### Gravitational wave cosmology

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### Outline

Fundamentals of gravitational waves
Standard sirens: bright and dark
Standard sirens beyond general relativity
Current results from LIGO/Virgo
Future prospects

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Full of equations, if you get lost just read the text in red

Fundamentals of gravitational waves
Standard sirens: bright and dark
Standard sirens beyond general relativity
Current results from LIGO/Virgo
Future prospects

Gravitational waves (GWs) are dynamical solutions of the Einstein field equations



obtained by expanding the metric over a fixed background (for simplicity Minkowski)

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}$$
 with  $|h_{\mu\nu}| \ll 1$ 

which indeed provides (with a suitable gauge choice) the following wave equation

$$\Box \bar{h}_{\mu\nu} = -\frac{16\pi G}{c^4} T_{\mu\nu} \quad \text{with} \quad \bar{h}_{\mu\nu} = h_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} \eta_{\mu\nu} h$$
  
Wave operator  $\partial_{\mu} \partial^{\mu}$ 

[Maggiore, vol.1 (2008)]

In vacuum, i.e. for  $T_{\mu\nu} = 0$ , one can impose the so-called *transverse-traceless (TT*) gauge which reduces the GW equation simply to

$$\Box h_{\mu\nu} = 0$$

This gauge eliminates all spurious degrees of freedom of  $h_{\mu\nu}$  leaving only the two physical degrees of freedom which, for a GW propagating along z, can be written as

$$h_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & h_{+} & h_{\times} & 0 \\ 0 & h_{\times} & -h_{+} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
  
nly two GW polarisation  
in vacuum:  $h_{+}$  and  $h_{\times}$ 

Only

[Maggiore, vol.1 (2008)]

One can solve the GW equation for a general  $T_{\mu\nu}$  in the limit of weak gravitational field and small velocities

$$r \gg R_s$$
 and  $v \ll c$   
Observer located at much larger distance Velo  
than Schwarzschild radius (= weak field)

/elocities much smaller than speed of light

#### In the TT gauge, one then finds (latin indices = spatial components)

 $h_{ij}(t,\underline{x}) = \frac{1}{r} \frac{2G}{c^4} \Lambda_{ijkl}(\hat{n}) \ddot{Q}_{kl}(t-r/c)$ Einstein's quadrupole formula for the generation of GWs Projector tensor to TT gauge component $along <math>\hat{n}$  (direction of propagation of the GW)  $Q_{ij} = \frac{1}{c^2} \int d^3x T^{00}(t,\underline{x})(x_ix_j - \frac{1}{3}r^2\delta_{ij})$ Quadrupole momentum of the mass density [Maggiore, vol.1 (2008)]

By applying the quadrupole formula to a Newtonian binary system in circular orbit one finds

$$h_{+}(t,r,\theta,\varphi) = \frac{1}{r} \frac{4G\mu\omega_{s}^{2}R^{2}}{c^{4}} \frac{1+\cos^{2}\theta}{2} \cos(2\omega_{s}t_{\text{ret}}+2\phi_{0})$$
$$h_{\times}(t,r,\theta,\varphi) = \frac{1}{r} \frac{4G\mu\omega_{s}^{2}R^{2}}{c^{4}} \cos\theta \sin(2\omega_{s}t_{\text{ret}}+2\phi_{0})$$

where

 $\omega_s = 2\pi f_s = \frac{2\pi}{P_s} \rightarrow \text{orbital frequency}$ 

 $\mu = \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \rightarrow \text{reduced mass}$ 

 $R \rightarrow$  separation between  $m_1$  and  $m_2$ 

GW frequency is twice the orbital frequency!

