

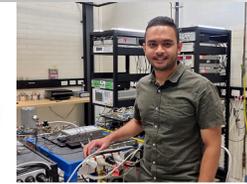
Multi-mode Acoustic Gravitational-wave Experiment (MAGE)



<https://www.qdmlab.com/>



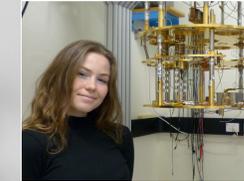
Elrina Hartman
PhD



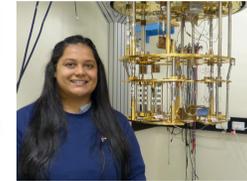
Steven Samuels
PhD



Robert Crew
PhD



Emma Paterson
PhD



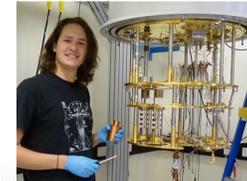
Sonali Parashar
PhD



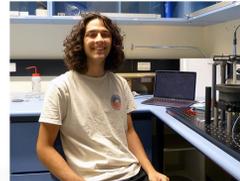
Ashley Johnson
PhD



Tim Holt
MSc



Evangelos Hajigabriel
Hons



Charlie Campbell
Hons

VACATION STUDENTS (2)

Jia Qi Lam
Jonathan Charlesworth

UNDERGRAD STUDENTS (3)

Tim Holt (MSc)
Evangelos Hajigabriel (Hons)
Charlie Campbell (Hons)

PHD STUDENTS (7)

Elrina Hartman
Steven Samuels
Emma Paterson
Robert Crew
Michael Hatzon
Sonali Parashar
Ashley Johnson

POSTDOCS (5)

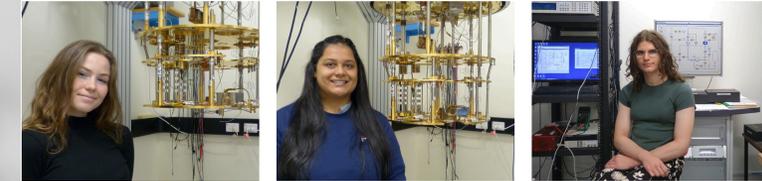
Jeremy Bourhill
Cindy Zhao
Graeme Flower
William Campbell
Aaron Quiskamp

ACADEMIC (3)

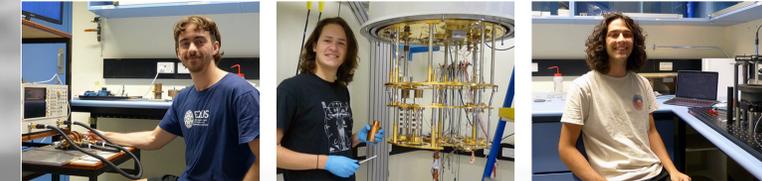
Michael Tobar
Eugene Ivanov
Maxim Goryachev
ADJUNCT(1)
Ben McAllister



Professor Michael Tobar
Director—QDM Lab, EQUS Node Director, CDM Node Director



Dr Maxim Goryachev
EQUS Chief Investigator, CDM Chief Investigator, Lecturer—Research Intensive



Dr Ben McAllister
Adjunct Research Fellow



Winthrop Professor Eugene Ivanov
Senior Principle Research Fellow



Dr Cindy Zhao
Deborah Jin Fellow—EQUS

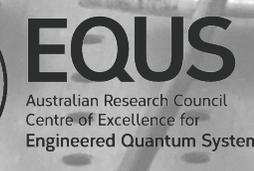
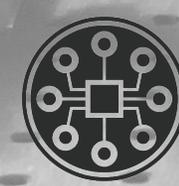


Dr Jeremy Bourhill
Postdoctoral Research Associate

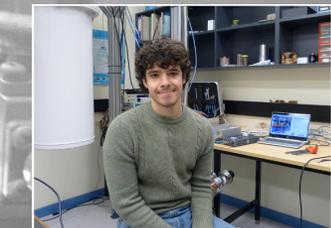
Dr Graeme Flower
Research Associate

Will Campbell
Research Associate—Clock Flagship

Aaron Quiskamp
PhD



THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



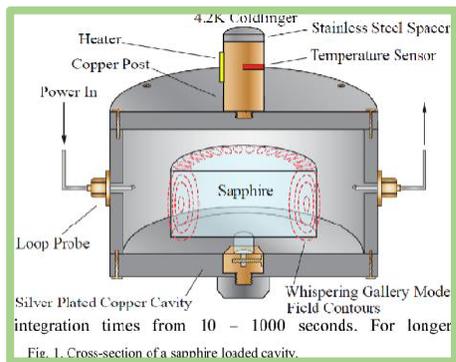
Charlie Campbell
BSc (Hons) Honours Dissertation

QDM Lab Precision Metrology

Metrological Systems:

Photonic

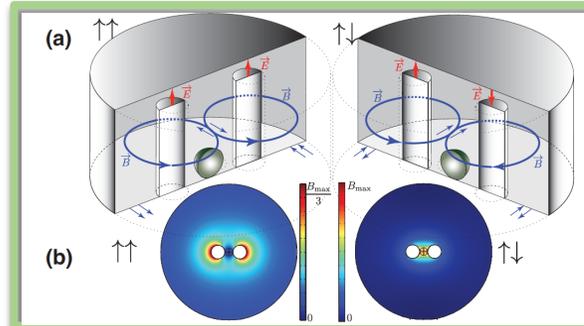
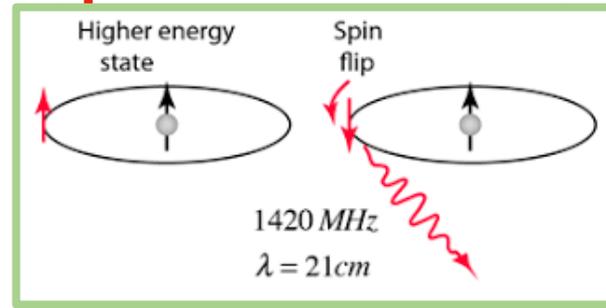
- WGM Resonators
- Specially Designed Microwave Cavities



Science of precise measurement

Atomic/Spins

- H - Maser
- Atomic Clocks
- Spin Waves
- Spin Ensembles in Solids



Physics at low energies

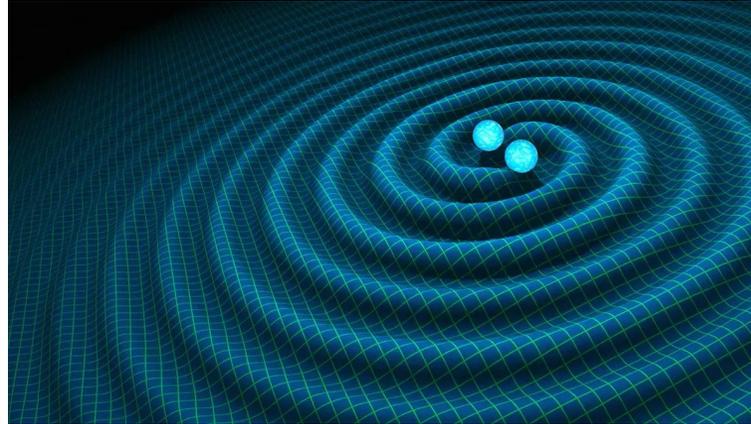
Acoustic

- Superfluid
- BAW Resonator



Motivation: Fundamental Physics

General Relativity



Quantum gravity

Dark Matter

High frequency gravitational waves

Lorentz invariance violations

Minimum length

Metrology helps us search for physics beyond the standard model

The standard model

Science of precise measurement



Physics at low energies

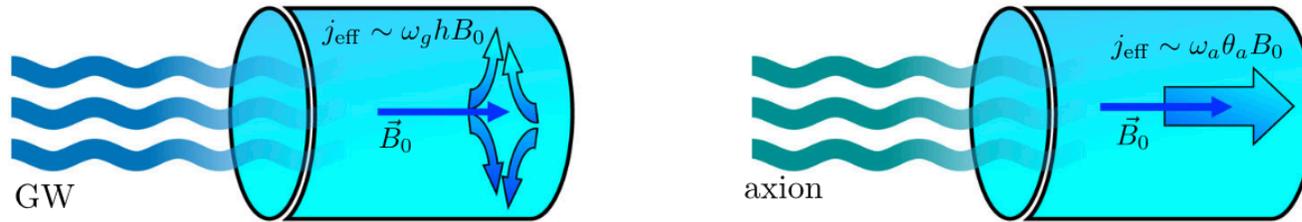
Axion Detector are Sensitive to Ultra-High Frequency GWs (UHFGWs)

Inverse Gertsenshtein effect

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **105**, 116011 (2022)

Detecting high-frequency gravitational waves with microwave cavities

Asher Berlin,^{1,2,3} Diego Blas,^{4,5} Raffaele Tito D’Agnolo⁶, Sebastian A. R. Ellis^{7,6},
 Roni Harnik,^{2,3} Yonatan Kahn,^{8,9,3} and Jan Schütte-Engel^{8,9,3}



$$j_{\text{eff}} \supset g_{a\gamma\gamma} \partial_t a \mathbf{B}_0 \simeq \omega_a \theta_a \mathbf{B}_0 \quad \mathbf{E}_a = g_{a\gamma\gamma} a \mathbf{B}_0 = \theta_a \mathbf{B}_0$$

$$j_{\text{eff}}^\mu \equiv \partial_\nu \left(\frac{1}{2} h F^{\mu\nu} + h_a^\nu F^{\alpha\mu} - h_a^\mu F^{\alpha\nu} \right)$$

$$j_{\text{eff}} \sim \omega_g h B_0$$

identifying $\theta_a \sim h$

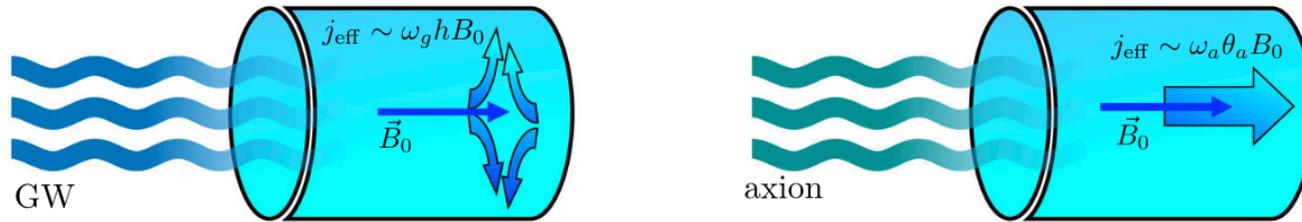
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Living Reviews in Relativity (2021)24:4
https://doi.org/10.1007/s41114-021-00032-5

REVIEW ARTICLE

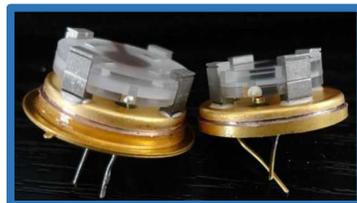
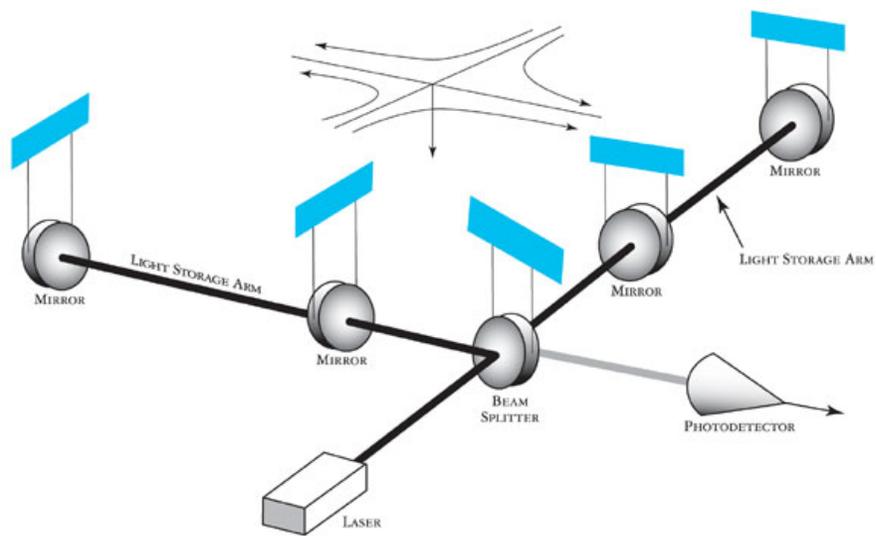
Challenges and opportunities of gravitational-wave searches at MHz to GHz frequencies

