

Gravitational Waves and Dark Sector - Connecting NANOGrav Pulsar Timing Data and Hubble Tension -

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**Based on Y. Nakai (TDLI), F. Takahashi (Tohoku U.),
M. Yamada (Tohoku U.), and MS
arXiv:2009.09754, PLB 2021.**

NANOGrav

NANOGrav - North American Nanohertz Observatory for Gravitational Waves

<http://nanograv.org/telescopes/>

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The 100-meter Green Bank Telescope, the world's largest fully steerable telescope. Image credit: NRAO

(West Virginia)

The 305-meter dish of the William E. Gordon Telescope. Image credit: UCF / AO

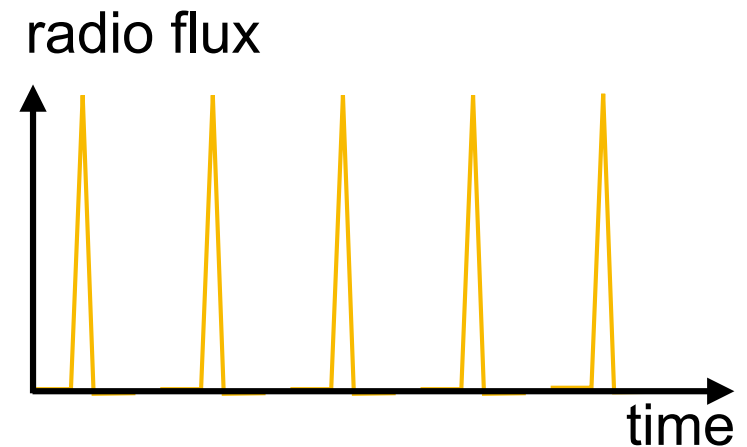
(Puerto Rico)

- 47 mili-second pulsars, data taking 2004-2017 (12.5 year data set)
- International Pulsar Timing Array (IPTA)
 - EPTA (Europe), InPTA (India), PPTA (Australia), NANOGrav
 - joint data, joint analysis

