

The gravitational wave power spectrum from sound waves: Speed of sound and General Relativity beyond the leading order

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UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

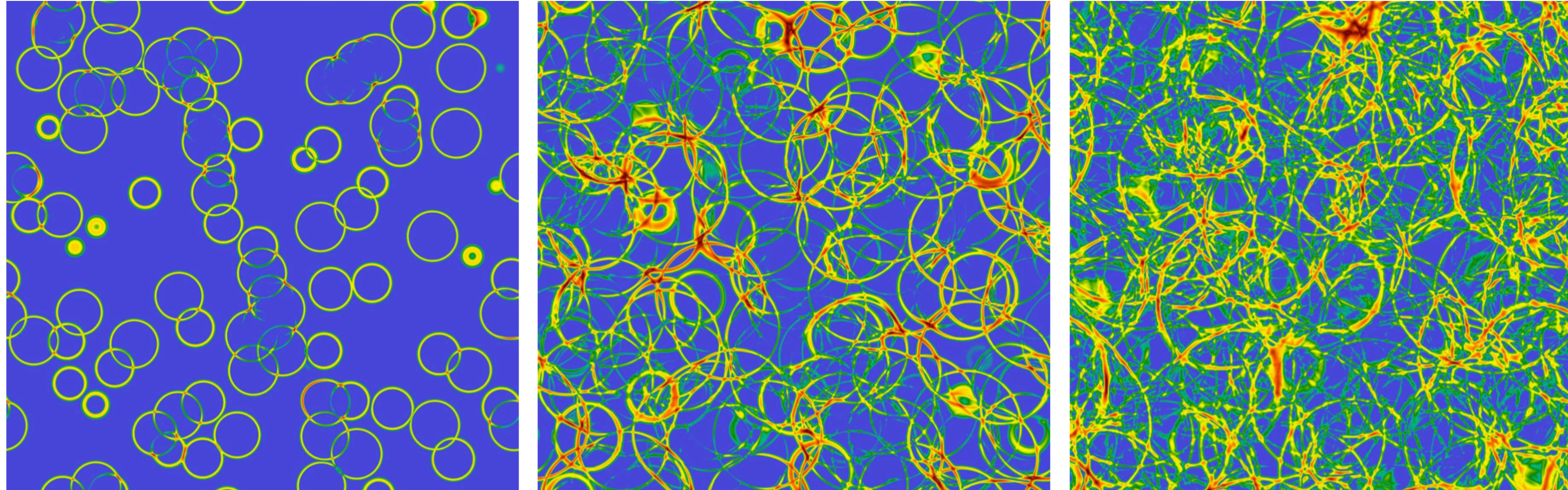
11th LISA Cosmology Working Group Workshop

Porto, Portugal, 19th June 2024



What? First order phase transitions (FOPT)

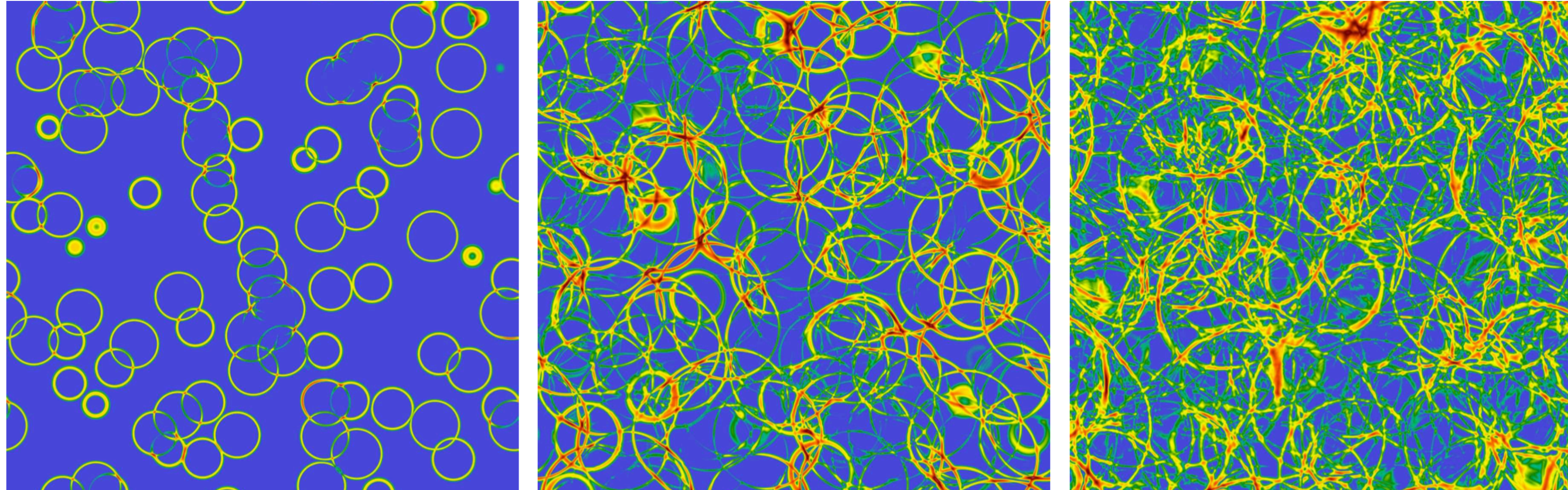
First order phase transition \longrightarrow formation of bubbles containing the new phase



M.Hindmarsh et al. (2016), [arXiv:1504.03291v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/1504.03291v2)

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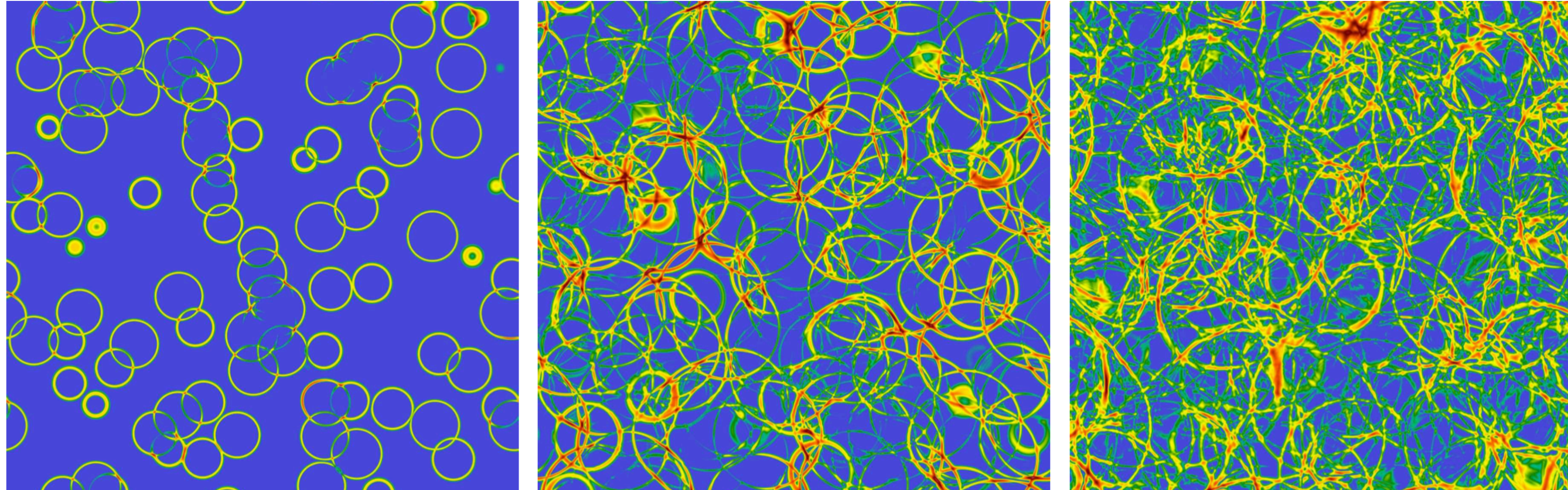
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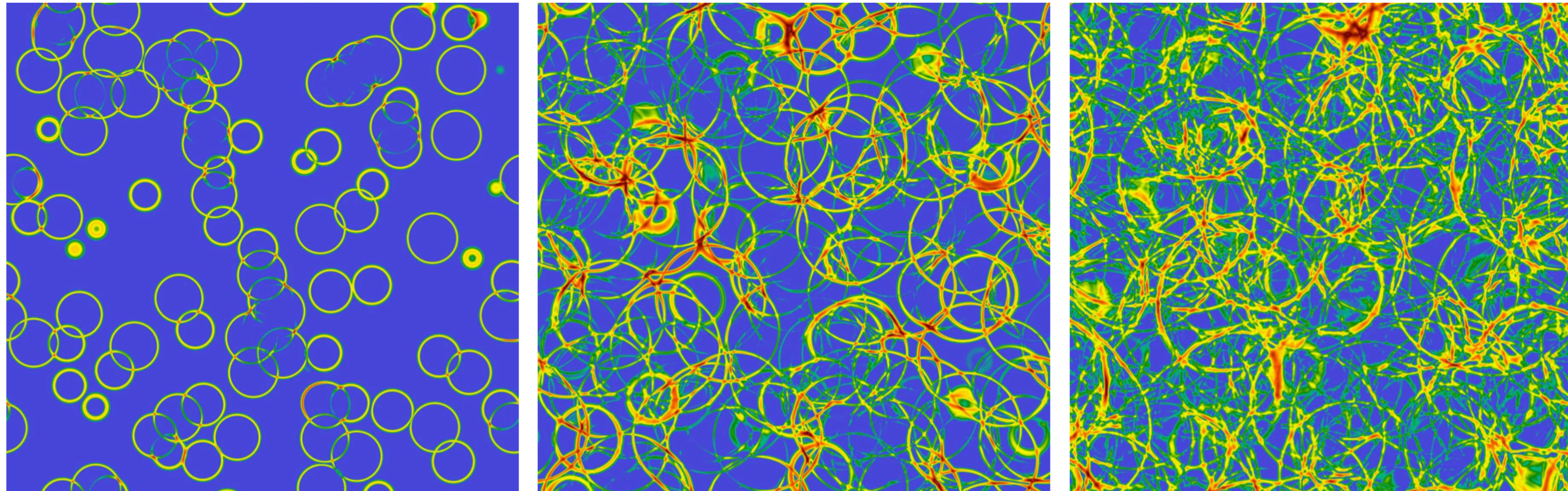
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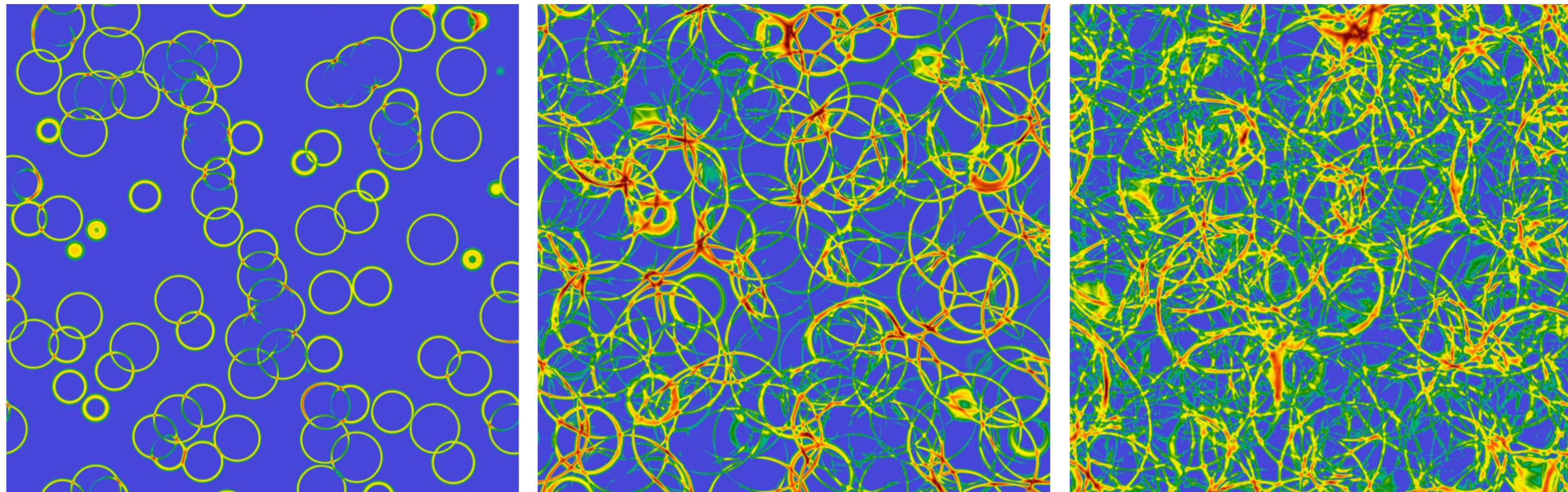
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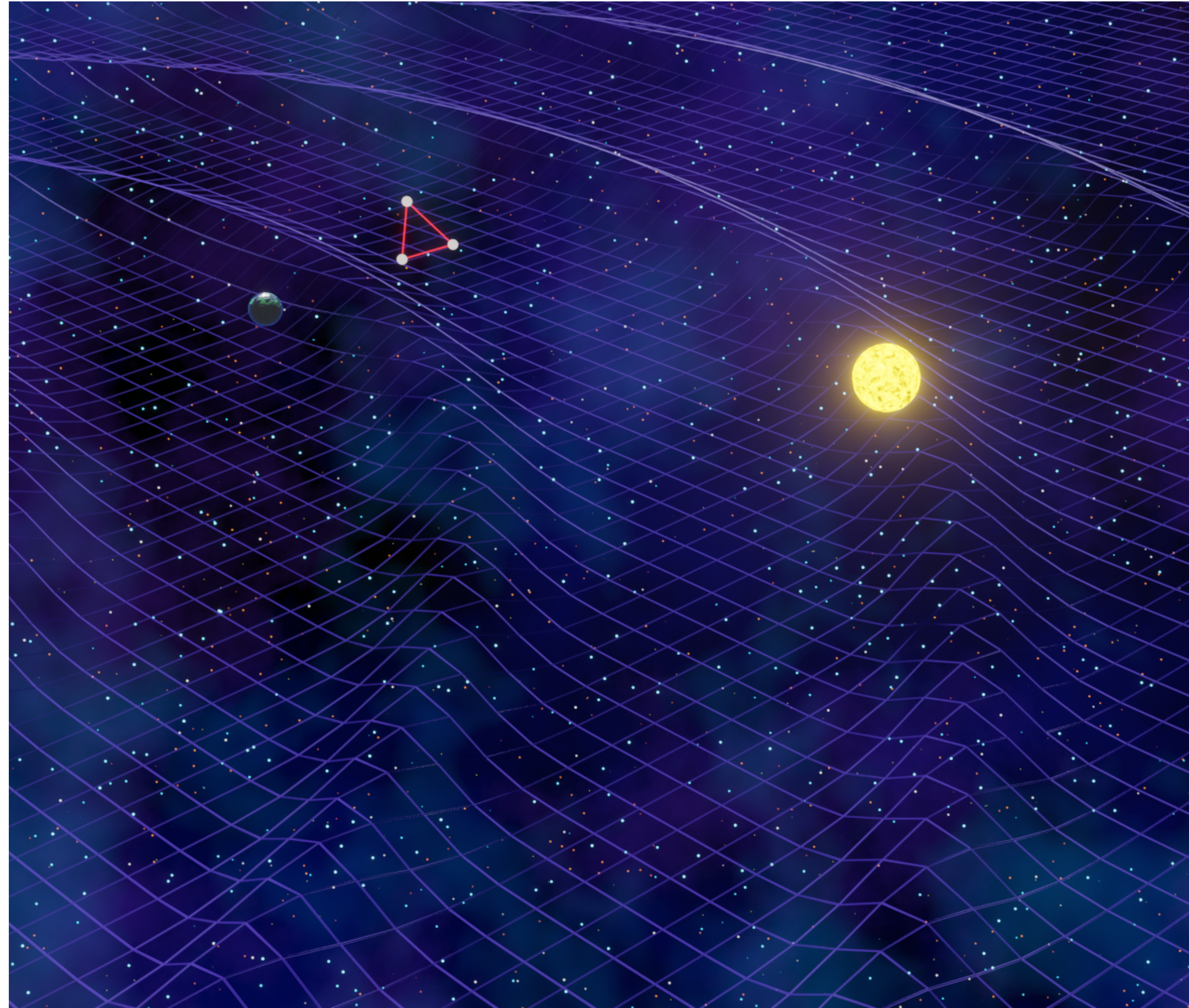
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Why? LISA & large bubbles

FOPT at the EW scale (~ 100 GeV) produce gravitational waves (GW) within the LISA frequency band ~ 0.1 mHz - 10 Hz



