



LISA
CONSORTIUM

MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
FOR GRAVITATIONAL PHYSICS
(ALBERT EINSTEIN INSTITUTE)



Overview of LISA

Gravitational wave orchestra Ancecy, 19-09-2024, Martina Muratore

Talk overview



- LISA mission overview
- Time Delay Interferometry to reduce laser noise
- TDI null channels as instrument noise monitors
- SGWB in the global fit

- LISA mission overview

Mission overview

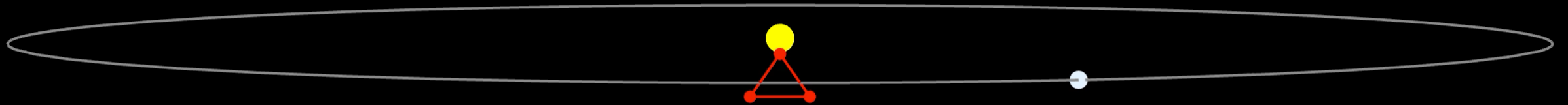
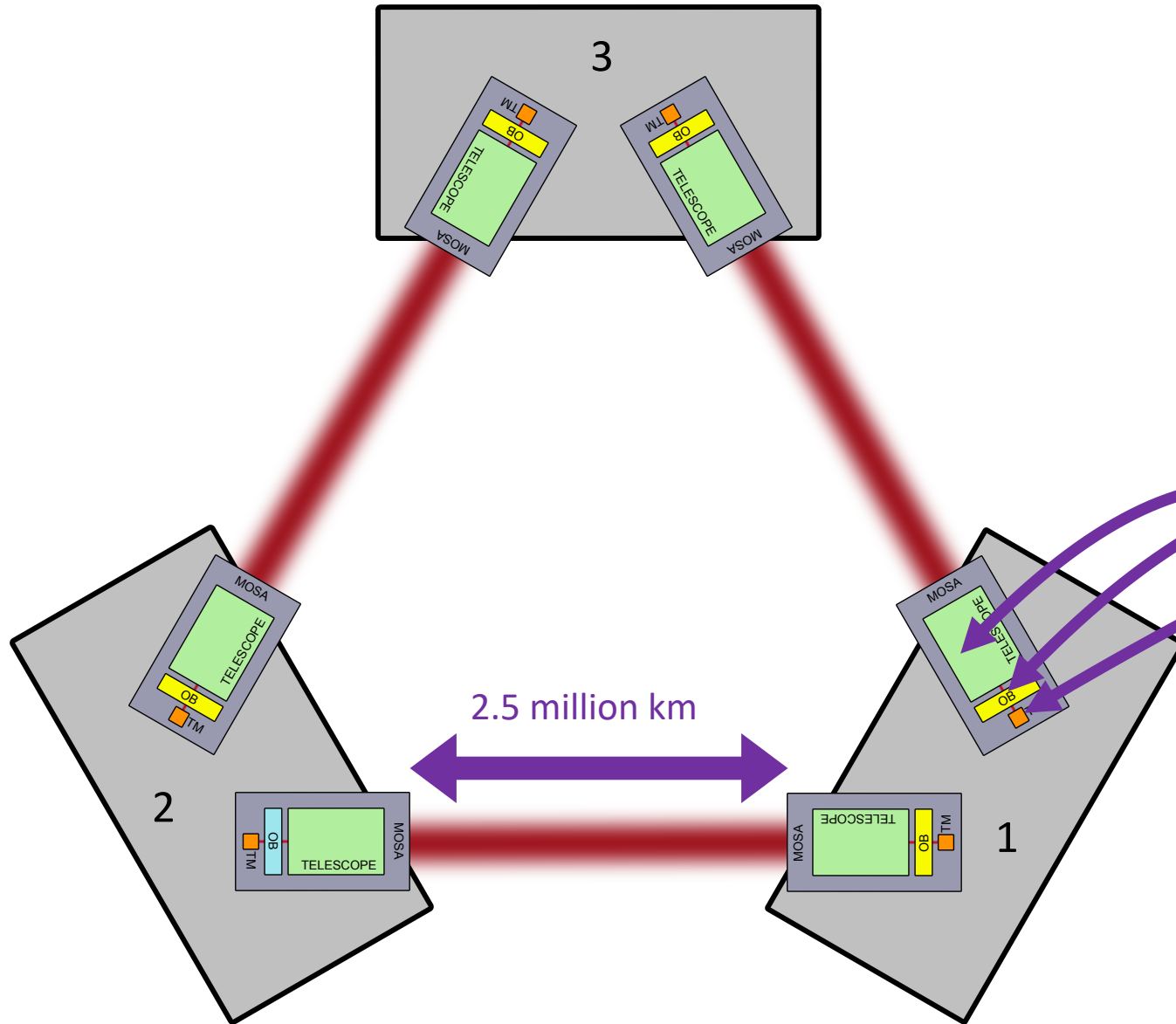


Image courtesy of O.Hartwig

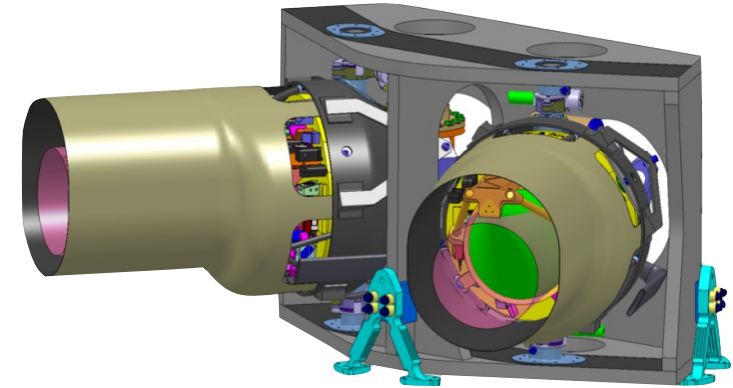
- 3 drag-free satellites, separated by 2.5×10^6 km continuously exchange laser beams
- The constellation forms an *almost* equilateral triangle which trails the Earth by 20° and is tilted by an angle of 60° from the ecliptic plane

LISA constellation

Slide courtesy of O. Harwig

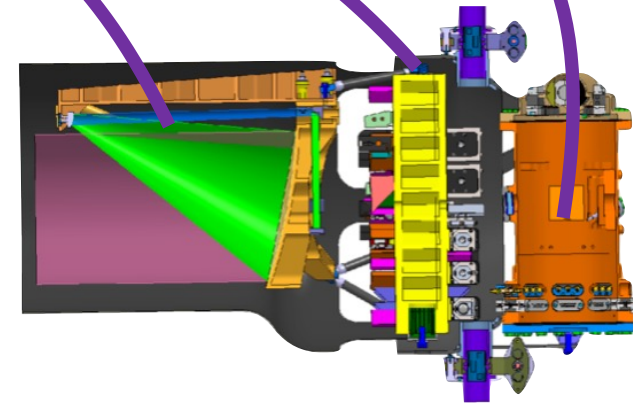


Payload strawman conceptual design. Images courtesy of Airbus D&S GmbH, Friedrichshafen.



Source: L3 proposal

Movable optical sub-assembly (MOSA)



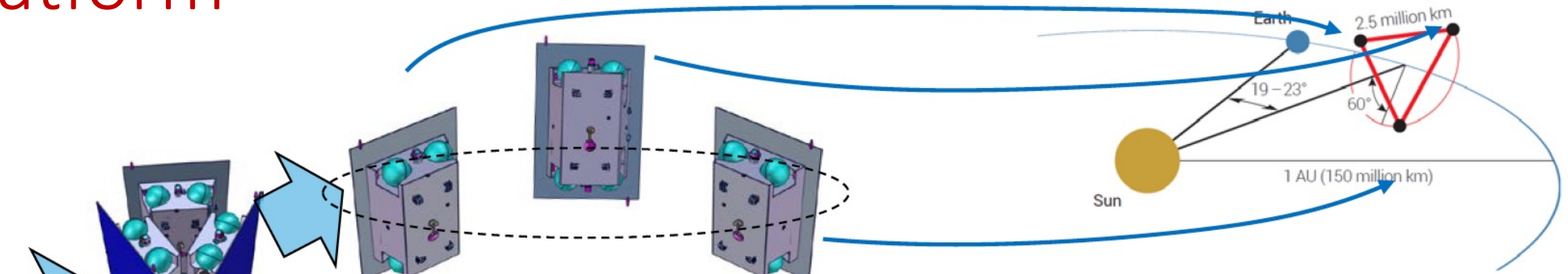
Source: L3 proposal

LISA Platform



LISA-CDF-IFP-2017

Launch in stacked configuration
Direct injection into escape trajectory

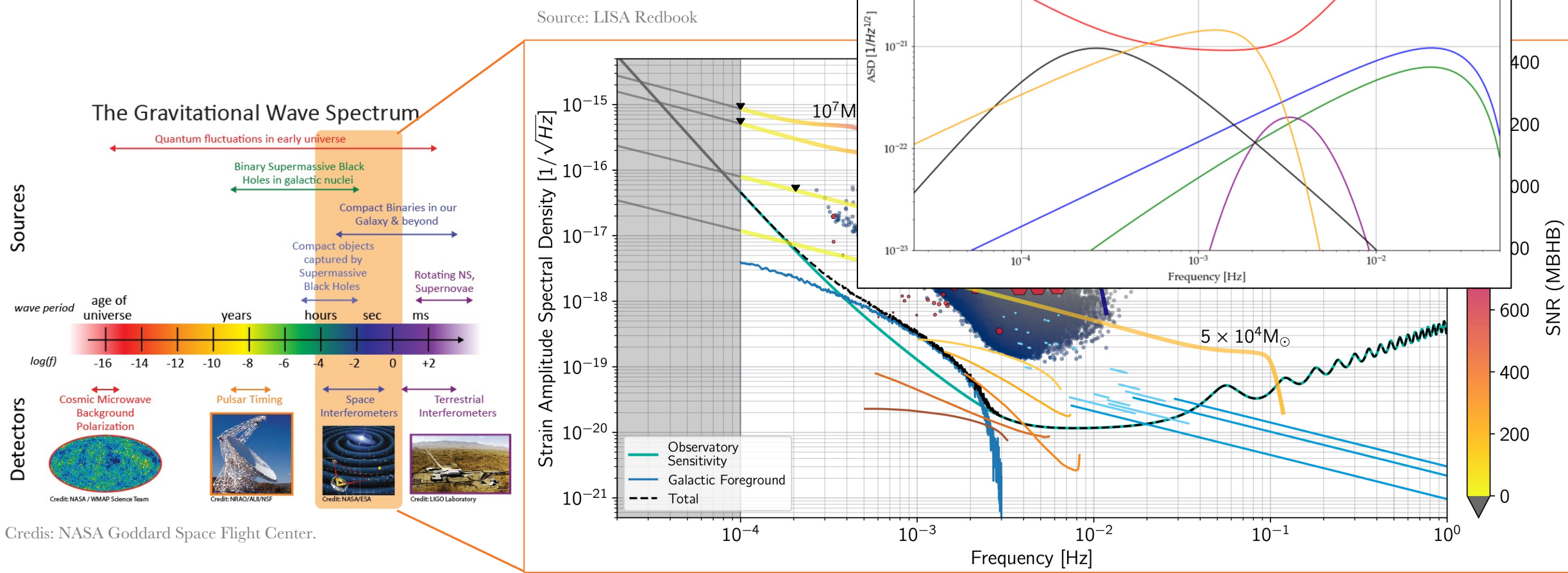


Separation of the stack
right after launch

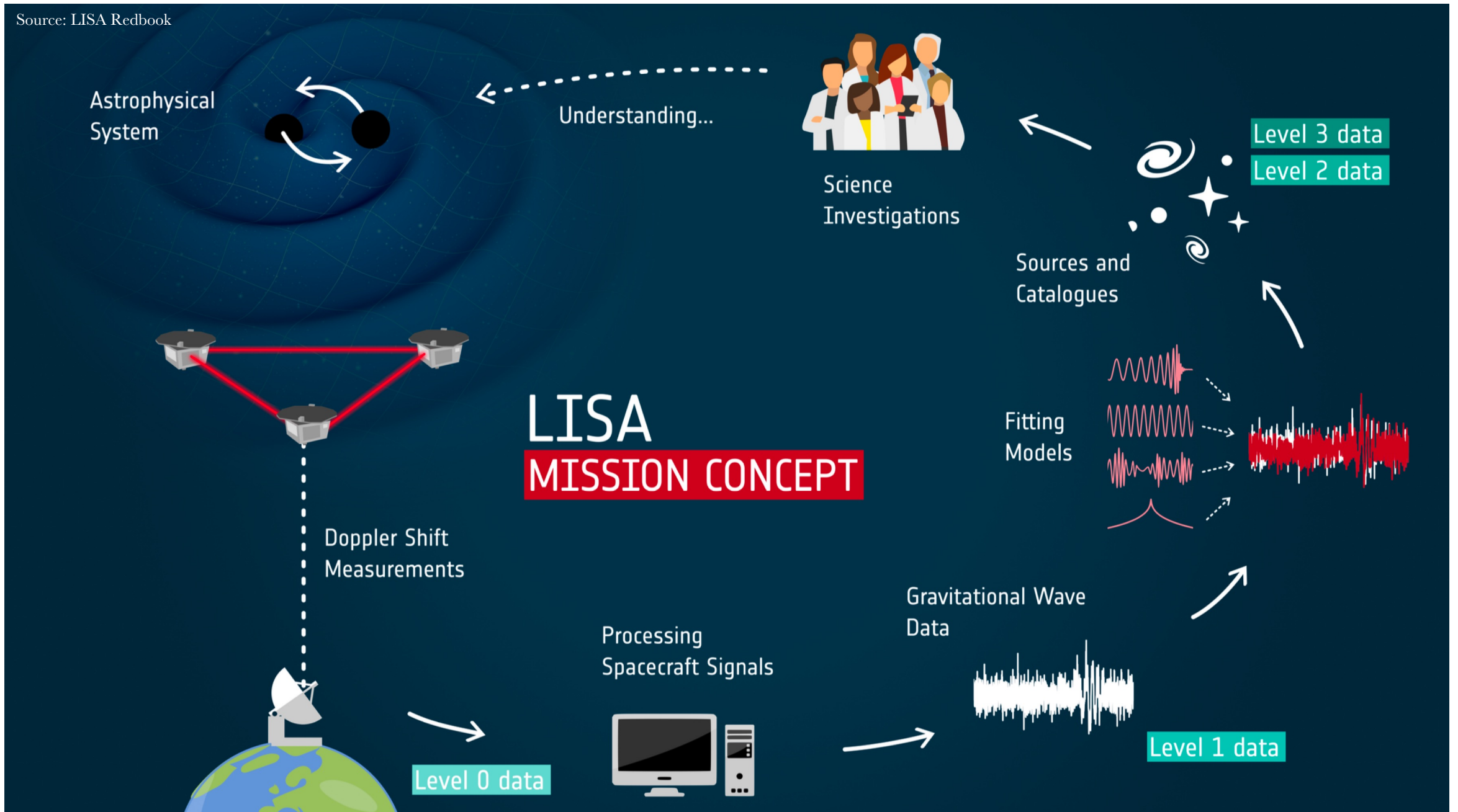
Separate trajectory for
each S/C to final orbit

- LISA was adopted by ESA last January 2024 and the launch is scheduled for 2035
- Each satellite will follow a heliocentric orbit

LISA science objective



Credis: NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.



o Noise and Time Delay Interferometry

(To my knowledge from 2019....)

- M.Muratore, Phd. Time delay interferometry for LISA science and instrument characterisation,
- Olaf Hartwig: Phd. Instrumental modelling and noise reduction algorithms for the Laser Interferometer Space Antenna.
- Staab, Martin Benedikt: Phd. Time-delay interferometric ranging for LISA: Statistical analysis of bias-free ranging using laser noise minimization.
- Quang Nam Dam, Phd. Simulations and associated data analysis for realistic LISA configuration,
- Jean-Baptiste Bayle. Phd. Simulation and Data Analysis for LISA (Instrumental Modeling, Time-Delay Interferometry, Noise-Reduction Performance Study, and Discrimination of Transient Gravitational Signals)

LISA measurement chain (LO data)

