

Gravitational Waves from slowly decaying sources in the early Universe

Antonino Salvino Midiri

In collaboration with: Chiara Caprini, Alberto Roper Pol, Madeline Salomé (THEORY)

Daniel G. Figueroa, Kenneth Marschall, Alberto Roper Pol (SIMULATIONS)

Nordita (Stockholm) – August 8th 2025



Gravitational Wave spectrum from stochastic sources

Caprini, Figueroa [1801.04268]

Tensor perturbations over FLRW

$$ds^{2} = a^{2}(\tau) \left[-d\tau^{2} + (\delta_{ij} + \ell_{ij}) dx^{i} dx^{j} \right]$$

$$\frac{h_{ij} = a \,\ell_{ij}}{a = \tau/\tau_*} \qquad (\partial_{\tau}^2 + k^2) \, h_{ij}(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = 6 \, \Pi_{ij}(\tau, \mathbf{k}) \frac{\mathcal{H}_*}{\tau}$$

• GW equation (radiation domination) $\frac{h_{ij} = a \, \ell_{ij}}{a = \tau/\tau_*} \qquad (\partial_{\tau}^2 + k^2) \, h_{ij}(\tau, \boldsymbol{k}) = 6 \, \Pi_{ij}(\tau, \boldsymbol{k}) \frac{\mathcal{H}_*}{\tau}$ • Solution $h_{ij}(\tau, \boldsymbol{k}) = \frac{6\mathcal{H}_*}{k} \int_{\tau_*}^{\min[\tau, \tau_{fin}]} \frac{d\tau_1}{\tau_1} \, \Pi_{ij}(\tau_1, \boldsymbol{k}) \sin k(\tau - \tau_1) \qquad \Pi_{ij} = a^2 \Lambda_{ijkl} T^{kl}/\rho_{crit}$

$$\Pi_{ij} = a^2 \Lambda_{ijkl} T^{kl}/\rho_{crit}$$

source active for $\tau_* < \tau < \tau_{fin}$

GW spectrum at present time

$$\Omega_{GW}(t_0) = \frac{\rho_{GW}^0}{\rho_{crit}^0} = \frac{M_{pl}^2}{4\rho_{crit}^0} \langle \left| \partial_t \ell_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, t_0) \right|^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{12 H_0^2} \left(\frac{a_*}{a_0} \right)^4 \langle \left| \partial_\tau h_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, \tau_0) - \mathcal{H}_0 h_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, \tau_0) \right|^2 \rangle$$

Gravitational Wave spectrum from stochastic sources

Caprini, Figueroa [1801.04268]

Tensor perturbations over FLRW

$$ds^{2} = a^{2}(\tau) \left[-d\tau^{2} + (\delta_{ij} + \ell_{ij}) dx^{i} dx^{j} \right]$$

$$\frac{h_{ij} = a \,\ell_{ij}}{a = \tau/\tau_*} \qquad (\partial_{\tau}^2 + k^2) \, h_{ij}(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = 6 \, \Pi_{ij}(\tau, \mathbf{k}) \frac{\mathcal{H}_*}{\tau}$$

• GW equation (radiation domination) $\frac{h_{ij} = a \, \ell_{ij}}{a = \tau/\tau_*} \qquad (\partial_{\tau}^2 + k^2) \, h_{ij}(\tau, \boldsymbol{k}) = 6 \, \Pi_{ij}(\tau, \boldsymbol{k}) \frac{\mathcal{H}_*}{\tau}$ • Solution $h_{ij}(\tau, \boldsymbol{k}) = \frac{6\mathcal{H}_*}{k} \int_{\tau_*}^{\min[\tau, \tau_{fin}]} \frac{d\tau_1}{\tau_1} \, \Pi_{ij}(\tau_1, \boldsymbol{k}) \sin k(\tau - \tau_1)$ $\Pi_{ij} = a^2 \Lambda_{ijkl} T^{kl}/\rho_{crit}$

$$\Pi_{ij} = a^2 \Lambda_{ijkl} T^{kl}/\rho_{crit}$$

source active for $\tau_* < \tau < \tau_{fin}$

GW spectrum at present time

$$\Omega_{GW}(t_0) = \frac{\rho_{GW}^0}{\rho_{crit}^0} = \frac{M_{pl}^2}{4\rho_{crit}^0} \langle \left| \partial_t \ell_{ij}(\boldsymbol{x}, t_0) \right|^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{12 H_0^2} \left(\frac{a_*}{a_0} \right)^4 \langle \left| \partial_\tau h_{ij}(\boldsymbol{x}, \tau_0) - \mathcal{H}_0 h_{ij}(\boldsymbol{x}, \tau_0) \right|^2 \rangle$$

Unequal-time correlator (UETC) of the source

GW spectrum
$$\int_0^\infty \Omega_{GW}(\tau_0, k) \, d \ln k \equiv \Omega_{GW}(t_0) \cong \frac{1}{12 H_0^2} \left(\frac{a_*}{a_0} \right)^4 \left\langle |\partial_{\tau} h_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, \tau_0)|^2 \right\rangle$$

From GW equation's solution
$$\partial_{\tau} h_{ij}(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = 6 \mathcal{H}_* \int_{\tau_*}^{\min[\tau, \tau_{fin}]} \frac{d\tau_1}{\tau_1} \Pi_{ij}(\tau_1, \mathbf{k}) \cos k(\tau - \tau_1)$$

$$\langle \Pi_{ij}(\tau_1, \mathbf{k}) \Pi_{\text{lm}}^*(\tau_2, \mathbf{k}') \rangle = \frac{1}{2} (2\pi)^6 \delta^3(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}') [\Lambda_{ijlm}(\hat{\mathbf{k}}) \frac{E_{\Pi}(k, \tau_1, \tau_2)}{4\pi k^3} + i \mathcal{A}_{ijlm}(\hat{\mathbf{k}}) \frac{H_{\Pi}(k, \tau_1, \tau_2)}{4\pi k^3}]$$

$$\Omega_{GW}(\tau_0, k) = 3 \, \mathcal{T}_{GW} \iint_{\tau_*}^{\min[\tau_0, \tau_{fin}]} \frac{d\tau_1}{\tau_1} \frac{d\tau_2}{\tau_2} \cos k(\tau_0 - \tau_1) \cos k(\tau_0 - \tau_2) \, E_{\Pi}(k, \tau_1, \tau_2)$$

