

Opening a new door:

Nano-Hertz Gravitational-Wave Astronomy

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2024/9/27



Who am I?

2005 University of Tokyo, Ph.D. (Katsuhiko Sato)
2005-2007 Princeton University, JSPS overseas fellowship
2007-2008 Kyoto University, JSPS fellowship
2009-2011 Nagoya University, GCOE assistant professor
2011- Kumamoto University

my fields : pulsar timing array, epoch of reionization
cosmic magnetism, SETI, history of astronomy
past interests: neutrino astrophysics, brane world,
cosmic strings, etc.

Contents

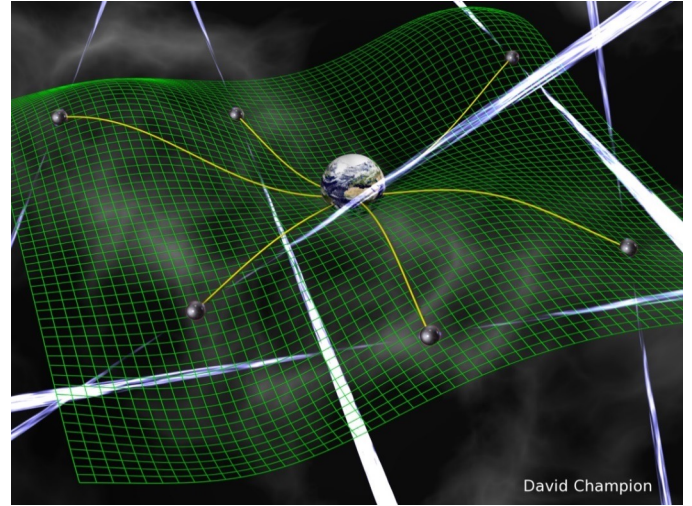
1. Nano-Hz Gravitational Waves
2. Pulsar Timing Array
3. Evidence for GW Background
4. Astrophysical Implication
5. Future Prospects

1. Nano-Hz Gravitational Waves

pulsar timing array

PTA in a nutshell

- direct detection of GWs
- very stable msec pulsars
- precise timing for $O(10)$ years
- GWs induce irregularity in pulse arrival time of $O(100)$ nsec
- GW frequency
 - observation period and cadence
 - $(1 \text{ week})^{-1} \sim (10 \text{ years})^{-1}$
 - $1 \mu\text{Hz} \sim 1 \text{nHz}$

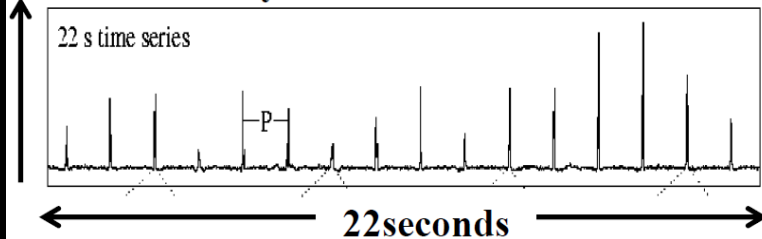


pulsar

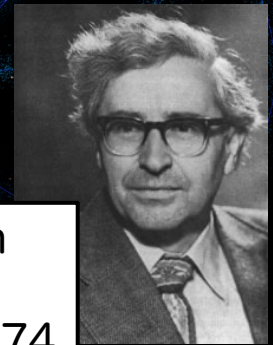
- fast-rotating neutron star
- periodic pulse : 1msec - 10sec
- radio ~ optical ~ gamma-rays
- ISM study, gravity test, GW detection
- 3,000 pulsars so far

Pulses from a pulsar(PSR B0301+19)
(in Lorimer and Kramer, "Handbook of Pulsar Astronomy", 2005)

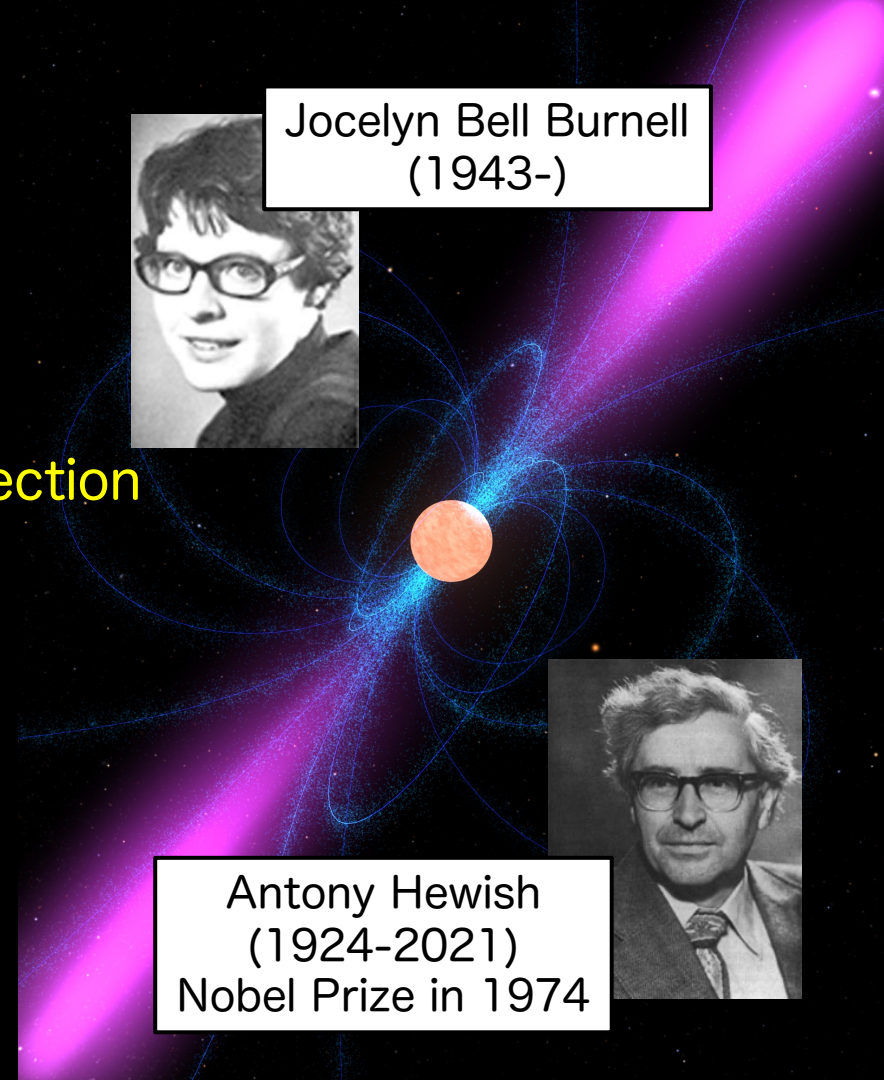
Radio Intensity



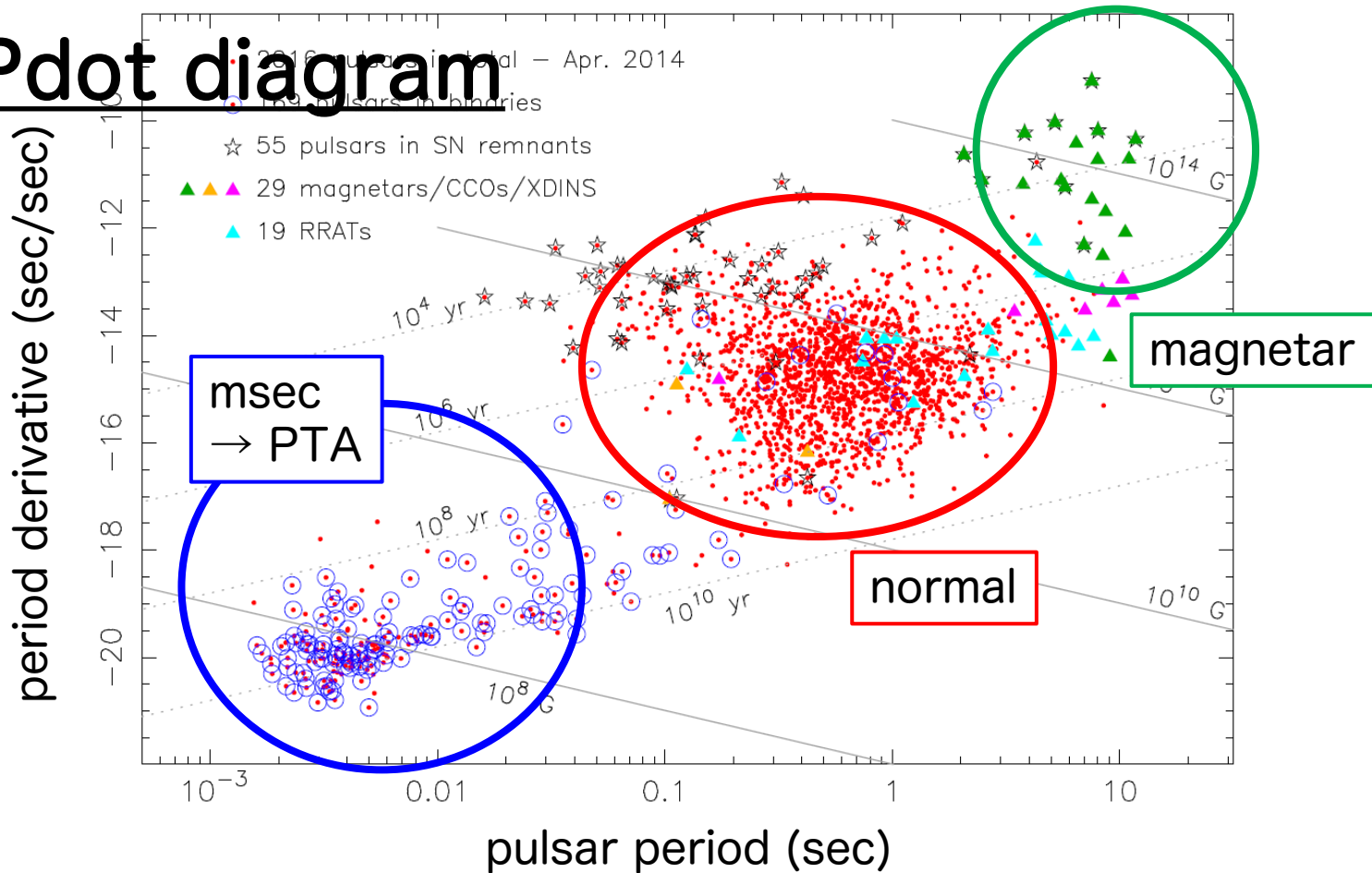
Jocelyn Bell Burnell
(1943-)



