



中国科学院大学
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ICTP-AP
International Centre
for Theoretical Physics Asia-Pacific
国际理论物理中心-亚太地区

(Non-)Topological Solitons: Detection with Gravitational Waves

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UCAS (ICTP-AP)

Oct. 20, 2023

LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA collaborations, PRL [2101.12248]
(U. Utah group: Yue Zhao, [HG](#), Fengwei Yang)

[HG](#), Sinha, Sun, Swaim, Vagie, JCAP [2010.15977]

[HG](#), Sinha, Sun, JCAP [1904.07871]

[HG](#), Shu, Zhao, PRD [1709.03500]

[HG](#), Miller [2205.10359]

Workshop on Multi-front
Exotic phenomena in Particle
and Astrophysics (MEPA 2023)

19-22 October 2023

Hefei

University of Science and Technology of China

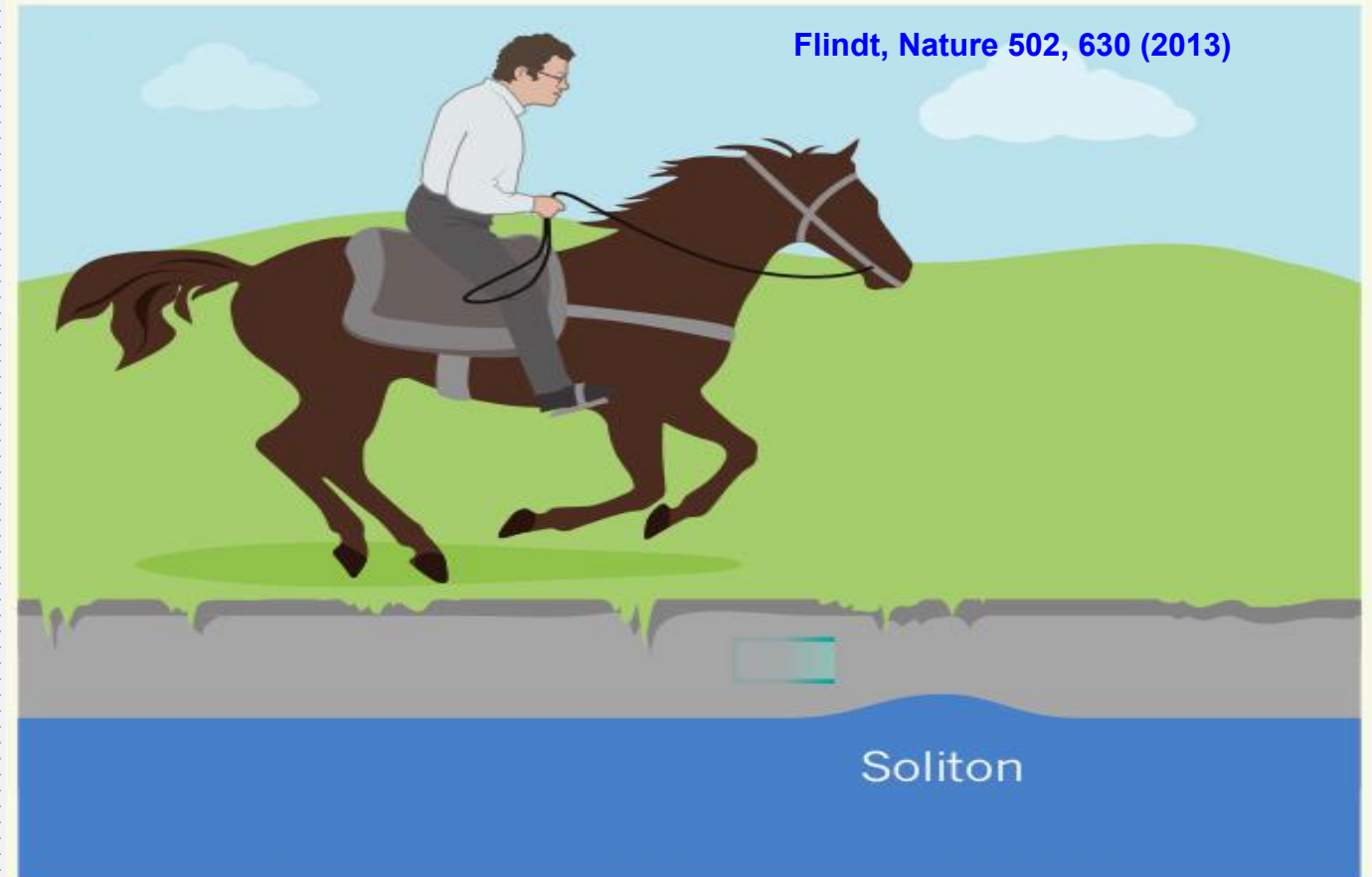
Solitons

- Localized
- Associated with nonlinear problem

Found in:

- ✓ Optics
- ✓ Hydrodynamics
- ✓ Condensed matter systems
- ✓ Quantum field theory (this talk)

...



Why Solitons?

Appear in solutions to fundamental problems

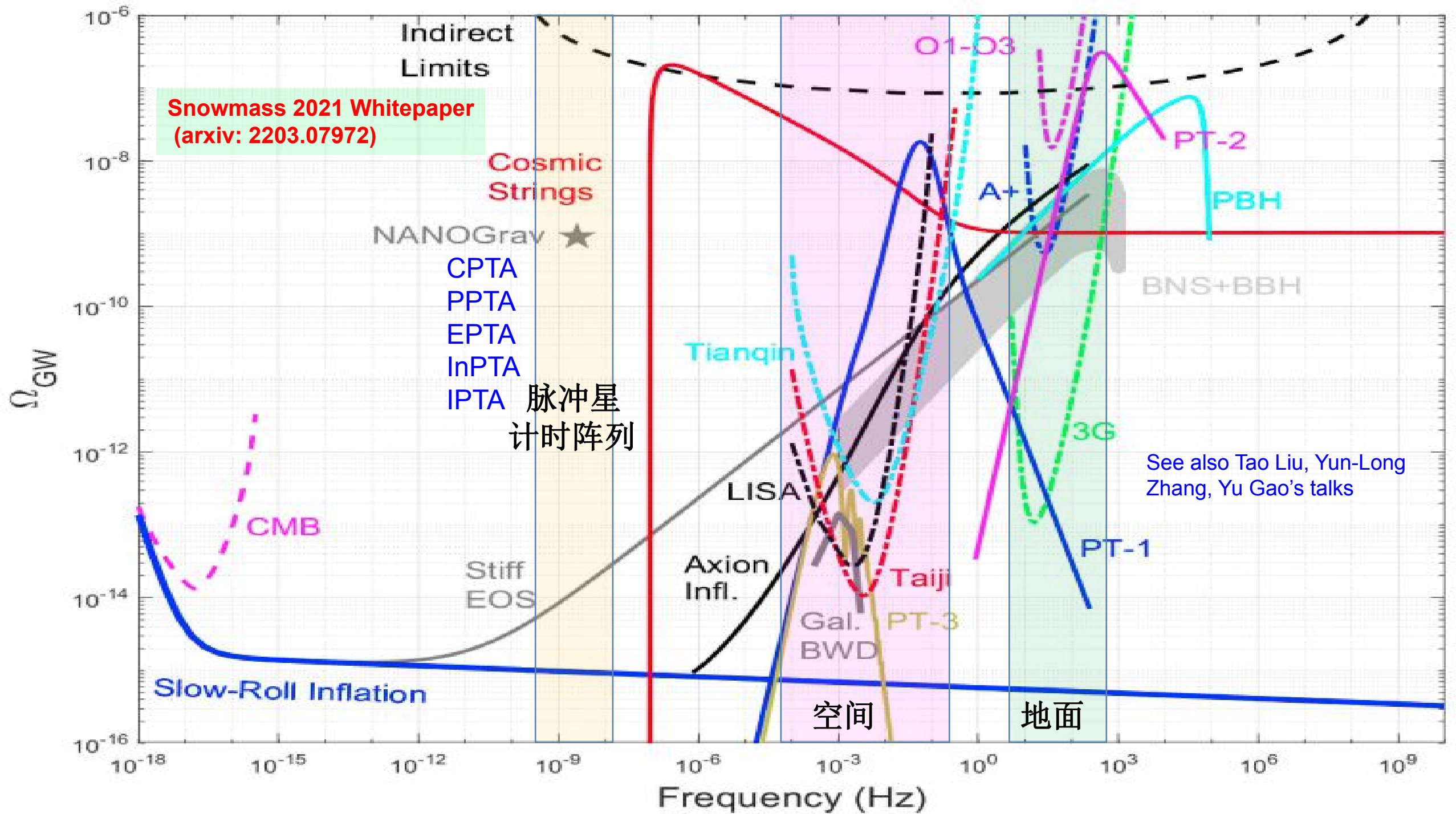
- **Topological solitons**: symmetry breakings in the early universe (new physics, baryon asymmetry)
 - **Non-Topological solitons**: as DM candidates (ultralight DM, macroscopic DM)
-
- ✓ Both are important sources of GWs (not so many from particle physics)
 - ✓ GWs provide independent probings (very high energies, purely gravitational interactions)

REVIEW

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-019-1129-z>

The new frontier of gravitational waves

M. Coleman Miller^{1,2*} & Nicolás Yunes^{3*}



Solitons in Quantum Field Theory

- Both are **solitonic** solutions to **classical** field equations
- Differ in the nature, context, and how they are stabilized

	Topological Solitons	Non-Topological Solitons
Definition	<p>Static Solution (Theory with Spontaneously Broken Symmetry)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Global symmetry (Skyrmion, Cosmic String) ● Discrete symmetry (Domain wall) ● Local symmetry (Monopole, Cosmic String or Vortex line...) ● Pure gauge theory (Instanton) 	<p>Bose-Einstein Condensate of Ultralight particles (DM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Galactic scale (DM Halo) ● Stellar scale (Boson stars)
Boundary	Non-Trivial (needs degenerate vacuum states)	Trivial vacuum state
Stabilized by	Topology (boundary field values)	<p>Conserved Charge, and Balancing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● quantum pressure ● gravity (or not, Q-balls etc) ● self-interactions (or not)

Topological Solitons in the Early Universe

- Firstly proposed to form in the early universe (Kibble, 1976)
(None observed)
- Later proposed to form in condensed matter systems (Zurek, 1985)
(already observed)

Name variant:
Topological Defects

Can we detect the (cosmic) topological solitons?

