

# Swift-BAT GUANO and NITRATES



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Credit: Spectrum Astro

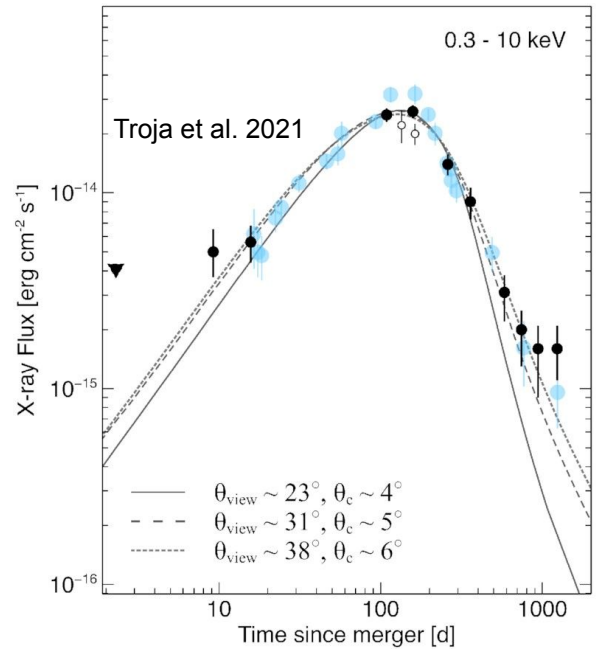
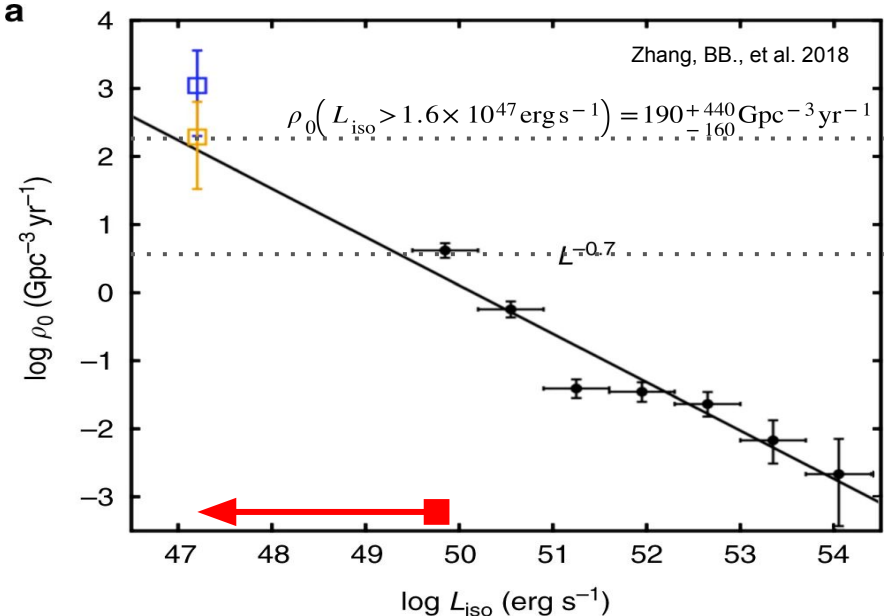
Swift BAT-Guano Team: Jamie Kennea (PSU), Tyler Parsotan (GSFC), Gayathri Raman (PSU), Samuele Ronchini (PSU), Aaron Tohuvavohu (U Toronto)

3rd Astro-COLIBRI Workshop  
Institut Pascal, France  
September 16th 2024

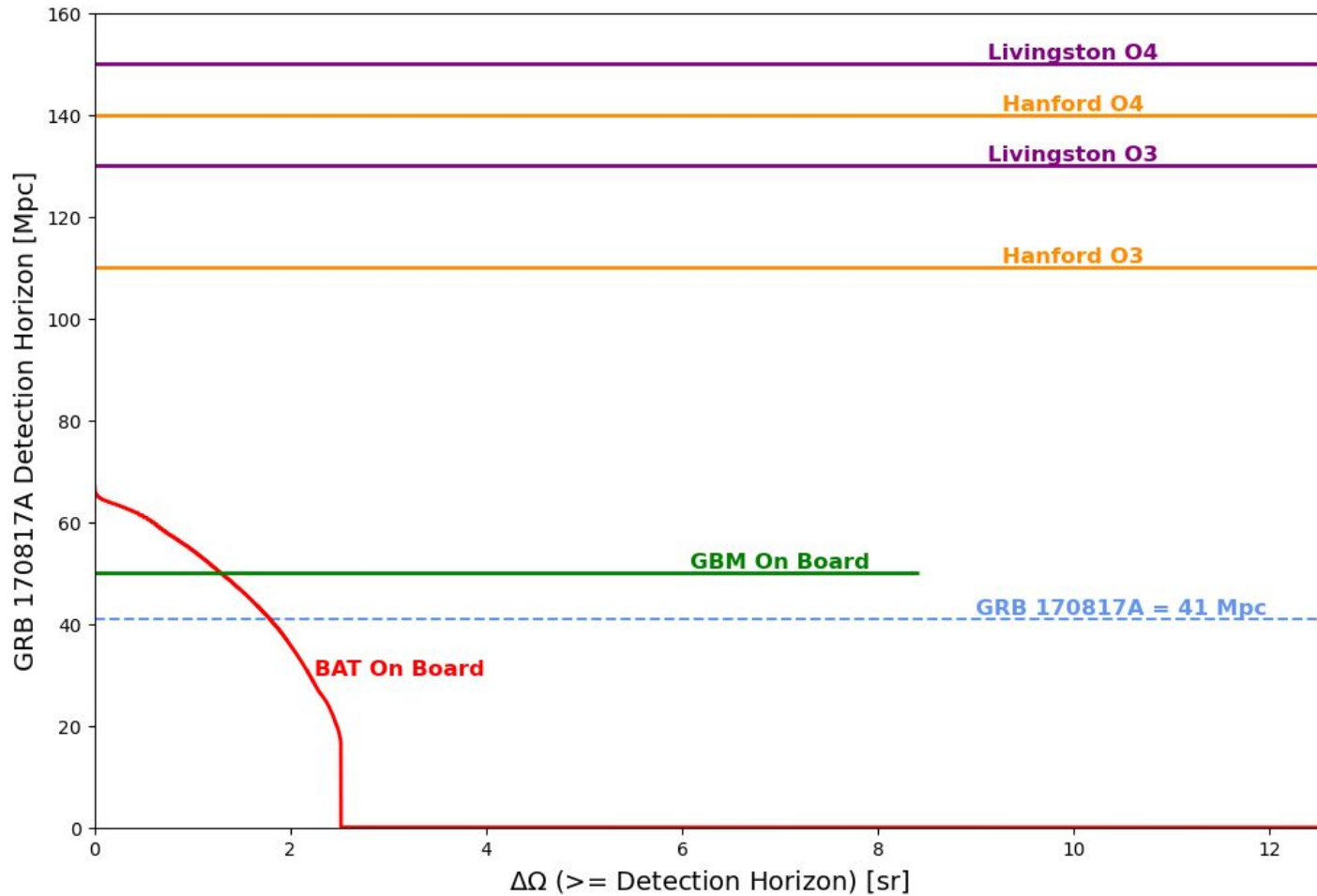


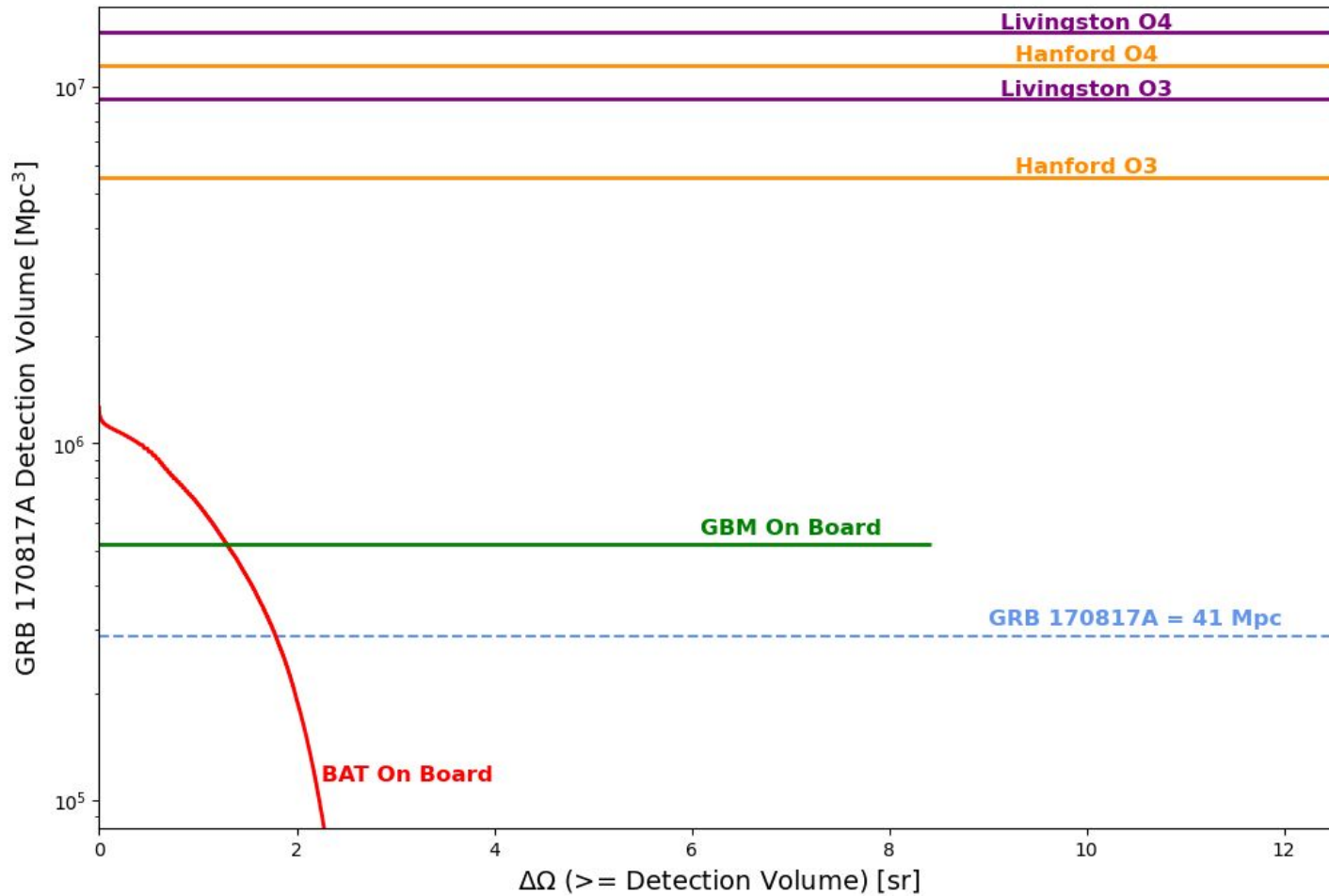
# GRB 170817A

- Closest measured SGRB distance
- Measured fluence just under the median for GBM SGRBs
- By far the lowest measured  $L_{iso}$
- Possible population of low-luminosity SGRBs



