Fermi GBM observations of GW150914



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for the GBM-LIGO follow-up group:

Lindy Blackburn, Michael S. Briggs, Jacob Broida, Eric Burns, Jordan Camp, Nelson Christensen, Valerie Connaughton, Tito del Canto, Adam Goldstein, Rachel Hamburg, Michelle Hui, Peter Jenke, Tyson Littenberg, Rob Preece, Judith Racusin, Peter Shawhan, Leo Singer, John Veitch, Peter Veres, Colleen Wilson-Hodge Fermi acts as a surveyor of the high-energy sky, with both instruments detecting Gamma-Ray Bursts over a broad energy baseline



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Even a large banana and a large orange can help: using joint GBM-LIGO/Virgo detections to guide follow-up observers



Typical LIGO localization region from http://www.ligo.org/scientists/first2years/: changes in 2016 with addition of Virgo



18 +/- 5 nearby galaxies (N. Gehrels et al. 2015, arXiv:1508.03608



Typical reduction of 80% in sky region:

4 nearby galaxies: easier to follow up with XRT or optical telescopes.

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Owing to all-sky coverage, Fermi GBM detects and localizes more short GRBs than other GRB detectors.



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Weak short GRBs are not necessarily more distant than bright short GRBs and may lie within the detection horizon of LIGO/Virgo: GBM team developed search for short GRBs too weak to trigger on-board Fermi



- Extrapolating from sGRBs with known redshift gives <0.5 5 per year sGRB for GBM within LIGO/ Virgo horizon (nearby z uncertain).
- This number is doubled with unseeded search for GRBs that do not trigger on-board.

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Untriggered GBM Short GRB Candidates

http://gammaray.nsstc.nasa.gov/gbm/science/sgrb_search.html

- A list of the untriggered candidates (June 2014 to present) are listed in website above.
- Working towards creating automated GCNs, will be distinct from triggered events type.

Short GRB Candidates							
MET	RANK	DATE (UT)	TIME (UT)	RA (DEG)	DEC (DEG)	ERROR (DEG)	COMMENT
423745096.625	1.91E-0016	2014-06-06	10:58:13.625	232.07	+37.47	18.86	
424708158.025	2.36E-0007	2014-06-17	14:29:15.025	359.06	-32.47	5.59	
424757010.500	1.92E-0016	2014-06-18	04:03:27.500	278.84	+64.38	4.67	
424968038.500	2.80E-0007	2014-06-20	14:40:35.500	319.45	-17.40	17.05	
426319641.550	2.00E-0010	2014-07-06	06:07:18.550	64.10	+25.04	6.41	
426588599.600	7.75E-0014	2014-07-09	08:49:56.600	12.77	-49.36	6.53	
426950830.700	4.21E-0007	2014-07-13	13:27:7.700	264.57	-87.36	13.49	
427440502.000	2.65E-0007	2014-07-19	05:28:19.000	34.37	+45.94	15.21	
431283951.000	3.82E-0008	2014-09-01	17:05:48.000	80.94	+69.19	16.02	
431291510.000	3.03E-0007	2014-09-01	19:11:47.000	81.08	-17.32	15.88	
432797599.000	3.30E-0007	2014-09-19	05:33:16.000	177.15	-37.38	20.86	
433789586.000	1.95E-0007	2014-09-30	17:06:23.000	283.03	-9.27	11.33	
436073076.650	2.18E-0007	2014-10-27	03:24:33.650	62.59	-52.26	11.90	
437185383.600	3.72E-0014	2014-11-09	00:23:0.600	289.76	-28.56	14.73	
437703742.200	1.71E-0007	2014-11-15	00:22:19.200	107.66	-19.52	13.08	
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GBM Candidate Event



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In addition to untargeted offline search, we developed a search seeded with LIGO time and (optionally) position. Sensitivity of LIGO/Virgo search can be improved by ~15 - 20 % relative to LIGO/Virgo alone (Kelley+ 2013)



Method was developed during last science run of LIGO and tested on Swift GRBs: a false alarm rate (FAR) for a given likelihood is calculated from a test on 2 months of GBM data: this is an empirical FAR. L. Blackburn et al. ApJS 2015, 217, 8

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GBM detected a weak event 0.4 s after GW150914, with a 0.2% probability of occurring by chance. The search window was 30 s either side of the GW event.



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The localization is crude but consistent with the arrival direction of GW150914



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The spectrum is consistent with a short GRB that is sub-luminous in the source frame.



- At a distance of 410 Mpc (from GW data), this is a gamma-ray bolometric luminosity (1 keV - 10 MeV) of ~2e10⁴⁹ erg/s
- Sub-luminous compared to short GRBs with known redshift

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No count-rate increase was seen in the anticoincidence shield of the INTEGRAL spectrometer (SPI-ACS) or in the hard X-ray instrument on-board AGILE



- The SPI-ACS non-detection constrains the spectrum to be softer than the template spectrum in our pipeline (which was not a fit to the data) and/or to a position on the LIGO arc to which SPI-ACS did not have a good view (Savchenko et al. 2016) (these positions are excluded by the GBM localization).
- More generally: non-detection in one instrument can constrain location/spectrum in another -> useful for the future. GBM and SPI-ACS teams working on joint sensitivities.

