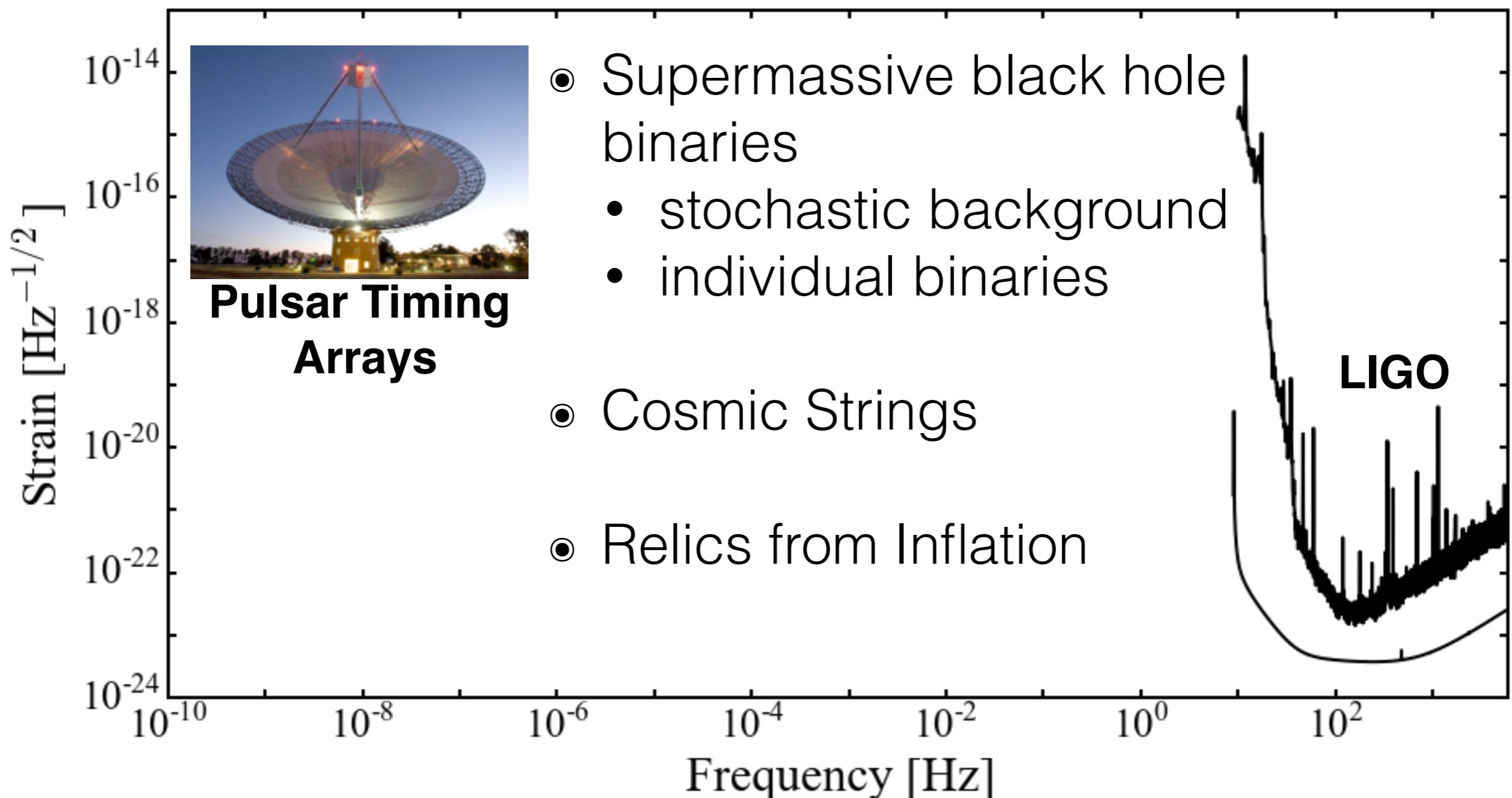


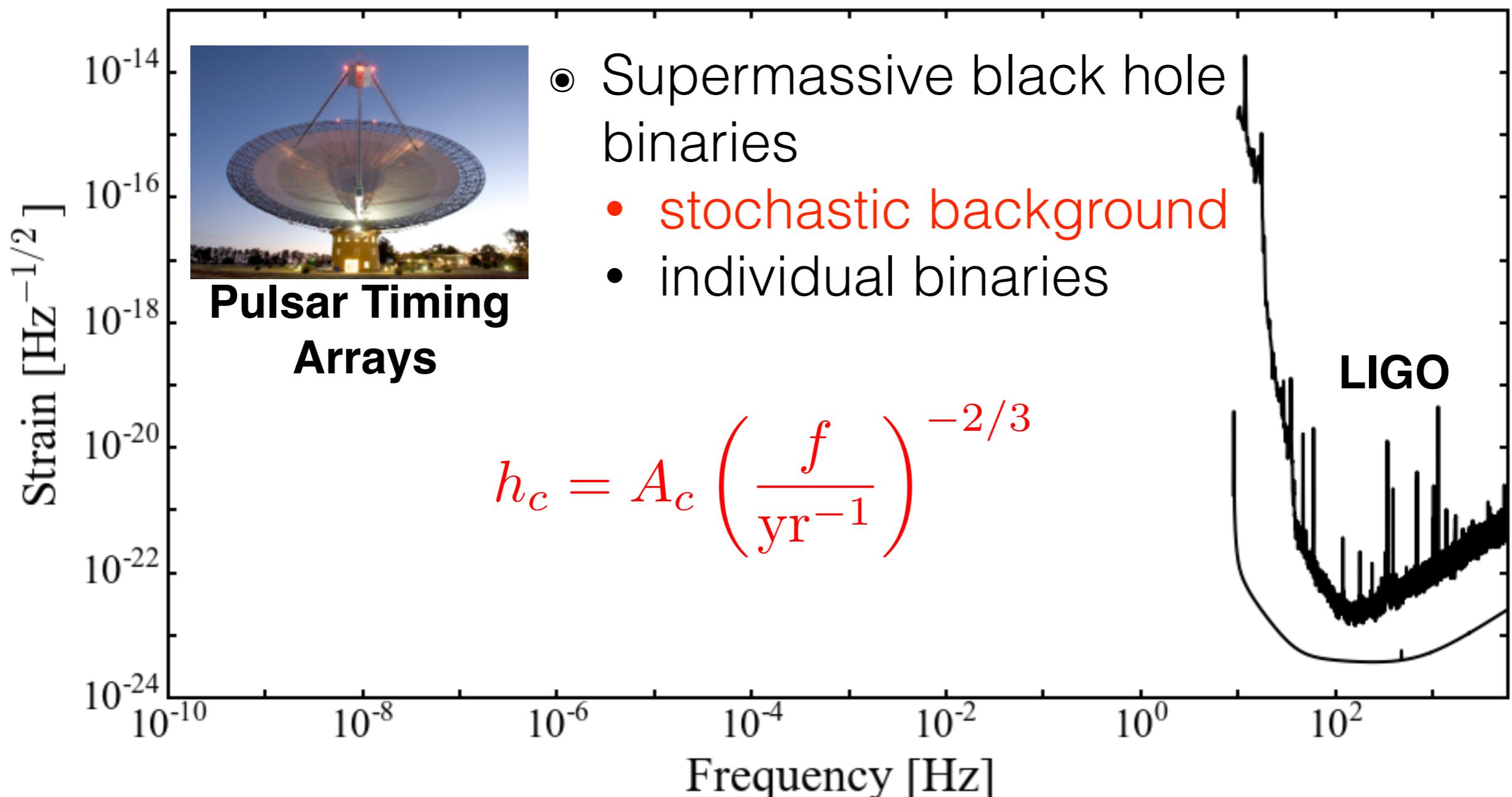
# Gravitational waves from binary supermassive black holes missing in pulsar observations

