

# Gravitational waves unlocking fundamental physics

CMSA Workshop on Phase Transitions and Topological Defects

Aug 2, 2022



Nancy Aggarwal  
Northwestern University

# ASTROPHYSICS AND COSMOLOGY USING LIGO-VIRGO

## Messages in the Stellar Graveyard

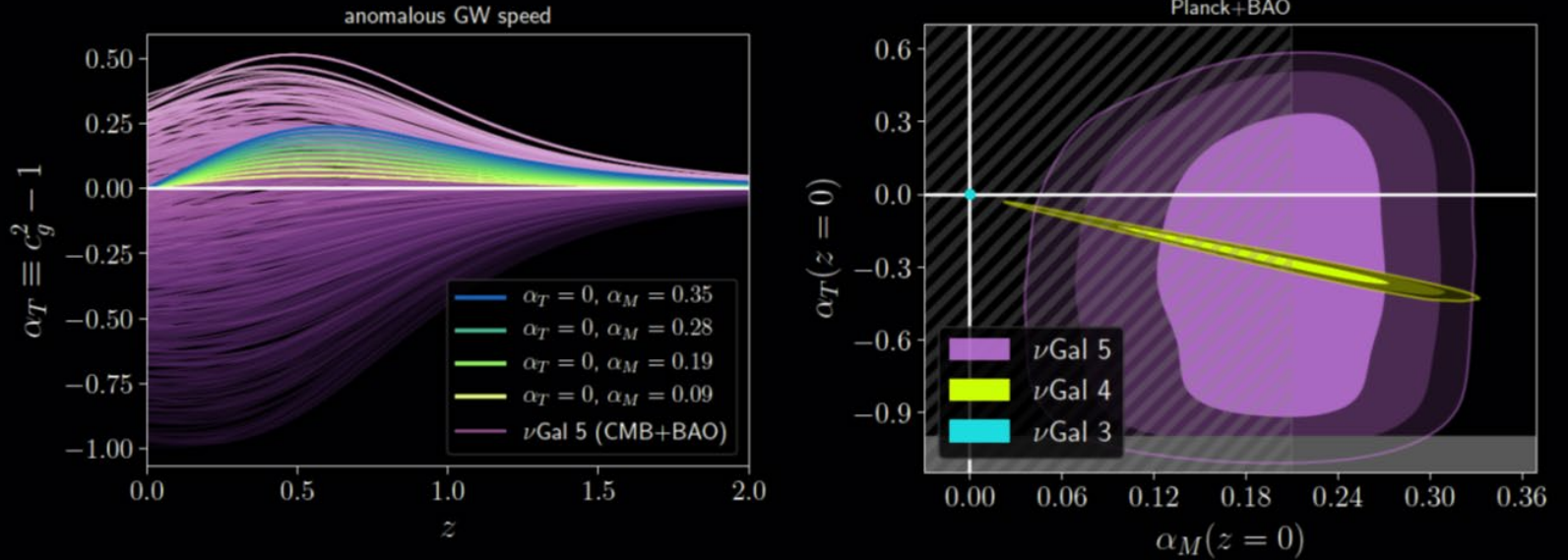
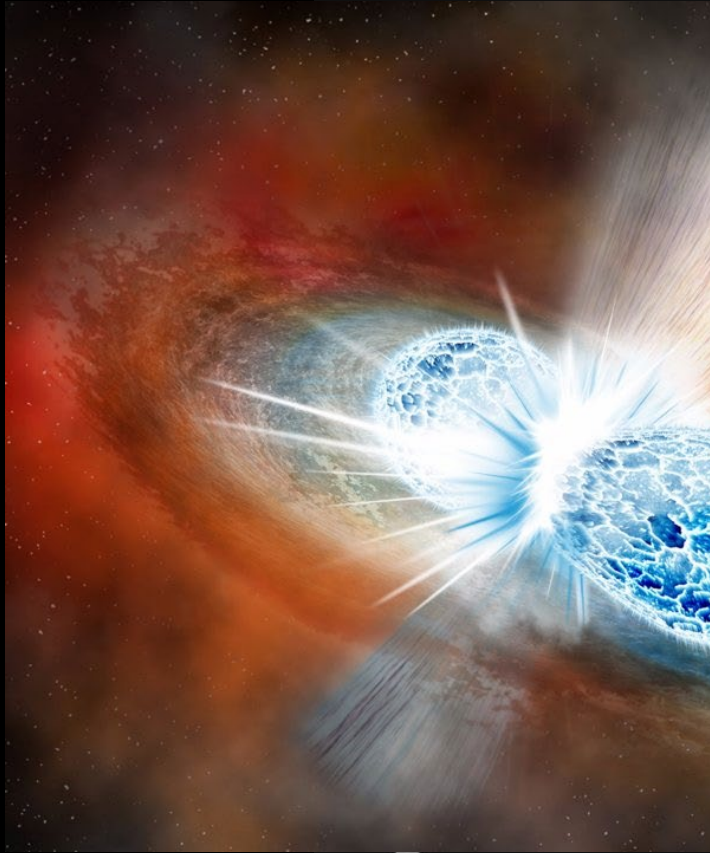
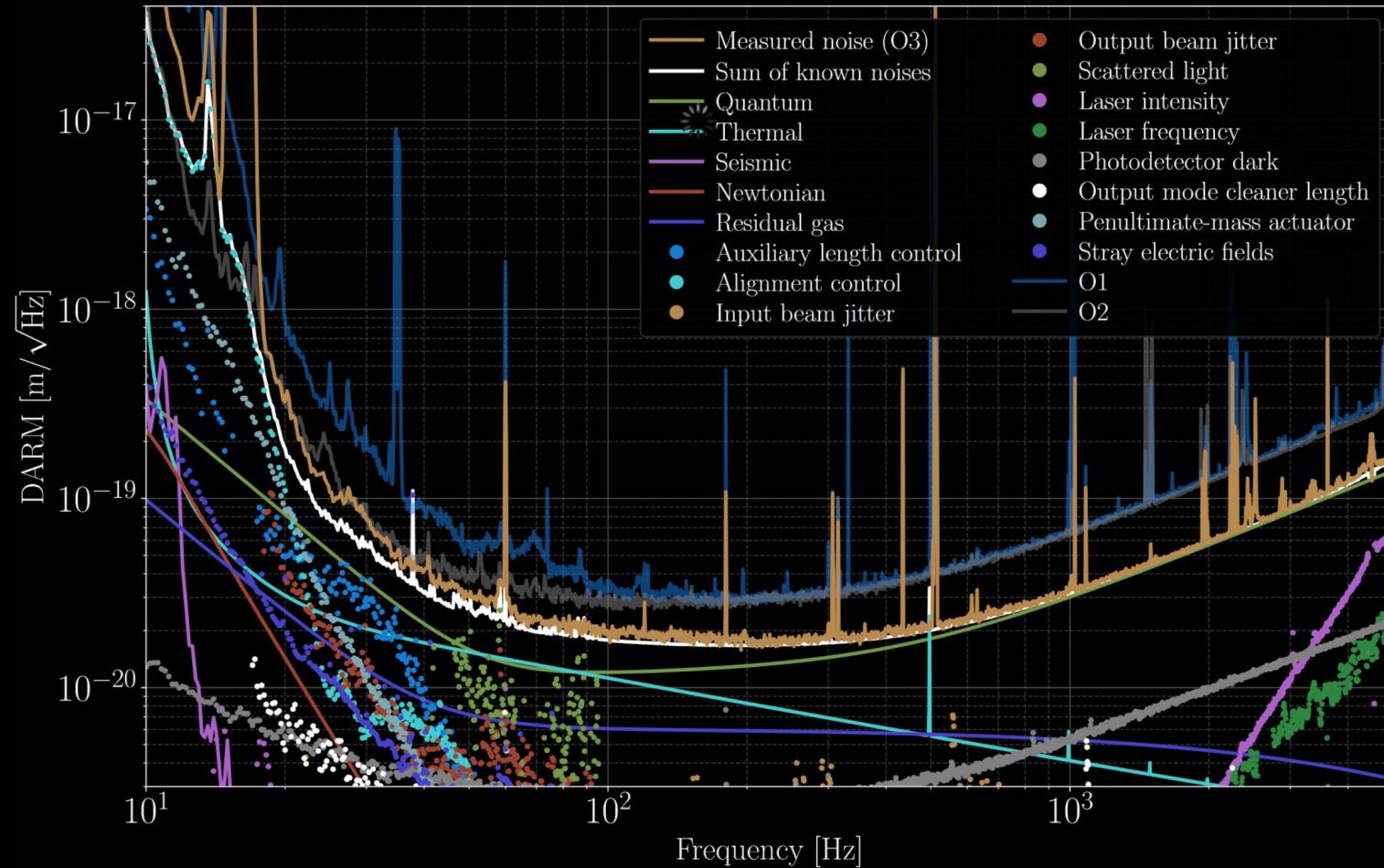


FIG. 1: **Left:** time evolution of the tensor speed excess  $\alpha_T$  as a function of redshift for 300 different realizations of viable quintic Galileon cosmologies. Only quintic fine tuned cases (colored) predict  $\alpha_T(z=0) \approx 0$ . **Right:** 1, 2 and 3 $\sigma$  confidence regions of the parameter space w.r.t. Planck+BAO for cubic (red), quartic (blue) and quintic (green) Galileons, projected on the  $\alpha_T(z=0), \alpha_M(z=0)$  plane. Gray diagonal lines indicate the region disfavored by CMB-LSS cross correlation, measuring the ISW effect (see [33] for details). Models with  $\alpha_T < -1$  (gray filled region) have unstable tensor modes.

[Biggish bang: artist's impression of a neutron-star merger \(Courtesy: NASA\)](#)

300 different theories ruled out by a SINGLE measurement!!!

# MOST SENSITIVE DISPLACEMENT MEASUREMENT

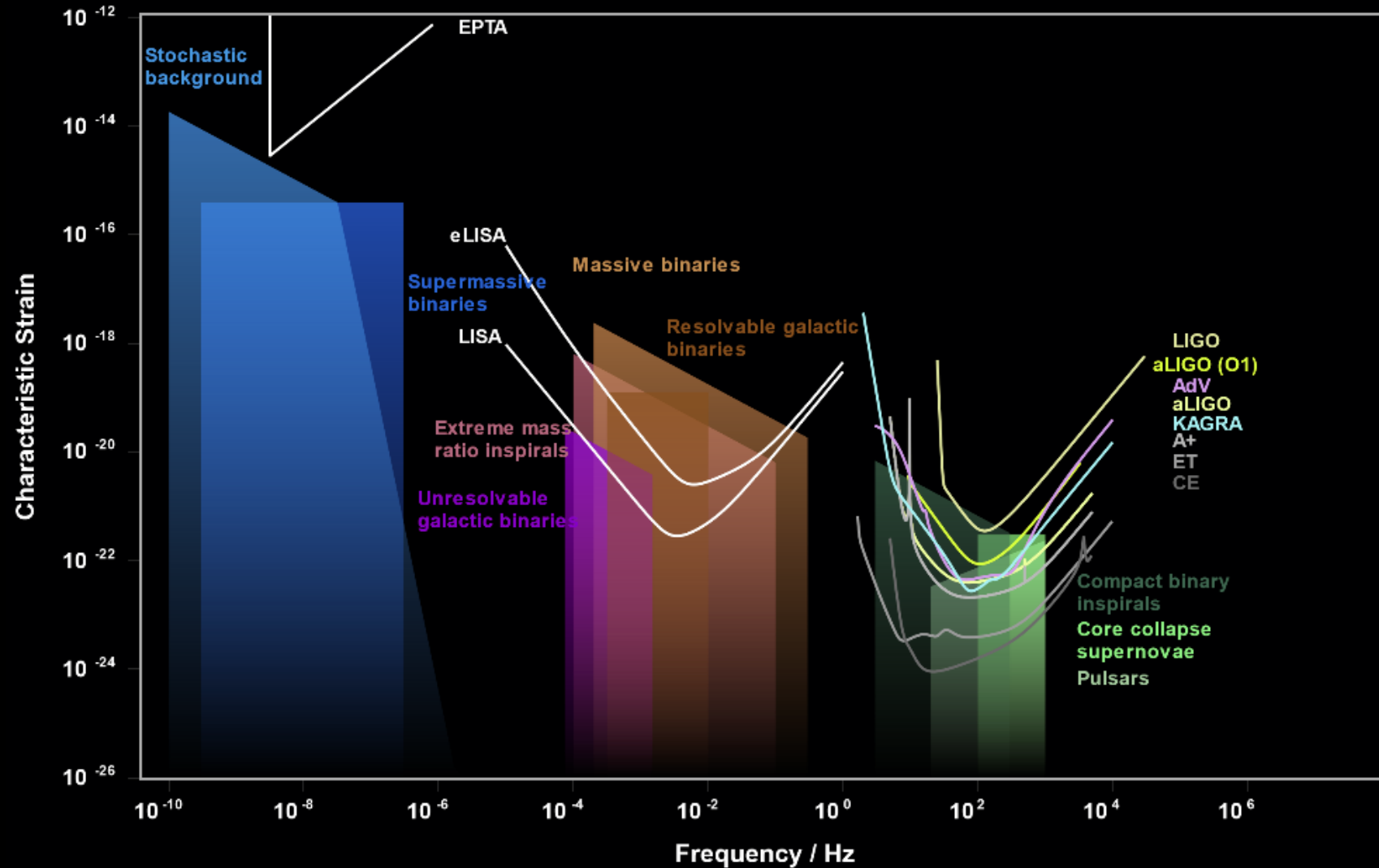


Sensitivity and performance of the Advanced LIGO detectors in the third observing run

A. Buikema *et al.*

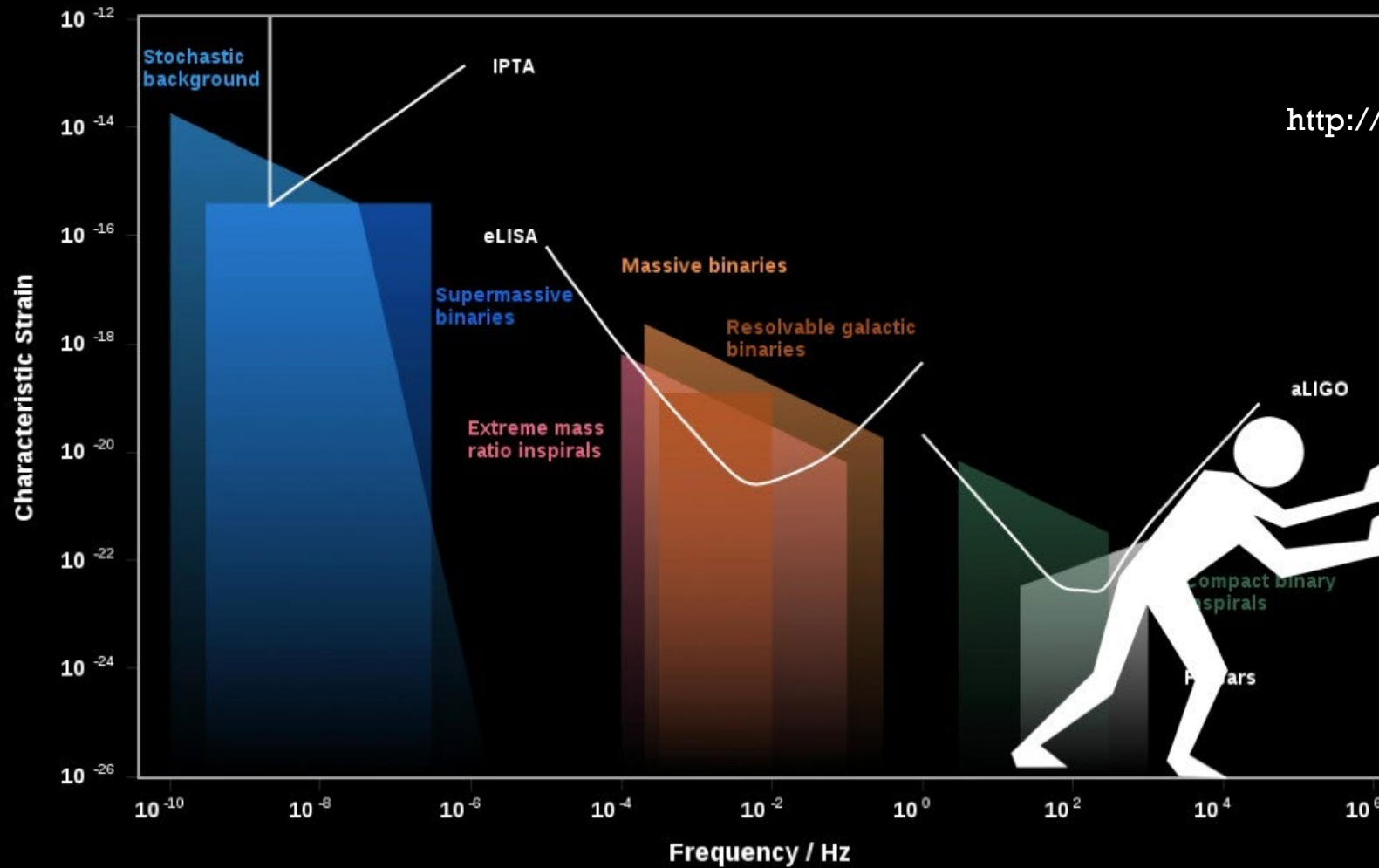
Phys. Rev. D 102, 062003 – Published 11 September 2020

# GW ASTRONOMY & COSMOLOGY BELOW THE AUDIO BAND



Credit: gwplotter

# GWS ABOVE THE AUDIO BAND?

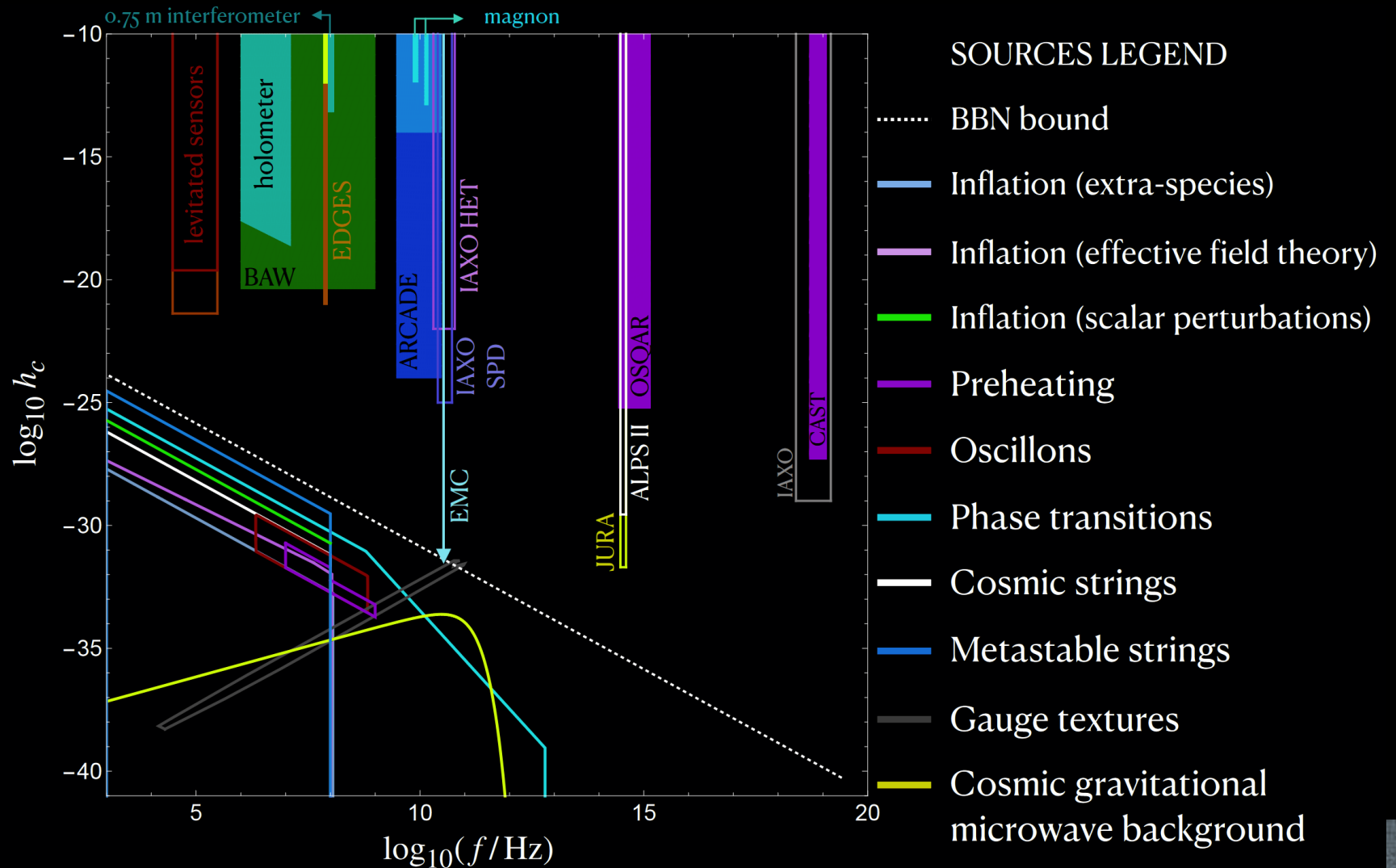


<http://www.ctc.cam.ac.uk/activities/UHF-GW.php>

**Members:** NA, Mike Cruise, Valerie Domcke, Francesco Muia, Fernando Quevedo, Andreas Ringwald, Jessica Steinlechner, Sebastien Steinlechner

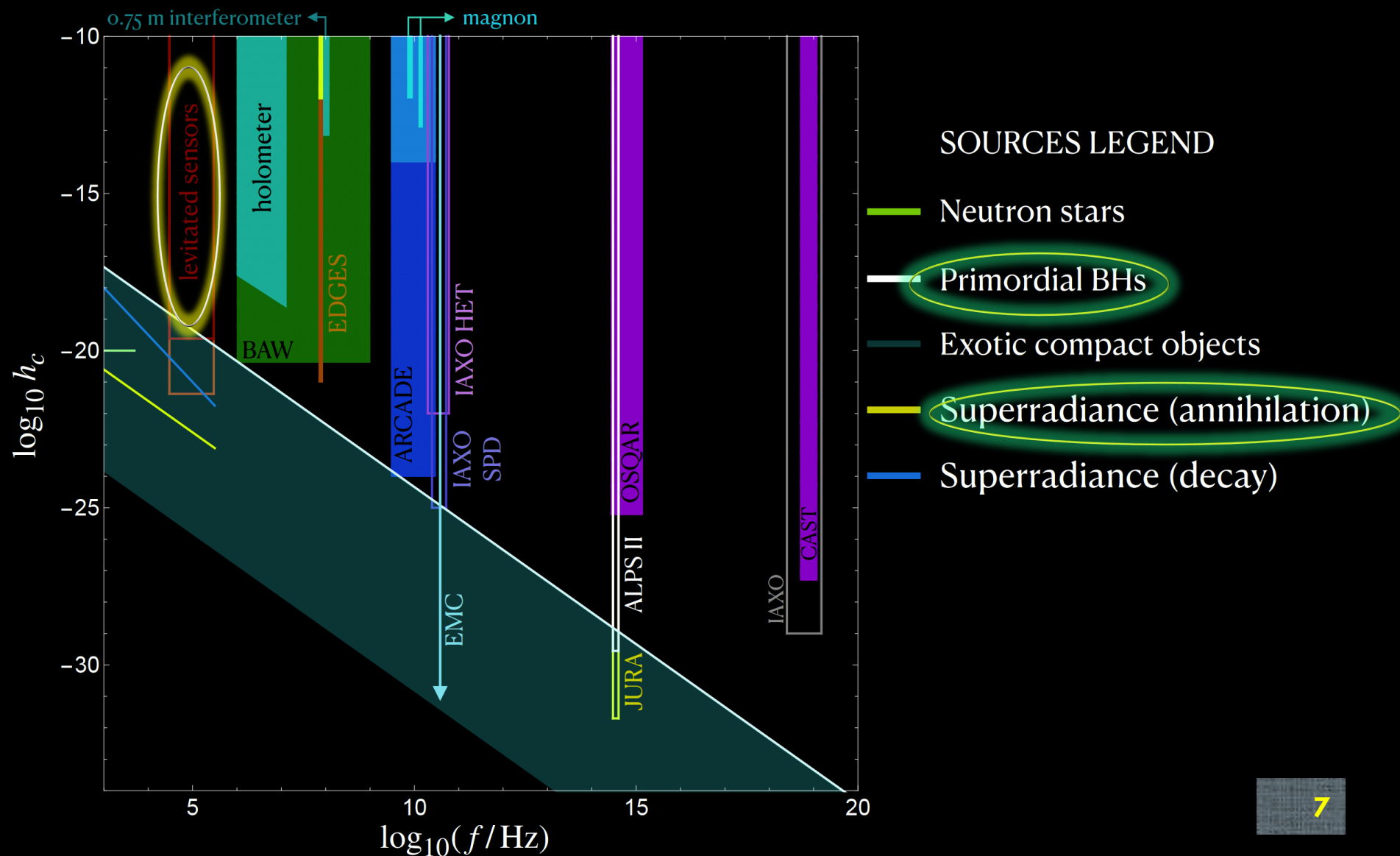
# NEW INITIATIVE FOCUSES ON GWS ABOVE AUDIO BAND

Aggarwal, N., Aguiar, O.D., Bauswein, A. *et al.*  
 Challenges and opportunities of gravitational-wave searches at MHz to GHz frequencies. *Living Rev Relativ* **24**, 4 (2021).

