

# Black Hole Mergers: From Simulations to Detection

Carlos Lousto

Center for Gravitational Wave Astronomy  
The University of Texas at Brownsville

## Collaborations

Lazarus: J.Baker, B.Brüggmann, M.Campanelli, R.Takahashi, C.L.

Kudu: Lazarus + W.Anderson, J.Creighton, C.Torres

# Outline (Progress report)

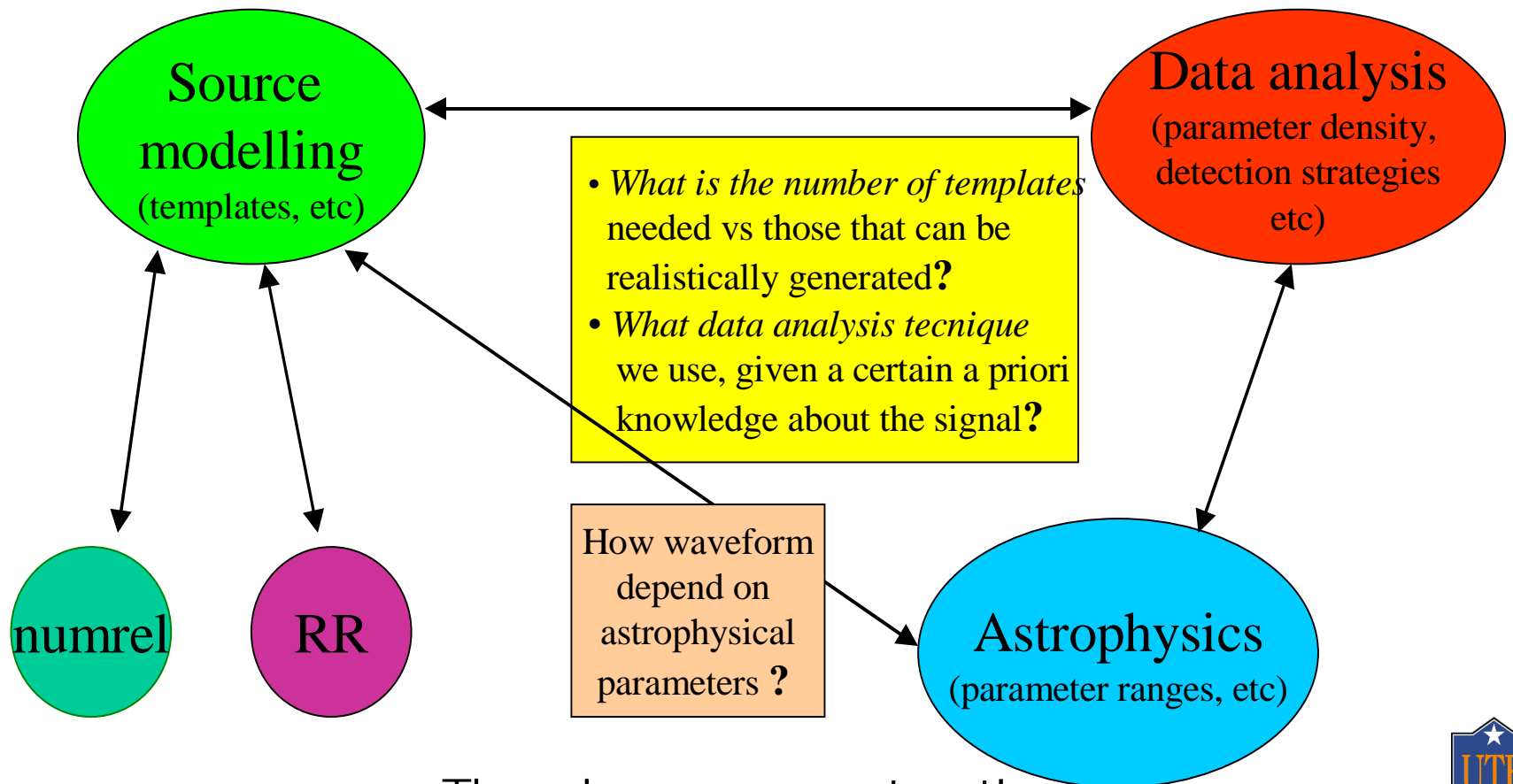
- Kudu in a nutshell: Source simulations - Data analysis – Astrophysics connection
- Lazarus approach
  - Quasicircular orbits of BBH
- Time-frequency Maps of
  - Lazarus, PN, and Kludge waveforms
- Implement new search strategy



# Black hole mergers: from simulation to detection

## The Kudu Project:

A proposal to use Lazarus waveforms for a first small step in the interface between source modeling and data analysis. (a) Determine robust features of the waveforms. (b) Explore parameter space dependencies of the waveforms. (c) Design optimal detection strategies.



