

# Refining the Search for Sub-threshold Lensed Gravitational Waves

***LIGO SURF 2021***

**Storm Colloms**

**School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Edinburgh**

***Mentors: Alvin K. Y. Li,***

***Alan Weinstein***

**LIGO Laboratory, California Institute of  
Technology**

***LIGO SURF 2021***

I. Background

II. Problem

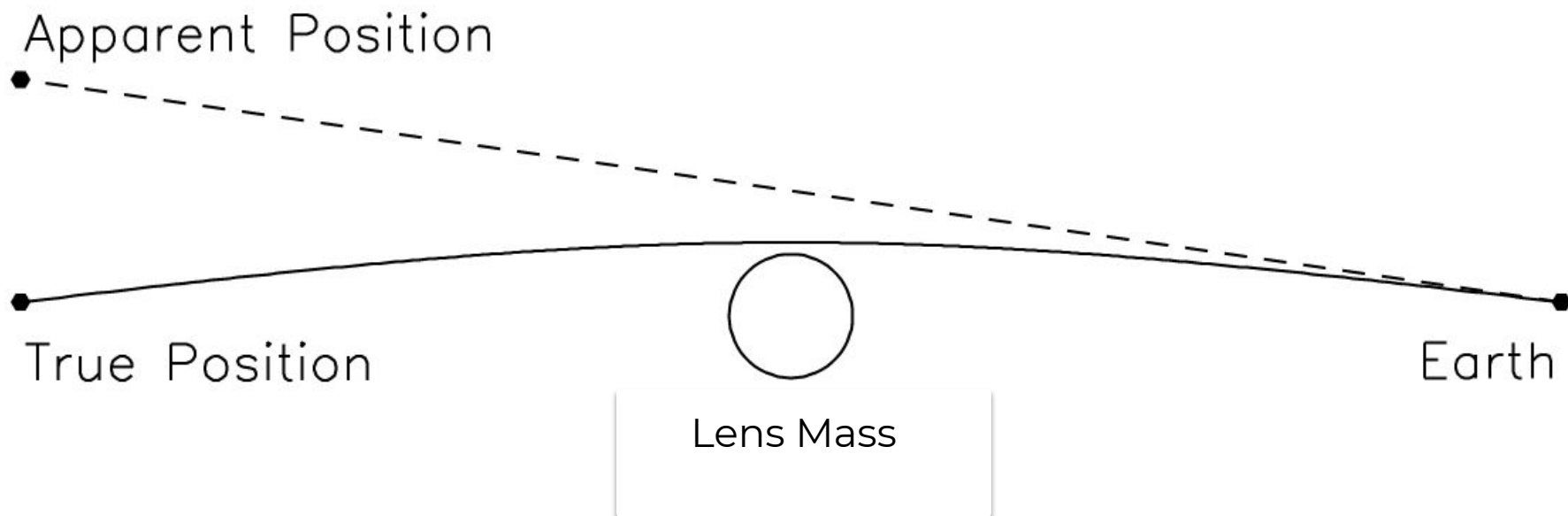
III. Solution

IV. What next

# What is Lensing?

Change in:

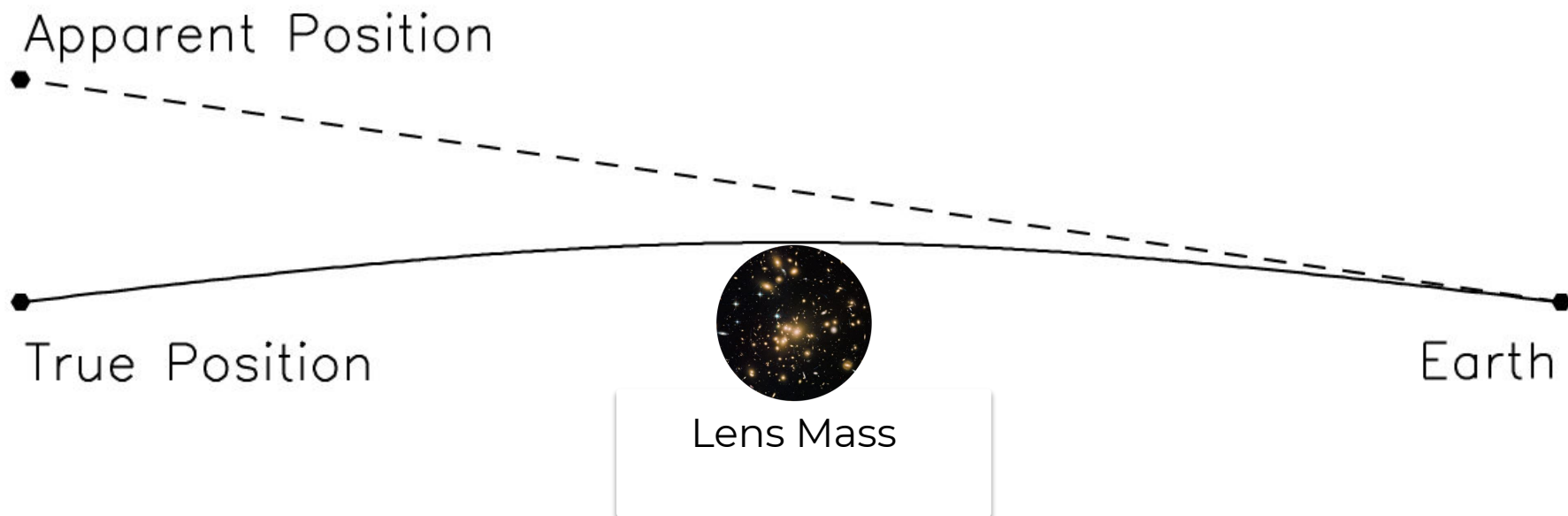
- apparent position



# What is Lensing?

Change in:

- apparent position

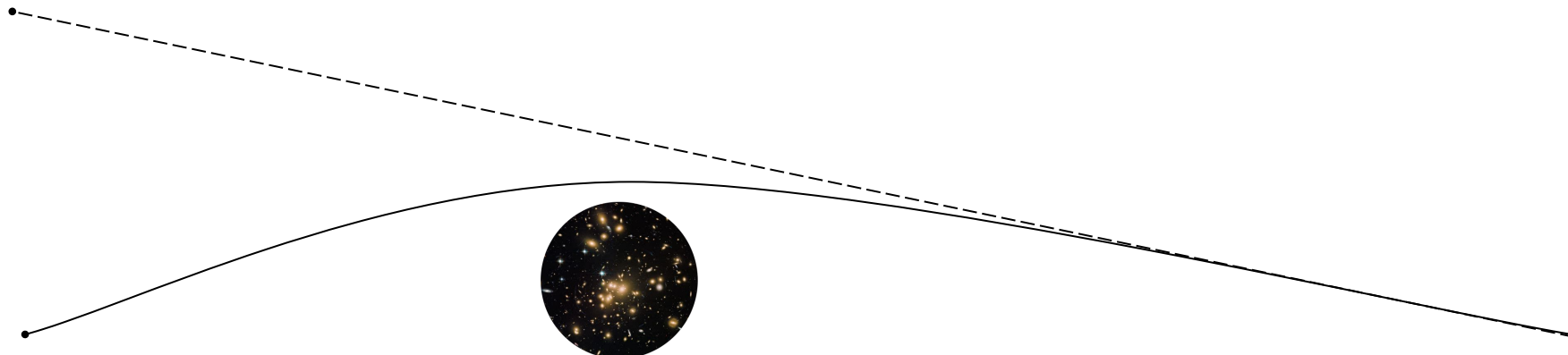


# What is Lensing?

Change in:

