



# A Cross-Correlation Technique to Search for Periodic Gravitational Waves

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CITA Gravity Lunch  
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# Outline

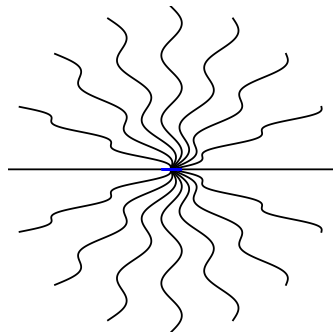
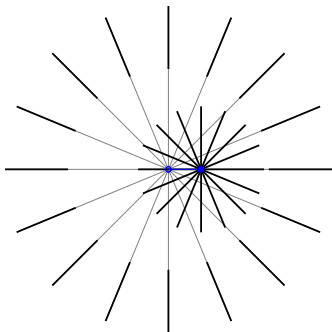
- 1 **Searches for Gravitational Waves**
  - Crash Course in Gravitational Wave Physics
  - Gravitational-Wave Sources & Signals
  - Gravitational-Wave Observations & Detectors
- 2 **Cross-Correlation Method**
  - Application to Stochastic Background
  - Application to Quasiperiodic Gravitational-Wave Signals
  - Tuning Search by Choice of Data Segments to Correlate
- 3 **Applications and Outlook**
  - Directed Search for Young Neutron Stars
  - Accreting Neutron Stars in Low-Mass X-Ray Binaries
  - Summary



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# Motivation



- In **Newtonian gravity**, force dep on distance btwn objects
- If massive object suddenly moved, grav field **at a distance** would change **instantaneously**
- In relativity, **no** signal can travel faster than light  
 → time-dep grav fields must propagate like light waves

# Gravity as Geometry

- Minkowski Spacetime:

$$\begin{aligned}
 ds^2 &= -c^2(dt)^2 + (dx)^2 + (dy)^2 + (dz)^2 \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} dt \\ dx \\ dy \\ dz \end{pmatrix}^{\text{tr}} \begin{pmatrix} -c^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} dt \\ dx \\ dy \\ dz \end{pmatrix} = \eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu
 \end{aligned}$$

- General Spacetime:

$$ds^2 = \begin{pmatrix} dx^0 \\ dx^1 \\ dx^2 \\ dx^3 \end{pmatrix}^{\text{tr}} \begin{pmatrix} g_{00} & g_{01} & g_{02} & g_{03} \\ g_{10} & g_{11} & g_{12} & g_{13} \\ g_{20} & g_{21} & g_{22} & g_{23} \\ g_{30} & g_{31} & g_{32} & g_{33} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} dx^0 \\ dx^1 \\ dx^2 \\ dx^3 \end{pmatrix} = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu$$

# Gravitational Wave as Metric Perturbation

- For GW propagation & detection, work to 1st order in  $h_{\mu\nu}$   $\equiv$  difference btwn actual metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  & flat metric  $\eta_{\mu\nu}$ :

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}$$

( $h_{\mu\nu}$  “small” in weak-field regime, e.g. for GW detection)

- Convenient choice of gauge is **transverse-traceless**:

$$h_{0\mu} = h_{\mu 0} = 0 \quad \eta^{\nu\lambda} \frac{\partial h_{\mu\nu}}{\partial x^\lambda} = 0 \quad \eta^{\mu\nu} h_{\mu\nu} = \delta^{ij} h_{ij} = 0$$

In this gauge:

- Test particles w/constant coörds are **freely falling**
- Vacuum Einstein eqns  $\implies$  wave equation for  $\{h_{ij}\}$ :

$$\left( -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} + \nabla^2 \right) h_{ij} = 0$$



# Gravitational Wave Polarization States

- Far from source, GW looks like plane wave prop along  $\vec{k}$   
TT conditions mean, in convenient basis,

$$\{k_i\} \equiv \mathbf{k} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \{h_{ij}\} \equiv \mathbf{h} = \begin{pmatrix} h_+ & h_\times & 0 \\ h_\times & -h_+ & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

