Sky Localization of Gravitational Wave Signals Using Time of Arrival

Larry Price

Patrick R. Brady (UWM) Frederique Marion (LAPP) Benoit Mours (LAPP)



UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN

MILWAUKEE

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Motivation:

Gravitational Waves have an important role to play in the era of multi-messenger astronomy.



Basic Method:

Use triangulation to locate the source on the sky

Inspiral Sources

- 1657 injections
- 2PN Waveforms
- Uniformly distributed from 1-15 M_☉
- Logarithmically distributed in distance
- Gaussian noise in H1, L1, V1 at design sensitivity (Larne Pekowsky and Shourov Chatterji)



Problem:

- SNR does not accumulate uniformly across the frequency band of the detector.
- Phase difference does accumulate uniformly across the frequency band.

Solution:

Measure the time the signal crosses some reference frequency in the high SNR region of the frequency band, NOT the end time. [F Acernese et al 2007 Class. Quantum Grav. 24 S617]

Comparison of Timing Accuracy



Comparison of Timing Accuracy



Enhancement: Use Effective Distance

Specifically, consider:

$$\Delta(D_{\text{eff}}^2) = \frac{D_{\text{A}}^2 - D_{\text{B}}^2}{D_{\text{A}}^2 + D_{\text{B}}^2} - \frac{\tilde{D}_{\text{A}}^2(\theta, \phi) - \tilde{D}_{\text{B}}^2(\theta, \phi)}{\tilde{D}_{\text{A}}^2(\theta, \phi) + \tilde{D}_{\text{B}}^2(\theta, \phi)}$$

Where:

$$\tilde{D}^2(\theta,\phi) \propto \frac{1}{F_+^2(\theta,\phi,\psi=0) + F_\times^2(\theta,\phi,\psi=0)}$$

Accuracy of Effective Distance Measure



Results: Skymaps









Enhancement: Use A Galaxy Catalog

Kopparapu, Hanna, Kalogera, O'Shaughnessy, González, Brady & Fairhurst (2008 ApJ 675 1459)

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What's Next?

- More statistics
- Focus on low SNR
- Compare with other methods
- More detailed studies with the galaxy catalog



