

Interference signatures from gravitational lensing on gravitational waves

*«Lensing and wave optics in strong gravity» Workshop
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Outline

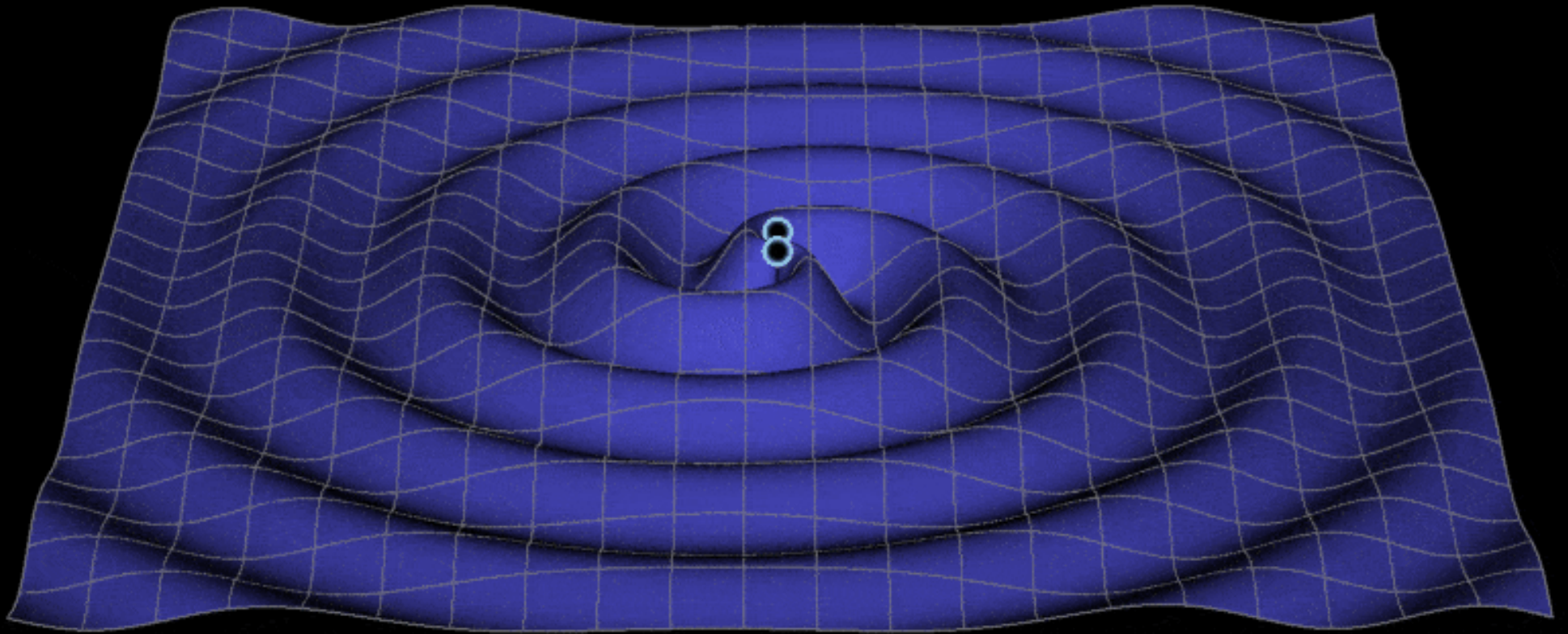
- Introduction
 - Gravitational waves
 - Gravitational lensing
- Wave effects on gravitational lensing of gravitational waves
 1. *Why do they appear?*
 2. *When are they significant?*
 3. *How do they look like? [e.g. source = compact binary merger]*
+ Sonification
 4. *Are they detectable?*
- Conclusion
- Current work

Work in collaboration with Oleg Bulashenko, Ruxandra Bondarescu, Andrew Lundgren, ♪ Jordi Espuny

Current work with Mark Gieles and Jordi Miralda-Escudé

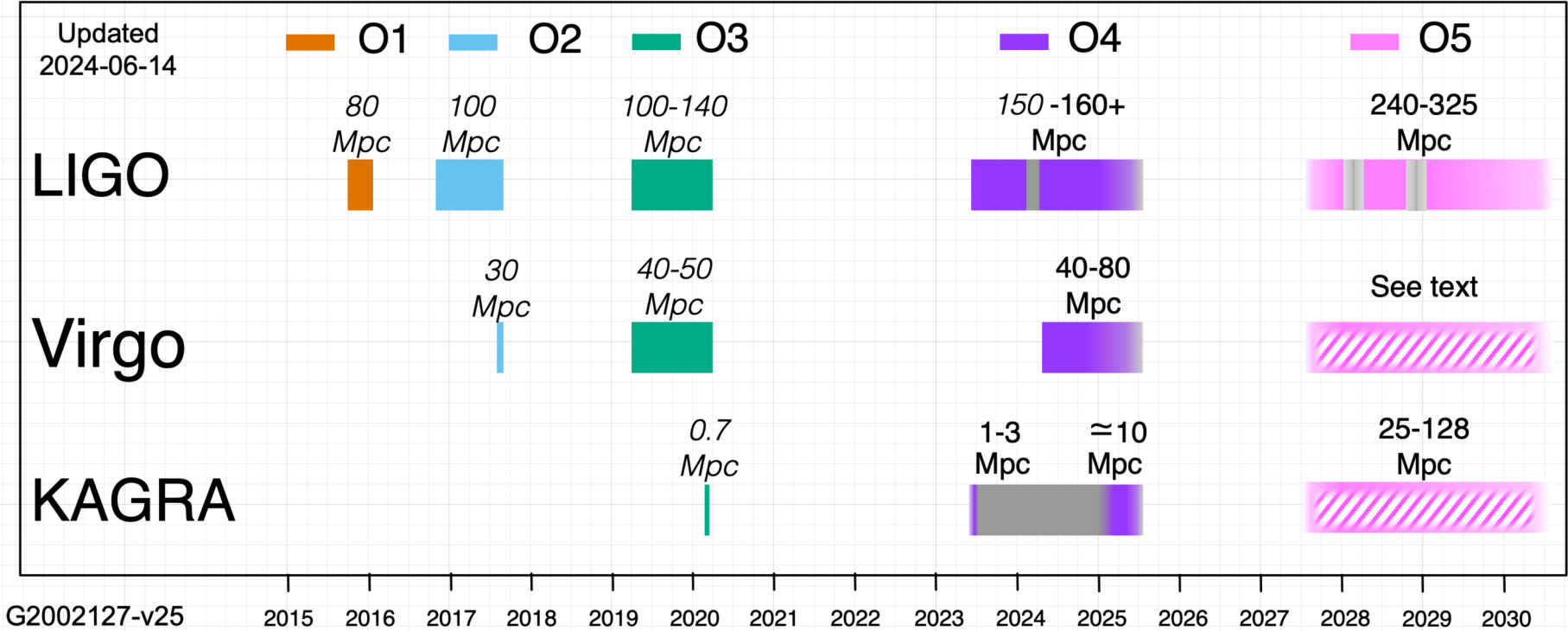
Introduction - Gravitational waves

Jeff Bryant, Wolfram|Alpha, LLC

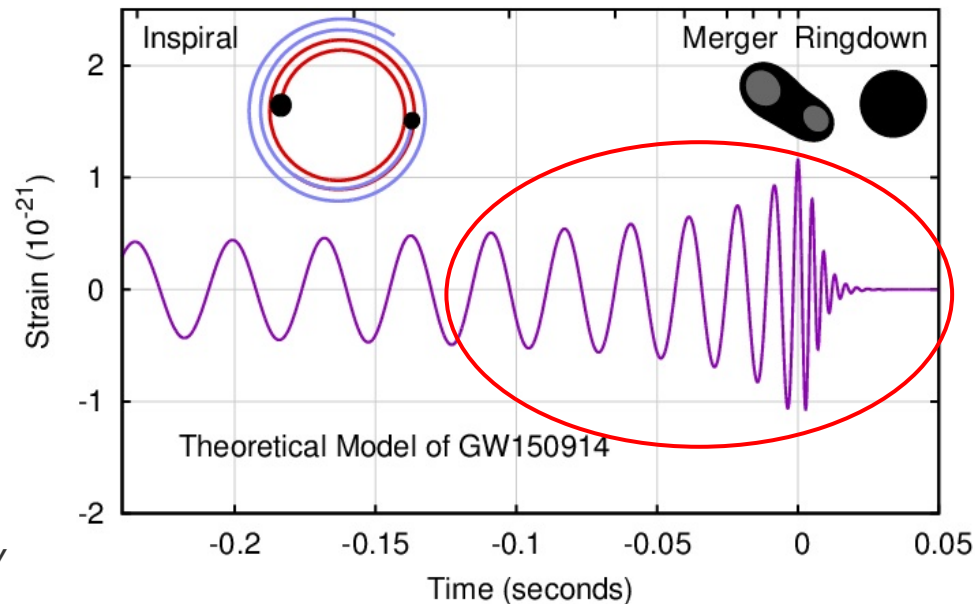


Gravitational waves: detections

<https://observing.docs.ligo.org/plan/>



Merger of
2 compact
objects
(neutron stars,
black holes)

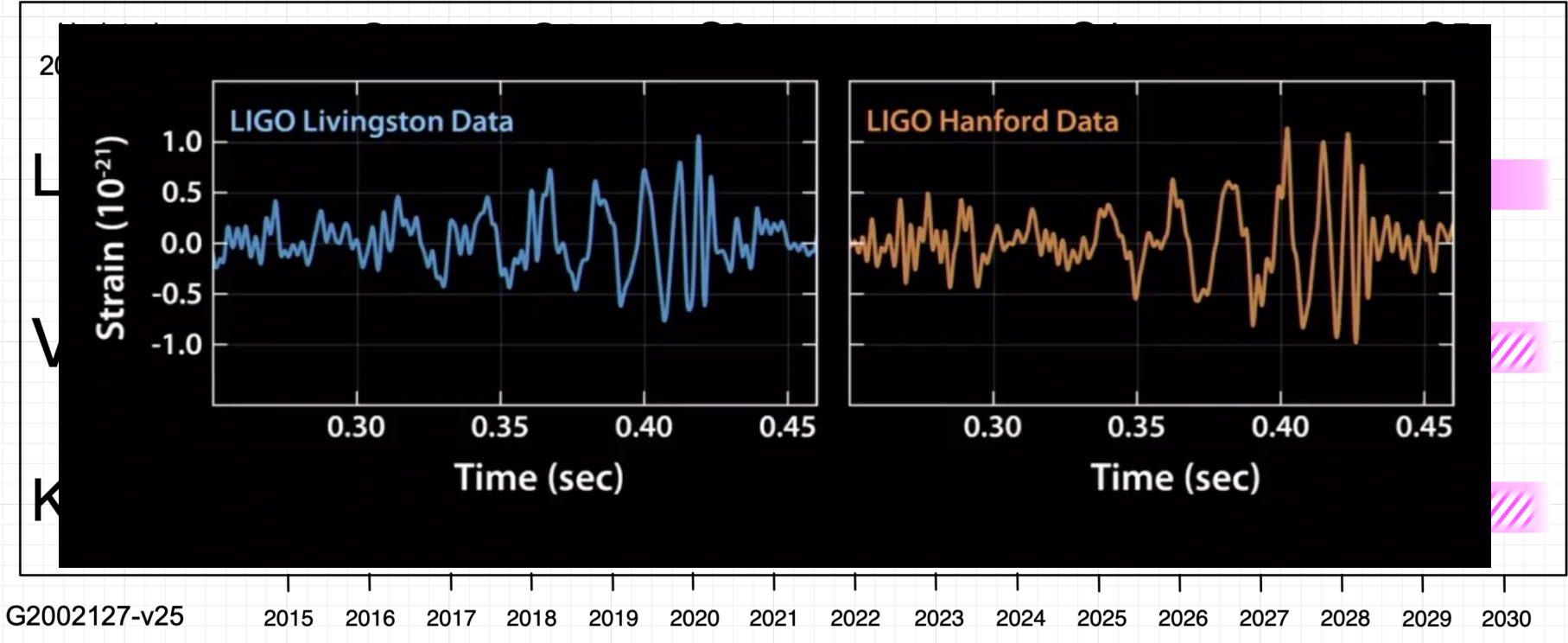


Last
orbits

Rochester
Institute of
Technology

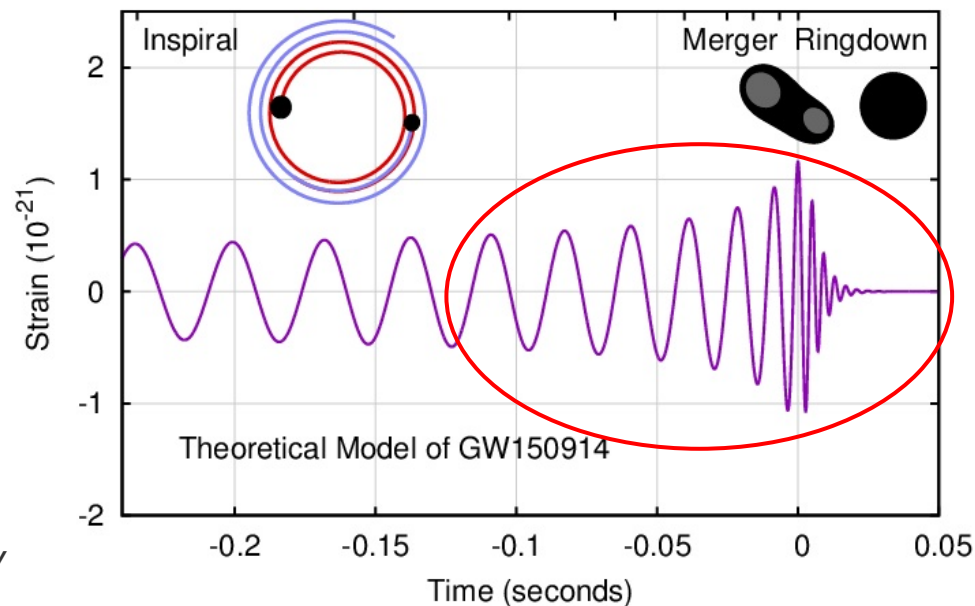
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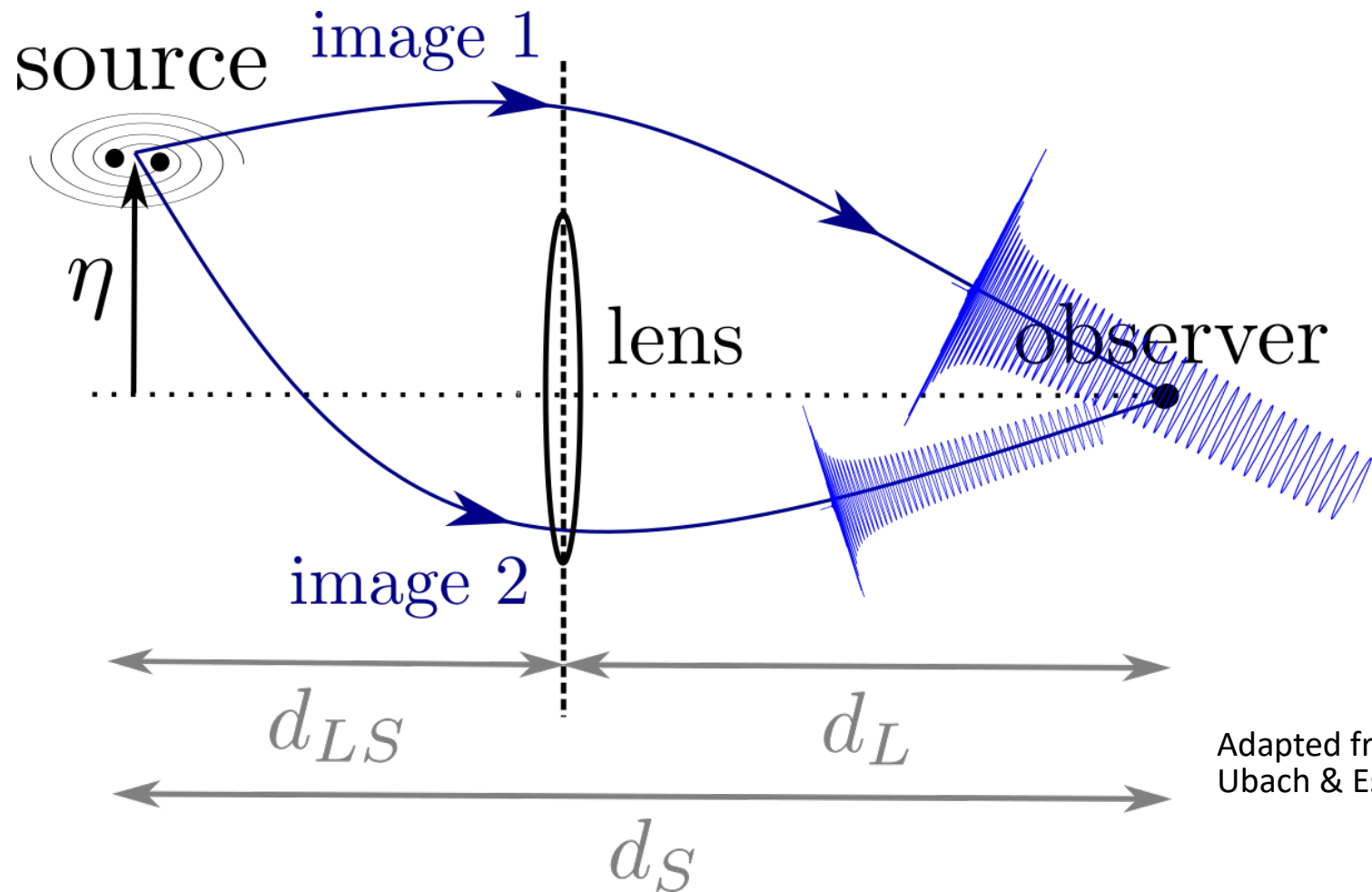


Last
orbits

Gravitational waves: some characteristics

- Similarly to light, gravitational waves can also be gravitationally lensed
Assumption: treating them as a scalar field
- Practically not absorbed, dispersed: they travel undistorted, except by gravity (lensing effect) and redshift
- Emitted in a coherent way → wave effects could be observed

Introduction - Gravitational lensing (of gravitational waves)



Adapted from
Ubach & Espuny 2024

***Geometric Optics**

***Point mass lens model (2 images)**

Introduction - Gravitational lensing (of gravitational waves)

Gravitational wave images \leftrightarrow light images?

