

# Gravitational wave signals from cosmological phase transitions and cosmic strings

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10th LISA Cos-WG workshop, Stavanger, 6 VI 2023

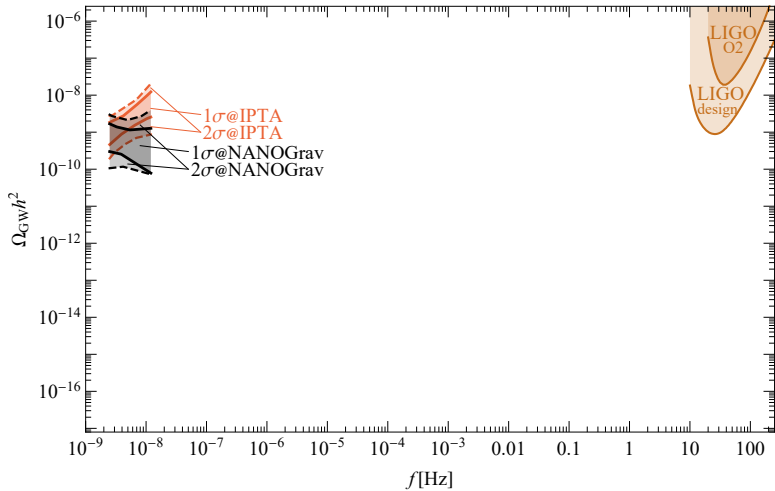
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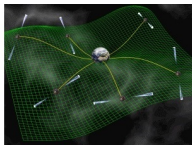
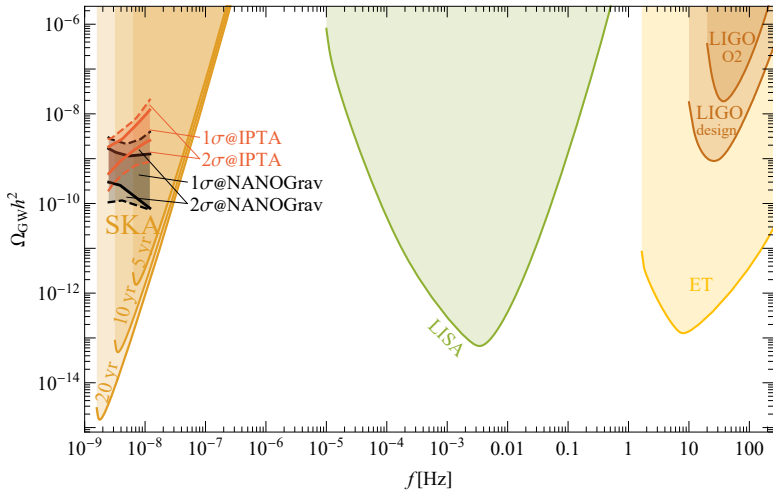


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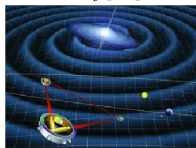
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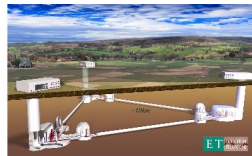
Pulsar Timing

[David Champion/NASA/JPL]



LISA

wiki/Laser\_Interferometer\_Space\_Antenna



Einstein Telescope

www.et-gw.eu

# First Order Phase Transition: bubble nucleation

- Temperature corrections to the potential

$$V(\phi, T) = \frac{g_m^2}{24} (T^2 - T_0^2) \phi^2 - \frac{g_m}{12\pi} T \phi^3 + \lambda \phi^4$$

- EOM  $\rightarrow$  bubble profile

$$\frac{d^2\phi}{dr^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{d\phi}{dr} - \frac{\partial V(\phi, T)}{\partial \phi} = 0,$$

$$\phi(r \rightarrow \infty) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \dot{\phi}(r=0) = 0.$$

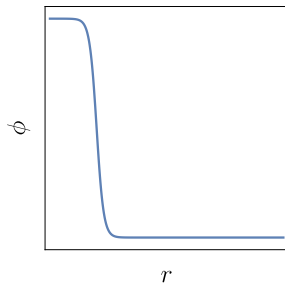
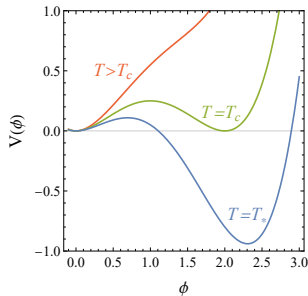
- $\mathcal{O}(3)$  symmetric action

$$S_3(T) = 4\pi \int dr r^2 \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{d\phi}{dr} \right)^2 + V(\phi, T) \right].$$

