

# Gravitational Wave Probes to Dark Sectors

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**Yikun Wang**  
Johns Hopkins University



**Dark Interactions 2024**  
Vancouver, Oct. 16-18



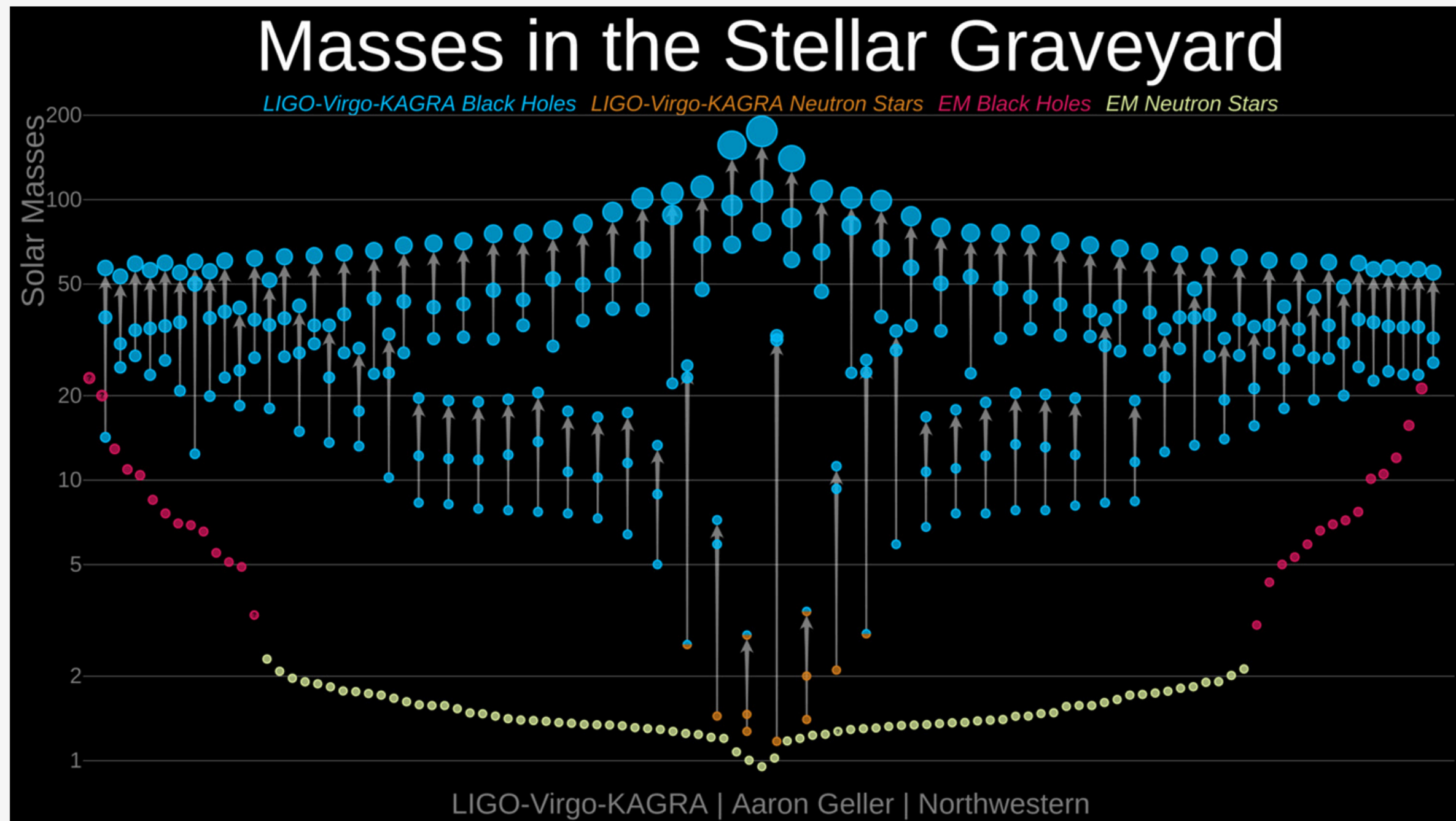
# Why gravitational waves for dark sectors?

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*Era of gravitational wave astrophysics*

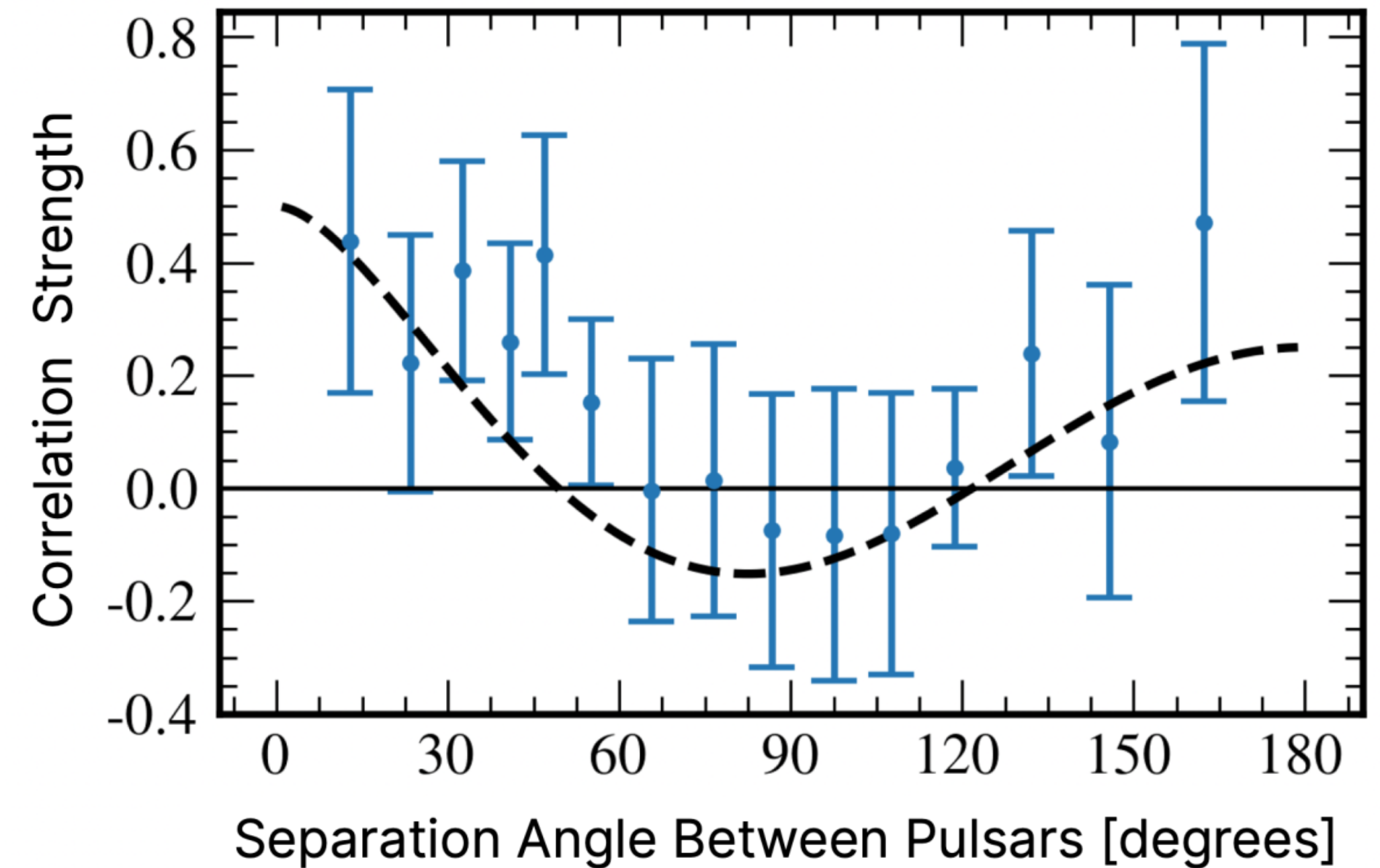
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## *Era of gravitational wave astrophysics*



Transient gravitational wave signals

LIGO-Virgo-KARAGA



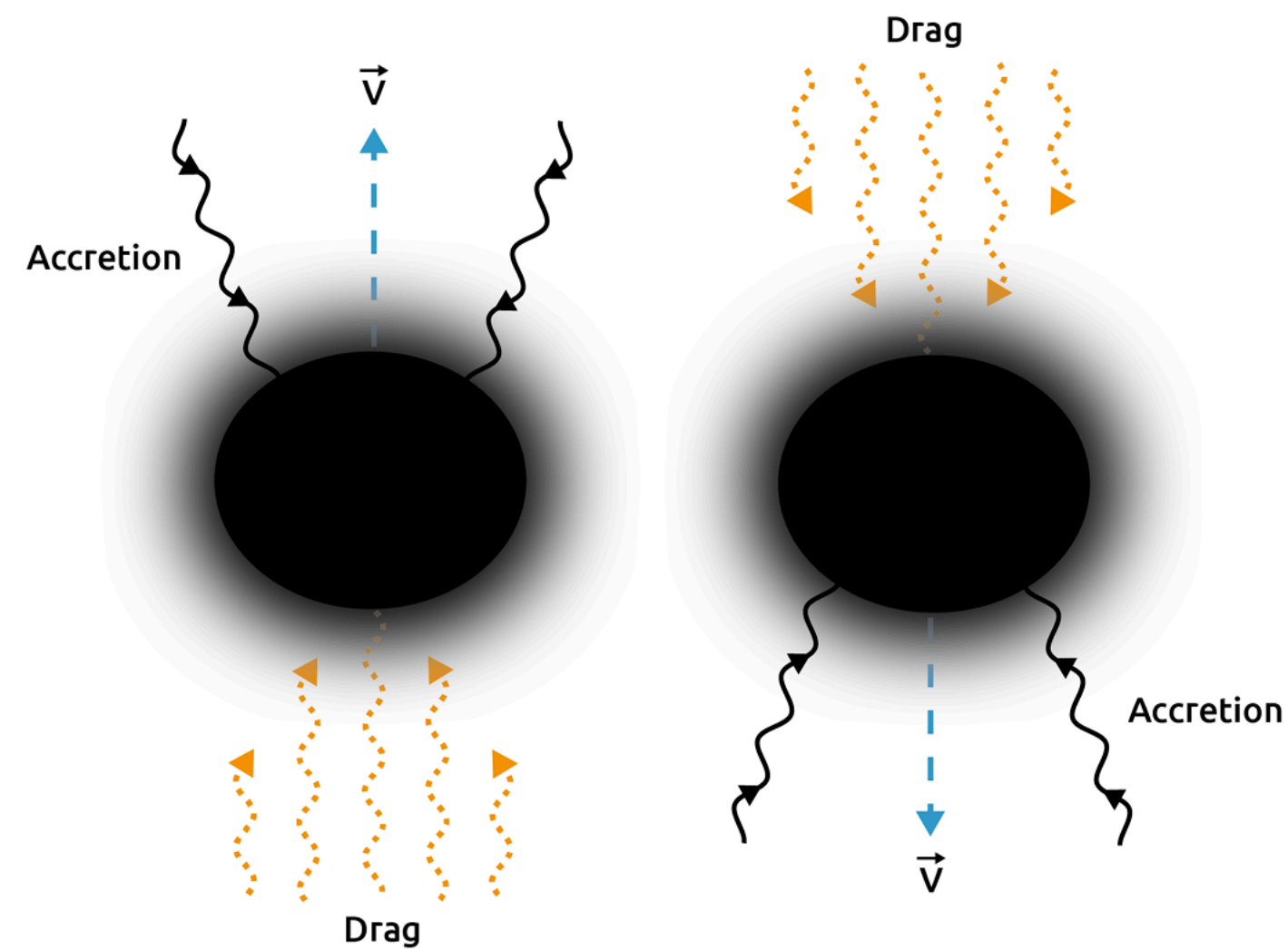
Evidence for a stochastic gravitational wave background

*NANOGrav 2023*

# Why gravitational wave for dark sectors?

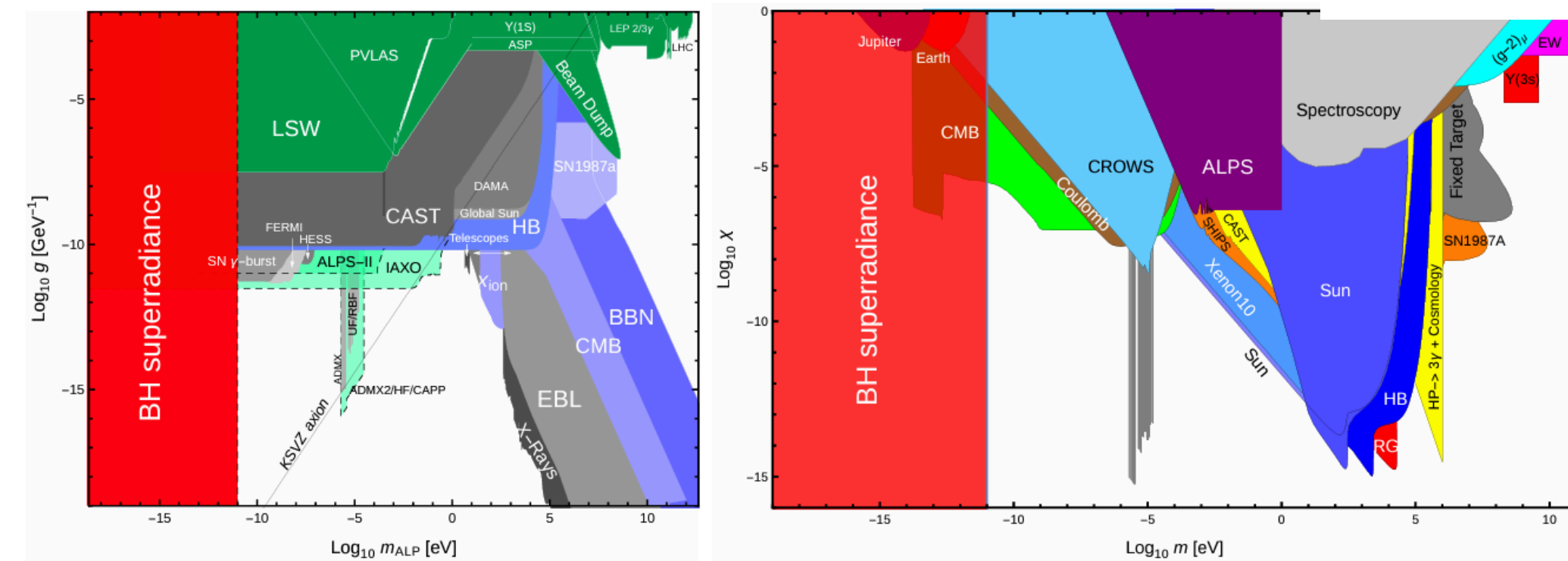
## *Era of gravitational wave astrophysics*

### New venue for indirect probes to dark sectors



**Figure 12.** Depiction of a BBH evolving in a possible interstellar or DM environment. Each individual BH accretes and exerts a gravitational pull on the surrounding matter. Both effects contribute to decelerate the BHs, leading to a faster inspiral. Credit: Ana Sousa.

*Cardoso et all '18*



**Figure 1.** Current experimental limits on ALPs (left) and ULVs (right) in their corresponding mass-coupling plane (adapted from [12] and [13], respectively; courtesy of J. Redondo). The red dashed areas denote the regions that can be probed through the superradiant instability of astrophysical BHs [14–19] (cf. [20] for an overview), as discussed in this paper. These constraints do not require a direct coupling between dark matter and ordinary particles, and are complementary to other bounds.

NOT THIS TALK

*Bertone et all '19*

# Why gravitational wave for dark sectors?

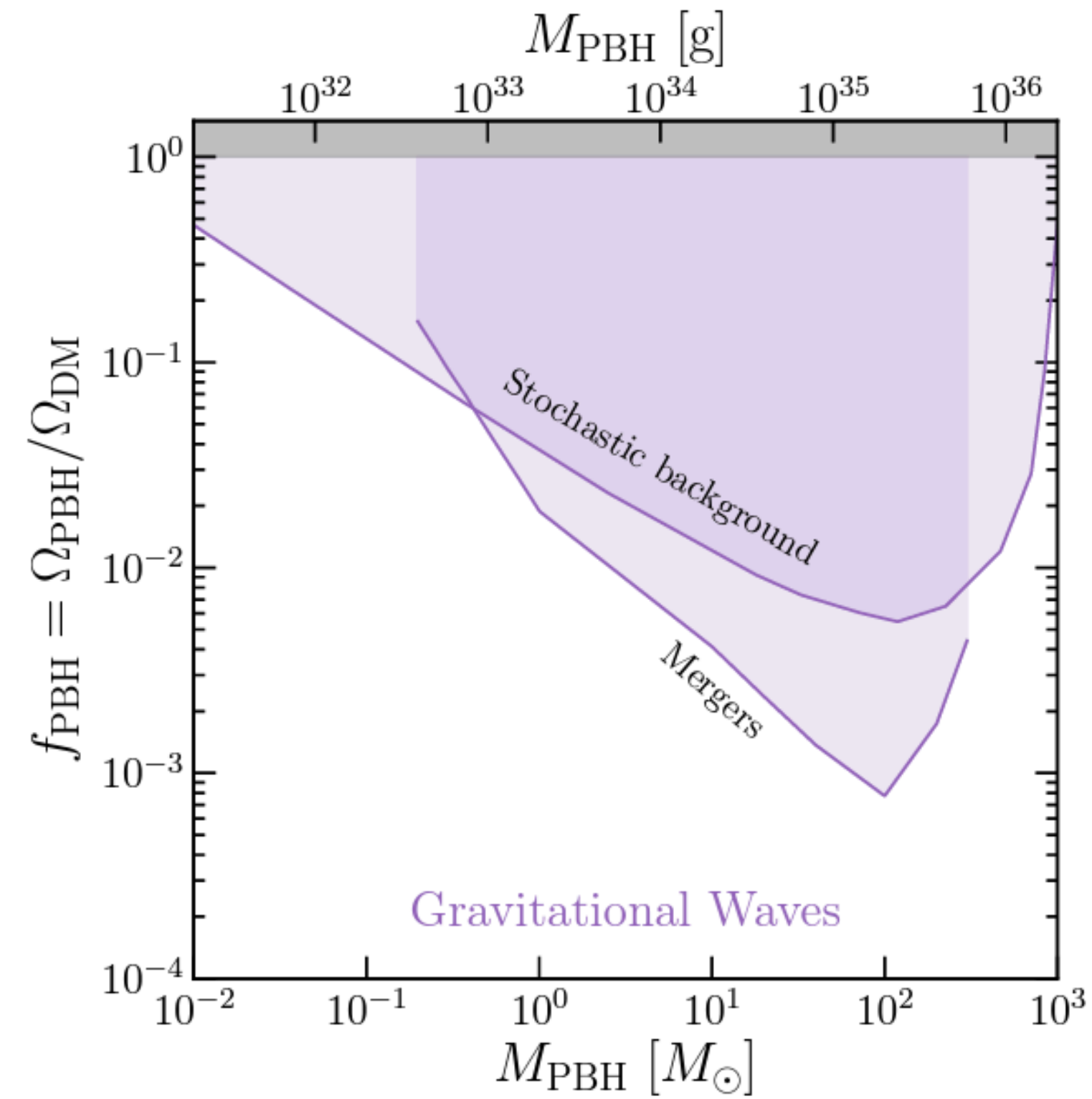
*Rich sources of gravitational waves from dark sectors*

# Why gravitational wave for dark sectors?

## *Rich sources of gravitational waves from dark sectors*

### Primordial black holes (PBH)

Green, Kavanagh, '20

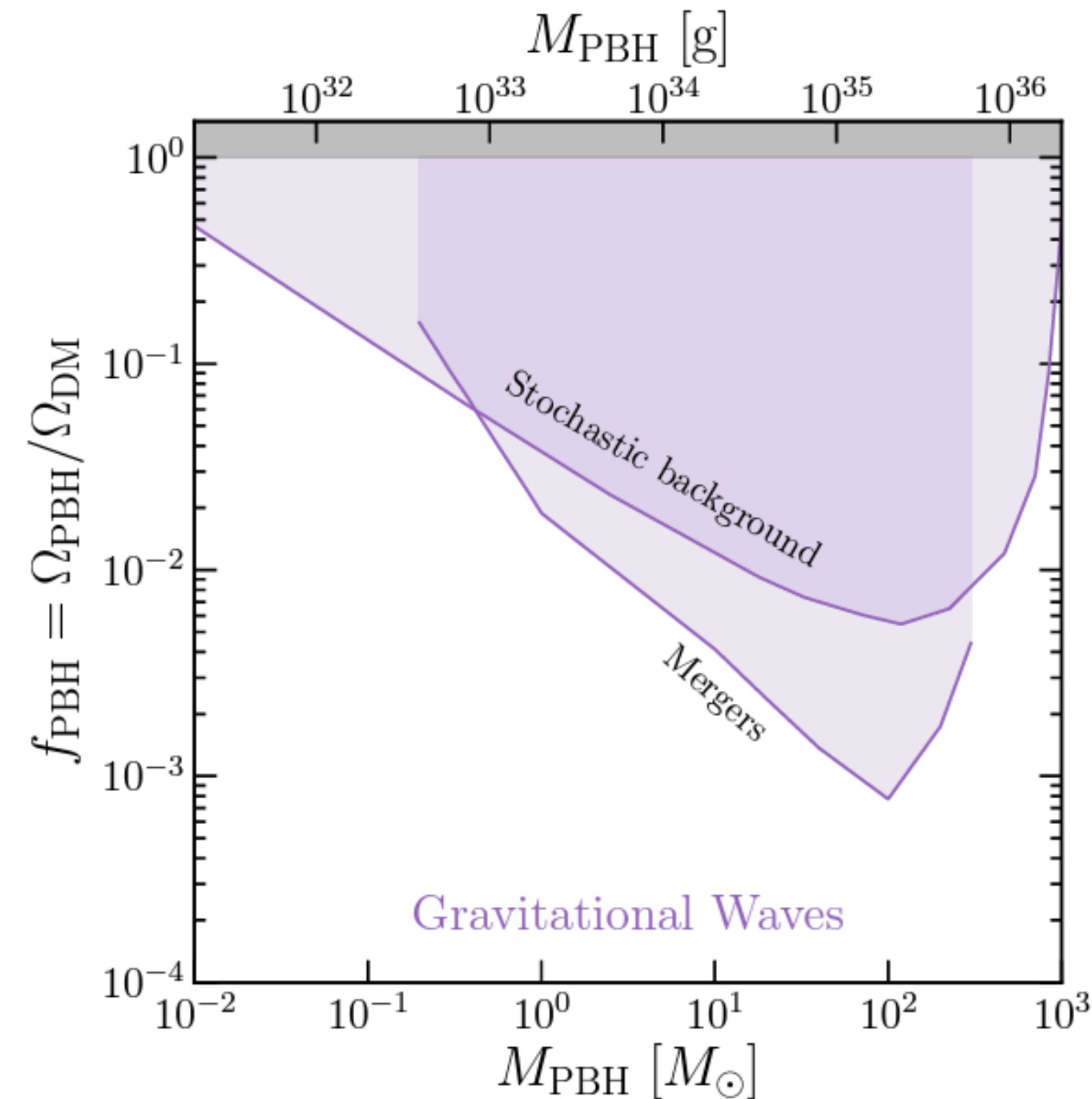


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## *Rich sources of gravitational waves from dark sectors*

### Primordial black holes (PBH)

Green, Kavanagh, '20



- Some randomly distributed PBHs can fall near each other and form binaries;
- PBH binaries lose energy by emitting GWs;
- Merger rate of such binaries can be used to constrain the DM fraction using GW data;
- Another constraint can be drawn by the non-detection of stochastic GW background

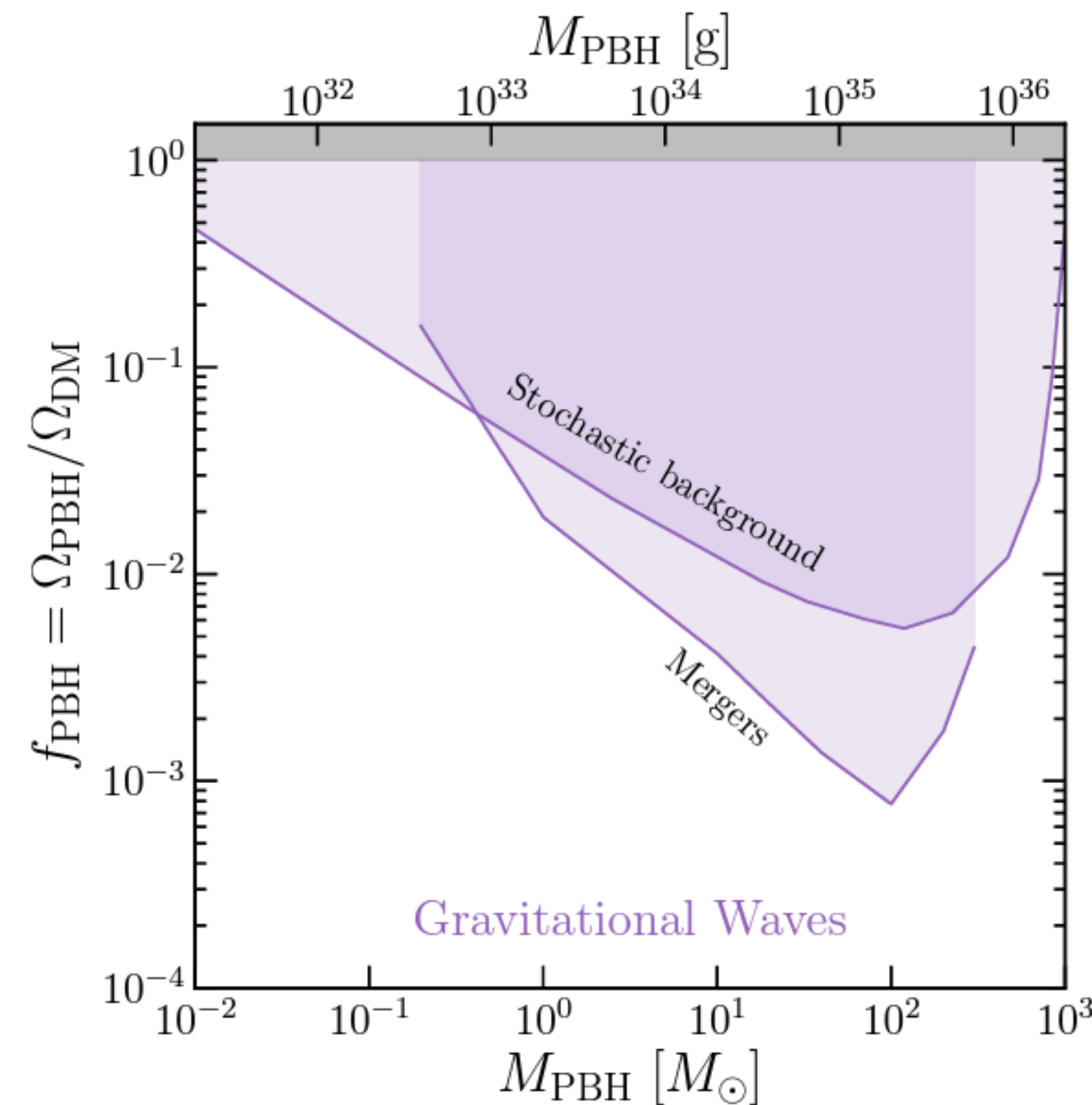


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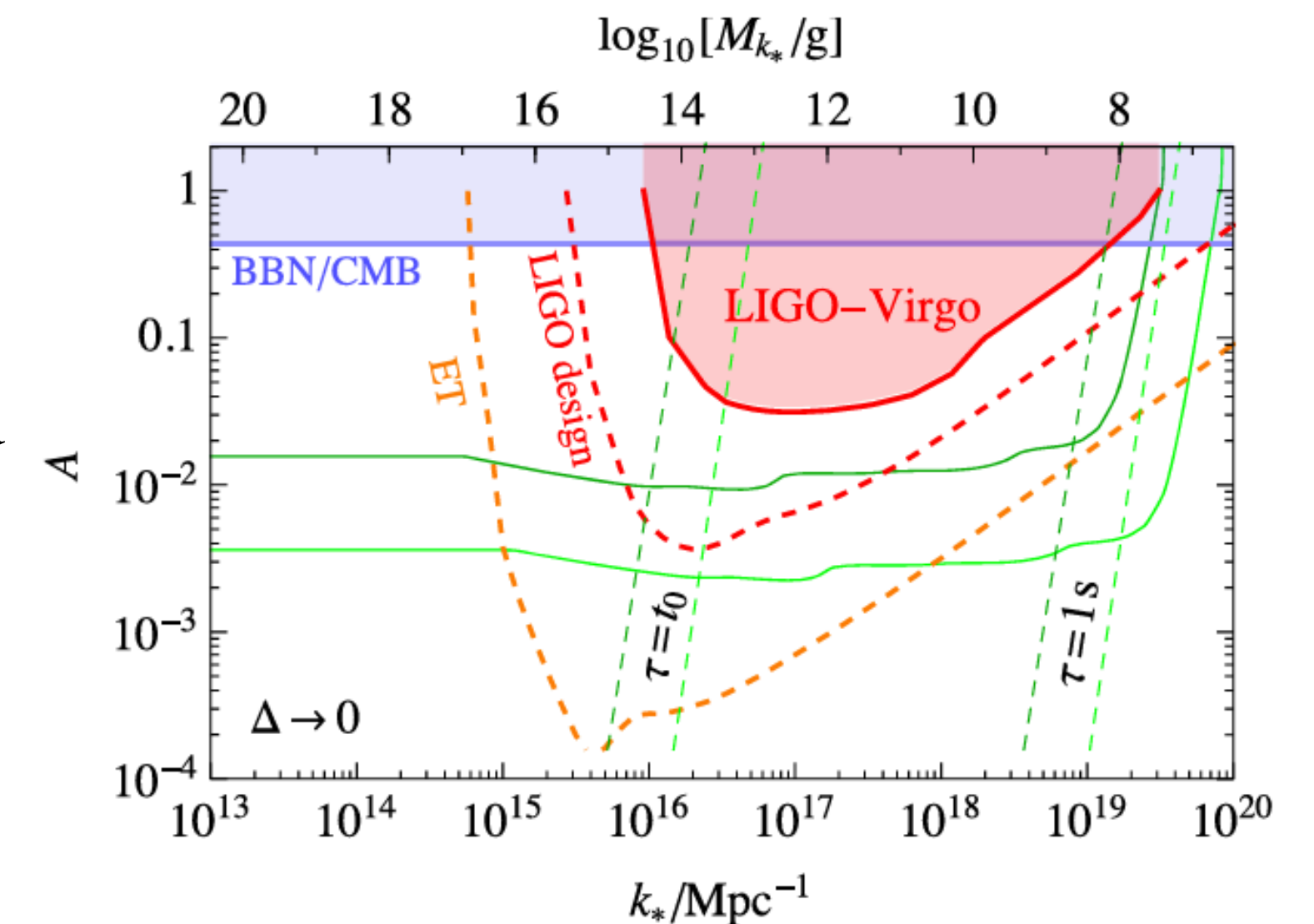
## *Rich sources of gravitational waves from dark sectors*

