



ASTROPHYSICS

Kip S. Thorne

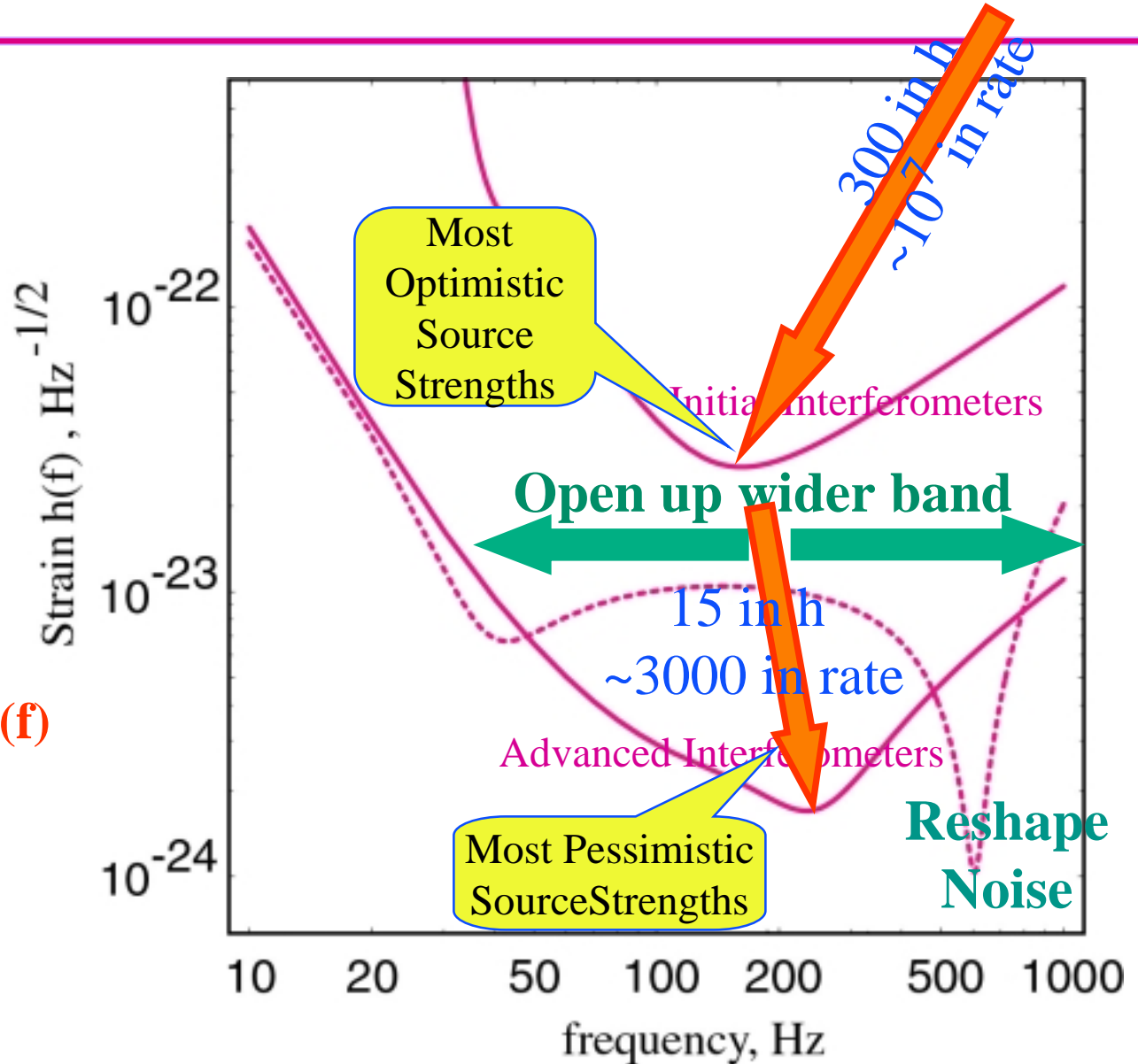
CaRT, California Institute of Technology

NSF Advanced LIGO Review

Pasadena, 11 June 2003

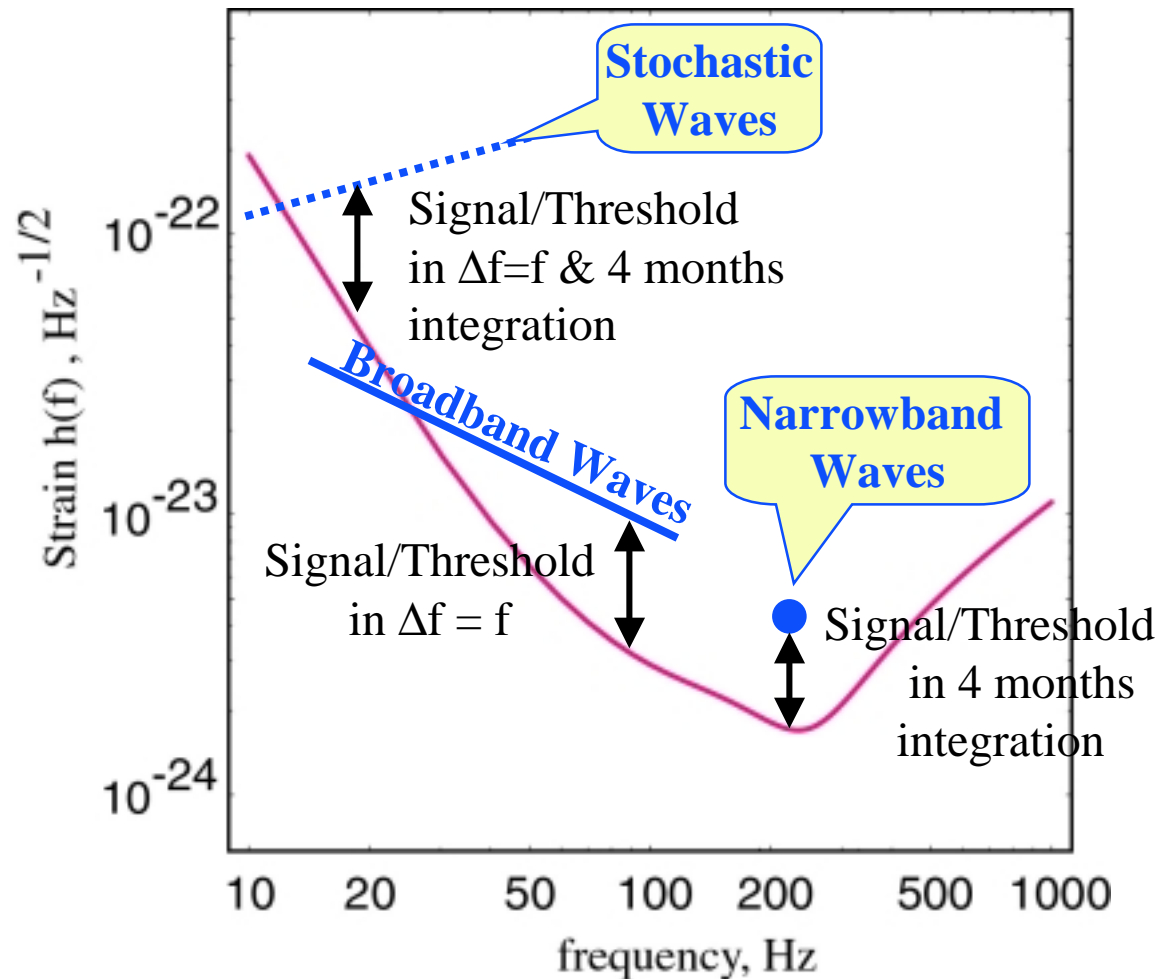
From Initial Interferometers to Advanced

$$h_{\text{rms}} = h(f) \sqrt{f} \sim 10 h(f)$$



Conventions on Source/Sensitivity Plots

- Assume the best search algorithm now known
- Set Threshold so false alarm probability = 1%
 - » For rare broadband signals: on tail of Gaussian; increase S/T by ~10% → 0.01% false alarm



