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# Searches for gravitational waves with ground-based interferometers

Ecole de Gif - Sept. 2017



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## Searches for gravitational waves with ground-based interferometers

- I. LIGO-Virgo analysis groups
- II. Analysis methods for transient searches
- III. Recent gravitational-wave detections
- IV. Other search results
- V. O2 and conclusions

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#### Relevant GW Sources: $10 \text{ Hz} < f_{GW} < 10000 \text{ Hz}$



LIGO-Virgo Data Analysis















#### **CBC** searches



- Compact binary objects: Two neutron stars and/or black holes.
- Inspiral toward each other. Emit gravitational waves as they inspiral.
- Amplitude and frequency of the waves increases over time, until the merger.
- Waveform relatively well understood, → matched template searches.
- Unique way to study string field gravity and the structure of the nuclear matter in the most extreme conditions



Waveform carries lots of information about binary masses, orbit, merger, spins, ...

#### **Burst searches**



- Many transient sources:
  - CBC
  - Supernovae: probe the explosion mechanisms.
  - Gamma Ray Bursts: collapse of rapidly rotating massive stars or neutron star mergers.
  - Pulsar glitches.
  - Cosmic strings cusps and kinks.
- Models are ok, but not essential:
  - Search for power excess in the data.
  - Search for any short signal with measurable strain signal.

#### Pulsar searches





Persistent signals associated to sources with mass quadrupole moment varying in time in a nearly periodic way

- Pulsars with mass non-uniformity:
  - distortion due to elastic stresses or magnetic field
  - distortion due to matter accretion
  - free precession around rotation axis
  - excitation of long-lasting oscillations (e.g. r-modes)
- Produce gravitational-waves, often at twice the rotational frequency.
- Waveform well-understood:
  - Sinusoidal but Doppler modulated
- Continuous source

Signal amplitude:  $h_0 \approx 10^{-27} \left( \frac{I_{zz}}{10^{38} kg \cdot m^2} \right) \left( \frac{10 kpc}{r} \right) \left( \frac{f}{100 Hz} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\varepsilon}{10^{-6}} \right)$ 

 $\epsilon$  : ellipticity (adimensional number measuring the star's degree of asymmetry)

f : signal frequency, proportional to star rotation frequency

#### Stochastic background searches

- Incoherent superposition of many unresolved sources.
- Cosmological:
  - Inflationary epoch, preheating, reheating
  - Phase transitions
  - Cosmic strings
  - Alternative cosmologies
- Astrophysical:
  - Supernovae
  - Magnetars
  - Binary black holes
- Potentially could probe physics of the very-early Universe.



$$\Omega_{GW}(f) = \frac{f}{\rho_c} \frac{d\rho_{GW}}{df}$$



## LIGO first observing run (O1, 2015)



GW detectors' readout system provides at any instant an estimate of strain: a quantity that is sensitive to arms' length difference:

→ Digitized discrete time series: raw(t) (sampled at 16384 Hz or 20000 Hz) and synchronized with GPS clocks.

→ Calibration of raw(t): apply a frequency dependent factor [in reality this is a bit more complicated ...]



 $\rightarrow$  h<sub>det</sub>(t) time series that is detector noise plus all hypothetical GW signals

 $h_{det}(t) = n(t) + GW(t)$ 

#### GW data: discrete time series



#### GW search: load the data iteratively (analysis window)



#### Analysis pipeline



#### Fourier transform

#### Fourier transform A time series s(t) can be projected over a basis of sinusoidal functions: $\widetilde{s}(f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} s(t)e^{-2i\pi ft} dt$ (forward) $s(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \widetilde{s}(f)e^{2i\pi ft} df$ (backward) The signal is decomposed in characteristic frequencies



# $h_{det}(t) = n(t) + GW(t)$

The detector's sensitivity over the sky is not uniform



 $GW(t) = F_{+}(t, ra, dec, \Psi) \times h_{+}(t) + F_{x}(t, ra, dec, \Psi) \times h_{x}(t)$ 

Source position Source polarization angle

Power spectral density: (PSD)

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} \frac{1}{T} |\tilde{x}_T(f)|^2$$