- apparent position

Apparent Position

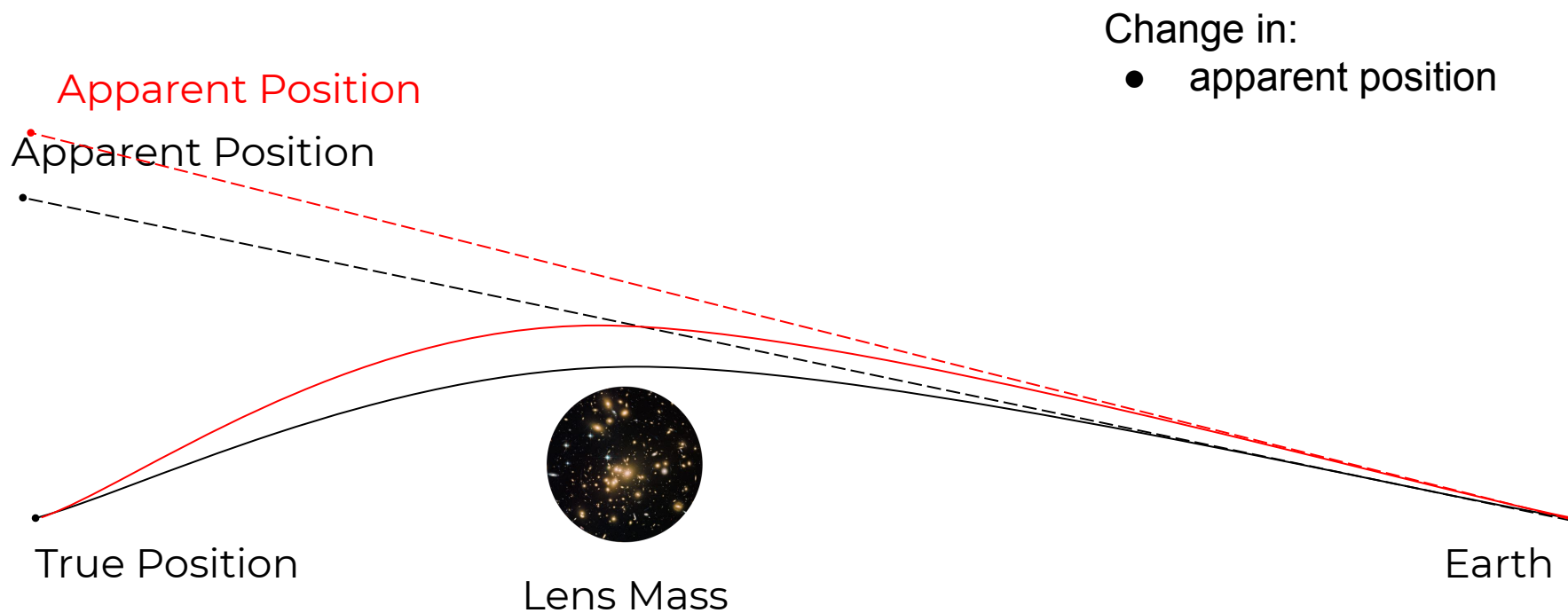


True Position

Lens Mass

Earth

# What is Lensing?



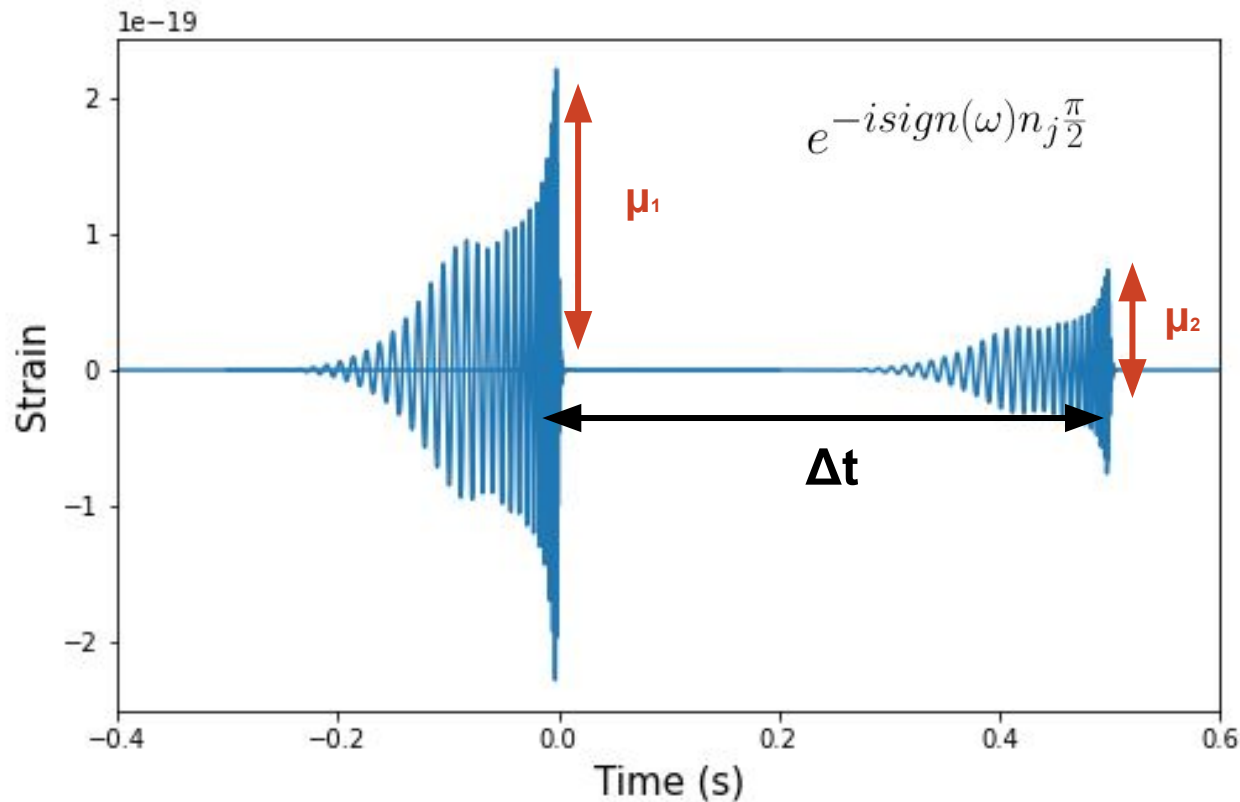
# What is Lensing?



