

# Search for long-duration GWs from glitching pulsars during LIGO-Virgo third observing run



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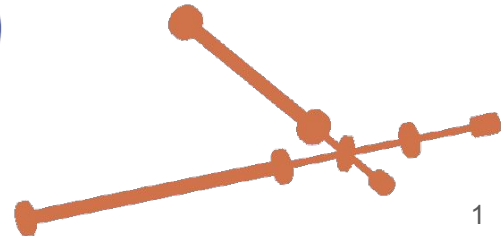
(Universitat de les Illes Balears)

*for the LIGO Scientific Collaboration, Virgo Collaboration  
and KAGRA Collaboration*

11th Iberian GWs meeting, June 9-11 2021



**Universitat**  
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# Different Sources of Gravitational Waves

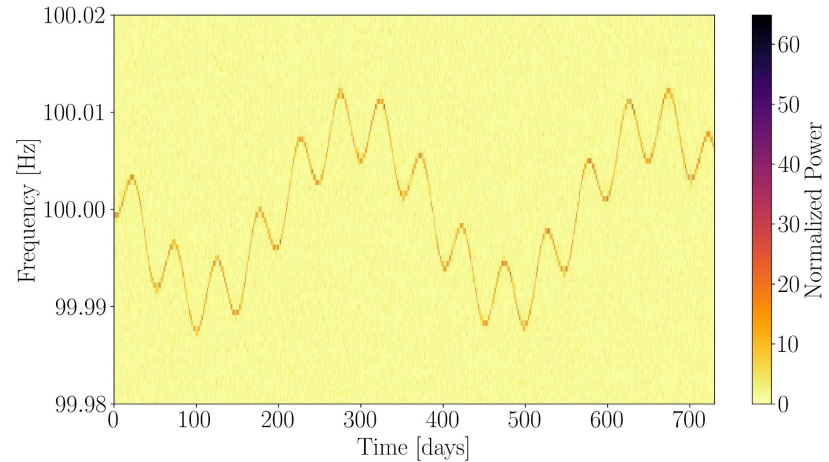
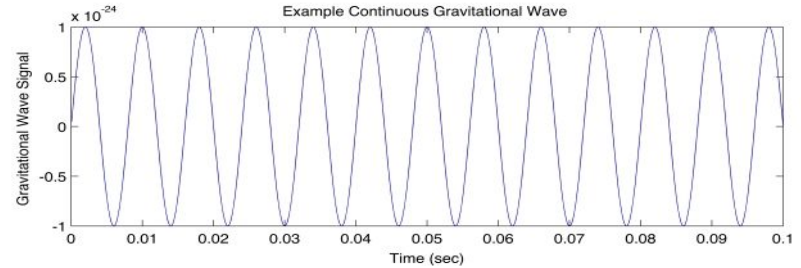
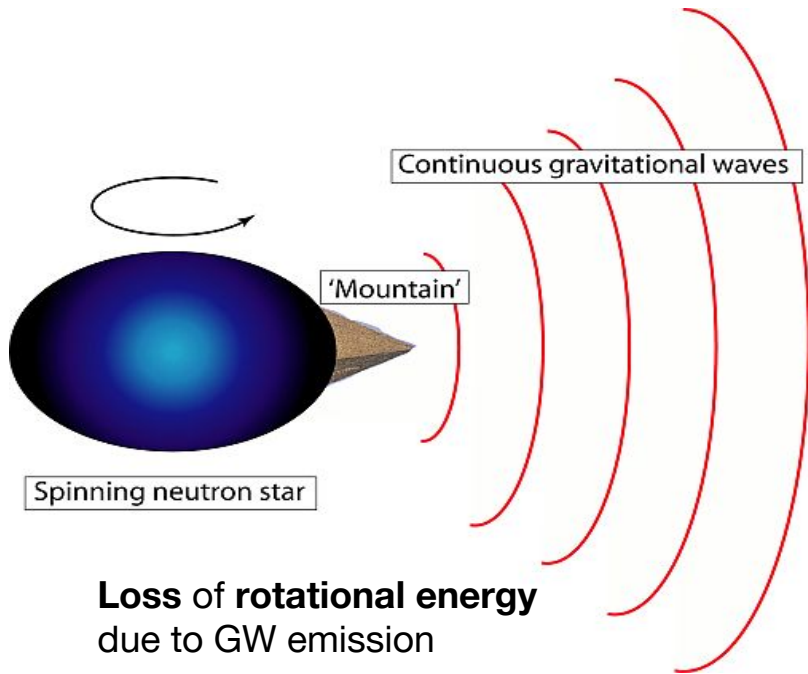