[Maggiore, vol.1 (2008)]

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The separation of the two orbiting bodies must be at minimum of the order of the system's Schwarzschild radius (otherwise the binary merges), implying that

**GW** frequency is twice the orbital frequency!

$$\omega_{gw} = 2\omega_s = 2\sqrt{\frac{Gm_{\text{tot}}}{R^3}} \lesssim 2\sqrt{\frac{Gm_{\text{tot}}}{R_s^3}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}c}{Gm_{\text{tot}}}$$
The more massive the system, the lower the maximum (merger) frequency!  

$$R_s = \frac{2Gm_{\text{tot}}}{c^2} \lesssim R \quad \text{Schwarzschild} \text{radius}$$

From the quadrupole formula one can also compute the total power transported by GWs, which carries away energy from the Newtonian system

$$P_{\rm gw} = \frac{32}{5} \frac{G\mu R^4 \omega_s^6}{c^5} = -\frac{dE_{\rm orbit}}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{Gm_1 m_2}{2R}\right)$$

From this equation one find the evolution of the GW frequency  $f_{\rm GW} = 2f_s = \omega_s/\pi$ 

$$\frac{df_{\rm gw}}{dt} = \frac{96}{5} \pi^{8/3} \left(\frac{G\mathcal{M}_c}{c^3}\right)^{5/3} f_{\rm gw}^{11/3} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{M}_c = \mu^{3/5} m_{\rm tot}^{2/5}$$

whose solution is

$$f_{gw}(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{5}{256}\right)^{3/8} \left(\frac{G\mathcal{M}_c}{c^3}\right)^{-5/8} \left(\frac{1}{t-t_c}\right)^{3/8}$$
  
Time of coalescence:  $f_{gw}(t_c) \to \infty$  [Maggiore, vol.1 (2008)]



$$f_{\rm gw}(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{5}{256}\right)^{3/8} \left(\frac{G\mathcal{M}_c}{c^3}\right)^{-5/8} \left(\frac{1}{t-t_c}\right)^{3/8}$$

This is the (leading order of) the very frequency evolution looked for in GW detectors data stream

Measuring this trace one can directly infer the chirp mass  $\mathcal{M}_c$  of the system

By directly integrating the frequency one can finally find the phase evolution



Close to coalescence however, velocities become relativistic and the leading-order solution no longer applies

The full GW signal of a coalescing binary system cannot be found fully analytically, and different phases of the GW signal need different techniques



Needs Post-Newtonian corrections to well describe signal as closer as possible to merger

Can only be computed with numerical relativity (no analytic solution)

Can be computed using perturbations techniques around single black hole for black hole binaries, but needs numerical relativity for neutron stars binaries

To detect a GW signal one can measure the proper distance  $s = \hat{n}_i s_i$  between two free-falling test masses. From the geodesic deviation equation one finds

$$\frac{d^2s_i}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2}\frac{d^2h_{ij}}{dt^2}s_j$$

meaning that by precisely measuring  $s_i$  over time, one can infer  $h_{ii}$ 



This is the principle at the basis of *interferometric GW* detectors

The output phase difference depends on the proper distance travelled in each arms, which is affected by GWs

[Maggiore, vol.1 (2008)]

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$$\Delta \phi(t) = \frac{L\omega_L}{c} \operatorname{sinc}(\frac{L\omega_{gw}}{c})h(t - \frac{L}{c})$$

To optimise the response one must maximise the factor in front of h(t - L/c)

$$\operatorname{Max}\left[\frac{L\omega_{L}}{c}\operatorname{sinc}(\frac{L\omega_{gw}}{c})\right] \Rightarrow L \approx \frac{\pi c}{2\omega_{gw}} = \frac{\lambda_{gw}}{4} \quad \longrightarrow$$

The armlength of an interferometers is best suited to detect GW of comparable wavelength!

[Maggiore, vol.1 (2008)]



Let's now consider again the GW emitted by a binary system in circular orbit, which we can rewrite as (only one polarisation considered for simplicity)

$$h_{\mathsf{X}}(t_{s}) = \frac{4}{r} \left(\frac{G\mathcal{M}_{c}}{c^{2}}\right)^{5/3} \left(\frac{\pi f_{gW,s}}{c}\right)^{2/3} \cos\theta \sin\left[-2\left(\frac{5G\mathcal{M}_{c}}{c^{3}}\right)^{-5/8} \tau_{s}^{5/8} + \Phi_{0}\right]$$

