

Gravitational waves from sound waves



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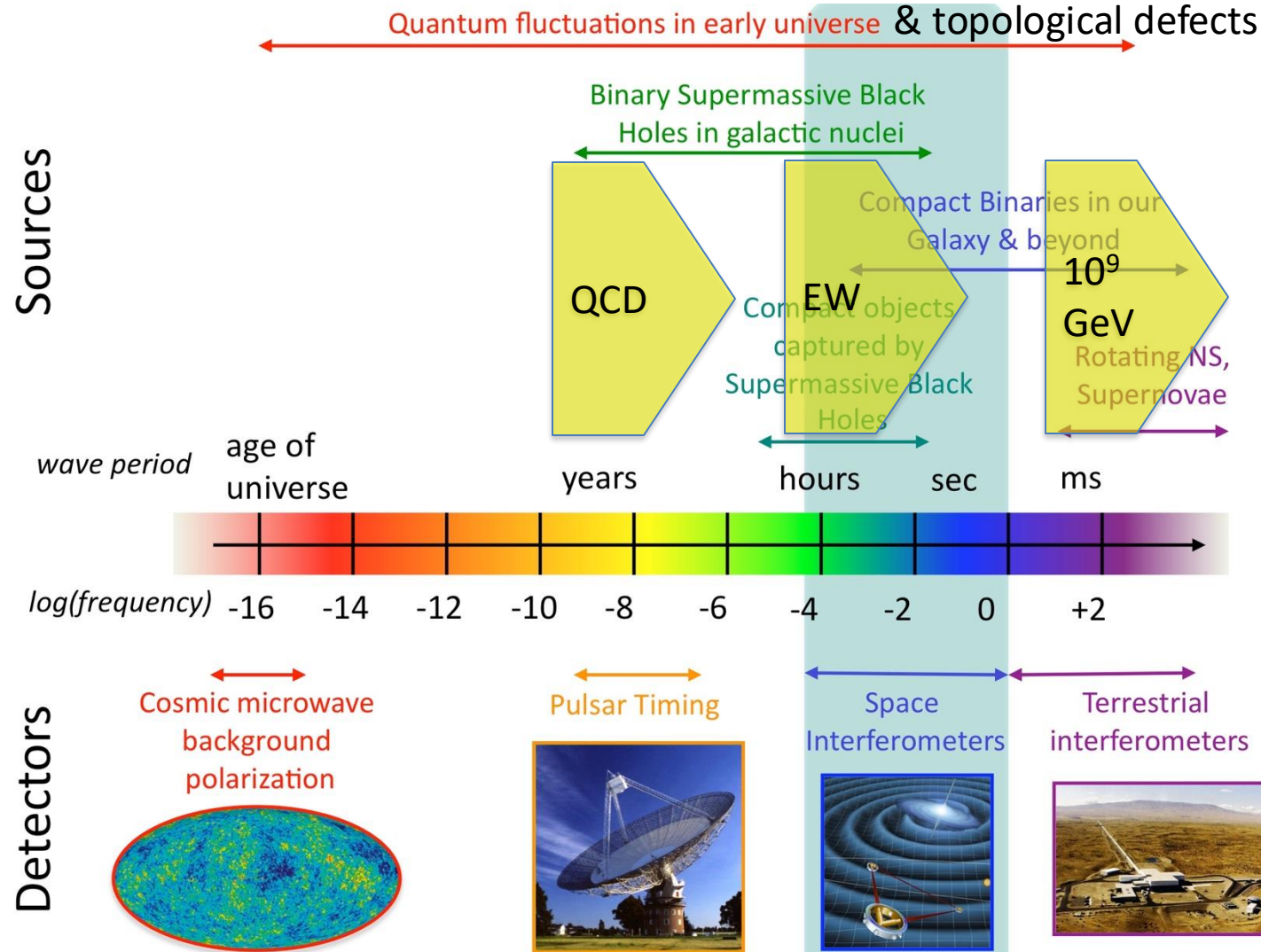
and

Department of Physics & Astronomy,
University of Sussex

Fundamental physics and GW detectors
19. syyskuuta 2024



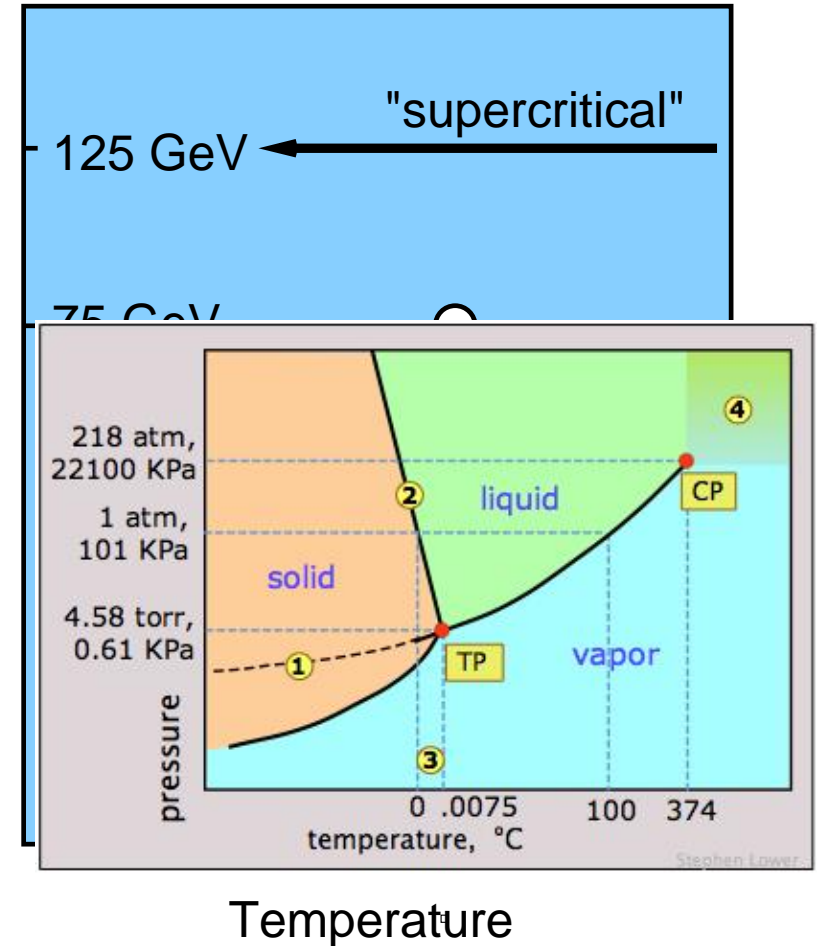
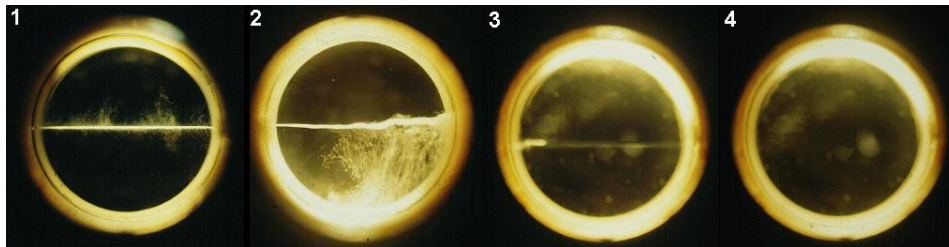
Gravitational wave spectrum