- Structured jet viewed off-axis gives best agreement with afterglow data
  - “Normal” jet pointed away from us
- Off-axis afterglow has characteristic initial, rising X-ray afterglow





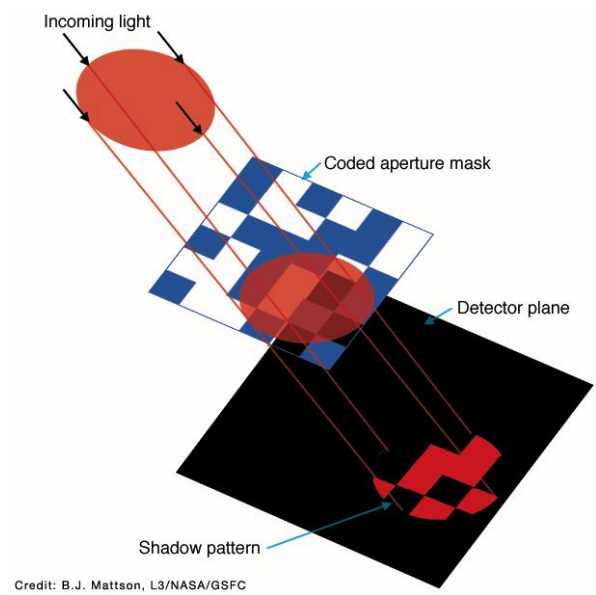
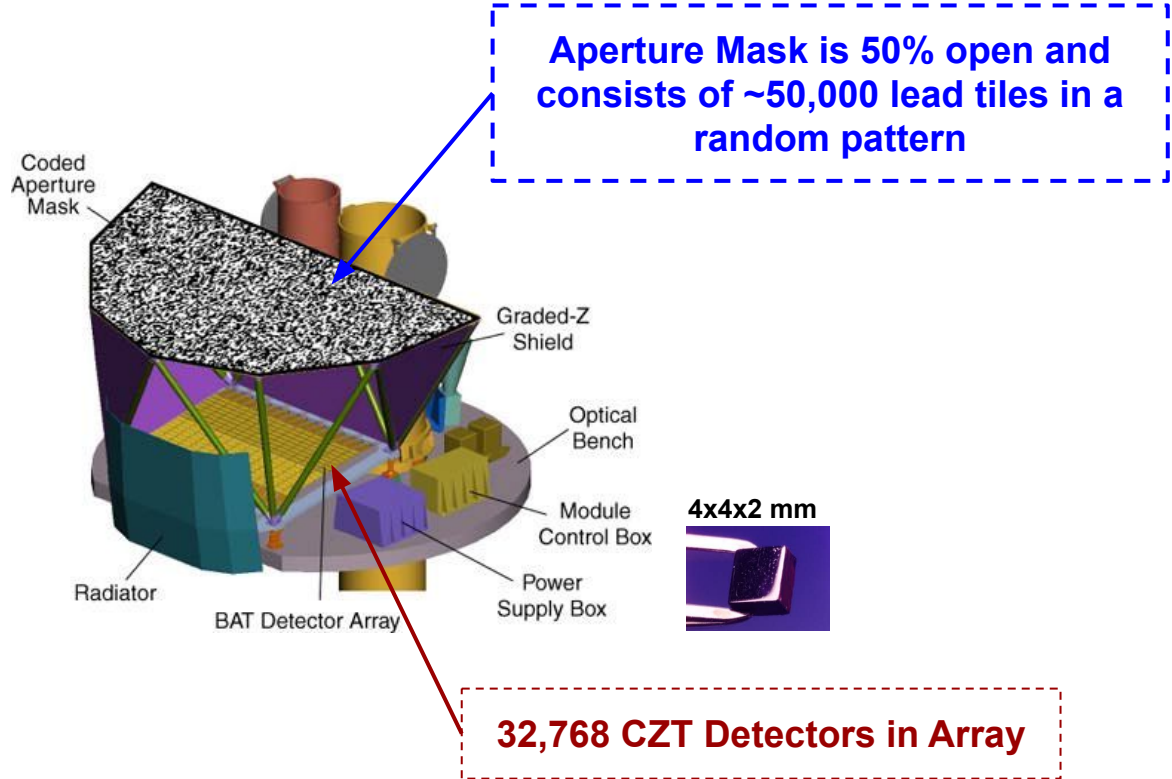
# GUANO - Gamma-ray Urgent Archiver for Novel Opportunities

[Tohuvavohu et al. \(2020\).](#)

- Time tagged event (TTE) data normally only available around onboard triggered GRBs
- GUANO allows for TTE data to be available on command
  - 90 - 200 s of data around time of interest
- Command needs to be prompt (<30 minutes)
  - Event buffer lasts ~30 minutes
- Allows for additional and more sensitive searches to be possible on the ground
  - Better imaging, mosaic imaging during slews, **better analyses**
- Started in O3
- Dumping data for GRBs, GWs, Neutrinos, FRBs
  - **Dozens of additional arcminute localized GRBs!**

# How BAT Works - A Coded mask imager (15 - 350 keV)

## Basic Concept



Credit: B.J. Mattson, L3/NASA/GSFC

Energy Resolution of CZT Detectors: ~5 keV @ 60 keV

- Constructs images via a balanced cross-correlation technique
- Creates an image on board whenever there's a rate excess
- Localizes sources to a few arcminutes

# NITRATES - Non Imaging Transient Reconstruction and TEmporal Search

[DeLaunay & Tohuvavohu 2022](#)

Using BAT TTE data for a certain time interval, data binned by detector and energy

- Uses 9 energy bins ranging from 15 keV to 350 keV

$$\begin{aligned} N_{ij} &= \text{number of counts in detector, } i \text{ and energy bin, } j \\ \lambda_{ij}(\Theta) &= \text{number of expected counts from model(s), given model parameters } \Theta \\ I_{ij}(\Theta | N_{ij}) &= \text{Poisson}(N_{ij}; \lambda_{ij}(\Theta)) \\ \text{LLH}(\Theta | \mathbf{N}) &= \sum_i \sum_j \ln[ I_{ij}(\Theta | N_{ij}) ] \end{aligned}$$

Count sources to model:

**Diffuse:** Cosmic x-ray background (CXB), local particle background

**Point Sources:** Known steady(ish) sources, transient sources (GRBs)

GRB Search

Looking for new PS not  
in off-time bkg fit

Likelihood Ratio Test Statistic

$$\Lambda = -2( \text{LLH}(\Theta_{\text{Bkg}} | \mathbf{N}) - \max[ \text{LLH}(\Theta_{\text{Sig}}, \Theta_{\text{Bkg}} | \mathbf{N}) ] )$$

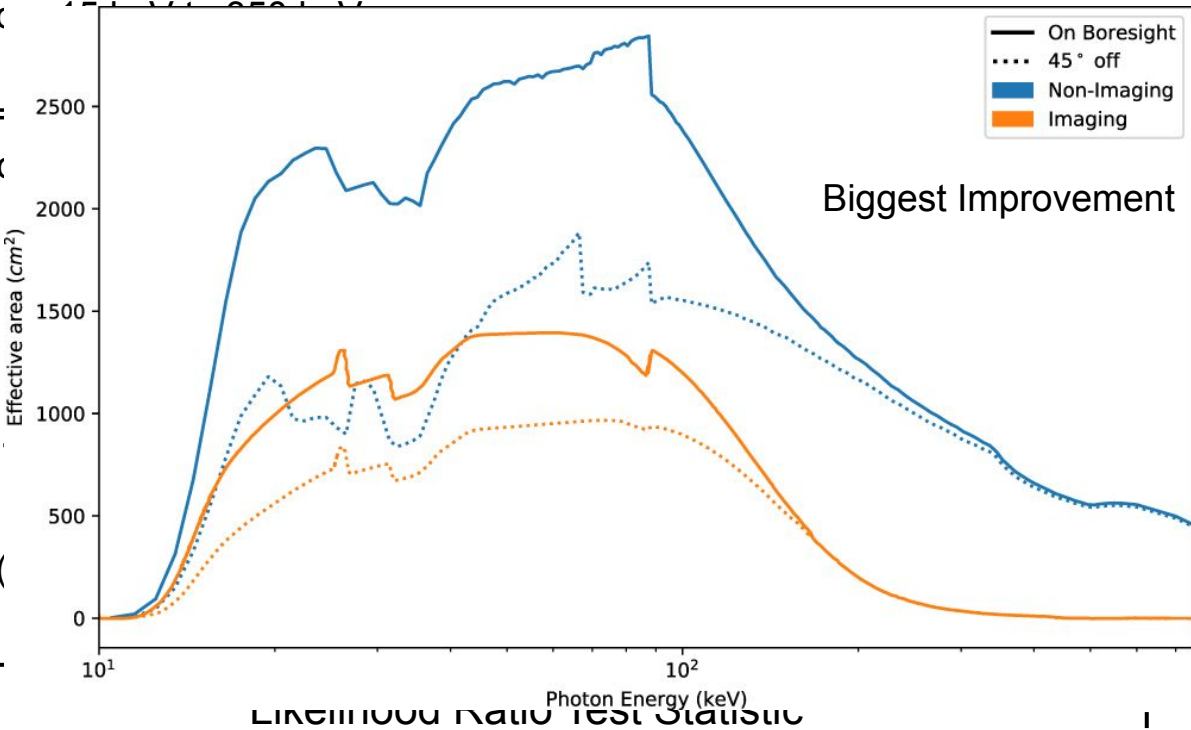
# NITRATES - Non Imaging Transient Reconstruction and TEmporal Search

DeLaunay & Tohuvavohu 2022

Using BAT TTE data for a certain time interval, data binned by detector and energy

- Uses 9 energy bins ranging from 10 to 1000 keV

$$N_{ij} = \lambda_{ij}(\Theta) = \text{number of counts in bin } i \text{ of detector } j$$



