

# Global Network of Cavities to Search for Gravitational Waves: GravNet

A novel scheme to hunt gravitational waves signatures from the early universe

"**Gravitational Wave probes of Fundamental Physics**", Rome, 2024

**Kristof Schmieden\***, Tim Schneemann\*, Matthias Schott \*\*

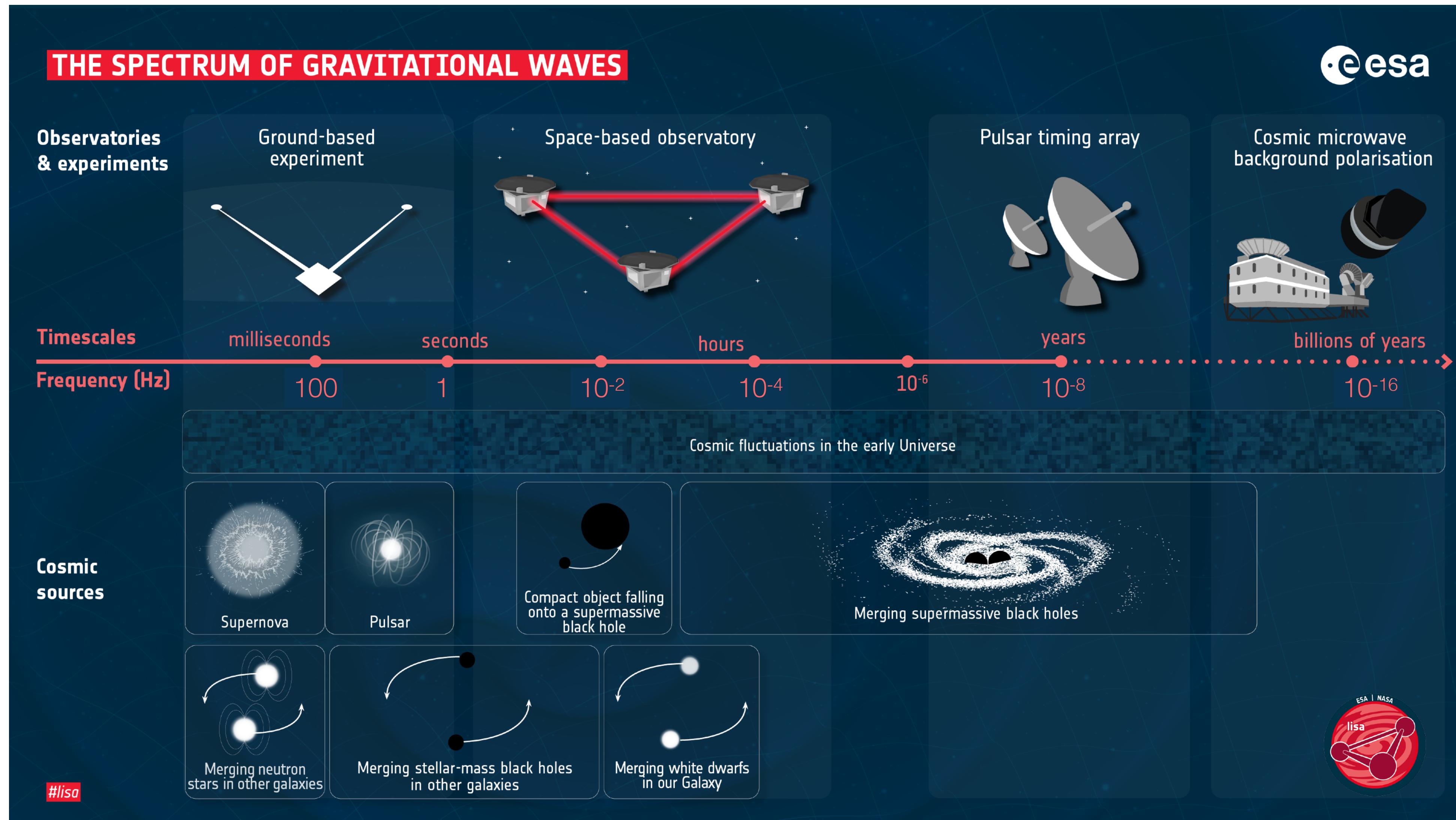
\*: University of Mainz, \*\*: University of Bonn

SUPA<sup>O</sup>X  
a RADES  
experiment



Based on [arXiv:2308.11497]





[ <https://www.esa.int/> ]

- Observation of gravitational waves by LIGO/Virgo is certainly a breakthrough in fundamental physics!

- However, there should/could be **other sources** of gravitational waves

- Primordial black hole merges
- Boson clouds (BH superradiance)
- ...

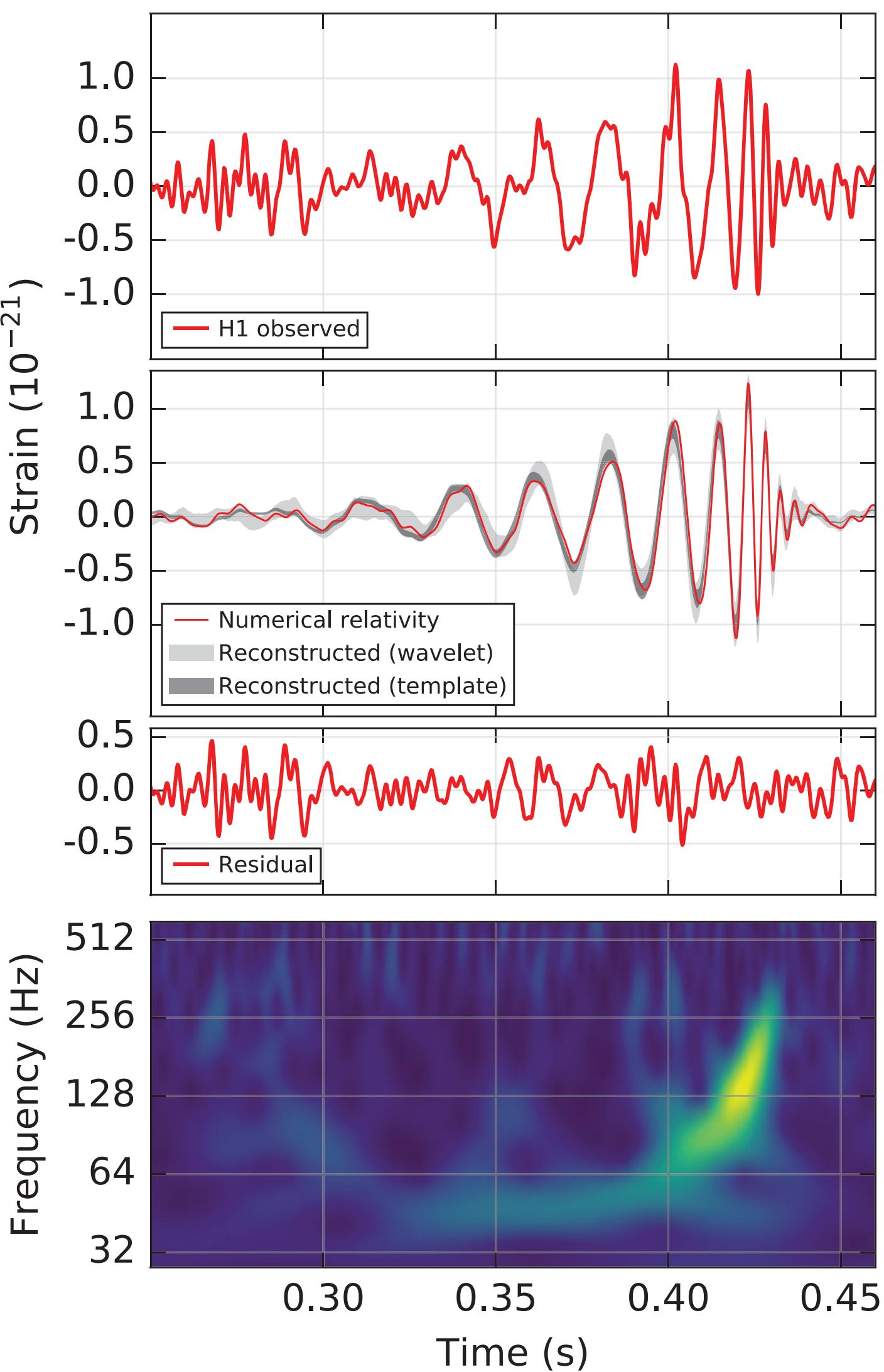
- Those GW would have **frequencies in the GHz regime**

- **Should search for high frequency GW**

**But how?**

- Frequency range: 10-1000 Hz

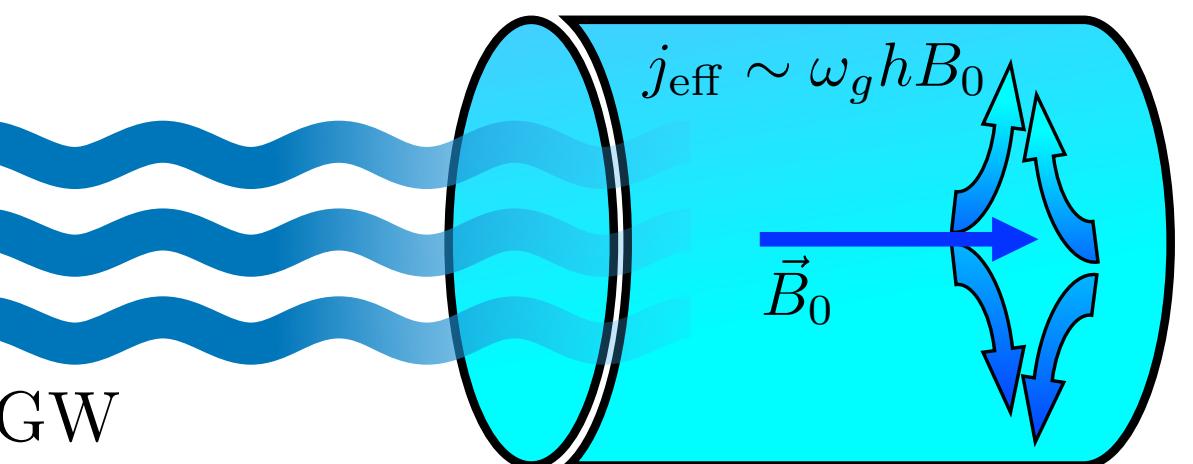
Hanford, Washington (H1)



[PRL 116, 061102 (2016)]

[arXiv:2112.11465]

- Two contributing effects
  - Assuming conversion cavity with volume V within static B-Field



- GW deforms cavity
  - Oscillating change of magnetic flux
  - Excitation of EM field
- Resonant excitation of EM field in Cavity
  - Produced EM power given by:
- Direct conversion of gravitons to photons via the inverse Gertsenshtein effect

