

Constraints on the Stochastic Gravitational-Wave Background from the CMB to Gravitational-Wave Detectors

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National Central University and Academia Sinica

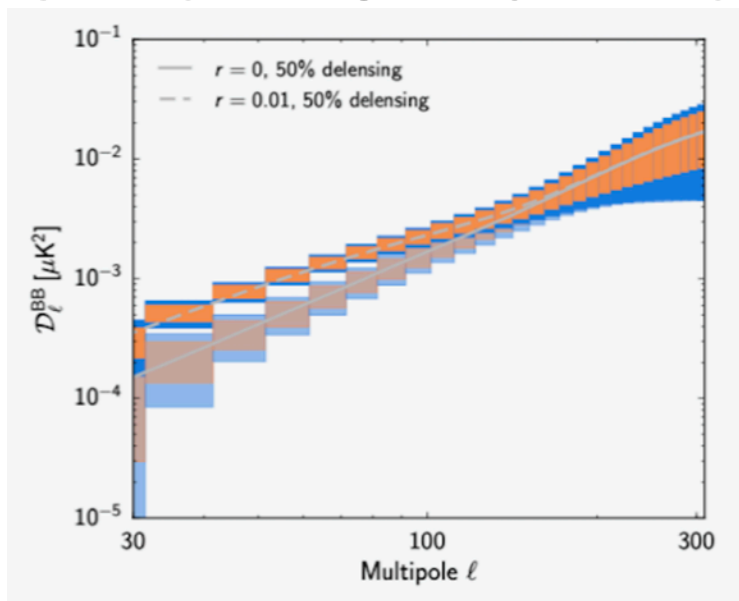
Outline

- Introduction
- Science
- Constraint of stochastic background at low frequency
- Test of Cosmological model (Tensor tilt)
- Summary

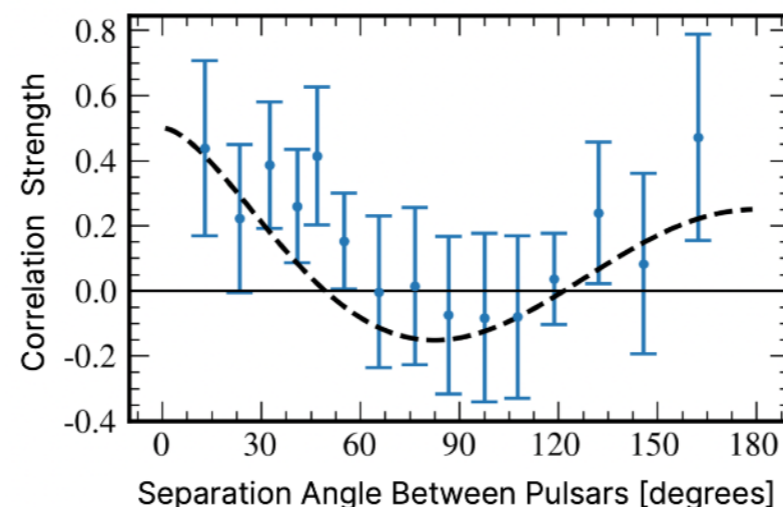
Introduction

- Analysis approach for Exploring the landscape of Stochastic Gravitational-Wave Background
- Simons Observatory, Pulsar Timing Array and LIGO will provide gorgeous data set within 5 year.
- We still have a chance to give a constraint of Ω_{GW} with the latest data.
- Now is the time for preparation period to establish the current constraint.

Simons Observatory



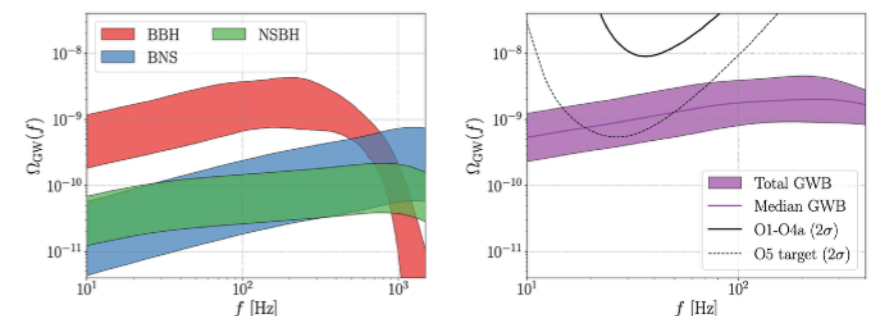
Pulsar Timing Array



LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA

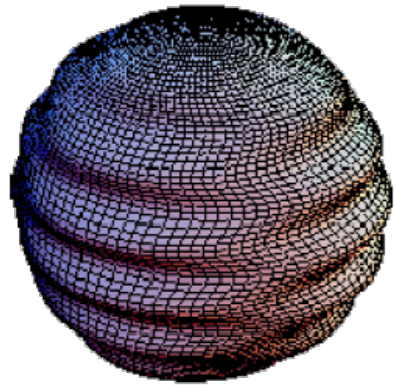
Upper Limits on the Isotropic Gravitational-Wave Background from the first part of LIGO, Virgo, and KAGRA's fourth Observing Run

Phys. Rev. D - **Accepted** 1 December, 2025
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1103/wq57-sjt2>



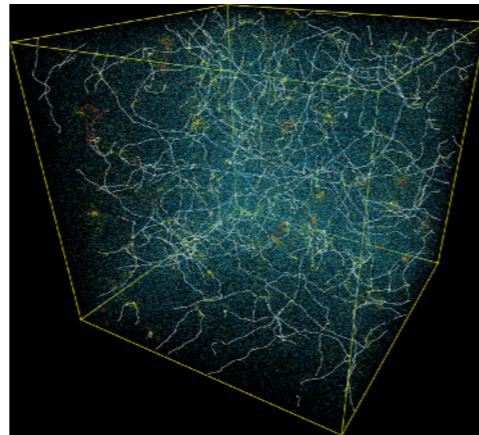
Stochastic background source

Primordial



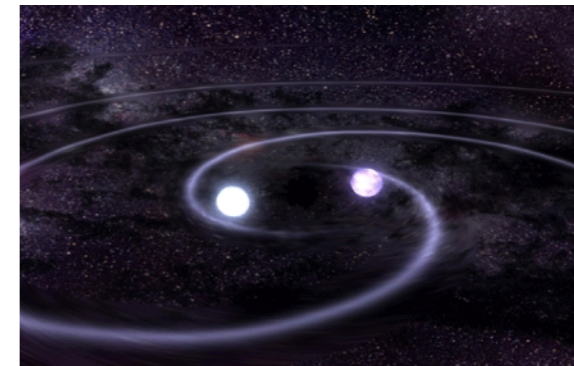
- Initial fluctuation with Inflation

Phase transition

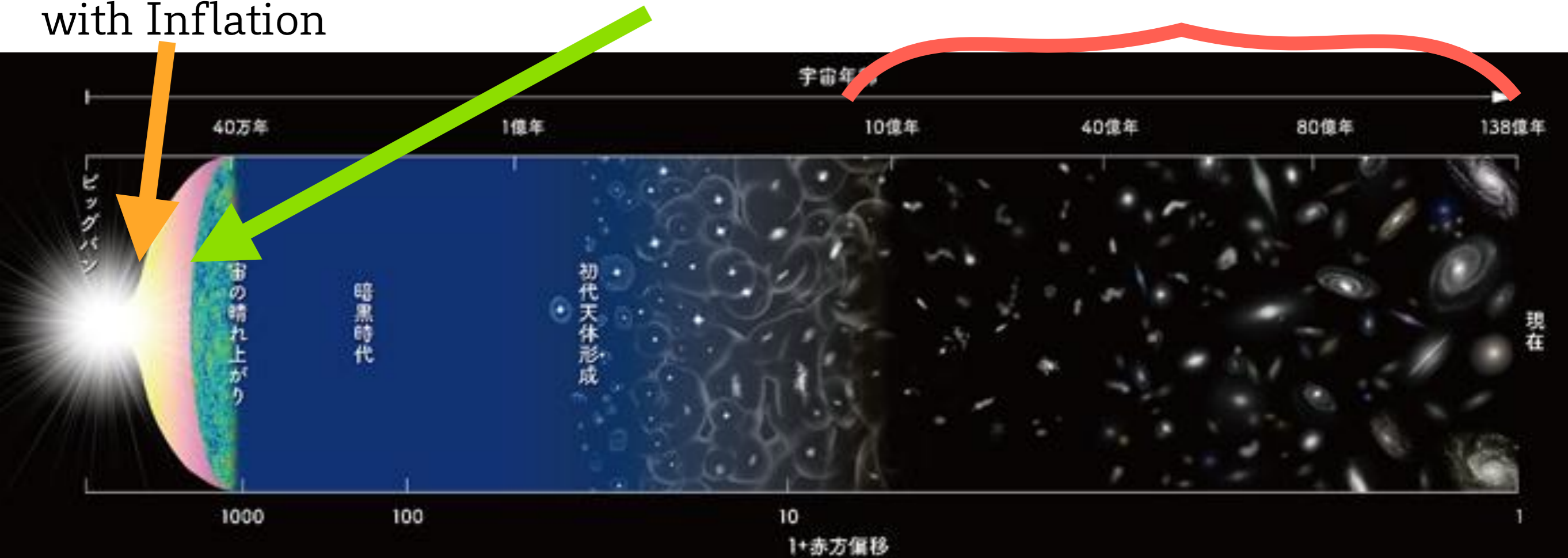


- Cosmic string

Astronomical



- BBH and BNS



Our Goals

1. Expanding Experimental Sensitivity into Unexplored Frequency Regimes



Session 2: CHRONOS

2. Exploring the landscape of Stochastic Gravitational-Wave Background with Ω_{GW} Constraints

3. Development of an Analysis Framework Combining Data from the CMB to Gravitational-Wave Experiments across 20 Orders of Magnitude

Our Goals

1. Expanding Experimental Sensitivity into Unexplored Frequency Regimes

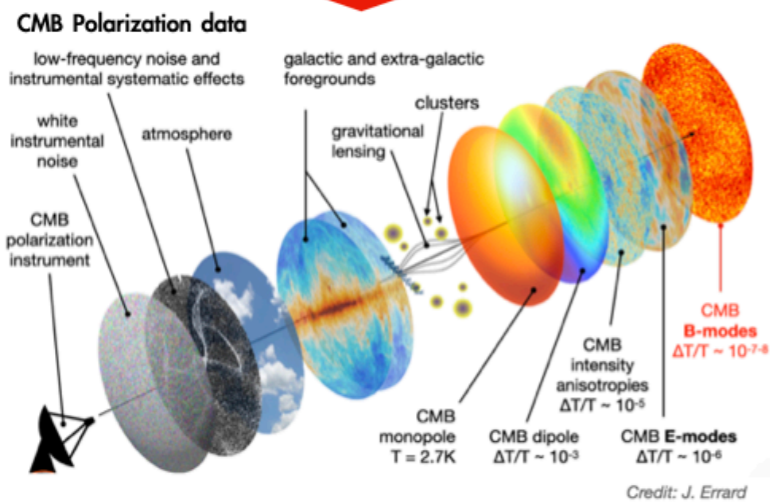
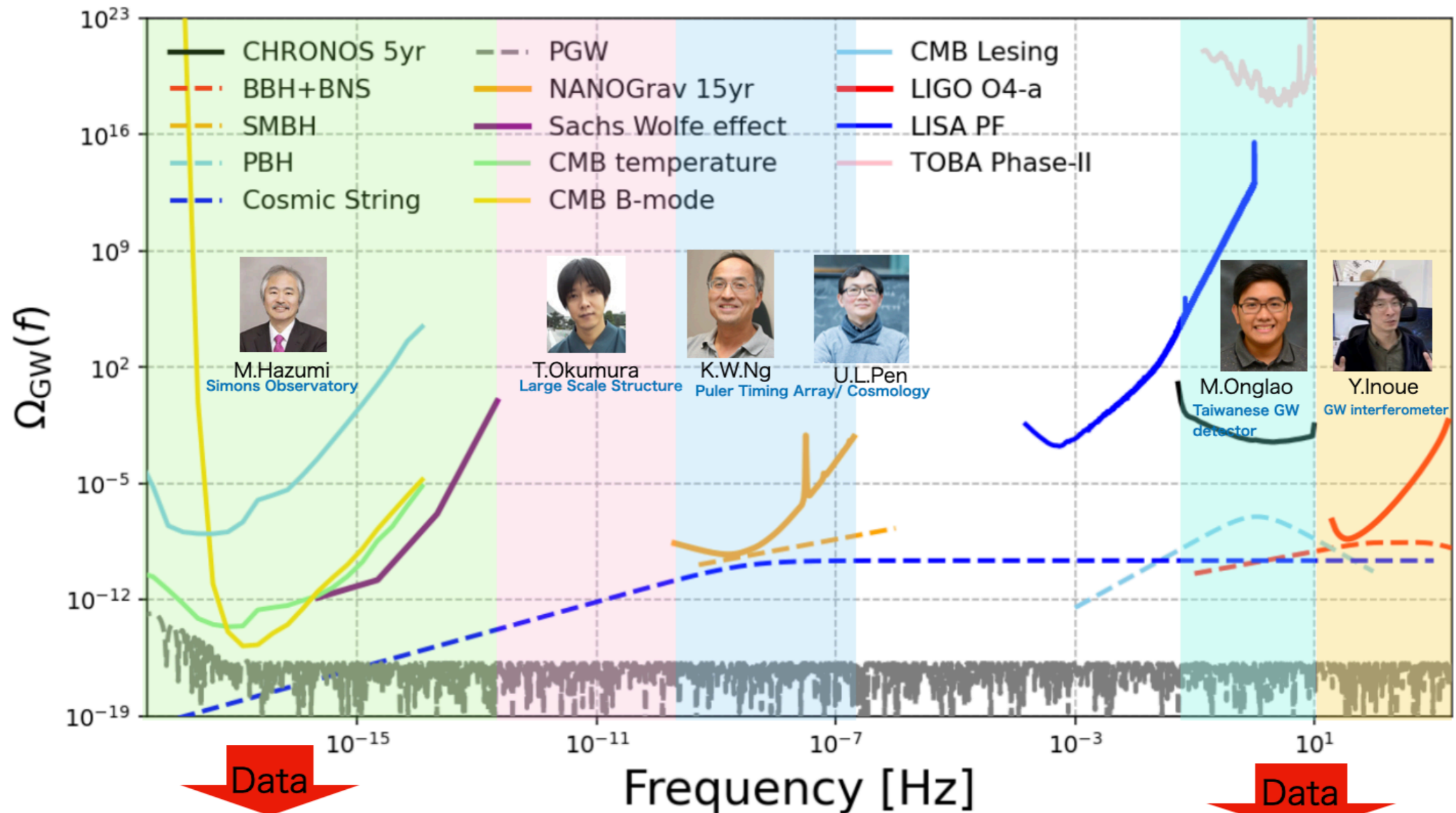


Session 2: CHRONOS

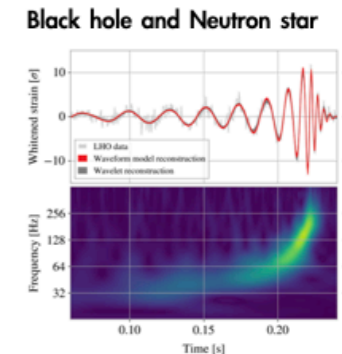
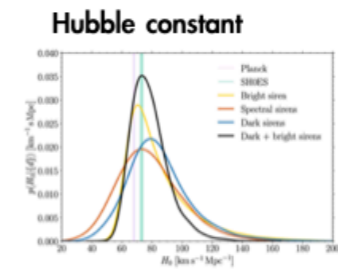
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3. Development of an Analysis Framework Combining Data from the CMB to Gravitational-Wave Experiments across 20 Orders of Magnitude

