

# Characterization of LIGO/Virgo selection effects with neural networks

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**arXiv:2007.06585**

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Machine learning in GW search:

g2net next challenges

Pisa, Italy



European Research Council



# We are like any other observatory

- We wish to infer the **global** properties of some objects (BHs)...
- ...by observing only **some** of them.

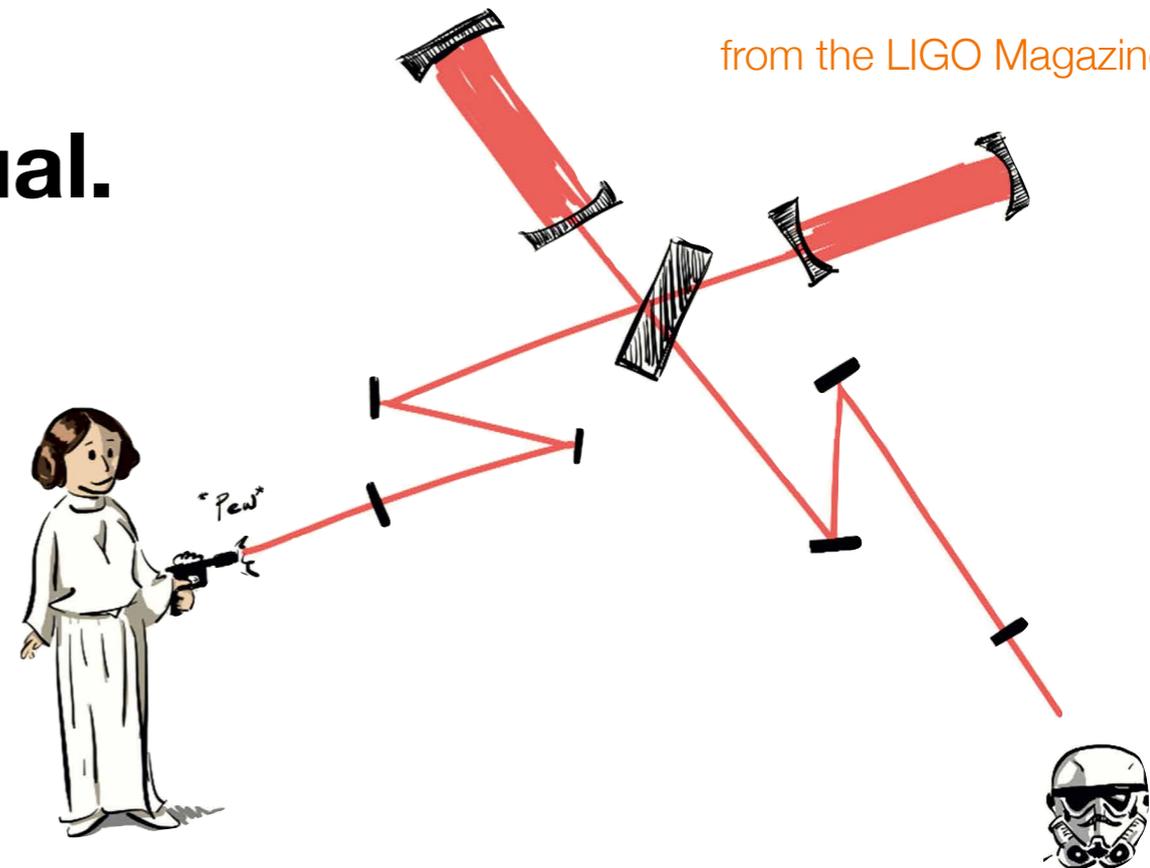
For a review: Vitale, **DG+** 2020

Accurate inference relies on accurate knowledge of the detector response

## Not all BH binaries are created equal.

Some are easier to see:

- Large masses (but still on stellar scales)
- Large aligned spins (waveform is longer)
- Inclination: face on/off
- Preferred locations in the sky





# Detection probability

The key quantity we want:  $p_{\text{det}}(\theta, \xi, z)$

## Probability that LIGO/Virgo will observe a source

- $\theta$ : Intrinsic parameters (masses, spins, ...)
- $\xi$ : Extrinsic parameters (sky location, inclination, ...)
- $z$ : Redshift (or distance)

## Two strategies:

- Software injections (same procedure used for detection!)
- Used to calibrate a ranking statistics

$$\text{SNR} \quad \rho^2 = 4 \int \frac{\tilde{h}(f)\tilde{h}^*(f)}{S(f)}$$

$$\text{Detectable:} \quad \begin{array}{l} \rho > 8 \quad (\text{single LIGO}) \\ \rho > 12 \quad (\text{LIGO/Virgo network}) \end{array}$$

# Many pdet's

Thresholding the SNR  $p_{\text{det}}(\theta, \xi, z) = \Theta[\rho(\theta, \xi, z) - \rho_{\text{thr}}]$

We (usually at least) are not interested in the extrinsic parameters:

$$p_{\text{det}}(\theta, z) = \int p(\xi) p_{\text{det}}(\theta, \xi, z) d\xi$$

And at the end of the day we just want a population average

See Matt's talk in a bit!