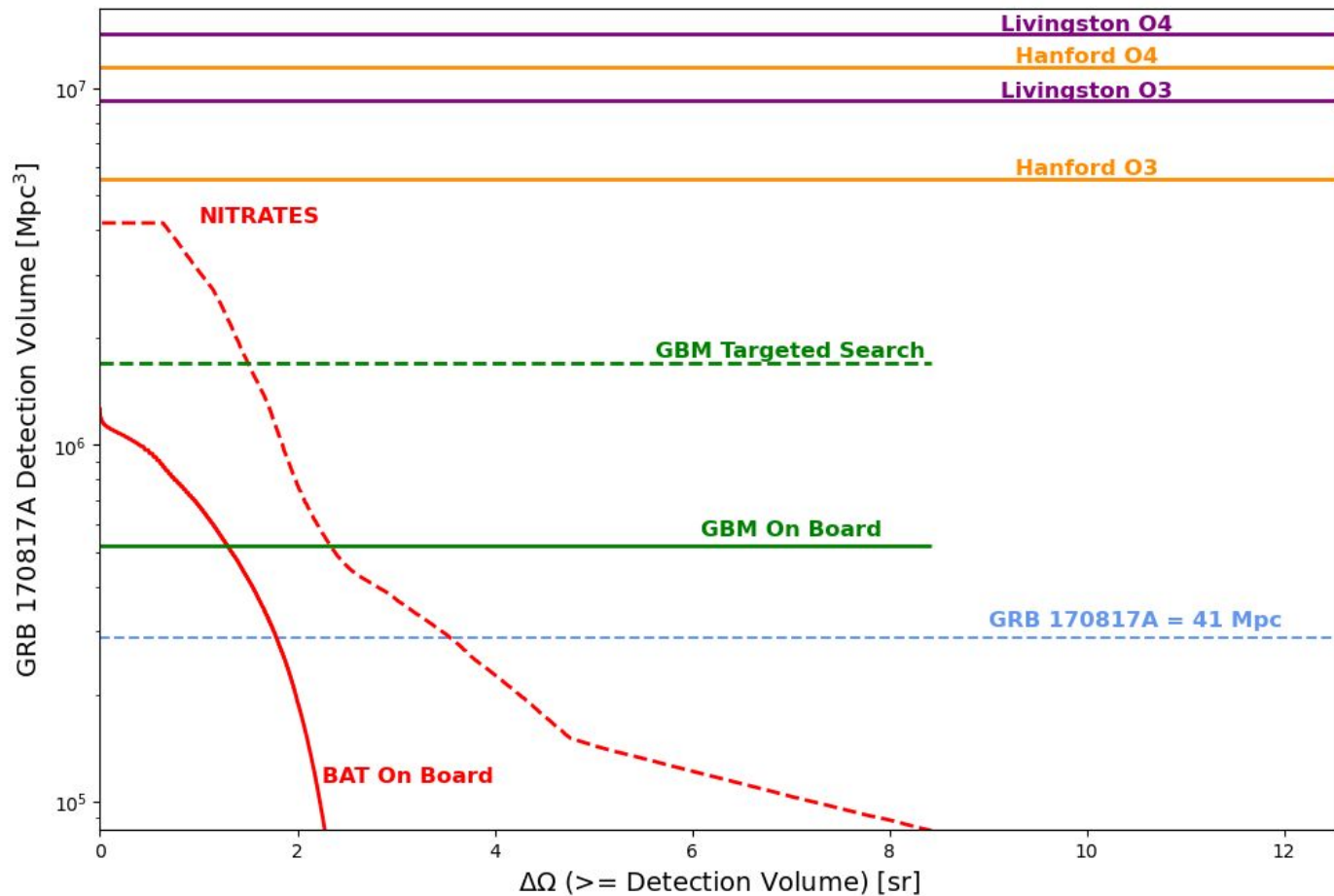
Count sources to model:  
**Diffuse:** Cosmic x-ray background ( $\Theta_{\text{Bkg}}$ )  
**Point Sources:** Known steady(ish) ( $\Theta_{\text{Sig}}$ )

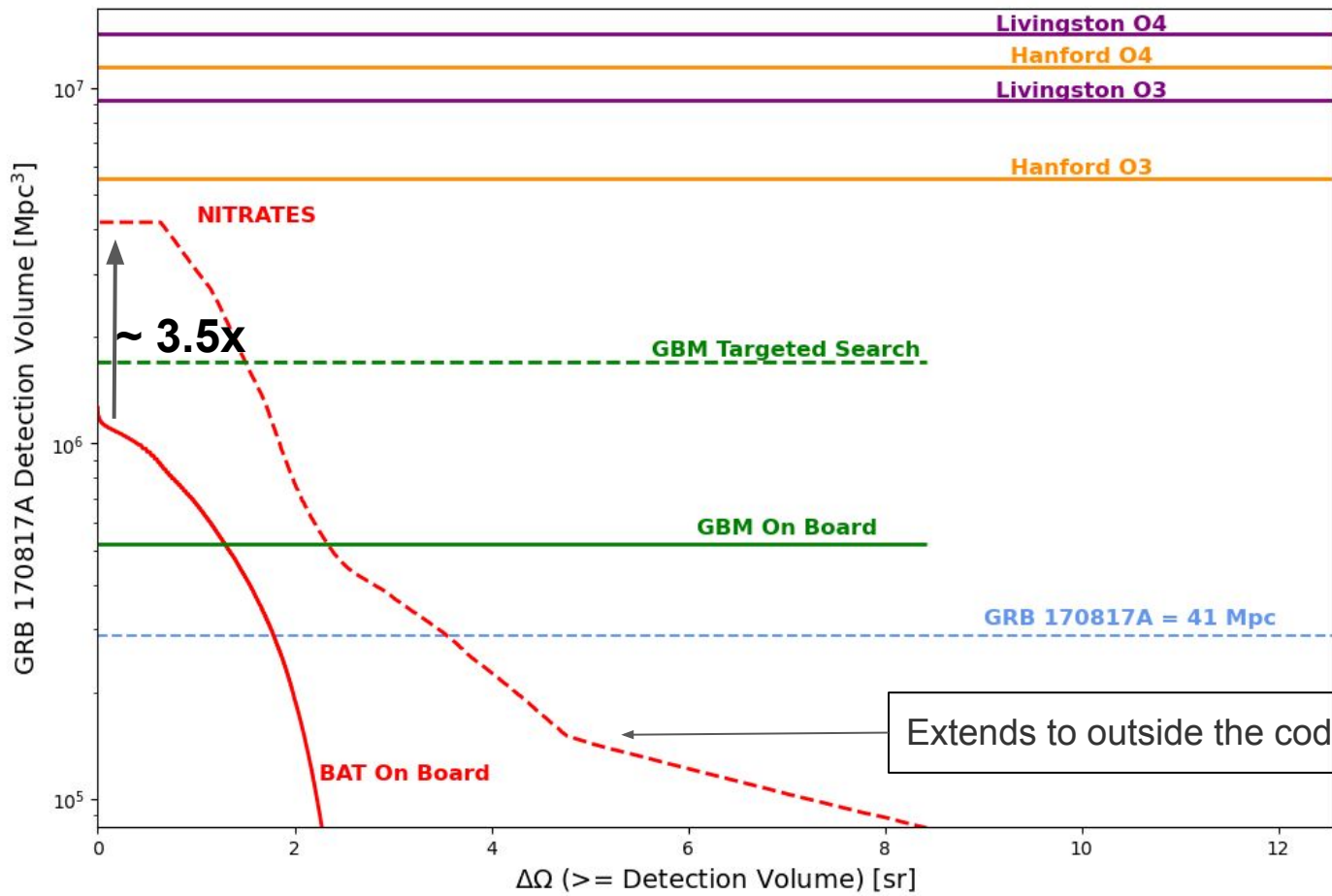
GRB Search

Looking for new PS not in off-time bkg fit

$$\Lambda = -2( \text{LLH}( \Theta_{\text{Bkg}} | \mathbf{N} ) - \max[ \text{LLH}( \Theta_{\text{Sig}}, \Theta_{\text{Bkg}} | \mathbf{N} ) ] )$$







5x all sky

# Localization

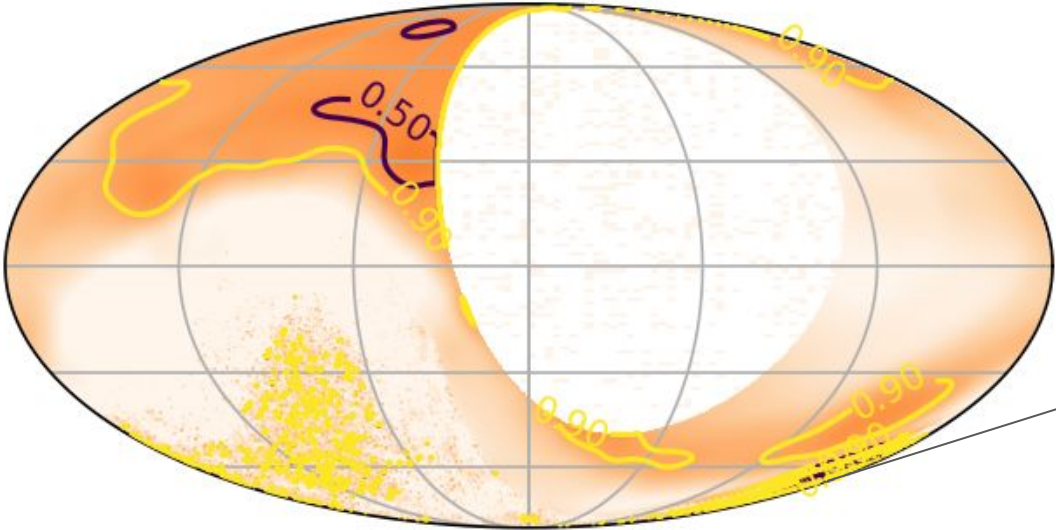
Best case scenario - ~3 arcminute circle

# Localization

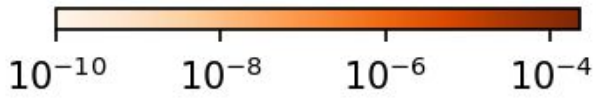
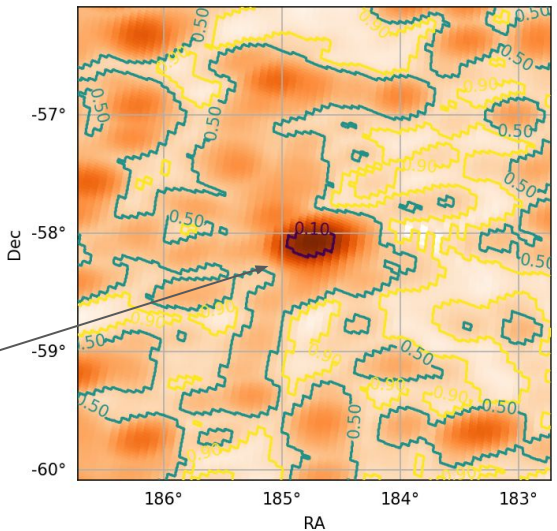
Best case scenario - ~3 arcminute circle

Worst case scenario -

GRB230815A



Zoom in on GRB/max LLH position



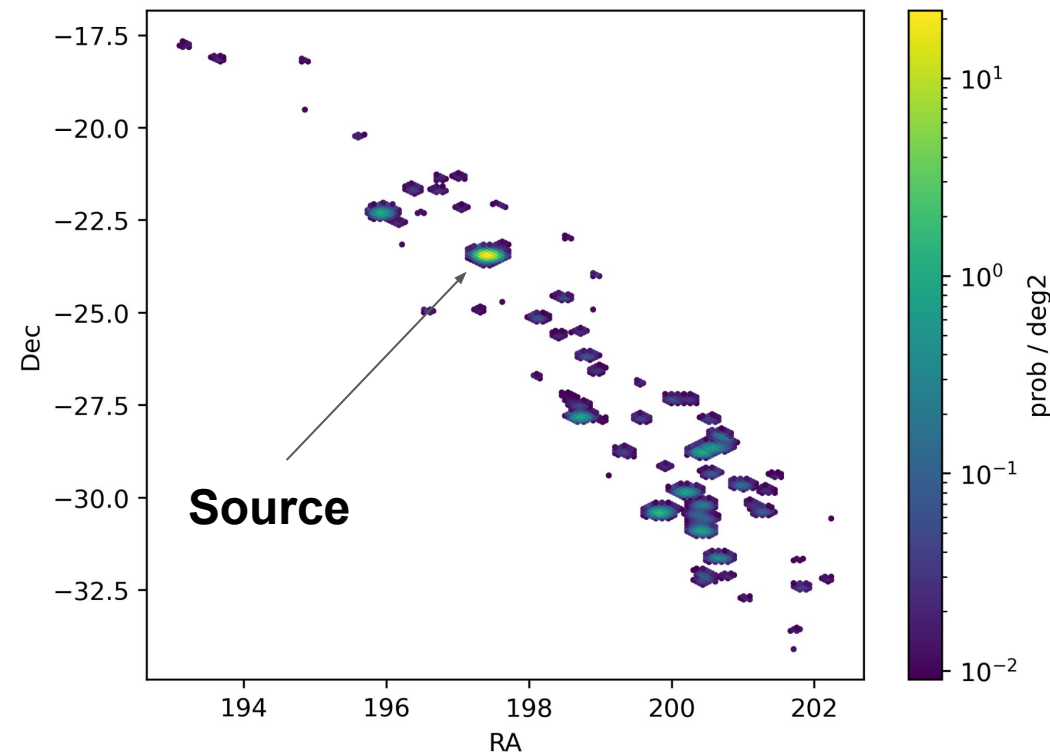
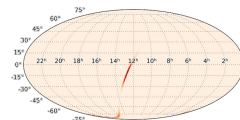
50% area = 600 deg<sup>2</sup>  
90% area = 5,700 deg<sup>2</sup>

