

Chinese pulsar timing array (CPTA) progress

K. J. Lee (李柯伽)

Department of Astronomy,
Peking university
National astronomical
observatory, CAS

kjlee@pku.edu.cn

@ 南阳 2023

2023



Current core team



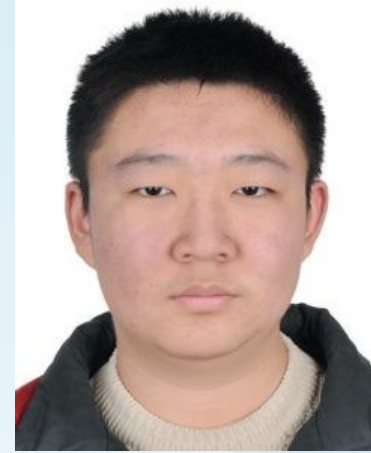
Zihan Xue
PhD



Jiangwei Xu
PhD



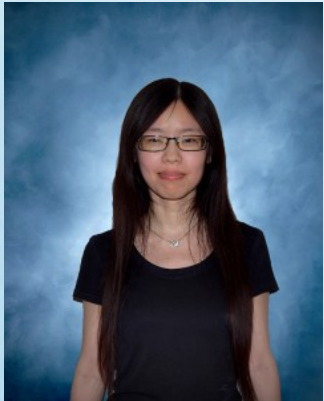
Bojun Wang
Post-Doc



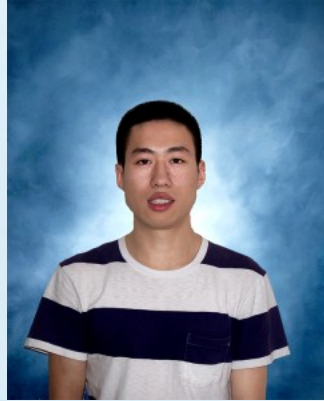
Jinchun Jiang
Post-Doc



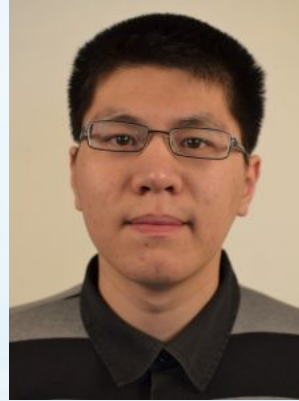
Nicolas
Caballero Post-
Doc



Yanjun Guo
Post-Doc



Heng Xu
Post-Doc



Siyuan Chen
Post-Doc



Yonghua Xu
Faculty

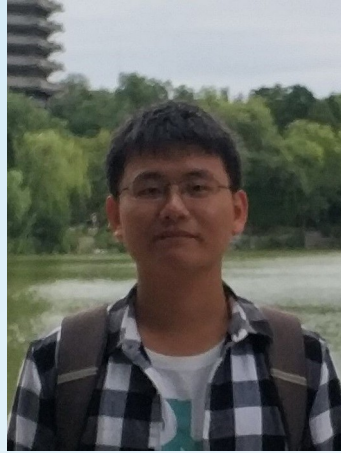


Kejia Lee
Technician

Current core team



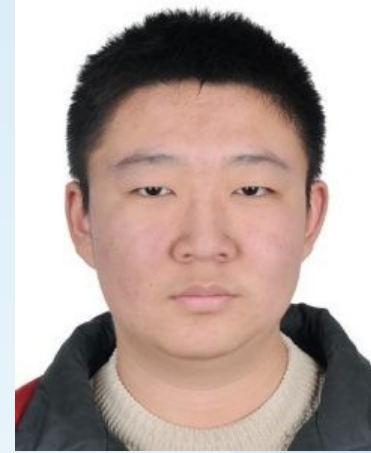
Single source
and axion



Cosmic string and
dark matter



Single pulse
and jitter



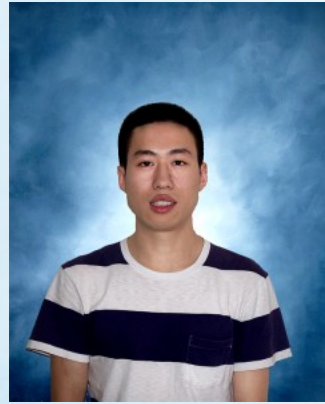
Polarisation and
interferometry
and designed
CPTA logo



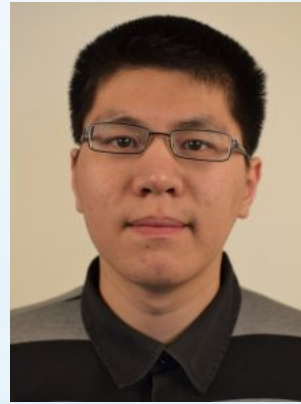
Nicolas Caballero
Targeted source



Noise analysis
GW background



Observation
timing and
noise analysis



Noise analysis
GW background



Scintillation



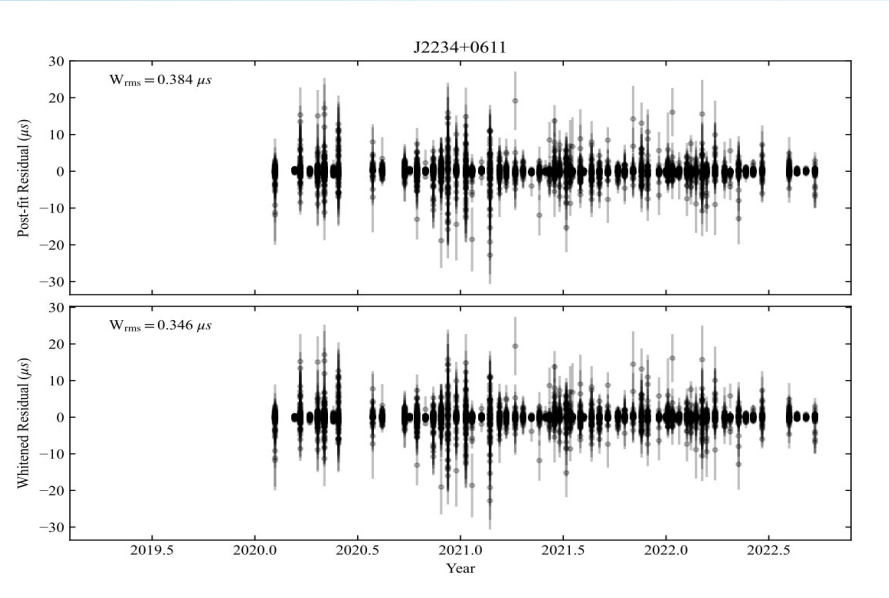
Technical and
educational support

~2.5 years length

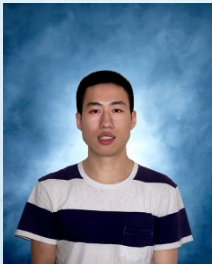
CPTA-DR1

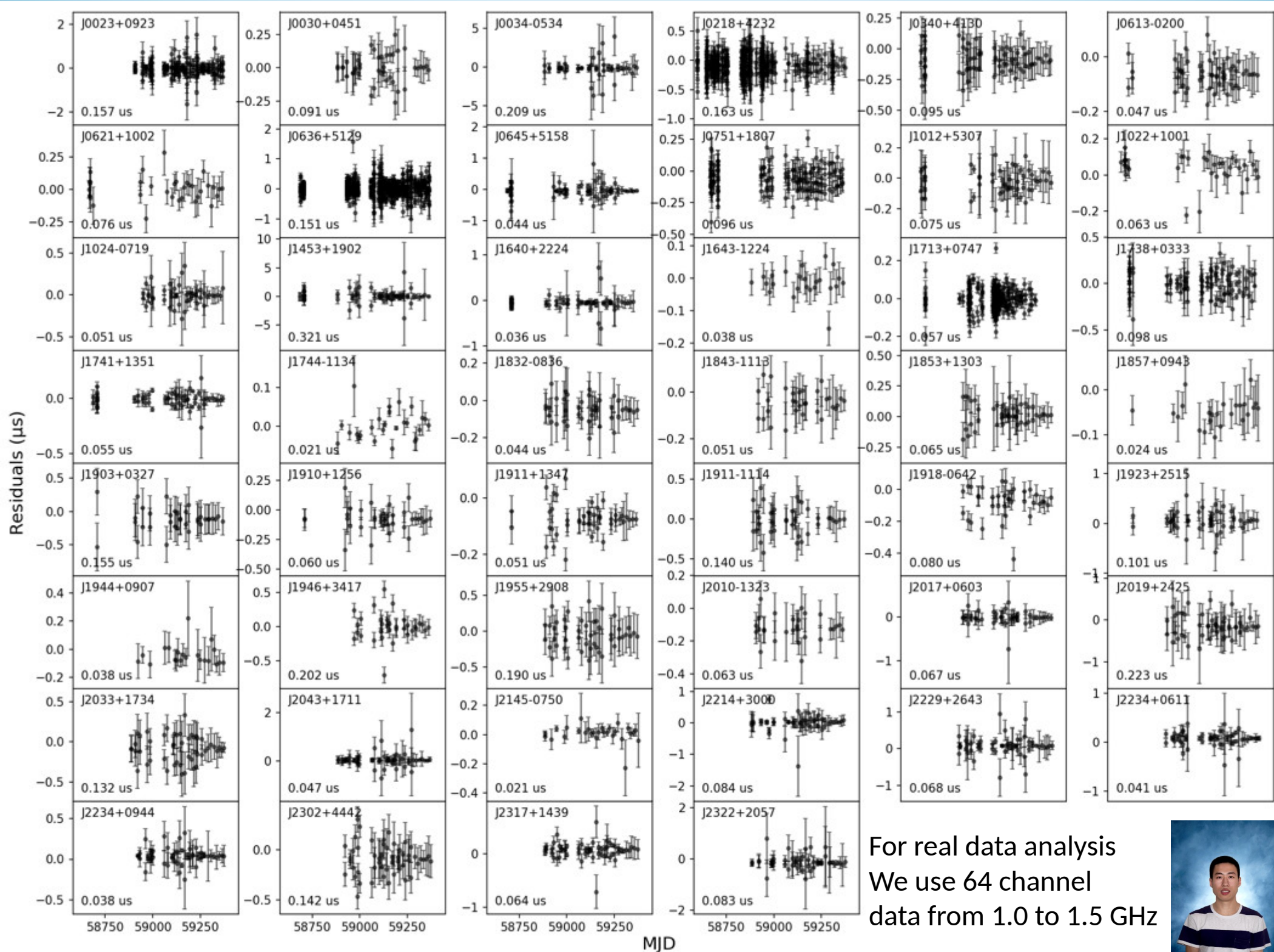
100ns for ~35 pulsars, and
200ns for ~55 pulsars.

