

FPS6, HUE, Wuhan

Pulsar timing array based search for supermassive black hole binaries in Square Kilometer Array era

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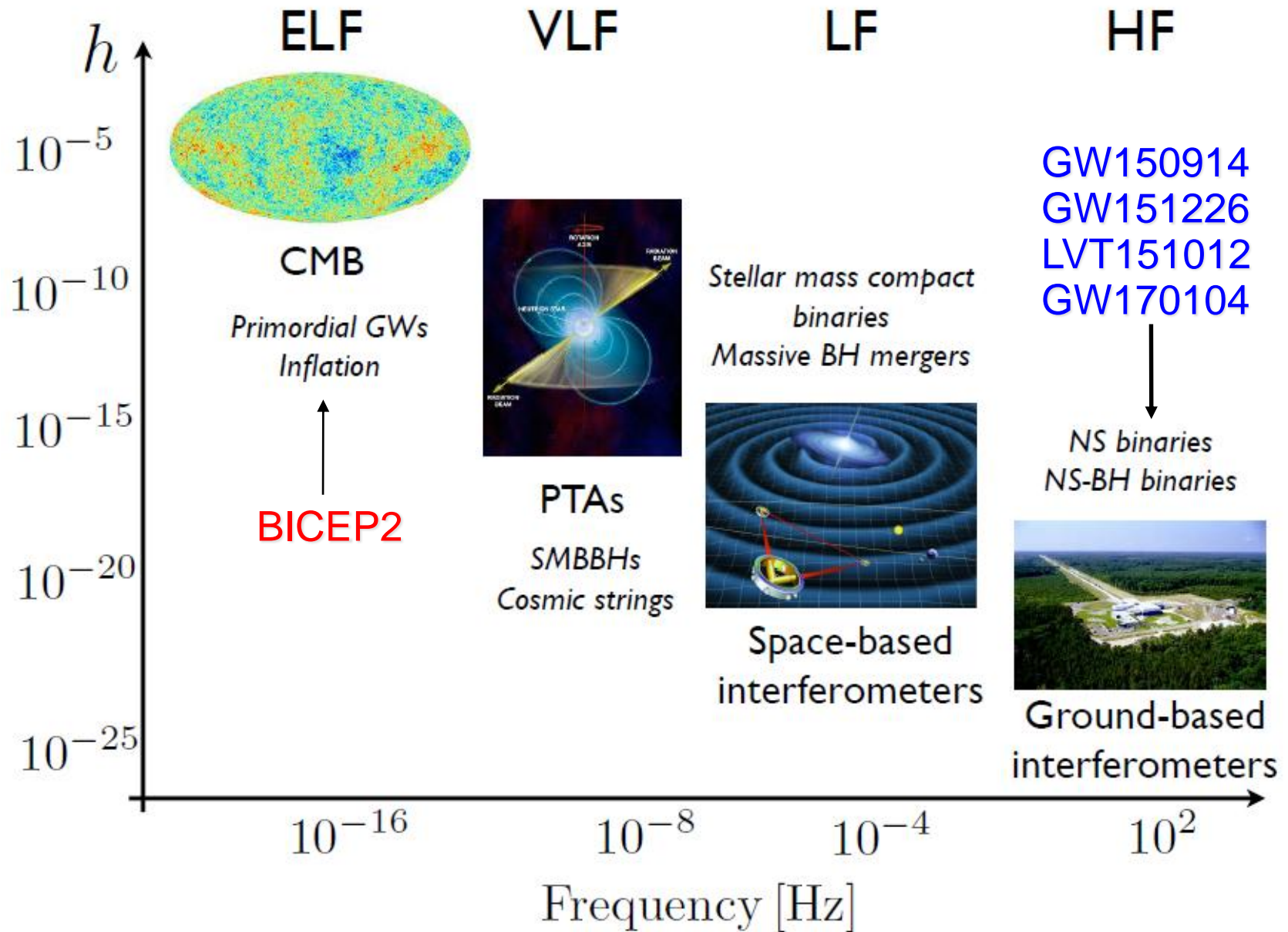
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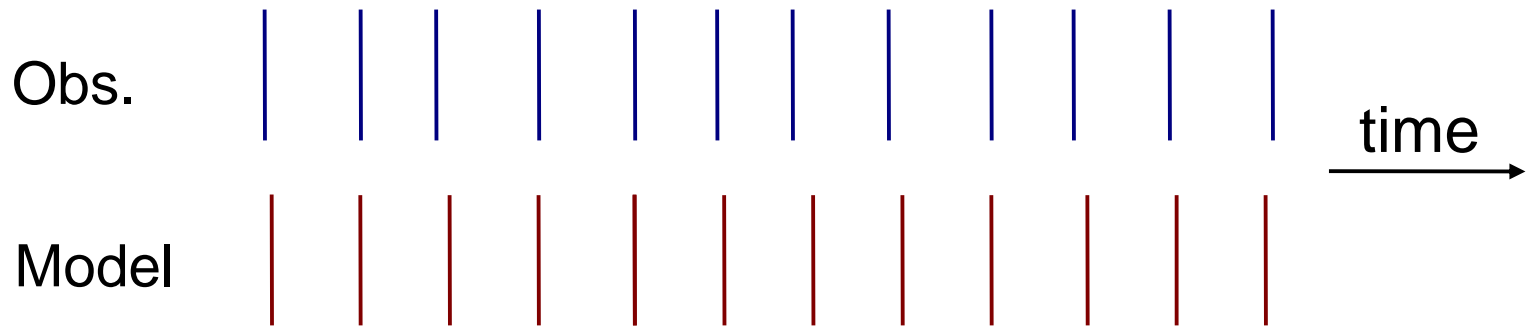
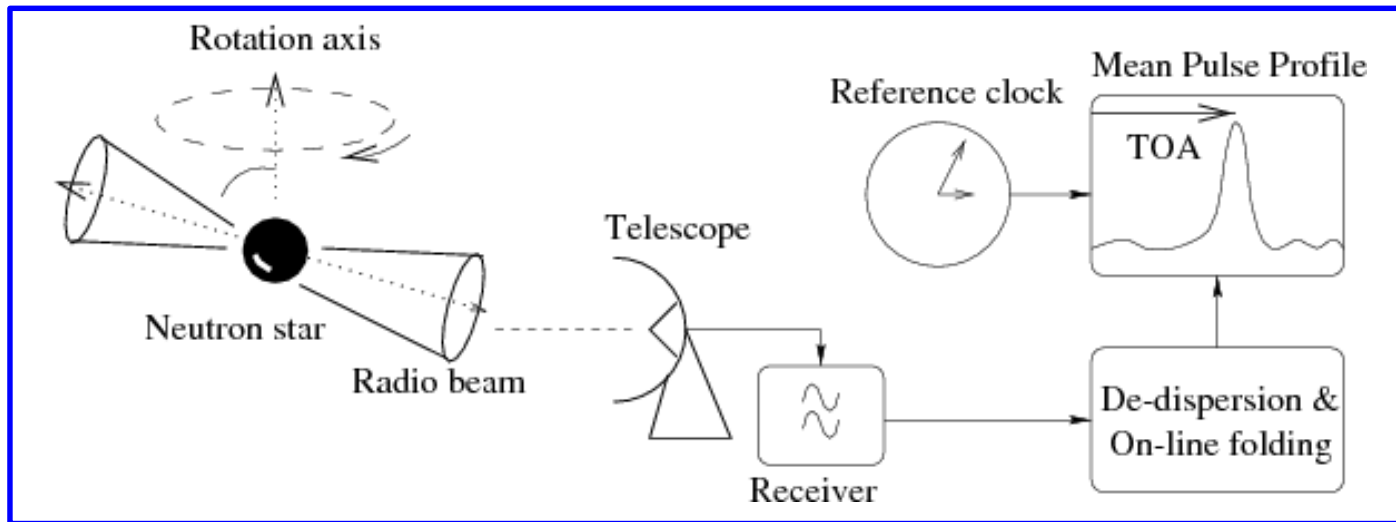
June 30, 2017