Nancy Aggarwal¹ · Odylio D. Aguiar² · Andreas Bauswein³ ·
Giancarlo Cella⁴ · Sebastian Clesse⁵ · Adrian Michael Cruise⁶ ·
Valerie Domcke^{7,8,9} · Daniel G. Figueroa¹⁰ · Andrew Geraci¹¹ ·
Maxim Goryachev¹² · Hartmut Grote¹³ · Mark Hindmarsh^{14,15} ·
Francesco Muia^{9,16} · Nikhil Mukund¹⁷ · David Ottaway^{18,19} ·
Marco Peloso^{20,21} · Fernando Quevedo¹⁶ · Angelo Ricciardone^{20,21} ·
Jessica Steinlechner^{22,23,24} · Sebastian Steinlechner^{22,23} · Sichun Sun^{25,26} ·
Michael E. Tobar¹² · Francisco Torrenti²⁷ · Caner Ünal²⁸ · Graham White²⁹

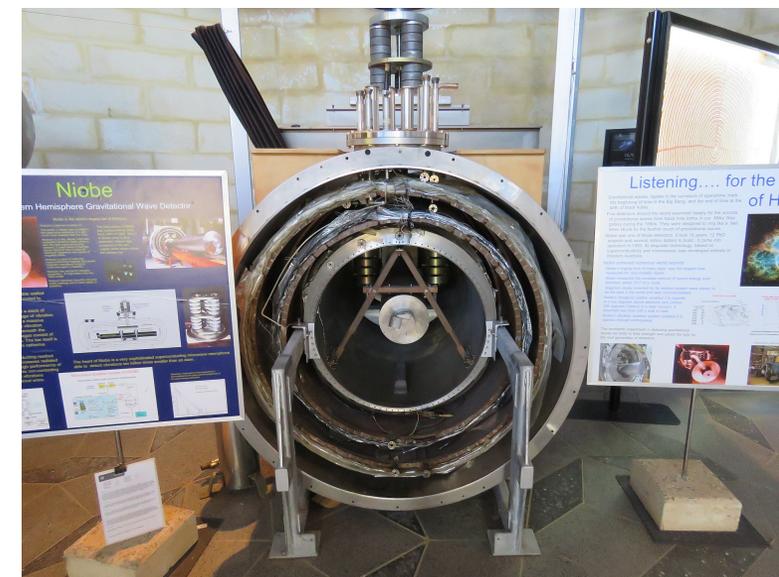
Received: 6 April 2021 / Accepted: 15 September 2021
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Precision Detectors: Sensitive to New Physics

comparing sensitivities



NIOBE



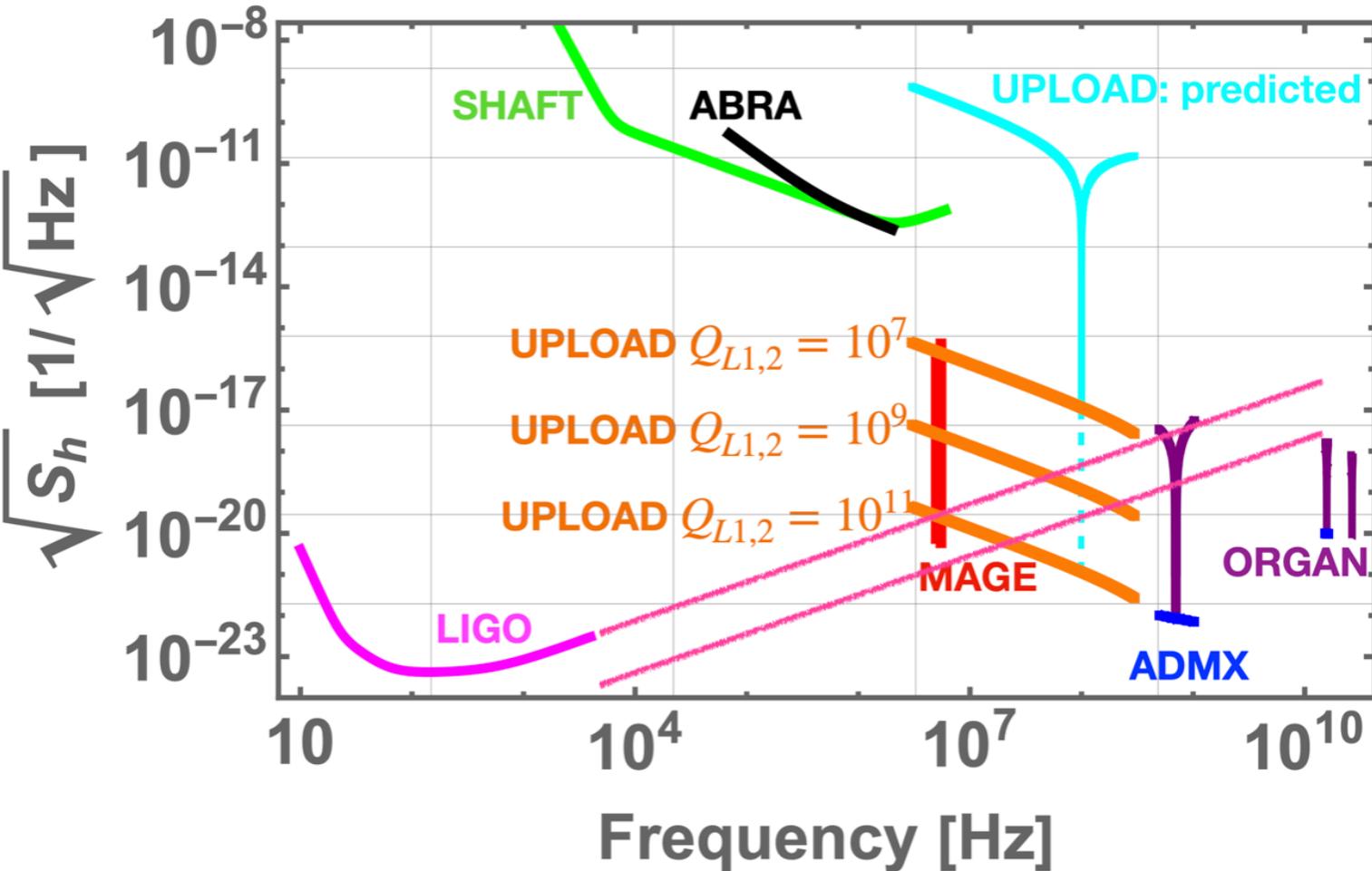
DETECTOR COMPARISON: Defining Instrument Sensitivity independent of signal (Spectral): Also sensitive to GWs



symmetry

Comparing Instrument Spectral Sensitivity of Dissimilar Electromagnetic Haloscopes to Axion Dark Matter and High Frequency Gravitational Waves

Michael E. Tobar ^{*}, Catriona A. Thomson, William M. Campbell, Aaron Quiskamp, Jeremy F. Bourhill, Benjamin T. McAllister, Eugene N. Ivanov and Maxim Goryachev



ADMX and ORGAN (purple) with current tuning locus (blue);

0.6-1.2 GHz for ADMX and 15.2 to 16.2 GHz for ORGAN

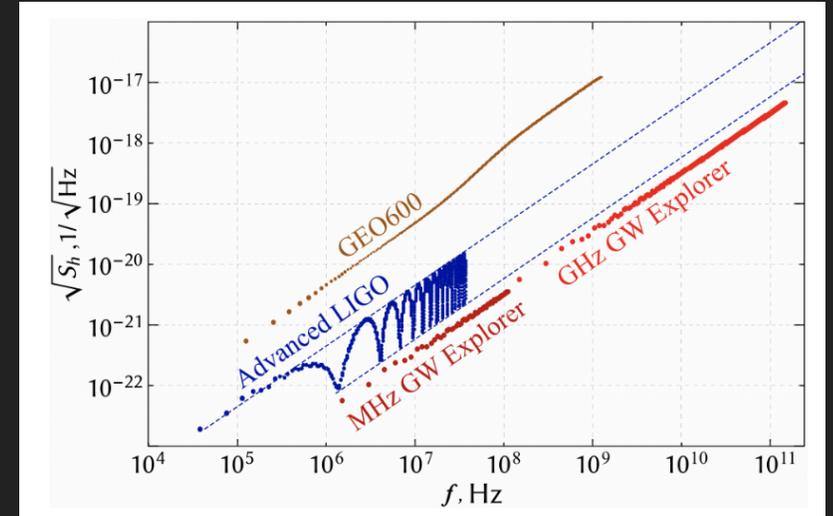
Special Issue

The Dark Universe: The Harbinger of a Major Discovery

Edited by

[Symmetry, vol. 14, no. 10, 2165, 2022](#)

Prof. Konstantin Zioutas



arXiv:2409.03019 Schnabel and Korobko

$$\theta_a = g_{a\gamma\gamma} a \sim h_g$$

$$SNR = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\Theta_a(j\omega)^2}{S_{\theta_N}(\omega)} d\omega = 4 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\Theta_a(f)^2}{S_{\theta_N}^+(f)} df$$

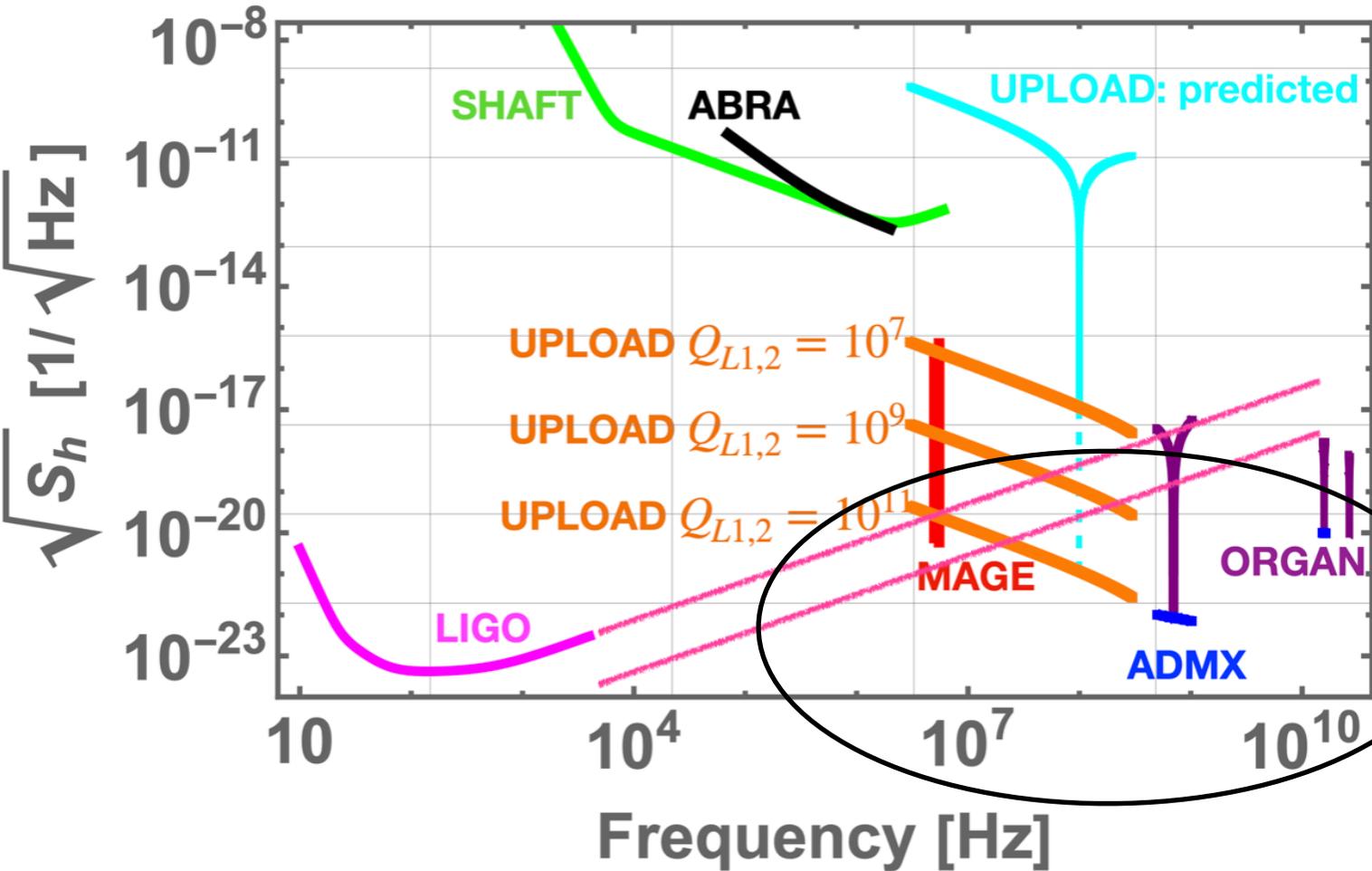
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symmetry

