

Collapsars: Black Hole Properties, Magnetic Fields and r-process Nucleosynthesis

Ore Gottlieb

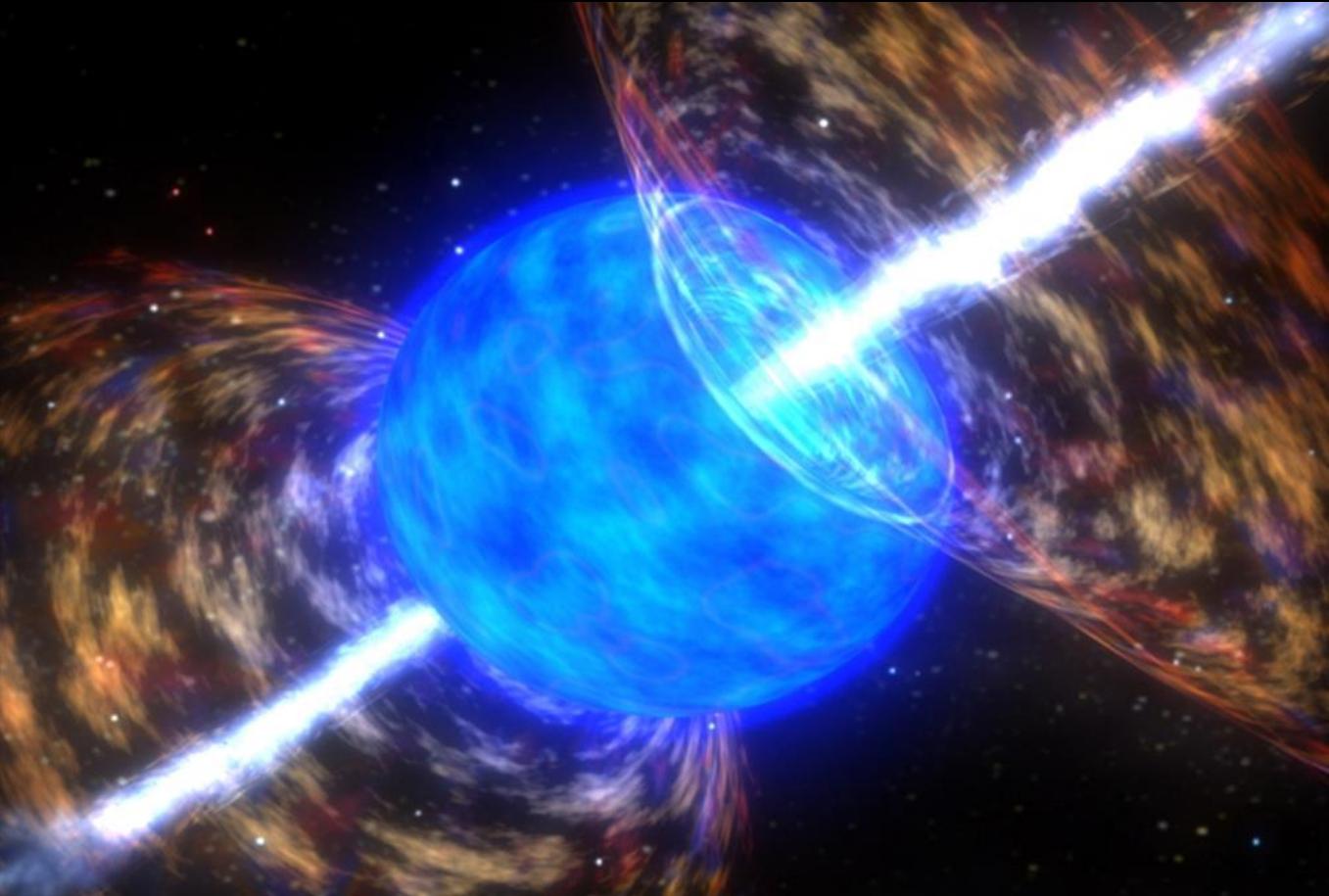
Center for Computational Astrophysics &
Columbia University