Overview of Sources

- **Neutron Star & Black Hole Binaries**

- » inspiral
- » merger

- **Spinning NS's**

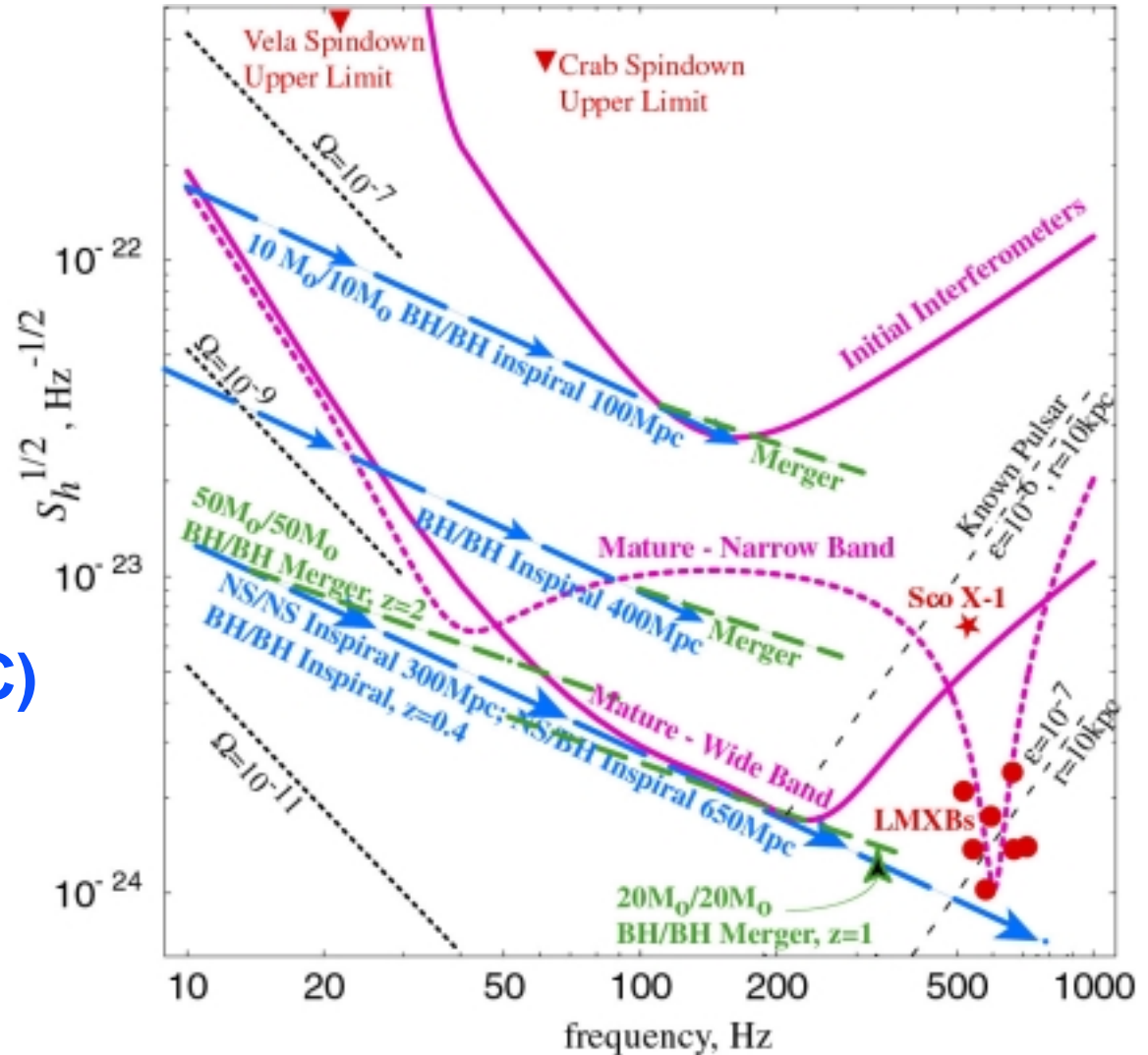
- » LMXBs
- » known pulsars
- » previously unknown

- **NS Birth (SN, AIC)**

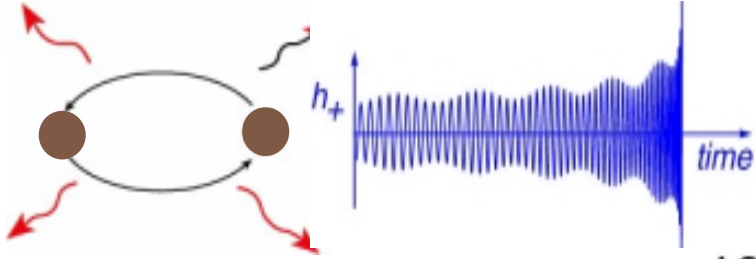
- » tumbling
- » convection

- **Stochastic background**

- » big bang
- » early universe



Neutron Star / Neutron Star Inspiral (our most reliably understood source)



- **1.4 Msun / 1.4 Msun NS/NS Binaries**

- **Event rates**

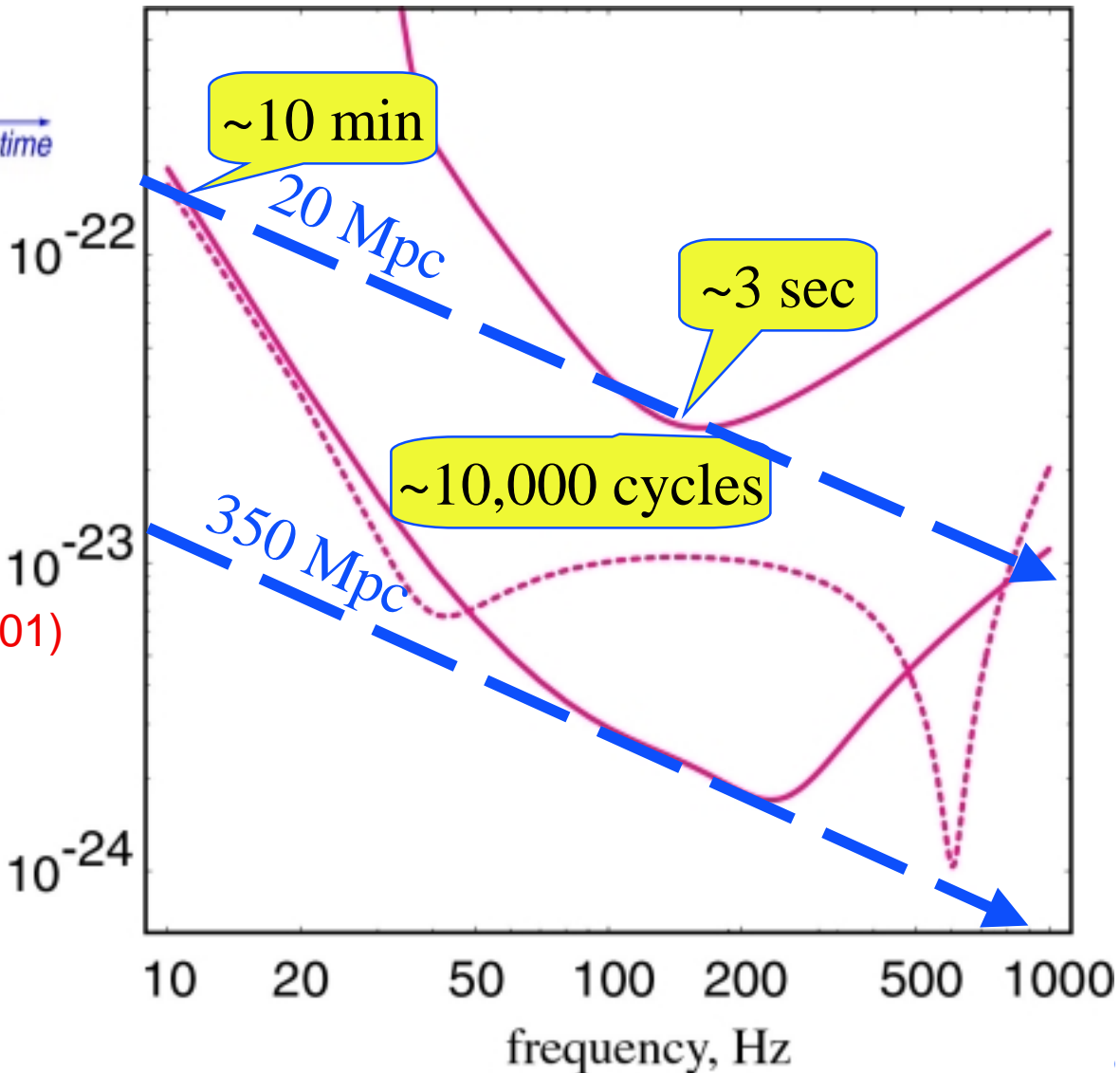
- » V. Kalogera, R. Narayan, D. Spergel, J.H. Taylor
Astrophys J, 556, 340 (2001)