FWHM ~ 1/3 deg

# What if GRB 170817A were in the BAT coded FoV at 90 Mpc?

NITRATES ground trigger and messy skymap,  
also skymap joined with GW skymap

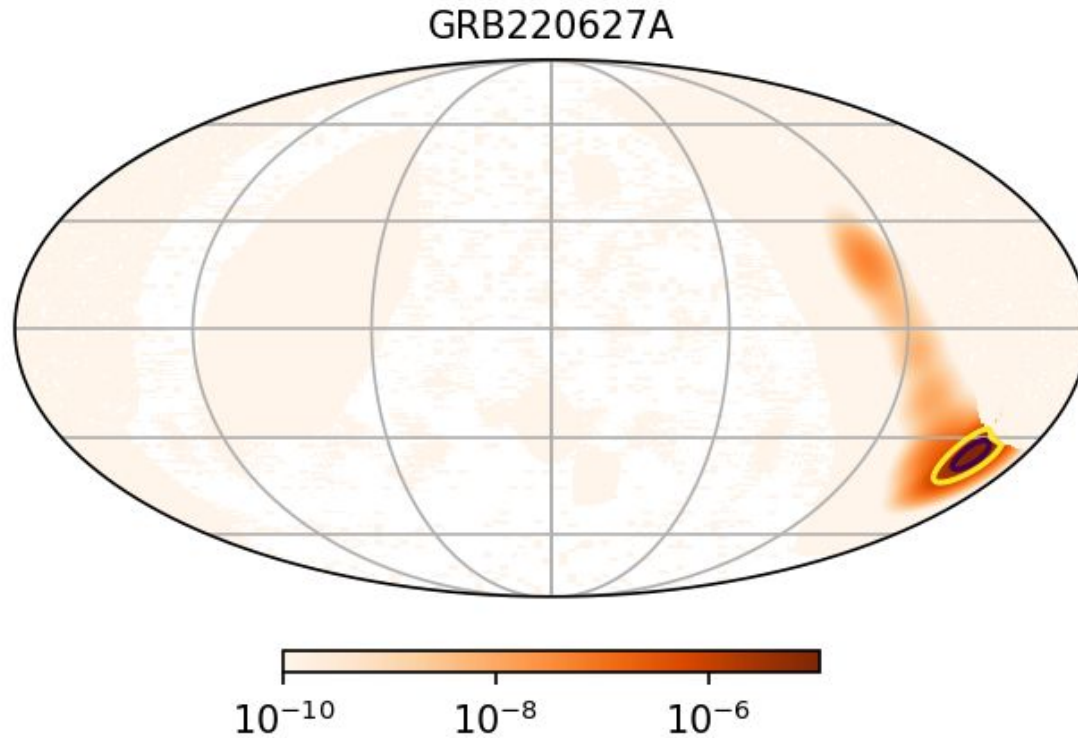
Alert sent out to world at ~2-8 hours



Everything at < 95% c.l.

- GW170817 LH skymap
  - 50% area = 48 deg<sup>2</sup>
  - 90% area = 189 deg<sup>2</sup>
- Combine with NITRATES mess
  - 50% area = 0.036 deg<sup>2</sup>
  - 90% area = 1.2 deg<sup>2</sup>

# Best Case Outside of Coded Field of View



50% area = 50 deg<sup>2</sup>  
90% area = 160 deg<sup>2</sup>

# BAT-GUANO GCN Kafka Alerts

These notices are published on the GCN Kafka topic `gcn.notices.swift.bat.guano`.

[Detailed Description and Examples](#) ↗

Type	Contents	Latency
Alert	Detection of a burst	5 min - 4 hours
Localization	Arcminute position or HEALPix map	30 min - 5 hours
Retraction	Retraction of an alert or localization	4 hours - 1 day

Examples [here](#)

More info <https://gcn.nasa.gov/missions/swift>

HEALPix maps will be in MOC format

- Joint sub-threshold GW-GRB detections will be sent out by LVK over GCN
  - If joint FAR < 1/month (after trials correction) using RAVEN formalism
  - Combined skymaps
  - See more here <https://emfollow.docs.ligo.org/userguide/content.htm>

external_coinc	
gcn_notice_id	{583417860, 583327924}
ivorn	External IVORN identification field
observatory	{Fermi, Swift}
search	{GRB, SubGRB}
time_difference	Time between source and external event in seconds
time_coincidence_far	Estimated coincidence false alarm rate in Hz using timing
time_sky_position_coincidence_far	Estimated coincidence false alarm rate in Hz using timing and sky position
combined_skymap	The contents of a sky map produced by combining the GW skymap and the external coincidence skymap in a multi-order FITS format as a Base64-encoded string.

# How to find GUANO data

GUANO triggers can be found [here](#)

Observation ID can be used to find the data on the

- [archive](#) (if > 2 weeks old)
- [quicklook](#) (if < 2 weeks old)

Or [swift\\_tools](#) API can be used to query and fetch [GUANO](#) and other Swift data



## Gamma-ray Urgent Archiver for Novel Opportunities (GUANO)

The GUANO is a fully autonomous, extremely low latency, spacecraft commanding pipeline designed for targeted recovery of BAT event-by-event data around the times of compelling astrophysical events to enable more sensitive GRB searches. If you use data that are made available via this system, please cite the GUANO paper [Tobu et al. \(2020\)](#).  
 In the table below you will find an accounting of event data made available by GUANO based on public triggers, and a pointer to the observation ID the data can be found under at either the Swift Data Center QuickLook site, or at the HEASARC for events greater than one week old.  
 \*Event Window Duration shows the requested download length. If the length of the download differs, the actual number is given in brackets. If the trigger time is not covered by the event data, this is marked with an asterisk (\*).

Trigger Type	Trigger Time	Event Window Duration (s)	Observation ID
GBM GRB	2023-09-06 14:02:12.940000	200	0311210003
CALET_GRB	2023-09-06 14:02:09.310000	90 (121)	0311210003
GBM GRB	2023-09-06 12:35:07.150000	200	00084134009
INTEGRAL_GRB	2023-09-06 12:14:01.820000	90	00013499244
GW	2023-09-06 12:07:36.699000	90	00099134028
GW	2023-09-06 10:36:34.458000	90	00099134028
GW	2023-09-06 10:01:45.999000	90	00014052165
GW	2023-09-06 09:41:07.190000	90	
GBM GRB	2023-09-06 09:21:25	200	

**GUANO Status:**  
Online

**Last Request Received:**  
2023-09-06 14:03:23

Currently ingesting the following public  
 Trigger Doses:  
 -LVC GW  
 -Fermi/GBM GRB  
 -IceCube neutrino  
 -HAWC GRB  
 -INTEGRAL GRB  
 -CALET GRB  
 -FRBs from CHIME

Currently ingesting the following private  
 Trigger Doses:  
 -LVC GW sub-threshold  
 -FRB notices from realfast

### Fetching GUANO data for a specific triggers or date ranges

The above example show fetching recent triggers, what about for date ranges, or specific times. Here we'll give a few examples of how to search for GUANO triggers using time searches. Firstly, let's see what GUANO dumps occurred during Jan 1st, 2022:

```
guano = GUANO(begin="2022-01-01", end="2022-01-02", limit=100)
guano
```

Trigger Type	Trigger Time	Offset (s)	Window Duration (s)	Observation ID
GBM GRB	2022-01-01 08:57:39	50	200	00014979001
GBM GRB	2022-01-01 07:16:20	50	200	00031306080
INTEGRAL_GRB	2022-01-01 05:11:22	0	90 (1202)	01091527000

So on Jan 1st, 2022 there were three GUANO dumps, 2 Fermi/GBM detected GRBs and one INTEGRAL GRB. By default, GBM GRBs are dumped for 200s and INTEGRAL GRBs are dumped for 90s. However, in this case you can see that the actual amount of event data for the INTEGRAL GRB was 1202s. Let's look into why, by taking a look at the `Swift_GUANO_data` object associated with that trigger.

```
guano[-1].data
```

Parameter	Value
obsid	01091527000
triggertime	2022-01-01 05:11:22
begin	2022-01-01 05:06:11.642365
end	2022-01-01 05:26:13.749165
exposure	1202.1068
filenames	sw01091527000bevshsp_uf.evt
gltl	2022-01-01 05:06:11.642365 - 2022-01-01 05:26:13.749165 (0:20:02)
all_gltis	2022-01-01 05:06:11.642365 - 2022-01-01 05:26:13.749165 (0:20:02)
acs	mixed
utcfl	-28.357940673828125



# How to find NITRATES results

Go to <https://guano.swift.psu.edu/>

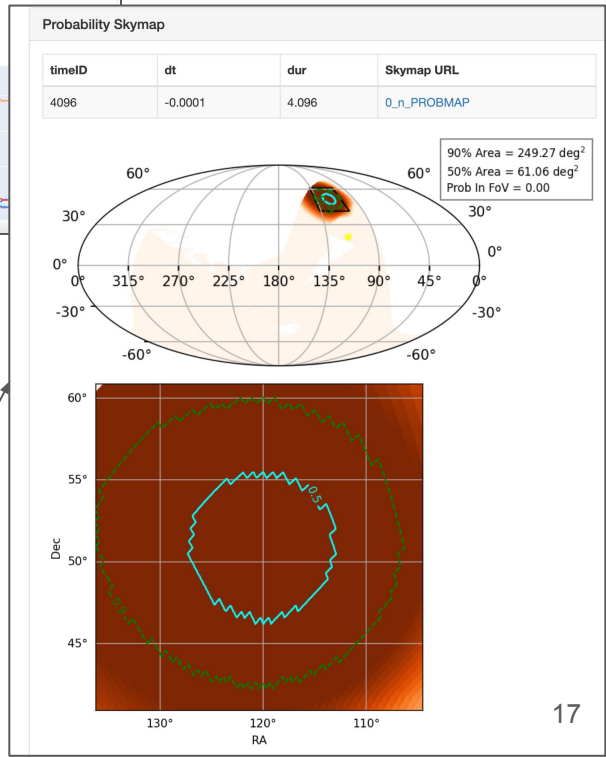
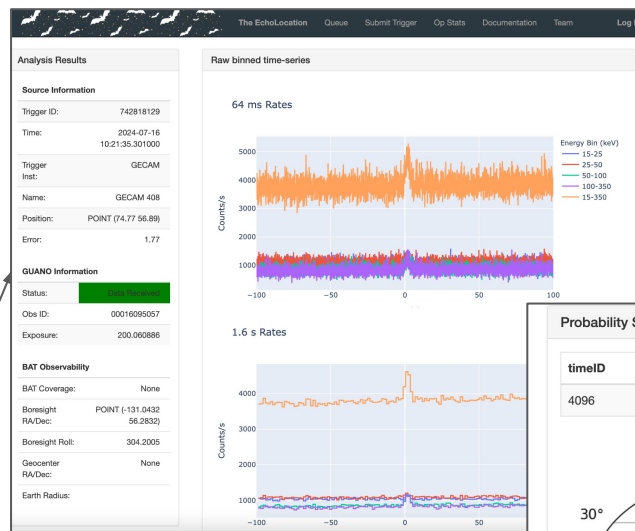
Click on the trigger you're interested in to view its report page