First detection of gravitational waves from a **BBH coalescence** in 2015



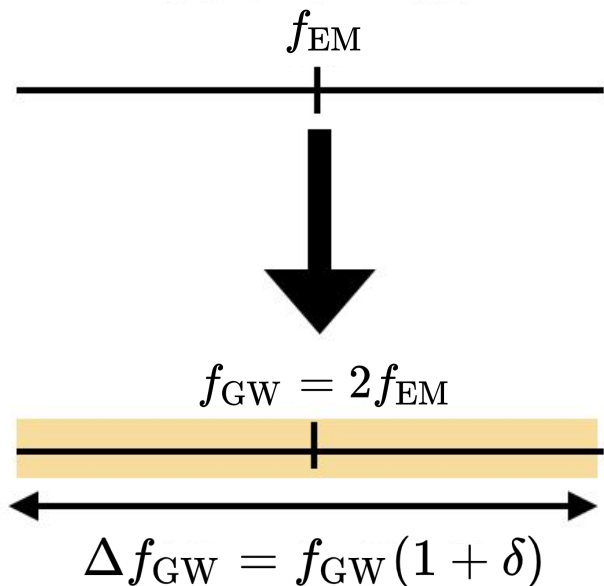
Gravitational waves from **spinning neutron stars**: not yet detected

# Gravitational Waves from Pulsars



# Narrow-band Searches

**Narrow-band** searches allow some **uncertainty in frequency** and spin-downs around the EM value



2 main pipelines:

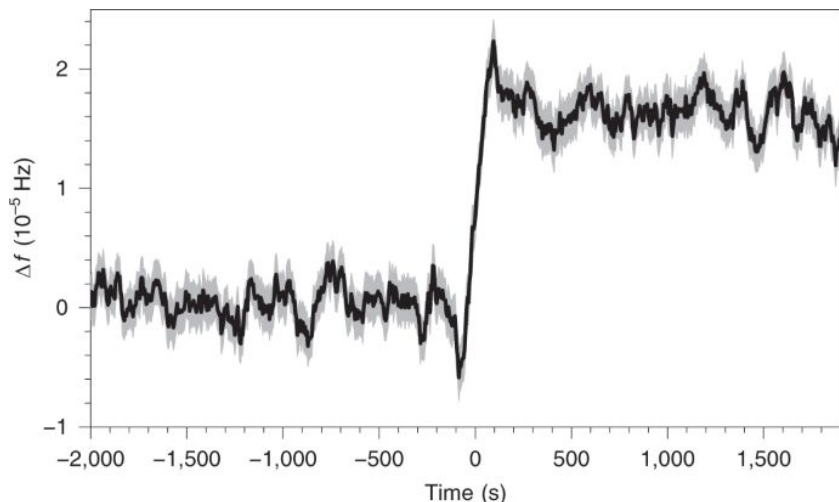
- 5-vector search (used for O2)  
[Abbott et al. 2019 \[PRD99,122002\]](#)
- search using  $\mathcal{F}$ -stat (new!)



Our contribution to the LVC:

search for **long-duration transient continuous waves**, with duration O(hours-months) i.e. in the gap between the burst-like O(ms) and truly continuous O( $\infty$ ) waves

# Astrophysical Motivation: Glitching Neutron Stars



[Ashton et al. \(2019\)](#)

