

Title: Cross-Correlation Methods in Continuous Gravitational-Wave Searches

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Abstract: Cross-correlation of gravitational-wave (GW) data streams has been used to search for stochastic backgrounds, and the same technique was applied to look for periodic GWs from the low-mass X-ray binary (LMXB) Sco X-1. Recently a technique was developed which refines the cross-correlation scheme to take full advantage of the signal model for periodic gravitational waves from rotating neutron stars. By varying the time window over which data streams are correlated, the search can &quot;trade off&quot; between parameter sensitivity and computational cost. I describe this cross-correlation method and potential applications to search LIGO and Virgo data for periodic GWs from systems with partially-known parameters, such as supernova remnants without an associated known pulsar, the center of the Milky Way Galaxy, and LMXBs



# A Cross-Correlation Technique to Search for Periodic Gravitational Waves

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Strong Gravity Seminar  
Perimeter Institute, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada  
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# Outline

- 1 Searches for Gravitational Waves
  - Crash Course in Gravitational Wave Physics
  - Gravitational-Wave Sources & Signals
  - Gravitational-Wave Observations & Detectors
- 2 Cross-Correlation Method
  - Application to Stochastic Background
  - Application to Quasiperiodic Gravitational-Wave Signals
  - Tuning Search by Choice of Data Segments to Correlate
- 3 Applications and Outlook
  - Directed Search for Young Neutron Stars
  - Accreting Neutron Stars in Low-Mass X-Ray Binaries
  - Summary

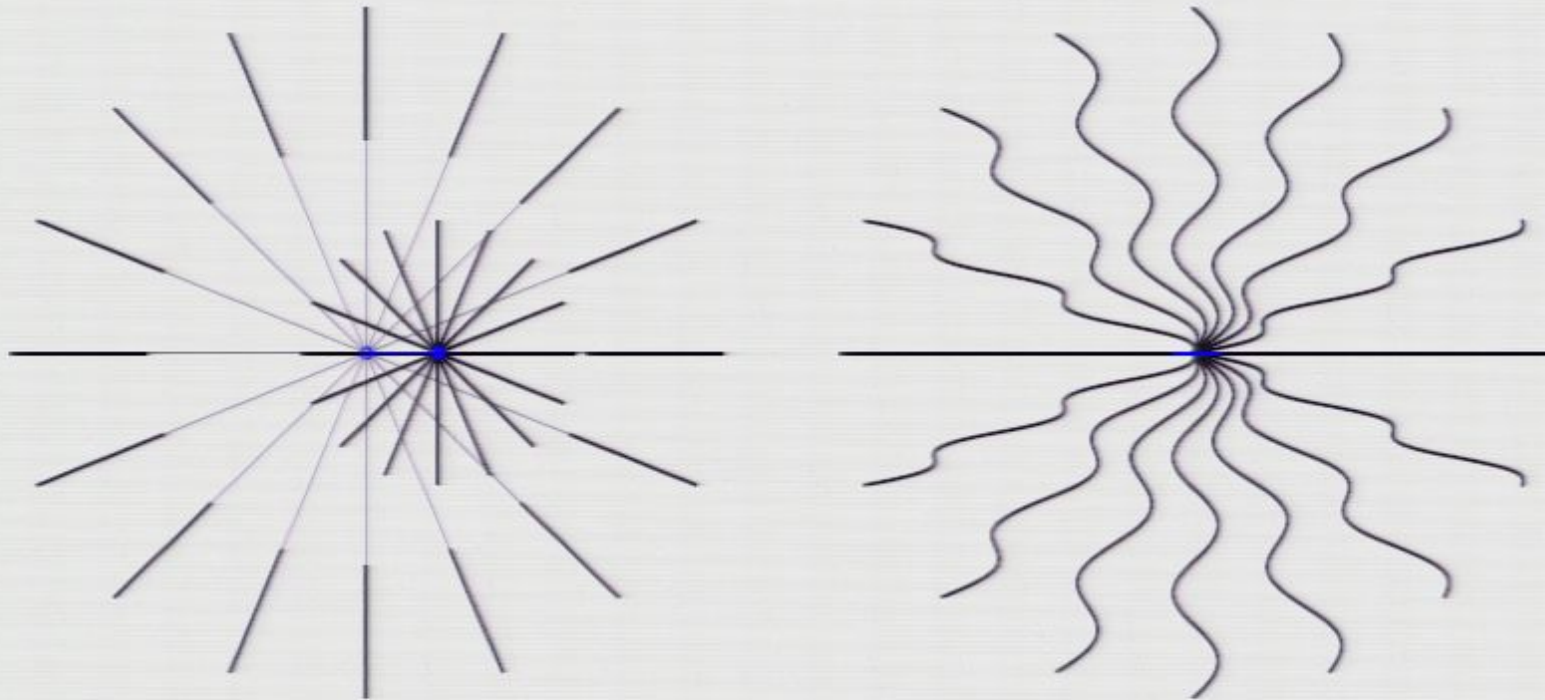


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# Motivation



- In **Newtonian gravity**, force dep on distance btwn objects
- If massive object suddenly moved, grav field at a distance would change **instantaneously**
- In relativity, **no** signal can travel faster than light  
→ time-dep grav fields must propagate like light waves



# Gravity as Geometry

- Minkowski Spacetime:

$$ds^2 = -c^2(dt)^2 + (dx)^2 + (dy)^2 + (dz)^2$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} dt \\ dx \\ dy \\ dz \end{pmatrix}^{\text{tr}} \begin{pmatrix} -c^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} dt \\ dx \\ dy \\ dz \end{pmatrix} = \eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu$$

- General Spacetime:

$$ds^2 = \begin{pmatrix} dx^0 \\ dx^1 \\ dx^2 \\ dx^3 \end{pmatrix}^{\text{tr}} \begin{pmatrix} g_{00} & g_{01} & g_{02} & g_{03} \\ g_{10} & g_{11} & g_{12} & g_{13} \\ g_{20} & g_{21} & g_{22} & g_{23} \\ g_{30} & g_{31} & g_{32} & g_{33} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} dx^0 \\ dx^1 \\ dx^2 \\ dx^3 \end{pmatrix} = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu$$



# Gravitational Wave as Metric Perturbation

- For GW propagation & detection, work to 1st order in  $h_{\mu\nu}$   $\equiv$  difference btwn actual metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  & flat metric  $\eta_{\mu\nu}$ :

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}$$

( $h_{\mu\nu}$  “small” in weak-field regime, e.g. for GW detection)

- Convenient choice of gauge is transverse-traceless:

$$h_{0\mu} = h_{\mu 0} = 0 \quad \eta^{\nu\lambda} \frac{\partial h_{\mu\nu}}{\partial x^\lambda} = 0 \quad \eta^{\mu\nu} h_{\mu\nu} = \delta^{ij} h_{ij} = 0$$

In this gauge:

- Test particles w/constant coöords are **freely falling**
- Vacuum Einstein eqns  $\implies$  wave equation for  $\{h_{ij}\}$ :

$$\left( -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} + \nabla^2 \right) h_{ij} = 0$$



## Gravitational Wave Polarization States

- Far from source, GW looks like plane wave prop along  $\vec{k}$   
TT conditions mean, in convenient basis,

$$\{k_i\} \equiv \mathbf{k} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \{h_{ij}\} \equiv \mathbf{h} = \begin{pmatrix} h_+ & h_\times & 0 \\ h_\times & -h_+ & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $h_+ \left(t - \frac{x^3}{c}\right)$  and  $h_\times \left(t - \frac{x^3}{c}\right)$  are components in “plus” and “cross” polarization states

- More generally

$$\vec{h} = \left[ h_+ \left(t - \frac{\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}}{c}\right) \vec{e}_+ + h_\times \left(t - \frac{\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}}{c}\right) \vec{e}_\times \right]$$

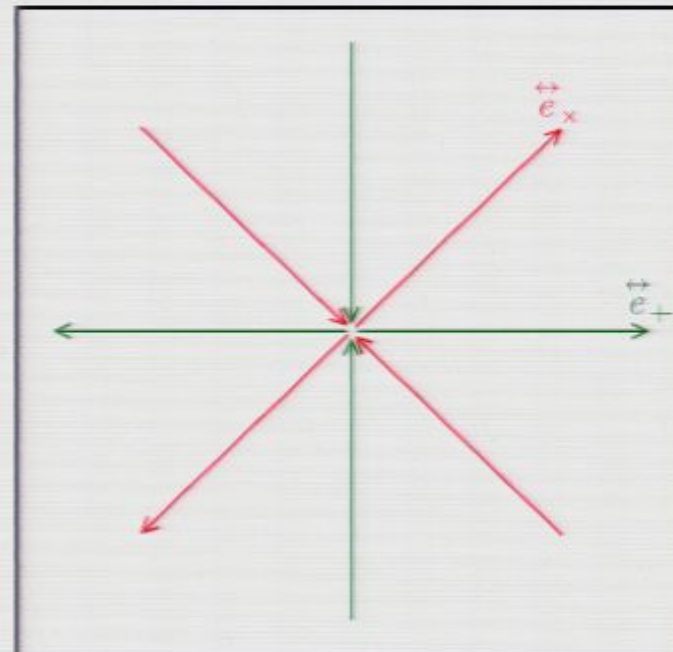
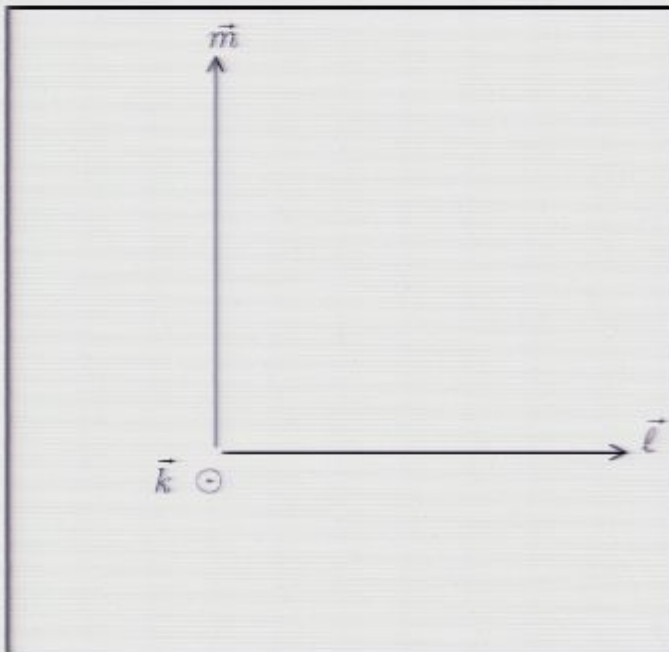




# The Polarization Basis

- wave propagating along  $\vec{k}$ ;  
construct  $\leftrightarrow e_{+,x}$  from  $\perp$  unit vectors  $\vec{l}$  &  $\vec{m}$ :

$$\leftrightarrow e_{+} = \vec{l} \otimes \vec{l} - \vec{m} \otimes \vec{m} \quad \leftrightarrow e_{x} = \vec{l} \otimes \vec{m} + \vec{m} \otimes \vec{l}$$



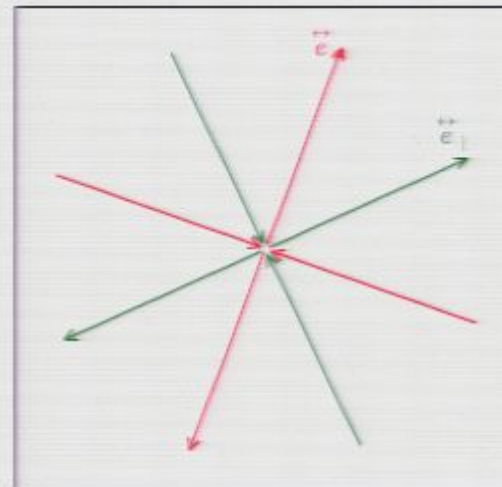
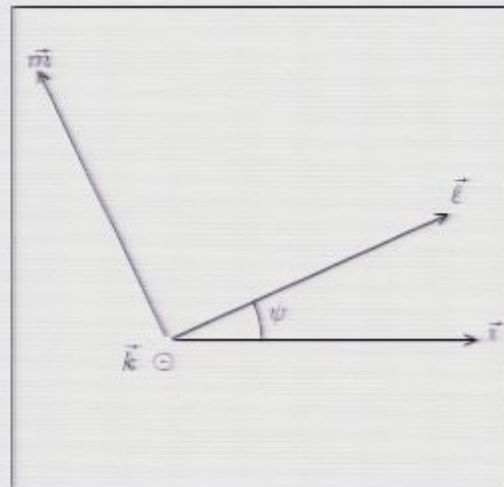


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- arbitrary choice of  $\vec{\ell}$  within plane  $\perp \vec{k}$  (fixes  $\vec{m} = \vec{k} \times \vec{\ell}$ )  
Free to choose polarization basis convenient to situation  
Pol angle  $\psi$  relates  $\vec{\ell}$  to some reference direction  $\vec{v}$





# Gravitational Wave Generation

- Generated by **moving/oscillating** mass distribution
- Lowest **multipole** is quadrupole

$$h_{ab} = \frac{2G}{c^4 d} P^{\text{TT}k}_{ab} \ddot{T}_{cd}(t - d/c)$$

- Classic example: orbiting **binary** system



(e.g., **Binary Pulsar 1913+16**

– **Observed** energy loss agrees w/GW prediction)

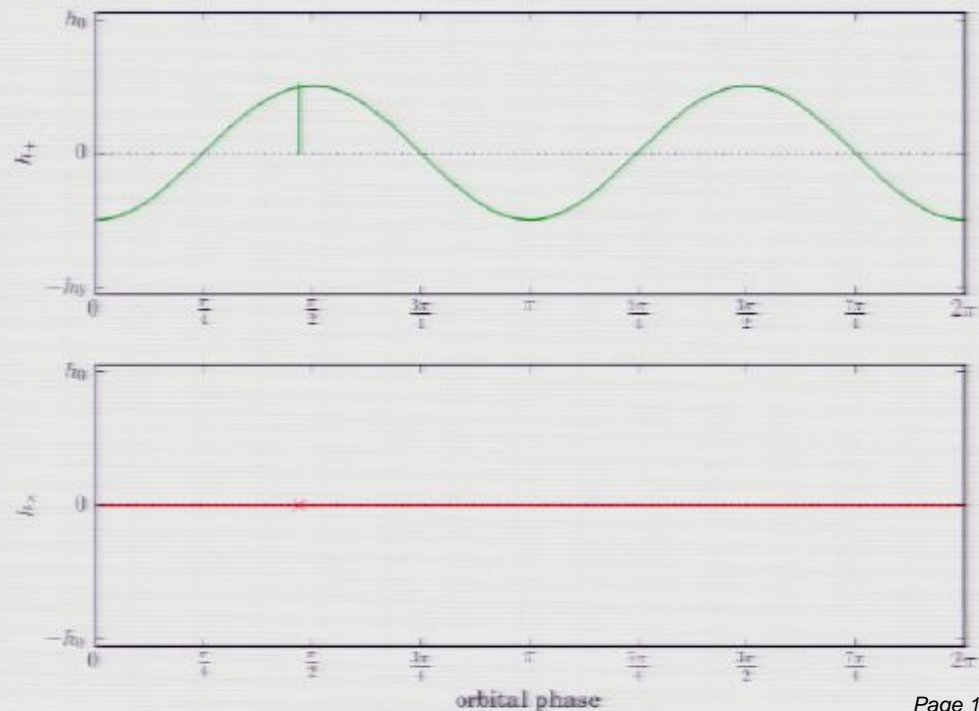
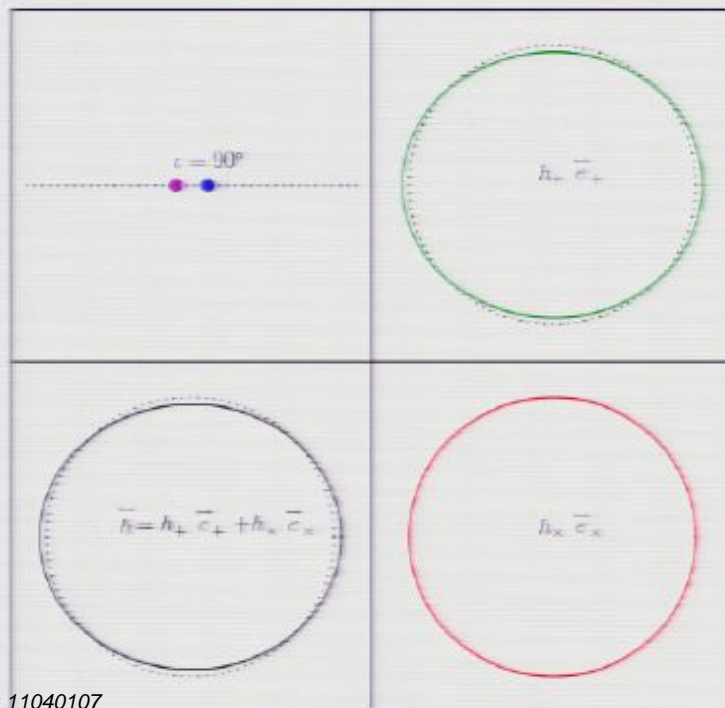
- Rotating neutron star w/non-axisymmetric perturbation also gives sinusoidally-varying quadrupole moment



