

# Beyond Gauss?

## A more accurate model for LISA astrophysical noise sources

Heterogeneous Data and Large  
Representation Models in Science  
Toulouse, FR  
2024/10/01

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# The global fit

Separating overlapping Gravitational Waves signals is an *extremely* hard problem  
(global fit challenge)

**Can we help AI to help us?**

# The global fit

Scores from a penguin cacophony



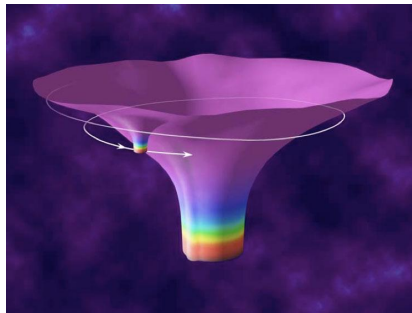
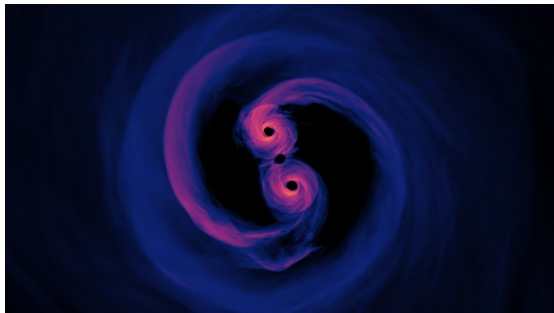
Hundreds



Tens to thousands



Millions



# The data

## Transients signals (i.e. MBHB)



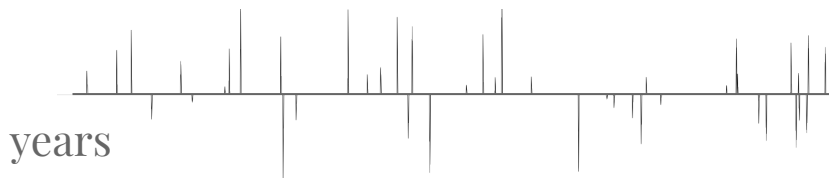
Is it stochastic?

Individual event  
search & parameter  
estimation



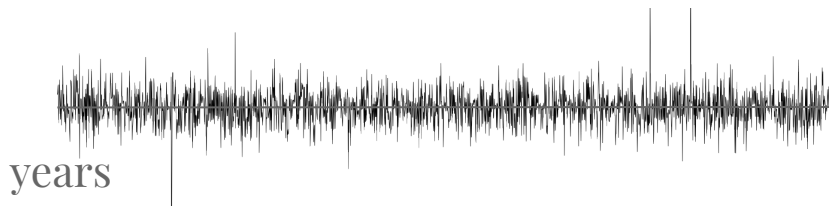
Is it stochastic?

Overlapping events  
S&PE



Is it deterministic?

Non-Gaussian stochastic  
signal S&PE



Is it deterministic?

Gaussian stochastic  
signal S&PE

# The data

## Transients signals (i.e. MBHB)



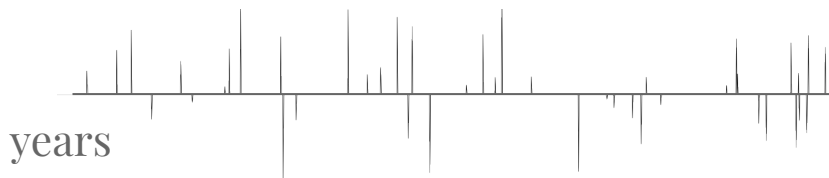
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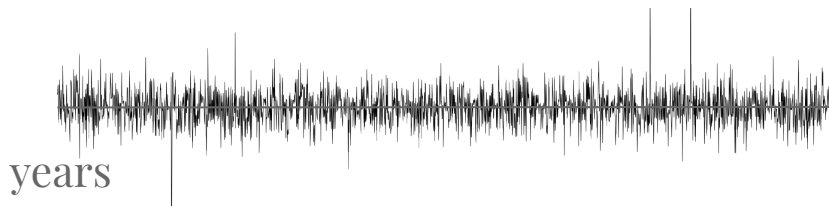
Is it stochastic?

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Is it deterministic?

$\text{SNR} > \rho_{\text{thres}}(\mathbf{P}_{\text{FA}})$   
Non-Gaussian stochastic  
signal S&PE

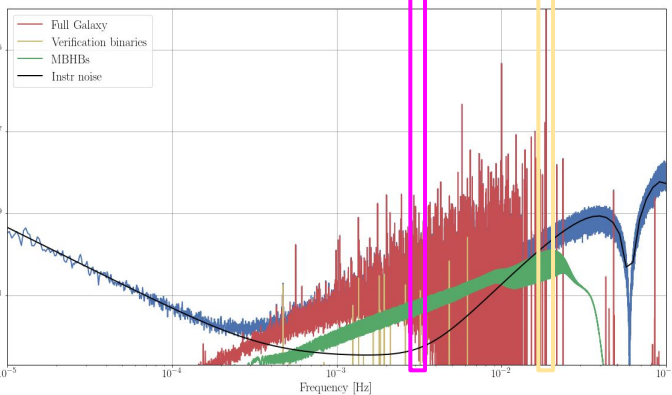


Is it deterministic?

Gaussian stochastic  
signal S&PE

# The data

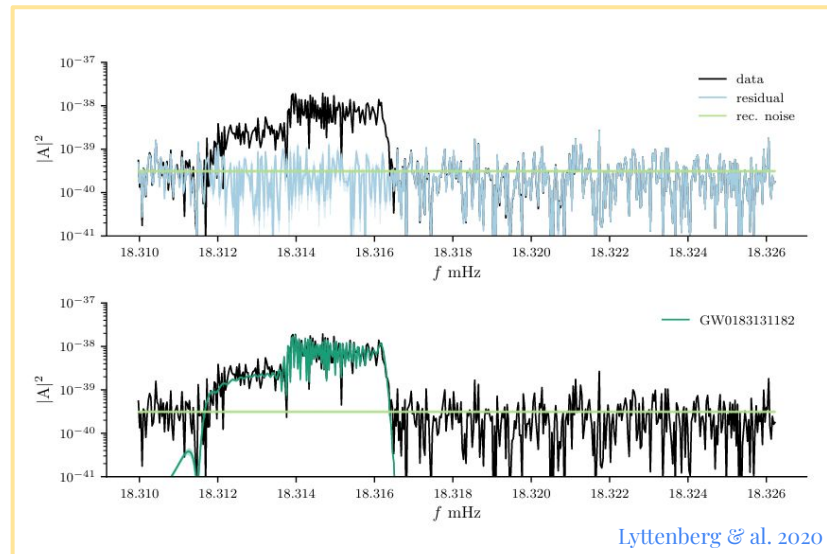
## Persistent signals (i.e. GBs)



LISA Data Challenge

Is it stochastic?

