

# THE DOs AND DON'Ts OF HIGH FREQUENCY GRAVITATIONAL WAVE DETECTION

Raffaele Tito D'Agnolo - CEA IPhT Saclay and ENS Paris

Work in progress with S. Ellis (U. Geneva)

$\omega_g$

nHz

$\mu$ Hz

10 Hz

kHz

$\omega_g$

**PULSAR TIMING**

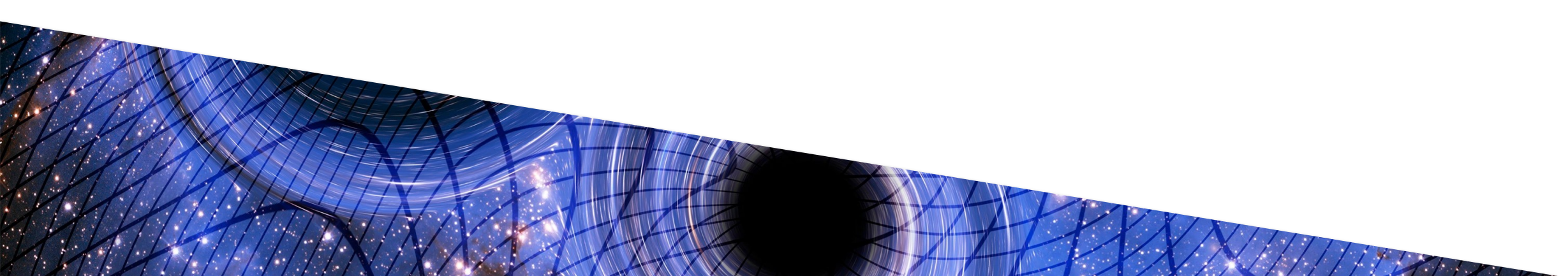
**LIGO-VIRGO-KAGRA**



$\omega_g$

---


$$\lambda(T_*) < \frac{1}{H(T_*)} \quad \text{Causality}$$



$$\omega_g$$

$$\lambda(T_*) < \frac{1}{H(T_*)} \quad \text{Causality}$$

$$\omega_0(T_*) = \omega(T_*) \frac{a(T_*)}{a_0} \gtrsim \boxed{100 \text{ MHz}} \left( \frac{T_*}{10^{15} \text{ GeV}} \right) \left( \frac{g_*(T_*)}{100} \right)^{1/6}$$



# DETECTORS

# NATURAL UNITS

$$\hbar = c = 1$$

$$U_{\text{in}} \sim E_0^2 V_0$$



$M$



$$U_{\text{in}} \sim E_0^2 V_0$$

$M$



LASER



$$U_{\text{in}} \sim P_{\text{in}} \omega_L$$

$$M\ddot{\delta x} = M\ddot{h}x + F_{\text{ext}}$$

$M$



$\delta x$

$$M \rightarrow \infty$$

$$M\ddot{\delta x} = M\ddot{h}x + F_{\text{ext}}$$

 $M$  $\delta x$

$$M \rightarrow \infty$$

$$M\ddot{\delta x} = M\ddot{h}x + F_{\text{ext}}$$

$$\ddot{\delta x}_{\text{sig}} \sim \ddot{h}x \sim \text{const}$$

 $M$  $\delta x$

$$M \rightarrow \infty$$

$$M\ddot{\delta x} = M\ddot{h}x + F_{\text{ext}}$$

$$\ddot{\delta x}_{\text{sig}} \sim \ddot{h}x \sim \text{const}$$

$$\ddot{\delta x}_{\text{noise}} \sim \frac{F_{\text{ext}}}{M} \rightarrow 0$$

 $M$  $\delta x$

# THE BEST POSSIBLE SENSITIVITY

IN THE FOLLOWING I WILL ALWAYS CONSIDER

$$M \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\ddot{\delta x}_{\text{noise}} \sim \frac{F_{\text{ext}}}{M} \rightarrow 0$$

# THE BEST POSSIBLE SENSITIVITY

In this limit I can ignore noise from the test mass and focus on the signal (and noise) photons that I can detect

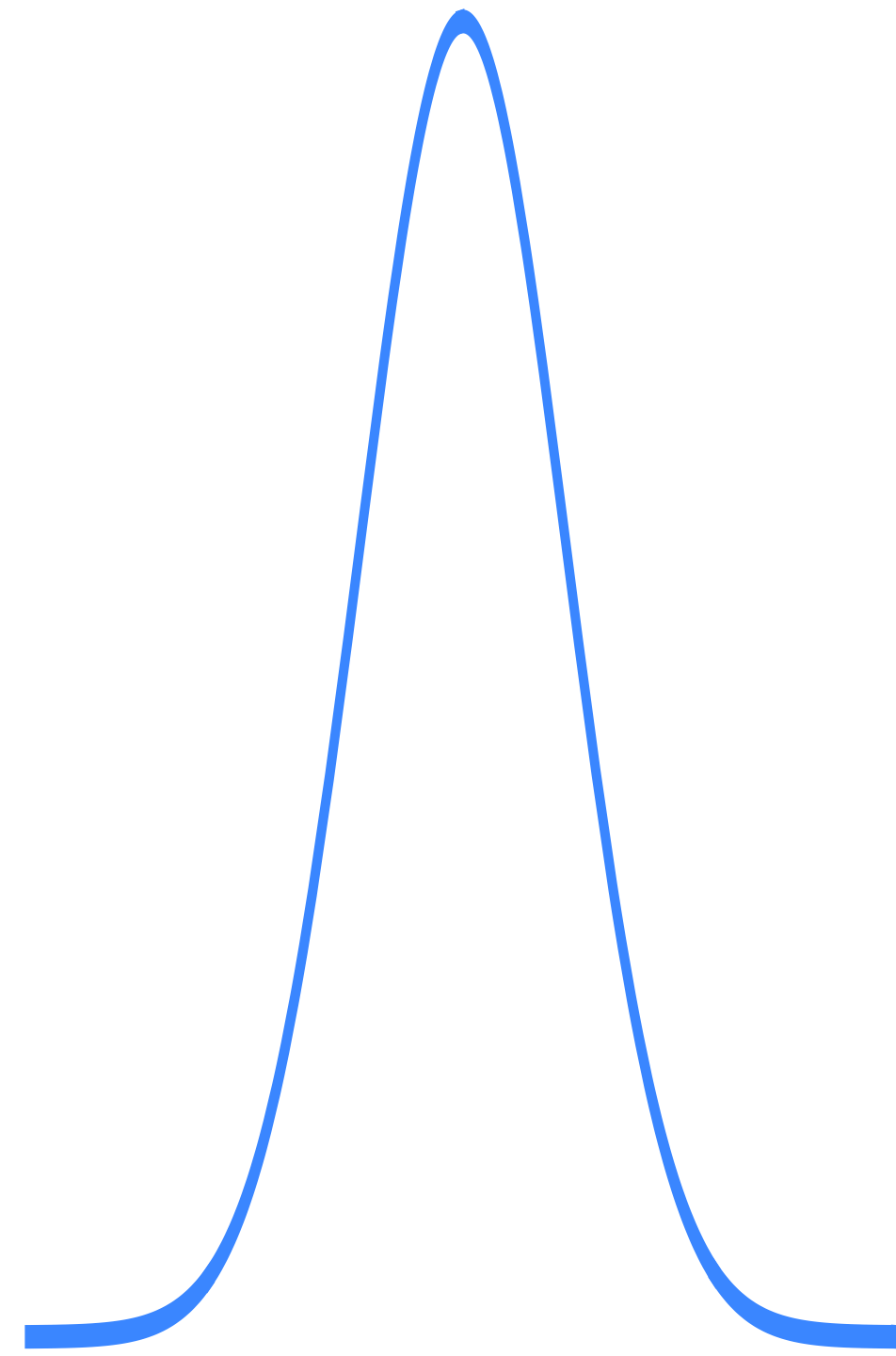
DETECTOR I



$$U_{\text{in}} \sim E_0^2 V_0$$



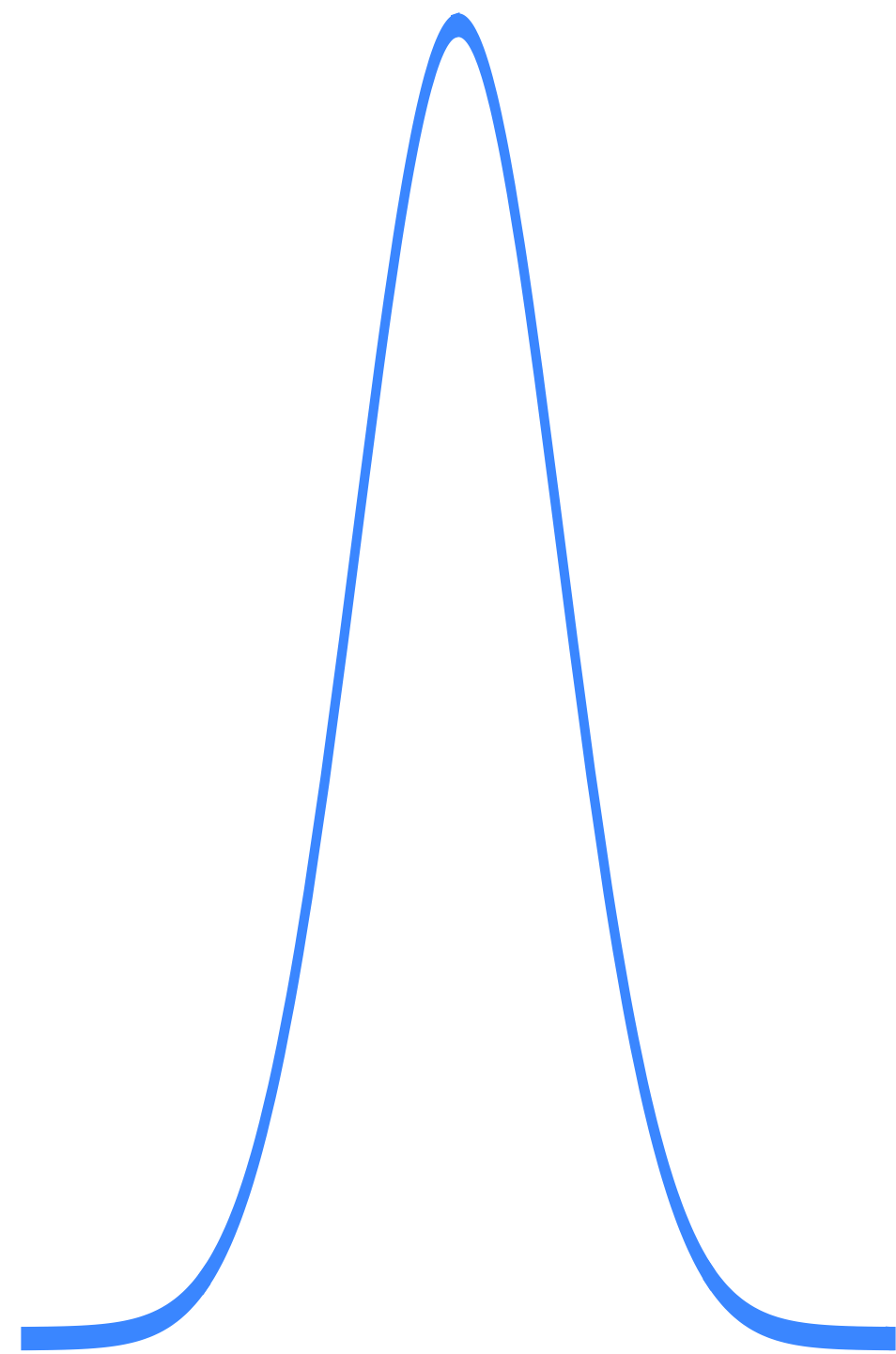
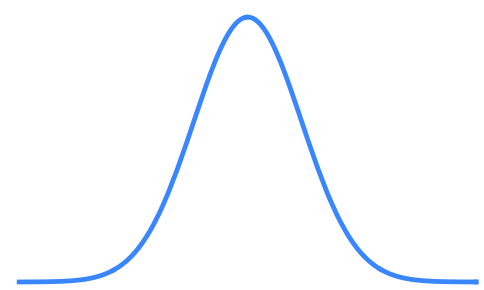
DETECTOR II