Topology of cosmic domains and strings

T W B Kibble

[J.Phys.A 9 \(1976\) 1387-1398](#)

Blackett Laboratory, Imperial College, Prince Consort Road, London

Received 11 March 1976

www.theguardian.com



The Cosmological Kibble Mechanism in the Laboratory: String Formation in Liquid Crystals

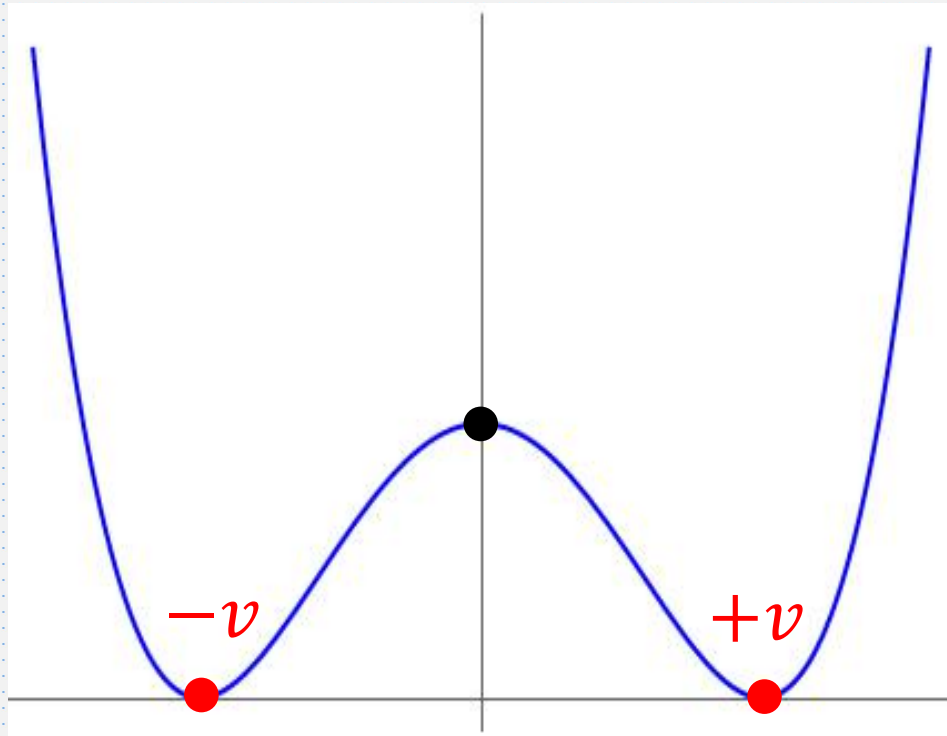
[Science, 263 \(1994\)](#)

Mark J. Bowick,* L. Chandar, E. A. Schiff, Ajit M. Srivastava

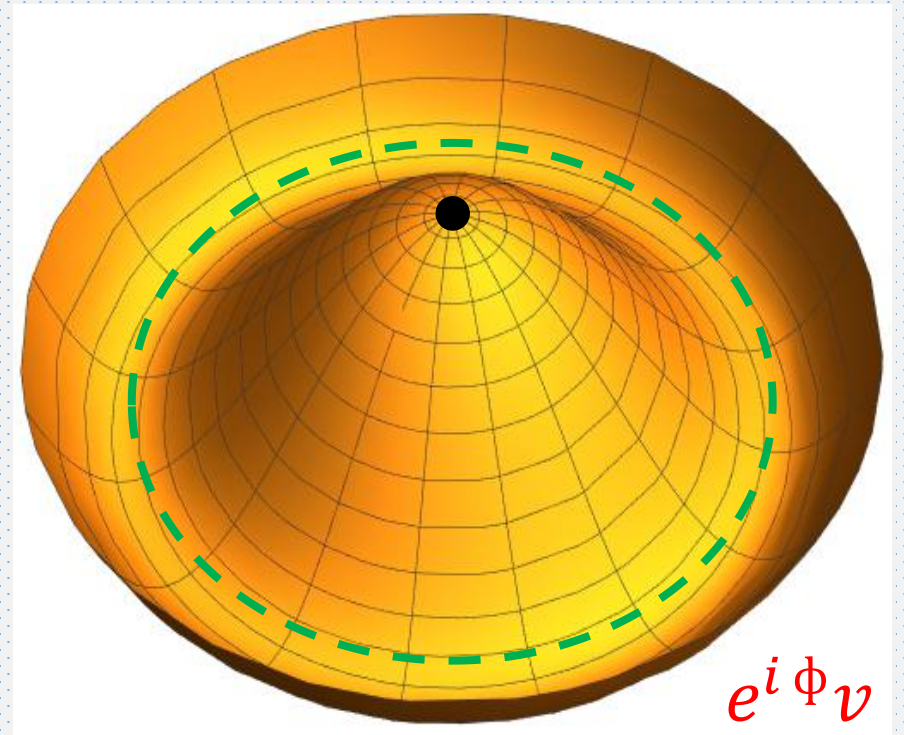


Degenerate Vacuum States

$$V(\phi) = \frac{1}{4}(\phi^2 - v^2)^2$$



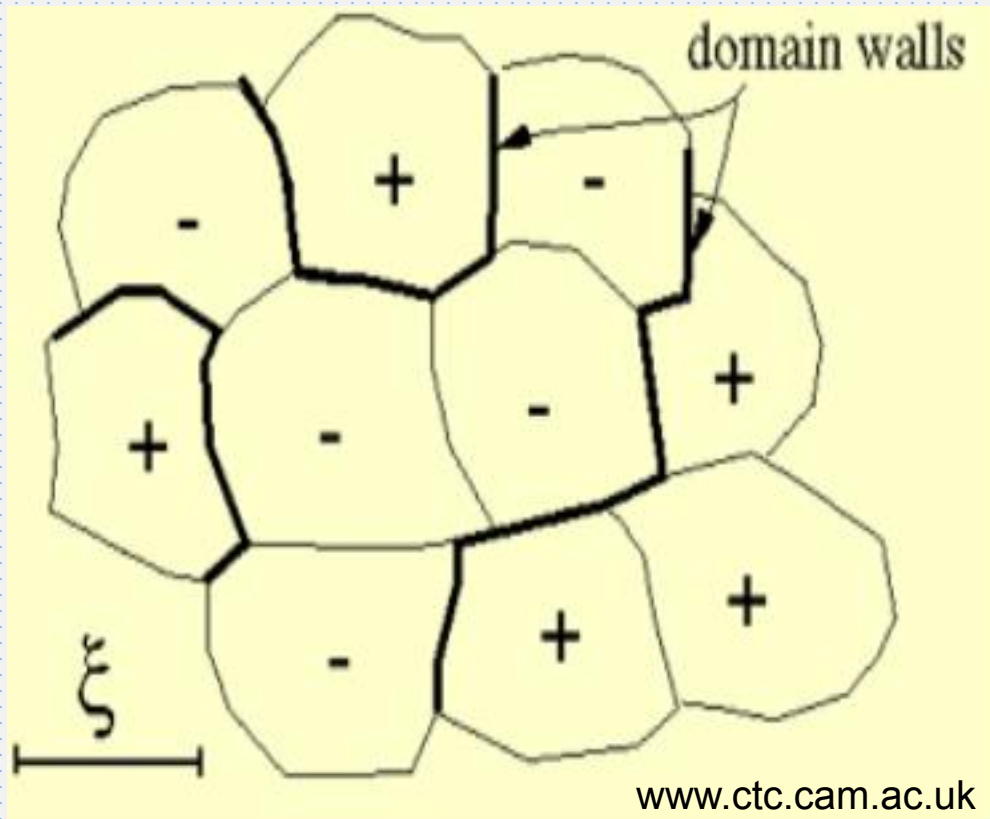
$$V(\Phi) = \frac{1}{4}(|\Phi|^2 - \eta^2)^2$$



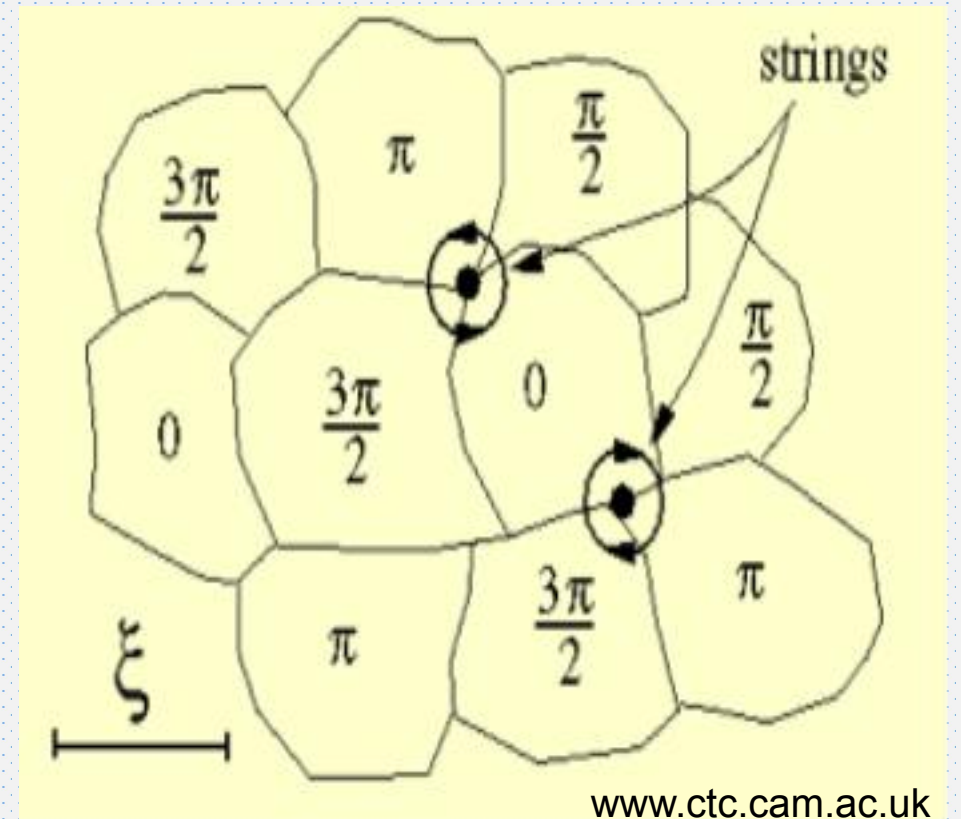
Field needs to take vacuum values at the boundary to have finite energy.

Degenerate Vacuum States

$$V(\phi) = \frac{1}{4}(\phi^2 - v^2)^2$$



$$V(\Phi) = \frac{1}{4}(|\Phi|^2 - \eta^2)^2$$



Will focus on cosmic strings.