The big picture of gravitational wave astronomy

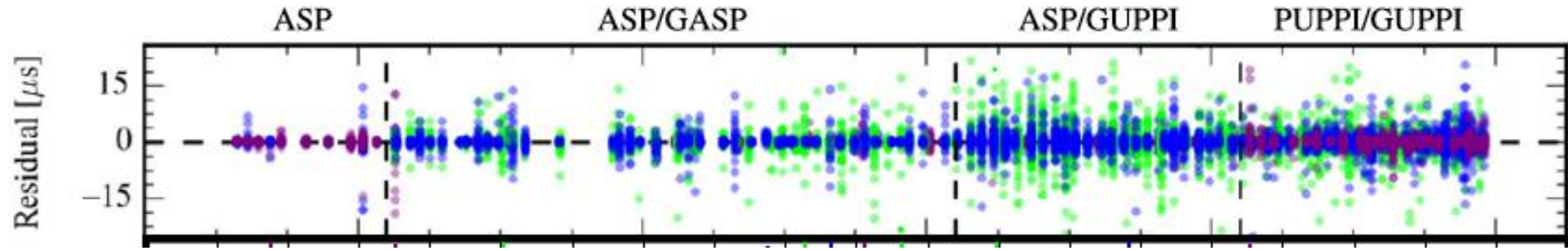


Pulsar timing

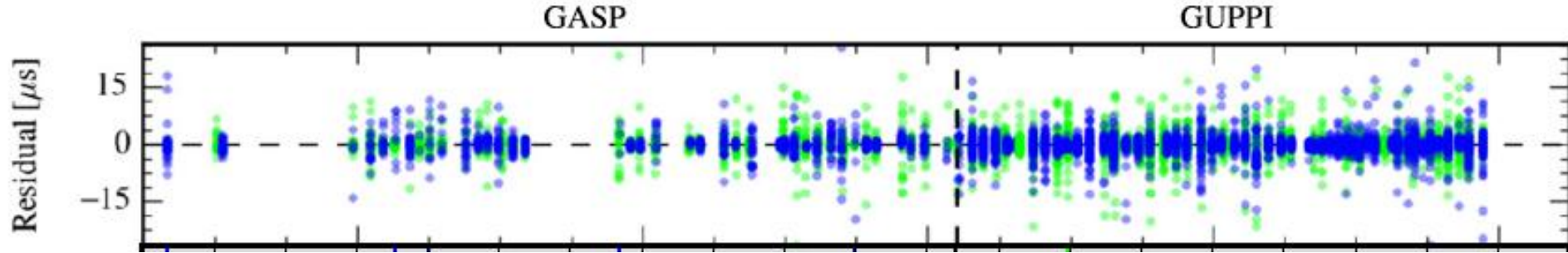


Lorimer & Kramer, "Handbook of Pulsar Astronomy"
Mon. Not. R. Astron. Soc. 369, 655–672 (2006)
Mon. Not. R. Astron. Soc. 372, 1549–1574 (2006)

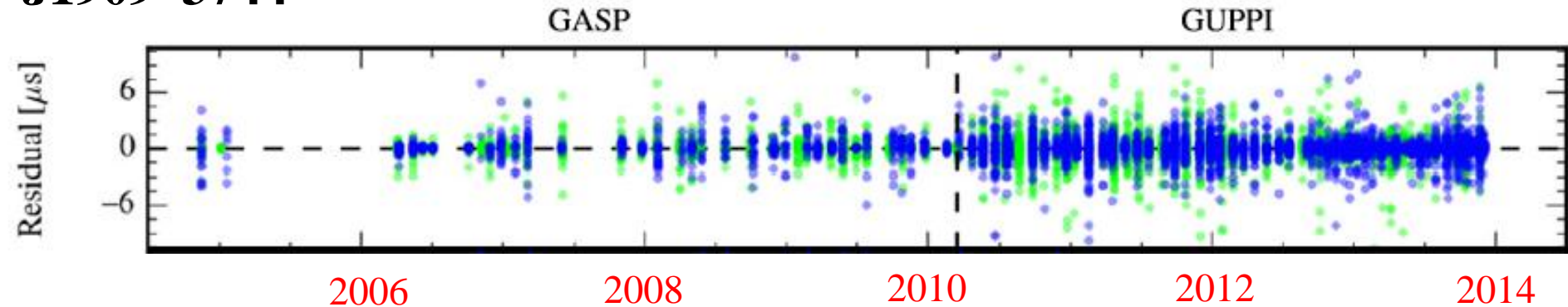
J1713+0747



J1744-1134



J1909-3744





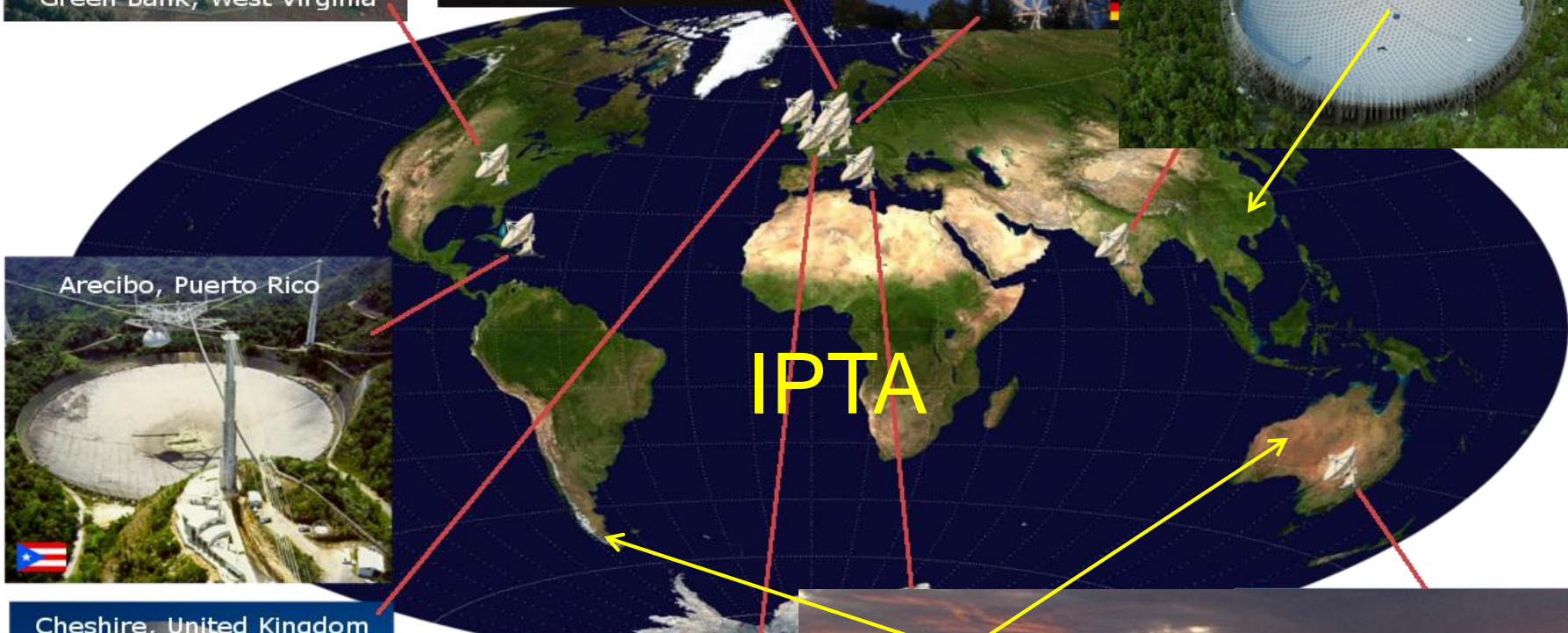
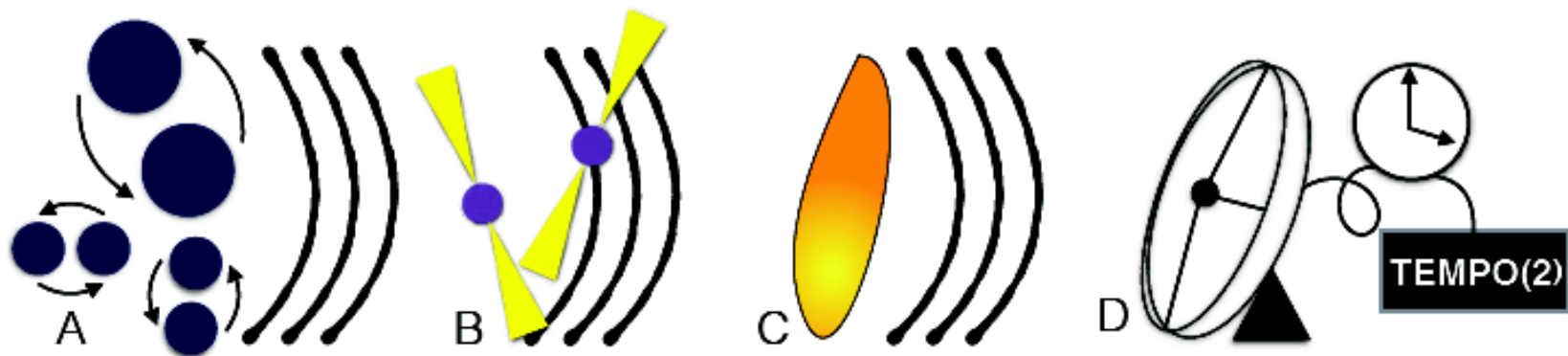


