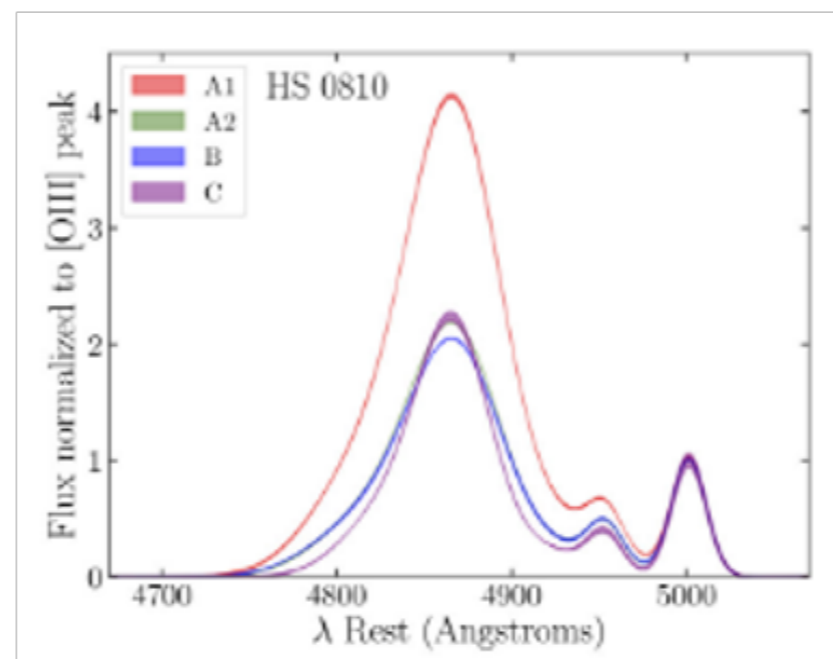
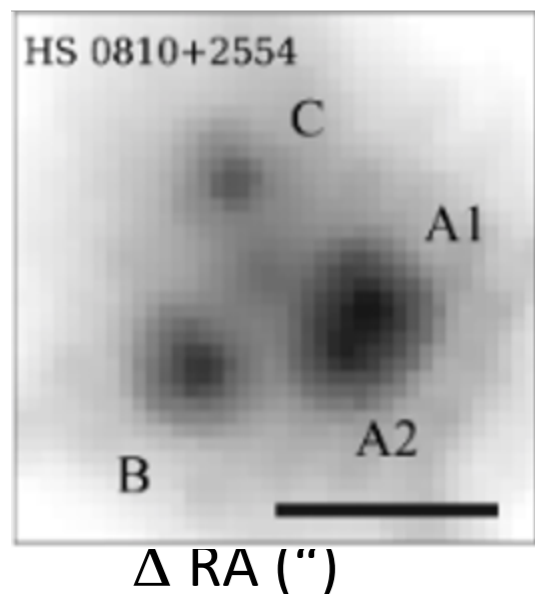
- All Monte Carlos use the eikonal scheme to account for multiple pomeron exchanges
- It is known that this is wrong in QCD
- ➔ Use another scheme to describe soft forward interactions
- ➔ factor 2 uncertainty in single diffractive @ultrahigh energy
- ➔ same for muons

**IceCube physics**  
**→ see Atri's talk**

# Gravitational lensing and dark matter

Double dark matter vision: twice the number of compact-source lenses with narrow-line lensing and the WFC3 grism, A.M. Nierenberg, ... **D. Sluse** et al., Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc. 492 (2020) 4, 5314-5335

Narrow lines from the diffuse matter around quasars enable the detection of so far undetected subhalos

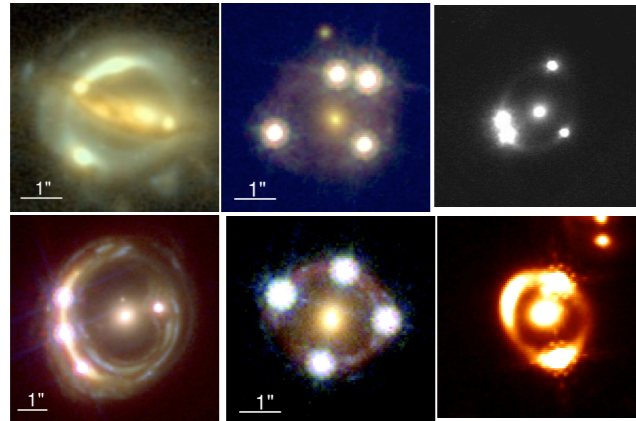


Flux anomalies among images come from dark matter substructures and can give a probability for their mass: data from 11 lensed events from the Hubble Space telescope

