

www.csiro.au

Pulsars and gravitational waves: 2

The pulsar timing method and properties of gravitational waves

George Hobbs
CSIRO Australia Telescope National Facility
george.hobbs@csiro.au



Purpose of this lecture series

- Provide an overview of pulsars 👍
- Provide an overview of gravitational waves 👍
- Show how, in theory, pulsar observations can be used to detect gravitational waves
- Describe issues with the current data sets
- Describe unsolved problems
- Provide enough information that you can process pulsar observations and develop tools to search for gravitational waves 👍

Lecture series

- Lecture 1: overview (a bit of everything)
- Lecture 2: the pulsar timing method. How gravitational waves influence pulsar observations
- Lecture 3: Expected gravitational wave sources. Current data sets
- Lecture 4: Techniques to search for gravitational waves
- Lecture 5: a bit of fun and the future!

Review so far

- Pulsars are rapidly rotating neutron stars
- They emit a beam of radiation that produces the observed radio pulses
- They are incredibly stable rotators
- The pulses can be used like the tick of a clock
- Different phenomena cause variations in the measured pulse arrival times. The different phenomena can be distinguished by searching for correlations between different pulsars.
- The phrase “Pulsar timing residuals” represents the difference between the predicted and observed pulse arrival times

Purpose of lecture 2

- Describe the pulsar timing method in lots of detail
- Aim 1: you should be able to download the software used for “pulsar timing”, obtain some data files and process the data
- Aim 2: you should understand the basic terminology used when talking about “pulsar timing”
- Aim 3: understand how gravitational waves affect pulsar timing residuals
- Aim 4: be able to simulate the effects of gravitational waves on pulsar data.

Part 1: Getting pulsar data files

- Part 1: Getting pulsar data files
- Part 2: Pulsar timing
- Part 3: Gravitational waves

Getting some data sets:

The Parkes data archive: <http://datanet.csiro.au/dap/>

An advert ... pulsar data from the Parkes radio telescope is available online (Virtual Observatory compatible)



Data Access Portal

[Help](#) | [Contact us](#) | [Login](#)

[Home](#)

Not logged in

[Browse Datasets](#)
[Pulsar Search](#)
[Geospatial Search](#)
[Acknowledgements](#)

Welcome to CSIRO Data Access Portal

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) is Australia's national science agency and one of the largest and most diverse research agencies in the world.

The CSIRO Data Access Portal provides access to datasets published by CSIRO across a range of disciplines. The site:

- Presents information describing the dataset.
- Provides links for accessing the dataset.

The portal is maintained by CSIRO Information Management & Technology to facilitate sharing and reuse of data held by CSIRO.





Click here

The Parkes data archive: <http://datanet.csiro.au/dap/>

Browse Datasets
Pulsar Search
Geospatial Search
Acknowledgements

ATNF Pulsar Observation Search

Query pulsar observations taken at the Parkes radio telescope. Publications that make use of the data from this archive should include an acknowledgement statement. Please refer to the statements [provided here](#).

Source Name / Position		Frequency / Band	
Source Name:	<input type="text" value="J1022+1001"/>	Frequency: (MHz)	<input type="text"/> to <input type="text"/>
Cone Search:		Band Name:	Any 70cm (~0.44 GHz) 50cm (~0.66 GHz) 20/18cm (1.2-1.8 GHz)
Right Ascension:	<input type="text"/> hh:mm:ss.ss (J2000)	Observation Mode:	All
Declination:	<input type="text"/> dd:mm:ss.ss (J2000)	Backend:	All
Search Window:	<input type="text"/> arcmin	Frontend:	All
Observation			
Project ID:	<input type="text"/>		
Observation Date: (dd/mm/yyyy)	<input type="text"/>  to <input type="text"/> 		
Observation Date: (MJD)	<input type="text"/> to <input type="text"/>		

Search

 [Configure Results Columns](#)

Can type
in a
pulsar
name

© Copyright CSIRO Australia, 2010-2011

The Parkes data archive: http://datanet.csiro.au/dap/

Project ID

- P456 (3216)
- P140 (99)
- P361 (5)

Backend

- CPSR2 (1812)
- PDFB3 (361)
- WBCORR (317)
- PDFB1 (302)
- PDFB4 (279)
- PDFB2 (249)

Observation Type

- raw (1732)
- preprocessed (1588)

Frontend

- 1050CM (1083)
- MULTI (953)
- MULT_1 (630)
- H-OH (391)
- (125)
- Unknown (125)

Search Window:

Observation Mode:

Backend:

Frontend:

[Configure Results Columns](#)

Observation

Project ID:

Observation Date: (dd/mm/yyyy) to

Observation Date: (MJD) to

Search Results:

Only the first 1000 records have been returned. Max 50 files can be downloaded at a time.

tar zip
0 MB to be downloaded

<input type="checkbox"/>	Project ID	Filename	File Size (MB)	Preview	Last Modified	Source	RA	Dec	Backend
<input type="checkbox"/>	P456	a050628_063734.rf	184.90		2011-03-14 12:55:30	J1022+1001	10:22:58	10:01:53	WBCORR
<input type="checkbox"/>	P456	a050715_041726.rf	257.30		2011-03-14 12:55:40	J1022+1001	10:22:58	10:01:53	WBCORR
<input type="checkbox"/>	P456	a050716_071833.rf	108.50		2011-03-14 12:55:45	J1022+1001	10:22:58	10:01:53	WBCORR
<input type="checkbox"/>	P456	a050824_010837.rf	245.20		2011-03-14 12:55:51	J1022+1001	10:22:58	10:01:53	WBCORR











The Parkes data archive: <http://datanet.csiro.au/dap/>

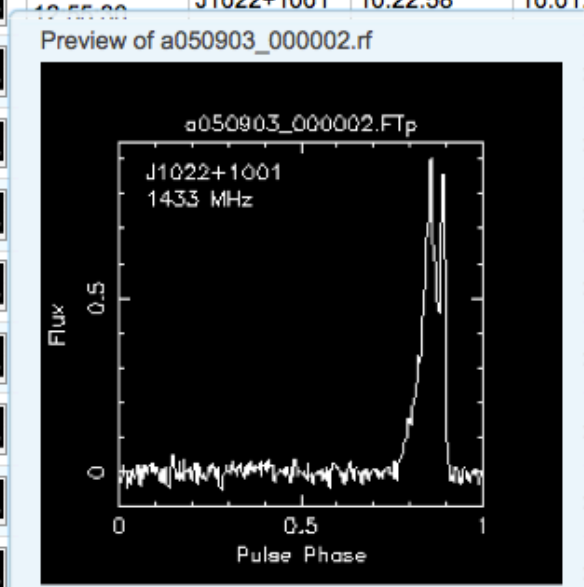
Search Results:

Only the first 1000 records have been returned. Max 50 files can be downloaded at a time.

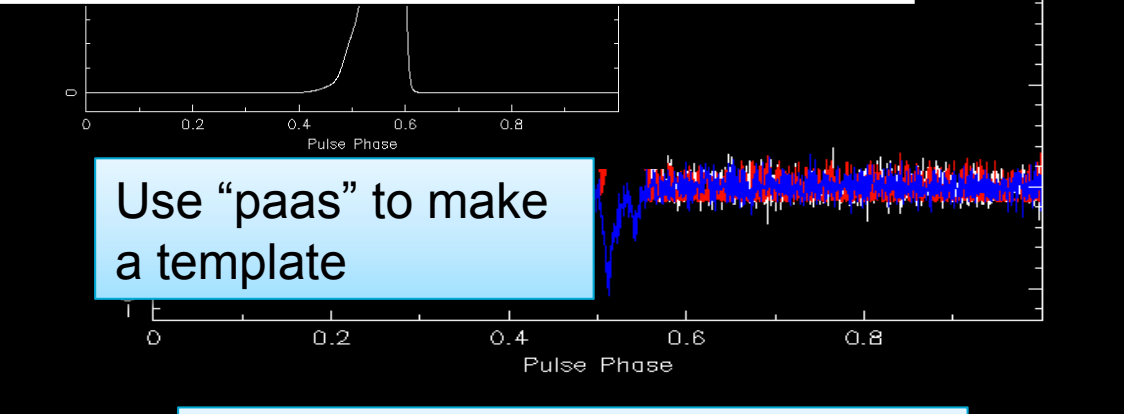
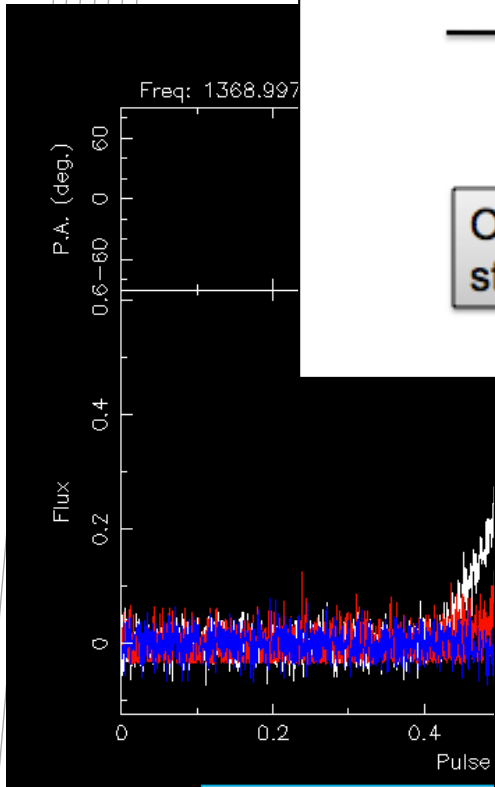
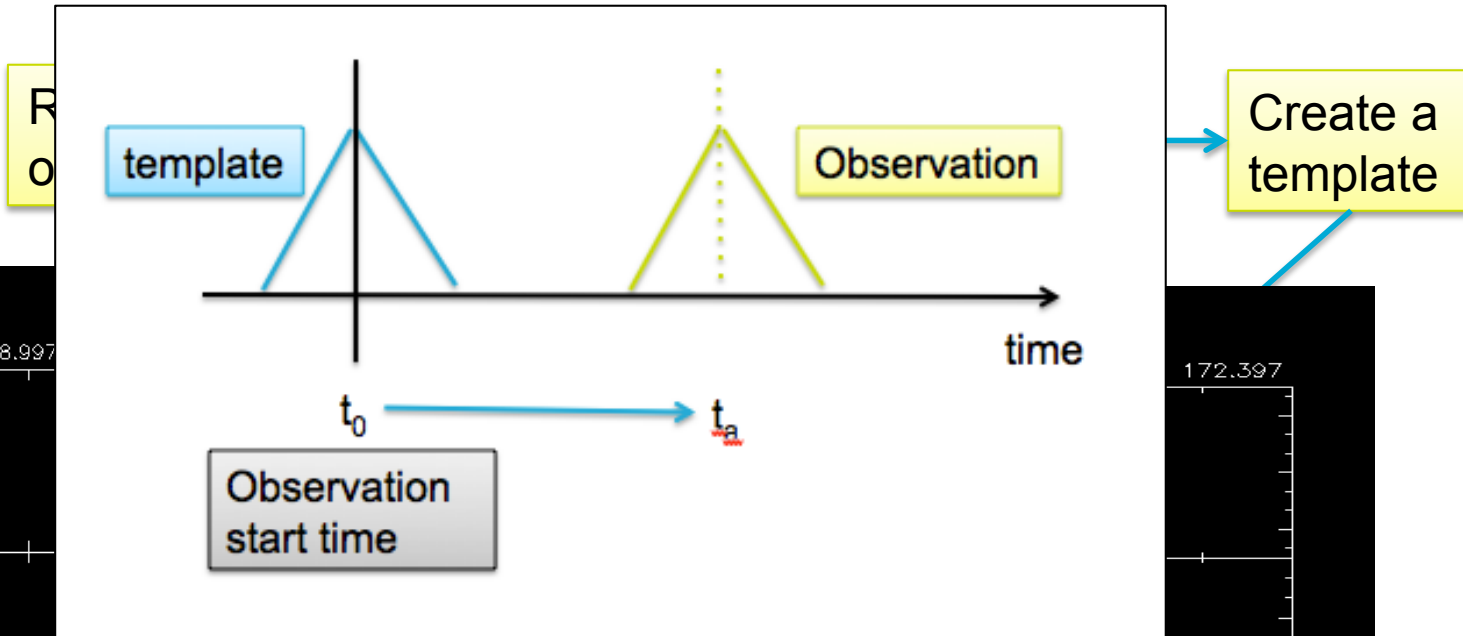
tar zip [Download file\(s\)](#)

0 MB to be downloaded

<input type="checkbox"/>	Project ID	Filename	File Size (MB)	Preview	Last Modified	Source	RA	Dec	Backend
<input type="checkbox"/>	P456	a050628_063734.rf	184.90		2011-03-14 10:55:00	J1022+1001	10:22:58	10:01:53	WBCORR
<input type="checkbox"/>	P456	a050715_041726.rf	257.30					53	WBCORR
<input type="checkbox"/>	P456	a050716_071833.rf	108.50					53	WBCORR
<input type="checkbox"/>	P456	a050824_010837.rf	245.20					53	WBCORR
<input type="checkbox"/>	P456	a050825_015826.rf	124.60					53	WBCORR
<input type="checkbox"/>	P456	a050825_023324.rf	124.60					53	WBCORR
<input type="checkbox"/>	P456	a050903_000002.rf	65.30					53	WBCORR
<input type="checkbox"/>	P456	a051002_215233.rf	124.60					53	WBCORR
<input type="checkbox"/>	P456	a051002_222516.rf	124.60					53	WBCORR
<input type="checkbox"/>	P456	a051003_234653.rf	64.30		2011-03-14 12:56:15	J1022+1001	10:22:58	10:01:53	WBCORR



