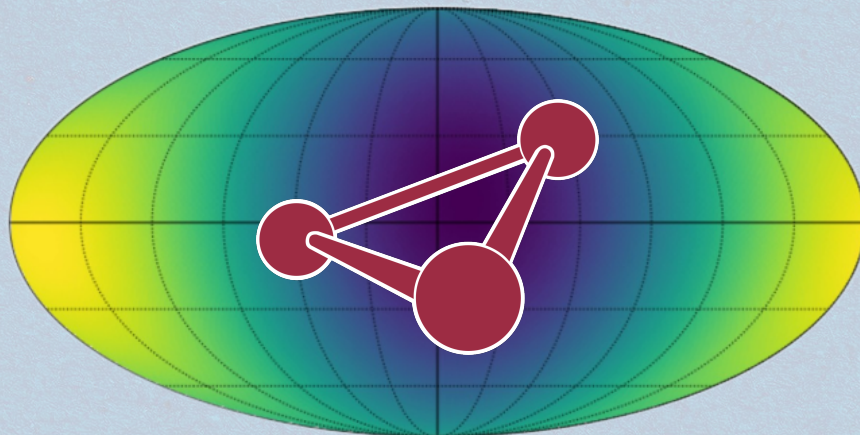




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# Observing Kinematic Anisotropies of a Stochastic Gravitational Waves Background with LISA

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*Institute for Theoretical Physics, Heidelberg University*

**7ème Assemblée GdR Ondes Gravitationnelles**  
**Meudon, Octobre 2023**



# Scope and objectives

- Main challenge of the search for SGWB signal with LISA:

**How do we distinguish a potential cosmological signal from instrumental noise (with a single interferometer in space)**

(+ from galactic confusion noise, astrophysical background..)

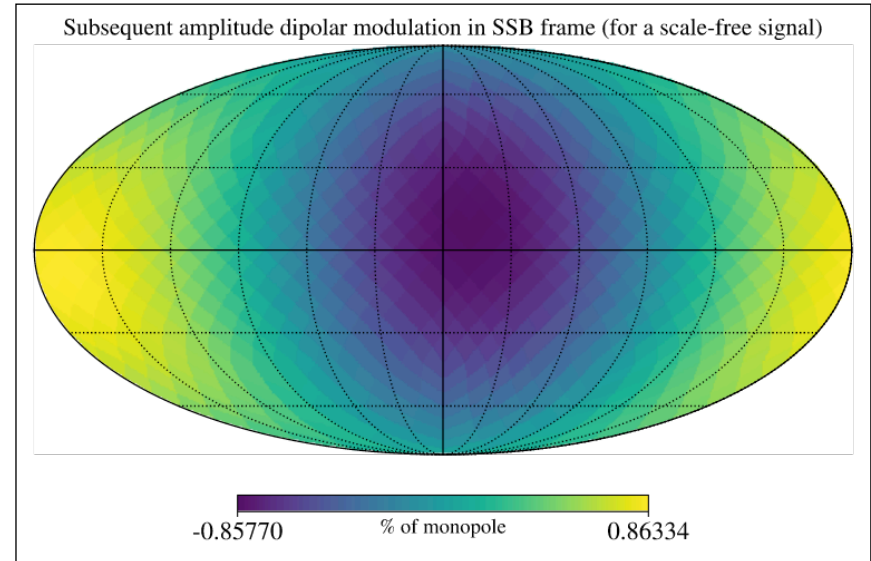
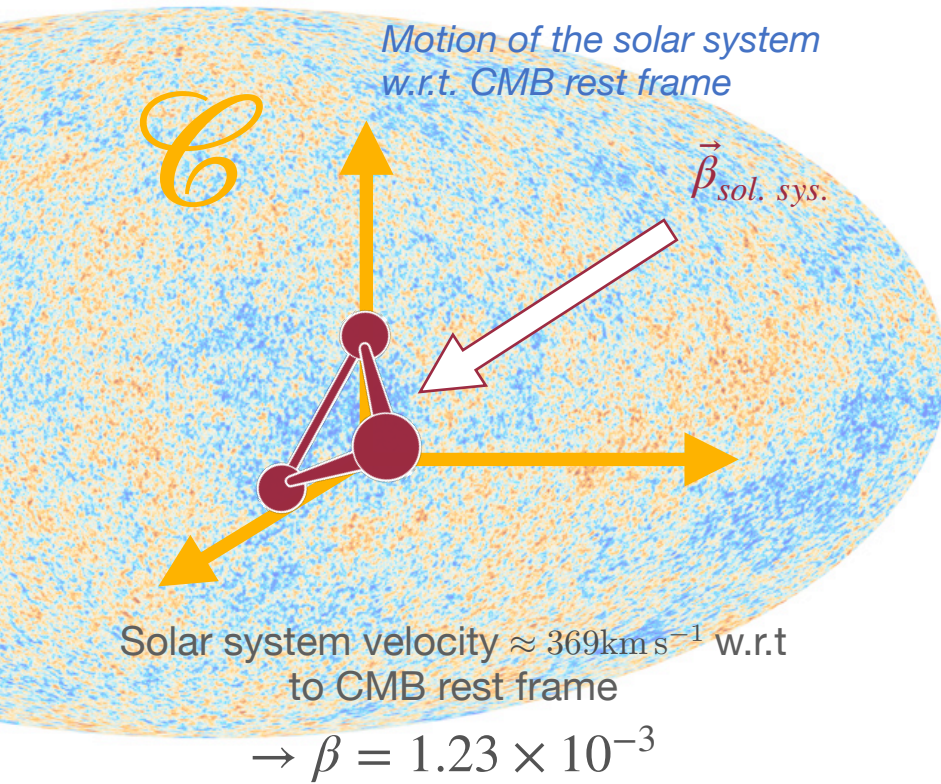
**On what kind of evidence can we claim an apparent excess of power is cosmological ?**

