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Prototype Implementation of a Web-Based Gravitational Wave Signal Analyzer: SNEGRAF

Satoshi Eguchi, Shota Shibagaki, Kazuhiro Hayama, and Kei Kotake

Fukuoka University, 8-19-1, Nanakuma, Jonan-ku, Fukuoka 814-0180, Japan; satoshi eguchi@fukuoka-u.ac.jp

A direct detection of gravitational waves is one of the most exciting fron-Abstract. tiers for modern astronomy and astrophysics. Gravitational wave signals combined with classical electro-magnetic observations, known as multi-messenger astronomy, promise newer and deeper insights about the cosmic evolution of astrophysical objects such as neutron starts and black holes. To this end, we have been developing an original data processing pipeline for KAGRA, a Japanese gravitational wave telescope, for optimal detections of supernova events. As a part of our project, we released a web application named SuperNova Event Gravitational-wave-display in Fukuoka (SNEGRAF) in autumn 2018. SNEGRAF accepts the users' theoretical waveforms more than $\sim 10^5$ data points directly with JavaScript, although the number can be typical for a supernova hunt by assuming a typical duration of the event and sampling rate of the detectors; a combination of recursive decimations of the original in the server-side program and an appropriate selection of them depending on the time duration requested by the user in a web browser achieves an acceptable latency. In this paper, we present the current design, implementation and optimization algorithms of SNEGRAF, and its future perspectives.

1. Introduction

In the framework of general relativity, a mass curves the space-time around it, and the curvature is observed as gravity. An accelerated motion of a mass generates a disturbance of space-time, which propagates in a vacuum in the form of waves; these waves are referred to as "gravitational waves." Gravitational waves can penetrate even a very dense material, and carry the information of the space-time around a massive but compact astronomical object such as a neutron star and black hole. The first direct detection of a gravitational wave is known as GW150914, where a merger of two stellarmass black holes took place (Abbott et al. 2016).

Multi-messenger astronomy, which utilizes observations of gravitational waves and neutrinos combined with those in multiple wavelengths, attracts a lot of attention recently since it promises a deeper understanding of the innermost part of a high energy astrophysical phenomenon. For example, roughly two explosion mechanisms are proposed for a core-collapse supernova to date, leading to outstanding differences in their gravitational waveforms (see Kotake 2013, and references therein). Hence, at Fukuoka University, we assembled a team to promote multi-messenger astronomy focusing on the physics of supernovae in April 2018. Goals of our mission are:



Figure 1. Screenshots of SNEGRAF. From left to right and top to bottom, the banner, waveform viewer, spectrogram, and power spectrum, respectively.

- Developing an original data processing pipeline for KAGRA, a Japanese gravitational wave telescope, to detect a supernova event at optimal efficiency,
- Providing data visualization and analysis software for the KAGRA observations to the world.

2. SNEGRAF

As the first step of our software releases, we have just made a web application named "SuperNova Event Gravitational-wave-display in Fukuoka (SNEGRAF; Fig. 1)" public in October 2018. SNEGRAF accepts a time series of h_+ and h_{\times} (two individual modes of a gravitational wave) in a character-separated-value (CSV) format as an input (Table 1), and displays the input waveforms, a corresponding spectrogram, and power spectrum together with the signal-to-noise ratio of the input signal and the analytic KAGRA sensitivity curve. The access url to SNEGRAF is https://nibiru.sci.fukuoka-u.ac.jp/snegraf/.

Table 1. Details of an input file format for SNEGRAF. A pipe (|), comma (,), tab (\setminus t), and white space are acceptable for a column separator. A hash (#) is regarded as a beginning of comments.

Column Number	1st	2nd	3rd
Content	Time (sec)	h_+	h_{\times}

SNEGRAF is a simple Ajax application hosted on a Java servlet. Since we have quite limited human resources and utilize existing software libraries written in either

C/C++ or Java, we adopt GWT¹, which generates both server-side and client-side codes from a single Java source file, for an application framework. Google Charts² and its GWT binding³ are used for an interactive visualization of input waveforms.