Credit: Anna Kormu

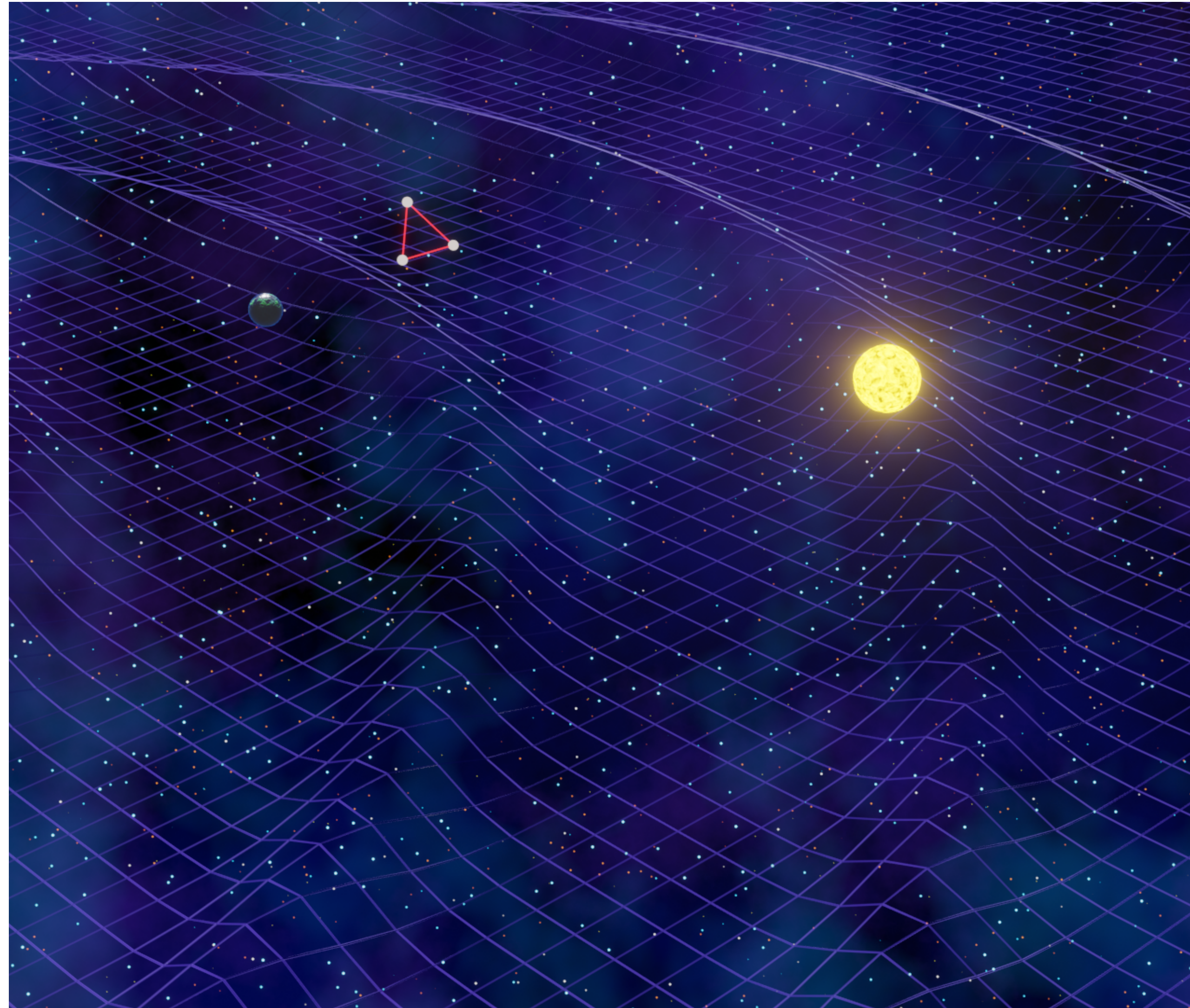
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Large bubbles is a compelling limit for LISA observations

- Maximise the energy density of acoustic GWs

C. Caprini et al. (2016), [arXiv:1512.06239v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/1512.06239v2)



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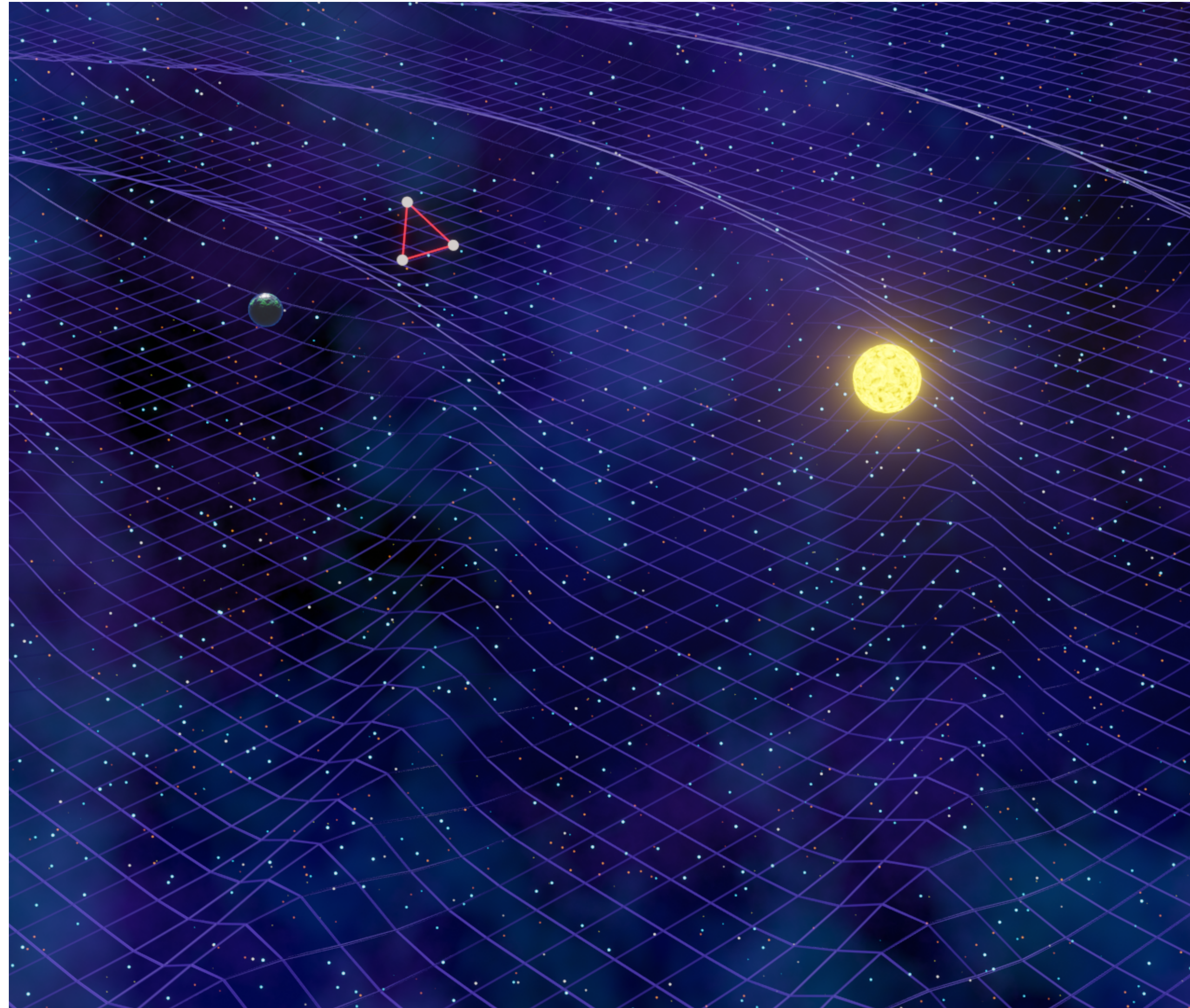
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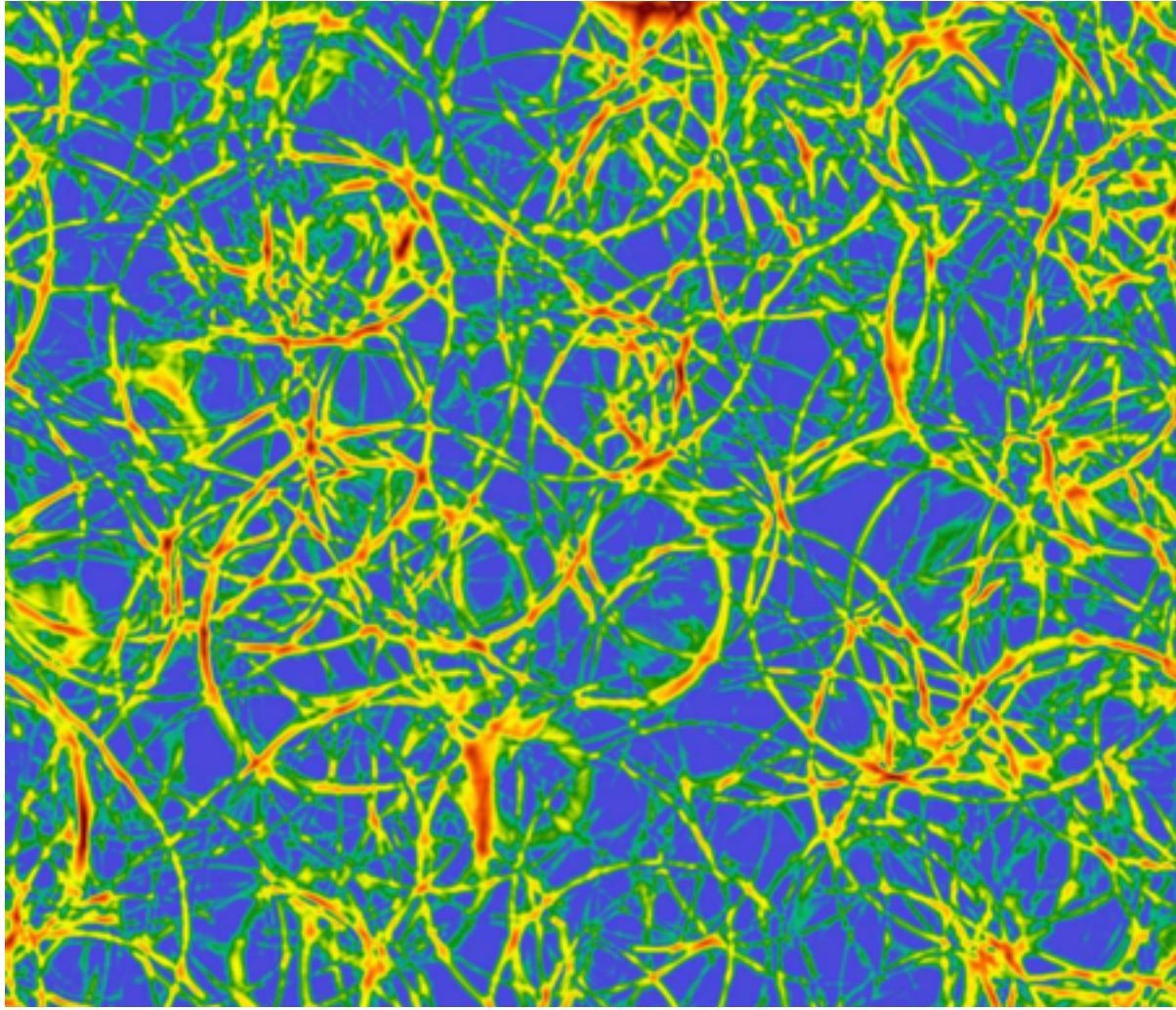
- Enhance secondary gravitational waves from curvature perturbations

[LG and M. Hindmarsh \(2024\), arXiv:2307.12080v2](#)

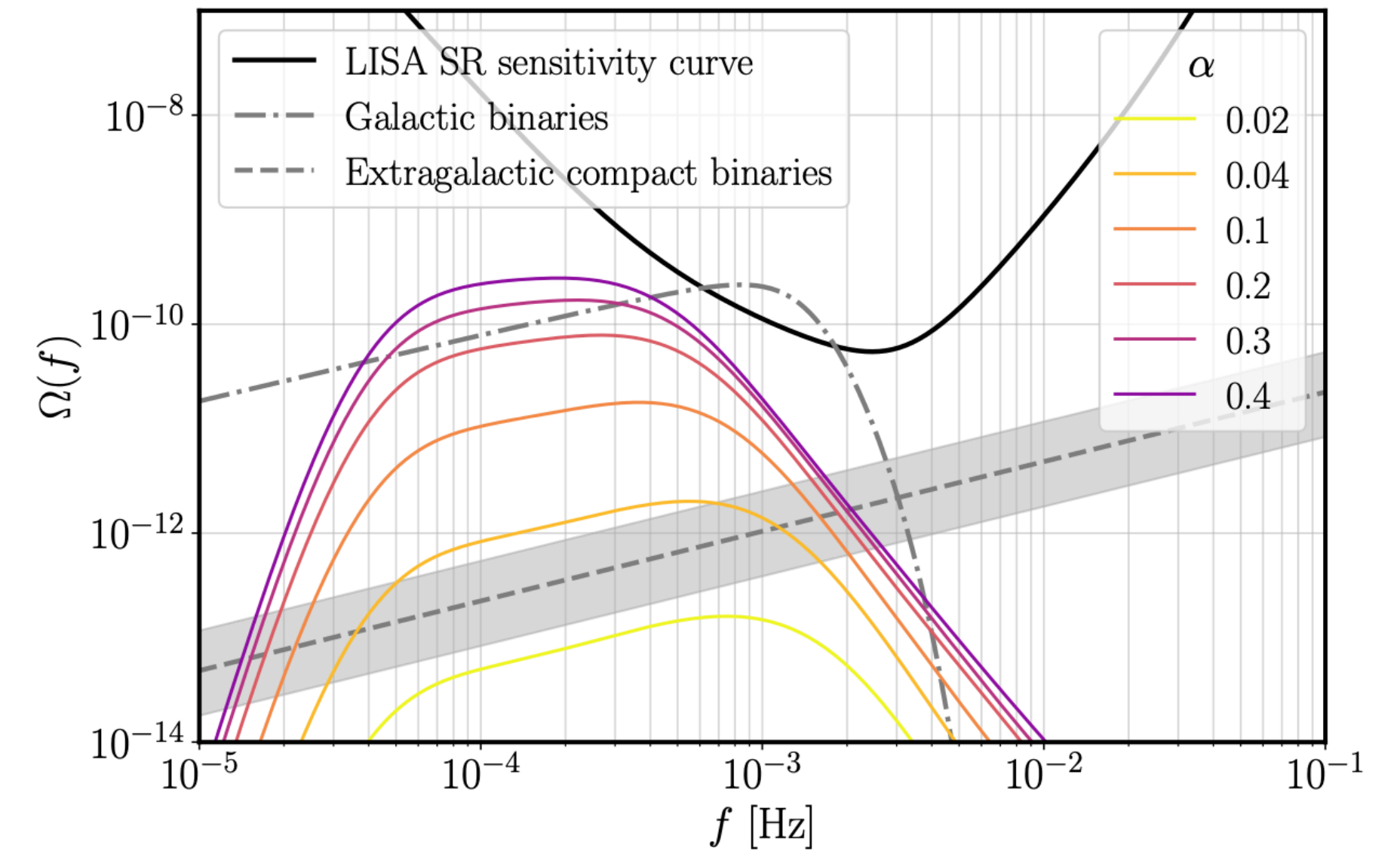
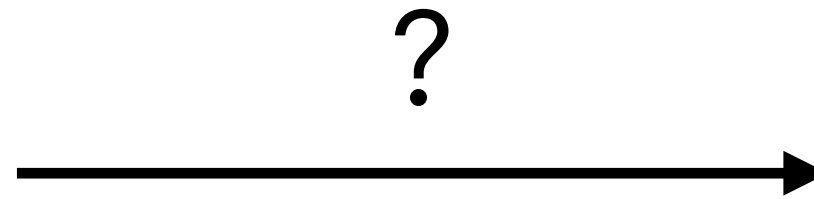


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How? Semi-analytic model of gravitational wave production