Noise analysis



Pulsar	EQUAD	ECORR	DMNoise	RedNoise
J2000				
J0023+0923		✓	✓	✓
J0030+0923		✓	✓	✓
J0034+0923			✓	✓
J0154+0923		✓		✓





CPTA achieve factor of 4 to 50 improvement of precision for 2-year observation compare to best international data set.

CPTA polarimetry

FAST polarimetry

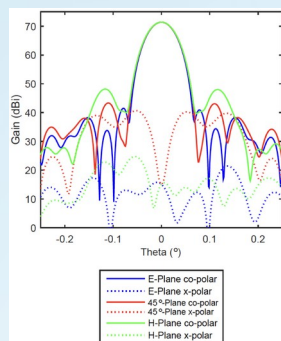
Low feed leakage

easy to calibrate

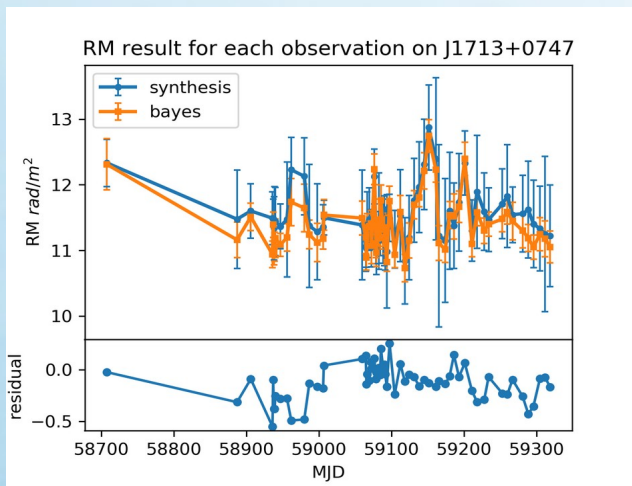
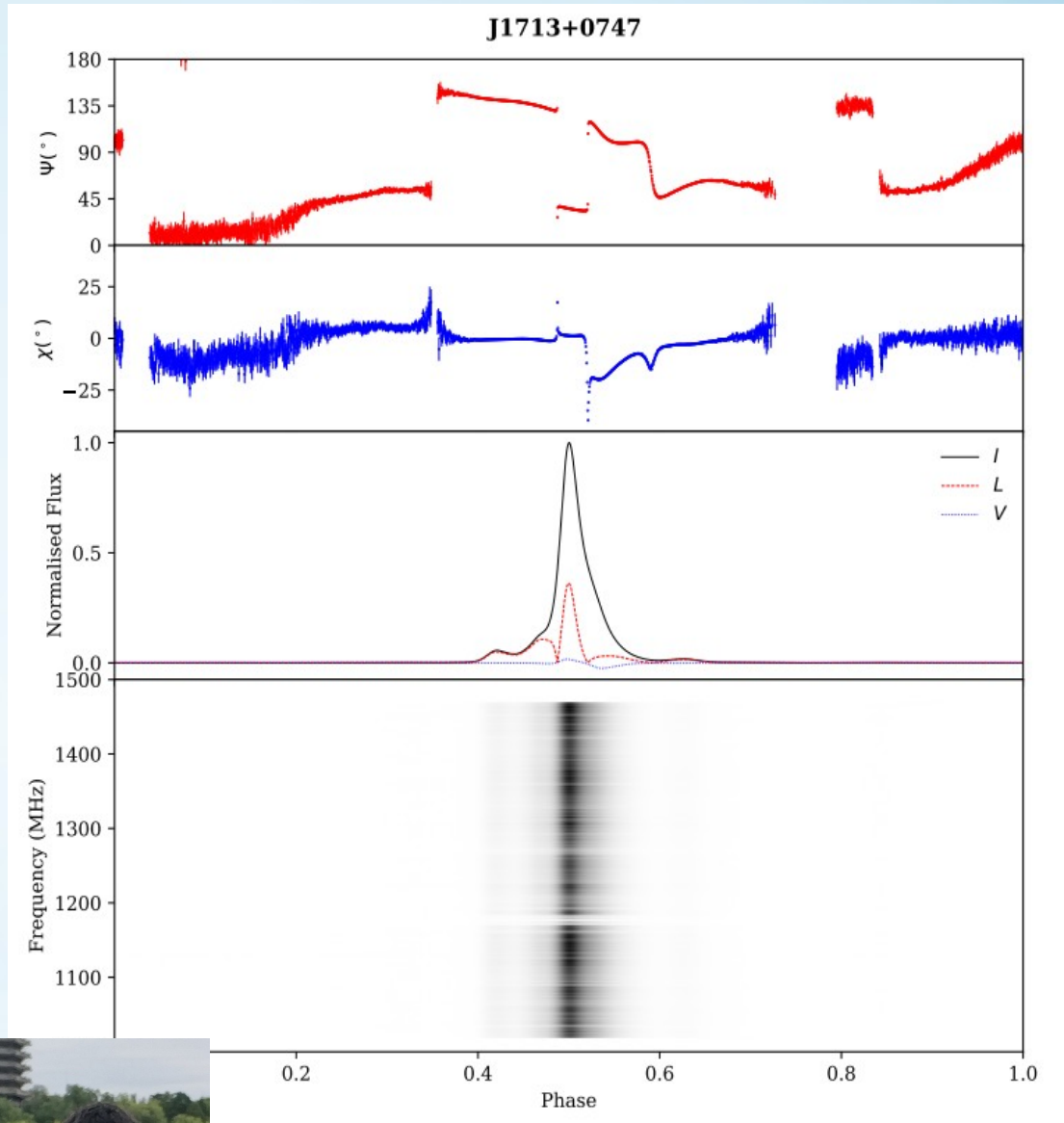
Fitting RM

RM synthesis

Bayesian method

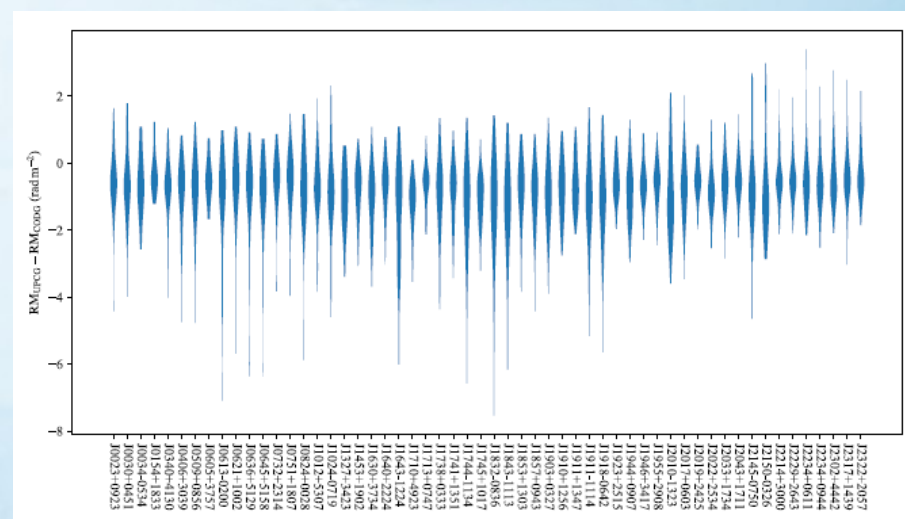
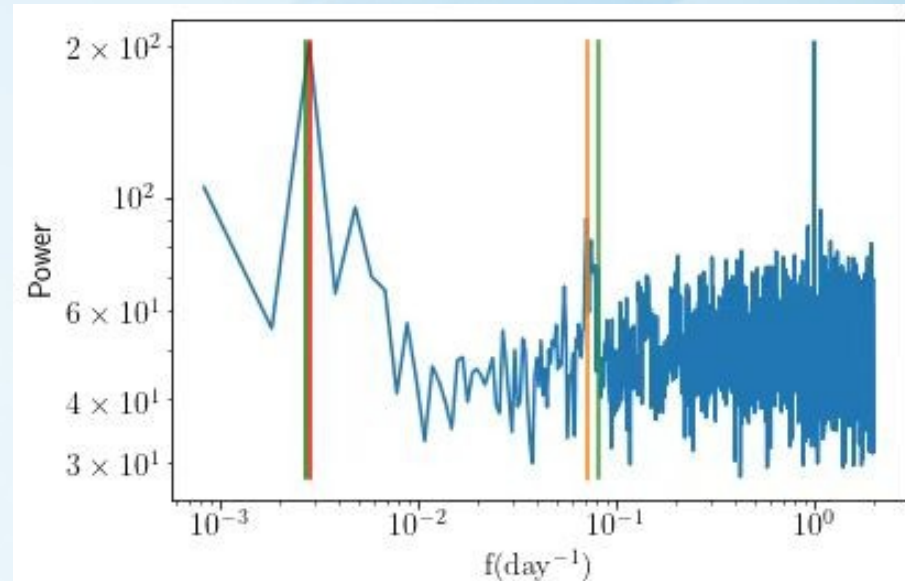
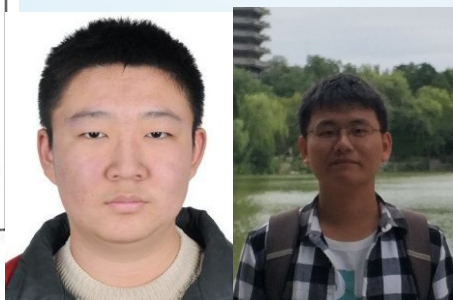
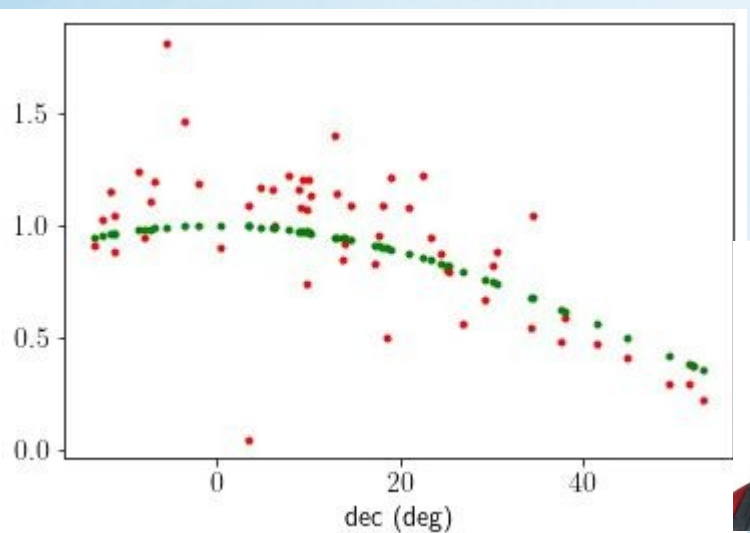
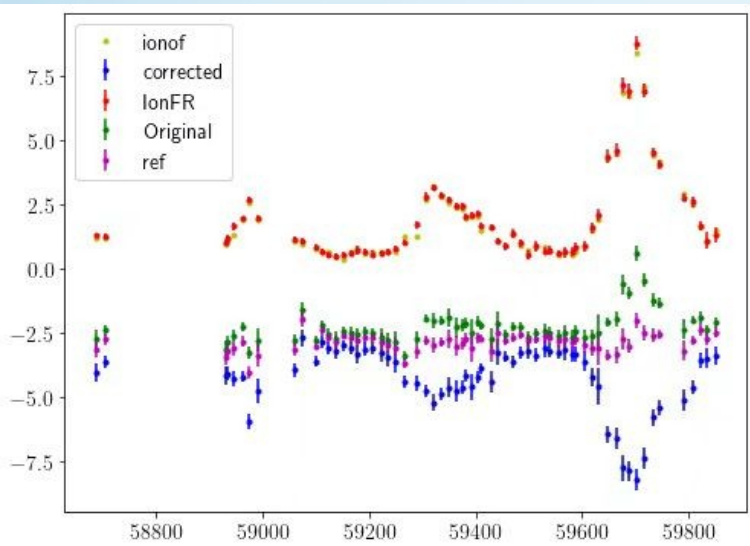


