



# Gravitational waves from the sound of a phase transition

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Nordita 18. syyskuuta 2019



### Little bangs in the Big Bang

- 1st order transition proceeds by nucleation of bubbles of Higgs phase
- Nucleation rate/volume p(t) rapidly increases below T<sub>c</sub>
- Expanding bubbles generate pressure waves in hot fluid
- Detectable gravitational waves



Steinhardt (1982); Gyulassy et al (1984); Witten (1984); Enqvist et al (1992);



MH, Huber, Rummukainen, Weir (2013,5,7) Scalar only: Child, Giblin (2012); Cutting, MH, Weir (2018)

#### Phases of a phase transition



3



- 1. Nucleation and expansion
- 2. Collision

1

- 3. Acoustic
- 4. Non-linear (shocks, turbulence)

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

 $L_{\rm f}$  – fluid flow length scale  $U_{\rm f}$  – RMS fluid velocity

2

4 'exponential' nucleation  $p(t)=p_n e^{eta(t-t_n)}$  $au_{
m co}=eta^{-1}$ 

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

*p* – nucleation rate/volume

 $\beta$ – transition rate parameter

#### Phases of a phase transition



3

1

- 1. Nucleation and expansion
- 2. Collision
- 3. Acoustic
- 4. Non-linear (shocks, turbulence)

 $au_{
m dy} \sim L_f/ar{v}_\perp$ 

2

 $L_{\rm f}$  – fluid flow length scale  $\overline{V}_{\perp}$  – RMS rotational velocity

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4 Not discussed here

- Generation of magnetic field? Baym, Bodeker, McLerran, 1996 Vachaspati 2001 Ferrer, Pogosian, Vachaspati 2019
- MHD turbulence
- Brandenburg et al 2017 Roper Pol et al 2019

#### **Relativistic combustion**



- Scalar potential energy (trace anomaly  $\theta$ ) to kinetic energy, heat energy
- Wall velocity  $v_w$  from pressure difference and Higgs-plasma coupling  $\eta(\phi)$
- Radial fluid velocity v(r,t) and enthalpy distribution w(r,t) from  $v_w$  and  $\Delta \theta$
- Similarity solution v(r/t), w(r/t)
- Runaway ( $v_w \rightarrow 1$ ) (near-vacuum transition)

Bodeker Moore 2010, 2017

#### GWs from first order phase transitions

- Parameters of transition:
  - $\alpha$  = ("Potential energy")/("Heat energy")
  - $-\beta$  = transition rate ( = d log p / dt)
  - $v_w$  = Bubble wall speed
  - $H_n$  = Hubble rate at nucleation
- Derived parameters:
  - R<sub>\*</sub> = mean bubble separation  $= (8\pi)^{1/3} v_w / eta$
  - K = fluid kinetic energy fraction (depends on  $\alpha$ ,  $v_w$ ) Steinhardt '84 Espinosa et al 2010
- Aim: GW power spectrum

$$\frac{d\Omega_{\rm gw}}{d\ln f} = \frac{1}{\rho_{\rm tot}} \frac{d\rho_{\rm gw}}{d\ln f} = \frac{8\pi^2}{3H^2} f^3 S_h(f)$$



#### GWs from phase transitions

• Gravitational waves generated by shear stress fluctuations

$$\Omega_{\rm GW} \sim \frac{1}{G\rho} \left\langle \left| \dot{h}_{ij}(t) \right|^2 \right\rangle$$
$$\dot{h}_{ij} \sim G \int dt' \cos[k(t-t')] T_{ij}^{TT}(k,t')$$

01

$$T_{ij} \sim \rho U_i U_j$$

$$\dot{h} \sim \tau(G\rho) K$$

- Kinetic energy from potential energy

   K(α,v<sub>w</sub>) = fluid kinetic energy fraction
- Timescales  $\tau_{v}$  and  $\tau_{c}$ 
  - $\,\tau_{v}$  duration of stresses from fluid velocity
  - $\tau_c$  coherence time of stress fluctuations

$$\Omega_{\rm gw} \sim \frac{\tau_v \tau_c}{G\rho} (G\rho)^2 K^2$$

$$\Omega_{\rm gw} \sim (H_n \tau_v) (H_n \tau_c) K^2$$

$$\Omega_{\mathrm{gw},0} \sim \Omega_{\mathrm{rad},0} (H_n \tau_v) (H_* \tau_c) K^2$$