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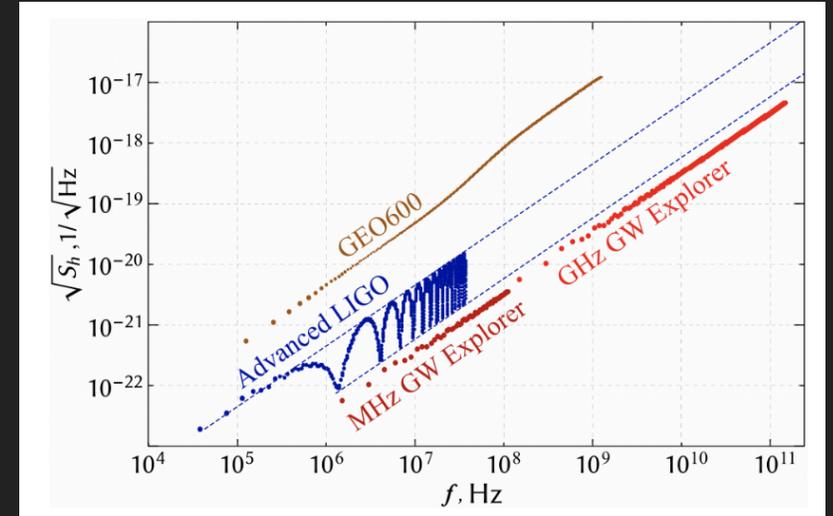
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MAGE

Excluding PBH Binaries



arXiv > gr-qc > arXiv:2506.03609

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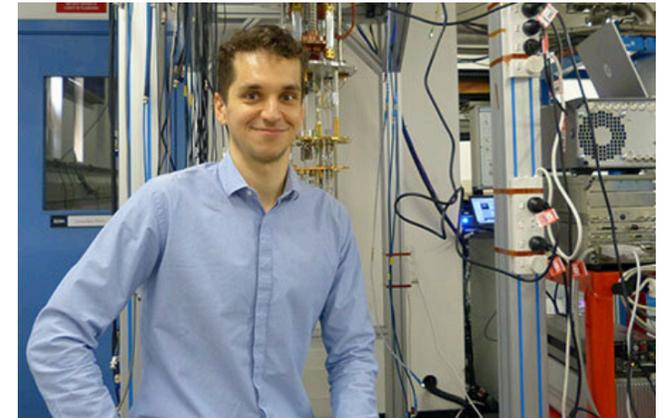
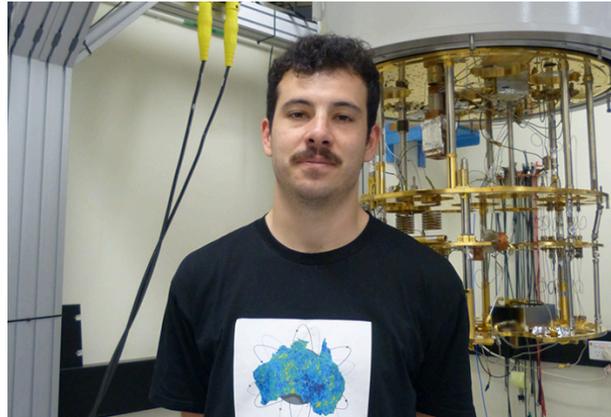
General Relativity and Quantum Cosmology

[Submitted on 4 Jun 2025]

Experimental Exclusion of Planetary Mass Primordial Black Hole Mergers

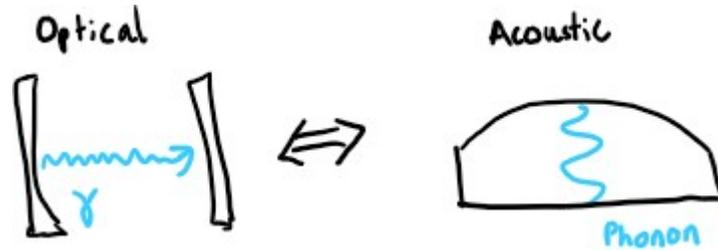
William M. Campbell, Leonardo Mariani, Michael E. Tobar, Maxim Goryachev

The multi-mode acoustic gravitational wave experiment (MAGE) is a high-frequency gravitational wave detection experiment featuring cryogenic quartz bulk acoustic wave resonators operating as sensitive strain antennas in the MHz regime. After 61 days of non-continuous data collection, we present bounds on the observable merger rate density of primordial black hole binary systems of chirp mass $1.2 \times 10^{-4} M_{\odot} < \mathcal{M} < 1.7 \times 10^{-9} M_{\odot}$. The maximum achieved limit on the merger rate density is $\mathcal{R} > 1.3 \times 10^{18} \text{ kpc}^{-3} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ which corresponds to constraining yearly mergers to a distance of reach on the order of the solar system, or $1.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ kpc}$ during the observational period. In addition, we exclude significantly rare and strong events similar to those observed in previous predecessor experiments as non-gravitational background signals, utilising coincident analysis between multiple detectors.



Quartz Bulk Acoustic Wave Resonators

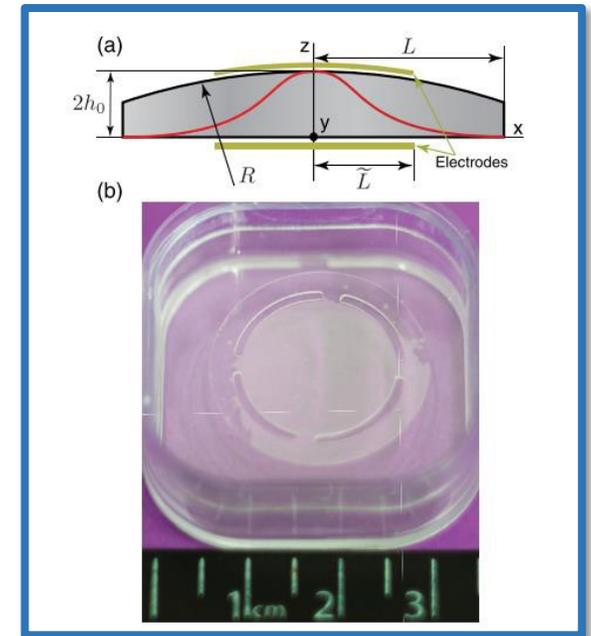
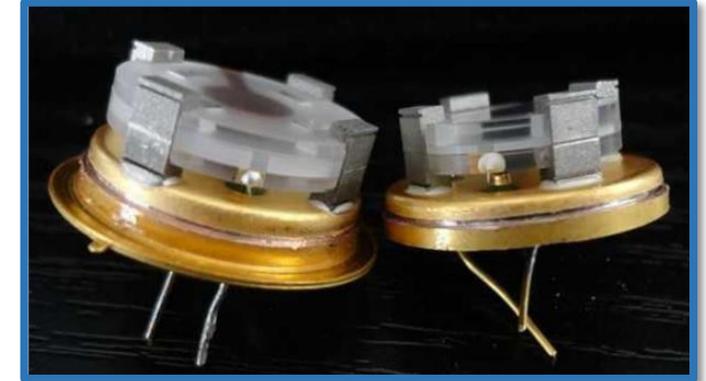
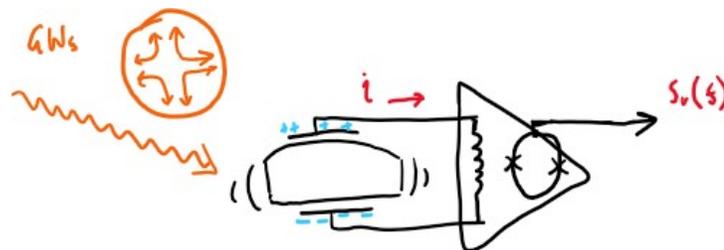
- **Acoustic analogue to a Optical Fabry-Perot cavity.**



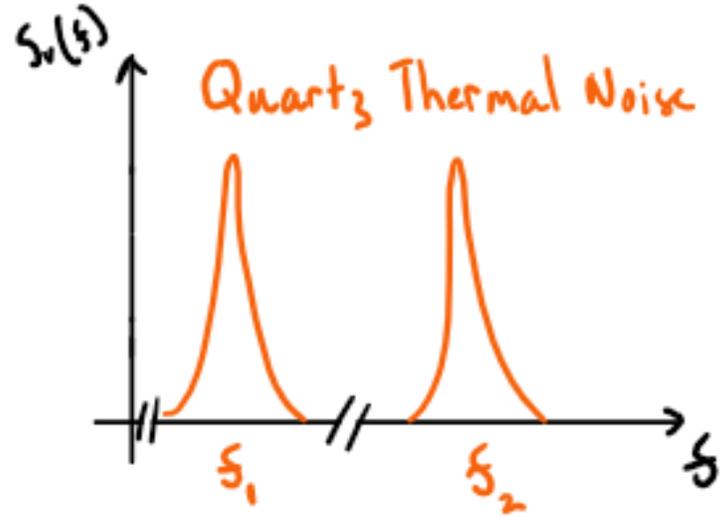
* RESEARCH WITH ACOUSTIC RESONATORS @ UWA

- * Search for High frequency GWs
- * Detection of a Graviton
- * Search for Scalar DM:
- * Search for Lorentz invariance violations
- * Improved constraints on minimum length models or Generalized Uncertainty Principle (GUP)

Scientific Reports Vol. 3, 2132 (2013)

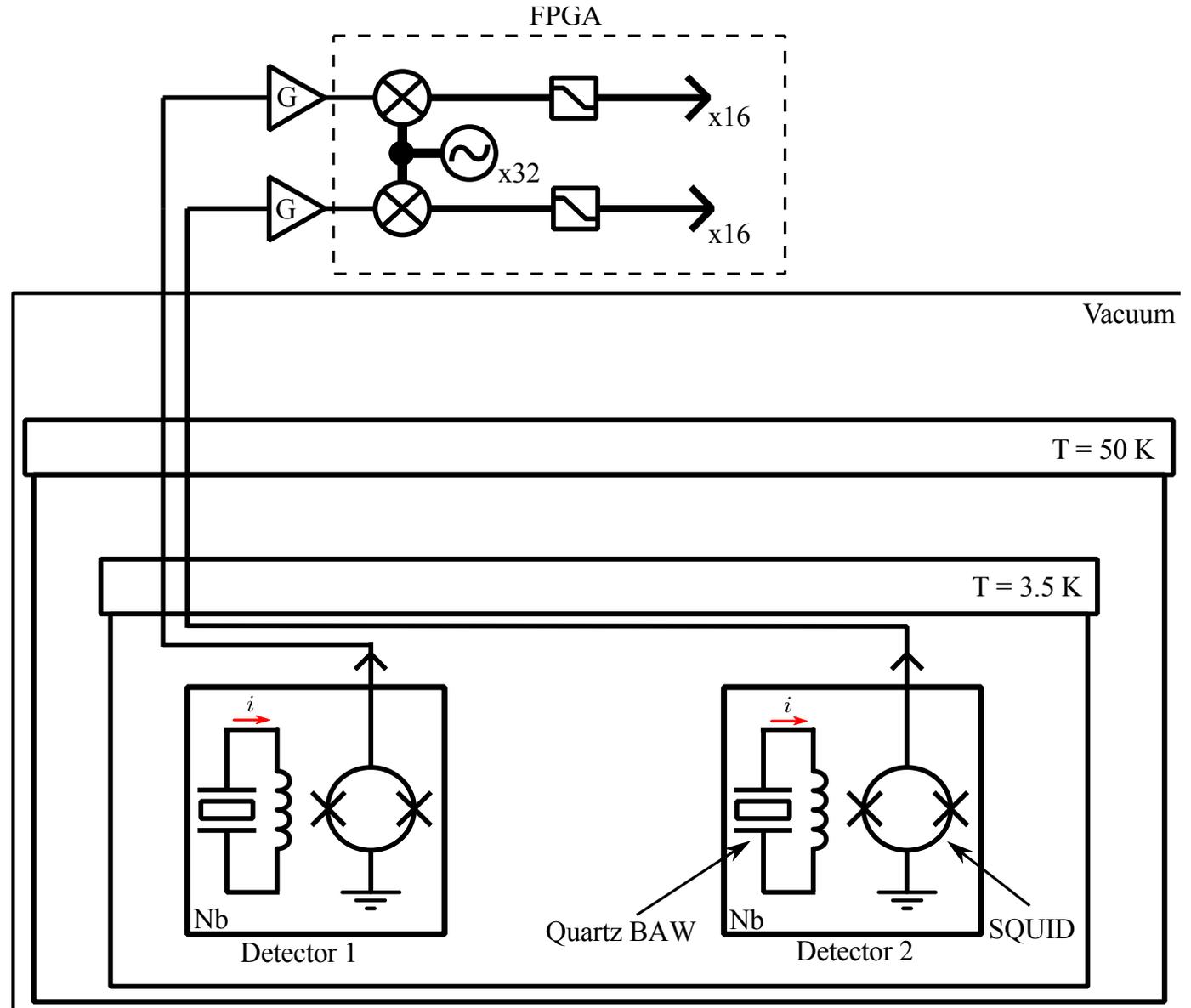


The Experiment



- 61 days of non-continuous data collection
- Optimal filtering approach
- Coincident with the two MAGE detectors,
- Removes non-gravitational background signals by coincident analysis
- High energy events seen previously observed to never occur in both detectors