Antony Hewish
(1924-2021)
Nobel Prize in 1974



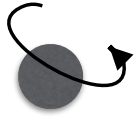
P-Pdot diagram



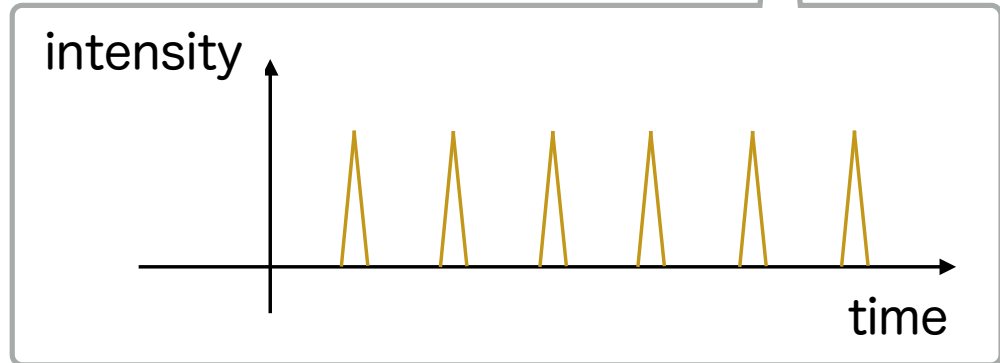
principle of PTA

S. Kuroyanagi

pulsar



Earth

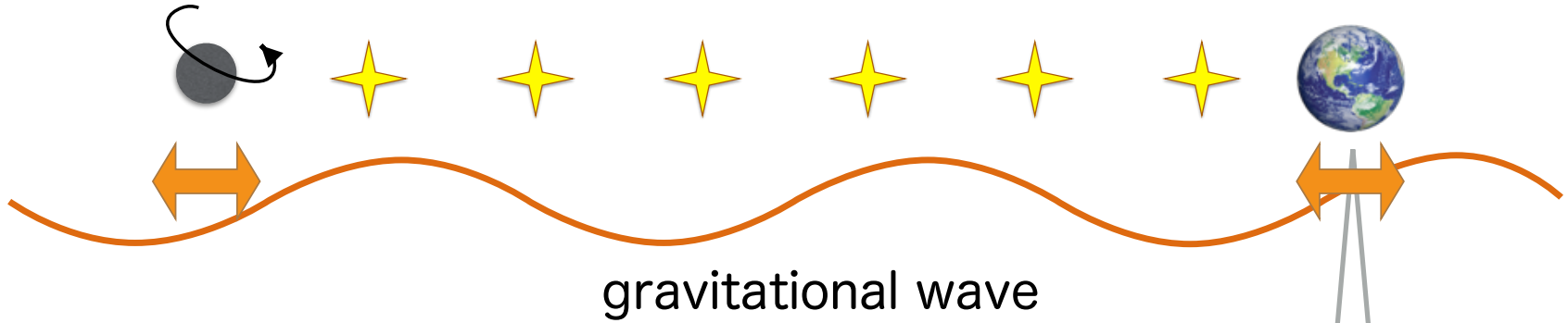


principle of PTA

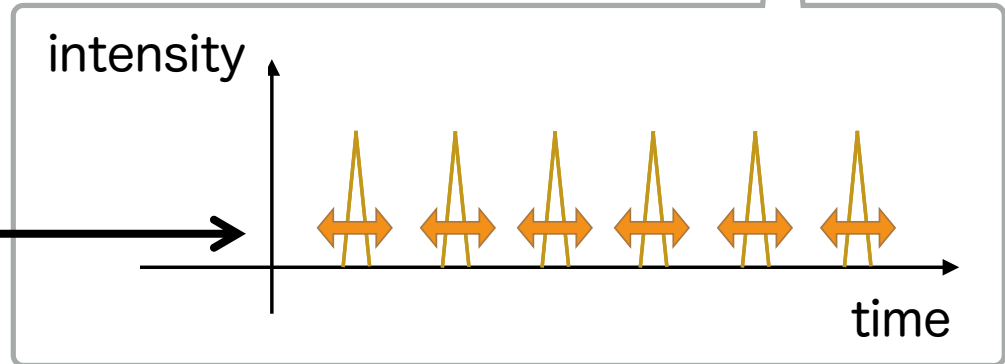
S. Kuroyanagi

pulsar

Earth

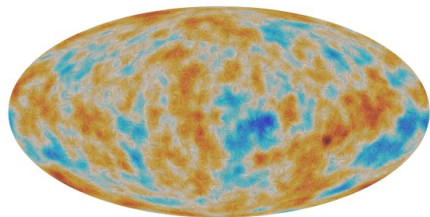


times of arrival are deviated compared to the case without GW

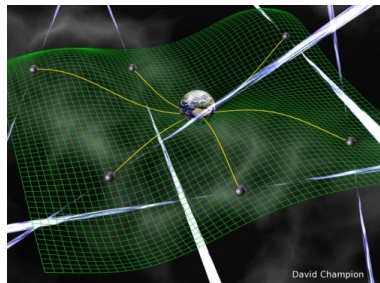


multi-wavelength GW astronomy

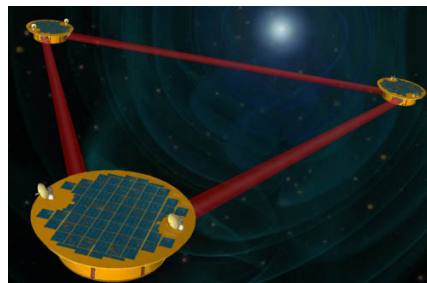
CMB



PTA



space



ground



SMBH binary

supernova

compact binary

cosmic string

early universe

10^{-17} Hz

~ 1 nHz

1mHz-0.1Hz

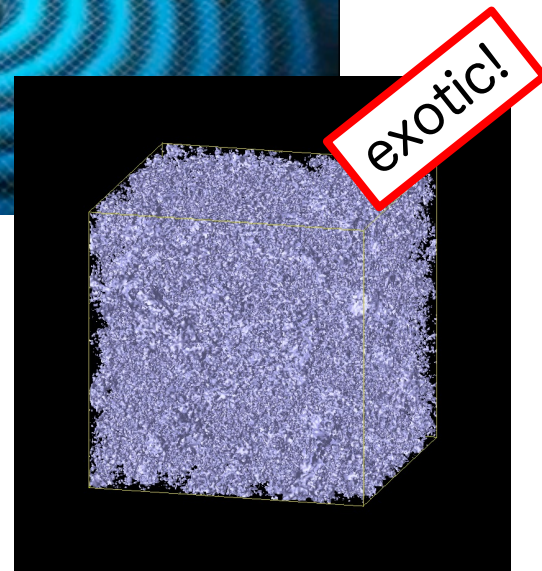
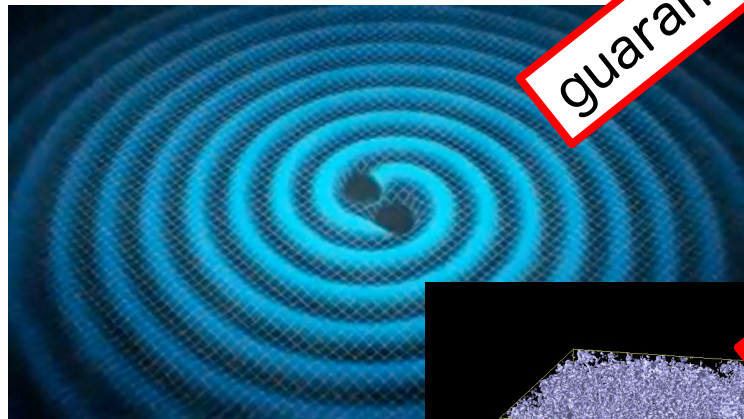
100Hz



Nano-Hz GWs

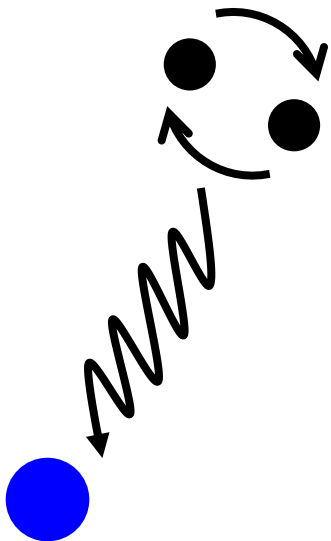
- SMBH binary
- cosmic string
- inflation
- phase transition
- 2nd-order scalar perturbation

Astrophysics, Cosmology, Particle Physics!

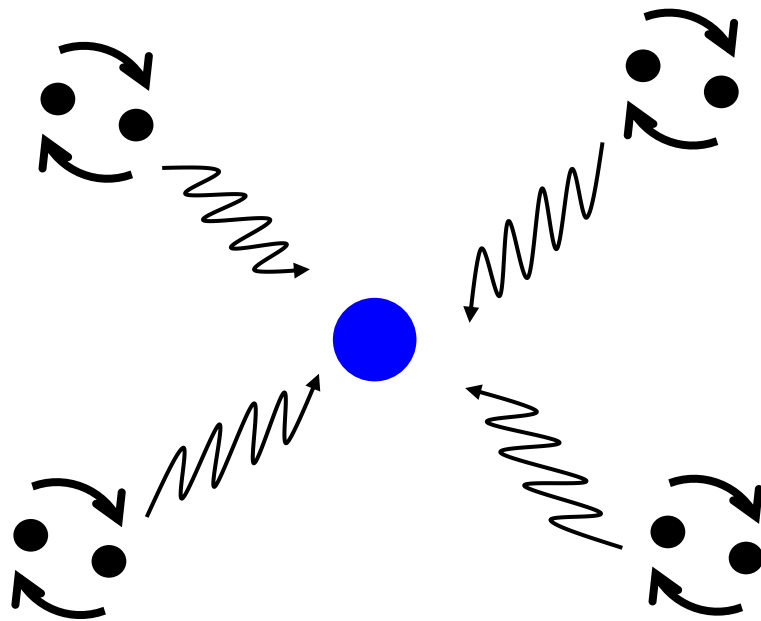


single source & BG

single source



GW background

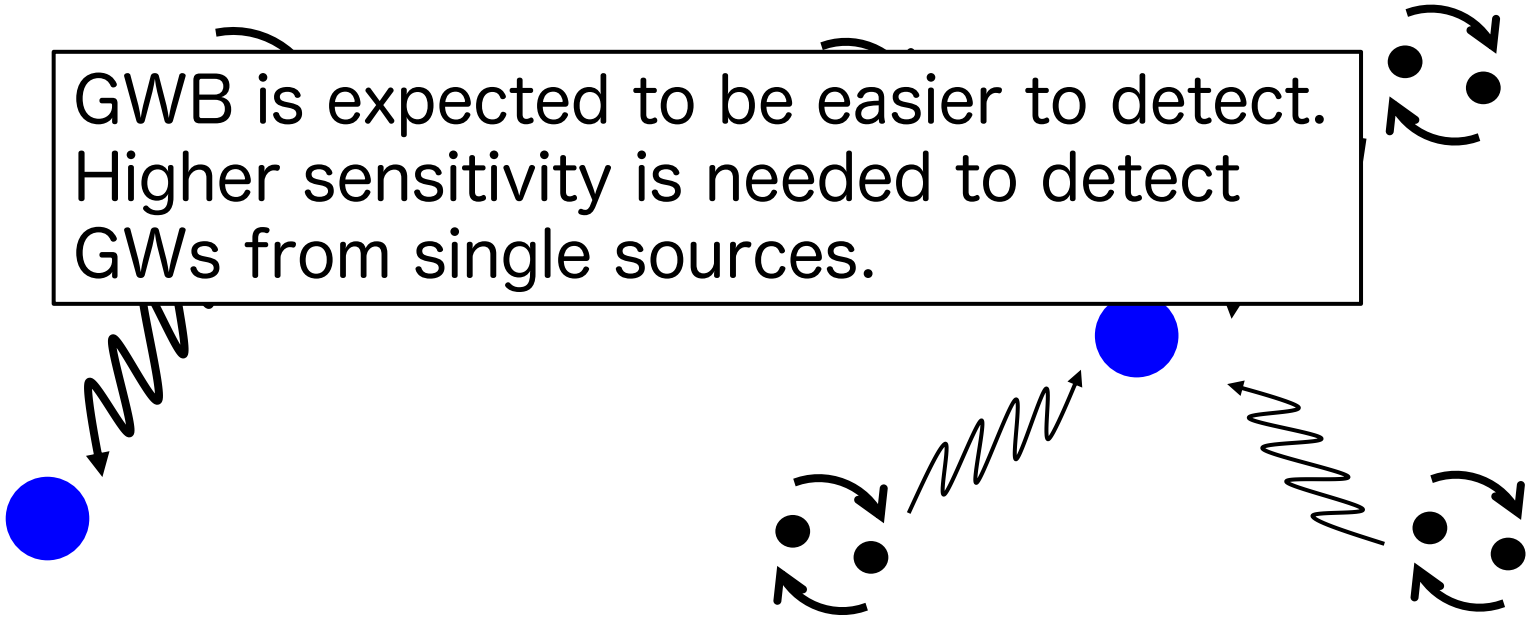


single source & BG

single source

GW background

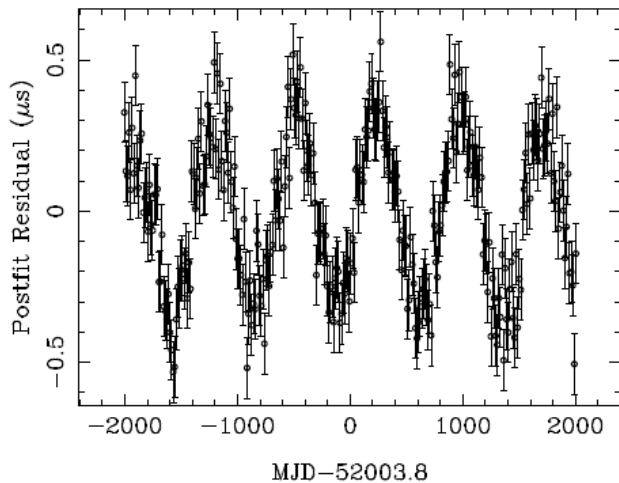
GWB is expected to be easier to detect.
Higher sensitivity is needed to detect
GWs from single sources.



