

The cosmological gravitational wave background from Pulsar timing array observations

Ding Ran



Ding Ran & Tian chi, arXiv: [2309.01643](https://arxiv.org/abs/2309.01643)

紫金山暗物质研讨会

29–31 Dec 2023

Outline

- Introduction to CGWB
- CGWB anisotropies based on PTA observations
- Cross-correlations of CGWB with CMB and gravitational lensing
- Outlooks: Challenges and opportunities

SGWB

Diffuse gravitational-wave signal resulting from the superposition of numerous unresolved sources

Astrophysical (AGWB)

Unresolved astrophysical sources:

- astrophysical black hole
- compact binaries
- rotating neutron star
- core-collapse supernovae

Cosmological (CGWB)

Early Universe mechanisms:

- inflation, (pre) reheating,
- primordial black holes,
- cosmic strings, domain walls
- phase transitions

See Wang Sai' s talk

Observations

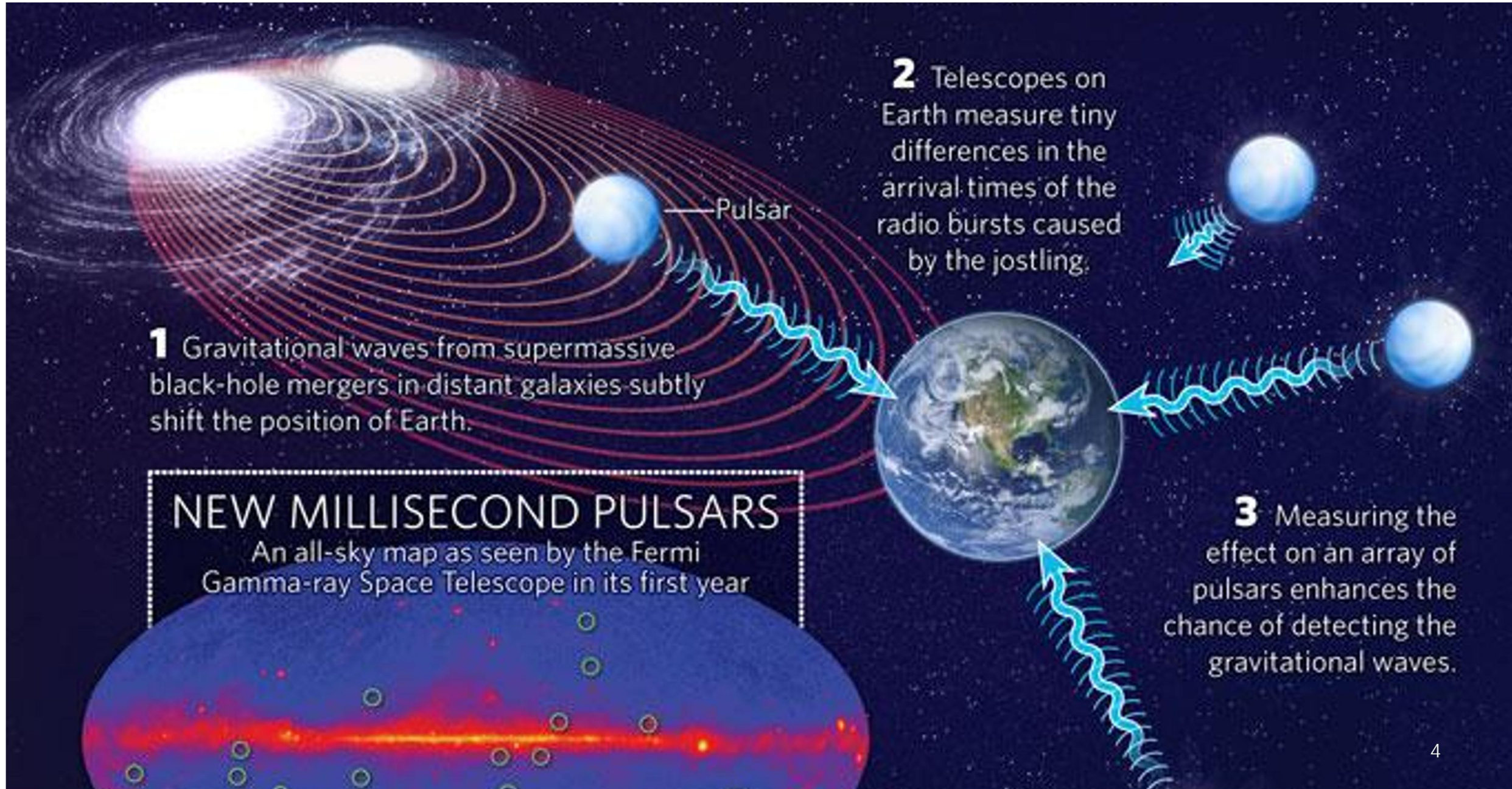
Interferometers (medium frequency)

- Ground-based : aLIGO/Virgo/KAGRA, ET, CE
- Space-based:LISA, Taiji, Tianqin, BBO, DECIGO

Pulsar timing array (low frequency)

- NANOGrav, CPTA , EPTA/InPTA, PPTA

Pulsar timing array observations



Monopole measurement (isotropy) : Hellings-Downs Curve

Correlations of (Fourier) amplitudes of **timing residual**

$$\langle c_{ai} c_{bj} \rangle = \delta_{ij} (\delta_{ab} \varphi_{ai} + \Phi_{ab,i})$$

intrinsic pulsar noise

$$\varphi_{ai} = \frac{A_a^2}{12\pi^2} \frac{1}{T} \left(\frac{f_i}{f_{\text{ref}}} \right)^{-\gamma_a} f_{\text{ref}}^{-3}$$

isotropic GWB with HD correlations

$$\Phi_{ab,i} = \Phi_{\text{HD},i} \Gamma_{\text{HD}}(\xi_{ab})$$

$$\Phi_{\text{HD},i} = \frac{A_{\text{HD}}^2}{12\pi^2} \frac{1}{T} \left(\frac{f_i}{f_{\text{ref}}} \right)^{-\gamma_{\text{HD}}} f_{\text{ref}}^{-3}$$

GWB auto-power spectrum

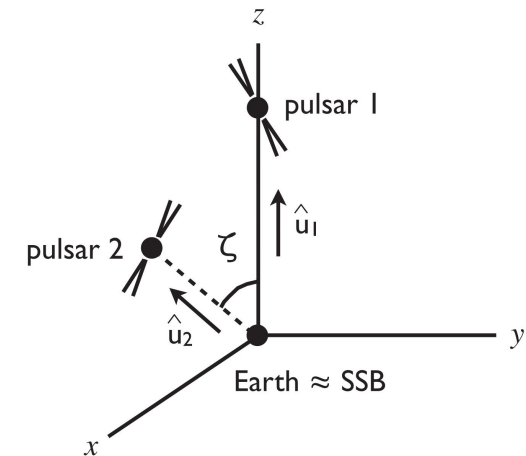
Function of **or** $P(\Omega)$

antenna response

$$\Gamma(f, \xi_{ab}) \propto \Phi_{\text{HD}} \int_{S^2} d^2\hat{\Omega} \left[\mathcal{F}^+ (\hat{p}_a, \hat{\Omega}) \mathcal{F}^+ (\hat{p}_b, \hat{\Omega}) + \mathcal{F}^\times (\hat{p}_a, \hat{\Omega}) \mathcal{F}^\times (\hat{p}_b, \hat{\Omega}) \right]$$