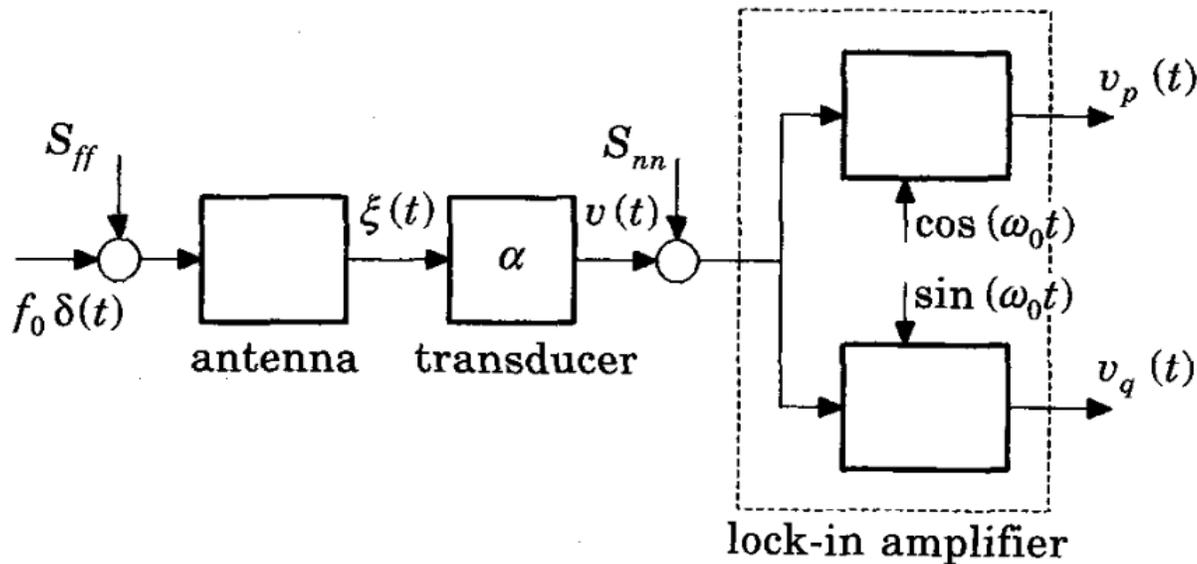
Complex DAQ Chain.



What does the data look like ?

$$v_s(t) = V_s \exp[-\beta_1 t] \sin \omega_0 t,$$

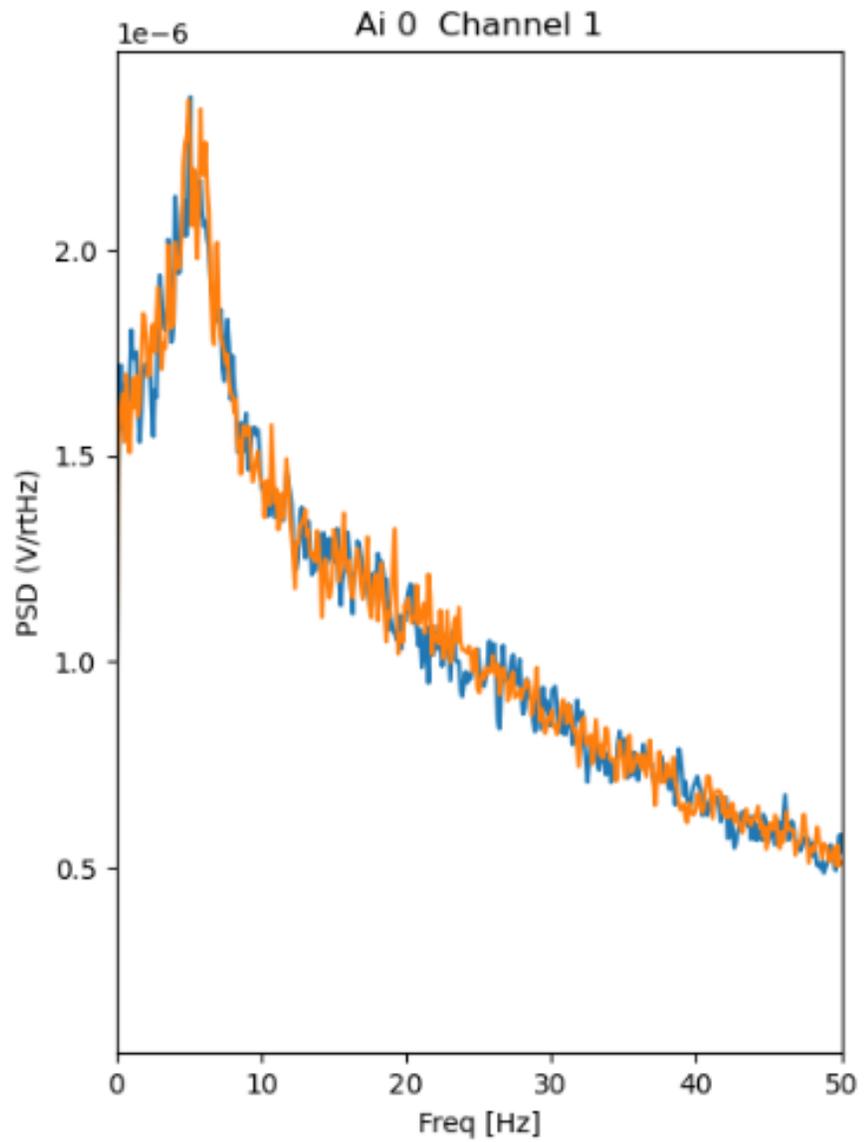
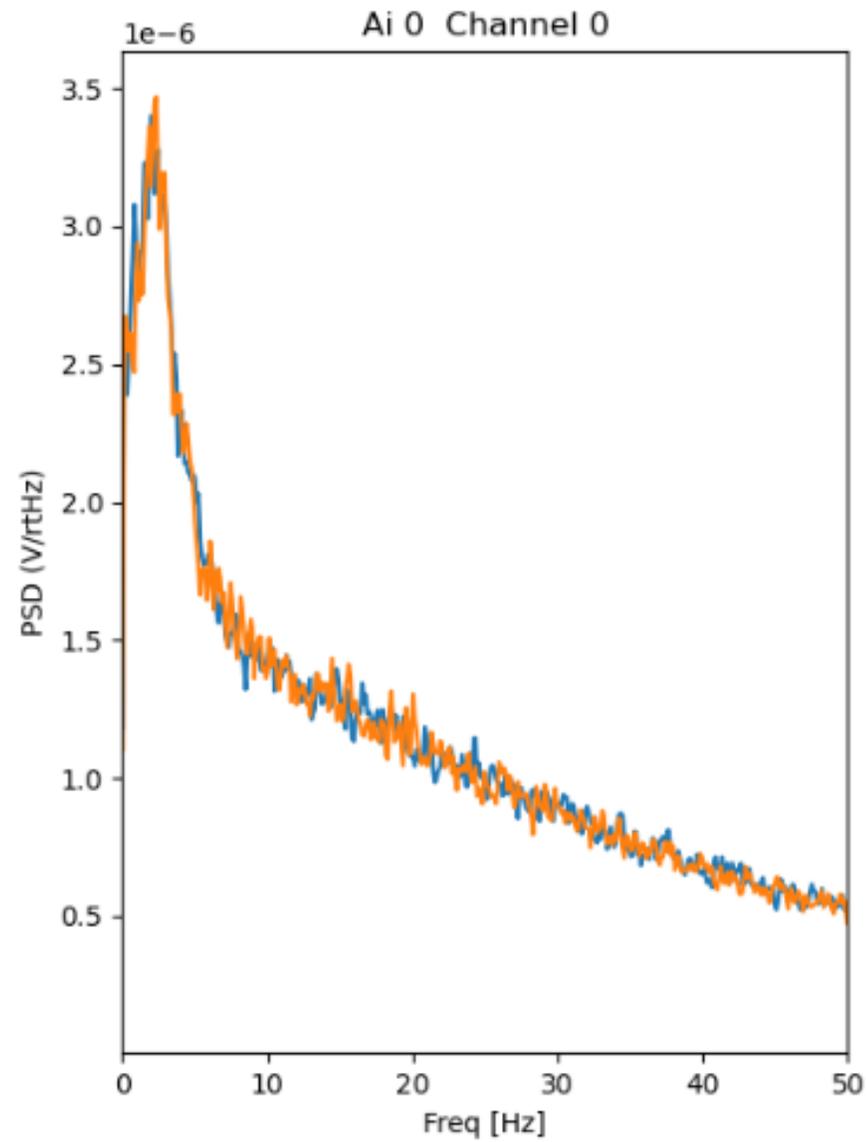
We expect GWs to drive an acoustic mode \rightarrow decaying sinusoidal



$$p_s(t) = \frac{V_s}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\beta_2}{\beta_2 - \beta_1} (\exp[-\beta_1 t] - \exp[-\beta_2 t]) \cos \phi,$$

$$q_s(t) = \frac{V_s}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\beta_2}{\beta_2 - \beta_1} (\exp[-\beta_1 t] - \exp[-\beta_2 t]) \sin \phi,$$

- Detector 1 Fourier Transforms
- Channel 0 is 4.993 MHz
- Channel 1 is 5.08 MHz



- FPGAs mimics 32 lockin-amps, Phase is time dependent and equal to 2Hz
- Sampled at a frequency of 238 Hz
- -> data streams, broken into 20×2^{14} samples segments \sim 23 minutes of data

What does the signal look like ?