NASA

Electroweak transition: 100 GeV, 10 ps

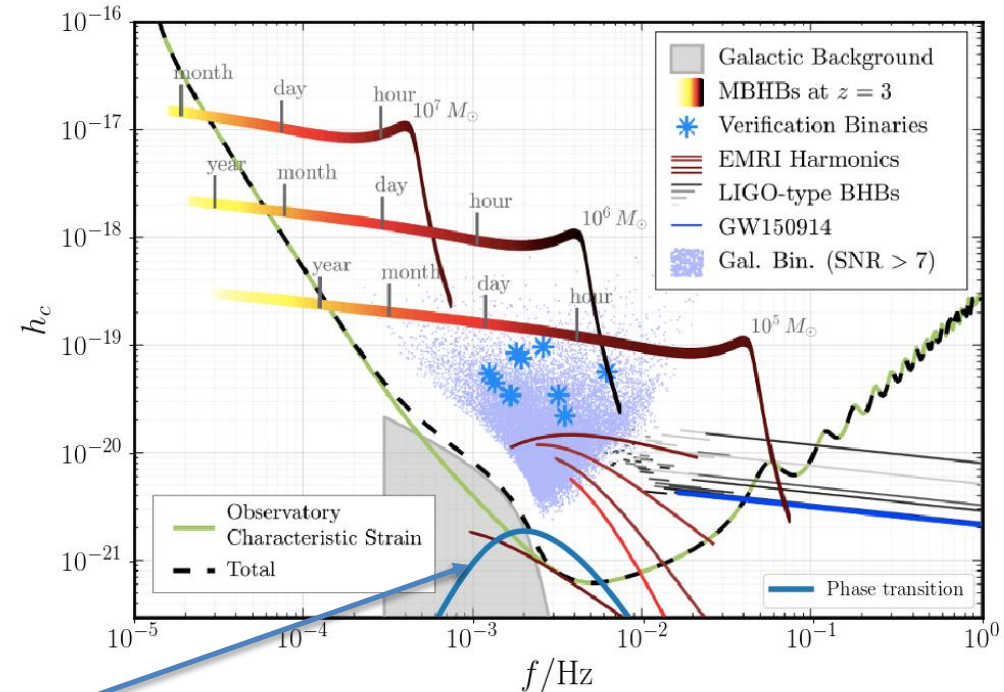
- Perturbative: weakly first order transition
Kirzhnitz, Linde (1972,4)
- But: SM is not weakly coupled at high T
Linde (1980)
- Non-perturbative techniques:
 - Dimensional reduction to 3D effective field theory + 3D lattice
Kajantie, Laine, Rummukainen, Shaposhnikov (1995,6) P Schicho talk, Friday
 - SU(2)-Higgs on 4D lattice
Czikor, Fodor, Heitger (1998)
- SM transition at $m_h \approx 125$ GeV is a cross-over
- a **supercritical fluid**



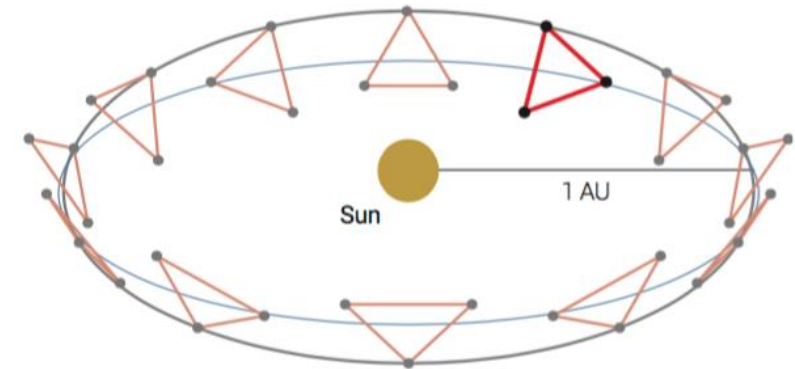
- Search for 1st order transition is a search for physics beyond SM

Laser Interferometer Space Antenna

- Launch mid 2030s
- 4-year mission (up to 10 years)
- 2.5M km arms
- Science objectives:
 - White dwarves
 - Black holes
 - Galaxy mergers
 - Extreme gravity
 - TeV-scale early Universe
- Other missions: Taiji, TianQin
- Proposals: DECIGO, BBO



LISA sensitivity

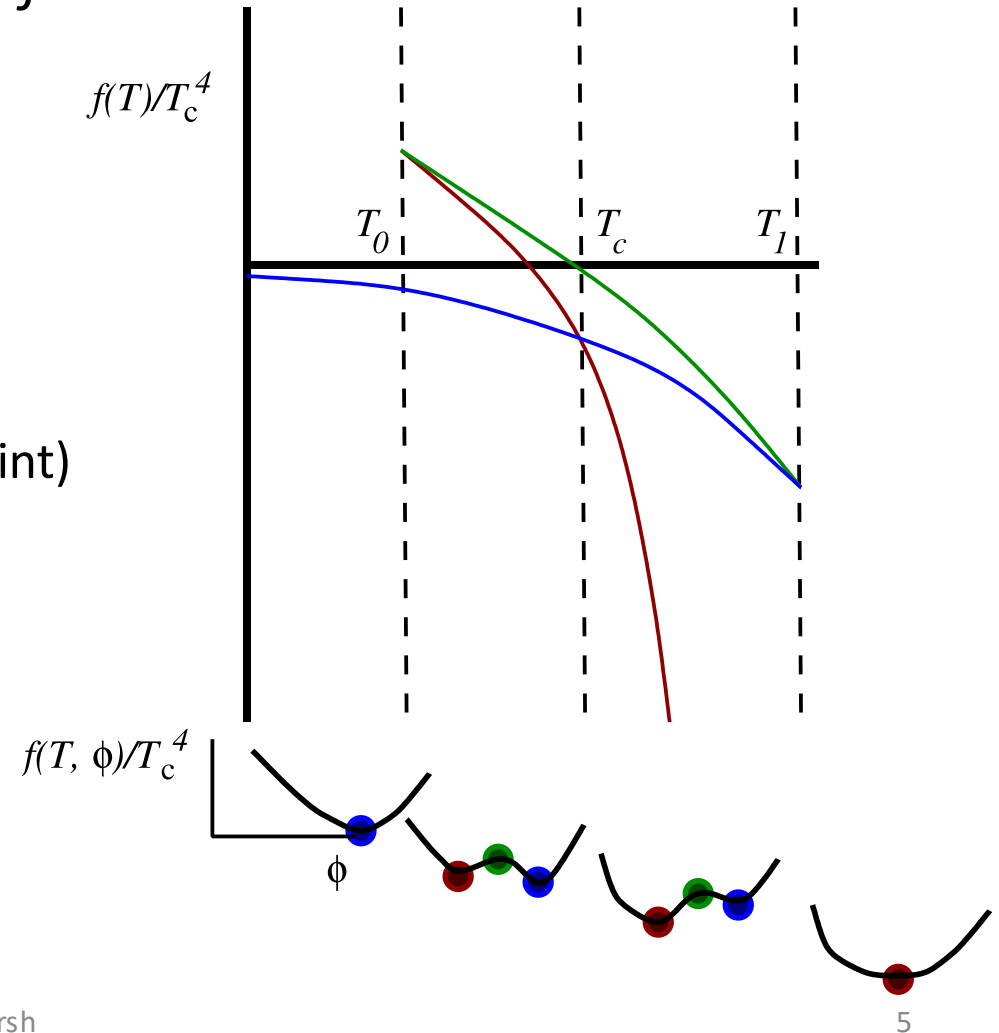


LISA

First order phase transitions



- Phase: a local minimum of the free energy density f
- Behaviour of free energy around 1st order PT:
 - $T > T_2$: one equilibrium phase
 - $T_0 < T < T_1$: two equilibrium phases, one unstable
 - $T = T_c$: equal free energy, critical temperature
 - $T_0 < T < T_c$: high temperature phase is metastable
 - $T = T_0$: high temperature phase is unstable (spinodal point)
- Metastable phase can persist to $T = 0$
 - Example: superfluid ^3He , A phase
- Keep track of phase with order parameter ϕ
- In equilibrium: $\partial_\phi f(T, \phi_{\text{eq}}) = 0$
- Equilibrium free energy: $f(T) \equiv f(T, \phi_{\text{eq}})$



Little bangs in the Big Bang

Fluid kinetic energy

- 1st order transition by nucleation of bubbles of low- T phase

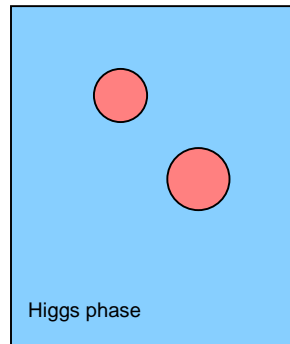
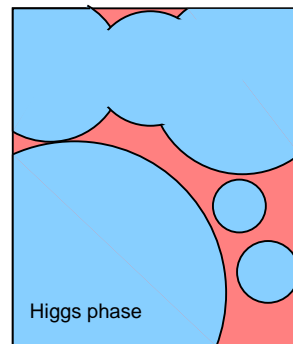
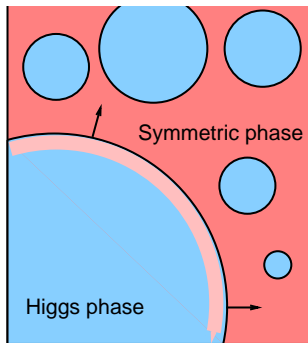
Langer 1969, Coleman 1974, Linde 1983

- Nucleation rate/volume $p(t)$ rapidly increases below T_c
- Expanding bubbles generate pressure waves in hot fluid
- Gravitational wave (GW) production
- GW spectrum has information about phase transition
- Departure from equilibrium: needed for baryogenesis

Sakharov (1967)