$\lambda$  : Population (hyper) parameters

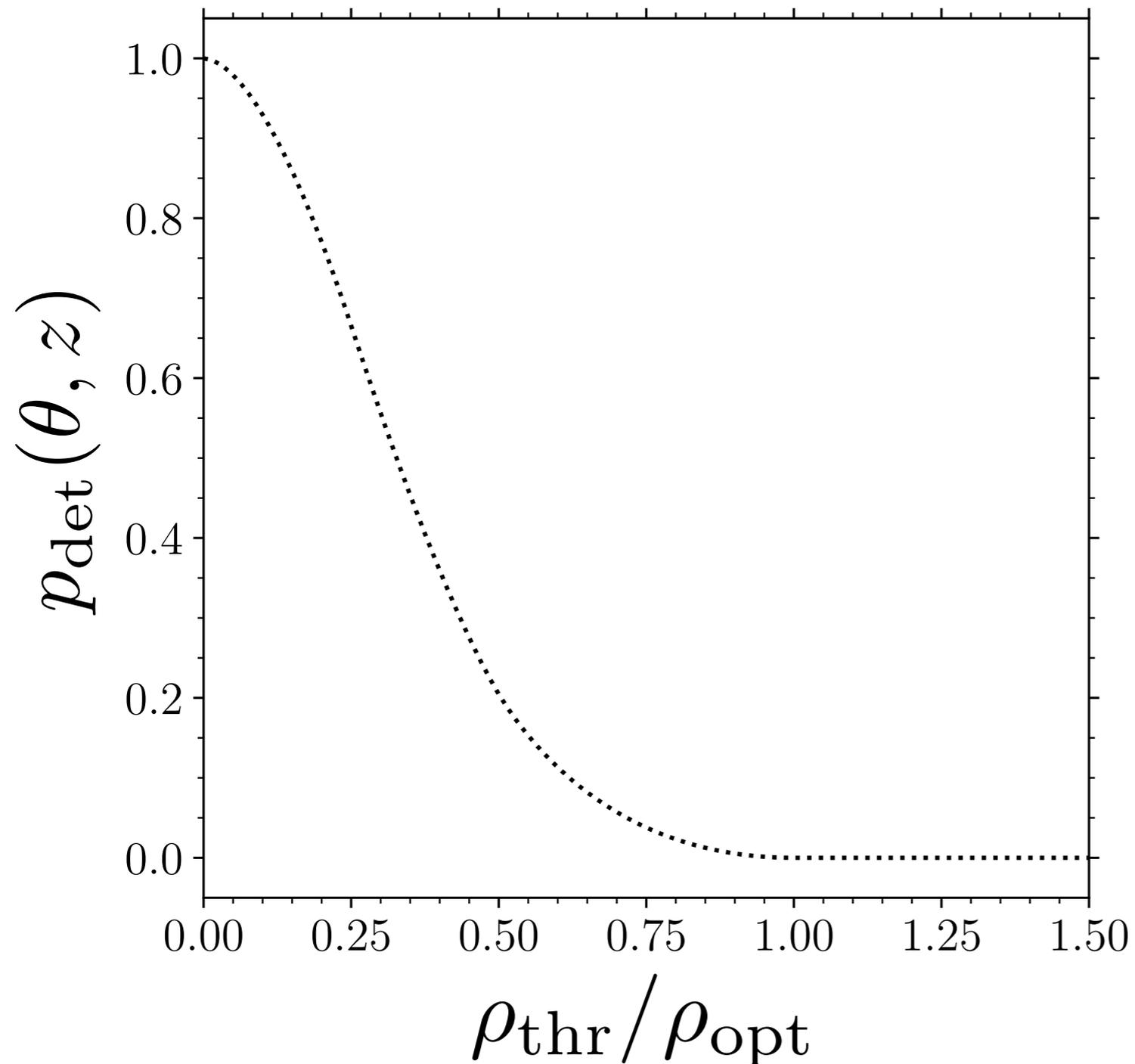
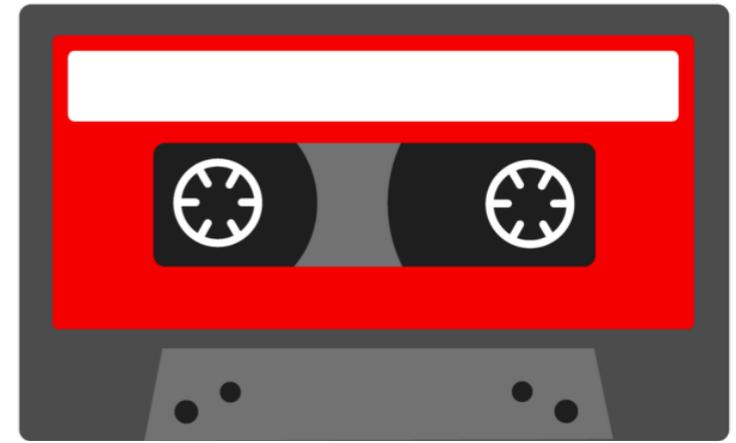
$$\sigma(\lambda) = \int p_{\text{pop}}(\theta, z | \lambda) p_{\text{det}}(\theta, z)$$