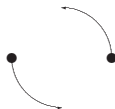
where  $h_+ \left(t - \frac{x^3}{c}\right)$  and  $h_\times \left(t - \frac{x^3}{c}\right)$  are components in “plus” and “cross” polarization states

- More generally

$$\overleftrightarrow{h} = \left[ h_+ \left( t - \frac{\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}}{c} \right) \overleftrightarrow{e}_+ + h_\times \left( t - \frac{\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}}{c} \right) \overleftrightarrow{e}_\times \right]$$

# Gravitational Wave Generation

- Generated by **moving/oscillating** mass distribution
- Lowest **multipole** is **quadrupole**
- Classic example: orbiting **binary** system



(e.g., **Binary Pulsar** 1913+16

– **Observed** energy loss agrees w/**GW prediction**)

- Rotating neutron star w/non-axisymmetric perturbation also gives sinusoidally-varying quadrupole moment





# Classification of GW Signals

At freqs relevant to ground-based detectors (10s-1000s of Hz),  
natural division of sources:

	modelled	unmodelled
long	<b>Periodic Sources</b> (e.g., Rotating Neutron Star)	<b>Stochastic Background</b> (Cosmological or Astrophysical)
short	<b>Binary Coalescence</b> (Black Holes, Neutron Stars)	<b>Bursts</b> (Supernova, BH Merger, etc.)



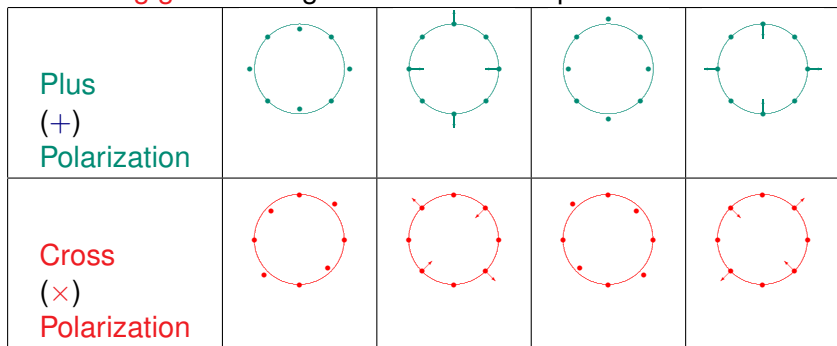
# Effects of Gravitational Wave

Fluctuating geom changes distances btwn particles in free-fall:

Plus (+) Polarization	Cross ( $\times$ ) Polarization

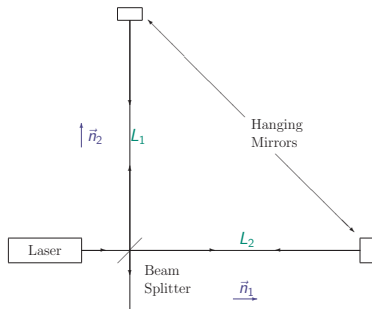
# Effects of Gravitational Wave

Fluctuating geom changes distances btwn particles in free-fall:



# Measuring GWs w/Laser Interferometry

**Interferometry:** Measure GW-induced distance changes



- Measure small change in

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_1 - L_2 &= \sqrt{g_{11}}L_0^2 - \sqrt{g_{22}}L_0^2 \\
 &= \sqrt{(1 + h_{11})}L_0^2 - \sqrt{(1 + h_{22})}L_0^2 \\
 &\approx L_0 \frac{h_{11} - h_{22}}{2} \sim L_0 h_+
 \end{aligned}$$

- More gen,

$$(L_1 - L_2)/L_0 = \overset{\leftrightarrow}{h} : \overset{\leftrightarrow}{d}$$

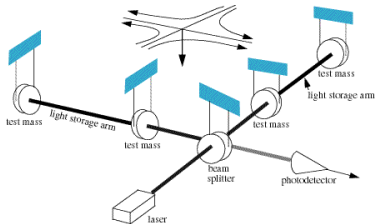
with "response tensor"

$$\overset{\leftrightarrow}{d} = \frac{\vec{n}_1 \otimes \vec{n}_1 - \vec{n}_2 \otimes \vec{n}_2}{2}$$

(also when  $\vec{n}_1$  &  $\vec{n}_2$  not  $\perp$ )

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(also when  $\vec{n}_1$  &  $\vec{n}_2$  not  $\perp$ )

# Rogues' Gallery of Ground-Based Interferometers



LIGO Hanford (Wash.)