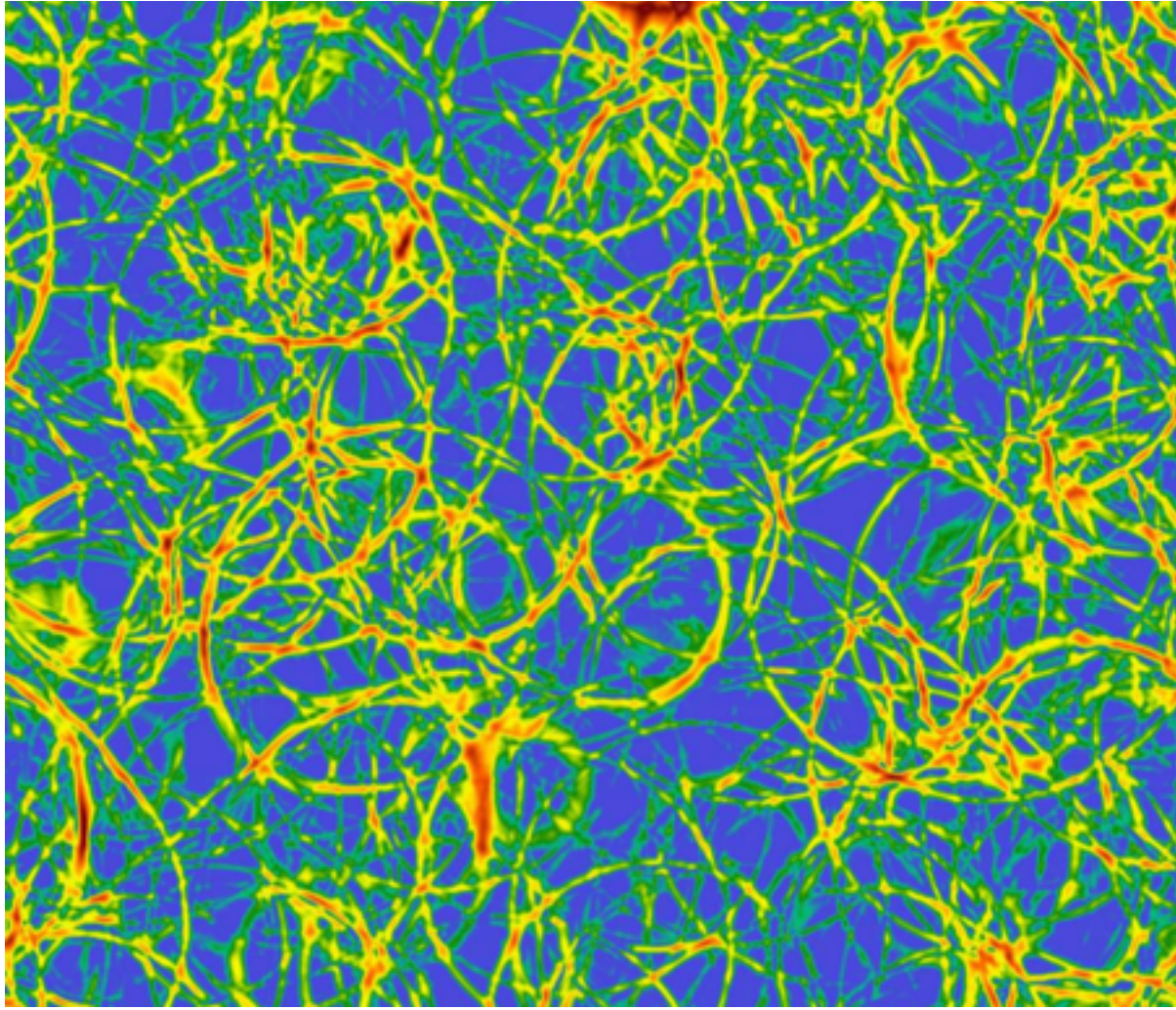


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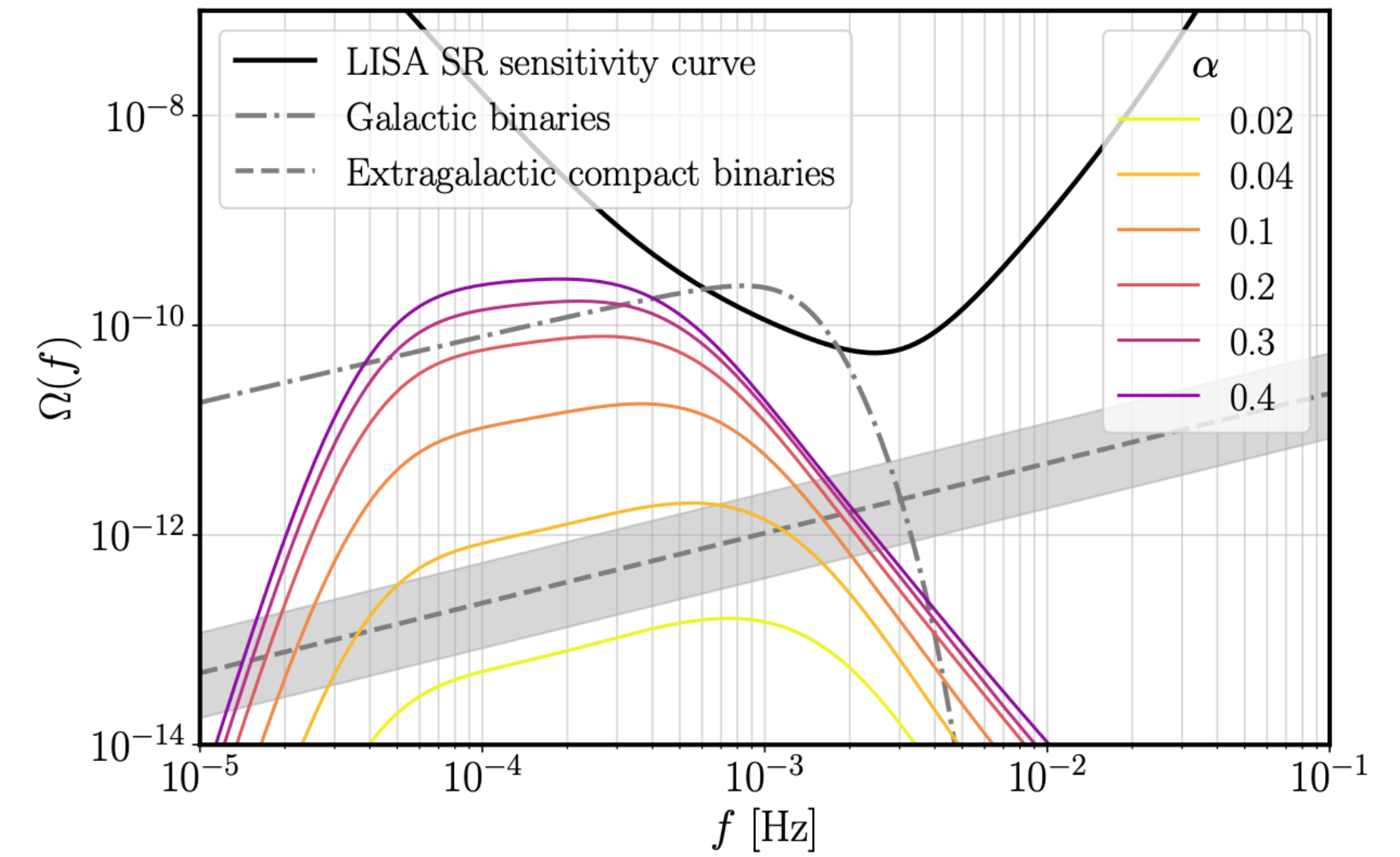
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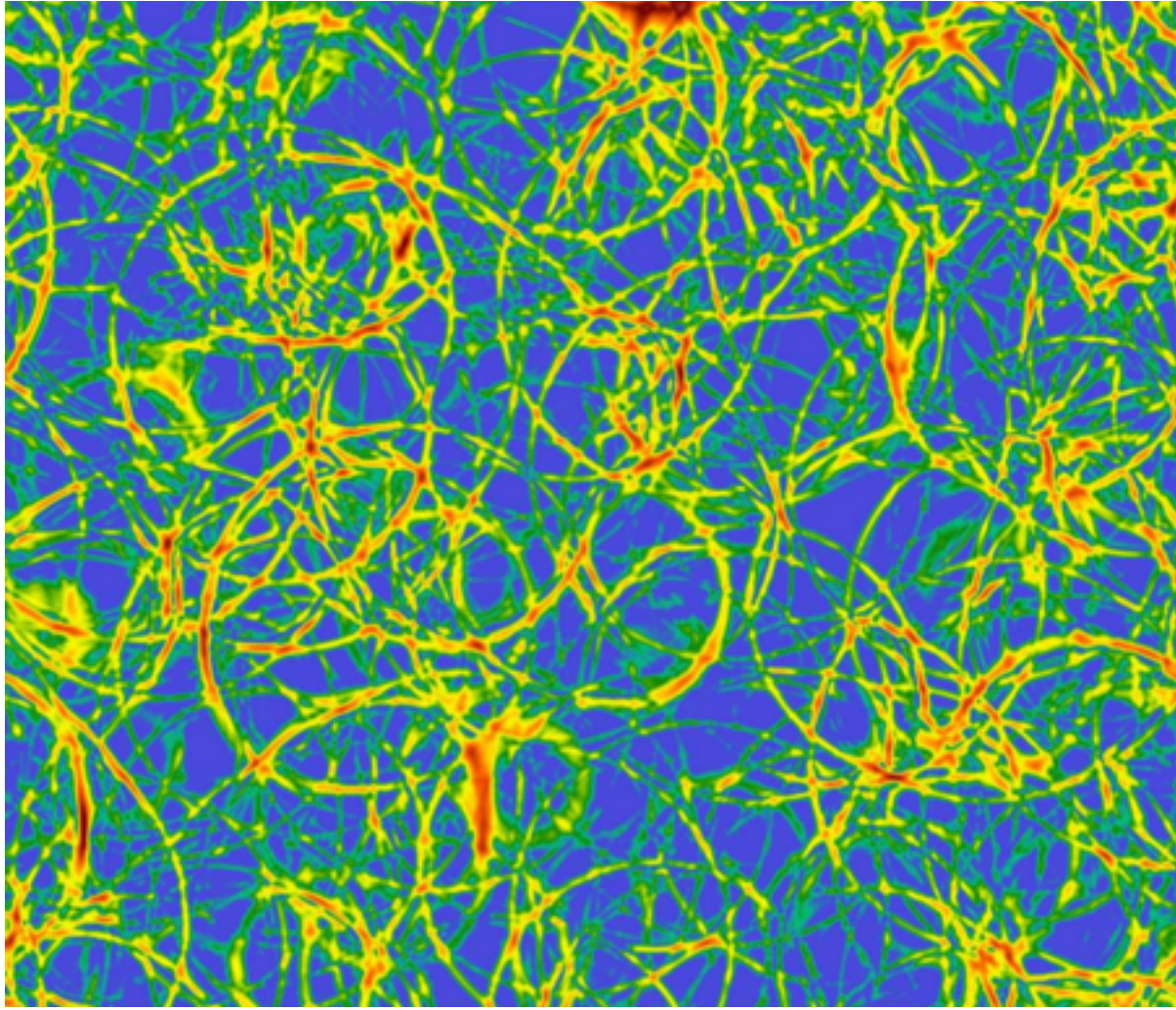
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$$h''_{ij} + 2\mathcal{H}h'_{ij} - \nabla^2 h_{ij} = \mathcal{S}_{ij}$$



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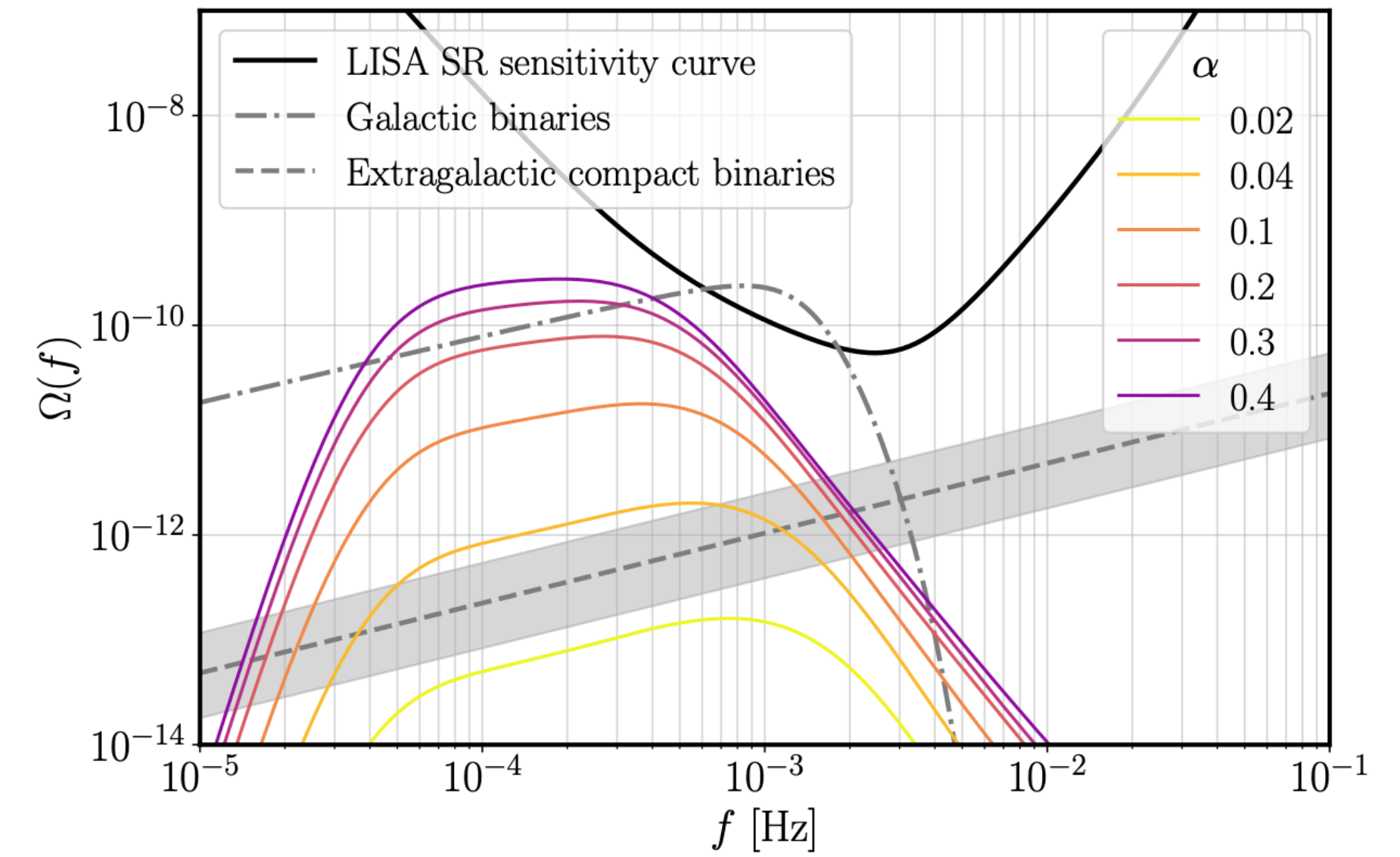
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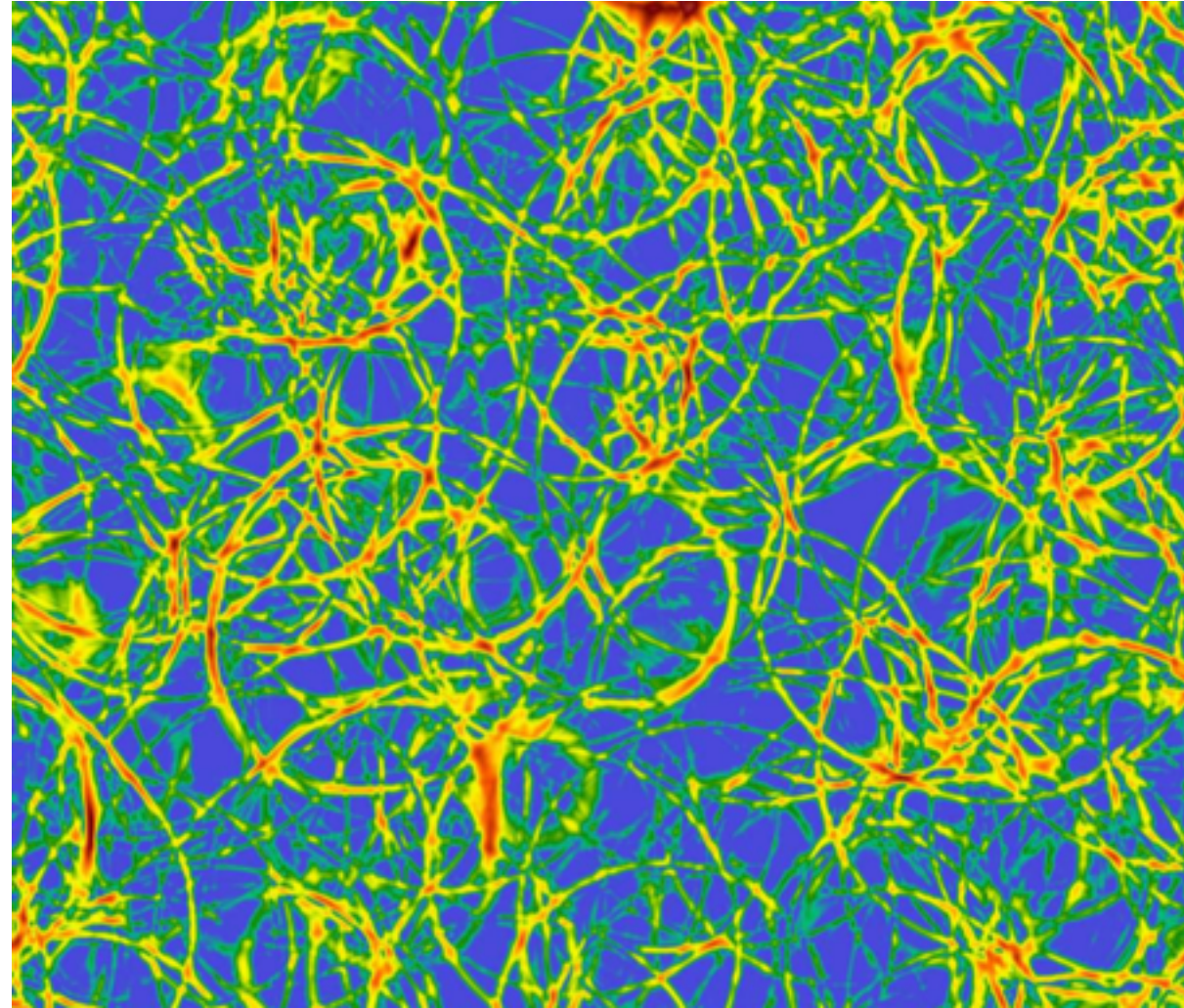
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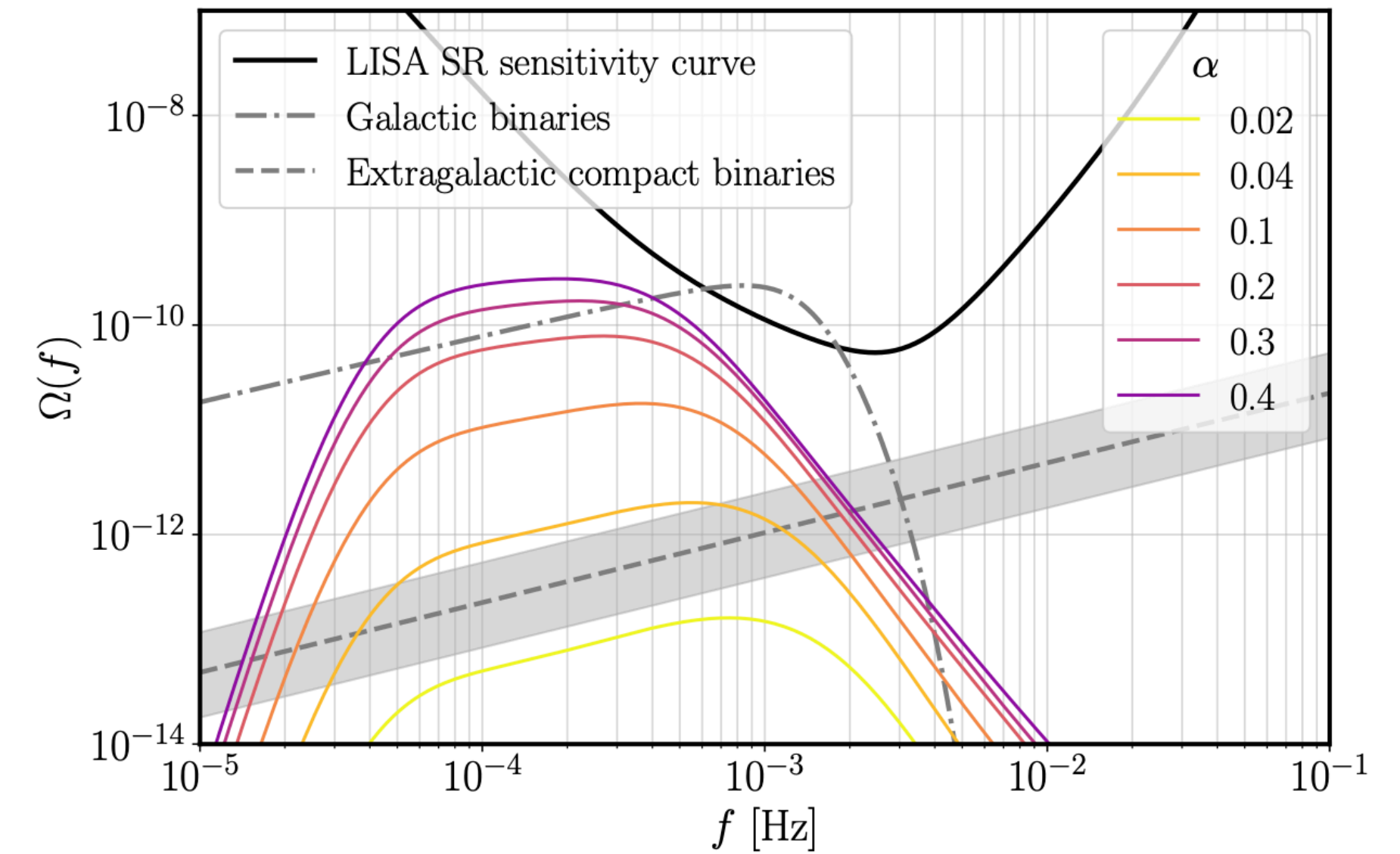
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Energy density GW

