

# LISA

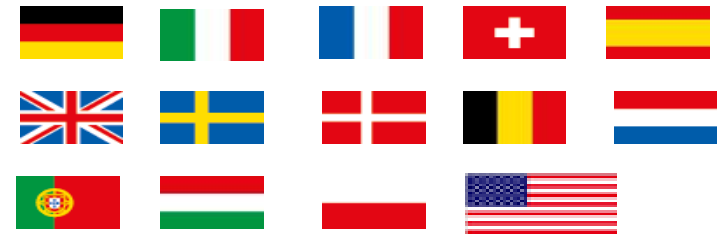
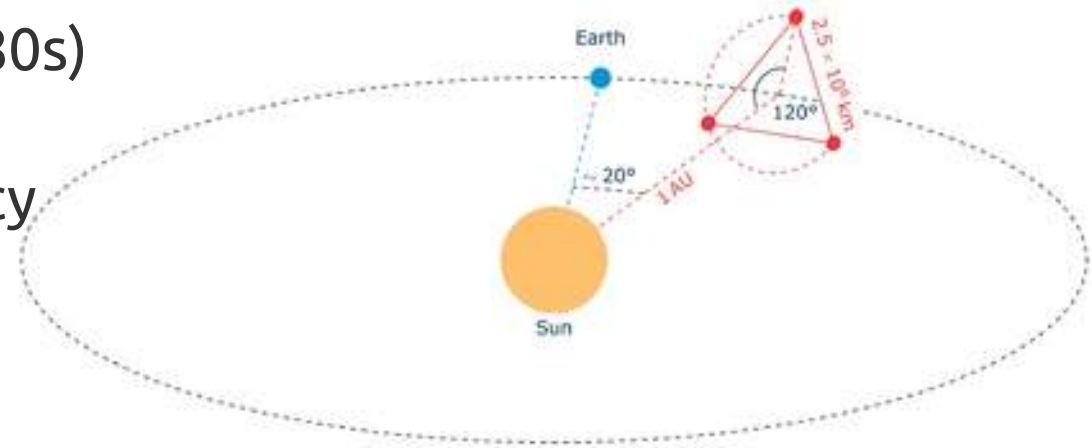
Laser Interferometer Space  
Antenna

Gijs Nelemans (for the LISA-NL consortium)



# The LISA mission

- ▶ Long history (first concepts 1980s)
- ▶ *Adopted* European Space Agency (ESA) mission to detect Gravitational Waves in space
- ▶ Three satellites in triangular formation, trailing Earth
- ▶ ESA lead, member state contributions, strong link with NASA
- ▶ Budget: ~3B€ (ESA: 1.75B€, NASA: ~800M€, Member states: ~500M€)
- ▶ Sensitive in mHz regime
- ▶ Launch planned in 2035





# How LISA fits in the GW spectrum

## THE SPECTRUM OF GRAVITATIONAL WAVES



Observatories & experiments

Ground-based experiment



Space-based observatory



Pulsar timing array



Cosmic microwave background polarisation



Timescales

milliseconds

seconds

hours

years

billions of years

Frequency [Hz]

100

1

$10^{-2}$

$10^{-4}$

$10^{-6}$

$10^{-8}$

$10^{-16}$

Cosmic fluctuations in the early Universe

Cosmic sources



Supernova



Pulsar



Compact object falling onto a supermassive black hole



Merging supermassive black holes



Merging neutron stars in other galaxies



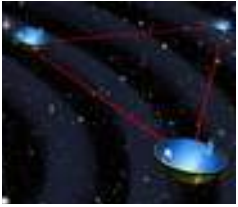
Merging stellar-mass black holes in other galaxies