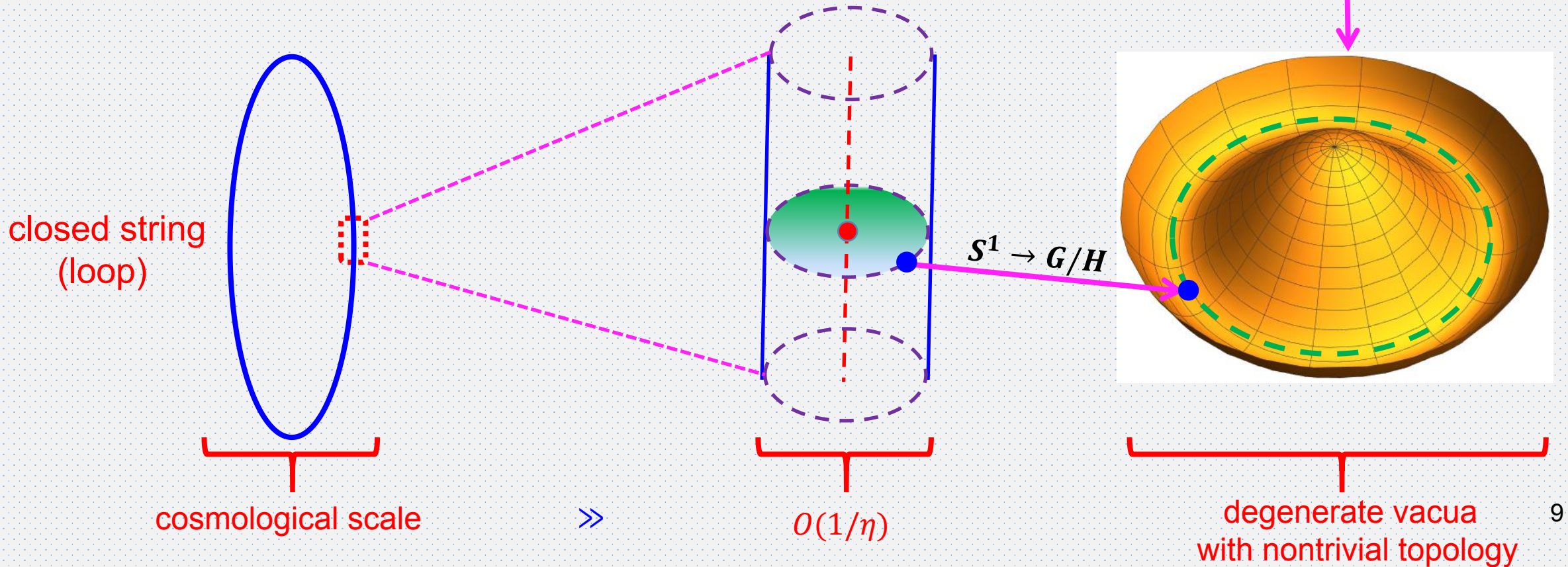
Cosmic String

$$G\mu \sim \left(\frac{\eta}{10^{19}\text{GeV}} \right)^2$$

μ : line mass density

Example: the Abelian Higgs Model

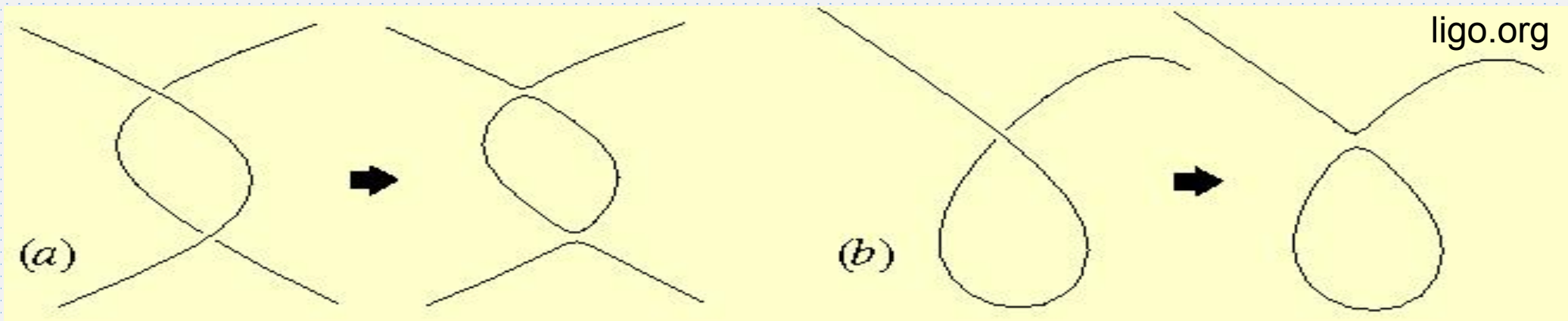
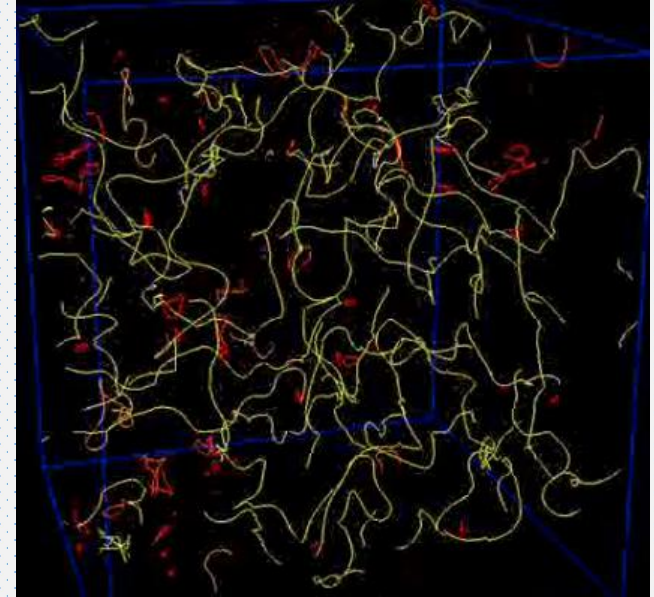
$$\mathcal{L} = |(\partial_\mu - igA_\mu)\Phi|^2 - \frac{1}{4}\lambda(|\Phi|^2 - \eta^2)^2 - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}$$



Cosmic String Network

loop distribution

- Long strings interconnect to **form** loops
- Loops oscillate and radiate GWs (and **shrink**)
- Scaling loop distributions reached in RD and MD

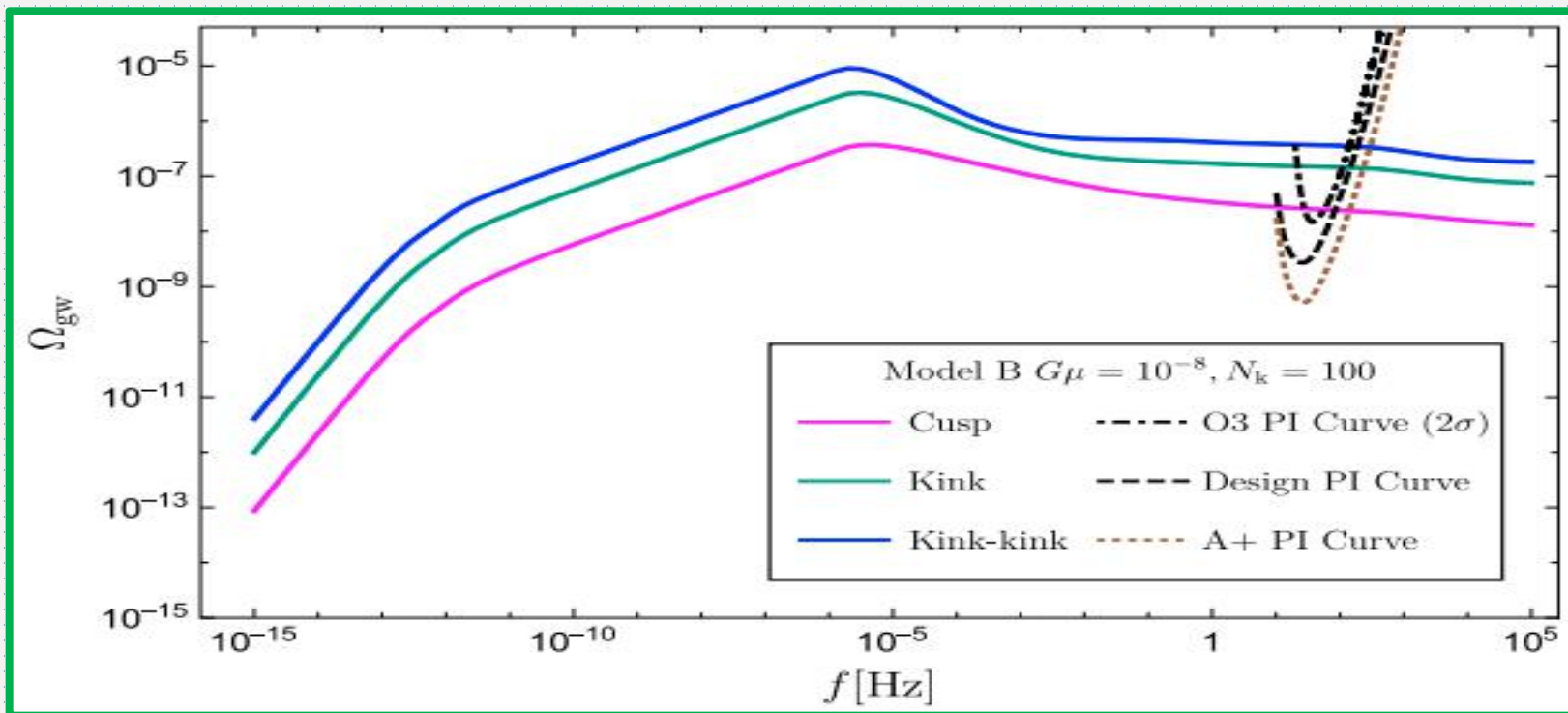


Gravitational Waves

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(f) = \frac{4\pi^2}{3H_0^2} f^3 \sum_i \int dz \int dl h_i^2 \times \frac{d^2 R_i}{dz dl}$$

cusplike, kink, kink-kink collision

Damour, Vilenkin, PRL 85,3671, PRD 64, 064008



LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA collaborations, PRL 126, 241102 (2021)

String point reaching speed of light

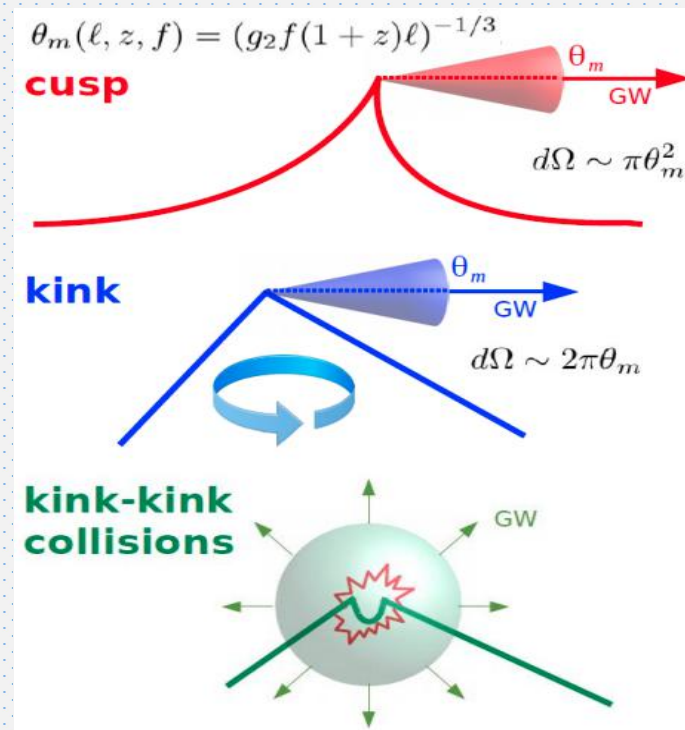


Image credit: Florent Robinet

Wide GW spectrum, detectable by different kinds of detectors

LIGO Search Result

Symmetry breakings at scales higher than $O(10^{11})$ GeV with Cosmic String production are excluded