#### Energy budget of a phase transition

Espinosa et al 2010

Conservation of energy around expanding bubble

$$\Gamma^{00}=w\gamma^2-p=w\gamma^2v^2+e$$
  $_{w=e+p}$  entha

Internal energy = "heat" + "potential" energy

$$e = \frac{3}{4}w + \theta$$

- Initial: v = 0,  $e = e_n$ ,  $w = w_n$ ,  $\theta = \theta_n$  (uniform)
- Around bubble:  $v(\xi)$ ,  $w(\xi)$ ,  $\theta(\xi)$ , with  $\xi = r/t$  $e_{\mathcal{K}} + \Delta e_{Q} = -\Delta e_{\theta}$
- Kinetic energy fraction K: strength parameter  $\alpha_n$

$$e_{K} = K \cdot e_{n} \frac{4\pi}{3} v_{w}^{3} \qquad \Delta e_{\theta} \simeq \alpha_{n} \cdot e_{Q,s}(T_{n}) \frac{4\pi}{3} v_{w}^{3}$$

$$w = e + p \quad \text{enthalpy}$$
  

$$\theta = \frac{1}{4}(e - 3p) \quad \text{trace anomaly}$$
  

$$e_{\mathcal{K}} = 4\pi \int_{0}^{\xi_{\text{max}}} d\xi \xi^{2} w \gamma^{2} v^{2},$$
  

$$\Delta e_{Q} = 4\pi \int_{0}^{\xi_{\text{max}}} d\xi \xi^{2} \frac{3}{4}(w - w_{n}),$$
  

$$\Delta e_{\theta} = 4\pi \int_{0}^{\xi_{\text{max}}} d\xi \xi^{2}(\theta_{n} - \theta).$$

**b**roken

*symmetric* 

$$\alpha_{\rm n} = \left. \frac{\theta_{\rm s} - \theta_{\rm b}}{e_{Q,\rm s}} \right|_{T_{\rm n}}$$

$$\alpha_{\rm n} = rac{\epsilon}{a_n T_n^4}$$
 Espinosa et al 2010

### Estimating GW power

- Recall GW energy fraction:
  - $\tau_v$  duration of stresses
  - $\tau_c$  coherence time
- Numerical simulations:
  - $\tau_c \sim R_*$  (bubble separation)
- Analytical estimate:
  - $\tau_v = \min(H_n^{-1}, R_*/U_f)$
  - N.B.  $K = (4/3)U_f^2$
  - $U_{\rm f}$  RMS velocity (slow flows)
- Pure acoustic  $(H_n R_* >> U_f)$

$$\Omega_{
m gw} \simeq (H_{
m n} R_{*}) K^{2} ilde{\Omega}_{
m gw},$$
 $ilde{\Omega}_{
m gw} \sim 10^{-2}$ 

 $\Omega_{\rm qw} \sim (H_{\rm n}\tau_{\rm v})(H_{\rm n}\tau_{\rm c})K^2$ 



### LISA CWG party line 2016

- Three contributions to total power:
  - Scalar field φ
  - Acoustic ac
  - Turbulent tu

$$\Omega_{\rm gw} = \Omega_{\rm gw}^{\phi} + \Omega_{\rm gw}^{\rm ac} + \Omega_{\rm gw}^{\rm tu}$$

- Scalar field: bubble wall collisions
  - relevant only for runaway walls
  - "envelope approximation"
  - Kosowsky, Turner 1992
  - Huber, Konstandin 2008
- Acoustic production:
  - M.H. et al 2013, 2015
- Turbulent production:
  - Caprini, Durrer, Servant 2009





#### Developments 1: scalar field



ĺΠ.