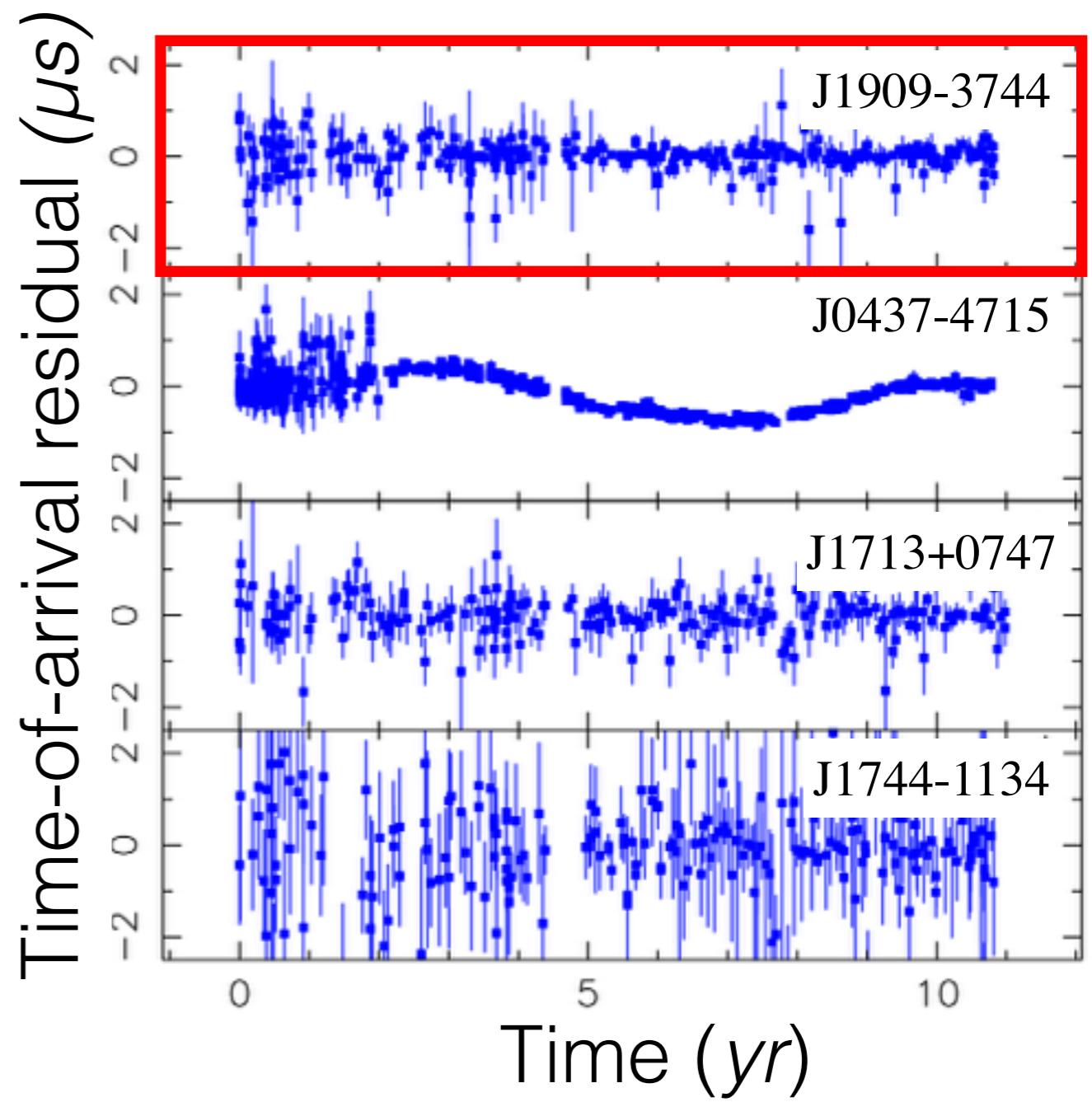
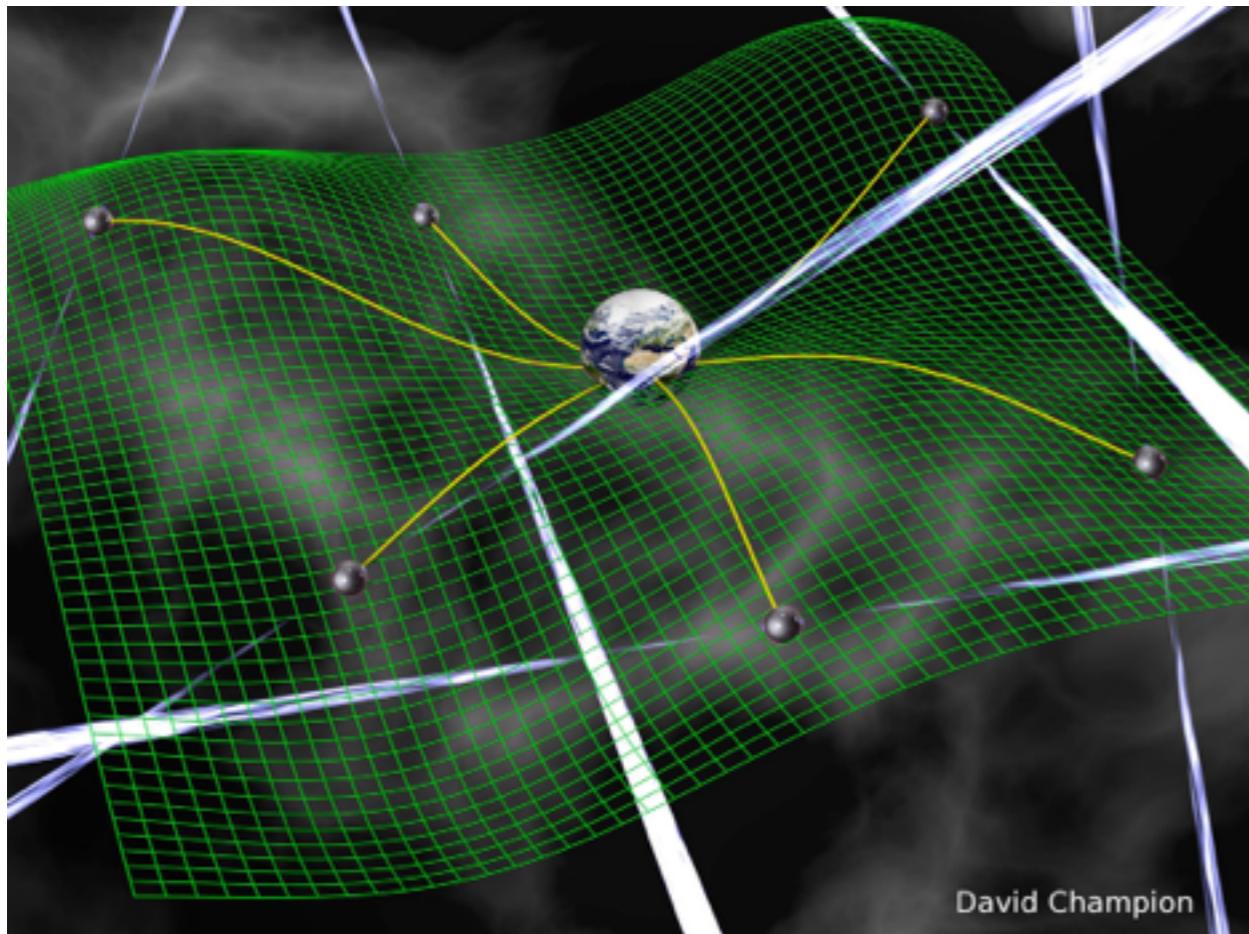
Paul Lasky, on behalf of the