$$= \Phi_{\text{HD}} \Gamma_{\text{HD}}(\xi_{ab})$$

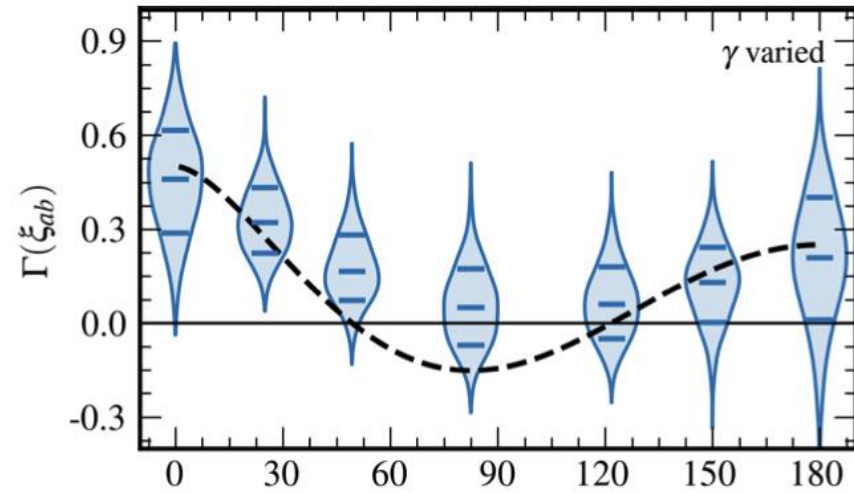
Hellings-Downs curve



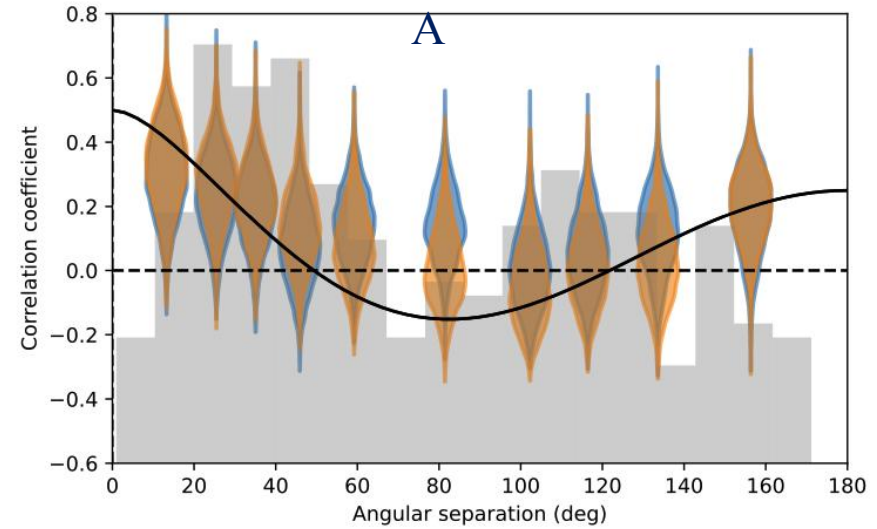
See Xia Ziqing ' s talk

The Detections of the Hellings-Downs Curve

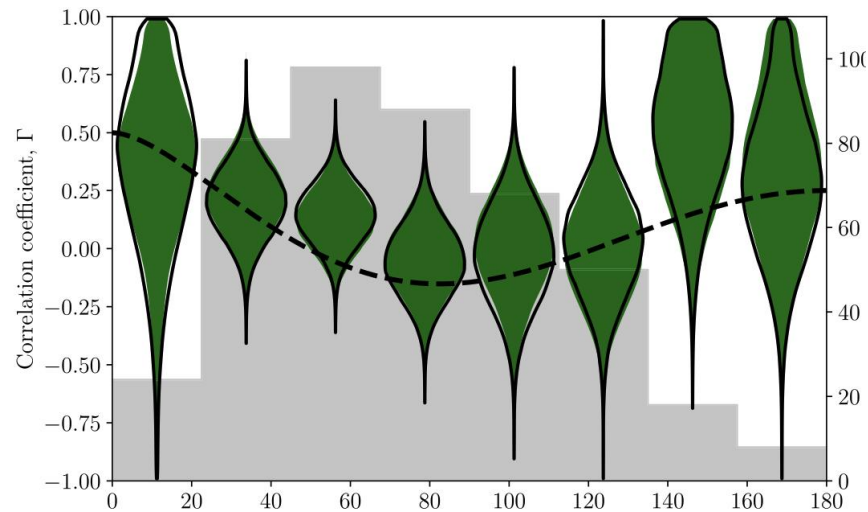
NANOGrav



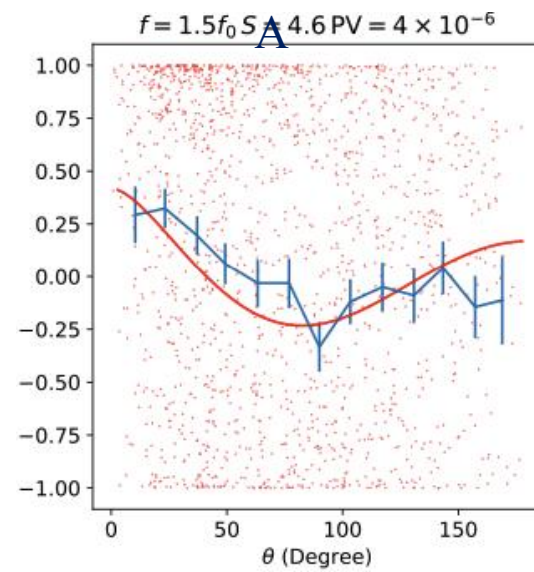
EPT



PPTA



CPT



Multipoles measurement (anisotropies)

power of the GWB has anisotropies

$$\Gamma(f, \xi_{ab}) \propto \int_{S^2} d^2\hat{\Omega} \Phi(f, \hat{\Omega}) \left[\mathcal{F}^+ (\hat{p}_a, \hat{\Omega}) \mathcal{F}^+ (\hat{p}_b, \hat{\Omega}) + \mathcal{F}^\times (\hat{p}_a, \hat{\Omega}) \mathcal{F}^\times (\hat{p}_b, \hat{\Omega}) \right]$$

$$= \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^l \int_{S^2} d^2\hat{\Omega} a_{lm}(f) Y_{lm}(\hat{\Omega}) \left[\mathcal{F}^+ (\hat{p}_a, \hat{\Omega}) \mathcal{F}^+ (\hat{p}_b, \hat{\Omega}) + \mathcal{F}^\times (\hat{p}_a, \hat{\Omega}) \mathcal{F}^\times (\hat{p}_b, \hat{\Omega}) \right] \text{ spherical harmonic basis}$$

$$C_l = \frac{1}{2l+1} \sum_{m=-l}^l |a_{lm}|^2$$

pulsar number

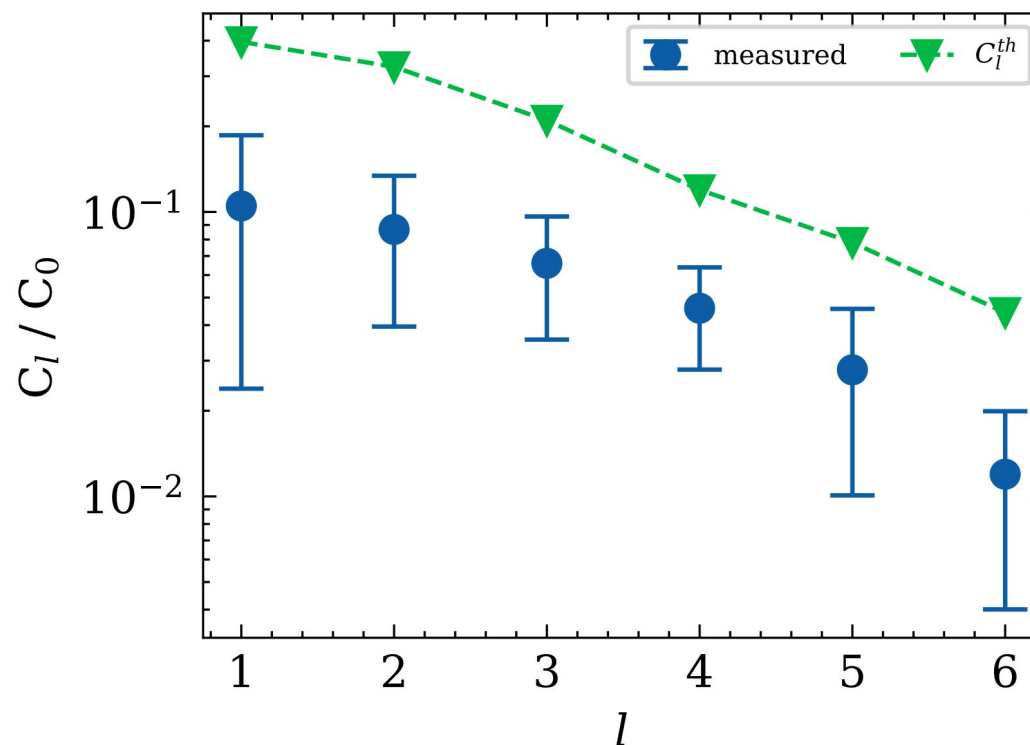
$$\sum_{l=0}^{l_{\max}} (2l+1) = (l_{\max} + 1)^2 \sim N_{\text{cc}} = N_p (N_p - 1) / 2$$