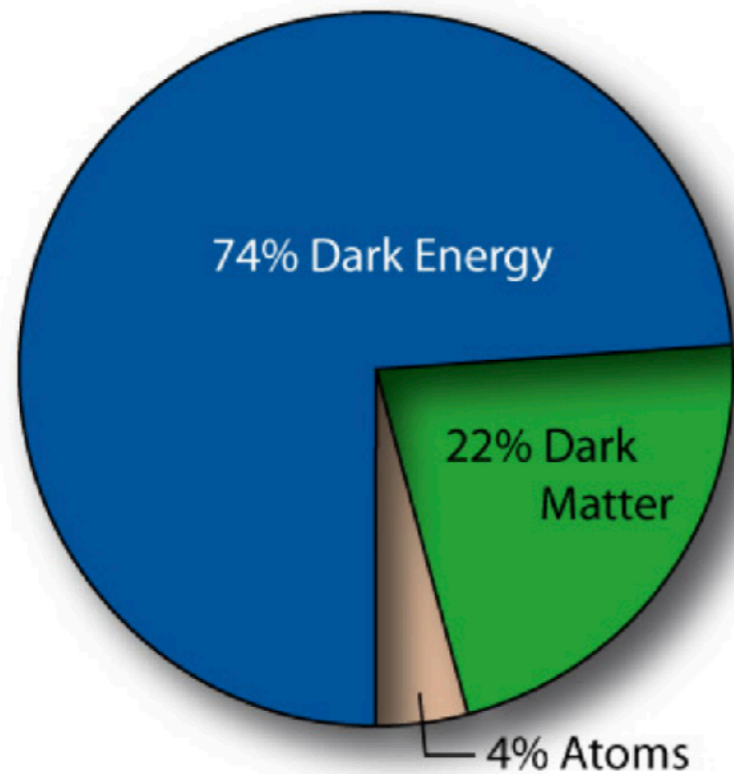
Team Taiwan



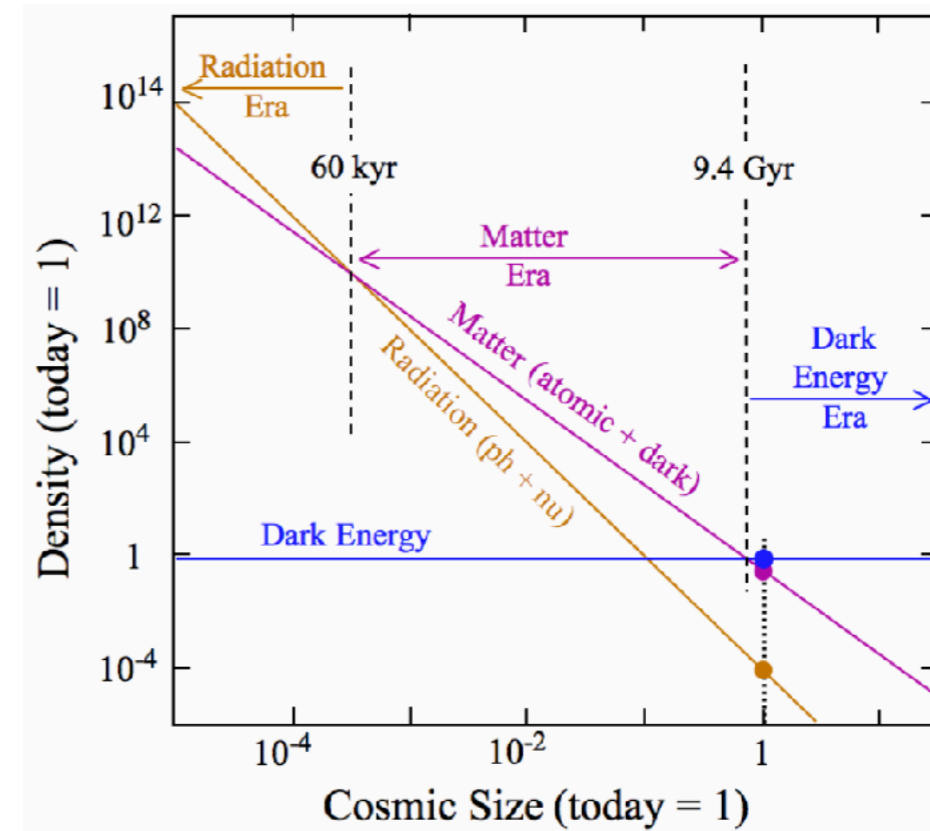
Frequency [Hz]



Density parameter



$$\Omega_i = \rho_i / \rho_{cr}$$

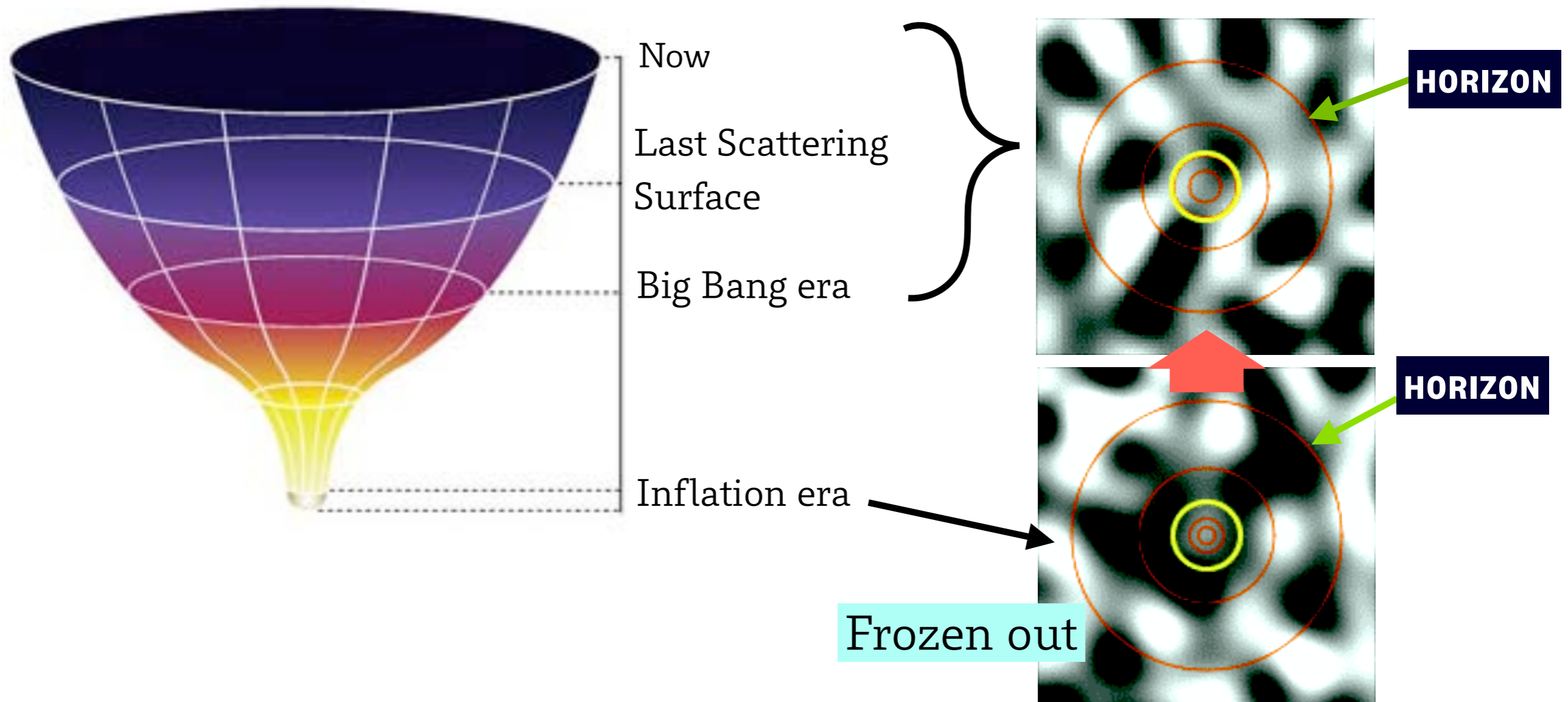


Friedmann equation:
$$H^2(t) = H_0^2 \left[\underbrace{\Omega_{\gamma,0} a^{-4}}_{\text{radiation}} + \underbrace{\Omega_{m,0} a^{-3}}_{\text{matter}} + \underbrace{\Omega_{\kappa} a^{-2}}_{\text{curvature}} + \underbrace{\Omega_{\Lambda}}_{\text{dark energy}} \right]$$

Fundamental questions: What's the energy density of GW, Ω_{GW} ?

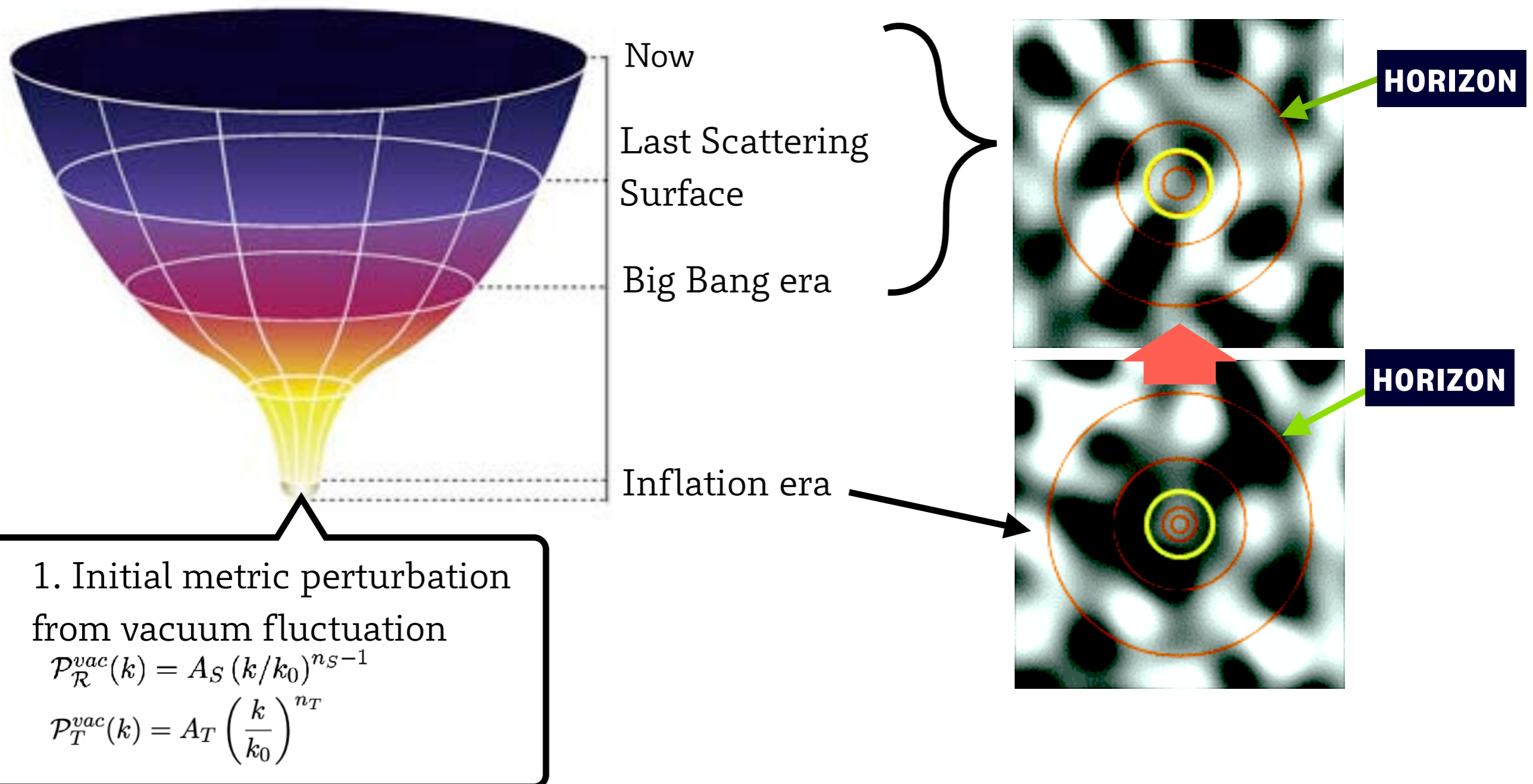
Primordial Gravitational wave

Primordial GW come back to observable universe

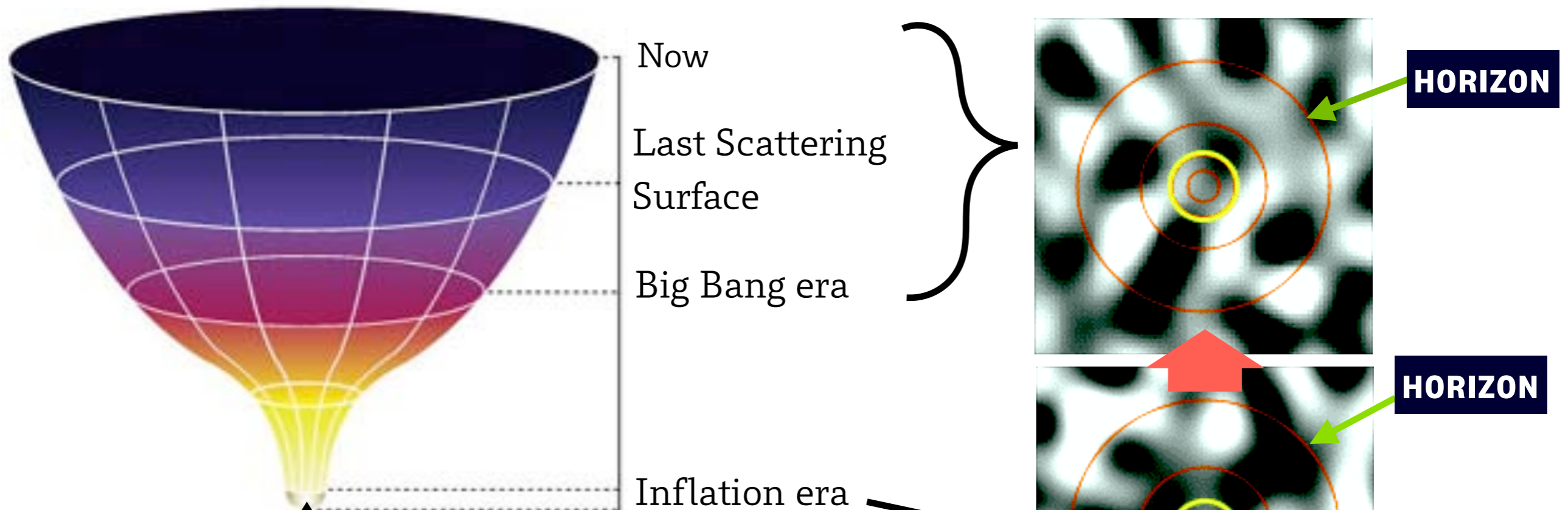


How to count up the Energy density of GW in our universe?

How to calculate energy density?



How to calculate energy density?



1. Initial metric perturbation from vacuum fluctuation

$$\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{R}}^{vac}(k) = A_S (k/k_0)^{n_S-1}$$

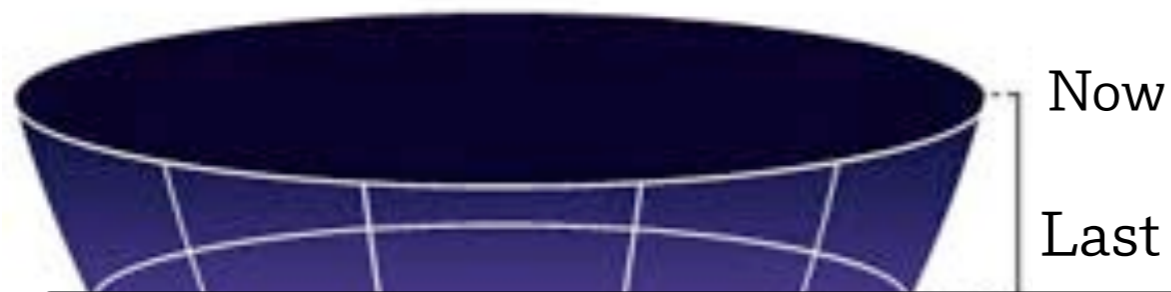
$$\mathcal{P}_T^{vac}(k) = A_T \left(\frac{k}{k_0}\right)^{n_T}$$

2. Inflationary expansion: inflaton

slow roll approximation

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - V(\phi) \quad \frac{p}{\rho} \simeq \frac{\frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 - V}{\frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 + V} \simeq -1$$

How to calculate energy density?