50

100

xM

150

200

#### Developments 2: sound shell model

Gaussian velocity field from weighted addition of sound shells  $\mathbf{v}_{a}(t_{i})$ 

MH 2017, MH, Hijazi (in prep 2019)

- Two length scales:
  - Bubble spacing  $R_*$  Shell width  $R_* \frac{|v_w c_s|}{v_w}$
- Double broken power law
  - $P_{aw} \sim k^9, k^1, k^{-3}$
- Amplitude:
  - Detonations: good (< 10%)</li>
  - Deflagrations: overestimated

![](_page_11_Figure_11.jpeg)

#### Developments 3: bulk flow models

- Based on envelope approximation
- Model overlapping energy shells in real space
- Disagrees with sound shell model at low k

![](_page_12_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Figure_5.jpeg)

#### **Developments 4: non-linearities**

- Longitudinal v
  - Kinetic energy suppression
- Transverse v
  - Vorticity production
     Cutting, MH, Weir 2019
- Non-linearity timescale  $au_{
  m nl} \sim L_f/ar{U}_f$ 
  - Shock development
  - Further vorticity production
  - Decay of flows

![](_page_13_Figure_9.jpeg)

T, n = 1000, dx = dy = 1.0, dt = 0.01, v = 0.05

![](_page_13_Figure_11.jpeg)

#### Developments 5: turbulence

Modelling

Green: Gogoberidze, Kahniashvili, Kosowsky 2007 Black: Caprini, Durrer, Servant 2008

- Blue: Niksa, Schlederer, Sigl 2018
  - Kraichnan sweeping model: velocity autocorrelation time  $au_{
    m k} \sim 1/k ar{v}_{ot}$
  - Pure rotational flow:
     high k GW power spectrum k<sup>-5/3</sup>
  - Mixed acoustic-turbulent k<sup>-8/3</sup>
- MHD simulation Roper pol et al 2019

![](_page_14_Figure_8.jpeg)

 $\ln k$ 

### Sound shell model

 Gaussian velocity field from weighted addition of sound shells  $\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{a}}(t_{i})$ 

MH 2017, MH, Hijazi (in prep 2019)

- Two length scales:
  - Bubble spacing  $R_*$  Shell width  $R_* \frac{|v_w c_s|}{v_w}$
- Double broken power law
  - $P_{qw} \sim k^9, k^1, k^{-3}$
- Amplitude:
  - Bubble separation
  - (Kinetic energy)<sup>2</sup>

![](_page_15_Figure_11.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Figure_12.jpeg)

 $\alpha_{\rm n} = 0.0046 \ v_{\rm w} = 0.56$ 

#### Sound shell model

- Velocity power spectrum is weighted sum of 1bubble power spectra
- Weighting by bubble lifetime distribution<sup>S(t')-</sup>

![](_page_16_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Figure_4.jpeg)

#### Sound shell model vs. simulations P<sub>v</sub>

- Solid: self-similar sound shell
- Dash: evolving sound shell at peak collision time
- Simultaneous nucleation

![](_page_17_Figure_4.jpeg)

#### MH et al in prep 2019

![](_page_17_Figure_6.jpeg)

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#### Sound shell model vs. simulations $P_{qw}$

- Solid: self-similar sound shell
- Dash: evolving sound shell at peak collision time
- Simultaneous nucleation

![](_page_18_Figure_4.jpeg)

#### MH et al in prep 2019

![](_page_18_Figure_6.jpeg)