# What is Lensing (Of GWs)?

Change in:

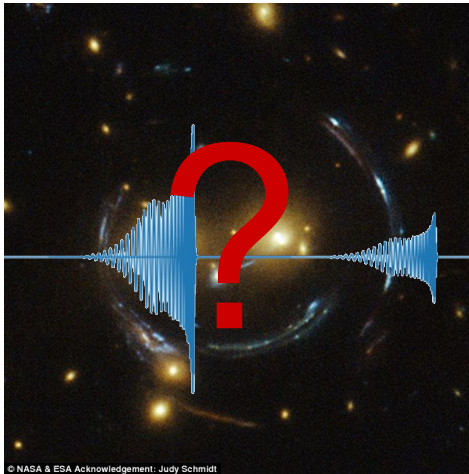
- apparent position
- arrival time
- amplitude
- morse phase





# Why look for Lensing of Gravitational Waves?

## 1. Not yet seen in Gravitational waves...

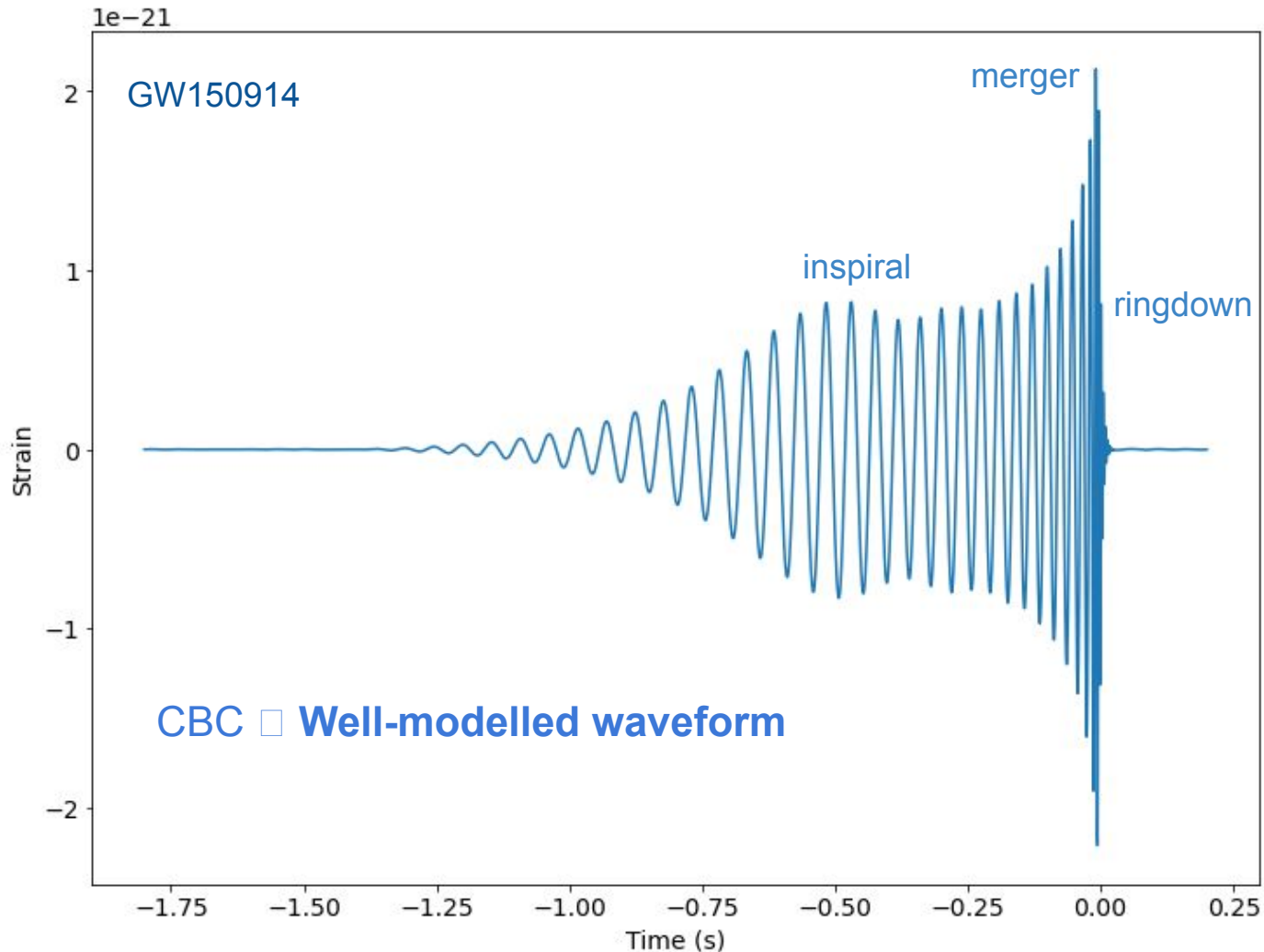


## 2. Although everyone is looking...

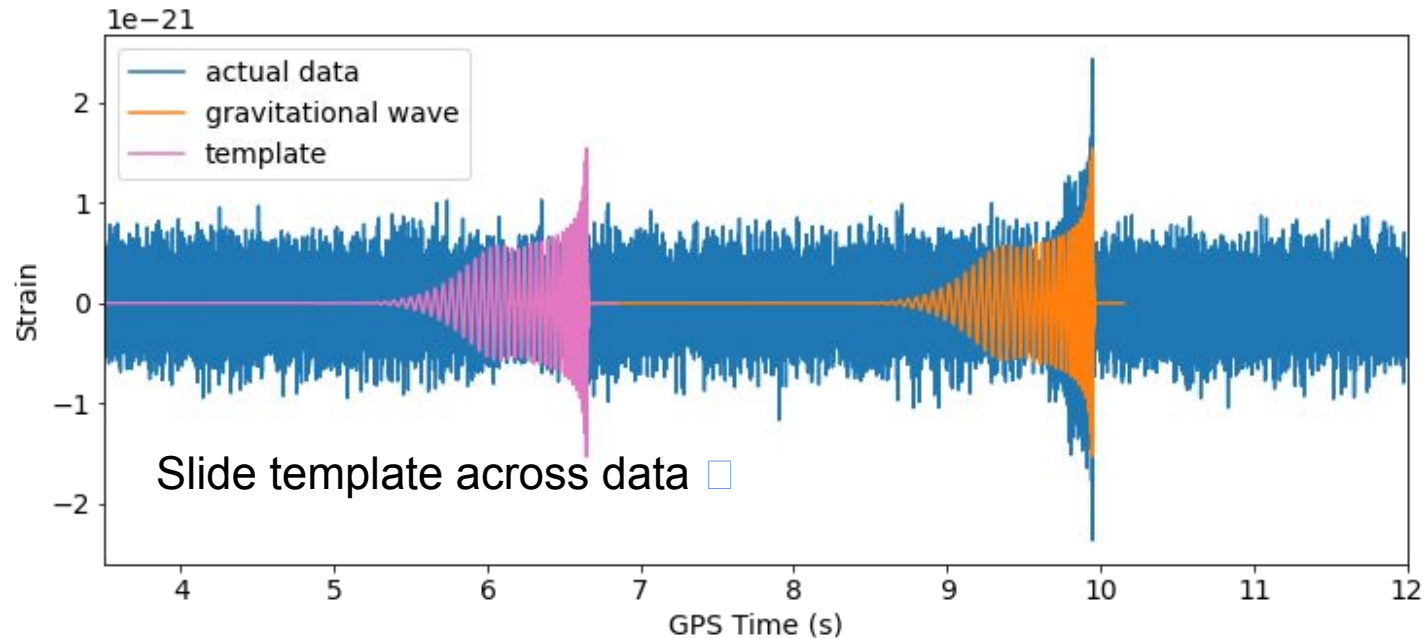
1. [arXiv:2106.12466 \[pdf, other\]](#) [gr-qc](#) [astro-ph.HE](#) [astro-ph.IM](#)  
**Rapid Identification of Strongly [Lensed Gravitational-Wave](#) Events with Machine Learning**  
**Authors:** Srashiti Goyal, Harikrishnan D., Shasvath J. Kapadia, Parameswaran Ajith  
**Abstract:** A small fraction of the [gravitational](#)... [More](#)  
 Submitted 23 June, 2021; **originally announced** June 2021.  
 Comments: 11 pages, 6 figures
2. [arXiv:2106.09630 \[pdf, other\]](#) [gr-qc](#) [astro-ph.HE](#)  
**Lensing of Gravitational Waves as a Novel Probe of Graviton Mass**  
**Authors:** Ka-Wai Chung, Tjonnie Guang Feng Li  
**Abstract:** The diffraction patterns of [lensed](#)... [More](#)  
 Submitted 17 June, 2021; **originally announced** June 2021.  
 Comments: 6 pages, 4 figures  
 Report number: KCL-PH-TH 2021/41, LIGO Document number of P2100192-v2
5. [arXiv:2106.06545 \[pdf, other\]](#) [gr-qc](#) [astro-ph.CO](#)  
**Evidence for [lensing of gravitational waves](#) from LIGO-Virgo**  
**Authors:** Jose M. Diego, Tom Broadhurst, George Smoot  
**Abstract:** Recently, the LIGO-Virgo Collaboration (LVC) concluded that there is no evidence for [lensed gravitational waves](#) (GW) in the first half of the run, claiming "We find the observation of [lensed](#) events to be unlikely, with the fractional... [More](#)  
 Submitted 11 June, 2021; **originally announced** June 2021.  
 Comments: 7 pages with 2 figures