# Example: Linear polarization

- Consider binary system seen edge on:  
 masses seen going back & forth in one direction; call that  $\vec{\ell}$
- In that pol basis,  $h_x = 0$  and only  $h_+$  **linear polarization**

$$h_+ = A \cos \phi(t) \quad h_x = 0$$

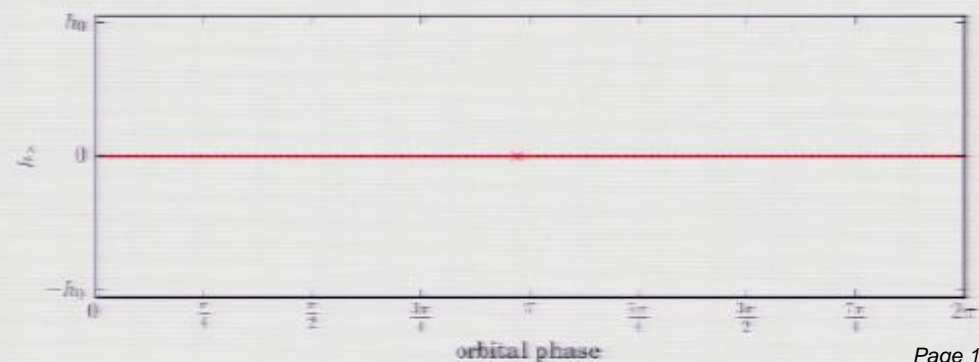
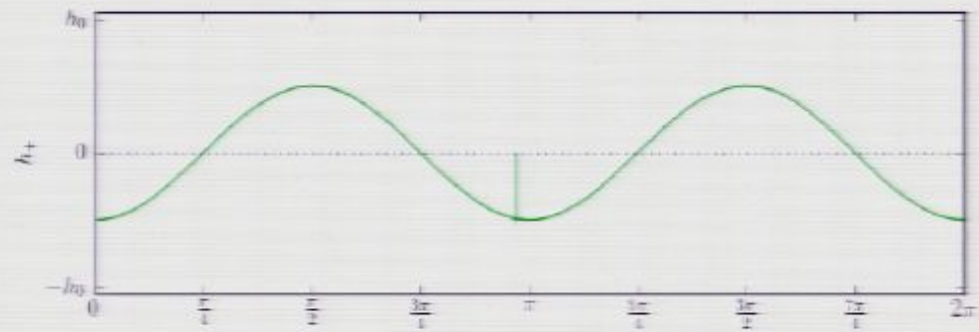
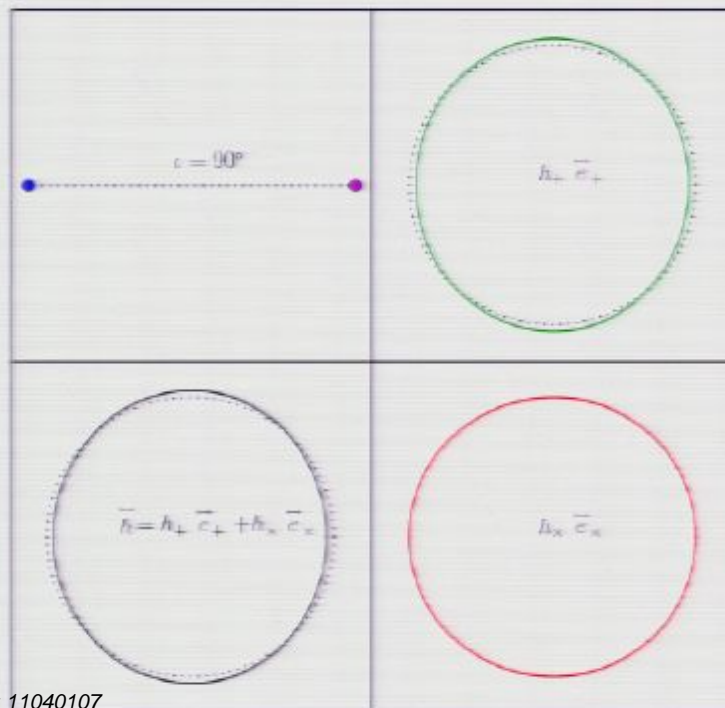




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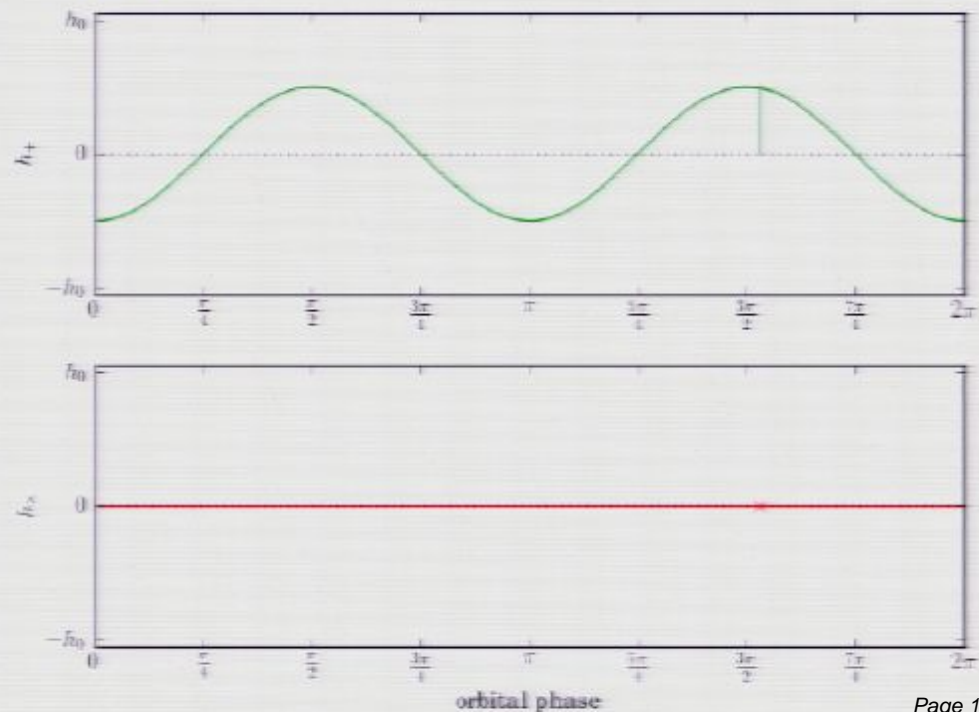
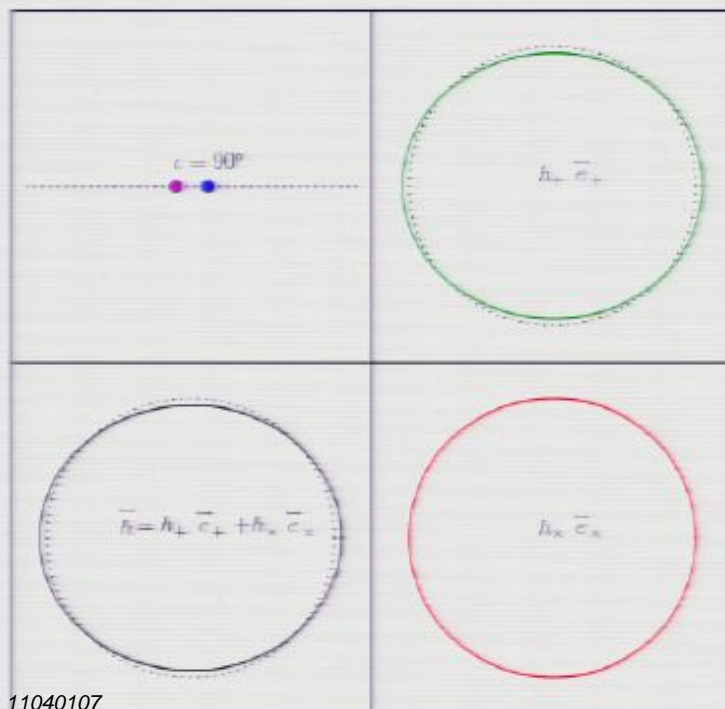




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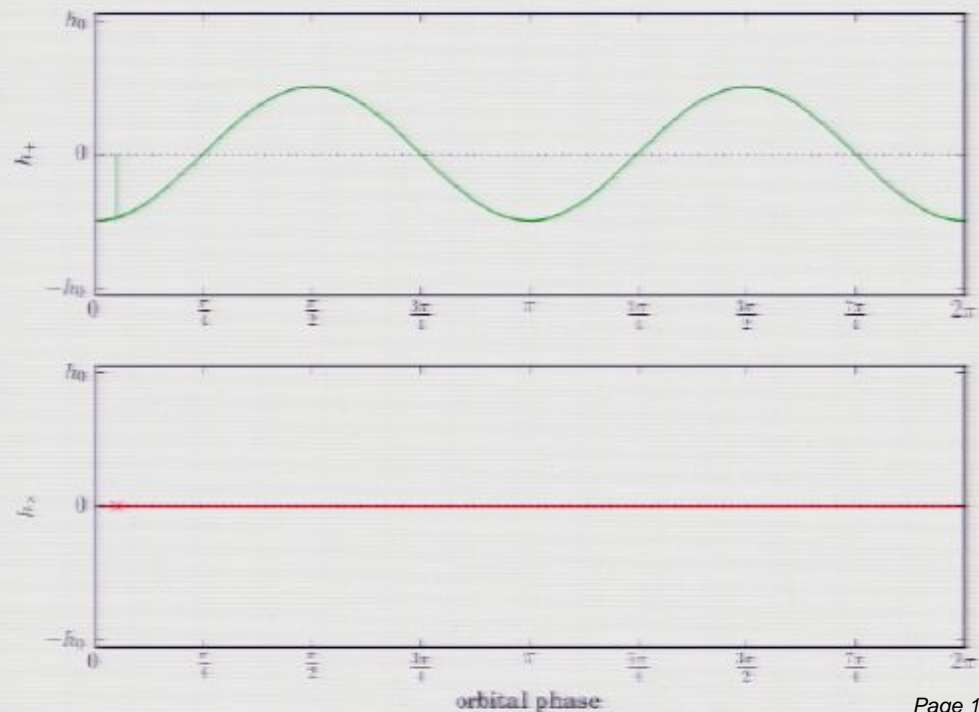
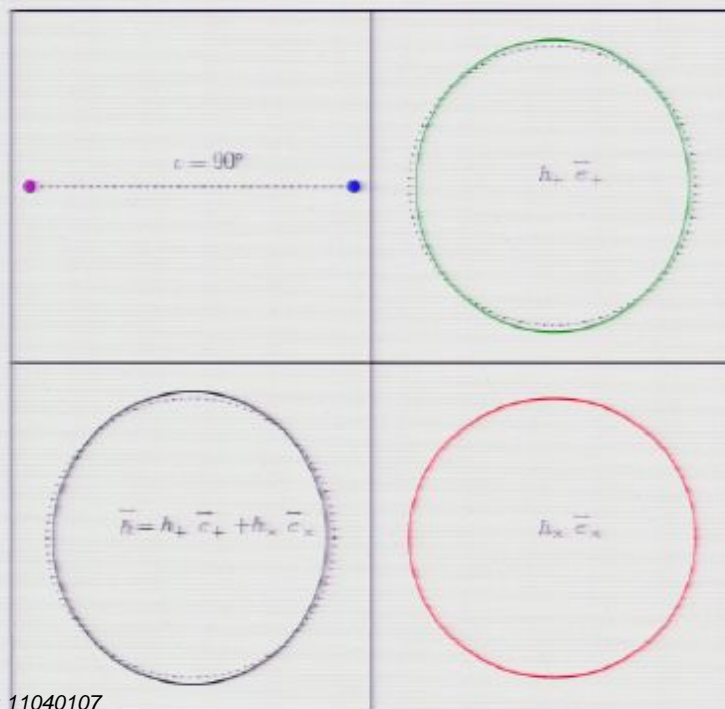




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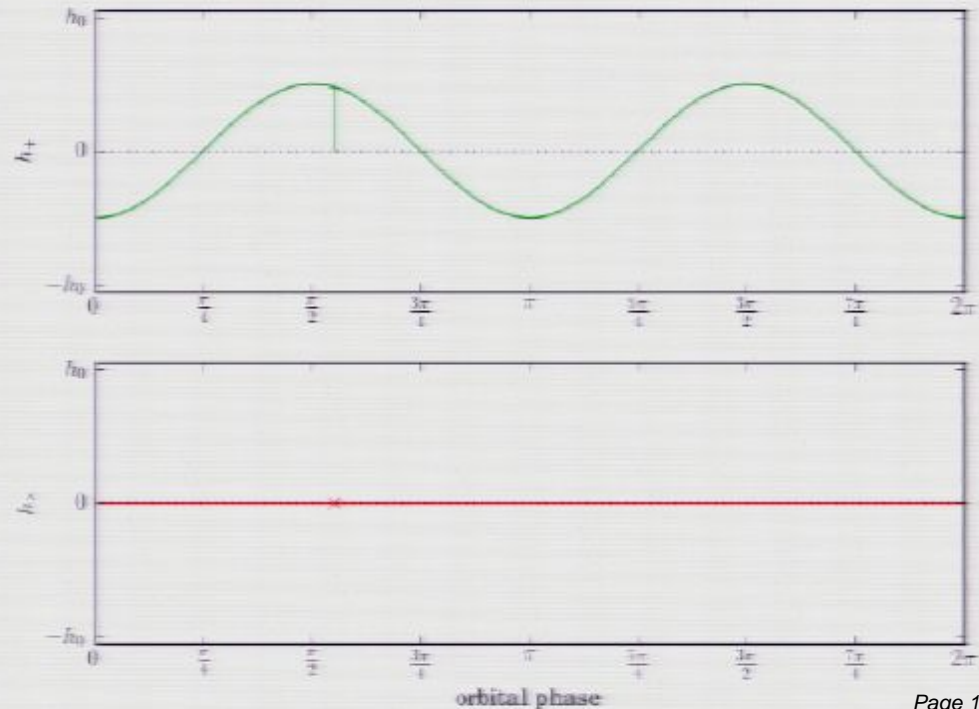
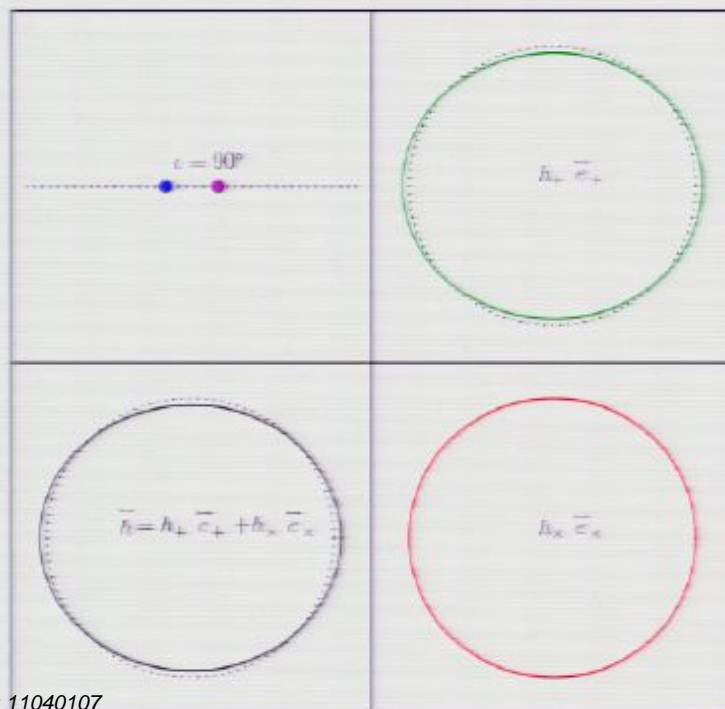




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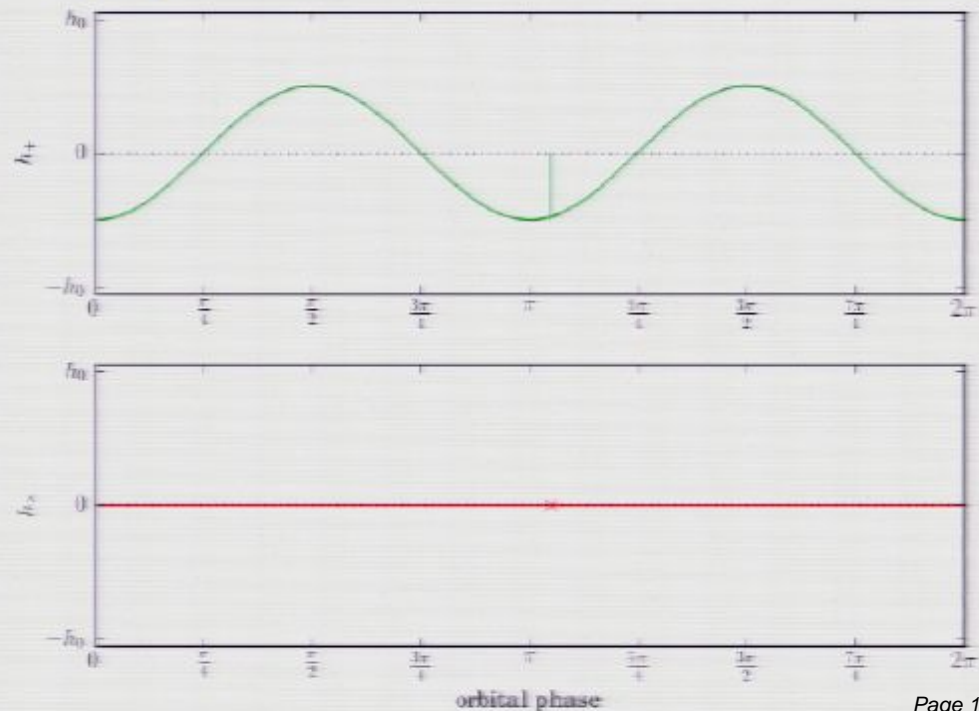
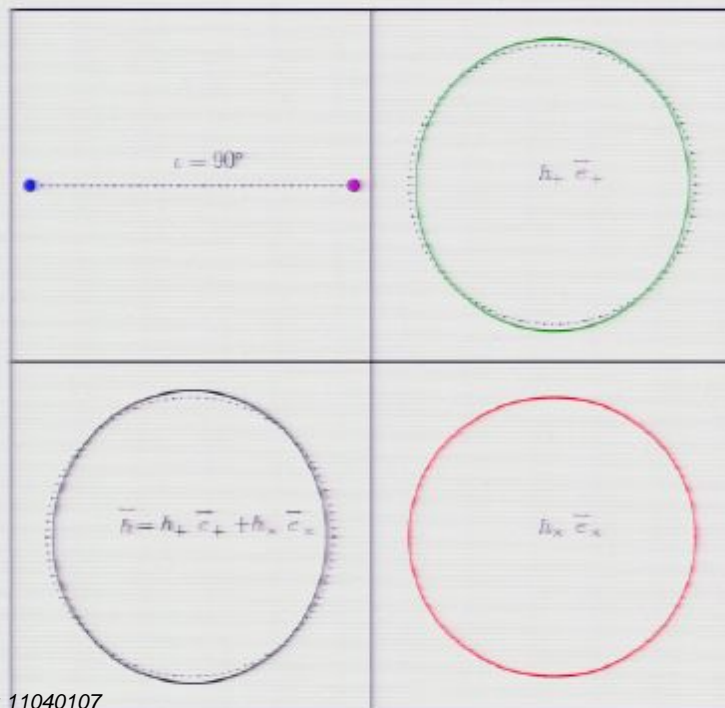