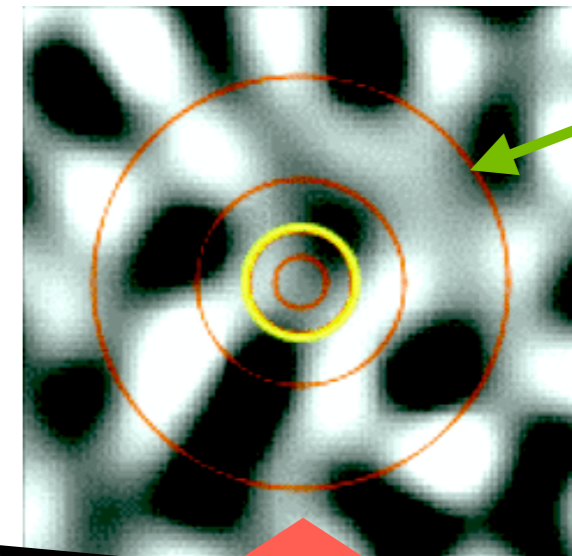


Now

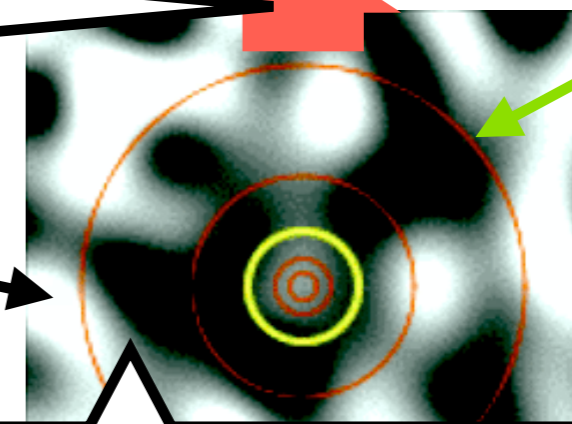
Last Scattering

3. Density parameter with Transfer function

$$\Omega_{GW}(k, \tau_0) = \frac{1}{\rho_c(\tau_0)} \frac{\partial \rho_{GW}(k, \tau_0)}{\partial \ln k} = \frac{\mathcal{P}_T(k)}{12H_0^2} \cdot [\mathcal{T}'(k, \tau_0)]^2$$



HORIZON



HORIZON

Inflation era

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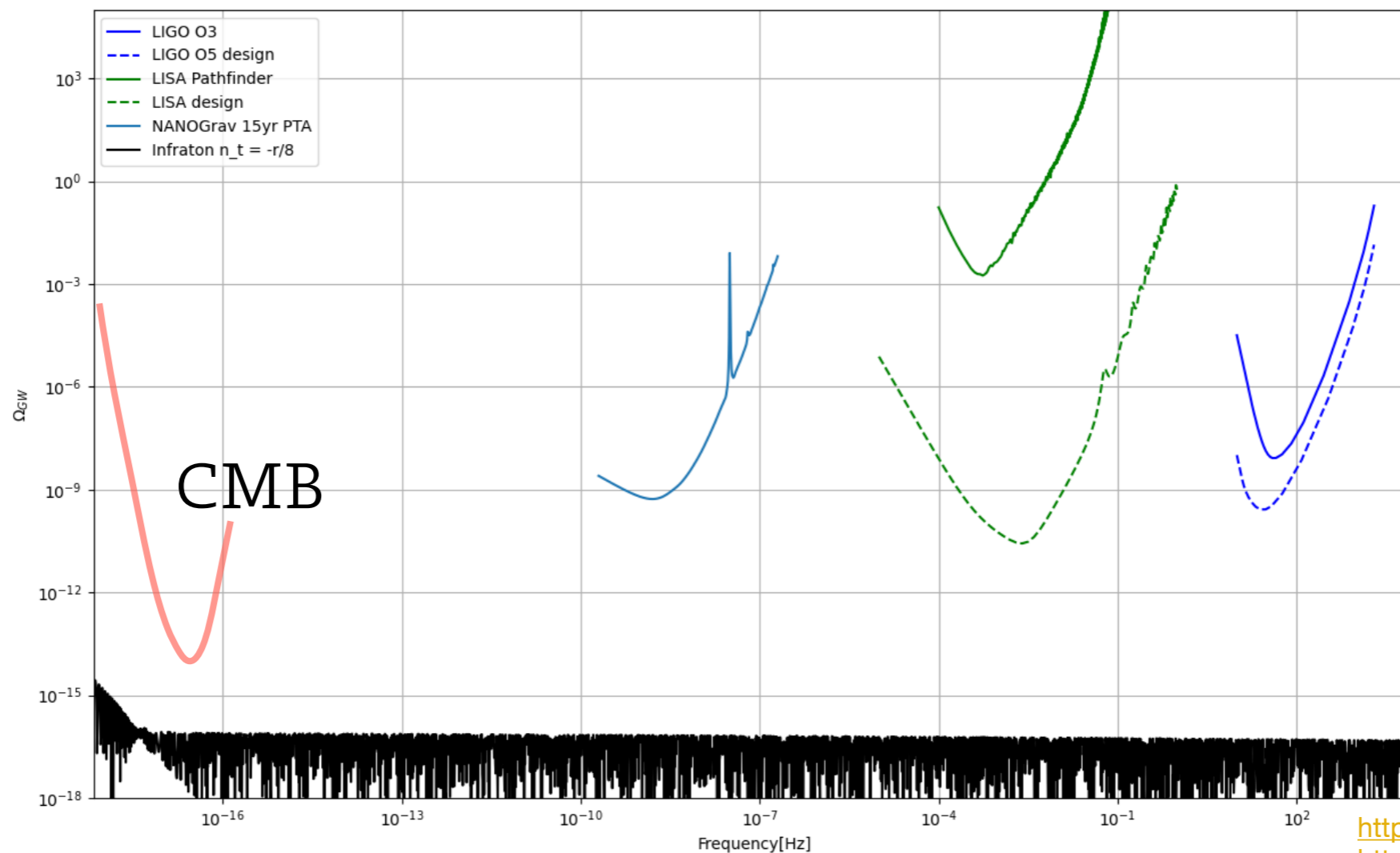
$$\frac{p}{\rho} \simeq \frac{\frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 - V}{\frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 + V} \simeq -1$$

Density Parameter: Ω_{GW}

Transfer function for matter and radiation dominant:

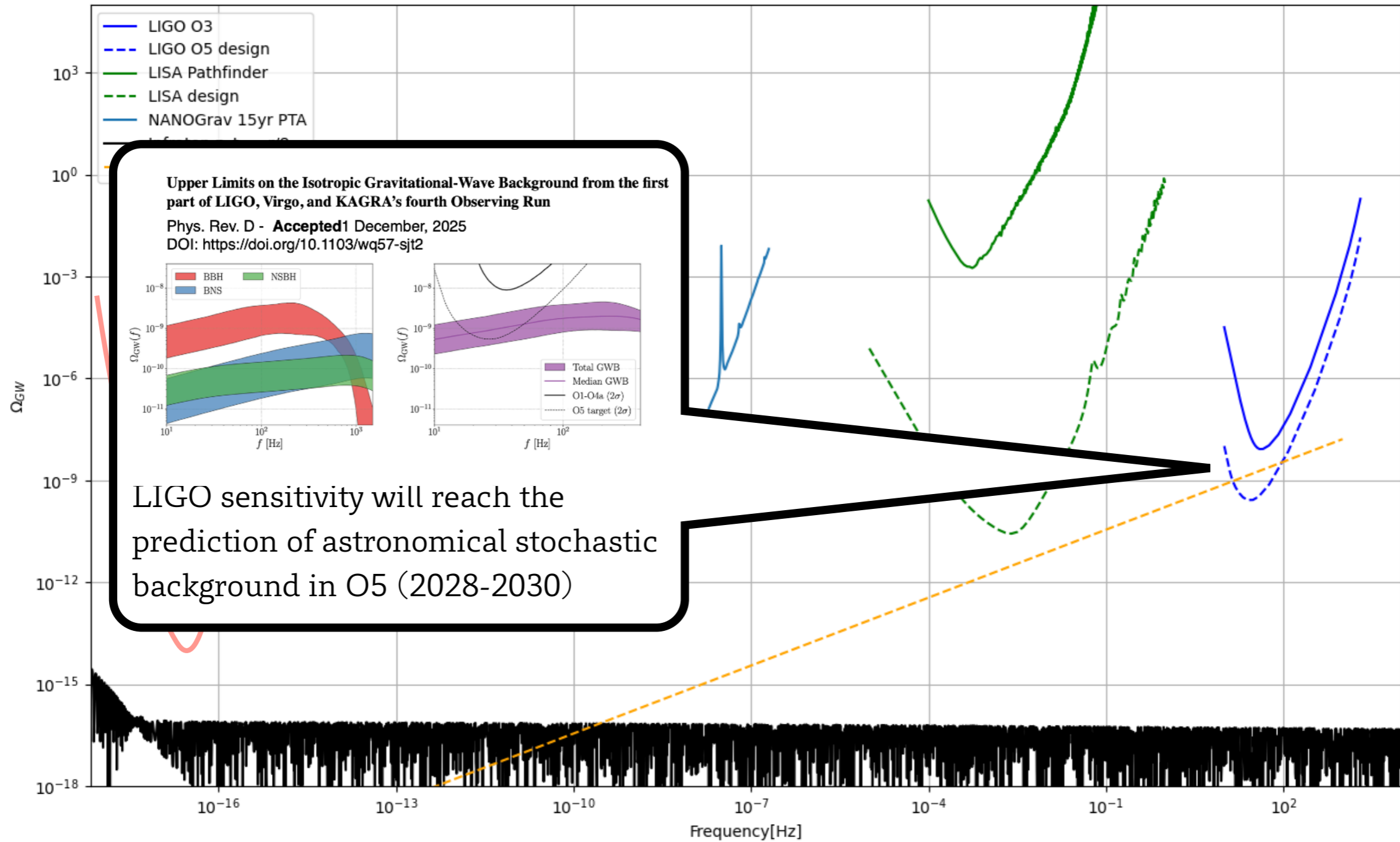
$$\Omega_{GW}(k, \tau_0) = \frac{\mathcal{P}_T(k)}{12H_0^2} k^2 \cdot \begin{cases} \frac{\tau_*^2}{\tau_0^2} [A(k)j_2(k\tau_0) + B(k)y_2(k\tau_0)]^2, & \text{if } k > k_*, \\ \left[\frac{3j_2(k\tau_0)}{k\tau_0} \right]^2, & \text{if } k < k_*, \end{cases}$$

Radiation dominant $\propto f^0$
Matter dominant $\propto f^{-2}$



<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2106.12843>
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1904.02115>

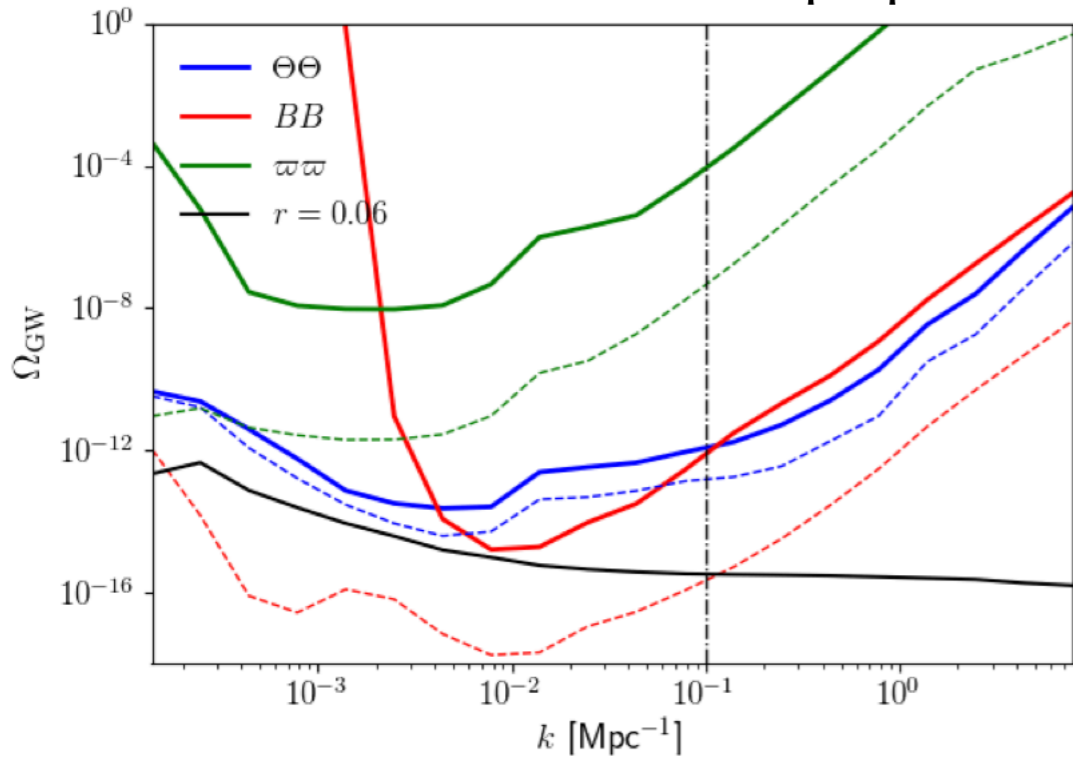
Expected next challenge of LIGO!



Introduction of Namikawa et al.

Namikawa et al., Phys. Rev. D 100, 021303(R) – Published 19 July, 2019
 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.100.021303>

Conclusion of this paper



→ Upper limit of Ω_{GW} with Planck and BK result

Principle (with example of TT)

$$\Omega_{\text{tot}} = \Omega_{\Lambda} + \Omega_r + \Omega_m + \dots$$

$$\Omega_{\gamma} + \Omega_{\text{gw}} + \dots \quad \Omega_{\text{dm}} + \Omega_{\text{b}} + \dots$$

$\Omega_{\text{gw}} > 0$
 non-zero.
 But, not measured.

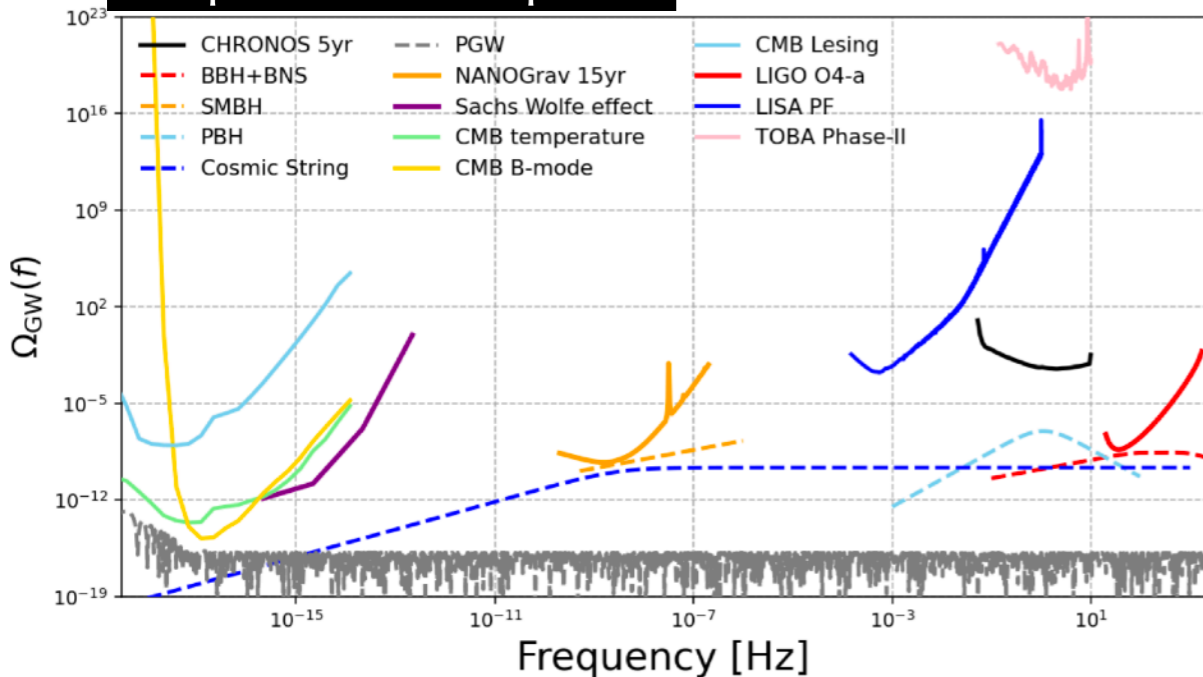
Frequency dependency

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(f) = \frac{1}{\rho_c} \frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}}{d \ln f},$$
 Low frequency region

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(k) = \Omega_{\text{GW}}^{\text{CMB}} \left(\frac{k}{k_*}\right)^{n_t} \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{k_{\text{eq}}}{k}\right)^2 + \frac{16}{9} \right]$$

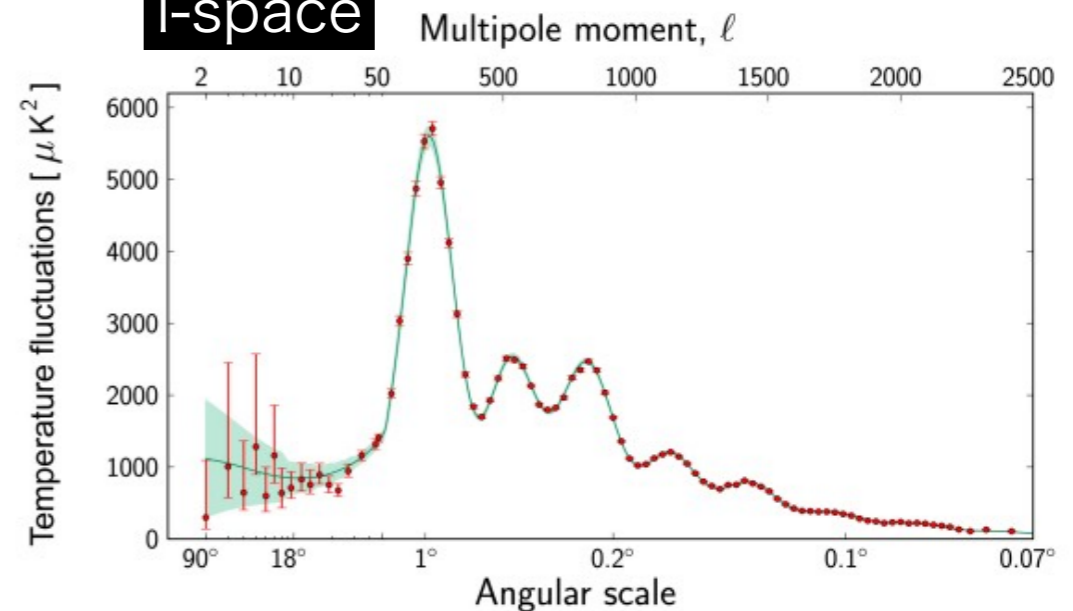
$$k = 2\pi f a_0.$$

k-space or f-space



How to connect?