- **Transient:** we see each signal for a very short time
- Not visible as separated in the sky \rightarrow **images separated in time**

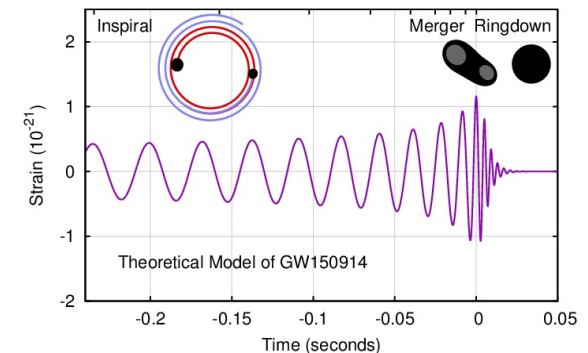
Separation in time: better resolvability of the images compared to angular resolution in the case of light

Gravitational waves:

- Lens mass for strong lensing: $M_L \gtrsim 10^4 M_\odot$

Light:

- Lens mass for strong lensing: $M_L \gtrsim 10^6 M_\odot$



Wave effects

1. Why do wave effects appear?

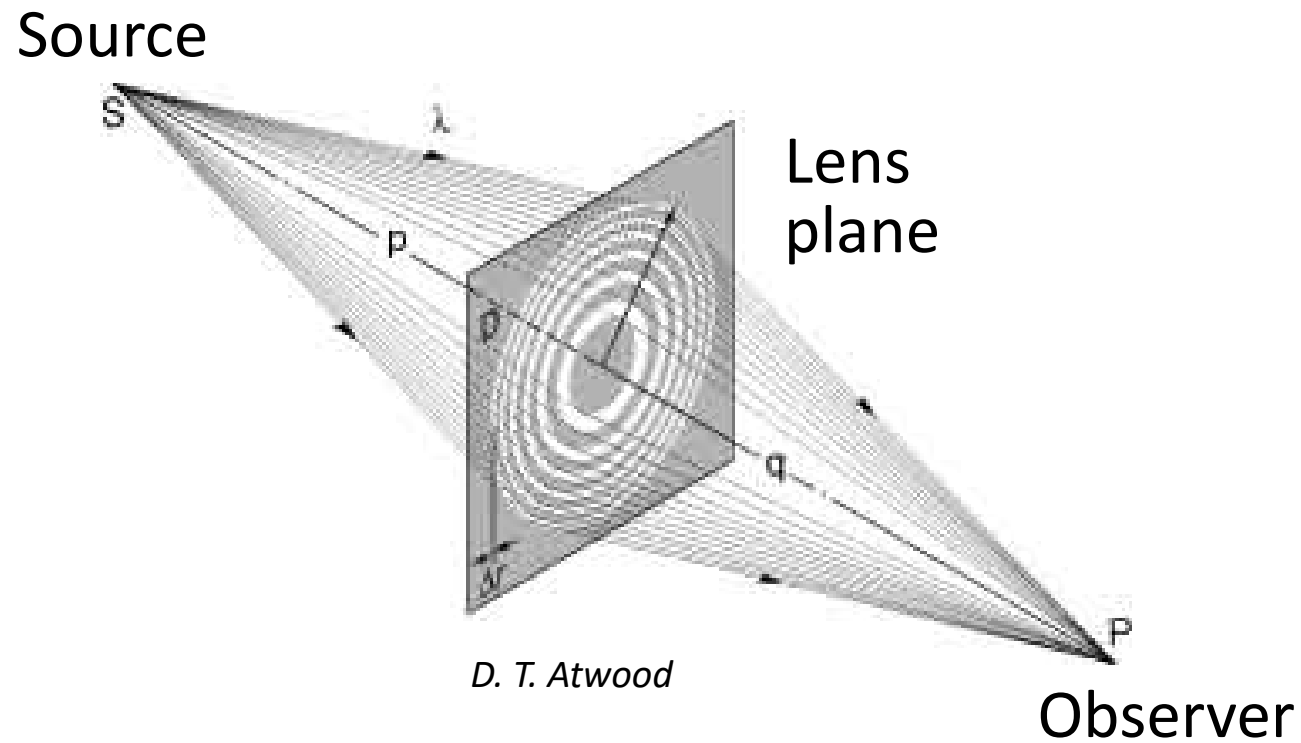
Wave effects appear as:

- Diffraction (around the lens)
- Interference (between emerging images)

Gravitational waves have:

- Coherent emission (Thorne, 1994)
- Long wavelength: $\lambda \sim R_S$
($y \sim 1$) \rightarrow wave effects more common

1. Why do wave effects appear?



1. Why do wave effects appear?

Scalar field at the observer:

$$\tilde{\varphi}(P) = \frac{A}{i\lambda} \iint \frac{1}{r_s} e^{i[k(r+s)+\psi_L]} dS$$

$$= -i\nu \frac{A}{d_S} e^{ik(r_0+s_0)} \iint e^{2\pi i \nu \tau(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})} d^2\mathbf{x}$$

$\Phi(\mathbf{x})$

Parameters: $\tau(y)$, ν :

$$\tau(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})^2 - \psi(\mathbf{x}) + \psi_0 \longrightarrow \tau_{21}(y) = 2y + \frac{1}{12}y^3 + O(y^5)$$

$$\tau_{21} \equiv \tau(x_2, y) - \tau(x_1, y)$$

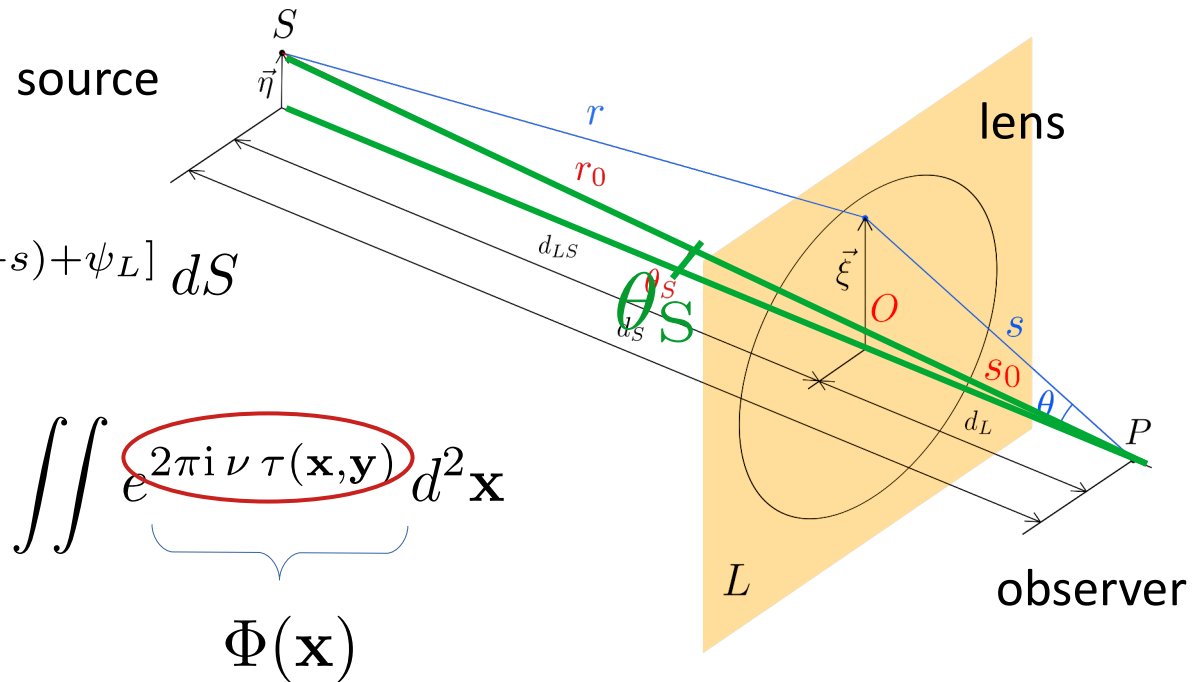
Point mass lens model

$$\nu = \frac{2R_S}{\lambda}$$

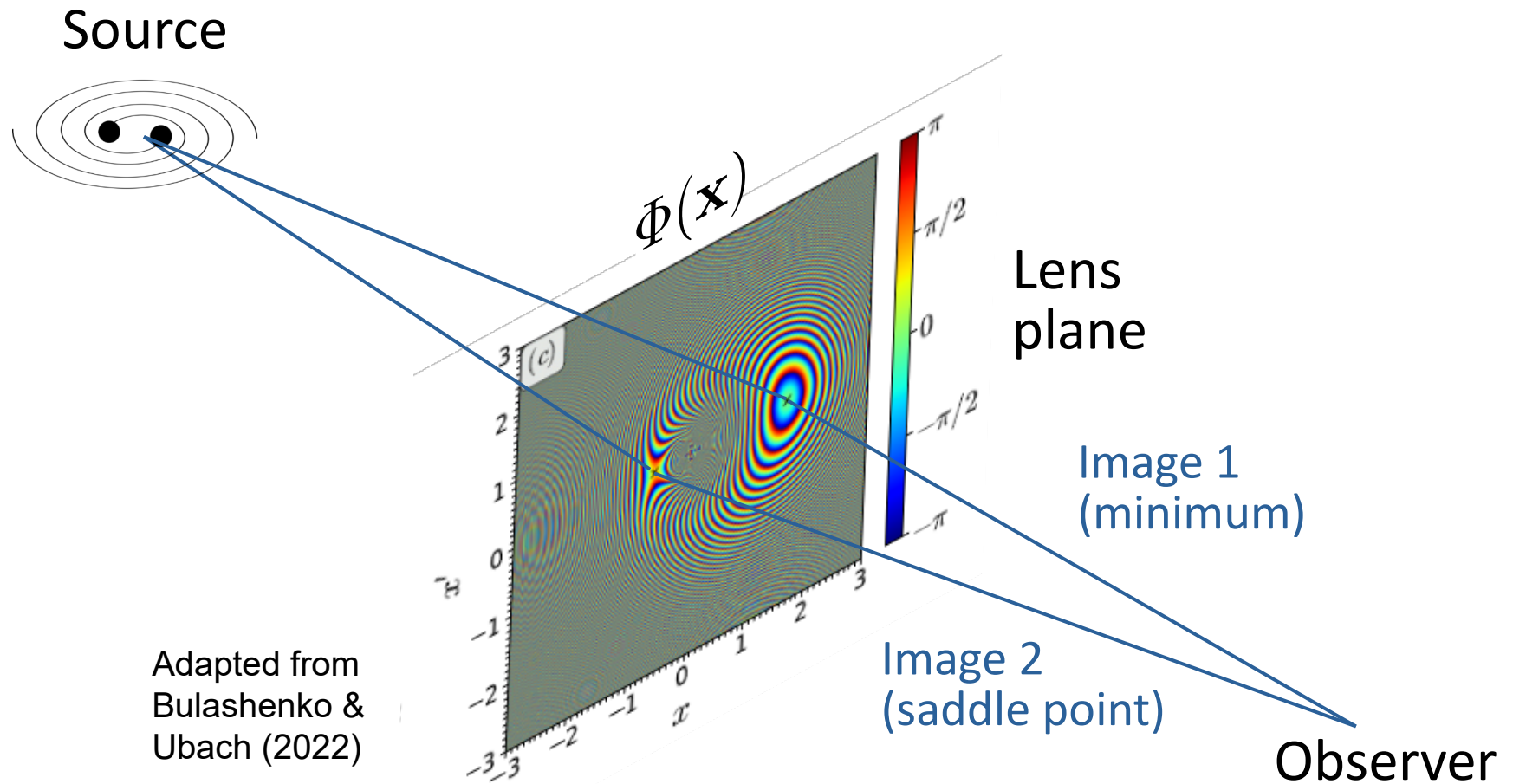
Schwarzschild radius of the lens $R_S = \frac{2GM}{c^2}$

Wavelength of gravitational waves

$$\nu = \frac{2R_S}{c} f \quad y = \frac{\theta_S}{\theta_E}$$



1. Why do wave effects appear?



$$\tilde{\varphi}(P) \propto \sum_j |\mu_j|^{1/2} e^{i(2\pi\nu \tau(\mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{y}) - n_j \pi/2)} \quad \nu = 10$$

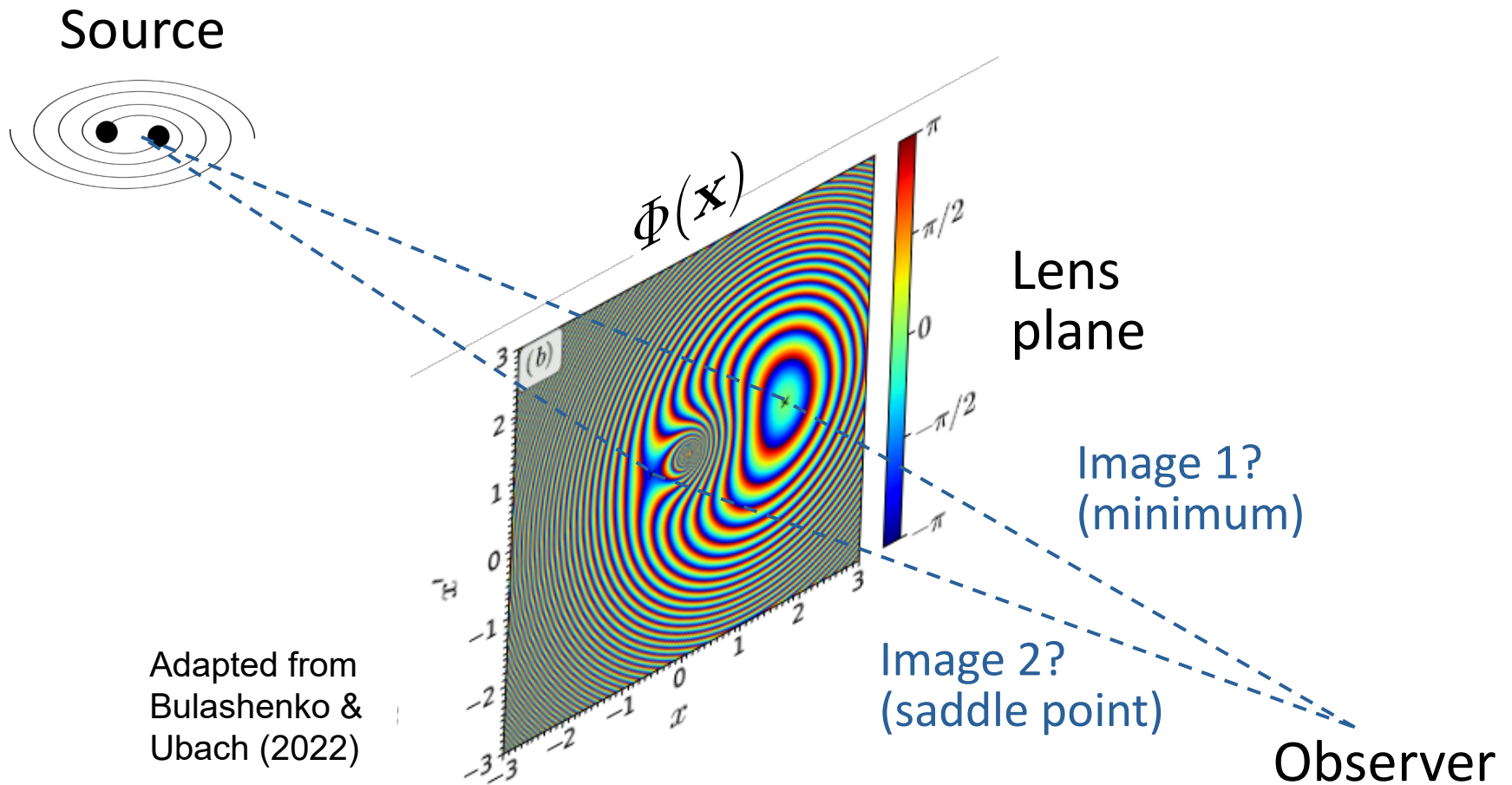
$$(\nu \gg 1)$$

$$y = 1$$

Geometric Optics approximation
(Stationary Phase Approximation of the Fresnel-Kirchhoff integral)