Processing the data: from raw data to site-arrival-time



Use "paas" to make a template

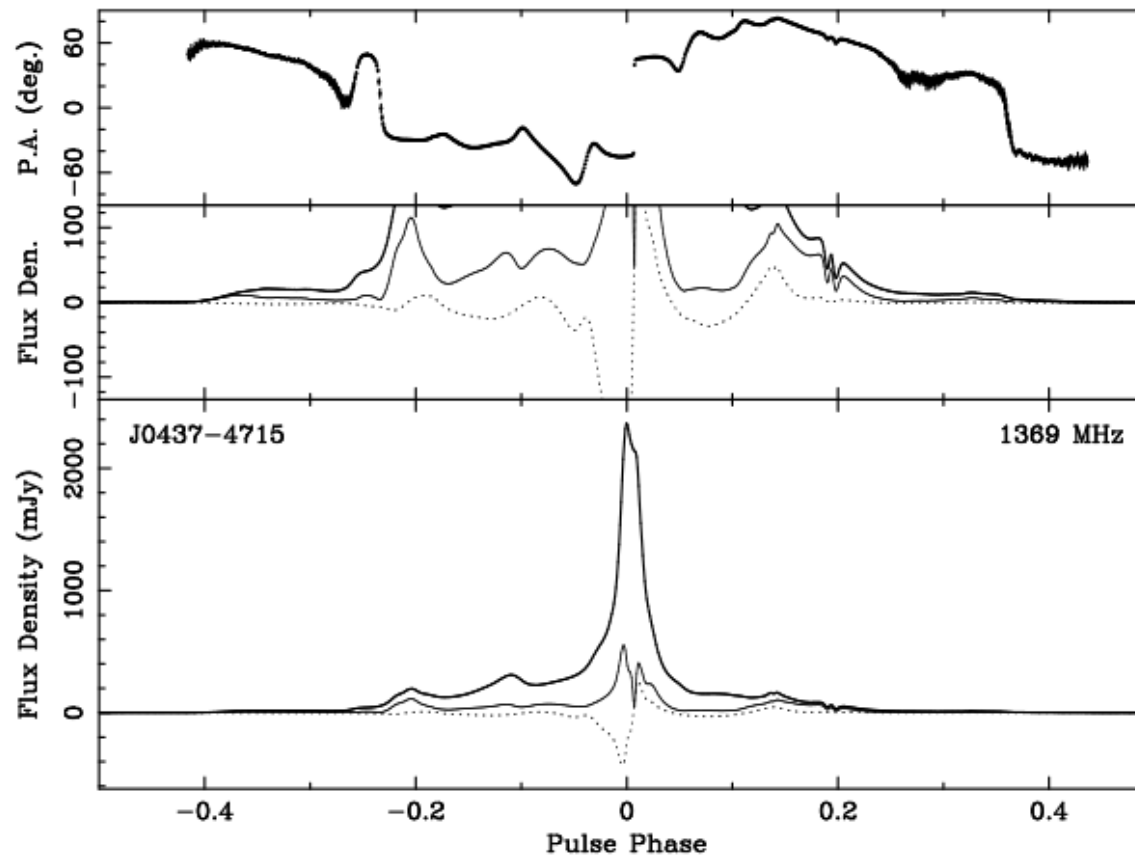
Use time for site-arrival-time

Use "pav" to view files

Use "pac" and "pcm" to calibrate files

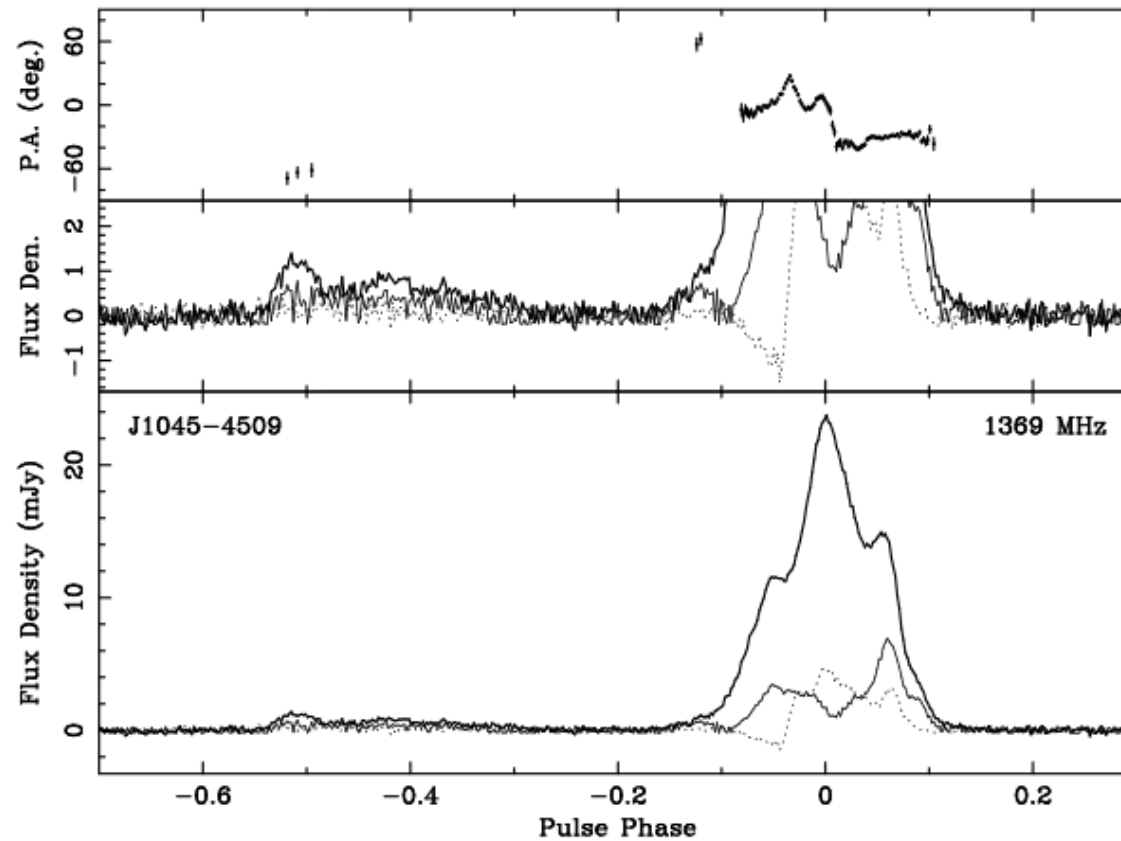
An aside: pulse profile shapes

- Yan et al. (2011): 1.4GHz profiles from the Parkes Pulsar Timing Array project



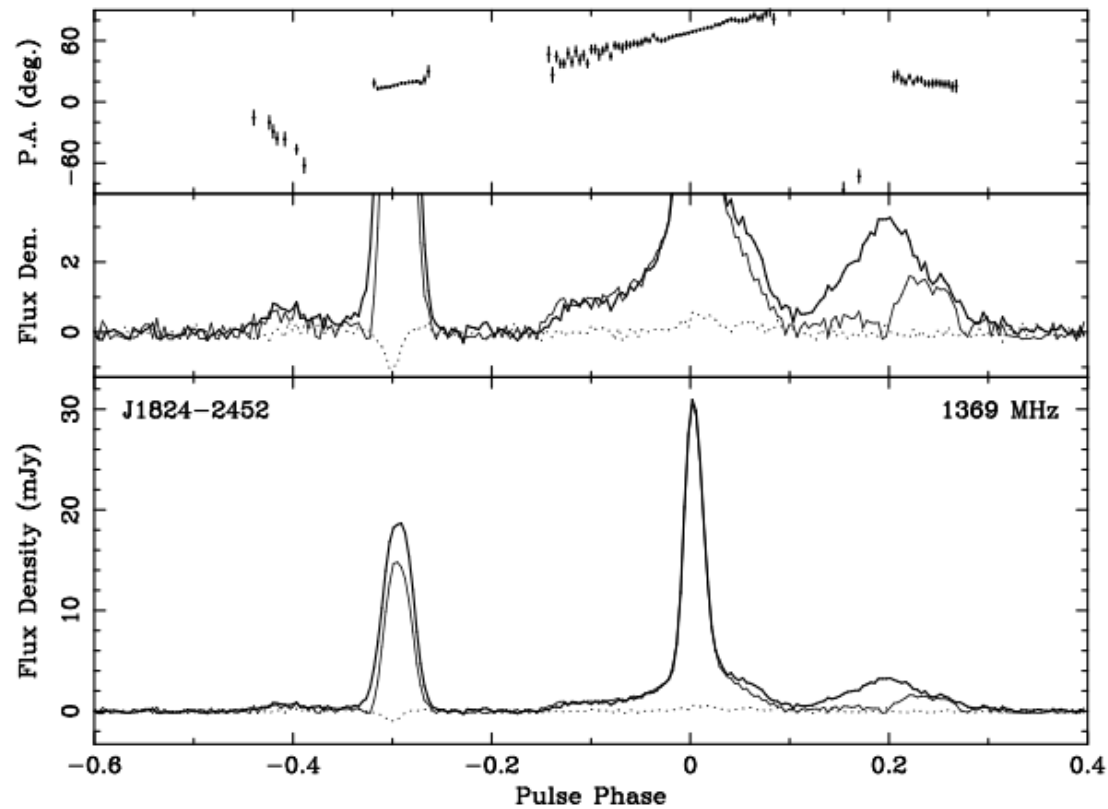
An aside: pulse profile shapes

- Yan et al. (2011): 1.4GHz profiles from the Parkes Pulsar Timing Array project



An aside: pulse profile shapes

- Yan et al. (2011): 1.4GHz profiles from the Parkes Pulsar Timing Array project



Part 2: Pulsar timing

- Part 1: Getting pulsar data files
- Part 2: Pulsar timing
- Part 3: Gravitational waves

Pulsar timing

- Start with measurements of pulse arrival times and a basic model for the pulsar's position, pulse period and orbital parameters
- Get: pulsar timing residuals, improved model of pulsar's parameters
- **TEMPO2** is a software package. It implements “pulsar timing” algorithms.
- Throughout I'll discuss **TEMPO2**, but the ideas are valid for TEMPO1/PSRTIME/TIMAPR ...
- Major **TEMPO2** developers (software and algorithms): G. Hobbs, R. Edwards, R. Manchester, W. Coles, X. You, M. Keith, F. Jenet, D. Yardley, J. Verbiest, ...

What can you do with pulsar timing?

Examples from 2010/2011

- Searching for gravitational wave signals (e.g., Yardley et al. 2011, Yardley et al. 2010, Abbott et al. 2010, van Haasteren et al. 2010)
- Using pulsars as navigational aids (Ruggiero 2011)
- Statistical analysis of timing residuals (e.g., Na, X. S. et al., 2011, Hobbs et al. 2010)
- Studying emission geometry (e.g., Noutsos et al., 2011)
- Searching for gamma-ray pulsars (Ray et al., 2010)
- Determining pulsar masses (Demorest et al. 2010)
- Studying pulsations from main-sequence stars (Ravi et al. 2010)
- Tests of relativity (Weisberg et al. 2010)
- Measuring Jupiter's mass (Champion et al. 2010)
- Observations of glitches (Chukwude et al. 2010)
- Analysis of accreting millisecond X-ray pulsar (Patruno et al. 2010)
- Relativistic spin precession (Manchester et al. 2010)

A parameter file (.par)

Pulsar name,
astrometric,
rotational,
dispersion
measure and
orbital
parameters

```
PSRJ      J0613-0200
RAJ       06:13:43.9750585
DECJ      -02:00:47.17238
F0        326.60056219017465751
F1        -1.0228669646983851338e-15
PEPOCH    53114
POSEPOCH  53114
DMEPOCH   53114
DM         38.77910000000000001
PMRA      1.7864748030585594928  1
PMDEC     -10.27023682503168075  1
PX         0.91177639168508902443  1
BINARY    DD
PB         1.1985125752330855253  1
T0        53113.947671230393077  1
A1        1.0914444592811573305  1
OM        45.451457136345105293  1
ECC        5.293385830438794e-06  1
START     53431.313924448706732
FINISH    55619.299962597727951

TZRMJD    54526.290614015242458
TZRFREQ   1373.0139999999998963
TZRSITE   7

EPHVER    5
CLK        TT(TAI)
EPHEM     DE414
MODE      1
```

Fit for this
parameter?

Realisation of
terrestrial time

Weighted fit?

Solar system
ephemeris

Getting an initial parameter file

- Can use the ATNF pulsar catalogue
- <http://www.atnf.csiro.au/research/pulsar/psrcat>
- Includes all published pulsars

Sort on field: Order: Ascending Descending

Condition:

Pulsar names:

Type pulsar name here

Click on “Get Ephemeris”

An arrival time file (.tim)

States that this is a tempo2 format file

Site arrival time (MJD)

Telescope code

FORMAT 1

```
/pulsar/20cm/m2002-12-10-13:00:00.czFTp 1404.734 52618.5903043780479 1.909 7 -f MULTI_CPSR2n -cal 1
/pulsar/20cm/m2002-12-10-13:39:58.czFTp 1404.734 52618.5903043780479 1.909 7 -f MULTI_CPSR2n -cal 1
/pulsar/20cm/n2002-12-10-13:00:00.czFTp 1341.331 52618.5902648849556 1.494 7 -f MULTI_CPSR2m -cal 1
/pulsar/20cm/n2002-12-10-13:39:58.czFTp 1341.331 52618.5902648849556 1.494 7 -f MULTI_CPSR2m -cal 1
/pulsar/20cm/m2002-12-14-14:41:47.czFTp 1404.736 52622.6211812124650 2.459 7 -f MULTI_CPSR2n -cal 1
/pulsar/20cm/n2002-12-14-14:41:47.czFTp 1341.427 52622.6211782913951 3.076 7 -f MULTI_CPSR2m -cal 1
/pulsar/20cm/m2002-12-15-14:25:37.czFTp 1405.235 52623.6455892166404 1.496 7 -f MULTI_CPSR2n -cal 1
/pulsar/20cm/n2002-12-15-14:25:37.czFTp 1341.500 52623.6455900526348 1.145 7 -f MULTI_CPSR2m -cal 1
/pulsar/20cm/m2003-02-04-09:24:09.czFTp 1404.736 52674.4137128970834 1.846 7 -f MULTI_CPSR2n -cal 1
/pulsar/20cm/n2003-02-04-09:24:09.czFTp 1341.267 52674.4137041290017 1.883 7 -f MULTI_CPSR2m -cal 1
/pulsar/50cm/m2003-02-07-08:21:20.czFTp 658.954 52677.3610004327656 0.766 7 -f 50CM_CPSR2 -cal 1
/pulsar/50cm/m2003-02-07-10:01:43.czFTp 659.220 52677.4386400805335 0.745 7 -f 50CM_CPSR2 -cal 1
/pulsar/50cm/m2003-04-13-10:03:28.czFTp 660.190 52742.4260621791924 1.468 7 -f 50CM_CPSR2 -cal 1
/pulsar/20cm/m2003-06-05-00:56:26.czFTp 1404.493 52795.0485182670624 1.596 7 -f MULTI_CPSR2n -cal 1
/pulsar/20cm/n2003-06-05-00:56:26.czFTp 1340.976 52795.0485170472312 1.130 7 -f MULTI_CPSR2m -cal 1
/pulsar/20cm/m2003-06-05-01:32:02.czFTp 1404.480 52795.0848331525075 1.408 7 -f MULTI_CPSR2n -cal 1
/pulsar/20cm/n2003-06-05-01:32:02.czFTp 1340.987 52795.0847944005109 1.060 7 -f MULTI_CPSR2m -cal 1
/pulsar/50cm/m2003-06-06-06:12:48.czFTp 660.002 52796.2746158076829 0.572 7 -f 50CM_CPSR2 -cal 1
/pulsar/20cm/m2003-07-25-23:30:54.czFTp 1404.445 52846.0215328027366 1.034 7 -f MULTI_CPSR2n -cal 1
```

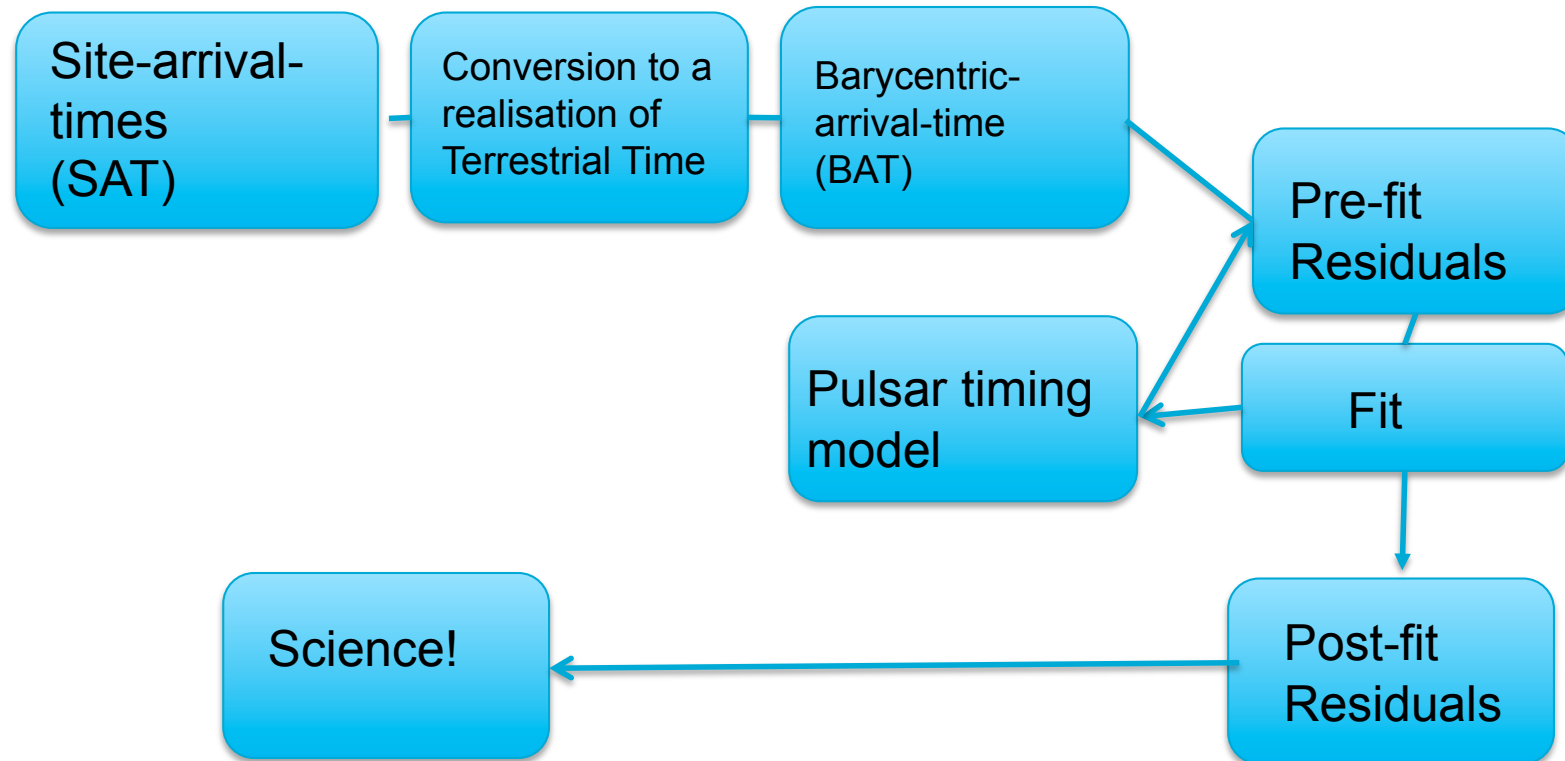
Filename or identifier

Observing frequency (MHz)

Uncertainty on arrival time (us)

User defined flags

Basic idea



How does tempo2 work?

