

Time Series
Analysis
for the
Multi-wavelength
future

 Tiana_Athriel

 dhuppenkothen

Daniela Huppenkothen

NYU Center for Cosmology and Particle Physics

NYU Center for Data Science

**How do we convert data into
knowledge?**

time series

**How do we convert data into
knowledge?**

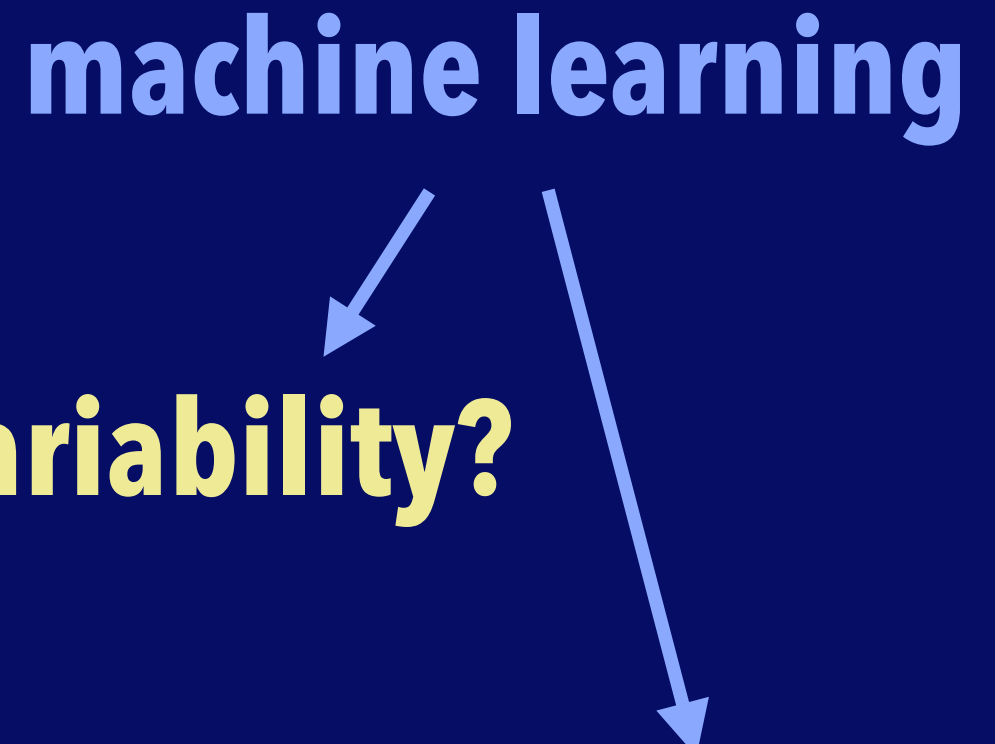
black hole physics

1) How can we detect variability?

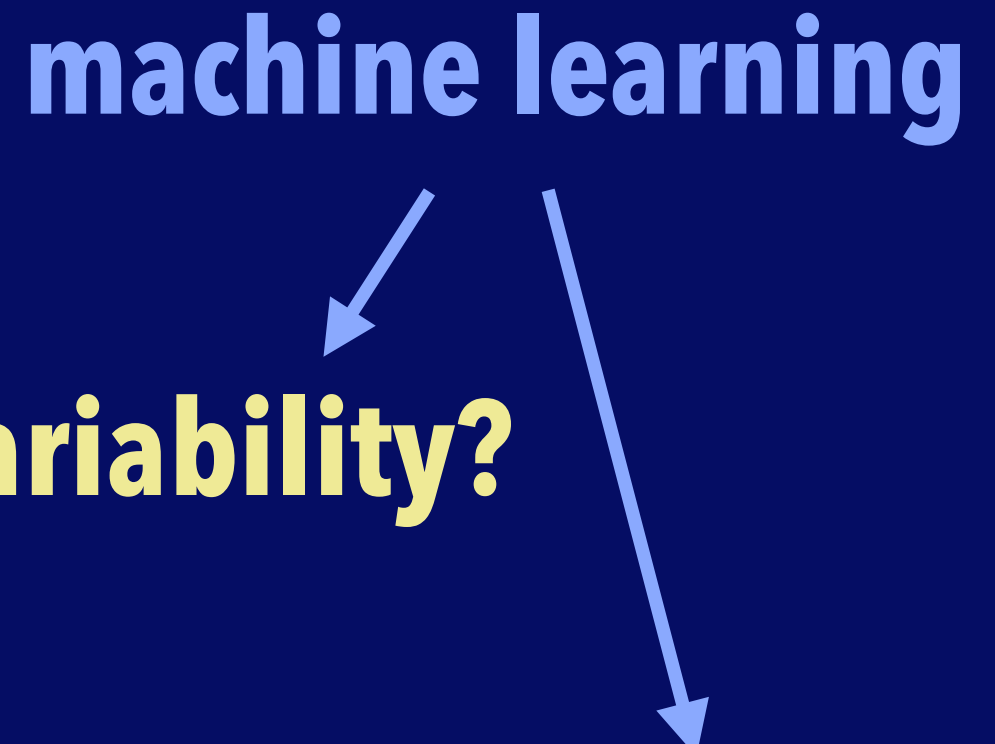
2) How can we classify variable sources?

3) How can we characterize variability?

machine learning

- 
- ```
graph TD; A[machine learning] --> B[1) How can we detect variability?]; A --> C[2) How can we classify variable sources?]; A --> D[3) How can we characterize variability?];
```
- 1) How can we detect variability?
  - 2) How can we classify variable sources?
  - 3) How can we characterize variability?

# machine learning



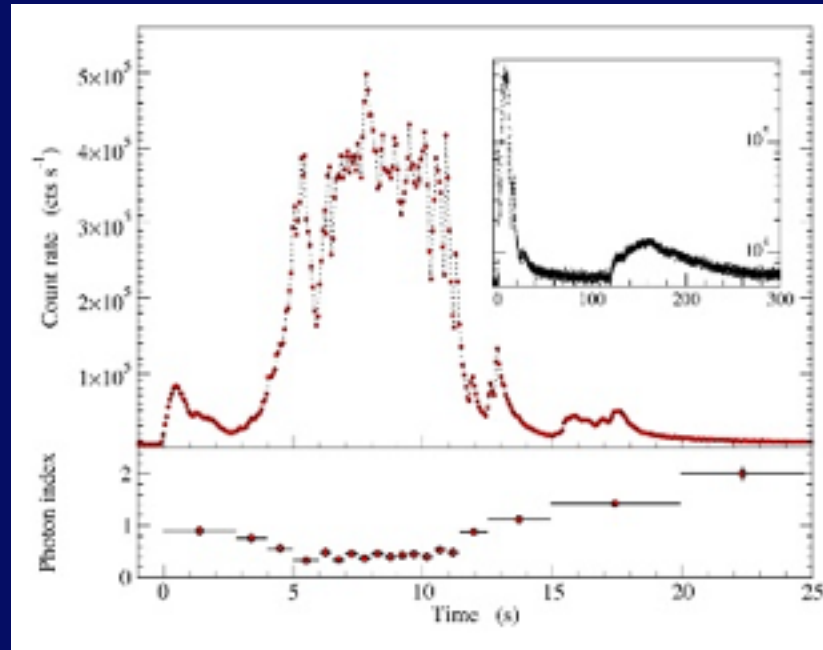
```
graph TD; A[machine learning] --> B[1) How can we detect variability?]; A --> C[2) How can we classify variable sources?]; A --> D[3) How can we characterize variability?];
```

1) How can we detect variability?

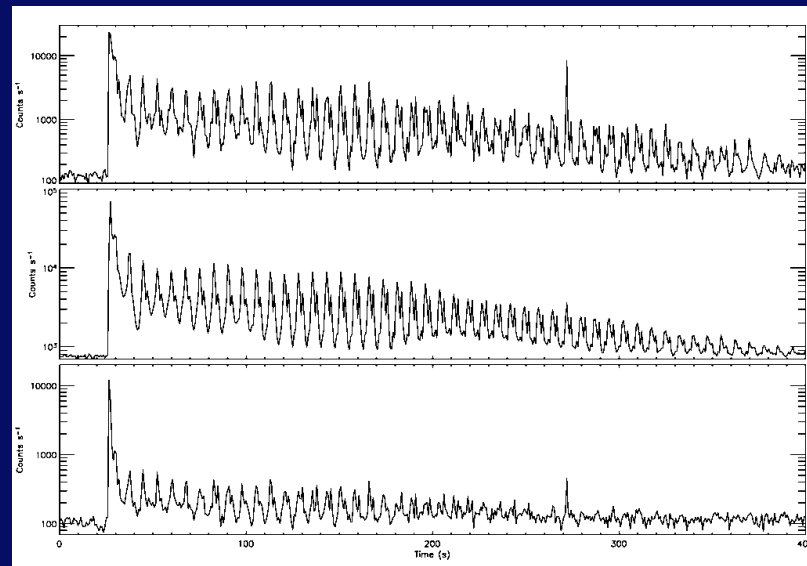
2) How can we classify variable sources?

3) How can we characterize variability?

# Transients

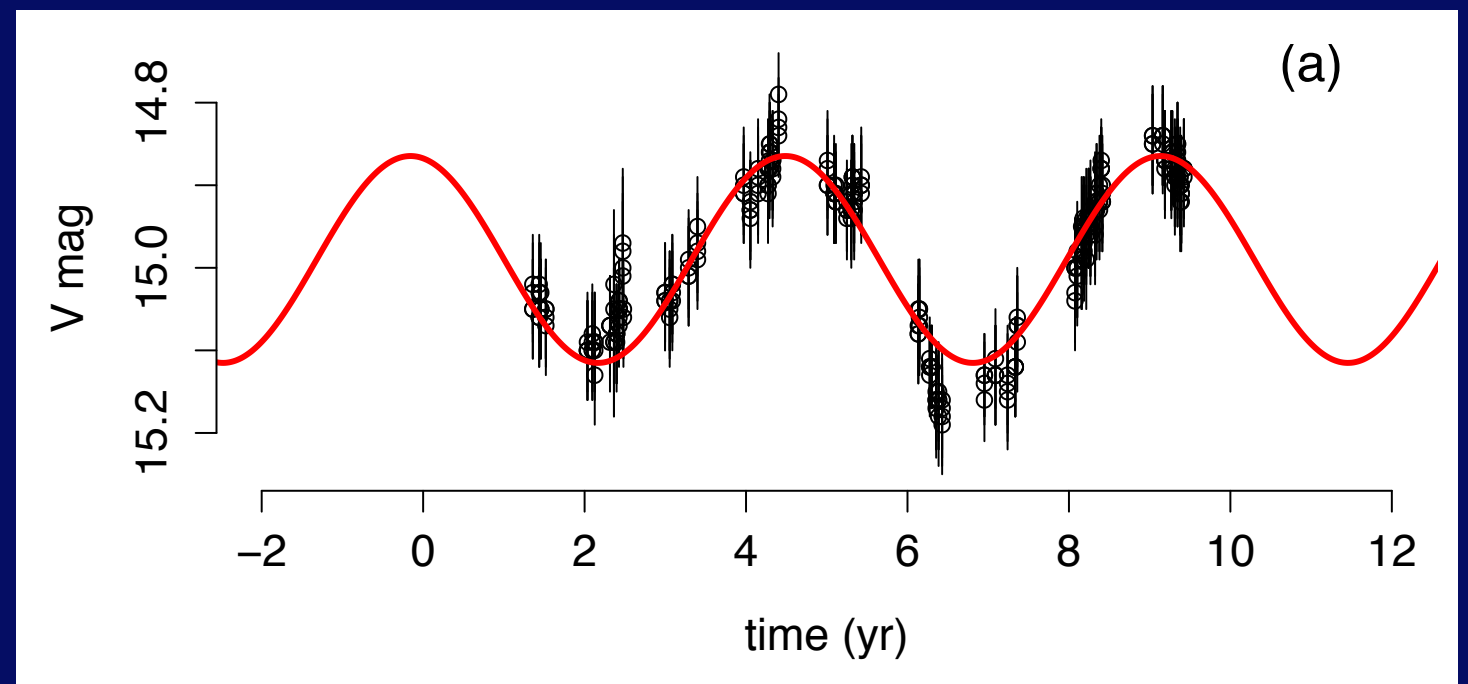


Maselli et al, 2013



Watts & Strohmayer, 2005

Vaughan et al, 2016

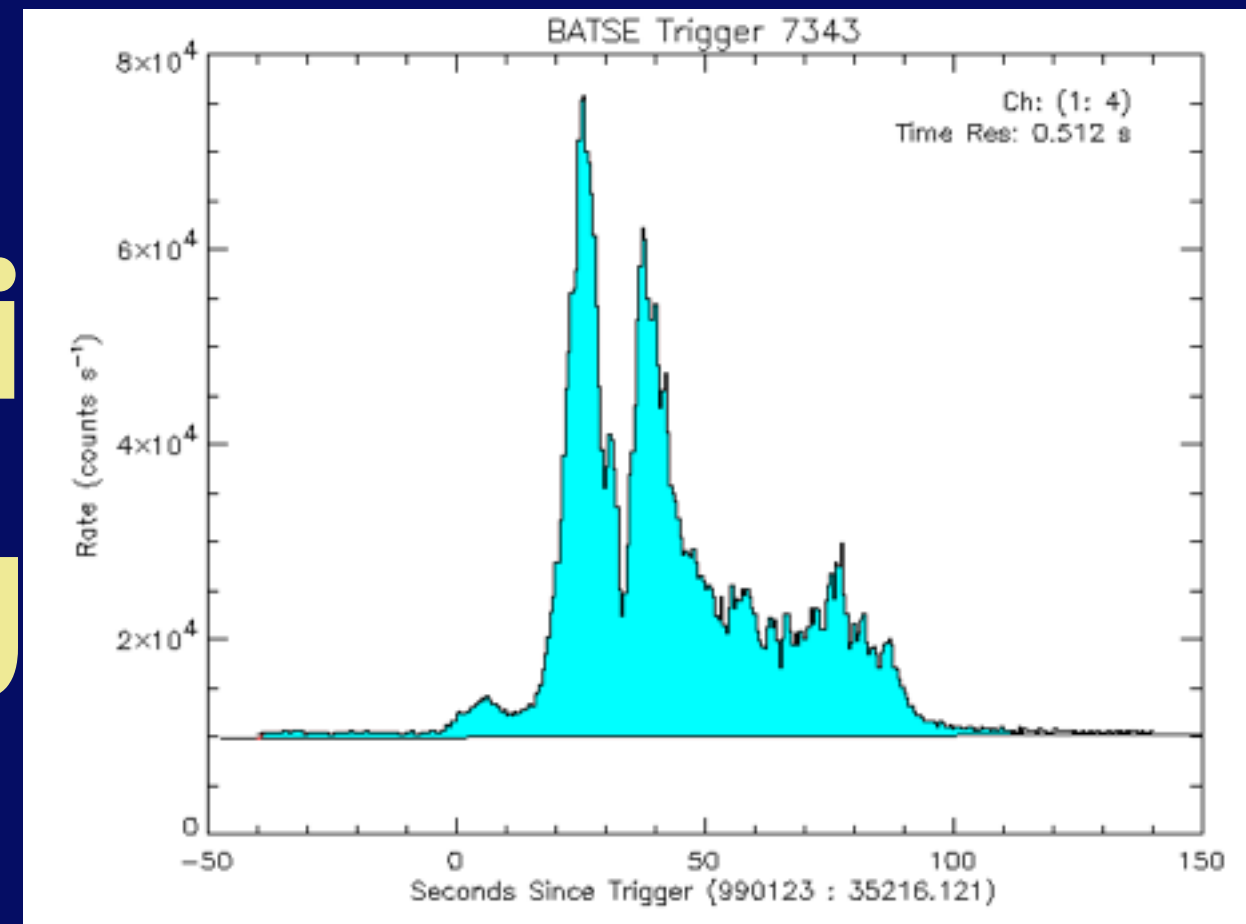
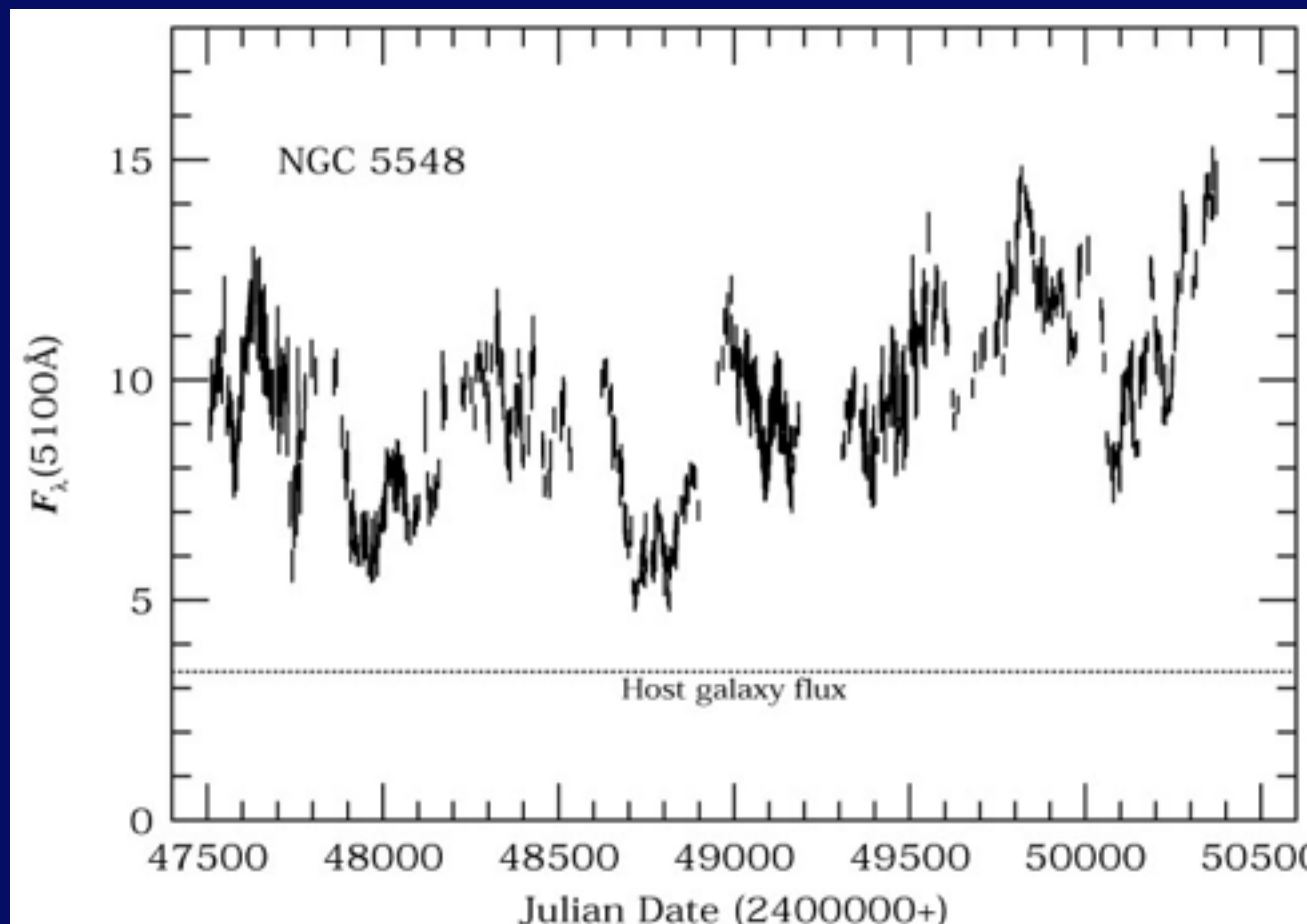


