Using astrophysical knowledge in gravitational-wave data analysis of binary inspirals

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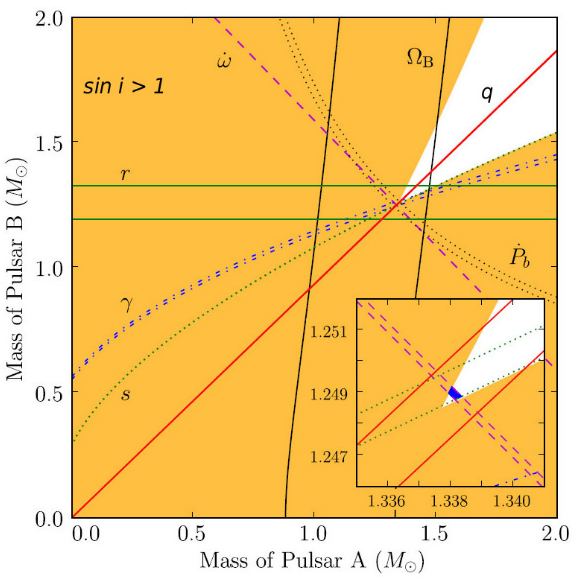
Outline

Gravitational waves

GWs:

- "Ripples in spacetime"
- Predicted by Einstein's theory of General Relativity
- *Indirectly* observed for *e.g.* the binary pulsar:

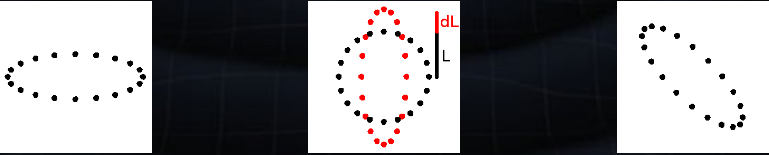


(Breton et al., Science, 2008)

Gravitational waves

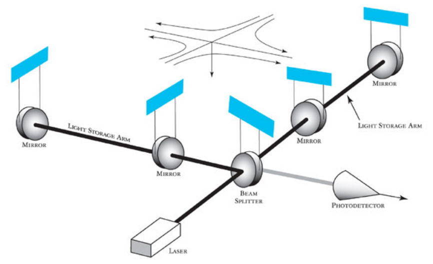
Gravitational waves. . .

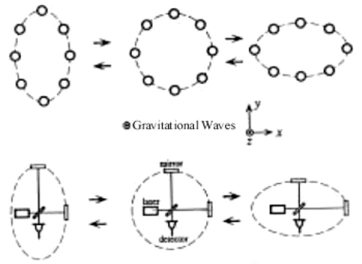
- propagate transversely at the speed of light
- are quadrupole radiation at the lowest order
- stretch and squeeze spacetime in two polarisations
- allow us to measure their amplitude



- Strain: $h(t) = h_+(t)F_+(t) + h_\times(t)F_\times(t) = \frac{\delta L(t)}{L} \sim 10^{-22}$

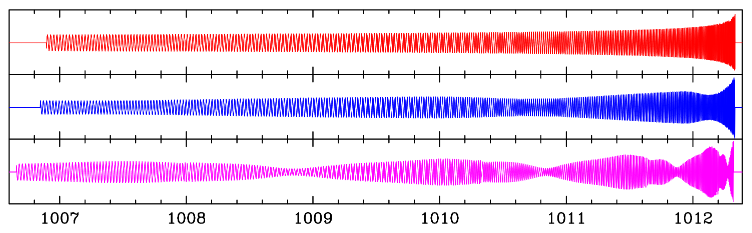
Laser Interferometer GW Observatory (LIGO)

