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# How optimal are wavelet TF methods?

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- **Time-Frequency analysis**
- **Comparison with optimal filters**
- **Example with BH-BH merger**
- **Summary**

# Introduction



- **Match filter – optimal detection of signal of known form  $m(t)$  ( $M(\omega)$ )**

$$\left(\frac{S}{N}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{|M(\omega)|^2}{P_n(\omega)} d\omega, \quad (\text{Wainstein, Zubakov})$$

- **Many GW waveforms (like mergers, SN,..) are not well known, therefore other search filters are required.**
- **Excess power filters:**
  - **band-pass filter** (Flanagan, Hughes: gr-qc/9701039v2 1997)

$$\varepsilon = \left(\frac{SNR_{BP}}{SNR_{MF}}\right)^{1/2} \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\tau\Delta f}}$$

$\Delta f$  – filter bandwidth  
 $\tau$  - signal duration

$\varepsilon$  for BH-BH mergers  $\sim 0.2$ - $0.5$

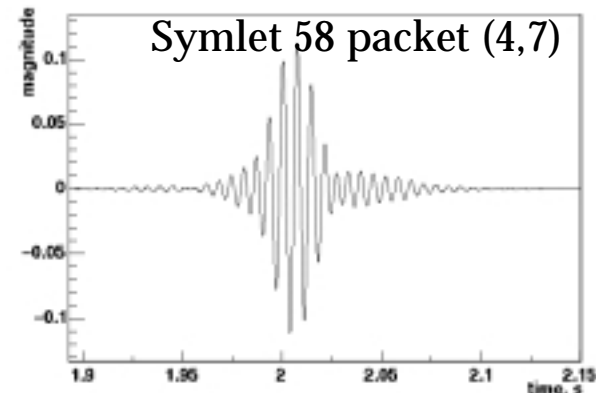
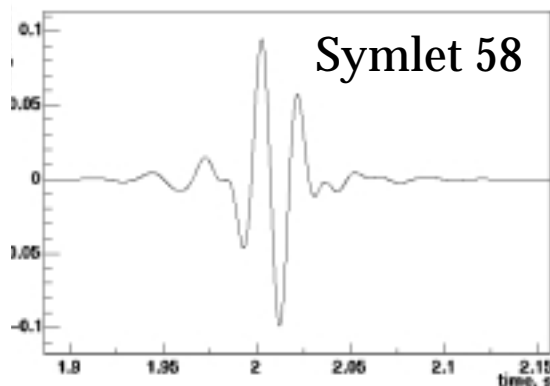
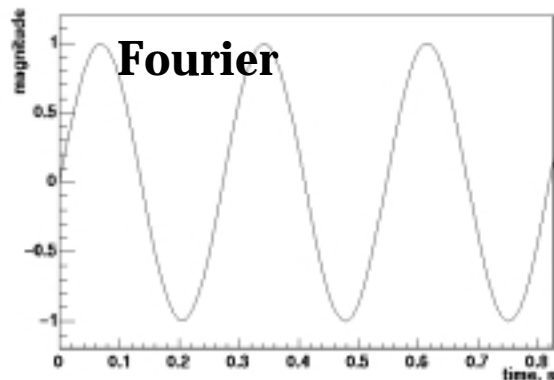
- **Excess Power:** (Anderson et al., PRD, V63, 042003)
- **What is  $\varepsilon$  for wavelet time-frequency methods (like WaveBurst ETG)?**