variable sources

# **Stationarity vs Non-Stationarity**

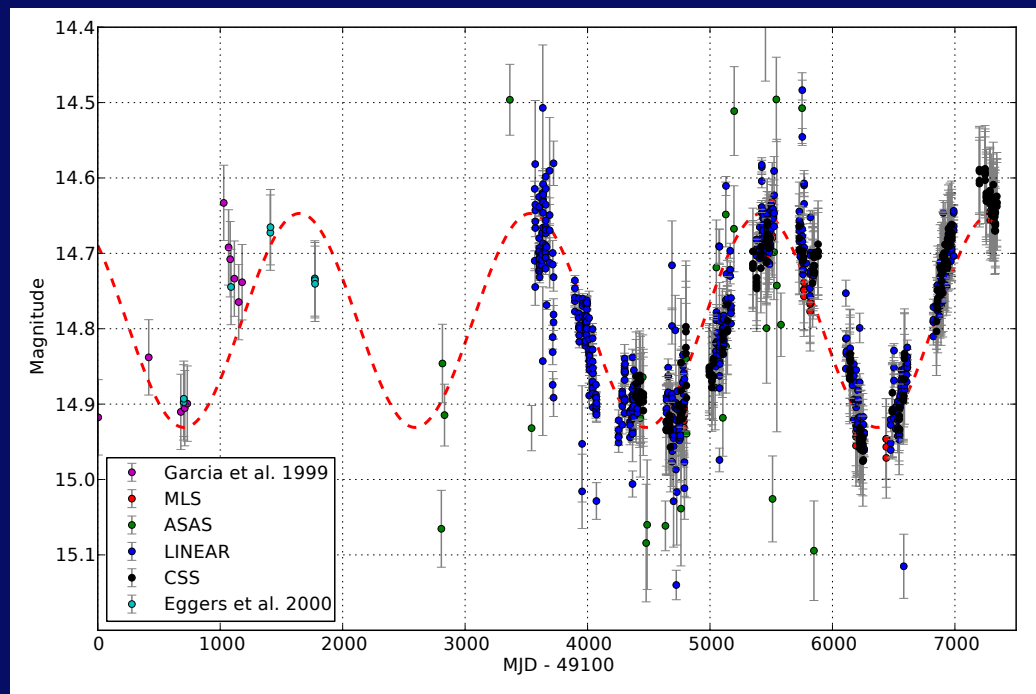
**"The joint probability distribution  
does not change over time."**

# Stationarity vs Non-Stationarity

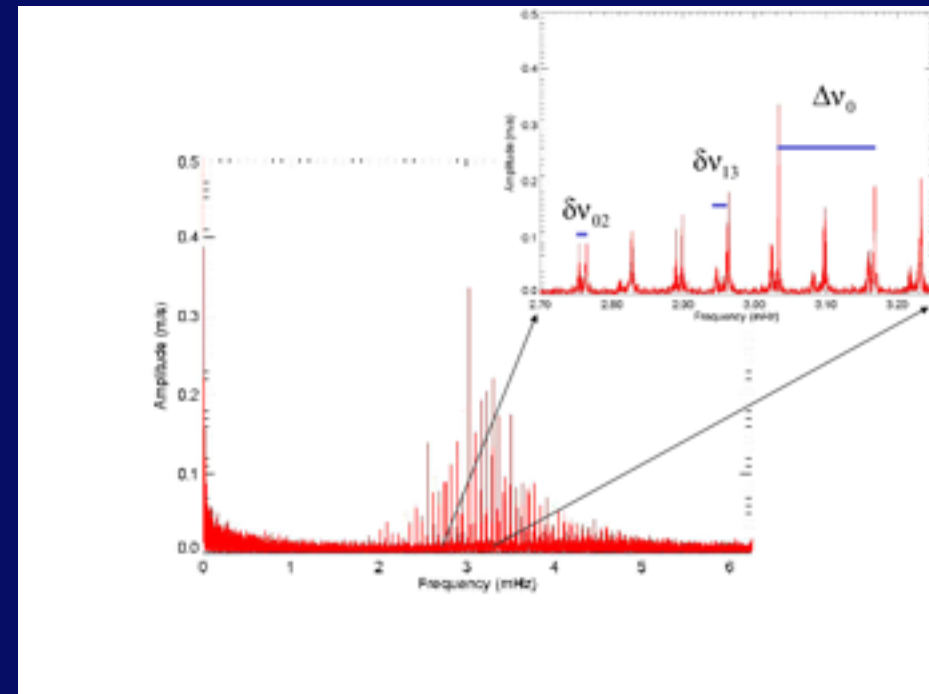


NGC 5548:  
Peterson et al (1999)

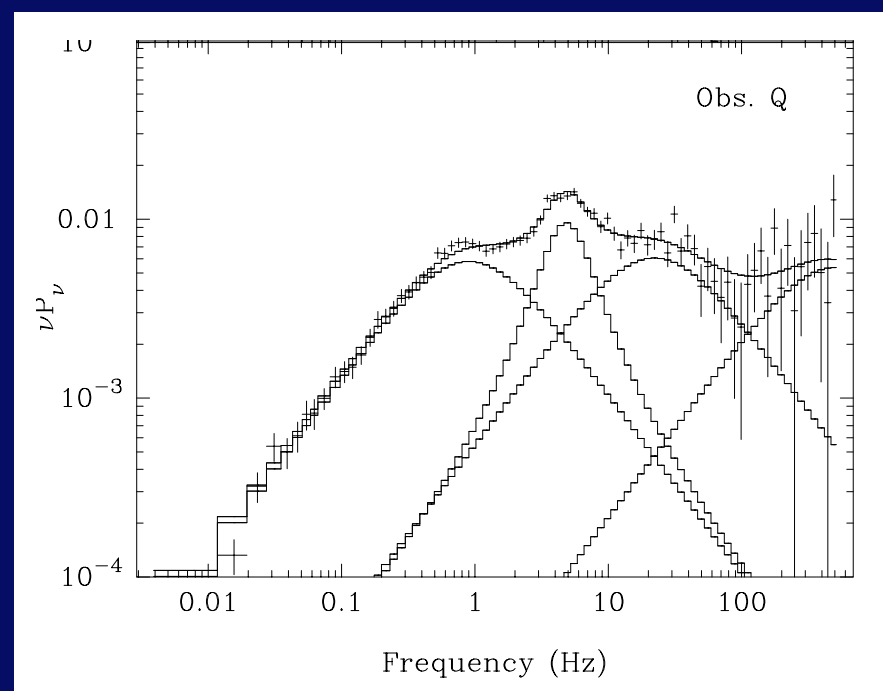
# Periodicity Detection



Graham et al, 2015



Kjeldsen et al, 2009



Belloni et al, 2002

# Periodicity Detection I

- 1) **Fourier Analysis**
- 2) **Lomb-Scargle Periodogram**
- 3)  **$Z^2$  statistic, Rayleigh statistic, ...**
- 4) **Gregory & Loredó 1992**
- 5) **Wavelets**
- 6) **...**



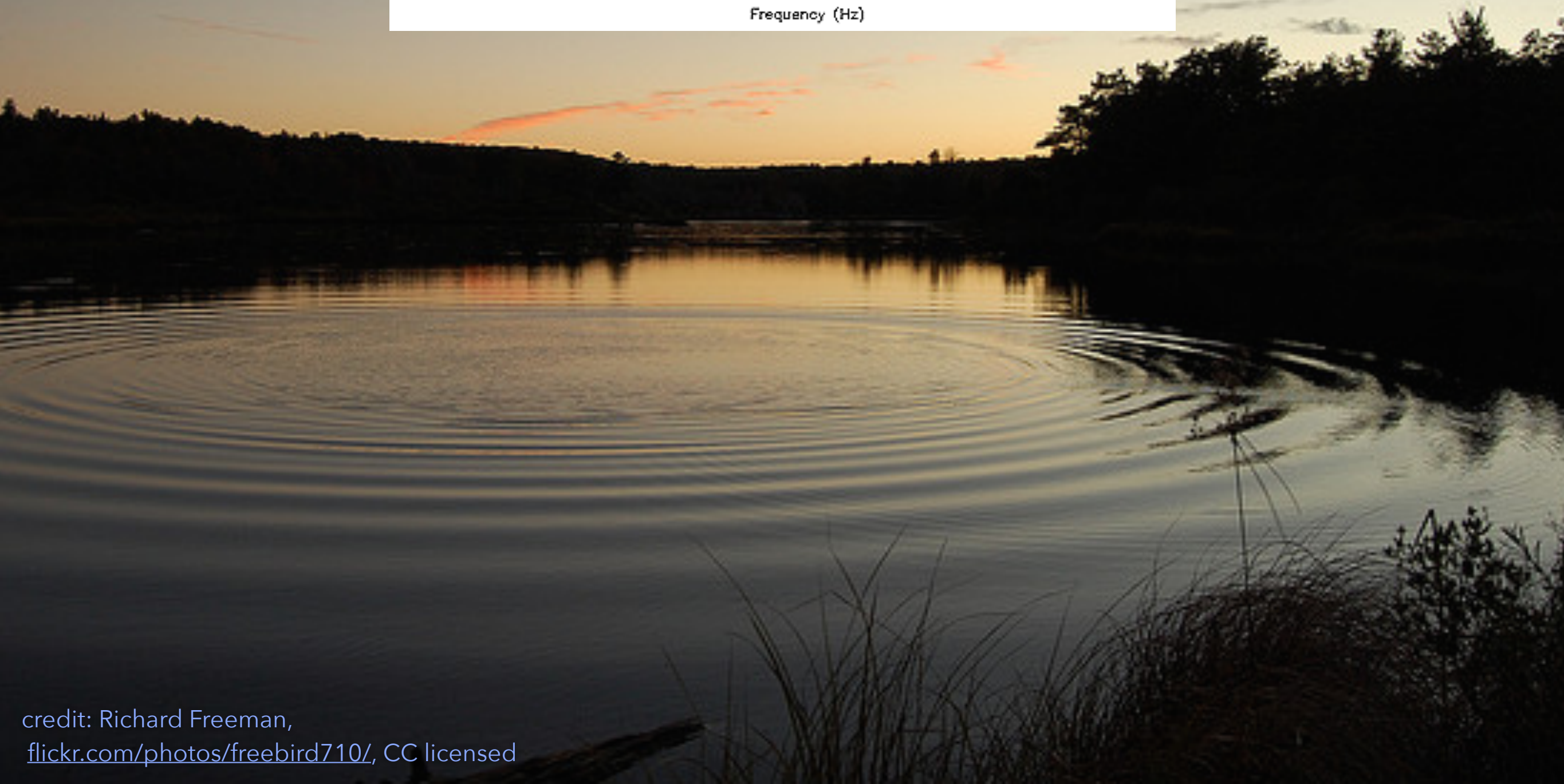
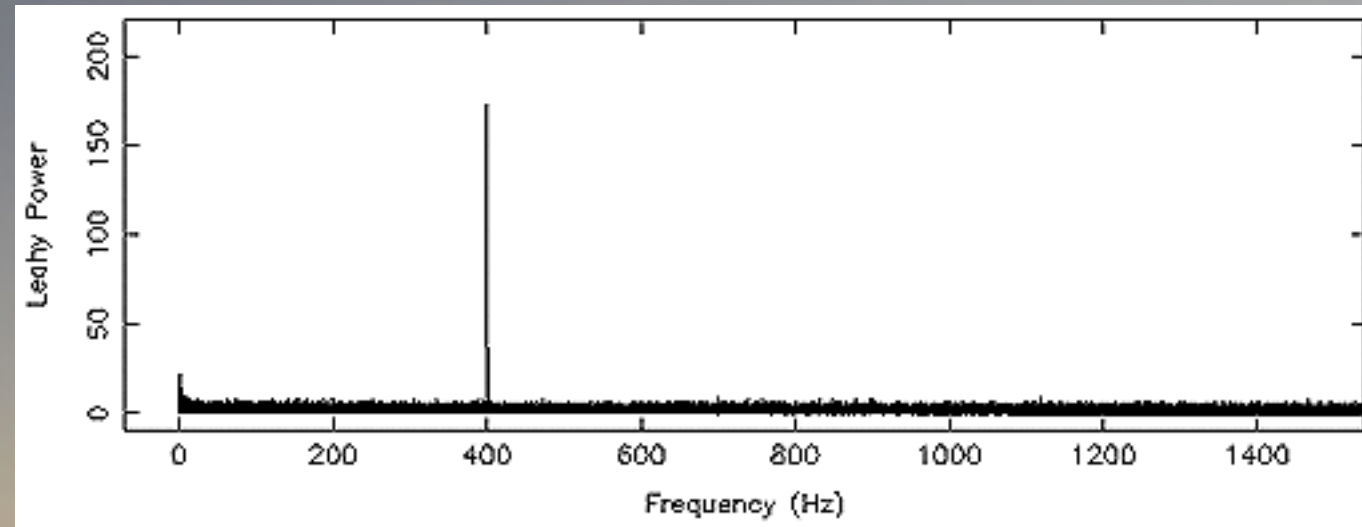
**Almost all algorithms used for  
periodicity detection assume  
stationary processes and/or white  
noise**





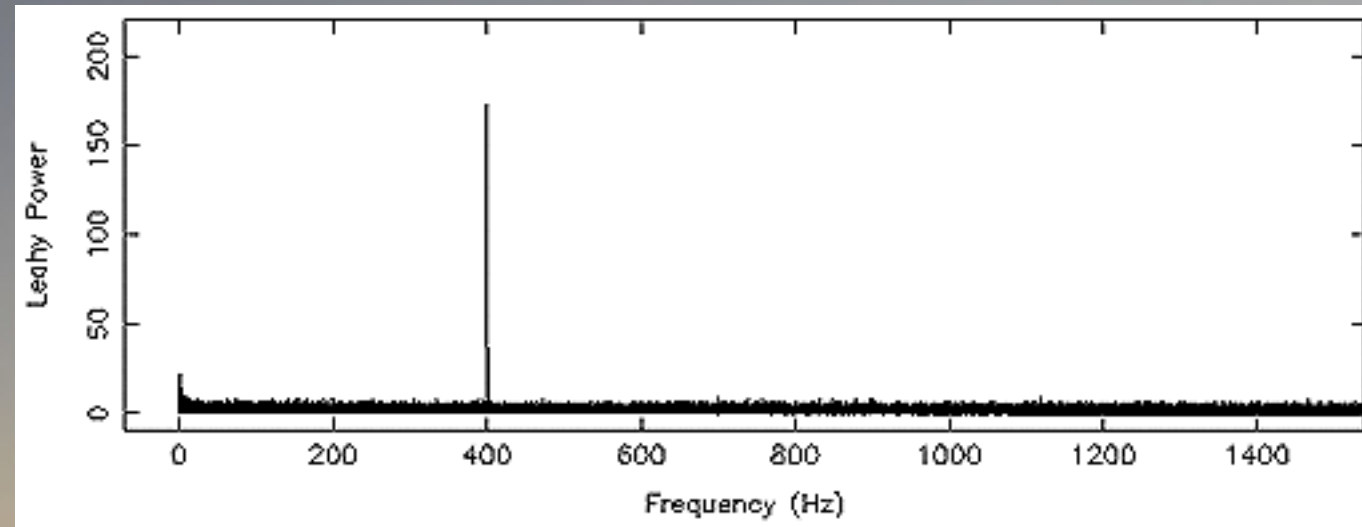
credit: Richard Freeman,  
[flickr.com/photos/freebird710/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/freebird710/), CC licensed