(Dunning et al. 2017)

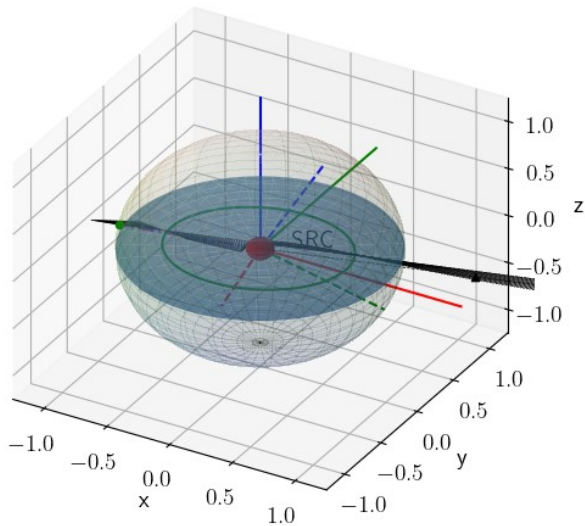
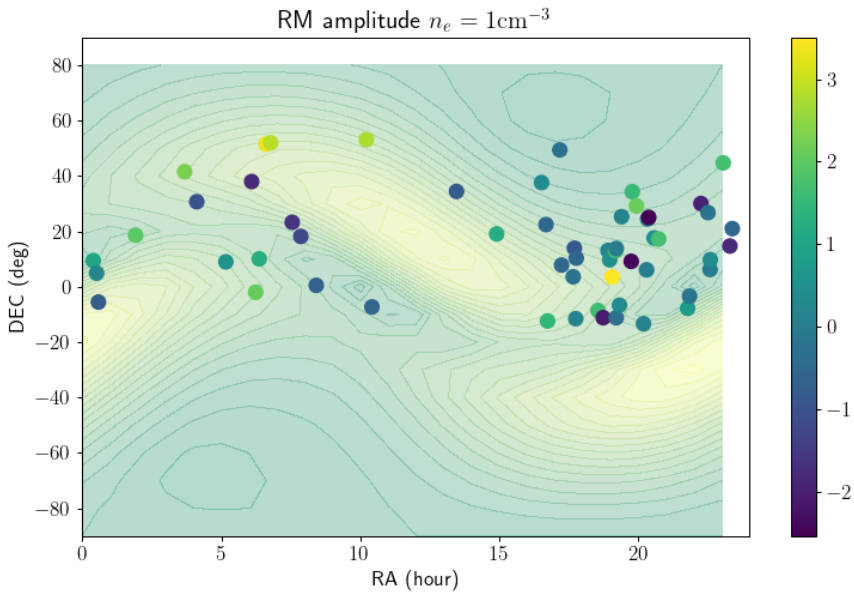


CPTA probing the ionosphere

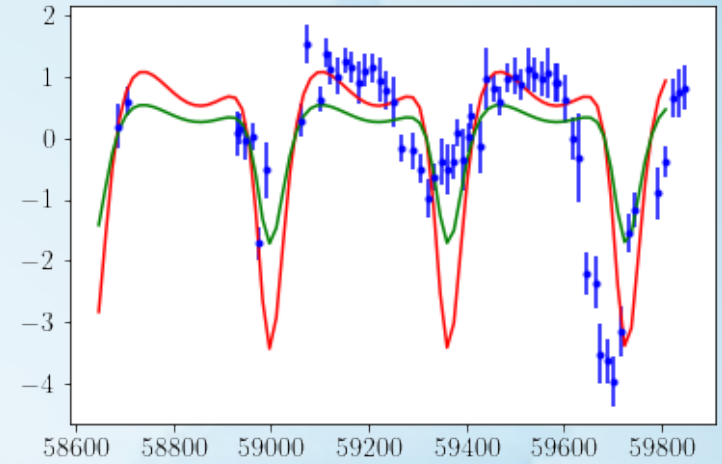
- IonFR over estimates the RM variation by a factor of 2-3 for high dec sources.
- IonFR is not wrong, we implement the ionof, it produces nearly the same answers.
- TEC is problematic, different TEC model differs by more than factor of 2.
- We saw 1-year and 28-days RM variation. Indication solar wind -earth magnetosphere interaction is important for sub 1 Rad/m² RM precision



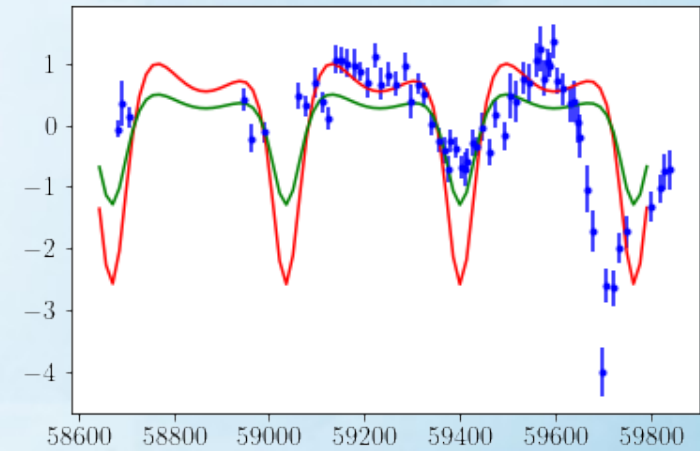
Solar system RM modeling



J0636+5129



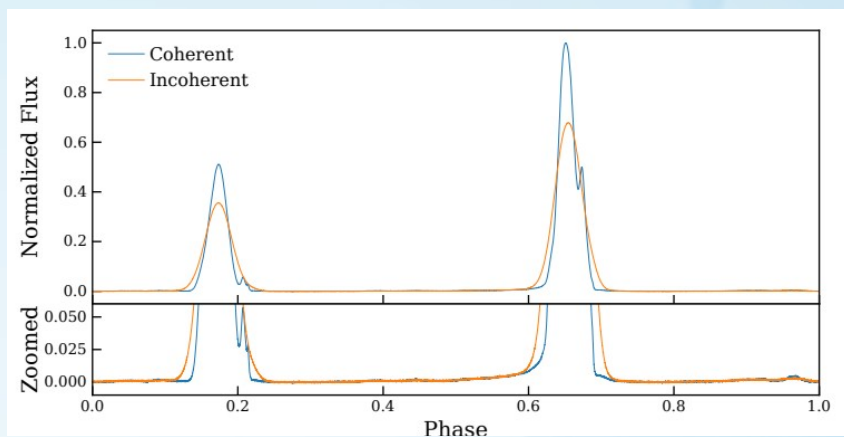
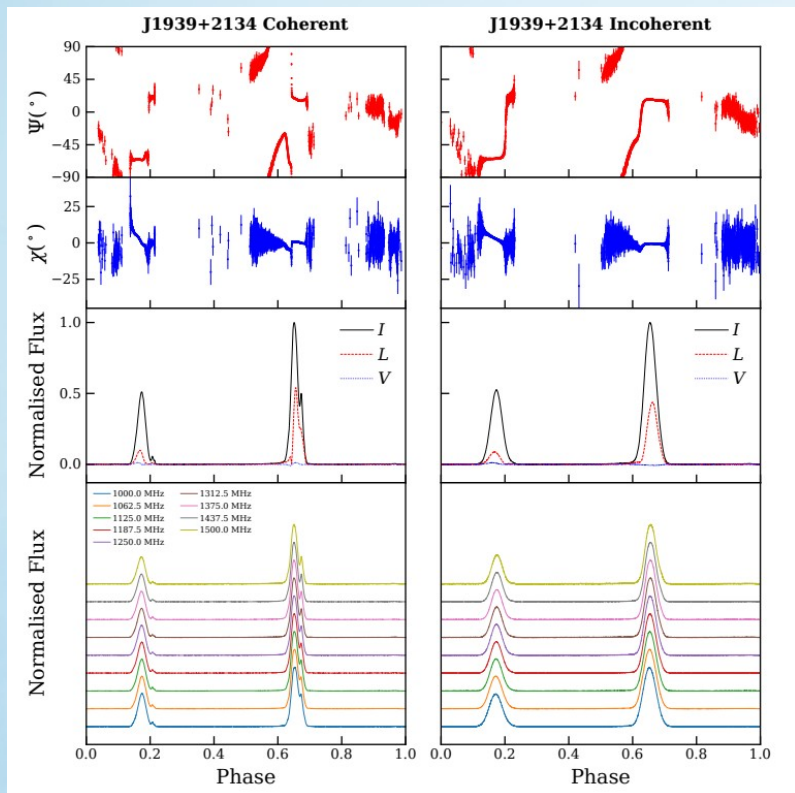
J1012+5307



The naïve model can fit observation. However, one artificially require 100-1000 times higher electron density in solar wind. It seems that we need consider the solar-wind-earth magnetosphere interaction.

