



Graviton-to -photon conversion effect in magnetized relativistic plasma

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Plan

- Introduction
- Graviton-to-photon conversion
- GPh conversion in plasmas
- Application to astrophysical sources
- Conclusion

MOTIVATION

- **LIGO binary BH coalescences – major breakthrough in 21 century astrophysics**
- Poor localization (even with GW detector network)
- Search for electromagnetic counterparts
- Possible GRB detection for GW 150914?
- Fundamental process for EM counterparts

RINGDOWN

INSPIRAL

MERGER

Energy release in a BH+BH coalescence:

$$E_N = (m_1 + m_2)c^2 - \frac{Gm_1m_2}{2r}$$

$$r_{\text{insp}} \approx \frac{5G(m_1 + m_2)}{c^2} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Delta E_{\text{GW},\text{insp}} \approx \frac{1}{10} \frac{m_1m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \approx 5\% mc^2 \sim 2.5\% Mc^2$$

$$\Delta E_{\text{GW},\text{total}} = \Delta E_{\text{GW},\text{insp}} + \Delta E_{\text{GW},\text{coal}} + \Delta E_{\text{GW},\text{ringd}} \approx 5\% Mc^2$$

$$\Delta E_{\text{GW},\text{total}} = (M_i^{\text{source}} - M_f^{\text{source}})c^2 = 3_{-0.5}^{+0.5} M_{\odot} c^2$$

How much of this huge energy could be converted into EM radiation?

Graviton-to-photon conversion: a long story...

M.E. Gertsenshtein, *Wave resonance of light and gravitational waves*, *Sov. Phys. JETP* **14** (1962) 84 [*Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz.* 41 (1962) 113].

D. Fargion, *Prompt and delayed radio bangs at kilohertz by SN1987A: a test for gravitation-photon conversion*, *Grav. Cosmol.* **1** (1995) 301 [[astro-ph/9604047](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].

G. Raffelt and L. Stodolsky, *Mixing of the photon with low mass particles*, *Phys. Rev. D* **37** (1988) 1237 [[INSPIRE](#)].

A.D. Dolgov and D. Ejlli, *Conversion of relic gravitational waves into photons in cosmological magnetic fields*, *JCAP* **12** (2012) 003 [[arXiv:1211.0500](#)] [[INSPIRE](#)].

Graviton to photon conversion in magnetic field

$$(\omega^2 - k^2)h_\lambda(\mathbf{k}) = \kappa k A_\lambda(\mathbf{k}) B_T, \quad (1)$$

$$(\omega^2 - k^2 - m^2)A_\lambda(\mathbf{k}) = \kappa k h_\lambda(\mathbf{k}) B_T, \quad (2)$$

$A_\lambda(\mathbf{k})$ -- EM , $h_\lambda(\mathbf{k})$ -- GW,

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \tilde{h}_{\mu\nu}, \quad h_j = \tilde{h}_j / \kappa \quad (3)$$

$$\kappa^2 = 16\pi G = 16\pi / m_{Pl}^2$$

B_T -- transversal magnetic field

$$B_c = m_e^2 / e \quad \text{-- Schwinger field}$$

$$\Omega^2 = n_e e^2 / m_e \quad \text{-- Plasma frequency}$$

$$m^2 = \Omega^2 - \frac{2\alpha C \omega^2}{45\pi} \left(\frac{B}{B_c} \right)^2 \approx \Omega^2,$$

-- effective photon mass with
Heisenberg-Euler correction and plasma
frequency

- Eigenvalues:

$$k_1 = \pm\omega\sqrt{1+\zeta^2}, \quad k_2 = \pm im\sqrt{(1-\zeta^2)(1-\eta^2)},$$

$$\zeta^2 = (\kappa B)^2/m^2 \ll 1, \quad \eta^2 = \omega^2/m^2$$

- Eigenvectors:

$$A_1 = \eta\zeta h_1,$$

Creation of photons by gravitons in magnetic field

$$h_2 = i\zeta A_2$$

Creation of gravitons by photons

Purely imaginary → EM damping in plasma

- Solution A_1 means permanent creation of photons when GW passes through magnetized plasma (Dolgov, Ejili'12)

Conversion coefficient

- Eigenfunctions of system (1), (2)

$$A_j = \frac{\kappa B \omega}{\omega^2 (1 - \epsilon) - \Omega_e^2} h_j \approx \frac{\kappa B \omega a_e}{\Omega_e} h_j \quad (4)$$

ϵ -- dielectric permeability, $a_e^2 = \frac{T_e}{e^2 n_e}$ -- Debye radius

- Take imaginary part of ϵ to find the GW-to-EM conversion coefficient

$$K \equiv \frac{\rho_\gamma}{\rho_{GW}} = \left(\frac{\kappa B \omega a_e}{\Omega_e} \right)^2 \quad (5)$$