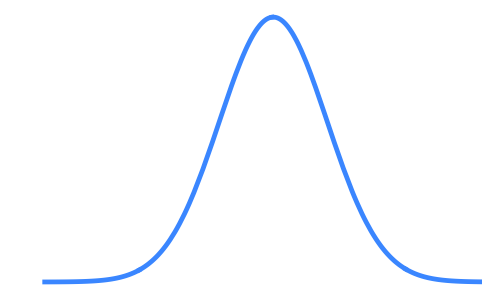
$$E_0(\omega_0)$$



$$\omega_0 - \omega_g$$



$$\omega_0 + \omega_g$$



$$E_h$$

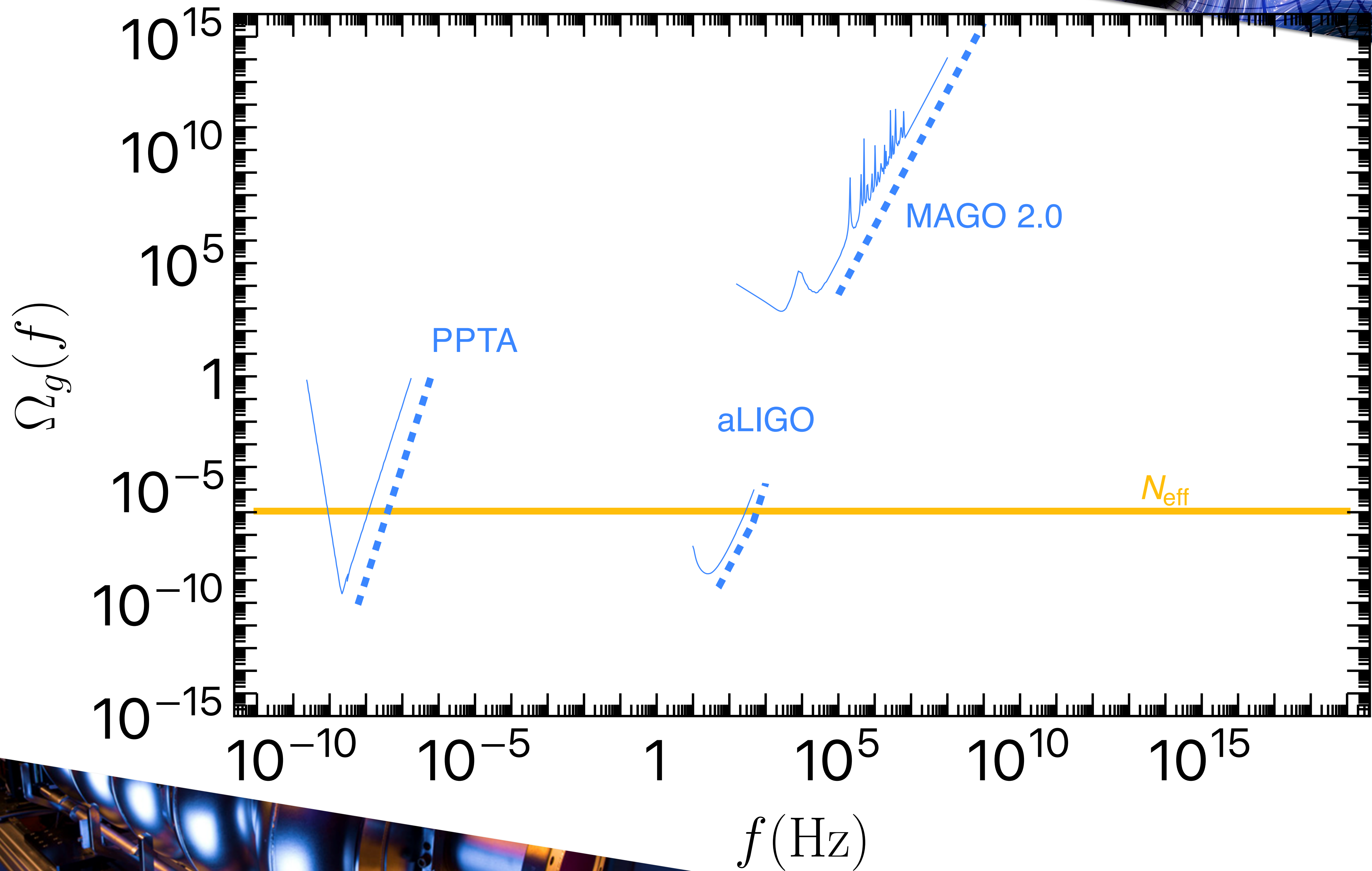
$$E_0(\omega_0)$$

$$E_h$$

$$U_{\text{in}} \sim E_0^2 V_0$$

$$\text{---} \mathcal{T}(\omega) \text{---}$$





# SIGNALS

The image features a complex, futuristic background. A dark blue grid of lines is overlaid on a field of stars and light trails. The grid lines are curved and intersect to form a mesh-like pattern. Numerous bright, multi-colored light trails (streaks) are scattered across the scene, some appearing as concentric circles or spirals. The overall color palette is dominated by deep blues, purples, and whites, with occasional hints of orange and red from the stars. The word "SIGNALS" is centered in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

$$U_{\text{sig}} \sim U_{\text{in}} \times \begin{cases} (hT)^2 \\ hT \end{cases}$$

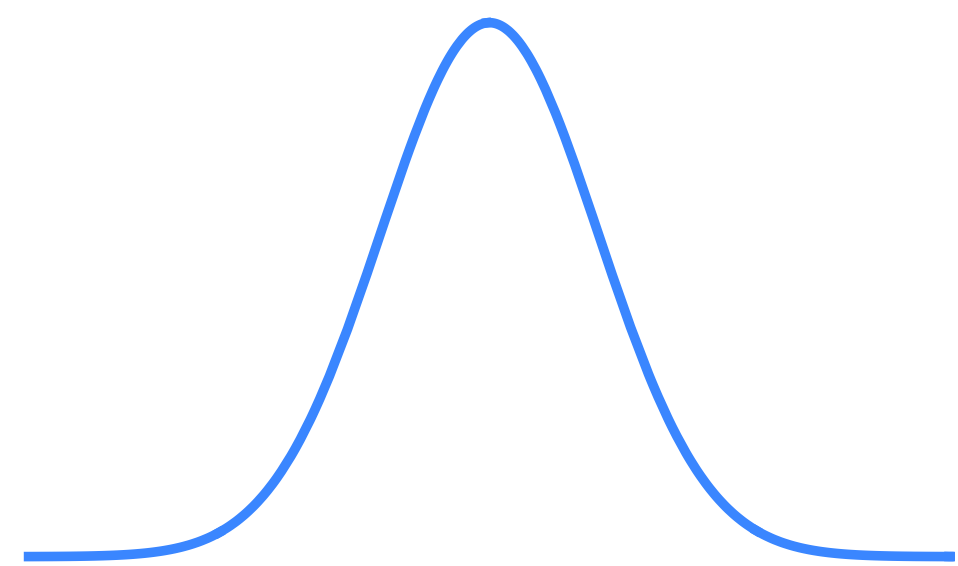
$$U_{\text{in}} \sim E_0^2 V_0$$

# CASE I: QUADRATIC SIGNALS

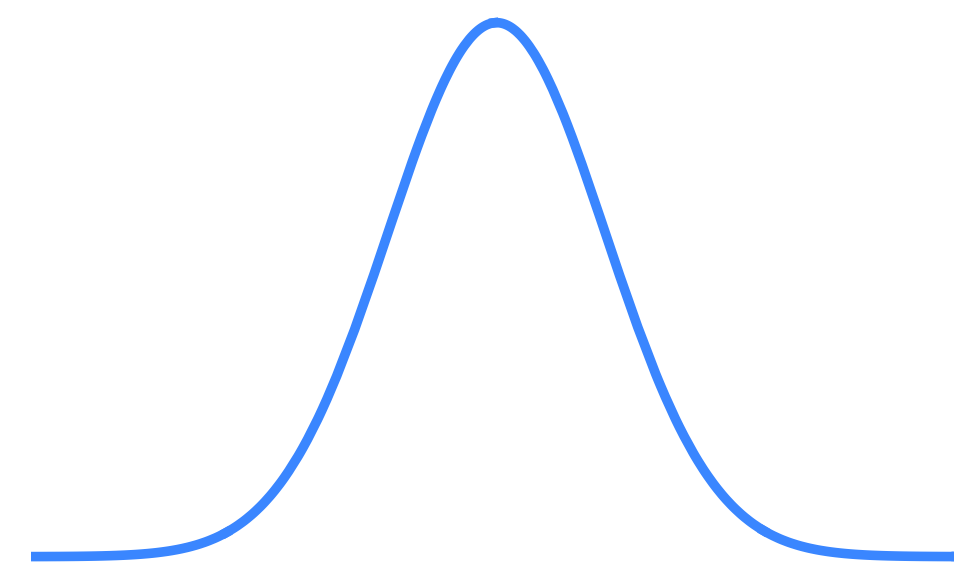
$$\langle E_h(t) E_0(t) \rangle \propto \langle \tilde{E}_h(\omega) \tilde{E}_0(\omega) \rangle = 0$$

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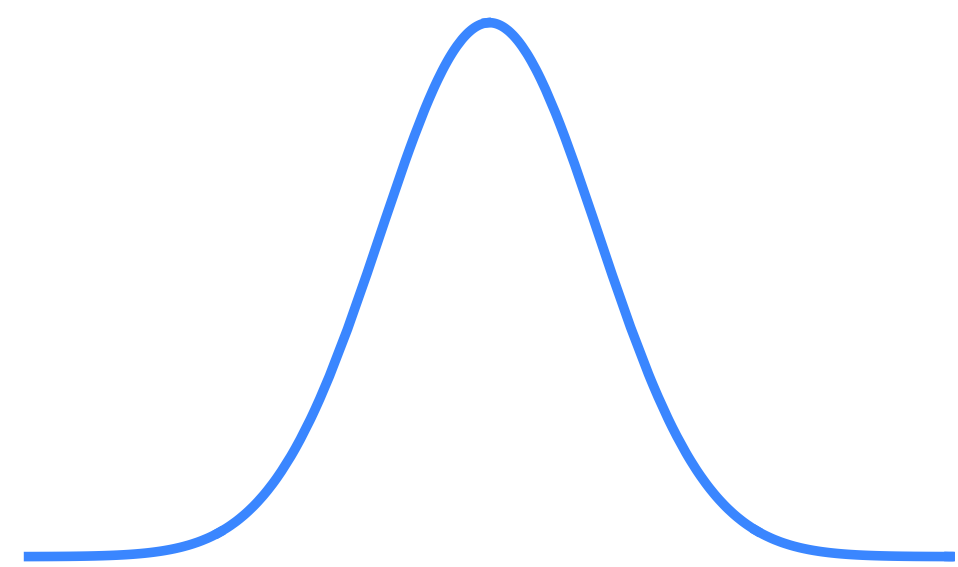
$\omega$