R. A. Isaacson (1968)

$$e_{gw} = -\frac{1}{32\pi G} \langle \mathcal{D}_0 h_{ij} \mathcal{D}^0 h^{ij} \rangle$$

Power spectrum

$$\mathcal{P}_{gw} = \frac{1}{e_c} \frac{de_{gw}}{d \ln k}$$

e_c

Critical energy density

k

Gravitational wave wavenumber

Stationary source - the state of the art

$$\mathcal{P}_{gw} = 3 \left(\Gamma \bar{U}_f^2 \right)^2 (\mathcal{H} *_R) (\mathcal{H} *_\tau) \mathcal{P}(kR_*)$$

\bar{U}_f root mean square fluid four-velocity

$\Gamma = \frac{\bar{w}}{\bar{e}}$ adiabatic index

R_* mean bubble spacing & sw-wavelength

$\mathcal{H} *$ Hubble constant beginning acoustic phase

τ_ν lifetime of the source (sound waves)

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Incoming
sw momenta

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Incoming sw momenta Kinetic energy of sw

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(1) Equation of state $\bar{p} = \frac{\bar{e}}{3}$

But $c_s^2 < 1/3$ is possible

F.R. Ares et al. (2020), [arXiv:2011.12878v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.12878v2)

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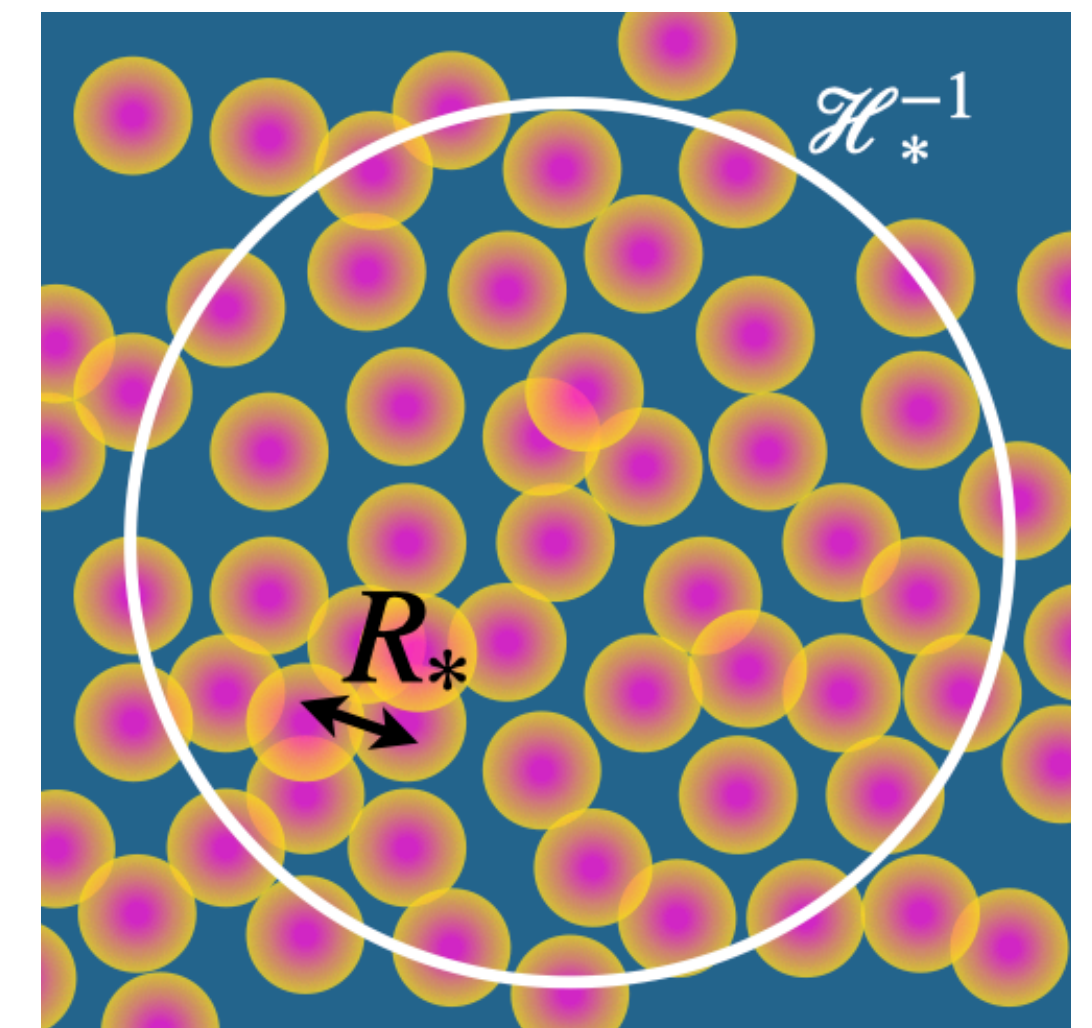
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(2) Small bubbles: $R_* \mathcal{H}_* \ll 1$

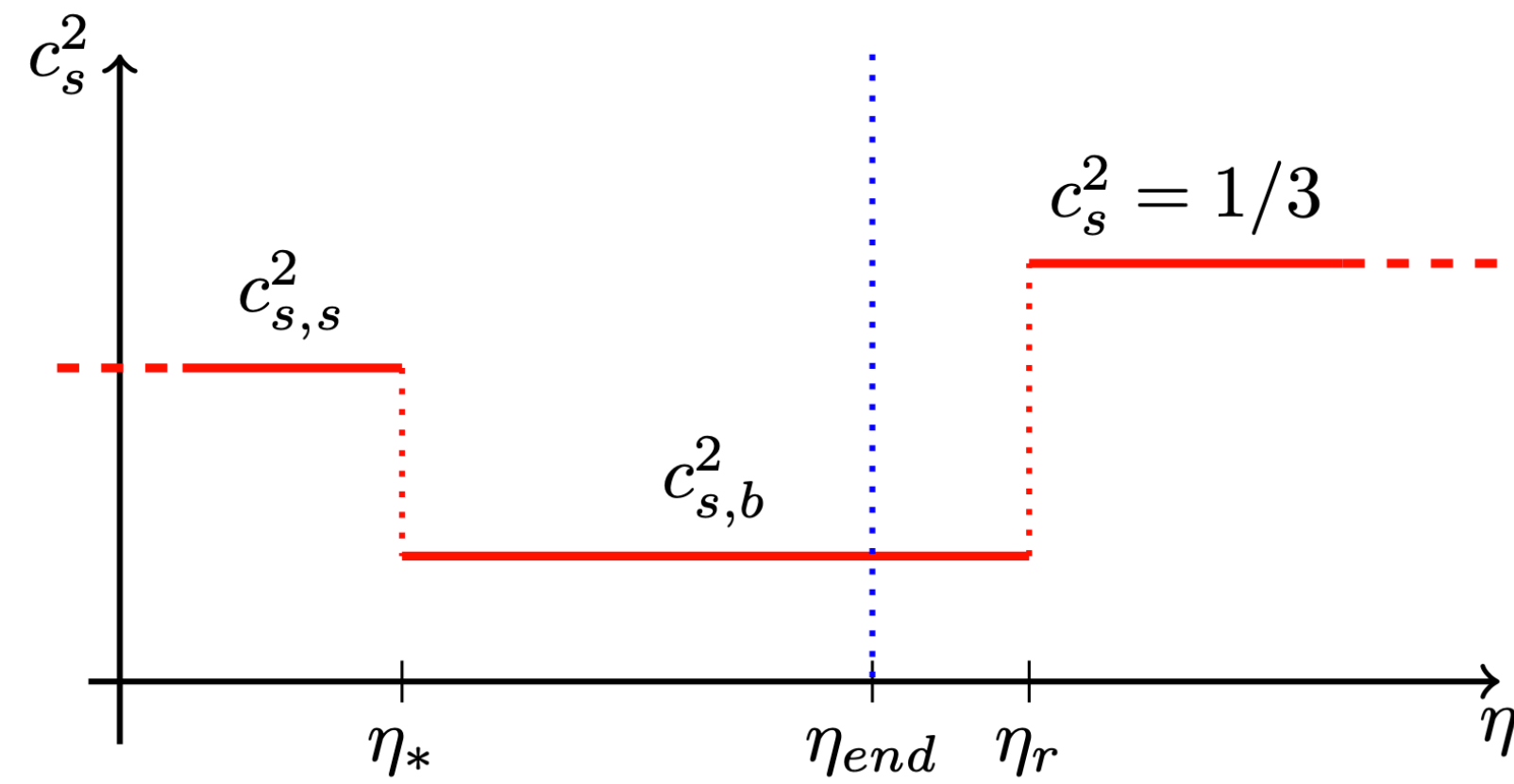
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(1) Softening the Equation of State



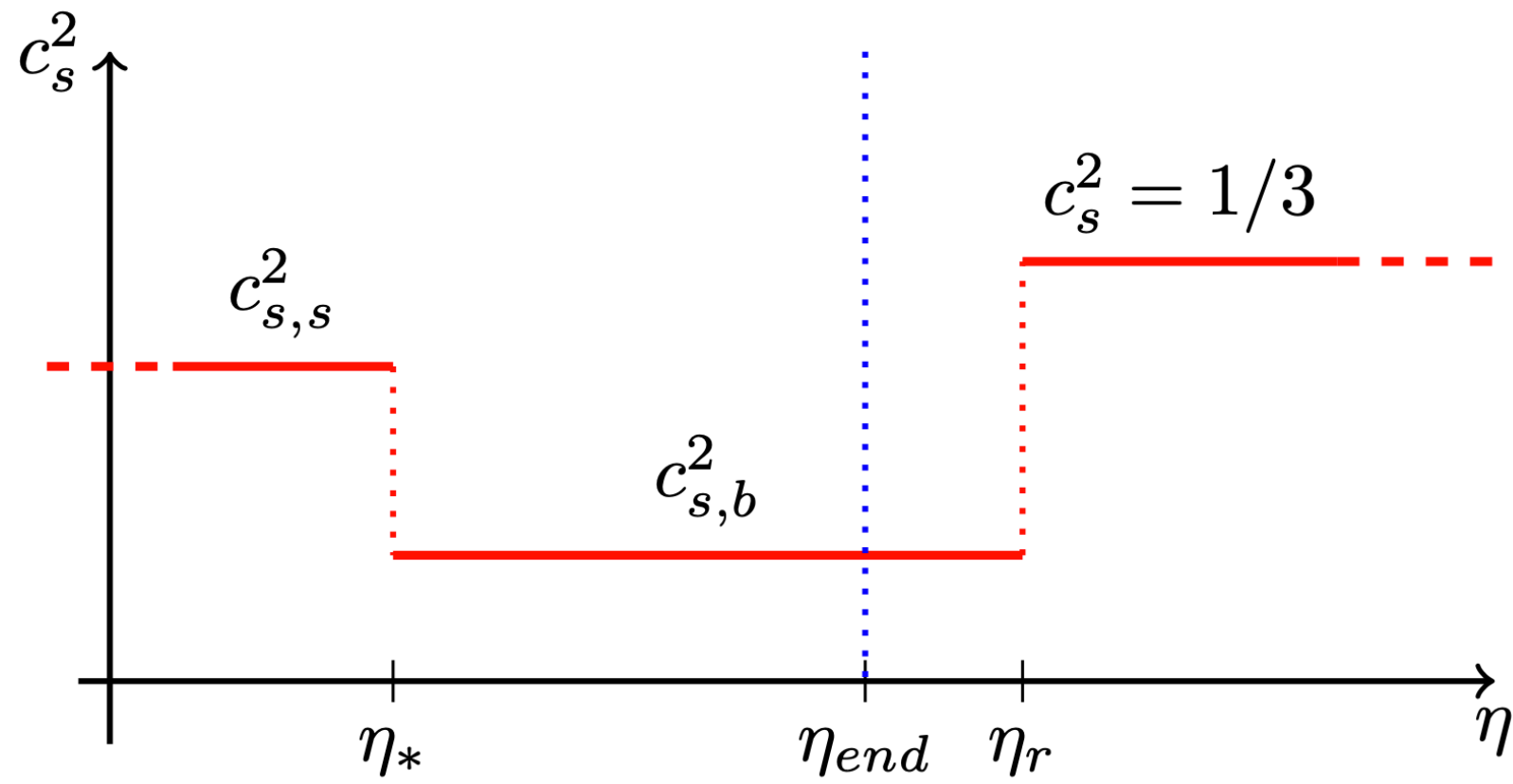
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η_* : begin acoustic phase

