



# Multi-messenger observations with the KM3NeT telescope: search for high energy neutrinos coinciding with fast radio bursts

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Journées de Rencontre des Jeunes Chercheurs  
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1: Subatech, Nantes, France

2: IMT Atlantique, Nantes, France

3: Nantes Université, Nantes, France

4: CNRS-IN2P3, France

- ❖ Neutrino astrophysics

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- ❖ Fast Radio Bursts

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- ❖ The KM3NeT experiment

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- ❖ Analysis of 22 months of data

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## ❖ Multi Messenger astronomy:

<< Coordinated observation and interpretation of signals carried by disparate “messengers”: electromagnetic radiation, gravitational waves, neutrinos, and cosmic rays >> <sup>1</sup>

## ❖ Multi messenger observations:

- **SuperNova 1987A**
- Binary neutron star merger: **GW170817**

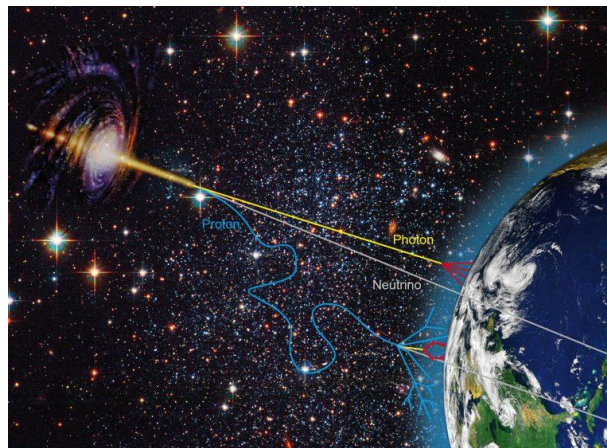
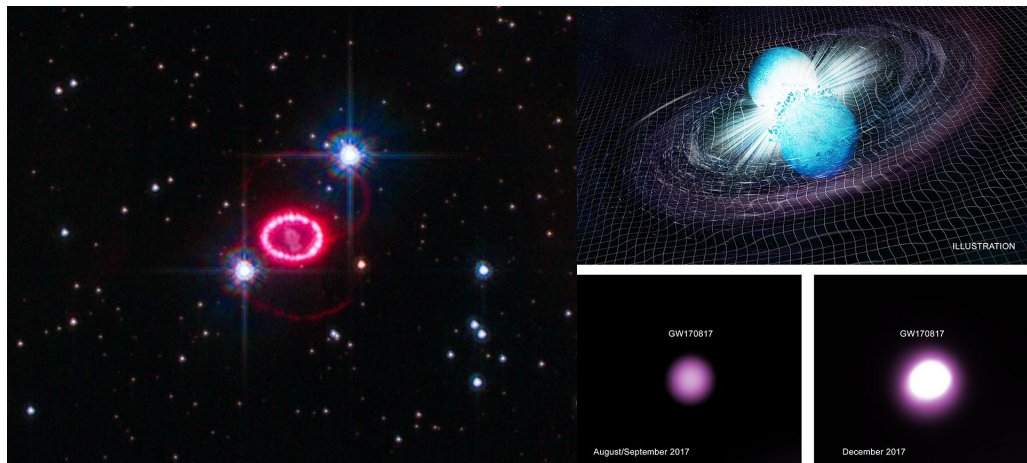


Illustration of the 4 messengers of the Universe: Gravitational waves, electromagnetic radiations, neutrinos and cosmic rays. Credit: From IRAP, Anna Franckowiak



SuperNova SN 1987A. Credit: Hubble Space Telescope

Binary neutron star merger GW170817. Credit: NASA/Chandra

1: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multi-messenger\\_astronomy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multi-messenger_astronomy)

❖ Multi Messenger astronomy:

<< Coordinated searches carried by dispersed radiation, gravitational waves >> <sup>1</sup>

- ❖ Multi messenger
- SuperNova
- Binary neutron stars

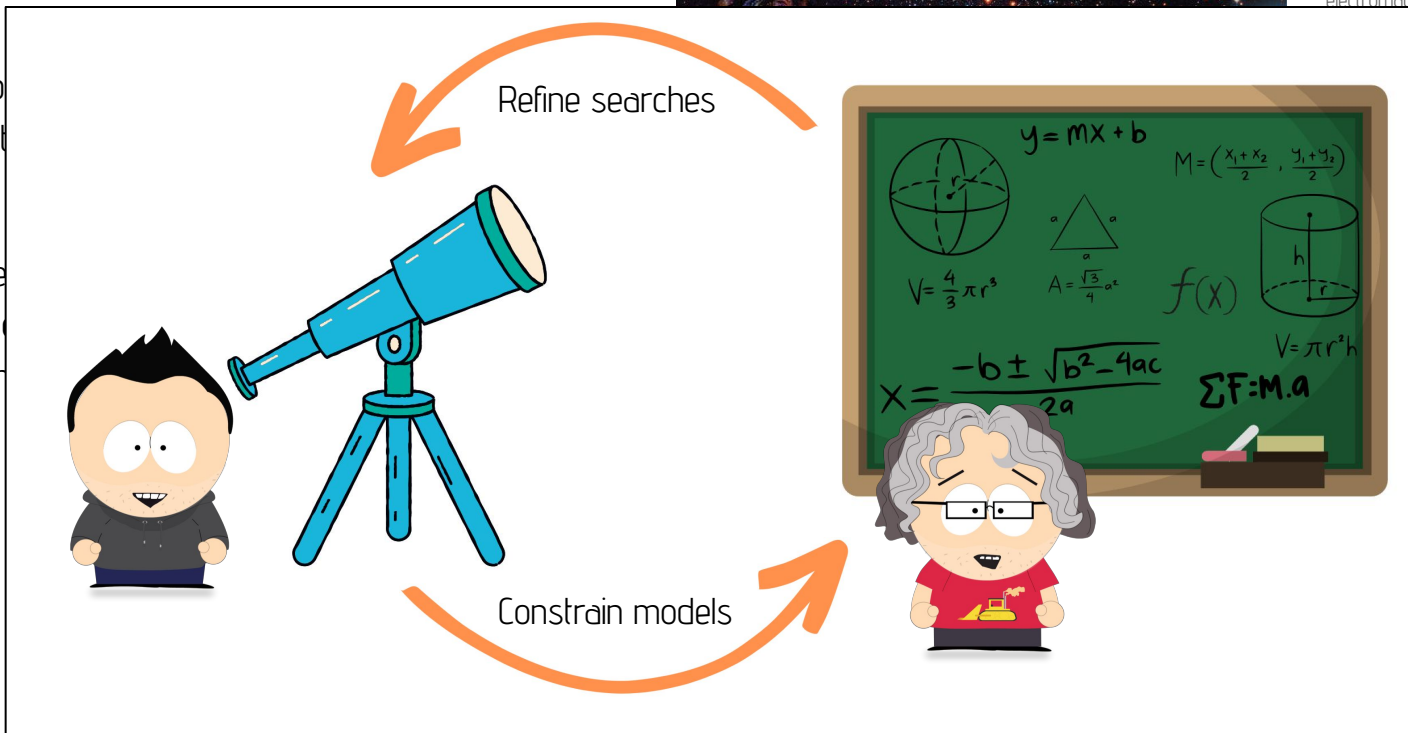
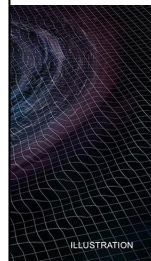


Illustration of the 4 messengers of the Universe: Gravitational waves, electromagnetic radiations, neutrinos and cosmic rays. Credit: Anna Franckowiak



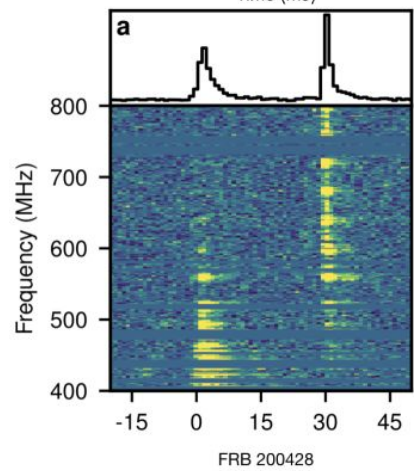
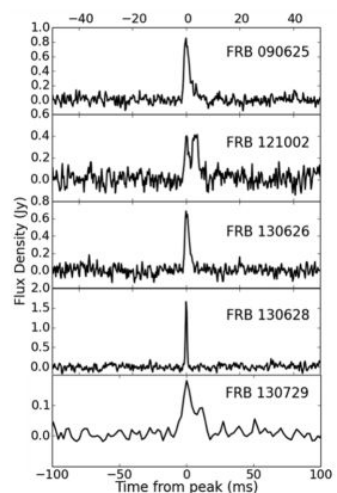
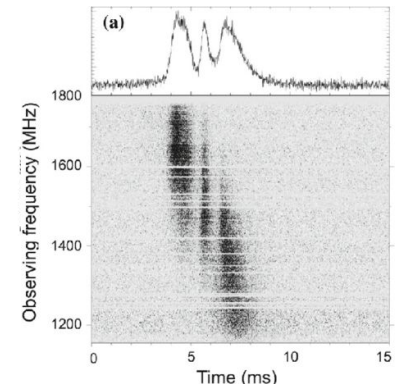
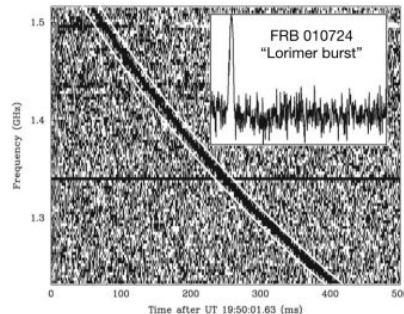
GW170817