- Assuming a constant-in-time UETC for the source for $\tau_* < \tau_{1/2} < \tau_{fin} \longrightarrow E_{\Pi}(k, \tau_1, \tau_2) = E_{\Pi}^*(k)$
- GW spectrum

$$\Omega_{GW}(\tau_0, k) = 3 \, \mathcal{T}_{GW} E_{\Pi}^*(k) \int_{\tau_*}^{\min[\tau_0, \tau_{fin}]} \int_{\tau_*}^{\min[\tau_0, \tau_{fin}]} \frac{d\tau_1}{\tau_1} \frac{d\tau_2}{\tau_2} \cos k(\tau_0 - \tau_1) \cos k(\tau_0 - \tau_2)$$

$$\equiv 3 \, \mathcal{T}_{GW} E_{\Pi}^*(k) \, \Delta^2(k, \tau_0)$$

- Assuming a constant-in-time UETC for the source for $\tau_* < \tau_{1/2} < \tau_{fin} \longrightarrow E_{\Pi}(k, \tau_1, \tau_2) = E_{\Pi}^*(k)$
- GW spectrum

$$\Omega_{GW}(\tau_0, k) = 3 \, \mathcal{T}_{GW} E_{\Pi}^*(k) \int_{\tau_*}^{\min[\tau_0, \tau_{fin}]} \int_{\tau_*}^{\min[\tau_0, \tau_{fin}]} \frac{d\tau_1}{\tau_1} \frac{d\tau_2}{\tau_2} \cos k(\tau_0 - \tau_1) \cos k(\tau_0 - \tau_2)$$

$$\equiv 3 \, \mathcal{T}_{GW} E_{\Pi}^*(k) \, \Delta^2(k, \tau_0)$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{GW} = \left(\frac{a_*}{a_0}\right)^4 \left(\frac{H_*}{H_0}\right)^2 \approx 1.6 \times 10^{-5} \left(\frac{g_*}{100}\right)^{-\frac{1}{3}}$$

- Assuming a constant-in-time UETC for the source for $\tau_* < \tau_{1/2} < \tau_{fin} \longrightarrow E_{\Pi}(k, \tau_1, \tau_2) = E_{\Pi}^*(k)$
- GW spectrum

$$\Omega_{GW}(\tau_0, k) = 3 \, \mathcal{T}_{GW} E_{\Pi}^*(k) \int_{\tau_*}^{\min[\tau_0, \tau_{fin}]} \int_{\tau_*}^{\min[\tau_0, \tau_{fin}]} \frac{d\tau_1}{\tau_1} \frac{d\tau_2}{\tau_2} \cos k(\tau_0 - \tau_1) \cos k(\tau_0 - \tau_2)$$

$$\equiv 3 \, \mathcal{T}_{GW} E_{\Pi}^*(k) \, \Delta^2(k, \tau_0)$$

$$T_{GW} = \left(\frac{a_*}{a_0}\right)^4 \left(\frac{H_*}{H_0}\right)^2 \approx 1.6 \times 10^{-5} \left(\frac{g_*}{100}\right)^{-\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$E_{\Pi}^*(k) \propto \left\langle \Pi_{ij}(\tau_*, k) \Pi_{ij}^*(\tau_*, k) \right\rangle$$

- Assuming a constant-in-time UETC for the source for $\tau_* < \tau_{1/2} < \tau_{fin} \longrightarrow E_{\Pi}(k, \tau_1, \tau_2) = E_{\Pi}^*(k)$
- GW spectrum

$$\Omega_{GW}(\tau_0, k) = 3 \, \mathcal{T}_{GW} E_{\Pi}^*(k) \int_{\tau_*}^{\min[\tau_0, \tau_{fin}]} \int_{\tau_*}^{\min[\tau_0, \tau_{fin}]} \frac{d\tau_1}{\tau_1} \frac{d\tau_2}{\tau_2} \cos k(\tau_0 - \tau_1) \cos k(\tau_0 - \tau_2)$$

$$\equiv 3 \, \mathcal{T}_{GW} E_{\Pi}^*(k) \, \Delta^2(k, \tau_0)$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{GW} = \left(\frac{a_*}{a_0}\right)^4 \left(\frac{H_*}{H_0}\right)^2 \approx 1.6 \times 10^{-5} \left(\frac{g_*}{100}\right)^{-\frac{1}{3}} \qquad \Delta(k, \tau_0) \equiv \int_{\tau_*}^{\min[\tau_0, \tau_{fin}]} \frac{\mathrm{d}\tilde{\tau}}{\tilde{\tau}} \cos k(\tau_0 - \tilde{\tau})$$

$$E_{\Pi}^{*}(k) \propto \left\langle \Pi_{ij}(\tau_{*}, k) \Pi_{ij}^{*}(\tau_{*}, k) \right\rangle = \cos k\tau_{0} \left[\operatorname{Ci}(k, \min[\tau_{0}, \tau_{fin}]) - \operatorname{Ci}(k, \tau_{*}) \right] + \sin k\tau_{0} \left[\operatorname{Si}(k, \min[\tau_{0}, \tau_{fin}]) - \operatorname{Si}(k, \tau_{*}) \right]$$

Averaging over fast frequency oscillations at present time $k\tau_0\gg 1$

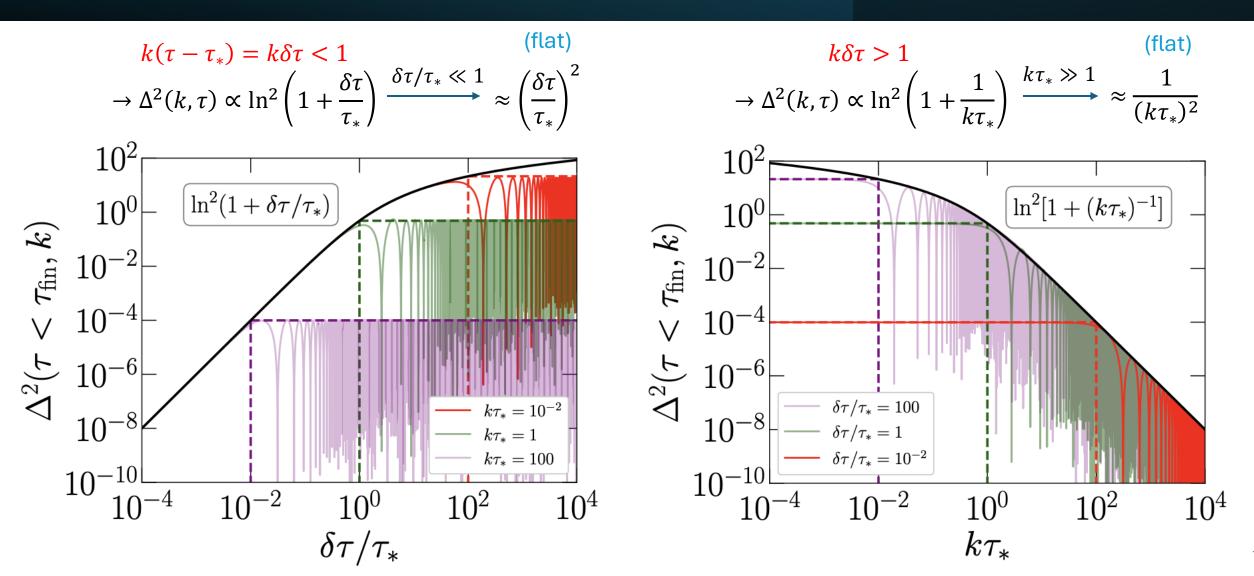
$$\Omega_{GW}(\tau_0, k) \cong \frac{3}{2} \mathcal{T}_{GW} E_{\Pi}^*(k) \left\{ \left[\operatorname{Ci}(k, \tau_f) - \operatorname{Ci}(k, \tau_*) \right]^2 + \left[\operatorname{Si}(k, \tau_f) - \operatorname{Si}(k, \tau_*) \right]^2 \right\}$$

