

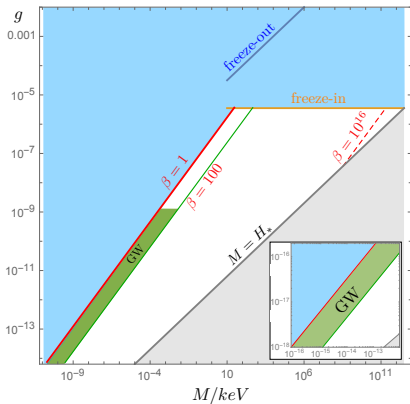
# Pulsar timing signals from an inverse phase transition in the early Universe

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**Rubakov Conference  
on Particle Physics and Cosmology**

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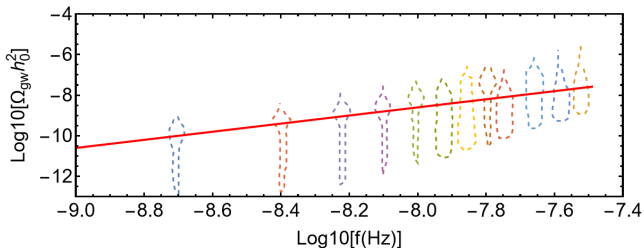
Based on the papers  
[2004.03410](#), [2104.13722](#), [2112.12608](#), [2307.04582](#)  
 with Evgeny Babichev, Sabir Ramazanov, Rome  
 Samanta and Alex Vikman

[2105.05208](#)

$$\beta \equiv \lambda/g^4$$

$$V = \frac{1}{2} M^2 X^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} X^4 - \frac{g^2 T^2}{12} X^2$$

[2307.04582](#)



# Conclusions from observations

The Universe is homogeneous, isotropic, hot and expanding...

## Conclusions

- interval between events gets modified

$$\Delta s^2 = c^2 \Delta t^2 - a^2(t) \Delta \mathbf{x}^2$$

in GR expansion is described by the Friedmann equation

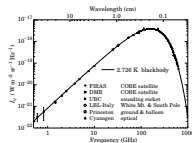
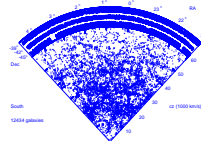
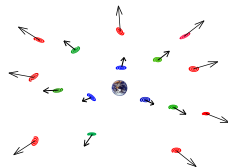
$$\left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = H^2(t) = \frac{8\pi}{3} G \rho_{\text{density}}^{\text{energy}}$$

$$\rho_{\text{density}}^{\text{energy}} = \rho_{\text{radiation}} + \rho_{\text{matter}} + \dots$$

- in the past the matter density was higher, our Universe was “hotter” filled with electromagnetic plasma

$$\rho_{\text{matter}} \propto 1/a^3(t), \quad \rho_{\text{radiation}} \propto 1/a^4(t), \quad \rho_{\text{curvature}} \propto 1/a^2(t)$$

certainly known up to  $T \sim 1 \text{ MeV} \sim 10^{10} \text{ K}$



# Microscopic processes in the expanding Universe

A **competition** between **scattering, decays, etc** and **expansion**

for general processes one should solve kinetic equations

$$\frac{dn_{X_i}}{dt} + 3Hn_{X_i} = \sum (\text{production} - \text{destruction})$$

Boltzmann equation in a comoving volume:  $\frac{d}{dt} (na^3) = a^3 \int \dots$

*production:*

$$\sigma(A + B \rightarrow X + C)n_A n_B, \quad \Gamma(D \rightarrow E + X)n_D \cdot M_D/E_D, \quad \text{etc}$$

*destruction:*

$$\sigma(A + X \rightarrow C + B)n_A n_X, \quad \Gamma(X \rightarrow F + G)n_X \cdot M_X/E_X, \quad \text{etc}$$

Fast direct and inverse processes,  $\Gamma \gtrsim H$ , are in equilibrium,  
 $\Sigma(\ ) = 0$  and thermalize particles

# Known decoupled components

- relic photons from recombination, CMB  
(before reionisation)
- primnordial elements from BBN  
(far from stellar nucleosynthesis)
- relic neutrinos  
(only indirect emasurements)
- Dark Matter  
(no registration so far)
- relic Gravitational waves  
(never in equilibrium)