**J0534+2200**

$f_{GW} \sim 60$  Hz

glitched on  
2019/07/23

**J0537-6910**

$f_{GW} \sim 123$  Hz

3 glitches in  
2019, 1 glitch in  
2020

**J0908-4913**

$f_{GW} \sim 19$  Hz

glitched ~  
2019/10/09

**J1105-6107**

$f_{GW} \sim 31$  Hz

glitched ~  
2019/04/09

**J1813-1749**

$f_{GW} \sim 45$  Hz

glitched ~  
2019/08/03

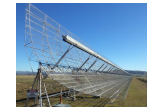
**J1826-1334**

$f_{GW} \sim 20$  Hz

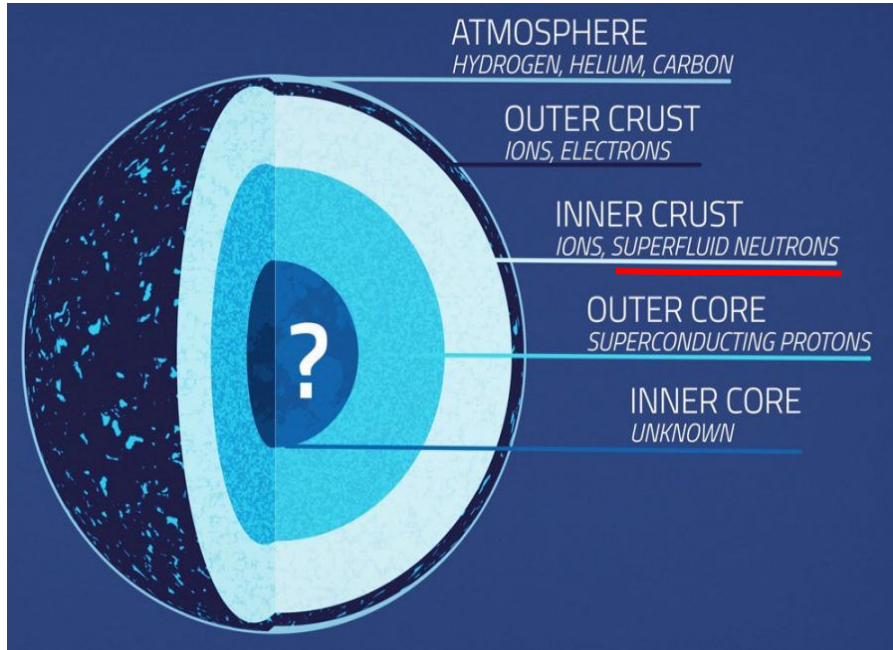
glitched on  
2020/01/31

TARGETS (during O3)

- **EM data:** radio and X-ray observations from **Jodrell, the ATNF, NICER, UTMOST**
- **GW data:** full **3rd observing run** from the 3 detectors (2 Advanced **LIGO** detectors and **Virgo**), from April 2019 to March 2020, with a break in October 2019



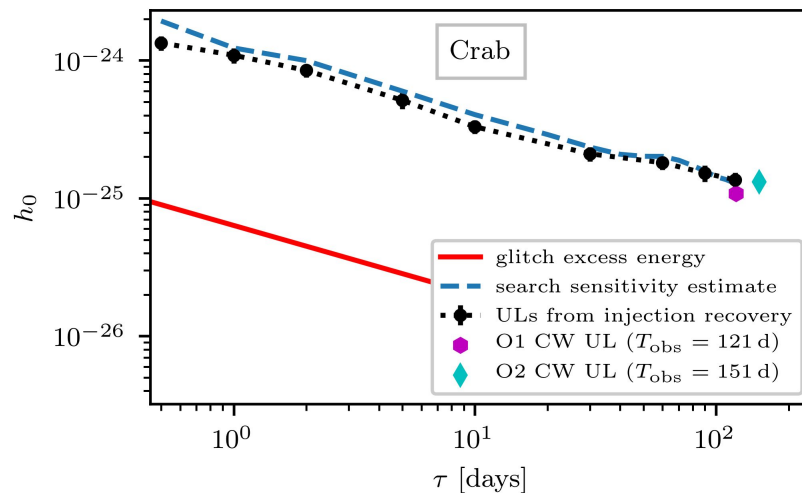
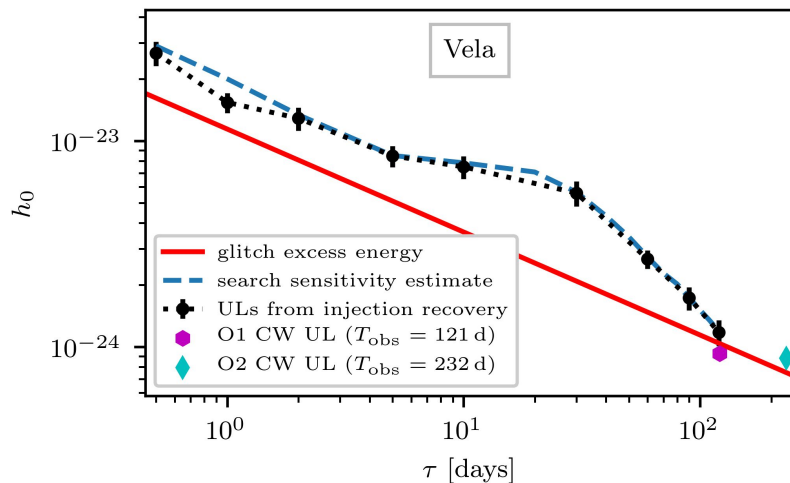
# Theory of Pulsar Glitches: Two-Fluid Model



