

# *Point processes and spatial statistics in time-frequency analysis*

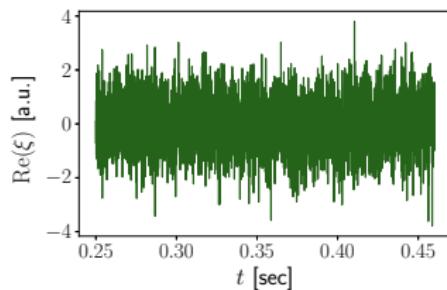
**Stochastic Geometry Days, 9th Edition, November 2021**

Barbara Pascal

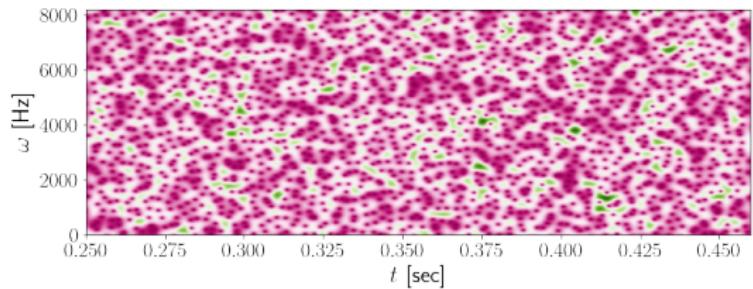
Rémi Bardenet

# Teaser

Pure noise

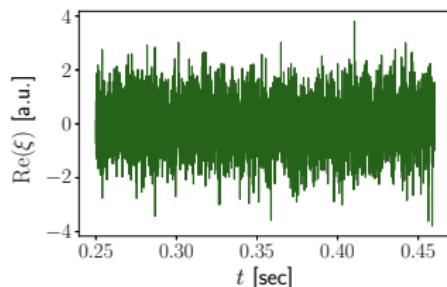


Time-frequency representation

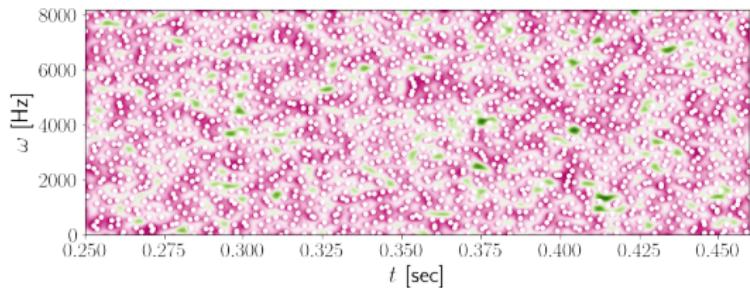


# Teaser

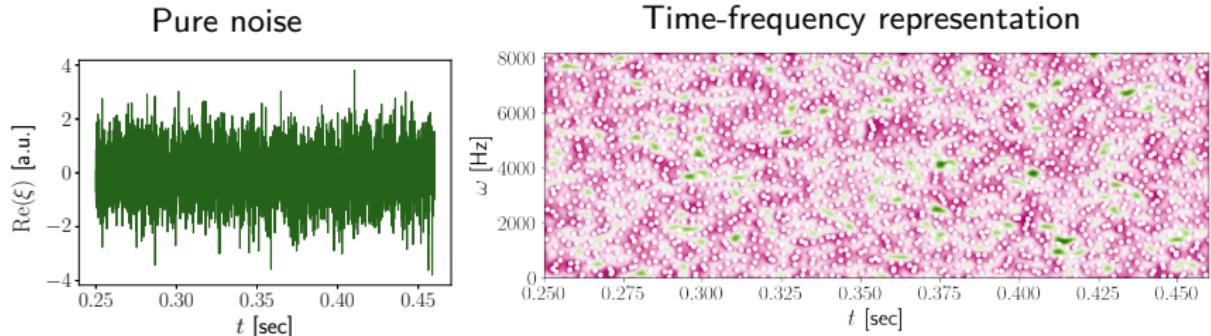
Pure noise



Time-frequency representation



# Teaser

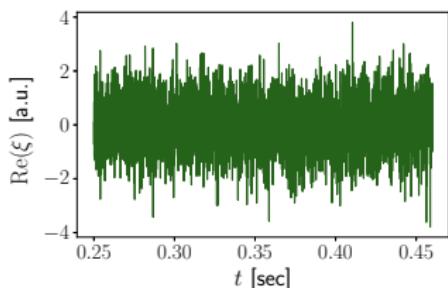


linked to  $z = \omega + it$ ,  $\text{GAF}_{\mathbb{C}}(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \xi_k \frac{z^k}{\sqrt{k!}}$ ,  $\xi_k \sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(0, 1)$

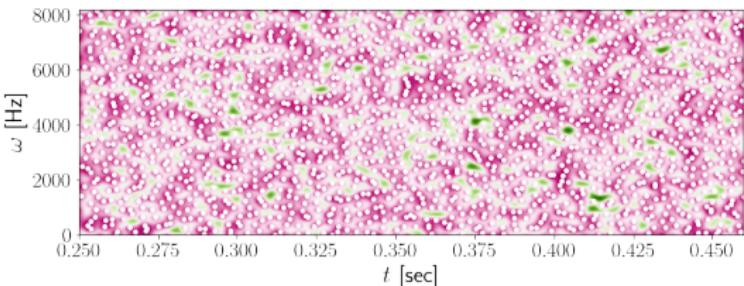
[Bardenet & Hardy, 2021]

