



Gravitational Waves from Early-Universe Turbulence: Detection Prospects through LISA and Stochastic Background Signal Observed by NANOGrav

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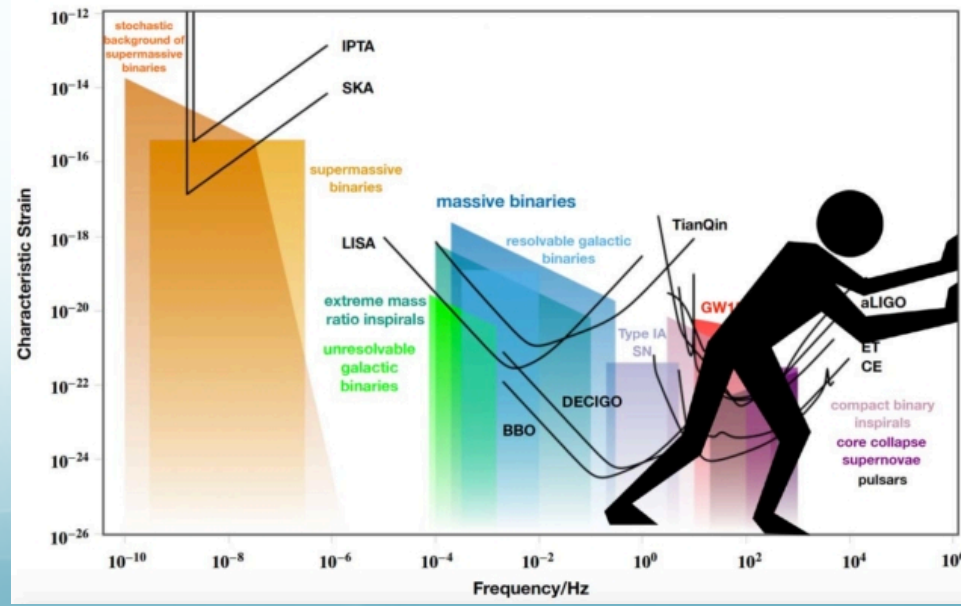
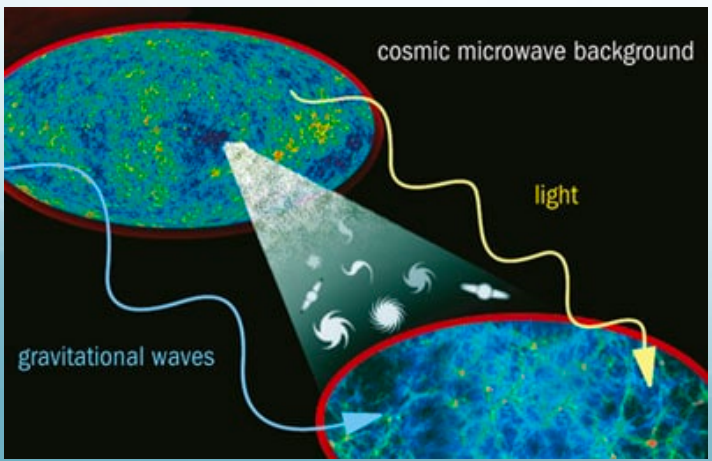
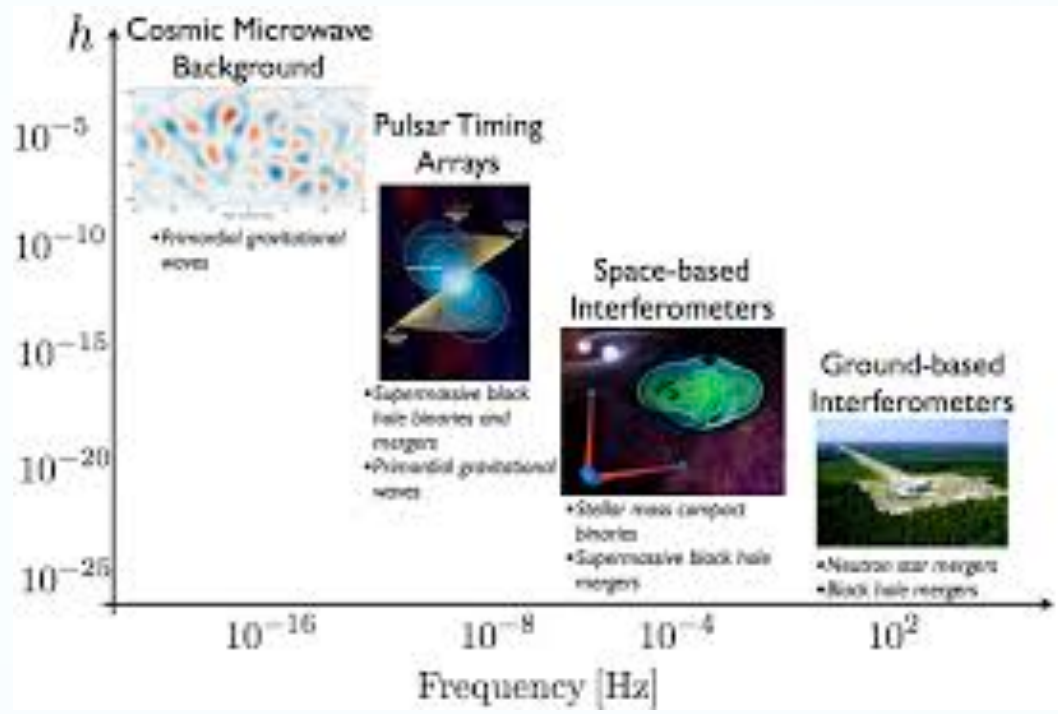
August 7 2023

Collaboration

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History of the Universe



Detection methods for stochastic gravitational-wave backgrounds: a unified treatment

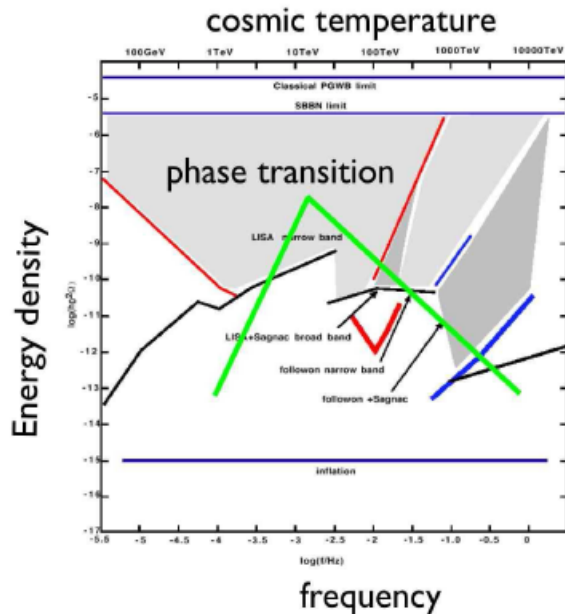
Joseph D. Romano¹ · Neil J. Cornish²

A cosmological background produced by the superposition of a large number of independent gravitational-wave signals from the early Universe is expected to be Gaussian (via the central limit theorem), as well as isotropically-distributed on the sky. Contrast this with the superposition of gravitational waves produced by unresolved Galactic white-dwarf binaries radiating in the LISA band (10^{-4} Hz to 10^{-1} Hz). Although this confusion-limited astrophysical foreground is also expected to be Gaussian and stationary, it will have an anisotropic distribution, following the spatial distribution of the Milky Way. The anisotropy will be encoded as a modulation in the LISA output, due to the changing antenna pattern of the LISA constellation in its yearly orbit around the Sun.

Gravitational Waves from Phase Transitions

Pioneering works:

- Winicour 1973
- Hogan 1982, 1986
- Turner & Wilczek 1990
- Kosowsky, Turner, Watkins. 1992
- Kosowsky & Turner 1993
- Kamionkowski et al. 1994



C. Hogan, 2006

First order phase transitions?

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Gravitational Waves from First-Order Cosmological Phase Transitions

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(Received 6 December 1991; revised manuscript received 26 May 1992)

A first-order cosmological phase transition that proceeds through the nucleation and collision of true-vacuum bubbles is a potent source of gravitational radiation. Possibilities for such include first-order inflation, grand-unified-theory-symmetry breaking, and electroweak-symmetry breaking. We have calculated gravity-wave production from the collision of two scalar-field vacuum bubbles, and, using an approximation based upon these results, from the collision of 20 to 30 vacuum bubbles. We present estimates of the relic background of gravitational waves produced by a first-order phase transition, in general, $\Omega_{GW} \sim 10^{-9}$ and $f \sim (10^{-6} \text{ Hz})(T/1 \text{ GeV})$.

