



The Gravitational-Wave Aspect of PBH-Catalyzed Phase Transitions

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Outline

- Cosmological Phase Transitions
- PBH's Catalytic Effect
- Gravitational Waves
- Insights from PTA SGWB

Cosmological Phase Transition

Motivations for First-order Phase Transitions

Theoretical points:

Fundamental theory, dark sector theory, baryon asymmetry,

To probe BSM via GWs:

Since BSM is necessary for FOPT

To probe the early universe via GWs:

Phase Transition is a result of competition between cosmic expansion and bubble nucleation rate

Thermal Phase Transitions

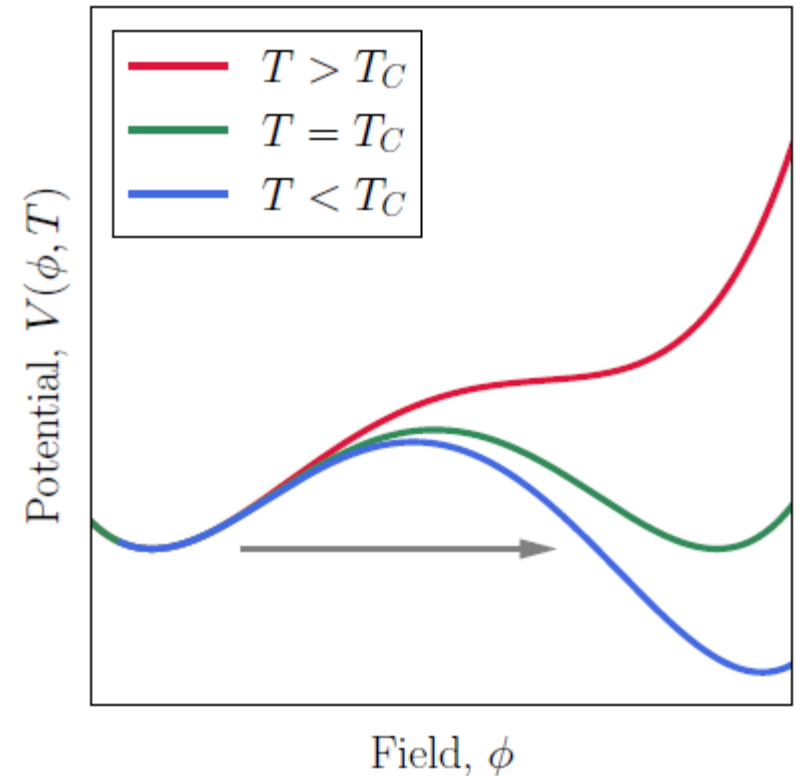
- potential changed by temperature
- Need **quantum tunneling** (pure universe)

Tunneling Rate per unit time and volume

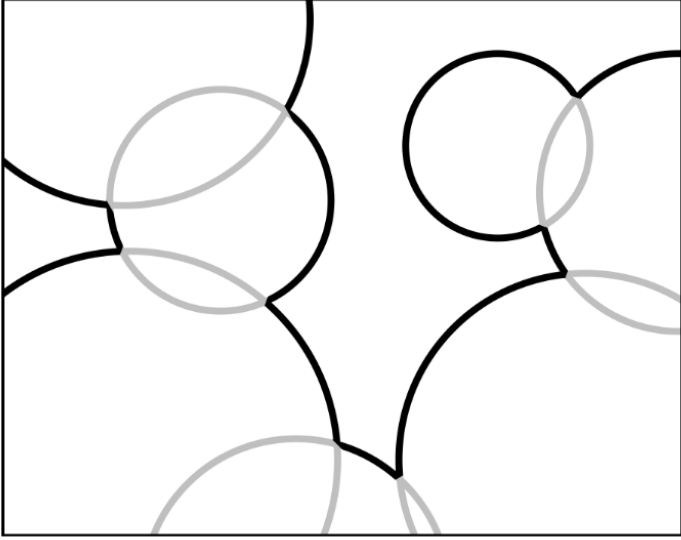
$$\Gamma(T) \approx T^4 \left(\frac{S_3}{2\pi T} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \exp \left(-\frac{S_3}{T} \right)$$

$S_3(T)$ is instanton solution correspond to bubble profile

Could be solved numerically, e.g. **CosmoTransitions**,
or analytically with thin-wall approximation



Bubbles in First-order PT (FOPT)



Critical bubble radius

$$R_c \sim 1/\Delta\langle\phi\rangle$$

Bubble wall velocity

$$v_{wall} \sim c \quad \text{For strong PT}$$

Bubble wall profile

Movement of high energy bubble wall



Bubble Collision Gravitational Waves

Parameters

Nucleation temperature T_n : One bubble in unit Hubble volume

$$\int_{t_c}^{t_n} dt' \frac{\Gamma(t')}{H^3(t)} = 1 \sim \Gamma(T_n) = H^4(T_n)$$