Image source, clockwise from upper left: <http://www.gb.nrao.edu/>; <http://www.astron.nl/>; <http://www.mpifr-bonn.mpg.de/english>; www.obs-nancay.fr/; <http://www>

Pulsar Timing Array

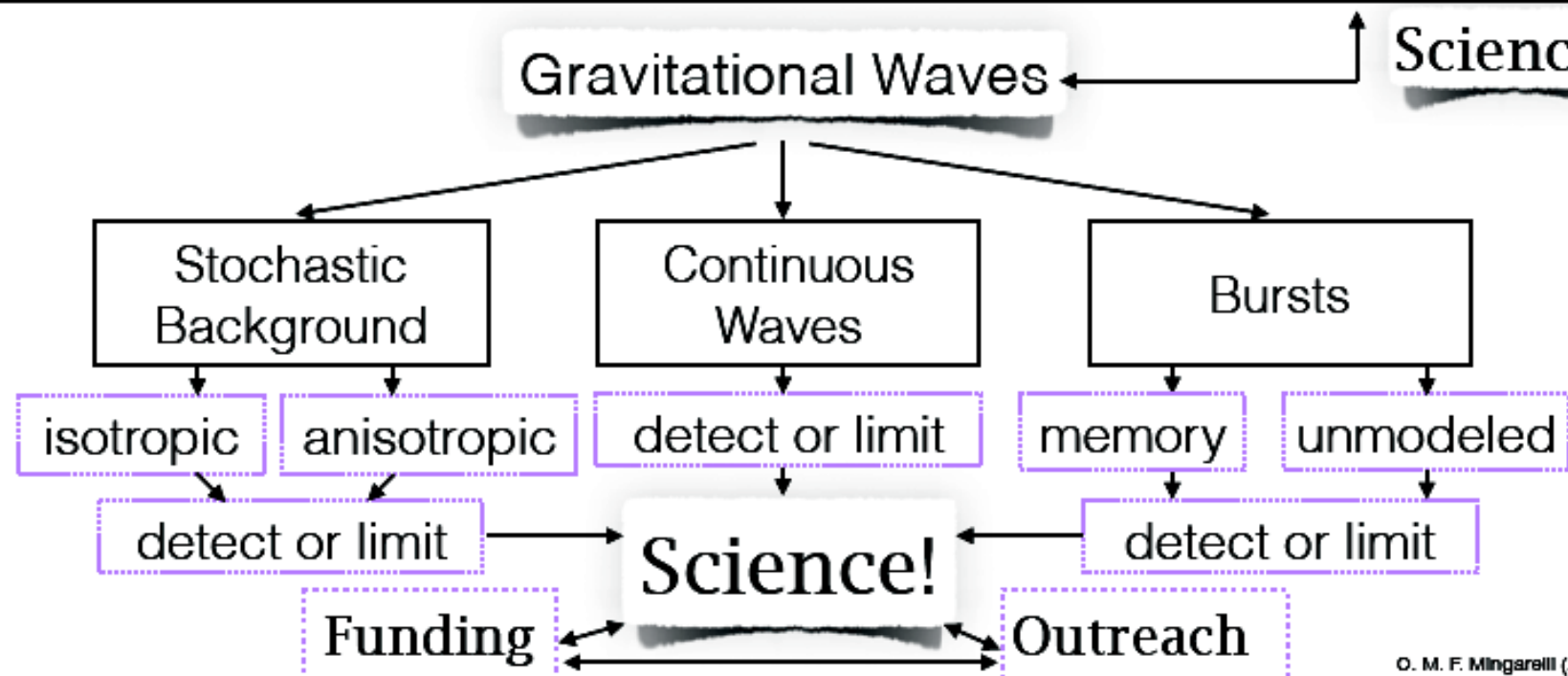


A: GWs from e.g. supermassive BH binaries (also cosmic strings)

B: GWs perturb space-time at the pulsars as they transit

C: ionized gas in the interstellar medium disperses & scatters the light from pulsars

D: GW perturb signals from all pulsars at Earth. Time of arrivals and residuals are calculated.



Signal model

$$\text{GLRT}(\mathbf{r}) = \max_{\lambda_i} \max_{\lambda_e} \Lambda(\mathbf{r}; \lambda)$$

Option I: Wang, Mohanty, and Jenet. [ApJ, 795, 96 \(2014\)](#)

$$\lambda_e = \{\zeta, \iota, \psi\} + \lambda_i = \{\alpha, \delta, \omega_{gw}, \varphi_0, \varphi_I\}$$

$$s_k^I = \sum_{\mu=1}^4 a_{\mu} A_{\mu}^I(t_k^I)$$

$$\text{NEC: } a_1 a_2 + a_3 a_4 = 0$$

$$\text{NIEC: } a_1^2 - a_2^2 + a_3^2 - a_4^2 \geq 0$$

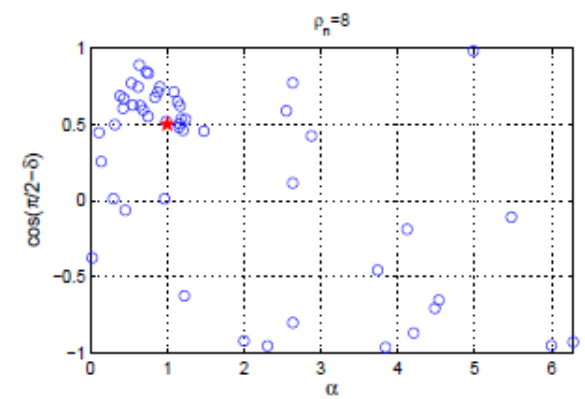
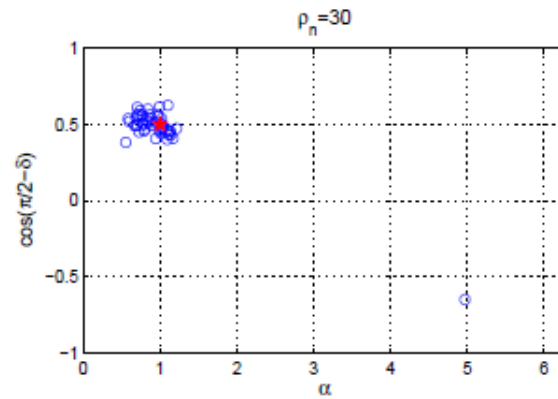
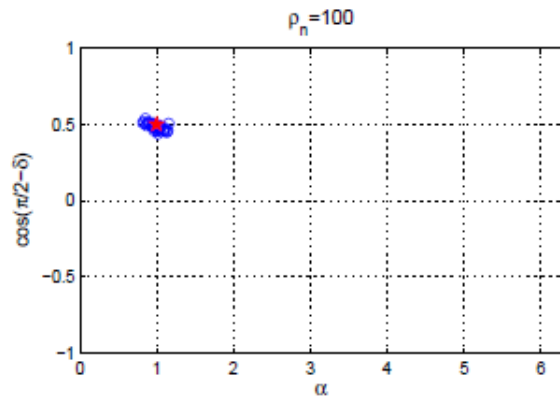
Option II: Wang, Mohanty, and Jenet. [ApJ, 815, 125 \(2015\)](#)

$$\lambda_e = \{\varphi_I\} + \lambda_i = \{\alpha, \delta, \omega_{gw}, \zeta, \iota, \psi, \varphi_0\}$$