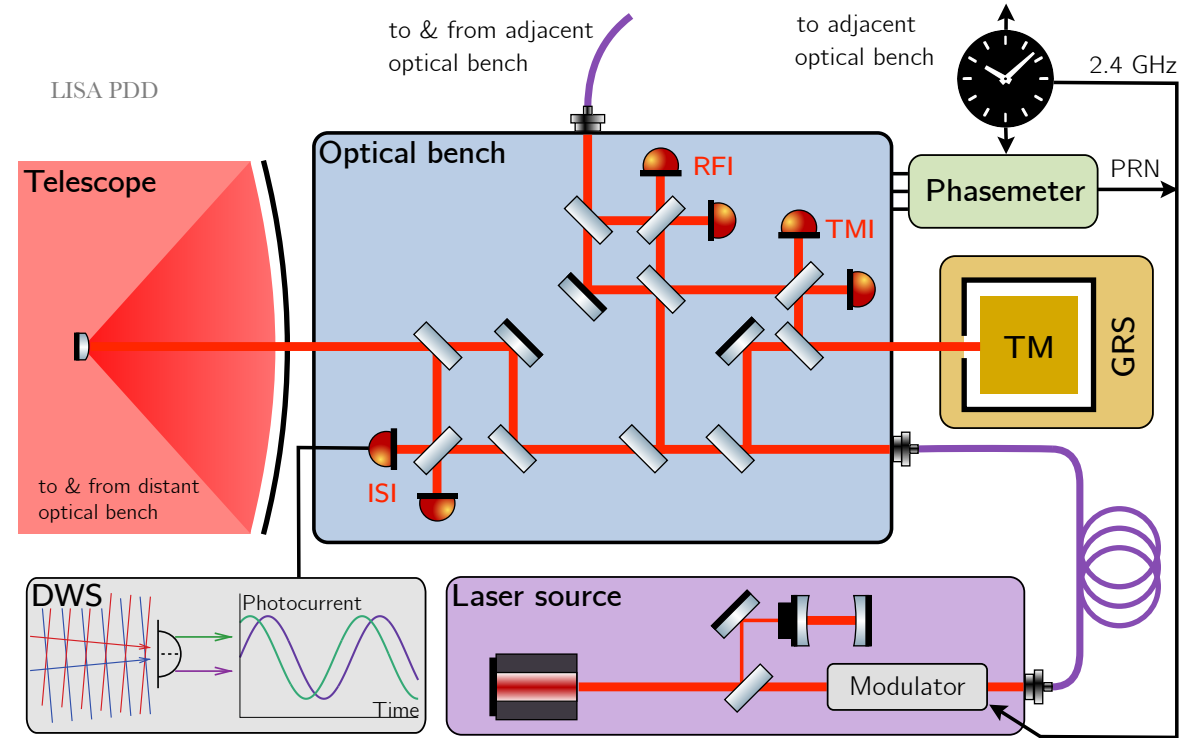
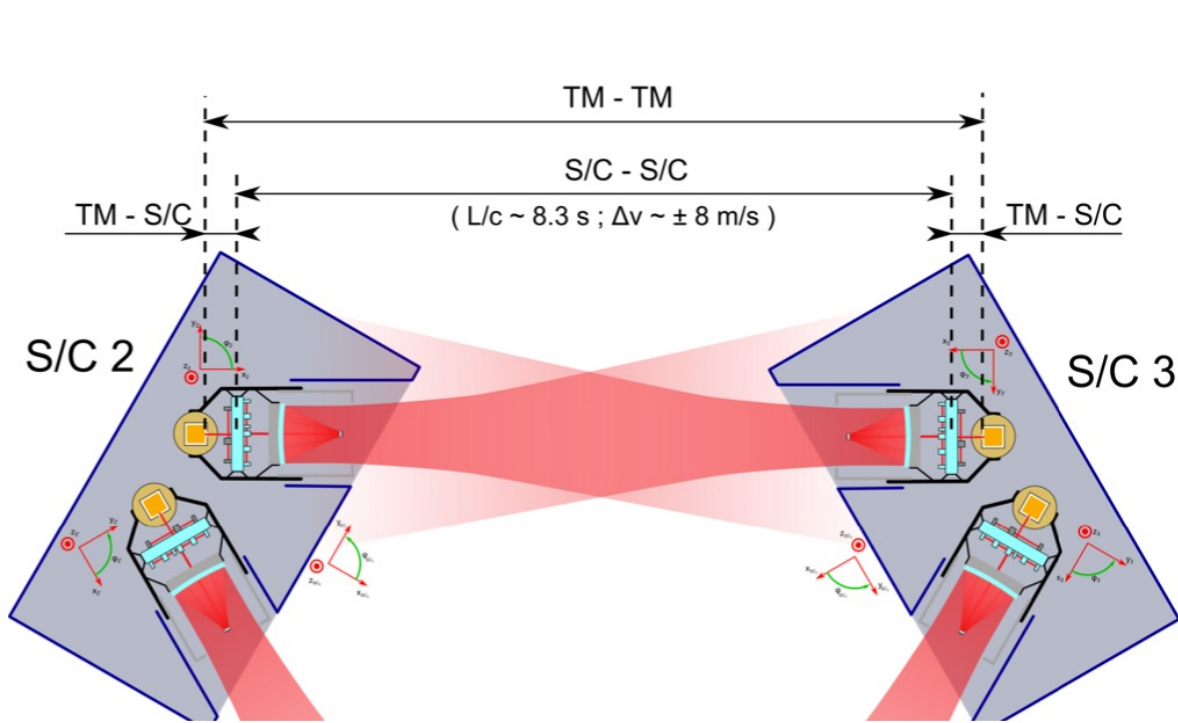


image courtesy of O.Hartwig

- LISA measures the relative proper motion of free-falling test masses (TM) inside spacecraft (SC) and the **GW signal is observed as picometer fluctuations in such distance**

What does mean LISA noise? (L1 data)

3 fm/s²/Hz^{1/2}

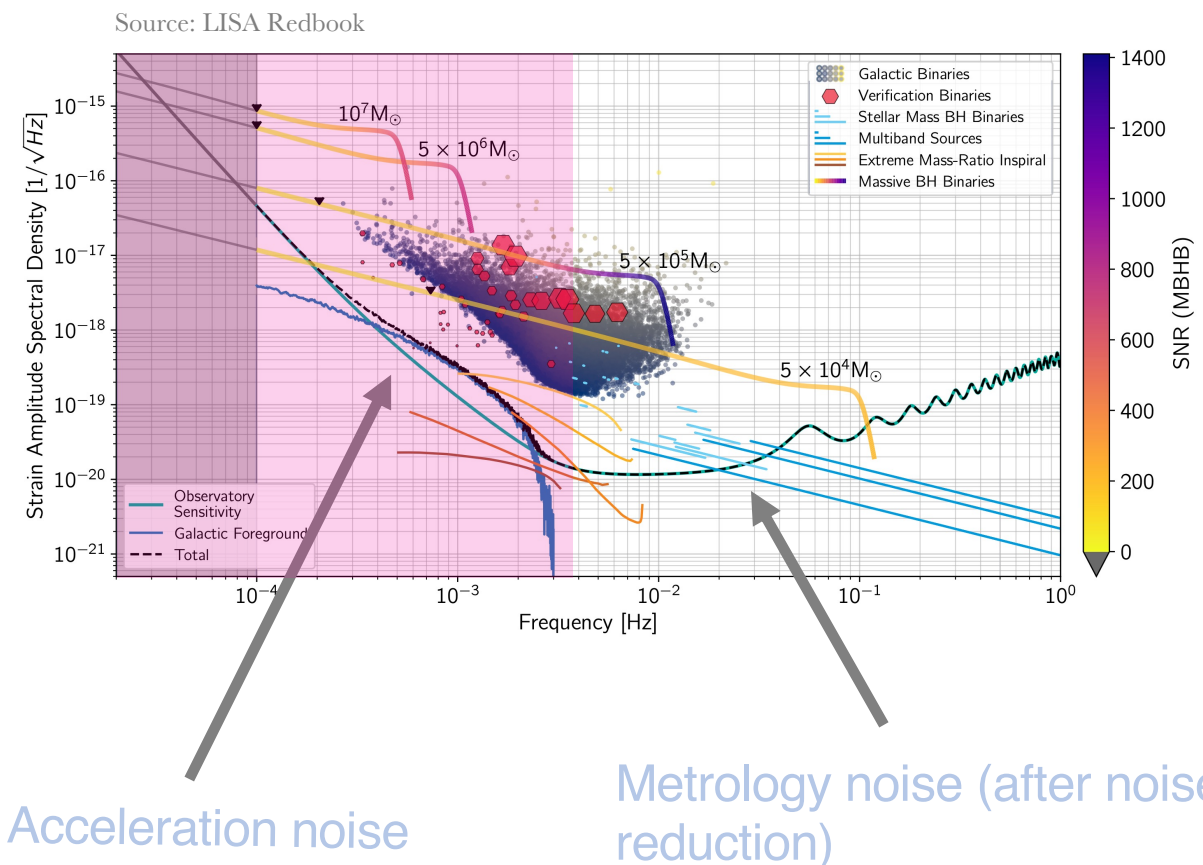
15 pm/Hz^{1/2}

Free-falling test mass

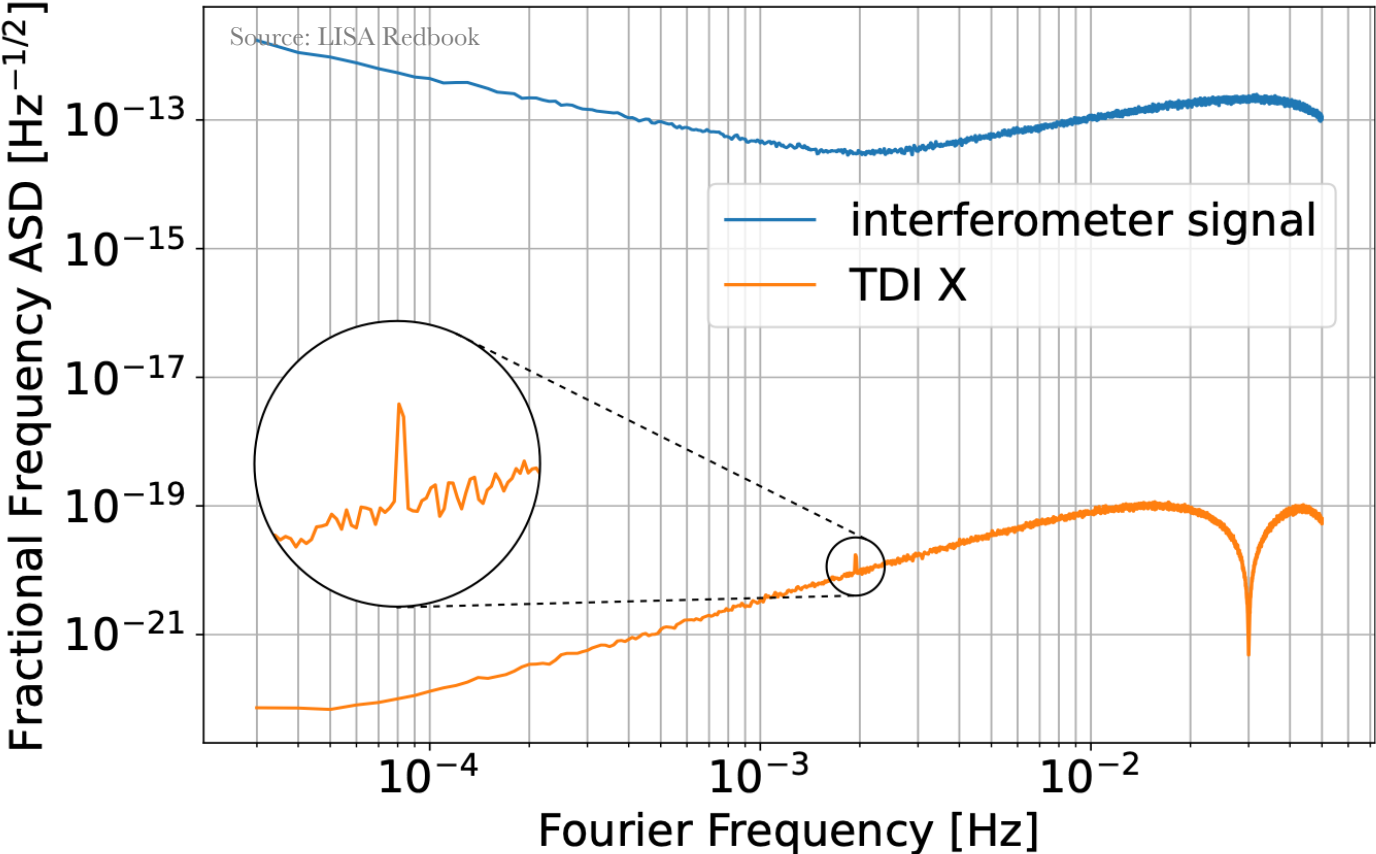
- Actuation noise
- Brownian noise
- Stray Electrostatics Noise
- Magnetic noise
- Radiation pressure Noise
- Temperature Force Noise
- Gravitational Noise
- TM-SC/MOSA coupling Force Noise

Metrology

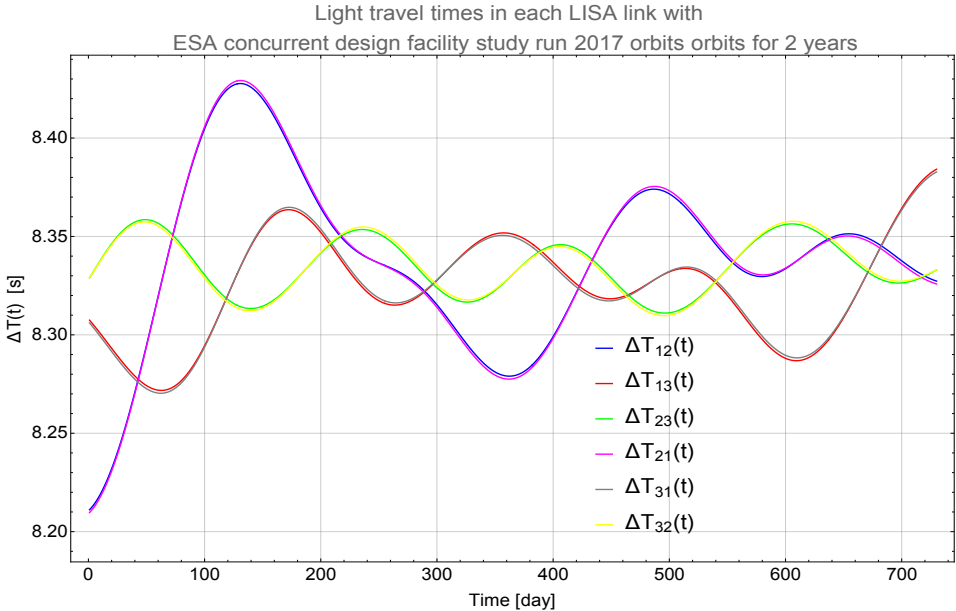
- Read-out
- Laser noise
- Clock noise
- Spacecraft jitter
- Tilt-to-Length



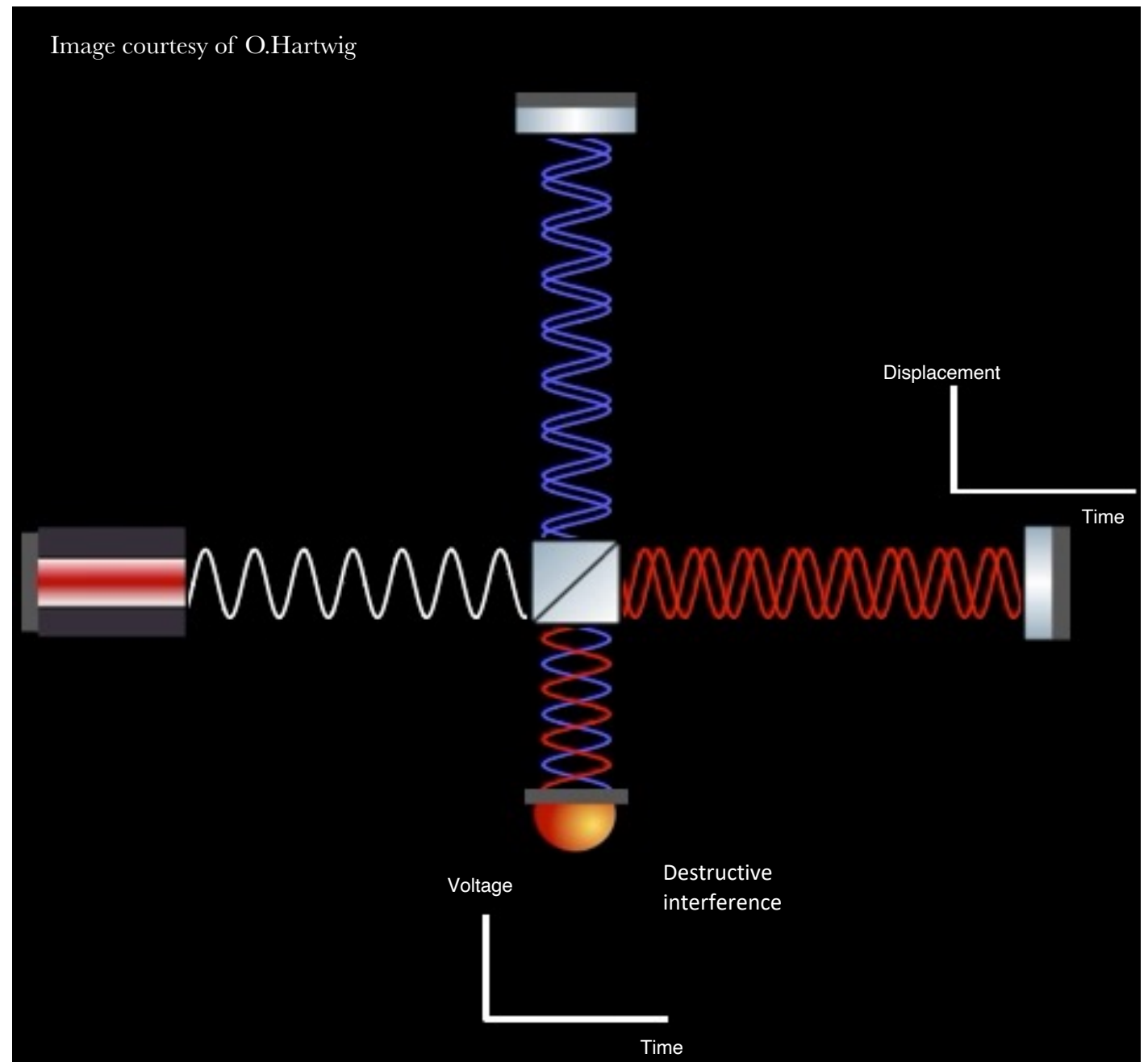
The (nightmare of) laser frequency noise