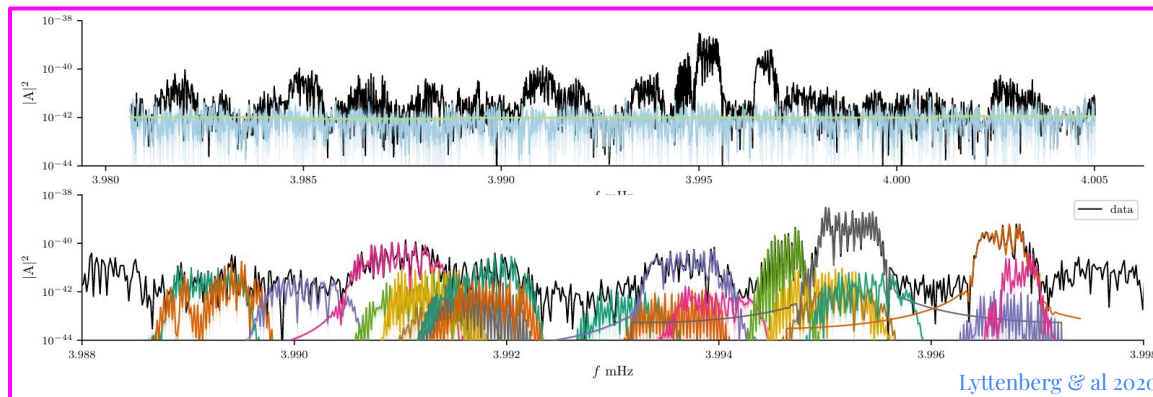
Is it stochastic?



Lyttenberg & al. 2020

Is it deterministic?

Is it deterministic?

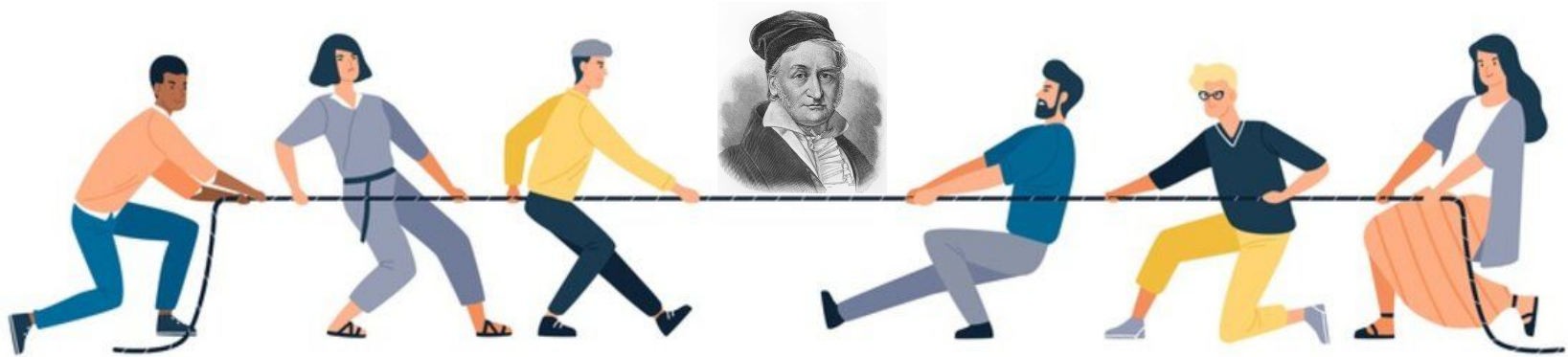


Lyttenberg & al. 2020

# Stochastic or Deterministic

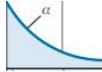
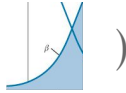
It is required by the data!

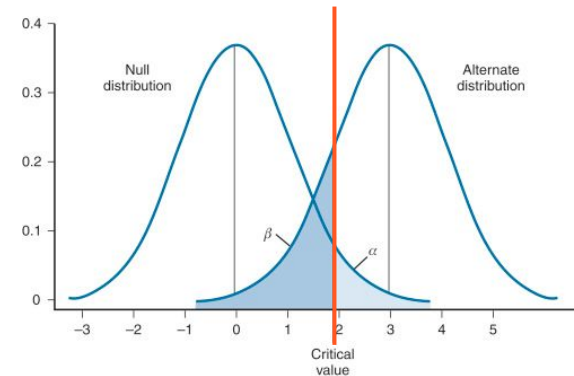
It is a modelling choice!



# Detection statistics

Or “How to construct a frequentist detector”

- Model the data under both hypotheses (noise, noise+signal).
- Fix the probability of false alarm  $P_{FA}$ : i.e. 
- Maximize the probability of detection  $P_D$  at fixed  $P_{FA}$ : i.e.  $(1 - \beta)$  
- Isolate the dependence on data in “sufficient statistics”  $\mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{s})$  (SNR is just an example)
- Obtain a threshold as a function of  $P_{FA}$ : i.e. **AI: classifiers**
- **Bonus:** the likelihood is  $P(\mathbf{s}|\mathbf{H}_1)$  **AI: regressors**