# Lazarus = FL + interface + FN + interface + CL

inspiral  
FL/PN

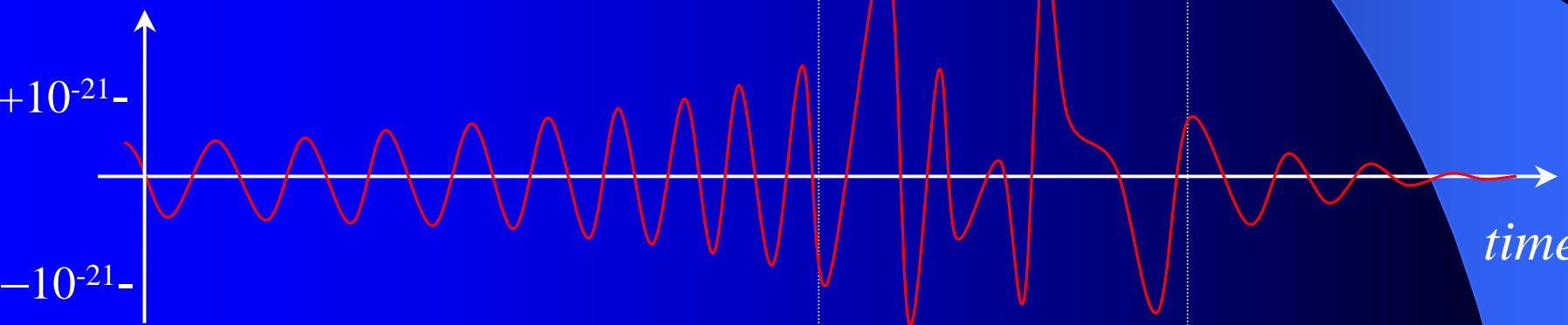
plunge/merger  
FN

ring-down  
CL

IBBH

~ 40 M

~ 100 M



interface:  
cross-checking

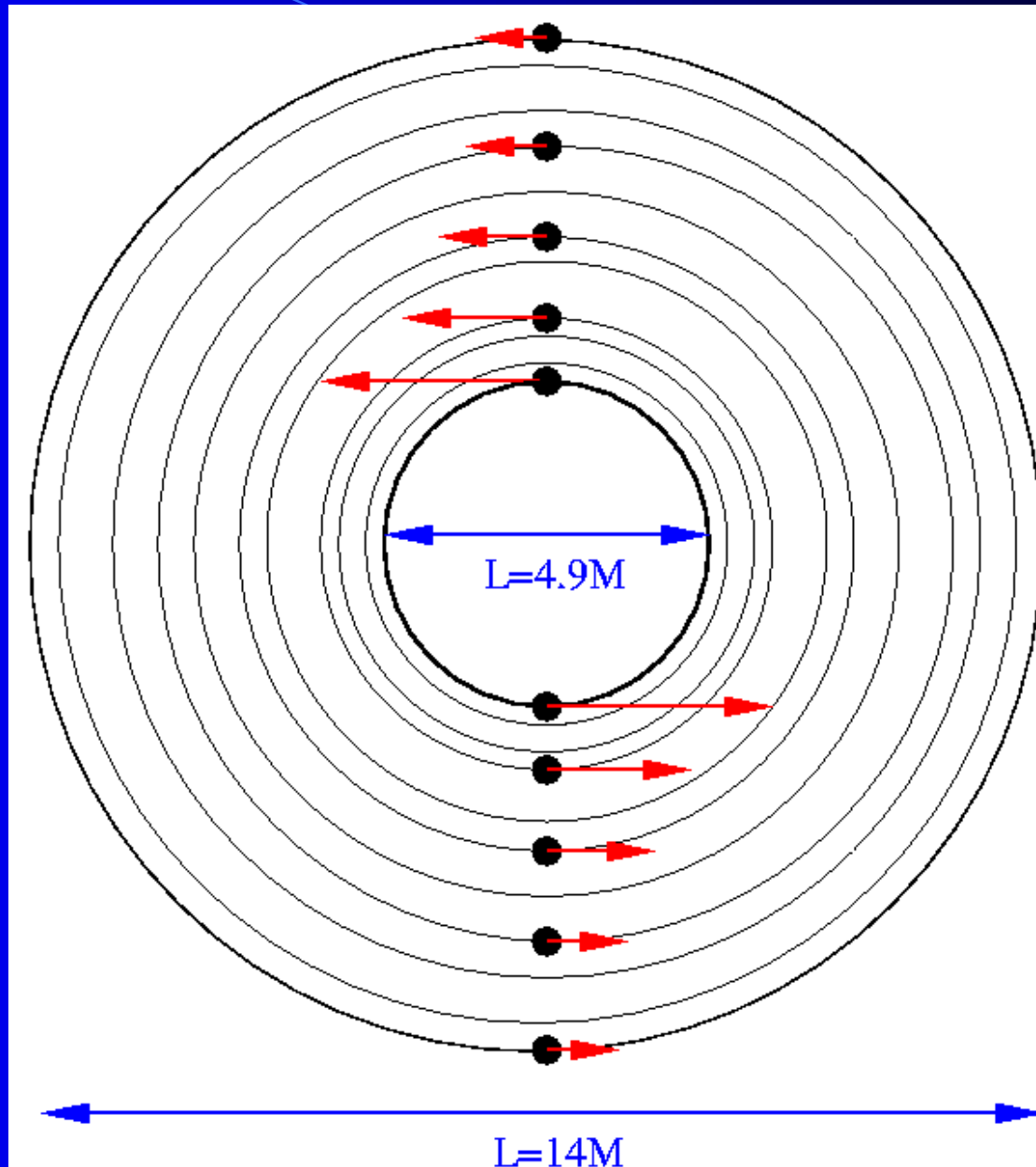
interface:  
cross-checking



# BH in Quasicircular orbits



- BY Data