ReFCO workshop, Warsaw

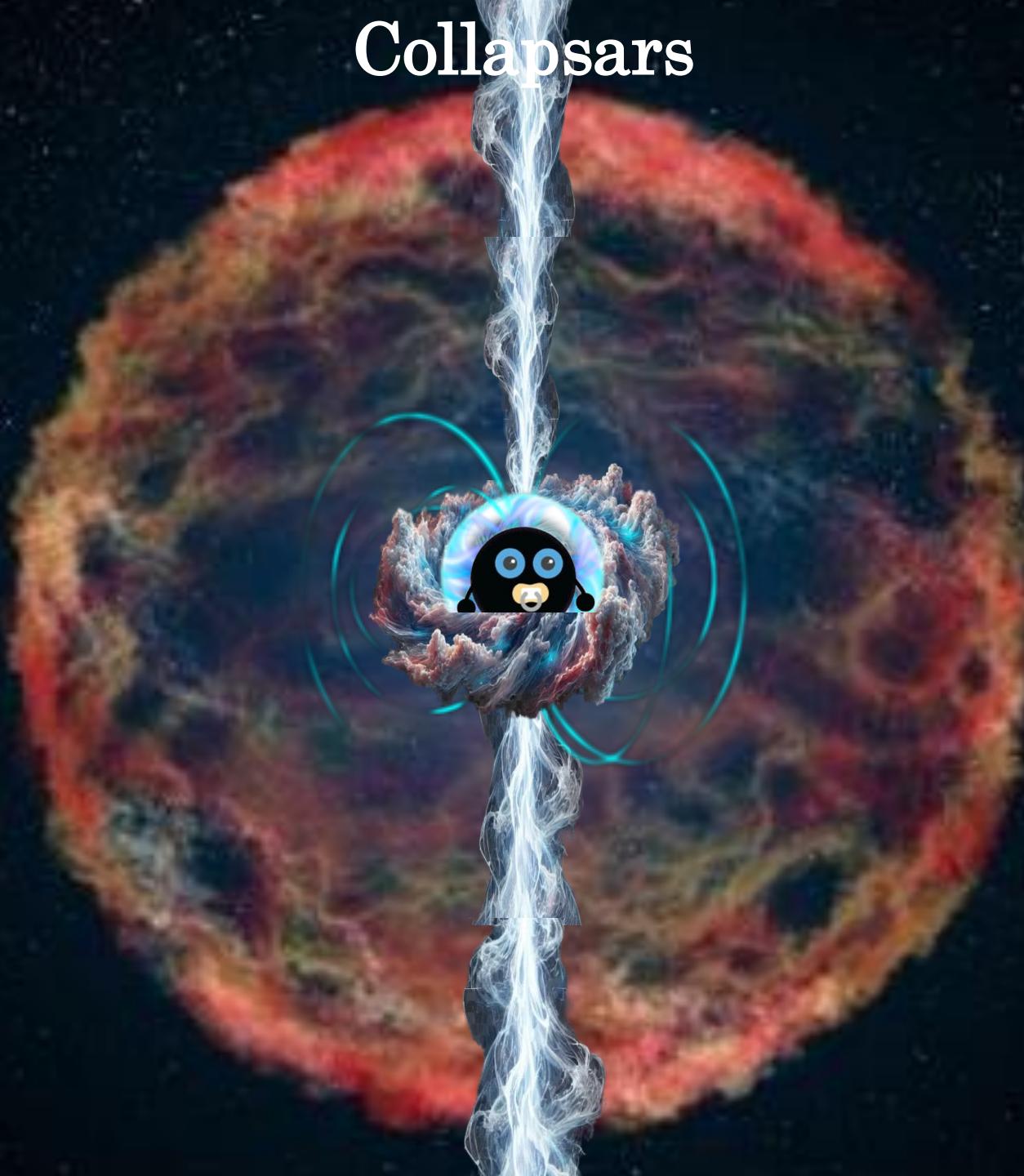
May 5, 2025

Collapsars

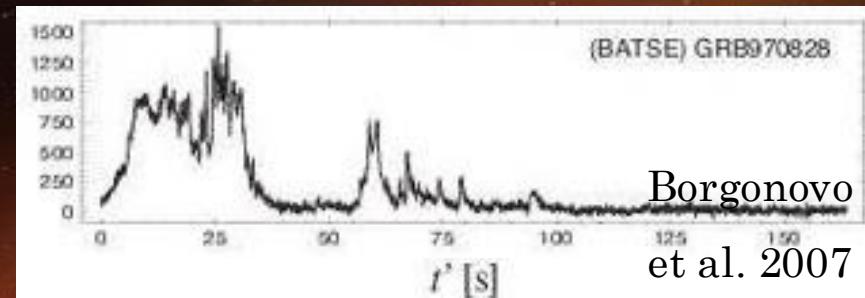
- Collapsars are progenitors of long GRBs (Woosley 1993)
- SN1998bw Ic-BL associated with GRB980425 (Iwamoto et al. 1998)
- First “collapsar” simulations (Woosley & MacFadyen 1999; Zhang et al. 2003)