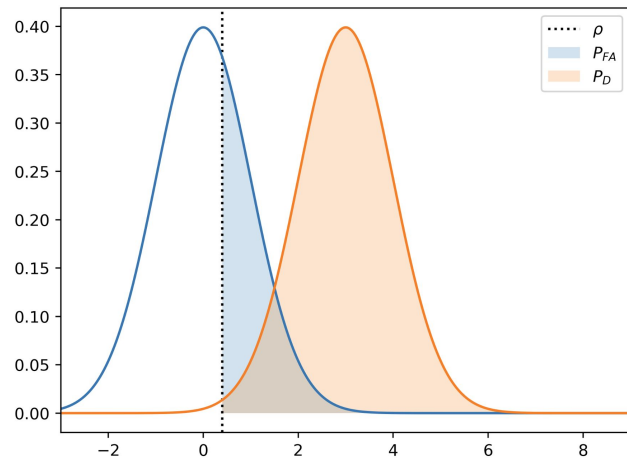




# Detection

The simplest: a fixed number in Gaussian noise

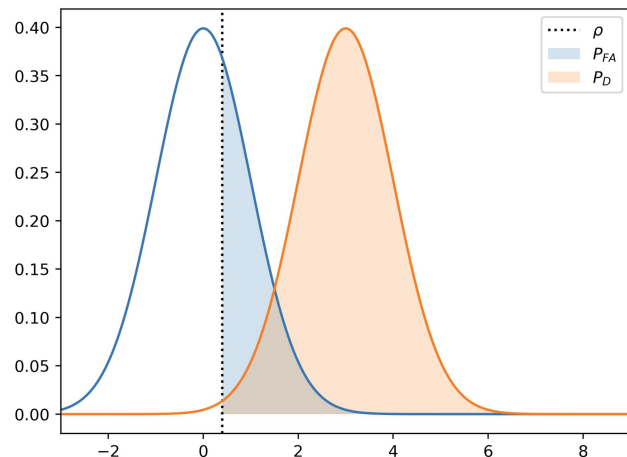
$$p(d | \mathcal{H}_0) \quad n = d \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma)$$
$$p(d | \mathcal{H}_1) \quad \mu + n = d \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$$



# Detection

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$$p(d | \mathcal{H}_0) \quad n = d \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma)$$
$$p(d | \mathcal{H}_1) \quad \mu + n = d \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$$



Collect  $d$ , how do you decide?

- Better to minimize the probability of false alarm?
- Better to maximize the probability of detection?
- Can you do both?

Optimal: Neyman Pearson detector

Threshold that maximizes the probability of detection at a fixed probability of false alarm.

$$\hat{s}(d) > \rho(P_{FA})$$

In GW context:

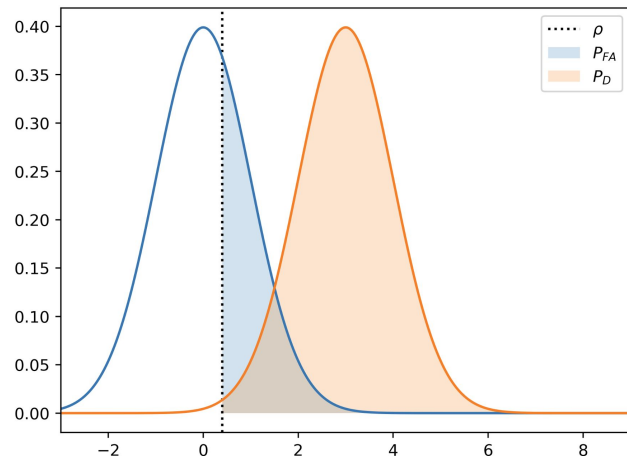
$$\text{SNR}^2 = 4 \int_0^\infty df \frac{|\tilde{h}(f)|^2}{S_h(f)}$$
$$\text{SNR} > \rho_{\text{thres}}(P_{FA})$$

# Detection

The simplest: a fixed number in Gaussian noise

$$p(d | \mathcal{H}_0) \quad n = d \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma)$$

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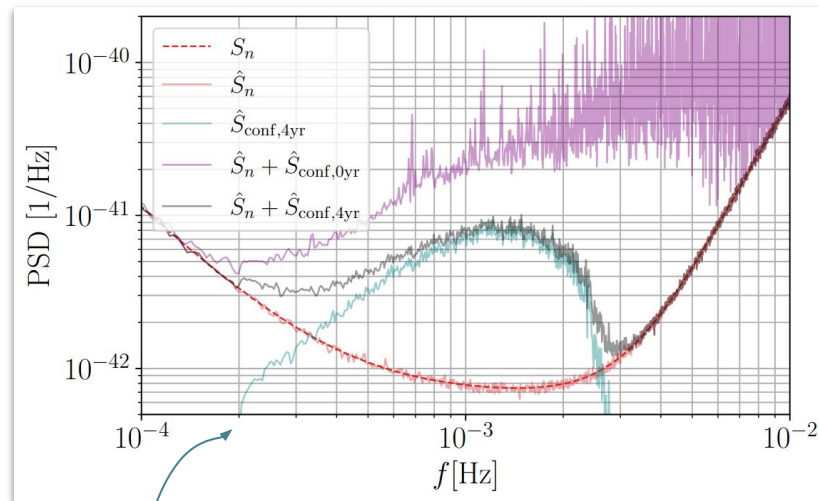
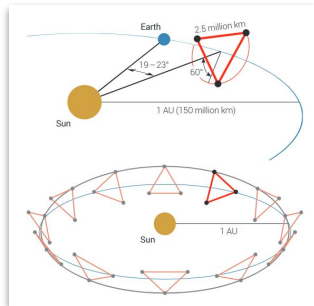
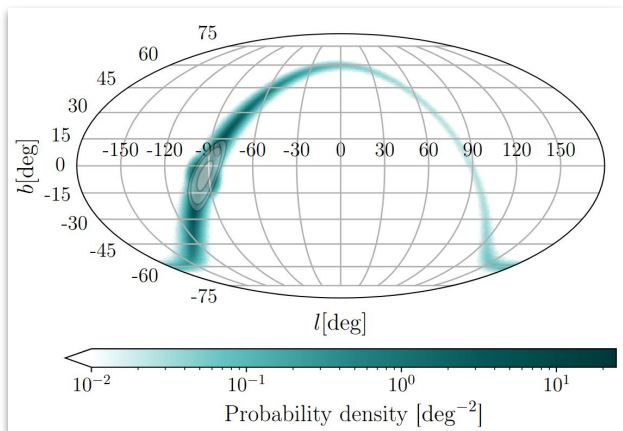
$$\text{SNR}^2 = 4 \int_0^\infty df \frac{|\tilde{h}(f)|^2}{S_h(f)}$$