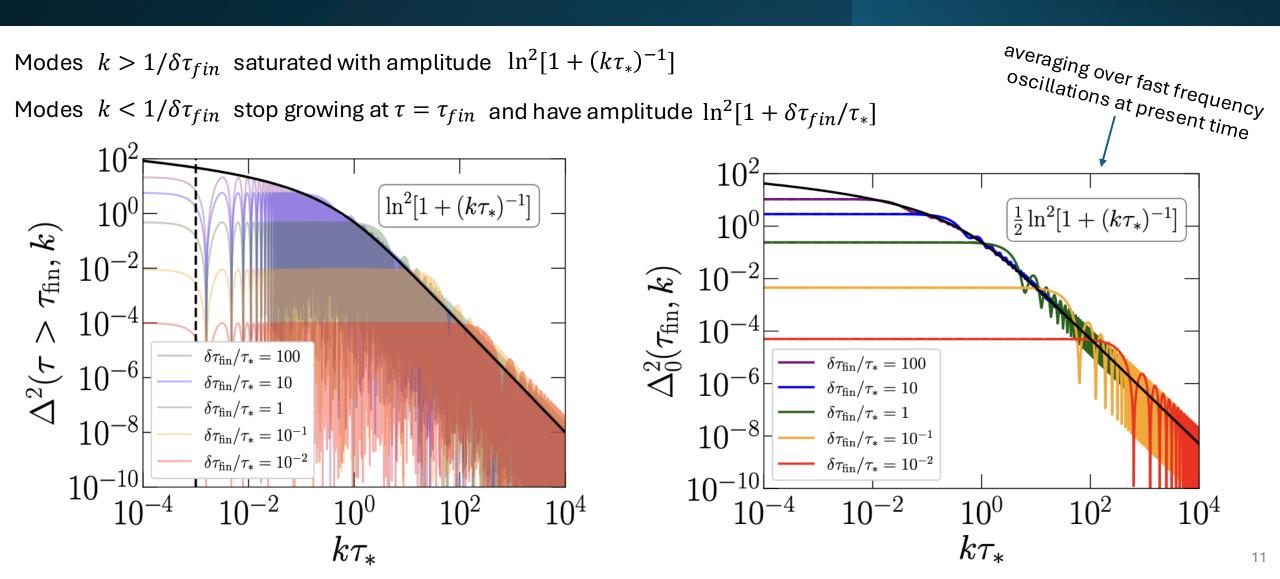
In flat spacetime we have instead $\Omega_{GW}(au_0,k)=3~\mathcal{T}_{GW}E_\Pi^*(k)~\Delta_{flat}^2(k, au_0)$

$$\Delta_{flat}(k,\tau) = \frac{1}{\tau_*} \int_{\tau_*}^{\min[\tau,\tau_{fin}]} \mathrm{d}\tilde{\tau} \cos k(\tau_0 - \tilde{\tau}) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{k\tau_*} \sin k(\tau - \tau_*) & \tau \leq \tau_{fin} \\ \frac{1}{k\tau_*} [\sin k(\tau - \tau_*) - \sin k(\tau - \tau_{fin})] & \tau > \tau_{fin} \end{cases}$$

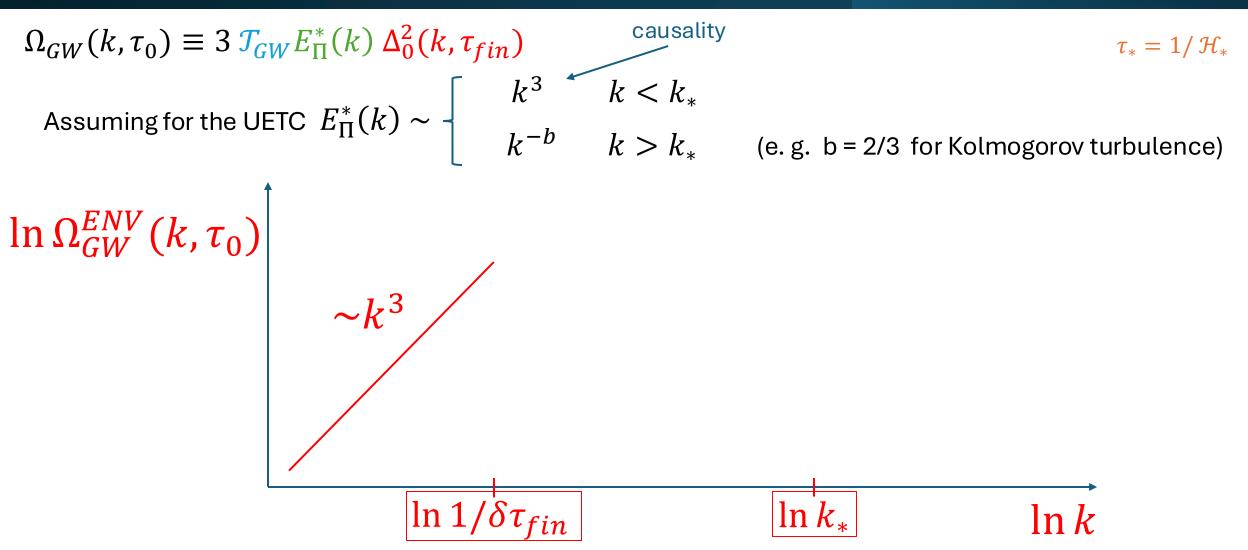
Averaging over fast frequency oscillations at present time $k au_0\gg 1$

$$\Omega_{GW}(\tau_0, k) \cong \frac{3}{2} \mathcal{T}_{GW} E_{\Pi}^*(k) [k\tau_*]^{-2} \left\{ \left[\cos k\tau_{fin} - \cos k\tau_* \right]^2 + \left[\sin k\tau_{fin} - \sin k\tau_* \right]^2 \right\}$$