- **Initial IFOs**

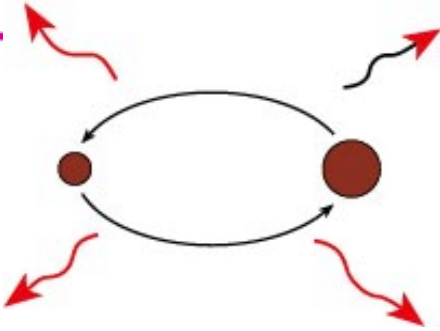
- » Range: 20 Mpc
- » 1 / 3000 yrs to 1 / 4yrs

- **Advanced IFOs -**

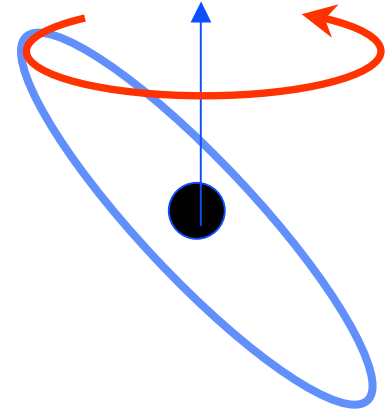
- » Range: 350Mpc
- » 2 / yr to 3 / day



Science From Observed Inspirals: NS/NS, NS/BH, BH/BH



- Relativistic effects are very strong -- e.g.
 - » *Frame dragging by spins → precession → modulation*
 - » *Tails of waves modify the inspiral rate*



- Information carried:
 - » *Masses (a few %), Spins (?few%?), Distance [not redshift!] (~10%), Location on sky (~1 degree)*

$$- M_{\text{chirp}} = \mu^{3/5} M^{2/5} \text{ to } \sim 10^{-3}$$

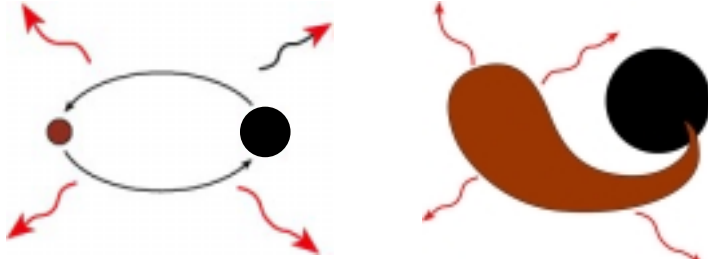
- Search for EM counterpart, e.g. γ -burst. If found:

- » *Learn the nature of the trigger for that γ -burst*

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- » *deduce relative speed of light and gw's to $\sim 1 \text{ sec} / 3 \times 10^9 \text{ yrs} \sim 10^{-17}$*

Neutron Star / Black Hole Inspiral and NS Tidal Disruption



- **1.4Msun / 10 Msun NS/BH Binaries**

- **Event rates**

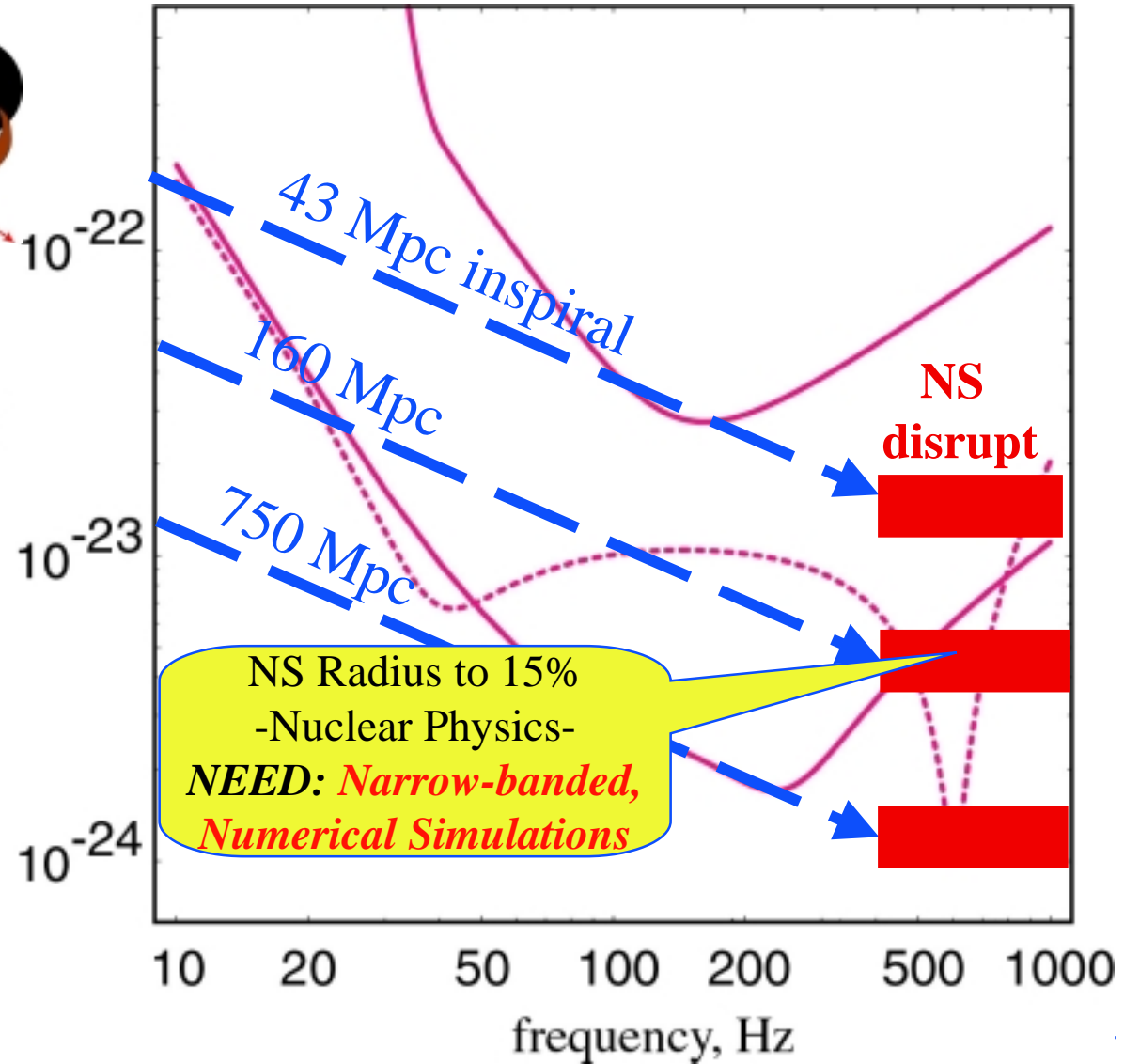
- » Population Synthesis [Kalogera's summary]