Power spectral density estimator for finite data set: Periodogram =  $\frac{1}{T} |\tilde{x}_T(f)|^2$ 

Improved estimator:

- average multiple periodograms (M) to reduce the variance
- noise is non-stationary:  $\tilde{T}$  should not be too long (a few minutes)
- use windowed data to limit spectral leakage
- Welch approach: average of periodograms computed over overlapping windowed data segments

Sensitivity measured using the noise power spectral density:

$$S_{n}(k) = Median_{0 \le m < M} \left\{ \frac{1}{Nf_{s}} \left| \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} x_{m}[j] w[j] e^{-2i\pi jk/N} \right|^{2} \right\}$$

+ median-to-mean correction

One-sided / Two sided PSDs

Amplitude power spectral density:  $\sqrt{S_n(k)}$ 

Noise amplitude spectral density of  $h_{det}(t) = n(t)$ 



LIGO Hanford (O1)



O2 Best noise spectrum achieved by LIGO Hanford, LIGO Livingston and Virgo

#### Data whitening

GW data is whitened:

$$\widetilde{h}_{det}(f) \rightarrow \widetilde{h}_{det}^{w}(f) = \frac{\widetilde{h}_{det}(f)}{S_n(f)}$$

 $\rightarrow$  white noise is mandatory for statistical interpretation of the data



#### Time-frequency analysis (unmodeled)

Example : Q-transform

$$X(\tau,\phi,Q) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} h_{det}(t) w(t-\tau,\phi,Q) e^{-2i\pi\phi\tau} dt$$

 $\rightarrow$  window width  $\sim\!1/\varphi$ 

~ short Fourier transform with a Gaussian window

 $\rightarrow$  Goal : cover a parameter space as large as possible

Noise only: 
$$\langle |N(\tau,\phi,Q)|^2 \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |\widetilde{w}(\phi-f,\phi,Q)|^2 S_n(f) df$$

Whitened noise + window normalization:  $\langle |N^w(\tau,\phi,Q)|^2 \rangle = 1$ 

→ Signal-to-noise ratio estimator

$$\hat{\rho}^2(\tau,\phi,Q) = |X^w(\tau,\phi,Q)|^2 - \langle |N^w(\tau,\phi,Q)|^2 \rangle = |X^w(\tau,\phi,Q)|^2 - 1$$

Statistical interpretation: noise is Gaussian-distributed with unit variance





## GW150914



Data is calibrated  $\rightarrow$  GW strain amplitude *h(t)* 

## GW150914



Data are low-pass filtered (here, < 500 Hz)

## GW150914



Data are whitened





Phase evolution dictated by the chirp mass:

$$M_{chirp} = \frac{(m_1 m_2)^{3/5}}{(m_1 + m_2)^{1/5}} = \frac{c^3}{G} \left[ \frac{5}{96} \pi^{-8/3} f^{-11/3} \dot{f} \right]^{3/5}$$

 $\overline{M_{chirp}} \simeq 30 \ \overline{M_{sun}}$ 

SNR

–12 S

10

8

6

4

2

0

0.50

Time [s]

→ Total mass:  $M_{tot} = m_1 + m_2 \ge 70 M_{sun}$ 



0.25

0.00



LIGO - Hanford



Phase evolution dictated by the chirp mass:

$$M_{chirp} = \frac{(m_1 m_2)^{3/5}}{(m_1 + m_2)^{1/5}} = \frac{c^3}{G} \left[ \frac{5}{96} \pi^{-8/3} f^{-11/3} \dot{f} \right]^{3/5}$$

 $M_{\it chirp}\!\simeq\!30~M_{\it sun}$ 

SNR

- → Total mass:  $M_{tot} = m_1 + m_2 \ge 70 M_{sun}$
- Schwarschild radius:  $\frac{2GM_{tot}}{c^2} \ge 210 \, km$

Frequency [Hz]



0.25

Phase evolution dictated by the chirp mass:

$$M_{chirp} = \frac{(m_1 m_2)^{3/5}}{(m_1 + m_2)^{1/5}} = \frac{c^3}{G} \left[ \frac{5}{96} \pi^{-8/3} f^{-11/3} \dot{f} \right]^{3/5}$$