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Detection rate of GBM triggered short GRBs in the Integral SPI-ACS

The SPI-ACS data was tested for excesses >= 4.5 sigma in intervals of the duration of each GBM SGRB. The plot shows the dependence of detection rate on fluence.

The shaded region indicates the GBM fluence (+/- 1 sigma) for GW-150914-GBM



GRB 150214293 has a hard spectrum and was bright enough to trigger GBM - but not seen in SPI-ACS.



Comparable in fluence and power-law spectrum to GWI50914-GBM

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The nature of GWI509I4-GBM

	Duration	Localization	Spectral Hardness	Lightcurve Morphology	Fermi Lat./ Long.	Believable ?
TGFs/TEBs	X	X			X	X
Galactic Sources		X	X			X
Solar Activity		X	X	X		X
lagnetospheric Origin				X	X	X
New or Unidentified Origin	?	?	?	?	?	X
SGRB	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark

Adapted from Eric Burns (presentation at HEAD 2016).

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• Fermi GBM Observations of LIGO Gravitational Wave event GW150914 - VC+

- Using a targeted search seeded with the LIGO time and a search window of 30 s either side of the GW event, we uncovered a weak transient associated with a false alarm rate of about 10⁻⁴ Hz.
- After accounting for trials and weighting the probability of uncovering an event by chance linearly with temporal offset from the GW event, the event has a false alarm probability of 0.2%.
- The transient is consistent in arrival direction with GWI50914. If it is associated with the GW event, the GBM data reduce the LIGO localization region by 2/3.
- A spectral fit to the data from two GBM detectors, a fluence calculation using the fit parameters, and a luminosity estimate using the distance calculated from the GW data imply consistency with a sub-luminous short GRB.
- Other explanations for the nature of GWI50914-GBM are not satisfactory.
- The non-detection of GWI509I4-GBM by SPI-ACS puts constraints on the hardness of the spectrum of the event. Further GBM SPI-ACS cross-analysis including systematic effects may further constrain the spectrum and brightness of the event.
- If GWI50914-GBM is associated with GWI50914 we will detect more counterparts to BH-BH mergers. A full evaluation of the nature of GWI50914-GBM will probably await further GW observations.

- Analyses of the GBM data:
 - Fermi GBM Observations of LIGO Gravitational Wave event GW150914 Valerie Connaughton, et al.
 - On the GBM event seen 0.4 sec after GW 150914 Jochen Greiner, et al.
 - Is the GW150914-GBM really associated with the GW150914? Shaolin Xiong
 - <u>Searching for electromagnetic counterpart of LIGO gravitational waves in the Fermi GBM data with</u> <u>ADWO</u> – Z. Bagoly, et al.
- Theory papers:
 - Mergers of Charged Black Holes: Gravitational Wave Events, Short Gamma-Ray Bursts, and Fast Radio Bursts - Bing Zhang
 - Electromagnetic Counterparts to Black Hole Mergers Detected by LIGO Abraham Loeb
 - <u>The Progenitor of GW 150914</u> S. E. Woosley
 - Fermi GBM signal contemporaneous with GW150914 an unlikely association Maxim Lyutikov
 - <u>Electromagnetic Afterglows Associated with Gamma-Ray Emission Coincident with Binary Black Hole</u> <u>Merger Event GW150914</u> - Ryo Yamazaki, et al.
 - Possible role of magnetic reconnection in the electromagnetic counterpart of binary black hole merger
 – F. Fraschetti
 - <u>Electromagnetic counterparts to gravitational waves from black hole mergers and naked singularities</u>
 Daniele Malafarina, Pankaj S. Joshi
 - <u>On the gamma-ray burst -- gravitational wave association in GW150914</u> Agnieszka Janiuk, et al.
- Investigations with other Instruments:
 - <u>INTEGRAL upper limits on gamma-ray emission associated with the gravitational wave event</u> <u>GW150914</u> - V. Savchenko, et al.
 - AGILE Observations of the Gravitational Wave Event GW150914 M. Tavani, et al.
 - Fermi LAT Observations of the LIGO Event GW150914 M. Ackermann, et al.
 - (Upper limits, not detection) <u>High Energy Neutrinos from the Gravitational Wave event GW150914</u> possibly associated with a short Gamma-Ray Burst - Reetanjali Moharana, et al.
- Implications and predictions assuming the association is true:
 - Implication of the association between GBM transient 150914 and LIGO Gravitational Wave event GW150914 - Xiang Li, et al.
 - <u>Modeling the Afterglow of GW150914-GBM</u> Brian J. Morsony, et al.
 - <u>Electromagnetic Afterglows Associated with Gamma-Ray Emission Coincident with Binary Black Hole</u> <u>Merger Event GW150914</u> - R. Yamazaki, et al.