Point mass lens model

1. Why do wave effects appear?



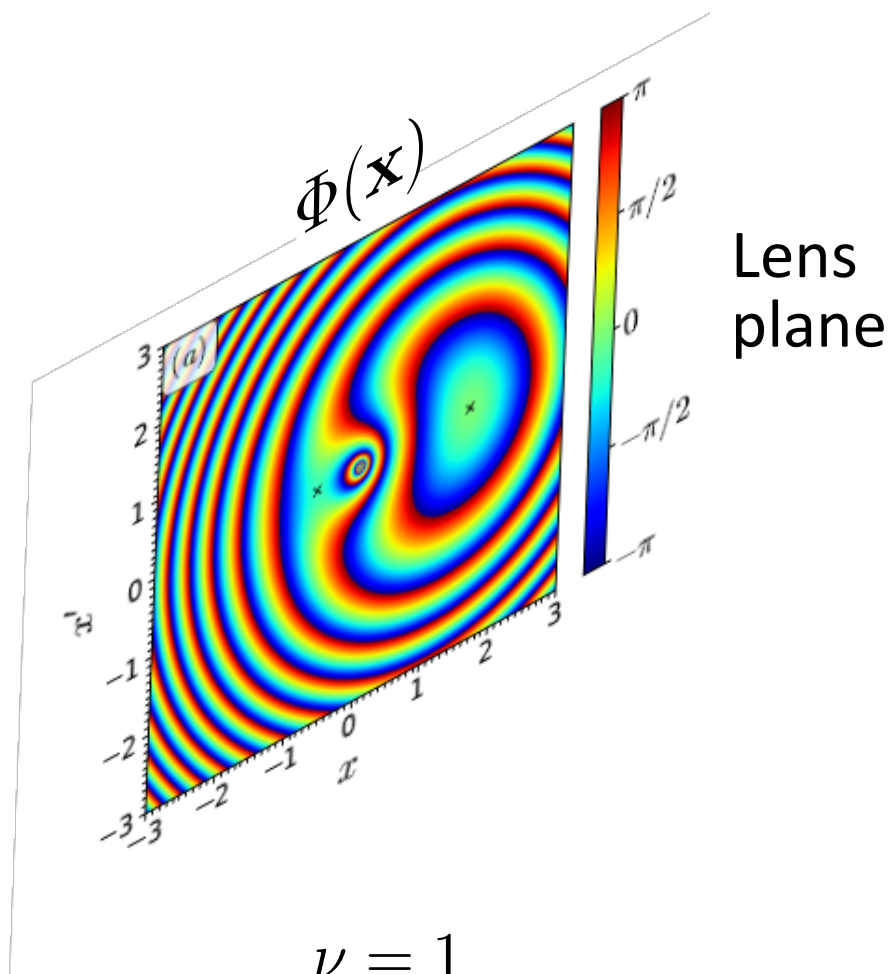
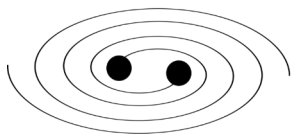
$$\nu = 4$$

$$y = 1$$

Point mass lens model

1. Why do wave effects appear?

Source



Adapted from
Bulashenko &
Ubach (2022)

Observer

$$\nu = 1$$

$$(\nu \sim 1)$$

$$y = 1$$

Point mass lens model

1. Why do wave effects appear?

Transmission factor: $F = \frac{\tilde{\varphi}(P)}{\tilde{\varphi}_0(P)}$ $\tilde{\varphi}(P) = -i\nu \frac{A}{d_S} e^{ik(r_0+s_0)} \iint e^{2\pi i \nu \tau(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})} d^2\mathbf{x}$

$$F = -i\nu \iint e^{2\pi i \nu \tau(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})} d^2\mathbf{x} \quad \tau(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})^2 - \psi(\mathbf{x}) + \psi_0$$

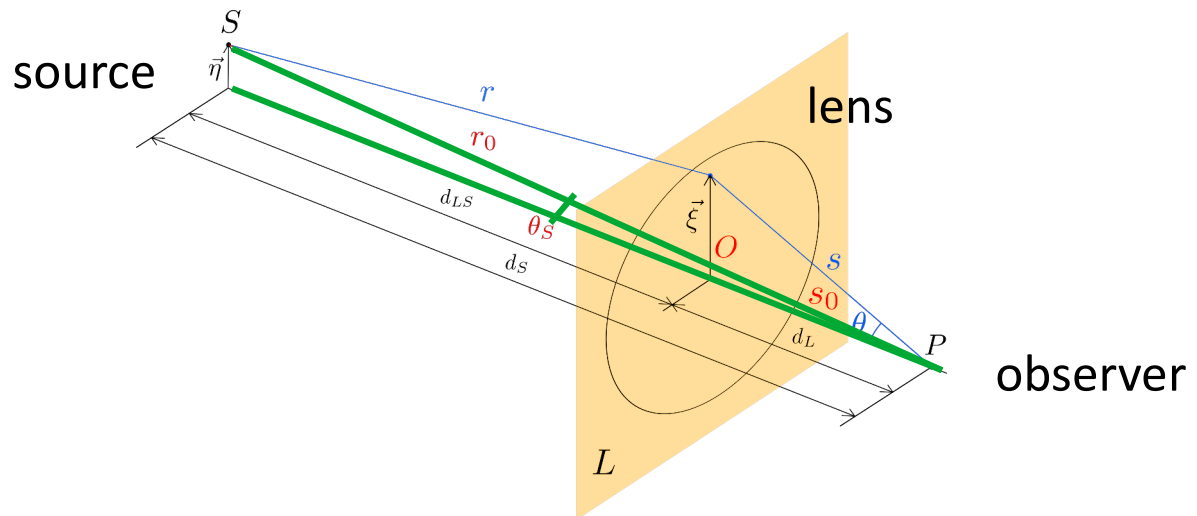
↓
analytical solution
to Fresnel-Kirchhoff integral
(W. Gordon, 1928)

↓
 $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \ln |\mathbf{x}|$

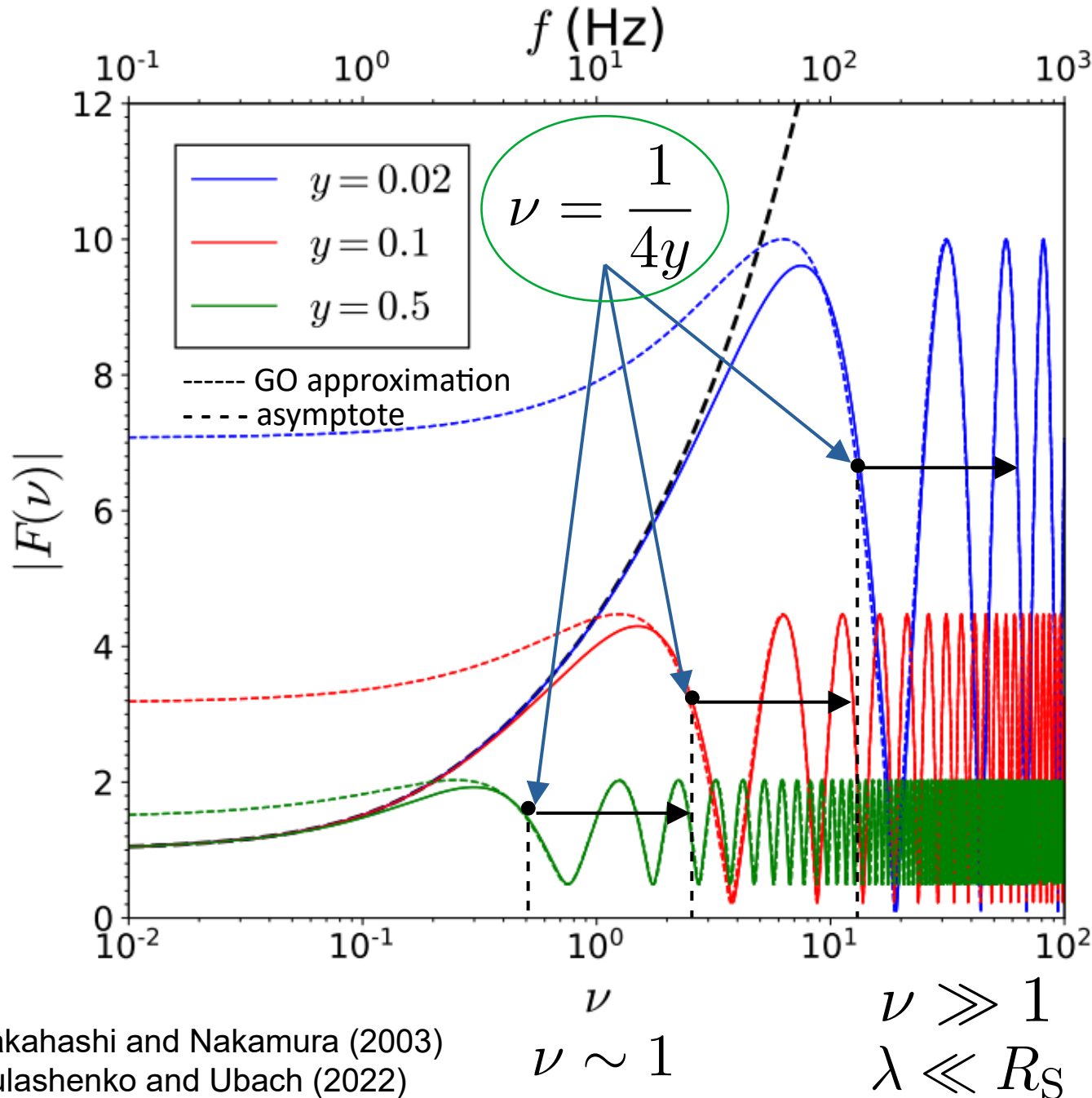
$$F(\nu, y) = e^{\frac{1}{2}\pi^2\nu} e^{i\pi\nu \ln(\pi\nu)} \Gamma(1 - i\pi\nu) {}_1F_1(i\pi\nu; 1; i\pi\nu y^2)$$

Point mass lens model

$$\nu = \frac{2R_S}{\lambda} \quad y = \frac{\theta_S}{\theta_E}$$



2. When do wave effects appear?



GO approximation
valid:

$$\cancel{\nu \gg 1} \quad ?$$

$$\nu \gtrsim \frac{1}{4y}$$

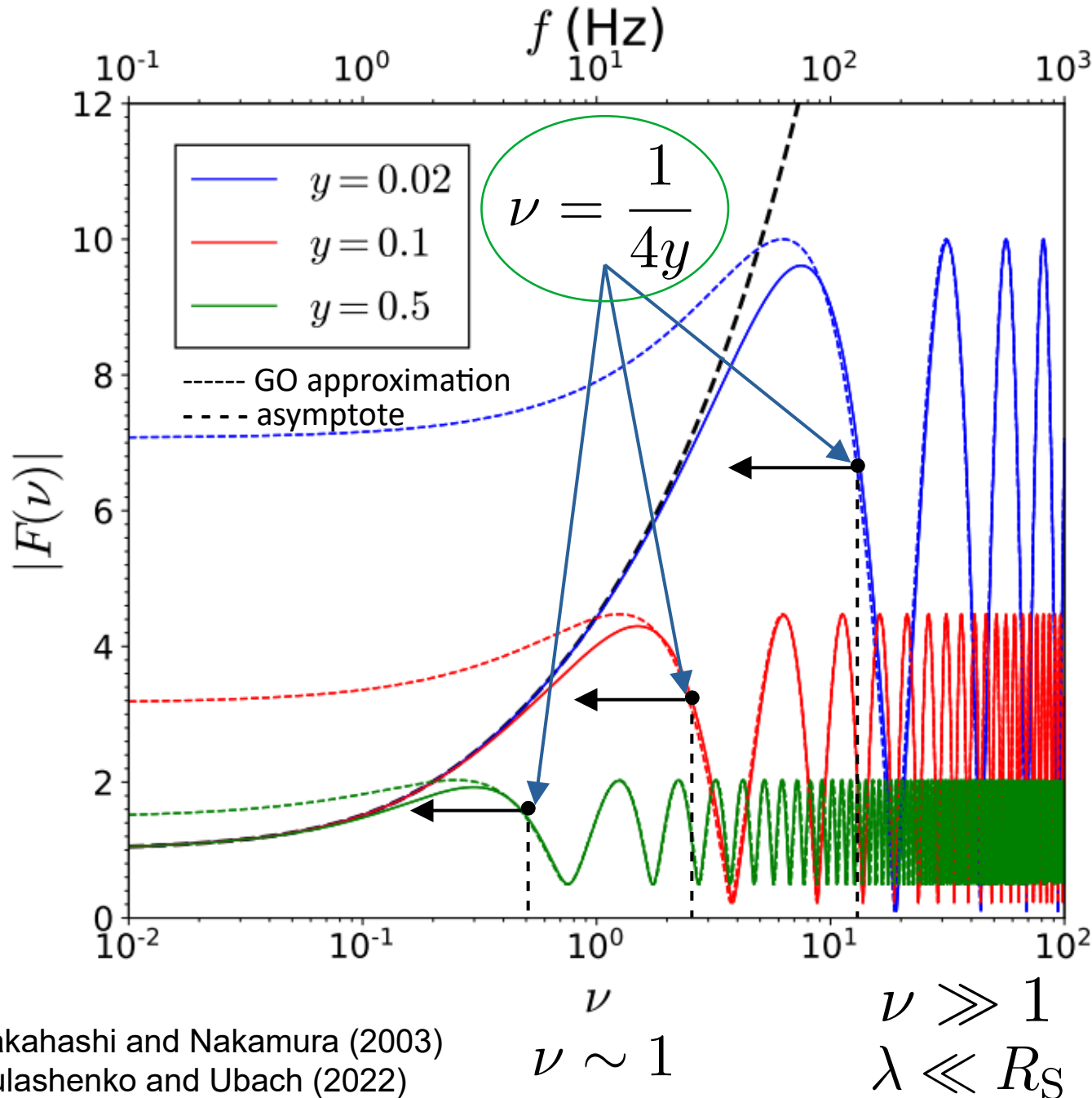
\Downarrow

$$\cancel{\lambda \ll R_S}$$

$$\lambda \lesssim 8R_S y$$

$$1/f_{\text{GW}} \lesssim \tau_{21}$$

2. When do wave effects appear?



Diffraction valid:

$$\cancel{\nu \lesssim 1}$$

$$\nu \lesssim \frac{1}{4y}$$

\Downarrow

$$\cancel{\lambda \gtrsim R_S}$$

$$\lambda \gtrsim 8R_S y$$

$$1/f_{\text{GW}} \gtrsim \tau_{21}$$

2. When do wave effects appear?

For our astrophysical case of interest:
Binary mergers emitting gravitational waves

$$\nu = f \frac{4G M_{\text{Lens}}}{c} \lesssim \frac{1}{4y} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \boxed{\frac{M_{\text{Lens}}}{M_{\text{Source}}} \gtrsim \frac{1}{y}}$$