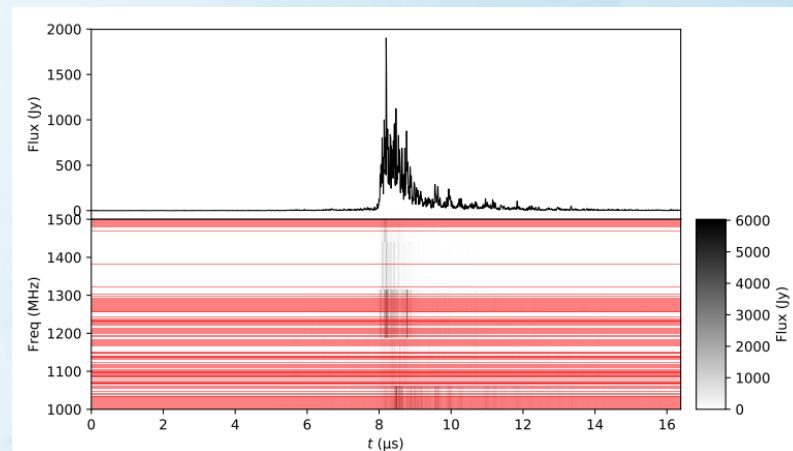
B1937+21

- Integrated profile



8192 bin

Giant pulse



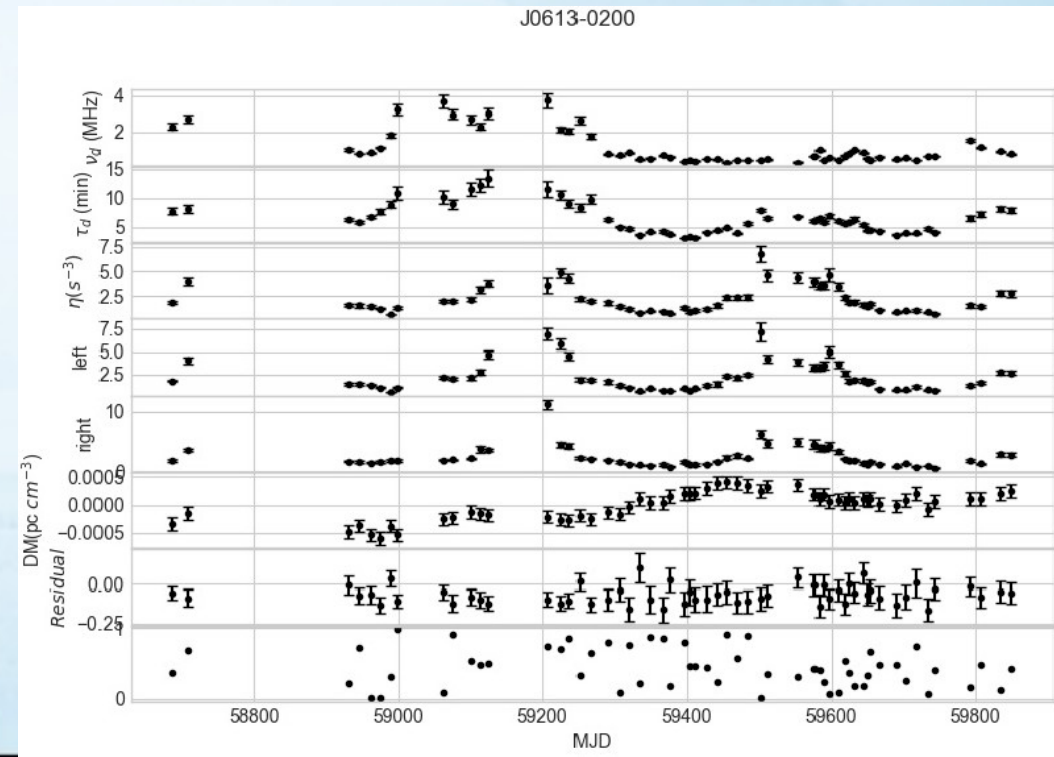
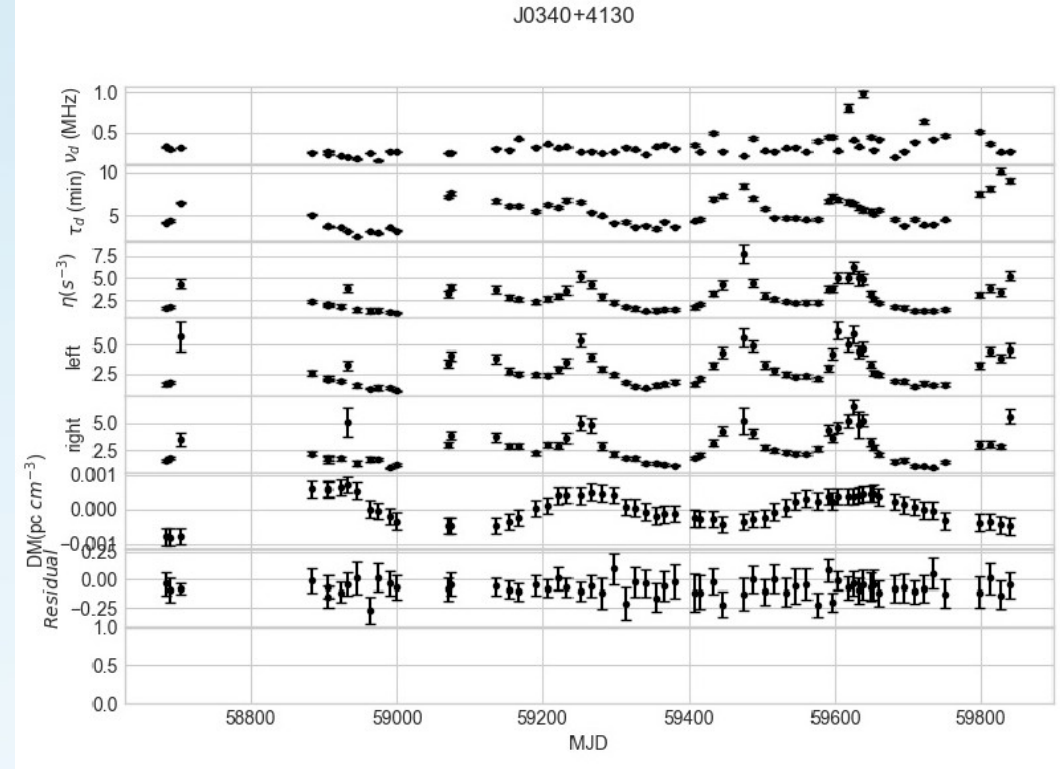
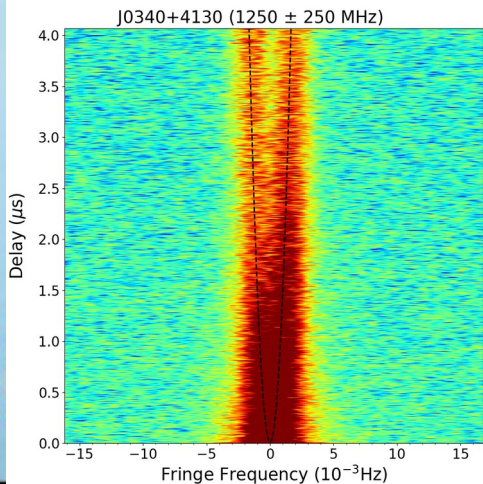
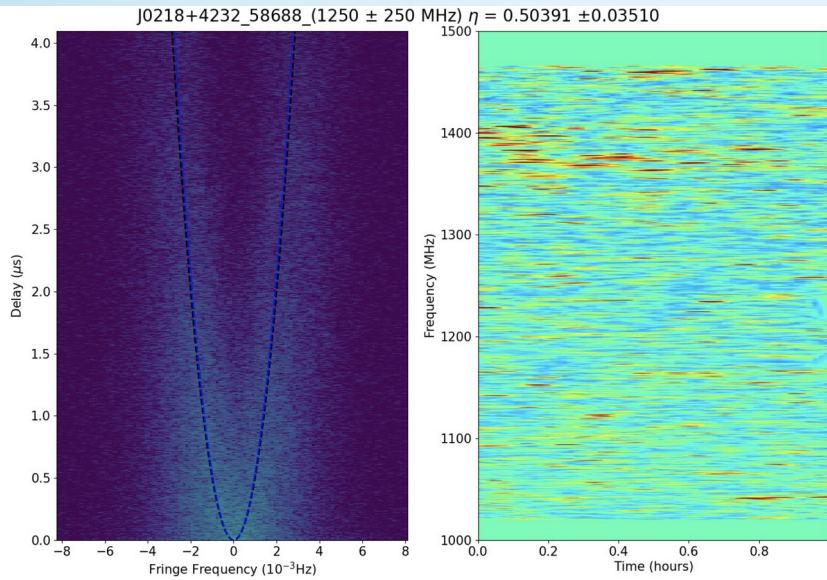
8 ns/sample