#### Sound shell model fit function

MH, Hijazi 2019

$$\Omega_{gw}^{ac}(f) = F_{gw,0}(H_n R_*) A_M M\left(\frac{f}{f_{p,0}}\right)$$

• Double broken power law  $s = z_p(f/f_{p,0})$ 

$$M(s) = s^9 \left(\frac{r_p^4 + 1}{r_p^4 + s^4}\right)^2 \left(\frac{5}{5 - m + ms^2}\right)^{5/2}, \quad A_M \simeq K^2 \tilde{\Omega}_{gw}$$

$$m = (9r_p^4 + 1)/(r_p^4 + 1)$$

• Radiation energy density redshift

$$F_{\rm gw,0} \simeq 3.6 \times 10^{-5}$$

• Frequency redshift

$$f_{p,0} \simeq 26 (H_{\rm n} R_*)^{-1} \left(\frac{T_{\rm n}}{100 \text{ GeV}}\right) \mu \text{H}$$

![](_page_19_Figure_10.jpeg)

### Flow lifetime uncertainty

Non-linearities important after

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

- CWG 2016: Non-linear dissipation ignored
- source lifetime assumed to be  $H_n^{-1}$
- Estimate: multiply PS by  $min(1, H_n \tau_{nl})$
- GW power  $\Omega_{\rm gw} \sim (H_{\rm n}R_{*})^{2}K^{3/2}$

![](_page_20_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Figure_9.jpeg)

## Outlook

- Non-linear evolution:
  - Longitudinal
    - Kinetic energy suppression
    - Shocks, wave turbulence
  - Transverse
    - Vorticity generation
    - Turbulence
  - Magnetic fields and MHD turbulence
- Connection to fundamental theory:
  - Scalar effective potential  $V(\phi)$  –
  - Field-fluid coupling  $\eta(\phi)$

Parameters connecting to fundamental theory:  $T_n$  = nucleation temperature  $\alpha$  = (scalar potential)/(thermal energy)  $\beta$  = transition rate  $v_w$  = bubble wall speed  $g_{eff}$  = effective d.o.f.

+ physics of magnetic field generation

![](_page_21_Picture_15.jpeg)

#### Conclusions

- GWs probe of physics at very high energy
- LISA will probe physics of Higgs phase transition from 2034
- Measure/constrain phase transition parameters
  - $T_n$  = nucleation temperature
  - $\alpha$  = (scalar potential)/(thermal energy)
  - *R*<sup>\*</sup> = mean bubble centre separation
  - $v_w$  = bubble wall speed
  - g<sub>eff</sub> = effective d.o.f.
- Towards accurate calculations of GW power spectrum from parameters
  - Good understanding of acoustic production from numerical simulations & sound shell model
  - Non-linear evolution (turbulence, shocks) not well understood: likely to be important

![](_page_22_Picture_12.jpeg)

#### Sound shell model vs. simulations P<sub>v</sub>

- Solid: self-similar sound shell
- Dash: evolving sound shell at peak collision time

 $kR_*$ 

• Simultaneous nucleation

MH et al in prep 2019

![](_page_23_Figure_4.jpeg)

 $kR_*$ 

 $10^{2}$ 

#### $10^{-2}$ $10^{-}$ $v_w = 0.44$ $\alpha_{\rm n} = 0.05$ $V_W$ 0.05 $1000/T_{c}$ $\alpha_{\rm n}$ $1000/T_{c}$ $2000/T_{c}$ $2000/T_{c}$ 000/T $3000/T_{c}$ $10^{-3}$ $10^{-3}$ $1000/T_{c}$ $4000/T_{c}$ $5000/T_{c}$ $5000/T_{c}$ $\mathrm{d}V^2/\mathrm{d}\log k$ $\frac{y \log N^2}{10^{-4}}$ $6000/T_{c}$ $7000/T_{c}$ $7000/T_{c}$ SSM ideal SSM ideal SSM $t_{\rm pc}$ SSM t<sub>pc</sub> $10^{-6}$ $10^{-6}$ $10^{-7}$ $10^{-}$ $10^{2}$ $10^{0}$ $10^{1}$ $10^{0}$ $10^{1}$

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#### Sound shell model vs. simulations $P_{gw}$

- Solid: self-similar sound shell
- Dash: evolving sound shell at peak collision time
- Simultaneous nucleation

![](_page_24_Figure_4.jpeg)

#### MH et al in prep 2019

![](_page_24_Figure_6.jpeg)