Shannon et al., 2015 (Science; accepted)



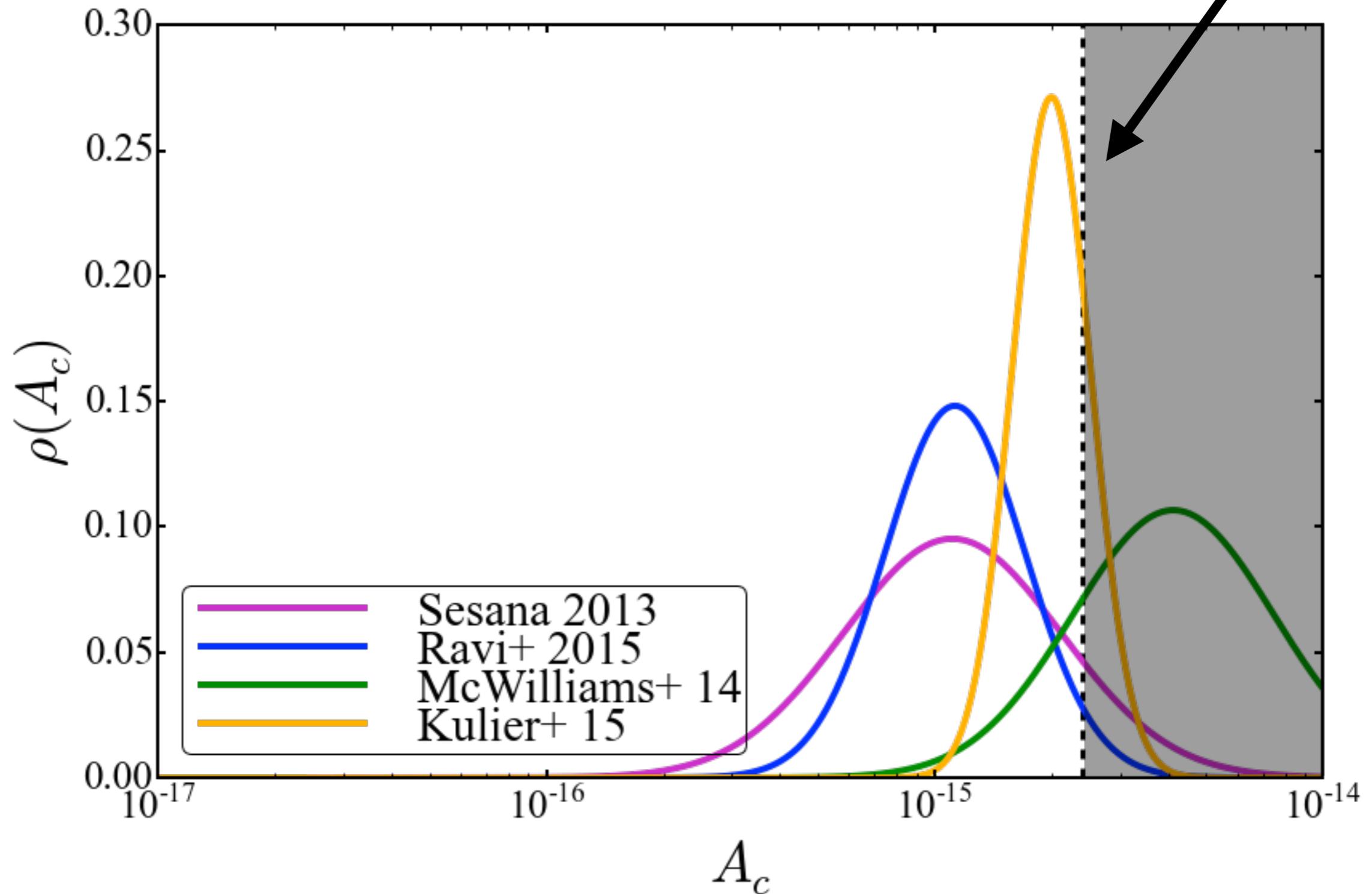


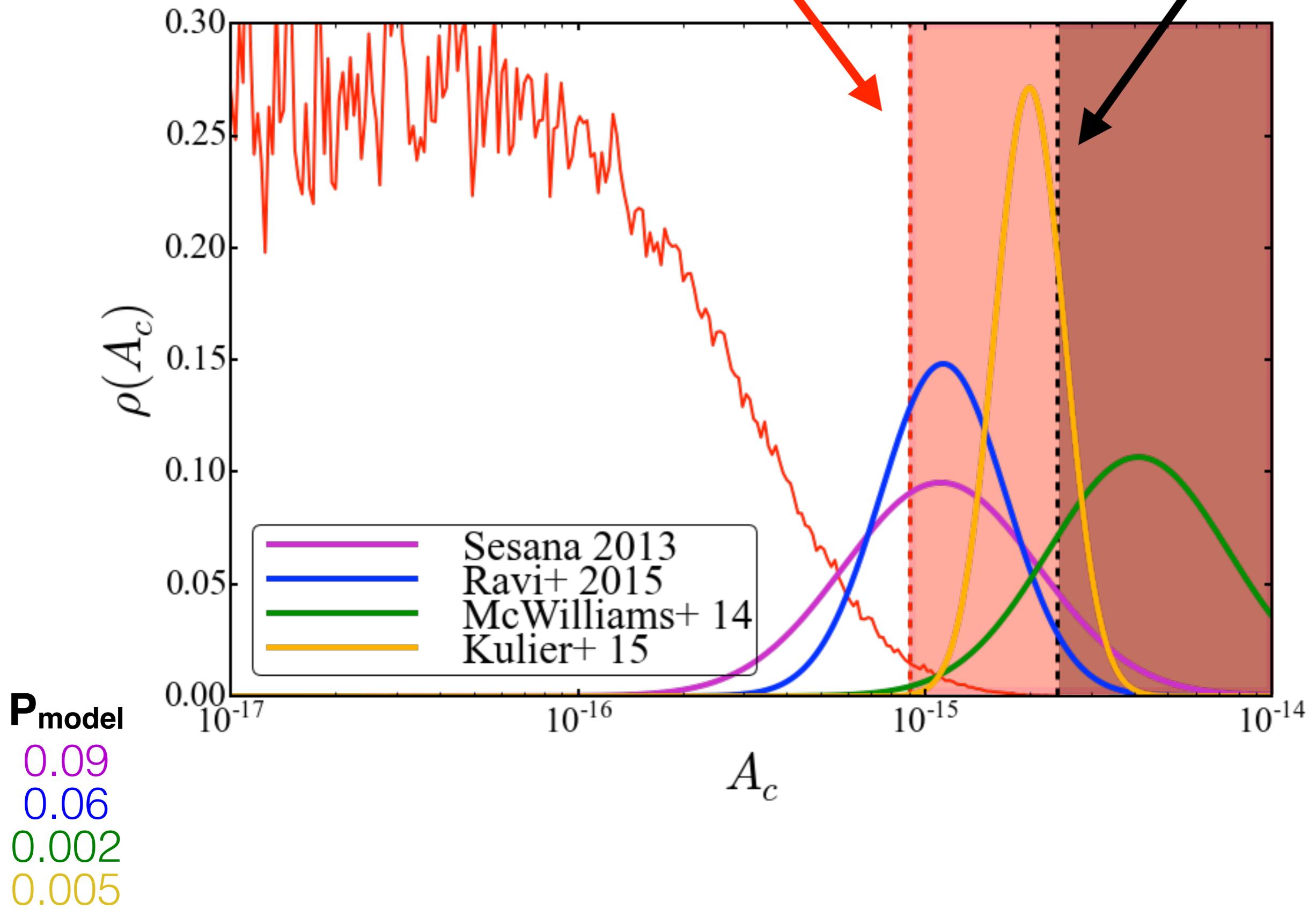


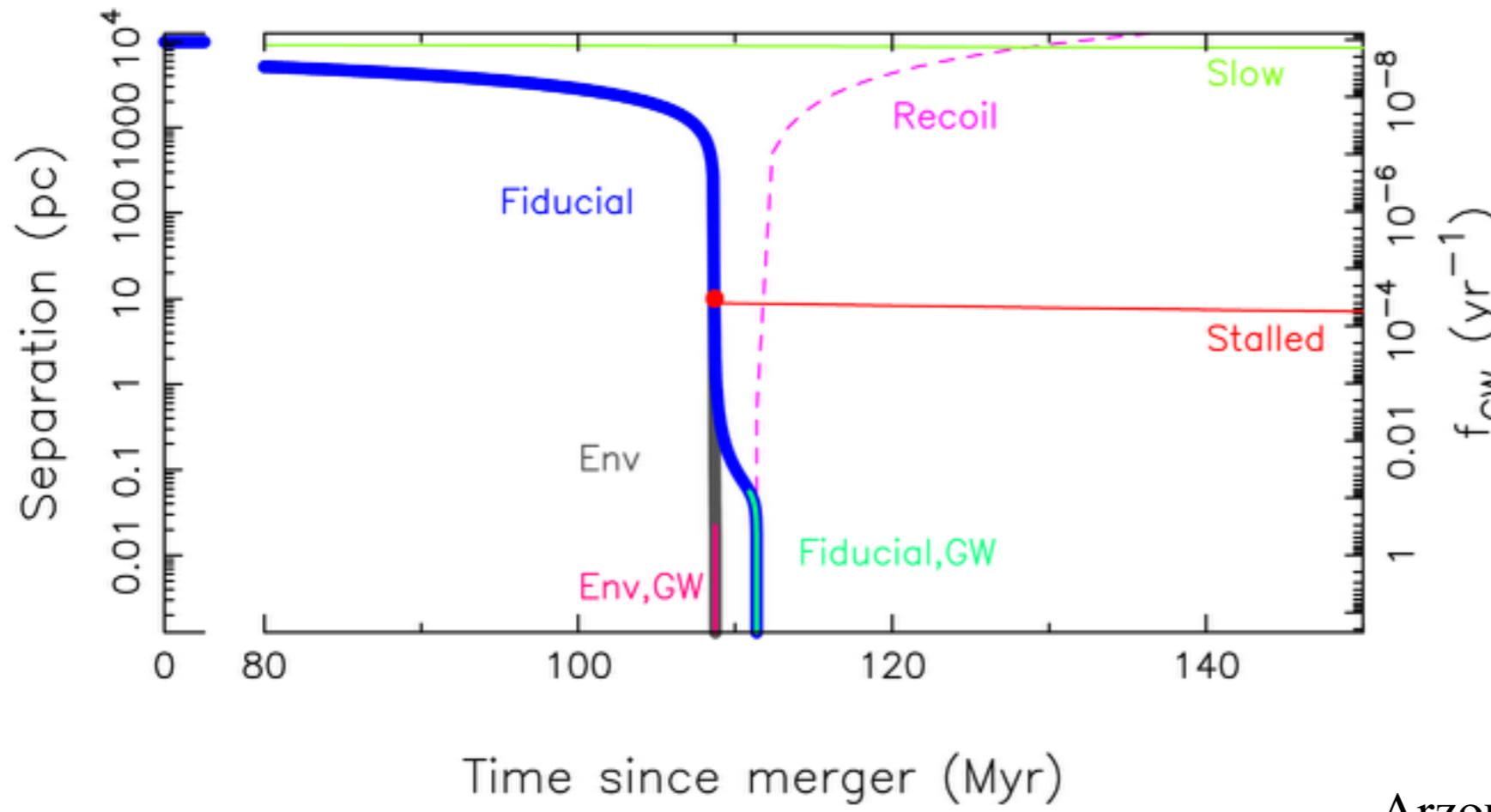
# Supermassive black hole mergers

- Assume all galaxies host a SMBH