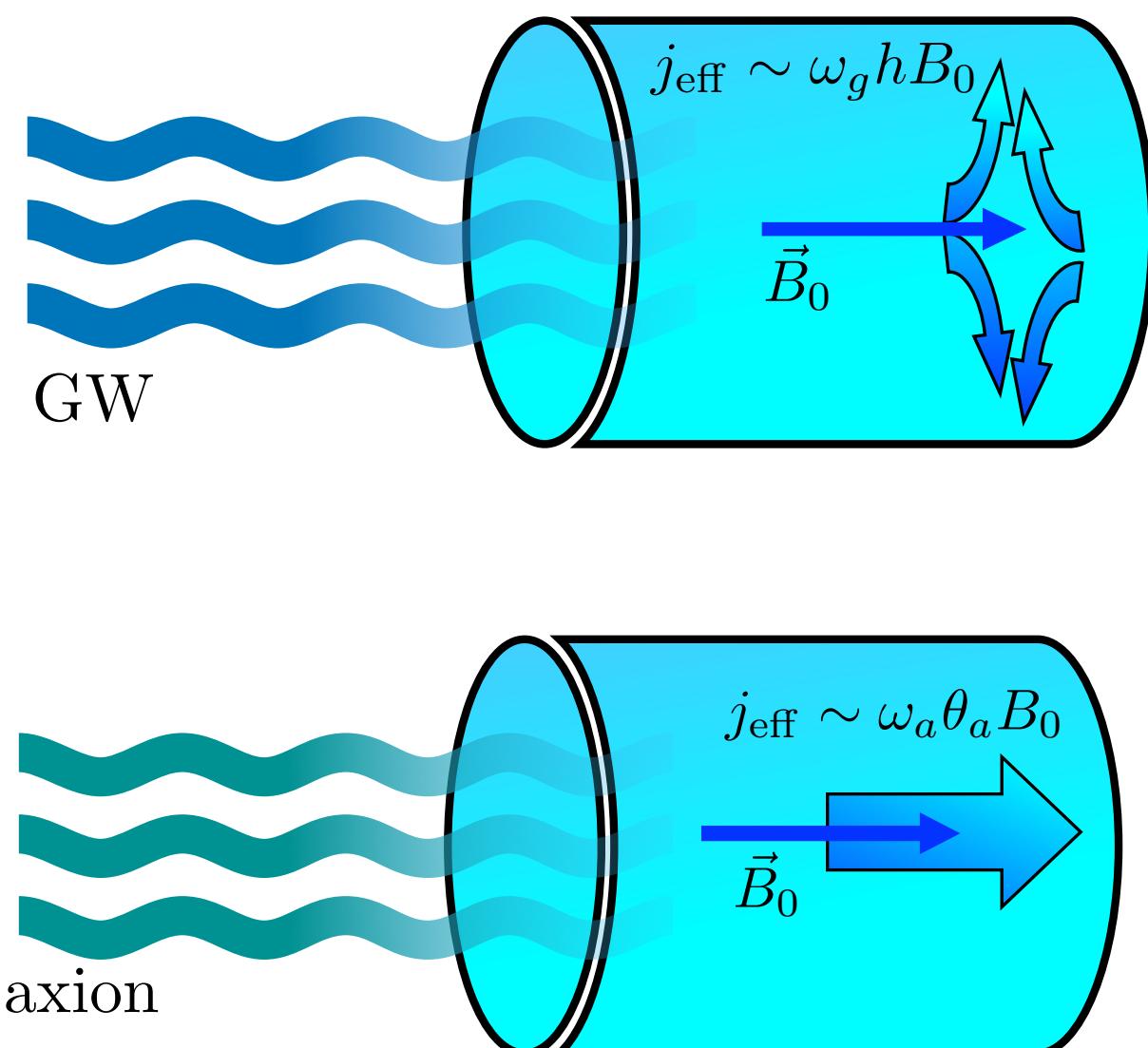
$$P_{sig} = \frac{1}{2} Q \omega_g^3 V^{5/3} (\eta_n h_0 B_0)^2 \frac{1}{\mu_0 c^2}$$

# Similarity to Axion Searches

- Axion Haloscopes:

- RF cavity in magnetic field → Primakov conversion of axions to photons
- Resonant excitation of cavity mode

- Cavity based haloscopes are sensitive to GWs**

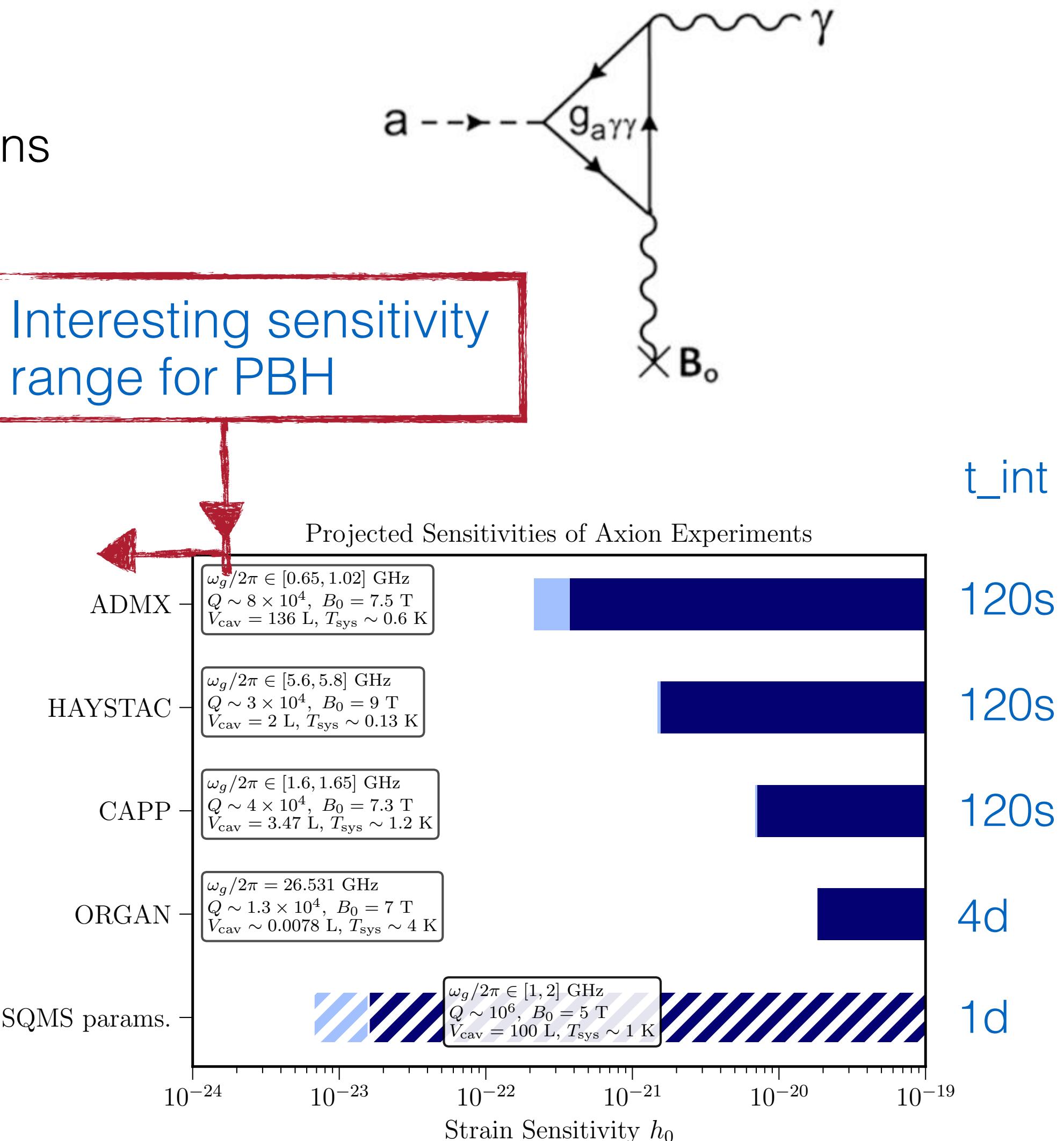


- GW:

- Typical quadrupole structure
- Preferred mode: TM 020
- Current direction dependent on GW

- Axions:

- Preferred mode: TM 010
- Current dependent on B-field direction
- Little overlap with GW mode

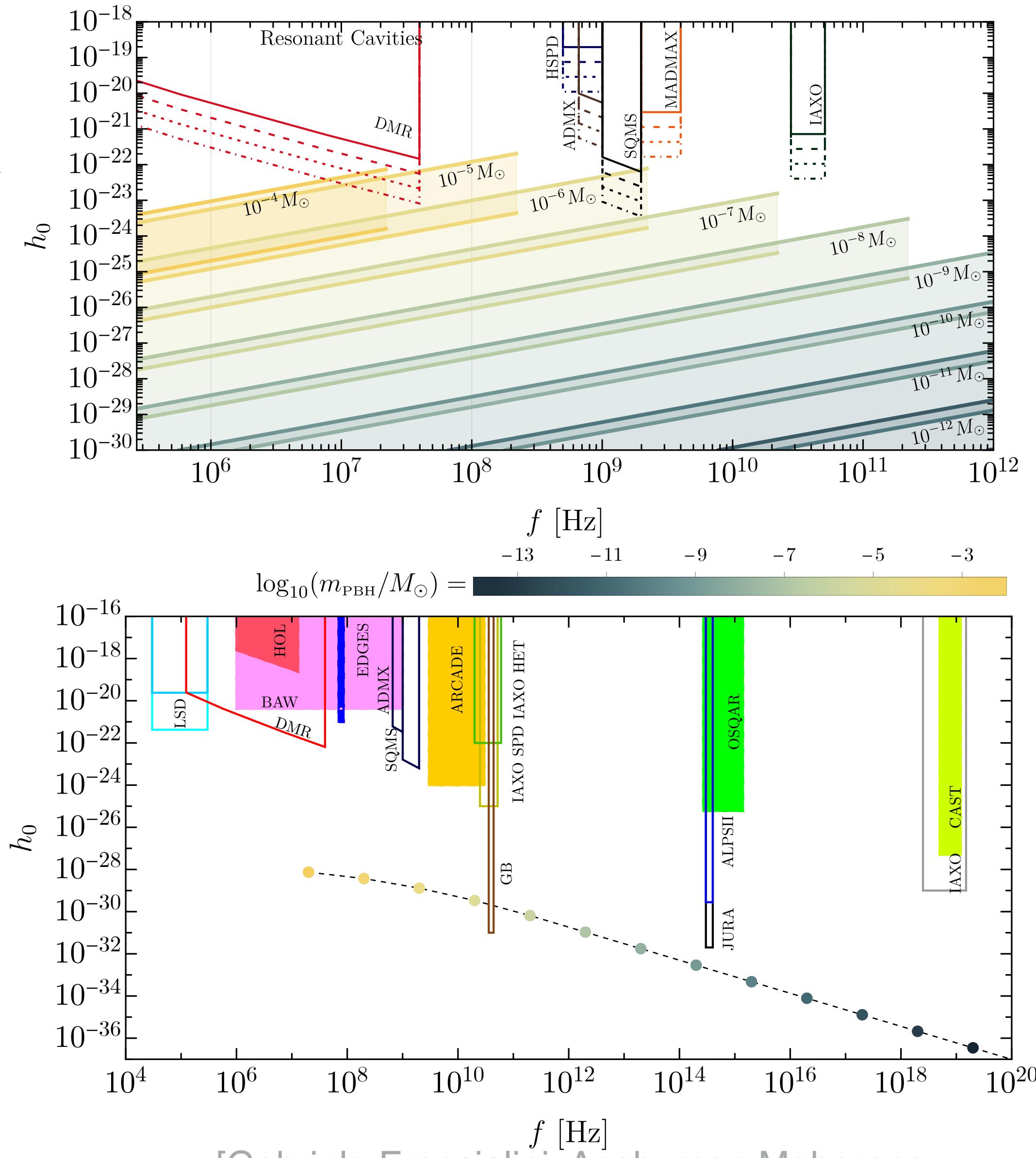


[arXiv:2112.11465]