- Details in Hobbs, Edwards & Manchester (2006) and Edwards, Hobbs & Manchester (2006)

$$\Delta t = \Delta_C + \Delta_A + \Delta_{E\odot} + \Delta_{R\odot} + \Delta_{S\odot} - D/f^2 + \Delta_{VP} + \Delta_B$$

Diagram illustrating the components of the time delay Δt in the tempo2 software. The equation is annotated with labels and arrows:

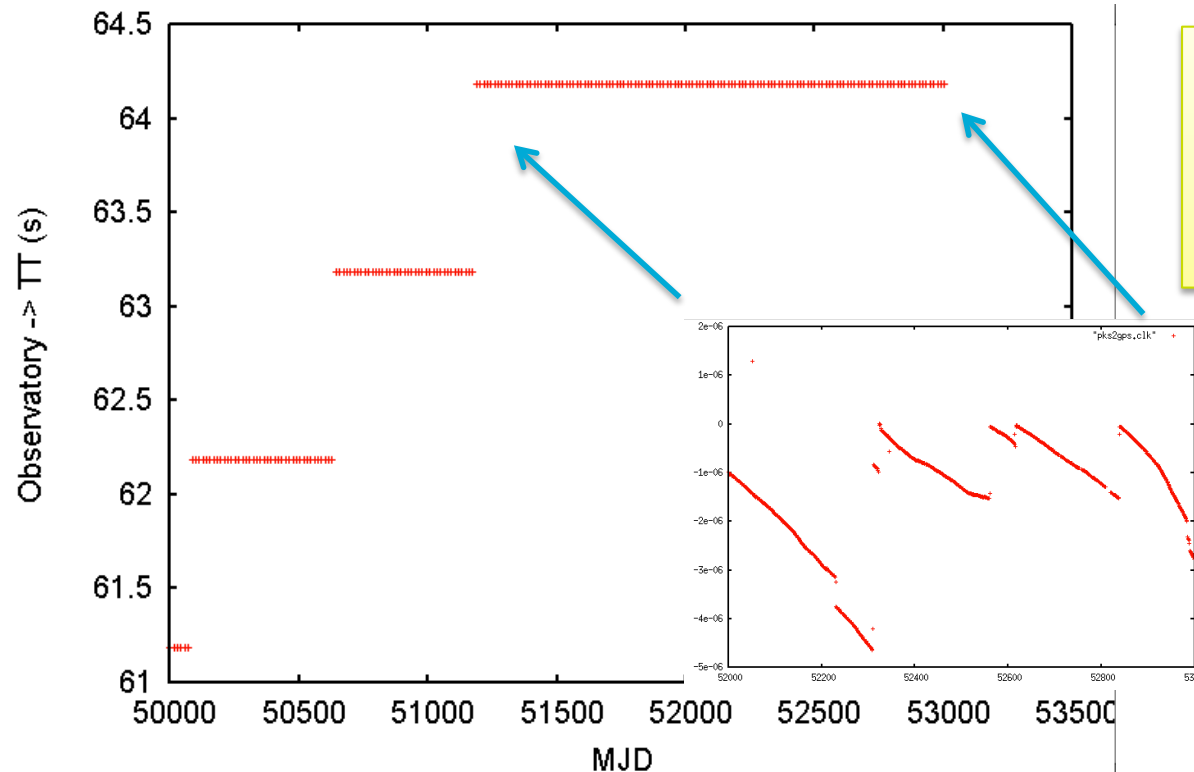
- Δ_C : Clock corrections
- Δ_A : Atmospheric delays (crossed out with a red X)
- $\Delta_{E\odot}$: Einstein delay
- $\Delta_{R\odot}$: Roemer delay
- $\Delta_{S\odot}$: Shapiro delay
- $- D/f^2$: Dispersive delay
- Δ_{VP} : Secular motion (e.g., radial velocity) (crossed out with a red X)
- Δ_B : Orbital motion

Conversion of site-arrival-time to pulse emission time

Details: clock correction

$$\Delta t = \Delta_C + \Delta_A + \Delta_{E_{\odot}} + \Delta_{R_{\odot}} + \Delta_{S_{\odot}} - D/f^2 + \Delta_{VP} + \Delta_B$$

- Must convert from the observatory time standard to a realisation of terrestrial time TT. Use set of text files containing the difference between two time standards: pks2gps.clk, gps2utc.clk, utc2tai.clk, tai2tt_bipm2011.

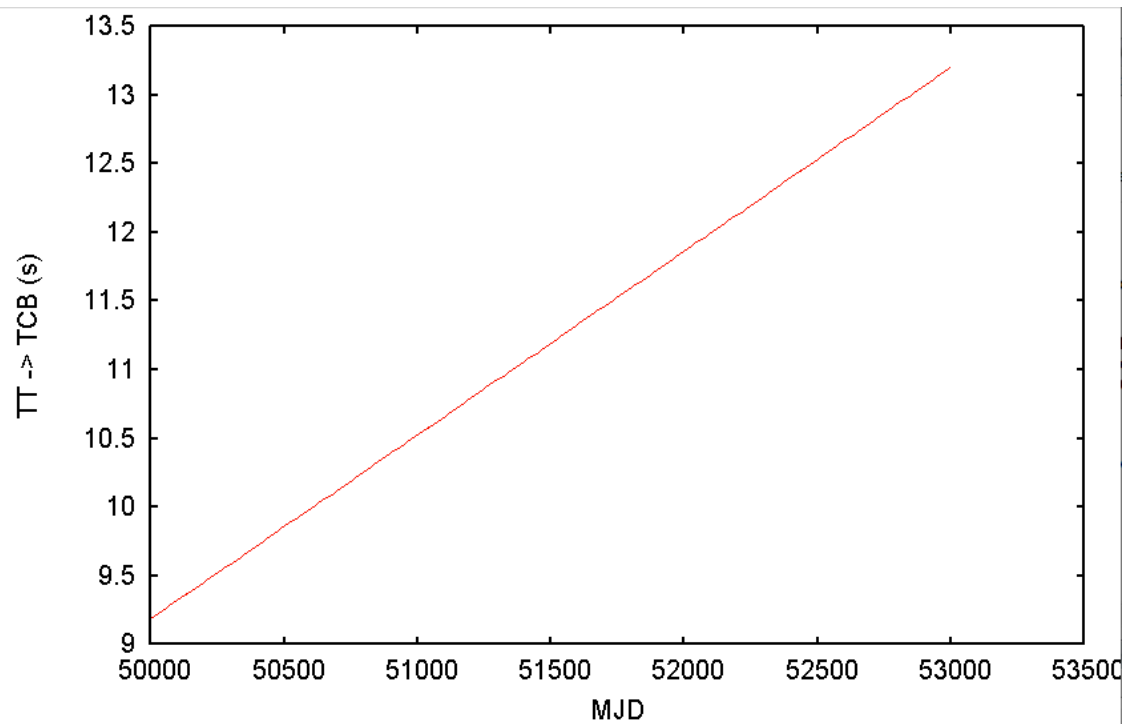


You'll find these files in \$STEMPO2/clock directory

Details: Einstein delay

$$\Delta t = \Delta_C + \Delta_A + \Delta_{E_{\odot}} + \Delta_{R_{\odot}} + \Delta_{S_{\odot}} - D/f^2 + \Delta_{VP} + \Delta_B$$

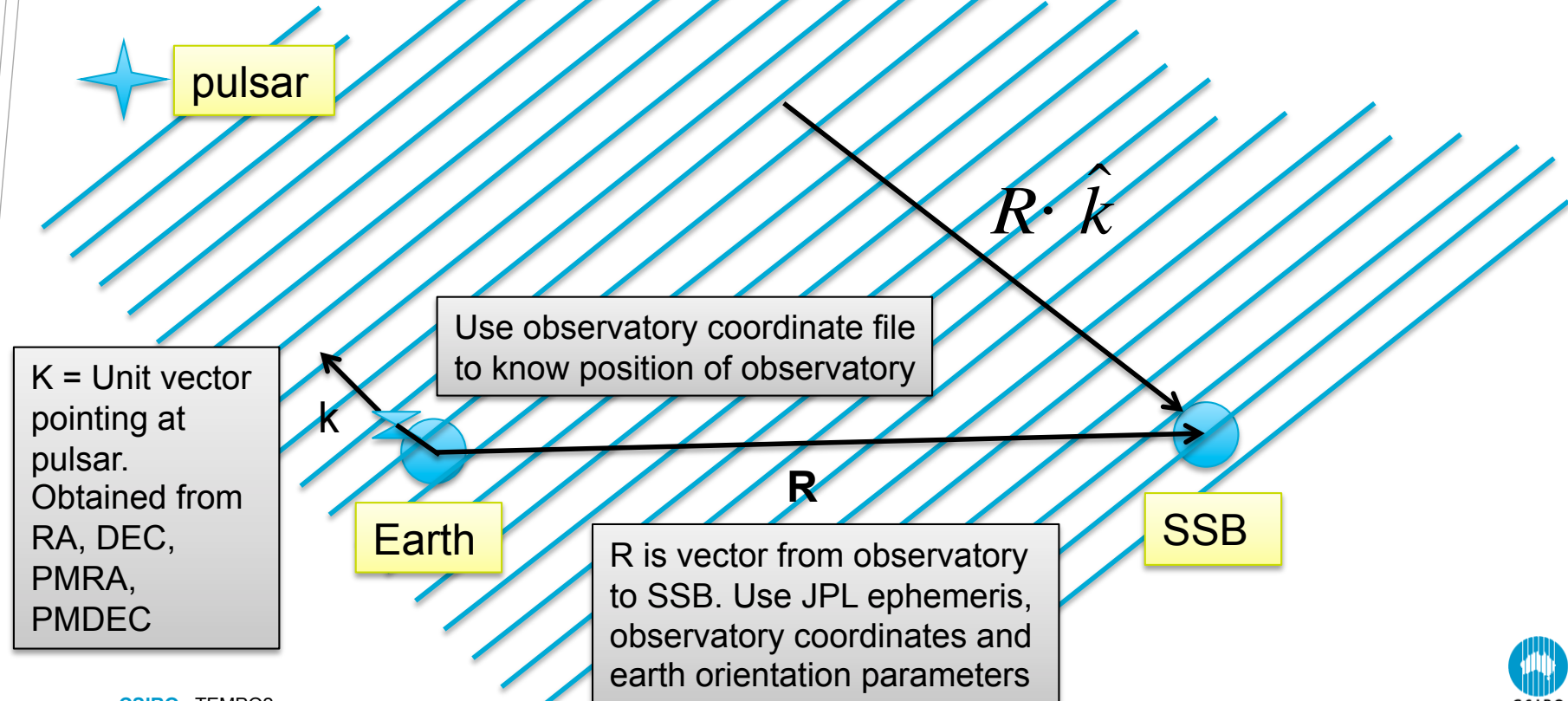
- Pulse arrival times (in terrestrial time) must be converted to the time frame of the Solar System Barycentre.
- TEMPO2 uses the tabulated results of Irwin & Fukushima (1999)



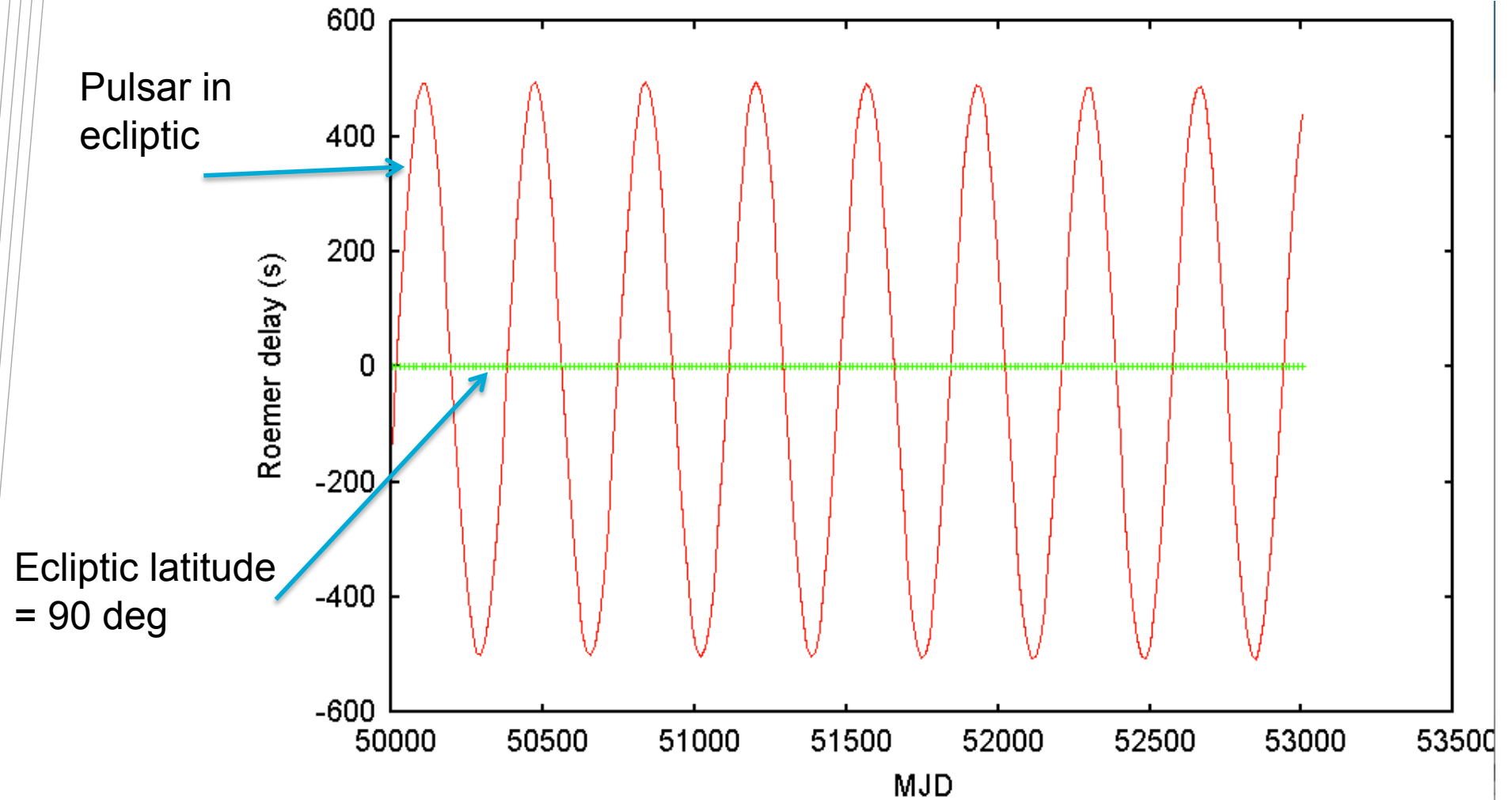
Details: Roemer delay

$$\Delta t = \Delta_C + \Delta_A + \Delta_{E\odot} + \Delta_{R\odot} + \Delta_{S\odot} - D/f^2 + \Delta_{VP} + \Delta_B$$

- The Roemer delay is the vacuum light travel time between the pulse arriving at the observatory and the equivalent arrival time at the SSB.