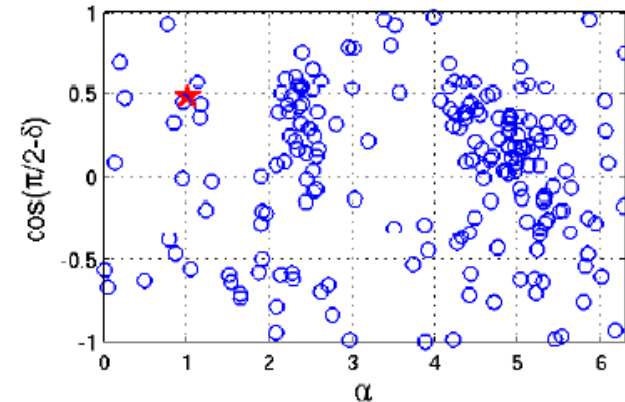
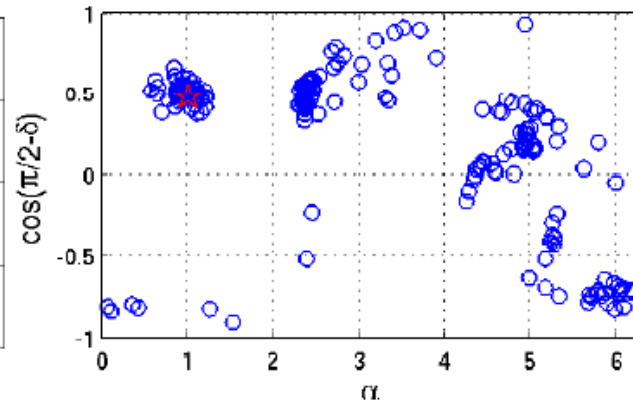
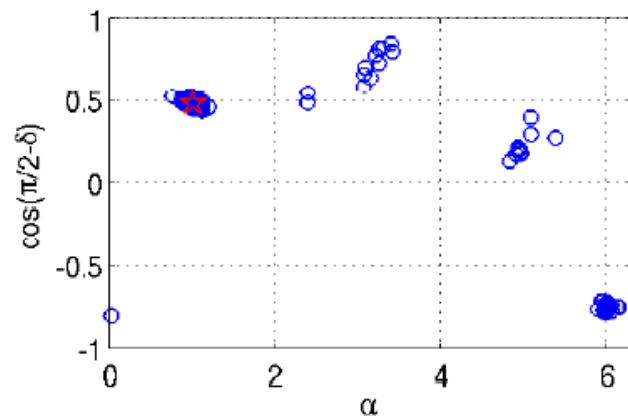
$$s_k^I = X^I \cos 2\varphi_I + Y^I \sin 2\varphi_I + Z^I$$