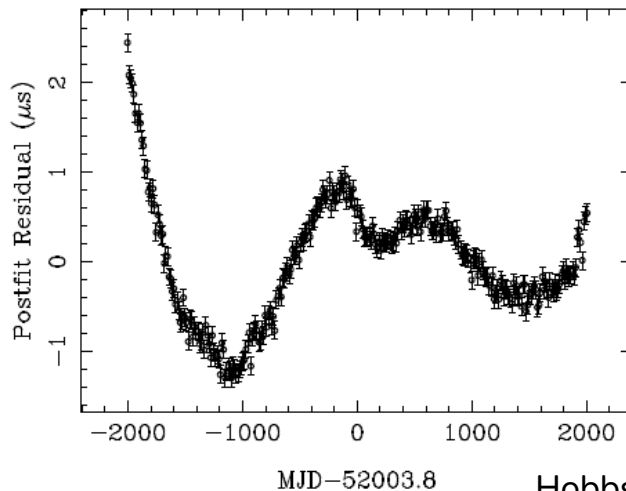
timing residual

GWs → deviation of pulse arrival time from prediction
→ timing residual

single source



GW background



Hobbs (2011)

supermassive black hole

SMBHs at galactic center

- $10^6 \sim 10^9 M_{\text{sun}}$
- discovered by dynamics and energetics
- recently image was obtained
- correlation between SMBH mass and galactic quantities such as bulge mass
- co-evolution with galaxy
- unknown : formation & evolution
→ galaxy merger is a key