Merging white dwarfs in our Galaxy

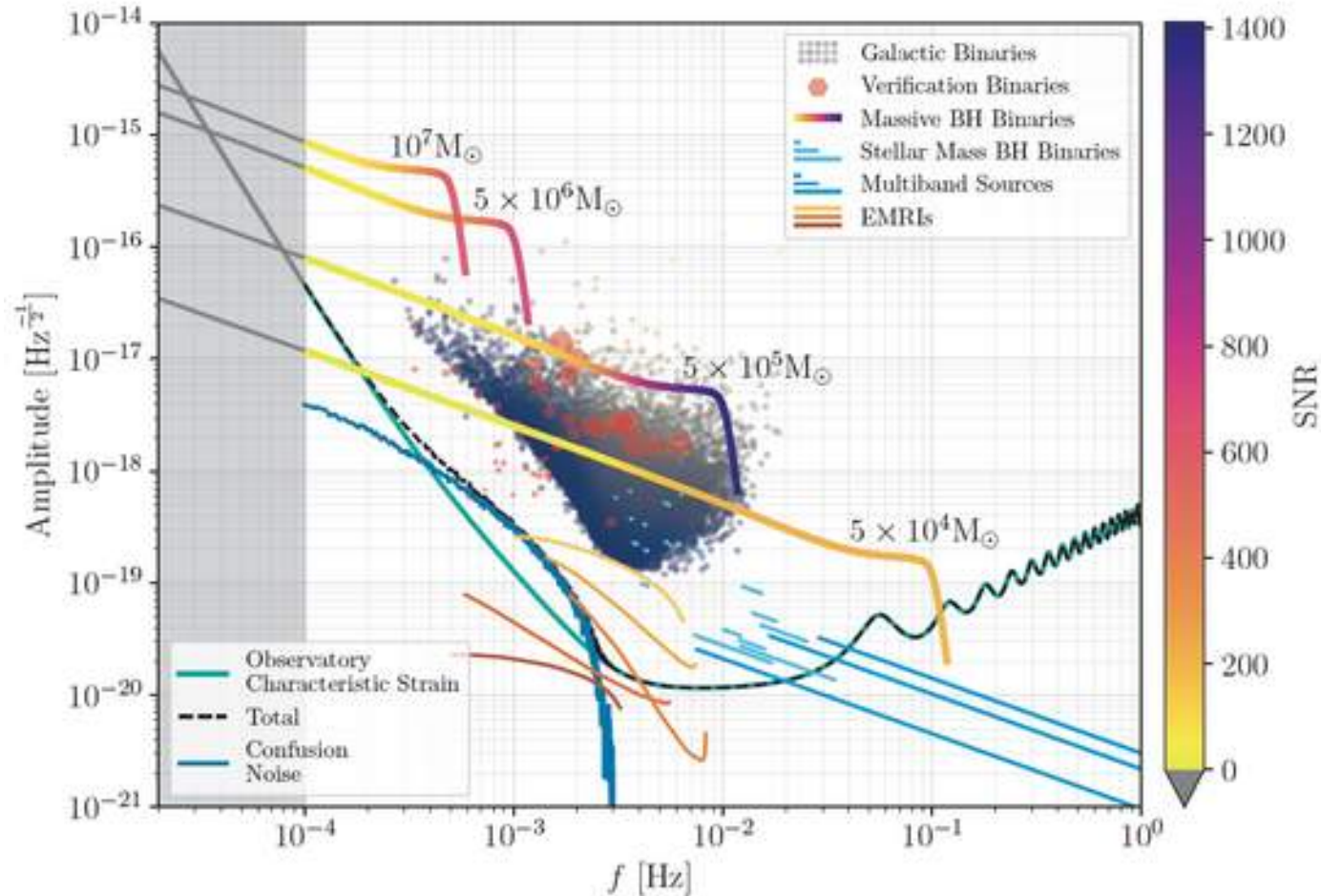


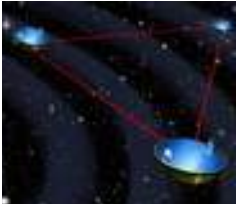




# Space GW: sources

- ▶ Super Massive black hole binaries ( $10^5 - 10^7 M_{\odot}$ )
- ▶ Compact binaries (in the Galaxy)
- ▶ Stellar BH binaries
- ▶ Extreme Mass-ratio Inspirals
- ▶ Early Universe: GW background, cosmic strings,
- ▶ Astrophysical backgrounds
- ▶ The unknown