Localization: Opt I v.s. Opt II

Opt I

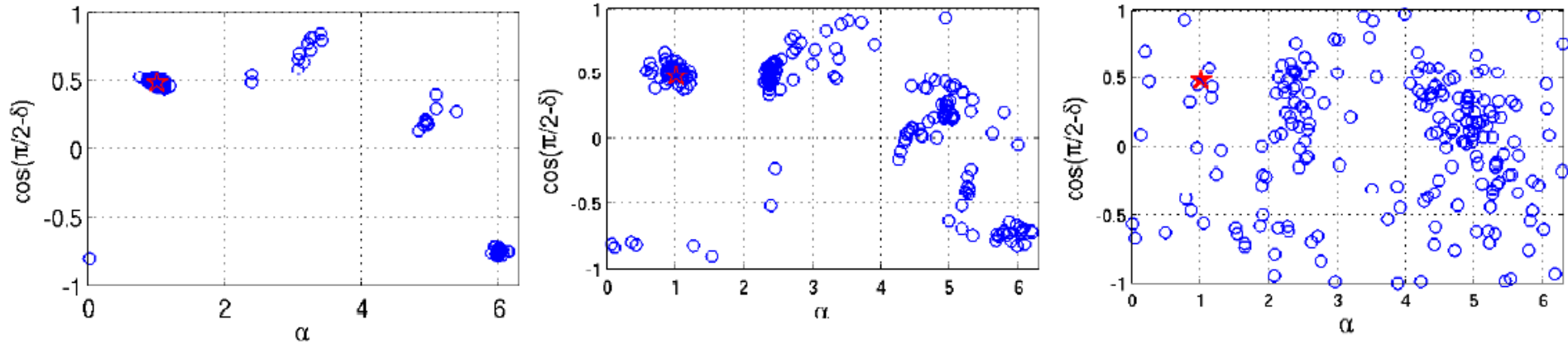


Opt II

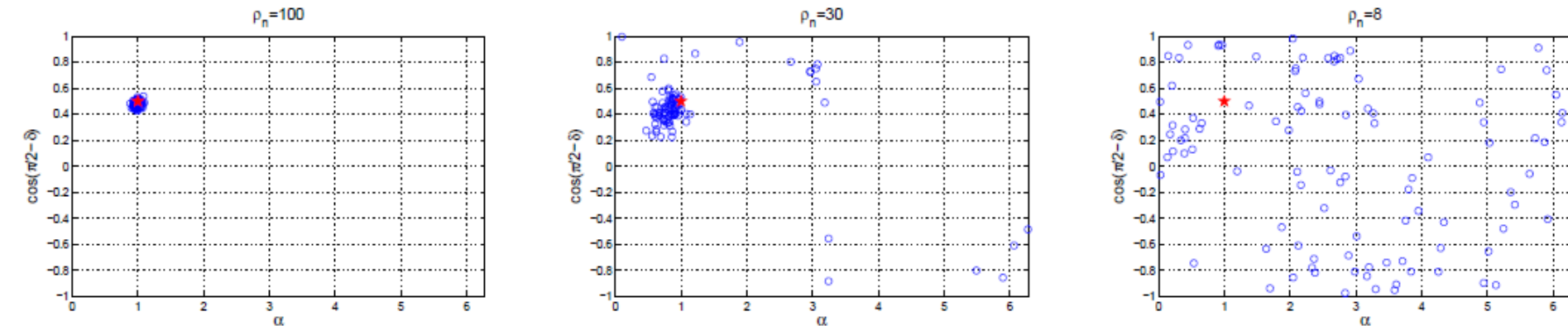


Effect of increasing the PTA size for Opt II

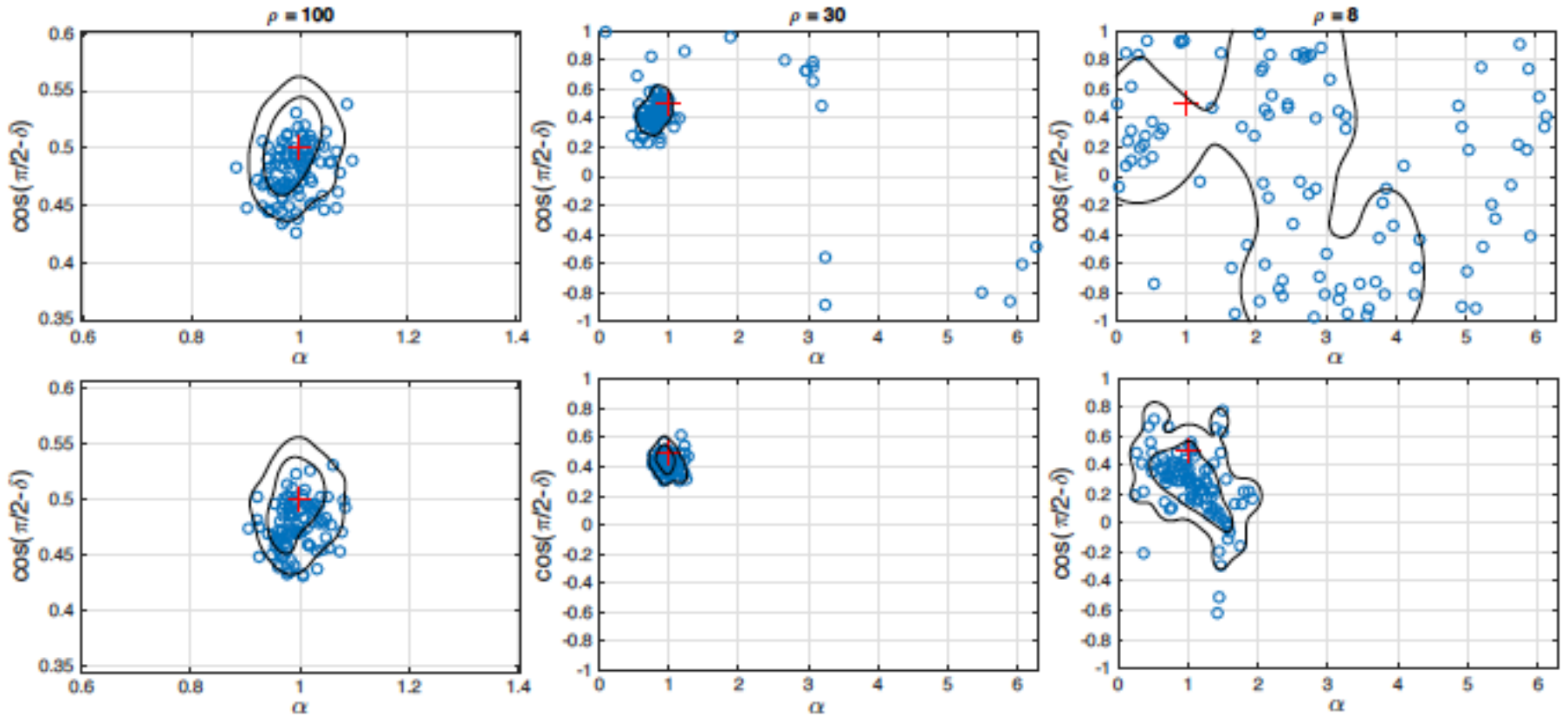
9 pulsars



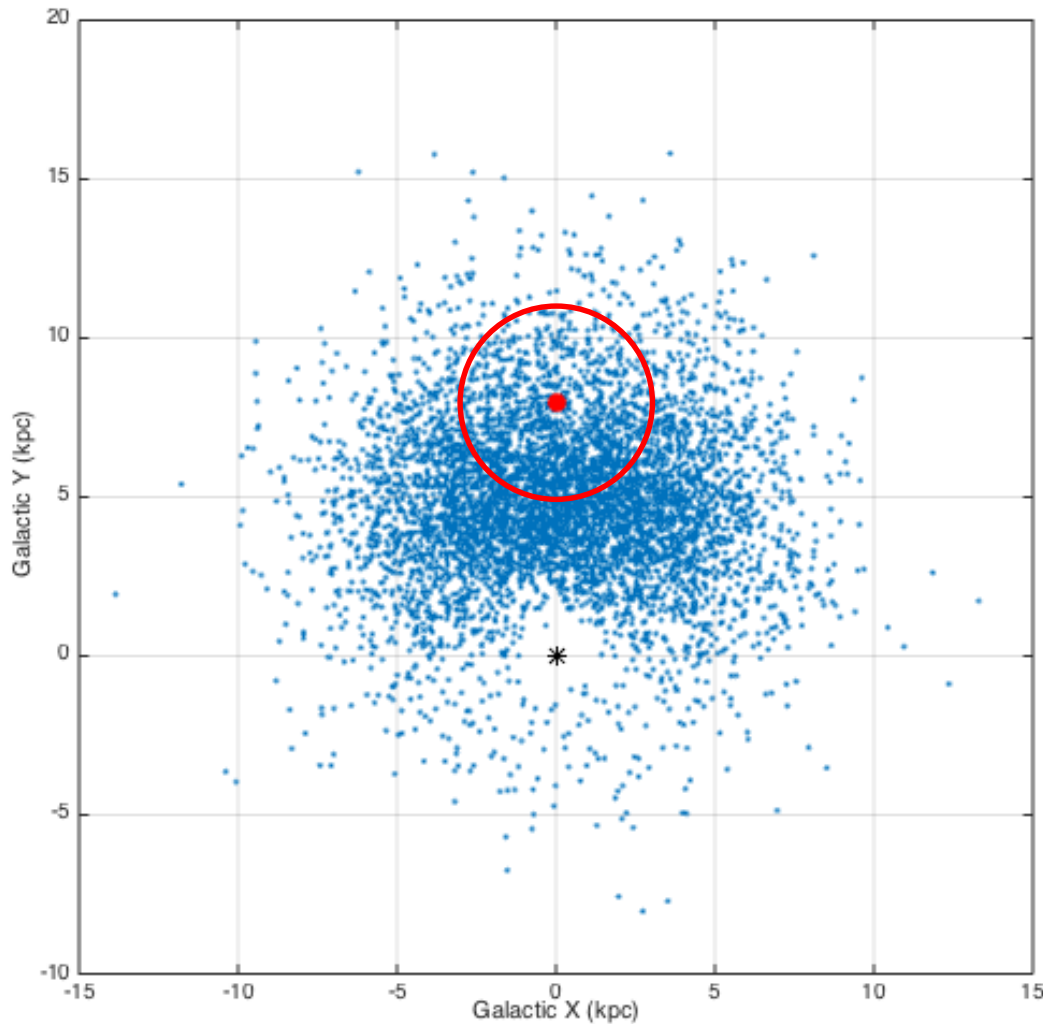
17 pulsars



Maximization v.s. marginalization



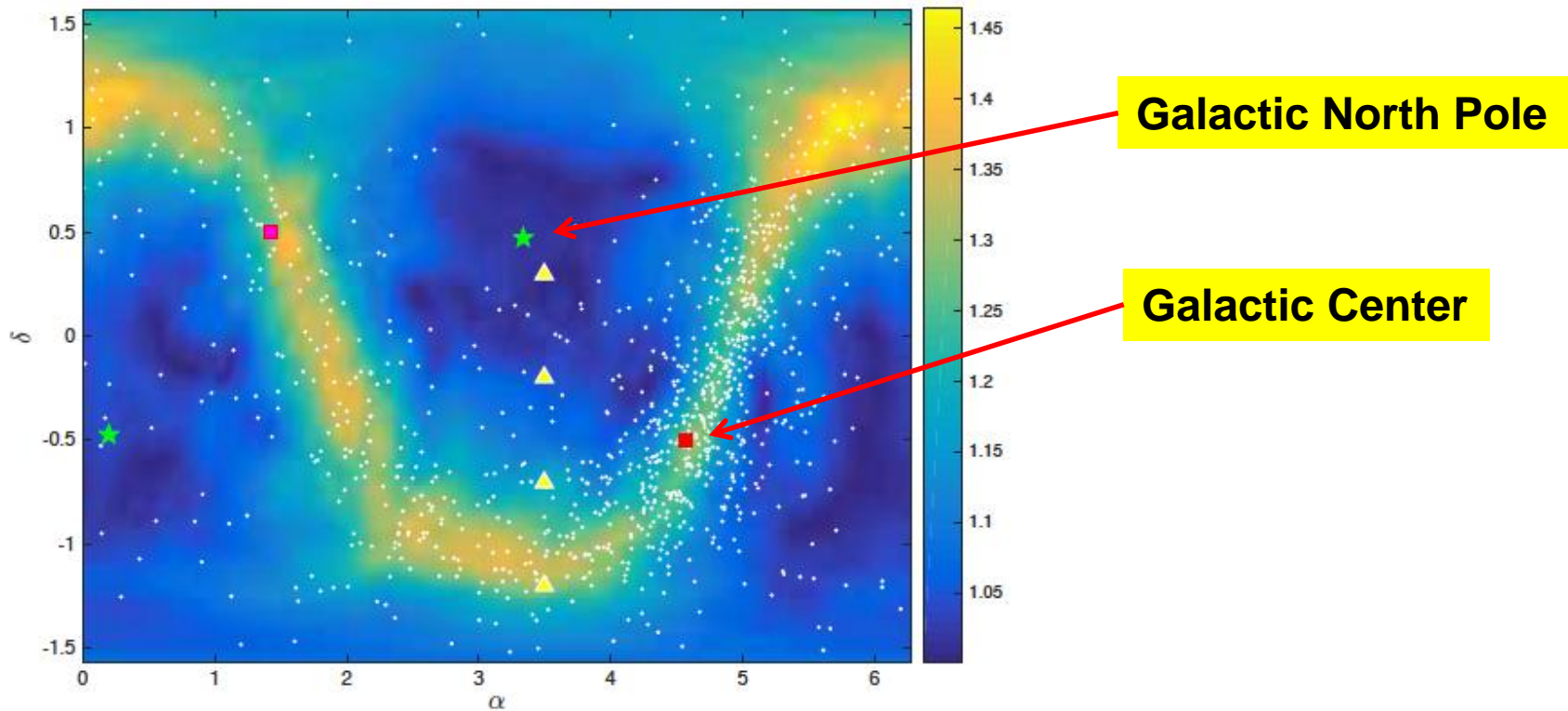
PTA in SKA era



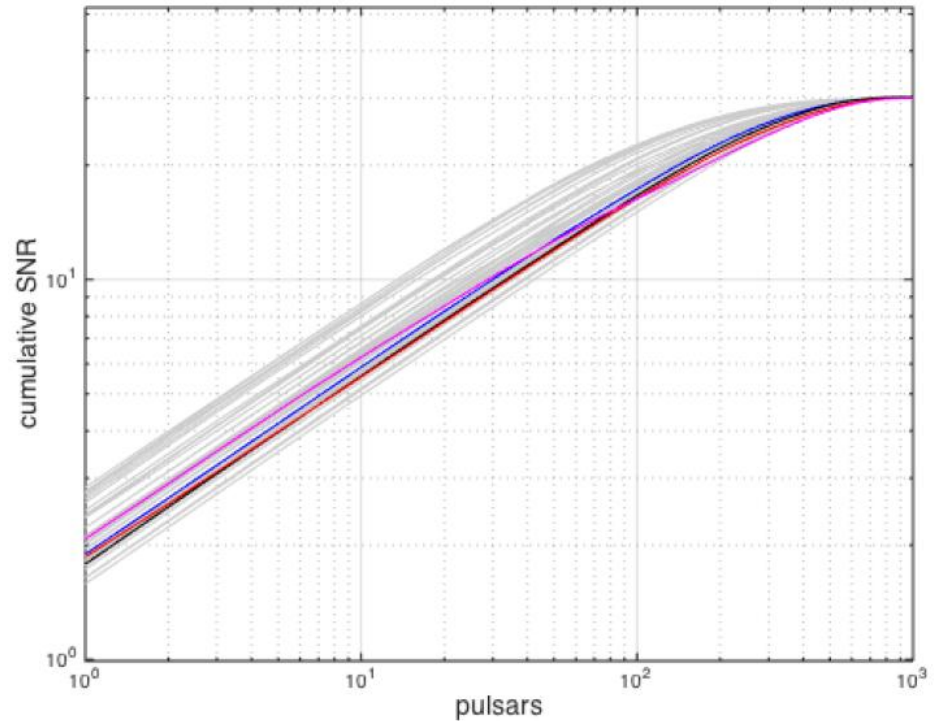
- 14000 canonic PSRs
- 6000 MSPs
- 1000 MSPs < 3 kpc
- 100 ns timing precision

Data model for a network

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} d_1(t) \\ d_2(t) \\ \vdots \\ d_N(t) \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Timing Residuals from } N \text{ Pulsars}} = \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1} - \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} T[\tau_1] & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & T[\tau_2] & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & T[\tau_N] \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Time Delay Ops.