



Multi-Messenger & Time Domain Astronomy: the Role of Gemini Observatory

Jennifer Lotz

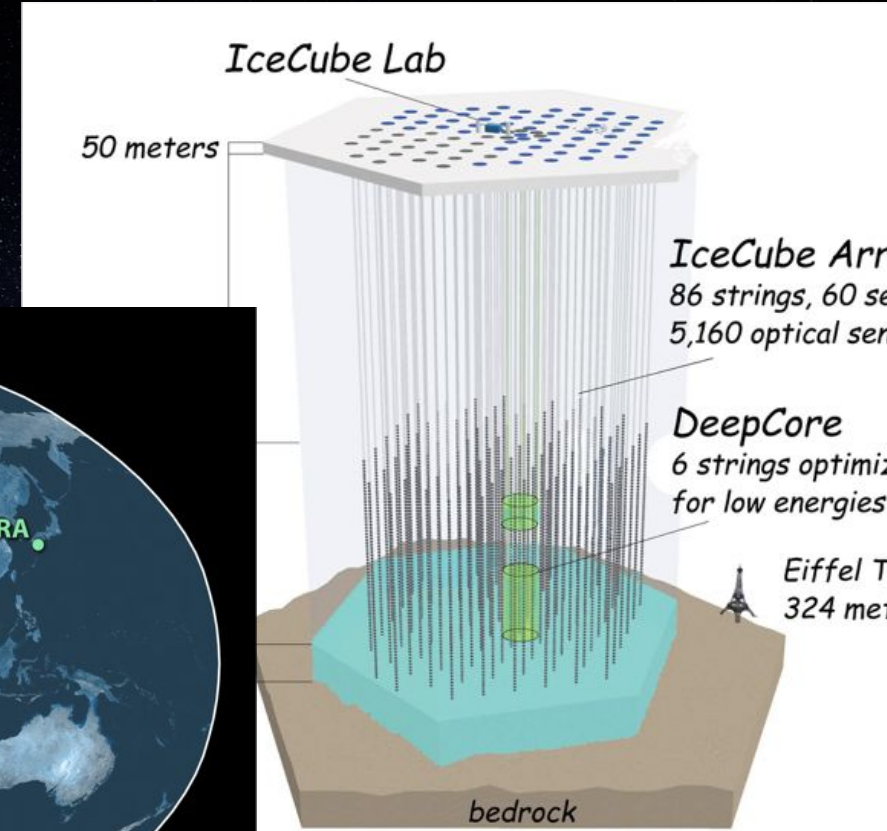
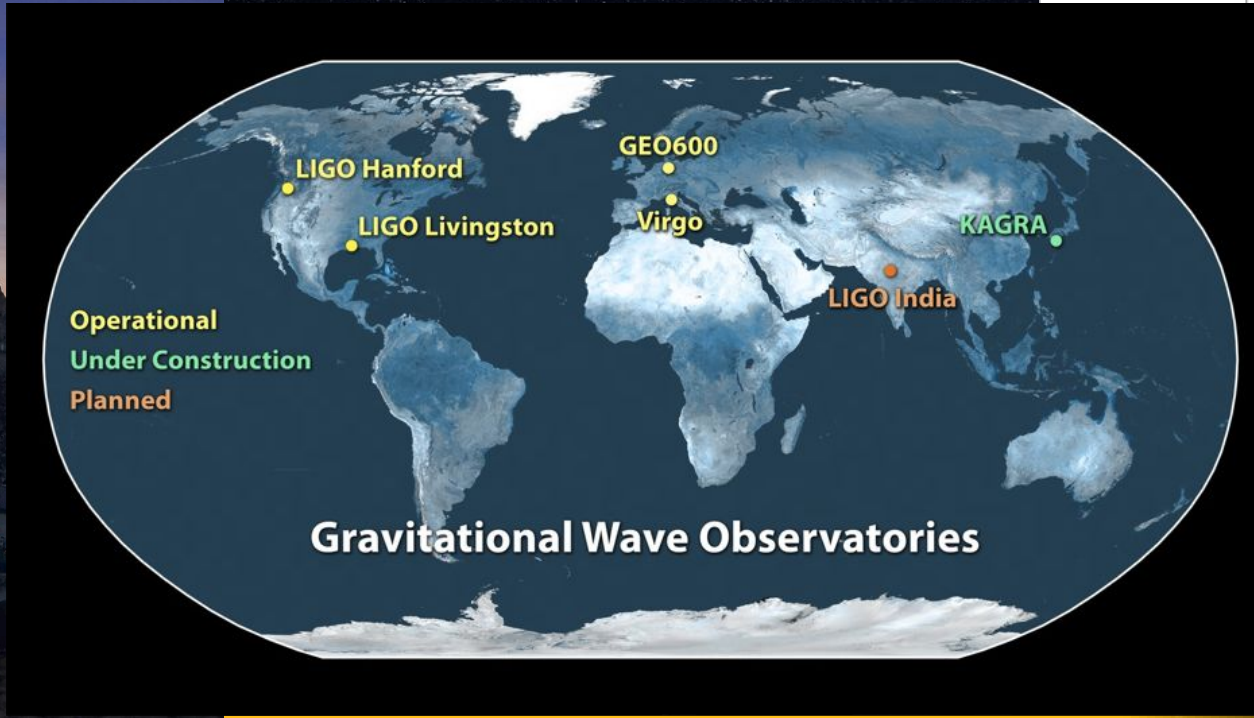
Gemini Observatory/NSF's NOIRLab