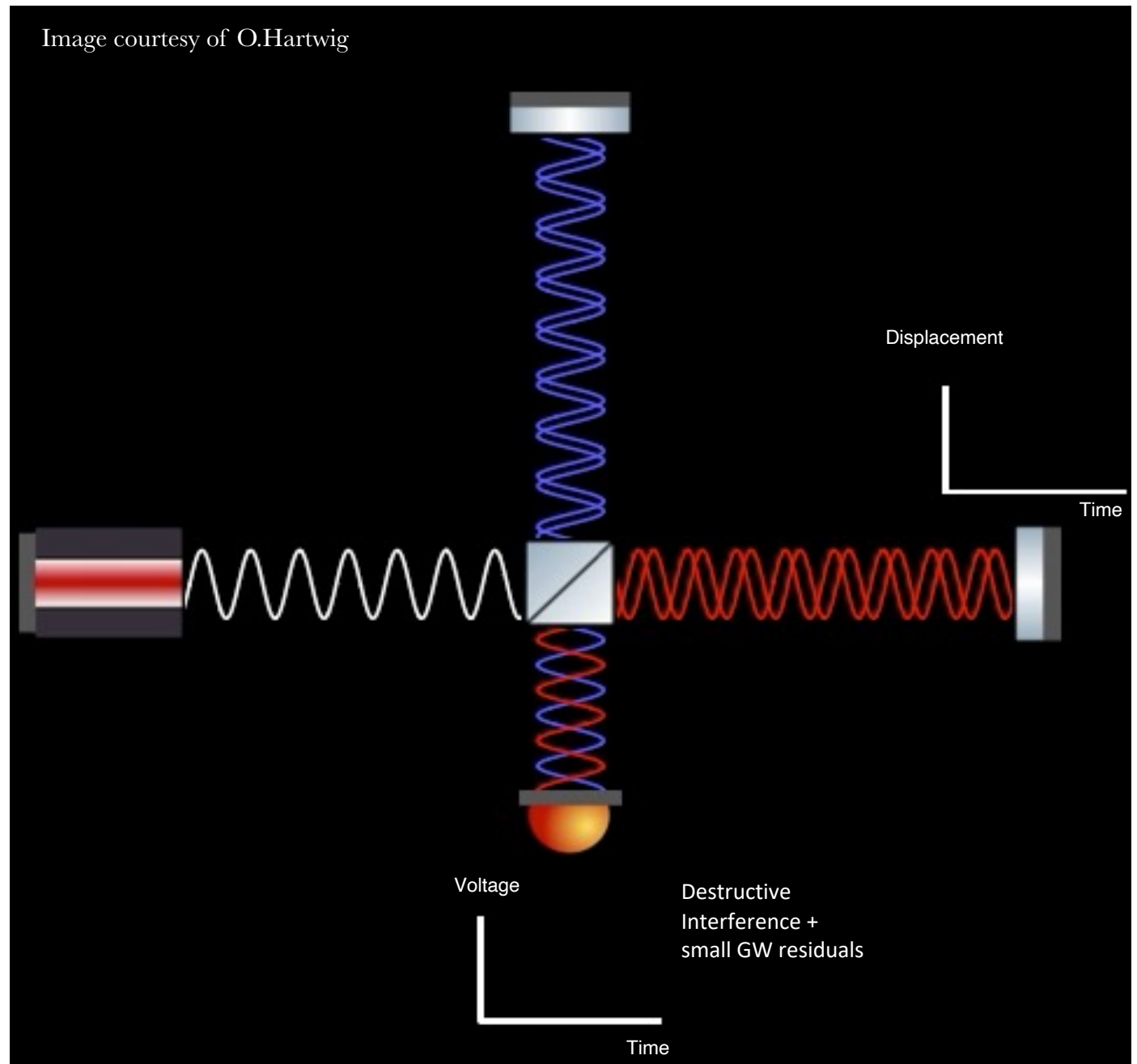
- Laser frequency noise completely covers the GW signal. $\left(\sim \frac{10^{-13}}{\sqrt{\text{Hz}}} \text{ vs } \frac{10^{-21}}{\sqrt{\text{Hz}}} \right)$



Laser noise
cancellation in LVK
interferometers
equal arm-lengths
(stable laser /
ideal case)

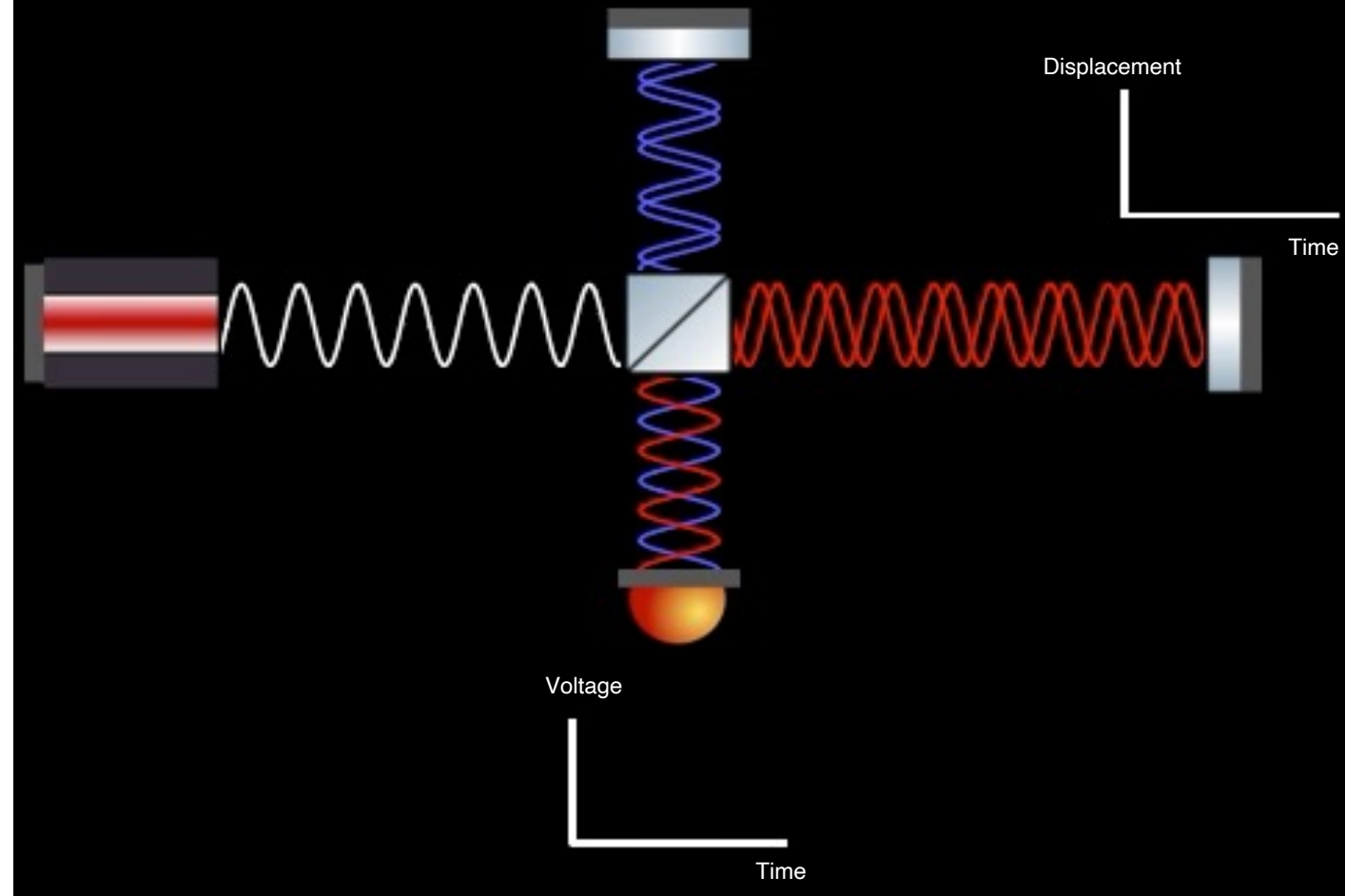


Laser noise
cancellation in LVK
interferometers
equal arm-lengths
(stable laser/ ideal
case)



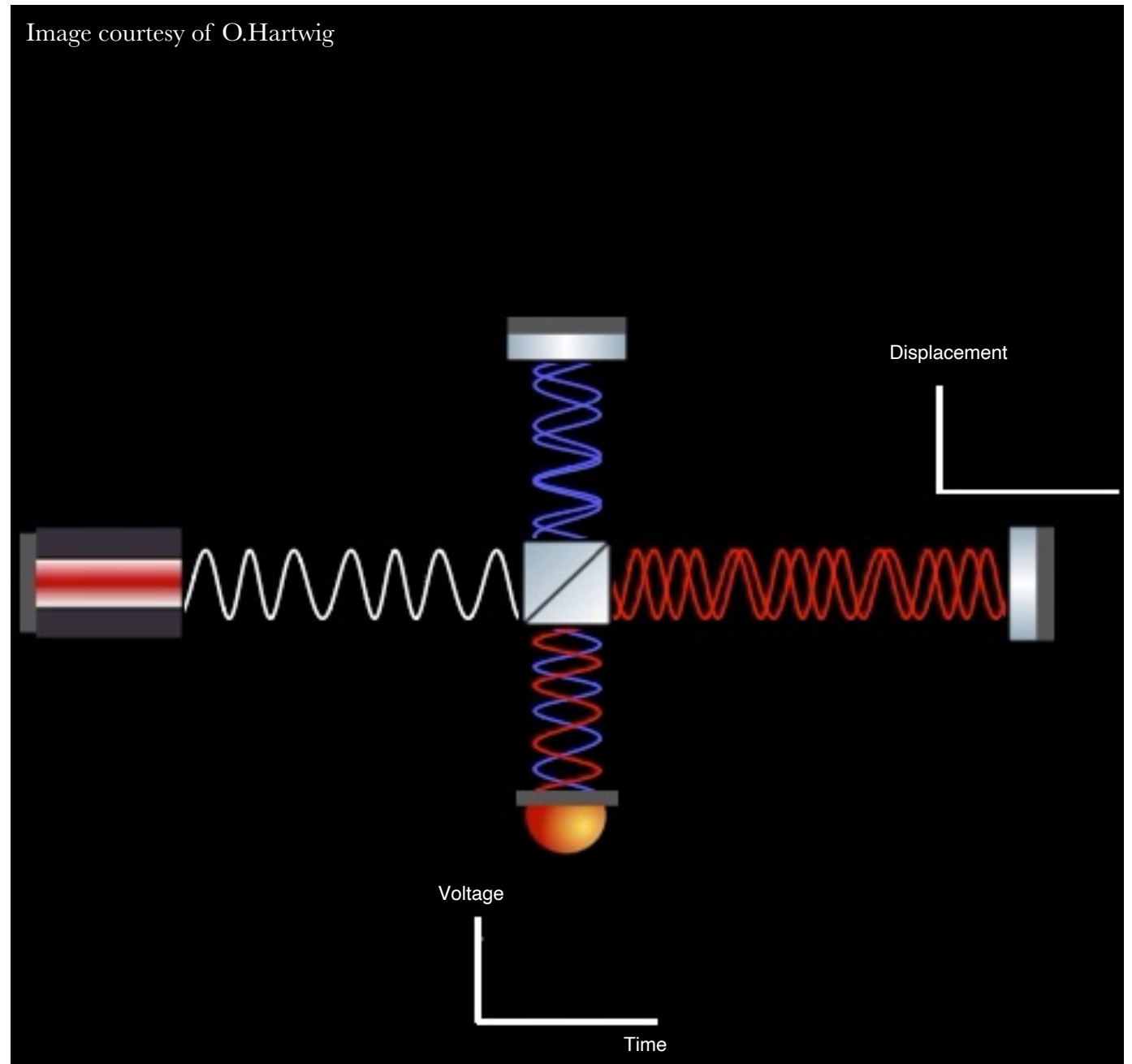
Laser noise
cancellation in LVK
interferometers
unequal arm-lengths
(stable laser/ ideal
case)

Image courtesy of O.Hartwig

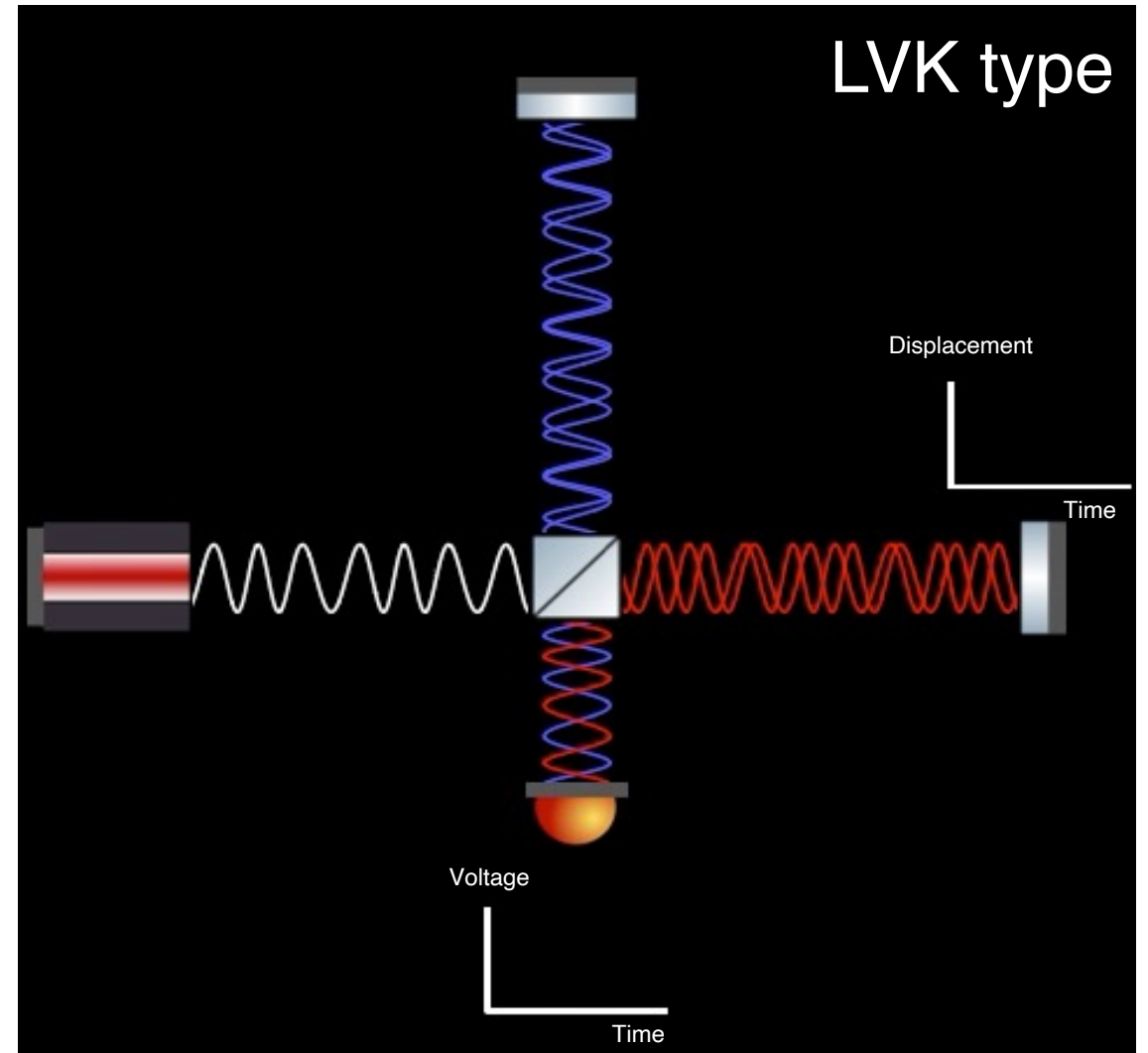
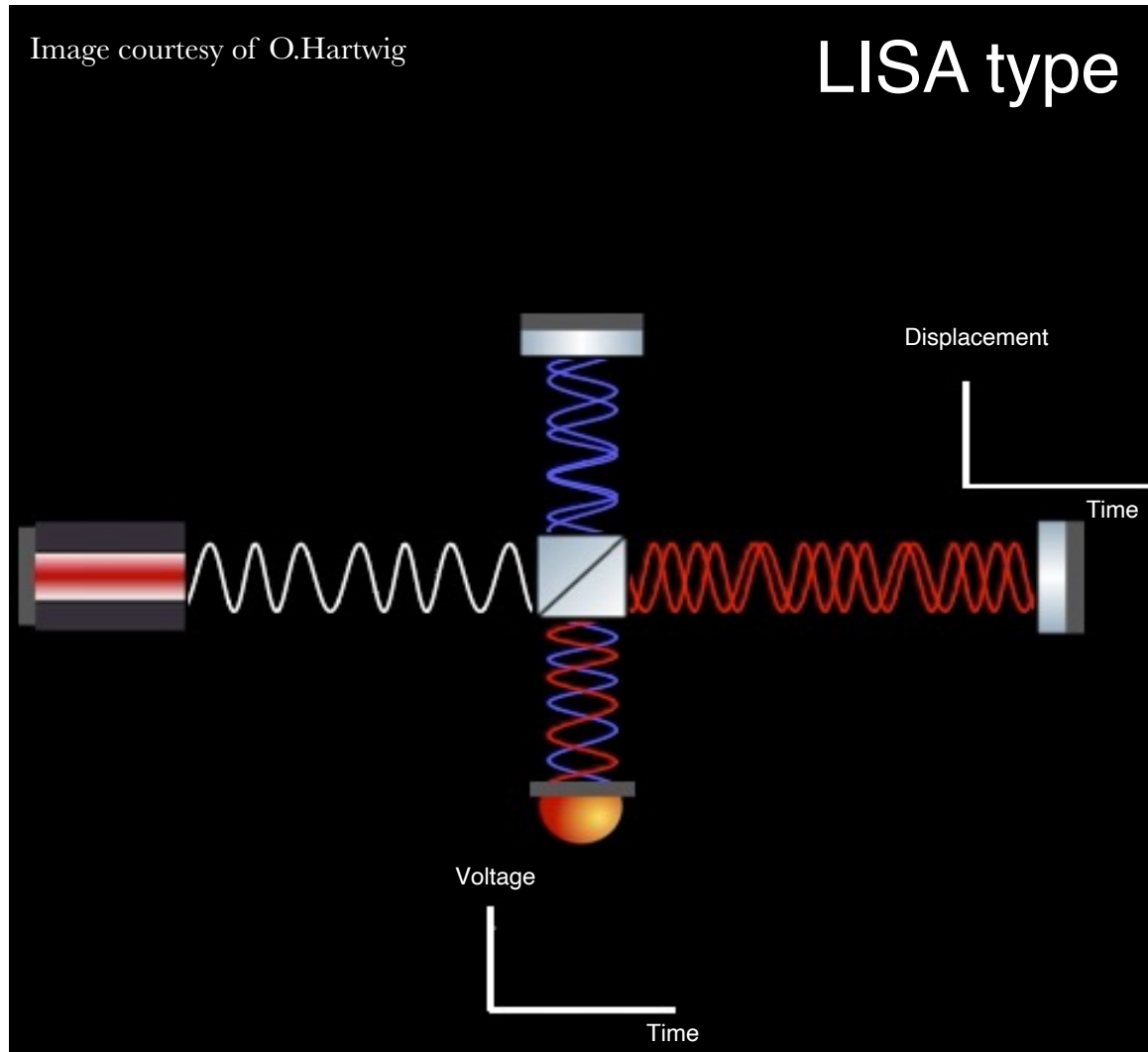


Laser noise non-cancellation in LISA unequal arm-lengths (non-stable laser)