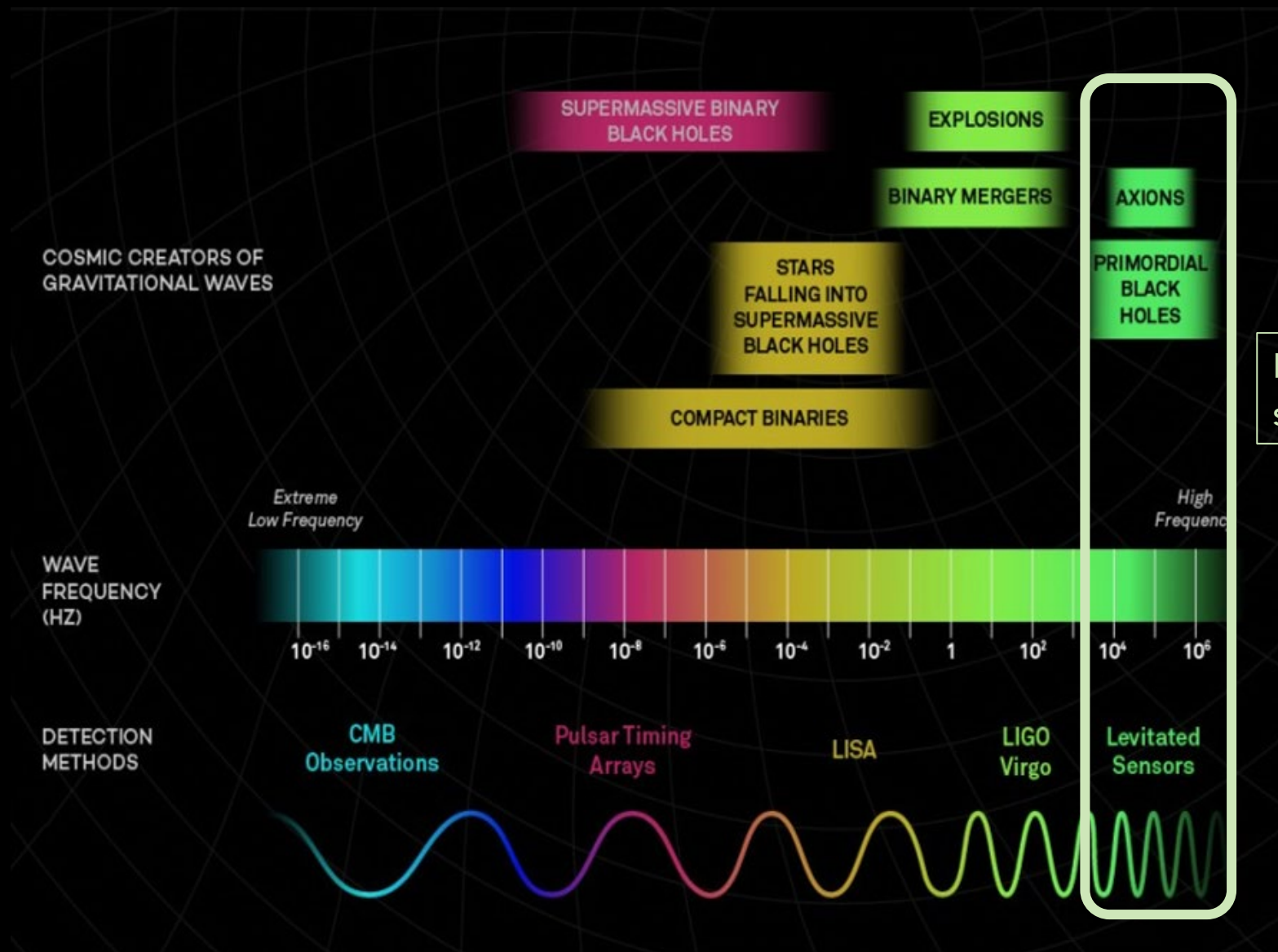


# NUMEROUS INTERESTING SOURCES & PROMISING TECHS!!!

Aggarwal, N., Aguiar, O.D., Bauswein, A. *et al.* Challenges and opportunities of gravitational-wave searches at MHz to GHz frequencies. *Living Rev Relativ* **24**, 4 (2021).



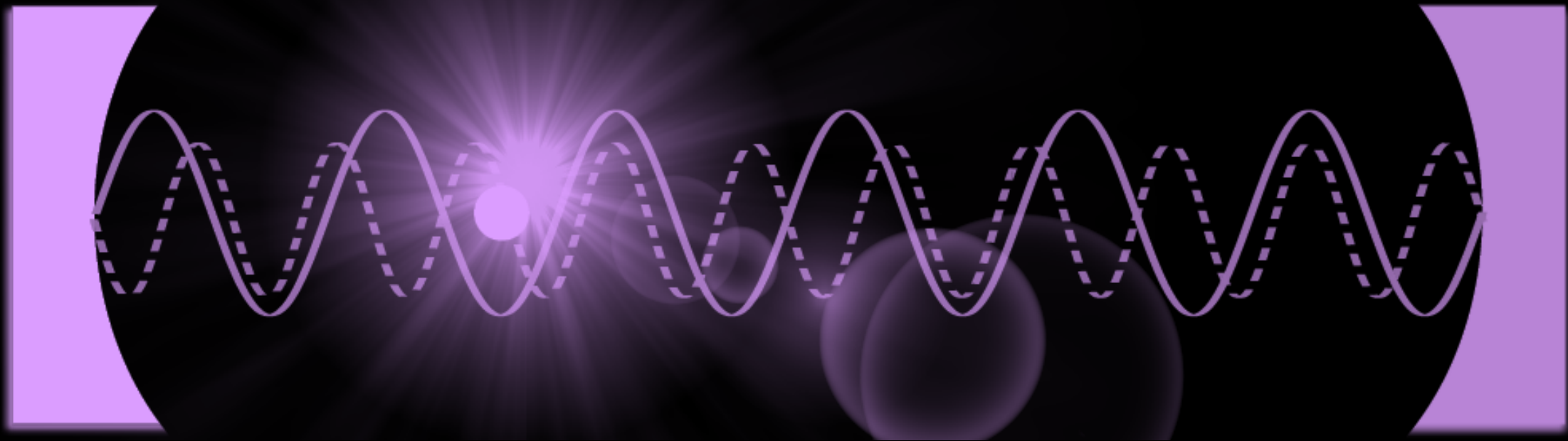
# GW DETECTOR AT 10-300 KHZ



Latest addition to the spectrum!

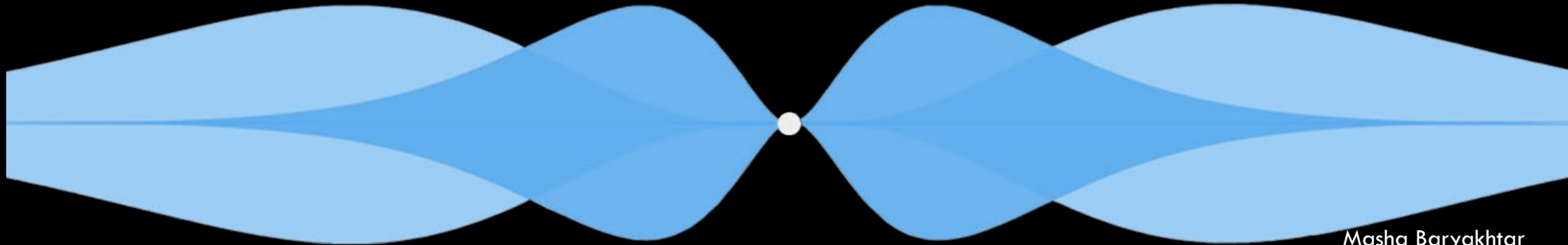


# LEVITATED SENSOR DETECTOR



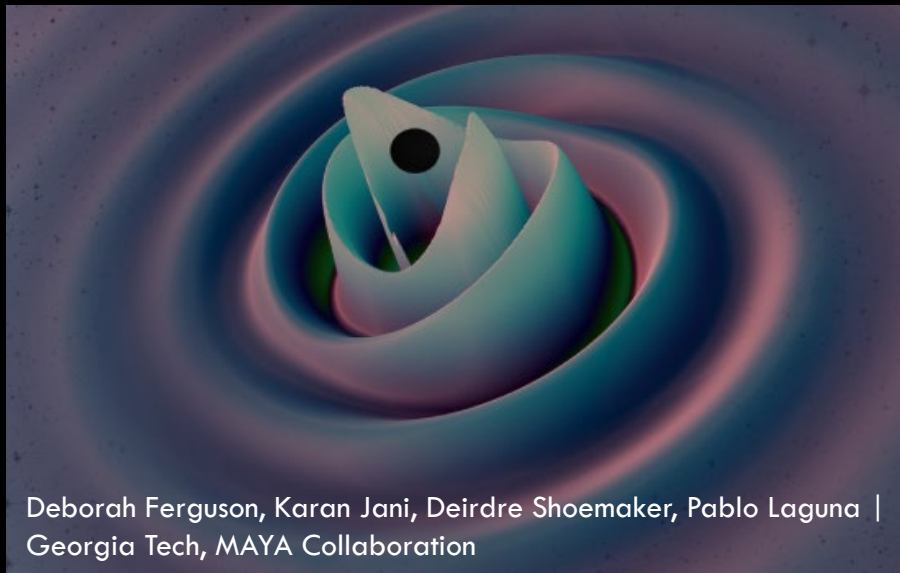
# SCIENCE CASE

## BH Superradiance



Masha Baryakhtar

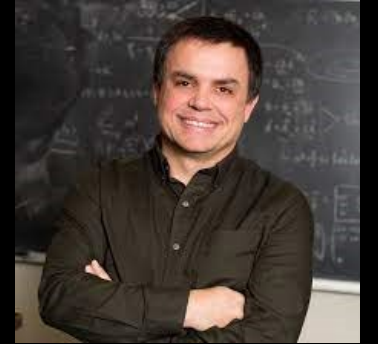
## Primordial black holes



Deborah Ferguson, Karan Jani, Deirdre Shoemaker, Pablo Laguna | Georgia Tech, MAYA Collaboration

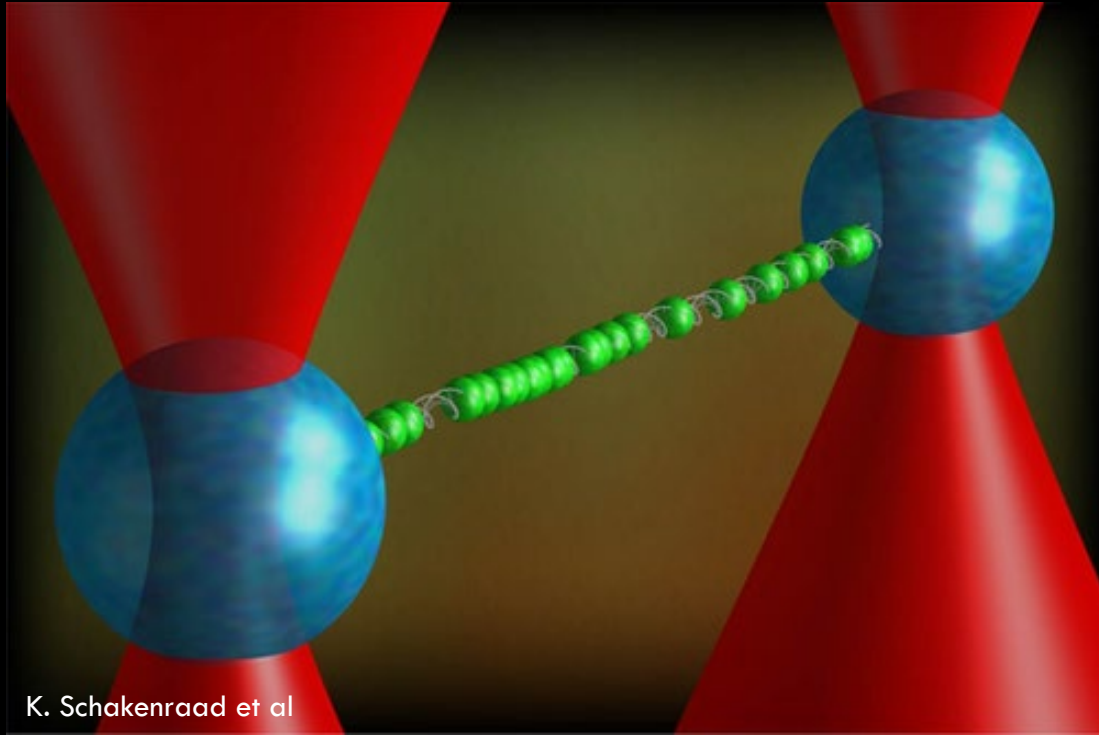


The unknown unknowns???

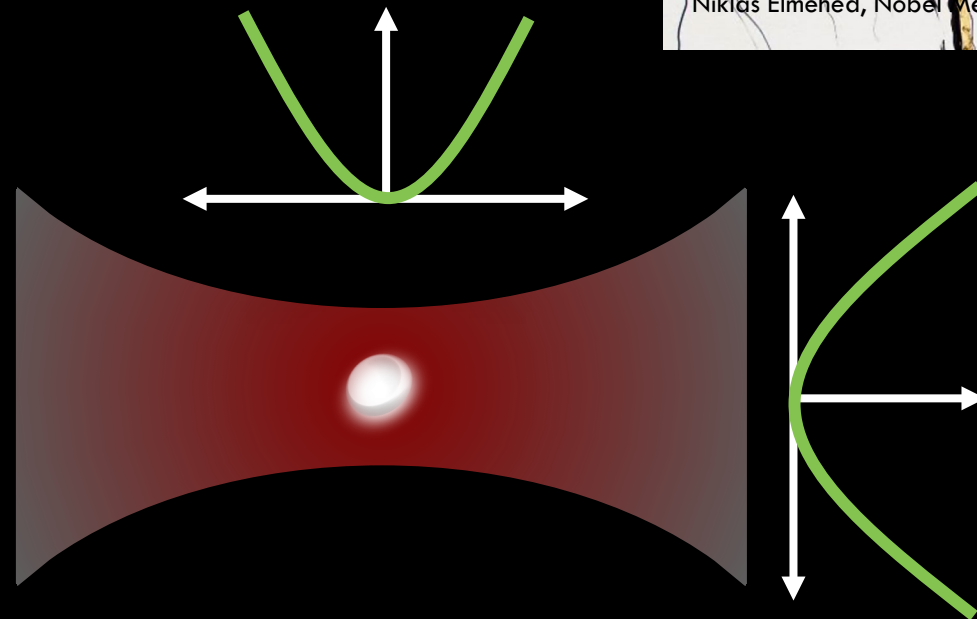
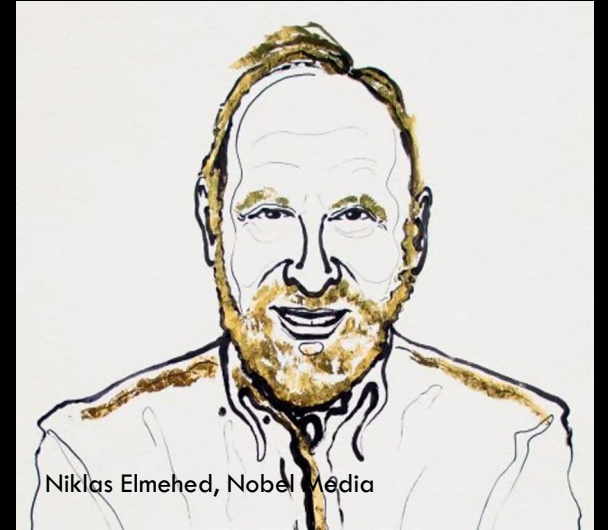


Northwestern

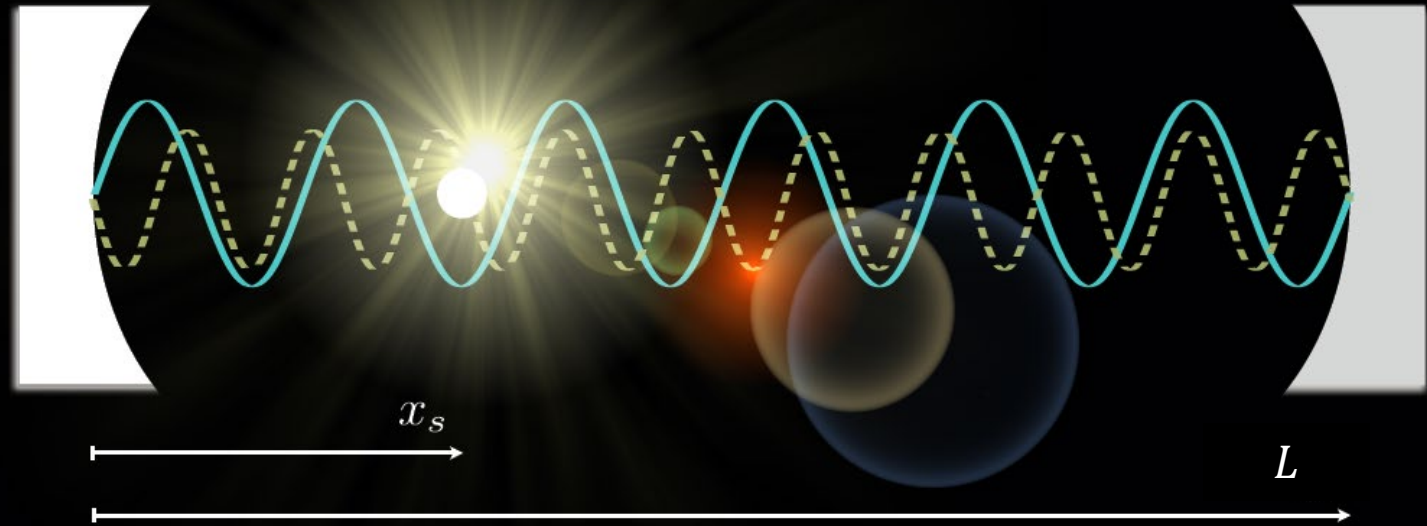
# OPTICAL TRAPPING



$$U(\vec{r}) = -\frac{1}{2} \alpha(\vec{r}) E^2(\vec{r})$$



# GW DETECTOR USING OPTICAL TRAPS



$$\Delta L = \frac{h}{2} L, \quad \Delta x_a = \Delta L, \quad \Delta x_s = \frac{h}{2} x_s$$

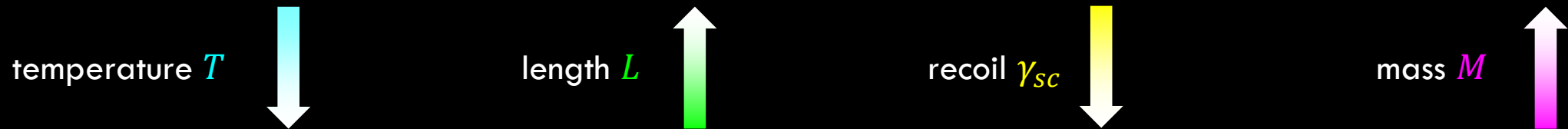
$$\Delta x_{GW} = \Delta x_s - \Delta x_a = \frac{h}{2} (x_s - L), \quad \text{maximized at } x_s \rightarrow 0$$

$$F_{GW} = M \Omega_T^2 \Delta x_{GW} = M \Omega_T^2 \frac{L}{2} h_0 \cos \Omega_{GW} t$$

Arvanitaki and Geraci,  
PRL 110, 071105 (2013)