# Time-Frequency Transform

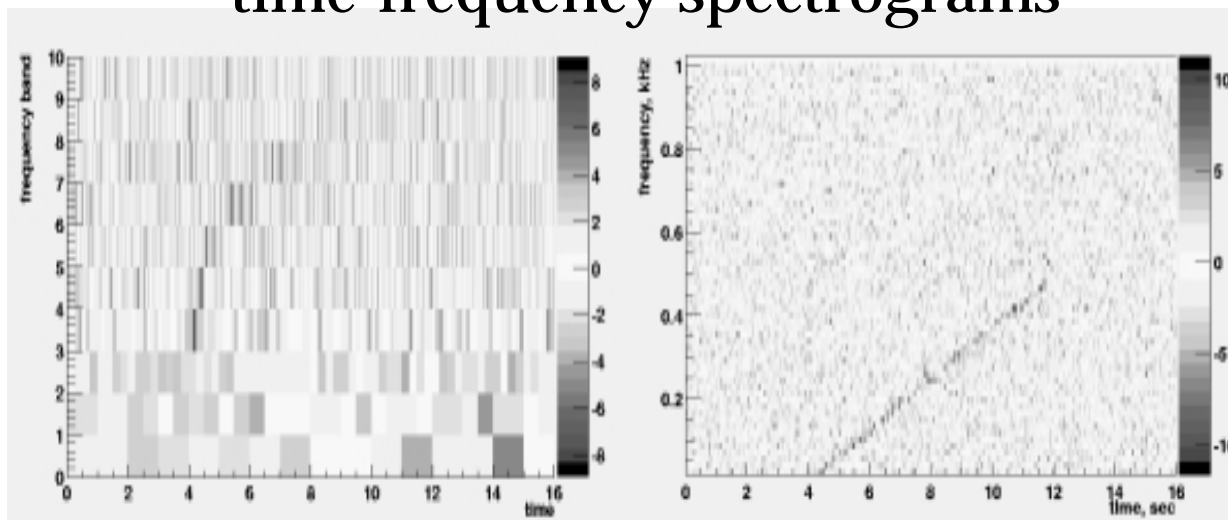


- TF decomposition in a basis of (preferably orthonormal) waveforms  $\{\Psi(t)\}$  - “bank of templates”

wavelet - natural basis for bursts



time-frequency spectrograms



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# Time-Frequency Analysis



- **Analysis steps:**
  - Select “black” pixels by setting threshold  $x_p$  on pixels amplitude  
The threshold  $x_p$  defines black pixel probability  $p$
  - cluster reconstruction – construct an “event” out of elementary pixels
  - Set second threshold(s) on cluster strength
- Match filter, if burst matches one of the basis functions (template)

$$\left(\frac{S}{N}\right)_{opt}^2 = x^2$$

$\sigma$  – noise rms per pixel  
 $x = w/\sigma$  – wavelet amplitude /  $\sigma$

- If basis is not optimal for a burst, its energy will be spread over some area of the TF plot

$$\left(\frac{S}{N}\right)_{TF}^2 = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma_k^2} \cdot \sum x_i^2$$

$$\mathcal{E} \approx \sqrt{\frac{\sum x_i^2}{x^2}} \frac{\sigma}{\sigma_k} \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}}$$

$\sigma_k$  – noise rms per  $k$  pixels

# statistics of filter noise



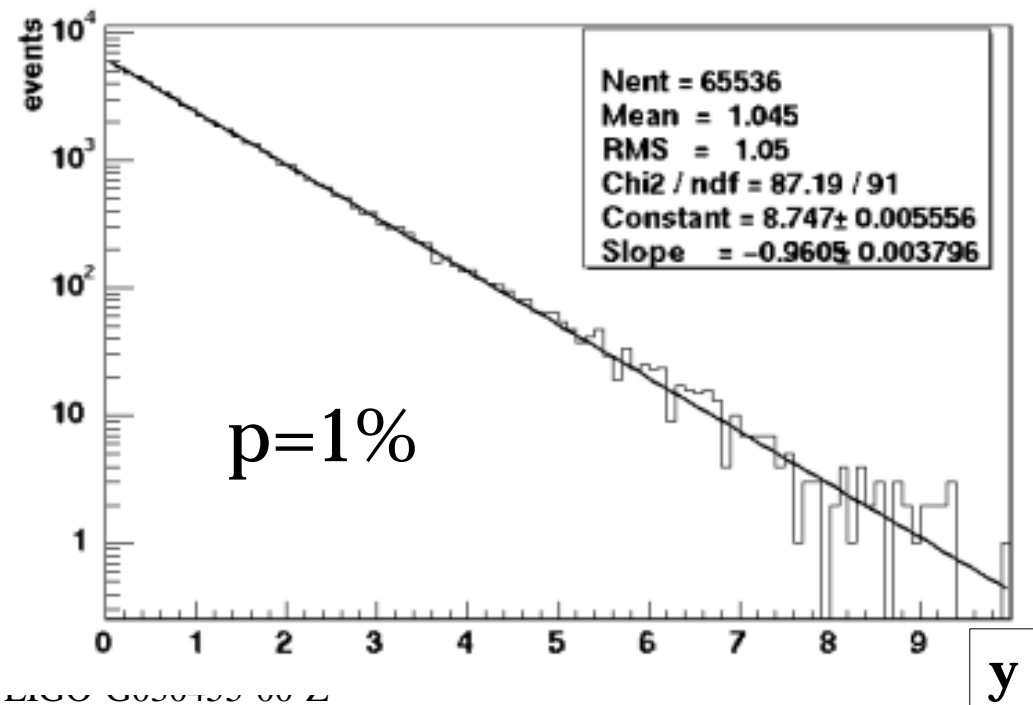
- assume that detector noise is white, gaussian
- after black pixel selection ( $|x| > x_p$ )  $\rightarrow$  gaussian tails

$$y = \frac{x^2 - x_p^2}{2}, \quad pdf(y) \approx e^{-\alpha y}, \quad \alpha = \left(1 + x_p^{-2}\right)^{-1}$$