1. The instrument response projects differently noise and signal on data.
2. The signal has distinctive features not shared with the noise (anisotropy)

➔ **Kinematic anisotropy is a signature of an extragalactic origin**



# Principle: Doppler boosting of the SGWB



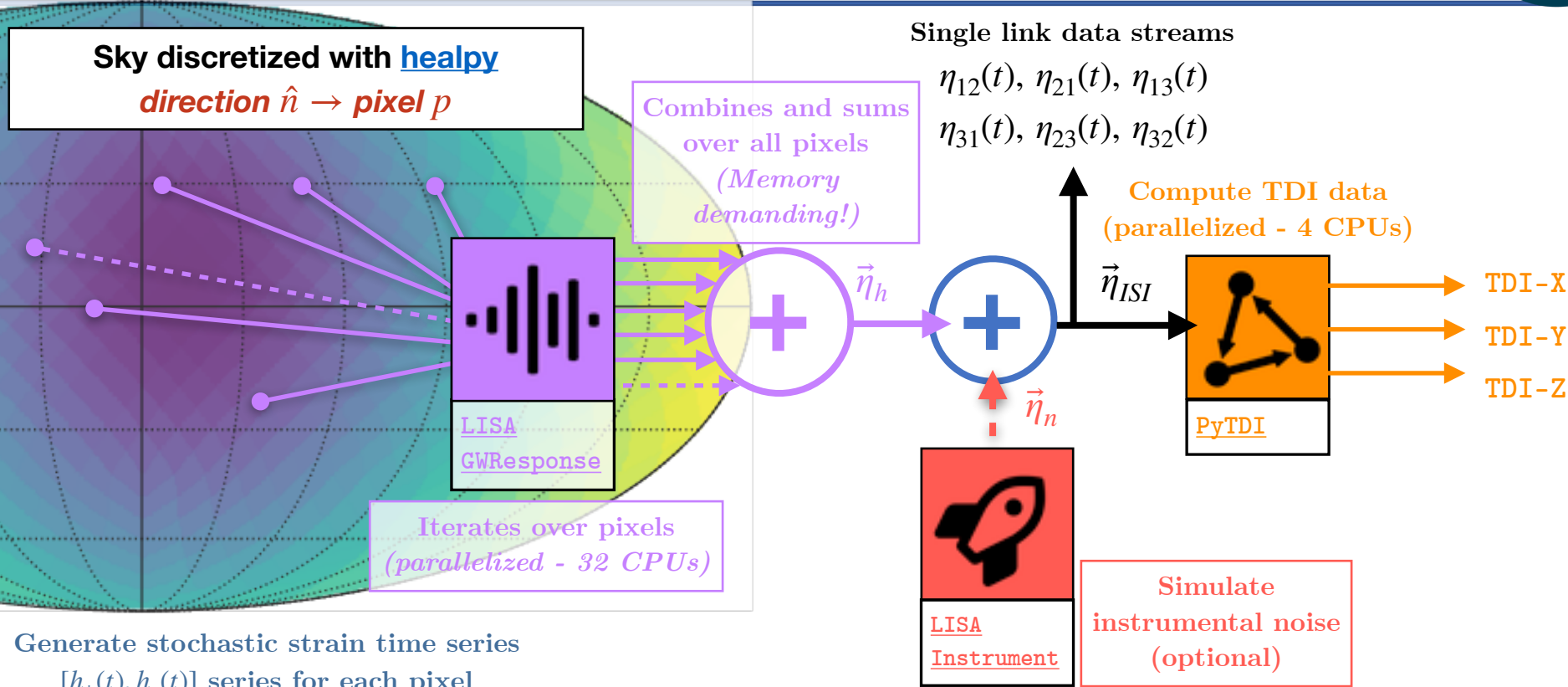
$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{1 - \beta^2}{1 - \beta \hat{n} \cdot \hat{v}}$$