[Detecting high-frequency gravitational waves with microwave cavities  
Asher Berlin, Diego Blas, Raffaele Tito D'Agnolo , Sebastian A.R. Ellis  
arXiv:2112.11465]

# High Frequency Gravitational Waves

- Several well motivated beyond the standard model sources:
  - Primordial black hole mergers
    - Chirp signals
  - GW from boson clouds around BHs
    - (BH super radiance)
    - Monochromatic over long timescales
  - Stochastic GW background
    - Even lower strains ...
- Displayed expected experimental sensitivities for PBHs:
  - Assuming GW signal long enough to ring up cavity
  - E.g.: given for ADMX,SQMS @  $m_{PBH} \approx 10^{-10} M_\odot$

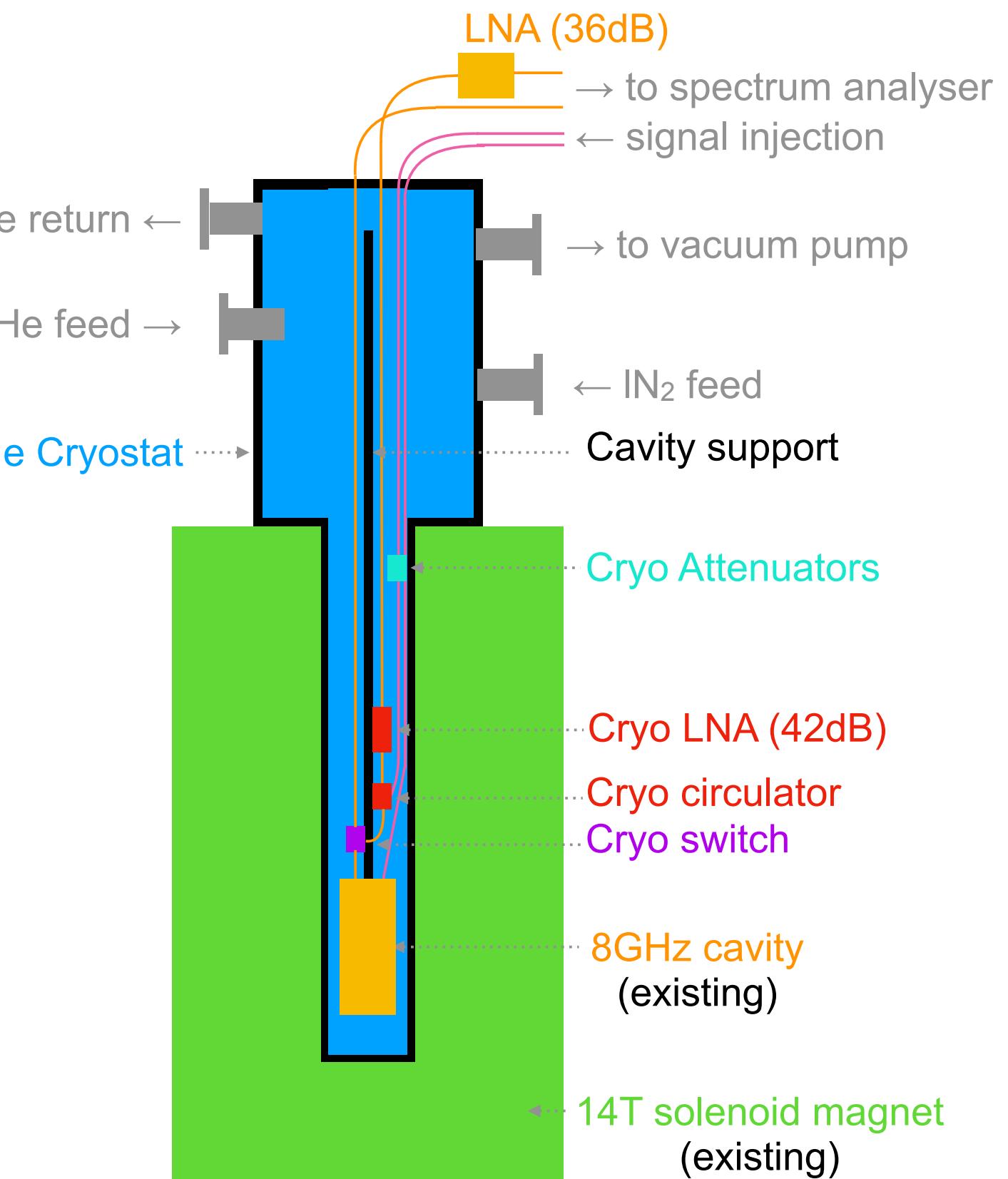


[Gabriele Franciolini, Anshuman Maharana,  
Francesco Muia; arXiv:2205.02153v1]

# Typical setup

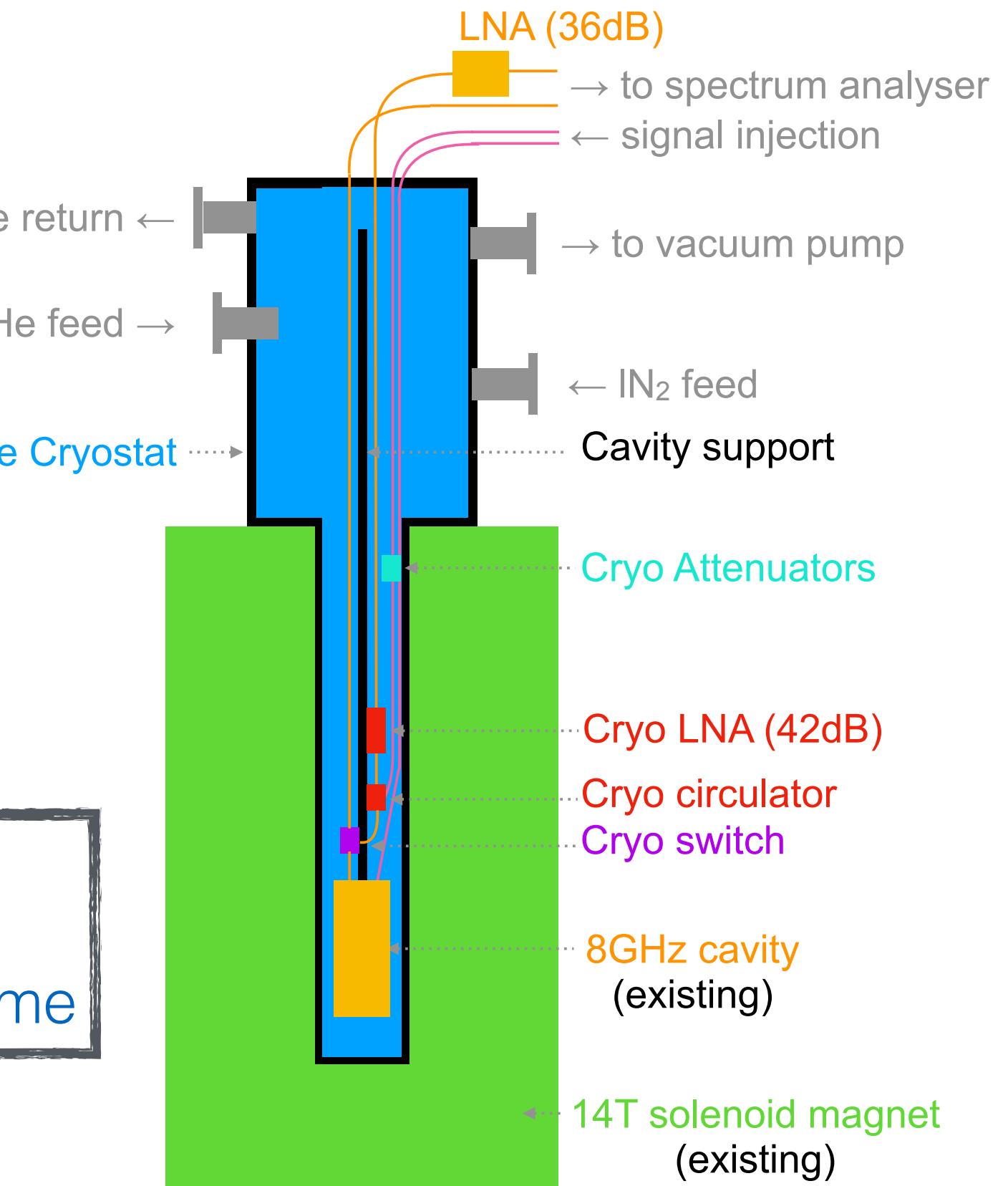
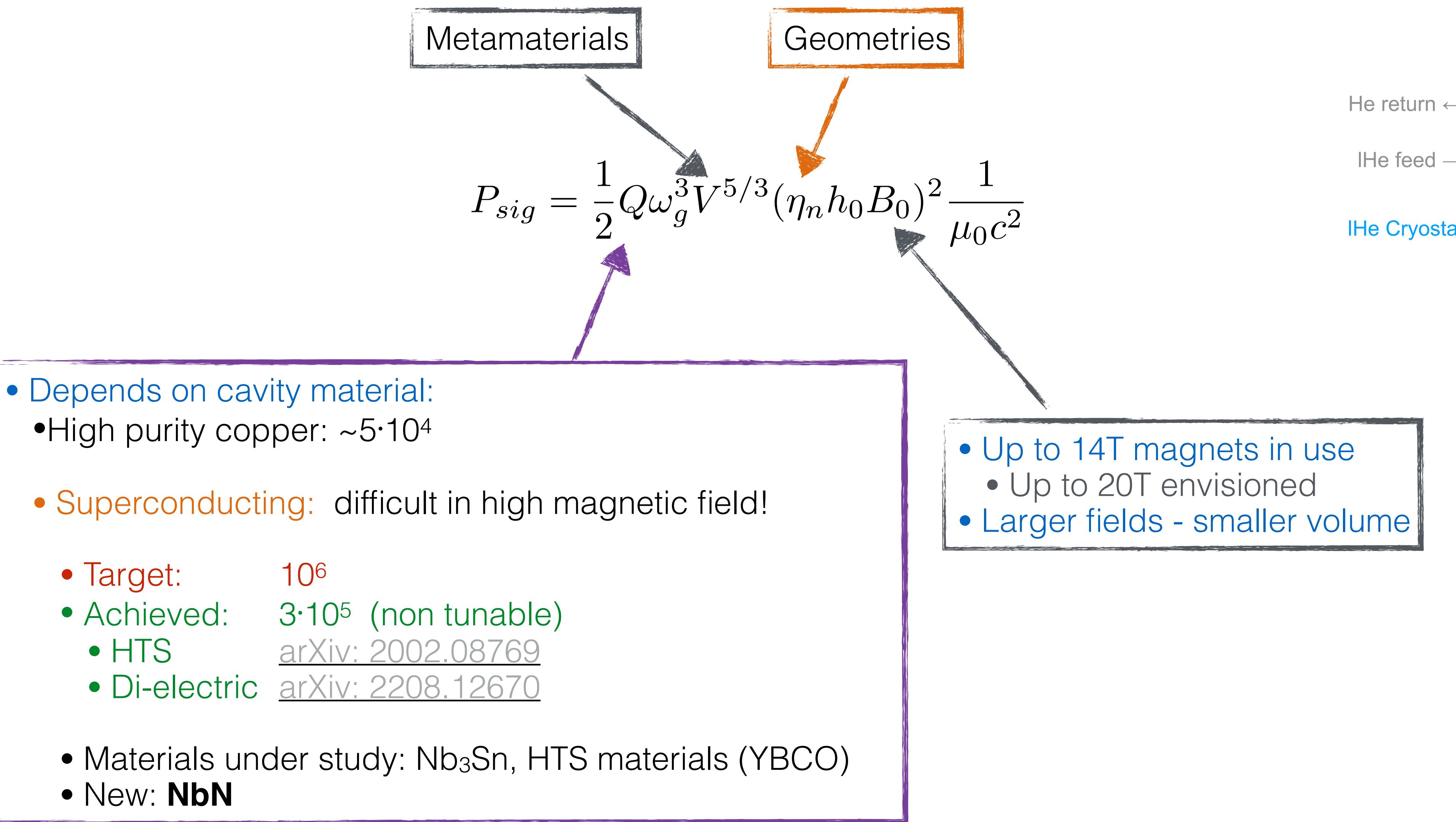
[arXiv:2308.08337]