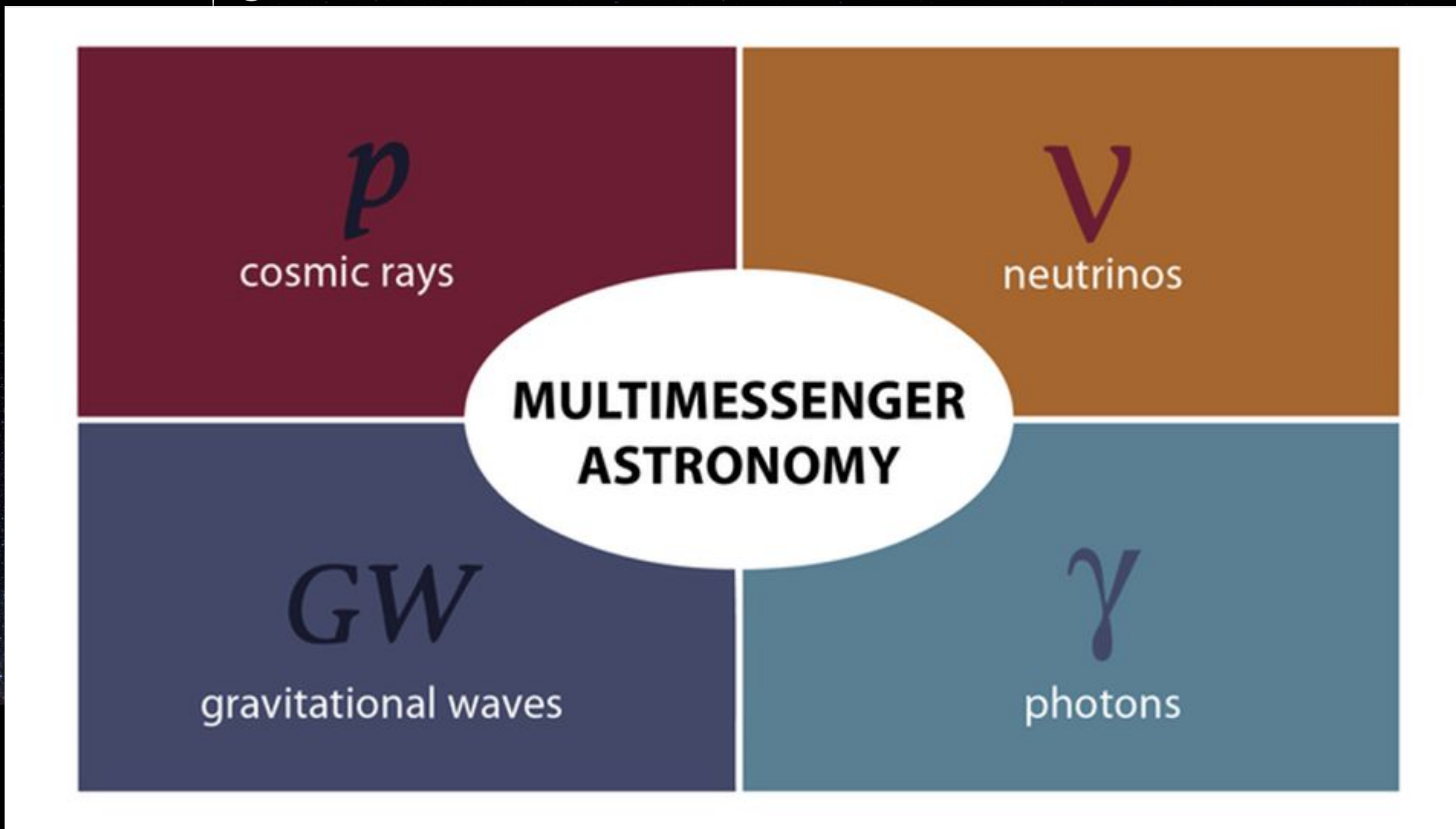


2020's -- MMA/TDA discovery engines



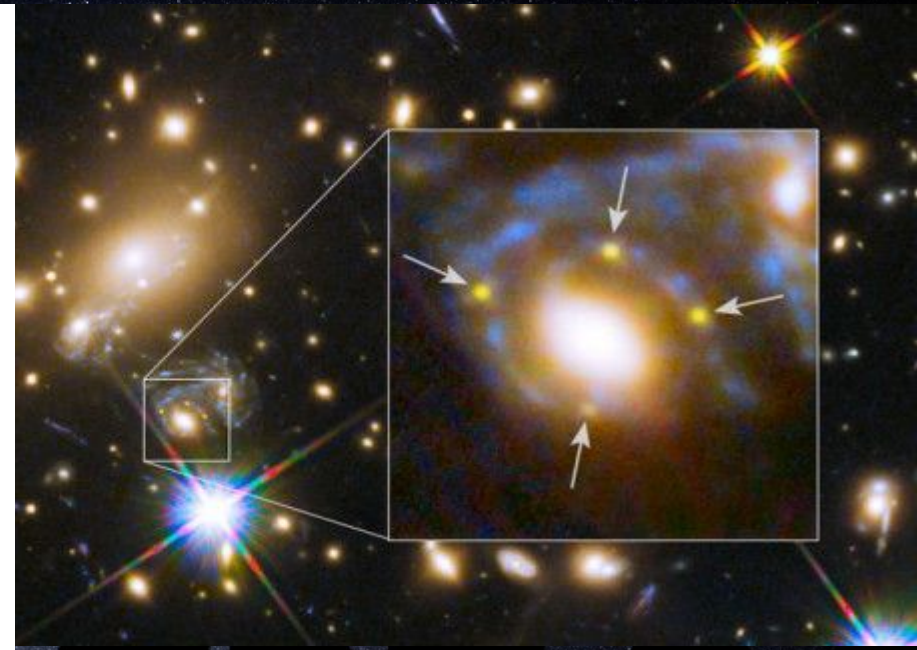
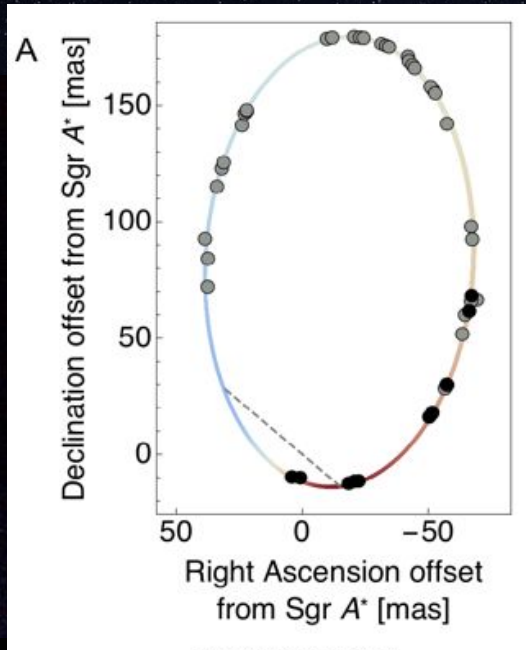
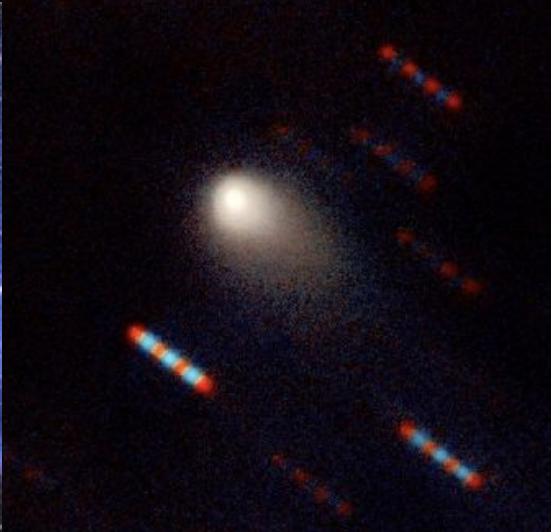
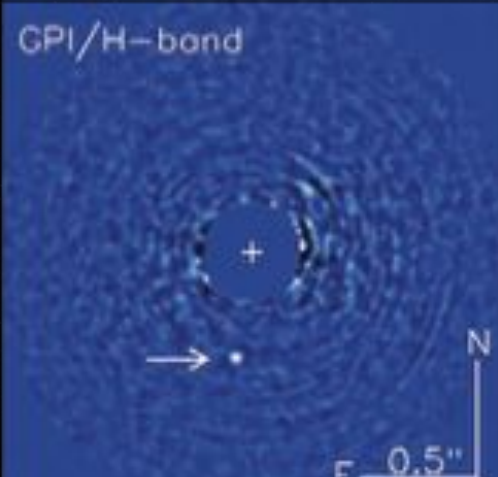
LIGO, IceCube,
Rubin Observatory
Roman Space Telescope & EUCLID





