



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

Gravitational waves from the Hagedorn phase

Gonzalo Villa de la Viña

Based on 2310.11494 [hep-th] and WIP

With A. R. Frey, R. Mahanta, A. Maharana, F. Muia and F. Quevedo

13/06/2024, SUSY'24, Madrid, Spain

On gravitational decoupling

Gravity is weak

On gravitational decoupling

Gravity is weak



Can't reach energies
to test QG in the lab

On gravitational decoupling

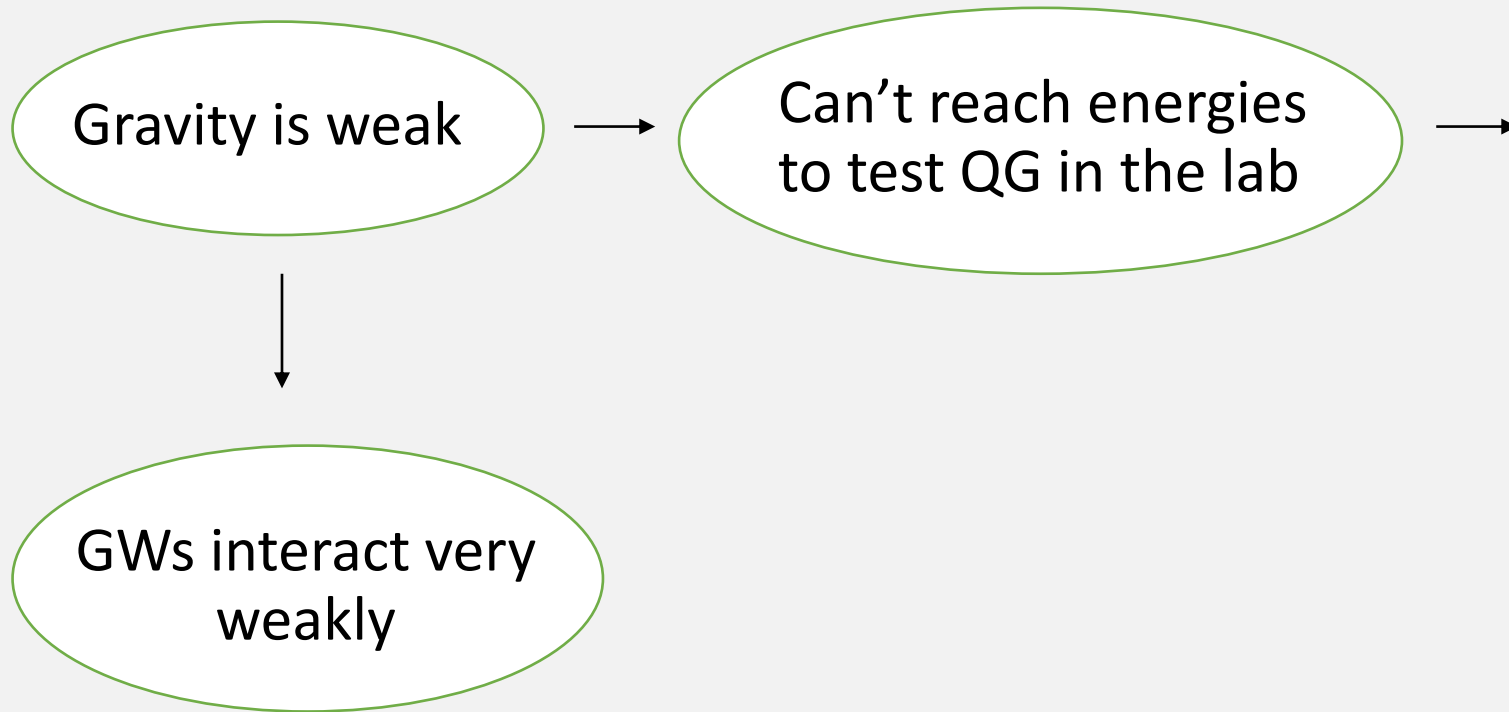
Gravity is weak



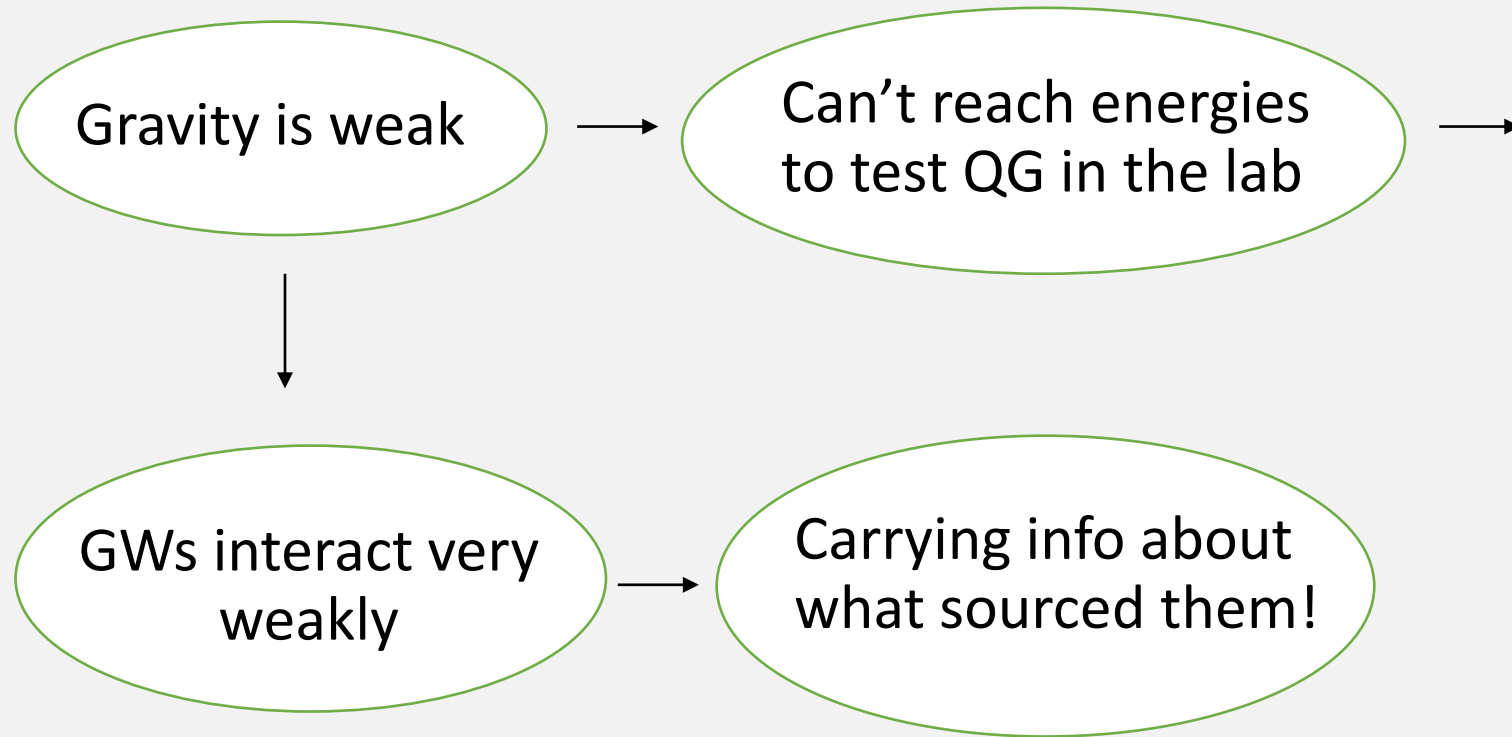
Can't reach energies
to test QG in the lab