LIGO Livingston (La.)



GEO-600 (Germany)



Virgo (Italy)

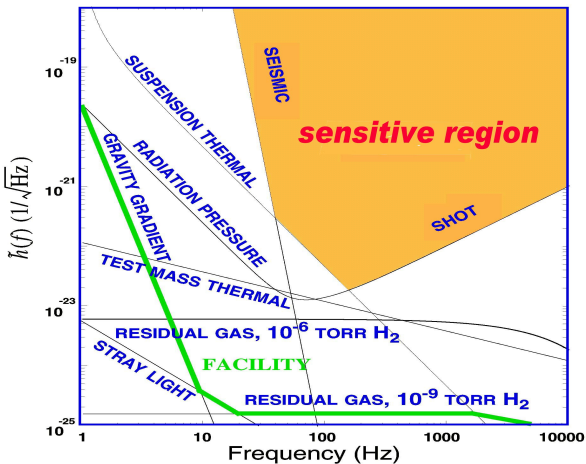


# GW Observatory Network

- LSC detectors conducting science runs since 2002
  - LIGO Hanford (4km H1 & 2km H2)
  - LIGO Livingston (4km L1)
  - GEO-600 (600m G1)
- Virgo (3km V1) started science runs in 2007
- Recent long runs:
  - LIGO/GEO S5: Nov 2005-Sep 2007: LIGO @ design sens
  - Virgo VSR1: May-Sep 2007: Begin joint LSC-Virgo analysis
  - LIGO (H1 & L1) S6: Jul 2009-Oct 2010
  - Virgo VSR2 Jul 2009-Jan 2010 & VSR3 Aug-Oct 2010
- LIGO & Virgo going offline 2010 & 2011  
to begin upgrade to **Advanced Detectors**  
expect  $\sim 10\times$  sensitivity