To simplify the server-side programs, the file uploading functionality is implemented with File API in HTML5. A text file uploaded by a user is transfered to the servlet as is as an argument of type String during a remote procedure call (RPC). Then the string is parsed into arrays of type double to hold (t, h_+, h_\times) in each row in the servlet, and "resampled and decimated hierarchically (see Sect. 3)." The servlet invokes a Python script to compute a spectrogram, which is converted to a scalable vector graphics (SVG) file by gnuplot and encoded into a Base64 string. A power spectrum is calculated with a Java implementation of fast Fourier transform (FFT)⁴, accompanied by an evaluation of the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) based on the analytic KAGRA sensitivity curve (Manzotti & Dietz 2012). Note that detector beam-pattern functions are assumed to be unity in the estimation. At the end, the waveform arrays, the Base64 encoded spectrogram, the array for the power spectrum, and the SNR are packed into a single object in JavaScript object notation (JSON), and returned to the web client as the result of the RPC. The waveforms and power spectrum are plotted with Google Charts on the client.

3. Data Reduction Algorithm

By assuming a typical sampling rate of a gravitational wave detector, our programs should be able to handle $N \sim 10^5$ data points on the fly. However, this is a very heavy task for a JavaScript application like SNEGRAF currently. To achieve this goal even on a low-powered CPU, we applied "hierarchical decimation technique" to SNEGRAF. The basic idea of this method is to apply a decimation by a factor of 2 recursively on server side, and to select an adequate result depending on the time duration requested by a user on client side.

- 1. Find the integer *m* satisfying $2^m < N \le 2^{m+1}$ and resample the original waveform evenly into new 2^m points by linear interpolation. This takes $O(m2^m)$ time.
- 2. Decimate the resampled waveform by 2. This yields new $N_{m-1} = 2^{m-1}$ data points and takes $O(2^{m-1})$ time.
- 3. Apply the 2nd step recursively until the number of new data points N_i is less than $N_{\text{disp,th}}$ (= 2048). At this step, the total amount of data points is exactly less than $N + N/2 + N/4 + \cdots = 2N$.
- 4. On client side, calculate the number of data points $N_{\text{disp},i}$ which fall inside the user specified time range for each decimated data. The total processing time is $O(m^2)$.

¹It was known as Google Web Toolkit previously. http://www.gwtproject.org/

²It is also known as Google Visualization API. https://developers.google.com/chart/

³GWT Charts. https://github.com/google/gwt-charts/

⁴https://www.nayuki.io/page/free-small-fft-in-multiple-languages

496 Eguchi et al.

- 5. On the client, find the largest *i* such that $N_{\text{disp},i} \leq N_{\text{disp},\text{th}}$ with a binary search algorithm, and plot the data. This yields new $N_{m-1} = 2^{m-1}$ data points and takes $O(2^{m-1})$ time.
- 6. Apply the 2nd step recursively until the number of new data points N_i is less than $N_{\text{disp,th}}$ (= 2048). At this step, the total amount of data points is exactly less than $N + N/2 + N/4 + \cdots = 2N$.
- 7. On client side, calculate the number of data points $N_{\text{disp},i}$ which fall inside the user specified time range for each decimated data. The total processing time is $O(m^2)$.
- 8. On the client, find the largest *i* such that $N_{\text{disp},i} \leq N_{\text{disp},\text{th}}$ with a binary search algorithm, and plot the data.

When N is ~ $10^5 \simeq 2^{17}$, there are just $\simeq 150$ lookups of the arrays and $\le N_{\text{disp,th}}$ drawings on the client with just consuming twice as much as the initial memory space. The processing time on client side is reduced by two orders of magnitude thanks to this algorithm, and SNEGRAF quickly responds to the user's operations even on a low-powered computer with an Intel Atom CPU.

4. Future Work

- □ A spectrogram and power spectrum displayed on the current version are "static." We have a plan to make them interactive (e.g., the time range on the input waveform viewer will link to that selected on a spectrogram).
- \Box To display a sky map, which is a heat map representing the likelihood of the source direction.

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