# Teaser

Pure noise

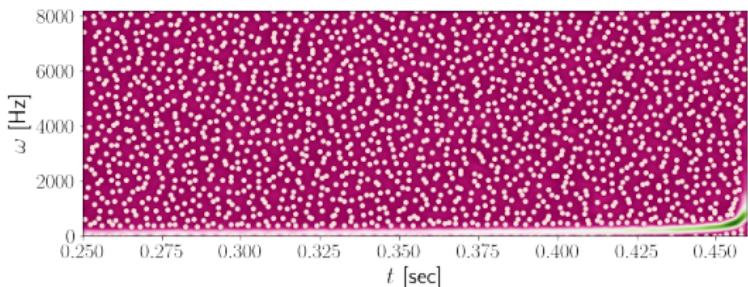
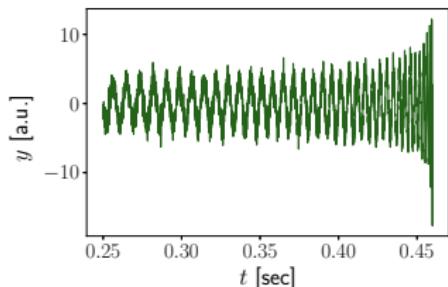


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[Bardenet & Hardy, 2021]



## **Part I: A scientific journey from signal processing to stochastic geometry**

**B. Pascal**

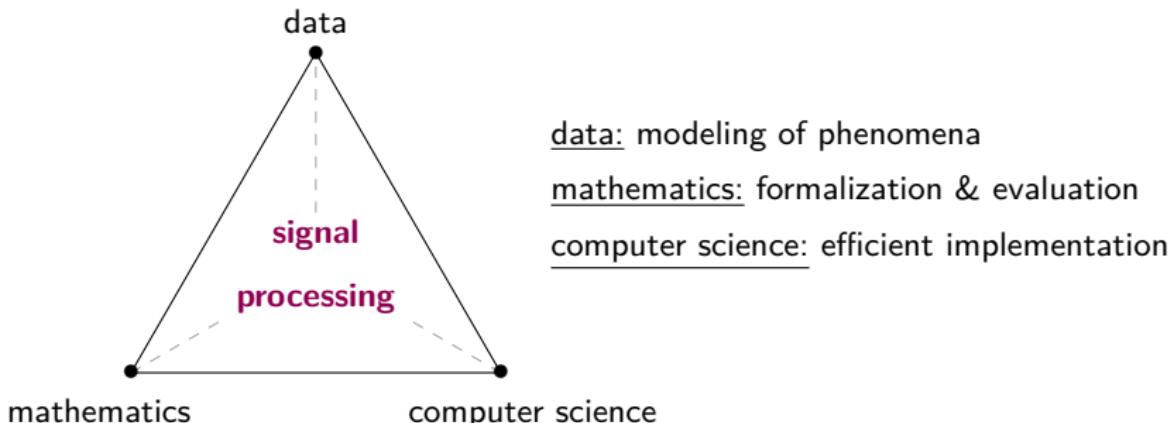
- (i)** Signal processing in a nutshell
- (ii)** Example of the detection of gravitational waves
- (iii)** Time-frequency representations of nonstationary processes
- (iv)** Mathematical definition of the noise
- (v)** Zeros of Gaussian spectrograms

Signal processing aims to extract **information** from *real* data.

Data of very diverse types:

- measurements of a physical quantity,
- biological or epidemiological indicators,
- data produced by human activities.

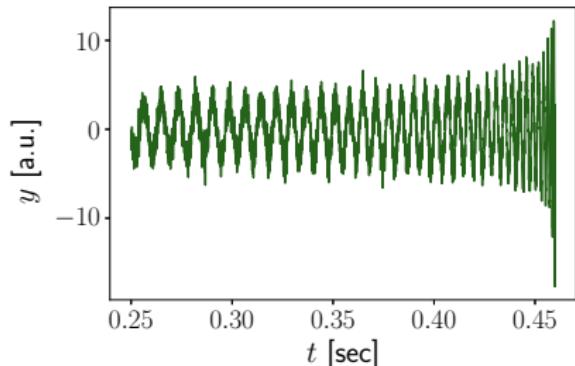
### The Golden triangle of signal processing



*inspired from P. Flandrin*

# Time and frequency as a natural language

Standard case: data consists in *complex* functions of the *real* variable  $y : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ .



- electrical cardiac activity,
- audio recording,
- seismic activity,
- light intensity on a photosensor
- ...

## Information of interest:

- time events, e.g., an earthquake and its replica
- frequency content, e.g., monitoring of the heart beating rate

time	frequency
ever-changing world	waves, oscillations, rhythms
marker of events and evolutions	intrinsic mechanisms

# From time to frequency: the Fourier transform

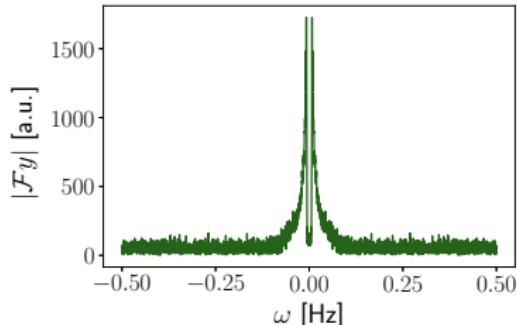
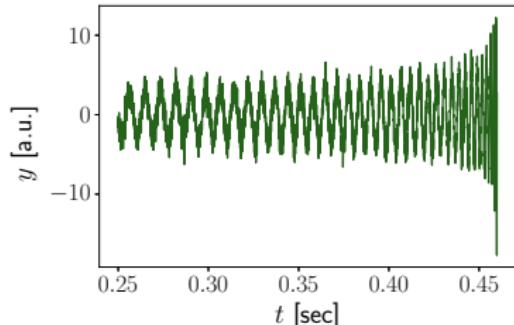
**Definition**

$$\forall f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}), \quad \mathcal{F}f(\omega) \triangleq \int_{\mathbb{R}} \overline{f(t)} \exp(-i\omega t) dt$$

**Properties**

- $\mathcal{F}$  extends to  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  and to distributions.
- $\mathcal{F} : L^2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R})$  is an isometry, i.e., preserves the energy  $\|f\|_2 = \|\mathcal{F}f\|_2$ .
- $\mathcal{F} : L^2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R})$  is invertible with:

$$\forall \widehat{f} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}), \quad \mathcal{F}^{-1}\widehat{f}(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \overline{\widehat{f}(\omega)} \exp(i\omega t) d\omega.$$