6. [arXiv:2106.06303 \[pdf, other\]](#) [astro-ph.HE](#) [gr-qc](#)  
**Beyond the detector horizon: Forecasting [gravitational-wave strong lensing](#)**  
**Authors:** A. Renske A. C. Wierda, Ewoud Wempe, Otto A. Hannuksela, Léon V. E. Koopmans, Chris Van Den Broeck  
**Abstract:** When [gravitational](#)... [More](#)  
 Submitted 22 June, 2021; v1 submitted 11 June, 2021; **originally announced** June 2021.
9. [arXiv:2106.00392 \[pdf, other\]](#) [gr-qc](#) [astro-ph.CO](#) [astro-ph.GA](#) [astro-ph.HE](#)  
**Impact of astrophysical binary coalescence timescales on the rate of [lensed gravitational wave](#) events**  
**Authors:** Suvodip Mukherjee, Tom Broadhurst, Jose M. Diego, Joseph Silk, George F. Smoot  
**Abstract:** The expected event rate of [lensed gravitational wave](#) sources scales with the merger rate at redshift  $z \geq 1$ , where the optical depth for [lensing](#) is high. It is commonly assumed that the merger rate of the astrophysical compact objects is... [More](#)  
 Submitted 1 June, 2021; **originally announced** June 2021.  
 Comments: 10 pages, 6 figures
10. [arXiv:2105.14390 \[pdf, other\]](#) [astro-ph.CO](#) [astro-ph.GA](#) [astro-ph.HE](#)  
**Please repeat: Strong [lensing of gravitational waves](#) as a probe of compact binary and galaxy populations**  
**Authors:** Fel Xu, Jose Maria Ezquiaga, Daniel E. Holz  
**Abstract:** Strong [gravitational](#)... [More](#)  
 Submitted 29 May, 2021; **originally announced** May 2021.  
 Comments: 26 pages, 13 figures
11. [arXiv:2105.07011 \[pdf, other\]](#) [astro-ph.GA](#)  
**Event rate predictions of strongly [lensed gravitational waves](#) with detector networks and more realistic templates**  
**Authors:** Lilan Yang, Shichao Wu, Kai Liao, Xuheng Ding, Zhiqiang You, Zhoujian Cao, Marek Biesiada, Zong-Hong Zhu