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 $\overline{M}_{chirp} \simeq 30 M_{sun}$ 

SNR

8

6

4

2

Ω

0.50

Time [s]

- $\rightarrow$  Total mass:  $M_{tot} = m_1 + m_2 \ge 70 M_{sun}$
- Schwarschild radius:  $2GM_{tot} \ge 210 \, km$
- Orbital frequency:  $f_{orbit} = f/2 \simeq 75 Hz$

Equal Newtonian point masses orbit:  $d \simeq 350 \, km$ 

10<sup>2</sup>

0.00



0.25

0.50

Time [s]

Phase evolution dictated by the chirp mass:

$$M_{chirp} = \frac{(m_1 m_2)^{3/5}}{(m_1 + m_2)^{1/5}} = \frac{c^3}{G} \left[ \frac{5}{96} \pi^{-8/3} f^{-11/3} \dot{f} \right]^{3/5}$$

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- $M_{\it chirp}\!\simeq\!30~M_{\it sun}$
- → Total mass:  $M_{tot} = m_1 + m_2 \ge 70 M_{sun}$
- Schwarschild radius:  $\frac{2GM_{tot}}{c^2} \ge 210 \, km$
- Orbital frequency:  $f_{orbit} = f/2 \approx 75 Hz$

Equal Newtonian point masses orbit:  $d \simeq 350 \, km$ 

→ Black hole binary

0.00
#### Known waveform → match-filtering technique

Simplest linear filter: correlation  $C(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} h_{det}(t')k(t-t')dt = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \widetilde{h}_{det}(f)\widetilde{k}^*(f)e^{2i\pi ft}df$ k(t) is the impulse response function of the filter :  $h_{det}(t) = \delta(t) \Rightarrow C(t) = k(t)$ 

Match-filter: optimal filter maximizing the SNR in presence of additive noise

$$h_{det}(t) = n(t) + GW(t)$$

$$\rho(t) = \frac{C(t)}{\sqrt{\langle N^{2}(t) \rangle}} \text{ with } \langle N^{2}(t) \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |\widetilde{k}(f)|^{2} S_{n}(f) df$$
The SNR is maximized if  $\widetilde{k}(f) \propto \frac{G\widetilde{W}^{*}(f)}{S_{n}(f)}$ 

$$\rho(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{\widetilde{GW}^*(f)\widetilde{h}_{det}(f)}{S_n(f)} e^{2i\pi ft} df$$



### The CBC search



#### Theoretical input:

- 90s: CBC PN waveforms (Blanchet, Iyer, Damour, Deruelle, Will, Wiseman, ...)
- 00s: CBC Effective One Body "EOB" (Damour, Buonanno)
- 06: BBH numerical simulation (Pretorius, Baker, Loustos, Campanelli)



### The CBC search



Now, the challenge is to reject noise events to better isolate true signals





#### Thousands of auxiliary channels are used to monitor the instruments

- environmental sensors
- detector sub-systems
- detector control



Noise injection campaigns are conducted to identify the detector's response to different noise stimulation

# Multiple transient noises were identified during the run

- $\rightarrow$  Anthropogenic noise
- $\rightarrow$  Earthquakes
- $\rightarrow$  Radio-frequency modulation
- $\rightarrow \dots$

Option #1: fix the detector Option #2: remove transient events in the data



## Example : thunderstorm



The lightnings are detected in magnetic sensors

### Example : thunderstorm



### Example : thunderstorm





#### Arm's end



Analysis vetoes are created to remove transient noise events from known origins environment

- detector glitches (laser, control loops...)
- scattered light

. . .