- **Supax:** superconducting axion search @ Mainz
  - First results on dark photons (~commissioning) [arXiv:2308.08337]
  - **Goals:**
    - Study of new **SC materials** for resonant cavity experiments
    - Study of **cavity geometries** optimised for **GW** searches
      - Together with Mainz theory section (P. Schwaller)



# Typical setup

[arXiv:2308.08337]



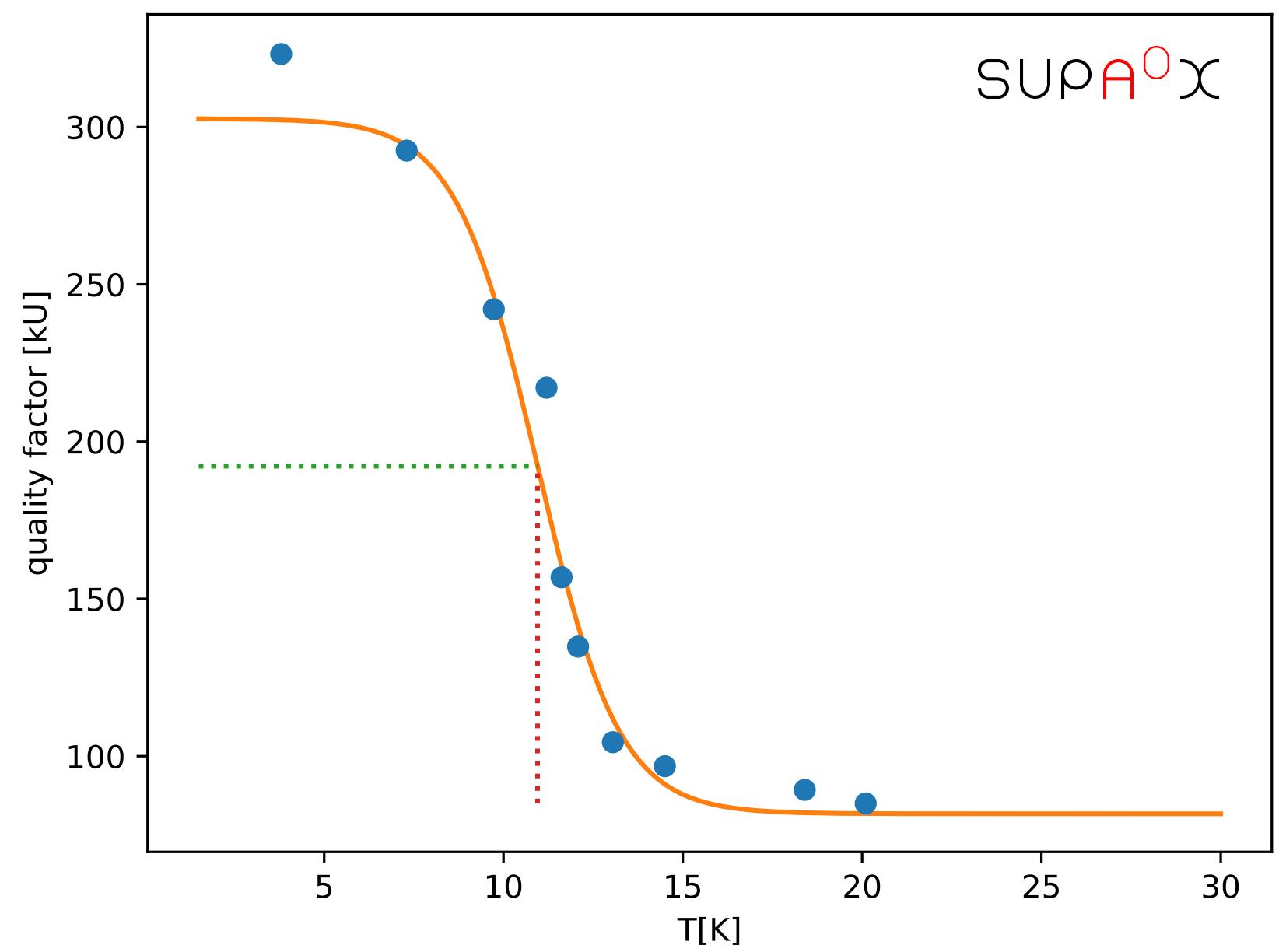
# Supax SRF cavity

- **Supax:** new superconducting material for RF cavities:

- **NbN**
- $Q_0 = 3.1 \cdot 10^5$  @ 8.4 GHz, 4 K

- Measurements within B-field currently ongoing

Cu cavity, coated with NbN at  
university of Siegen



# How to become more sensitive?

- Current efforts focus on **improving single cavity** sensitivity
- But what about **combining various setups?**

## Disclaimer

This is not a fully fledged proposal in all glory detail

Rather intended as basis for discussions

- Phase aligned combination voltages from of N cavities
  - RF amplitude (voltage):

$$V_{\text{comb}} = \frac{i\omega}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_i V_i e^{i\phi_i} \propto \sqrt{N} V_0$$

$\uparrow$   
 $V_i = V, \phi_i = \phi$

- Hence the **signal power scales linearly in N!**

- Assumed single setup

- 14T B-field, about 10cm diam., 30cm long
- 3 spherical cavities @ 5GHz, SC, high Q
- 1s integration time

Setup	Supax	GravNet
Shape	cyl.	spher.
$f_0$ [GHz]	8.3	5.0
Volume [l]	0.128	0.21
$Q_0$	39600	$10^6$
$\eta$	0.08	0.6
$T_{\text{sys}}$ [K]	5	0.1
$B$ [T]		14
int. time		1 s
n cavities	1	3
noise power [W]	$1.5 \cdot 10^{-21} W$	$6.2 \cdot 10^{-23} W$
$h_0(P_{\text{sig}} = P_{\text{noise}})$	$7.1 \cdot 10^{-21}$	$5.2 \cdot 10^{-23}$

- How sensitive can we get with **10 setups**, scattered around the globe

- Assumptions:

- Sampling of Waveform -> offline combination of phase aligned IQ data
- Setups as shown before
- Effective signal power increased by factor 10
- Strain sensitivity increased by factor  $\sqrt{10} \approx 3$

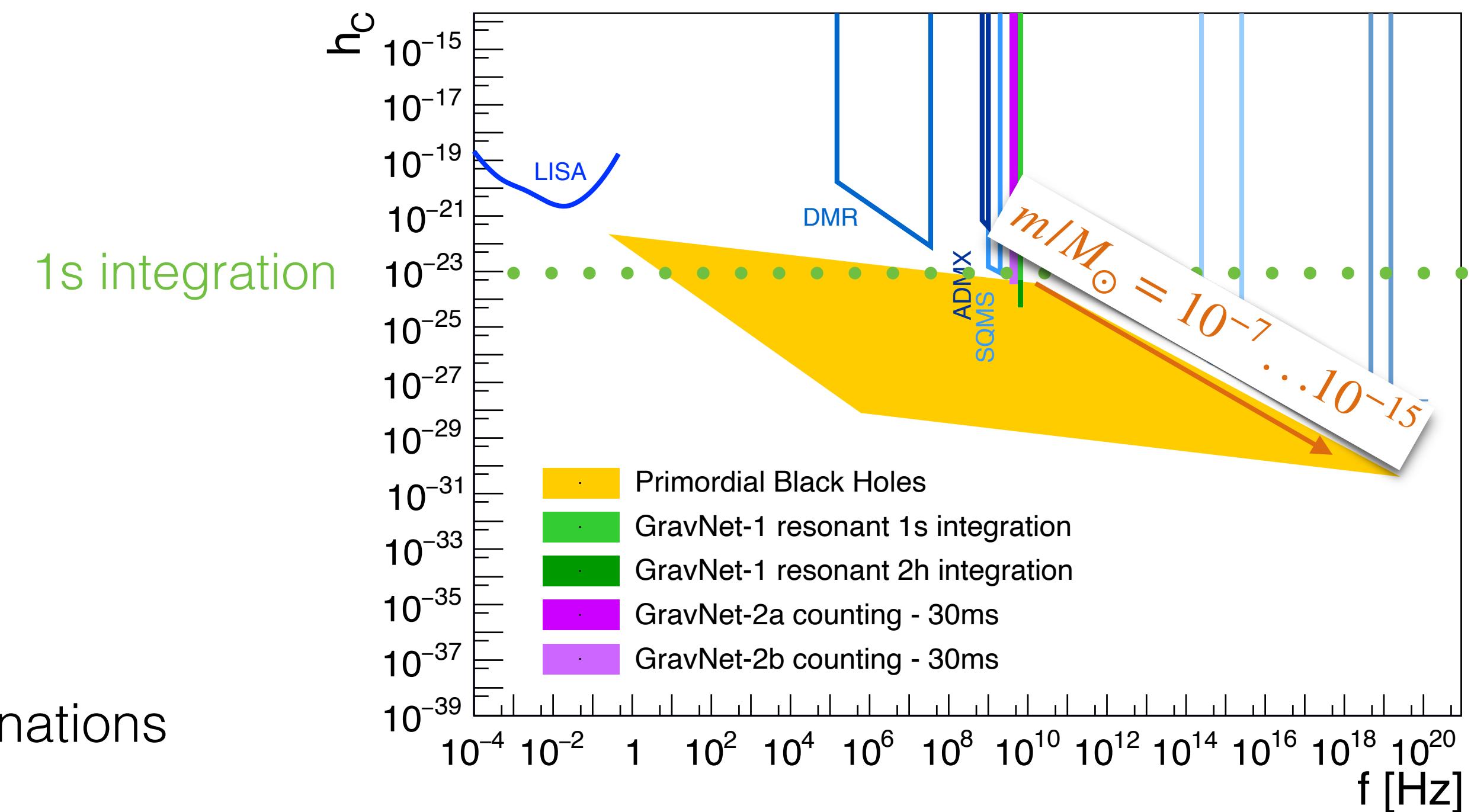
$$h_0 < 10^{-23}, \text{ 1 second integration time}$$