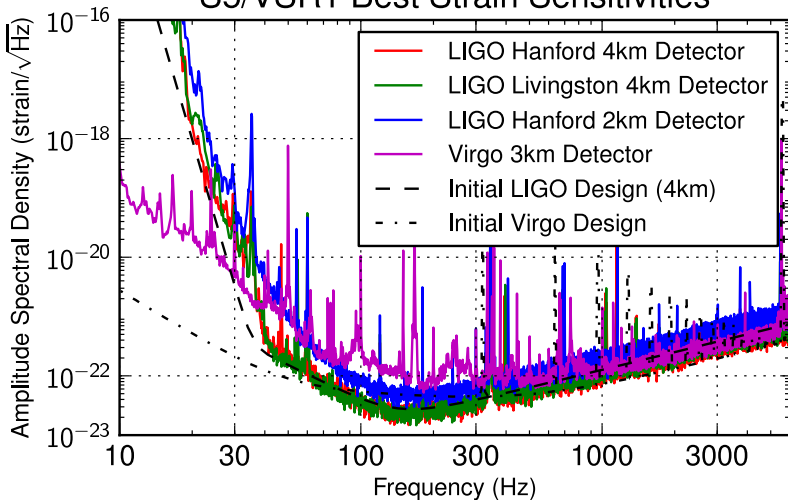
# LIGO's Sensitive Frequency Band



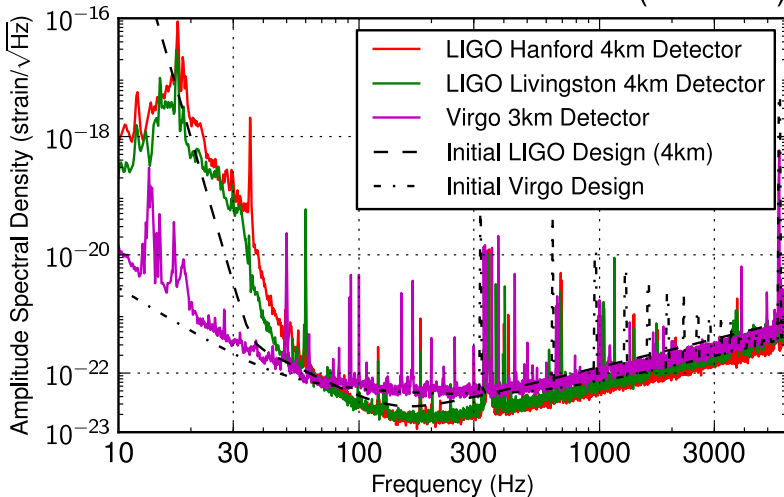




## S5/VSR1 Best Strain Sensivities



## S6/VSR2 Best Strain Sensivities (PRELIM)





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# Cross-Correlation Search for Stochastic Background

- Noisy data from GW Detector:

$$x(t) = n(t) + h(t) = n(t) + \overleftrightarrow{h}(t) : \overleftrightarrow{d}$$

- Correlate data btwn detectors (Fourier domain)

$$\langle \tilde{x}_1^*(f) \tilde{x}_2(f') \rangle = \langle \tilde{h}_1^*(f) \tilde{h}_2(f') \rangle = \overleftrightarrow{d}_1 : \langle \overleftrightarrow{h}_1^*(f) \otimes \overleftrightarrow{h}_2(f') \rangle : \overleftrightarrow{d}_2$$

- For stochastic backgrounds

$$\langle \tilde{h}_1^*(f) \tilde{h}_2(f') \rangle = \delta(f - f') \gamma_{12}(f) \frac{S_{\text{gw}}(f)}{2}$$

$S_{\text{gw}}(f)$  encodes spectrum;  $\gamma_{12}(f)$  encodes geometry

# Detection Statistic

- Optimally filtered cross-correlation statistic

$$Y = \int df \tilde{x}_1^*(f) Q(f) \tilde{x}_2(f)$$

- Filter encodes expected **spectrum** & **spatial distribution** (isotropic, pointlike, spherical harmonics . . .)

$$Q(f) \propto \frac{\gamma_{12}^*(f) S_{\text{gw}}^{\text{exp}}(f)}{S_{n1}(f) S_{n2}(f)}$$

- “Radiometer” search for **ptlike srcs** incl targeting  **Sco X-1**: known sky location, unknown frequency  
 Ballmer, *CQG* **23**, S179 (2006); LSC, *PRD* **76**, 082003 (2007)



# Gravitational Waves from Quasiperiodic Sources

- Sco X-1 is Low-Mass X-Ray Binary:  
accreting **neutron star** in orbit w/companion
- Rotating NS w/deformation emits **nearly sinusoidal signal**

$$\overset{\leftrightarrow}{h}(t) = h_0 \left[ \frac{1 + \cos^2 \iota}{2} \cos \Phi(\tau(t)) \overset{\leftrightarrow}{e}_+ + \cos \iota \sin \Phi(\tau(t)) \overset{\leftrightarrow}{e}_\times \right]$$

- $\Phi(\tau)$ : phase evolution in rest frame;
- $\tau(t)$ : Doppler mod from detector motion (& binary orbit)
- Features of **signal model** missing from stoch search:
  - **Doppler shift** @ each detector:  
correlations peaked @ **different freqs**
  - **Long-term coherence**:  
can correlate data @ **different times**

# Cross-Correlation of Continuous GW Signals

- **Cross-correlation** of signal w/intrinsic frequency  $f_0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \tilde{x}_I^*(f_I) \tilde{x}_J(f_J) \rangle &= \tilde{h}_I^*(f_I) \tilde{h}_J(f_J) \\ &= h_0^2 \tilde{G}_{IJ} \delta_{T_{\text{sft}}}(f_0 - f_I - \delta f_I) \delta_{T_{\text{sft}}}(f_0 - f_J - \delta f_J) \end{aligned}$$