$$\Omega_{GW}(f, \hat{n}) = \mathcal{D}^4 \Omega'_{GW}(f) (\mathcal{D}^{-1} f)$$

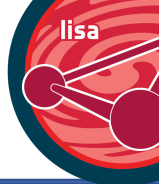
**Cusin et al. 2022, "Doppler boosting the stochastic gravitational wave background"**



# DATA generation: full **time-domain** simulation of GW anisotropic sky, via LISA Simulation Suite



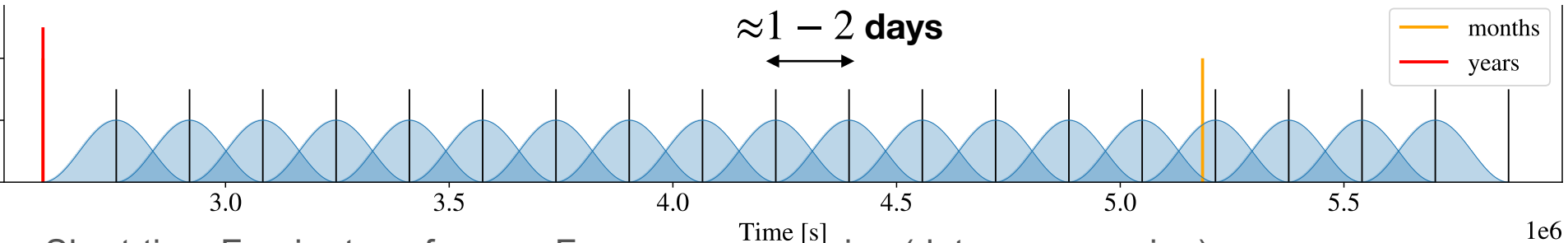
Generate stochastic strain time series  $[h_+(t), h_x(t)]$  series for each pixel



# Map-making strategy: pre-processing the DATA

- Time-splitting the 3 years long TDI data streams  
*Hanning window, 50% overlapping segments*

*Contaldi et al. 2020, "Maximum likelihood map making with the Laser Interferometer Space Antenna"*



- Short-time Fourier transforms + Frequency averaging (data compression) :

$$\bar{\mathbf{D}}(t_i, f_j) \equiv \frac{1}{n_j} \sum_{k=j-\frac{n_j}{2}}^{j+\frac{n_j}{2}} \tilde{\mathbf{d}}(t_i, f_k) \tilde{\mathbf{d}}(t_i, f_k)^\dagger.$$

*Baghi et al. 2023, "Uncovering gravitational-wave backgrounds from noises of unknown shape with LISA"*

TDI X, Y, Z data streams

- DA problem: we're solving for the covariance  $C_d$  of the signal  $\tilde{\mathbf{d}}$ .