- Phase alignment for distributed setups:

- If signal seen in 3 cavities:
  - Direction of GW can be reconstructed
- Otherwise:
  - Scan through all possible directions and repeat combinations

- No frequency tuning needed:

- PBH signals are fast transients
- Single frequency sufficiency



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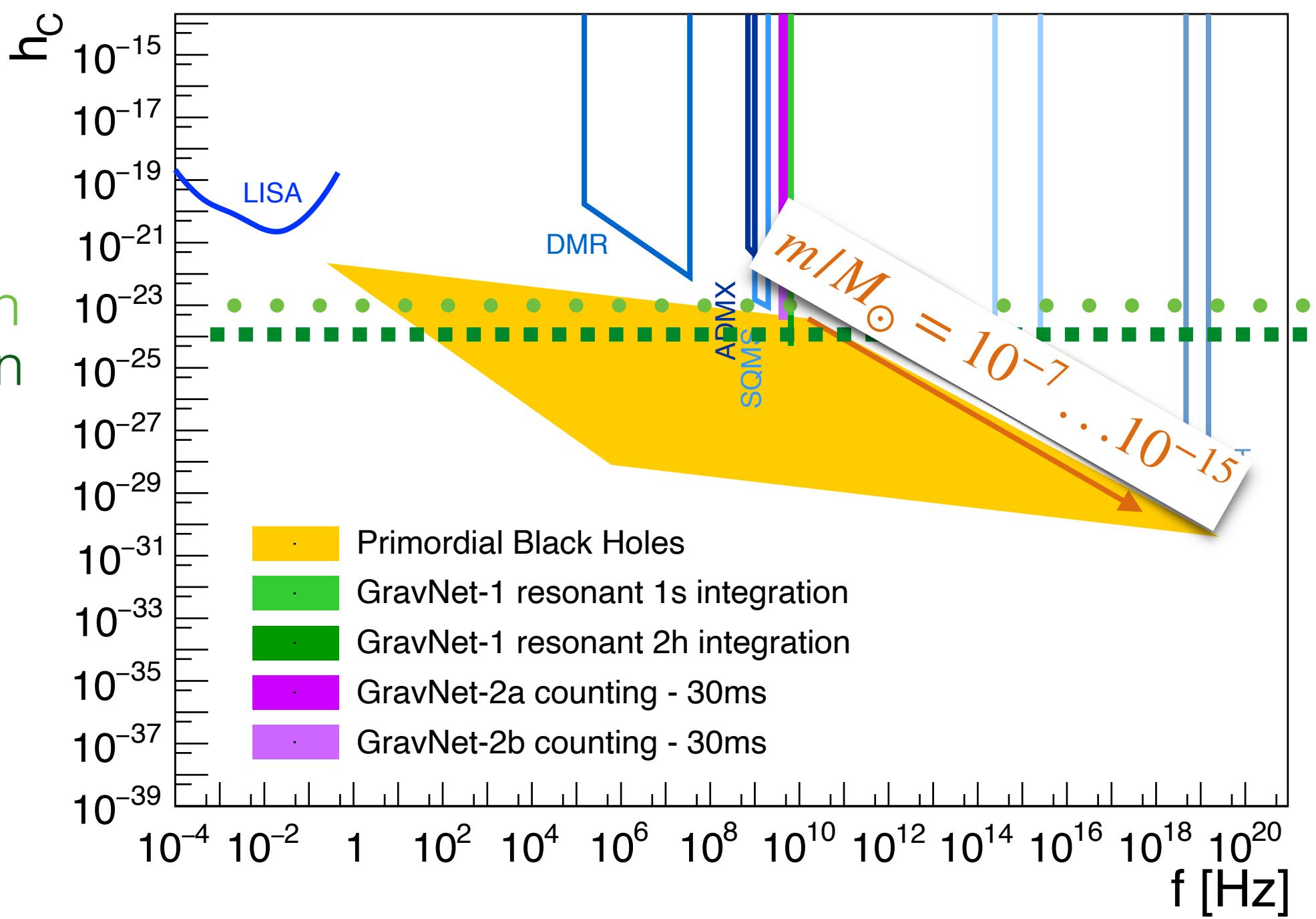
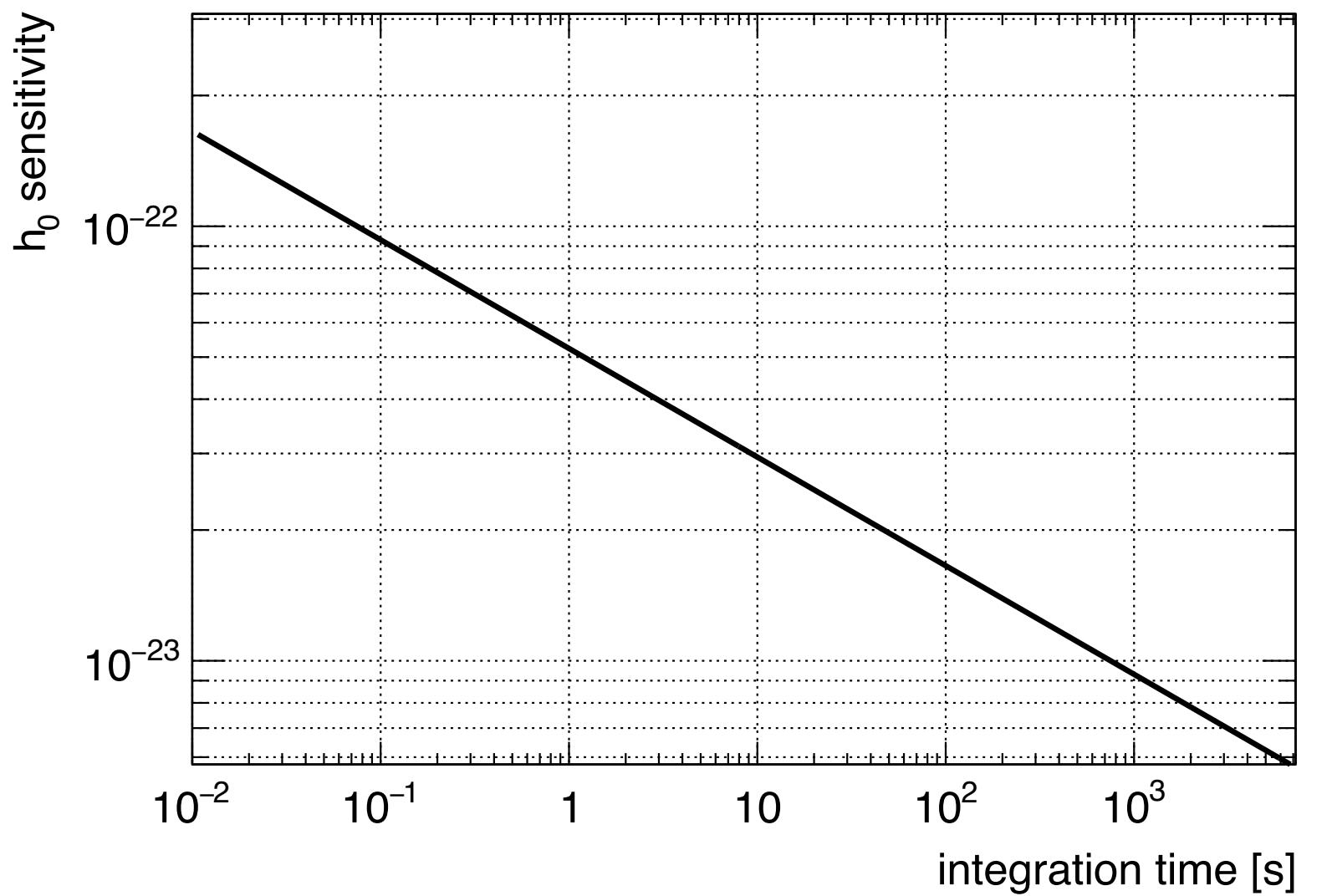
$$h_0 < 10^{-23}, \text{ 1 second integration time}$$

- Longer integration times

- Sensitivity gain with integration time  $t^{1/4}$

$$h_0 < 10^{-24}, \text{ 2h integration time}$$

1s integration  
2h integration



# PBH merger & high Q cavities

- GW strain: largest if merging is imminent (closest to innermost stable circular orbit)