1) Non-relativistic plasma (Dolgov, Postnov '17)

$n_e = 0.1 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ - ISM density, $T_e = 1 \text{ eV}$

$a_e \approx 10^3 \text{ cm}$, $\Omega_e = 3 \times 10^4 \text{ rad/s}$, $\omega = 2 \times 10^3 \text{ rad/s}$

$$K \approx 10^{-46} \left(\frac{\omega}{\Omega_e} \right)^2 \left(\frac{a_e}{1 \text{ cm}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{B}{1 \text{ G}} \right)^2 \quad (6)$$

Maximum possible effect during BH-BH coalescence in ISM:

$$B^2/(8\pi) = \epsilon_B \rho \quad T = \epsilon_T m_e \quad a_e^2 \sim \epsilon_T (m_e m_p)/(4\pi\alpha\rho) = \epsilon_T/\Omega^2$$

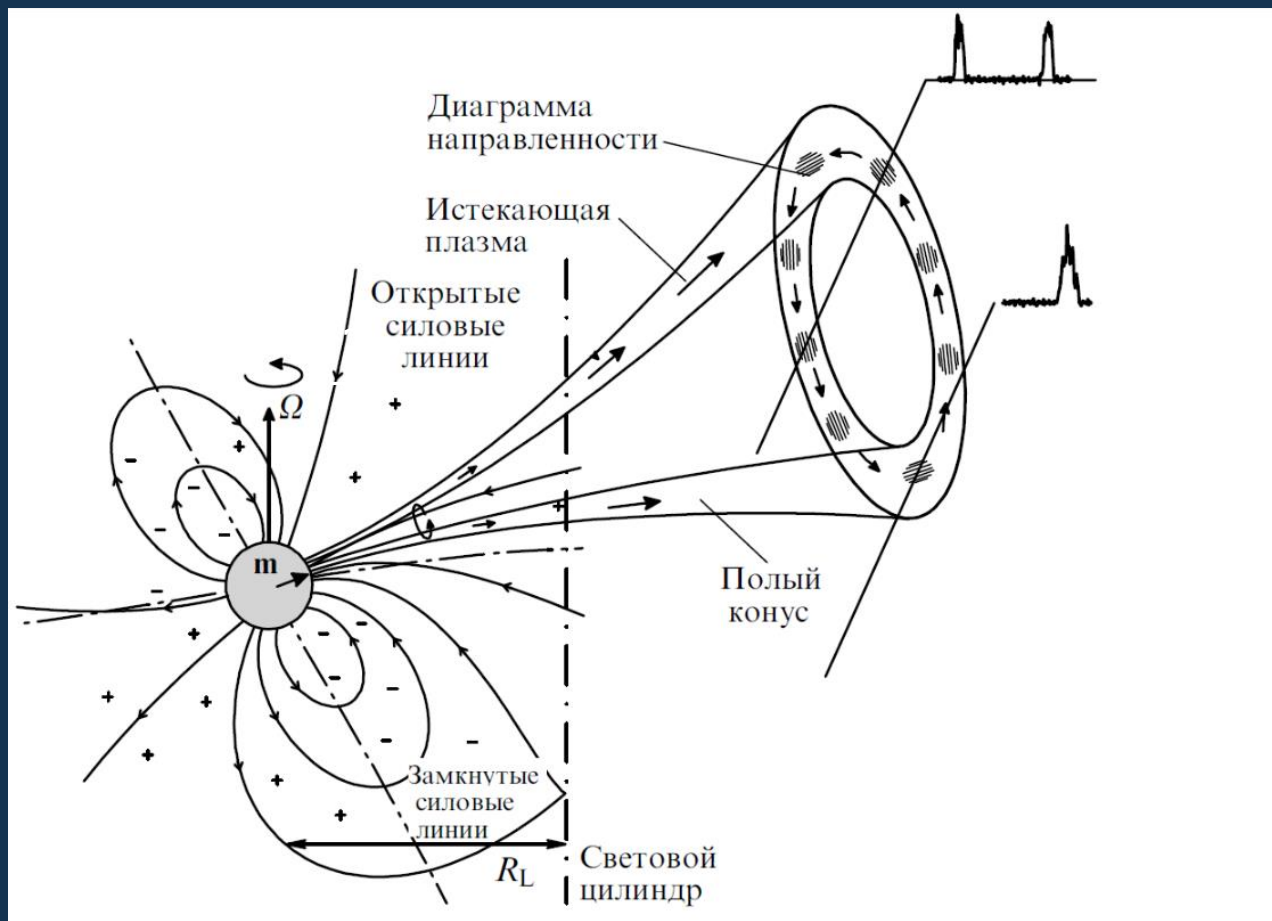
$$K \leq \epsilon_B \epsilon_T \frac{32\pi}{\alpha} \left(\frac{\omega}{\Omega} \right)^2 \left(\frac{m_e}{m_p} \right) \left(\frac{m_p}{m_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^2 \sim 10^{-37} \epsilon_B \epsilon_T \ll 1$$