Turbulence



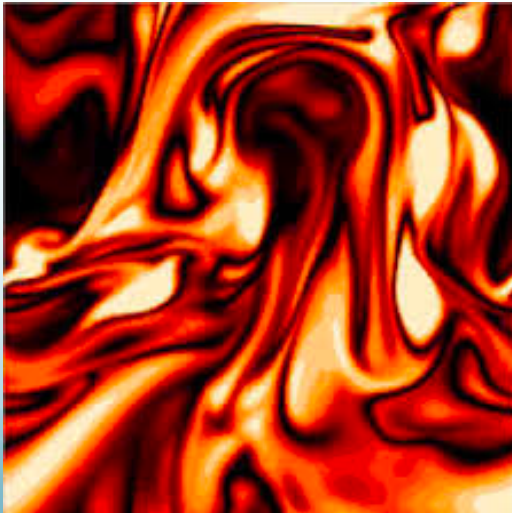
Atmospheric science



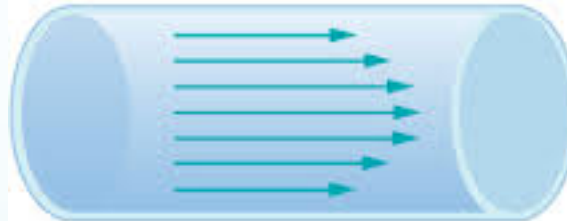
marine science



aerodynamics



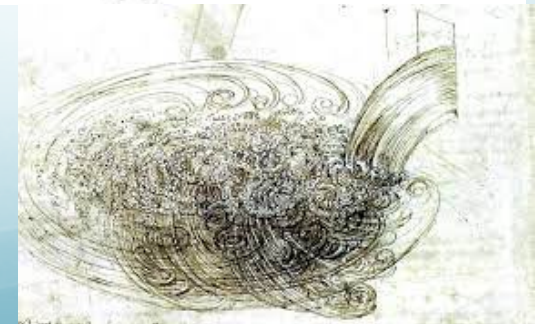
Astrophysical plasma



(a) Laminar Flow



(b) Turbulent Flow

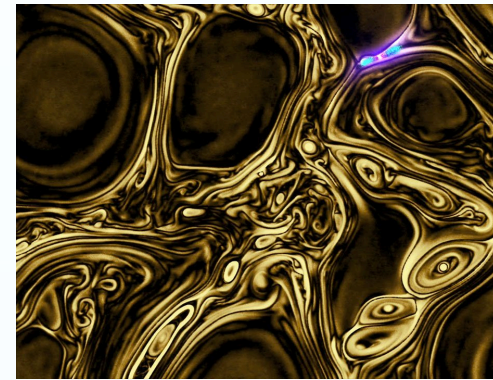


Possible Sources

- Cosmological Phase Transitions



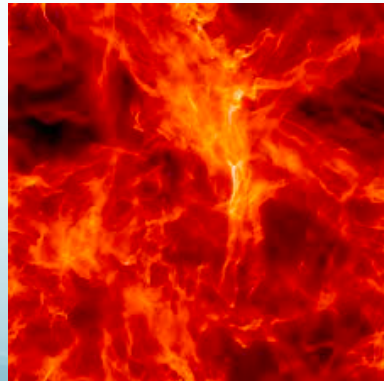
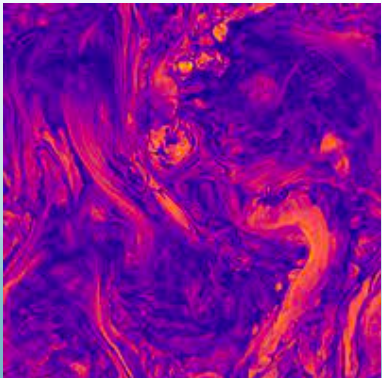
Bubbles collisions and nucleation



Baym et al. 1995

- Primordial Magnetic Fields

Quashnock, et al. 1989



Galishnikova et al. 2022



Ryu et al. 2020



Modeling Primordial Turbulence

- primordial plasma is perfect conductor
- interaction between primordial magnetic fields and fluid (plasma)
- development of turbulence and vs. generation of magnetic fields

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [\rho \mathbf{v}] = 0$$

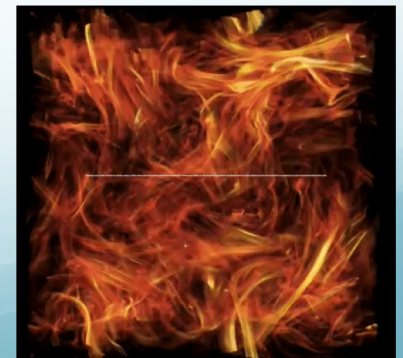
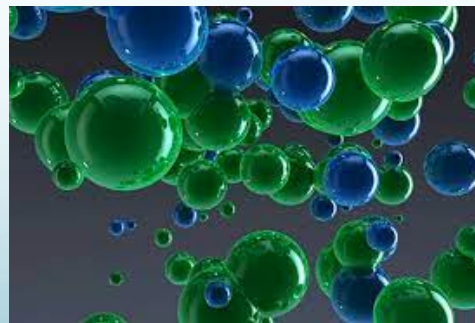
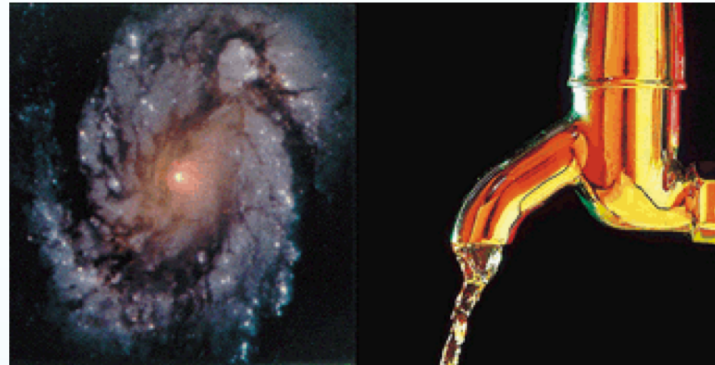
$$\frac{\partial(\rho \mathbf{v})}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [\rho \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{B} \mathbf{B} + P^*] = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [(E + P^*) \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{B} (\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{v})] = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} - \nabla \times (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) = 0$$

$$P^* = P + \frac{\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{B}}{2}$$

$$E = P/(\gamma - 1) + \frac{\rho(\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v})}{2} + \frac{\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{B}}{2}$$



Primordial Magnetic Fields and Turbulence Gravitational Waves

Mon. Not. R. astr. Soc. (1987) **229**, 357–370

$$\nabla^2 h_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, t) - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} h_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, t) = -16\pi G S_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

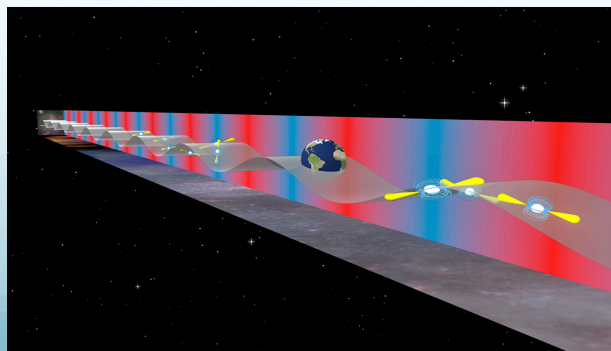
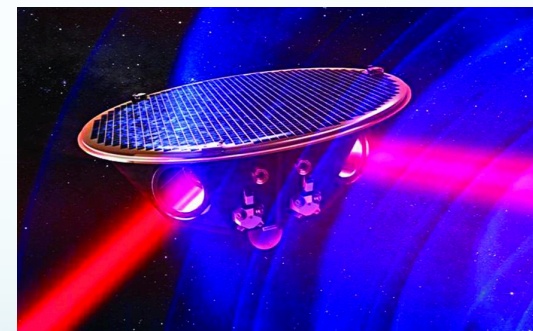
Generation of gravitational waves by the anisotropic phases in the early Universe

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Moscow 119899, USSR*

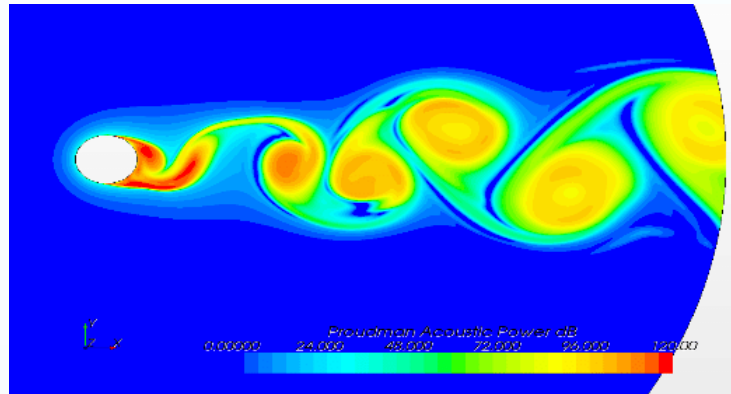
The space interferometer will be a unique device to observe the gravitational radiation from anisotropic phases possible at the energy scales 1TeV-100GeV.

Pulsar Timing Array (PTA) are sensible to gravitational waves generated or present at QCD energy scales



Waves from Turbulence

$$\nabla \delta\rho(\mathbf{x}, t) - \frac{1}{c_s^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \delta\rho(\mathbf{x}, t) = -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} T_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, t), \quad c_s^2 = \frac{\partial p}{\partial \rho}$$



Lighthill, 1952;
Proudman 1952

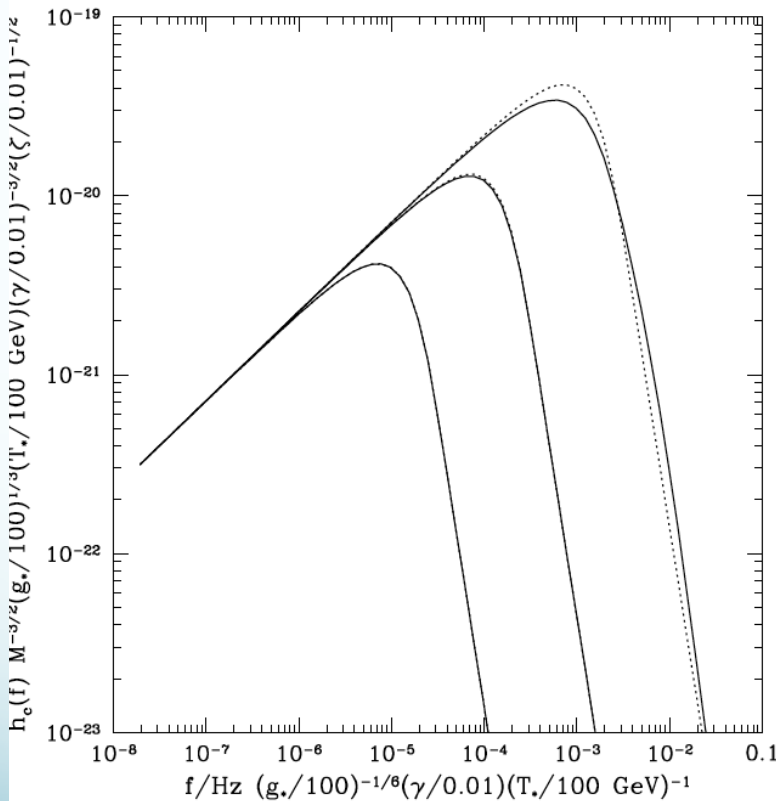
$$c = 1$$

$$\nabla^2 h_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, t) - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} h_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, t) = -16\pi G S_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

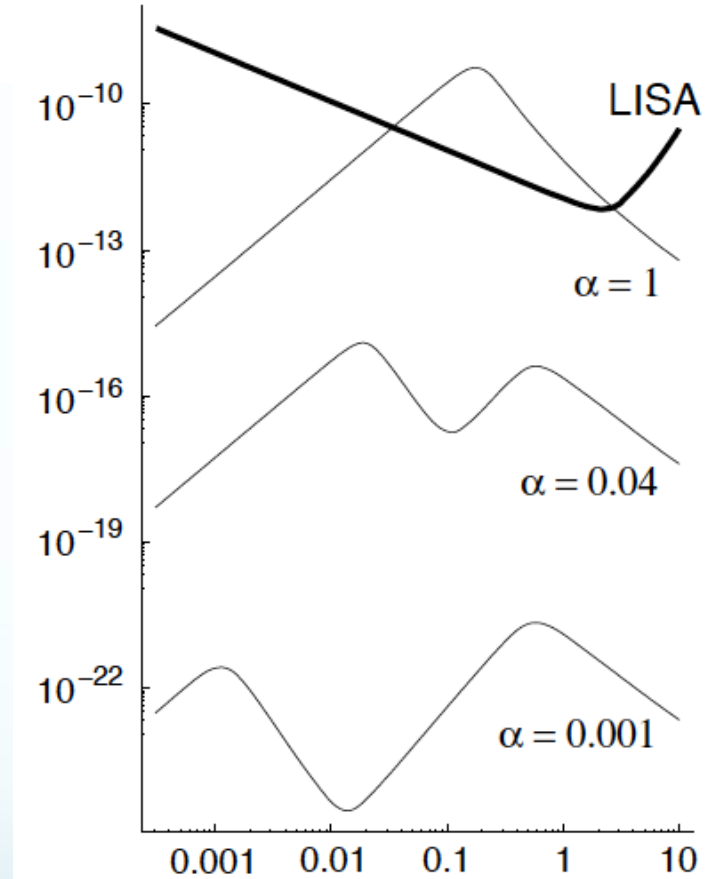
What is the difference?