- Frequency drift large

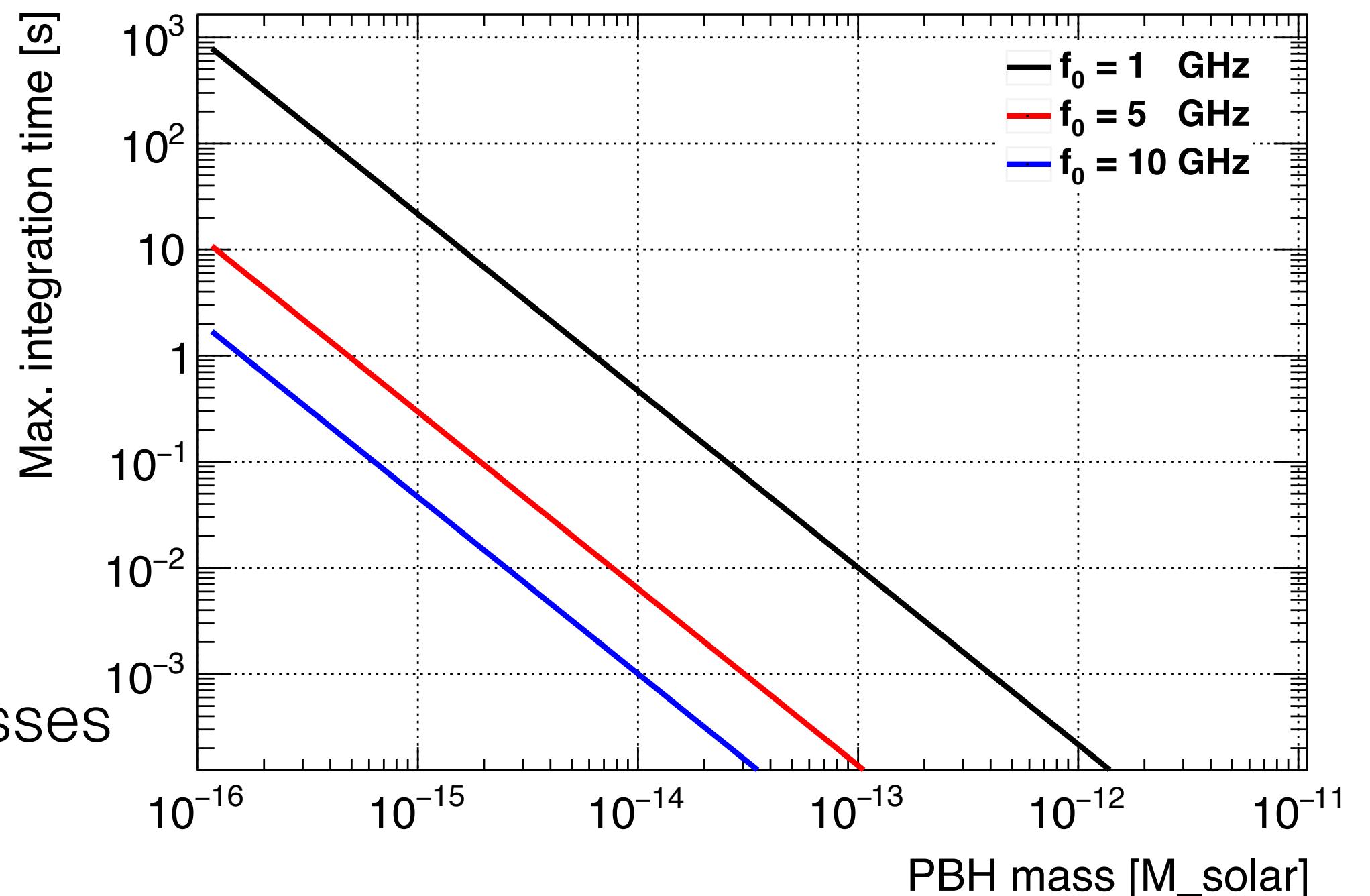
$$\dot{f} = \frac{96}{5} \pi^{8/3} m_c^{5/3} f^{11/3} \simeq 4.62 \times 10^{11} \text{ Hz}^2 \left( \frac{m_{\text{PBH}}}{10^{-9} M_{\odot}} \right)^{5/3} \left( \frac{f}{\text{GHz}} \right)^{11/3}$$

- To resonantly excite a cavity:

- GW frequency must stay within resonator bandwidth

- $\omega/Q \approx 10^{10} \text{ Hz}/10^6 = 10 \text{ kHz}$

- Very short integration times O(ms) or below for larger PBH masses

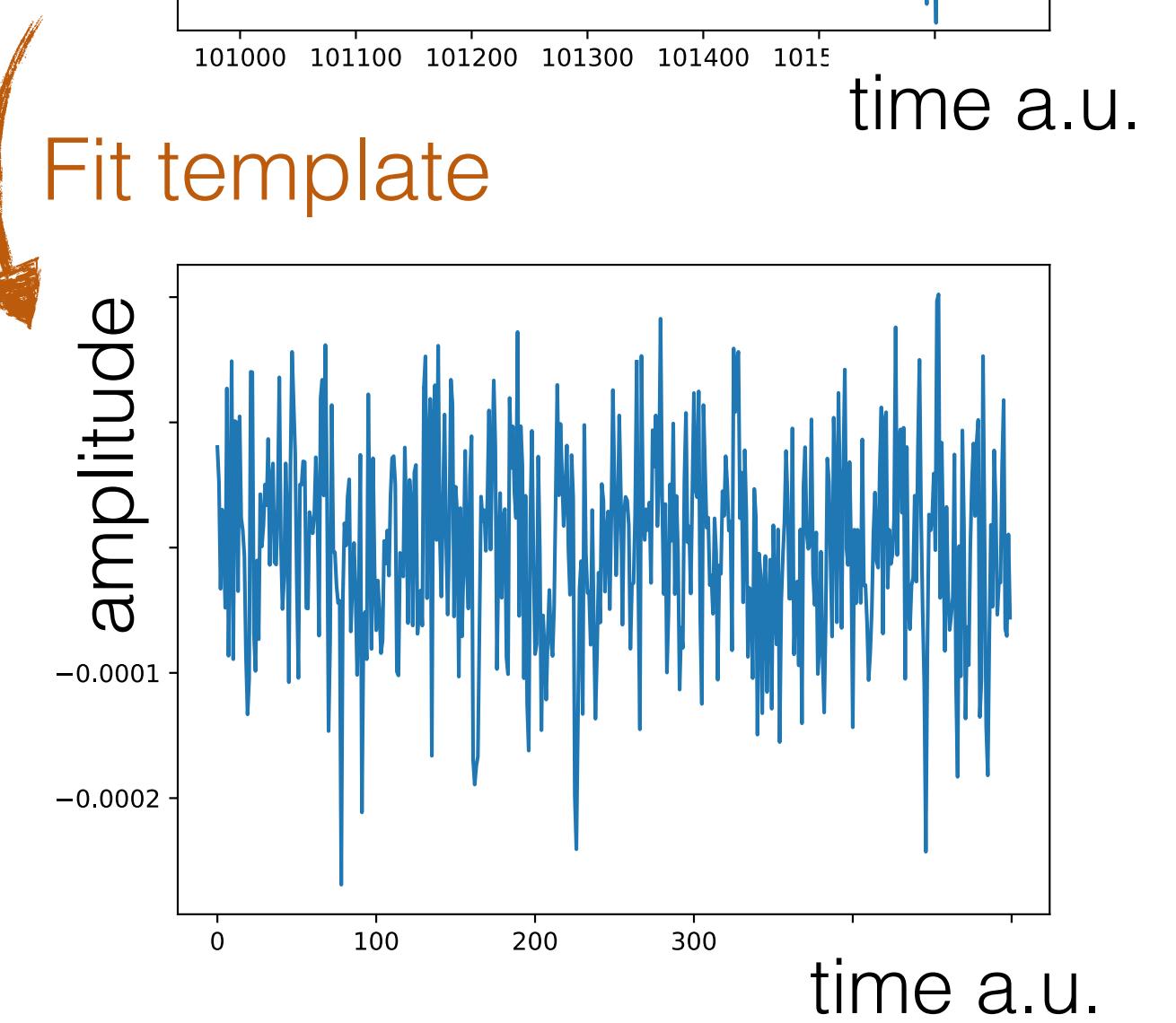
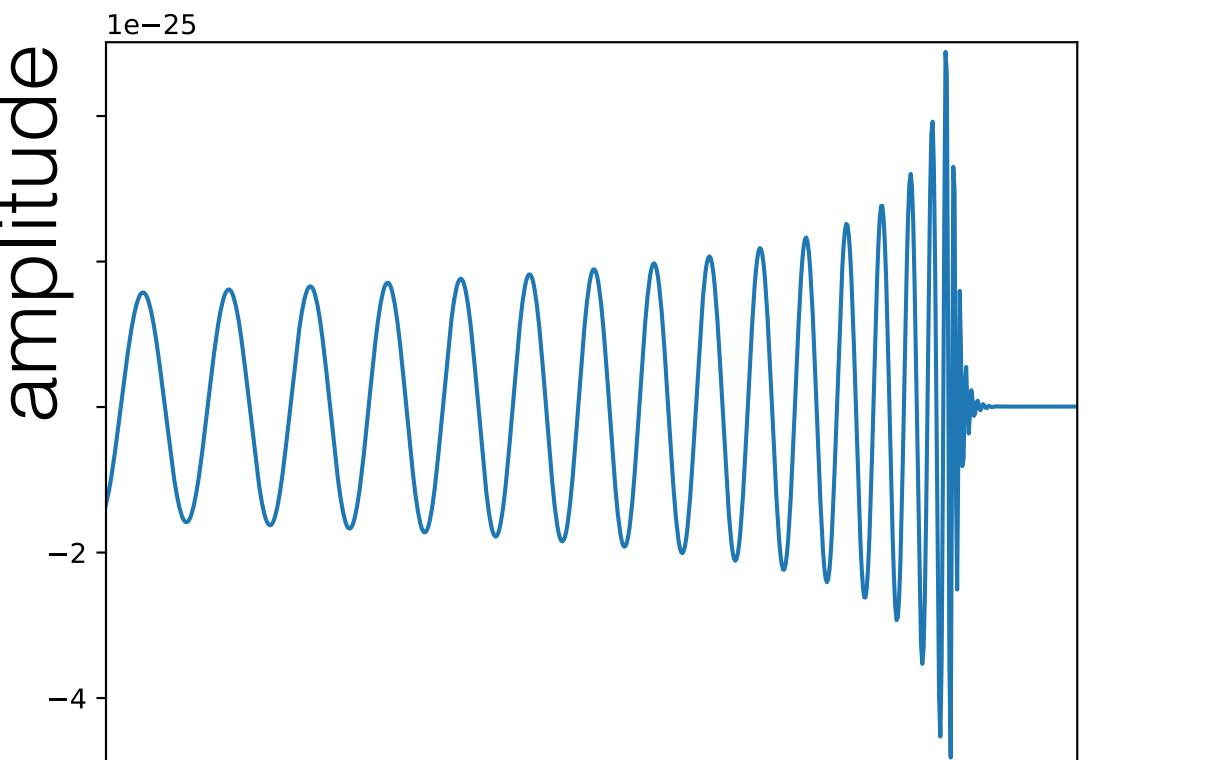


- No improvement with longer integration times!

- Alternative?

