Seminar - University of Bologna - Dipartimento di Fisica e Astronomia – 19/02/2025

## **Gravitational Waves: A New Frontier Across Scales and Disciplines**



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ÖAW

ÖSTERREICHISCHE AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN





TELESCOPE





European Research Council Established by the European Commission



While studying Astronomy here in Bologna I got attracted by the topics of quantum mechanics and particle physics. In particular, one question accompanied me through switching from the largest to the smallest structures of the Universe

According to the theory of the Big Bang, at the time of the Big Bang, matter and antimatter were produced in equal amounts...

### ...where is the antimatter then?



# Sakharov conditions

A Universe balanced in terms of the amount of matter and antimatter can evolve into a matter dominated Universe if three conditions are satisfied\*:

Baryon number violation
C & CP violation
Departure from thermal equilibrium



\*A. D. Sakharov, "Violation of CP invariance, C asymmetry, and baryon asymmetry of the universe". Journal of Experimental and Theoretical Physics 5: 24–27, (1967)



### Baryon number violation

Requires sphaleron processes (not observed) that violate the baryon number and the lepton number but preserve B-L, **not observed** 

### .C & CP violation

**Observed** experimentally in several transitions, understood theoretically (CKM matrix), **but**...

### .Departure from thermal equilibrium

Requires first-order phase transitions in the early Universe, **not observed** 





$$CP\Psi(r,t)\to \Psi^*(-r,t)$$

$$A_{CP}(f_{CP}) = \frac{N(B^0 \to f_{CP}) - N(\overline{B^0} \to f_{CP})}{N(B^0 \to f_{CP}) + N(\overline{B^0} \to f_{CP})}$$



### .CP violation

**Observed** experimentally in several transitions, understood theoretically (CKM matrix), **but**...



By observing the interference pattern we measure the phase difference of two paths

 $S_f = \sin[\arg(q/p) + \arg(\bar{A}_f/A_f)]$ 

$$\eta_{obs} = \frac{n_B - n_{\bar{B}}}{n_{\gamma}} \approx 6 \times 10^{-10}, \eta_{CP}^{CKM} \sim 10^{-18}$$



Additional sources of CP violation are needed to explain the observed matter-antimatter asymmetry! In the worst-case scenario, these could be particles at masses that we cannot probe experimentally (colliders) in any foreseeable future.



### Baryon number violation

Requires sphaleron processes (never observed) that violate the baryon number and the lepton number but preserve B-L, **not observed** 

### .C & CP violation

**Observed** experimentally in several transitions, understood theoretically (CKM matrix), **but not enough** 

### .Departure from thermal equilibrium

Requires first-order phase transitions in the early Universe, **not observed** 



# Finally, after my PhD in CP violation and particle phenomenology, I could answer my question

According to the theory of the Big Bang, at the time of big bang, matter and antimatter were produced in equal amounts...

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# Finally, after my PhD in CP violation and particle phenomenology, I could answer my question

According to the theory of the Big Bang, at the time of big bang, matter and antimatter were produced in equal amounts...

...where is the antimatter then?

Nobody really knows...



#### A way out: first-order phase transitions



Water (liquid) has a random molecular arrangement, with molecules free to move. System at equilibrium The phase transition begins. Small ice crystals start forming as nuclei of the solid phase, heat is removed. Nucleation started. Ice (solid) has an ordered, crystalline lattice structure, and more heat is removed: temperature remains constant at the freezing point until the transition is complete. Transformations between phases of matter characterized by a **discontinuous change** in an order parameter (e.g., density or structure) and the release or absorption of **latent heat**.

During the transition, both phases can coexist in equilibrium (e.g., liquid and solid water at 0°C), and the process often involves overcoming an energy barrier, leading to phenomena like bubble nucleation or phase separation.

#### A way out: first-order phase transitions in the early Universe



The Universe is is a false vacuum state (local minima)

False vacuum

True vacuum bubble nucleation starts (ex. Via tunneling)



Bubbles expand and eventually collide, producing GWs



The Universe reaches a true vacuum state (global minimum)

True vacuum

time

#### What could trigger a first-order phase transition in the early Universe?

In the **Standard Model (SM)**, the electroweak phase transition is a **smooth crossover**, meaning it does not generate bubble nucleation and cannot drive baryogenesis.

BSM models (such as in a Two-Higgs-Doublet Model (2HDM), Singlet-Scalar Extensions, or Composite Higgs Models) can introduce a barrier in the Higgs potential, making the EW phase transition first-order.

This leads to **bubble nucleation and expansion**, ensuring the system is **out of thermal equilibrium**—one of Sakharov's conditions.