# Recent high impact success: the detection of gravitational waves

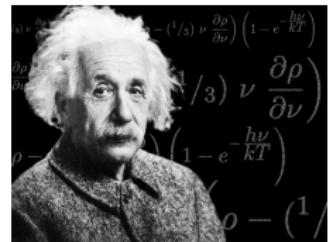
## A bit of history

**1905:** Special Relativity by Einstein, Lorentz and Poincaré

**1906:** Poincaré proposed the 'gravific waves'

**1915:** Publication of General Relativity Einstein,

**1916:** Modern formulation of 'gravitational waves' as  
*'The propagation of a space-time deformation.'*



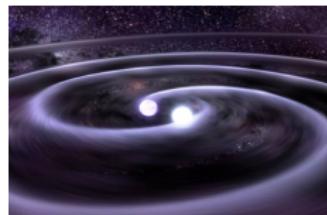
## Formidable challenge

- not much empirical assessment of General Relativity exists,
- extremely tiny effect induced on matter,
- result from very rare events involving heavy object: neutrons stars, black holes, ...

**Einstein & Rosen (1937) :** *'Together with a young collaborator, I arrived at the interesting result that gravitational waves do not exist, though they had been assumed a certainty to the first approximation.'*

# Recent high impact success: the detection of gravitational waves

## What mechanism gives rise to a gravitational wave?



Two heavy objects revolving around each other

- radiation of a gravitational wave: loss of energy
- the objects get closer and closer,
- increase revolution pace to preserve angular momentum.

**60s-70s** astronomers observed binary systems and pulsars **loosing energy**:  
*indirect* evidence of the existence of gravitational waves.

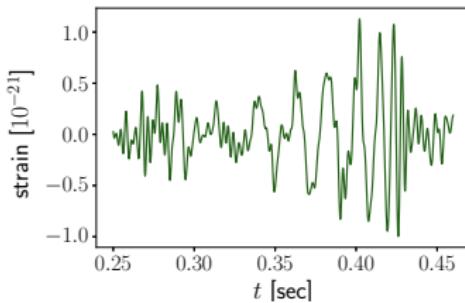
**September, 14th 2015** LIGO-Virgo interferometers detected GW150914  
collision and merging of two black holes **1.3 billions years** ago.



# Recent high impact success: the detection of gravitational waves

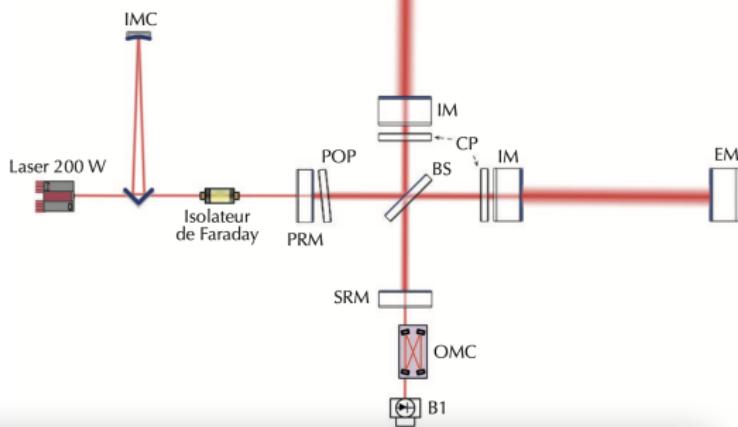


## Oscillation of the fringe pattern



EM

*preprocessed*



# Recent high impact success: the detection of gravitational waves

**Physical model:** two objects  $M = m_1 + m_2$  at distance  $R$ ,  $\mu^{-1} = m_1^{-1} + m_2^{-1}$ .

A first order *Newtonian* approximation yields

$$x(t) = A(t_0 - t)^{-1/4} \cos(d(t_0 - t)^{5/8} + \varphi) \mathbf{1}_{(-\infty; t_0]}(t)$$

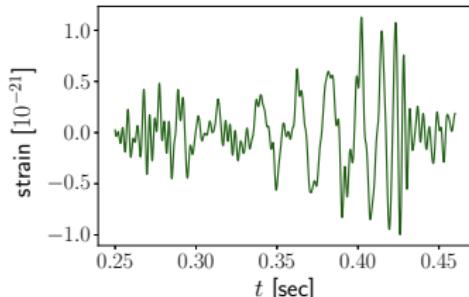
- $t_0$ : time of coalescence,
- $d$ : instantaneous frequency parameter
- $A$ : amplitude reference

$$d \simeq 241 M_{\odot}^{-5/8},$$

$$A \simeq 3.37 \times 10^{-21} M_{\odot}^{5/4} / R.$$

**Unknown:**  $M_{\odot} = \mu^{3/5} M^{2/5} / M_{\odot}$ : chirp mass in solar mass unit.

'Chirp' of amplitude  $a(t) = A(t_0 - t)^{-1/4}$  and frequency  $\omega(t) = 10\pi d/8(t_0 - t)^{-3/8}$ .



**Where signal processing enters the game:**

- clean the observation,
- verify whether the power laws are correct,
- estimate  $A$ ,  $d$  and  $t_0$ ,
- deduce  $M_{\odot}$ ,  $M$  and  $R$ .

From LIGO Open Science Center.