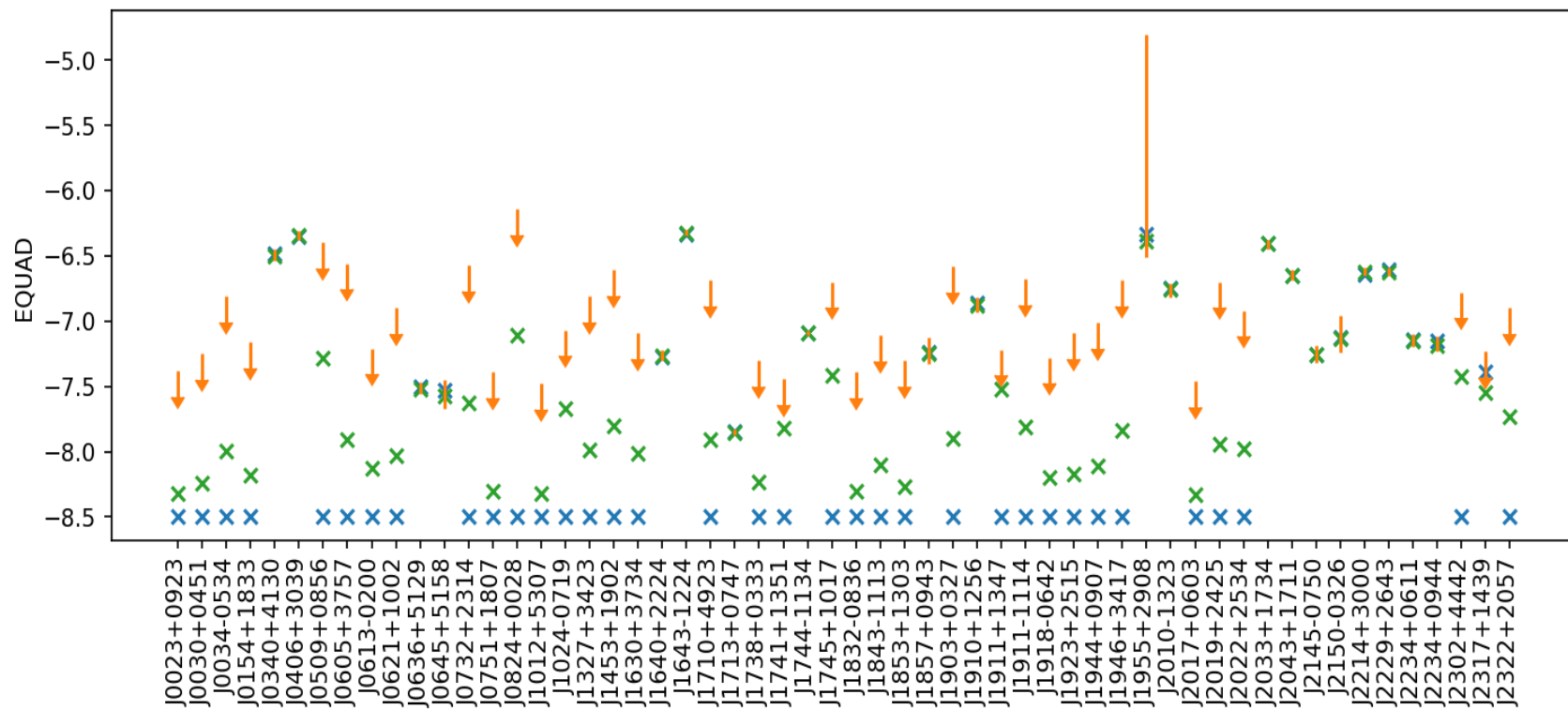
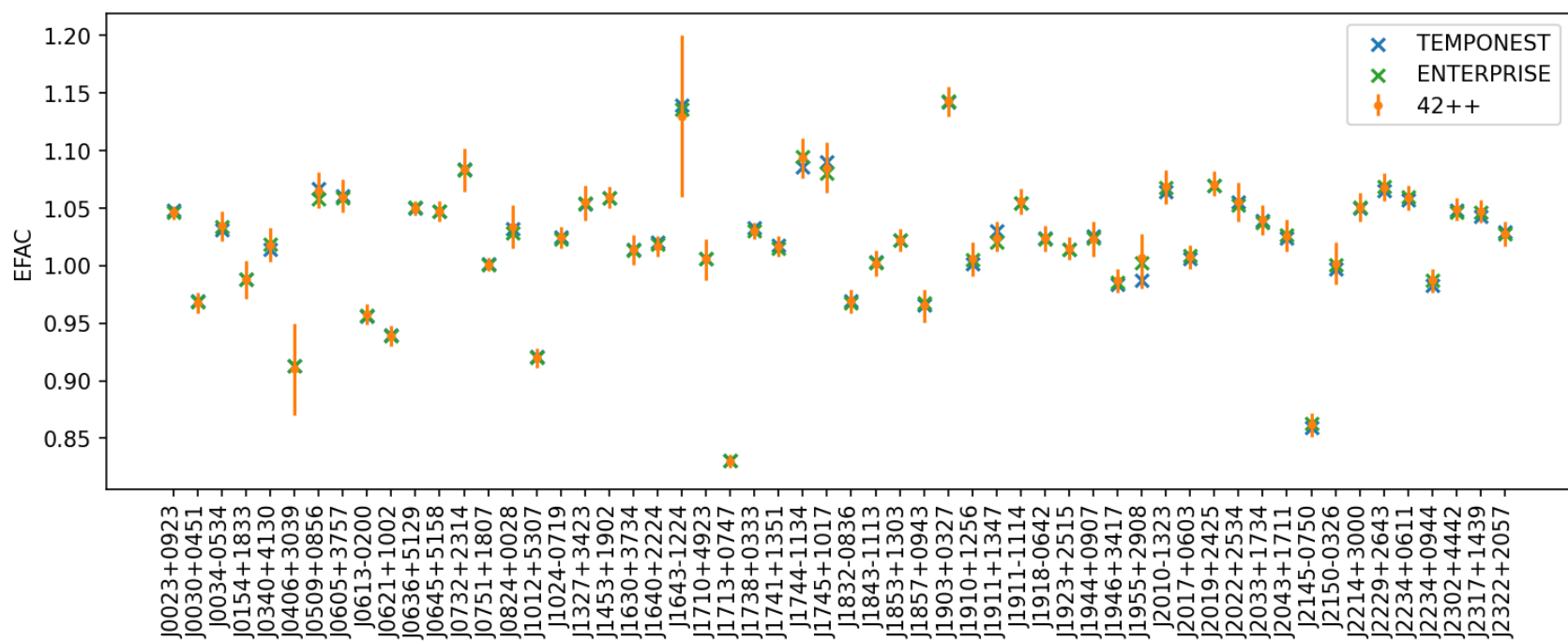
Scintillation

n

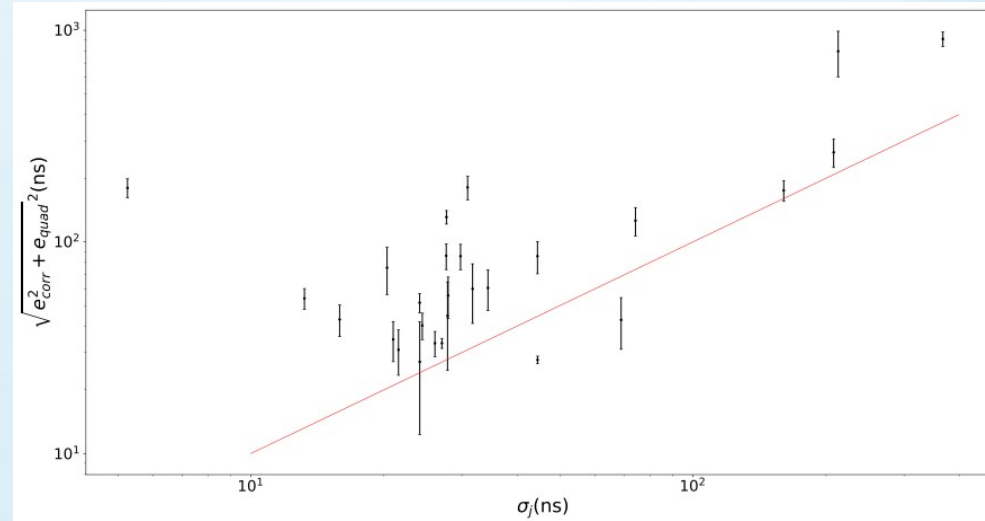
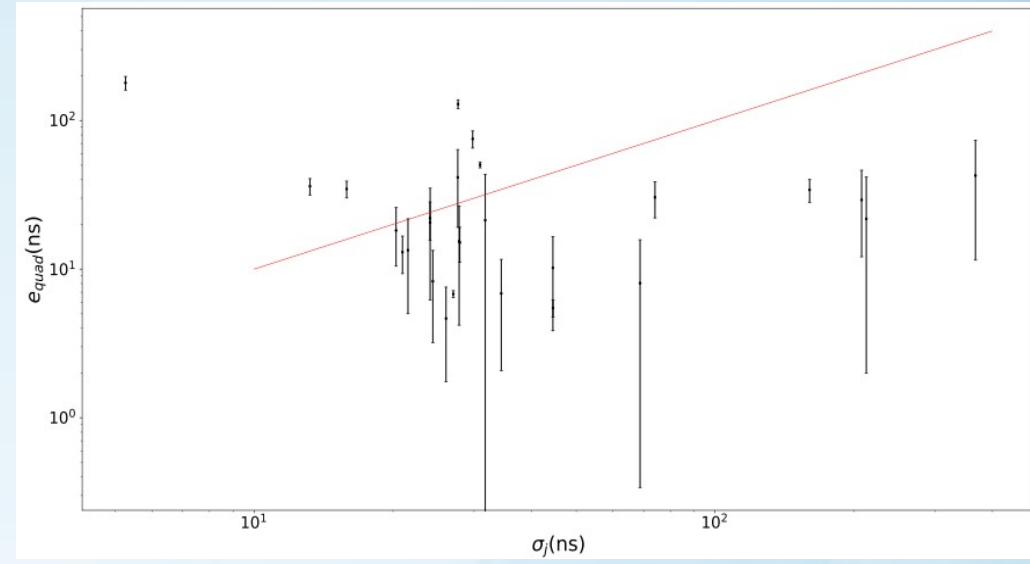
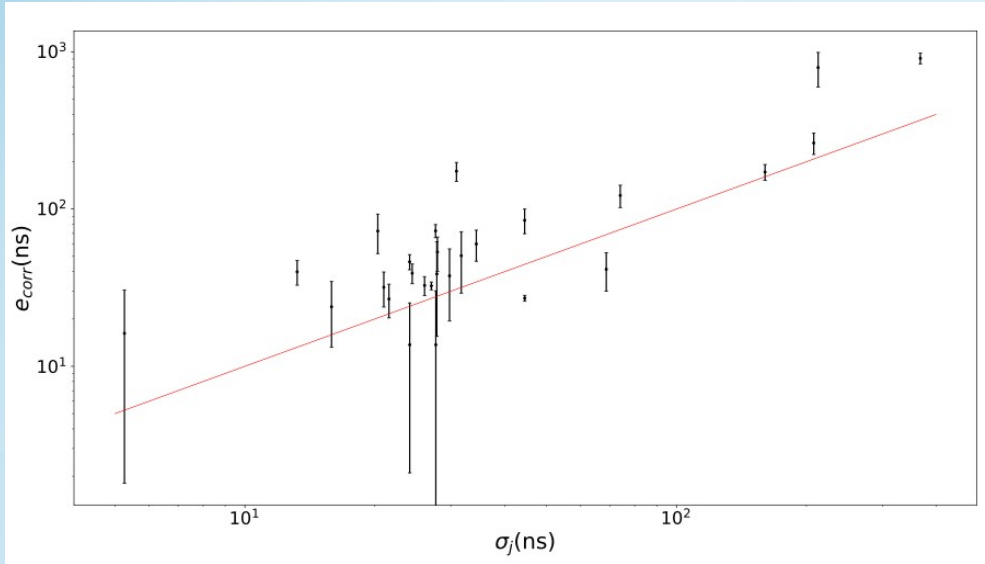
We tried to measure the scintillation effects for all pulsar we monitored. For a sub fraction of pulsars, we can see clear variation in scintillation effects including 2nd spectra arc curvature.