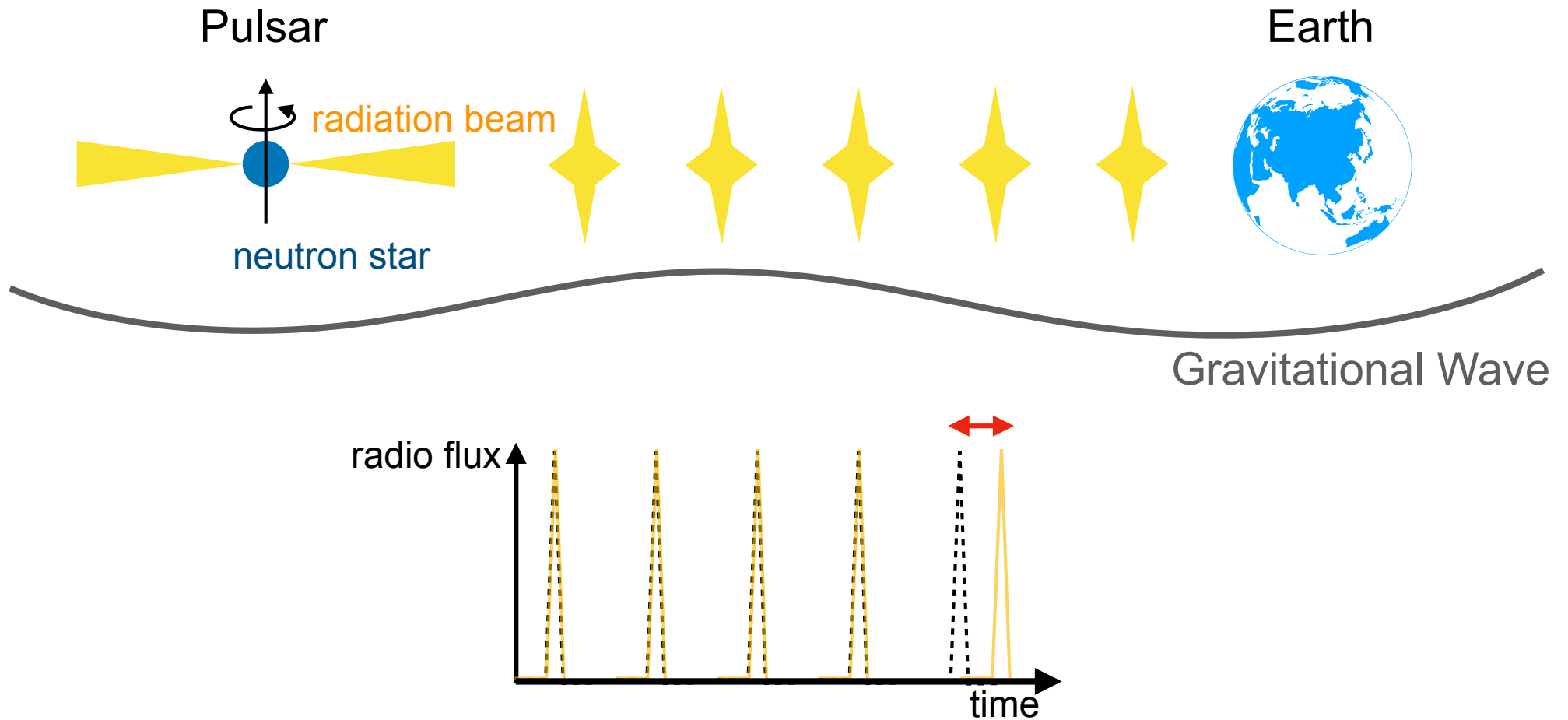
Pulsar Timing



- highly magnetized compact star
- rotation period: 1msec - 10 sec
- periodic pulse
- milli-second pulsars
 - very stable periodic pulse
 - pulsars in binary



Pulsar Timing



Residuals in pulse times of arrival (TOAs)

$$R_i = \text{TOA}_i - \text{TOA}_{i,\text{MODEL}}$$

NANOGrav 12.5 year data

NANOGrav Collaboration (2020)

- New signal in the timing-residual cross power spectrum



Frequency [Hz]

γ_{CP}

- fitted by power-law spectrum $\Omega_{GW}(f) \propto A_{CP}^2 (f/f_{yr})^{5-\gamma_{CP}}$
- e.g. a flat GW spectrum around nano Hz explains the signal

Possible Sources of GWs

- **Supermassive black holes**

The NANOGrav collaboration, 2009.04496

- **Cosmic strings**

Ellis, Lewicki, 2009.06555, Blasi et al., 2009.06607,
Buchmuller et al., 2009.10649, Samanta, Datta, 2009.13452

- **Primordial black holes**

Vaskonen, Veermäe, 2009.07832, De Luca et al., 2009.08268,
Kohri, Terada, 2009.11853, Sugiyama et al., 2010.02189, Zhou et al., 2010.03537, Domènech, Pi, 2010.03976

- **Dark photon resonance by axion-like particle**

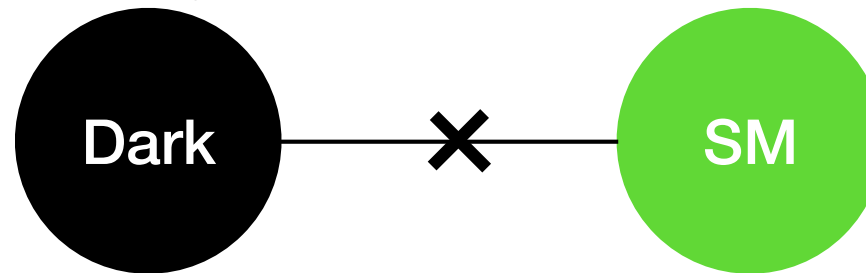
Ratzinger, Schwaller, 2009.11875, Namba, MS, 2009.13909