From time **vs.** frequency to time **and** frequency

### ***Musical score paradigm***



intrinsically *joint* time-frequency representation

### **Time-frequency representation** combines

- instantaneous frequency spectrum
- global temporal behavior

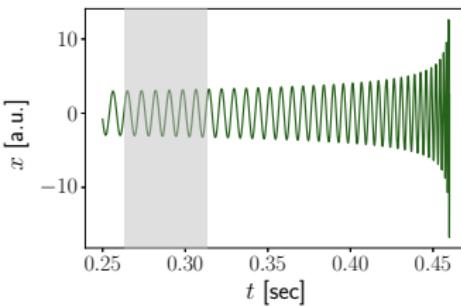
# Time and frequency: Short-Time Fourier Transform

## Localized Fourier transform

- Choose a window, e.g.,  $g(t) = \pi^{-1/4} \exp(-t^2/2)$ ,
- compute the Fourier transform of  $x$  on  $\text{supp}(g)$ ,
- repeat for translated copies of  $g$ .

At time  $t$  and frequency  $\omega$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \overline{x(u)} g(u - t) \exp(-i\omega u) du$$



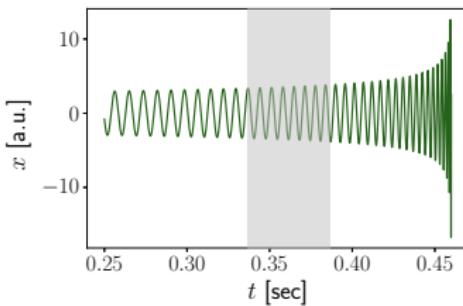
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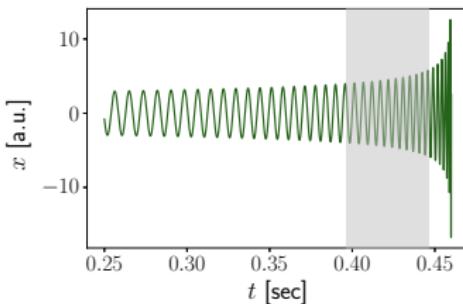
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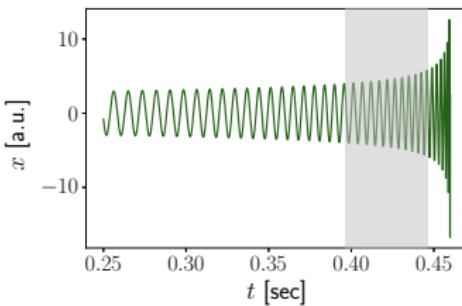
# Time and frequency: Short-Time Fourier Transform

## Localized Fourier transform

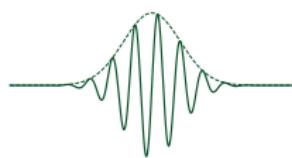
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At time  $t$  and frequency  $\omega$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \overline{x(u)} g(u - t) \exp(-i\omega u) du$$



## Weyl-Heisenberg group of elementary operations on signals



$$g(t) = \pi^{-1/4} \exp(-t^2/2)$$

$$T_u g(t) = g(t - u)$$

$$M_\omega g(t) = g(t) \exp(-i\omega t)$$

## Practice on a synthetic example

### Repository on GitHub

<https://github.com/bpascal-fr/GeoSto-PP-for-TF>

- `.pdf` of the presentation,
- `synthetic.ipynb`: processing synthetic signal
- `gravitational-wave.ipynb`: real observation, with `data/gw.mat`.



<https://colab.research.google.com/>

# Time and frequency: Short-Time Fourier Transform

**Definition**  $V_h x(t, \omega) \triangleq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \overline{x(u)} h(u - t) \exp(-i\omega u) du = \langle x, \mathbf{T}_t \mathbf{M}_{\omega} h \rangle$

## Properties

- (i)  $V_h$  is an **isometry**  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} V_h x(t, \omega) \overline{V_h y(t, \omega)} dt \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} = \|h\|_2^2 \int_{\mathbb{R}} \overline{x(t)} y(t) dt.$
- (ii)  $\{V_h x \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{C}), x \in L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C})\}$  is a **Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space**, i.e.,

$$V_h x(t, \omega') = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} K(t', \omega'; t, \omega) V_h x(t, \omega) dt \frac{d\omega}{2\pi},$$

with kernel  $K(t', \omega'; t, \omega) = V_h h(t' - t, \omega' - \omega).$

- (iii)  $V_{h_1}$  is **invertible** and if  $\langle h_1, h_2 \rangle \neq 0$

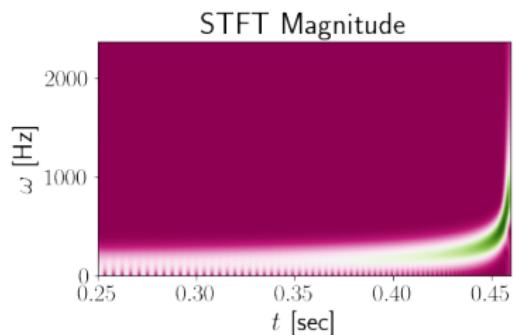
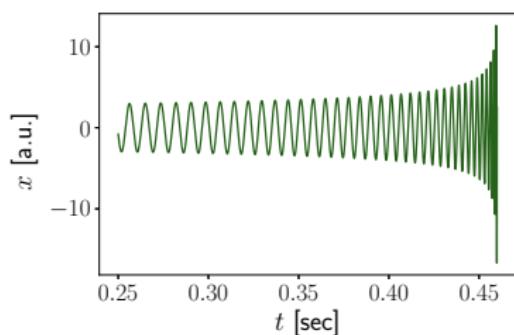
$$\forall x \in L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}), \quad x(t') = \frac{1}{\langle h_1, h_2 \rangle} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \overline{V_{h_1} x(t, \omega)} \mathbf{M}_{\omega} \mathbf{T}_t h_2(t) dt \frac{d\omega}{2\pi}$$

# Time and frequency: Short-Time Fourier Transform

**Definition**  $V_h x(t, \omega) \triangleq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \overline{x(u)} h(u - t) \exp(-i\omega u) du = \langle x, \mathbf{T}_t \mathbf{M}_{\omega} h \rangle$