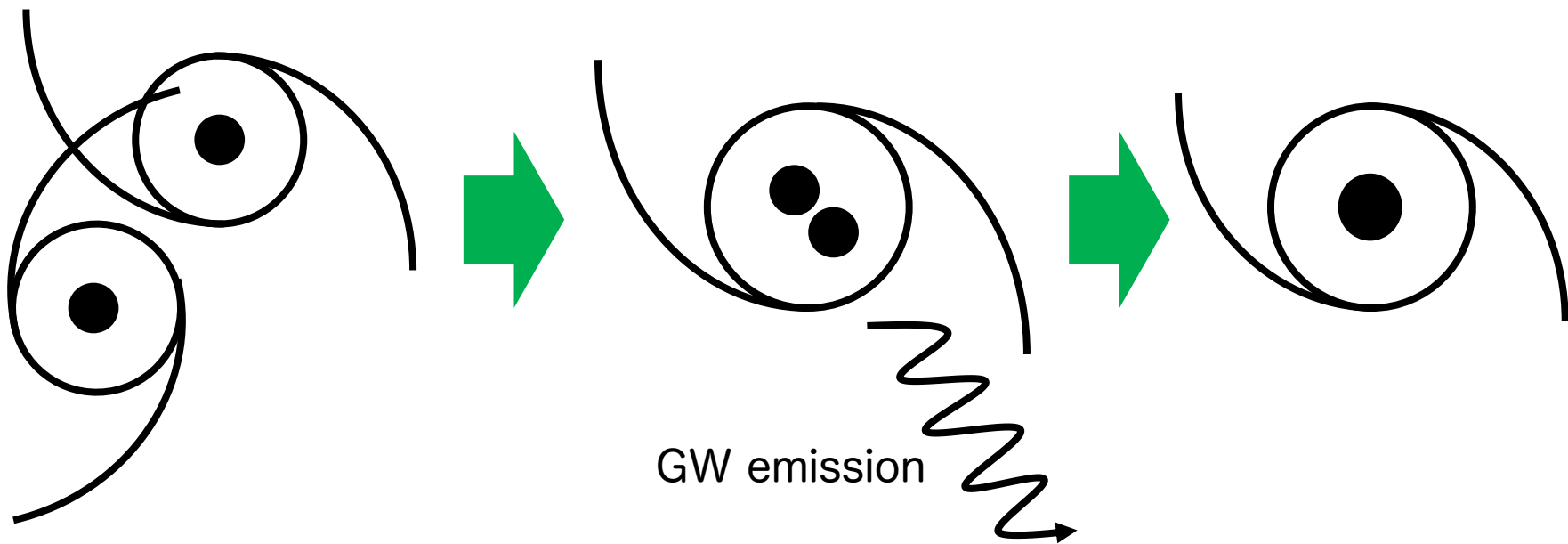


galaxy merger & SMBH binary

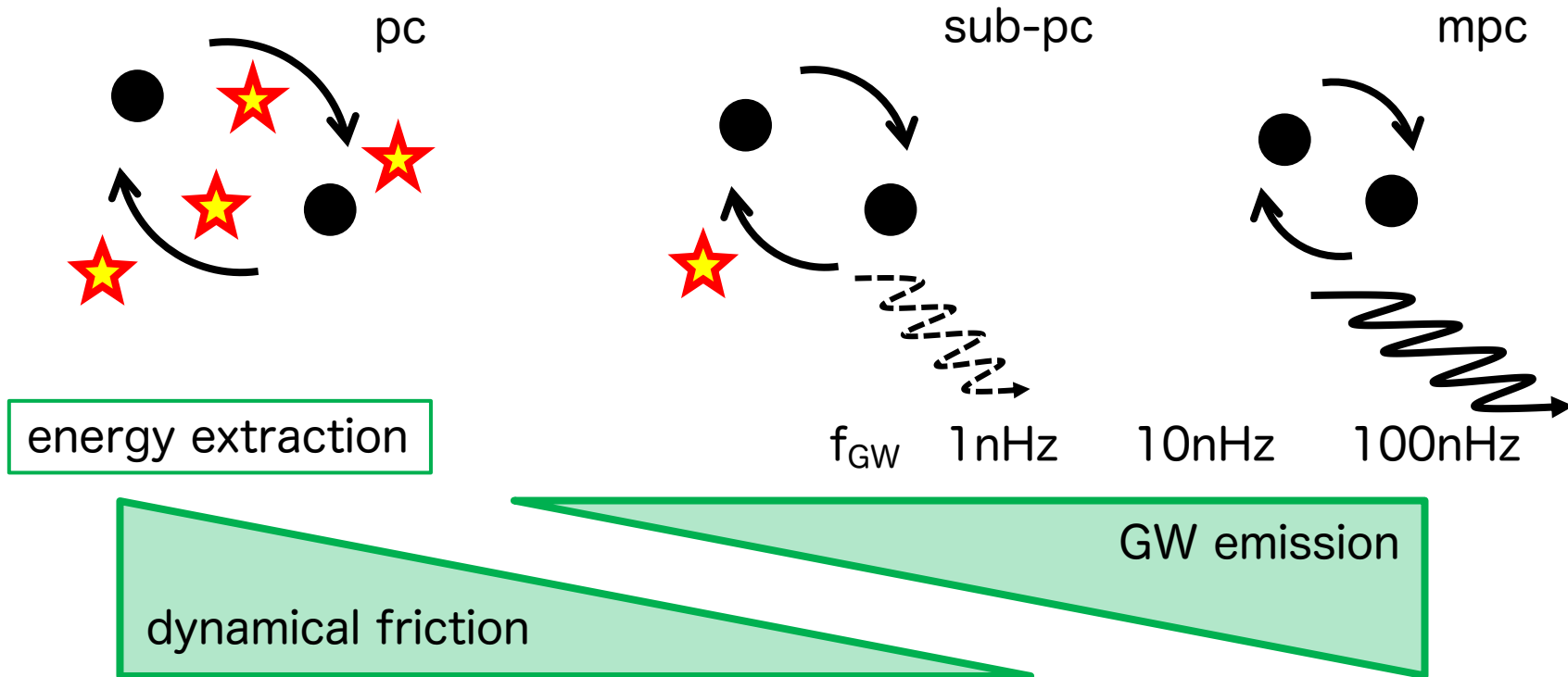
galaxy merger

SMBH binary

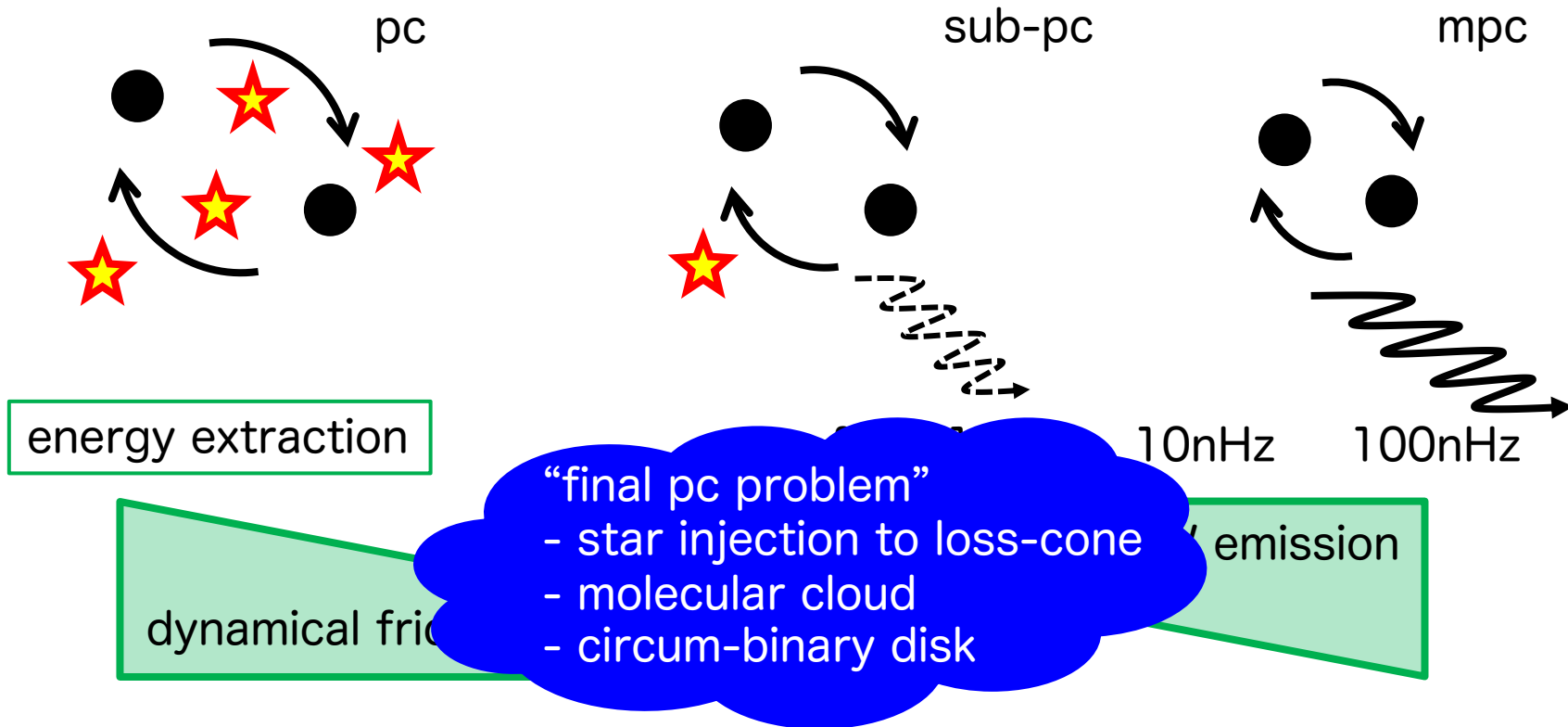
SMBH merger



SMBH binary evolution



SMBH binary evolution

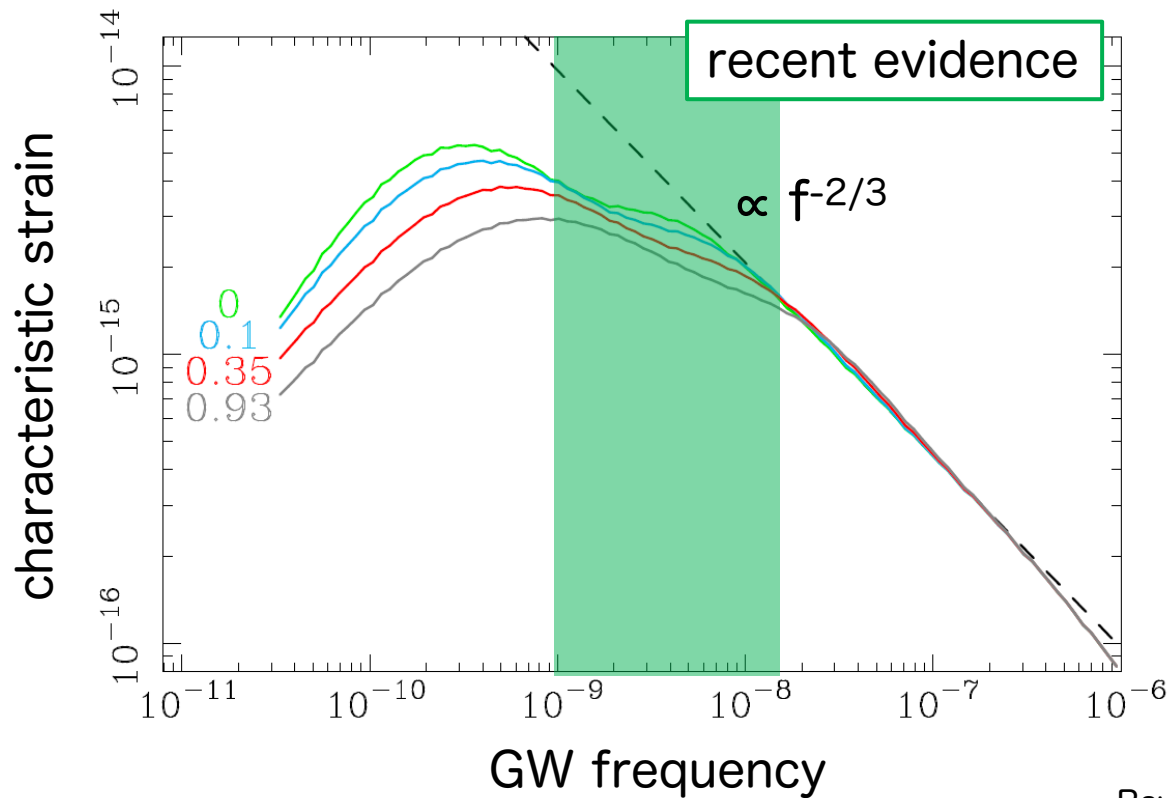


GW frequency

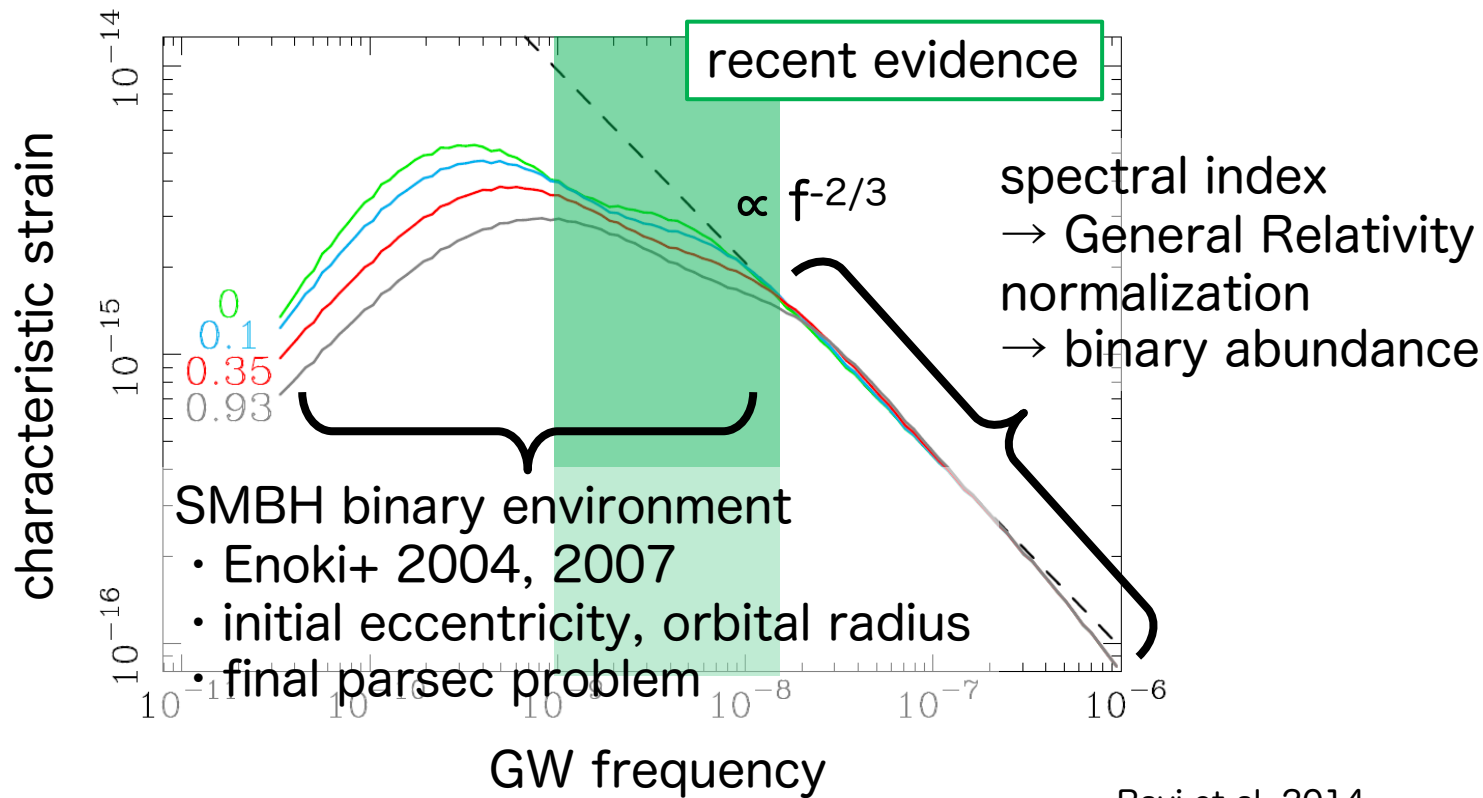
typical GW frequencies

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\text{GW}} &= 2.3 \times 10^{-8} \text{ Hz} \left(\frac{a}{1 \text{ mpc}} \right)^{-3/2} \left(\frac{m}{10^6 M_{\odot}} \right)^{1/2} \\ &= 4.4 \times 10^{-9} \text{ Hz} \left(\frac{a}{30 \text{ mpc}} \right)^{-3/2} \left(\frac{m}{10^9 M_{\odot}} \right)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

GW background spectrum



GW background spectrum



2. Pulsar Timing Array

PTA projects

IPTA (International PTA consortium)

- EPTA (Europe)
- NANOGrav (North America)
- PPTA (Australia)
- InPTA (India + Japan)



emerging PTAs

- CPTA (China)
- MPTA (South Africa)



These are independent groups but cooperate closely.

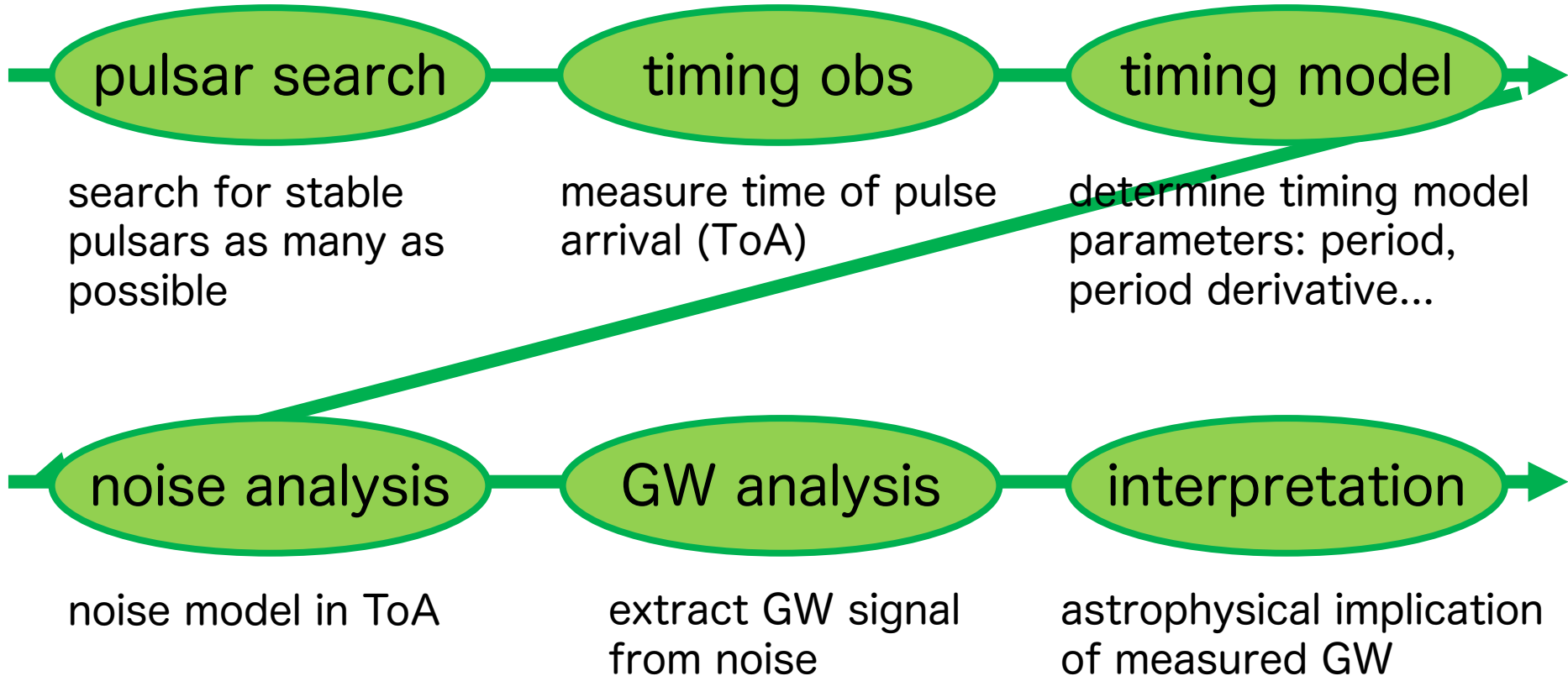
Indian PTA

India-Japan collaboration

- uGMRT (SKA pathfinder)
- low frequency (250-1450MHz)
→ precise dispersion measure
- 1st data release in 2022
- 2nd data release soon