$$\left(\frac{\omega}{\Omega} \right)^2 \simeq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{m_{\text{Pl}}}{M} \right)^2 \frac{m_{\text{Pl}}^2 (m_p m_e)}{4\pi\alpha\rho} \approx \left(\frac{3M_\odot}{M} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\rho}{10^{-24} \text{ g cm}^{-3}} \right)^{-1}$$

2) Relativistic lepton plasma: the case of BH+NS coalescences

$$R_l = \frac{c}{\omega_{NS}} - \text{light cylinder}$$

ω_{NS} – pulsar spin frequency



Relativistic plasma creation in pulsars

Dielectric permeability of collisional plasma

$$\bullet \epsilon_T - 1 = -\frac{1}{(ka_e)^2} - \frac{1}{(ka_i)^2} + i \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\Omega_e^2}{\omega k a_e} \quad (9)$$

$$\bullet \epsilon_T^R - 1 = \frac{2\pi e^2 n_e}{\omega(\omega + iv)} \left\{ 1 + \left[\frac{(\omega + iv)^2}{k^2} - 1 \right] \left(1 - \frac{\omega + iv}{2k} \ln \frac{\omega + iv + k}{\omega + iv - k} \right) \right\} \quad (15)$$

$$\bullet \text{Im } \epsilon_T^R = \frac{3}{4} \frac{\Omega_{rel}^3}{\omega^4} \left(\Omega_{rel} \text{Arg} \left(1 - \frac{2i\omega}{\Omega_{rel}} \right) + 2\omega \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{\Omega_{rel}^2 + 4\omega^2}{\Omega_{rel}^2} \right) \right) \quad (16)$$

$$\left(\text{If } \frac{2\omega}{\Omega_{rel}} \ll 1 \right)$$

Insert imaginary part of dielectric permeability of relativistic plasma (16) into Eq. (4):

$$A_j \approx \frac{\kappa B \omega}{\omega^2 \left(\frac{\Omega_{rel}}{\omega} \right) - \Omega_{rel}^2} h_j = \frac{\kappa B \omega}{\Omega_{rel}^2 \left(\frac{\omega}{\Omega_{rel}} - 1 \right)} h_j \approx \frac{\kappa B \omega}{\Omega_{rel}^2} h_j \quad \left(\frac{2\omega}{\Omega_{rel}} \ll 1 \right).$$

Relativistic vs non-relativistic plasma

$$K_{nr} = \left(\frac{\kappa B \omega a_e}{\Omega_e} \right)^2$$

$$K_{ur} = \left(\frac{\kappa B \omega}{\Omega_{rel}^2} \right)^2$$

Transition to non-relativistic case: $\gamma \rightarrow 1$

$$\frac{\kappa B \omega}{\Omega_{rel}^2} = \frac{\kappa B \omega}{\Omega_{rel} \Omega_{rel}} = \kappa B \omega \left(\frac{T_e}{n_e e^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\frac{T_e}{n_e e^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \kappa B \omega \left(\frac{\gamma m_e}{n_e e^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\frac{T_e}{n_e e^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{\kappa B \omega a_e}{\Omega_e}$$

Conversion coefficient in relativistic plasma

$$B = \frac{B_0 R_0^3}{R_l^3} \approx 1 \text{ G} \left(\frac{P}{1 \text{ s}} \right)^{-3} \left(\frac{B_0}{10^{12} \text{ G}} \right) - \text{magnetic field at the l. c. (wave-zone)}$$

$$n_{e \text{ rel}} = \lambda n_{GJ}, \lambda - \text{plasma multiplicity,}$$

$$n_{GJ} = (\Omega B) / 2\pi e - \text{Goldreich-Julian density}$$

$$K_{rel} = \left(\frac{\kappa B \omega}{\Omega_{rel}^2} \right)^2 \approx 10^{-35} \left(\frac{\omega}{100 \text{ rad/s}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{P}{1 \text{ s}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\lambda}{10^5} \right)^{-2} \left(\frac{\gamma}{10^5} \right)^2 \quad (8)$$