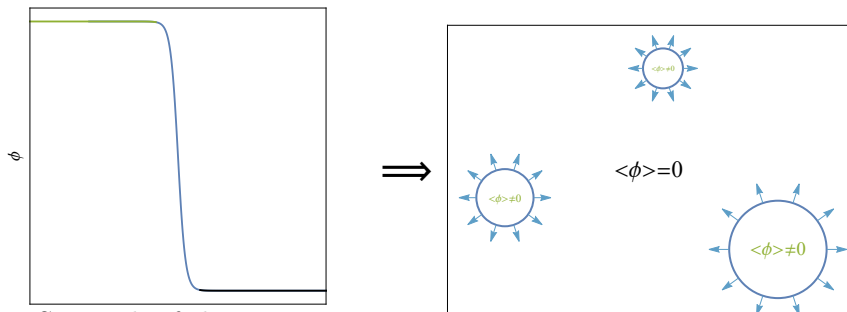
- nucleation temperature

$$\frac{\Gamma}{H^4} \approx \left( \frac{T}{H} \right)^4 \exp\left(-\frac{S_3(T)}{T}\right) \approx 1$$

Linde '81 '83



# First Order Phase Transition



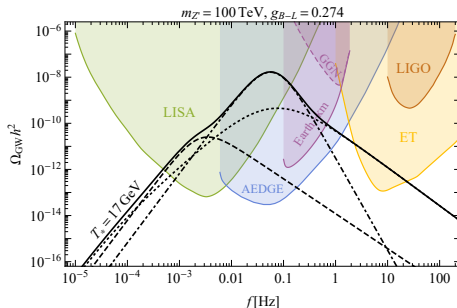
- Strength of the transition

$$\alpha \approx \left. \frac{\Delta V - \frac{T}{4} \frac{\partial \Delta V}{\partial T}}{\rho R} \right|_{T=T_*}, \quad \Delta V = V_f - V_t$$

- Average size of bubbles upon collision (Characteristic scale)

$$HR_* = (8\pi)^{\frac{1}{3}} \left( \frac{\beta}{H} \right)^{-1}$$

# Gravitational waves from a PT



- Gravitational wave signals are produced by three main mechanisms:

- collisions of bubble walls  $\Omega_{\text{col}} \propto \left( \kappa_{\text{col}} \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+1} \right)^2 (HR_*)^2$   
Kamionkowski '93, Konstandin '08 '17, Hindmarsh '18 '20, Lewicki '19 '20 '22,
- sound waves  $\Omega_{\text{sw}} \propto \left( \kappa_{\text{sw}} \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+1} \right)^2 (HR_*) (H\tau_{\text{sw}})$   
Hindmarsh '13 '15 '17 '19 '21 '22, Ellis '18 '19 '20, Jinno '20 '22 Lewicki '22
- turbulence  $\Omega_{\text{turb}} \propto ?$   
Caprini '06 '09 '20, Brandenburg '10 '12 '17, Roper-Pol '17 '19 '21, Ellis '19 '20

- Simulation of a scalar coupled to the plasma

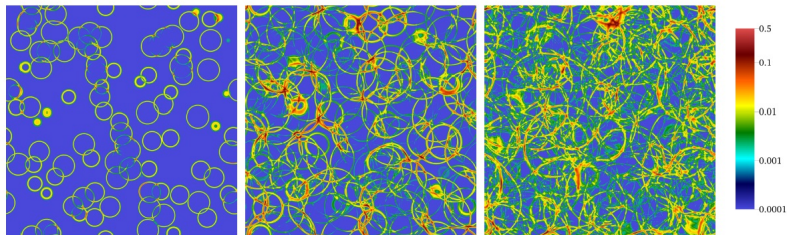


FIG. 4. Slices of fluid kinetic energy density  $E/T_c^4$  at  $t = 500 T_c^{-1}$ ,  $t = 1000 T_c^{-1}$  and  $t = 1500 T_c^{-1}$  respectively, for the  $\eta/T_c = 0.15$ ,  $N_b = 988$  simulation.