## Wijnands + van der Klis 1998





Wijnands + van der Klis 1998



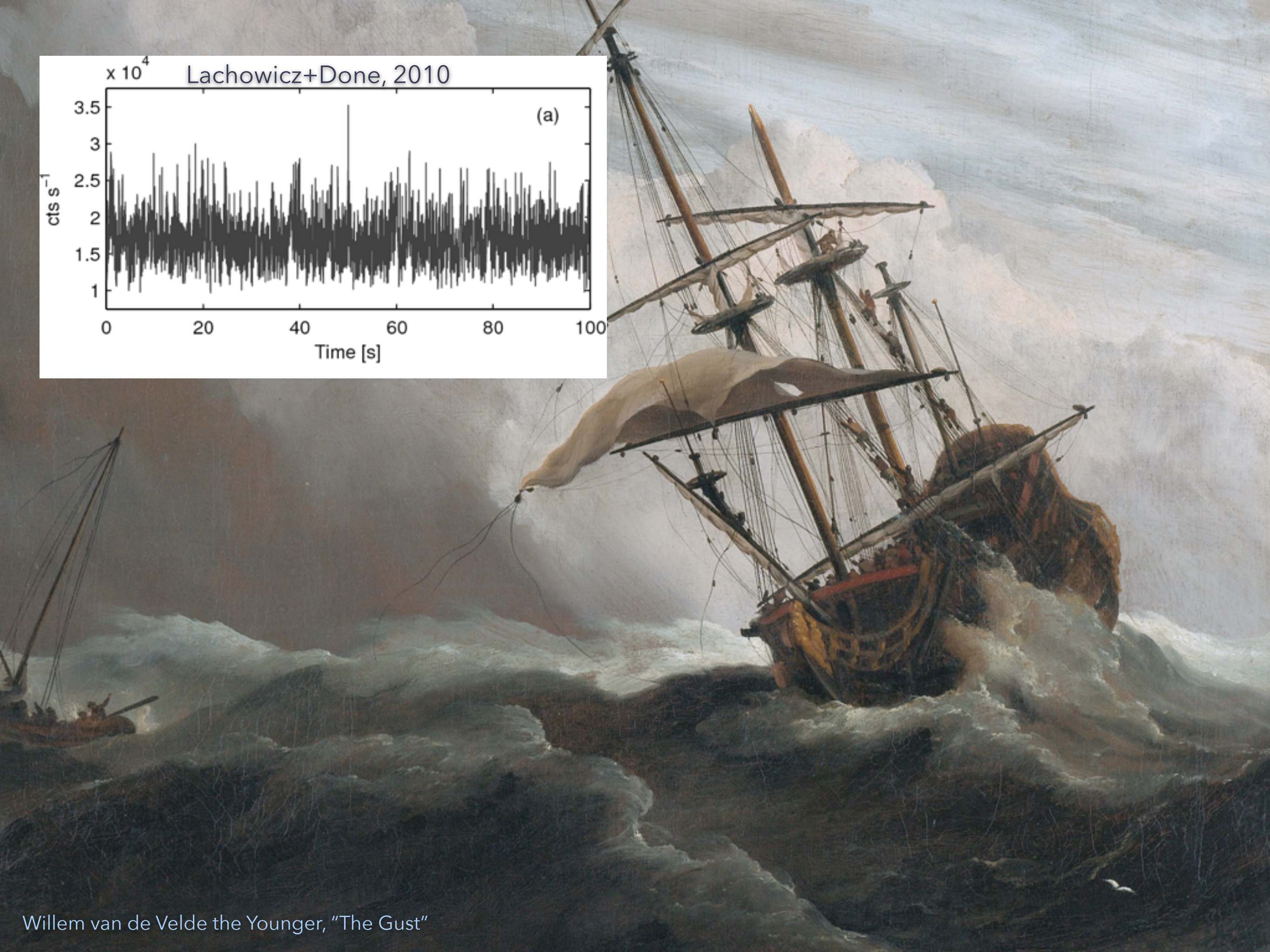
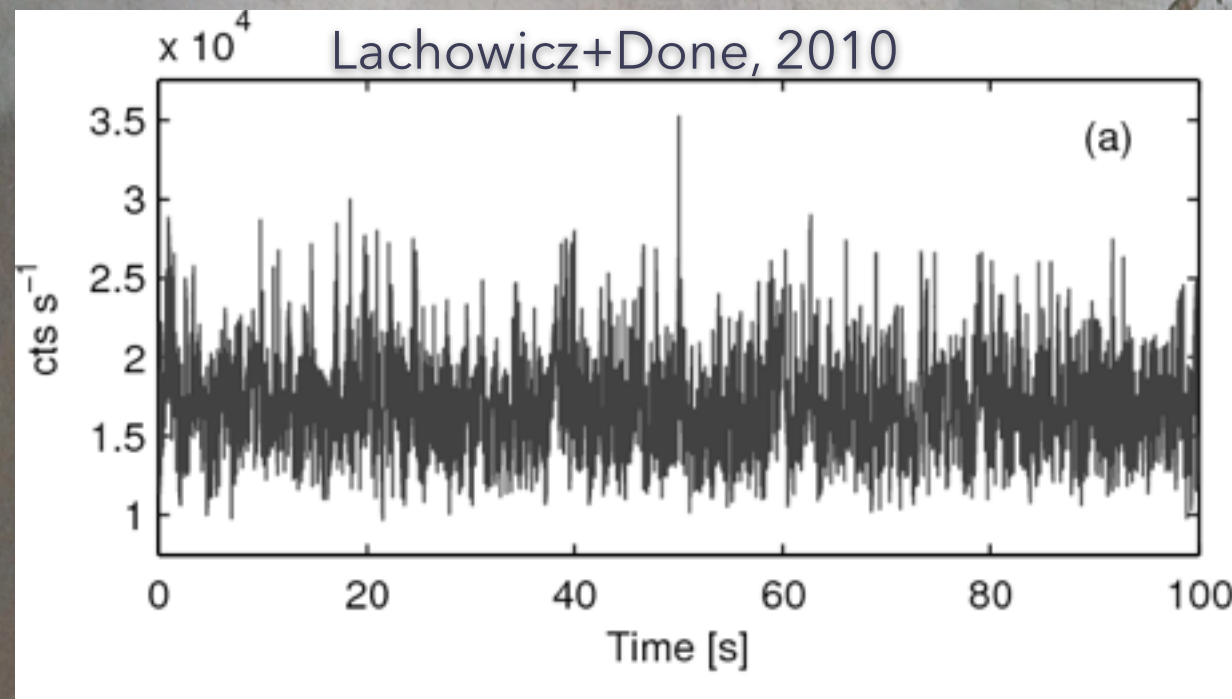
**constant background**





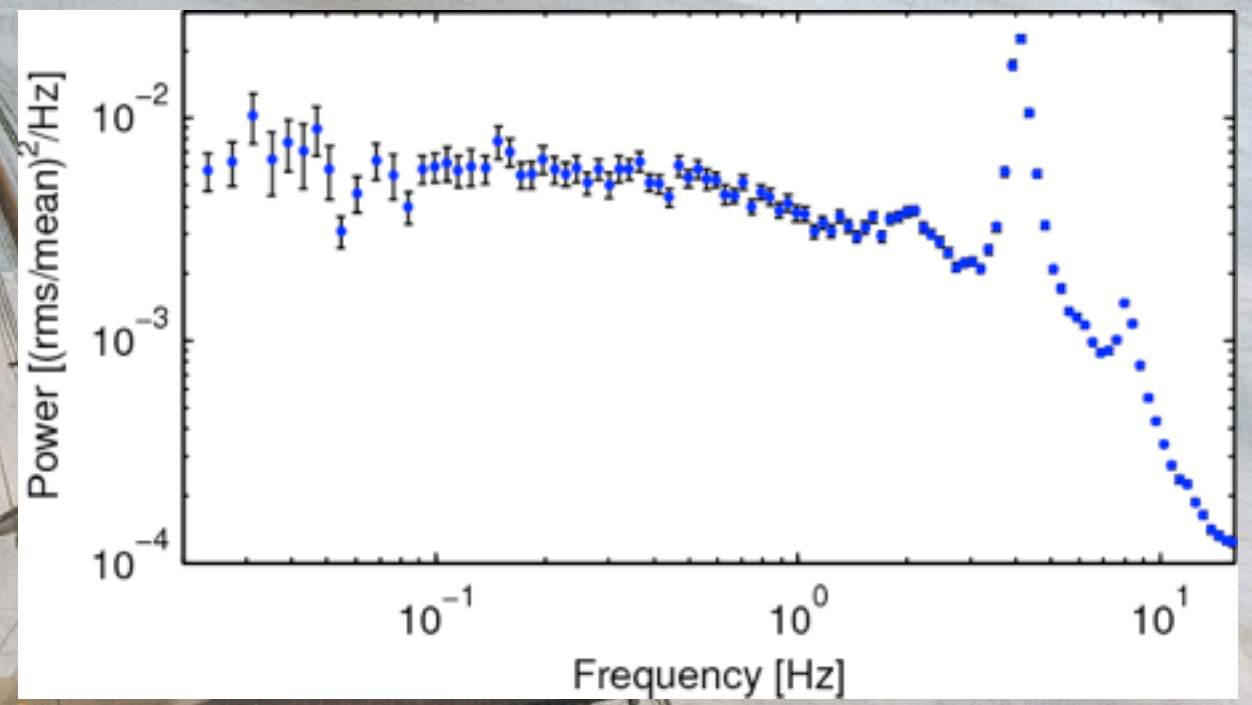
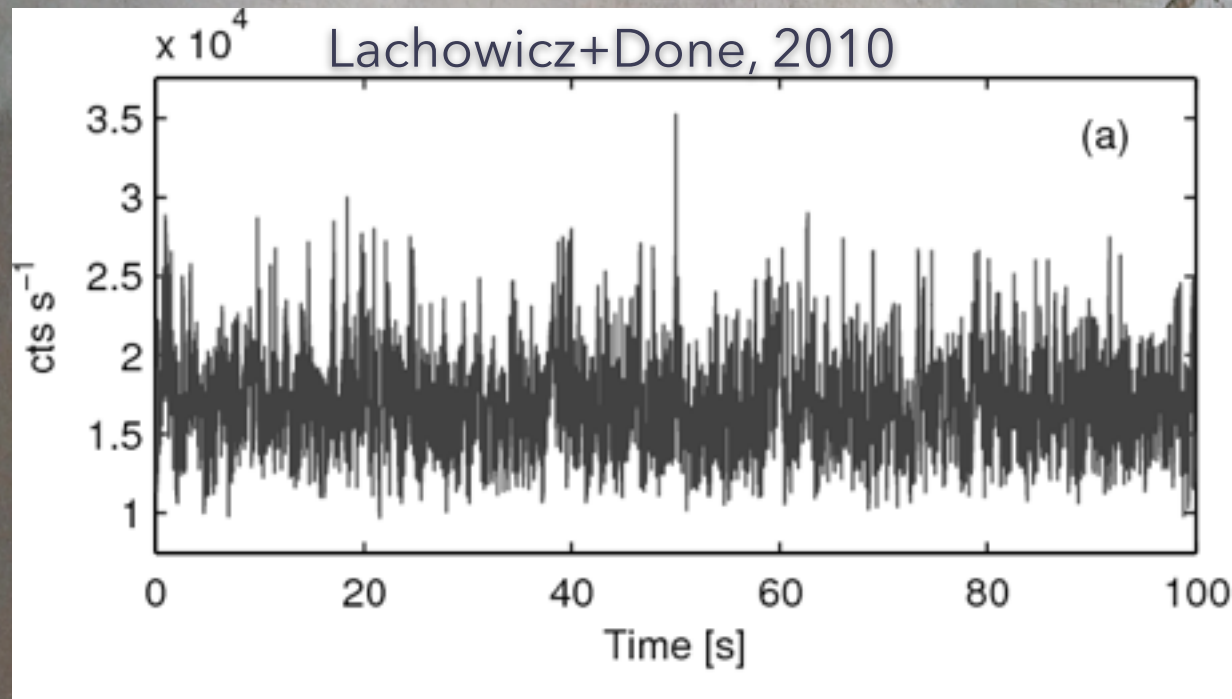
Willem van de Velde the Younger, "The Gust"





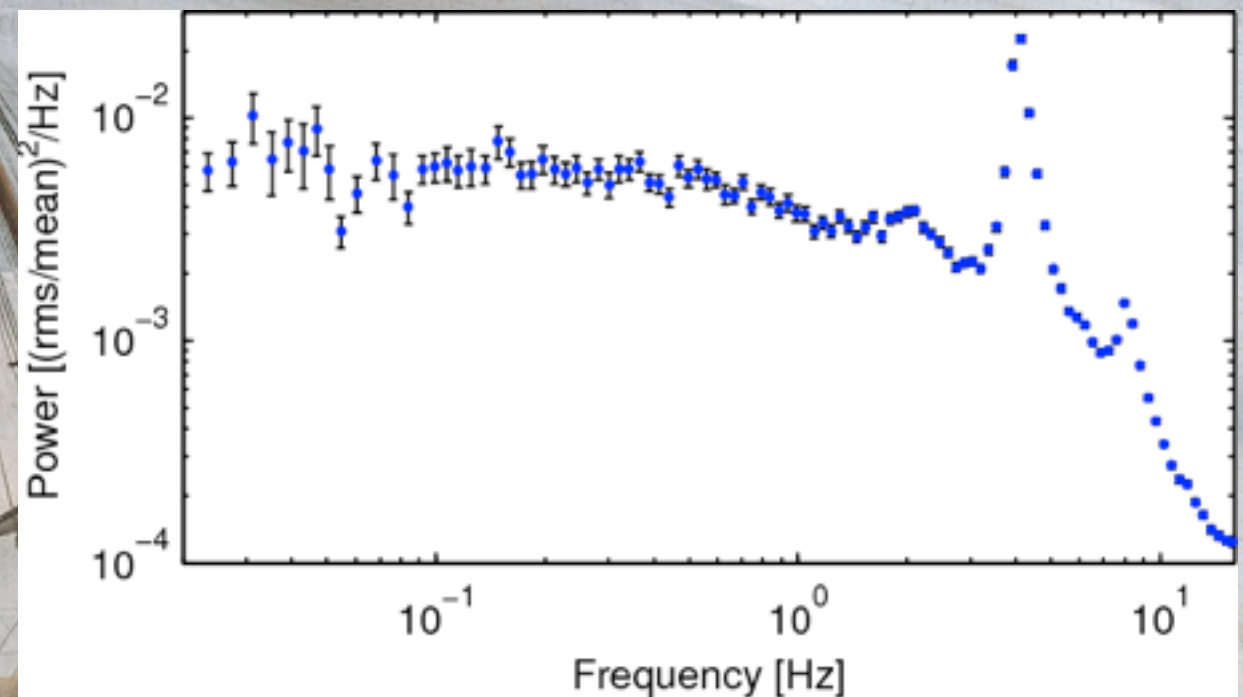
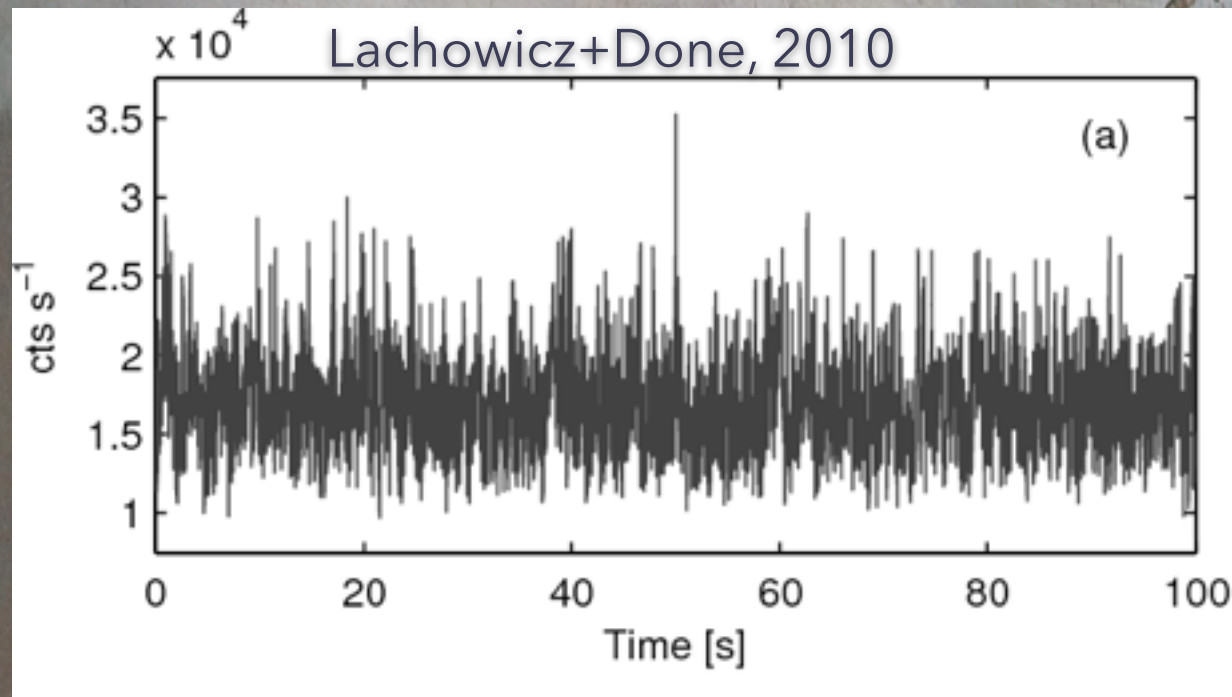
Willem van de Velde the Younger, "The Gust"





Willem van de Velde the Younger, "The Gust"





**variable background!**



**The human brain is awesome at  
pattern recognition**



**\*see: pareidolia**

**Corollary: the human brain is  
prone to overfitting\* + see  
spurious patterns**

**(awesome for survival, less  
awesome for science)**

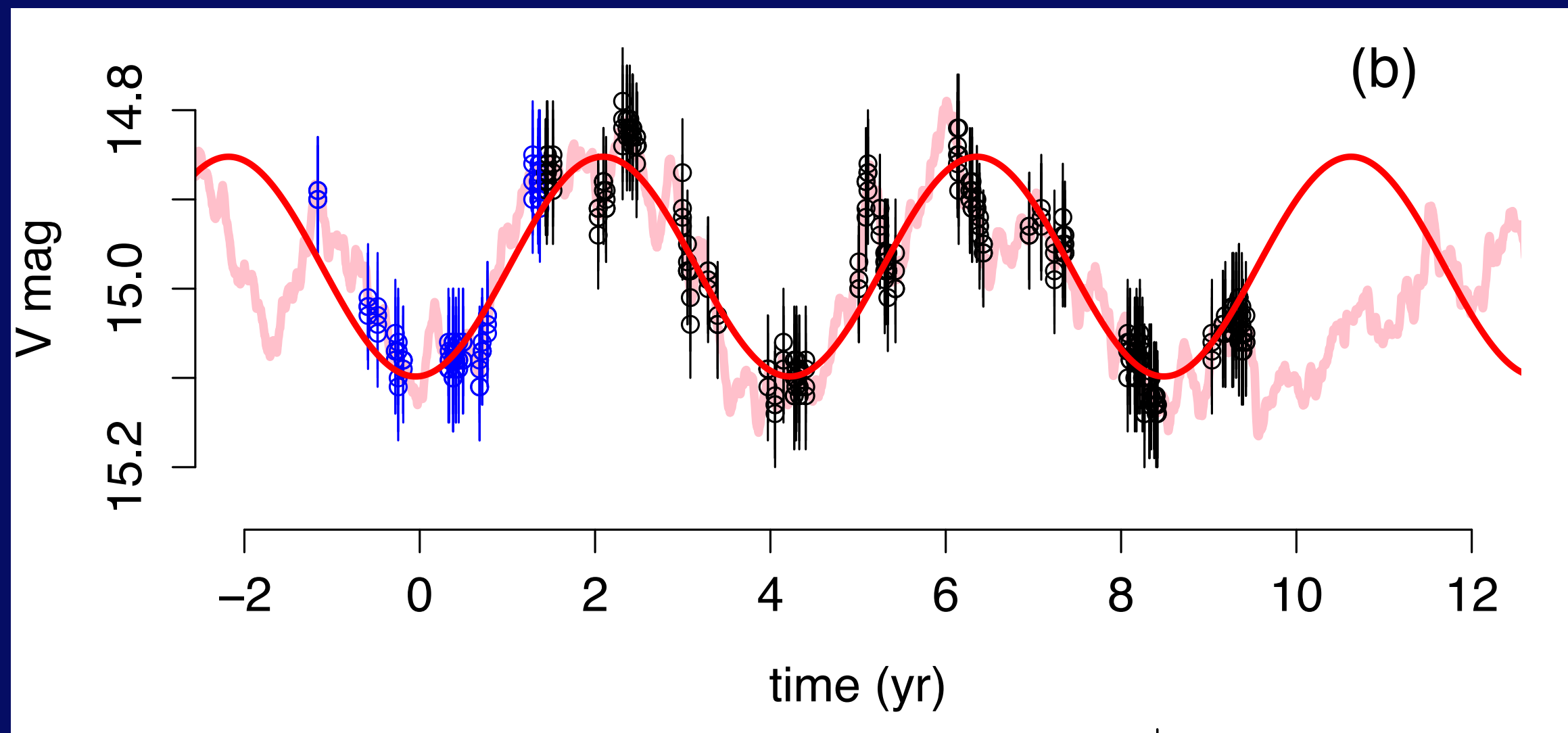
**\*see: pareidolia**



**(awesome for survival, less  
awesome for science)**

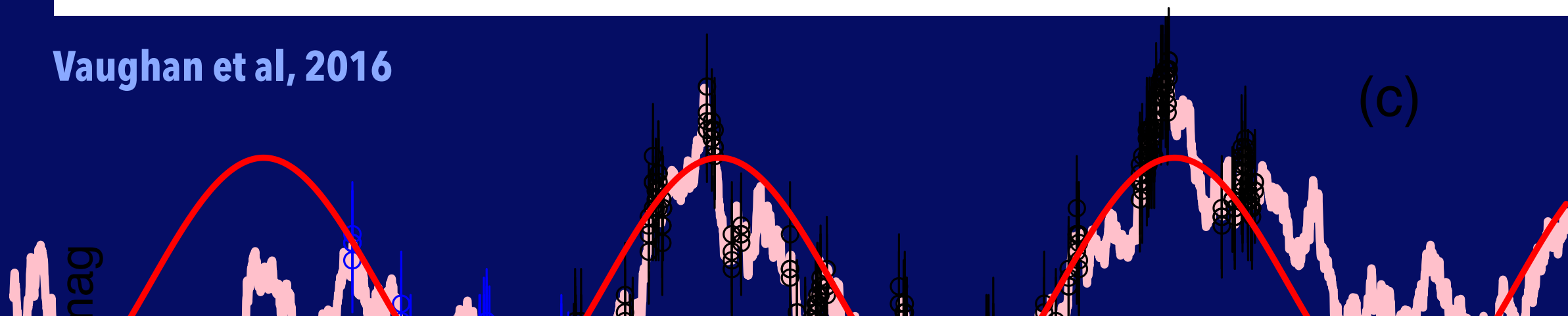


time (yr)