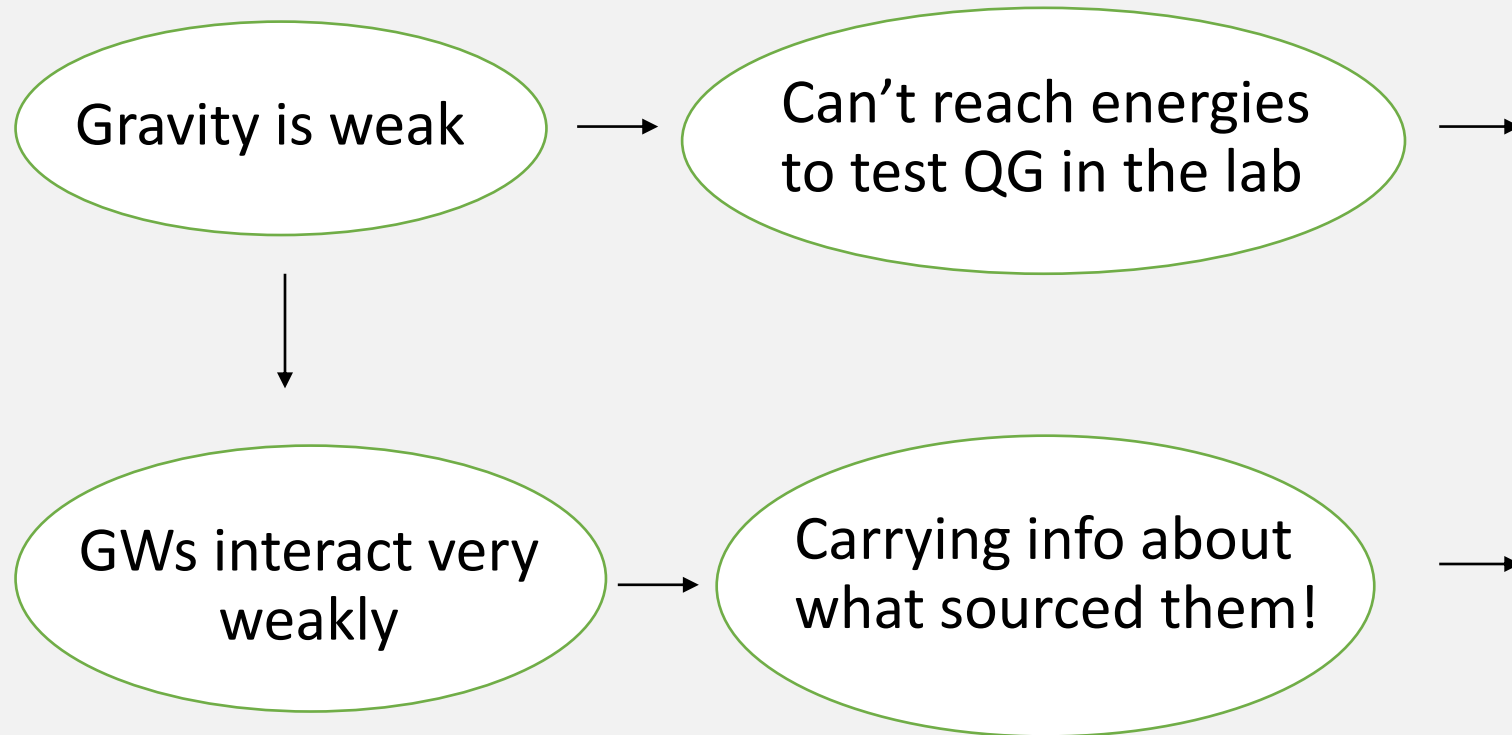
On gravitational decoupling



On gravitational decoupling



On gravitational decoupling



The early Universe as a GW factory

High-energy processes in the early Universe source high-frequency GWs

The early Universe as a GW factory

High-energy processes in the early Universe source high-frequency GWs

Challenges and opportunities of gravitational-wave searches at MHz to GHz frequencies

[Nancy Aggarwal](#) (Northwestern U.), [Odylio D. Aguiar](#) (Sao Jose, INPE), [Andreas Bauswein](#) (Darmstadt, GSI), [Giancarlo Cella](#) (INFN, Pisa), [Sebastian Clesse](#) (Brussels U.) [Show All\(25\)](#)

Nov 24, 2020

 238 citations

(take-home: not a crazy theorist idea)

See also: Roshan - White '24

The early Universe as a GW factory

High-energy processes in the early Universe source high-frequency GWs

Challenges and opportunities of gravitational-wave searches at MHz to GHz frequencies

[Nancy Aggarwal](#) (Northwestern U.), [Odylio D. Aguiar](#) (Sao Jose, INPE), [Andreas Bauswein](#) (Darmstadt, GSI), [Giancarlo Cella](#) (INFN, Pisa), [Sebastian Clesse](#) (Brussels U.) [Show All\(25\)](#)

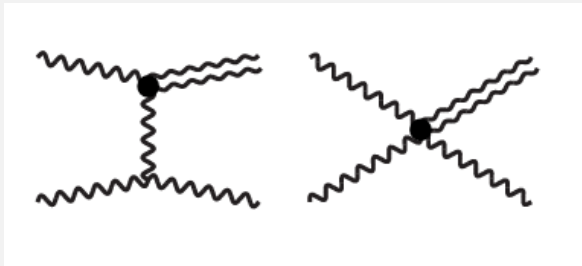
Nov 24, 2020

↻ 238 citations

(take-home: not a crazy theorist idea)