time-varying phenomena: asteroids, comets, exoplanets, variable stars, Galactic center, supernovae, accreting black holes, merging compact objects...

timescales of hours, days, months, years..





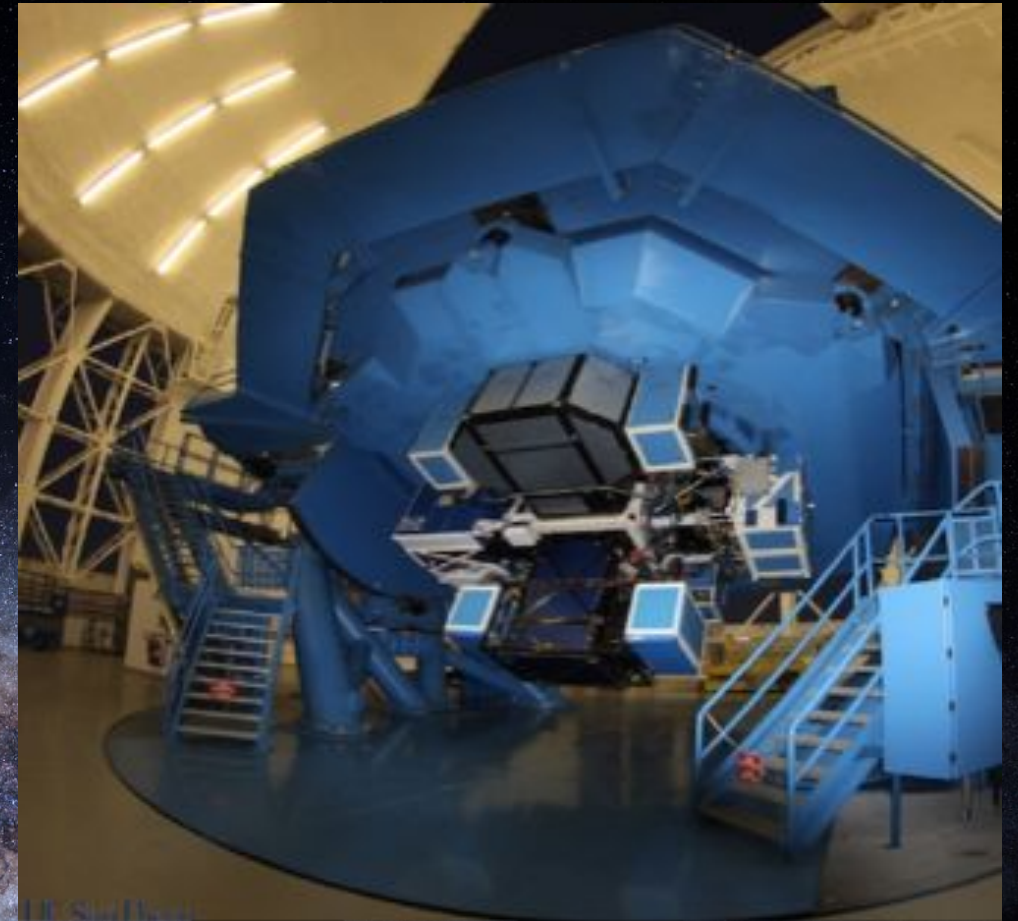
Gemini Observatory



Twin 8.1 meter visible-near infrared telescopes in Hawaii and Chile open to entire U.S community, and international partners



Agile, flexible operations



flexible queue scheduling, base-facility operations, & rapid instrument changes enables agile, rapid-response operations



Bi-hemisphere access



ideal observatory for follow-up of gravitational wave electromagnetic counterparts, LSST transients, and other multi-messenger events.