A **new CPV phase can be introduced by the 2HDM (or other extension)** which diffuses outside the bubble. In the unbroken phase, sphalerons convert the CP asymmetry into a net baryon asymmetry before the electroweak phase transition completes

## $V(\phi)$ Higgs field value in our Universe 0 1 Current experimental knowledge $\phi$

*Nature* volume 607, pages 41–47 (2022)

### How can this induce a matter-dominated Universe?

First-order phase transitions in the early universe can produce gravitational waves—could we use them to learn about baryogenesis?

The Universe is in a false vacuum state (local minima)

 $t < 10^{-12} s$ Unbroken EW, balanced matter/antimatter content

True vacuum bubble nucleation start, large CPV



CPV diffuses through bubbles wall, sphalerons convert it in baryon number violation





Bubbles expand and eventually collide, producing GWs



The Universe reaches a true vacuum state (global minimum)

 $t \sim 10^{-10} s$ Broken EW, frozen baryon asymmetry, matter - dominated content

### How can this induce a matter-dominated Universe?

The Universe is in a false vacuum state (local minima)

 $t < 10^{-12}s$ Unbroken EW, balanced matter/antimatter content These chain of events would produce:

- A matter-dominated Universe
- A gravitational wave signal from the strong first-order phase transition that broke the (extended) electroweak symmetry.
- If the mass of the new boson in the extended Higgs sector (or another BSM scenario) is beyond the reach of collider experiments, then gravitational waves may be the only detectable signature of this physics.

True vacuum bubble nucleation start, large CPV



CPV diffuses through bubbles wall, sphalerons convert it in baryon number violation



Bubbles expand and eventually collide, producing GWs



The Universe reaches a true vacuum state (global minimum)

 $t \sim 10^{-10} s$ Broken EW, frozen baryon asymmetry, matter - dominated content

### But what are gravitational waves, and how can we detect them?

#### What are gravitational waves?

Gravitational waves are ripples (or perturbations) in the space-time geometry that are predicted by Einstein theory of general relativity:  $g_{\mu\nu}R$  Deformation (Einstein)

Flat Minkowski metric Energy-impulse tensor, source of space-time deformations 
$$T_{\mu\nu} = -\frac{c^4}{8\pi G}G_{\mu\nu}$$
  $G_{\mu\nu} \equiv R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{g\mu\nu\pi}{2}$  tensor, effect of the tensor. If the tensor is the tensor is the tensor is the tensor is the tensor. The tensor is the tensor is the tensor is the tensor. The tensor is the tensor is the tensor is the tensor. The tensor is the tensor is the tensor. The tensor is the tensor is the tensor is the tensor. The tensor is the tensor is the tensor is the tensor. The tensor is the tensor is the tensor is the tensor. The tensor is the tensor is the tensor is the tensor. The tensor is the tensor is the tensor is the tensor. The tensor is the tensor. The tensor is the tenso



of the space-

 $ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^{\mu} dx^{\nu}$ 

Distance between 2 points

Gravitational wave propagating in the zdirection with 2 polarizations: x and +



Gravitational waves emerge from specific motions of massive objects in space (for example compact binaries)



#### Example of gravitational waves production during binary black holes coalescence



### To put this in perspective:



How gravitational waves propagate to our planet and how we detect them with laser interferometry



### Stretch and contract

### Form interference patterns



#### An example, 2 coalescing neutron stars



Scale in 10<sup>-18</sup>m: Scale in m:  $h_{\mu\nu} = 2 \frac{G}{c^4} \frac{1}{r} \ddot{Q}_{\mu\nu}$  Q<sub>µv</sub> quadrupolar moment of GW source  $10^{-10}$ m atom 100,000,000 10<sup>-14</sup>m For 2 coalescing neutron stars at r~15Mpc (~Virgo cluster):  $h~10^{-21} - 10^{-22}$ . 10,000 nucleus For a test detector of length  $L_0 \sim 3x10^3$ m:  $10^{-15}$ m proton 1,000  $\delta L \approx \frac{h}{2}L_0 = 3(10^{-18} - 10^{-19})m$  (on each arm) electron  $\leq 10^{-18} \text{m}$  quark ≤1

#### Gravitational wave detectors have to copy with noise and with signals that might be not so loud



For (quasi-)circular orbits of merging compact objects with a redshifted mass  $M_z = (1 + z)M_T (= M_1 + M_2)$ , the peak of emission of the dominating modes (*l*, *m*, *n*= 2, 2, 0) can be approximated by

 $f_{220} \approx \frac{c^3}{2\sqrt{2}\pi G M_z}$ 

#### **Current network of 2-G GW detectors**





# Masses in the Stellar Graveyard

#### LIGO/Virgo/KAGRA Public Alerts

v)200-

5100-

asse

- More details about public alerts are provided in the LIGO/Virgo/KAGRA Alerts User Guide.
- Retractions are marked in red. Retraction means that the candidate was manually vetted and is no longer considered a candidate of interest.
- Less-significant events are marked in grey, and are not manually vetted. Consult the LVK Alerts User Guide for more information on significance in O4.
- Less-significant events are not shown by default. Press "Show All Public Events" to show significant and less-significant events.