Image courtesy of O.Hartwig



Laser noise cancellation LISA vs. LVK

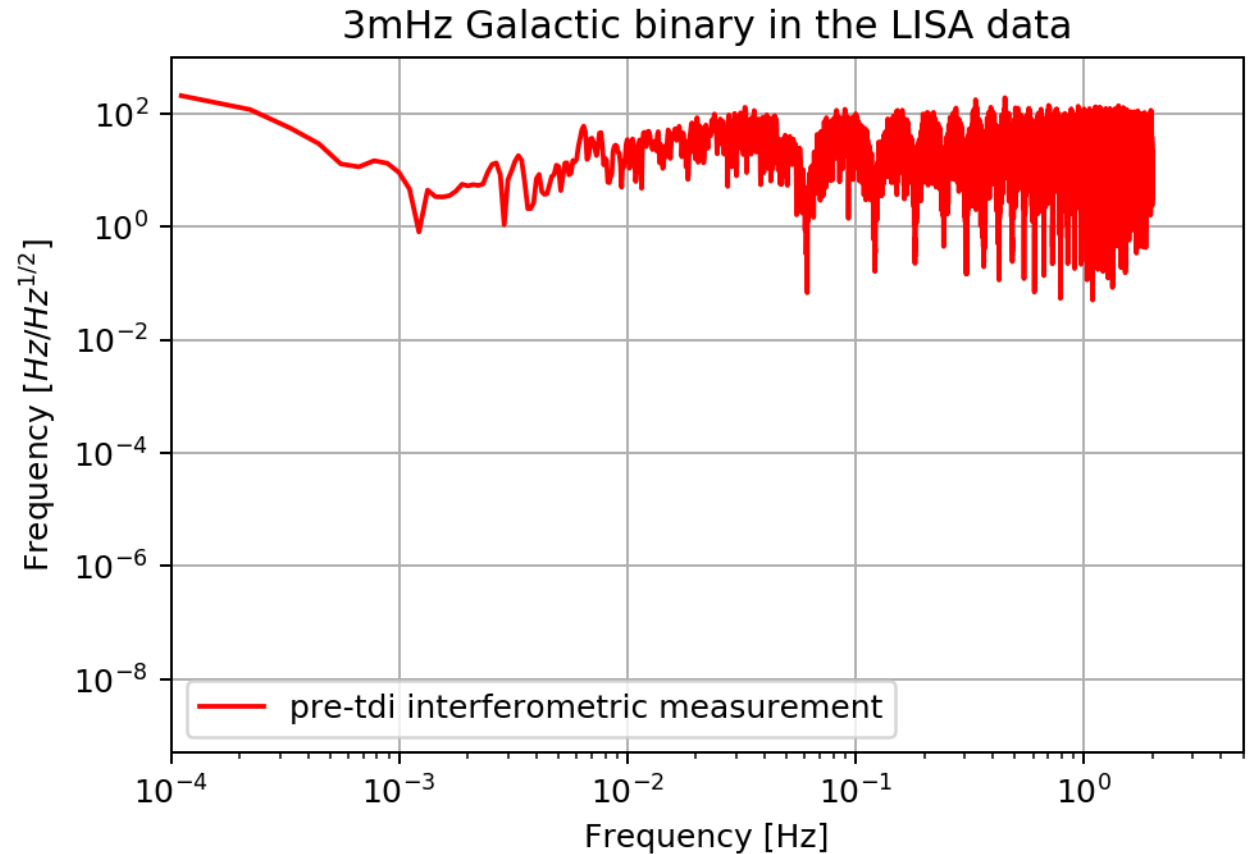


Michelson 0 gen. interferometer

2

1

3



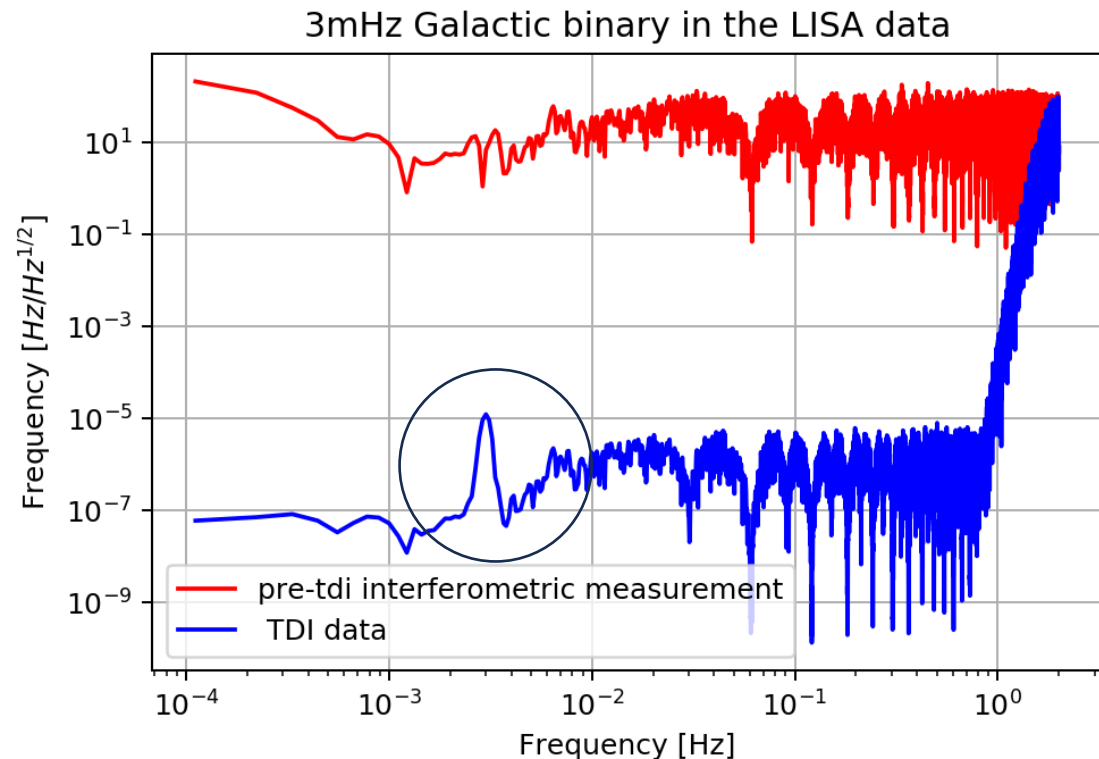
Credit: PyTDI [Bayle, Jean-Baptiste, Hartwig, Olaf, & Staab, Martin] and GW response simulations [Bayle, Jean-Baptiste, Baghi, Quentin, Renzini Arianna & Le Jeune, Maude]

Time Delay Interferometry (TDI)

- First proposed in [Tinto et al., 1999]
- Cancel laser noise by constructing an equal arm interferometer in post-processing
- In practice: delays realised by interpolating 4 Hz data [Shaddock et al., 2004]

3

2



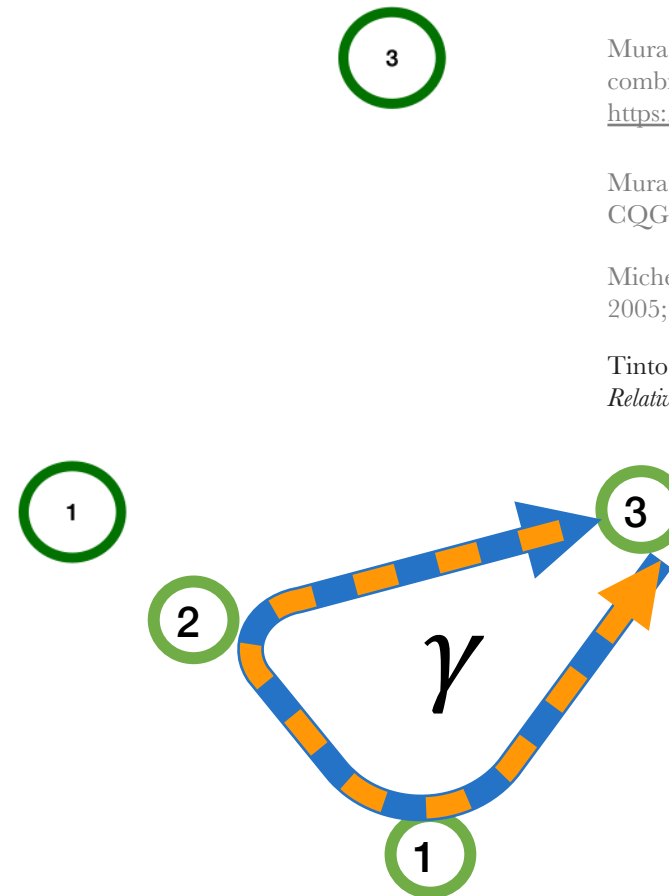
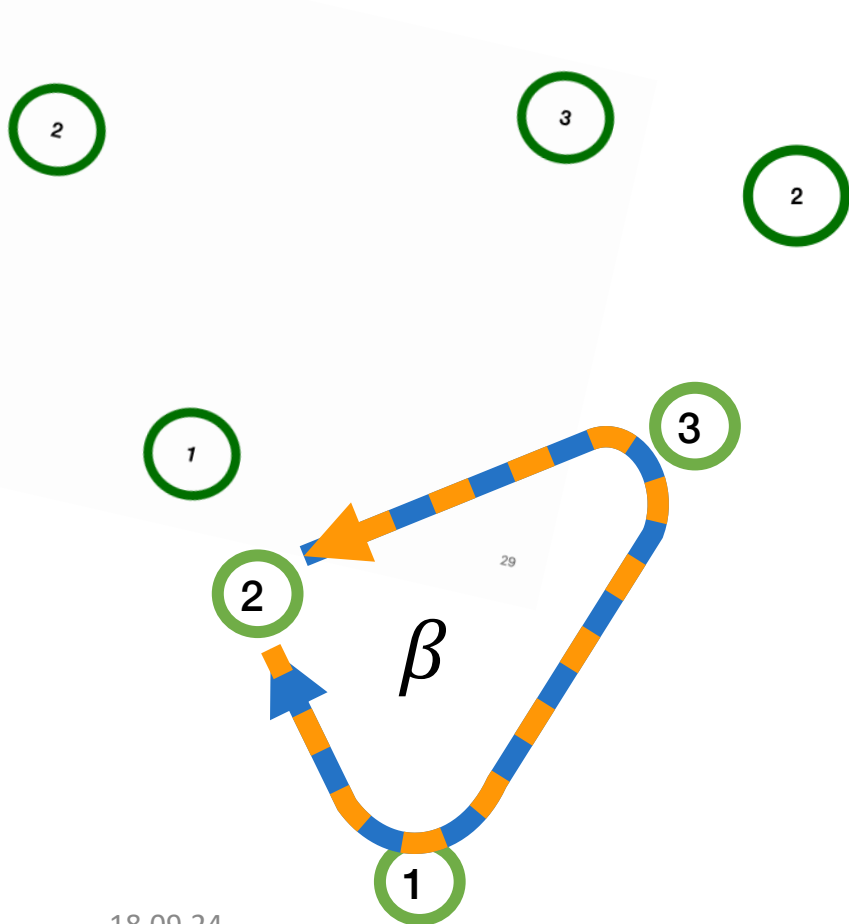
1

This is an example of constant arm lengths (1st generation TDI)

Many TDI variables

*Images courtesy of O.Hartwig

- 34 Core combinations, which represent 210 distinct variables
- For a static constellation all TDI variables can be build from 4 generators [Dhurandhar et al., 2002]
- Simplified case (un-correlated noise) 3 orthogonal channels can be form



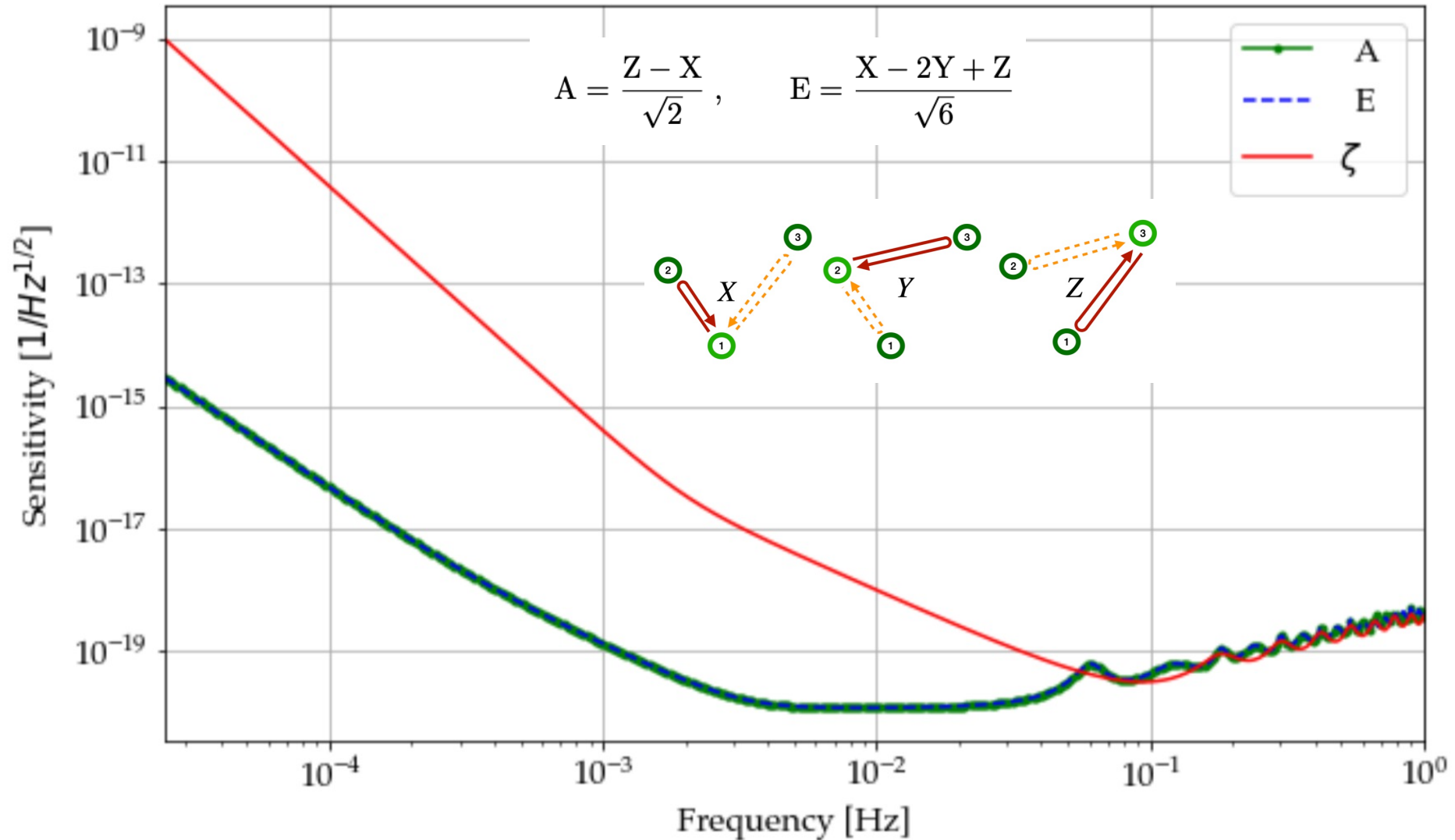
Muratore and Hartwig, Characterization of Time Delay Interferometry combinations for the LISA instrument noise, <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2111.00975>

Muratore et al, Revisitation of time delay interferometry, June 2020 CQG 37(18) DOI:10.1088/1361-6382/ab9d5b

Michele Vallisneri. Phys. Rev. D **72**, 042003 – Published 12 August 2005; [Phys. Rev. D **76**, 109903 \(2007\)](https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6382/ab9d5b)

Tinto, M., Dhurandhar, S.V. Time-delay interferometry. *Living Rev Relativ* **24**, 1 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41114-020-00029-6>