# Timeseries analysis

- Similar approach as for low frequency BH mergers:
  - Analysis in **time domain**
  - Data rates: ~100MB/s per channel for 10MHz bandwidth
- Simultaneous fit of expected signal shape in all data streams
  - Exploiting all available information
    - + Increased sensitivity compared to time domain analysis
    - - Significant increase in storage & CPU requirement
  - **Sensitive to short transient** signals



Fit template

- Recent progress in R&D for single RF photon counters

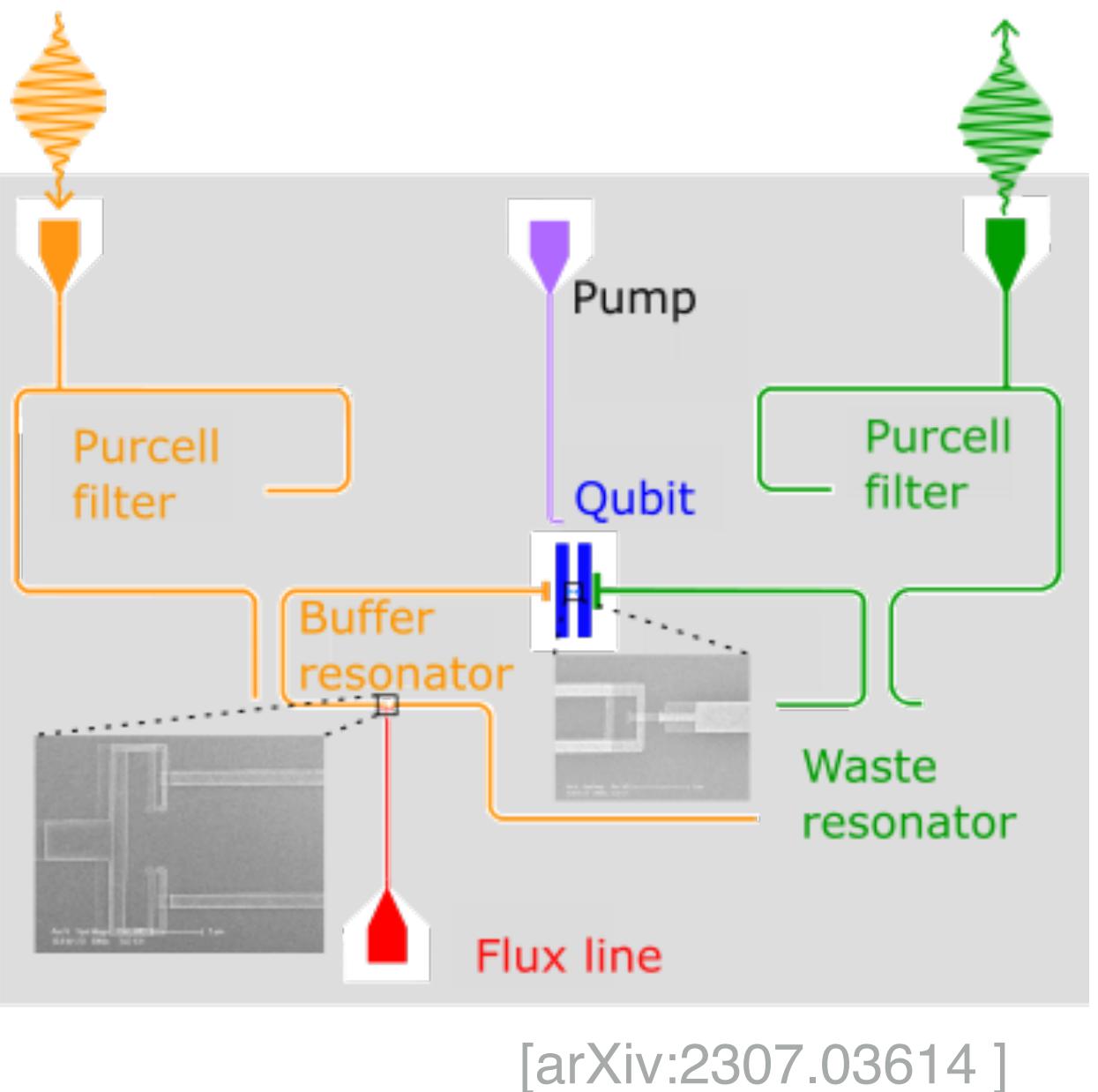
- Several technologies under study

- Current Biased Josephson Junctions
- Kerr Josephon Parametric amplifiers
- Transmon Q-Bit readout

[arXiv:2302.07556 ]  
[arXiv:2308.07084 ]  
[arXiv:2307.03614 ]



- Shown **single photon efficiency: 43% @ 90 Hz dark count rate**
- Big R&D effort ongoing [ERC syn.: “Dark Quantum” ]



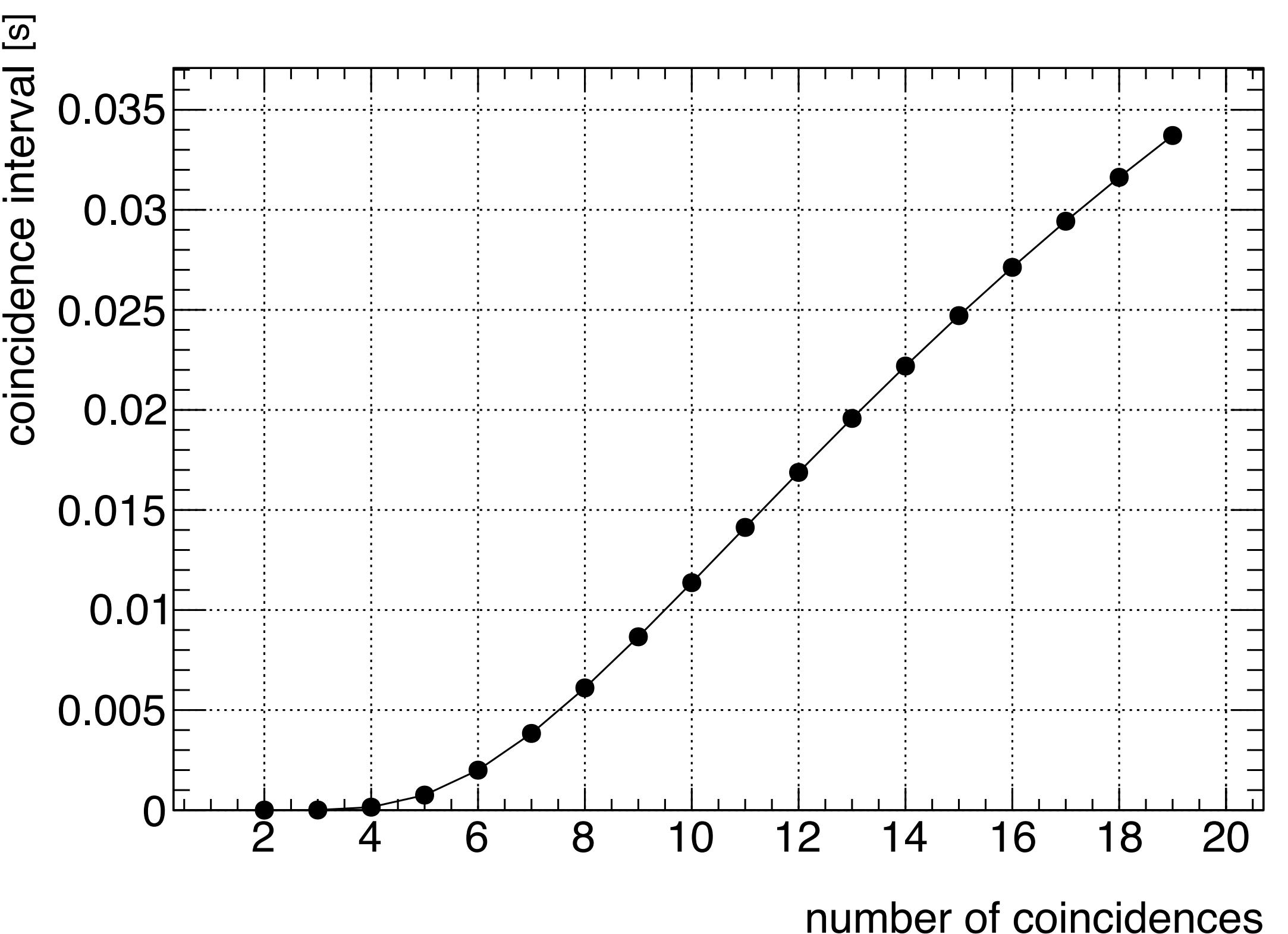
- Measurement boils down to a **coincidence measurement !**
- Coincidence window and needed number of coincident detectors optimised depending on
  - Background rate (thermal, detector noise)
  - Signal Rate

- Background rate:

- Average thermal power in cavity @ 0.1K  $\sim 4 \times 10^{-23}$  W, corresponding to 10 photons / s @ 5 GHz
- Could be lowered going to lower temperatures
- Assuming advances in the near future on the single photon sensors:
  - Detector dark count rate will drop significantly -> negligible

- Parameter used for Calculation:

- Allowed accidental coincidence rate:  $\leq 1/\text{year}$
- Background rate: 10 Hz
- N detectors: 20



- Overall signal efficiency dependent on detector efficiency, coincidence window and signal photon flux:

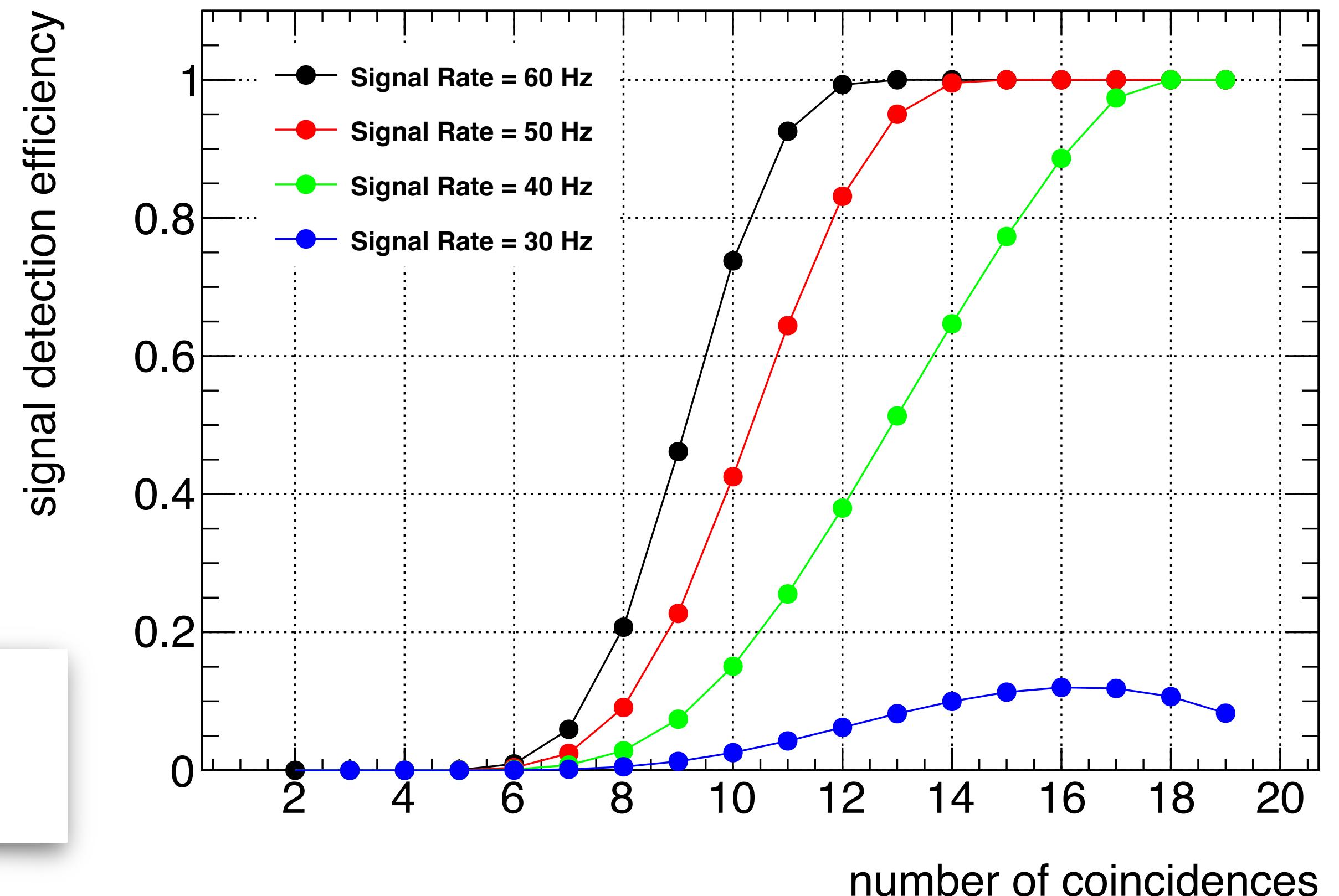
- $\epsilon_{single} = \epsilon_{det} \Delta t_{coincidence} \Phi_{sig}$        $\Phi_{sig}$  = signal photon flux