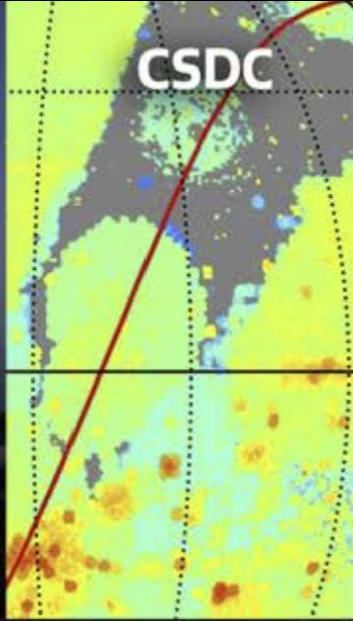
NOIRLab facilities



Kitt Peak



CSDC



Gemini

With our international partners



Cerro Tololo



Rubin Observatory Operations

An NSF-DOE Partnership

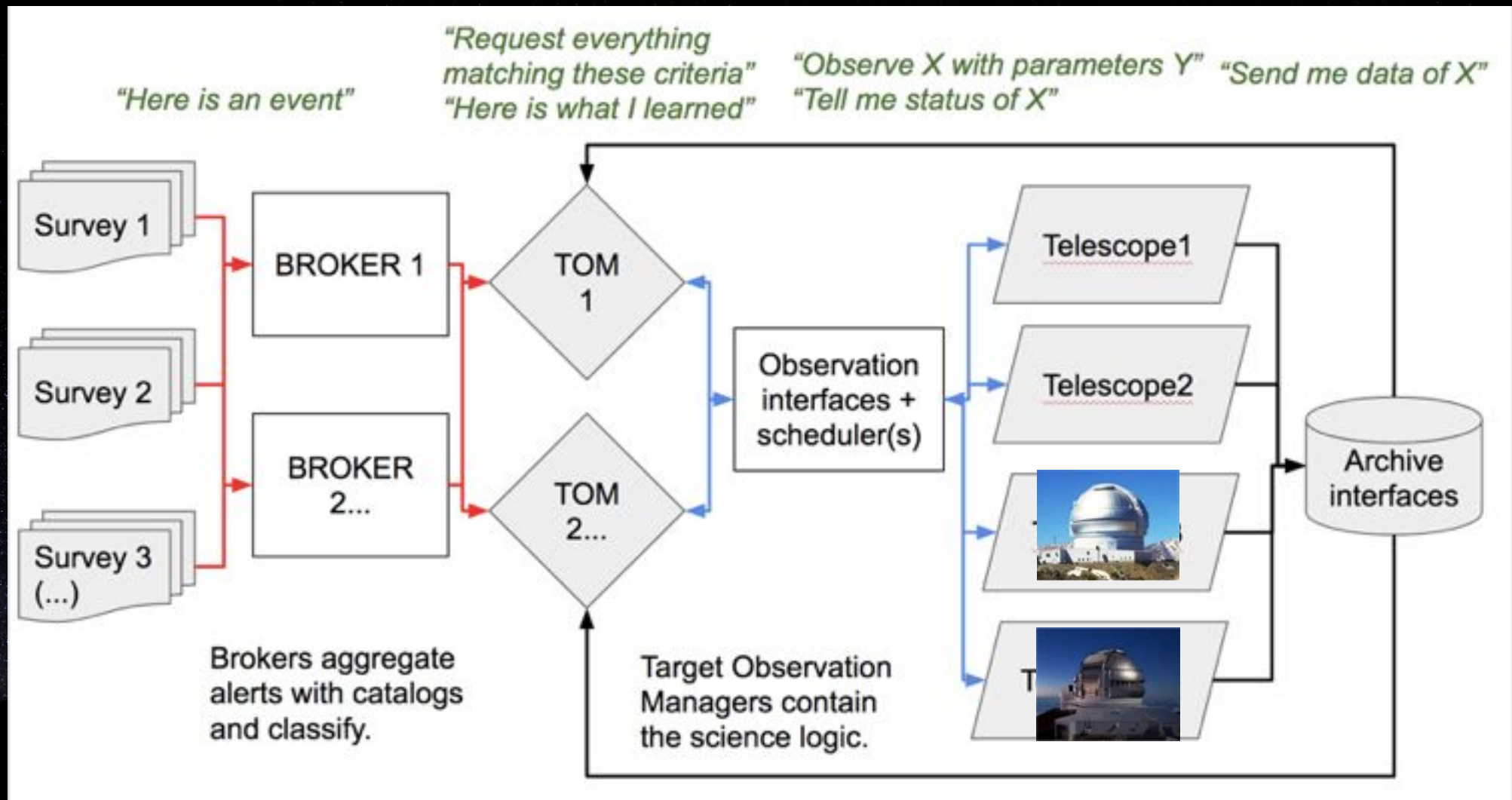




Network for TDA & MMA



Gemini in AEON





Adaptive Optics



Time Domain



Outreach

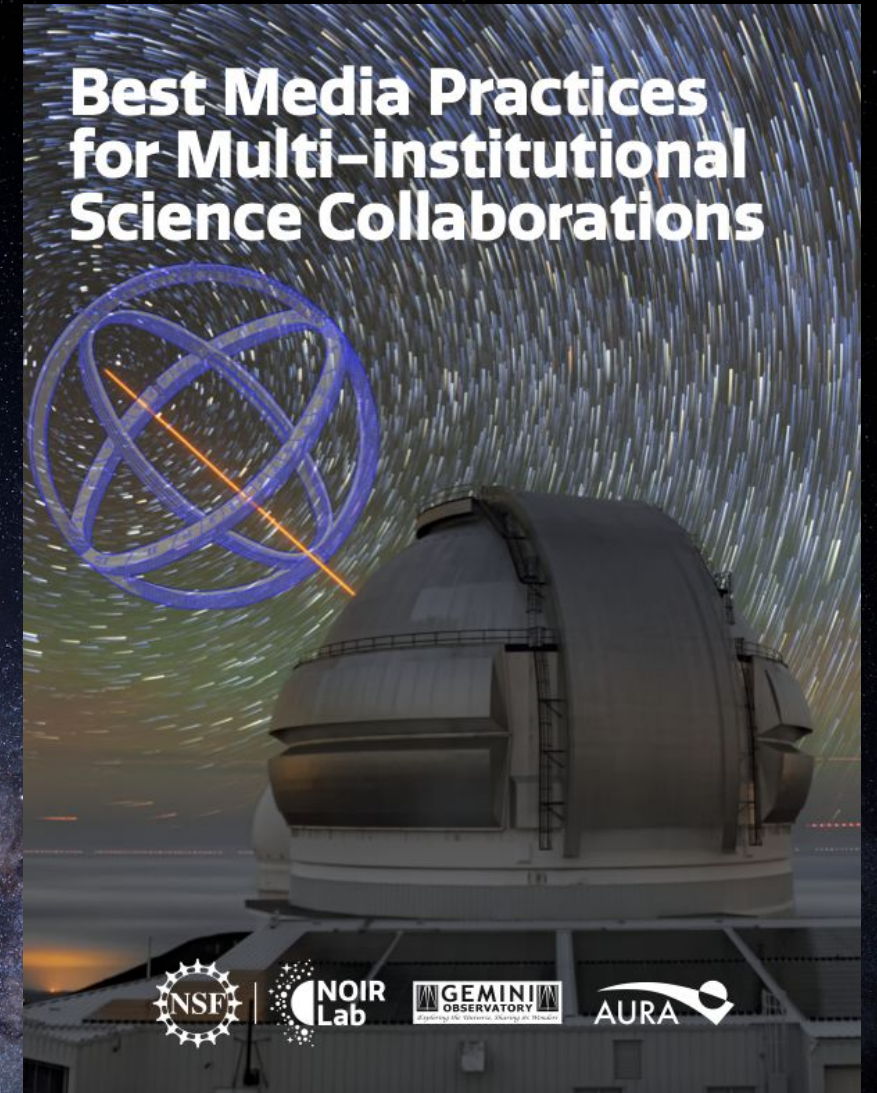
\$26M funded the National Science Foundation in October 2018