December 2017

1: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multi-messenger\\_astronomy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multi-messenger_astronomy)

August/September 2017

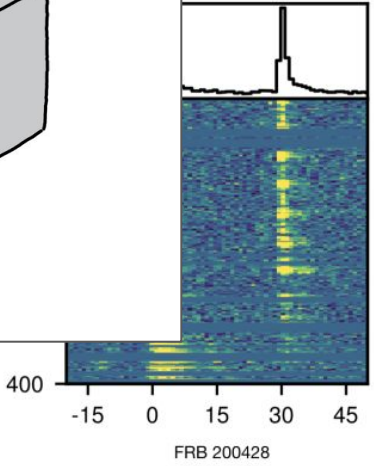
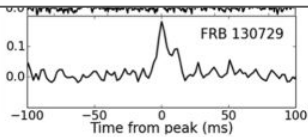
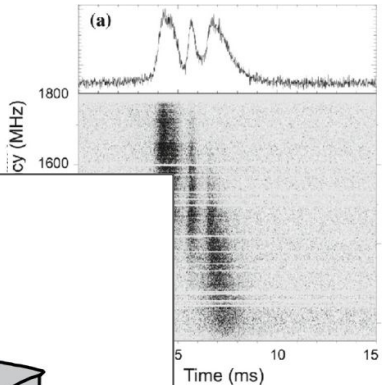
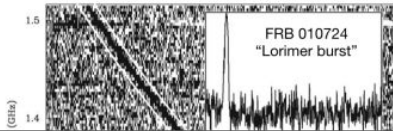
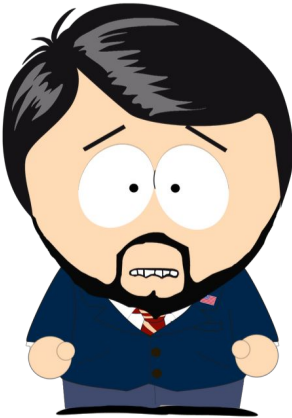
- ❖ Bright millisecond radio flash
- ❖ First detection in 2007 by Parkes <sup>1</sup>
- ❖ “Perytons” signals, from magnetron shutdown (Parkes)
- ❖ First **Repeating** source in 2016 by Arecibo <sup>2</sup>
- ❖ FRBs **localized** in galaxies by interferometry <sup>3</sup>
- ❖ Association of a FRB with a **magnetar**, SGR 1935+2514 <sup>4</sup>



Several graphics showing FRBs. Top left: "Lorimer burst", first FRB ever discovered by Parkes <sup>1</sup>. Top right: FRB 121102A, first repeater observed by Arecibo <sup>2</sup>. Bottom left: five other bursts observed by Parkes <sup>5</sup>. Bottom right: FRB 200428A, first and only burst associated to an object, the magnetar SGR 1935+2514 <sup>4</sup>.

1: Lorimer, D. R., et al. [2007]. Science 318, 777, arXiv:0709.4301.  
2: Spitler, L. et al. [2016]. Nature (London) 531, 202, arXiv:1603.00581  
3: Bannister, K. W., et al. [2019]. Science 365 [6453], 565, arXiv:1906.11476  
4: CHIME/FRB Collaboration, [2020]. Nature (London) 587 [7832], 54, arXiv:2005.10324  
5: Zhang, B. 2022, The Physics of Fast Radio Bursts. arXiv: 2212.03972  
6: Petroff, Emily & Hessels, J. & Lorimer, D. [2019]. AAR, 27, 10.1007/s00159-019-0116-6.

- ❖ Bright millisecond radio flash
- ❖ First detection in 2007
- ❖ “Perytons” signals
- ❖ First **Repeating** source
- ❖ FRBs **localized** in our galaxy
- ❖ Association of a FRB with a magnetar SGR 1935+2514 <sup>4</sup>



1: Lorimer, D. R., et al. [2007]. Science 318, 777, arXiv:0709.4301.  
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**Name** Fast Radio Burst (FRB)

### Observables

**Energy (isotropic)**  $10^{35}$ - $10^{46}$  erg

**Duration** ~ Millisecond

**Traits** Large dispersion (DM)

Polarized signal (RM)

Large scattering

**Repeating** Sometimes

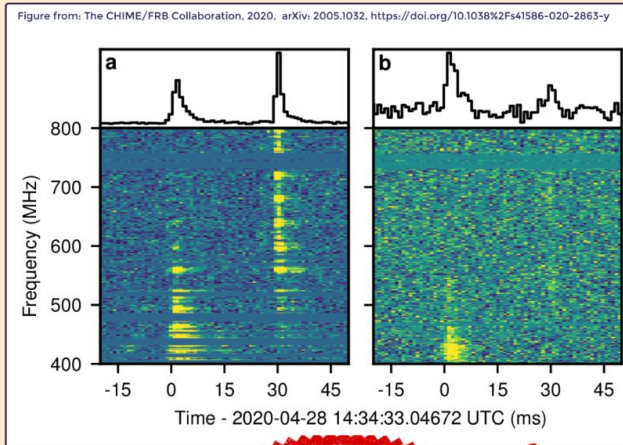
### Inferred characteristics

**Source** Extra-galactic sources

Magnetars (?)

**Mechanism** Coherent emission

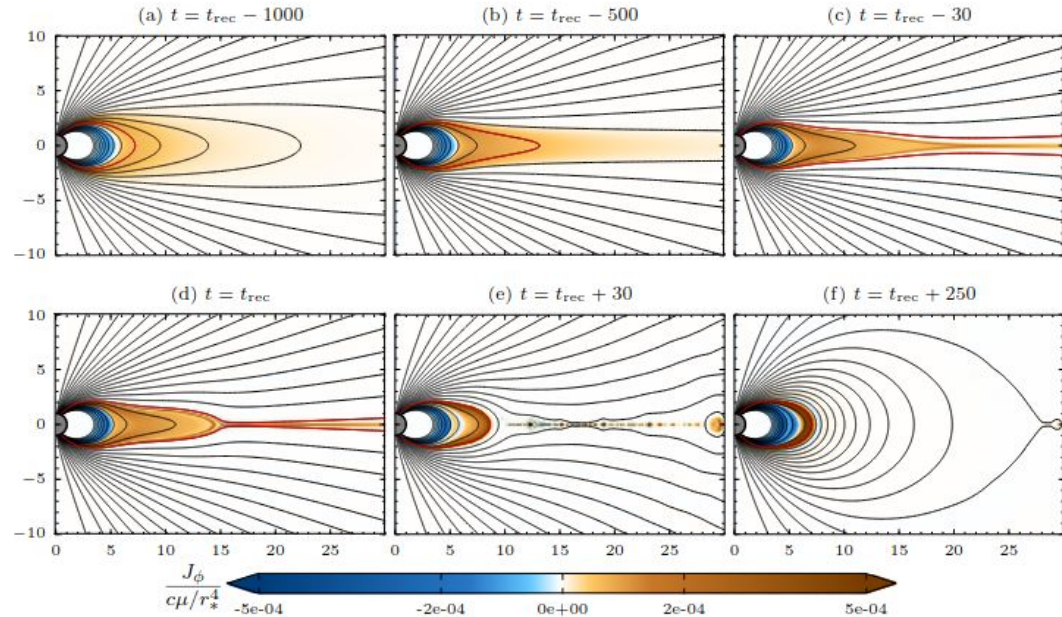
**Environment** Energetic, dense magnetized, perturbed plasma



Seal



- ❖ Neutrinos could be produced in magnetars <sup>1,2</sup>
- ❖ FRBs and neutrinos are produced by **two mechanisms**
- ❖ No **energy estimate** for neutrinos
- ❖ No **flux estimate** for neutrinos



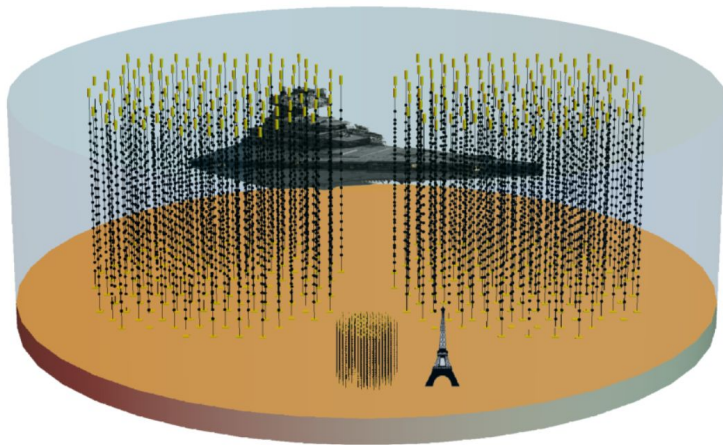
Description of the current sheet formation and magnetic reconnection. The black lines are the field lines, and the color show the toroidal current density. Reconnection begins at  $t_{\text{rec}}$ , figure (d). From [1]