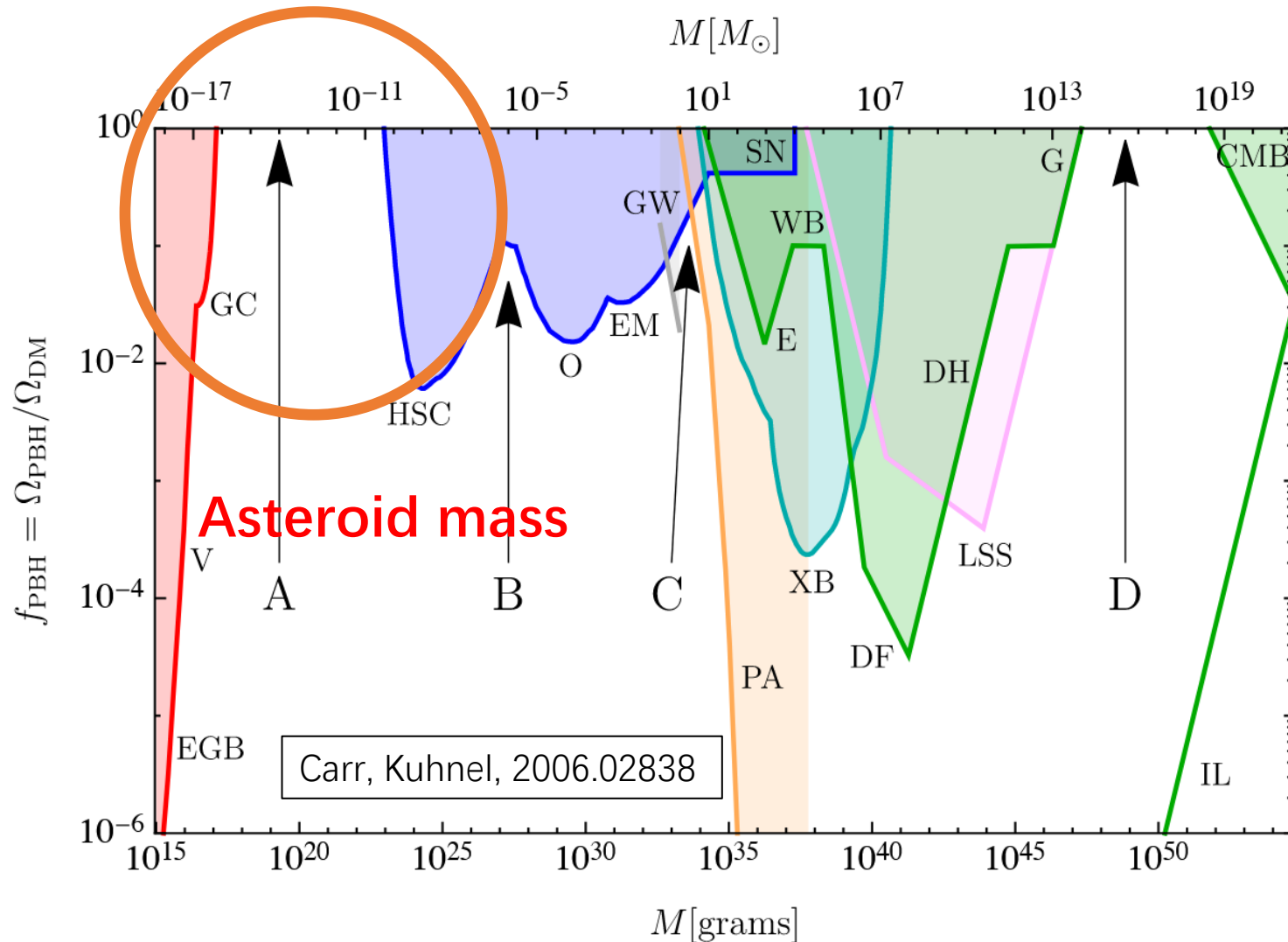
Vacuum energy density ρ_V **Radiation energy density** $\rho_{rad} \sim T^4$