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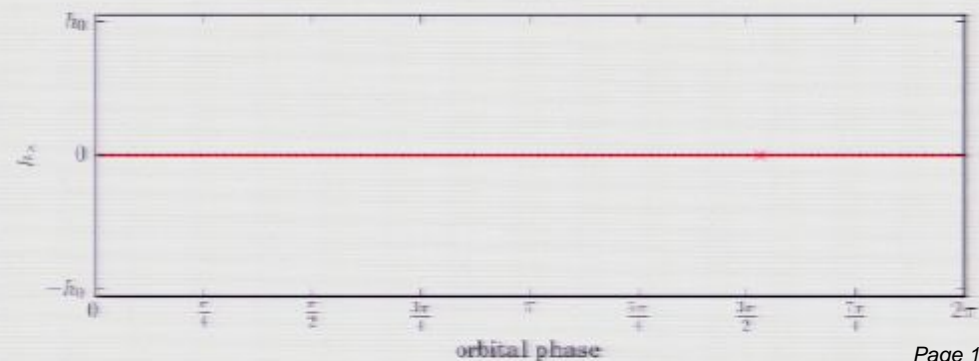
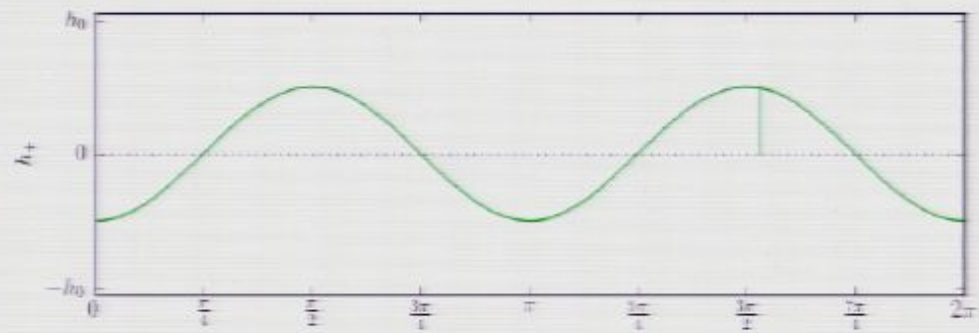
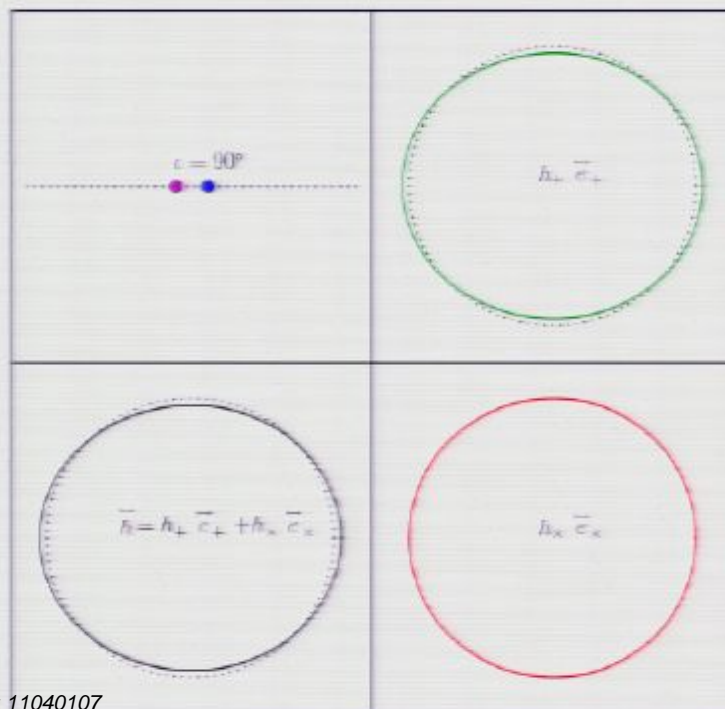




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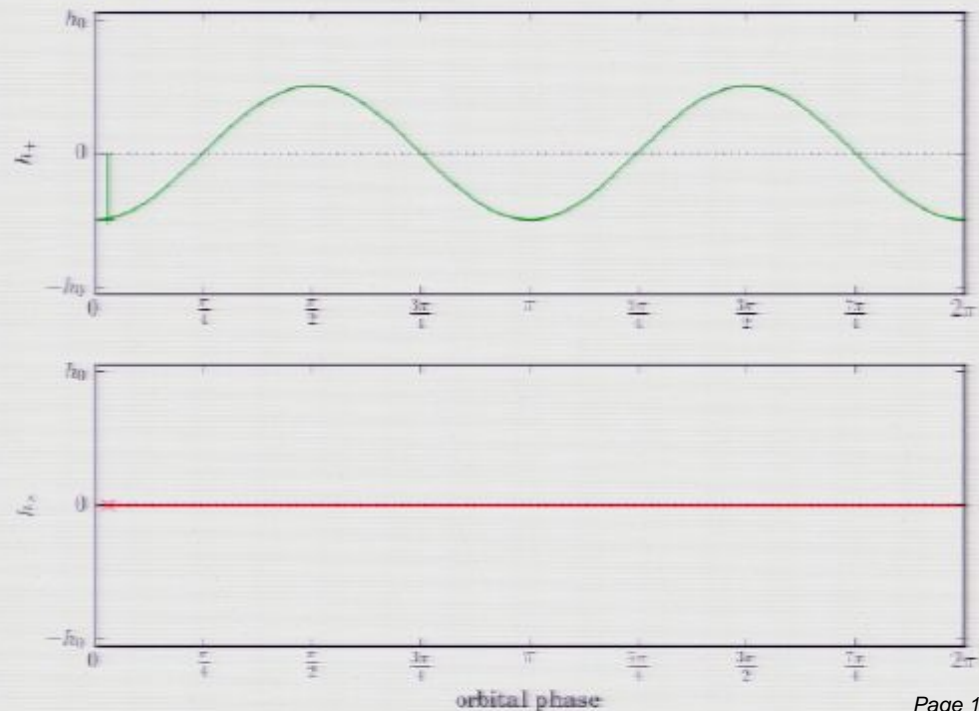
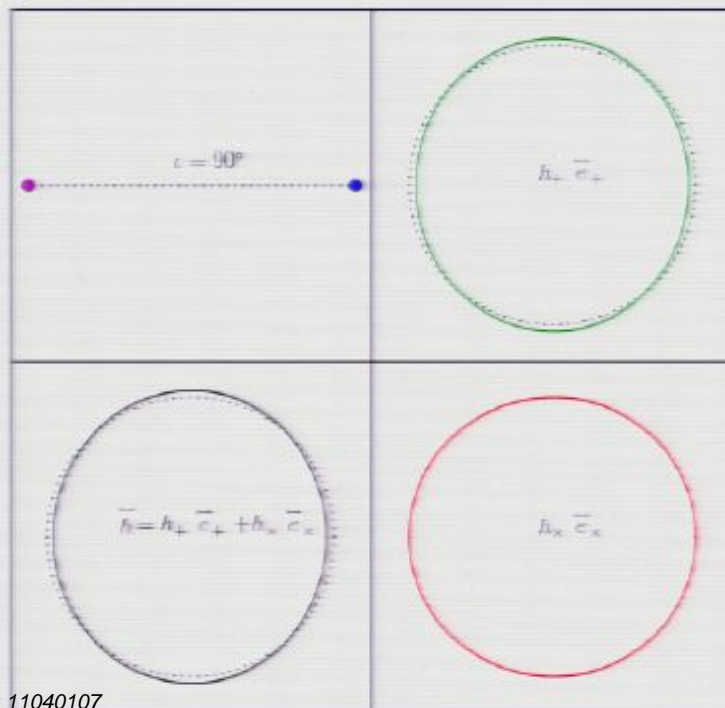




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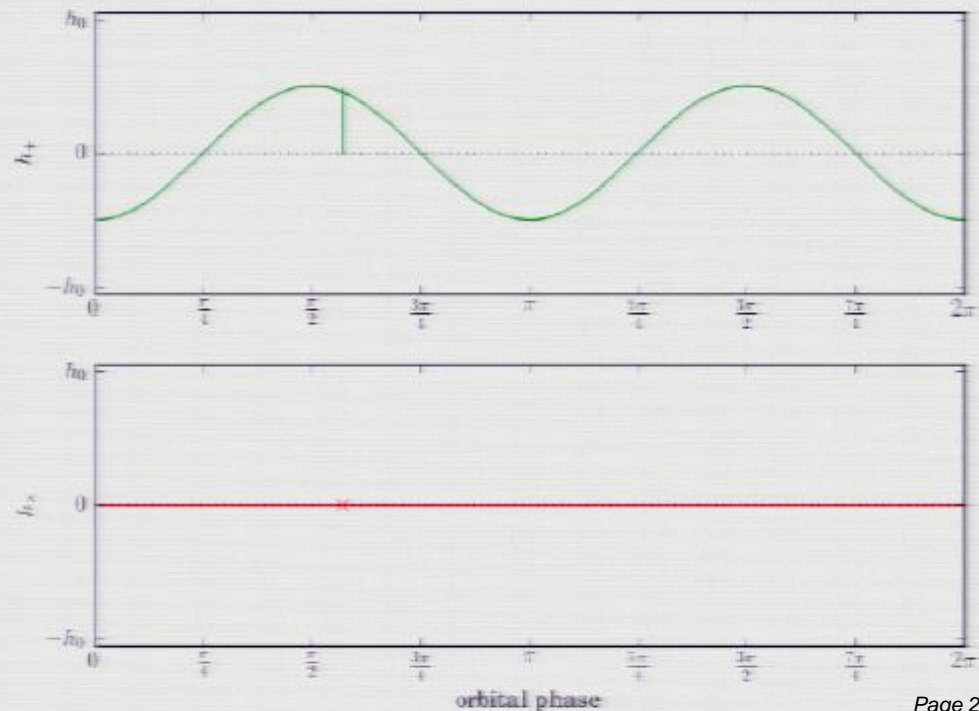
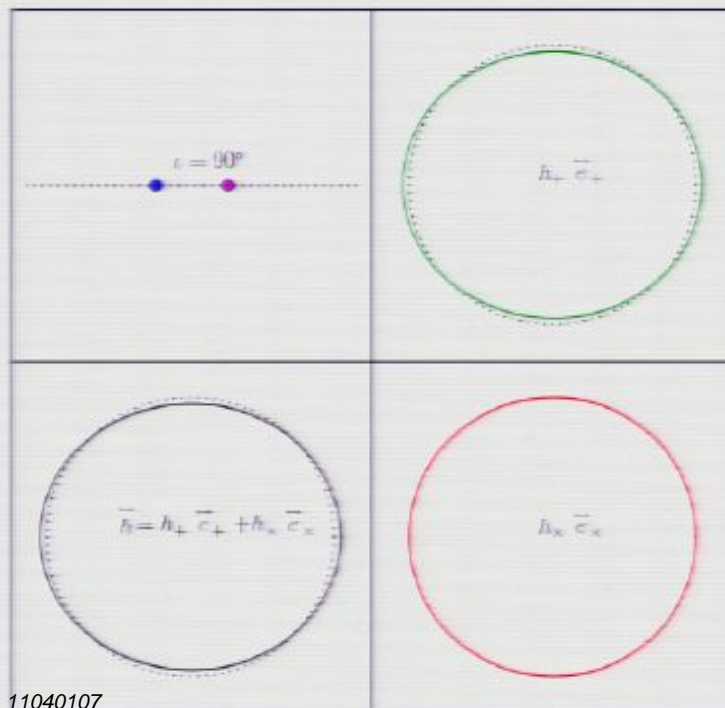




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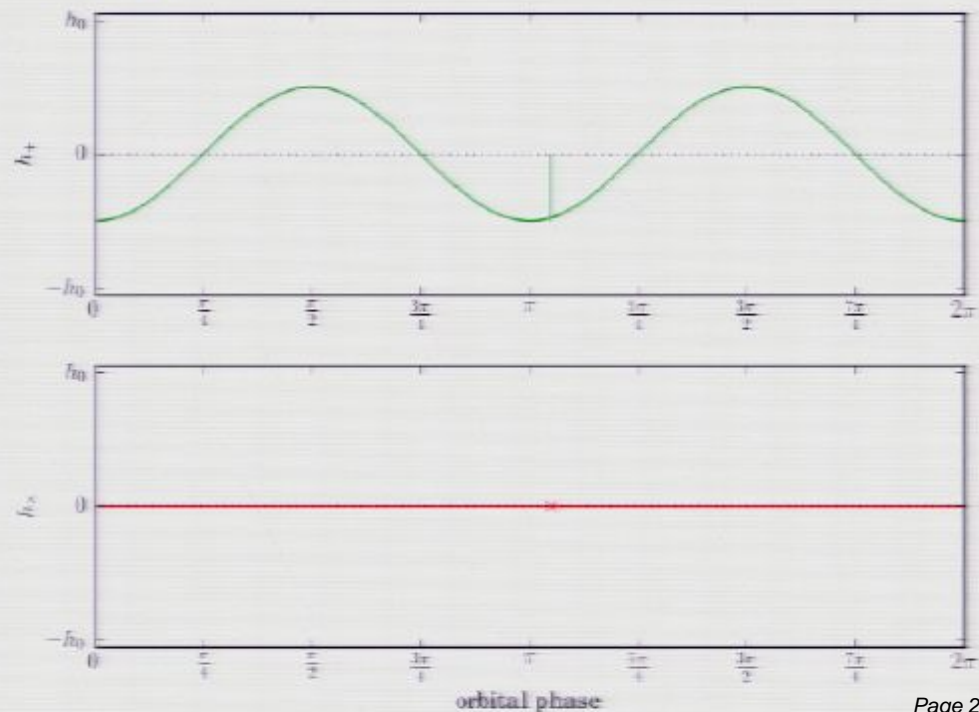
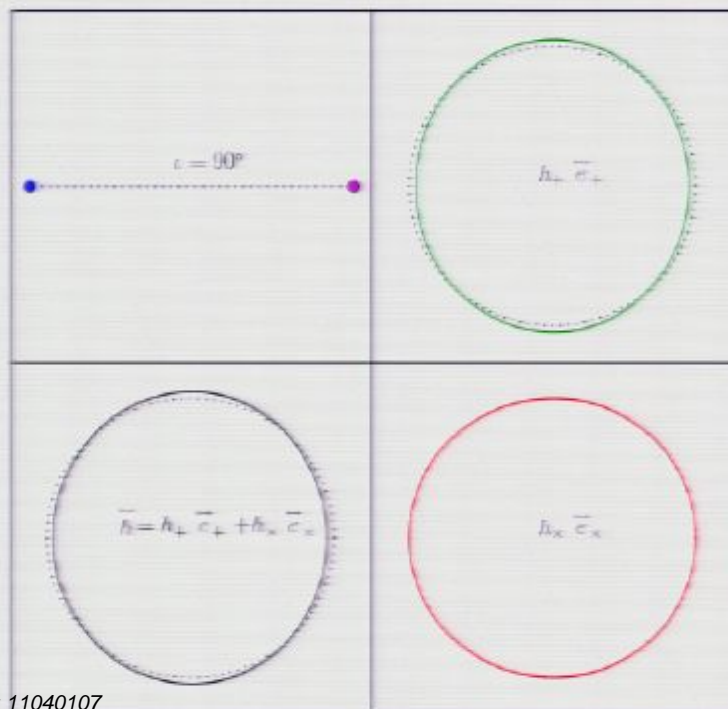




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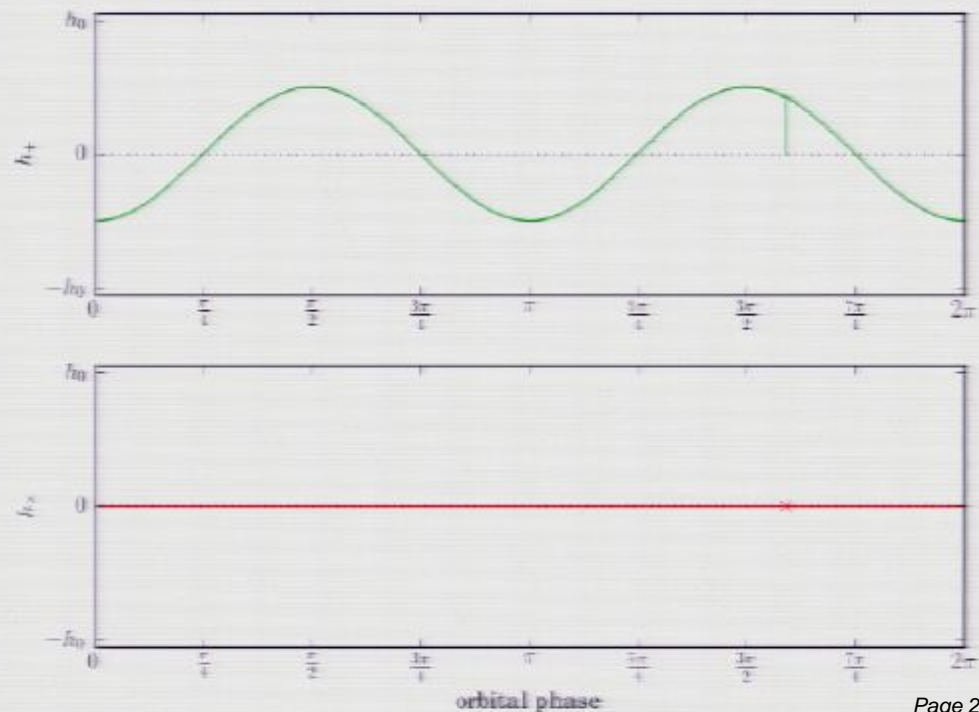
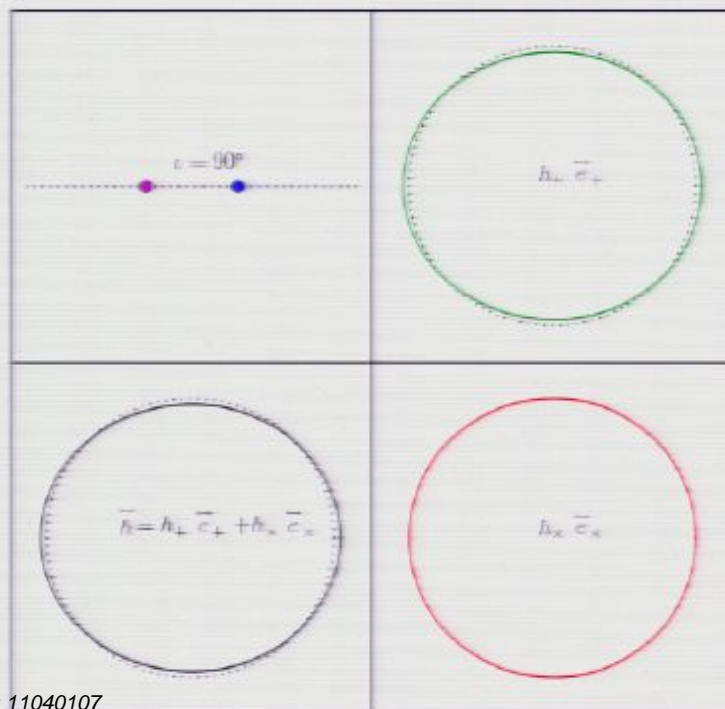




