

A systematic search for short-period close white dwarf binary candidates based on the Gaia EDR3 catalog and the Zwicky Transient Facility data

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Background

Close White Dwarf Binaries (CWDBs)

At least one of the components in the close binary systems is a white dwarf.

1. Post Common Envelope Binaries (PCEBs)

These systems consist of a white dwarf and a main sequence star, and they are either detached or semi-detached binary systems.

2. Cataclysmic Variables (CVs)

Semi-detached binary systems where the white dwarf is accreting material from its companion star.



3. Double White Dwarfs (DWDs)

binary evolution 25% (Ren et al. 2020)



Background

Close White Dwarf Binaries (CWDBs)

- Significances
- An important branch of the evolution channel of main-sequence star binaries
- Observational evidence for the binary evolution models
- Research of stellar physics, milli-Hertz gravitational-wave astronomy (verification binaries for TianQin and LISA), and Galactic evolution
- A search for CWDBs from a combination of Gaia EDR3 and ZTF DR8.

unstable RLOF ---> dynamical mass transfer



common-envelope phase





Target selection from Gaia EDR3

```
SELECT *
FROM gaiaedr3.gaia_source
WHERE dec > -28.0
AND bp_rp < 1.0
AND parallax_over_error > 5
AND phot_bp_mean_flux_over_error > 10
AND phot_rp_mean_flux_over_error > 10
AND 5+5 * log10((parallax + 0.029)/1000) + phot_g_mean_-
 mag > 3.7 * bp_rp + 2.2
AND 5+5 * log10((parallax + 0.029)/1000) + phot_g_mean_-
 mag < 2.7 * bp_rp + 11.5
AND phot_bp_rp_excess_factor < 1.45+0.06 * power
  (phot_bp_mean_mag---phot_rp_mean_mag, 2)
AND phot_bp_rp_excess_factor > 1.0+0.015 * power
  (phot_bp_mean_mag---phot_rp_mean_mag, 2)
AND (astrometric_chi2_al / (astro-
 metric_n_good_obs_al---5) < 1.44</pre>
OR astrometric_chi2_al / (astrometric_n_good_obs_al---
 5) < 1.44 * exp(-0.4 * (phot_g_mean_mag---19.5)));
```



Target selection from Gaia EDR3

- Gaia Variability Metric
- The G-band photometries to further filter candidate with Gaia variability metric; Mowlavi et al. (2021)



 the Gaia variability metric is actually dependent on the G-band magnitude

• VARINDEX

- In order to select the most probable variable sources from the initial sample
- Define the VARINDEX; Guidry et al. (2021)

 $\texttt{VARINDEX} = V_G - (Ae^{\alpha G} + Be^{G-17.0} + C)$

A = 8.31×10^{-9} , $\alpha = 0.794$, B = 0.0005, and C = 0.00962



Zwicky Transient facility photometry



 Table 1

 Summary of the Numbers of Close White Dwarf Binary Candidates at Different Stages and Different Types

Sample	Туре	Identified Sources	Unidentified Sources	Number
Selection on Gaia data				
Initial sample				823,231
Variable sample				12,480
Selection on ZTF data				
Periodic sample				826
Binary sample	HW Vir-type (Algol-type) binaries	6	52	58
	EA-type (Detached Algol-type) binaries	14	51	65
	EB-type (β Lyrae–type) binaries	3	59	56
	EW-type (W Ursae Majoris-type) binaries	1	40	41
	ELL-type (Ellipsoidal) binaries	20	183	209
	Subtotal	44	385	429

Results



Results

- Characteristic GW strain and SNR of GW signals
- The amplitude of the gravitational wave signal

$$\mathcal{A} = \frac{2(G\mathcal{M})^{5/3}}{c^4 d} (\pi f)^{2/3}$$
$$\mathcal{M} = (m_1 m_2)^{3/5} (m_1 + m_2)^{-1/5}$$

The characteristic strain

$$h_c = \sqrt{N_{\text{cycle}}} \mathcal{A} \quad N_{\text{cycle}} = f_{\text{GW}} T_{\text{obs}}$$

• The SNR (
$$\rho$$
)

$$\rho^2 = \frac{2\langle A^2 \rangle T_{obs}}{\widetilde{S}_n(f_s)}$$

$$\langle A^2 \rangle = \mathcal{A}^2 \left[(1 + \cos^2(\iota))^2 \langle F_+^2 \rangle + 4\cos^2(\iota) \langle F_\times^2 \rangle \right]$$

1. 10 candidates fall above the TianQian sensitivity curve, and about 16 candidates fall above the LISA sensitivity curve.

2. A low SNR threshold of 5 as the minimum standard for GW signals; for TianQin, 2 new VBs; for LISA, 6 new VBs.





• They crossmatched the Gaia EDR3 and Zwicky Transient Facility public data release 8.

- They applied period finding algorithms to obtain a sample of periodic variables.
- The phase-folded light curves were inspected, and finally they obtained a binary sample containing 429 CWDB candidates.
- They further classified the samples into eclipsing binaries (including 58 HW Vir-type binaries, 65 EAtype binaries, 56 EB-type binaries, and 41 EW-type binaries) and ellipsoidal variations (209 ELL-type binaries).
- They found two (six) potential GW candidates with S/Ns greater than 5 in the nominal mission time of TianQin (LISA), which increases the total number of candidate VBs for TianQin (LISA) to 18 (31).



THANKS