## Key ingredients:

- Compute the SNR  $\rho(\theta, \xi, z)$
- Pdf of the extrinsic parameters (usually easy: isotropic)  $p(\xi)$
- Pdf of the intrinsic parameters (specific population model)  $p_{\text{pop}}(\theta, z | \lambda)$

# Semi-analytic p<sub>det</sub>

Rewind from the 90s: Finn Chernoff 1993, Chernoff 1996



Still state-of-art for O1-O2 LIGO analyses  
LVK O3a/b used injections  
Still used very much nonetheless!

## Key assumptions:

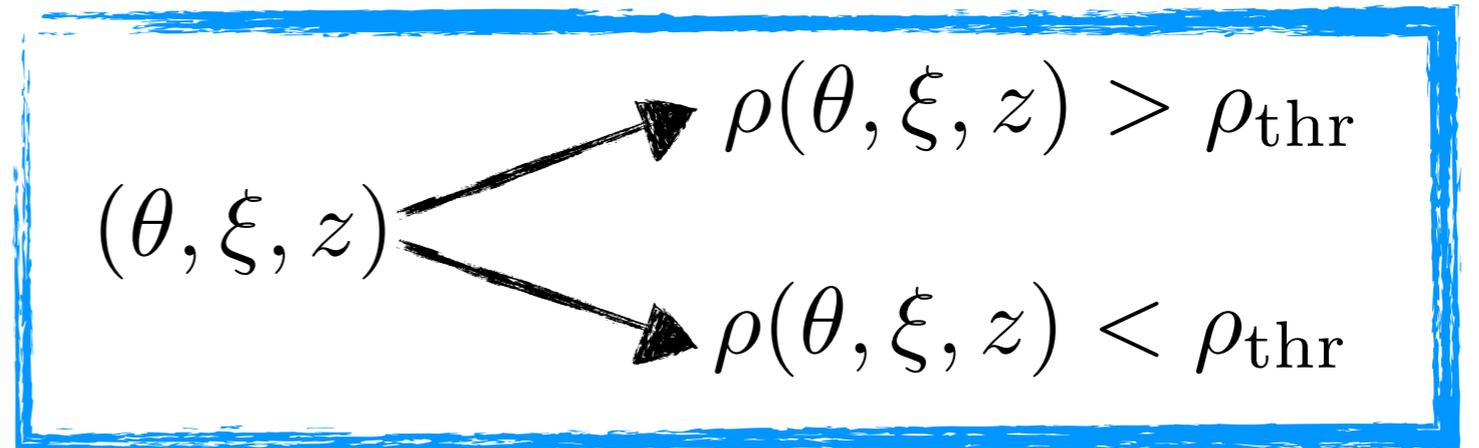
- Single detector
- Dominant mode only
- No spin precession