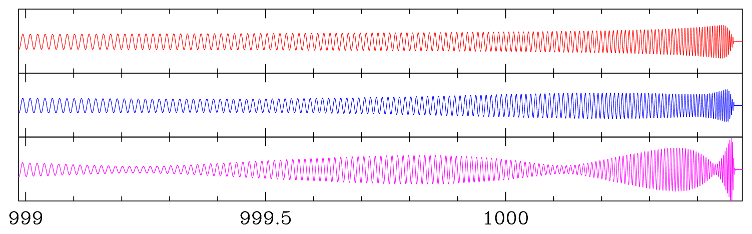




Inspiral waveforms with increasing spin

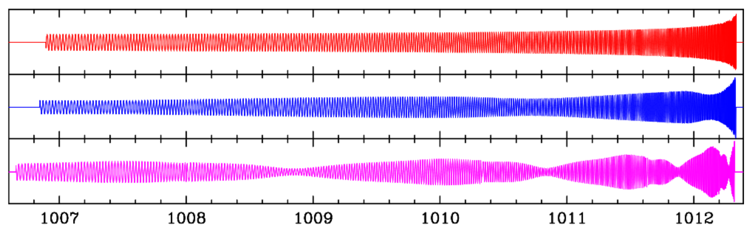
LIGO and Virgo can detect the last ~ 10 s of a binary inspiral:





$10\,M_\odot$ BH + $1.4\,M_\odot$ NS; $a_{\rm spin,BH} \equiv S/M^2 = 0.0$, 0.1 and 0.5

Inspiral waveforms with increasing spin



However. . .

". . . one should not* look *at gravitational waveforms, one should* listen *to them."
(Ilya Mandel, Viña del Mar, 9/3/2011, ∼10:03:33 CLST)

Unfortunately,

". . . this doesn't work from a PDF file."
(Ilya Mandel, Viña del Mar, 9/3/2011, ∼10:03:38 CLST)

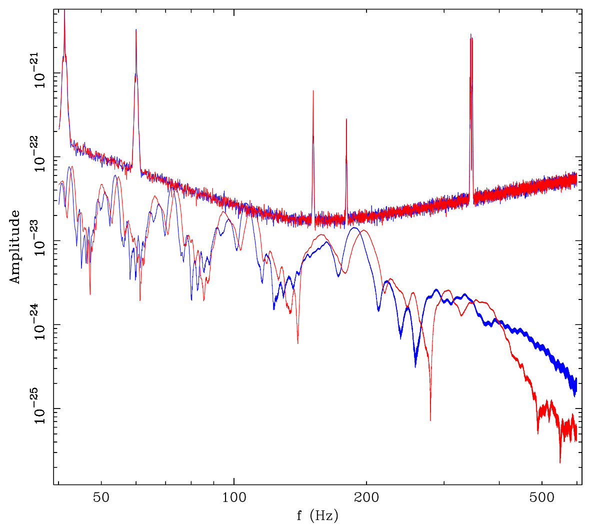
Hence,

. . . my lovely assistant will now perform a gravitational wave for us all !!!
(Ilya Mandel, Viña del Mar, 11/3/2011, ∼12:58 CLST)

Signal injection into detector noise

Example:

- Using two 4-km detectors H1, L1
- Inject signal coherently
- Σ SNR = 17
- Retrieve physical parameters using MCMC