Gravitational Waves from Turbulence

$$\nabla^2 h_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, t) - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} h_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, t) = -16\pi G S_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, t)$$



Gogoberidze, et al. 2007



Nicolis 2004

$$h_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, t) = 4G \int d^3 x' \frac{S_{ij}(\mathbf{x}', t - |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|)}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|}$$

Numerical Simulations

- To account properly non-linear processes (MHD)
- Not be limited by the short duration of the phase transitions
- Three stages turbulence decay
 - Forced turbulence
 - Stationary turbulence
 - Free decay
- The decaying source is present till recombination (after the field is frozen in)
- Results – strongly initial conditions dependent
- It is assumed the stationary turbulence while in reality turbulence decays

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \nabla^2 \right) h_{ij}^{\text{TT}} = \frac{16\pi G}{a^3 c^2} T_{ij}^{\text{TT}},$$

$$h_{ij}^{\text{TT}} = a h_{ij}^{\text{TT,phys}} \quad dt_{\text{phys}} = a dt$$

Grishchuk 1974

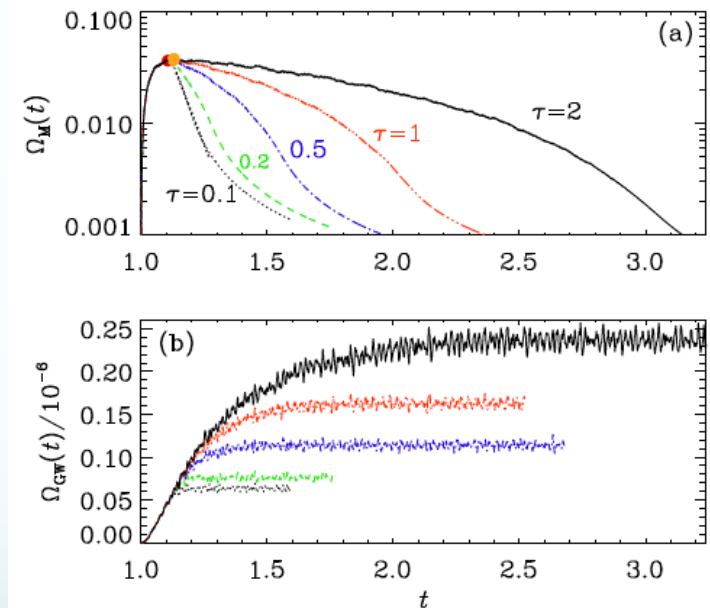


FIG. 1: Evolution of magnetic energy (top) and growth of GW energy density (bottom) for simulations where the driving is turned off at $t = 1.1$ (black dotted line), or the strength of the driving is reduced linearly in time over the duration $\tau = 0.2$ (green), 0.5 (blue), 1 (red), or 2 (black). Time is in units of the Hubble time at the moment of source activation.

Three Stages of Generation

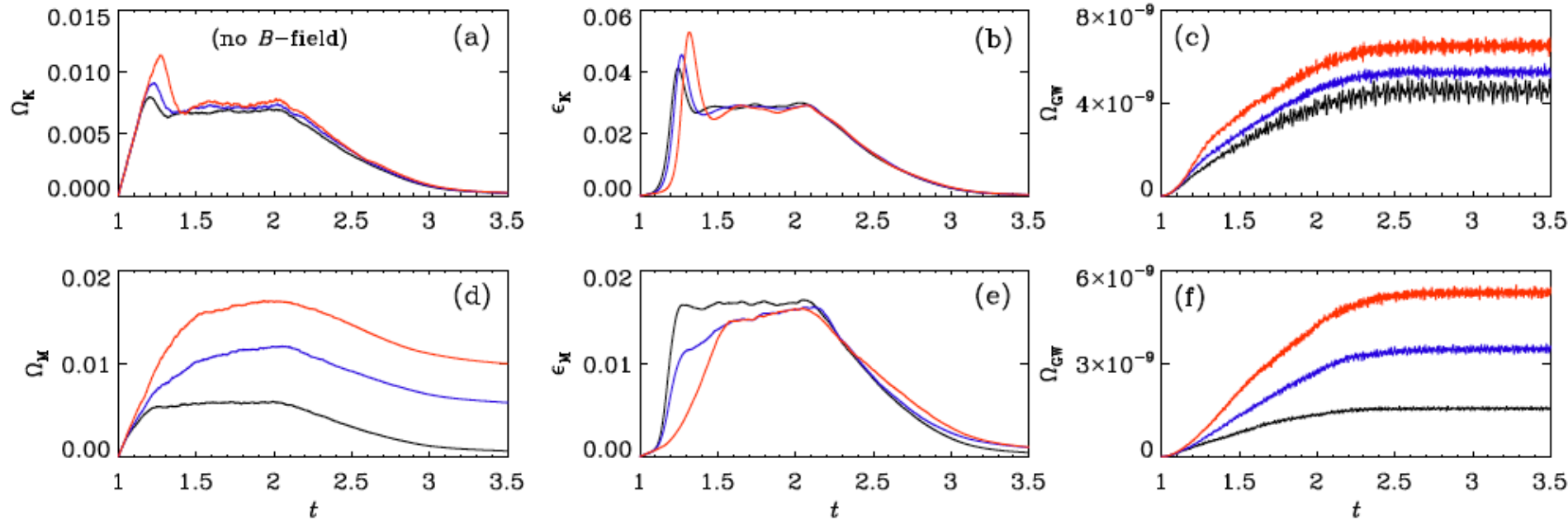
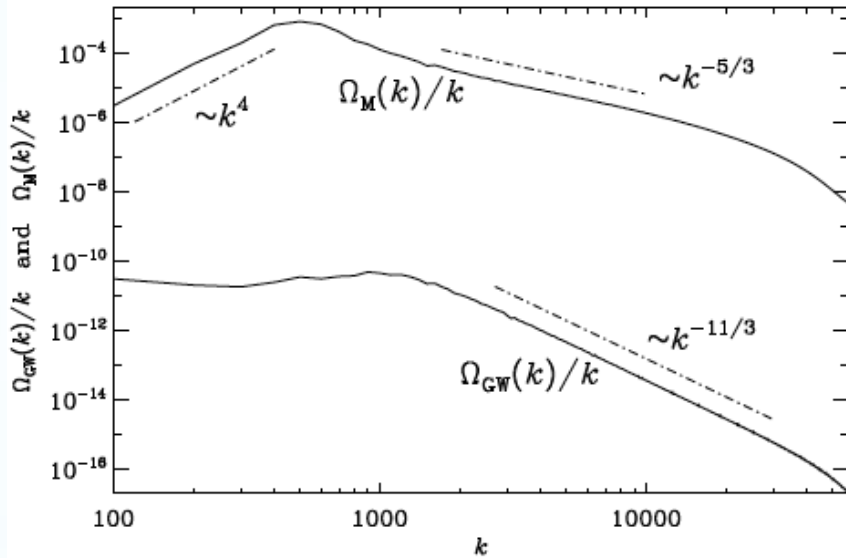
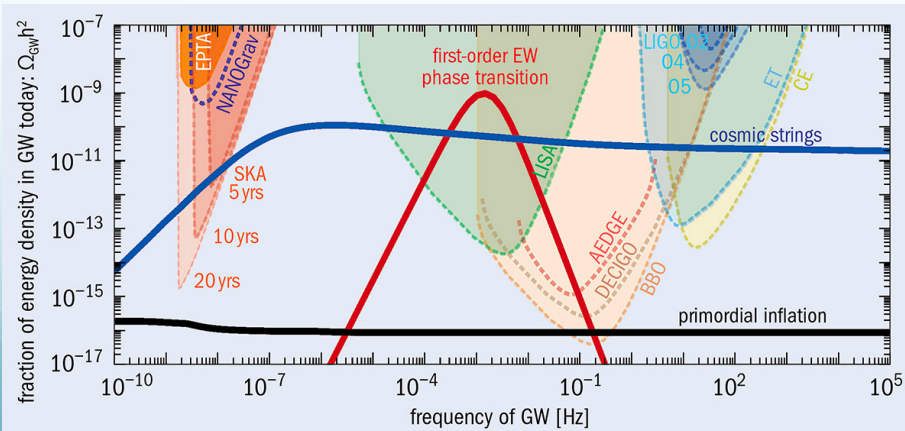


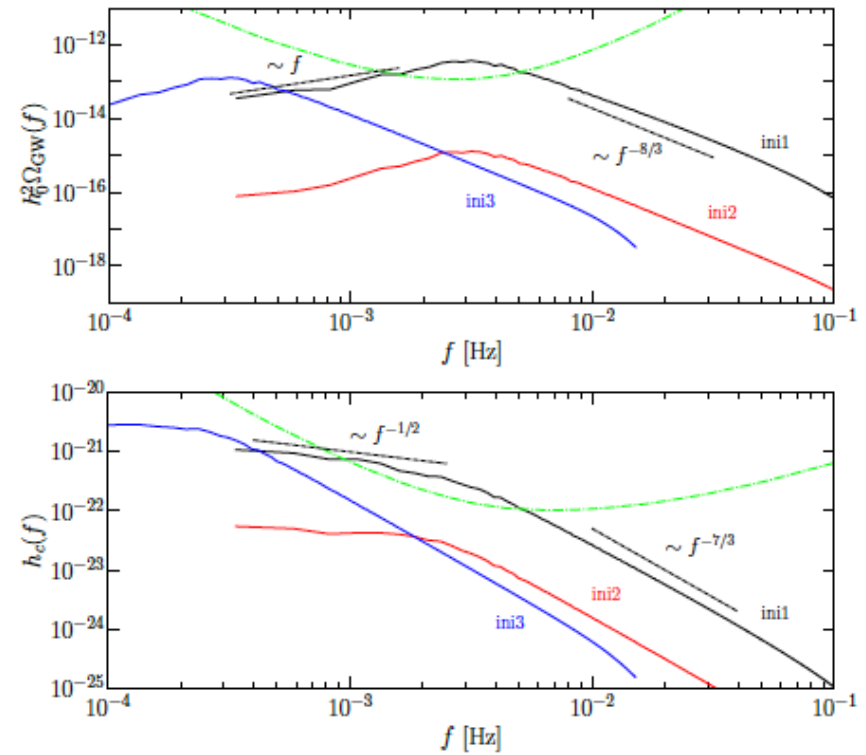
FIG. 2: Evolution of (a) Ω_K , (b) ϵ_K , and (c) Ω_{GW} for kinetically driven cases with $\sigma = 0$ (black), 0.5 (blue), and 1 (red), and of (d) Ω_M , (e) ϵ_M , and (f) Ω_{GW} for magnetically driven cases with $\sigma = 0$ (black), 0.3 (blue), and 1 (red).