If the source is at cosmological distances we need to take into account that the expansion of the universe will stretch distances and redshift time and frequency

$$r \mapsto a(t_o)r$$
  $f_s = (1+z)f_o$   $dt_s = dt_o/(1+z)$ 

implying that the waveform at the observer becomes

$$h_{\mathsf{x}}(t_o) = \frac{4}{d_L} \left(\frac{G\mathcal{M}_{cz}}{c^2}\right)^{5/3} \left(\frac{\pi f_{\mathsf{gw},o}}{c}\right)^{2/3} \cos\theta \sin\left[-2\left(\frac{5G\mathcal{M}_{cz}}{c^3}\right)^{-5/8} \tau_o^{5/8} + \Phi_0\right]$$

$$\downarrow$$
Luminosity distance
$$d_L = (1+z)a(t_o)r$$
Redshifted chirp mass
$$\mathcal{M}_{cz} = (1+z)\mathcal{M}_c$$
[Maggiore, vol.1 (2008)]

$$h_{\mathsf{x}}(t_o) = \frac{4}{d_L} \left(\frac{G\mathcal{M}_{cz}}{c^2}\right)^{5/3} \left(\frac{\pi f_{\mathsf{gw},o}}{c}\right)^{2/3} \cos\theta \sin\left[-2\left(\frac{5G\mathcal{M}_{cz}}{c^3}\right)^{-5/8} \tau_o^{5/8} + \Phi_0\right]$$

This is the very waveform (in time-domain at the lowest Newtonian order) used to detect GWs and measure the parameters of the system

Most importantly for cosmology, one can measure the luminosity distance  $d_L$  of the source directly from the GW signal without relying on the *cosmic distance ladder* (only GR has been assumed)



$$h_{\mathsf{X}}(t_o) = \frac{4}{d_L} \left(\frac{G\mathcal{M}_{cz}}{c^2}\right)^{5/3} \left(\frac{\pi f_{\mathsf{gw},o}}{c}\right)^{2/3} \cos\theta \sin\left[-2\left(\frac{5G\mathcal{M}_{cz}}{c^3}\right)^{-5/8} \tau_o^{5/8} + \Phi_0\right]$$

Note however that the waveform above does not depend explicitly on the redshift z, which cannot thus be measured directly from GWs

One needs independent information on the redshift of the source to do cosmology: if both  $d_L$  and z are known one can fit the *distance redshift relation* 

$$d_L(z) = \frac{c}{H_0} \frac{1+z}{\sqrt{\Omega_k}} \sinh\left[\sqrt{\Omega_k} \int_0^z \frac{H_0}{H(z')} dz'\right]$$

This is very similar to standard candles (supernovae type-Ia), from which the name <u>standard sirens</u> (using the analogy between GWs and sound waves)



[Schutz, Nature (1986)]

How can we determine the redshift of a GW source? Three main methods:

- By identifying an EM counterpart (bright sirens)
- By cross-correlating sky-localisation with galaxy catalogs (*dark sirens*)
- By exploiting features in the source mass distribution (*dark sirens*)

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[Schutz, Nature (1986)]

#### Example: GW170817

[LVC+, ApJL (2017)]

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[Del Pozzo, *PRD* (2012)]

[Gray+, PRD (2020)]



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By stacking together the results from many events, the values given by the spurious galaxies cancel out and the true cosmological parameters emerge





[Taylor+, *PRD* (2012)]

[Mastrogiovanni+, ArXiv (2020)]

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Source population parameters must be inferred simultaneously, degrading cosmological measurements and introducing possible systematics All these approaches are affected by different systematic uncertainties:



Galaxy catalogs are subject to selection effects and incompleteness (host galaxy may be missed)

### Standard sirens beyond general relativity

Let's consider how GWs propagate through the universe. Assuming GR one can find the equation of GW propagation in FRW universe starting from the Einstein equations



At sub-horizon scales ( $k\eta \gg 1$ ) the general solution of this equation is

$$h_{\rm GR} \propto \exp\left(-\int H d\eta\right) \exp\left(\pm ik \int d\eta\right)$$

which implies

$$h_{\rm GR} \propto \frac{1}{d_L}$$
 and  $c_T = c$ 

GW propagation speed

Let's consider how GWs propagate through the universe. Assuming GR one can find the equation of GW propagation in FRW universe starting from the Einstein equations

$$h_{ij}'' + 2Hh_{ij}' + c^2k^2h_{ij} = 0$$

For an arbitrary gravitational theory beyond-GR this equation is modified by four general functions of  $\eta$  (time) and k (wavenumber)

$$h_{ij}'' + 2H(1+\nu)h_{ij}' + (c_T^2k^2 + a^2\mu^2)h_{ij} = a^2\Gamma\gamma_{ij}$$