**Coming soon: data for 31 lensed quasars from the James Webb Space Telescope approved**

# Strong lensing and the Lemaître constant $H_0$

HOLiCOW - XIII. A 2.4 per cent measurement of  $H_0$  from lensed quasars:  $5.3\sigma$  tension between early- and late-Universe probes, K.C. Wong... D. Sluse et al., Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, 498 (2020) 1420-1439



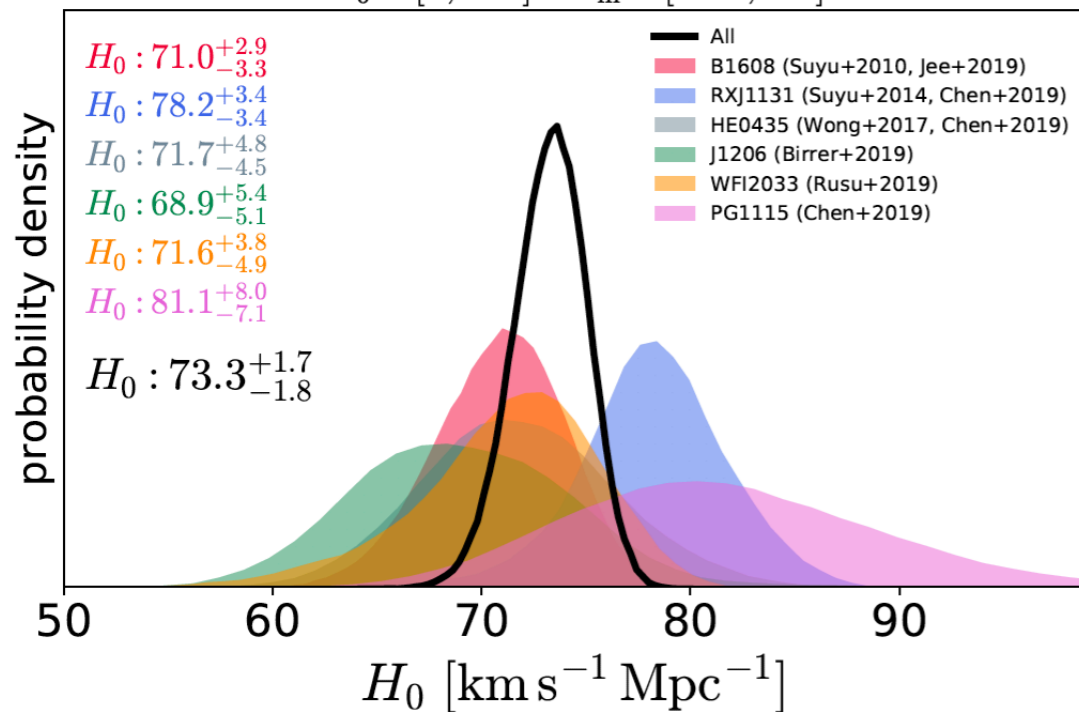
## Time-Delay Cosmography

6 strongly-lensed quasars

Measure time delays between images using the variability of the quasar as a clock  
 -> measurement of  $H_0$