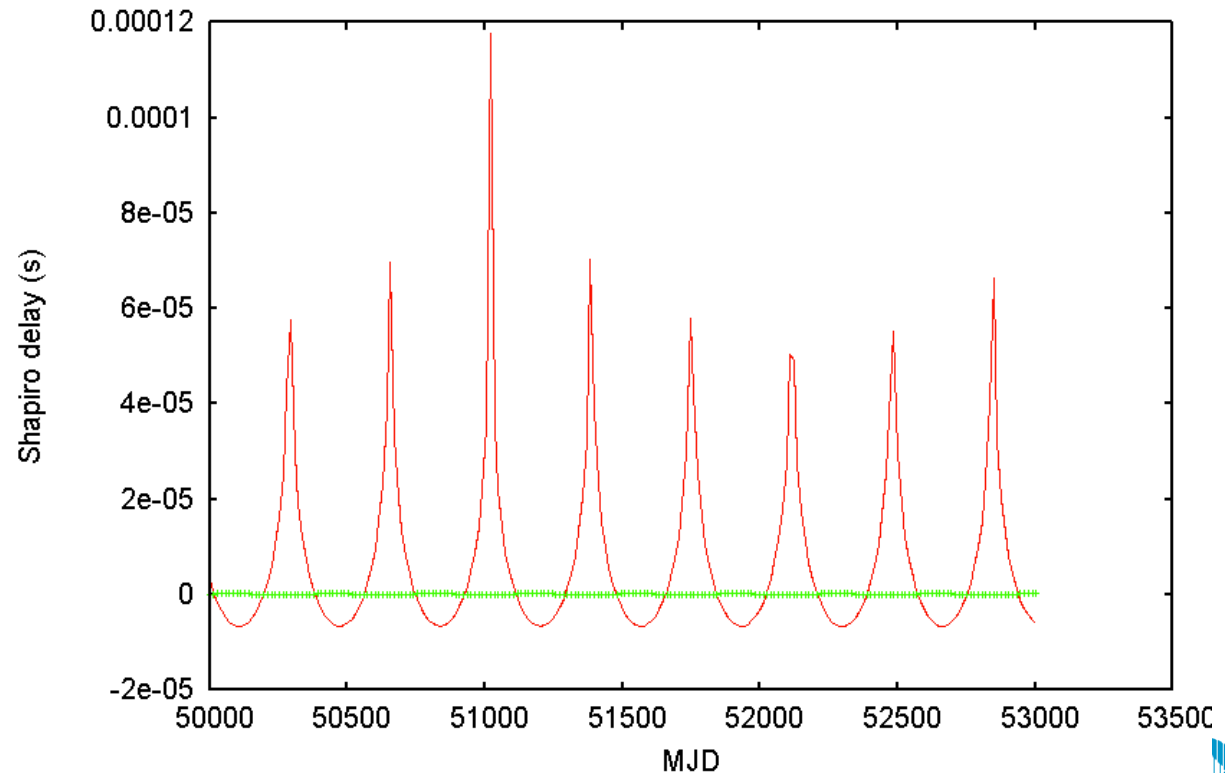
Roemer delay



Details: Shapiro delay

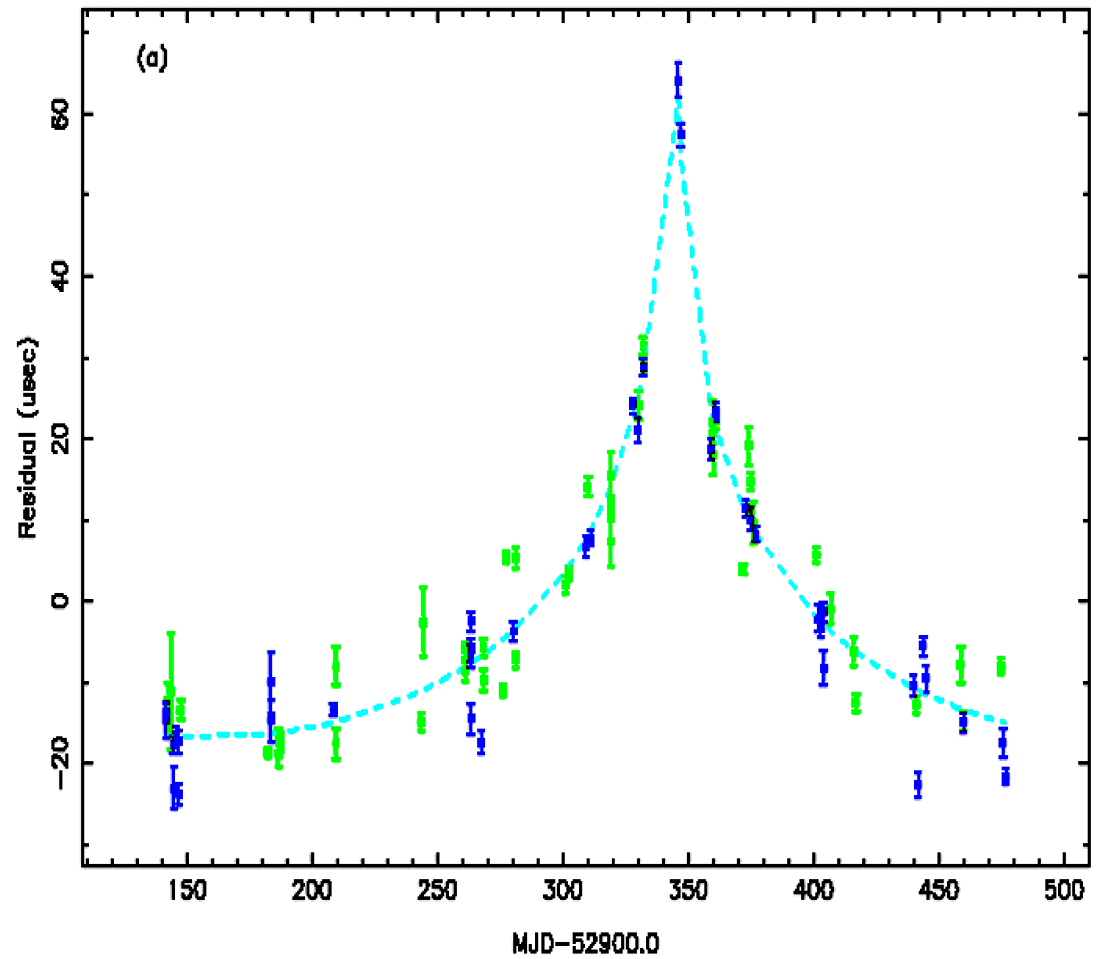
$$\Delta t = \Delta_C + \Delta_A + \Delta_{E_{\odot}} + \Delta_{R_{\odot}} + \Delta_{S_{\odot}} - D/f^2 + \Delta_{VP} + \Delta_B$$

- Time delay caused by the passage of the pulse through large gravitational fields. Tempo2 includes delay caused by Sun (< 110us), Jupiter (<180ns), Saturn (<58ns), Neptune (<12ns) and Uranus (<10ns)



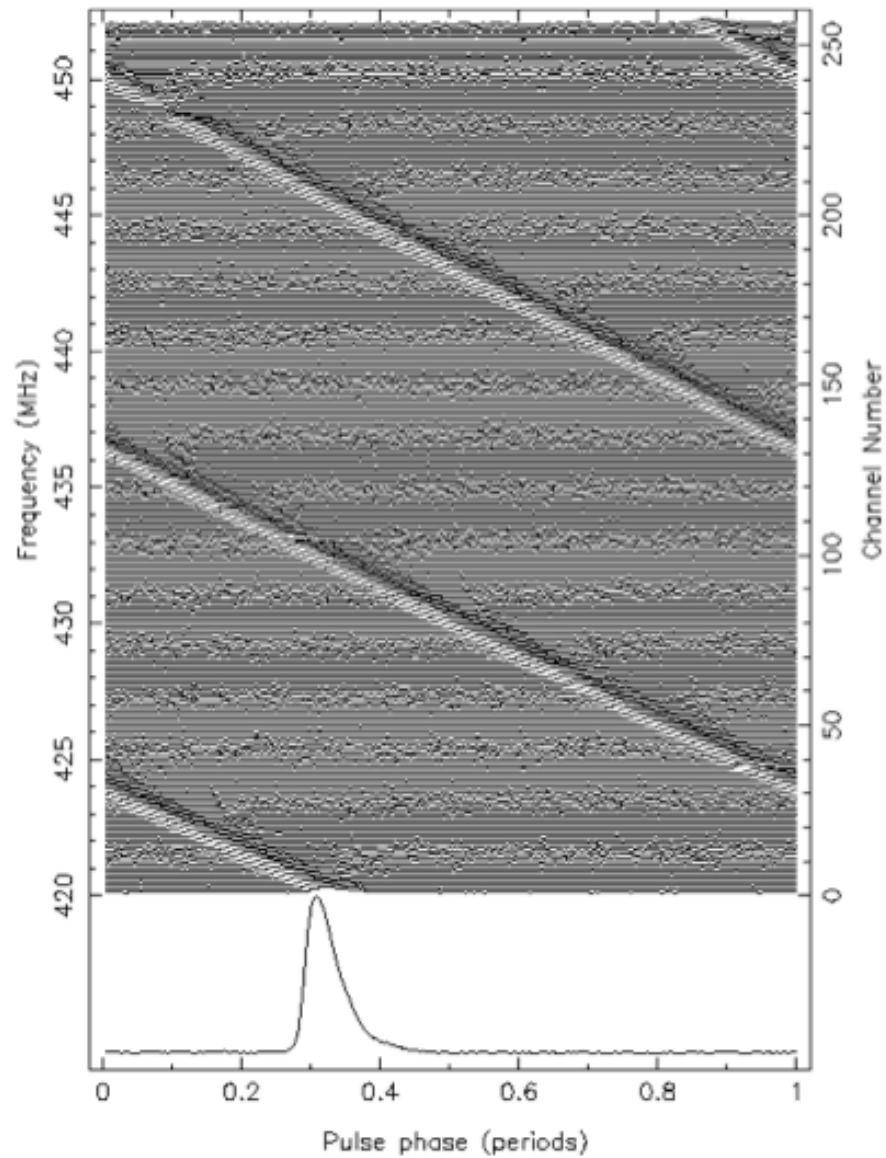
An aside: the Solar Shapiro Delay

J1022+1001 (rms = 15.973 μs)



© 2015 CSIRO

Pulse dispersion

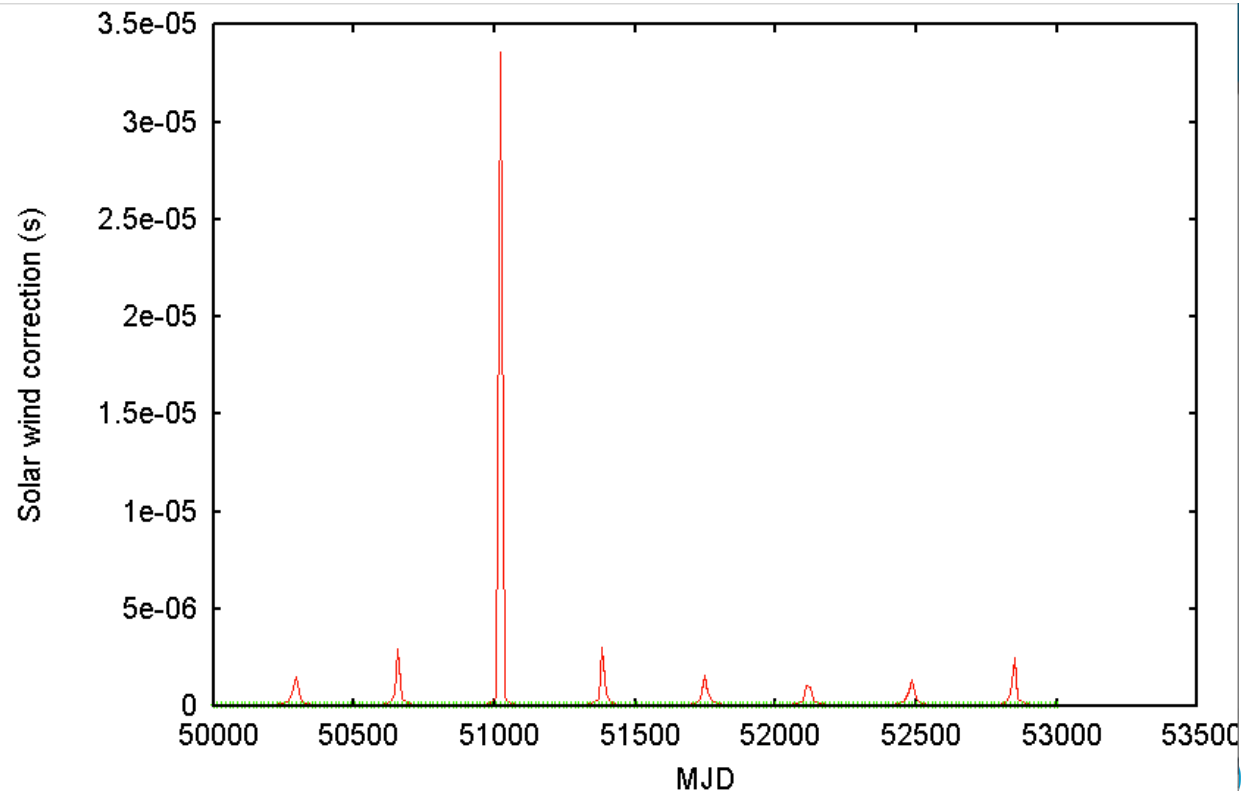


Details: dispersive delay

$$\Delta t = \Delta_C + \Delta_A + \Delta_{E_{\odot}} + \Delta_{R_{\odot}} + \Delta_{S_{\odot}} - D/f^2 + \Delta_{VP} + \Delta_B$$

- D is the dispersion constant. $DM \text{ (cm}^{-3}\text{pc)} = 2.410 \times 10^{-16} D$
- f is the frequency of the radiation at the Solar System barycentre

$$DM = \int n_e dl$$



Dispersion measure

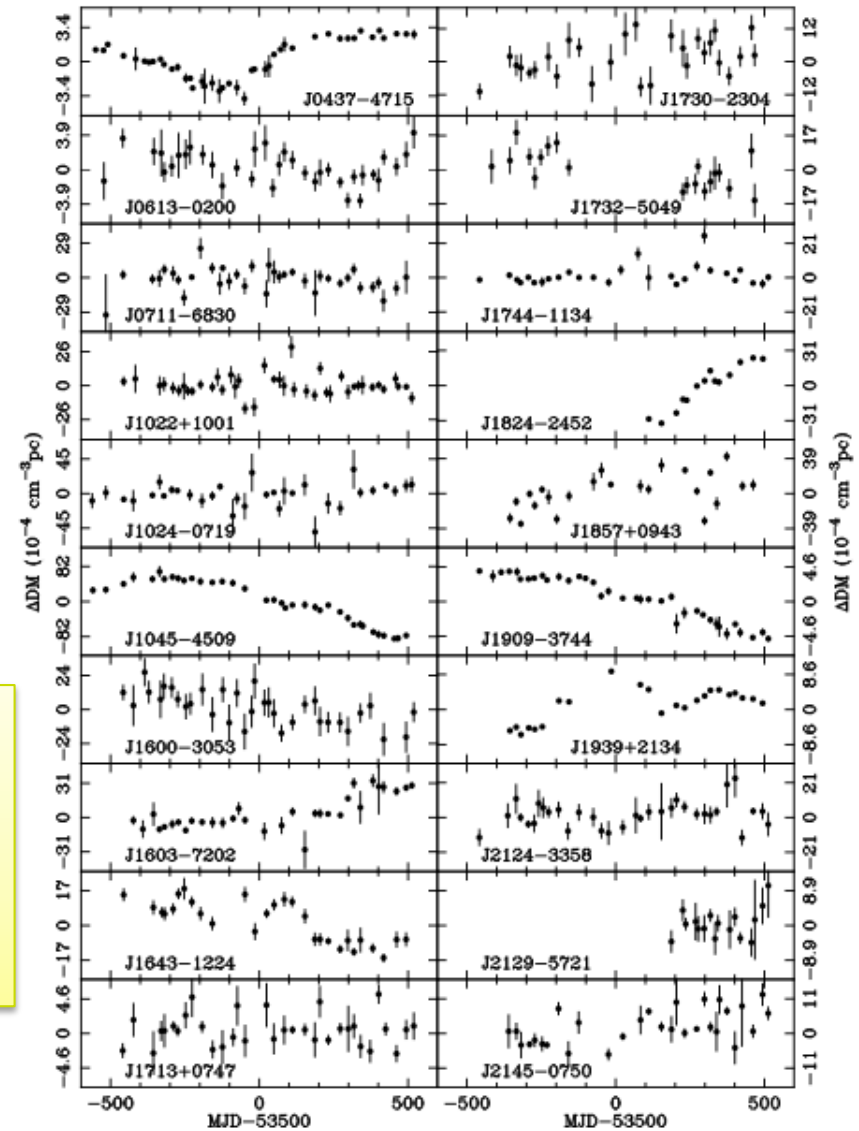
- You et al. (2007)

Bored?

Have a computer?