- Effective Potential



$P=0.095M$

$P=0.12M$

$P=0.15M$

$P=0.21M$

$P=0.33M$

$S = 0$

$J=0.77M^2$

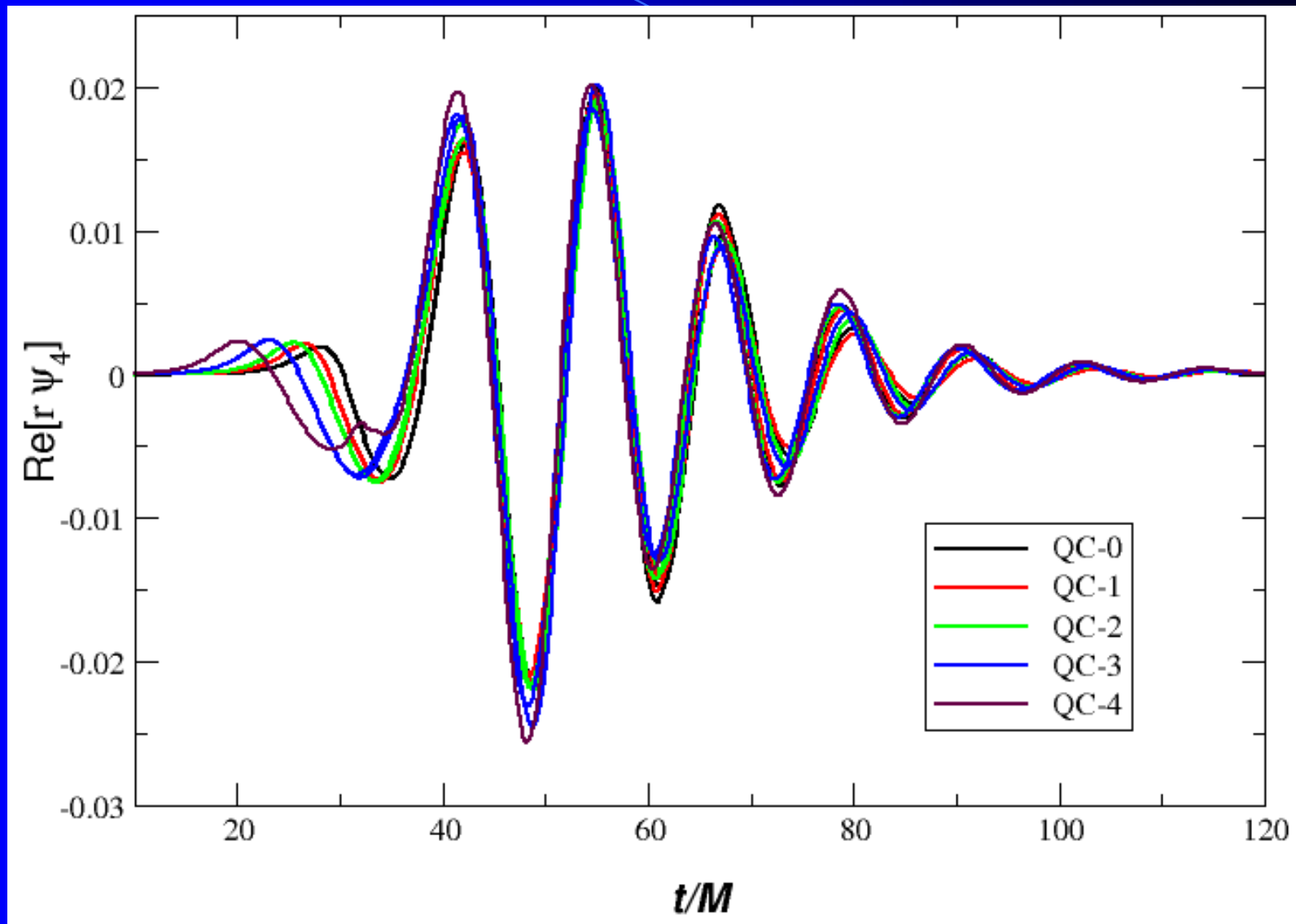
$J=0.79M^2$

$J=0.84M^2$

$J=0.9 M^2$

$J=0.98M^2$

# BH in Quasicircular orbits



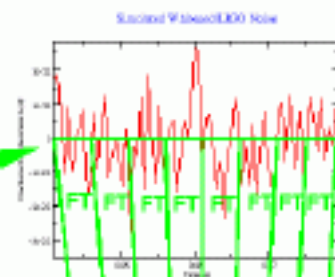
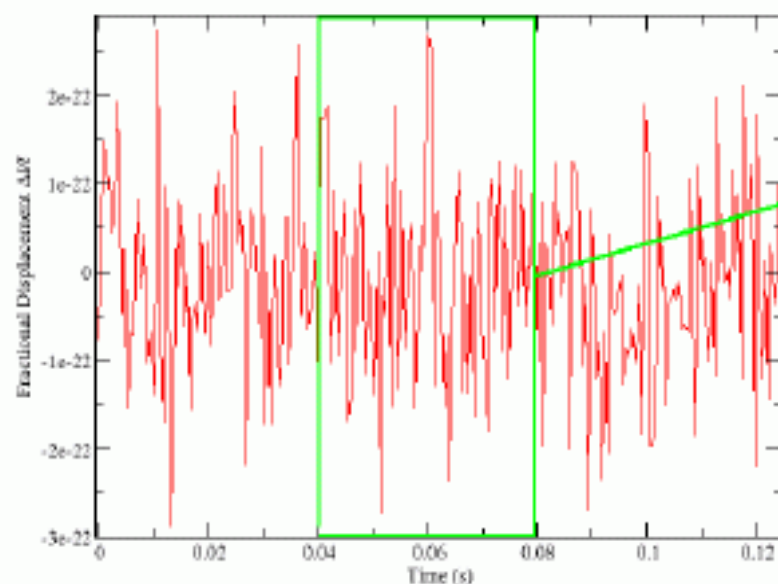
# The Kudu project