- **Initial IFOs**

- » Range: 43 Mpc
- » 1 / 5000 yrs to 1 / 3yrs

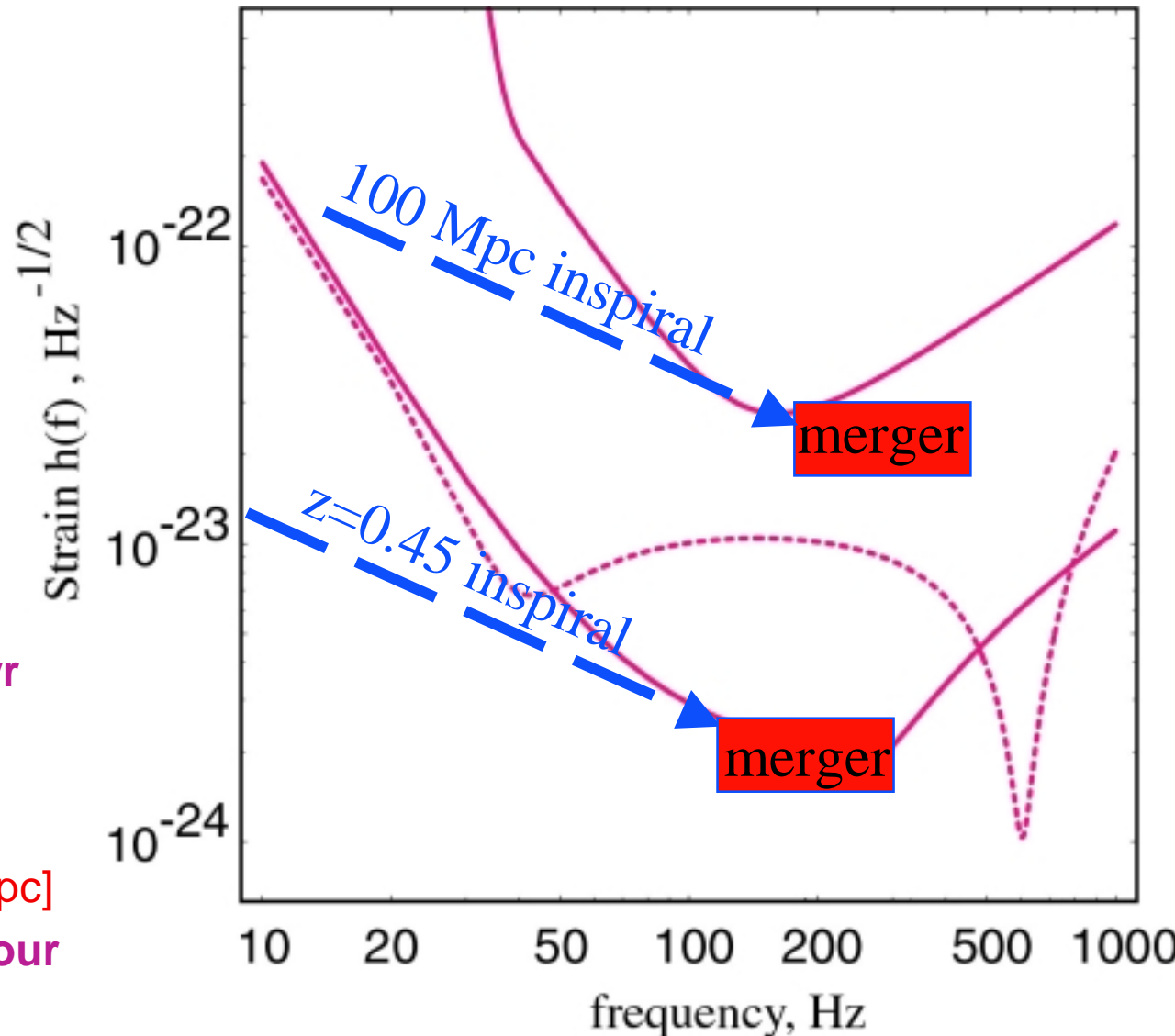
- **Advanced IFOs**

- » Range: 750 Mpc
- » 1 / yr to 4 / day

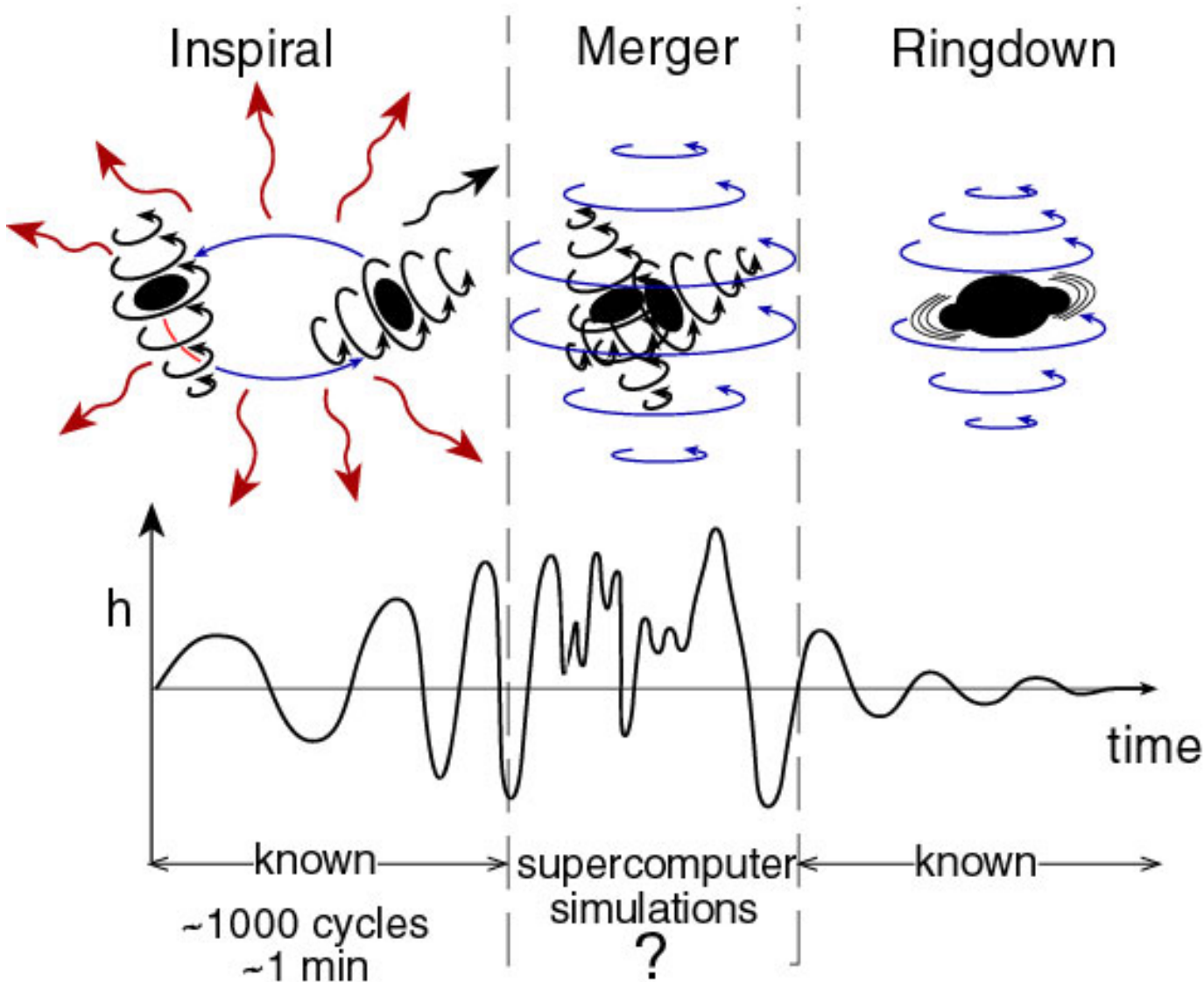


Black Hole / Black Hole Inspiral and Merger

- **10Msun / 10 Msun BH/BH Binaries**
 - **Event rates**
 - » Population synthesis [Kalogera's summary]
 - **Initial IFOs**
 - » Range: 100 Mpc
 - » ~1 / 250 yrs to ~2 / yr
 - **Advanced IFOs -**
 - » Range: $z=0.45$ [1.7 Gpc]
 - » ~1 / month to ~1 / hour