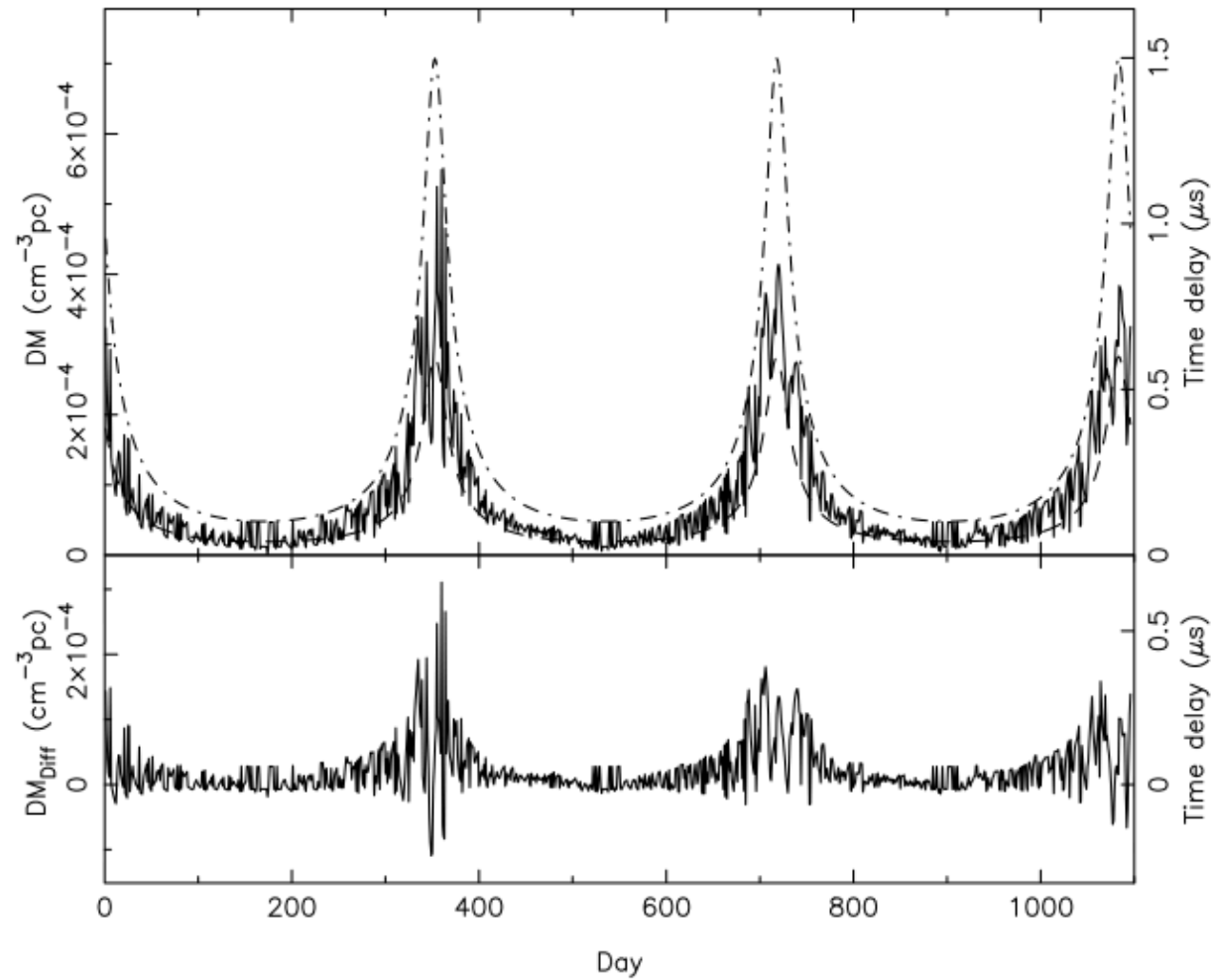
Try:

<http://pulseatparkes.atnf.csiro.au/distance/>



Solar wind

- You et al. (2007), MNRAS



Details: binary system

$$\Delta t = \Delta_C + \Delta_A + \Delta_{E_{\odot}} + \Delta_{R_{\odot}} + \Delta_{S_{\odot}} - D/f^2 + \Delta_{VP} + \Delta_B$$

Parameter	Description	Symbol
PB	Binary period of pulsars (d)	P_b
ECC	Eccentricity of orbit	e
A1	Projected semimajor axis of orbit (lt-s)	x
T0	Epoch of periastron (MJD)	T_0
OM	Longitude of periastron (°)	ω
TASC	Epoch of ascending node (MJD)	T_{asc}
EPS1	$e \sin \omega$	η
EPS2	$e \cos \omega$	κ
KOM	longitude of the ascending node	Ω
KIN	inclination angle	i
SHAPMAX	$-\ln(1 - \sin i)$	s_x
OMDOT	Periastron advance (deg yr ⁻¹)	$\dot{\omega}$
PBDOT	The first time derivative of binary period	\dot{P}_b
ECCDOT	Rate of change of eccentricity (s ⁻¹)	\dot{e}
A1DOT	Rate of change of semimajor axis (lt-s s ⁻¹)	\dot{x}
GAMMA	Post-Keplerian 'gamma' term (s)	γ
XPBDOT	Rate of change of orbital period minus GR prediction	
EPS1DOT	Rate of change of EPS1	$\dot{\eta}$
EPS2DOT	Rate of change of EPS2	$\dot{\kappa}$
MTOT	Total system mass (M_{\odot})	M
M2	Companion mass (M_{\odot})	m_2
DTHETA	Relativistic deformation of the orbit	d_{θ}
XOMDOT	Rate of periastron advance minus GR prediction (deg yr ⁻¹)	
SINI	Sine of inclination angle	s
DR	Relativistic deformation of the orbit	d_r
A0	The first aberration parameter	A
B0	The second aberration parameter	B
BP	Tensor multiscalar parameter	β'
BPP	Tensor multiscalar parameter	β''
AFAC	Aberration geometric factor	

- For pulsars in binary systems, tempo2 includes parameters describing the orbital motion.
- Various binary models exist. Suggest using “T2” model that combines most earlier binary models

Using the pulsar timing model

- Have pulse emission time in the pulsar frame.
- Predict using the pulsar timing model

$$\phi(t) = \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\nu^{(n-1)}}{n!} (t_e^{\text{psr}} - t_P)^n + \phi_0.$$

Diagram illustrating the pulsar timing model equation with annotations:

- $\phi(t)$: Phase of pulse sequence
- $\nu^{(n-1)}$: Pulse frequency (and time derivatives)
- t_e^{psr} : Pulse emission time
- t_P : Time at which $d\phi/dt = \nu$
- ϕ_0 : Reference phase

- Can also include simple model of glitch events

Timing residuals

$$R_i = \frac{\phi_i - N_i}{\nu}$$

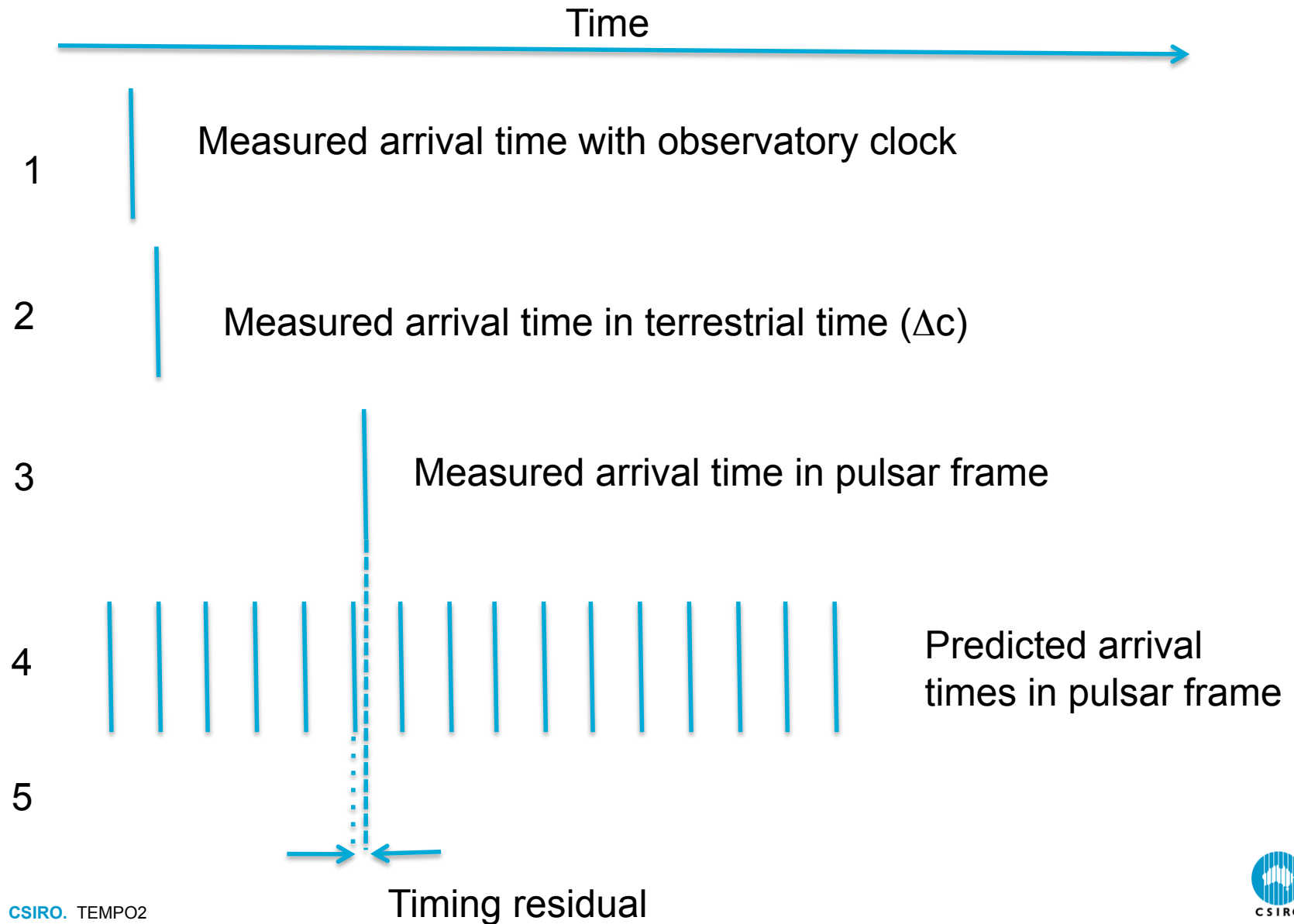
Pulse phase

Nearest integer to ϕ_i

Timing residual for i 'th observation

Pulse frequency

Example

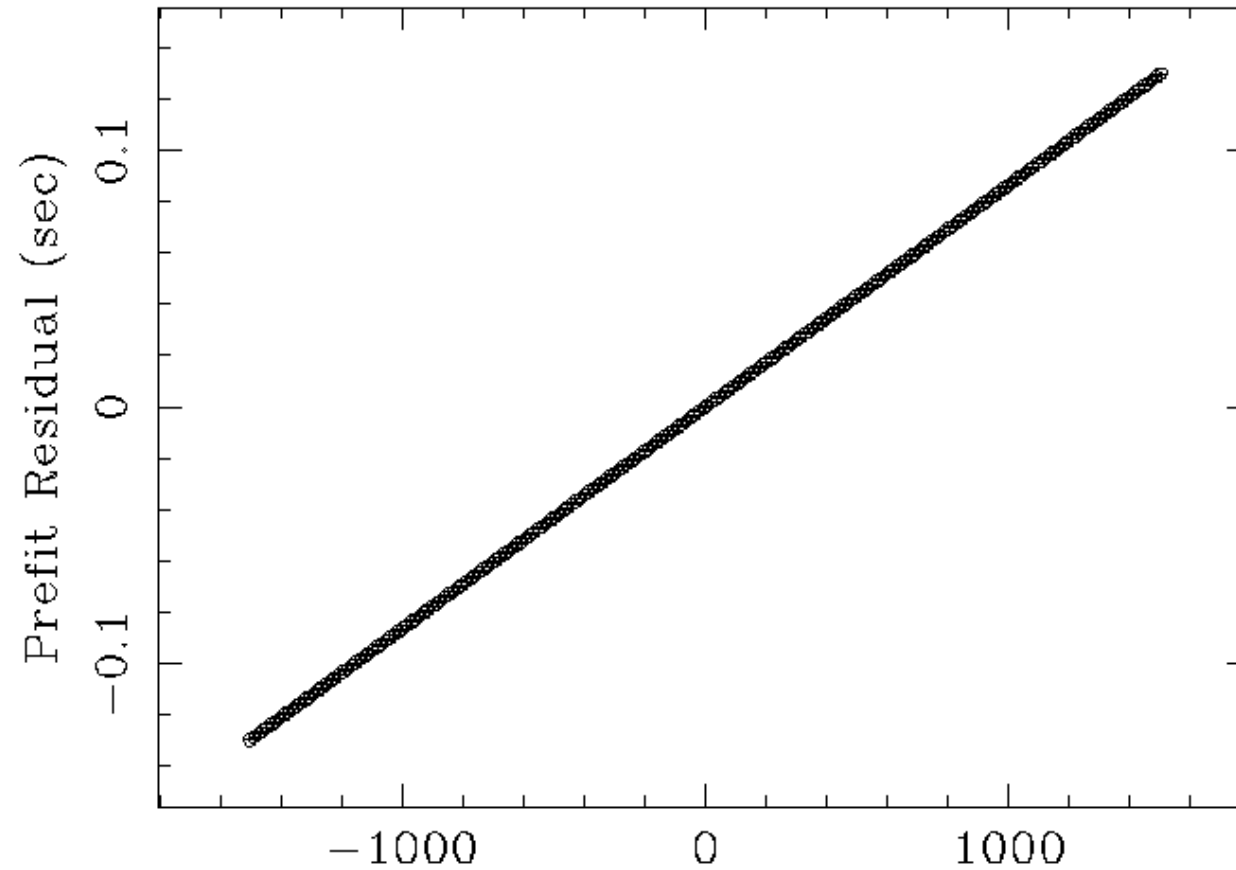


Pulsar timing residuals: let's say it again!

- If pulsar model predicts the observations perfectly (and the conversion from the observatory to pulsar frame is perfect) then $R = 0$ (within measurement uncertainty).
- If $R \neq 0$ then the pulsar model is (1) **not accurate** or (2) **does not include a physical process** that affects the measured arrival times or (3) **the correction from the observatory to pulsar frame is not correct.**