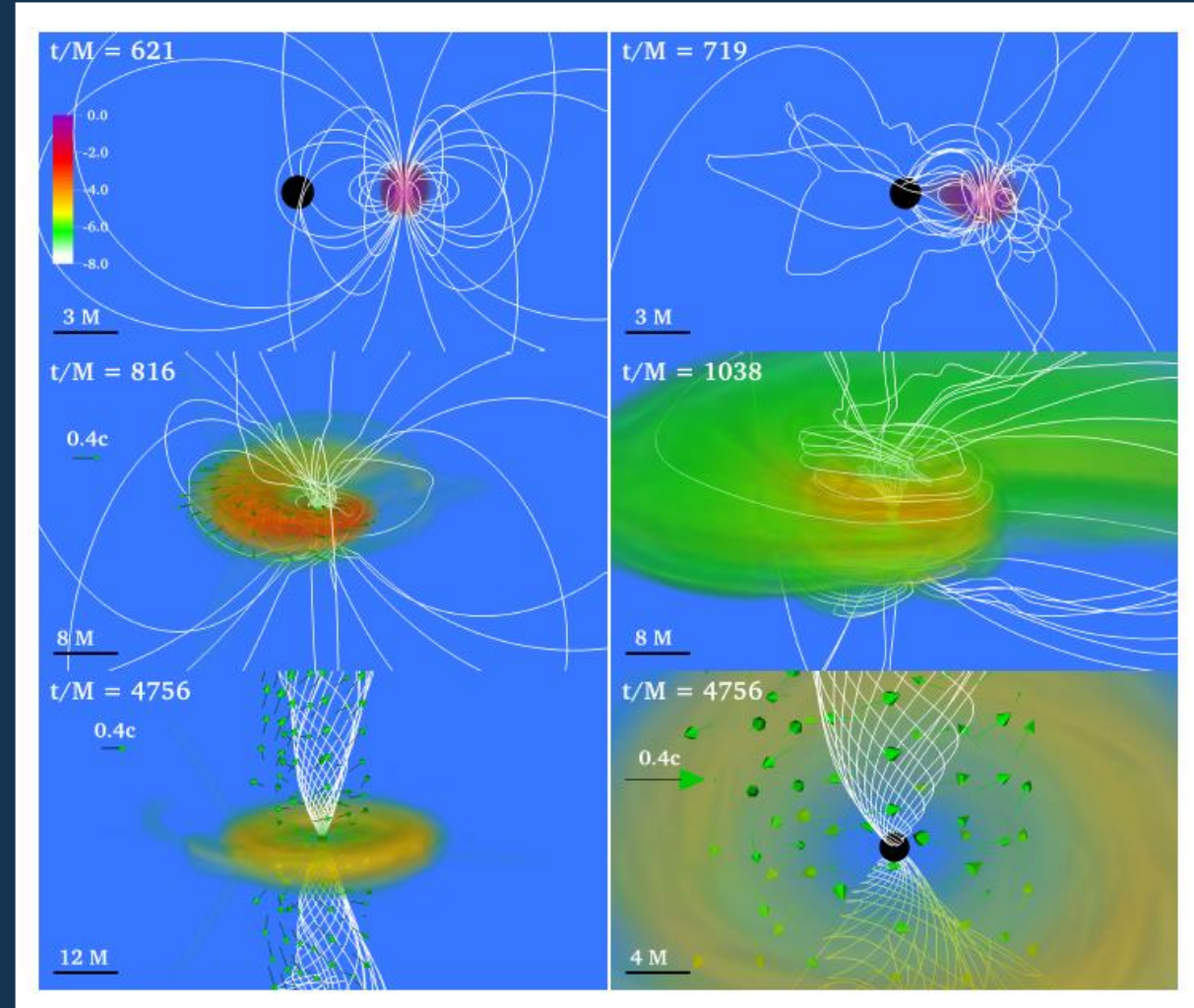
Importantly, the NS magnetic field cancels out!

Relativistic vs non-relativistic case

- $K \approx 10^{-46} \left(\frac{\omega}{\Omega_e} \right)^2 \left(\frac{a_e}{cm} \right)^2 \left(\frac{B}{1\text{ G}} \right)^2$
- $K_{rel} \approx 4 \cdot 10^{-34} \left(\frac{f_{GW}}{100\text{ Hz}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{P}{1\text{ s}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\lambda}{10^5} \right)^{-2} \left(\frac{\gamma}{10^5} \right)^2$

Astrophysical prospects

- NS+BH coalescences are awaited
- GW to EM conversion in the wave zone of a pulsar+ BH coalescence is rather small
- In the strong-field zone, the conversion could be much higher: jet launching during coalescences is anticipated with the MRI field enhancement up to 10^{15} G (arXiv:1810.08618)



Conclusions

- Graviton to photon conversion effect in a magnetized relativistic plasma is studied
- General formula for the effect applicable to the wave zone in a PSR+BH coalescence is obtained
- The effect can be amplified in the case of early jet launching (before the NS is fully disrupted and accretion disc is formed)
- Low-density relativistic plasma density before the coalescence → EM precursors to short GRBs?