Will have basic figures, like the LC and BAT FoV on the sky

Along with NITRATES products, such as intermediate results, best fit points, and the localization

Find more info in the [documentation](#)

Results are preliminary  
Feedback is welcome



## Tools to analyze BAT data

- Standard BAT tools
  - HEASOFT FTOOLS
    - [Analysis help](#)
  - New python package to do custom analysis on long exposure survey data
    - [BatAnalysis](#) ([Parsotan et. al. 2024](#))
    - Support for TTE data being added
- NITRATES
  - [NITRATES python package](#)
  - 500 GB of required response files found [here](#)
  - Only supports TTE data at the moment
  - Much more efficient version that runs on continuous rates data products in the works
    - Won't require HPC cluster, < 1 GB of response files
    - Won't be capable of arcminute-scale localizations
  - Recommendations for public friendly tools are very welcome!

# Summary

- GRB 170817A showed that off-axis GRBs can be detected
  - Many more opportunities for joint GRB-GW detections
- Need more sensitive GRB searches
- GUANO enables ground analyses
- NITRATES great increases detection horizon to GRB 170817A-like bursts
- Listen for GUANO and LVK joint Kafka notices and be ready for messy skymaps
- Check out our live results at <https://guano.swift.psu.edu>, check out the [documentation](#) to see how to receive and use probability skymaps
- Feel free to contact us if you're interested in working with GUANO data or the NITRATES analysis

# Backups

# GUANO - Gamma-ray Urgent Archiver for Novel Opportunities

[Tohuvavohu et al. \(2020\).](#)

- Time tagged event (TTE) data normally only available around onboard triggered GRBs
- GUANO allows for TTE data to be available on command
  - 90 - 200 s of data around time of interest
- Command needs to be prompt (<30 minutes)
  - Event buffer lasts ~30 minutes
- Allows for additional and more sensitive searches to be possible on the ground
  - Better imaging, mosaic imaging during slews, **better analyses**
- Started in O3
- Dumping data for GRBs, GWs, Neutrinos, FRBs
- See <https://www.swift.psu.edu/guano/> for triggers to GUANO
- If you're interested in adding triggers to GUANO contact
  - Jamie Kennea - [jak51@psu.edu](mailto:jak51@psu.edu)
  - Aaron Tohuvavohu - [aaron.tohu@gmail.com](mailto:aaron.tohu@gmail.com)

**PennState**  
**Mission Operations Center for Swift**

Home Target of Opportunity Observations BAT XRT UVOT

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Search:

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GW	2023-09-06 12:07:30.689000	90	00059134028
GW	2023-09-06 10:36:34.458000	90	00059134028
GW	2023-09-06 10:01:45.999000	90	00014052165
GW	2023-09-06 09:41:07.190000	90	00049728011
GBM GRB	2023-09-06 09:21:25	200	03111726006

**GUANO Status:**  
Online

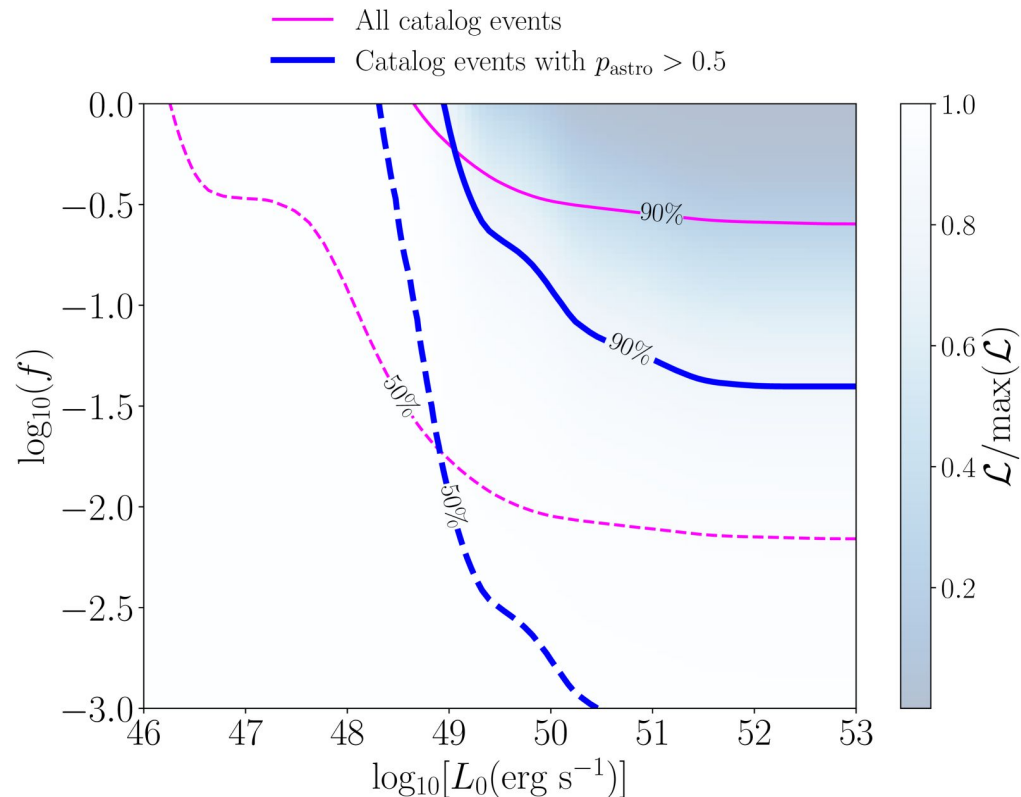
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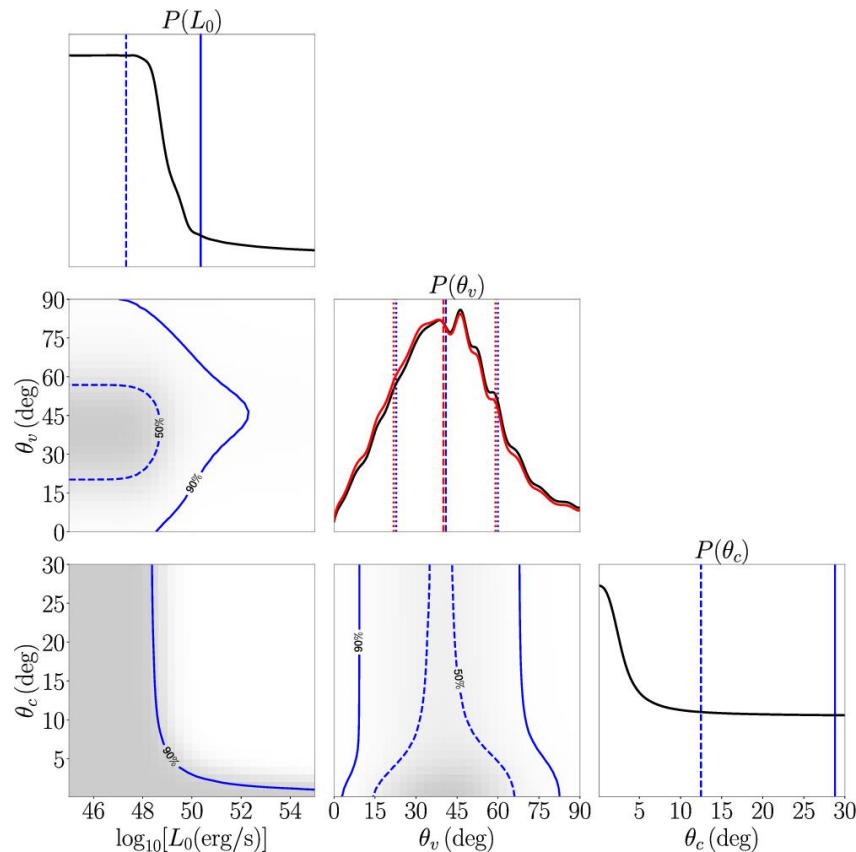
# Recent Results - O3 Archival

- Ran NITRATES on all O3 GW events with GUANO data
- Found nothing significant
- Population limits set on prompt emission from BBH mergers
  - $f$  = fraction of BBHs with emission
- Raman et al. 2024  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2407.12867>



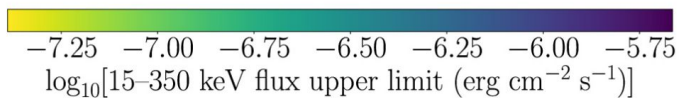
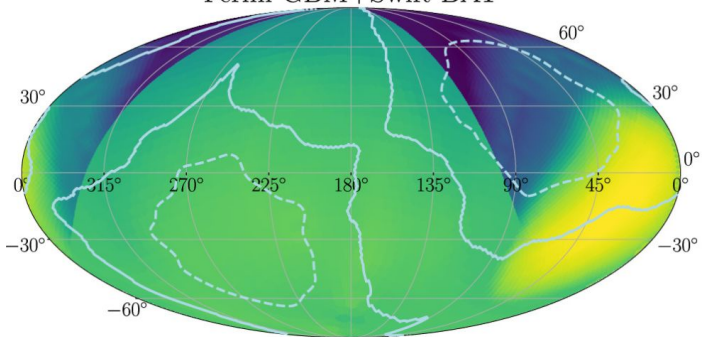
# Recent Results - GW230529

- Full sky upper limits set by Swift BAT and Fermi GBM for the likely NSBH merger GW230529 (large localization)
- Using GW inference results as priors, able to set limits on jet properties
- [Ronchini et al. 2024](#)