l-space



Narrow band spectrum

$$\Pi(k; k_c) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\Delta \ln k}, & k_c(1 - \epsilon) \leq k \leq k_c(1 + \epsilon), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$P_t(k; k_c, A_t) = A_t \Pi(k; k_c).$$

Namikawa et al., Phys. Rev. D **100**, 021303(R) – Published 19 July, 2019
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.100.021303>

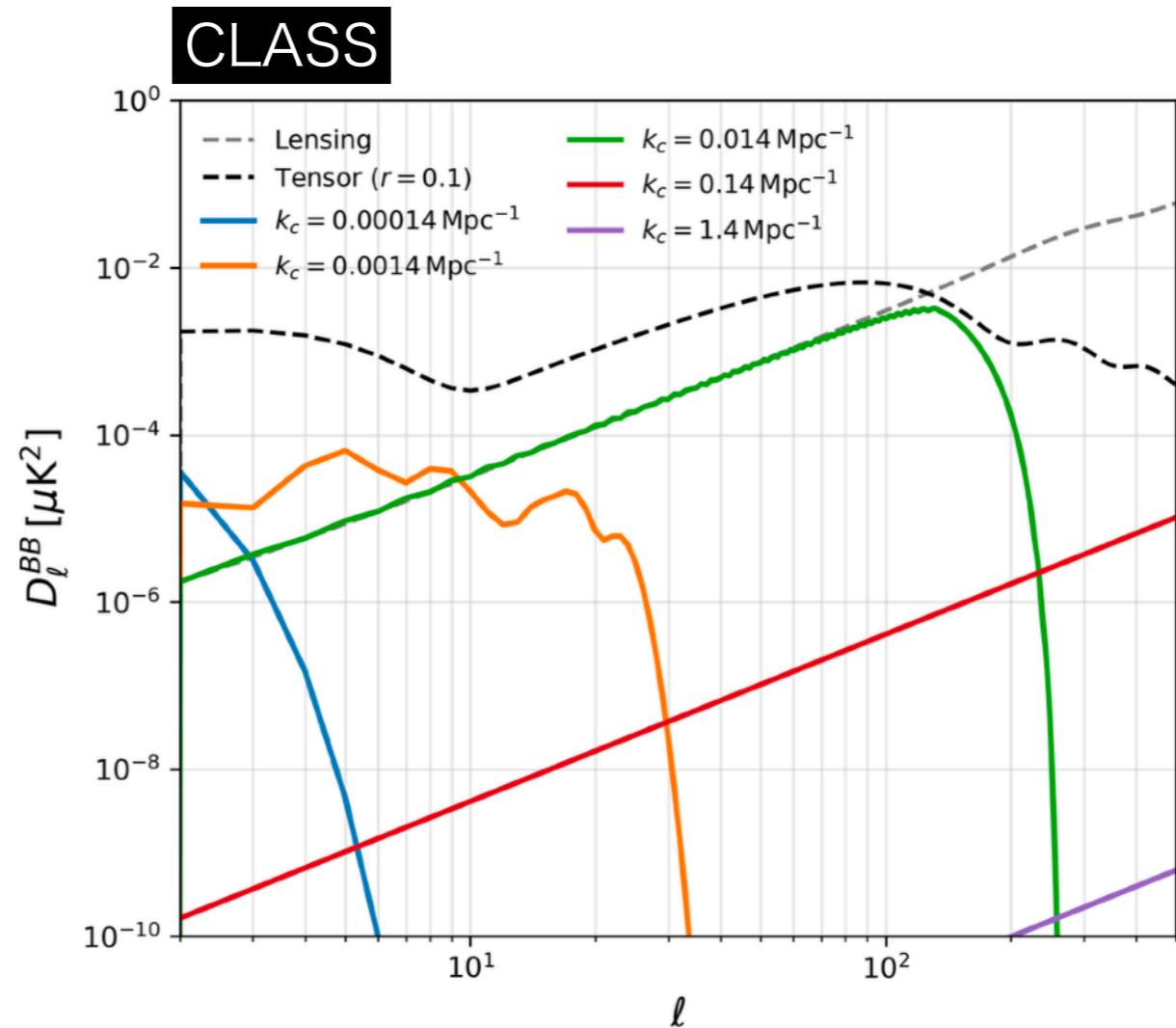
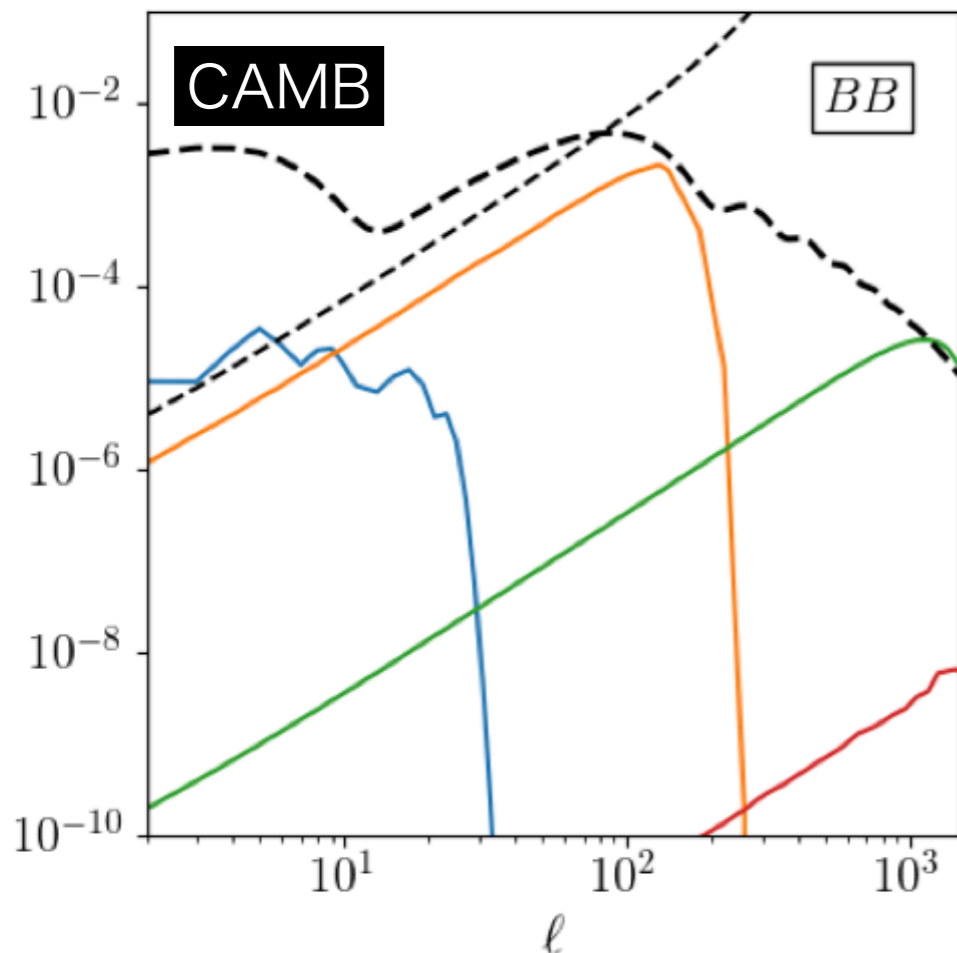


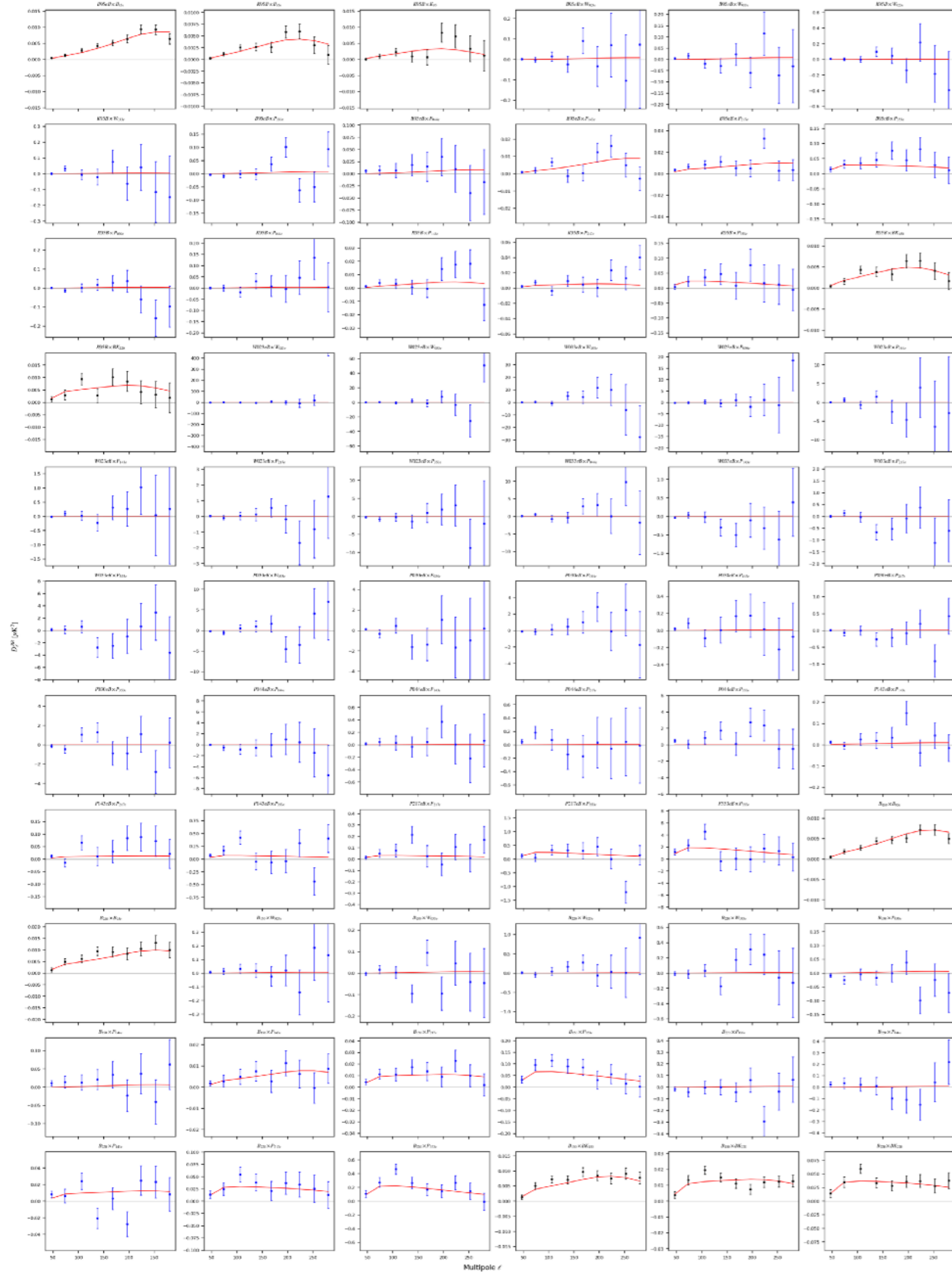
Figure 1: CMB B -mode spectra D_ℓ^{BB} for narrow-band primordial tensor perturbations with different central wavenumbers k_c . Colored lines show the resulting spectra, while the black and gray dashed lines represent the scale-invariant tensor spectrum ($r = 0.1$) and lensing contribution, respectively. Each narrow-band spectrum produces a localized peak in multipole space.

Likelihood BK18 dataset

$$d^{\text{th}} = d^{\Lambda\text{CDM}} + d^{\text{FG}}$$

$$\Delta d = d^{\text{obs}} - d^{\text{th}}$$

{WMAP, Planck, BICEP, KECK} {95GHz, 150GHz, 220GHz}



Result (Inoue et al. in preparation)

$$-2 \ln \mathcal{L}(A_t | k_c) = (\Delta \mathbf{d} - \mathbf{d}^{\text{Narrow}})^{\top} \mathbf{C}^{-1} (\Delta \mathbf{d} - \mathbf{d}^{\text{Narrow}}),$$

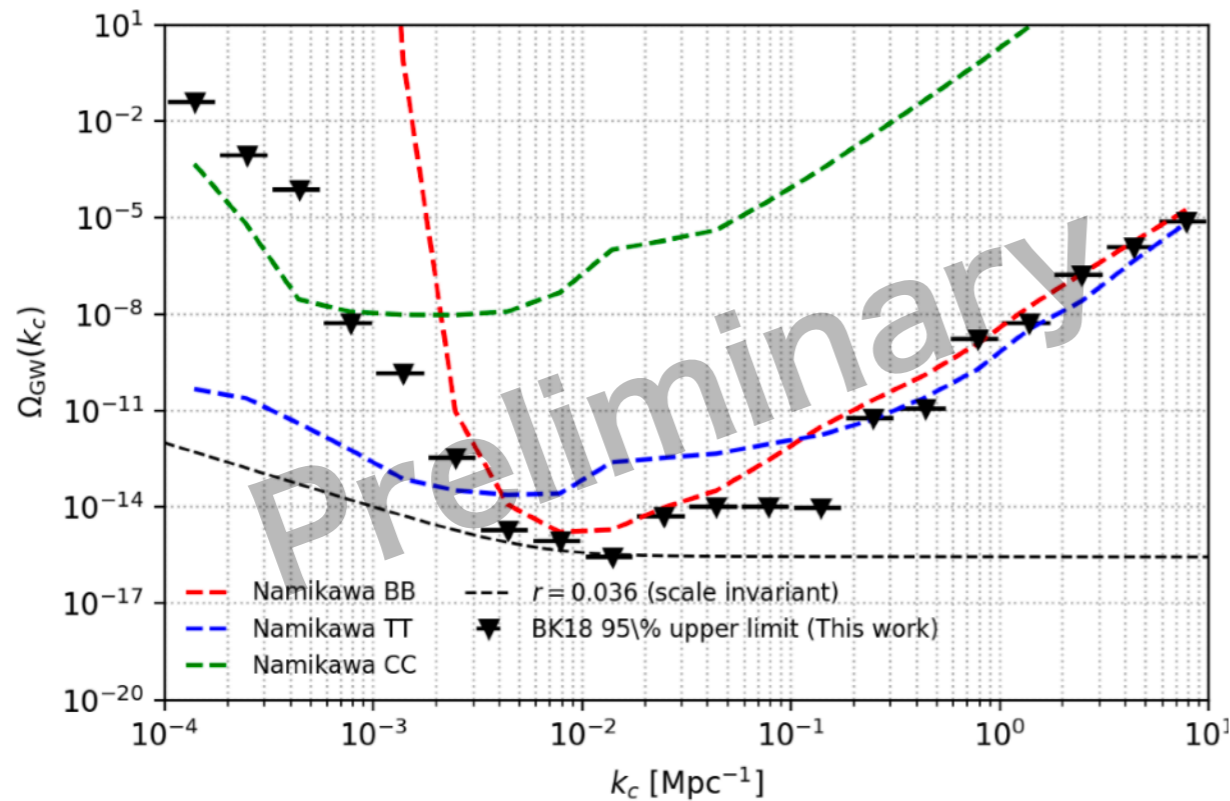


Figure 2: Constraints on $\Omega_{\text{GW},95}(k_c)$ from BK18 B -mode data. Black triangles denote the 95% upper limits obtained in this work, compared with results from Namikawa et al. (dashed lines) and the scale-invariant case ($r = 0.036$, black dashed).

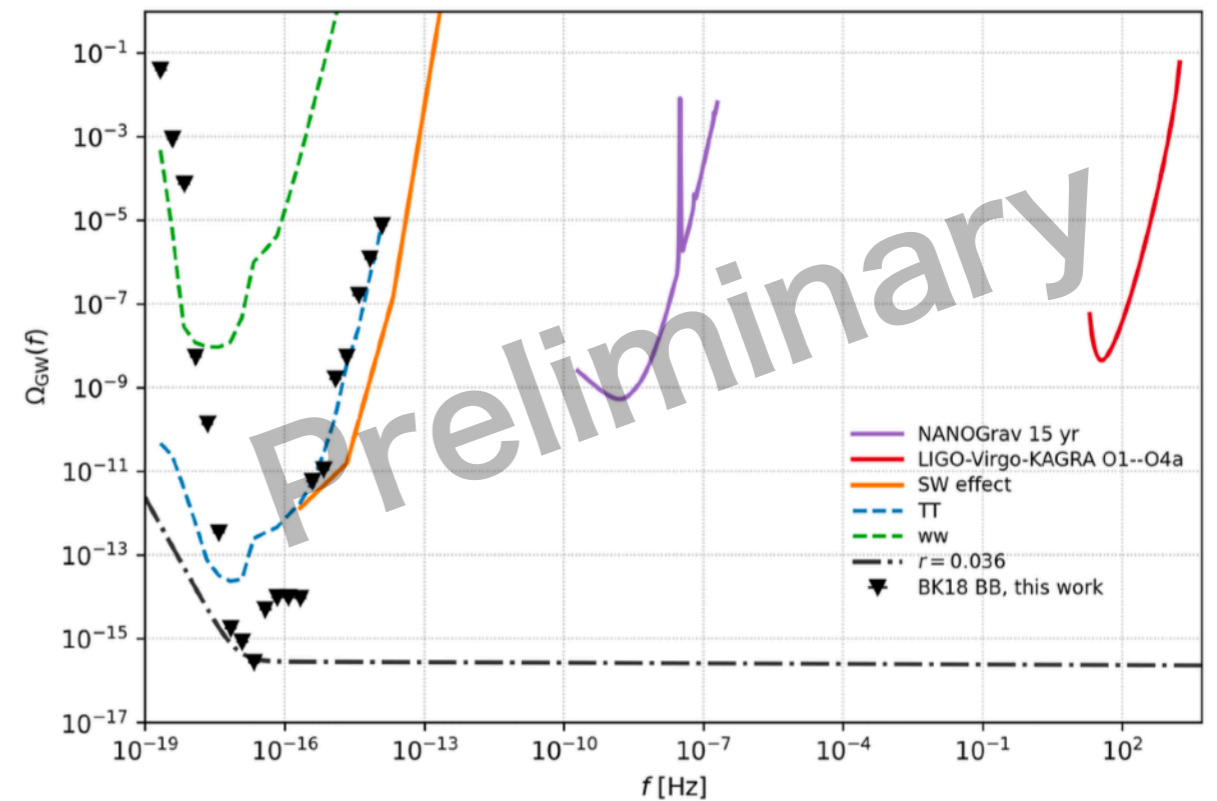


Figure 3: Constraints on $\Omega_{\text{GW},90\text{th}5}(f)$ over a wide frequency range. Black triangles show the BK18 limits obtained in this work. Dashed curves denote CMB-based constraints from TT, $\omega\omega$, and SW analyses (temperature, cross-correlation, and Sachs–Wolfe, respectively), together with results from NANOGrav 15 year and LIGO–Virgo from O1 to O4.