White noise analysis



Compare jitter modeled in timing and single pulse domain

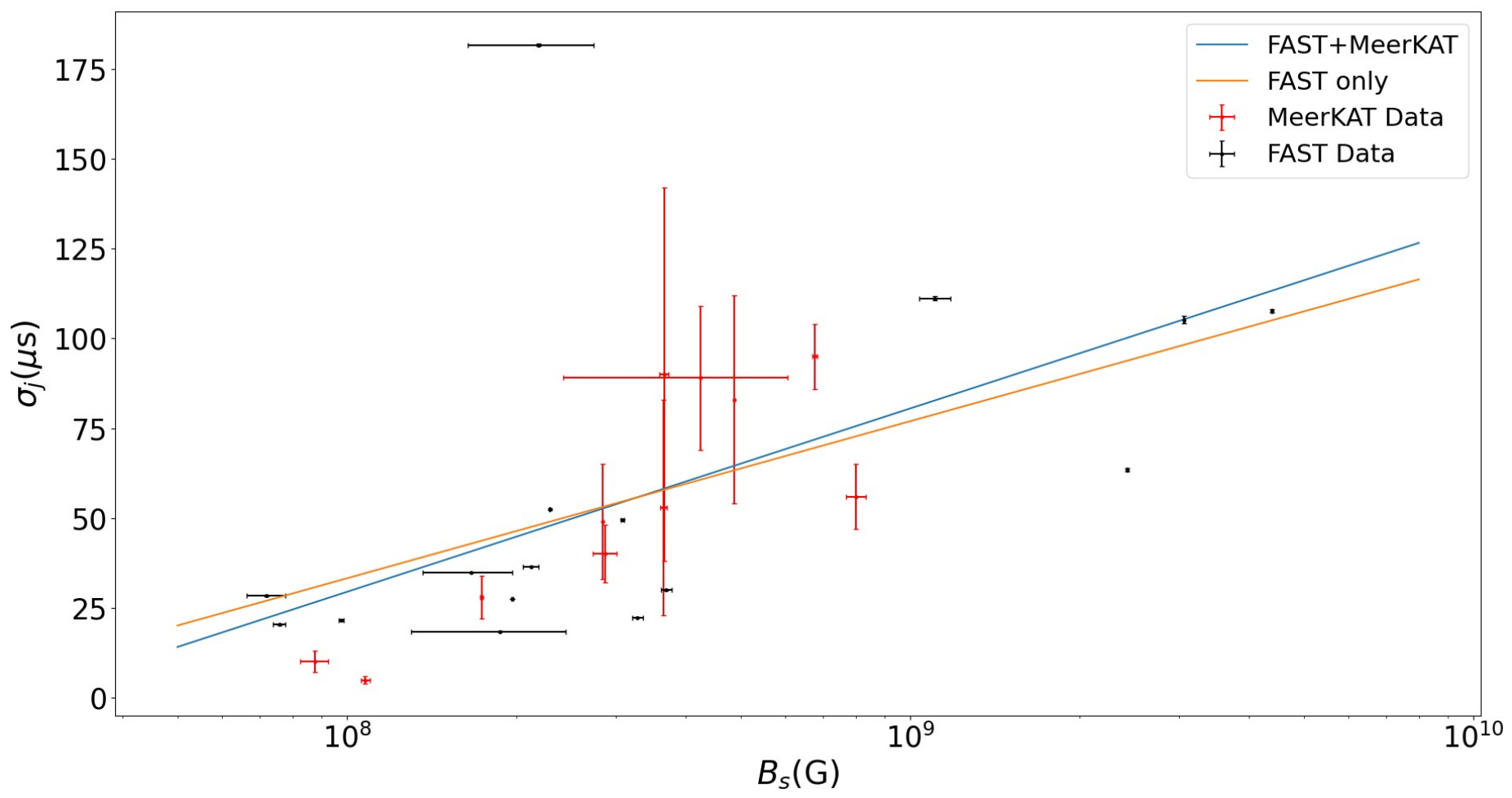


In general, the jitter parameter E_{corr} agrees with single pulse domain modeling. It is not clear where the EQ comes from yet.

For some pulsars, short timescale RM variation affect the E_{corr} measurement.



Jitter modeling with single pulse domain analysis

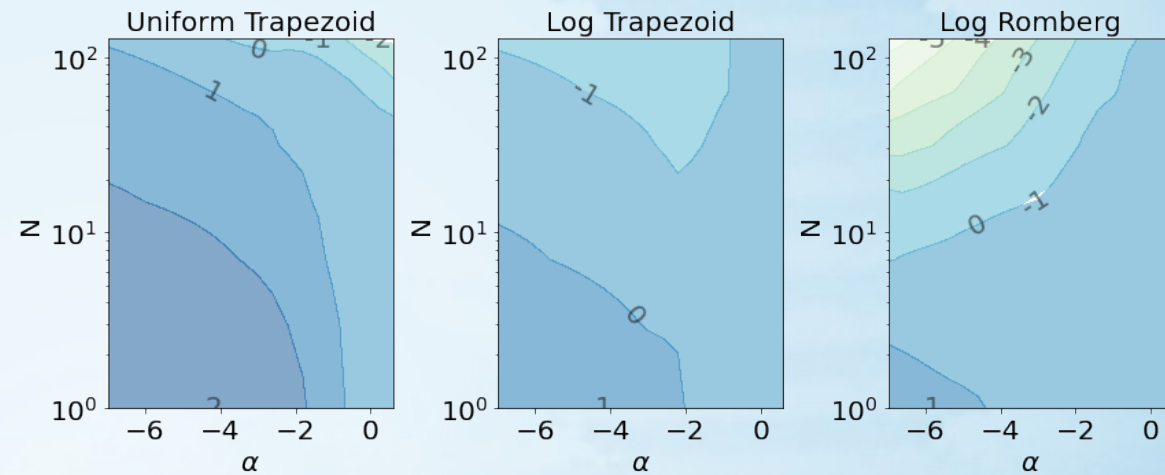


Difference between 42++ and enterprise implementation

1. 42++ using C++17, seems to be better memory efficiency than python.
2. Using Romberg weight to improve covariance matrix computation precision

$$\mathbf{C}_r = \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{S} \mathbf{F}$$

$$\mathbf{C}_r = \int_{f_{l1}}^{f_h} \mathbf{s}[f] \cos[2\pi f(t_1 - t_2)] df = \sum \mathbf{s}_i \mathbf{w}_i \cos[2\pi f_i(t_1 - t_2)]$$



3. Split pulsar noise updater and correlated signal up dater to speed up (a lot).

$$\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{C}_w + \mathbf{F}_r^T \mathbf{S}_r \mathbf{F}_r + \mathbf{F}_c^T \mathbf{S}_c \mathbf{F}_c$$

