Ligo Position estimation from a network of interferometers

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Position estimation

- Electromagnetic counterpart searches
- Network-coherent burst detectors
- Targeted upper limits / burst searches



EM counterpart to NS inspirals

- Many mechanisms for NS inspirals to emit EM radiation
- For matched filtering, (error box area) ~ SNR⁻²
- Assuming a search area of 3.4 deg², the observation of EM counterparts is
 - » unlikely for Initial LIGO and Virgo (30 Mpc, 0.002 yr⁻¹)
 - » possible with Advanced LIGO and Virgo (60 Mpc, 0.01 yr⁻¹)
 - » likely with Advanced LIGO and "Advanced" Virgo (400 Mpc, 7 yr⁻¹)
- JS 2003, ApJ in press [astro-ph/0303512]



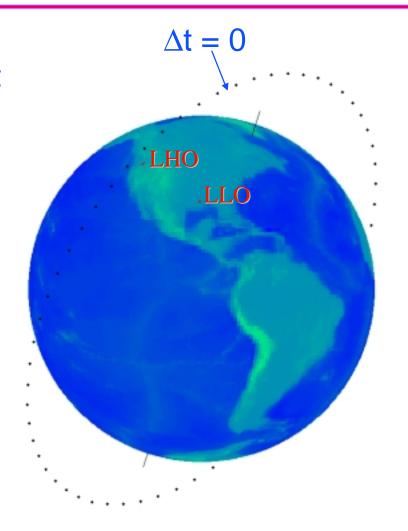
Coherent Power Filter algorithm

- Generalization of power detectors to optimally process network data
- 25-40% improvement in SNR over incoherent searches
- Supernova-like signal (E_{GW}~10⁻⁷ M_{sun} c²): 25% of simulations have position errors smaller than 1 degree for sources within 70 kpc (Initial LIGO and Virgo)
- JS 2003, CQG in press [gr-qc/0304111], PRD under review



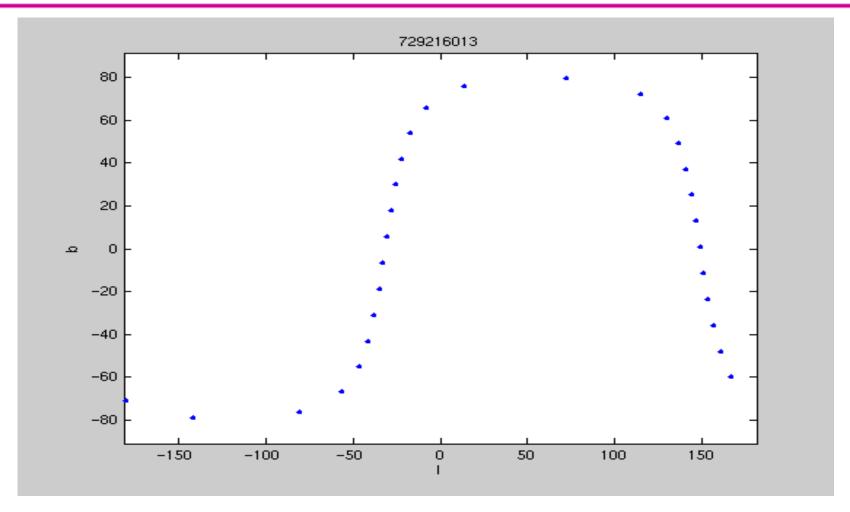
Two-detector network

- The LIGO interferometers at Hanford and Livingston are optimally aligned
- This allows to use crosscorrelation techniques (for instance) to get the difference
 In arrival time to a fraction of a ms
- $\Delta t = t_{LHO} t_{LLO}$





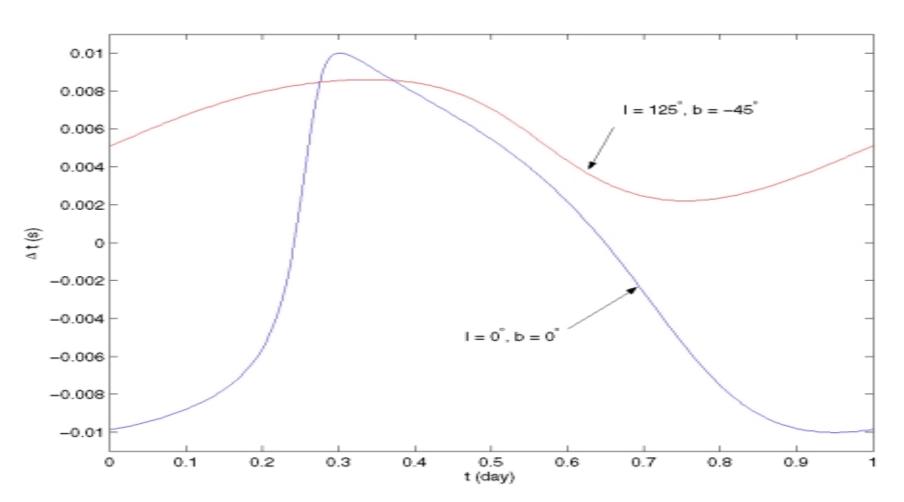
$\Delta t = 0$ great circle in galactic coordinates



LIGO Laboratory



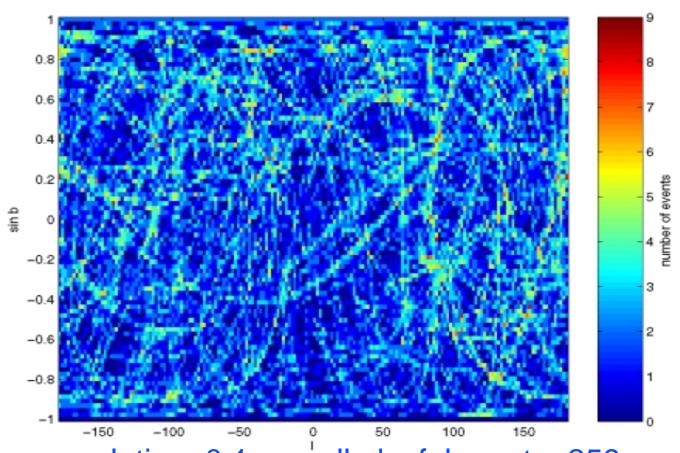
Δt vs. time



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LIGO

Simulation for the S2 time period: background

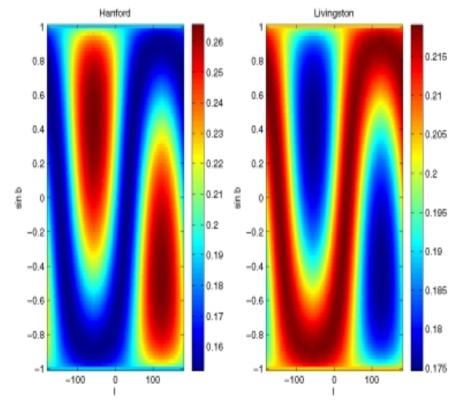


Time resolution: 0.1 ms, all-sky false rate: 259 events



Targeted rate upper limits

- A time delay resolution w leads to a background reduction ~ 10 ms / w
- Sensitivity isn't significantly reduced by targeting
- Targeted rate upper limit is ~10 times better than all-sky limit (for w ~ 0.1 ms)



Time averaged response (S2)