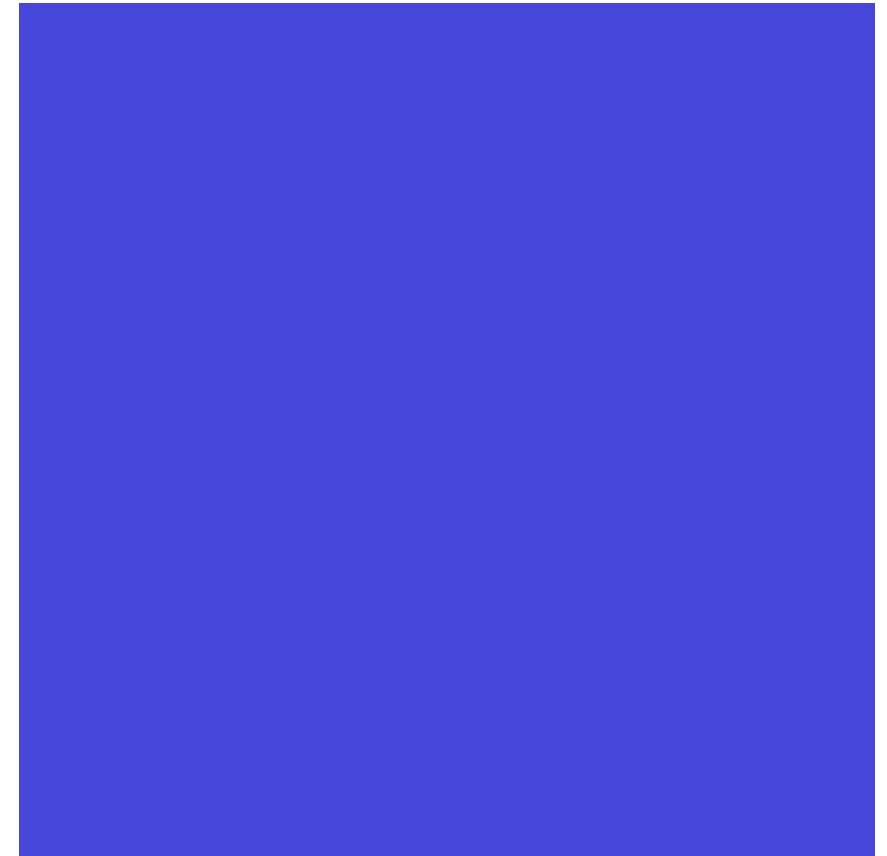
Kuzmin, Rubakov, Shaposhnikov (1985)

M. Postma, Friday



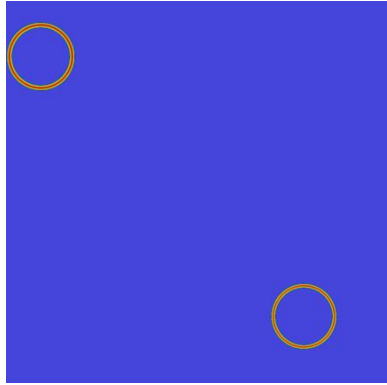
Steinhardt (1982); Hogan (1983,86);
Gyulassy et al (1984); Witten (1984)

Gravitational waves ... Mark Hindmarsh

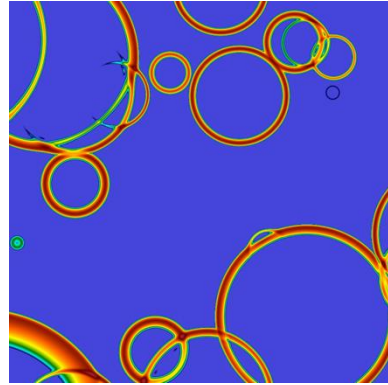


MH, Huber, Rummukainen, Weir (2013,5,7)
Cutting, MH, Weir (2018,9)

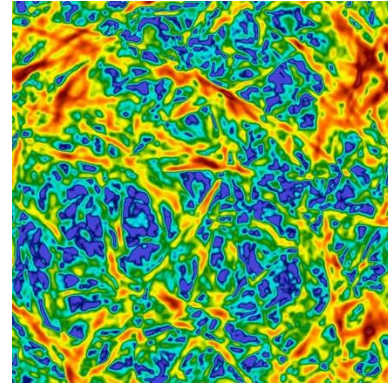
Phases of a phase transition



1



2



3



4

1. Bubble nucleation and expansion
2. Collision
3. Acoustic waves (vorticity)
4. Non-linear (shocks, turbulence)

$$\tau_{nl} \sim L_f / \bar{U}_f$$

L_f – fluid flow length scale

U_f – RMS fluid velocity

‘exponential’ nucleation rate/volume $p(t)$

$$p(t) = p_n e^{\beta(t-t_n)}$$

$$\tau_{co} = \beta^{-1}$$

β – transition rate parameter

$\beta > H$ for successful transition

Guth, Weinberg 1983; Enqvist et al 1992;
Turner, Weinberg, Widrow 1992;

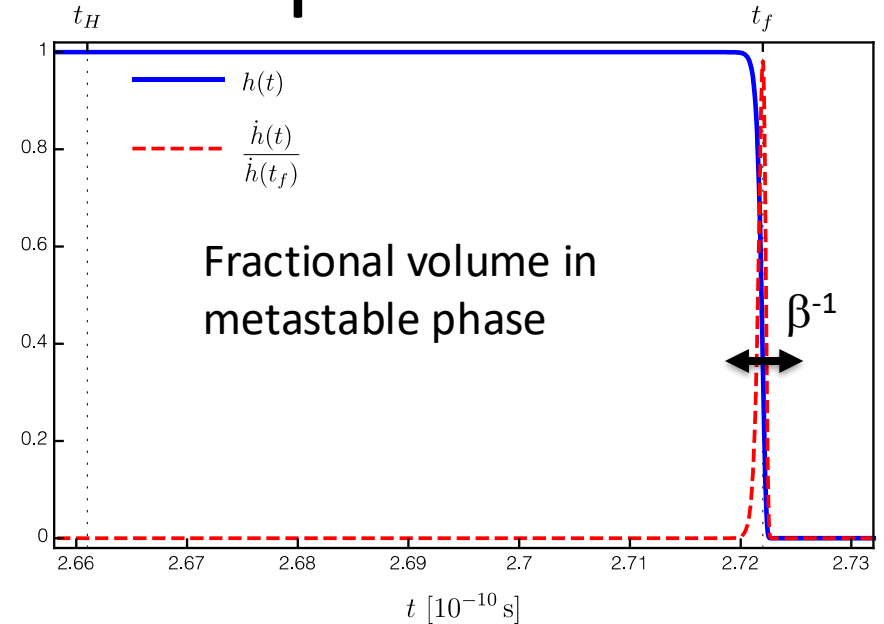
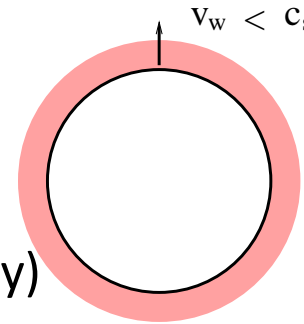
Review: MH, Lüben, Lumma, Pauly 2021

GWs from first order phase transitions: parameters

- Parameters of transition:

- T_n = Temperature at nucleation
- β = transition rate ($= -d \log p / dt$)
- v_w = Bubble wall speed
- $\alpha = (\text{potential energy change}^*) / (\text{heat energy})$
- c_s = sound speed

Giese et al 2020



- Useful derived parameters:

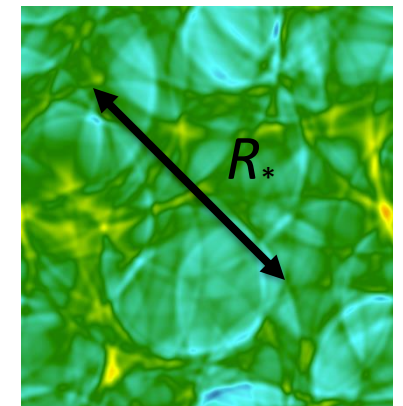
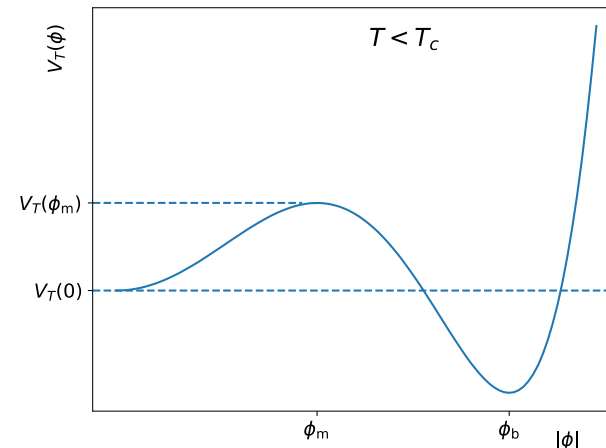
- $r_* = (\text{bubble centre spacing } R_*) / \text{Hubble length}$
- $K = \text{fluid kinetic energy fraction}$