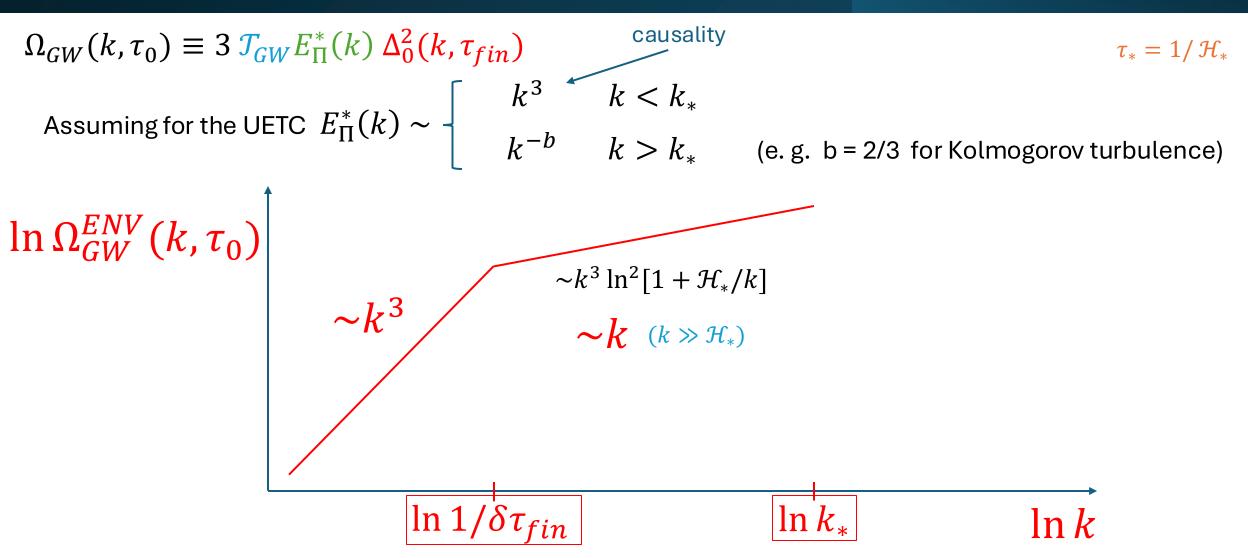




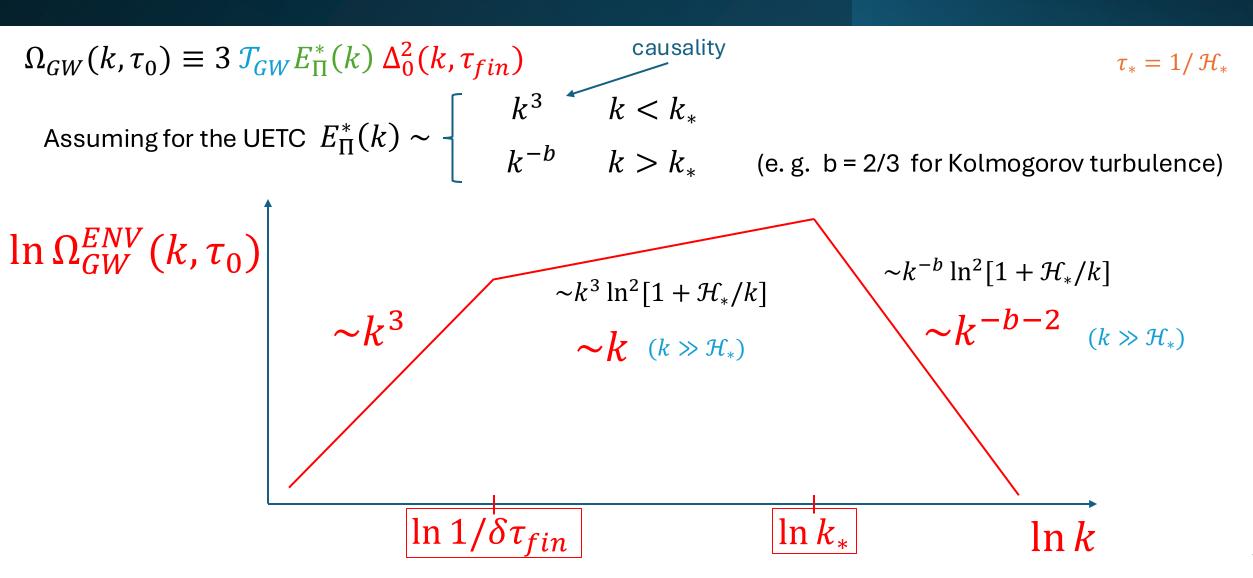
GW spectrum in the constant-in-time model



GW spectrum in the constant-in-time model



GW spectrum in the constant-in-time model



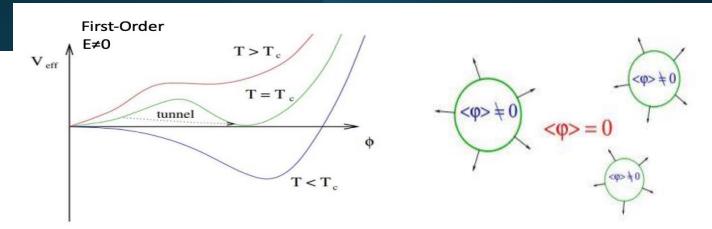
Applications of the constant-in-time model: First-Order Phase Transitions

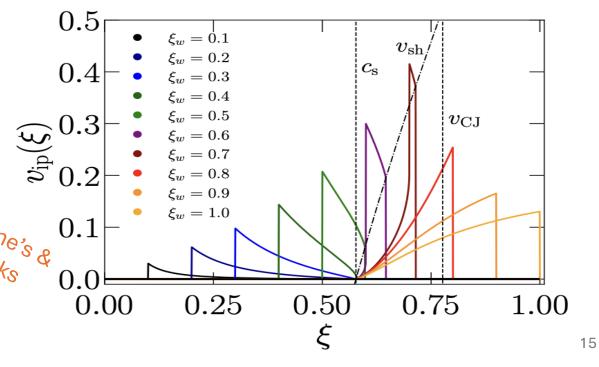
[Dine et al. hep-ph/9203203]

$$V_{1-Loop}^{eff}(\phi,T) \approx D(T^2 - T_0^2)\phi^2 - ET\phi^3 + \frac{\lambda}{4}\phi^4$$

$$T_{ij} \supset \partial_i \phi \ \partial_j \phi + \omega \ \gamma^2 v_i v_j - B_i B_j$$

- BUBBLE COLLISIONS
- SOUND WAVES (fluid compressional modes induced by bubble collisions)
- HD & MHD TURBULENCE (vortical motion produced after the development of nonlinearities)