Collapsars



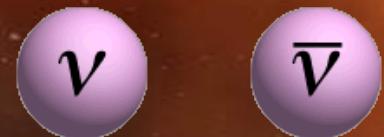
Plethora of Extreme Physics



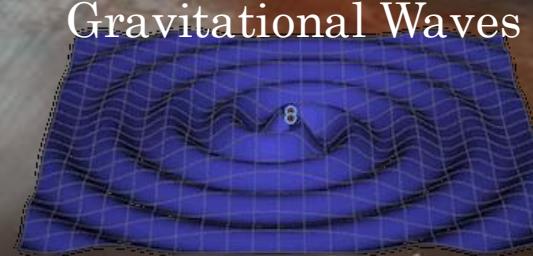
Jet labs

Neutron star
equation of state

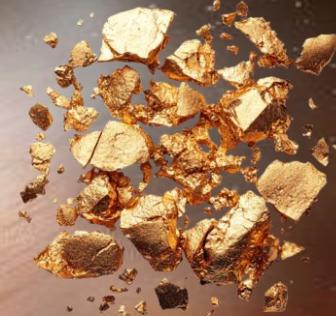
Factory of
black holes



High-energy
particles



Gravitational Waves



Kilonova → Heavy element
nucleosynthesis



History of compact binaries

The Future of the Multi-messenger Universe

Gravity

LIGO-VIRGO-KAGRA 04/05
Cosmic Explorer
Einstein Telescope
LISA

Particles

GCOS
IceCube-Gen2
Hyper-Kamiokande
DUNE
Grand10k

Electromagnetic

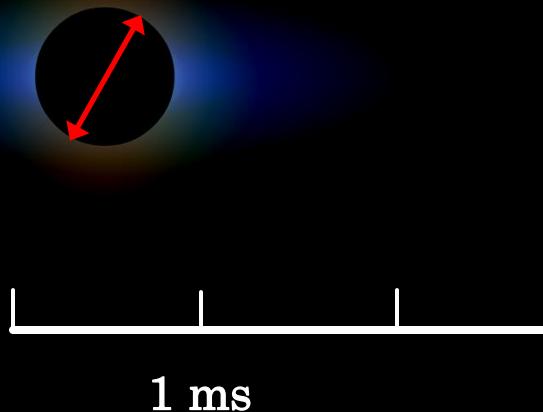
Rubin Observatory
Roman
JWST
WINTER
ULTRASAT
UVEX
SVOM



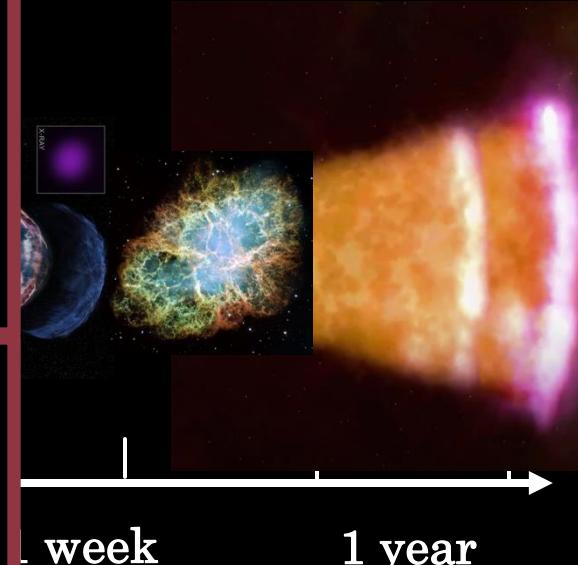
ν

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Scales of Transients



Challenge: 11 orders of magnitude in space and time between the black hole and the emission zone