# LIMITING NOISE: GAS DAMPING AND PHOTON RECOIL HEATING

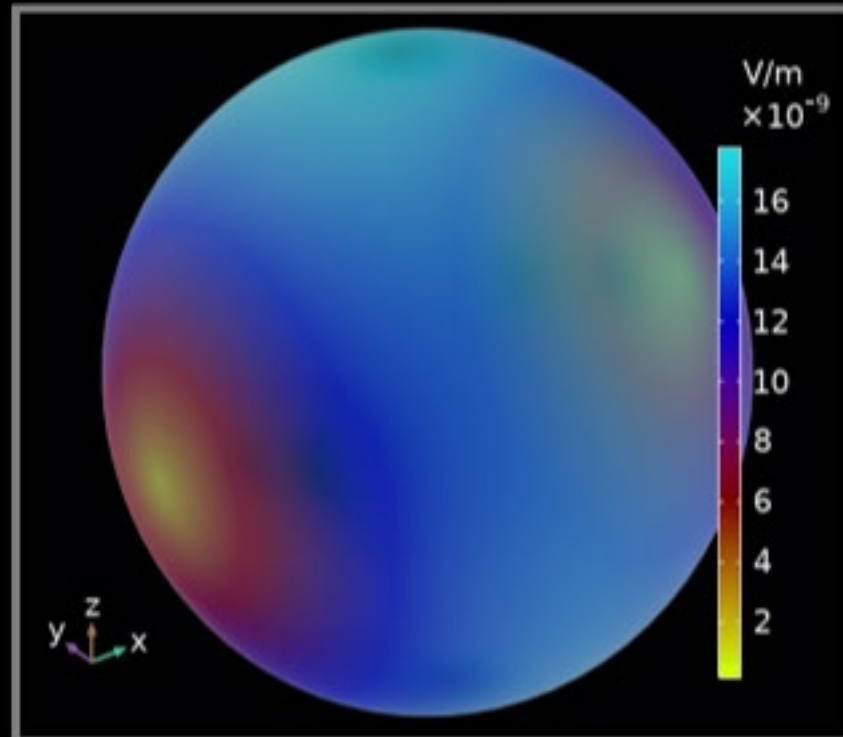
- $S_{FF} = 4 M (k_B T \gamma_g + \hbar \omega \gamma_{sc})$
- Limit on resonance ( $\Omega \rightarrow \Omega_T$ ),  $S_{hh} \sim 16 \frac{1}{\Omega_T^2} \frac{1}{M} \frac{1}{L^2} (\hbar \omega \gamma_{sc} + k_B T \gamma_g)$



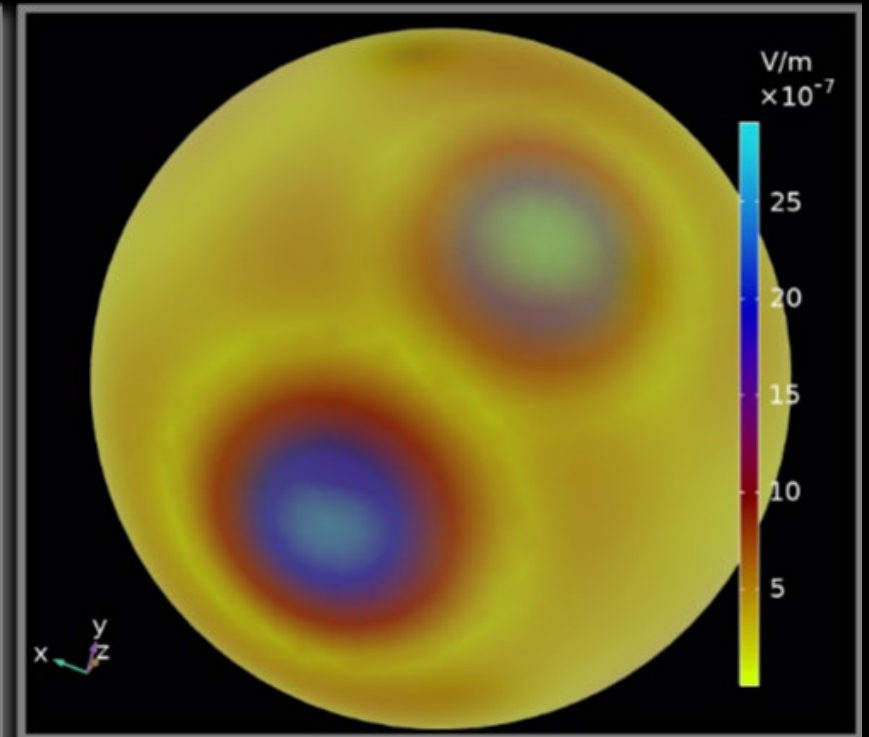
# PARTICLE GEOMETRY AFFECTS SCATTER

- Sphere scatters light in all directions
- Disk scatters light in the beam direction (low  $\gamma_{sc}$ )
- Numerical simulations of scattering from disks show low scattering loss, hence low recoil heating

plane wave incident:  $\vec{E} = 1 \text{ Vm}^{-1} \hat{x} \cos kz$



SiO<sub>2</sub> Sphere (d=300 nm)

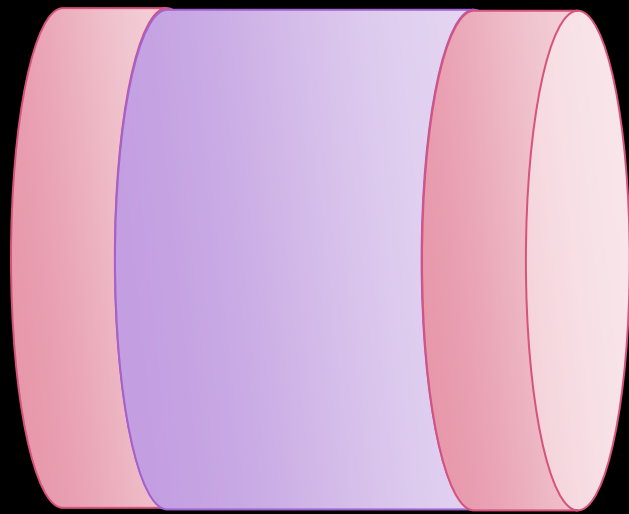


NaYF Hexagon (d=4  $\mu\text{m}$ ,  $\tau = 200 \text{ nm}$ ),  
300 times more mass

Aggarwal et al arxiv:2010.13157 Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 111101,  
Winstone et al arxiv:2204.10843 Phys. Rev. Lett. 129, 053604

# INCREASE PARTICLE MASS WHILE KEEPING SCATTER LOW?

- Stacked disks to increase mass (high  $M$ )



Modified  
wavelength

$$\lambda_i = \frac{\lambda_0}{n_i}$$

$$t_1 = \frac{\lambda_1}{4} \quad t_2 = \frac{\lambda_2}{2} \quad t_1$$

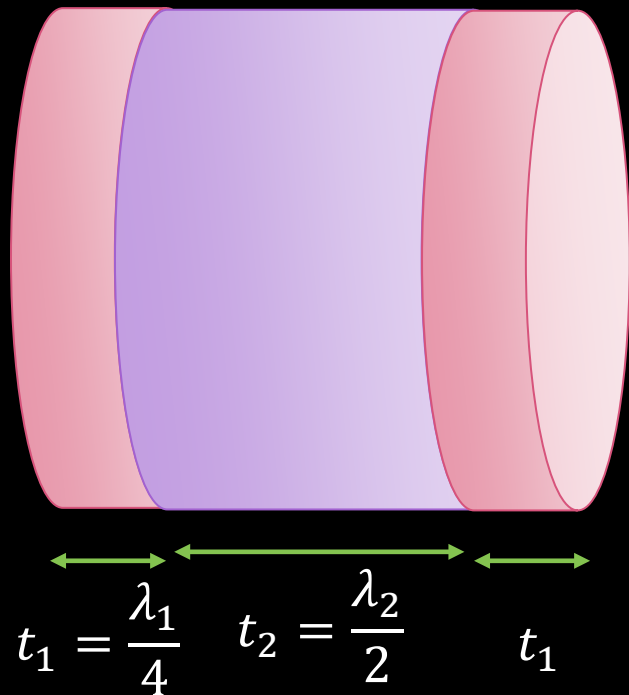
Is such a stack trappable?

1. What is the transmission through the stack?
2. What is the field inside the stack?
3. What is the trapping frequency/stiffness?
4. Can these things be fabricated in the lab?



# INCREASE PARTICLE MASS WHILE KEEPING SCATTER LOW?

- Stacked disks to increase mass (high  $M$ )

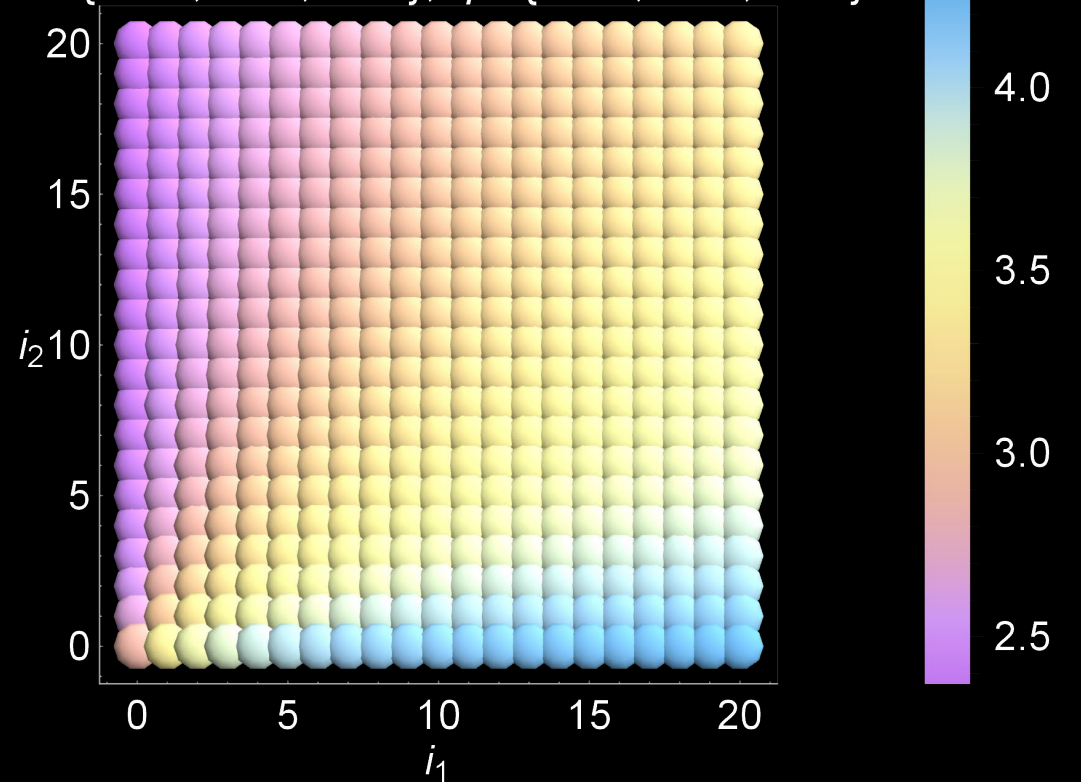


Modified wavelength

$$\lambda_i = \frac{\lambda_0}{n_i}$$

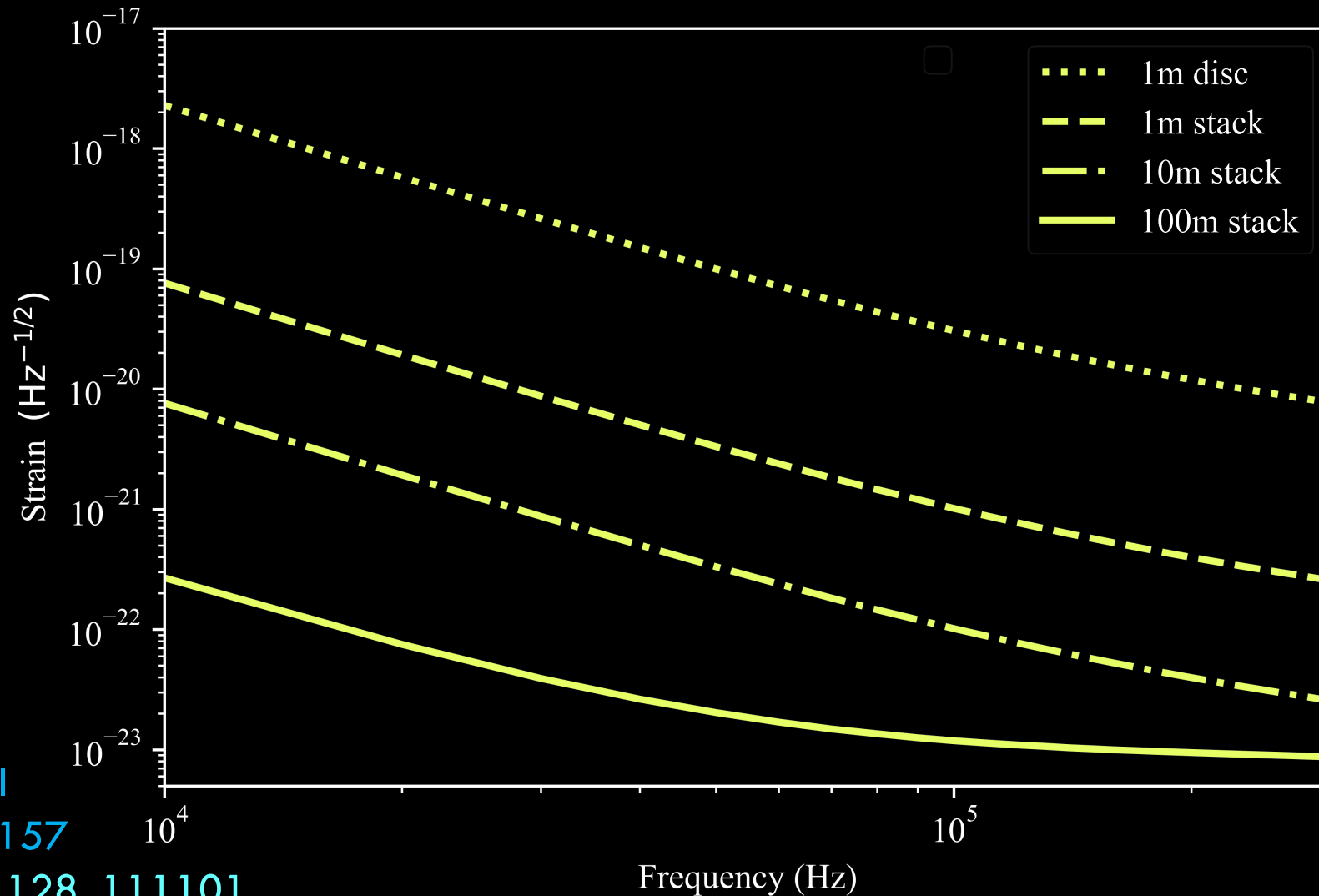
$$m: \{2i_1+1, 2i_2+2, 2i_1+1\},$$

$$n: \{3.48, 1.44, 3.48\}, \quad \rho: \{2.33, 2.65, 2.33\}$$



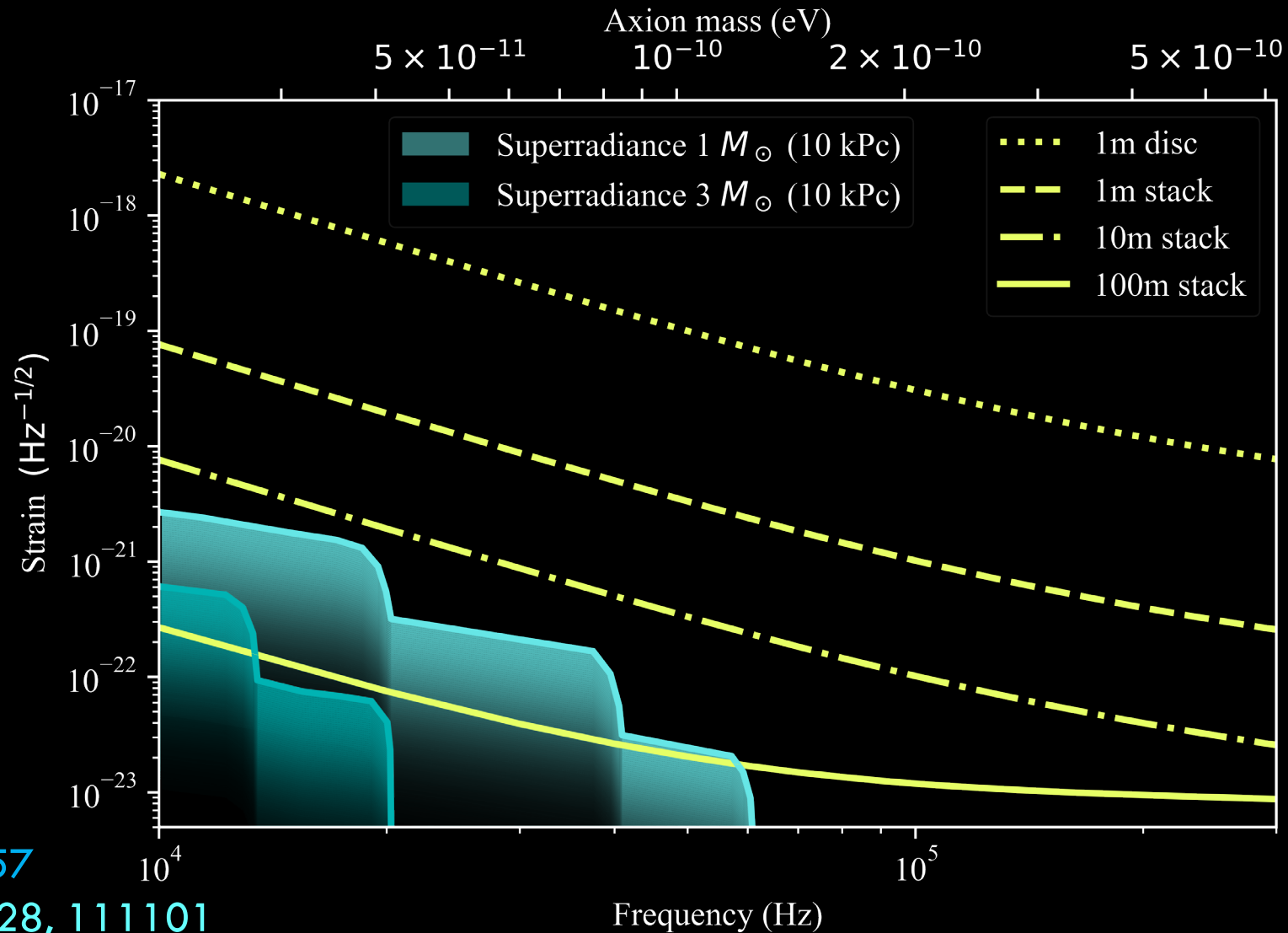
$$\Omega_0^2 = \frac{8\pi P(1 - e^{-2R^2/w^2})}{c\lambda^2 \rho_0 R^2}$$

# IMPROVED SENSITIVITY



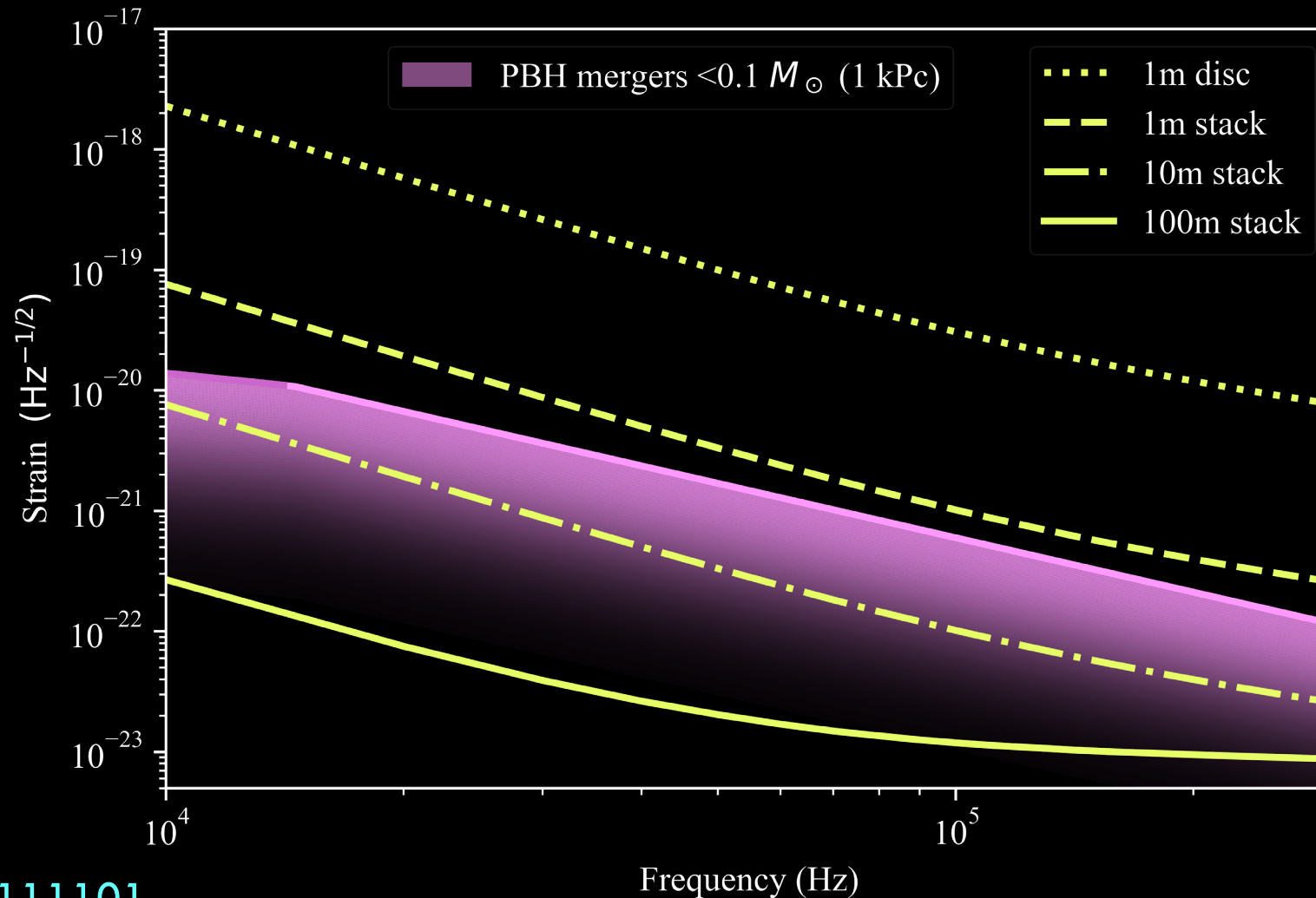
Aggarwal et al  
arxiv:2010.13157  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 111101