- $\epsilon_{tot} = \sum_{i>k}^N \binom{N}{k}, p = \epsilon_{single}$ , k = number of required coincidences, N = number of detectors

- Parameter used for Calculation:

- Allowed accidental coincidence rate:  $<= 1/\text{year}$
- Background rate: 10 Hz
- N detectors: 20
- $\epsilon_{det}$ : 0.5

With **20 detectors** a photon flux of **40 Hz** can be detected with an efficiency of 1 within a coincidence interval of **32ms**



# Photon Counting - Sensitivity on GW

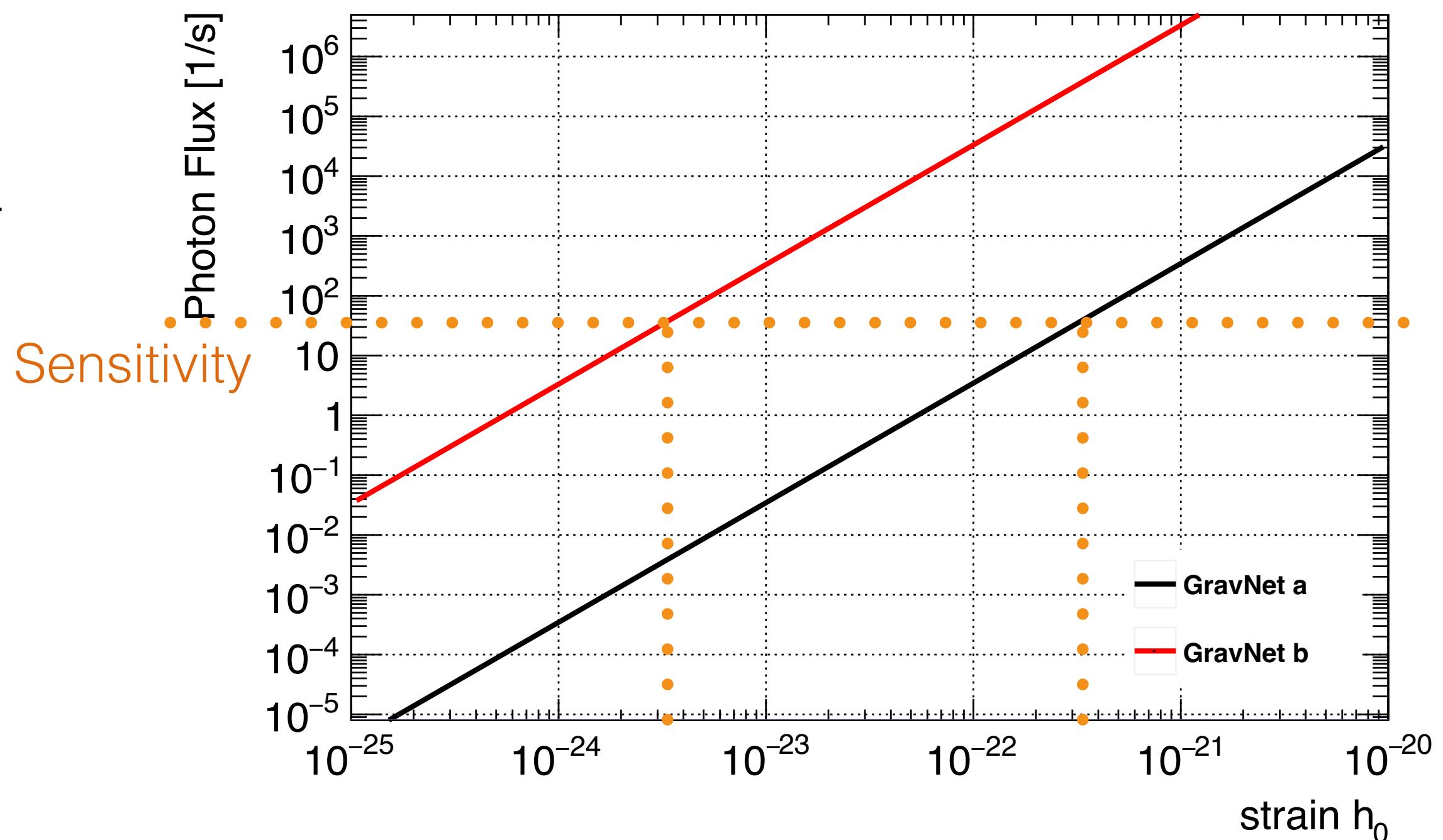
- With 20 detectors a photon flux of 40 Hz can be detected with an efficiency of 1 within a coincidence interval of 32ms

- Signal photon flux depends on conversion region:

- a) Magnet dimensions as before (9cm diameter),  $B = 14T$
- b) Assuming large NMR magnet (80cm diameter),  $B = 9T$

Setup	GravNet-a	GravNet-b
radius	40 mm	40 cm
length	12cm	50 cm
Volume [ $m^3$ ]	$6 \times 10^{-4}$	0.25
$Q_0$	$10^6$	$10^5$
$T_{sys}$ [K]	0.1	0.1
$B$ [T]	14	9

Global network of HFGW detectors will be able to reach into the interesting region for PBH with existing technologies!



- Achievable sensitivity:

- $h_0 < 3 \times 10^{-22} \dots 3 \times 10^{-24}$

- With coincidence time of 32ms!

Significant room for improvements:  
more detectors, larger volumes, higher detector efficiency

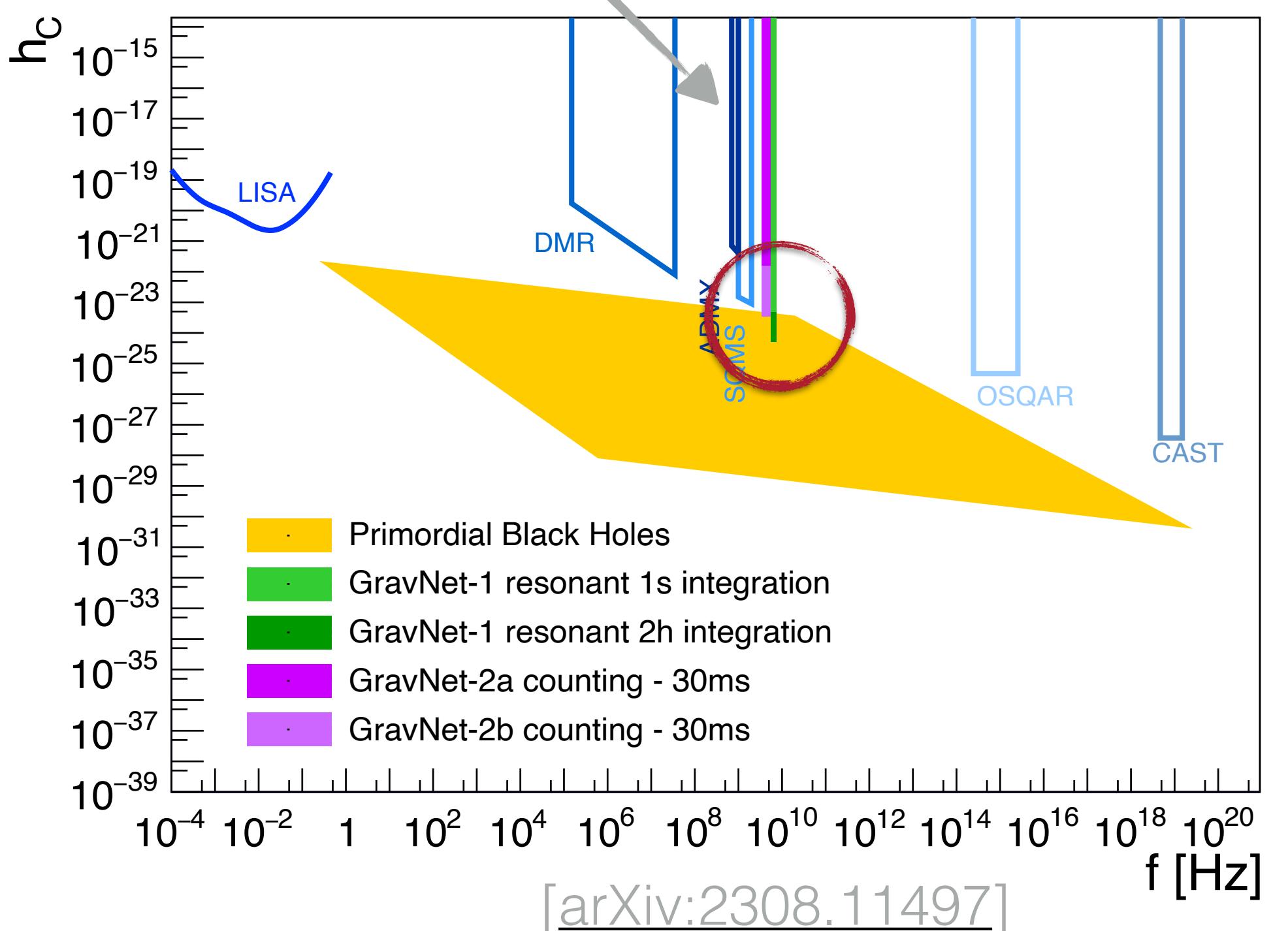
# Summary

- To increase the sensitivity of halo scope style experiments we suggest to build a **global network of detectors**
  - Remember: SNR scales linear with number of detectors!
- Integrating measurement:
  - Sample RF data, combine phase aligned, integrate
- Typical integration times too long to be sensitive to BH merges!
- Photon counting style experiments:
  - Recent advancements in single RF photon detection allows to use coincidences of several detectors
  - Using 20 independent detectors:
  - Sensitivity:  $h_0 < 3 \times 10^{-22} \dots 3 \times 10^{-24}$

Requires large meta material cavities  
 ( high frequency @ large volume)

- Single frequency sufficient to hunt for PBH mergers!
- Could even combine measurements at different frequencies

$t_{\text{int}} > O(100s)$  [[arXiv:2112.11465](#)]



GravNet is an idea up for discussion

- Many advantages in **combining efforts searching for UHGWs** in coordinated way
- GravNet would significantly improve the sensitivity on high frequency gravitational waves
- Based on commercial magnet systems, which is comparatively cheap
- Worldwide collaboration would share costs automatically with local lab-based experiments
- Easy exchange of R&D results and integration at all locations
- Sensitivity to the PBH parameter space with existing technologies!