- $\tilde{h}_I(f)$  is **Short Fourier Transform**, duration  $T_{\text{sft}}$
- $\delta_{T_{\text{sft}}}(f - f') = \int_{-T_{\text{sft}}/2}^{T_{\text{sft}}/2} dt e^{i2\pi(f-f')t}$
- $\tilde{h}_I$  &  $\tilde{h}_J$  can be same or different times or detectors
- $\delta f_I$  is relevant **Doppler shift**
- For given set of params, can add products of all **SFT pairs**

$$Y = \sum_{IJ} Q_{IJ} \tilde{x}_I^*(f_0 - \delta f_I) \tilde{x}_J(f_0 - \delta f_J) \quad Q_{IJ} \propto \frac{\tilde{G}_{IJ}^*}{S_{n,I}(f_0) S_{n,J}(f_0)}$$

Dhurandhar, Krishnan, Mukhopadhyay & JTW *PRD* **77**, 082001 (2008)

# Doppler Modulation in Cross-Correlation Searches

- Max Doppler shift from Earth's rotation:  $\frac{|\vec{v}_{\oplus\text{rot}}|}{c} \lesssim 1.5 \times 10^{-6}$   
 Doppler shift at 2000 Hz is  $\lesssim 0.003$  Hz.
- Max Doppler shift from Earth's orbit:  $\frac{|\vec{v}_{\oplus\text{orb}}|}{c} \lesssim 1.0 \times 10^{-4}$   
 Doppler shift at 2000 Hz is  $\lesssim 0.2$  Hz.
- Stochastic searches use FTs of e.g., 120 s duration, so

$$\delta f \approx 0.0083 \text{ Hz}$$

Cross-correlation between detectors uses same freq bin

- Stochastic search combines fine bins into coarse bins of

$$\Delta f = 0.25 \text{ Hz}$$

Cross-corr power collected in single bin for most freqs

- Correlating detectors at different times, or with longer FTs means including Doppler effects





# Computational Costs and Frequency Resolution

- If freq, sky pos etc **known**, can do most sensitive **fully coherent search** (correlate **all data**)
- If some params **unknown**, have to search over them
- Long coherent observation  $\rightarrow$  **fine resolution** in freq etc  $\rightarrow$  need **too many templates**  $\rightarrow$  **computationally impossible**

e.g. 
$$N_{\text{tplts}} \sim \frac{1}{\Delta f} \frac{1}{\Delta f} \frac{1}{\Delta \text{sky}} \sim T \cdot T^2 \cdot (fT)^2$$

- Most CW searches **semi-coherent**: deliberately limit **coherent integration time** & **param space resolution** to keep **number of templates** manageable

# Tuning the Cross-Correlation Search

- Computational considerations limit coherent time, i.e., possible time lag between correlated segments
- Detectable signal

$$h_0^{\text{th}} \propto \left( \sum_{IJ} |\tilde{G}_{IJ}|^2 \right)^{-1/4} \sqrt{\frac{S_n}{T_{\text{sft}}}} \propto N_{\text{pairs}}^{-1/4} T_{\text{sft}}^{-1/2}$$

( $T_{\text{sft}}$  is duration of fourier transformed data segment)

- If all data used,  $N_{\text{pairs}} \sim N_{\text{sft}}^2$ , so

$$h_0 \propto (N_{\text{sft}} T_{\text{sft}})^{-1/2}$$

like coherent search of duration  $N_{\text{sft}} T_{\text{sft}}$

- If only simultaneous SFTs correlated,  $N_{\text{pairs}} \sim N_{\text{sft}}$ , so

$$h_0 \propto N_{\text{sft}}^{-1/4} T_{\text{sft}}^{-1/2}$$

like semi-coherent search w/ $N_{\text{sft}}$  coherent segs of  $T_{\text{sft}}$  each