# SENSITIVITY TO BH SUPERRADIANCE



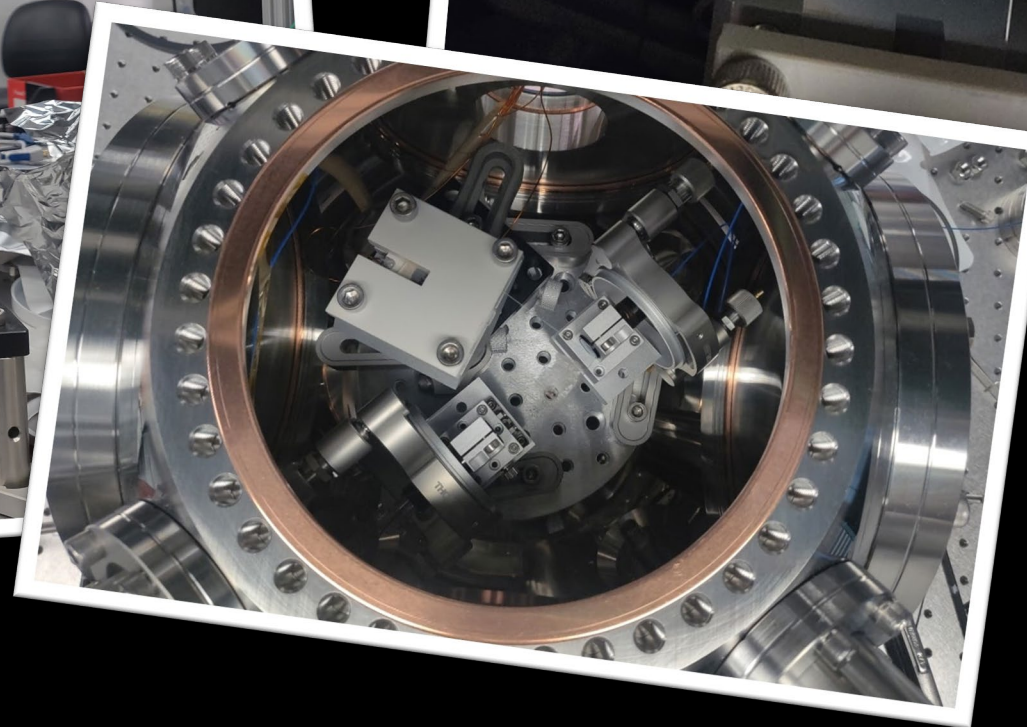
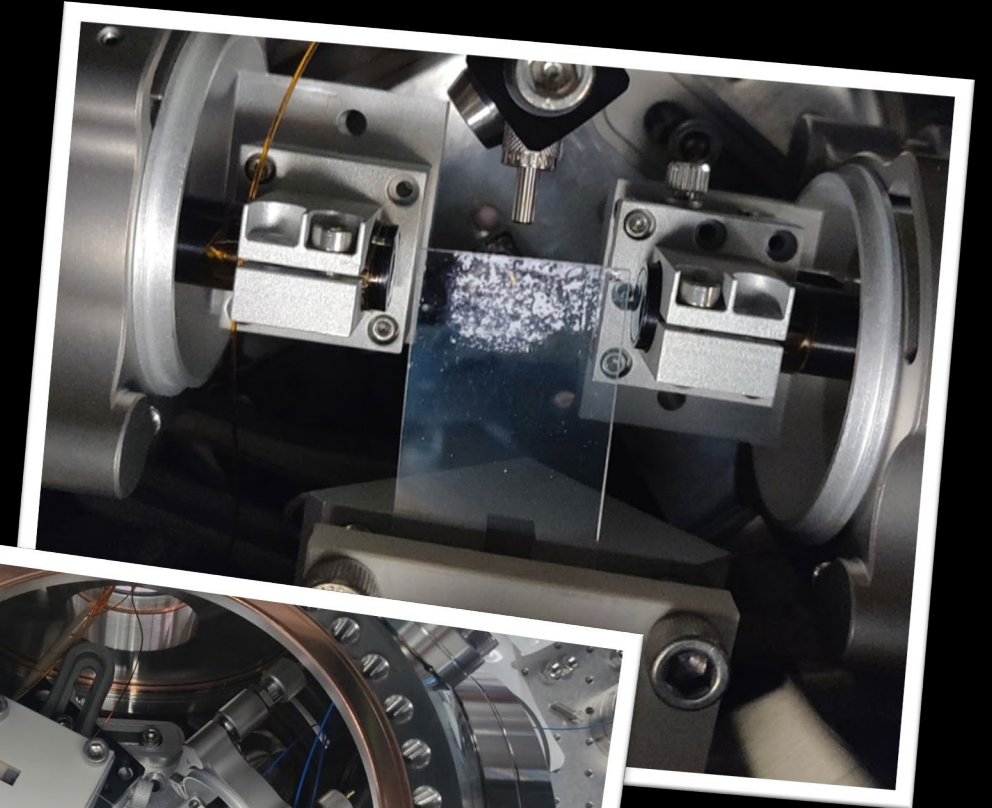
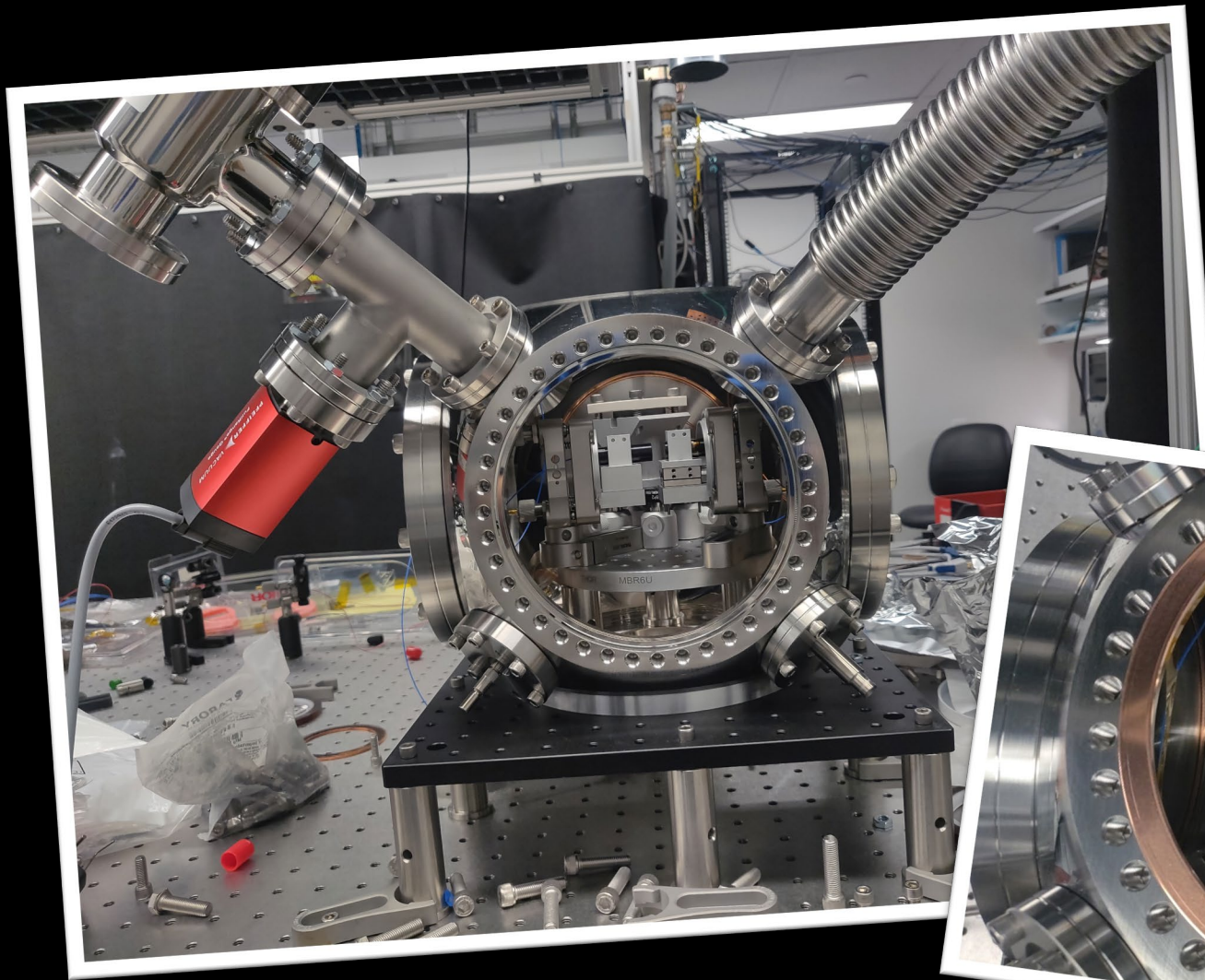
Aggarwal et al  
arxiv:2010.13157  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 111101

# SENSITIVITY TO BLACKHOLE MERGERS

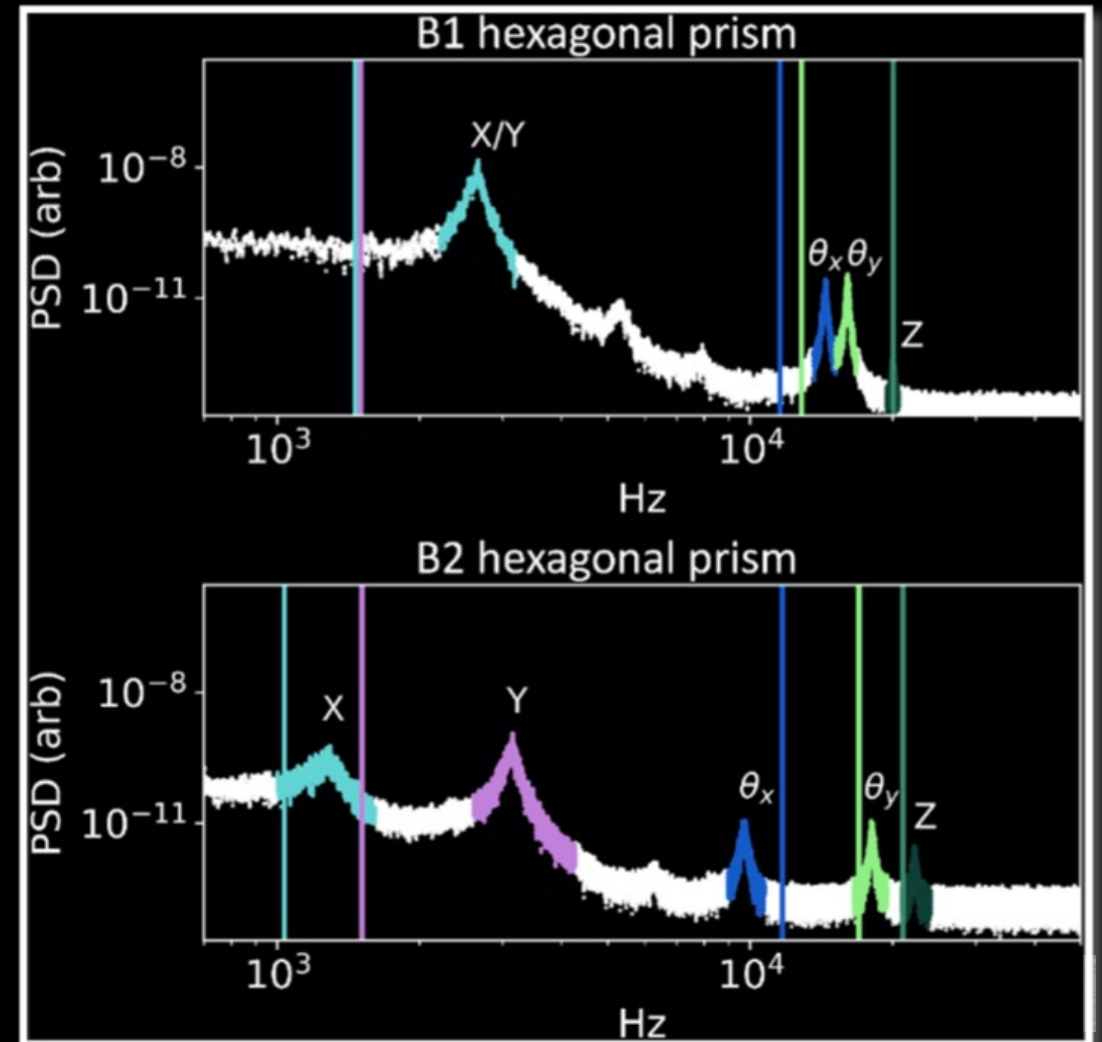
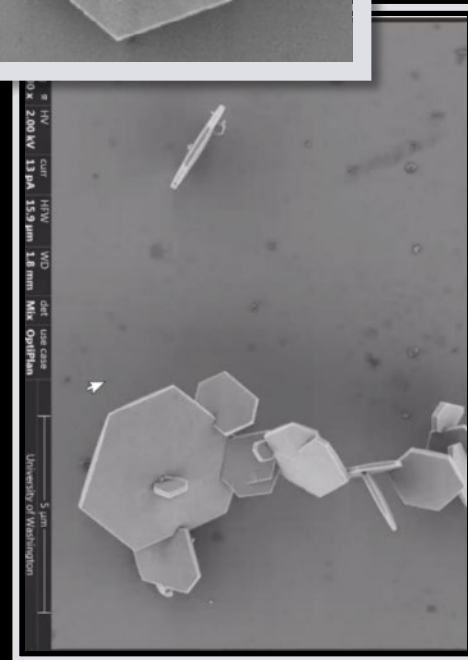
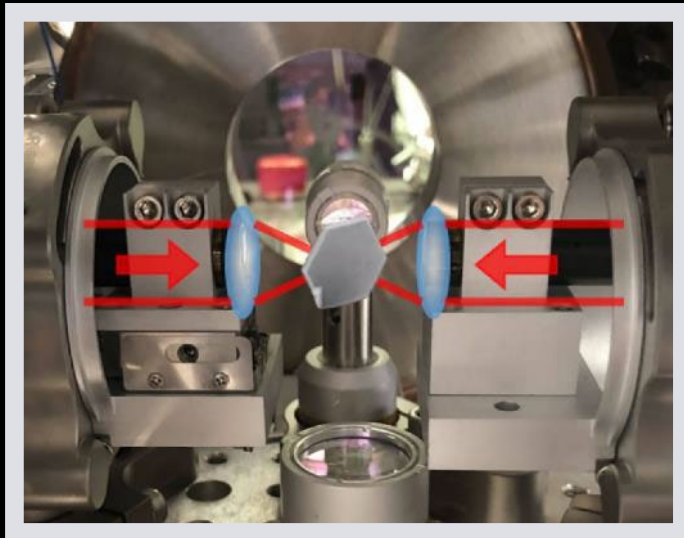
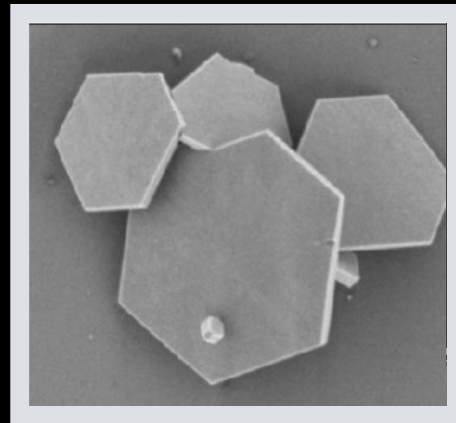
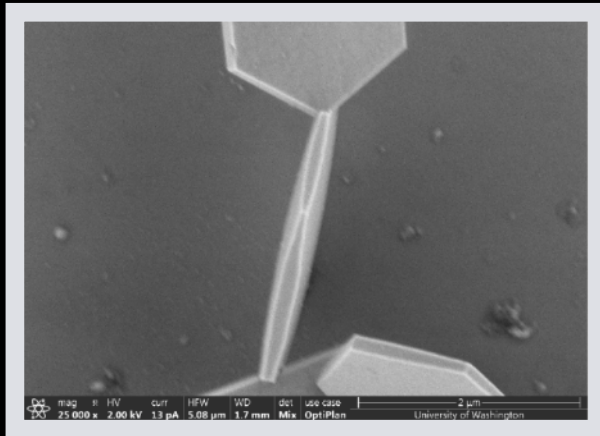


Aggarwal et al  
arxiv:2010.13157  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 111101

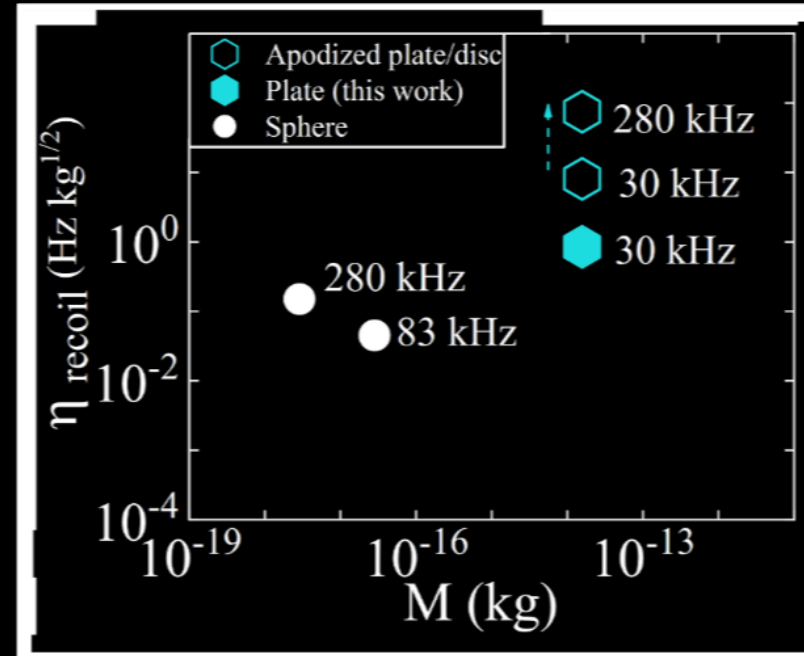
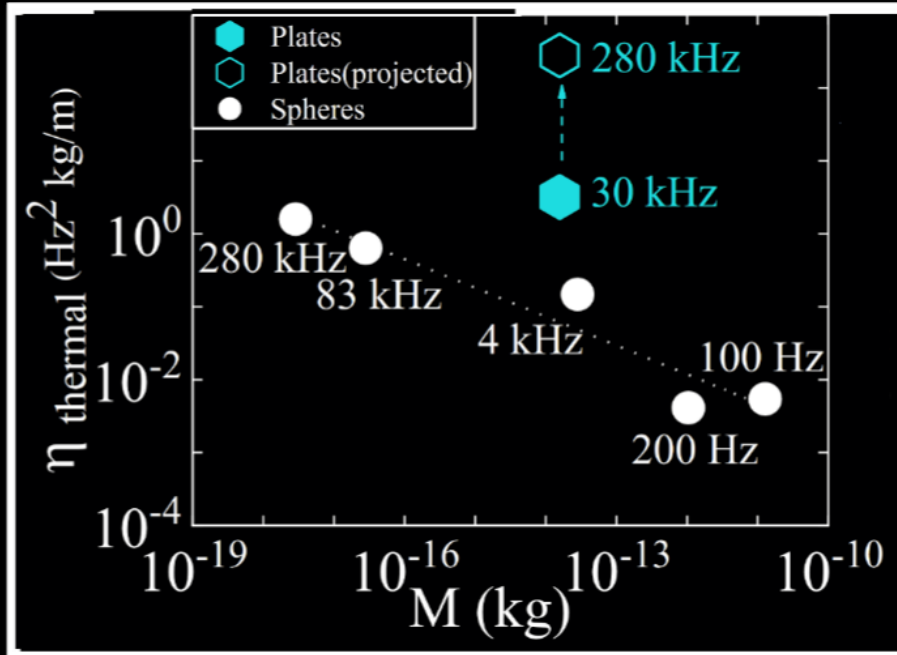
# TRAPPING OF FLAT OBJECTS IN THE LAB...



# FIRST SPECTRA, TRAPPING OF NAYF HEXAGON PLATES



# STATE OF THE ART IN OPTICAL TRAPPING



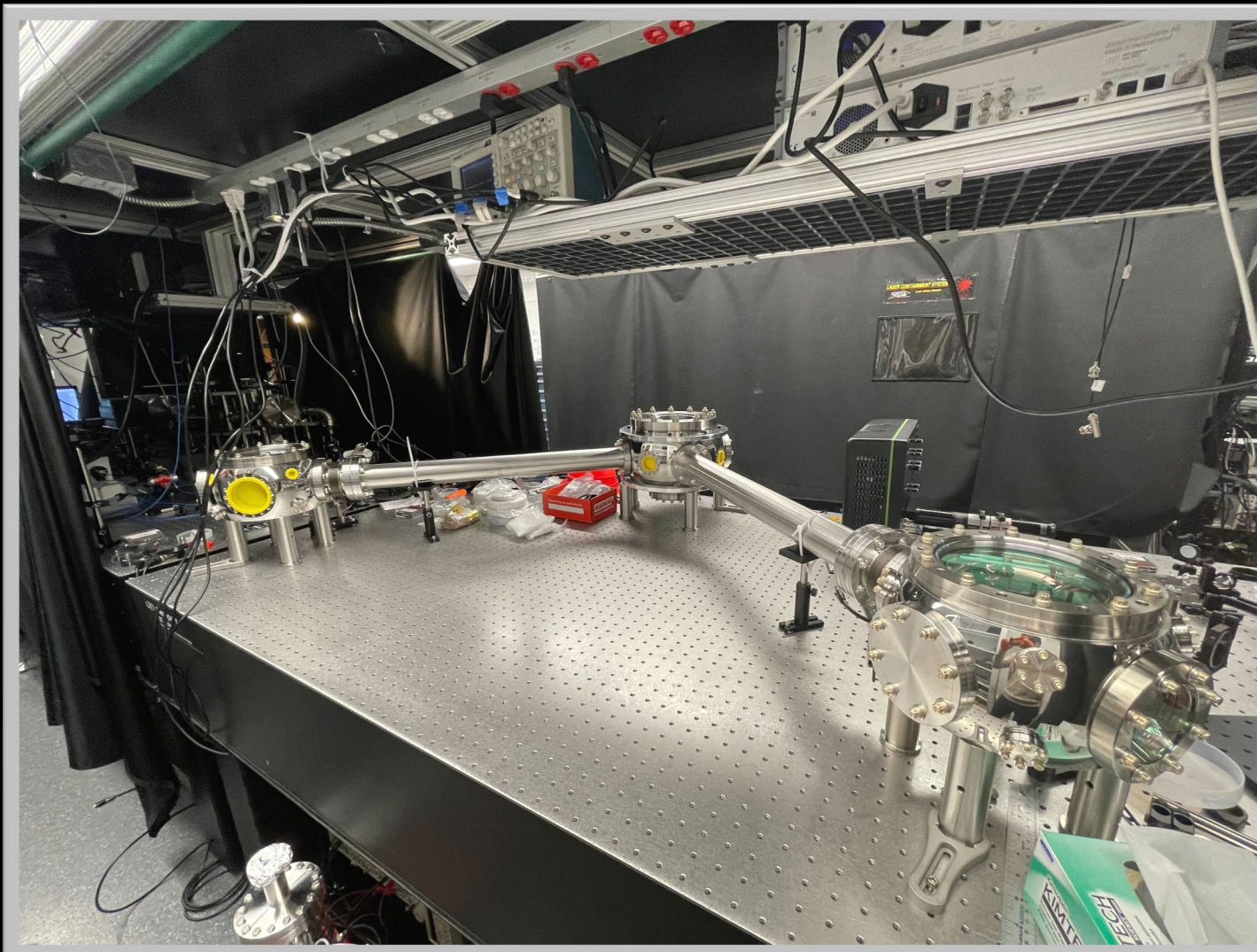
$$\eta_{\text{thermal}} = \left( \frac{\Omega_z}{2\pi} \right)^2 \sqrt{M \rho \tau}$$

$(\gamma_g \propto 1/\rho\tau)$

$$\eta_{\text{recoil}} = \left( \frac{\Omega_z}{2\pi} \right)^{3/2} \sqrt{\frac{M}{\gamma_{sc}}}$$

# STAY TUNED...

- New initiative for building high-frequency GW detectors
- Miniature GW detector based on levitated nanoparticles to probe GWs in 10 kHz – 300 kHz band
- Limited by gas damping and photon recoil
- Proposed new design with 20 times improved sensitivity and theoretically verified feasibility
- Will set independent limits on BH superradiance and primordial black holes