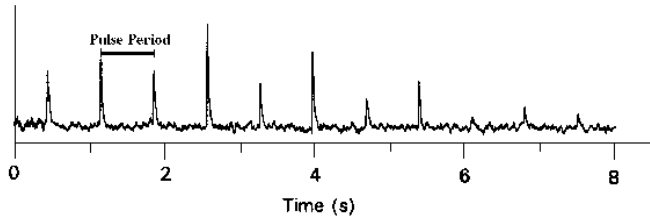
PTA flowchart



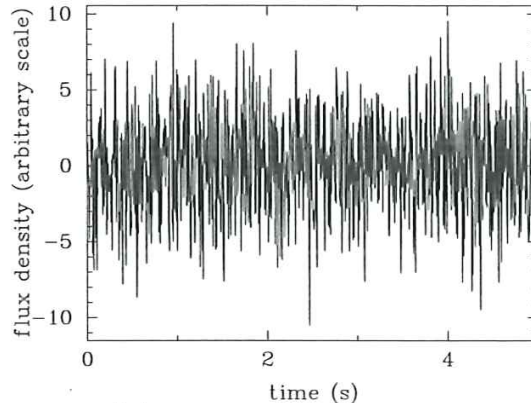
folding

Most of pulsars are so dim that individual pulses cannot be detected and folding is necessary.

high S/N

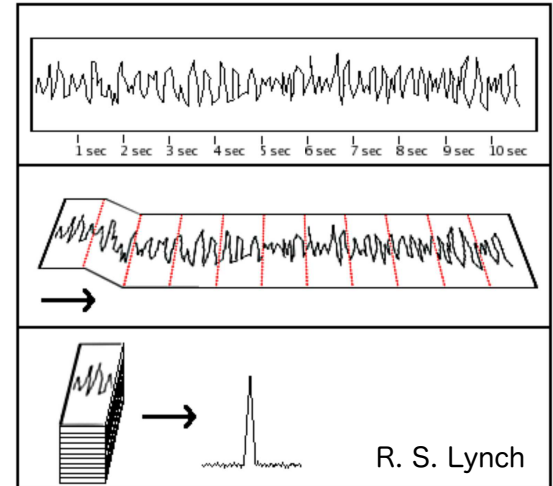


low S/N



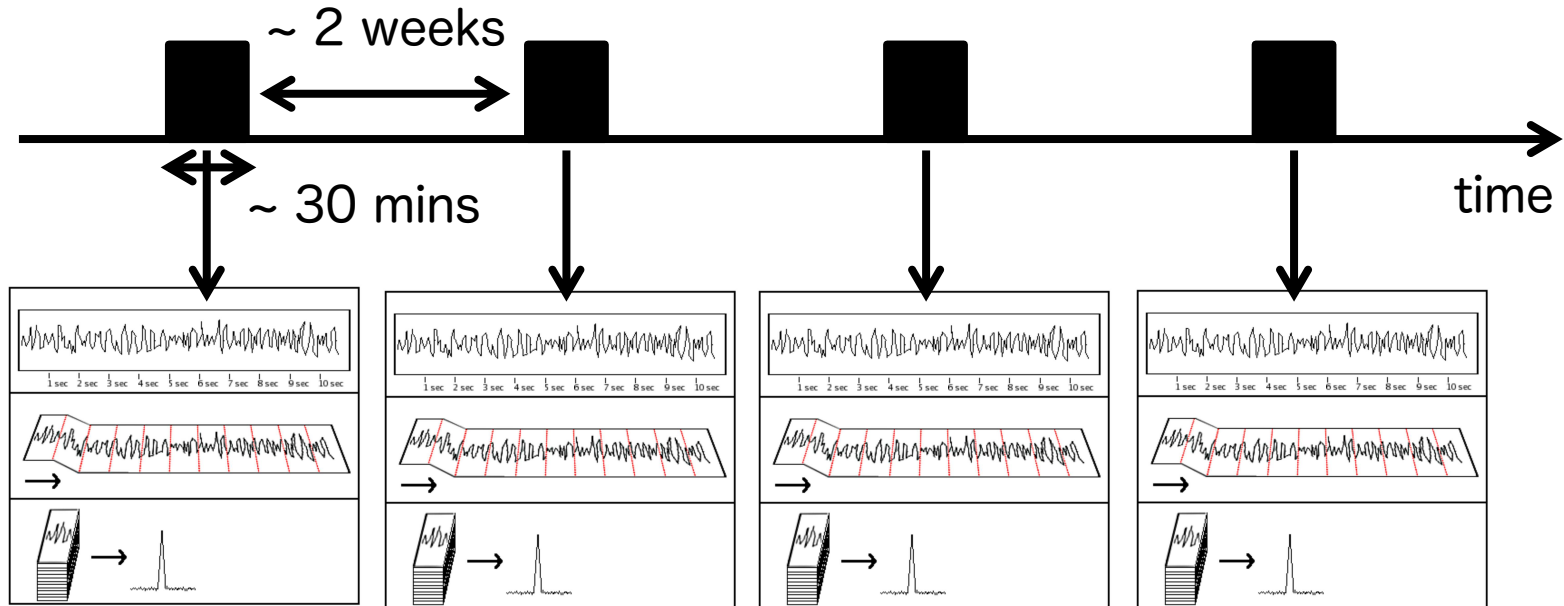
the handbook of pulsar astronomy

folding



timing observation

observe each pulsar once in a few weeks, and determine the pulse arrival time for each observation (1 ToA for 1 obs)



timing model

deterministic model of pulse arrival time

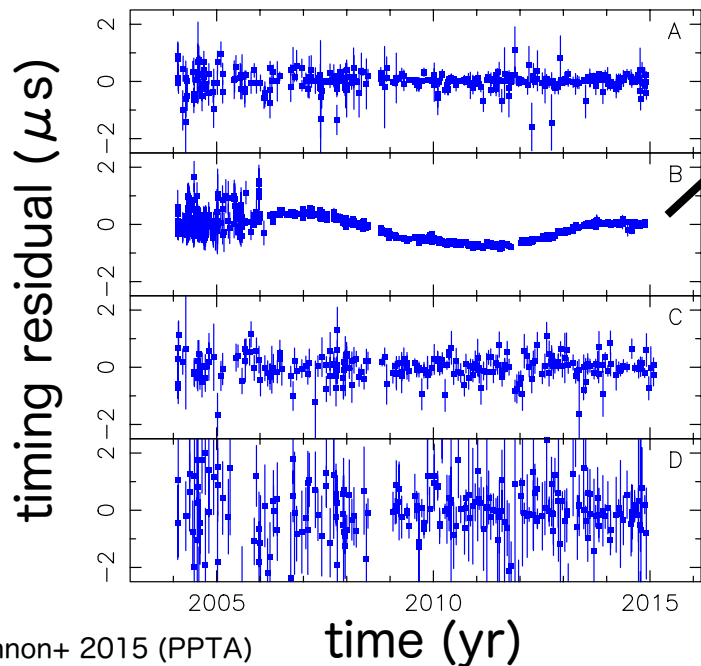
- pulsar period & its derivative
 - dispersion measure
 - pulsar position and motion
 - Earth motion
 - gravitational fields of solar system objects
 - pulsar orbital parameters (if binary)
- we can predict Time of Arrival

Shapiro delay due to solar system objects

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Shapiro delay due to Sun | 112 μ s |
| Shapiro delay due to Venus | 0.5 ns |
| Shapiro delay due to Jupiter | 180 ns |
| Shapiro delay due to Saturn | 58 ns |
| Shapiro delay due to Uranus | 10 ns |
| Shapiro delay due to Neptune | 12 ns |
| Second order Solar Shapiro delay | 9 ns |

timing residual

timing residual : deviation of ToA from timing-model prediction



GW ? \rightarrow No!

- If GW, other pulsars would also be affected.
- The residual due to GW depends on the relative position of the GW source and pulsar.
 \rightarrow (Hellings & Downs correlation)
- Extract GW signal by modeling noises

noise model

stochastic noise

● white noise

- radiometer noise
- fluctuations intrinsic to pulsar

$$\sigma_{\text{scaled}}^2 = \text{EFAC}^2 \times \sigma_{\text{original}}^2 + \text{EQUAD}^2$$

● red noise : temporal correlation

- independent on radio frequency : include GWs
- dependent of radio frequency : ISM effects

$$y(t) = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\text{coef}}} Y_j \left(a_j \cos(j\omega t) + b_j \sin(j\omega t) \right) \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_{\text{ref}}} \right)^{-\alpha} \quad \omega = 2\pi/T_{\text{span}}$$

GW signal

features of GW signal in timing residual

1. temporal correlation of $O(1)$ years

$$f_{\text{GW}} = 1.4 \times 10^{-7} \text{ Hz} \left(\frac{a}{3 \text{ mpc}} \right)^{-3/2} \left(\frac{m}{10^9 M_{\odot}} \right)^{1/2}$$

2. common to multiple pulsars

→ Common Red Signal (CRS)

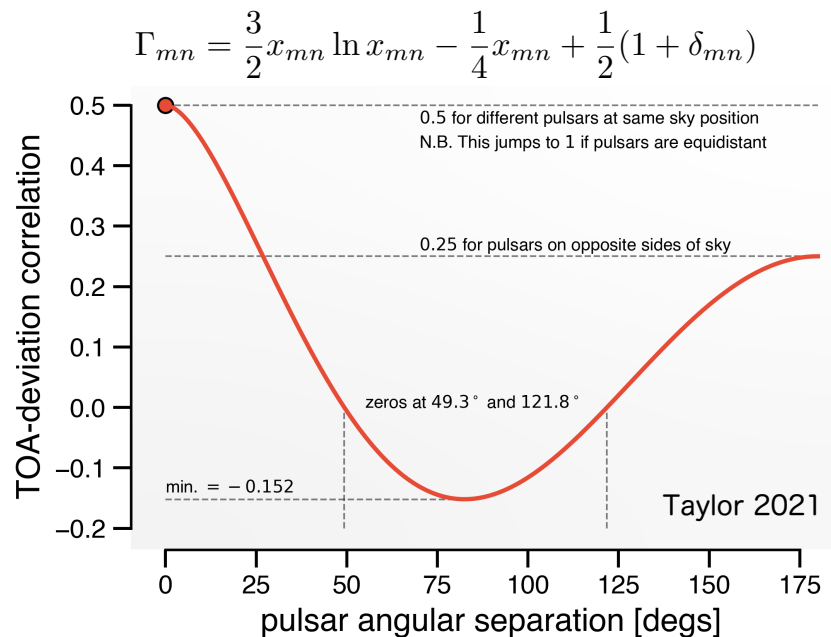
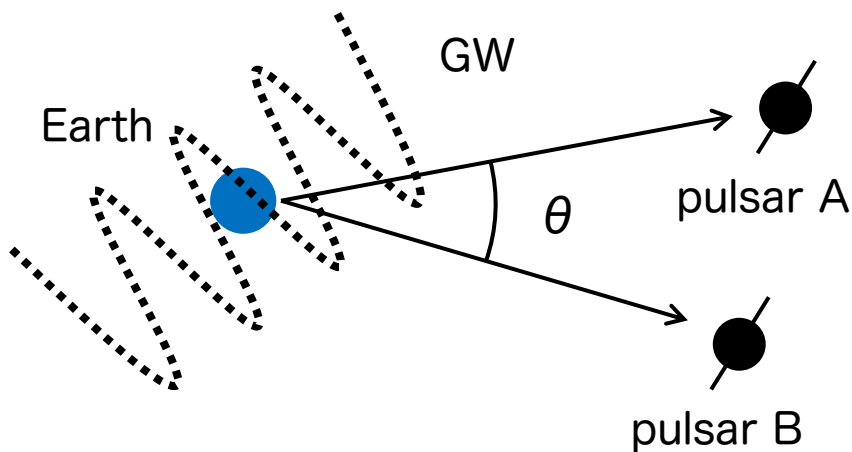
3. inter-pulsar correlation depending on angular separation