## Ideal situation

$$x(t) = A(t_0 - t)^{-1/4} \cos(d(t_0 - t)^{5/8} + \varphi) \mathbf{1}_{(-\infty; t_0]}(t)$$



$$a(t) = A(t_0 - t)^{-1/4}$$

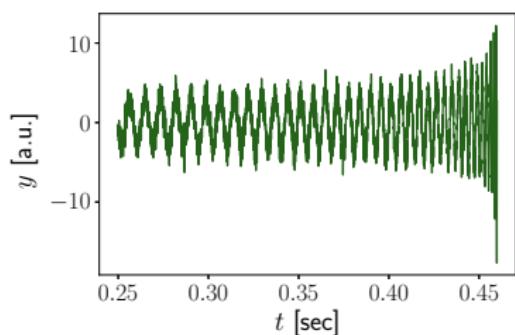
$$\omega(t) = 10\pi d/8(t_0 - t)^{-3/8}$$

# Time and frequency: Short-Time Fourier Transform

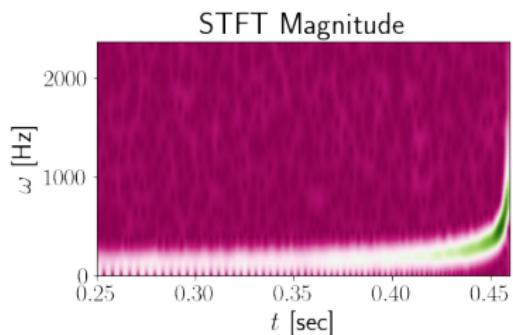
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## Realistic measurements

$$y(t) = A(t_0 - t)^{-1/4} \cos(d(t_0 - t)^{5/8} + \varphi) \mathbf{1}_{(-\infty; t_0]}(t) + n(t)$$



$$\widehat{a(t)}$$



$$\widehat{\omega(t)}$$

## Mathematical definition of ‘noise’

### Noisy measurements or additive noise model

$$y(t) = x(t) + n(t)$$

with

- $x(t)$ : the signal, meaningful to the receiver, contains information
- $n(t)$ : the noise, disturbance, characteristic of the sensor.

**Signal processing task:** given  $y(t)$

- detect whether there is a signal, ' $y(t) = x(t) + n(t)$ ' or ' $y(t) = n(t)$ '.
  - disentangle the signal and the noise, i.e., estimating  $\widehat{x(t)}$  from  $y(t)$ .

## Reminder

$$V_h x(t, \omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \overline{x(u)} h(u - t) \exp(-i\omega u) du$$

is **linear** and **invertible**. Then  $V_h y(t, \omega) = V_h x(t, \omega) + V_h n(t, \omega)$ .

Thus an estimate  $\widehat{V_h x}(t, \omega)$ , provides an estimate of the signal

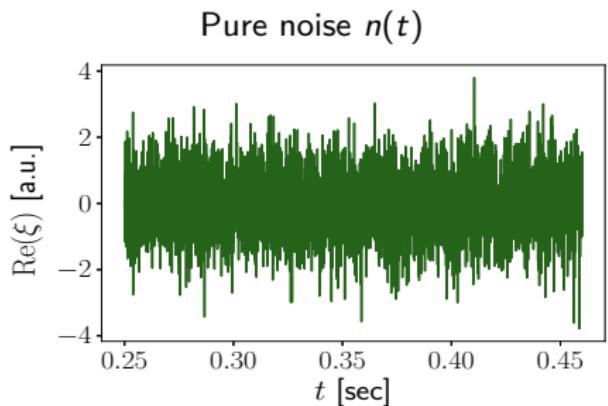
$$\widehat{x(t)} = V_h^{-1} \widehat{V_h x(t, \omega)}$$

## Mathematical definition of '*noise*'

But ... what do 'signal' and 'noise' mean? How to distinguish them?

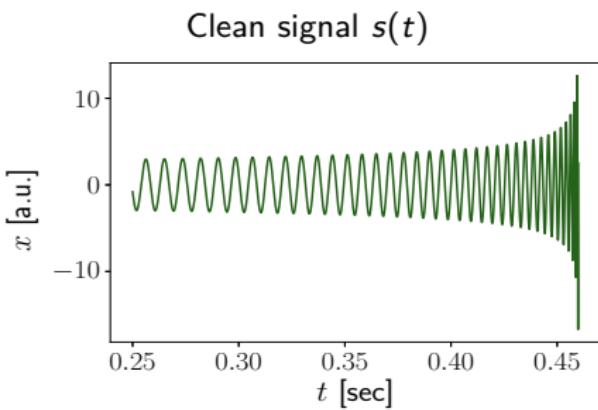
# Mathematical definition of ‘noise’

But ... what do ‘signal’ and ‘noise’ mean? How to distinguish them?



random/disordered

**Stochastic**



deterministic/ordered

**Geometry**

**P. Flandrin:** ‘A signal is characterized by some well-defined structured organization.’

## Mathematical definition of ‘noise’

**Definition of white noise:**  $\xi \sim \mu$  with

$$\mathbb{E}_\mu [\exp(i\langle x, \xi \rangle)] = e^{-\|x\|_2^2/2}, \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{H},$$

i.e.,  $\mu$  is the standard Gaussian measure on the Hilbert space of signal  $\mathcal{H}$ .

**Properties** If such standard Gaussian measure  $\mu$  exists, then

- $\xi$  is *isometry invariant*, thus does not depend on a basis of  $\mathcal{H}$ ,
- $\forall x \in \mathcal{H}, \langle x, \xi \rangle \sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(0, \|x\|_2^2)$ .