Inverse duration: β : $\beta = \left. \frac{d \ln(\Gamma)}{dt} \right|_{T_n}$

Near T_n $\Gamma = H^4(T_n) e^{\beta(t-t_n)}$

PBH's catalytic effect

Primordial Black Holes



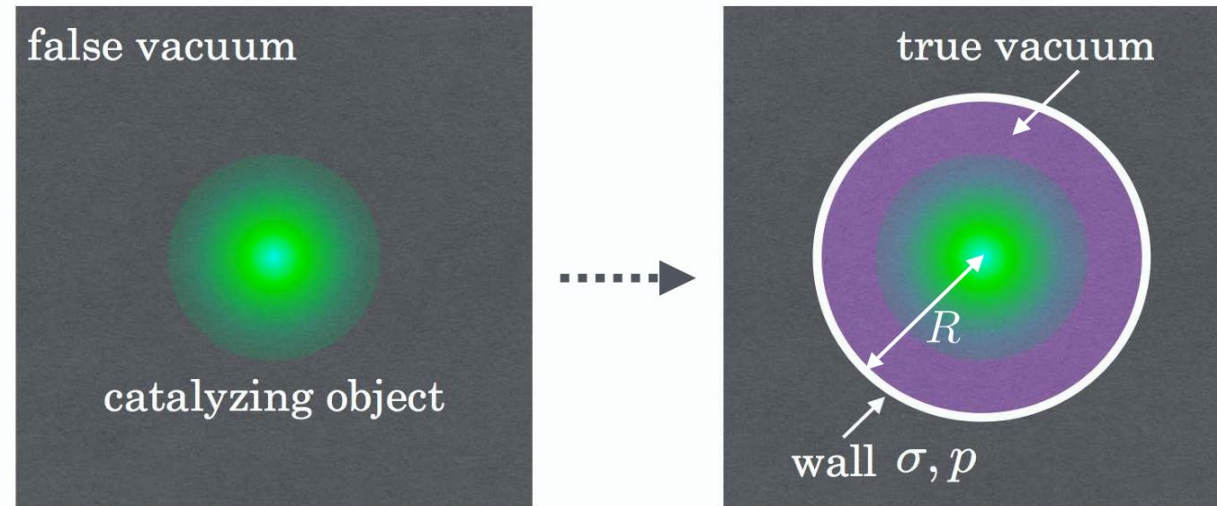
Dark matter candidate

PBHs are formed in
the early universe



May formed before a PT

Catalytic Effect: Impurity in the universe



Oshita, Yamada, Yamaguchi, 1808.01382

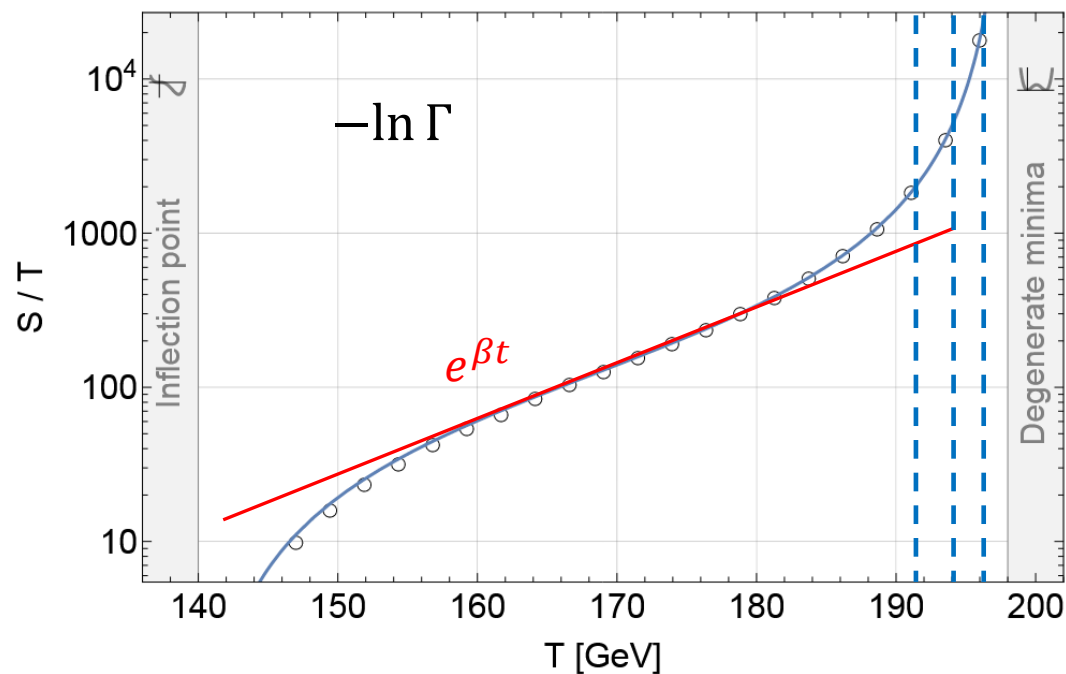
Scalar Field: from **False Vacuum** to **True Vacuum**

Metric Field: **Schwarzschild-de Sitter spacetime** $ds^2 = -f_{\text{SDS}}(r)dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{f_{\text{SDS}}(r)} + r^2 d\Omega,$

from Λ_+ to Λ_- $\rho_V = \Lambda_+ - \Lambda_-$ $f_{\text{SDS}}(r) = 1 - \frac{M_{\text{BH}}}{4\pi r} - \frac{\Lambda_- r^2}{3},$

Catalytic Effect

Catalytic strength depend on PBH mass M_{PBH} , vacuum energy density ρ_V , and bubble wall tension σ_w .