See also: Roshan - White '24

Example: the SM



The early Universe as a GW factory

High-energy processes in the early Universe source high-frequency GWs

Challenges and opportunities of gravitational-wave searches at MHz to GHz frequencies

Nancy Aggarwal (Northwestern U.), Odylio D. Aguiar (Sao Jose, INPE), Andreas Bauswein (Darmstadt, GSI), Giancarlo Cella (INFN, Pisa), Sebastian Clesse (Brussels U.) [Show All\(25\)](#)

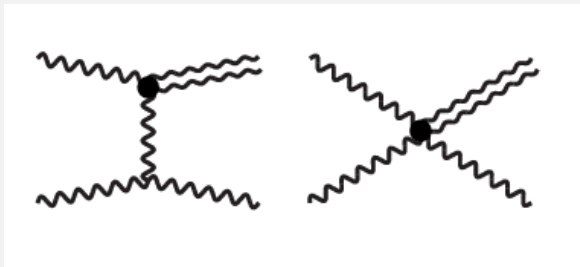
Nov 24, 2020

↻ 238 citations

(take-home: not a crazy theorist idea)

See also: Roshan - White '24

Example: the SM



$$\frac{d}{d \log a} \left(\frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}^{(i)}}{d \log k} \right) \sim T_i \frac{\rho^{(i)} a(t)^4}{\sqrt{g_{*,\text{tot}}}} F(\hat{k}) .$$

Ghiglieri-Laine'15

Ghiglieri-Jackson-Laine-Zhu'20

Ringwald- Schütte-Engel -Tamarit'20

Muia-Quevedo-Schachner-GV'23

The early Universe as a GW factory

High-energy processes in the early Universe source high-frequency GWs

Challenges and opportunities of gravitational-wave searches at MHz to GHz frequencies

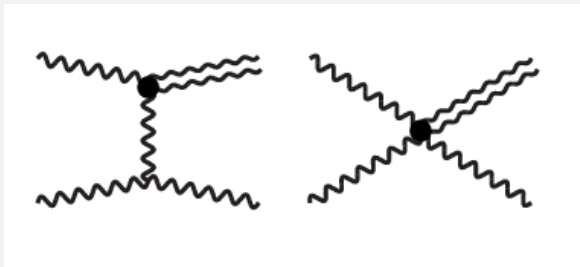
Nancy Aggarwal (Northwestern U.), Odylio D. Aguiar (Sao Jose, INPE), Andreas Bauswein (Darmstadt, GSI), Giancarlo Cella (INFN, Pisa), Sebastian Clesse (Brussels U.) [Show All\(25\)](#)

Nov 24, 2020

↻ 238 citations

(take-home: not a crazy theorist idea)
See also: Roshan - White '24

Example: the SM



$$\frac{d}{d \log a} \left(\frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}^{(i)}}{d \log k} \right) \sim \underline{T_i} \frac{\rho^{(i)} a(t)^4}{\sqrt{g_{*,\text{tot}}}} F(\hat{k})$$

UV sensitive!

Ghiglieri-Laine'15
Ghiglieri-Jackson-Laine-Zhu'20
Ringwald- Schütte-Engel -Tamarit'20
Muia-Quevedo-Schachner-GV'23

An opportunity for strings?

At energies of order of the (local) string scale, systems enter a *Hagedorn phase*.

An opportunity for strings?

At energies of order of the (local) string scale, systems enter a *Hagedorn phase*.

- At sufficiently high energy, the density of states in any compact background allowing for a worldsheet CFT description reads:

$$d(E) = \frac{e^{\beta_H E}}{E}, \quad \beta_H \sim \sqrt{\alpha'}$$

Brandenberger - Vafa'89

An opportunity for strings?

At energies of order of the (local) string scale, systems enter a *Hagedorn phase*.

- At sufficiently high energy, the density of states in any compact background allowing for a worldsheet CFT description reads:

$$d(E) = \frac{e^{\beta_H E}}{E}, \quad \beta_H \sim \sqrt{\alpha'}$$

Brandenberger – Vafa '89

- The thermodynamics is well understood.

Abel-Barbón-Kogan-Rabinovici '99

Deo-Jain-Tan '88, '89, '91

- Equilibrium distributions in 3D noncompact directions with branes:

$$n_o(l) \simeq V_{3D} n_d^2 e^{-l/L}, \quad n_c(l) \simeq V_{3D} \frac{e^{-l/L}}{l^{5/2}}. \quad 1/L = \beta - \beta_H > 0.$$

A Hagedorn phase in cosmology

The thermodynamics is dominated by highly excited open string degrees of freedom.