Steinhardt '84

Espinosa et al 2010

- Fluid kinetic energy makes GWs

- Energy release via self-similar bubble solutions



* $\frac{1}{4} \Delta(e - 3p)$

GWs from an early universe phase transition

Assume rapid transition, $\beta \gg H$, neglect expansion of universe

- Effective theory: Ignatius et al (1994), Kurki-Suonio, Laine (1996)

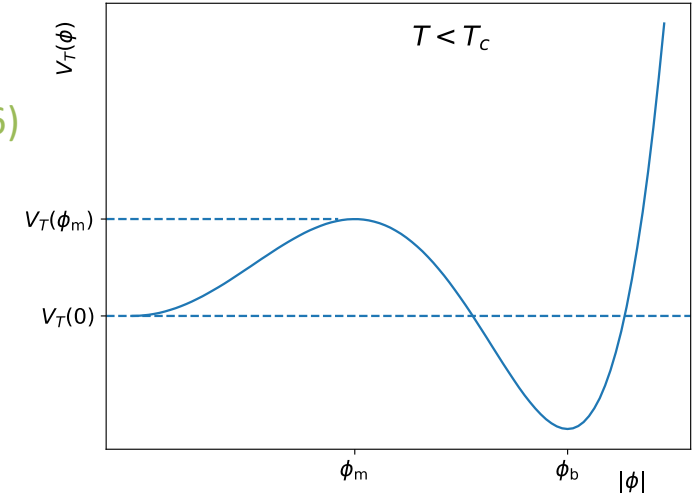
- **Higgs field** $\square\phi - V'_T(\phi) = \eta_T(\phi)U \cdot \partial\phi$

- $V_T(\phi)$ equation of state
- $\eta_T(\phi)$ field-fluid coupling (models friction)

- **Relativistic fluid (ideal limit)**

$$T_f^{\mu\nu} = (e + P)U^\mu U^\nu + P g^{\mu\nu}$$

$$\partial_\mu T_f^{\mu\nu} + \partial^\nu\phi V'_T(\phi) = \eta_T(\phi)(U \cdot \partial\phi)\partial^\nu\phi$$



- **Metric perturbation (GW strain)**

$$\ddot{u}_{ij} - \nabla^2 u_{ij} = 16\pi G T_{ij} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \tilde{h}_{ij}(\mathbf{k}) = \Lambda_{ij,kl}^{TT} u_{kl}(\mathbf{k}) \quad \text{Garcia-Bellido, Figueroa, Sastre (2008)}$$

GWs from an early universe phase transition

Assume rapid transition, $\beta \gg H$, neglect expansion of universe

- Ingredients for theory: Ignatius et al (1994), Kurki-Suonio, Laine (1996)

- **Higgs field** $-\ddot{\phi} + \nabla^2 \phi - V_T'(\phi) = \eta_T(\phi)W(\dot{\phi} + V^i \partial_i \phi)$

- $V_T(\phi)$ equation of state

- $\eta_T(\phi)$ field-fluid coupling (“friction”, high T: $\eta_T(\phi) \propto \phi^2/T$)

- **Relativistic fluid**

$$\dot{E} + \partial_i(EV^i) + P[\dot{W} + \partial_i(WV^i)] - \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} W(\dot{\phi} + V^i \partial_i \phi) = \eta W^2(\dot{\phi} + V^i \partial_i \phi)^2.$$

$$\dot{Z}_i + \partial_j(Z_i V^j) + \partial_i P + \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} \partial_i \phi = -\eta W(\dot{\phi} + V^j \partial_j \phi) \partial_i \phi.$$

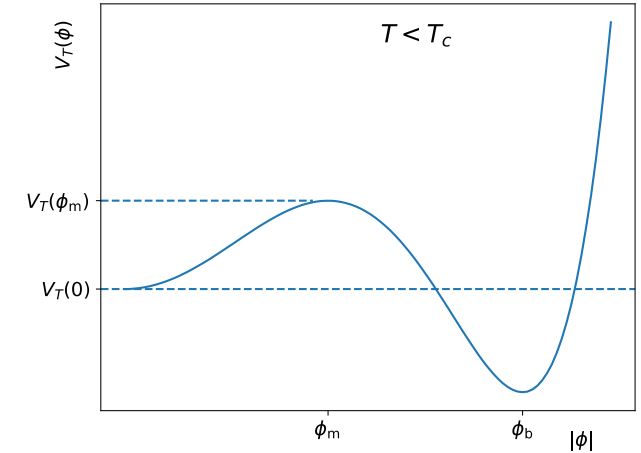
- $E = W^*$ (energy density), $Z_i =$ momentum density, $V_i =$ 3-velocity, $W =$ Lorentz factor

- Discretisation * Wilson & Matthews (2003)

Also: Brandenburg, Enqvist, Olesen (1996); Giblin, Mertens (2013); Jino, Konstandin, Rubira (2020)

- **Metric perturbation (GW strain)**

$$\ddot{u}_{ij} - \nabla^2 u_{ij} = 16\pi G T_{ij} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \tilde{h}_{ij}(\mathbf{k}) = \Lambda_{ij,kl}^{TT} u_{kl}(\mathbf{k}) \quad \text{Garcia-Bellido, Figueroa, Sastre (2008)}$$



Connection to fundamental theory

- Scalar hydrodynamics $-\ddot{\phi} + \nabla^2 \phi - V'_T(\phi) = \eta_T(\phi)W(\dot{\phi} + V^i \partial_i \phi)$

- Scalar effective potential $V_T(\phi)$ \rightarrow equilibrium, quasi-eqm. $(T_n, \alpha, \beta, c_s, g_{\text{eff}})$

P. Schicho, Friday

- Scalar-fluid coupling $\eta_T(\phi)$ \rightarrow non-equilibrium (v_w)

J. van de Vis, Friday

$$\Omega_{\text{gw}}(f) = \frac{2\pi^2}{3H_0^2} f^2 h_c^2(f)$$

GW spectrum

Ω_p = peak amplitude
 f_p = peak frequency
 σ_i = shape parameters

Phase transition parameters :

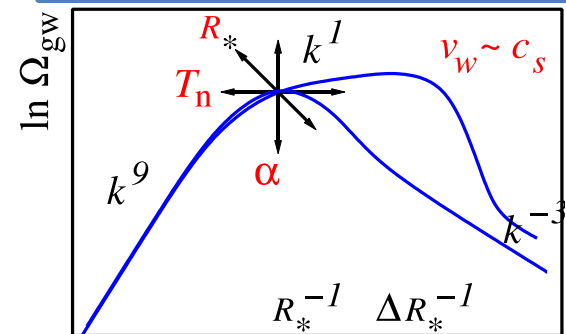
T_n = nucleation temperature
 g_{eff} = effective d.o.f. in plasma
 $\alpha \sim$ (latent heat)/(thermal energy)
 c_s = sound speed(s)
 β = transition rate
 v_w = bubble wall speed

Simulations, Modelling

$H_n(T_n, g_{\text{eff}})$ (Hubble rate)

$K(v_w, \alpha, c_s)$ (kinetic energy fraction)