Catalytic effect is usually very strong

$$S_{pbh}/S < 1/10$$

background $S/T < \sim 140$

PBH $S/T < \sim 1000$

Approximation: Each PBH induce one bubble at critical temperature T_c

Catalytic Effect

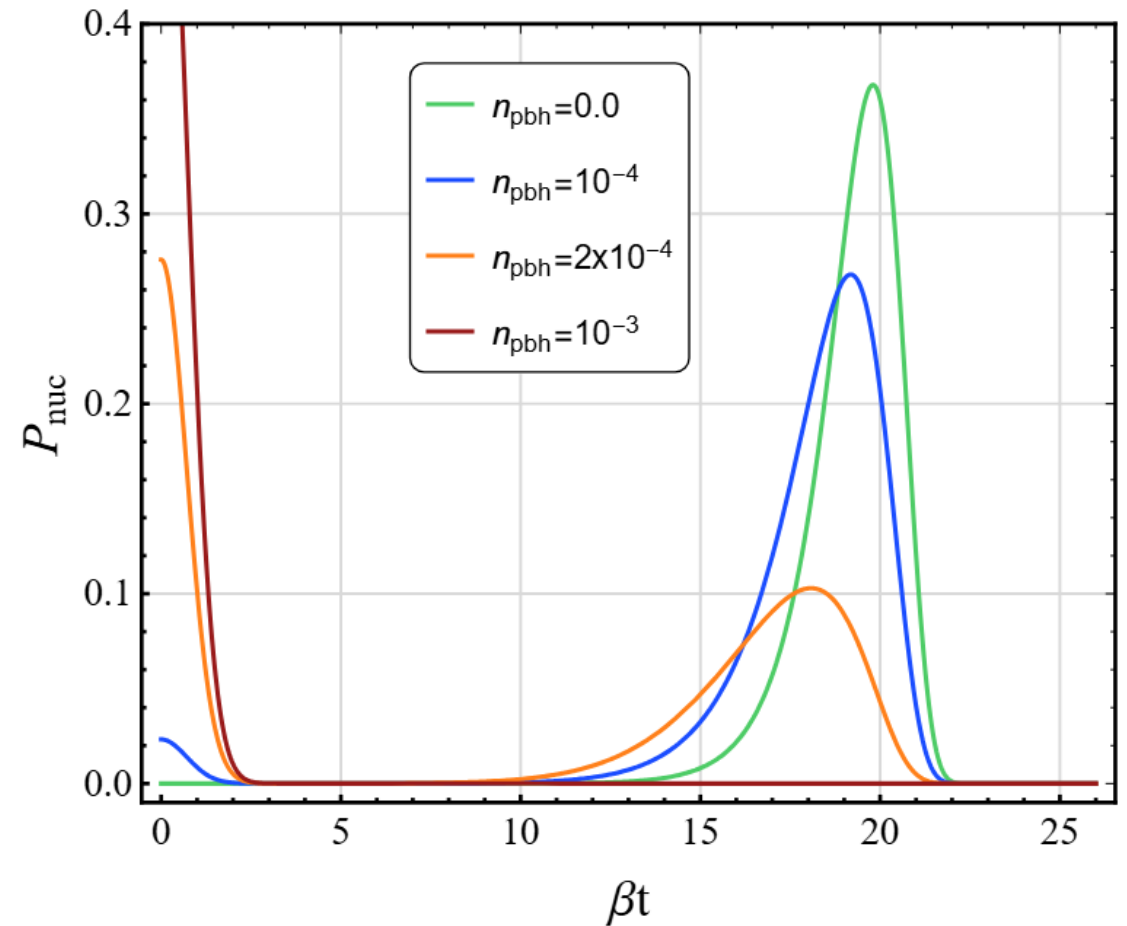
Nucleation Rate

$$\Gamma = \Gamma_b + \Gamma_{PBH}$$

$$\Gamma_b = H^4(T_n)e^{\beta(t-t_n)}$$

$$\Gamma_{PBH} = n_{pbh} H^3 \delta(t - t_c)$$

Averaged PBH number per unit Hubble patch



Gravitational Waves

GW from FOPTs

The approximate form on dimension ground:

$$E_{GW} \sim \textcolor{red}{G} v_w^3 \kappa^2 \rho_V^2 \beta^{-5}$$

$$E_V \sim \rho_V v_w^3 \beta^{-3}$$

$$\alpha = \rho_V / \rho_{rad}$$

$$\rho_{tot} = \rho_V + \rho_{rad}$$

$$H = \sqrt{\rho_{tot}} / M_{pl}$$

Strong PT:

$$\alpha \gg 1$$

$$\kappa \sim 1$$



$$\frac{\rho_{GW}}{\rho_{tot}} \sim \frac{\rho_V}{\rho_{tot}} \frac{E_{GW}}{E_V} \sim \kappa^2 \left(\frac{\alpha}{1 + \alpha} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\beta}{H} \right)^{-2}$$

$$\Omega_{GW} = \frac{1}{\rho_{tot}} \frac{d\rho_{GW}}{d \ln f} \sim \boxed{\kappa^2 \left(\frac{\alpha}{1 + \alpha} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\beta}{H} \right)^{-2}} g(f \beta^{-1})$$

