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Are we missing the most interesting binary mergers?

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Current matched-filter searches for binary mergers make several simplifying assumptions about the physics of the target systems. For example, the effect of orbital precession is neglected in current searches of advanced-detector data. This can reduce the ability to detect systems that could tell us about the evolution of massive stars and tests of relativity in extreme situations. In this talk we explore the ability of current search methods to observe some of the most interesting astrophysical systems, both today and with predicted future sensitivity curves, and discuss the astrophysical implications that would arise from having an observational bias against systems that the current search technique is not targeting.

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