Similar study

Redshift-space fluctuations in stochastic gravitational wave background

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¹*Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica, Taipei 11529, Taiwan*

²*Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics, Academia Sinica, Taipei 11529, Taiwan*

(Dated: July 22, 2022)

B. A narrow power spectrum

For the narrow power spectrum (10), we adopt the subhorizon-mode solution (11). The induced CMB anisotropy power spectrum is then given by

$$C_l \simeq \frac{1}{2\pi} (l+2)(l+1)l(l-1) \times \Delta \ln k_* \left| \int_{\eta_1}^{\eta_0} d\eta \frac{dh(k_*\eta)}{d\eta} \frac{j_l[k_*(\eta_0 - \eta)]}{k_*^2(\eta_0 - \eta)^2} \right|^2, \quad (20)$$

where $\eta_1 = \max(\eta_{\text{dec}}, \eta_*)$. Assuming that the spectrum spans a range of $\Delta \ln k_* \simeq 1$ and that the universe was in a matter-dominated epoch with $a(\eta) = (\eta/\eta_0)^2$, we obtain

$$C_l \simeq \frac{M_*^2}{2\pi M_p^2} \left(\frac{\eta_*}{\eta_0} \right)^4 (l+2)(l+1)l(l-1) \times \left| \int_0^{x_1} dx \frac{1 - x/x_0 - i2/x_0}{(1 - x/x_0)^3} e^{ix} \frac{j_l(x)}{x^2} \right|^2, \quad (21)$$

where $x = k_*(\eta_0 - \eta)$, $x_0 = k_*\eta_0$, and $x_1 = k_*(\eta_0 - \eta_1)$.

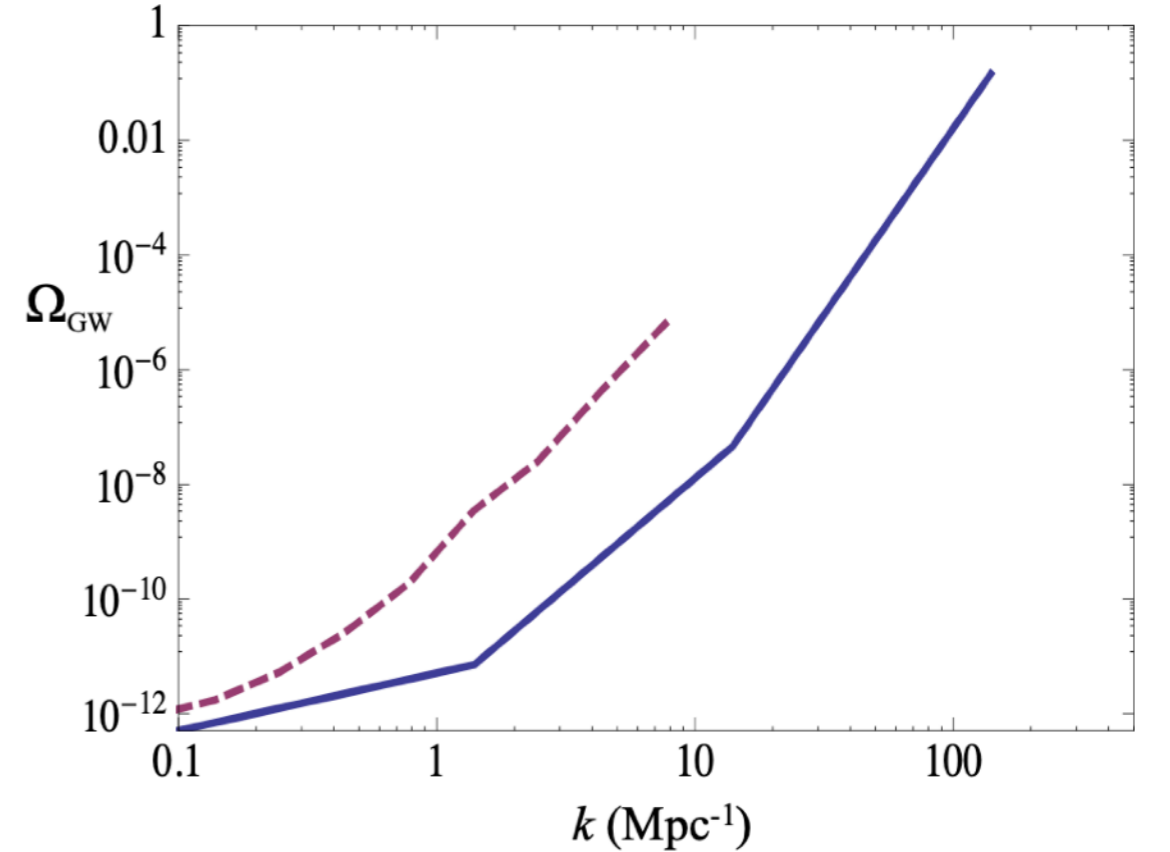
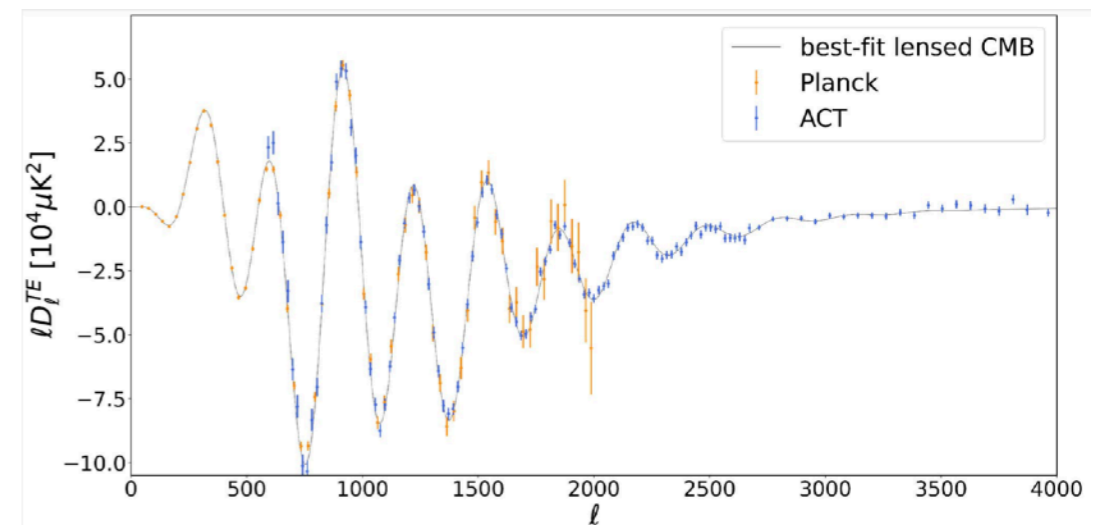
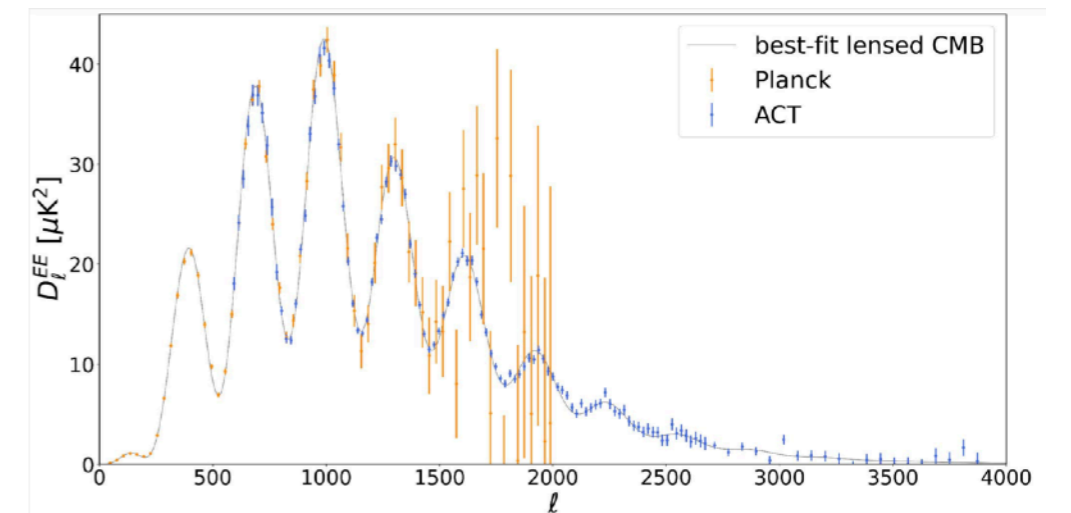
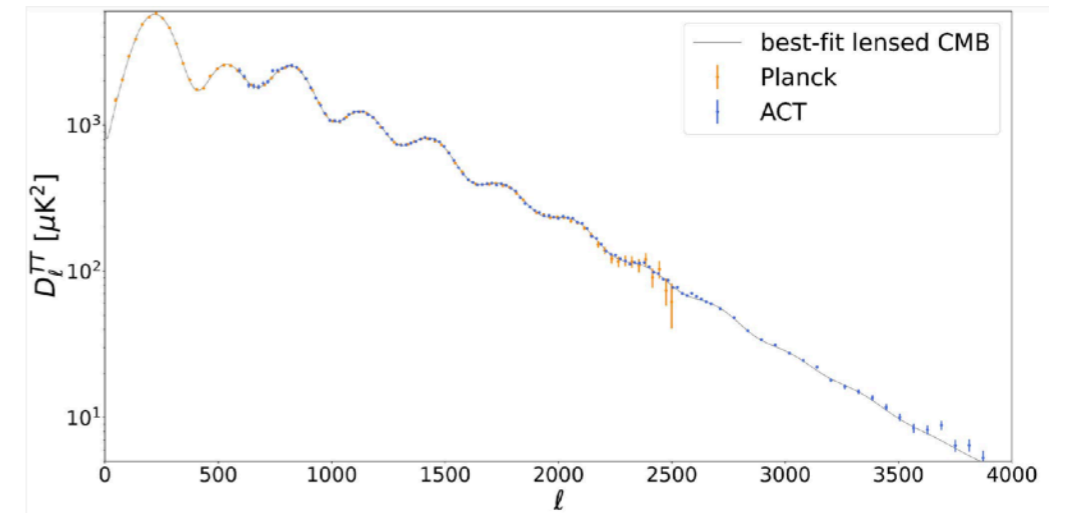
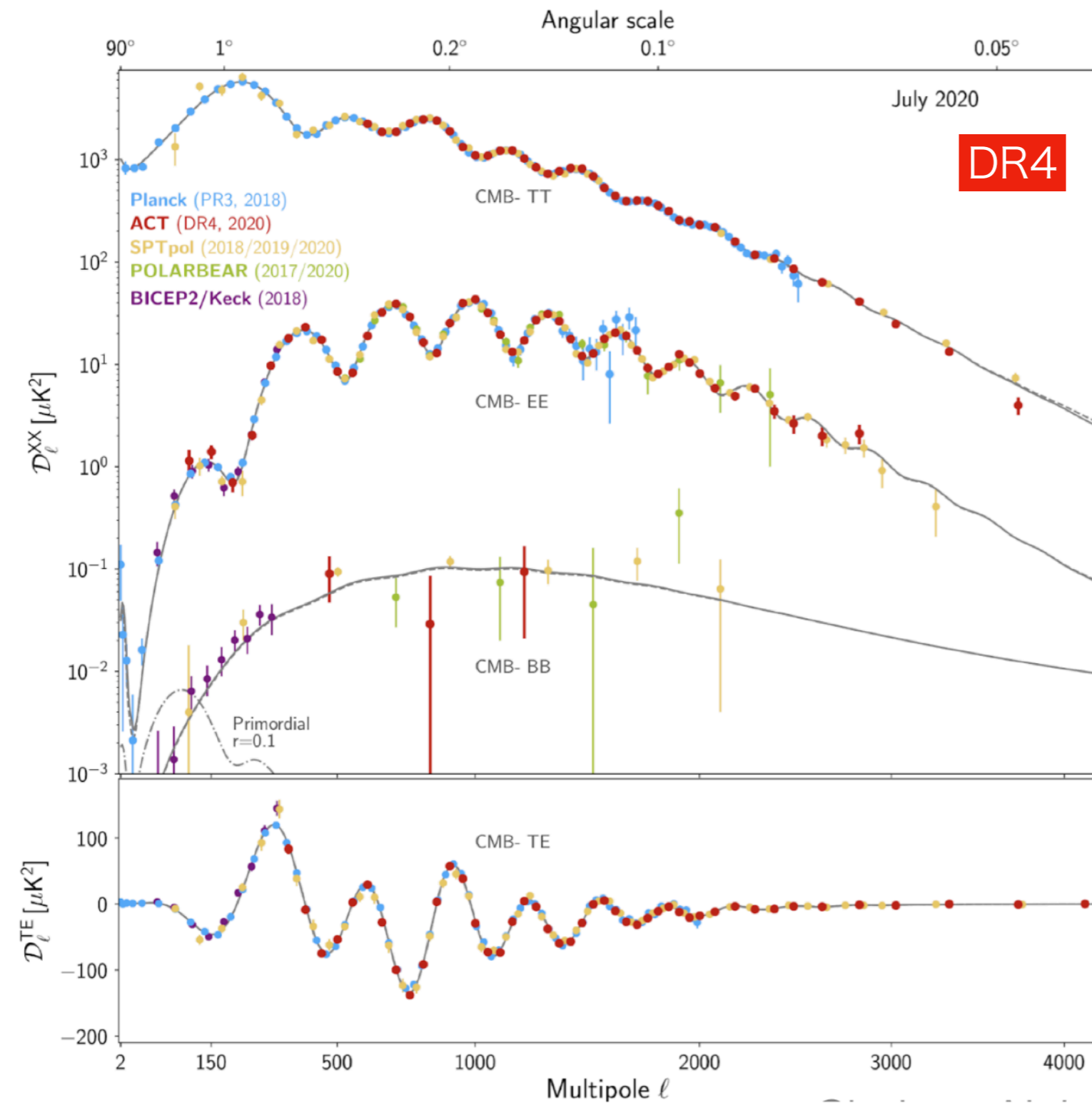