- Fit to the GW spectrum

$$\Omega_{\text{gw}} \propto \left(\frac{f}{f_p}\right)^3 \left(\frac{7}{4 + 3(f/f_p)^2}\right)^{\frac{7}{2}}$$

- Higgsless simulation of the plasma

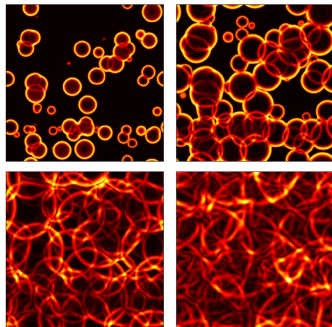
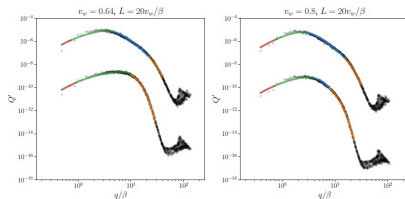


Figure 4: Kinetic energy  $v^3$  in different simulation snapshots:  $t = 2.7/\beta$  (top left),  $5.4/\beta$  (top right),  $10.8/\beta$  (bottom left) and  $20.1/\beta$  (bottom right). We use box size  $L = 40v_w/\beta$ , weak transitions and  $v_w = 0.8$ .

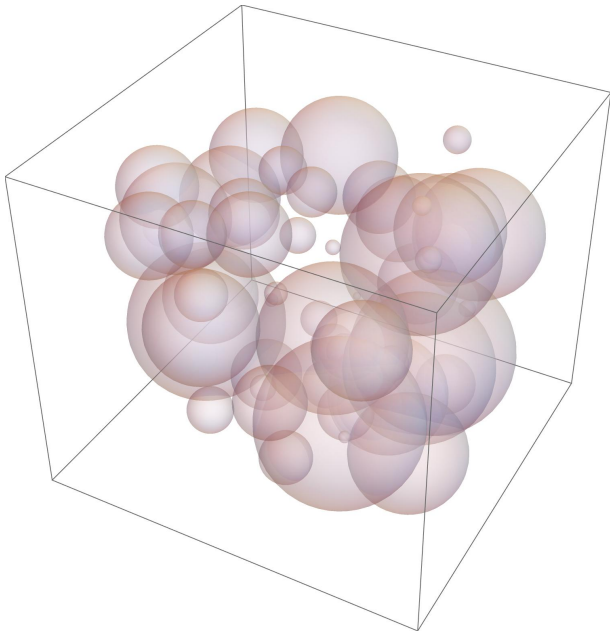


- Fit to the GW spectrum

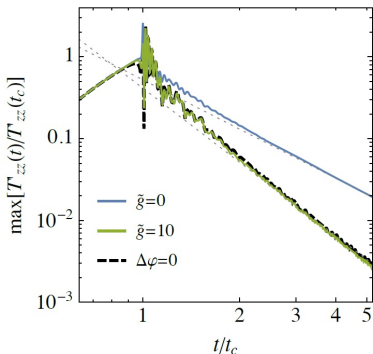
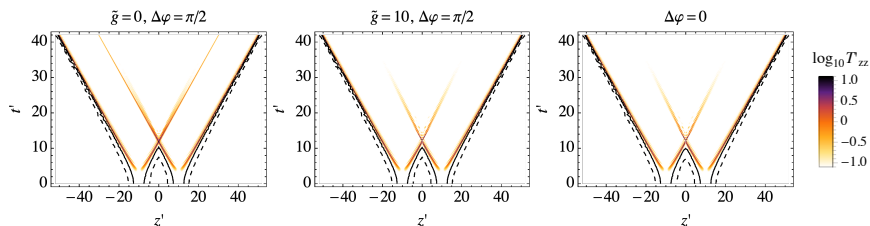
$$\Omega_{\text{gw}} \propto \frac{(f/f_1)^3}{1 + (f/f_1)^2[1 + (f/f_2)^4]}, \quad f_2/f_1 \approx 1/\xi_{\text{shell}}$$



# Strong transitions: computation of the GW spectrum



# Abelian Higgs Model: Energy Scaling



- scaled gauge coupling:

$$\tilde{g} = \frac{gv^2}{\sqrt{\Delta V}}$$

- Global Symmetry breaking:

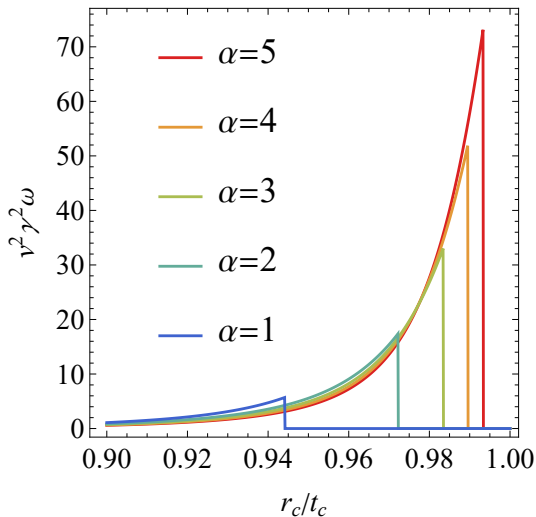
$$T_{zz} \propto R^{-2}$$

- Gauge Symmetry breaking:

$$T_{zz} \propto R^{-3}$$

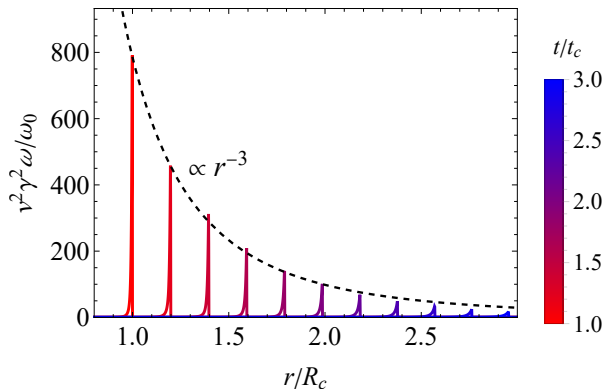
# Fluid Shells

- Plasma profiles for  $v_w \gtrsim v_J$



# Fluid Shell Evolution

- Plasma profile evolution with  $\alpha = 20$  and  $\gamma_w = 50$

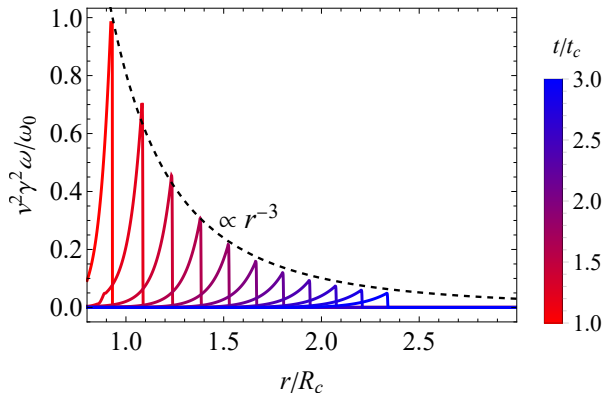


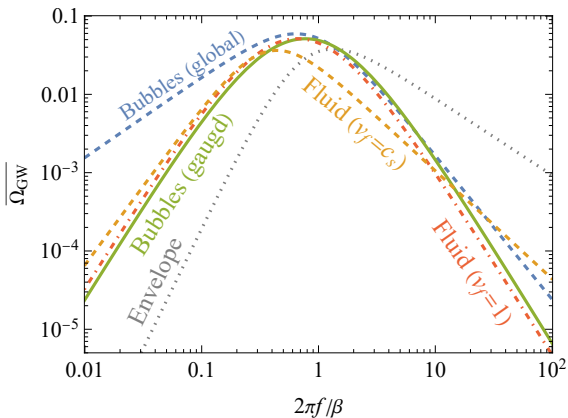
- Fluid shells with  $\alpha \gg 1$ :

$$T_{zz} \propto R^{-3}$$

# Fluid Shell Evolution

- Plasma profile evolution with  $\alpha = 0.5$  and  $\gamma_w = 3$





- Resulting spectrum:

$$\overline{\Omega}_{GW} = \frac{A(a+b)^c}{\left[ b \left( \frac{f}{f_p} \right)^{-\frac{a}{c}} + a \left( \frac{f}{f_p} \right)^{\frac{b}{c}} \right]^c}$$