- sum of  $k$  (statistically independent) pixels has *gamma* distribution

$$y_k = \frac{1}{2} \sum^k (x_i^2 - x_p^2)$$

$$pdf(y_k) = \frac{y_k^{k-1} e^{-y_k}}{\Gamma(k)}$$



# z-domain



- **cluster confidence:**  $z = -\ln(\text{survival probability})$

$$z(y_k) = -\ln\left(\frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_{y_k}^{\infty} x^{k-1} e^{-x} dx\right)$$

- noise  $pdf(z)$  is exponential regardless of  $k$ .
- control false alarm rate with set of thresholds  $z_t(k)$  on cluster strength in z-domain

$$f_{alarm} = \sum_k e^{-z_t(k)} f_k$$

cluster rates

- “canonical” threshold set

$$z_t(k) = z_0 - \ln(k) \longrightarrow f_{alarm} = p \cdot f_{sampling} \cdot e^{-z_0}$$

data rate

# effective distance to source

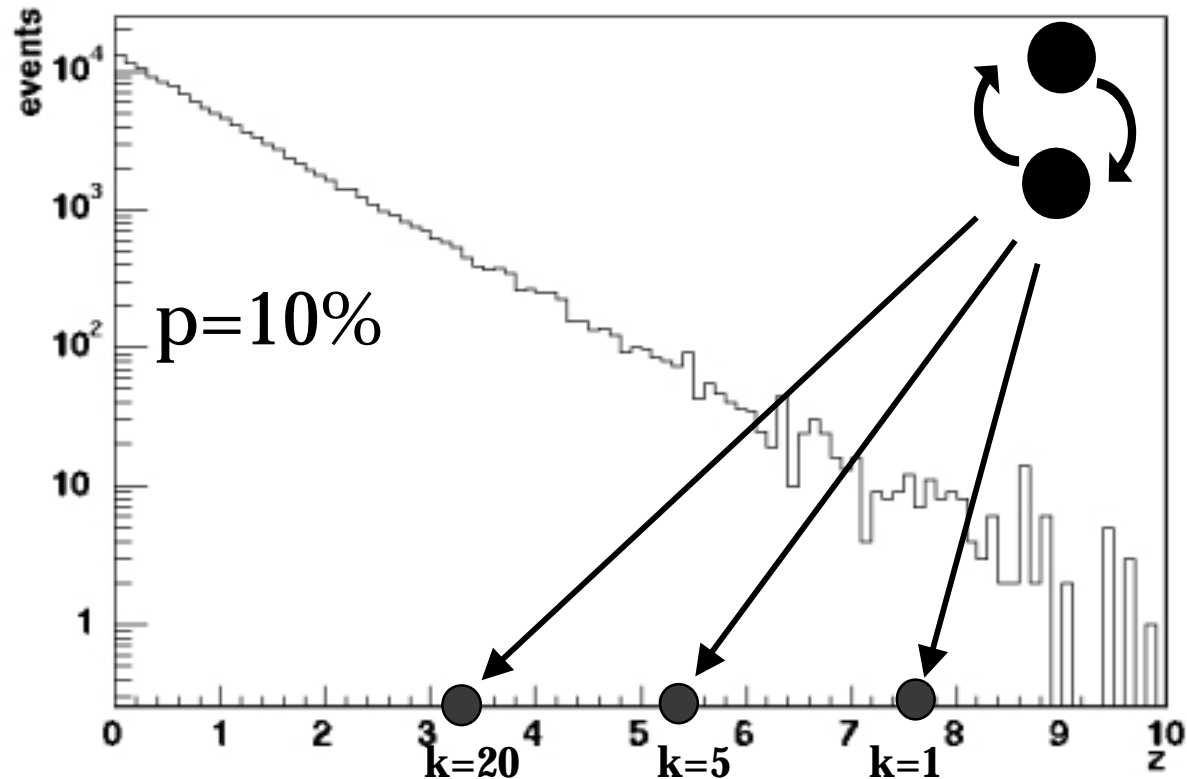


- given a source  $h(t)$ , the filter response in z-domain is different depending on how good is approximation of  $h(t)$  with the basis functions  $\{\Psi(t)\}$
- $d_1$  - distance to “optimal” source ( $k=1$ )
- $d_k$  - distance to “non-optimal” source with the same z-response