#### **GW** "friction"

Connected e.g. to running of the gravitational constant *G* or GW propagation in higher dimensions

 Scalar-tensor theories

#### **GW speed** Velocity of propagation of GWs (= *c* in GR)

- Scalar-tensor theories
- Massive gravity
- • •

#### **Graviton's mass**

Mass associated to gravity's propagating modes (gravitons in QFT terms)

Massive gravity

#### Matter coupling Interactions with other matter matter modes

 Massive bigravity

Brane models

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Gravity theory	ν	$c_{\rm T}^2 - 1$	μ	Г
General relativity	0	0	0	0
Extra-dimensional theory	$(D-4)(1+\frac{1+z}{Hd_1})$	0	0	0
Horndeski theory	$\alpha_M$	$lpha_T$	0	0
f(R) gravity	$F'/\mathcal{H}F$	0	0	0
Einstein-aether theory	0	$c_{\sigma}/(1+c_{\sigma})$	0	0
Modified dispersion relation	0	$(n_{\rm mdr}-1)\mathbb{A}E^{n_{\rm mdr}-2}$	when $n_{\rm mdr} = 0$	0
Bimetric massive gravity theory	0	0	$m^{2}f_{1}$	$m^2 f_1$

$$h_{ij}'' + 2H(1 + \nu)h_{ij}' + (c_T^2k^2 + a^2\mu^2)h_{ij} = a^2\Gamma\gamma_{ij}$$

[Nishizawa, PRD (2018)]

$$h_{ij}'' + 2H(1+\nu)h_{ij}' + (c_T^2k^2 + a^2\mu^2)h_{ij} = a^2\Gamma\gamma_{ij}$$

For  $\Gamma = 0$  the general solution of this equation can be written as



The general solution for  $\Gamma \neq 0$  is more complicated and involves a mixing between the two GW polarisations  $h_+$  and  $h_{\times}$ 

[Nishizawa, PRD (2018)]

To test these deviations from GR we can use multi-messenger events, namely bright standard sirens



**EM radiation (photons)** 

**Gravitational waves** 



#### GW and EM detectors

- LIGO / Virgo / Kagra
- ► LISA
- Radio / gamma / optical / X-ray telescopes

Source emitting both GW and EM radiation

- Binary neutron star mergers
- ► NS-BH mergers (?)
- Massive BBH mergers (?)
- Supernovae (?)

To test these deviations from GR we can use multi-messenger events, namely bright standard sirens



Source emitting both

GW and EM radiation

**EM radiation (photons)** 

**Gravitational waves** 



GW and EM detectors

A delay in the time of arrival of GW w.r.t. EM radiation can be used to constrain  $c_T$  and  $\mu$ 

$$\Delta T = \int \left( 1 - c_T - \frac{a^2 \mu^2}{2k^2} \right) d\eta$$

To test these deviations from GR we can use multi-messenger events, namely bright standard sirens



An additional amplitude damping of GWs translates into a different (luminosity) distance inferred by EM and GW measurements which allows to test  $\nu$ 

To test these deviations from GR we can use multi-messenger events, namely bright standard sirens



**EM radiation (photons)** 

**Gravitational waves** 



Source emitting both GW and EM radiation

#### Hence bright standard sirens allow us to test/constrain

- the speed of propagation of GWs
- an anomalous amplitude damping

GW and EM detectors

Direct tests of deviations from GR

#### **Status of Earth-based GW observations:**



#### **Current 2nd generation GW detector network**

#### **Status of Earth-based GW observations:**

- O1: 2015 (completed), LIGO only, 4 months of data, 3 BBHs detected
- O2: 2017 (completed), LIGO(+VIRGO for GW1708xx only), 6 months of data, 7 BBHs + 1 BNS with EM counterpart (GW170817) [LVC, PRX (2019)]
- O3: 2019 (completed), LIGO+VIRGO, ~1 year of data, 41 events so far (O3a only), 36 BBHs + 2 BNSs + 2 NSBHs + 1 BBH/NSBH [LVC, PRX (2020)] [LVC, ApJL (2021)]
- O4: mid-2022 LIGO+VIRGO+KAGRA
- O5: ~2024/2025?
   LIGO India should join