Caveat (loop distribution model)

GW measurement tells scale (η) of symmetry breaking ($G \rightarrow H$)

$$G\mu \sim \left(\frac{\eta}{10^{19} \text{GeV}} \right)^2$$

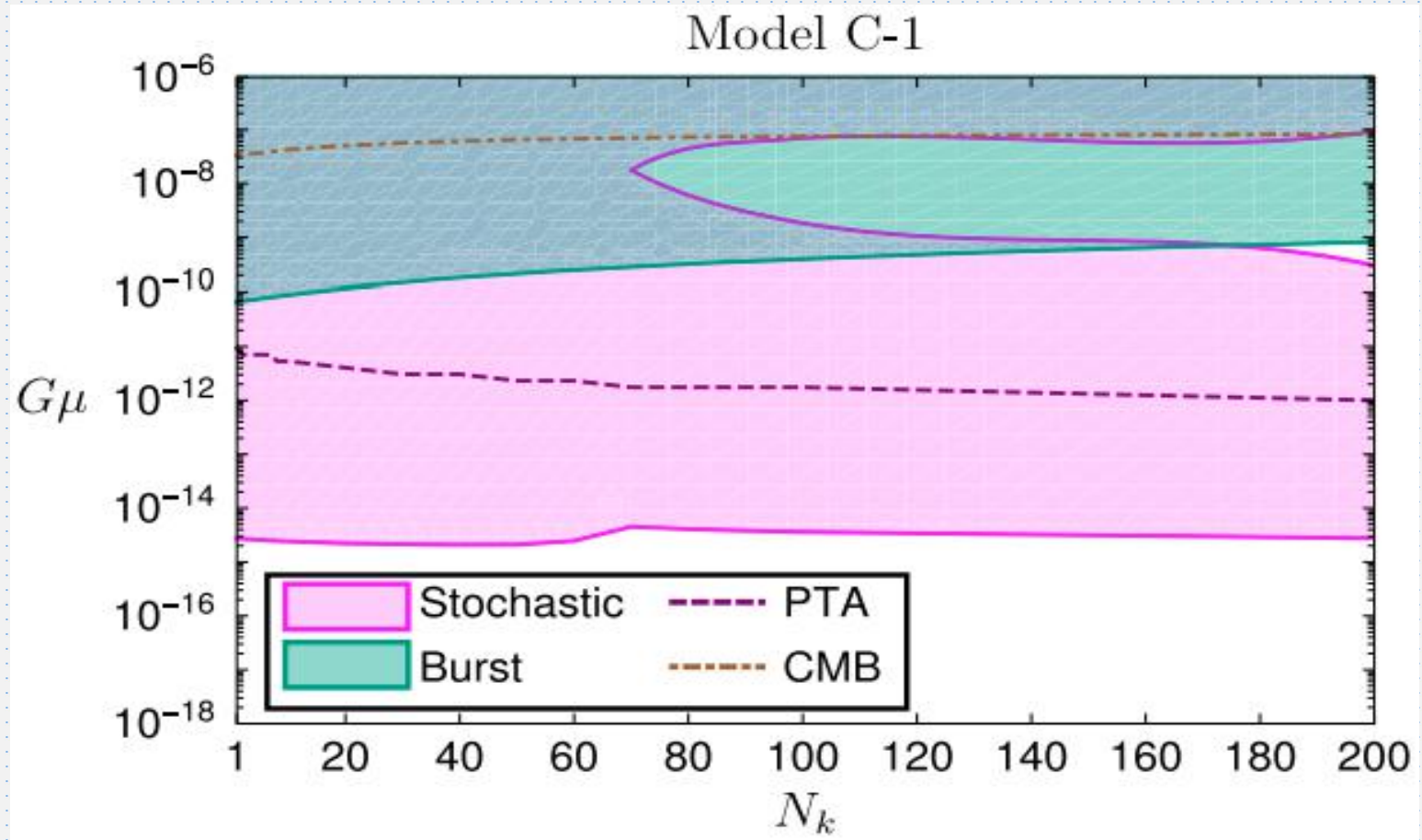
μ : line mass density

Results from PTA Measurements

Bian, Cai, Liu, Yang, Zhou, PRD (Letter) 103 (2021) 8

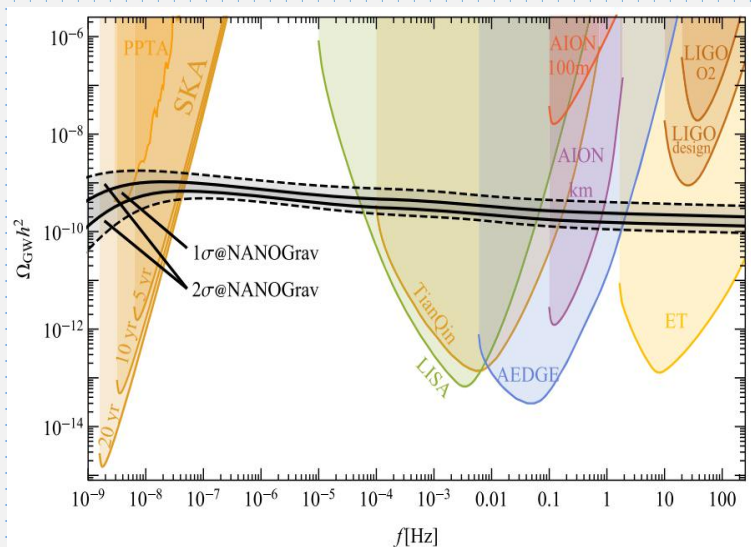
Blasi, Brdar, Schmitz, PRL 126, 041305 (2021)

NANOGrav, ApJL [2306.16219]

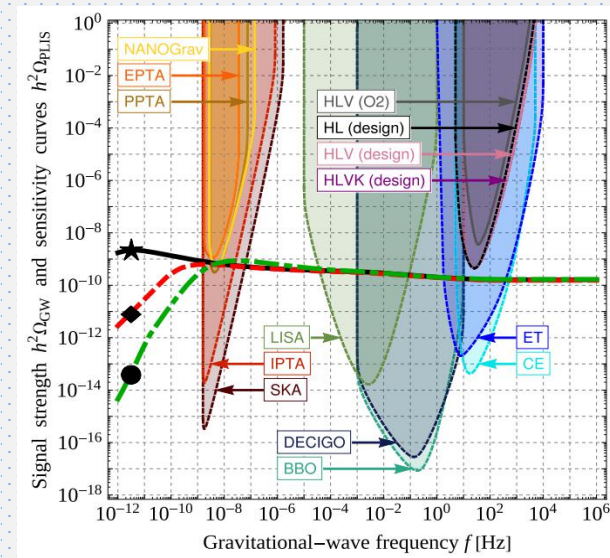


LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA collaborations, PRL 126, 241102 (2021)

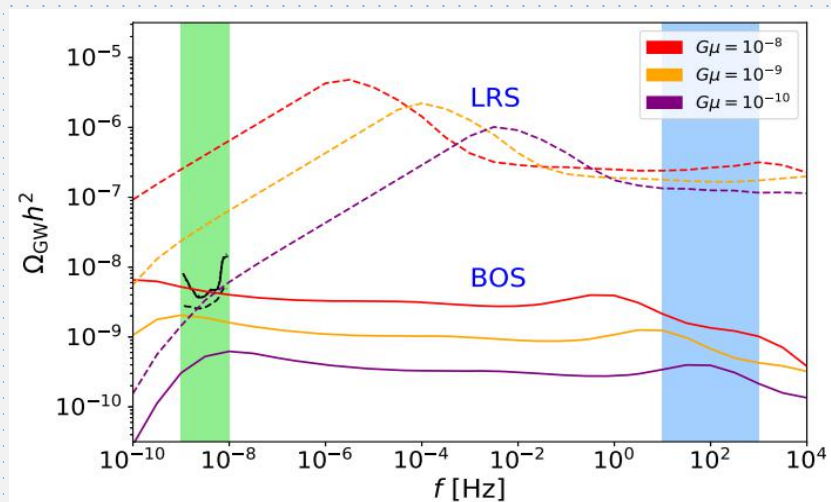
PTA Searches



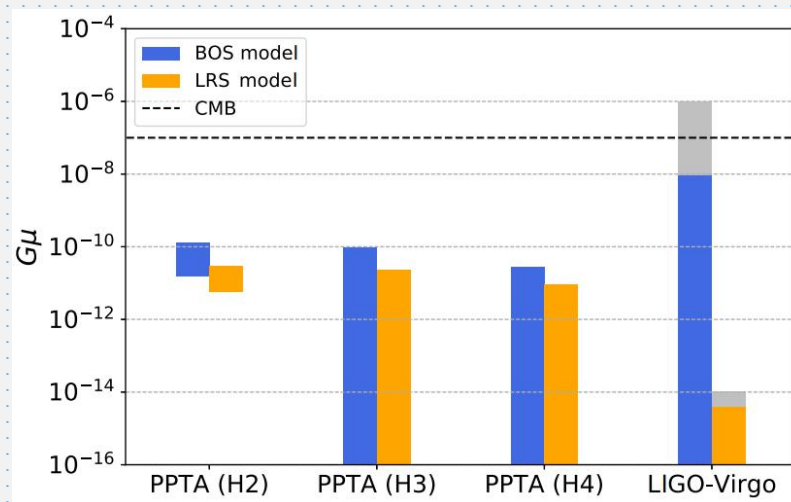
Ellis, Lewicki, PRL [2009.06555]



Blasi, Brdar, Schmitz, PRL [2009.06607]



Bian, Shu, Wang, Yuan, Zong, PRD Letter [2205.07293]



Non-Topological Solitons

Macroscopic Bose-Einstein condensate made of ultralight particles (DM)

Lee, Pang, Phys.Rept (1992)

Liebling, Palenzuela, Living Rev.Rel [1202.5809]