- **Inflation, Domain wall, ... (I am sure I do not list up all related papers..)**

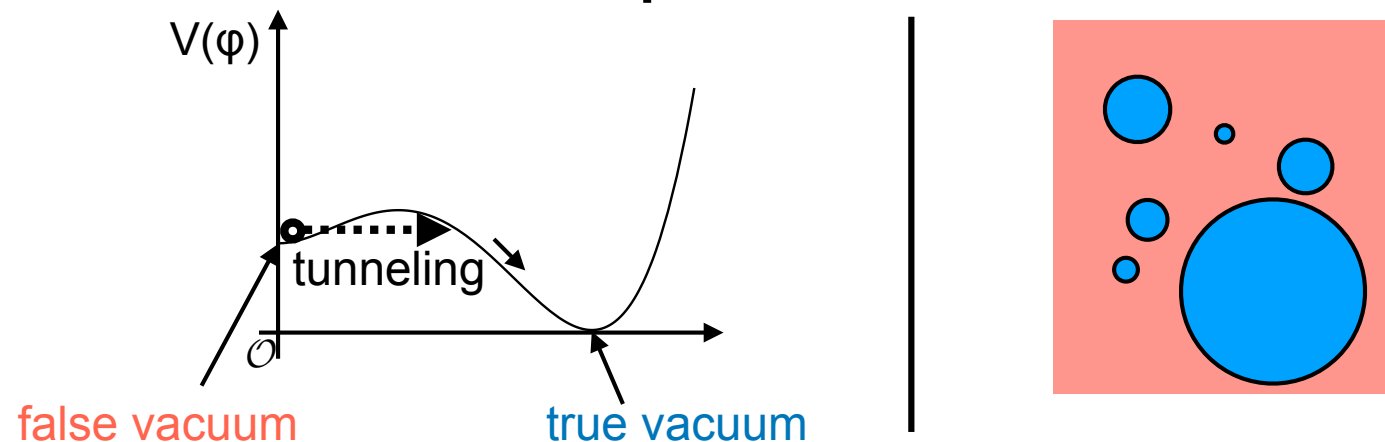
- **Phase transition**

Dark Sector Phase Transition

- Dark sector that completely decouple from SM sector



- In dark sector, **first order phase transition** occurs at some temperature



GW production

- Three contributions to total power spectrum of GWs :
 - bubble collision - sound wave - turbulence

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}} \approx \Omega_{\text{GW}}^{\text{bc}} + \Omega_{\text{GW}}^{\text{sw}} + \Omega_{\text{GW}}^{\text{tu}}$$

- Key quantities :
 - T_* , phase transition nucleation temperature
 - v_w , bubble wall speed
 - β , inverse of duration of phase transition
 - $\alpha' = \rho_{\text{vac}} / \rho_{\text{rad,tot}}(T_*)$
 - $\kappa_{\text{bubble}} = \rho_{\text{bubble}} / \rho_{\text{vac}}, \kappa_{\text{SW}} = \rho_{\text{SW}} / \rho_{\text{vac}}, \kappa_{\text{turb}} = \rho_{\text{turb}} / \rho_{\text{vac}}$

GW production

See, e.g., C. Caprini et. al., 1512.06239, 1910.13125, Hindmarsh et. al., 2008.09136

$$\Omega_{\text{GW},0} = \sum_i \Omega_{\text{rad},0} \left(\frac{g_*(T_*)}{g_{*0}} \right) \left(\frac{g_{*s0}}{g_{*s}(T_*)} \right)^{4/3} \left(\frac{H_*}{\beta} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\kappa_i \alpha'}{1 + \alpha'} \right)^2 \tilde{\Omega}_{\text{GW},i}$$

scaling to today
common factor

$\alpha' = \rho_{\text{vac}}/\rho_{\text{rad,tot}}(T_*)$

Bubble collision $\tilde{\Omega}_{\text{GW,bubble}}(f) \simeq 1.0 \left(\frac{0.11 v_w^3}{0.42 + v_w^2} \right) F_{\text{bubble}}(f)$