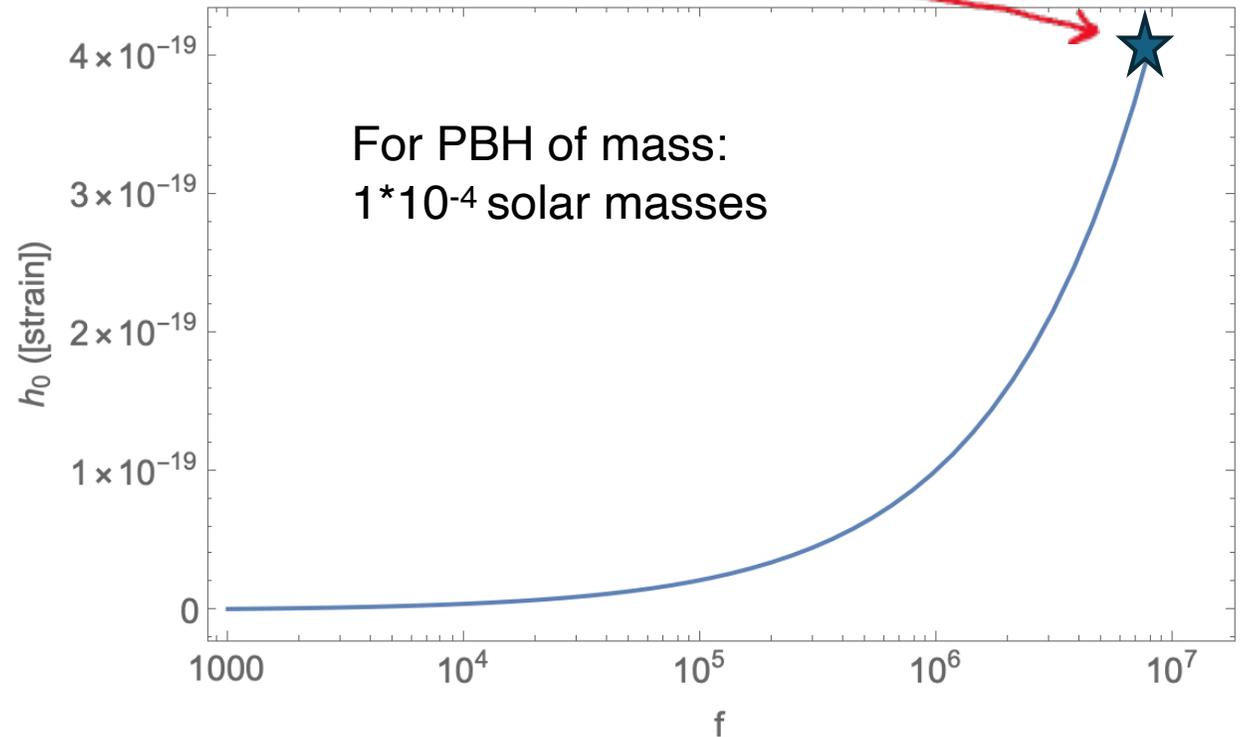
Innermost Stable Circular Orbit

PBH merger ring-up to some frequency f_{ISCO}

$$f_{\text{ISCO}} = 4400 \text{ Hz} \frac{M_{\odot}}{m_1 + m_2},$$

Produces a strain h_0 proportional to the merger mass M and distance D

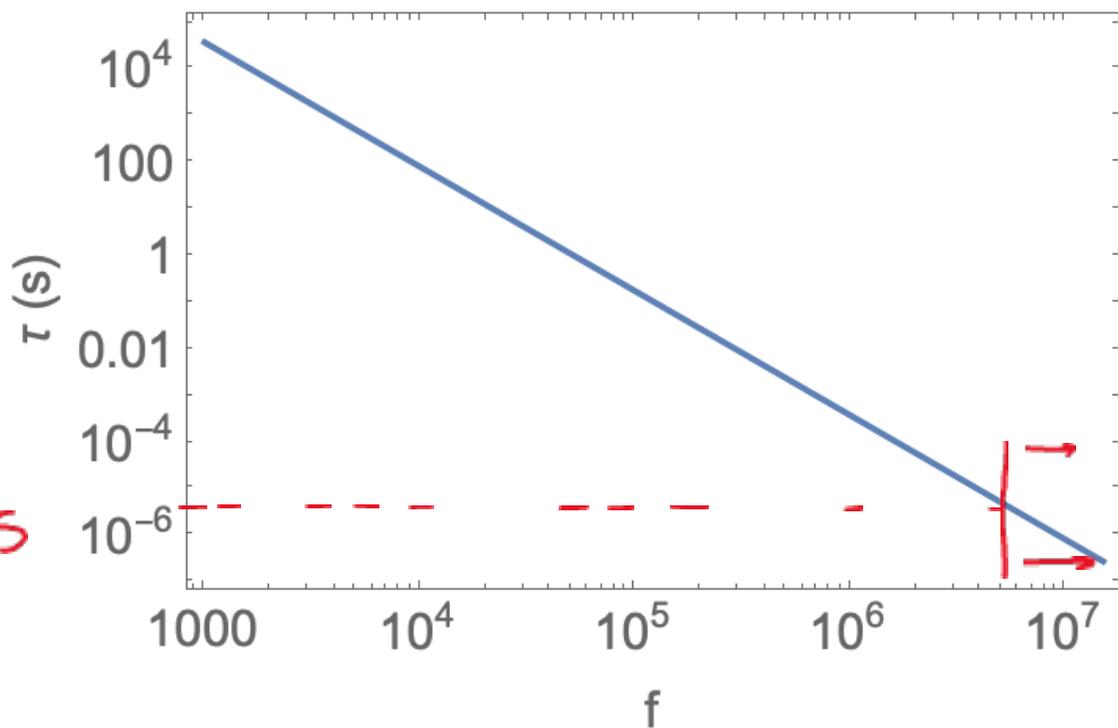
$$h_0 \approx \frac{2}{D} \left(\frac{GM}{c^2} \right)^{5/3} \left(\frac{\pi f}{c} \right)^{2/3}$$



\mathcal{M} Reduced mass of binary system

Be careful of signal duration

Time to coalescence at 15 MHz



$$N_{\text{cycles}} = \frac{f^2}{\dot{f}} \simeq 2.2 \times 10^6 \left(\frac{f}{\text{GHz}} \right)^{-5/3} \left(\frac{m_{\text{PBH}}}{10^{-9} M_{\odot}} \right)^{-5/3},$$

$$\tau(f) \approx 83 \text{ sec} \left(\frac{m_{\text{PBH}}}{10^{-12} M_{\odot}} \right)^{-5/3} \left(\frac{f}{\text{GHz}} \right)^{-8/3}$$

MAGE operates in narrow bands in the MHz spectrum

Signal may only pass through detector band for a VERY brief moment in time.

Introduce *characteristic strain*

Dimensionless quantity introduced to account for the frequency evolution of a strain signals. It is more convenient to use than strain h_0 .

The characteristic strain, h_c , excluded by the detector can be related to the strain amplitude h_0 of a PBH in-spiral of binary chirp mass \mathcal{M} by;

$$h_c^2 = (2f\tilde{h}(f))^2 = 2h_0^2 N_{\text{cycles}}(\mathcal{M}, f)$$

$$h_0 \approx \frac{2}{d} \left(\frac{G\mathcal{M}}{c^2} \right)^{5/3} \left(\frac{\pi f}{c} \right)^{2/3}$$

Searching for a signal in a noisy detector output

Well known / solved problem in the case of stationary gaussian noise -> ***optimal / matched filter***.

$$\underline{s(t)} = \underline{h(t)} + \underline{n(t)}$$

We wish to still be able to detect a signal in the case where the noise is larger than the signal contribution

$$|\tilde{h}(t)| \ll |\tilde{n}(t)|$$

Matched filter

Introduce some filter function $K(t)$

It is critical we know / assume the form of our signal $h(t)$

$$\hat{s} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt s(t) K(t)$$

Then ask: “what is the form of $K(t)$ that maximises the ratio of our signal expectation value to the noise”

The signal-to-noise ratio (in amplitude) is defined as S/N , where S is the expected value of \hat{s} when the signal is present, and N is the rms value of \hat{s} when the signal is absent. Since $\langle n(t) \rangle = 0$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \langle s(t) \rangle K(t) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \underline{h(t)} K(t) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} df \tilde{h}(f) \tilde{K}^*(f), \end{aligned}$$

F

$$\begin{aligned} N^2 &= [\langle \hat{s}^2(t) \rangle - \langle \hat{s}(t) \rangle^2]_{h=0} \\ &= \langle \hat{s}^2(t) \rangle_{h=0} \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt dt' K(t) K(t') \langle n(t) n(t') \rangle \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt dt' K(t) K(t') \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} df df' e^{2\pi i f t - 2\pi i f' t'} \underline{\langle \tilde{n}^*(f) \tilde{n}(f') \rangle}.} \\ &= \text{PSD} \end{aligned} \tag{7.4}$$

Matched filter

We have:

$$\frac{S}{N} = \frac{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} df \tilde{h}(f) \tilde{K}^*(f)}{\left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} df \underbrace{(1/2) S_n(f)}_{\text{'SD'}} |\tilde{K}(f)|^2 \right]^{1/2}} .$$

What is the $K(f)$ that gives maximum S/N for a given $h(t)$?

$$\tilde{K}(f) = \text{const.} \frac{\tilde{h}(f)}{\underline{S_n(f)}} \longrightarrow$$

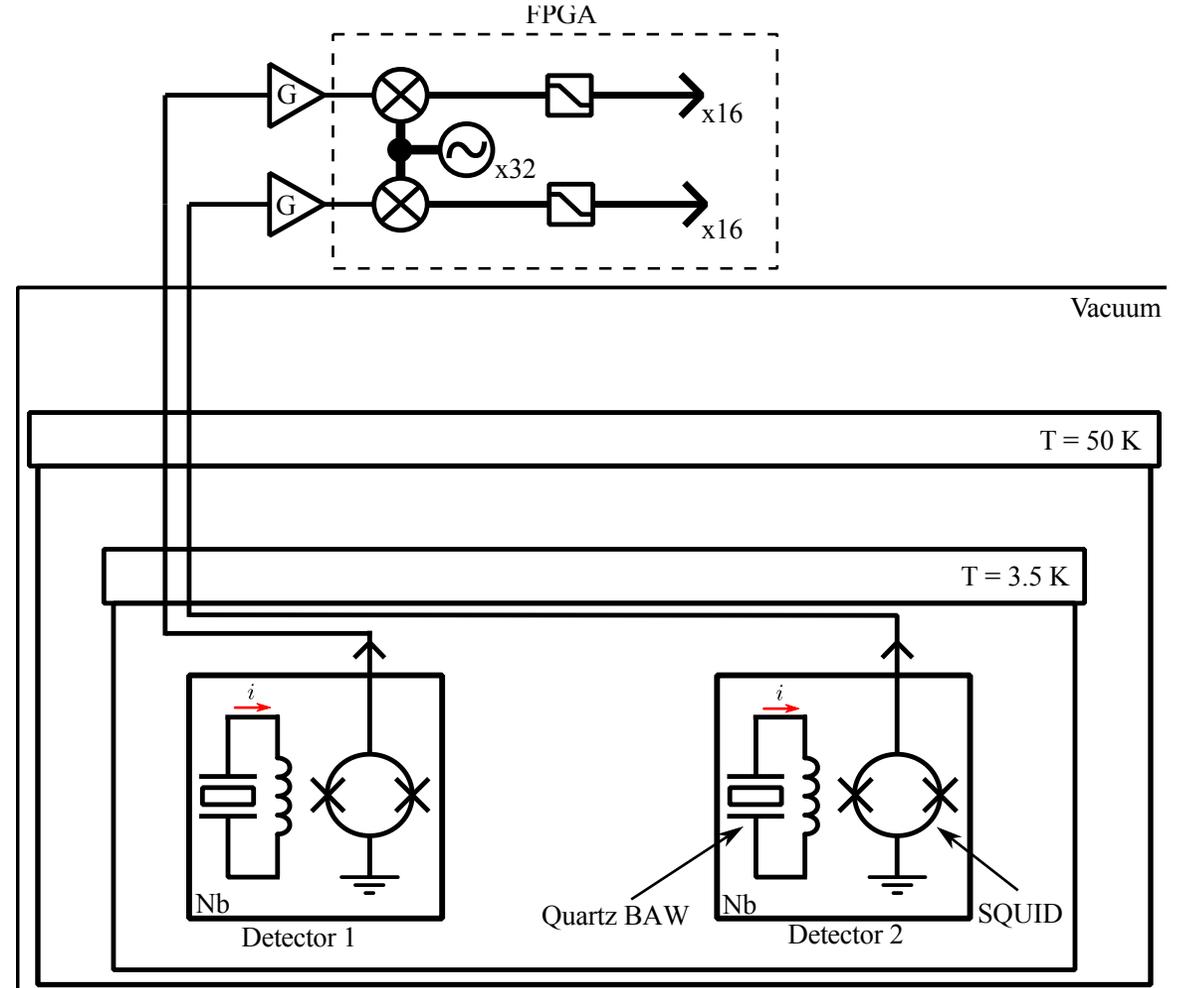
$$\left(\frac{S}{N} \right)^2 = 4 \int_0^{\infty} df \frac{|\tilde{h}(f)|^2}{S_n(f)} .$$

Substitute $K(f)$ back in to get this equation for the most optimal SNR

Filter effectively weights the noisier detector regions

Determining detector strain

$$x(t) = \mathcal{F}^{-1} \left(\mathcal{F} \left(\frac{\sqrt{X(t)^2 + Y(t)^2}}{2\pi f_\lambda \kappa_\lambda G_s} \right) \right)$$