1: Zhang, B., Dai, Z. G., Mészáros, P., Waxman, E., & Harding, A. K. 2003, ApJ, 595, 346

2: Adrian D. Metzger et al 2020 ApJL 902 L22



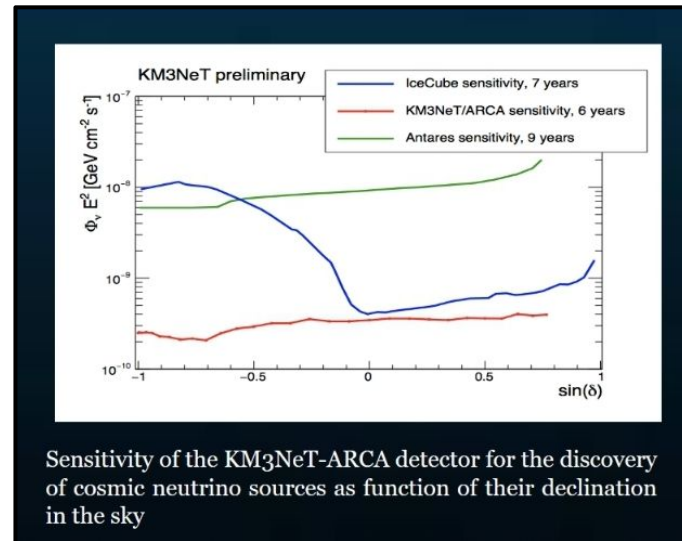
## ❖ Two Detectors in the Mediterranean Sea: ORCA & ARCA



ARCA and ORCA relative sizes.  
Eiffel tower: 330m high ; Star Destroyer from Star Wars: 1600m long

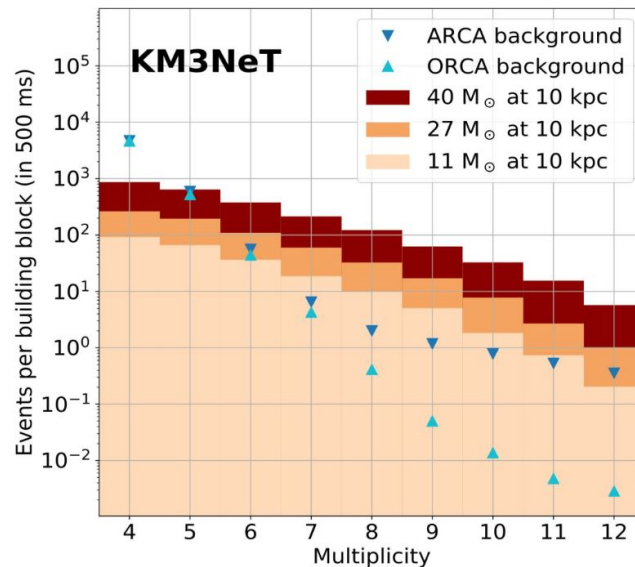
- ❖ Detects Čerenkov light from the neutrinos interaction products
- ❖ The construction started in 2015
- ❖ The largest neutrino detector in the Northern Hemisphere
- ❖ Successor of the ANTARES experiment

- ❖ Oscillation Research with Cosmic in the Abyss
- ❖ Astrophysics Research with Cosmic in the Abyss



## ❖ Digital Optical Module (DOM)

- 31 PMTs → Redundancy enables:
- Digitising board
- Compass, Piezo sensor, ...
- Hardware failure
- Background discrimination
- High coverage
- SuperNova detection



KM3NeT's DOM performances at the MeV energy:  
 Event rate for SuperNovae of different masses. A high enough multiplicity enable to observe an excess that can be attributed to a SuperNova. The background (mainly 40K) is dominating for multiplicities below 6 coincidences only. Credit: The KM3NeT Collaboration

- ❖ Both ORCA & ARCA are under construction

ORCA6 - 6 lines

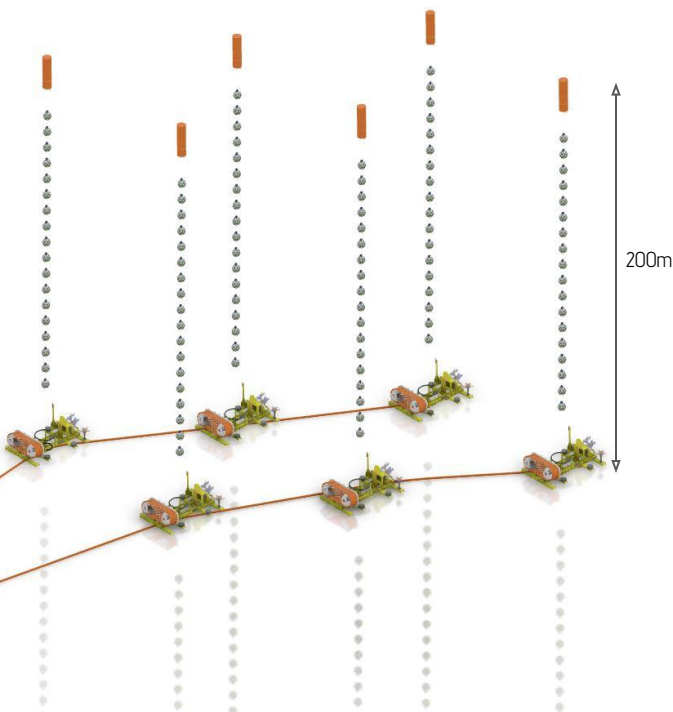


Digital Optical Module

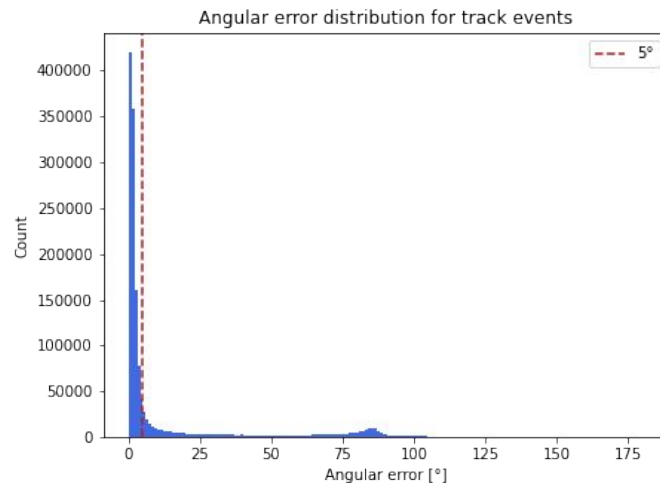


ORCA anchor

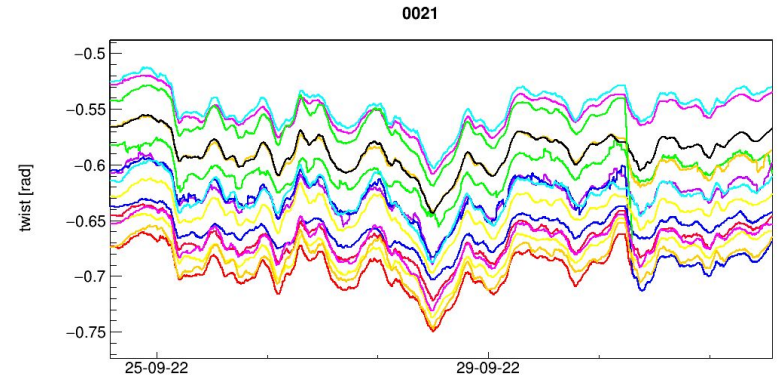
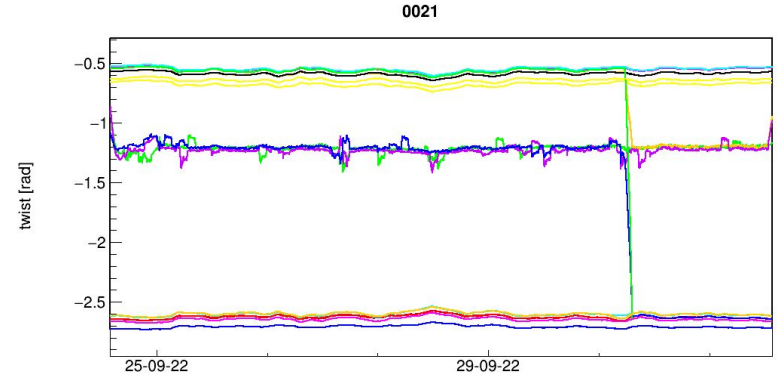
Scale  
Strings spacing 1:5  
Modules spacing 1:10



- ❖ Detectors have not reached their full potential
- ❖ Physics analyses are already possible
- ❖ Calibration is needed!