## 3. Can constrain important values for cosmology and the structure of the local Universe...

# What is a **Waveform**?

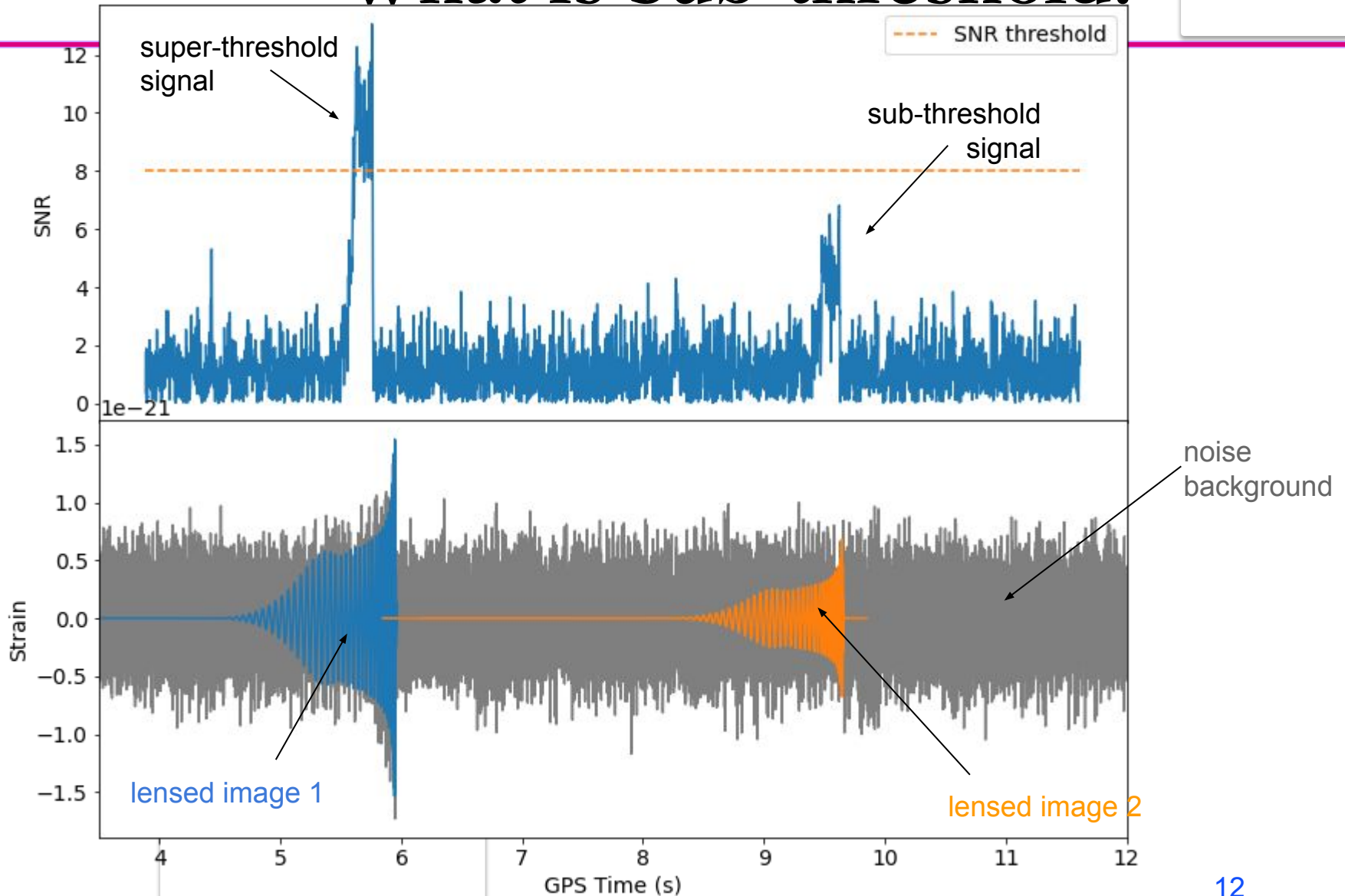


# What is a Matched Filtering?

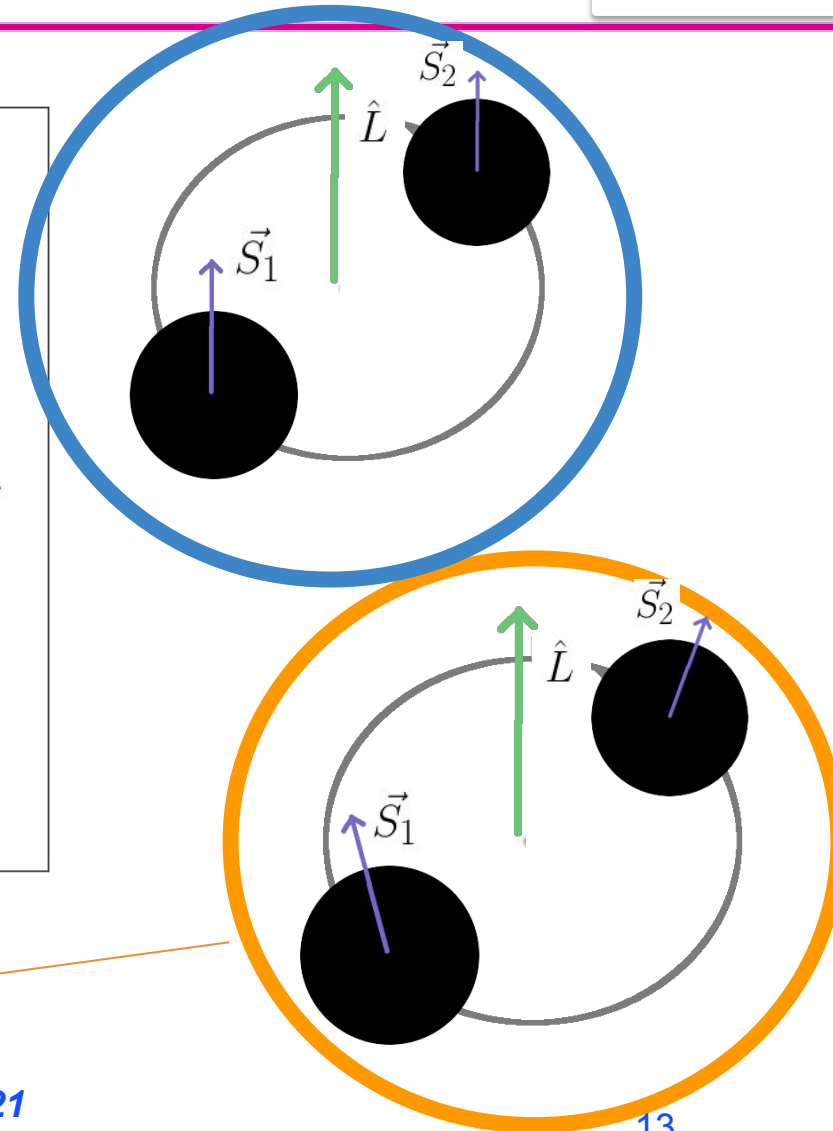
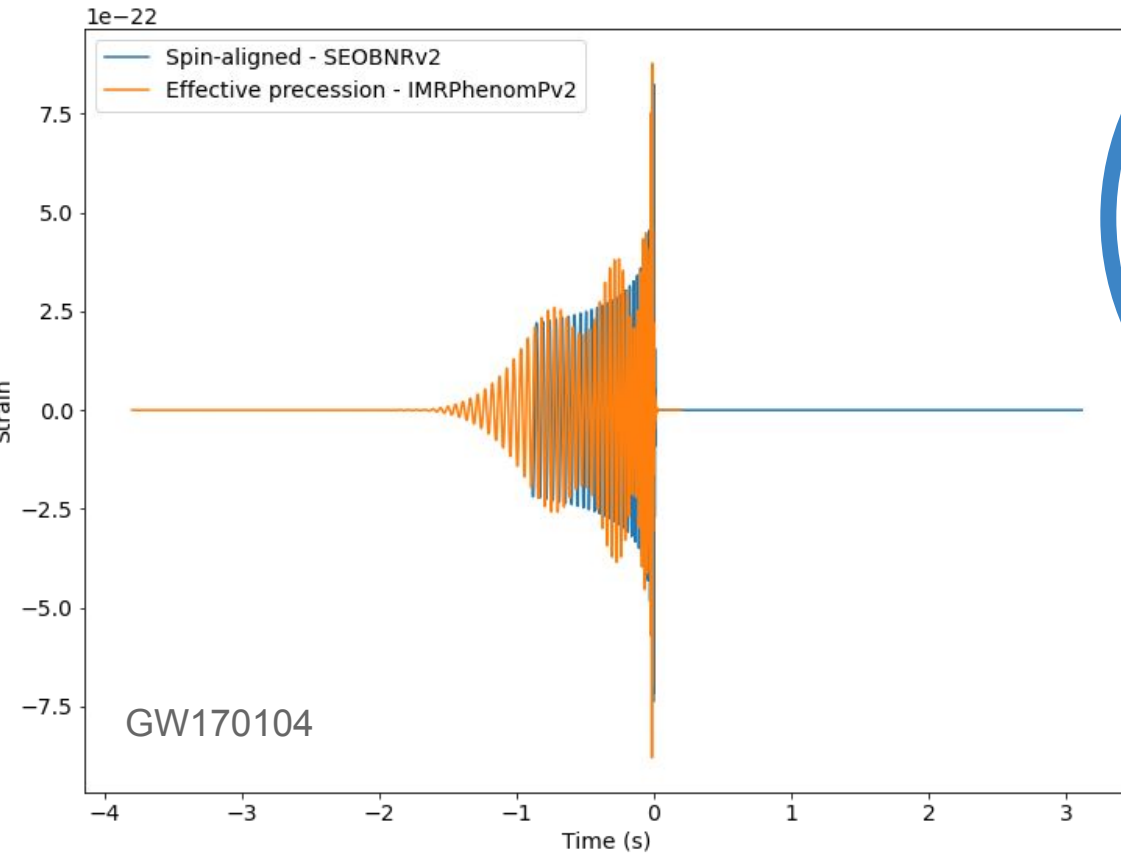


