

Late Engine Activity: An Alternative Scenario for the **Blue Kilonova**

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Based on:

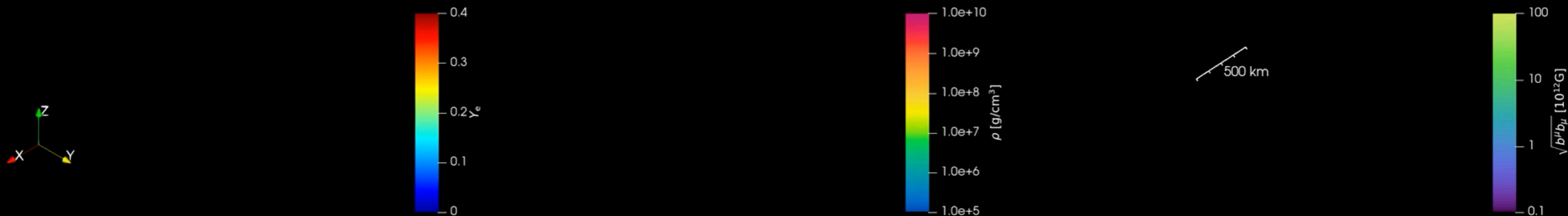
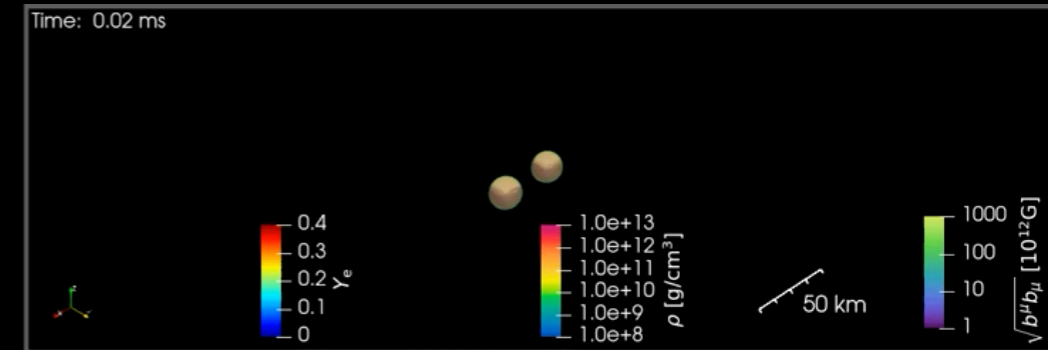
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.06286>