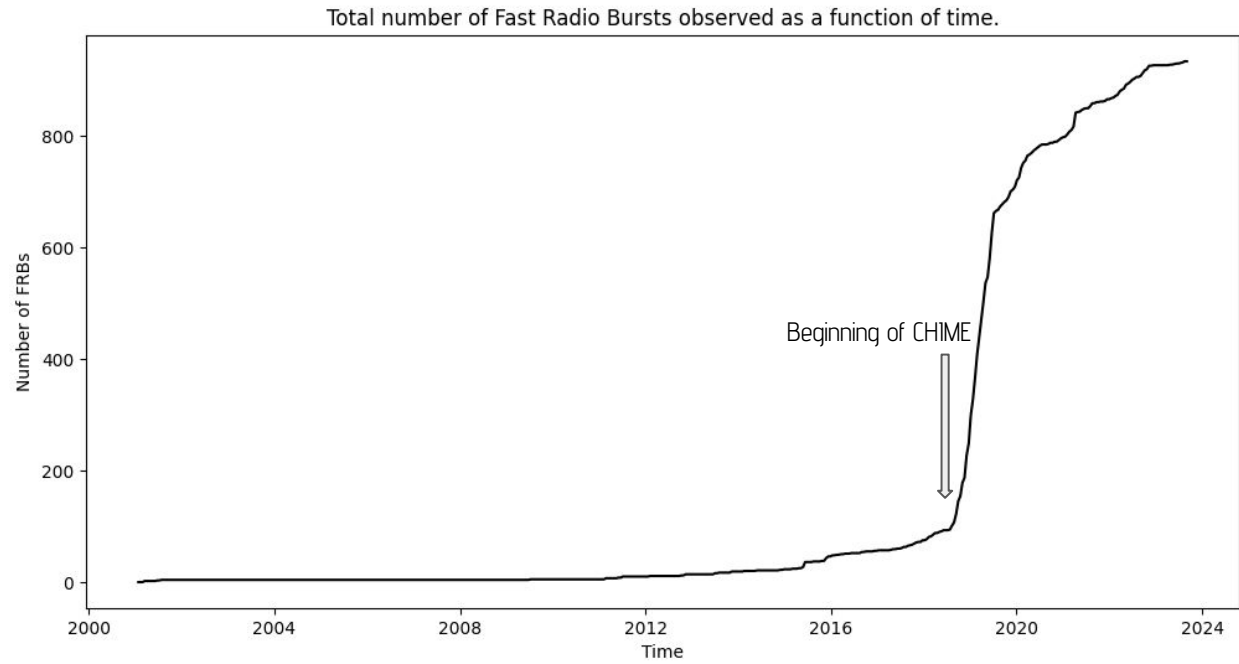


- ❖ Aiming  $0.1^\circ$  in angular resolution  $\Rightarrow$  20cm accuracy in position
- ❖ Digital Optical Modules have their positions and orientations fluctuate with sea currents
  - Positioning is realized with acoustic triangulation
  - Orientation is realized with magnetic compasses

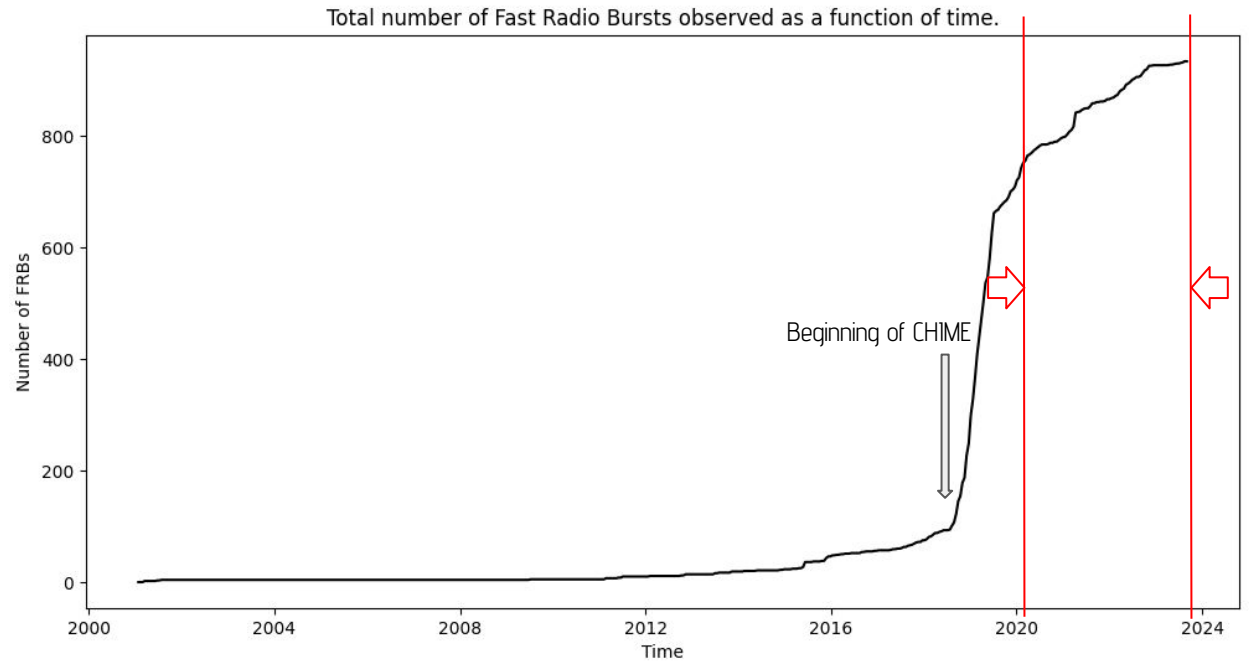


Twist evolution of 18 modules of the string n° 21 of ARCA

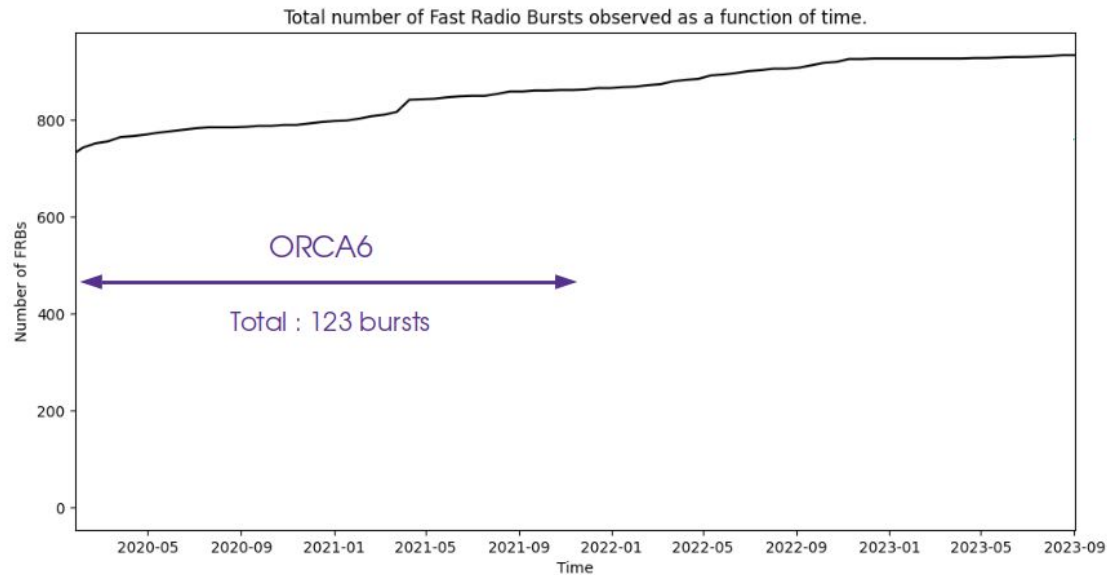
❖ 900+ bursts detected today



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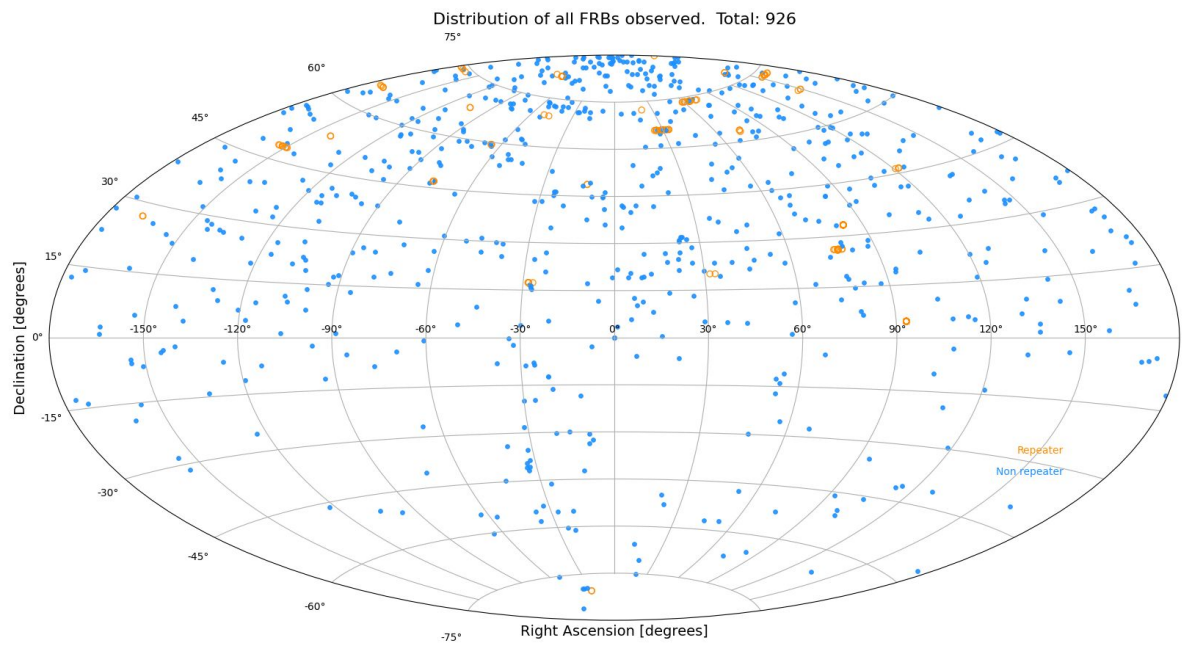