η_{end} : end acoustic phase

η_r : begin radiation domination

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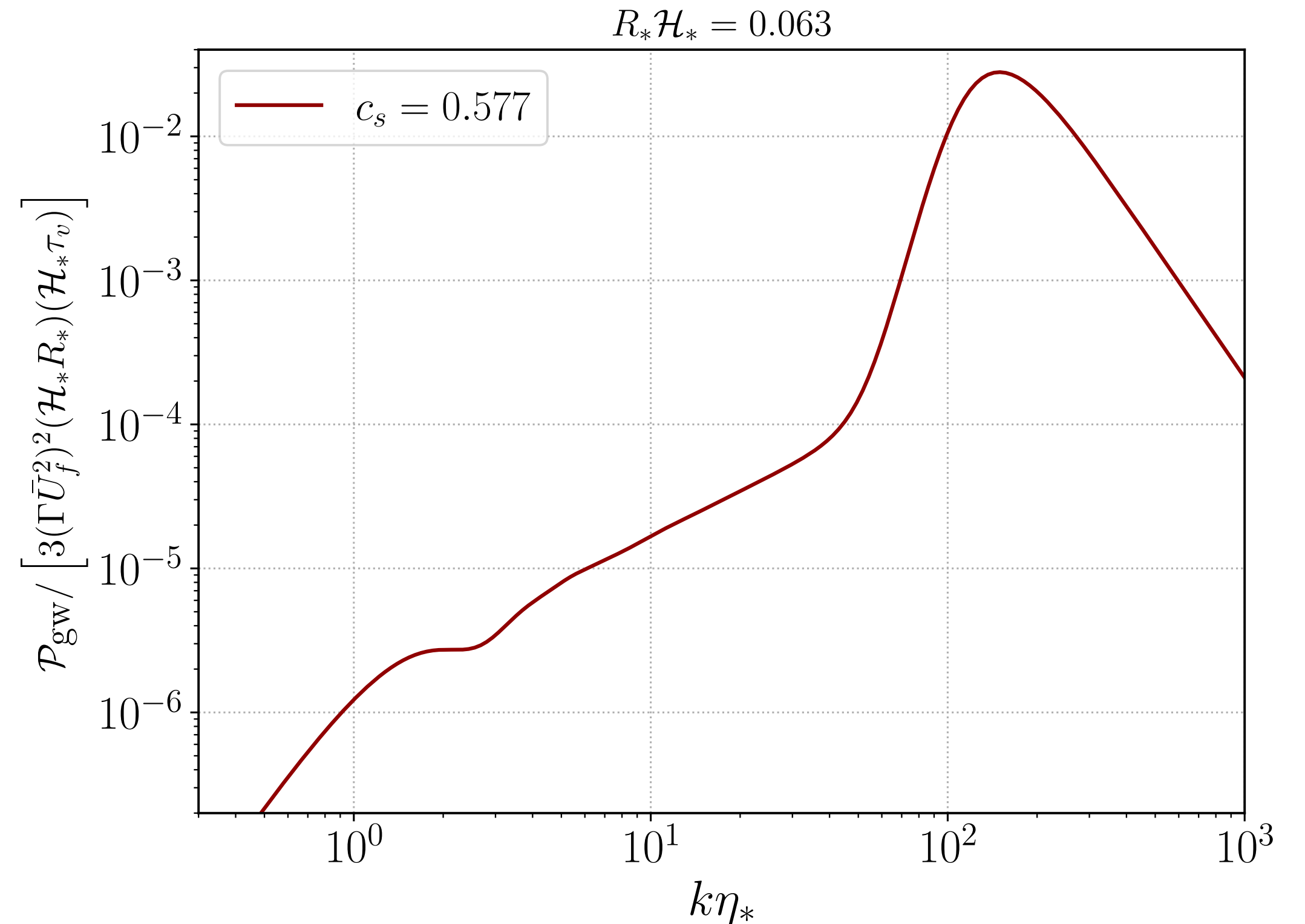
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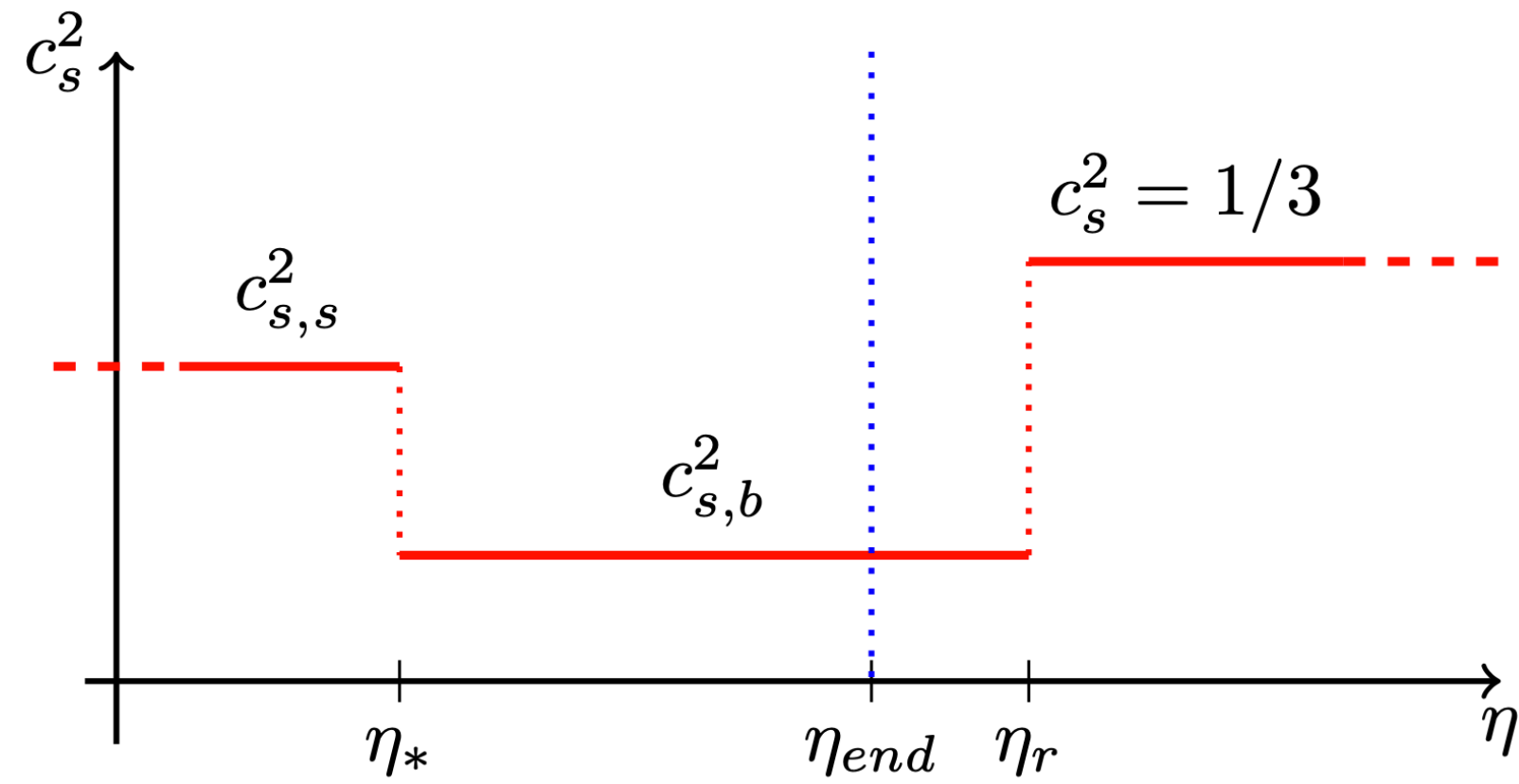
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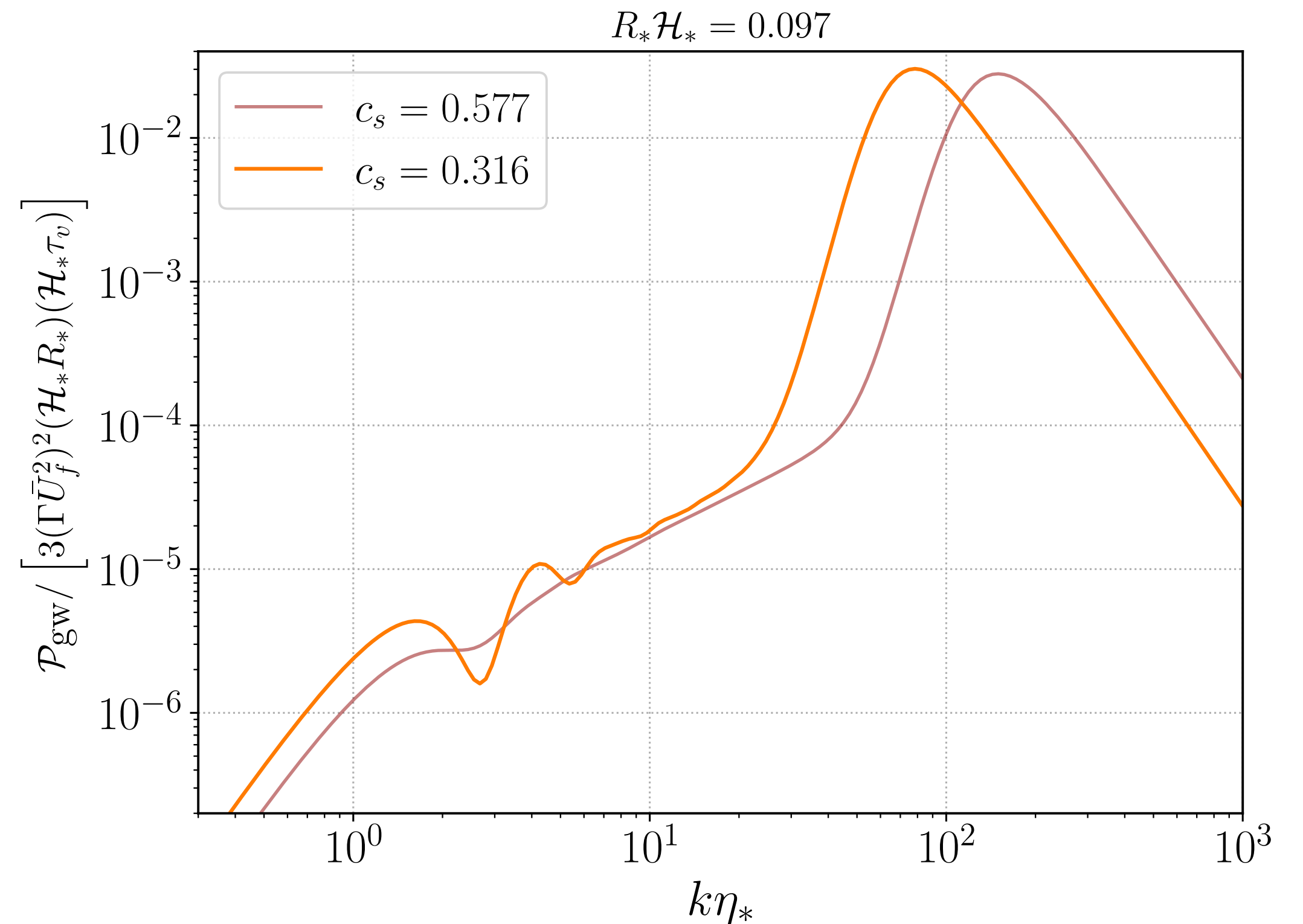
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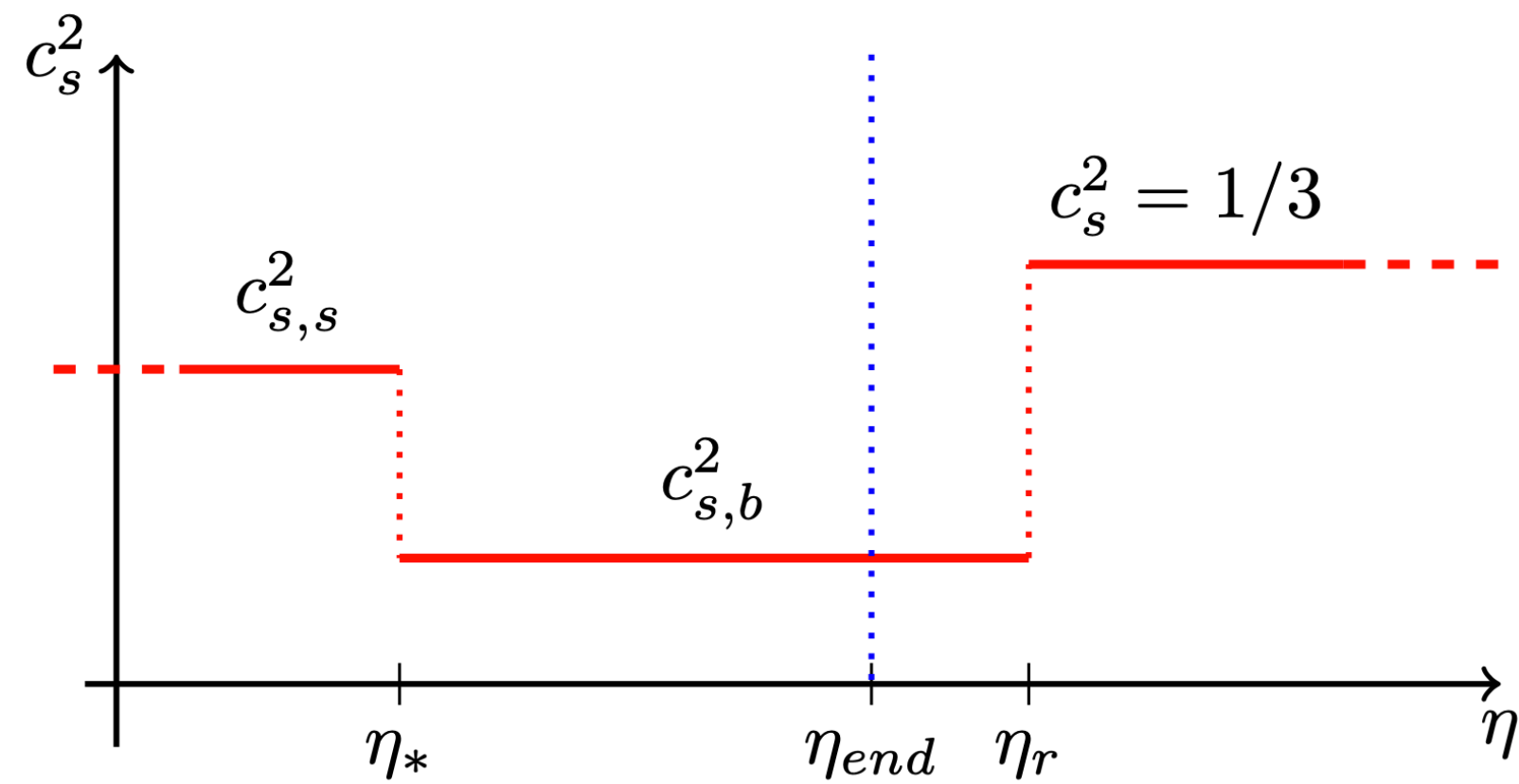
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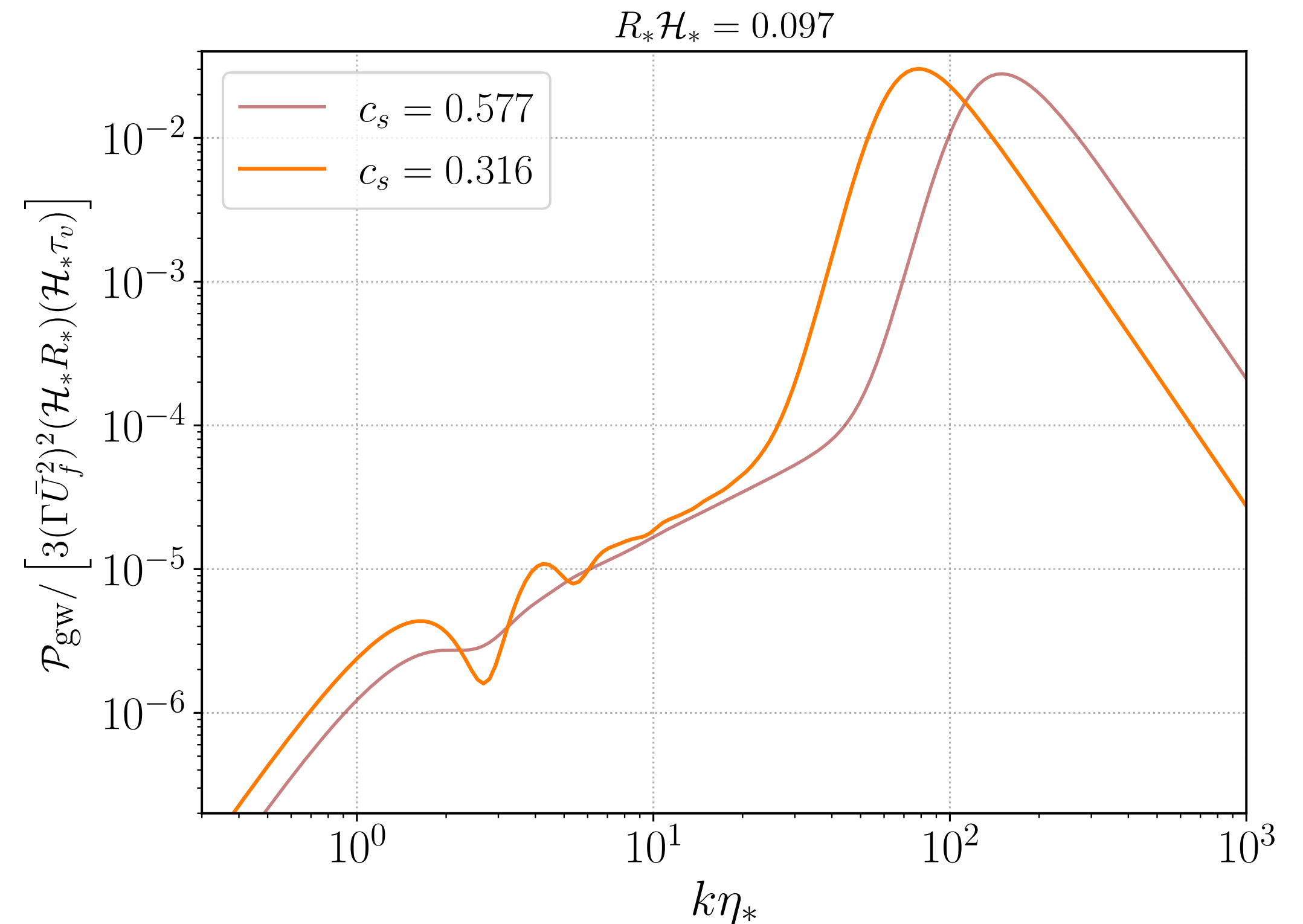
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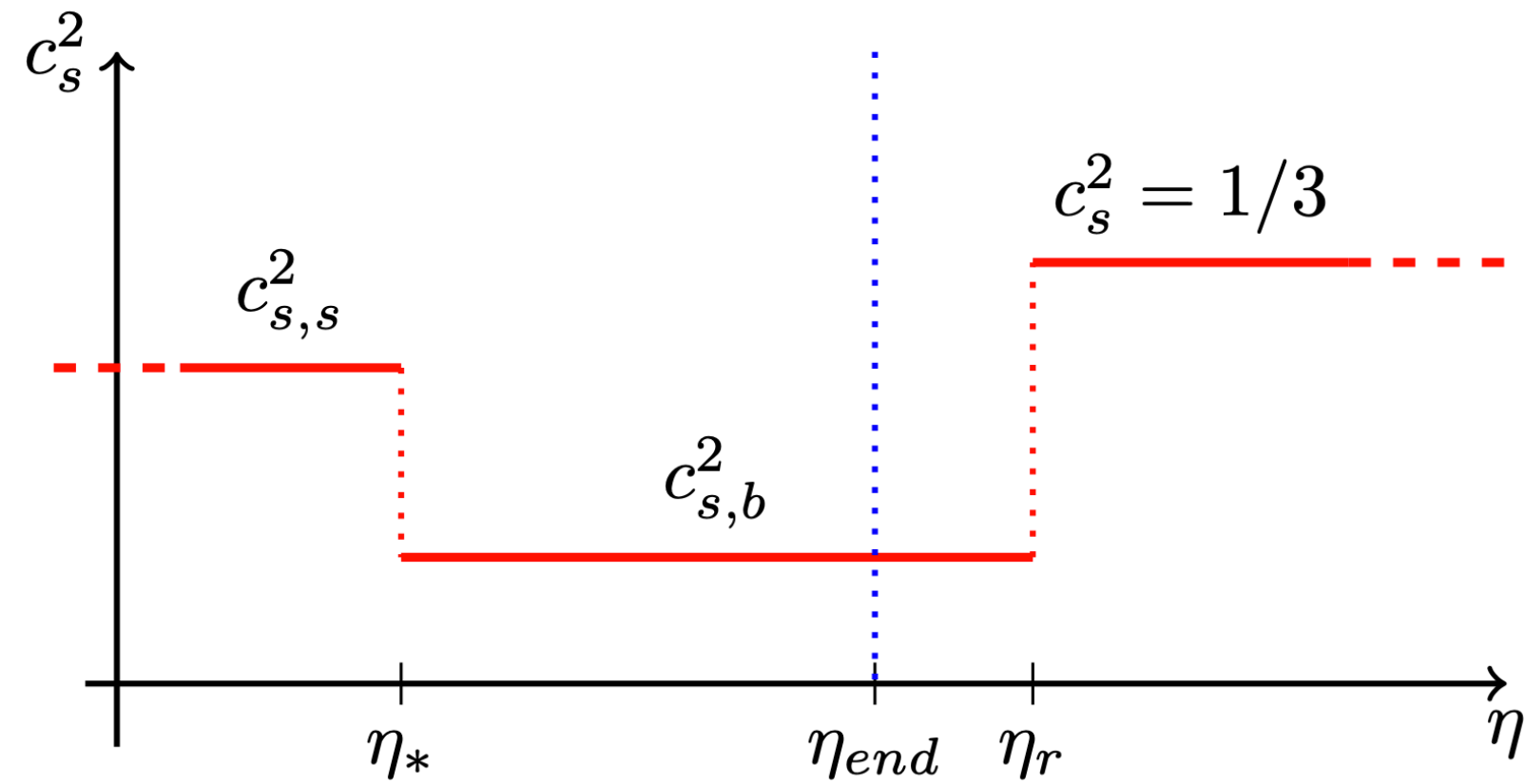
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* Reduces the background energy density