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.14366>

Theory

Neutron Star Merger

Time: 0.02 ms

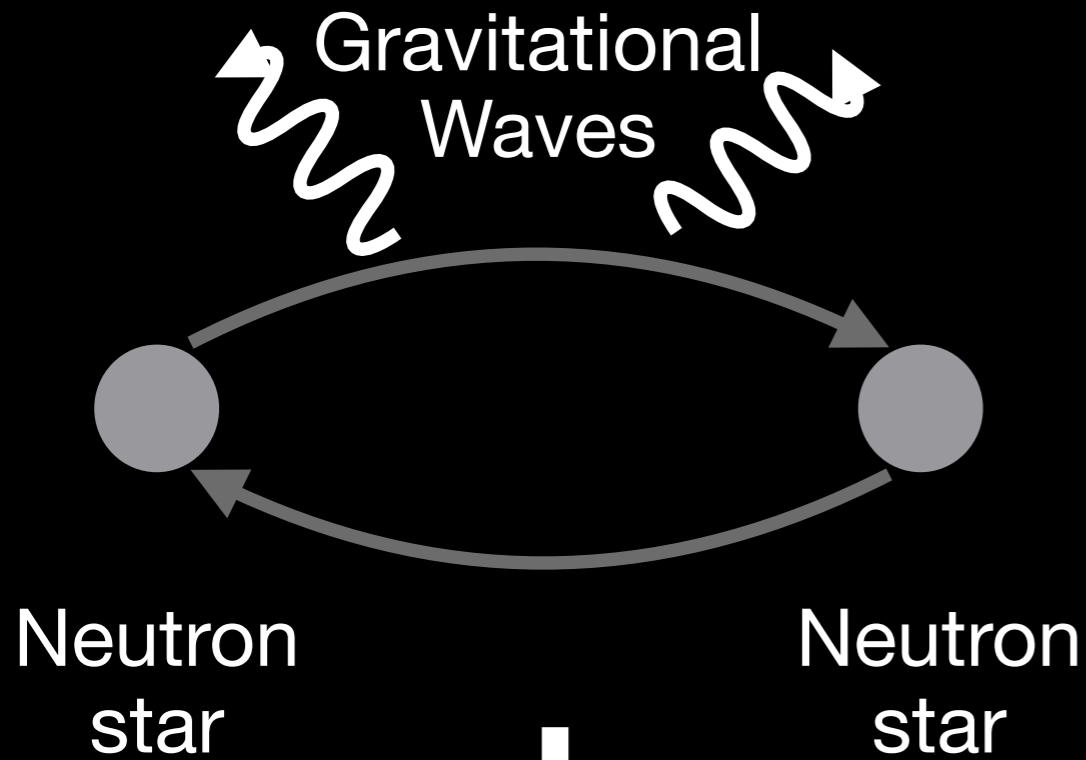


Neutron rich

Mass ejection

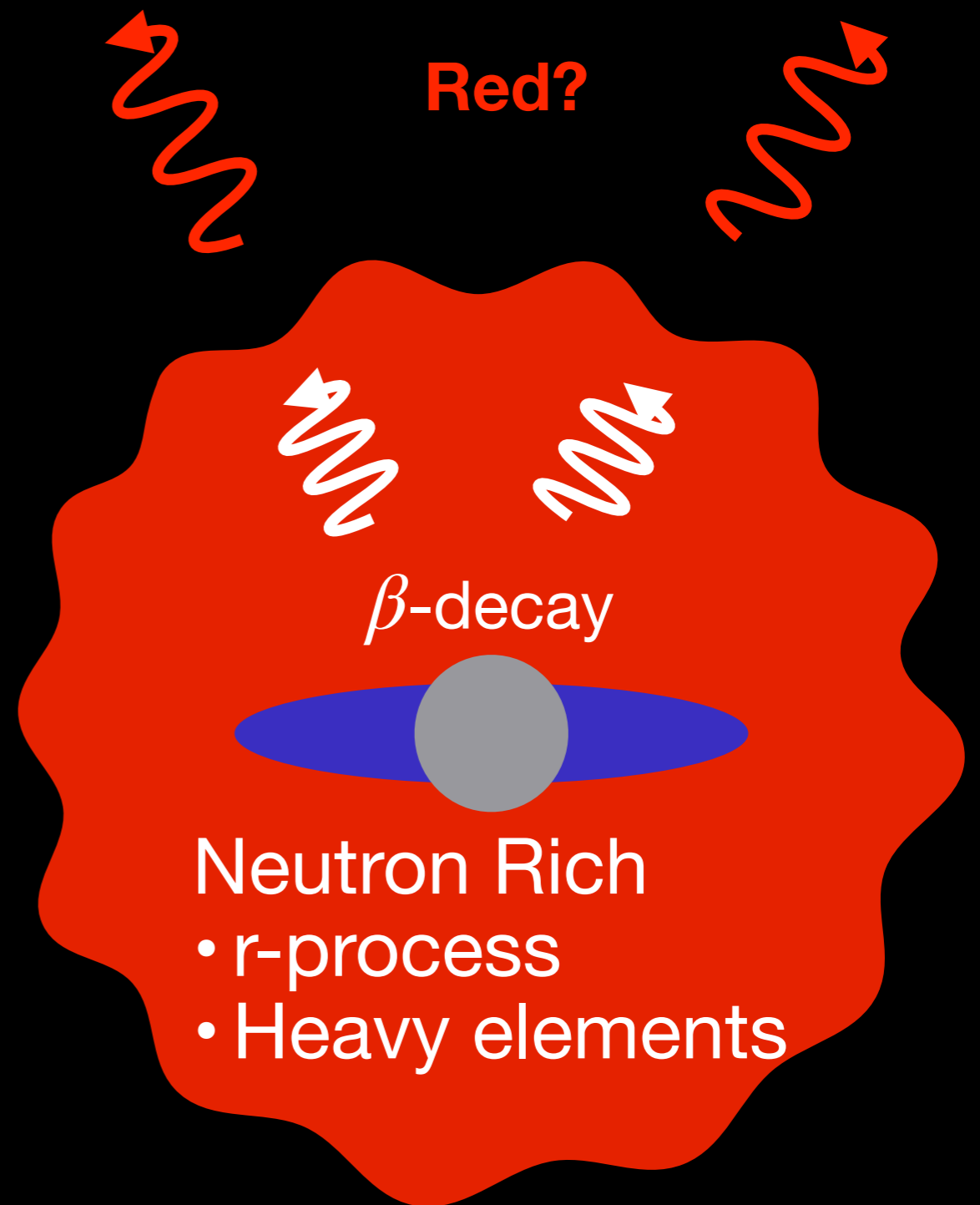
Jet launch

1. Binary Neutron Star



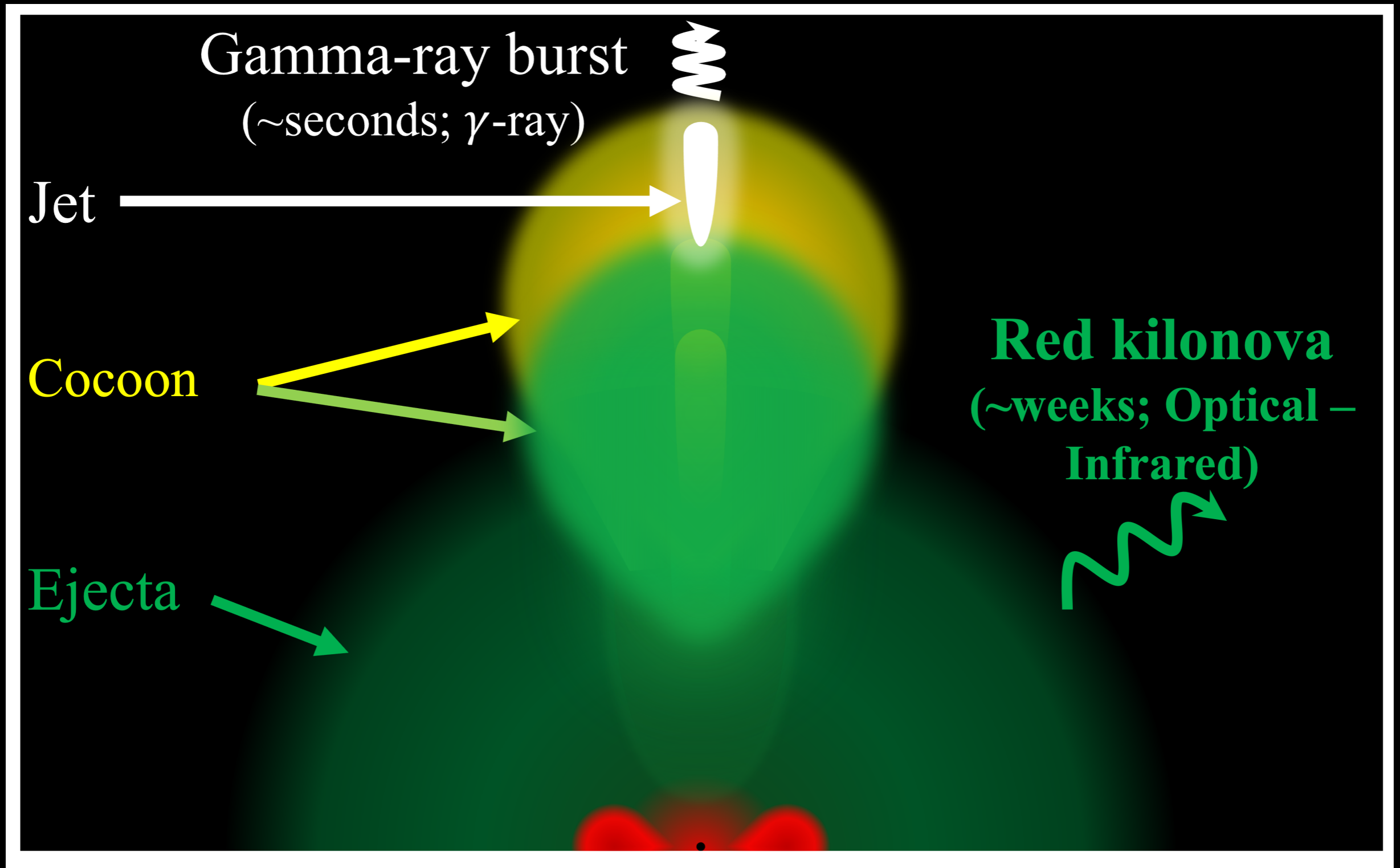
2. Merger

3. Kilonova



Late emission: $L_{KN} \propto M_e$

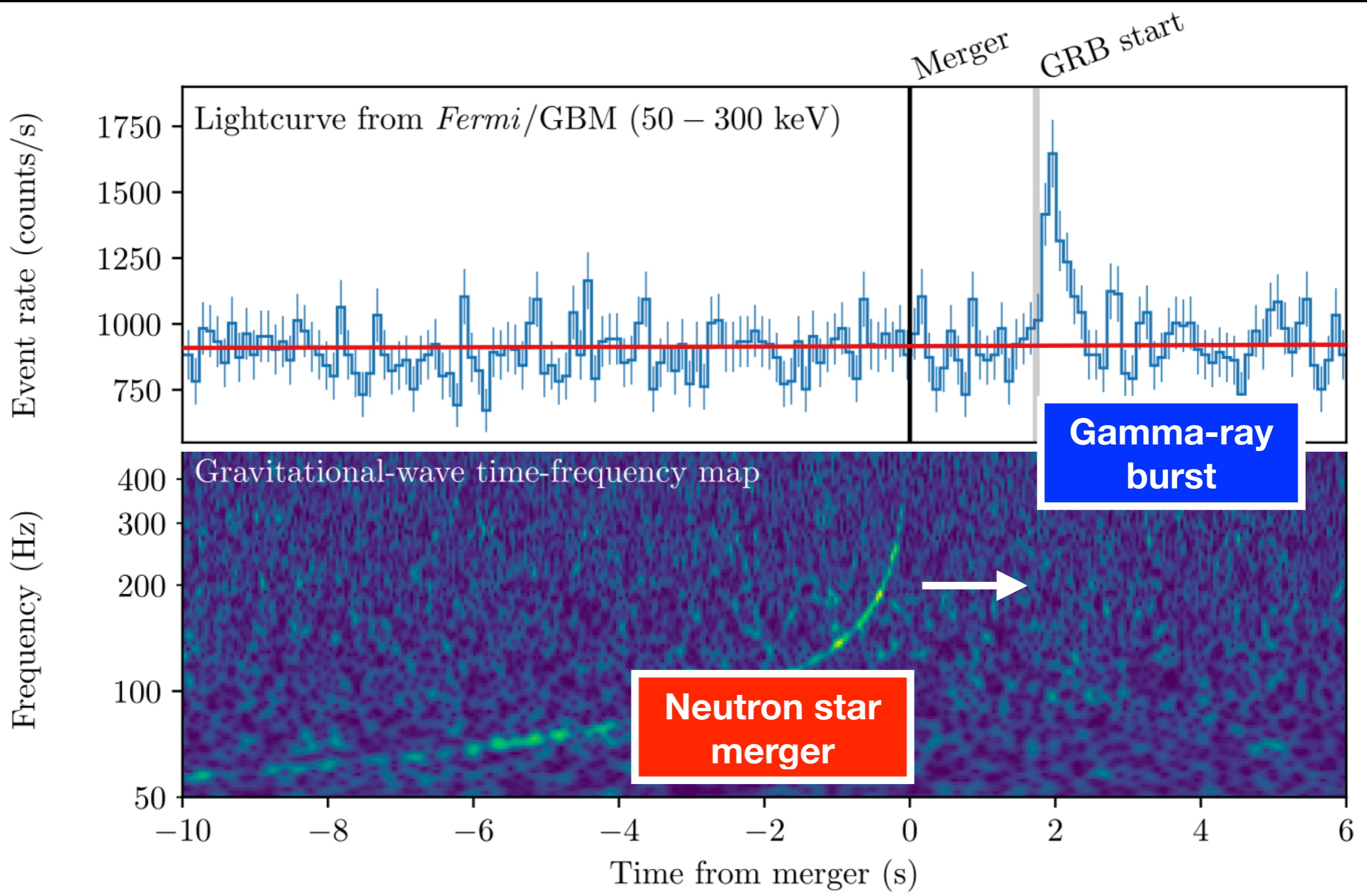
Old Paradigm [sGRBs & KN]



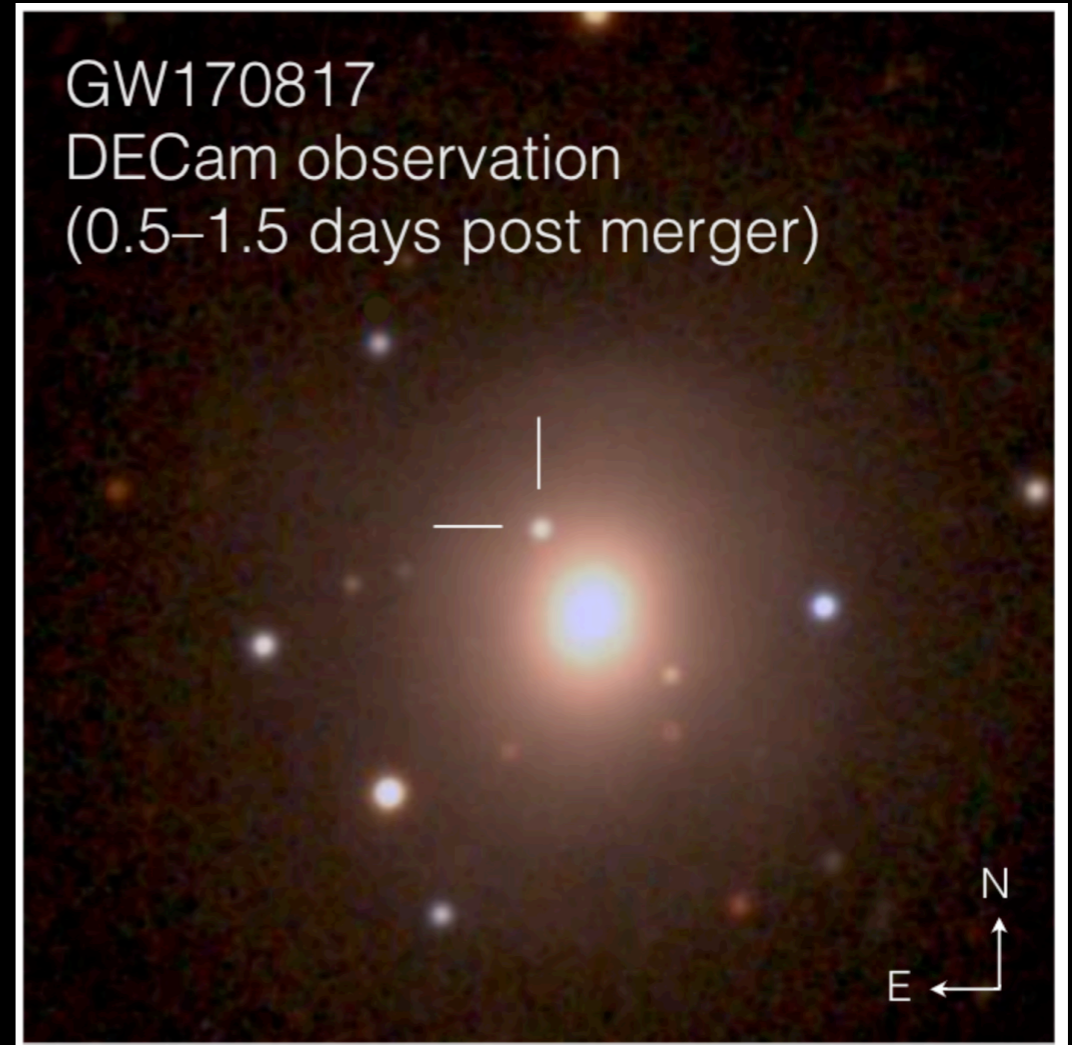
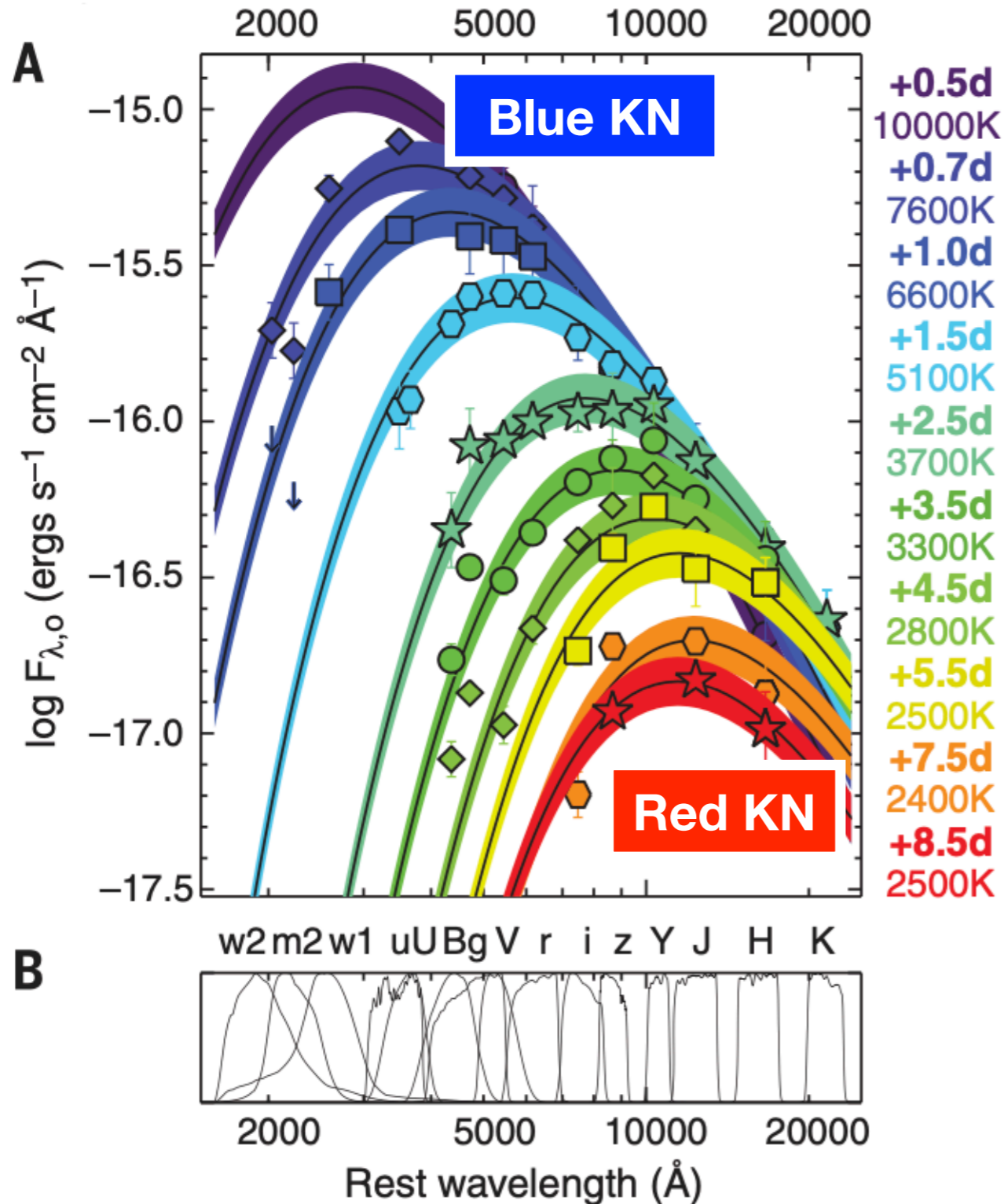
Observation