01-03

93 evts

#### LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA observing plans.

Updated 2025-01-26	<b>—</b> 01	- 02	<b>—</b> O3		<b>0</b> 4	<b>—</b> O5
LIGO	80 Мрс	100 Мрс	100-140 Мрс	1:	50 -160+ Mpc	240-325 Mpc
Virgo		30 Мрс	40-50 Мрс		50-80 Mpc	See text
KAGRA			0.7 Mpc	1-3 Mp	3 ≃10 c Mpc	25-128 Mpc
L 32002127-v28	2015 2016	2017 2018	2019 2020 2021	2022 2023 20	I I I 024 2025 2026	2027 2028 2029 2030

24

By the end of O4 in the fall, we can expect to have up to ~250 signals in addition to the 93 of O1-O3. Lot's of opportunities!

#### Multimessenger astronomy from a remarkable event: GW170817

Fermi Reported 16 seconds

Reported 16 second after detection



LIGO-Virgo Reported 27 minutes after detection



INTEGRAL

Reported 66 minutes after detection

Frequency (Hz)



Time from merger (seconds)







#### <u>ArXiv: 2111.03634</u>



#### Studies of GWTC3 data with machine learning: dimensionality reduction and clustering



Principal Component Analysis (PCA) is a dimensionality reduction technique that transforms a set of correlated variables into a smaller set of uncorrelated ranked variables called principal components.





#### Studies of GWTC3 data with machine learning: dimensionality reduction and clustering

I now use a 5D clustering kmeans algorithm to search for clusters in GWTC3:  $M_1, M_2, M_{chirp}, L_D, M_{Tot}$ 

By inspection , I chose k=4as the best number of clusters





0

0

- 2.5

- 2.0

Cluster

- 1.0

0.5

0.0

### There is an outlier: GW190521, a 150 $M_{\odot}$ binary BH merger



Very "short" signal  $\rightarrow$  a "**burst**"

#### This is a very important event, as it is the observation of a possibly special class(es) of BHs

See also this presentation from the 2024 ET symposium in Maastricht (see here).

#### Stellar, supermassive and intermediate-mass black holes

#### Stellar black holes (SBHs)

.Masses ranging from 5\* to few x10  $M_{\odot}$  .Forms in the final stage of evolution of stars from stellar collapse

.Can exist isolated or in binary systems



#### Supermassive black holes (SMBHs)

.Very large masses of  $10^6 - 10^9 \text{ M}_{\odot}$ 

•Typically located in the center of galaxies

•Grow through accretion disk of gas and dust around them •Core of AGNs





# Do IMBHs constitute a class/population of BHs or do they belong to the tails of stellar/supermassive BH distributions?



### GW190521: The first observation of an IMBH, with an anomaly

The 20 events detected in O1-O3 with the largest remnant masses





#### Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 101102 (2020), arXiv:2009.01075



### The 20 events detected in O1-O3 with the largest remnant masses



but how did its 1<sup>st</sup> component form?

In sufficiently massive stars, **pair creation in the core inhibits radiation pressure**, triggering a runaway thermonuclear explosion (a pair-instability supernova) that **completely destroys** the star, leaving **no black hole remnant** in the ~50-120  $M_{\odot}$  range -> the **'PISN mass gap.** 



#### Beyond astrophysics, IMBHs as laboratories to probe new physics scenarios



Dark Matter constitutes ~85% of the matter content of the Universe. Some models can be probed studying GWs related to IMBHs.