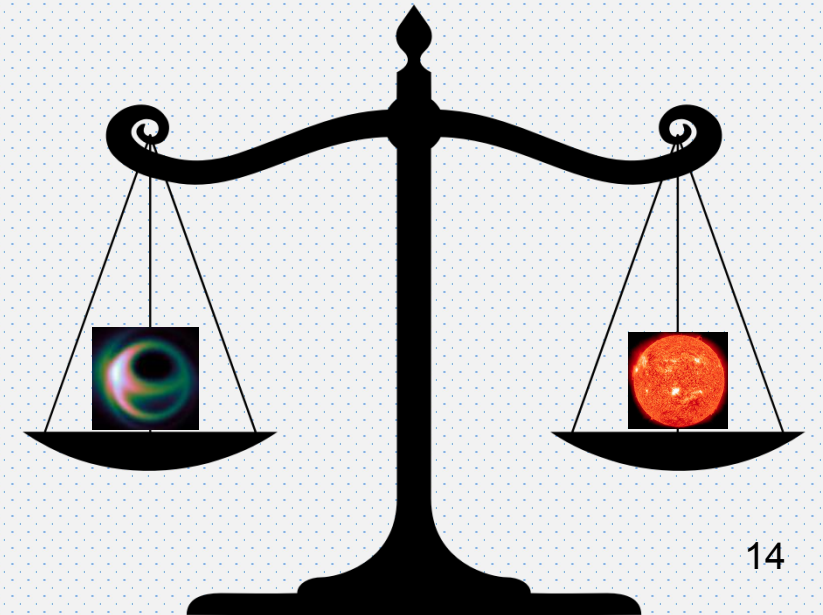
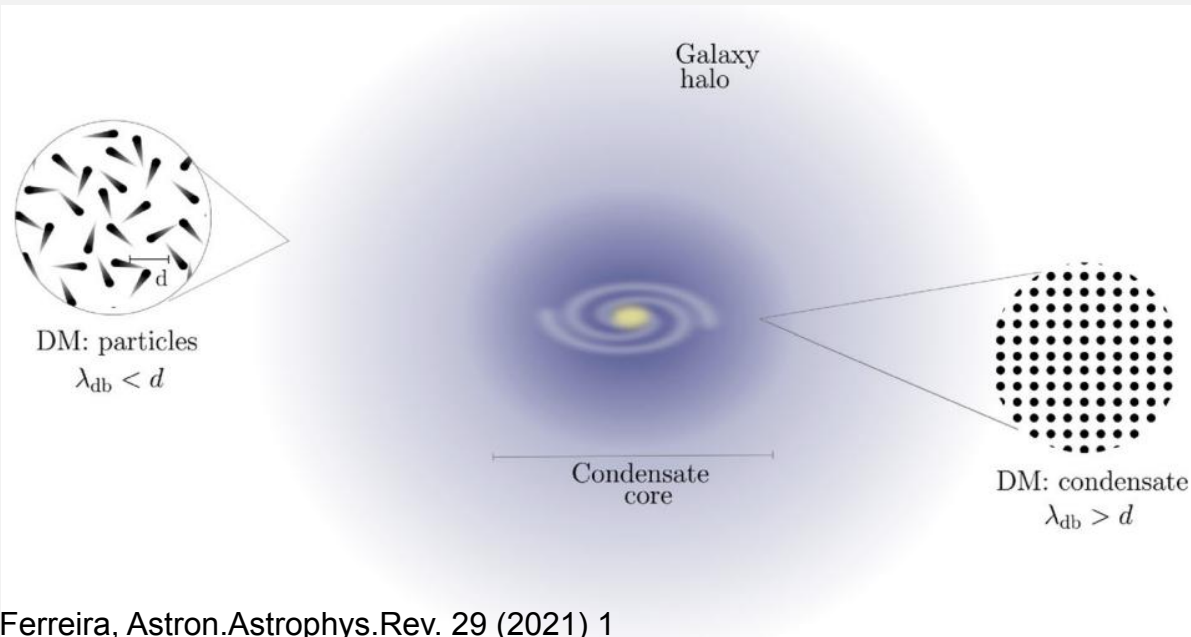
$$m_{\text{ULDM}} \sim 10^{-22} \text{ eV}$$

$$M \lesssim \frac{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}{m_{\text{ULDM}}}$$

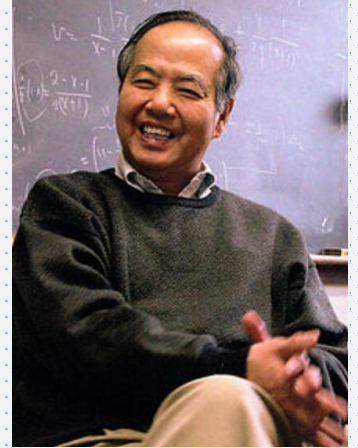
$$m_{\text{ULDM}} \sim 10^{-10} \text{ eV}$$

Galactic Scale: solve small scale structure problems

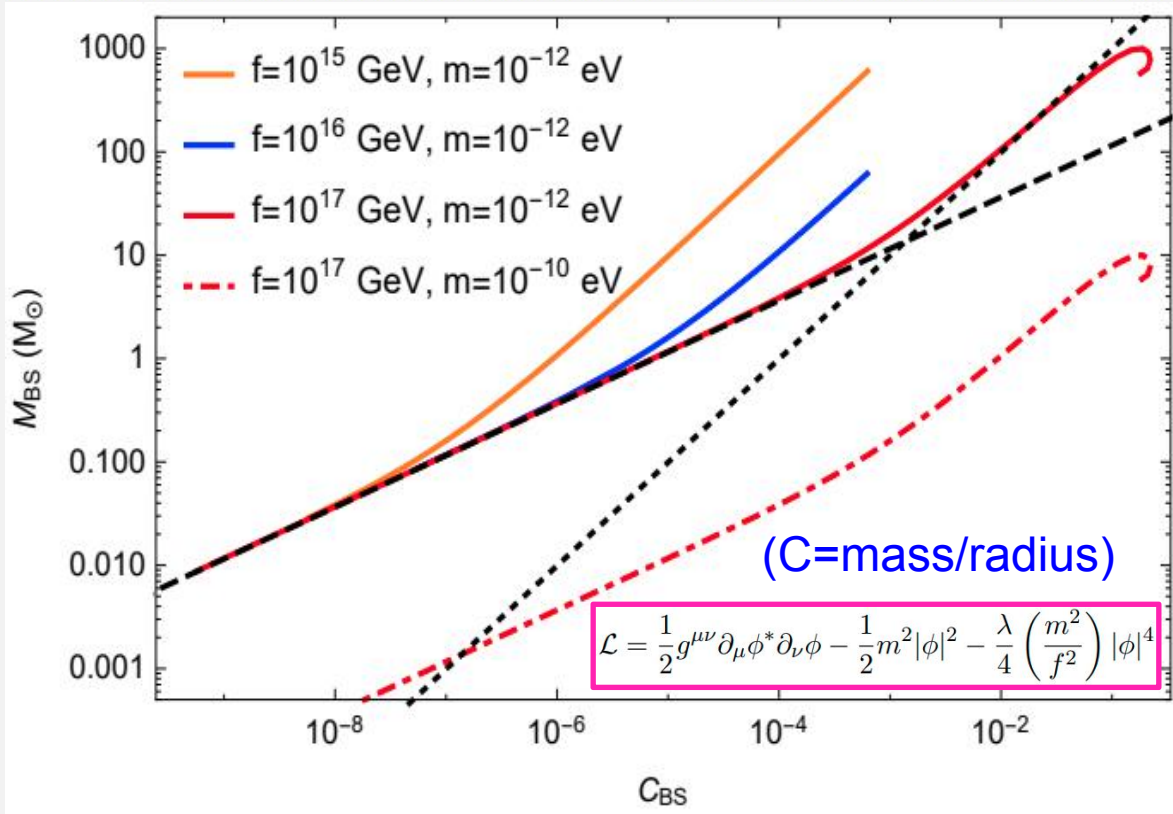
Stellar Scale: soliton stars



Non-Topological Solitons as Boson Stars



- Macroscopic Bose-Einstein condensate of ultralight particles
- Boson stars can be very massive and compact

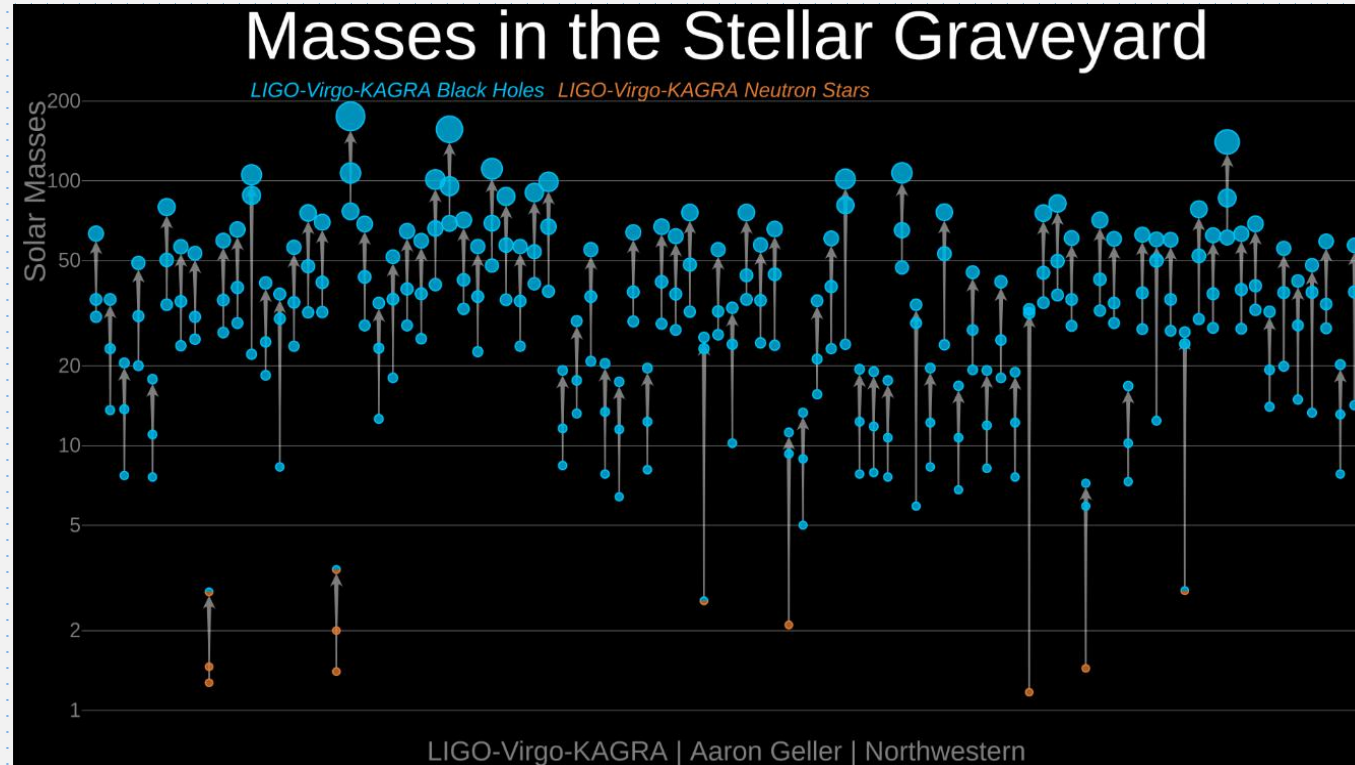


HG, Sinha, Sun, JCAP [1904.07871]

- ❖ Mini-Boson Star (without self-interaction)
- ❖ Solitonic Boson Star (specific potential)
- ❖ Oscillaton (real scalar field)
- ❖ Proca Star (massive complex vector)
- ❖ Axion Stars (dense, dilute)

Did LIGO detect Boson Stars?