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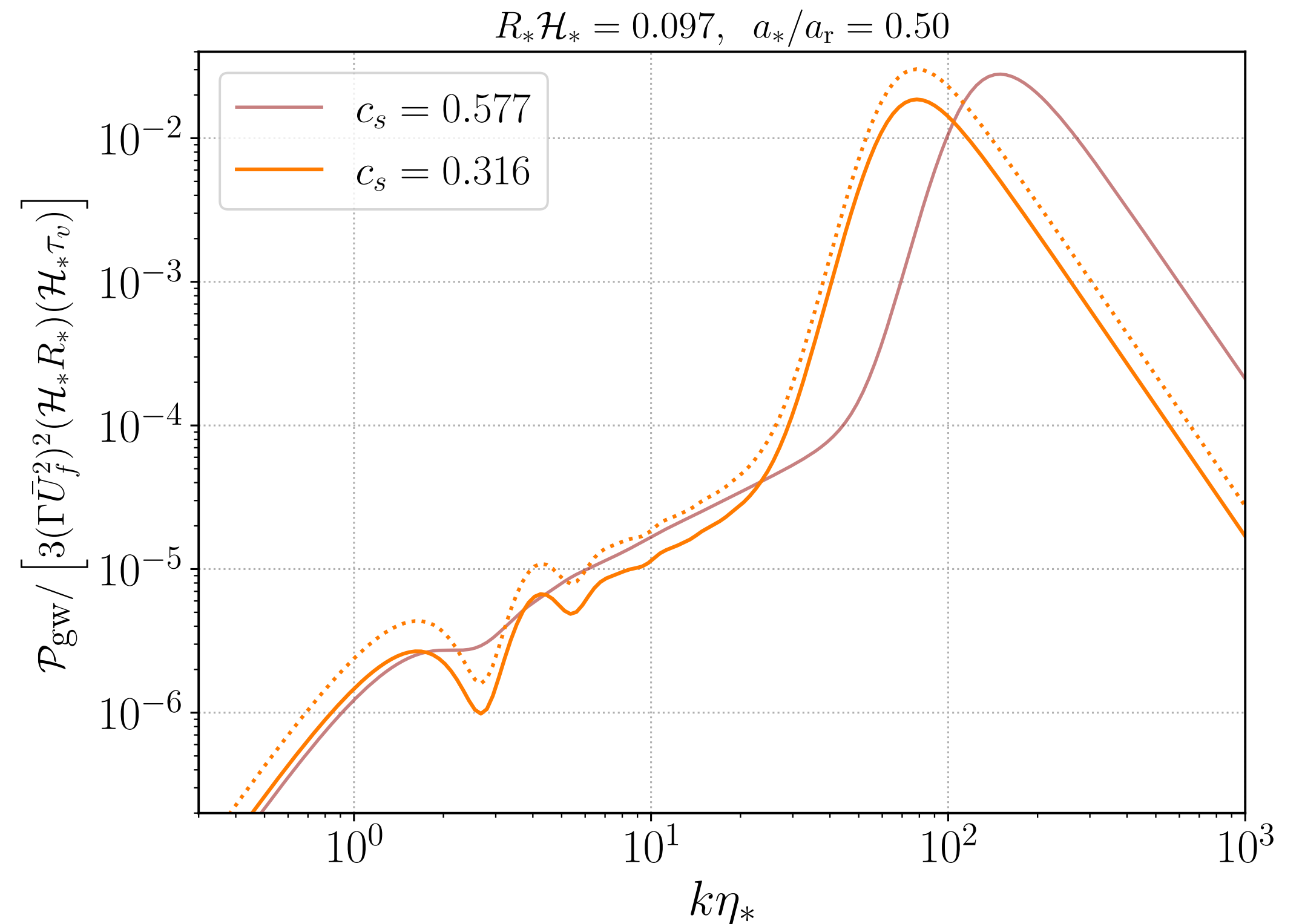
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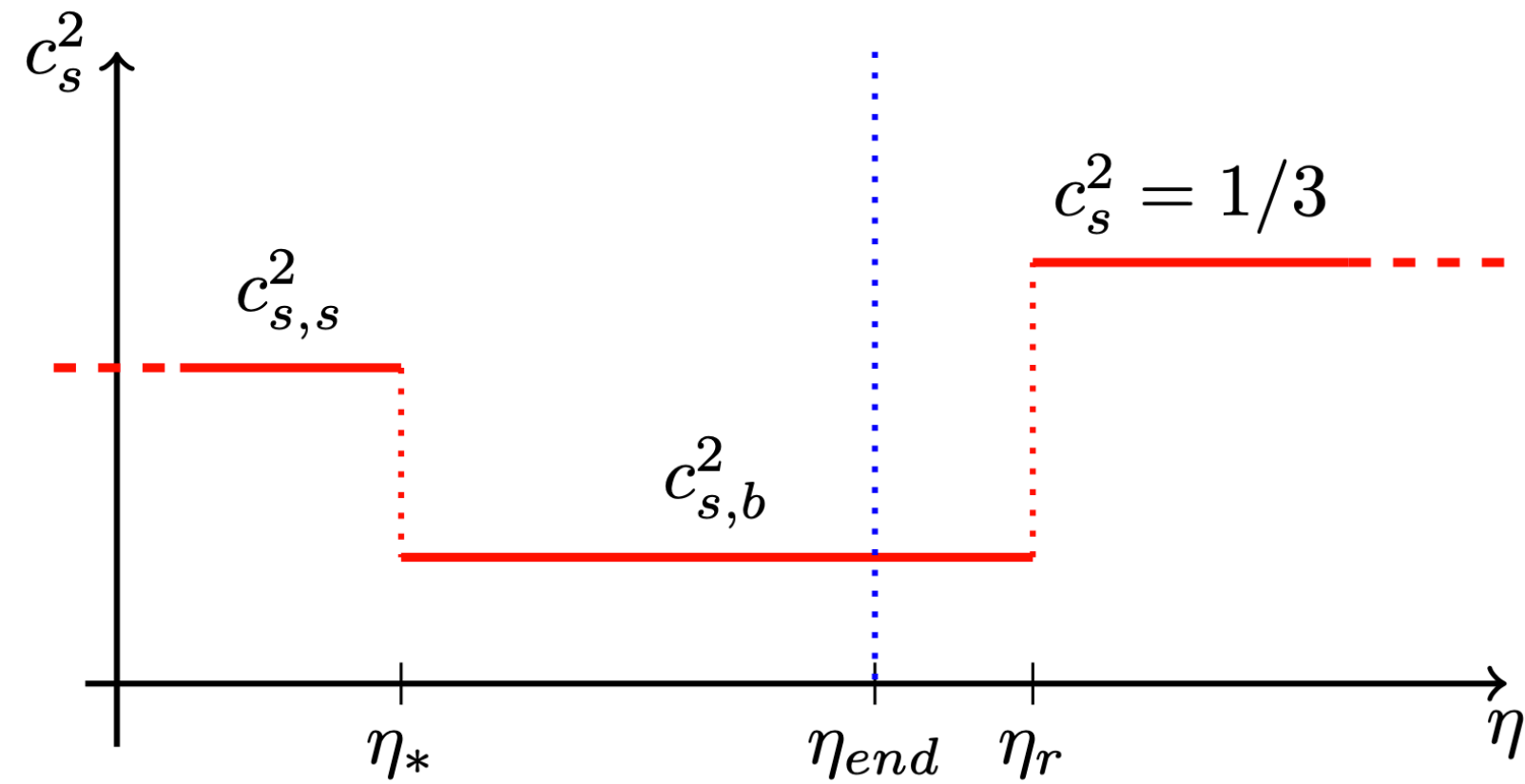
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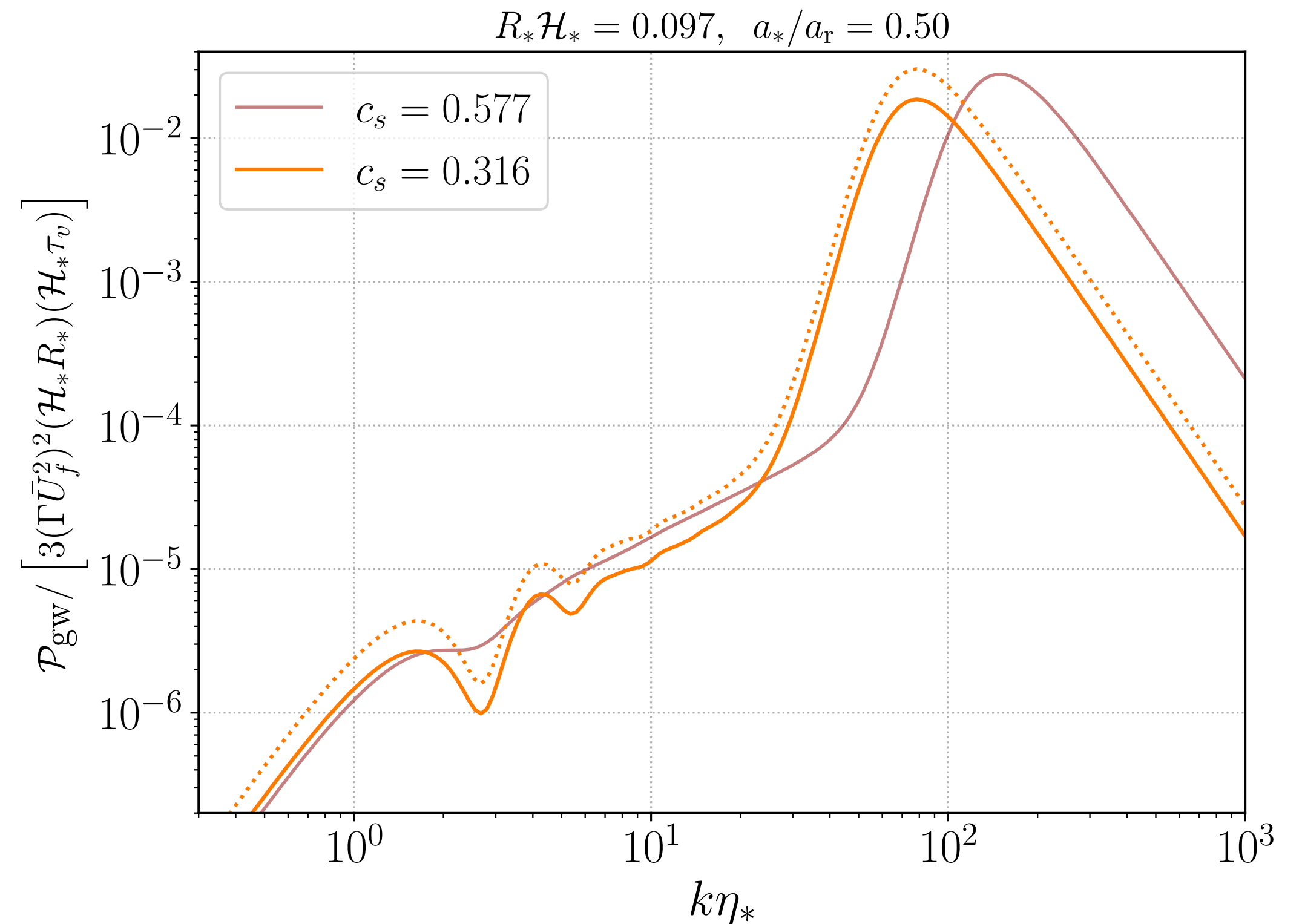
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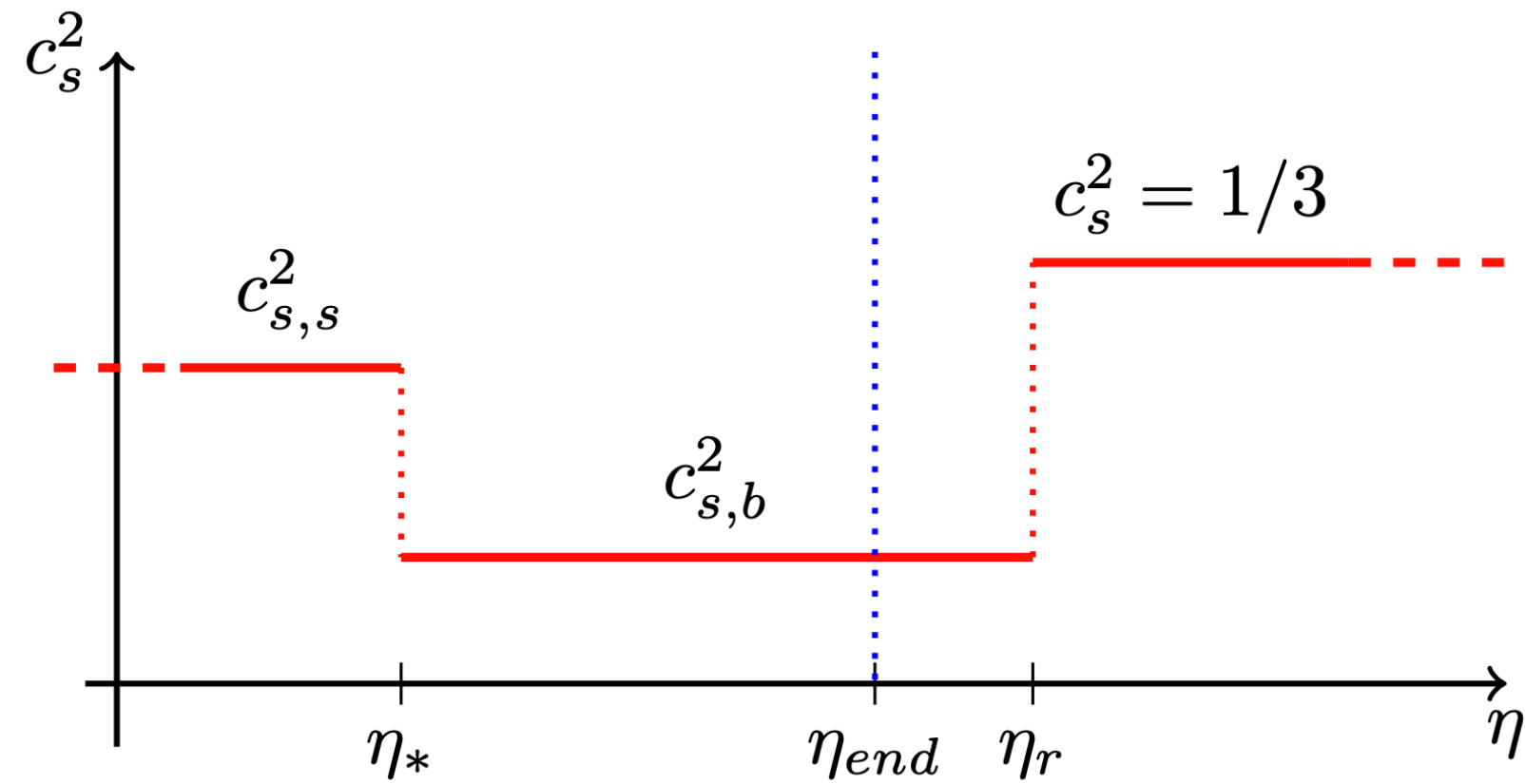
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* Accelerates the expansion of the Universe
 —> friction on sound wave propagation