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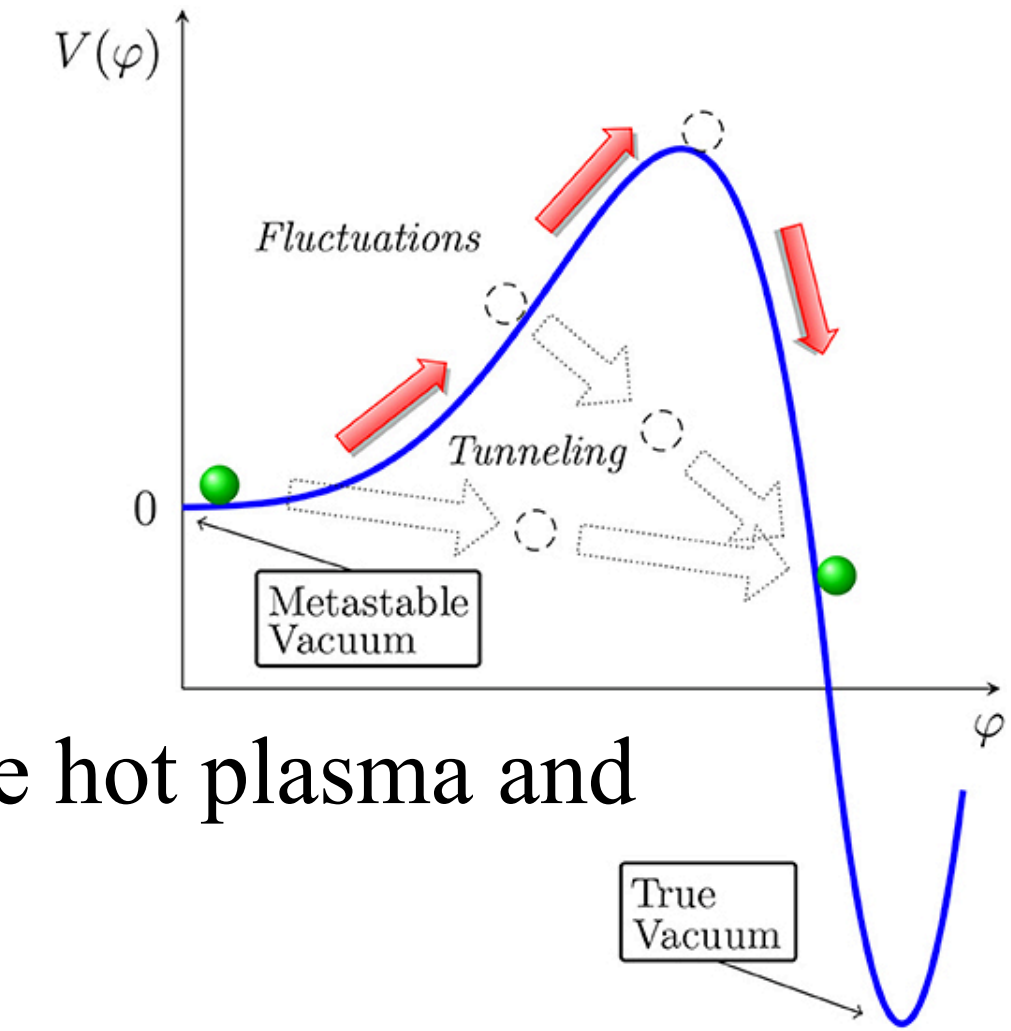
Formation of PBH can be accompanied by the generation of GW background.

Romero-Rodríguez et al '22

# Why gravitational wave for dark sectors?

## *Rich sources of gravitational waves from dark sectors*

### Phase Transitions



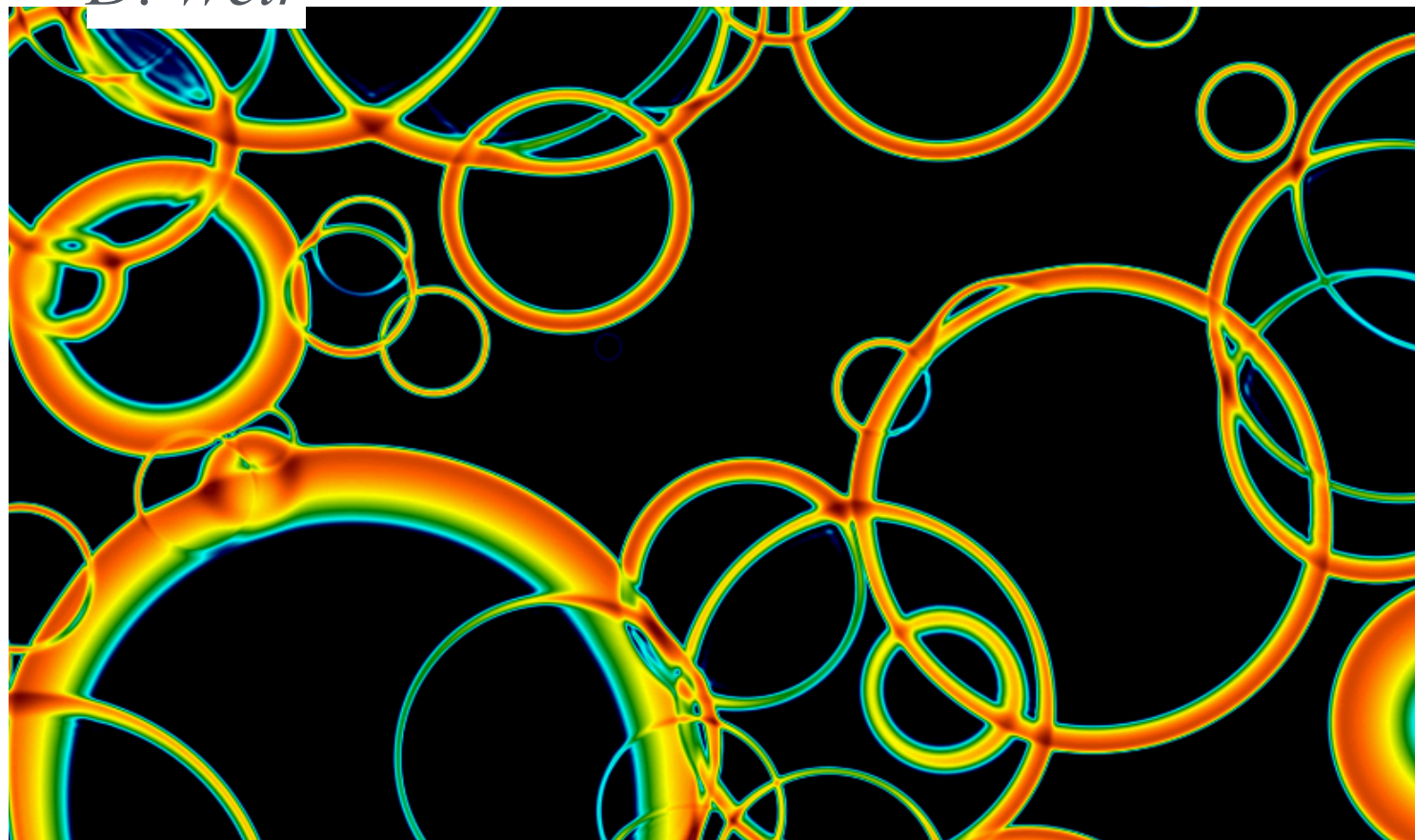
A first order phase transition proceeds through bubble nucleation. The bubbles push through the hot plasma and collide, producing **stochastic gravitational wave backgrounds** via

Bubble collisions

Sound waves

Turbulent

*D. Weir*



#### Parameters affecting the power spectrum:

- (inverse) **duration of the phase transition**  $\frac{\beta}{H_*} \sim T \left. \frac{d(S_3/T)}{dT} \right|_{T=T_*}$
- fraction of **vacuum energy released** w.r.t. the radiation bath

$$\alpha = \frac{\rho_{\tilde{v}, \tilde{w}} - \rho_{v, w}}{\rho_{rad}} \Big|_{T=T_*}$$

- **The bubble wall velocity**

For example, the power spectrum from bubble collisions can be treated by the ‘envelope approximation’

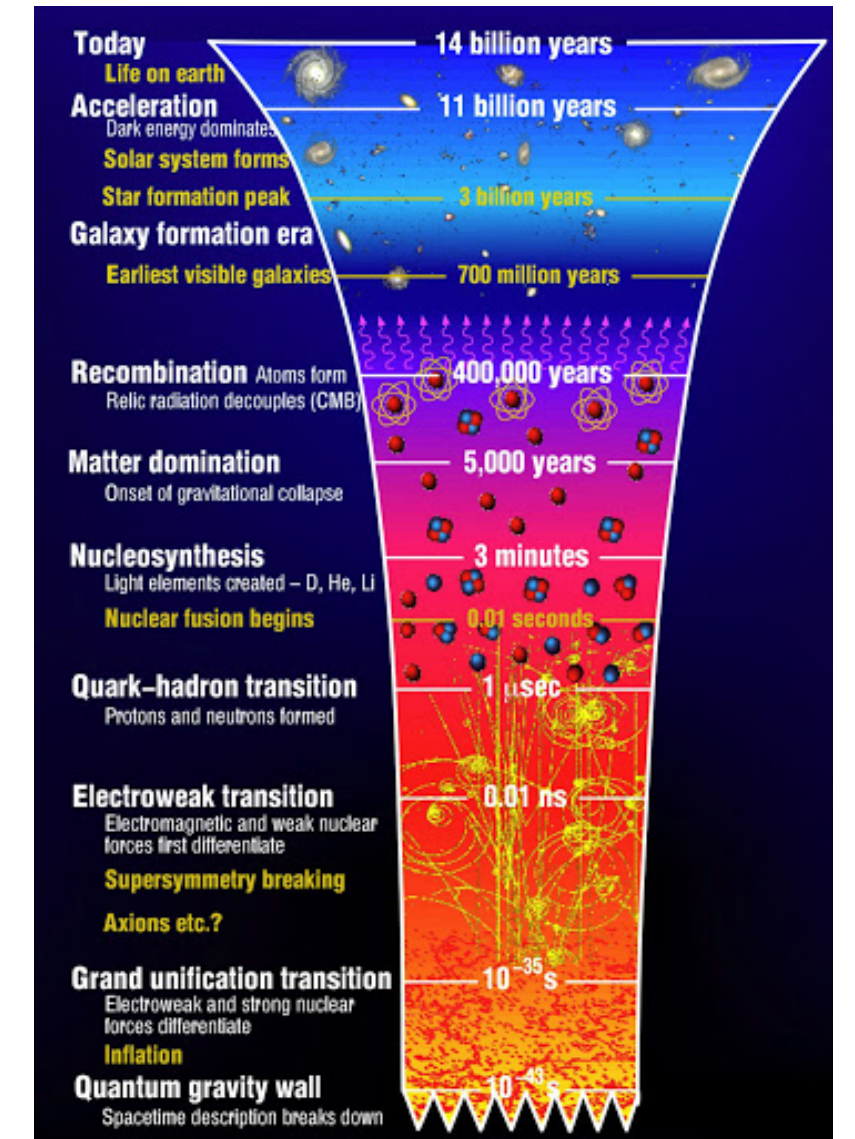
$$h^2 \Omega_{\text{env}}(f) = 1.67 \times 10^{-5} \left( \frac{H_*}{\beta} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\kappa \alpha}{1 + \alpha} \right)^2 \left( \frac{100}{g_*} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \left( \frac{0.11 v_w^3}{0.42 + v_w^2} \right) S_{\text{env}}(f)$$

# Why gravitational wave for dark sectors?

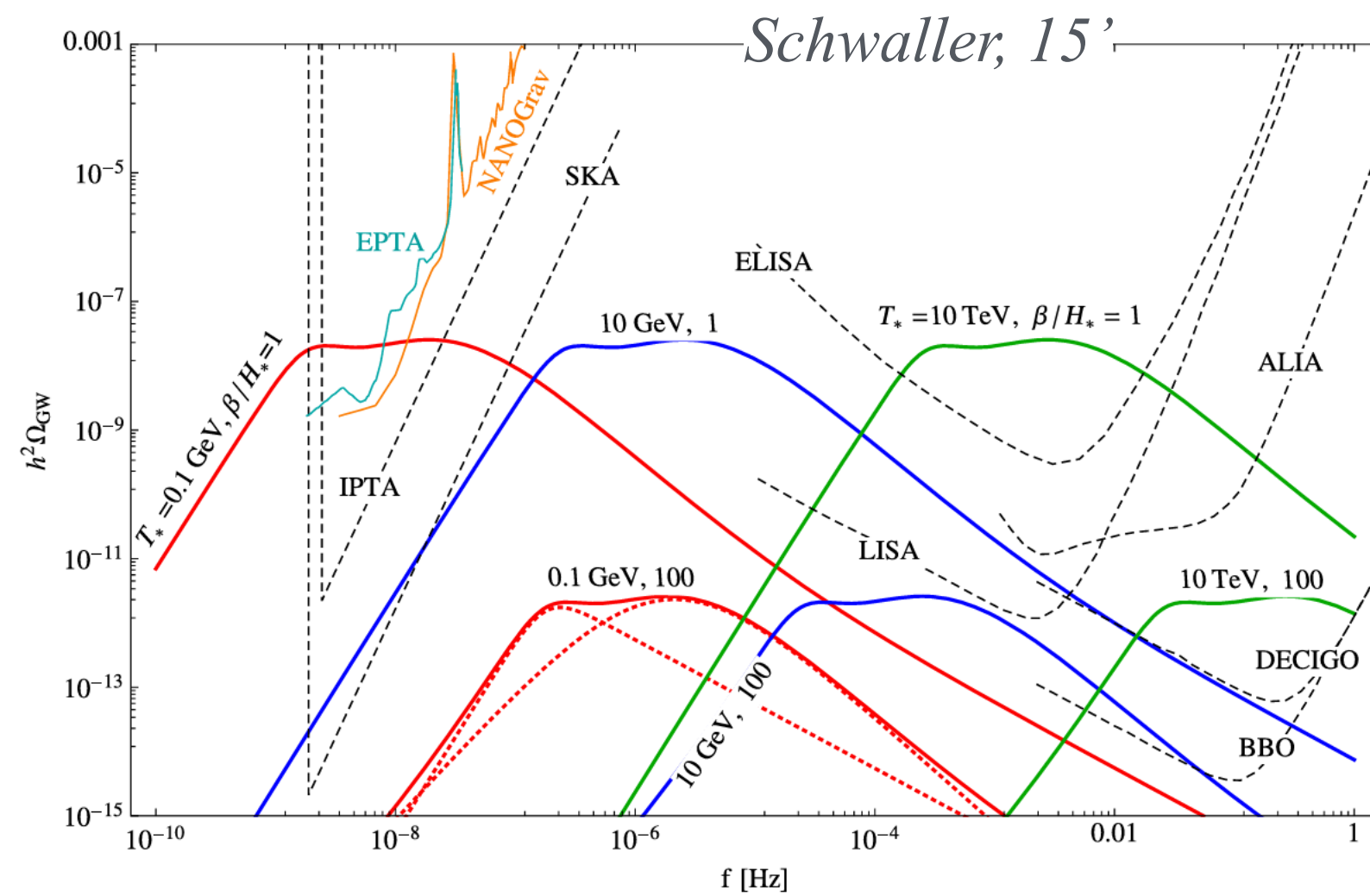
*Rich sources of gravitational waves from dark sectors*

## Phase Transition and dark sectors

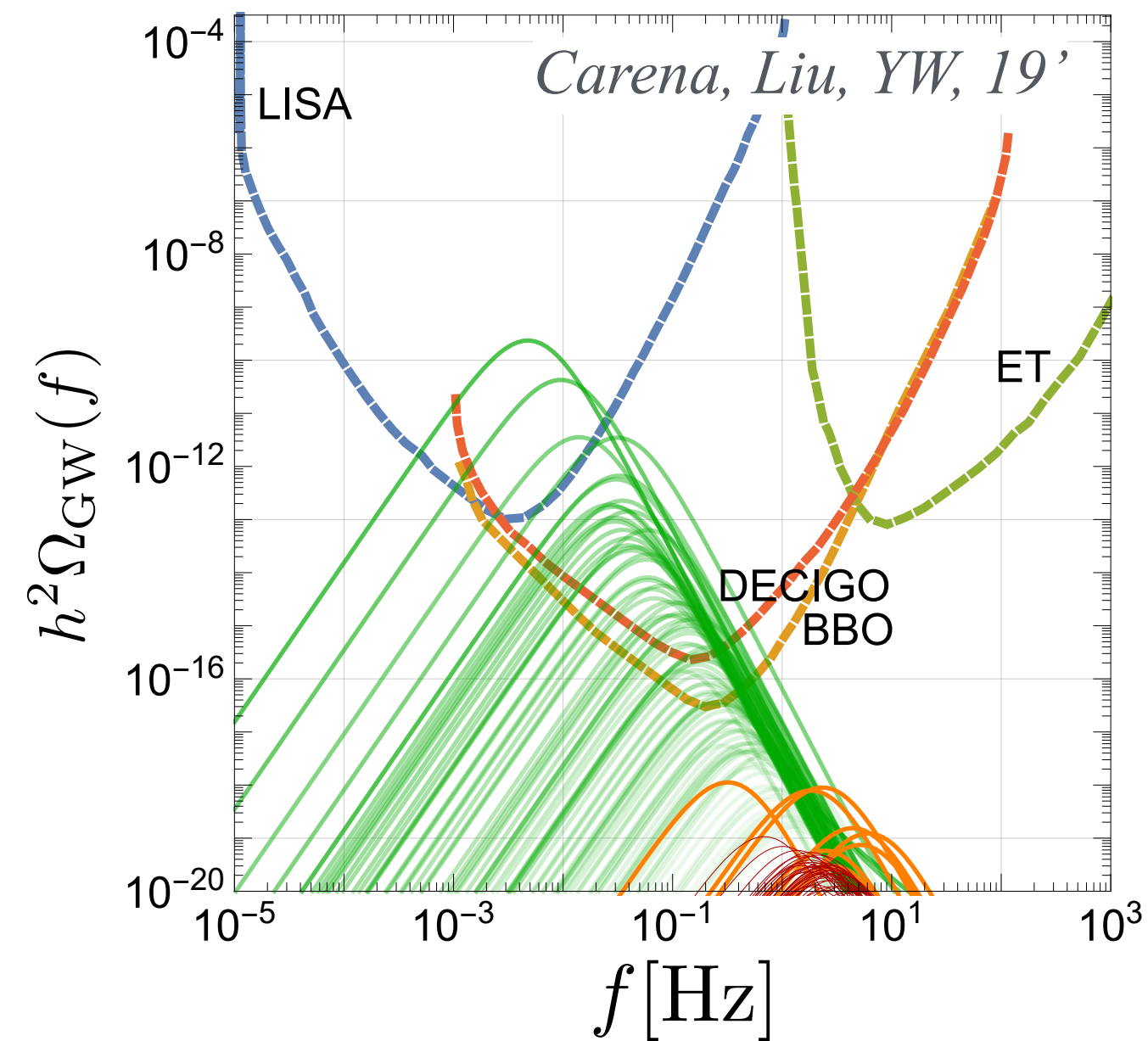
$$f_{\text{sw}} = 1.9 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mHz} \frac{1}{v_w} \left( \frac{\beta}{H_*} \right) \left( \frac{T_*}{100 \text{ GeV}} \right) \left( \frac{g_*}{100} \right)^{\frac{1}{6}}$$



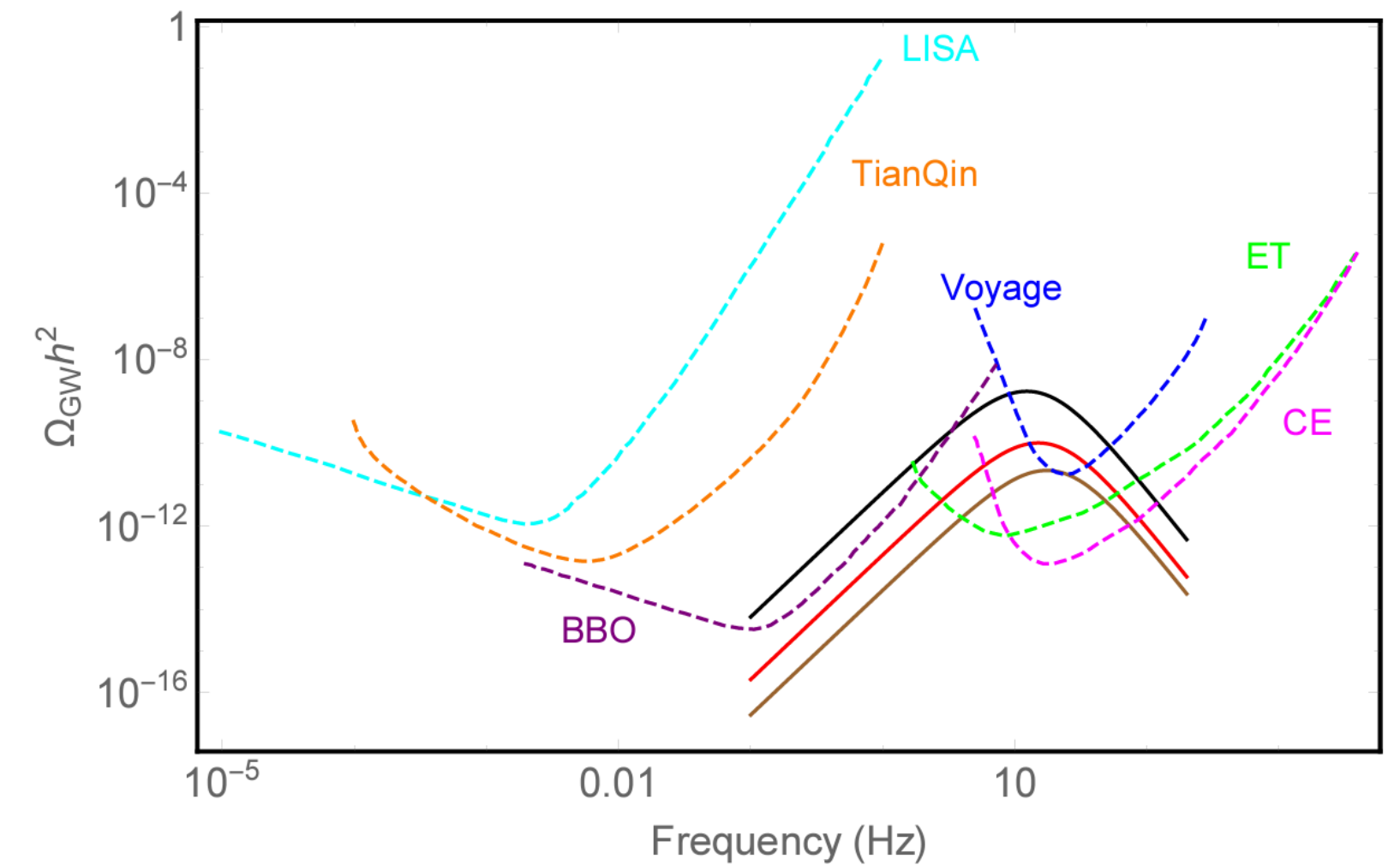
*Phase Transition Scales*



Composite dark sector phase transitions



Electroweak phase transitions



Pati-Salam phase transitions

*GW peak frequency*



# Why gravitational wave for dark sectors?

## *Rich sources of gravitational waves from dark sectors*

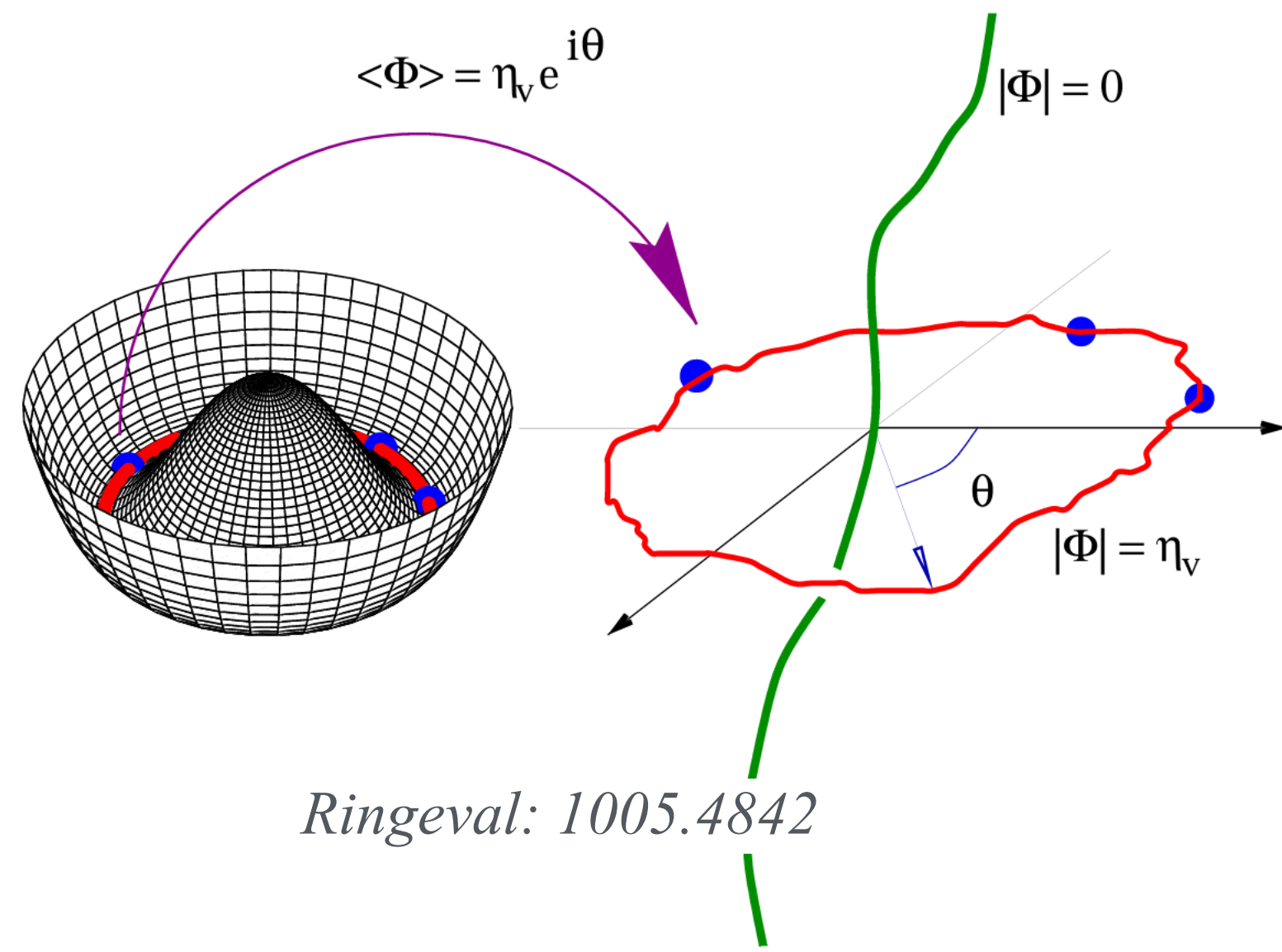
### **Phase Transition and dark sectors**

- Many possibilities for a dark sector through Higgs or gauge portals;
- Playground for model building: rich DM and GW phenomenology  
Supercooling phase transition, symmetry non-restoration, inverse phase transitions
- Strong and complementary connection to collider searches;
- Theoretical development: perturbativity control, bubble wall dynamics, ....