Weighted SNR

•

•

•

$$\rho_{\text{new}} = \begin{cases} \rho, & \chi^2 \le n_{\text{dof}} \\ \frac{\rho}{\left[\left(1 + \frac{\chi^2}{n_{dof}}^{4/3}\right)/2\right]^{1/4}}, \ \chi^2 > n_{\text{dof}} \end{cases}$$



## Coincidence between detectors









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TOA (Hanford)

TOA (Livingston)

GW

#### TOA (Virgo)

- The GW signal must be detected almost simultaneously across the network  $\delta t \leq Max$  light travel time

- The noise in the detectors is uncorrelated

A gravitational-wave signal is detected by multiple detectors almost simultaneously



Coincidence rate:  $R_{coinc} \sim R_H R_L \Delta t_{win}$  $\sim (1 Hz) \times (1 Hz) \times (10^{-2} s) = 10^{-2} Hz$  The background of a gravitational-wave search is estimated using the time-slide technique Assumption = uncorrelated noise between detectors



A very large number of fake experiments can be simulated using multiple offsets

LIGO O1 analysis: - O(10<sup>6</sup>) time offsets

→ background estimated using a fake experiment of O(100,000 years)







## Monday September 14, 2015 09:50:45 UTC

The LIGO detectors are both operational and stable (O1)

GW

Virgo is off (upgrade in progress)

It is daytime in Europe, the middle of the night in the US

#### GW150914 was detected within 3 minutes by a burst search

#### GraceDB — Gravitational Wave Candidate Event Database

HOME	SEARCH	CREATE	REPORTS	RSS	LATEST	OPTIONS	DOCUMENTATION	
							AUTHENTIC	CATED AS: FLORENT ROBINET

#### **Basic Info**

UID	Labels	Group	Pipeline	Search	Instruments	UTC - Event Time	UTC - Event Time FAR (Hz) Links		UTC - Submitted
G184098	H10K L10K	Burst	CWB	AllSky	H1,L1	2015-09-14 09:50:45 UTC	1.178e-08	<u>Data</u>	2015-09-14 09:53:51 UTC

#### **Analysis-Specific Attributes**

start_time	1126259461	central_freq	123.8285	false_alarm_rate	
start_time_ns	75000000	bandwidth	51.8386	ligo_axis_ra	130.9219
duration	2.477e-02	amplitude	1.410e+01	ligo_axis_dec	4.4808
peak_time	None	snr	23.4521	ligo_angle	None
peak_time_ns	None	confidence		ligo_angle_sig	None

From Marco Drago🗙	Seply	🗟 Reply List	▼ → Forward	Archive	🖌 Junk	O Delete	Моге 🔻
Subject [detchar] Very interesting event on ER8						09/14/2015	12:55 PM
Reply to detchar LIGOA, Marco DragoA							
To lvc-burst@sympa.ligo.org							
Cc cbc@ligo.org BinariesGroup☆, daswg@ligo.org☆, Calibration	calibration@ligo.org>☆,	dac@sympa.lig	o.org☆, <burst@< th=""><th>@ligo.org&gt;🈭,</th><th>3 more</th><th>t -</th><th></th></burst@<>	@ligo.org>🈭,	3 more	t -	
Hi all, cWB has put on gracedb a very interesting ev https://gracedb.ligo.org/events/view/G184098	vent in the last	t hour.					
This is the CED: https://ldas-jobs.ligo.caltech.edu/-waveburs /OUTPUT_CED/ced_1126259420_180_1126259540-11 /L1H1_1126259461.750_1126259461.750/	t/online/ER8_LH 26259600_slag0_	<u>Lag0_1_jo</u>	DBS/112625 b1	/1126259	<u>)540-1</u>	<u>12625960</u>	1 <u>0</u>
Qscan made by Andy: https://ldas.jobs_ligo_caltech_edu/~lundaren	/wda/L1_1126250	0462 3910/					
https://ldas-jobs.ligo.caltech.edu/~lundgren	/wdq/H1_1126259	9462.3910/					
It is not flag as an hardware injection, as fast investigation. Someone can confirm that injection?	we understand a is not an hard	after some Jware					

2+1 events associated to the coalescence of a black hole binary system



Full analysis of the data surrounding the event

- $\rightarrow$  only input from searches: time of the event
- $\rightarrow$  fully explore the parameter space
- $\rightarrow$  include calibration uncertainty

8 intrinsic parameters (masses and spins)

9 extrinsic parameters (distance, position, orientation, coalescence time and phase) Orbital ellipticity is neglected