Sound wave $\tilde{\Omega}_{\text{GW,sw}}(f) \simeq 0.16 v_w \left(\frac{\beta}{H_*} \right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + 2t_{\text{sw}} H_*}} \right) F_{\text{sw}}(f)$

Turbulence $\tilde{\Omega}_{\text{GW,turb}}(f) \simeq 20 v_w \left(\frac{\beta}{H_*} \right) \left(\frac{\kappa_{\text{turb}} \alpha}{1 + \alpha} \right)^{-1/2} F_{\text{turb}}(f)$

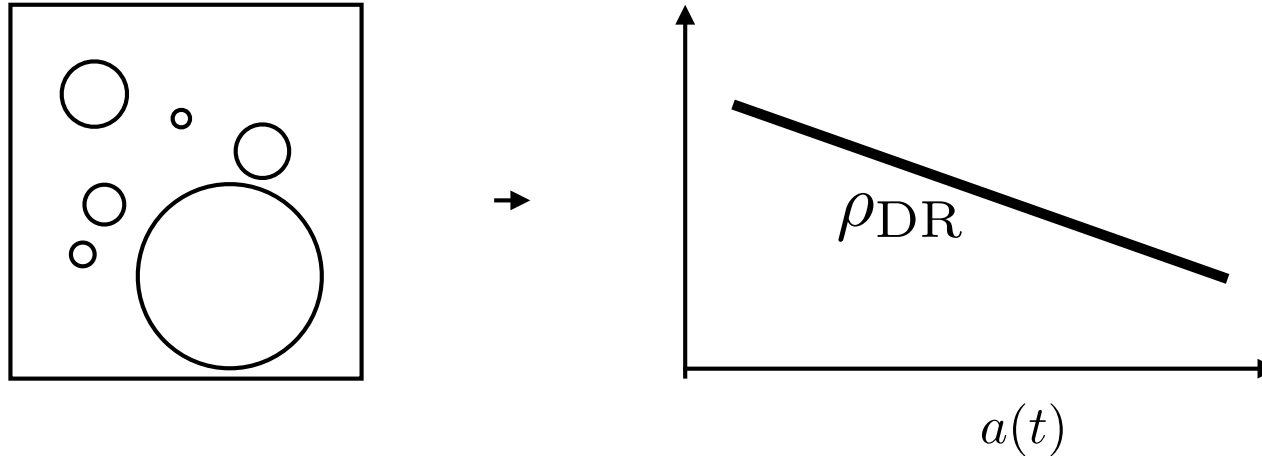
$$f_{\text{peak}} \approx 10^{-8} \text{ Hz} \left(\frac{\beta}{H_*} \right) \left(\frac{T_*}{0.1 \text{ GeV}} \right)$$

$$T_* = \text{MeV} \sim \text{GeV}$$

Remnant in dark sector

Y. Nakai, M. Yamada, F. Takahashi, M.S. (2020)
See also M. Fairbairn, E. Hardy, A. Wickens (2019)

- After phase transition, energy goes into thermal plasma, i.e. dark radiation



- Using entropy conservation and assuming strong first order PT ($\alpha \gg 1$),

$$\alpha' \simeq 0.07 \left(\frac{\Delta N_{\text{eff}}}{0.5} \right) \left(\frac{g_{*0}}{g_*} \right) \left(\frac{g_{*s}}{g_{*s0}} \right)^{4/3} \left(\frac{g_*^{(D)}}{g_{*0}^{(D)}} \right) \left(\frac{g_{*s0}^{(D)}}{g_{*s}^{(D)}} \right)^{4/3}$$