}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} F_{+,1} & F_{\times,1} \\ F_{+,2} & F_{\times,2} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ F_{+,N} & F_{\times,N} \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Antenna Patterns}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} h(t) \\ h_+(t) \\ h_\times(t) \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Gravitational Wave}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} n_1(t) \\ n_2(t) \\ \vdots \\ n_3(t) \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Noise}} \end{bmatrix}}^{\mathbf{A}}$$



All sky search

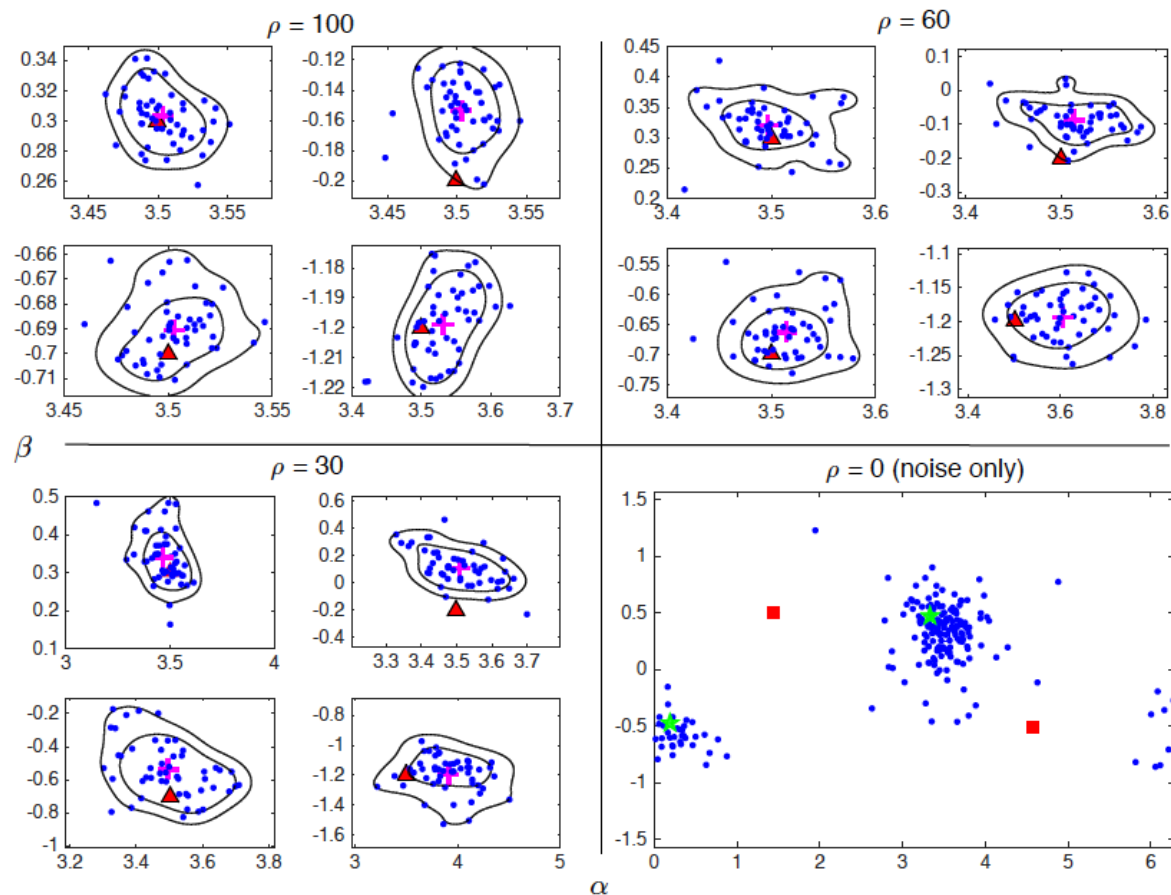


- Marginal source for a 30 pulsar PTA has $\rho \sim 10 \Rightarrow \rho \sim 30$ for SKA
- Is $\rho = 30$ bright? (~ 1000 parameters to search \Rightarrow False alarm quite high)
- **Simulation result:** 99.99% detection probability for False alarm probability of 10^{-4}
- Convert ρ to luminosity distance (signal frequency 2×10^{-8} Hz)
 - (Redshifted) chirp mass $10^9 M_{\odot} \rightarrow$ detectable to $z \leq 0.95$ to 1.55 (depending on sky location)
 - (Redshifted) chirp mass $10^{10} M_{\odot} \rightarrow$ detectable to $z \leq 28.03$ (averaged)
- Redshift of peak SMBHB formation rate: $z \sim 2$