# Covariance **MODEL** and max likelihood map-making strategy

- Covariance model:

*Contaldi et al. 2020, "Maximum likelihood map making with the Laser Interferometer Space Antenna"*

$$\mathbf{C}_d(t_i, f_j) = \mathbf{A}(t_i, f_j, p) I(p) + \mathbf{N}(t_i, f_j)$$

LISA (+TDI)  
quadratic response  
(Freq. domain  
model)

Pixel Map to  
solve for

Instrumental  
Noise

$$I(f, \hat{n}) = \Omega_{\text{GW}}(f, \hat{n}) \frac{3H_0^2}{4\pi^2 f^3}$$

Sky discretized with **healpy**  
*direction  $\hat{n} \rightarrow$  pixel  $p$*

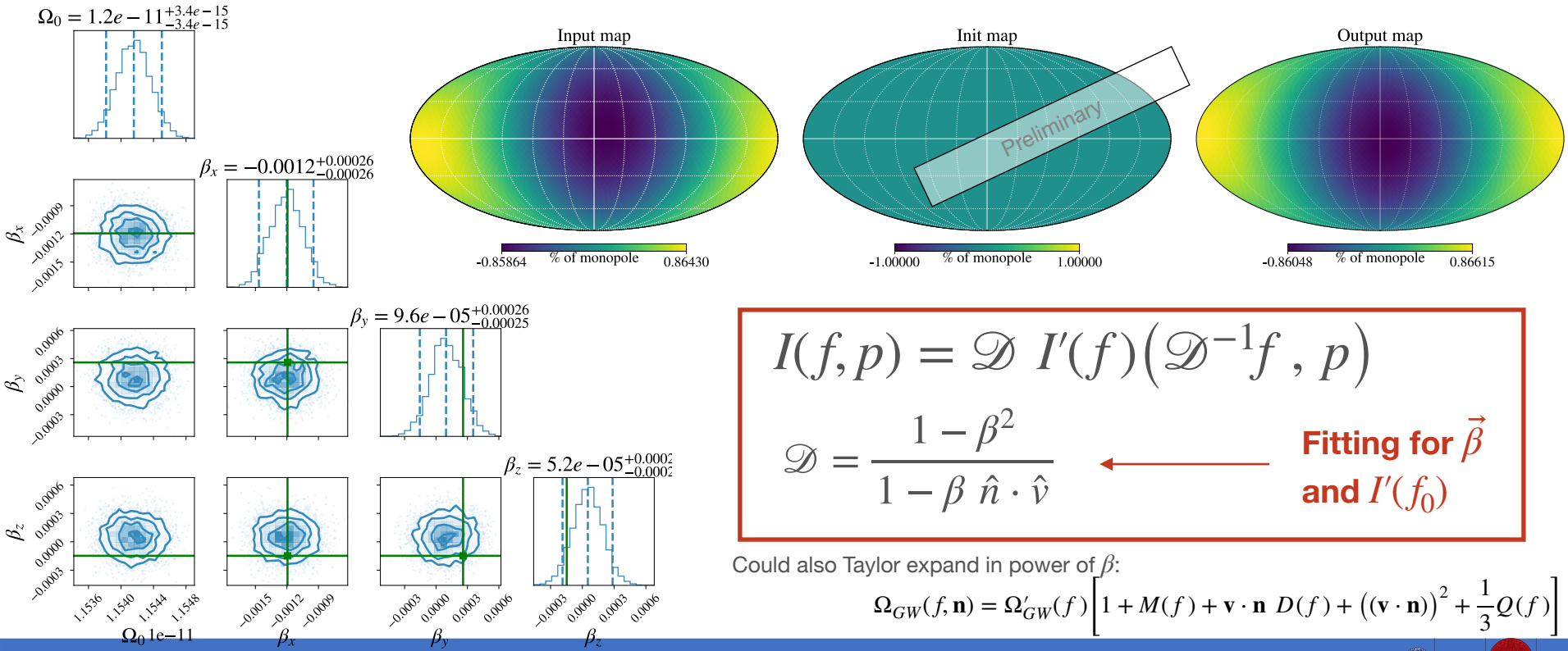
- log-Likelihood, Wishart statistics:

$$\log \mathcal{L} = \sum_{t_i} \sum_{f_j} \left[ -\text{tr}(\mathbf{C}_d^{-1} \mathbf{D}(t_i, f_j)) - \nu \log |\mathbf{C}_d(t_i, f_j)| \right]$$

*Baghi et al. 2023*

# MCMC sampling the velocity: recovered sky maps

Building from Contaldi et al. 2020, extending to time-domain sim, spectrum averaging, and MCMC sampling



$$I(f, p) = \mathcal{D} I'(f) (\mathcal{D}^{-1} f, p)$$

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{1 - \beta^2}{1 - \beta \hat{n} \cdot \hat{v}}$$