### 52 high-significance\* GW events in total so far

\*for additional lowersignificance events see arXiv:2108.01045



#### GW170817: the first ever (bright) standard siren



The identification of an EM counterpart yielded the <u>first cosmological</u> <u>measurements with GW standard sirens</u>

$$H_0 = 69^{+17}_{-8} \,\mathrm{km}\,\mathrm{s}^{-1}\,\mathrm{Mpc}^{-1}$$

[LVC+, *Nature* (2017)] [LVC, *PRX* (2019)]



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[LVC+, *Nature* (2017)] [LVC, *PRX* (2019)] Low-redshift event (z = 0.01): only  $H_0$ can be measured (Hubble law)

$$d_L(z) \simeq \frac{c}{H_0} z \quad for \ z \ll 1$$

Results largely in agreement with EM constraints (SNIa/CMB), but not yet competitive with them

#### **GW170817:** the first ever (bright) standard siren



#### [LVC+, ApJL (2017)]

The coincident GW-EM detection of GW170817 puts stringent constraints on the speed of GW:

$$c_T = c_{-3 \times 10^{-16}}^{+7 \times 10^{-16}}$$

This observation rules out several modified gravity models predicting  $c_T \neq c$  [see e.g. 1807.09241 and refs therein]

The low redshift of GW170817 however do not allow for any relevant constraints on the GW friction  $\nu$ 

[Belgacem+, PRD (2018)]

#### GW170817: the first ever (bright) standard siren

The statistical method has been first applied to GW170817 as a proof-of-principle, pretending that no EM counterpart was observed, yielding

 $H_0 = 70^{+48}_{-23} \,\mathrm{km}\,\mathrm{s}^{-1}\,\mathrm{Mpc}^{-1}$ 

Results not comparable to assuming known host galaxy (EM counterpart)





Some lesson learnt however: Strong dependence on the completeness and characteristics of the used galaxy catalogs

[Fishbach+, ApJL (2019)]

The galaxy-catalogs method has then been applied to combine BBHs events:



DES results with GW190814 and GW170814: [Palmese+, *ApJL* (2020)]

 $H_0 = 72^{+12}_{-8} \,\mathrm{km}\,\mathrm{s}^{-1}\,\mathrm{Mpc}^{-1}$ 

(18% improvement over GW170817 only)

LVC results with all O1 and O2 events combined: [LVC, *ApJ* (2020)]

$$H_0 = 69^{+16}_{-8} \,\mathrm{km}\,\mathrm{s}^{-1}\,\mathrm{Mpc}^{-1}$$

(4% improvement over GW170817 only)



The galaxy-catalogs method has then been applied to combine BBHs events:



Completeness of galaxy catalogs is the main limitation for this method

[LVC, ApJ (2020)]

#### Finally the mass-distribution method has been applied to O2 BBHs events\*:



\*new analysis with O3 events coming soon!

[Mastrogiovanni+, ArXiv (2021)]

The network of ground-based detectors should be able to measure  $H_0$  at few % accuracy before ~2030.



Very optimistic (based on pre-O3 BNS rates)

[Chen+, *Nature* (2018)] [Chen+, *ApJL* (2020)] Forecasts for LIGO/Virgo/Kagra+:

- <u>BNSs with EM counterpart</u>: ~2% constraint on H<sub>0</sub> with ~50 events (but systematics!)
- <u>BNSs without EM counterpart</u>: ~10% constraint on H<sub>0</sub> with ~50 events
- <u>BBHs without EM counterpart</u>: ~10% constraint on  $H_0$  with ~15 "well-localised" events  $(\Delta V < 10^4 \,\mathrm{Mpc}^3)$

The network of ground-based detectors should be able to measure  $H_0$  at few % accuracy before ~2030.