- Difficult to distinguish
- Mass as discriminator
(SBH cannot be subsolar)



PRL **116**, 201301 (2016)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending
20 MAY 2016

Did LIGO Detect Dark Matter?

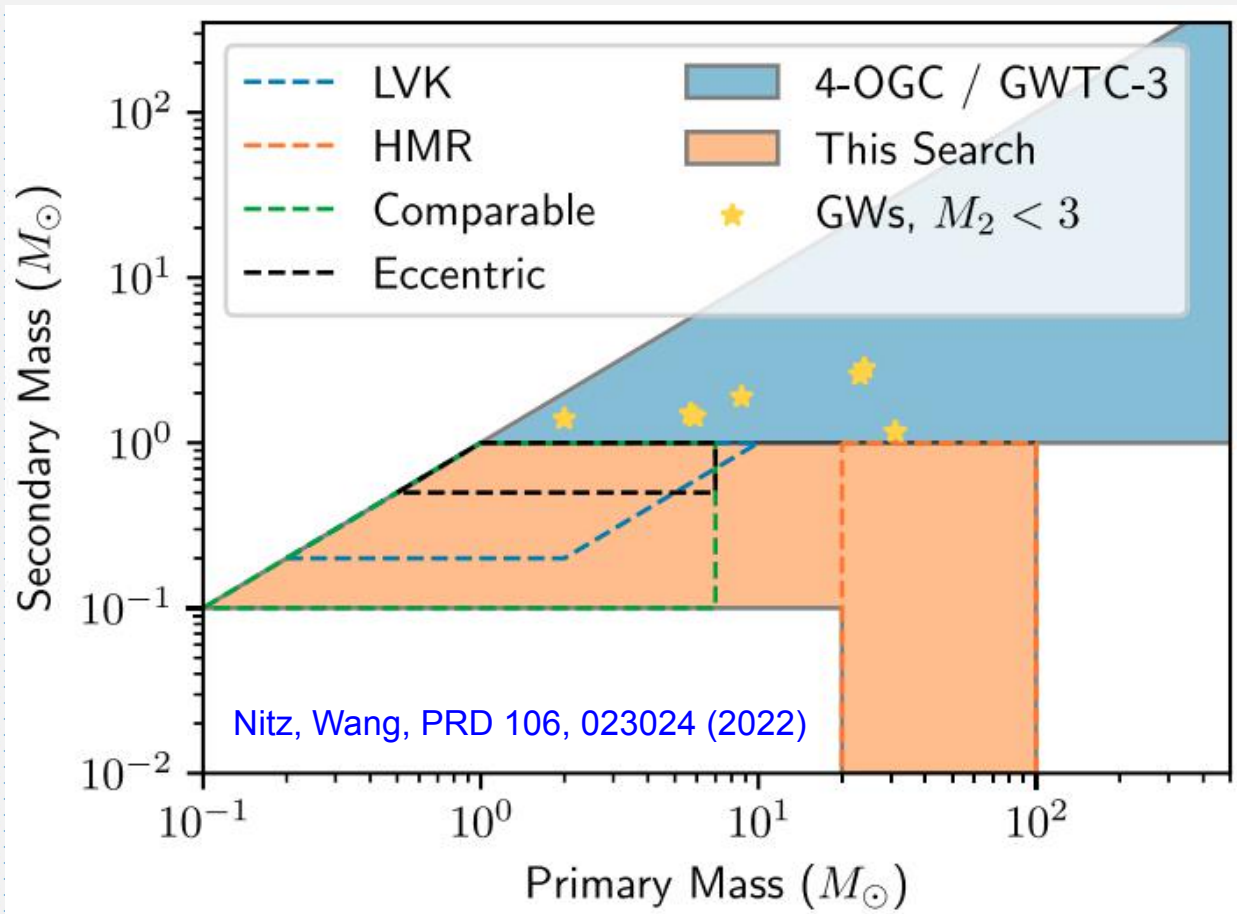
Simeon Bird,^{*} Ilias Cholis, Julian B. Muñoz, Yacine Ali-Haïmoud, Marc Kamionkowski,
Ely D. Kovetz, Alvise Raccanelli, and Adam G. Riess
*Department of Physics and Astronomy, Johns Hopkins University,
3400 North Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21218, USA*
(Received 4 March 2016; published 19 May 2016)

GW190521 as a Merger of Proca Stars: A Potential New Vector
Boson of 8.7×10^{-13} eV

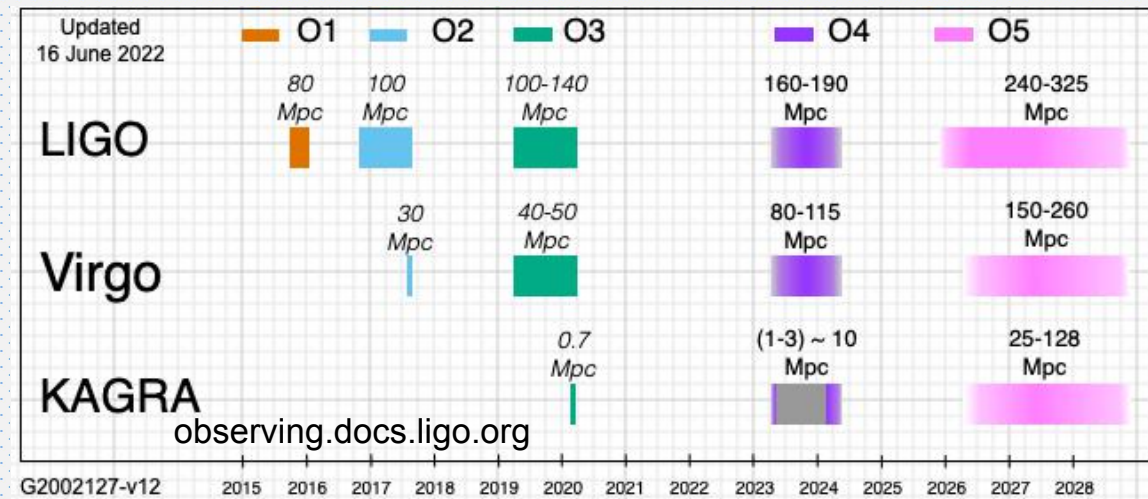
Juan Calderón Bustillo, Nicolas Sanchis-Gual, Alejandro Torres-Forné, José A. Font, Avi Vajpeyi, Rory Smith,
Carlos Herdeiro, Eugen Radu, and Samson H. W. Leong
Phys. Rev. Lett. **126**, 081101 – Published 24 February 2021

Mass as Discriminator: Subsolar ECO Searches

Rising interest in subsolar ECO searches



- One detection would point to new physics
- Boson stars differ from PBHs: tidal disruption