- ❖ 900+ bursts detected today



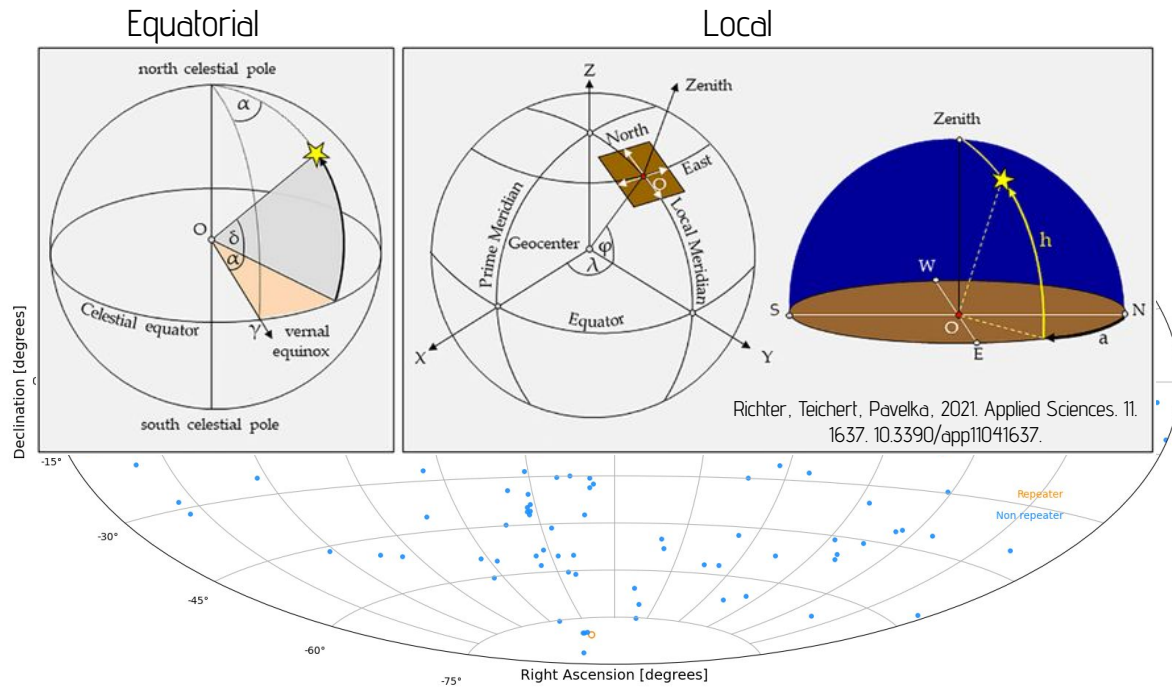
- ❖ The [Transient Name Server](#) keeps track of all published astrophysical transients
- ❖ Many FRBs are discovered by data mining in the radiotelescopes archives, i.e. are not available directly upon detection

❖ 900+ bursts detected today

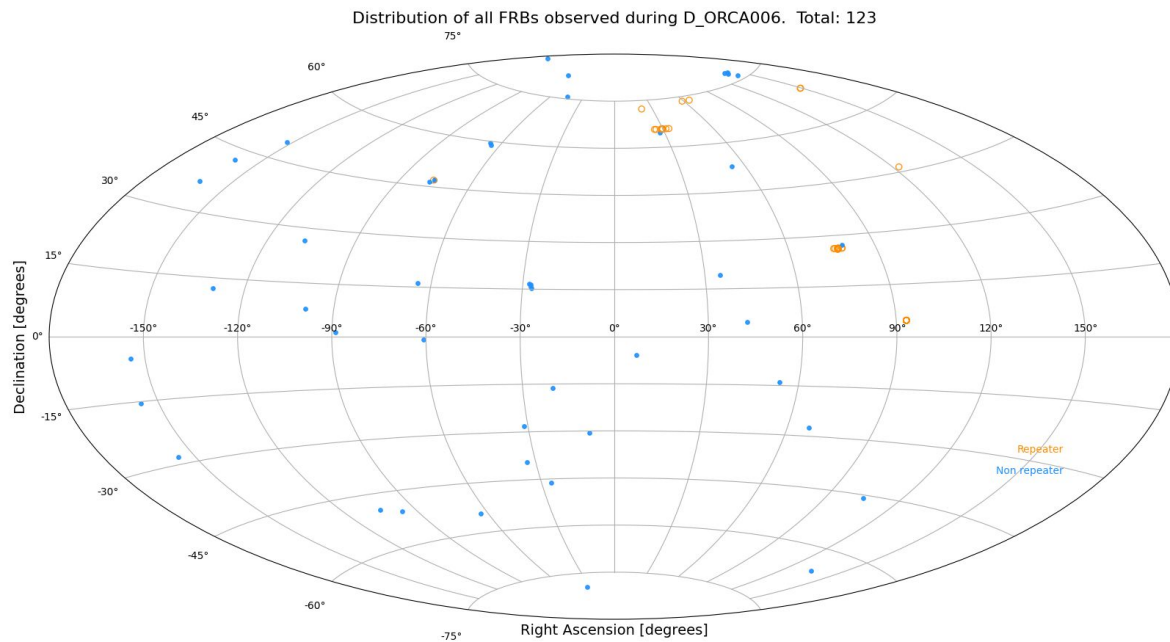




❖ 900+ bursts detected today



- ❖ 900+ bursts detected today
- ❖ ORCA6 configuration lasts from January 27, 2020 to November 18, 2021
- ❖ 123 bursts are left in this 22 month period



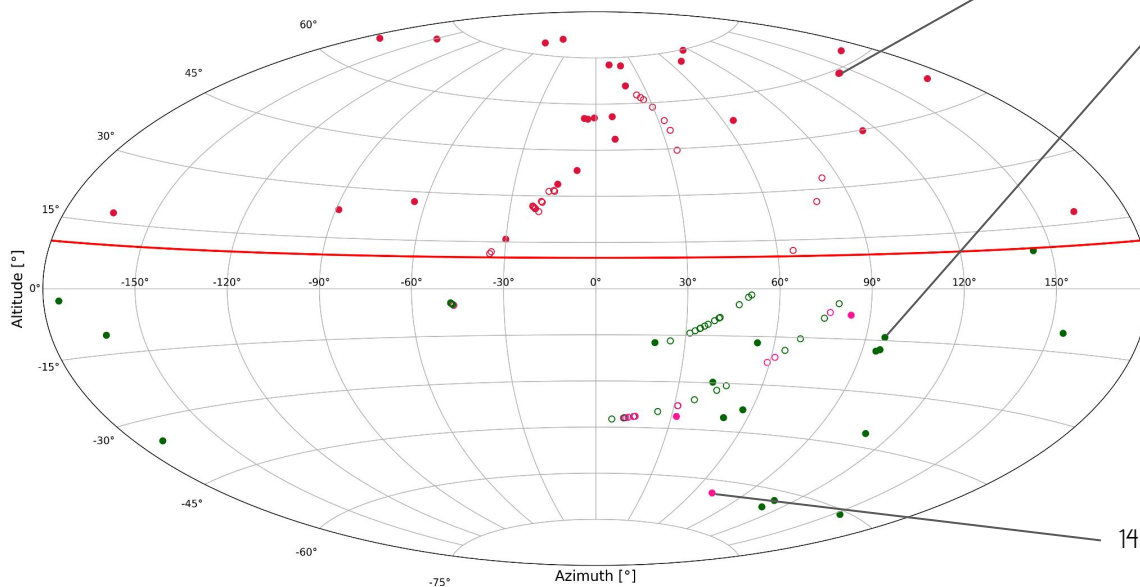
- ❖ 900+ bursts detected today
- ❖ ORCA6 configuration lasts from January 27, 2020 to November 18, 2021
- ❖ 123 bursts are left in this 22 month period
- ❖ 69 bursts are left visible from the ORCA site, for **upgoing events**
- ❖ **55 bursts are left** when we take into account the ORCA lifetime



54 downgoing events rejected

55 upgoing events kept

Local coordinates skymap of FRBs observed during ORCA6 visible in a +/- 500s time window around the detection



14 upgoing events rejected

**Azimuth-Altitude representation**  
[-90°, +10°] Altitude acceptance

- ❖ 38 Bursts from 2 repeaters ( FRB 20180301A & FRB 20201124A ) and 17 unique bursts