**The finite-dimensional case**  $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}^N$  with canonical basis  $\{\mathbf{e}_k, k = 1, \dots, N\}$

$$\xi = \sum_{k=1}^N \xi_k \mathbf{e}_k, \quad n_k \sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(0, 1) \quad \text{independent random variables,}$$

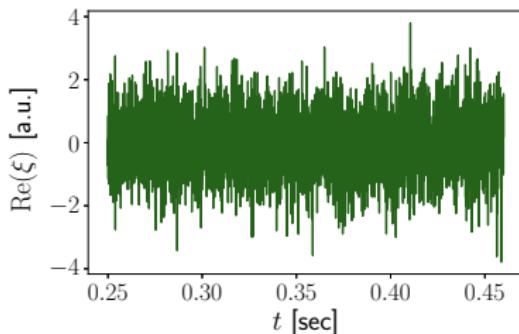
realizes a complex white noise of dimension  $N$ .

## Mathematical definition of ‘noise’

**Finite-dimensional white noise**  $\xi = \sum_{k=1}^N \xi_k e_k$ ,  $\xi_k \sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(0, 1)$  independent

**Signal processing interpretation** i.i.d. Gaussian measurements  $y_k \triangleq y(t_k)$ :

$$y_k \sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(x_k, 1/\text{SNR}^2), \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad y_k = x_k + n_k, \quad n_k = \frac{1}{\text{SNR}} \xi_k$$



**Definition** A random process  $\{\xi(t), t \in \mathbb{R}\}$  is an infinite-dimensional white noise if

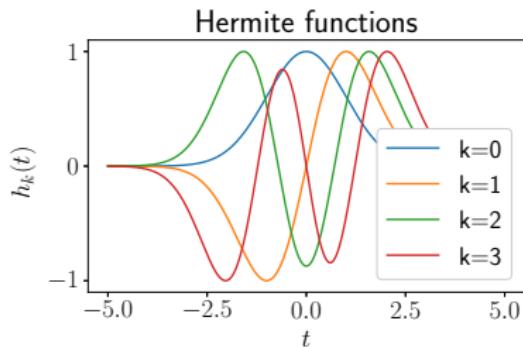
$$\forall N \in \mathbb{N}, \quad \forall t_1, \dots, t_N \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \xi \triangleq (\xi(t_k))_{k=1}^N \in \mathbb{C}^N$$

is a finite-dimensional white noise on  $\mathbb{C}^N$ .

## Mathematical definition of ‘noise’

**Finite-dimensional white noise**  $\xi = \sum_{k=1}^N \xi_k e_k$ ,  $\xi_k \sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(0, 1)$  independent

**Heuristic extension to infinite-dimensional  $L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C})$  with basis  $\{h_k, k = 0, 1, \dots\}$**



$$\xi(t) \triangleq \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \xi_k h_k(t),$$

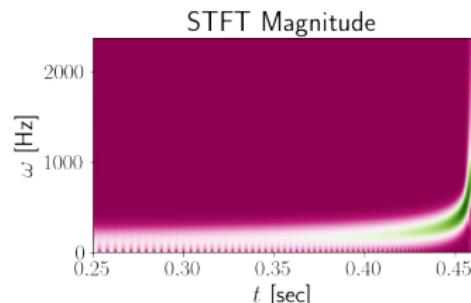
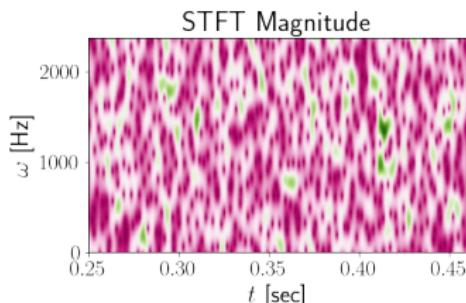
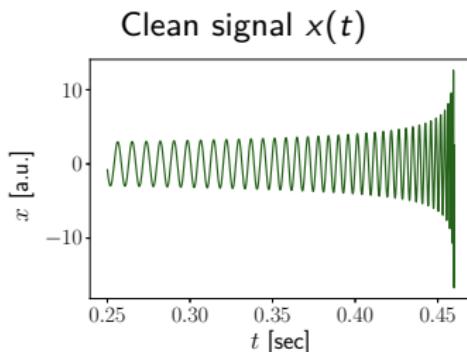
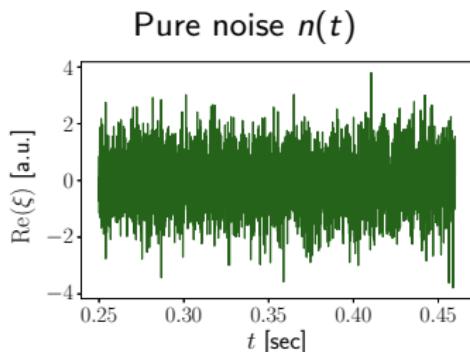
$\xi_k \sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(0, 1)$  independent random variables

**Observations and limitations** (see Part II by Rémi Bardenet)

- Depends on the Hilbertian basis.
- The series diverges a.s. in  $L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C})$ !
- Further work to interpret it as a standard Gaussian measure on a space  $\Theta$ .

# Spectrogram of signal and white noise

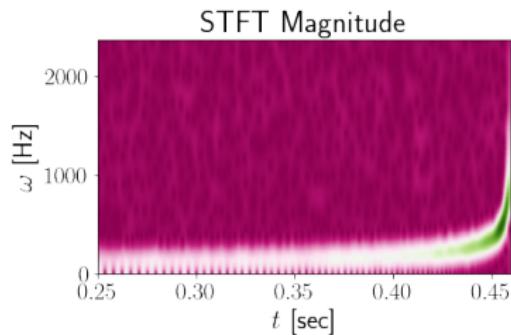
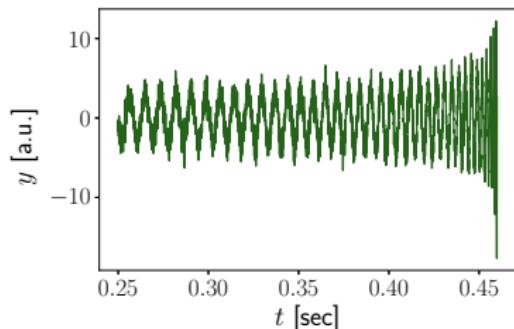
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# Spectrogram of a noisy signal