# Why gravitational wave for dark sectors?

## *Rich sources of gravitational waves from dark sectors*

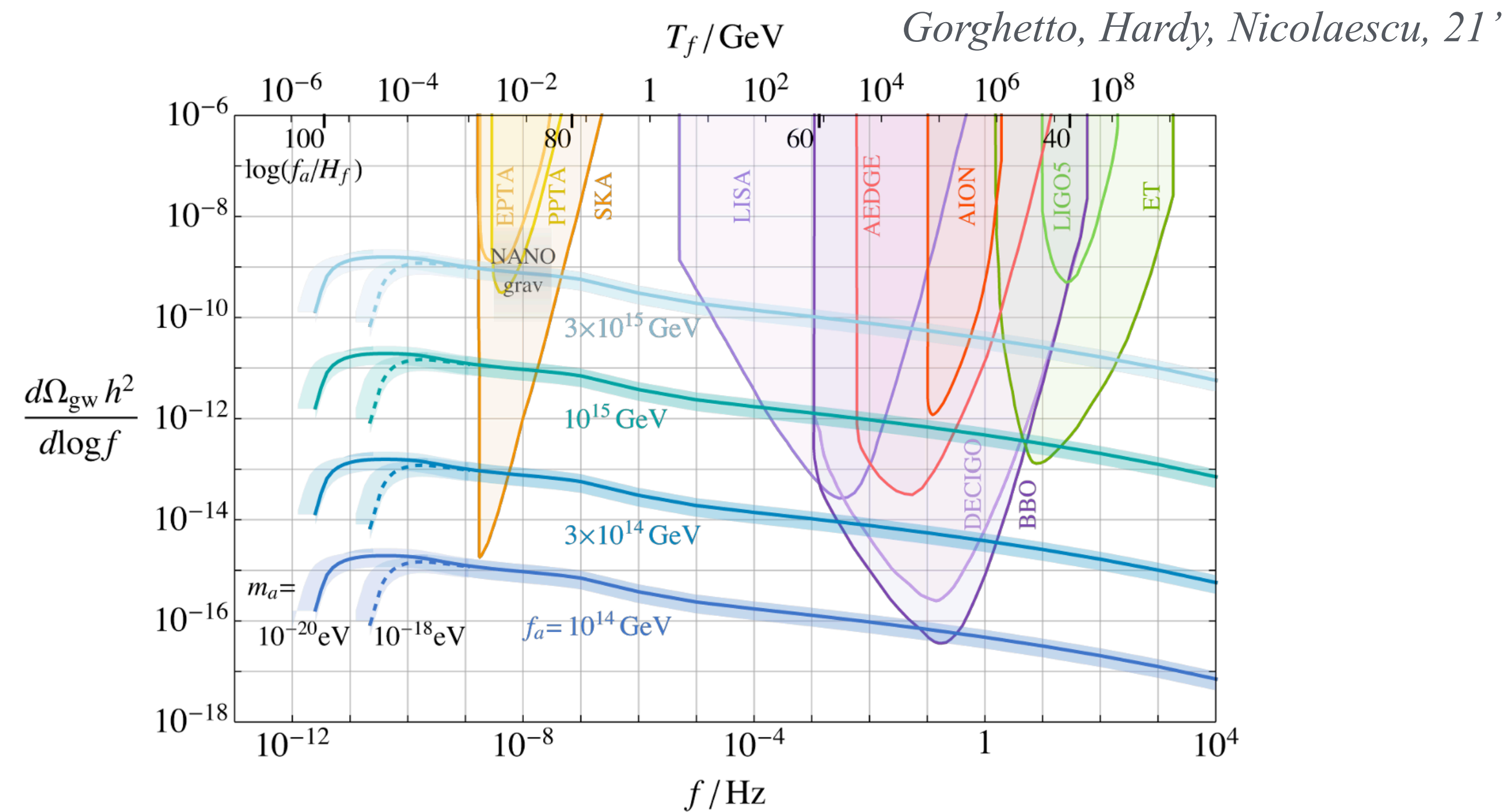
### Topological Defects



Cosmic string: topological defects after U(1) breaking

**And many other possible sources:**

**Exotic stars, captured DM, non-perturbative effects...**



Axion strings and its GW power spectrum

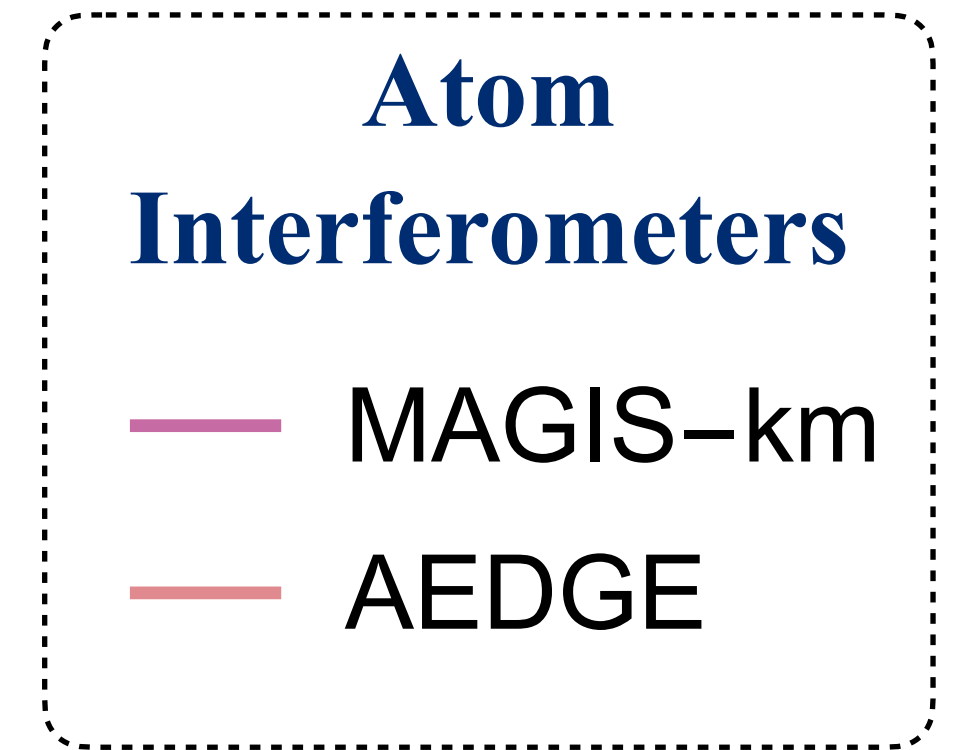
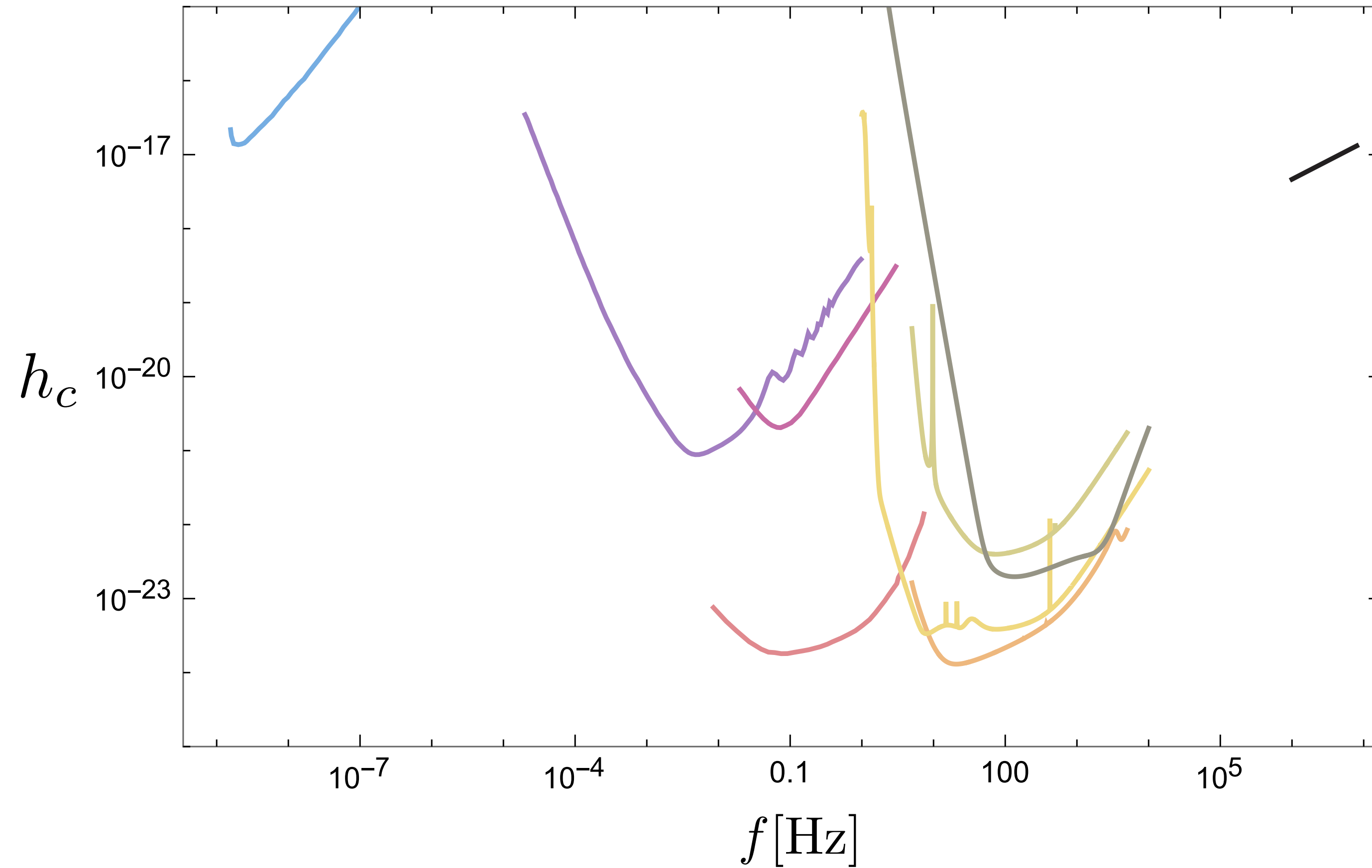
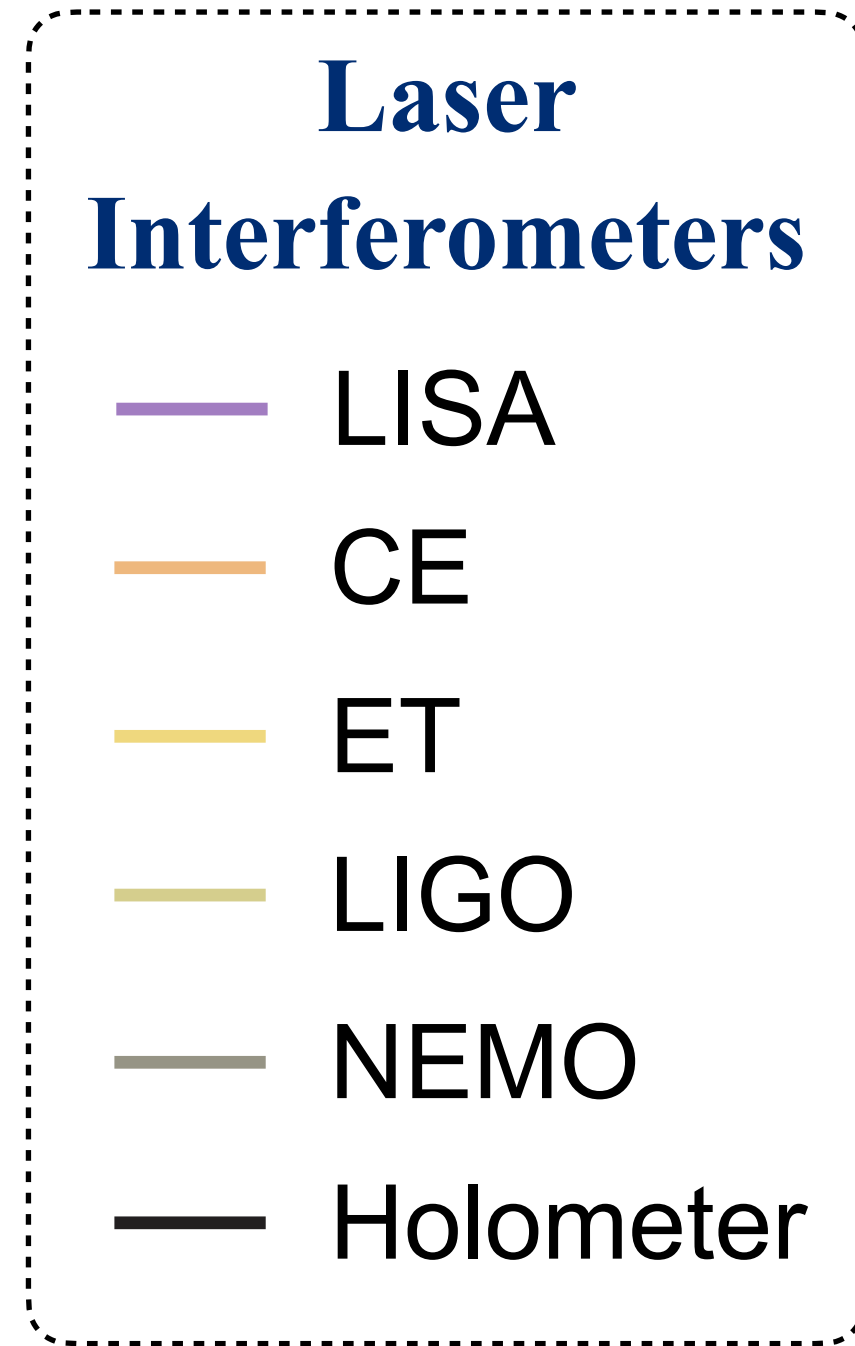
# Why gravitational wave for dark sectors? *experiments*

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*Gravitational wave experiments are detectors with extreme sensitivities.*

# Why gravitational wave *✓* for dark sectors? *experiments*

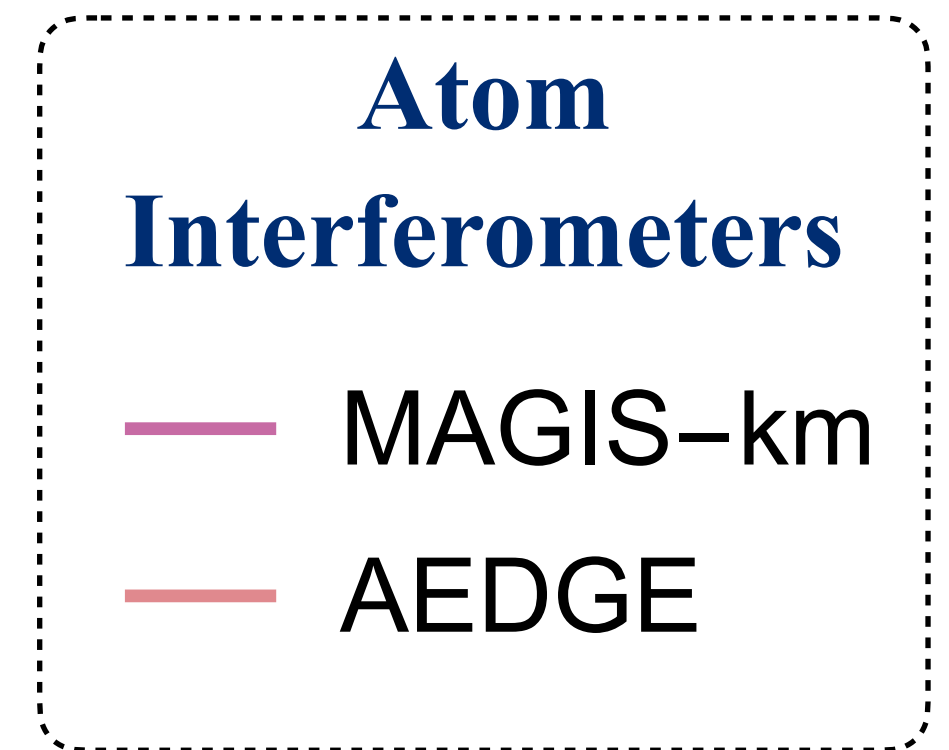
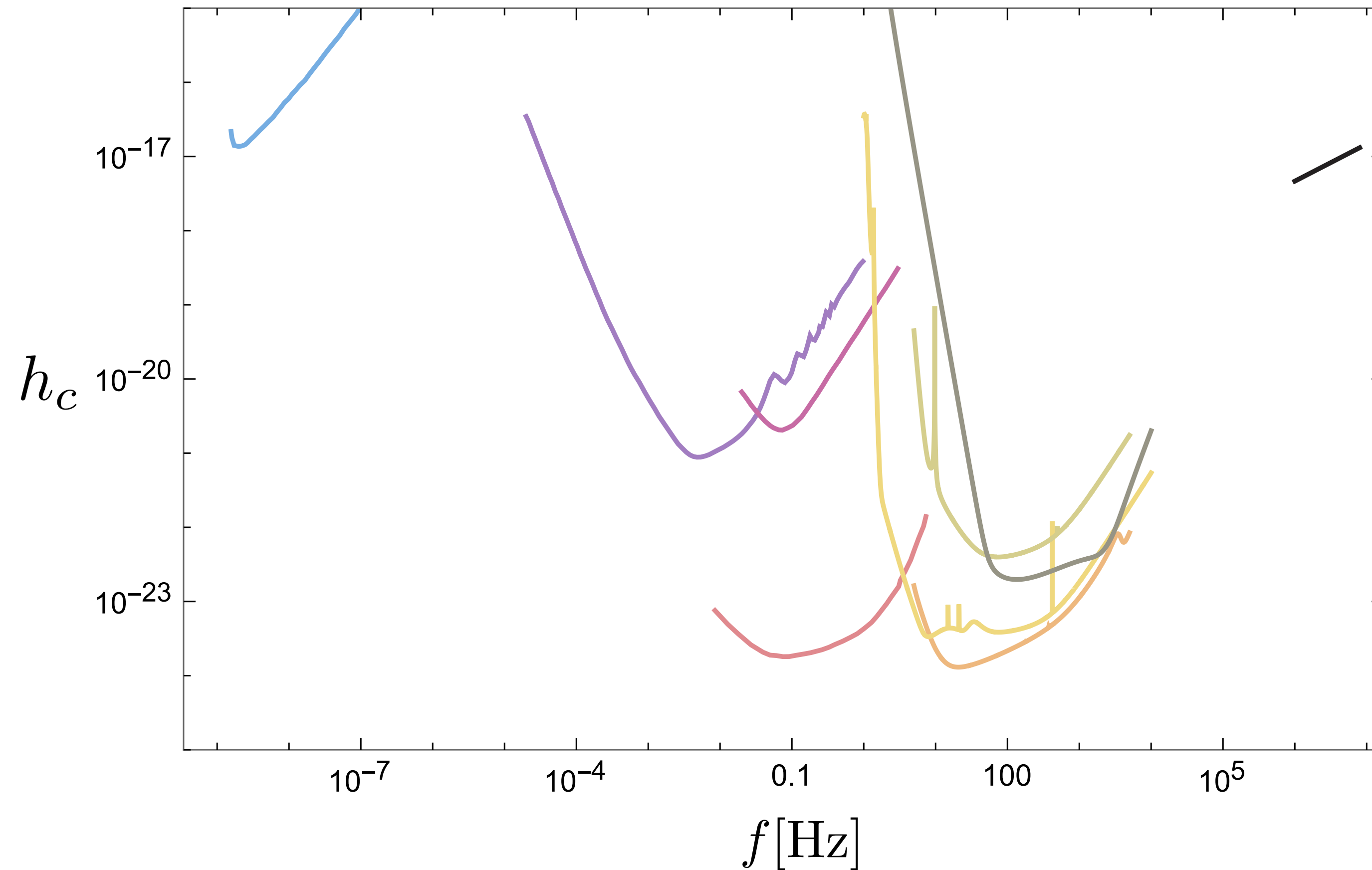
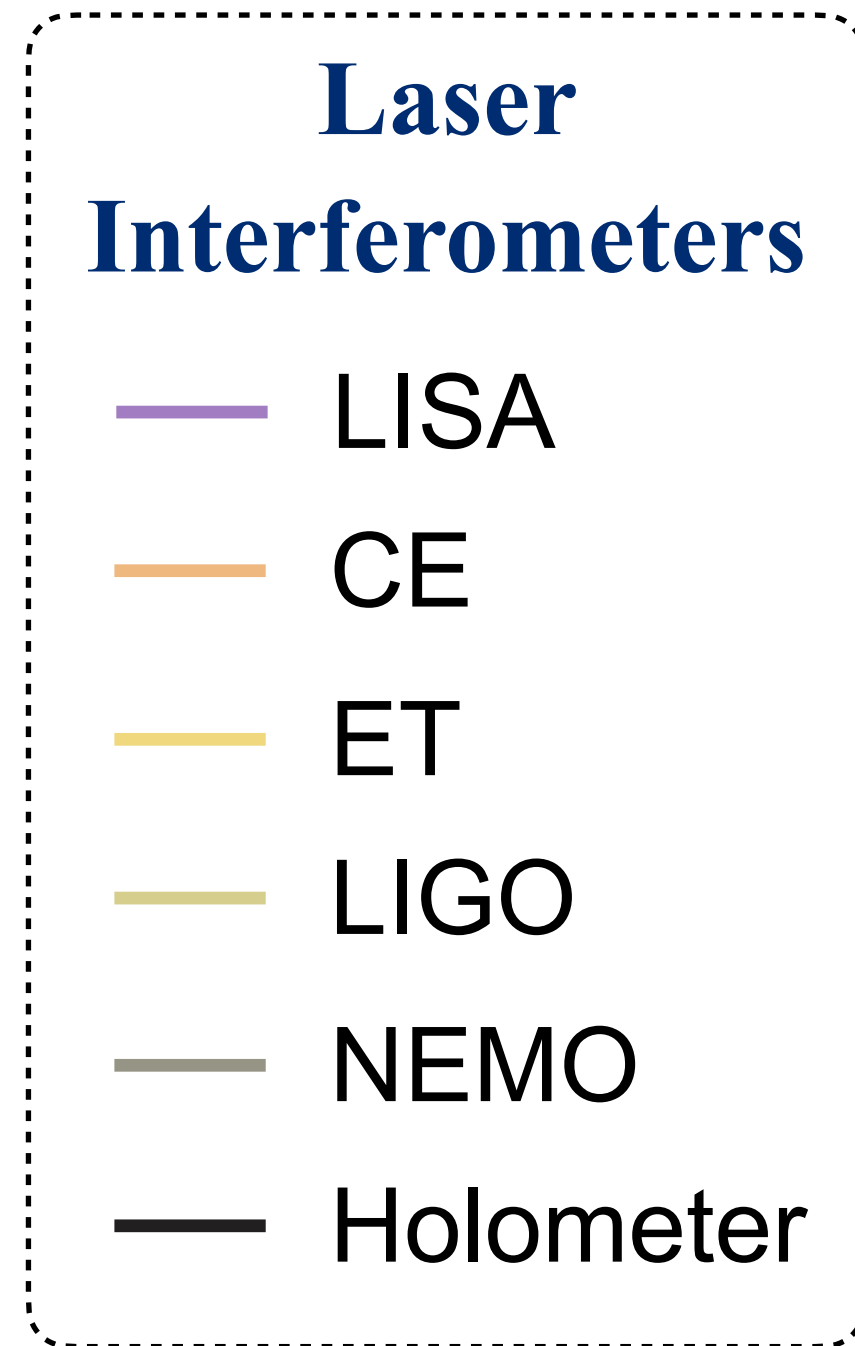
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# Why gravitational wave *✓* for dark sectors? *experiments*