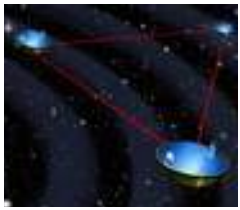


# Space GW: revolutionary science

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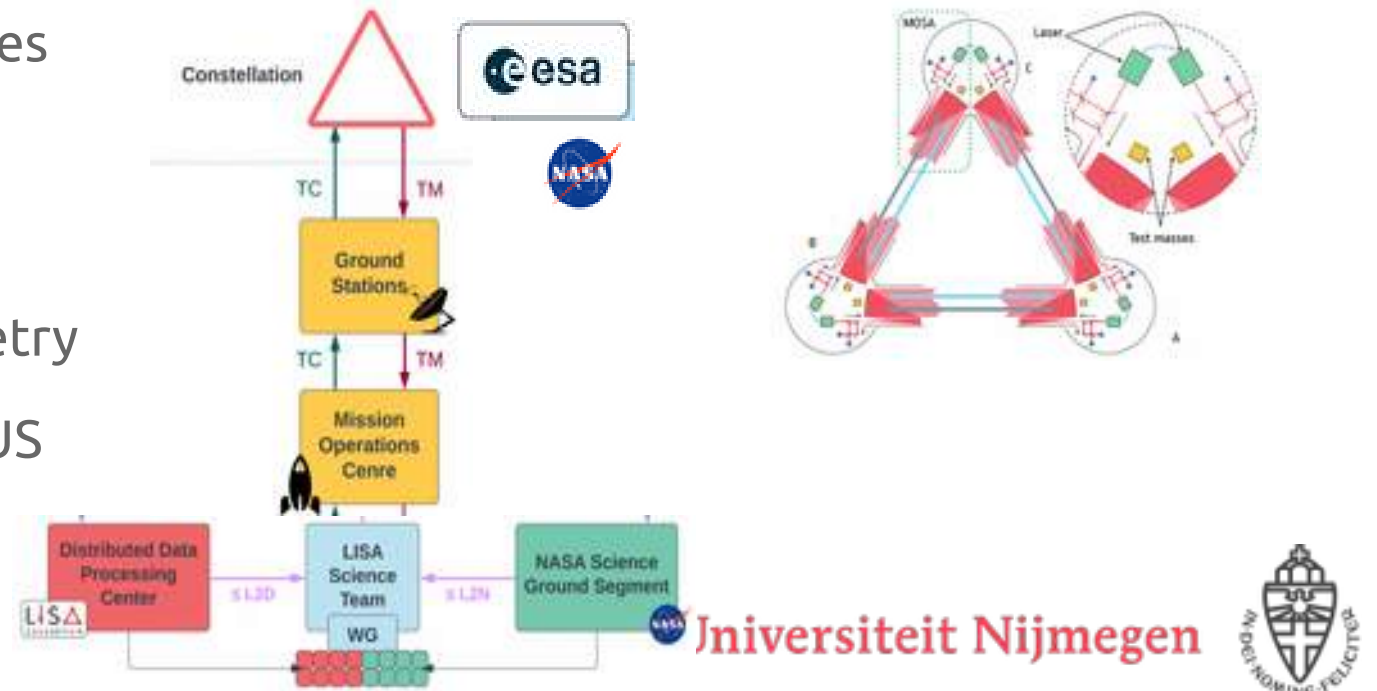
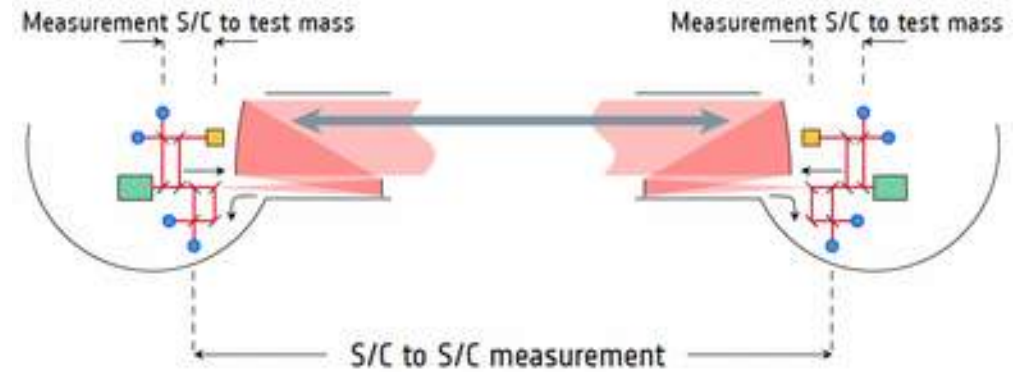
- ▶ Formation and evolution of compact binaries & Milky Way structure
  - ▶ Measure thousands of binaries, some with high accuracy
  - ▶ Chart population and Milky Way structure
  - ▶ Some also EM sources
- ▶ Astrophysics of stellar-mass black holes
  - ▶ Measure eccentricities
  - ▶ Multi-band sources
- ▶ Trace origins, growth and merger histories of massive black holes
  - ▶ Accurate masses and spins throughout Universe
  - ▶ Synergy with EM observations
- ▶ Cosmology
  - ▶ Standard sirens with MBH and EMRIs
  - ▶ Early Universe backgrounds, if they exist
- ▶ High-precision fundamental physics and testing GR
  - ▶ prove horizon exists; test no-hair theorem,
  - ▶ cosmic censorship; search for scalar fields etc

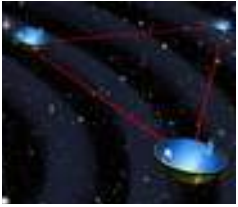




# Mission concept

- ▶ 2.5 million km arms
- ▶ Payload supplied by member states
- ▶ Laser, telescope++ provided by NASA
- ▶ Critical technology tested by LISA Pathfinder
- ▶ Free floating test masses  
Drag-free control,  
heterodyne interferometry
- ▶ Time delay interferometry
- ▶ European (DDPC) and US (NSGS) large data processing efforts





# Overview, more information

- ▶ mHz GW observatory
- ▶ Joint ESA-NASA
- ▶ Launch 2035
- ▶ Broad science
- ▶ Precision technology
- ▶ Complex data processing
- ▶ More information in “Red book”
- ▶ And in the next talks...

