# **Probing Axion-U(1) Inflation: Gravitational Waves and Primordial Black Hole Formation**

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# **Outline**

- **Introduction to key epochs in the early Universe**
- **Observational status of axion inflation**
- **Axion-U(1) inflation and results from the previous studies**
- **Results from the lattice simulations**
- **Summary**

#### **A brief history of the Universe**



LBNL Particle Data Group, 2014

#### **Probes for Early Universe**

- **via photons**
	- **CMB anisotropies, spectral distortions**
- **via neutrinos**
- **via gravitational waves**
	- **by direct detections of GWs**
	- **by constraints on extra degrees of freedom from CMB**

#### **Hubble Horizon at key epochs**



#### **Gravitational waves**



https://lisa.nasa.gov/

#### **Gravitational waves from Binary mass system**

$$
\Box h_{ij} = 16\pi G T_{ij}
$$
  

$$
h_{ij} = 2\frac{G}{d} \Lambda_{ij}^{kl} \ddot{I}_{kl}, \quad I_{kl} = \int d^3 y (y_k y_l - \frac{1}{3} y^2 \delta_{kl}) T_{00}
$$

#### **Parameters**

**(1) Distance from the observer (d)**

- $(2)$  Masses $(M_1$  and  $M_2)$
- **(3) Orbital frequency (** )
- **(4) Distance between the sources (r)**

$$
h_{ij} \sim \frac{G}{d} \mu r^2 \omega^2 \cos(2\omega t)
$$
  

$$
h_{ij} \sim 10^{-21} \left(\frac{M}{10M_\odot}\right)^{5/3} \left(\frac{\omega}{100Hz}\right)^{2/3} \frac{10 \text{Mpc}}{d}
$$



LIGO Scientific Collaboration and Virgo Collaboration Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 061102

# **Gravitational waves in cosmology**

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#### **Stochastic GW background**

**Sourced by anisotropic stress** 

$$
h_{ij}'' + \frac{2a'}{a}h_{ij}' + k^2h_{ij} = 16\pi Ga^2\overline{T}_{ij}
$$

$$
\Omega_{GW} \equiv \frac{\rho_{GW}}{\rho_c} = \frac{1}{32\pi G\rho_c} \frac{\langle h_{ij}'h^{\prime ij}\rangle}{a^2} = \frac{\Omega_r}{12H^2} \frac{\langle h_{ij}'h^{\prime ij}\rangle}{a^2}
$$

- **Relevant Parameters**
	- **energy budget of the source**
	- **peak of the source**
	- **Hubble scale**

$$
\Omega_{GW} \propto \Omega_r \left(\frac{\rho_s}{\rho_r}\right)^2 \left(\frac{H}{k_p}\right)^2
$$

 $f \sim \frac{H}{k_n} \frac{T}{10^5 GeV}$ mHz,  $h \sim \frac{10^{-21}}{f \text{inmHz}} \sqrt{\Omega_{GW}}$ 

# **Axion-U(1) Inflation**

- **Flatness of the potential is protected due to shift symmetry**
- **First model suggested by the name Natural Inflation**

**K. Freese, J. A. Frieman and A. V. Olinto, PRL 1990**

$$
V(\phi) = \Lambda^4 \left( 1 + \cos \left( \frac{\phi}{f} \right) \right)
$$

● **Various scenarios has been suggested to make it compatible with the CMB observations**

$$
S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{m_{\rm pl}^2}{16\pi} R - \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi - V(\phi) - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\alpha}{4f} \phi F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \right]
$$



**Planck results 2018**

**Anber and Sorbo 2009**

#### **Axion-U(1) Inflation : dynamics**

By neglecting the inhomogeneity of axion

$$
\left(\partial_{\eta}^{2} + k^{2} \mp 2\xi(\mathcal{H}\eta)\frac{k}{\eta}\right)A_{k}^{\pm} = 0, \quad \text{where} \quad \xi = -\frac{\alpha}{2f} \frac{\phi'}{\mathcal{H}}
$$

$$
A_k^+ \simeq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2k}} \left(\frac{k}{2\xi aH}\right)^{1/4} e^{\pi\xi - 2\sqrt{2\xi k/(aH)}},
$$

#### **Axion-U(1) Inflation : dynamics**



**K. Alam, K. Dutta and N. Jamana 2024**

#### **Axion-U(1) Inflation : Phenomenology**



#### **Constraints on High frequency GWs from radio telescopes**



 $\Omega_{GW} = \frac{7}{8} \left(\frac{4}{11}\right)^{4/3} \Delta N_{eff} \Omega_{\gamma}$  $\Omega_{GW} h^2 < 1.2 \times 10^{-6}$ 

**V. Domcke, C. G. Cely, PRL 2021**

#### **Constraints on the coupling between axion and gauge field**



#### **Lattice simulations of Axion-U(1) Inflation**

**● We use pencil code to solve the axion-U(1) setup. Equations are begin solved**

$$
\phi'' + 2\mathcal{H}\phi' - \nabla^2\phi + a^2\frac{dV}{d\phi} = \frac{\alpha}{f}\frac{1}{a^2}\mathbf{E}\cdot\mathbf{B},
$$
  

$$
\mathbf{A}'' - \nabla A'_0 - \nabla^2\mathbf{A} + \nabla(\nabla\cdot\mathbf{A}) - \frac{\alpha}{f}(\phi'\mathbf{B} + \nabla\phi \times \mathbf{E}) = 0,
$$

**Along with the FLRW background.**

#### **Axion-U(1) Inflation : dynamics from lattice simulations**



**RS, AB, KS, AV, Arxiv 2411.04854**

**AB - Axel Brandenburg KS – Kandaswamy Subramanian AV - Alex Vikman**

**D. G. Figueroa, J. Lizarraga, A. Urio and J. Urrestilla, PRL 2023**

#### **Energy budget of gauge field and produced GWs**



**RS, AB, KS, AV, Arxiv 2411.04854**

#### **PDF of the axion fluctuations**



**RS, AB, KS, AV, Arxiv 2411.04854**

**A. Caravano, E. Komatsu, K. D. Lozanov and J. Weller, PRD 2022**

#### **Extended duration of inflation due to backreaction**



**D. G. Figueroa, J. Lizarraga, Nicolas Loayza, A. Urio and J. Urrestilla, Arxiv: 2411.16368**

### **Summary**

- **● Axion-U(1) inflation exhibits rich phenomenology and this can be used to constrain the coupling between axion and gauge field.**
- **● In the backreaction dominated regime, the PDF of axion fluctuations have less tails compared to the one considered in the analytical study. Hence the bounds obtained from PBH evaporation will be relaxed.**
- **● The bounds obtained from constraints High frequency gravitational may also be relaxed.**
- **● Need to Address: the effect of charged fields**

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**Thank you**