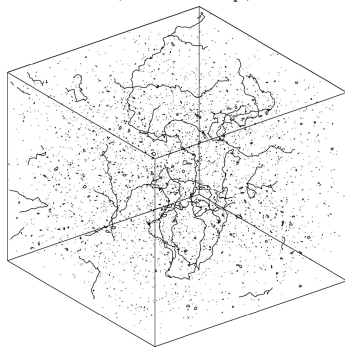
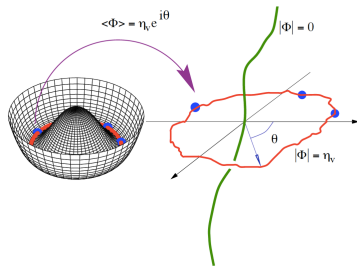
	Bubbles		Fluid	
	Global( $T \propto R^{-2}$ )	Gauged ( $T \propto R^{-3}$ )	$v_{\text{fluid}} = 1$	$v_{\text{fluid}} = c_s$
100 $A$	$5.93 \pm 0.05$	$5.13 \pm 0.05$	$5.14 \pm 0.04$	$3.64 \pm 0.02$
$a$	$1.03 \pm 0.04$	$2.41 \pm 0.10$	$2.36 \pm 0.09$	$2.02 \pm 0.08$
$b$	$1.84 \pm 0.17$	$2.42 \pm 0.11$	$2.36 \pm 0.09$	$1.38 \pm 0.06$
$c$	$1.91 \pm 0.29$	$1.45 \pm 0.34$	$3.69 \pm 0.48$	$1.48 \pm 0.32$
$2\pi f_p/\beta$	$1.33 \pm 0.19$	$0.64 \pm 0.09$	$0.66 \pm 0.04$	$0.44 \pm 0.04$

# Cosmic Strings

- Charged complex scalar field

$$V = \lambda \left( \Phi^\dagger \Phi - \frac{v^2}{2} \right)^2$$

- Horizon size at early time (high temperature)  $d_H \propto M_p/T^2$

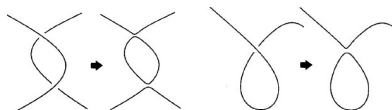


# Cosmic String network evolution

- Static string network would red-shift as

$$\rho_{\infty} \propto a^{-2}$$

- strings intercommute on collision

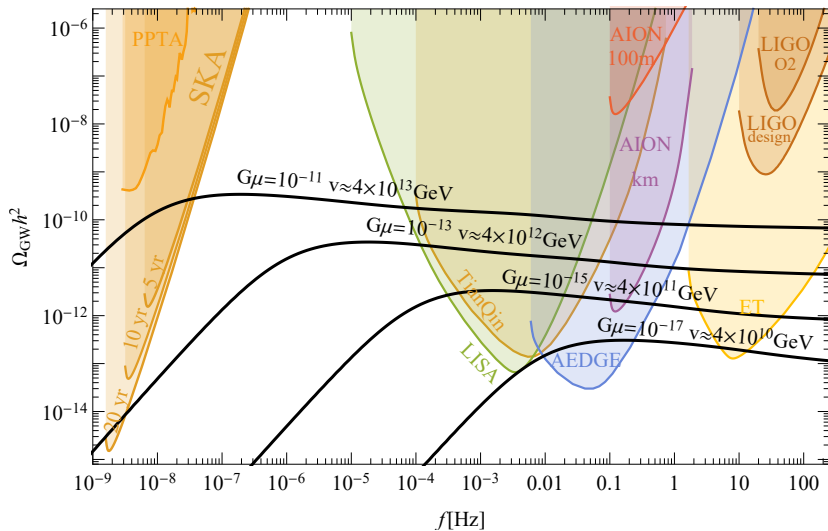


- overall energy density of the network scales with total energy density

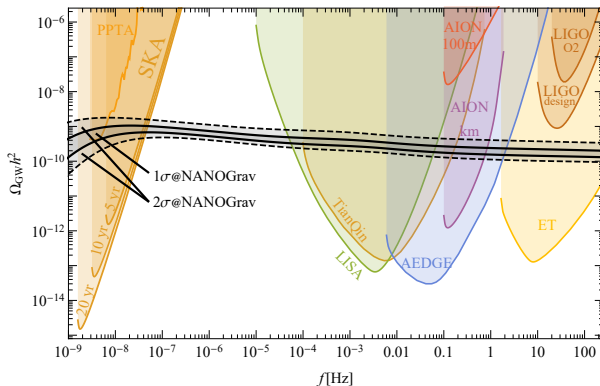
$$\frac{\rho_{\infty}}{\rho_{\text{tot}}} \propto G\mu \propto \frac{v^2}{M_p^2}$$