## Key results:

- Universal curve
- Cheap! One needs to compute a single SNR

# Machine-learning classifiers

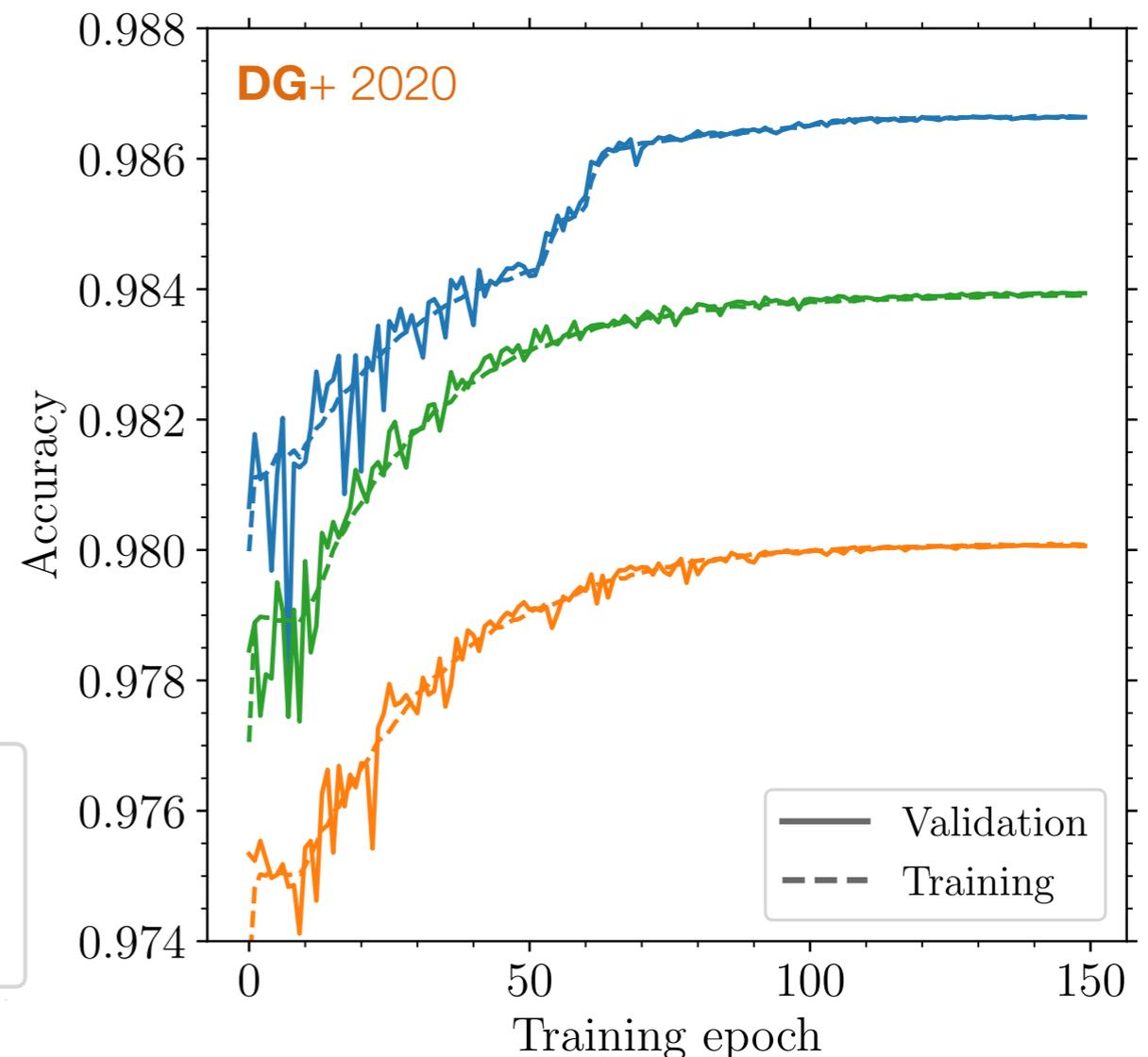
Including spin precession, three detectors and higher-order modes with machine learning