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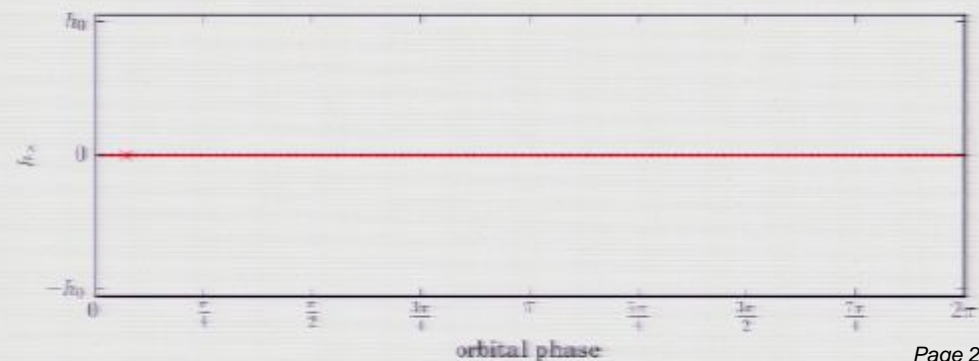
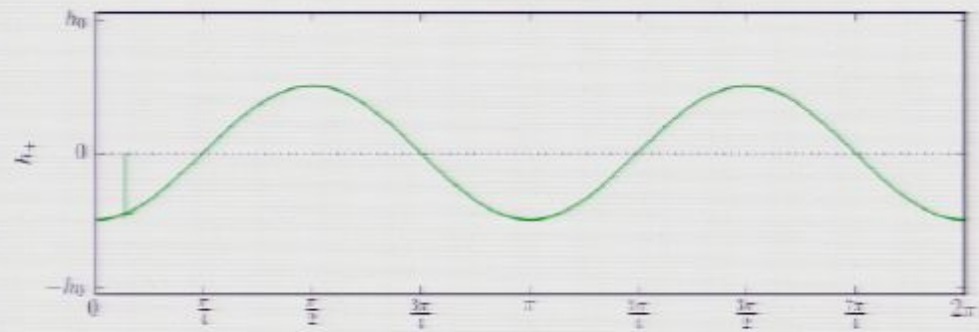
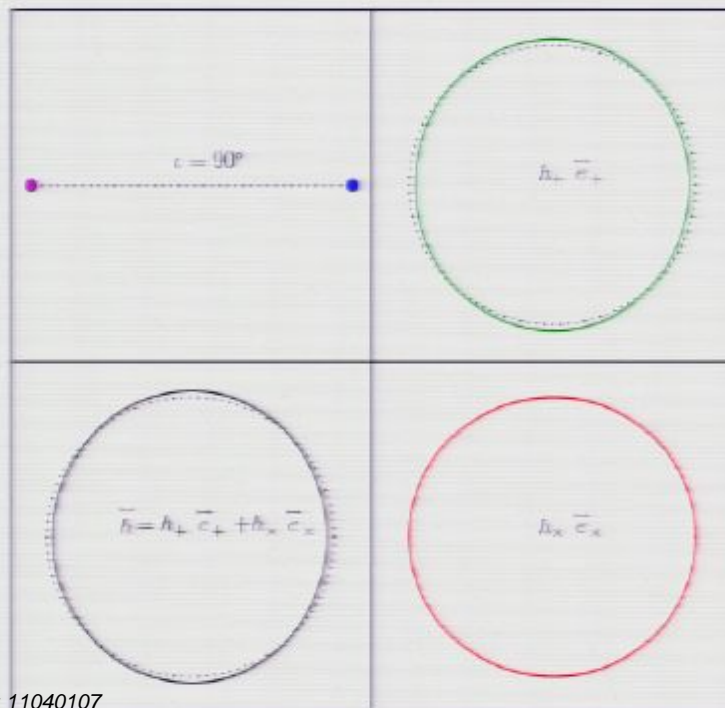




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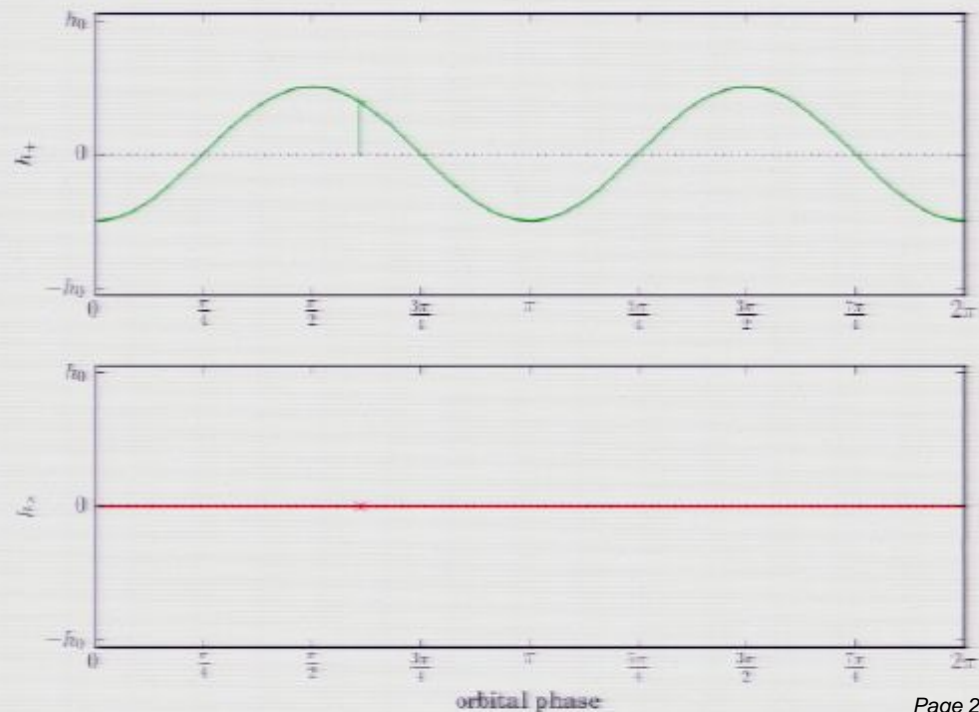
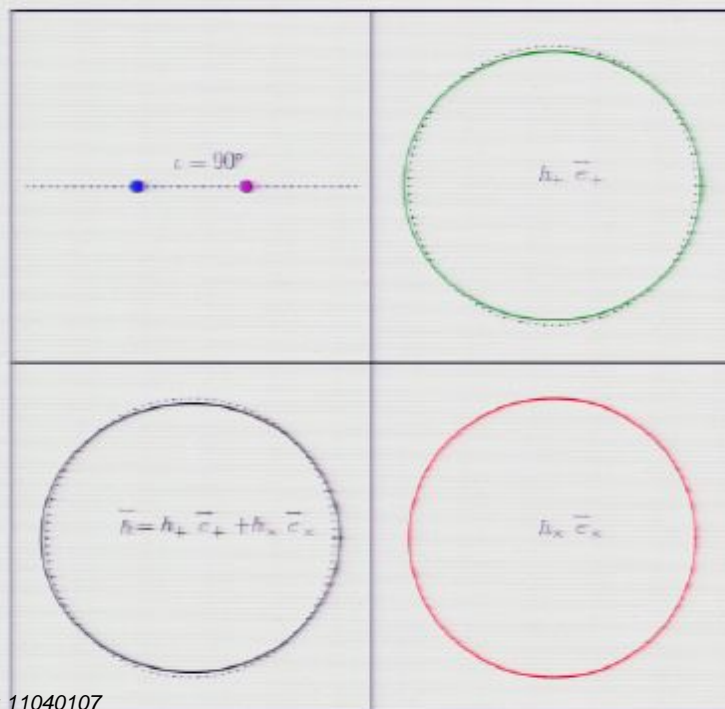




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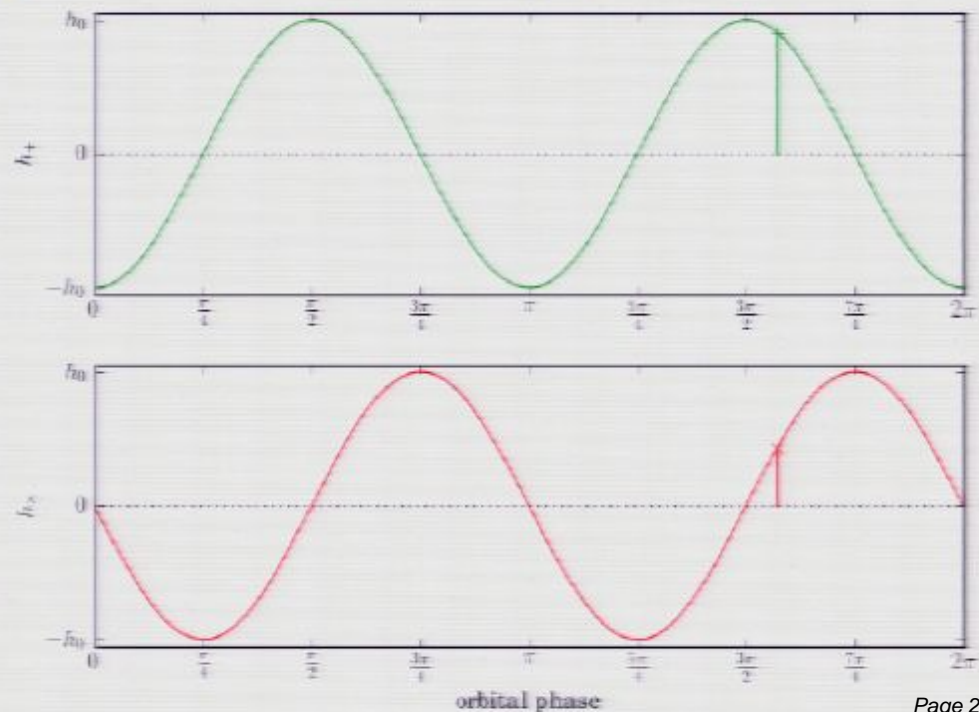
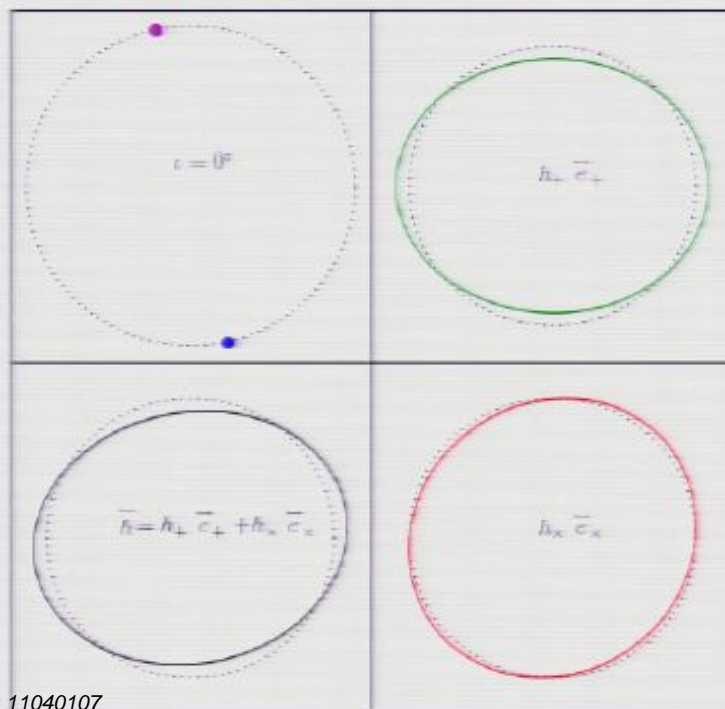




# Example: Circular polarization

- Consider binary seen face on: masses seen going in circle
- In any pol basis,  $h_+$  &  $h_x$  have same amp; out of phase  
**circular polarization**

$$h_+ = A \cos \phi(t) \quad h_x = A \sin \phi(t)$$

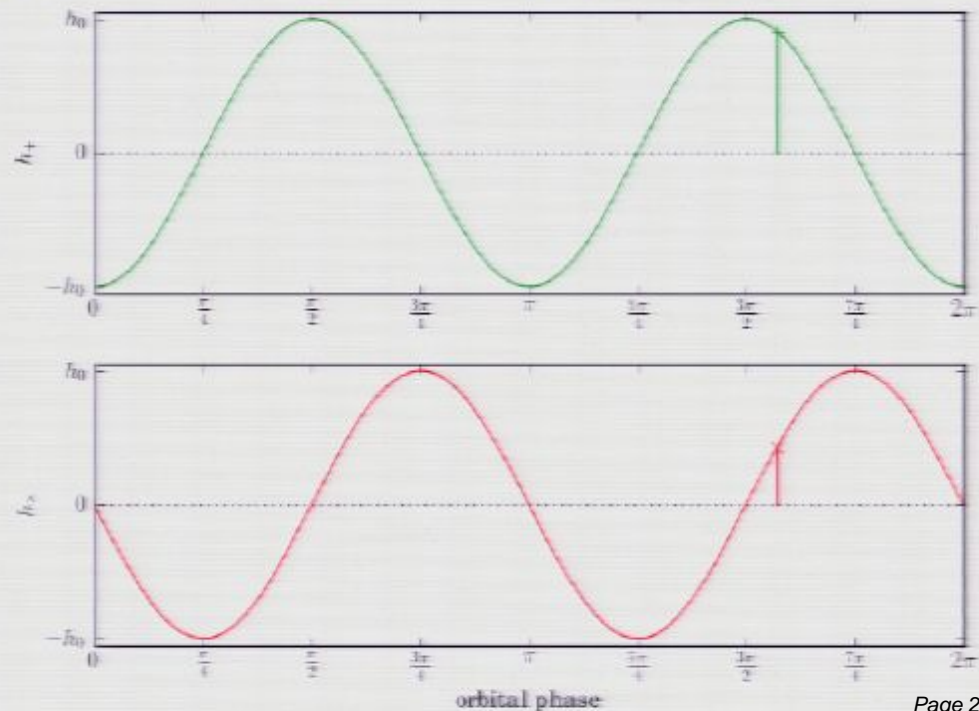
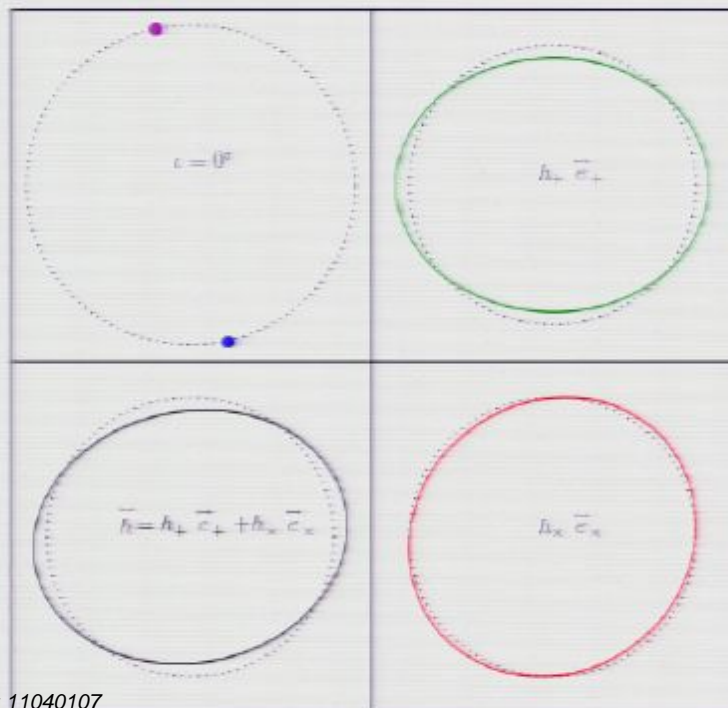