# Stochastic GW background from Cosmic Strings



# Cosmic String fit to NANOGrav data



- results within the 68% CL

$$G\mu \in (4 \times 10^{-11}, 10^{-10})$$

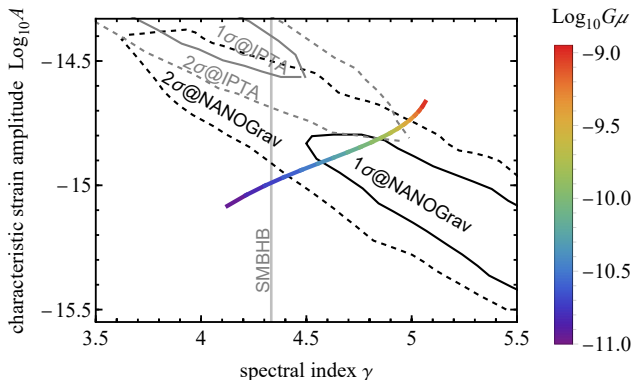
- results within the 95% CL

$$G\mu \in (2 \times 10^{-11}, 3 \times 10^{-10})$$

# power-law fit to PTA data

- power-law fit to the data

$$\Omega(f) = \frac{2\pi^2}{3H_0^2} A^2 f_{yr}^2 \left( \frac{f}{f_{yr}} \right)^{5-\gamma}$$



- Data

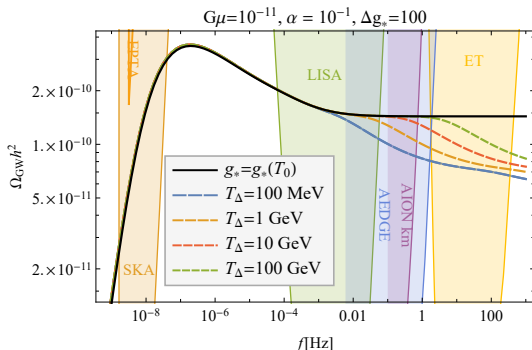
[NANOGrav 2009.04496](#) [PPTA 2107.12112](#) [EPTA 2110.13184](#) [IPTA 2201.03980](#)

# Cosmic Strings GW signal and expansion history

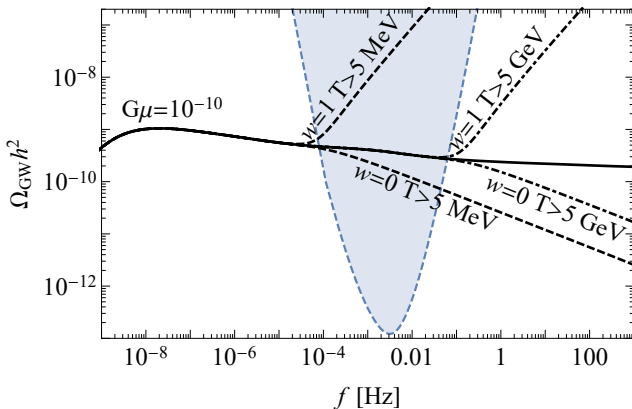
- We add  $\Delta g_*$  new degrees of freedom at  $T_\Delta$

$$g_*(T) = \begin{cases} g_*(T_0) & \text{for } T < T_\Delta \\ g_*(T_0) + \Delta g_* & \text{for } T > T_\Delta \end{cases}$$

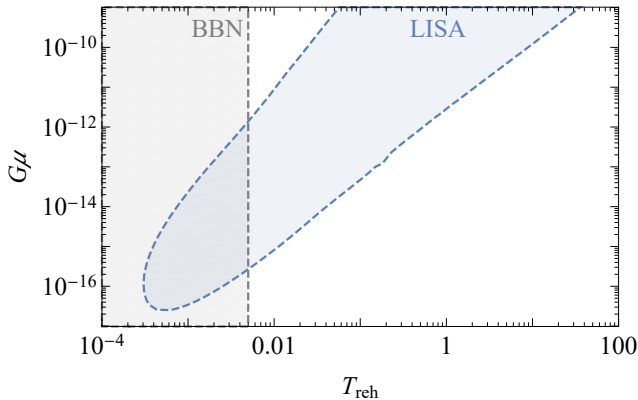
- An example with  $\Delta g_* = 100$



- More dramatic modifications of the expansion for example an early kination ( $w = 1$ ) and early MD era ( $w = 0$ )



- Reach of LISA in terms of the temperature of the modification



LISA Cosmology Working Group arXiv: 2204.05434

## Phase transitions

- Sound waves produce a broken power law spectrum in very strong transitions and a double broken power law in weak transitions.