$$l_{\max} \sim N_p$$

while taking into account angular resolution

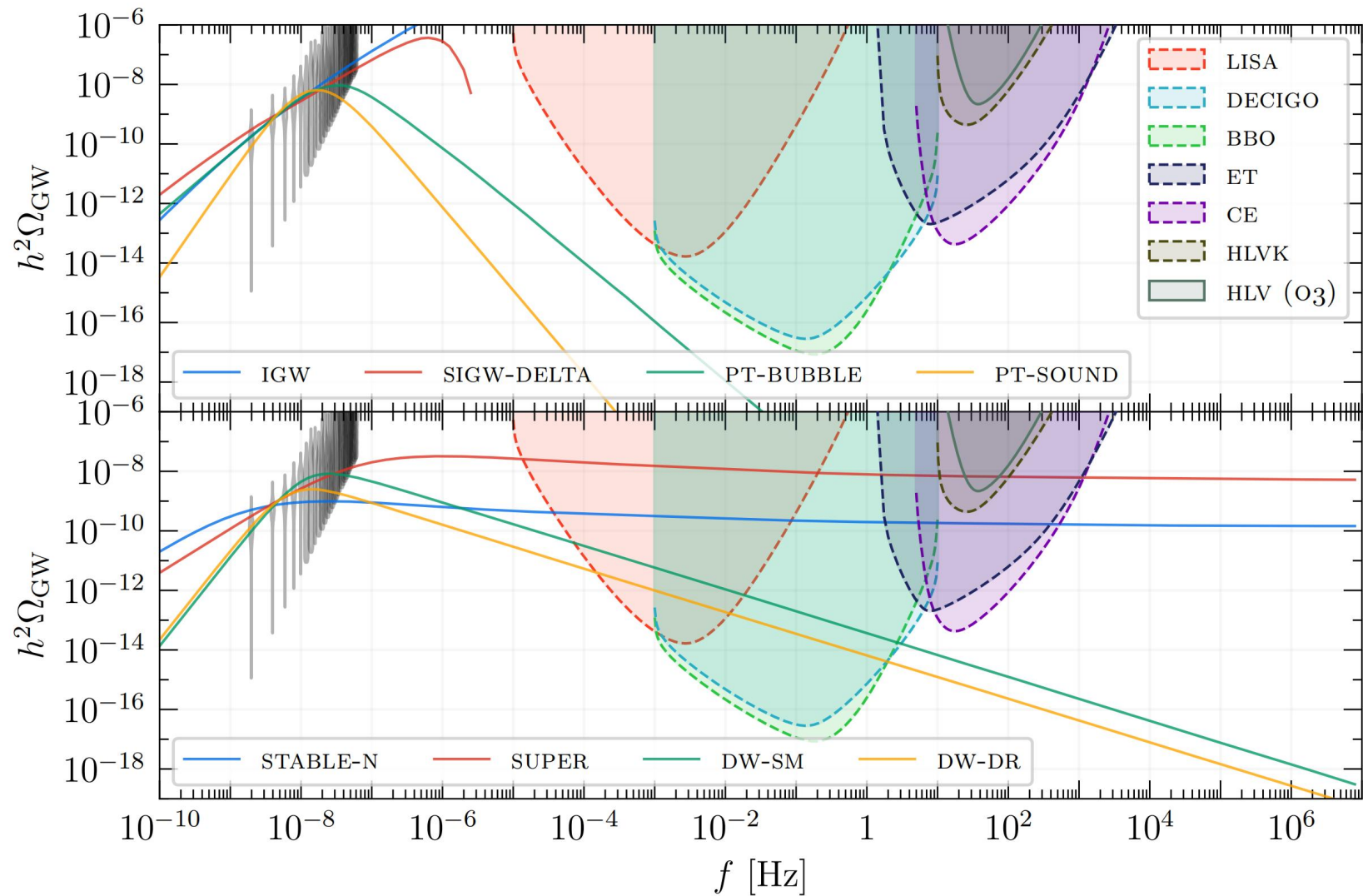
$$l_{\max} \sim \sqrt{N_p}$$

The NANOGrav Collaboration, arXiv:2306.16221

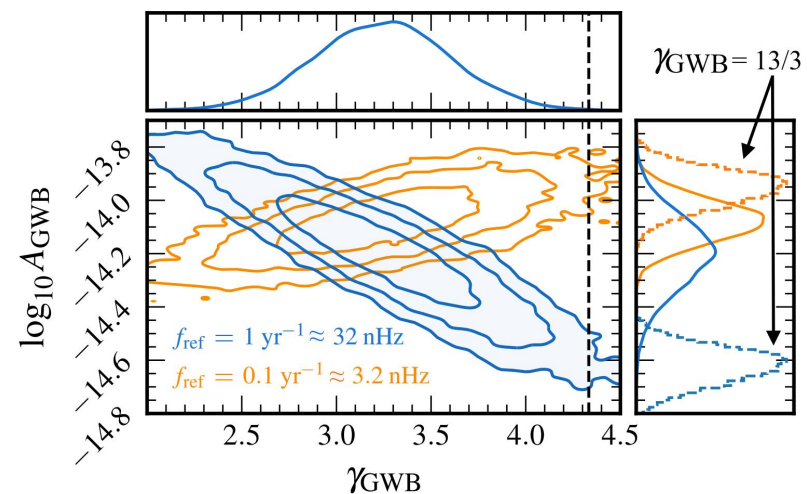


SGWB spectra of typical new physics models

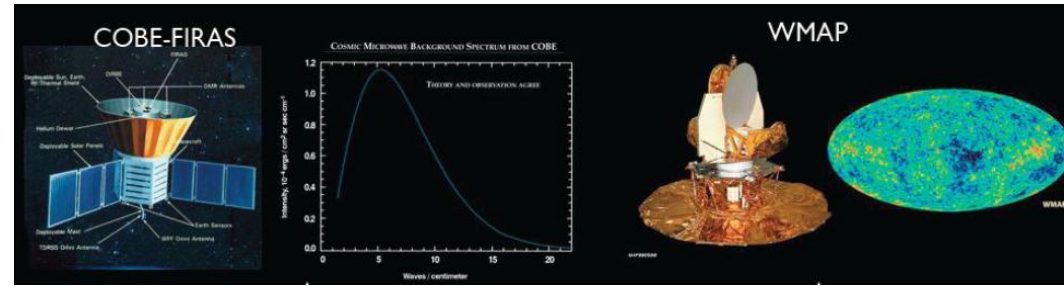
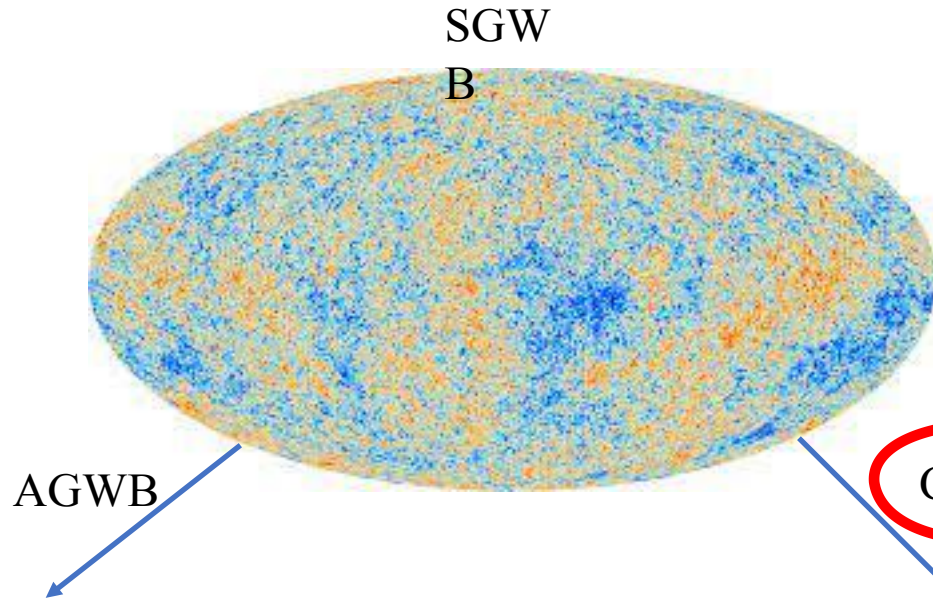
The NANOGrav Collaboration, arXiv:2306.16219



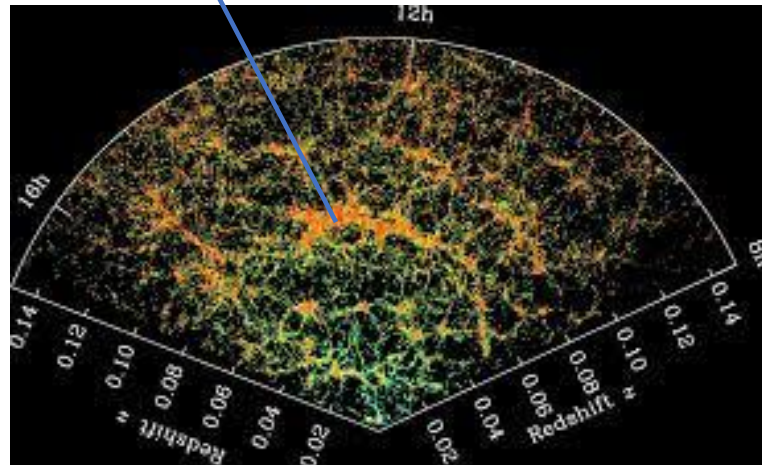
$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(f) \equiv \frac{1}{\rho_c} \frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}(f)}{d \ln f} = \frac{8\pi^4 f^5}{H_0^2} \frac{\Phi(f)}{\Delta f}$$