Vaughan et al, 2016

(c)



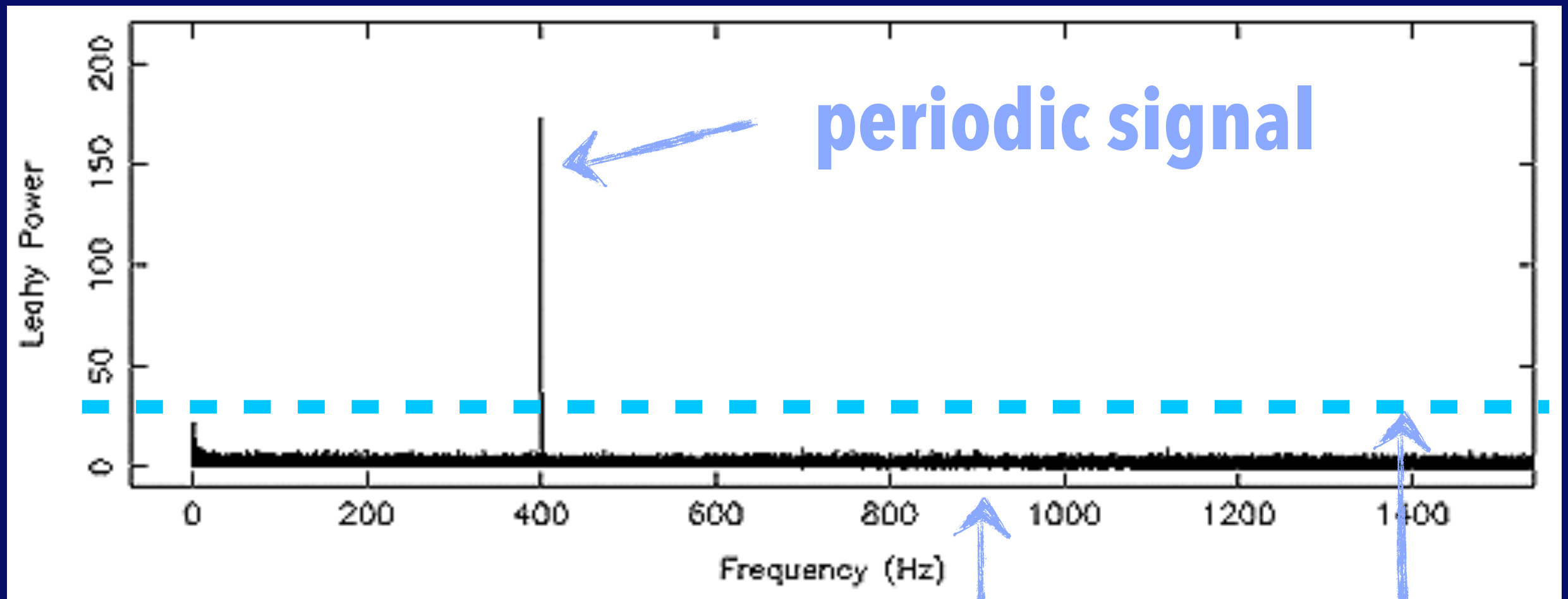
# Hypothesis Testing

# Hypothesis Testing

**“What is the probability that I observe a frequency with power  $P_{\text{obs}}$  or higher, if my data is pure photon noise?”**



# Hypothesis Testing



SAX J1808.4-3658:

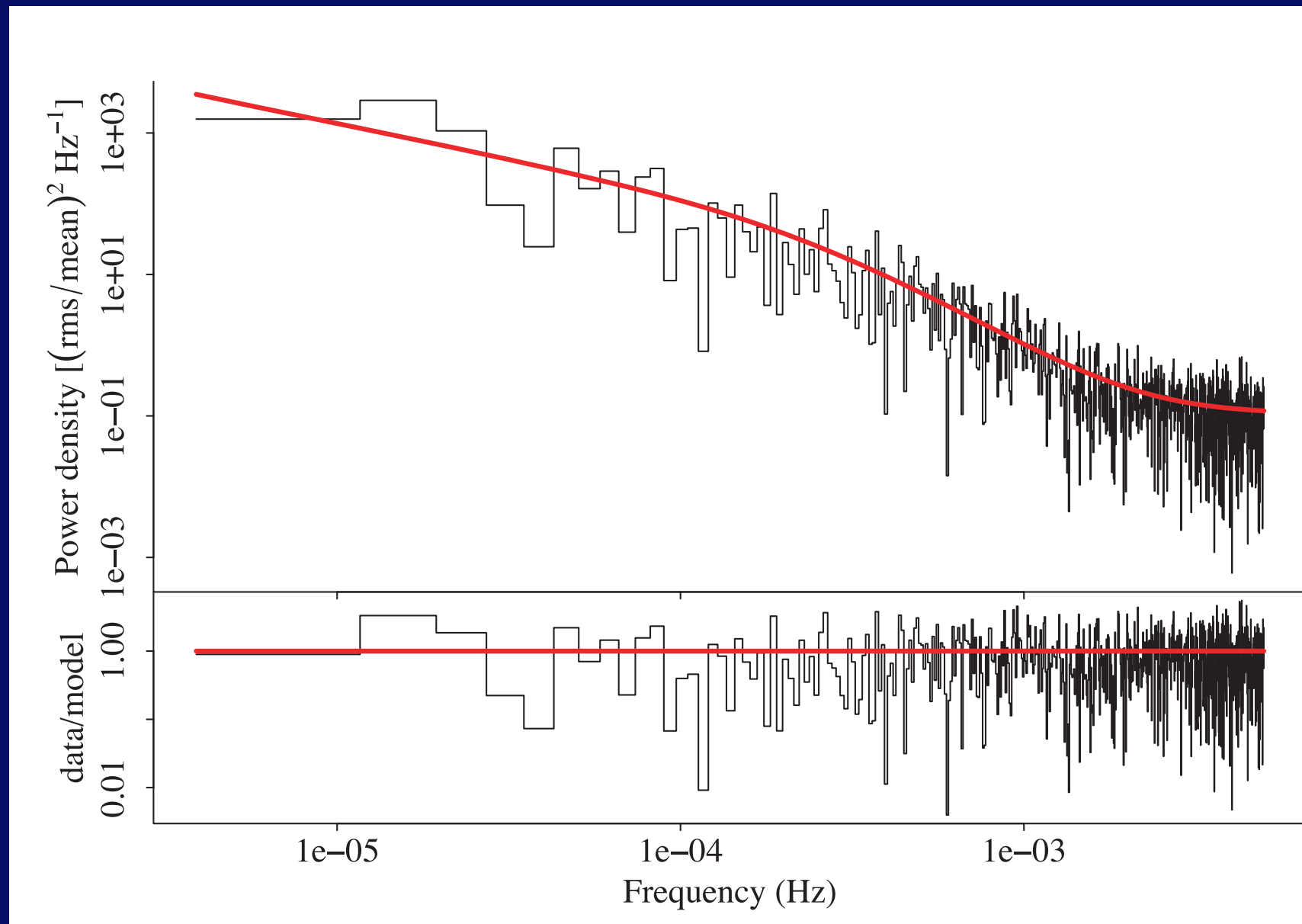
Wijnands + van der Klis (1998)

Noise

Detection  
threshold

**\*unevenly sampled data: Lomb-Scargle periodogram**

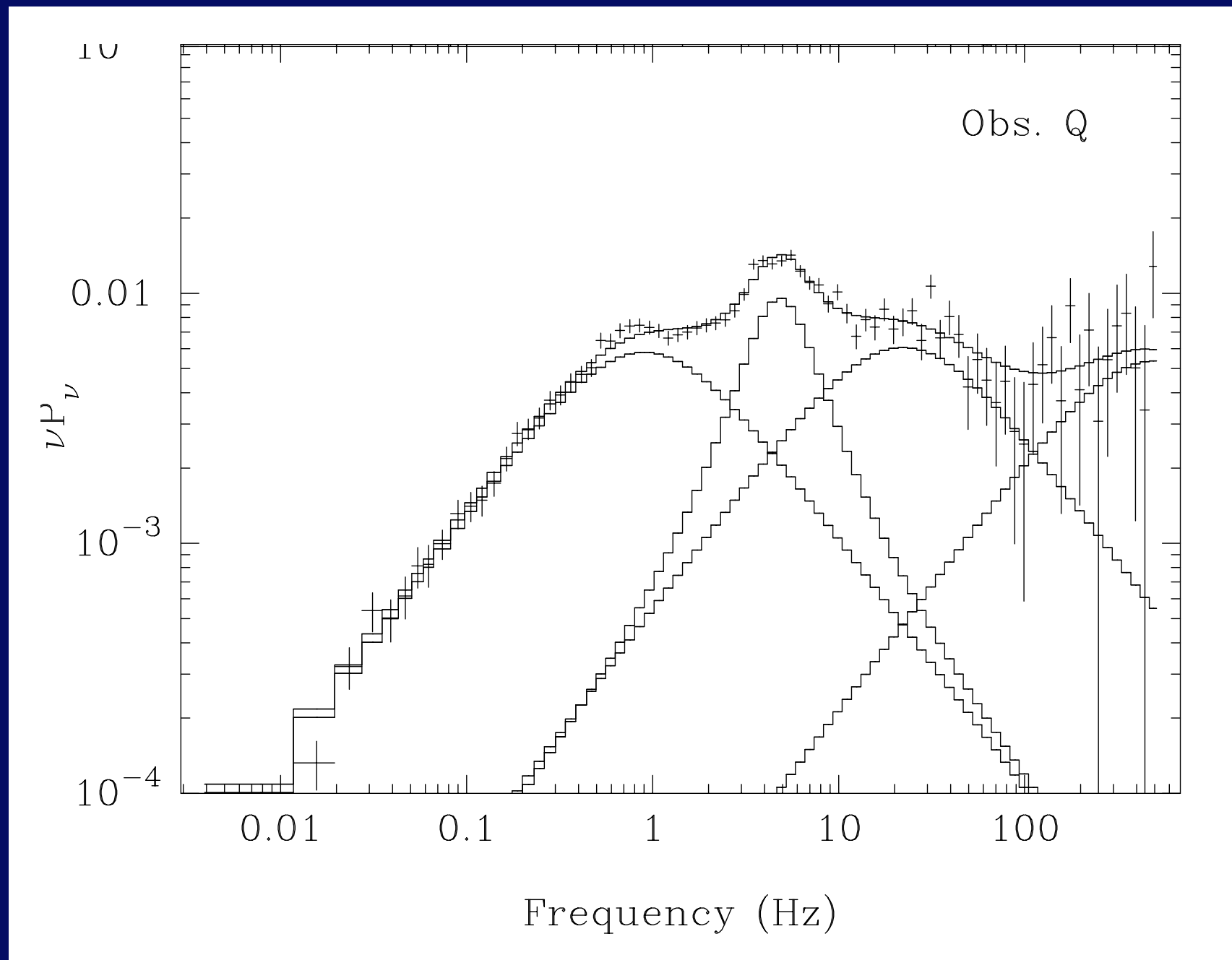
# Hypothesis Testing II



Vaughan 2010

**propagate model uncertainty!**

# Fit a Model to the Power Spectrum



Belloni et al, 2002



**... but all my data is unevenly  
sampled!**

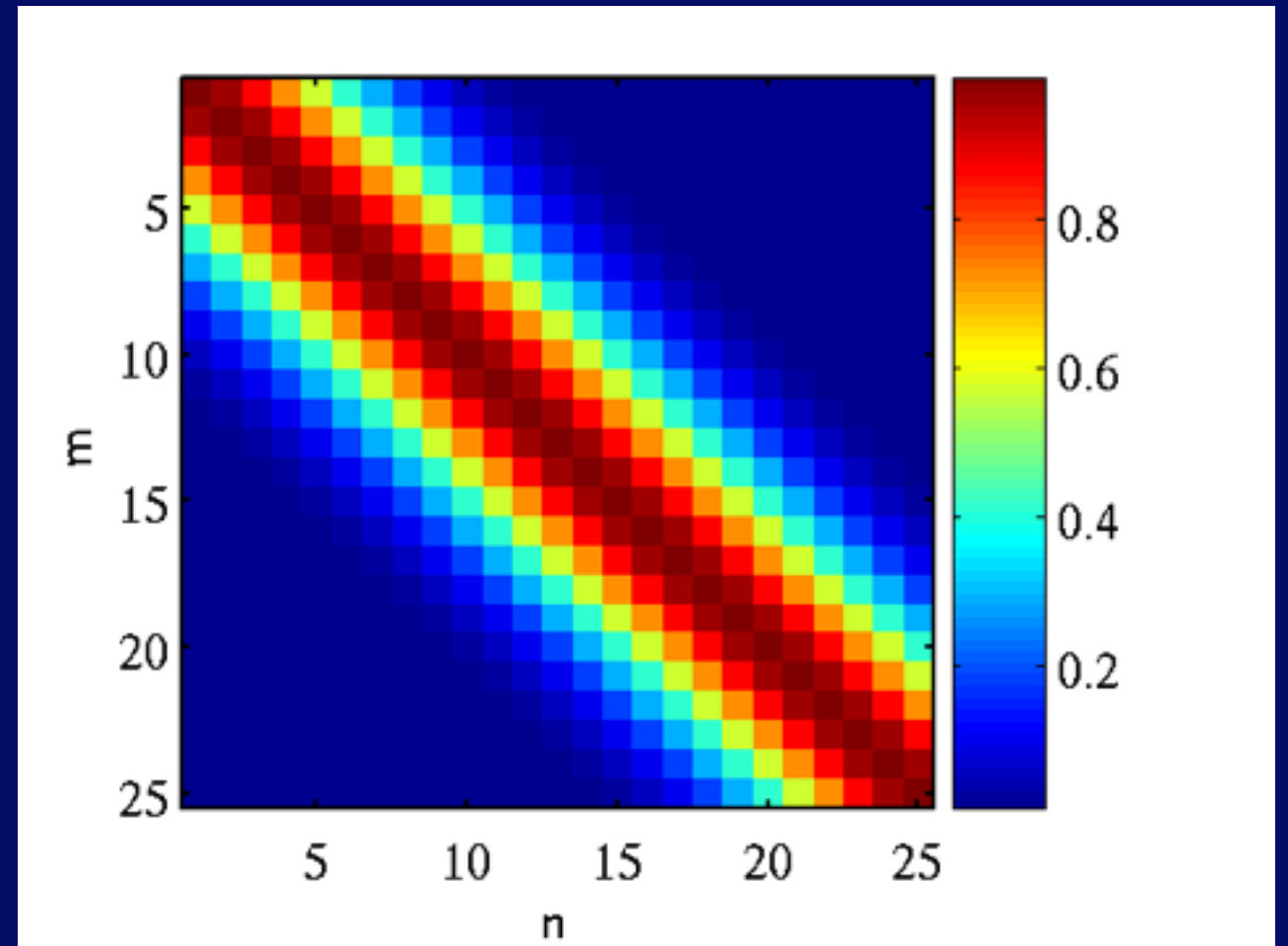
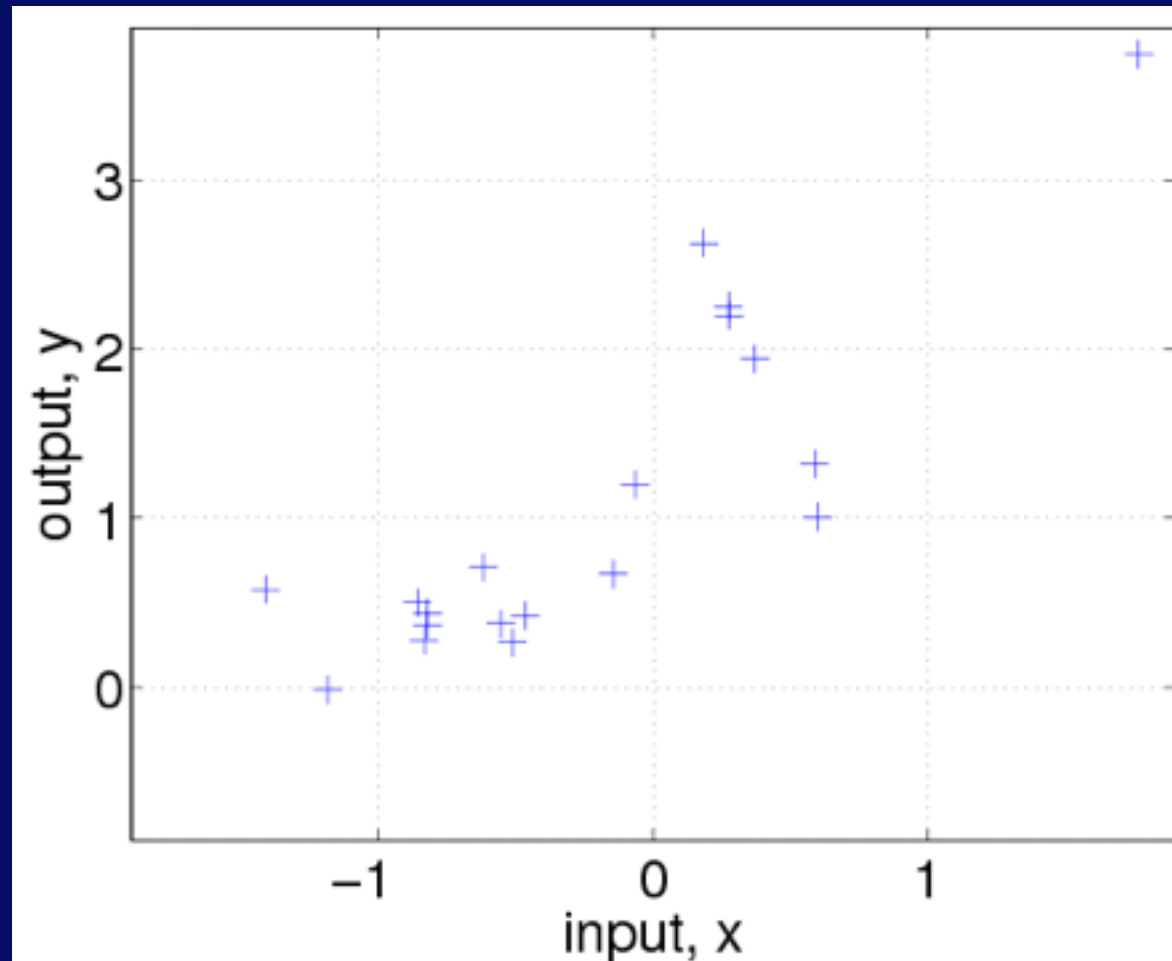
# Fit a Model to the Covariance