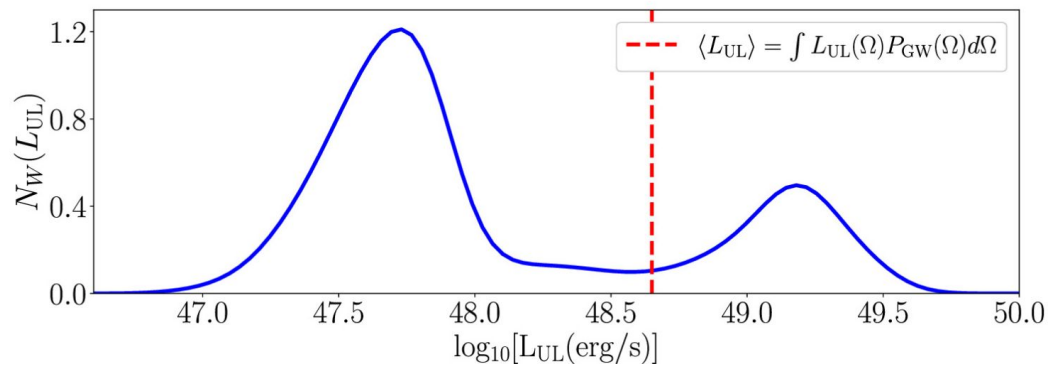
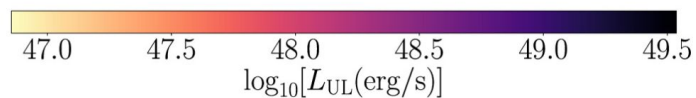
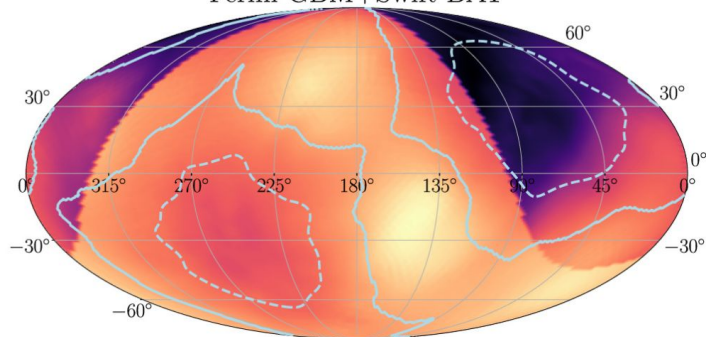


Gaussian Jet Profile

Fermi-GBM+Swift-BAT



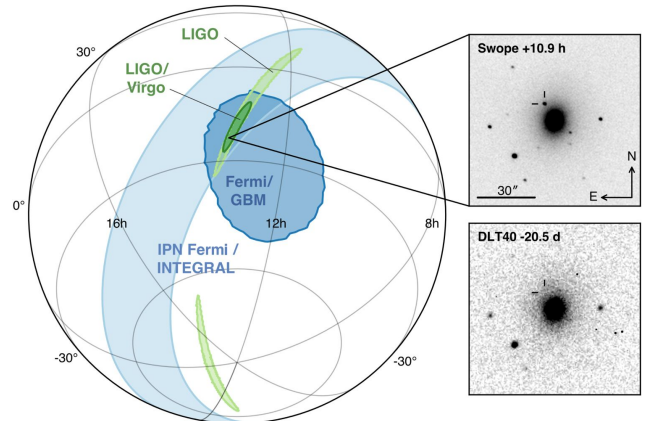
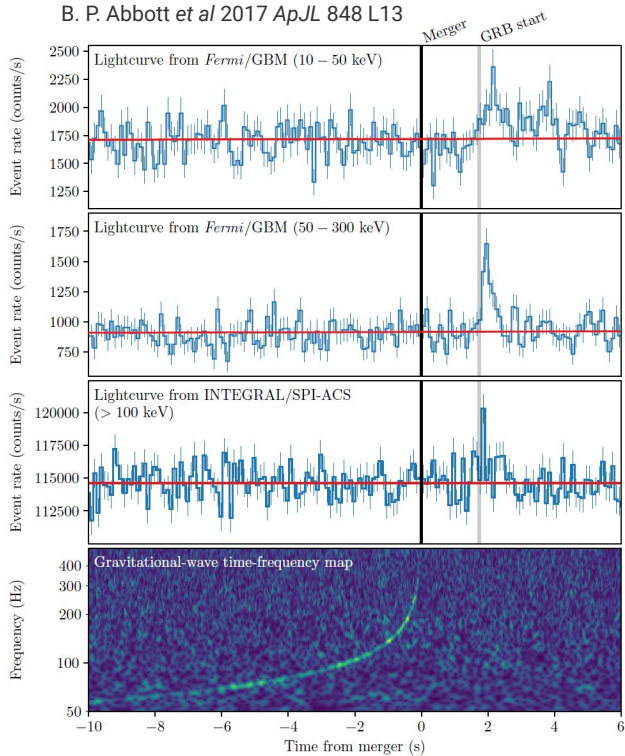
Fermi-GBM+Swift-BAT





# GRB/GW 170817

- First detection of GWs from a BNS merger
- 1.7 s later short GRB observed
- First high-energy multi-messenger detection
- Confirmation that BNS mergers are a short GRB progenitor

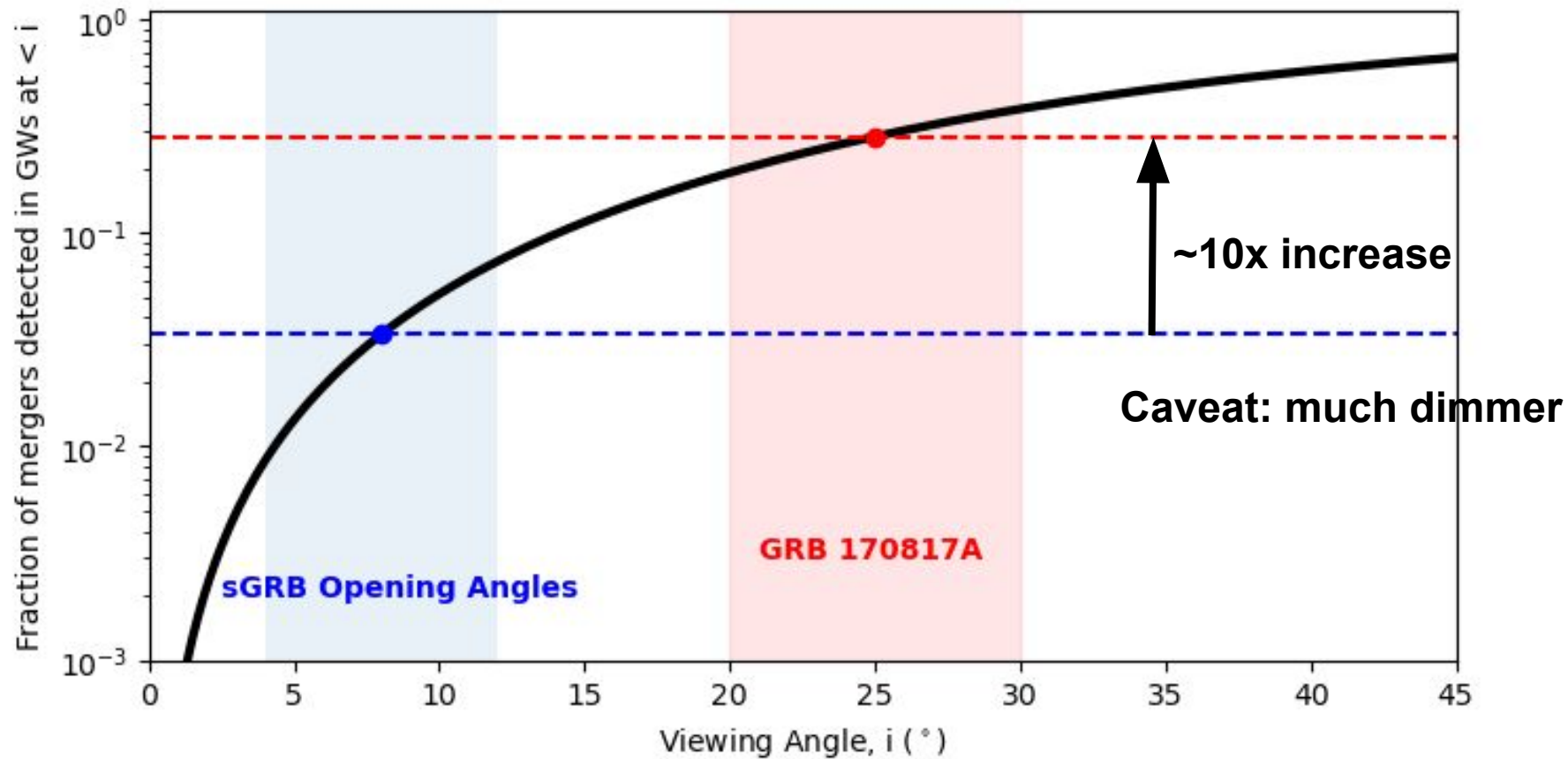


B. P. Abbott et al 2017 *ApJL* 848 L12

<11 hours post merger bright optical signal localized to NGC 4993, a galaxy ~40 Mpc away

Widespread scientific implications

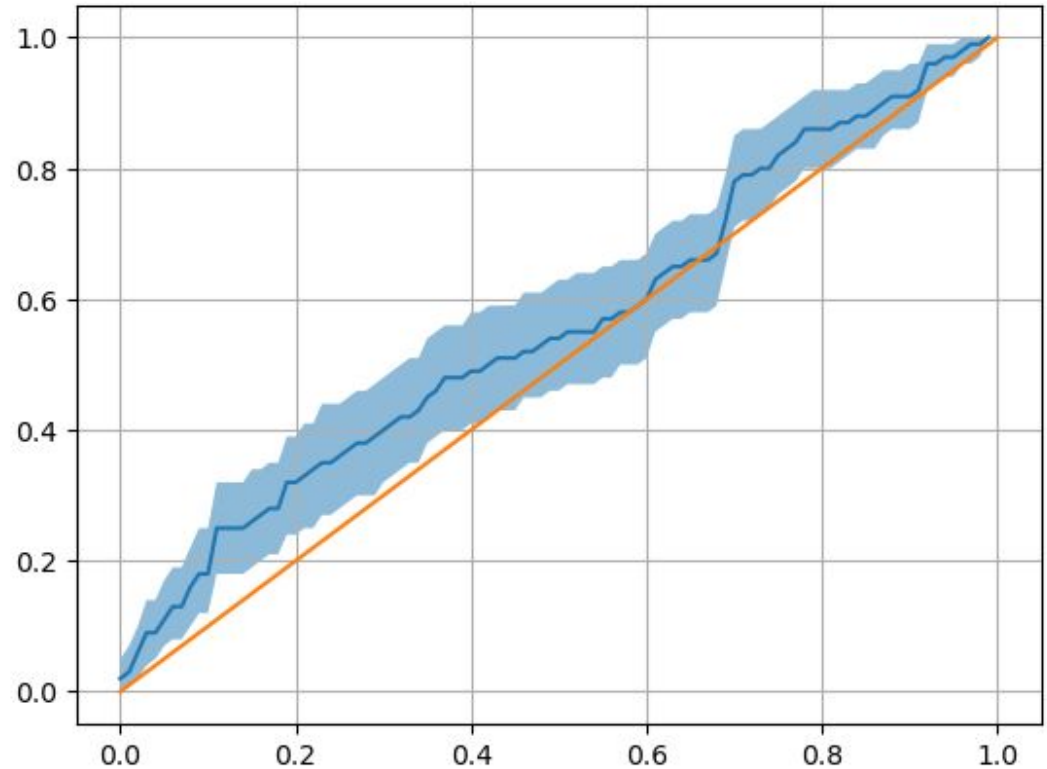
- Gold origin from r-process nucleosynthesis
- Measurement of speed of gravity
- Measurement of hubble constant ...