$\tilde{E}_0(\omega)$

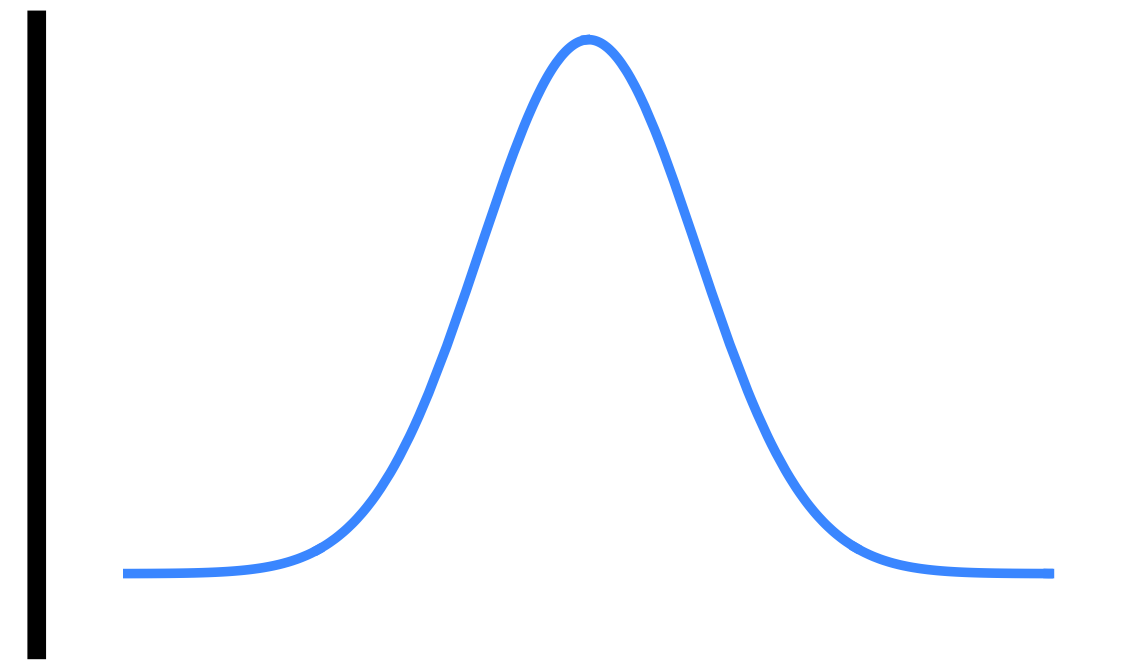


$\tilde{E}_h(\omega)$



$$\tilde{E}_0(\omega)$$

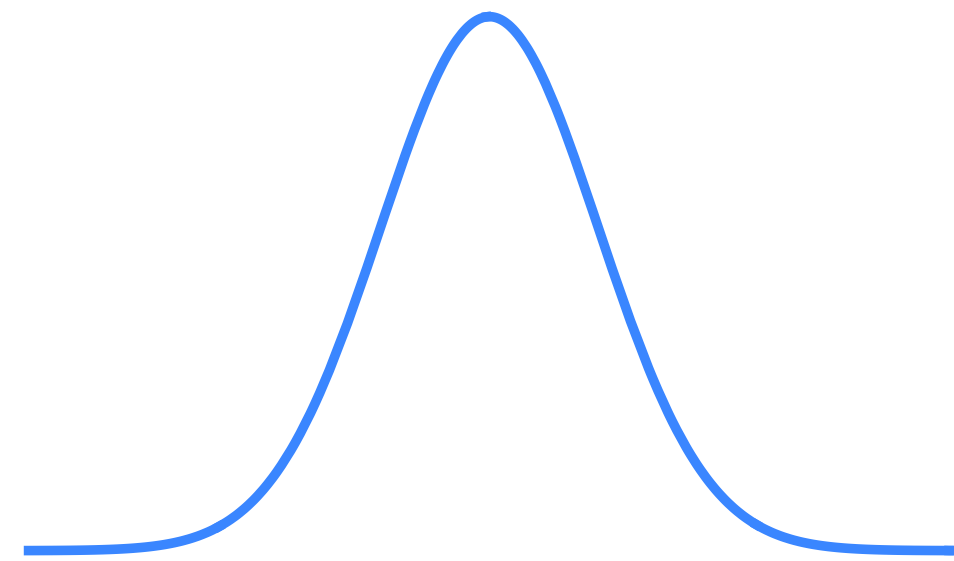
$\Delta\omega_d$   
Detector Bandwidth



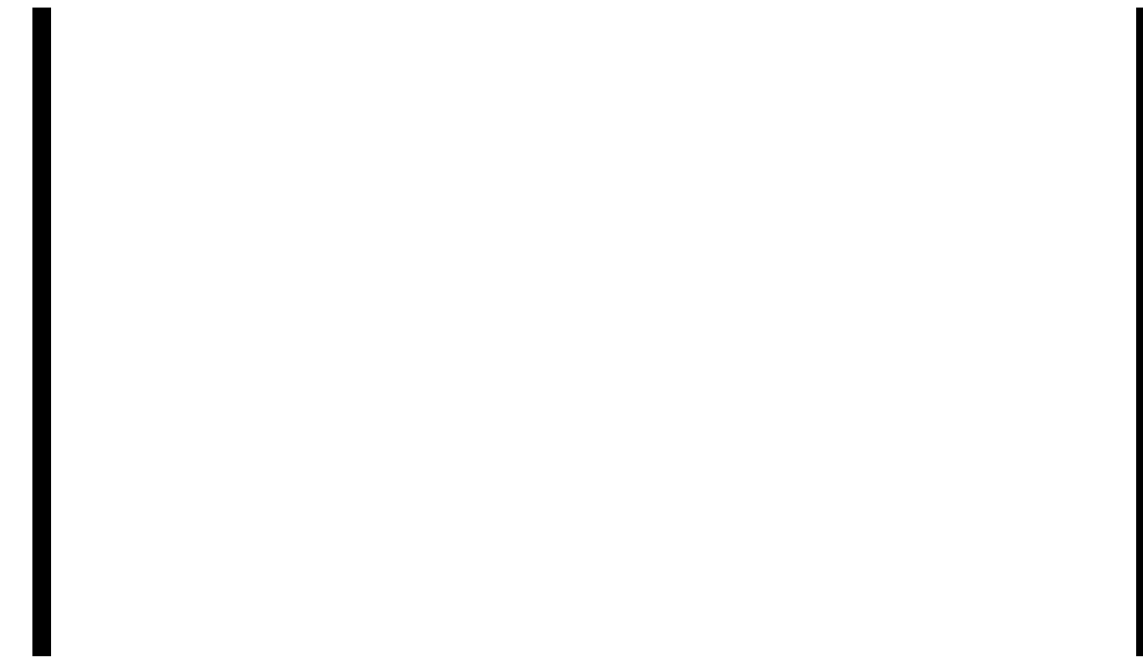
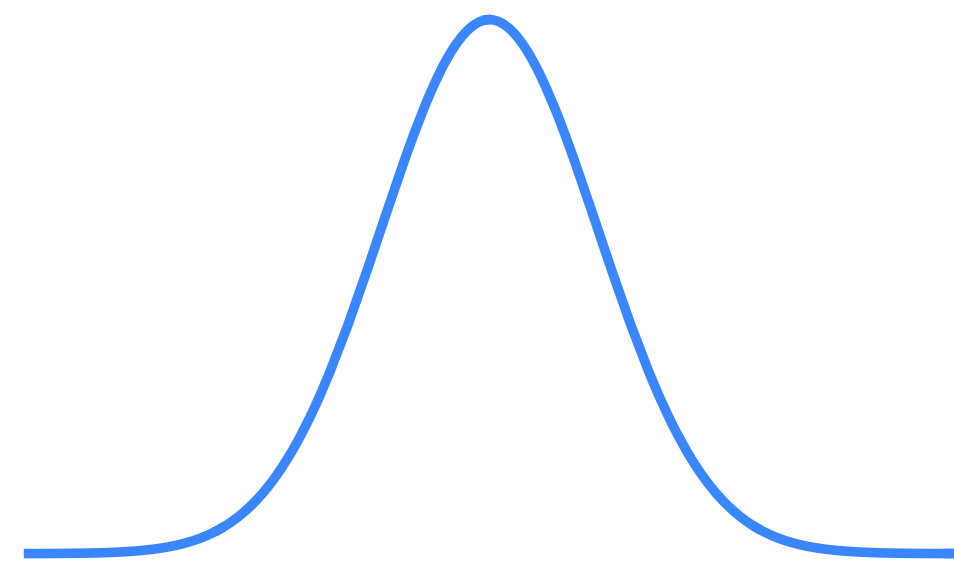
$$\tilde{E}_h(\omega)$$



In absence of a signal,  
the detector is empty (classically)



In absence of a signal,  
the detector is empty (classically)



$$P_{\min} \simeq \frac{2\pi\omega}{t_{\text{int}}}$$

But we need at least one photon generated by the signal

$$P_{\text{sig}} \lesssim \underline{h^2 U_{\text{in}} \omega_s \mathcal{T}^2(\omega_s)}$$

Signal Energy

$$P_{\text{sig}} \lesssim h^2 U_{\text{in}} \underline{\omega_s} \mathcal{T}^2(\omega_s)$$

Maximum power  
from Poynting's theorem

# QUADRATIC SIGNAL

$$\frac{P_{\text{sig}}}{P_{\text{min}}} \approx 1 \quad \rightarrow \quad h_{\text{min}} \approx \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{U_{\text{in}} t_{\text{int}}}} \frac{1}{\mathcal{T}}$$

$$\Omega_g^{\text{min}}(\omega) \simeq \frac{\omega^3 h_{\text{min}}^2 t_{\text{int}}}{3H_0^2}$$

$$\Omega_g^{\text{min}}(\omega) \simeq \frac{\omega^3 h_{\text{min}}^2 t_{\text{int}}}{3H_0^2}$$

$$U_{\text{in}}^{\text{BBN}} = 10^{12} J \left( \frac{\omega}{2\pi \times 80\text{kHz}} \right) \left( \frac{10^{-6}}{\Omega_g} \right) \left( \frac{10^{12}}{\mathcal{T}^2 \frac{\omega}{\Delta\omega}} \right)$$

# ENERGY DENSITY

$$\Omega_g^{\text{min}}(\omega) \simeq \frac{\omega^3 h_{\text{min}}^2 t_{\text{int}}}{3H_0^2}$$

$$U_{\text{in}}^{\text{BBN}} \simeq U_{\text{ITER}}$$

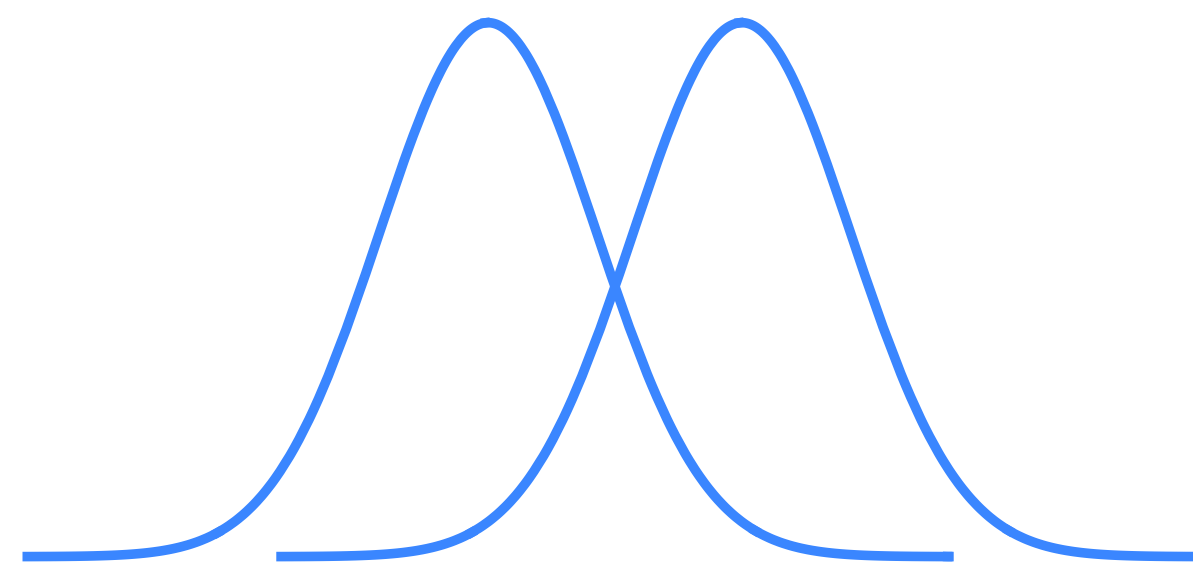
$$U_{\text{in}}^{\text{BBN}} = 10^{12} J \left( \frac{\omega}{2\pi \times 80\text{kHz}} \right) \left( \frac{10^{-6}}{\Omega_g} \right) \left( \frac{10^{12}}{\mathcal{T}^2 \frac{\omega}{\Delta\omega}} \right)$$