→ Hellings & Downs correlation

Hellings & Downs correlation

Hellings & Downs 1983

- correlation in timing residuals of 2 pulsars
- depends on angular separation
- "quadrupole" pattern of GW



3. Evidence for GW Background

worldwide announcement

6/29 UTC 0:00 : papers, arXivs, press release

- EPTA + InPTA ← (Japan)
- NANOGrav
- PPTA
- CPTA

conclusion

- GW background signal : $2\sim 4\sigma \rightarrow$ evidence (detection ~~5σ~~)
- results from different PTAs are roughly consistent
- consistent with that from SMBH binaries
- cannot reject other sources

EPTA+InPTA

focus on EPTA+InPTA (2023)
similar analysis method for other PTAs
show comparison later
EPTA

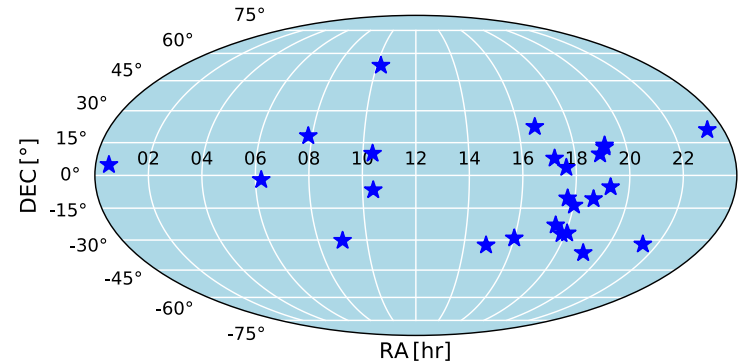
- Effelsberg, Lovell, Nançay
Sardina, WSRT, LEAP
- 25 pulsars, 24.5 years

InPTA

- uGMRT
- 10 pulsars, 3.5 years
- low-frequency observation

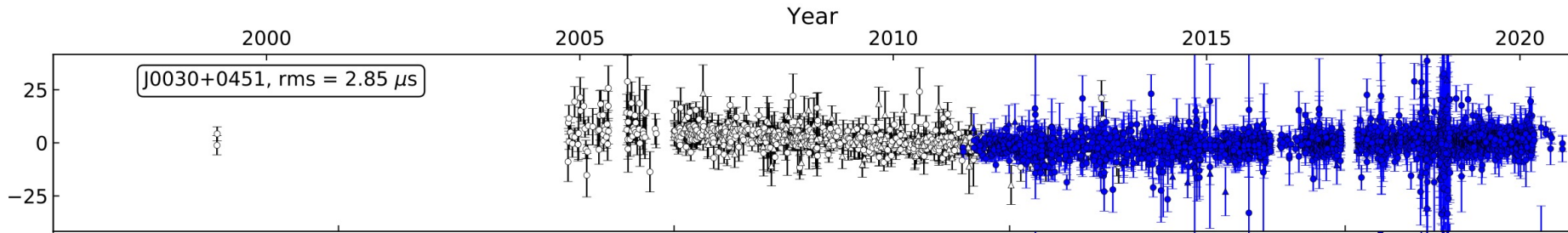


pulsar distribution



noise model

timing residual of J0030+0451

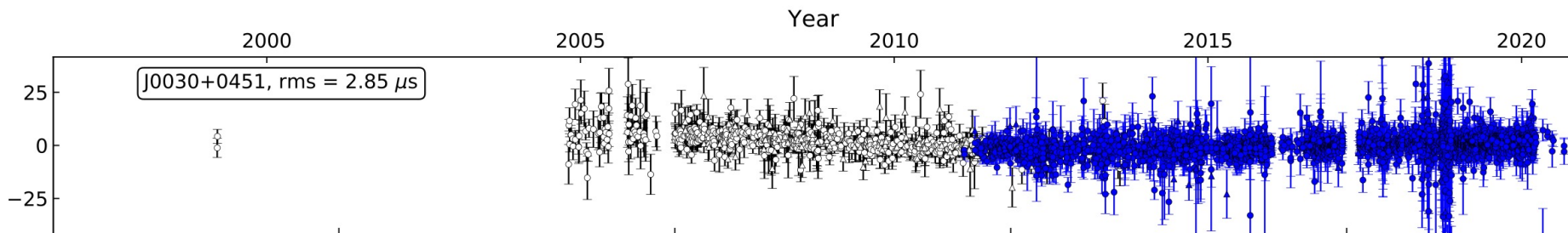


select noise model & estimate parameters from timing residual

- white noise : no time correlation
- red noise (RN) : achromatic time-correlated
- dispersion measure noise (DM) : chromatic time-correlated
- scattering variation (SV) : chromatic time-correlated

noise model

timing residual of J0030+0451



| Pulsar | PTA | Favoured Models | Red noise | | | DM noise | | | Time span yr |
|------------|------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----|----------|--------------|
| | | | N_{coef} | A | γ | N_{coef} | A | γ | |
| J0030+0451 | EPTA | RN | 10 | $-14.93^{+0.83}_{-1.1}$ | $5.49^{+1.93}_{-1.56}$ | X | X | X | 21.96 |

signal models

types of red noise

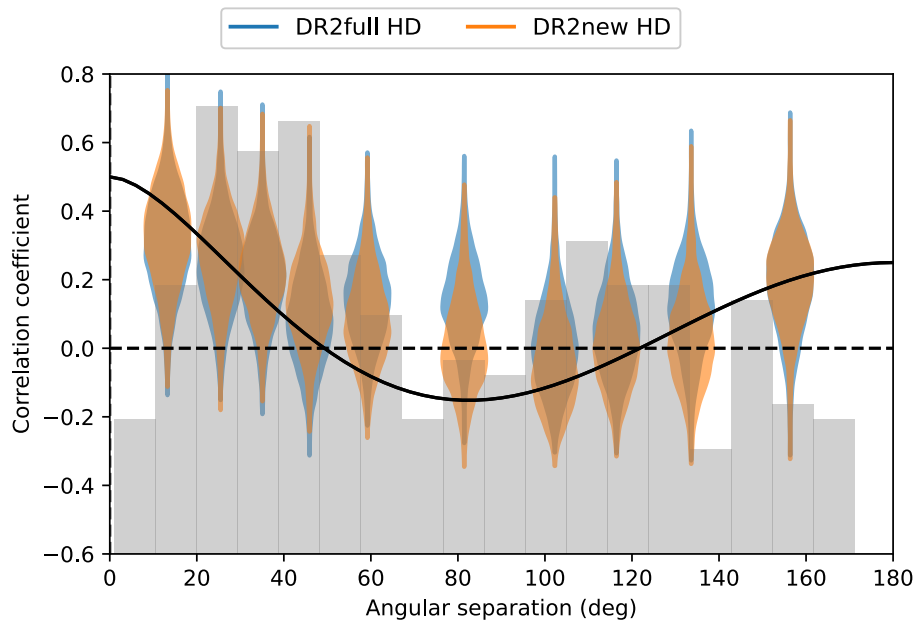
- PSRN : pulsar specific red noise
- CURN : common uncorrelated red noise
 - GWB : common + quadrupole (GW background)
 - CLK : common + monopole (clock error)
 - EPH : common + dipole (solar system ephemeris error)

These can be identified by studying inter-pulsar correlation.

HD correlation

inter-pulsar correlation for
Common Red Signal

- 25 pulsars \rightarrow 300 pairs
- 10 angle bins
- 30 pairs in each bin
- roughly consistent with HD curve but slightly larger than HD at around 90 deg



model selection

model selection by comparing Bayes factor of various signal models and “individual red noise & common red noise”

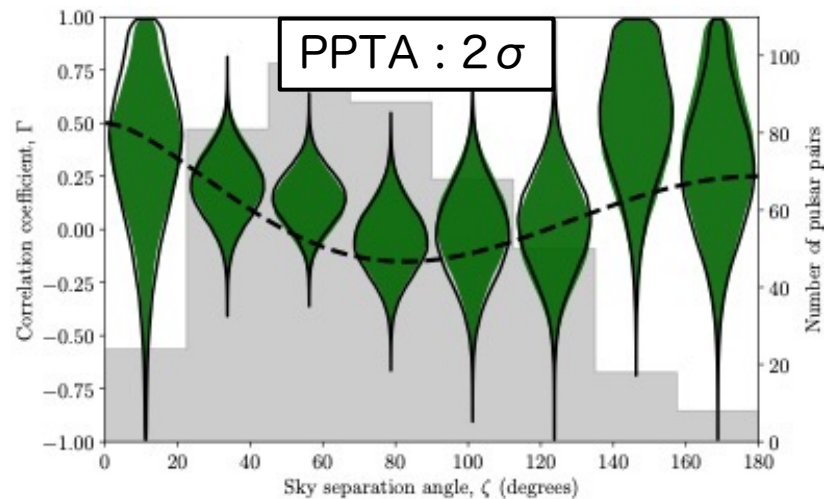
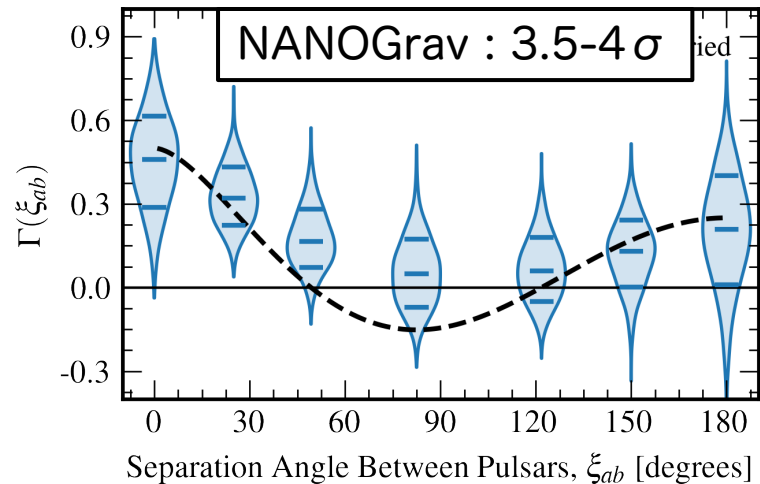
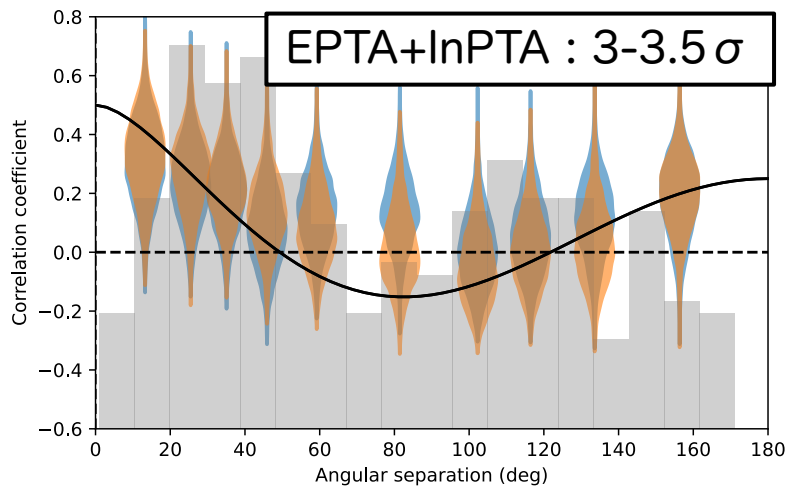
| ID | Model | DR2full | | DR2full+ | DR2new | | DR2new+ |
|----|-------------------|------------|----------------|------------|------------|----------|------------|
| | | ENTERPRISE | FORTYTWO | ENTERPRISE | ENTERPRISE | FORTYTWO | ENTERPRISE |
| 1 | PSRN + CURN | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| 2 | PSRN + GWB | 4 | 5 | 4 | 60 | 62 | 65 |
| 3 | PSRN + CLK | < 0.01 | < 0.01 | < 0.01 | 0.2 | 1.2 | 0.3 |
| 4 | PSRN + EPH | < 0.01 | $\sim 10^{-4}$ | < 0.01 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 1.3 |
| 5 | PSRN + CURN + CLK | 2 | 1 | 2.7 | 0.8 | 2 | 1.6 |
| 6 | PSRN + CURN + EPH | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1.6 |
| 7 | PSRN + GWB + CURN | 3 | 3 | 4 | 27 | 13 | 25 |
| 8 | PSRN + GWB + CLK | 5 | 12 | 7 | 28 | 35 | 57 |
| 9 | PSRN + GWB + EPH | 3 | 3 | 3.6 | 33 | 29 | 43 |