**Fitting for  $\vec{\beta}$  and  $I'(f_0)$**

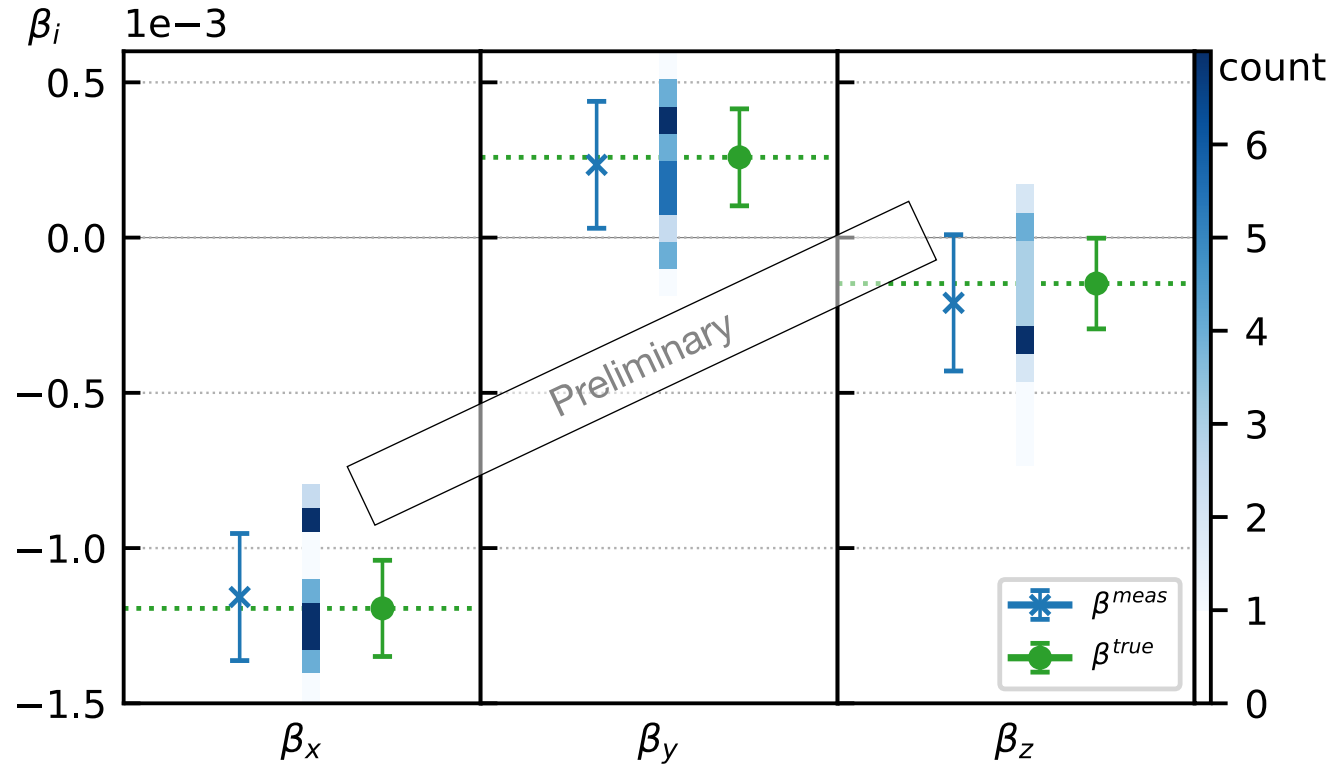
Could also Taylor expand in power of  $\beta$ :

$$\Omega_{GW}(f, \mathbf{n}) = \Omega'_{GW}(f) \left[ 1 + M(f) + \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n} D(f) + ((\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n})^2 + \frac{1}{3} Q(f)) \right]$$

# 30 sky realization statistical test - velocity $\vec{\beta}$

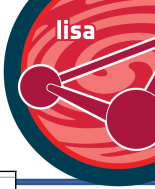


- 30 measured  $\vec{\beta}^{meas}$ : mean values and standard deviations
  - $\vec{\beta}^{true}$  with theoretical error bars from MCMC
  - Histogram of  $\vec{\beta}^{meas}$  values
- $\vec{\beta}_x$  resolved !