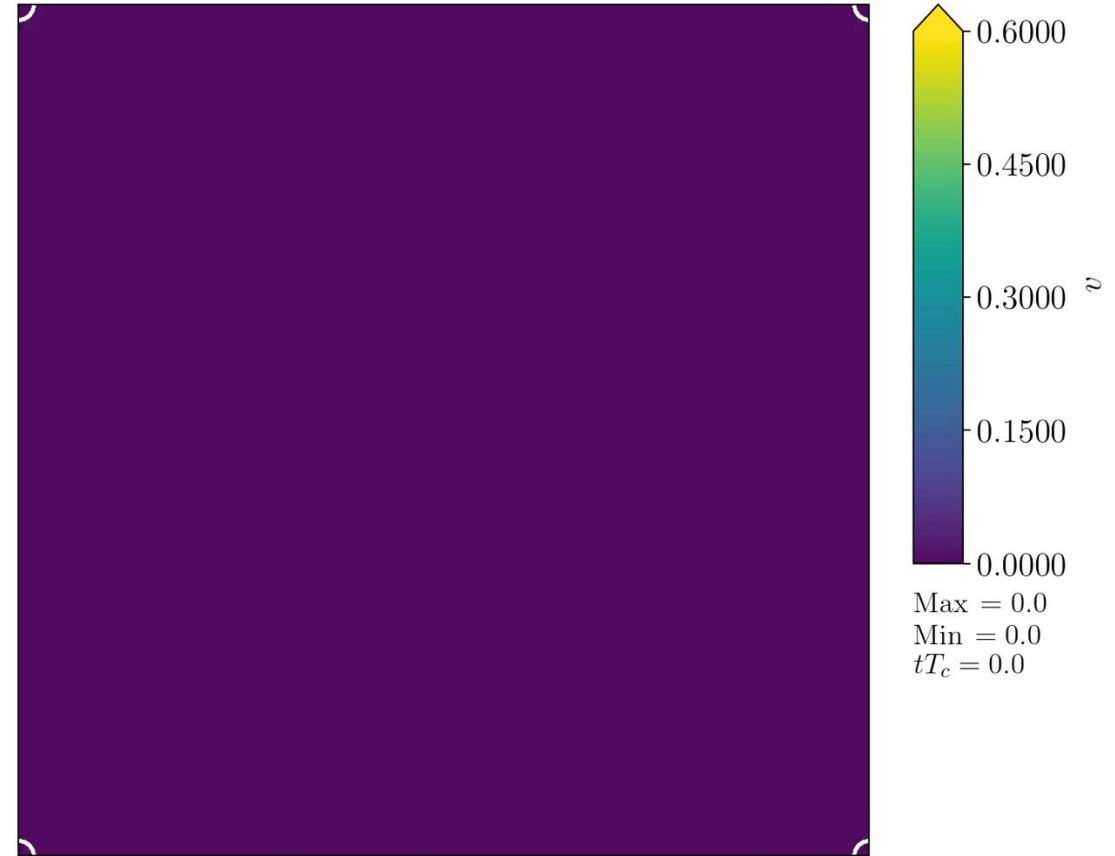
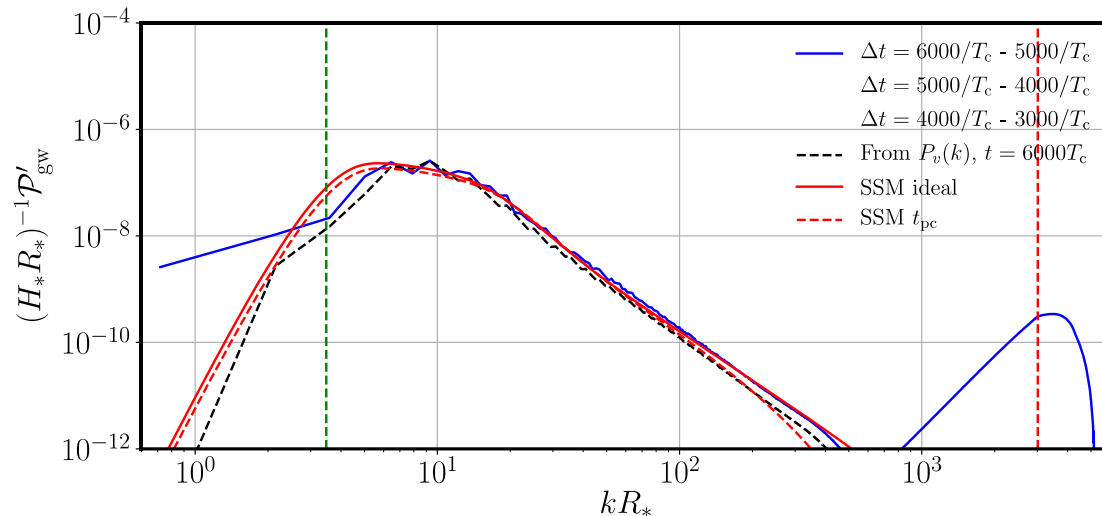
$R_*(\beta, v_w)$ (mean bubble separation)



3D hydrodynamic simulations of phase transitions

Hindmarsh et al 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019; Jinno et al 2023

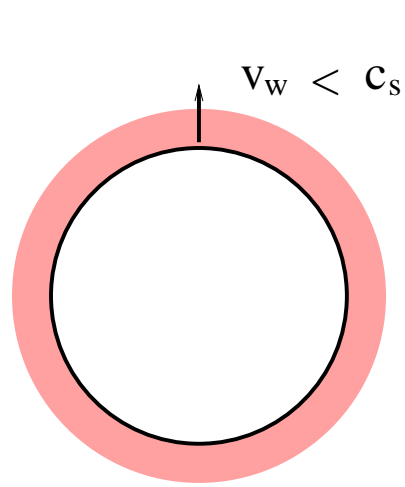
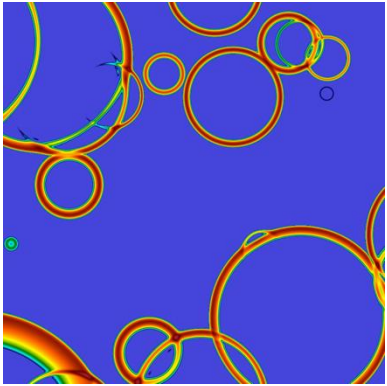
- Relativistic fluid + scalar order parameter (“Higgs”)
- Linearised gravitational wave production
- Discretise on 4200^3 lattice (run on 24k CPUs)
 - Wilson & Matthews (2003)
- Key output: GW power spectrum
(fractional GW energy density per log wavenumber)



- While sound waves persist, GW power spectrum grows
- Plot: GW power spectrum **growth rate** (scaled)

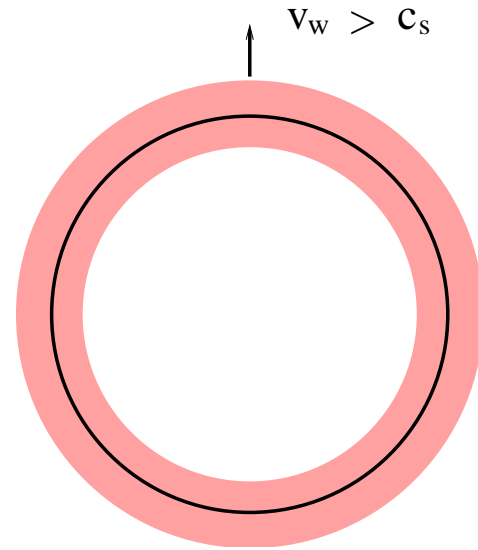


Towards a model: relativistic combustion

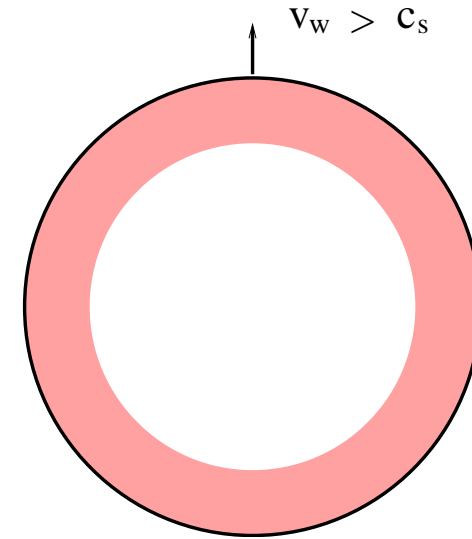


Deflagration

Landau & Lifshitz; Steinhardt (1984)
Kurki-Suonio, Laine (1991), Espinosa et al (2010)

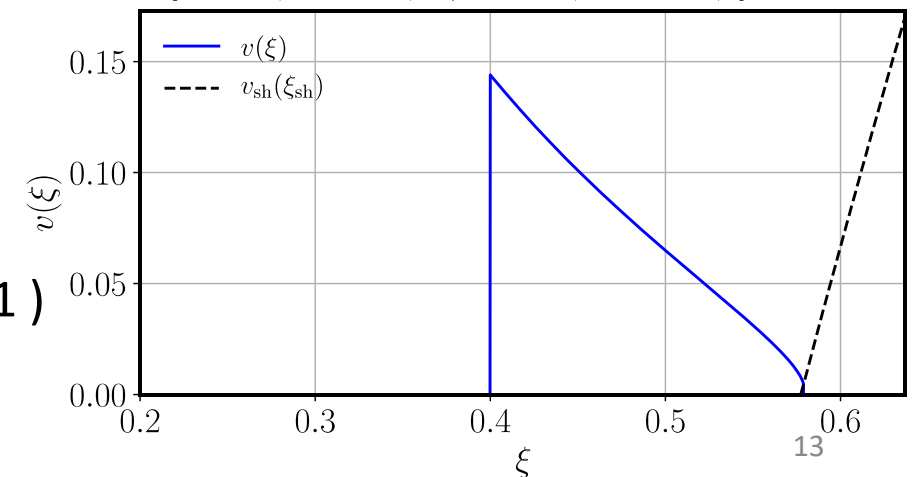


Supersonic deflagration
("hybrid")