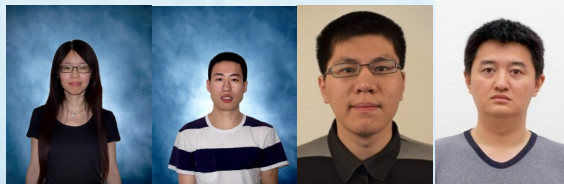
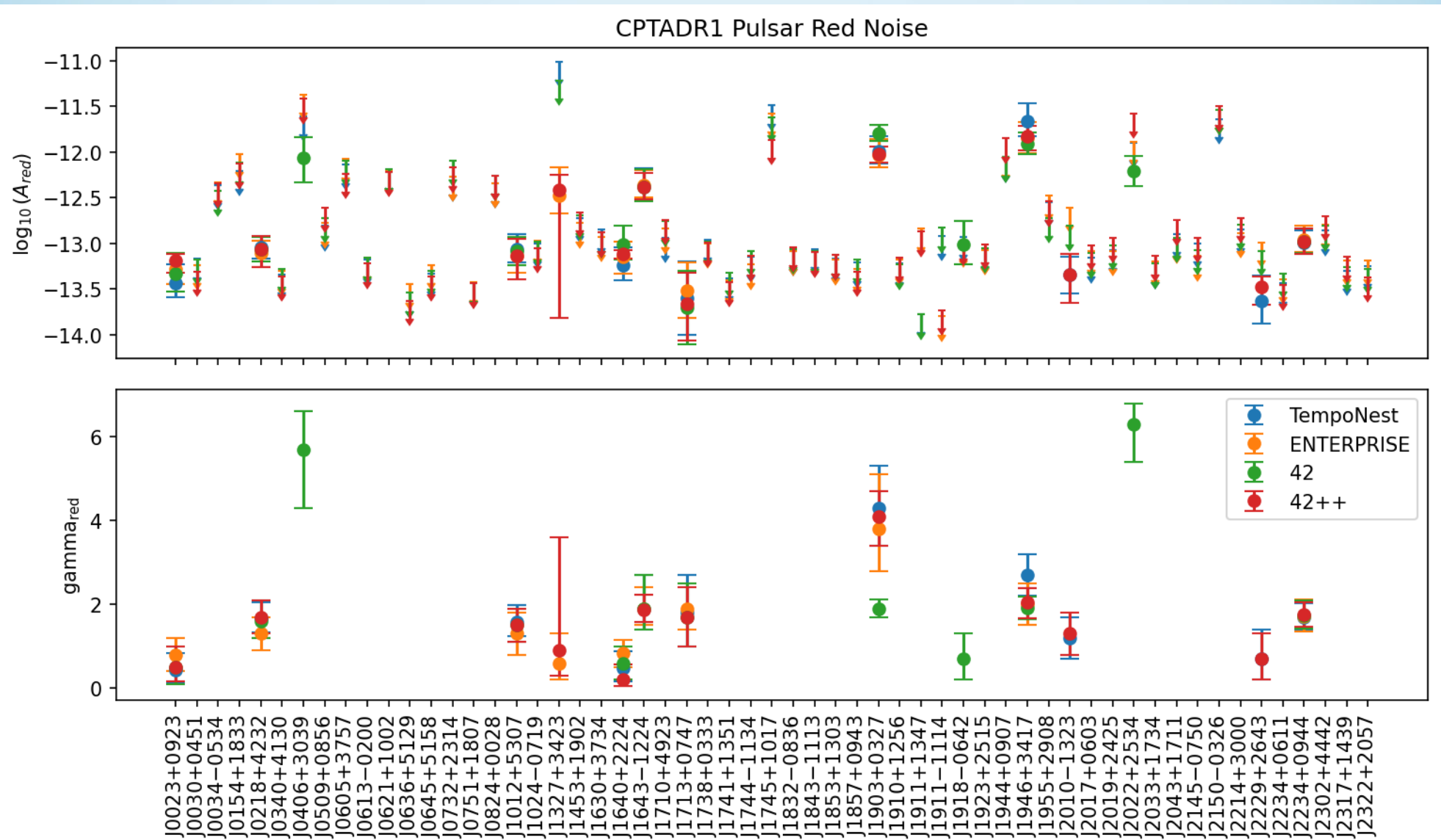
$$\mathbf{C}_w + \mathbf{F}_{\text{All}}^T \mathbf{S}_{\text{All}} \mathbf{F}_{\text{All}}$$

$$\mathbf{C}_w + \mathbf{C}_r + \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{S}_c \mathbf{F}$$

We are marginalizing all the white, red, DM noise in later inference.

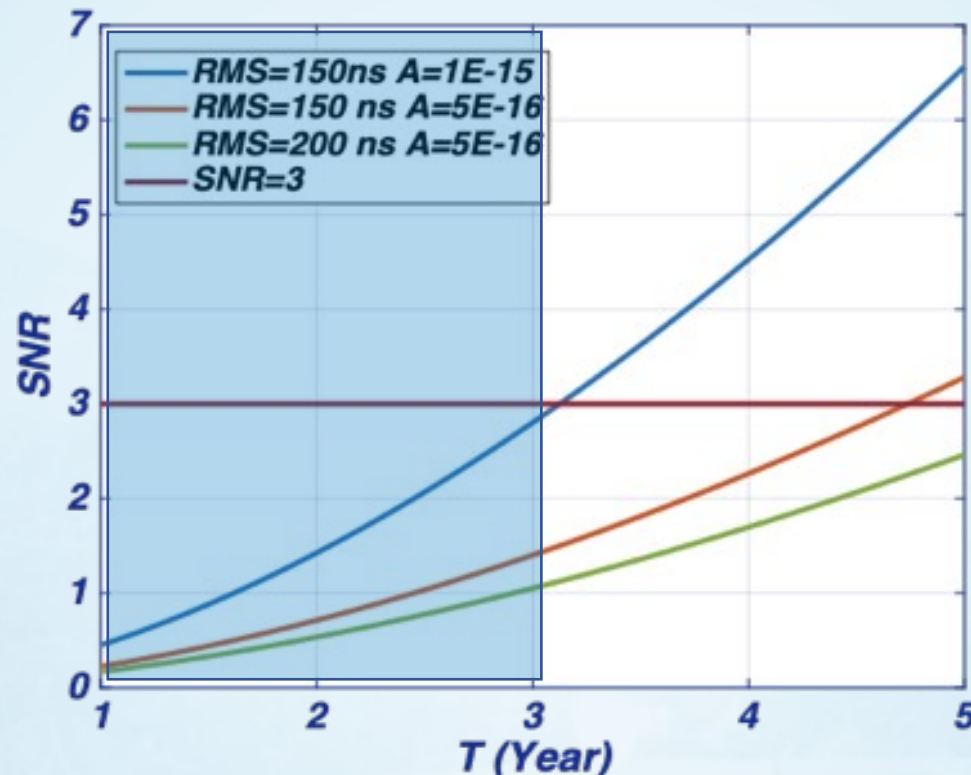


Noise analysis



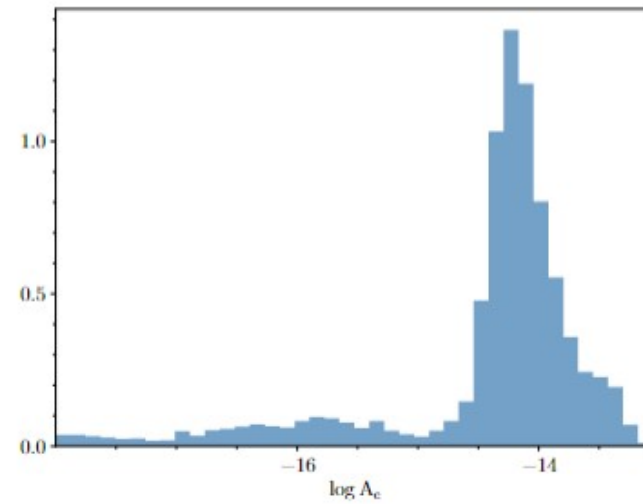
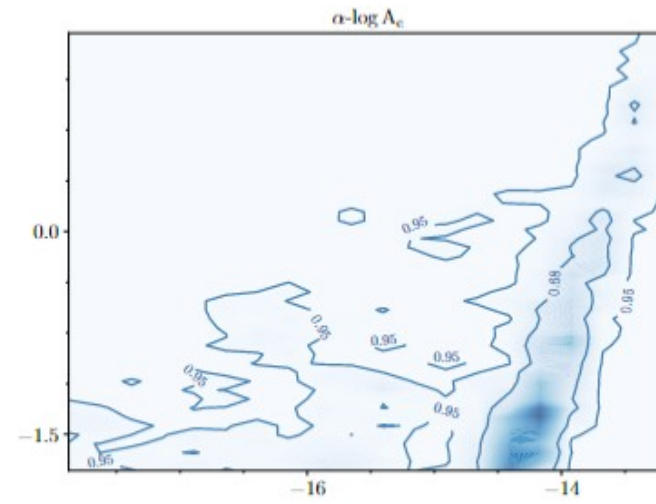
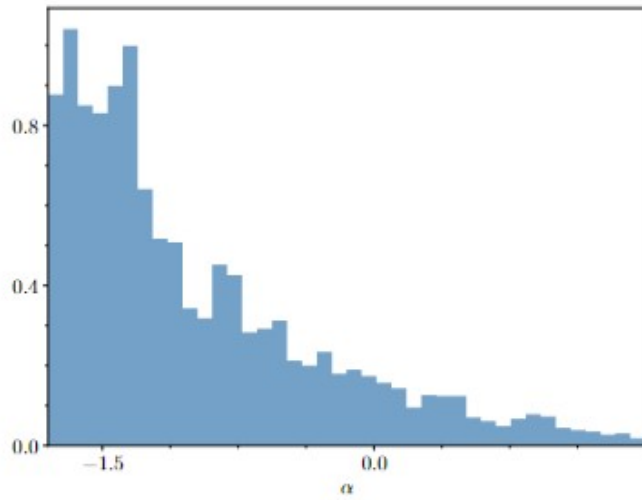
Stochastic background

- In 2019, when we start CPTA observation with FAST. I put my hand on Landaufshitz and claim that we will get something in 5 years (Yes, it is always 5 year away). If lucky, we will get something in 3 years.



Estimation using CRB: DR1.0 should show some indication if $A > 2e-15$.

Parameter inference



HD curve inference

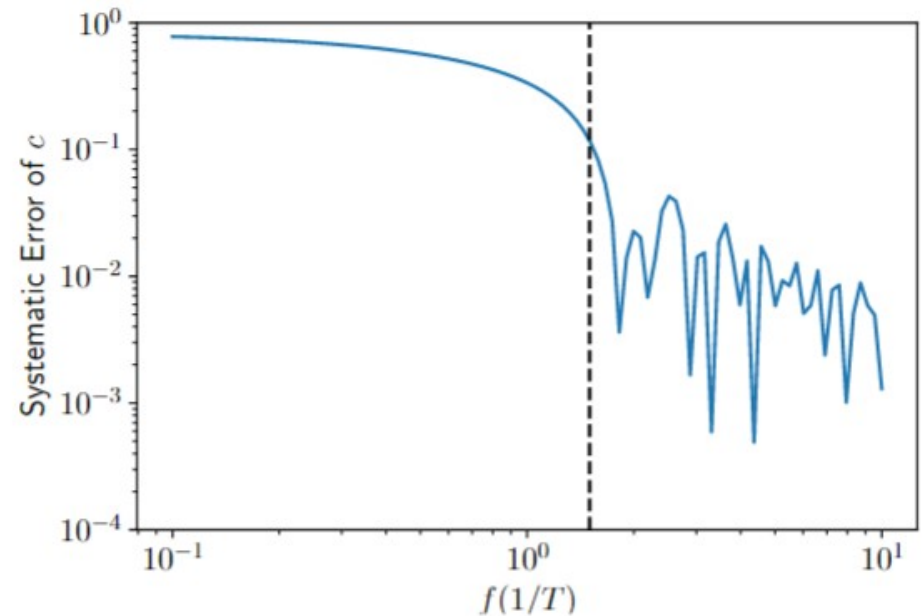
Due to the limit data length, we can not do power-law modeling well. We need to focus on the part of signal with minimal error in correlation curve inference. The lowest frequency bin is a good guess, but not exactly.