Ex. Fermionic dark matter "spikes" imprinted in GW signals

Consider a system of a degenerate fermionic DM, the Fermi velocity is

$$v_F = \left(\frac{6\pi^2\hbar^3\rho}{m_{\rm DM}^4g}\right)^{1/3}.$$
 (5)

For the density spike to be stable, the Fermi velocity must be less than the escape velocity of the BH plus DM spike system

$$v_F \le v_{esc} \equiv \sqrt{\frac{2G\left(M_{\rm BH} + M_{\chi}\right)}{R}} \simeq \sqrt{\frac{2GM_{\rm BH}}{R}}.$$
 (6)

This translates to a lower bound on the fermionic DM mass, given an observation of density  $\rho_{obs}$ ,

$$m_{\rm DM} \gtrsim 30 \, {\rm keV} \left( rac{
ho_{
m obs}}{10^{20} \, {\rm GeV/cm^3}} rac{2}{g} 
ight)^{1/4} \left( rac{R}{20 M_{
m BH}} 
ight)^{3/8}$$

#### ArXiv: 1906.11845 ArXiv: 210804154





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### GW transients associated with the production of an IMBH are difficult to detect

-0.20

-0.15

-0.10

-0.05

Time (s)

0.00

0.05

0.10



DATA (ASD, in blue and yellow) and simulations (GW spectra and waveforms) using PyCBC pipeline with phenomenological models

### Environmental/Instrumental Transient Noise (AKA Glitches) can be a problem



Frequency (Hz)

Comparison of a BBH merger with a pathological synthetic glitch of short duration, with a central frequency of 50 Hz, amplitude similar to the merger. Such a glitch could be caused by

- Scattered light
- Mechanical vibrations
- Electronics (power supplies, ADC, etc.)
- Environment (wind, passing vehicles, etc.)

Gravity Spy: lessons learned and a path forward

<u>Eur. Phys. J. Plus 139,</u> 100 (2024)



### GravitySpy: Combining deep learning and citizens science





### GW transients associated with the production of an IMBH are difficult to detect

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DATA (ASD, in blue and yellow) and simulations (GW spectra and waveforms) using PyCBC pipeline with phenomenological models

#### What could next-generation detectors do

- Increase the number of events detected (expect 1 order of magnitude improvement in sensitivity).
- Extend the frequency range, hence being sensitive to new classes of events, such as heavier source-frame mass systems.
- Study merger rates through the cosmic age.
- Participate in multiband GW detection.
- And much more (test GR, search for DM, early Universe, 1<sup>st</sup> order phase transitions, NS EoS, cosmology, etc.)

#### **3-G GW detector in EU, the Einstein Telescope**

Third-generation gravitational wave observatory consisting of

3 nested GW detectors arranged in a triangular shape
10 KM long arms per detector (vs. 3/4 of Virgo/LIGO)

- . Each detector will have 2 interferometers working at
- Low-frequency (~2-40 Hz)  $\rightarrow$  low laser power, cryogenic mirrors
- High-frequency(40-several kHz)  $\rightarrow$  high laser power, room temperature



**To reduce** gravity gradient **noise** and seismic noise (hence improving sensitivity at low frequencies) **ET will be built underground** (current design is 200m)

Two (+1) candidate sites to host the telescope, with <u>ongoing site characterization work</u> •Sardegna, Sos Enattos mine •Euregio Meuse-Rhine

Saxony (under discussion)

Why 3 detectors? Because it will be sensitive to both polarisations rather than their linear combination. However, a second option with two L-shaped antennas at ~1000 km distance and with a 45 deg angle wrt each other has better sensitivity overall



#### Why a 3G of GW detectors?



### GW transients associated with IMBHs in 3G vs 2G detectors

Third-generation gravitational wave observatories can observe the inspiral phase of merging IMBHs up to  $few \times 10^3 M_{\odot}$ , and also explore their rates through cosmic age (i.e. at different redshift)

- . All events below use IMRPhenomD and are located at 1 Gpc
- . ET sensitivity for triangular configuration with 10 KM long arms per detector



### Machine learning/AI methods developed for HEP can be adapted to GWs

#### Künstliche Intelligenz sucht unbekannte Teilchen

Web | 21.02.2022 12:58



(Bild: ©putilov\_denis - stock.adobe.com)

Wenn in Beschleunigern Teilchen mit hoher Energie aufeinanderprallen, entstehen unzählige Zerfallsprodukte und bei deren Registrierung riesige Datenmengen. Deren Analyse ist komplex und zeitaufwändig. Daher lassen Physiker der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften (ÖAW) nun Künstliche Intelligenz (KI) nach neuen, bisher unbekannten Teilchen suchen, berichten sie im Fachjournal "European Physical Journal C".





Eur. Phys. J. C 82, 121 (2022): Punzi-loss: A non-differentiable metric approximation for sensitivity optimisation in the search for new particles

Loss-function and NN architecture we developed to search for invisible decays of new particles

## Low-latency machine learning on FPGA

The Neural Network First-Level Hardware Track Trigger of the Belle II Experiment <u>ArXiv</u> <u>2402.14962</u> (Accepted in NIM A)



Figure 6: Integration of the neural trigger into the CDC trigger system. The various units are explained in the text. The unit "3DF", short for "3D fitter", has not been implemented and is therefore not discussed further.