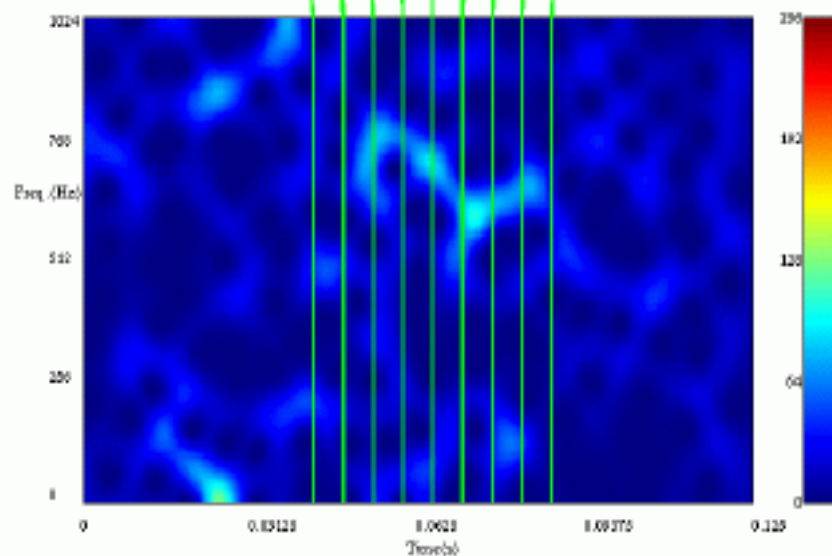
- Our strategy: Forget about matched filtering and bank of templates use time-frequency Methods instead.
- We will focus on the merger signal: Highly visible in LIGO detectors for  $M \sim 20 - 100 M_{\odot}$
- Obtain 'early' information for Data analysts
  - Identify robust features of the merger waveforms
  - Design optimal detection strategies based on this partial information
  - Implement this in LDAS
  - Assess theoretically the improvement of S/N