1. Surprisingly blue early KN
2. Late engine activity

GW170817 [& GRB170817A]

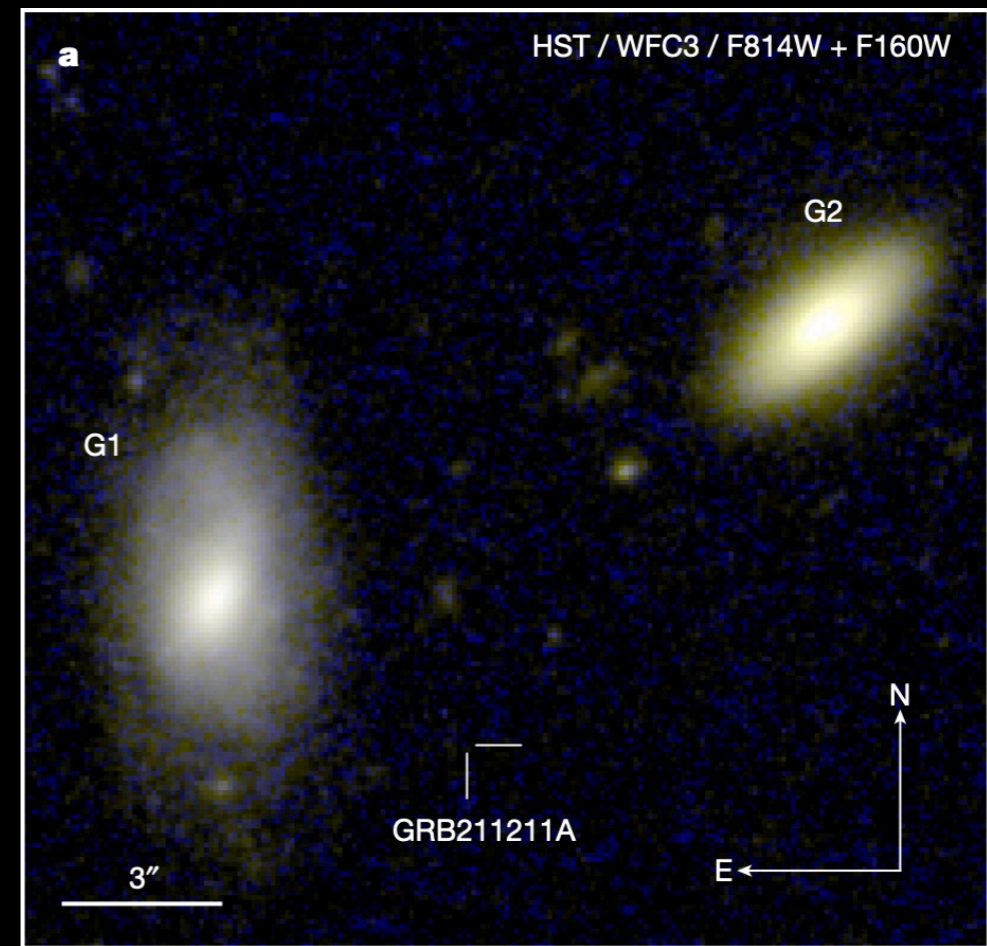
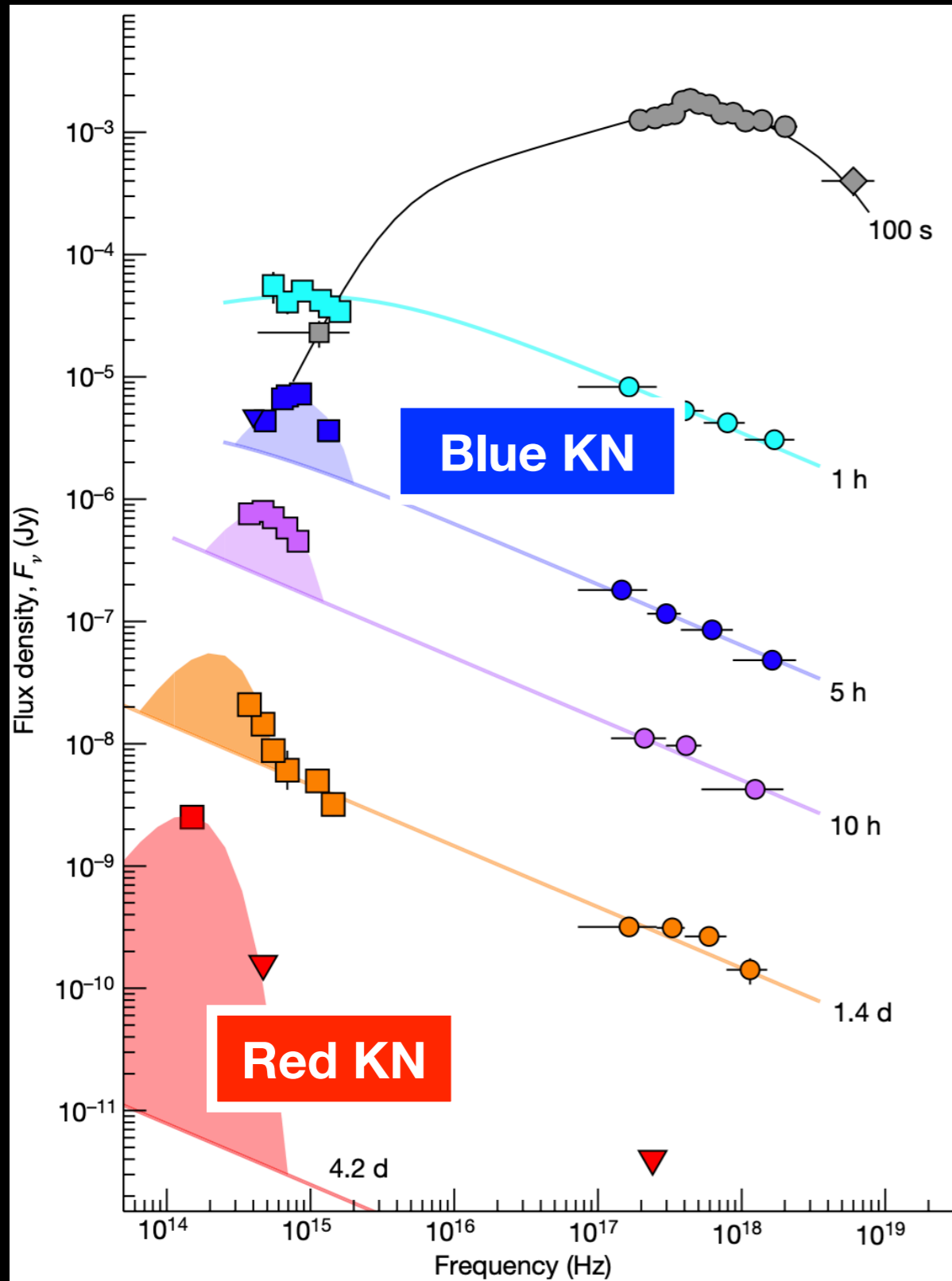


Fact 1: Blue kilonova [GW170817]