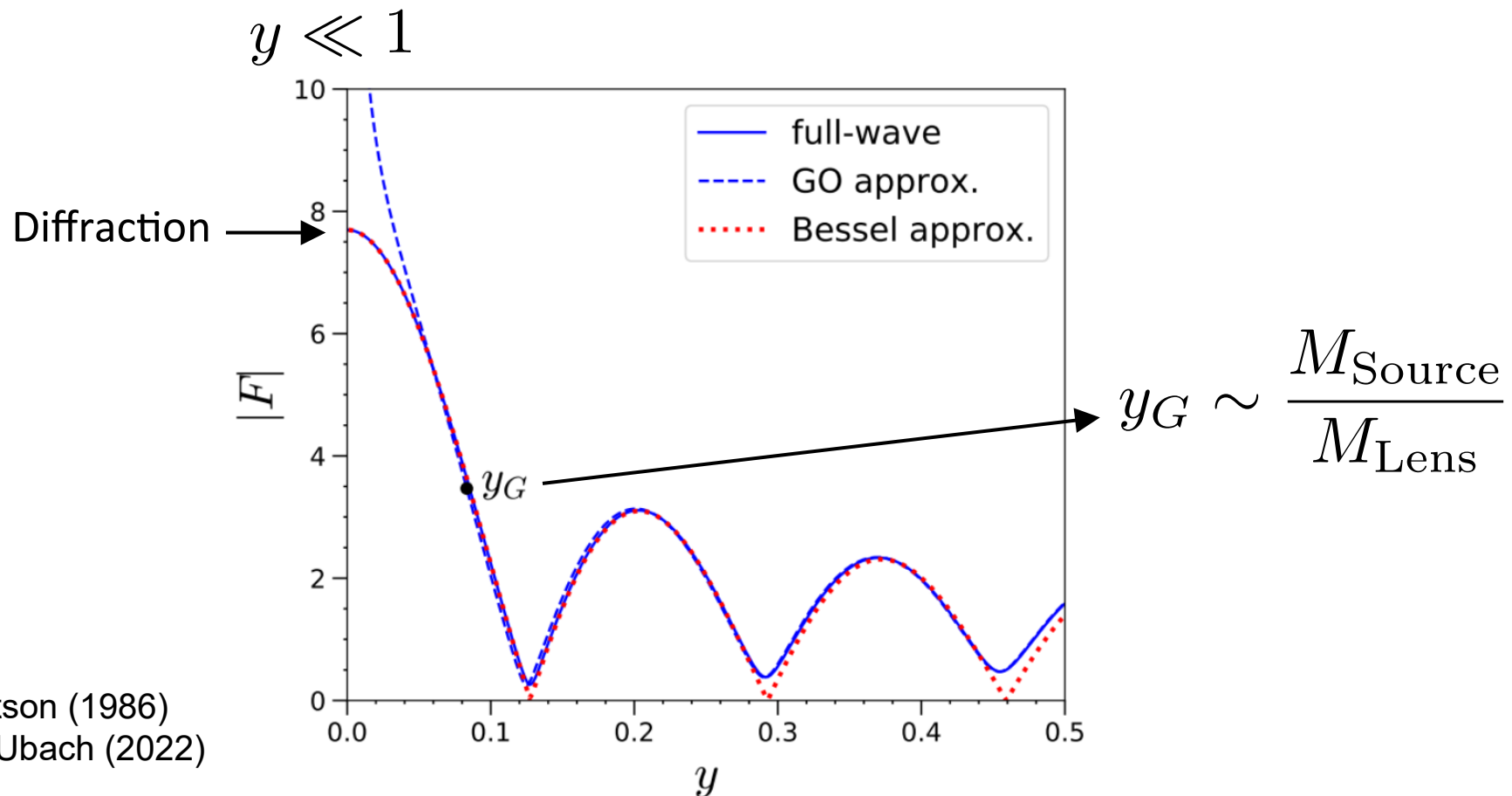
$$f_{\text{Ringdown}} \simeq 1.2 \times 10^4 \text{ Hz} \left(\frac{M_{\odot}}{M_{\text{Source}}} \right)$$

Source: compact binary merger
(Ringdown = last stage of merger)

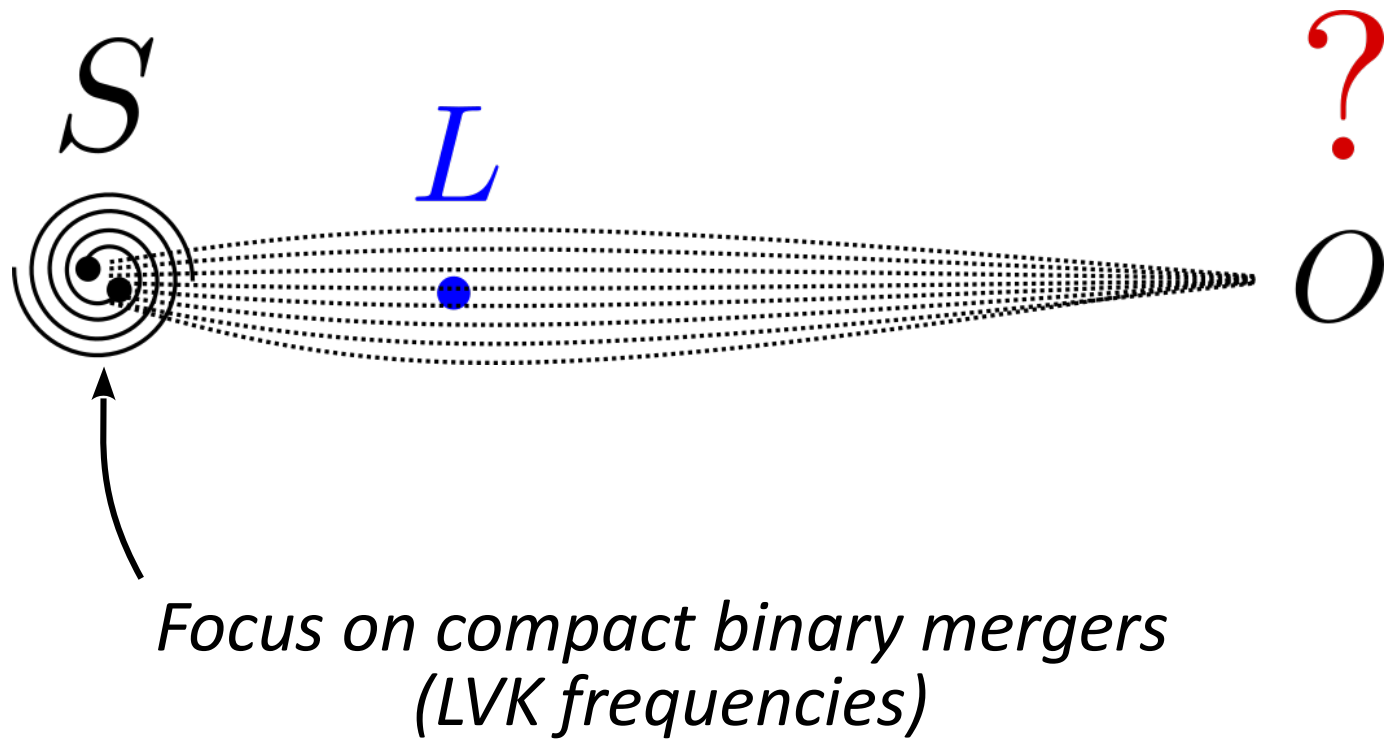
2. When do wave effects appear?

$$\boxed{\frac{M_{\text{Lens}}}{M_{\text{Source}}} \gtrsim \frac{1}{y}} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} y \sim 1 \longrightarrow M_{\text{Lens}} \gtrsim M_{\text{Source}} \\ y \ll 1 \longrightarrow M_{\text{Lens}} \gg M_{\text{Source}} \end{array} \right.$$

Close to caustics, wave effects are also important, even for large M_{Lens}

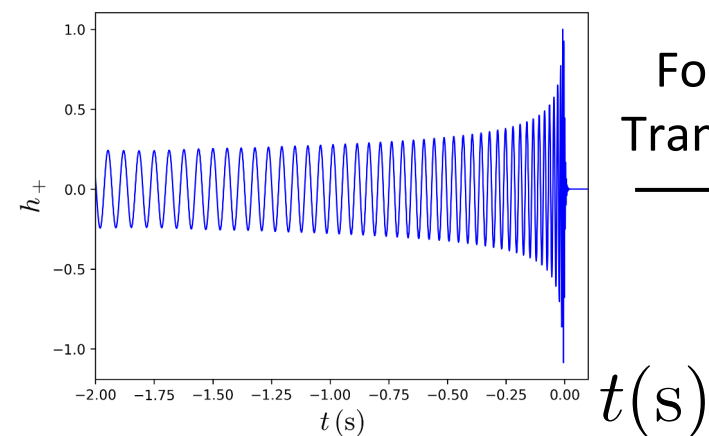


3. How do wave effects look like?

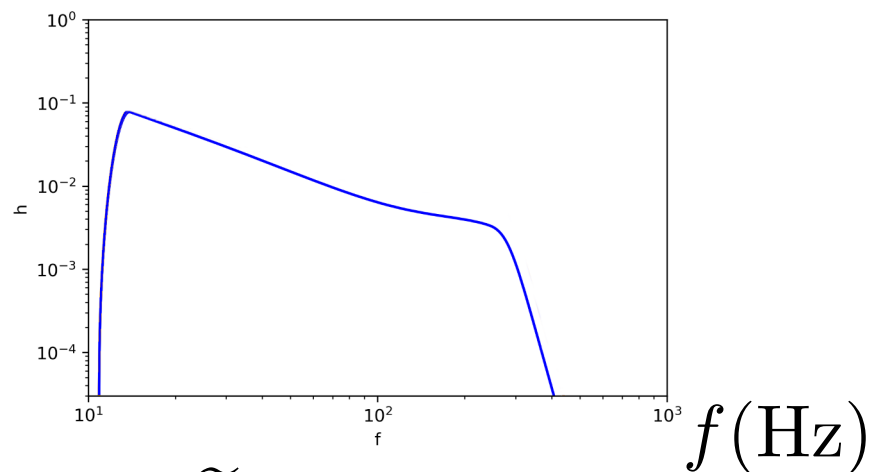


3. How do wave effects look like?

Compact binary merger



Fourier Transform



$h_{\text{unlensed}}(t)$

$\tilde{h}_{\text{unlensed}}(f)$

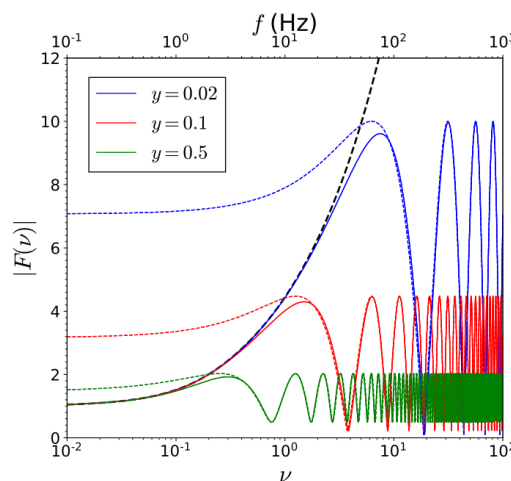
\times

$|F(f)|$

Inverse Fourier Transform

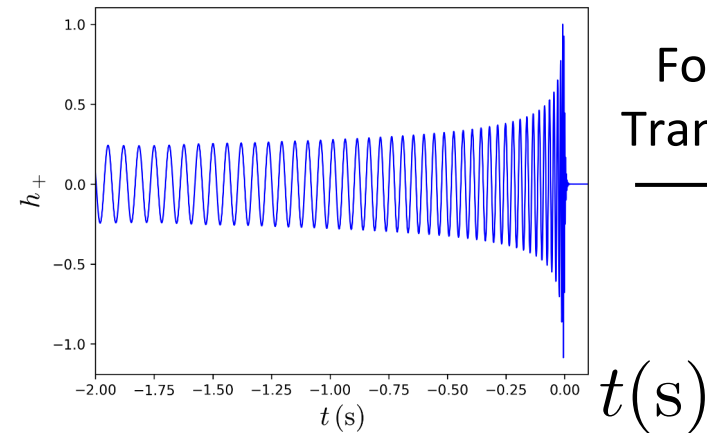
$h_{\text{lensed}}(t)$

?

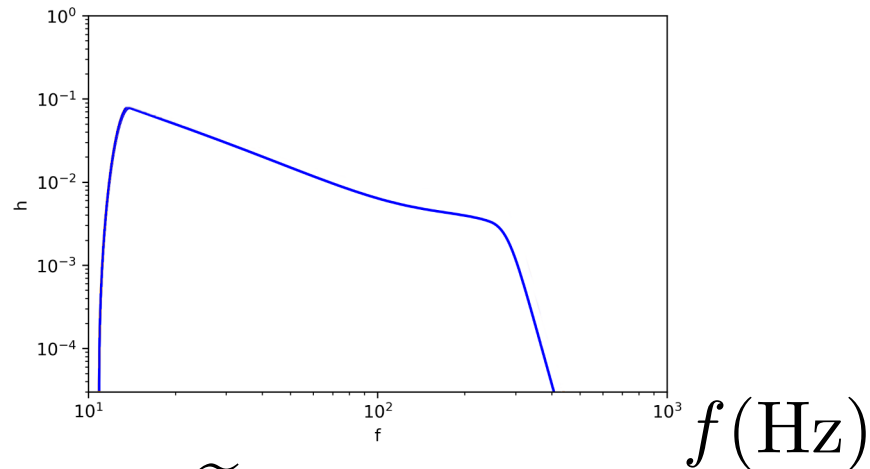


3. How do wave effects look like?

Compact binary merger



Fourier
Transform



$h_{\text{unlensed}}(t)$

$\tilde{h}_{\text{unlensed}}(f)$

\times

$|F(f)|$

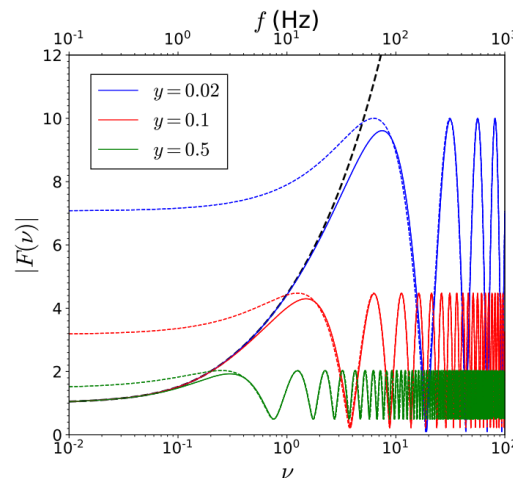
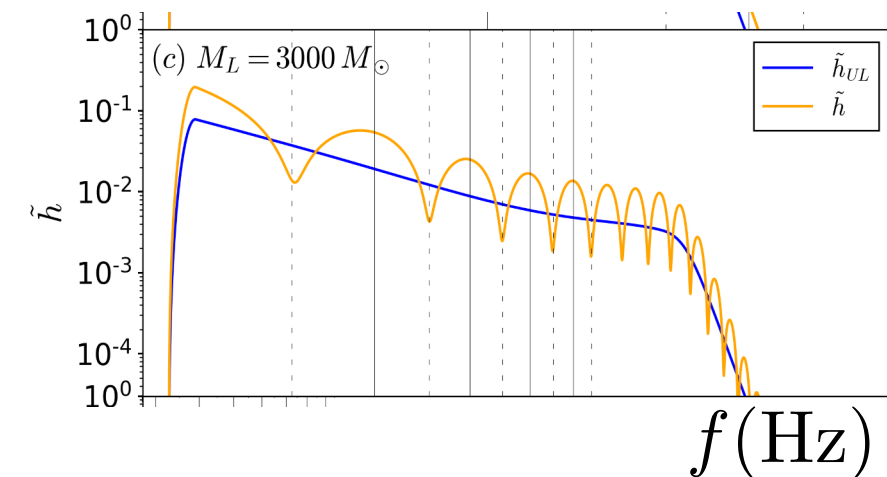
\longrightarrow