Sensitivities of TDI channels to GW



Null channels to estimate instrumental noise

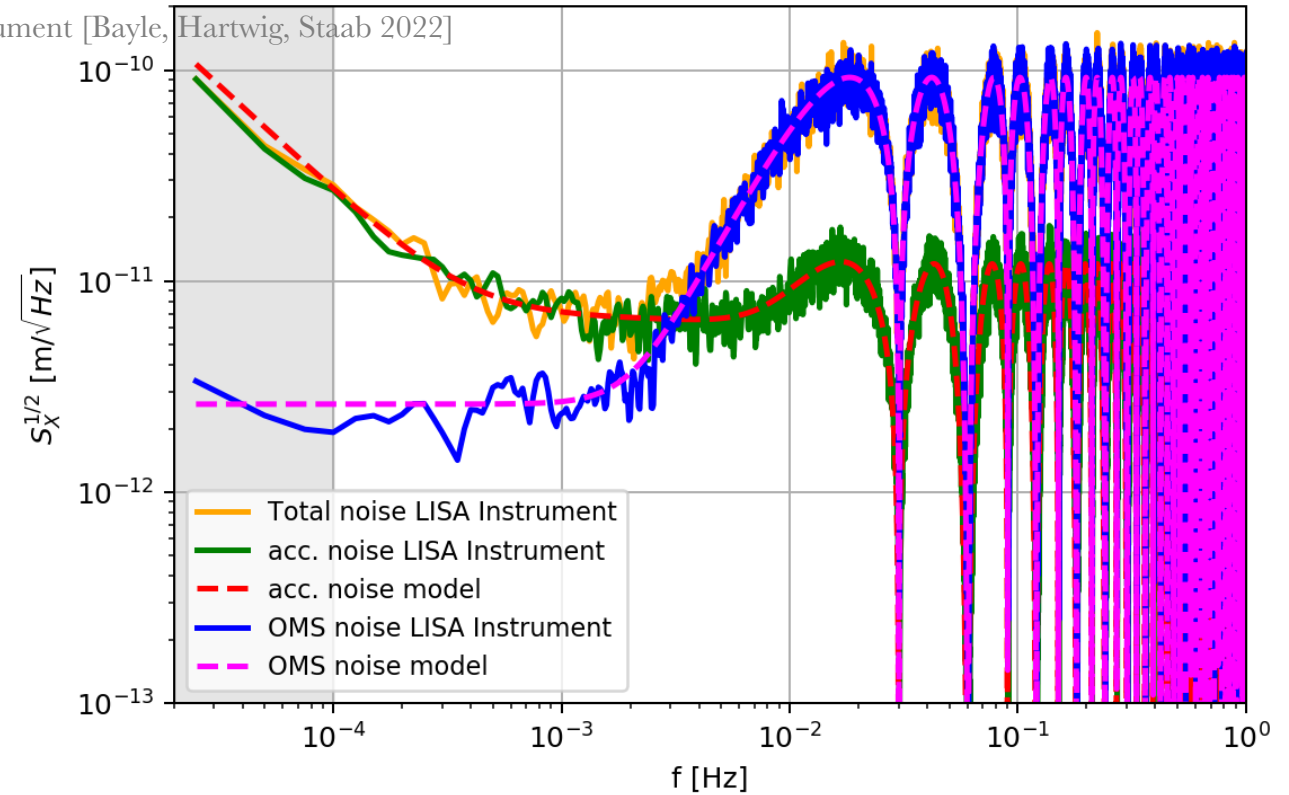
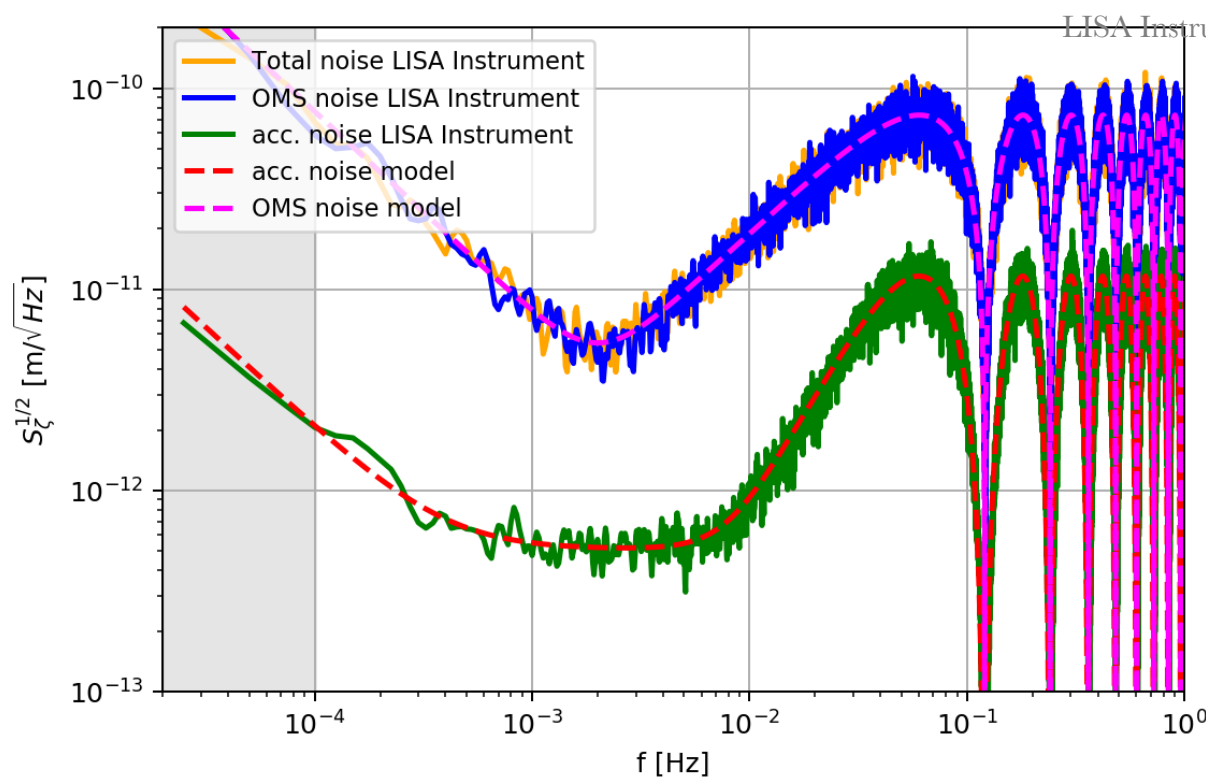
- Correlation with other detectors is not possible for LISA (no independent TDI channels !)
- Distinguish Stochastic GW background from instrumental noise require a good knowledge of this one
- The LISA detector is supposed to be signal dominated (no direct measurement of the noise !)
- Look for TDI combinations that have *suppressed* sensitivity to GW signals but still carry some information on the instrumental noise

Can we infer the noise from the null channels ?

$$S_X^{noise} \approx 64\tau^4\omega^4 \left(4 \sum_{ij \in \mathcal{I}_X} S_{g_{ij}}^{disp} + \sum_{ij \in \mathcal{I}_X} S_{oms_{ij}} \right)$$

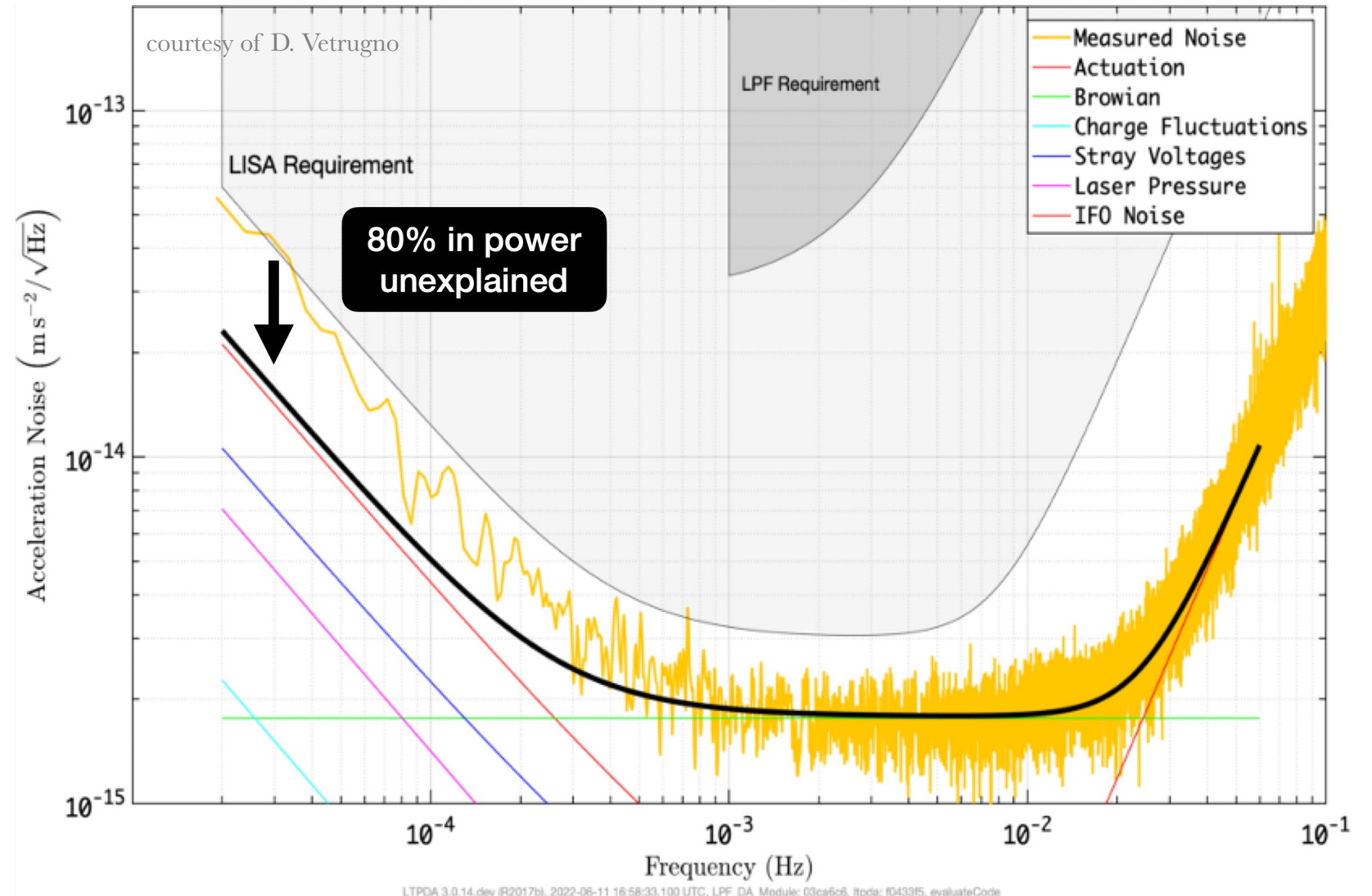
$$S_\zeta^{noise} \approx \tau^2\omega^2 \left(\tau^2\omega^2 \sum_{ij \in \mathcal{I}_\zeta} S_{g_{ij}}^{disp} + \sum_{ij \in \mathcal{I}_\zeta} S_{oms_{ij}} \right)$$

*Currently assumed noise level for the so-called secondary noises [arXiv:2108.01167](https://arxiv.org/abs/2108.01167)

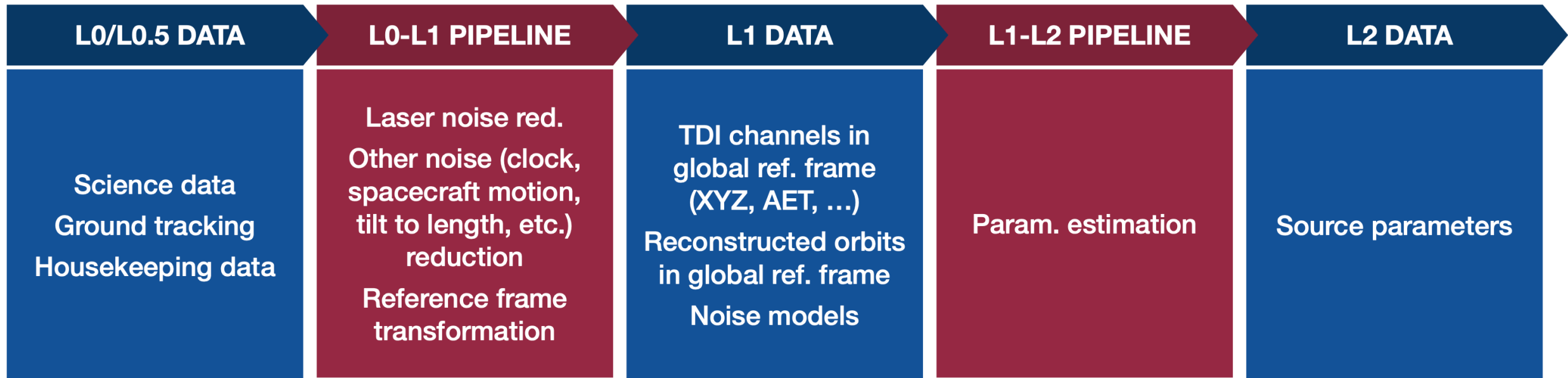


Can we rely on noise models for data analysis ?

- Noise example: TM motion in LISA Pathfinder

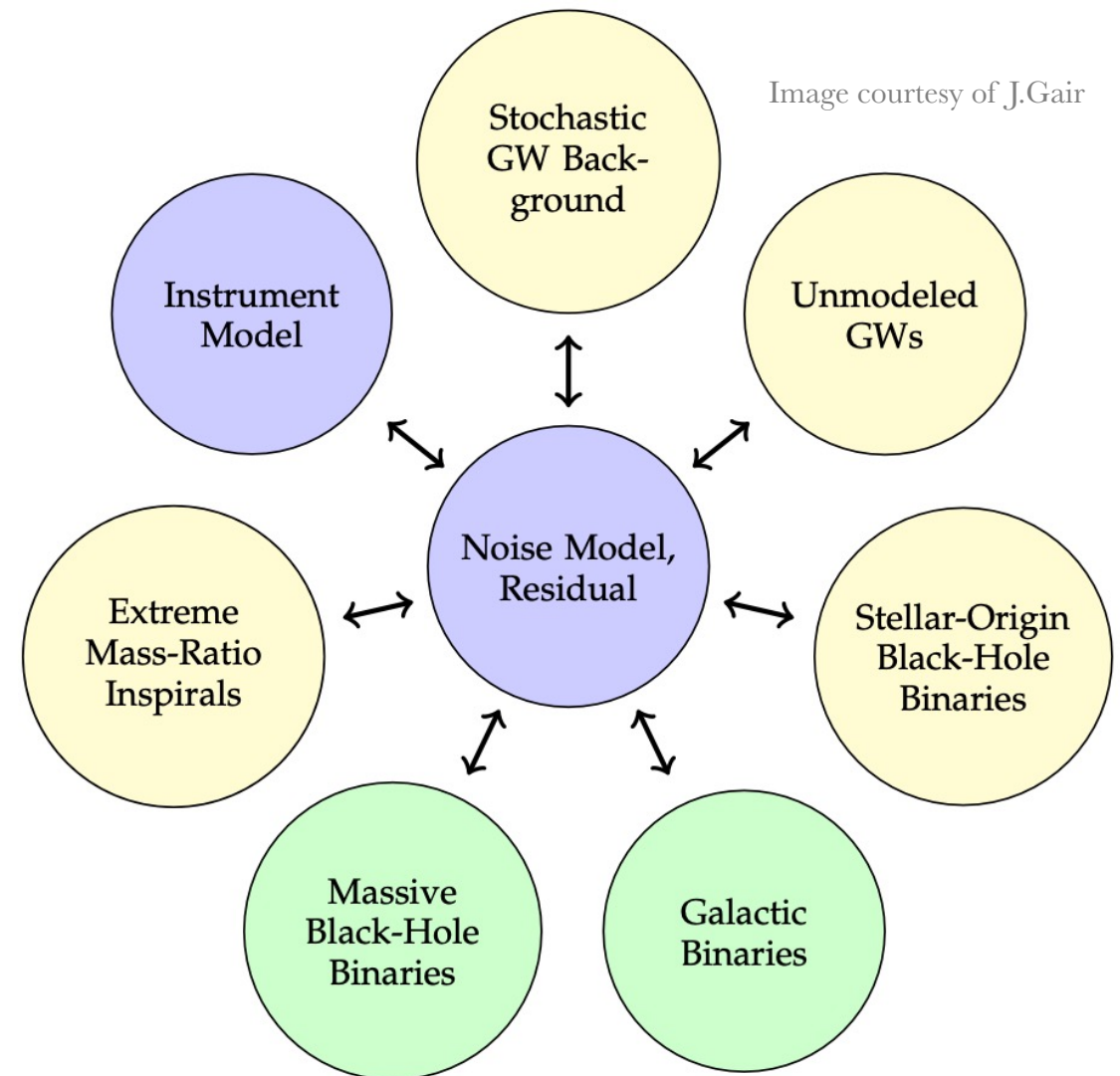


LISA data analysis pipeline



Searching SGWB sources in the LISA data

- Global fit: numerous sources are always present and need to be fitted simultaneously
- A large number of sources and source type
- We do not have a direct measurement of the noise but needs to be inferred from the data
- Non-stationarities, gaps, spectral lines, glitches
- SGWBs -- if not loud -- will be residuals



Katz et al. <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2405.04690>

Strub et al. <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.110.024005>

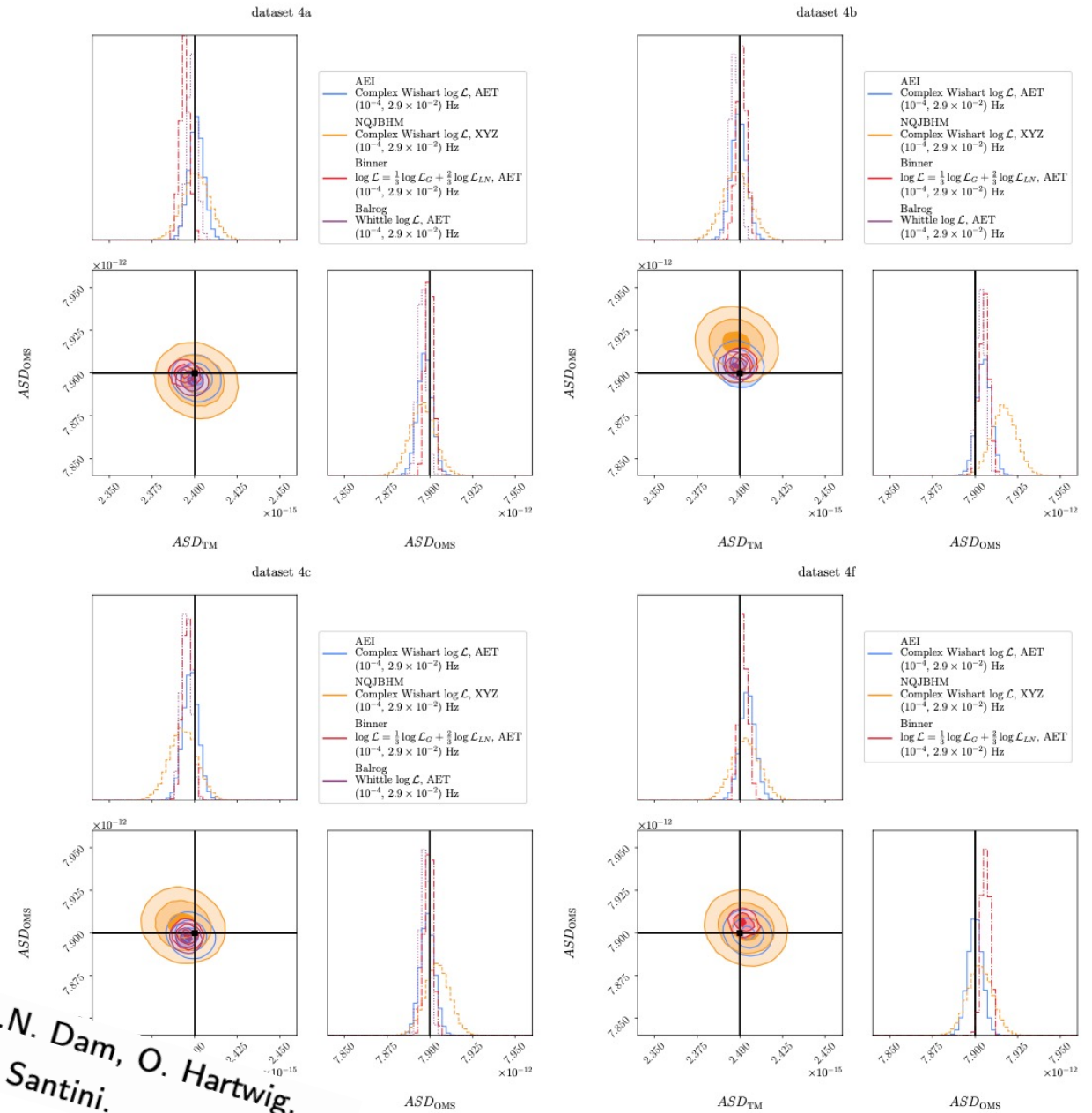
Tyson B. Littenberg and Neil J. Cornish, *Phys. Rev. D* **107**, 063004

Deng et al. , Ge-Moo-LISA Global fit

Joining the efforts

- Different methodology to solve the problem
- A unified pipeline for SGWB parameter estimations
- Provide a block for global fit

In collaboration with: Q. Baghi, J.B. Bayle, R. Buscicchio C. Caprini, Q.N. Dam, O. Hartwig, J. Gair, N. Karnesis, M. Muratore, G. Nardini, F. Pozzoli, A. Santini.