Solution: 3D general-relativistic Magnetohydrodynamic+neutrino transport simulations from the black hole to photosphere

1. Interpret observations from first-principles
2. Use observations to probe extreme physics
3. Predict new multi-messenger sources

Dancing Jets

$M_{\text{BH}} = 4M_{\odot}$; $a_{\text{BH}} = 0.8$

Fastly rotating star

$M_* = 14M_{\odot}$; R_*
 $= 4 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm}$

Core + dipole magnetic field

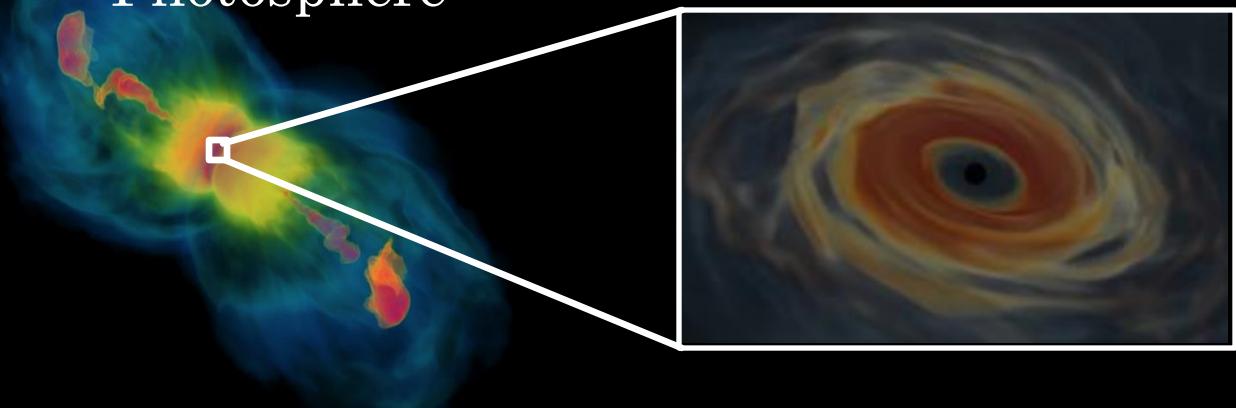


Dancing Jets