## Realistic noisy measurements

$$y(t) = A(t_0 - t)^{-1/4} \cos(d(t_0 - t)^{5/8} + \varphi) \mathbf{1}_{(-\infty; t_0]}(t) + n(t) = x(t) + n(t)$$



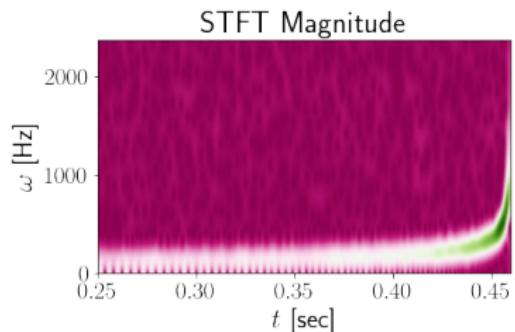
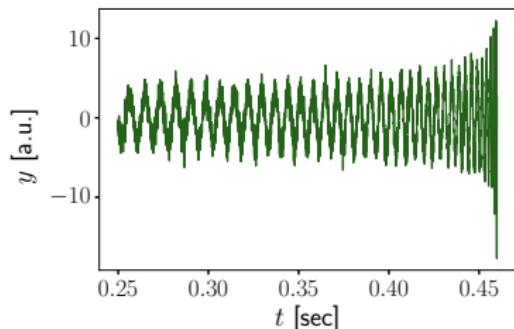
$$V_h y(t, \omega) = V_h x(t, \omega) + V_h n(t, \omega)$$

**Purpose** Estimation of

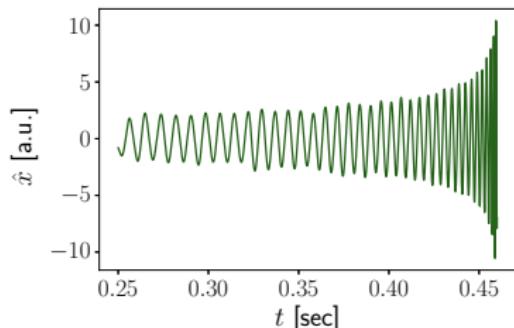
- time-evolving amplitude  $a(t) = A(t_0 - t)^{-1/4}$ , then deduce  $A$ ,
- instantaneous frequency  $\omega(t) = 10\pi d/8(t_0 - t)^{-3/8}$ , infer  $d$ ,
- reconstruction of the clean signal  $\widehat{x(t)}$ .

# Spectrogram of a noisy signal

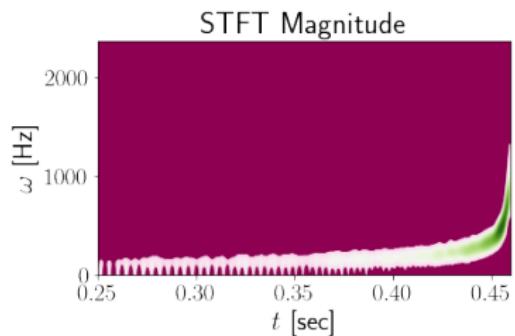
## Realistic noisy measurements



## Denoising based on maxima



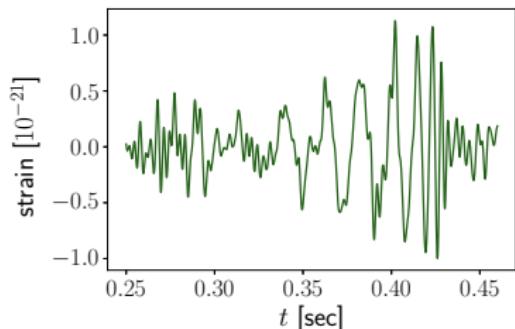
reconstruction



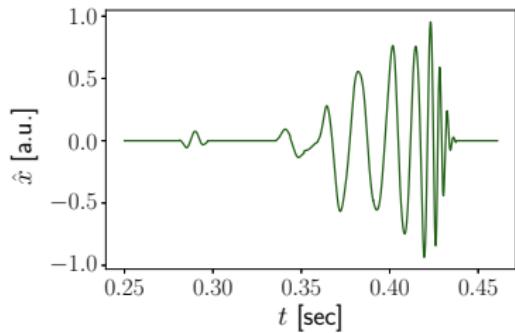
thresholding at 35%

# Denoising of a gravitational wave signal

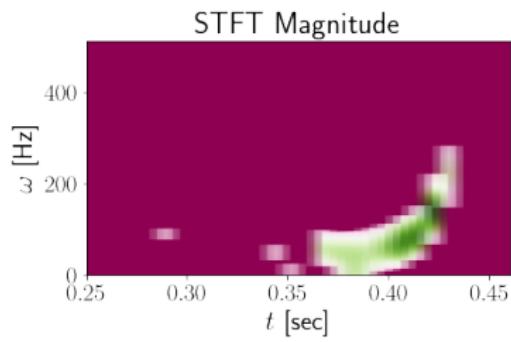
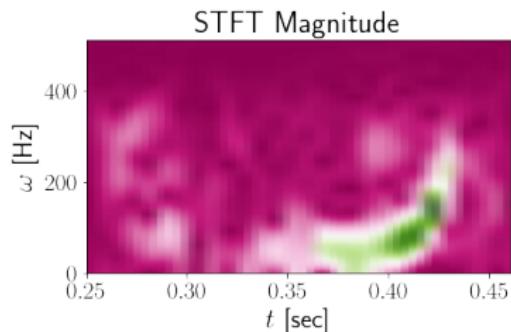
## Experimental measurements