SPINSPIRAL code

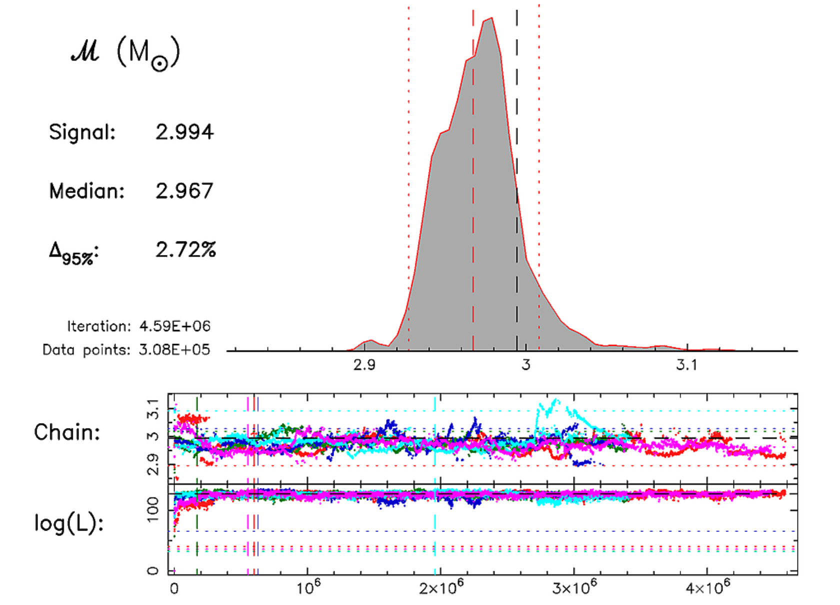
Purpose:

- Use Markov-Chain Monte Carlo for parameter estimation
- Follow-up after detection
- Gaussian, stationary noise or LIGO/Virgo detector data
- Analyse software injections, hardware injections, detection candidates/interesting events
- Include spin in injections and analysis
- Use any network composed of LIGO/Virgo detectors:
  - $\mathrm{PDF}(\vec{\lambda}) \propto \mathrm{prior}(\vec{\lambda}) \times \prod_i L_i(d|\vec{\lambda})$

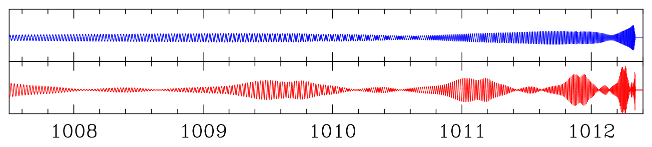
Output:

- posterior probability-density function (PDF) of the parameter set that describes the model (9–12–15 D)

SPINSPIRAL example



Information and correlations increase with spin

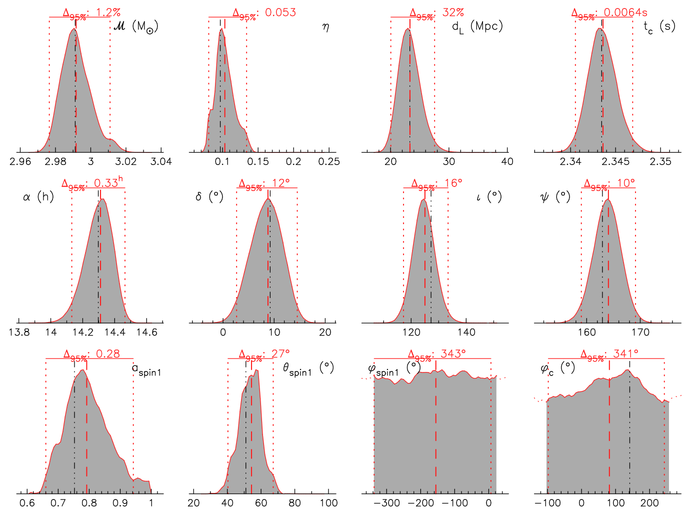


	M_c	η	a_{spin}	ϑ_{SL}	R.A.	Dec.
M_c		0.22	0.42	0.17	−0.40	0.19
η	−0.27		−0.34	−0.53	−0.07	−0.04
a_{spin}	−0.61	0.89		−0.04	0.11	0.62
ϑ_{SL}	0.66	−0.87	−0.99		0.02	−0.34
R.A.	−0.36	0.01	0.02	−0.02		0.12
Dec.	−0.23	0.08	0.18	−0.20	−0.05	

Parameters:

- BH-NS
- H1 & L1
- $M_1 = 10\, M_\odot$
- $M_2 = 1.4\, M_\odot$
- a_{spin} = 0.1, 0.8
- $\theta_{SL} = 55°$
- Network SNR ≈ 25