ESA UNCLASSIFIED - Releasable to the Public



ESA-SCI-DIR-RP-002  
September 2023

## LISA

Laser Interferometer Space Antenna



Definition Study Report

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.07571>

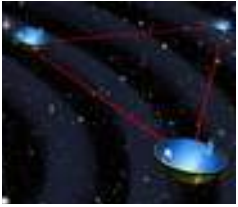


# Backup

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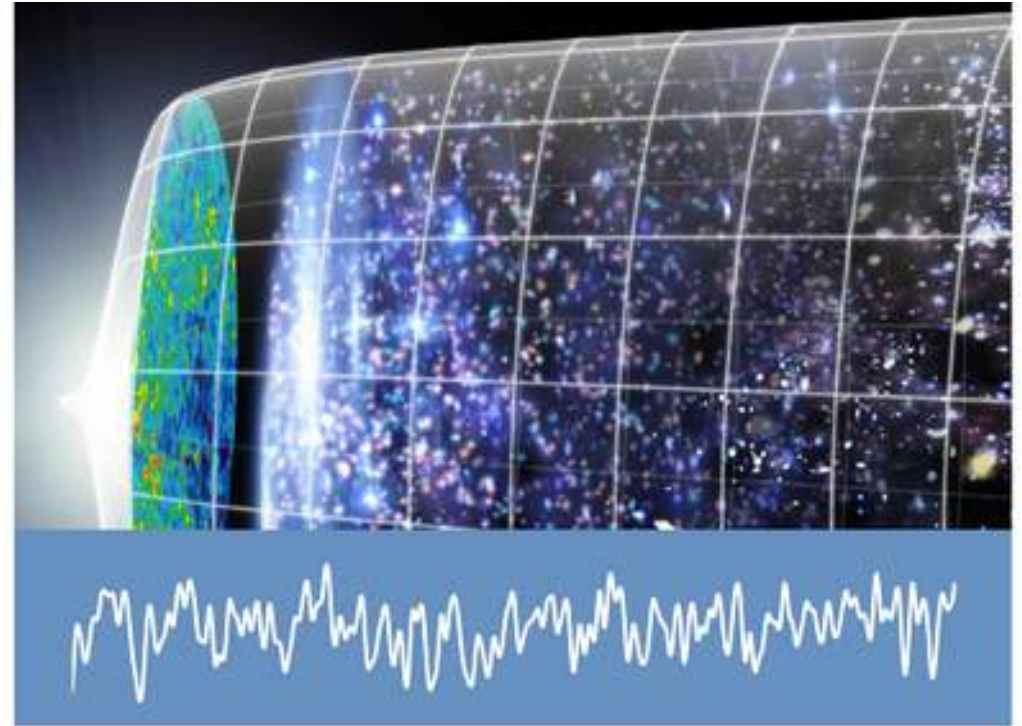




# Dutch contributions

## ► Science

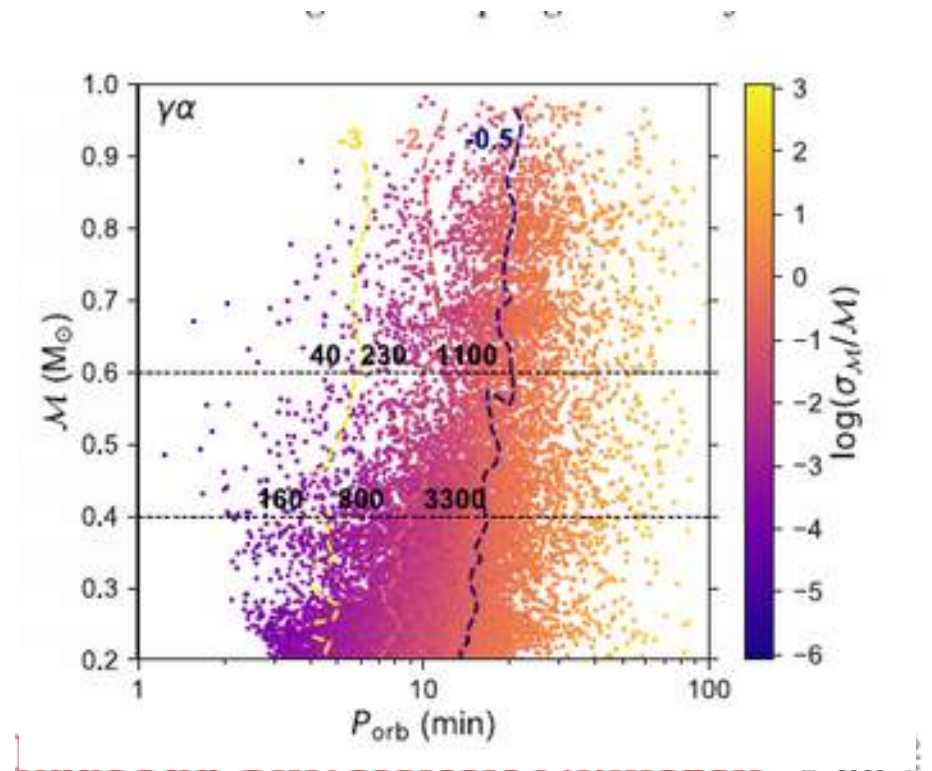
- Compact binaries  
(RU, UL, SRON, UvA)
- Fundamental physics  
(Nikhef, UvA, UU, UM, RU)
- Early Universe  
(Nikhef, RUG, UU, UL)
- Structure formation  
(UL, RUG)