Pulsar timing residuals: incorrect F0

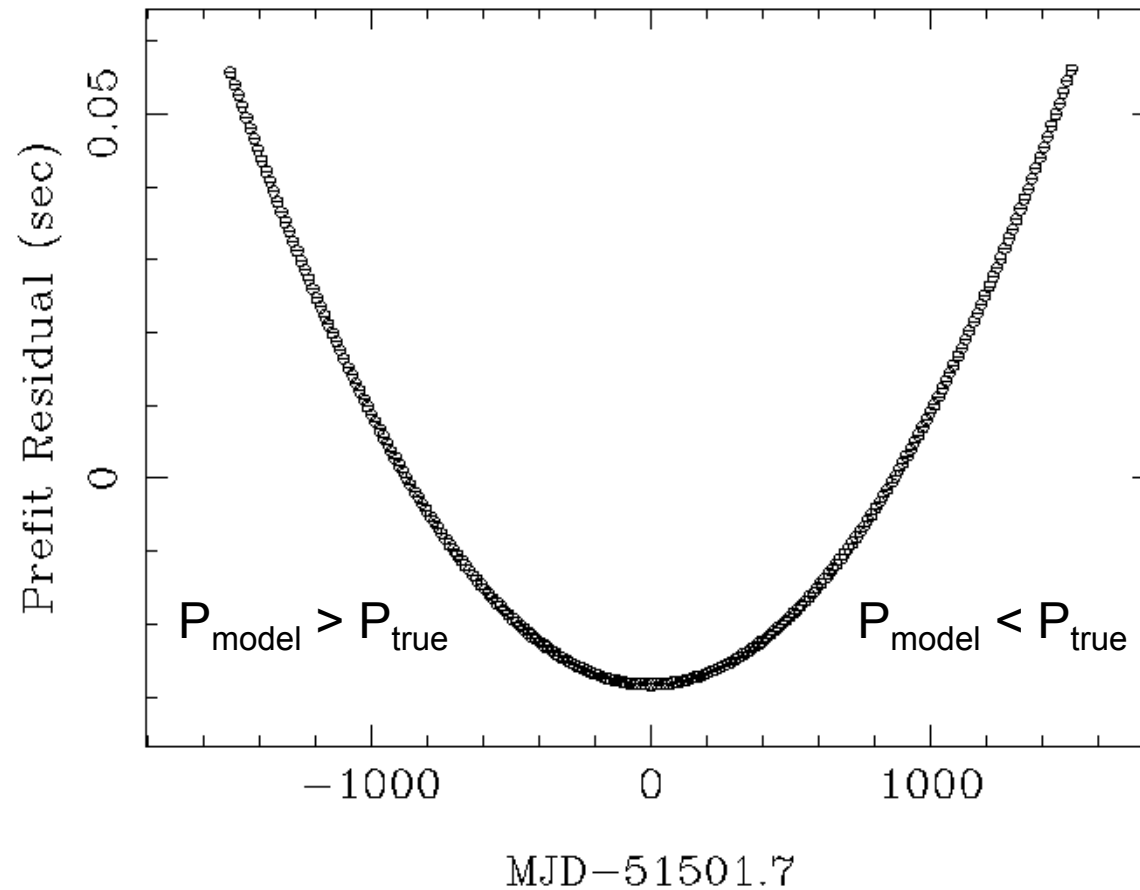
sim1 (rms = 75217.537 μ s) pre-fit



$$P_{\text{model}} < P_{\text{true}}$$

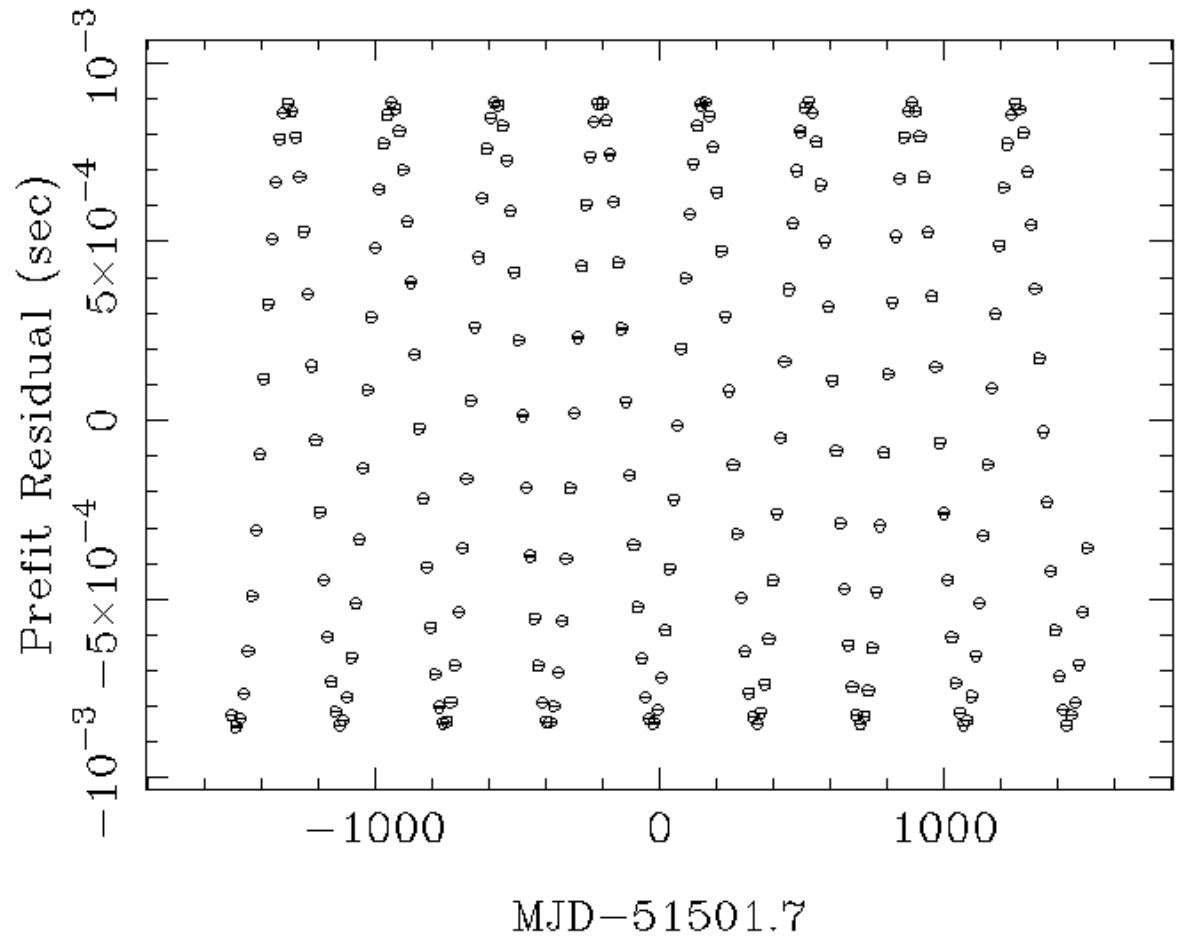
Pulsar timing residuals: incorrect F1

sim1 (rms = 25303.418 μ s) pre-fit



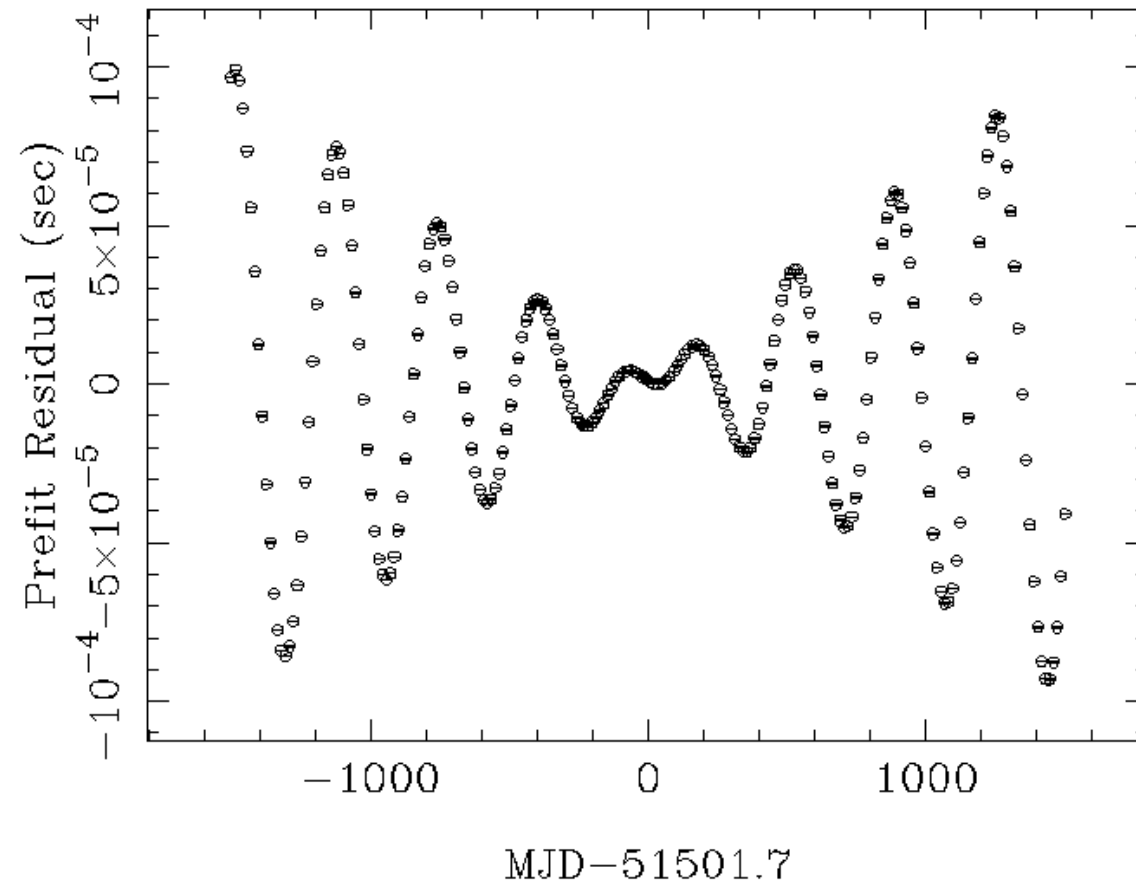
Pulsar timing residuals: incorrect position

sim1 (rms = 619.444 μs) pre-fit



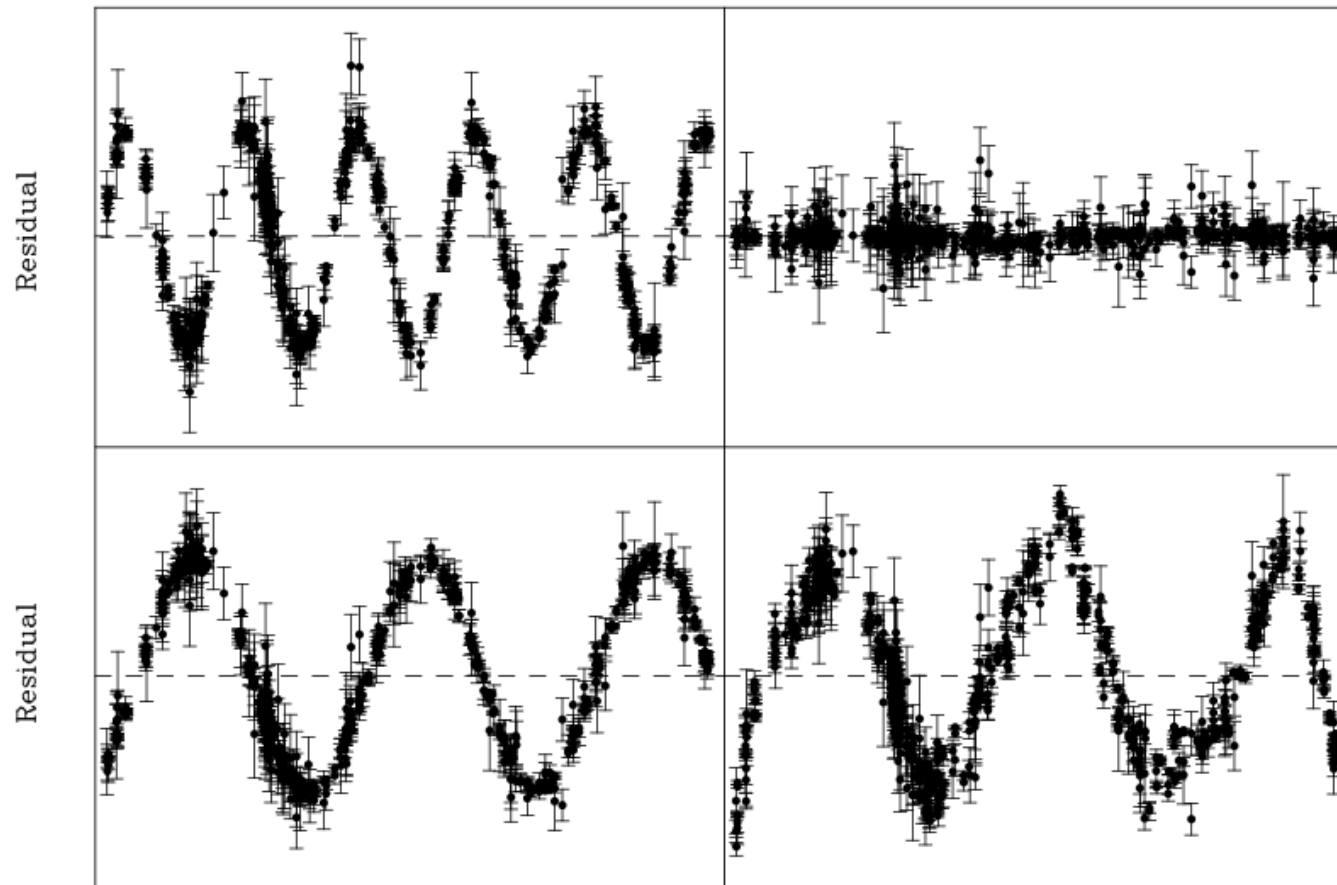
Pulsar timing residuals: incorrect proper motion

sim1 (rms = 41.498 μs) pre-fit



Absorbing a gravitational wave signal

- Yardley (2010) MNRAS



Before fitting

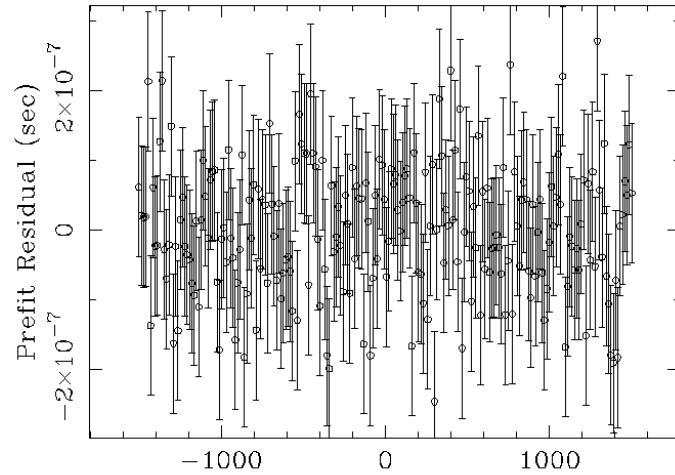
Arrival Time

Arrival Time

After fitting

Pulsar timing residuals

sim1 (rms = 0.094 μ s) pre-fit

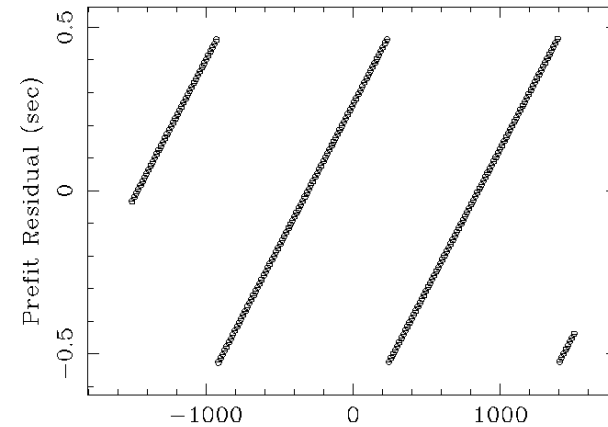


MJD-51501.7

Good parameters

Do not have a phase connected solution

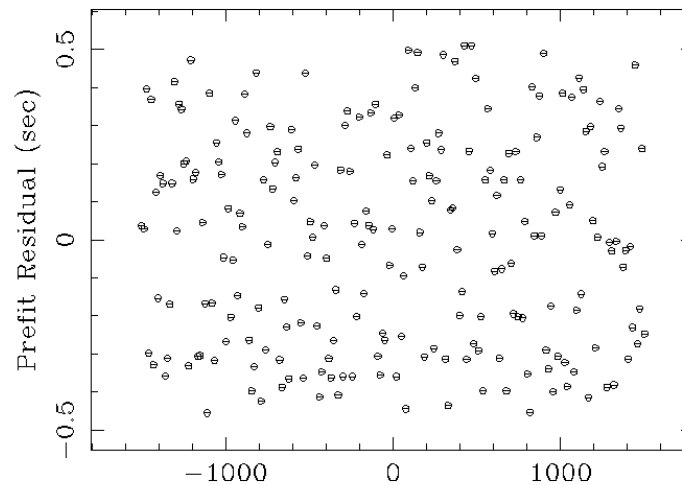
sim1 (rms = 294359.385 μ s) pre-fit



MJD-51501.7

Phase wraps

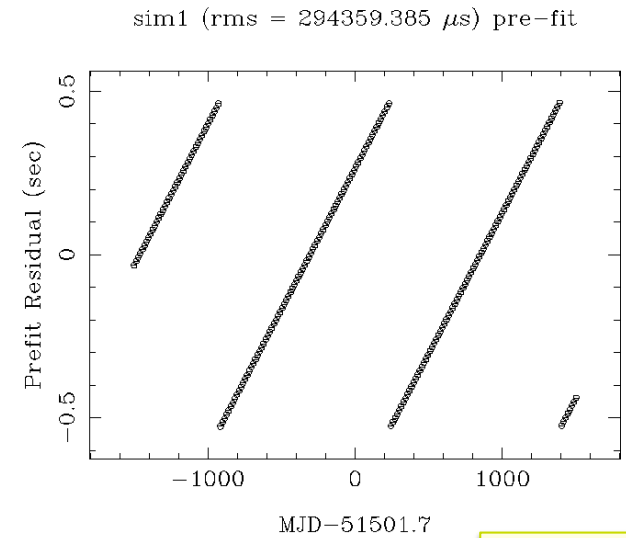
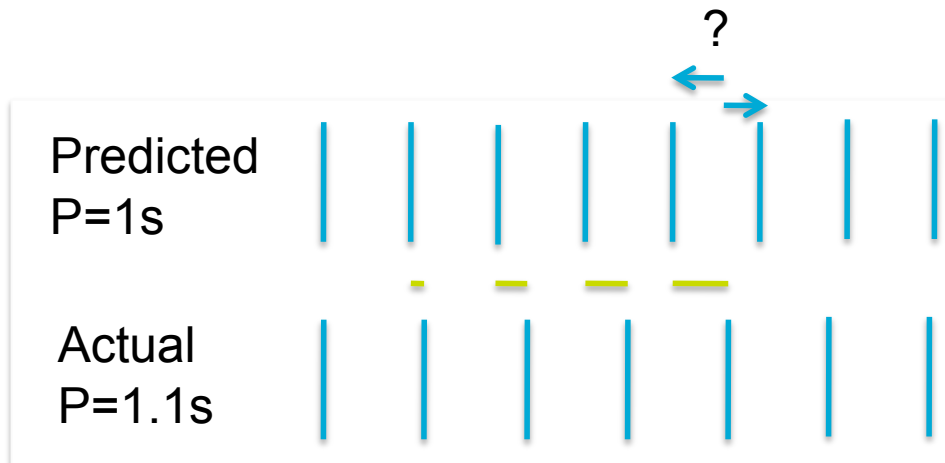
sim1 (rms = 273313.898 μ s) pre-fit



MJD-51501.7

Phase wraps

Always chooses the closest pulse!



Phase wraps

No phase connection

Do not have a
phase
connected
solution

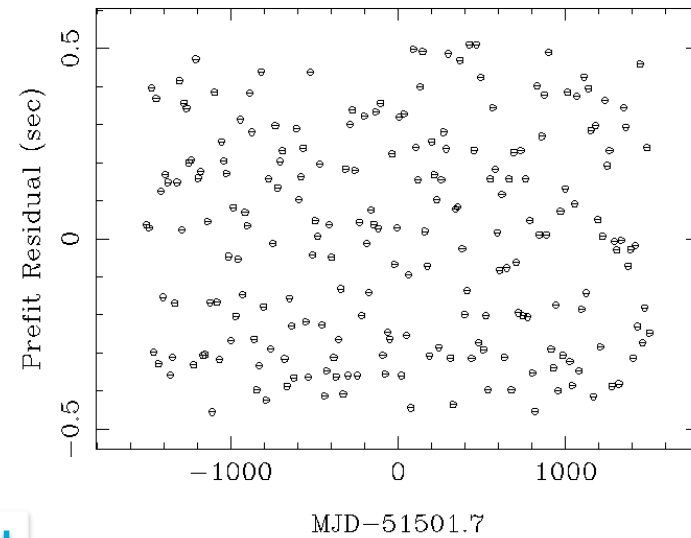
Predicted
 $P=1\text{s}$



Actual
 $P=?$



sim1 (rms = 273313.898 μs) pre-fit



A few notes

TEMPO2 is written in C/C++ (with a little Fortran) and runs on linux and MacOS.