$$\tilde{v}_k \sim e^{ic_s k \eta}$$



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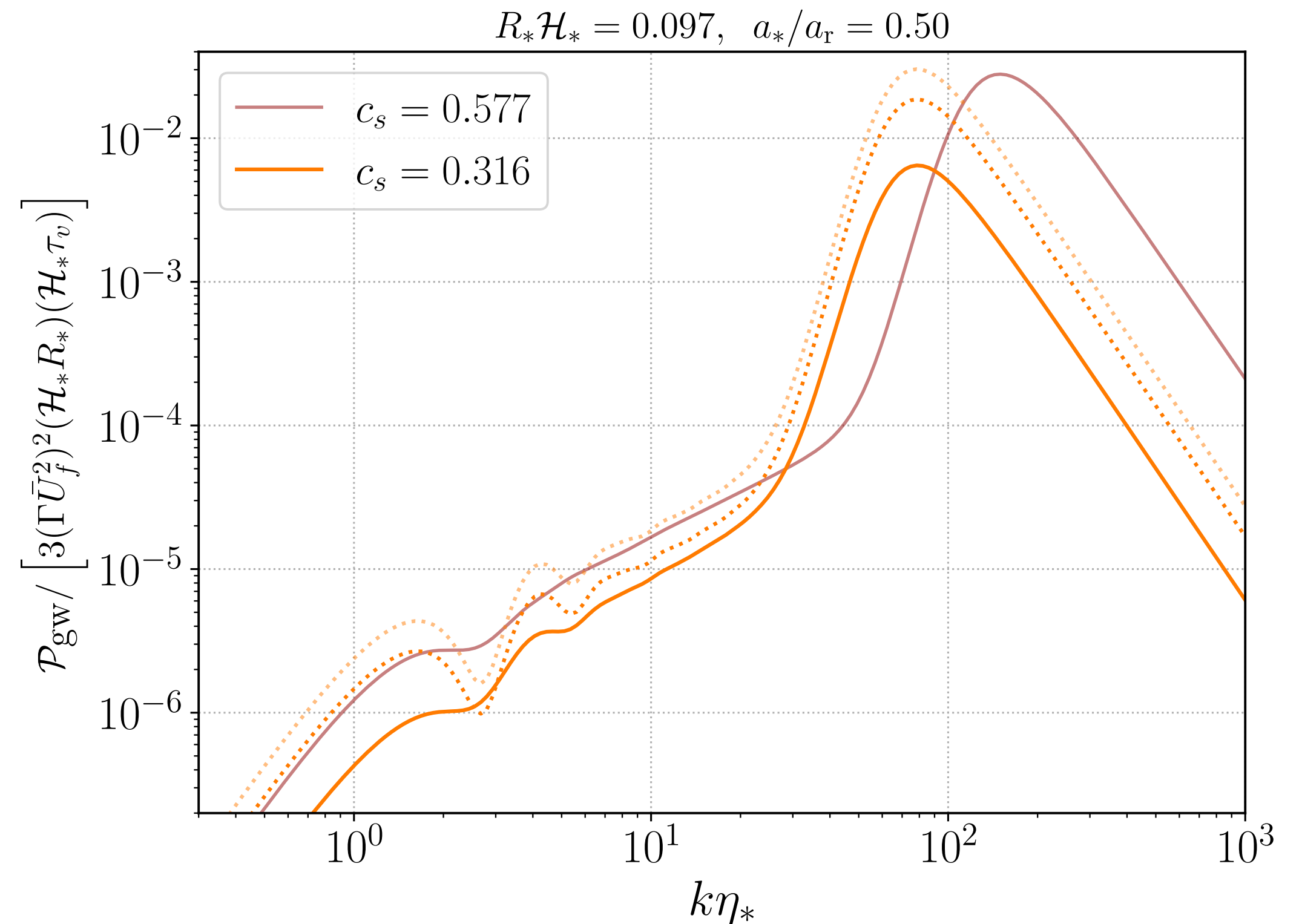
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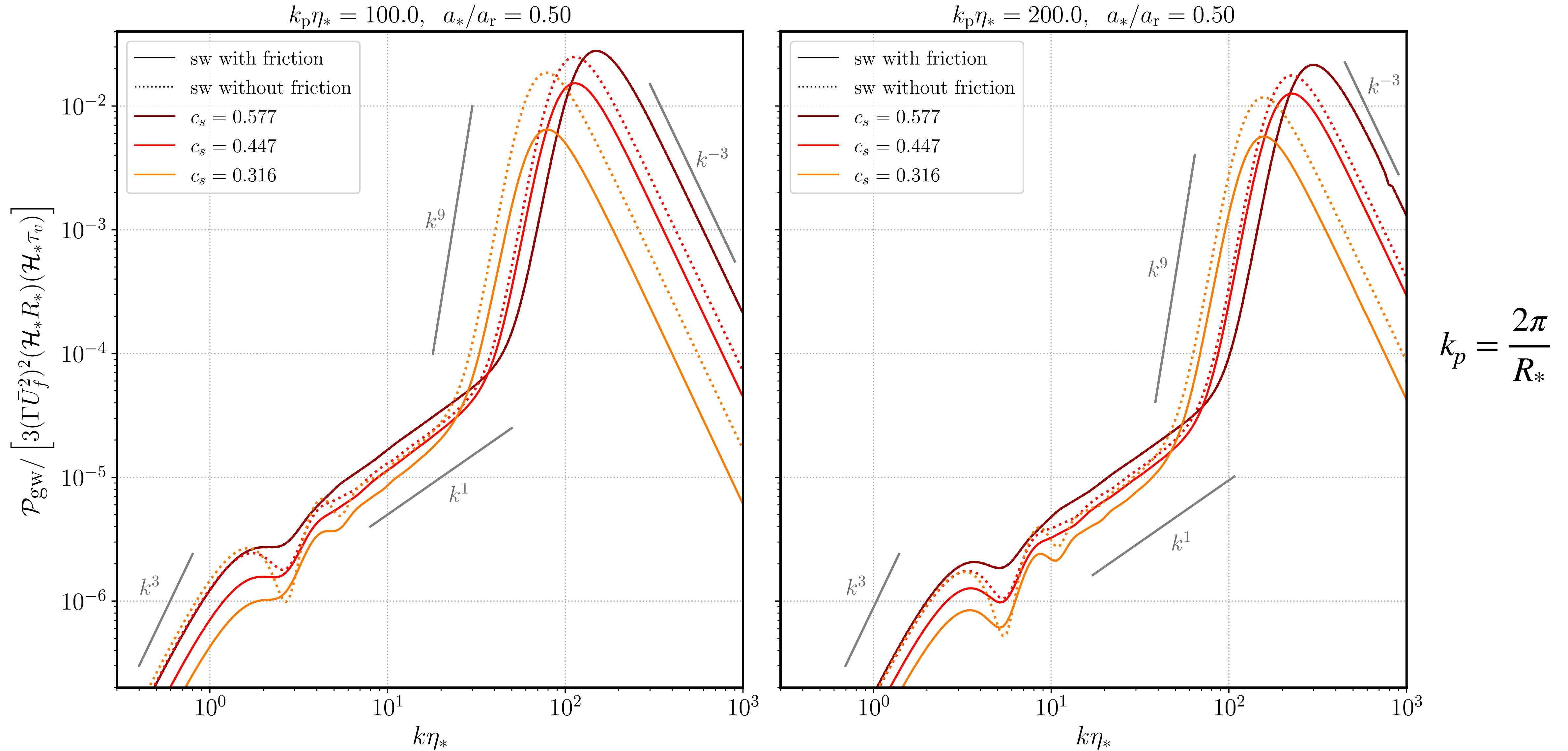
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$$\tilde{v}_k \sim (\eta_*/\eta)^\nu e^{ic_s k\eta} \quad \nu = \frac{1 - c_s^2}{1 + c_s^2}$$

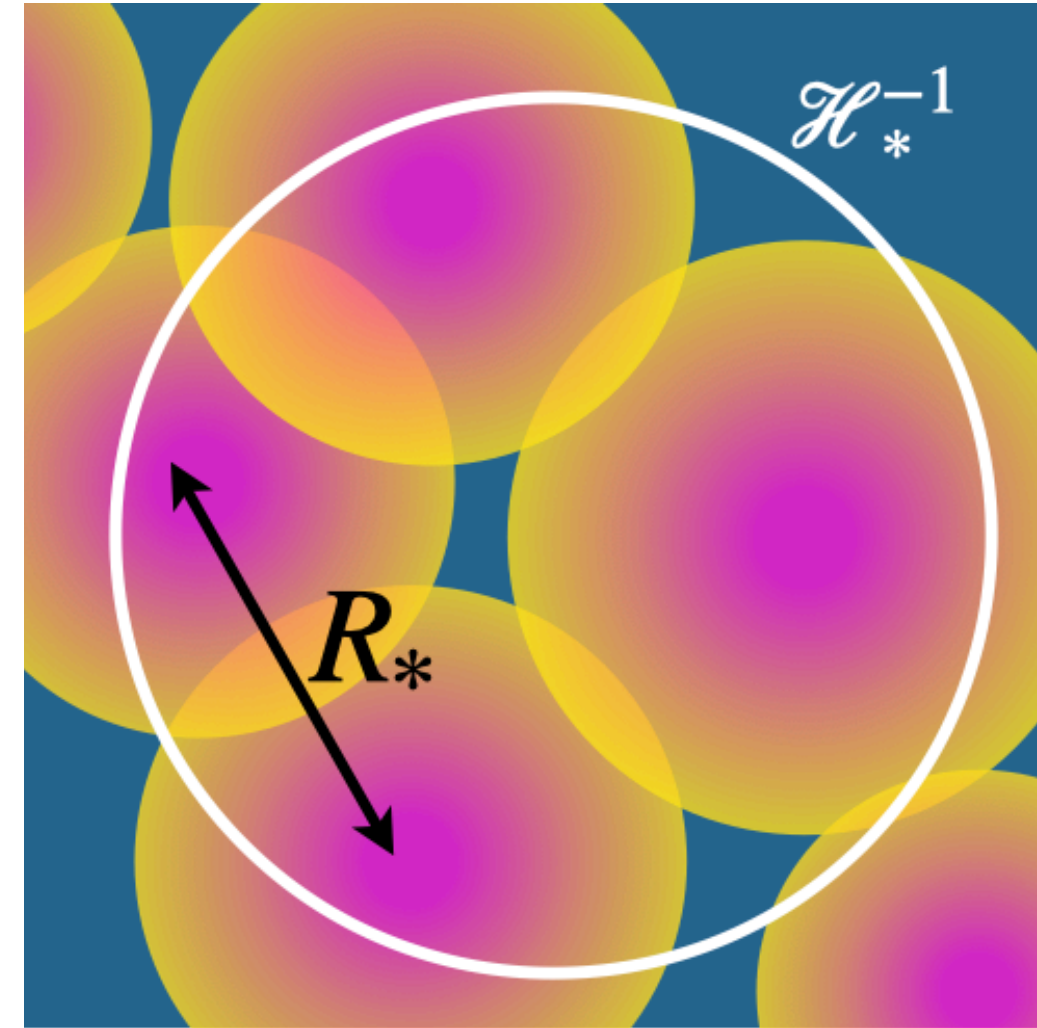


(1) Softening the Equation of State



(2) General relativity at next to leading order in $R_* \mathcal{H}_*$

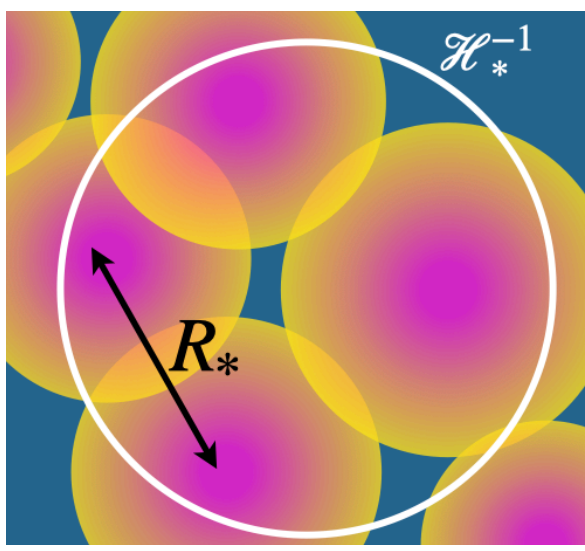
Short wavelength expansion $R_* \mathcal{H}_* \lesssim \mathcal{O}(1)$



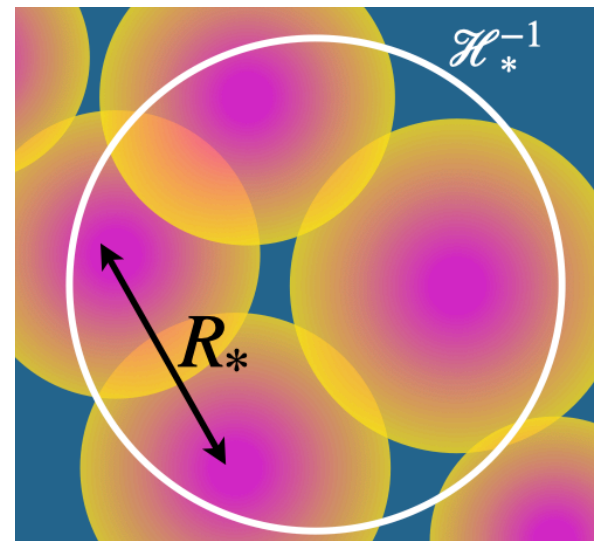
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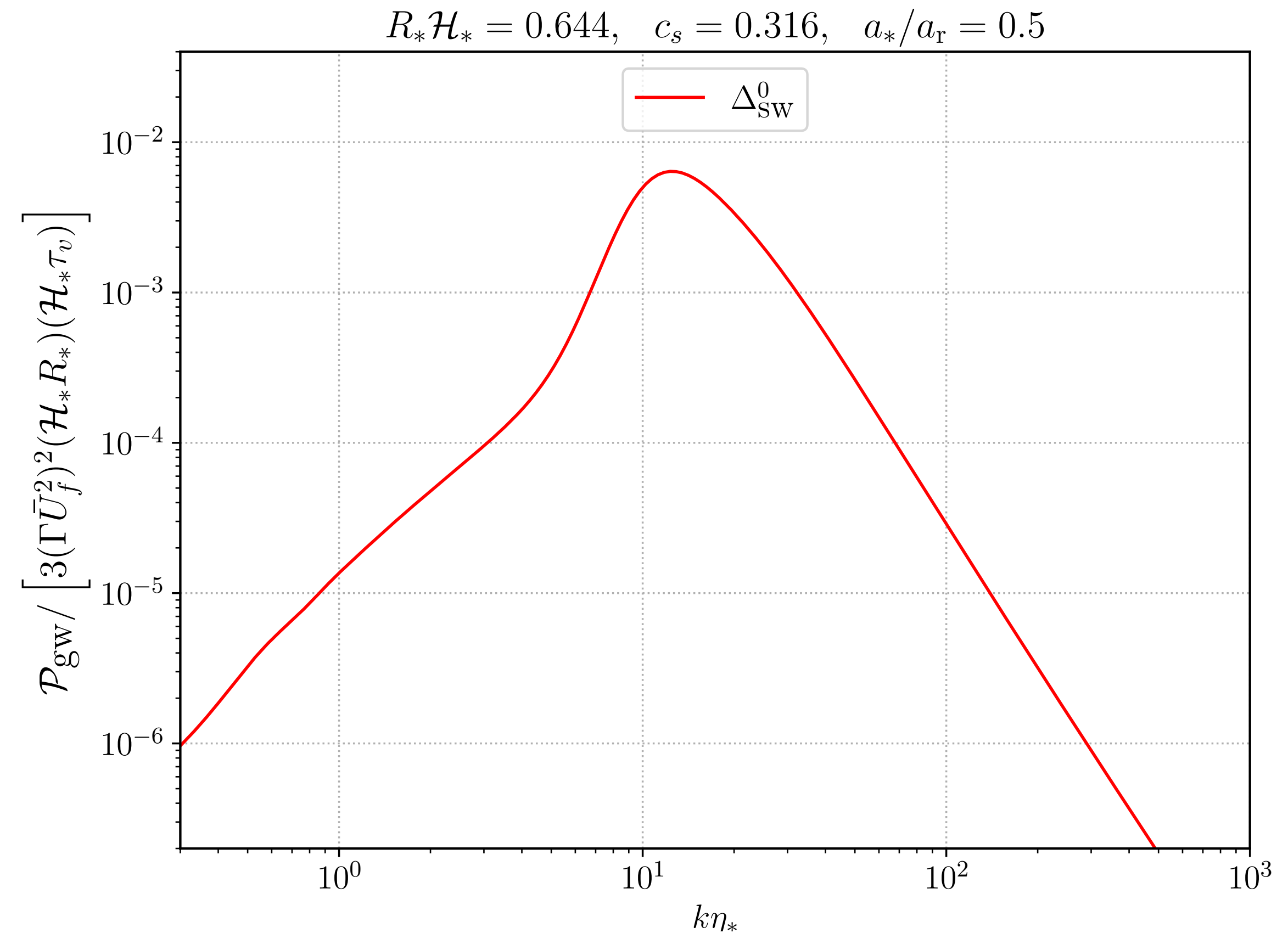