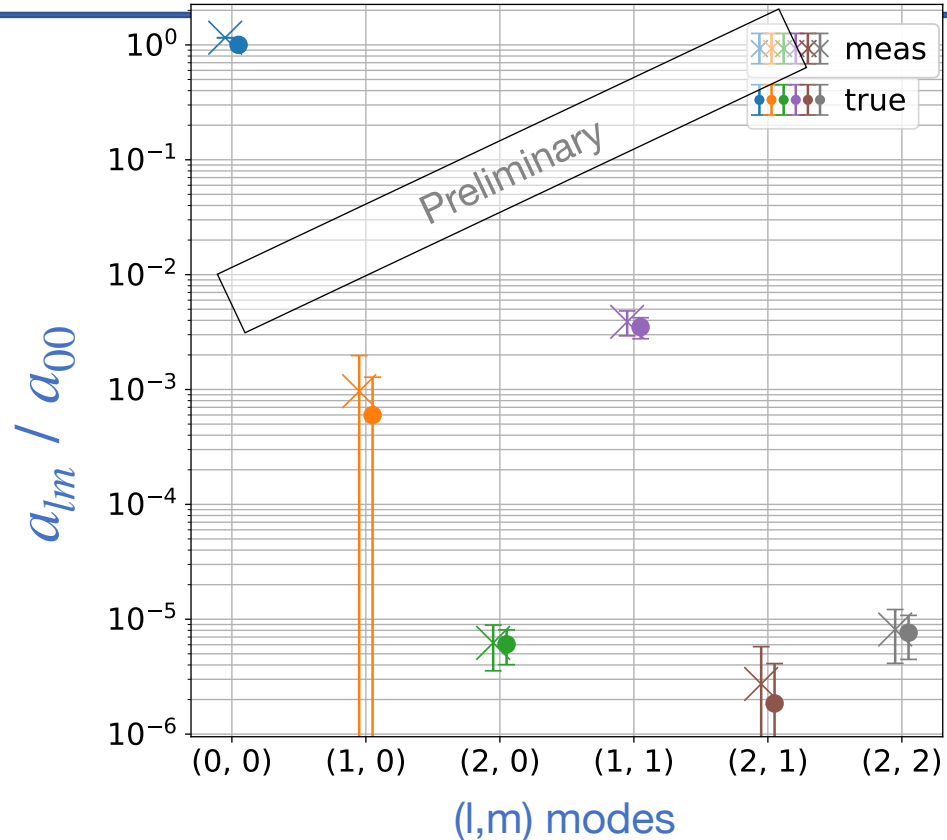
# 30 sky realization statistical test - $a_{\ell m}$



- Conversion of  $\vec{\beta}^{meas}$  statistics to  $a_{\ell m}$  counterpart
- Main mode resolved (1,1)
- Start to be sensitive to (2,0) and (2,2) !

*Dipole: higher signal, but less responsive*

*Quadrupole: reduced signal, but more responsive*





# Conclusion & Perspectives

- End-to-end simulation and analysis of an anisotropic GW sky with LISA.
- With up-to-date and most complete simulation tools of the consortium to date (LISA GWResponse, LISA Instrument, PyTDI)
- Validation of the method to recover kinematic anisotropy, induced on scale-free SGWB signal (spectral index  $\alpha = 0$ ), **for noiseless instrument.**
- What's next ?

## 1. Investigate time-frequency data representation (wavelets).

## 2. Apply the method to SGWB with **richer spectrum profiles** (broken power laws, peaks)

**Sharp spectrum transition, breaks, peaks...**

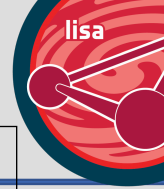
**→ can boost the SNR a lot (dipole AND quadrupole)**