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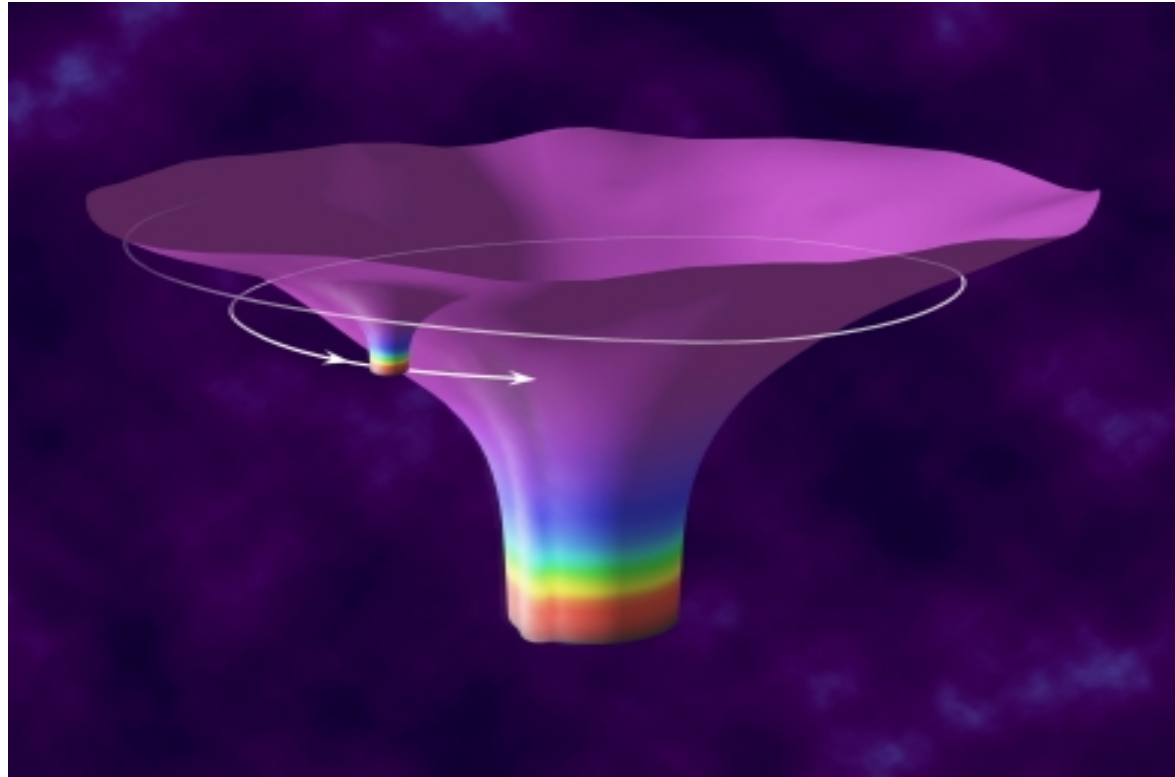
BH/BH Mergers: Exploring the Dynamics of Spacetime Warpage



**To interpret
Observed waves:
Compare with
Numerical
Relativity
Simulations**

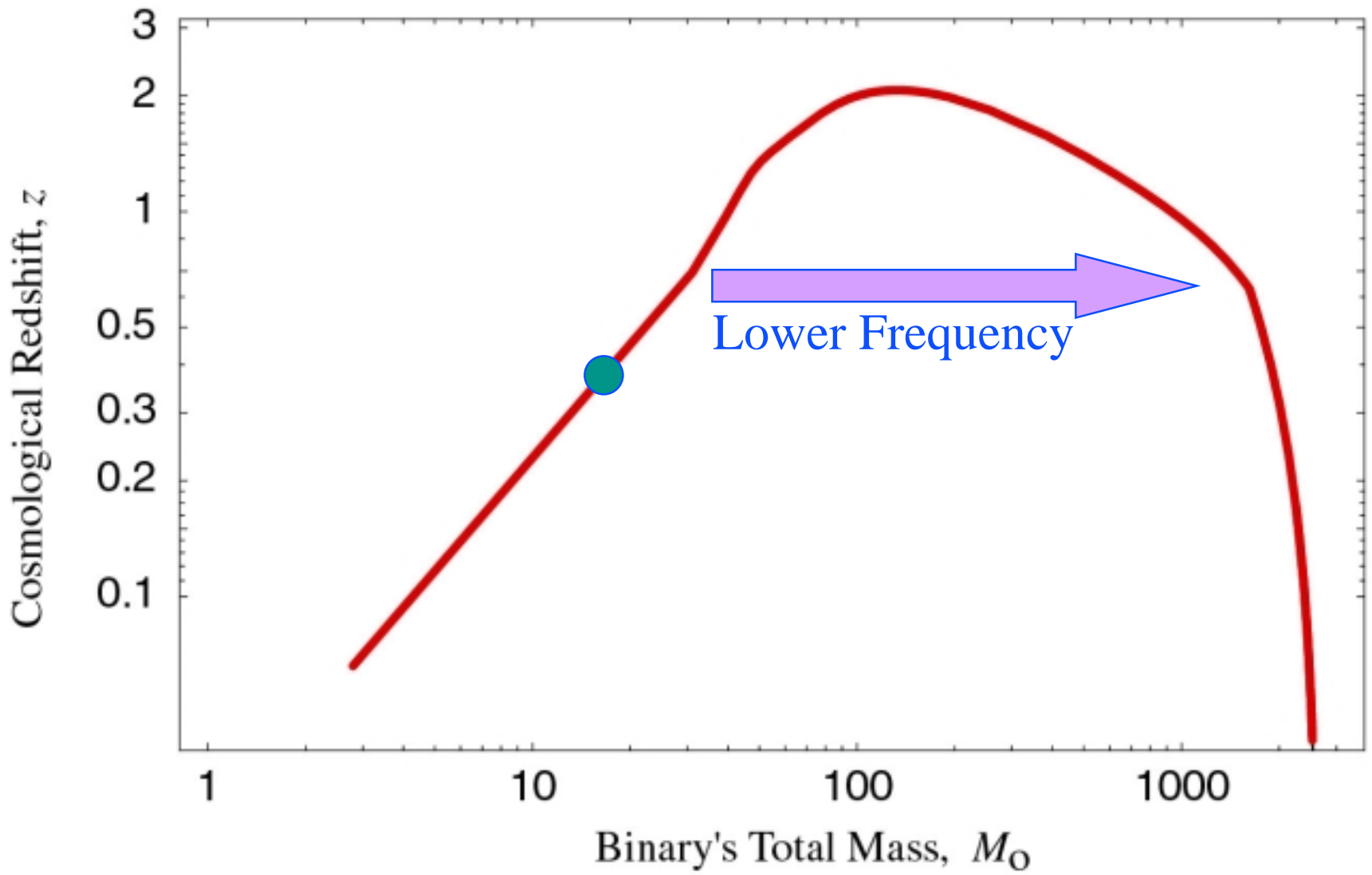
Probing Intermediate Mass BH's with Small BH's

- In globular clusters: BH-BH capture formation, merger, formation, merger, ... in globular clusters → intermediate-mass BH: 100 - 1000 Msun [Cole Miller]
- Plunge of few Msun BH into few ~100 Msun BH
- Ringdown studies:
~ 10 per year with $M/m > 60$; more for smaller M/m