- new wide-field adaptive optics facility at Gemini North
- software infrastructure to support TDA/MMA astronomy
- communicating the message of MMA workshops & outreach

MMA Communications Summit
 November 2019
 → white paper



Fig. 1: Participants in the Multi-Messenger/Time-Domain Astronomy Summit. Credit: NOIRLab/NSF/AURA



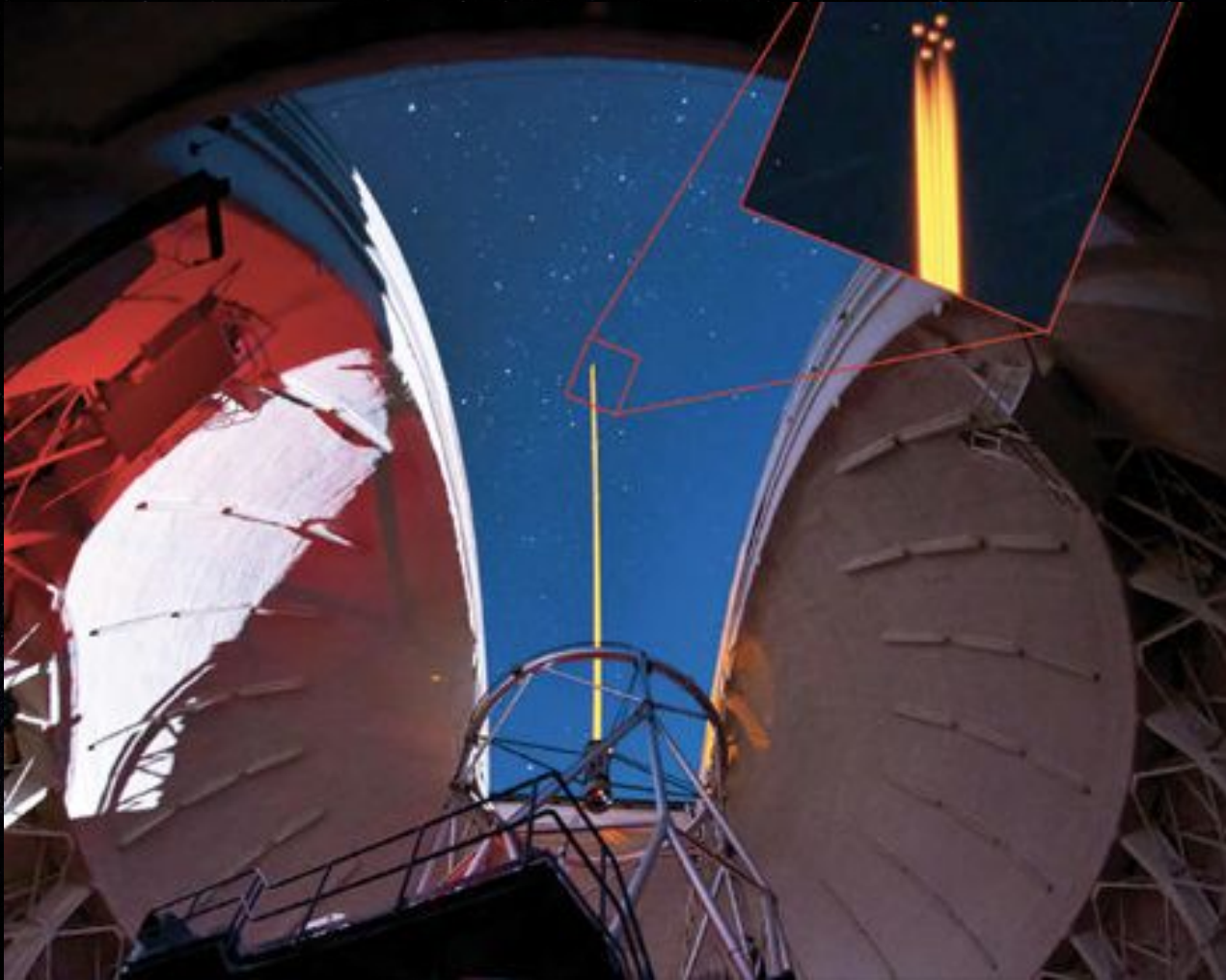
Target Observation Manager -- software interface between astronomer and telescopes; request follow-up observations