Velocity Field Contributions

For a statistically homogeneous and isotropic field

$$\langle v_i(\mathbf{k})v_j^*(\mathbf{k}')\rangle = (2\pi)^6 \delta^3(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}') \left[\left(\delta_{ij} - \hat{k}_i \hat{k}_j\right) \frac{E_N^{\nu}(\mathbf{k})}{4\pi k^3} + \hat{k}_i \hat{k}_j \frac{E_L^{\nu}(\mathbf{k})}{2\pi k^3} + i\epsilon_{ijl} \hat{k}_l \frac{H^{\nu}(\mathbf{k})}{8\pi k^3} \right]$$

vortical

compressional

helical

Assuming a Gaussian velocity field such that we can use Wick's theorem for the anisotropic stresses UETC

$$E_{\Pi}(k) = E_{\Pi}^{vort}(k) + E_{\Pi}^{comp}(k) + E_{\Pi}^{mixed}(k) + E_{\Pi}^{hel}(k)$$

$$E_{\Pi}^{\text{vort}}(k) = \frac{k^3}{2\bar{\rho}^2} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{E_{\text{N}}(p)}{p} \, \mathrm{d}p \int_{-1}^1 \frac{E_{\text{N}}(\tilde{p})}{\tilde{p}^3} (1+z^2) \left[2 - \frac{p^2}{\tilde{p}^2} (1-z^2) \right] \, \mathrm{d}z \,, \quad E_{\Pi}^{\text{mix}}(k) = \frac{2k^3}{\bar{\rho}^2} \int_0^{\infty} p \, E_{\text{N}}(p) \, \mathrm{d}p \int_{-1}^1 \frac{E_{\text{L}}(\tilde{p})}{\tilde{p}^5} (1-z^4) \, \mathrm{d}z \,, \\ E_{\Pi}^{\text{comp}}(k) = \frac{2k^3}{\bar{\rho}^2} \int_0^{\infty} p \, E_{\text{L}}(p) \, \mathrm{d}p \int_{-1}^1 \frac{E_{\text{L}}(\tilde{p})}{\tilde{p}^5} (1-z^2)^2 \, \mathrm{d}z \,, \quad E_{\Pi}^{\text{hel}}(k) = \frac{k^3}{2\bar{\rho}^2} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{H(p)}{p} \, \mathrm{d}p \int_{-1}^1 \frac{H(\tilde{p})}{\tilde{p}^4} z \, (k-pz) \, \mathrm{d}z \,,$$

see Madeline's talk

Velocity Field Contributions: vortical component

[Monin & Yaglom – Statistical Fluid Mechanics]

For a purely vortical velocity field with a Von Kármán spectrum

$$E_N^{v}(k) \sim \begin{cases} k^5 & (k/k_{peak} \to 0) & Batchelor \\ k^{-2/3} & (k/k_{peak} \to \infty) & Kolmogorov \end{cases} \qquad E_\Pi(k) \sim \begin{cases} k^3 & (k/k_* \to 0) \\ k^{-2/3} & (k/k_* \to \infty) \end{cases}$$

$$E_{\Pi}(k) \sim \begin{cases} k^3 & (k/k_* \to 0) \\ k^{-2/3} & (k/k_* \to \infty) \end{cases}$$

Velocity Field Contributions: vortical component

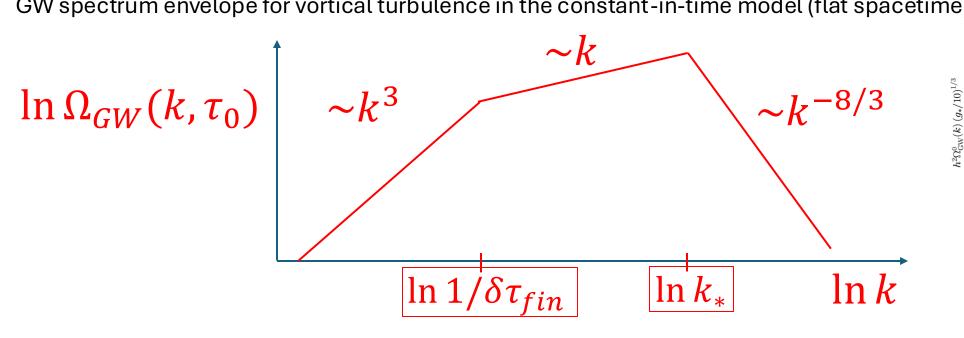
[Monin & Yaglom – Statistical Fluid Mechanics]

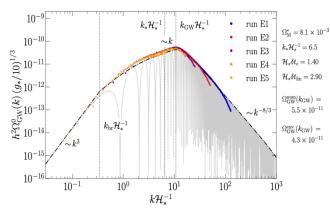
For a purely vortical velocity field with a Von Kármán spectrum

$$E_N^{v}(k) \sim \begin{cases} k^5 & (k/k_{peak} \to 0) & Batchelor \\ k^{-2/3} & (k/k_{peak} \to \infty) & Kolmogorov \end{cases} \qquad E_\Pi(k) \sim \begin{cases} k^3 & (k/k_* \to 0) \\ k^{-2/3} & (k/k_* \to \infty) \end{cases}$$

$$E_{\Pi}(k) \sim \begin{cases} k^3 & (k/k_* \to 0) \\ k^{-2/3} & (k/k_* \to \infty) \end{cases}$$

GW spectrum envelope for vortical turbulence in the constant-in-time model (flat spacetime)





Roper Pol et al. [2201.05630]

Relativistic hydrodynamics simulations

Fluid dynamics implementation in CosmoLattice
see Kenneth's talk

Figueroa et al. [2006.15122]

$$T_{\mu\nu}^{fluid} = (\rho + p) \, u_{\mu} u_{\nu} + p \, g_{\mu\nu} \longrightarrow \partial_{\mu} T^{\mu\nu} = 0$$
 Conservation form (solving for $T^{0\mu}$)

NON-CONSERVATION FORM

$$\partial_{\tau} \ln \tilde{\rho} = -\frac{1+c_s^2}{1-c_s^2 u^2} \left[\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{u} + \frac{1-c_s^2}{1+c_s^2} (\boldsymbol{u} \cdot \nabla) \ln \tilde{\rho} \right] + \frac{1+u^2}{1-c_s^2 u^2} (1 - 3c_s^2) \mathcal{H} + \frac{1}{1-c_s^2 u^2} \left[\frac{\tilde{f}_{tot}^0}{\tilde{\rho}} (1 + u^2) - 2 \boldsymbol{u} \cdot \frac{\tilde{f}_{tot}}{\tilde{\rho}} \right]$$