Direction estimation

- Conservative error area:

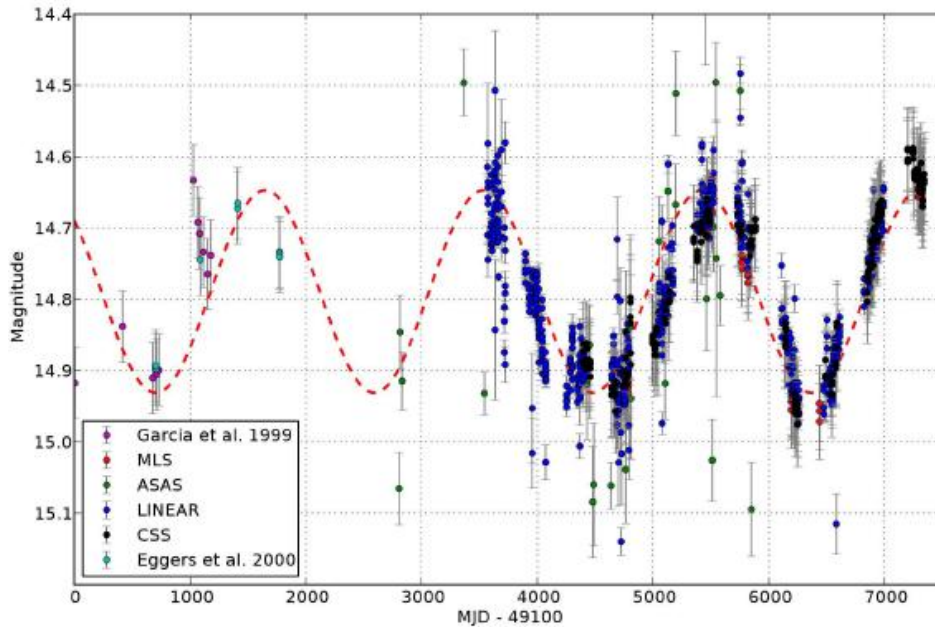
$$2S_a \wedge 2S_d \wedge \cos d$$
- Localization to within ~ 70 to 180 deg^2 at $r = 30$
- Search for PSO J334 (Liu et al. ApJL 2015): 80 deg^2 field from **Pan-STARRS1 Medium survey**
- Optical counterpart searches possible for even the most distant sources (SKA+LSST)



Wang & Mohanty, PRL (2017)



Known candidates

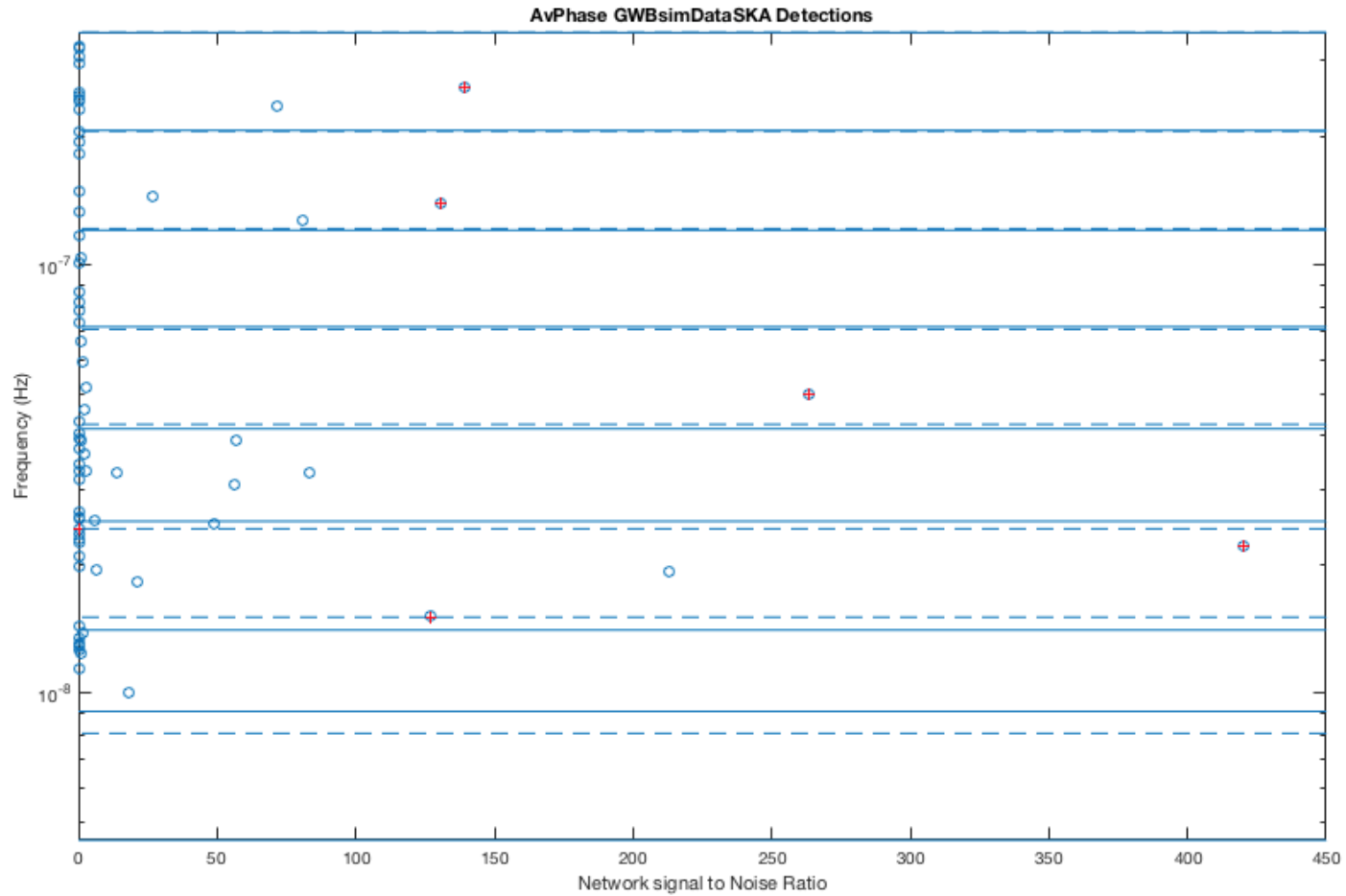


Light Curve for PG1302-102 for ~ 20 years
(Graham et al. 2015, Nature)