$$D(f) = \beta(4 - n_\Omega),$$

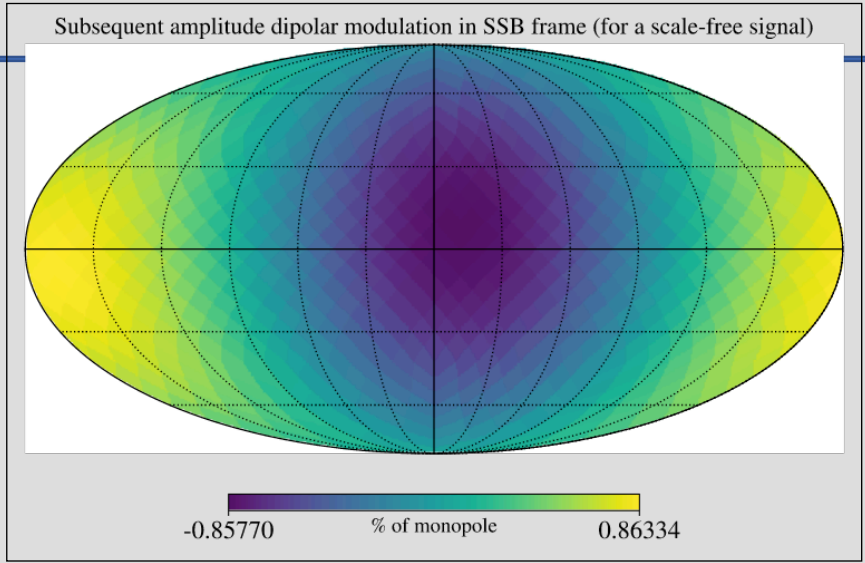
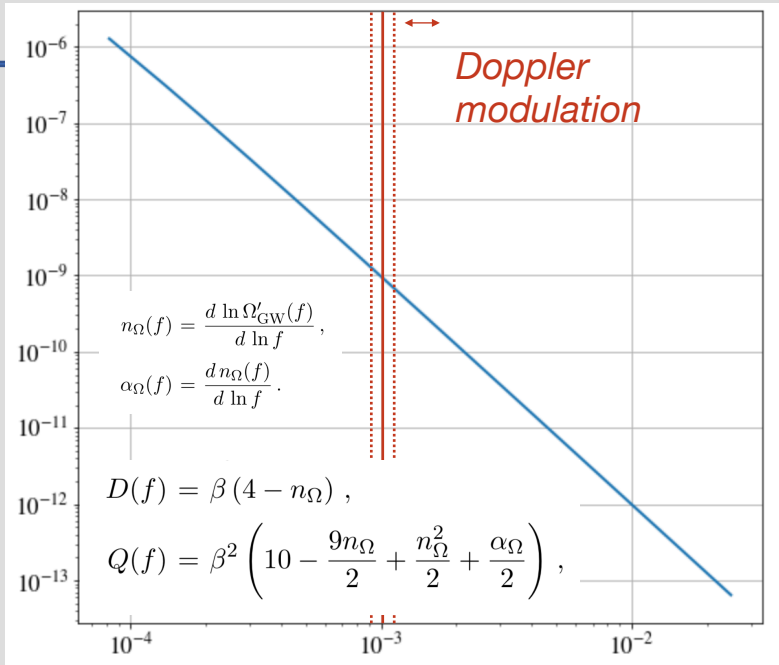
$$Q(f) = \beta^2 \left( 10 - \frac{9n_\Omega}{2} + \frac{n_\Omega^2}{2} + \frac{\alpha_\Omega}{2} \right),$$

## 3. Apply the method to **the mapping of the galactic foreground** (on LDC data!)

**Back slides**



# Principle: Doppler boosting of the SGWB



$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{1 - \beta^2}{1 - \beta \hat{n} \cdot \hat{v}}$$

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(f, \hat{n}) = \mathcal{D}^4 \Omega'_{\text{GW}}(f) (\mathcal{D}^{-1} f)$$

1. [Cusin et al. 2022, "Doppler boosting the stochastic gravitational wave background"](#)
2. [Bartolo et al. 2022, « Probing anisotropies of the Stochastic Gravitational Wave Background with LISA »](#)

# DATA generation: full **time-domain** simulation of GW anisotropic sky, via LISA Simulation Suite



- Physical assumptions:
  - ✓ Pixel stochastic strain time series uncorrelated
  - ✓ *Equal arm or keplerian* orbits.
  - ✓ TDI 2.0
  - ✓ **Arm propag. delays in TCB time**
  - ✓ Secondary noise only (when noise on)
- Simulation settings
  - 3 years, sampling frequency = [0.05 Hz / 0.2 Hz]
  - Number of pixels: [12288 / 3072]
  - Cosmological signal:  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $\Omega = [10^{-12}, 10^{-7}]$



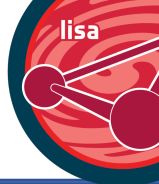
# LISA response

$$G_{lm,p}(f', t, \hat{\mathbf{k}}) = \frac{\xi_p(\hat{\mathbf{u}}_k, \hat{\mathbf{v}}_k, \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{lm})}{2(1 - \hat{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{lm}(t))} \left[ e^{-\frac{2\pi i f'}{c}(L_{lm}(t) + \hat{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \mathbf{x}_m(t))} - e^{-\frac{2\pi i f'}{c} \hat{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \mathbf{x}_l(t)} \right]. \quad (\text{B.5})$$