## CASE II: LINEAR SIGNALS

$$\langle E_h(t) E_0(t) \rangle \propto \langle \tilde{E}_h(\omega) \tilde{E}_0(\omega) \rangle \neq 0$$

$\omega$



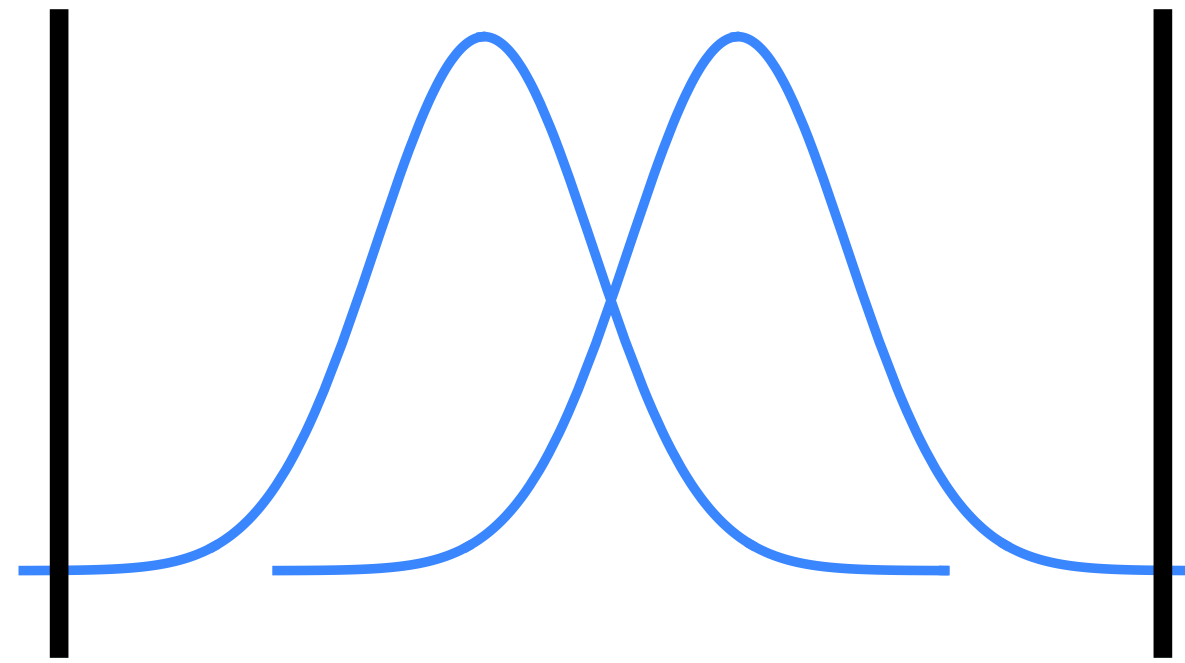
$\tilde{E}_0(\omega)$

$\tilde{E}_h(\omega)$

# CASE II: LINEAR SIGNALS

$$\Delta\omega_d$$

Detector Bandwidth

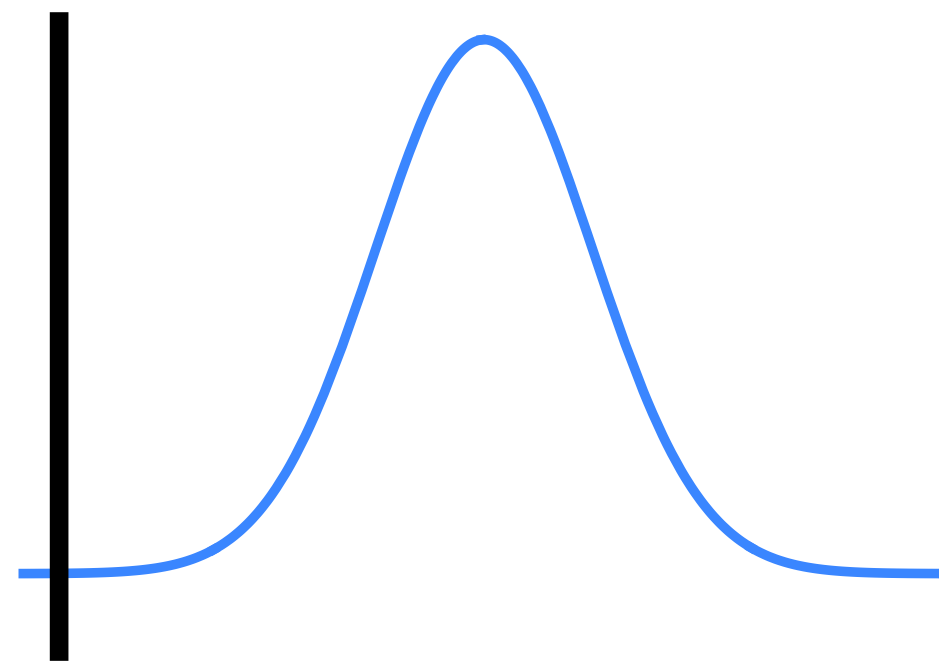


$$\tilde{E}_0(\omega)$$

$$\tilde{E}_h(\omega)$$

## CASE II: LINEAR SIGNALS

In absence of a signal,  
the detector is not empty



$$P_{\text{noise}}^{\text{min}} \simeq \frac{2\pi\omega}{t_{\text{int}}} \left( 1 + \sqrt{\frac{P_{\text{int}} t_{\text{int}}}{2\pi\omega}} \right)$$

# NARROW LINEAR SIGNAL

$$\frac{P_{\text{sig}}}{P_{\text{noise}}} \approx 1 \quad \rightarrow \quad h_{\text{min}} \gtrsim \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{U_{\text{in}} t_{\text{int}}}} \frac{1}{\mathcal{T}}$$

Same as quadratic!

# STATISTICS INTERLUDE

$$v \frac{dr}{dr} = -\frac{\Omega_k^2 r + \dots}{2}$$



$$\frac{h''}{\rho} \left( 2rp + p \frac{\partial r H}{H} \right)$$
$$\frac{\partial_r (\rho c_s^2)}{\rho} = c_s^2 \frac{\partial_r \rho}{\rho} = c_s^2 \frac{\rho'}{\rho}$$
$$\frac{v^2}{v} = c_s^2$$

$$v = w v_0 \rightarrow \dots$$
$$\sqrt{v_0} (v_0 \partial_r w + w \partial_r v_0)$$

Stationary Gaussian Process with Zero Mean

$$\langle h(t) \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle h(t)h(t') \rangle = H(t' - t)$$

Single Detector

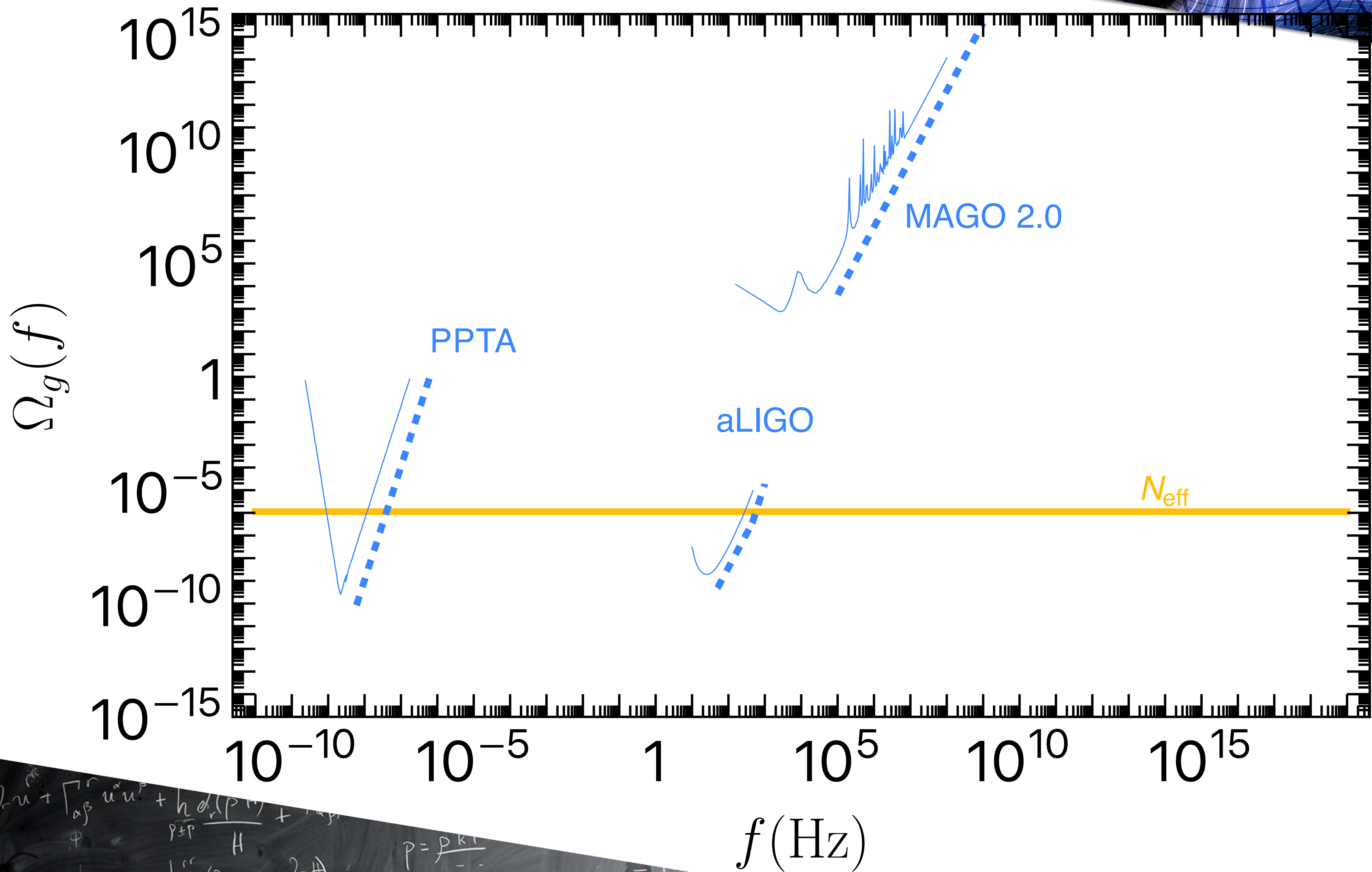
$$\text{SNR} \simeq \left( \frac{S_h(\omega_s)}{S_n(\omega_s)} \right)^{1/2}$$

Two Detectors Optimal Filtering

$$\text{SNR} = \left( t_{\text{int}} \int d\omega \Gamma^2(\omega) \frac{S_h^2(\omega)}{S_n^2(\omega)} \right)^{1/4}$$

$$\Omega_g \rightarrow \Omega_g \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Delta\omega t_{\text{int}}}}$$