A diagram illustrating the components of a Gaussian process model. The central equation is  $y \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{f}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t), K_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}(t))$ . Above the equation, the word "Gaussian" has a downward arrow pointing to the  $\mathcal{N}$  symbol, and the word "Covariance" has a downward arrow pointing to the  $K_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}(t)$  term. Below the equation, the word "Mean" has an upward arrow pointing to the  $\mathbf{f}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t)$  term.

$$y \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{f}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t), K_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}(t))$$

Image Credit: Dan Foreman-Mackey

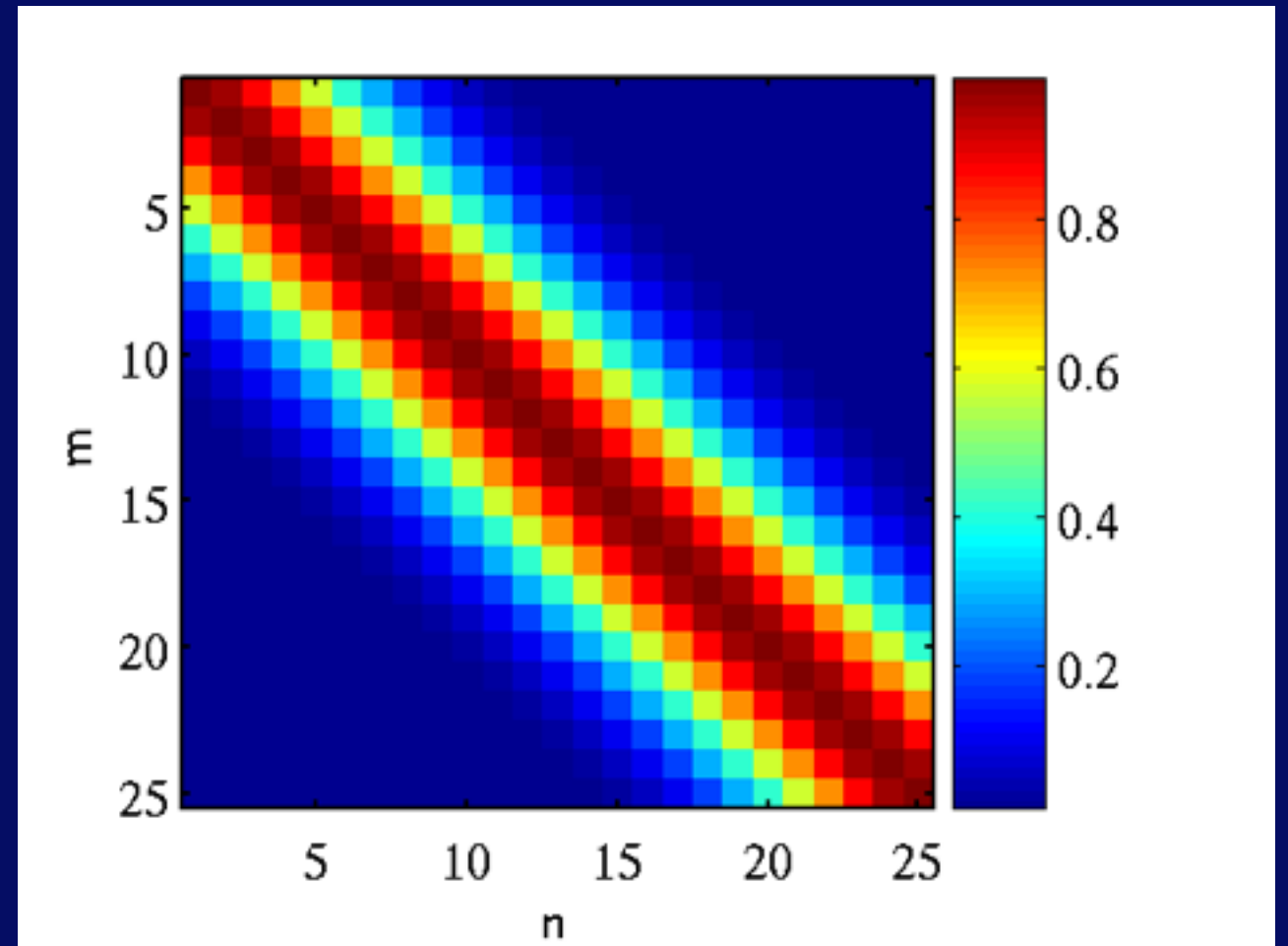
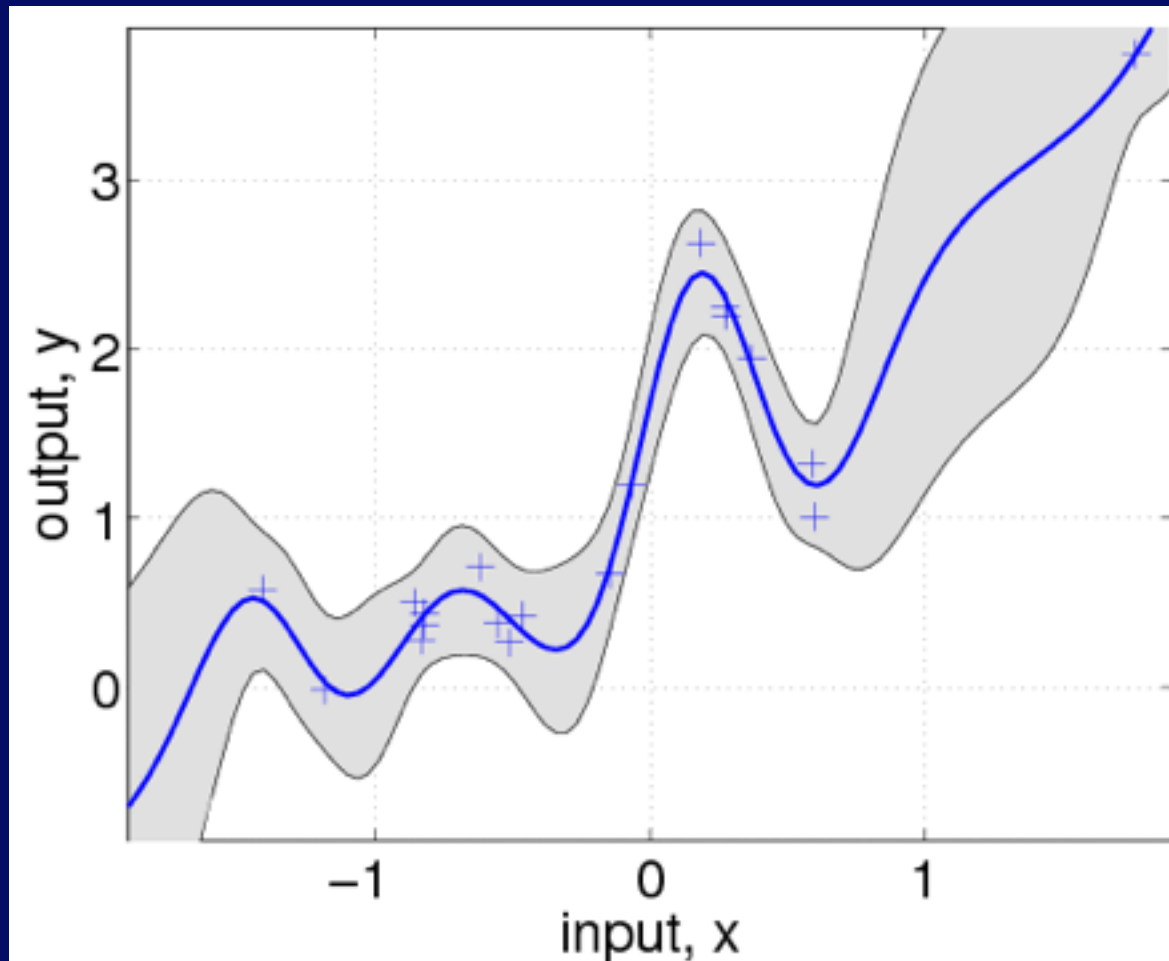
# Fit a Model to the Covariance



Rasmussen + Williams

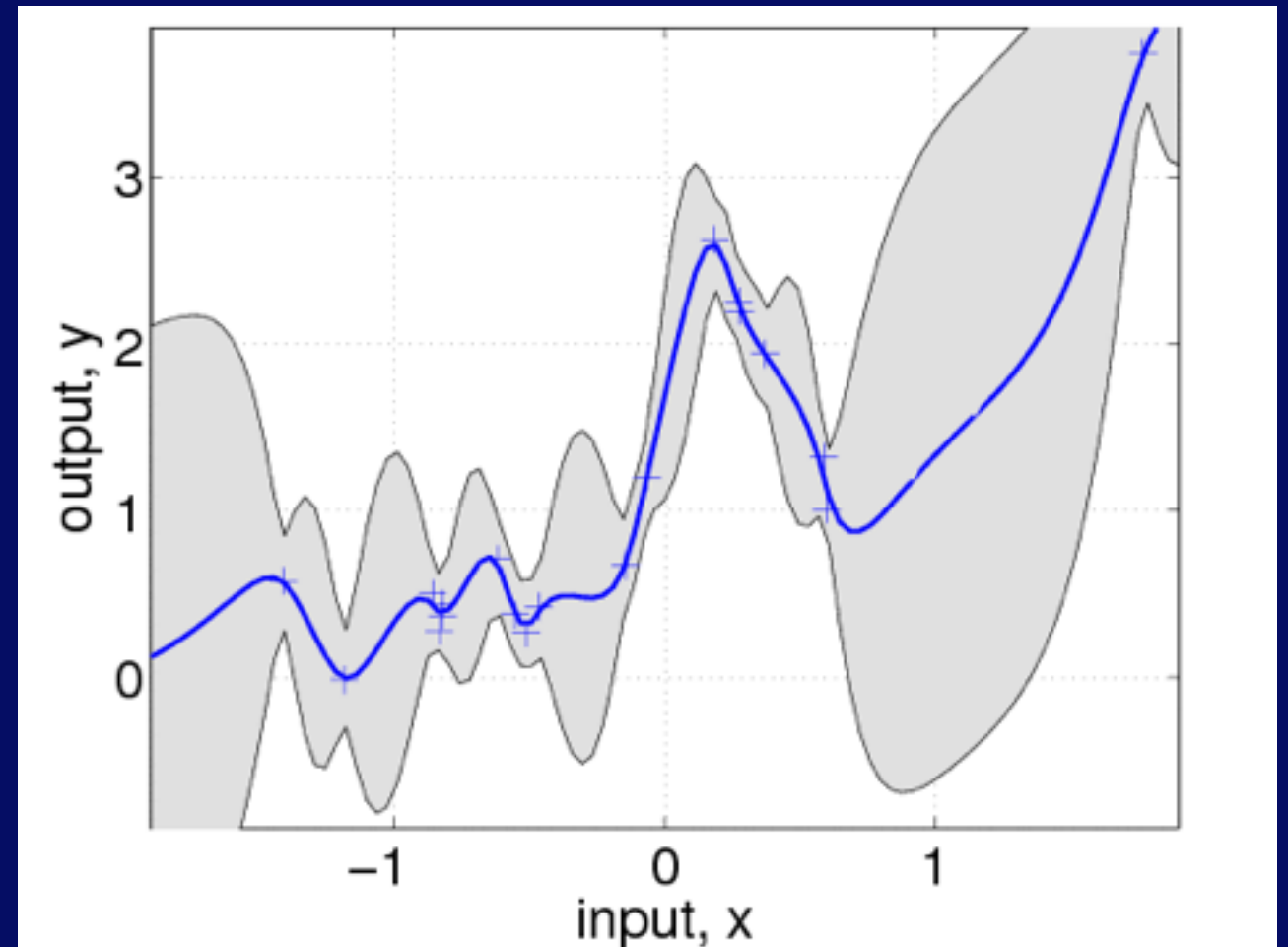
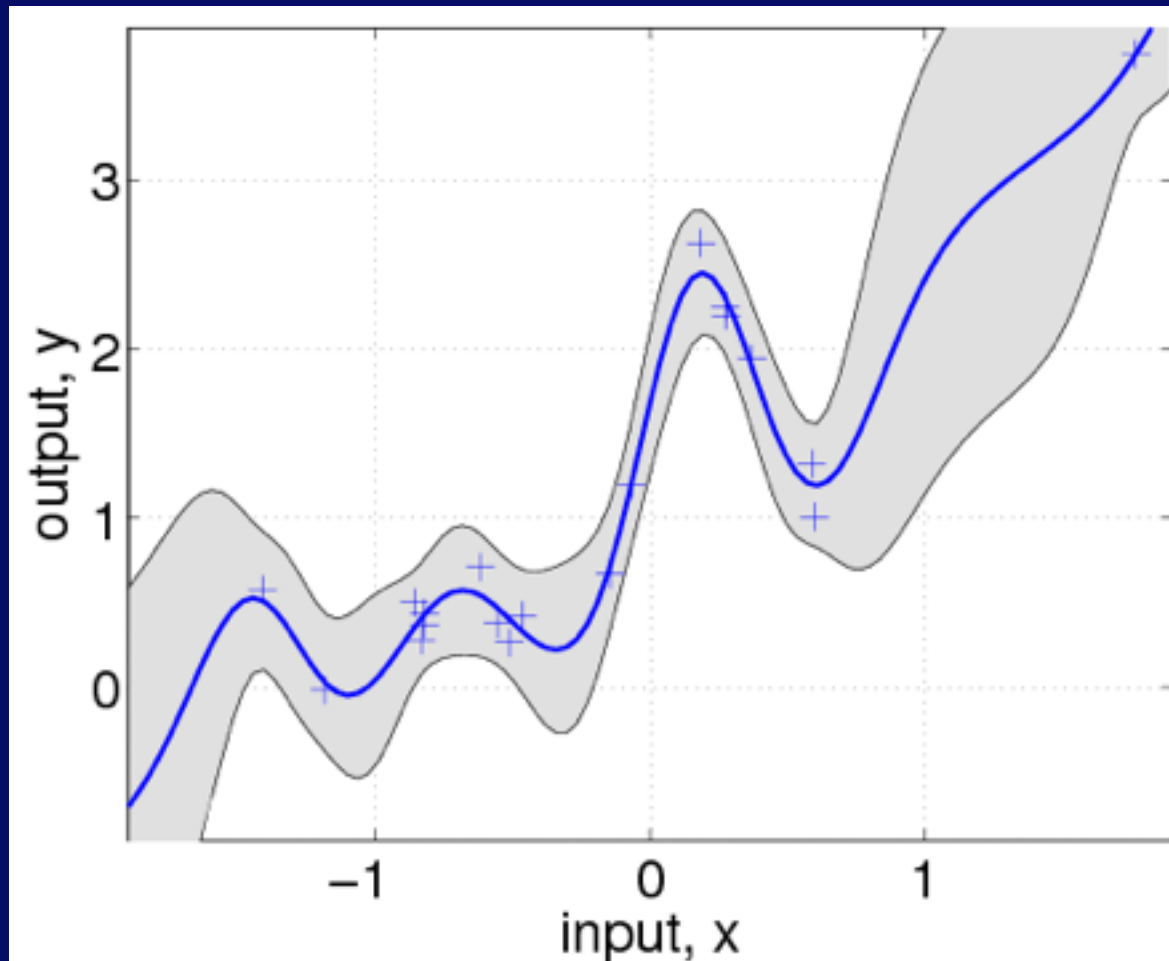