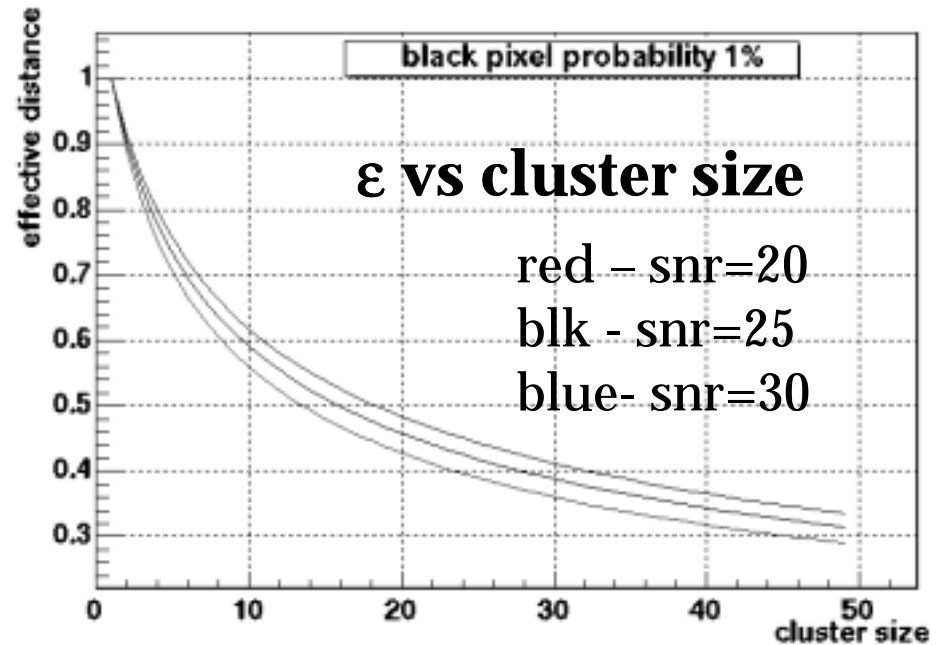
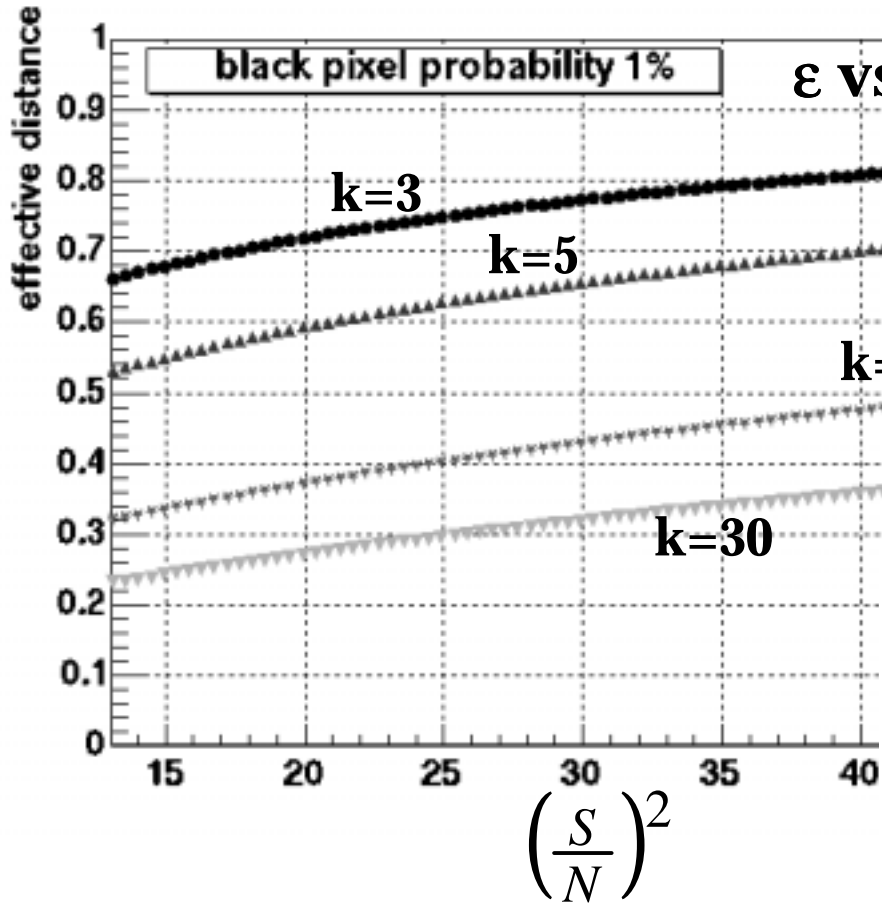
**effectiveness:**