# HONING THE NOISE AND REFINING SOURCE ESTIMATE

## Searching for new physics with a levitated-sensor-based gravitational-wave detector

Nancy Aggarwal,<sup>1,2</sup> George P. Winstone,<sup>1</sup> Mae Teo,<sup>3</sup> Masha Baryakhtar,<sup>4</sup>  
Shane L. Larson,<sup>2</sup> Vicky Kalogera,<sup>2</sup> and Andrew A. Geraci<sup>1,2</sup>

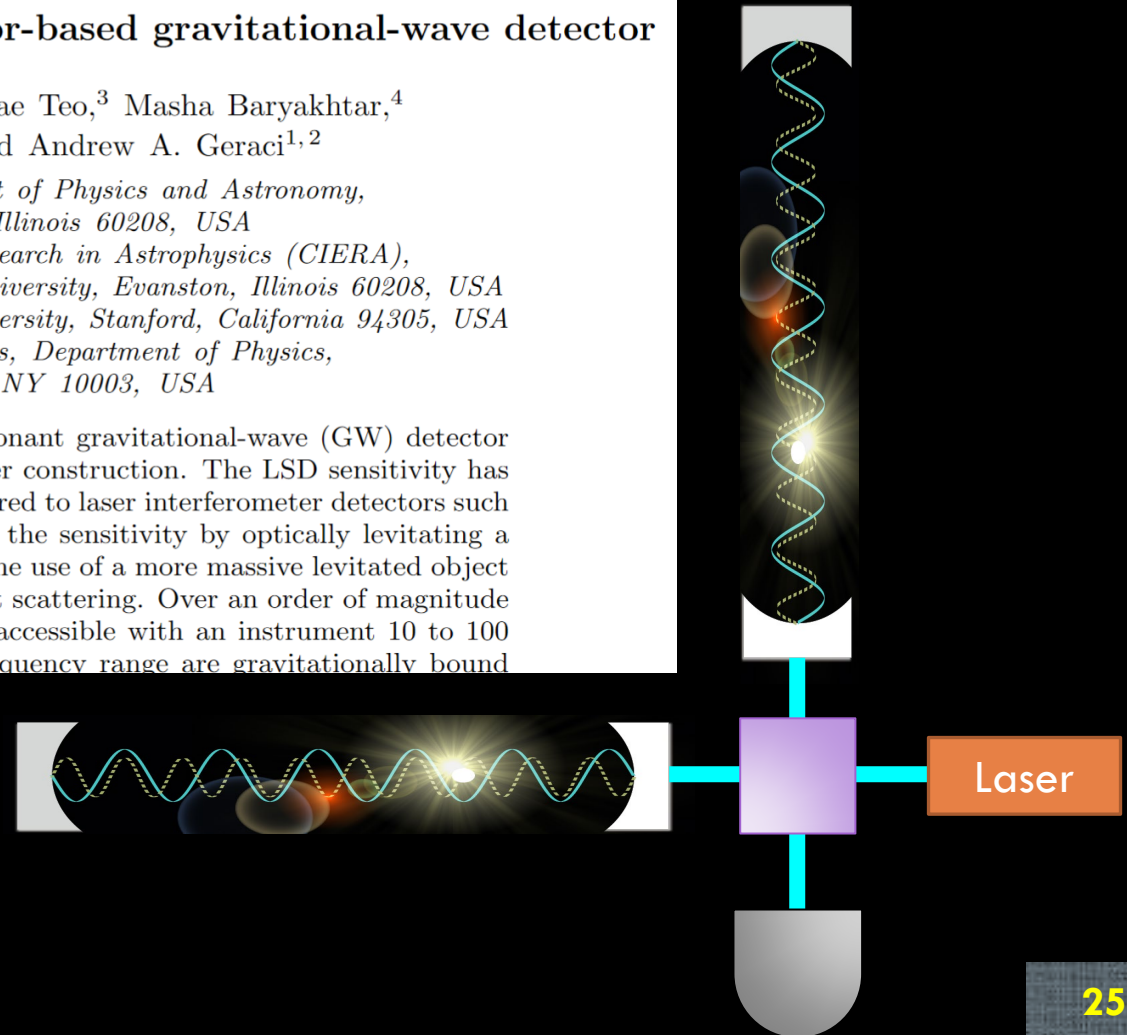
<sup>1</sup>*Center for Fundamental Physics, Department of Physics and Astronomy,  
Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois 60208, USA*

<sup>2</sup>*Center for Interdisciplinary Exploration and Research in Astrophysics (CIERA),  
Department of Physics and Astronomy, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois 60208, USA*

<sup>3</sup>*Stanford Institute for Theoretical Physics, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305, USA*

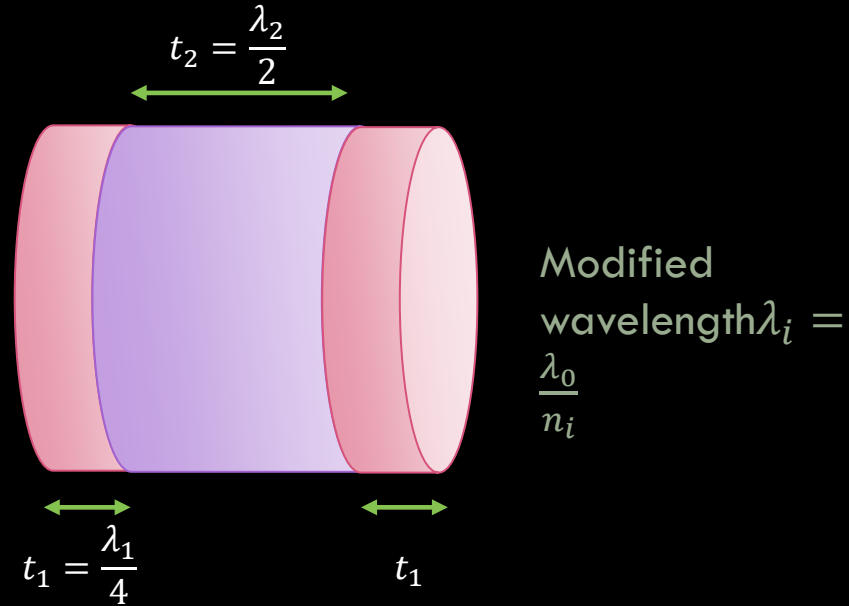
<sup>4</sup>*Center for Cosmology and Particle Physics, Department of Physics,  
New York University, New York, NY 10003, USA*

The Levitated Sensor Detector (LSD) is a compact resonant gravitational-wave (GW) detector based on optically trapped dielectric particles that is under construction. The LSD sensitivity has more favorable frequency scaling at high frequencies compared to laser interferometer detectors such as LIGO. We propose a method to substantially improve the sensitivity by optically levitating a multi-layered stack of dielectric discs. These stacks allow the use of a more massive levitated object while exhibiting minimal photon recoil heating due to light scattering. Over an order of magnitude of unexplored frequency space for GWs above 10 kHz is accessible with an instrument 10 to 100 meters in size. Particularly motivated sources in this frequency range are gravitationally bound

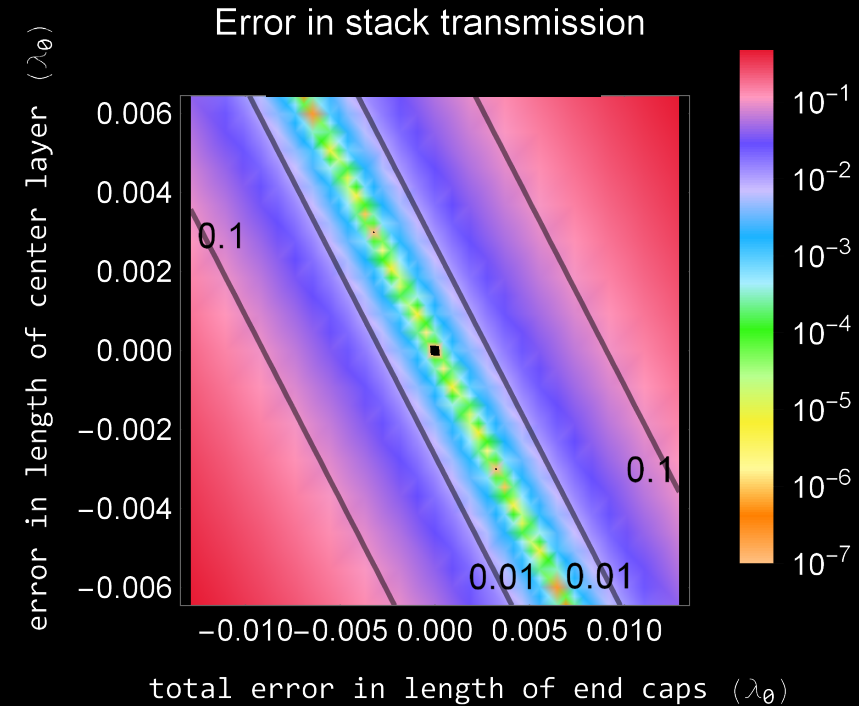


Aggarwal et al  
arxiv:2010.13157  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 111101

# 1. EXAMINE TRANSMISSION THROUGH STACKS



- Symmetric
- Whole number of quarter wavelengths in end caps
- Even number of quarter wavelengths in center



$$\delta T_{OEO} = -1218.31(1.000(\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_3) + 1.075\epsilon_2)^2$$

1.5 nm precision for 99%  
0.5 nm precision for 99.9%

# 2. ELECTRIC FIELD INSIDE STACKS

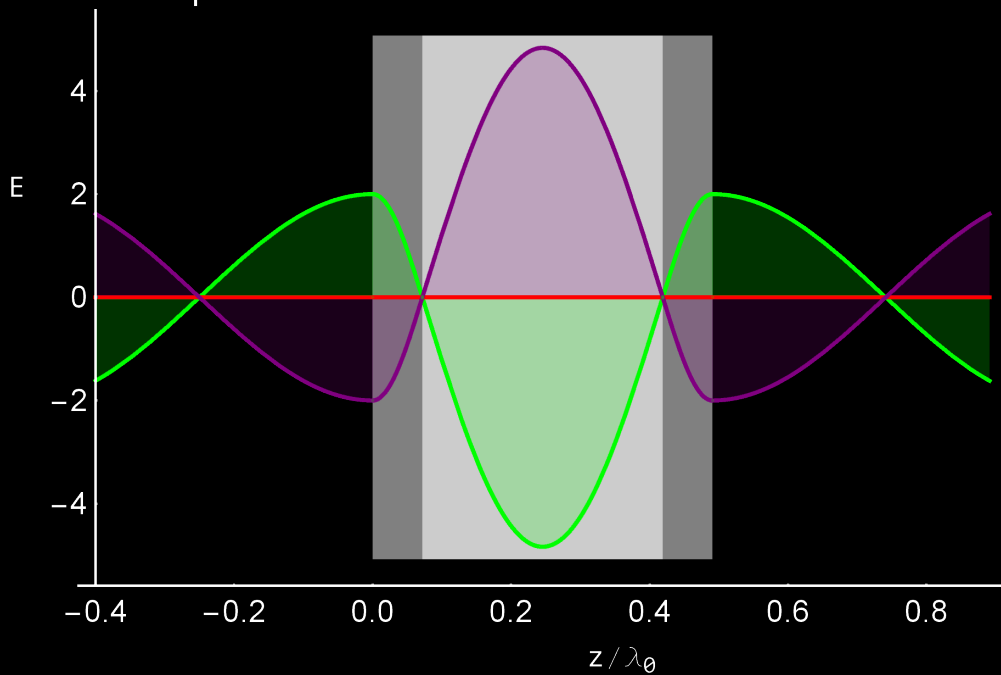
$$E_L + r_1 E_L^{\text{refl}} =, r_1=1$$

Refractive Indices: {1, 3.48, 1.44, 3.48, 1},

Number of quarter-wavelengths: {∞, 1, 2, 1, ∞},

Amplitude Transmission through stack:  $1. + 0. i$ ,

Amplitude Reflection from stack:  $1. \times 10^{-16} + 0. i$



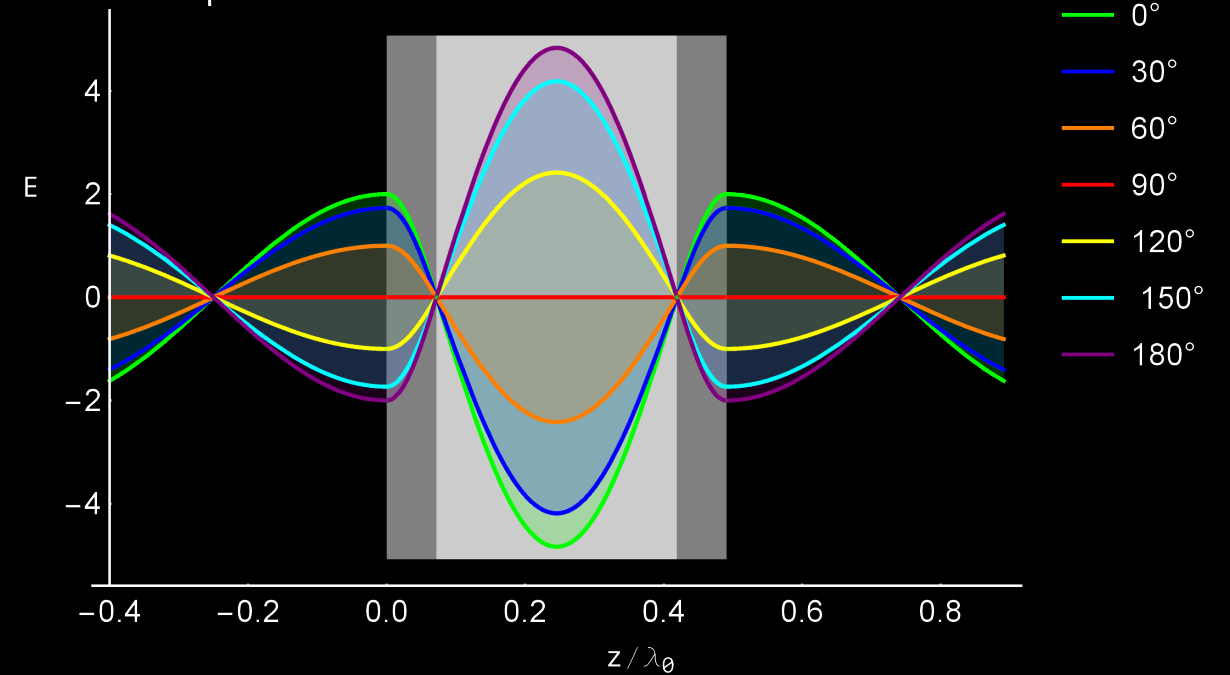
$$E_L + r_1 E_L^{\text{refl}} \quad r_1=1$$

Refractive Indices: {1, 3.48, 1.44, 3.48, 1},

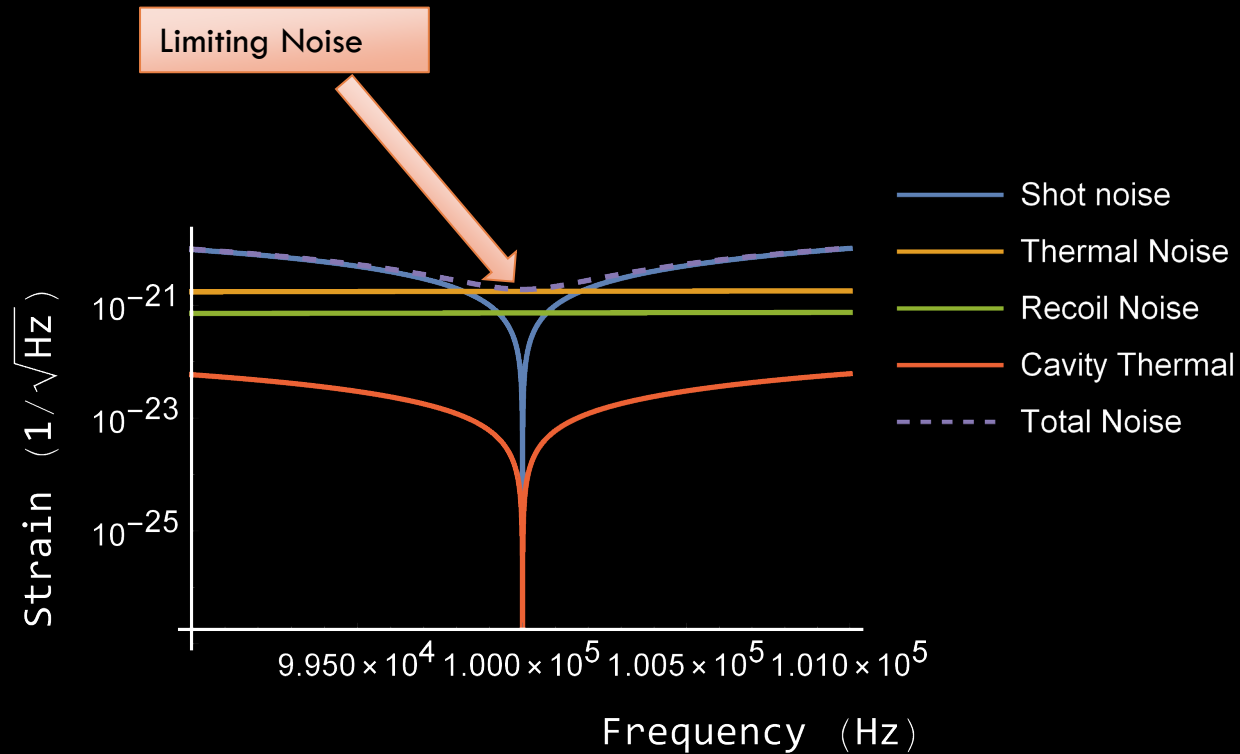
Number of quarter-wavelengths: {∞, 1, 2, 1, ∞},

Amplitude Transmission through stack:  $1. + 0. i$ ,

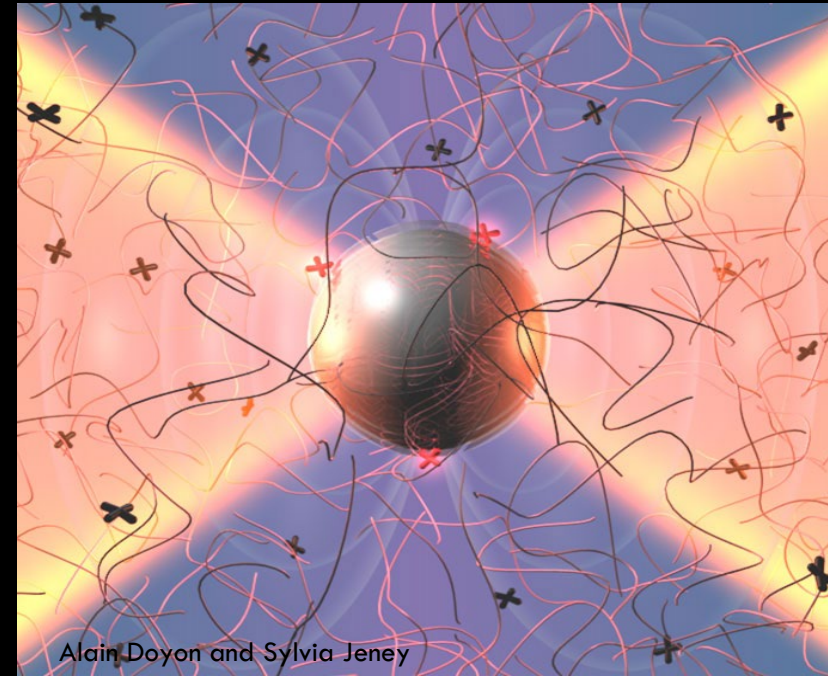
Amplitude Reflection from stack:  $1. \times 10^{-16} + 0. i$



# ANTICIPATED NOISES

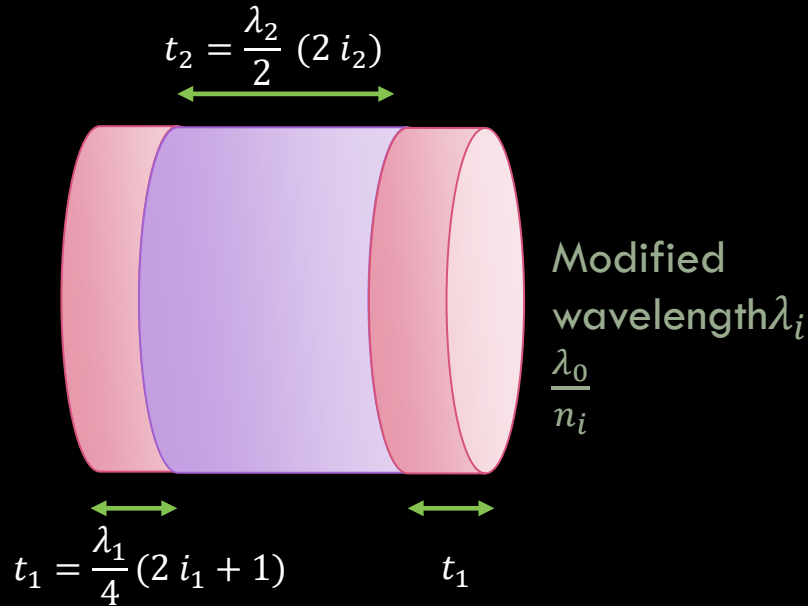


Preliminary Aggarwal et al



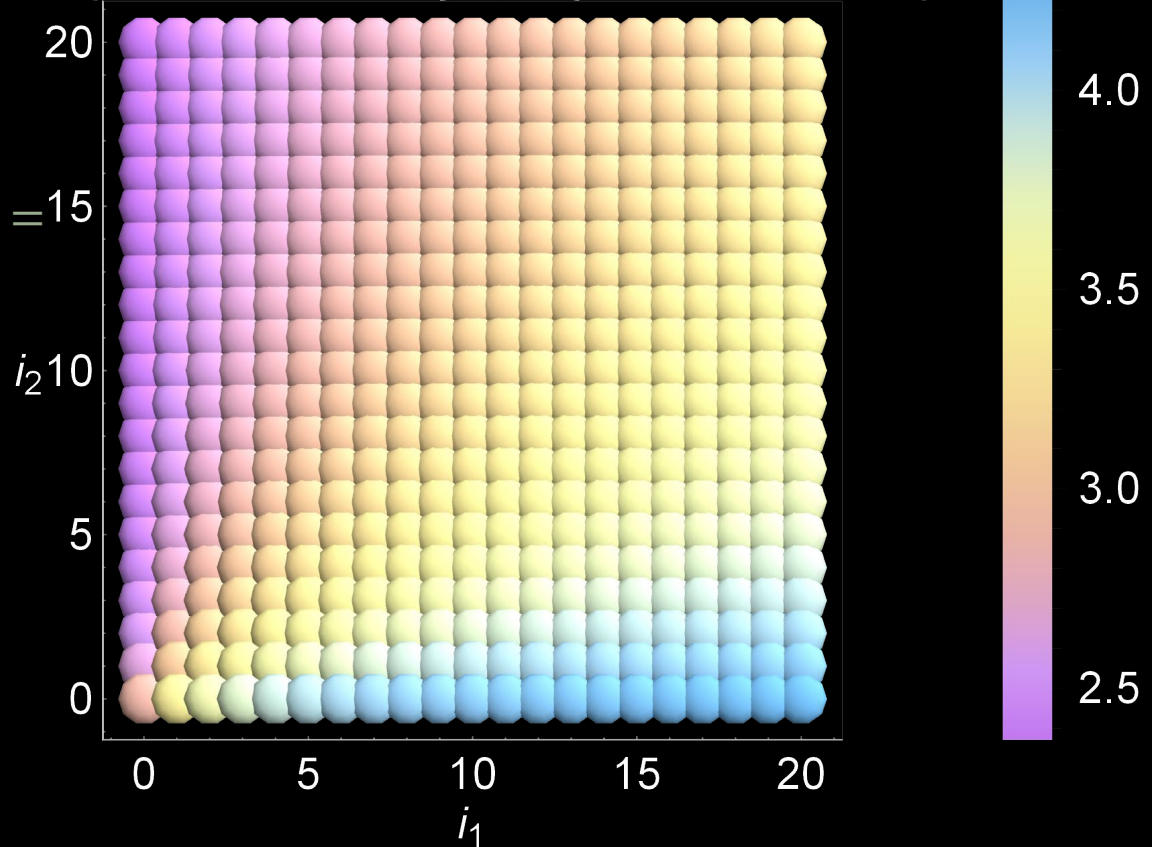
- **Thermal noise from gas damping**
  - $S_{FF,thermal} = 4 k_B T M \gamma_g$
- **Quantum noise from photon recoil**
  - $S_{FF,Recoil} = 4 \hbar \omega M \gamma_{sc}$