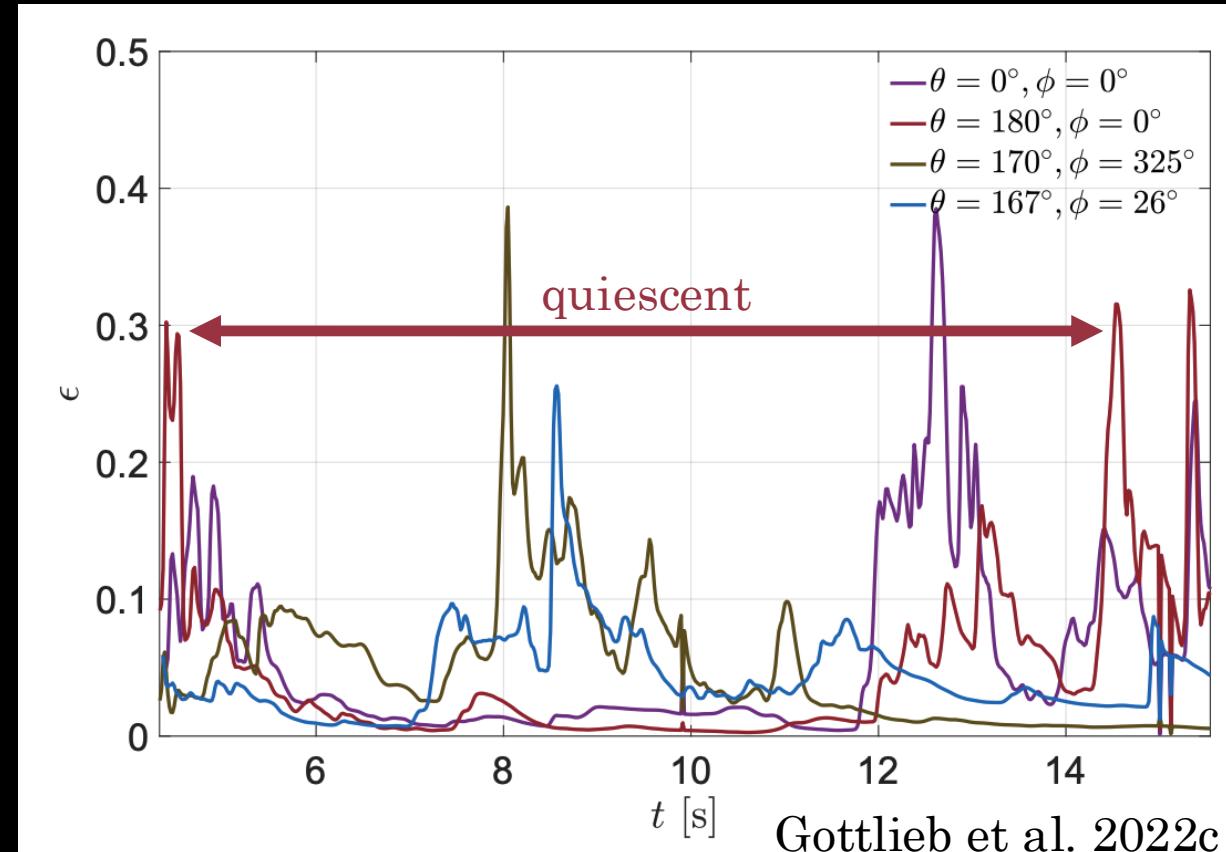
Gottlieb et al. 2022c

1. Interpret observations from first-principles: New Jet Physics

Observations from
Photosphere → Black Hole Physics



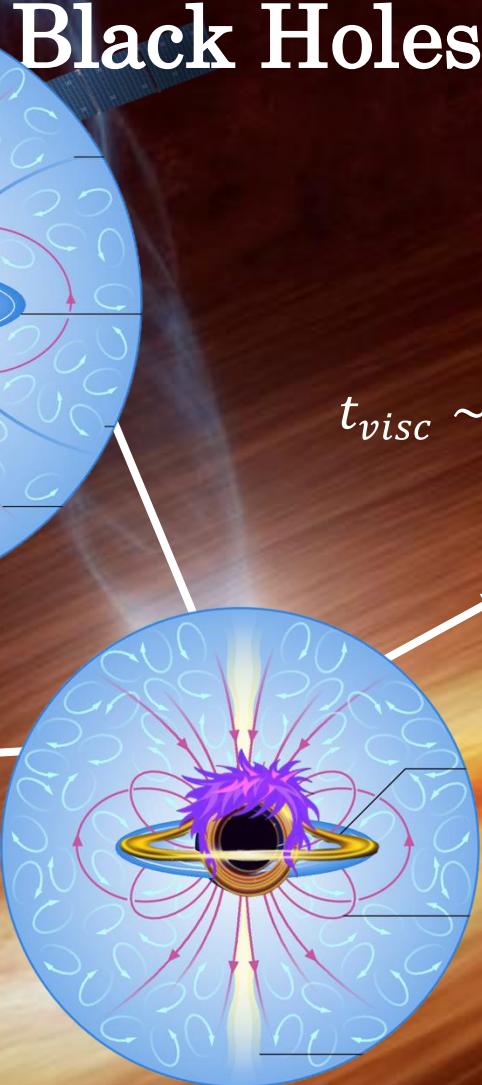
- ✓ Deciphering observations: quiescent times
- ☐ Wobbling imprint on GRB afterglows
- ☐ GRB emission mechanism



2. Use observations to probe extreme physics: Black Holes

- ✓ BH spin
- ✓ BH magnetic field
- ☐ BH kick
- ☐ BH mass
- ☐ Correlations

Black holes are born
with $0.2 < a < 0.5$
(Gottlieb et al. 2023b)