## Network architecture

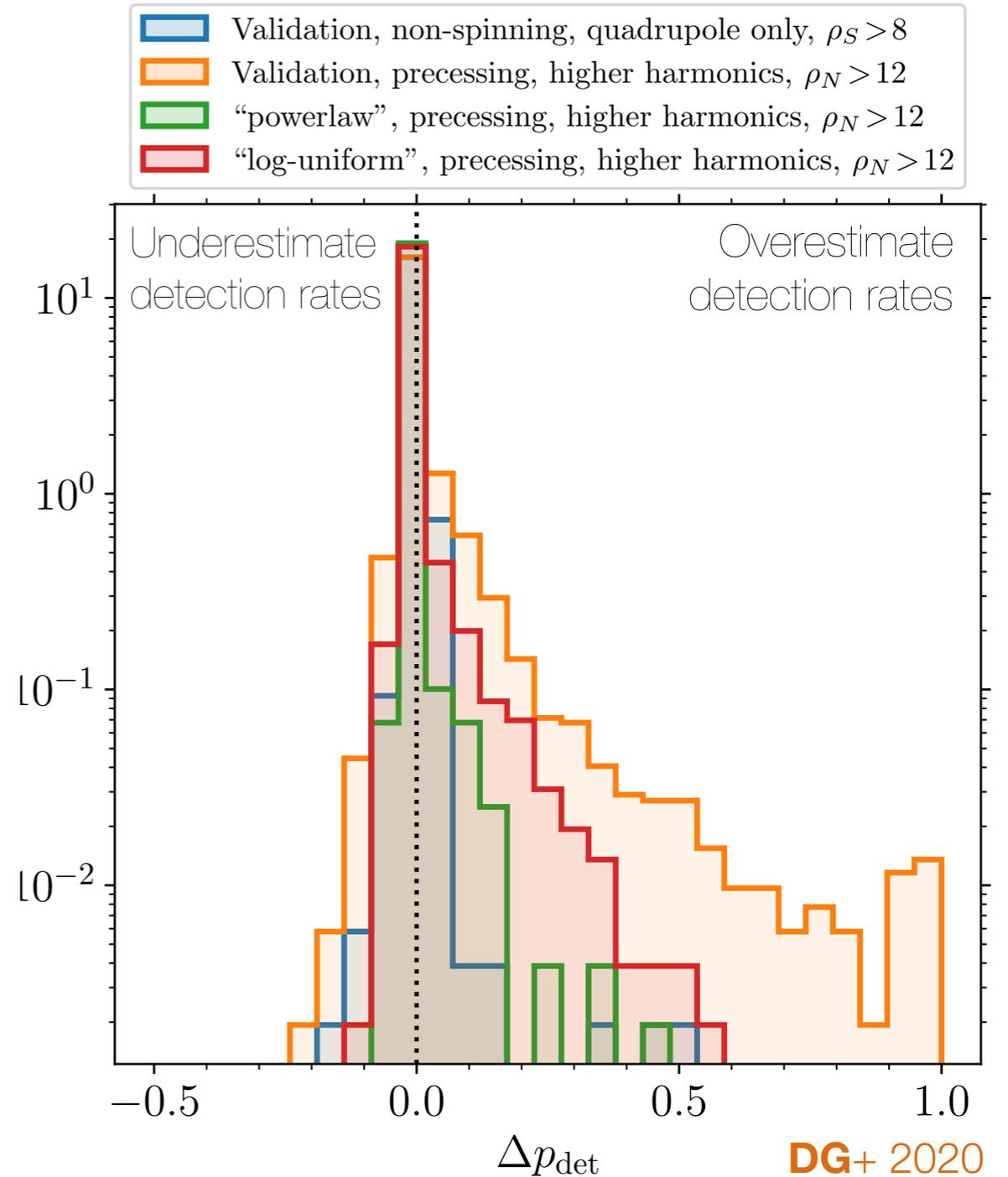
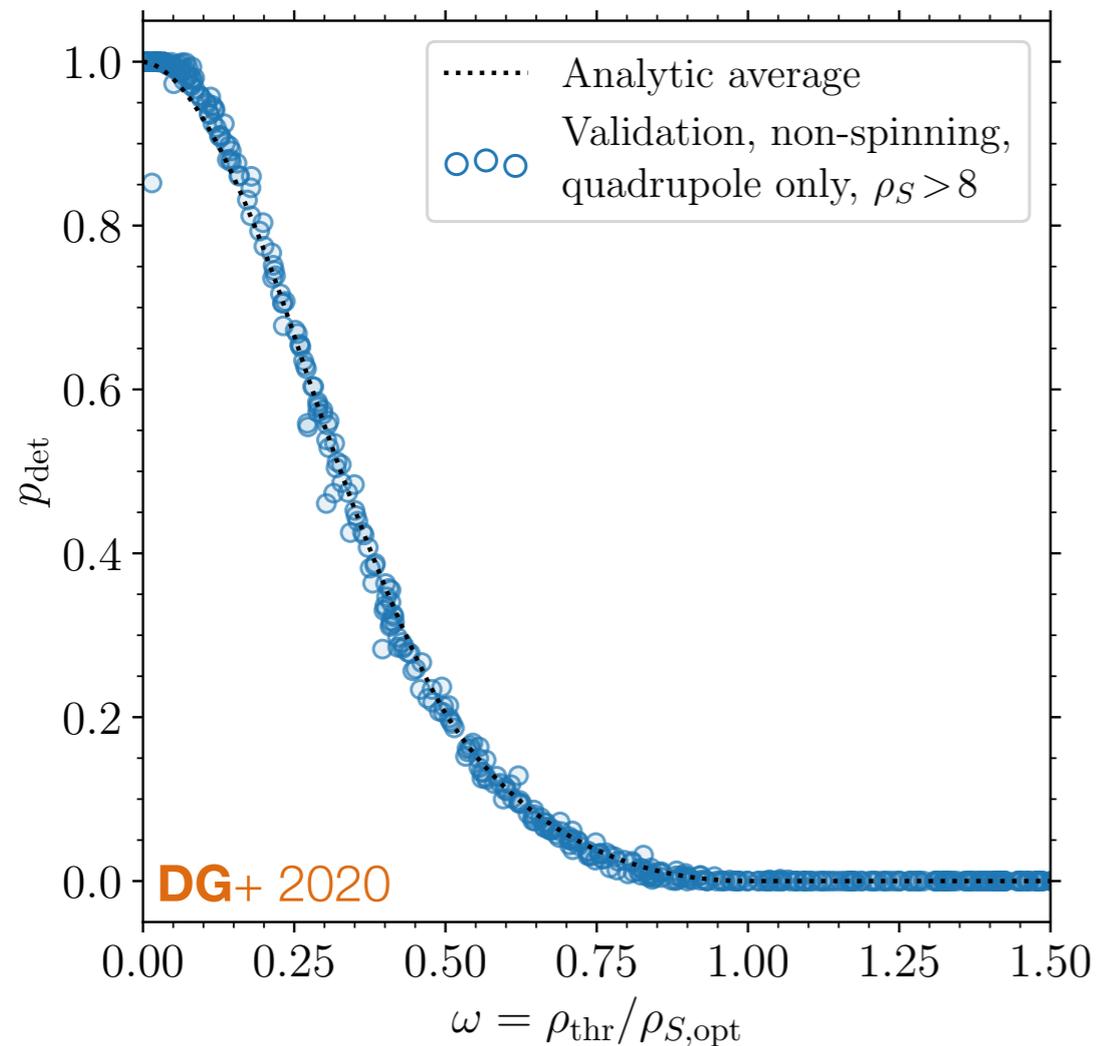
- Fully connected neural network (MPL)
- Implemented in TensorFlow
- One hidden layer with 32 neurons
- Adam optimizer
- Glorot initializer
- Tanh activation function

