Unbiased Search - Status Report

Pulsar Upper Limits Group LSC Meeting, 2003-Mar-17

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Overview

- Approach
- Factors Affecting Efficiency
 - Doppler modulation
 - antenna pattern
- Data Quality
 - non-stationarity
- Plans for Future

Approach

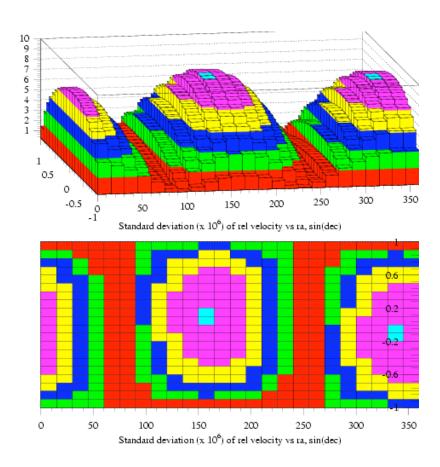
- Make few assumptions about nature of sources
- Estimate excess power based on estimation of background power
- Use averaged periodograms (SFTs of G.Mendell, and/or of B. Allen)
- Pros: low compute load => all-sky search;
 phase-insensitivity => robust against
 uncertainties in source params

Factors Affecting Efficiency

- Doppler modulation
- Antenna beam pattern
- "Pad percentage", i.e. dead time fraction in one SFT
- Quality of lock: Rayleigh statistic

Doppler Modulation

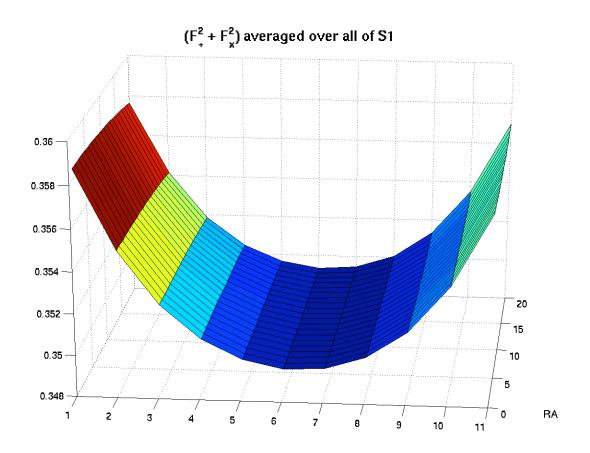
 Regions of larger std deviation require searching broader freq bands for excess power



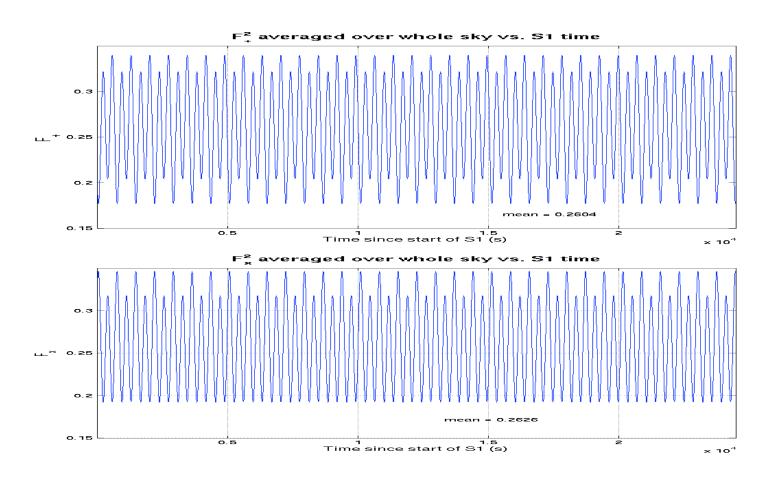
Antenna Pattern

- F+ and Fx -- detector response is a function of position relative to source
- LAL contains routines in lal-tools package
 - some more tests added

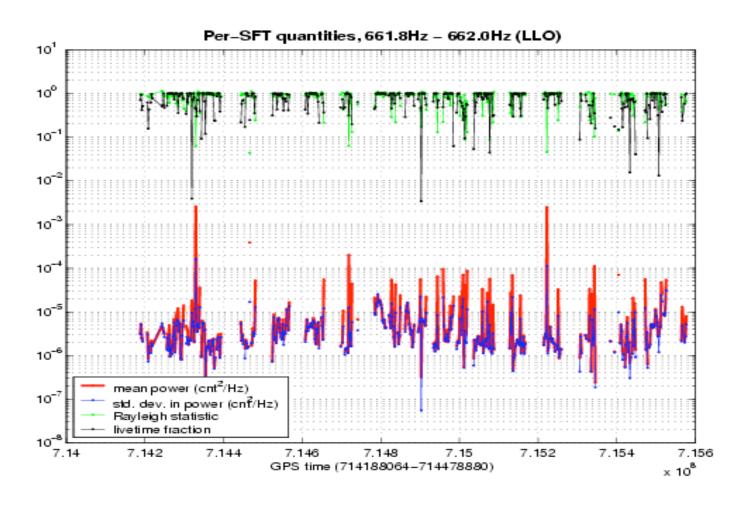
Mixed



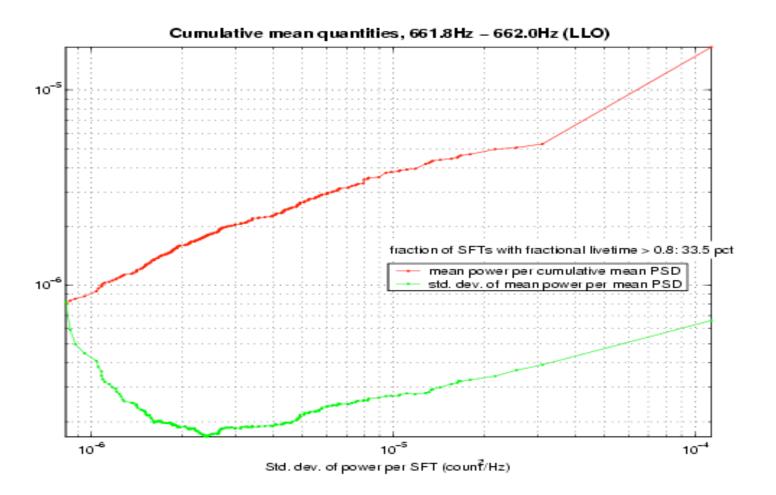
Time series of F's avg'ed over sky



Non-Stationarity



Non-Stationarity



Plans for Future

- Future: software injections, Monte Carlo
- UWM Medusa for analysis -- calibrated SFTs by G. Mendell, and by B. Allen