Massive BH/BH Mergers with Fast Spins - Advanced IFOs

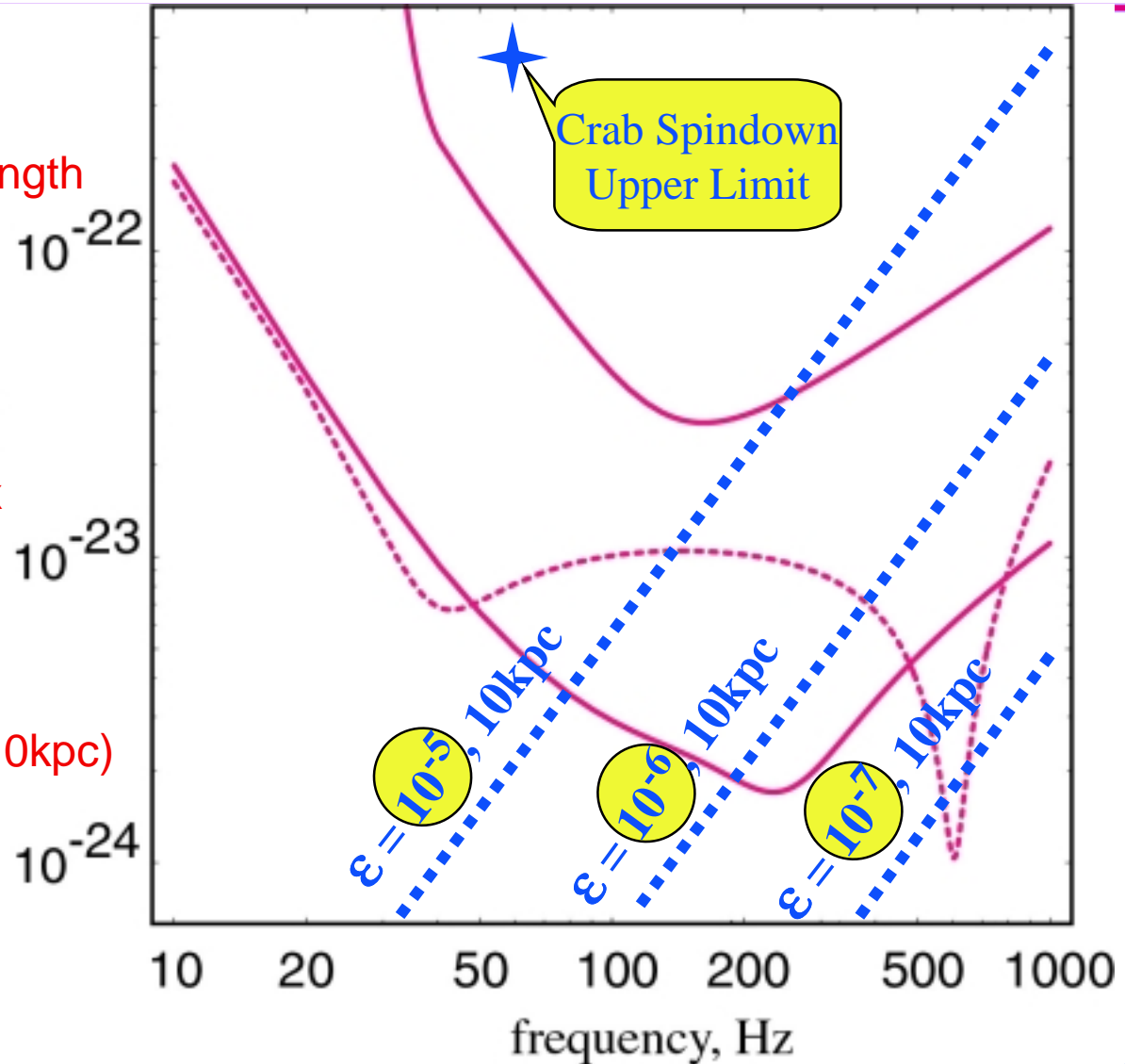


- NS Ellipticity:

- » Crust strength or B strength
 $\epsilon \lesssim 10^{-5}$

- Known Pulsars:

- » First Interferometers:
 $\epsilon \gtrsim 3 \times 10^{-6} (1000\text{Hz}/f) \times (\text{distance}/10\text{kpc})$
- » Broadband Advanced
 $\epsilon \gtrsim 5 \times 10^{-7} \times (\text{distance}/10\text{kpc})$



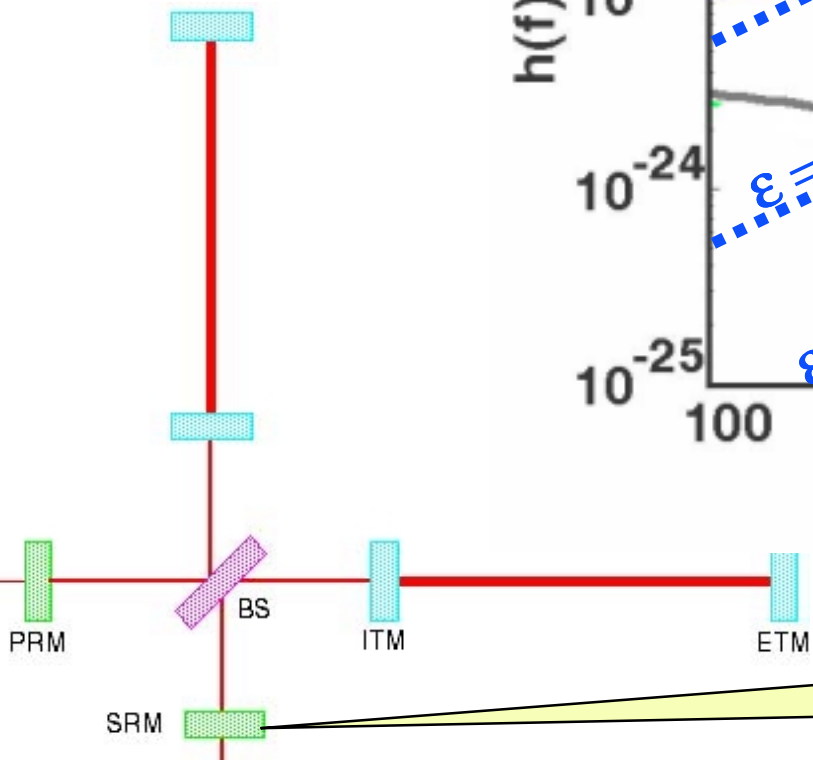
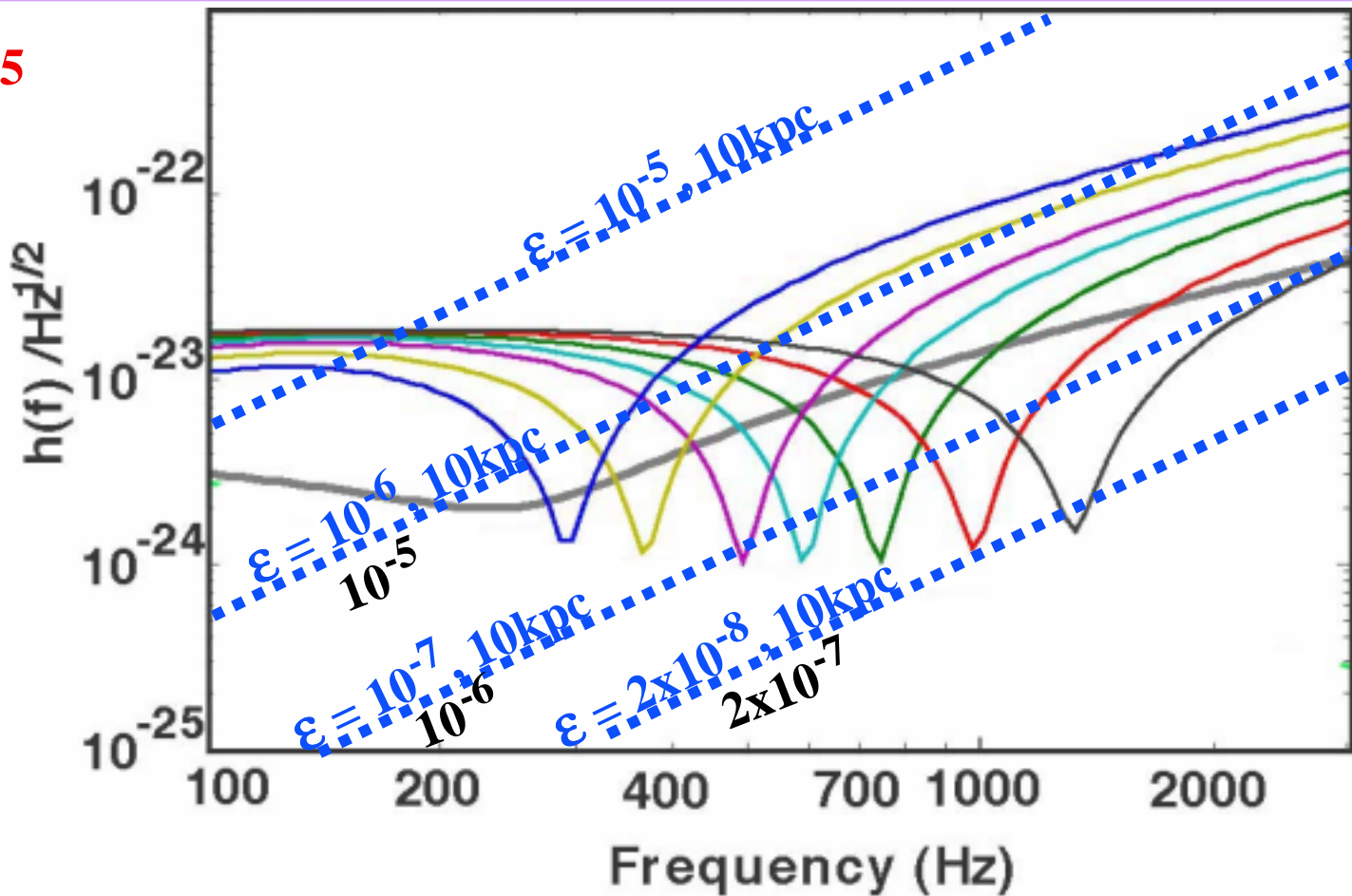