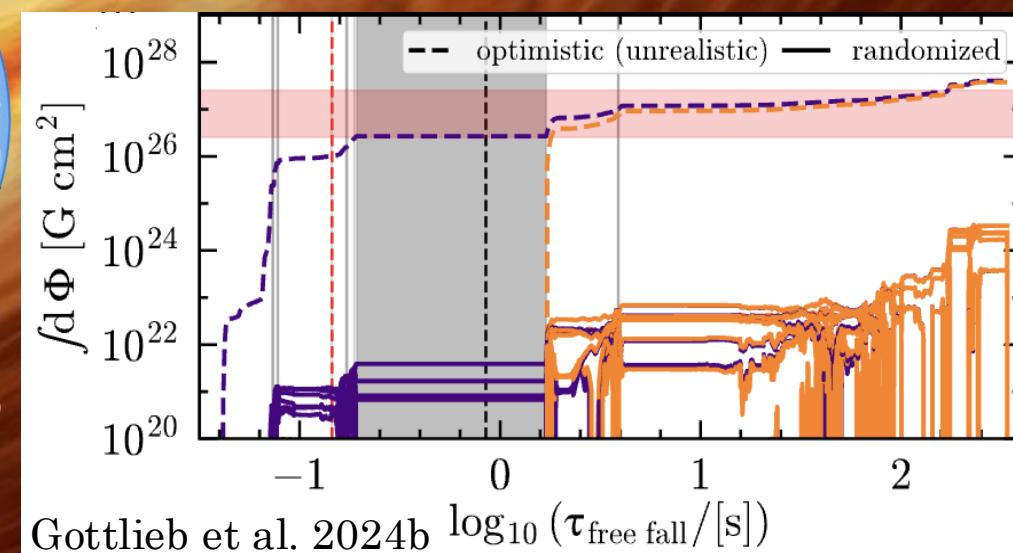
Gottlieb et al. 2024b

But this requires extreme
magnetic fields!

$$t_{visc} \sim 600 \left(\frac{0.1}{\alpha_{vis}} \right) \left(\frac{h}{r} \right)^{-2} \left[\frac{R_A(B, \dot{M}, R_{NS})}{3 r_g} \right]^{1.5} \frac{r_g}{c}$$
$$t_{bald} \sim 500 \frac{r_g}{c}$$

Spin-down to $a \approx 0.1$

(Jacquemin-Ide, Gottlieb et al. 2023)



Gottlieb et al. 2024b



Danat Issa

3. Predict new multi-messenger sources: Collapsar Kilonovae

Need for additional rare r-process generating events
(Ji et al. 2016; Côté et al. 2019)

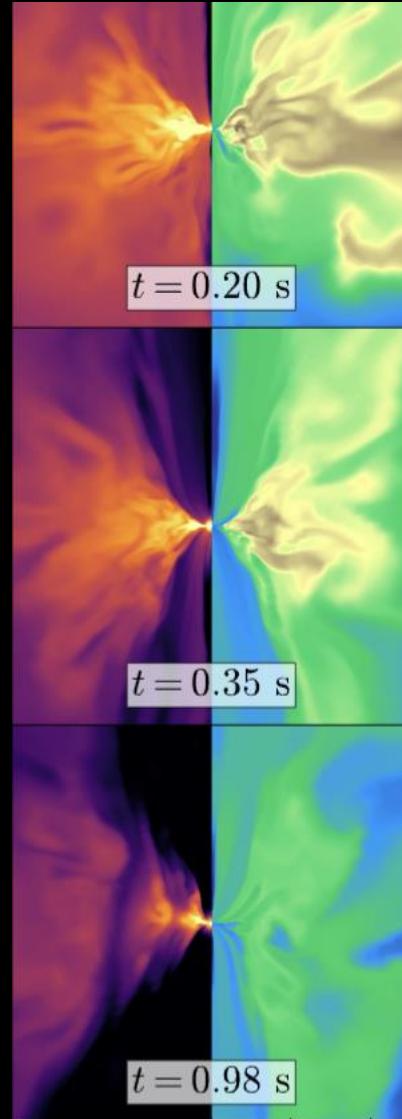
Recipe for expelling r-process elements from collapsing stars

1. Prepare a disk: $r_{\text{circ}} > r_{\text{ISCO}}$

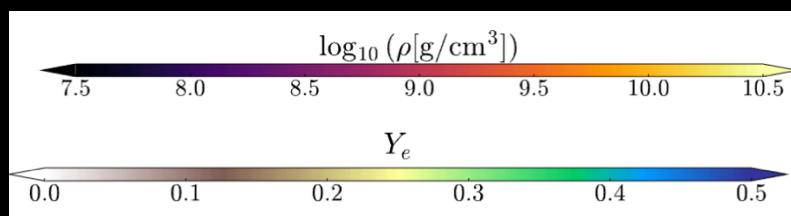
2. Neutronize it: $\dot{M} > 0.07 \left(\frac{\alpha_{\text{eff}}}{0.1}\right)^{\frac{5}{3}} \left(\frac{M_{\text{BH}}}{3M_{\odot}}\right)^{\frac{4}{3}} M_{\odot} \text{ s}^{-1}$