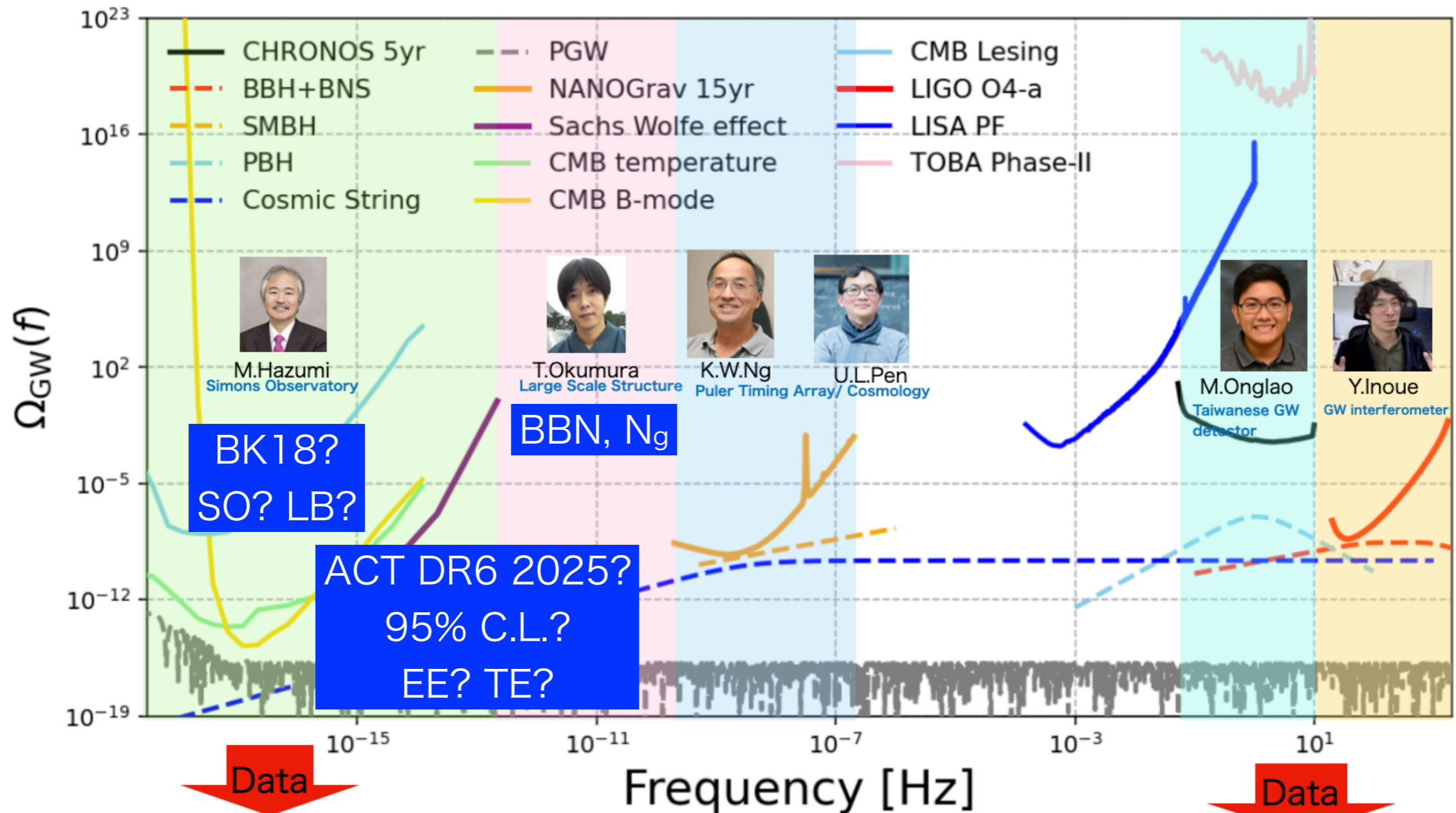
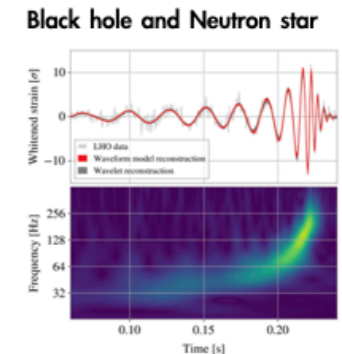
FIG. 2. Solid line is the upper bound on the spectral energy density of the SGWB derived from Planck, ACT, and SPT small-scale CMB temperature anisotropy measurements in this work. The dashed line, drawn from the blue solid curve in Figure 4 of Ref. [9], is the upper bound derived from a likelihood analysis using the CMB temperature anisotropy data made by Planck.

Example: ACT DR6 Data set

DR6



Team Taiwan

Consistency check of inflation

Test of model



3. Density parameter with Transfer function

$$\Omega_{GW}(k, \tau_0) = \frac{1}{\rho_c(\tau_0)} \frac{\partial \rho_{GW}(k, \tau_0)}{\partial \ln k} = \frac{\mathcal{P}_T(k)}{12H_0^2} \cdot [\mathcal{T}'(k, \tau_0)]^2$$



Inflation era

1. Initial metric perturbation from vacuum fluctuation

$$\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{R}}^{vac}(k) = A_S (k/k_0)^{n_S-1}$$

$$\mathcal{P}_T^{vac}(k) = A_T \left(\frac{k}{k_0}\right)^{n_T + \frac{1}{2}\alpha_T \ln(k/k_0)}$$

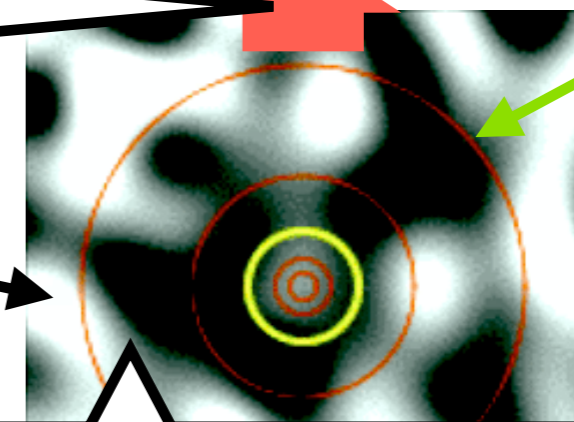
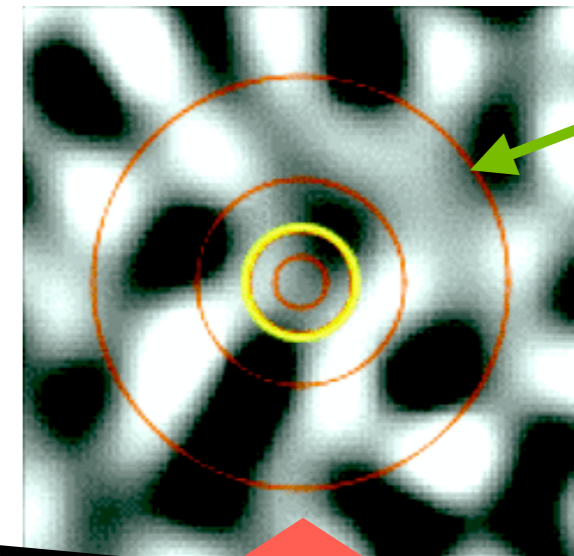
Tensor tilt

2. Inflationary expansion: inflaton

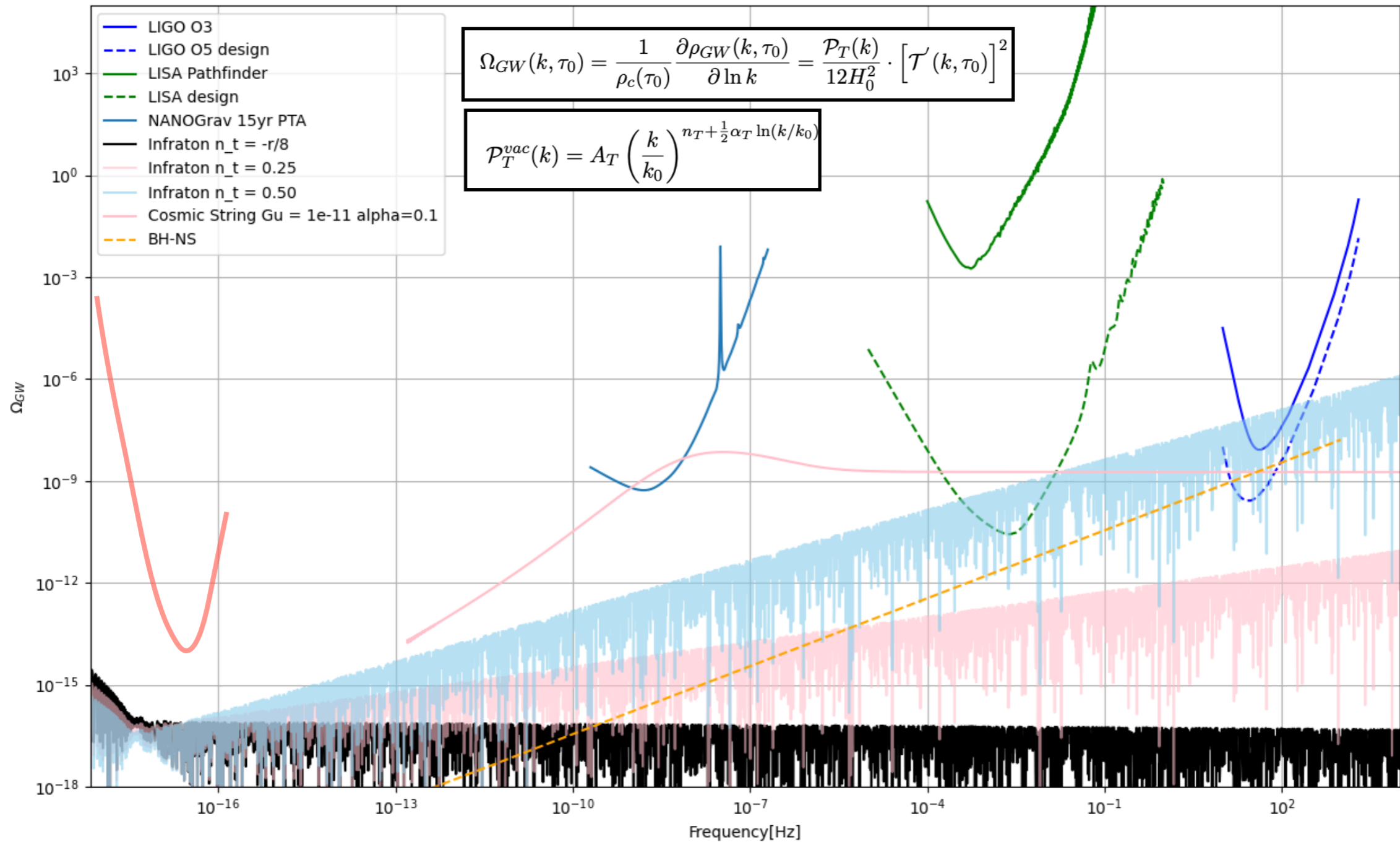
slow roll approximation

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$$\frac{p}{\rho} \simeq \frac{\frac{1}{2}\dot{\phi}^2 - V}{\frac{1}{2}\dot{\phi}^2 + V} \simeq -1$$



Tensor tilt



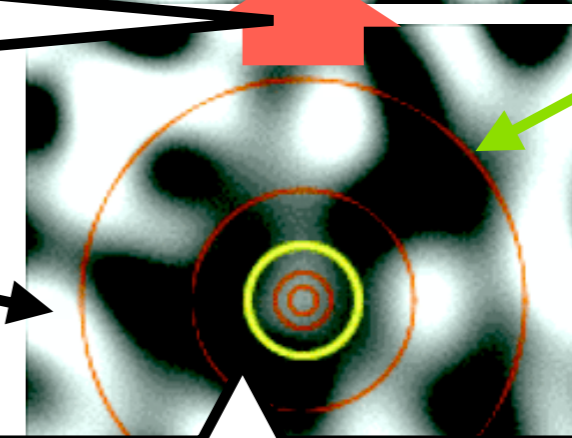
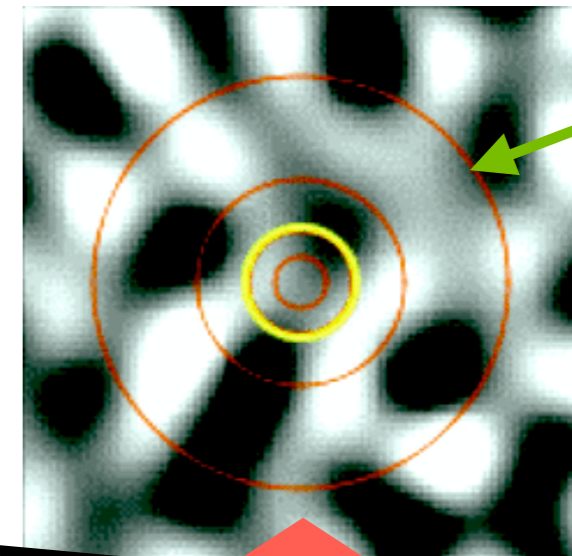
Test of model



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$$\Omega_{GW}(k, \tau_0) = \frac{1}{\rho_c(\tau_0)} \frac{\partial \rho_{GW}(k, \tau_0)}{\partial \ln k} = \frac{\mathcal{P}_T(k)}{12H_0^2} \cdot [\mathcal{T}'(k, \tau_0)]^2$$

$$\mathcal{P}_T(k, k_p, r_*, \sigma) = \mathcal{P}_T^{vac}(k) + \mathcal{P}_T^{Sourced}(k, k_p, r_*, \sigma),$$



Inflation era

1. Initial metric perturbation from vacuum fluctuation

$$\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{R}}^{vac}(k) = A_S (k/k_0)^{n_S-1}$$

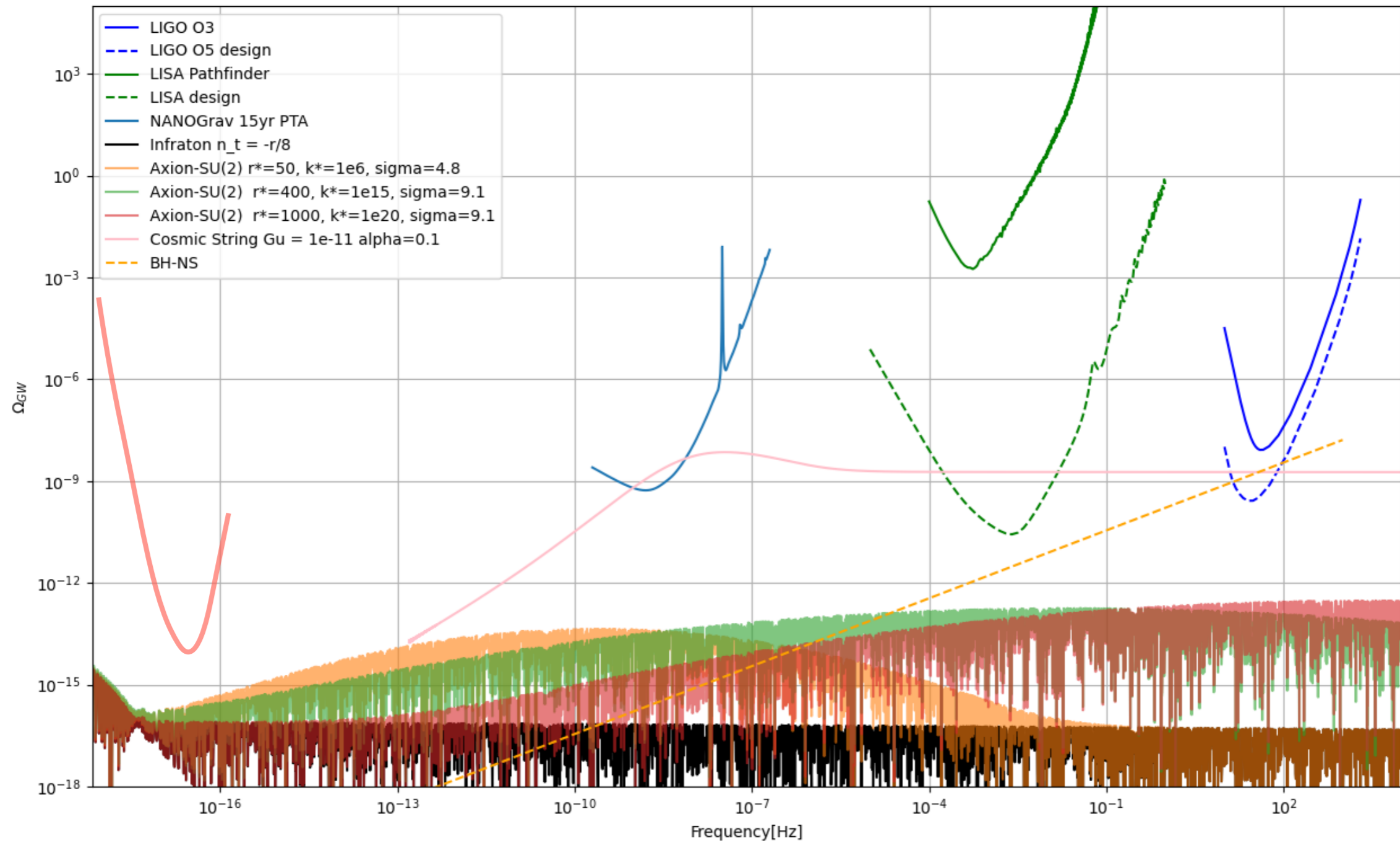
$$\mathcal{P}_T^{vac}(k) = A_T \left(\frac{k}{k_0} \right)^{n_T + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_T \ln(k/k_0)}$$