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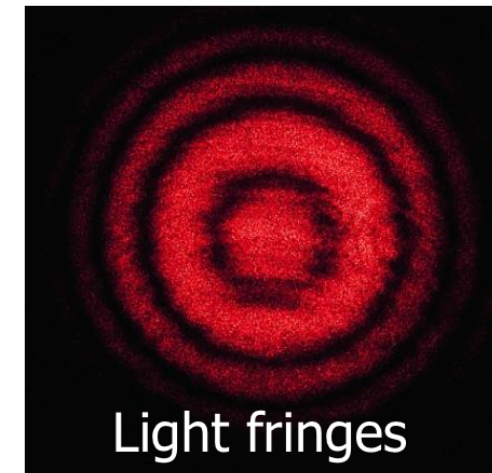
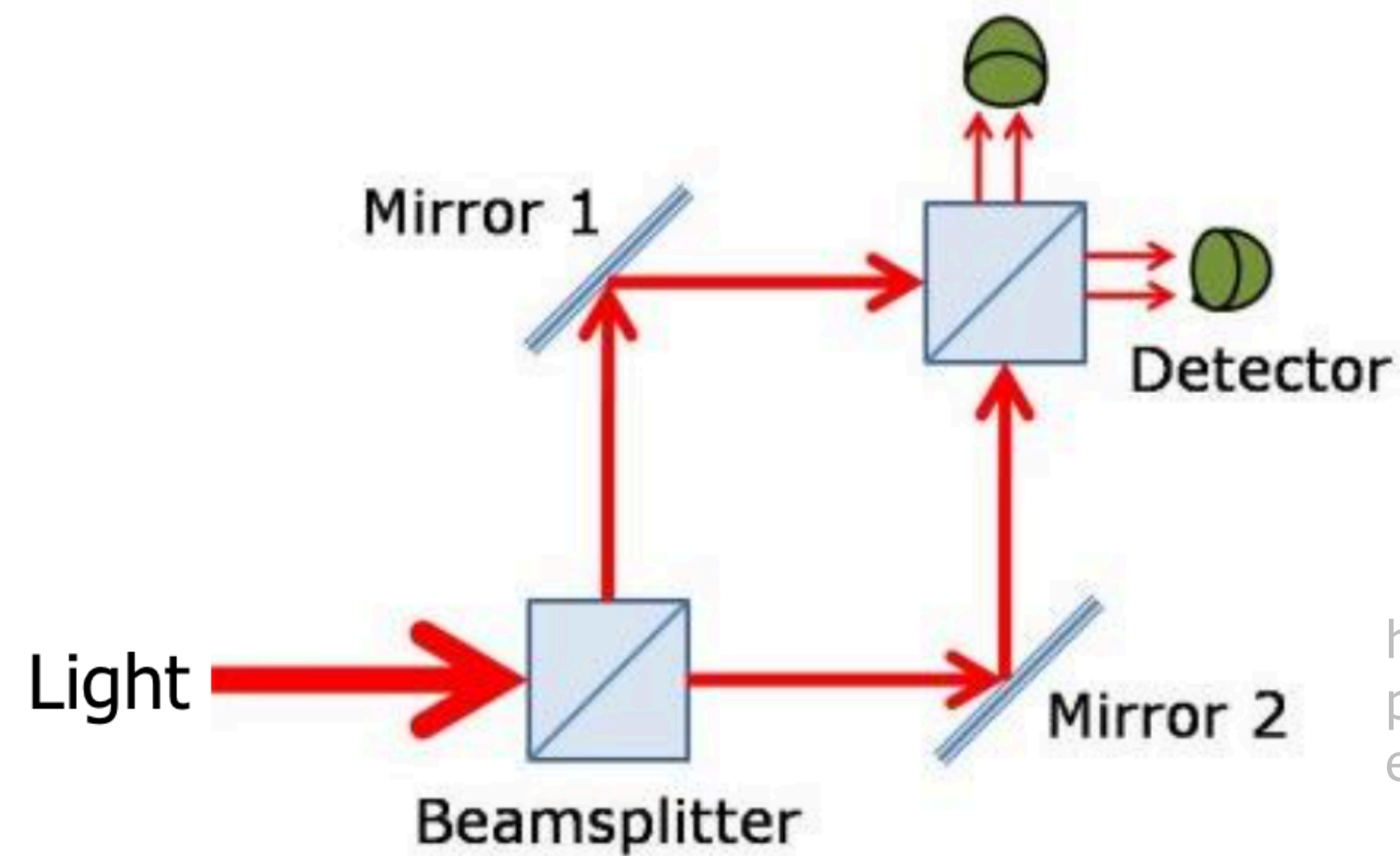


***Direct Detection:*** dark matter can directly interact with the interferometers

# Why gravitational wave *✓* for dark sectors? *experiments*

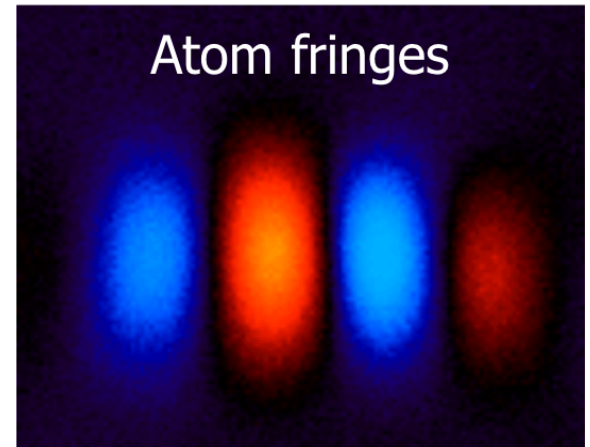
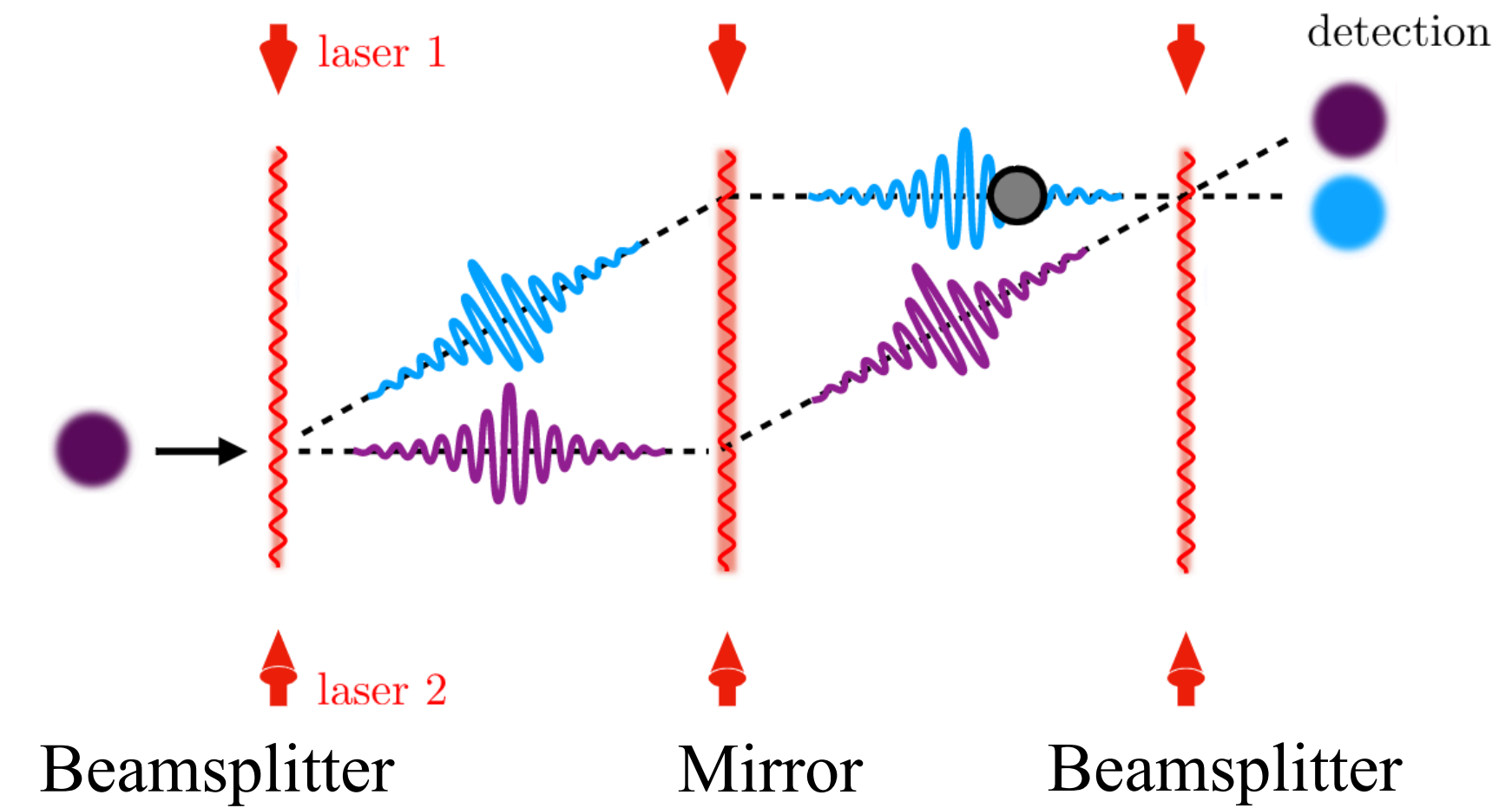
*Gravitational wave experiments are detectors with extreme sensitivities.*

## Laser Interferometers



<http://scienceblogs.com/principles/2013/10/22/quantum-erasure/>

## Atom Interferometers

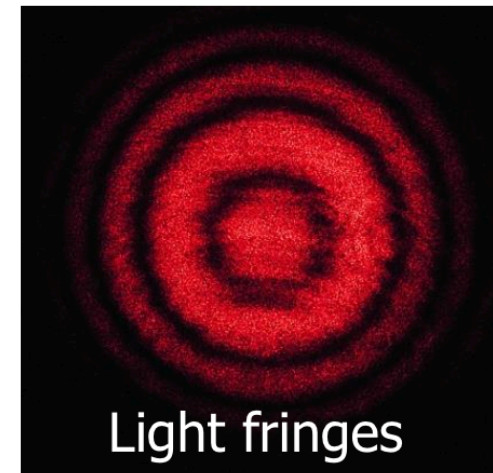
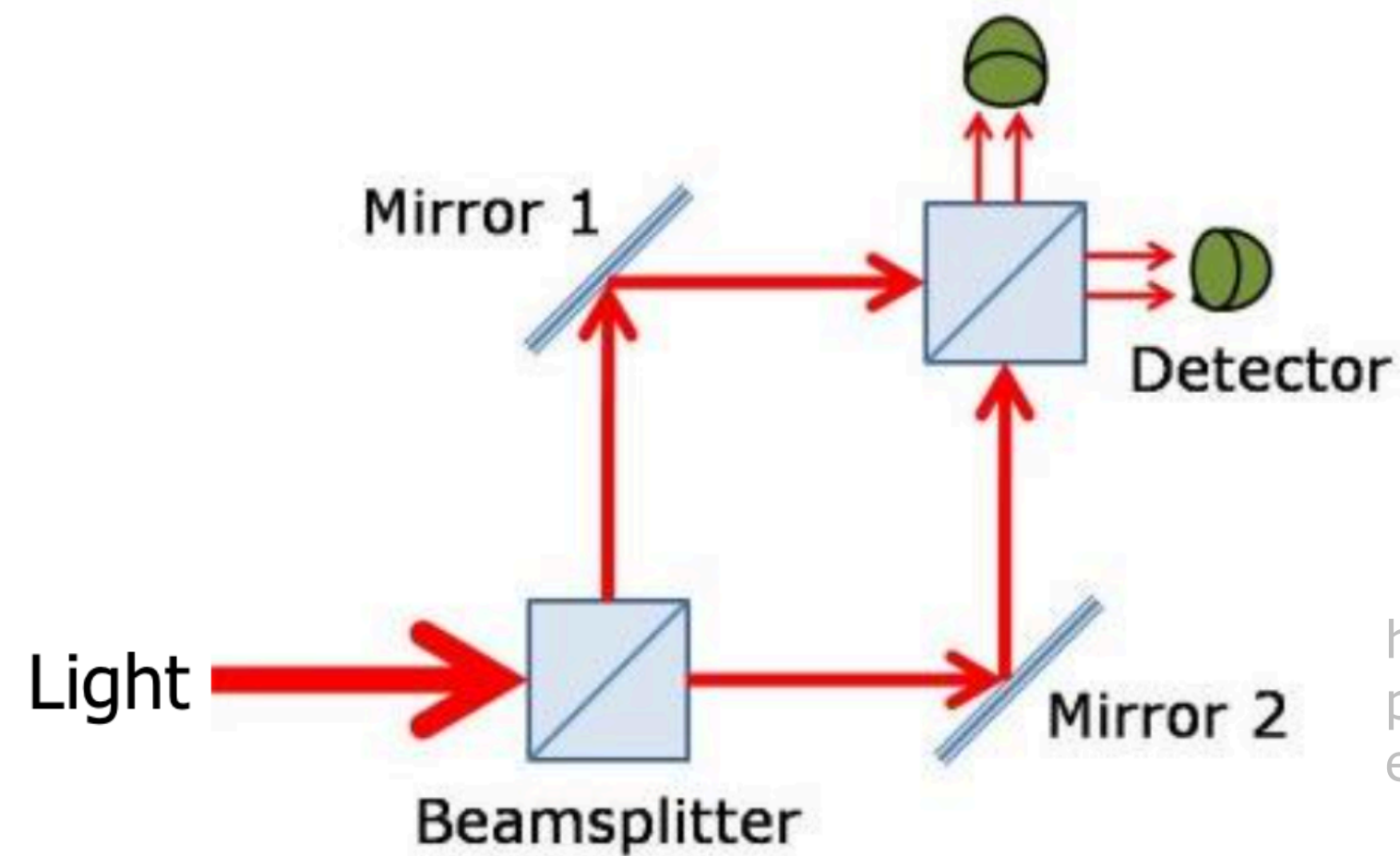


<http://www.cobolt.se/interferometry.html>

# Why gravitational wave *experiments* for dark sectors?

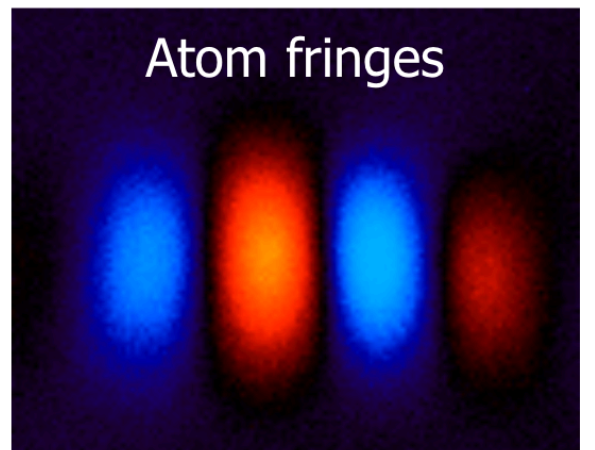
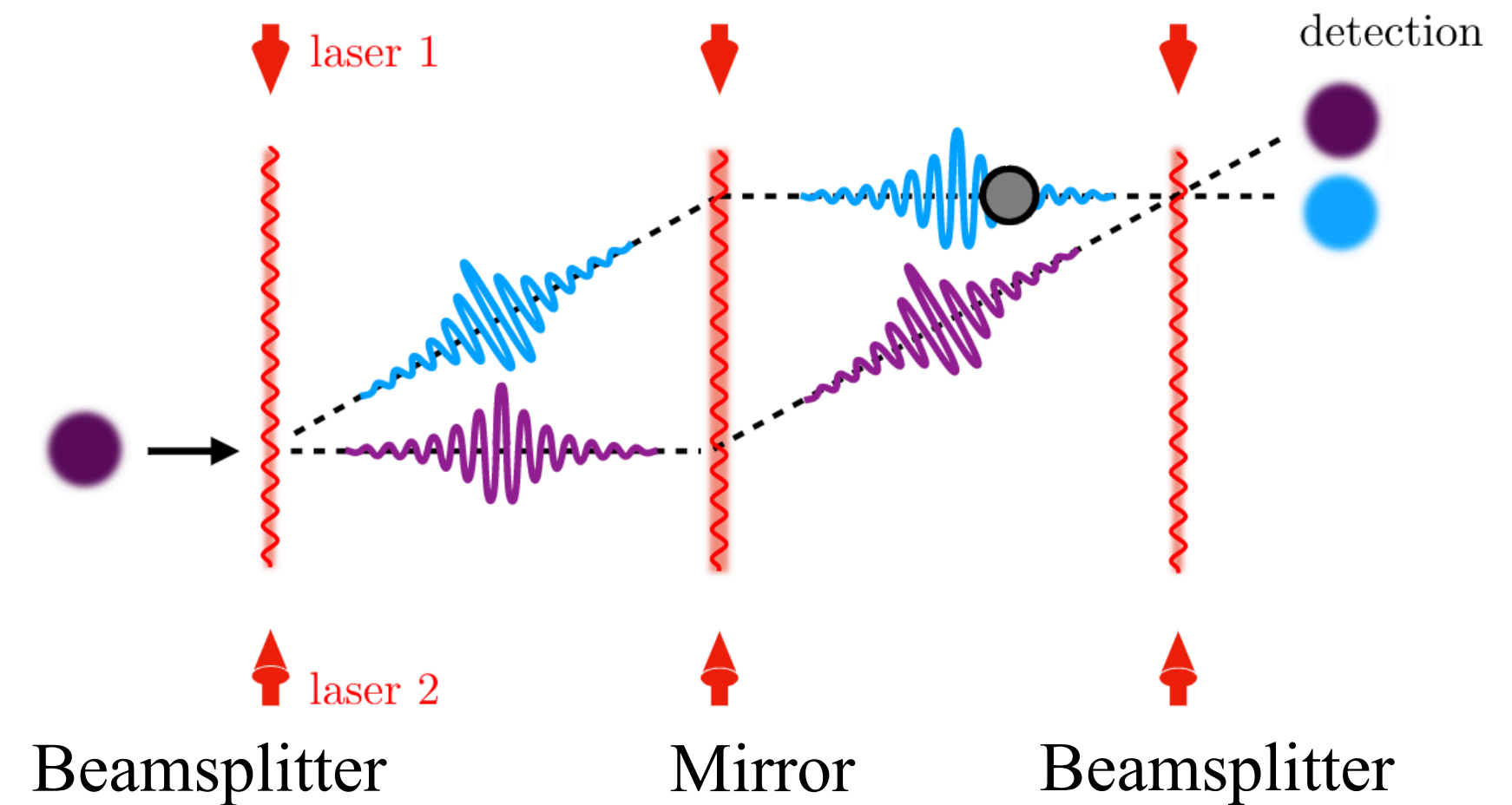
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## Laser Interferometers

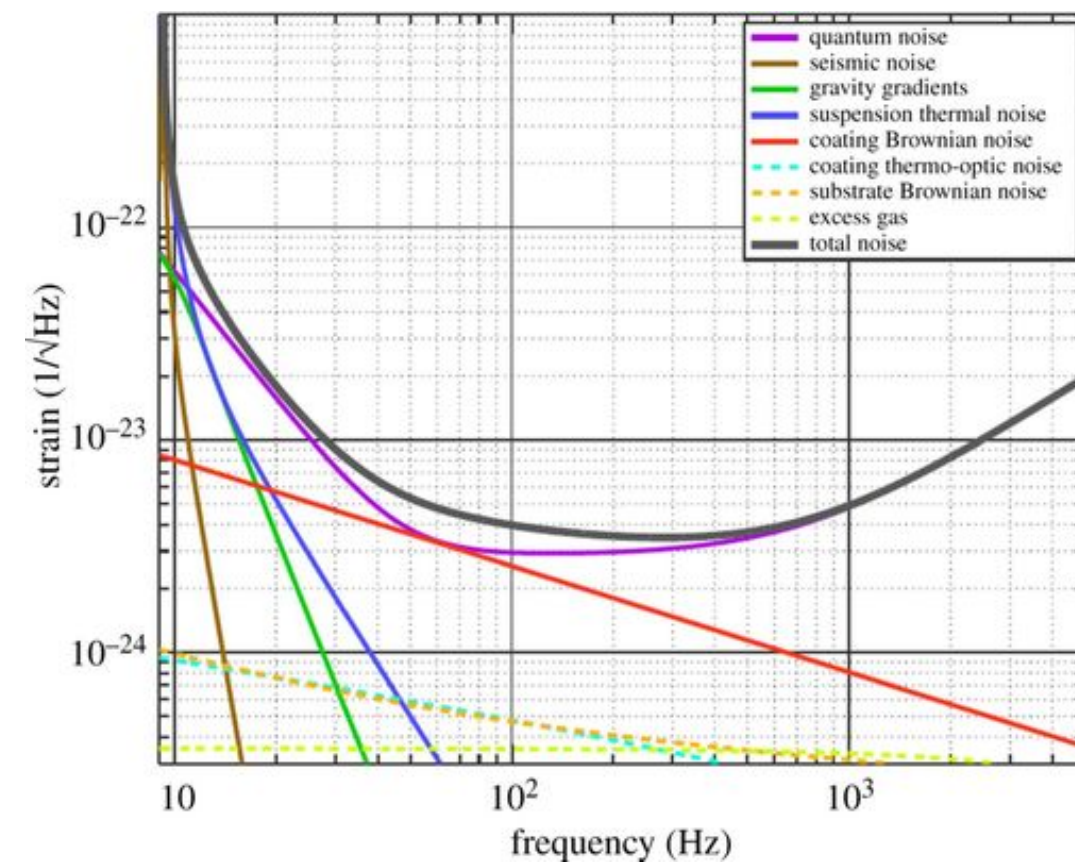


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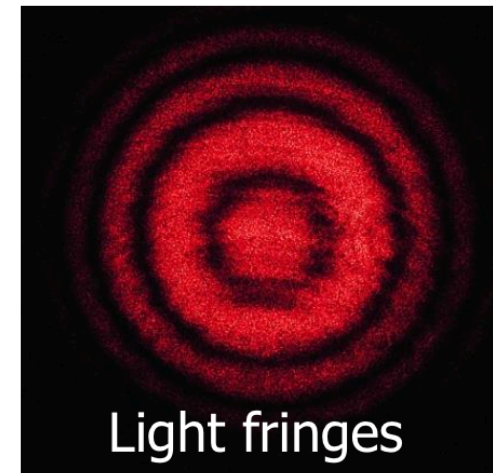
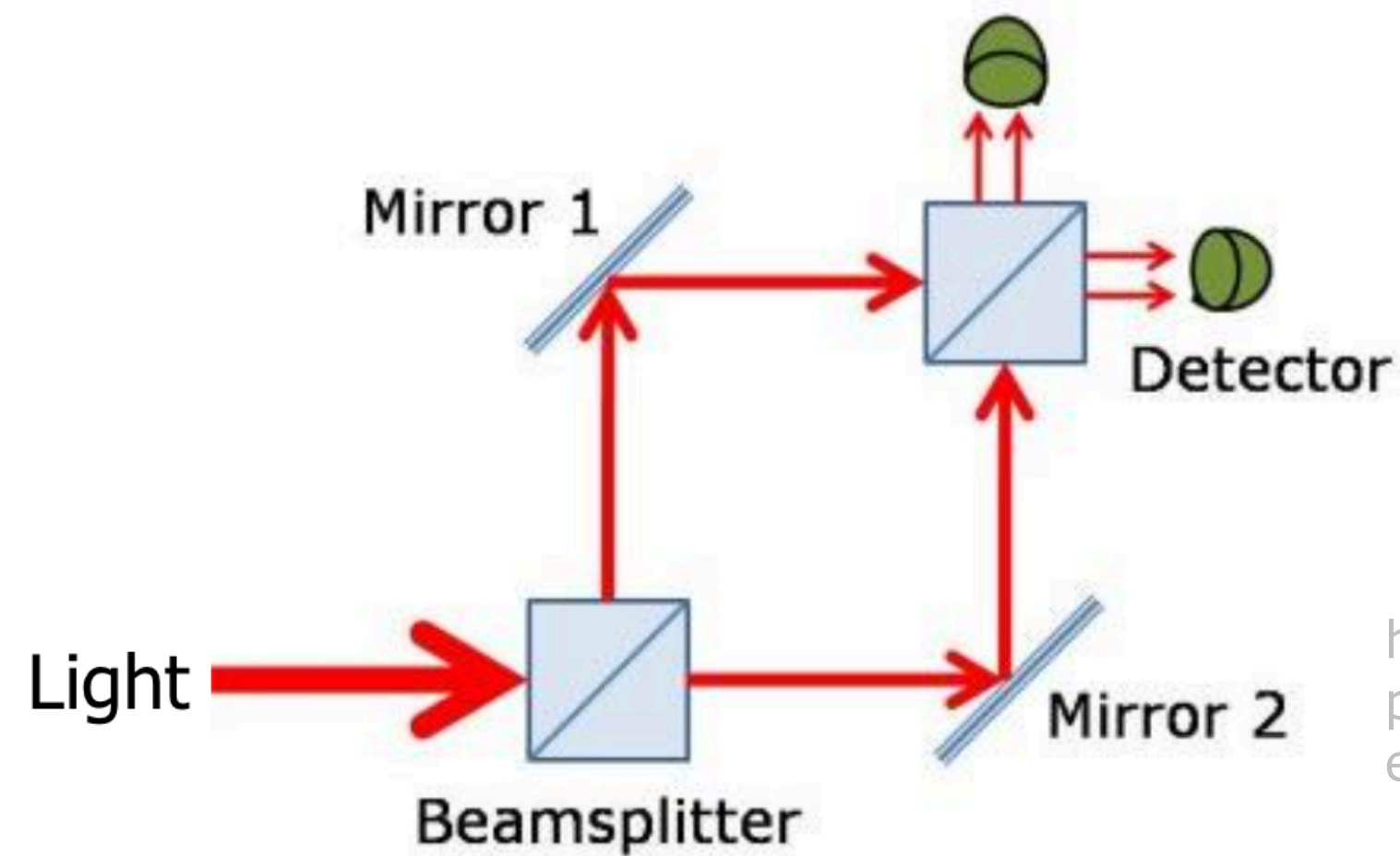


*The LIGO Scientific Collaboration 2015*

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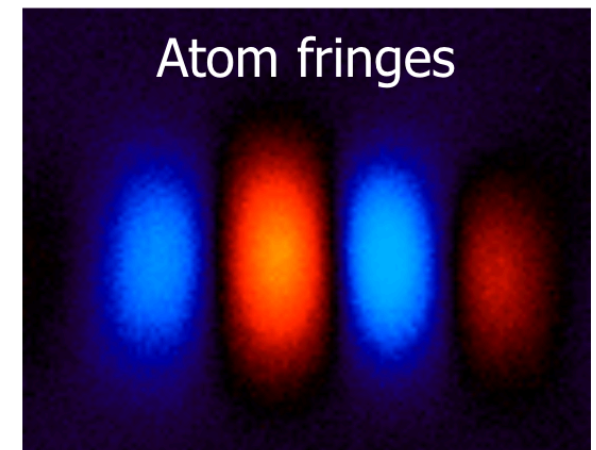
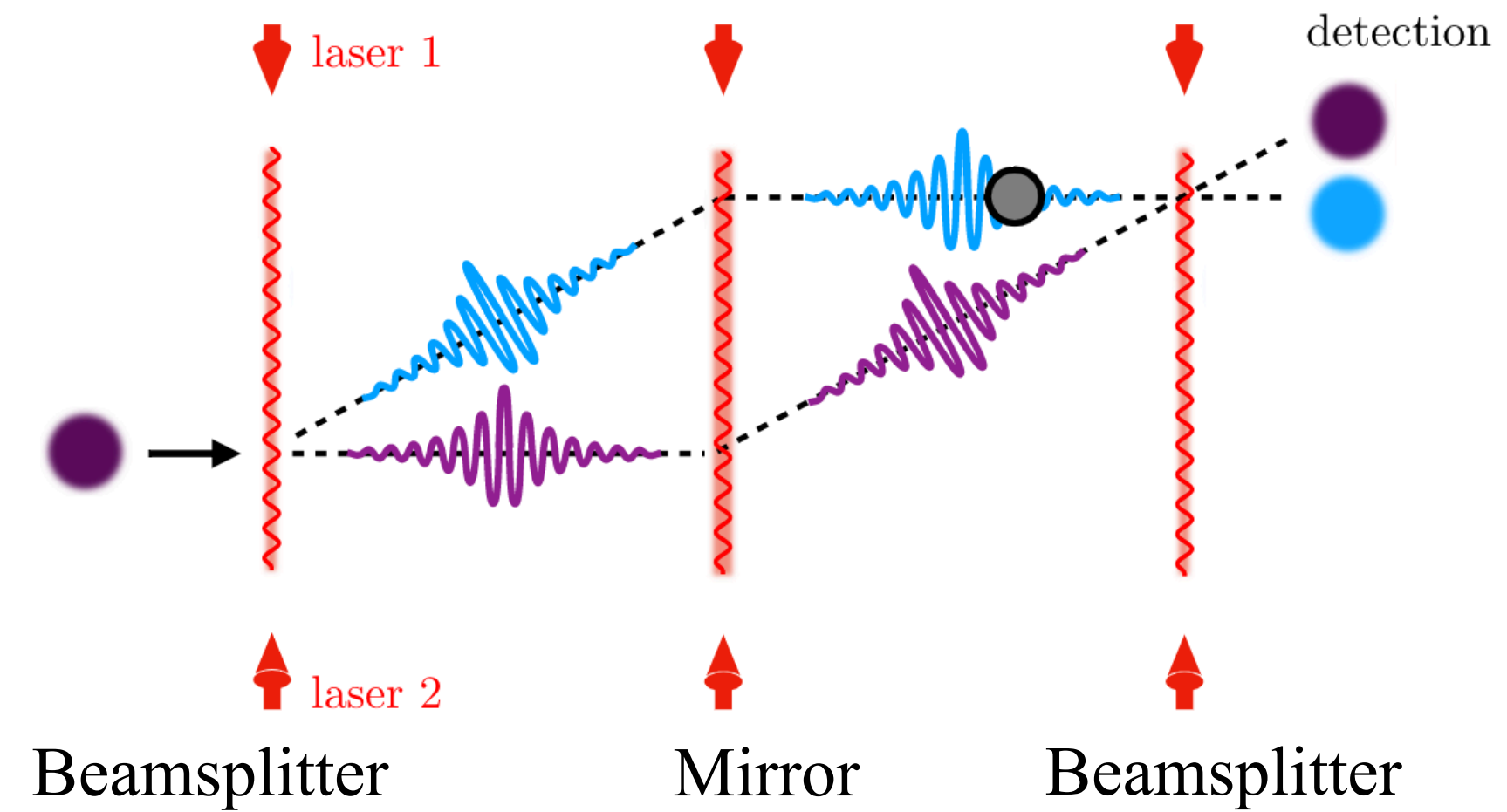
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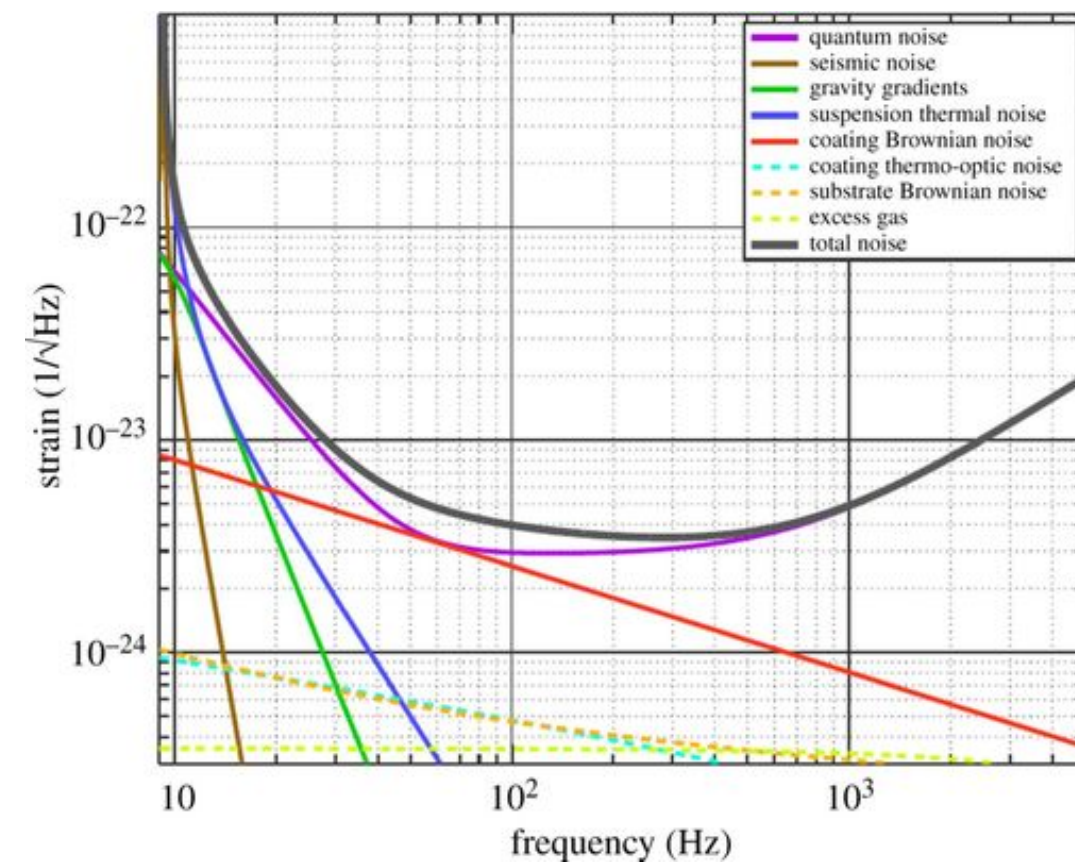