## Cosmic strings

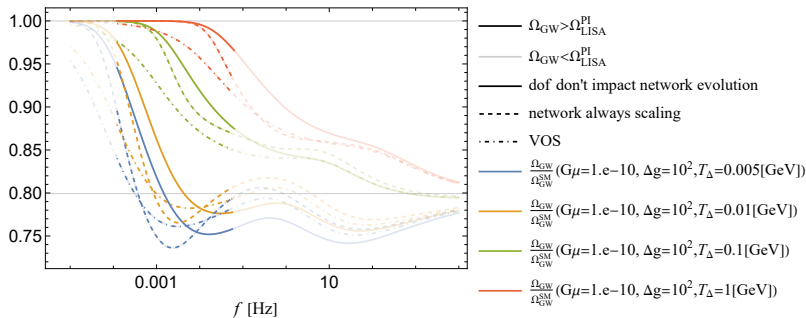
- Cosmic strings provide a very good fit to the 12.5yr NANOGrav data.
- LISA will be able to verify this and if confirmed provide a powerful tool for probing the cosmological evolution to time well before the currently available BBN data.

Thank you for your attention!

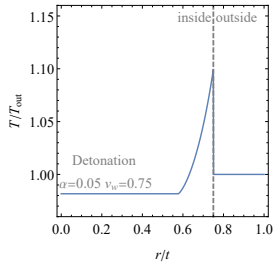
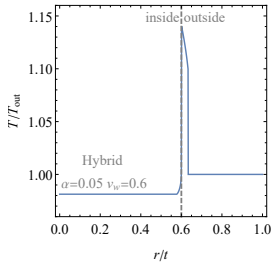
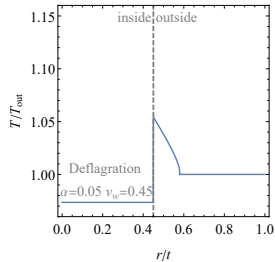


Backup slides

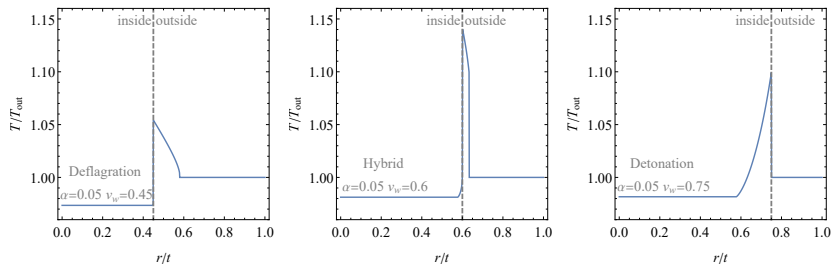
- impact of network modeling on the imprint of cosmological modification in the spectrum



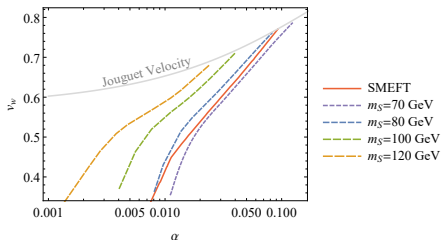
# Wall Velocity



# Wall Velocity



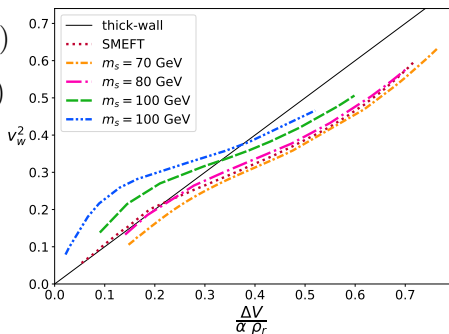
- No solutions found beyond  $v_J = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \frac{1 + \sqrt{3\alpha^2 + 2\alpha}}{1 + \alpha}$ .



# Wall Velocity analytic approximation

$$v_w = \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{\Delta V}{\alpha \rho_R}} & \text{for } \sqrt{\frac{\Delta V}{\alpha \rho_R}} < v_J(\alpha) \\ 1 & \text{for } \sqrt{\frac{\Delta V}{\alpha \rho_R}} \geq v_J(\alpha) \end{cases}$$

- Here:  $\alpha = \frac{1}{\rho_R} \left( \Delta V - \frac{T}{4} \frac{\partial \Delta V}{\partial T} \right)$
- Formula does not require solving transport equations
- Only the form of the potential is important



ML, Marco Merchand, Mateusz Zych, JHEP **02** (2022) 017, arXiv: 2111.02393

John Ellis, ML, Marco Merchand, José Miguel No, Mateusz Zych arXiv:2210.16305

# Lattice realisation

- Simple high temperature expansion

$$V(\phi, T) = \frac{1}{2} (T^2 - T_0^2) \phi^2 - \frac{1}{3} \delta T \phi^3 + \frac{1}{4} \lambda \phi^4$$