From [Baghi et al. 2023](#)

$$X_2 = X_1 + \mathbf{D}_{13121}y_{12} + \mathbf{D}_{131212}y_{21} + \mathbf{D}_{1312121}y_{13} + \mathbf{D}_{13121213}y_{31} \\ - [\mathbf{D}_{12131}y_{13} + \mathbf{D}_{121313}y_{31} + \mathbf{D}_{1213131}y_{12} + \mathbf{D}_{12131312}y_{21}],$$

$$\mathbf{D}_{ij}\tilde{x}(f) \approx \tilde{x}(f)e^{-2\pi i f L_{ij}}.$$



# Covariance **MODEL** and max likelihood map-making strategy

- Covariance model:

$$\mathbf{C}_d(t_i, f_j) = \mathbf{A}(t_i, f_j, p) I(p) + \mathbf{N}(t_i, f_j)$$

LISA quadratic response      Pixel Map to solve for      Instrumental Noise

*Contaldi et al. 2020, "Maximum likelihood map making with the Laser Interferometer Space Antenna"*

$$I(f, \hat{n}) = \Omega_{\text{GW}}(f, \hat{n}) \frac{3H_0^2}{4\pi^2 f^3}$$

**Sky discretized with healpy**  
*direction  $\hat{n} \rightarrow$  pixel  $p$*

- LISA quadratic response:

$$A(t_i, f_j, p) = R_+(t_i, f_j, p) \otimes R_+(t_i, f_j, p)^* + R_\times(t_i, f_j, p) \otimes R_\times(t_i, f_j, p)^*$$

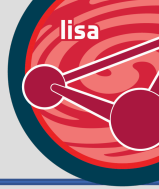
$$R_P(t_i, f_j, p) = M_{\text{TDI}}(t_i, f_j) G_P(t_i, f_j, p) M_{\text{TDI}}(t_i, f_j)^\dagger$$

- log-Likelihood, Wishart statistics:

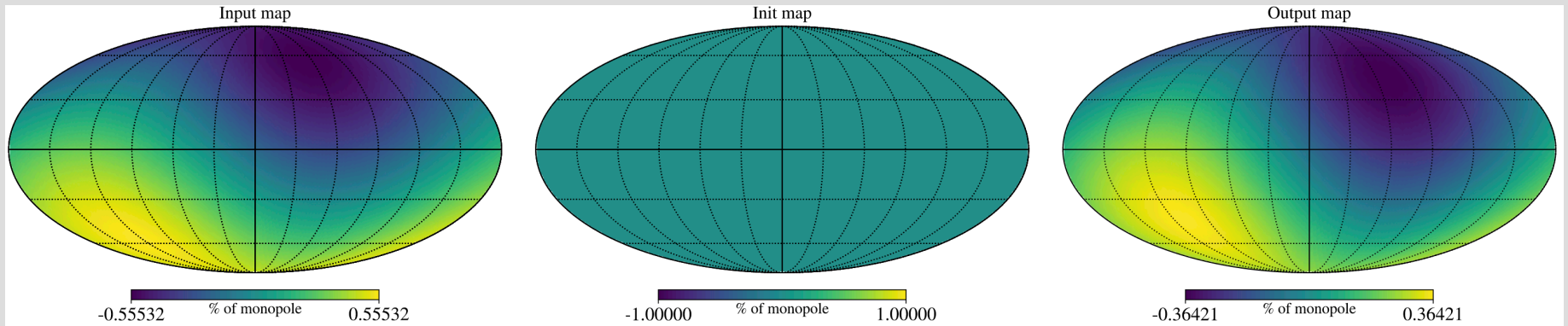
*Baghi et al. 2023*

$$\log \mathcal{L} = \sum_{t_i} \sum_{f_j} \left[ -\text{tr}(\mathbf{C}_d^{-1} \mathbf{D}(t_i, f_j)) - \nu \log |\mathbf{C}_d(t_i, f_j)| \right]$$





# MCMC sampling the alms: **artificially rotated input** - *Sanity check*



*Work from D. Maibach  
(Heidelberg Univ.)*