- Use observed BH-Galaxy mass relations
- Assume BH merger rate traces galaxy merger rate
- Assume GW dominated mergers (circular, ...)
- ...
- Sum up contribution from all SMBHs mergers in Universe



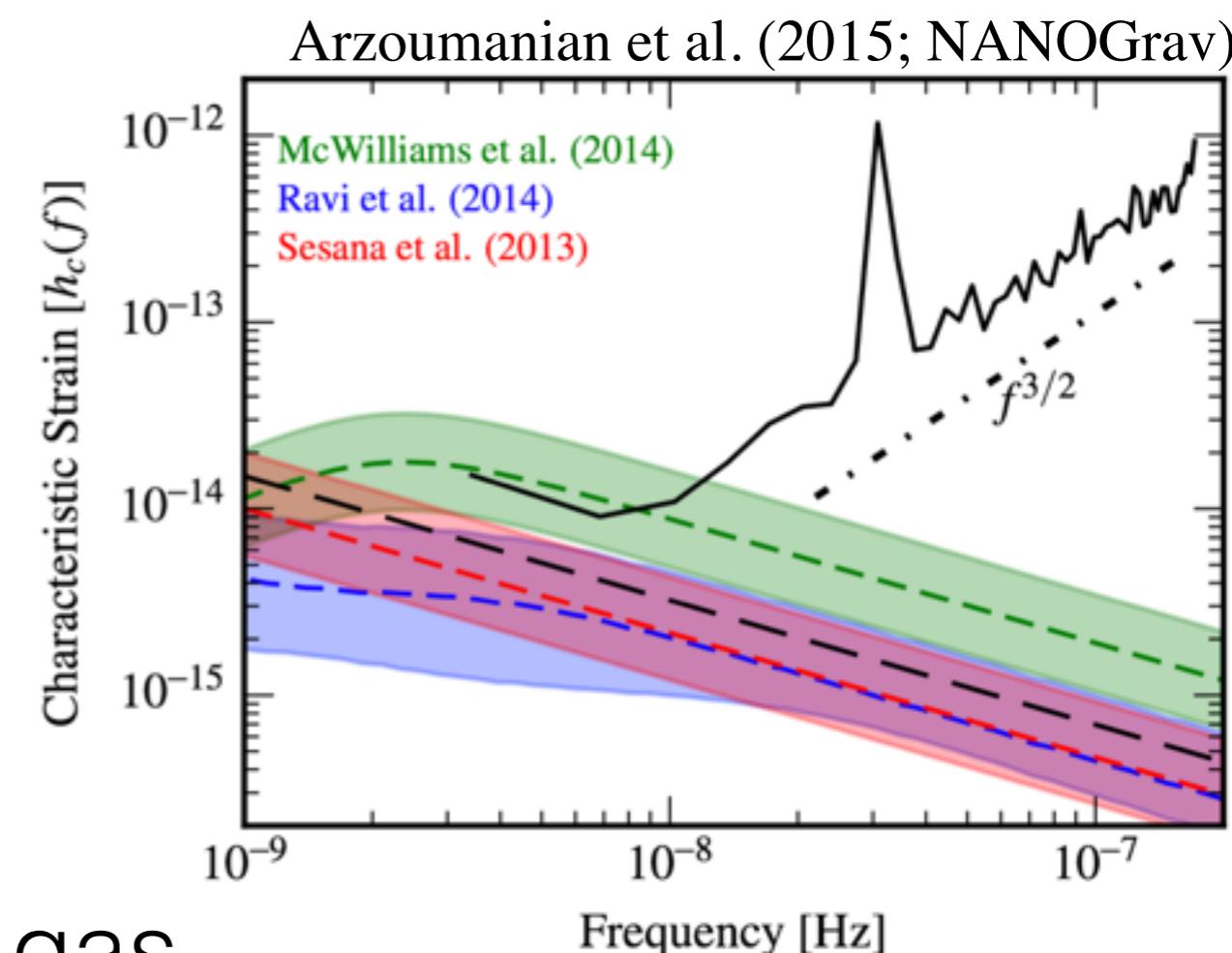


**Shannon et al.  
(2015)****Shannon et al.  
(2013)**



# Astrophysical Inference

- Black hole mass function at  $z \sim 2$ ?
- Galaxy merger rate?
- Environmental factors: stars, gas, ...