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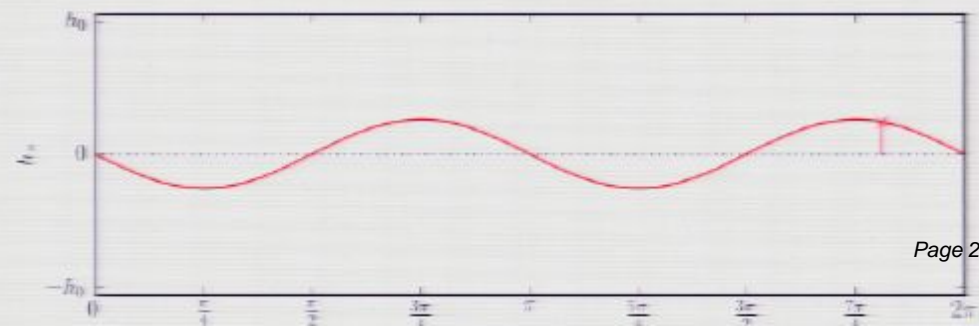
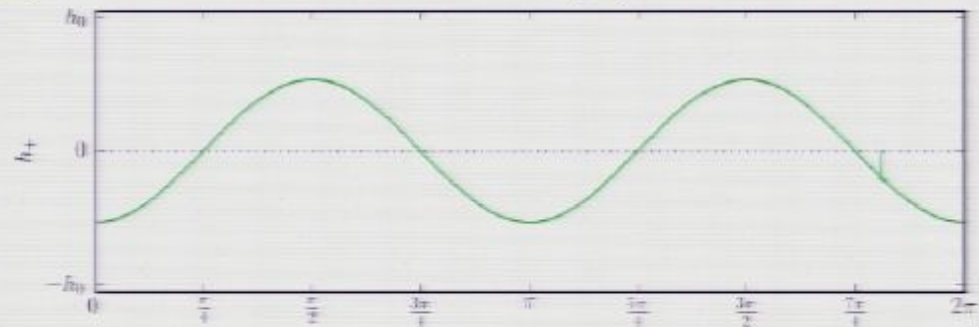
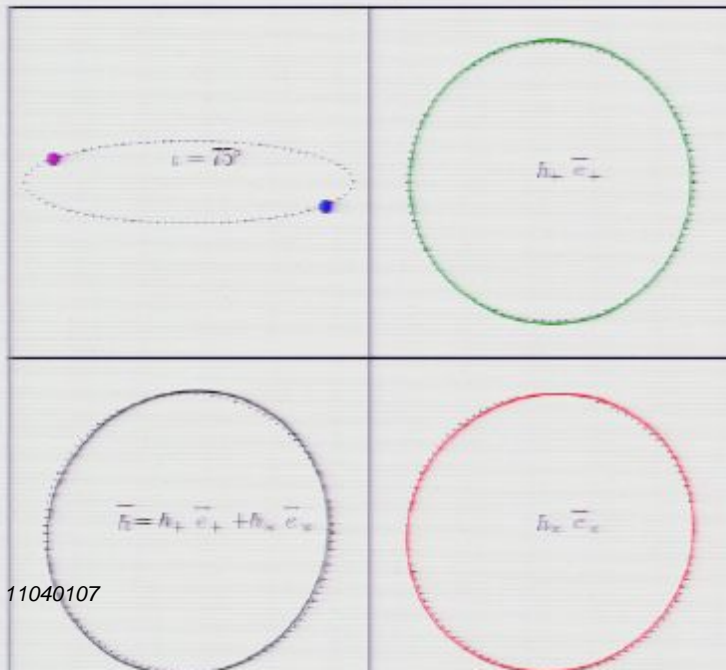




# Example: Elliptical polarization

- General case: binary system seen at an angle: masses seen going around an ellipse; long axis of that ellipse picks preferred direction  $\vec{\ell}$  for pol basis
- In that pol basis,  $h_+$  &  $h_x$  out of phase;  $h_+$  has greater amp **elliptical polarization** [ $|A_+| > |A_x|$ ]

$$h_+ = A_+ \cos \phi(t) \quad h_x = A_x \sin \phi(t)$$





# Classification of GW Signals

At freqs relevant to ground-based detectors (10s-1000s of Hz),  
natural division of sources:

	modelled	unmodelled
long	<b>Periodic Sources</b> (e.g., Rotating Neutron Star)	<b>Stochastic Background</b> (Cosmological or Astrophysical)
short	<b>Binary Coalescence</b> (Black Holes, Neutron Stars)	<b>Bursts</b> (Supernova, BH Merger, etc.)



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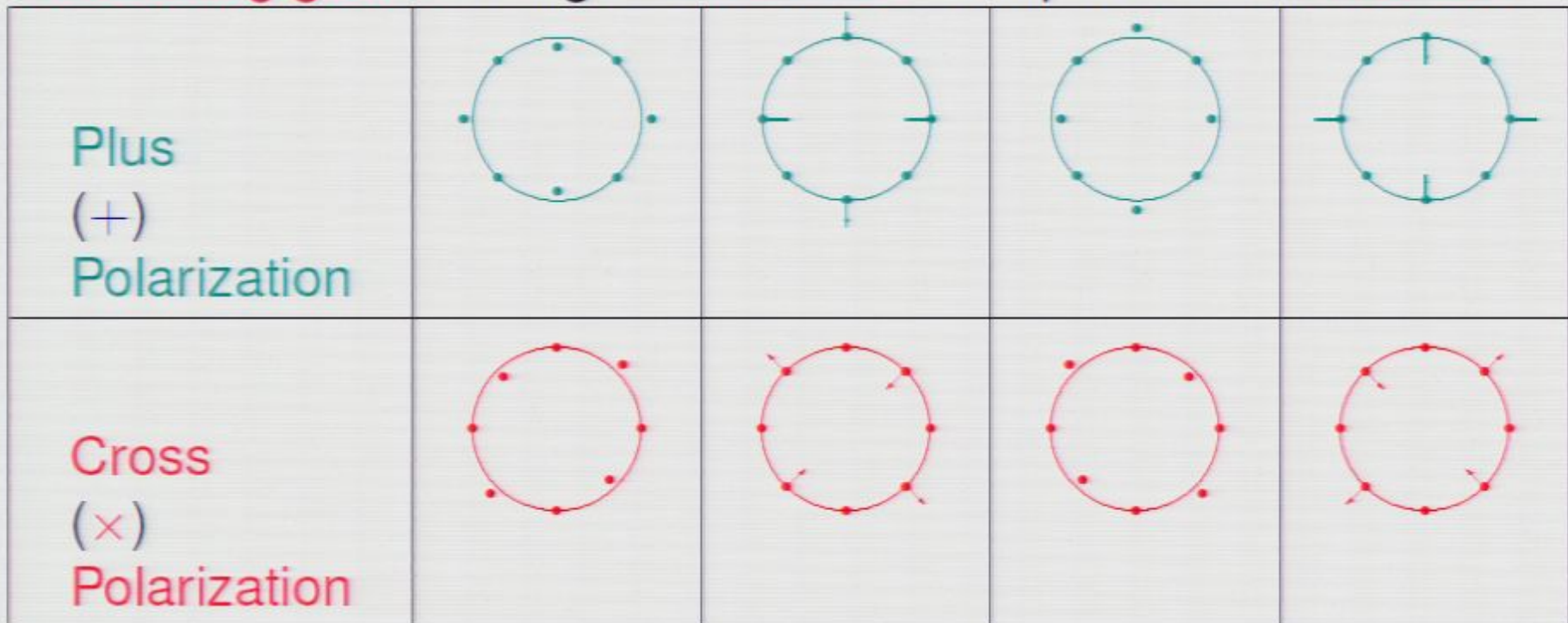
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# Effects of Gravitational Wave

Fluctuating geom changes distances btwn particles in free-fall:





# Measuring GWs w/Laser Interferometry

**Interferometry:** Measure GW-induced distance changes

- Measure small change in

$$L_1 - L_2 = \sqrt{g_{11}} L_0 - \sqrt{g_{22}} L_0$$

$$= \sqrt{(1 + h_{11})} L_0 - \sqrt{(1 + h_{22})} L_0$$

$$\approx L_0 \frac{h_{11} - h_{22}}{2} \sim L_0 h_+$$

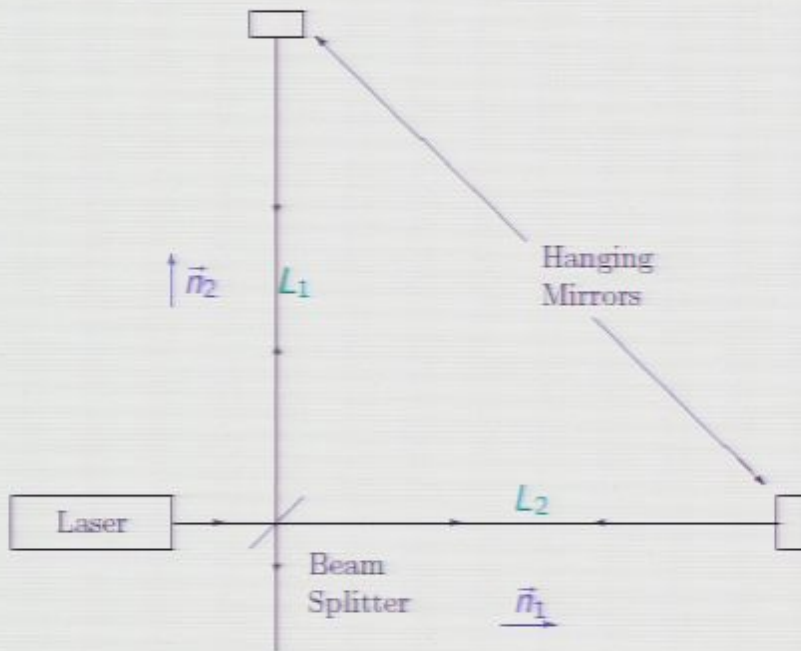
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$$(L_1 - L_2)/L_0 = \overset{\leftrightarrow}{h} : \overset{\leftrightarrow}{d}$$

with "response tensor"

$$\overset{\leftrightarrow}{d} = \frac{\vec{n}_1 \otimes \vec{n}_1 - \vec{n}_2 \otimes \vec{n}_2}{2}$$

(also when  $\vec{n}_1$  &  $\vec{n}_2$  not  $\perp$ )





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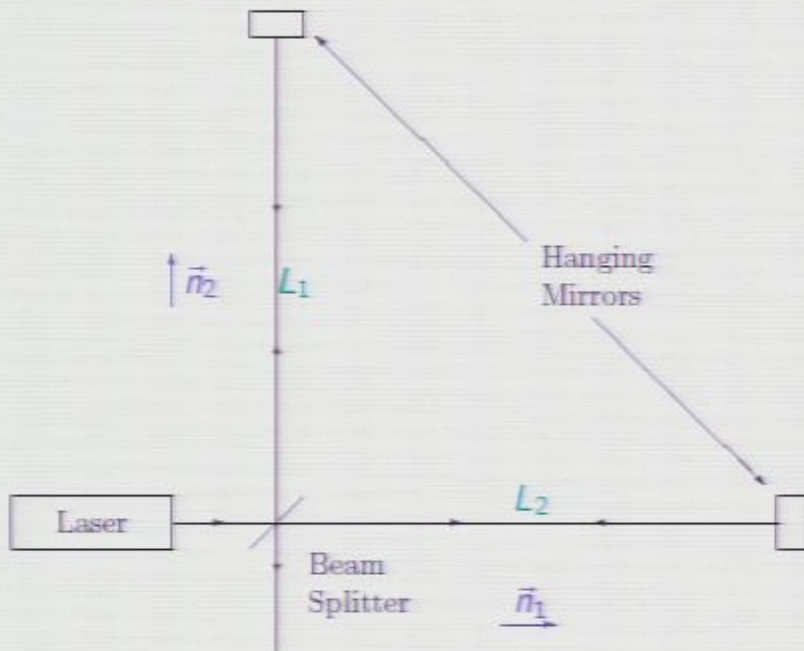
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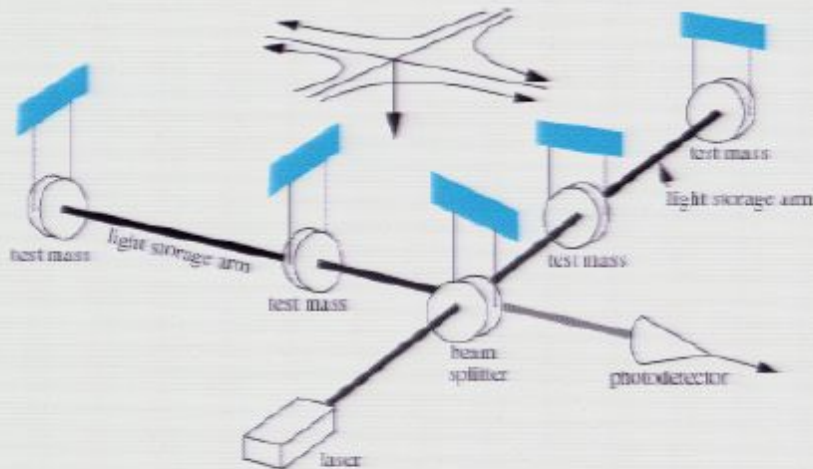
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$$(L_1 - L_2)/L_0 = \vec{h} : \vec{d}$$

with “response tensor”

$$\vec{d} = \frac{\vec{n}_1 \otimes \vec{n}_1 - \vec{n}_2 \otimes \vec{n}_2}{2}$$

(also when  $\vec{n}_1$  &  $\vec{n}_2$  not  $\perp$ )





# Rogues' Gallery of Ground-Based Interferometers



LIGO Hanford (Wash.)



LIGO Livingston (La.)



GEO-600 (Germany)



Virgo (Italy)

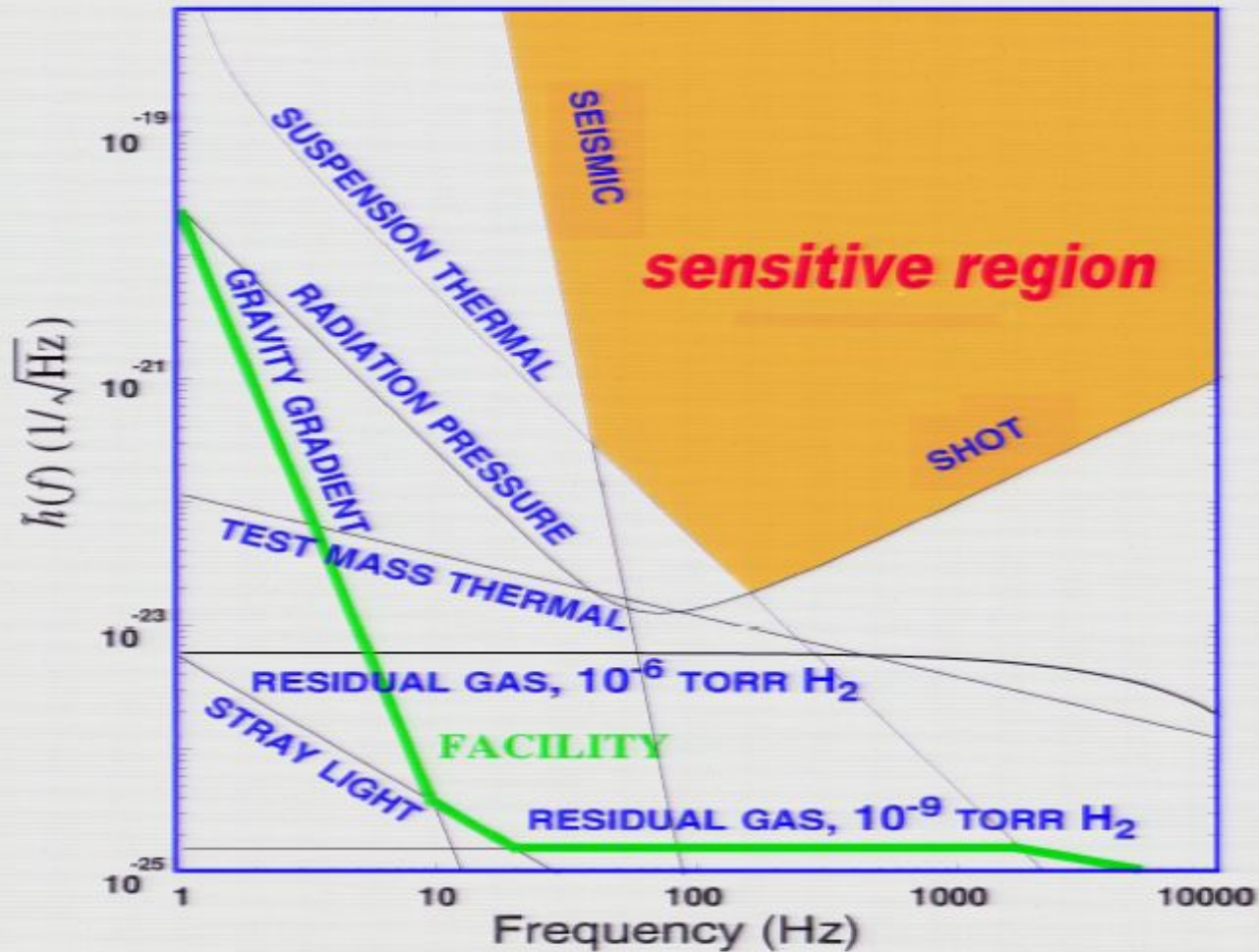


# GW Observatory Network

- LSC detectors conducting science runs since 2002
  - LIGO Hanford (4km H1 & 2km H2)
  - LIGO Livingston (4km L1)
  - GEO-600 (600m G1)
- Virgo (3km V1) started science runs in 2007
- Recent long runs:
  - LIGO/GEO S5: Nov 2005-Sep 2007: LIGO @ design sens
  - Virgo VSR1: May-Sep 2007: Begin joint LSC-Virgo analysis
  - LIGO (H1 & L1) S6: Jul 2009-Oct 2010
  - Virgo VSR2 Jul 2009-Jan 2010 & VSR3 Aug-Oct 2010
- LIGO & Virgo going offline 2010 & 2011 to begin upgrade to **Advanced Detectors** expect  $\sim 10\times$  sensitivity