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• Is the GW150914-GBM really associated with the GW150914? - Shaolin Xiong

- Compares relative count rates in GWI50914-GBM with 3 sGRBs at 130 deg angle to spacecraft axis: InVC+ we show off-axis angle is likely >160 deg and show consistency with GRBI30306A at 164 deg.
- Detectors are "Good" and "Bad" based on source angle to detector normal: no consideration of detector response or spacecraft mass model (response through back, blockage). Angle to normal irrelevant for BGOs.

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• <u>Searching for electromagnetic counterpart of LIGO gravitational waves in the</u> <u>Fermi GBM data with ADWO</u> – Zoltan Bagoly et al.

Finds GW150914-GBM and a counterpart to LVT151012 (which we do not find using our method). Combination of energy channels and detector counts without considering physical source spectrum or valid weighting for consistency of relative rates with a sky location - it magnifies the largest SNR channels and detectors. Will find sources but will amplify fluctuations.

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- Critique of rmfit spectral analysis package vs alternative spectral analysis MLEfit using data from 1-2 detectors. Authors find lower fluence than VC+ and state GW150914-GBM is likely a background fluctuation. rmfit is not used in discovery or significance calculation of GW150914-GBM, just in fluence calculation.
- Discovery of GW150914-GBM uses data from 14 detectors to evaluate likelihood of background vs source + background - finds source at FAR of 10^-4 Hz. Not clear how criticism of rmfit is relevant to discovery and FAR.

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- Greiner+ compare rmfit and MLEfit analysis of 128-channel TTE data. rmfit analysis in VC+ 2016 uses 8-channel CTIME data i.e., accounts for low-count regime.
- Incorrect single source position used in Greiner+ vs. sampling of LIGO annulus in VC+ (Fig 5). Error may be carried to further analysis - unclear in paper.
- Lower fluence with MLEfit implies consistency of GW150914-GBM with non-detection by SPI-ACS - a more natural conclusion?

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This error appears to be propagated throughout the rest of the analysis - using the amplitude from VC+ but for a source at the wrong location.

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Even if there were no problems with the analysis in the paper, it would not be a challenge to the statistical significance of the event reported in VC+ 2016, found using the data from 14 detectors, with a significance based on the empirically-derived FAR. The results in JG+ could be used to calculate an upper limit to the event fluence based on the alternative spectral analysis.

What next for our search?



- Finish OI analysis: for GWI50914, the GW detection was bright but the GBM detection was sub-threshold.
- Get ready for O2!
- In O2: expect more BH-BH candidates. Can we confirm association between BH-BH events and sub-luminous short-GRB-like events? Can we rule out GW150914-GBM with no further detections during O2? Can we set more suitable priors for BH-BH candidates?

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• Backup

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Most of the Swift BAT short GRBS that did not trigger GBM are found in a ground search of the Continuous Time-Tagged Event (CTTE) data for untriggered bursts.



GBM GRBs Swift BAT misses can also generally be found in ground search.

- Finding weaker short GRBs when search seeded by other instrument motivate blind search
- We expect 2x more short GRBs through this untriggered search: quality control in progress.

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There are problems with the analysis in the paper. If the authors continue to use this assumed source position that is incompatible with both the GBM/LIGO localization and with the GBM-data alone, then the responses they use in their Bayesian analysis are incorrect given the most likely source position, or indeed all allowed source positions.



Fig 7 of JG+ The green bands indicate the source + background levels obtained in this analysis for NaI 5 (left) and BGO 0 (right). The yellow bar is the mean level of source + background.

Given that the relative rates observed in Nal 5 and BGO 0 are incompatible with the assumed source position, it is not surprising that this analysis finds the data consistent with the absence of a source at this position.

This will go in backup

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Method was developed during last science run of LIGO and tested on Swift GRBs: a false alarm rate (FAR) for a given likelihood was subsequently calculated using 2 months of GBM data: this is an empirical FAR.

Test over Swift sGRB's

Swift-detected sGRB's are a good "hardware injection" test for the GBM followup

- ▶ 16 events within GBM FOV, 14 offline detections, 12 loudest trigger on-board
- \blacktriangleright large sample of nearby background times also searched, in total $\sim I$ day of live-time
- ▶ not using sky-location information (marginalization over entire sky)



Joint GBM-subthreshold search developed for LIGO/Virgo S6 science runs in 2009-2010 (L. Blackburn et ApJS 2015, 217, 8) - GBM background characterized and likelihood-based search finds known short GRBs GBM data.

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There are problems with the analysis in the paper. If the authors continue to use this assumed source position that is incompatible with both the GBM/LIGO localization and with the GBM-data alone, then the responses they use in their Bayesian analysis are incorrect given the most likely source position, or indeed all allowed source positions.



Fig 9 of JG+ The green bands indicate the source + background levels obtained for a simulation of a source at the incorrect source position assuming the amplitude of the fit in VC+ for Nal 5 (left) and BGO 0 (right). The yellow band indicates the mean source + background level. Given that the simulated rates in Nal from the source at this position are 2.7 x the rates expected from a source at the most likely position, and the rates are injected in the BGO data with the same source position (i.e., compatible relative rates), it is not surprising that this analysis uncovers a source.

This will go in backup

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