- Can “tune” sensitivity vs comp time by choosing SFT pairs



# Synchronous Cross-Correlation Search

	$x_1(t_0)$	$x_2(t_0)$	$x_1(t_1)$	$x_2(t_1)$	$x_1(t_2)$	$x_2(t_2)$	$x_1(t_3)$	$x_2(t_3)$
$x_1(t_0)$	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
$x_2(t_0)$	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
$x_1(t_1)$	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N
$x_2(t_1)$	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N
$x_1(t_2)$	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N
$x_2(t_2)$	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N
$x_1(t_3)$	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y
$x_2(t_3)$	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N

“Stochastic-style”: correlate data @ same time, diff detectors



# Fully Coherent Search

	$x_1(t_0)$	$x_2(t_0)$	$x_1(t_1)$	$x_2(t_1)$	$x_1(t_2)$	$x_2(t_2)$	$x_1(t_3)$	$x_2(t_3)$
$x_1(t_0)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_2(t_0)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_1(t_1)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_2(t_1)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_1(t_2)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_2(t_2)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_1(t_3)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_2(t_3)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Combine **all SFT pairs**; as with standard  $\mathcal{F}$ -statistic,  
quadratic combination of all SFTs



# Excess Power Search

	$x_1(t_0)$	$x_2(t_0)$	$x_1(t_1)$	$x_2(t_1)$	$x_1(t_2)$	$x_2(t_2)$	$x_1(t_3)$	$x_2(t_3)$
$x_1(t_0)$	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
$x_2(t_0)$	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
$x_1(t_1)$	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N
$x_2(t_1)$	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N
$x_1(t_2)$	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N
$x_2(t_2)$	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N
$x_1(t_3)$	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N
$x_2(t_3)$	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y

Only consider “diagonal” auto-correlations



# Semi Coherent Search

	$x_1(t_0)$	$x_2(t_0)$	$x_1(t_1)$	$x_2(t_1)$	$x_1(t_2)$	$x_2(t_2)$	$x_1(t_3)$	$x_2(t_3)$
$x_1(t_0)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
$x_2(t_0)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
$x_1(t_1)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
$x_2(t_1)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
$x_1(t_2)$	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_2(t_2)$	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_1(t_3)$	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_2(t_3)$	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y

Coherently combine within epochs



# Lag-Limited Cross-Correlation Search

	$x_1(t_0)$	$x_2(t_0)$	$x_1(t_1)$	$x_2(t_1)$	$x_1(t_2)$	$x_2(t_2)$	$x_1(t_3)$	$x_2(t_3)$
$x_1(t_0)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
$x_2(t_0)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
$x_1(t_1)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N
$x_2(t_1)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N
$x_1(t_2)$	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_2(t_2)$	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_1(t_3)$	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_2(t_3)$	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y

“Sliding” semi-coherent search

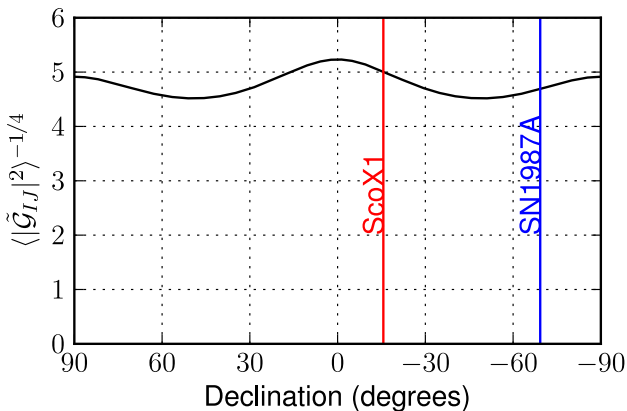


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# Geometrical Factor vs Sky Location



(Assumes H1-L1, simultaneous, uniform sidereal time coverage)

# Supernova 1987A Remnant



Credit: NASA/ESA, P. Challis, R. Kirshner (Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics) and B. Sugerman (STScI)



# Searching for Young Neutron Stars

- **Young** ( $\lesssim 100$  yr) NSs should be spinning rapidly  
LIGO/Virgo band  $50 \text{ Hz} \lesssim f_{\text{GW}} \lesssim 1500 \text{ Hz}$
- Look in **likely sky locations** for NSs not seen as pulsars:  
SN1987A should have one; **galactic ctr** could have  $\mathcal{O}(1)$
- **Spinning down rapidly**; inefficient to search over  $f, \dot{f}, \ddot{f}, \dots$   
Phase model: **GW spindown**  $\propto f^5$ ; **EM spindown**  $\propto f^{\approx 3}$