Dimensionless spin:  $a = \frac{c |\vec{S}|}{Gm^2} \le 1$ 

Frequency is redshifted  $\rightarrow$  masses must be rescaled by a factor (1+z)



Inspiral phase: PN perturbative expansion (v/c)

Leading order  $\rightarrow$  phase evolution driven by the chirp mass (tight constraints)

Next order  $\rightarrow$  m2/m1 and spins // L

Next orders  $\rightarrow$  full spins



Late inspiral – merger – ringdown: numerical relativity waveforms

Late inspiral  $\rightarrow$  total mass (+chirp mass + m1/m<sup>2</sup>)  $\rightarrow$  individual masses

Ringdown  $\rightarrow$  final BH mass and spin



Amplitude: inversely proportional to the distance



Amplitude and phase difference between sites  $\rightarrow$  sky location + Amplitude and phase consistency







Mostly sensitive to the chirp mass  $\rightarrow m_1, m_2$  degeneracy

$$M_{c} = \frac{(m_{1}m_{2})^{3/5}}{(m_{1}+m_{2})^{1/5}}$$

GW150914	GW151226
$m_1 = 36.2^{+5.2}_{-3.2} M_{sun}$	$m_1 = 14.2^{+8.3}_{-3.7} M_{sun}$
$m_2 = 29.1^{+3.7}_{-4.4} M_{sun}$	$m_2 = 7.5^{+2.3}_{-2.3} M_{sun}$

→ All the components are black holes
→ Very high masses for GW150914





 $\rightarrow$  not well constrained

GW151226: at least one black hole is a Kerr black hole spin >0.2







#### Final mass & spin



GW150914 $M_f = 62.3^{+3.7}_{-3.1} M_{sun}$  $a_f = 0.68^{+0.05}_{-0.06}$ 

GW151226  $M_f = 20.8^{+6.1}_{-1.7} M_{sun}$   $a_f = 0.74^{+0.06}_{-0.06}$ 



GW150914  $D_{L} = 420_{-180}^{+150} Mpc \qquad z = 0.09_{-0.04}^{+0.03}$  GW151226  $D_{L} = 440_{-190}^{+180} Mpc \qquad z = 0.09_{-0.04}^{+0.03}$ 



Limited accuracy with 2 detectors

 $\rightarrow$  will be improved with a 3<sup>rd</sup> detector (a few deg<sup>2</sup>)

- Simulated signals with parameters drawn from astrophysical populations
- Noise distribution from GW searches



- Better understand BH and BBH formation scenarios.
- Testing GR in strong field.
- Core collapse supernovae explosion mechanisms.
- New standard sirens to measure the Universe expansion.
- Fundamental physics test:
  - EOS in neutron stars
  - Graviton mass, neutrino masses, ...
  - Primordial BH as dark matter
  - Primordial GWs and inflation
First BBH system ever observed & heaviest stellar mass black holes (>25 Msun).



• BBH formation: isolated binaries (low-Z to popIII) vs capture in dense clusters (globular clusters, galactic centers, ...): no way to discriminate between the 2 scenarios with 4 BBHs.

# Testing GR

#### First opportunity to study GR in a strong-field regime

- Test #1  $\rightarrow$  signal waveform/GR consistency: residual compatible with noise
- Test #2  $\rightarrow$  BBH parameter consistency before/after merger: excellent
- Test #3  $\rightarrow$  deviation from PN waveforms: constraints on PN coefficients
- Test #4  $\rightarrow$  consistency with the least-damped quasi-normal-mode of the remnant black hole
- Test #5  $\rightarrow$  theory with massive graviton: best constraints on the graviton mass



## **Testing GR**



#### **Relevant GW Sources**



Target : transient signals with duration ranging from milliseconds to seconds over the frequency band of 32 to 4096 Hz

- $\rightarrow$  compact binary mergers
- → core-collapse supernovae
- $\rightarrow$  neutron stars collapsing to form black holes
- $\rightarrow$  pulsar glitches
- $\rightarrow$  cosmic string cusps



#### → the search results are consistent with the expectations of accidental noise coincidences

With advanced LIGO and advanced Virgo:

Distance: between 100 kpc (SASI and MHD) and 20 Mpc (extreme model like disk fragmentation and bar mode) [Gossan et al arxiv:1511.02836]