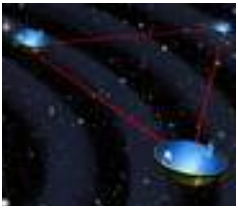




# Compact binaries

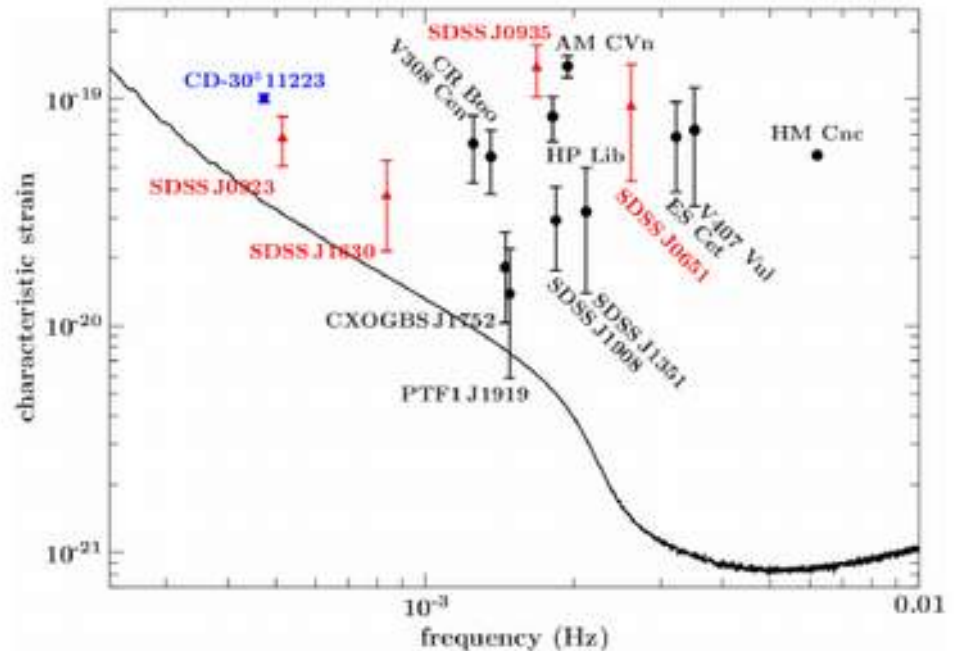
- ▶ Many detectable also with Gaia and LSST (Korol et al 2017)
- ▶ Ultimate test for existence of massive WD mergerger (Rebassa-Mansergas et al. 2019)
- ▶ Importance of triples (Robson et al. 2018 PRD 98 064012, Antonini et al. 2017 ApJ 841, 77 BBH mergeres from triples)





# Compact binaries

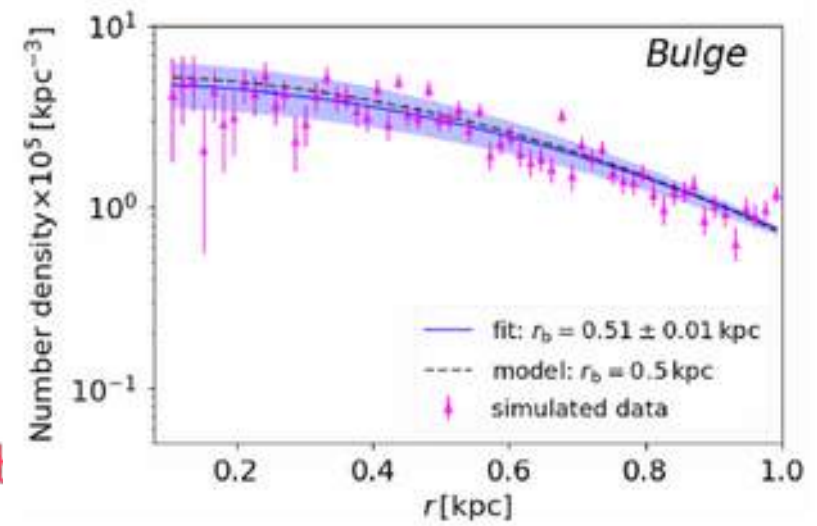
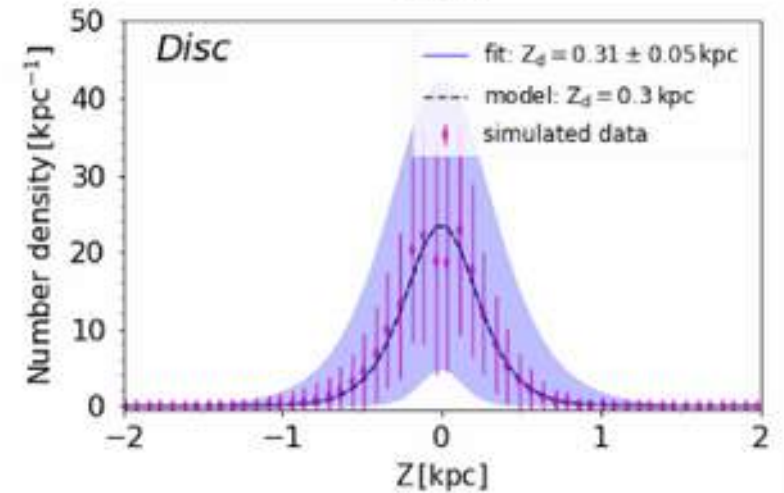
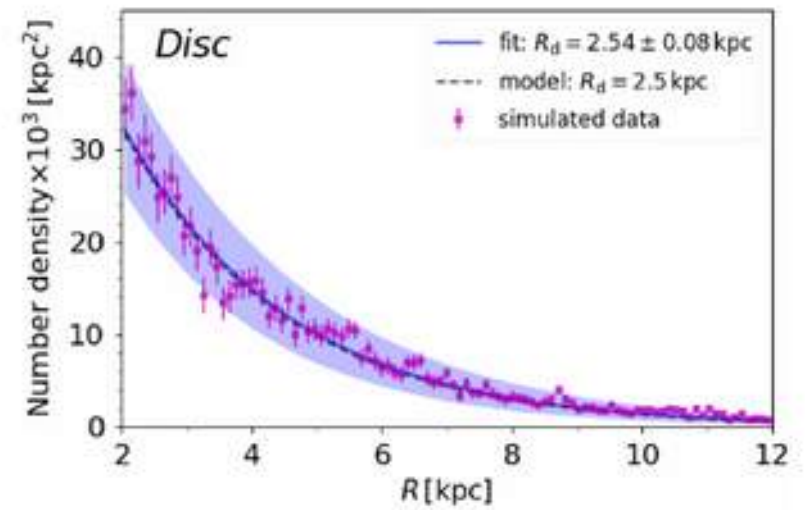
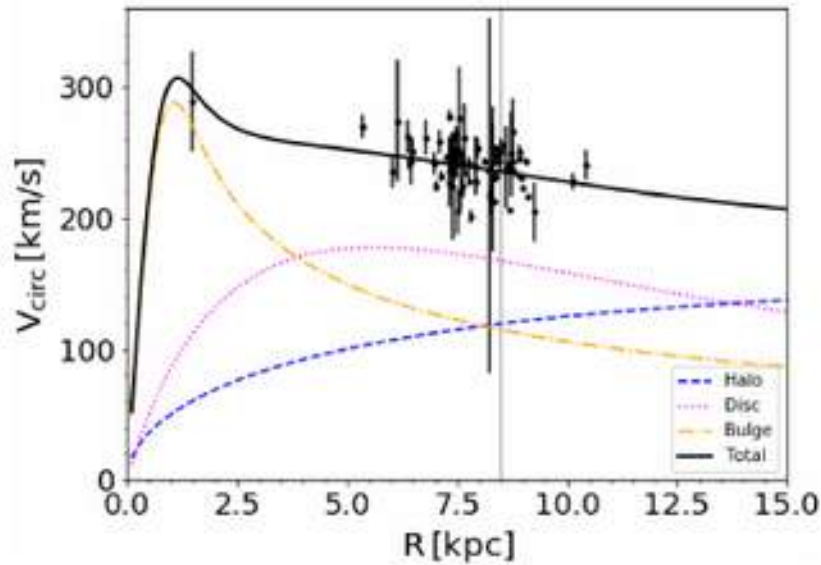
- ▶ Verification sources with Gaia distances (Kupfer et al. 2018, MN, 480, 302)
- ▶ Also Ramsay et al 2018 (A&A, 620,141)