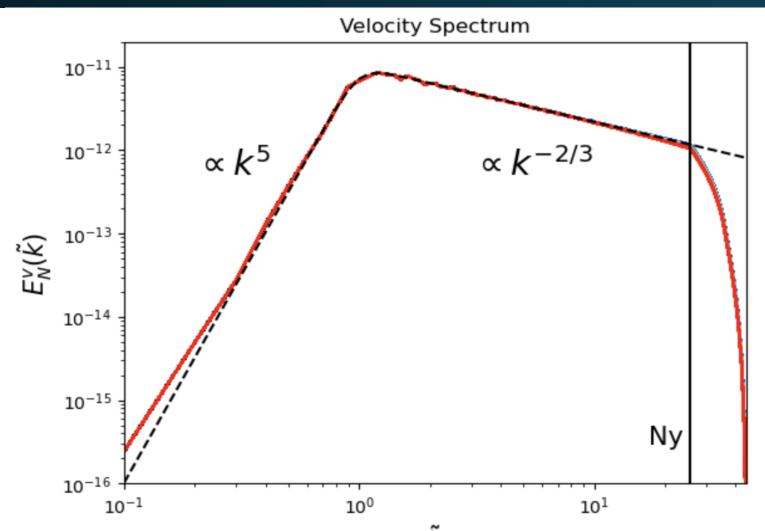
$$\partial_{\tau} \boldsymbol{u} = -(\boldsymbol{u} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla}) \boldsymbol{u} + \frac{c_s^2 \, \boldsymbol{u}}{(1 - c_s^2 u^2) \gamma^2} \left[\boldsymbol{\nabla} \cdot \boldsymbol{u} + \frac{1 - c_s^2}{1 + c_s^2} (\boldsymbol{u} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla}) \ln \tilde{\rho} + \frac{3c_s^2 - 1}{c_s^2} \mathcal{H} - \frac{\tilde{f}_{tot}^0}{c_s^2 \tilde{\rho}} + \frac{2}{1 + c_s^2} \frac{\boldsymbol{u} \cdot \tilde{\boldsymbol{f}}_H}{\tilde{\rho}} \right]$$
timestepping scheme
$$-\frac{c_s^2}{1 + c_s^2} \frac{\boldsymbol{\nabla} \ln \tilde{\rho}}{\gamma^2} + \frac{1}{1 + c_s^2} \frac{\tilde{\boldsymbol{f}}_{tot}}{\tilde{\rho} \gamma^2}$$

timestepping scheme

Runge Kutta order 3 (Williamson 1980)

finite differences derivative scheme order 6

«Relativistic magnetohydrodynamics in the early Universe» Alberto Roper Pol & ASM [2501.05732]



Subrelativistic case - numerical setup

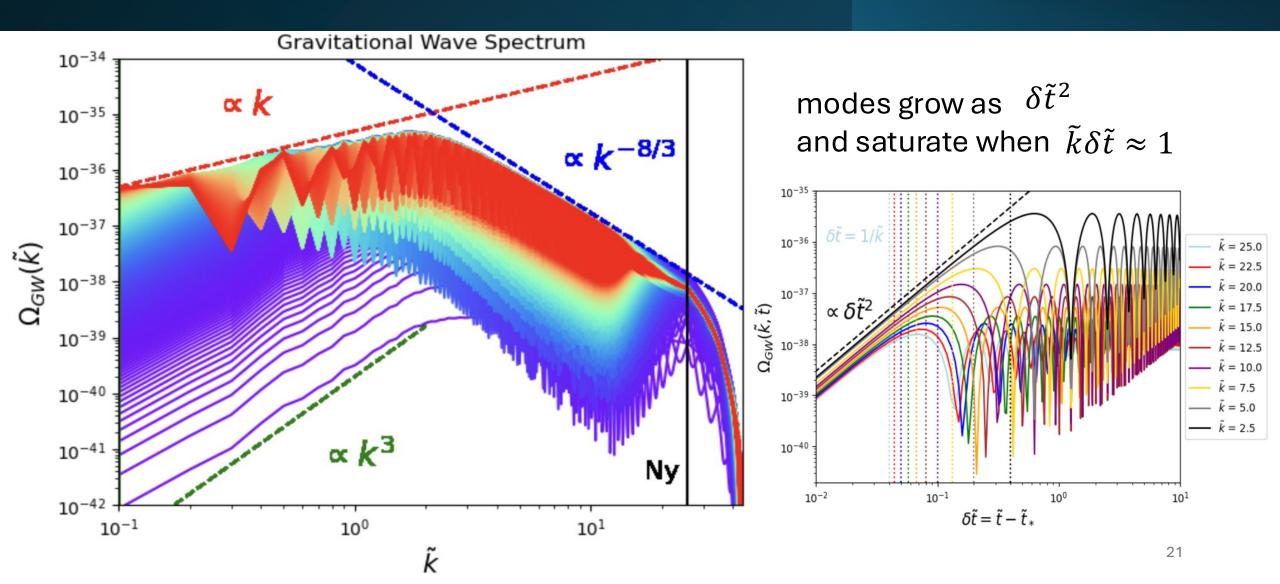
$$N = 512$$
, $\tilde{k}_{IR} = 0.1$, $\tilde{k}_{Ny} = \frac{\tilde{k}_{IR}N}{2} = 25.6$,

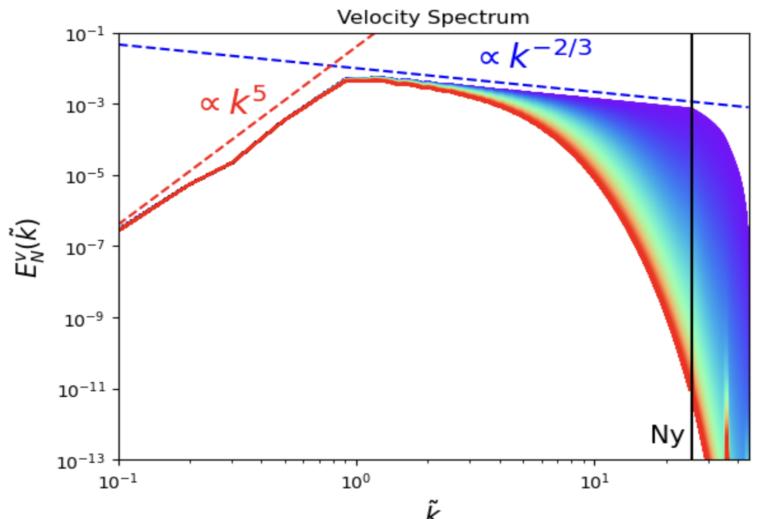
$$\tilde{t}_{fin} - \tilde{t}_* = \frac{1}{\tilde{k}_{IR}} = 10$$
, $d\tilde{t} = 10^{-3}$, $\frac{d\tilde{t}}{d\tilde{x}} < 0.01$,

$$v_{rms} \approx 4 \times 10^{-6}$$
, $viscosity = \frac{v_{rms}}{\tilde{k}_{Ny}} \approx 10^{-7}$