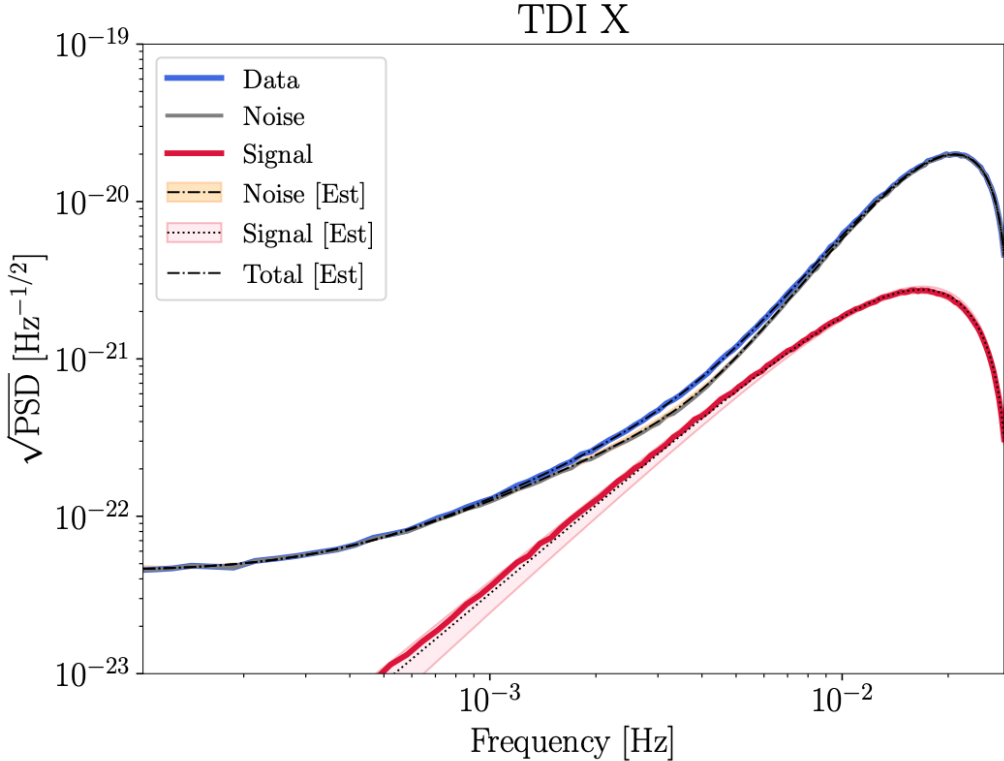


- Noise-agnostic searches using splines but with signal template

Q. Baghi, N. Karnesis et al. Baghi et al. <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2302.12573>

- SGWB template search with a two-component spline for the noise model

	Injection	Analysis
Noise	Yes	Spline model
Signal	Yes	Parametric power law



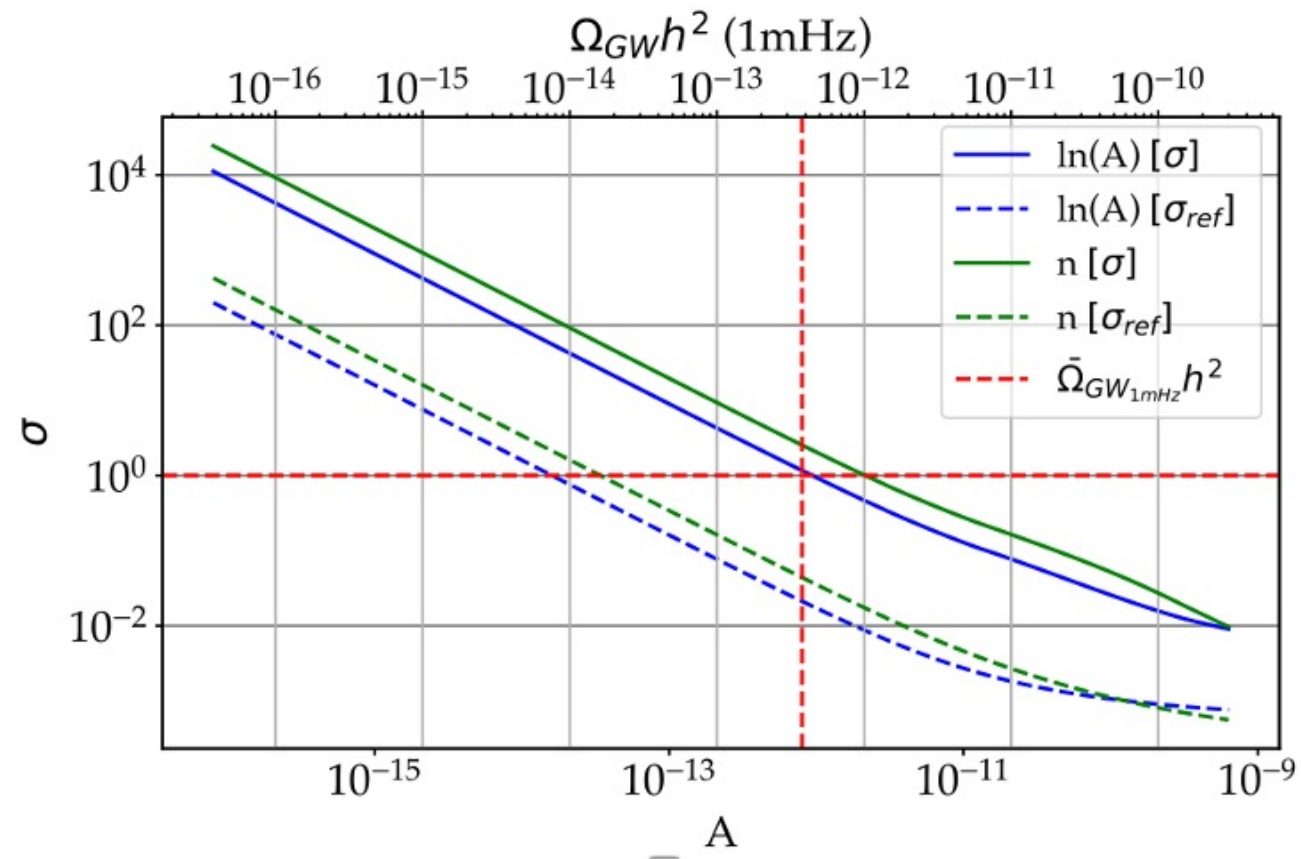
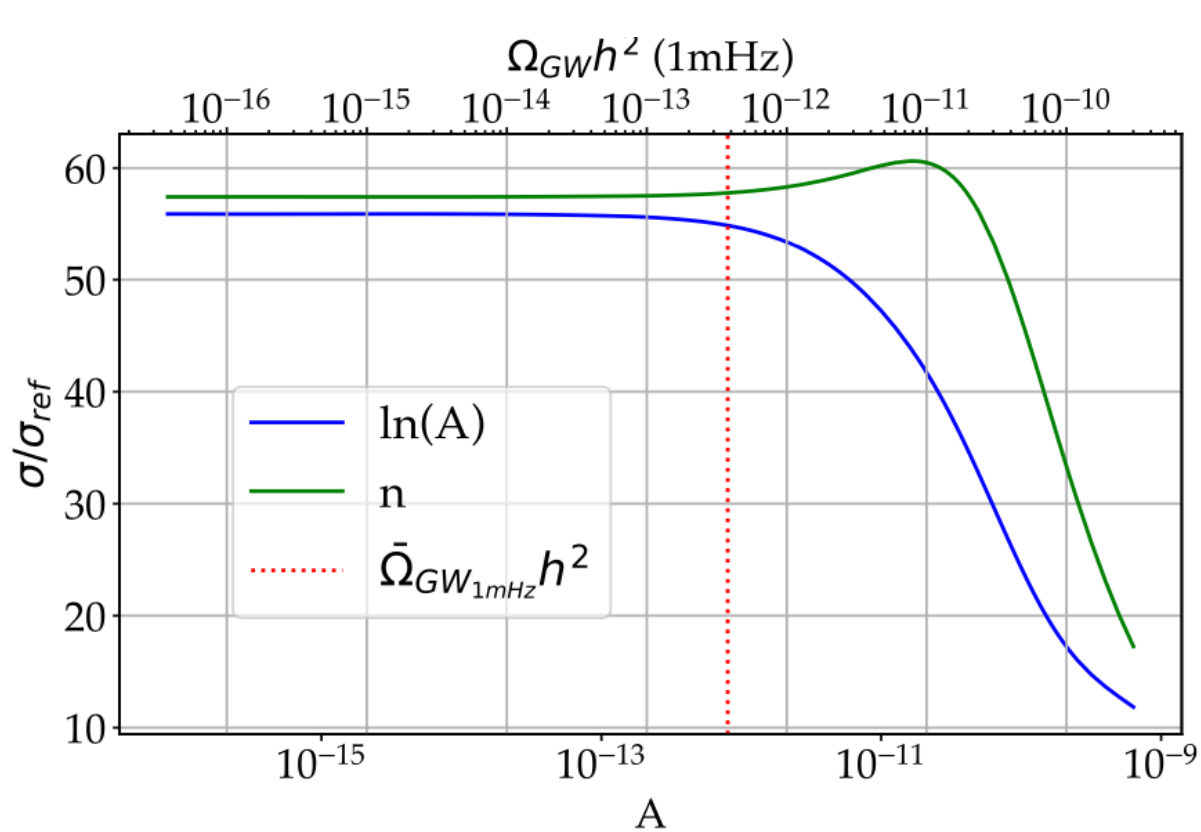
Preliminary

$$\log \mathcal{B}_{10} = \log \frac{Z(H_1)}{Z(H_0)} = 31.86 \pm 0.05$$

Impact of noise knowledge uncertainty of SGWB parameter estimation

Martina Muratore et al. Phys. Rev. D **109**, 042001

$$h^2 \Omega_{\text{GW}}(f) \approx A \left(\frac{f}{f_p} \right)^n,$$



A. Santini et al. (noise and signal-agnostic search with spline)

We test our pipeline by analyzing a mock dataset made by a realization of the LISA instrumental noise and an SGWB realization drawn from a power-law energy density, $h^2\Omega(f) = Af^n$. To generate data consistent with a background from **SOBH** binaries, we set $A = 3.4 \times 10^{-13}$, $n = 2/3$.

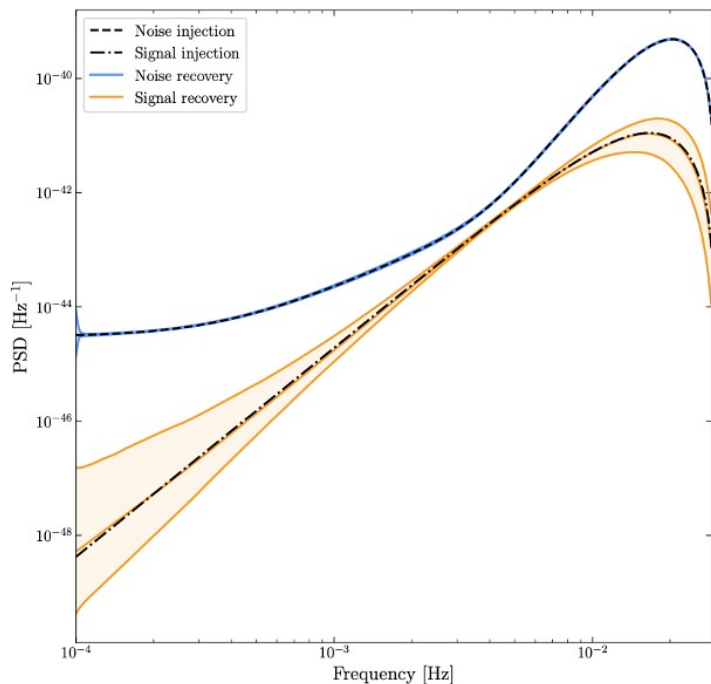


Figure 1: Injected and reconstructed PSDs for the two components. Filled contours represent 90% credible intervals.

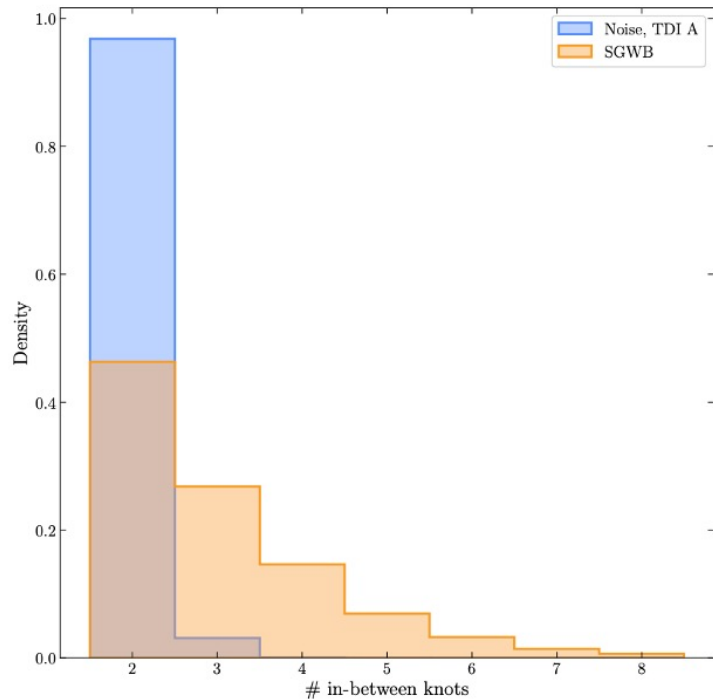


Figure 2: Posterior on the number of spline knots found by the RJ algorithm for the noise in the A TDI channel and the signal.

A flexible approach for the joint characterization of LISA instrumental noise and SGWBs
Alessandro Santini, Martina Muratore, Olaf Hartwig, Jonathan Gair
alexandrosantini@mpg.de Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics (Albert Einstein Institute), Potsdam, Germany

1. Overview: LISA Global Fit
The key challenge in the analysis of data from the Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (LISA) is represented by the necessity of fitting for all instrumental sources, stochastic signals, and instrumental noise properties at the same time.

2. Theoretical framework
We can separate deterministic and stochastic contributions to the data streams as follows:
$$\tilde{d}_i(f) = \sum_j \tilde{s}_{ij}(f) + \sum_k \tilde{g}_i^{GW}(f) + \tilde{n}_i(f) = \mathbf{R}(f) + \mathbf{g}(f) \quad (1)$$

with $\tilde{d}_i(f)$ represents the frequency domain data, $\tilde{s}_{ij}(f)$ the resolvable sources, $\tilde{g}_i^{GW}(f)$ the physical stochastic contributions and $\tilde{n}_i(f)$ the instrumental noise. The latter two enter the covariance matrix of the likelihood function, but since the underlying processes are independent, we can write [2]:
$$\mathbf{C}_{GW}(f) = \mathbf{S}_s(f)\mathbf{R}(f) \quad \mathbf{S}_s(f) \propto \frac{h^2\Omega(f)}{f^3} \quad \mathbf{C}_n(f) = \langle \tilde{n}_i \tilde{n}_j \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{S}_n(f) \mathbf{M}_{TID}(f) \mathbf{M}_{TID}^T(f) \quad (2)$$

A common approach in the literature is to assume that we will know perfectly the spectral shape and the transfer function of the different components. This is a convenient assumption, but it is intrinsically limited and unlikely to correspond to reality.

3. Flexibility is crucial!
1. We will not have significant data chunks to directly constrain the instrumental noise.
2. We cannot know in advance the nature and amplitude of all relevant noise sources.
3. Noise uncertainties will affect the signal recovery [3].
4. Different models predict many different possible SGWB spectral shapes, so we must be flexible.

4. Our implementation: what do we mean with flexibility?
We use Akima splines and \mathcal{R}^2 -SPLINE [4] to account for the lack of knowledge of the exact shape of the individual contributions to the overall power spectral density. In particular, we can write the covariance matrix on the TDI level as:
$$\mathbf{C}_{TID}(f) \sim \begin{bmatrix} S_{2A} & S_{2E} & S_{2T} \\ S_{2A} & S_{2E} & S_{2T} \\ S_{2A} & S_{2E} & S_{2T} \end{bmatrix} \quad S_{ij} = S_{ij}(f) + S_{ij}(f) \quad (3)$$

$$\mathbf{S}_{ij}(f) = S_{ij}^{template}(f) \cdot 10^{p_i(f)} \quad S_{ij}(f) = \sum_k S_{ij}^{template}(f) \cdot 10^{p_i(f)} \quad (4)$$

We implement this setup in the LISA-py package, which leverages on JIT compilation with Numba and GPU acceleration. We also provide a parallel, GPU-accelerated implementation of Akima splines in our code the possibility of working in the XY-Z basis.
$$\tilde{d}_i(f) = \sum_j \tilde{s}_{ij}(f) + \sum_k \tilde{g}_i^{GW}(f) + \tilde{n}_i(f) \quad (5)$$

5. Results: Analysis of noise + power-law SGWB
We test our pipeline by analyzing a mock dataset made by a realization of the LISA instrumental noise and an SGWB realization drawn from a power-law energy density, $h^2\Omega(f) = Af^n$. To generate data consistent with a background from **SOBH** binaries, we set $A = 3.4 \times 10^{-13}$, $n = 2/3$.