A few % constraints on H0 with GWs could solve the current <u>tension</u> between local and CMB measurements



[Ezquiaga & Zumalacarregui, Front. Astron. Space Sci. (2018)]

In the 2030s <u>3G detectors</u> will turn GW observations into precise cosmological probes:



*Einstein Telescope* and *Cosmic Explorer* will guarantee:

- % constraints on  $H_0$  or better
- Improved constraints on dark energy
- Strong GW-only tests of GR at cosmic distances

Moreover 3G detectors may not need EM counterparts to get the redshift of BNSs, but use their mass function and/or the EoS to do cosmology and test GR/LCDM

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[Belgacem+, JCAP (2019)]

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[Taylor&Gair, *PRD* (2012)] [Del Pozzo+, *PRD* (2017)] [Finke+, *ArXiv* (2021)]

### Laser Interferometer Space Antenna



#### [LISA, ArXiv (2017)]

#### **Design:**

- Near equilateral triangular formation in heliocentric orbit
- 6 laser links (3 active arms)
- Arm-length: 2.5 million km
- Mission duration: 4 to 10 yrs
- Launch: 2034

#### Standard siren sources:

- Stellar-mass BBHs ( $10 100 M_{\odot}$ )
- Extreme mass ratio inspirals (EMRIs)
- MBHBs  $(10^4 10^7 M_{\odot})$
- Intermediate-mass BBHs? (  $\gtrsim 100\,M_{\odot}$ )

#### \*EM counterparts expected

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#### \*EM counterparts expected

[LISA, ArXiv (2017)]



- Redshift range:  $z \leq 0.1$
- No EM counterparts expected
- LISA detections: ~50/yr (optimistic)
- Useful as standard sirens:
  - If  $\Delta d_L/d_L < 0.2$
  - If  $\Delta \Omega \sim 1 \ \mathrm{deg}^2$
  - $\Rightarrow$  ~ 5 standard sirens / yr

#### Expected results:

• *H*<sub>0</sub> to few % (very optimistic - depend on LISA high-f sensitivity)

[Kyutoku & Seto, *PRD* (2017)] [Del Pozzo+, *MNRAS* (2018)]





- Redshift range:  $0.1 \leq z \leq 1$
- No EM counterparts expected
- LISA detections: 1 to 1000/yr
- Useful as standard sirens:
  - If  $\Delta d_L/d_L < 0.1$
  - If  $\Delta \Omega < 2 \ \text{deg}^2$
  - $\Rightarrow$  ~ 1 to 100 standard sirens / yr
- Expected results:
  - $H_0$  between 1 and 10 %
  - $w_0$  between 5 and 20 %

[MacLeod & Hogan, *PRD* (2008)] [Babak+, *PRD* (2017)] [Laghi+, *MNRAS* (2021)]



- Redshift range:  $z \lesssim 10$
- EM counterparts expected
- LISA detections: 1 to 100/yr
- Useful as standard sirens:
  - If  $\Delta d_L/d_L \lesssim 0.1$  (include lensing)
  - If  $\Delta \Omega < 10 \text{ deg}^2$
  - ⇒ ~ 4 standard sirens / yr (with EM counterpart)
- Expected results:
  - $H_0$  to few %

[Tamanini+, *JCAP* (2016)] [LISA CosmoWG, *JCAP* (2019)] [Speri+, *PRD* (2021)]

LISA MBHB data will be very useful to probe  $\underline{\Lambda \text{CDM}}$  at high-redshift



The combination of different standard sirens will allow LISA to measure the expansion of the universe from  $z \sim 0.01$  to  $z \sim 10$ 



## Conclusions

- Standard sirens are excellent distance indicators:
  - They do not require calibration and are not affected by systematics
  - Can be used with or without an EM counterpart
  - Will allow for new tests of GR/LCDM
- Current observations with ground-based detectors:
  - First standard siren discovered: GW170817
    - First GW measurement of  $H_0$
    - Strong constraints on GW speed of propagation
  - Dark sirens results currently not competitive
- Future prospects:
  - Future observations useful to solve tension on  $H_0$
  - 3G detectors and LISA will bring high-redshift tests of alternative cosmological models and modified gravity