If the total energy density is not fixed





# BEYOND THE QUANTUM LIMIT

$$v \frac{dr}{dr} = -\Omega_k^2 r + \dots$$

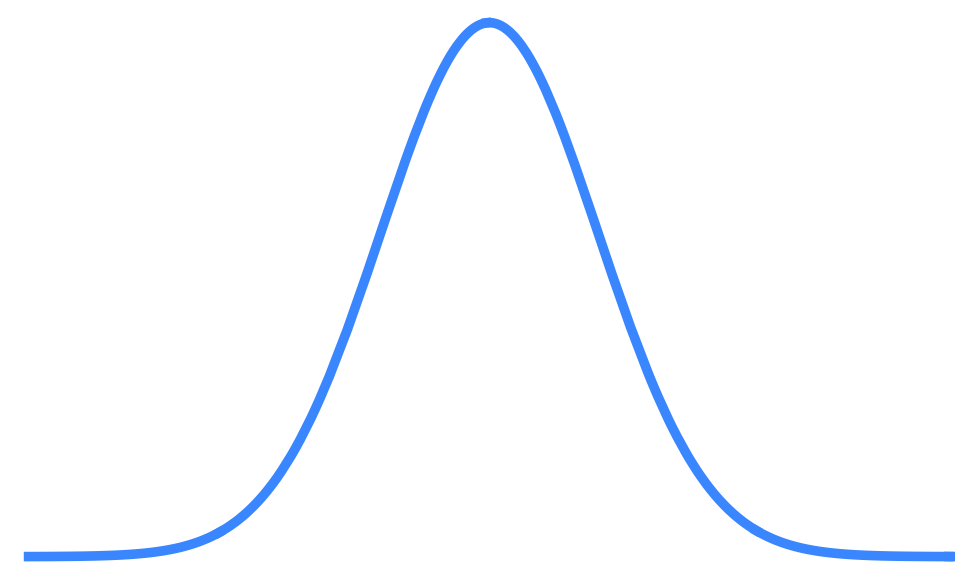


$$\frac{p \pm p}{h} \left( \frac{\partial r p}{\partial r} + p \frac{\partial r}{\partial r} \right) + \dots$$
$$\frac{\partial_r (p c_s^2)}{p} = c_s^2 \frac{\partial_r p}{p}$$
$$= c_s^2 \frac{p'}{p}$$

$$v = w \frac{v_0}{c_s} \rightarrow \dots$$

$$\sqrt{v_0} (v_0 \partial_r w + w \partial_r v_0)$$

# NO QUALITATIVE CHANGE FOR QUADRATIC SIGNALS



$$P_{\text{SQL}} \approx \frac{2\pi\omega}{t_{\text{int}}}$$



$$P_{\text{min}} \approx \frac{2\pi\omega}{t_{\text{int}}}$$



LINEAR

$$P_{\text{noise}}^{\text{min}} \simeq \frac{2\pi\omega}{t_{\text{int}}} \left( 1 + \sqrt{\frac{P_{\text{in}} t_{\text{int}}}{2\pi\omega}} \right)$$
$$\simeq \frac{2\pi\omega}{t_{\text{int}}} \left( 1 + \sqrt{N_{\gamma}} \right)$$

In principle

$$P_{\text{noise}}^{\text{min}} \rightarrow \frac{2\pi\omega}{t_{\text{int}}}$$

Heisenberg Limit

In practice

$$P_{\text{noise}}^{\text{min}} \rightarrow \frac{2\pi\omega}{t_{\text{int}}} \xrightarrow{\text{red arrow}} \sqrt{N_{\gamma}} \rightarrow 1$$

You need to control a huge number of photons (a billion for LIGO)  
at the single photon level

# WHAT DID WE LEARN?

$$v \frac{dr}{dr} = \frac{-\Omega_k^2 r + \dots}{2}$$

$$\frac{h''}{\rho} \left( 2rp + p \frac{\partial r}{\partial H} \right) = \frac{v^2 - c_s^2}{v}$$
$$\frac{\partial_r(\rho c_s^2)}{\rho} = c_s^2 \frac{\partial_r \rho}{\rho} = c_s^2 \frac{\partial_r \rho'}{\rho'}$$

$$v = w v_0 \rightarrow \dots$$

$$\sqrt{v_0} (v_0 \partial_r w + w \partial_r v_0)$$

# QUADRATIC vs LINEAR

$$h_{\min} \gtrsim \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{U_{\text{in}} t_{\text{int}}}} \frac{1}{\mathcal{T}}$$

$$\Omega_g^{\text{min}}(\omega) \simeq \frac{\omega^3 h_{\text{min}}^2 t_{\text{int}}}{3H_0^2}$$

$$U_{\text{in}}^{\text{BBN}} = 10^{12} J \left( \frac{\omega}{2\pi \times 80\text{kHz}} \right) \left( \frac{10^{-6}}{\Omega_g} \right) \left( \frac{10^{12}}{\mathcal{T}^2 \frac{\omega}{\Delta\omega}} \right)$$



# QUADRATIC vs LINEAR

QUADRATIC

$$P_{\text{noise}}^{\text{min}} \approx \frac{2\pi\omega}{t_{\text{int}}}$$

LINEAR

$$P_{\text{noise}}^{\text{min}} \approx \frac{2\pi\omega}{t_{\text{int}}} \left( 1 + \sqrt{\frac{P_{\text{in}} t_{\text{int}}}{2\pi\omega}} \right)$$

We can gain  
from  
quantum techniques

# THE MISSING PIECE

$$h_{\min} \gtrsim \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{U_{\text{in}} t_{\text{int}}}} \boxed{\frac{1}{\mathcal{T}}}$$

???





# TRANSFER FUNCTIONS

# MOST DETECTORS (LIGO, OPTOMECHANICAL, WEBER BARS...)

$$\left( \omega_m^2 - \omega^2 + i \frac{\omega \omega_m}{Q_m} \right) \tilde{u}_m(\omega) \simeq -\frac{1}{2} \omega_g^2 V^{1/3} \tilde{h}(\omega, \omega_g)$$

The wave excites a mechanical mode

# EVERYTHING ELSE

(LIGO, OPTOMECHANICAL, WEBER BARS...)

$$\left( \omega_m^2 - \omega^2 + i \frac{\omega \omega_m}{Q_m} \right) \tilde{u}_m(\omega) \simeq -\frac{1}{2} \omega_g^2 V^{1/3} \tilde{h}(\omega, \omega_g)$$

$$\left( \omega_1^2 - \omega^2 + i \frac{\omega \omega_1}{Q} \right) \tilde{E}_h(\omega) \simeq -2\omega_1^2 V^{-1/3} \int d\omega' \tilde{u}_m(\omega' - \omega) \tilde{E}_0(\omega')$$

An EM resonator does the readout

EVERYTHING ELSE  
(LIGO, OPTOMECHANICAL, WEBER BARS...)

$$\mathcal{T}^2(\omega) = \frac{\omega_g^4 \omega_1^4}{\left( (\omega_1^2 - \omega^2)^2 + \frac{\omega^2 \omega_1^2}{Q^2} \right) \left( (\omega_m^2 - \omega_g^2)^2 + \frac{\omega_g^2 \omega_m^2}{Q_m^2} \right)}$$

EVERYTHING ELSE

(LIGO, OPTOMECHANICAL, WEBER BARS...)

$$\mathcal{T}_{\text{LIGO}}^2 \simeq \frac{\omega_L^2}{\left(4\omega_g^2 + \frac{\omega_L^2}{Q^2}\right)} \simeq \frac{\omega_L^2 L_{\text{eff}}^2}{\left(4\omega_g^2 L_{\text{eff}}^2 + 1\right)}$$

$$\omega_0 \simeq \omega_1 \simeq \omega_L \gg \omega_g \gg \omega_m$$

# INTERFEROMETERS vs RESONATORS

$$\mathcal{T}_{\text{LIGO}} \lesssim 10^{10}$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{\text{res}} \approx Q \lesssim 10^{12}$$



# INTERFEROMETERS vs RESONATORS

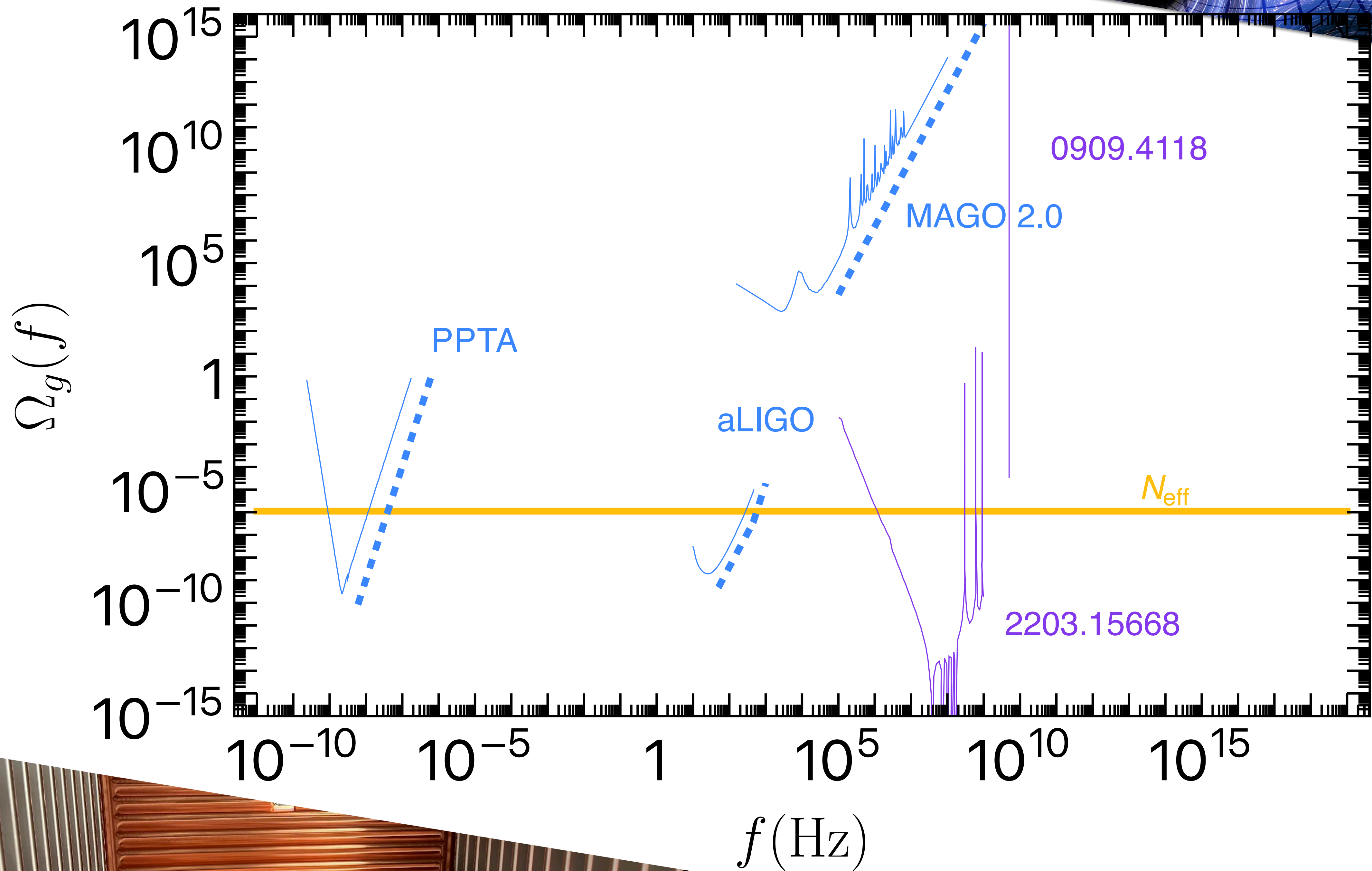
$$\Omega_g \sim (\mathcal{T}_{\text{int}})^{-2}$$

$$\Omega_g \sim \left( \mathcal{T}_{\text{res}} \sqrt{\frac{\omega}{\Delta\omega}} \approx \sqrt{Q} \right)^{-2}$$