# Time-Frequency Algorithms

Simulated Whittened LIGO Noise

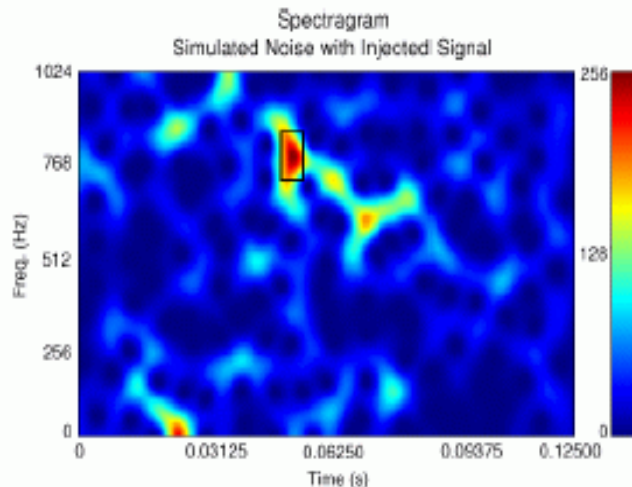


Spectrogram of Simulated Whittened LIGO Noise



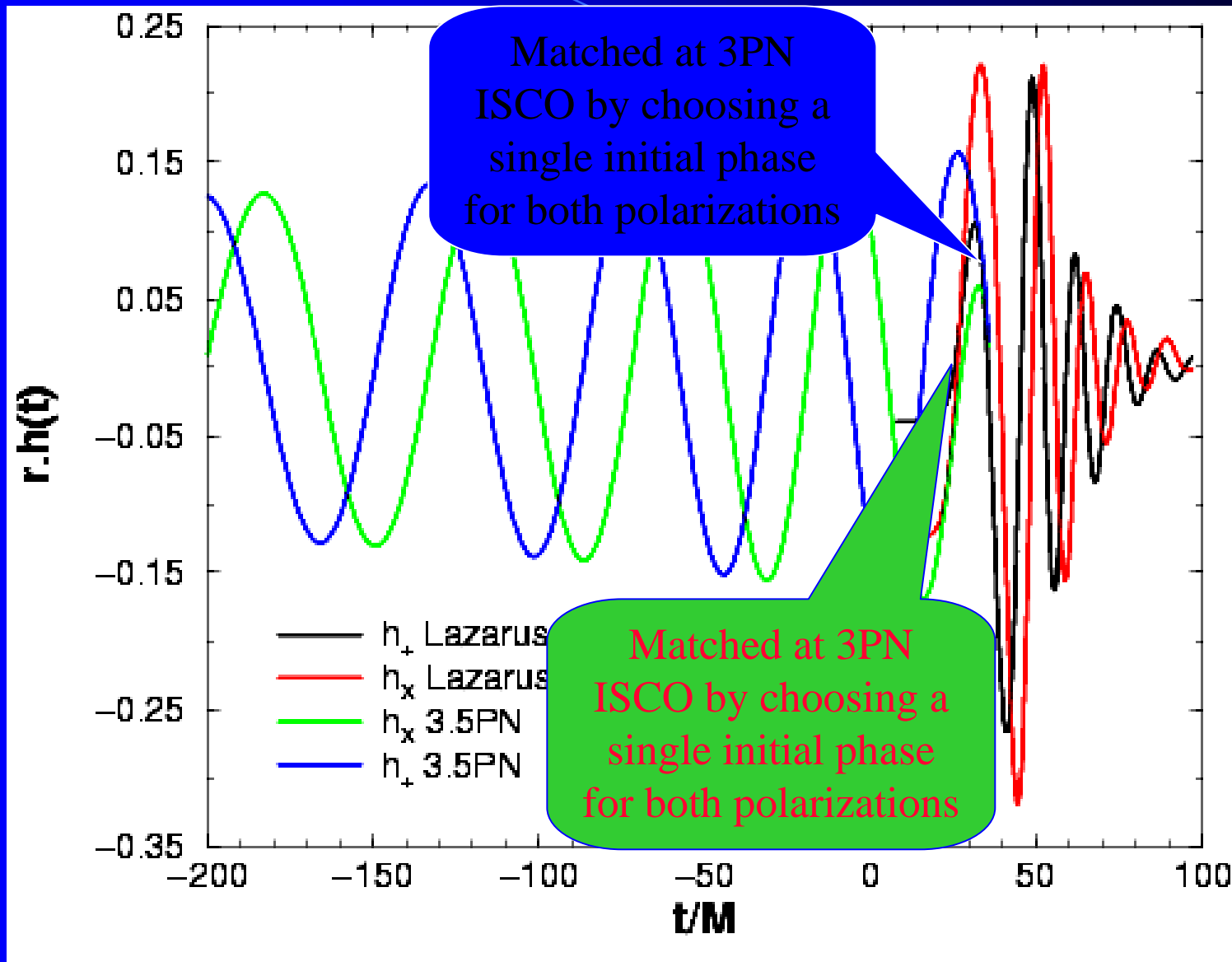


## Power Statistic



- developed by Anderson, Brady, Creighton and Flanagan IJMPD 9, 303, (2000); PRD 63, 0402003, (2001) .
- Look for time-frequency areas with “too much power”.
- Gaussian noise power is distributed as  $\chi^2$  .
- Set detection threshold to keep false alarm rate “low enough”.
- Detection method is optimal given no information about signals.

# 3.5 PN + Lazarus



# Match to a 3.5 PN Model



- Lazarus waveforms from 3PN-ISCO
- Blanchet (2002)

– Give waveforms for ‘raw’ 3.5 PN:

$$h_+ = (M \, d\phi/dt)^{2/3} \cos(2\phi)$$

$$h_x = (M \, d\phi/dt)^{2/3} \sin(2\phi)$$

– One unidentified 3.5 parameter,  $\theta$

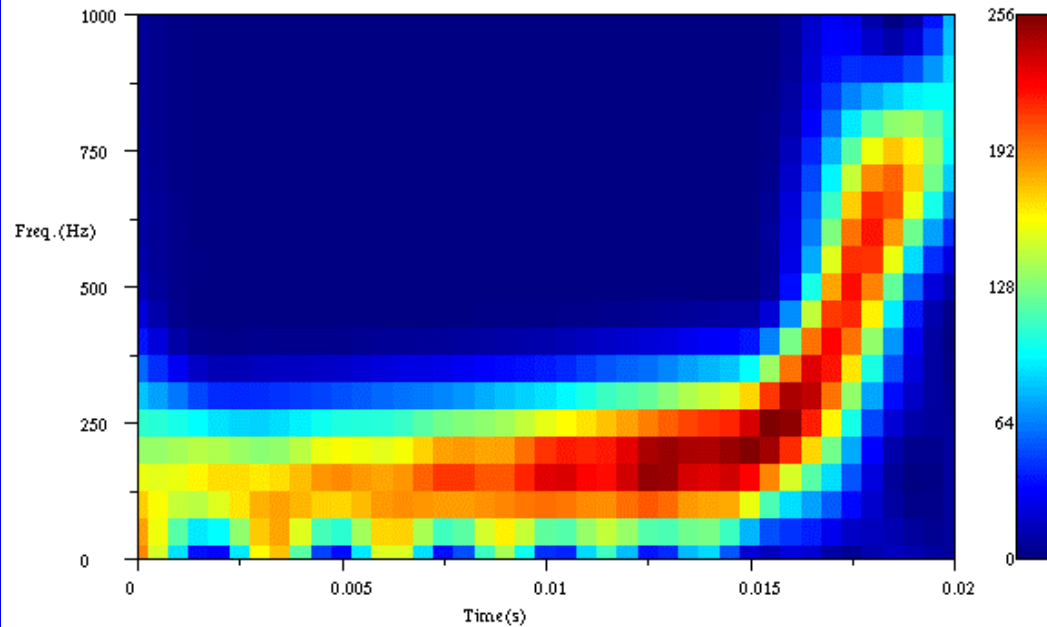
– D’Amour et al give range  $-5 < \theta < 10$

- We’ve chosen  $\theta = 1.25$ ,
- $t_0 = 50$  (instant of coalescence),
- $\tau_0 = 0.01$  (initial phase)

