

# ***Holographic QCD and Gravitational Waves***

Aldo L. Cotrone

Florence University

HoloTube seminars – September 22, 2020

Work in collaboration with:

- F. Bigazzi (INFN Florence)
- A. Caddeo (Florence University)
- A. Paredes (Vigo University)

arXiv:2008.02579 [hep-th] & to appear

# Plan

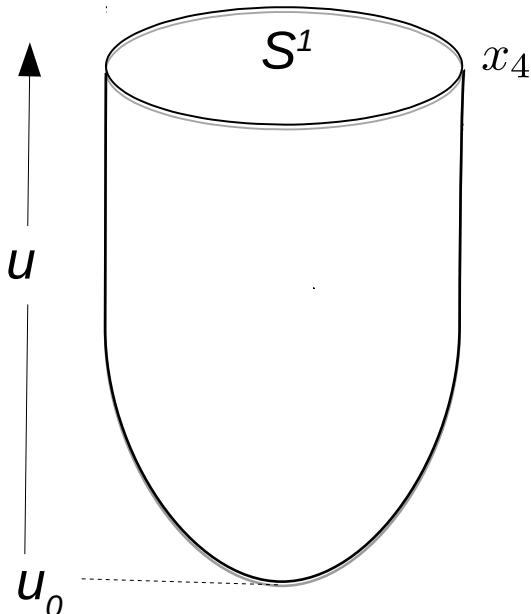
- Review of Holographic QCD
- Extensions: baryons and deconfinement
- Gravitational waves and cosmology
- Dark holograms
- GWs from Confinement and Chiral symmetry breaking transitions
- Overview

# Review of Holographic QCD

## Holographic Yang-Mills

[Witten 98]

- IIA background from  $N_c$  D4 wrapped on  $S^1$  with anti-periodic b.c. for fermions
- Low energy: dual to non-susy 4d  $SU(N_c)$  YM + KK modes
- Confined phase:



$$ds^2 = \left(\frac{u}{R}\right)^{3/2} (dx^\mu dx_\mu + f(u) dx_4^2) + \left(\frac{R}{u}\right)^{3/2} \frac{du^2}{f(u)} + R^{3/2} u^{1/2} d\Omega_4^2$$

Minkowski

Cigar

Four-sphere

$$f(u) = 1 - \frac{u_0^3}{u^3}$$

$u_0 \neq 0 \Rightarrow g_{tt}(u_0) \neq 0 \Rightarrow$  confinement, mass gap for glueballs

Parameters:

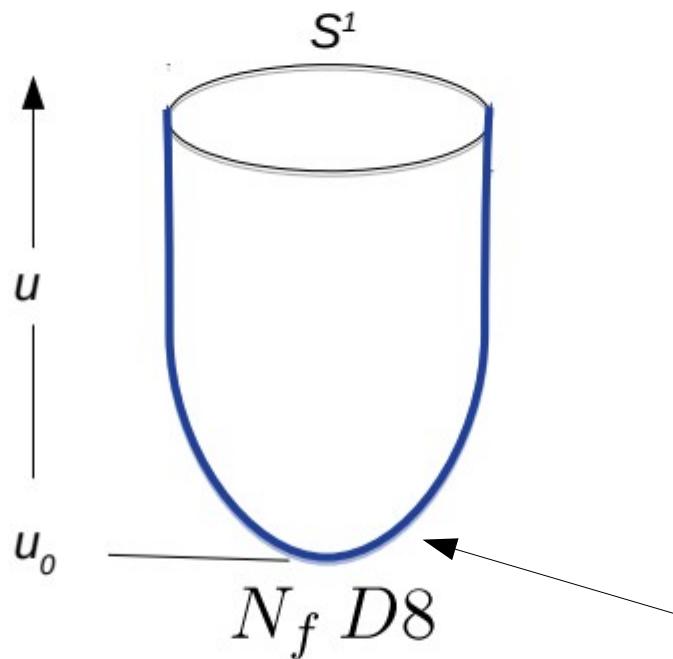
- $N_c \gg 1$        $\lambda = g_{YM}^2 N_c \gg 1$
- $\Lambda_{YM} \equiv M_{KK} \sim \sqrt{u_0}$