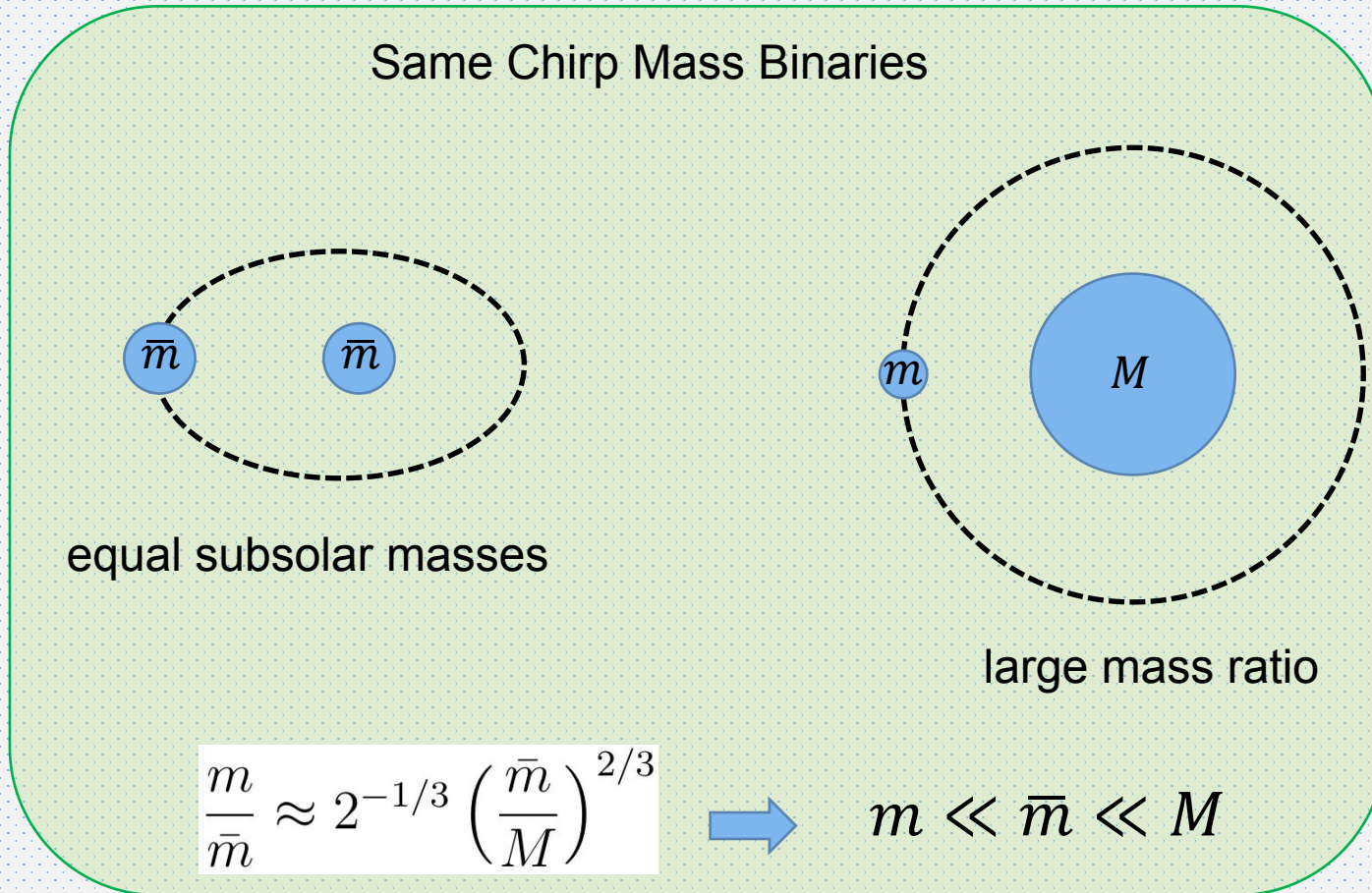


How to Search for Light Boson Stars

- Amplitude and SNR increase as the chirp mass increases

the chirp mass

$$M_c = \frac{(m_1 m_2)^{3/5}}{(m_1 + m_2)^{1/5}}$$



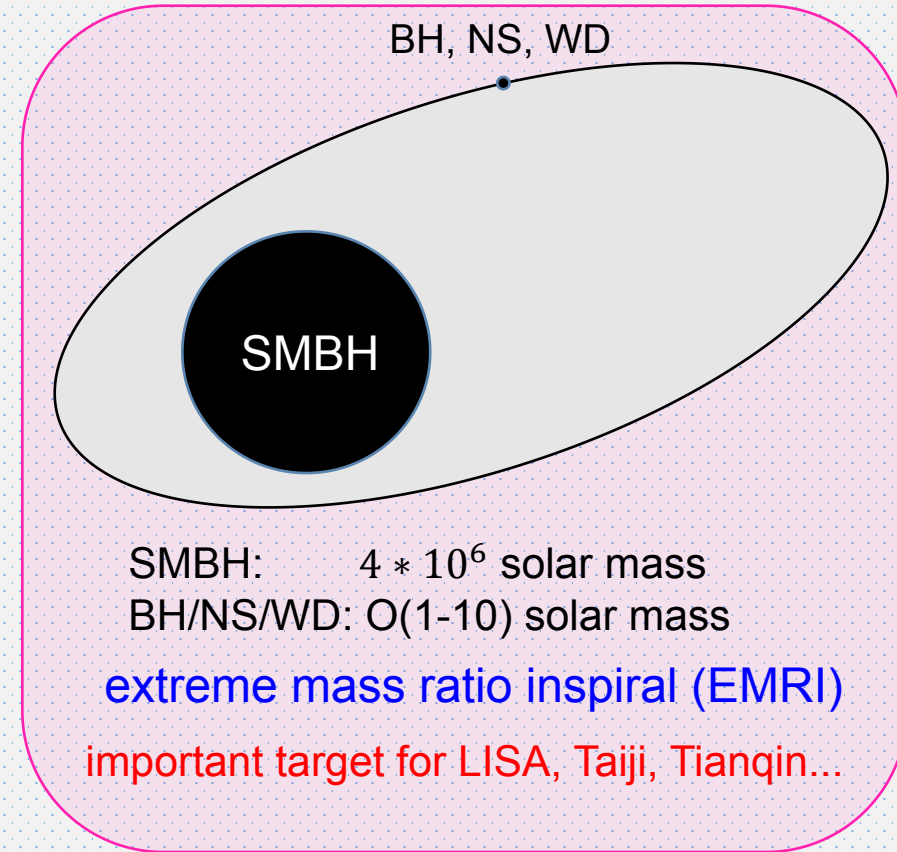
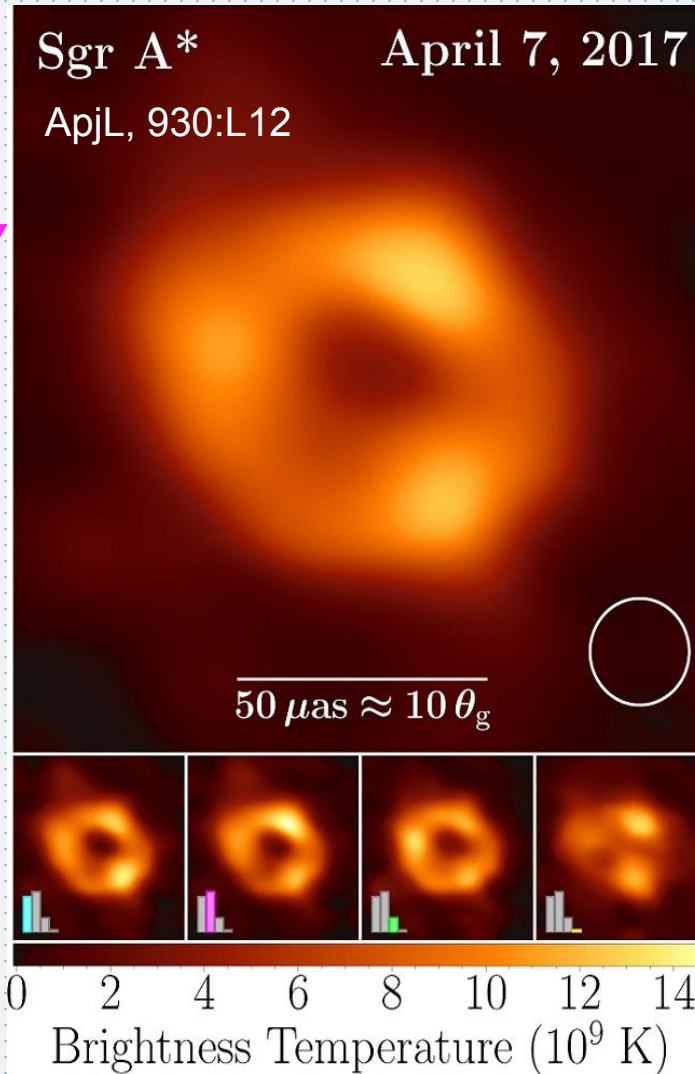
To probe a lighter one, make the other one heavier: larger mass ratio

The Extreme Mass Ratio Inspiral (EMRI)



Wikipedia

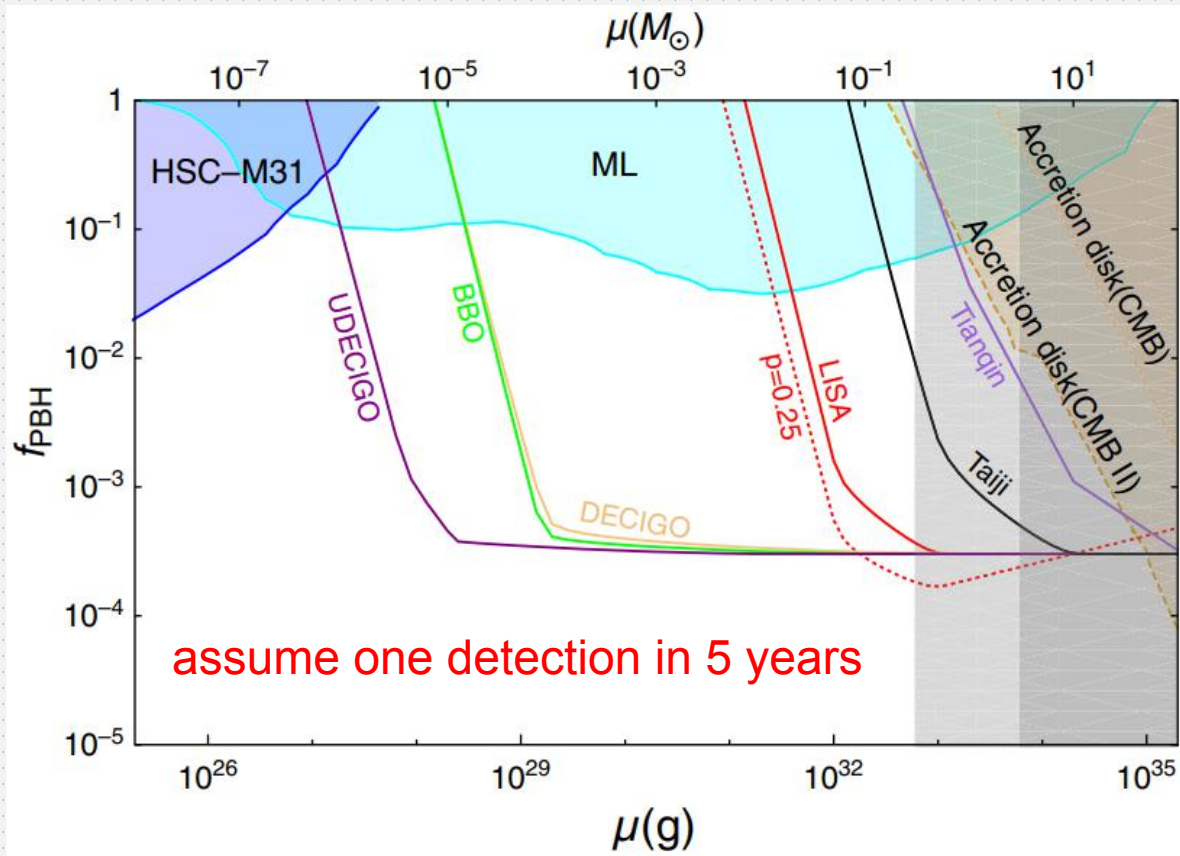
Sgr A* April 7, 2017
ApJL, 930:L12



Sensitivity with EMRI

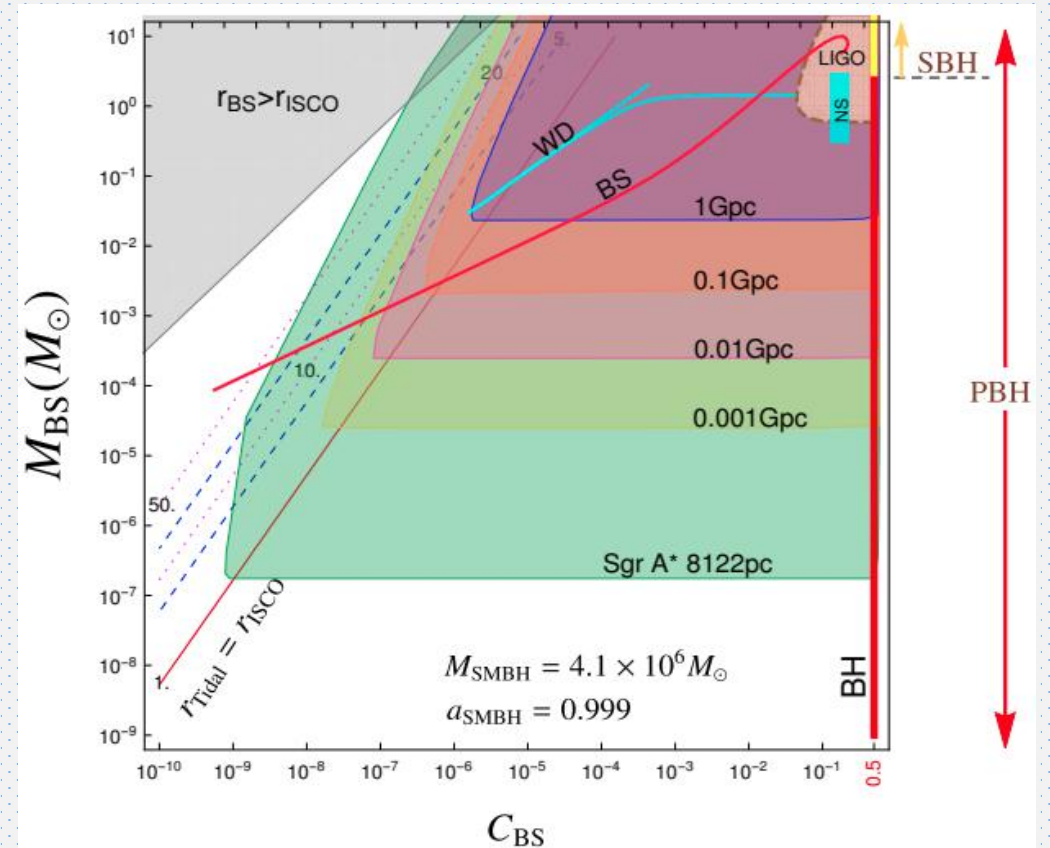
- Sensitive to a large region of parameter space