$h_{\text{lensed}}(t)$

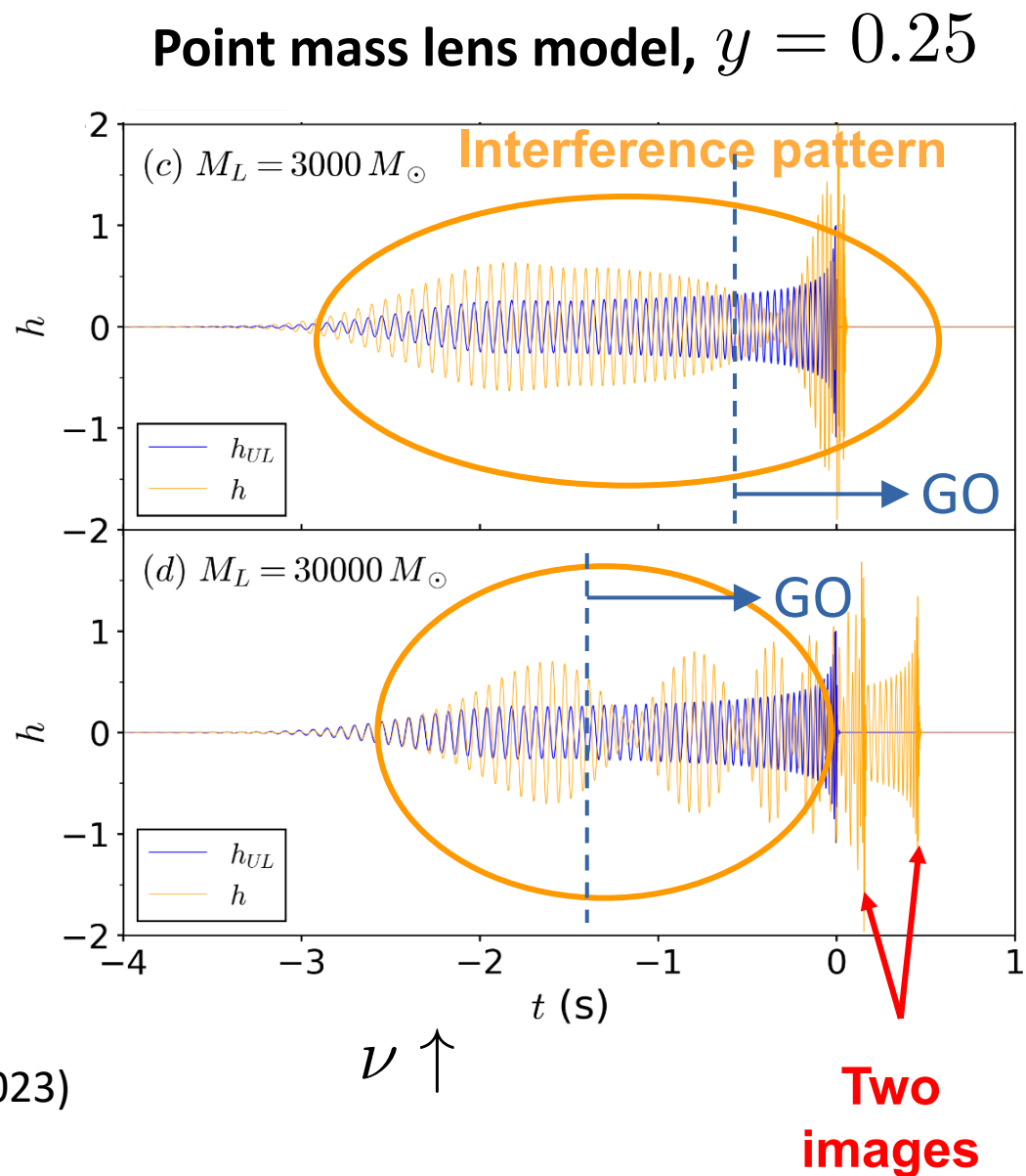
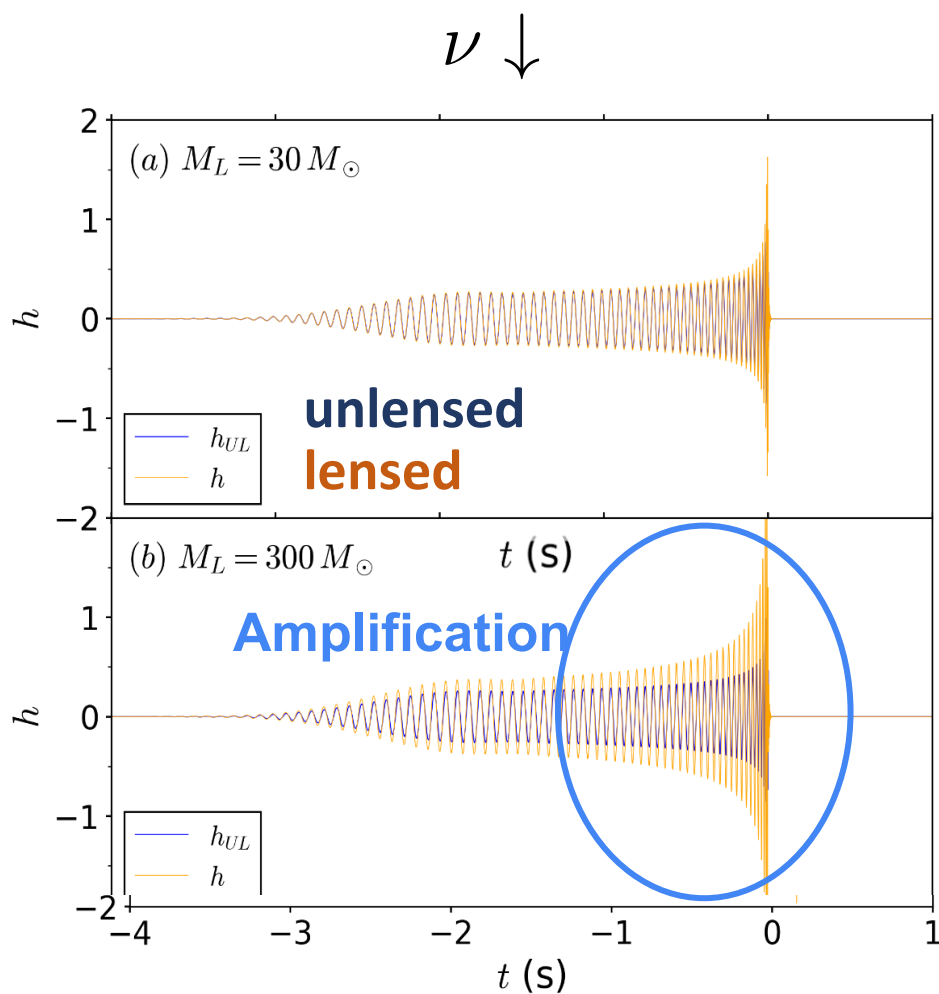
Inverse
Fourier
Transform

?

$$|\tilde{h}_{\text{lensed}}(f)| = |\tilde{h}_{\text{unlensed}}(f)| \cdot |F|(f)$$



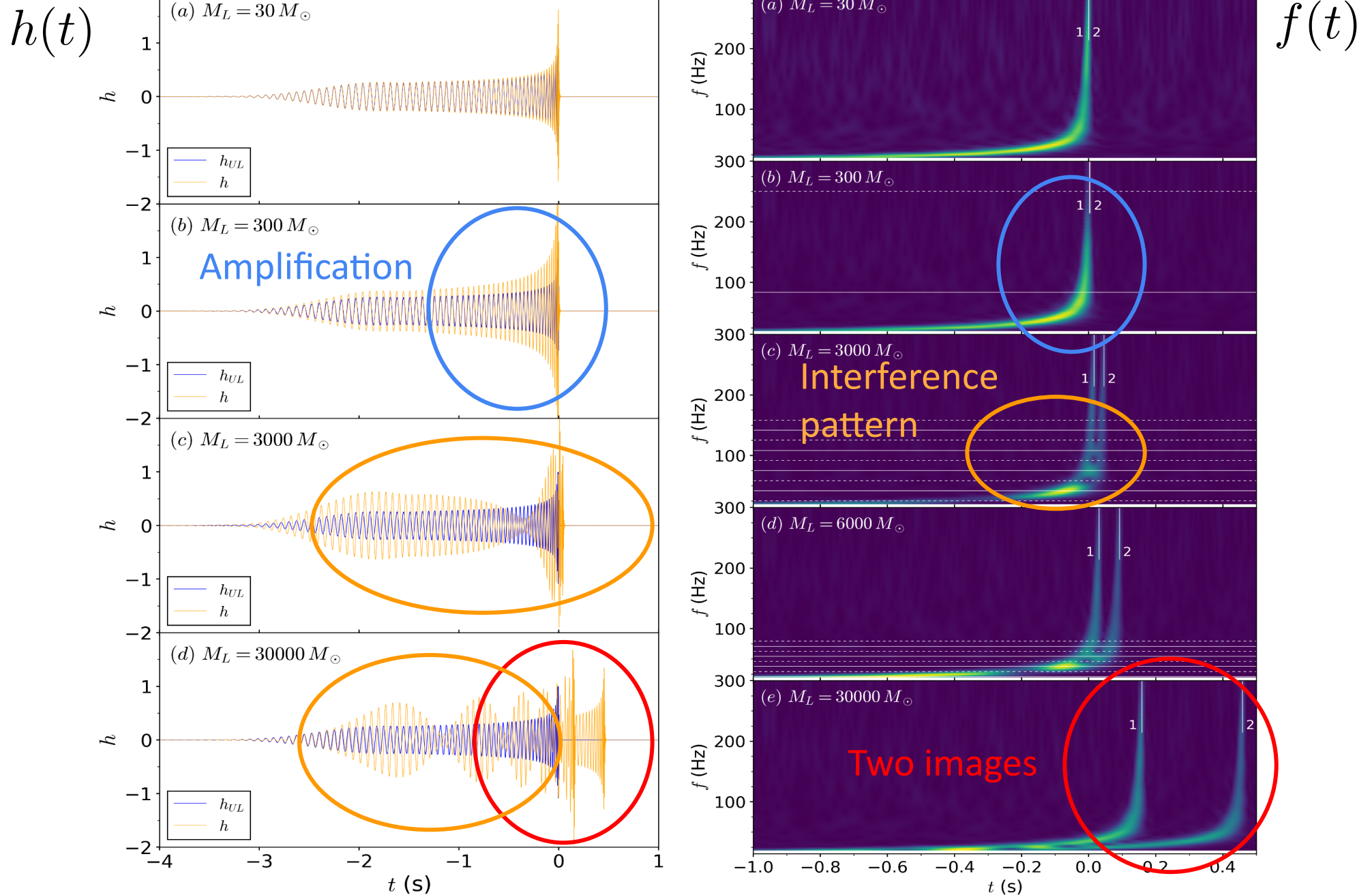
3. How do wave effects look like?



Bondarescu, Ubach, Bulashenko, Lundgren (2023)

3. How do wave effects look like?

$$y = 0.25$$

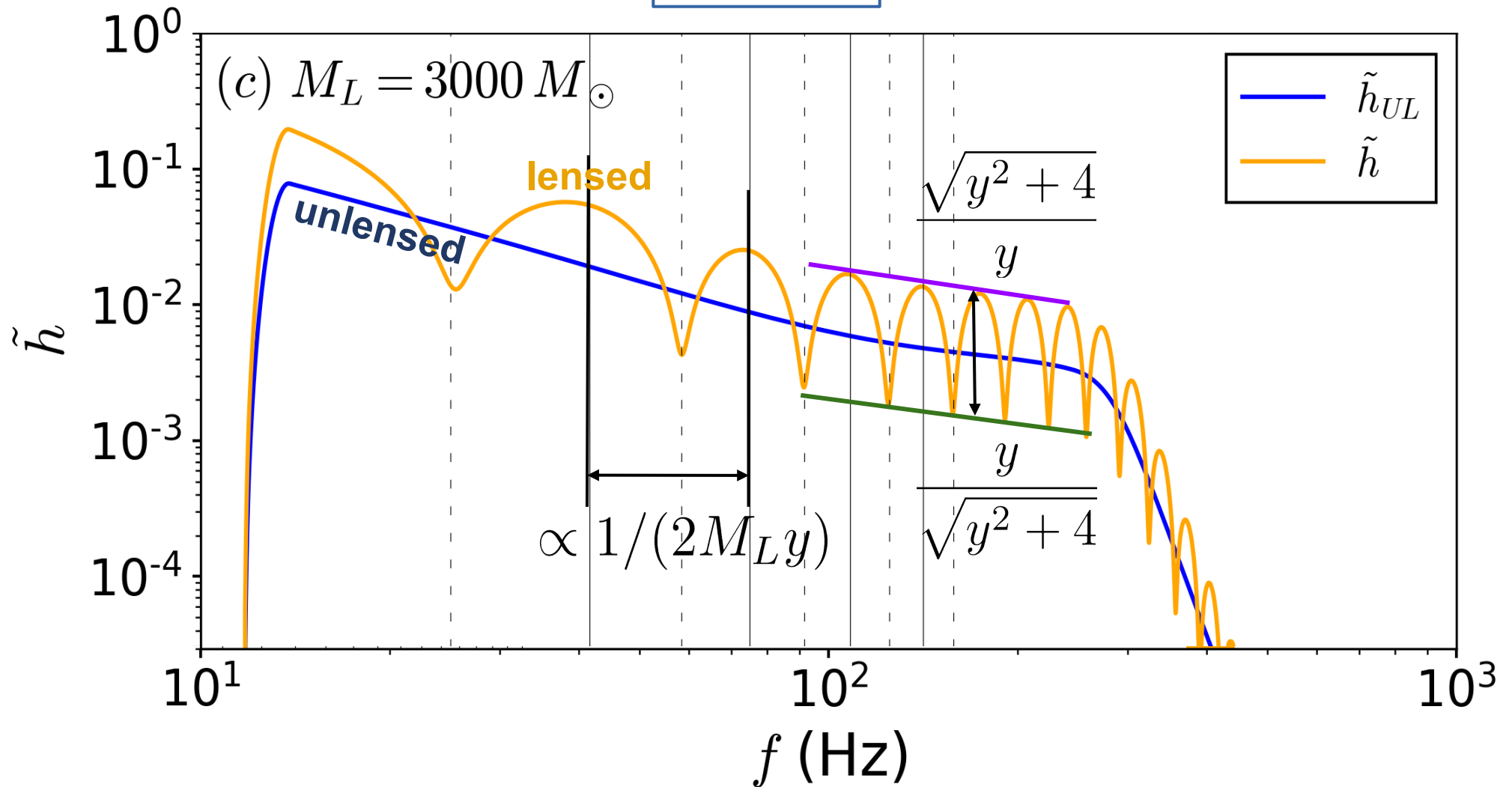


3. How do wave effects look like?

Evenly spaced interference pattern

$$y = 0.25$$

$$y \lesssim 0.5$$

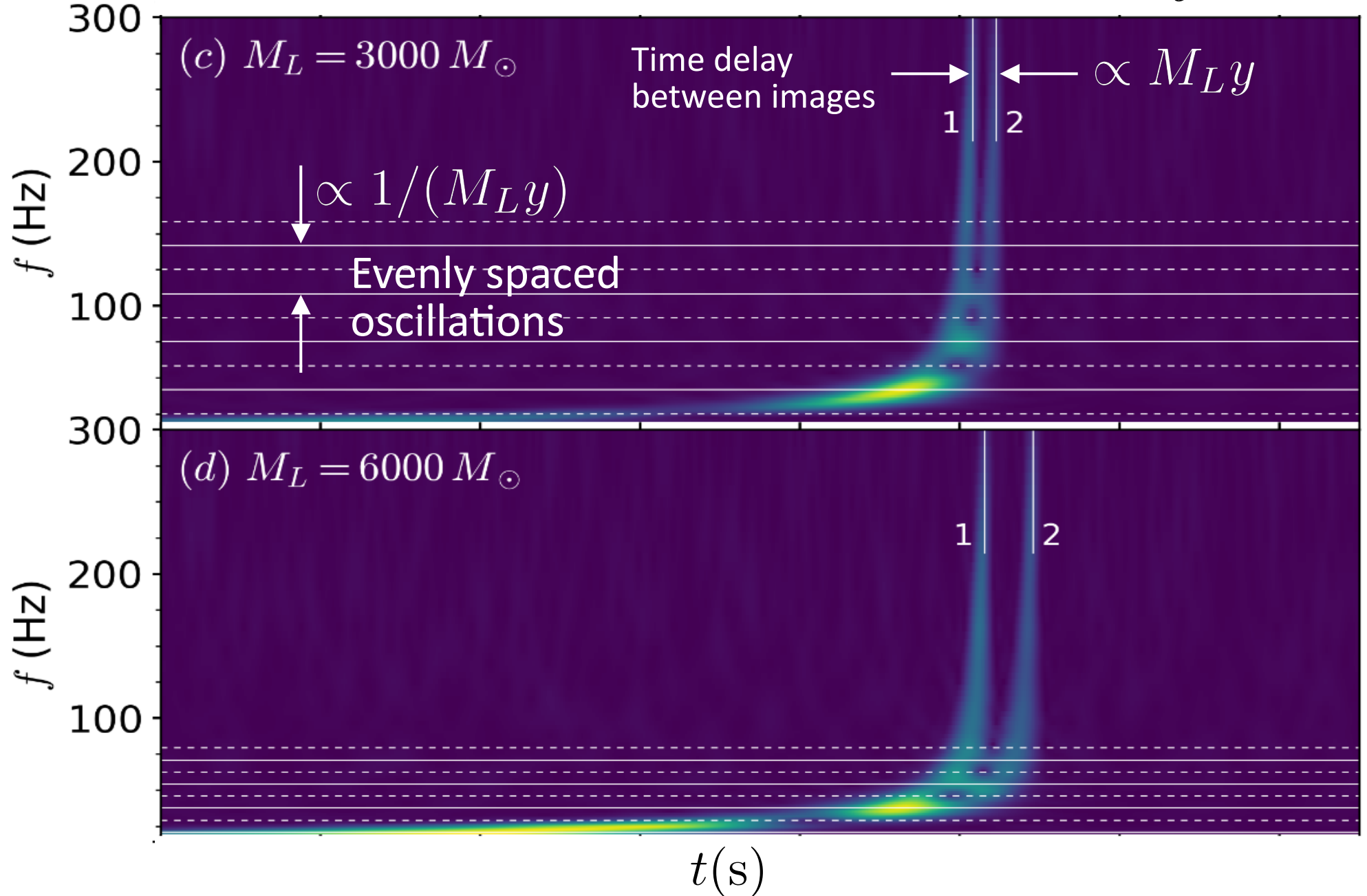


Bulashenko &
Ubach (2022)