Measure the **correlation** between data and template to get **SNR**

# What is Sub-threshold?



# What is a waveform family?

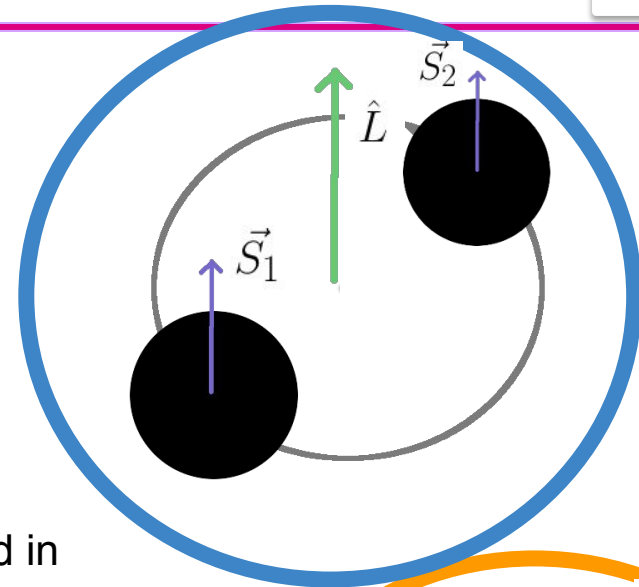


amplitude and frequency modulation

# What is a waveform family?

Spin Aligned, e.g. SEOBNRv2, IMRPhenomD

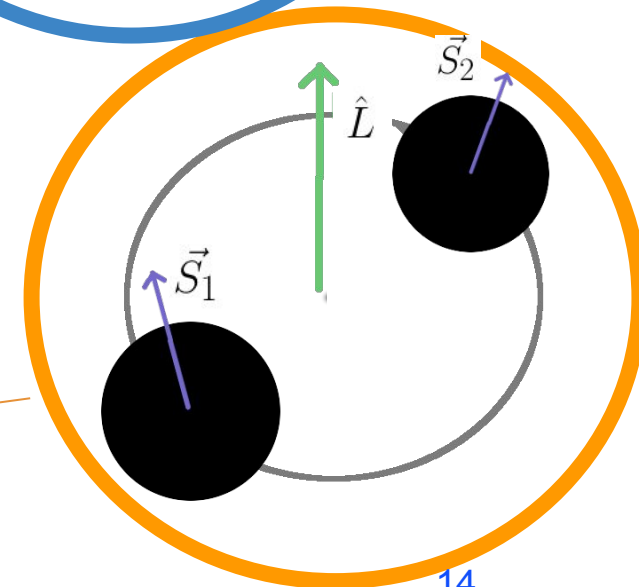
Precession included, e.g. IMRPhenomPv2



- Different waveform families used in different lensing pipelines

GstLAL pipeline: spin-aligned waveforms

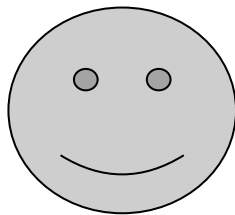
PyCBC pipeline: considers precession



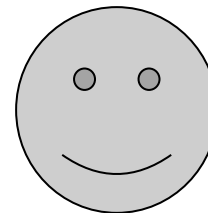
amplitude and frequency modulation

# What is the motivation?

"You might lose potential candidates due to the waveform families you are using in the pipeline!"



"You should consider the differences between waveform families!"



# What is reality?

- All **O1, O2, and O3a super-threshold events** have been **recovered** from sub-threshold lensing searches with both **spin-aligned** and **precessing** waveforms
  - Evidence that the waveform family does not alter the chances of detecting a **super-threshold** gravitational wave



# What am I doing?

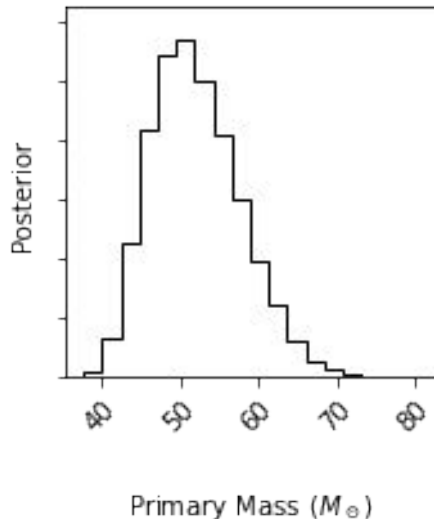
- How to find out if waveform family does not alter the search pipeline for finding **sub-threshold signals**?

- What I'm working on:**

Finding the **match** between O1 and O2 events plotted with **spin-aligned** and **non-spin aligned** waveform families

# Waveform Matching - Method

1. Load in essential parameter **posterior samples** found with both spin aligned and non-spin aligned waveform families from previous analyses, find sample with the **maximum log likelihood**

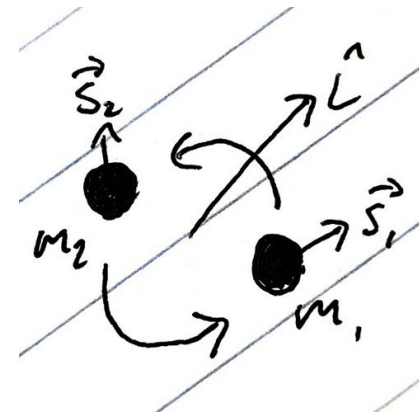


## Intrinsic parameters:

masses ( $m_1, m_2$ ),  
spins ( $\vec{S}_1, \vec{S}_2$ ),

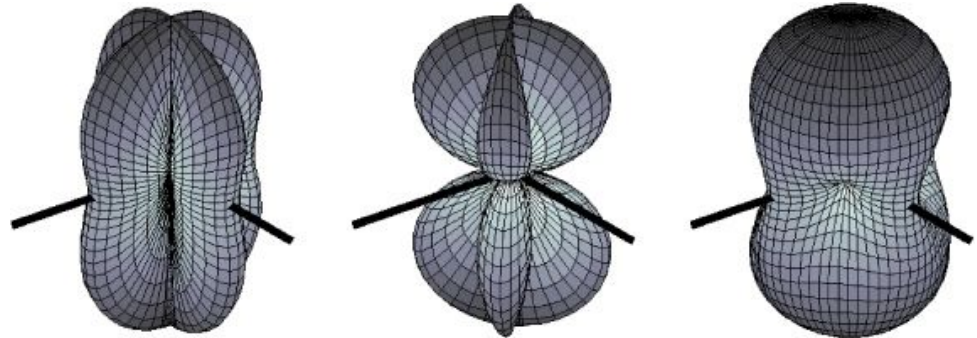
## Extrinsic parameters:

time ( $t_c$ ), reference phase ( $\varphi_c$ ),  
sky position ( $\alpha, \delta$ ), distance ( $d_L$ ),  
orbital orientation ( $\theta_{JN}, \psi$ ),



# Waveform Matching - Method

2. Include Antenna Pattern function: how the strain appears in the detector



$$F_+(\zeta, \Phi, \Psi) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos^2 \zeta) \cos 2\Phi \cos 2\Psi - \cos \zeta \sin 2\Phi \sin 2\Psi$$

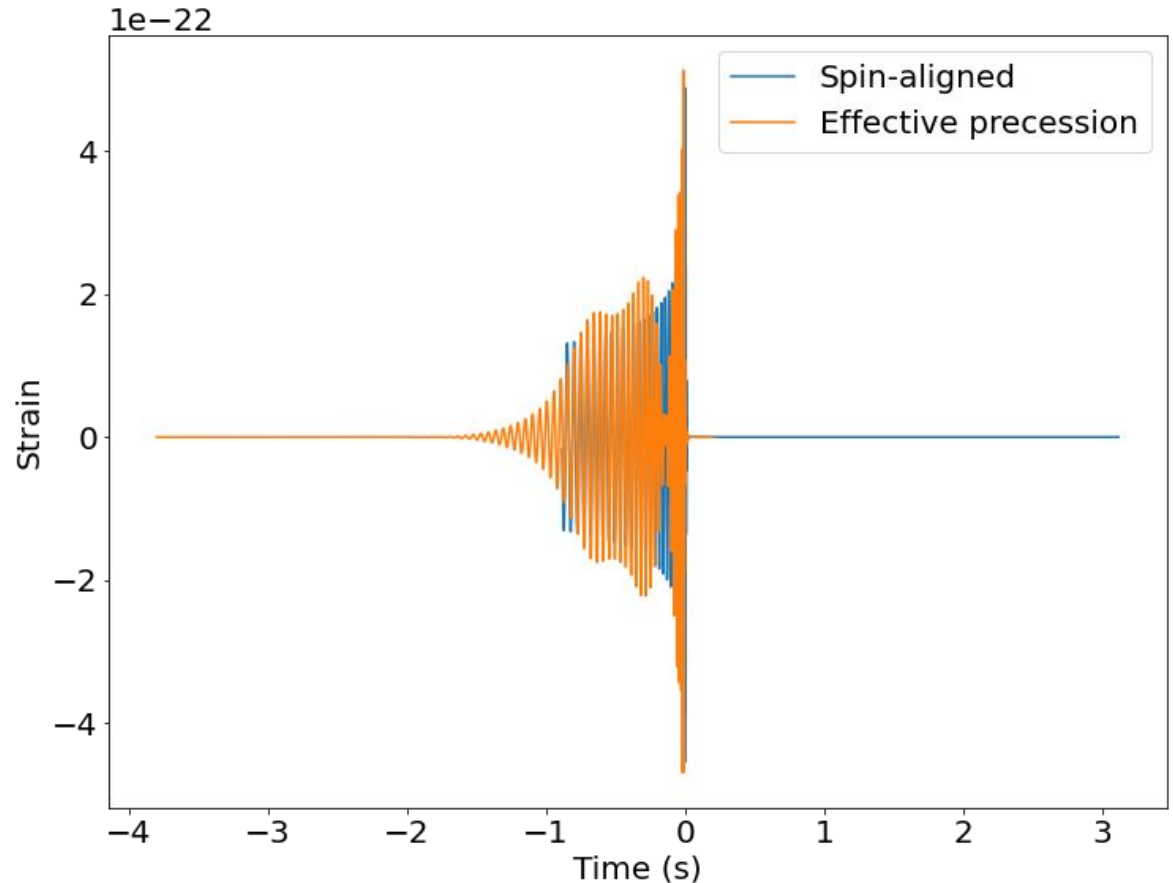
$$F_\times(\zeta, \Phi, \Psi) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos^2 \zeta) \cos 2\Phi \sin 2\Psi + \cos \zeta \sin 2\Phi \cos 2\Psi$$