$$\mathcal{E} = d_k / d_1$$

**same significance  
& false alarm rate as  
for MF**



# effective distance(snr,k)



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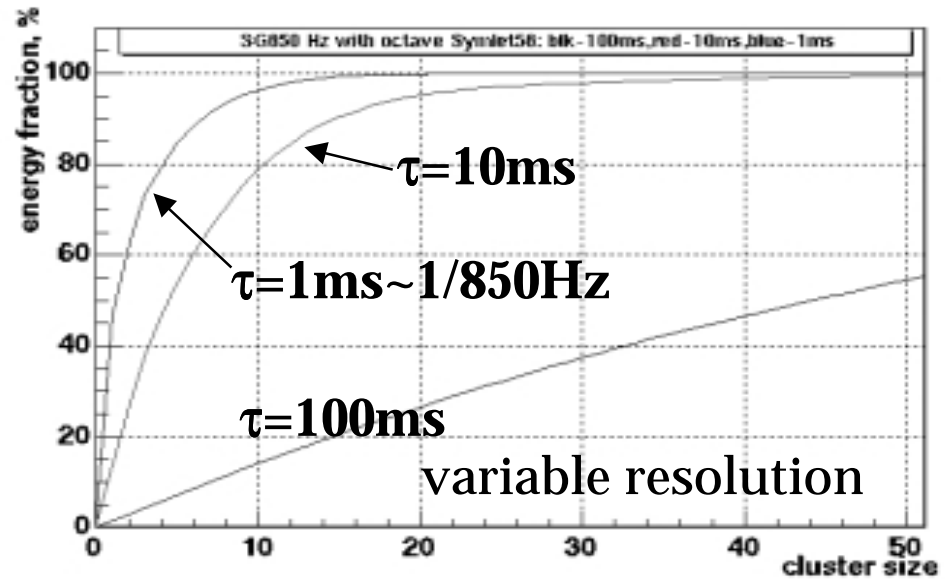
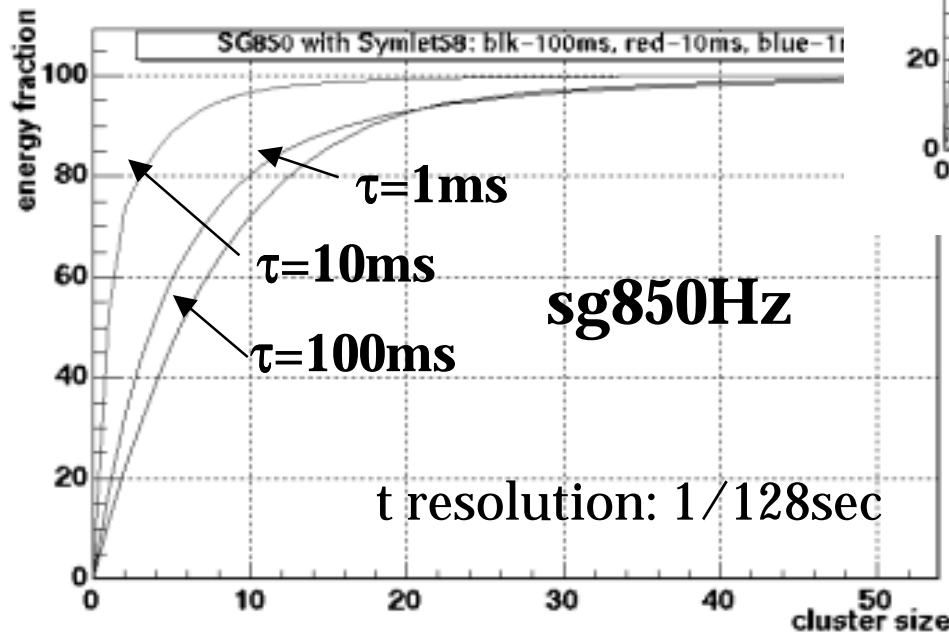


# cluster size



- select transforms that produce more compact clusters  
resolution, properties of wavelet filters, orthogonality