# 3. FEASIBLE TRAP FREQUENCY

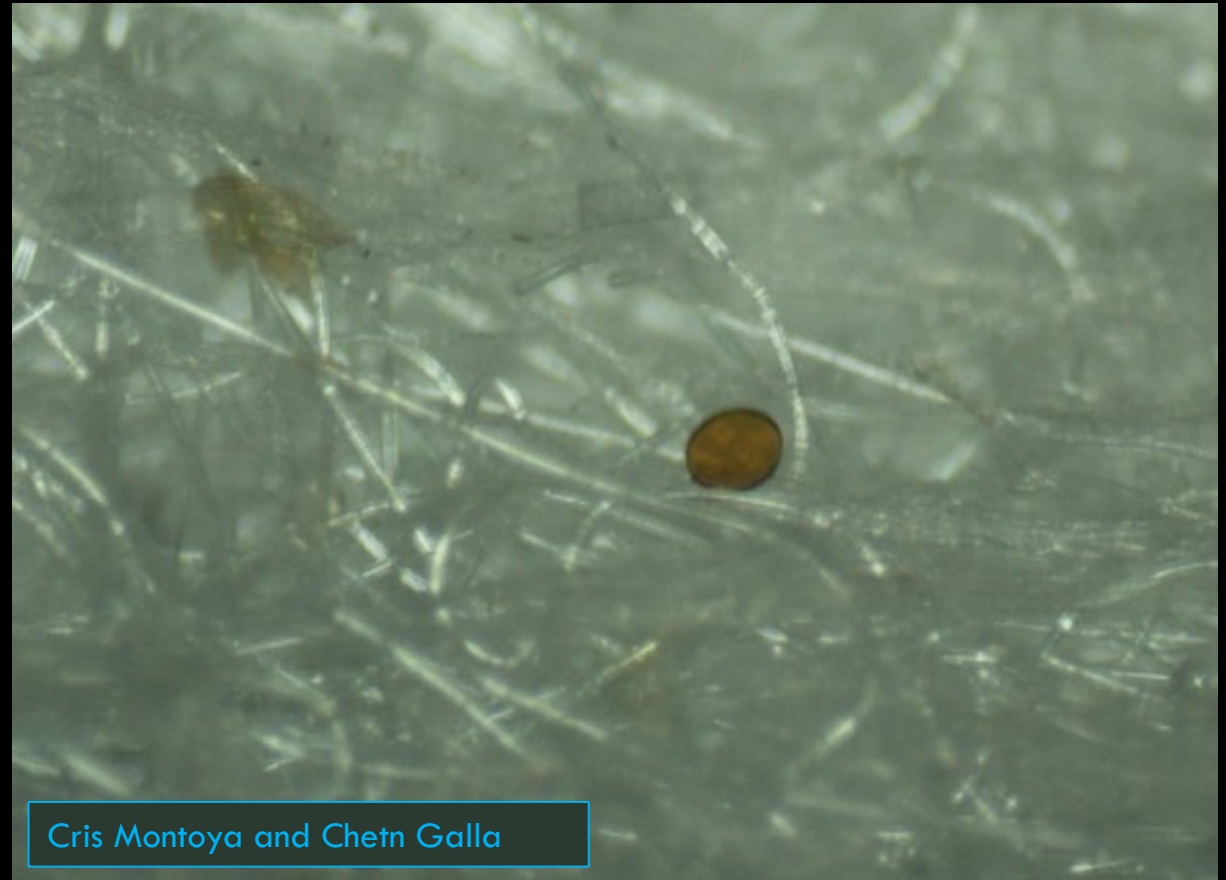
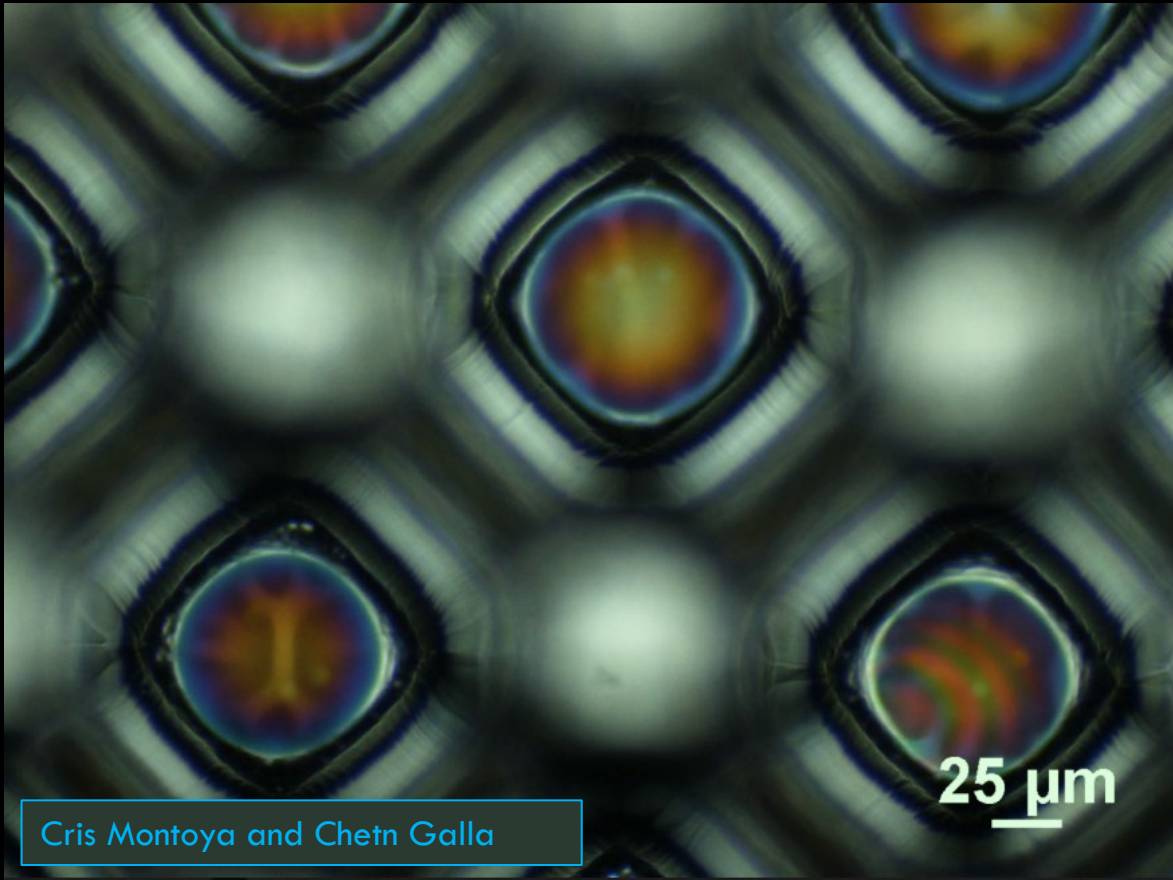


$$\Omega_0^2 = \frac{8\pi P (1 - e^{-2R^2/w^2})}{c\lambda^2 \rho_0 R^2}$$

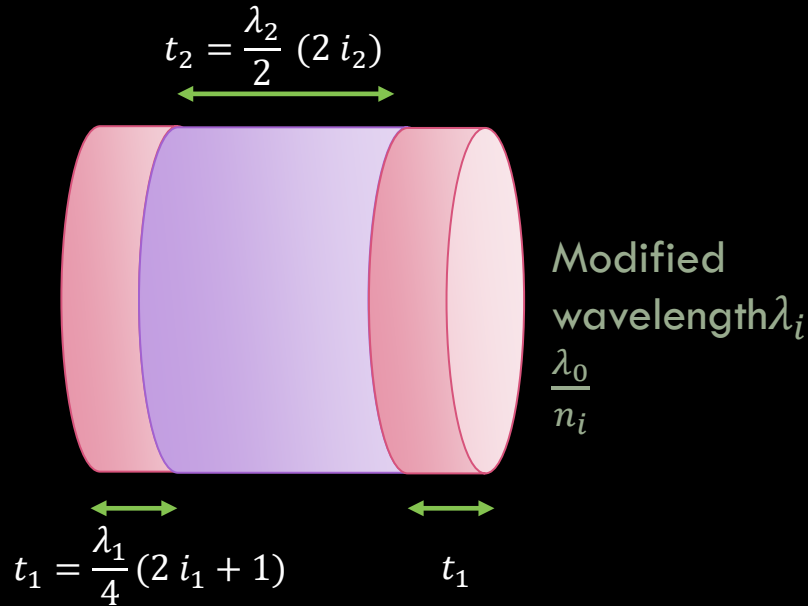
$m: \{2i_1+1, 2i_2+2, 2i_1+1\},$   
 $n: \{3.48, 1.44, 3.48\}, \rho: \{2.33, 2.65, 2.33\}$



# 4. FABRICATING THE DISKS

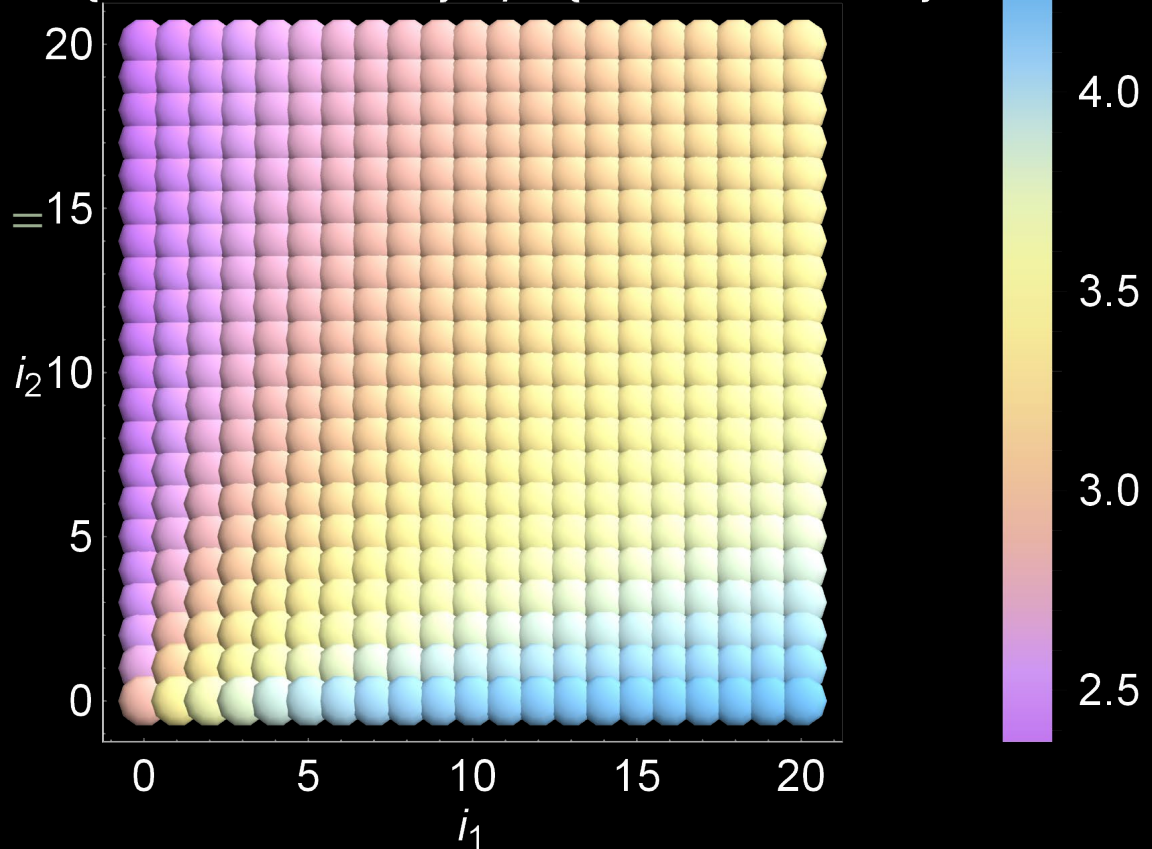


# FUTURE DIRECTION2: ADD MORE MASS!!

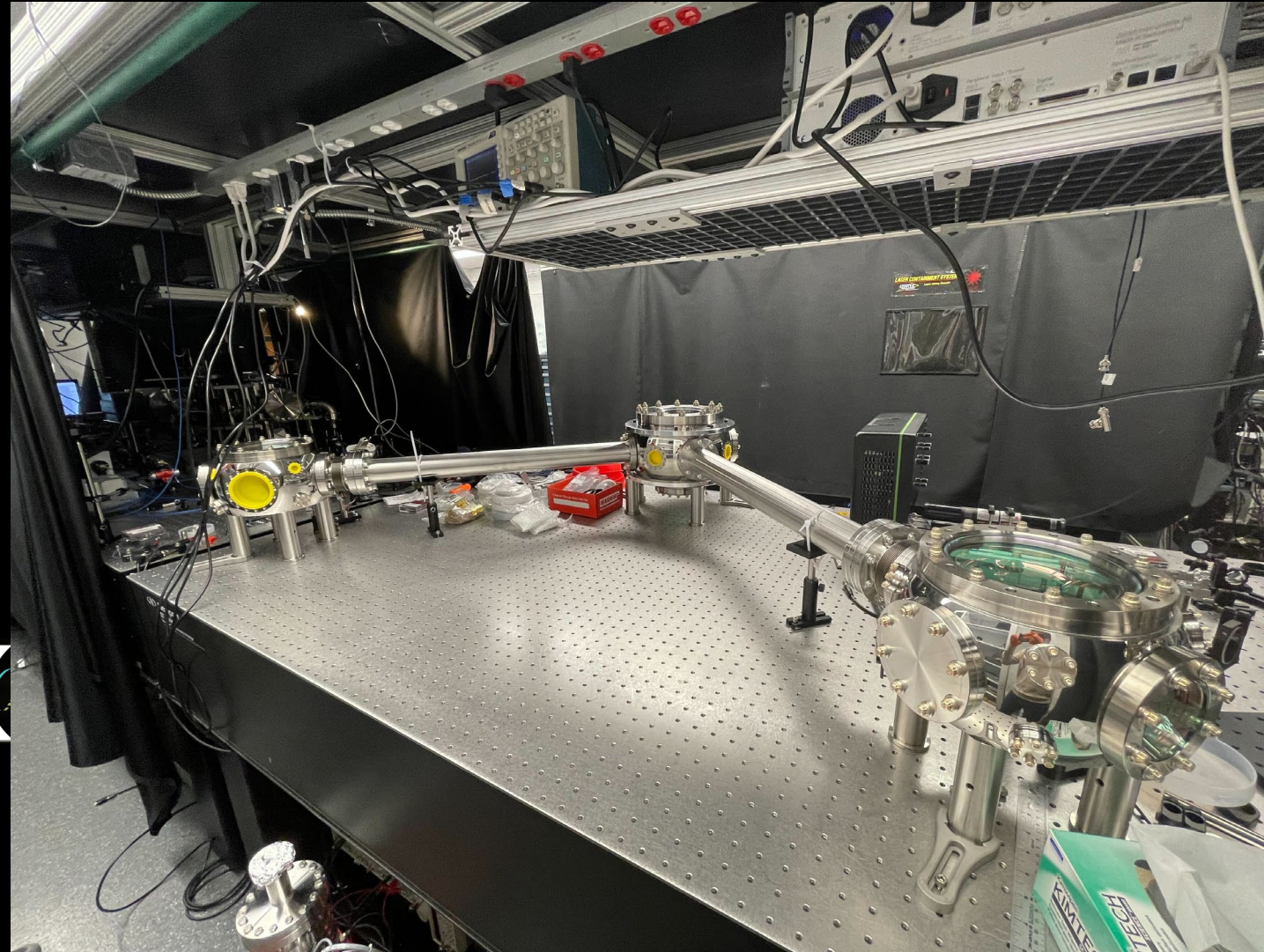
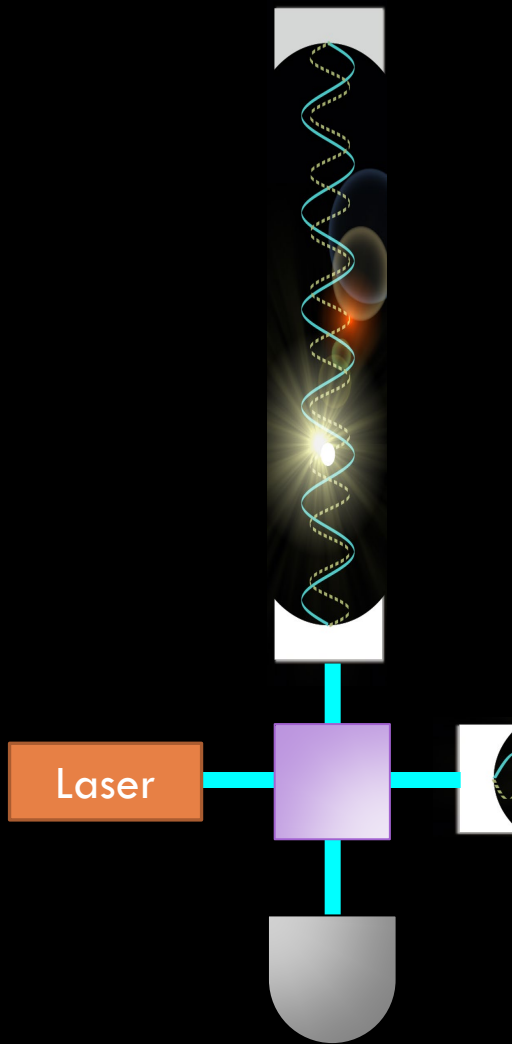


$$\Omega_0^2 = \frac{8\pi P (1 - e^{-2R^2/w^2})}{c\lambda^2 \rho_0 R^2}$$

$m: \{2i_1+1, 2i_2+2, 2i_1+1\},$   
 $n: \{3.48, 1.44, 3.48\}, \rho: \{2.33, 2.65, 2.33\}$