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$$\sigma_\phi \equiv \frac{1 \text{ rad}}{\sqrt{N_{\text{ind}}}}$$

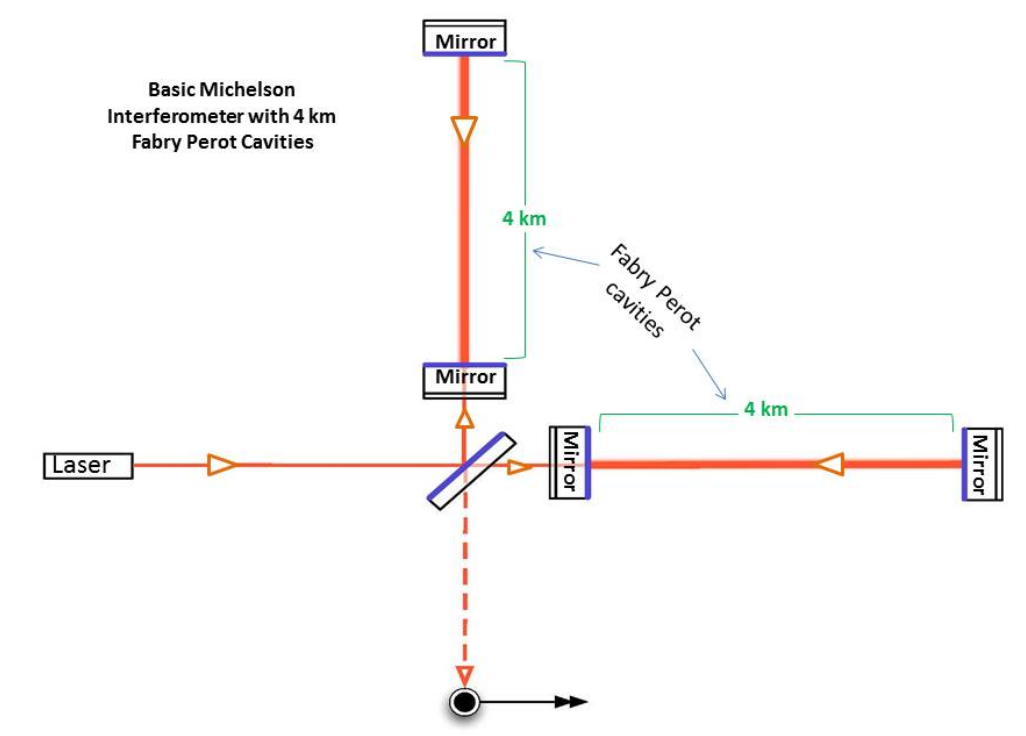
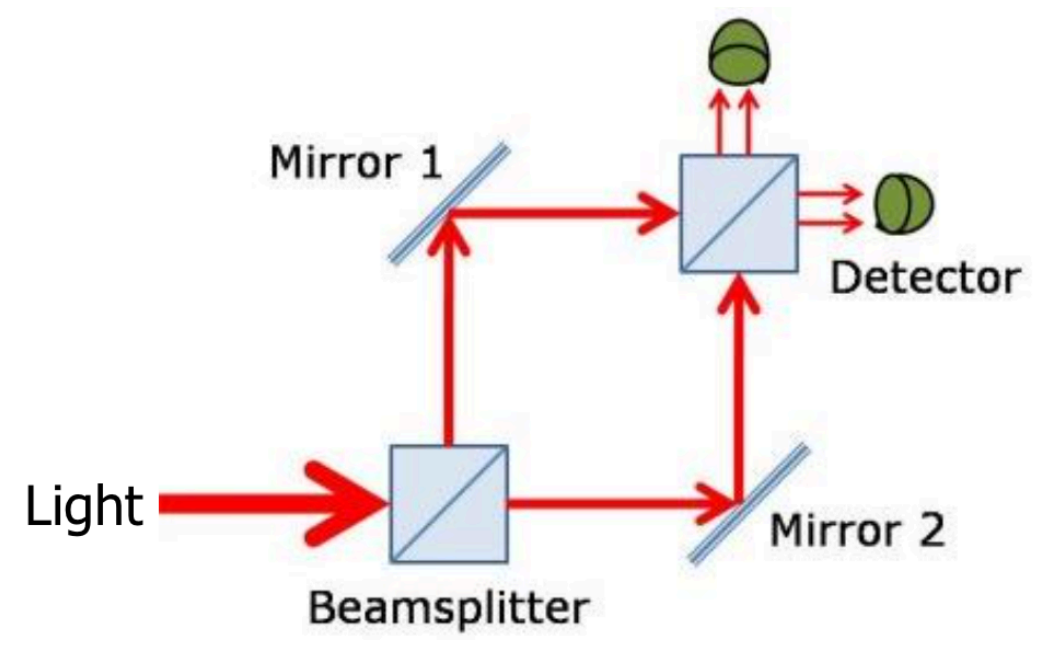
$$\sigma_\phi = \frac{1}{4} m_{\text{ind}} \Delta x t_{\text{exp}} a_{\text{min}}$$

# Why gravitational wave <sup>✓</sup> for dark sectors?

*experiments*

**Ultralight DM**

$$m_{\text{DM}} \sim 4 \times 10^{-13} \text{eV} \frac{f_{\text{GW}}}{100 \text{ Hz}}$$

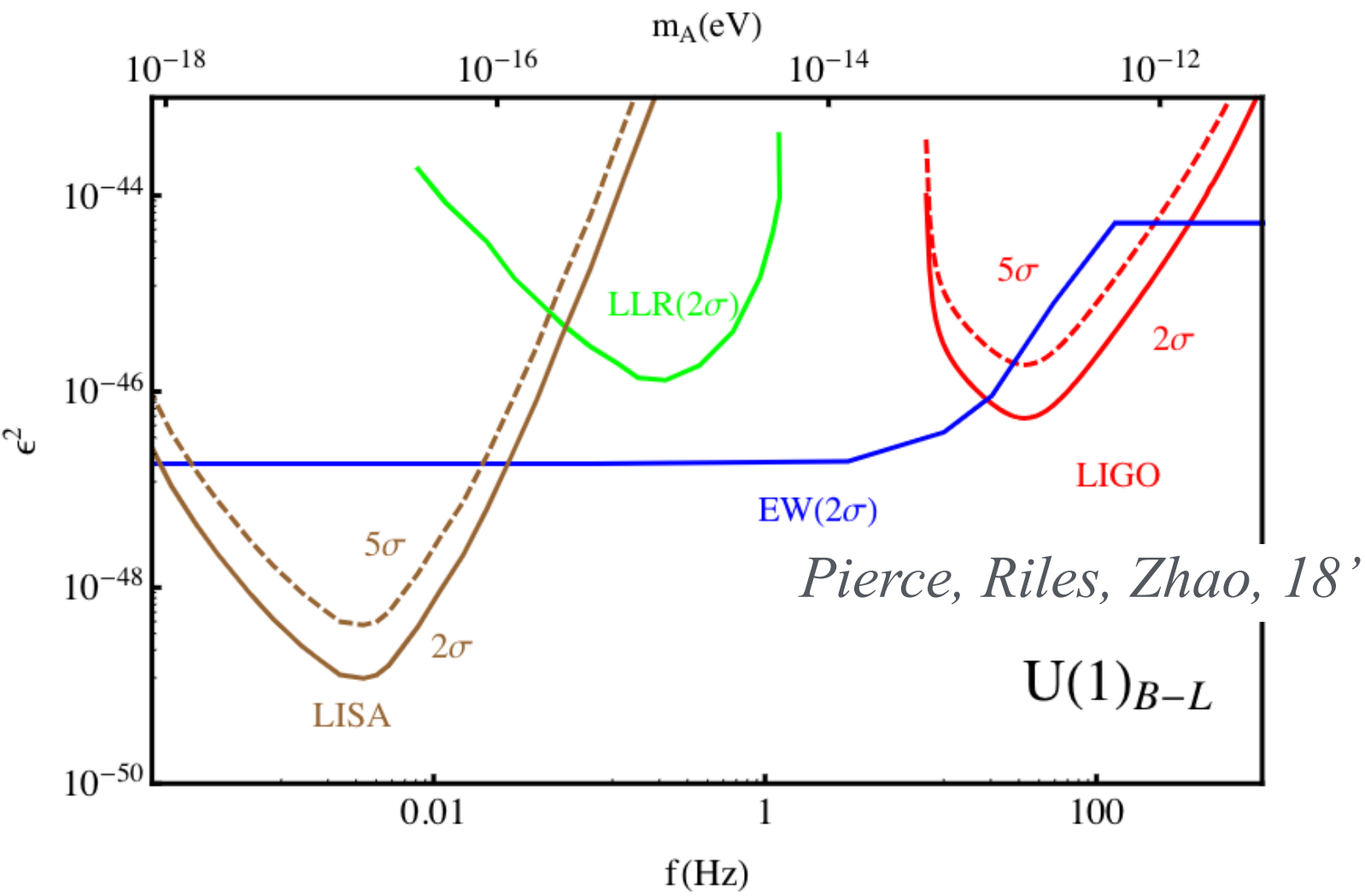
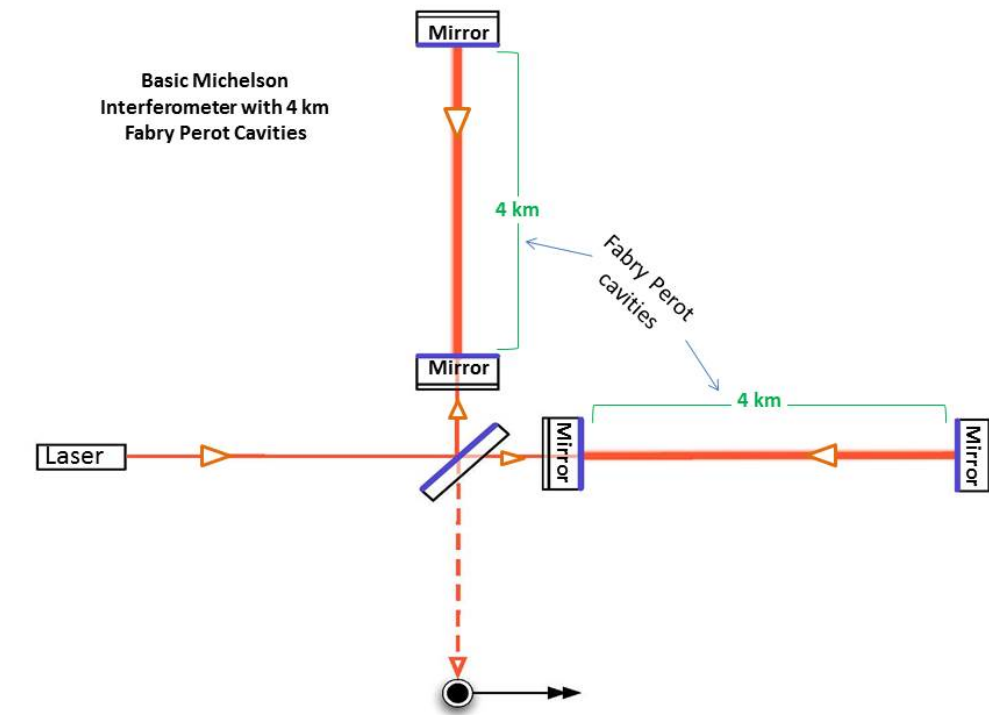
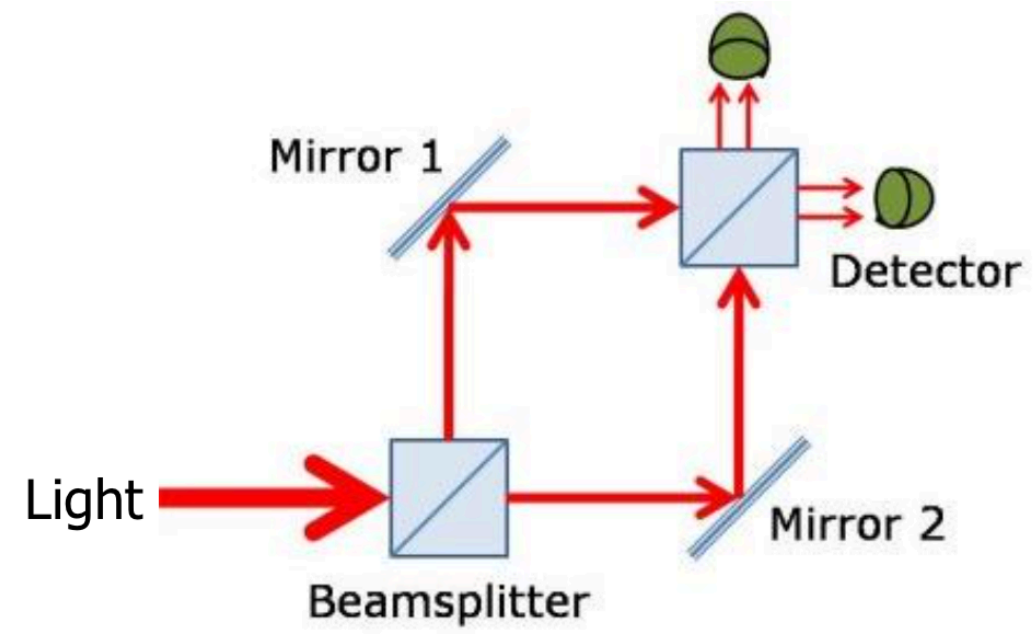


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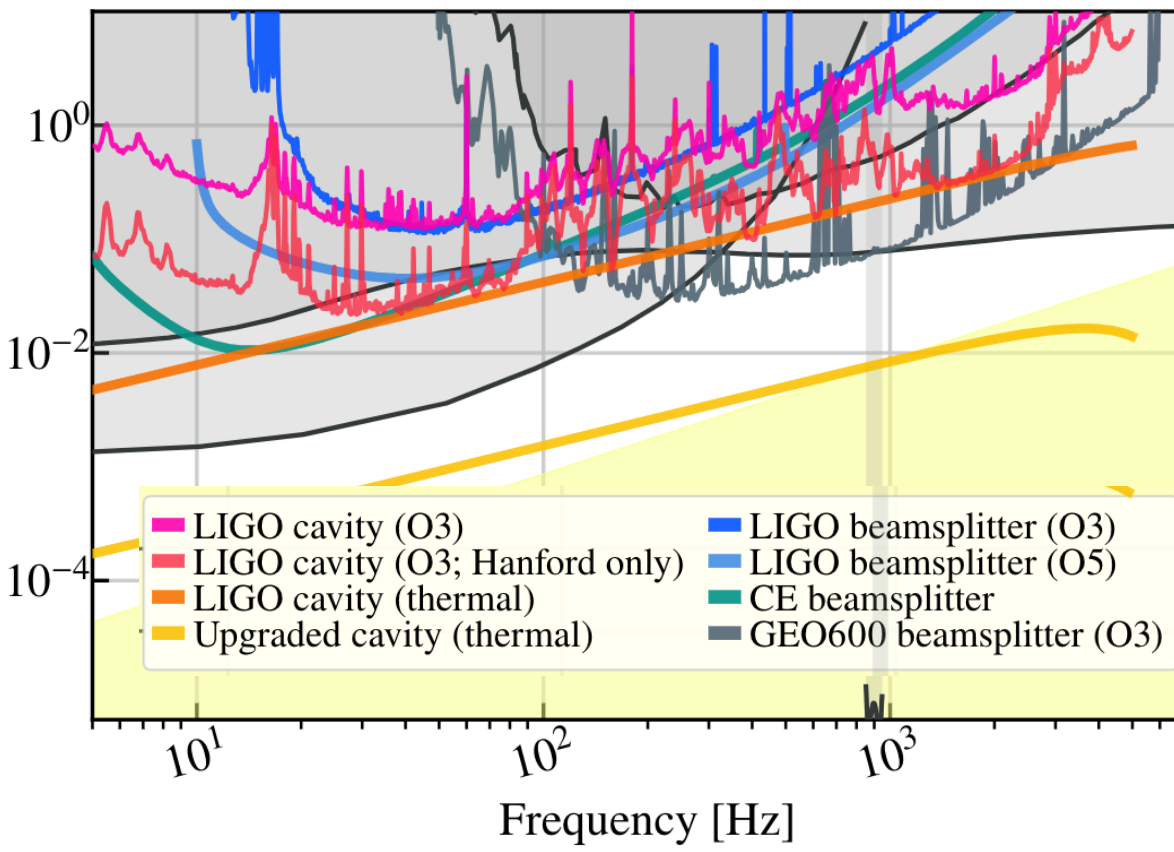
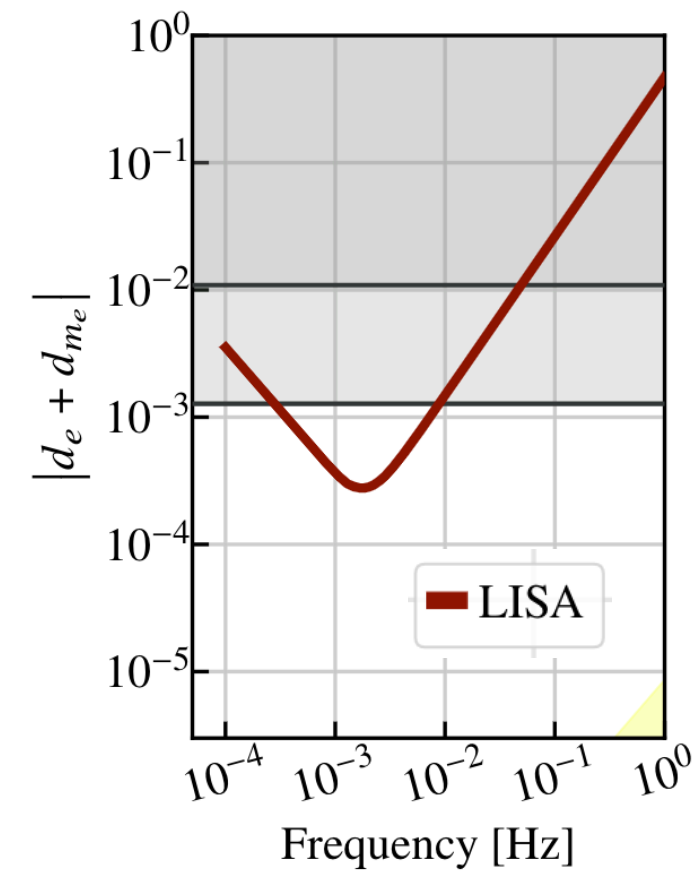
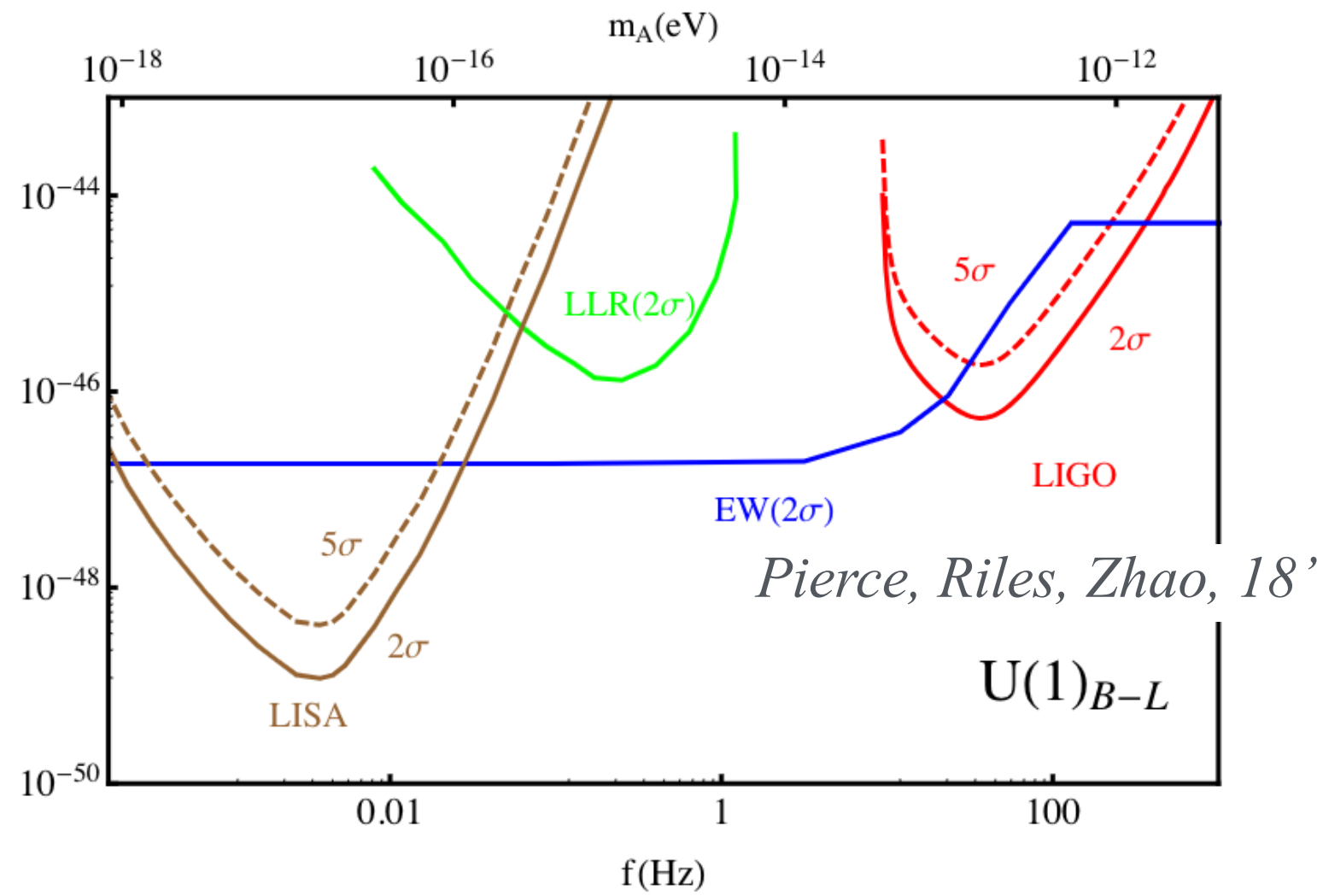
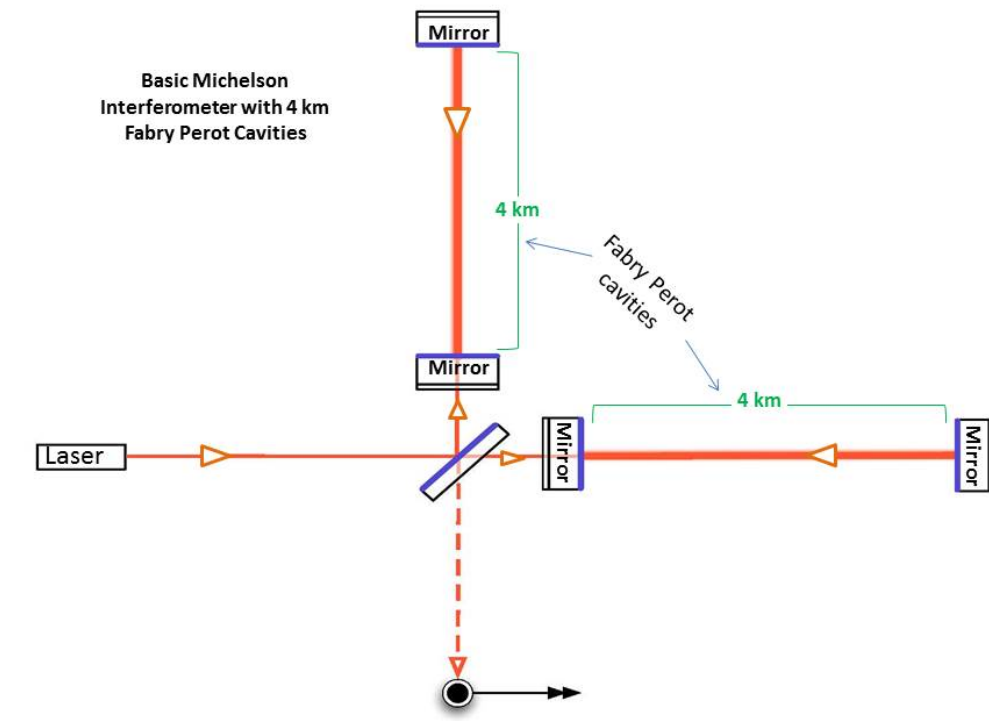
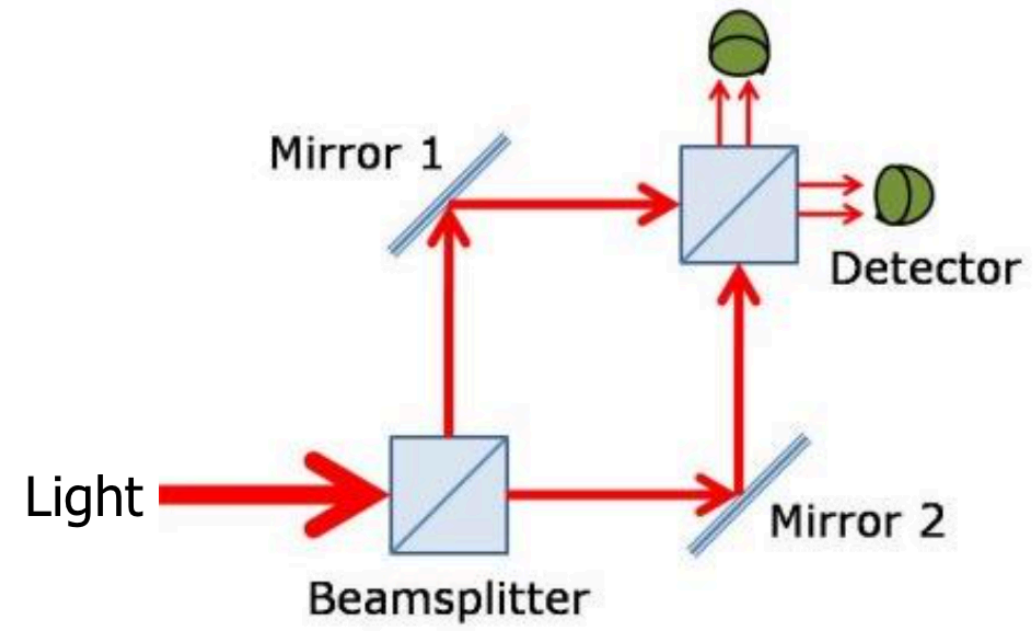
$U(1)_B$  and  $U(1)_{B-L}$  dark photon DM acts as a fifth force on mirrors.