Magnetic and GW energy spectra averaged over late times ($t > 1.1$), after the GW spectrum has started to fluctuate around a steady state.



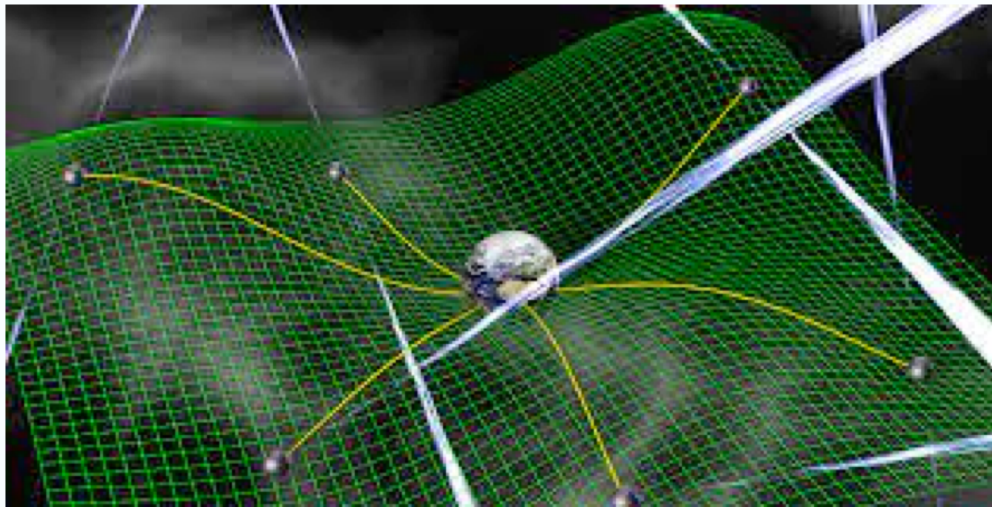
LISA Cosmology Group



Spectra of $h_0^2 \Omega_{\text{GW}}(f)$ and $h_c(f)$ evaluated at the present time, along with the LISA sensitivity curve (green dot-dashed line) to a stochastic GW background after four years of mission.

Roper Pol et al. 2019

Pulsar Timing Arrays: nanoGrav



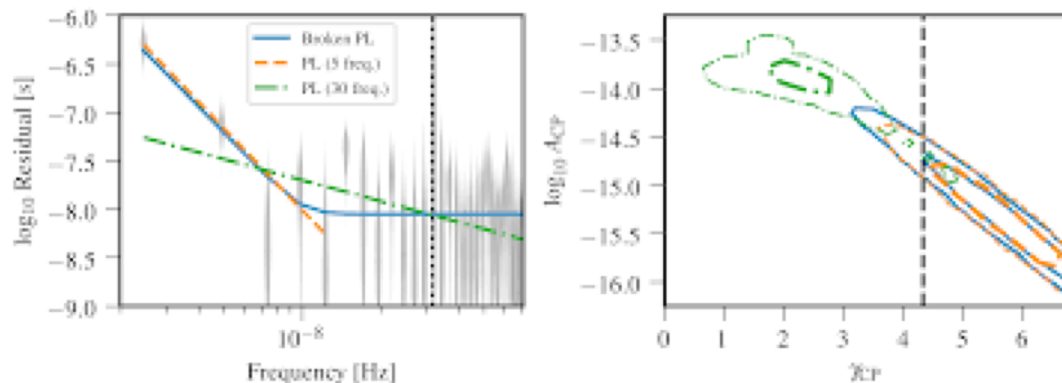
$$h_c(f) = A_{\text{CP}} \left(\frac{f}{f_{\text{yr}}} \right)^{\alpha_{\text{CP}}},$$

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(t, f) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{E}_{\text{crit}}(t)} \frac{d\mathcal{E}_{\text{GW}}}{d \ln f}$$

NANOGrav 12.5-year sensitivity range of 1–100 nHz

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(f) = \frac{2\pi^2}{3H_0^2} f^2 h_c^2(f) = \Omega_{\text{GW}}^{\text{yr}} \left(\frac{f}{f_{\text{yr}}} \right)^{5-\gamma_{\text{CP}}}$$

Arzoumanian et al (2021)

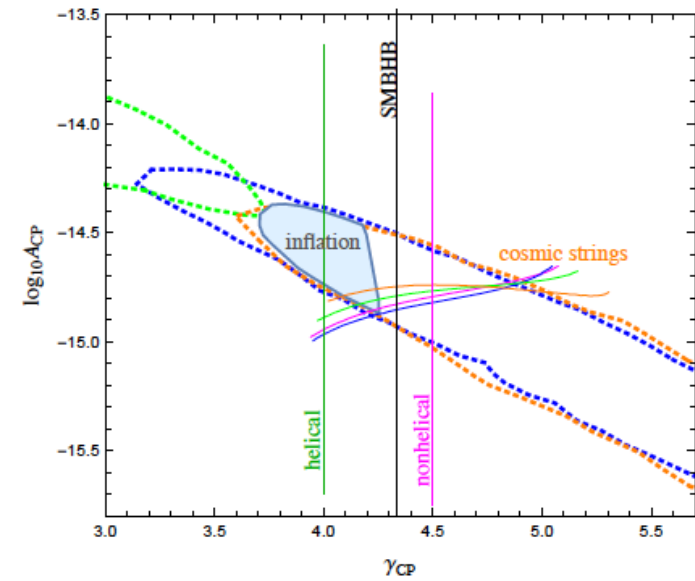


Astrophysical:

- ✓ Super massive black hole binary (SMBHB) (Phinney 2001): $\gamma=13/3$

Cosmological:

- ✓ Bubbles collisions (Kosowsky et al. 1993)
- ✓ Inflation (Vagnozzi 2020)
- ✓ Cosmic strings (Blanco-Pillado et al. 2020)
- ✓ Seed magnetic fields and MHD Turbulence (Neronov et al. 2020)
- ✓ Hydrodynamic and MHD Turbulence (Brandenburg et al. 2021)



Credit: Emma Clarke

QCD energy scale

$$\frac{a_0}{a_*} = 10^{12} \left(\frac{g_{s,*}}{15}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \left(\frac{T_*}{150 \text{ MeV}}\right)$$

$$H_*^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{2} \mathcal{E}_{\text{rad},*} \quad \mathcal{E}_{\text{rad},*} = \frac{\pi^2 g_*}{30} T_*^4 \quad (c = k_B = \hbar = 1)$$

$$f_H \simeq (1.8 \times 10^{-8} \text{ Hz}) 10^{12} \left(\frac{g_*}{15}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \left(\frac{T_*}{150 \text{ MeV}}\right)$$

NanoGrav & Phase Transitions

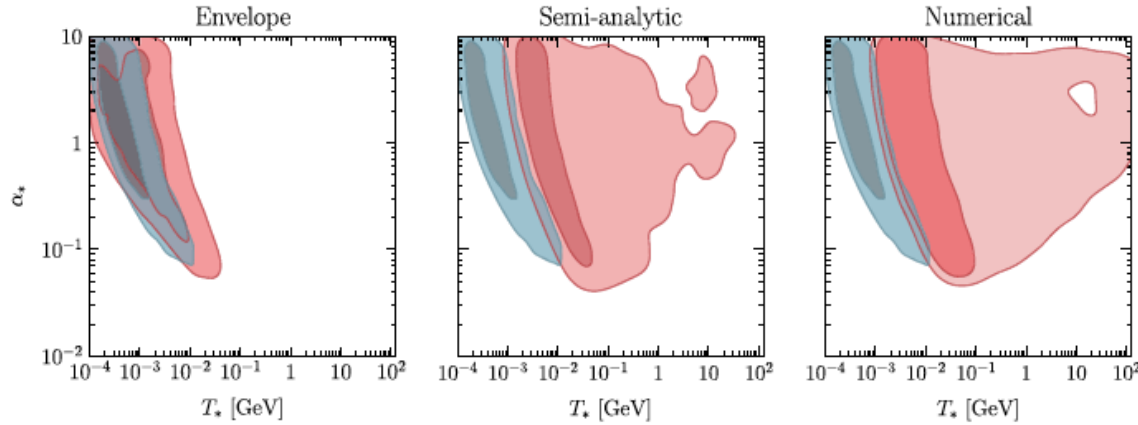


FIG. 1. In red (blue) the $1\text{-}\sigma$ (68% posterior credible level), and $2\text{-}\sigma$ (95% posterior credible level) contours for the two-dimensional posterior distributions in the (T_*, α_*) plane obtained in the BO (SWO). The BO analysis has been performed with the spectral shape computed by using the envelope approximation (left panel), semianalytic results (central panel), and numerical results (right panel). Specifically, we use $(a, b, c) = (1, 2.61, 1.5)$ for the semianalytic results, and $(a, b, c) = (0.7, 2.3, 1)$ for the numerical results.

