Image Credit: Aaron Geller

UNVEILING THE DIVERSITY OF NS MERGER COUNTERPARTS WITH OBSERVATIONS OF GRBS

JILLIAN RASTINEJAD

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NEUTRON STAR MERGERS: Short grbs + Kilonovae



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CLIER A CENTER FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY EXPLORATION AND RESEARCH IN ASTROPHYSICS



Michael

Lundquist

(now at Keck)

Wen-fai

Fond

Lundquist+19, Paterson+21, Rastinejad+22a

David

Sand

THE UNIVERSITY

Griffin

Hosseinzadeh

Kerry Paterson

(now at MPIA)

Manisha

Shrestha

Northwestern

Jillian

Rastinejad

University

Azalee

Bostreom

Saarah

Hall

Northwestern

LIGO



Searches for Kilonovae

Team SAGUARO

(Searches After Gravitational waves

Using ARizona Observatories)

(A)

e.g., Smartt+17, Yang+18, Andreoni+21



Blind Searches in Large Surveys

Virgo

Gravitational Waves

Searches for

Kilonovae

e.g., Smartt+17, Yang+18, Andreoni+21

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Blind Searches in Large Surveys

Gravitational Waves

LIGO

Fermi



Short GRBs



Virgo

Comparing all SGRB KN observations to AT2017gfo

v(sGRB)

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Kilonova candidates are more luminous in bluer bands than AT2017gfo

Deep upper limits of 10 bursts fall below 1:1 ratio

Rest-frame optical KNe observations show span of ~100 in luminosity



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See also Gompertz+18, Ascenzi+19, Rossi+20

SGRB Kilonova Ejecta Masses



SGRB Kilonova Ejecta Masses



Current short GRB observations constrain blue ejecta diversity **better than red ejecta**

Constraints are model dependent and can vary on the order of ~0.1 M_{\odot} (also see Ascenzi+19)

GRB 211211A: Exciting Ingredients

An ambiguous gamma-ray light curve



Observing a red excess following the **50-s duration GRB 211211A at 350 Mpc**



Observing a red excess following the **50-s duration GRB 211211A at 350 Mpc**



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Broadband Observations + Afterglow Model

Afterglow-subtracted Optical/ NIR Observations + KN Model

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AT2017gfo @ z=0.076 18 constant 20 +22 Apparent magnitude 24 26 K-4 B+2U+3I-3 z-2 W1 + 428 i-1 M2 + 5W2+6 r+0 30 0 2 10Time (days from trigger)

Rastinejad+22b



Nearly the same K-band luminosity as AT2017gfo

Nearly the same K-band Iuminosity as AT2017gfo

K-band fades on similar timescales to AT 2017gfo

Deep limit on a SN counterpart at ~17 days

Higher-z scenarios are limited by Swift/UVOT afterglow detection

International Gemini Observatory/NOIRLab/NSF/AURA/M. Zamani; NASA/ESA

GRB 211211A: Implications

What causes the extended gamma-ray emission? Favored explanations:

NSBH Merger: late-time fall-back accretion from tidally-disrupted material; e.g. Rosswog+07, Desai+19

*Tentatively disfavored due to larger blue component

Magnetar Remnant: rotational energy imparted into relativistic wind; e.g. Metzger+08, Gompertz+14, Gompertz+22

*Tentatively favored due to ability to explain consistent EE timescales (~100s when system becomes opticallythin neutrinos)

GRB 211211A: Implications

What causes the extended gamma-ray emission? Favored explanations:

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Future coincident GWs + LGRBs may decide!*

*see Sarin, Lasky & Nathan 2022

Conclusions

- I. Rest-frame optical SGRB kilonovae span a factor of ~100 in luminosity. Deep upper limits constrain ejecta masses of 6 bursts to $M_{ej} < 0.05 M_{\odot}$.
- II. The long GRB 211211A was accompanied by a fast-fading NIR transient that strongly resembles the kilonova AT2017gfo, demonstrating the long complex gamma-ray light curves may spawn from a NS merger origin.

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JILLIAN RASTINEJAD

Northwestern