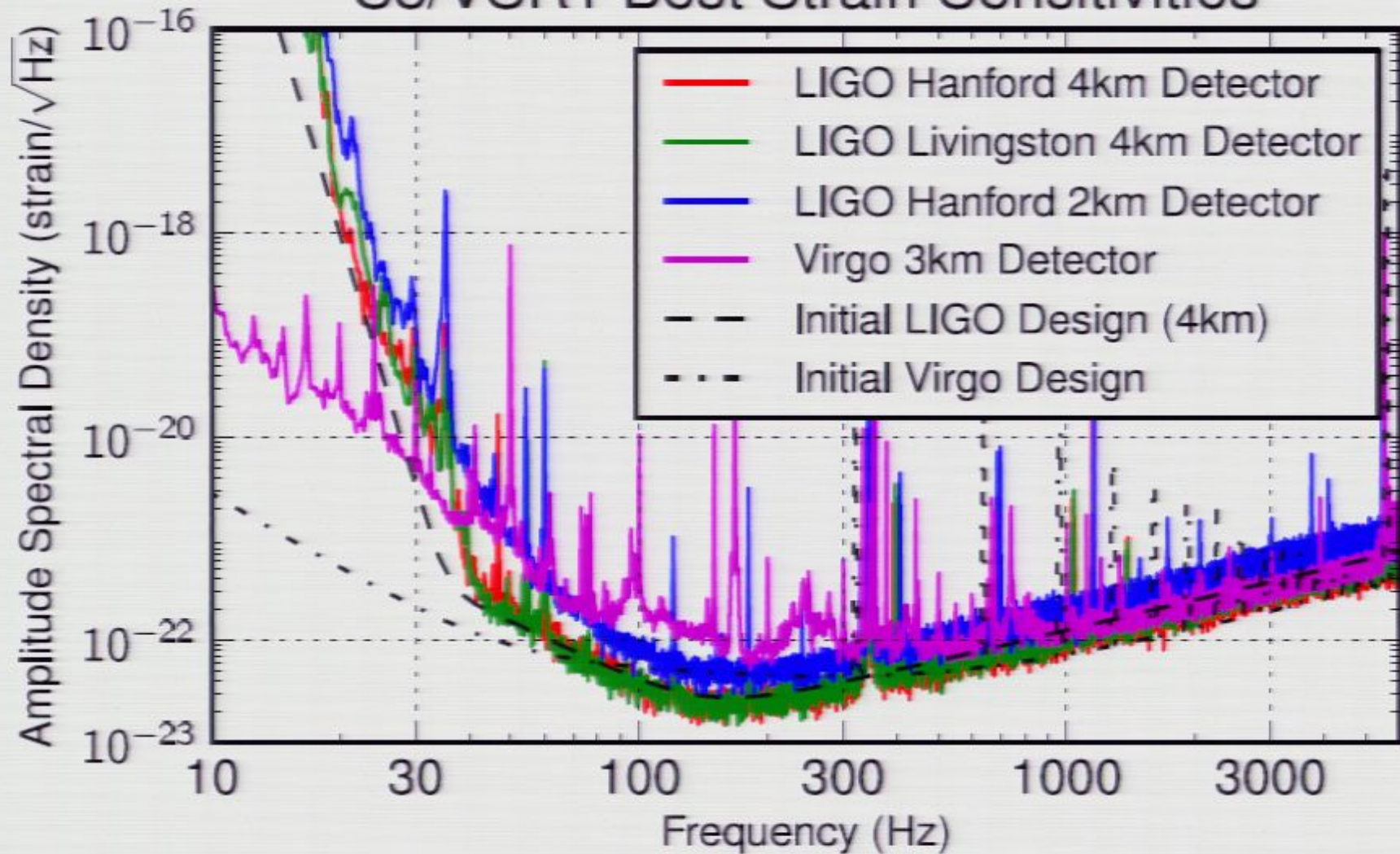


# LIGO's Sensitive Frequency Band



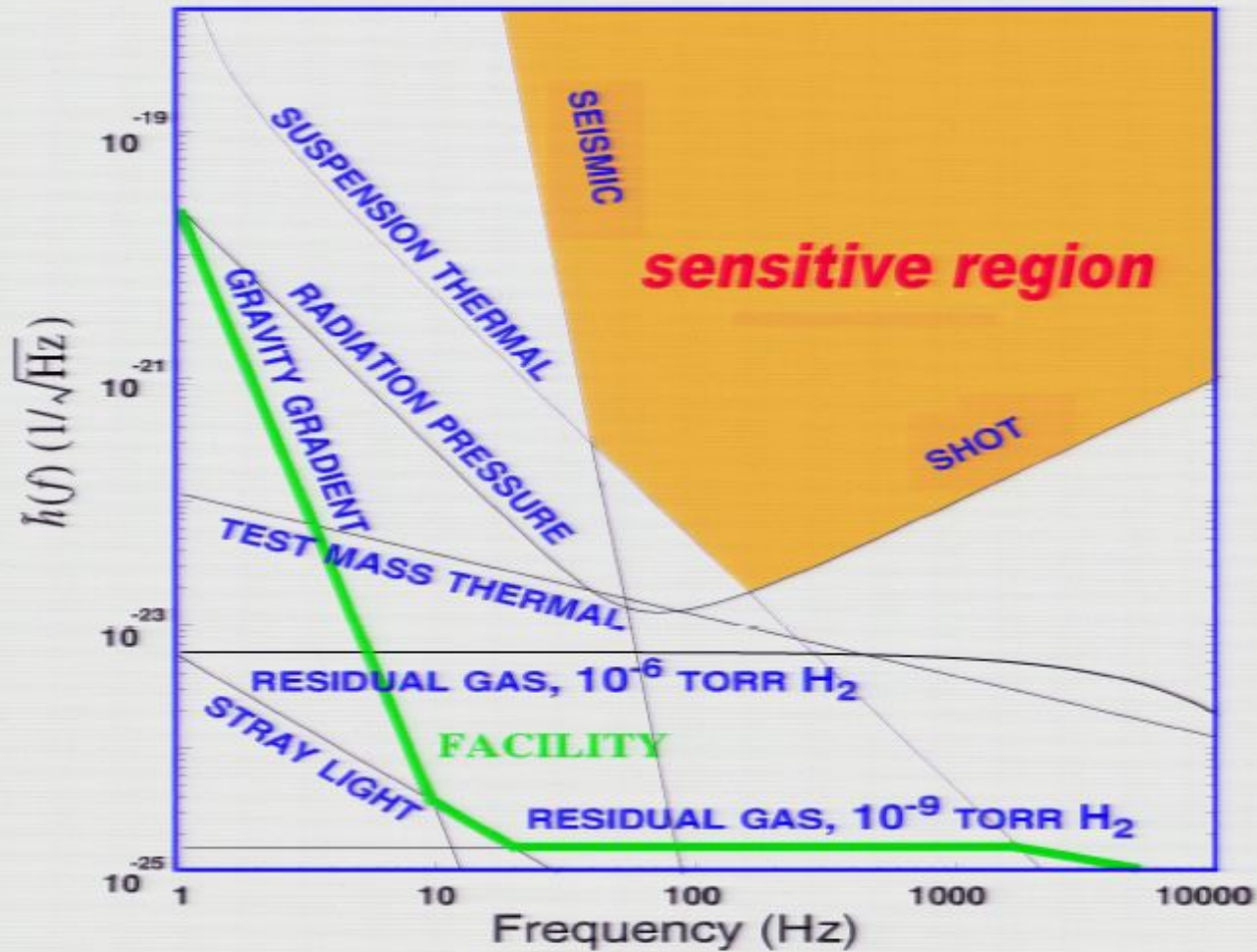


## S5/VSR1 Best Strain Sensitivities



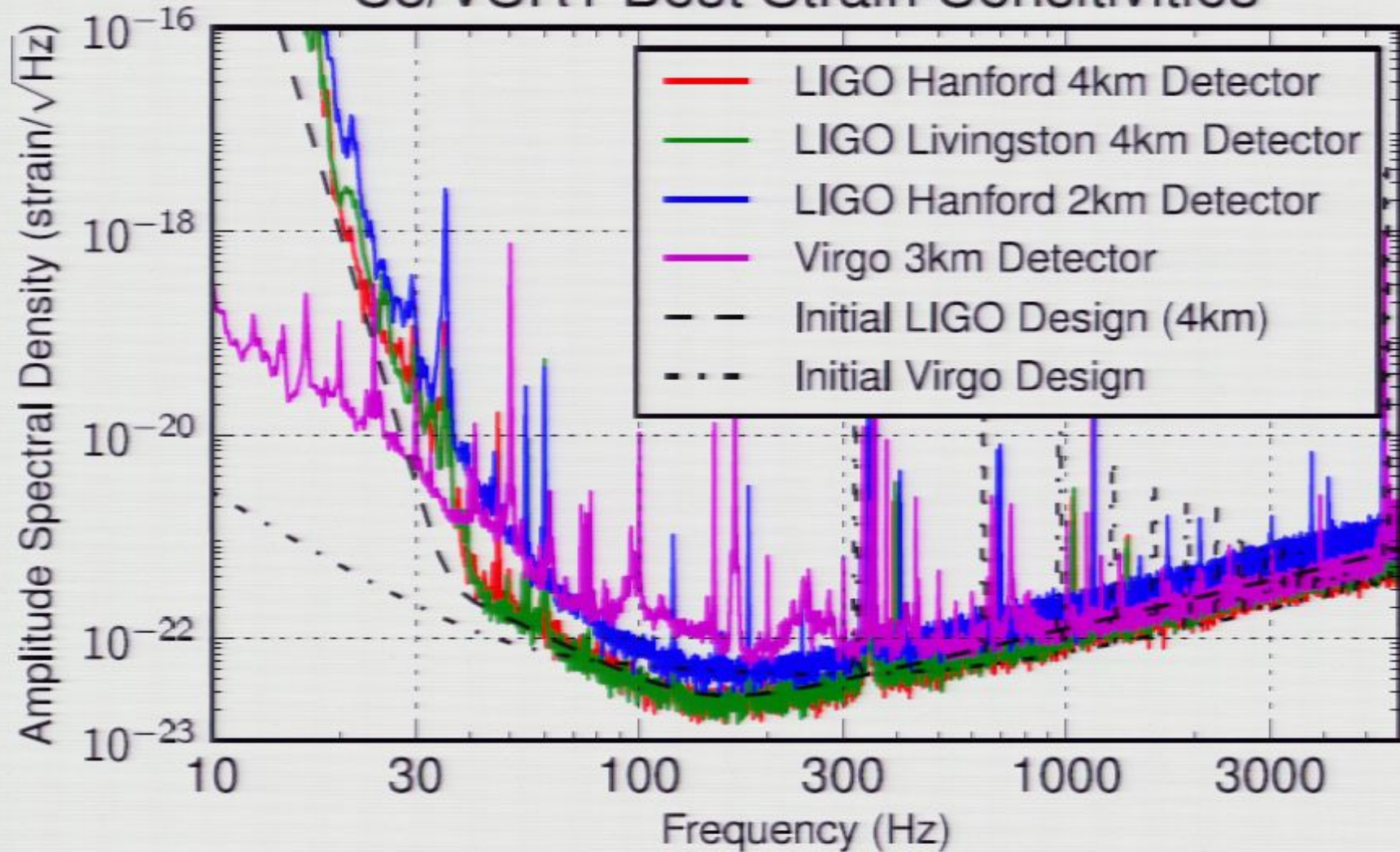


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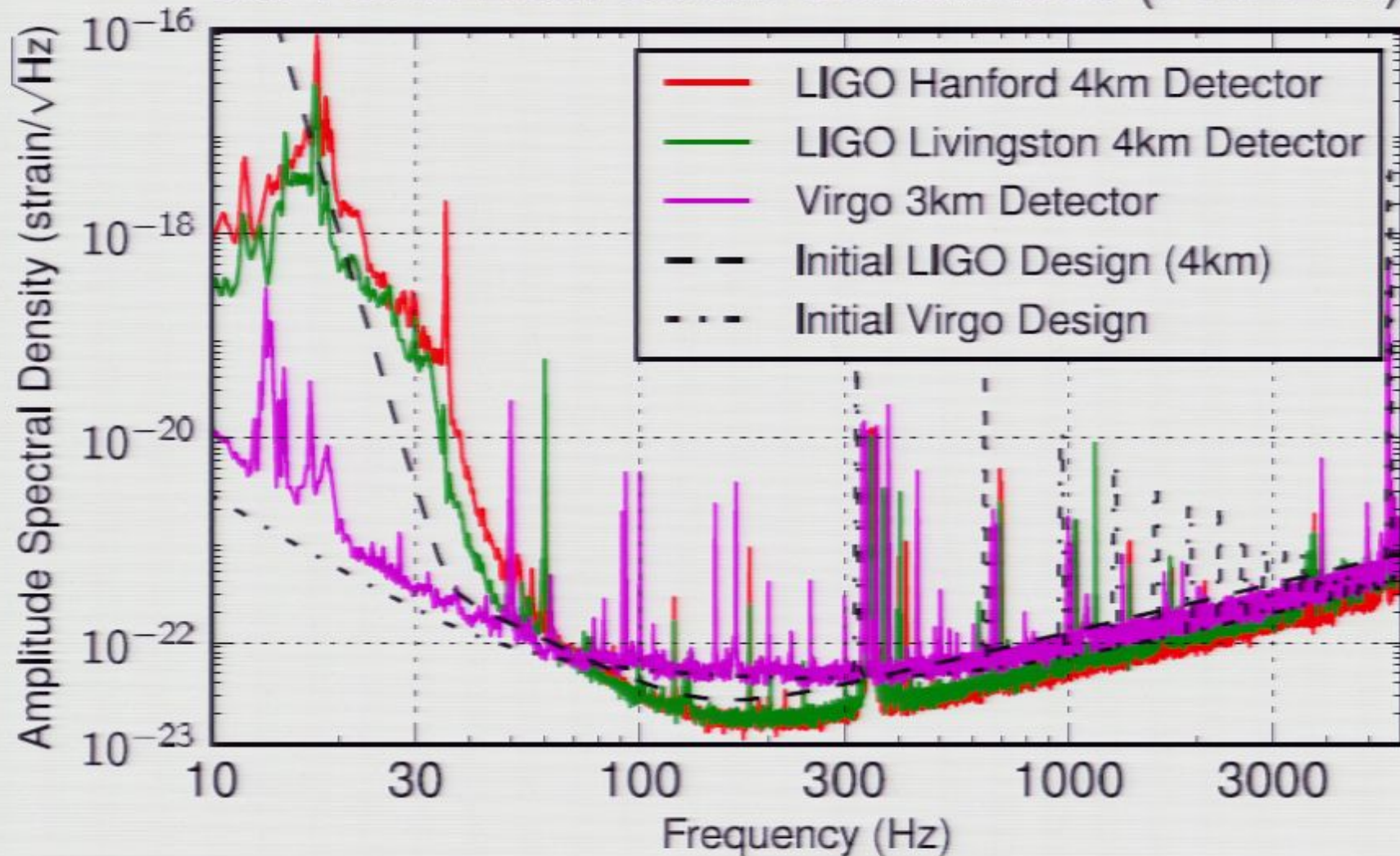


## S5/VSR1 Best Strain Sensitivities





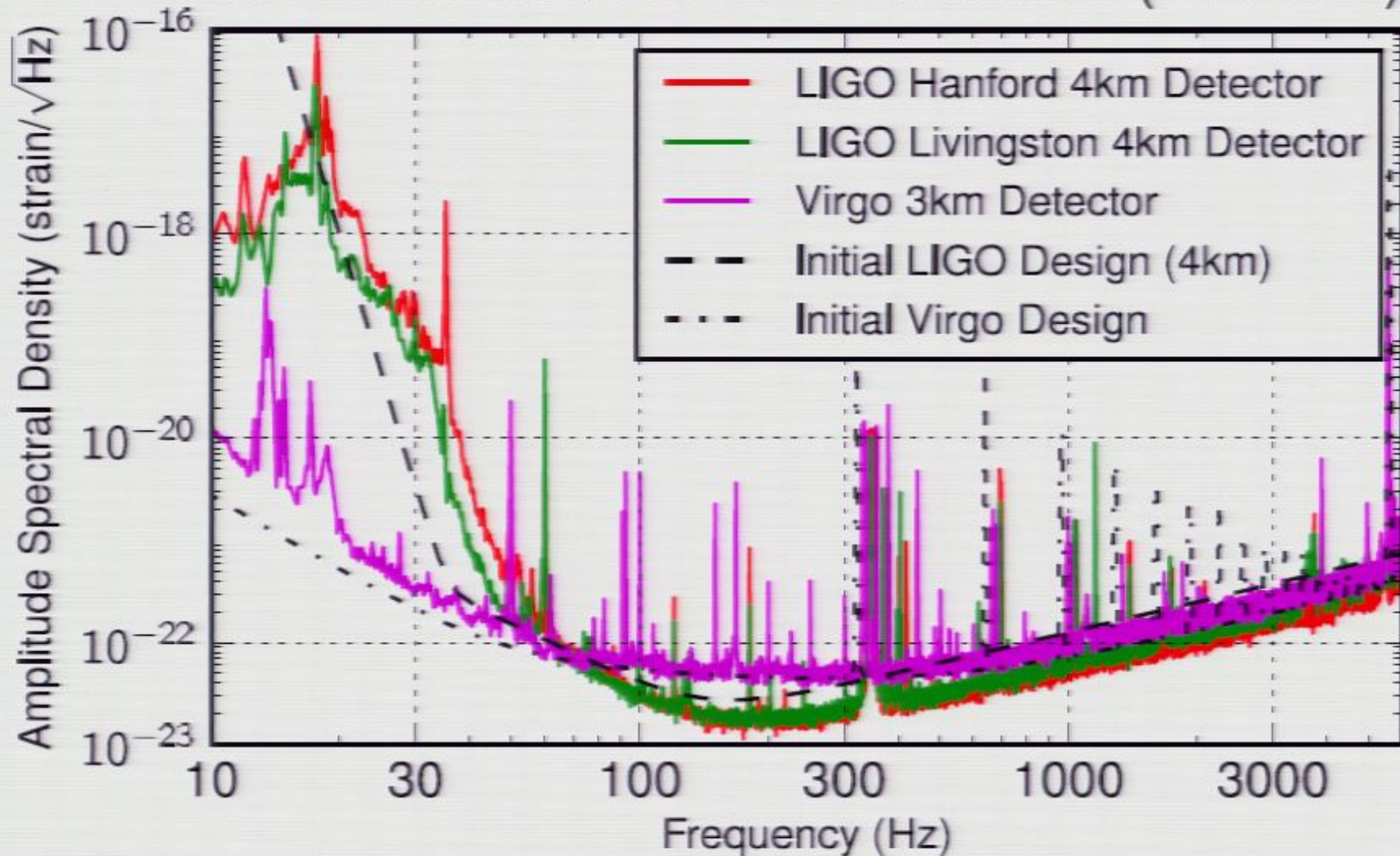
## S6/VSR2 Best Strain Sensitivities (PRELIM)