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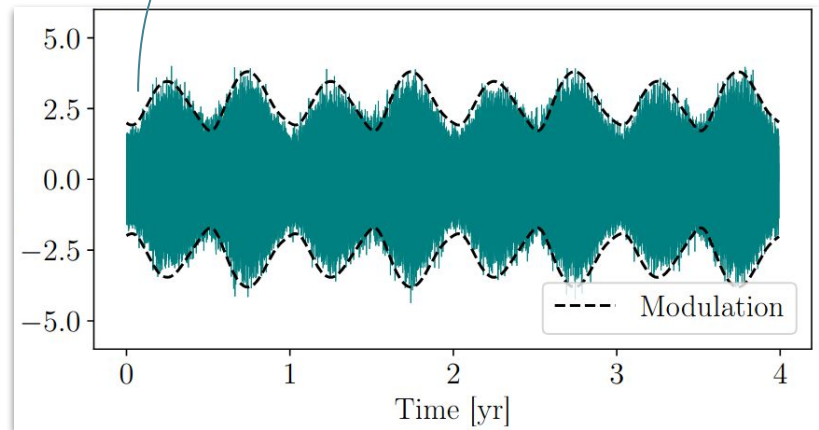
It is optimal to treat it as deterministic. 11

# Galactic binaries

$10^4$  needles in  $10^6$  hay straws



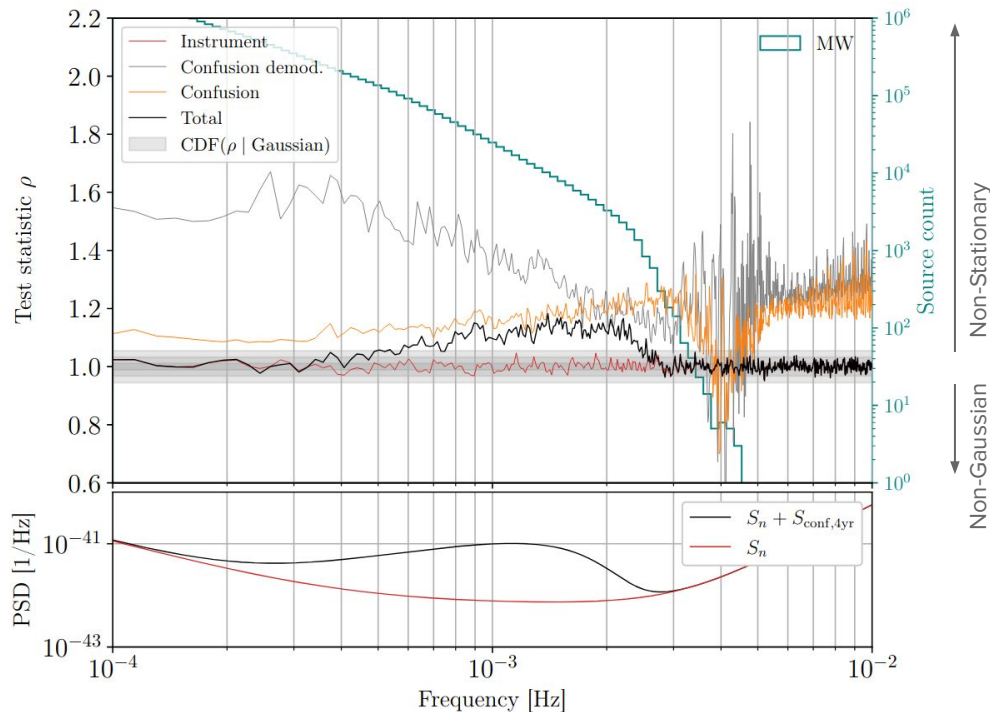
Is it ergodic?  
Is it stationary?  
Is it Gaussian?



# Galactic binaries

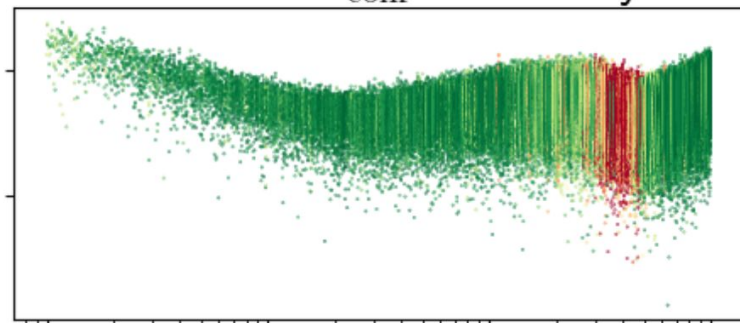
$10^4$  needles in  $10^6$  hay straws

Busicchio+ (out soon)

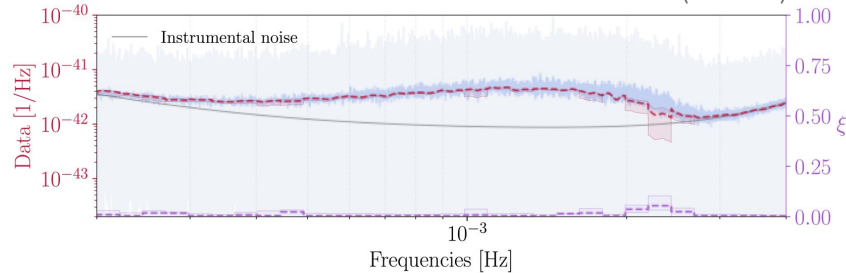


Rosati+ (out soon)