6. Conclusions
We have presented LISA-py, a GPU-accelerated flexible approach for the joint characterization of LISA instrumental noise and SGWBs. We will release the LISA-py package in the next few months, while the first release of CudaKnots can already be found by scanning this QR-code.

References & Acknowledgments
[1] T. B. Littenberg et al. "Global analysis of the gravitational wave signal from CoRoTic binaries". In: PHD 191.2, 12021 (2020).
[2] Q. Bagchi et al. "Uncovering gravitational wave backgrounds from noise of unknown shape with LISA". In: JCAP 2023.4, 066 (2023).
[3] M. Muratore et al. "Impact of the noise knowledge uncertainty for the science exploitation of cosmological and astrophysical stochastic gravitational wave background with LISA". In: PHD 191.4, 02501 (2024).
[4] N. Karamitsos et al. "Eryn: a multi-purpose sampler for Bayesian inference". In: MNRAS 526.4 (2023).
Acknowledgments: We acknowledge the collaboration of the LISA Chemistry Working Group.

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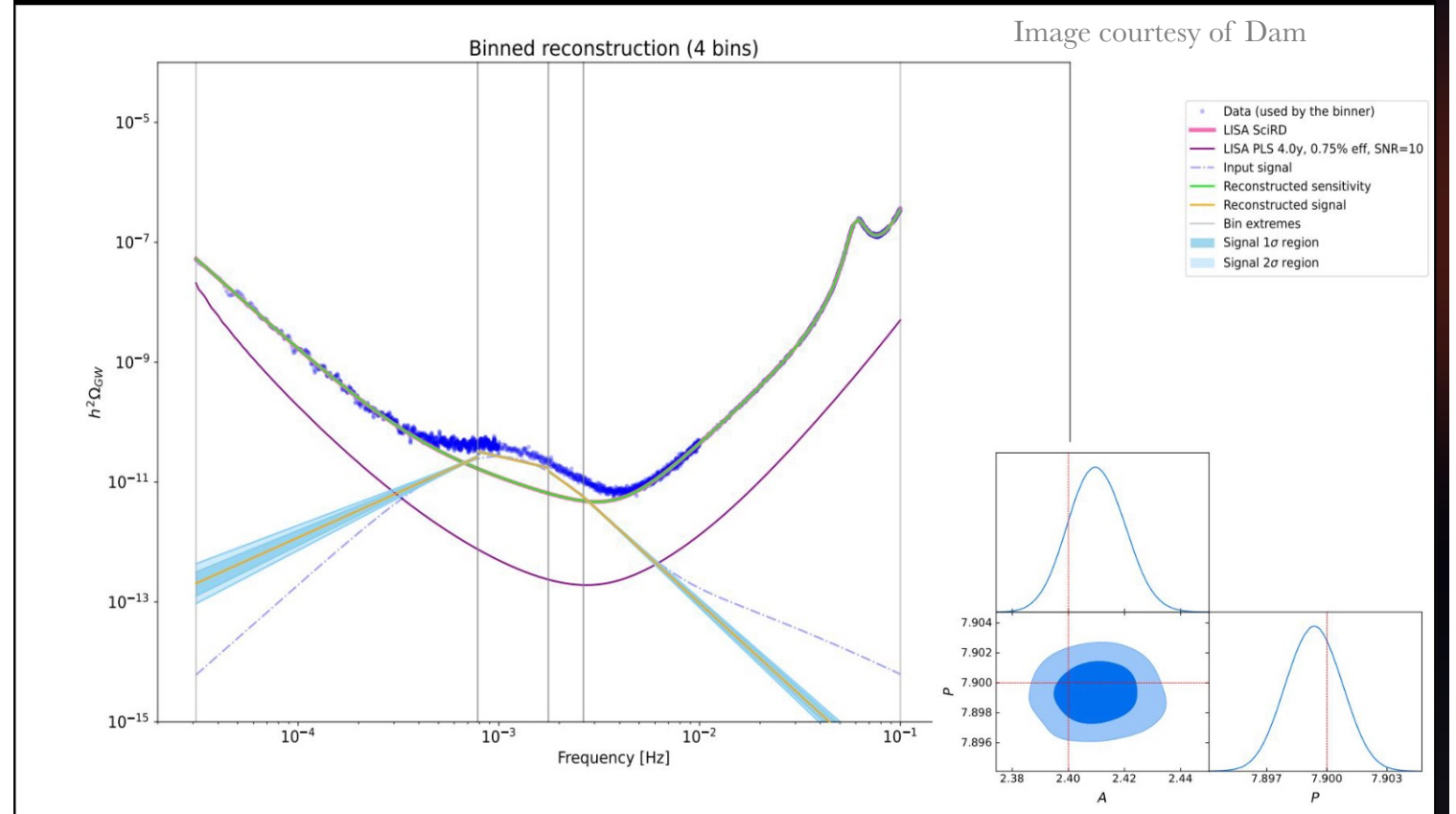
- Signal-agnostic searches using splines but with noise template

Q. N. Dam et al.

Flauger, R., Karnesis, N., Nardini, G., Pieroni, M., Ricciardone, A., & Torrado, J. (2021). Improved reconstruction of a stochastic gravitational wave background with LISA. *Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics*, 2021(01), 059

SGWB data analysis: Result with time-based simulation

- Data combined noises (2 params) and SGWB signal (one possible model) from FOEWPT



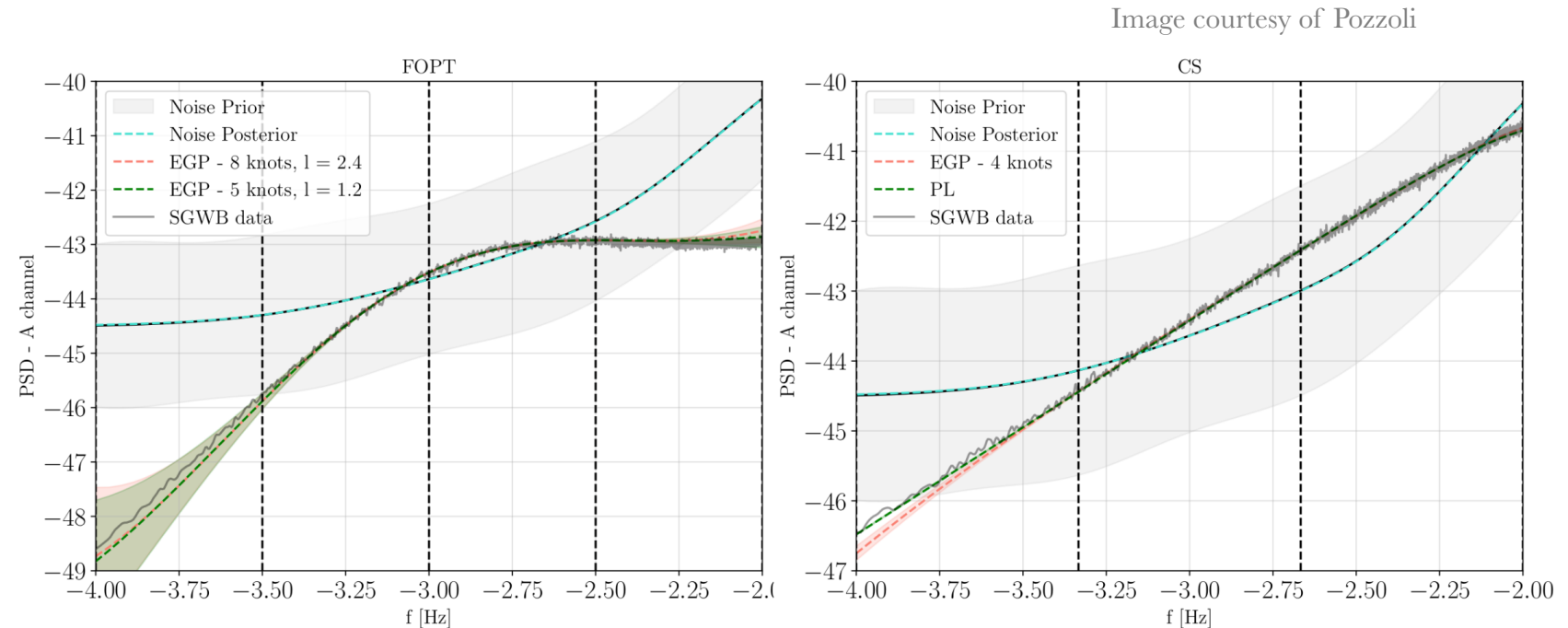
- **SGWBinner**: search SGWB signal for each bin (small equal log-frequency intervals) as a single power law, assuming they are independent for every bin.
- Collection of power-law signals give the overall SGWB

Expectation value of Gaussian process for signal and noise PSD modelling

Pozzoli, Buscicchio et al (2024)

RESULTS - APPLICATION to COSMO SOURCES

- GENERATION 1.5 and AET variables
- Whittle Likelihood
- Gaussian, Isotropic and stationary SGWB
- Modelling the strain:
 - Perfect knowledge of transfer function for noise
 - Perfect knowledge of response function to SGWB

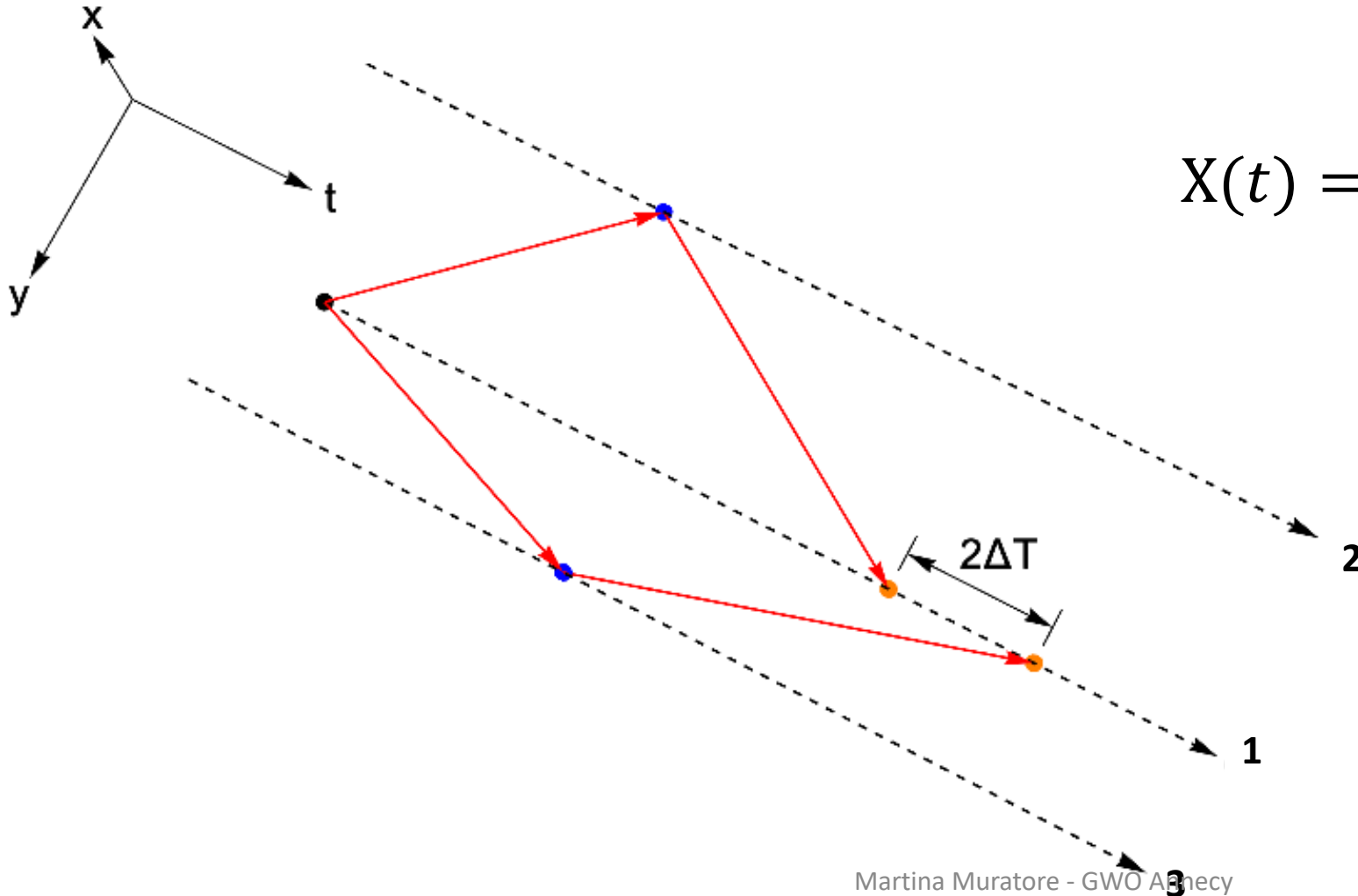


Plus much more in the literature

- Recovering a phase transition signal in simulated LISA data with a modulated galactic foreground, Tiina Minkinen, [arXiv:2406.04894](https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.04894)
- [Alvey, et al. Leveraging Time-Dependent Instrumental Noise for LISA SGWB Analysis, https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2408.00832](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2408.00832)
- Inchaupse et al. : Observing Kinematic Anisotropies of a SGWB with LISA, <http://arxiv.org/abs/2401.14849>
- O. Hartwig, Stochastic gravitational wave background reconstruction for a nonequilateral and unequal-noise LISA constellation, [Phys. Rev. D **107**, 123531](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.107.123531)
- 2010 Cornish & Adams
- Cornish and Romano SGWB Review
- Bruce Allen, <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.gr-qc/9604033>
- [.....](#)



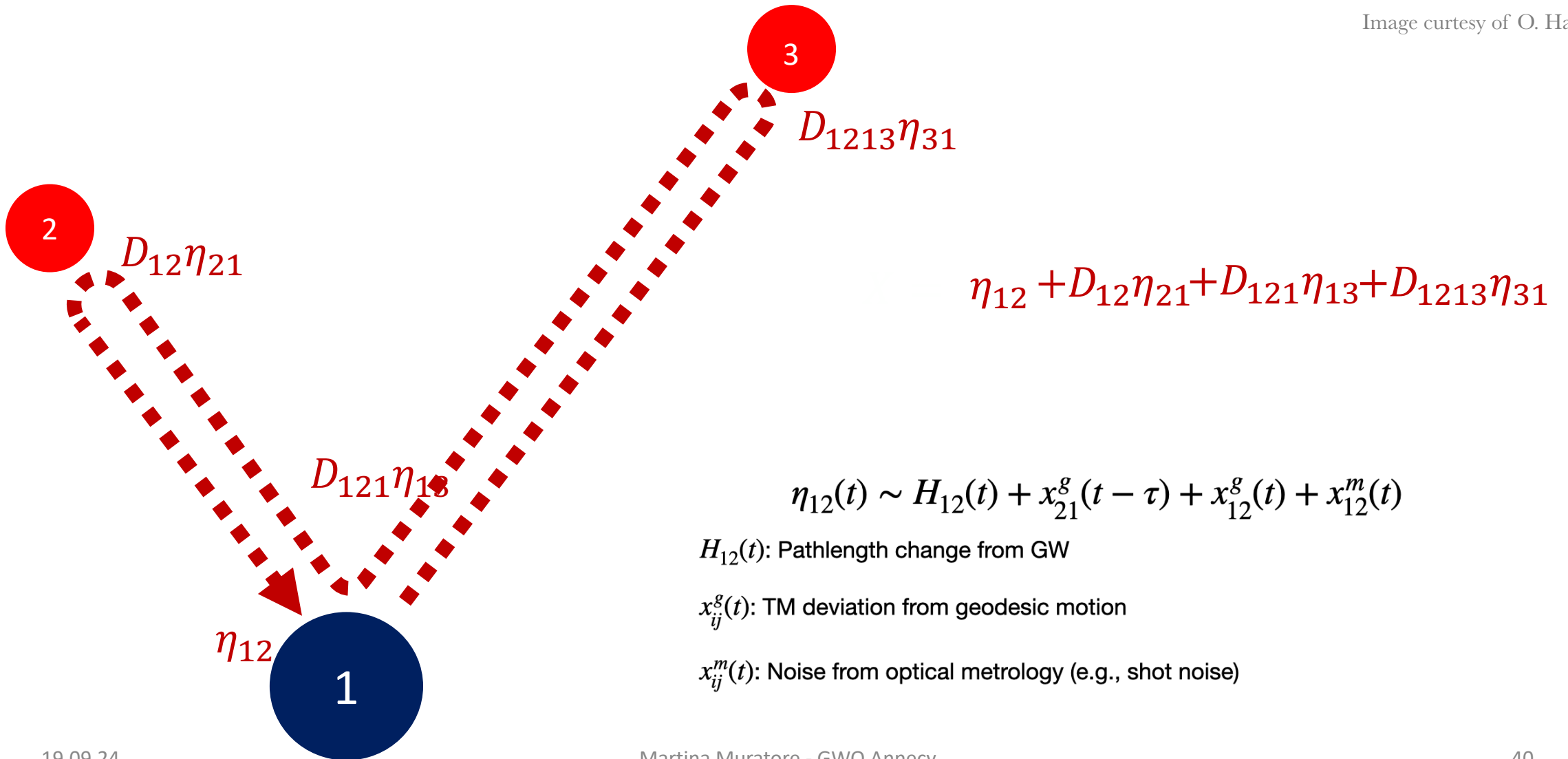
Residual laser phase noise in a space-time diagrams for unequal arms-length Michelson (zero level) interferometer