# Review of Holographic QCD

## Holographic QCD

[Sakai-Sugimoto 04]

- Add  $N_f$  probe D8/anti-D8 pairs, at antipodal points on circle
- From D4-D8 strings: (only) chiral quarks
- $U(N_f) \times U(N_f) \rightarrow U(N_f)$  chiral symmetry breaking from geometry



D8 embedding from Dirac-Born-Infeld action:

$$S_{DBI} = \frac{T_8}{g_s} \int d^9x \left(\frac{u}{R}\right)^{-3/2} u^4 \sqrt{\frac{1}{f(u)} + f(u) \left(\frac{u}{R}\right)^3 (\partial_u x_4)^2}$$

Equation of motion:

$$\left(\frac{u}{R}\right)^{-3/2} u^4 \frac{f(u) \left(\frac{u}{R}\right)^3 (\partial_u x_4)}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{f(u)} + f(u) \left(\frac{u}{R}\right)^3 (\partial_u x_4)^2}} = \text{constant}$$

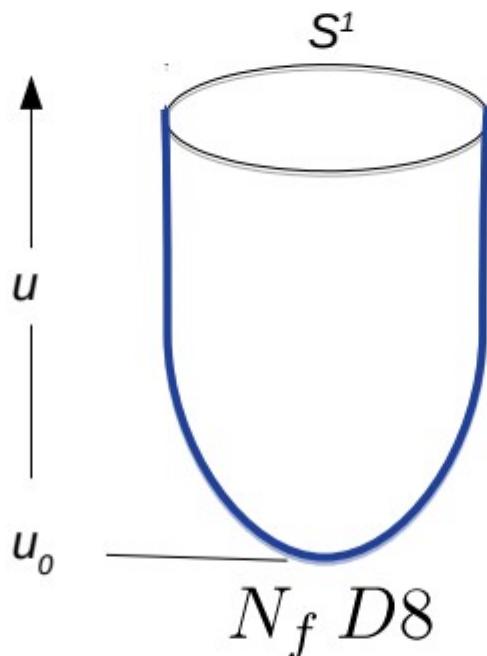
Solution connected at tip of cigar!

# Review of Holographic QCD

## Holographic QCD

[Sakai-Sugimoto 04]

- Add  $N_f$  probe D8/anti-D8 pairs, at antipodal points on circle
- From D4-D8 strings: (only) chiral quarks
- $U(N_f) \times U(N_f) \rightarrow U(N_f)$  chiral symmetry breaking from geometry



D8 world-volume scalar field (transverse direction):

- Mesons from fluctuating modes

D8 world-volume gauge field  $\mathcal{A}_\mu$ :

- Mesons from fluctuating modes
- Baryons from instantonic configurations

# *Review of Holographic QCD*

## Mesons

- DBI action for the D8-branes (gauge field only)

$$S_{DBI} = \frac{T_8}{g_s} \int d^9x e^{-\phi} \sqrt{\det(g + \mathcal{F})}$$

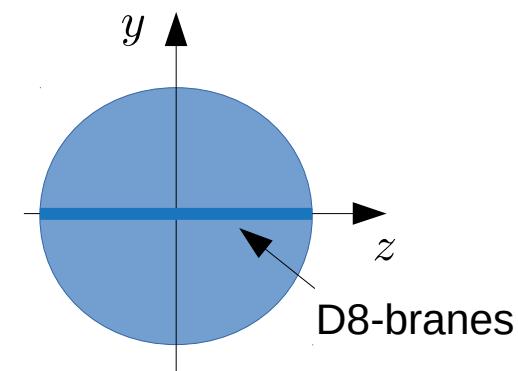
- Expanded to first order and reduced on four-sphere

$$S_{DBI} = \kappa \int d^4xdz \left( \frac{1}{2}h(z)\text{Tr}\mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}\mathcal{F}^{\mu\nu} + k(z)\text{Tr}\mathcal{F}_{\mu z}\mathcal{F}_z^\mu \right)$$
$$\kappa = \frac{\lambda N_c}{216\pi^3}$$

$$h(z) = (1 + z^2)^{-1/3}$$

$$k(z) = (1 + z^2)$$

Coordinates on cigar:



# Review of Holographic QCD

## Mesons

- Expand ( $N_f=1$ )  $\mathcal{A}_z = \sum_n \varphi^{(n)}(x_\mu) \phi_n(z)$   Complete normalized sets  
 $\mathcal{A}_\mu = \sum_n B_\mu^{(n)}(x_\mu) \psi_n(z)$
- Get

$$S_{DBI} = \kappa \int d^4x \left[ \left( \sum_{n=1} \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^{(n)} F^{\mu\nu(n)} + \frac{1}{2} m_n^2 B_\mu^{(n)} B^{\mu(n)} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \varphi^{(0)} \partial^\mu \varphi^{(0)} \right]$$

  $B_\mu^{(n)}$  : tower of (axial) vector mesons ( $\rho, a_1, \dots$ ),  $F^{(n)} = dB^{(n)}$   
 $\varphi^{(0)}$  : Goldstone of chiral symmetry breaking, the pion

- Masses  $m_n^2 = \lambda_n M_{KK}^2$  from equation of motion

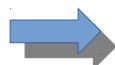
$$-h(z)^{-1} \partial_z (k(z) \partial_z \psi_n(z)) = \lambda_n \psi_n(z)$$

# Review of Holographic QCD

Low-energy effective action for  $N_f > 1$

- Define pion matrix

$$U = \mathcal{P} e^{i \int \mathcal{A}_z} = e^{i \Pi(x) / f_\pi}$$
$$f_\pi = 2 \sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{\pi}}$$



$$\mathcal{F}_{\mu z} \approx U^{-1} \partial_\mu U \quad \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu} \approx [U^{-1} \partial_\mu U, U^{-1} \partial_\nu U]$$

- Get

$$e = -\frac{1}{2.5\kappa}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = -\frac{f_\pi^2}{4} Tr [\partial_\mu U \partial^\mu U^\dagger] + \frac{1}{32e^2} Tr [U^\dagger \partial_\mu U, U^\dagger \partial_\nu U]^2$$

Chiral Lagrangian with Skyrme term, derived from gravity!

# *Review of Holographic QCD*

Incomplete list of extensions:

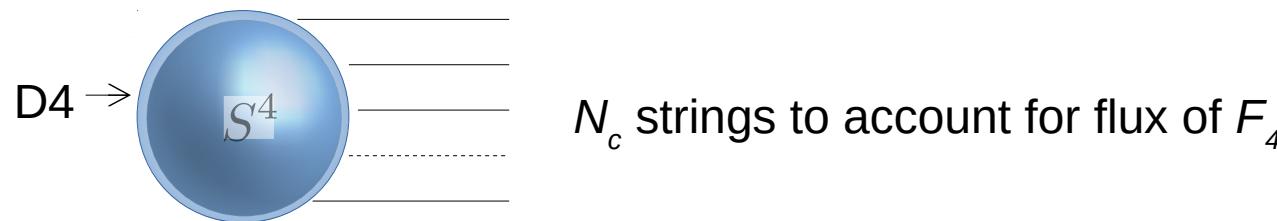
- Vector mesons in Chiral Lagrangian
- Chiral anomaly from D8-brane Chern-Simons term (WZW term)
- Witten-Veneziano formula for  $\eta'$  mass
- Interactions among mesons (vector meson dominance) [Sakai-Sugimoto 05]
- Addition of (small) quark mass [Aharony-Kutasov 08, Hashimoto et al 08]
- $\theta$  - angle [Sakai-Sugimoto 04, Bartolini et al 16]
- Finite baryon density [Horigome-Tanii 06]
- Further meson modes from oscillating strings [Imoto-Sakai-Sugimoto 10]
- Baryons
- Deconfinement