- observed pulses with angular velocity  $\Omega$ , associated to NS magnetic field and which gradually decreases
- interior neutrons are **superfluid**, forming an independent component that rotates at angular velocity  $\Omega_s$
- weak coupling between the two components → growing “lag”  $\Delta\Omega = \Omega_s - \Omega$
- when lag reaches a critical value, some sort of instability occurs
- transfer of angular momentum from superfluid to normal fluid → **spin-up** (i.e. *glitch*)
- change in quadrupole moment can cause GWs <sup>6</sup>

# Previous GW Glitch Searches

- search for **short-duration transients** (bursts) from Vela's glitch in 2006 [Abadie et al. 2010](#)
- search for **long-duration transients** from Vela & Crab glitches during O2 [Keitel et al. 2019](#)



We will be using the same procedure as Keitel et al. (2019)

# Transient Continuous Waves Model

[Prix et al. \(2011\)](#)

Similar to CW standard model, but in addition to the **phase** and **amplitude parameters**:

$$\lambda = \{\alpha, \delta, f, \dot{f}, \ddot{f} \dots\}$$

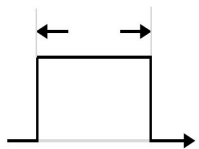
$$\mathcal{A} = \{h_0, \cos \iota, \psi, \phi_o\}$$

we consider a set of **transient parameters**:

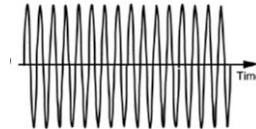
$$\mathbf{h}(t; \theta)$$

$$\mathcal{T} = \{t_0, \tau\}$$

$$h(t, \lambda, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{T}) = \omega(t; \mathcal{T})h(t, \lambda, \mathcal{A})$$

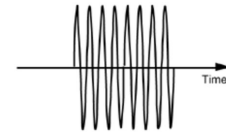


window function



standard CW  
signal model

=



*transient CW!*



# How Do We Detect These Signals?

[Prix et al. \(2011\)](#)

Based on observed data  $\mathbf{x}$ , we want to decide between 2 hypotheses:

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{H}_G : \mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{n}(t) & \text{data contains only gaussian noise} \\ \mathcal{H}_S : \mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{n}(t) + \mathbf{h}(t; \theta) & \text{data contains signal too!} \end{cases}$$

define the likelihoods for each hypothesis... and their ratio

$$\frac{P(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{H}_S, \theta)}{P(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{H}_G)}$$

maximize the likelihood ratio over the parameters  $\theta$

$$\ln \mathcal{L}_{\text{ML}}(\mathbf{x}) = \max_{\{\lambda, \mathcal{T}\}} \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{x}; \lambda, \mathcal{T})$$

The “ $\mathcal{F}$ - statistic”

# Search Method

- **select target** of known sky coordinates
- place a **template grid** in  $f, \dot{f}, \ddot{f} \dots$  space
- compute  $\mathcal{F}$ -statistic map for each point in the space:  
$$\mathcal{F}_{mn} = \mathcal{F}(\lambda, t_{0m}, \tau_n)$$
- search for **peaks** over the  $(f, \dot{f}, \ddot{f}, \mathcal{T})$  space
- get **detection threshold** from the Gumbel distribution, the expected distribution in the absence of a signal:

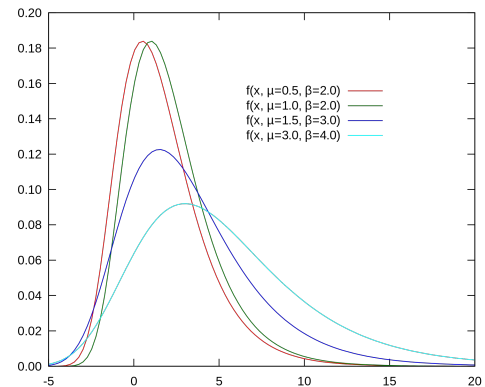
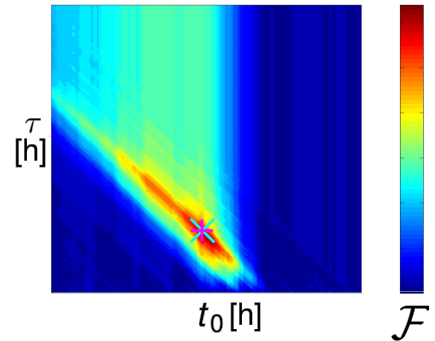
used in Generalized Extreme Value Theory to model the **distribution of the maximum** of a number of samples: exactly what we need!

$$p(\max_{\{\lambda, \mathcal{T}\}} \mathcal{F}; \mu, \beta) = \frac{1}{\beta} e^{-(z+e^{-z})}$$

$$\text{where } z = \frac{\max \mathcal{F} - \mu}{\beta}$$

[Tenorio, Keitel & Sintés, 2021](#)

Tenorio, Modafferi, Keitel & Sintés, in prep



# Search Setup

$$(f, \dot{f}, \ddot{f} \dots)$$



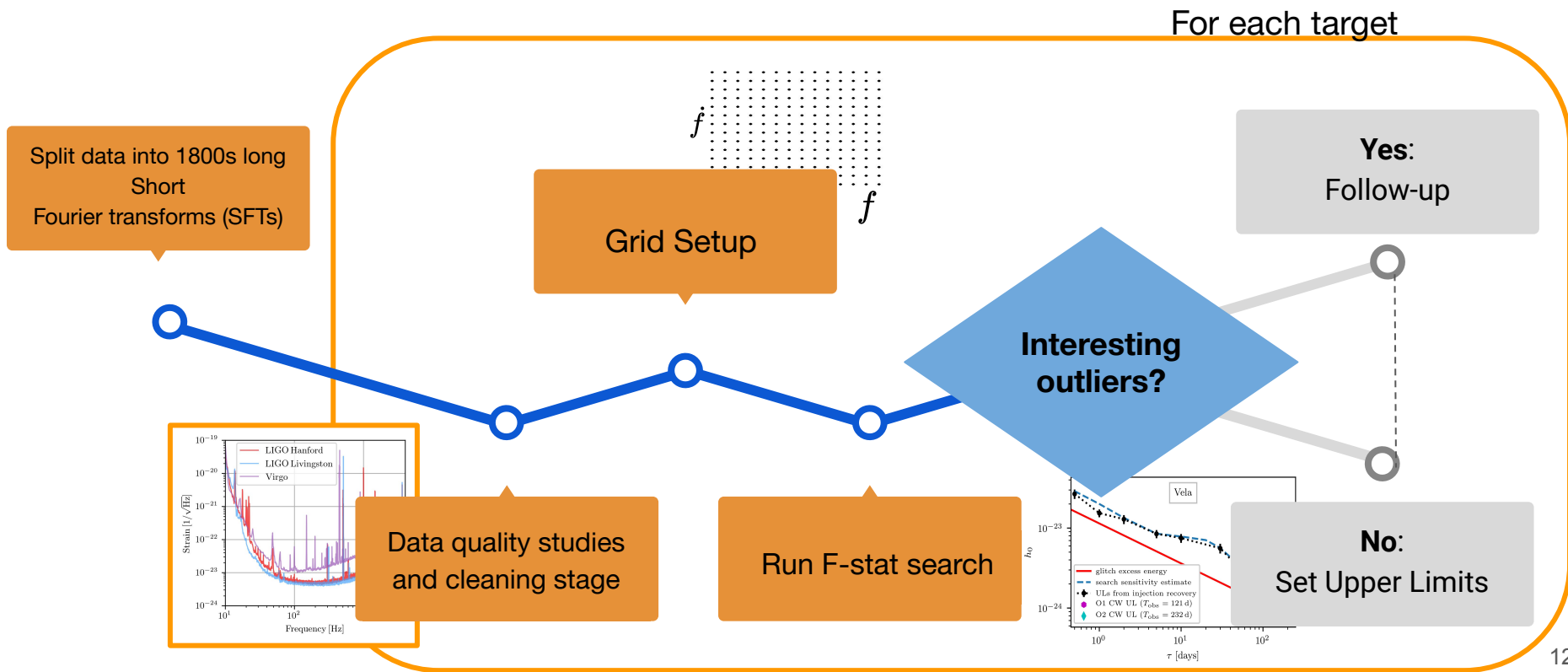
- **narrow-band approach**: allow mismatch between the true GW and its nominal value
- **frequency band**  $\Delta f$  = maximum between glitch size, frequency uncertainty and  $f \cdot 10^{-3}$
- **template bank**: square grid in  $(f, \dot{f}, \ddot{f} \dots)$  where the number of spindowns depends on the ephemerides