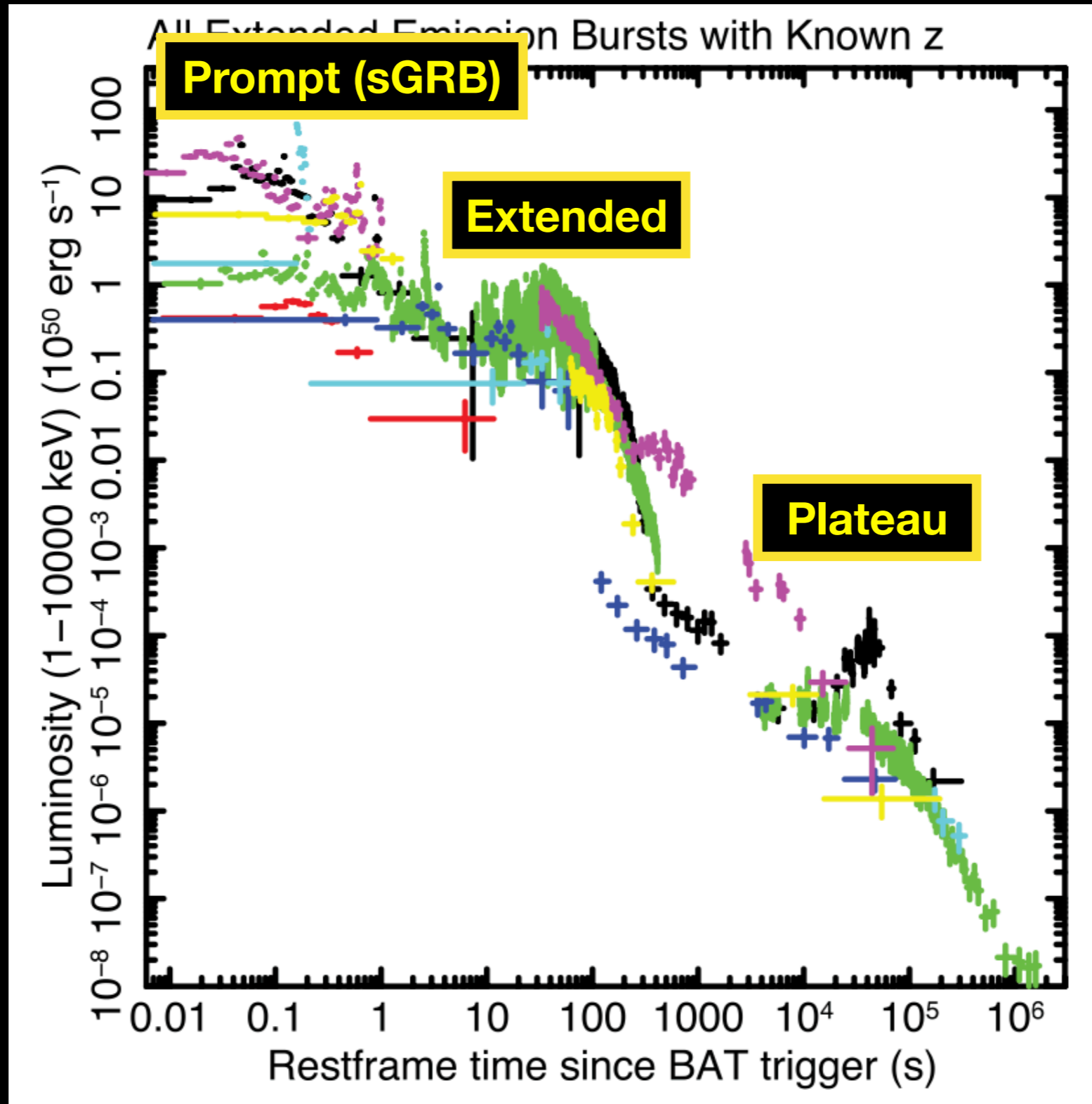


Credit: Soares-Santos et al. and DES Collaboration; Drout et al. 2017

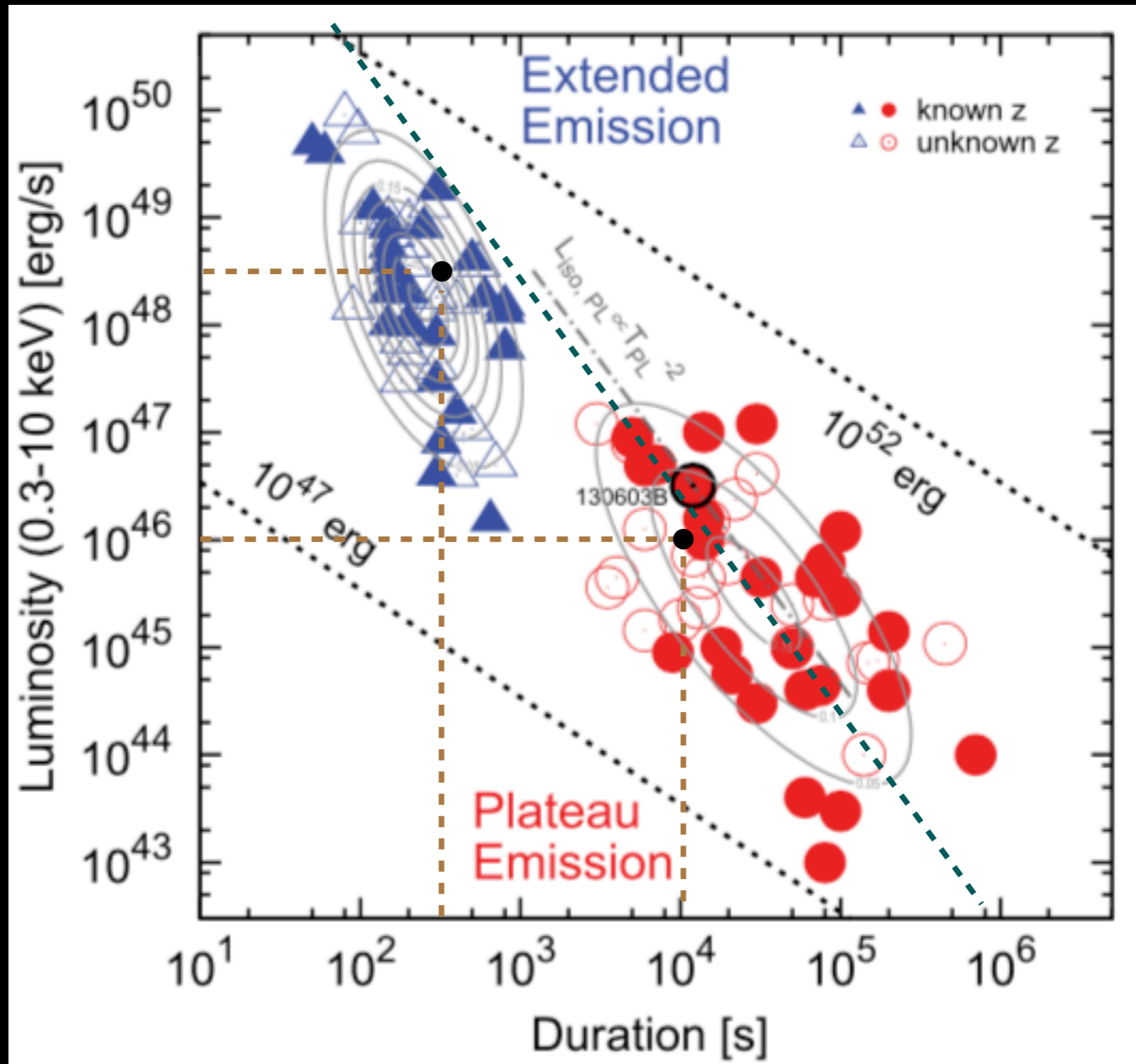
Fact 1: Blue kilonova [GRB211211A]



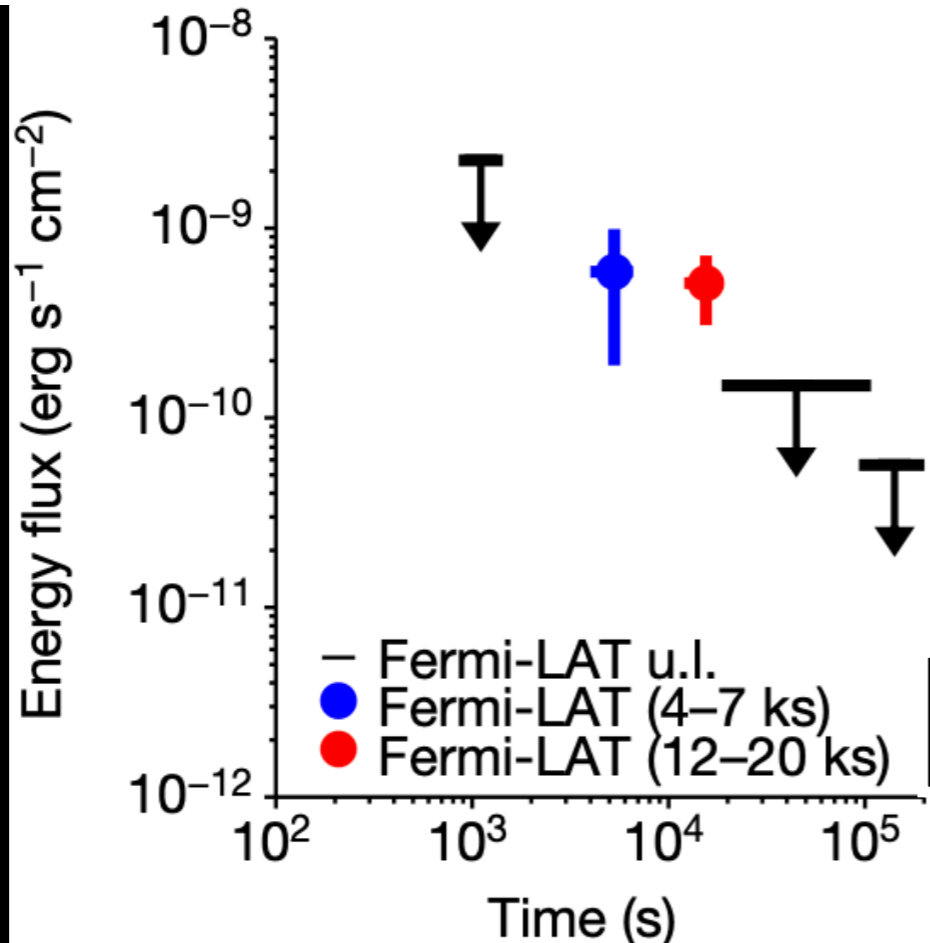
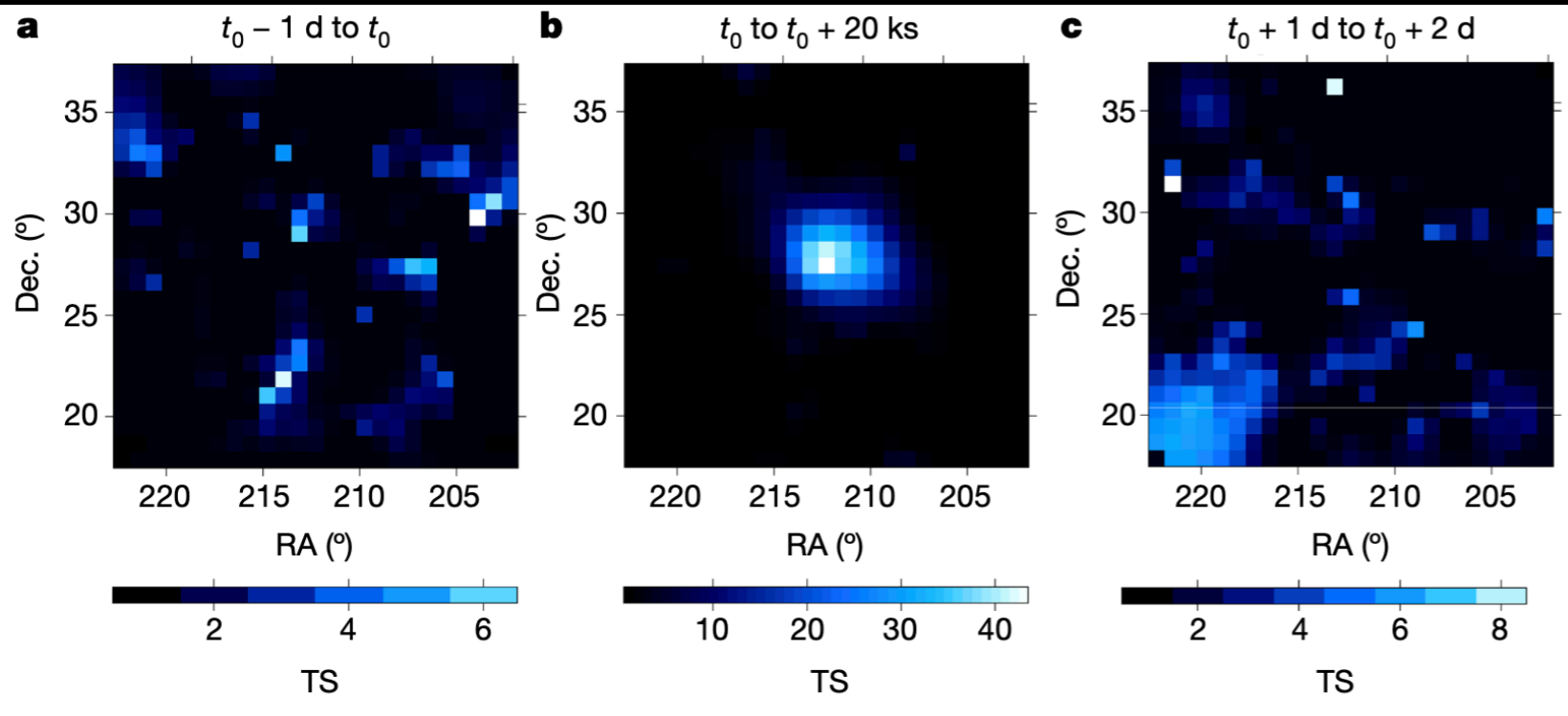
Fact 2: Late engine activity