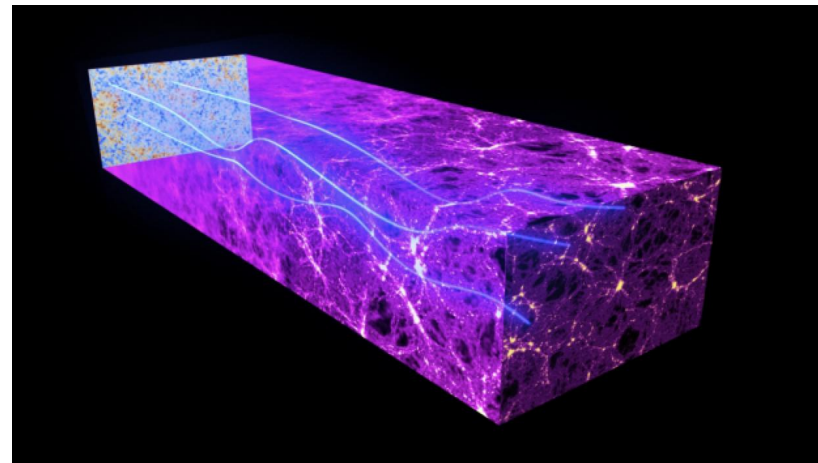
Is the GWB anisotropic?



Global vs fluctuations



From sources



From propagation

Anisotropies in the CGWB

C. R. Contaldi, *PLB*, 771 (2017) 9–12

N. Bartolo, D. Bertacca, S. Matarrese, M. Peloso, A. Ricciardone, A. Riotto & G. Tasinato, *PRD* 100 no. 12, (2019) 121501

N. Bartolo, D. Bertacca, S. Matarrese, M. Peloso, A. Ricciardone, A. Riotto & G. Tasinato, *PRD* 102 no. 2, (2020) 023527

A. Ricciardone, L. V. Dall'Armi, N. Bartolo, D. Bertacca, M. Liguori, & S. Matarrese, *PRL*, 127 no. 27, (2021) 271301

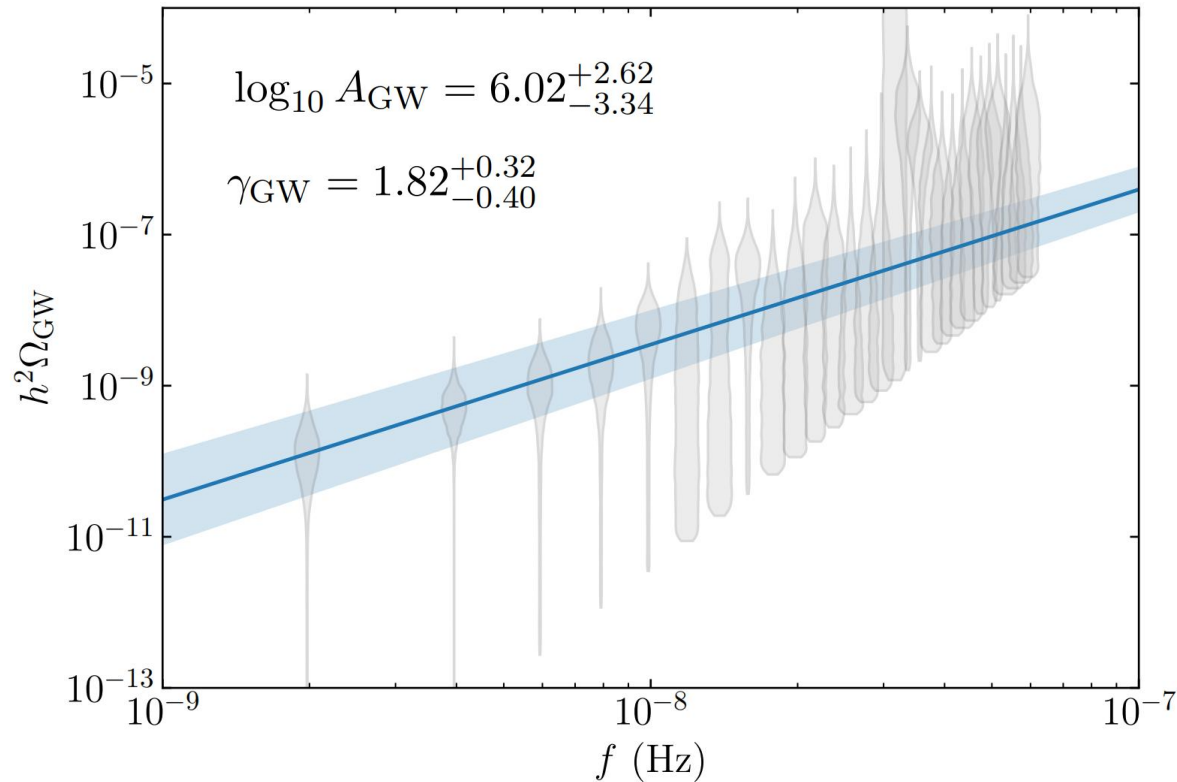
Yongping Li, Fa Peng Huang, Xiao Wang & Xinmin Zhang, *PRD*, 105, 083527 (2022)

F. Schulze, L. V. Dall'Armi, J. Lesgourgues, A. Ricciardone, N. Bartolo, D. Bertacca, C. Fidler & S. Matarrese, arXiv:2305.01602

The NANOGrav 15-year Data

Anisotropies in the CGWB

The NANOGrav Collaboration, arXiv:2306.16219



- assuming single power-law function
 $\Omega_{\text{GW}} h^2 = A_{\text{GW}} (f/\text{Hz})^{\gamma_{\text{GW}}}$
- Weighted a non-gaussian PDF according to violin plot for each data point
- Construct likelihood to perform MCMC fitting

- GW energy density

$$\rho_{\text{GW}}(\vec{x}, \eta) = \int d \ln p d\Omega_{\hat{p}} p^4 f_{\text{GW}}(\vec{x}, p, \hat{p}, \eta)$$

- GW spectrum

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(\vec{x}, p, \eta) \equiv \frac{1}{\rho_c} \frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}}{d \ln p} = \int d\Omega_{\hat{p}} \frac{p^4}{\rho_c} f_{\text{GW}}(\vec{x}, p, \hat{p}, \eta)$$

- expand the distribution function

$$f_{\text{GW}} = \bar{f}_{\text{GW}}(p, \eta) - p \frac{\partial \bar{f}_{\text{GW}}}{\partial p} \mathcal{G}(\vec{x}, p, \hat{p}, \eta)$$

- separate GW spectrum into isotropic + fluctuation

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(\vec{x}, p, \eta) \equiv \bar{\Omega}_{\text{GW}}(p, \eta) [1 + \delta_{\text{GW}}(\vec{x}, p, \eta)]$$

$$\delta_{\text{GW}}(\vec{x}, p, \hat{p}, \eta) = \left[4 - \frac{\partial \ln \bar{\Omega}_{\text{GW}}(p, \eta)}{\partial \ln p} \right] \mathcal{G}(\vec{x}, p, \hat{p}, \eta)$$

$$\bar{\Omega}_{\text{GW}} h^2 = A_{\text{GW}} (f/\text{Hz})^{\gamma_{\text{GW}}}$$

$$\partial \ln \bar{\Omega}_{\text{GW}}(p, \eta) / \partial \ln p = \gamma_{\text{GW}}$$

- Conformal Newtonian gauge

$$ds^2 = a^2(\eta) [-(1 + 2\Psi)d\eta^2 + (1 - 2\Phi)\delta_{ij}dx^i dx^j]$$

- Boltzmann equation

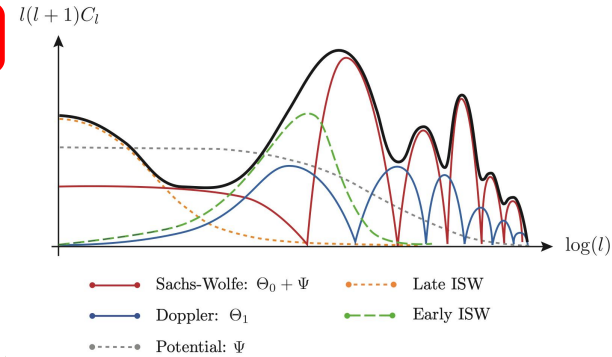
$$\frac{df_{\text{GW}}}{d\eta} = \frac{\partial f_{\text{GW}}}{\partial \eta} + \hat{p}^i \partial_i f_{\text{GW}} - p \frac{\partial f_{\text{GW}}}{\partial p} [\Phi' - \hat{p}^i \partial_i \Psi] = 0$$

collisionless

- Boltzmann-Einstein equation

$$\mathcal{G}'(k, p, \mu, \eta) + ik\mu\mathcal{G}(k, p, \mu, \eta) = \Phi'(k, \eta) - ik\mu\Psi(k, \eta)$$

free-streaming gravitational effect



- Line-of-sight integration

$$\mathcal{G}_l(k, p, \eta_0) \simeq \underbrace{\mathcal{G}_0(k, p, \eta_{\text{in}})}_{\text{SW}} + \underbrace{\Psi(k, \eta_{\text{in}})}_{\text{initial conformal time where GW is produced}} j_l[k(\eta_0 - \eta_{\text{in}})] + \underbrace{\int_{\eta_{\text{in}}}^{\eta_0} d\eta [\Psi'(k, \eta) + \Phi'(k, \eta)] j_l[k(\eta_0 - \eta)]}_{\text{ISW}}$$