## S6/VSR2 Best Strain Sensitivities (PRELIM)



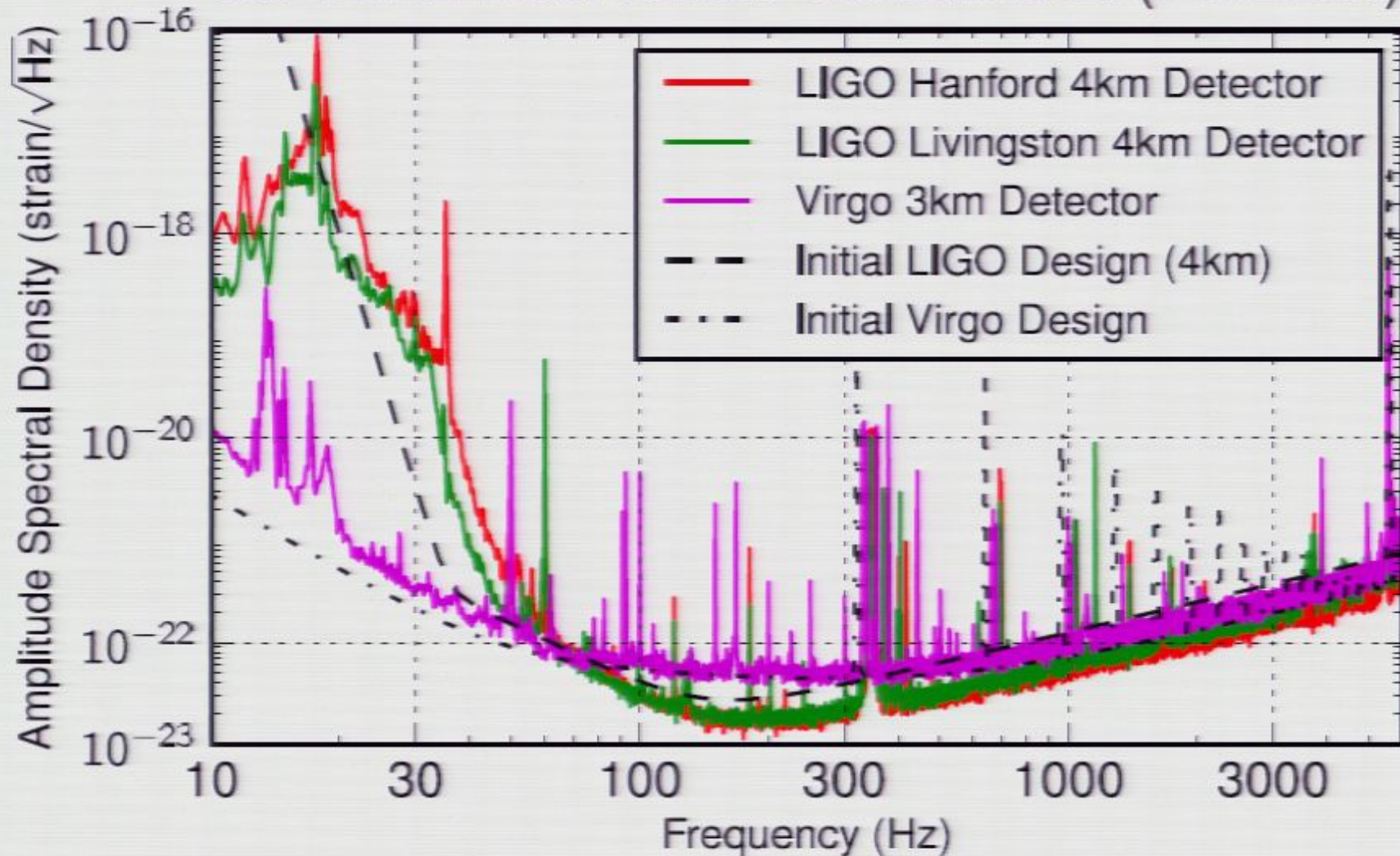


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## S6/VSR2 Best Strain Sensitivities (PRELIM)



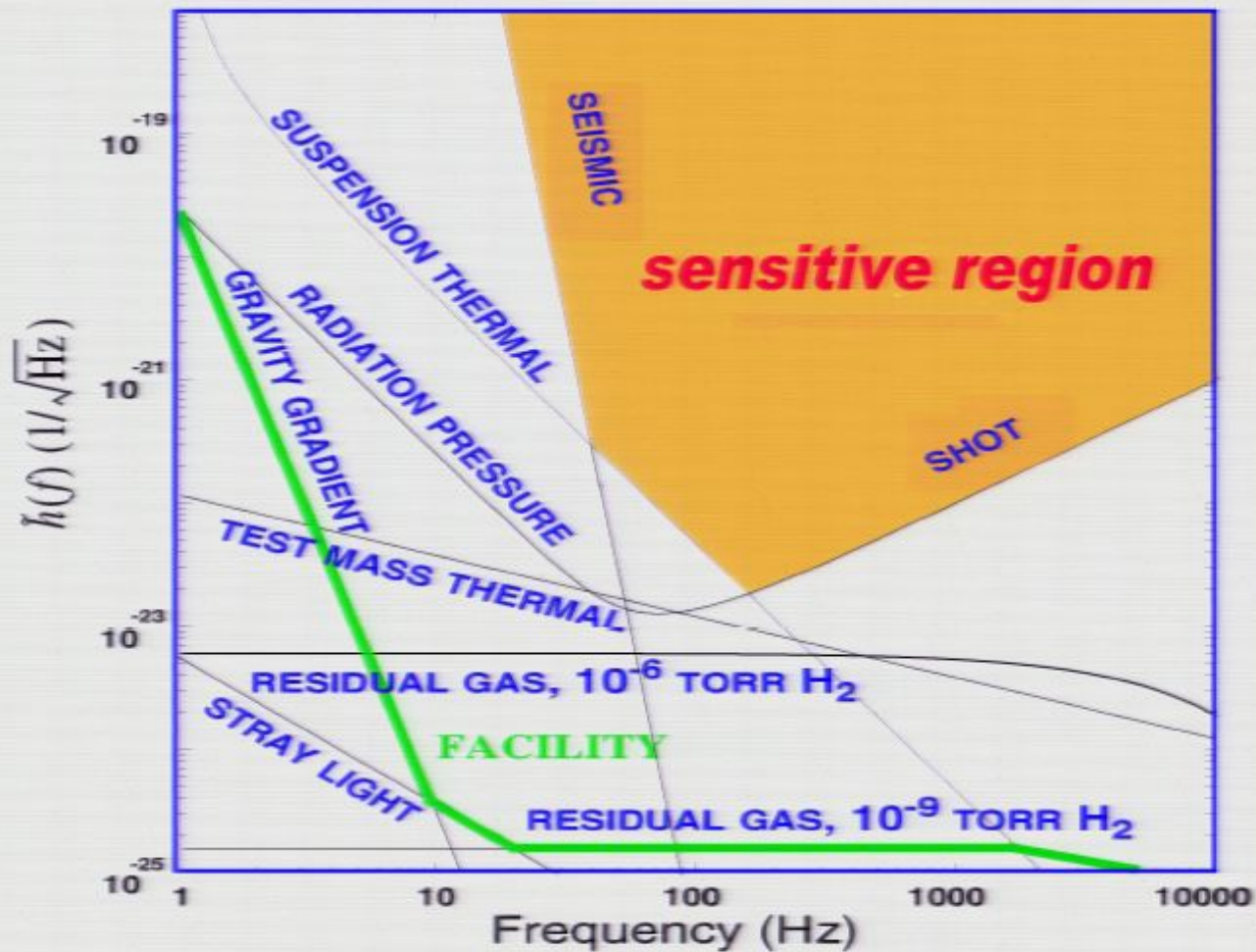


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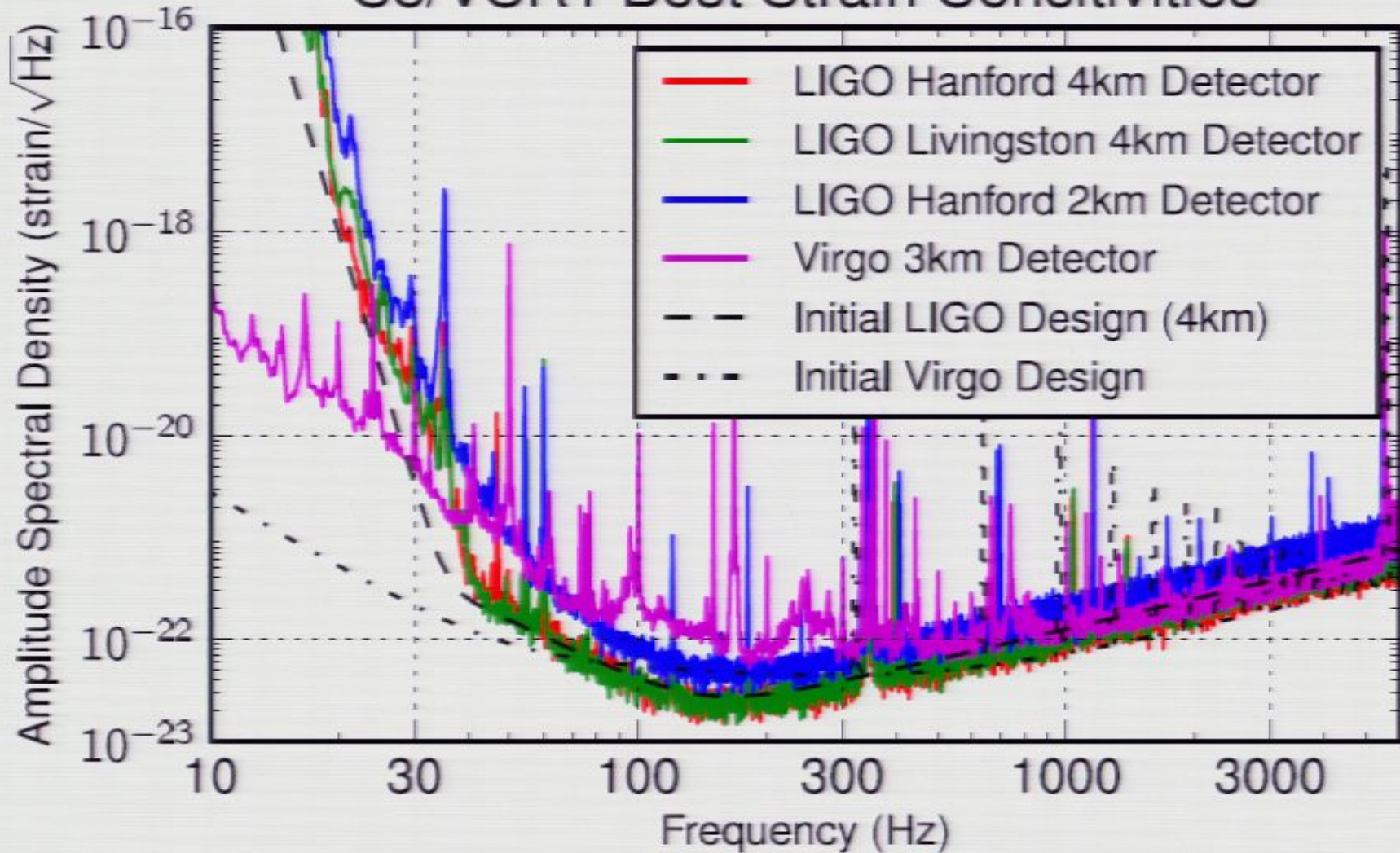


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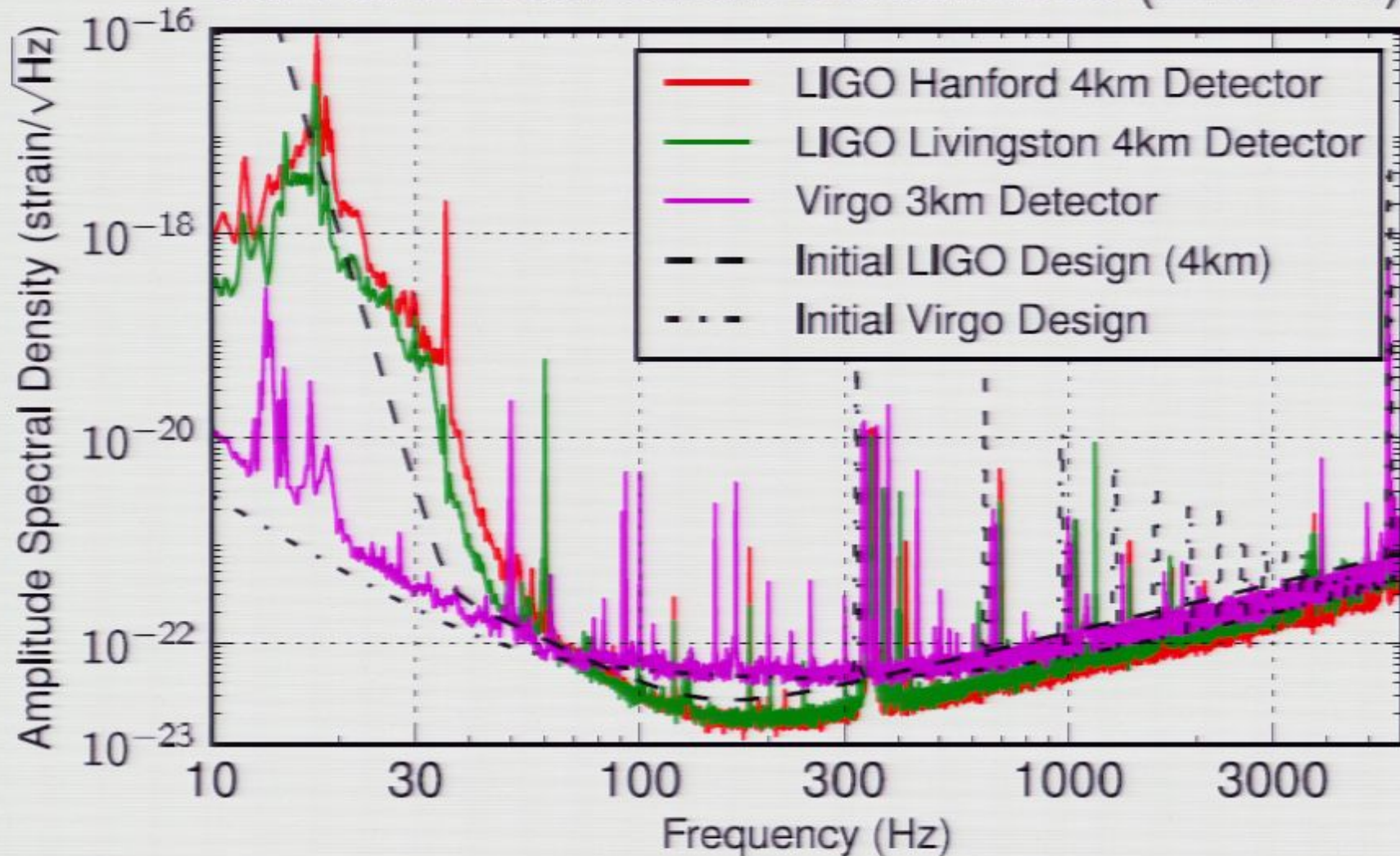


## S5/VSR1 Best Strain Sensitivities





## S6/VSR2 Best Strain Sensitivities (PRELIM)





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# Cross-Correlation Search for Stochastic Background

- Noisy data from GW Detector:

$$x(t) = n(t) + h(t) = n(t) + \overleftrightarrow{h}(t) : \overleftrightarrow{d}$$

- Correlate data btwn detectors (Fourier domain)

$$\langle \tilde{X}_1^*(f) \tilde{X}_2(f') \rangle = \langle \tilde{h}_1^*(f) \tilde{h}_2(f') \rangle = \overleftrightarrow{d}_1 : \langle \tilde{h}_1^*(f) \otimes \tilde{h}_2(f') \rangle : \overleftrightarrow{d}_2$$

- For stochastic backgrounds

$$\langle \tilde{h}_1^*(f) \tilde{h}_2(f') \rangle = \delta(f - f') \gamma_{12}(f) \frac{S_{\text{gw}}(f)}{2}$$

$S_{\text{gw}}(f)$  encodes spectrum;  $\gamma_{12}(f)$  encodes geometry



## Detection Statistic

- Optimally filtered cross-correlation statistic

$$Y = \int df \tilde{x}_1^*(f) Q(f) \tilde{x}_2(f)$$

- Filter encodes expected **spectrum** & **spatial distribution**  
(isotropic, pointlike, spherical harmonics ...)

$$Q(f) \propto \frac{\gamma_{12}^*(f) S_{\text{gw}}^{\text{exp}}(f)}{S_{n1}(f) S_{n2}(f)}$$

- “Radiometer” search for **ptlike srcs** incl targeting Sco X-1:  
known sky location, unknown frequency



# Gravitational Waves from Quasiperiodic Sources

- Sco X-1 is Low-Mass X-Ray Binary:  
accreting neutron star in orbit w/companion
- Rotating NS w/deformation emits nearly sinusoidal signal

$$\vec{h}(t) = h_0 \left[ \frac{1 + \cos^2 \iota}{2} \cos \Phi(\tau(t)) \vec{e}_+ + \cos \iota \sin \Phi(\tau(t)) \vec{e}_\times \right]$$

- $\Phi(\tau)$ : phase evolution in rest frame;
- $\tau(t)$ : Doppler mod from detector motion (& binary orbit)
- Features of signal model missing from stoch search:
  - Doppler shift @ each detector:  
correlations peaked @ different freqs
  - Long-term coherence:  
can correlate data @ different times