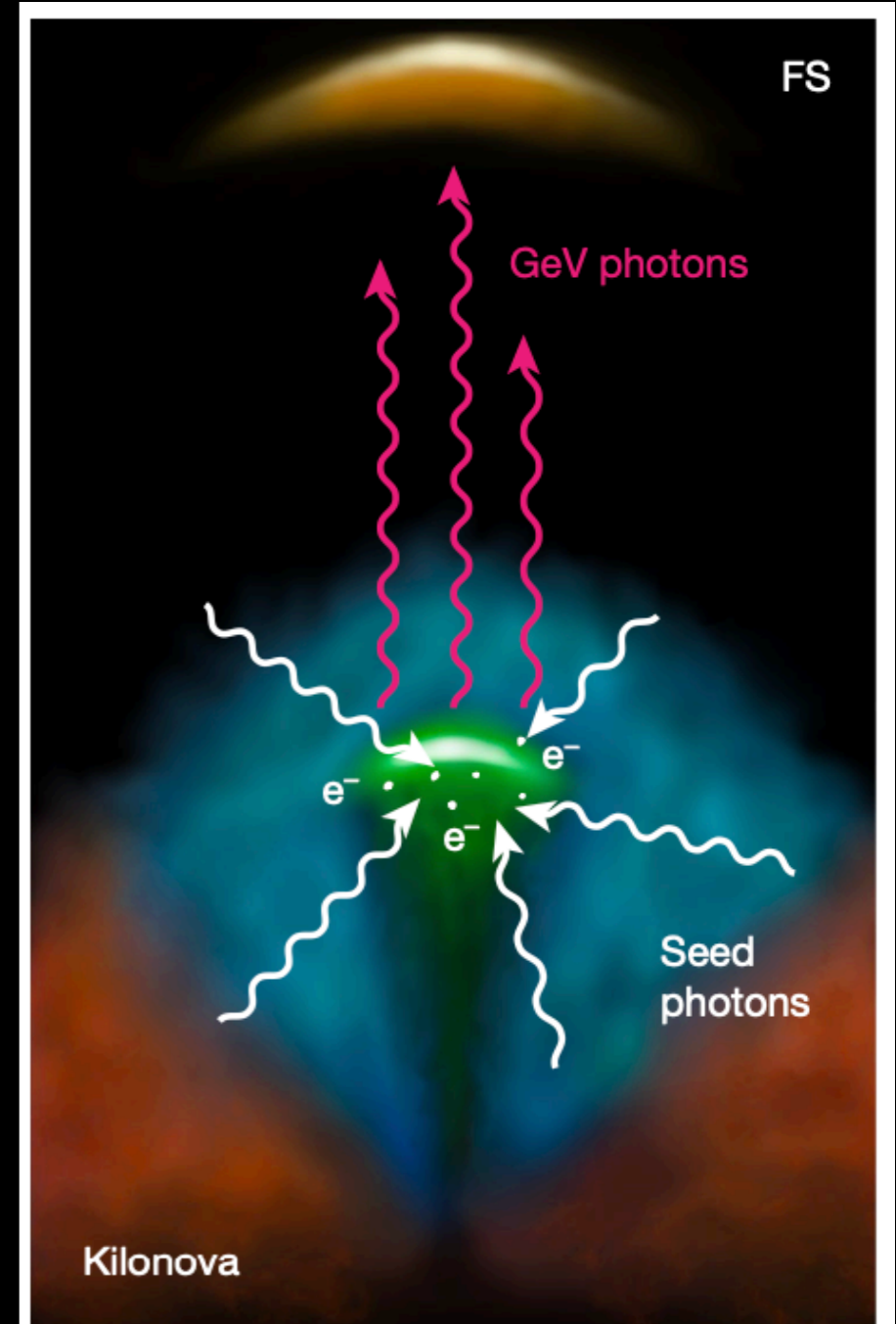
Fact 2: Late engine activity



Fact 2: Late engine activity [in GeV]

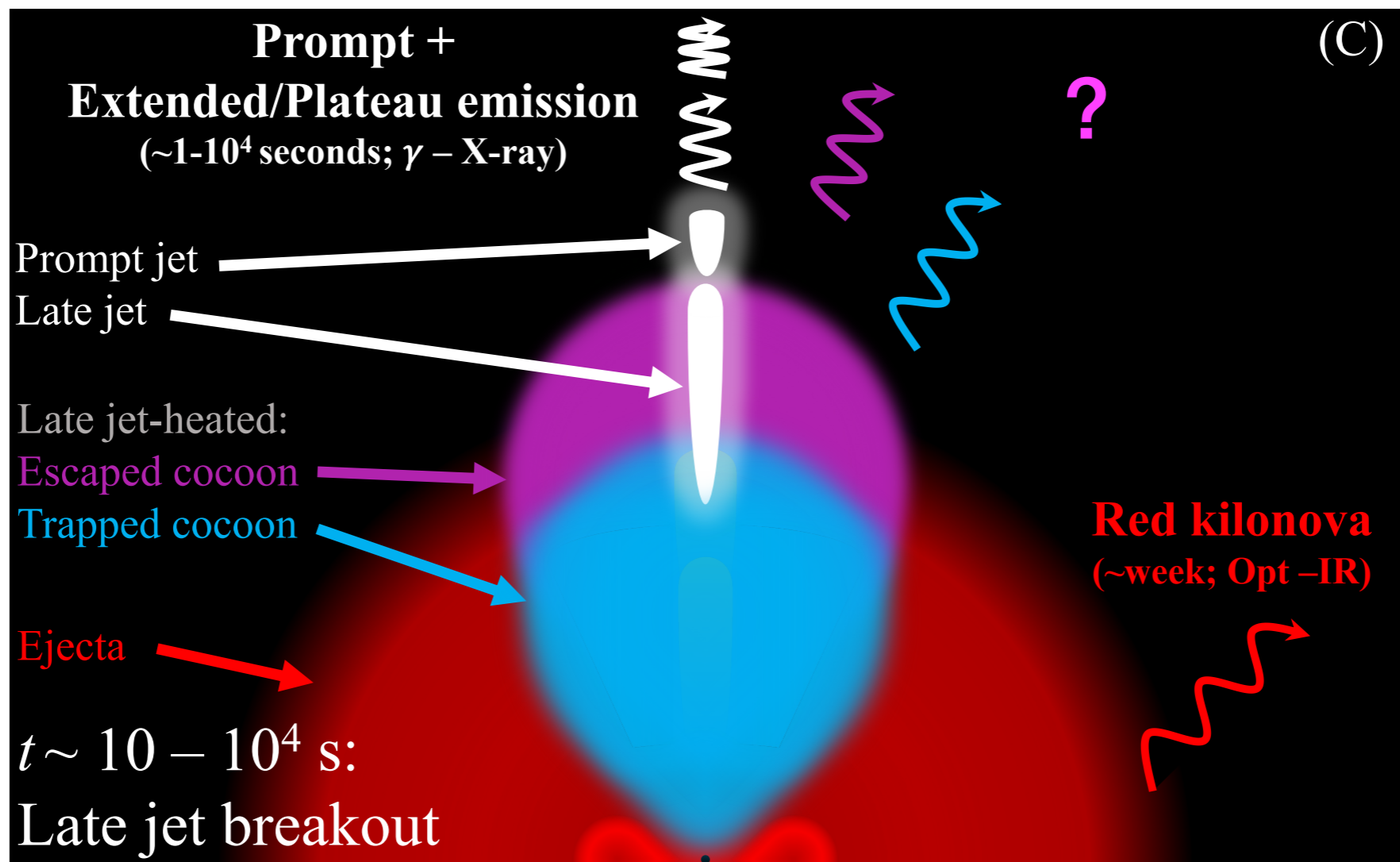
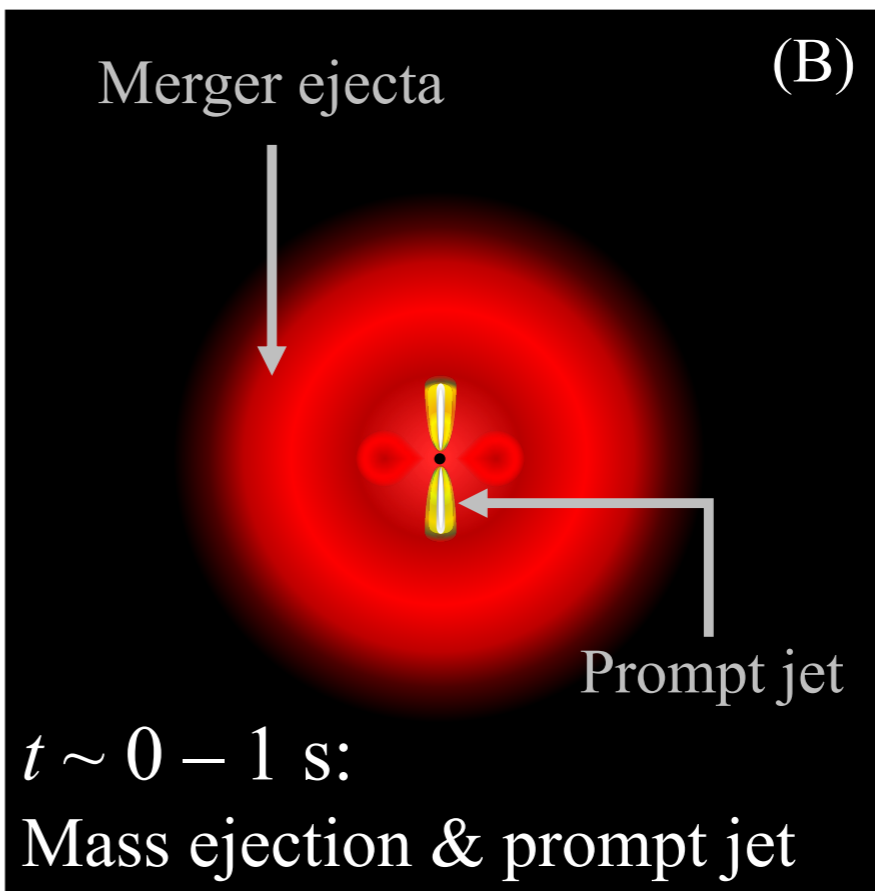
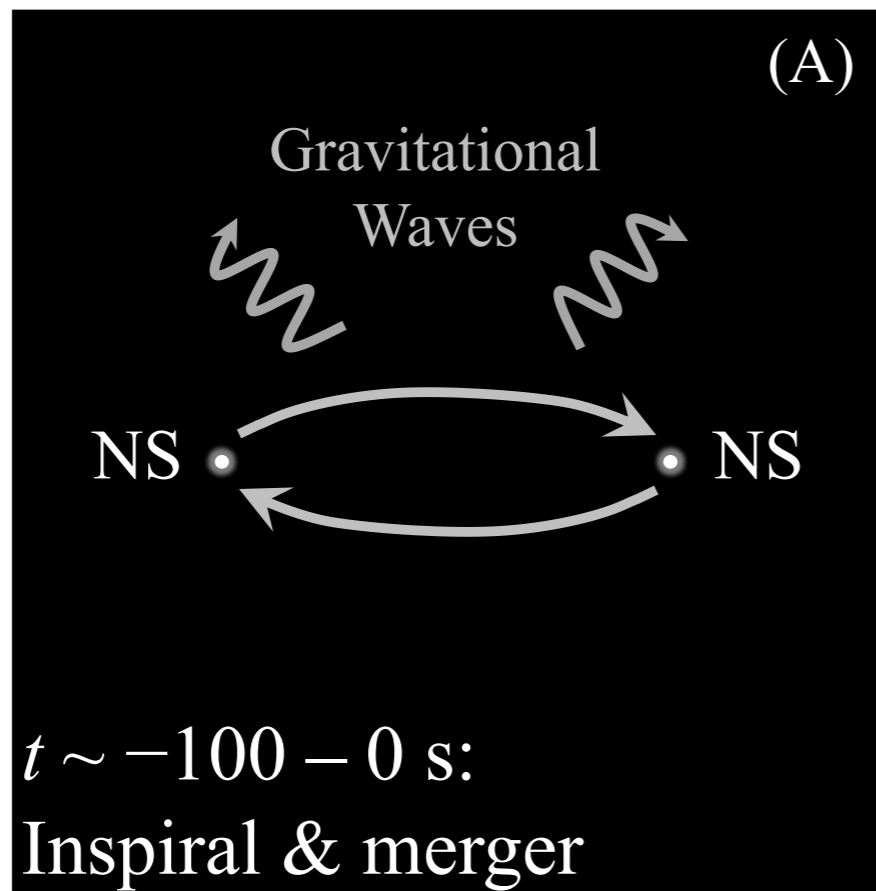