$\eta_{\text{in}} = 10^{-4} \text{ Mpc}$

assuming adiabatic perturbations:

$$\mathcal{G}_0(k, \eta_{\text{in}}) \simeq -\frac{2\Psi(k, \eta_{\text{in}})}{4 - \gamma_{\text{GW}}}$$

- Transfer function

$$\mathcal{G}_\ell(\vec{k}, p, \eta_0) = T_\ell^{\text{GW}}(\vec{k}, p, \eta_{\text{in}}, \eta_0) \mathcal{R}(\vec{k})$$

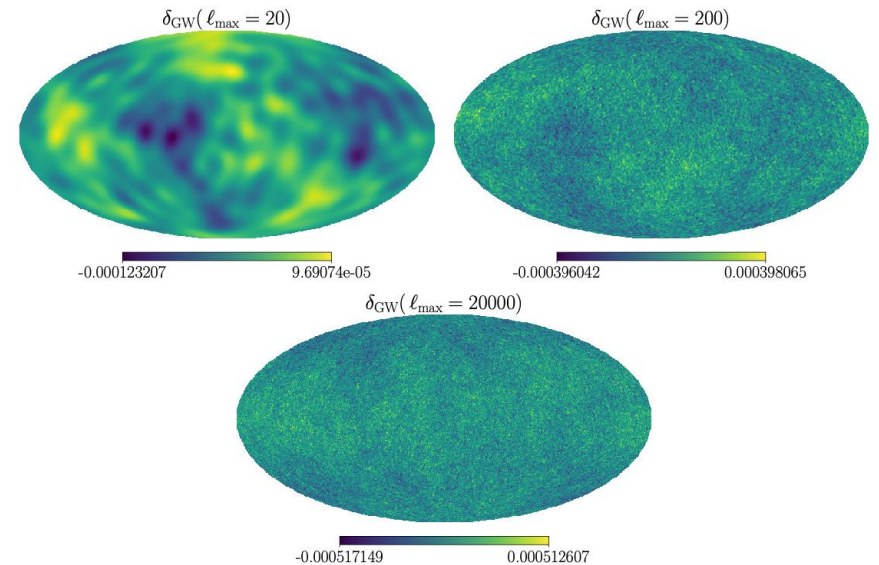
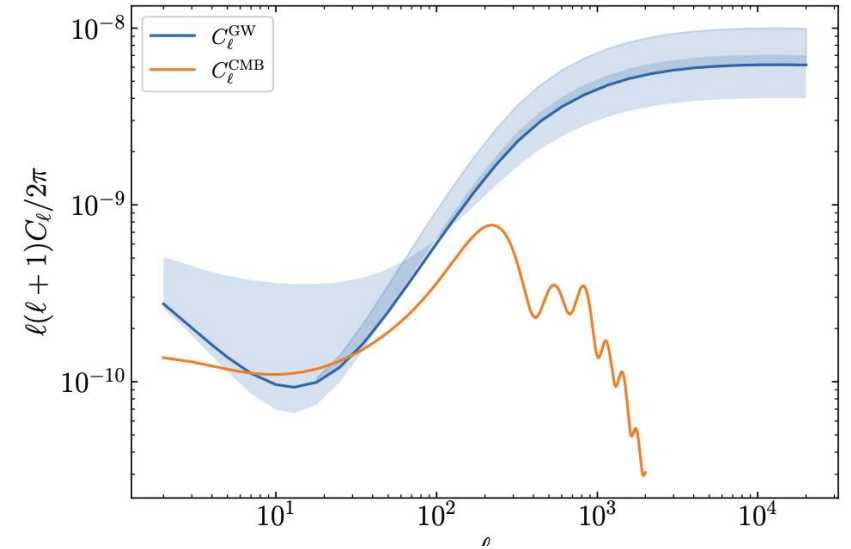
$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} T_\ell^{\text{GW}}(k, p, \eta_{\text{in}}, \eta_0) &= T_\ell^{\text{SW}}(k, p, \eta_{\text{in}}, \eta_0) + T_\ell^{\text{ISW}}(k, \eta_{\text{in}}, \eta_0), \\ T_\ell^{\text{SW}}(k, p, \eta_{\text{in}}, \eta_0) &= \left[1 - \frac{2}{4 - \gamma_{\text{GW}}(p)} \right] \frac{\Psi(k, \eta_{\text{in}})}{\mathcal{R}(\vec{k})} j_\ell[k(\eta_0 - \eta_{\text{in}})], \\ T_\ell^{\text{ISW}}(k, \eta_{\text{in}}, \eta_0) &= \int_{\eta_{\text{in}}}^{\eta_0} d\eta \frac{[\Psi'(k, \eta) + \Phi'(k, \eta)]}{\mathcal{R}(\vec{k})} j_\ell[k(\eta_0 - \eta)]. \end{aligned} \right.$$

■ Anisotropic power spectrum $C_\ell^{\text{GW}} = 4\pi \int \frac{dk}{k} \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{R}}(k) \left| T_\ell^{\text{GW}}(k, p, \eta_{\text{in}}, \eta_0) \right|^2$

We integrate metric perturbations generated by CLASS convoluted with spherical Bessel functions.

The anisotropies of the of CGWB has the following feature (and assumptions):

1. Homogeneous sources (?)
2. Start propagating at much earlier time ($\eta_{\text{in}} \ll \eta_{\text{rec}}$)
3. No collision terms (no diffusion damping)
4. Adiabatic initial perturbations(?)
5. SW term is modulated by the auto-spectrum



Cross-correlation with CMB

- CMB multipole moments

$$\langle a_{\ell m}^{\text{GW}} a_{\ell' m'}^{\text{CMB}*} \rangle \equiv \delta_{\ell \ell'} \delta_{m m'} C_{\ell}^{\text{GW} \times \text{CMB}}$$

$$\Theta_{\ell}(k, \eta_*, \eta_0) \simeq \underbrace{[\Theta_0(k, \eta_*) + \Phi(k, \eta_*)]}_{\text{SW}} j_{\ell}[k(\eta_0 - \eta_*)] + \underbrace{\frac{-iv_b(k, \eta_*)}{k}}_{\text{Doppler}} j'_{\ell}[k(\eta_0 - \eta_*)]$$

$$+ \underbrace{\int_{\eta_*}^{\eta_0} d\eta [\Psi'(k, \eta) + \Phi'(k, \eta)]}_{\text{ISW}} j_{\ell}[k(\eta_0 - \eta)]$$

- CMB transfer function

$$\Delta_{\ell}^{\text{CMB}}(k, \eta_*, \eta_0) = \Delta_{\ell}^{\text{SW}}(k, \eta_*, \eta_0) + \Delta_{\ell}^{\text{DOP}}(k, \eta_*, \eta_0) + \Delta_{\ell}^{\text{ISW}}(k, \eta_*, \eta_0),$$

$$\Delta_{\ell}^{\text{SW}}(k, \eta_*, \eta_0) = \frac{[\Theta_0(k, \eta_*) + \Phi(k, \eta_*)]}{\mathcal{R}(\vec{k})} j_{\ell}[k(\eta_0 - \eta_*)],$$

$$\Delta_{\ell}^{\text{DOP}}(k, \eta_*, \eta_0) = -\frac{iv_b(k, \eta_*)}{k\mathcal{R}(\vec{k})} j'_{\ell}[k(\eta_0 - \eta_*)],$$