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}} h^2 \propto \alpha'^2 \propto \Delta N_{\text{eff}}^2$$

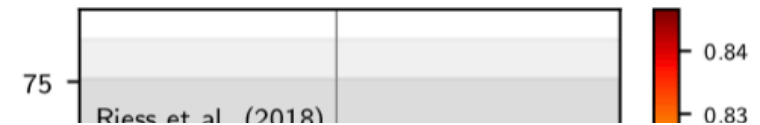
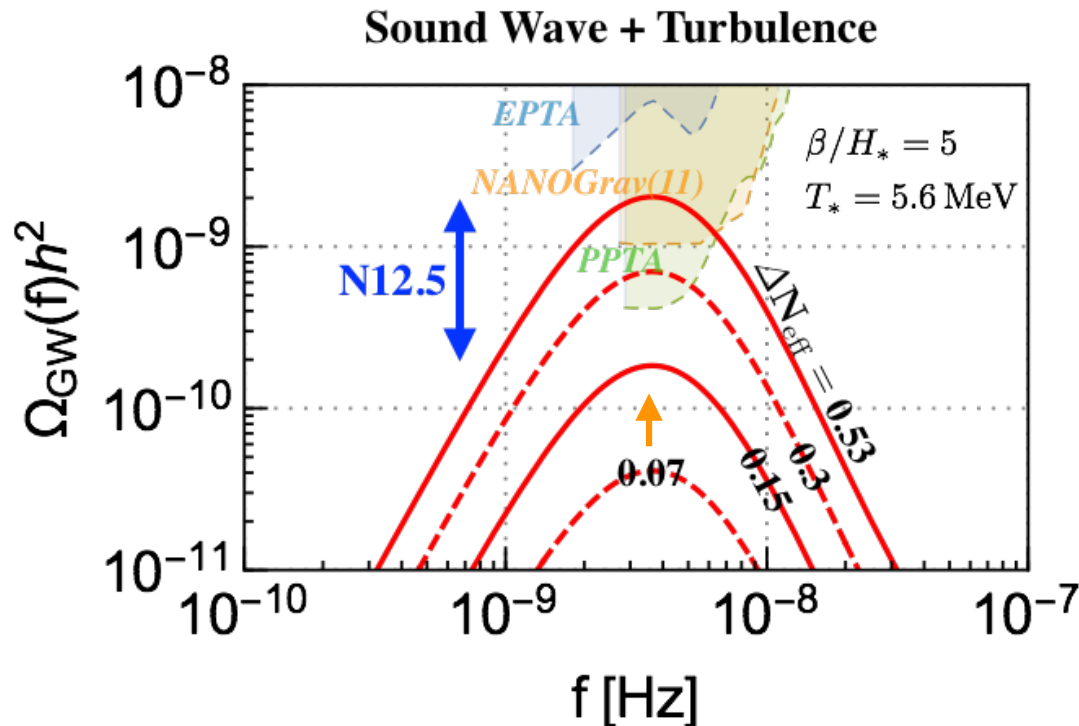
PLANK+BAO+H0 constraint