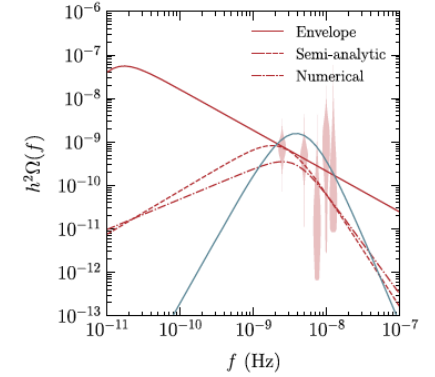


FIG. 2. Maximum likelihood GWB fractional energy-density spectrum for the BO (red) and SWO (blue) analyses compared with the marginalized posterior for the free power spectrum (independent per-frequency characterization; red violin plot) derived in NG12gwb. For the BO analysis we show the results derived by using the envelope (solid line), semianalytic (dashed), and numerical (dot-dashed) spectral shapes. For the BO analyses the values of (α_*, T_*) for these maximum likelihood spectra are $(0.28, 0.7 \text{ MeV})$ for the envelope results, $(1.2, 3.4 \text{ MeV})$ for the semianalytic results, and $(0.13, 14.1 \text{ MeV})$ for the numerical results. While for the SO analysis we get $(6.0, 0.32 \text{ MeV})$.

TABLE I. Parameters for the gravitational wave spectrum of Eq. (4). The values of the parameters (a, b, c) in the spectral shape of the bubble contribution are reported in Table II.

	Bubbles [58]	Sound waves [59]
$\Delta(v_w)$	$[0.48 v_w^3 / (1 + 5.3 v_w^2 + 5 v_w^4)]$	$0.513 v_w$
κ	κ_ϕ	κ_{SW}
p	2	2
q	2	1
$\mathcal{S}(x)$	$\{(a + b)^c / [bx^{-a/c} + ax^{b/c}]^c\}$	$x^3 [7 / (4 + 3x^2)]^{7/2}$
f_*/β	$[0.35 / (1 + 0.07 v_w + 0.69 v_w^4)]$	$(0.536 / v_w)$

T_* [GeV]

α_*

H_*/β

v_w

Phase transition temperature

Phase transition strength

Bubble nucleation rate

Bubble wall velocity

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 127, 251302 (2021)

Editors' Suggestion Featured in Physics

Searching for Gravitational Waves from Cosmological Phase Transitions with the NANOGrav 12.5-Year Dataset

Zaven Arzoumanian,¹ Paul T. Baker,² Harsha Blumer,^{3,4} Bence Bécsey,⁵ Adam Brazier,^{6,7} Paul R. Brook,^{3,4} Sarah Burke-Spolaor,^{3,4,8} Maria Charisi,⁹ Shami Chatterjee,⁵ Siyuan Chen,^{10,11,12} James M. Cordes,⁵ Neil J. Cornish,⁵ Fionnfield Crawford,¹³ H. Thankful Cromartie,⁶ Megan E. DeCesar,^{14,15} Paul B. Demorest,¹⁶ Timothy Dolch,^{17,18} Justin A. Ellis,¹⁹ Elizabeth C. Ferrara,^{20,21,22} William Fiore,^{3,4} Emmanuel Fonseca,²³ Nathan Garver-Daniels,^{3,4} Peter A. Gentile,^{3,4} Deborah C. Good,²⁴ Jeffrey S. Hazboun,²⁵ A. Miguel Holgado,^{26,27} Kristina Islo,²⁸ Ross J. Jennings,⁶ Megan L. Jones,²⁸ Andrew R. Kaiser,^{3,4} David L. Kaplan,²⁸ Luke Zoltan Kelley,²⁹ Joey Shapiro Key,²⁵ Nima Lala,³⁰ Michael T. Lam,^{31,32} T. Joseph W. Lazio,³³ Vincent S. H. Lee,²⁴ Duncan R. Lorimer,^{3,4} Jing Luo,³⁵ Ryan S. Lynch,³⁶ Dustin R. Madison,^{3,4} Maura A. McLaughlin,^{3,4} Chiara M. F. Mingarelli,^{37,38} Andrea Mitridate,^{3,4} Cherry Ng,³⁹ David J. Nice,¹⁴ Timothy T. Pennucci,^{40,41} Nihan S. Pol,^{3,4,9} Scott M. Ransom,⁴⁰ Paul S. Ray,⁴² Brent J. Shapiro-Albert,^{3,4} Xavier Siemens,^{30,38} Joseph Simon,^{33,43} Renée Spiewak,⁴⁴ Ingrid H. Stairs,²⁴ Daniel R. Steinebringer,⁴⁵ Kevin Stovall,¹⁶ Jerry P. Sun,³⁰ Joseph K. Swiggum,¹⁴ Stephen R. Taylor,^{3,4} Jacob E. Tumer,⁴ Michele Vallisneri,³³ Sarah J. Vigeland,¹⁶ Caitlin A. Wit,^{3,4} and Kathryn M. Zurek³⁴

(NANOGrav Collaboration)

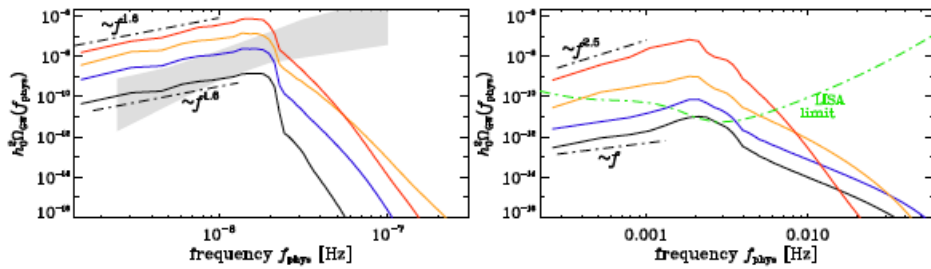


FIG. 2: Frequency spectra, $h_0^2 \Omega_{\text{GW}}(f)$, for both the QCDPT Runs a-d (left) and the EWPT Runs A-D (right) shown in red, orange, blue, and black, respectively.

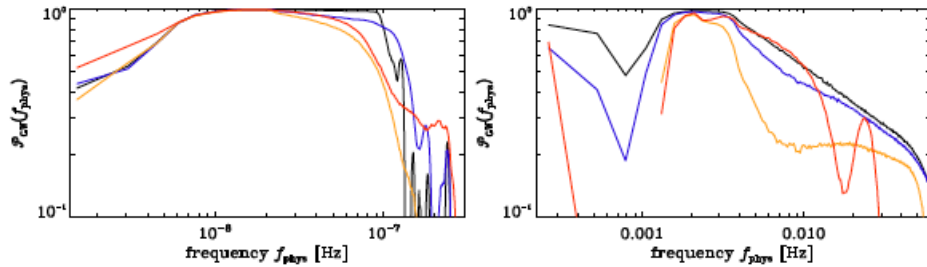
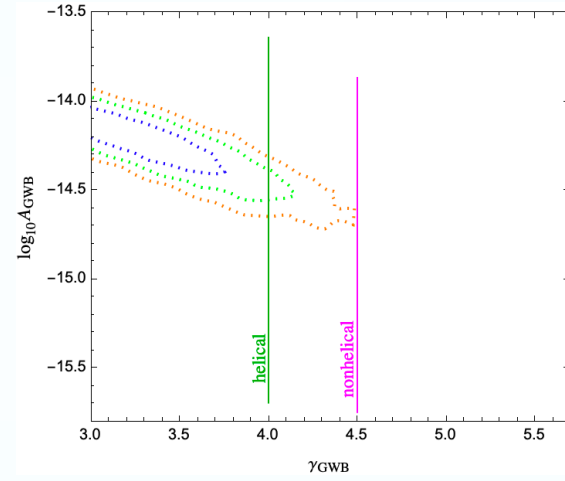


FIG. 3: Polarization spectra, $P_{\text{GW}}(f)$, for the QCDPT Runs a-d (left) and the EWPT Runs A-D (right) [56] shown in red, orange, blue, and black, respectively.



Credit: Emma Clarke

Kahniashvili et al. 2021

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL LETTERS, 951:L8 (24pp), 2023 July 1

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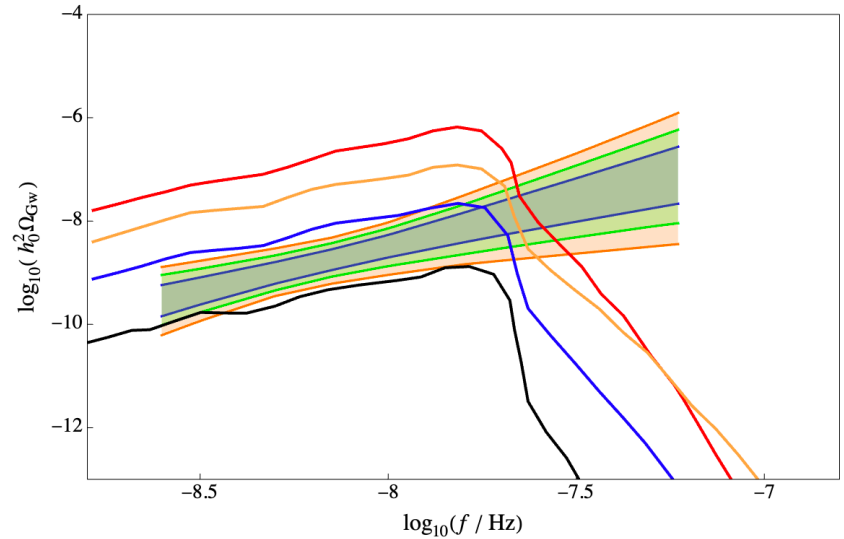
<https://doi.org/10.3847/2041-8213/acdca6>