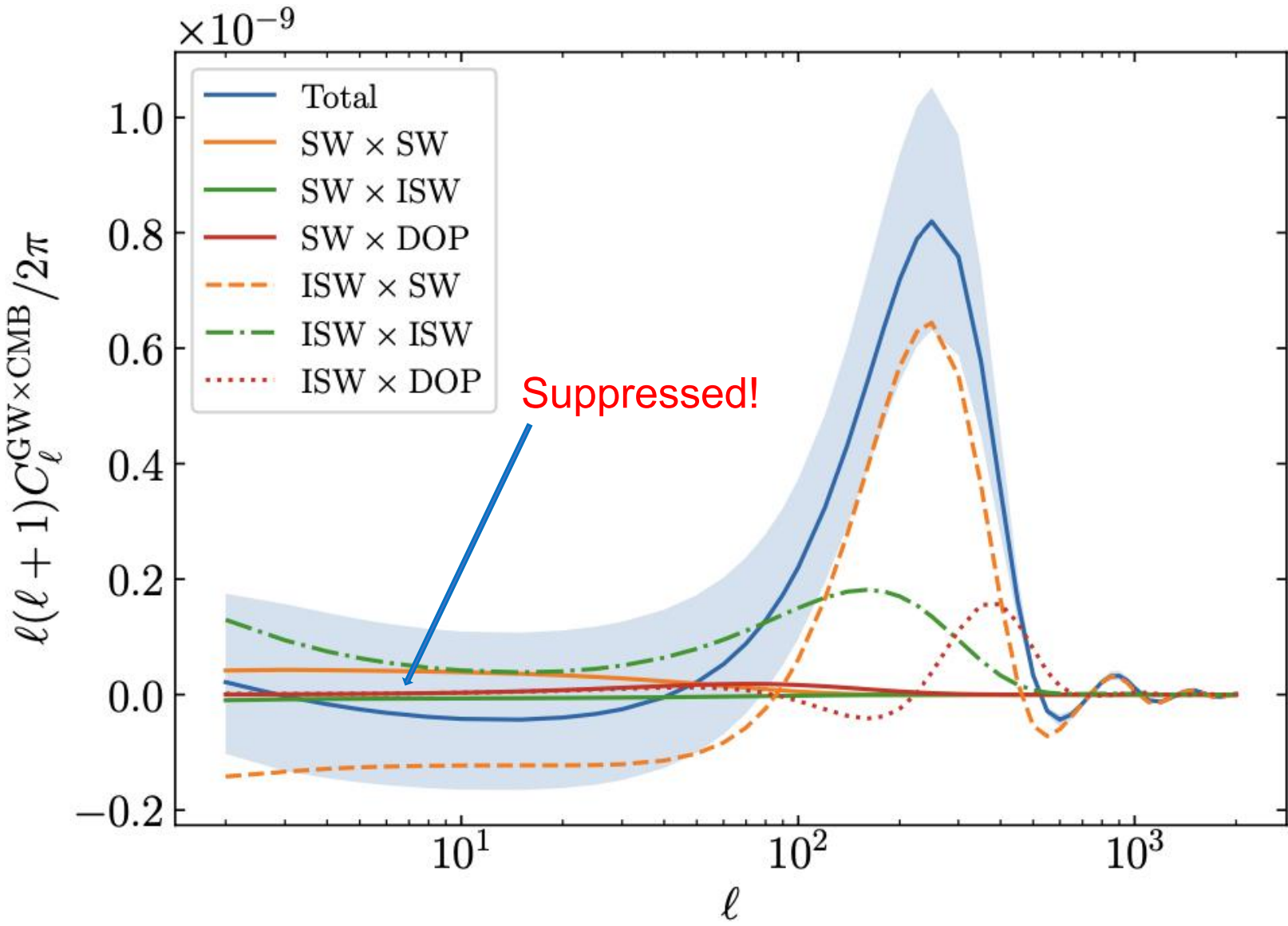
$$\Delta_{\ell}^{\text{ISW}}(k, \eta_*, \eta_0) = \int_{\eta_*}^{\eta_0} d\eta \frac{[\Psi'(k, \eta) + \Phi'(k, \eta)]}{\mathcal{R}(\vec{k})} j_{\ell}[k(\eta_0 - \eta)].$$

- GW x CMB
Cross-correlation

$$C_{\ell}^{\text{GW} \times \text{CMB}} = 4\pi \int \frac{dk}{k} \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{R}}(k) [T_{\ell}^{\text{GW}}(k, \eta_{\text{in}}, \eta_0) \Delta_{\ell}^{\text{CMB}}(k, \eta_*, \eta_0)]$$

$$= C_{\ell}^{\text{SW} \times \text{SW}} + C_{\ell}^{\text{SW} \times \text{DOP}} + C_{\ell}^{\text{SW} \times \text{ISW}} + C_{\ell}^{\text{ISW} \times \text{SW}} + C_{\ell}^{\text{ISW} \times \text{DOP}} + C_{\ell}^{\text{ISW} \times \text{ISW}}$$

GW x CMB Cross-correlation



CMB lensing

- Lensing potential

$$\psi = -2 \int_{\eta_0 - \eta_*}^{\eta_0} d\eta \frac{(\eta - \eta_*)}{(\eta_0 - \eta_*)(\eta_0 - \eta)} \Psi(k, \eta)$$

- Lensing convergence

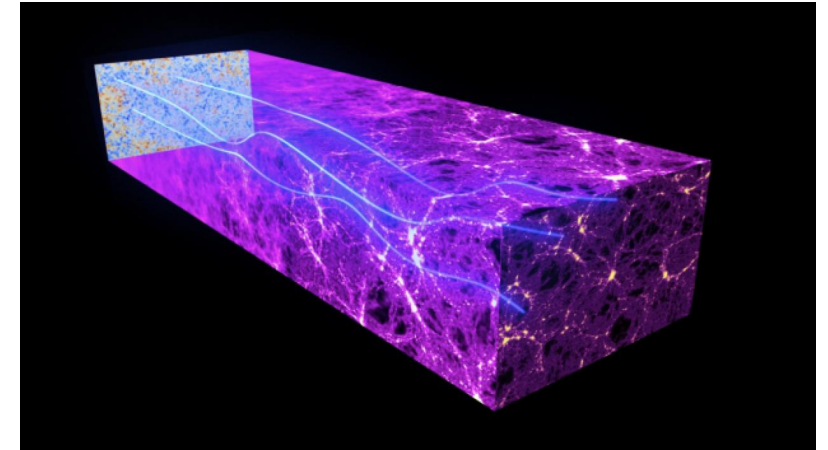
$$\kappa = \int_{\eta_0 - \eta_*}^{\eta_0} d\eta \frac{(\eta_0 - \eta)(\eta - \eta_*)}{\eta_0 - \eta_*} k^2 \Psi(k, \eta)$$

- Lensing transfer function

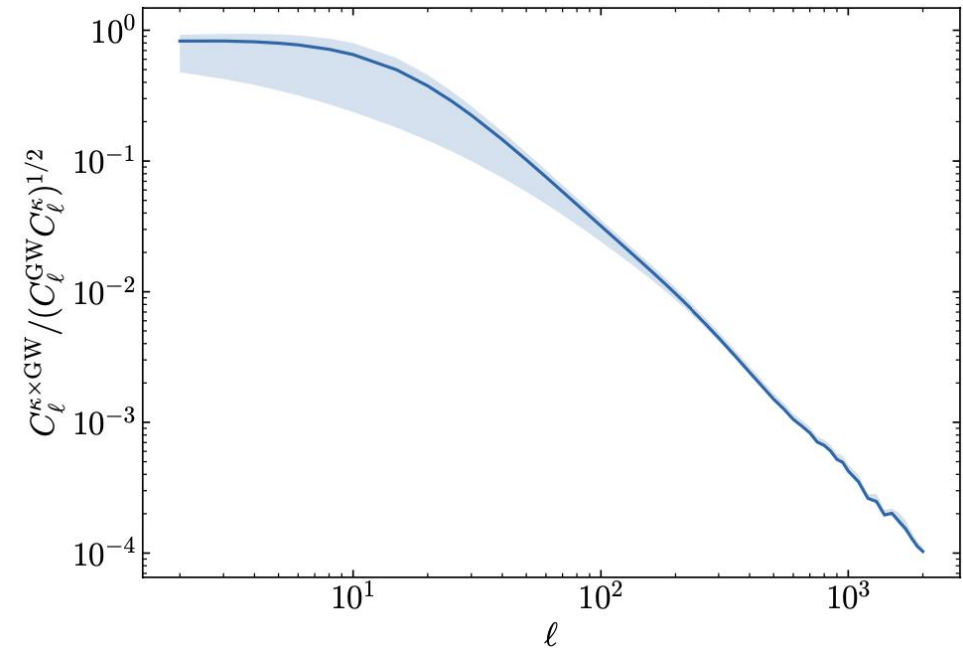
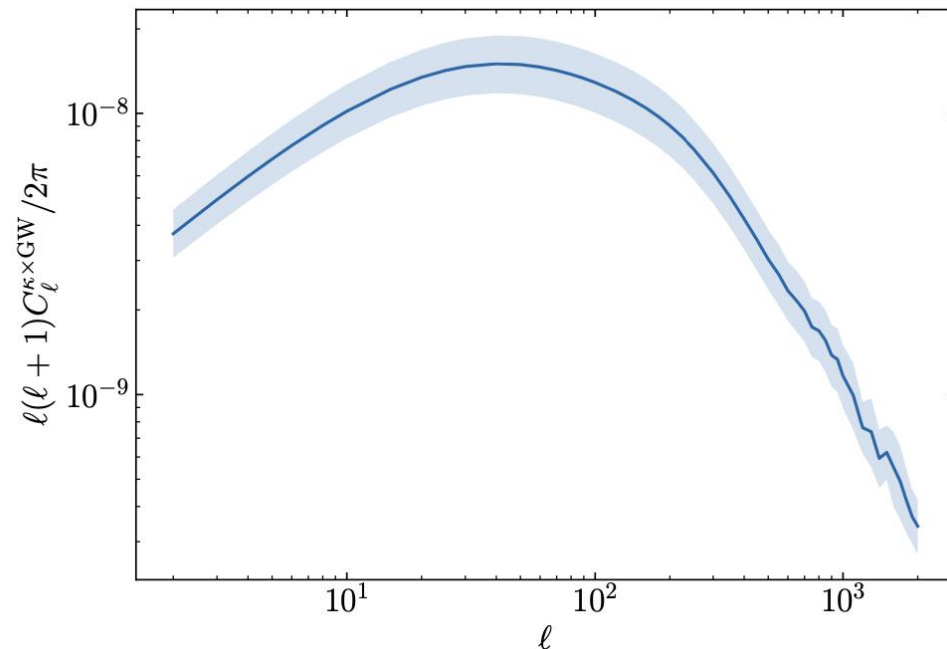
$$\Delta_\ell^\psi(k, \eta_*, \eta_0) = \int_{\eta_0 - \eta_*}^{\eta_0} d\eta \frac{\Psi(k, \eta)}{\mathcal{R}(\vec{k})} \frac{\eta - \eta_*}{(\eta_0 - \eta_*)(\eta_0 - \eta)} j_\ell [k(\eta_0 - \eta)],$$