Belle II data rate is few GB/s

### MADGrav: Multilayer Anomaly Detection for GRAV itational waves science







Free-floating

golden cubes

#### LISA - LASER INTERFEROMETER SPACE ANTENNA

**Gravitational waves** are ripples in spacetime that alter the distances between objects. LISA will detect them by measuring subtle changes in the distances between **free-floating cubes** nestled within its three spacecraft.



\* Changes in distances travelled by the laser beams are not to scale and extremely exaggerated

million km

Powerful events such as **colliding black holes** shake the fabric of spacetime and cause gravitational waves





Earth

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\* Changes in distances travelled by the last



# Capturing the ripples of spacetime: LISA gets go-ahead

25/01/2024 47675 VIEWS 217 LIKES

ESA / Science & Exploration / Space Science / LISA

Today, ESA's Science Programme Committee approved the Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (LISA) mission, the first scientific endeavour to detect and study gravitational waves from space.



### THE SPECTRUM OF GRAVITATIONAL WAVES





### THE SPECTRUM OF GRAVITATIONAL WAVES



billions of years

10-16



### GW transients associated with IMBHs in ground- Vs. space-based GW observatories







IMBHs' coalescence will be for years within the sensitive region of LISA (inspiral/ inspiral+merger) who can in turn provide details to ET (merger): multiband GW studies!

Not only **complementarity**, but **interplay** between **ET** and **LISA** 

### If you are interested in furthering your (students') knowledge



Registration is open https://indico.cern.ch/event/1427417/overview



**Confirmed Lecturers:** 

- Clifford M. Will (University of Florida)
- Michela Mapelli (University of Heidelberg)
- Tania Regimbau (Annecy, LAPP)
- Costantino Pacilio (University of Milano Bicocca)
- Jessica Steinlechner (University of Maastricht)
- Elena Cuoco (Bologna University)
- Lijing Shao (KAVLI Peking University)
- Noemi Frusciante (University of Napoli)
- Chiara Mingarelli (Yale University)
- Gideon Koekoek (University of Maastricht)
- Haocun Yu (University of Vienna)

 I hope I could convince you how exciting the field of gravitational wave research is and how its interplay with other aspects of fundamental research will allow progress in our understanding of the Universe across scales

## Thank you for your attention!

# **Backup material**

#### Activities at HEPHY have recently started

• HEPHY participate in ET, in collaboration with the group of Prof. M. Mapelli from Heidelberg University

- Contributions to the Observational Science Board (various divisions).
- Participation in the ET bluebook (on ArXiv in September).
- Topics: intermediate-mass black holes, (fast) alert generation, population studies, etc.

. A local ET research unit in Vienna is planned and will be formed in the future

- synergies possible with various Austrian institutes (ISTA, Leoben, Linz, Uni Wien, Uni Innsbruck).
- synergies with other HEPHY groups (electronics, machine learning).
- HEPHY will also join Virgo in the coming months and participate in the analysis of data





### IMBH GW signals and detector sensitivities: mass and distance insights

Stra

Preliminary study, uses **IMRPhenomD** as waveform approximant. **Unofficial sensitivity curves** obtained from <u>https://dcc.ligo.org/LIGO-T1500293/public</u>



The inspiral phase of IMBHs' coalescence will be for years within the sensitive region of LISA who can in turn provide details to ET: multiband GW studies!

Preliminary results presented at the <u>ET Symposium in</u> <u>Maastricht, May 6-10</u>



Comparisons between NRSur7dg4 and Phenomenological Approximant NRSur7dq4 vs IMRPhenomPv2 NRSur7da4 vs IMRPhenomPv3HM 1e-22 1e-22 NRSur7da4 -2.5 -5.0 -0.4Time (s) Time (s) Residua Residual 1e-22 1e-22 Time (s) Time (s)

Different approximants produce very different waveforms, with differences as large as the original GW amplitude. Higher order modes becomes not negligible.

### Gravitational waves probing fundamental physics, leptophilic Z'

First-order phase transition if scalar sector is conformally invariant:



•Heavy boson fields might be responsible for phase transitions, strong enough to generate gravitational waves  $\rightarrow$  stochastic, not observed so far  $\rightarrow$  set upper limits

New, complementary, way with respect to typical HEP measurements with even more accessible parameter space.
 More analysis methodologies and results can be expected in the very near future.