FRB 20200702E	FRB 20210405F	FRB 20210402A	FRB 20210322A	FRB 20210202D	FRB 20201016B	FRB 20210408H
FRB 20200701I	FRB 20210405E	FRB 20210401C	FRB 20210321A	FRB 20210118D	FRB 20200906A	FRB 20210407E
FRB 20200627A	FRB 20210405D	FRB 20210328A	FRB 20210320C	FRB 20210117A	FRB 20210630A	FRB 20210407B
FRB 20200615E	FRB 20210405C	FRB 20210327C	FRB 20210303A	FRB 20201229E	FRB 20210530F	FRB 20210407A
FRB 20200607A	FRB 20210404C	FRB 20210327B	FRB 20210301A	FRB 20201210A	FRB 20210517C	FRB 20210405I
FRB 20200514B	FRB 20210404B	FRB 20210327A	FRB 20210220A	FRB 20201124B	FRB 20210517B	FRB 20210405H
FRB 20200508A	FRB 20210403B	FRB 20210326A	FRB 20210214G	FRB 20201124A	FRB 20210517A	FRB 20210405G
FRB 20200430A	FRB 20210403A	FRB 20210323A	FRB 20210212G	FRB 20201123A	FRB 20210410D	

## Known characteristics of FRBs so far

- ❖ Dense environments favouring baryon emissions
- ❖ **Extra-galactic** signals from **compact** objects
- ❖ **Millisecond** duration
- ❖ Probably two categories: **repeating** sources and one-off bursts
- ❖ No energy or flux estimates

## Hypotheses for the first KM3NeT analysis

- ❖ **Simultaneous** emission of FRB and neutrino(s) → short Time Window of  $\pm 500$ s
- ❖ No guess on **neutrino energy**: possible search in ORCA and ARCA
- ❖ All bursts are considered **unique**, even repeaters!

Start with a first analysis:  
**On/Off Binned Analysis  
on ORCA6**

- ❖ Strategy : **ON/OFF binned** analysis
  - The ON region has both the background and source signal
  - The OFF region is used to estimate the background
  - Optimize cuts performed on the event dataset with the Model Rejection Factor [1]
  - Compare the signal rate to the background rate
- ❖ Time Window of 1000 seconds :  $t_v \in [t_{\text{FRB}} - 500 \text{ s} ; t_{\text{FRB}} + 500 \text{ s}]$

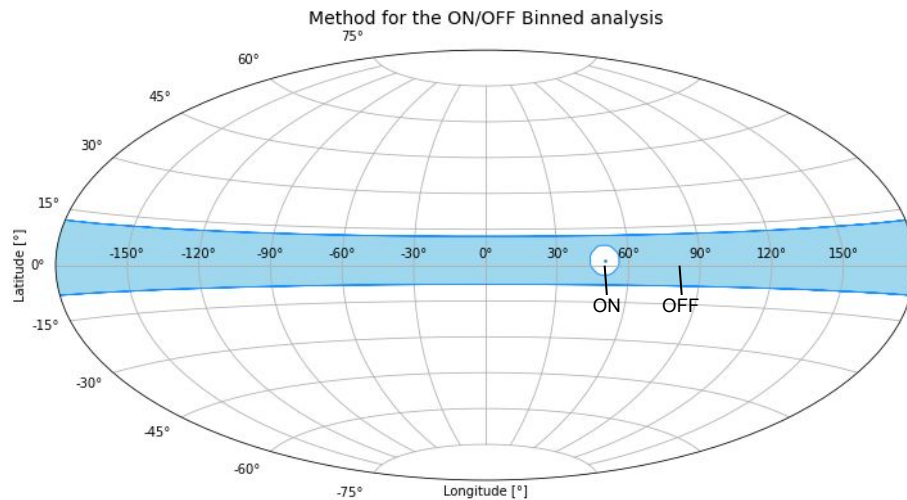
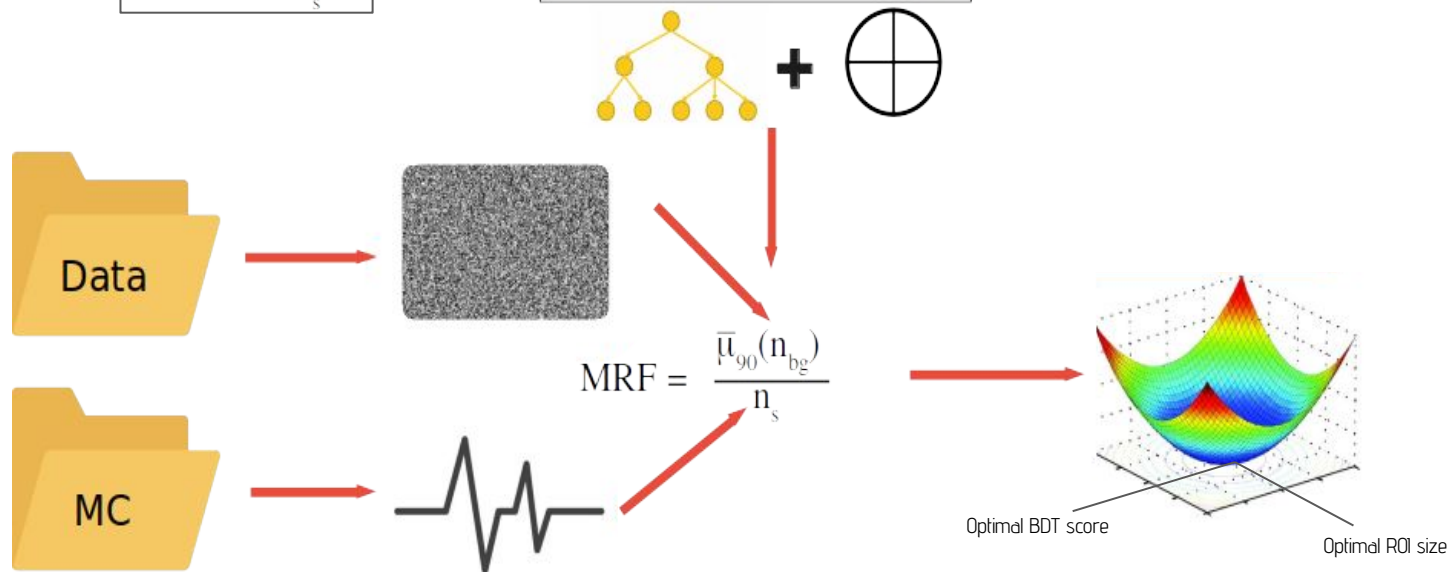


Illustration of the ON/OFF method

- ❖ Background in **elevation band**, from scrambled data of several runs
- ❖ Signal from Monte Carlo simulations
- ❖ Model Rejection Factor <sup>1,2</sup> used to optimize the two cuts **Boosted Decision Tree score** &

**Region Of Interest size** : 
$$\text{MRF} = \frac{\bar{\mu}_{90}(n_{bg})}{n_s}$$

Scan on BDT score and ROI size

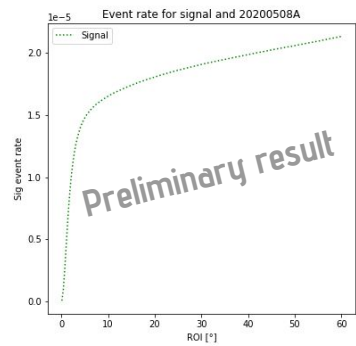
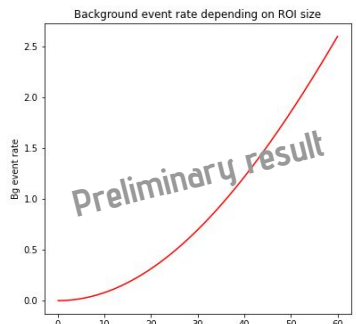
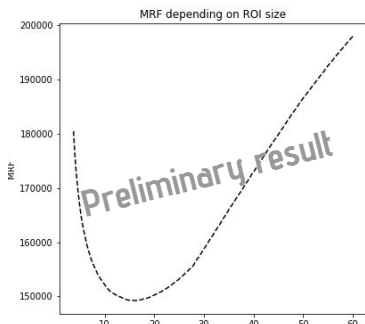
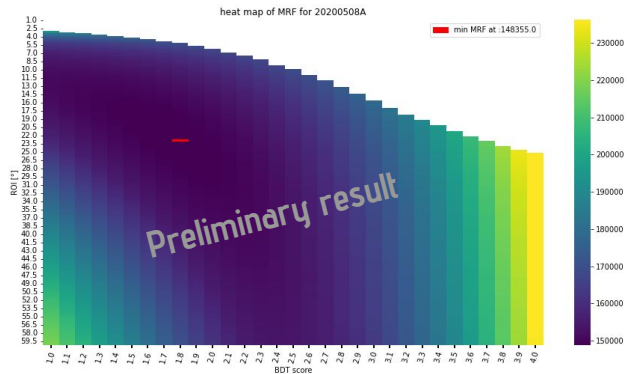


1: Hill, Rawlins, 2003, [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0927-6505\(02\)00240-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0927-6505(02)00240-2)

2: Feldman, Cousins, 1997, arXiv:9711021v2

## ❖ Optimization selection: Example of FRB

- ROI size:
- BDT score:



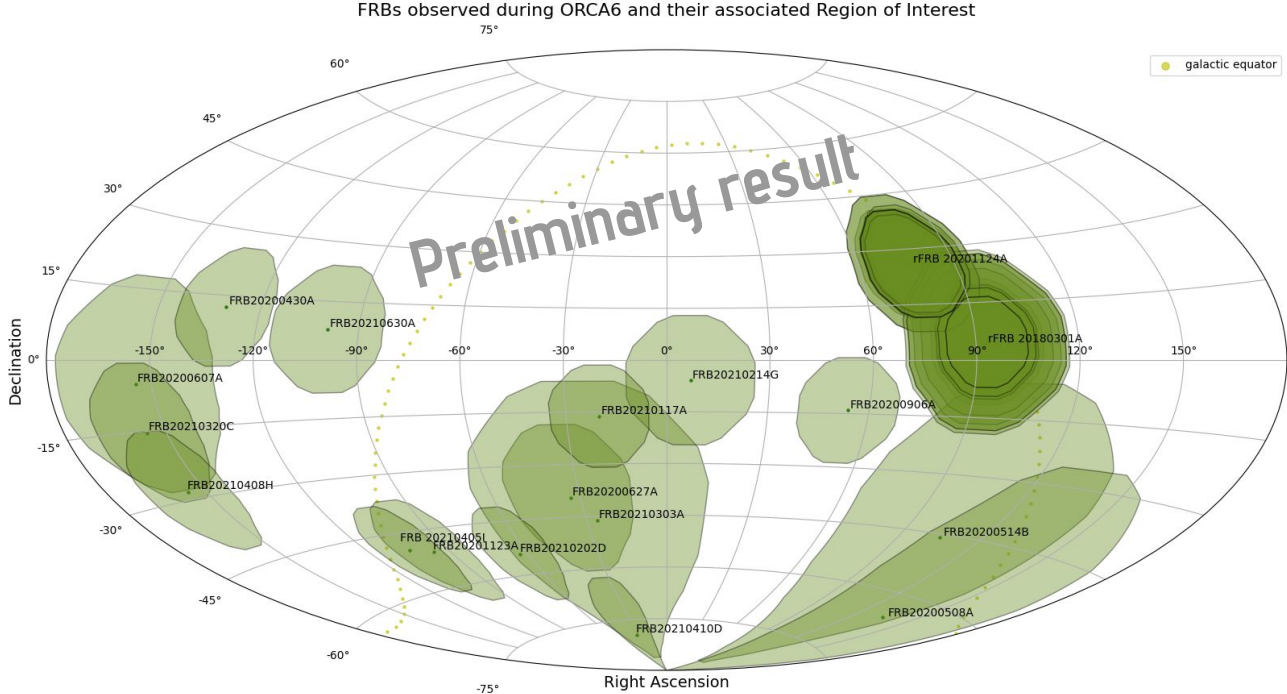
Scan on the two parameter space: the BDT score (as  $10^{-\text{score}}$ ) and ROI size [°]. The color gradient shows the MRF potential. The minimum of the MRF is never reached even after 60° of ROI.

Model rejection potential, expected background and signal in the Region Of Interest. The MRF shows where selected events minimizes the ratio background/signal. The background increases as the square of the ROI but the signal has a less steep increase.

- ❖ The expected background is much higher than the signal: one event only would have a very high significance
- ❖ After unblinding, proceed to the statistical analysis of the real data

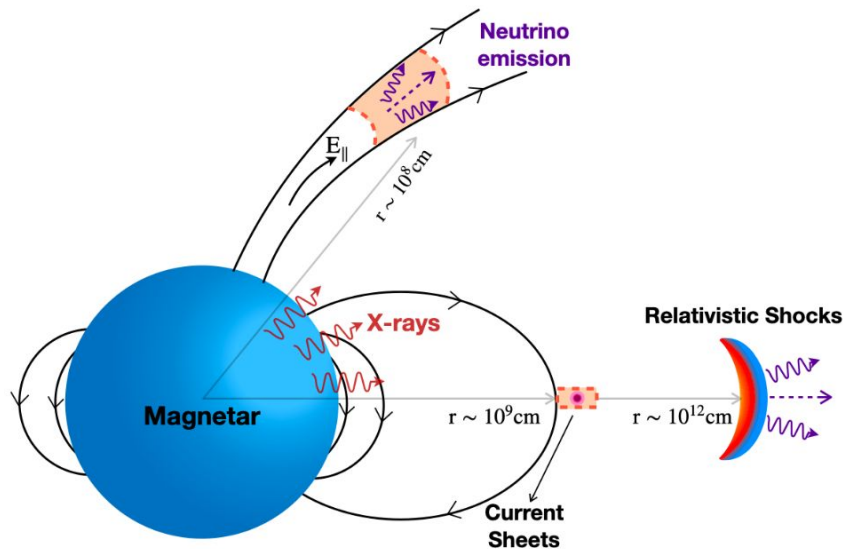


- ❖ Some Bursts need further investigation
- ❖ Average radii around 15-20°



- ❖ A first analysis with 22 months of data is undergoing
  - 55 FRBs are studied in search for neutrino-FRB correlation
  
- ❖ A second analysis to study other periods, with more bursts
  - If we drop the correlation criterion, FRBs outside the period can be studied
  - **Stacked analysis** planned: search in a long period a faint excess of signal coming from all FRB directions. The FRB and neutrino emissions can be uncorrelated
  
- ❖ Refine the models to get more inputs for searches

Thank you for your attention!



**Figure 1.** Schematic picture of neutrino production within the magnetosphere, current sheets and relativistic shocks of a flaring magnetar. The purple wiggles or dot (in the case of current sheets) denote the direction of neutrino emission.

Production of both neutrinos & FRB:

⇒ Possible ! ✓

Dense, magnetised, perturbed and energetic plasma

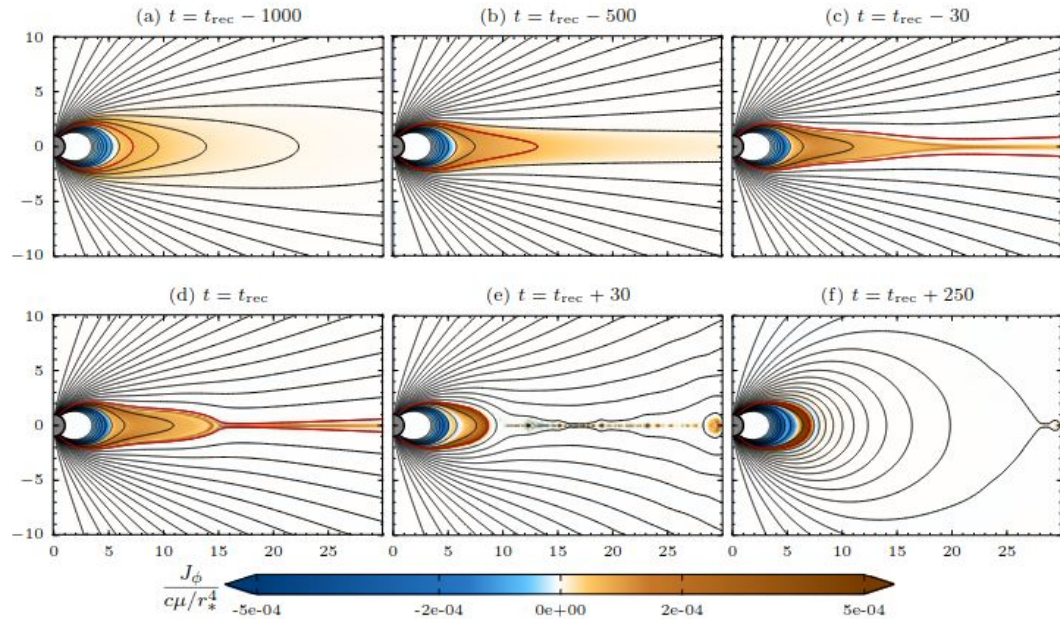
⇒ Decorrelated ! ?

2 different processes :

→ one implying a magnetized environment (FRB);

→ the other a hadron-dense medium (neutrinos)

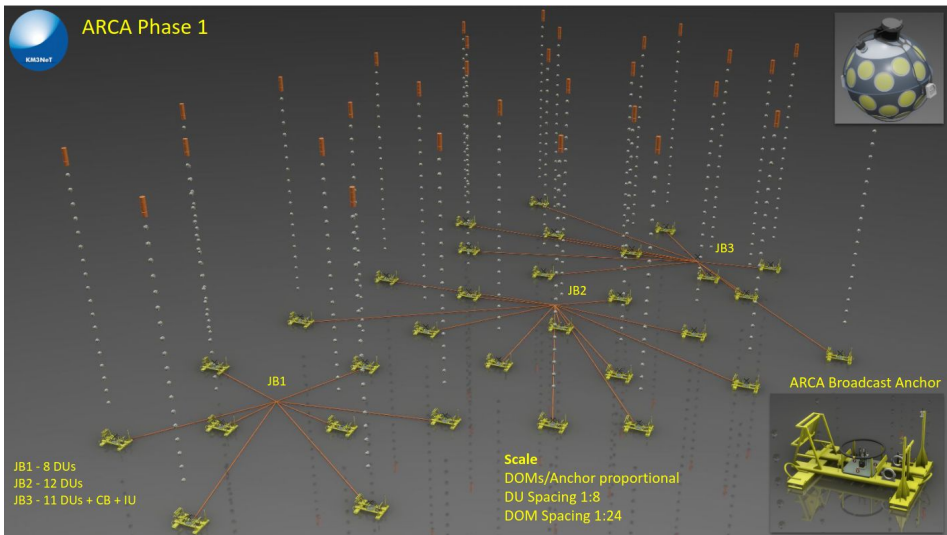
- ❖ Thanks to FRB 200428A, we know one very probable source of FRBs: **magnetars**
- ❖ Neutrinos could be produced in magnetars <sup>1,2</sup>
- ❖ No **energy estimate** for neutrinos
- ❖ No **flux estimate** for neutrinos
- ❖ FRBs and neutrinos are produced by **two mechanisms**
- ❖ **Repeating sources** constrain models further