$$\Delta_\ell^\kappa(k, \eta_*, \eta_0) = \int_{\eta_0 - \eta_*}^{\eta_0} d\eta \frac{\Psi(k, \eta)}{\mathcal{R}(\vec{k})} \frac{(\eta_0 - \eta)(\eta - \eta_*)}{\eta_0 - \eta_*} j_\ell [k(\eta_0 - \eta)].$$

CMB lensing



See Luo Wentao ' s talk



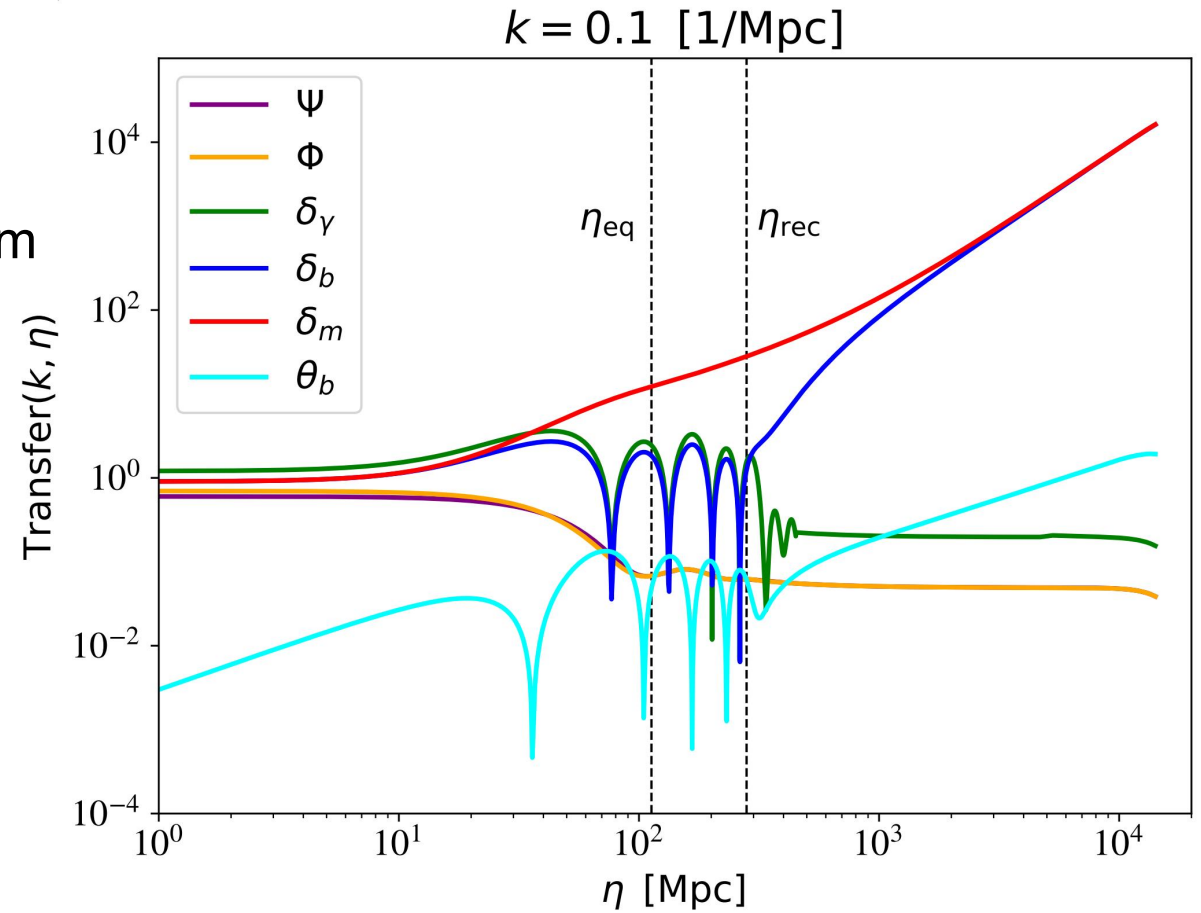
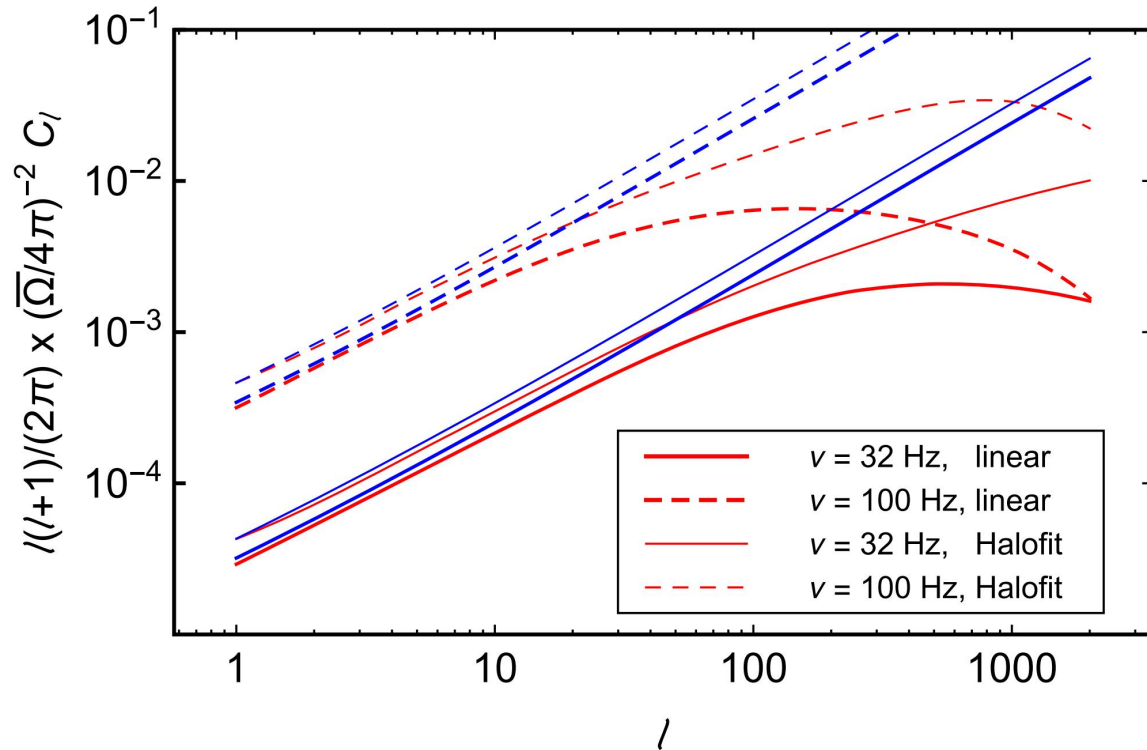
Compared with AGWB