$$N_{\text{eff}} = 3.27 \pm 0.15 \quad (68\% \text{ C.L.})$$

$$(N_{\text{eff}}^{(\text{SM})} = 3.046)$$

Result

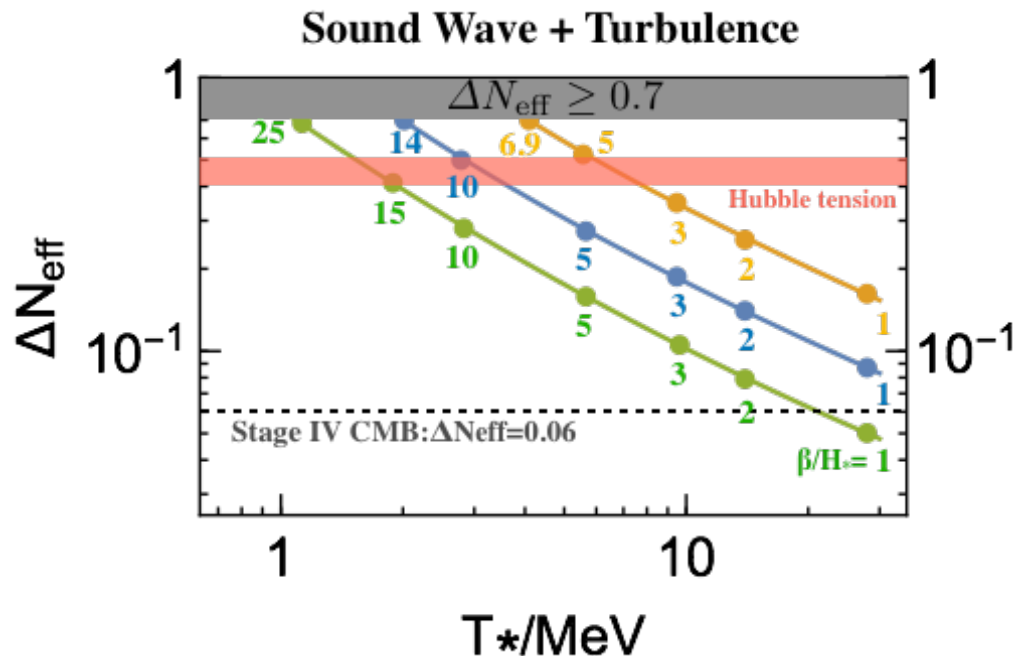
Y. Nakai, M. Yamada, F. Takahashi, MS (2020)



N_{eff} → PLANCK 2018

- Peak around $f \sim 3 \times 10^{-9} \text{ Hz} \leftrightarrow$ flat spectrum
- Large amount of dark radiation $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} > 0.1$
- Hubble tension might be reconciled