# SUSPICIOUS SENSITIVITIES

# SOME SUSPICIOUS RESULTS



$$h_{\min} \gtrsim 10^{-24}$$

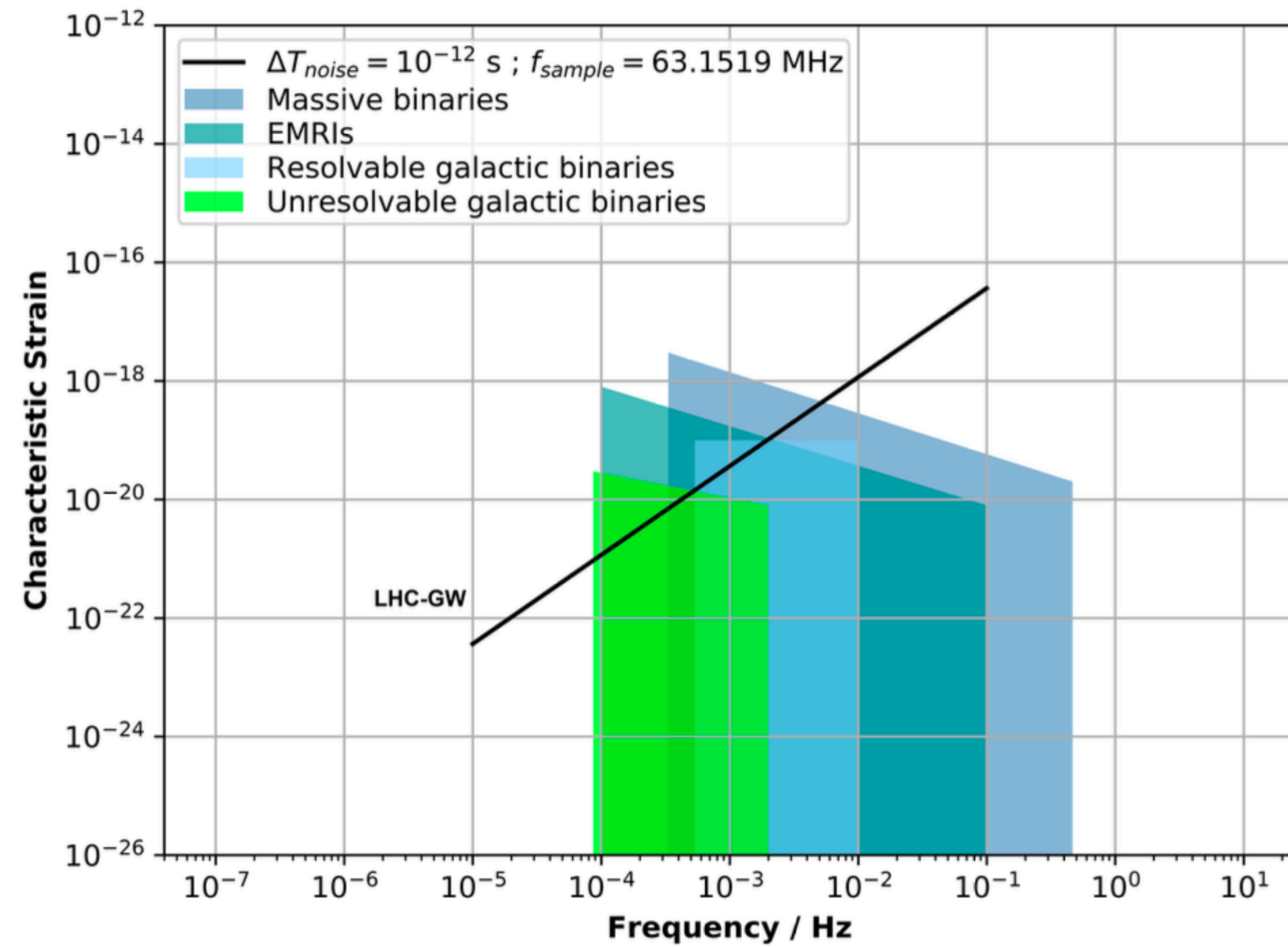
$$h_{\text{claim}} \gtrsim 10^{-30}$$

F. Li et al., Phys. Rev. D 80, 064013 (2009), 0909.4118

$$h_{\min} \gtrsim 10^{-20}$$

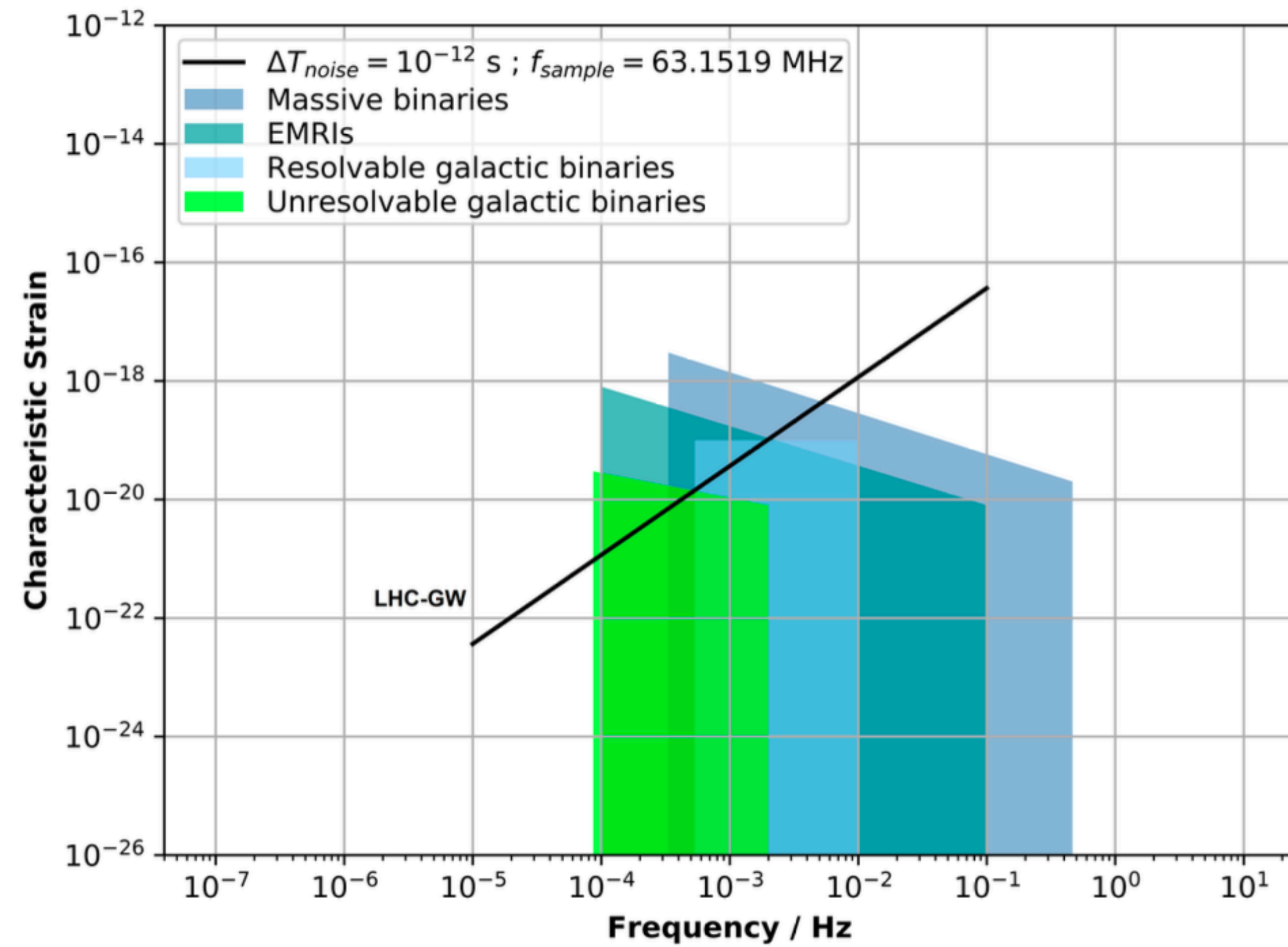
$$h_{\text{claim}} \gtrsim 10^{-24} - 10^{-36}$$

N. Herman, L. Lehoucq, and A. Fúzfa, Phys. Rev. D 108, 124009  
(2023), 2203.15668



Rao, Bruggen, Lisle

*Phys.Rev.D* 102 (2020) 12, 122006, *Phys.Rev.D* 105 (2022) 6,  
 069903 (erratum)



$$h \gtrsim 10^{-11} \quad \mathcal{T}_{\text{LHC}} \simeq \frac{\omega_g^2}{(10 \text{ Hz})^2}$$

ACKNOWLEDGED IN  
2301.08331

# CONCLUSION

$$v \frac{dr}{dr} = -\frac{\Omega_k^2 r + \dots}{2}$$

$$u^r dr + \sqrt{g_{\alpha\beta}} \dots$$



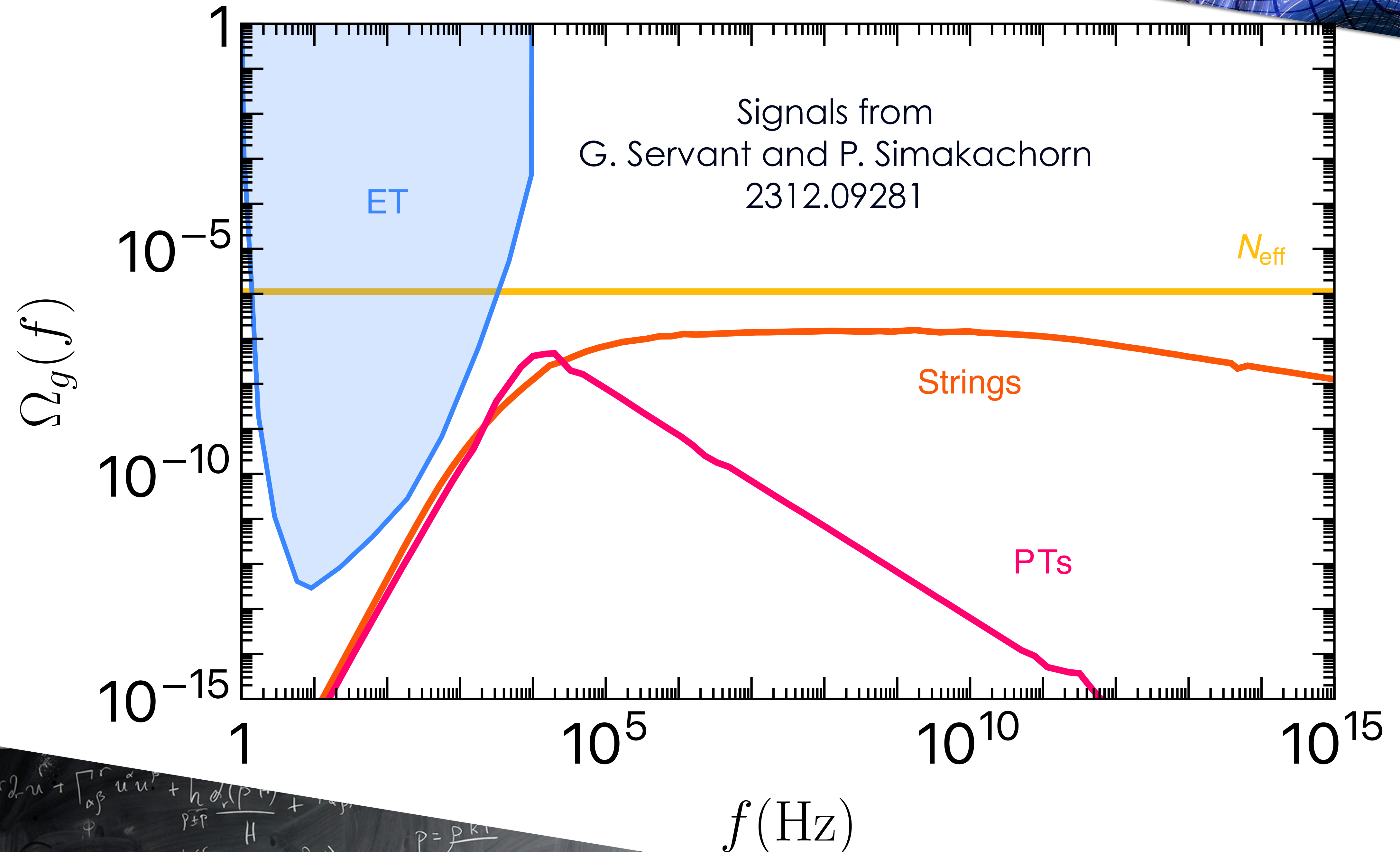
$$\frac{h''}{\rho} \left( 2rp + \rho \frac{2rH}{H} \right) = \frac{v^2 - c_s^2}{v}$$
$$\frac{d_r(\rho c_s^2)}{\rho} = c_s^2 \frac{d_r \rho}{\rho} = c_s^2 \frac{d_r \rho'}{\rho'}$$