$$\partial_{\tau} \boldsymbol{u} = \dots + \eta \, \nabla^2 \boldsymbol{u}$$

$$\delta \tau_{eddy} \sim 10^7$$
 almost no decay of the source





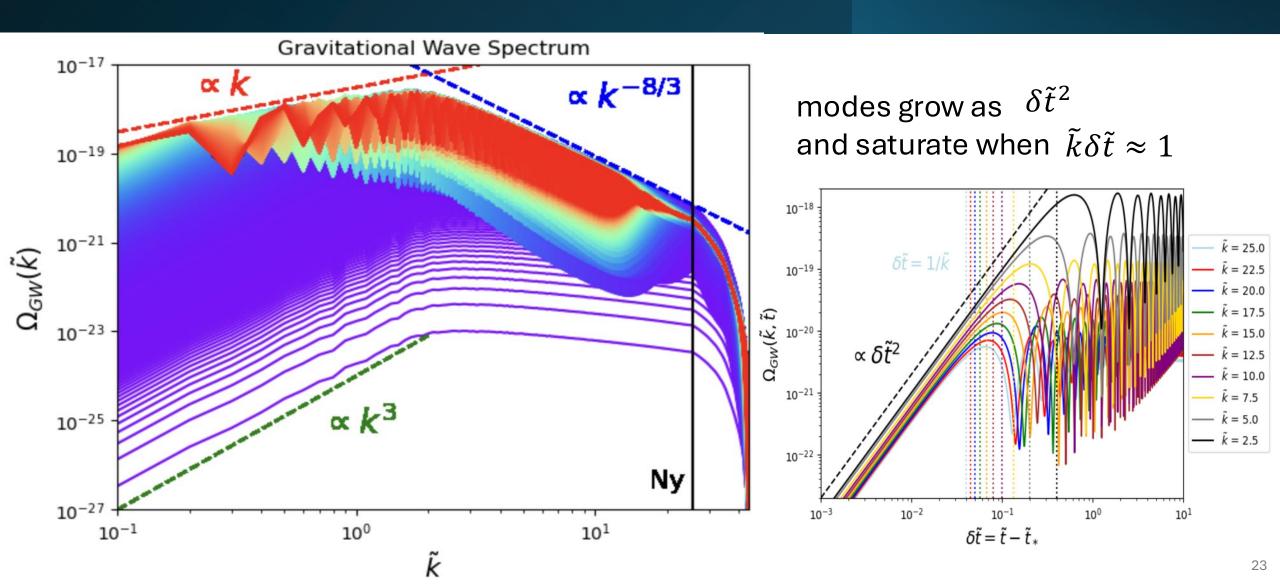
Relativistic case - numerical setup

$$N = 512$$
, $\tilde{k}_{IR} = 0.1$, $\tilde{k}_{Ny} = \frac{\tilde{k}_{IR}N}{2} = 25.6$,

$$\tilde{t}_{fin} - \tilde{t}_* = \frac{1}{\tilde{k}_{IR}} = 10, \quad d\tilde{t} = 10^{-4}, \ \frac{d\tilde{t}}{d\tilde{x}} < 0.001,$$

$$v_{rms} \approx 0.1$$
, $viscosity = \frac{v_{rms}}{\tilde{k}_{Ny}} \approx 10^{-2}$

$$\frac{\delta au_{eddy}{\sim} 10^2}{\longrightarrow}$$
 visible decay of the source



Velocity Field Contributions: compressional component

Hindmarsh et al. [1304.2433]

Weak and moderately strong ($\alpha \leq 1$) First-Order Phase Transitions \rightarrow sound wave phase after collisions Sound-shell model for GW production from sound waves (see Mark's talk)

$$\Omega_{GW}(k,\tau_0) \equiv 3 \, \mathcal{T}_{GW} \int dz \, dP \, f(P,\tilde{P}) E_L^{\nu}(P) E_L^{\nu}(\tilde{P}) \, \Delta_{SSM}^2(k,P,\tilde{P},\tau_{fin}) \qquad z = \frac{k \cdot P}{kP}, \quad \tilde{P} = k - P$$

$$\Delta_{SSm}^{2}(k, P, \tilde{P}, \tau_{fin}) = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{n m = \pm 1} \Delta_{mn}^{2} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{l} \Delta_{mn}^{2}(\hat{p}_{mn}) = \left[\operatorname{Ci}(\hat{p}_{mn}\tau_{fin}) - \operatorname{Ci}(\hat{p}_{mn}\tau_{*})\right]^{2} + \left[\operatorname{Si}(\hat{p}_{mn}\tau_{fin}) - \operatorname{Si}(\hat{p}_{mn}\tau_{*})\right]^{2} \\ \hat{p}_{mn} = (p + m\tilde{p})c_{s} + nk \end{array}$$

$$m = 1, n = 1 \longrightarrow dominant contribution$$

Hindmarsh & Hijazi [1909.10040] Roper Pol, Procacci, Caprini [2308.12943]

Velocity Field Contributions: compressional component

Hindmarsh et al. [1304.2433]

Weak and moderately strong ($\alpha \leq 1$) First-Order Phase Transitions \rightarrow sound wave phase after collisions Sound-shell model for GW production from sound waves (see Mark's talk)

$$\Omega_{GW}(k,\tau_0) \equiv 3 \, \mathcal{T}_{GW} \int dz \, dP \, f(P,\tilde{P}) E_L^{v}(P) E_L^{v}(\tilde{P}) \, \Delta_{SSM}^2(k,P,\tilde{P},\tau_{fin}) \qquad z = \frac{k \cdot P}{kP}, \quad \tilde{P} = k - P$$

$$\Delta_{SSM}^{2}(k, P, \tilde{P}, \tau_{fin}) = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\substack{n m = +1}} \Delta_{mn}^{2} \longrightarrow \Delta_{mn}^{2}(\hat{p}_{mn}) = \left[\operatorname{Ci}(\hat{p}_{mn}\tau_{fin}) - \operatorname{Ci}(\hat{p}_{mn}\tau_{*})\right]^{2} + \left[\operatorname{Si}(\hat{p}_{mn}\tau_{fin}) - \operatorname{Si}(\hat{p}_{mn}\tau_{*})\right]^{2}$$

$$\hat{p}_{mn} = (p + m\tilde{p})c_{s} + nk$$

 $m = 1, n = 1 \longrightarrow dominant contribution$

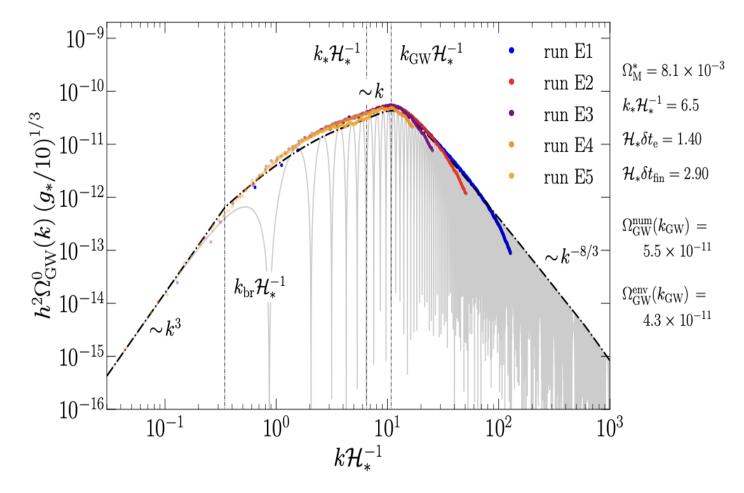
Hindmarsh & Hijazi [1909.10040] Roper Pol, Procacci, Caprini [2308.12943]