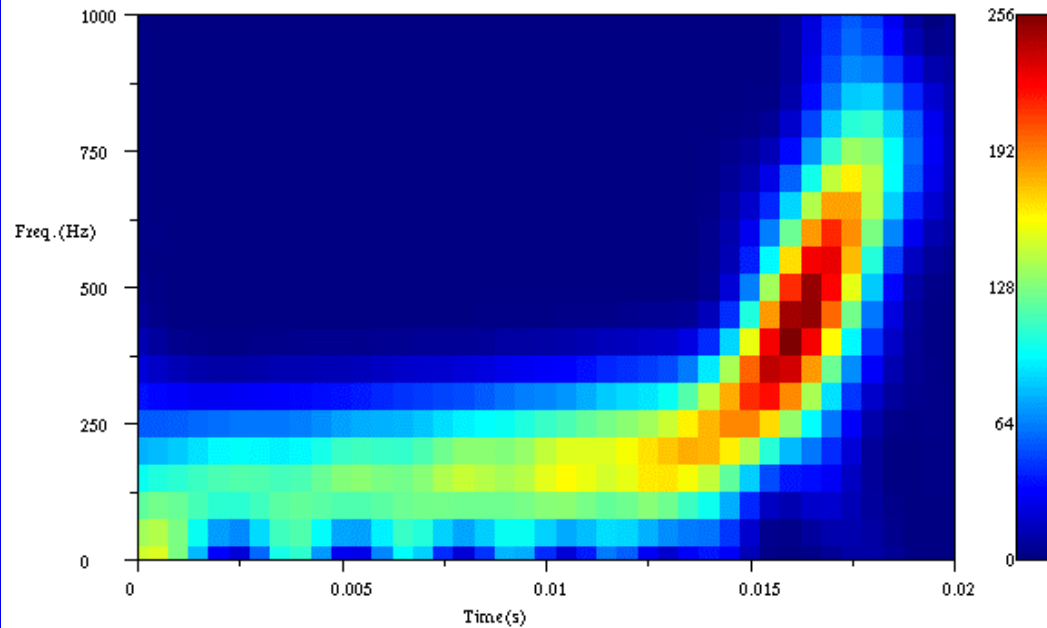
- Matching useful to set the relative scale inspiral merger in the time-frequency map.



Spectrogram: Kudu QC3+3.5PNh+Waveform  
Mass=20 Solar, Sampling Freq. = 2kHz, Window = Hanning(11)

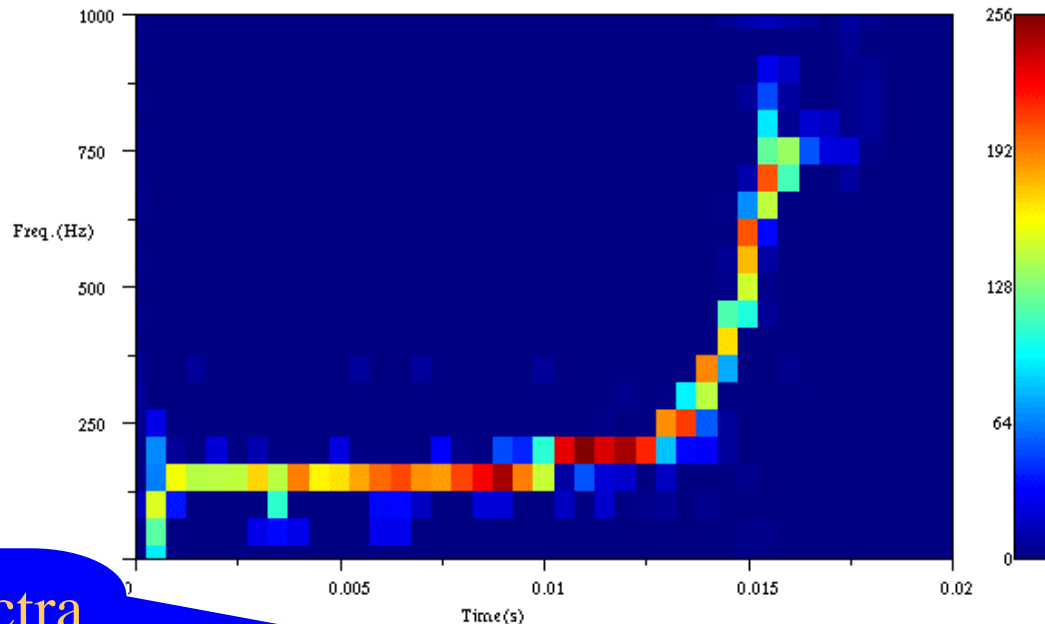


Spectrogram: Kudu QC3+3.5PNh+Waveform  
Mass=20 Solar, Sampling Freq. = 2kHz, Window = Hanning(11)