# Fit a Model to the Covariance



Rasmussen + Williams

# Fit a Model to the Covariance



Rasmussen + Williams

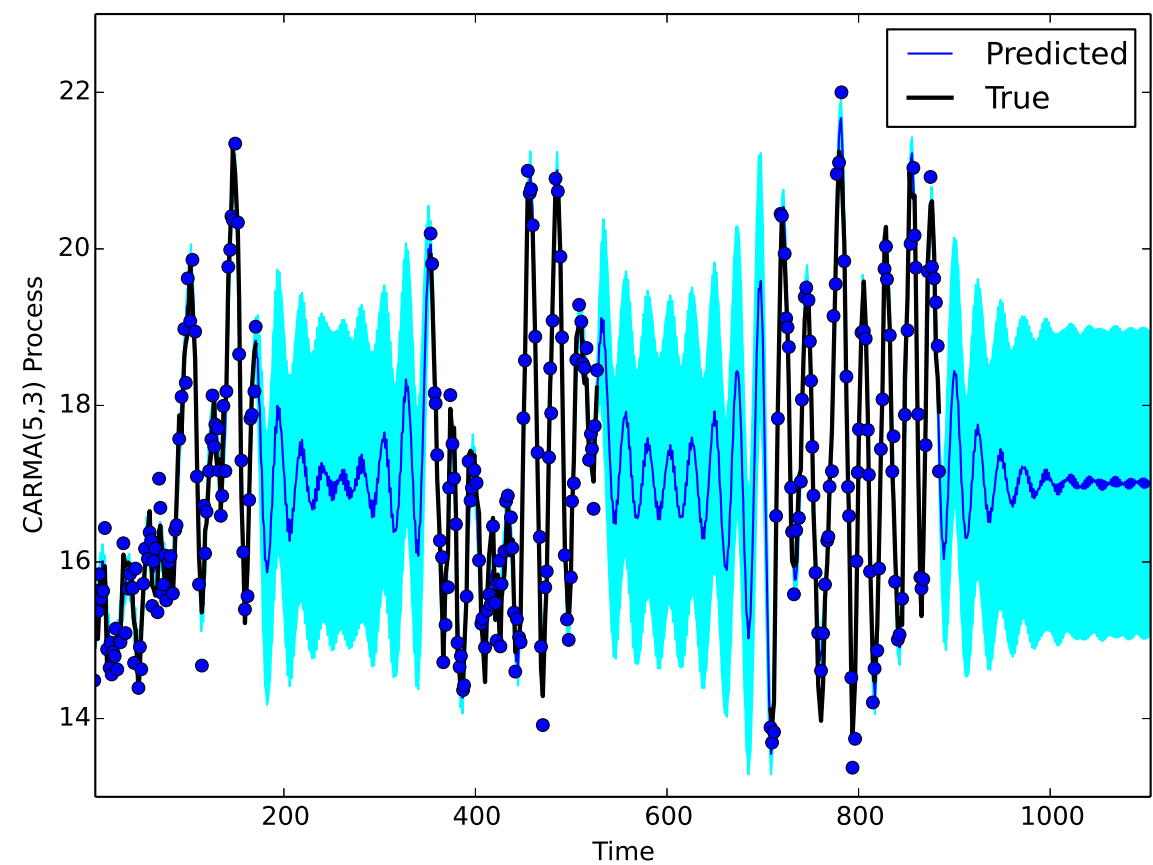
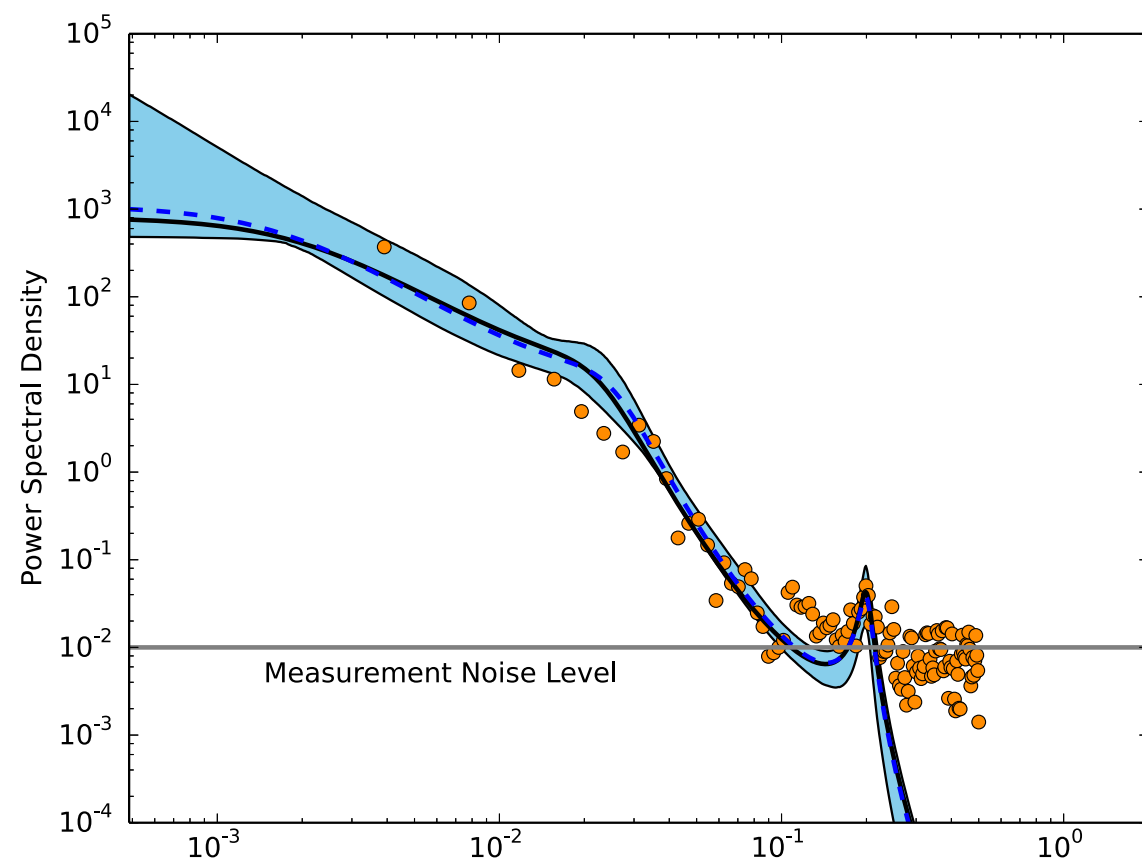
- + works for stochastic processes**
- + probabilistic generative model**
- computationally expensive**

# CARMA

**Continuous-time AutoRegressive  
Moving Average Processes**



# CARMA

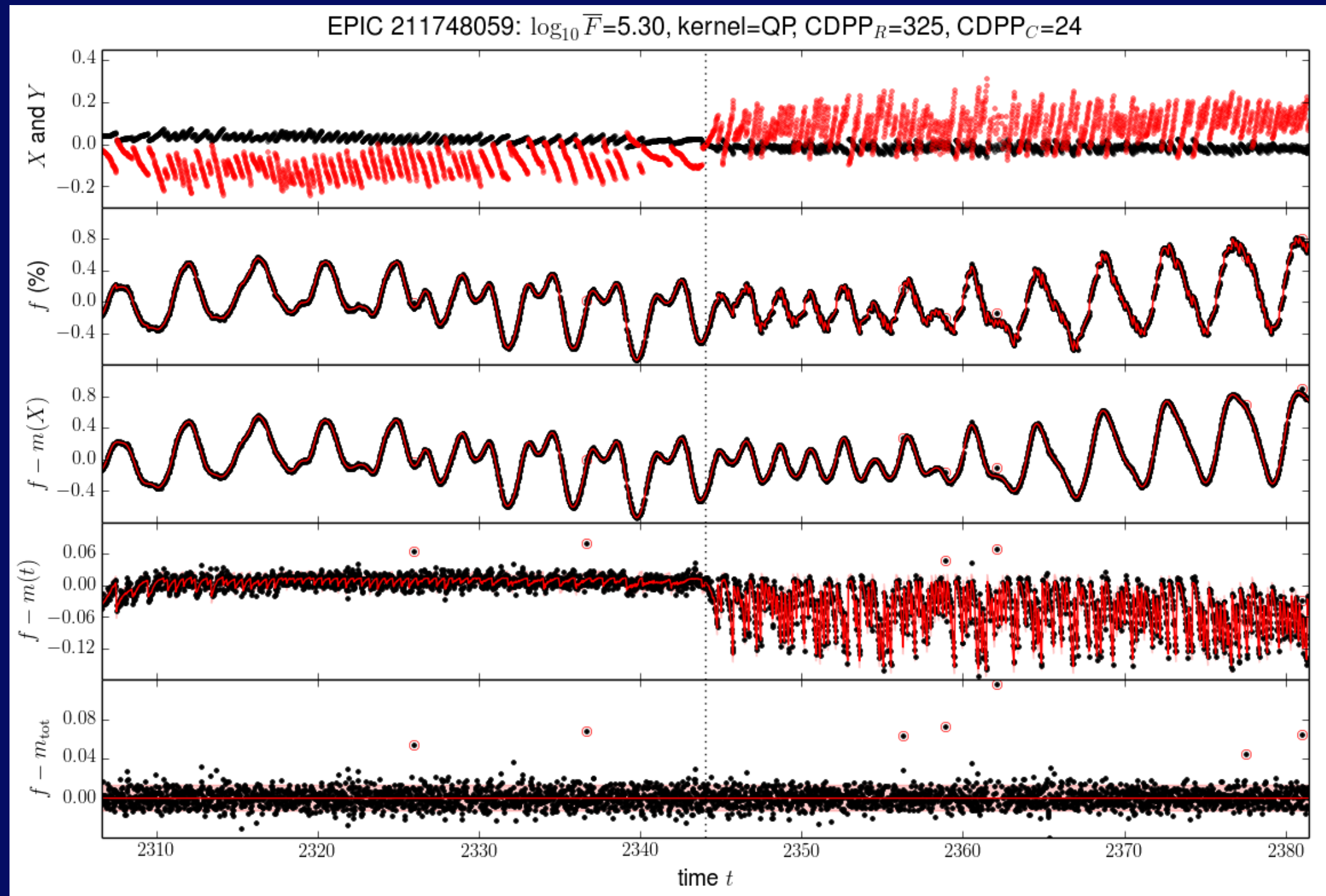


Kelly et al, 2014

# **CARMA**

- + fast**
- assumes specific  
underlying process**

# Beyond CARMA: Gaussian Processes



Aigrain et al, 2016

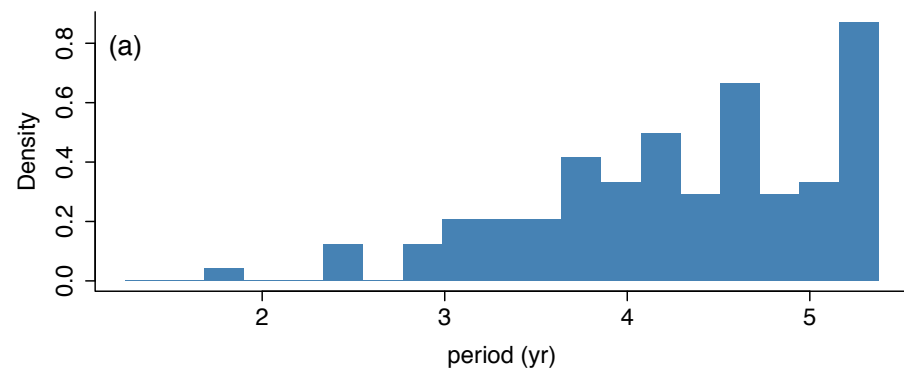
# **Sample Studies**

**easier to “go wide” than “go deep”**

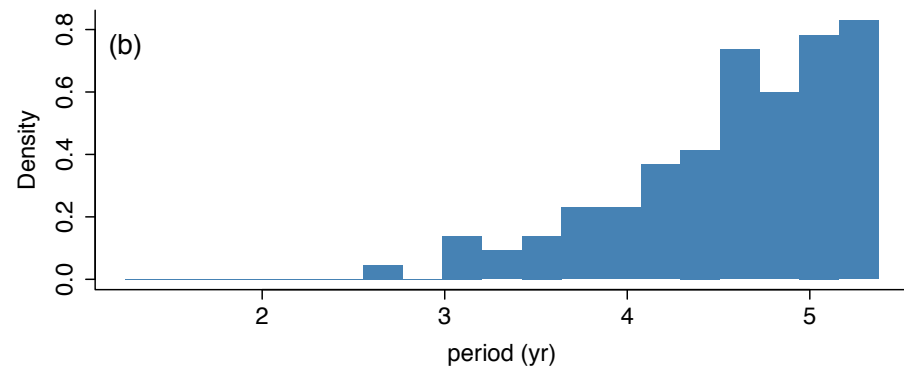


# Sample Studies

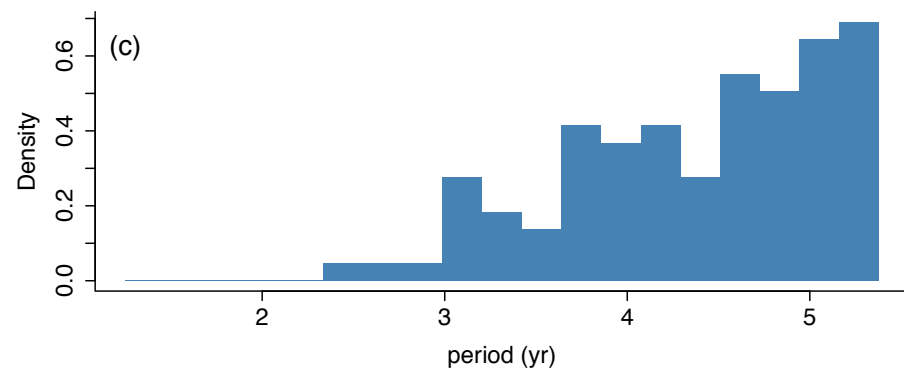
Vaughan et al, 2016



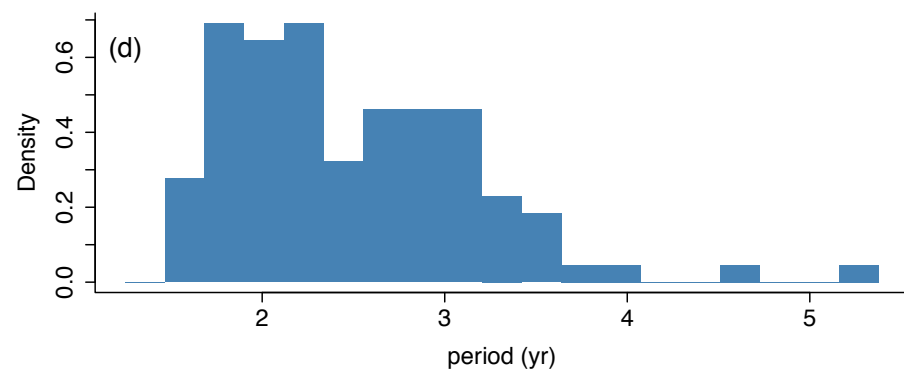
← **Graham et al, 2015 sample**



← **DRW simulations**



← **red noise simulations**



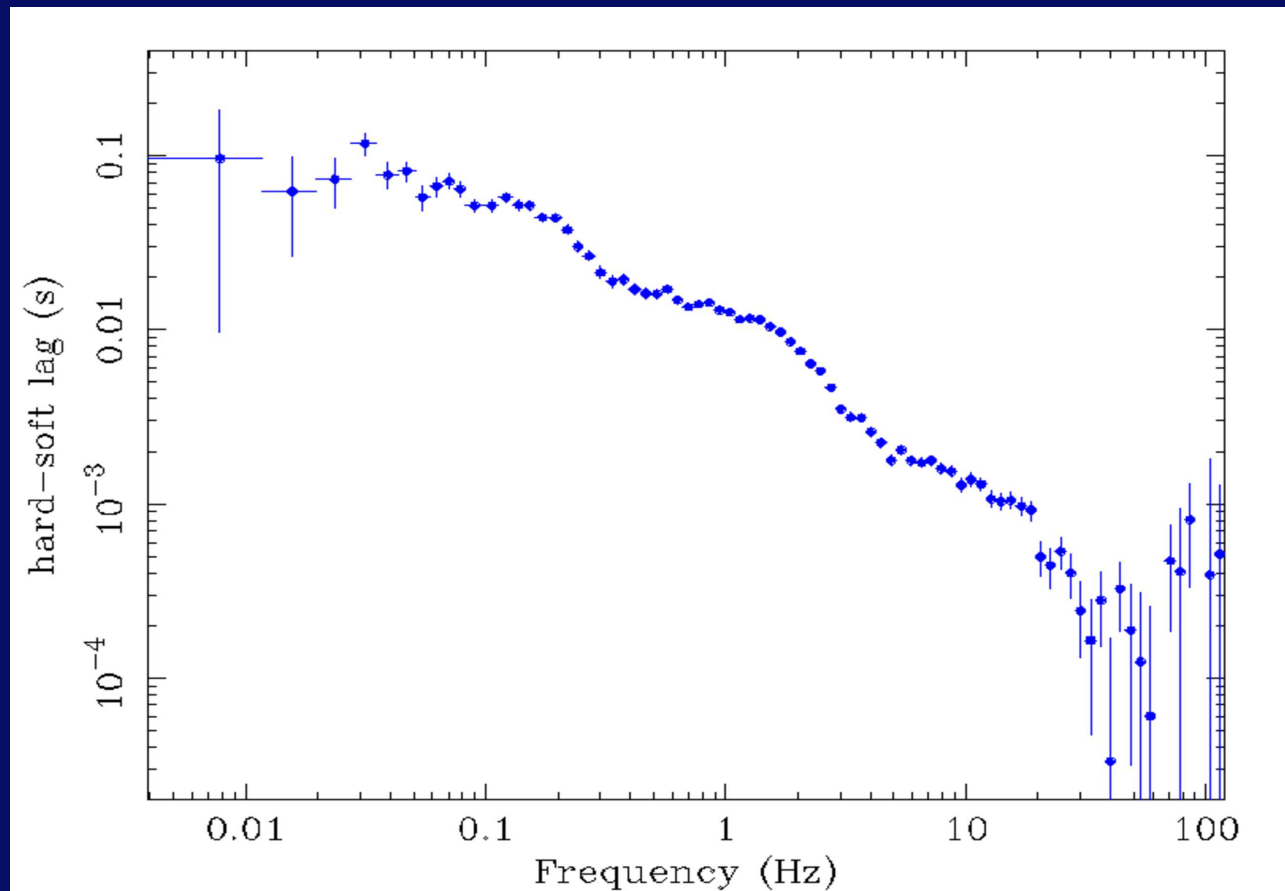
← **periodic signal simulations**

# Spectral Timing

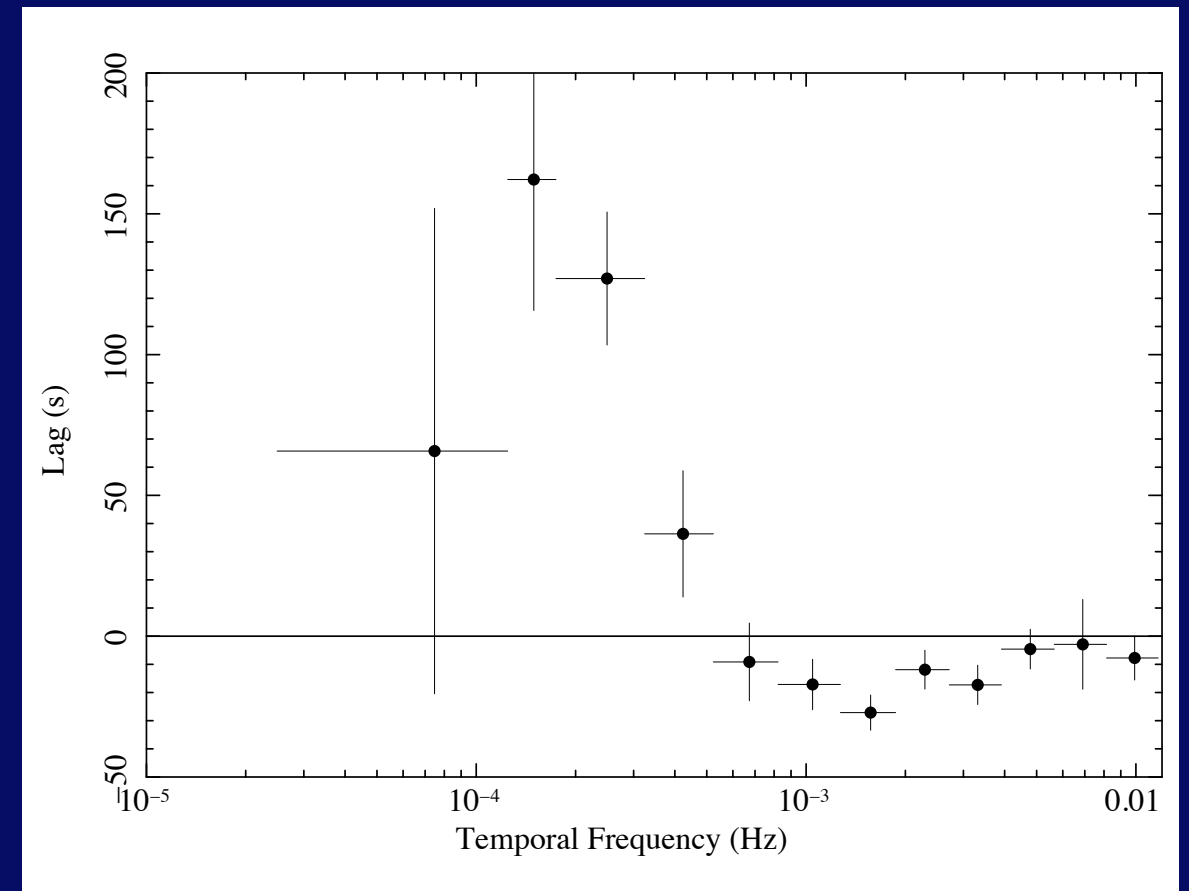
**= consider time and energy  
information at the same time\***