# *Extensions: baryons and deconfinement*

## Baryons

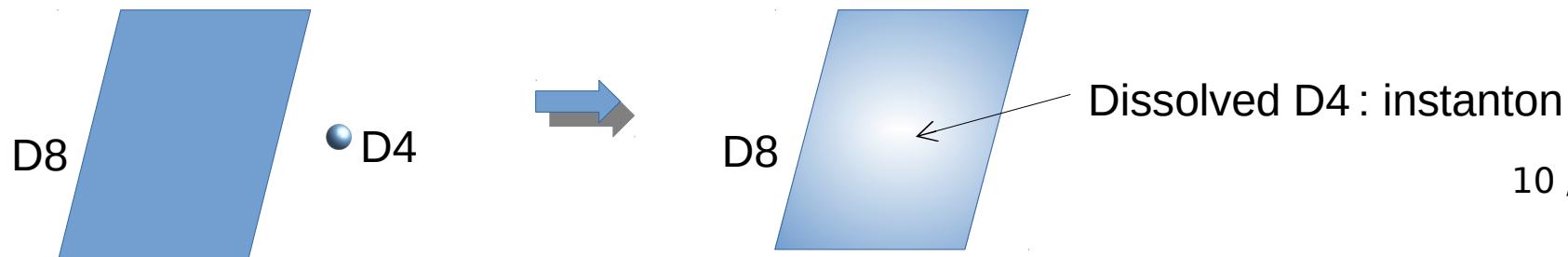
- Microscopic point of view: D4-branes wrapped on four-sphere + strings [Witten 98]

$$S_{D4} = \frac{T_4}{g_s} \int d^9x e^{-\Phi} \sqrt{\det g} = m_B \int dt \quad \text{with} \quad m_B = \frac{\lambda N_c}{27\pi} M_{KK}$$



View recently employed for excited baryons [Hayashi et al. 20]

- Macroscopic point of view: instantonic configurations on D8-brane world-volume [Hata et al. 07, Hong et al. 07]



# *Extensions: baryons and deconfinement*

## Baryons

- Macroscopic point of view ( $N_f=2$ ) [Hata et al. 2007]

Standard instanton solution in directions  $x_{i=1,2,3}, z$  describing nucleon

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{A}_M^{nAb} &= -if(\xi)g\partial_M g^{-1} & \mathcal{A}_0^{Ab} &= \frac{N_c}{8\pi^2\kappa}\frac{1}{\xi^2}\left[1 - \frac{\rho^4}{(\rho^2 + \xi^2)^2}\right] \\ f(\xi) &= \frac{\xi^2}{\rho^2 + \xi^2} & g &= \frac{(z - Z)\mathbf{1} - i(\vec{x} - \vec{X}) \cdot \vec{\tau}}{\xi} & \xi^2 &= (\vec{x} - \vec{X})^2 + (z - Z)^2 \\ U &= \text{Exp}\left[i\pi\frac{\vec{\tau} \cdot \vec{x}}{|\vec{x}|}\left(1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \rho^2/|\vec{x}|^2}}\right)\right]\end{aligned}$$

Energy coincides with baryon mass  $m_B$

Can extract many observables (radii, couplings, etc.)

Other baryons from quantization of (pseudo) moduli  $\rho, Z, \vec{X}, \vec{a}$

# *Extensions: baryons and deconfinement*

## How does the WSS model perform?

Some meson masses:  
 (table from [Rebhan 14])

Isotriplet Meson	$\lambda_n = m^2/M_{\text{KK}}^2$	$m/m_\rho$	$(m/m_\rho)^{\text{exp.}}$	$m/m_\rho [30]$
$0^{-+}(\pi)$	0	0	0.174   0.180	0
$1^{--}(\rho)$	0.669314	1	1	1
$1^{++}(a_1)$	1.568766	1.531	1.59(5)	1.86(2)
$1^{--}(\rho^*)$	2.874323	2.072	1.89(3)	2.40(4)
$1^{++}(a_1^*)$	4.546104	2.606	2.12(3)	2.98(5)

Some nucleon properties:  
 (table from [Hashimoto et al 08])