## GLASSv1 $S_{conf}$ Gaussianity



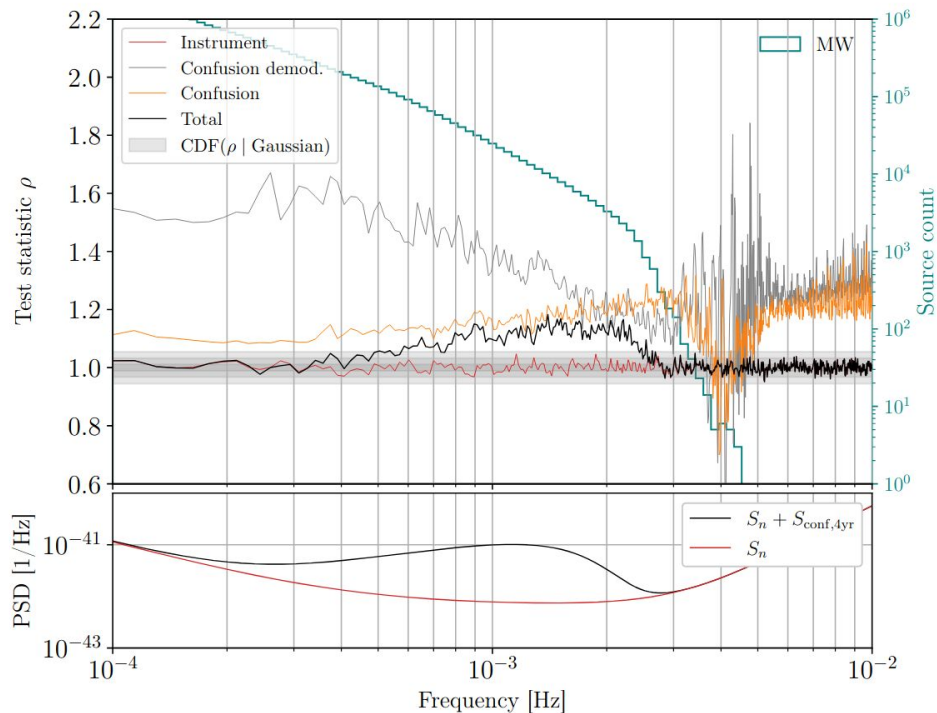
Karnesis+ (out soon)



# Galactic binaries

$10^4$  needles in  $10^6$  hay straws

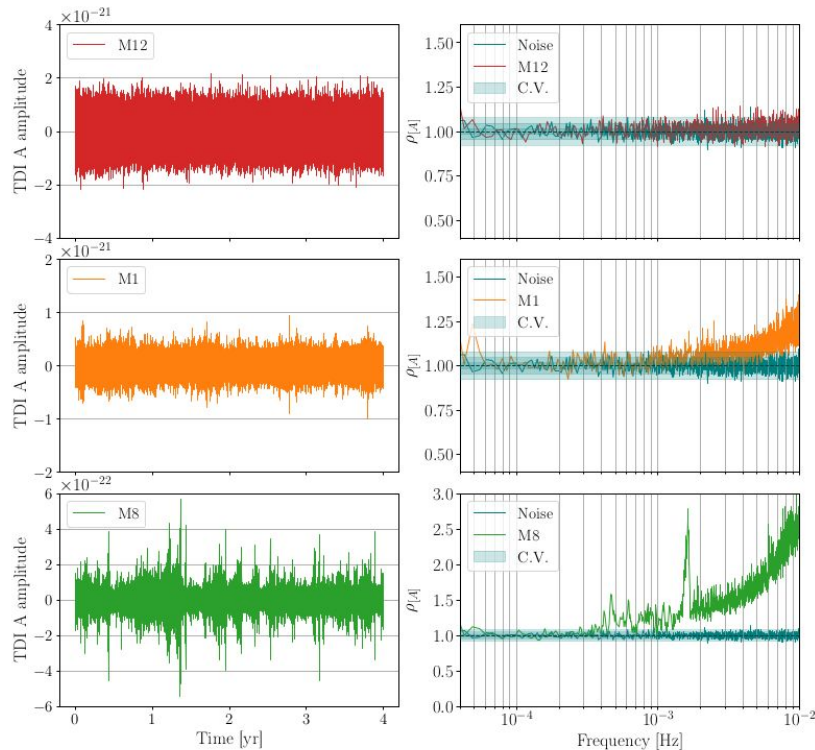
Busicchio+ (out next week)



# Bonus: EMRIs

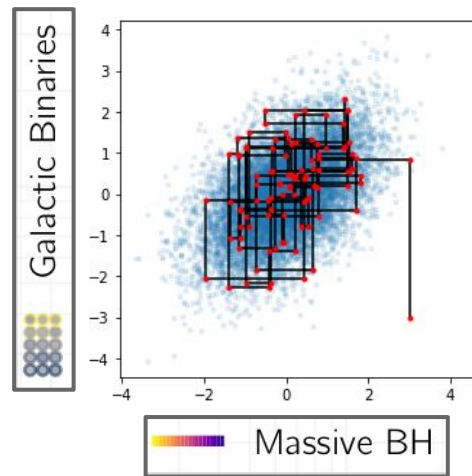
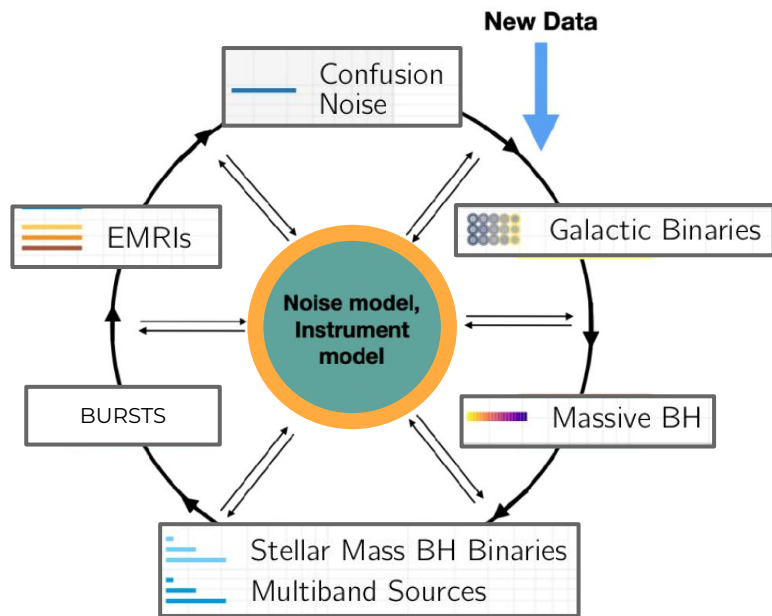
? needles in ? hay straws

Piarulli, Busicchio, Burke+ (out next week)



# Blocked Gibbs

## A viable approach



Gibbs, “the sampler”