# Gravitational-wave cosmology over 29 decades in frequency

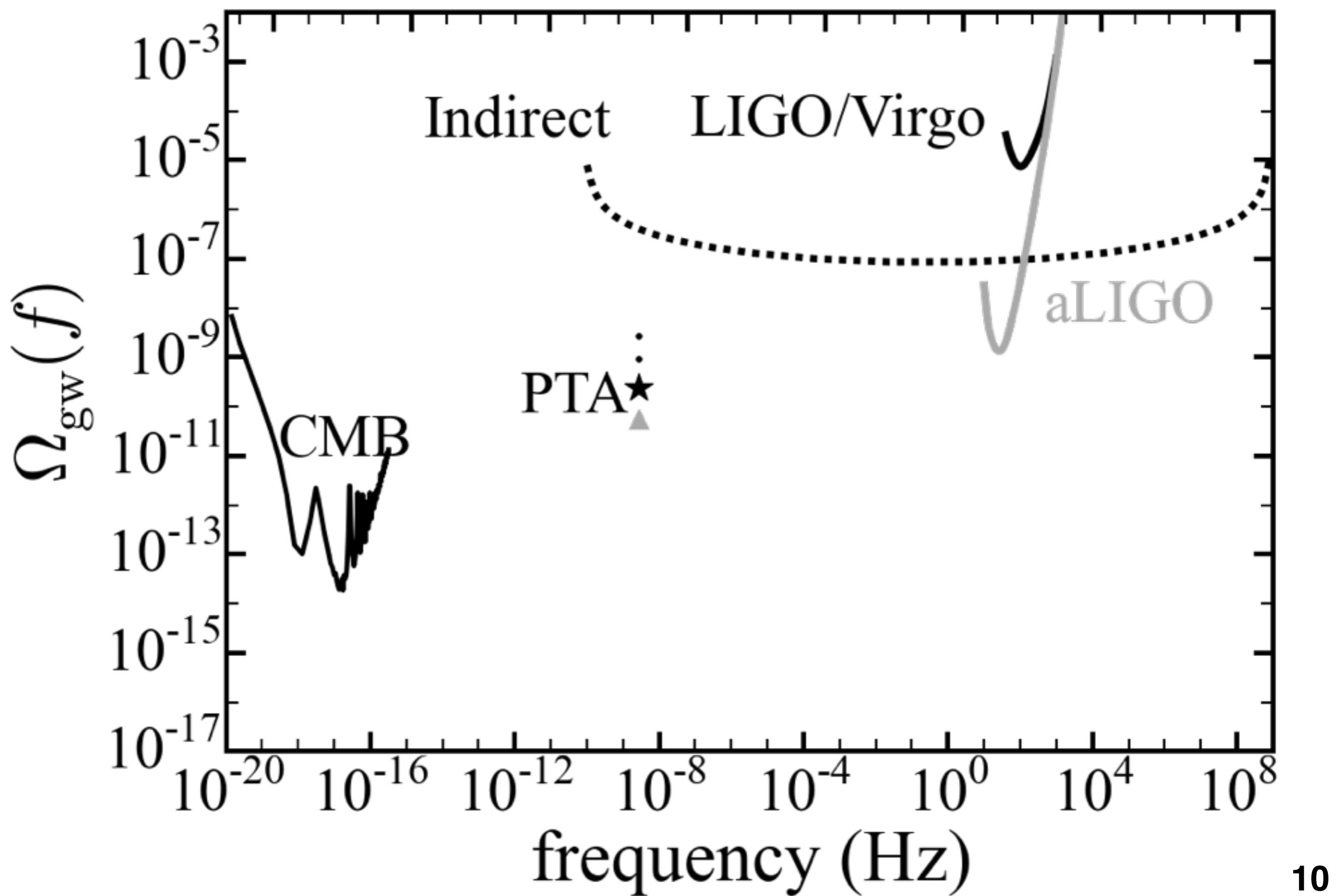


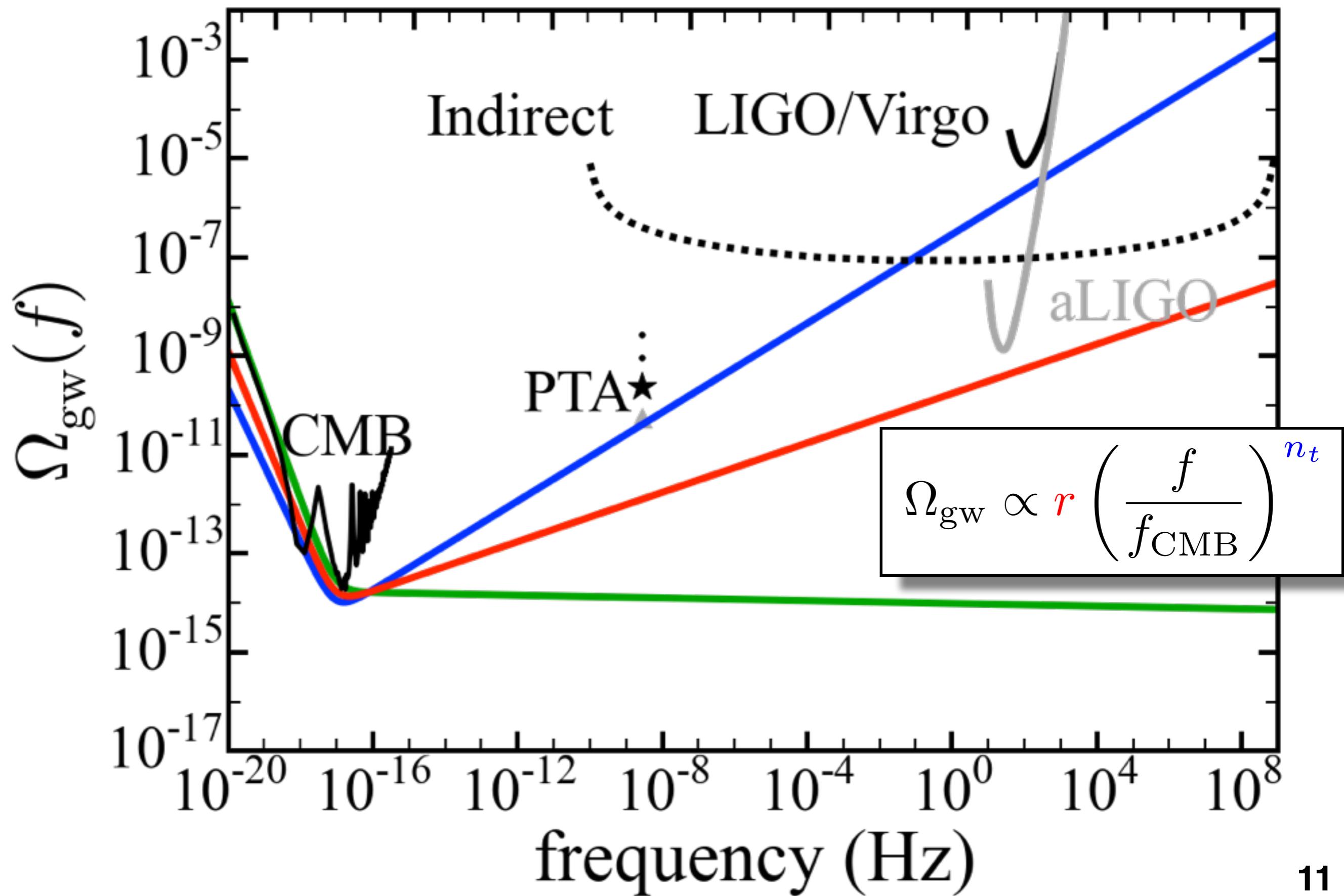
**Paul Lasky**

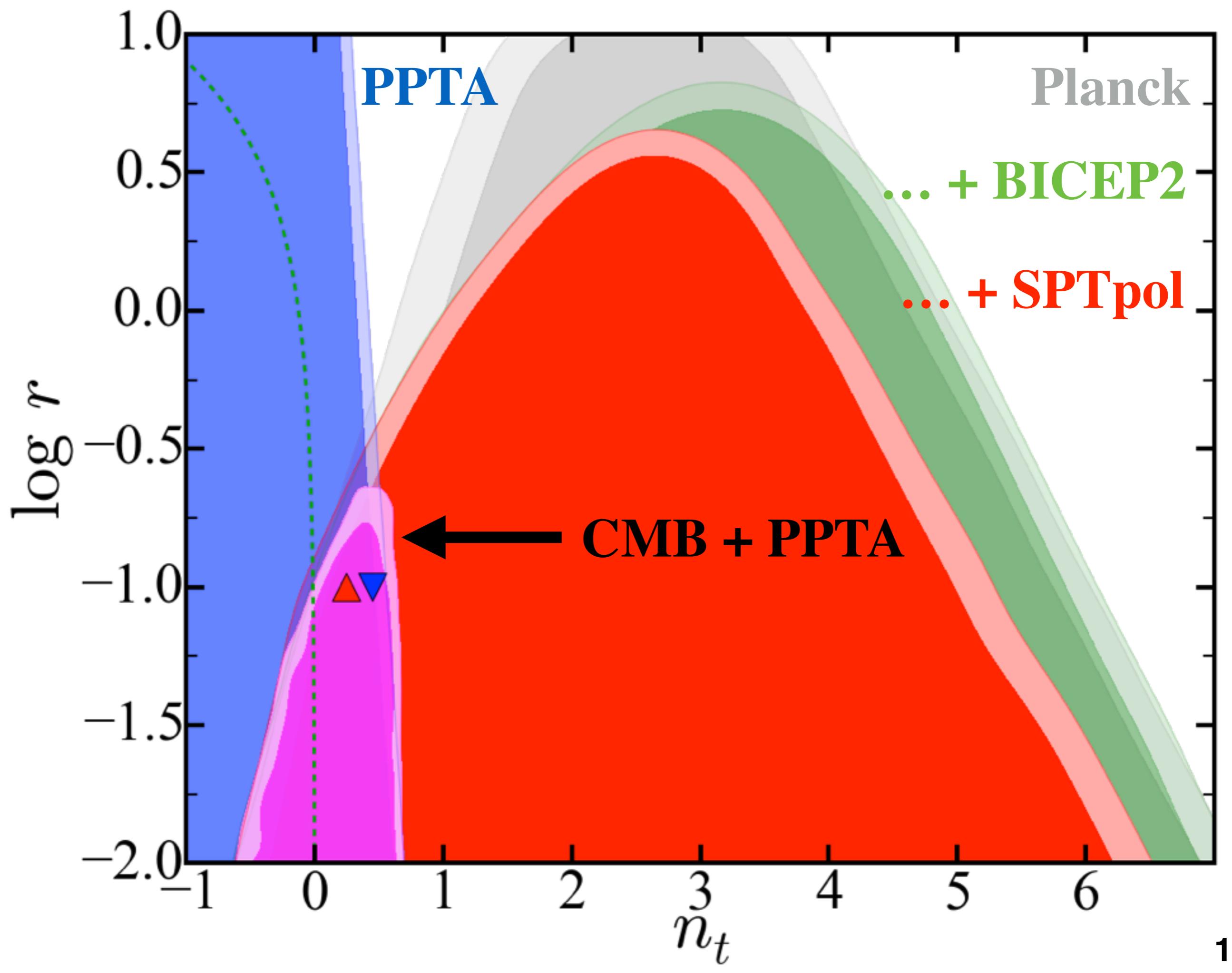


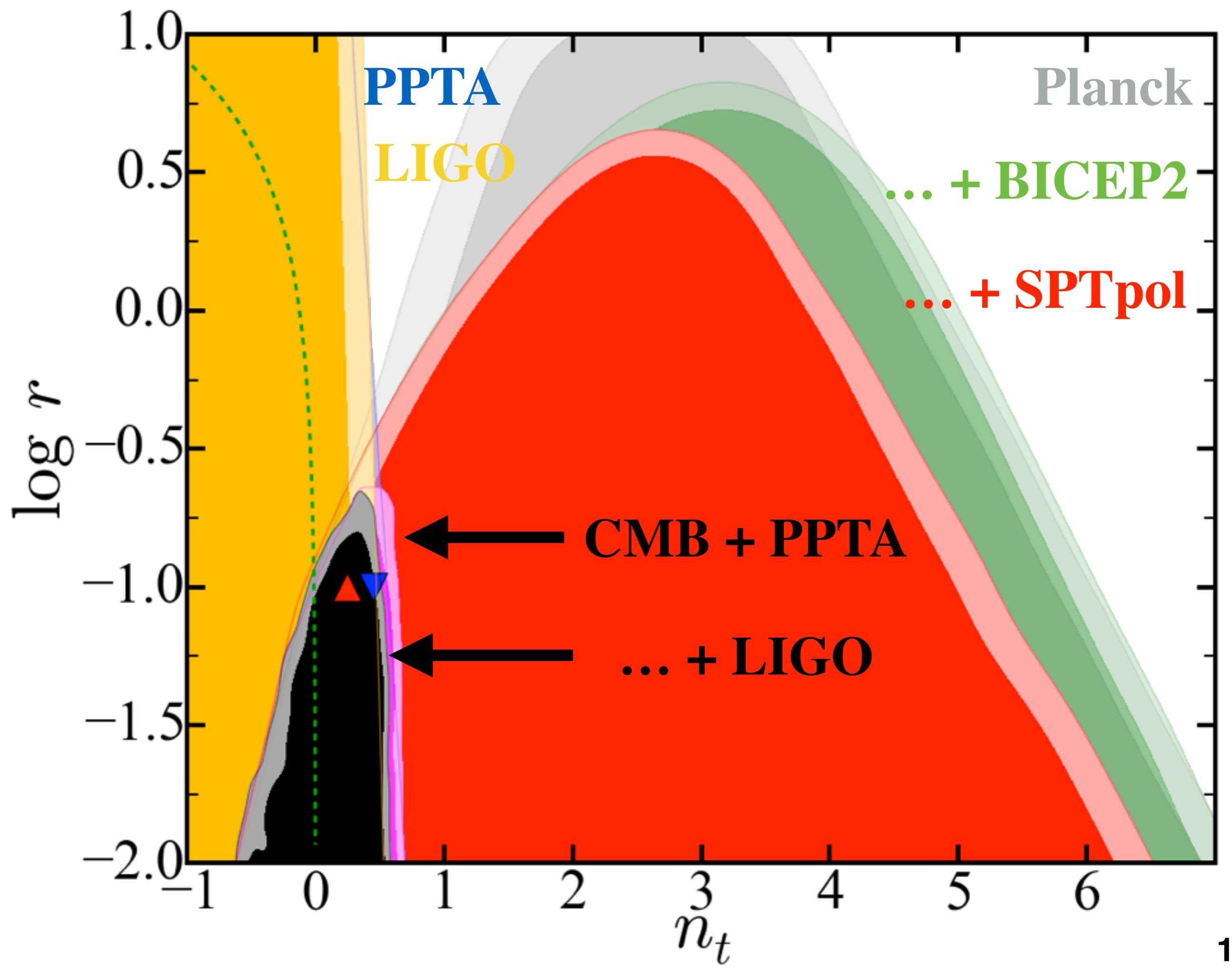