# P-P plot of NITRATES skymaps

In order to sample the prior space, a random position is drawn in instrument coordinates then the closest GRB is chosen and a random time bin of that GRB. This is done 100 times, a P-P plot is made, then this is repeated 1000 times. The median of the 1000 trials is plotted and the error band contains 90% of the trials

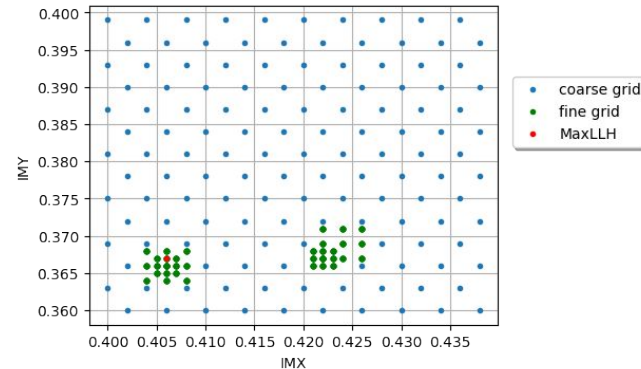
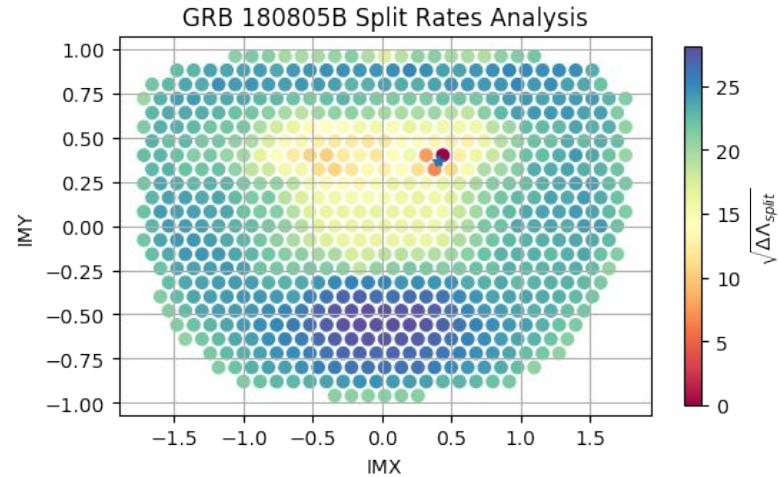
~250 skymaps from ~30 GRBs used here



# Computational Expense

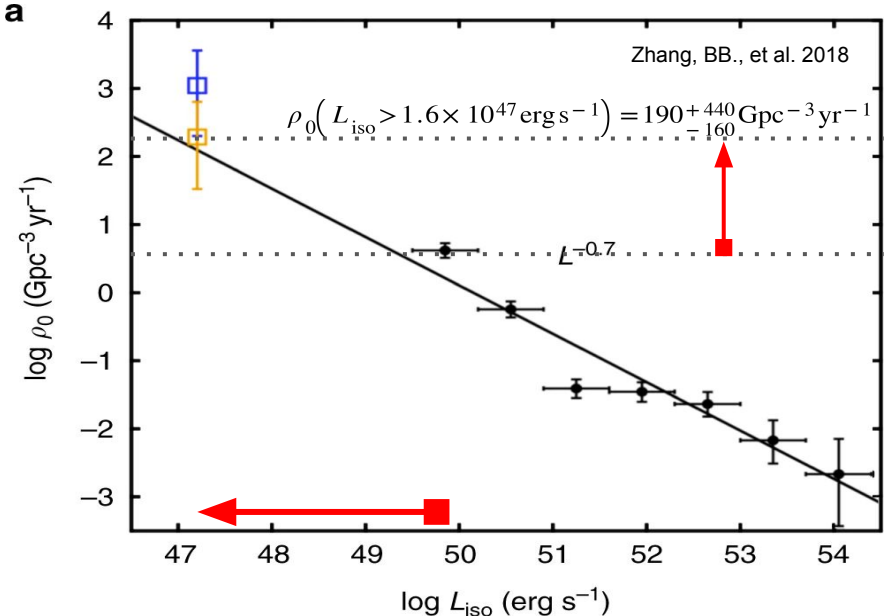
## Very large Parameter space

- Inside coded FoV, position point spacing needs to be  $<$  PSF size
  - PSF  $\approx \frac{1}{3}$  deg, FoV  $\approx 7,000$  deg<sup>2</sup>
- Seeding analyses and recursive grid search
- $\sim 200$  core-hours per analysis
- Runs on 2 clusters
  - PSU roar
  - NASA NCCS



# GRB 170817A

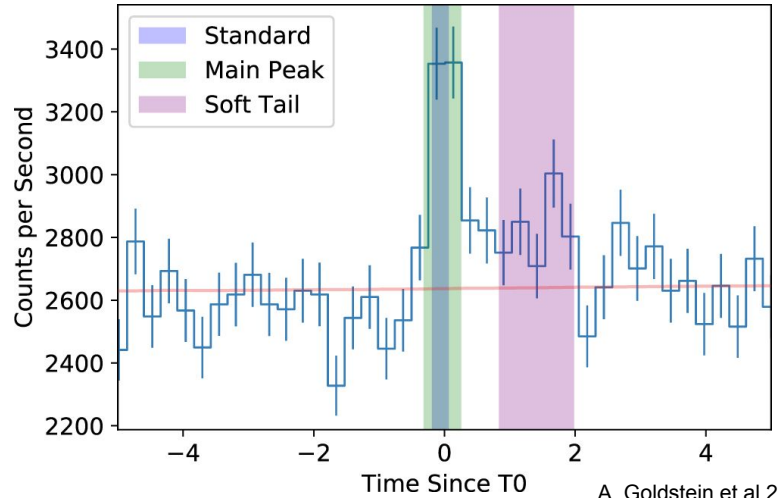
- Closest measured SGRB distance
- Measured fluence just under the median for GBM SGRBs
- By far the lowest measured  $L_{iso}$
- Possible population of low-luminosity SGRBs



## Two Component Emission

**Main Hard Peak**  
 Normal sGRB emission  
 $E_{peak} = 185 \text{ keV}$

**Soft Tail**  
 Best fit by thermal spectrum  
 $kT = 10.3 \text{ keV}$



A. Goldstein et al 2017  
 ApJL 848 L14

Main peak fluence larger than soft tail by a factor of ~3

# A Second Low-Luminosity SGRB

GRB 150101B has several similarities to GRB 170817A

- Short hard spike followed by soft tail
- Bright optical transient
- Late rising X-ray afterglow

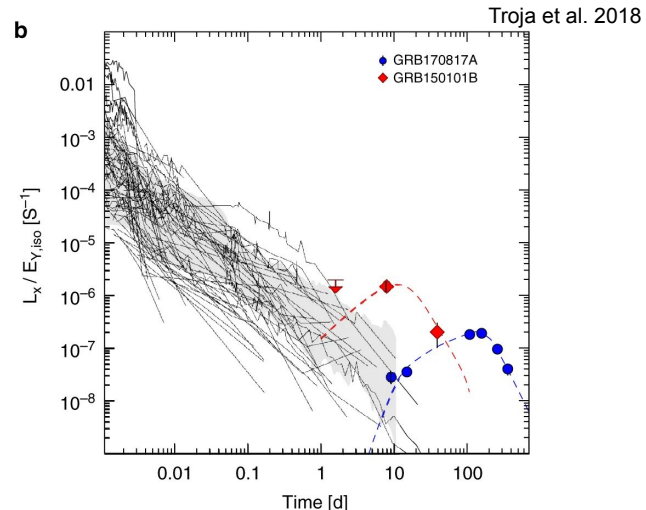
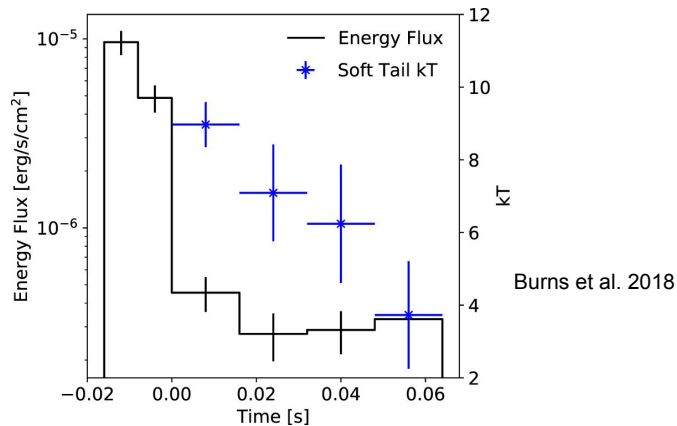
With some slight differences

- Further away,  $z = 0.134$ ,  $D_L \sim 650$  Mpc
- $L_{\text{iso}} \gtrsim 2$  orders of magnitude larger
- Shorter,  $T_{90} \sim 0.08$  s

A structured jet model with a Gaussian profile was fit to the X-ray afterglow (Troja et al. 2018)

- Consistent with a typical SGRB jet pointed elsewhere
- Gaussian jet width  $\sim 3^\circ$
- Viewing angle  $\sim 13^\circ$

Being less off-axis may explain the differences



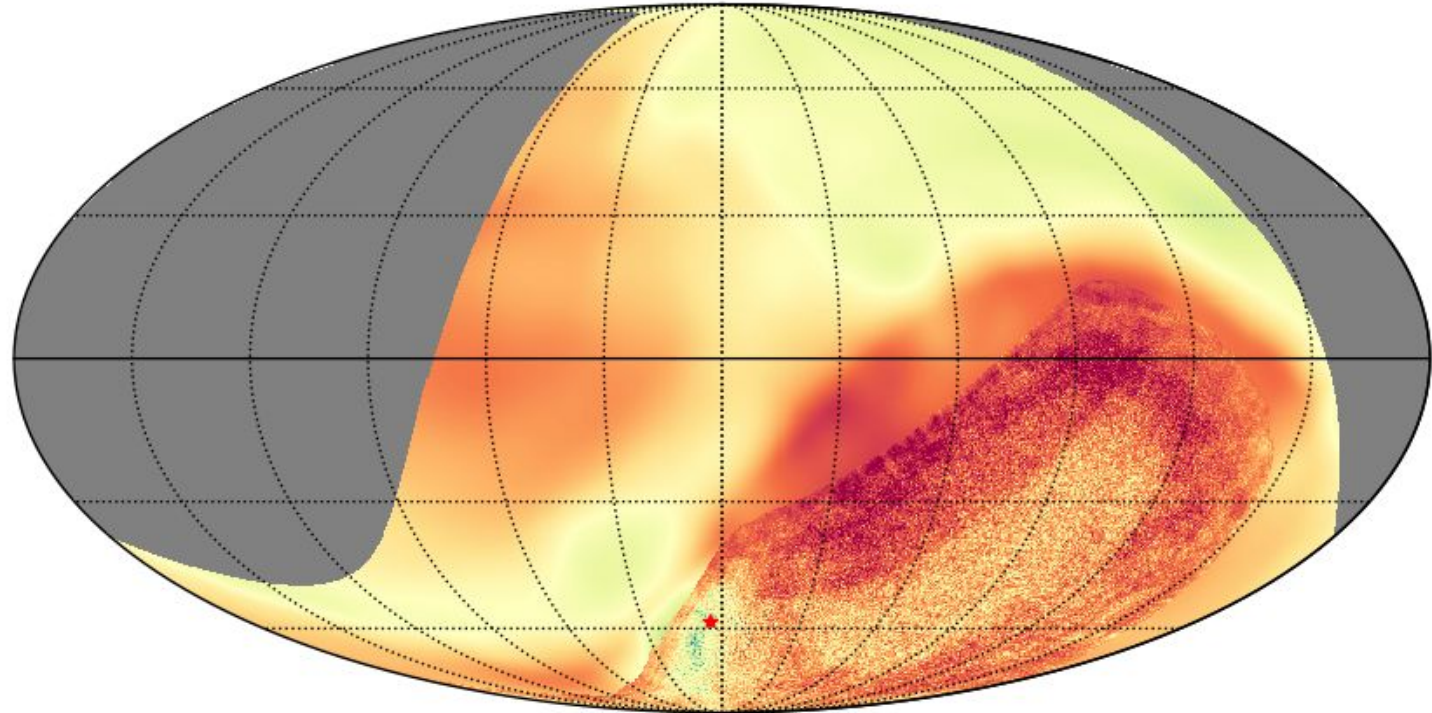
Prompt emission mechanism still not clear, but there is an emerging population