- Non-spinning, quadrupole only,  $\rho_S > 8$
- Precessing, higher harmonics,  $\rho_S > 8$
- Precessing, higher harmonics,  $\rho_N > 12$



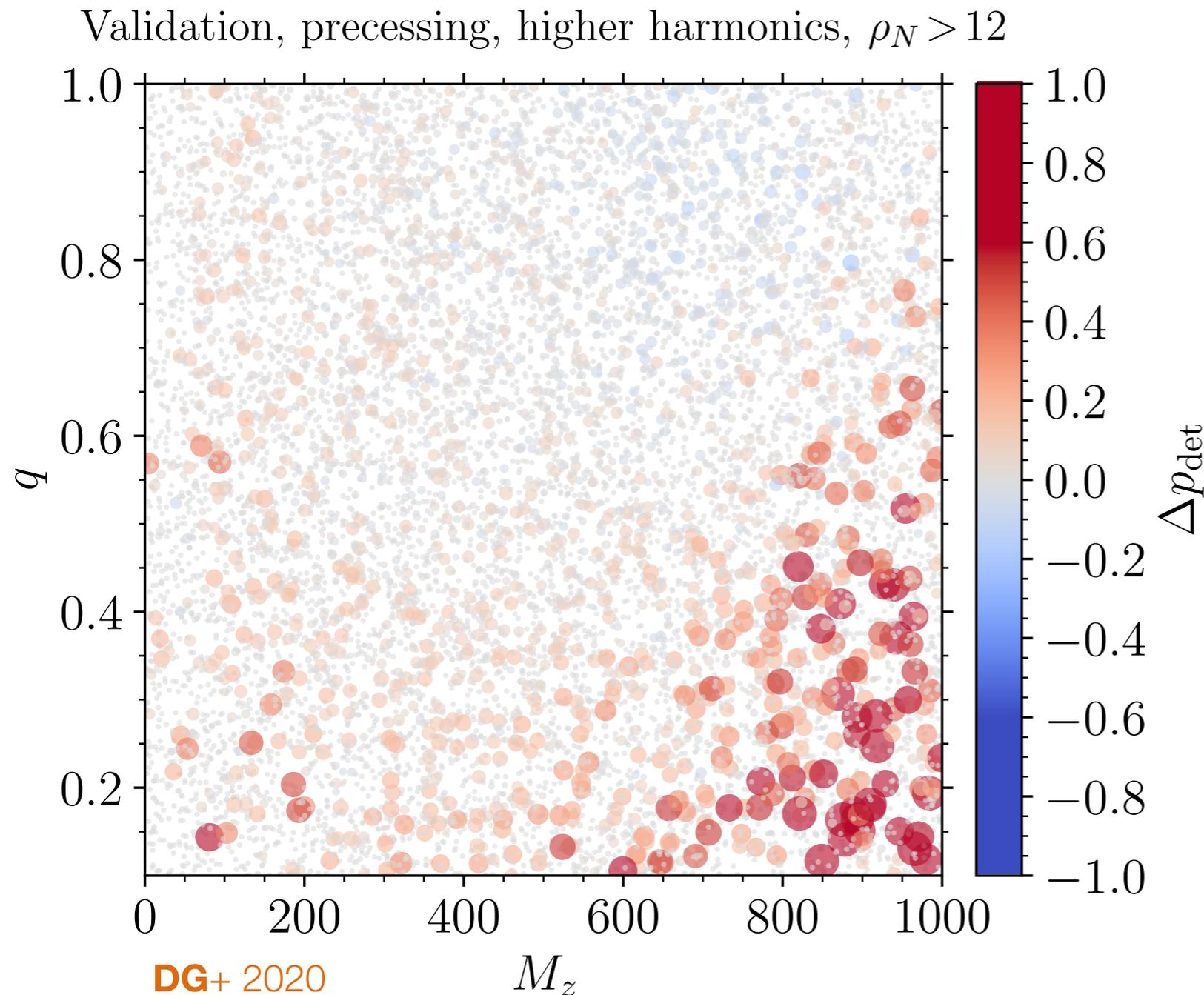
# Lessons learned

Reproduces the analytics  
for the non-spinning  
single-detector case



Mismodeling for multiple  