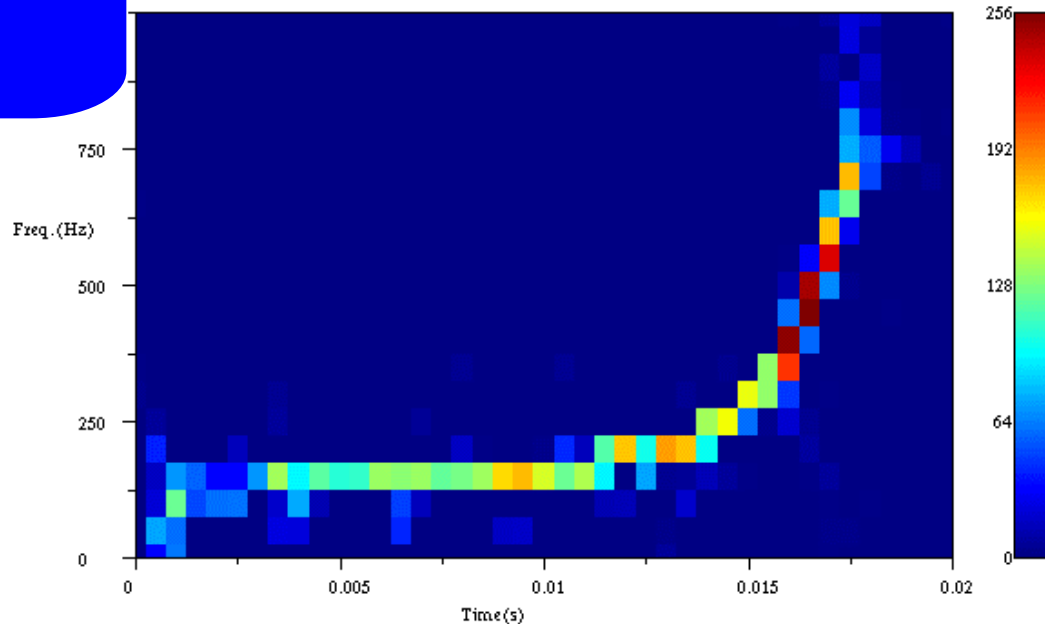


Reassigned Spectrogram: Kudu h+QC33.5PN Waveform  
Mass=20Solar, Sampling Frequency=2kHz, Window=Hanning(11)

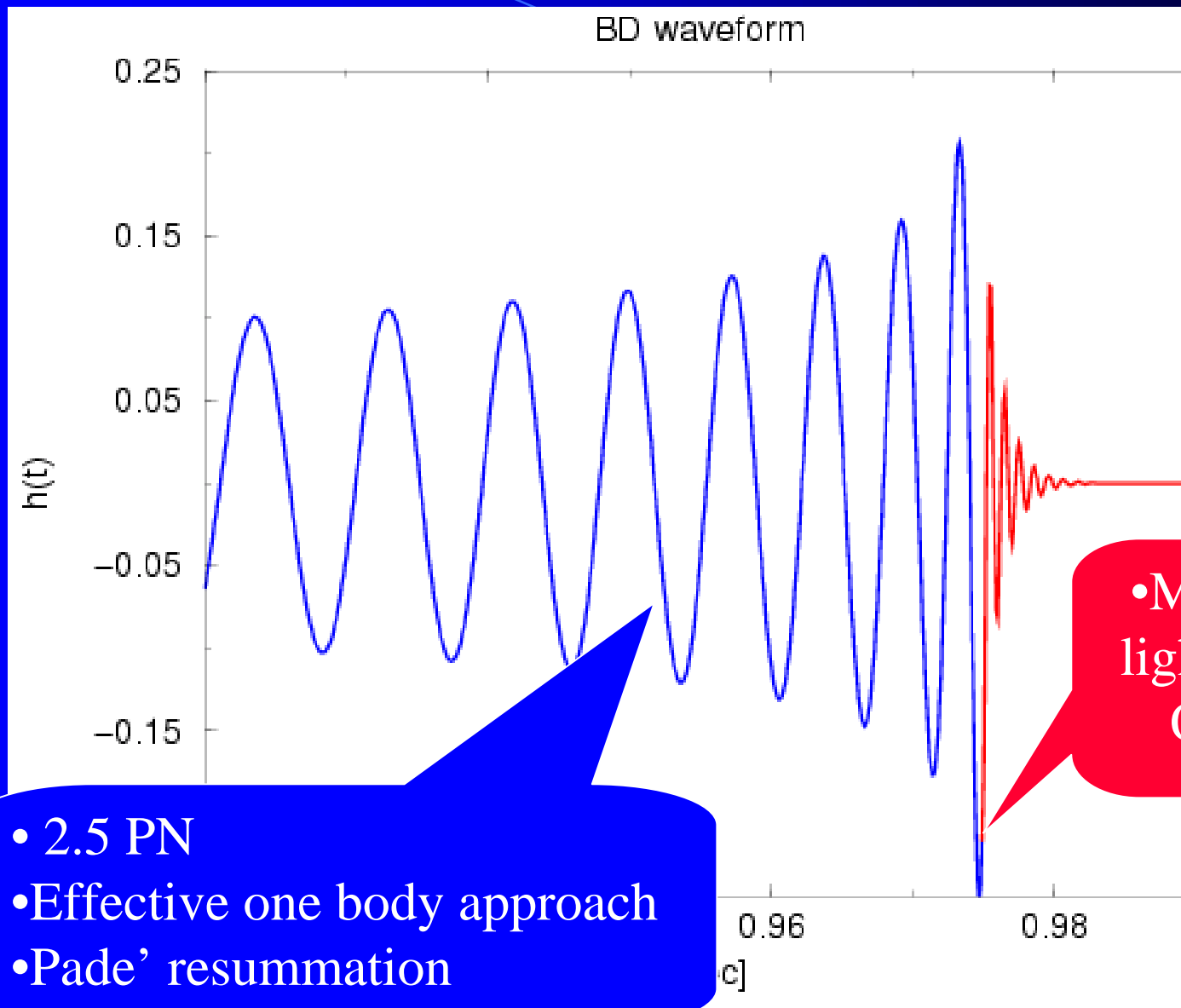


Reassigned spectra  
Chassande-Mottin  
et al

Reassigned Spectrogram: Kudu QC3+3.5PN h+Waveform  
Mass=20Solar, Sampling Freq. = 2kHz, Window=Hanning(11)