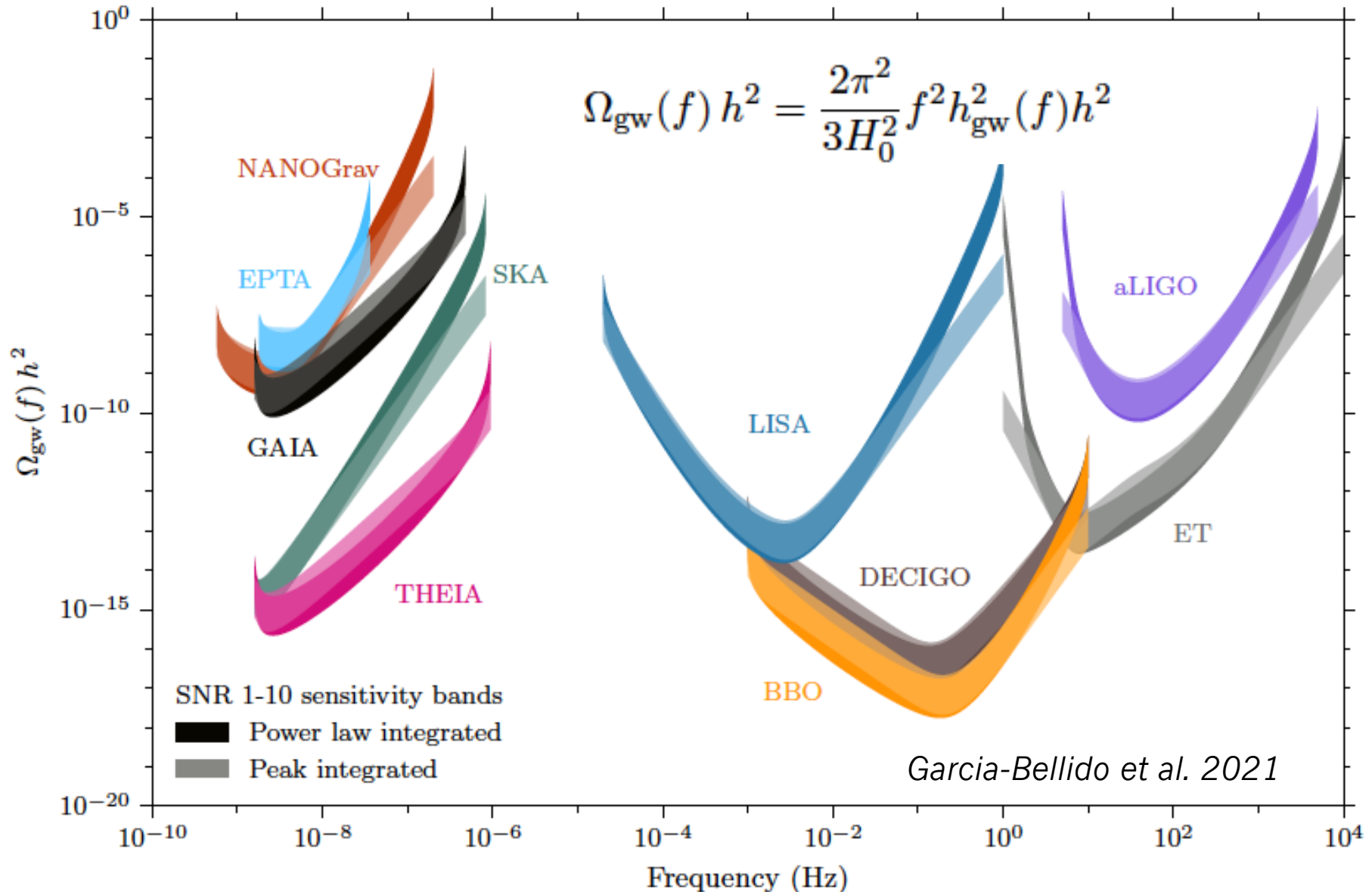
The NANOGrav 15 yr Data Set: Evidence for a Gravitational-wave Background

Gabriella Agazie¹, Akash Anumarlapudi¹, Anne M. Archibald², Zaven Arzoumanian³, Paul T. Baker⁴, Bence Bécsey⁵, Laura Blecha⁶, Adam Brazier^{7,8}, Paul R. Brook⁹, Sarah Burke-Spolaor^{10,11}, Rand Burnette³, Robin Case⁵, Maria Charisi¹², Shami Chatterjee⁷, Katerina Chatziioannou¹³, Belinda D. Cheesebore^{10,11}, Siyuan Chen¹⁴, Tyler Cohen¹⁵, James M. Cordes⁷, Neil J. Cornish¹⁶, Fronefield Crawford¹⁷, H. Thankful Cromartie^{7,70}, Kathryn Crowter¹⁸, Curt J. Cutler¹⁹, Megan E. DeCesar²⁰, Dallas DeGan⁵, Paul B. Demorest²¹, Heling Deng⁵, Timothy Dolch^{22,23}, Brendan Drachler^{24,25}, Justin A. Ellis²⁶, Elizabeth C. Ferrara^{27,28,29}, William Fiore^{10,11}, Emmanuel Fonseca^{10,11}, Gabriel E. Freedman¹, Nate Garver-Daniels^{10,11}, Peter A. Gentile^{10,11}, Kyle A. Gersbach¹², Joseph Glaser^{10,11}, Deborah C. Good^{30,31}, Kayhan Gültekin³², Jeffrey S. Hazboun⁵, Sophie Hourihane¹³, Kristina Islo¹, Ross J. Jennings^{10,11,73}, Aaron D. Johnson^{1,13}, Megan L. Jones¹, Andrew R. Kaiser^{10,11}, David L. Kaplan¹, Luke Zoltan Kelley³³, Matthew Kerr³⁴, Joey S. Key³⁵, Tonia C. Klein¹, Nima Laal⁵, Michael T. Lam^{24,25}, William G. Lamb¹², T. Joseph W. Lazio¹⁹, Natalia Lewandowska³⁶, Tyson B. Littenberg³⁷, Tingting Liu^{10,11}, Andrea Lommen³⁸, Duncan R. Lorimer^{10,11}, Jing Luo^{39,71}, Ryan S. Lynch⁴⁰, Chung-Pei Ma^{33,41}, Dustin R. Madison⁴², Margaret A. Mattson^{10,11}, Alexander McEwen¹, James W. McKee^{43,44}, Maura A. McLaughlin^{10,11}, Natasha McMann¹², Bradley W. Meyers^{18,45}, Patrick M. Meyers¹³, Chiara M. F. Mingarelli^{30,31,46}, Andrea Mitridate⁴⁷, Priyamvada Natarajan^{48,49}, Cherry Ng⁵⁰, David J. Nice⁵¹, Stella Koch Ocker⁵, Ken D. Olum⁵², Timothy T. Pennucci⁵³, Benetge B. P. Perera⁵⁴, Polina Petrov¹², Nihan S. Pol¹², Henri A. Radovan⁵⁵, Scott M. Ransom⁵⁶, Paul S. Ray⁵⁴, Joseph D. Romano⁵⁷, Shashwat C. Sardesai¹, Ann Schmiedekamp⁵⁸, Carl Schmiedekamp⁵⁸, Kai Schmitz⁵⁹, Levi Schulz¹², Brent J. Shapiro-Albert^{10,11,60}, Xavier Siemens^{1,5}, Joseph Simon^{61,72}, Magdalena S. Siwek⁶², Ingrid H. Stairs¹⁸, Daniel R. Steinebrink⁶³, Kevin Stovall²¹, Jerry P. Sun⁵, Abhimanyu Susobhanan¹, Joseph K. Swiggum^{61,72}, Jacob Taylor⁵, Stephen R. Taylor¹², Jacob E. Turner^{10,11}, Caner Unal^{64,65}, Michele Vallisneri^{13,19}, Rutger van Haasteren⁶⁶, Sarah J. Vigeland¹, Haley M. Wahl^{10,11}, Qiaohong Wang¹², Caitlan A. Witt^{67,68}, and Olivia Young⁶⁹

The NANOGrav Collaboration⁶⁹



Gravitational Waves Missions



Take Home Comments

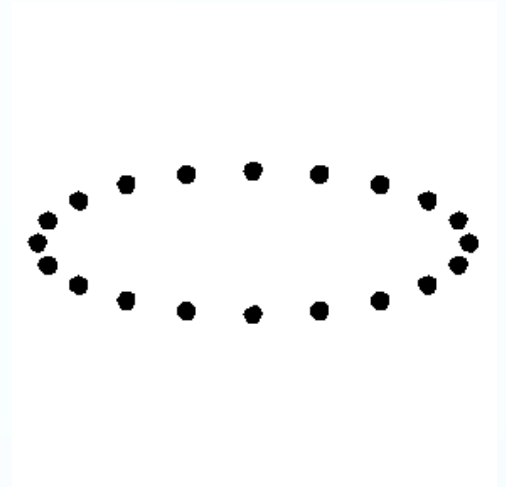
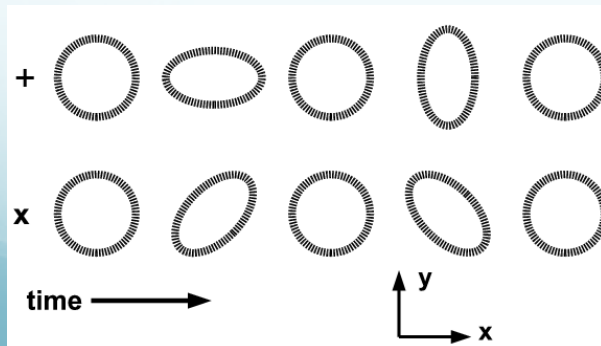
- Cross-correlating data between different observations:
 - ❖ PTAs
 - ❖ Astrometric missions: Gaia, Theia
- Advance Numerical Simulations Technique to Model Primordial Magnetic Fields and Turbulence
- Determine the mechanisms insuring the presence of viable magnetic field/turbulent sources in the early universe and correspondingly correct initial conditions:
 - ❖ Primordial magnetogenesis
 - ❖ Bubble collisions/nucleation – more realistic models
 - ❖ Sound waves as a source for turbulence
 - ❖ Axions driven turbulence and axion like particles driven inflation
 - ❖ Chiral sources and gravitational waves polarization

Thank you!

Questions?

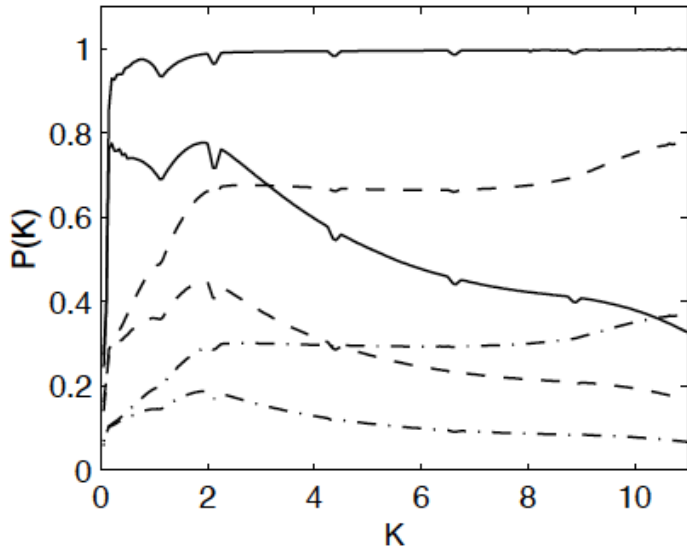
Gravitational Waves Polarization

- If the parity in the early universe is violated – relic gravitational waves are polarized.
- The standard model predicts un-polarized gravitational waves