- Main tempo2 website: <http://www.atnf.csiro.au/research/pulsar/tempo2> (see “tutorials” and “Documentation”)
- Main tempo2 download site:
 - <http://sourceforge.net/projects/tempo2>
- Tempo2 email distribution list:
 - Sign up at <http://pulsarastronomy.net> (click on “Mailing Lists”)
 - Contact: george.hobbs@csiro.au, use feedback form

Part 3: Gravitational waves

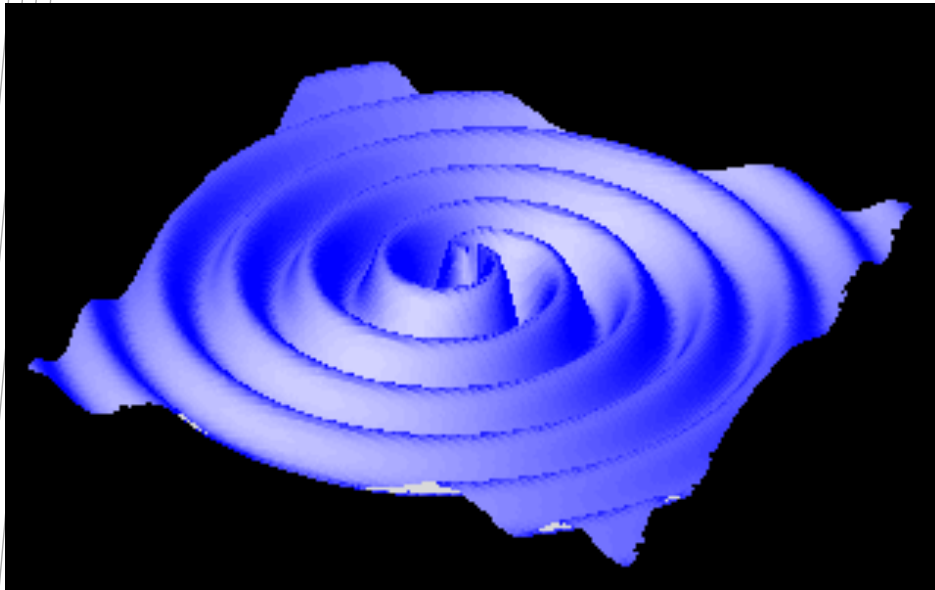
- Part 1: Getting pulsar data files
- Part 2: Pulsar timing
- Part 3: Gravitational waves

Part 3: Gravitational waves and pulsars



Gravitational waves

- I am not an expert in general relativity



In general relativity, the metric determines the spacetime geometry

$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu$$

Einstein's equation determines the dynamics of the metric:

$$G_{\mu\nu}(g) = 8\pi T_{\mu\nu}$$

Taking $g_{\mu\nu}$ to be of the following form:

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}$$

We get a wave equation for h :

$$-\partial^2 h_{\mu\nu} / \partial^2 t + r^2 h_{\mu\nu} = 4\pi T_{\mu\nu}$$

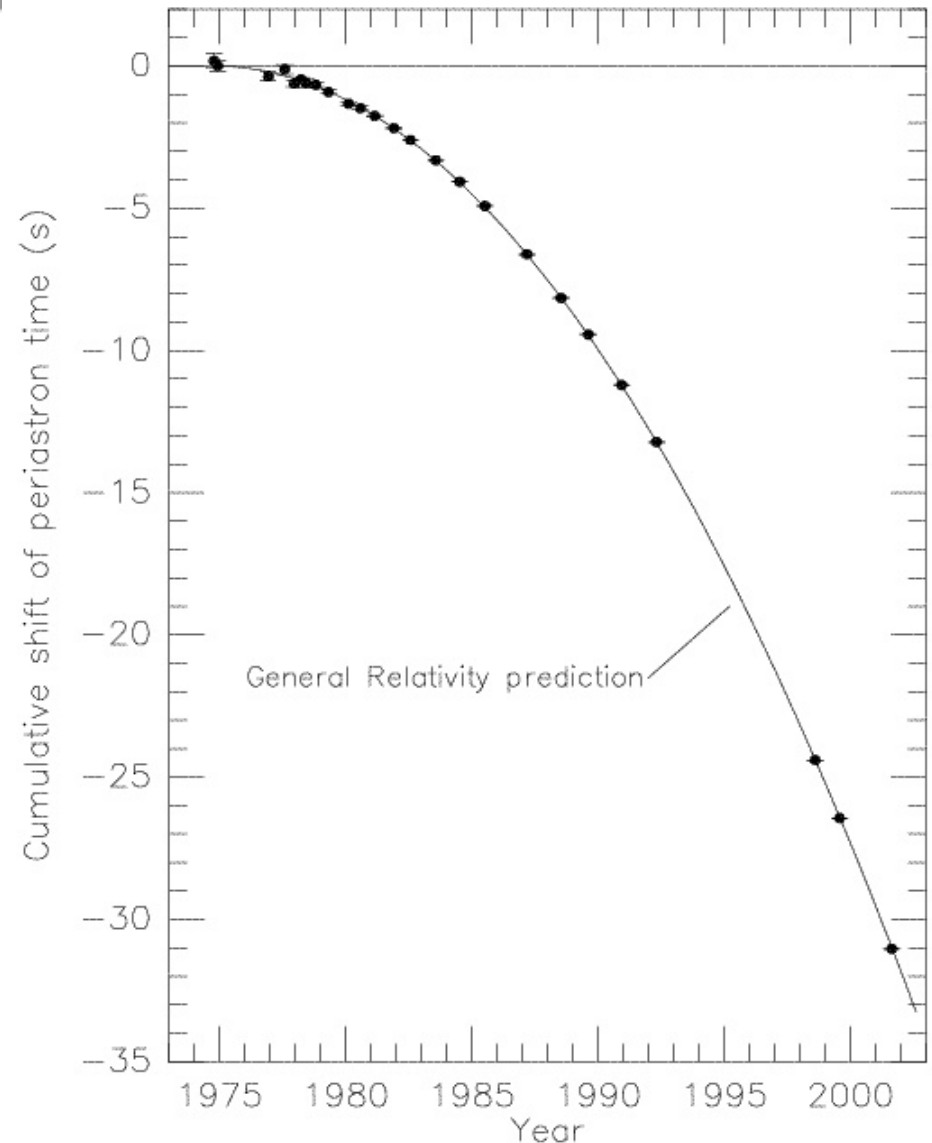
“A gravitational wave is a fluctuation in the curvature of space-time which propagates as a wave.”

In general relativity, gravitational waves travel at the speed of light

Gravitational waves are generated by the motion of masses

How do we know that gravitational waves exist?

- Prediction based on measured Keplerian parameters and Einstein's general relativity due to emission of *gravitational waves* (1.5cm per orbit)
- After ~250 MYr the two neutron stars will collide!



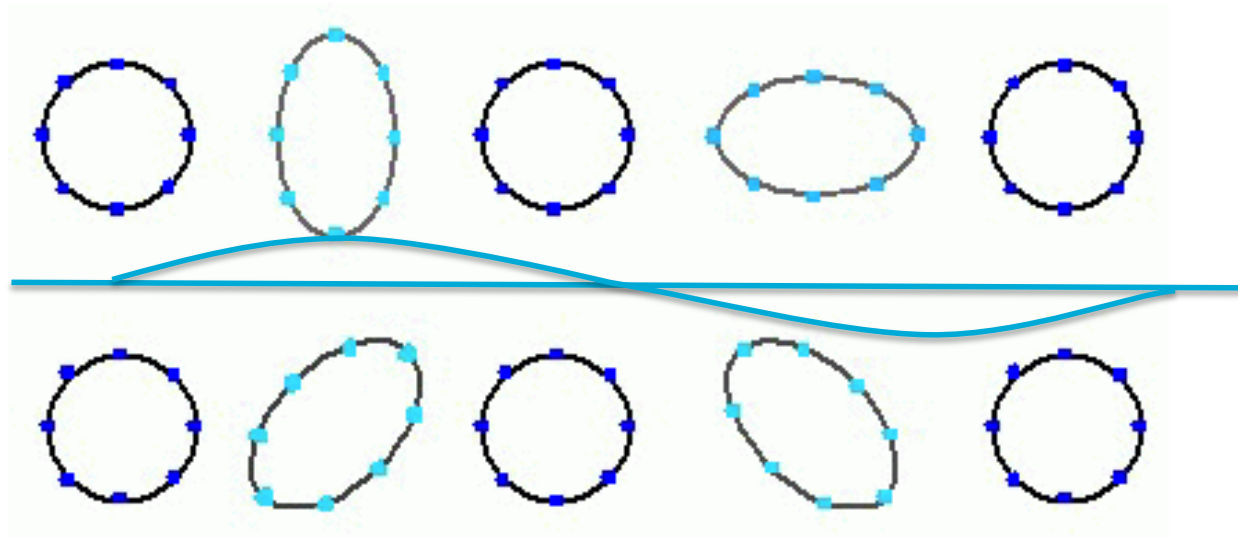
(Weisberg & Taylor 2003)

CSIRO. Gravitational wave detection

Describing gravitational waves

Use standard terminology: wave-length (or frequency), amplitude and polarisation properties

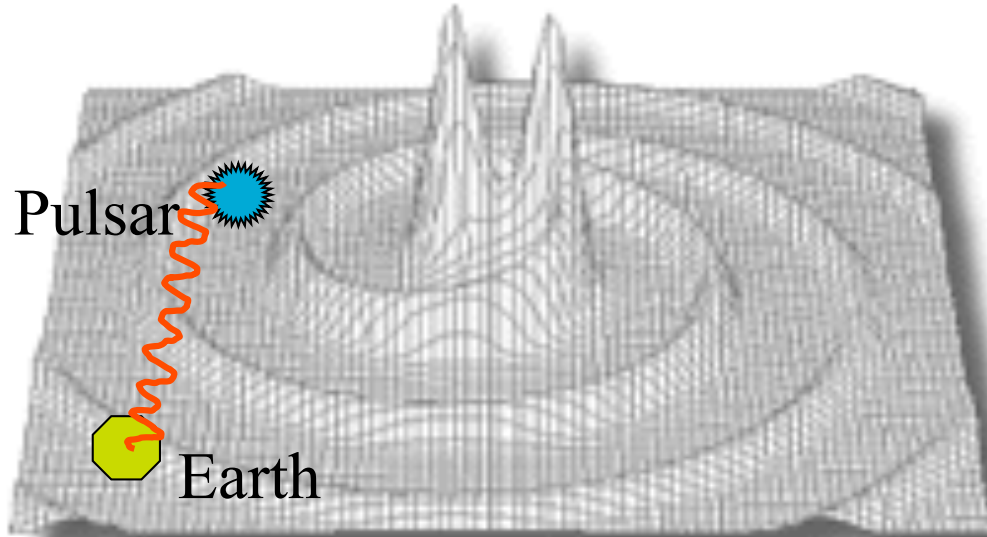
A+



Ax

Can have linearly, circularly or elliptically polarised waves

Gravitational waves



Note: pulsar distances are not known precisely enough to predict the pulsar term.

GW strain at Earth

The “Earth” term

$$\frac{\delta\nu}{\nu} = -\mathcal{H}^{ij} (h_{ij}(t_e, x_e^i) - h_{ij}(t_e - d, x_p^i))$$

$$R(t) = -\int_0^t \frac{\delta\nu(t)}{\nu} dt$$

GW strain at pulsar (assumed distance d)

The “pulsar” term

The geometrical factors

- Pulsar coordinates are described in “right ascension” and “declination”
- Must describe the gravitational wave source, the wave propagation and polarisation angle using consistent coordinate system
- See Hobbs et al. 2010 (MNRAS) or Lee et al. (2011)

$$\begin{aligned} P_+ &= (k_p \cdot \lambda)^2 - (k_p \cdot \beta)^2 \\ P_x &= 2(k_p \cdot \lambda)(k_p \cdot \beta) \\ \gamma &= k_p \cdot k_g \end{aligned}$$

Angular factors

$$k_p \cdot \beta = -\sin \beta_p \cos \beta_g + \cos(\lambda_g - \lambda_p) \cos \beta_p \sin \beta_g$$

$$k_p \cdot \lambda = \cos \beta_p \sin(\lambda_g - \lambda_p)$$

$$k_p \cdot k_g = \cos \beta_g \cos \beta_p \cos(\lambda_g - \lambda_p) + \sin \beta_g \sin \beta_p$$

Putting it all together

$$R_e(t) = \text{Real} \left(\int_0^t \frac{P_+ A_+(t) + P_x A_x(t)}{2(1 - \gamma)} dt \right)$$

For a non-evolving source, the terms $A_{+,x}$ are given by

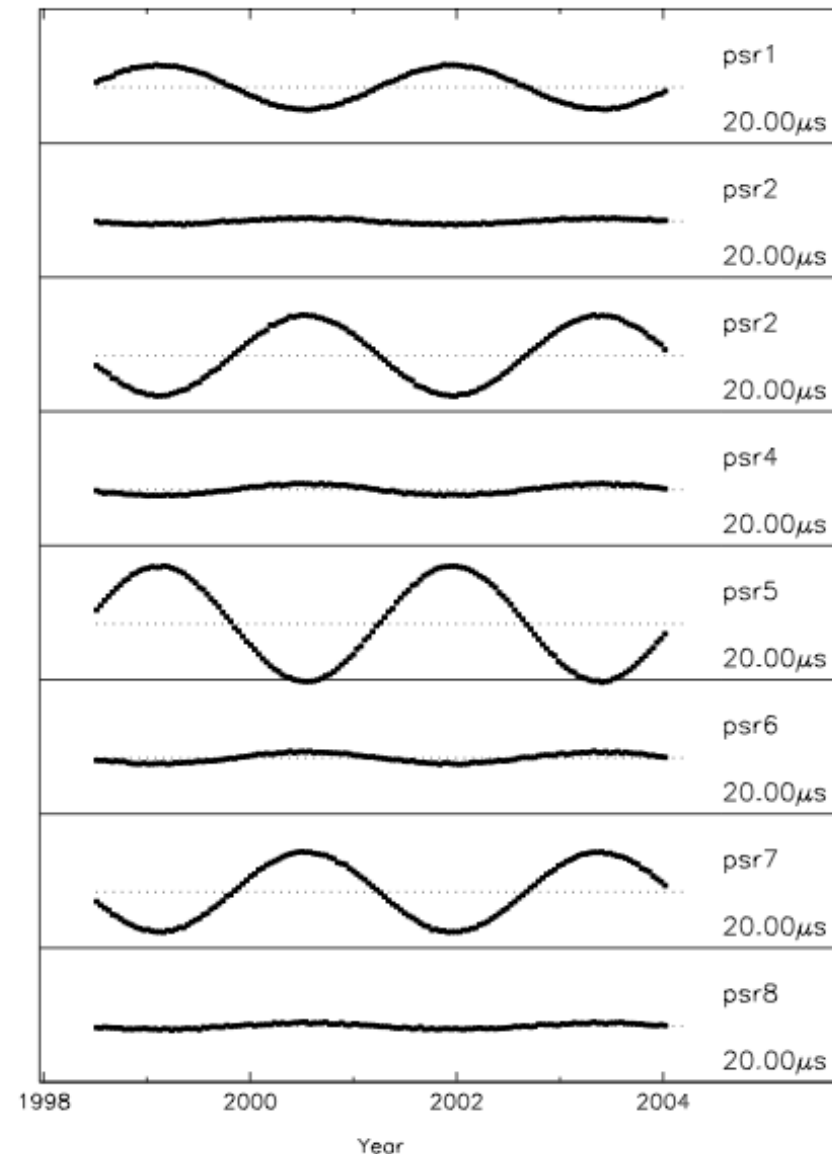
$$A_{+,x} = A_{+,x} e^{i\omega_g t}$$

Pulsar term is the same except for extra phase:

$$\Delta\phi = (1 + k_p \cdot k_g) \frac{D\omega_g}{c}$$

Single GW sources: non-evolving: only Earth term

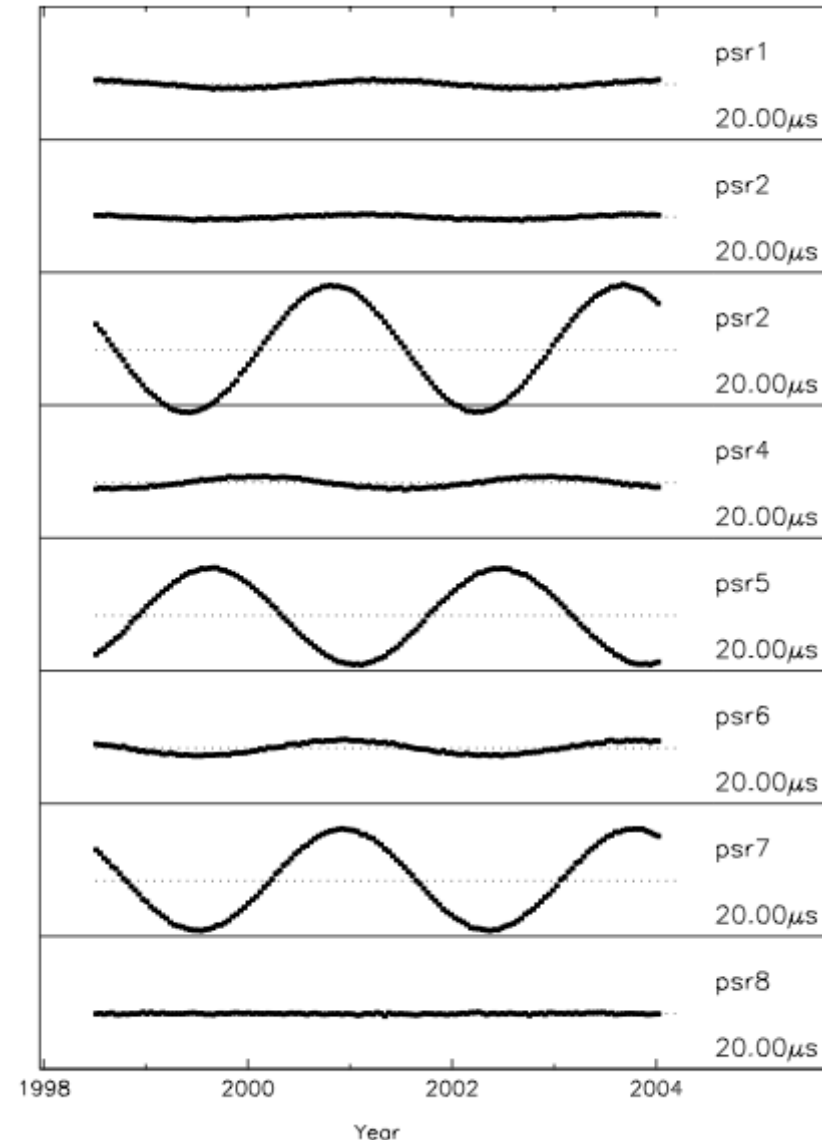
- Can **simulate** “perfect” pulse arrival times (given a pulsar timing model).
- Can add the induced residuals from a non-evolving (sinusoidal) GW source.
- Can use tempo2 to form timing residuals
- (Here simulate a GW signal only in A+ polarisation, pulsars in ring separated by 45 degrees)