$$X(t) = \phi_1(t - 2\Delta T) - \phi_1(t) \\ \approx 2\dot{\phi}(t)\Delta T$$

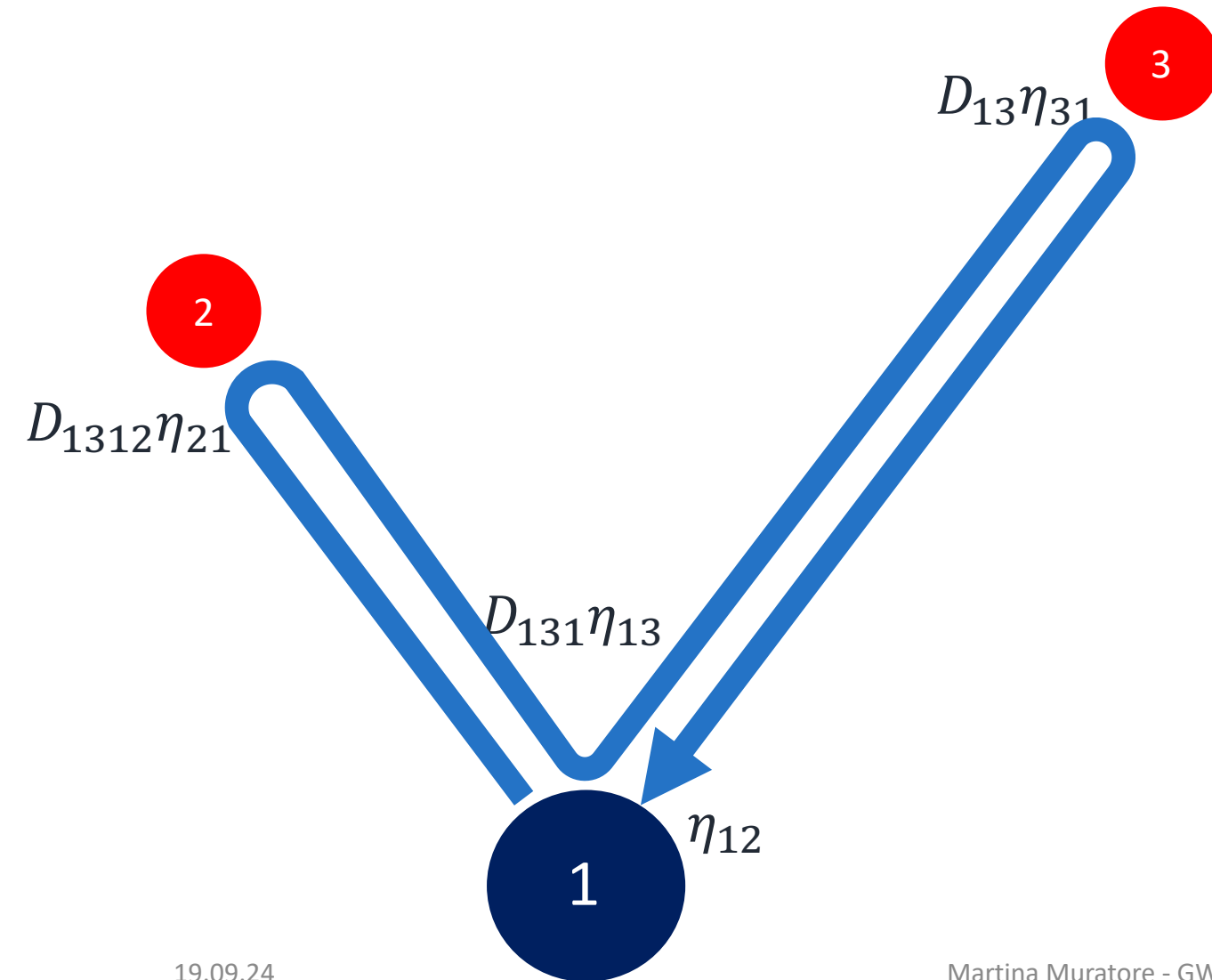
1st generation TDI

Image courtesy of O. Hartwig



1st generation TDI

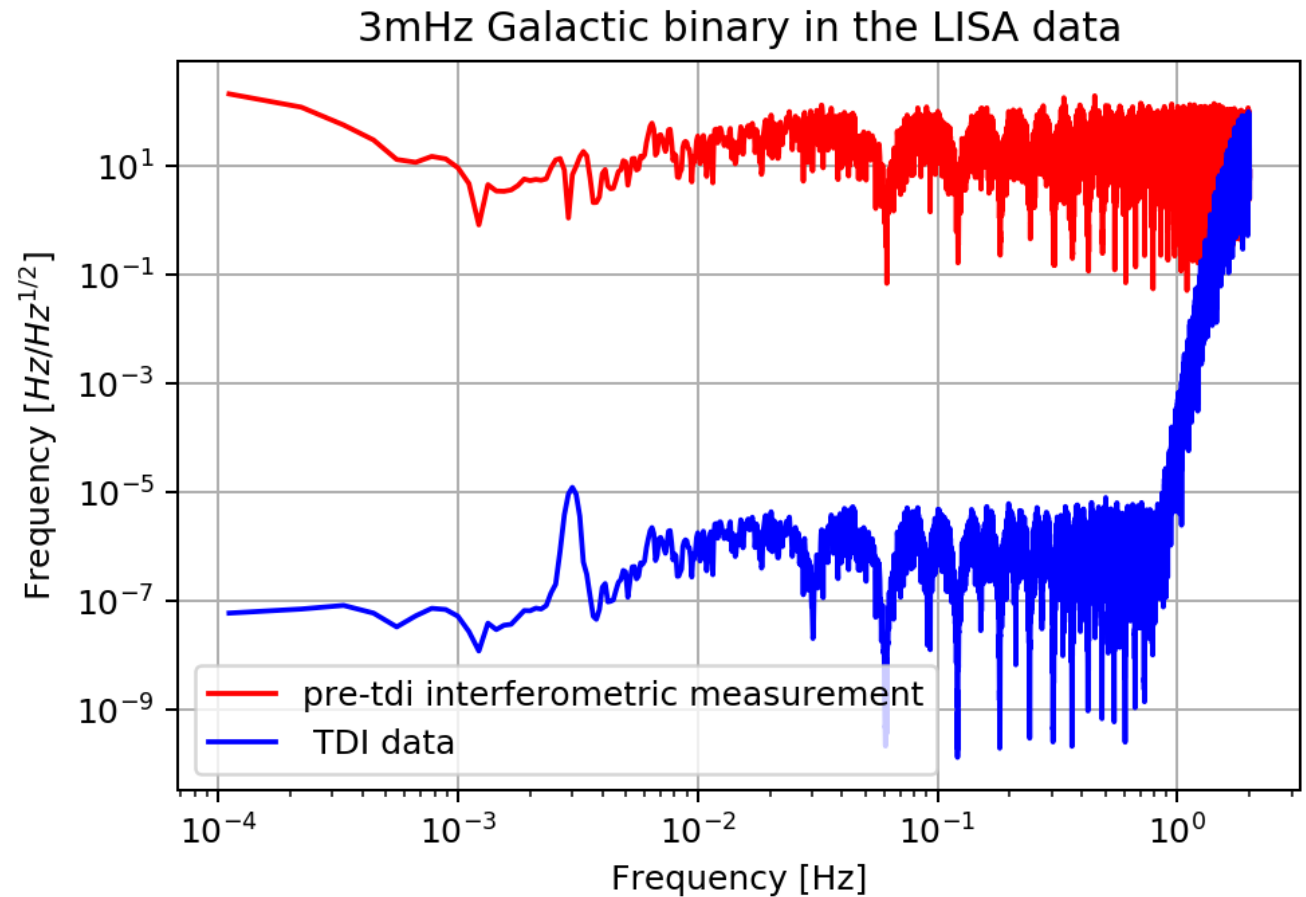
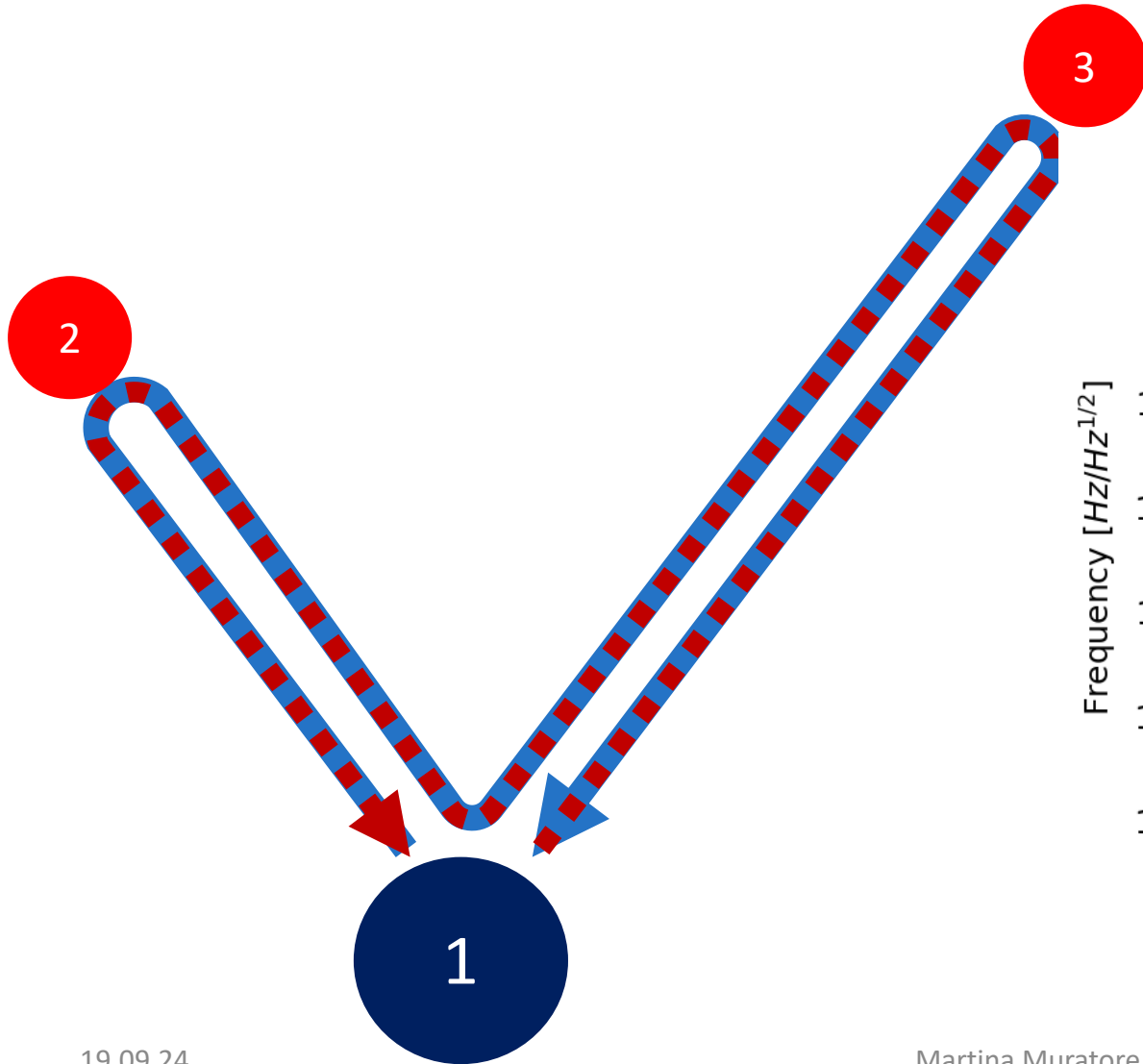
Image courtesy of O. Hartwig



$$X = \eta_{12} + D_{12}\eta_{21} + D_{121}\eta_{13} + D_{1213}\eta_{31} \\ - \eta_{12} - D_{13}\eta_{31} - D_{131}\eta_{13} - D_{1312}\eta_{21}$$

1st generation TDI

Image courtesy of O. Hartwig



The null-channels

Basic starting points

A good proxy: find TDI combinations that have *null* sensitivity to GW when:

- GW falls normally to the constellation plan
- LISA is a perfect static triangle

Explore the space of all linear combinations of all possible TDI combinations, and identify its null space

Use this set of null-channels to measure the acceleration noise

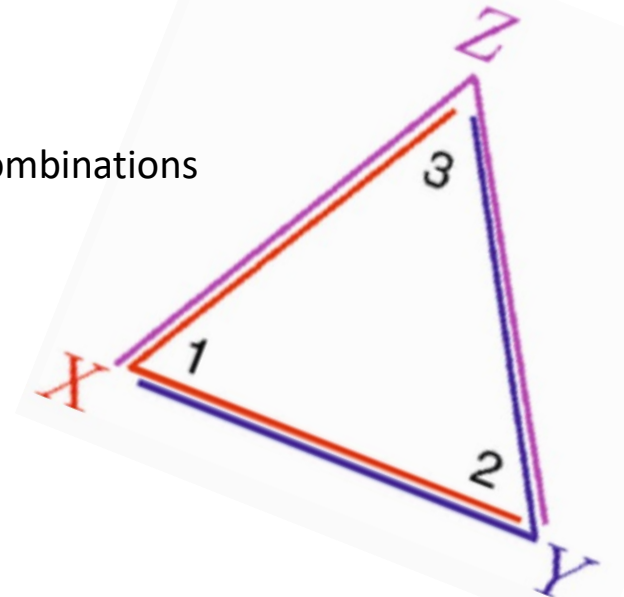
The null channels in the literature*

Null channel T : 3-element set of cyclic – permutation - averaged TDI combinations

$$T = \frac{X + Y + Z}{3}$$

*Romano, J.D., Cornish, N.J. Detection methods for stochastic gravitational-wave backgrounds

*April 2004 Physical Review D 69(8) DOI:10.1103/PhysRevD.69.082001



What's new ?

New set of null TDI combinations \tilde{C}_k^n from the 34 cyclic – permutation - averaged core TDI (slide 15)

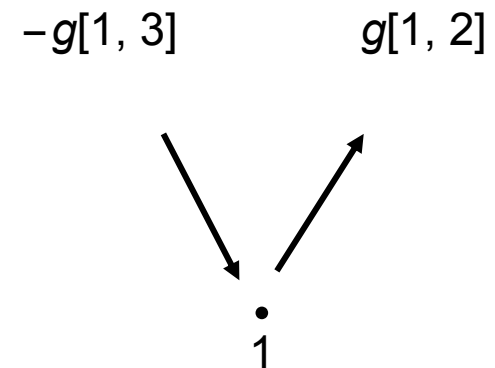
Set of generators that looks promising to estimate instrumental noise in addition to the null-channel T

All null-combinations behave like a *Sagnac interferometer* sensitive to the rigid rotation of the constellation

- All null TDI channels are only sensitive to a particular combination of the six TMs:

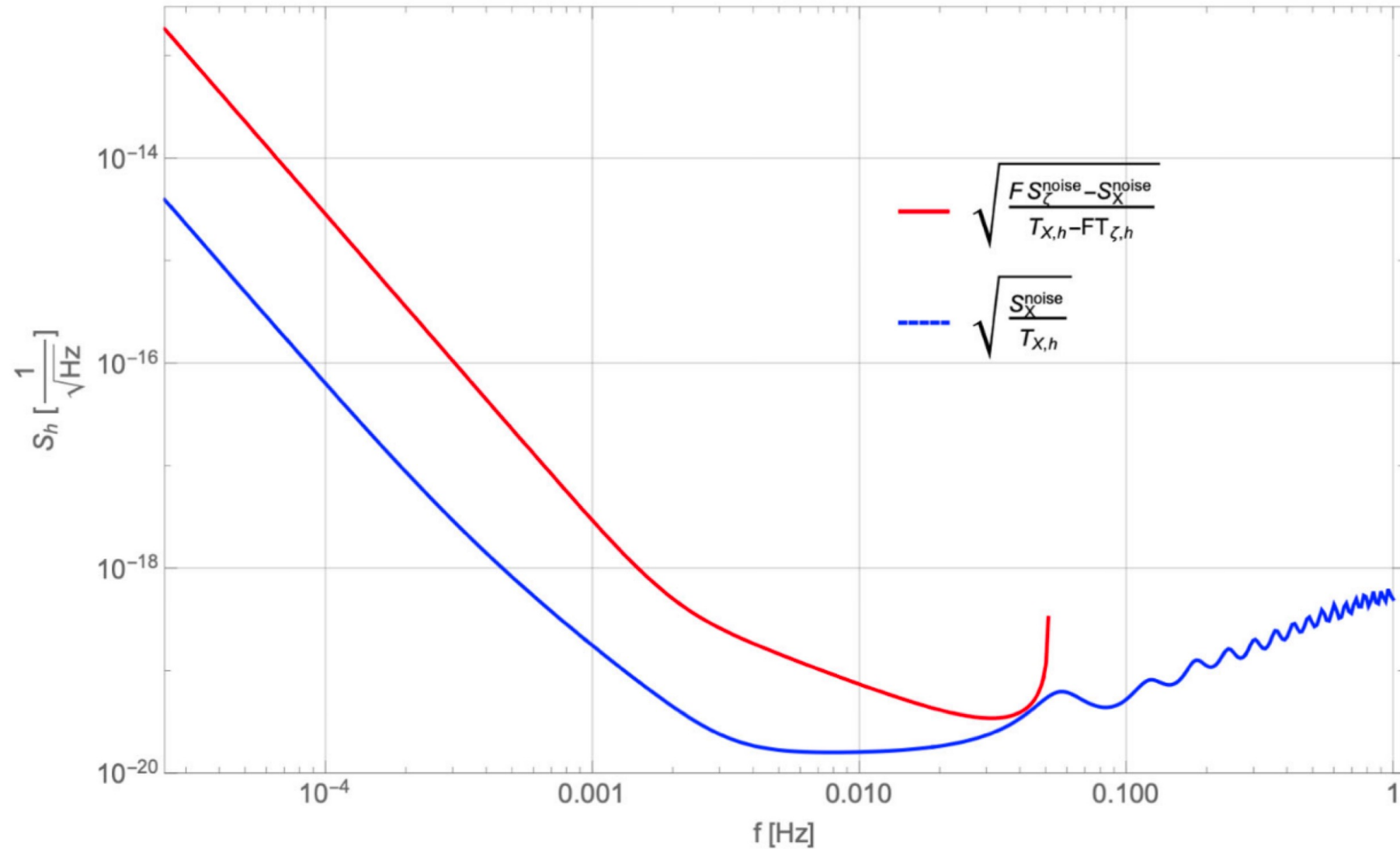
*Time dependence has been omitted for simplicity

$$G = g(1,2) - g(2,1) + g(2,3) - g(3,2) + g(3,1) - g(1,3)$$



Muratore et al, Time Delay Interferometry combinations as instrument noise monitors for LISA. Phys. Rev. D 105, 023009.

SGWB upper limit + detection threshold



Impact of noise knowledge uncertainty on SGWB estimation

- 4 SGWB signal models
- Set of 3 (first gen.) TDI channels A,E, ζ
- Splines to model noise knowledge uncertainty
- Fisher parameter space: 117 for the total noise + 1 for GB amplitude + n. param. for the specific GW signal model