Dynamic scheduler -- automated scheduling software for telescope observations, to include time-critical and regular observations

DRAGONS (*Data Reduction for Astronomy from Gemini Observatory North & South*) -- “quick-look” data reduction for rapid turn-around of observations



GNAO: nightly, wide-field high-resolution NIR imaging and spectroscopy



GeMS: wide-field infrared AO imaging at Gemini-S

GNAO: rapid-response, wide-field infrared AO imaging and spectroscopy at GN, available *nightly*

high-resolution: comparable to HST/JWST

sensitivity: spectroscopy comparable to JWST



New Adaptive Optics



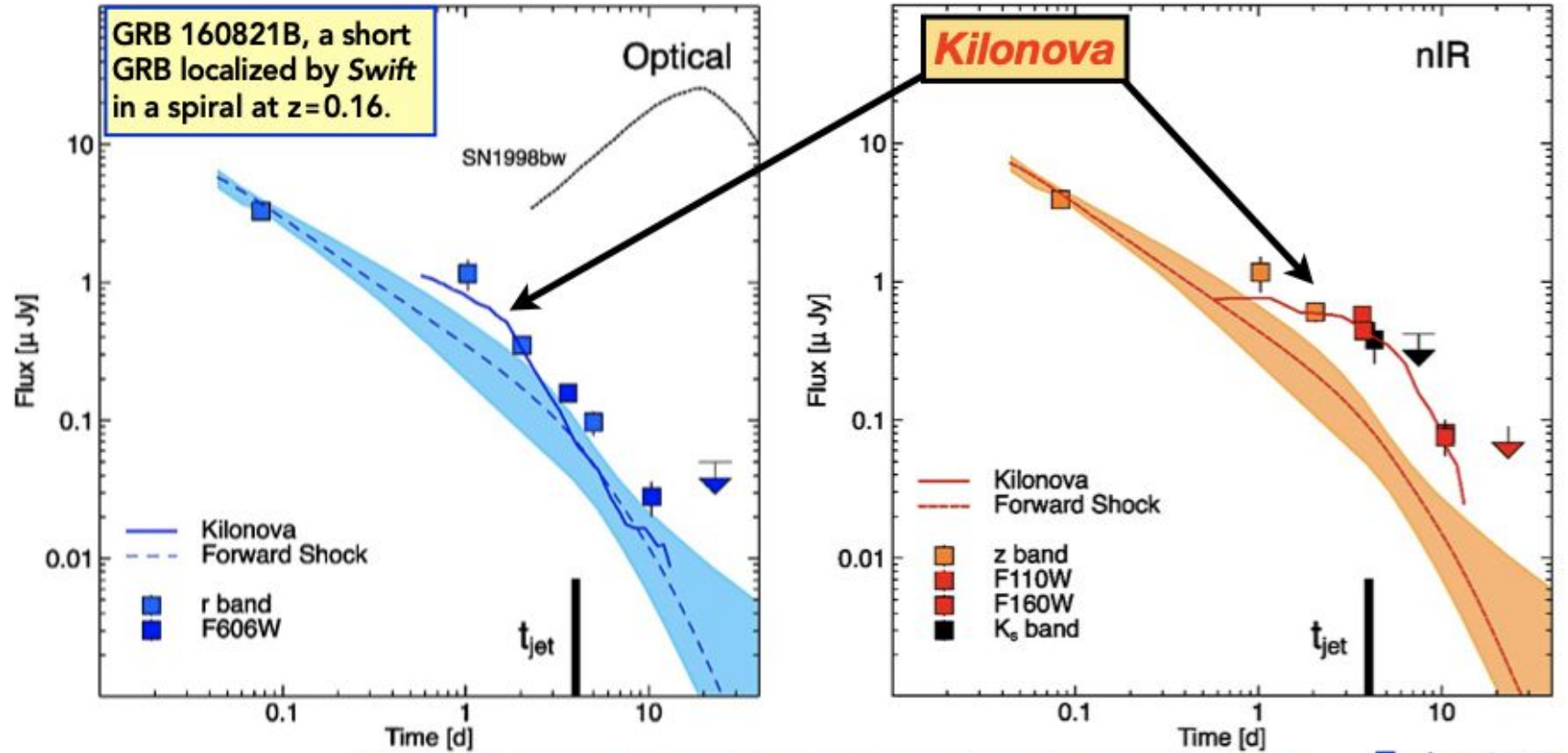
- utilize Maunakea, one of the world's best sites for AO
- support nightly queue operations for AO
- support GIRMOS, Canadian-built TMT-pathfinder instrument
- build upon the wide-field AO legacy of GeMS

→ *support high-spatial resolution, wide-field NIR AO imaging and spectroscopy for MMA/time-domain astronomy, cosmology, stellar populations, + diverse science cases*