antenna pattern function depends on sky location, polarisation angle

$$\text{total strain} = F_+(\zeta, \Phi, \Psi)h_+(t) + F_\times(\zeta, \Phi, \Psi)h_\times(t)$$

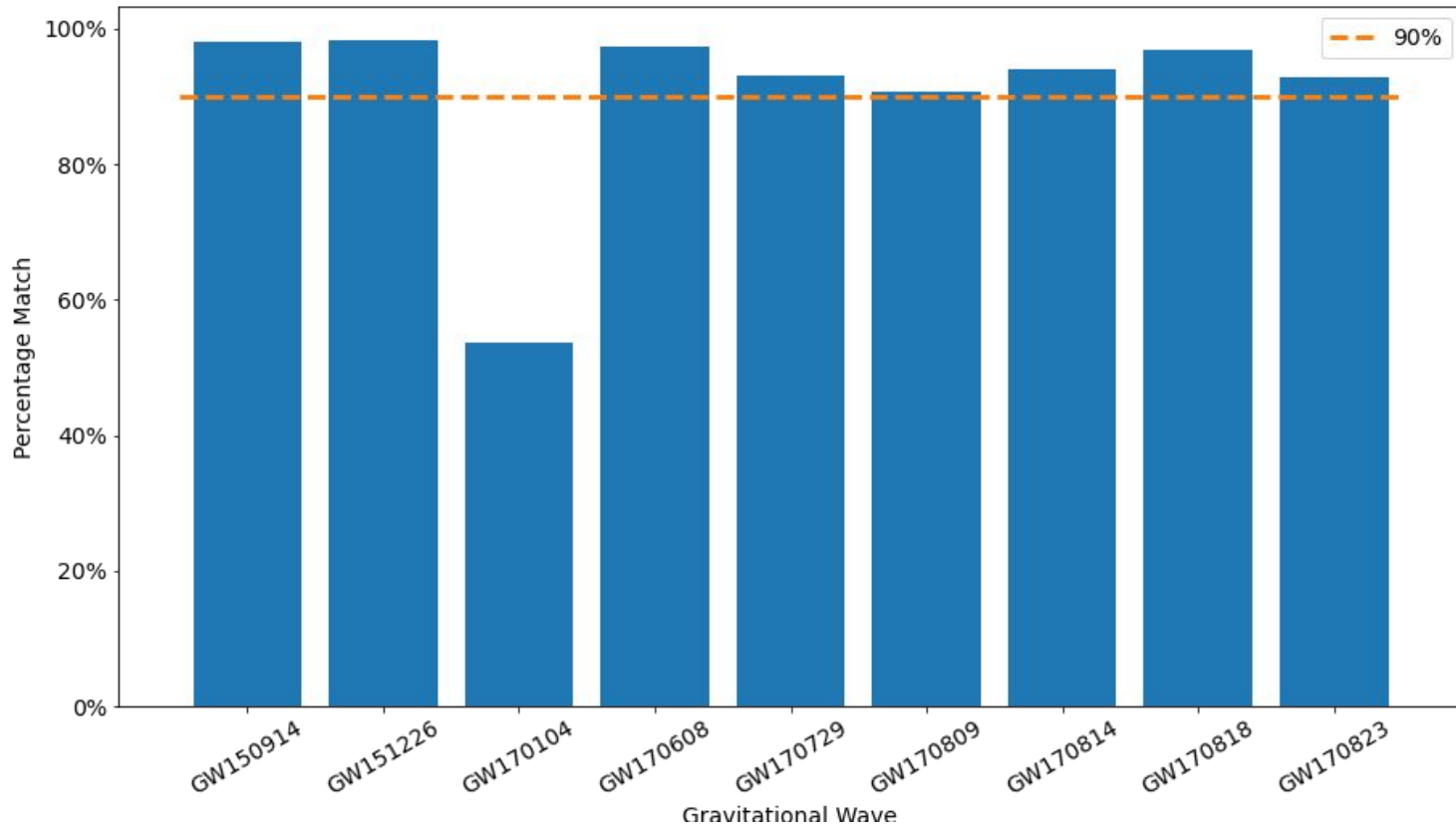
# Waveform Matching - Method

3. Find the **match** between the strain for **spin-aligned** and **precessing** waveforms in each of the Hanford and Livingston detectors



GW170104 in Hanford Detector

# Waveform Matching - Results



All above 90% match! Well, apart from GW170104..... evidence for precession?

# Waveform Matching - Conclusion

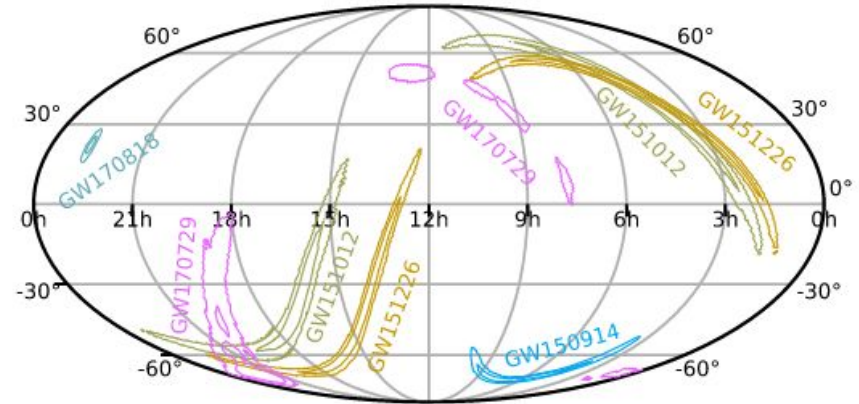
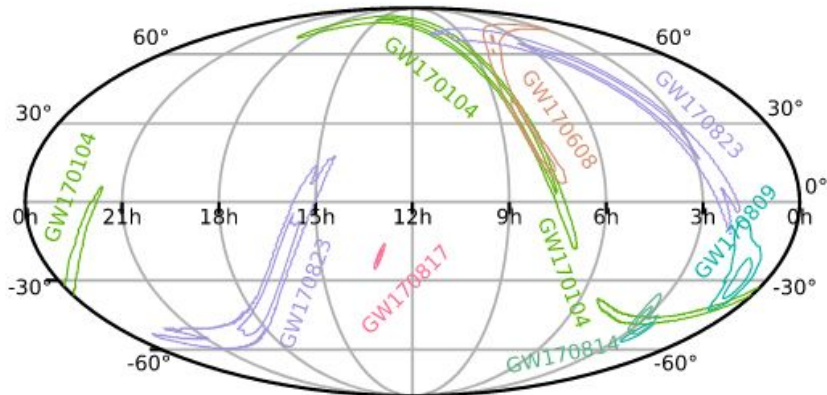
- If GW170104 is really precessing > SNR loss for aligned spin waveform