Need more sensitive searches

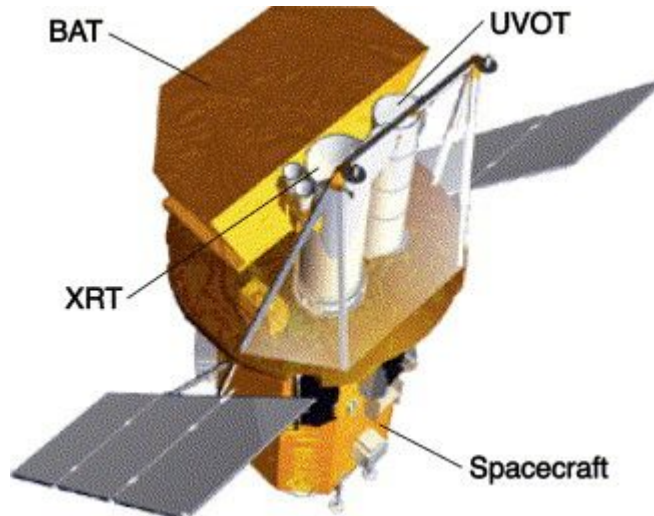
# GRB 230815A

Mollweide view



# The Neil Gehrels Swift Observatory

- Designed to detect GRBs and observe the early afterglow
- Can re-point “swiftly”, ~ 1 minute
  - Previously hours



Gehrels 2004

## Instruments

### Burst Alert Telescope (BAT)

- Coded mask imager (15 - 150 keV)
  - Unmasked response up to 500 keV
- Detects and localizes GRBs (a few arcmins)
- Large FoV, ~ 2 st

### X-Ray Telescope (XRT)

- 0.3 - 10 keV
- CCD spectroscopy
- Localizations of a few arcseconds

### UV/Optical Telescope (UVOT)

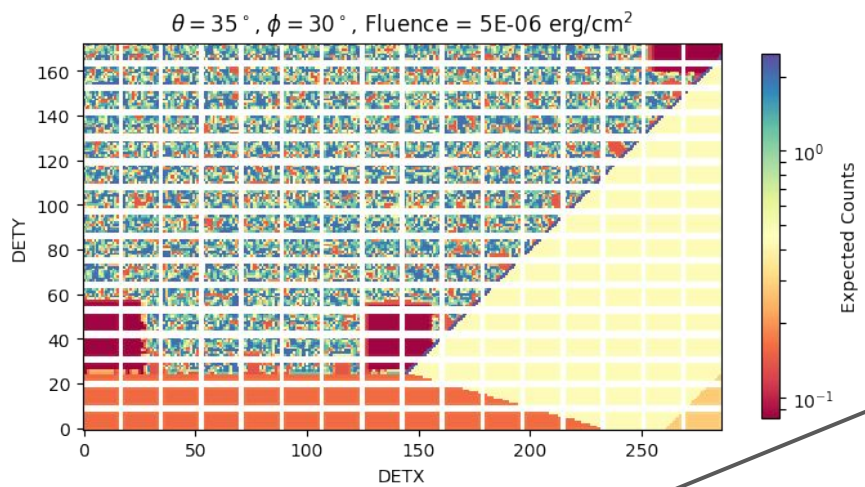
- 170 - 650 nm
- Capable of sub-arcsecond localization

- Launched Nov. 2004
- >1000 GRBs detected
- Swift Mission Operations Center at Penn State

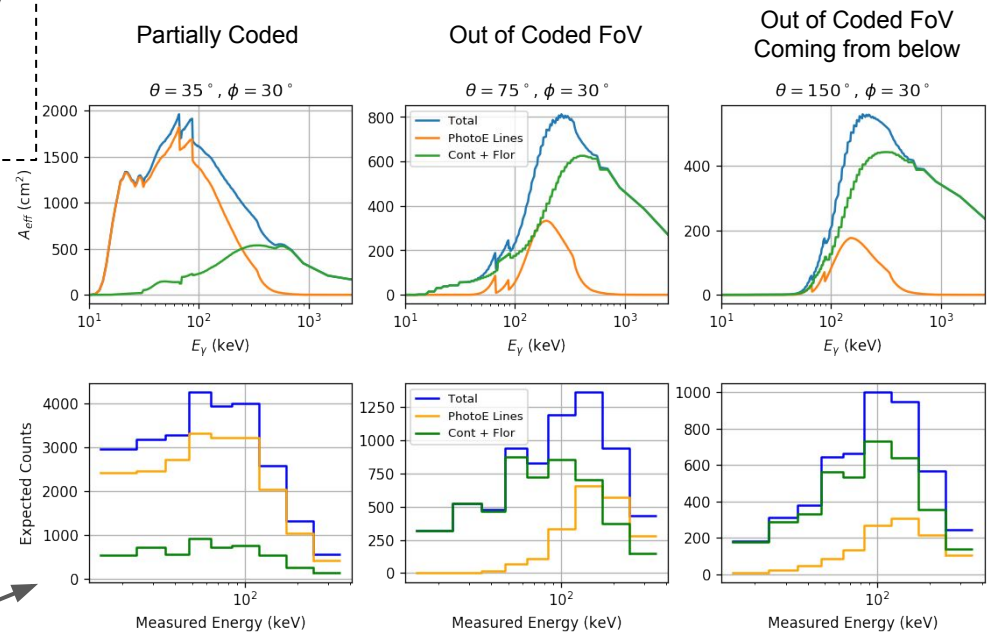


- $t_i(\theta, \phi, E_\gamma)$  is calculated on the fly, except for photon paths through the mask.
- Using the Swift software the fraction each detector is not blocked by the mask,  $f_i$  is calculated for a given source position.
- $f_i$  calculated and stored for the entire coded FoV
  - Grid spacing  $\approx \frac{1}{3}$  PSF size
  - $t_i(\theta, \phi, E_\gamma) = f_i + (1 - f_i) t_{pb}$

The total  $A_{eff}$  over all detectors and split between the **direct** and **indirect** components



Same flux and position as



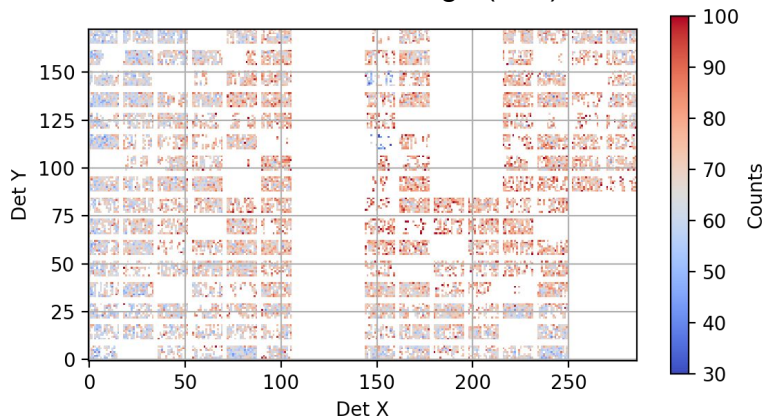
Expected counts from the PS model with a cutoff power-law spectra with  $\gamma = 0.5$ ,  $E_{peak} = 350$  keV, and a 10 keV - 1000 keV fluence of  $5 \times 10^{-6}$  erg  $cm^{-2}$ .

# How BAT Works

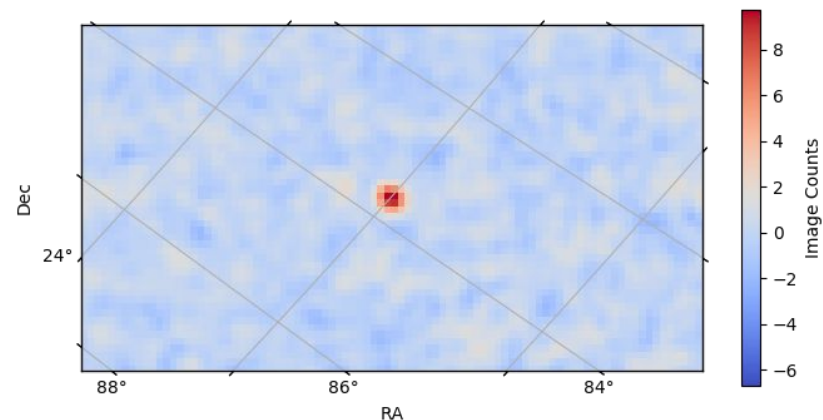
Cross-correlate  
with Mask Pattern

## Crab in Detector Space

### Detector Plane Image (DPI)



## Crab in Sky Space



Mask-Weighted Counts  
Gaussian noise centered around 0 where  
there's no source  
Automatic Bkg subtraction

Zoomed in  
Full FoV is  $\sim 2$  sr

What if GRB 170817A were in the BAT coded FoV at 40 Mpc?

# What if GRB 170817A were in the BAT coded FoV at 40 Mpc?

Onboard trigger and  
arcmin-scale localization

XRT, UVOT observations and alert sent  
to the world at  $< 1$  minute

What if GRB 170817A were in the BAT coded FoV at 40 Mpc?

Onboard trigger and  
arcmin-scale localization

XRT, UVOT observations and alert sent  
to the world at  $< 1$  minute

What if GRB 170817A were in the BAT coded FoV at 70 Mpc?

# What if GRB 170817A were in the BAT coded FoV at 40 Mpc?

Onboard trigger and  
arcmin-scale localization

XRT, UVOT observations and alert sent  
to the world at < 1 minute

# What if GRB 170817A were in the BAT coded FoV at 70 Mpc?

NITRATES ground trigger and arcmin-scale localization

Alert sent out to world at ~2-8 hours

XRT, UVOT observations at alert + ~1 hour

What if GRB 170817A were in the BAT coded FoV at 90 Mpc?

# What if GRB 170817A were in the BAT coded FoV at 90 Mpc?

NITRATES ground trigger and messy skymap,  
also skymap joined with GW skymap

Alert sent out to world at ~2-8 hours