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Results of the search for continuous gravitational wave signals from known pulsars

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A spinning neutron star, if asymmetric respect to the rotation axis, is expected to emit a continuous gravitational wave signal.
In this talk I present a summary of the results obtained in the analysis of LIGO and Virgo data searching for continuous gravitational wave signals emitted by known pulsars. I focus attention on the astrophysical interpretation of the most interesting upper limits so far established and on the importance of the input from photon astronomy. Prospects for the advanced detector era are also discussed.

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