GW from FOPTs

PBHs affect the PT GW only through affect the bubble nucleation rate

v_w, ρ_V, κ will not be affected PBHs

Only the timescale β^{-1} will be affected

In strong PT, $v_w \sim c = 1$ and $\beta^{-1} \sim R_{sep}$ Mean bubble separation

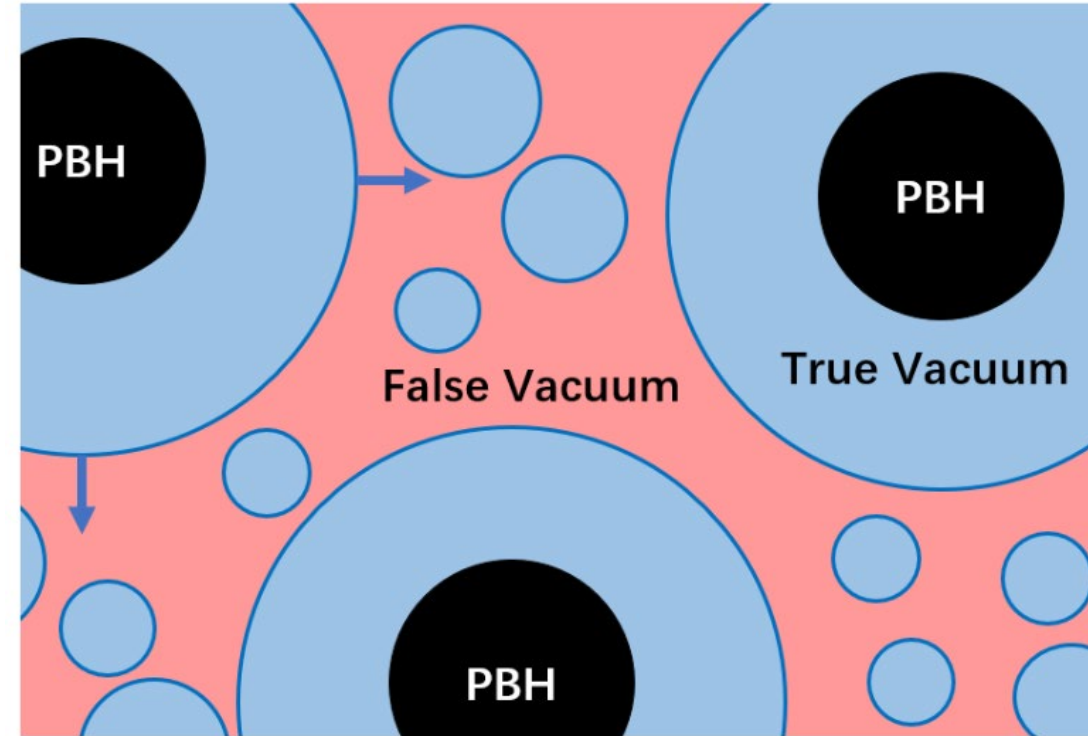
GW from FOPTs

$$R_{sep} = (n_{bubble})^{-1/3} = \left(\int_{t_c}^{t_p} dt \Gamma(t) F(t) \right)^{-1/3}$$

$F(t)$ is false vacuum fraction

t_p is percolation time: $F(t_p) \approx 0.7$

$$\frac{\beta}{\beta (n_{pbh} = 0)} = \left(\frac{R_{sep}}{R_{sep}(n_{pbh} = 0)} \right)^{-1}$$



GW from FOPTs

$$\frac{\Omega_p}{\Omega_p(n_{pbh} = 0)} = \left(\frac{\beta}{\beta(n_{pbh} = 0)} \right)^{-2}$$

$$\frac{f_p}{f_p(n_{pbh} = 0)} = \frac{\beta}{\beta(n_{pbh} = 0)}$$

In high PBH number density limit:

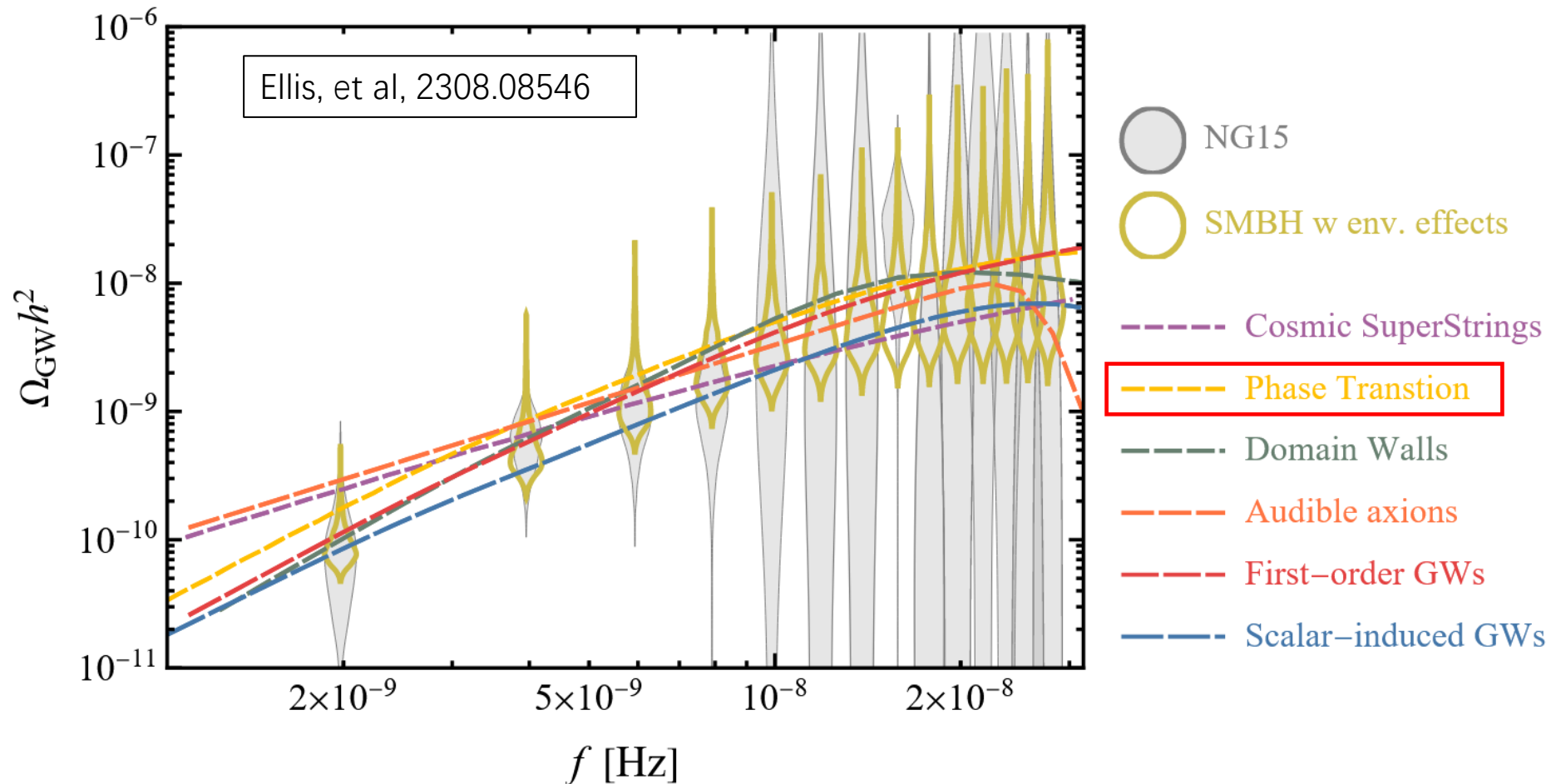
$$\frac{\beta}{\beta(n_{pbh} = 0)} \approx 4 n_{pbh}^{\frac{1}{3}} H / \beta(n_{pbh} = 0)$$

Leading to suppressed GW signals

Insight from PTA SGWB

SGWB Observed by PTA

[The NANOGrav 15-Year Data Set](#)



**Strong
Phase Transition**

$$\alpha \gg 1$$

$$T \sim 0.1 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\beta/H \sim O(10)$$

Number Density of PBHs

$$n_{pbh} \approx 1.3 \times 10^{-8} \left(\frac{M_{sun}}{M_{PBH}} \right) \left(\frac{f_{PBH}}{1.0} \right) \left(\frac{0.1 GeV}{T} \right)^3 \left(\frac{g_*}{100} \right)^{-1/2}$$