Linearly polarized + and X

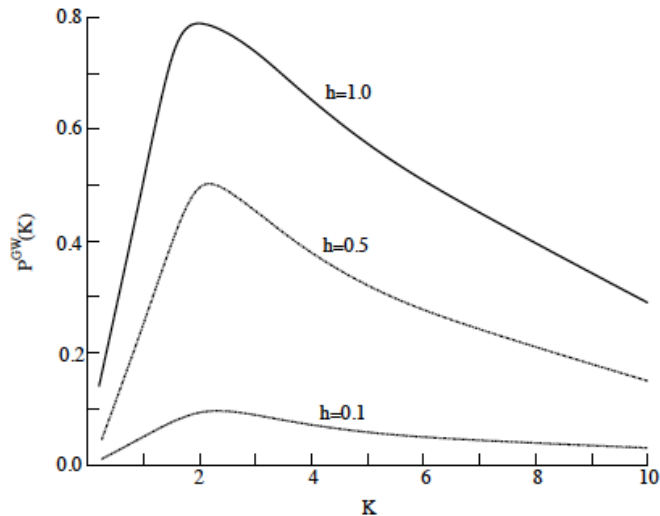




Kahniashvili, et al. 2005

$$\mathcal{P}(k) = \frac{\langle h^{+\star}(\mathbf{k})h^+(\mathbf{k}') - h^{-\star}(\mathbf{k})h^-(\mathbf{k}') \rangle}{\langle h^{+\star}(\mathbf{k})h^+(\mathbf{k}') + h^{-\star}(\mathbf{k})h^-(\mathbf{k}') \rangle} = \frac{\mathcal{H}(k)}{H(k)}$$

- Assuming stationary Kolmogoroff like turbulence (HK) or stationary helical Kolmogoroff turbulence (HT)



Kisslinger and Kahniashvili 2015

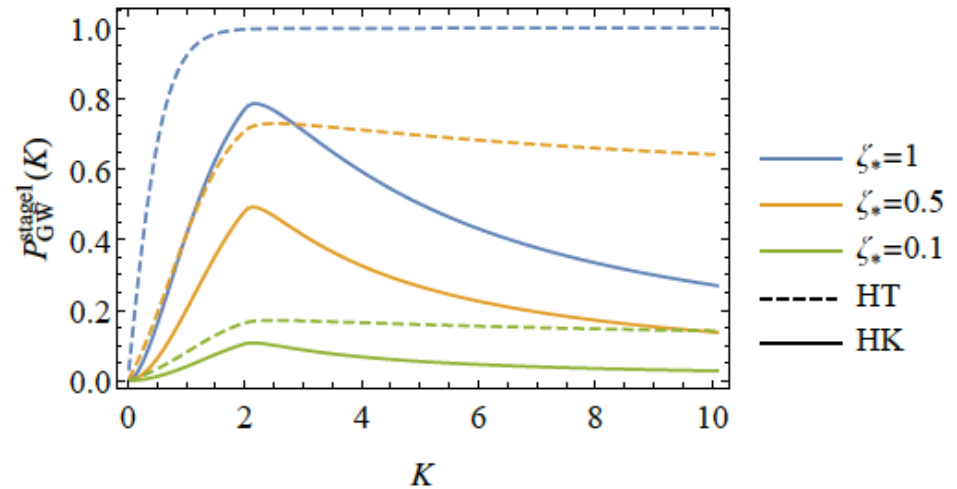


Figure 3: The degree of polarisation of Stage 1 direct cascade GWs as a function of the normalised wavenumber $K = k/k_0$, assuming the indicated values of the helicity dissipation parameter h . The value of h coincides with the initial magnetic helicity fraction ζ_* for the helical Kolmogorov turbulence (HK) model as considered in this paper, shown by solid lines. We also show with dashed lines the polarisation fraction for Stage 1 turbulence driven by the Helicity Transfer (HT) model whose use may be more appropriate in the large helicity regime. However, we find the choice of Stage 1 model has no material impact on our overall results in this scenario as discussed in the text.

Ellis et al. 2020

polarization spectrum

- Polarization spectrum retains information on parity violation at large wavelengths
 - Inverse cascading?

$$\mathcal{P}(k) = \frac{\langle h_+^*(\mathbf{k})h_+(\mathbf{k}') - h_-^*(\mathbf{k})h_-(\mathbf{k}') \rangle}{\langle h_+^*(\mathbf{k})h_+(\mathbf{k}') + h_-^*(\mathbf{k})h_-(\mathbf{k}') \rangle} = \frac{\mathcal{H}(k)}{H(k)}.$$

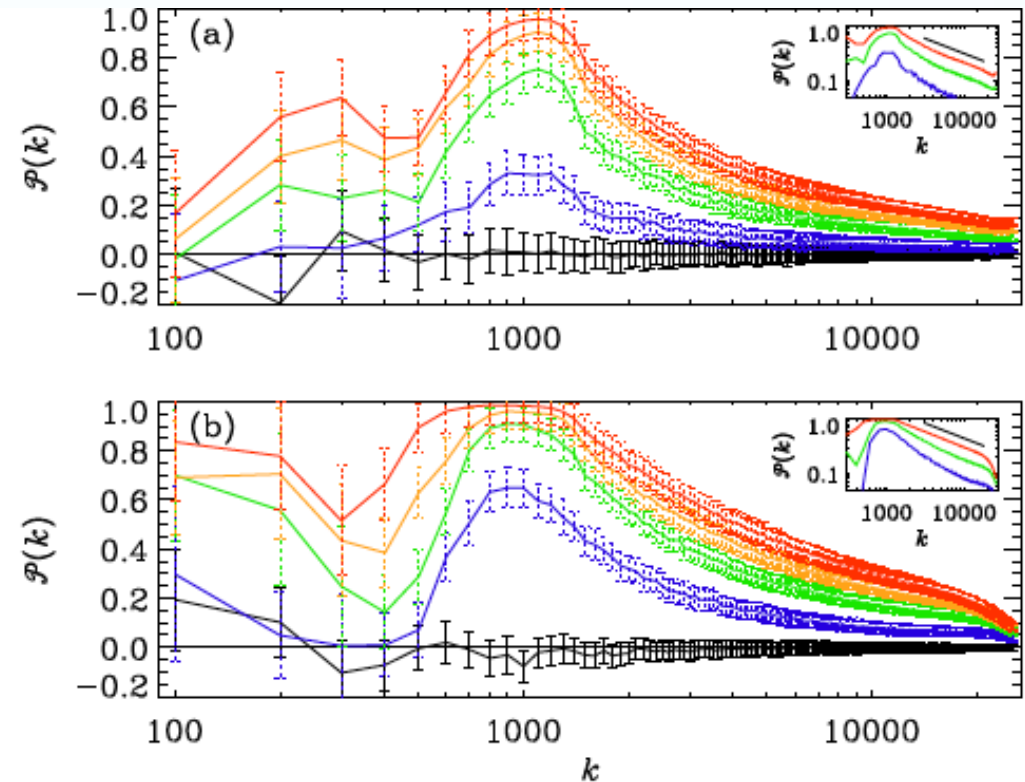
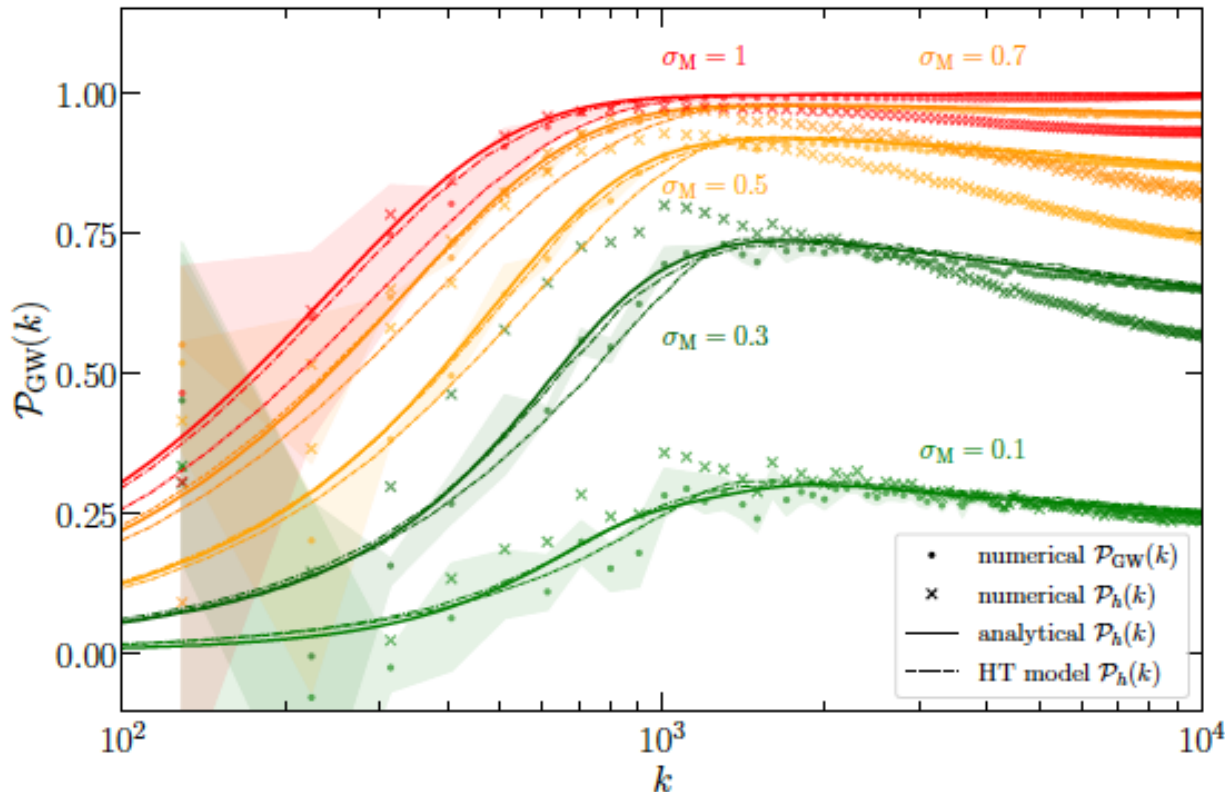


FIG. 3: Degree of circular polarization for (a) kinetically and (b) magnetically forced cases with $\sigma = 0$ (black) 0.1 (blue), 0.3 (green), 0.5 (orange), and 1 (red). Approximate error bars based on the temporal fluctuations and statistical spread for different random seeds of the forcing are shown as solid black lines for $\sigma = 0$ and as dotted lines otherwise.

more about polarization



Roper Pol et al
2021

Figure 8. Polarization spectra $\mathcal{P}_{\text{GW}}(k)$ (dots) and $\mathcal{P}_h(k)$ (crosses) obtained from the numerical simulations for different σ_M , compared to $\mathcal{P}_h(k)$ computed from the analytical model (single power law and extended to a broken power law; see figure 7) using HT type of turbulence (dashed lines), and from the analytical integrals; see equations (3.2) and (3.3), using the numerical spectra of the turbulence (solid lines). Similar to figure 6, the shaded regions denote the maximum and minimum polarizations $\mathcal{P}_{\text{GW}}(k)$ of the fluctuations.