# Cross-Correlation of Continuous GW Signals

- **Cross-correlation** of signal w/intrinsic frequency  $f_0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \tilde{x}_I^*(f_I) \tilde{x}_J(f_J) \rangle &= \tilde{h}_I^*(f_I) \tilde{h}_J(f_J) \\ &= h_0^2 \tilde{G}_{IJ} \delta_{T_{\text{sft}}}(f_0 - f_I - \delta f_I) \delta_{T_{\text{sft}}}(f_0 - f_J - \delta f_J) \end{aligned}$$

- $\tilde{h}_I(f)$  is **Short Fourier Transform**, duration  $T_{\text{sft}}$
- $\delta_{T_{\text{sft}}}(f - f') = \int_{-T_{\text{sft}}/2}^{T_{\text{sft}}/2} dt e^{i2\pi(f-f')t}$
- $\tilde{h}_I$  &  $\tilde{h}_J$  can be same or different times or detectors
- $\delta f_I$  is relevant **Doppler shift**
- For given set of params, can add products of all **SFT pairs**

$$Y = \sum_{IJ} Q_{IJ} \tilde{x}_I^*(f_0 - \delta f_I) \tilde{x}_J(f_0 - \delta f_J) \quad Q_{IJ} \propto \frac{\tilde{G}_{IJ}^*}{S_{n,I}(f_0) S_{n,J}(f_0)}$$



## Doppler Modulation in Cross-Correlation Searches

- Max Doppler shift from Earth's rotation:  $\frac{|\vec{v}_{\oplus\text{rot}}|}{c} \lesssim 1.5 \times 10^{-6}$   
Doppler shift at 2000 Hz is  $\lesssim 0.003$  Hz.
- Max Doppler shift from Earth's orbit:  $\frac{|\vec{v}_{\oplus\text{orb}}|}{c} \lesssim 1.0 \times 10^{-4}$   
Doppler shift at 2000 Hz is  $\lesssim 0.2$  Hz.
- Stochastic searches use FTs of e.g., 120 s duration, so

$$\delta f \approx 0.0083 \text{ Hz}$$

Cross-correlation between detectors uses same freq bin

- Stochastic search combines fine bins into coarse bins of

$$\Delta f = 0.25 \text{ Hz}$$

Cross-corr power collected in single bin for most freqs

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## Computational Costs and Frequency Resolution

- If freq, sky pos etc **known**, can do most sensitive **fully coherent search** (correlate **all data**)
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e.g. 
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# Tuning the Cross-Correlation Search

- Computational considerations limit coherent time, i.e., possible time lag between correlated segments
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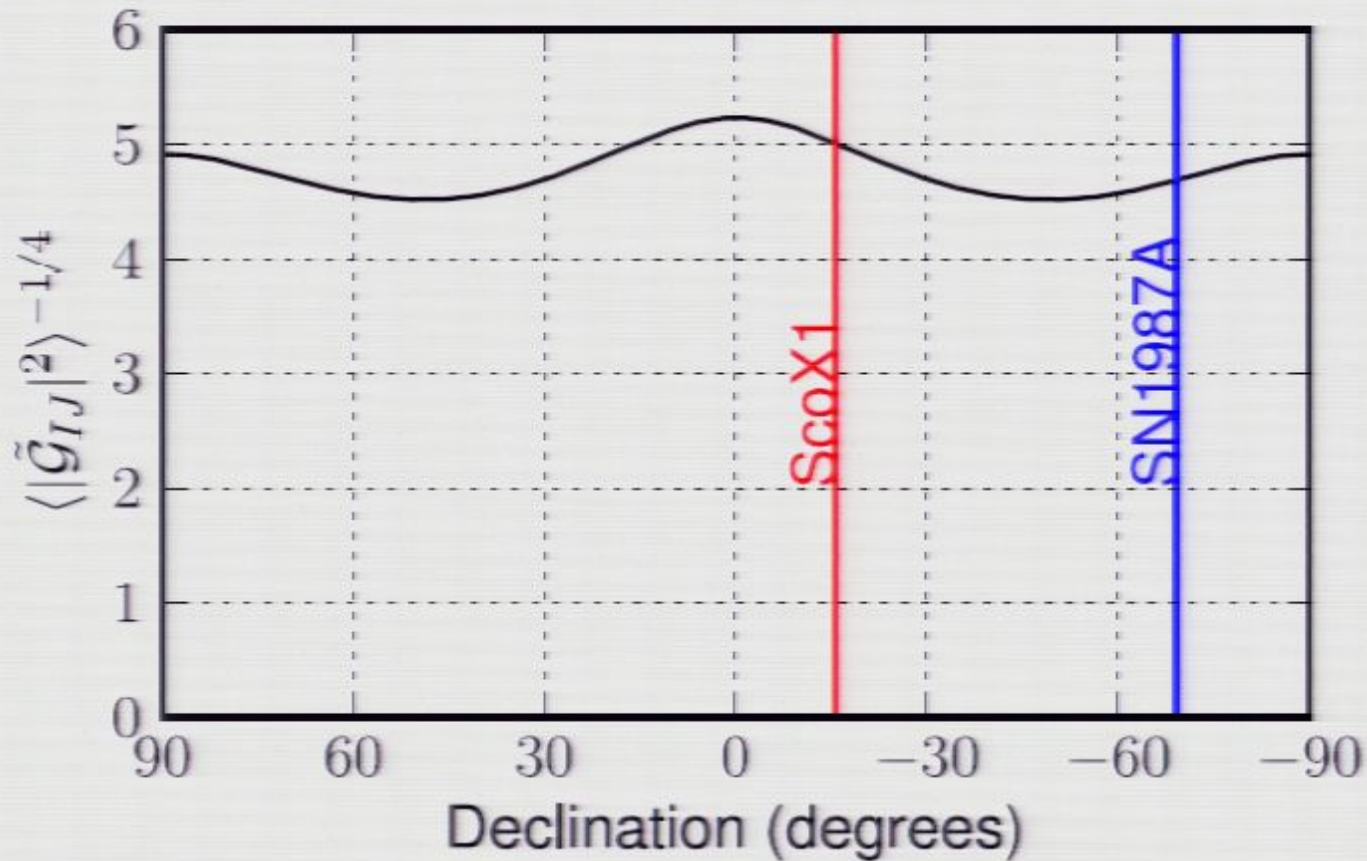
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# Geometrical Factor vs Sky Location





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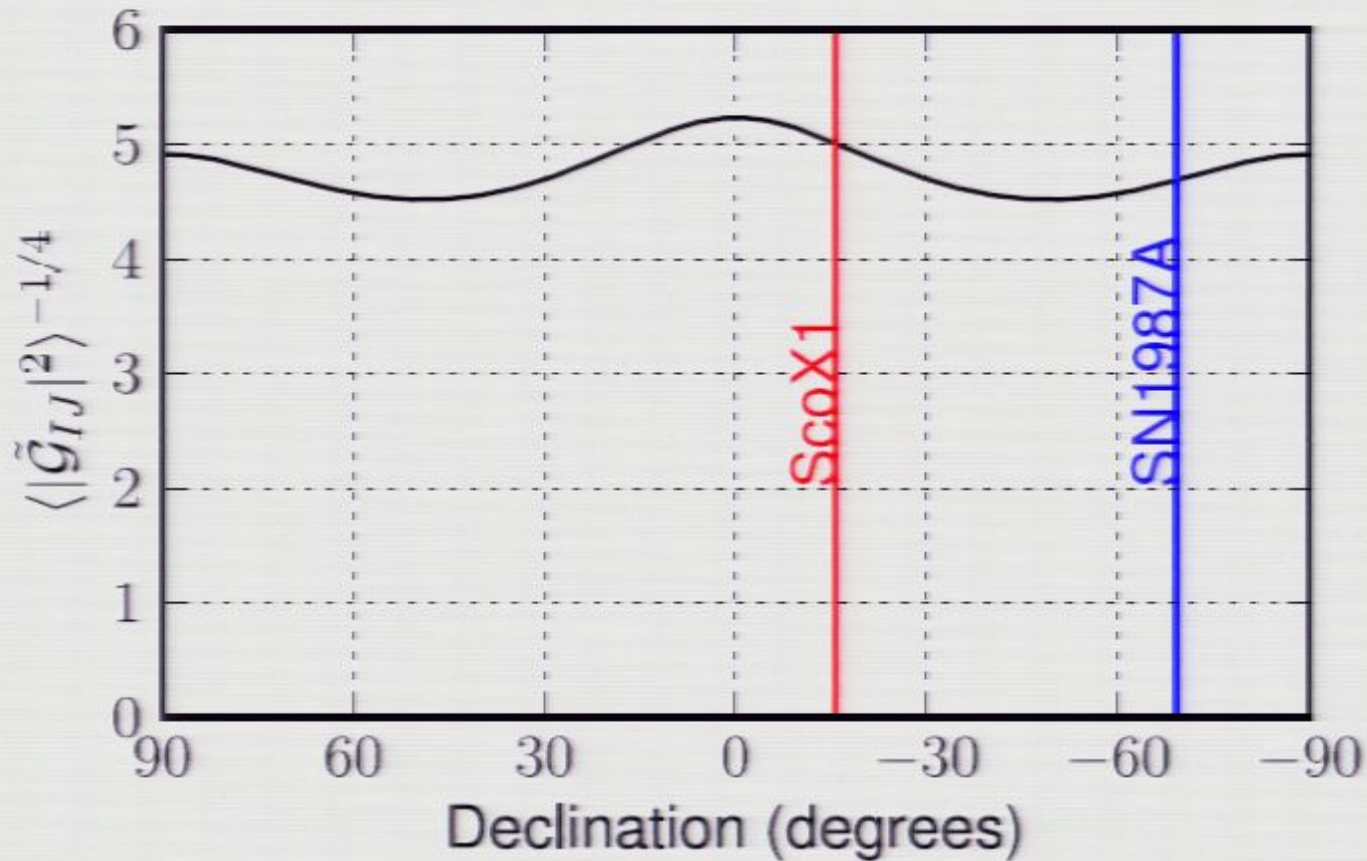


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# Geometrical Factor vs Sky Location







## Searching for Young Neutron Stars

- **Young** ( $\lesssim 100$  yr) NSs should be spinning rapidly  
LIGO/Virgo band  $50 \text{ Hz} \lesssim f_{\text{GW}} \lesssim 1500 \text{ Hz}$
- Look in likely sky locations for NSs not seen as pulsars:  
SN1987A should have one; galactic ctr could have  $\mathcal{O}(1)$
- **Spinning down rapidly**; inefficient to search over  $f, \dot{f}, \ddot{f}, \dots$   
Phase model: **GW spindown**  $\propto f^5$ ; **EM spindown**  $\propto f^{\approx 3}$

$$\frac{df}{d\tau} = Q_{\text{GW}} \left( \frac{f}{f_{\text{ref}}} \right)^5 + Q_{\text{EM}} \left( \frac{f}{f_{\text{ref}}} \right)^n$$

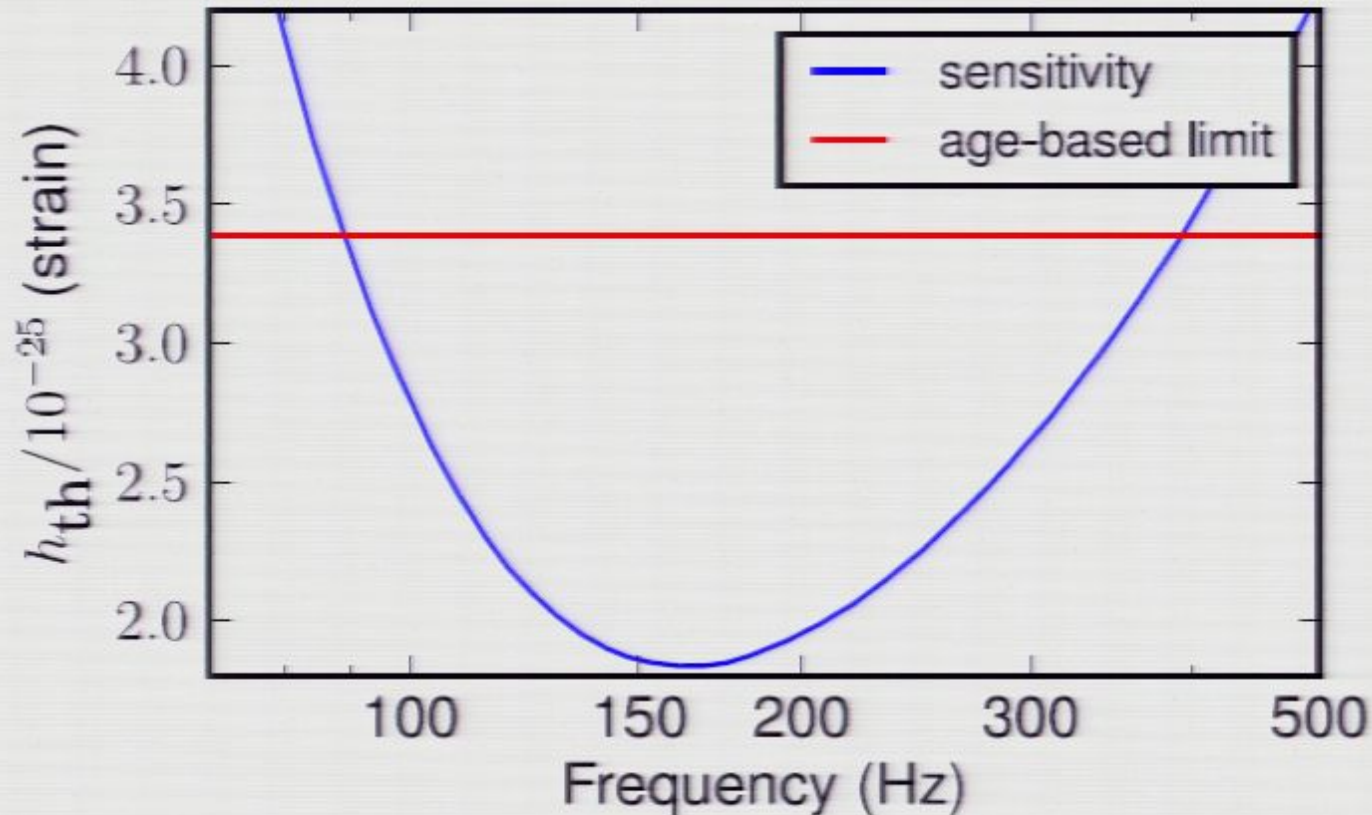
Search over  $f_0, Q_{\text{GW}}, Q_{\text{EM}}, n$

Chung, Melatos, Krishnan & JTW to appear in MNRAS [arXiv:1102.4654](https://arxiv.org/abs/1102.4654)



# Ballpark sensitivity of SN1987A search w/initial LIGO

Estimate from arXiv:1102.4654



Compares favorably to indirect **age-based limit**  $h_0 < 3.4 \times 10^{-25}$



# Summary

- Cross-correlation method adapted to periodic GWs
- Tuning max time-lag between cross-correlated data allows tradeoff of sensitivity for computing time
- Can search for young NSs (e.g., SN1987A)  
(search over  $f_0$  & braking model params)
- Can search for LMXBs (e.g., Sco X-1)  
(search over  $f_0$  & binary orbit params)



# Semi Coherent Search

	$x_1(t_0)$	$x_2(t_0)$	$x_1(t_1)$	$x_2(t_1)$	$x_1(t_2)$	$x_2(t_2)$	$x_1(t_3)$	$x_2(t_3)$
$x_1(t_0)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
$x_2(t_0)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
$x_1(t_1)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
$x_2(t_1)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
$x_1(t_2)$	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_2(t_2)$	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_1(t_3)$	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_2(t_3)$	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y

Coherently combine within epochs



## Computational Costs and Frequency Resolution

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- Most CW searches **semi-coherent**: deliberately limit coherent integration time & **param space resolution** to keep **number of templates** manageable



# Fully Coherent Search

	$x_1(t_0)$	$x_2(t_0)$	$x_1(t_1)$	$x_2(t_1)$	$x_1(t_2)$	$x_2(t_2)$	$x_1(t_3)$	$x_2(t_3)$
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$x_2(t_0)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
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$x_2(t_1)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_1(t_2)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_2(t_2)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_1(t_3)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_2(t_3)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Combine all SFT pairs; as with standard  $\mathcal{F}$ -statistic,  
quadratic combination of all SFTs



# Semi Coherent Search

	$x_1(t_0)$	$x_2(t_0)$	$x_1(t_1)$	$x_2(t_1)$	$x_1(t_2)$	$x_2(t_2)$	$x_1(t_3)$	$x_2(t_3)$
$x_1(t_0)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
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$x_2(t_1)$	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
$x_1(t_2)$	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_2(t_2)$	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
$x_1(t_3)$	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
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Coherently combine within epochs



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$x_1(t_3)$	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N
$x_2(t_3)$	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y

Only consider “diagonal” auto-correlations



# Tuning the Cross-Correlation Search

- Computational considerations limit coherent time, i.e., possible time lag between correlated segments
- Detectable signal

$$h_0^{\text{th}} \propto \left( \sum_{IJ} |\tilde{g}_{IJ}|^2 \right)^{-1/4} \sqrt{\frac{S_n}{T_{\text{sft}}}} \propto N_{\text{pairs}}^{-1/4} T_{\text{sft}}^{-1/2}$$

( $T_{\text{sft}}$  is duration of fourier transformed data segment)

- If all data used,  $N_{\text{pairs}} \sim N_{\text{sft}}^2$ , so

$$h_0 \propto (N_{\text{sft}} T_{\text{sft}})^{-1/2}$$

like coherent search of duration  $N_{\text{sft}} T_{\text{sft}}$

- If only simultaneous SFTs correlated,  $N_{\text{pairs}} \sim N_{\text{sft}}$ , so

$$h_0 \propto N_{\text{sft}}^{-1/4} T_{\text{sft}}^{-1/2}$$

like semi-coherent search w/ $N_{\text{sft}}$  coherent segs of  $T_{\text{sft}}$  each

- Can “tune” sensitivity vs comp time by choosing SFT pairs