- The energy-momentum tensor for the field and the fluid:

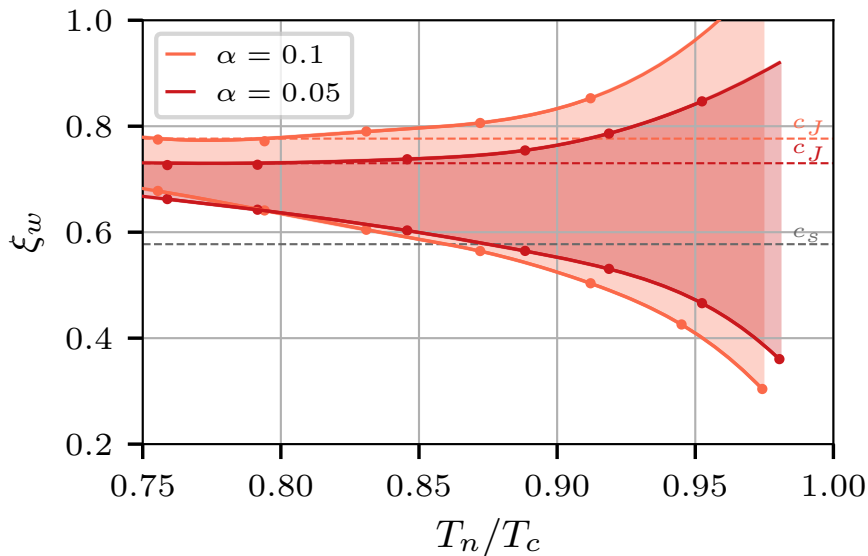
$$T_{\text{field}}^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu \phi \partial^\nu \phi - g^{\mu\nu} \left( \frac{1}{2} \partial_\alpha \phi \partial^\alpha \phi \right)$$

$$T_{\text{fluid}}^{\mu\nu} = w u^\mu u^\nu + g^{\mu\nu} p$$

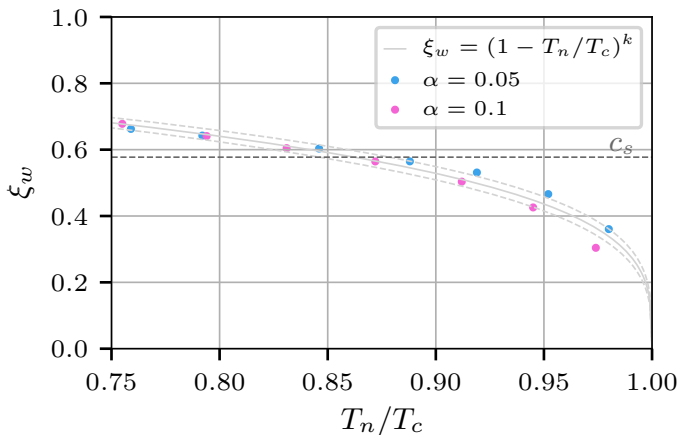
- effective coupling of the fluid and scalar:

$$\nabla_\mu T_{\text{field}}^{\mu\nu} = -\nabla_\mu T_{\text{fluid}}^{\mu\nu} = \frac{\partial V(\phi, T)}{\partial \phi} \partial^\nu \phi + \eta u^\mu \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\nu \phi$$

# Hydrodynamical obstruction: can all $v_w$ be realised?



# Hydrodynamical obstruction: numerical fit

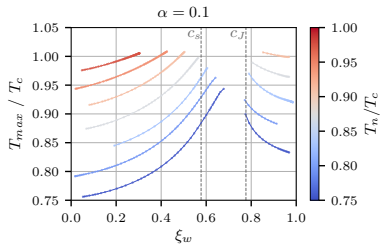
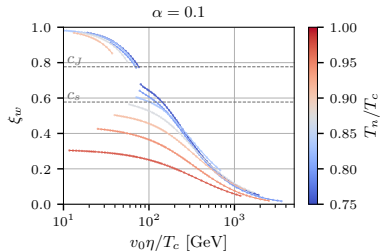


- Simple numerical fit accurate for relatively strong PTs

$$v_w = \left(1 - \frac{T_n}{T_c}\right)^k, \quad \text{with } k = 0.2768 \pm 0.0055$$



# Hydrodynamical obstruction: numerical fit



# Hydrodynamical obstruction: numerical fit