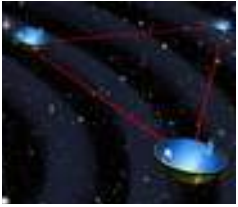
# The Milky Way

- ▶ Measure structure Milky Way (Korol et al. 2019)
- ▶ Several double WD detectable in M31 (Korol et al. 2018)
- ▶ Signals from MW satellites (Korol et al. 2021, MN, 502, 55, Roebber et al. 2020, ApJ, 894, 15)



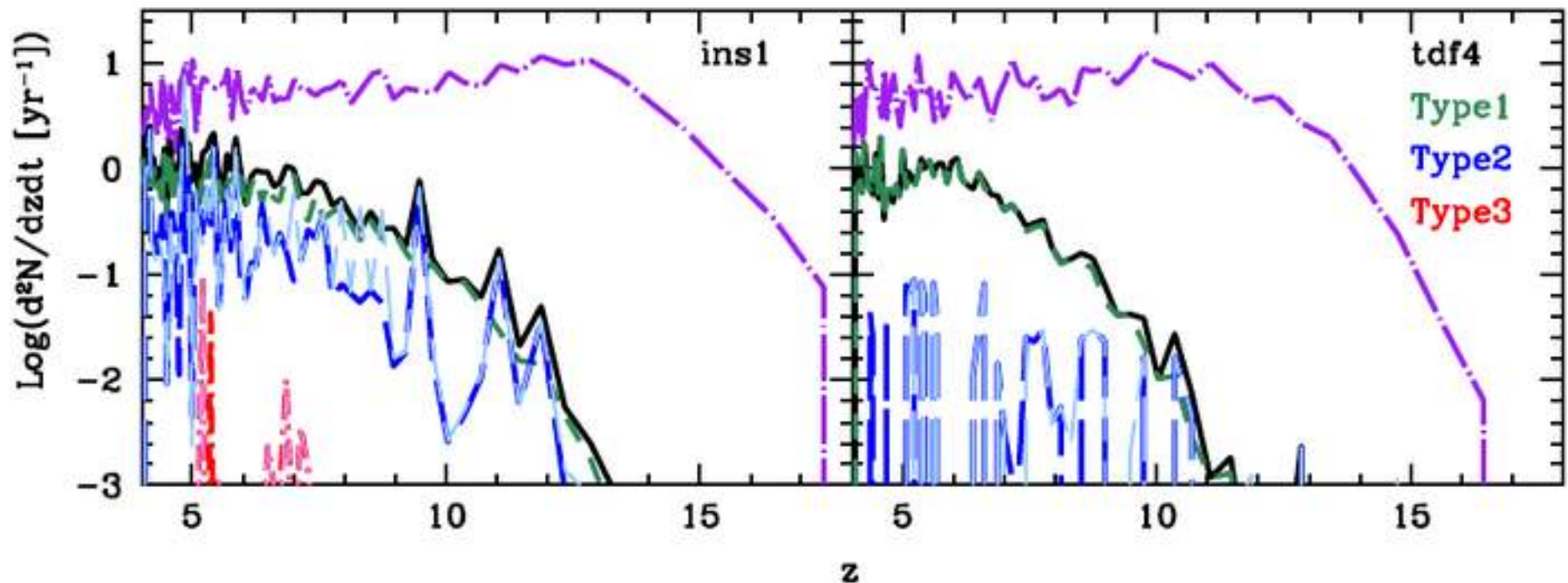
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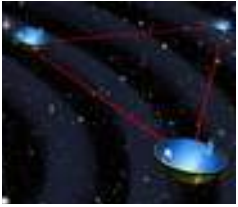