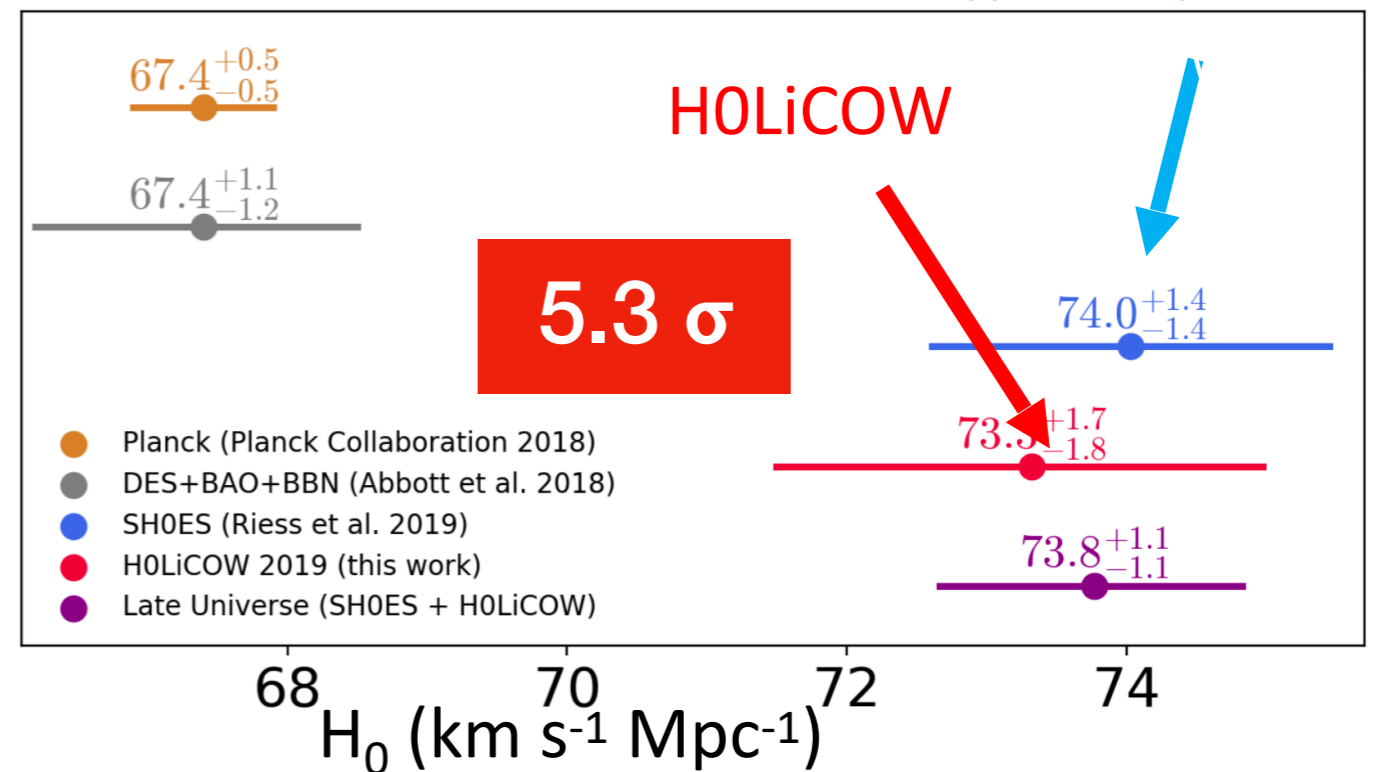
Distance Ladder  
 Type Ia Supernovae

$H_0 \in [0, 150]$   $\Omega_m \in [0.05, 0.5]$



Planck (CMB)

flat  $\Lambda$ CDM

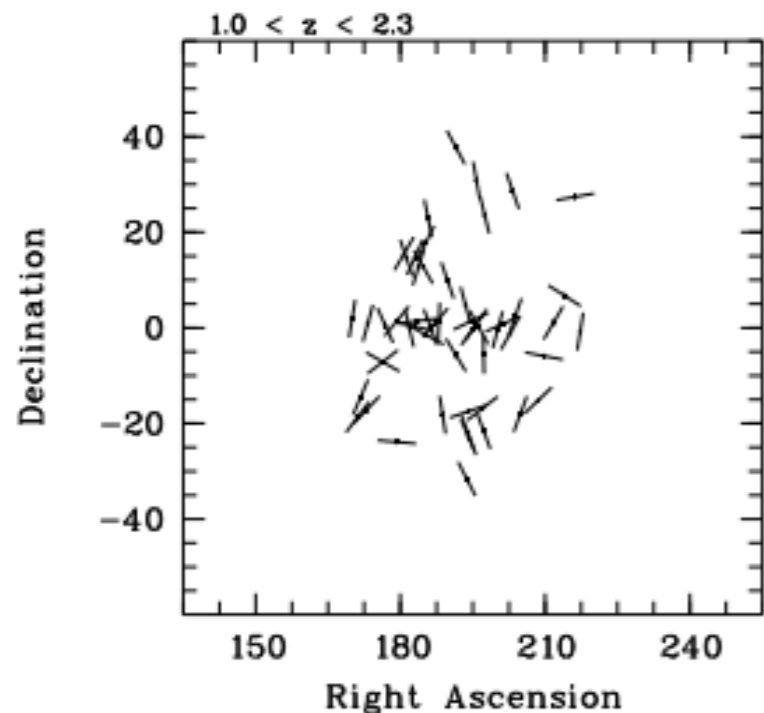


HOLiCOW accretes researchers and becomes **TDCOSMO** (<http://tdcosmo.org>)

Many TDCosmo papers studying the systematic uncertainties in the extraction of  $H_0$