0.1GeV Asteroid-mass PBH as whole dark matter

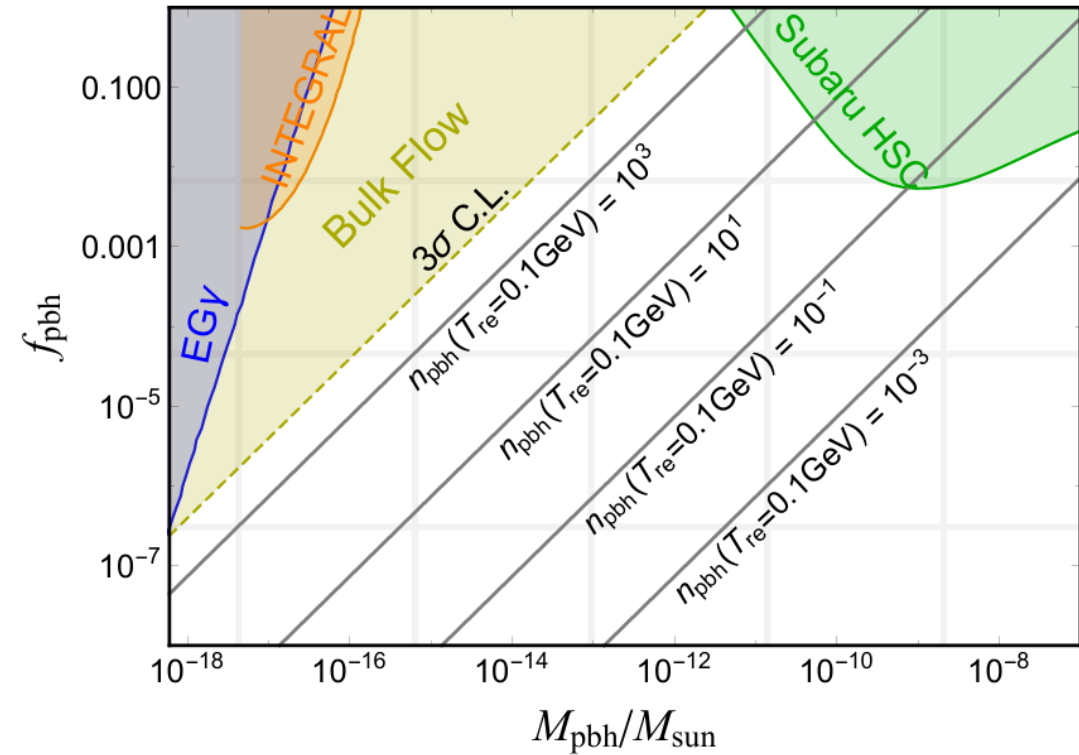
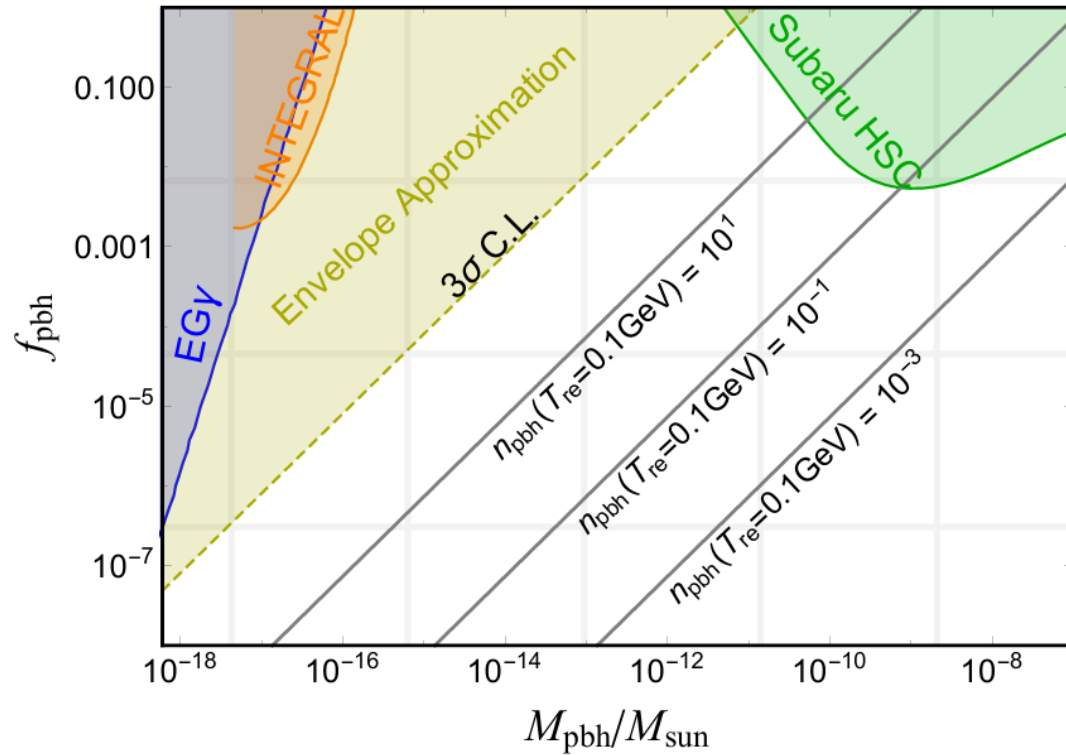
M_{PBH}	n_{pbh}
$10^{-14} M_{sun}$	10^6
$10^{-16} M_{sun}$	10^8