$\sim 10^{46} \text{ erg/s low power jet at } \sim 10^4 \text{ s}$

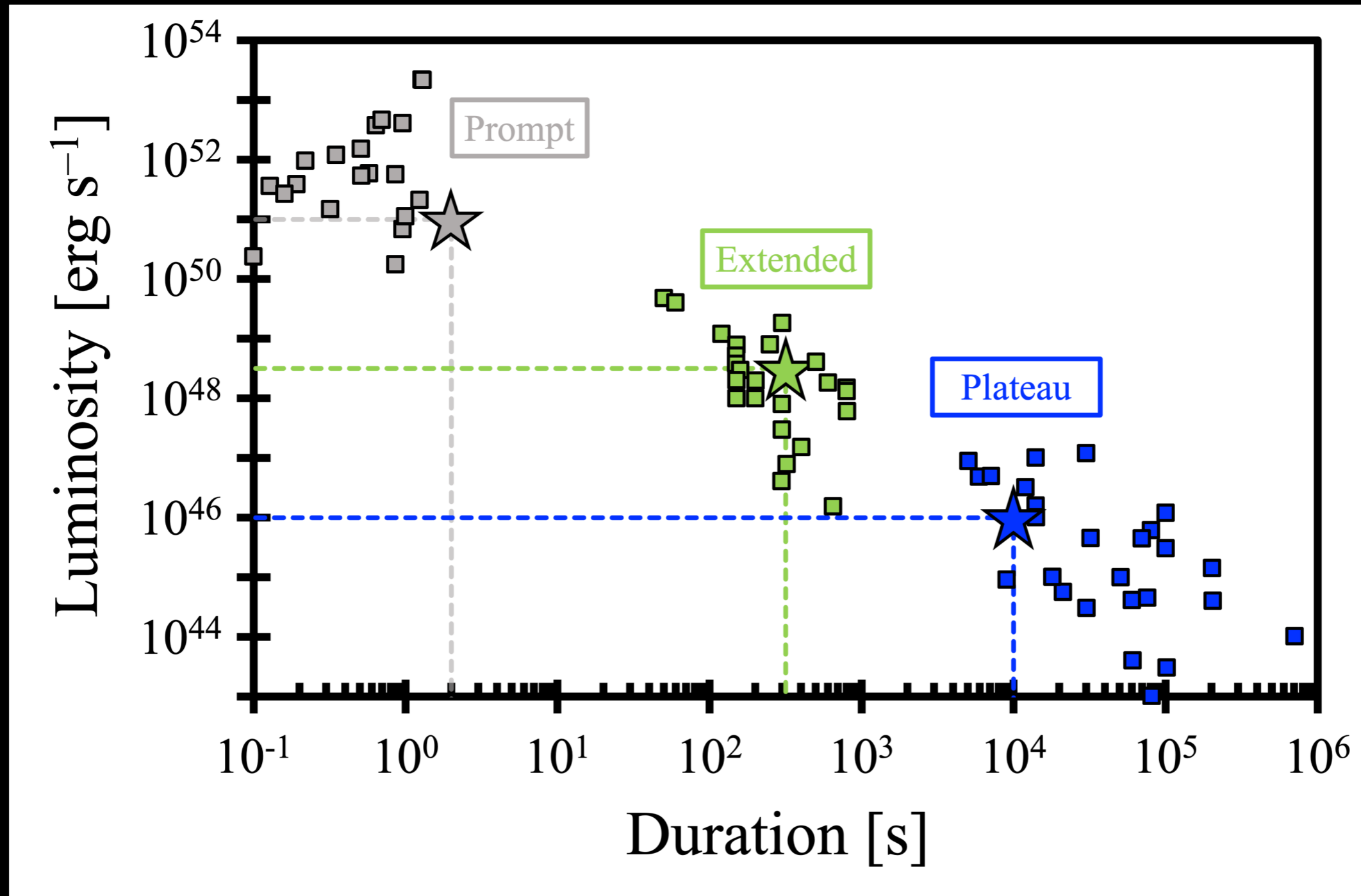


Motivation:

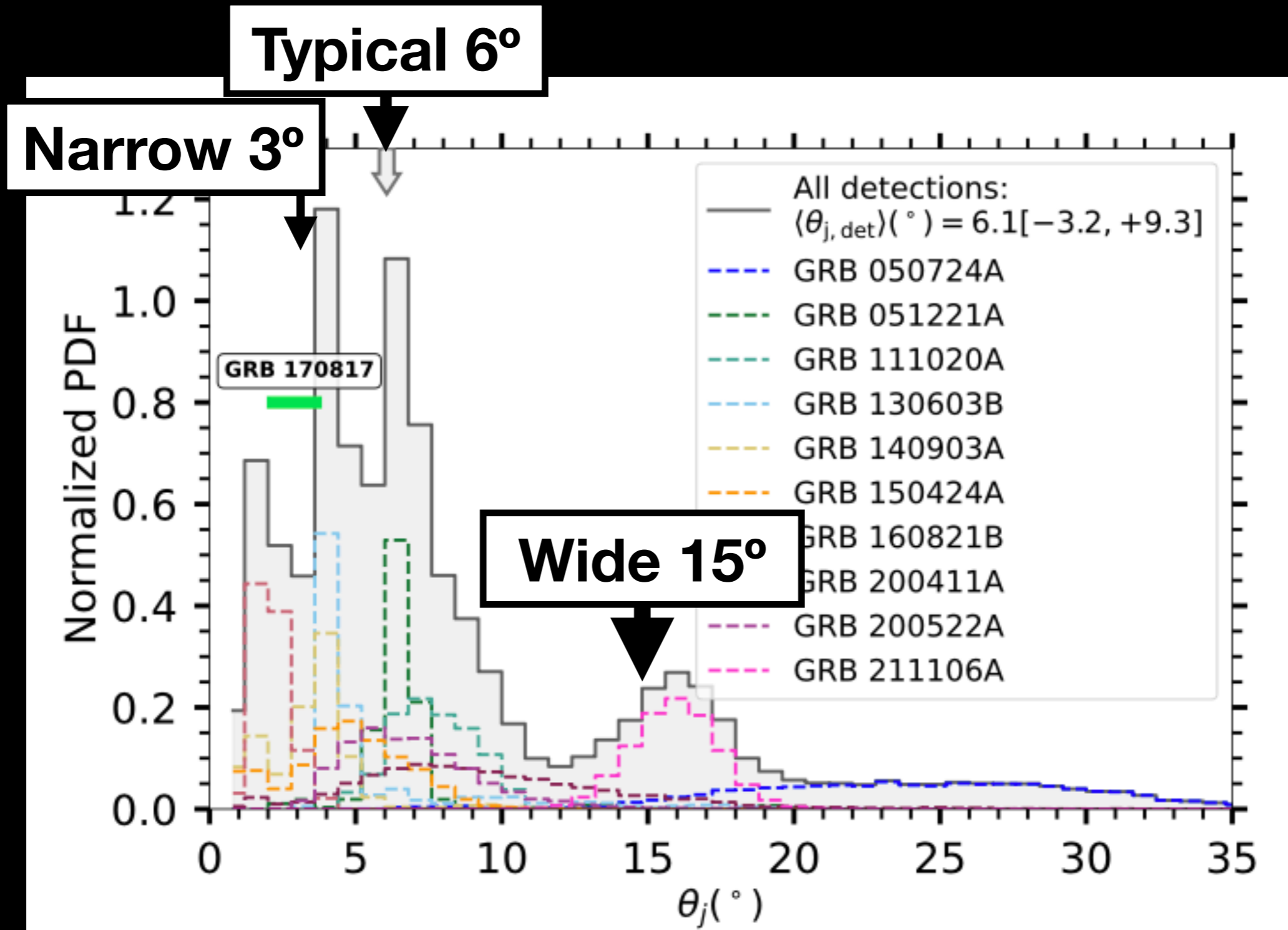
**How does such late engine
activity affect the KN?**



Observations: t & L



Observations: θ_{jet}



Analytic jet breakout time

$$t_b \sim 18 \text{ s} \left(\frac{\beta_m}{0.35} \right)^2 \left(\frac{M_e}{0.05 M_\odot} \right) \left(\frac{\theta_0}{6^\circ} \right)^2 \left(\frac{L_{iso,0}}{10^{49.5}} \right)^{-1}$$

Diagram showing the equation with arrows pointing from two boxes to the parameters β_m and M_e in the first term, and from another two boxes to the parameters θ_0 and $L_{iso,0}$ in the second term.