$$m = -1, n = \pm 1 \qquad \qquad \text{if the velocity spectrum is very peaked, i. e.} \quad E_L^v(P) \approx \delta(P - k_*) \,, \text{ we have approximately} \\ p = \tilde{p} = k_* \quad \rightarrow \quad \tilde{p}_{mn} = \pm k \quad \rightarrow \quad \Delta_{ssm}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \Big\{ \Big[\mathrm{Ci} \big(k, \tau_f \big) - \mathrm{Ci} (k, \tau_*) \Big]^2 + \Big[\mathrm{Si} \big(k, \tau_f \big) - \mathrm{Si} (k, \tau_*) \Big]^2 \Big\}$$

$$\Omega_{GW}(k,\tau_0)\equiv 3\,\mathcal{T}_{GW}E_\Pi^*(k)\,\Delta_{SSM}^2$$
 same result as in the constant-in-time model (see Madeline's talk)

Magnetic Field Contribution

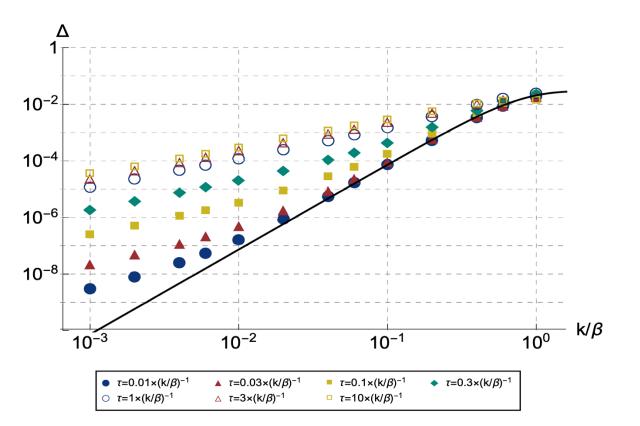
- In a First-Order Phase Transition scalar field gradients can generate magnetic fields (see Patel & Vachaspati [2108.05357]) and/or the pre-existing magnetic fields can be amplified through vortical hydrodynamic turbulence resulting, due to the high conductivity of the primordial plasma (see Arnold, Moore & Yaffe 2003), in MHD turbulence
- Magnetic fields can hence be a source of Gravitational Waves and, being fully vortical, their contribution can be described with the constant-in-time model as shown in numerical simulations (see Axel's talk and Roper Pol et al. [2201.05630])



Which other contributions can be described with the constant-in-time model?

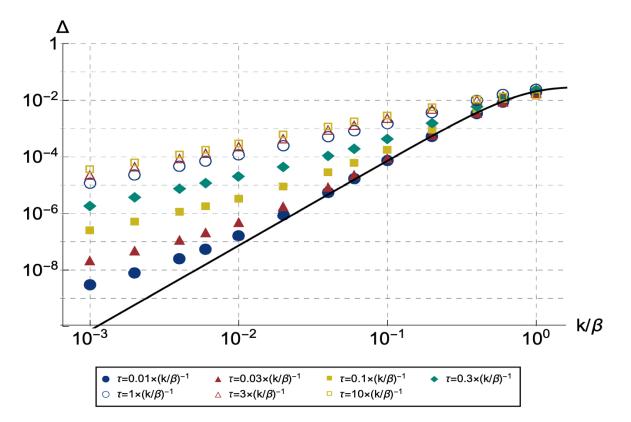
Scalar bubble collisions (see Jinno & Takimoto [1707.03111])

GW spectrum goes from $\propto k^3$ to $\propto k$ in the long-lasting limit of the collided bubbles



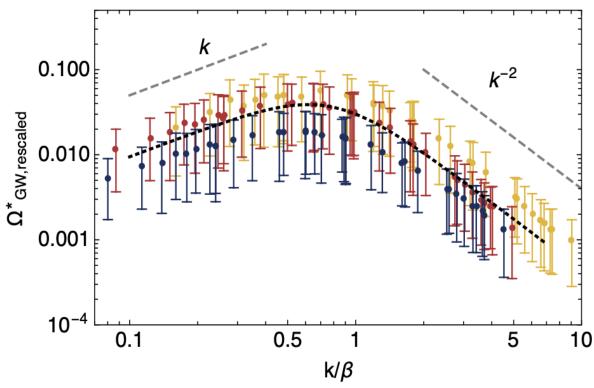
Which other contributions can be described with the constant-in-time model?

Scalar bubble collisions (see Jinno & Takimoto [1707.03111]) GW spectrum goes from $\propto k^3$ to $\propto k$ in the long-lasting limit of the collided bubbles



Feebly interacting particles (see Jinno, Shakya & van de Vis [2211.06405])

GW spectrum with super-Hubble k^3 scaling and intermediate k scaling



Beyond the constant-in-time model

When the source is decaying faster and the GW spectrum cannot be described with the constant-in-time model there are improved models leading to a different GW spectrum (mostly in the IR)

Coherent decay model

(modeling the decay of the amplitude and peak scale of the source according to its specific evolution)

$$E_{\Pi}(k,\tau_1,\tau_2) = \sqrt{E_{\Pi}(k,\tau_1)} \sqrt{E_{\Pi}(k,\tau_2)}$$

$$\Omega_{GW}(k,\tau_0) \equiv 3 \, \mathcal{T}_{GW} \left[\int_{\tau_*}^{\tau_f} \frac{d\tau_1}{\tau_1} \sqrt{E_{\Pi}(k,\tau_1,\tau_1)} \cos k(\tau_0 - \tau_1) \right]^2$$



$$k_*(t) = k_* \left(1 + \frac{\delta t}{\delta t_e}\right)^{-q}, \qquad A(t) = A \left(1 + \frac{\delta t}{\delta t_e}\right)^{-p}$$

Kraichnan decorrelation (see Auclair et al. [2205.02588])

GW spectrum still compatible with the one in the constant-in-time model

$$E_{\Pi}(k,\tau_1,\tau_2) = E_{\Pi}(k) \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}k^2v_{sw}^2(\tau_1 - \tau_2)^2\right]$$

Conclusions

- Studying the UETC of the anisotropic stresses of the source is important to understand the GW spectrum from stochastic processes in the early Universe
- Various contributions to the GW spectrum produced in a First-Order Phase Transition show a universal k^3 and k behavior which can be described with the constant-in-time model
- The constant-in-time model applies in general when the source is constant or slowly decaying with respect to the time it takes to source GWs (which depends on the specific scale of interest)
- Decaying sources can be described by applying extensions of the constant-in-time model (e. g. coherent decay and Kraichnan decorrelation)
- Fluid compressional modes (like sound waves) require a different description for the UETC

Thanks for your attention!