octave resolution:  
good if  $f_c \sim 1/\tau$



const resolution:  
more robust

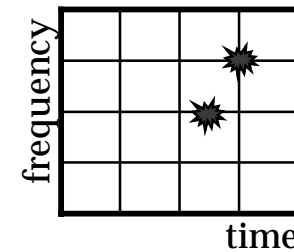
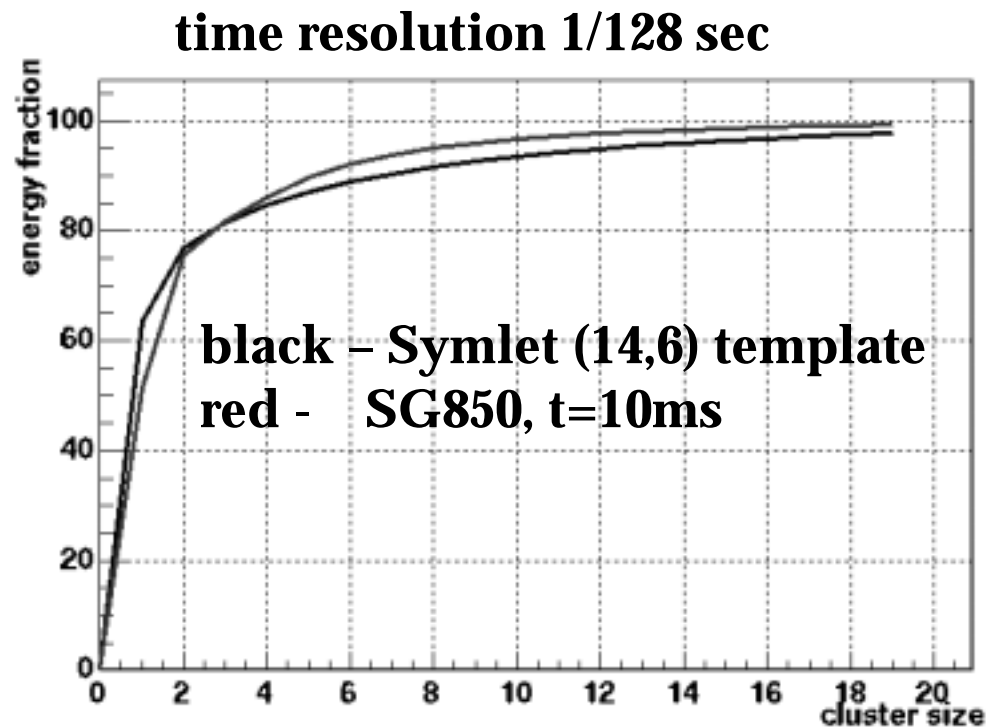


to cover larger parameter space  
the analysis could be conducted  
at several different resolutions

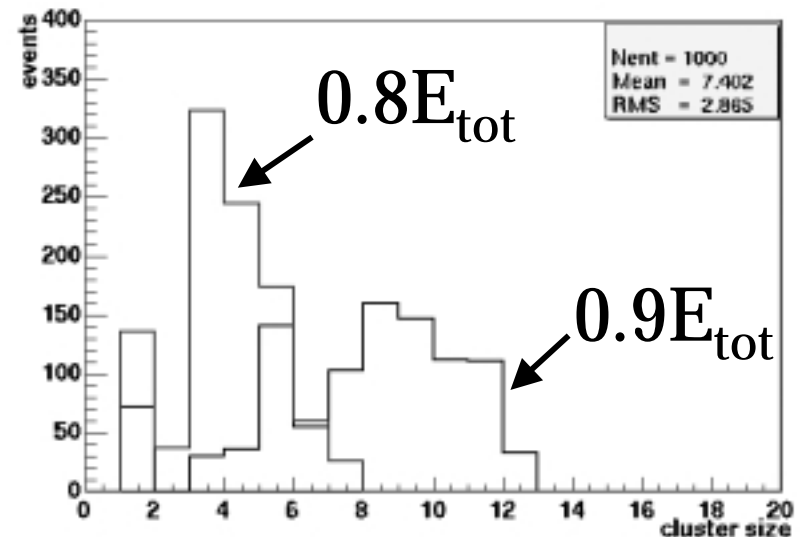
# response to “templates” $\{\Psi(t)\}$



- $h(t+\delta t)=\Psi_i(t)$ ,  $0<\delta t<\Delta t$ ,  $\Delta t$  – time resolution of the  $\{\Psi(t)\}$  grid



optimal  
“quasi-optimal”



- Average cluster size of  $\sim 5$  at optimal resolution.
- Doesn't make sense to look for 1-pixel clusters

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# BH-BH mergers



- **BH-BH mergers** (Flanagan, Hughes: gr-qc/9701039v2 1997)

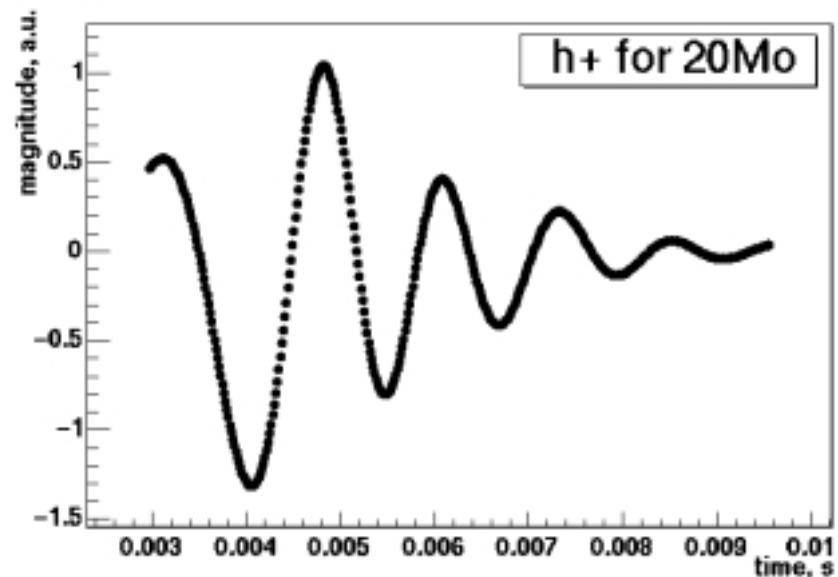
start frequency:  $f_{start} \approx \left(\frac{0.02}{M}\right) = 205\text{Hz} \cdot \left(\frac{20M_o}{M}\right)$

duration:  $\tau \approx 50M = 5\text{ms} \cdot \left(\frac{M}{20M_o}\right)$

bandwidth:  $\Delta f \sim f_{qnr} \approx \left(\frac{0.13}{M}\right) = 1300\text{Hz} \cdot \left(\frac{20M_o}{M}\right)$