**\*with evenly sampled data**

# Time Lags

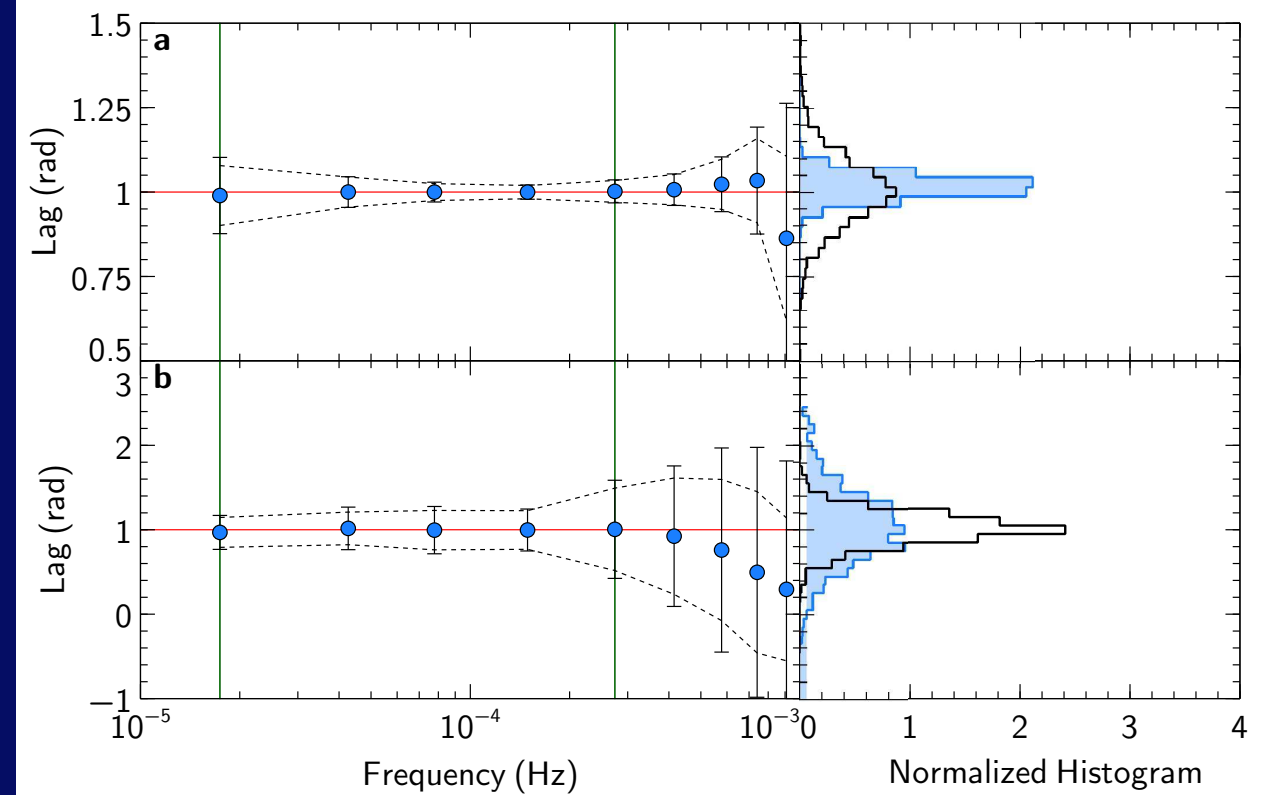
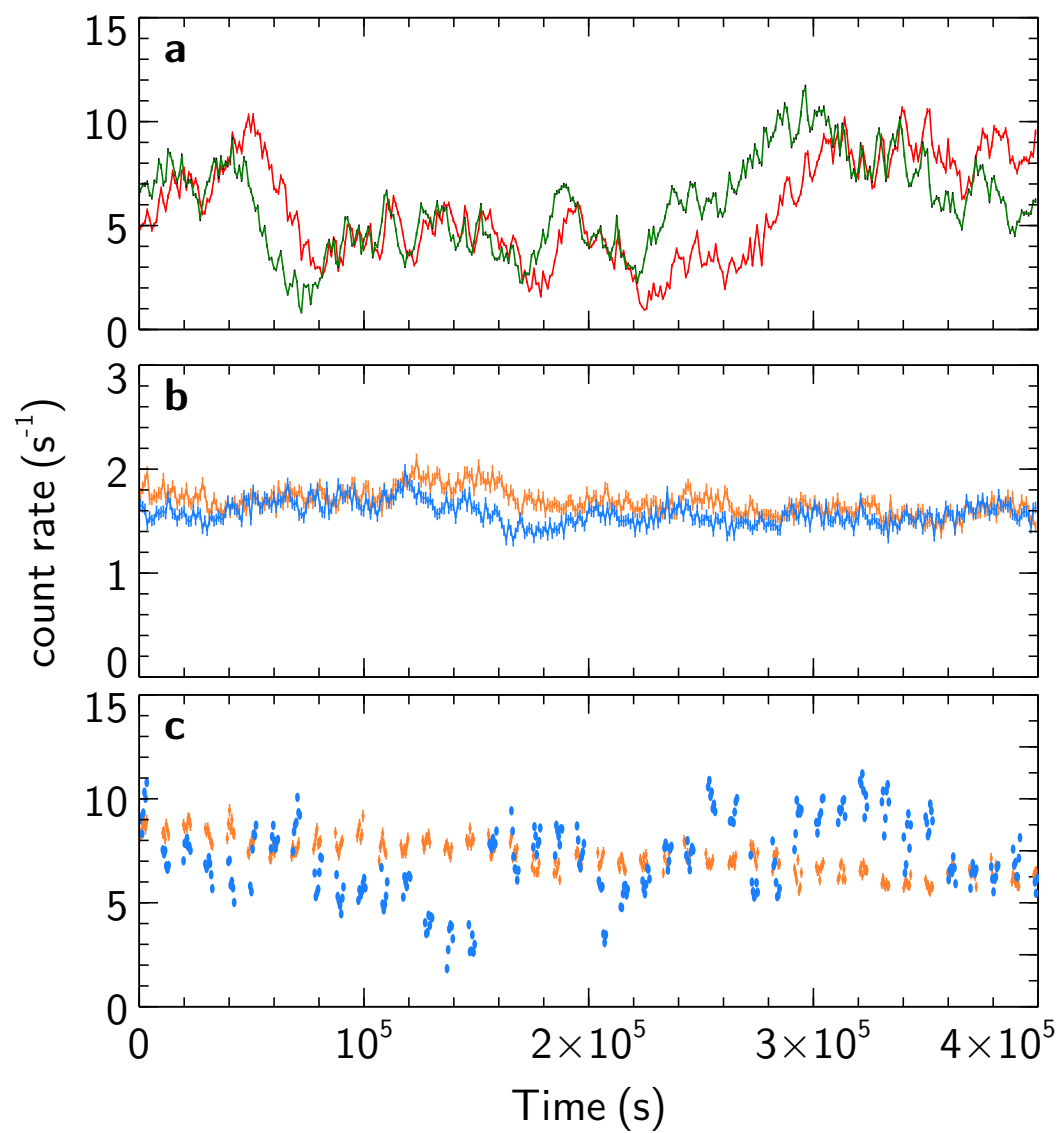


**Cygnus X-1: Nowak, 2000**



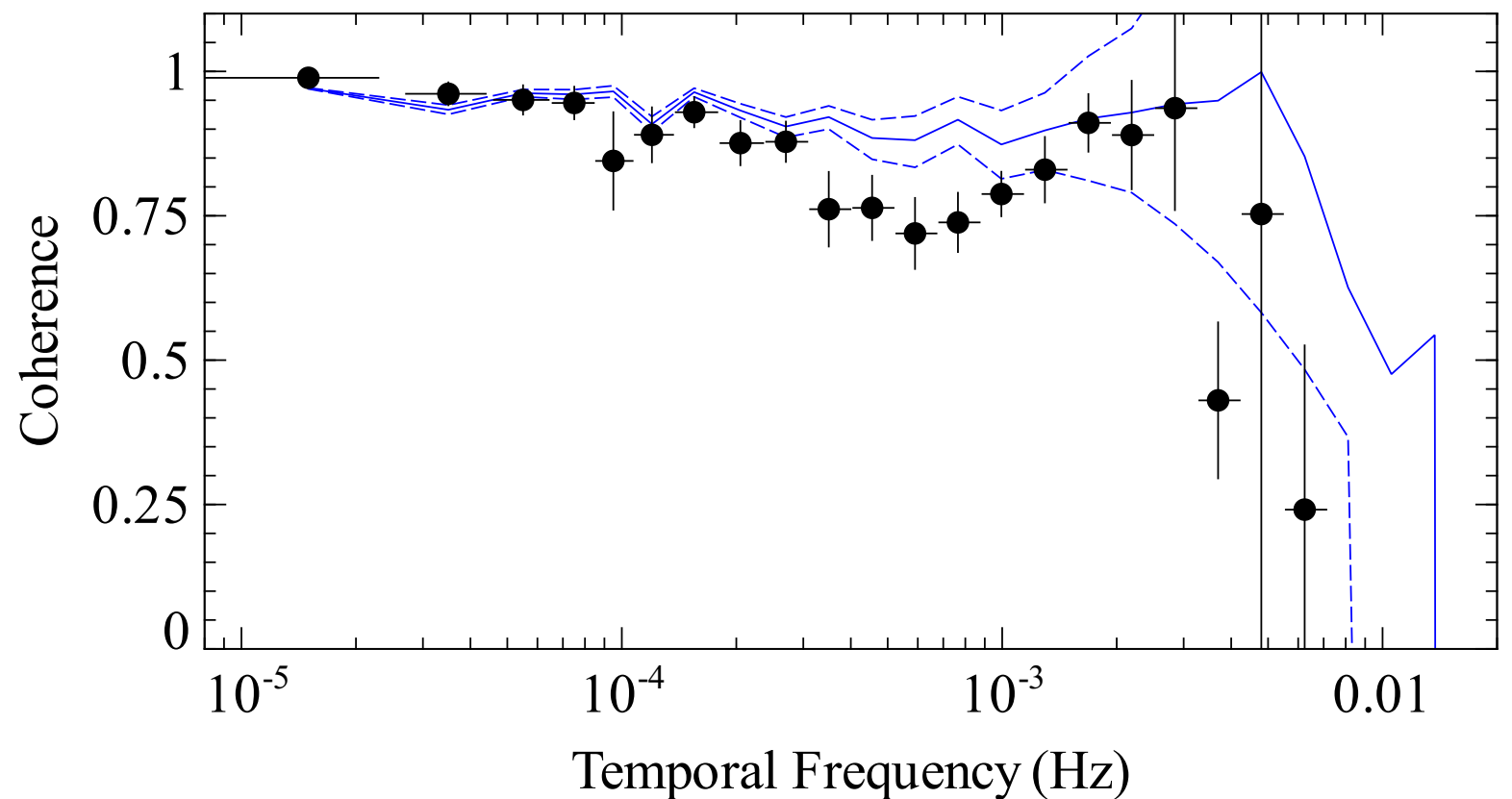
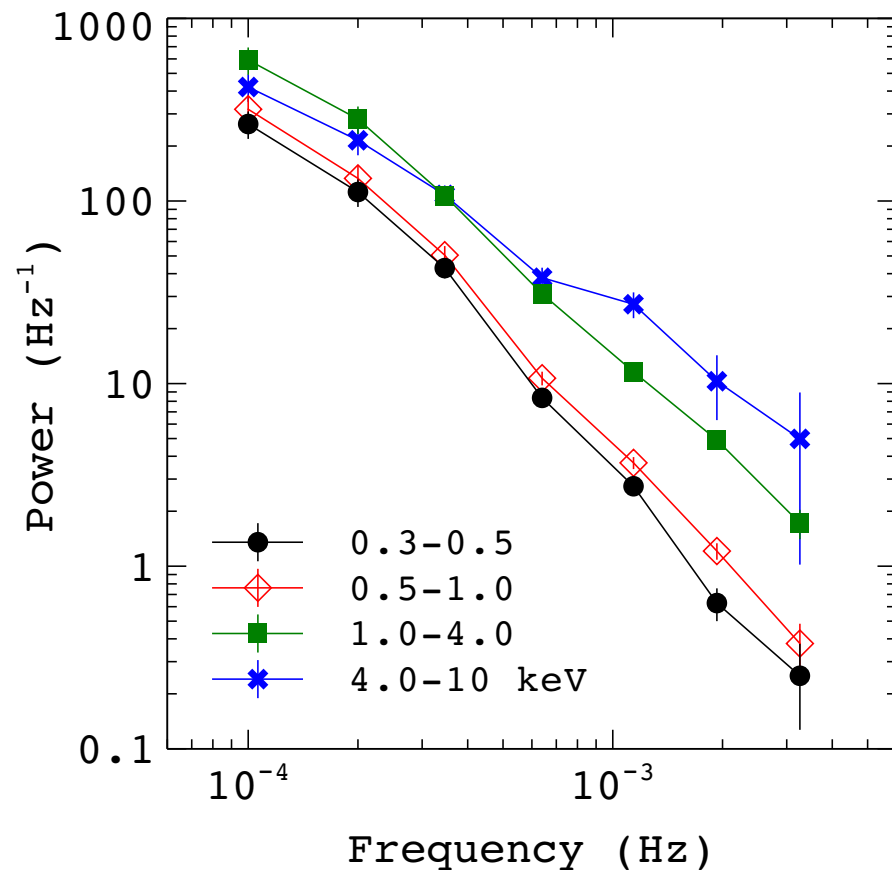
**1H0707-495: Uttley et al, 2014**

# Time Lags II





# Coherence



1H0707-495: Zoghbi et al, 2011

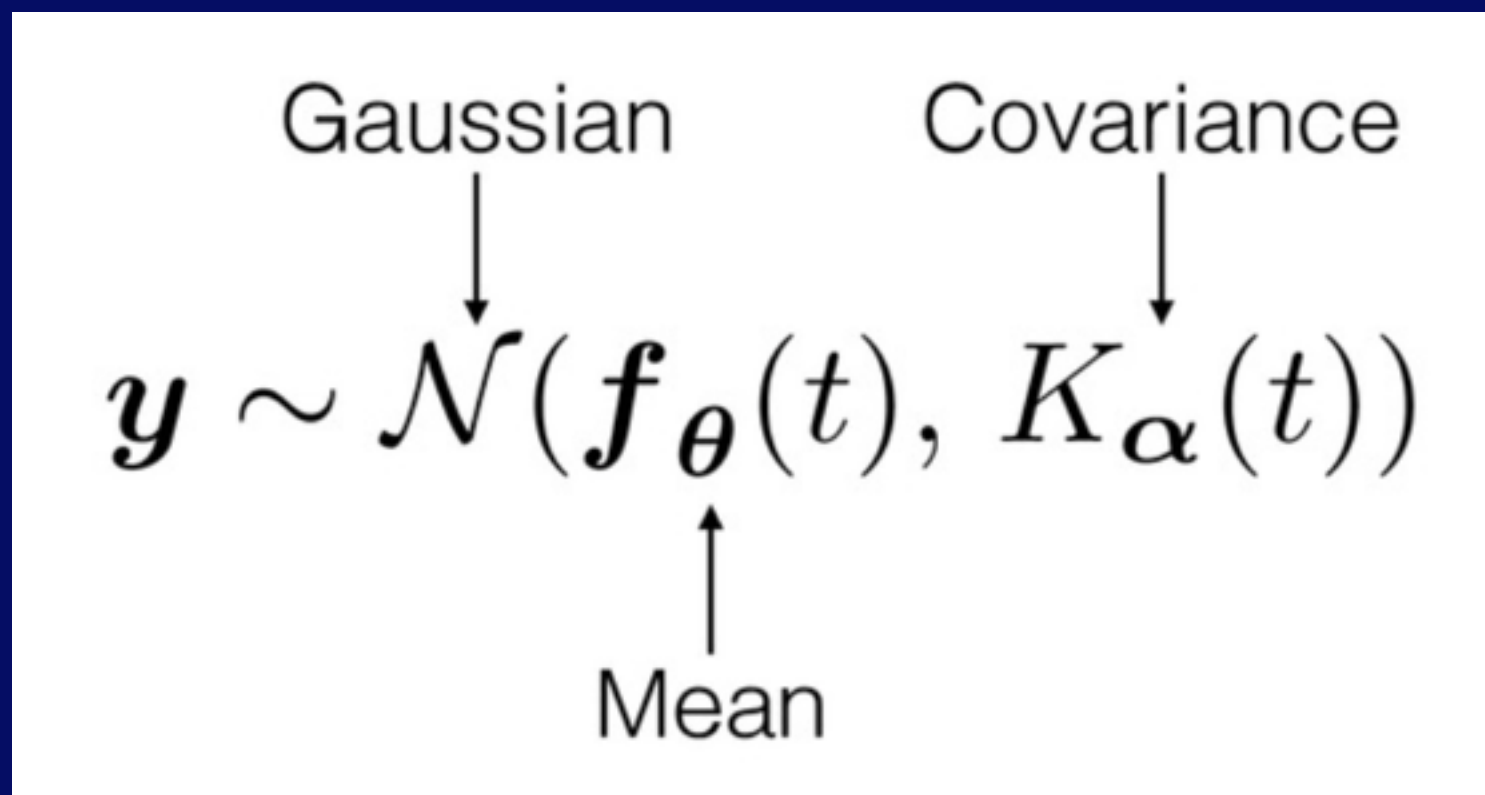
**+ lag-energy spectra, lag-frequency spectra, covariance spectra, bispectra, ...**

# **Future Challenges**

- **Multi-wavelength CARMA/GPs?**
- **Generative models for time-energy data sets**
- **additional dimensions: polarization**

**... but my data is  
non-stationary!**

# Gaussian Processes Revisited



A diagram showing the notation for a Gaussian Process. The central equation is  $y \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{f}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t), K_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}(t))$ . Above the mean term  $\mathbf{f}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t)$  is the word "Gaussian" with a downward arrow pointing to the  $\mathcal{N}$  symbol. Above the covariance term  $K_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}(t)$  is the word "Covariance" with a downward arrow pointing to the  $K$  symbol. Below the mean term is the word "Mean" with an upward arrow pointing to the  $\mathbf{f}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t)$  term.

$$y \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{f}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t), K_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}(t))$$

Mean

Credit: Dan Foreman-Mackey



# Gaussian Processes Revisited

The diagram shows the equation  $y \sim \mathcal{N}(f_{\theta}(t), K_{\alpha}(t))$  on a white background. Above the equation, the word "Gaussian" has an arrow pointing to the  $\mathcal{N}$  symbol, and the word "Covariance" has an arrow pointing to the  $K_{\alpha}(t)$  term. Below the equation, the word "Mean" has an arrow pointing to the  $f_{\theta}(t)$  term, which is enclosed in a red rectangular box.