# Dark Matter Properties

$$p = 0$$

(If) particles:

- 1 **stable** on cosmological time-scale
- 2 **nonrelativistic** long before RD/MD-transition (either **Cold** or **Warm**,  $v_{RD/MD} \lesssim 10^{-3}$ )
- 3 (almost) **collisionless**
- 4 (almost) electrically **neutral**

If were in **thermal equilibrium**:

$$M_X \gtrsim 1 \text{ keV}$$

If not:

for bosons

$$\lambda = 2\pi/(M_X v_X), \text{ in a galaxy } v_X \sim 0.5 \cdot 10^{-3} \rightarrow M_X \gtrsim 3 \cdot 10^{-22} \text{ eV}$$

for fermions

Pauli blocking:

$$M_X \gtrsim 750 \text{ eV}$$

$$f(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{x}) = \frac{\rho_X(\mathbf{x})}{M_X} \cdot \frac{1}{\left(\sqrt{2\pi} M_X v_X\right)^3} \cdot e^{-\frac{p^2}{2M_X^2 v_X^2}} \Bigg|_{\mathbf{p}=0} \leq \frac{g_X}{(2\pi)^3}$$

# Dark Matter: many well-motivated candidates

- **WIMPs** related to EW scale, SUSY
- **sterile neutrinos** active neutrino oscillations
- **light scalar field** string theory
- **axion** strong CP-problem
- **gravitino** local SUSY
- **Heavy relics** GUTs
- **(Topological) defects** GUTs
- **Massive Astrophysical Compact Heavy Objects**
- **Primordial black hole (remnants)** Phase transitions  
exotic inflation, reheating

Multicomponent Dark Matter ?

$\gamma, \nu, H, He$

# A simple example of scalar DM

most general renormalizable coupled to SM:

$Z_2$ -invariant Higgs ( $\Phi$ ) portal

$$\Delta\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}g^{\mu\nu}\partial_\mu X\partial_\nu X - \frac{1}{2}M^2X^2 + g^2X^2\Phi^\dagger\Phi - \frac{\lambda}{4}X^4$$

Options:

- freeze-out:

sufficiently large  $g^2$

$$\sigma_{hh\rightarrow XX} \times n_h \gtrsim H \rightarrow \sigma_{XX\rightarrow\dots} = \sigma_0, \text{ e.g. } \frac{g^4}{(4\pi\dots)^2 M^2} = \sigma_0$$

- freeze-in:

intermediate  $g^2$

$$\dot{n}_X + 3Hn_X = \sigma_{hh\rightarrow XX}n_h^2 \rightarrow \frac{n_X}{s} = \# \int dT \frac{n_h^2}{sHT} \times \frac{g^4}{T^2} \sim g^4 \frac{M_{Pl}}{M} \rightarrow$$

$$\Omega_X \propto g^4 \rightarrow g^2 \approx 10^{-11}$$

still natural...



# DM from oscillating scalar

$$0 \neq g^2 < 10^{-11}$$

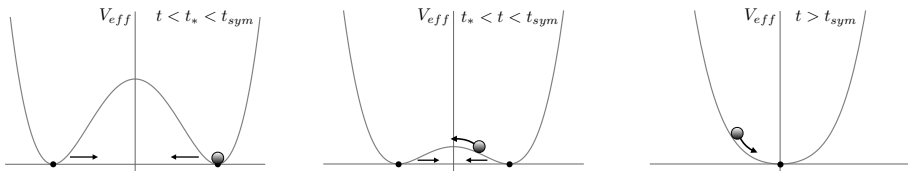
$Z_2$ -invariant Higgs ( $\Phi$ ) portal

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Higgs particles in plasma change the potential:

$$g^2X^2\Phi^\dagger\Phi \rightarrow g^2X^2T^2/3$$

$Z_2$  symmetry is broken after reheating by the plasma contribution

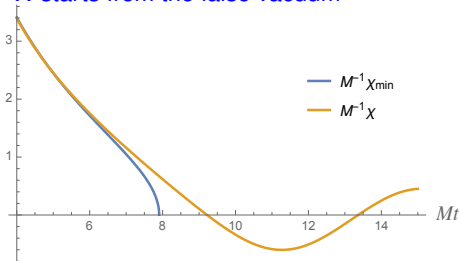


# Temperature decrease restores $Z_2$

2004.03410

$$\Delta\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}g^{\mu\nu}\partial_\mu X\partial_\nu X - \frac{1}{2}M^2X^2 + g^2X^2T^2/3 - \frac{\lambda}{4}X^4$$