Sommese & al  
Animal Cognition (2022)  
25:701–705

$$X_1^{(t+1)} | \cdot \sim f \left( x_1 | x_2^{(t)}, \dots, x_p^{(t)} \right),$$

$$X_2^{(t+1)} | \cdot \sim f \left( x_2 | x_1^{(t+1)}, x_3^{(t)}, \dots, x_p^{(t)} \right),$$

⋮

$$X_{p-1}^{(t+1)} | \cdot \sim f \left( x_{p-1} | x_1^{(t+1)}, x_2^{(t+1)}, \dots, x_{p-2}^{(t+1)}, x_p^{(t)} \right),$$

$$X_p^{(t+1)} | \cdot \sim f \left( x_p | x_1^{(t+1)}, x_2^{(t+1)}, \dots, x_{p-1}^{(t+1)} \right),$$

# Likelihoods

for parameter estimation

(1) individual events: a model for the noise

$$\mathcal{L}(d \mid \mathcal{M}, q, \dots) = p(n = d - h(\mathcal{M}, q) \mid \mathcal{M}, q, \dots)$$

(2) multiple events: a model for the noise

$$\mathcal{L}(d \mid \mathcal{M}_1, q_1, \dots) = p(n = d - \sum_i^N h_i(\mathcal{M}_i, q_i) \mid \mathcal{M}_1, q_1, \dots)$$

(3) stochastic background: a model for two noises (or more)

$$\mathcal{L}(d \mid S_h, S_n) = p(d \mid S_h, S_n)$$

**LISA**  $\mathcal{L}(d \mid \mathcal{M}_1, q_1, \dots, N, S_h, S_n) = p(n = d - \sum_i^N h_i(\mathcal{M}_i, q_i) \mid \mathcal{M}_1, q_1, \dots, \boxed{N}, S_h, S_n)$

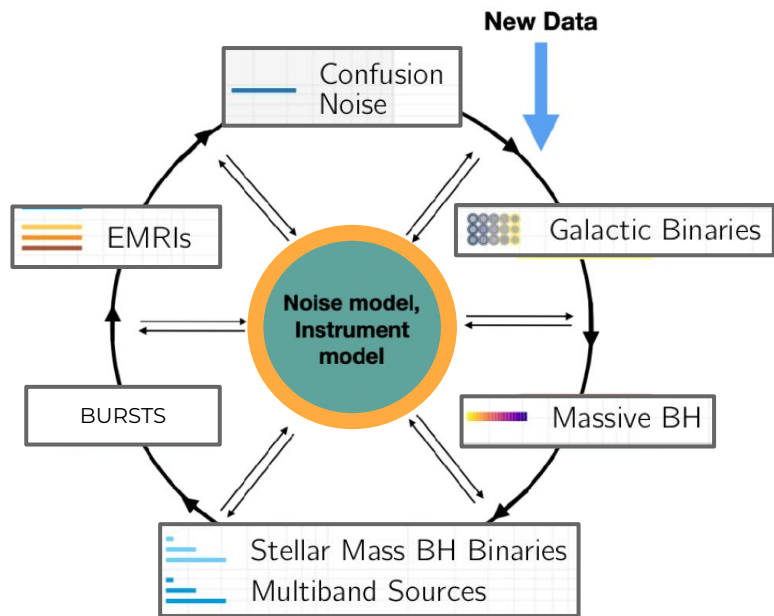
spectra  
individual sources

$$d = (M_X, M_Y, M_Z)$$



# Why does it matter?

## Source misidentification



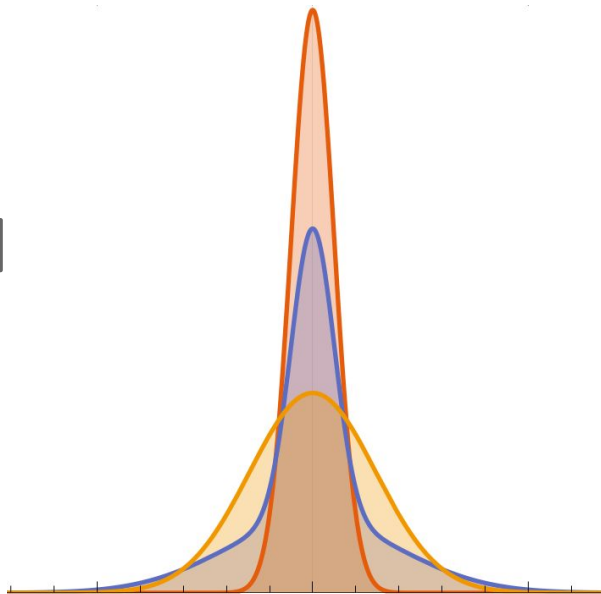
Data model

$$s_i^A = g_i^A + h_i^A + n_i^A$$

Instrumental noise

Unresolved sources (True)

Unresolved sources (Gaussian approx.)

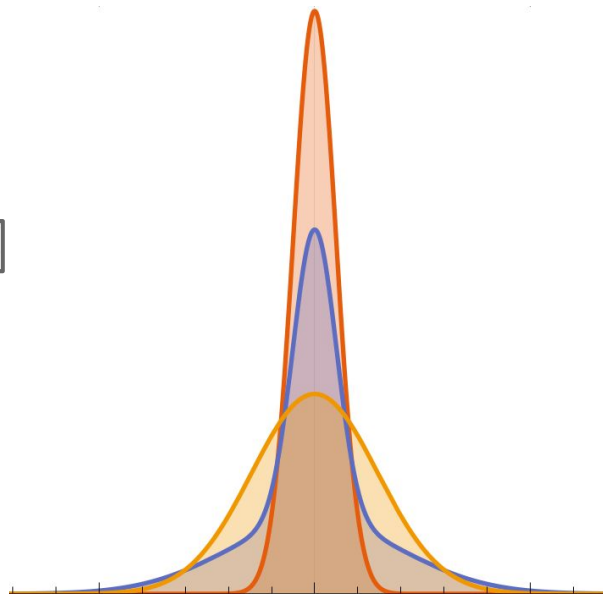
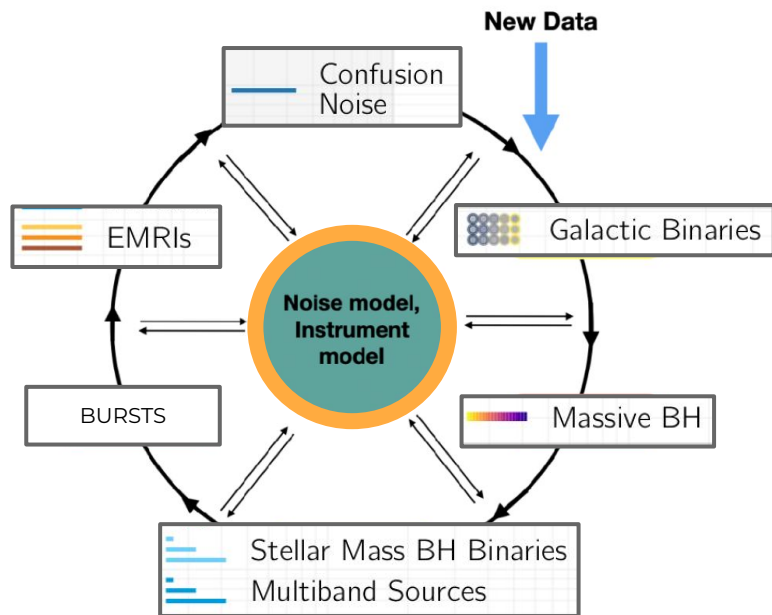