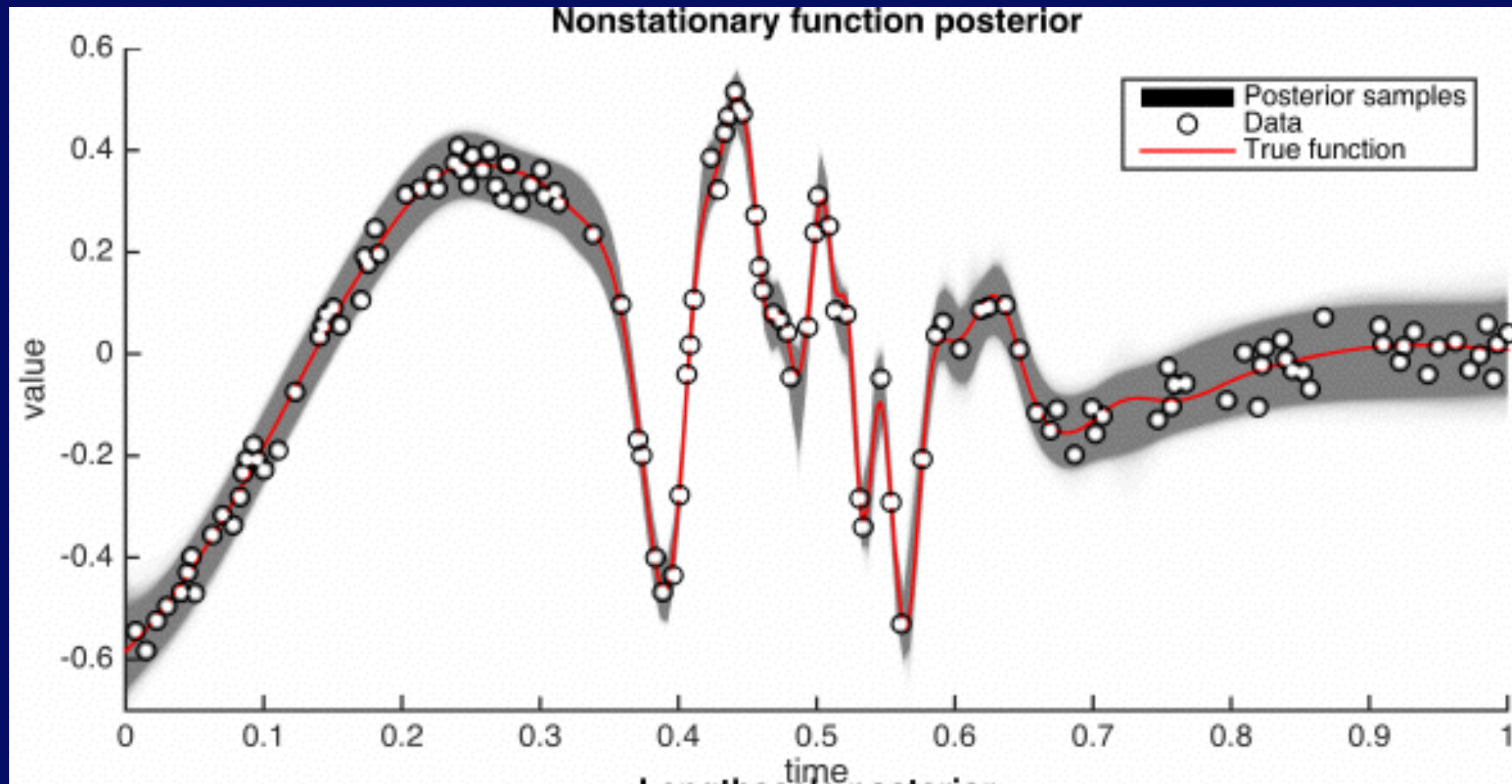
$$y \sim \mathcal{N}(f_{\theta}(t), K_{\alpha}(t))$$

Labels and arrows:

- Gaussian (points to  $\mathcal{N}$ )
- Covariance (points to  $K_{\alpha}(t)$ )
- Mean (points to  $f_{\theta}(t)$ )

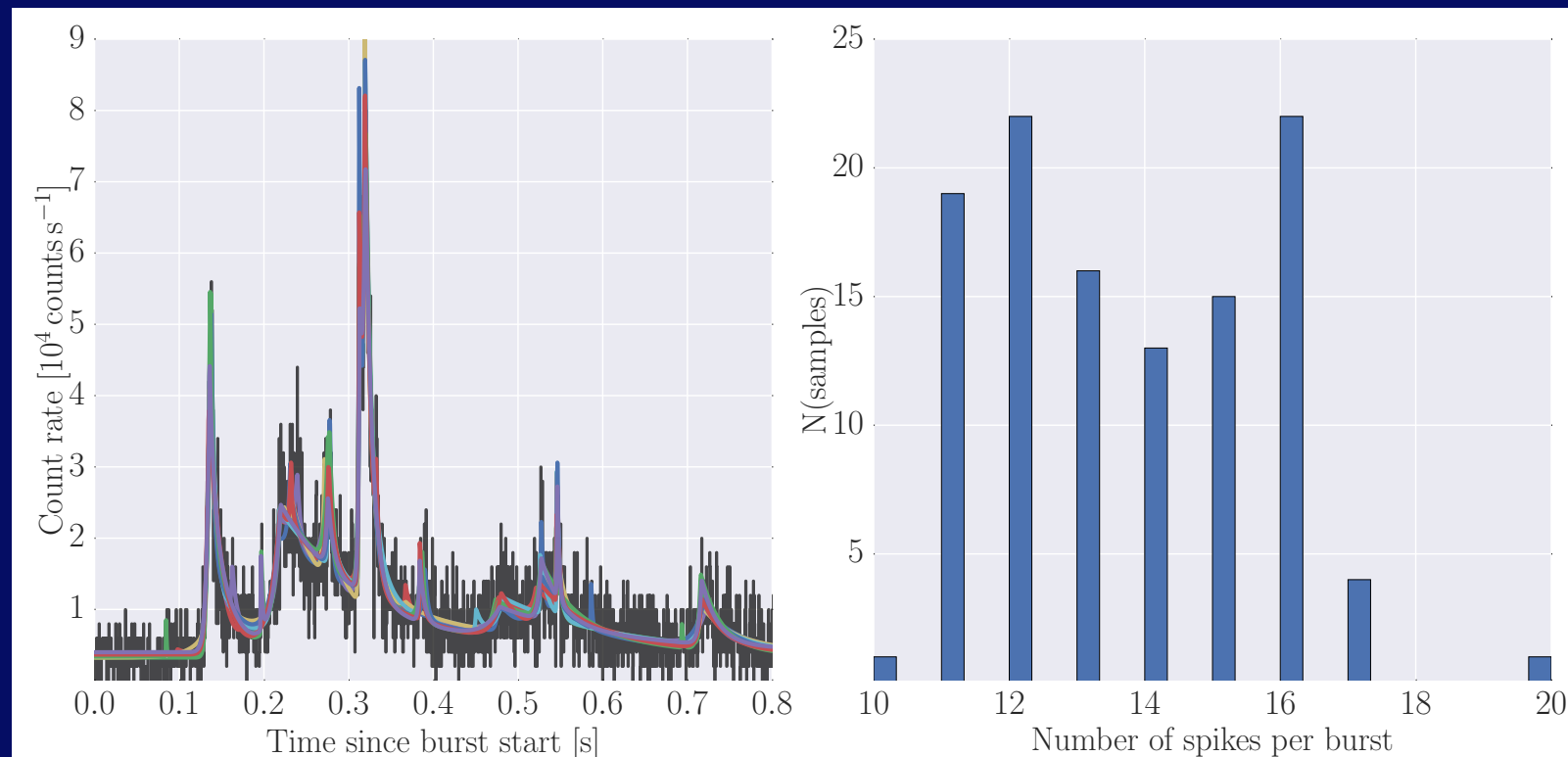
Credit: Dan Foreman-Mackey

# Gaussian Processes Revisited

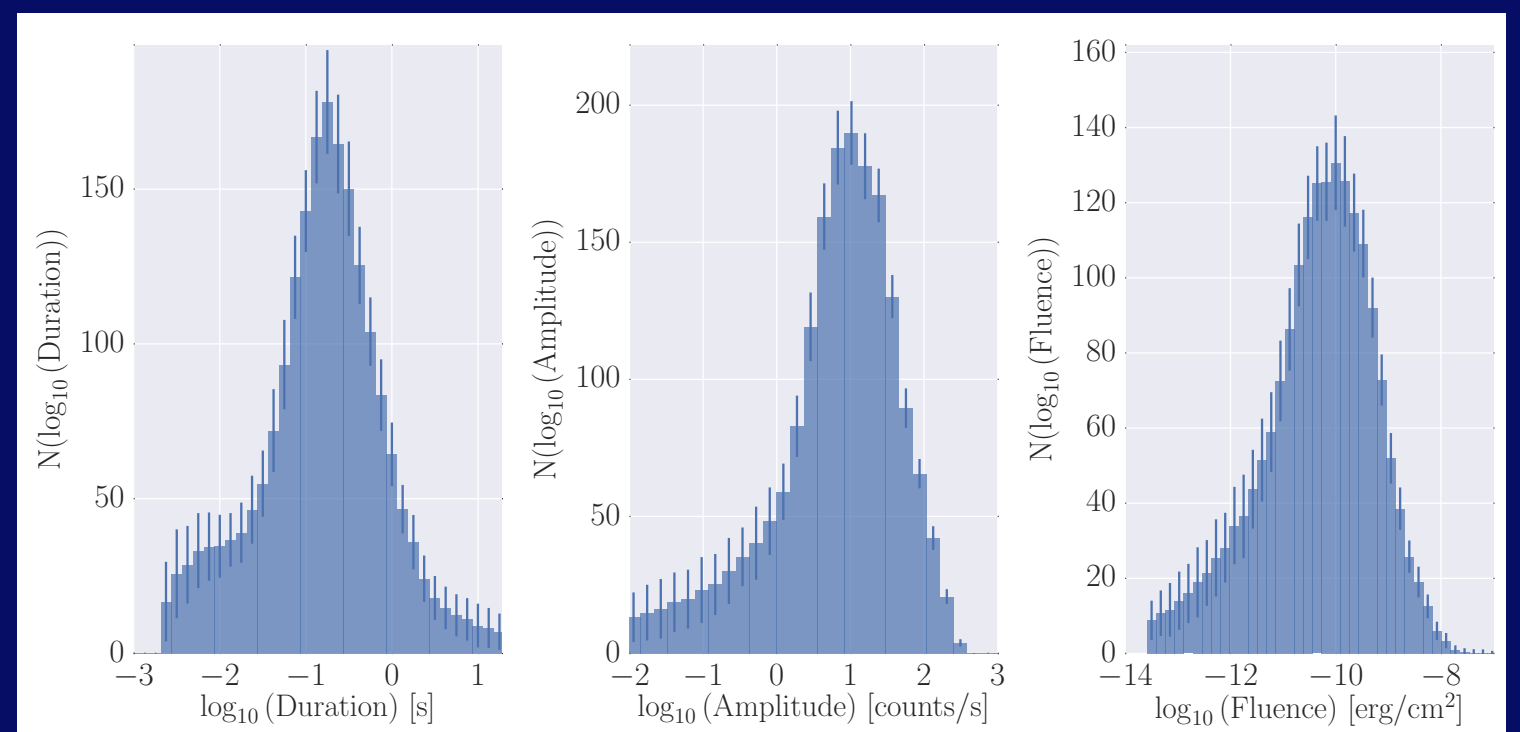


Heinonen et al, 2015

# Hierarchical Flare Modeling



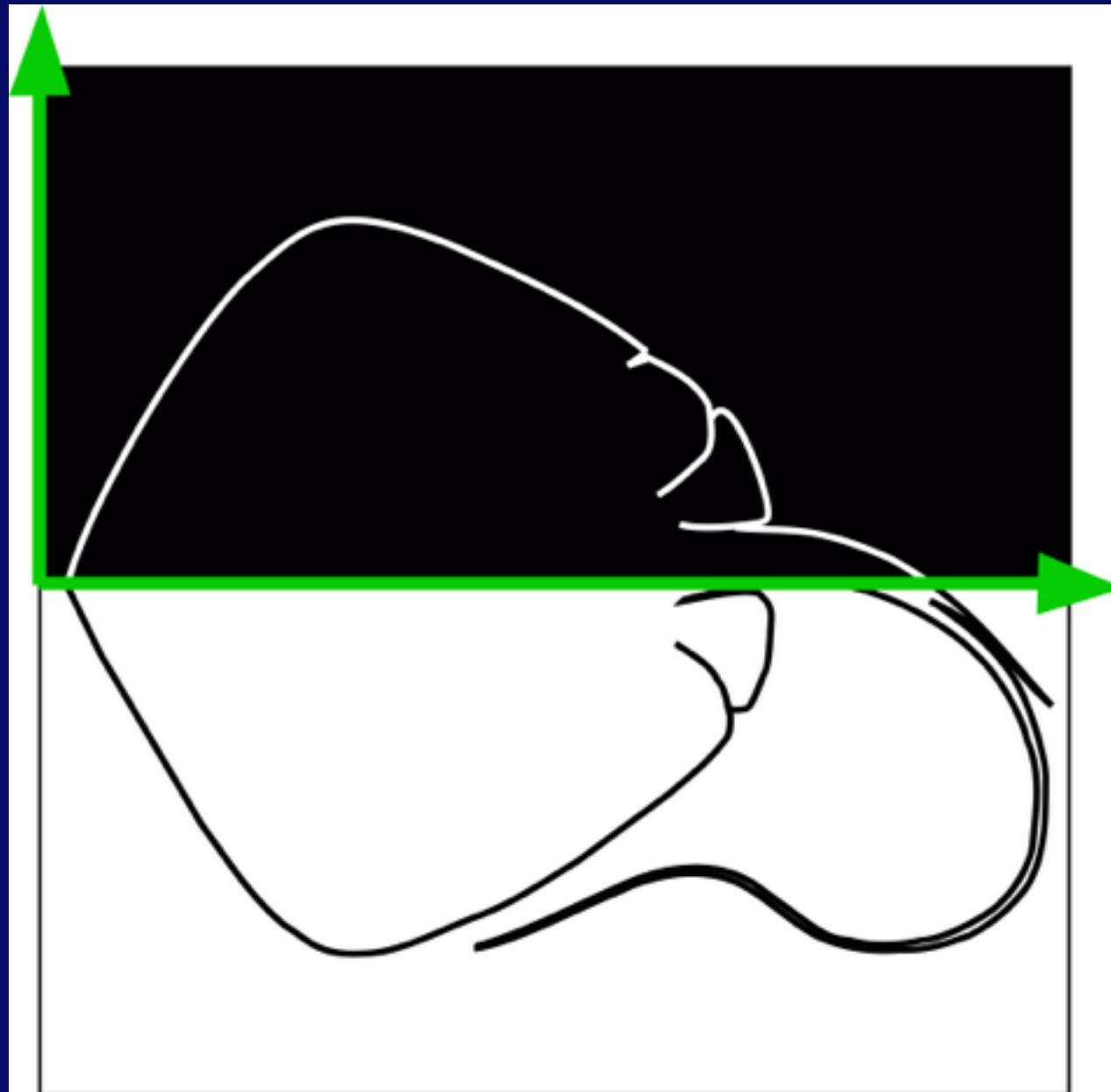
Huppenkothen et al, 2015



# Software

- **Lomb-Scargle: gatspy** , <http://www.astroml.org/gatspy>
- **time series features: extraction: FATS**, <https://github.com/isadoranun/tsfeat>
- **Machine learning on time series:** <http://cesium.ml>
- **time series analysis: stingray**, <https://github.com/StingraySoftware/stingray>
- **CARMA: carma-pack**, <http://ascl.net/1404.009>
- **CARMA in Julia:** <https://github.com/farr/CARMA.jl>
- **Gaussian Processes: george**, <http://dan.iel.fm/george/current/>
- **Hierarchical flare models:** <https://github.com/dhuppenkothen/magnetron2>

# Help us build Stingray!\*



\*<https://github.com/StingraySoftware/stingray>



**Thank you!**