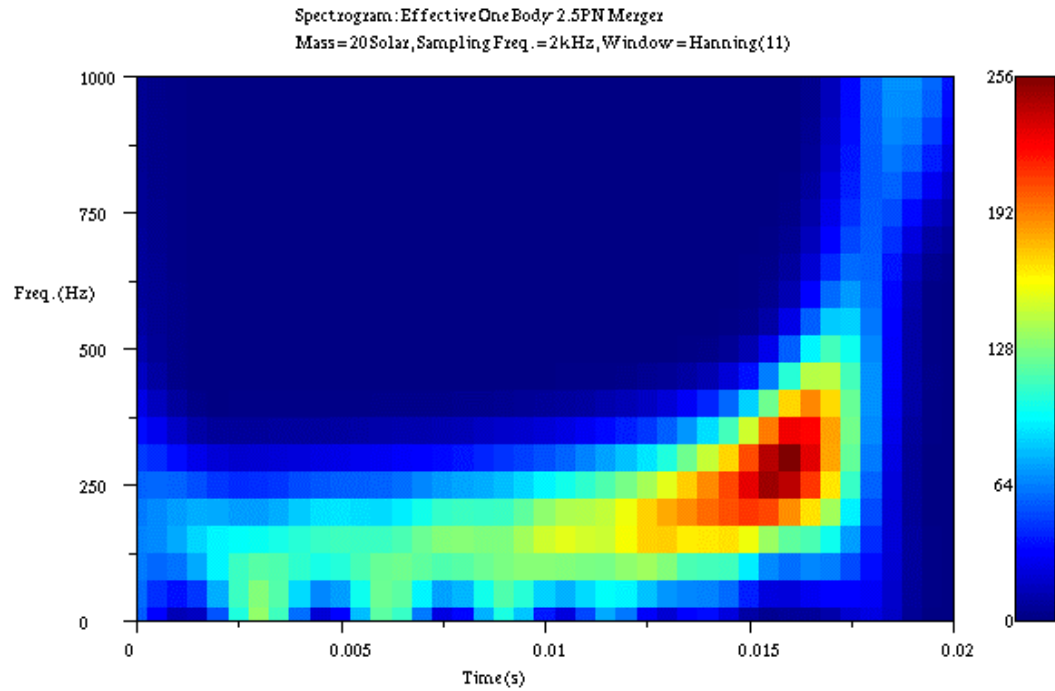
# 2.5 PN BD waveform



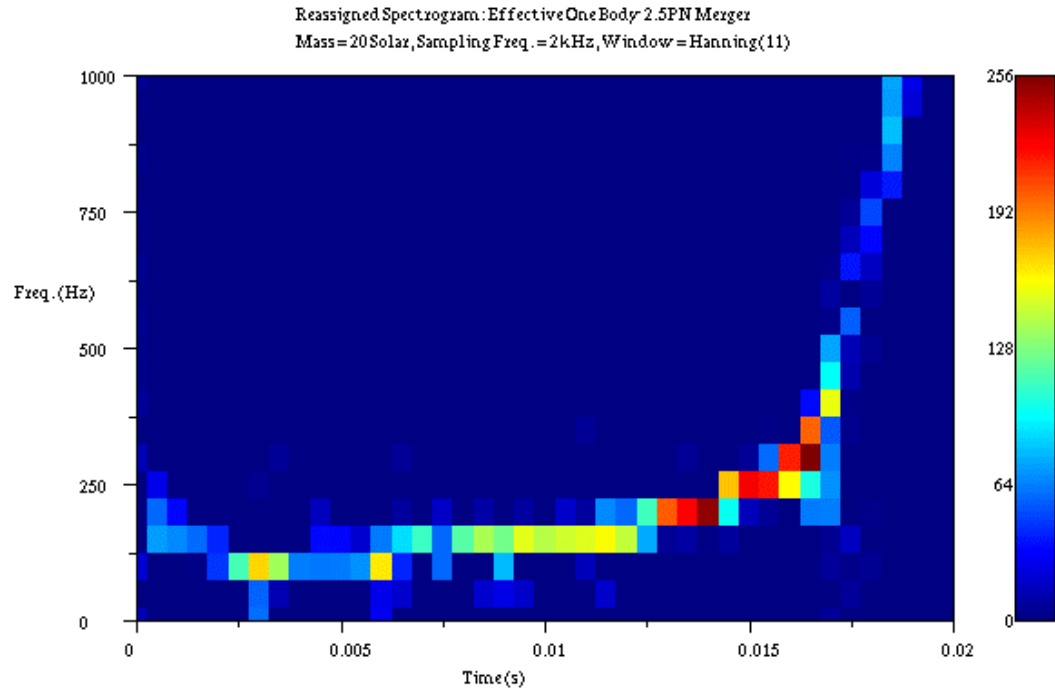
- 2.5 PN
- Effective one body approach
- Pade' resummation

- Match at the light ring with QN mode

Non  
-reassigned



reassigned



# The Kudu project



## ● Conclusions

- Identify robust features of the waveforms
  - Monotonic curve (+ derivative info?)
- Design optimal detection strategies based on this partial information
  - Reassigned spectra & suit window to merger waveforms
  - Track search (image processing technique to look for curvilinear features: Steger's algorithm) being implemented in LDAS
- Next:
  - Adding colored Gaussian noise,
  - set a false alarm rate ( $\sim 1/1000$  yrs for two detectors)
  - Monte Carlo simulations ( $\sim 10^6$ )
  - Compare track search to excess power statistics  
(factor 2 gain in S/N? First to detect BHs?  $E_{\text{rad}} \sim E_{\text{bin}}$ )
- Physical parameter exploration: Spin, unequal masses