$\mathcal{L}(d | \theta)$  More difficult to absorb in SGWB

Easier to absorb in SGWB  $\mathcal{L}(d | \theta)$

# Why does it matter?

## Source misidentification



**Instrumental noise**

**Unresolved sources  
(True)**

**Unresolved sources  
(Gaussian approx.)**

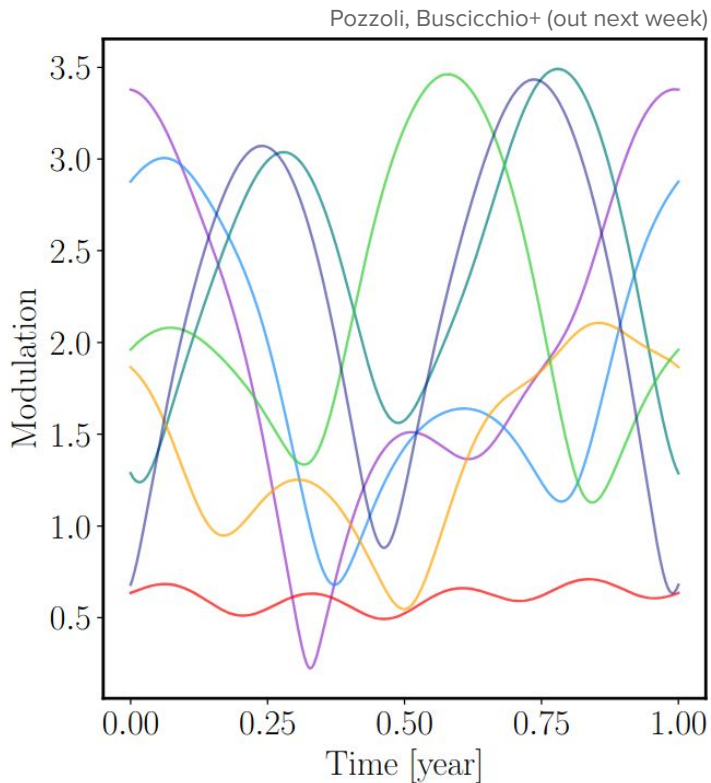
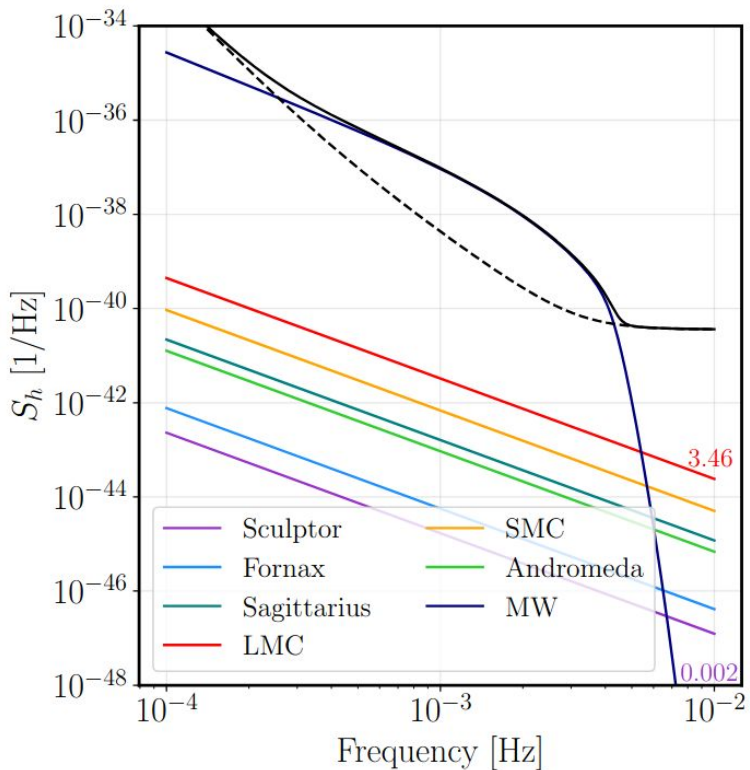
$$\mathcal{L}(d | \theta)$$