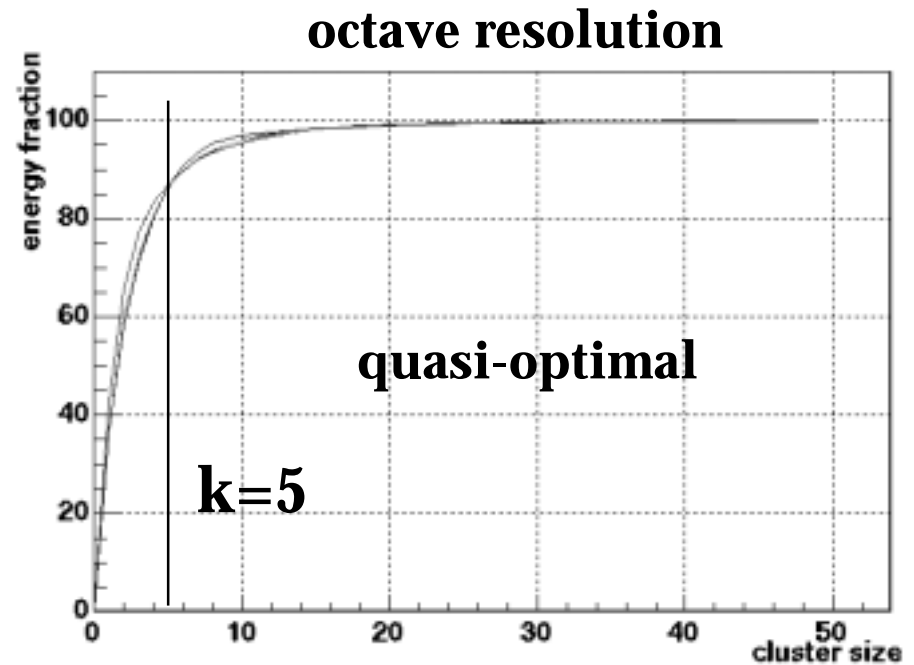
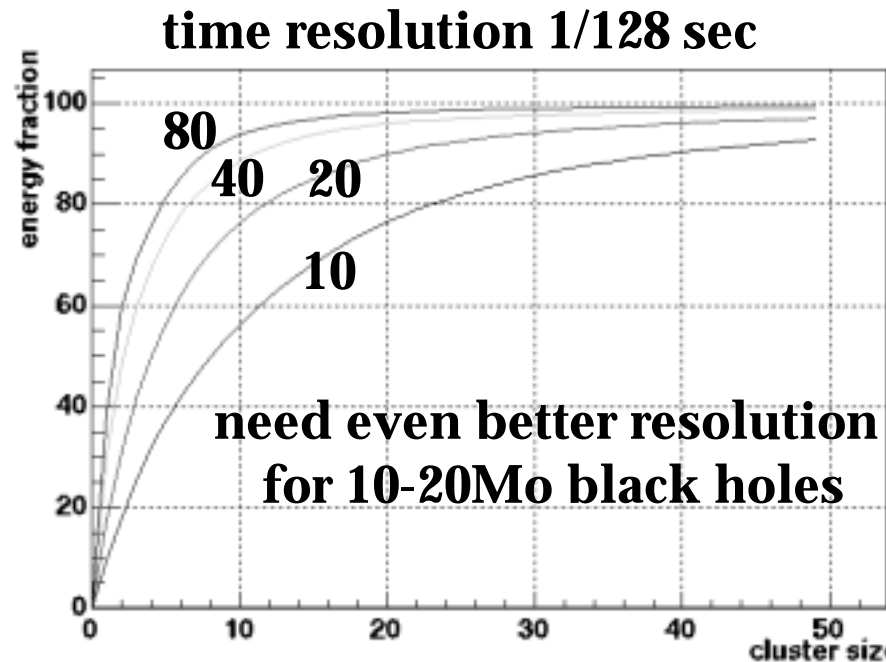
- **BH-BH simulation**

(J.Baker et al, astro-ph/0202469v1)