2. Inflationary expansion: inflaton + Axion

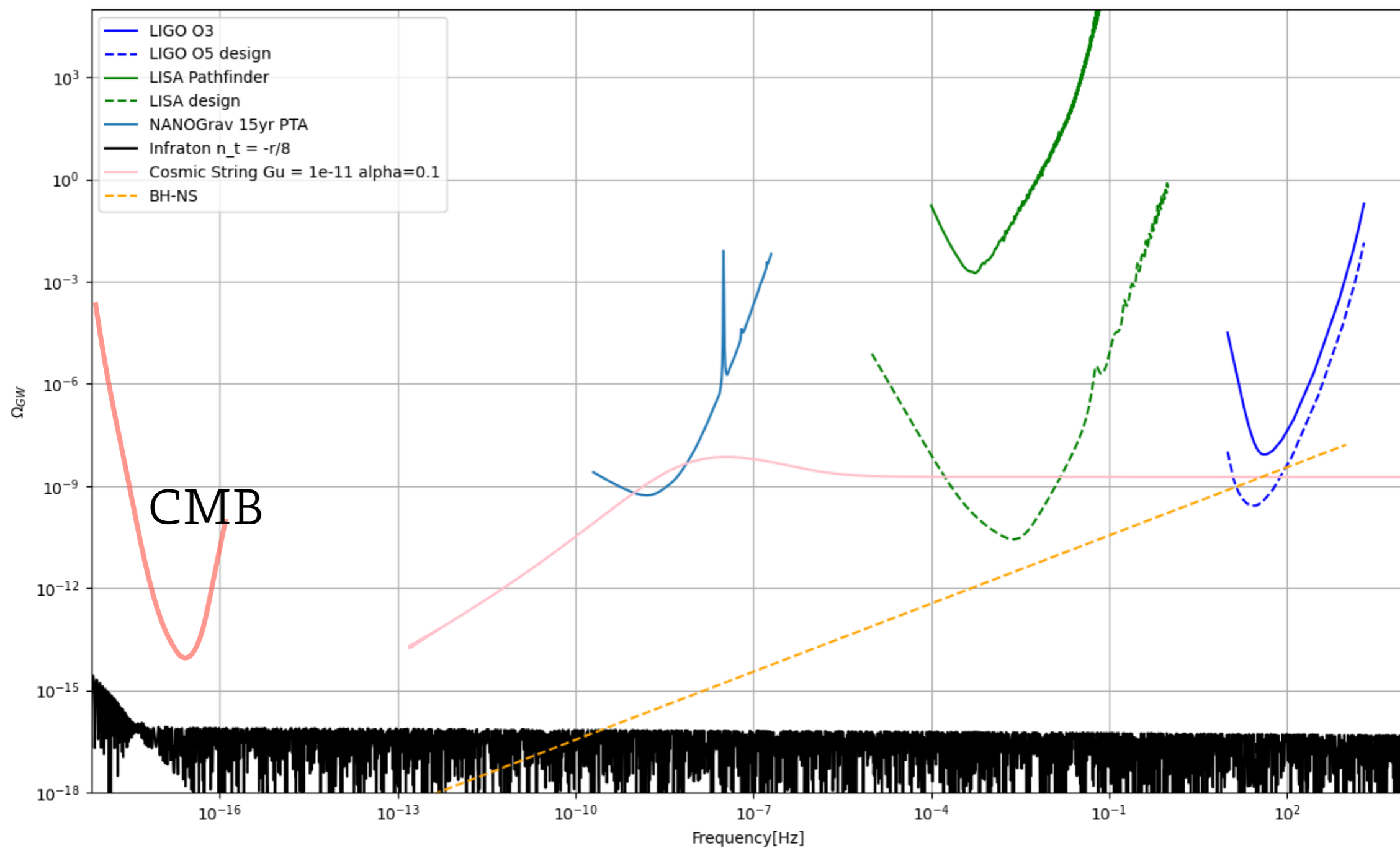
$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{inflaton} + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \chi)^2 - \mu^4 \left[1 + \cos \left(\frac{\chi}{f} \right) \right] - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{a\mu\nu} + \frac{\lambda}{4f} \chi F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{a\mu\nu},$$

$$\mathcal{P}_T^{L, Sourced}(k) = r_* \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{R}}(k) \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \ln^2 \left(\frac{k}{k_p} \right) \right]$$

SU(2) Axion



Cosmic string (Collaboration is welcome)



PhysRevD.101.103508

Simulation Setup

- Boltzmann code: CLASS
- MCMC: cobaya
- Likelihood: $\mathcal{L}_{\text{total}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{CMB}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{GW}}$.
 - likelihood:
 - planck 2018 high l TT,TE,EE
 - planck 2018 low l.TT
 - planck 2018 low l EE
 - bicep keck 2018
 - Ω_{GW} Likelihood
 - Parameter: $\Theta = \{\Omega_b, \Omega_c, h, \tau, n_s, A_s, r, n_t\}$

Giacomo Gallonic et al. (2024)

<https://journals.aps.org/prd/pdf/10.1103/PhysRevD.110.063511>

GW Likelihood

$$\Omega_{\text{sens}}(f) = \frac{2\pi^2}{3H_0^2} f^3 S_h(f).$$

$$\sigma_i = \frac{\Omega_{\text{sens}}(f_i)}{\sqrt{2T \Delta f_{\text{bin},i}}}.$$

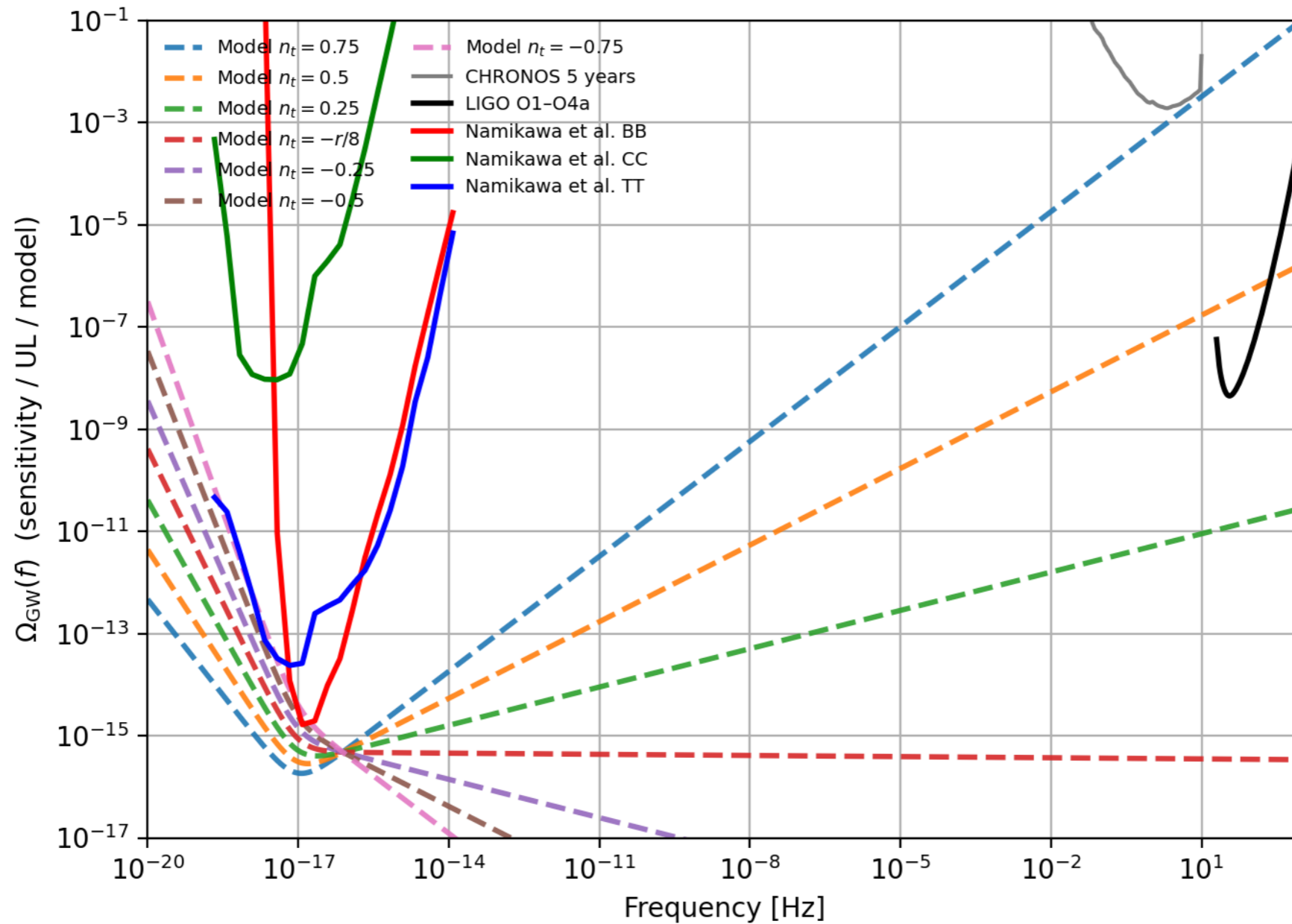
$$\chi^2 = \sum_i \frac{\Omega_{\text{GW}}^{\text{th}}(f_i)^2}{\sigma_i^2}.$$

Model

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(k) = \Omega_{\text{GW}}^{\text{CMB}} \left(\frac{k}{k_*}\right)^{n_t} \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{k_{\text{eq}}}{k}\right)^2 + \frac{16}{9} \right].$$

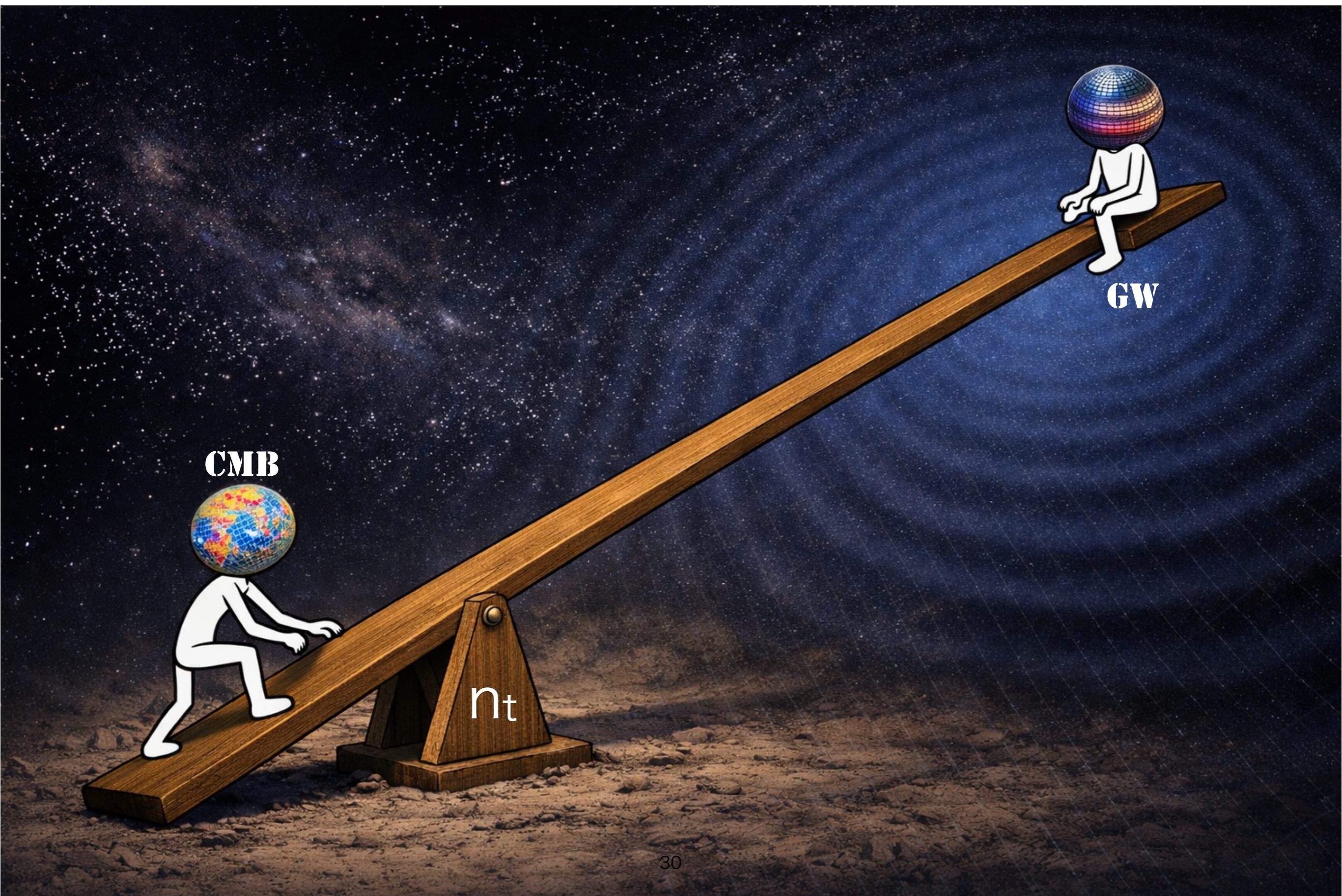
$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}^{\text{CMB}} = \frac{3}{128} r A_s \Omega_r.$$

Tensor tilt parameter



<https://journals.aps.org/prx/pdf/10.1103/PhysRevX.6.011035>

Cosmic Arm-Lever Effect



BICEP+Keck+Planck18

Parameter

95% limits

ω_b

$0.02234^{+0.00028}_{-0.00030}$

ω_{cdm}

$0.1201^{+0.0026}_{-0.0026}$

h

$0.678^{+0.011}_{-0.012}$

τ_{reio}

$0.054^{+0.017}_{-0.015}$

n_s

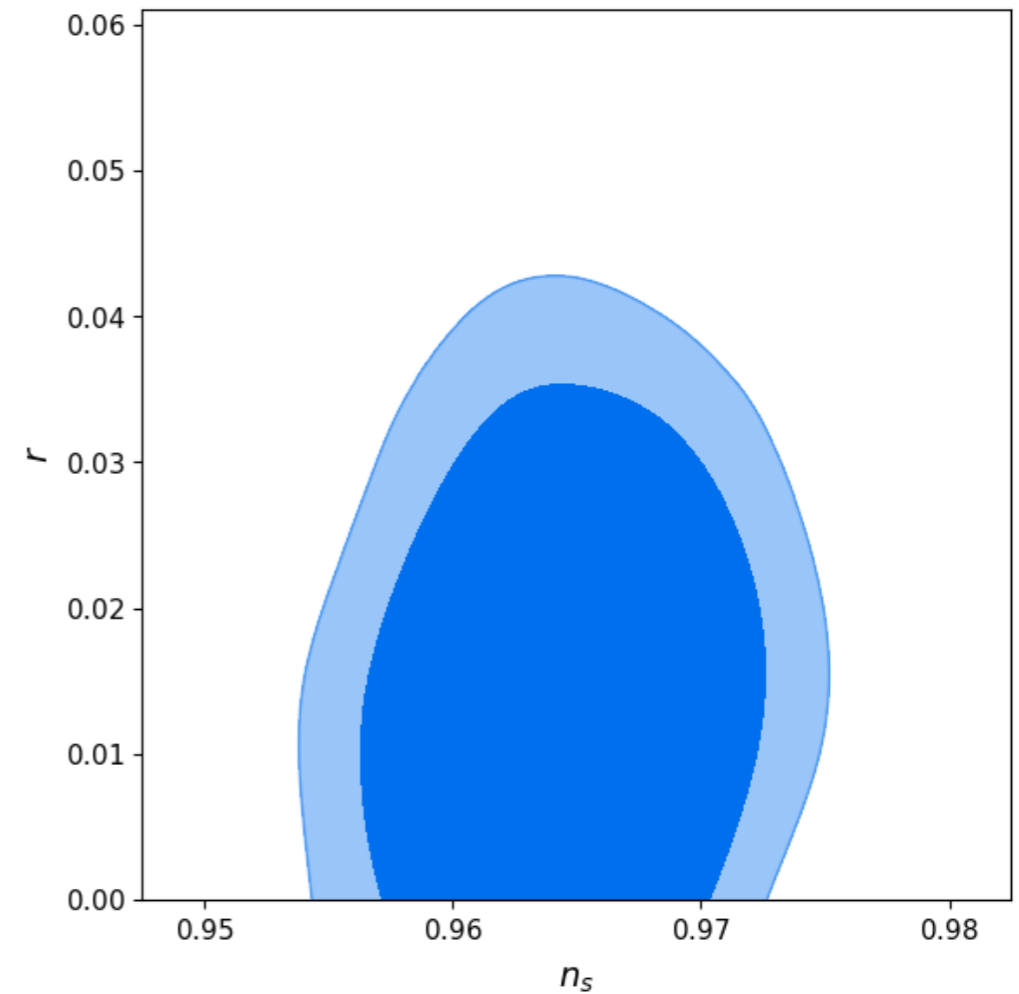
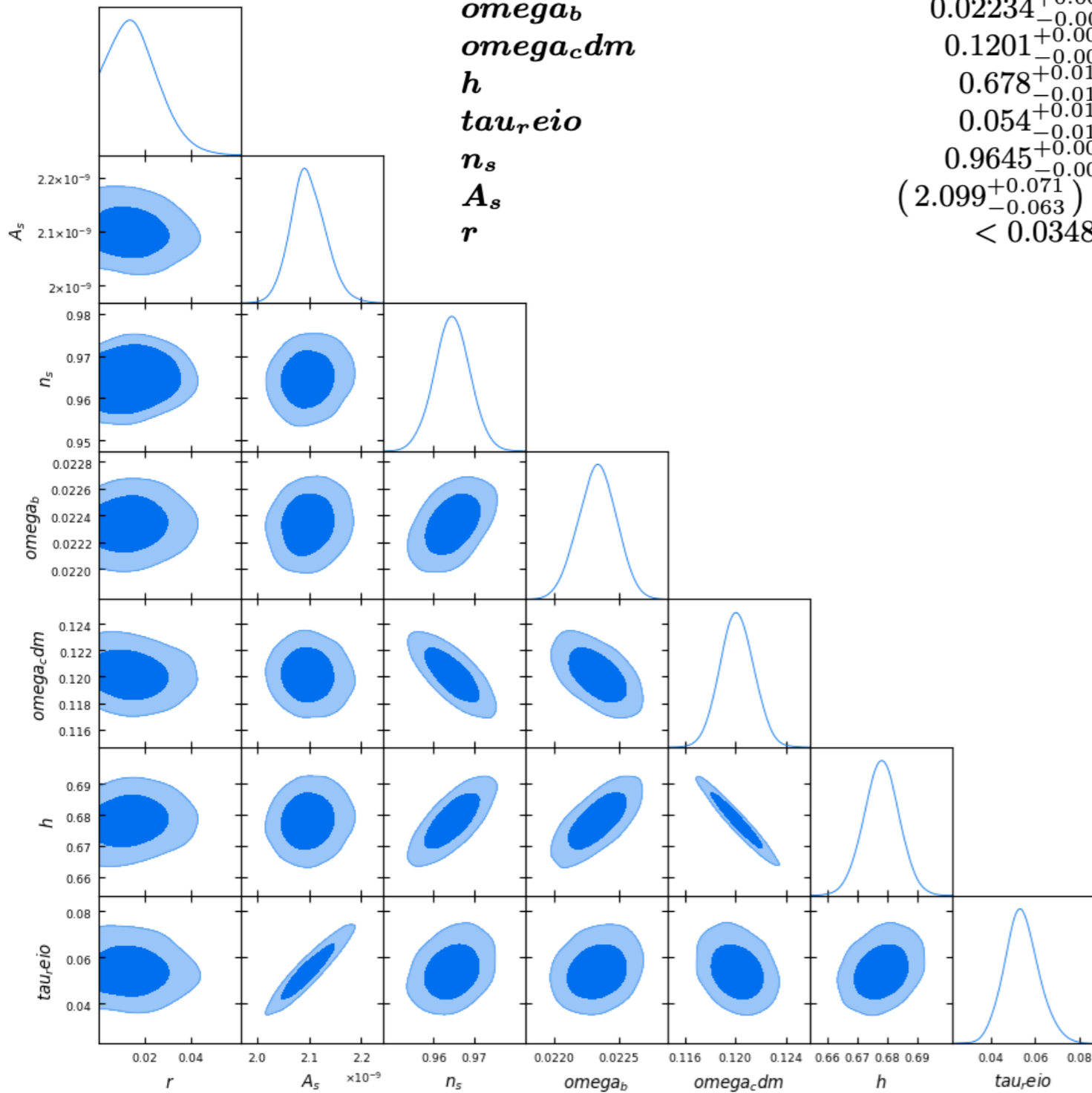
$0.9645^{+0.0087}_{-0.0088}$