**Might lose  
sub-threshold  
signals**

- If there is large uncertainty in precession (very likely) then either waveform should be suitable, not necessarily SNR loss

# Next Steps - Fundamentals

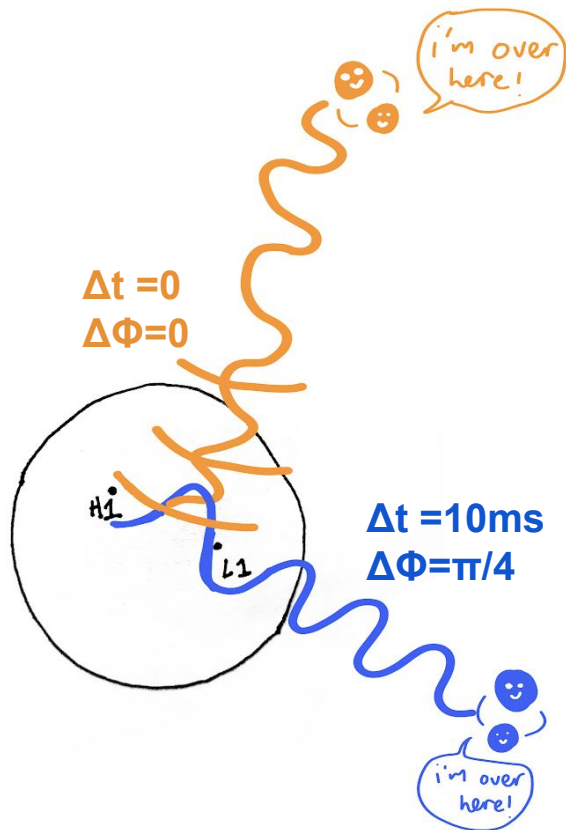


- Lensed images will come from approximately the same sky area
- Can rank lensed candidates higher based on their sky localisations

# Next Steps - Ranking

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{\text{Probability the that data is is a true signal}}{\text{Probability that the data is noise}}$$

Log Likelihood Ratio - Ranking Statistic



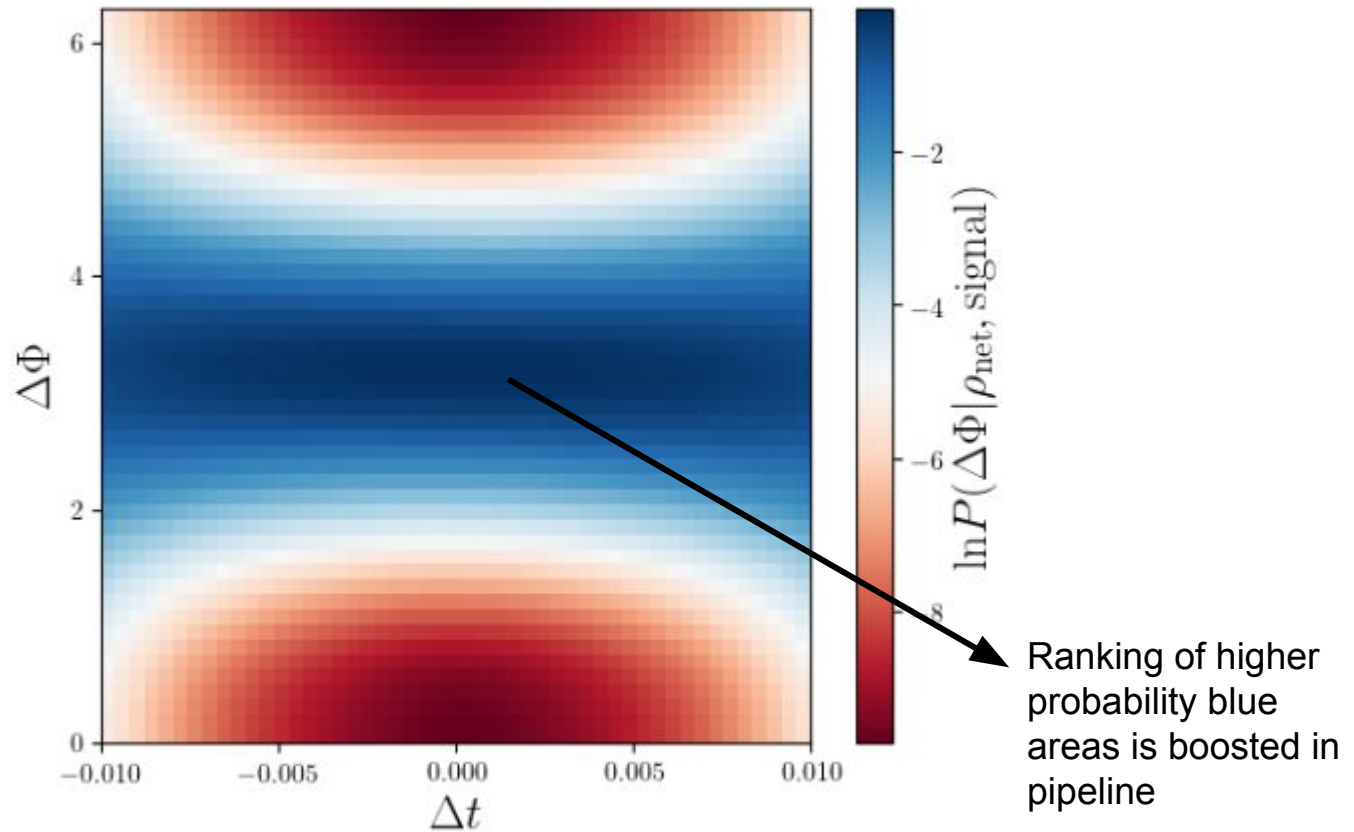
Both depend on  $\Delta t$  and  $\Delta \Phi$ :  
the difference in arrival time and arrival phase  
between 2 detectors [1]

□  $\Delta t$  and  $\Delta \Phi$  both depend on the sky location of  
the source!



# Next Steps - Ranking

2D Probability distribution for  $\Delta\Phi$  and  $\Delta t$  considering signals across the whole sky:



But what if we constrain the sky location.....?

# Next Steps - Objectives

- Figure out how the **PDF of  $\Delta\Phi$  and  $\Delta t$  changes** when considering a **smaller sky location**
- Implement this new constraint on  $\Delta\Phi$  and  $\Delta t$  into the search pipeline to **target the search based on the sky location** of the super-threshold event
- Thus **boost ranking of lensed counterparts with similar sky location** to the target

[1] S. Sachdev, S. Caudill, H. Fong et. al. “The gstlal search analysis methods for compact binary mergers in advanced ligo’s second and advanced virgo’s first observing runs,” (2019), arXiv:1901.08580

Questions?

# Extra Slide - GW170608 in Hanford