“PSRN + GWB” is most favored with 0.05% ($\sim 3\sigma$) significance

comparison : HD

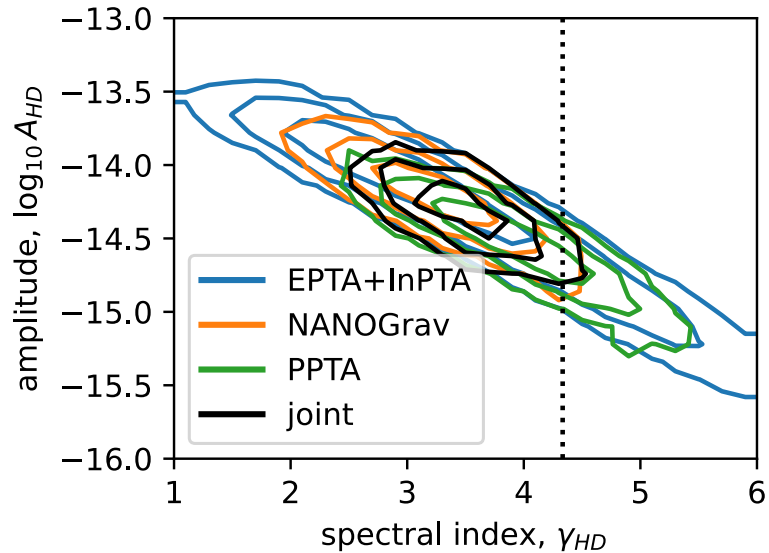
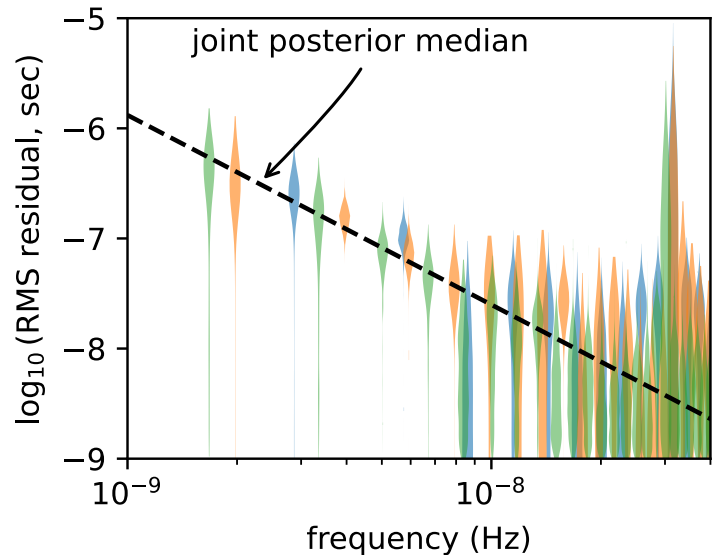
IPTA collaboration 2024

- comparison of inter-pulsar correlation
- roughly consistent



comparison : power spectrum

IPTA collaboration 2024: comparison of EPTA+InPTA, NANOGrav & PPTA, which are roughly consistent.

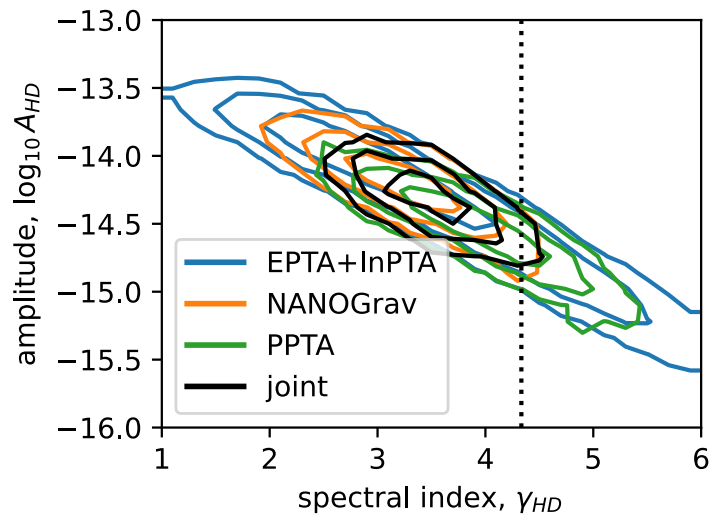
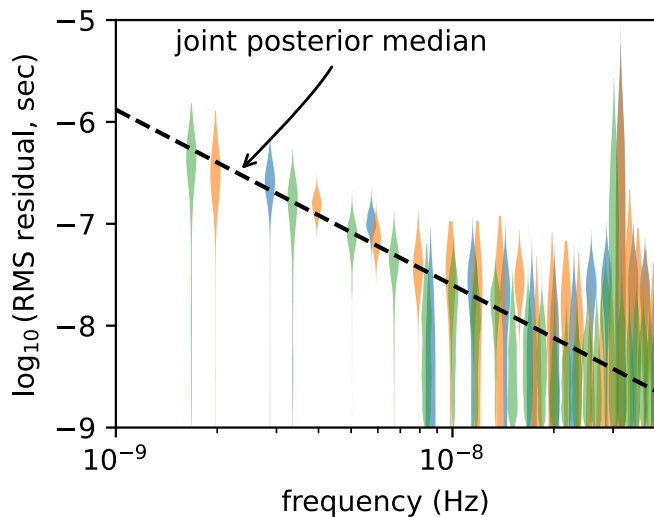


4. Astrophysical Implication

GW background spectrum

Currently, not so precise, but...

- power law index may be deviated from the nominal 13/3?
- deviation from power law?



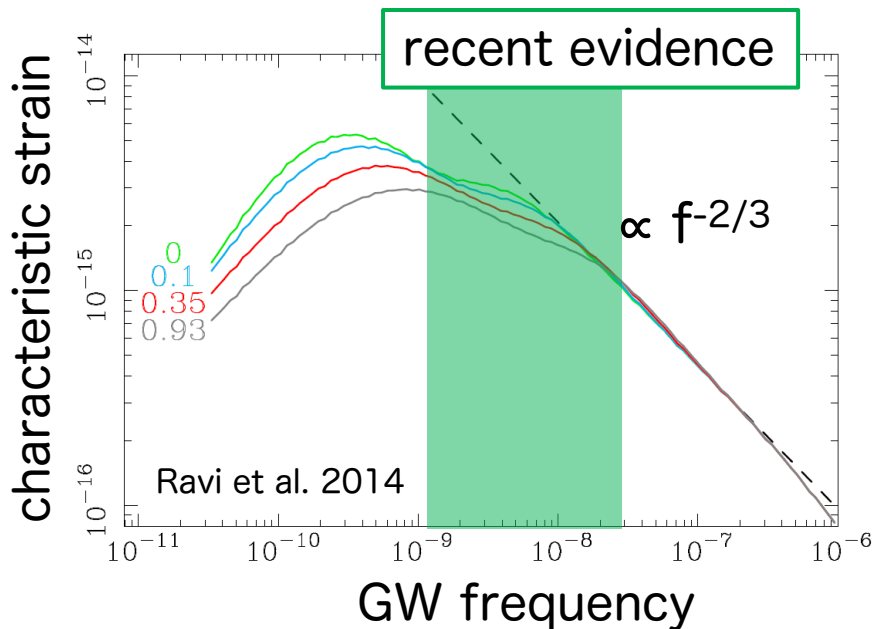
GW background spectrum

frequency range

$1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ Hz} \sim 3 \times 10^{-8} \text{ Hz}$

$$f_{\text{GW}} = 4 \times 10^{-9} \text{ Hz} \left(\frac{a}{30 \text{ mpc}} \right)^{-\frac{3}{2}} \left(\frac{m}{10^9 M_{\odot}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

- $a = 10 \sim 100 \text{ mpc}$ ($10^9 M_{\text{sun}}$)
- energy extraction other than GW emission
- not necessarily $13/3$
- not necessarily power law
- deviation is useful information!



GW background from SMBH binaries

GWB

population of SMBH binaries

- normalization & shape of spectrum
- galaxy merger history
- evolution from galaxy merger to binary formation
→ time lag between SMBHB formation & galaxy merger

higher harmonics distribution

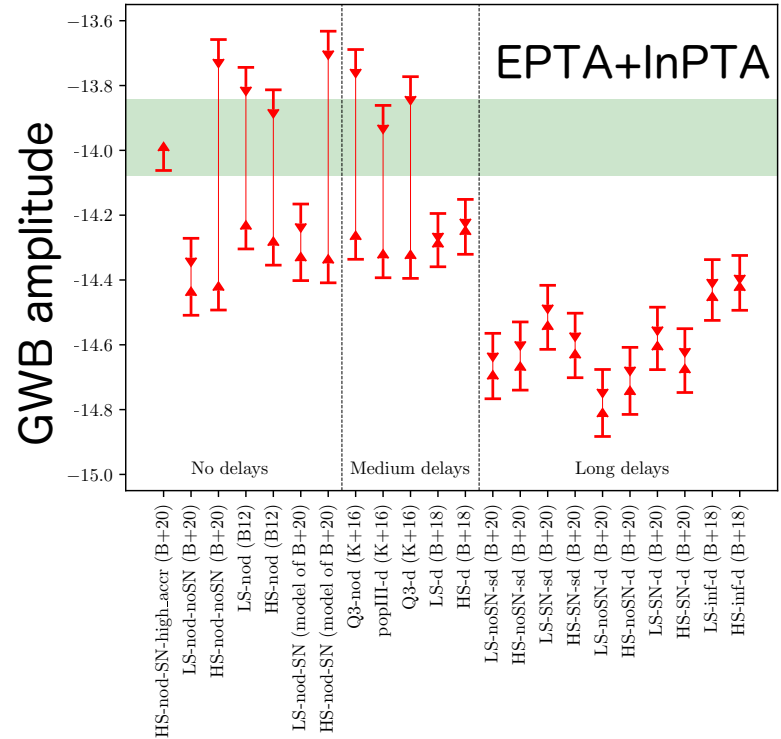
- shape of spectrum
- initial binary eccentricity

comparison with SMBH models

focus on GWB amplitude

the measured GWB amplitude is close to the maximum allowed by galaxy merger history

- rapid SMBH formation
- efficient energy extraction



Model (delays increasing left to right)

5. Future Prospects

to improve

- understand systematics better
 - monopole in inter-pulsar correlation?
 - pulse jitter : pulsar intrinsic fluctuations
 - RFI, solar system ephemeris
- longer time baseline
 - just continue observations
- more pulsars
 - combine different PTAs
 - more sensitive telescope