MCMC results for the analysis of a BH-NS signal



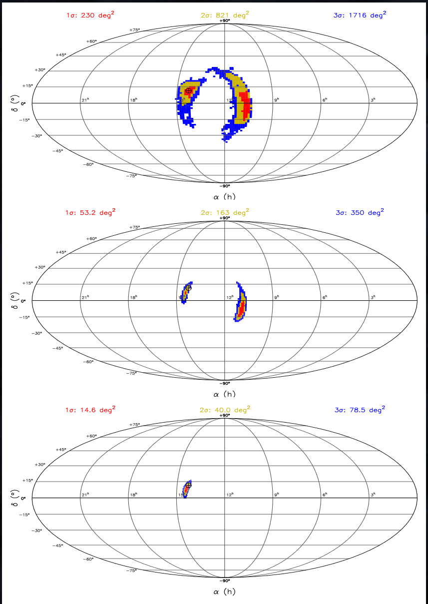
van der Sluys et al., 2008

Parameters:

- H1, L1, V
- $M = 10, 1.4\ M_\odot$
- $d_L = 22.4$ Mpc
- $a_{\rm spin} = 0.8$, $\theta_{\rm SL} = 55°$
- Σ SNR $\approx$ 17.0
- simulated noise

- Black dash-dotted line: injection
- Red dashed line: median
- Δ's: 95% probability

Sky position for signals with different spins



Spinning BH, non-spinning NS:

$10 + 1.4\,M_\odot$, 16–22 Mpc, Σ SNR=17

2 detectors, $a_{\rm spin} = 0.0$

2-σ accuracy: $821^{\circ 2}$

2 detectors, $a_{\rm spin} = 0.5$

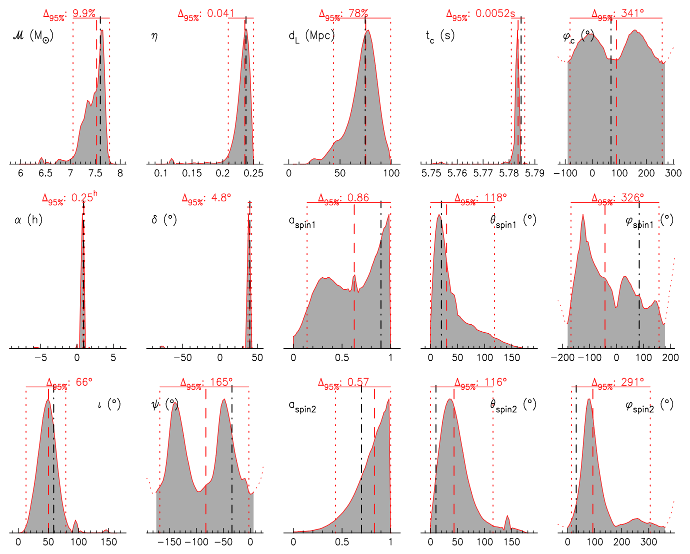
2-σ accuracy: $163^{\circ 2}$

3 detectors, $a_{\rm spin} = 0.5$

2-σ accuracy: $40^{\circ 2}$

van der Sluys et al., 2008; Raymond et al., 2009

Analysis of a BH-BH signal with spins

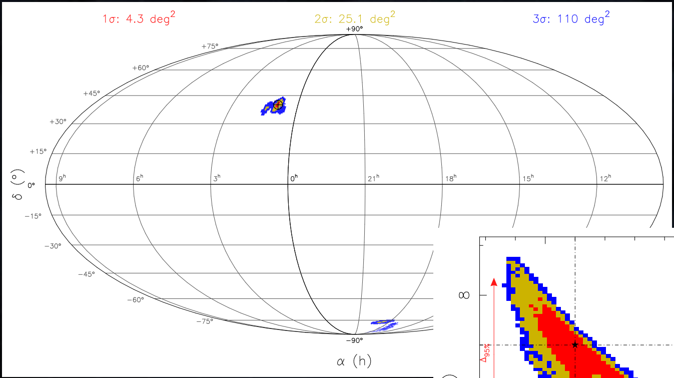


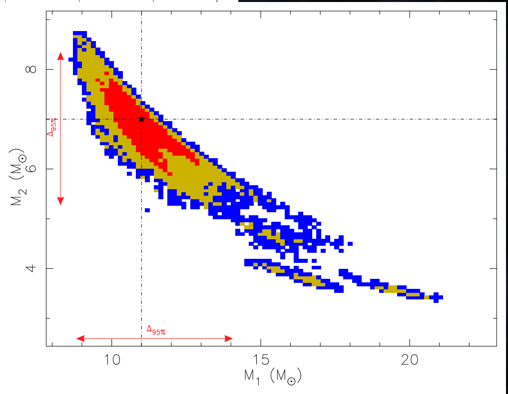
van der Sluys et al., in preparation

HS-2:

- 3.5-pN waveform
- 3 detectors (H1,L1,V)
- $\mathcal{M} = 7.6\,M_\odot$, $\eta = 0.238$; $M_1 = 11.0\,M_\odot$, $M_2 = 7.0\,M_\odot$
- $a_{s1,2} = 0.9, 0.7$
- $\theta_{s1,2} = 10, 20°$
- $d_L = 74.5$ Mpc
- Σ SNR=15
- simulated noise