## Denoising based on maxima



reconstruction



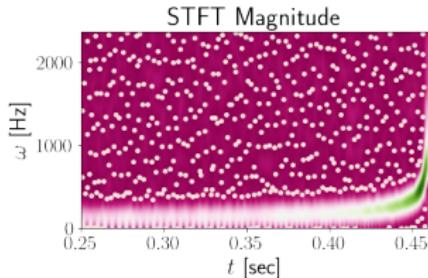
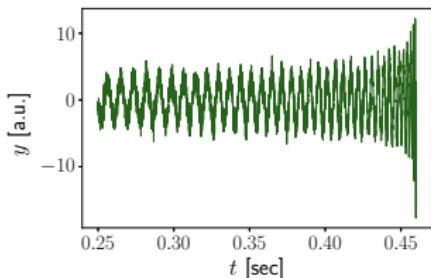
thresholding at 35%

## Zeros of Gaussian spectrograms

**Gaussian spectrogram**  $g(t) = \pi^{-1/4} \exp(-t^2/2)$

$$V_g y(t, \omega) \triangleq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \overline{y(u)} g(u - t) \exp(-i\omega u) du = \langle y, \mathbf{T}_t \mathbf{M}_{\omega} g \rangle$$

**Realistic noisy measurements** looking at the zeros of  $|V_g y(t, \omega)|^2$



**Claim** The zeros of a Gaussian spectrogram

- are located where '*there is no signal*',
- are evenly spread,
- tend not to clutter.

[Flandrin, 2015]

## Zeros of Gaussian spectrograms

**Idea** assimilate the time-frequency plane with  $\mathbb{C}$ .

**Property** [Gaussian STFT factorization]

Let  $g(t) = \pi^{-1/4} \exp(-t^2/2)$  the circular Gaussian window, then  $\forall x \in L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C})$

$$V_g x(t, \omega) = \exp(-|z|^2/4) \exp(-i\omega t/2) \mathcal{B}x(z/\sqrt{2}), \quad z = \omega + it$$

where the **Bargmann transform** of  $x$  is defined as

$$\mathcal{B}x(z) \triangleq \pi^{-1/4} \exp(-z^2/2) \int_{\mathbb{R}} \overline{x(u)} \exp(\sqrt{2}uz - u^2/2) du,$$

Further  $\mathcal{B}x$  is entire on  $\mathbb{C}$ .

[Gröchenig, 2001; Flandrin, 2015]

**Theorem** The zeros of the Gaussian spectrogram of  $x \in L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C})$

- coincide with the zeros of  $\mathcal{B}x(\cdot/\sqrt{2})$ ,
- hence constitute a **point process**,
- which almost completely characterizes the spectrogram.

[Flandrin, 2015]

## Zeros of Gaussian spectrograms

**Gaussian spectrogram of white noise**  $\xi(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \xi_k h_k(t)$ ,  $\xi_k \sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(0, 1)$

$$V_g \xi(t, \omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \overline{\xi(u)} g(u - t) \exp(-i\omega u) du = \exp(-|z|^2/4) \exp(-i\omega t/2) \mathcal{B}\xi(z/\sqrt{2}),$$

**Theorem** The zeros of the spectrogram of  $\xi(t)$  coincides with the zeros of

$$\text{GAF}_{\mathbb{C}}(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \xi_k \frac{z^k}{\sqrt{k!}}, \quad \xi_k \sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(0, 1)$$

which is the Planar Gaussian Analytic Function. [Bardenet & Hardy, 2021]

**Principle of the proof**  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}, \quad \mathcal{B}h_k(z) = \frac{z^k}{\sqrt{k!}}$  [Property of Bargmann transform]

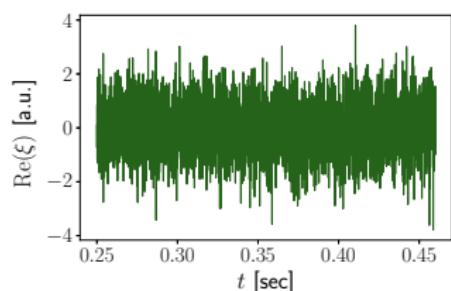
Thus

$$\mathcal{B}\xi(z) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \xi \frac{z^k}{\sqrt{k!}}$$

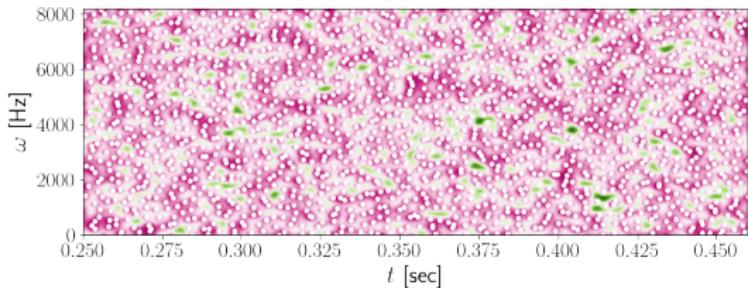
which defines the **Planar Gaussian Analytic Function**.

# Conclusion

**White noise**



**Gaussian spectrogram**  $|V_g \xi(t, \omega)|^2$



$$\xi(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \xi_k h_k(t),$$
$$\xi_k \sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(0, 1)$$

$$V_g \xi(t, \omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \overline{\xi(u)} g(u - t) \exp(-i\omega u) du$$

## Connection with the Planar Gaussian Analytic Function

$$V_g \xi(\sqrt{2}t, \sqrt{2}\omega) \propto \mathcal{B}\xi(z) \stackrel{\text{law}}{=} \text{GAF}_{\mathbb{C}}(z)$$

[Bardenet & Hardy, 2021]

# References

## Books



## Papers

- Bardenet, R., & Hardy, A. (2021). 'Time-frequency transforms of white noises and Gaussian analytic functions'. *Applied and Computational Harmonic Analysis*, 50, 73-104.
- Bardenet, R., Flamant, J., & Chainais, P. (2020). 'On the zeros of the spectrogram of white noise.' *Applied and Computational Harmonic Analysis*, 48(2), 682-705.
- Flandrin, P. (2015). 'Time–frequency filtering based on spectrogram zeros.' *IEEE Signal Processing Letters*, 22(11), 2137-2141.