**Chiara Mingarelli, Tristan Smith,  
Tom Giblin, Eric Thrane,  
Daniel Reardon, and the PPTA**

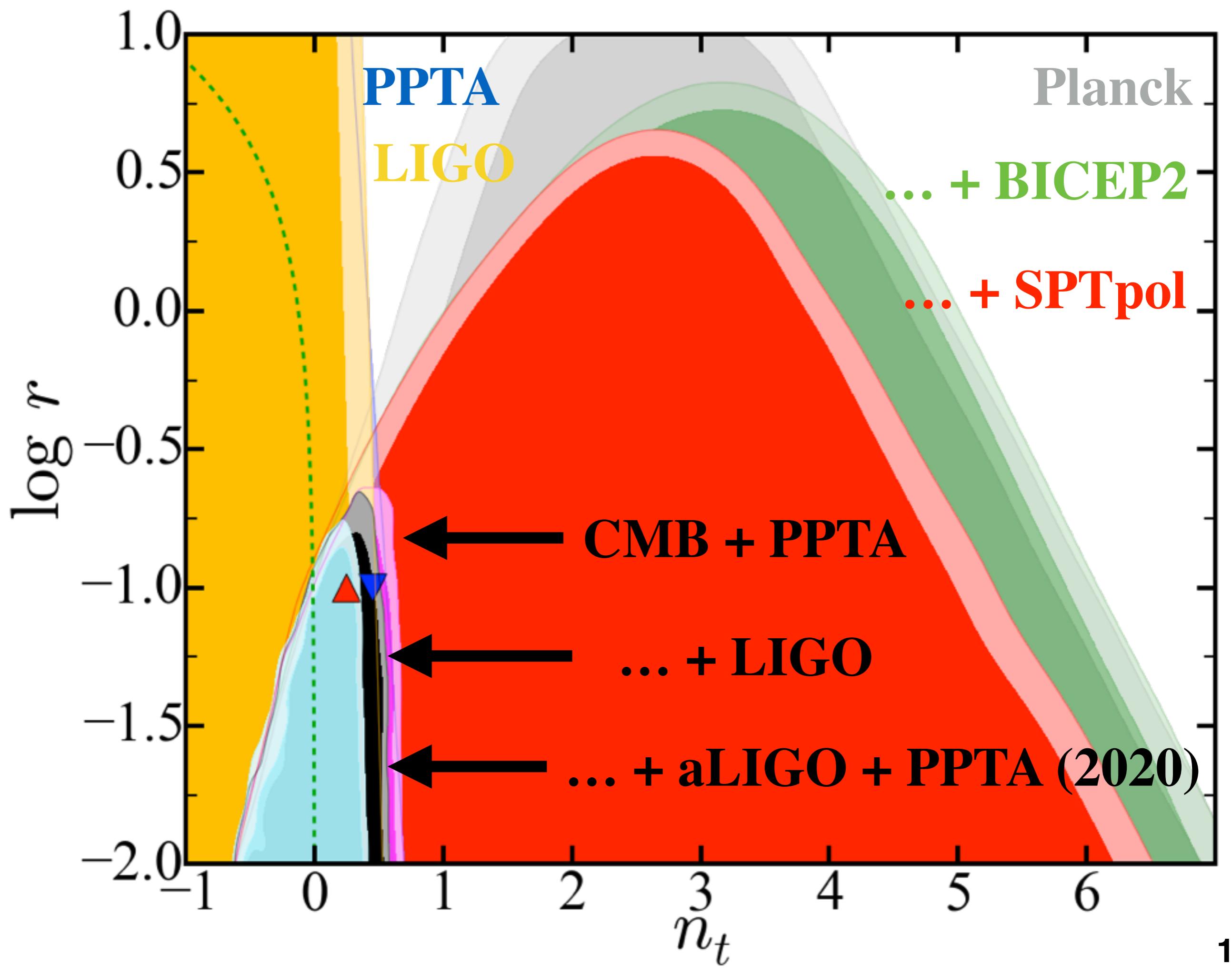












# Conclusions

- **PPTA currently doing cosmology with non-detections!**
  - Our understanding of galaxy/black hole evolution needs updating
  - Bad news for stochastic GW backgrounds with PTAs
    - what about single sources?
- **Combined GW measurements constrain inflation**
  - Watch this space...