BH luminosity function $\mathcal{A}(\eta, \nu_O) \equiv a^4 \bar{n}_G(\eta) \int d\theta_G \mathcal{L}_G(\eta, \nu_G, \theta_G)$

$$\left(\ell + \frac{1}{2}\right) C_\ell(\nu_O) \simeq \left(\frac{\nu_O \mathcal{A}(\eta_O, \nu_O) b(\eta_O)}{4\pi\rho_c}\right)^2 \int_{k_{\min}} P_\delta(k) dk$$

matter power spectrum

G. Cusin, I. Dvorkin, C. Pitrou & J-P. Uzan, PRL, 120, 231101 (2018)



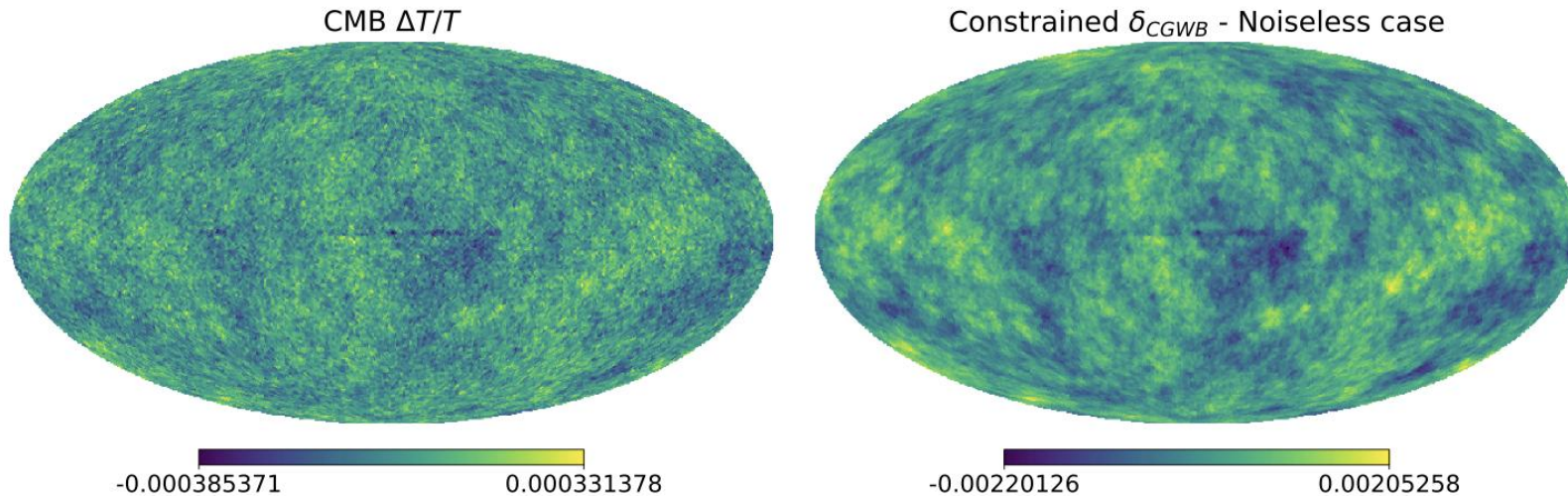
Summary

- Compute the anisotropic power spectrum of the CGWB based on the NANOGrav-15 years data
 - Anisotropies are at the same level with the CMB
- Cross-correlating with CMB and CMB-lensing
 - Suppressed cross-spectrum at lower ℓ s
 - Unsuppressed cross-spectrum between the CGWB and the CMB-lensing

Outlooks

1: reconstruction from the CMB?

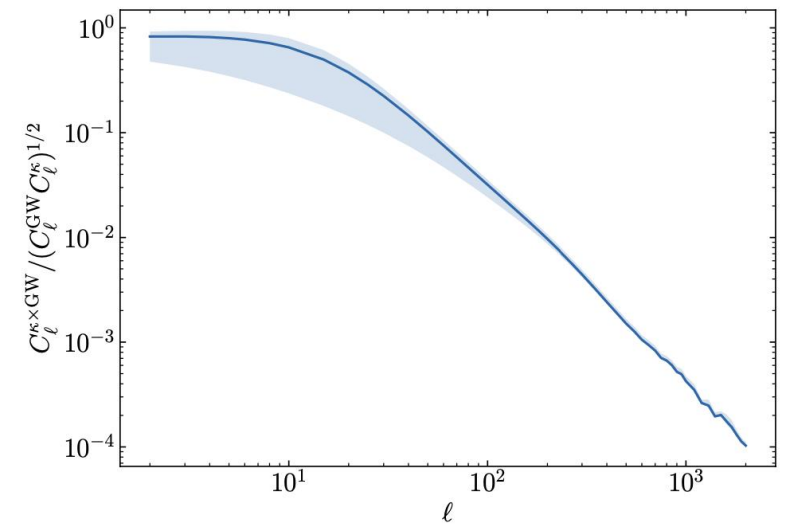
Reconstruction of δ_{GW} from the CMB



Ricciardone, et. al. PRL 2021 arXiv: 2106.02591

May not be feasible due to the suppressed CC.

But CC with lensing is NOT suppressed!

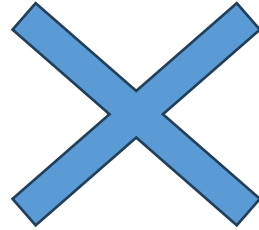


2: Disentangle AGWB and CGWB

Does cross-correlation help disentangle AGWB and CGWB signal?

Traditional cosmological tracers:

- CMB
- CMB-lensing
- Galaxy clustering
- ...

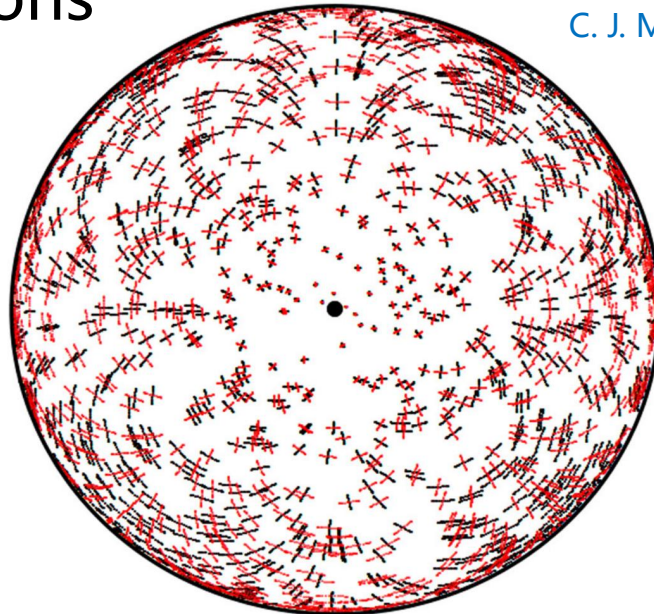


Anisotropic GWB

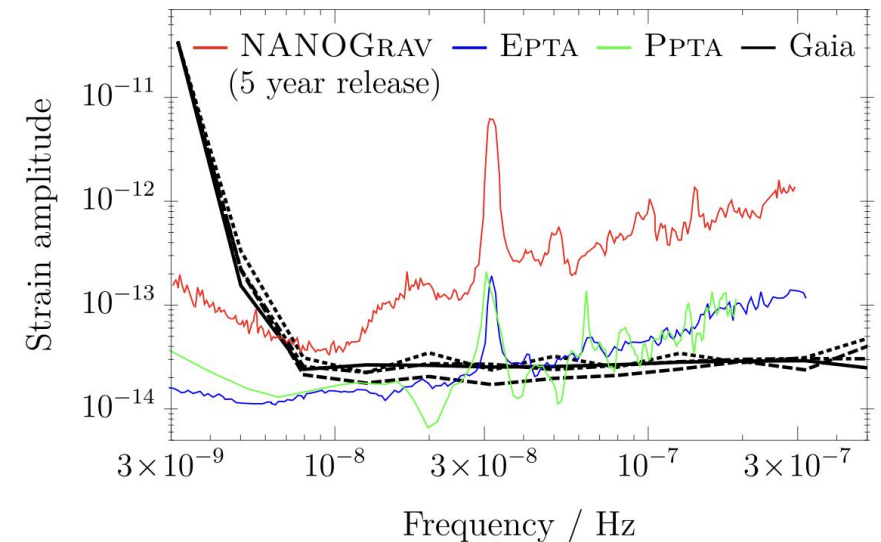
- AGWB
- CGWB

3: Astrometric detections

$$N_{\text{star}} \sim 10^9$$



C. J. Moore, D. P. Mihaylov A. Lasen & G.Gilmore, PRL 119, 261102 (2017)



Thanks for your attention