Result



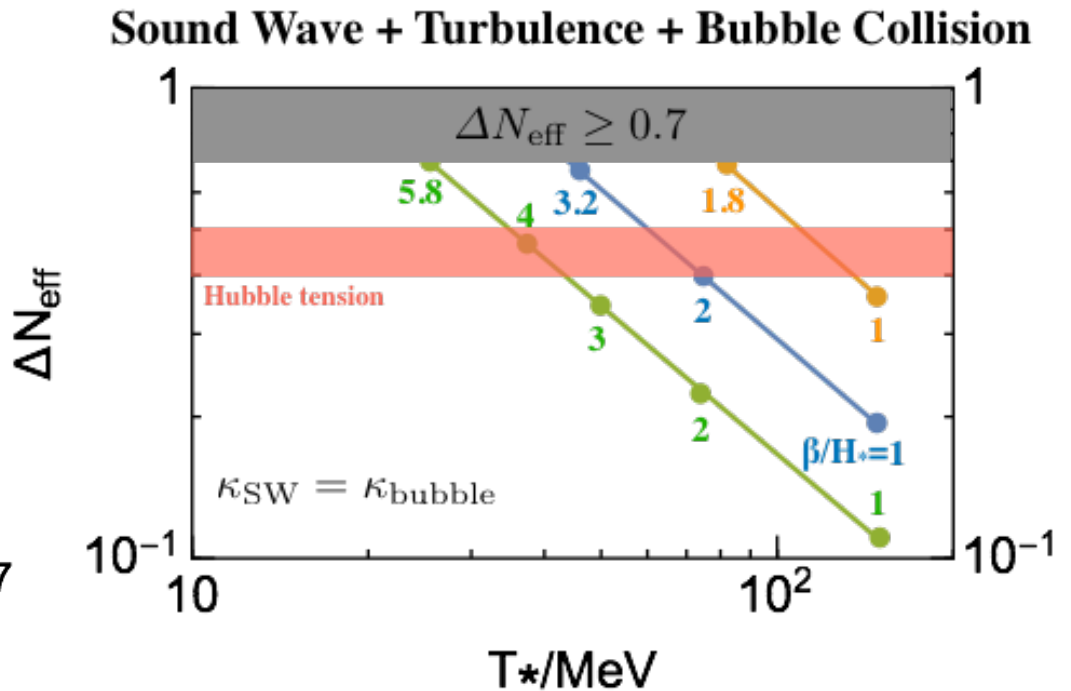
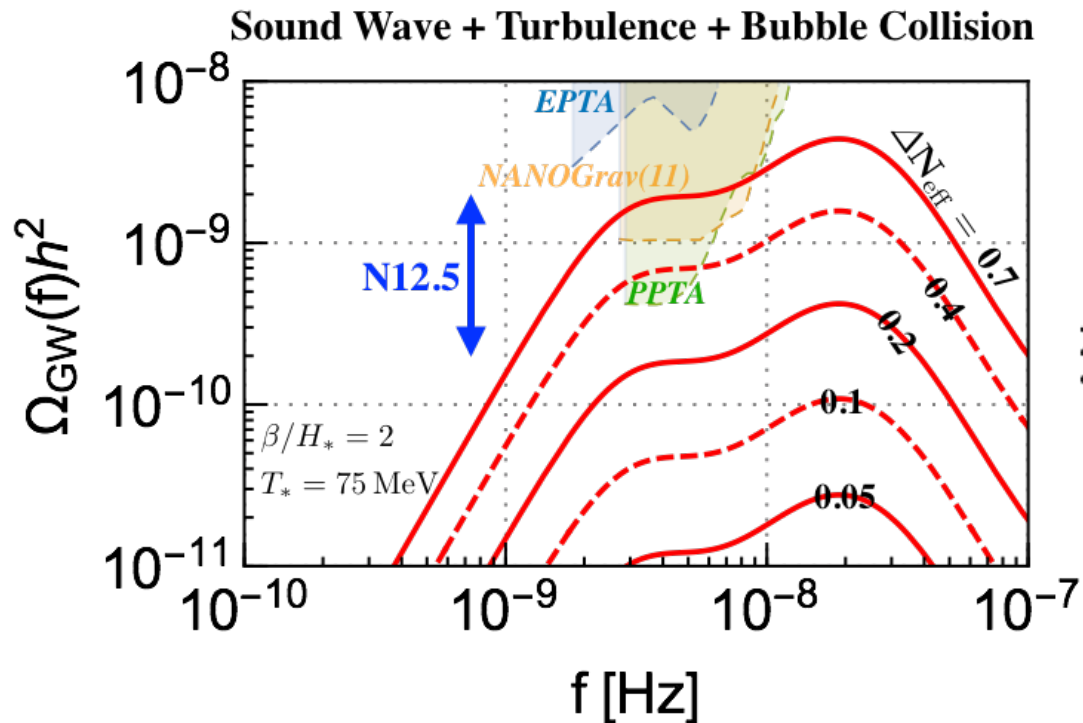
Peak frequency
 $f = 3.7 \times 10^{-9} \text{ Hz}$

Peak amplitude
 $\Omega_{\text{GW}}(f)h^2 = \underline{2 \times 10^{-9}}, \underline{6 \times 10^{-10}}, \underline{2 \times 10^{-10}}$

— $\beta/H_* \sim 10, T_* \sim \text{MeV}$

— $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} > 0.1$ can be measure near future

Result



- fitted by bubble peak
- $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} > 0.1$ is required to explain the signal