**Can we help AI to help us?  
Likelihood-free methods?**

$$\mathcal{L}(d | \theta)$$

# How to help AI

## Another example: quasi-stationarity

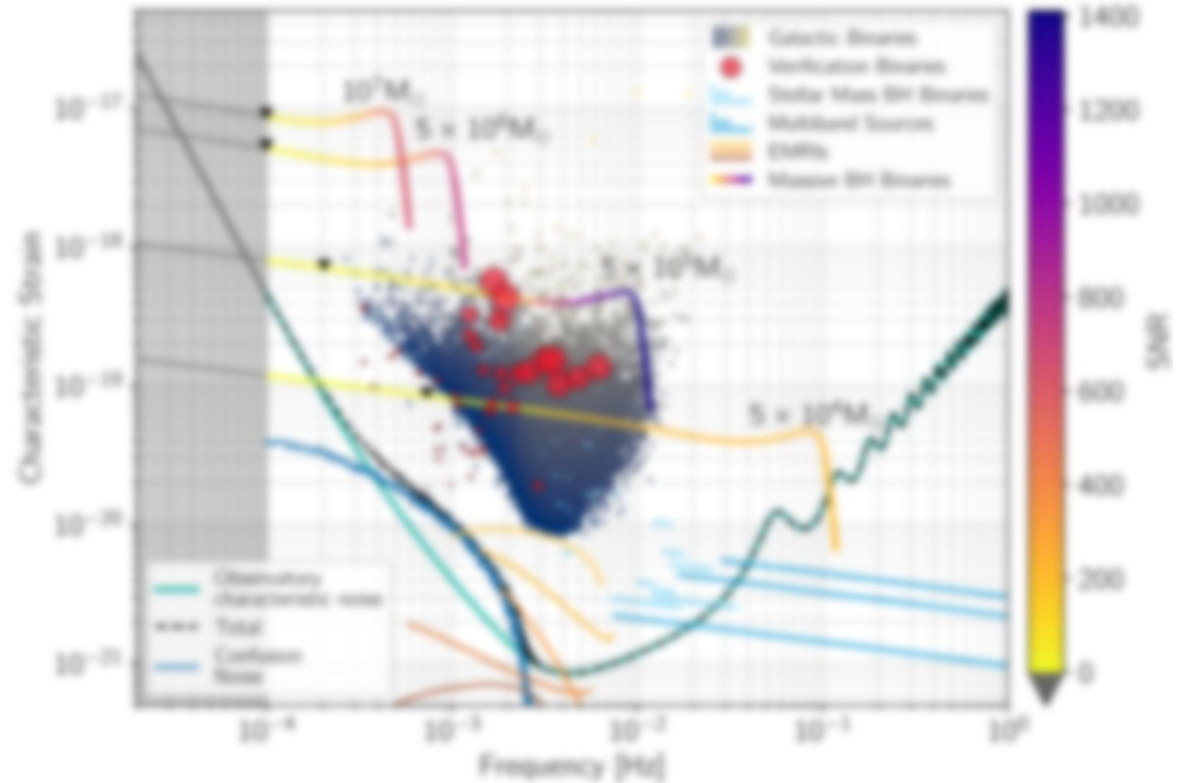


# Why does it matter?

$10^4$  needles in  $10^6$  hay straws

Mismodelling biases:

- Biases in  $\Omega_{\text{GW}}$
- Misinterpret multiple  $\{\Omega_{\text{GW},i}\}$  as a single  $\Omega_{\text{GW}}$
- Individual source PE biases
- Population



**Thanks**  
**Questions?**

# Noise and signal

## A new degree of freedom

Data model

$$s_i^{\mathcal{A}} = g_i^{\mathcal{A}} + h_i^{\mathcal{A}} + n_i^{\mathcal{A}}$$

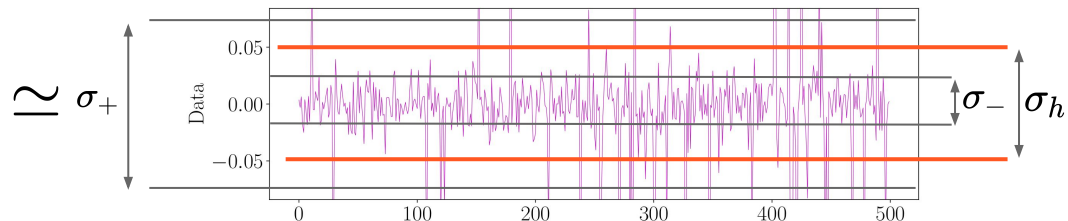
$$p_n [n_i^{\mathcal{A}}] = \mathcal{N}_n \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{W}_n(n, n) \right) \quad \text{Noise model}$$

$$p_h [h_i] = \gamma_+ \mathcal{N}(h_i; \sigma_+) + \mathcal{N}(h_i; \sigma_-) \quad \text{Signal model}$$

$$\gamma_+ = \frac{\sigma_h^2 - \sigma_-^2}{\sigma_+^2 - \sigma_-^2} \quad \gamma_- = \frac{\sigma_+^2 - \sigma_h^2}{\sigma_+^2 - \sigma_-^2}$$

$$\sigma_+ > \sigma_h > \sigma_-$$

Gaussian searches see only  $\sigma_h$



# Data

## A new degree of freedom

$$\begin{aligned} p_s [s_i^A] &= \mathcal{N}_n \mathcal{N}_g \int_h \int_g p_h [h] \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{W}_n (s - h - g, s - h - g) - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{W}_g (g, g) \right) \\ &= \mathcal{N}_{n+g} \int_h p_h [h] \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{W}_{n+g} (s - h, s - h) \right) \end{aligned}$$

Hard to model (Wick's theorem), easy to sample (see Buscicchio [2209.01400](#))

Frequentist approach

Bayesian approach

# Improved statistics

## A careful subtraction

**Task:** remove noise dominated non-zero terms under null-hypothesis

**Most general solution:**

$$\hat{y}_s = \hat{y} \left[ \left( \sum_{\mathcal{A}} u^{\mathcal{A}} \right)^2 \right] - \frac{1}{2^{N_D}} \underbrace{\sum_{\varepsilon_1=-1,1} \cdots \sum_{\varepsilon_{N_D}=-1,1}}_{\text{Combinatorics}} \hat{y} \left[ \left( \sum_{\mathcal{A}} \varepsilon_{\mathcal{A}} u^{\mathcal{A}} \right)^2 \right]$$

Diagram annotations:

- Arrow from "Exact, single-data statistics" to  $\hat{y}_s$
- Arrow from "Detector index" to  $\hat{y}$
- Arrow from "Noise-whitened data" to  $\sum_{\mathcal{A}} u^{\mathcal{A}}$
- Arrow from "Exact, single-data statistics" to  $\hat{y}$  in the second term

**Remark 1:** result does not depend on the specific choice of statistics.

**Remark 2:** result does not depend on GW model. It lives in “detector” indices.

**Remark 3:** result is **neither** perturbative in non-Gaussianity, **nor** in # of overlapping events (i.e. **neither** Regimbau, Mandic, **nor** Smith&Thrane)