$$v = w v_0 \rightarrow \dots$$

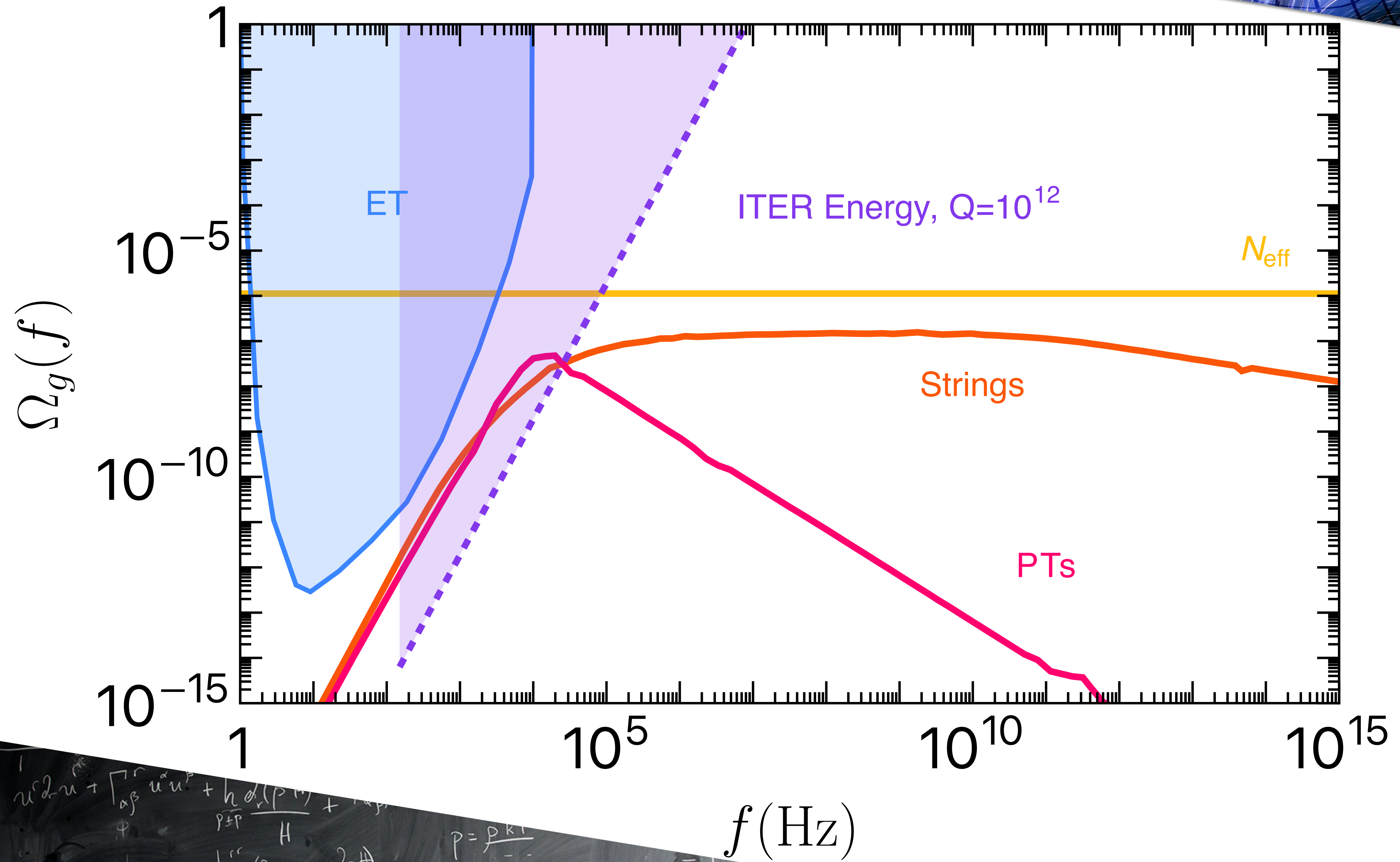
$$\sqrt{v_0} (v_0 \partial_r w + w \partial_r v_0)$$



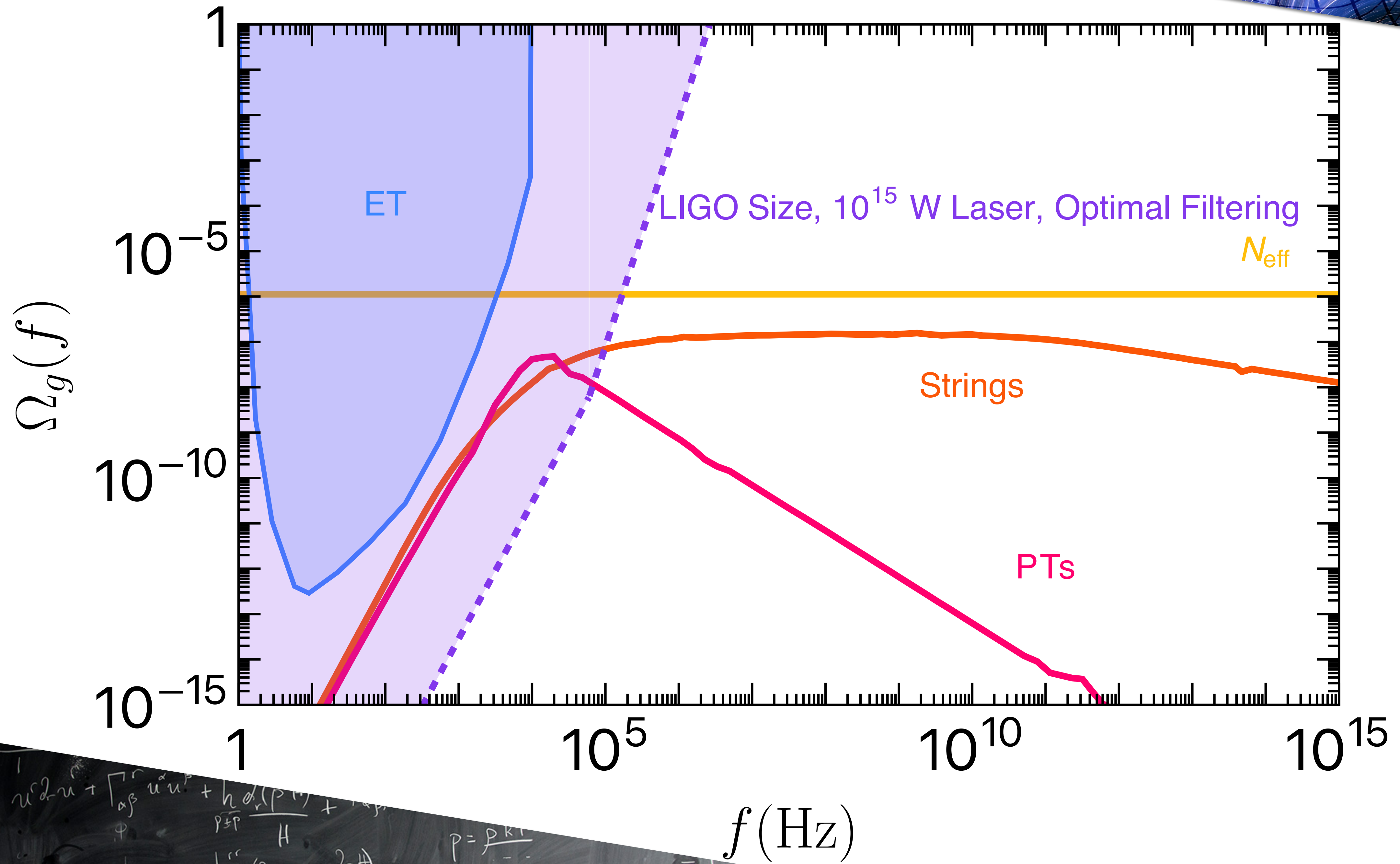
# SOME LARGE SIGNALS



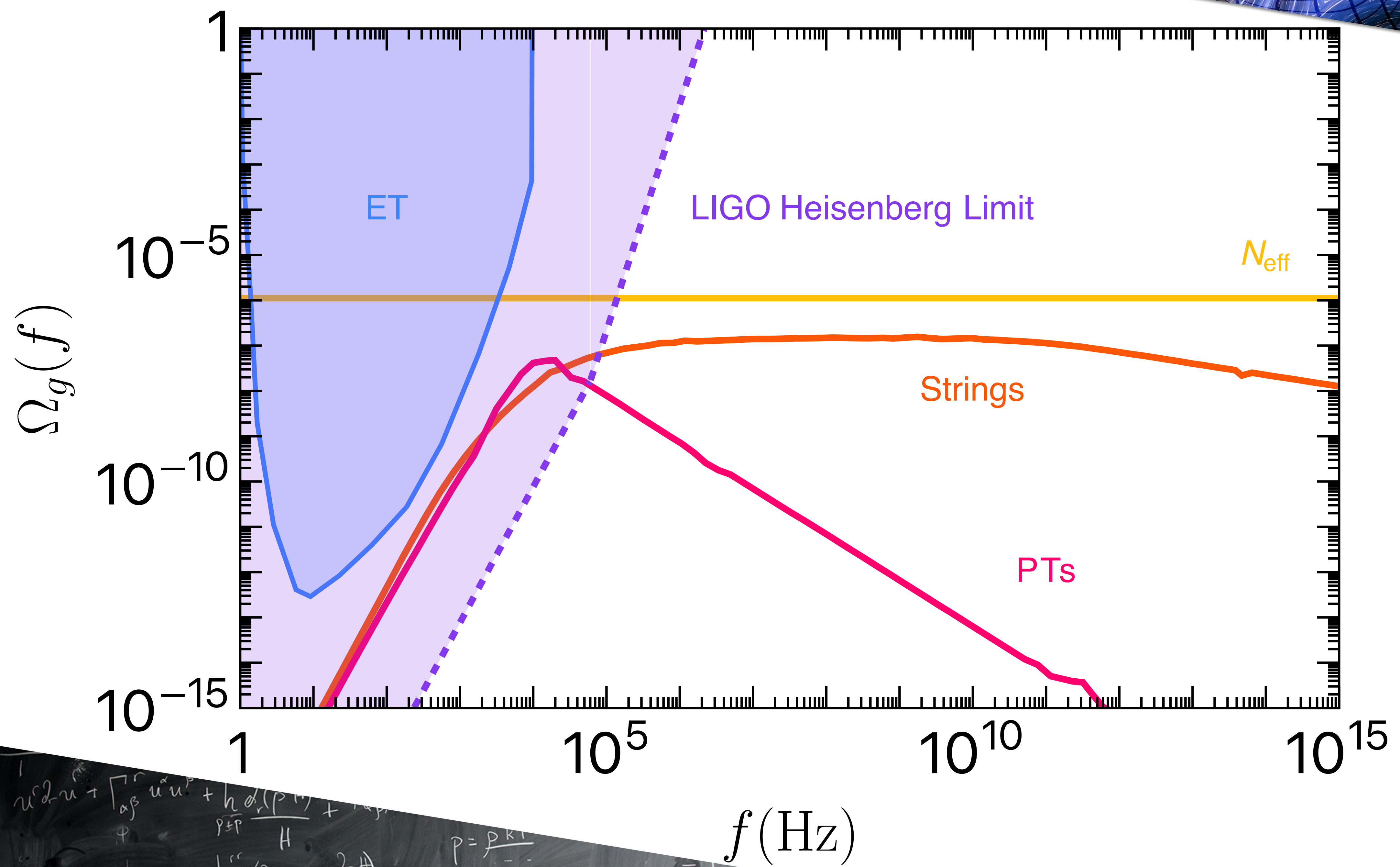
# "CRAZY" RESONATOR



# "CRAZY" LASER



# "CRAZY" QUANTUM LASER



$$\Omega_g(\omega_g) \sim \omega_g^3 h^2$$



**BACKUP**



# EM RESONATOR

$$\left( \omega_1^2 - \omega^2 + i \frac{\omega \omega_1}{Q} \right) \tilde{E}_h(\omega) \simeq -C_g (\omega_0 \pm \omega_g)^2 (\omega_g V^{1/3})^2 h E_0$$

$$\frac{\omega_s^2 \omega_1^2}{Q^2} U_{\text{sig}} = h^2 U_{\text{in}} (\omega_g V^{1/3})^4 (\omega_0 \pm \omega_g)^4$$