$$\mathcal{T} = t_0, \tau$$



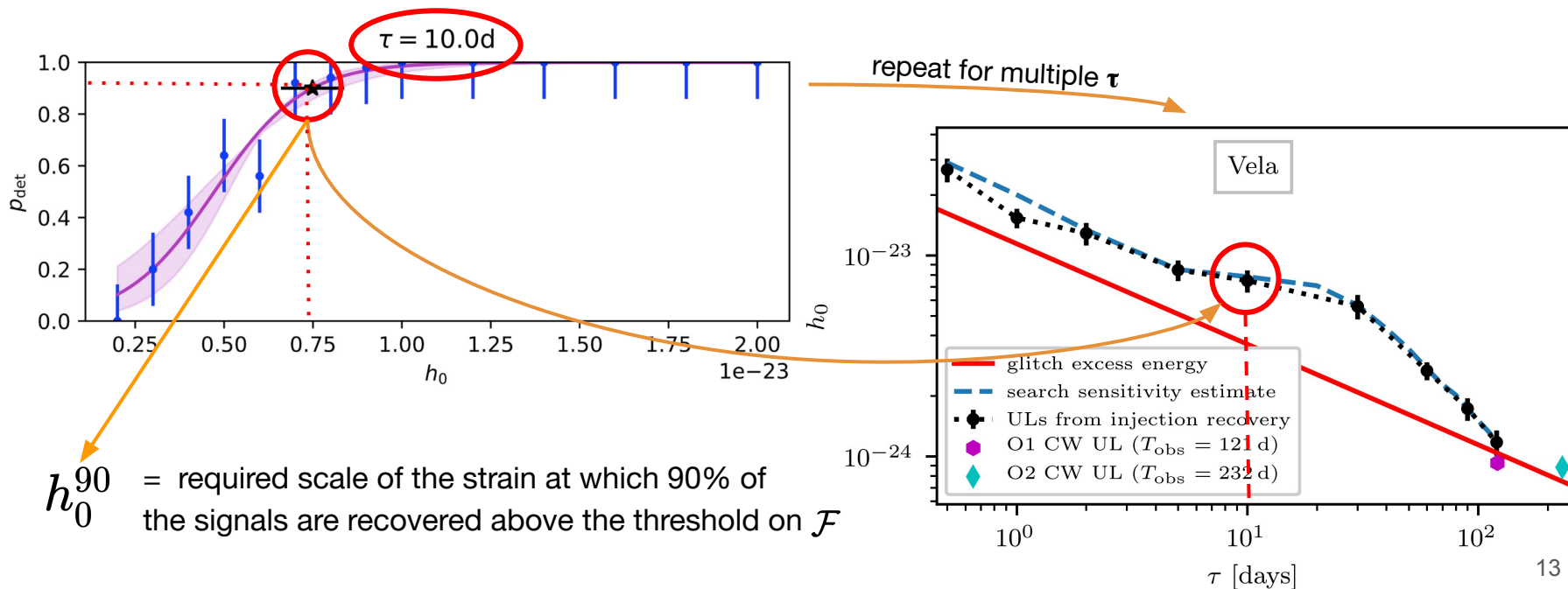
- search for transients **starting** in a window centered at the glitch time with width  $\Delta T_{\text{glitch}}$
- **duration** of transients up to **4 months**
- window function: rectangular