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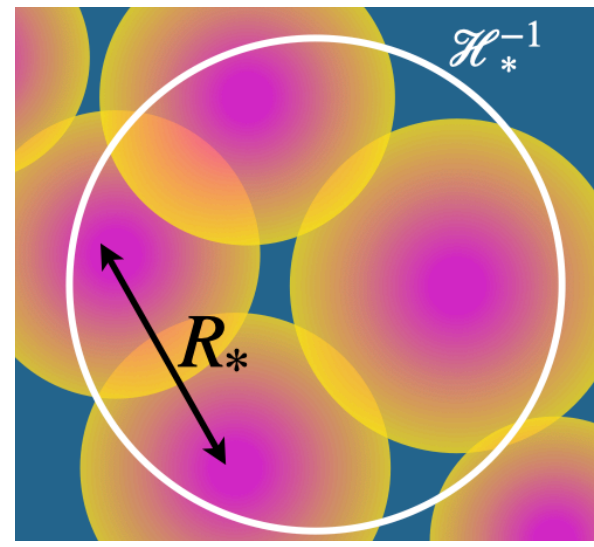
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$$\Delta = \Delta_{sw}^0 + \Delta_{sw}^1 + \Delta_{gw}^1 + \Delta_\Phi$$



(2) General relativity at next to leading order in $R_*\mathcal{H}_*$



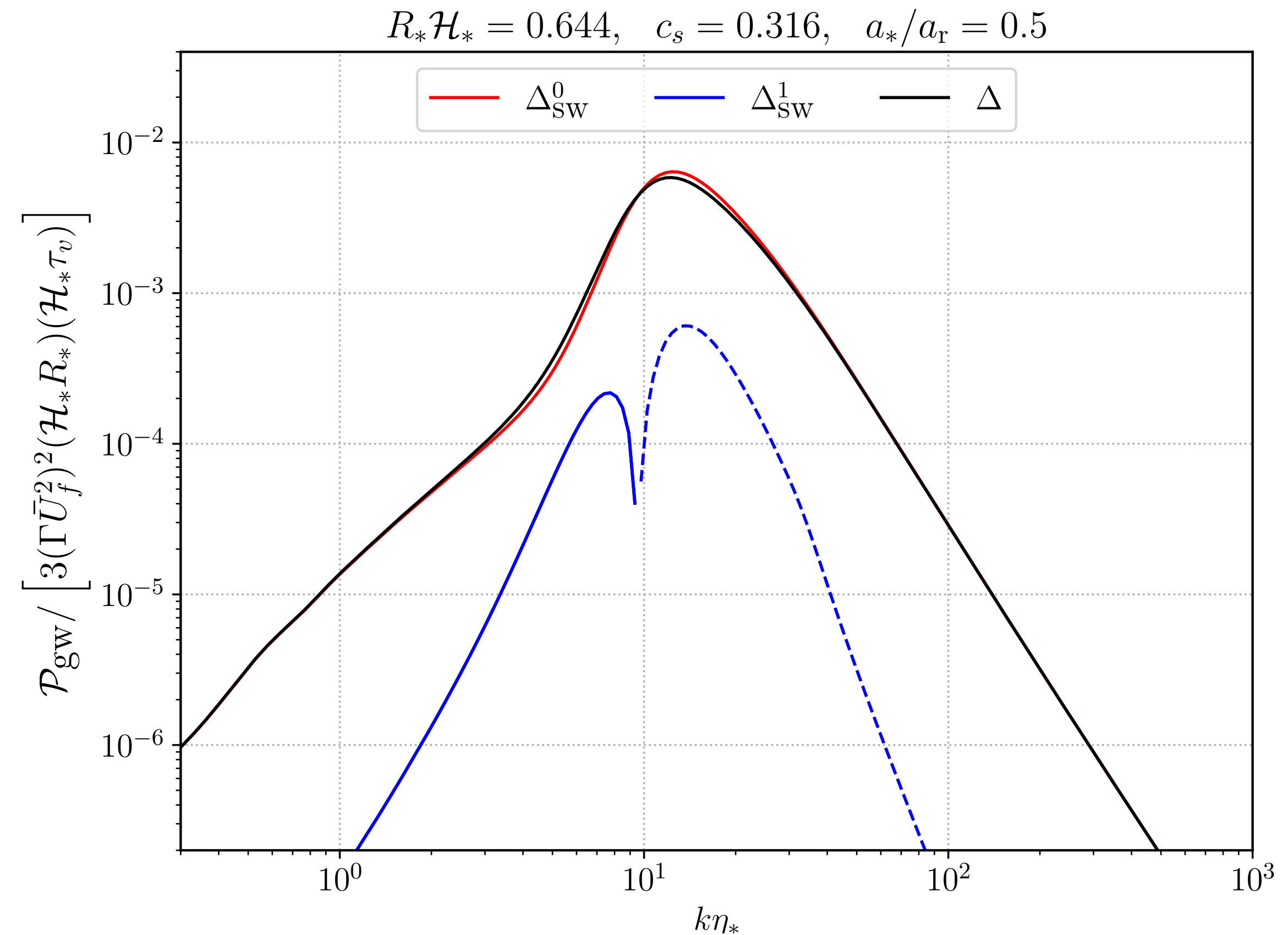
Short wavelength expansion $R_*\mathcal{H}_* \lesssim \mathcal{O}(1)$

$$\mathcal{P}_{gw} \sim (\mathcal{H}_* R_*) (\mathcal{H}_* \tau_v) \mathcal{P}(kR_*)$$

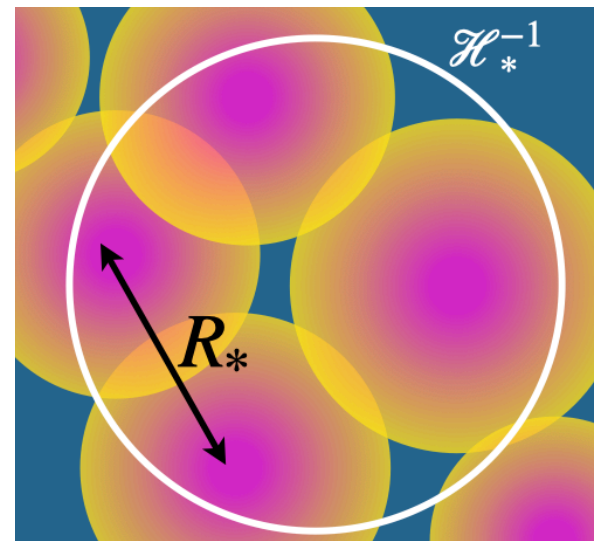
$$\mathcal{P}(kR_*) \sim \iint dq d\tilde{q} E_k(q) E_k(\tilde{q}) \rho(k, q, \tilde{q}) \Delta(k, q, \tilde{q})$$

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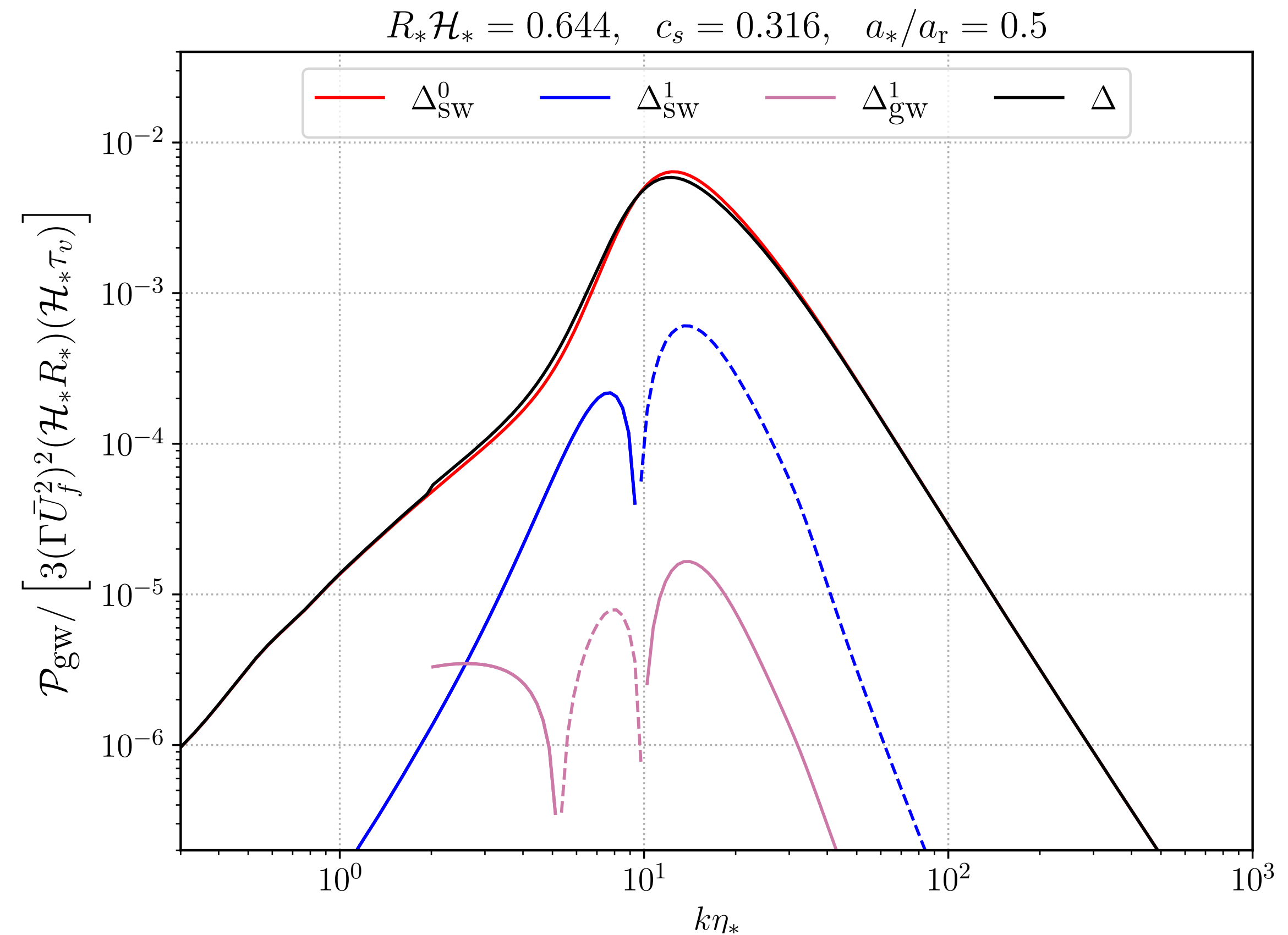
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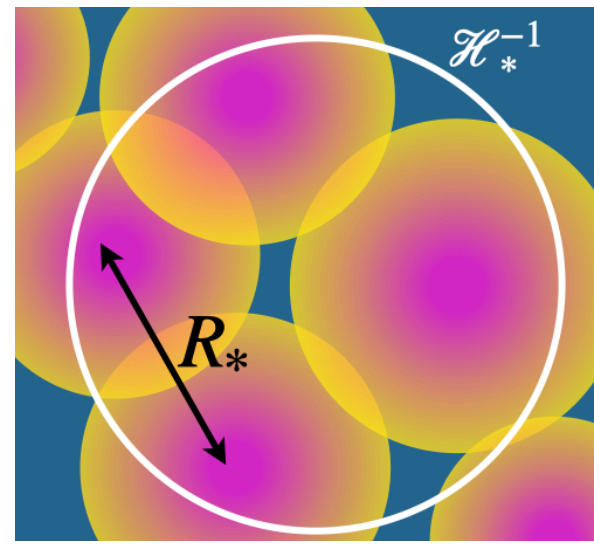
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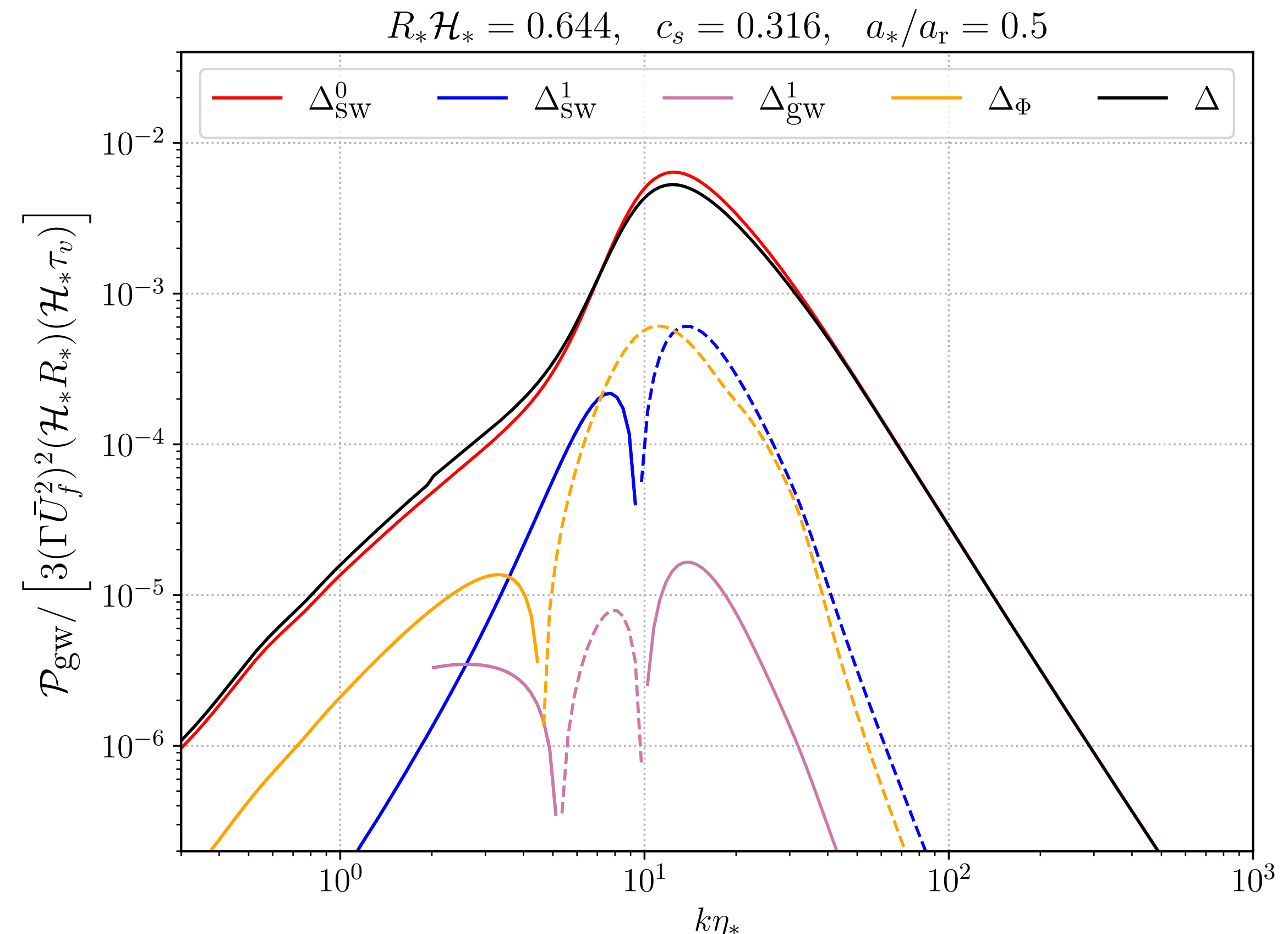
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- Δ_Φ : secondary GWs sourced by curvature perturbations Φ

$$\mathcal{S}_{ij} = v_i v_j + \frac{1}{4\pi G \bar{w} a^2} \partial_i \Phi \partial_j \Phi$$



Summary

* Softening of the Equation of State:

- Suppression of background energy
- Friction in sound waves

} Homogeneous suppression $\mathcal{O}(1)$ at all frequencies
Independent on the bubble size

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- Modify propagation of sw and GW
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} Frequency-dependent corrections $\mathcal{O}(R_* \mathcal{H}_*)^2$
Relevant for large bubbles

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Backup slides

Parameters used in the integration

Lifetime of the source: $\tau_v = N_{sh} \frac{R_*}{\bar{U}_f}$

End of acoustic phase: $\eta_{end} = \eta_* + N_{sh} \eta_{sh}$

Shock formation time: $\eta_{sh} = \frac{\xi_*}{\bar{U}_f}$ $\xi_* = \frac{1}{\bar{U}_f^2} \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^3} k^{-1} P_v(k)$

$$P_v(k) = 6\pi \frac{\bar{U}_f^2}{k_p^3} \frac{(k/k_p)^2}{1 + (k/k_p)^6}$$

R. Durrer & C. Caprini (2003), [arXiv:astro-ph/0305059](https://arxiv.org/abs/astro-ph/0305059)
J. Dahl et al. (2022), [arXiv:2112.12013](https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.12013)