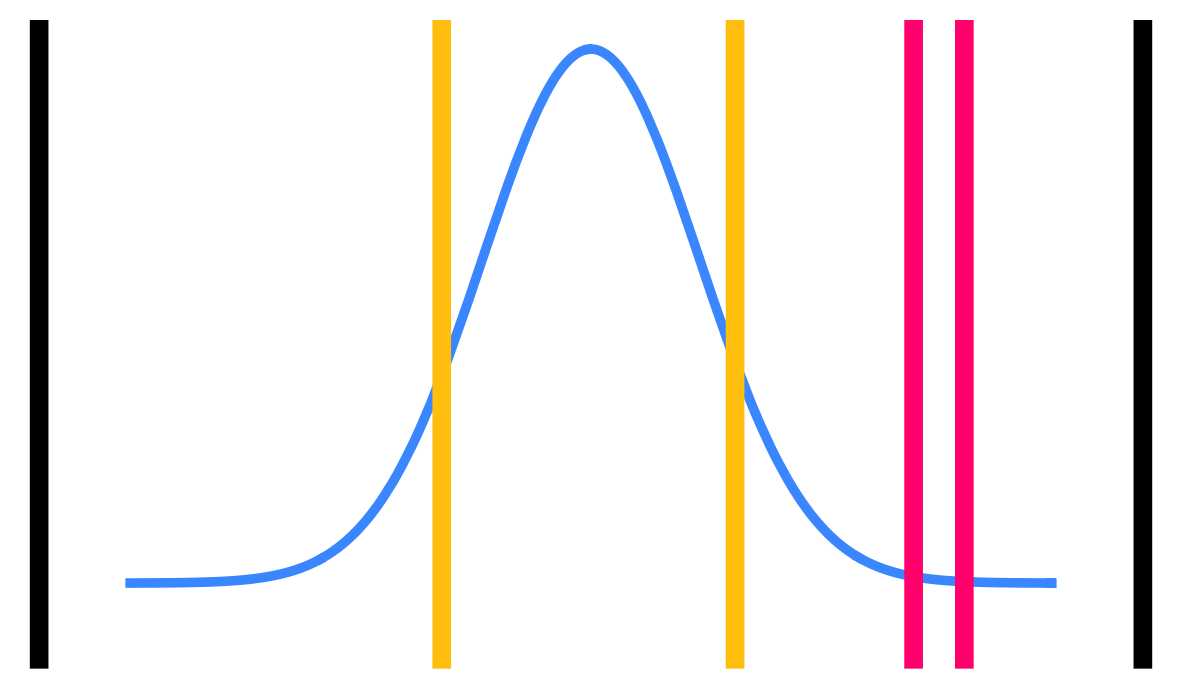
$$\mathcal{T}^2 = (\omega_g V^{1/3})^4 \frac{(\omega_0 \pm \omega_g)^4}{\omega_s^2 \omega_1^2} Q^2$$

$$\mathcal{T}^2 \simeq \begin{cases} Q^2, & \text{ADMX - like : } \omega_s = \omega_g = \omega_1, \omega_0 = 0, \\ Q^2 \frac{\omega_g^4}{\omega_0^4}, & \text{MAGO - like : } \omega_s = \omega_0 = \omega_1 \gg \omega_g. \end{cases}$$



# BROAD SIGNAL

Detector Bandwidth  $\Delta\omega_d$



$t_{\text{int}}^{-1}$

Resolution

Signal Width  $\Delta\omega_s$

$$\Delta\omega \equiv \max[\min[\Delta\omega_d, \Delta\omega_s], t_{\text{int}}^{-1}]$$

# BROAD SIGNAL

$$h_{\min}(\Delta f)\mathcal{T} \simeq \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{U_{\text{in}}}} \left( \frac{\Delta\omega}{2\pi t_{\text{int}}} \right)^{1/4} & \mathcal{O}(h^2) \\ \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{U_{\text{in}} t_{\text{int}}}} & \mathcal{O}(h) \end{cases}$$

$$\simeq \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{U_{\text{in}} t_{\text{int}}}}$$

Same as before

$$V = \frac{\lambda}{2} (|\phi|^2 - v^2)^2$$

$$\mu \simeq v^2 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 \\ \log \frac{m_\phi}{H} \end{array} \right.$$

$$G_N \mu = 10^{-5}$$

PT:  $\frac{\beta}{H} = 7 \quad \alpha = 10 \quad T \simeq 10^{10} \text{ GeV}$

InfKin:  $H_I \simeq 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$  + late time kination from QCD axion DM

# SAME BUT QUANTUM (EM RESONATOR)

## Perfect Resonator + GW

$$H_0 = \sum_n \omega_n a_n^\dagger(t) a_n(t) - h(\omega_g L)^2 C \sum_{m,n} \omega_m (\omega_m \pm \omega_g) a_n^\dagger a_m + \dots + h(\omega_g L)^2 \omega_g B_0 (C_1 a_{n^*} + C_2 a_{n^*}^\dagger)$$

## Measurement Port + Intrinsic Losses

$$H_R = \int d\omega \{ \omega b^\dagger(\omega) b(\omega) + g(\omega) [b(\omega) a^\dagger(t) - b^\dagger(\omega) a(t)] \}$$

# SAME BUT QUANTUM (EM RESONATOR)

Intrinsic Losses

$$\dot{a}(t) = i[H_0, a(t)] - \frac{\kappa}{2}a(t) + \sqrt{\kappa_m}a_{\text{in}}^m(t) + \sqrt{\kappa_\ell}a_{\text{in}}^\ell(t)$$

$$\dot{a}^\dagger(t) = i[H_0, a^\dagger(t)] - \frac{\kappa}{2}a^\dagger(t) + \sqrt{\kappa_m}a_{\text{in}}^{m,\dagger}(t) + \sqrt{\kappa_\ell}a_{\text{in}}^{\ell,\dagger}(t)$$

Measurement Port

# SQUEEZING

$$X = \frac{a + a^\dagger}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$Y = i \frac{a - a^\dagger}{\sqrt{2}}$$

# SQUEEZING

$$S_{Y_m Y_m}^{\text{out}} = \frac{1}{\kappa^2 + 4\Omega^2} \left( \left[ \kappa_m - \kappa_l \right]^2 + 4\Omega^2 \right) S_{Y_m Y_m}^{\text{in}} + 4\kappa_l \kappa_m S_{Y_l Y_l}^{\text{in}}$$

Measurement Port

Intrinsic Losses

$$\frac{\kappa}{2} = \frac{\omega_n}{Q_n}$$



# SQUEEZING

$$S_{Y_m Y_m}^{\text{out}} = \frac{1}{\kappa^2 + 4\Omega^2} \left( \left[ (\kappa_m - \kappa_l)^2 + 4\Omega^2 \right] S_{Y_m Y_m}^{\text{in}} + 4\kappa_l \kappa_m S_{Y_l Y_l}^{\text{in}} \right)$$

SQL:  $S_{Y_m Y_m}^{\text{in}} = S_{Y_l Y_l}^{\text{in}} = 1/2$

# SQUEEZING

$$S_{Y_m Y_m}^{\text{out}} = \frac{1}{\kappa^2 + 4\Omega^2} \left( \left[ (\kappa_m - \kappa_l)^2 + 4\Omega^2 \right] S_{Y_m Y_m}^{\text{in}} + 4\kappa_l \kappa_m S_{Y_l Y_l}^{\text{in}} \right)$$

SV:  $S_{Y_m Y_m}^{\text{in}} = \frac{e^{-2r}}{2} \ll S_{Y_l Y_l}^{\text{in}} = 1/2$

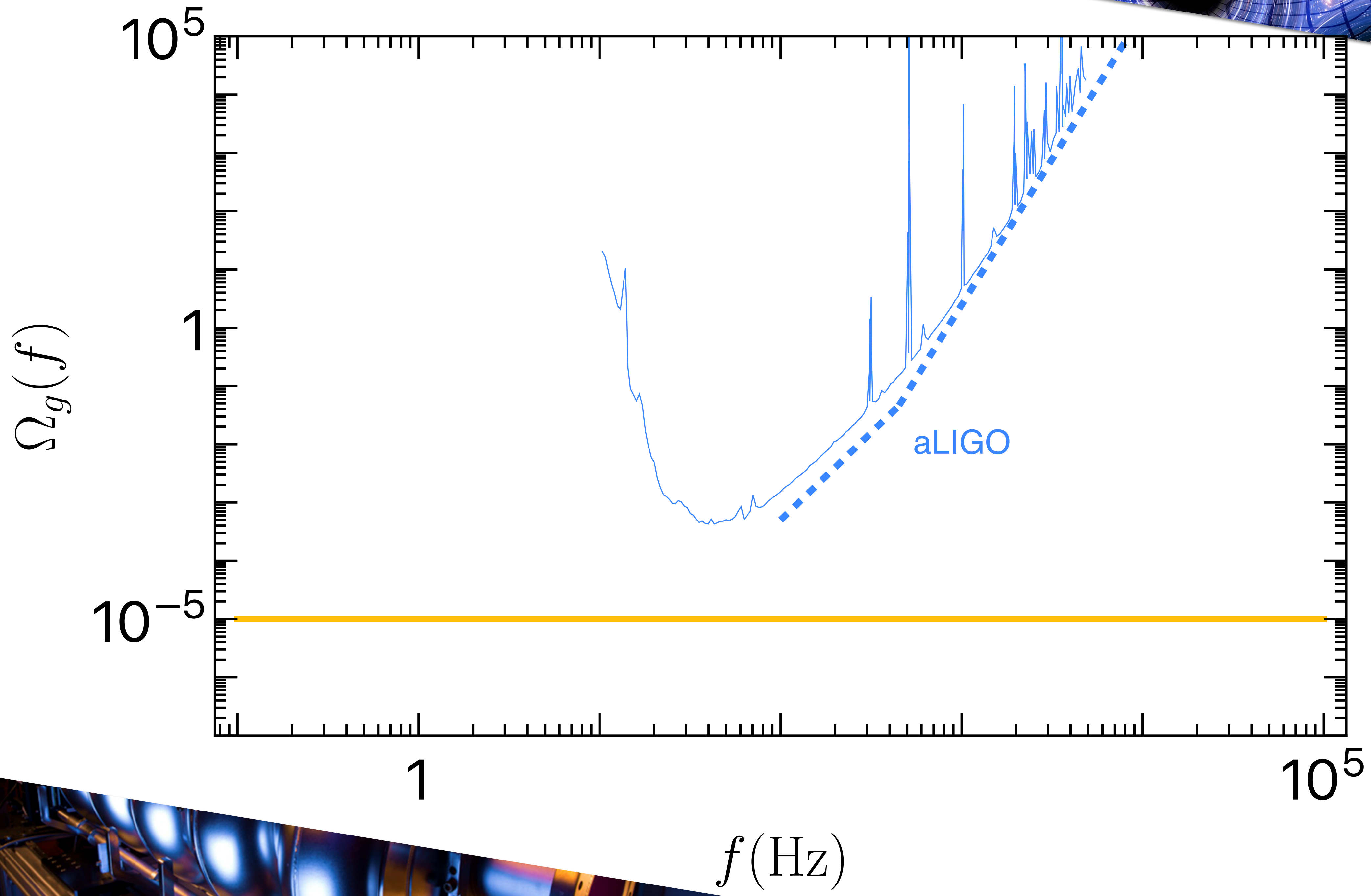
# MANY OTHER IDEAS

1. Quantum non-demolition measurements: for instance “speedometers” for interferometers, strongly suppress back action from the laser

$$S_{hh} \simeq \frac{\kappa^2 + 4\Omega^2}{4U_{\text{in}}\omega_L^2} + \frac{16U_{\text{in}}\omega_L^2}{L^4 M_{\text{mirror}}\Omega^4(\kappa^2 + 4\Omega^2)}$$

2. Entanglement of input photons to get an advantage that scales like N when combining N interferometers

....



# BANDWIDTH SQUEEZING

$$Q_{\text{cpl}} = Q_{\text{int}} / (T / \omega_s)$$

$$\omega_s \rightarrow \omega_s e^{-2r}$$

$$h \rightarrow h e^{-r}$$