A Hagedorn phase in cosmology

The thermodynamics is dominated by highly excited open string degrees of freedom.

An explicit analysis with Boltzmann equations for typical strings reveals that:

- They source the expansion of the Universe.
- They reach thermal equilibrium (nontrivial with expansion!).
- They source out of equilibrium gravitons.
- They eventually decay into SM degrees of freedom.



A Hagedorn phase in cosmology

The thermodynamics is dominated by highly excited open string degrees of freedom.

An explicit analysis with Boltzmann equations for typical strings reveals that:

- They source the expansion of the Universe.
- They reach thermal equilibrium (nontrivial with expansion!).
- They source out of equilibrium gravitons.
- They eventually decay into SM degrees of freedom.

This talk



A Hagedorn phase in cosmology

The thermodynamics is dominated by highly excited open string degrees of freedom.

An explicit analysis with Boltzmann equations for typical strings reveals that:

- They source the expansion of the Universe.
- They reach thermal equilibrium (nontrivial with expansion!).
- They source out of equilibrium gravitons.
- They eventually decay into SM degrees of freedom.

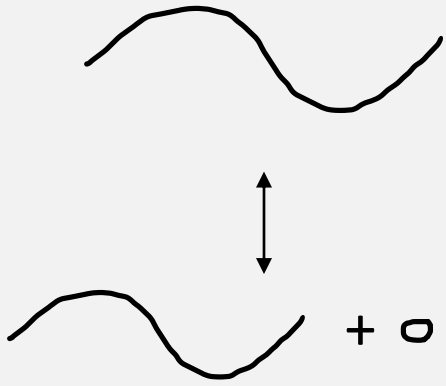
This talk

Note: *do not need (but compatible with) inflation.*



Graviton production rate: what to compute?

In a thermodynamic setup we are interested in *typical* behaviour.

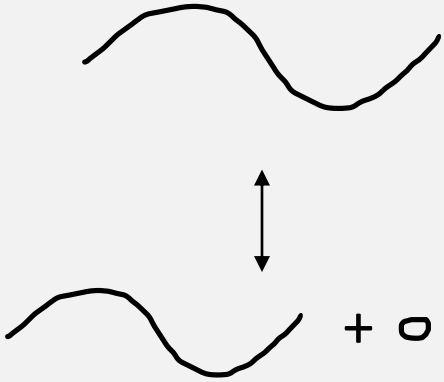


Graviton production rate: what to compute?

In a thermodynamic setup we are interested in *typical* behaviour.

Consider the averaged semi-inclusive decay rate:

$$\frac{F(N, N_2)}{\mathcal{G}(N)} \equiv \frac{1}{\mathcal{G}(N)} \sum_{\Phi_N} \sum_{\Phi_{N_2}} |\langle \Phi_{N_2} | V_1(k) | \Phi_N \rangle|^2$$



Graviton production rate: what to compute?

In a thermodynamic setup we are interested in *typical* behaviour.

Consider the averaged semi-inclusive decay rate:

$$\frac{F(N, N_2)}{\mathcal{G}(N)} \equiv \frac{1}{\mathcal{G}(N)} \sum_{\Phi_N} \sum_{\Phi_{N_2}} |\langle \Phi_{N_2} | V_1(k) | \Phi_N \rangle|^2$$

These sums can be replaced by a trace by inserting projectors:

$$F(N, N_2) = \oint_C \frac{dz}{z} z^{-N} \oint_{C_2} \frac{dz_2}{z_2} z_2^{-N_2} \text{Tr} \left[z^{\hat{N}} V_1^\dagger(k, 1) z_2^{\hat{N}} V_1(k, 1) \right]$$

Graviton production from a highly excited string

After the dust settles, we find a greybody spectrum at the Hagedorn temperature:

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{l \rightarrow g}}{d\omega dl} \simeq l \left(\frac{M_s}{M_p} \right)^2 \omega^2 \frac{e^{-\omega/T_H}}{(1 - e^{-\omega/2T_H})^2},$$

Graviton production from a highly excited string

After the dust settles, we find a greybody spectrum at the Hagedorn temperature:

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{l \rightarrow g}}{d\omega dl} \simeq l \left(\frac{M_s}{M_p} \right)^2 \omega^2 \frac{e^{-\omega/T_H}}{(1 - e^{-\omega/2T_H})^2},$$

The contribution to the GW spectrum per e-fold thus reads:

$$\frac{d\rho_g}{dt} + 4H\rho_g = \int_{l_c}^{\infty} \omega \frac{d\Gamma_{l \rightarrow g}}{d\omega dl} \tilde{n}_o(l) dl = \left(\frac{M_s}{M_p} \right)^2 I \left(\frac{\omega}{T_H} \right) \rho_o M_s,$$

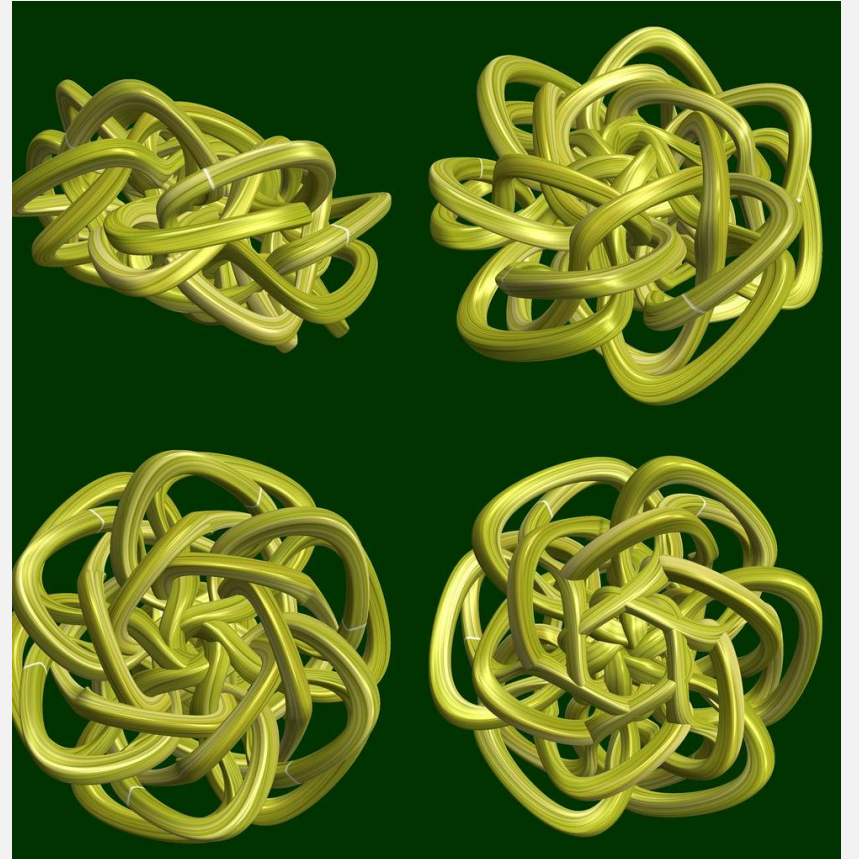
Gravitational waves from the Hagedorn phase

In terms of the fractional energy density and fidutial values, we find:

$$h^2\Omega_{\text{GW}} \simeq 10^{-6} \left(\frac{n_d}{1}\right) \left(\frac{G}{0.32} \frac{X}{1}\right)^4 \left(\frac{M_s}{10^{15} \text{ GeV}}\right) \left(\frac{\omega_0}{100\text{GHz} \cdot X}\right)^{5/2} I\left(\frac{\omega_0}{100\text{GHz} \cdot X}, \frac{L_s}{L_{\text{end}}}\right)$$