Rate : [J. Gill et al in preparation]



### GW from cosmic strings



GW waveform:  

$$\begin{split} h(\ell,z,f) &= A_q(\ell,z) f^{-q} \Theta(f_h - f) \\ A_q(\ell,z) &= g_1 \frac{G \mu \ell^{2-q}}{(1+z)^{q-1} r(z)} \\ \textbf{q} = \textbf{4/3} \text{ for cusps, } \textbf{q} = \textbf{5/3 for kinks} \end{split}$$

+ model for loop distribution





#### **Pulsar searches**



Signal amplitude: 
$$h_0 \approx 10^{-27} \left( \frac{I_{zz}}{10^{38} kg \cdot m^2} \right) \left( \frac{10 kpc}{r} \right) \left( \frac{f}{100 Hz} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\varepsilon}{10^{-6}} \right)$$

- $\epsilon$  : ellipticity (adimensional number measuring the star's degree of asymmetry)
- f : signal frequency, proportional to star rotation frequency

- Persistant signals.
- Weak amplitudes (ellipticity unknown).
- Known sources in the galaxy.
- Multi-messenger analysis with radio telescope inputs.
- All-sky/targeted searches
- 8 known pulsars spin down limit beaten.



Assumption : stationary, unpolarized, and Gaussian stochastic background

 $\rightarrow$  Cross correlate the output of detector pairs to eliminate the noise

Optimal filter:



O1 isotropic search, for  $\alpha = 0$ :  $\Omega_{GW}(25 Hz) < 1.7 \times 10^{-7}$ 

PRL.118.121101 (2017)

### Stochastic background of GWs

O1 isotropic search, for  $\alpha = 0$ :  $\Omega_{GW}(25 \, Hz) < 1.7 \times 10^{-7}$ 



### Stochastic background of BBH mergers



#### Correlated noise





#### Schumann resonance



LIGO-Hanford magnetometer



LIGO-Livingston magnetometer



Virgo magnetometer



944696230 944696231 944696232 944696233 944696234 Loudest: GP3=944696231.588, f=12.256 Hz, snr=121.365 Time [s]



944696230 944696231 944696232 944696233 94469623 Loudest: GPS=944696231.677, f=28.981 Hz, snr=8.807 Time [s]



### First O2 event



# GW170104

Primary black hole mass $m_1$	$31.2^{+8.4}_{-6.0}M_{\odot}$
Secondary black hole mass $m_2$	$19.4^{+5.3}_{-5.9} M_{\odot}$
Chirp mass $\mathcal{M}$	$21.1^{+2.4}_{-2.7} M_{\odot}$
Total mass M	$50.7^{+5.9}_{-5.0} M_{\odot}$
Final black hole mass $M_f$	$48.7^{+5.7}_{-4.6} M_{\odot}$
Radiated energy $E_{\rm rad}$	$2.0^{+0.6}_{-0.7} {M}_{\odot} c^2$
Peak luminosity $\ell_{\text{peak}}$	$3.1^{+0.7}_{-1.3} \times 10^{56} \mathrm{erg  s^{-1}}$
Effective inspiral spin parameter $\chi_{eff}$	$-0.12\substack{+0.21\\-0.30}$
Final black hole spin $a_f$	$0.64\substack{+0.09\\-0.20}$
Luminosity distance $D_L$	$880^{+450}_{-390} { m Mpc}$
Source redshift z	$0.18\substack{+0.08 \\ -0.07}$



PRL118,221101 (2017)



The Virgo and LIGO Scientific Collaborations have been observing since November 30, 2016 in the second Advanced Detector Observing Run 'O2', searching for gravitational-wave signals, first with the two LIGO detectors, then with both LIGO and Virgo instruments operating together since August 1, 2017. Some promising gravitational-wave candidates have been identified in data from both LIGO and Virgo during our preliminary analysis, and we have shared what we currently know with astronomical observing partners. We are working hard to assure that the candidates are valid gravitational-wave events, and it will require time to establish the level of confidence needed to bring any results to the scientific community and the greater public. We will let you know as soon we have information ready to share.