8m rapid-response
 needed to
 characterize
 early phases of
 MMA events

spatially resolved
 spectroscopy -
 disentangle
 host galaxy from
 kilonova

Near-IR improves ability to disentangle components

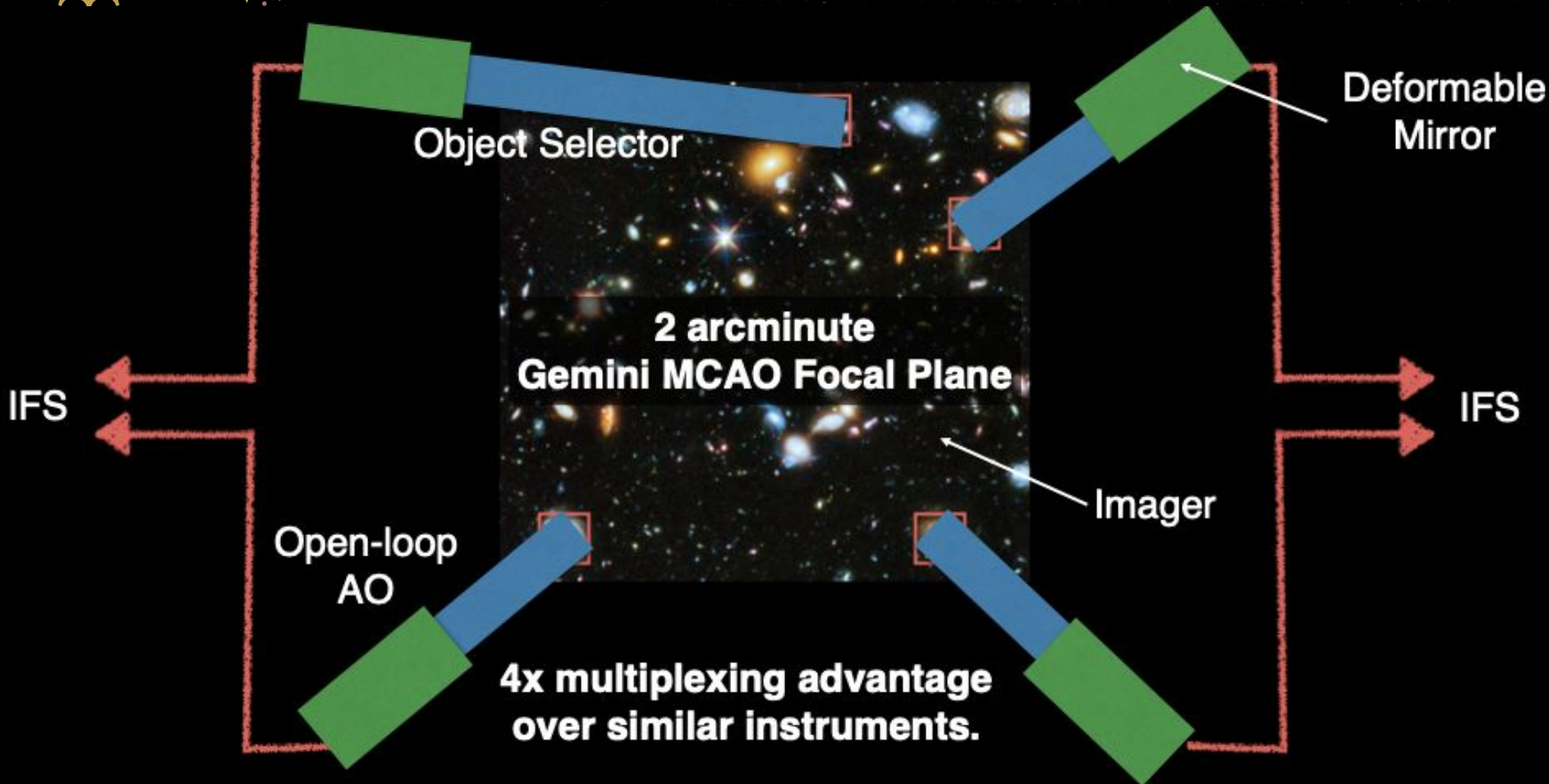


GNAO can minimize contamination from galaxy light in IR

Troja+ 2019



GIRMOS



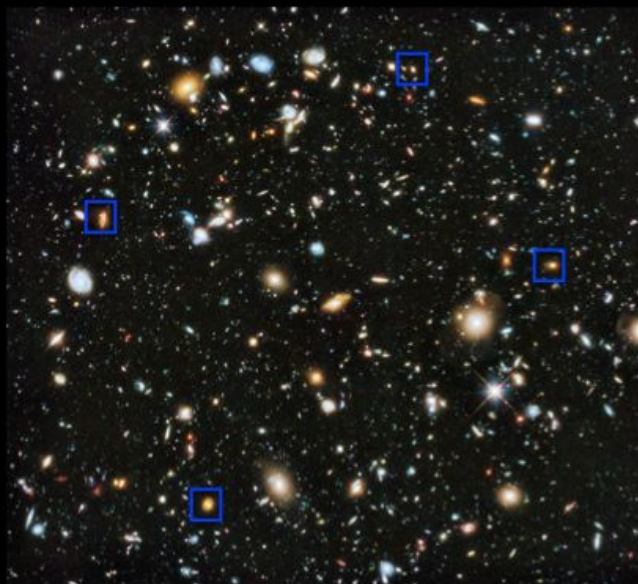
GIRMOS is an AO-fed multi-object integral field spectrograph

- Can simultaneously observe four objects

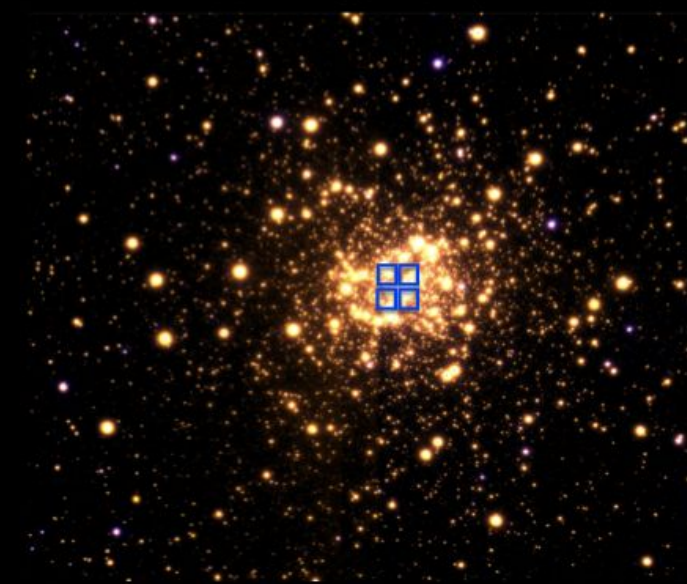
PI: S. Sivanandam; funded by Canadian Innovation Fund