High number density



Suppressed GW signals

Insight from PTA data



Asteroid-mass
PBH as whole
dark matter

Incompatible

NanoHertz
SGWB comes
from PT GWs

Summary

- PBH can affect PT GWs through catalytic effect
- Asteroid-mass PBH as whole dark matter conflict with PT interpretation of PTA data

Thank you!

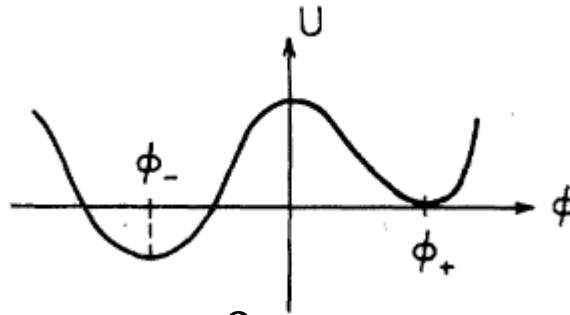
Instanton

Field equation at Euclidean space:

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \tau^2} + \nabla^2 \right) \phi = +U'(\phi)$$

Bounce solution:

$$\phi(\tau = \pm\infty) = \phi_+$$



Boundary choose to be at $t = 0$

$$\frac{d\phi}{d\tau}(t = 0) = 0$$

$O(4)$ symmetry: $\rho = \sqrt{x^2 + \tau^2}$

$$\frac{d^2\phi}{d\rho^2} + \frac{3}{\rho} \frac{d\phi}{d\rho} = U'(\phi)$$

$$\phi(\rho = \infty) = \phi_+, \quad \frac{d\phi}{d\rho}(\rho = 0) = 0$$

$$B = S_E = 2\pi^2 \int_0^\infty \rho^3 d\rho \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{d\phi}{d\rho} \right)^2 + U \right]$$

$$\Gamma/V = A \exp\left(-\frac{B}{\hbar}\right) (1 + O(\hbar))$$

Thermal correction to potential: EWPT as an example

Masses depend on Higgs, e.g. $m_h^2 \sim \lambda(3h^2 - v_{ew}^2), m_f \sim g_Y h$.

$V = V_0(h) + f_{\text{plasma}}(h, T)$ Free energy of thermal particle in equilibrium
Coleman-Weinberg potential

$f_{\text{plasma}} = T^4 \left[\sum_B J_B \left(\frac{M_B}{T} \right) + \sum_F J_F \left(\frac{M_F}{T} \right) \right]$, B, F denote for bosons and fermions

$$J_B \left(\frac{m}{T} \right) = -\frac{\pi^2}{90} + \frac{1}{24} \left(\frac{m}{T} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2(4\pi)^2} \left(\frac{m}{T} \right)^4 \left(\ln \left(\frac{1}{\pi} \frac{m}{T} e^{\gamma_E} \right) - \frac{3}{4} \right) + O \left(\left(\frac{m}{T} \right)^6 \right),$$

$m = m(h)$

$$J_F \left(\frac{m}{T} \right) = -\frac{7\pi^2}{8 \cdot 90} + \frac{1}{48} \left(\frac{m}{T} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2(4\pi)^2} \left(\frac{m}{T} \right)^4 \left(\ln \left(\frac{1}{\pi} \frac{m}{T} e^{\gamma_E} \right) - \frac{3}{4} \right) + O \left(\left(\frac{m}{T} \right)^6 \right),$$

Finite-temperature field theory

$$V = \frac{D}{2} (T^2 - a) h^2 - \frac{A}{3} (T + b) h^3 + \frac{\lambda}{4} h^4 - g_{\text{eff}} \frac{\pi^2}{90} T^4$$

precise formula also including **thermal loop** contribute
have impact on D, a, A, b

GW Spectrum Shape

GWs from FOPT

Sources:

- Sound Waves
- Bubble collision
- magnetohydrodynamic (MHD) turbulence

Typical frequency: $f_{\star} \sim \beta \sim H_{\star} \frac{\beta}{H_{\star}}$

$$f_0 = \frac{a(t_{\star})}{a(t)} f_{\star} \sim 10^{-5} \left(\frac{g_{\star}(T_{\star})}{106} \right)^{\frac{1}{6}} \left(\frac{T_{\star}}{100 \text{ GeV}} \right) \frac{\beta}{H_{\star}} \text{ Hz}$$