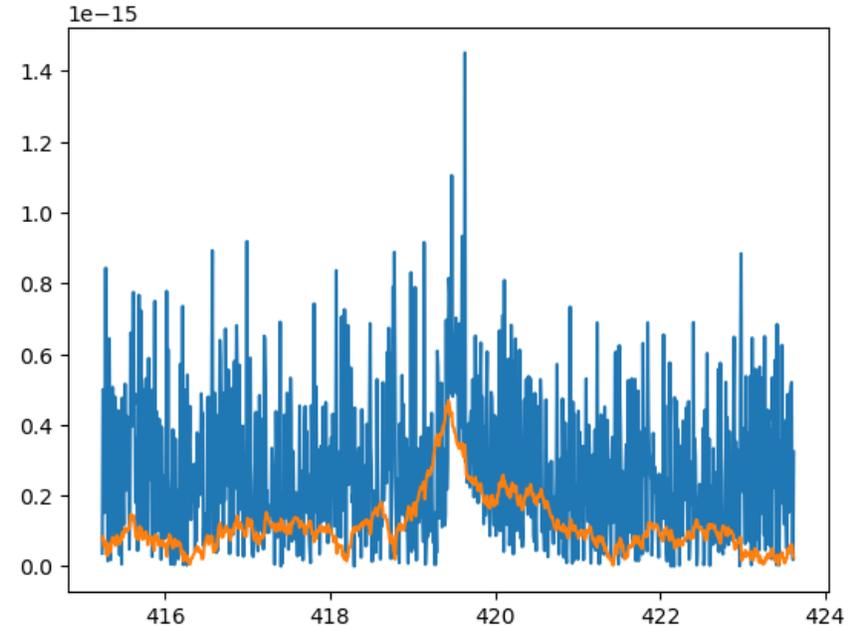
Implementing the matched filter.

```
def optimal_filter(data, template, Fs, NFFT):
    fft = np.fft.fft(data) # fourier transformed data
    zero_pad = np.zeros(data.size - template.size) # zero pad template to match data size
    template_pad = np.append(template, zero_pad)
    fft_template = np.fft.fft(template_pad) # fourier transformed padded template
    plt.plot()
    power_dat, freq_PSD = plt.psd(data, Fs=Fs, NFFT = NFFT, visible = True)
    freq_dat = np.fft.fftfreq(data.size)*Fs #fourier frequencies corresponding to data partition
    power_spec = np.interp(freq_dat, freq_PSD, power_dat)

    val_cal = np.max(template)
    OF = np.fft.ifft(fft_template*fft_template.conjugate()/power_spec).real
    K = val_cal/np.amax(OF)

    df = np.abs(freq_dat[1] - freq_dat[2])
    opt_filter = K * fft * fft_template.conjugate() / power_spec #optimal filter
    dat_filt = np.fft.ifft(opt_filter) #revert to time domain for filter output

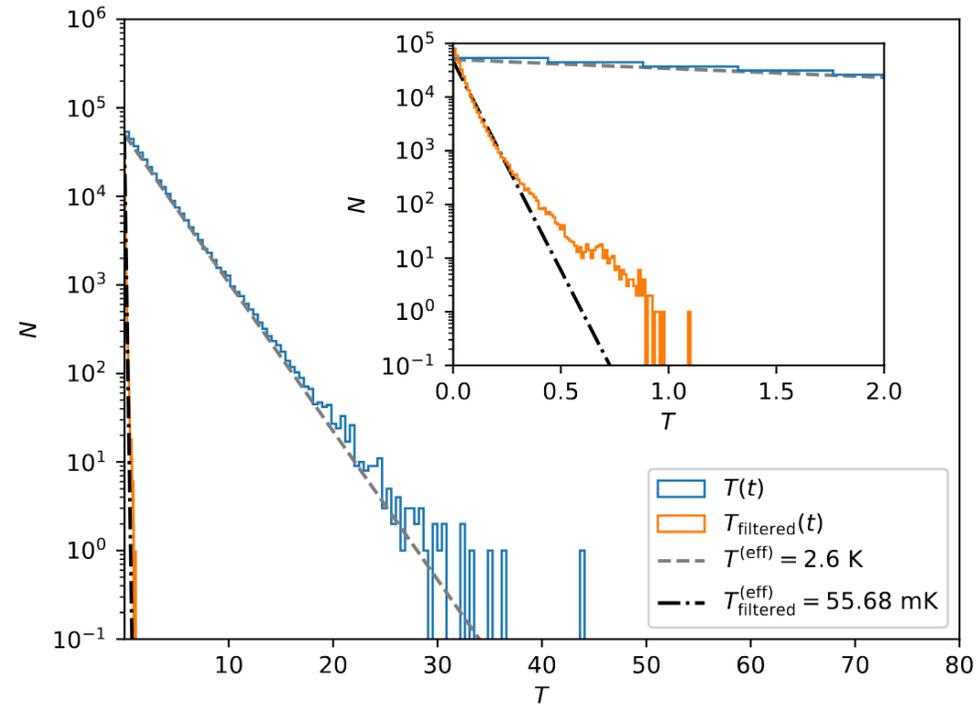
    sigmasq = 2*(K**2 * fft_template * fft_template.conjugate() / power_spec).sum() * df
    sigma = np.sqrt(np.abs(sigmasq))
    SNR = np.abs(2*dat_filt) / (sigma)
    return SNR, dat_filt
```



```
signal = 5e-16*np.exp(-t_sig/(tau1))
template = np.exp(-t_sig/(tau1))
zero_pad = np.zeros(h.size - signal.size) # zero pad template to match data size
template_pad = np.roll(np.append(signal, zero_pad),50000)

h_inject = template_pad + np.abs(np.random.normal(0, 1.66*np.std(h), size = len(h)))
h_inject2 = np.abs(np.random.normal(0, 1.66*np.std(h), size = len(h)))
```

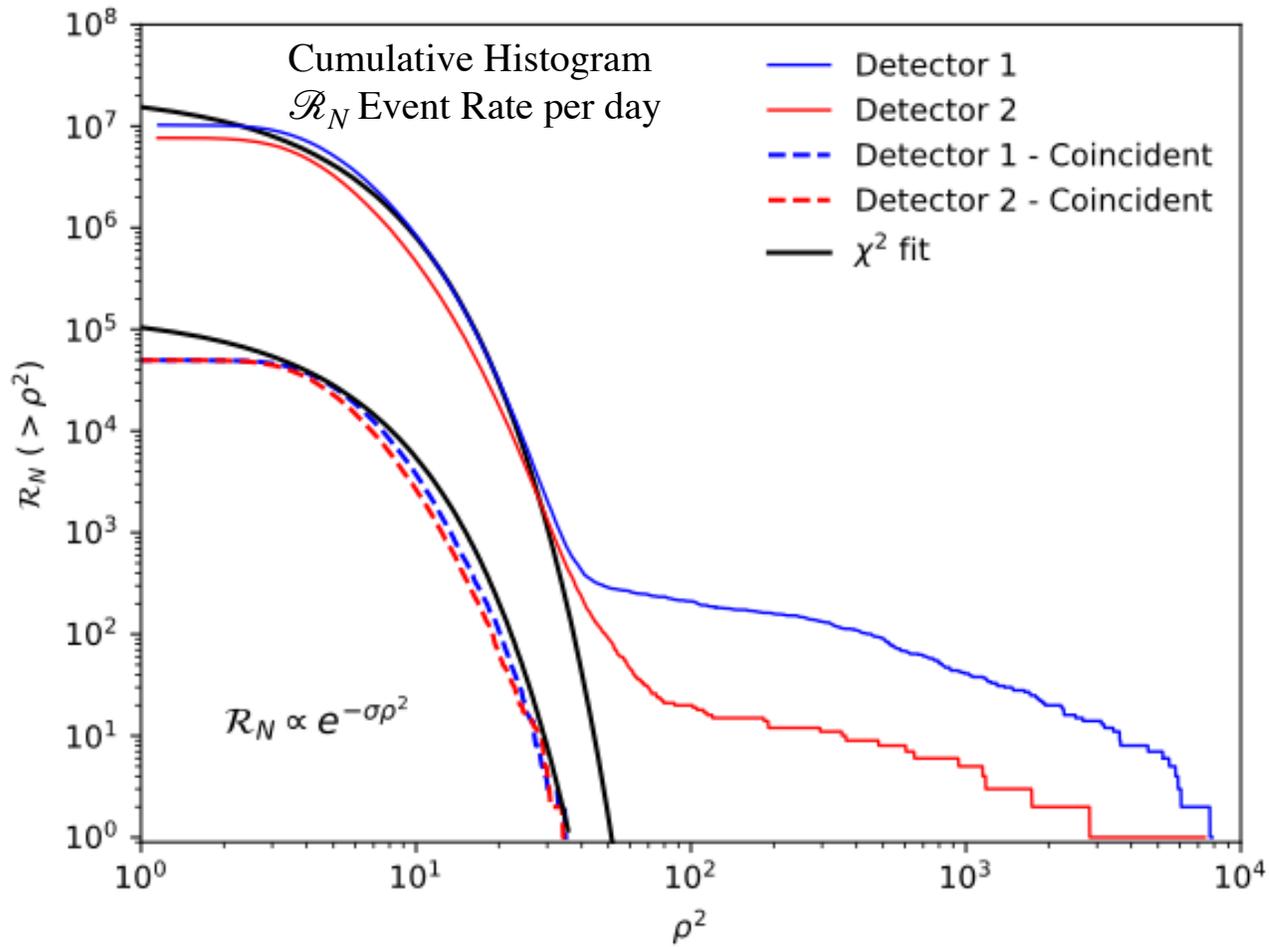
Determining Candidate Events



- Transient energy impulses excite the crystal
- Distinguished from other non-Gaussian noise sources by implementing a template bank with multiple values of decay times $\tau_b = \{\tau_1, \dots, \tau_\lambda, \dots, \tau_i\}$
- Selecting candidate triggers for which ρ is optimised for $\tau \sim \tau_\lambda$

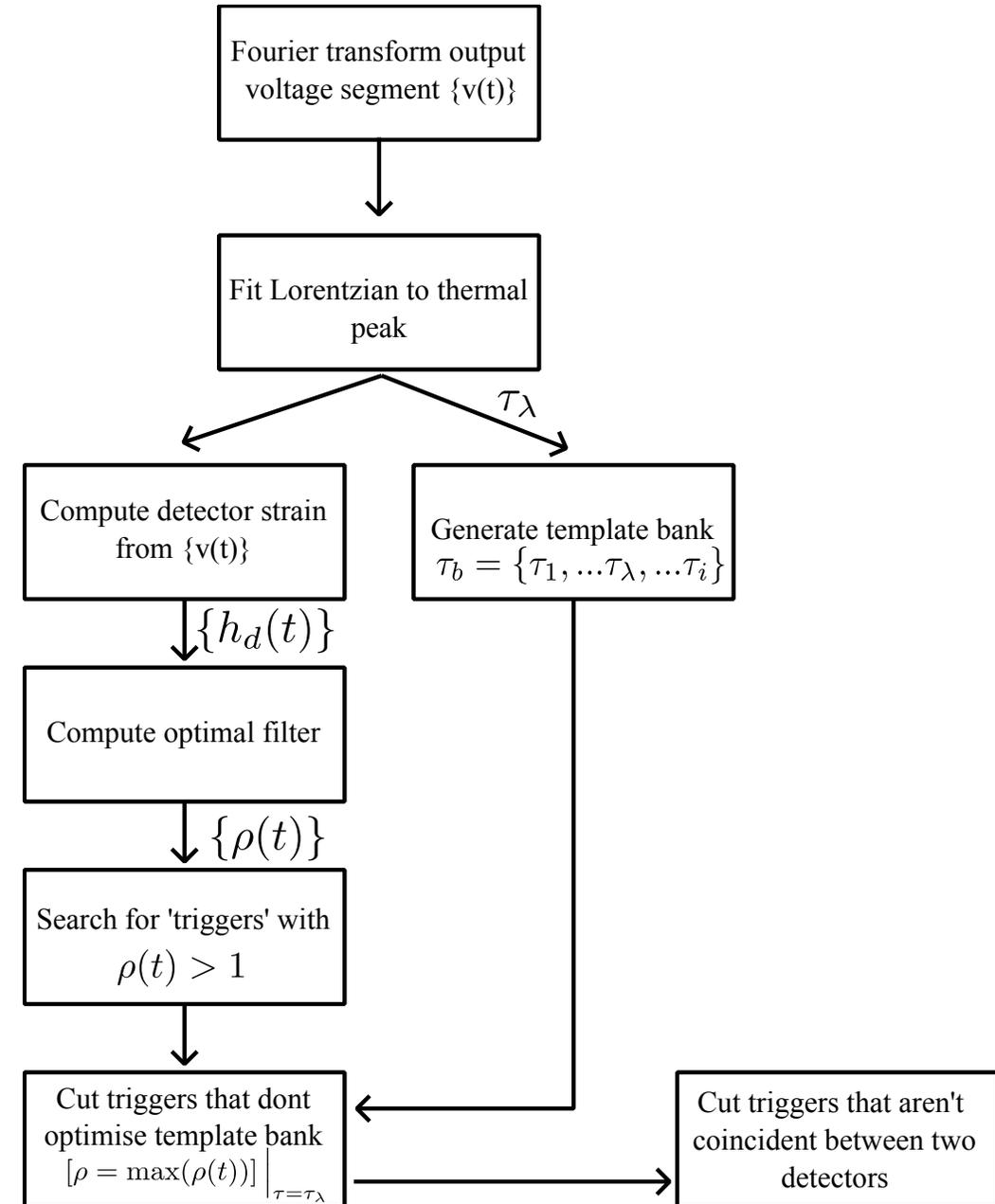
FIG. 2. Instantaneous vibrational energy of a single mode is plotted as a histogram for a 23 minute segment of data. The blue (orange) histogram represents the energy distribution before (after) optimal filtering. Both histograms clearly follow an expected χ^2 distribution, however the effect of optimal filtering greatly reduces the effective temperature at which events can be identified with $\text{SNR} = 1$.

