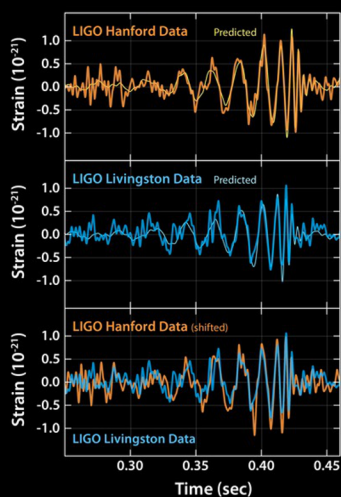


## Observation of Gravitational Waves From a Binary Black Hole Merger



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**Abstract:** On September 14, 2015 at 09:50:45 UTC the two detectors of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory simultaneously observed a transient gravitational-wave signal. The signal sweeps upwards in frequency from 35 to 250 Hz and matches the waveform predicted by general relativity for the inspiral and merger of a pair of black holes and the ringdown of the resulting single black hole. I will discuss the LIGO detectors, the implications of this observation, and prospects for the new field of gravitational-wave astronomy.



### March 3, 2016

**3:30PM:** Light Refreshments

*The "H-Bar"*

*(Chapman 3rd floor hallway)*

**4:00PM:** Colloquium

*215 Phillips Hall*

**5:00PM:** Reception

*277 Phillips Hall*