Detonation

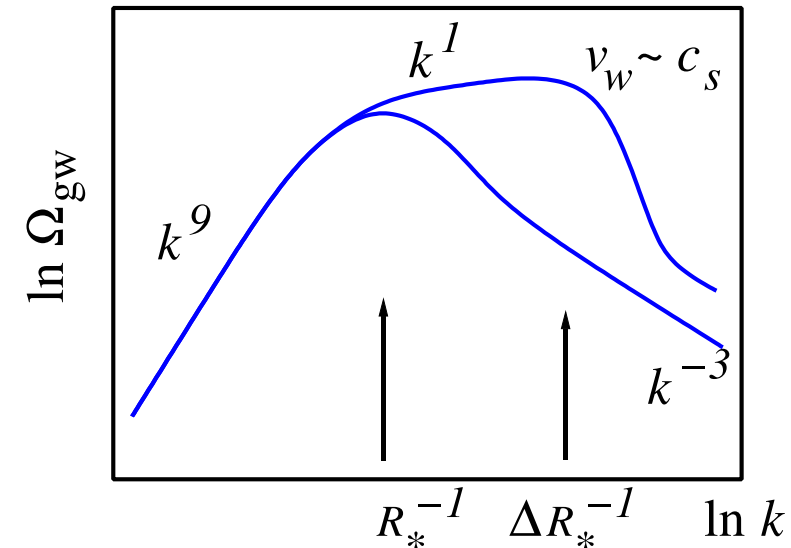
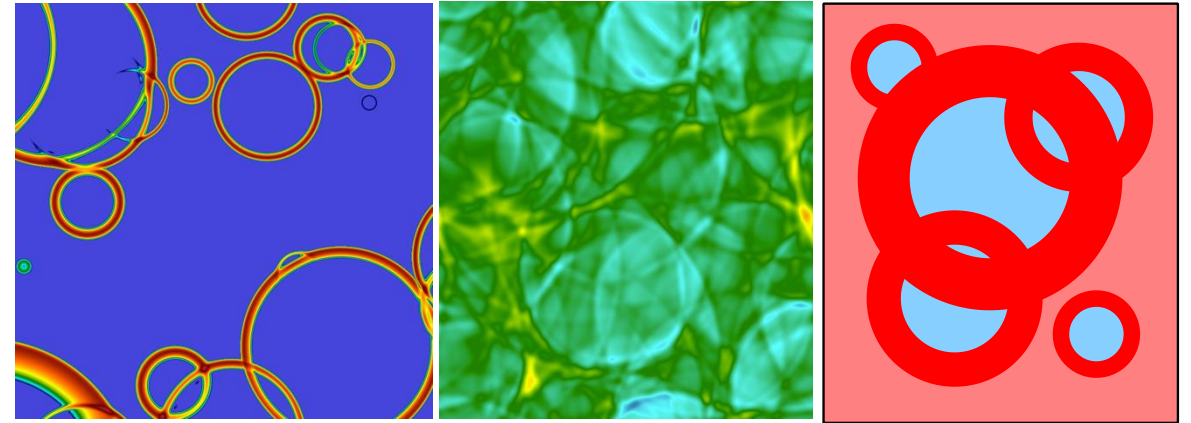
$\xi_w = 0.4, \alpha_n = 0.1, \alpha_+ = 0.078, r = 1.624, \xi_{sh} = 0.579$



- Large scales: ideal relativistic hydrodynamics
- Microphysics: $e(T)$, $p(T)$, v_w
- Radial fluid velocity $v(r,t)$ and enthalpy distribution $w(r,t)$
 - **Similarity solution $v(x)$, $w(x)$: $\xi = r/t$**
- Low-friction or ultra-strong transition: can be "runaway" ($v_w \rightarrow 1$)
 - (not considered here) Bodeker Moore 2010, 2017

GWs from phase transitions: Sound shell model

- GWs from Gaussian velocity field
Caprini, Durrer, Servant (2007,2009)
- Velocity field: weighted addition of self-similar sound “shells” $\mathbf{v}_q(t_i)$ from bubbles
MH 2016, MH, Hijazi (2019)
- Two length scales:
 - Bubble spacing R_*
 - Shell width $R_* |v_w - c_s| / c_s$
- Double broken power law
 - $P_{gw} \sim k^9, k^1, k^{-3}$
- Amplitude proportional to:
 - Bubble spacing
 - Shear stress lifetime
 - (Kinetic energy)²
- Similar: bulk flow model (real space)
Jinno, Konstandin, Rubira 2020



Estimating GW power

$$\square h \sim T \longrightarrow P_{\dot{h}}(t, k) \sim \int^t dt_1 \int^t dt_2 \cos[k(t-t_1)] \cos[k(t-t_2)] \langle T_k(t_1) T_k^*(t_2) \rangle$$

• GW energy fraction: \longrightarrow

$$\Omega_{\text{gw}} \sim (H_n \tau_v)(H_n R_*) K^2$$

$R_*(\beta, v_w, \text{ also } \alpha_n)$ (mean bubble spacing)
from bubble growth dynamics

- H_n Hubble rate at nucleation
- τ_v duration of stresses
- τ_c coherence time

$K(v_w, \alpha_n)$ (kinetic energy fraction)
from self-similar hydro solution

• Coherence time:

- $\tau_c \sim R_*$ (bubble spacing)

• Shear stress lifetime (shocks):

- $\tau_v = H_n^{-1} / (1 + U_f / R_* H_n)$
- U_f (\sim RMS velocity) $\sim \sqrt{K}$
- or $K = (4/3) U_f^2$

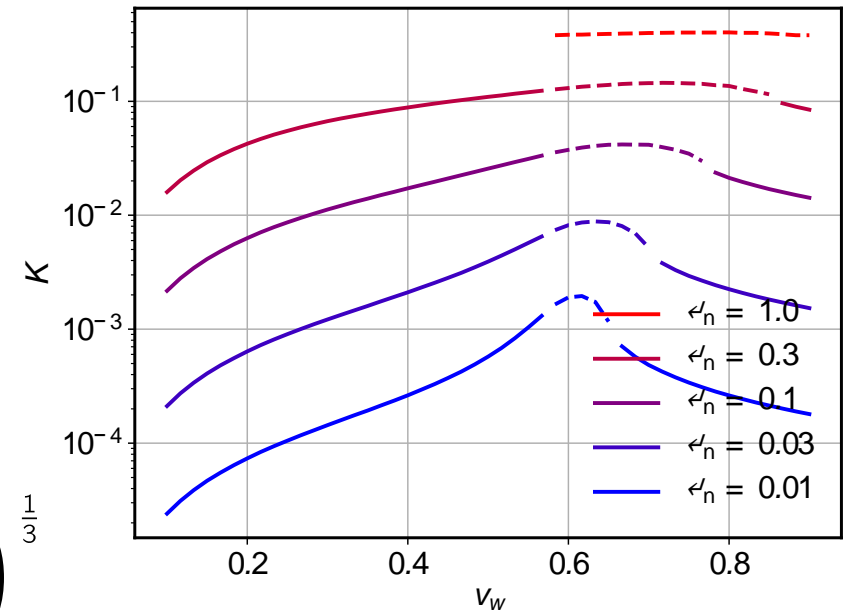
$$\Omega_{\text{gw},0} \simeq F_{\text{gw},0} \frac{r_*}{1 + \sqrt{K}/r_*} K^2 \tilde{\Omega}_{\text{gw}}$$