Constraining PBH (or compact Boson Star DM)



HG, Shu, Zhao, PRD [1709.03500]

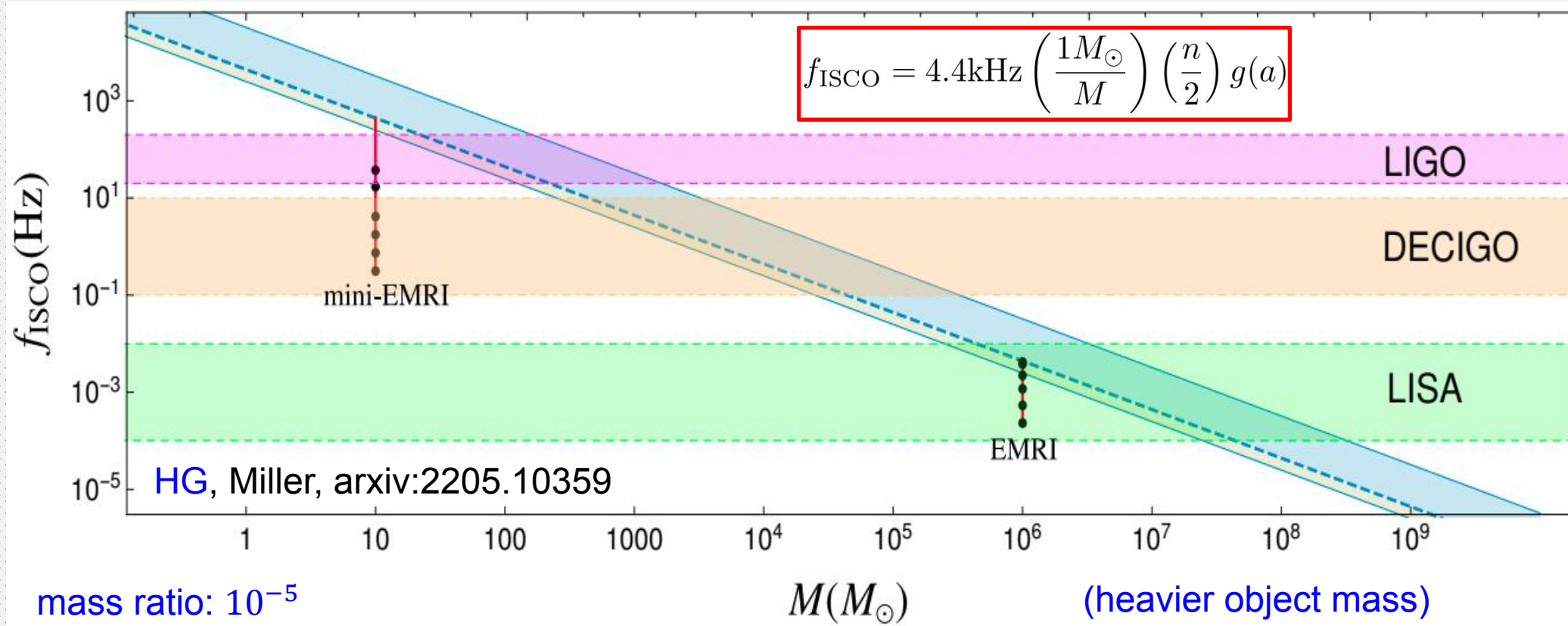
Sensitivity to Generic Exotic Compact Objects



HG, Sinha, Sun, JCAP [1904.07871]

“mini-EMRI”

- LIGO can detect non-standard EMRIs that we call mini-EMRIs



Similar systems:

Davoudiasl, Giardino, PLB 768, 198 (2017)

Pan, Lyu, Yang, PRD 105, 083005 (2022)

Barsanti et al PRL 128, 111104 (2022)

Sensitivity to mini-EMRIs

- Matched-filtering, or techniques of continuous wave searches
- LIGO can detect mini-EMRIs!

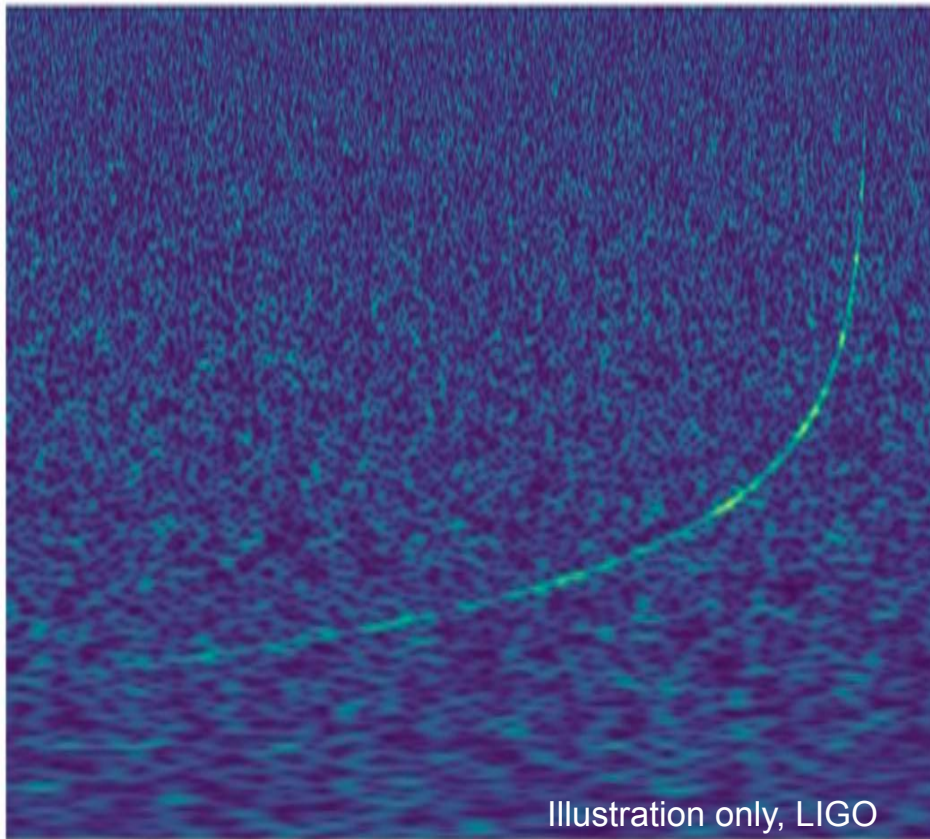
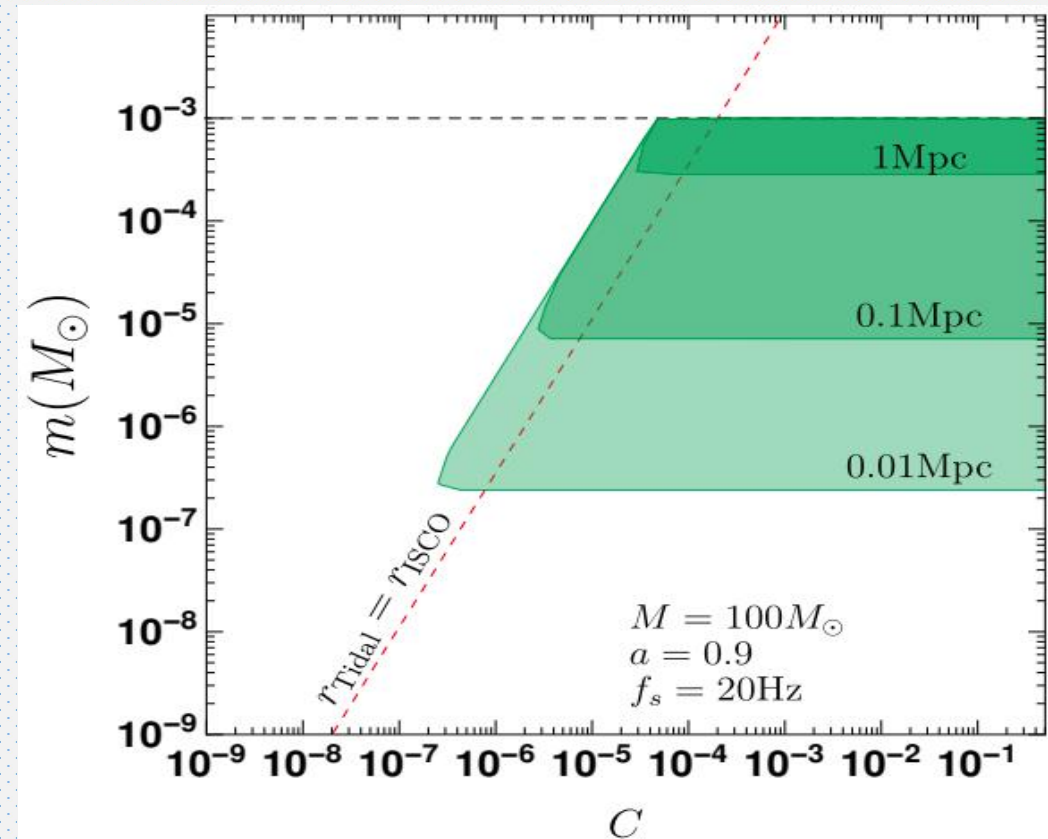


image processing algorithm



Summary

Solitons in QFT are important GW sources

- ✓ New limits on cosmic strings (topological soliton) with LIGO's new data
- ✓ New detection method for sub-solar exotic compact objects (non-topological solitons)

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