Square Kilometre Array

next-generation radio telescope
2021 construction started
2028 construction completed



SKA-LOW

THE SKA'S LOW-FREQUENCY TELESCOPE



LOCATION:

AUSTRALIA

FREQUENCY RANGE:



**50 MHz–
350 MHz**



**131,072
ANTENNAS**

SPREAD ACROSS 512 STATIONS



MAXIMUM BASELINE:

~65km

SKA-MID

THE SKA'S MID-FREQUENCY TELESCOPE



LOCATION:

SOUTH AFRICA

FREQUENCY RANGE:



**350 MHz–
15.4 GHz**

WITH A GOAL OF 24 GHz



197 DISHES

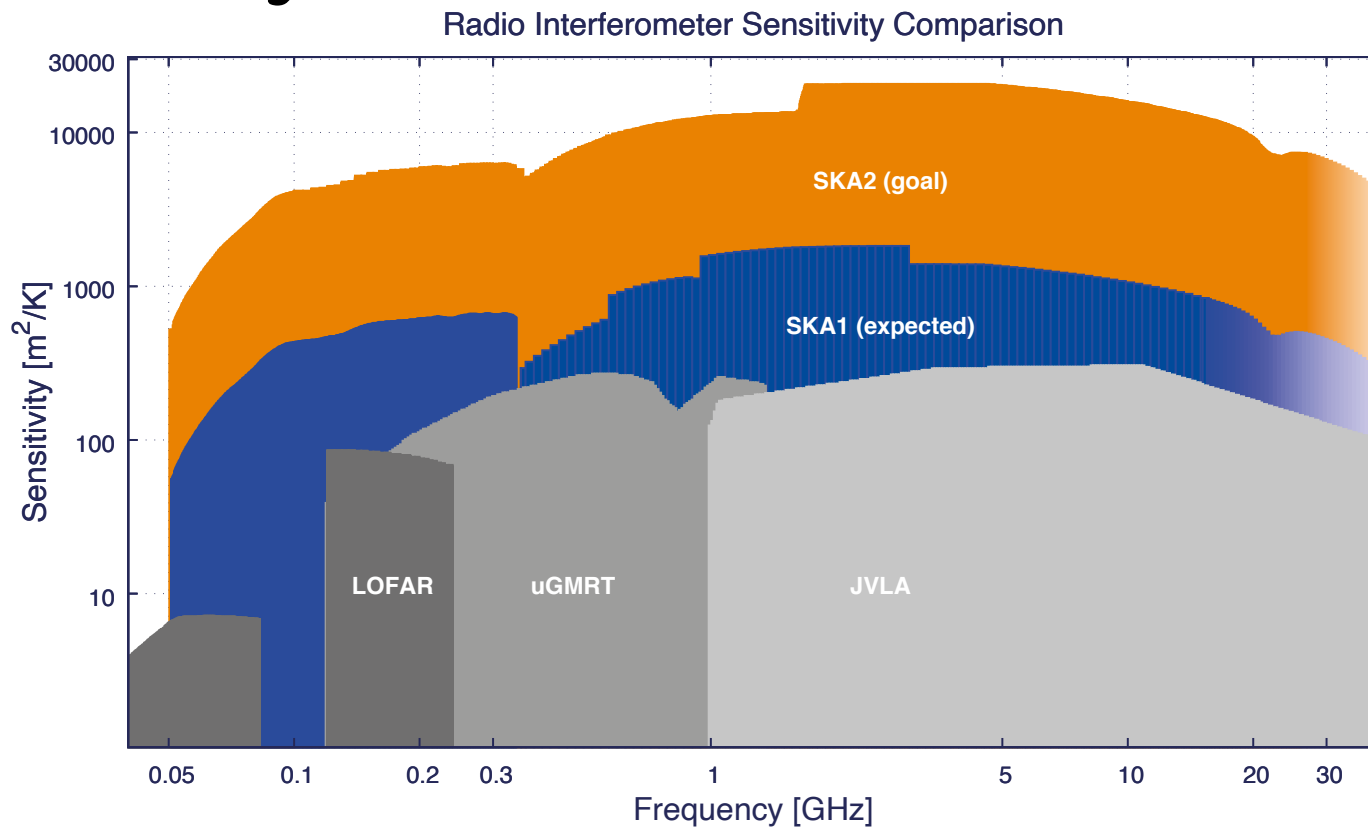
(INCLUDING 64 MEERKAT DISHES)



MAXIMUM BASELINE:

150km

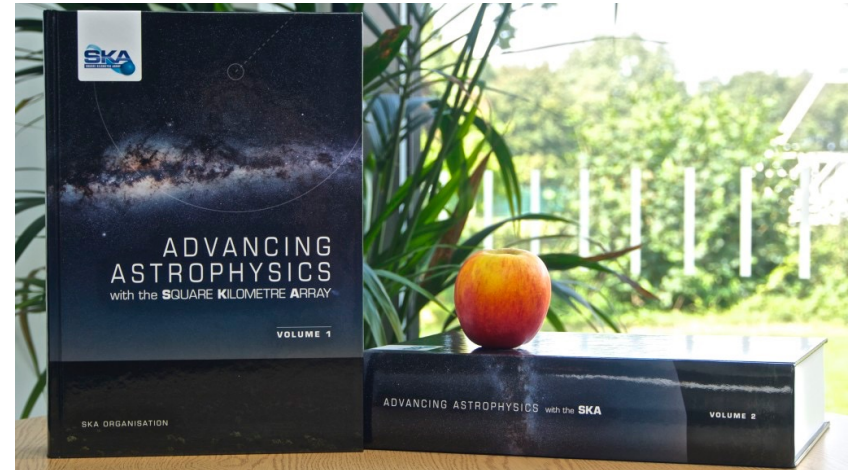
sensitivity



SKA Sciences

- Pulsars
- Cosmic Dawn/Epoch of Reionization
- HI & Continuum Survey
- Galaxy Evolution & Cosmology
- Cosmic Magnetism
- Star & Planet Formation
- Exoplanet & SETI

Science Book
1,000 pages × 2



SKA Japan

SKA Japan

- since 2008
- 250 members
- Chair : N. Sugiyama (Nagoya)
- V. Chair : K. Takahashi (Kumamoto)

Activity

- SWG, EWG
- workshop, webinar
- precursor : MWA, ASKAP



SKA PTA

SKA1 survey

- 9,000 normal pulsars
- 1,400 msec pulsars

x3!

SKA2 survey

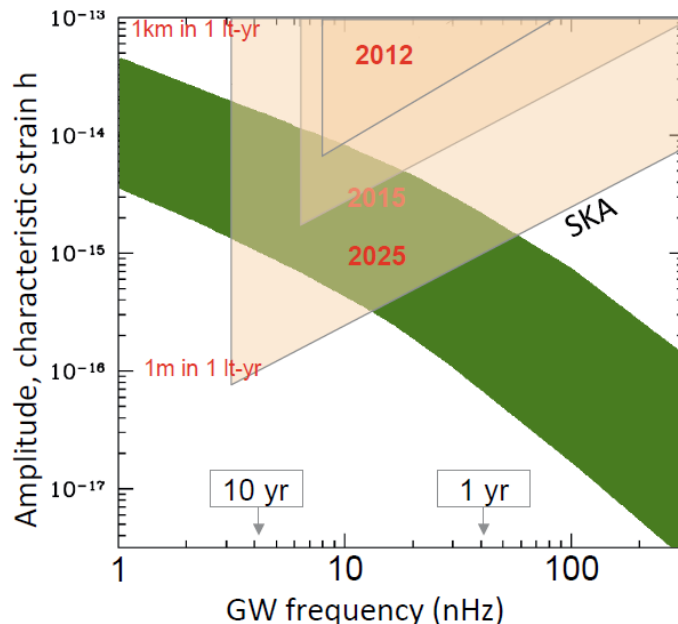
- 30,000 normal pulsars
- 3,000 msec pulsars

x10!

SKA-PTA

much more msec pulsars
& much higher sensitivity

SKA1-PTA sensitivity

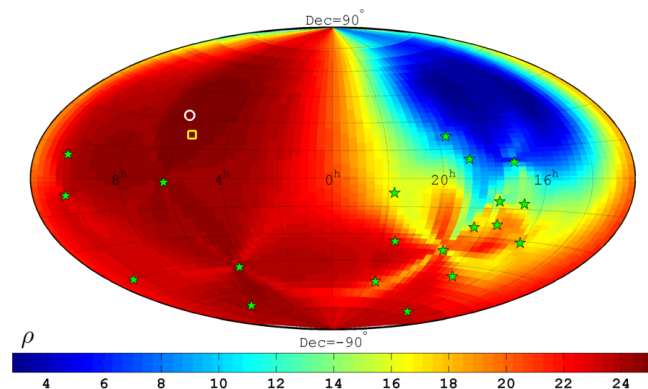


from detection to astronomy

GW source (\square)
most likelihood (\circ)
pulsar (\star)

Zhu+ 2015

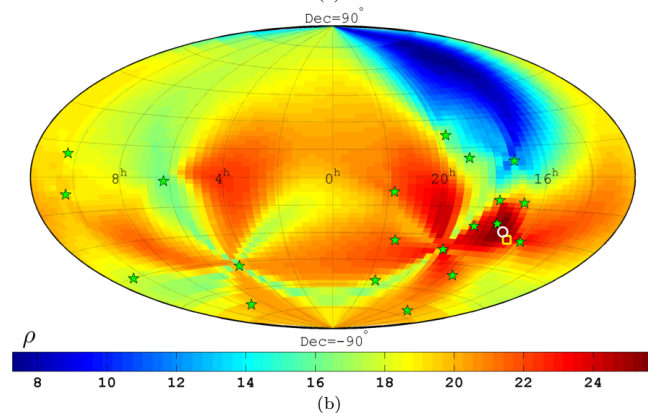
- PPTA simulation
- angular resolution of GW source
→ $> O(10) \text{ deg}^2$
→ GW source cannot be identified



(a)

Kato & KT (2023)

- precise pulsar distance from VLBI ($< \text{GW wavelength}$)
- GW angular resolution improves by a few orders



(b)

Nano-Hz GW astronomy



$D = 85 \text{ Mpc}$
 $M_1 = 3.2 \times 10^9 M_{\text{sun}}$
 $M_2 = 5.1 \times 10^7 M_{\text{sun}}$
 $a = 0.35 \text{ pc}, e = 0.14$



$D = 156 \text{ Mpc}$
 $M_1 = 9.2 \times 10^9 M_{\text{sun}}$
 $M_2 = 7.5 \times 10^9 M_{\text{sun}}$
 $a = 1.3 \text{ pc}, e = 0.25$



$D = 245 \text{ Mpc}$
 $M_1 = 4.3 \times 10^9 M_{\text{sun}}$
 $M_2 = 5.9 \times 10^8 M_{\text{sun}}$
 $a = 0.12 \text{ pc}, e = 0.02$

future prospects

2023 Evidence of GWB from 4 PTAs

2024 IPTA comparison

2025 IPTA combination : ongoing

MeerKAT, FAST join

GWB detection

single source

2029 SKA1

GWB power spectrum

→ SMBH evolution model

precise GWB power spectrum

→ other sources

203? SKA2

GWB anisotropy

SMBH binary catalog

summary

- pulsar timing array
 - direct detection of nano-Hz GWs with msec pulsars
- evidence for GW background
 - EPTA+InPTA, NANOGrav, PPTA, CPTA
 - statistical significance of HD correlation : $2\sim 4\sigma$
 - consistent with GW background from SMBH binaries
 - cannot reject other sources due to low S/N and limited range of power spectrum measurement
- future prospects
 - IPTA : data combination
 - SKA1, SKA2
 - precise measurement, single sources, astronomy