# Structure formation/seeds

- ▶ Dayal et al. 2019 (MN, 486, 2336)
- ▶ Rossi (JphCS, 840, 2027), Toscani et al. 2019, IJMPD, 2844015)
- ▶ Also Duncan et al. 2019, ApJ, 876, 110; Salcido et al. 2016 (MN 463, 870)
- ▶ Tidal disruptions (Pfister et al. 2021, 2103:05883; Toscani et al. 2020, MN, 498, 507)

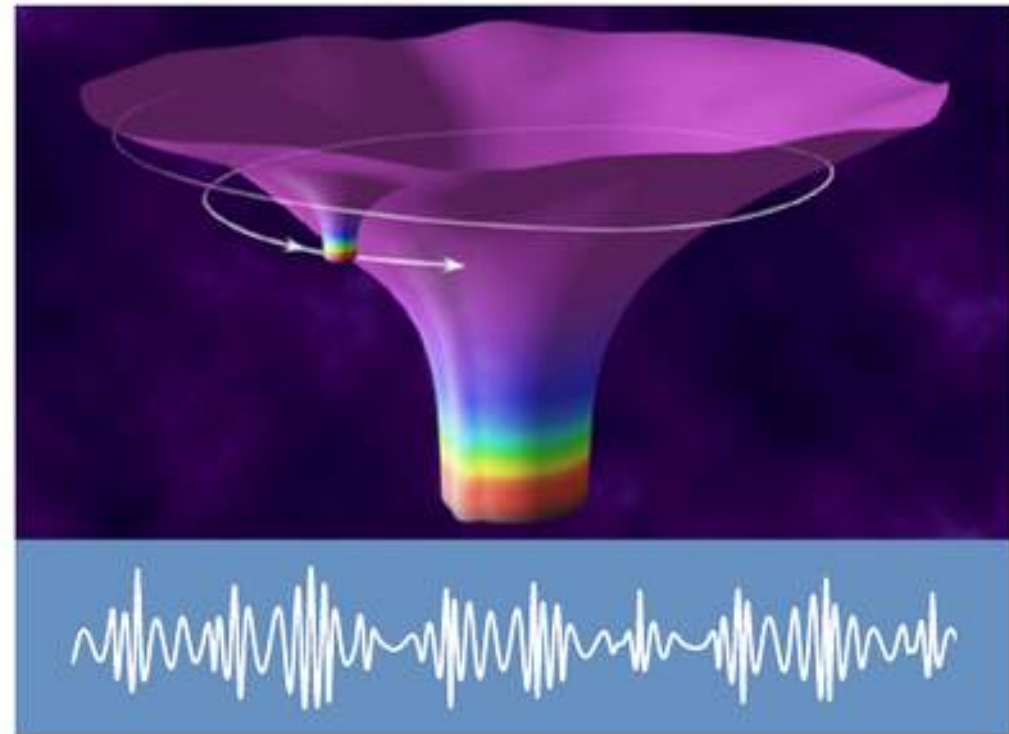






# Fundamental physics

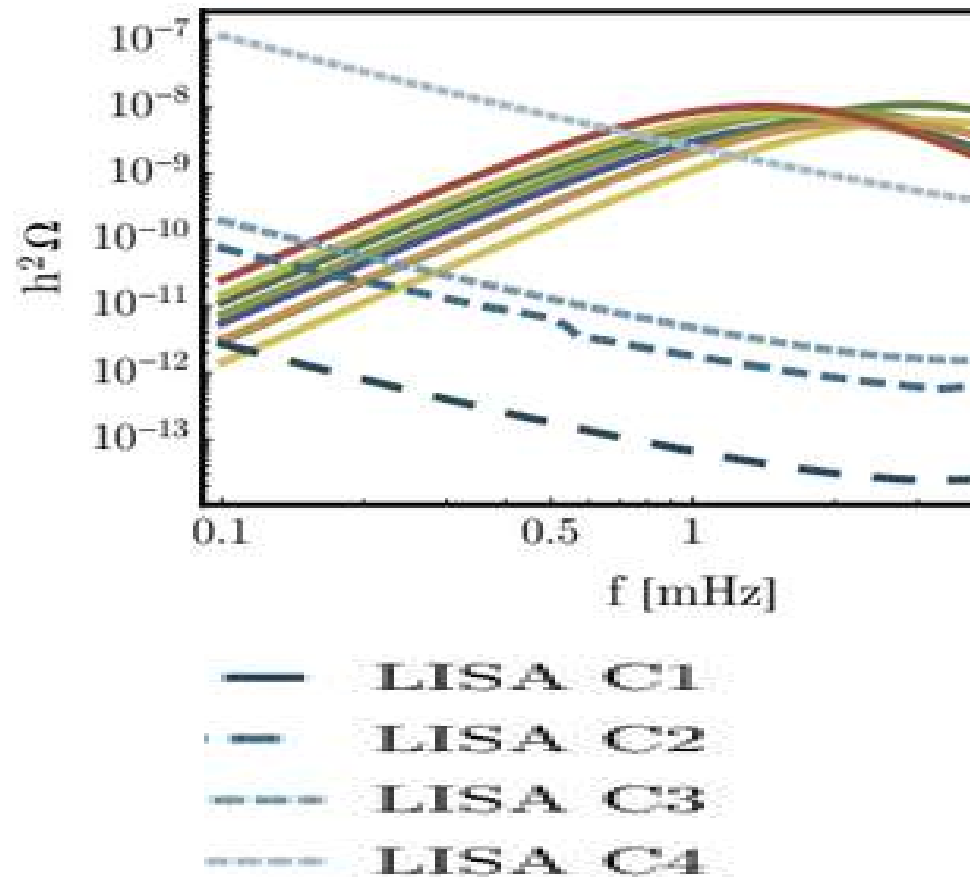
- ▶ Memory effect, (Nichols 2018 PRD 98f4032)
- ▶ Tidal resonances in EMRIs, (Bonga et al. 2019, PRL, 123, 1103)
- ▶ Test GR (e.g. Kasta et al. 2018, PRD, 98, 124033)
- ▶ Dark matter (Edwards et al, 2020, PRL, 124, 161101)