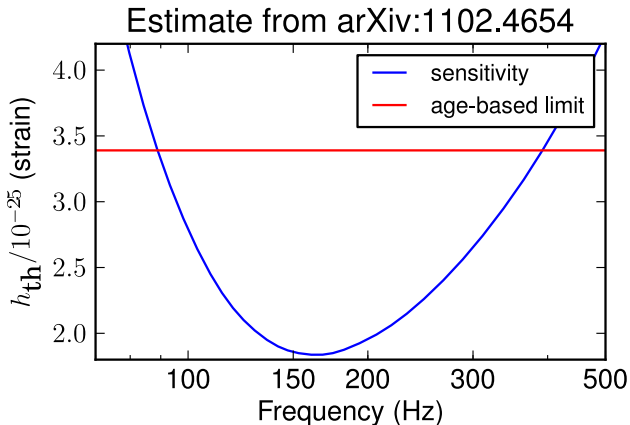
$$\frac{df}{d\tau} = Q_{\text{GW}} \left( \frac{f}{f_{\text{ref}}} \right)^5 + Q_{\text{EM}} \left( \frac{f}{f_{\text{ref}}} \right)^n$$

Search over  $f_0, Q_{\text{GW}}, Q_{\text{EM}}, n$

Chung, Melatos, Krishnan & JTW to appear in MNRAS [arXiv:1102.4654](https://arxiv.org/abs/1102.4654)

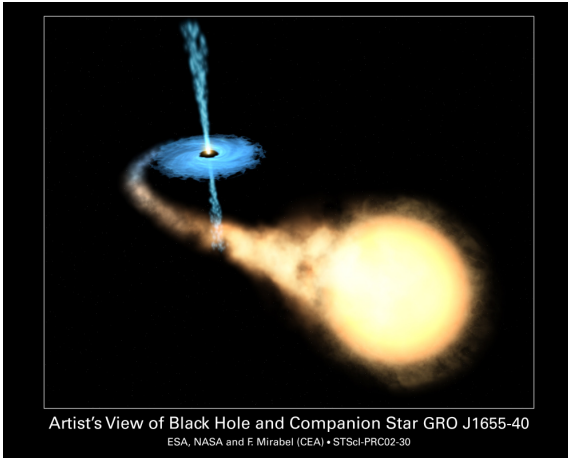


# Ballpark sensitivity of SN1987A search w/initial LIGO



Compares favorably to indirect **age-based limit**  $h_0 < 3.4 \times 10^{-25}$

# Low-Mass X-Ray Binary



Compact object accreting mass from companion star



## Searching for Neutron Stars in LMXBs

- LMXB: BH/NS/WD accreting mass from companion star
- Accretion spinup may be balanced by GW spindown [Bildsten *ApJL* **501**, L89 (1998)]  $\rightarrow$  no  $\dot{f}$
- Scorpius X-1:  $1.4M_{\odot}$  NS w/ $0.4M_{\odot}$  companion  
unknown params are  $f_0$ ,  $a \sin i$ , orbital phase
- LSC searches for Sco X-1:
  - Coherent search w/6 hr of S2 data *PRD* **76**, 082001 (2007)
  - Directed stochastic cross-corr (“radiometer”) search w/simultaneous S4 H1 & L1 data *PRD* **76**, 082003 (2007)
- Can use improved cross-corr method to search including wider range of correlated segments



# Summary

- Cross-correlation method adapted to **periodic GWs**
- Tuning max **time-lag** between cross-correlated data allows tradeoff of **sensitivity** for **computing time**
- Can search for young NSs (e.g., **SN1987A**)  
(search over  $f_0$  & braking model params)
- Can search for LMXBs (e.g., **Sco X-1**)  
(search over  $f_0$  & binary orbit params)