detectors, precessing sources,  
and higher-order modes

# Highly non-uniform selection bias



Affects specific parts of the parameter space more prominently than others

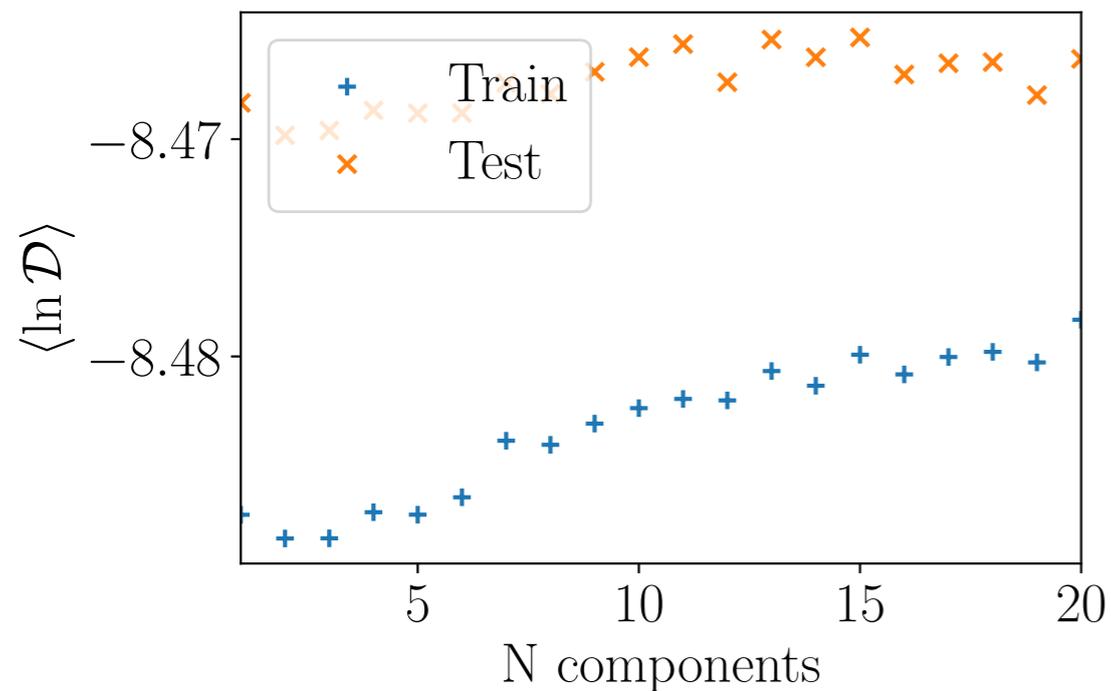
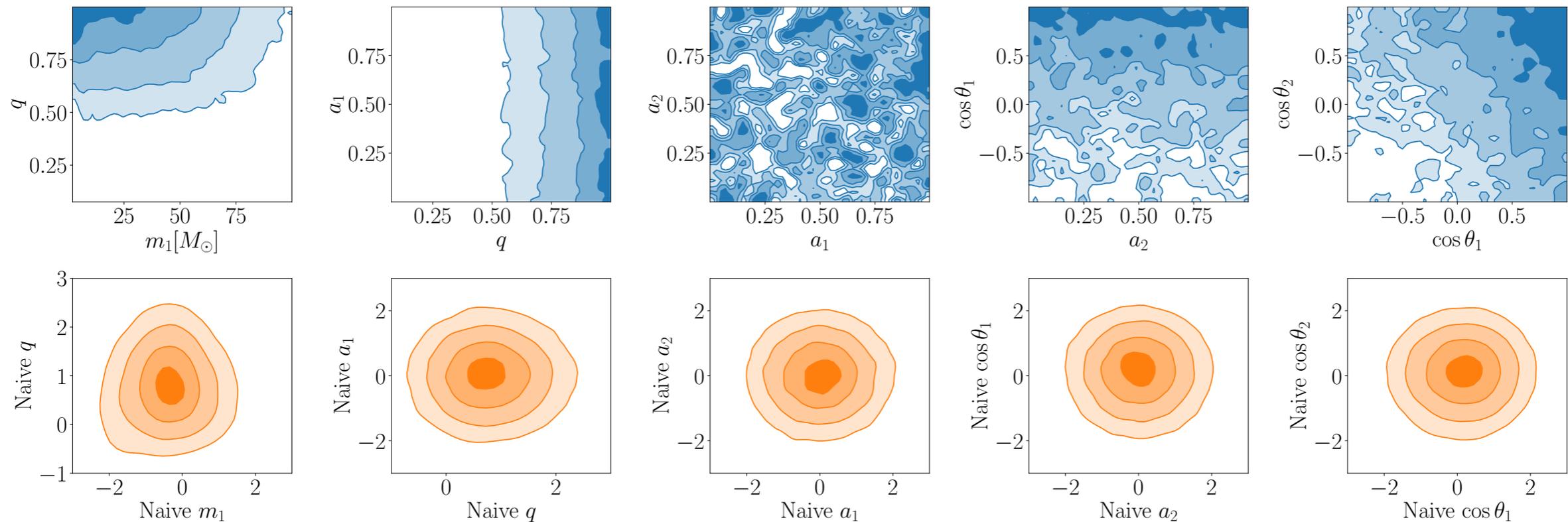
- Large masses
- Small mass ratios