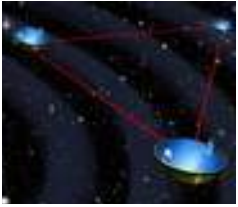




# Early Universe/cosmology

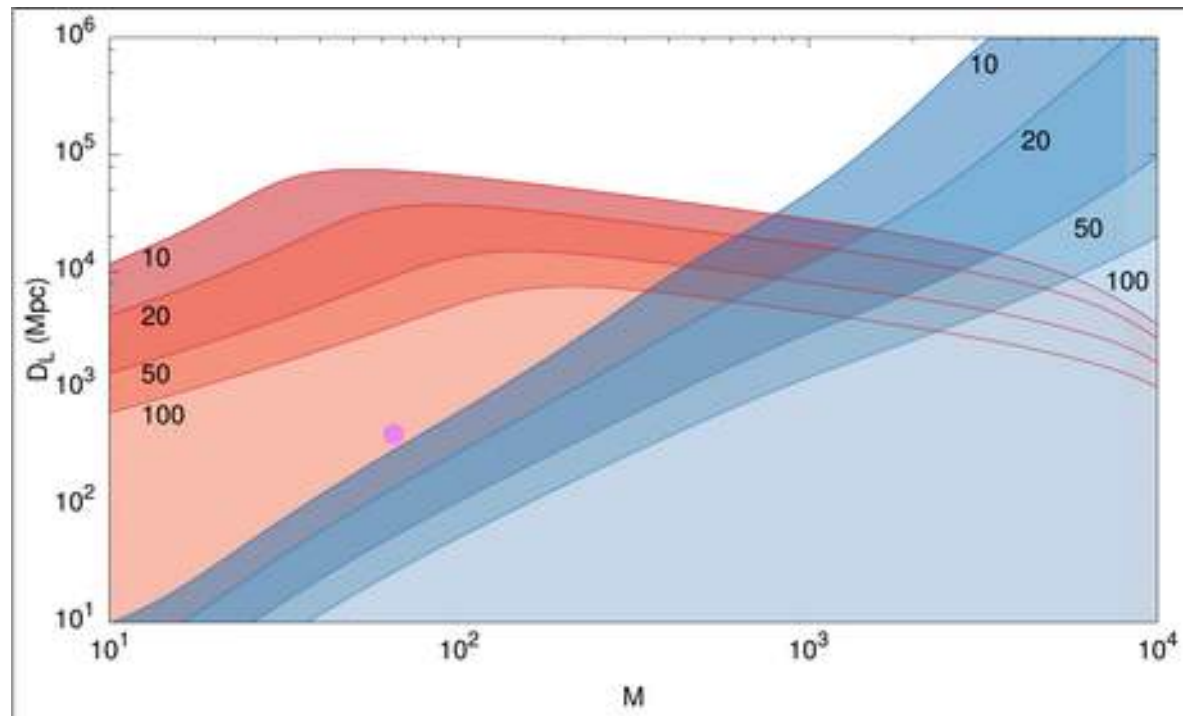
- ▶ Phase transition  
(Prokopec et al.  
2019, JCAP, 02, 009)
- ▶ Precision cosmology  
(Mukherjee et al.  
2021, PRD, 103,  
043520)





# Conclusions

- ▶ LISA is a great mission for Astronomers and Physicists
- ▶ NL (=you!) well positioned to be part of the LISA consortium (ask me or Elena Rossi)
- ▶ Currently phase A
- ▶ Launch far away, decisions and work now!
- ▶ Complementarity LISA and ET





# EM follow-up

## ▶ BlackGEM

- ▶ Array newly designed telescopes (PI Groot)
- ▶ Installation in Chile ongoing
- ▶ Dedicated to follow-up GW sources to detect in optical

## ▶ Other facilities

- ▶ Coordination via ENGRAVE (Jonker, Levan, Groot)
- ▶ Large programmes on La Palma, ESO (Chile), Hubble Space Telescope etc.



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