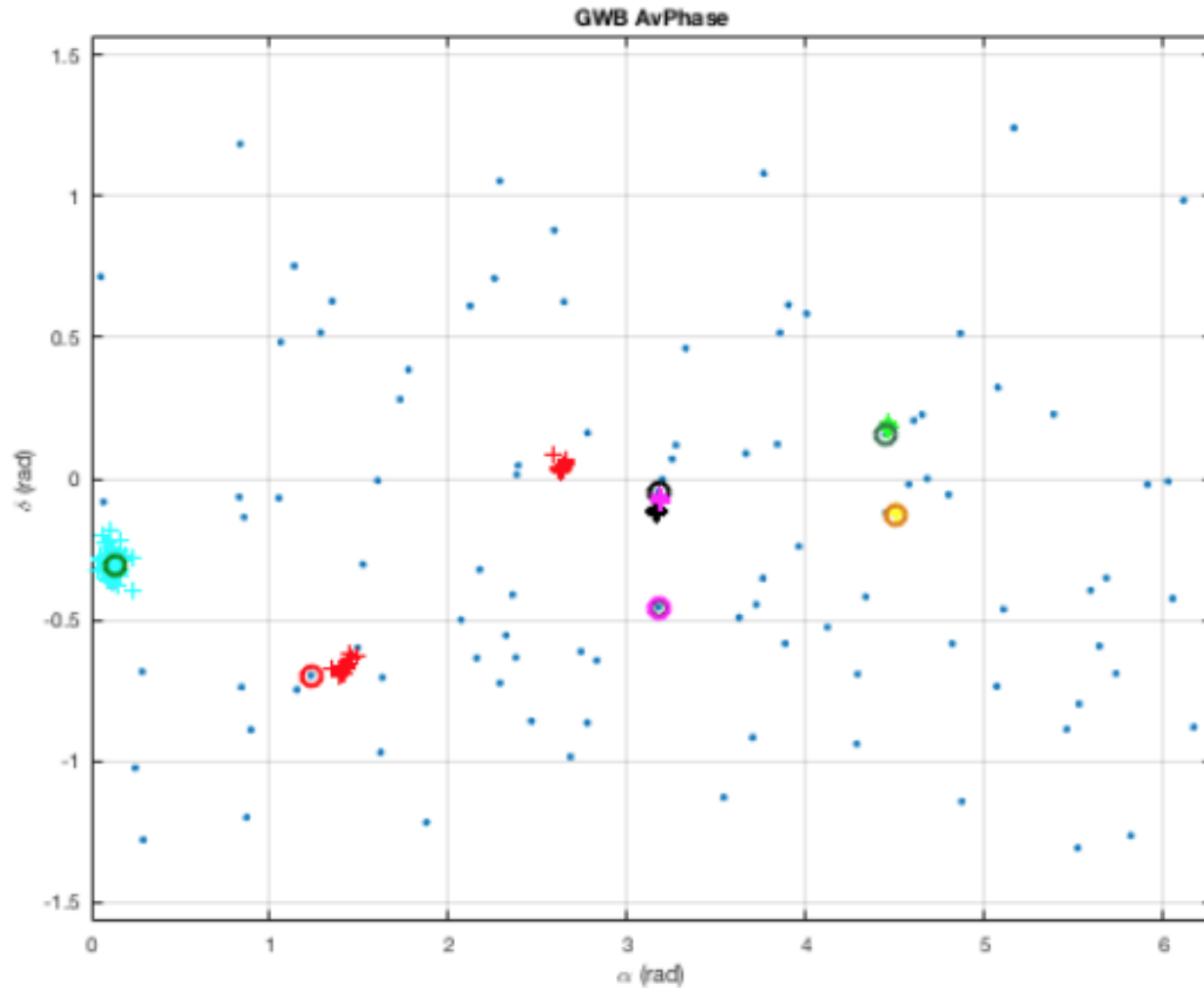
	PG 1302-102 Graham et al, Nat., 2015	PSO J334+01 Liu et al, ApJL, 2015
Redshift (z)	0.2784	2.06
Redshifted chirp mass ($1+z$) M_c (M_\odot)	$10^{8.0} - 10^{9.1}$	$10^{9.6} - 10^{10.0}$
Period (yr)	5.2	1.48

- PG 1302-102: A non-detection at $\rho = 30 \Rightarrow (1+z)M_c \leq 10^{8.67} M_\odot$ with very high confidence
 - Very strong constraint on system parameters from GW observations
 - \Rightarrow rest frame total mass $\leq 10^{9.01} M_\odot$.
- For PSO J334+01, $\rho \geq 100$
 - Guaranteed source for a SKA era PTA.
 - But predicted to coalesce before SKA!
 - More such systems should show up with LSST

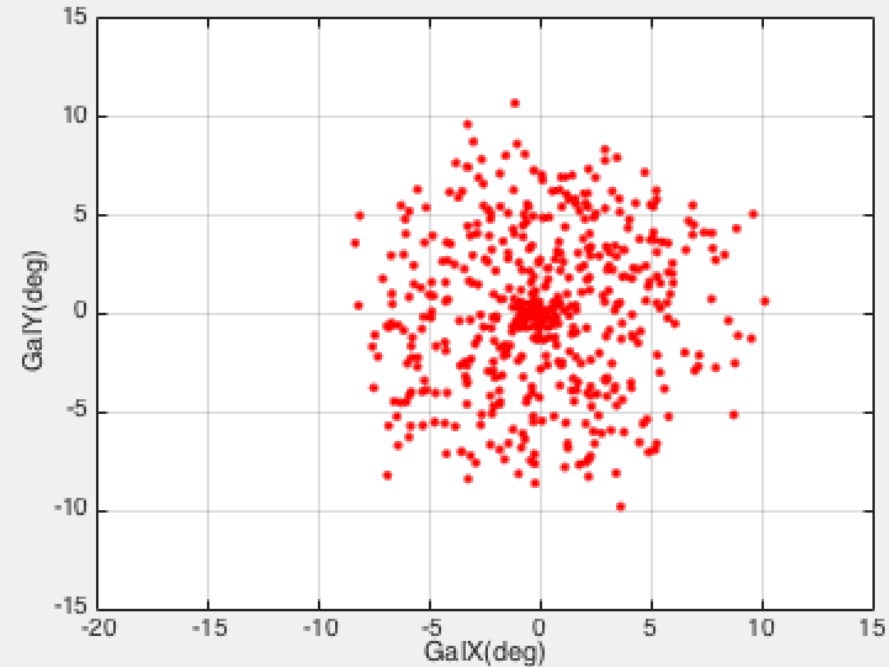
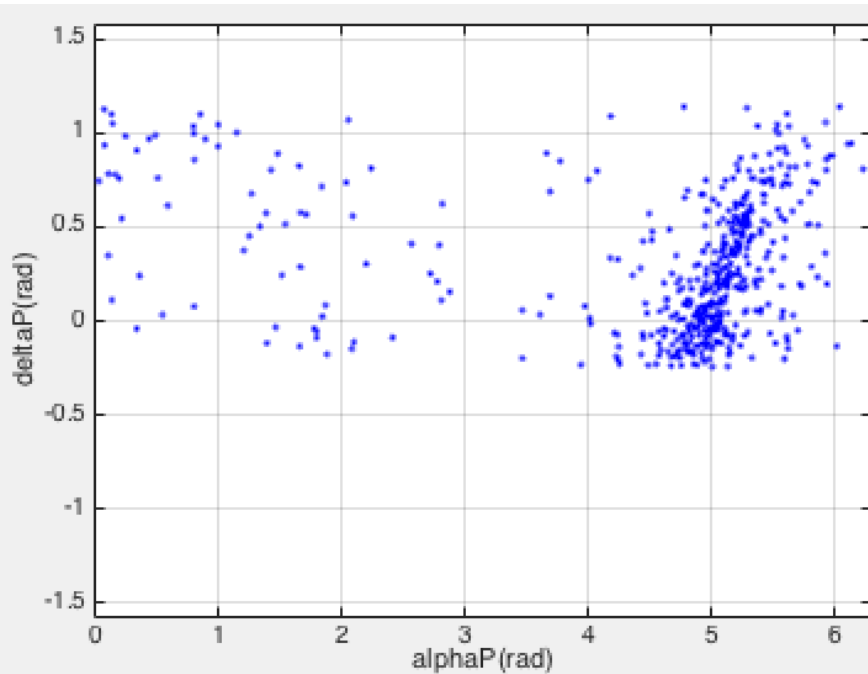
Multiple source search – Frequency domain



Multiple source search – Sky localization



PTA in FAST era



R. Smits et al. A&A (2009)
L. Zhang et al. RAA (2016)
Qian, Mohanty and Wang, in prep.

Thank you!