AT2017gfo;
GRB211211A

sGRBs

Three engine phases:

Prompt ($\sim 10^{53}$ erg/s)
Extended ($\sim 10^{49}$ erg/s)
Plateau ($\sim 10^{47}$ erg/s)

Three jet models:

Narrow ($\theta_0 = 3^\circ$) —
Typical ($\theta_0 = 6^\circ$) —
Wide ($\theta_0 = 15^\circ$) —

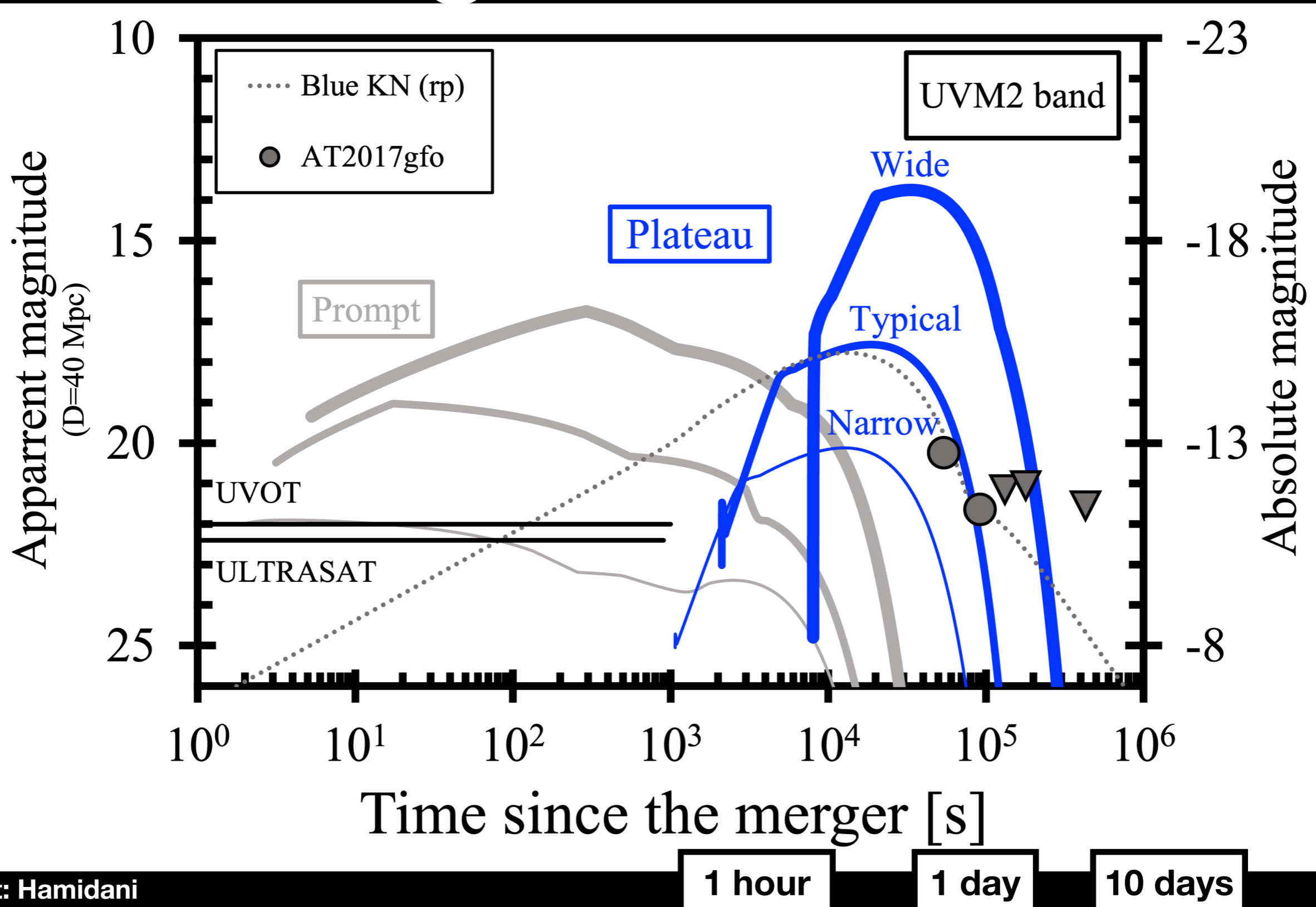
Cooling emission

$$L_{bol}^{cocoon} \approx 5 \times 10^{42} \text{ergs}^{-1}$$

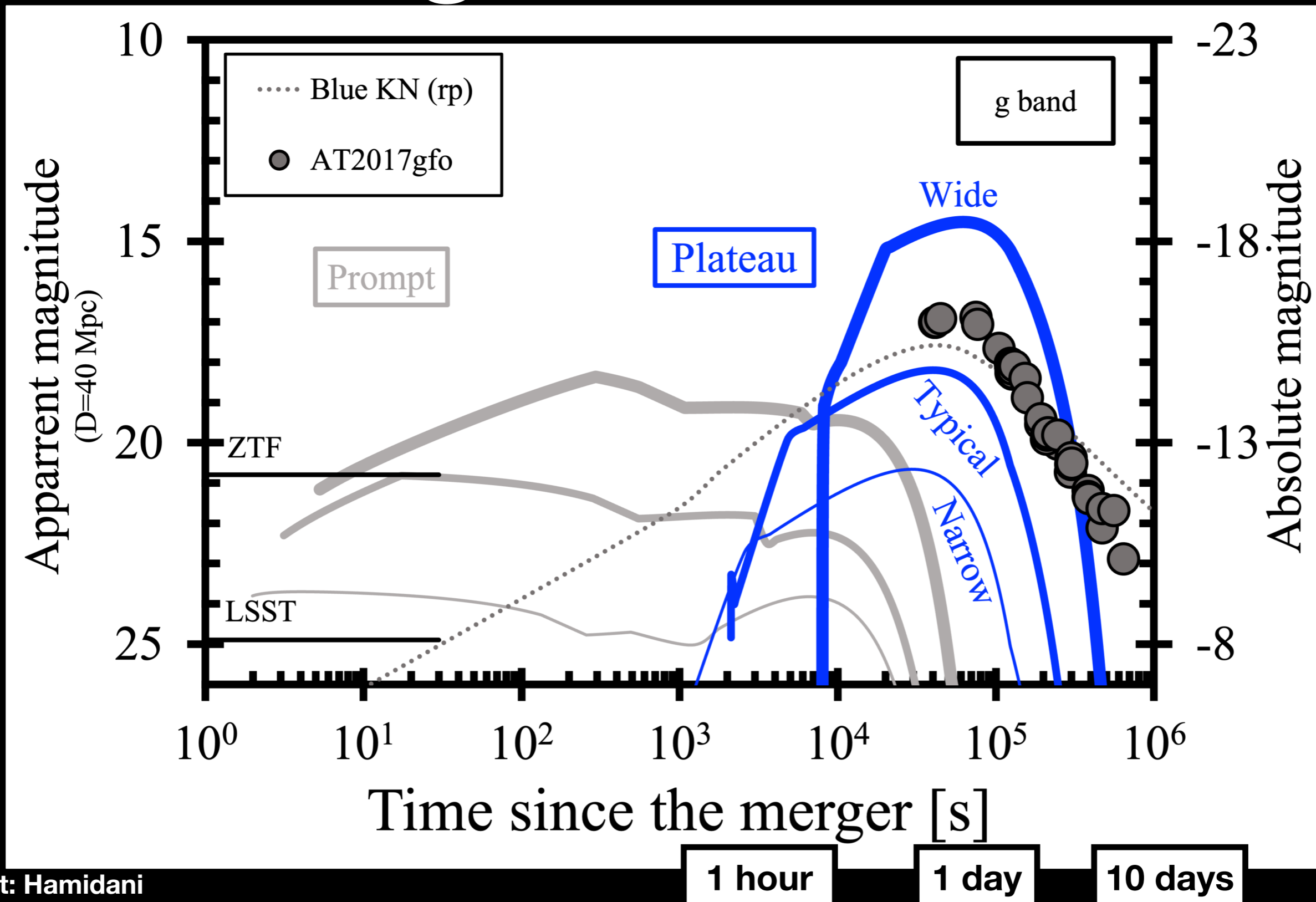
$$\left(\frac{\theta_0}{6^\circ} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\eta_X L_{iso,0}}{10^{46} \text{ergs}^{-1}} \right) \left(\frac{t_b}{3 \times 10^3 \text{ s}} \right) \left(\frac{\kappa}{1 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}} \right)^{\frac{p-2}{2}}$$

$$\left(\frac{M_c}{4 \times 10^{-3} M_\odot} \right)^{\frac{p-2}{2}} \left(\frac{t_{obs}}{6 \times 10^3 \text{ s}} \right)^{-p} \quad [p \sim 2]$$

Magnitudes [UV]



Magnitudes [Opt]



Why brighter w/ the late jet?

1. Blue KN peaks at ~ 1 day ($\sim 10^5$ s)

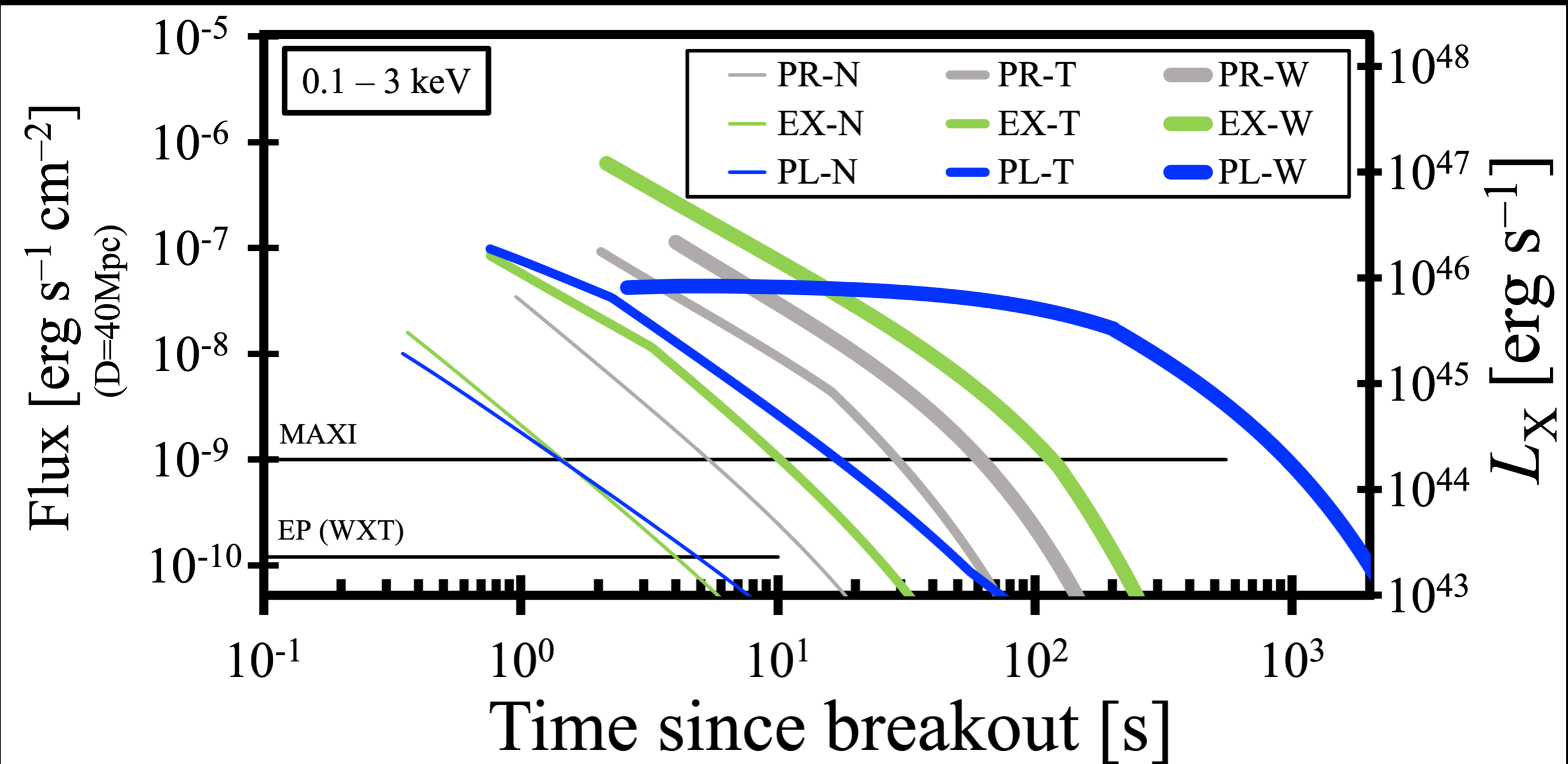
2. The system is **expanding**

e.g., Prompt jet (breakout) timescale **1 s**

- By $\sim 10^5$ s the volume ($\propto t^3$) is 10^{15} times larger!
- Adiabatic cooling $\propto V^{-\frac{1}{3}} \propto t^{-1}$
- i.e., only $\sim 10^{-5}$ of prompt jet's energy remains (to be radiated)