Data analysis pipeline



Applying the optimal filter

- > SNR as a time series $\rho(t)$
- > represents SNR in excess narrowband fluctuations above the thermal Nyquist noise limit of the crystal
- > SNR fits a thermal distribution
- > Statistical coincidences of thermal noise



What characteristic strain can be excluded?

$$h_{c,\lambda} > \underbrace{x_{\max,\lambda}}^{\substack{\rho(t) \\ \updownarrow}} \left| \frac{-2\pi^2 f^2 L_z \xi}{(2i\pi f)^2 + \tau_\lambda^{-1} + (2\pi f_\lambda)^2} \right|^{-1} \frac{f_\lambda}{\Delta f_\lambda}$$

For a single mode

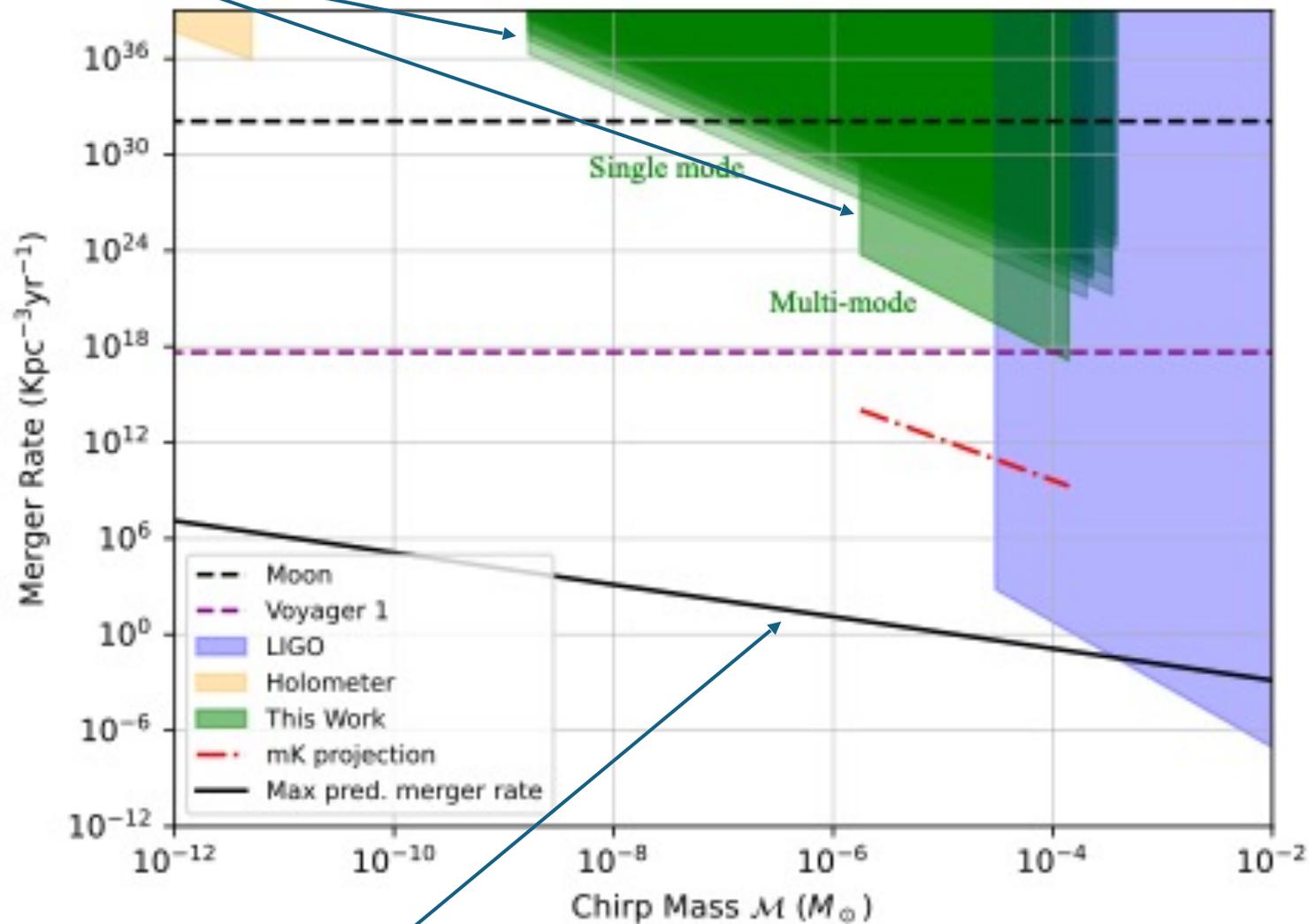
However, we can exploit the multi-mode nature of MAGE and consider an in spiral signal that passes through the band of *every* mode in both detectors

$$\rho^2 = 2 \int_0^\infty df \frac{N_{\text{cycles}}(f) h_0^2}{f^2 S_n(f)} \sim \frac{h_0^2}{2} \sum_\lambda^{N_\lambda} \frac{\Delta f_\lambda^2 N_{\text{cycles}}(f_\lambda)}{f_\lambda^2 h_n^2(f_\lambda)}$$

Choosing a threshold $\text{SNR} > 3$ gives an exclusion to 97.7% confidence on minimum detectable h_0

This can be converted in a corresponding distance of reach D for a PBH system of some mass M

Lower bounds determined by sampling rate



Binary system of equal PBH mass $\sim 4.4 \times 10^{-3} M_{\odot}$. Emits maximal HFGW at $f = 5$ MHz during its innermost stable circular orbit (ISCO)

Maximum predicted merger rate for 100% PBH dark matter

ORGAN (Oscillating Resonant Group Axion Experiment)

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Direct search for dark matter axions excluding ALPogenesis in the 63- to 67- μeV range with the ORGAN experiment

Aaron Quiskamp^{1,*}, Ben T. McAllister^{1,2,*}, Paul Altin³, Eugene N. Ivanov¹, Maxim Goryachev¹, Michael E. Tobar^{1,*}

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **109**, 015013 (2024)

Tunable rectangular resonant cavities for axion haloscopes

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PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS **132**, 031601 (2024)

Exclusion of Axionlike-Particle Cogenesis Dark Matter in a Mass Window above 100 μeV

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Ann. Phys. (Berlin)2023,2200594

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Sensitivity of Resonant Axion Haloscopes to Quantum Electromagnetodynamics

Michael E. Tobar,* Catriona A. Thomson, Benjamin T. McAllister, Maxim Goryachev, Anton V. Sokolov, and Andreas Ringwald

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Ann. Phys. (Berlin)2023,2200622

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Limits on Dark Photons, Scalars, and Axion-Electromagnetodynamics with the ORGAN Experiment

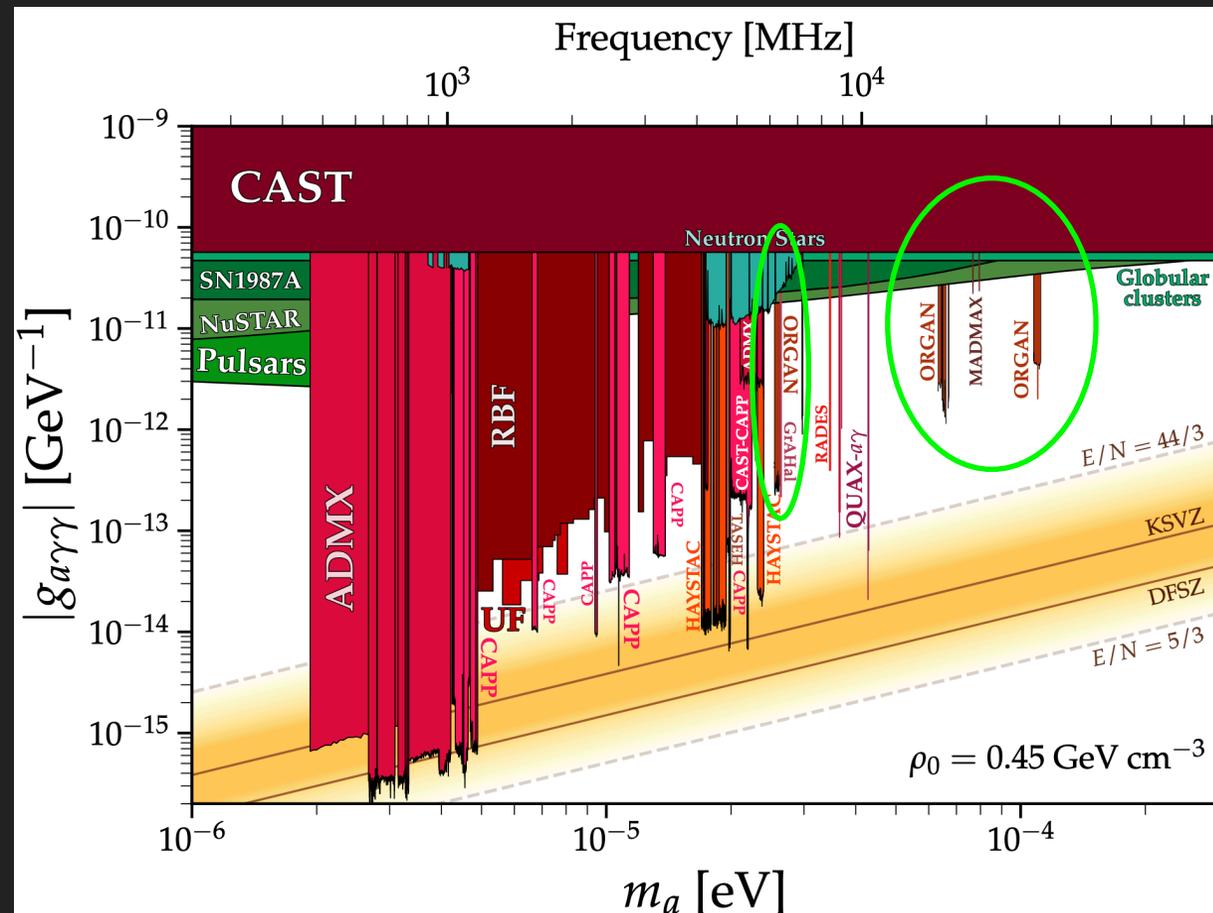
Ben T. McAllister,* Aaron Quiskamp, Ciaran A. J. O'Hare, Paul Altin, Eugene N. Ivanov, Maxim Goryachev, and Michael E. Tobar

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **111**, 095007 (2025)