Bondarescu, Ubach,
Bulashenko, Lundgren (2023)

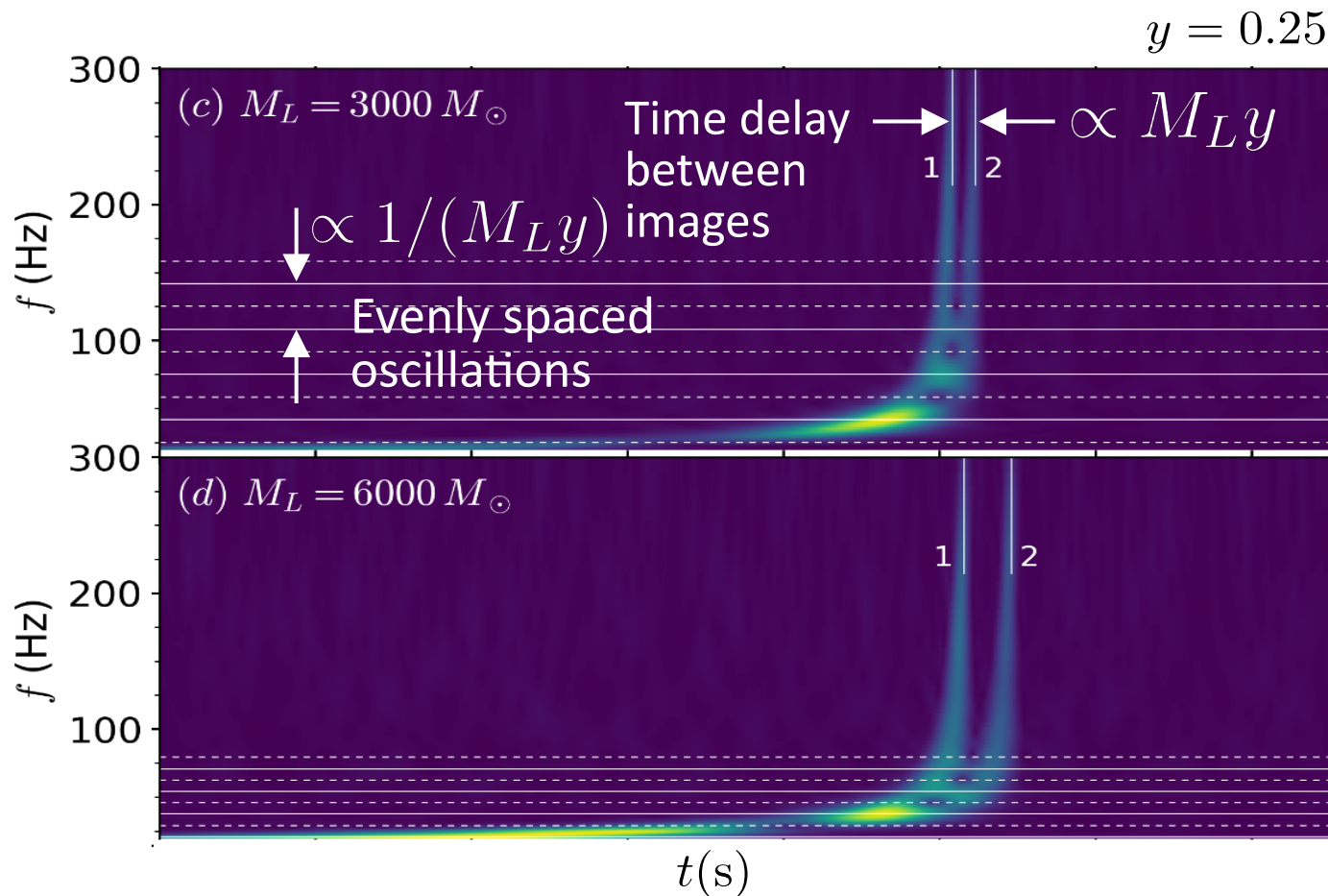
3. How do wave effects look like?

$$y = 0.25$$



Adapted from Bondarescu, Ubach, Bulashenko, Lundgren (2023)

3. How do wave effects look like?



Time delay between images Δt

Spacing between oscillations (consecutive maxima/minima) Δf

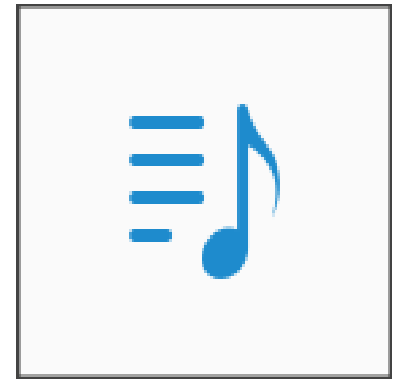
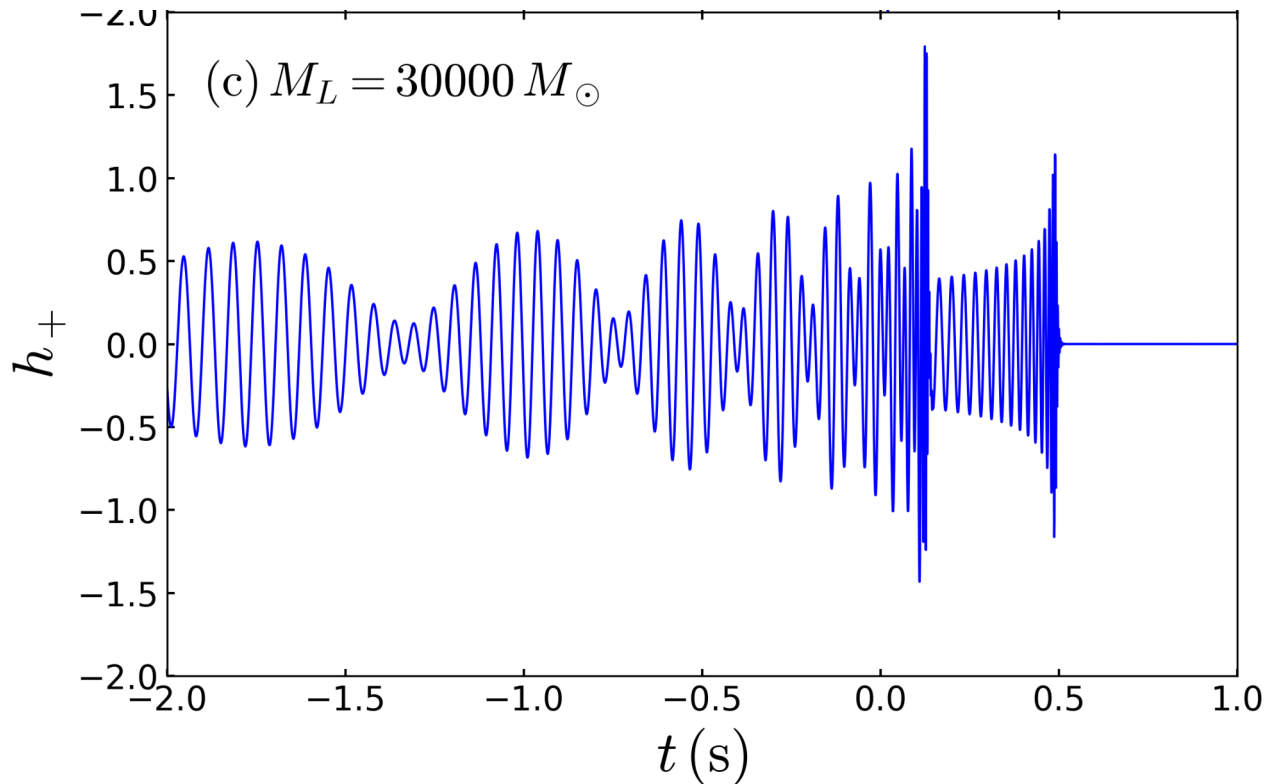
$$\Delta t \sim \frac{1}{\Delta f}$$

Signatures of microlensing:

Evenly spaced oscillations + Time-delayed images

→ To distinguish from eccentric, precessing and other frequency-modulated signals

Artistic sonification



Ubach & Espuny, [arXiv:2407.09588](https://arxiv.org/abs/2407.09588) (2024)

<https://zoom3.net/sonificacions/>

Some examples:

<https://zoom3.net/sonificacions/ona-gravitacional-lent-exemples.html> →

***Geometric Optics**
***Point mass lens model**

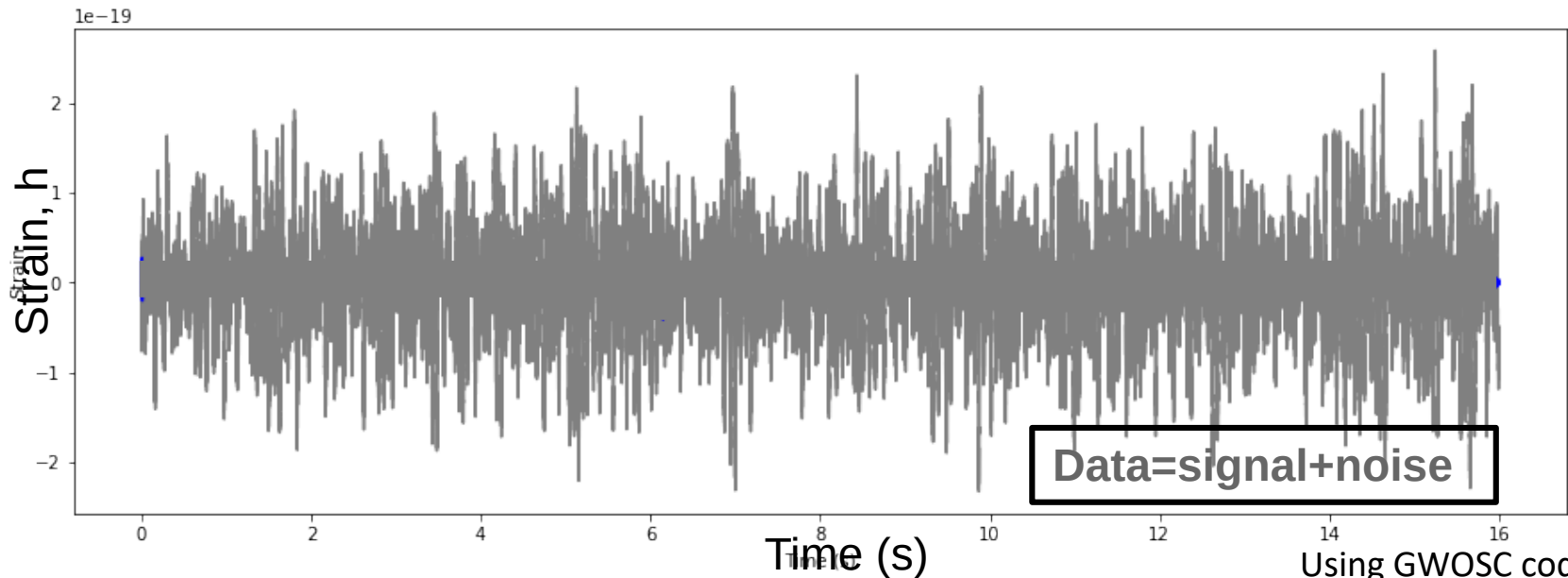
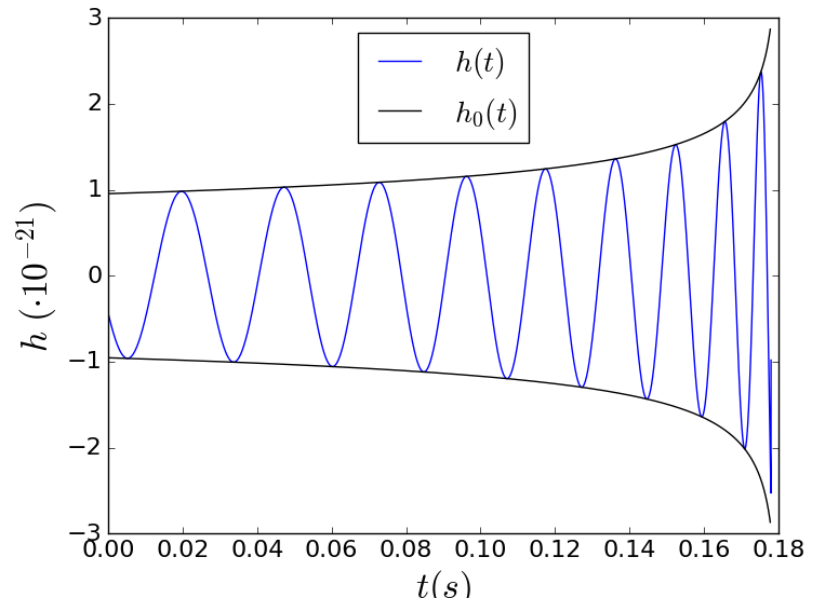


4. Are they detectable?

Detection technique: matched filtering

Recovery of an injected signal
(mock example)

Template:

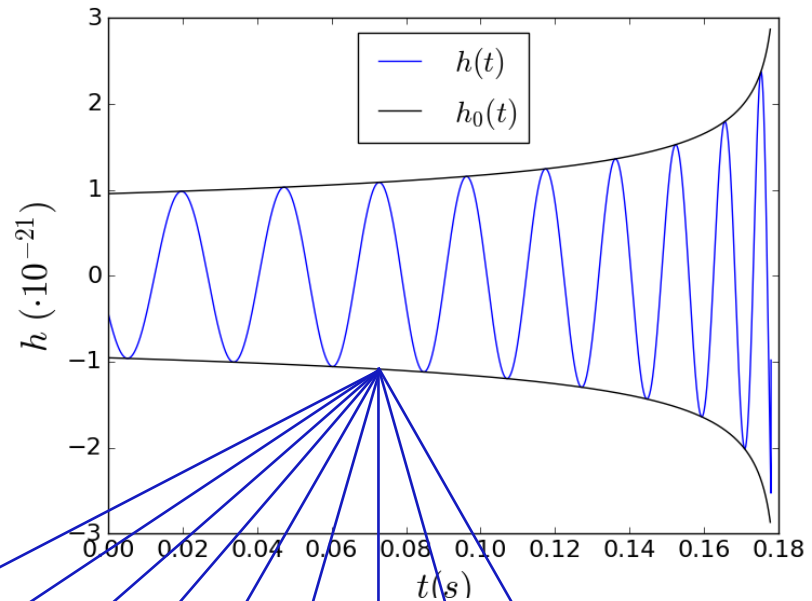


Using GWOSC code

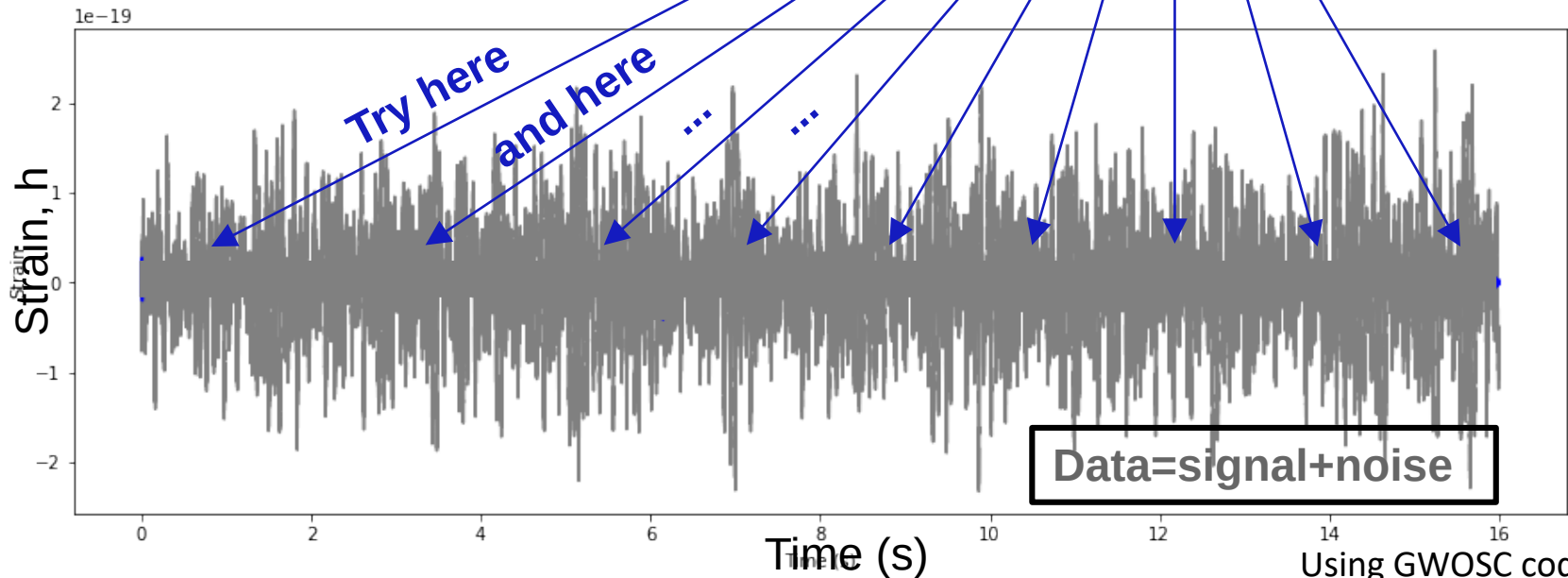
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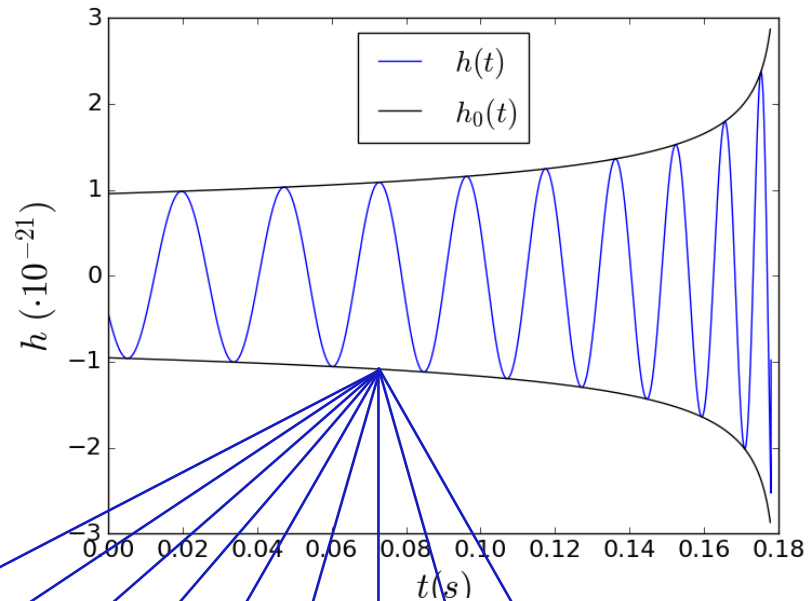


Using GWOSC code

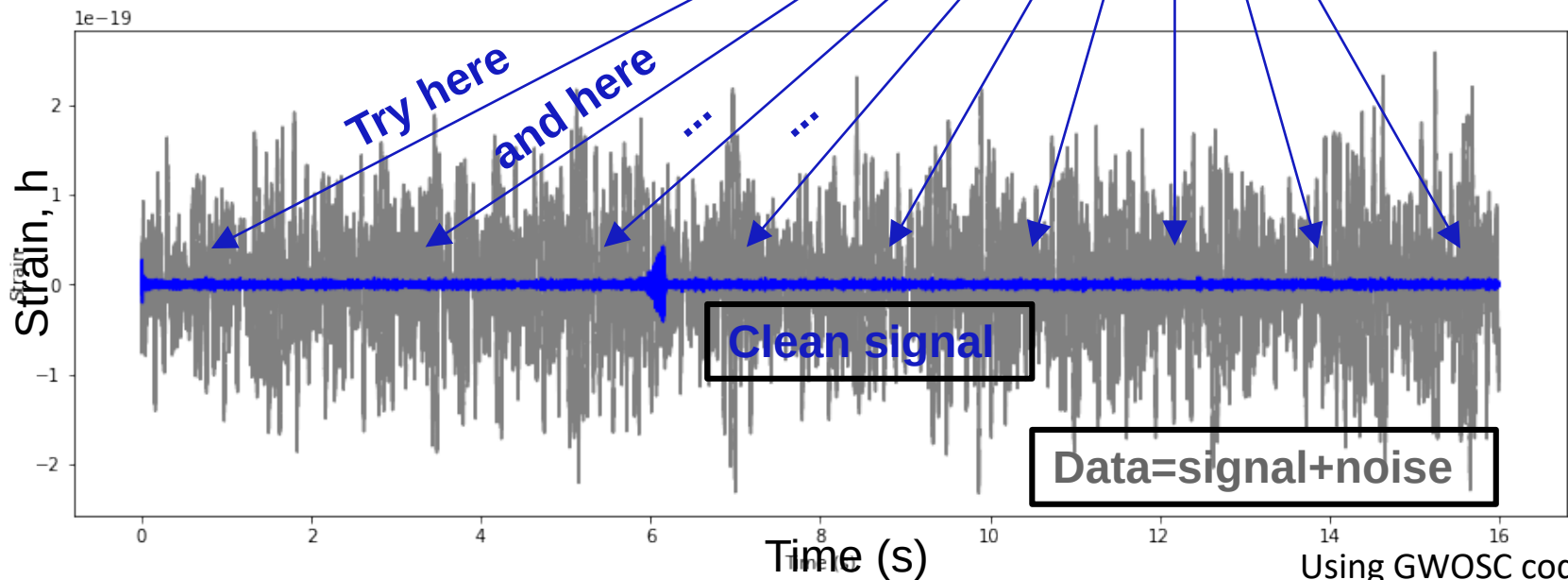
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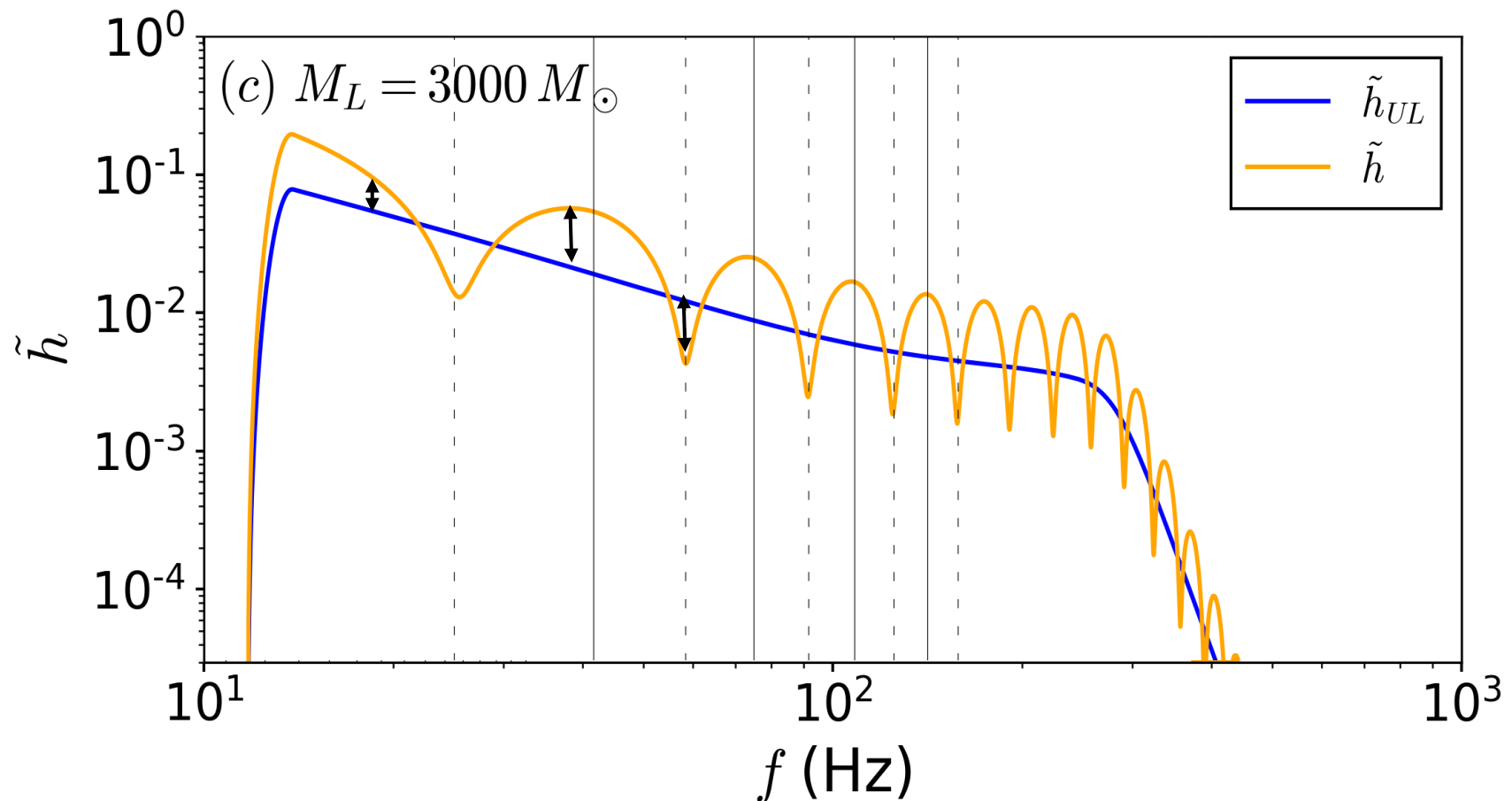


4. Are they detectable?

Match between templates, \mathcal{M}

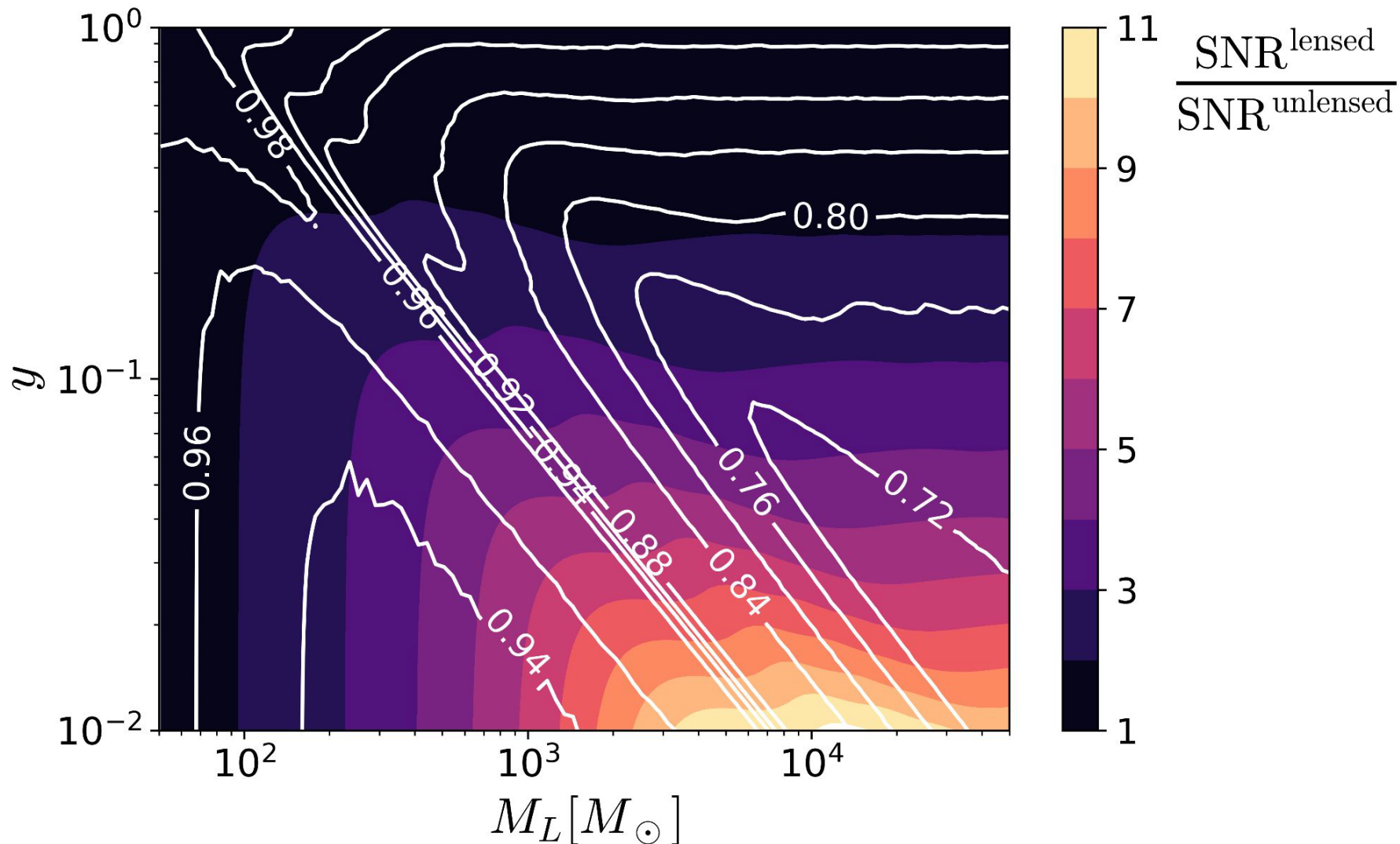
Quantifies the non-deviation on of **one template** from **another template**, integrated over frequency

$$\mathcal{M}(h, h_{UL}) = \frac{\langle f^{1/2} h_{UL}, h_{UL} \rangle}{\sqrt{\langle h_{UL}, h_{UL} \rangle \langle \sqrt{f} h_{UL}, \sqrt{f} h_{UL} \rangle}}, \quad \langle a, b \rangle = 2 \int_{f_{\min}}^{f_{\max}} \frac{\tilde{a}^*(f) \tilde{b}(f) + \tilde{a}(f) \tilde{b}^*(f)}{S_n(f)} df$$