Numerical simulations:

$$\tilde{\Omega}_{\text{gw}} = \mathcal{O}(10^{-2})$$

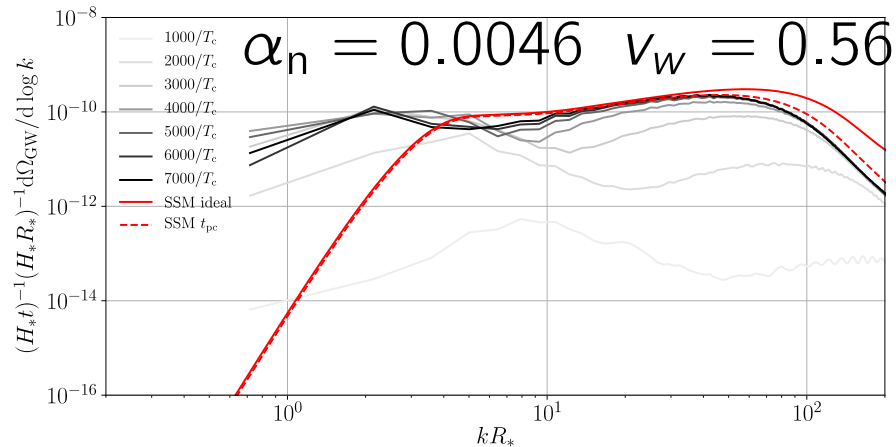
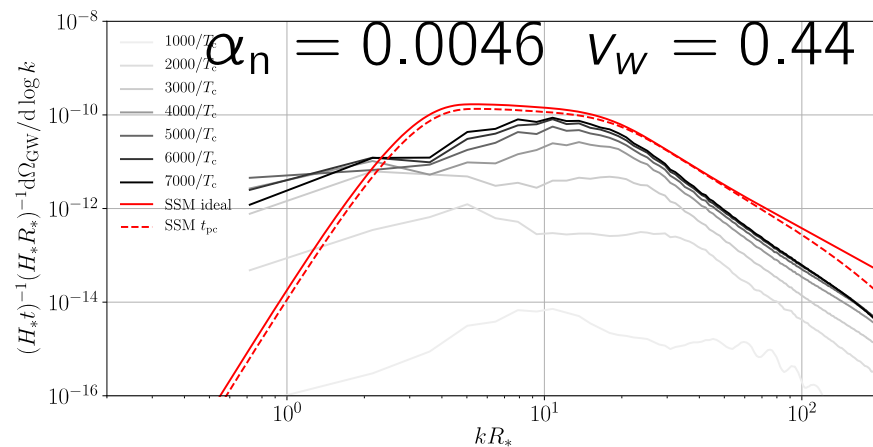
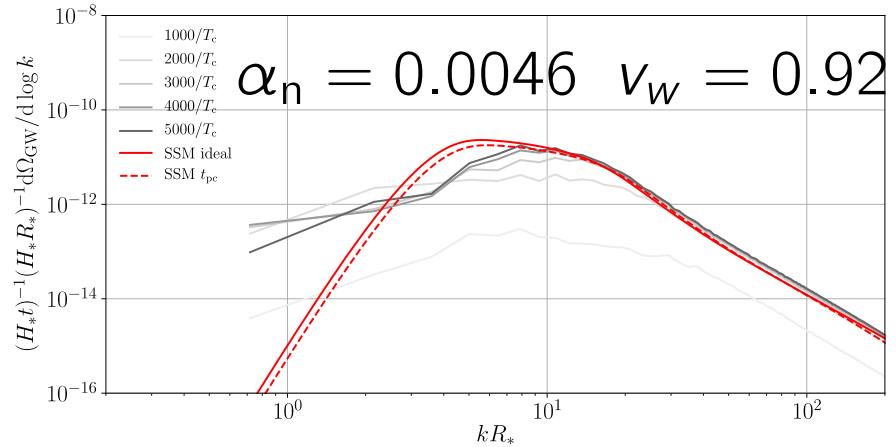
Standard cosmology:

$$F_{\text{gw},0} = 3.6 \times 10^{-5} \left(\frac{100}{g_{\text{eff}}} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

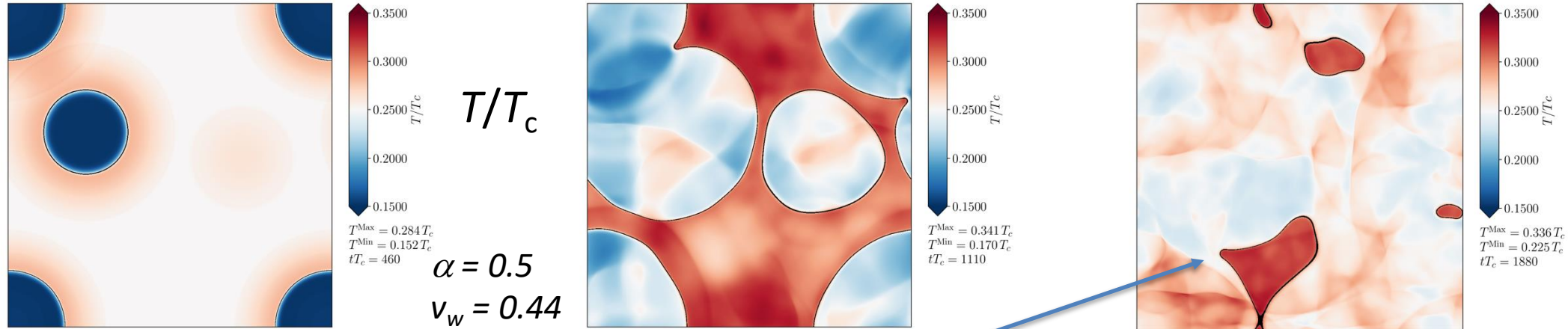


Sound shell model vs. simulations P_{gw}

- **Solid:** ideal self-similar sound shell
- **Dash:** evolving sound shell at peak collision time in 1+1D scalar hydro
- **Grey:** simulations: [MH et al 2017](#)
 - simultaneous nucleation of bubbles



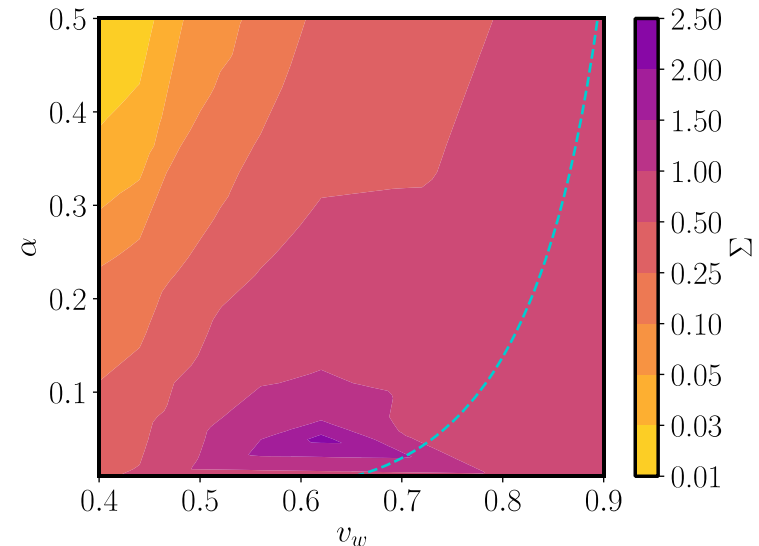
Nonlinearities 1: Kinetic energy & GW suppression



Cutting, MH, Weir, 2020

- **Deflagrations:** heat up fluid in front
- Pressure in front of wall increases, walls slow down
- Formation of hot droplets
- Less transfer into kinetic energy, more into heat.
- Include **GW suppression factor** as a numerical parameter (**right**)
- Also: nucleation suppression
 - bigger bubbles, boosts signal

Al-Ajmi, MH (2023)

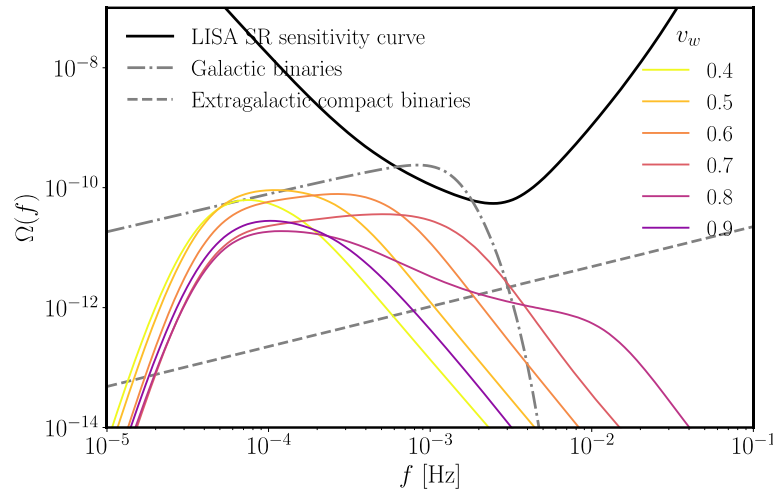


Gowling, MH (2021)