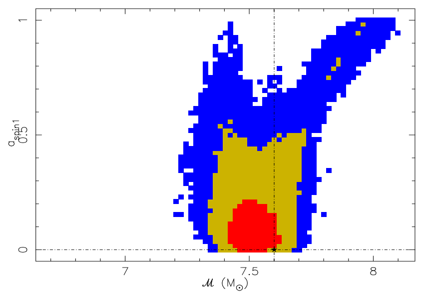
Analysis of a BH-BH signal with spins



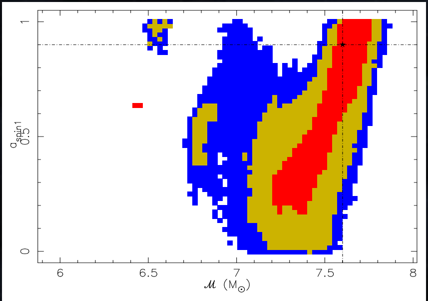


van der Sluys et al., in preparation

The nuisance of having spins in your analysis

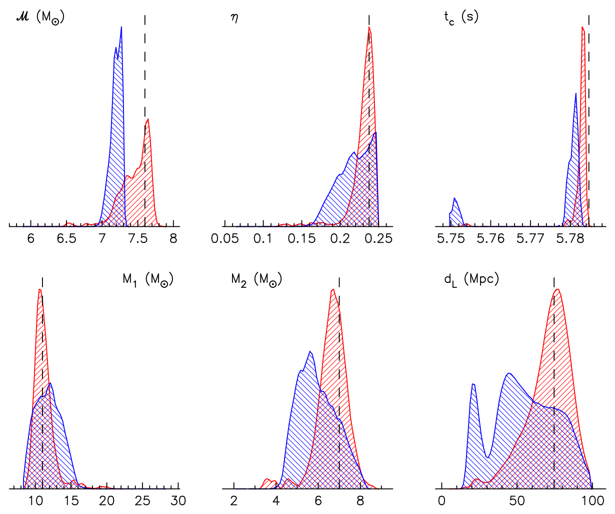


Signal **without** spins,
analysis with spinning template



Signal **with** spins,
analysis with spinning template

The importance of having spins in your analysis



Signal with spins

Analysis with spinning template

Analysis with non-spinning template

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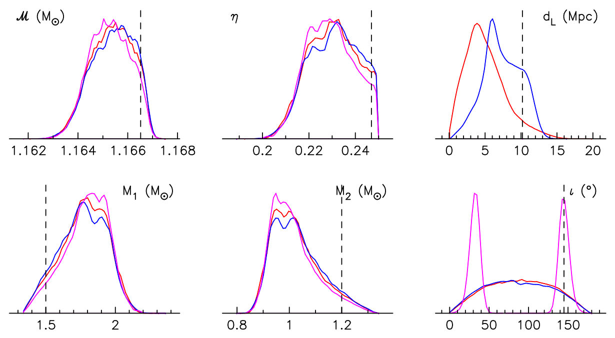
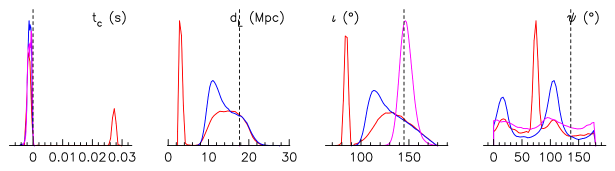
Using astrophysical data to constrain parameters: short GRB

1 detector (H1):



3 detectors (H1,L1,V):



NS-NS, non-spinning:
$1.2 + 1.5\,M_\odot$
$d_L \approx 10.2 - 17.8$ Mpc
(Σ SNR=15.0)

No astrophysical information

Sky position known

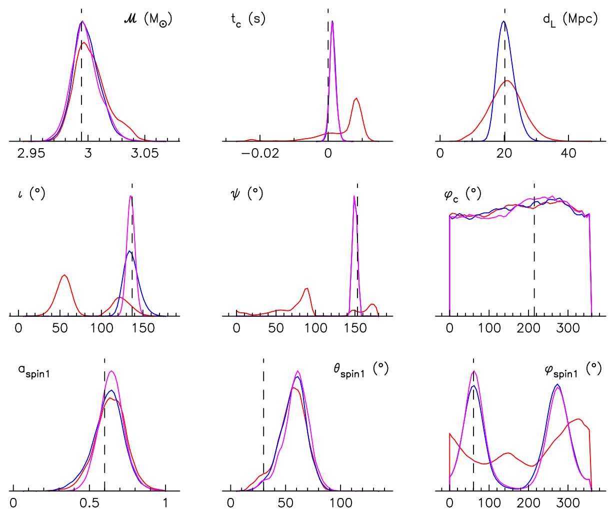
Sky position and distance known

van der Sluys et al., in preparation

See also: **Nissanke et al., 2010**

Using astrophysical data to constrain parameters: short GRB

2 detectors (H1,L1):



BH-NS, spinning BH:
$10 + 1.4\,M_\odot$, $a_{\rm spin} = 0.6$
$d_L \approx 20.2$ Mpc (Σ SNR=15.0)

No astrophysical information

Sky position known

Sky position and distance known

van der Sluys et al., in preparation

Conclusions

SPINSPIRAL

- SPINSPIRAL can recover the 12–15 parameters of a binary inspiral, including one or two spins, using an MCMC technique
- Sky-position reconstruction (few $\times 10^{\circ 2}$) is poor for astrophysical standards
- Combination of position, distance and time can lead to association with an electromagnetic detection (*e.g.* GRB)

Taking into account spins

- The inclusion of spin adds significantly to the number of dimensions (9–12–15) and introduces (strong) correlations
- Failing to take into account spin can result to biases in especially mass parameters

Conclusions (numbers are preliminary)

Using astrophysical knowledge for GW data analysis: no spins

- Knowing the sky position of a source improves determination of:
  - distance ($\sim 20 - 50\%$)
  - inclination
- Knowing the position *and distance* improves inclination further, also in 1-detector analysis

Using astrophysical knowledge for GW data analysis: spins

- Knowing the sky position of a source improves determination of:
  - distance ($\sim 50\%$)
  - inclination, polarisation angle ($50 - 90\%$)
  - masses ($\sim 20\%$)
  - spin angles
- Knowing the position *and distance* improves:
  - spin magnitude ($\sim 20\%$)

End. . .