GNAO + GIRMOS



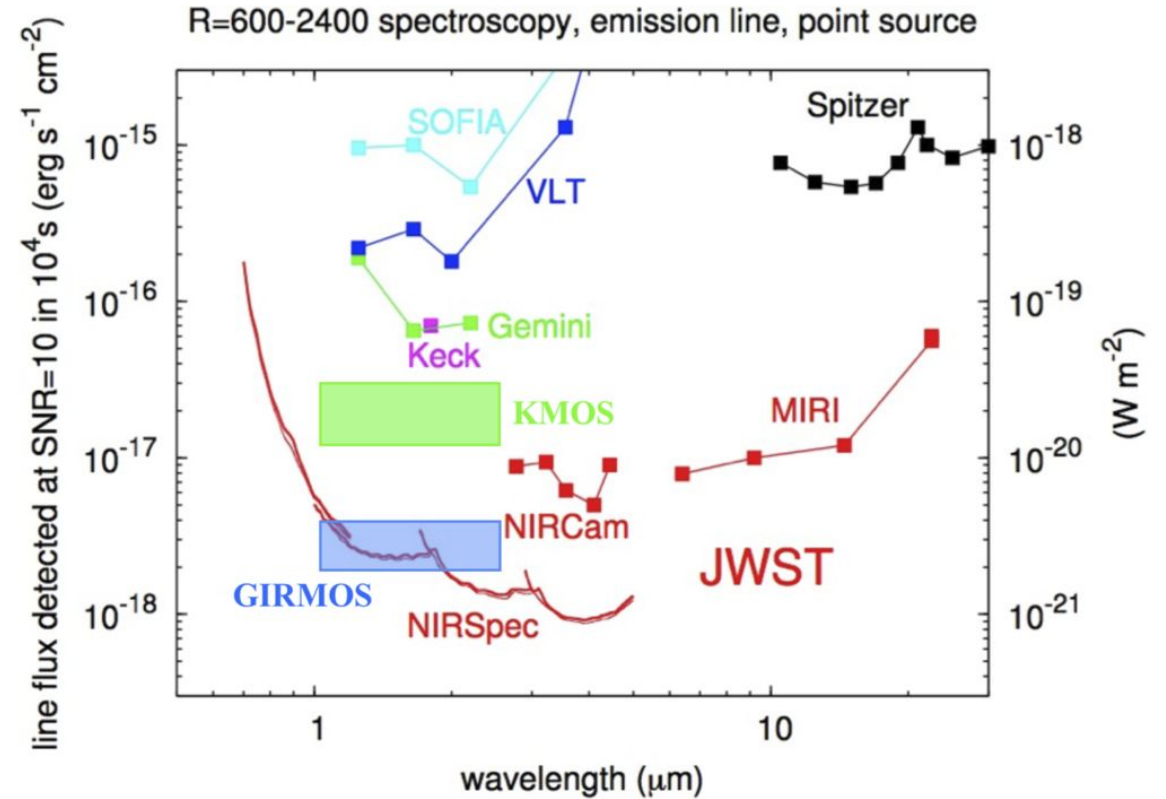
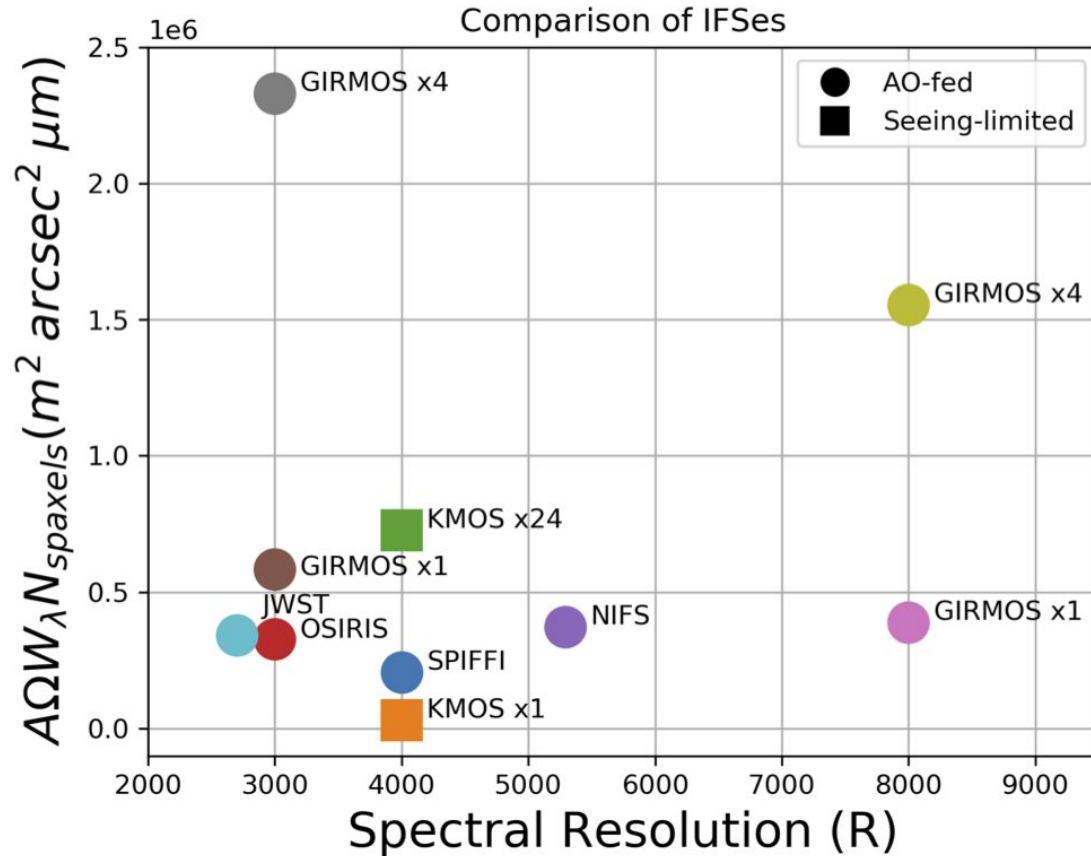
Multiple Objects
Pick-off System
MOAO



Single Object
Tiled Super-IFU
LTAO/MCAO



GIRMOS - 4 deployable IFs, R~3000, 8000 modes



Sivanandam, SPIE 2018, arXiv:1807.03797

Thank you NSF!

New & improved facilities will drive discovery engines for multi-messenger and time-domain astronomy.

Coordinated, rapid follow-up across the globe is needed to understand these phenomena.

Gemini Observatory is developing infrastructure and instrumentation to be ready for the next decade of discovery.