Single GW sources: non-evolving: Earth term and pulsar term

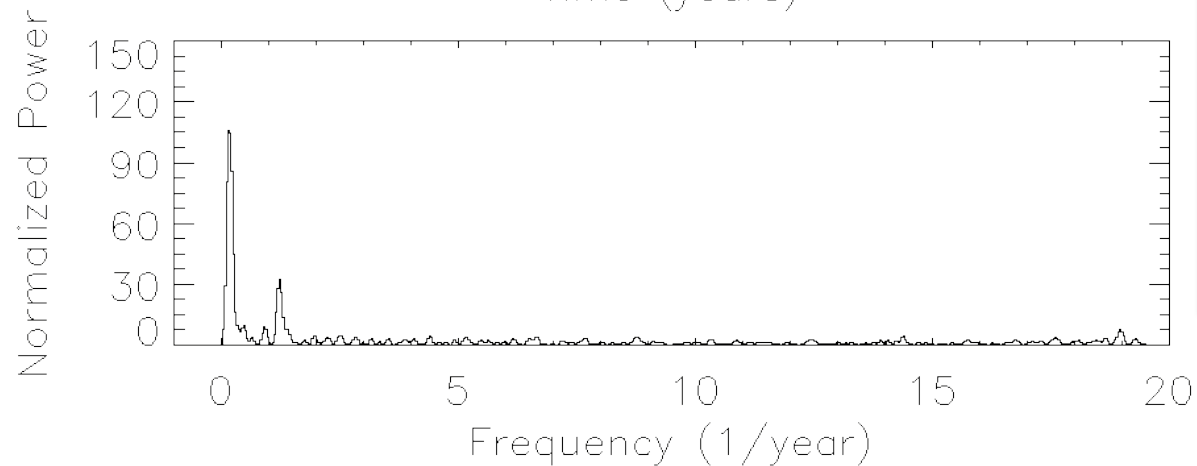
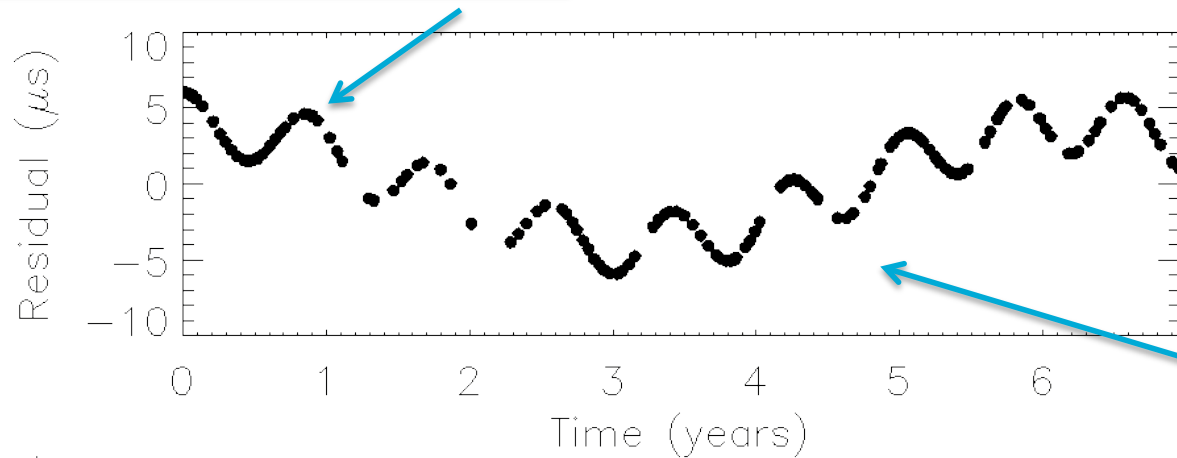
- Can simulate “perfect” pulse arrival times (given a pulsar timing model).
- Can add the induced residuals from a non-evolving (sinusoidal) GW source.
- Can use tempo2 to form timing residuals
- (Here simulate a GW signal only in A+ polarisation)

The pulsar term adds in an unknown phase shift



Single GW sources: evolving source: Earth term and pulsar term

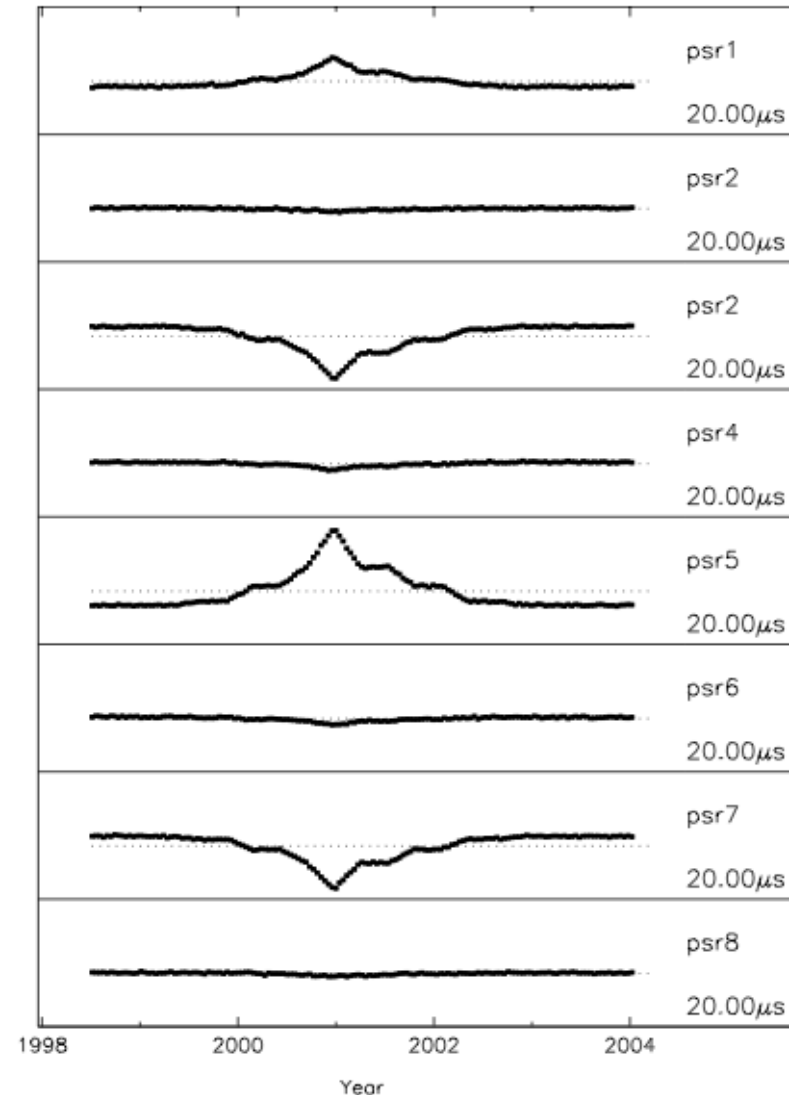
High frequency signal from "Earth" term



Low frequency signal from "pulsar" term

Single GW sources: burst source

- Can simulate “perfect” pulse arrival times (given a pulsar timing model).
- Can use tempo2 to form timing residuals for an arbitrary GW waveform
- (Here simulate a GW signal only in A+ polarisation)



A gravitational wave background

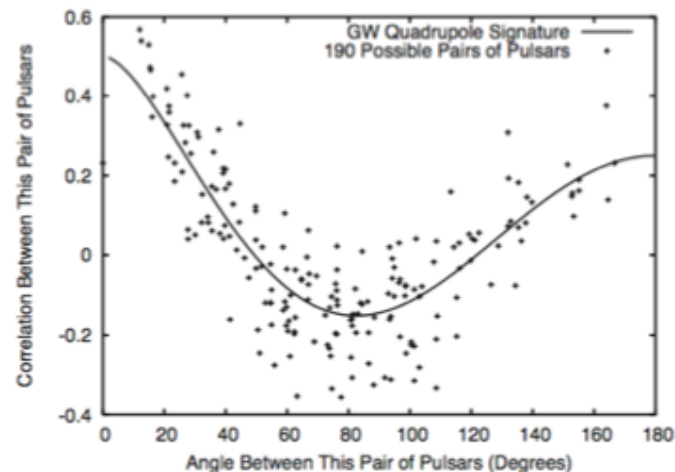
$$h_{\mu\nu} = \text{Re} \left[\sum_j A_{\mu\nu j} e^{i\vec{k}_j \cdot \vec{x} - i\omega_j t} \right]$$

$$R(t, \hat{k}) = - \int_0^t \sum_{s=0}^{N-1} \mathcal{H}(\hat{k}, \hat{\eta}_s)^{ij} (h_{ij}(t_e, x_e, \hat{\eta}_s) - h_{ij}(t_e - d, x_p, \hat{\eta}_s)) dt_e$$

This is the same for all pulsars.

This depends on the pulsar.

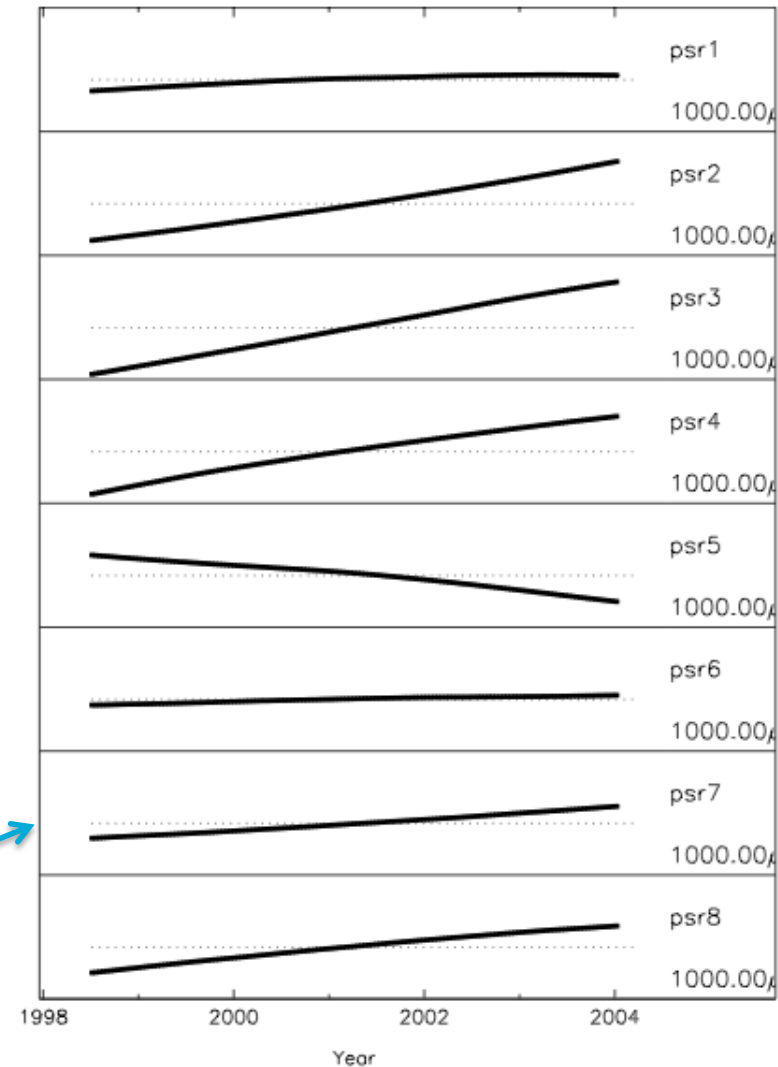
Hellings & Downs (1983):



Simulating a GW background

- 1) can simulate a large number of single sources with random positions, frequencies and polarisation properties (described later in this lecture series)
- 2) can simulate time series following a power law $P(f) = Af^\alpha$ that are correlated according to Hellings & Downs (1983)

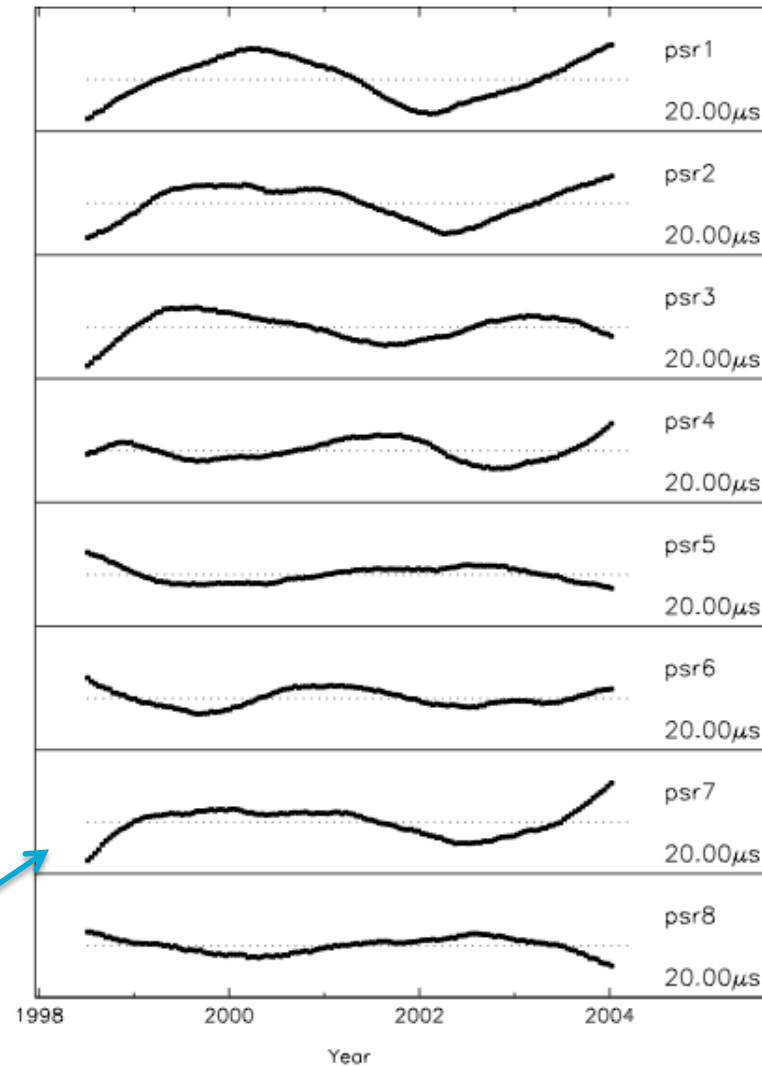
1ms timing residuals



Simulating a GW background: issue with fitting

- 1) can simulate a large number of single sources with random positions, frequencies and polarisation properties (described later in this lecture series)
- 2) can simulate time series following a power law $P(f) = Af^\alpha$ that are correlated according to Hellings & Downs (1983)

20us timing residuals for simulated background (unrealistically large background)



Expected sizes

- Single source: peak amplitude $\sim 10\text{ns}$ (work by Sesana et al.)
- Burst source: ?
- Gravitational wave background: induced residuals $\sim 50\text{ns}$ (work by Sesana et al.)
- In the next talk we'll discuss where these numbers came from
- In talk 4 we'll discuss methods used to search for these gravitational waves

Conclusion

- Described how raw pulsar data files can be obtained from the CSIRO data access portal (<http://datanet.csiro.au/>)
- Described the pulsar timing method
- Showed how to download and use tempo2 (<http://www.atnf.csiro.au/research/pulsar/tempo2>)
- Discussed gravitational waves
- Determined the induced timing residuals caused by gravitational waves

- Next lecture:
- Actual pulsar data sets
- Sources of gravitational waves