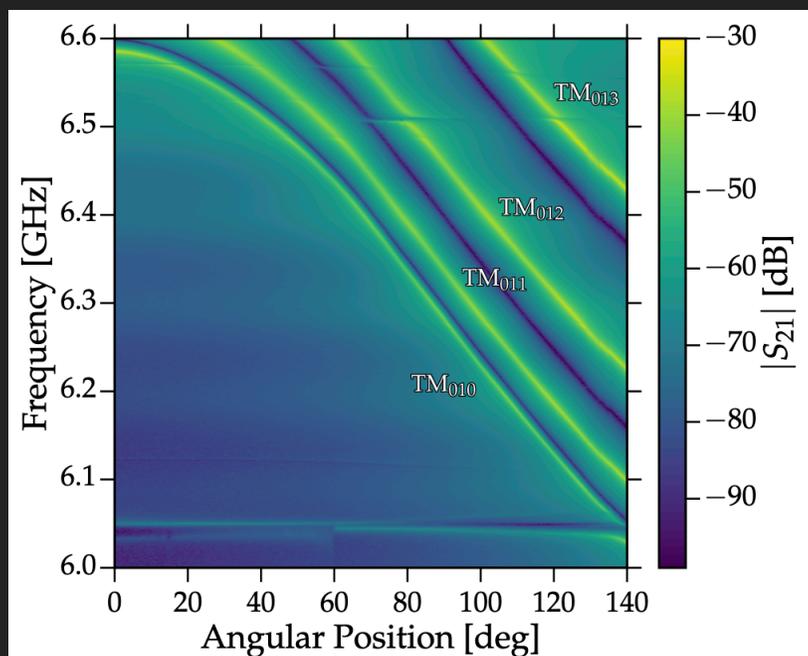
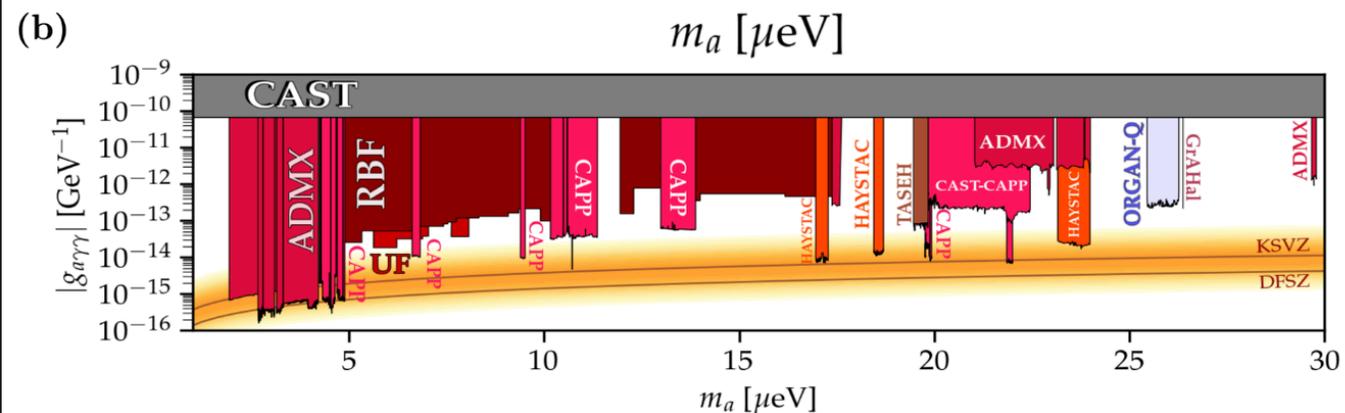
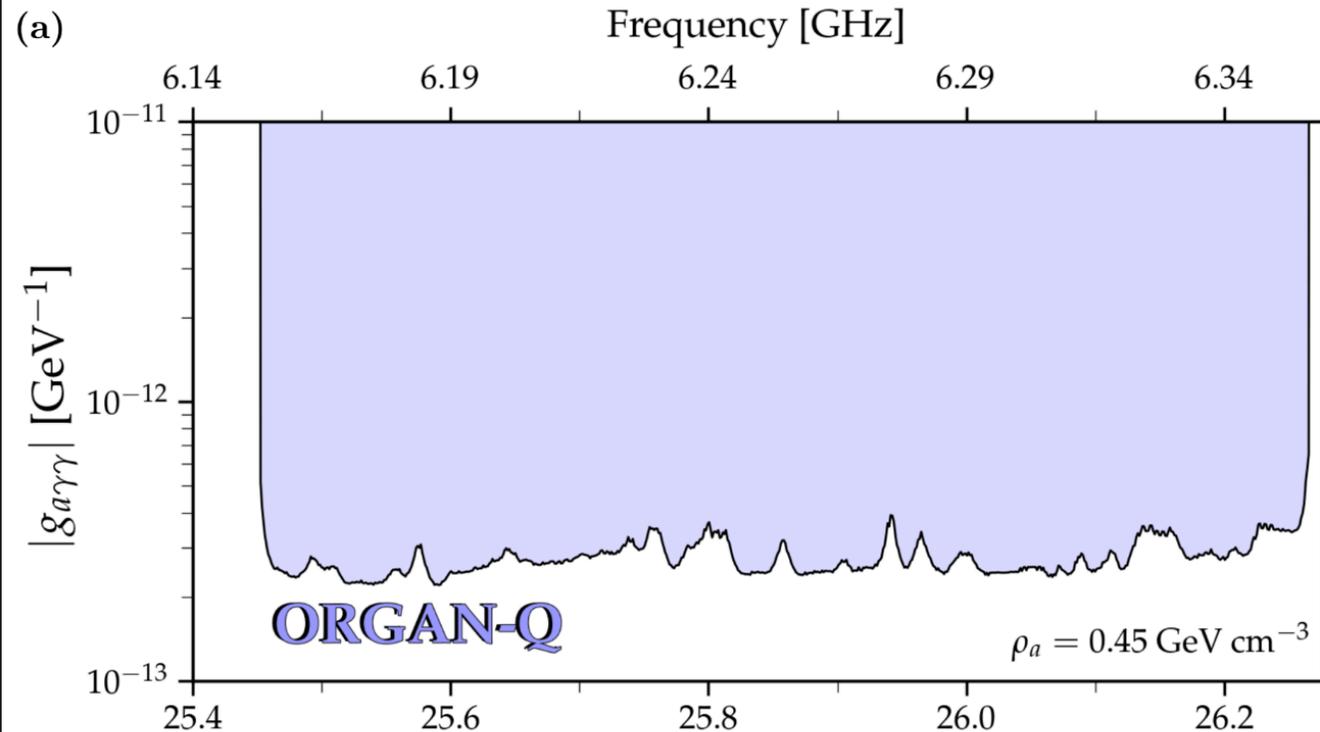
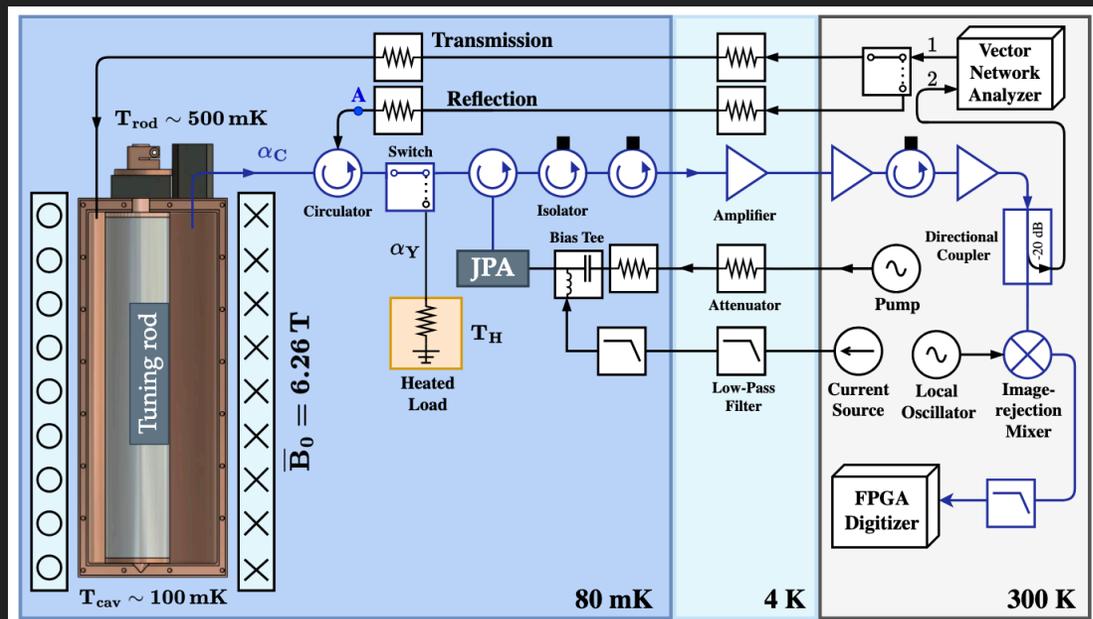
Near-quantum-limited axion dark matter search with the ORGAN experiment around 26 μeV

Aaron P. Quiskamp^{1,*}, Graeme R. Flower¹, Steven Samuels¹, Ben T. McAllister^{1,2,†}, Paul Altin³, Eugene N. Ivanov¹, Maxim Goryachev¹, and Michael E. Tobar^{1,‡}

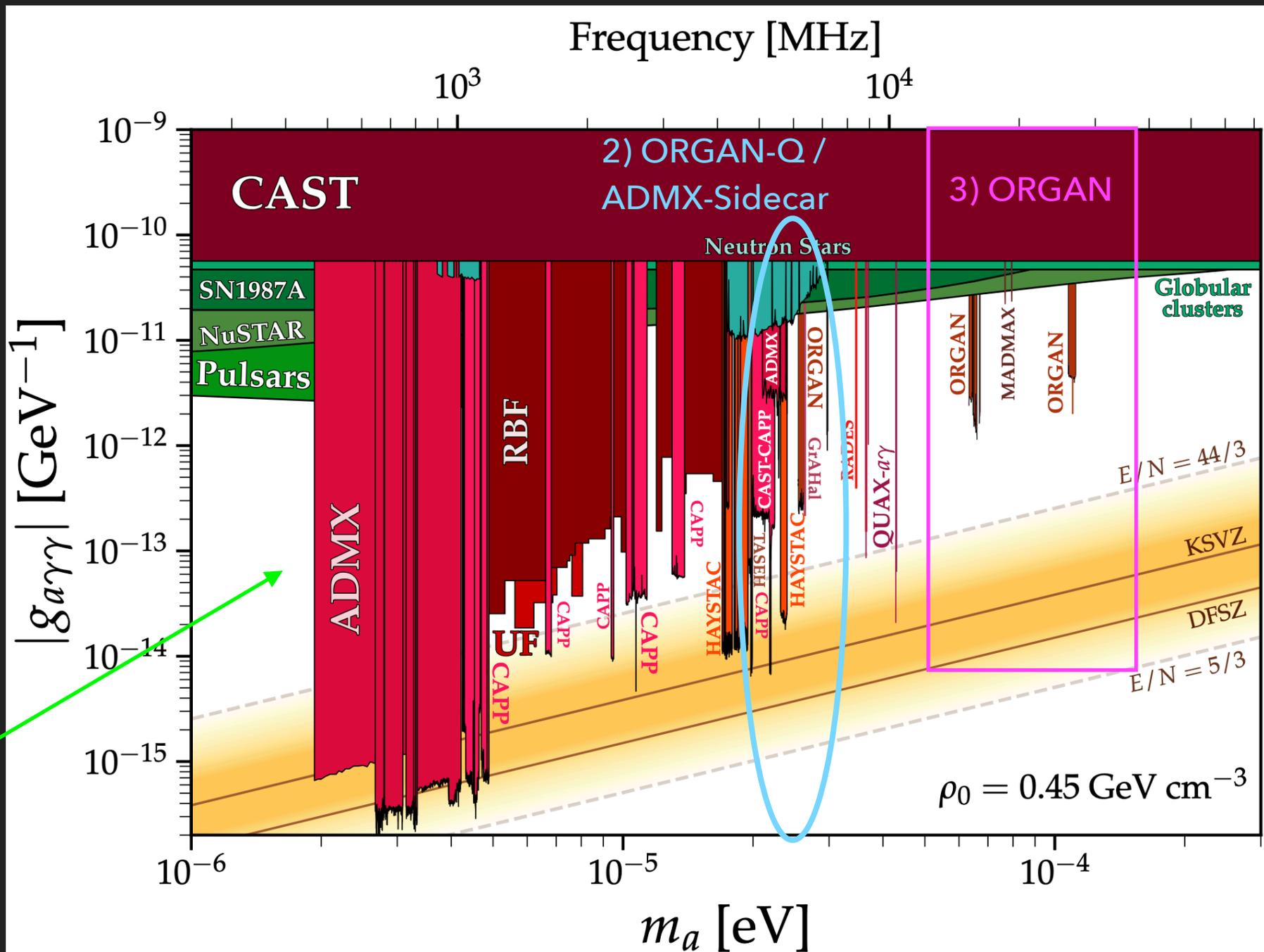
¹Quantum Technologies and Dark Matter Laboratory, Department of Physics, University of Western Australia, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley, Western Australia 6009, Australia
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ORGAN-Q



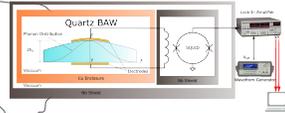
1) ORGAN/
ADMX-LOW



Future Detector Networks



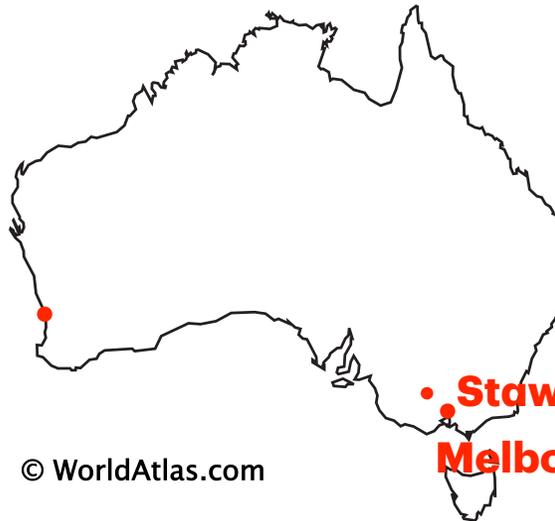
• **Milan Bicocca**



• **Seattle UW**



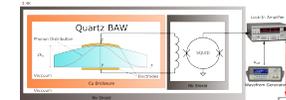
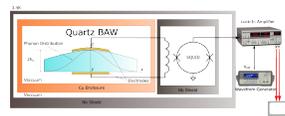
• **Chicago (Fermilab)**



• **Perth UWA**

• **Stawell SUPL**

• **Melbourne Swinburne**





Linkage Infrastructure Equipment and Facilities

Applicants may seek funding for:

- infrastructure, equipment and facility purchases, construction and installation
- salaries directly associated with creating and installing infrastructure, equipment or facilities
- leasing of infrastructure, equipment or facilities
- consortium membership costs, in the case of Australia's participation in the use of significant international-scale or national research facilities
- specialised computing facilities and software compilations, catalogues, clearing houses or bibliographies.

The LIEF scheme provides project funding of a minimum of \$150,000 per year to a maximum of 75% of the total direct cost of the eligible budget items. The grant duration is one year; or one to 5 years if the application is for leasing infrastructure, equipment or facilities, the construction of research infrastructure, or subscription or coordinated access to international facilities and major national facilities.

The objectives of the LIEF scheme are to:

- support excellent basic and applied research and research training through the acquisition of research equipment and infrastructure and access to national and international research facilities
- encourage Eligible Organisations to develop collaborative arrangements with other Eligible Organisations and/or Partner Organisations for the acquisition and use of research equipment and infrastructure or access to national and international facilities.