# Why gravitational wave *✓* for dark sectors?

*experiments*

**Ultralight DM**

$$m_{\text{DM}} \sim 4 \times 10^{-13} \text{eV} \frac{f_{\text{GW}}}{100 \text{ Hz}}$$



$$\frac{\Delta\alpha(t)}{\alpha} = A_e \cos(\Omega_{\text{DM}} t)$$

$$\frac{\Delta m_e(t)}{m_e} = A_{m_e} \cos(\Omega_{\text{DM}} t)$$

*Stadnik, Flambaum '15*  
*Morisaki1, Suyama '18*  
*Hall, Aggarwal, '22 ...*

Temporal variations on physical parameters (coupling to the photon or fermions)

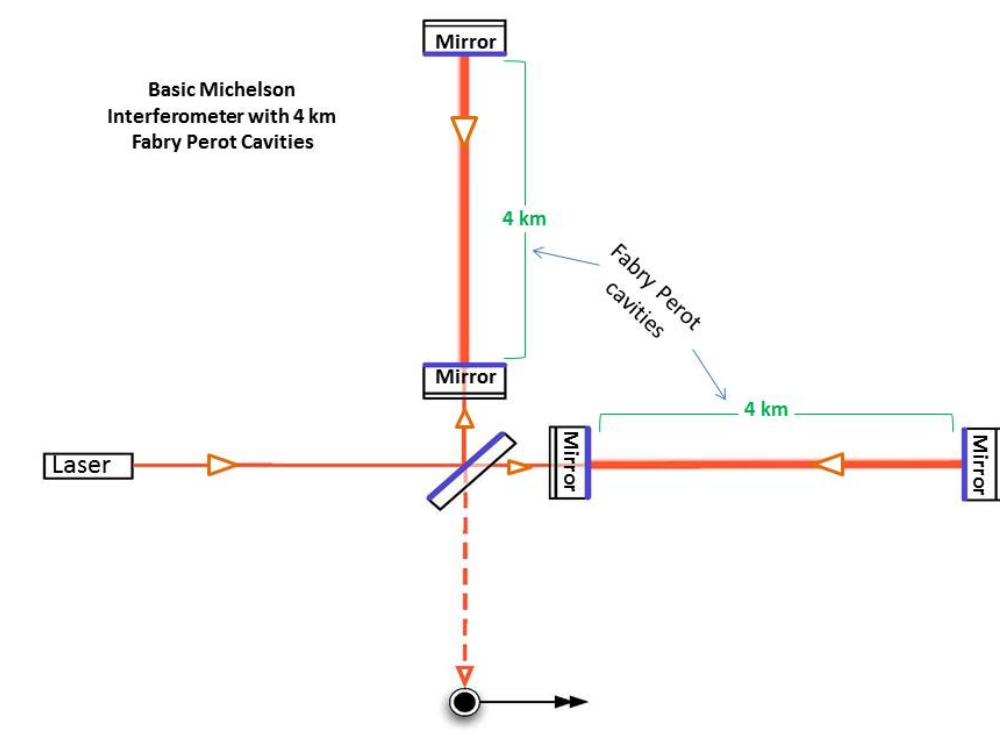
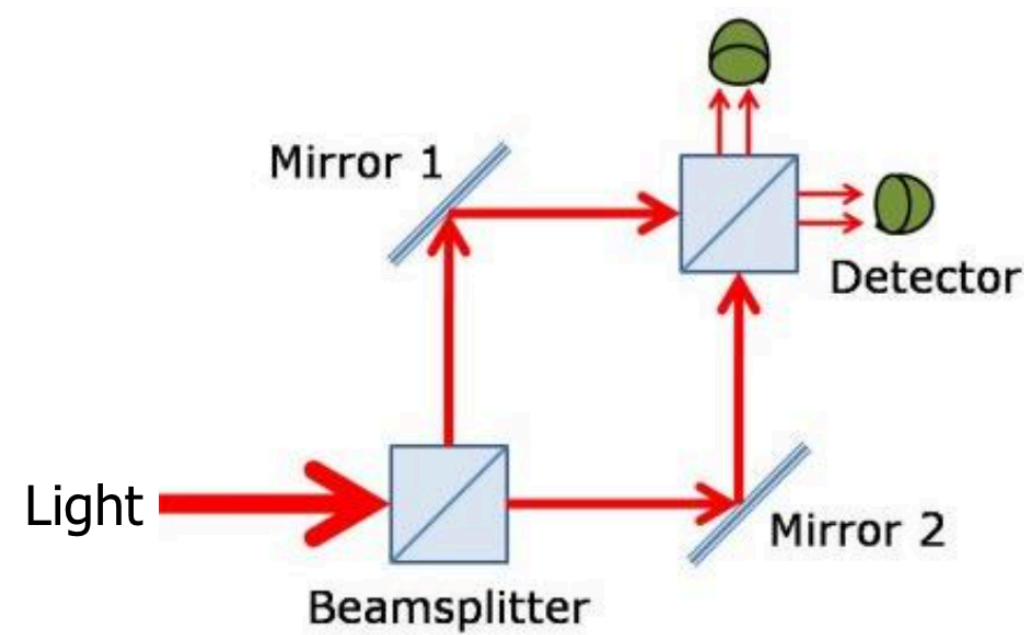
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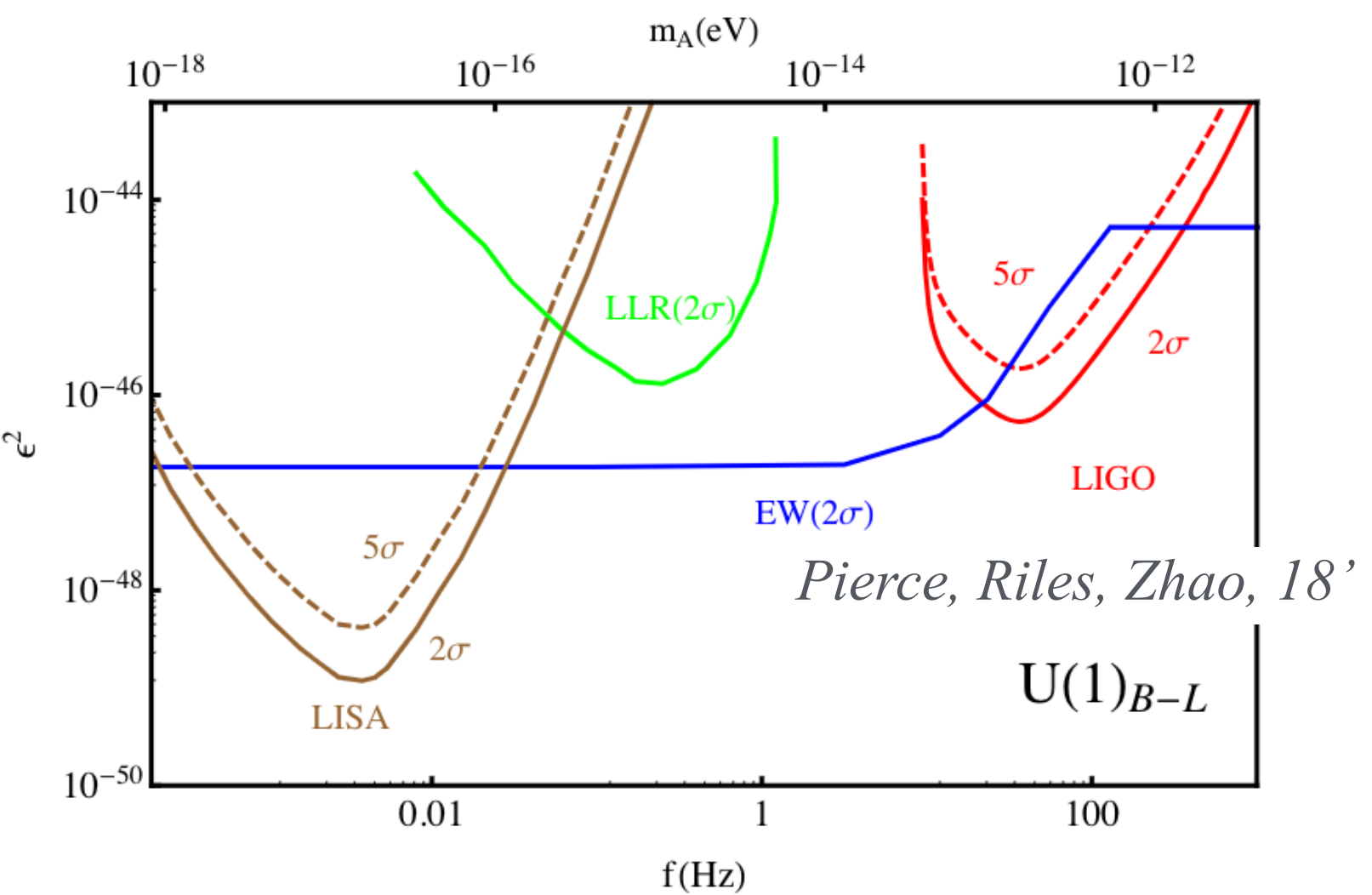
*experiments*

**Ultralight DM**

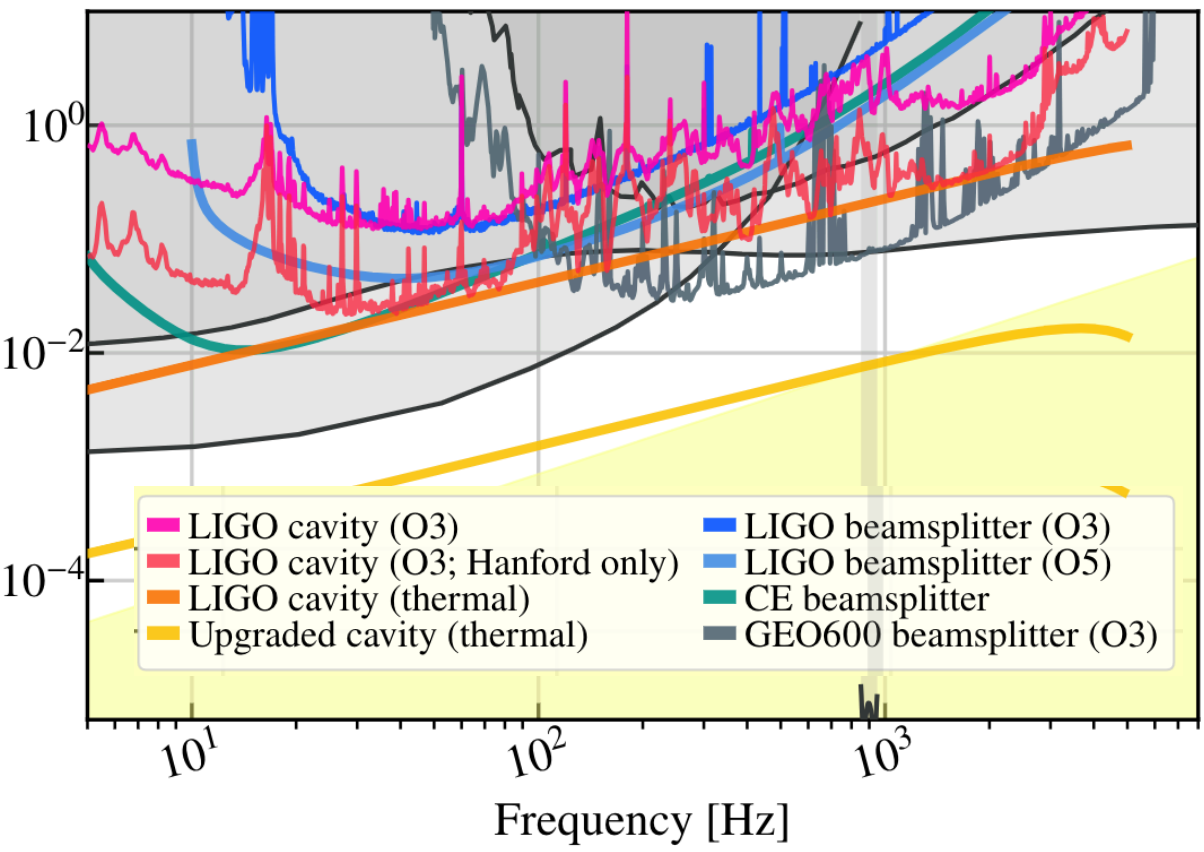
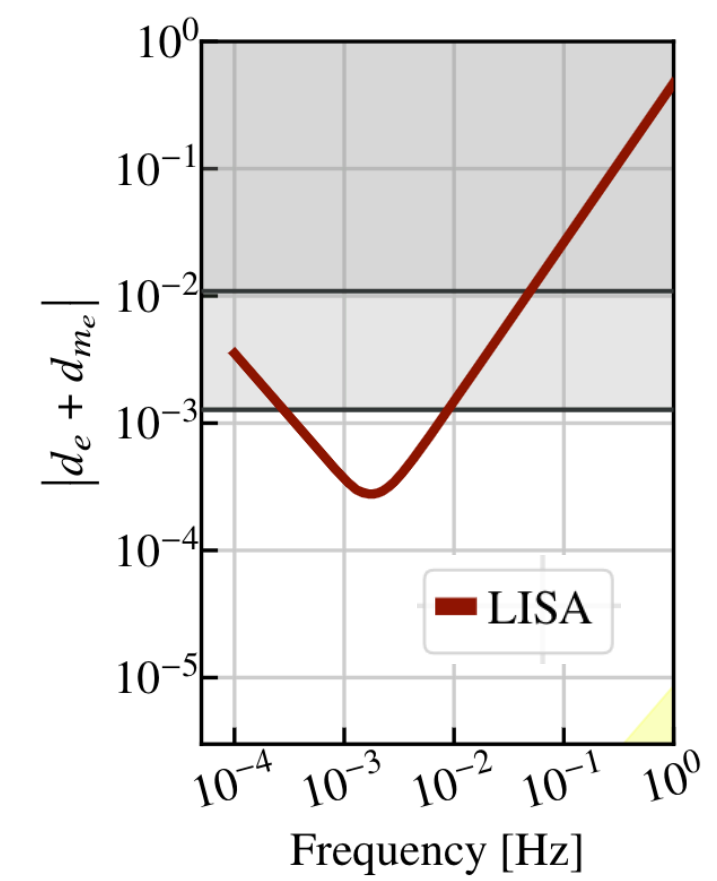
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*Nagano, Fujita, Michimura, Obata '19*



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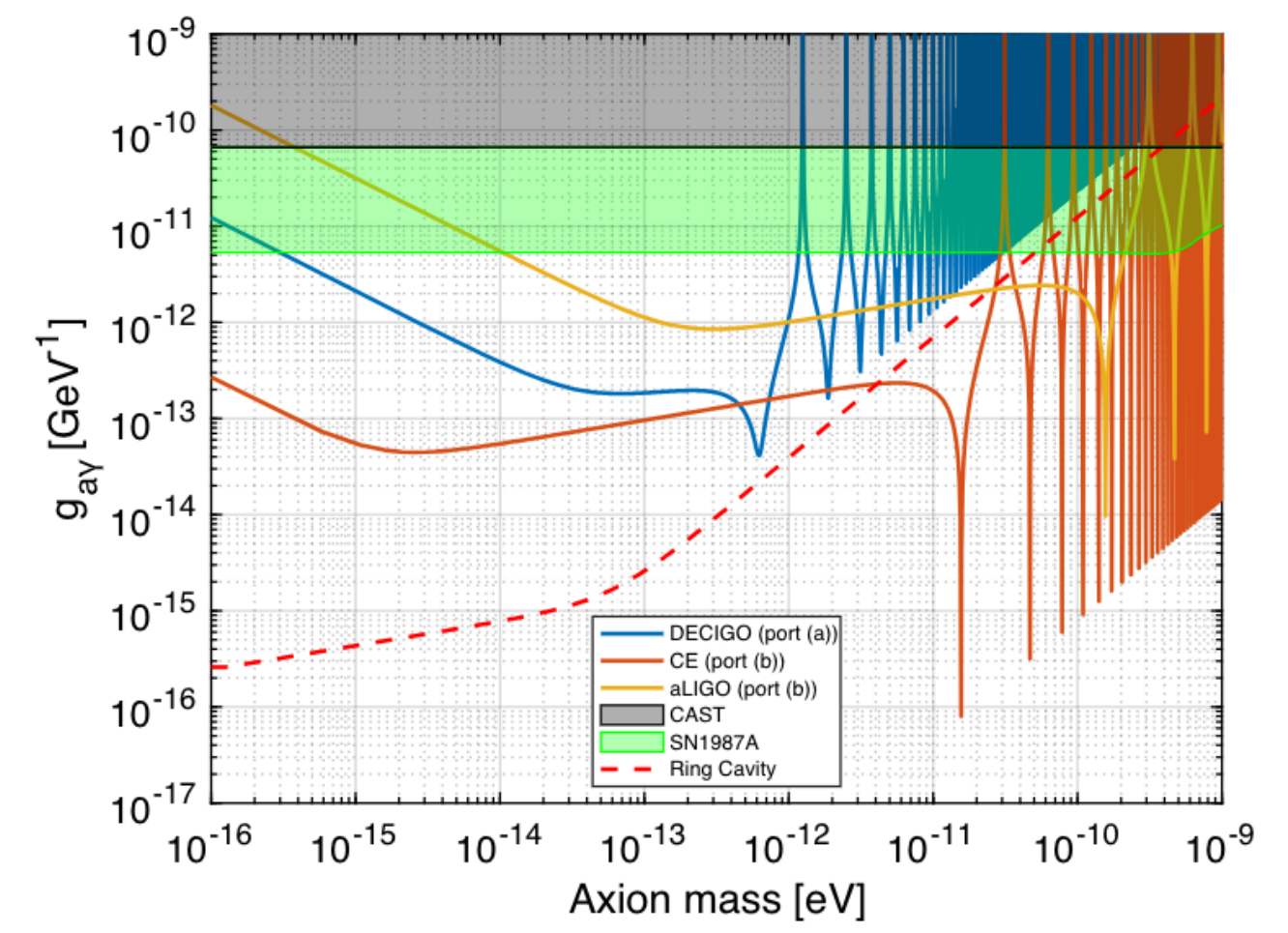


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*Hall, Aggarwal, '22 ...*

Temporal variations on physical parameters (coupling to the photon or fermions)



Axions can induce polarization change of photons circulating in FP cavities.