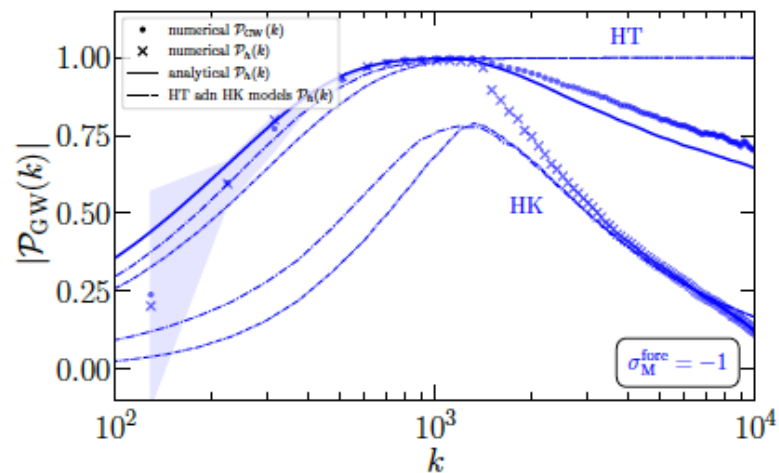
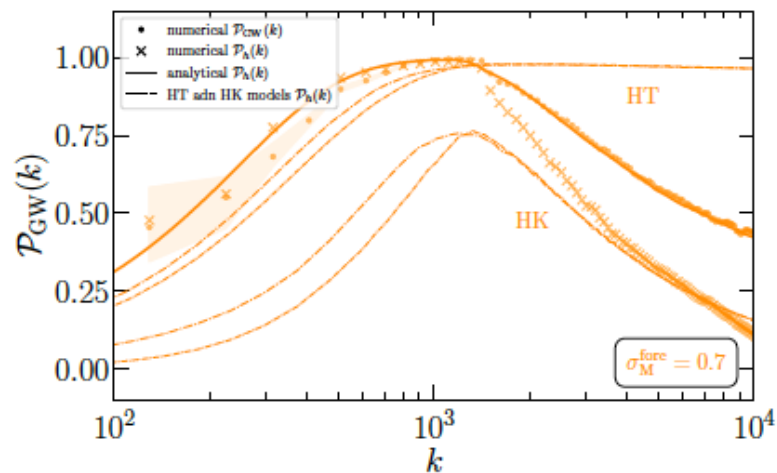
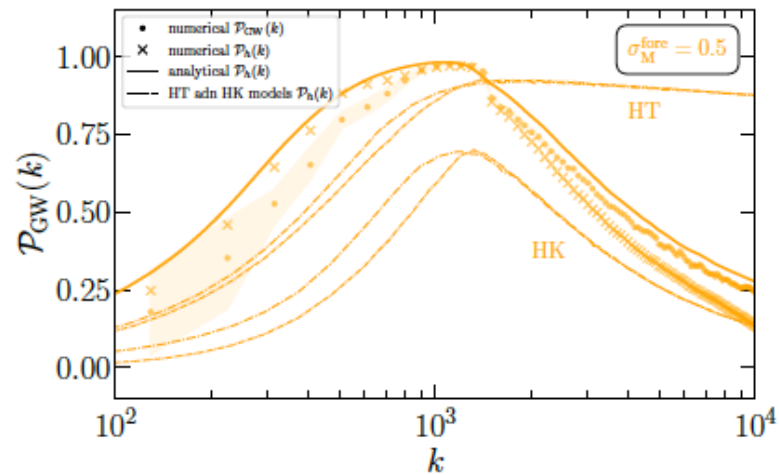
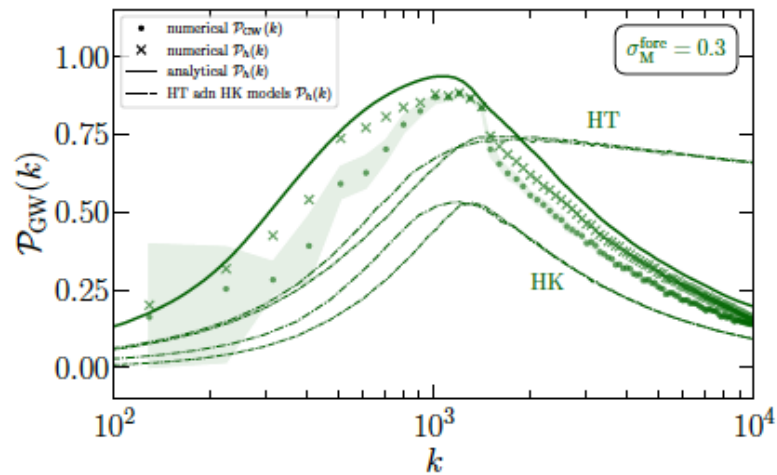


Figure 9. Similar to figure 8, polarization spectra $\mathcal{P}_{\text{GW}}(k)$ and $\mathcal{P}_h(k)$ obtained from the numerical simulations for different σ , compared to $\mathcal{P}_h(k)$ obtained from the analytical model using both HK and HT types of turbulence (dashed lines; see figure 7), and obtained from the analytical integral, using the numerical spectrum of the turbulence (solid lines).

detection prospects

Measuring the net circular polarization of the stochastic gravitational wave background with interferometers

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Abstract

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Parity violating interactions in the early Universe can source a stochastic gravitational wave background (SGWB) with a net circular polarization. In this paper, we study possible ways to search for circular polarization of the SGWB with interferometers. Planar detectors are unable to measure the net circular polarization of an isotropic SGWB. We discuss the possibility of using the dipolar anisotropy kinematically induced by the motion of the solar system with respect to the cosmic reference frame to measure the net circular polarization of the SGWB with planar detectors. We apply this approach to LISA, re-assessing previous analyses by means of a more detailed computation and using the most recent instrument specifications, and to the Einstein Telescope (ET), estimating for the first time its sensitivity to circular polarization. We find that both LISA and ET, despite operating at different frequencies, could detect net circular polarization with a signal-to-noise ratio of order one in a SGWB with amplitude $h^2\Omega_{\text{GW}} \simeq 10^{-11}$. We also investigate the case of a network of ground based detectors. We present fully analytical, covariant formulas for the detector overlap functions in the presence of circular polarization. Our formulas do not rely on particular choices of reference frame, and can be applied to interferometers with arbitrary angles among their arms.

- ✓ Dipolar anisotropy introduced by our proper motion, Seto 2006 (for LISA and ET)
- ✓ Curvature of the Earth for ground based detectors, Seto & Taruya 2007, 2008

Domske et al. 2019:

In the present work we reconsider previous results by taking into account the full response functions and noise curves in the entire frequency band (for planar detectors). Moreover, we provide fully analytical and covariant expressions for the (parity-sensitive) response functions of a ground-based detector network.

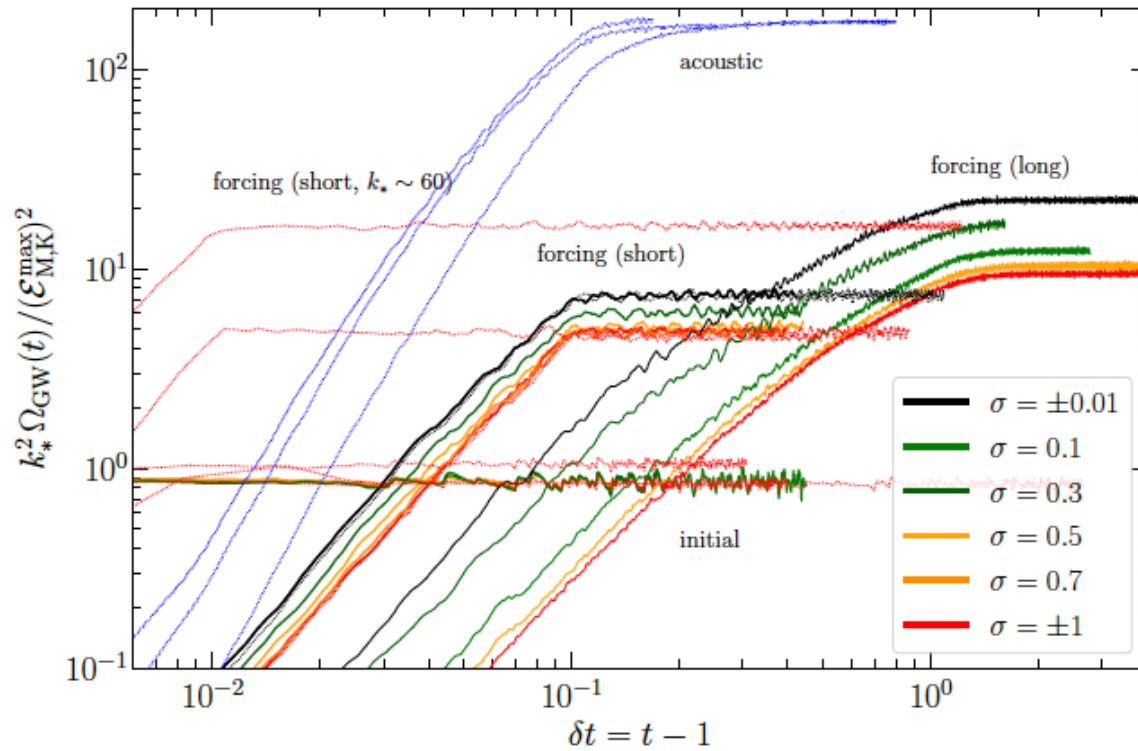


Figure 10. GW energy density $\Omega_{\text{GW}}(t)$ in units of $a^{-4}(H_*/H_0)^2 = 1.644 \times 10^{-5} (g_*/100)^{-1/3}$; see equations (2.15) and (4.1), and compensated by $(\mathcal{E}_i^{\text{max}})^2/k_*^2$, for $i = \text{M}$ (magnetic) and K (kinetic), for the runs with an initial given magnetic field (‘initial’), and for the runs with a forced magnetic field (‘forcing (short)’), with $t_{\text{max}} = 1.1$. Added for comparison are the runs in ref. [65] (‘forcing (long)’), in which the magnetic field is forced for longer times ($t_{\text{max}} = 3$), and the runs of ref. [81], which contain cases with initial given magnetic field, with forced magnetic field at $k_* = 60, 600, \text{ and } 6000$, and runs of acoustic turbulence (‘acoustic’).