Conclusions and future directions

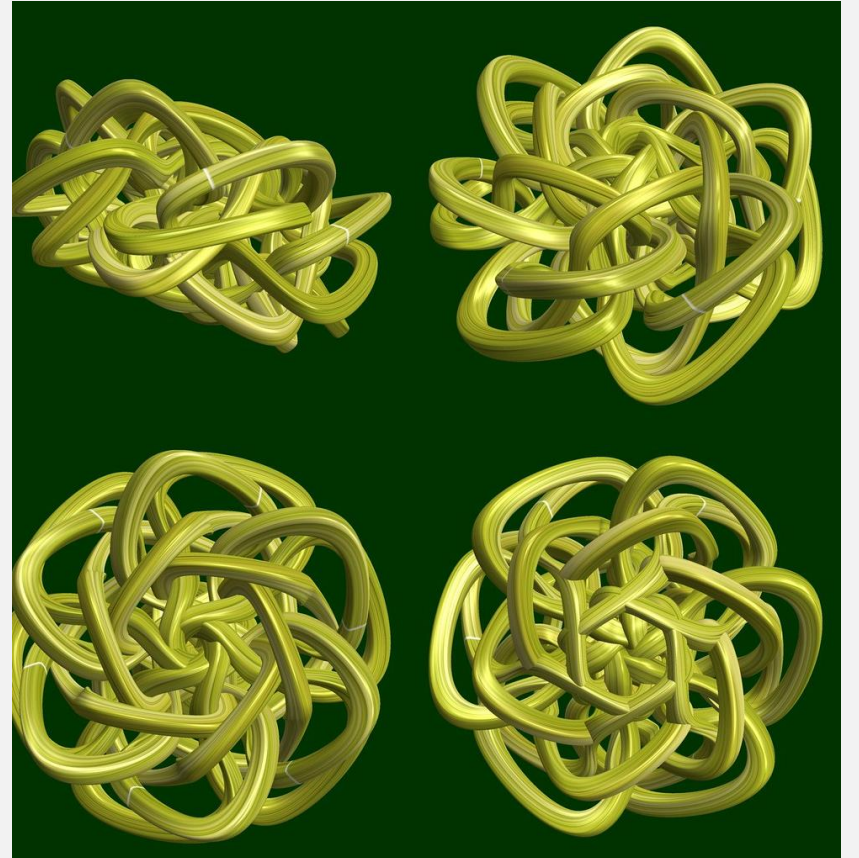
- *GWs at large frequencies provide an incomparable opportunity to test (very) High Energy Physics.*
- Our setup predicts more model-dependent remnants, including closed string moduli and axions. It would be interesting to study further implications of this scenario for DM, etc.
- We have, at the moment, ignored the important issue of moduli stabilization. This is an obvious future direction.



Conclusions and future directions

- *GWs at large frequencies provide an incomparable opportunity to test (very) High Energy Physics.*
- Our setup predicts more model-dependent remnants, including closed string moduli and axions. It would be interesting to study further implications of this scenario for DM, etc.
- We have, at the moment, ignored the important issue of moduli stabilization. This is an obvious future direction.

THANK YOU!



Bonus: Proposed detectors (Dec. 2020)

Technical concept	Operational Frequency
Spherical resonant mass , Sec. 4.1.3 [291]	
Mini-GRAIL (built) [298]	2942.9 Hz
Schenberg antenna (built) [295]	3.2 kHz
Laser interferometers	
NEMO (devised), Sec. 4.1.1 [27, 281]	[1 – 2.5] kHz
0.75 m interferometer (built), Sec. 4.1.2 [286, 343]	100 MHz
Holometer (built), Sec. 4.1.2 [288]	[1 – 13] MHz
Optically levitated sensors , Sec. 4.2.1 [62]	
1-meter prototype (under construction)	(10 – 100) kHz
100-meter instrument (devised)	(10 – 100) kHz
Inverse Gertsenshtein effect , Sec. 4.2.2	
GW-OSQAR II (built) [306]	$(2.7 - 14) \cdot 10^{14}$ Hz
GW-CAST (built) [306]	$(5 - 12) \cdot 10^{18}$ Hz
GW-ALPs II (devised) [306]	$\sim 10^{15}$ Hz

Adapted from Aggarwal et al'20
Sensitivities *not shown* (but challenging!)

Resonant polarization rotation , Sec. 4.2.4 [317]	
Cruise's detector (devised) [318]	$(0.1 - 10^5)$ GHz
Cruise & Ingley's detector (prototype) [319, 320]	100 MHz
Enhanced magnetic conversion (theory), Sec. 4.2.5 [324]	~ 10 GHz
Bulk acoustic wave resonators (built), Sec. 4.2.6 [330, 331]	(MHz – GHz)
Superconducting rings , (theory), Sec. 4.2.7 [332, 333]	10 GHz
Microwave cavities , Sec. 4.2.8	
Caves' detector (devised) [335]	500 Hz
Reece's 1st detector (built) [336]	1 MHz
Reece's 2nd detector (built) [337]	10 GHz
Pegoraro's detector (devised) [338]	(1 – 10) GHz
Graviton-magnon resonance	(8 – 14) GHz

The early Universe as a GW producer