$$A, \phi_i = \operatorname{argmax}_{A, \phi_i} \int \int \cdots \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{\prod_i |C_i|}} \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \sum_i r_i'^T C_i^{-1} r_i' \right] \prod_i d\lambda_{T,i},$$

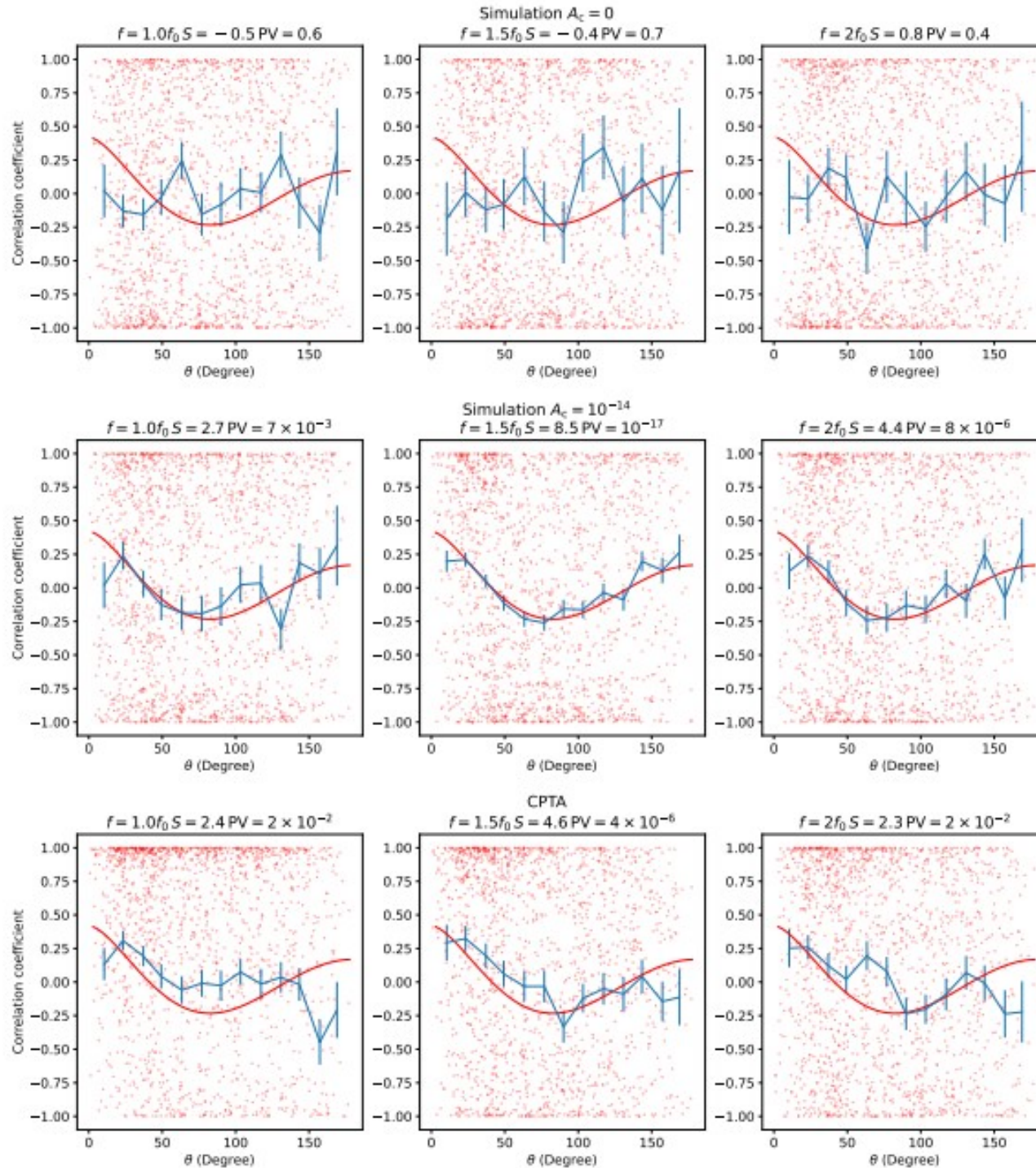
where r_i' is

$$r_i' = r_i - D_i \lambda_{T,i} - A \sin(2\pi f t - \phi_i).$$

The sweet spot for short data set is to look for correlation at $f \sim 1.5/T$.



HD curve



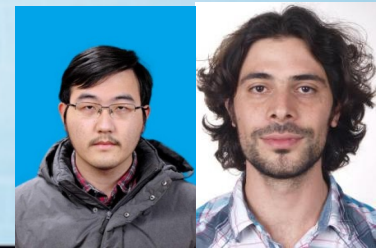
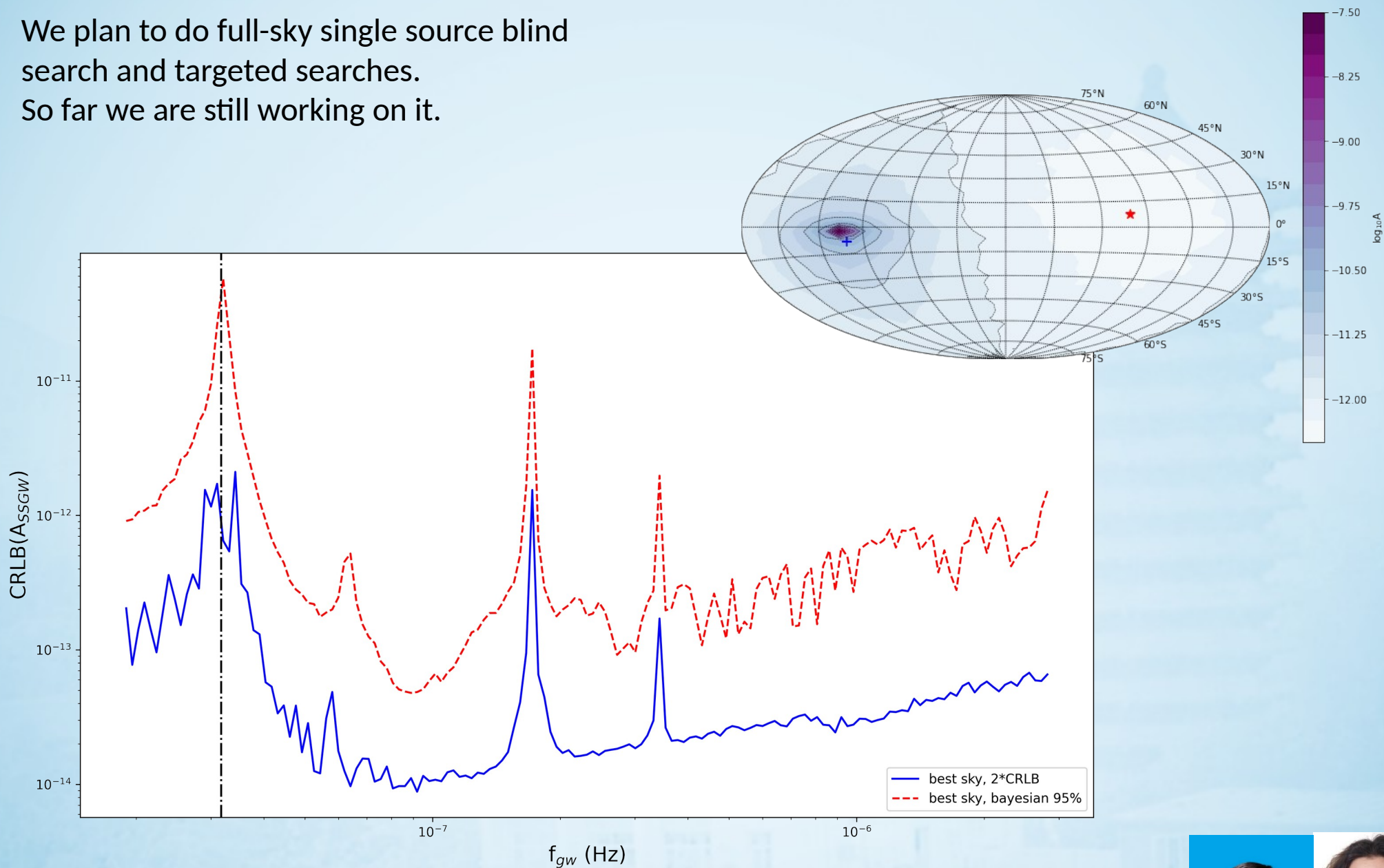
Null control group

Positive control group

Real data

Single pulsar bounds for single GW sources

We plan to do full-sky single source blind search and targeted searches.
So far we are still working on it.



Summary of IPTA

Claim 1: “Nanograv carefully use several methods analyzed data get $S/N \sim 3-4$ claimed that PTAs detected the first evidence of nHz GW, where PPTA had started the community 2003, EPTA aquited the longest dataset of 30 years for $S/N \sim 3$ and new CPTA get the highest SNR of 4.6 sigma within very rigorous probability framework. “

Claim 2“ In March, CPTA claimed something with 4.6 sigma, data is so short that they do not know what it is, and they can just push for nice HD curve. The thing is, however, not shown in most historical PPTA dataset. EPTA needs to throw historical data to see the thing at 3-sigma. But, Nanograv believed strongly this is the first evidence for nHz GW, after they try different methods, which reports different S/Ns and they could not select one but report all. “

Both claim1 and 2 are true.

No time for the details

1. The current paper is only the table of contents. Real papers are still in pipeline.
2. CPTA HD curve is independent of power law modeling.
3. CPTA p-value is computed both analytically and numerically. The value matches. There is only one single p-value for CPTA.
4. We do not use Bayesian factor, we show it is not rigorous to use it in the current problem.
5. We show some methods described in the “checklist” is wrong. We reported to IPTA, it will be revised.

Conclusion

We are getting there.