Spinning NS's: Pulsars in Our Galaxy [narrow-banded interferometer]

Plausible: $\epsilon \lesssim 10^{-5}$

Known Pulsars

Unknown: All Sky search



Tune by moving Signal Recycling Mirror

Spinning Neutron Stars: Low-Mass X-Ray Binaries in our Galaxy

- Rotation rates ~ 250 to ~ 600 revolutions / sec

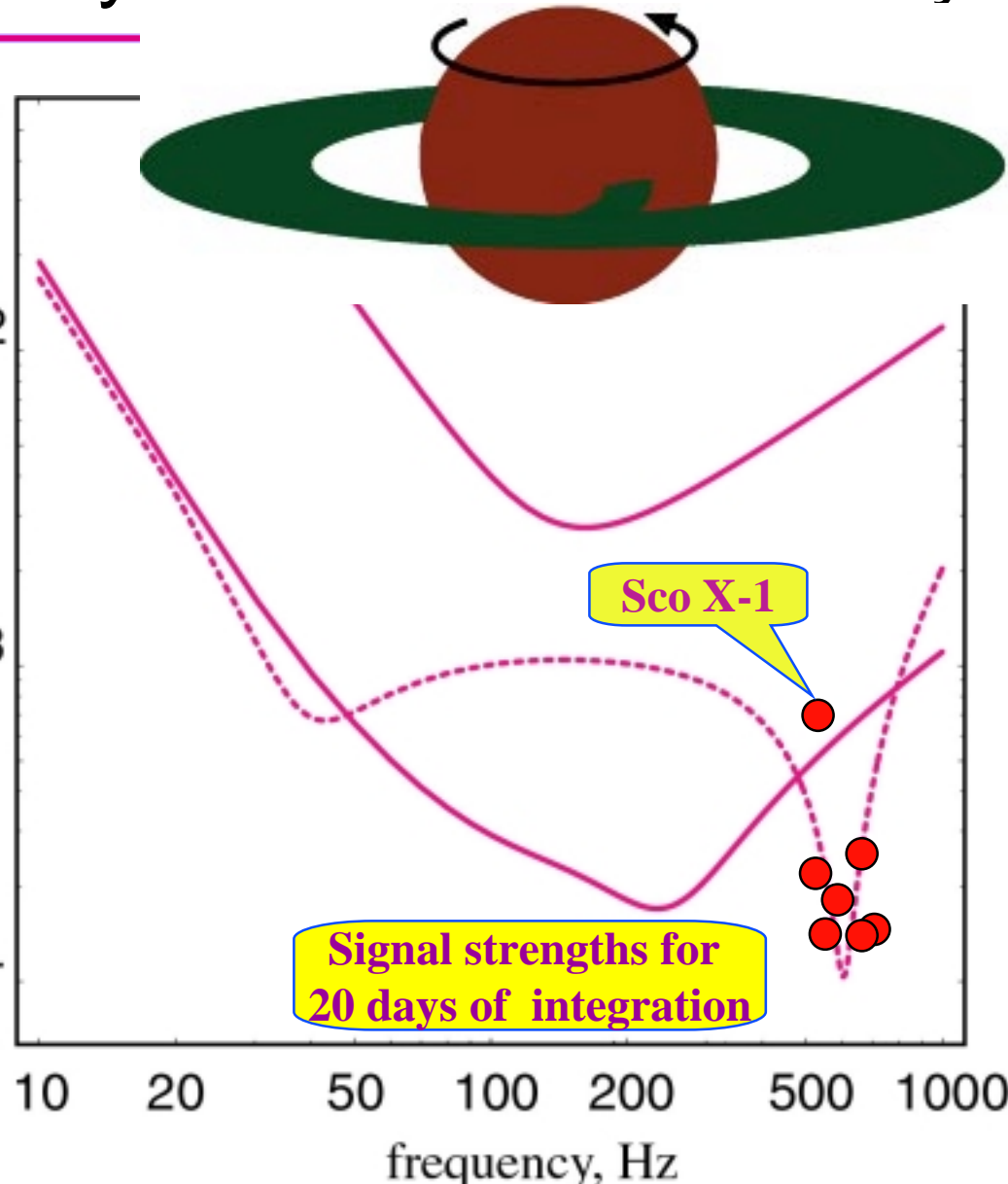
» Why not faster?

» **Bildsten:** Spin-up torque balanced by GW emission torque

- If so, & steady state: observed X-ray flux \rightarrow GW strength

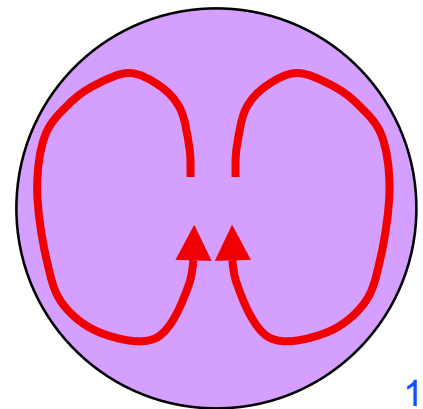
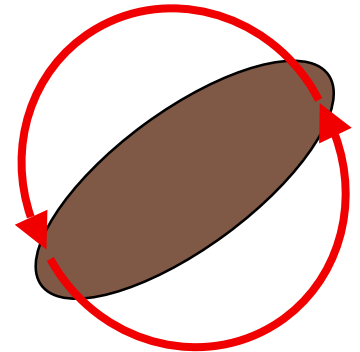
- Combined GW & EM obs's \rightarrow information about:

» crust strength & structure, temperature dependence of viscosity, ...



NS Birth: Tumbling Bar; Convection

- **Born in:**
 - » Supernovae
 - » Accretion-Induced Collapse of White Dwarfs
- **If very fast spin:**
 - » Centrifugal hangup
 - » **Tumbling bar** - episodic? (for a few sec or min)
 - » ***If modeling gives enough waveform information,***
detectable to:
 - Initial IFOs: ~5Mpc (M81 group, ~1 supernova/3yr)
 - Advanced IFOs: ~100Mpc (~500 supernovae/yr)
- **If slow spin:**
 - » **Convection** in first ~1 sec.
 - » Advanced IFOs: Detectable only in our Galaxy
(~1/30yrs)
 - » **GW / neutrino correlations!**



Complementarity of LIGO & LISA

LIGO

- High-frequency band: ~10Hz to ~1500Hz (analog of optical astronomy)
- Neutron-star studies:
 - » Tidal disruption by BH
 - » Low Mass X-Ray Binaries
 - » Pulsar Spins
- Study stellar mass BH's (~3 Msun to ~1000 Msun)
- Study merger of NS and BH binaries in distant galaxies
- Study early universe at age ~ 10^{-25} sec (~ 10^9 GeV)