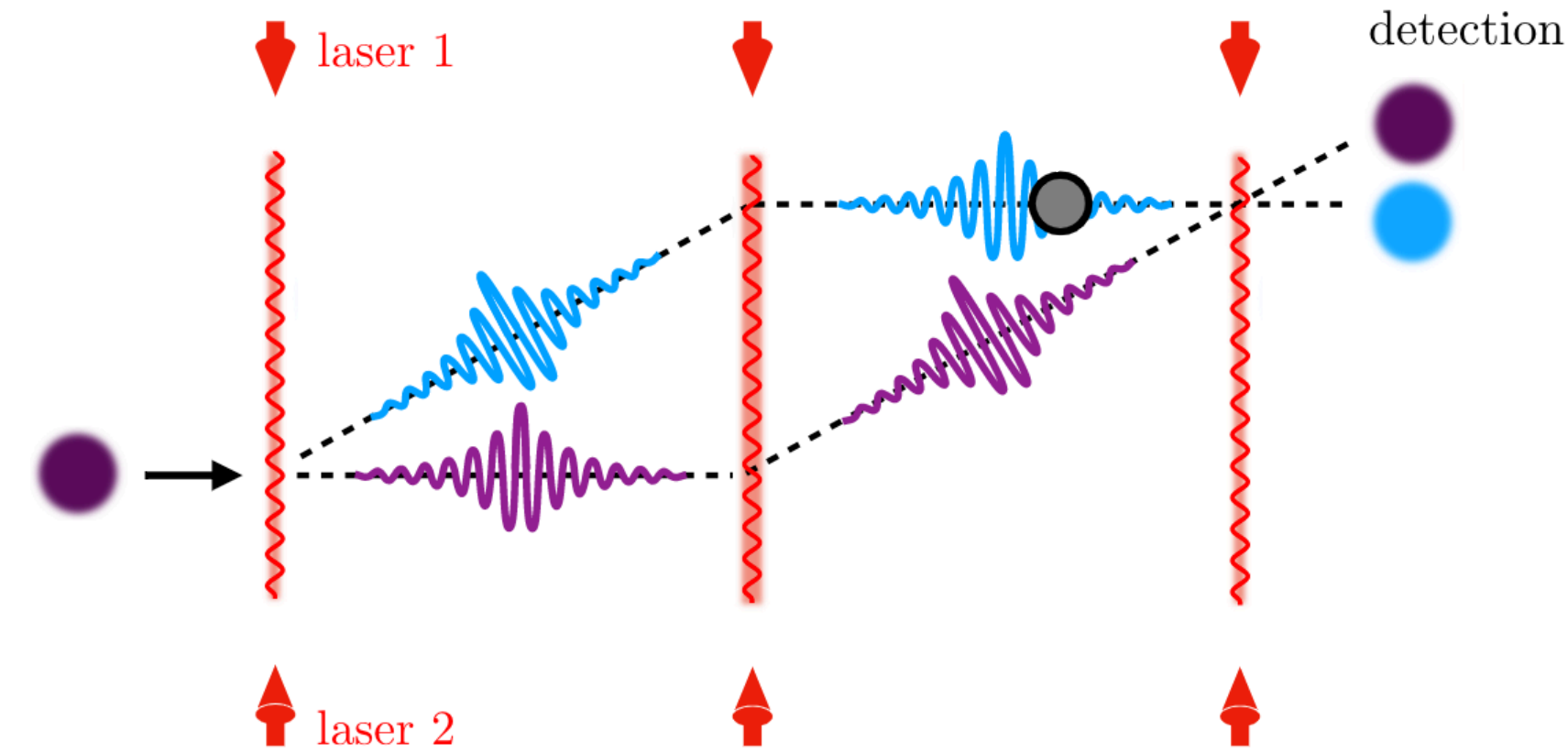


# Why gravitational wave for dark sectors?

*experiments*

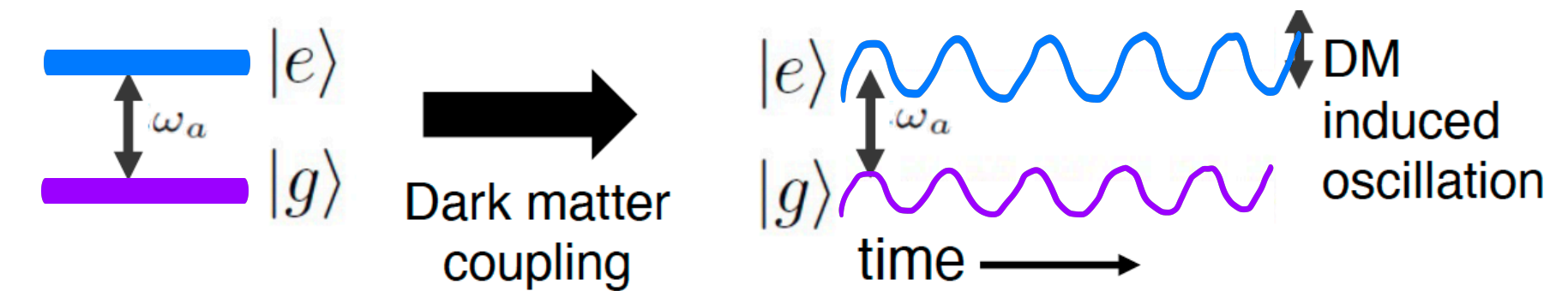
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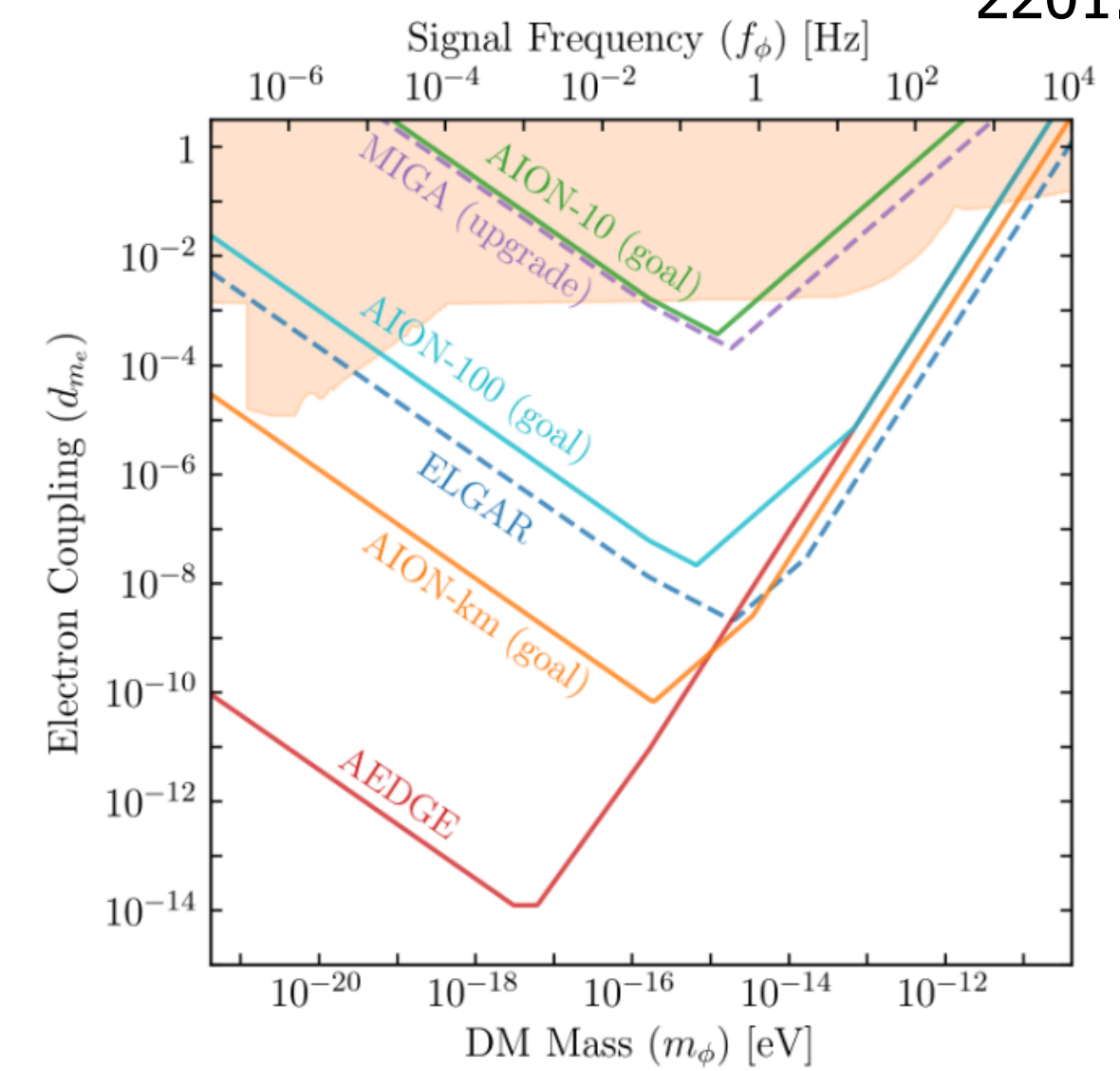
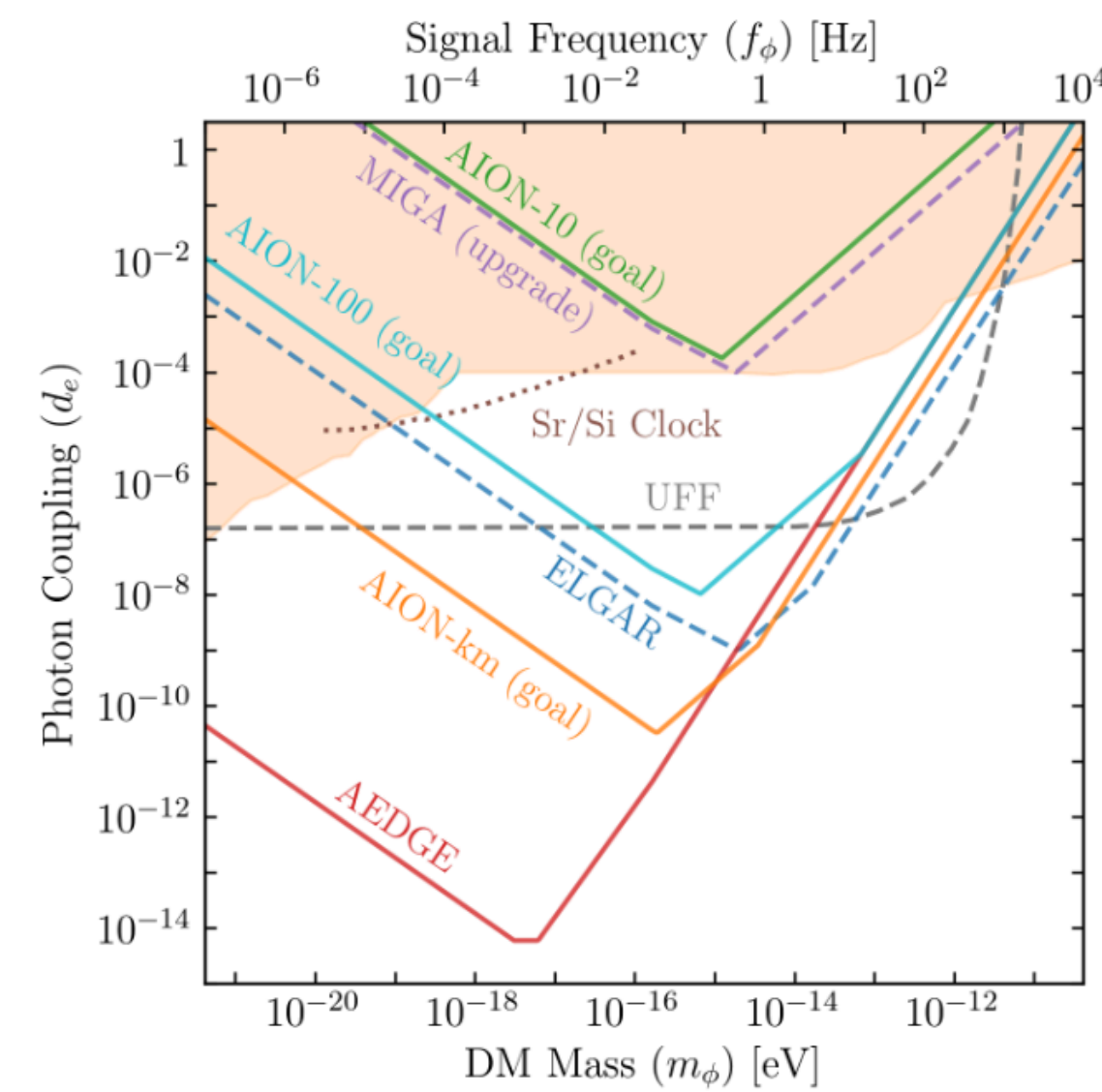
Beamsplitter      Mirror      Beamsplitter

**Long baseline experiment**



From Oliver Buchmueller's talk

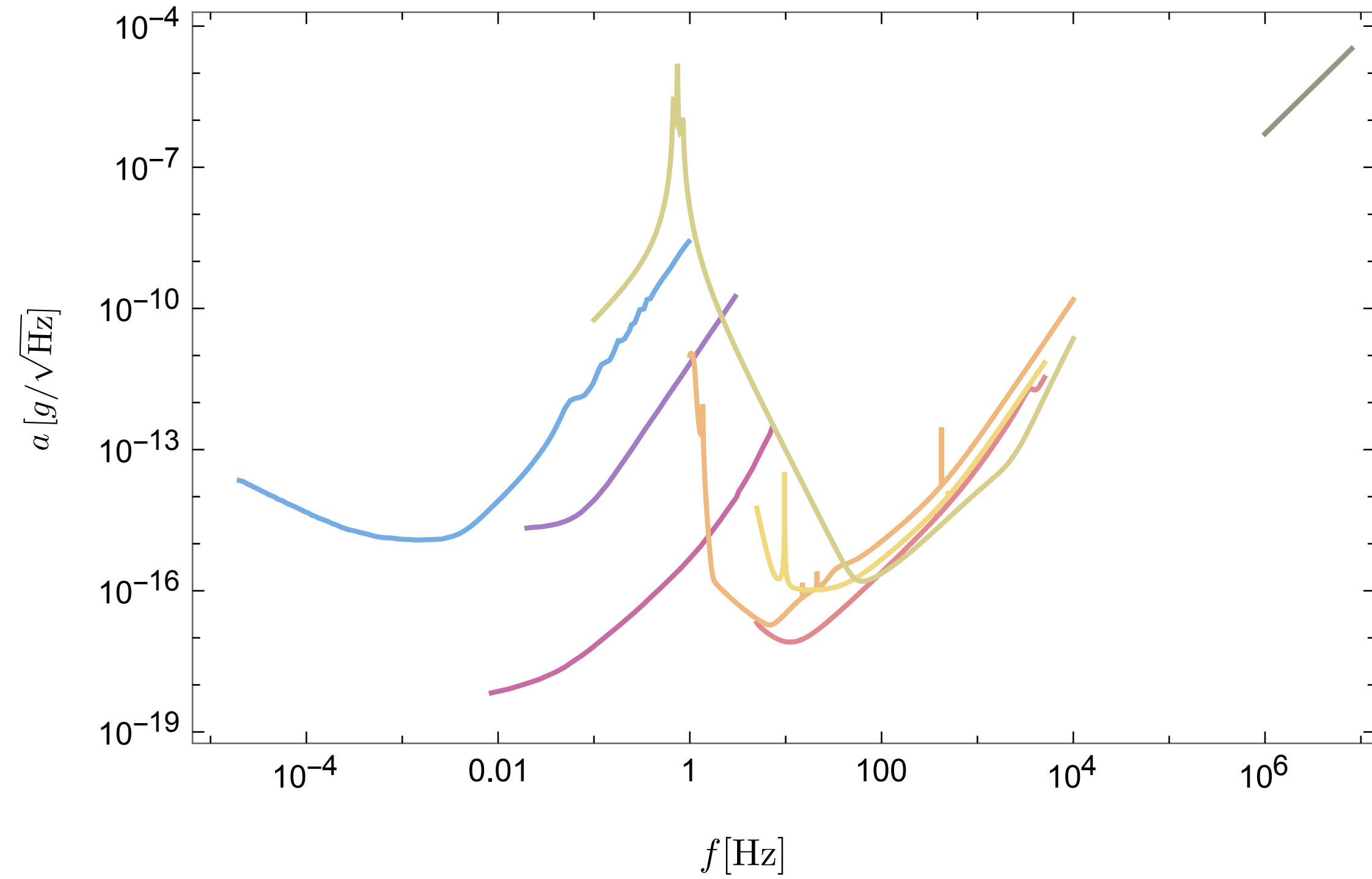
Snowmass  
2203.07250  
2201.07789



# Why gravitational wave for dark sectors?

*experiments*

**Accelerometers of ultra high sensitivity.**



- LISA
- CE
- ET
- LIGO
- NEMO
- Holometer
- MAGIS-km
- AEDGE

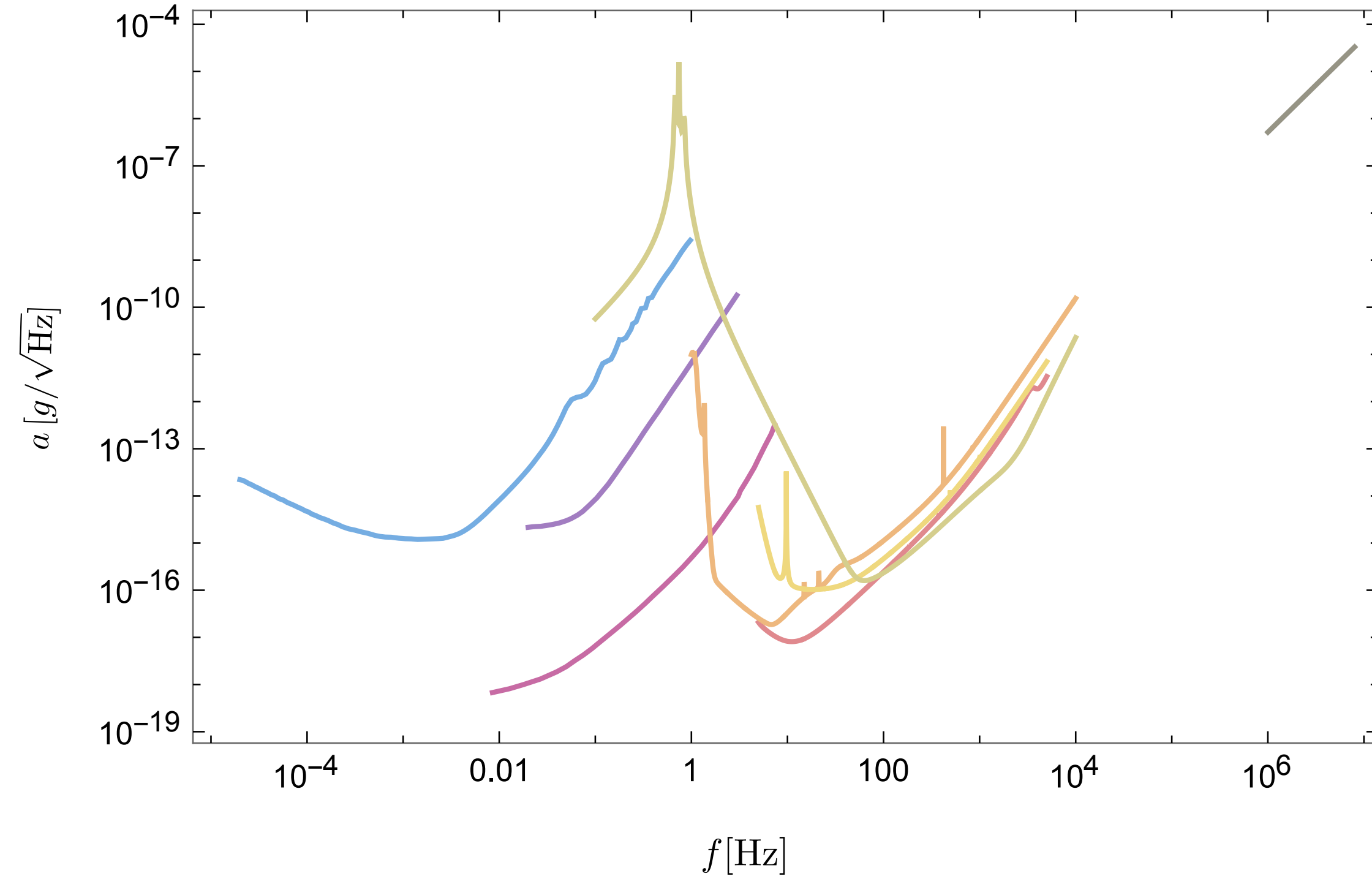
# Why gravitational wave for dark sectors?









*experiments*

**Accelerometers of ultra high sensitivity.**

$$a_{\text{DM}} \sim 10^{-18} \text{m/s}^2 \frac{G}{6.7 \times 10^{-11} \text{N m}^2/\text{kg}^2} \frac{M}{10^7 \text{kg}} \left( \frac{4.4 \times 10^7 \text{m}}{L} \right)^2$$

$$R \sim (\rho_{\text{DM}}/M)L^2 v_{\text{DM}} \sim 1/\text{year}$$



-  LISA
-  LIGO
-  MAGIS-km
-  CE
-  NEMO
-  AEDGE
-  ET
-  Holometer

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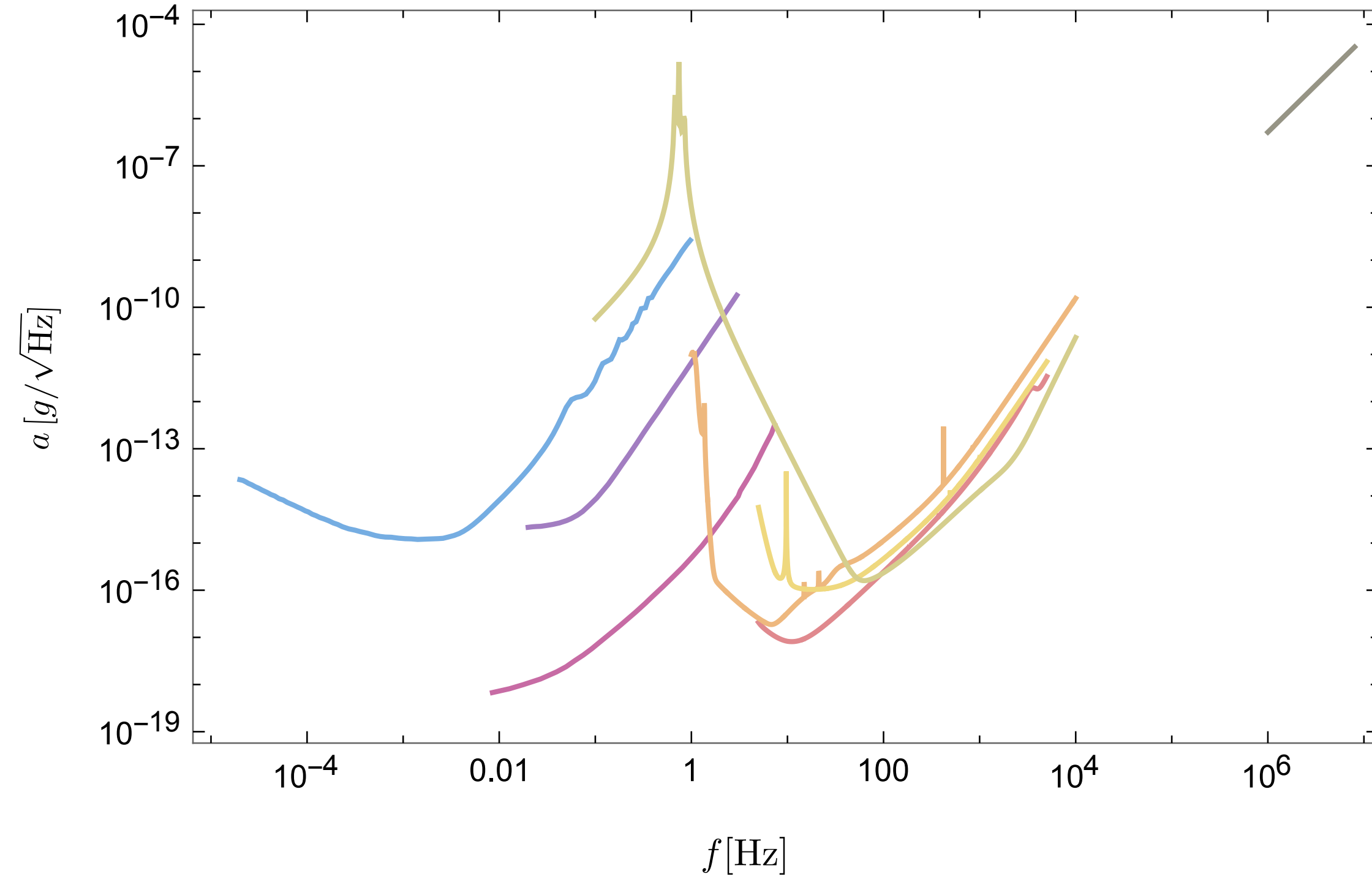
*experiments*

**Accelerometers of ultra high sensitivity.**

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$$R \sim (\rho_{\text{DM}}/M)L^2 v_{\text{DM}} \sim 1/\text{year}$$

Ultra-heavy clumpy DM can induce acceleration through pure **gravity**.



- LISA
- CE
- ET
- LIGO
- NEMO
- Holometer
- MAGIS-km
- AEDGE

# Why gravitational wave for dark sectors?

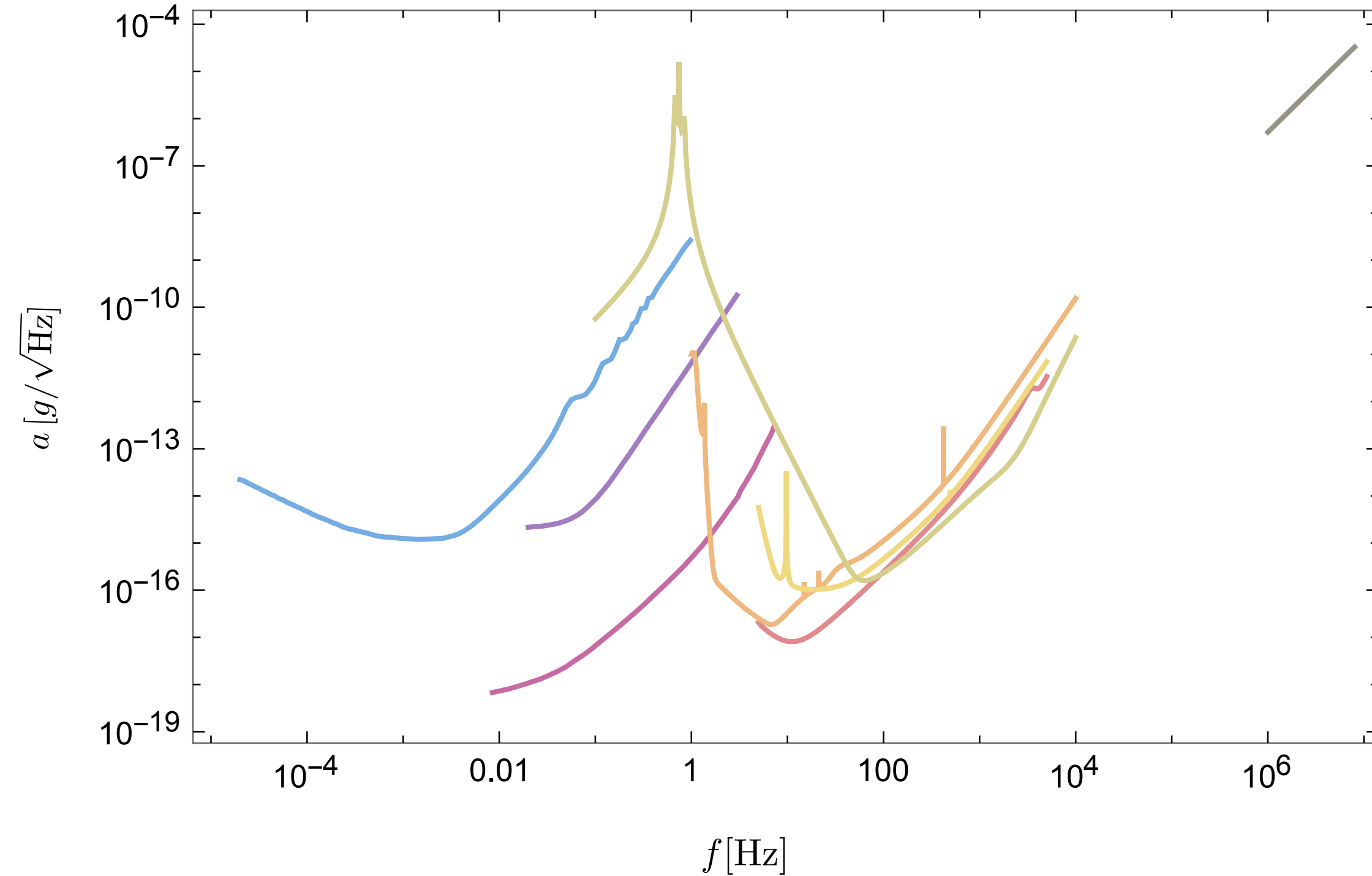
*experiments*

Accelerometers of ultra high sensitivity.

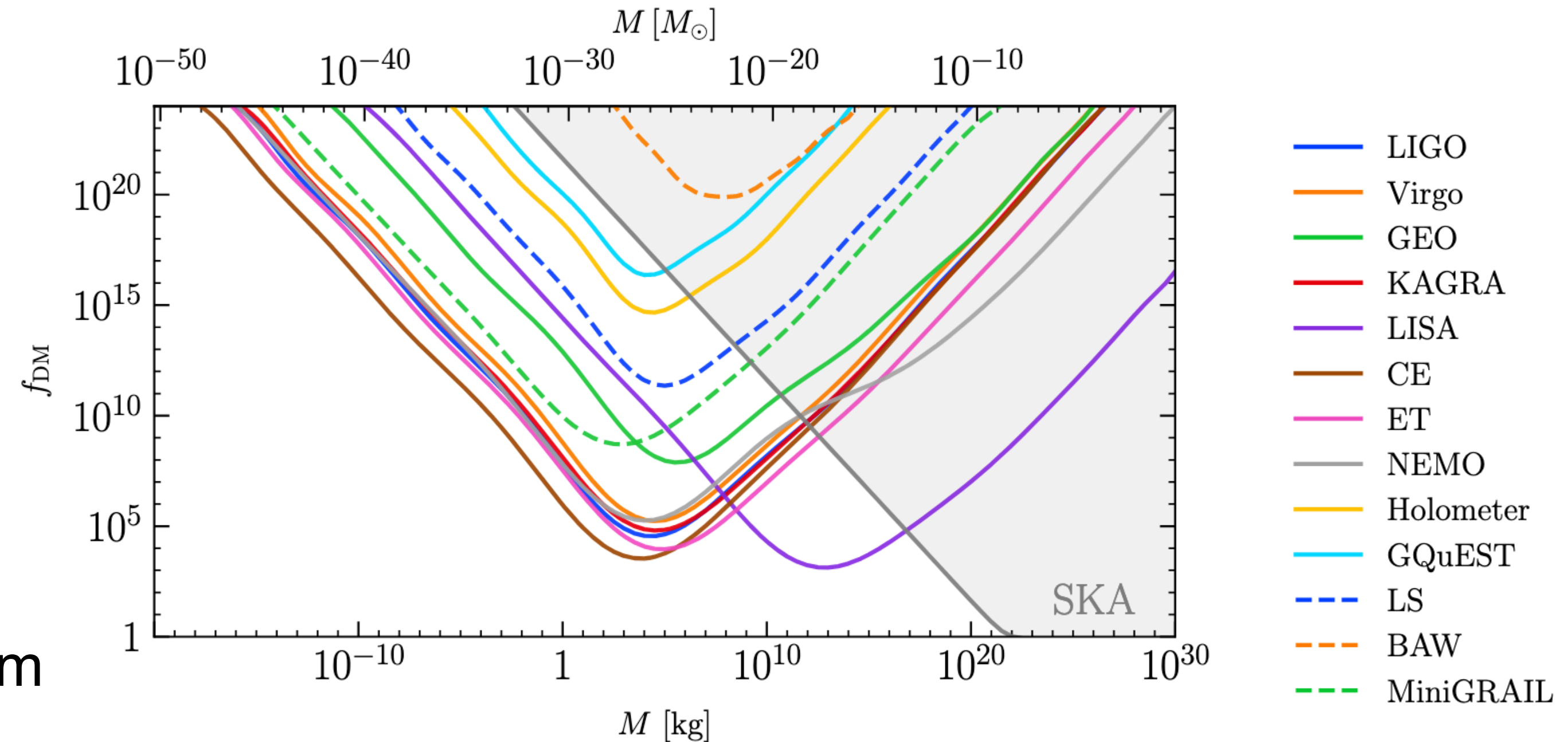
$$a_{\text{DM}} \sim 10^{-18} \text{ m/s}^2 \frac{G}{6.7 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N m}^2/\text{kg}^2} \frac{M}{10^7 \text{ kg}} \left( \frac{4.4 \times 10^7 \text{ m}}{L} \right)^2$$

$$R \sim (\rho_{\text{DM}}/M)L^2 v_{\text{DM}} \sim 1/\text{year}$$

Ultra-heavy clumpy DM can induce acceleration through pure **gravity**.



- LISA
- CE
- ET
- LIGO
- NEMO
- Holometer
- MAGIS-km
- AEDGE



Projected 90th-percentile upper limits on transiting DM fraction. One year observation time.

*Du, Lee, YW, Zurek 23'*

# Why gravitational wave for dark sectors?

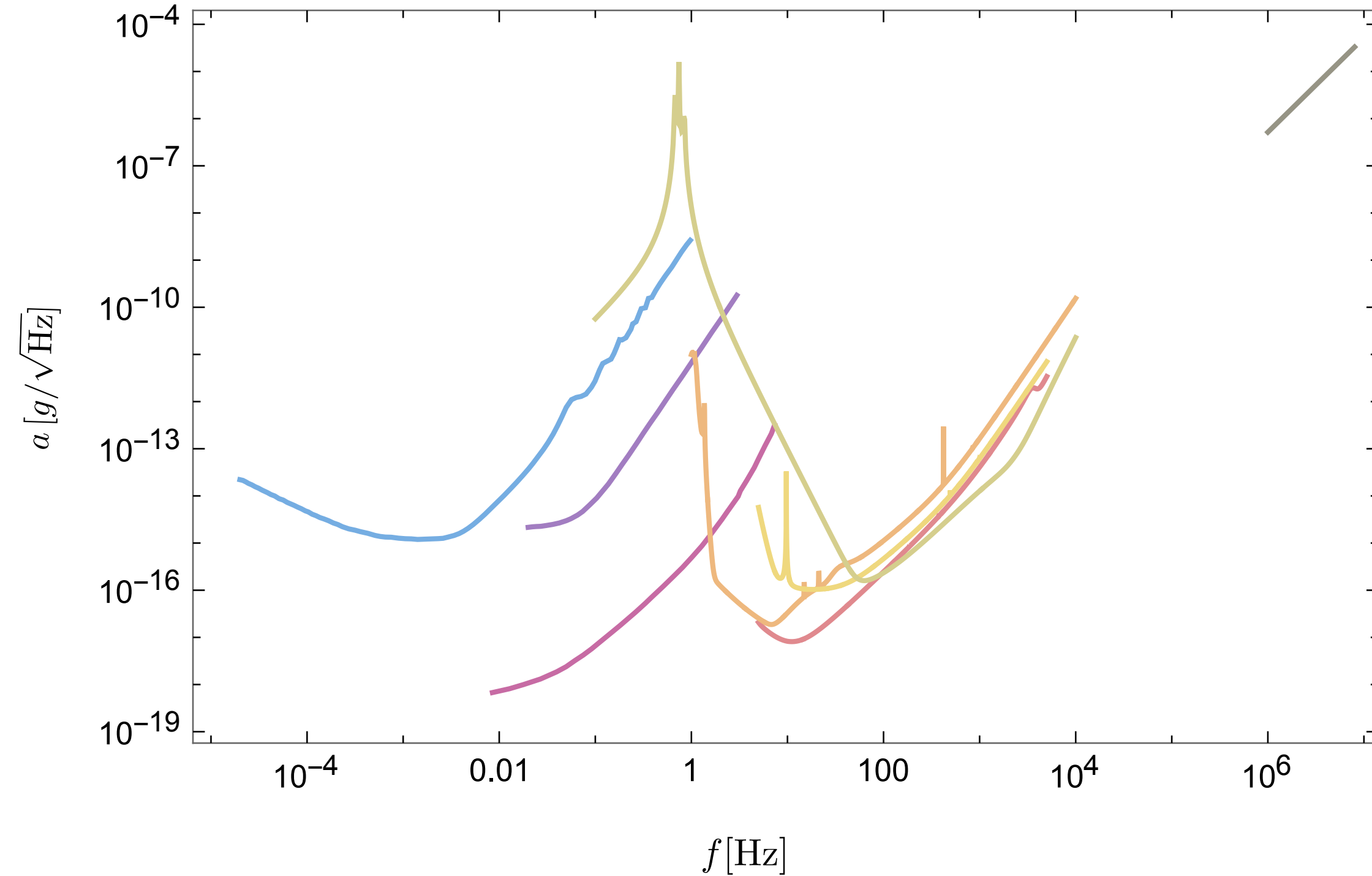
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## Accelerometers of ultra high sensitivity.