	WSS	Skyrmion	experiment
$\langle r^2 \rangle_{I=0}^{1/2}$	0.742 fm	0.59 fm	0.806 fm
$\langle r^2 \rangle_{M,I=0}^{1/2}$	0.742 fm	0.92 fm	0.814 fm
$\langle r^2 \rangle_{E,p}$	$(0.742 \text{ fm})^2$	$\infty$	$(0.875 \text{ fm})^2$
$\langle r^2 \rangle_{E,n}$	0	$-\infty$	-0.116 fm <sup>2</sup>
$\langle r^2 \rangle_{M,p}$	$(0.742 \text{ fm})^2$	$\infty$	$(0.855 \text{ fm})^2$
$\langle r^2 \rangle_{M,n}$	$(0.742 \text{ fm})^2$	$\infty$	$(0.873 \text{ fm})^2$
$\langle r^2 \rangle_A^{1/2}$	0.537 fm	-	0.674 fm
$\mu_p$	2.18	1.87	2.79
$\mu_n$	-1.34	-1.31	-1.91
$ \frac{\mu_p}{\mu_n} $	1.63	1.43	1.46
$g_A$	0.734	0.61	1.27
$g_{\pi NN}$	7.46	8.9	13.2
$g_{\rho NN}$	5.80	-	4.2 ~ 6.5

# *Extensions: baryons and deconfinement*

## How does the WSS model perform?

Some meson masses:  
 (table from [Rebhan 14])

Isotriplet Meson	$\lambda_n = m^2/M_{\text{KK}}^2$	$m/m_\rho$	$(m/m_\rho)^{\text{exp.}}$	$m/m_\rho [30]$
$0^{-+}(\pi)$	0	0	0.174   0.180	0
$1^{--}(\rho)$	0.669314	1	1	1
$1^{++}(a_1)$	1.568766	<b>1.531</b>	<b>1.59(5)</b>	1.86(2)
$1^{--}(\rho^*)$	2.874323	<b>2.072</b>	<b>1.89(3)</b>	2.40(4)

On top of geometrizing qualitative features of large  $N_c$  QCD, exhibiting the correct symmetry (breaking) pattern, the model gives some quantitatively reasonable observables in the IR

Some nucleon properties:  
 (table from [Hashimoto et al 08])

$\sqrt{s}/M, I=0$	0.742 fm	0.92 fm	0.014 fm
$\langle r^2 \rangle_{E,p}$	$(0.742 \text{ fm})^2$	$\infty$	$(0.875 \text{ fm})^2$
$\langle r^2 \rangle_{E,n}$	<b>0</b>	<b><math>-\infty</math></b>	<b><math>-0.116 \text{ fm}^2</math></b>
$\langle r^2 \rangle_{M,p}$	$(0.742 \text{ fm})^2$	$\infty$	$(0.855 \text{ fm})^2$
$\langle r^2 \rangle_{M,n}$	$(0.742 \text{ fm})^2$	$\infty$	$(0.873 \text{ fm})^2$
$\langle r^2 \rangle_A^{1/2}$	0.537 fm	—	0.674 fm
$\mu_p$	2.18	1.87	2.79
$\mu_n$	-1.34	-1.31	-1.91
$ \frac{\mu_p}{\mu_n} $	1.63	1.43	1.46
$g_A$	0.734	0.61	1.27
$g_{\pi NN}$	7.46	8.9	13.2
$g_{\rho NN}$	5.80	—	$4.2 \sim 6.5$