1 % of the jet energy injection $\sim 10^4$ s later
 $\Rightarrow \sim 10^2$ times brighter cooling emission

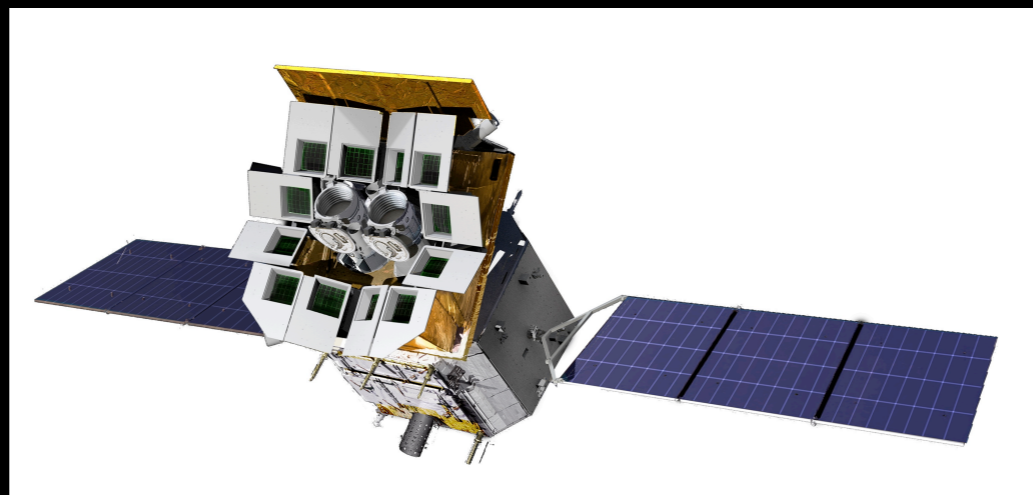
Prediction: Thermal soft X-ray [off-axis & failed sGRBs]



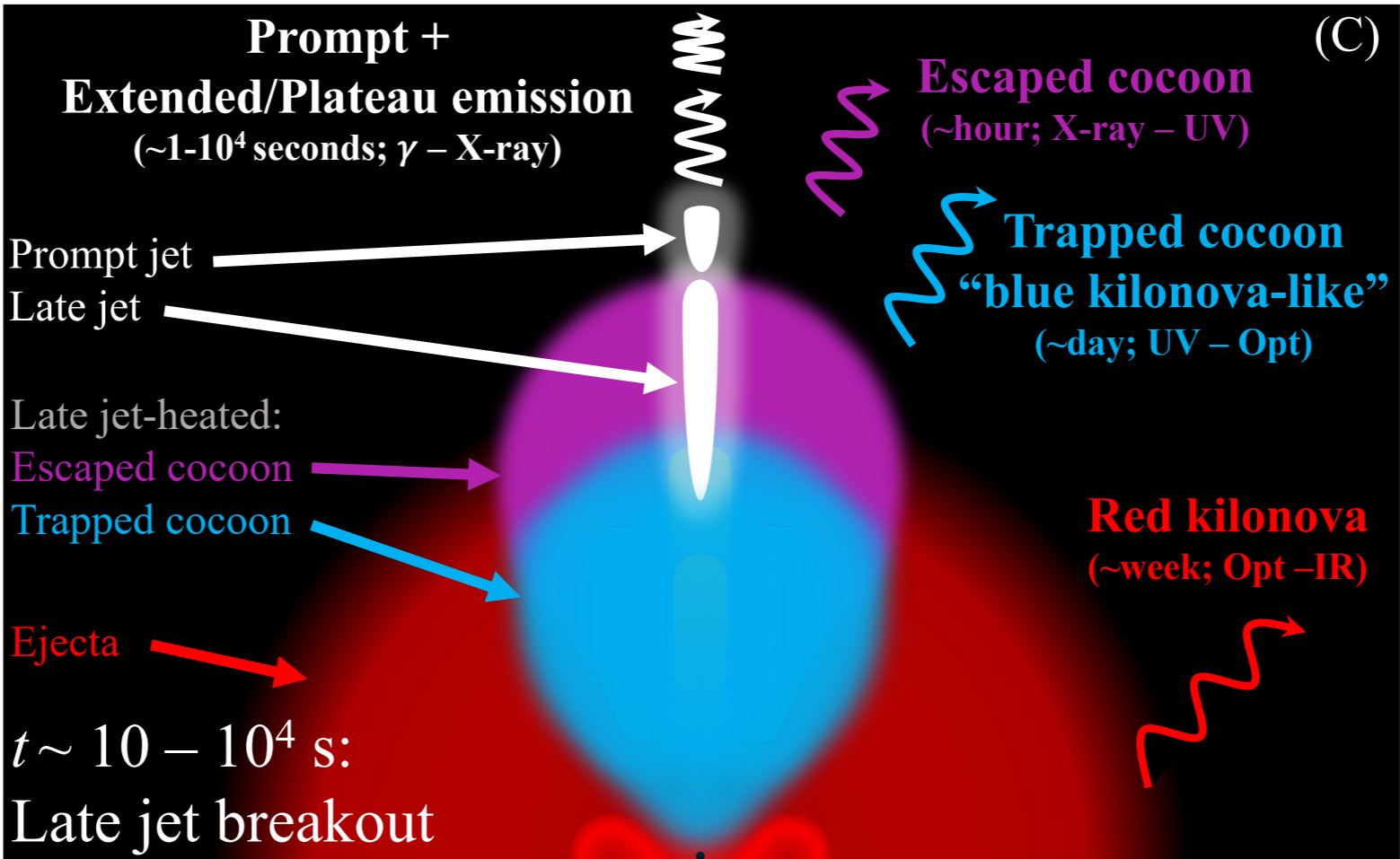
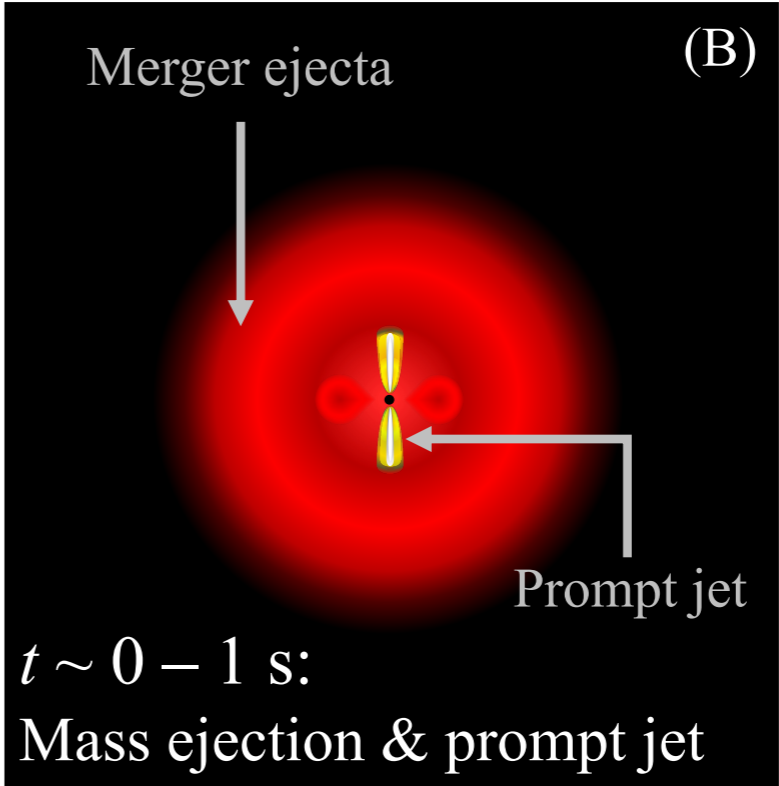
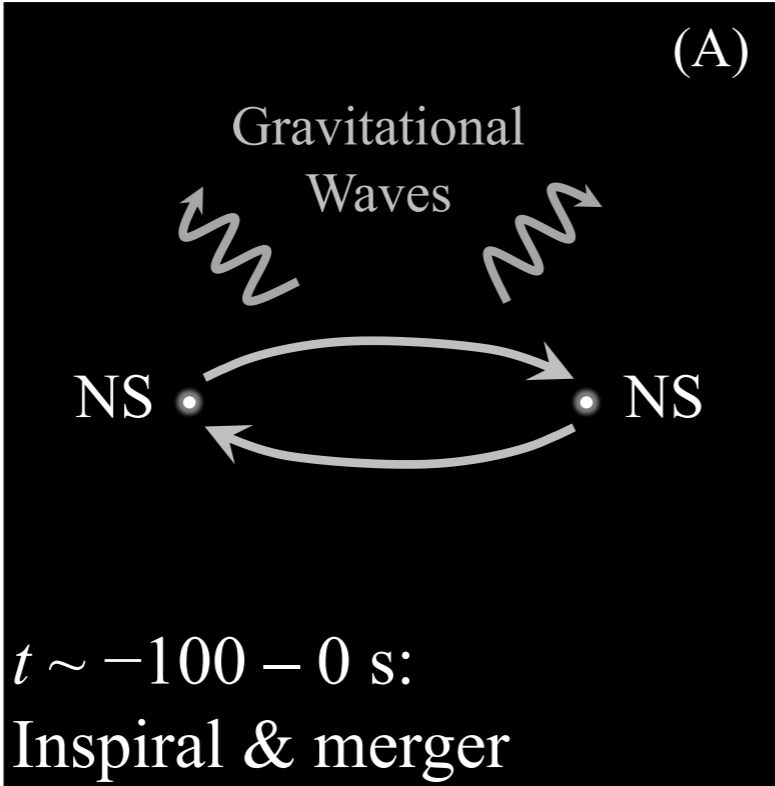
Detection rate [in 0.1 – 3 keV]

$$R_{X, \text{cocoon}} \sim 2.1^{+3.2}_{-1.6} \times \left[\frac{D}{1 \text{ Gpc}} \right]^3 \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

1. Expected for **off-axis & failed sGRB** events!
2. Perhaps, some of **EP's recent faint X-ray** events?



New Paradigm



Credit: Hamidani et al. in 2024

Summary

Late engine activity is ubiquitous in sGRB

extended emission & plateau emission

With late engine shock heating is much more effective

$\sim 10^2$ times; due to the heating at larger radius, hence much less effective adiabatic cooling.

Predict an X-ray transient from the late jet/outflow

Detectable with with Einstein Probe $\sim 1/\text{yr}$ for off-axis & failed sGRBs!

Future early follow-up observations are key

\lesssim day follow-up observations of GW-sGRB events will be decisive

GRB211211A's early Blue KN

Only the central engine can explain it