$X$  starts from the false vacuum



at  $g^2T_*^2 \simeq M^2$  sign changes  
and  $X$  starts to oscillate  
gravitational misalignment

$$\rho_{DM}(t_*) = \frac{M^2 \cdot S_*^2}{2} \simeq \frac{(M^5 H_*)^{2/3}}{4\lambda}$$

And the correct amount of DM by classical oscillating field

$$p = \langle E_{kin} \rangle - \langle E_p \rangle = 0$$

$$g^2 \simeq 10^{-12} \times \left(\frac{\lambda}{10^{-6}}\right)^{6/5} \times \left(\frac{10^6 \text{ GeV}}{M}\right)^2$$

Dark Matter  
with general setup:  
white area

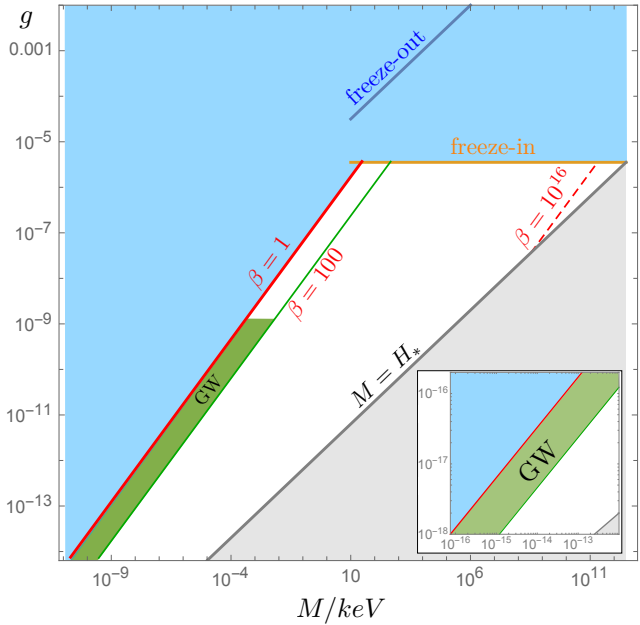
$$\beta \equiv \lambda/g^4 < 1$$

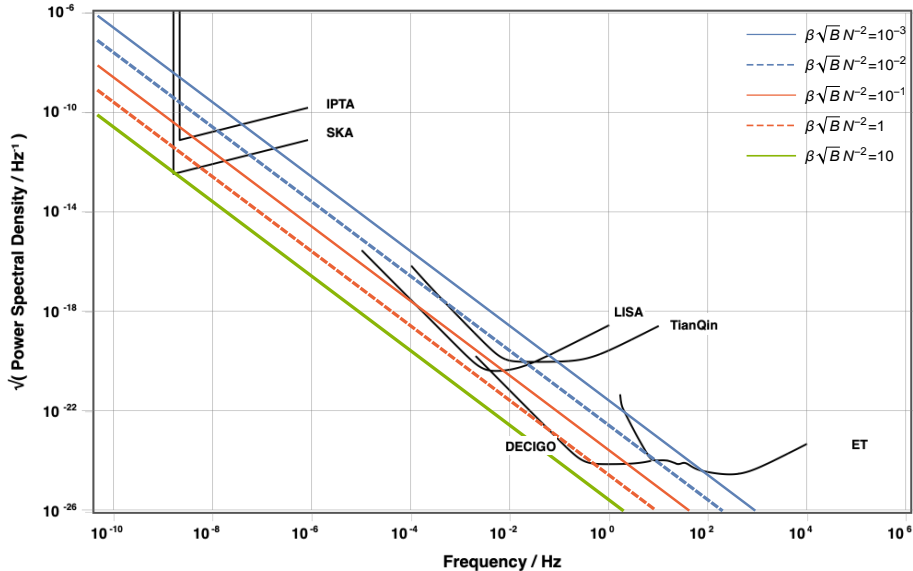
$$V = \frac{1}{2} M^2 X^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} X^4 - \frac{g^2 T^2}{12} X^2$$