Description of the current sheet formation and magnetic reconnection. The black lines are the field lines, and the color show the toroidal current density. Reconnection begins at  $t_{\text{rec}}$ , figure (d). From [1]

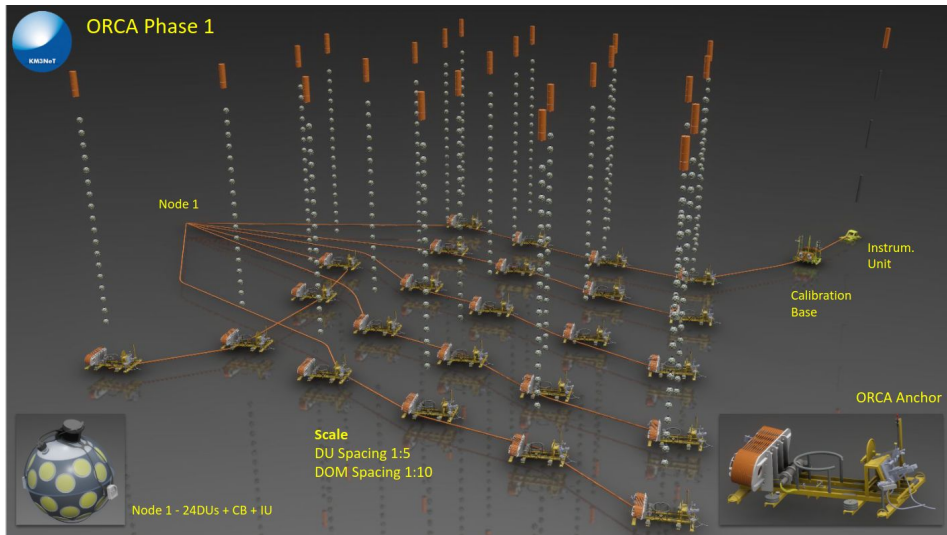
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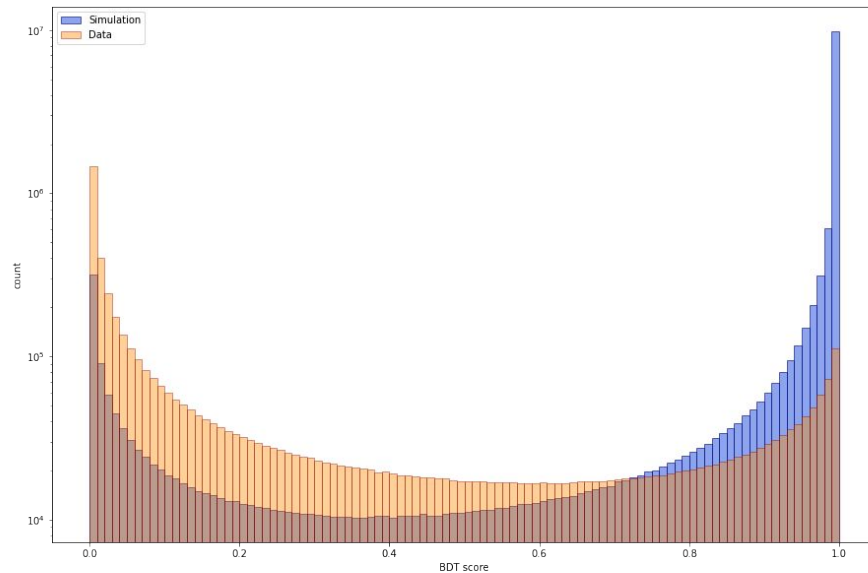
ARCA - 31 lines

ORCA - 28 lines

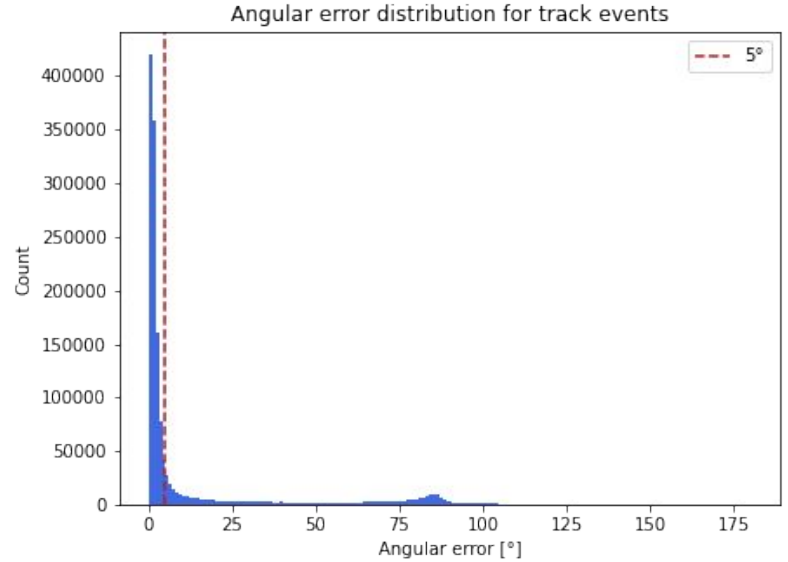
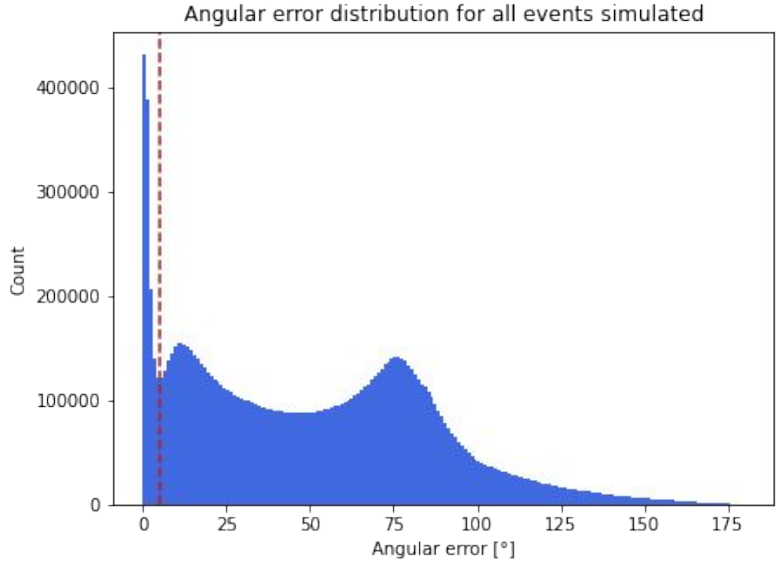


## Boosted Decision Tree score

- ❖ Data is mainly background, both with shower and track events
- ❖ Simulations are neutrinos, all flavours are simulated



Difference between true neutrino direction and reconstructed neutrino direction





- ❖ Assume a signal flux  $\Phi(E, \theta)$
- ❖ The average upper limit is the Poisson probability of occurrence:
  - The Feldman-Cousins upper limit is actually the upper limit of the FC confidence interval, that is a modified gaussian confidence interval optimized for low event rate experiments.
- ❖ The number of observed events  $n_{\text{obs}}$  is not known, so averaged out with sum. The aUL thus only depends on the background rate.
- ❖ The strongest constraint on the expected signal flux is the set of cuts that minimizes the ratio  $\mu(n_{\text{bg}})/n_s$ , the so-called MRF
- ❖ The final upper limit on the expected signal flux is then:

$$\Phi(E, \theta)_{90\%} = \Phi(E, \theta) \frac{\mu_{90}(n_{\text{obs}}, n_{\text{b}})}{n_s}$$

$$\bar{\mu}_{90}(n_{\text{b}}) = \sum_{n_{\text{obs}}=0}^{\infty} \mu_{90}(n_{\text{obs}}, n_{\text{b}}) \frac{(n_{\text{b}})^{n_{\text{obs}}}}{(n_{\text{obs}})!} \exp(-n_{\text{b}})$$

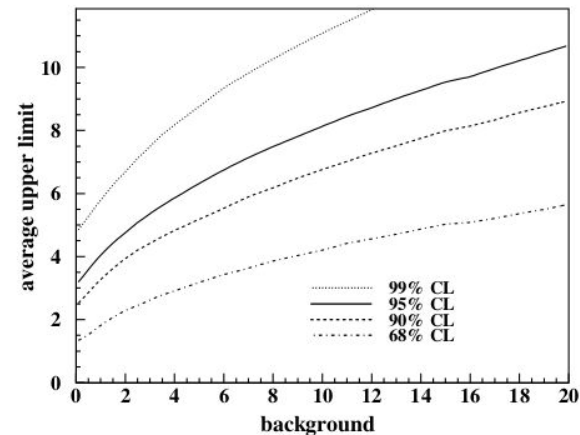


Fig. 1. Average 90% Feldman-Cousins upper limit that would be obtained by an ensemble of experiments with no true signal in the presence of expected background.