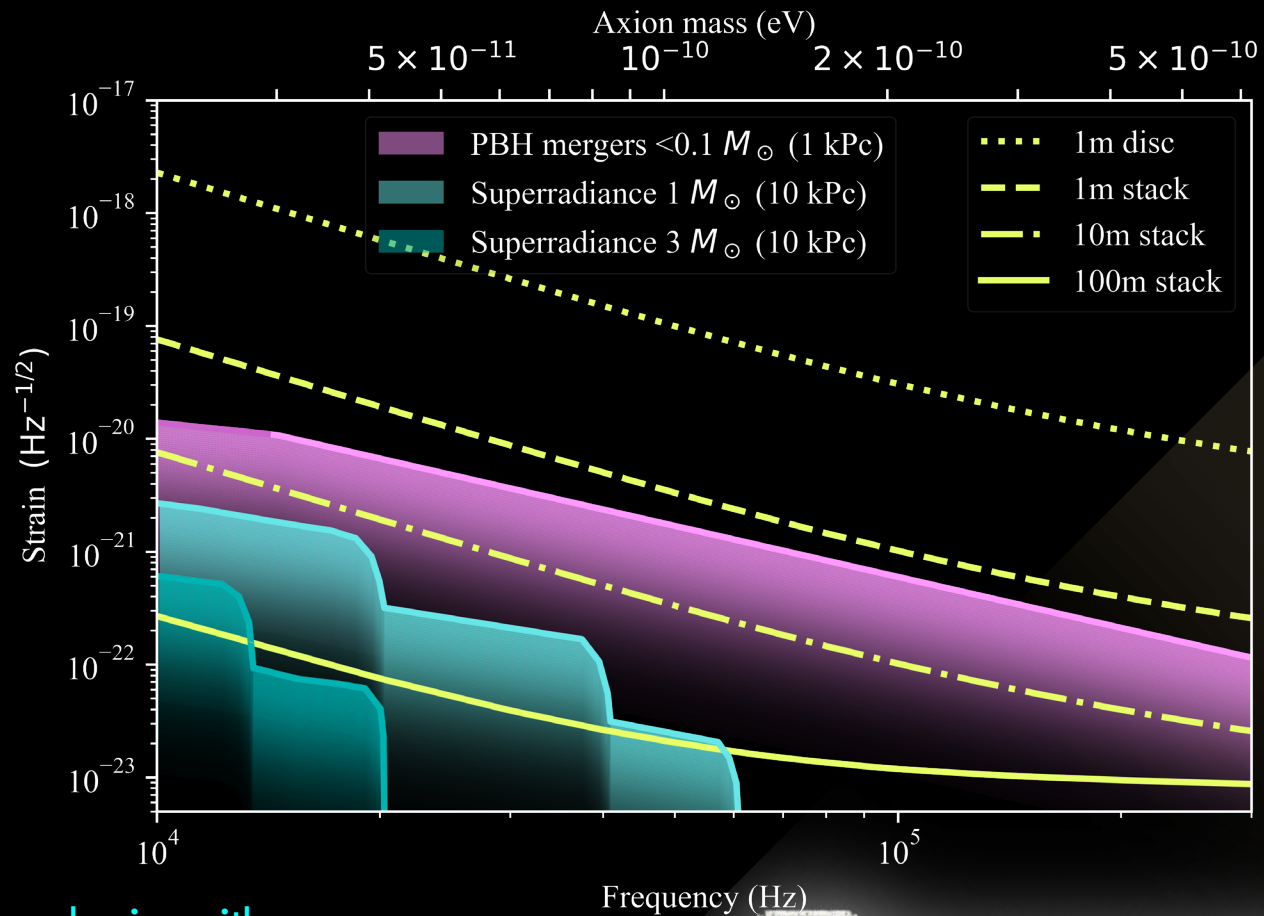


# TABLETOP DETECTOR





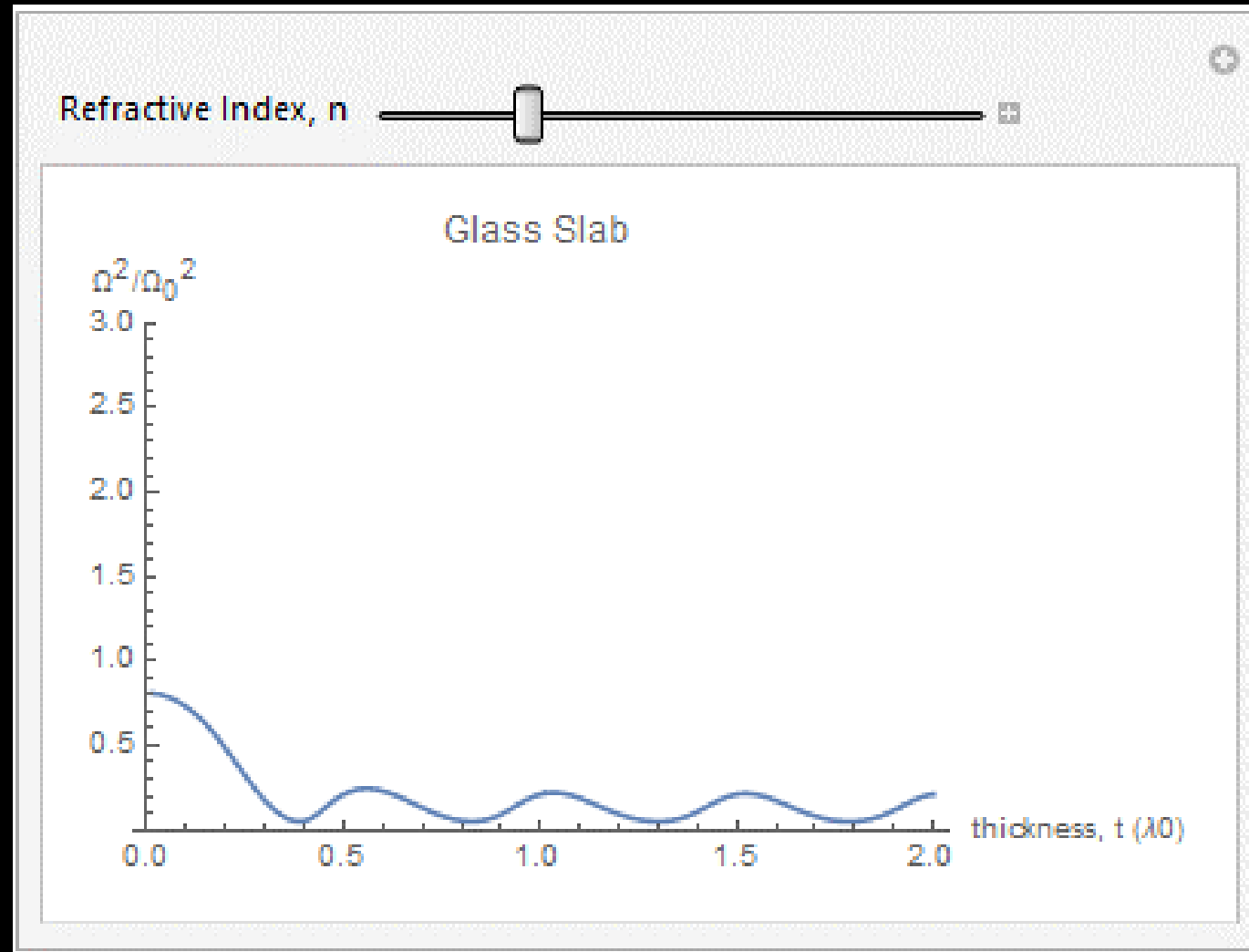
# OPTICAL TRAPPING FOR GW DETECTION



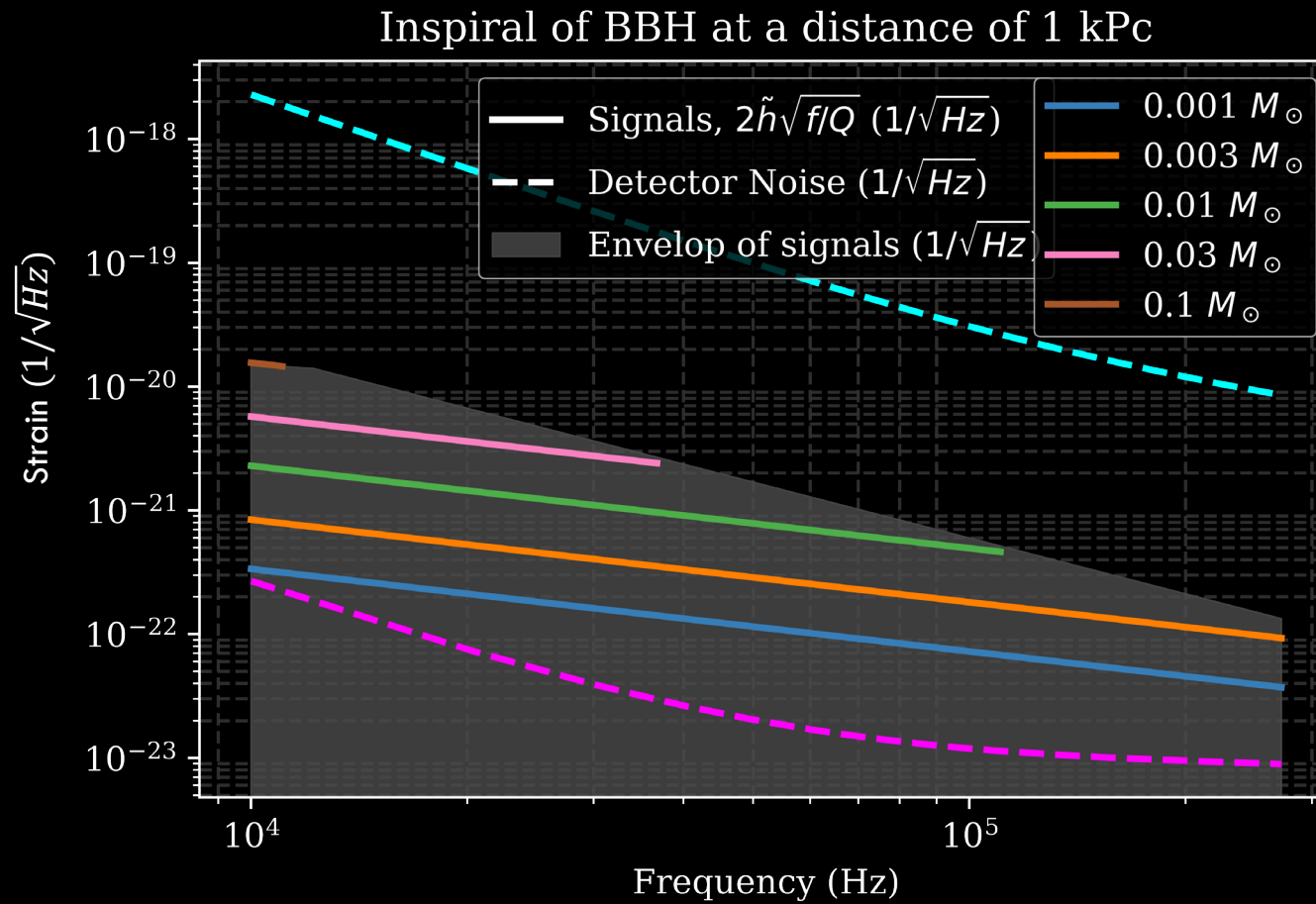
Searching for new physics with a  
levitated-sensor-based GW detector  
NA, G. Winstone, M. Teo et al  
arxiv:2010.13157



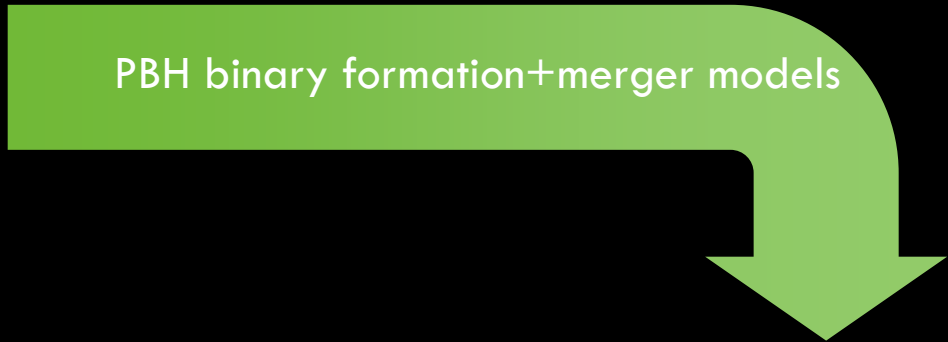
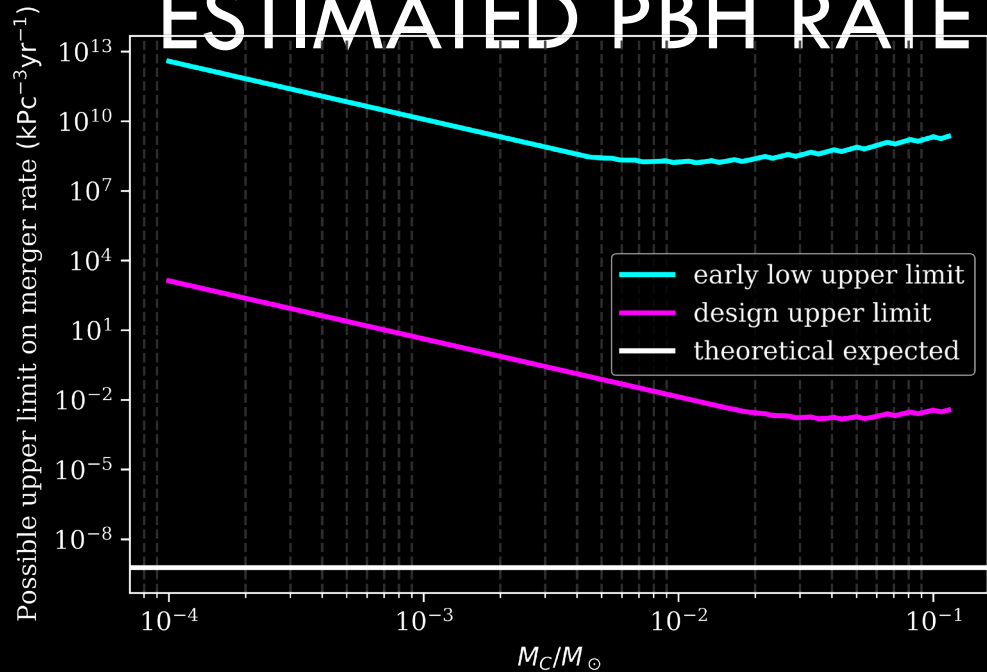
# TRAP FREQUENCY FOR SINGLE CYLINDER



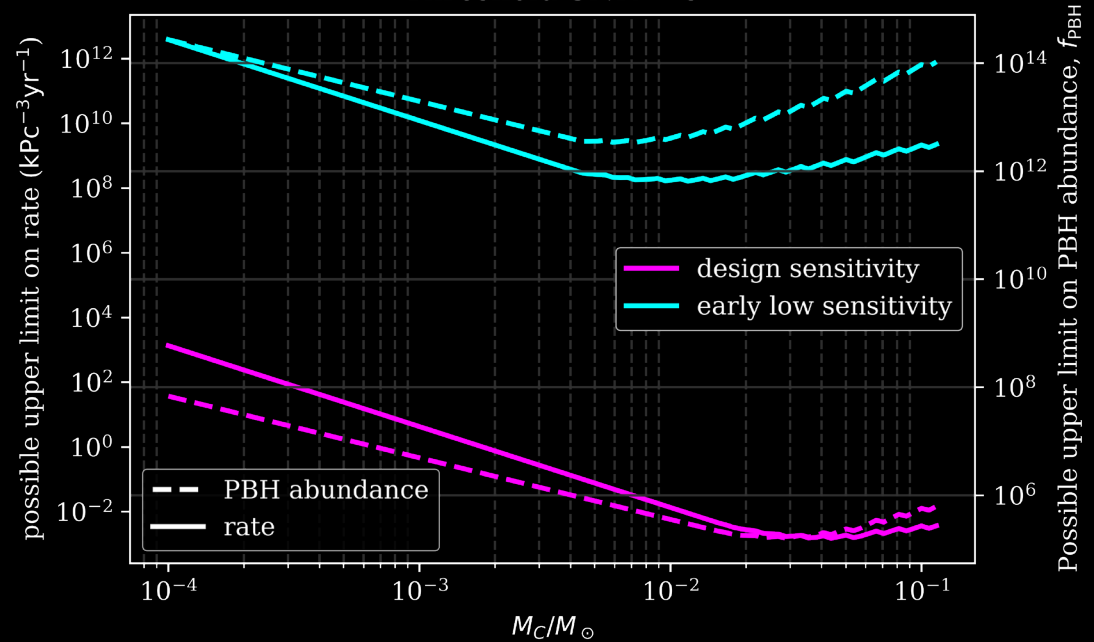
# DETAILED PBH STRAIN



# ESTIMATED PBH RATE UPPER LIMIT

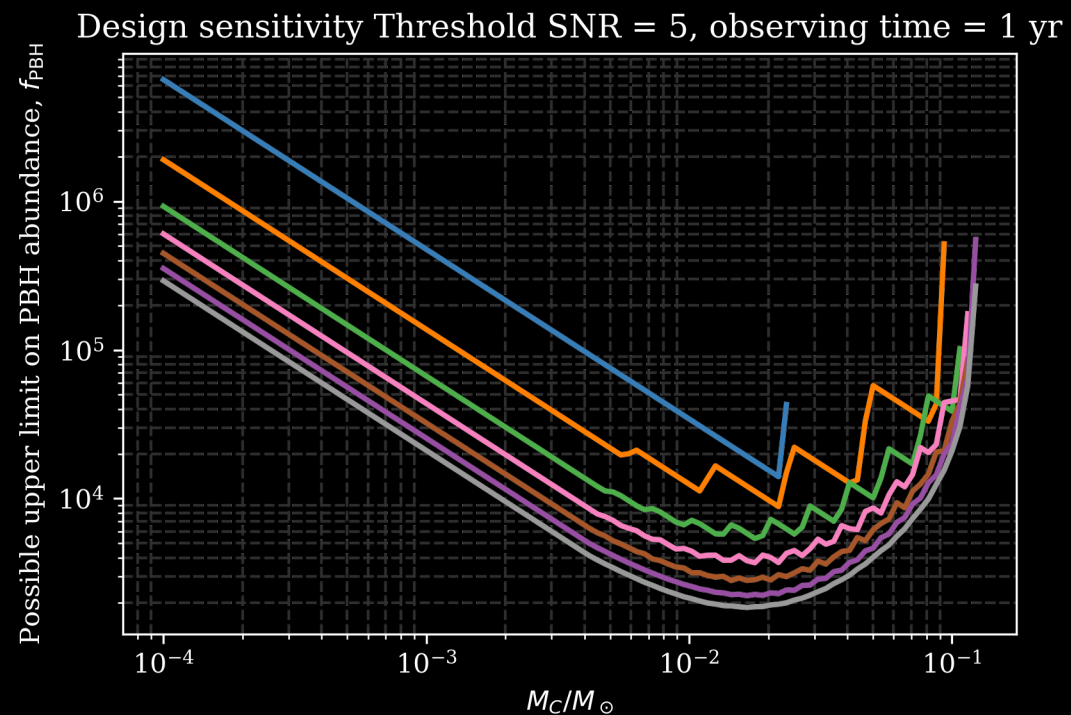
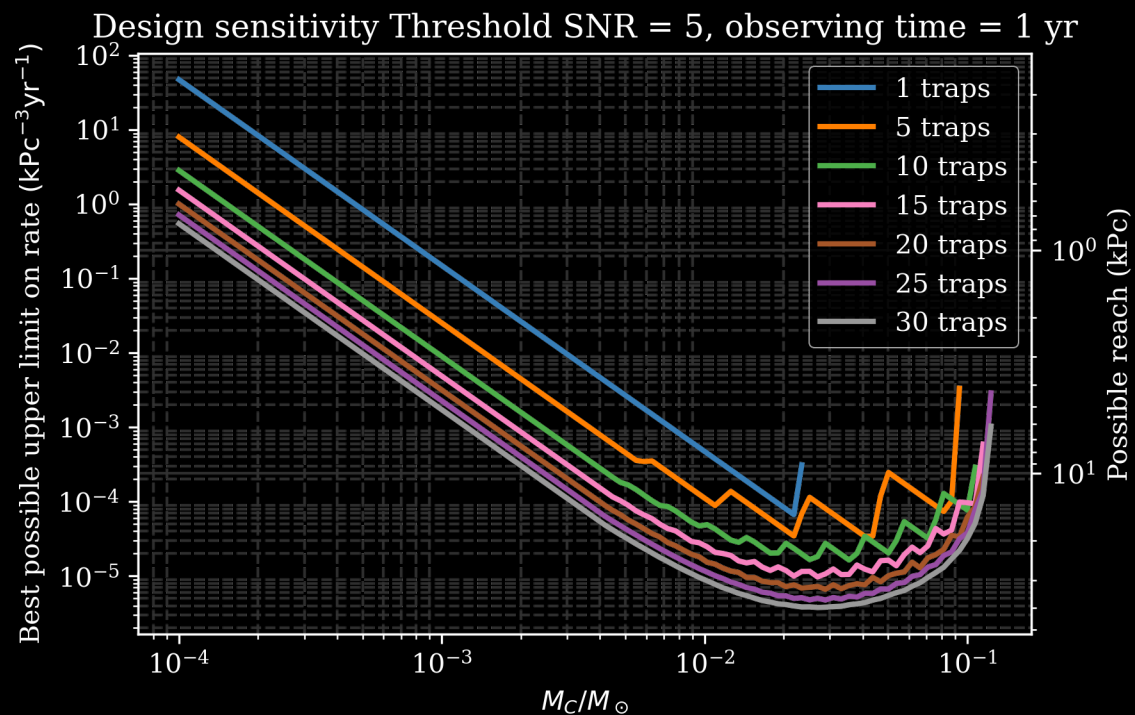


Threshold SNR = 5



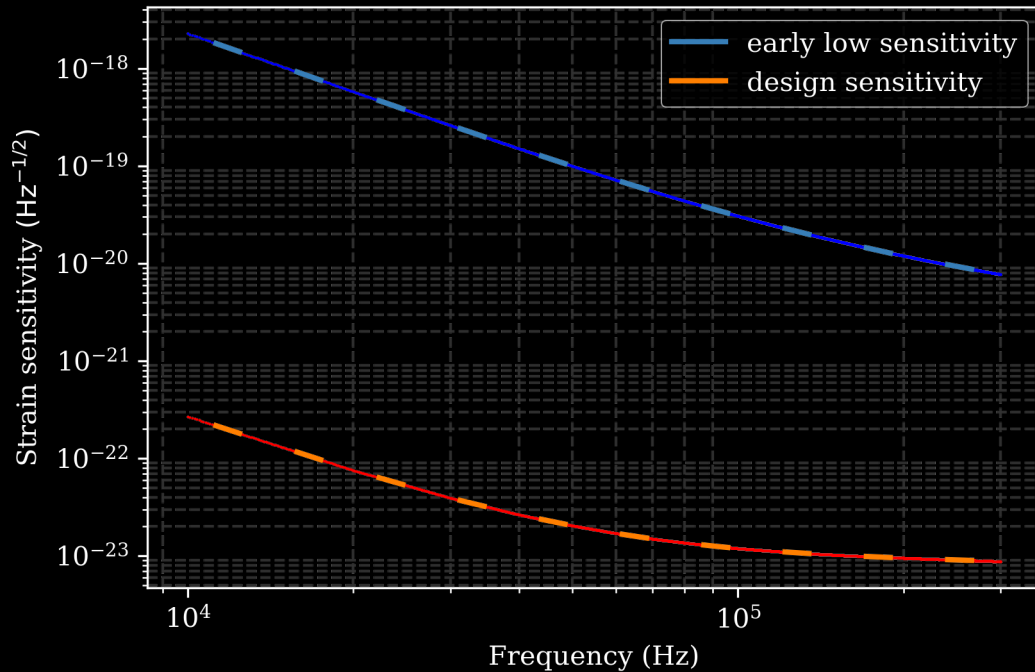
Preliminary: Aggarwal et al.