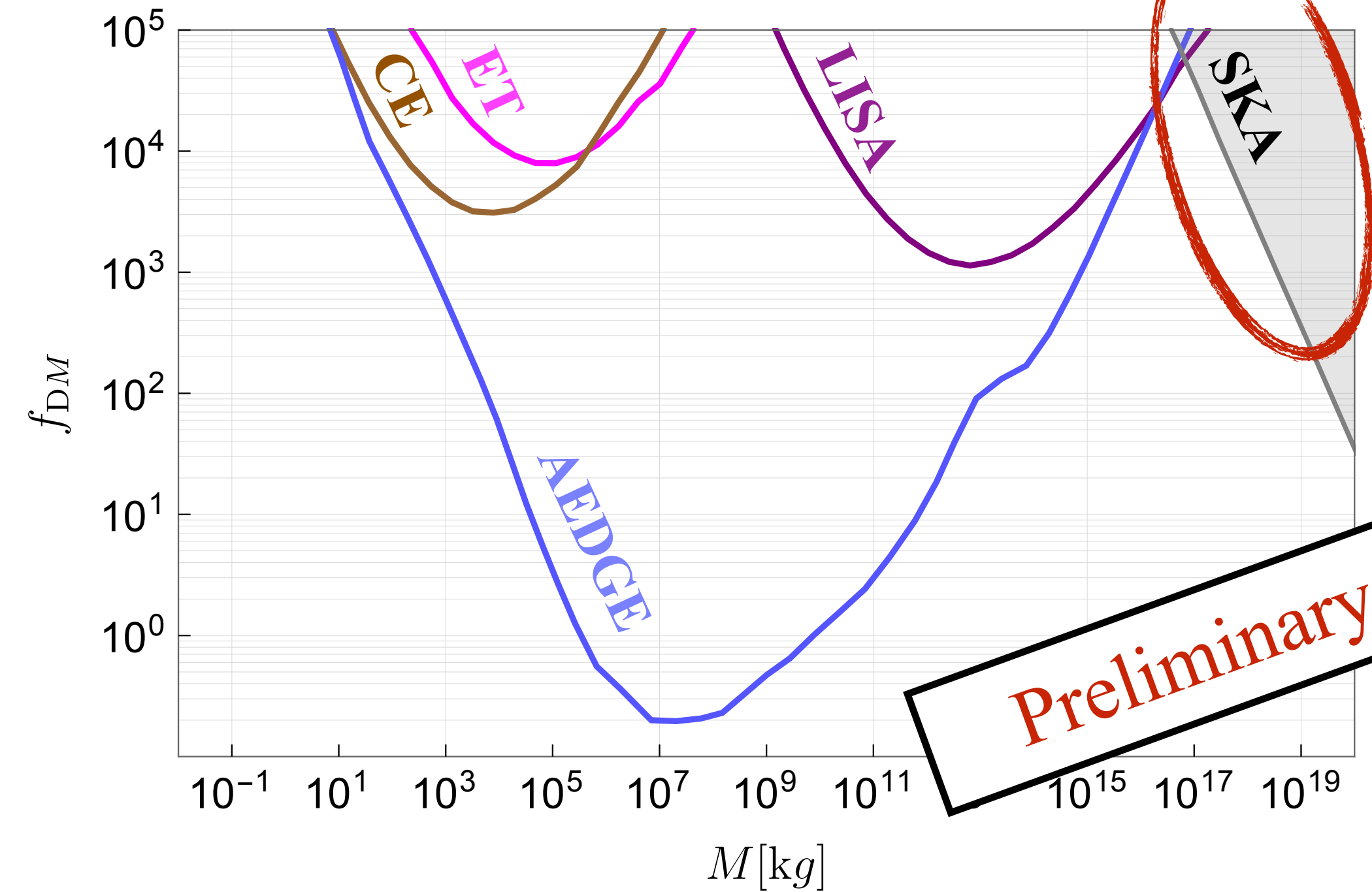
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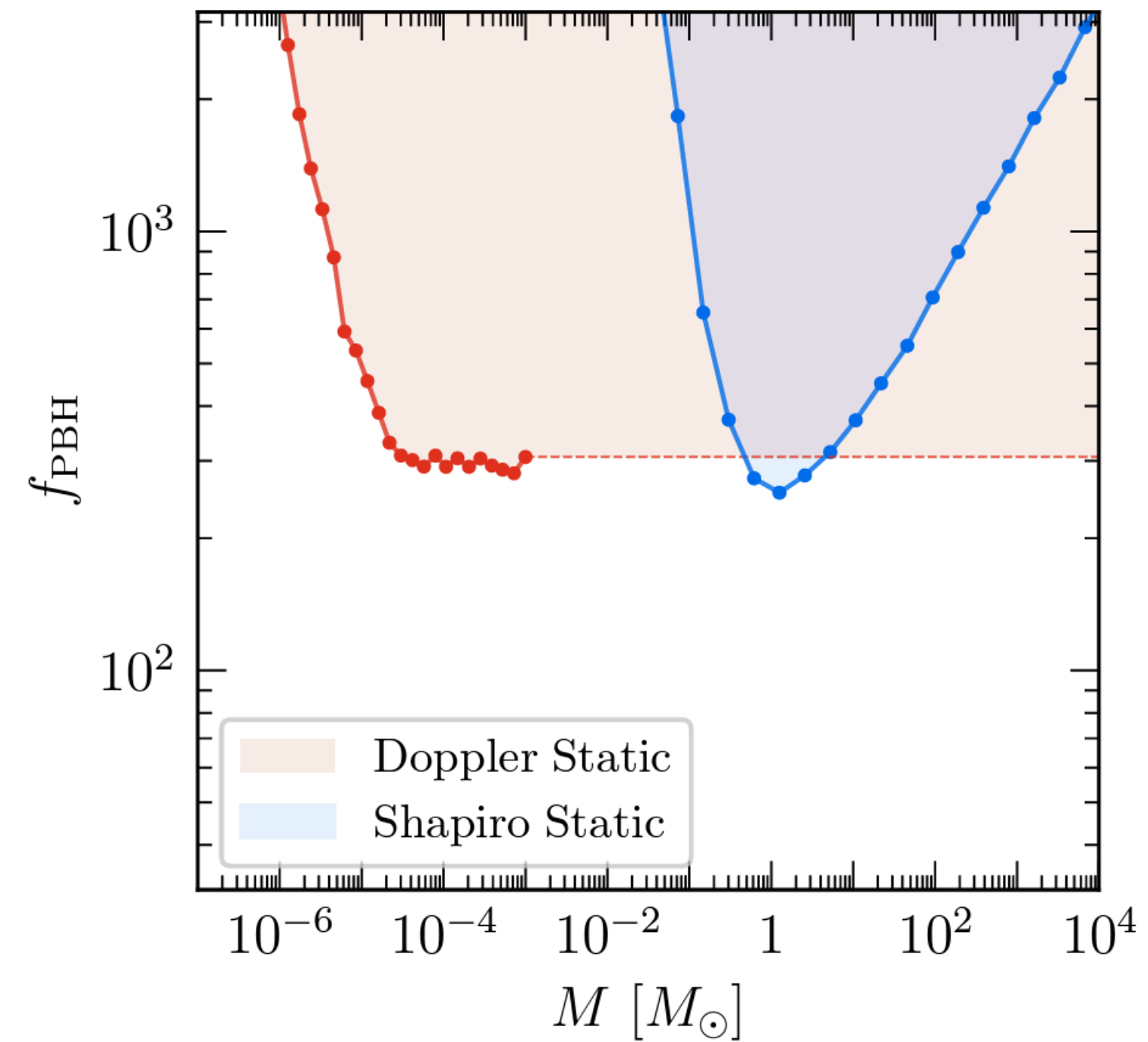
- LISA
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- AEDGE
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Preliminary

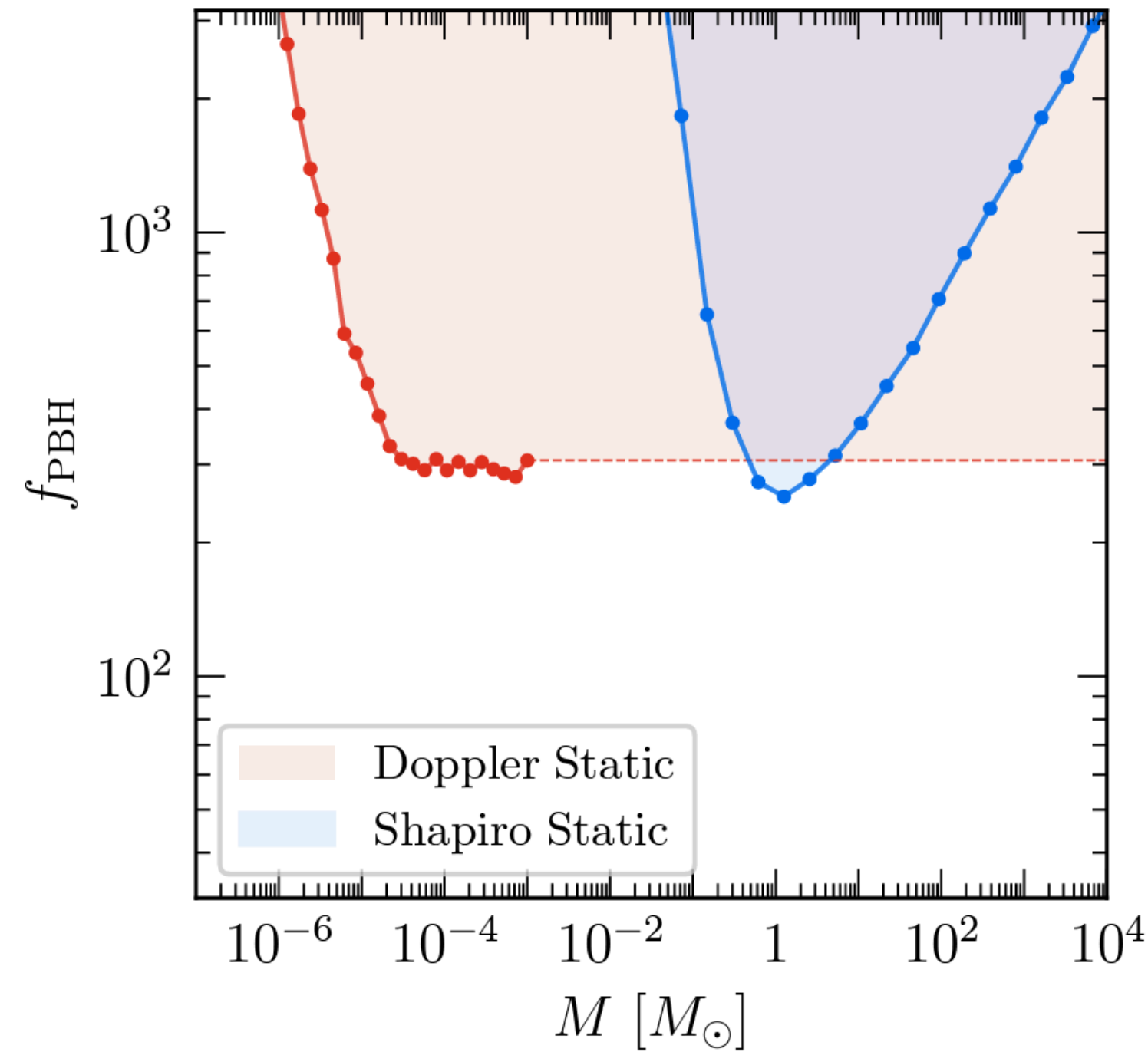
Projected 90<sup>th</sup>-percentile upper limits on transiting DM fraction.

# Laser interferometer as Dark Matter Detectors



**Figure 17.** Constraints at the 95% credible level on the local PBH abundance derived from the search for static Doppler (red shaded region) and static Shapiro signals (blue shaded region). The solid lines interpolate between the PBH masses simulated in this work, while the red dashed line shows an extrapolation of the constraints to higher masses.

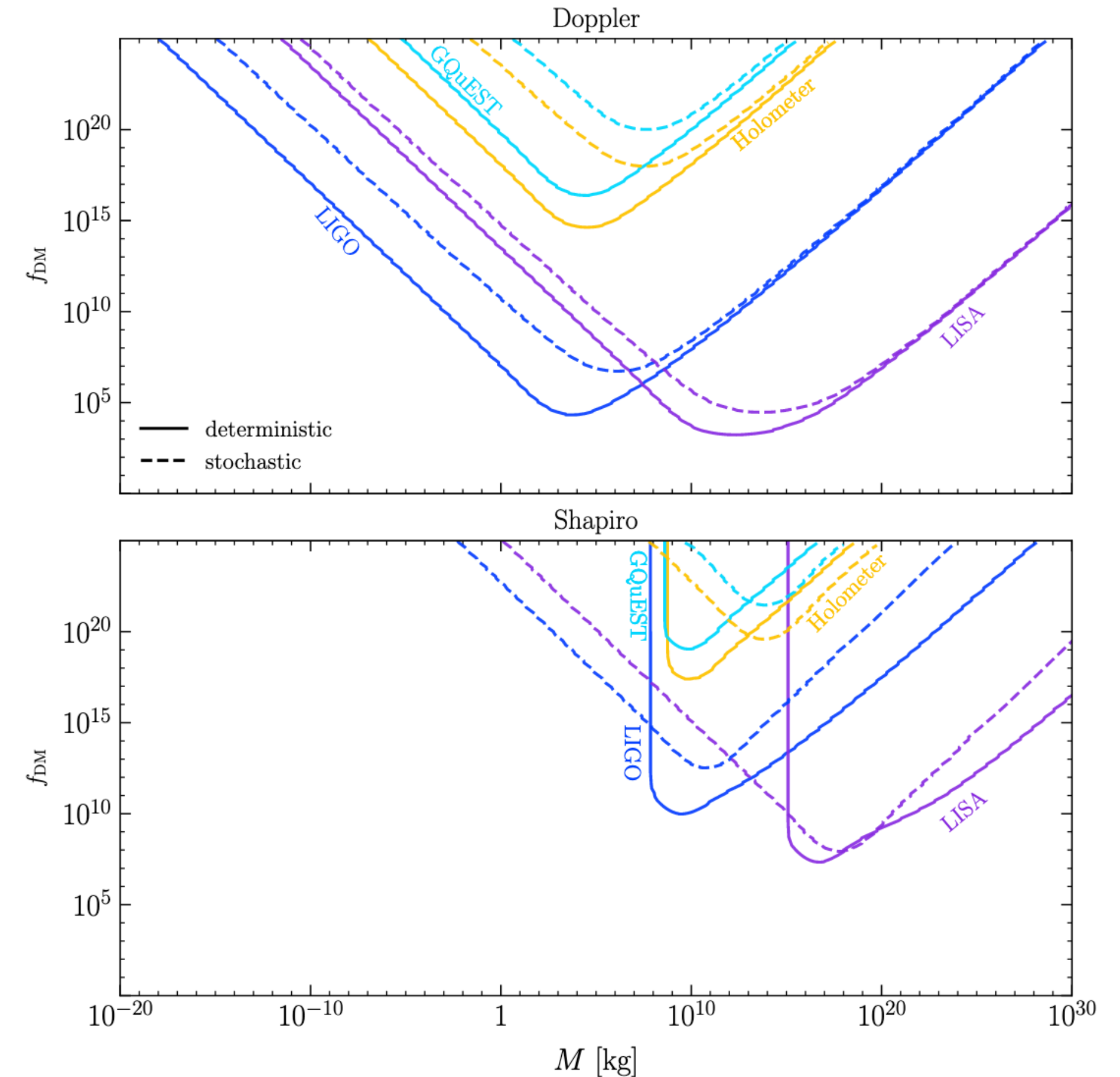
*[NANOGrav15-yearNew-PhysicsSignals]*



**Figure 17.** Constraints at the 95% credible level on the local PBH abundance derived from the search for static Doppler (red shaded region) and static Shapiro signals (blue shaded region). The solid lines interpolate between the PBH masses simulated in this work, while the red dashed line shows an extrapolation of the constraints to higher masses.

[NANOGrav15-yearNew-PhysicsSignals]

$$c\delta T_\gamma \equiv cT_\gamma - 2L = \underbrace{c\delta\tau}_{\text{Einstein}} + \underbrace{2r_M \left( t + \frac{L}{c}, L \right) - r_M(t, 0) - r_M \left( t + \frac{2L}{c}, 0 \right)}_{\text{Doppler}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \int_0^L dr \mathcal{H}^{\text{out}} \left( t + \frac{r}{c}, r \right) - \frac{1}{2} \int_L^0 dr \mathcal{H}^{\text{in}} \left( t + \frac{2L-r}{c}, r \right)}_{\text{Shapiro}}.$$

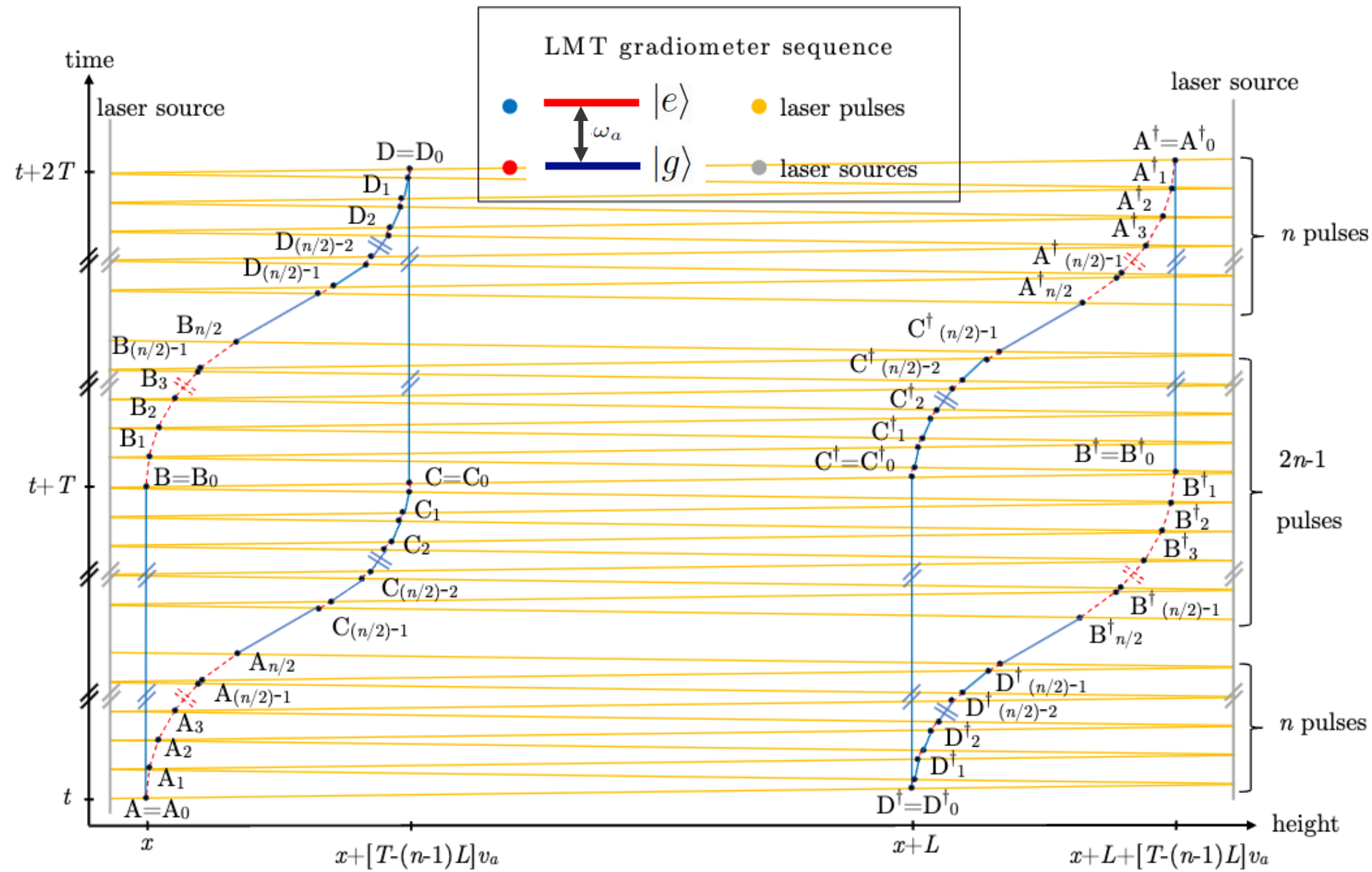


Projected 90th-percentile upper limits on DM fraction. One year observation time.



# Atom interferometer phase shift from linearized gravity and a weak potential

## Long-baseline Atom Interferometer Gradiometer



Example: a weak potential

$$ds^2 = -(1 + 2\Phi)dt^2 - 8\Phi v_i dx_i dt + (1 - 2\Phi)dx_i dx_i$$

gives

$$\tilde{\Delta}\phi_E(\omega, \mathbf{x}_0) = T^2 \mathbf{k}_{\text{eff}} \cdot \nabla \tilde{\Phi}(\omega, \mathbf{x}_0) K_1(\omega) + T^2 \omega_a \tilde{\Phi}(\omega, \mathbf{x}_0) K_2(\omega)$$

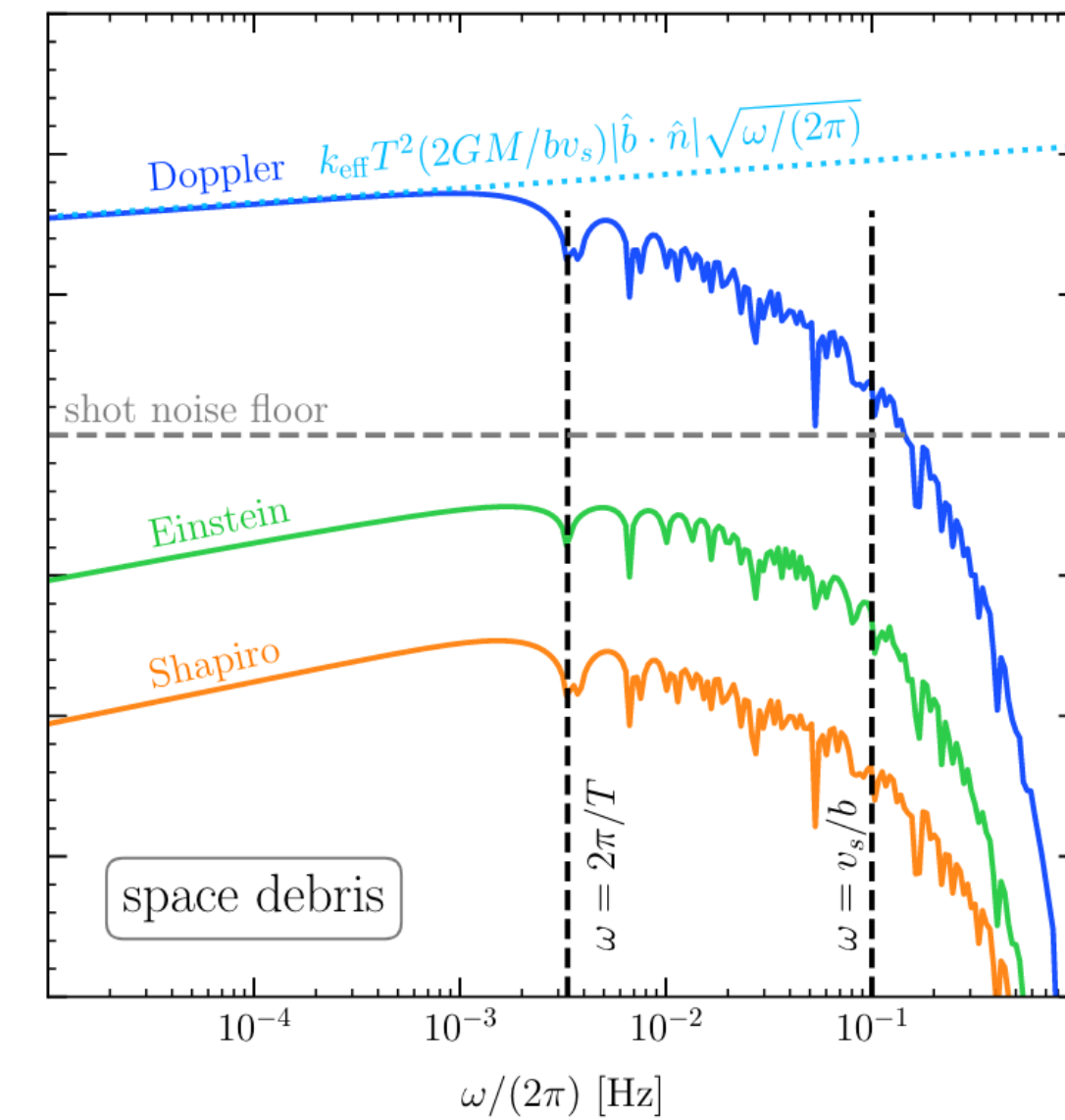
$$\tilde{\Delta}\phi_D(\omega, \mathbf{x}_0) \simeq T^2 \mathbf{k}_{\text{eff}} \cdot \nabla \tilde{\Phi}(\omega, \mathbf{x}_0) K_D(\omega)$$

$$\tilde{\Delta}\phi_S(\omega, \mathbf{x}_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_2) \simeq T^2 |\mathbf{k}_{\text{eff}}| \mathcal{F}\mathcal{T}_{t \rightarrow \omega} \left\{ \int_{|\mathbf{x}_2 - \mathbf{x}_1|/2}^{-|\mathbf{x}_2 - \mathbf{x}_1|/2} dx \Phi \left( t \pm x, \frac{\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2}{2} + x \frac{\mathbf{x}_2 - \mathbf{x}_1}{|\mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{x}_1|} \right) \right\} K_S(\omega)$$

$$\Delta\phi_{\text{tot}} = \oint m \sqrt{-g_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{dt} \frac{dx^\nu}{dt}} dt \quad [\text{Dimopoulos, Graham, Hogan, and Kasevich 1, 08'}] [\text{Roura, 20'}]$$

$$\Delta\phi_{\text{tot}} = \underbrace{-\frac{1}{2} \oint m \left( 1 + \int dt' \mathbf{v}_a \cdot \nabla \right) h_{00} dt}_{\text{Einstein delay}} + \underbrace{\omega_a \int_{|e\rangle} dt}_{\text{Doppler shift, Shapiro delay}} + \mathcal{O}(h^2 v_a, h v_a^2)$$

**Einstein delay**   **Doppler shift, Shapiro delay**



Different contributions to the phase shift of a benchmark space debris.

- \* Gravitational wave astrophysics is the next venue for dark matter indirect detection
- \* Rich sources for gravitational wave signatures from the dark sectors
- \* Gravitational wave experiments can at the same time serve as detectors with extreme sensitivity as dark matter direct detection;
- \* Many opportunities, let's keep the program rolling

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**Thank you!**