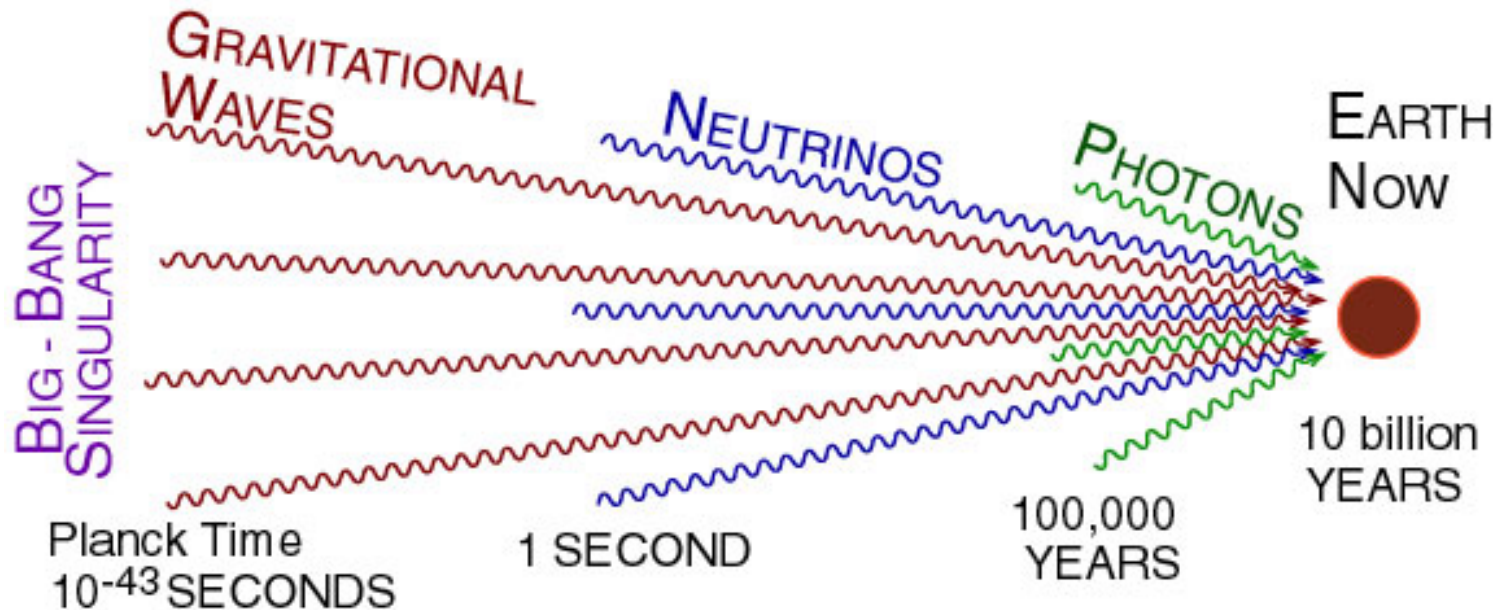
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LISA

- Low-frequency band: ~0.0001 Hz to ~0.1 Hz (analog of radio astronomy)
- Cannot study neutron star physics
- Study supermassive BH's (~100,000 to 10,000,000 Msun)
- Study White dwarf, NS, and BH binaries in our galaxy, long before merger
- Study early universe at age ~ 10^{-12} sec (~100 GeV)

Stochastic Background from Very Early Universe

- **GW's** are the ideal tool for probing the very early universe -- "messenger" from first one second



Planck Time
 10^{-43} SECONDS
Singularity
creates
Space & Time
of our universe

- **Present limit on GWs**

- » From effect on primordial nucleosynthesis

- » $\Omega = (\text{GW energy density}) / (\text{closure density}) \lesssim 10^{-5}$

Stochastic Background from Very Early Universe

- **Detect by**

- » cross correlating output of Hanford & Livingston 4km IFOs

- **Good sensitivity requires**

- » (GW wavelength) \gtrsim 2x(detector separation)
 - » $f \lesssim 40$ Hz

- **Initial IFOs detect if**

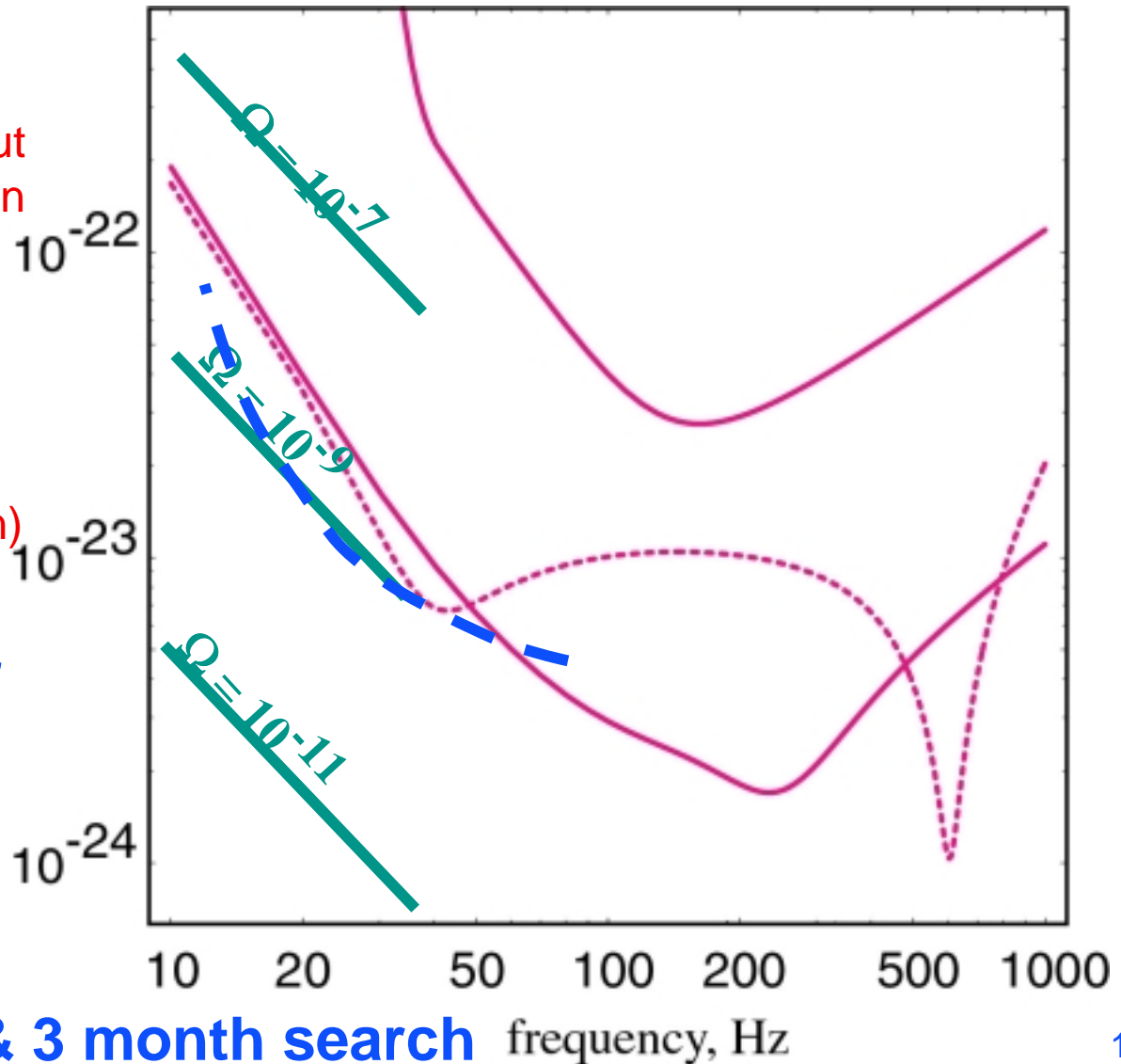
- » $\Omega \gtrsim 10^{-5}$

- **Advanced IFOs:**

- » $\Omega \gtrsim 1 \times 10^{-9}$ with

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reduced power & 3 month search



Grav'l Waves from Very Early Universe.

Unknown Sources

- Waves from **standard inflation**: $\Omega \sim 10^{-15}$: much too weak
- **BUT**: Crude **superstring models** of big bang suggest waves *might be strong enough* for detection by Advanced IFOs
- Bursts from **cosmic strings**: possibly detectable by Initial IFOs
- Energetic processes at (universe age) $\sim 10^{-25}$ sec and (universe temperature) $\sim 10^9$ Gev \rightarrow GWs in LIGO band
 - » **phase transition at 10^9 Gev**
 - » **excitations of our universe as a 3-dimensional "brane" (membrane) in higher dimensions: [C. Hogan]**
 - Brane forms wrinkled
 - When wrinkles "come inside the cosmological horizon", they start to oscillate; oscillation energy goes into gravitational waves
 - LIGO probes waves from wrinkles of length $\sim 10^{-10}$ to 10^{-13} mm
 - If wave energy equilibrates: possibly detectable by initial IFOs

- Example of hitherto **UNKNOWN SOURCE**

Conclusions

- LIGO's **Initial Interferometers** bring us into the realm where it is plausible to begin detecting cosmic gravitational waves.
- With LIGO's **Advanced Interferometers** we can be confident of:
 - » detecting waves from a variety of sources
 - » gaining major new insights into the universe, and into the nature and dynamics of spacetime curvature, that cannot be obtained in any other way