# CHANGE NUMBER OF TRAPS

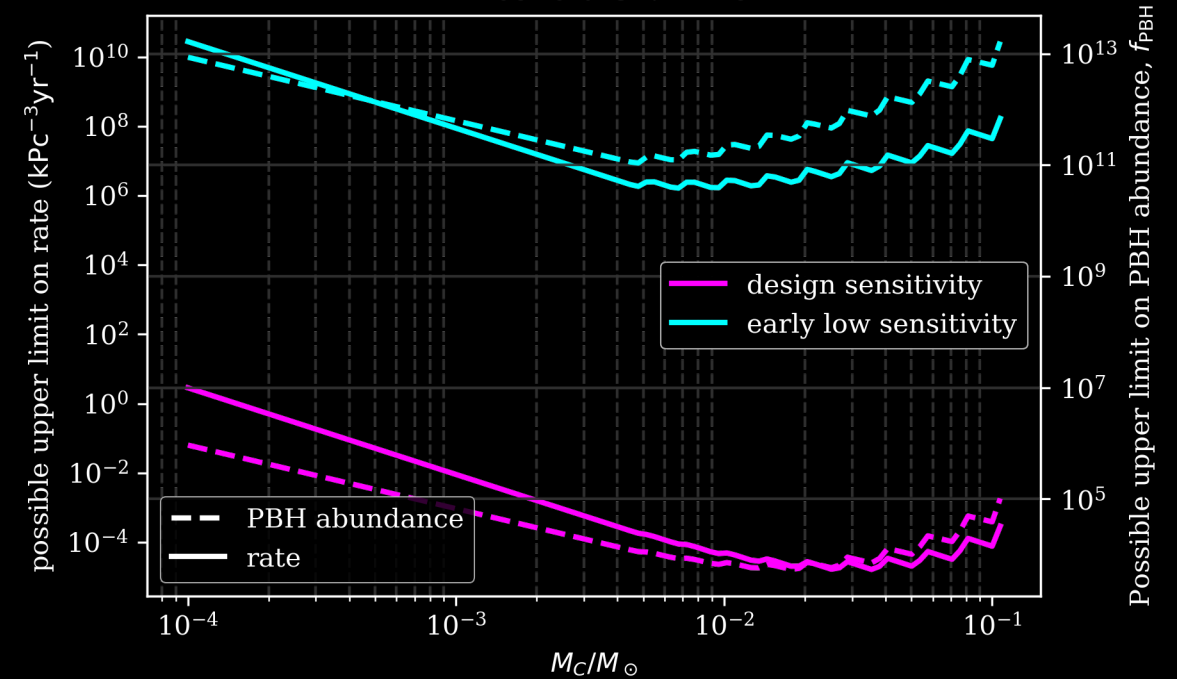


# FUTURE DIRECTION 1: XYLOPHONE

Sensitivity used for xylophone configuration with 10 traps uniformly distributed

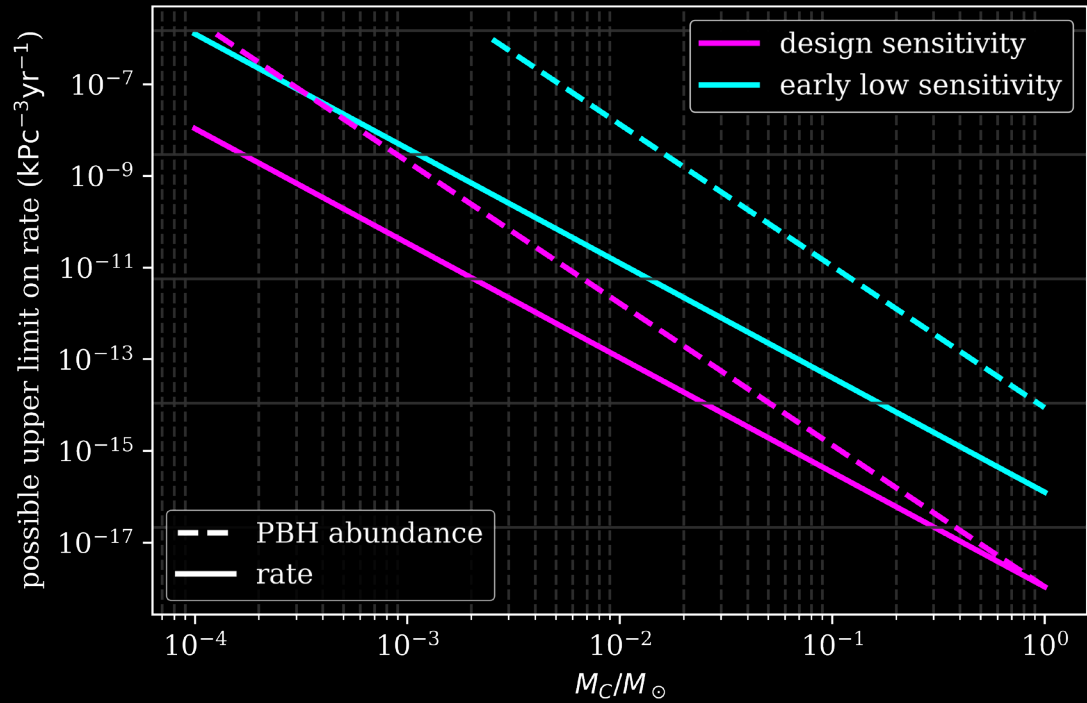


Threshold SNR = 5

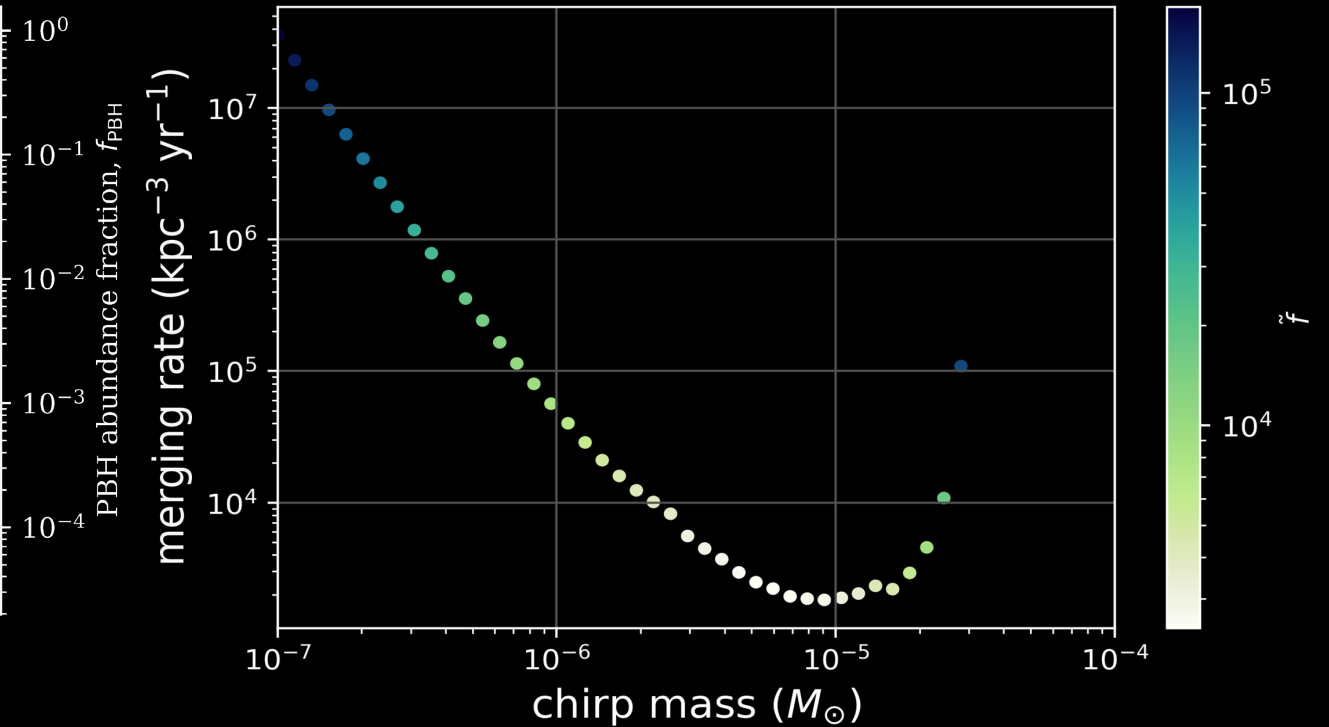


# EXCLUSION W/ LIGO

Threshold SNR = 5, observing duration = 1 yr



Preliminary: Aggarwal et al. (see LIGO T2000423 )

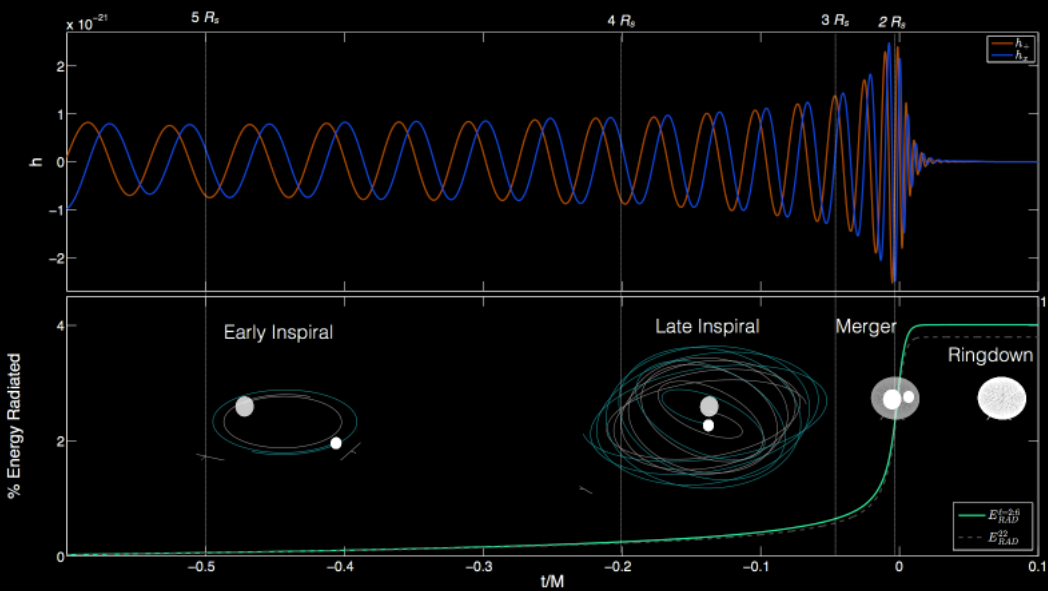


Miller, A., [Aggarwal, N., A. et al.](#) Constraints on planetary and asteroid-mass primordial black holes from continuous gravitational wave searches. PRD, 2022

# CBC VS CW SEARCHES

LIGO, NSF, Illustration: A. Simonnet (SSU)

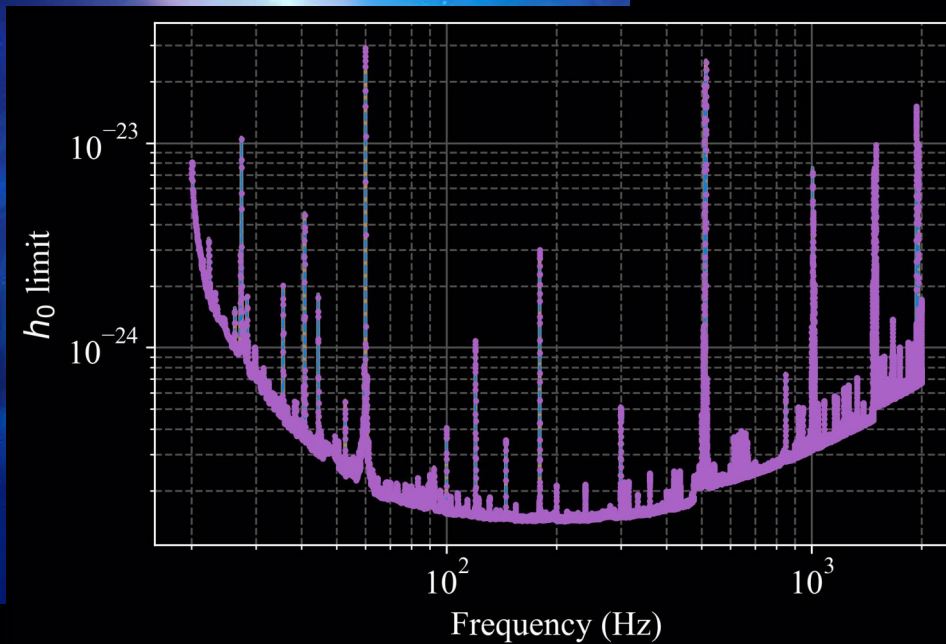
“Chirping” GW



Monochromatic GW

$$\dot{f} < 10^9 \text{ Hz/s}$$

$$f_{GW}(t) = f_{GW}(t_0) + \dot{f}(t - t_0)$$





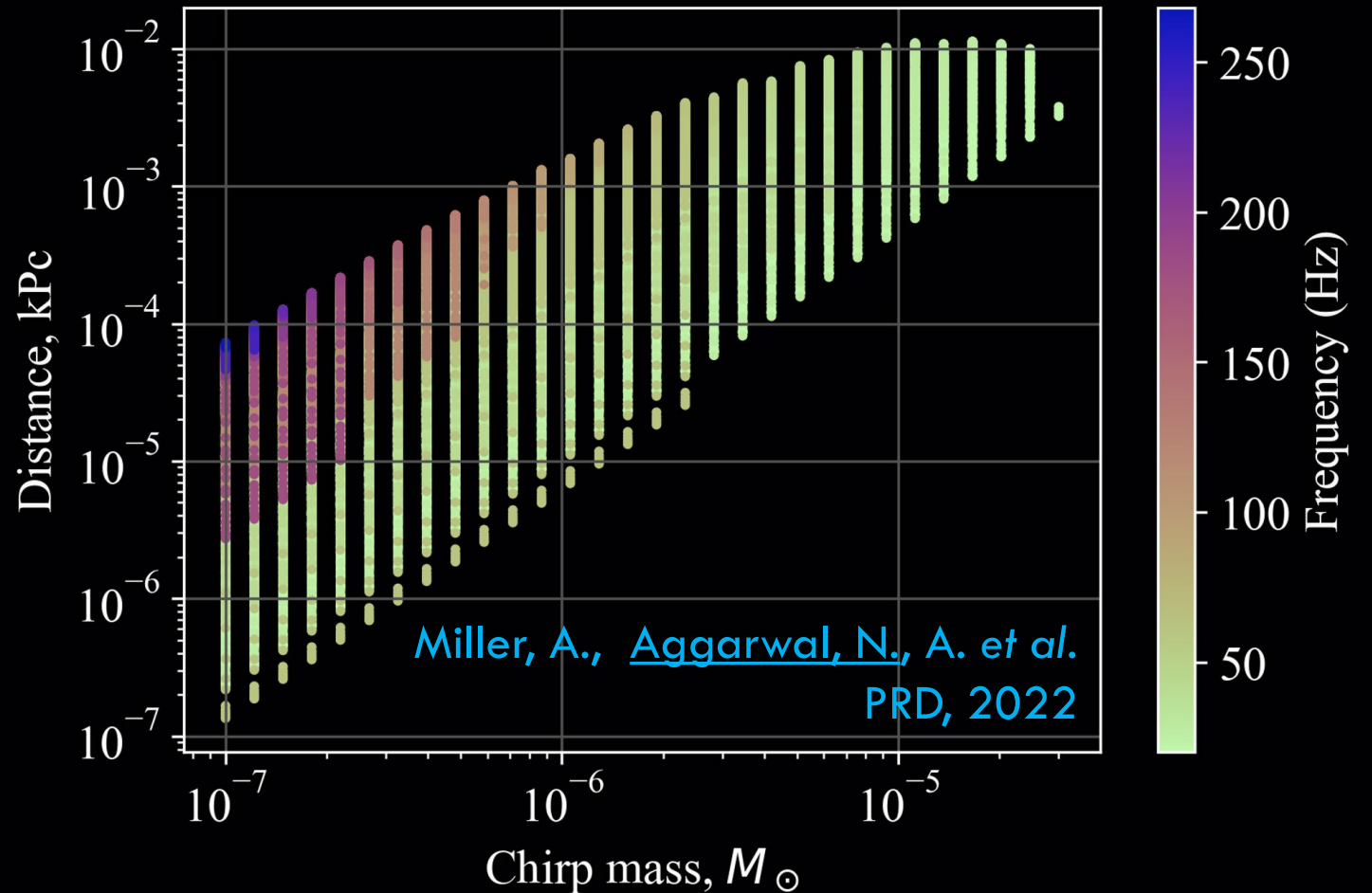
# DISTANCE LIMIT FOR EACH $M_c$ AND $f_{GW}$

$$h_0 = \frac{4}{d} \left( \frac{G \mathcal{M}}{c^2} \right)^{5/3} \left( \frac{\pi f_{GW}}{c} \right)^{2/3}$$

**CW constraints:**

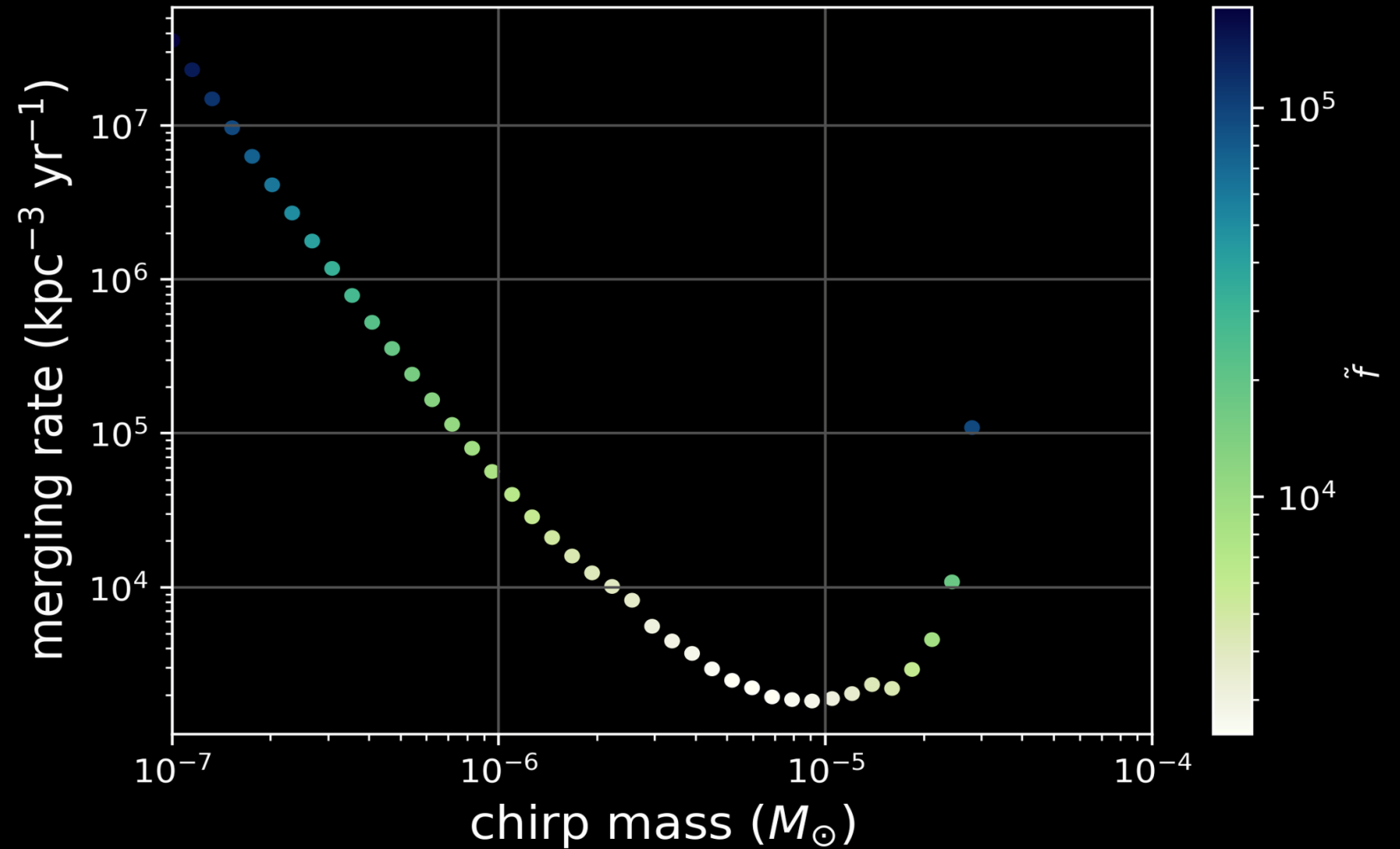
$$\dot{f} < 10^9 \text{ Hz/s}$$

$$f_{GW}(t) = f_{GW}(t_0) + \dot{f}(t - t_0)$$



# EXCLUSION W/ LIGO

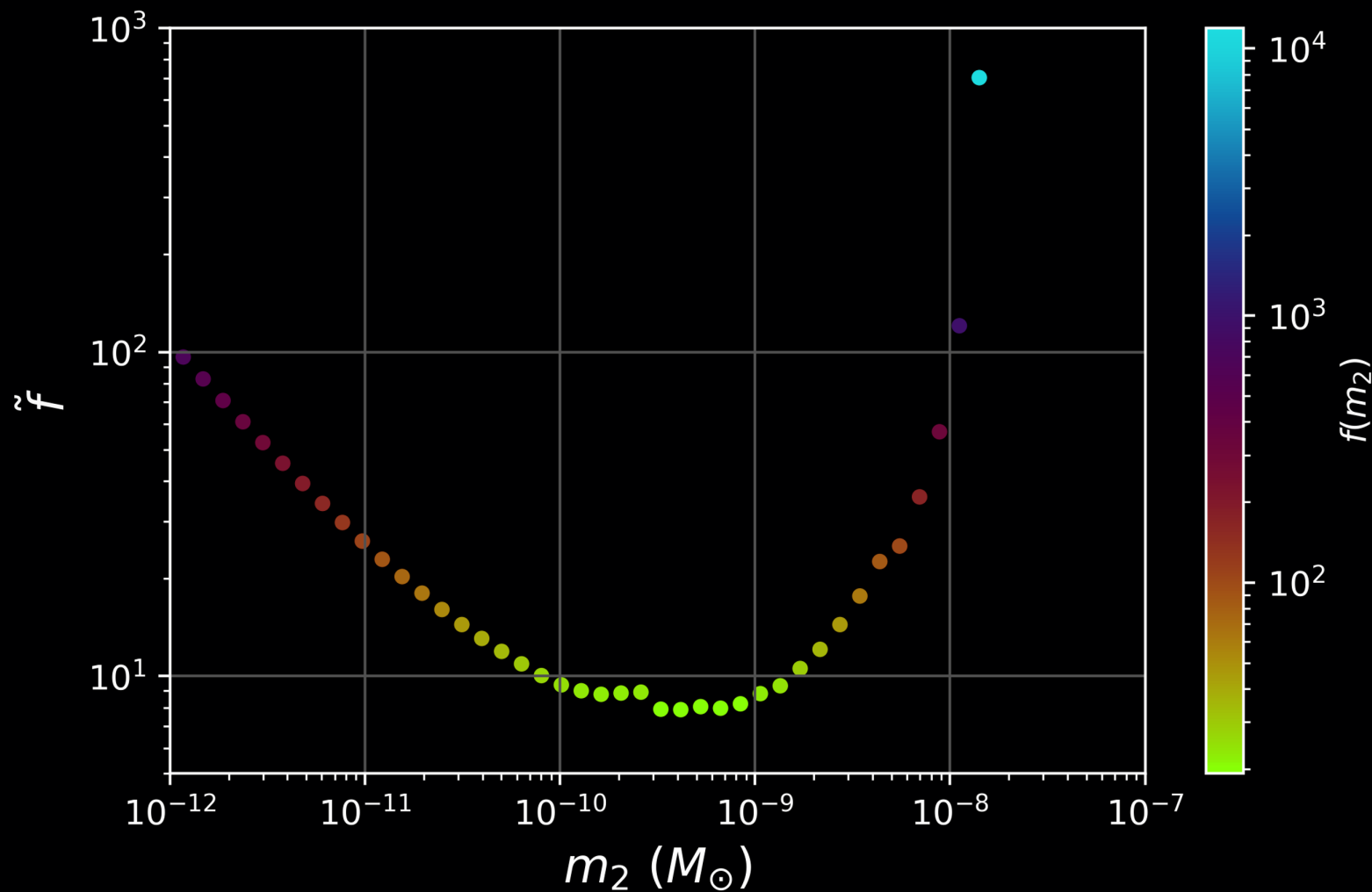
Miller, A., [Aggarwal, N., A. et al.](#) Constraints on planetary and asteroid-mass primordial black holes from continuous gravitational wave searches. PRD, 2022



# CONSTRAINTS WITH ASYMMETRIC MASS RATIO

$$m_1 = 2.5 M_\odot$$

Miller, A., [Aggarwal, N., A. et al.](#) Constraints on planetary and asteroid-mass primordial black holes from continuous gravitational wave searches. PRD, 2022



# UPPER LIMITS ON PRIMORDIAL BLACK HOLES

1. Extend continuous-wave (CW) searches to faster frequency evolution
2. Combine CBC + CW for higher frequency GWs at a given mass
3. Use 1 & 2 to constrain PBHs of heavier masses
4. Combine constraints from multiple detectors