4. Are they detectable?

Match determines distortion from the unlensed signal

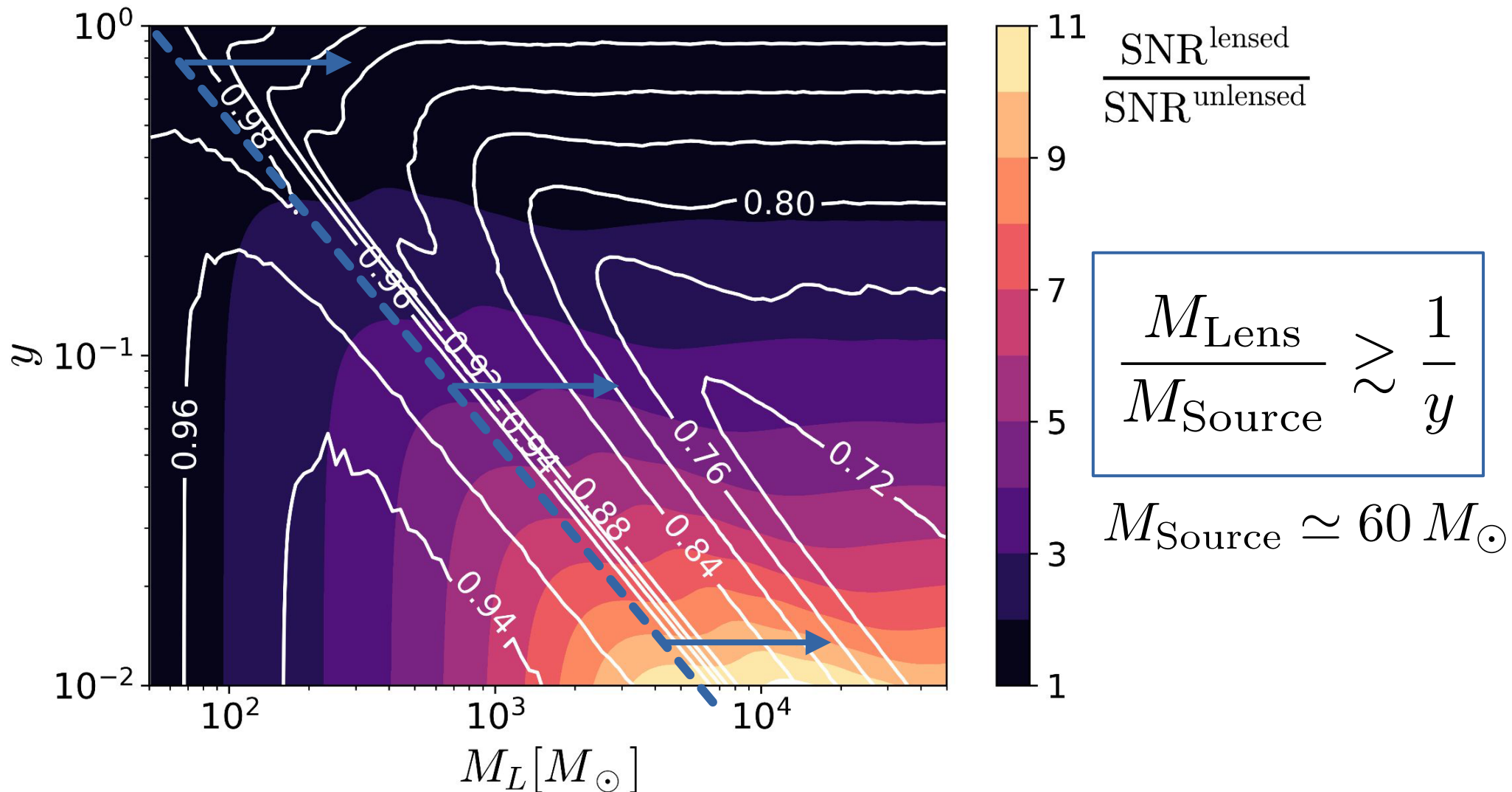


Bondarescu, Ubach, Bulashenko, Lundgren (2023)
See also Mishra+(2024)

*However, see Chan+(2024)
→ detectability might decrease in wave-optics region

4. Are they detectable?

Match determines distortion from the unlensed signal

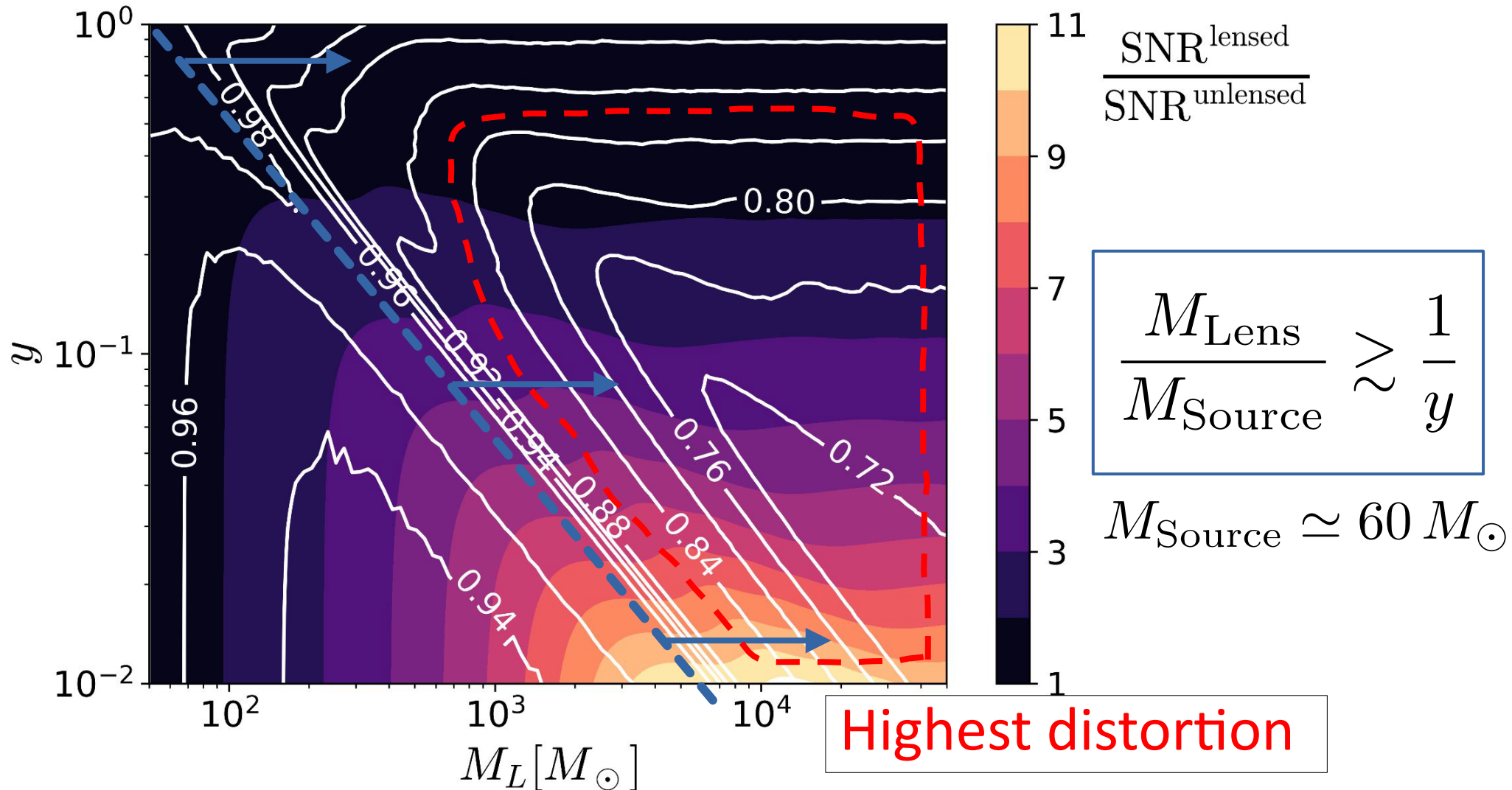


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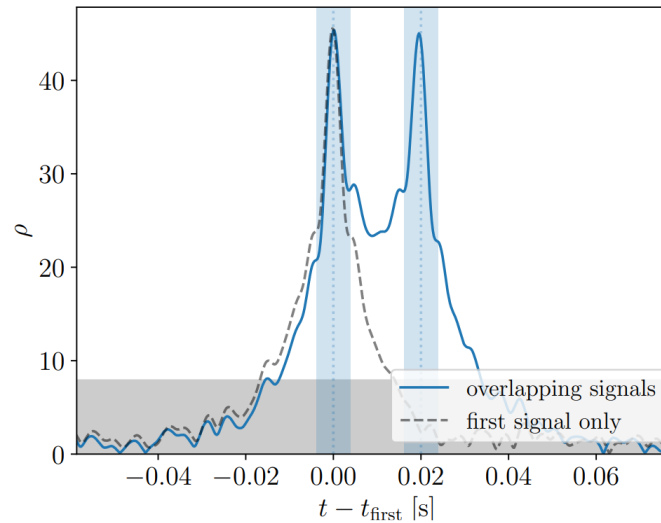
Alternatives or complementary tests to match filtering?

Pattern recognition,
Machine Learning...

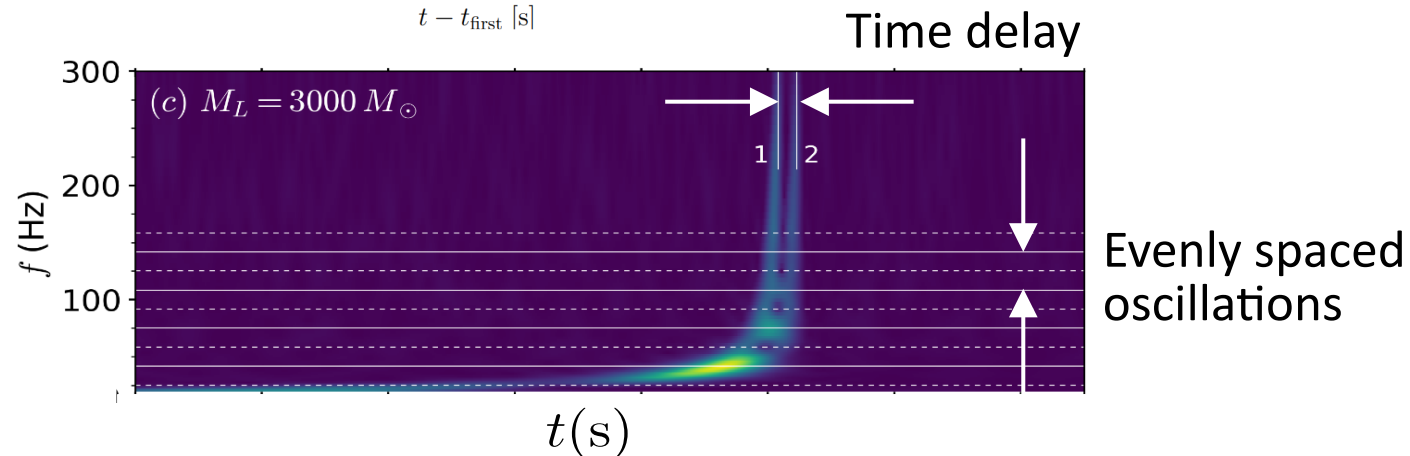
Kim+ (2021),
Bada Nerin+ (2024)

Time domain tests
(SNR, χ^2)...

Lo+ (2024)



Feature extraction?



Conclusions

Wave effects on gravitational lensing of gravitational waves

1. Why do they appear?

Coherent emission, long wavelength

2. When are they significant?

$$1/f_{\text{GW}} \lesssim \tau_{21}, \lambda \lesssim 8R_S y, M_{\text{Lens}}/M_{\text{Source}} \gtrsim y$$

3. How do they look like?

- Supressed by diffraction (look like unlensed)
- Amplification
- Interference pattern
- Multiple images

4. Are they detectable?

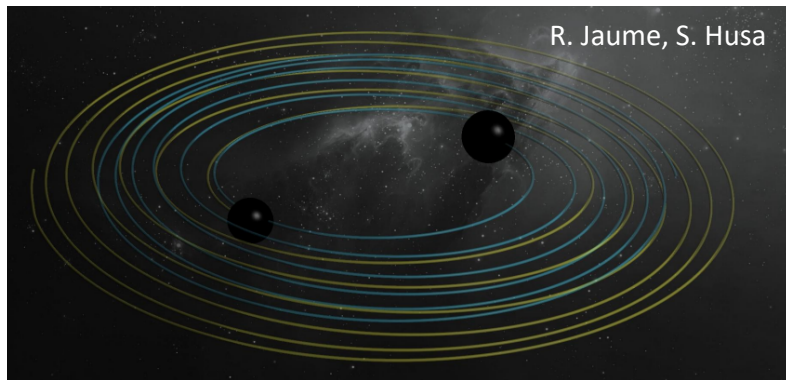
Some of them:

- Mainly for interference
- Difficult for amplification (diffraction)

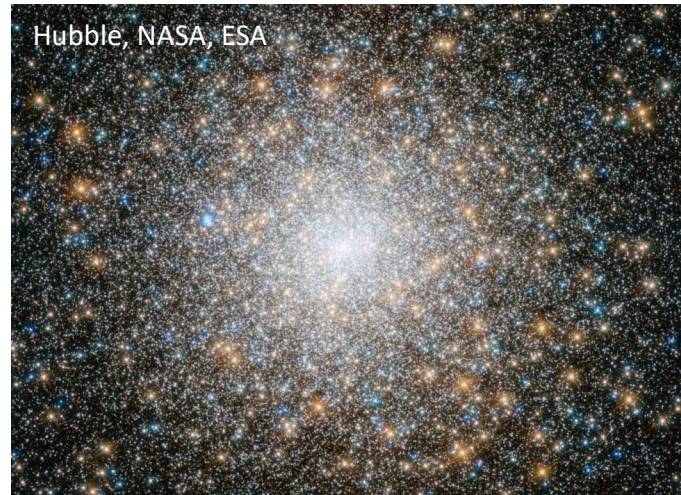
Work in progress

Current work

Gravitational waves can come from different environments:



Isolated binaries, «in the field»



Binaries in star clusters

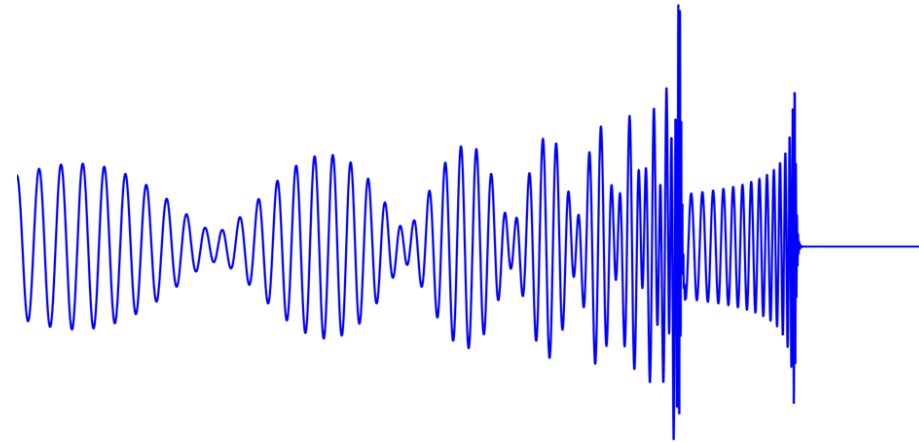


Binaries in AGN disks

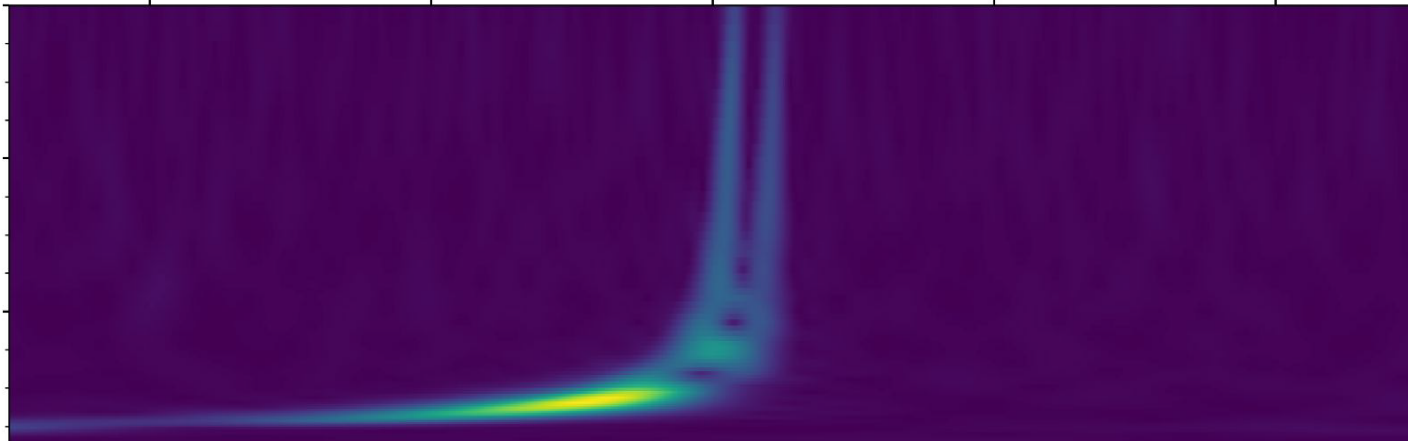
In which environments are gravitational waves «self-lensed» by astrophysical objects inside them?

Can we detect the gravitational lensing effect from each environment?

In collaboration with Mark Gieles and Jordi Miralda-Escudé



Thank you for your attention!



Acknowledgements

Thanks to Professor Koutarou Kyutoku for comments from a previous talk, which improved slide 23.

Thanks to the members of the Virgo group at ICCUB for feedback that helped clarify some points.

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