# Search Procedure



# Upper Limits Procedure (example from O2)

- Software injections of simulated signals at different durations  $\tau$



# Acknowledgements

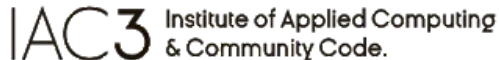
*Thank you for listening!*

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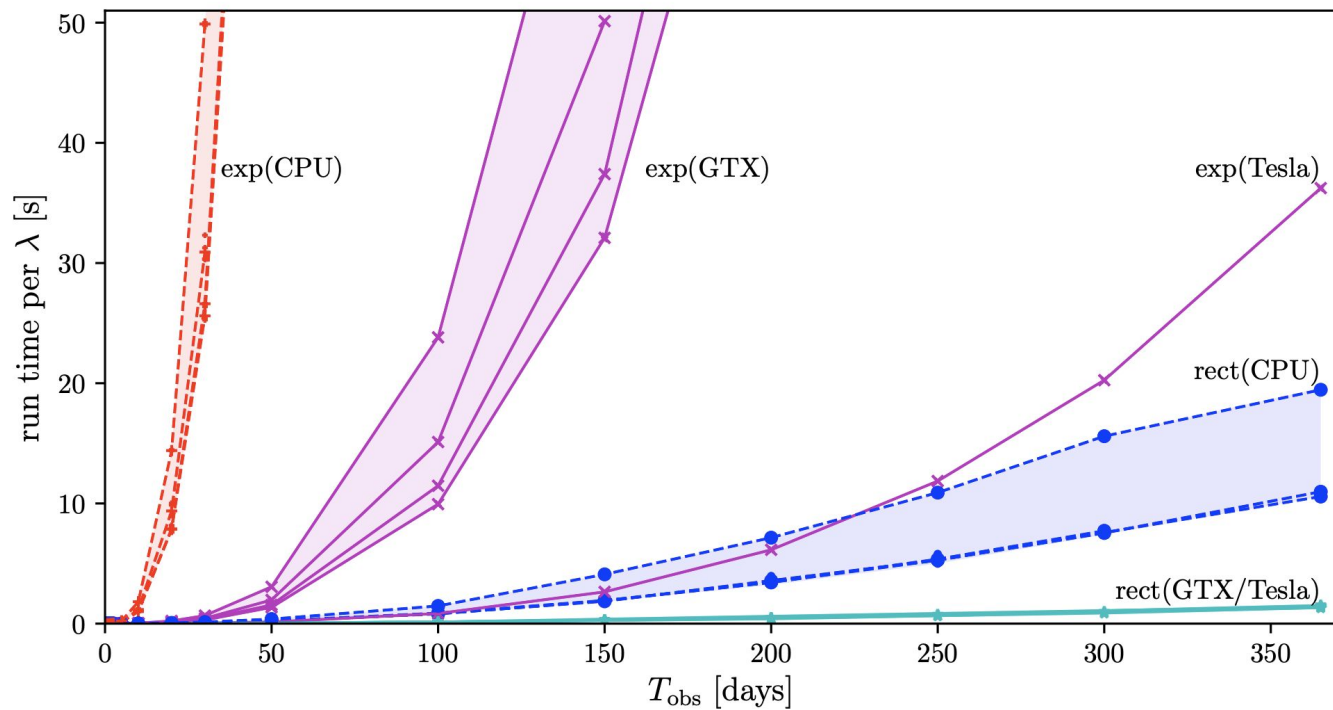
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# Rectangular vs Exponential Window



Timing results for both rectangular and exponential transient windows, from CPU and GPU implementations on various devices.