A_s

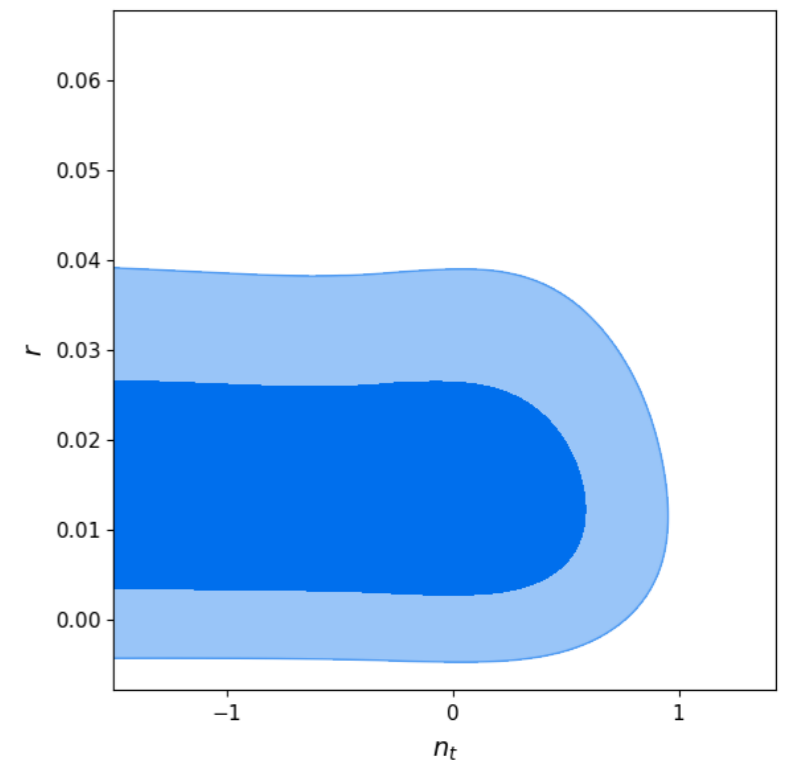
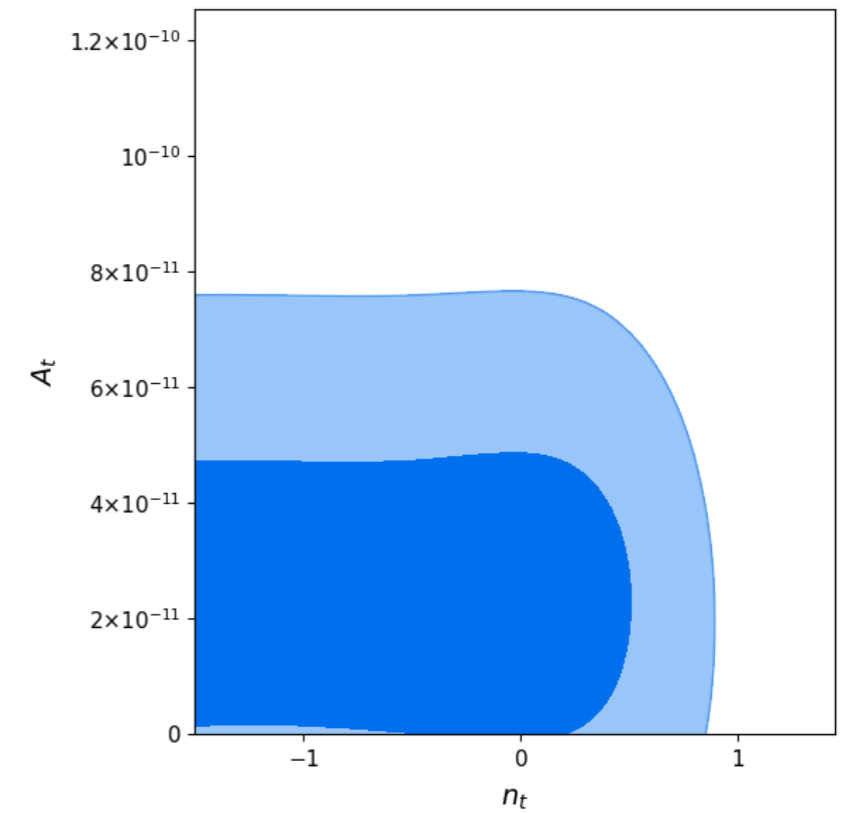
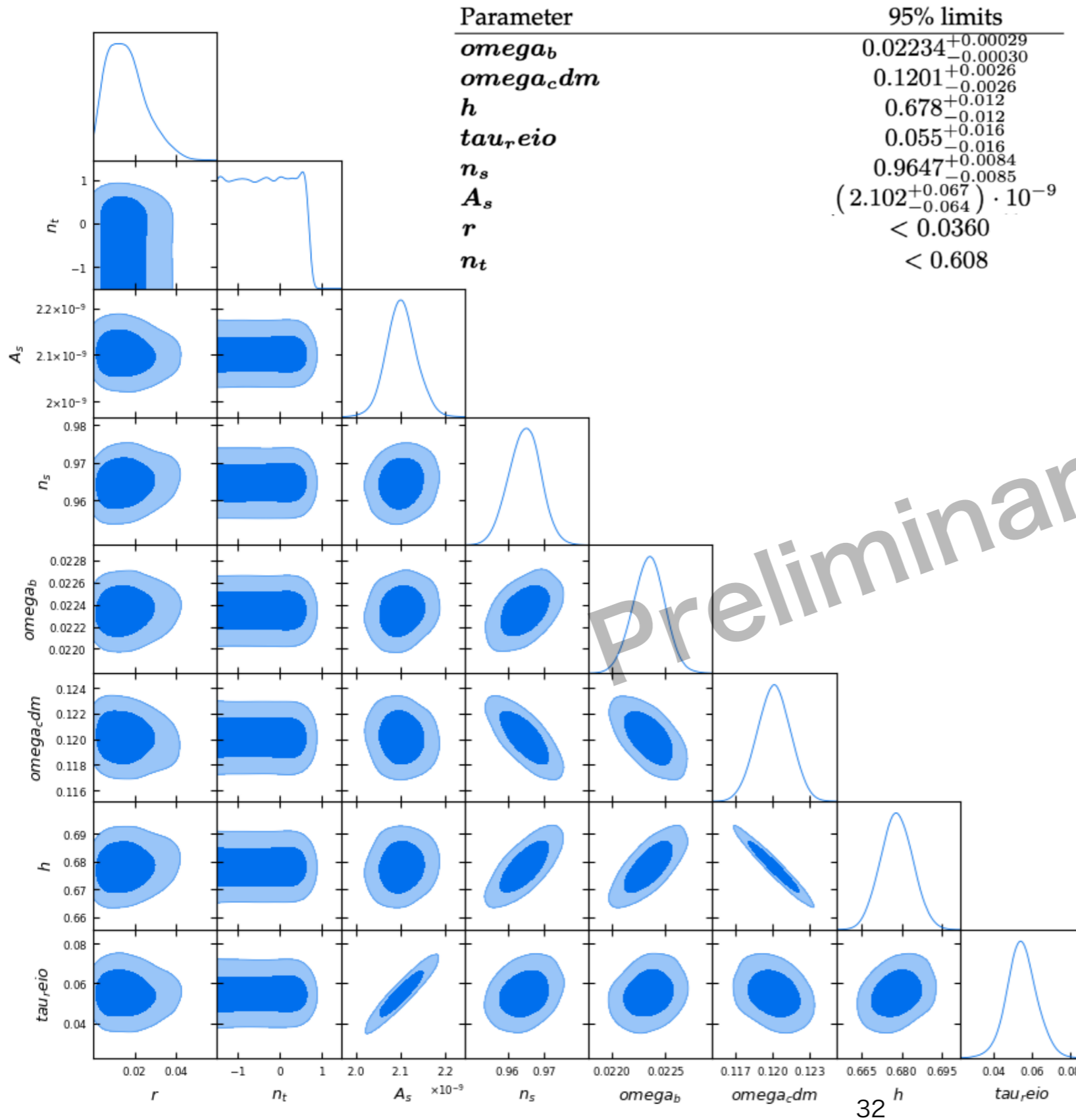
$(2.099^{+0.071}_{-0.063}) \cdot 10^{-9}$

r

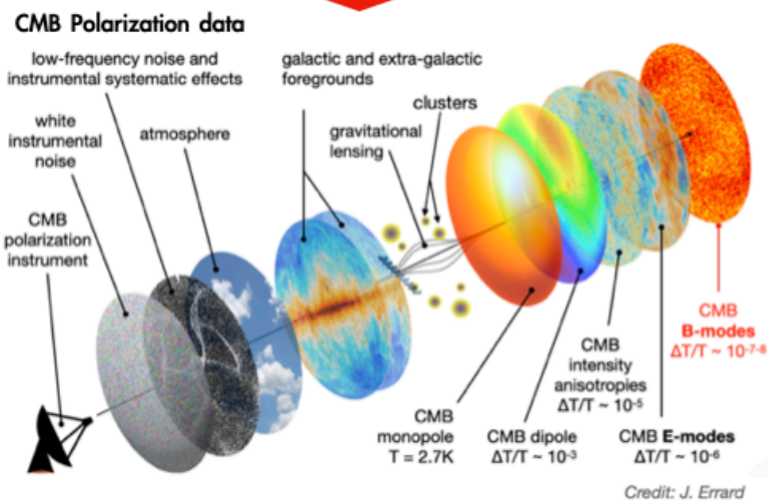
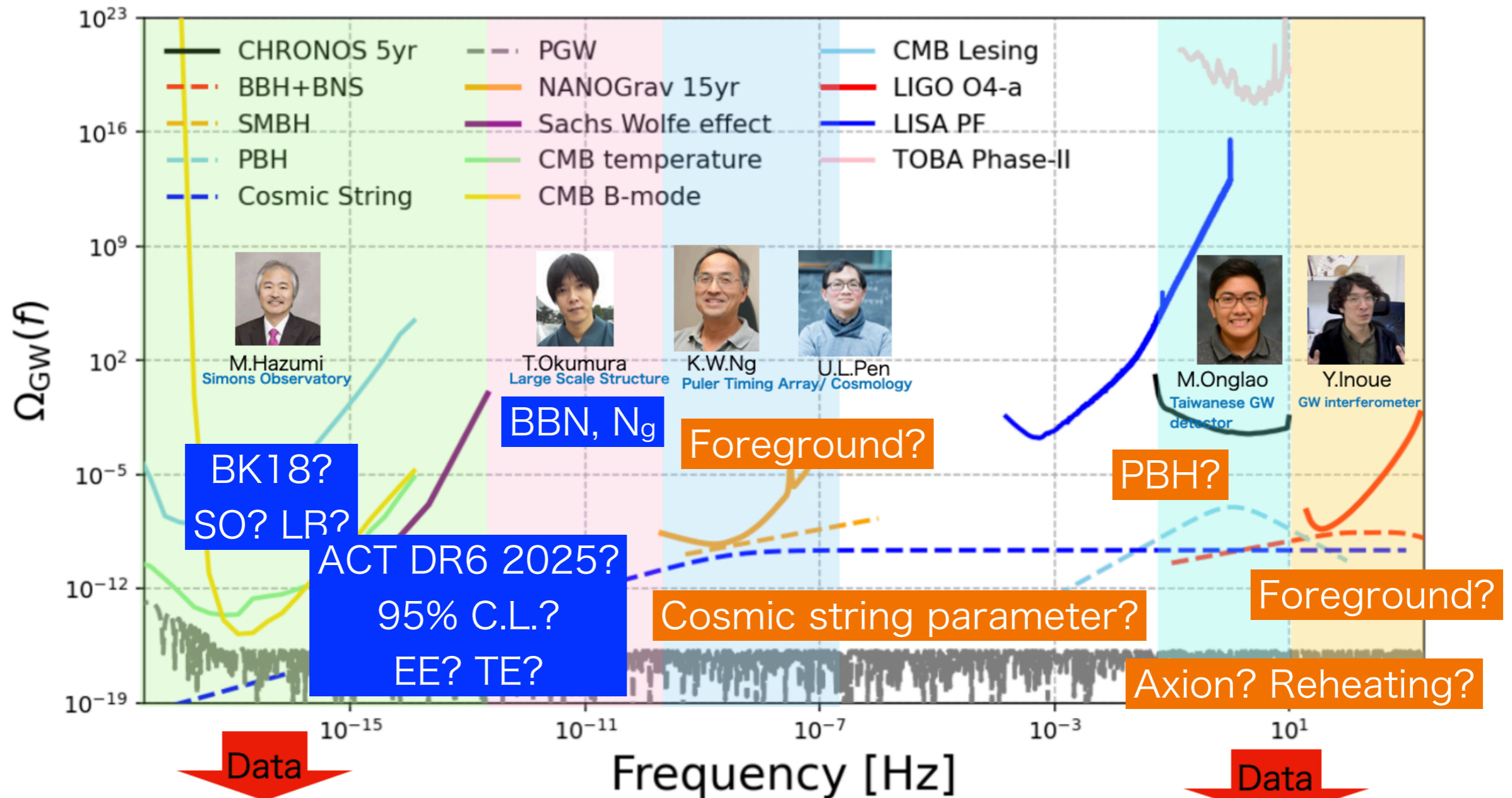
< 0.0348



BICEP+Keck+Planck18+CHRONOS



Team Taiwan



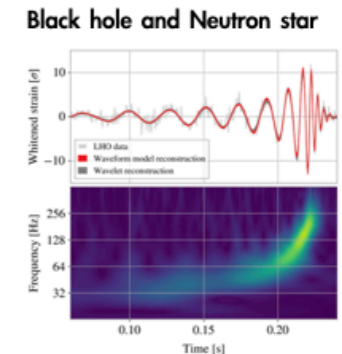
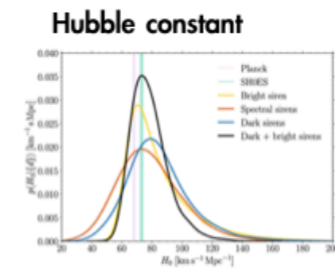
Y.K.Chiang
Correlation analysis

K.Umetsu
SZ effect

G.C.Liu
CMB and GW

C.H.Shen
QFT

M.Sasaki
Cosmology



Summary

- Introduced two approaches for Analysis approach of Ω_{GW} .
- Using BK18 data set, we updated the constraint of Ω_{GW} at low frequency region
- Introduced the approach of n_t parameter test with Cosmological Standard model
- We still have a chance to give a constraint of Ω_{GW} with the latest data.
- Now is the time for preparation period to establish the current constraint.