3. Eject the neutron-rich gas: $\phi \equiv \frac{\Phi}{\sqrt{\dot{M}r_g^2c}} > 10$

- r-process in realistic stars
- r-process yields
- Kilonova light curve



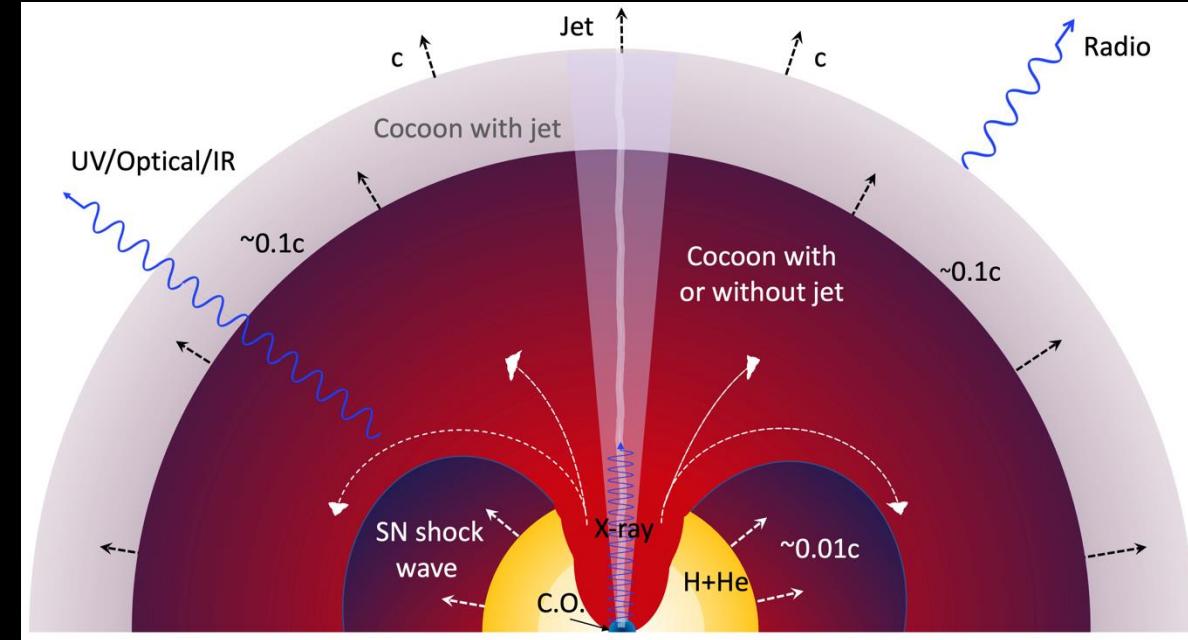
Issa, Gottlieb
et al. 2024



3. Predict new multi-messenger sources: Variety of Fast Transients

Gottlieb et al. 2022b

Jet-powered mildly-relativistic cocoons

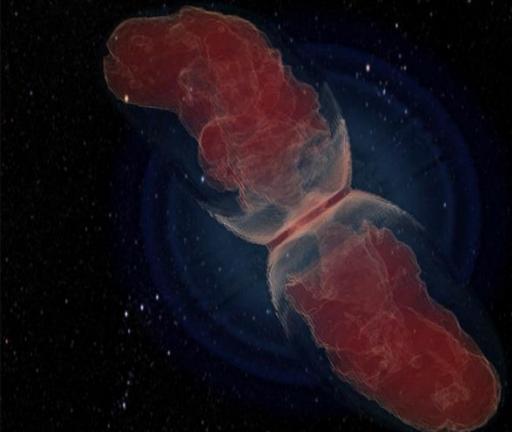


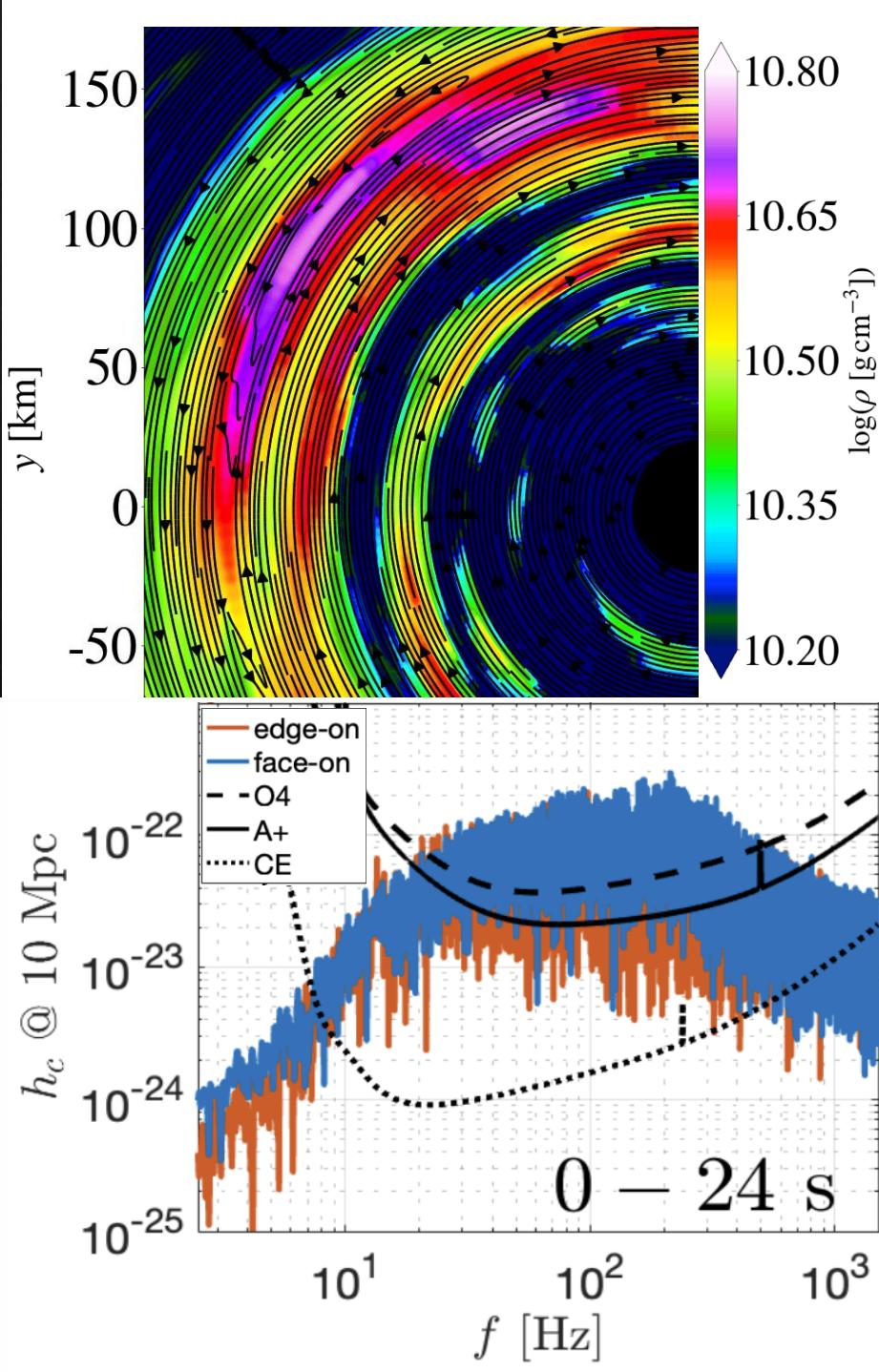
Magnetic-driven disk mildly-relativistic outflows

Justin Bopp



Bopp & Gottlieb 2025





3. Predict new multi-messenger sources: Gravitational waves from Disks

$$f_{GW} = \frac{\tilde{m}\Omega}{2\pi} = \frac{\tilde{m}}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{GM_{BH}}{R_d^3}}$$

Gottlieb et al. 2024a

Collapsars

- Progenitors of long gamma-ray bursts
- Production sites of magnetars
- Production sites of black holes
- Potential sources of r-process elements
- Sources of a variety of transients
- Sources of gravitational waves