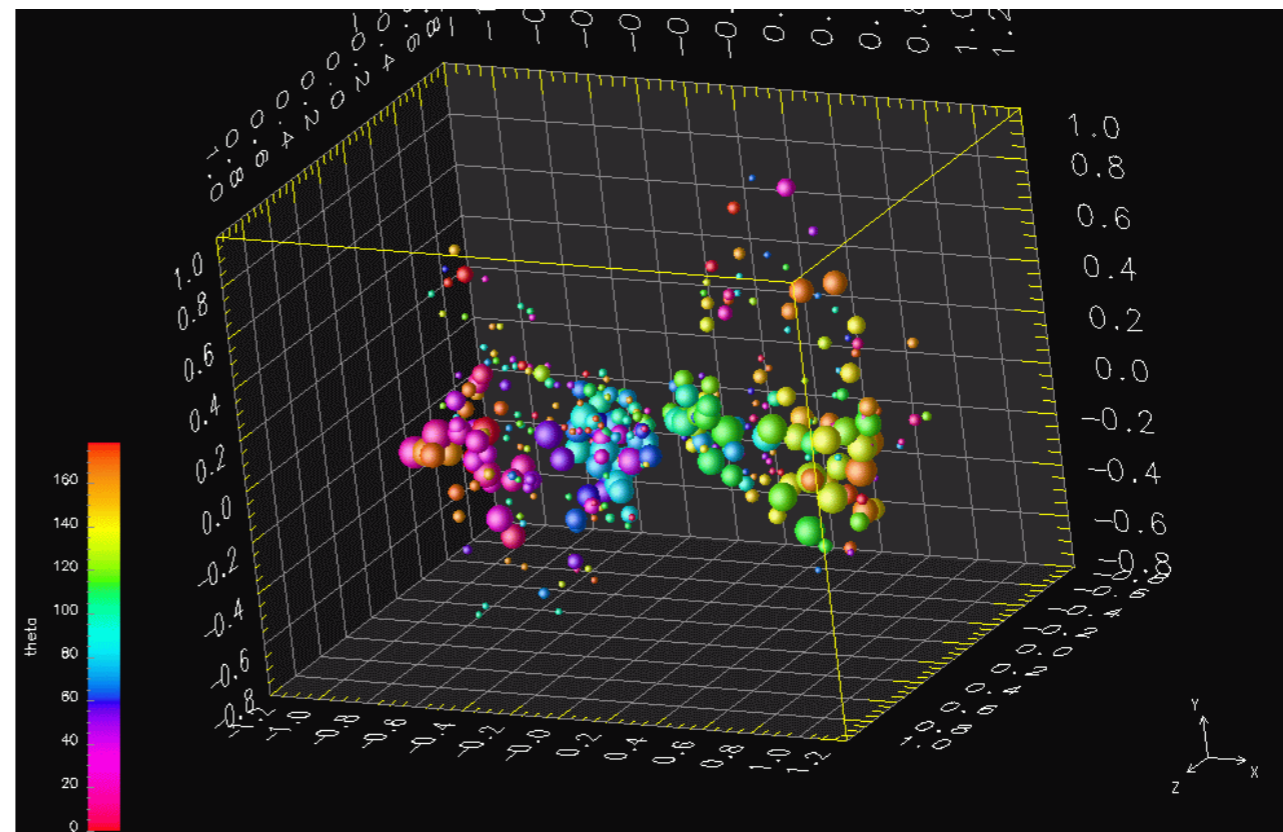
# Quasars for cosmology and fundamental physics

- Bounds on the circular polarisation lead to bounds on Axion-Like Particles
- **Hutsemekers effect:** systematic alignment of light polarisation for large-scale clusters of quasars



Alignments with large-scale structures? Dipole? Failure of the cosmological principle?

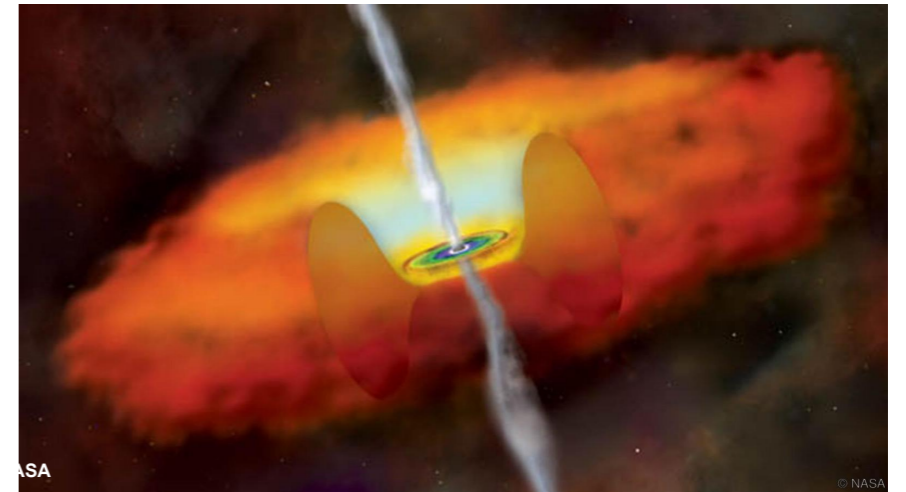
Rotation of the polarisation of electromagnetic waves from quasars with cosmological distance along a preferred axis



# In progress

Understanding the *quasar internal structure* with polarimetry and microlensing:

- relation between polarization and SMBH spin axis
- orientation versus evolutionary effects



Developing wide field polarimetry to measure the *polarization of  $10^4$  quasars* :

- large-scale structures
- CMB foreground correction

Preparing future *X-ray polarimetry*:

- study of the SMBH immediate vicinity
- testing ALPs with high-energy photons