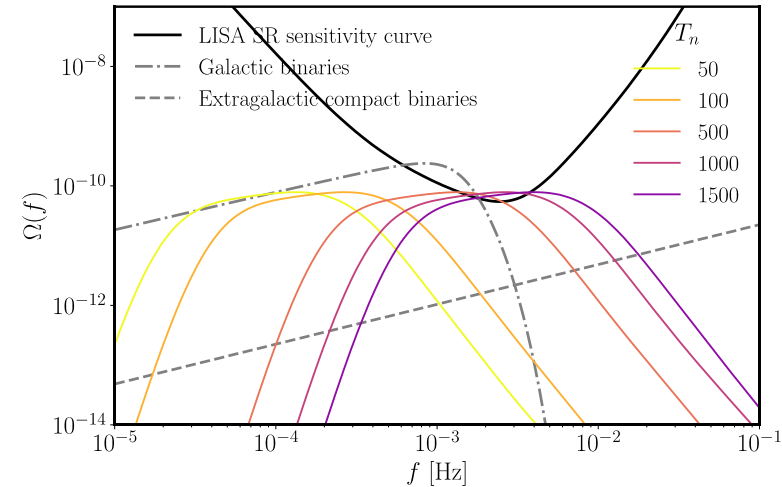
GW power spectra in the SSM

- Sound shell model predictions, acceptable accuracy for
 - near-linear flows ($\alpha \leq 0.3$); fast walls: $v_w > 0.4$; sub-Hubble bubble separations ($r_* \ll 1$)

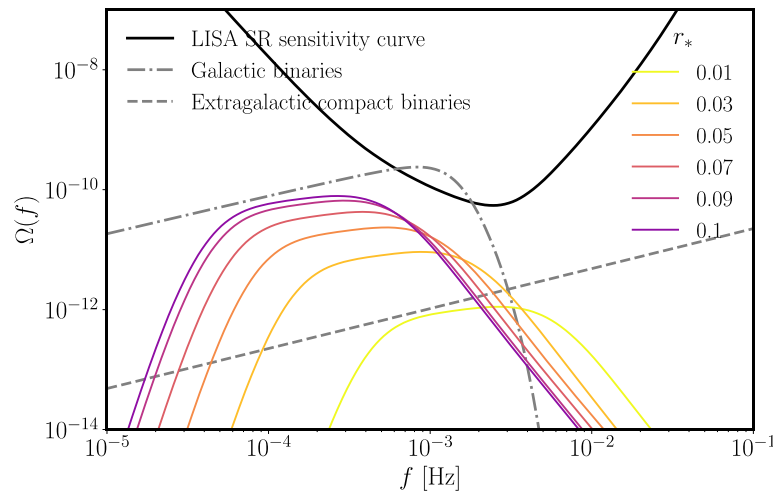
Gowling, MH (2021)



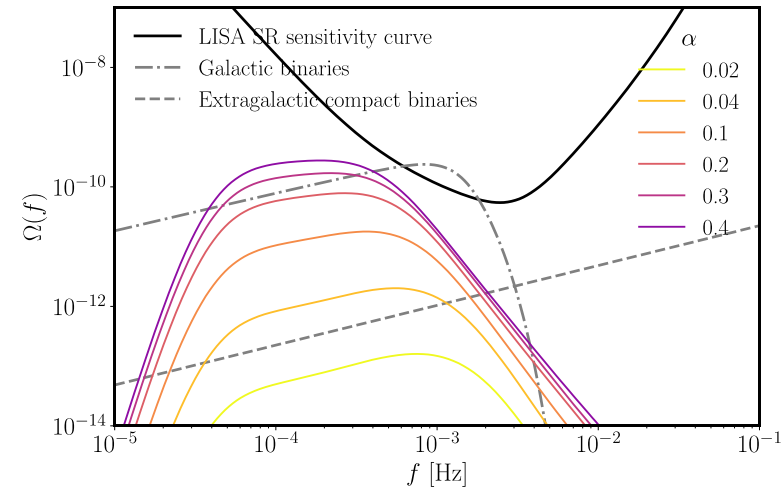
Vary wall speed



Vary transition temp



Vary bubble separation



Vary transition strength

Recent advances in hydrodynamics

- Shape of GW spectrum at low k

Sharma, Dahl, Brandenburg, MH 2023; Roper-Pol, Procacci, Caprini 2023

- Effect of sound speed on GW spectrum

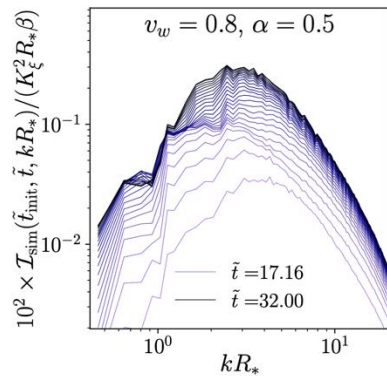
Giombi, Dahl, MH 2024

- post-transition equation of state Racco, Poletti 2022

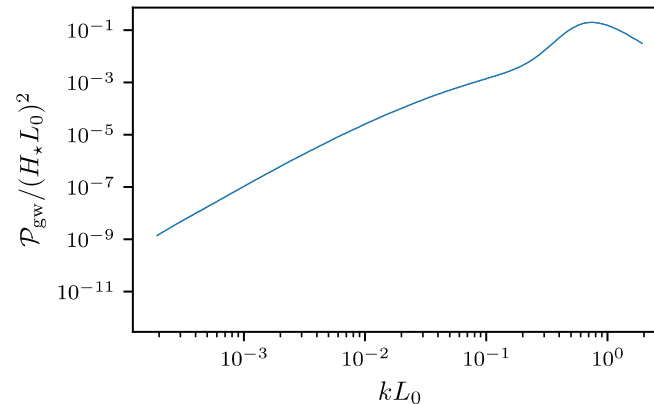
- GWs from strong transitions

- $v_{\text{rms}} \sim 0.1 - 0.3$, decaying flow (shock dissipation)

- convergence of GW spectrum, peak shape change

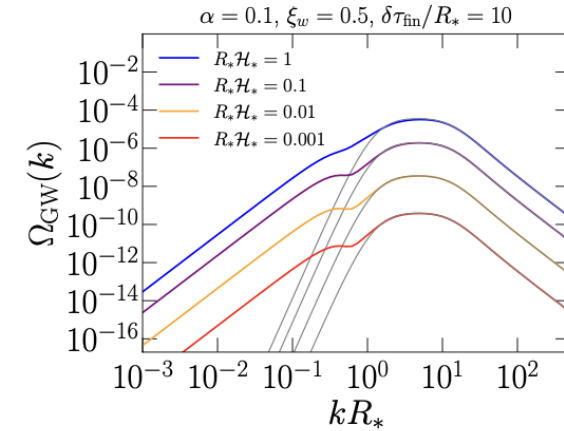


Caprini et al 2024

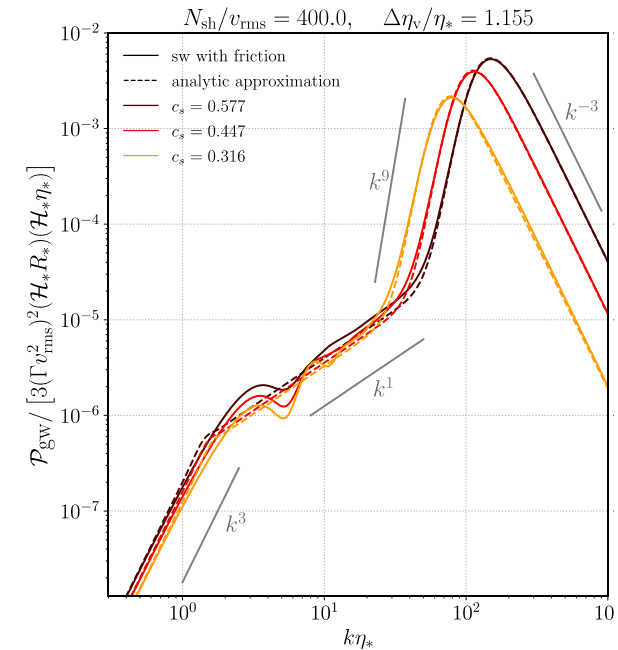


Dahl et al 2024

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Roper Pol, Procacci, Caprini 2023



Giombi, Dahl, MH 2024

Conclusions

- LISA and other missions will probe physics of electroweak-scale transitions from mid-2030s
 - Measure/constrain phase transition parameters
 - Wall speed likely to be best determined (if signal seen) [Gowling, MH \(2022\)](#)
 - Parameters from underlying particle physics models
 - Recent progress with equilibrium parameters
 - Wall speed the hardest (non-equilibrium)
- Towards accurate calculations of GW power spectrum from parameters
 - Non-linear evolution not well understood yet
 - Strongly supercooled transitions?
 - e.g. “nearly conformal dynamics” [Konstandin, Servant \(2011\)](#)
- Ambition: make GWs as good a probe of the electroweak era as CMB is for the decoupling era