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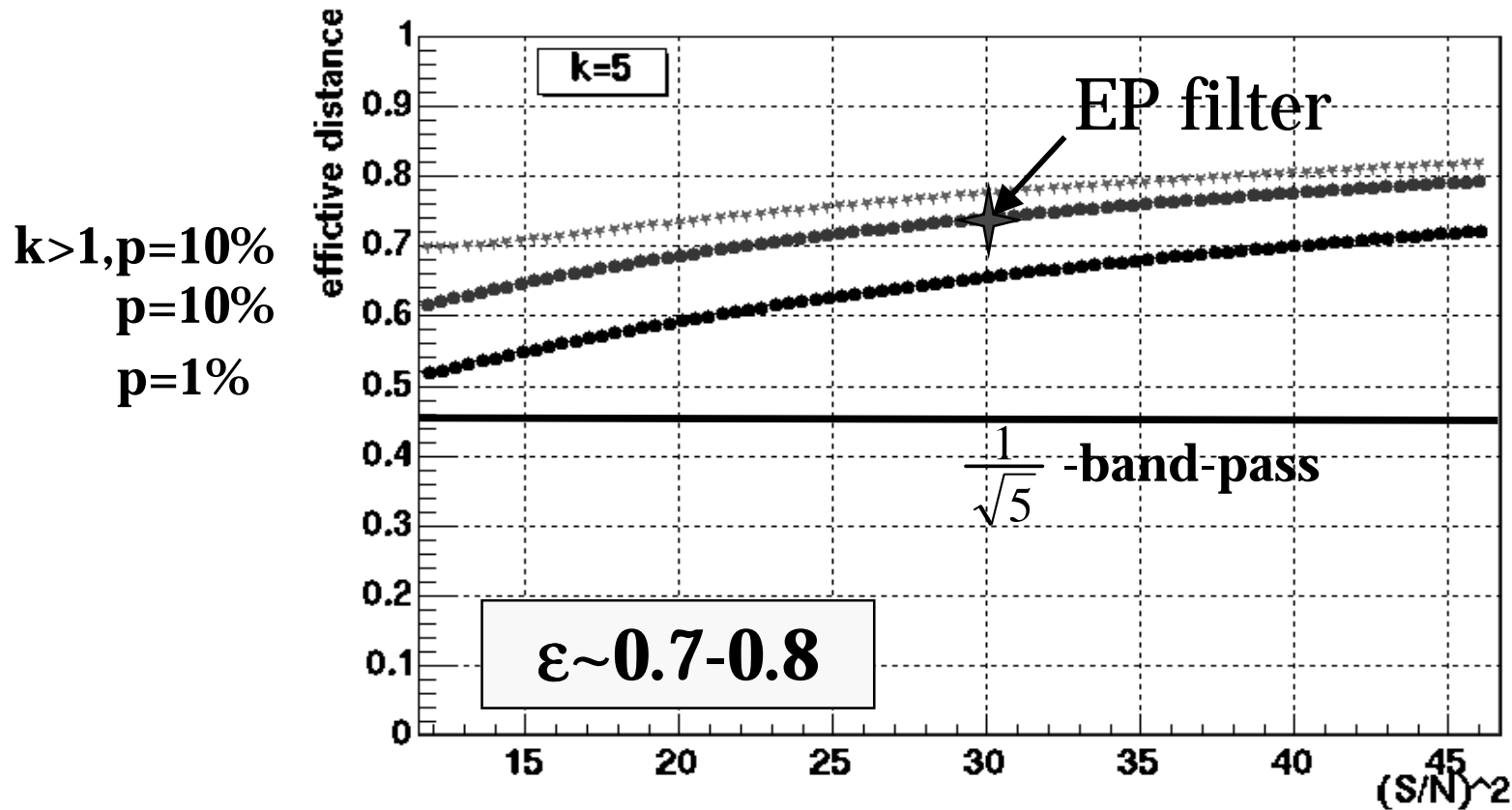
# response to simulated BH-BH mergers



- resolution should be  $\geq 10\text{ms}$
- If proven by theory, that for BH-BH mergers  $f_{\text{merger}} \sim 1/\tau$ , it allows *a priori* selection of a “quasi-optimal” basis

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# $\varepsilon$ for BH-BH mergers



- ways to increase  $\varepsilon$ 
  - higher black pixel probability
  - ignore small clusters ( $k=1,2$ ), which contribute most to false alarm rate and use lower threshold for larger clusters.

# Summary



- **wavelet and match filter are compared by using a simple approximation of the wavelet filter noise.**
- **filter performance depends on how optimal is the wavelet resolution with respect to detected gravity waves.**
- **filter performance could be improved by increasing the black pixel probability and by ignoring small ( $k=1,2$ ) clusters**
- **expected efficiency for BH-BH mergers with respect to match filter: 0.7-0.8**