**Are current event rates (slightly) overestimated?**

Please explore! [github.com/dgerosa/pdetclassifier](https://github.com/dgerosa/pdetclassifier)

# We're not the only ones

Results from another group [Talbot, Thrane 2020](#)



- Data pre-process designed for the GW problem
- Fit with Kernel density estimation + Gaussian mixtures
- Higher level, fit the population-average pdet directly

# Next

1. LIGO/Virgo injections are now public! Can we machine-learn them?
2. Should we instead machine-learn the population average? [See Matt's talk in a bit!](#)
3. Common approximations lead to an overestimate of the detection rate
4. Careful with selection biases in specific regions of the parameter space

[arXiv:2007.06585](#) [github.com/dgerosa/pdetclassifier](https://github.com/dgerosa/pdetclassifier)



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# How we put things together

$\theta$  **Single-event parameters:** masses, spins, redshifts

$\lambda$  **Population parameters:** spectral index of mass distribution, cutoffs

Inhomogeneous Poisson process:

Loredo 2004, Mandel+ 2019,  
Thrane, Talbot 2019, Vitale, **DG+** 2022,

$$p(\lambda|d) \propto \pi(\lambda) \sigma^{-N}(\lambda) \prod_{i=1}^N \int p_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\lambda) \mathcal{L}(d_i|\theta) d\theta$$

Population prior

Population posterior

N events...

Population model

Single-event likelihood

Selection effects:  $\sigma(\lambda) = \int p_{\text{pop}}(\theta|\lambda) p_{\text{det}}(\theta) d\theta$

Detection probability

# Semi-analytic calculation

Response

$$h(t) = F_+ h_+(t) + F_\times h_\times(t)$$

Beam patterns

$$F_+ = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos^2 \vartheta) \cos 2\phi \cos 2\psi - \cos \vartheta \sin 2\phi \sin 2\psi$$

$$F_\times = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos^2 \vartheta) \cos 2\phi \sin 2\psi + \cos \vartheta \sin 2\phi \cos 2\psi$$

GW emission

$$h_+(t) = A(t) \frac{1 + \cos^2 \iota}{2} \cos \Phi(t) \quad h_\times(t) = A(t) \cos \iota \sin \Phi(t)$$

Projection

$$\rho(\theta, \xi, z) = \omega \rho_{\text{opt}}(\theta, z) \quad \omega = \sqrt{\left(F_+ \frac{1 + \cos^2 \iota}{2}\right)^2 + (F_\times \cos \iota)^2}$$

Result

$$p_{\text{det}}(\theta, z) = \int_{\rho_{\text{thr}}/\rho_{\text{opt}}}^1 p(\omega) d\omega$$