The inverse phase transition  
may be accompanied by the  
production of GW

strong enough to be  
detected by the present or  
next generation  
experiments

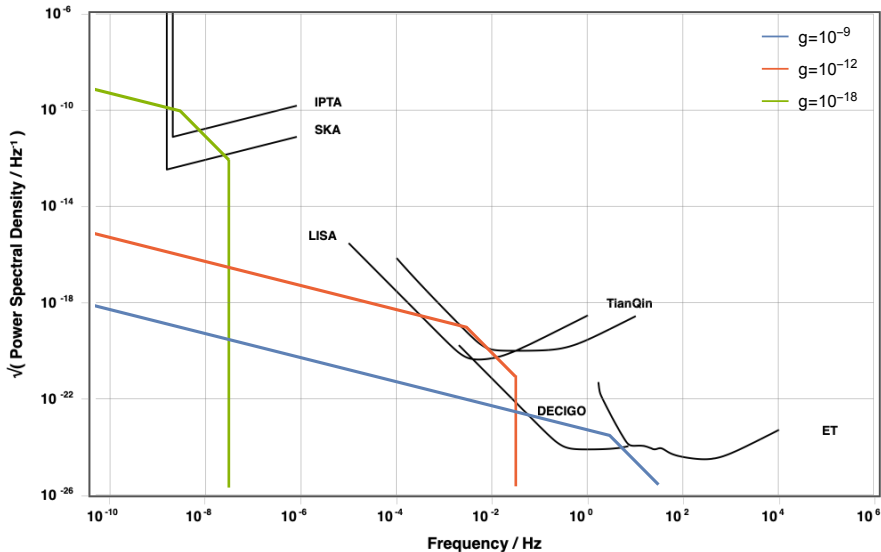
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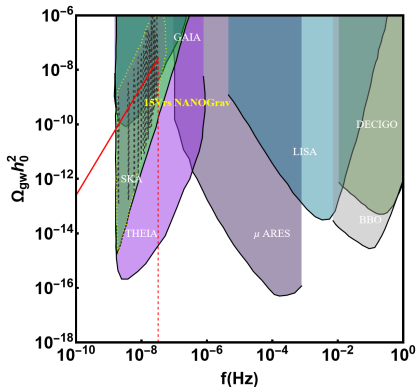
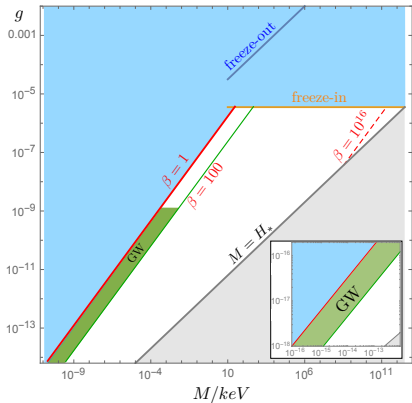
strain:  $\Omega_{GW}H_0^2 \equiv 2\pi^2 f^3 S/3$

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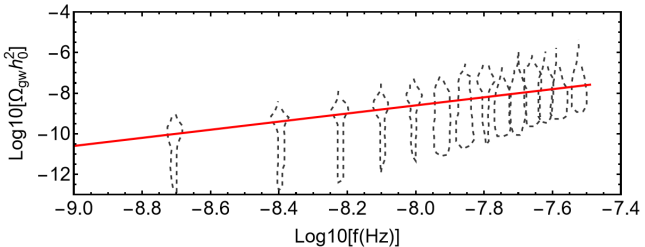


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$$\beta \equiv \lambda / g^4$$

$$V = \frac{1}{2} M^2 X^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} X^4 - \frac{g^2 T^2}{12} X^2$$

2307.04582



# Conclusion

- What NANOGrav and others observe might be explained by the GW from melting domain walls
- they are expected in models with inverse phase transition
- which may induce light scalar dark matter production
- In realistic models it's mass is of order  $10^{-16}$ - $10^{-12}$  eV
- That predicts super-radiance instability of rotating black holes with astrophysical masses

see e.g. 0905.4720