NANOGrav further analysis

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2104.13930.pdf>

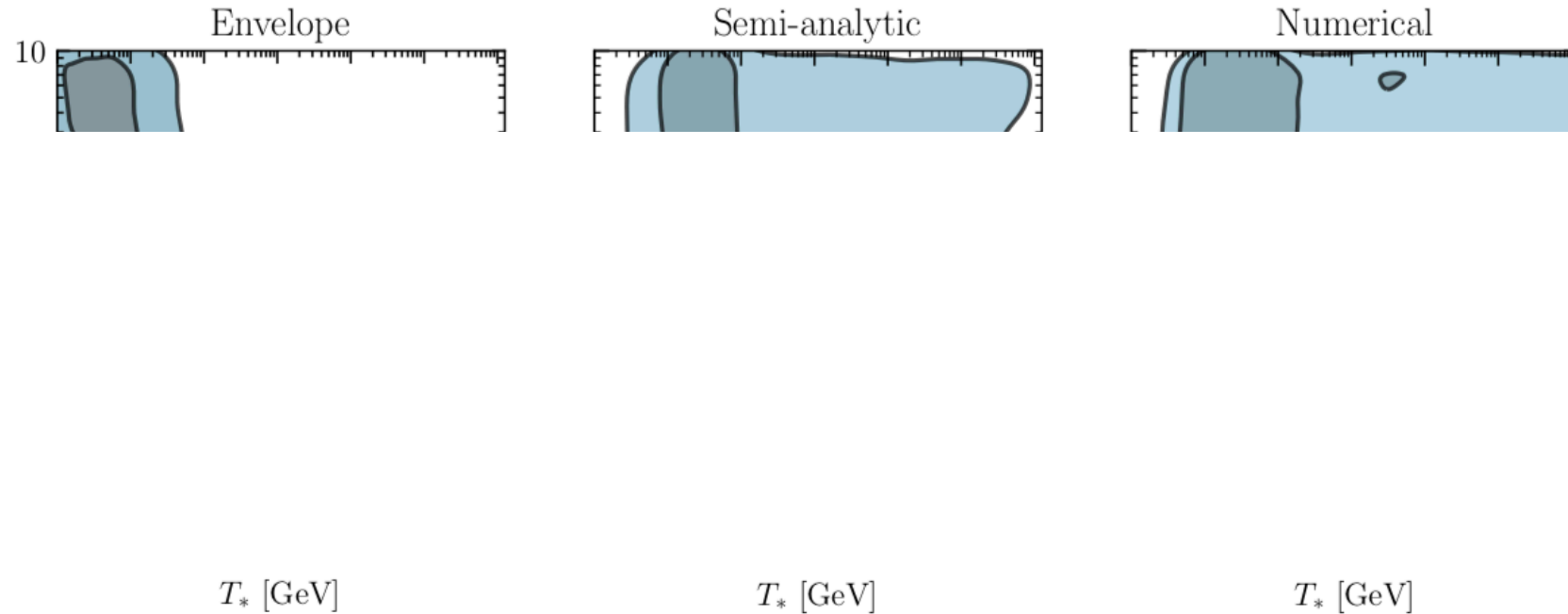
- Analyze GW signal via FOPT

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(f) = \Omega_{\phi}(f) + \Omega_{\text{sw}}(f) + \Omega_{\text{turb}}(f)$$

- For bubble contribution, three cases are considered
 - Envelope: surface disappears as soon as it collides & thin wall
 - Semi-analytic: multi-bubble simulation, evolution of two bubble collision is parametrized by two-bubble simulations
 - Numerical: lattice simulation

NANOGrav further analysis

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2104.13930.pdf>



T_* : phase transition temperature

α_* : vacuum density/relativistic energy density at T_*

- 1- σ : GW spectrum peak below NANOGrav sensitivity window

$$\alpha_* \gtrsim 0.1, \quad T_* \lesssim 10 \text{ MeV}$$

- 2- σ : GW spectrum peak above NANOGrav sensitivity window (w/o envelope)

Summary

- We consider a first order phase transition in a completely decoupled dark sector to explain NANOGrav data
- We predict $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} \gtrsim 0.1$ which can be measured in the near future