# Extensions: baryons and deconfinement

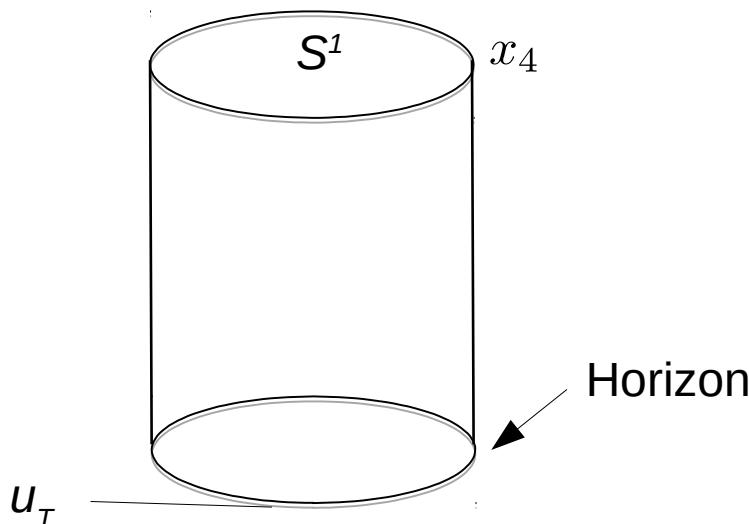
## Deconfined phase

- In Holographic YM: D4 black-brane solution [Witten 98]

$$ds^2 = \left(\frac{u}{R}\right)^{3/2} (-f_T(u)dt^2 + dx^i dx_i + dx_4^2) + \left(\frac{R}{u}\right)^{3/2} \frac{du^2}{f_T(u)} + R^{3/2} u^{1/2} d\Omega_4^2$$

Cylinder

$$f_T(u) = 1 - \frac{u_T^3}{u^3} \quad \rightarrow \quad g_{tt}(u_T) = 0 \Rightarrow \text{deconfinement}$$



$$T \sim \sqrt{u_T}$$

# *Extensions: baryons and deconfinement*

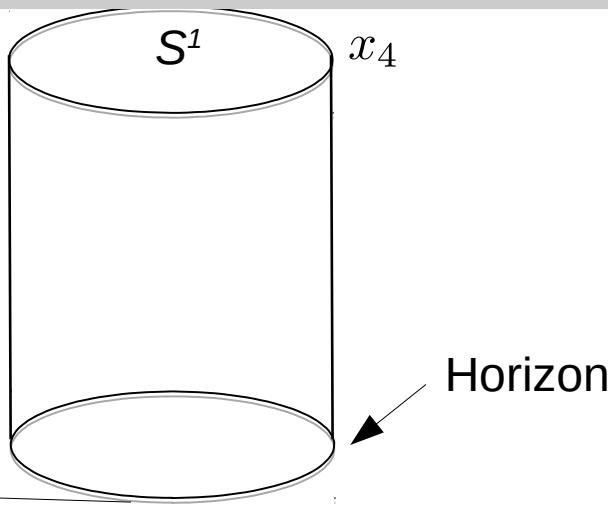
## Deconfined phase

- In Holographic YM: D4 black-brane solution [Witten 98]

$$ds^2 = \left(\frac{u}{R}\right)^{3/2} (-f_T(u)dt^2 + dx^i dx_i + dx_4^2) + \left(\frac{R}{u}\right)^{3/2} \frac{du^2}{f_T(u)} + R^{3/2} u^{1/2} d\Omega_4^2$$

Confinement / deconfinement

first order transition at  $T_c = M_{KK}$

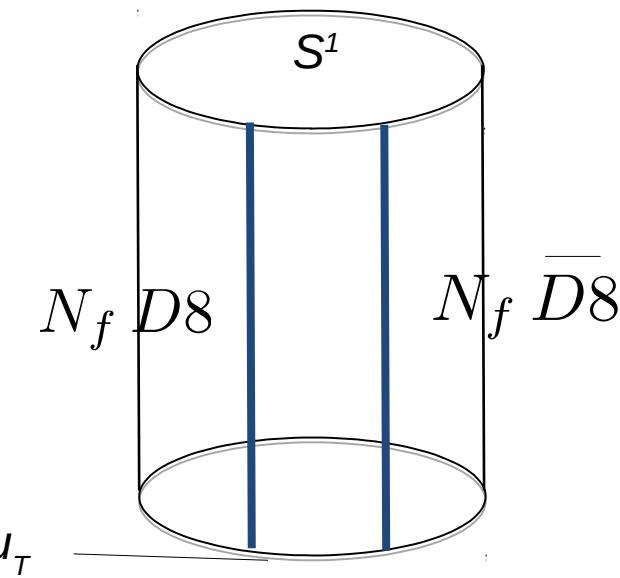
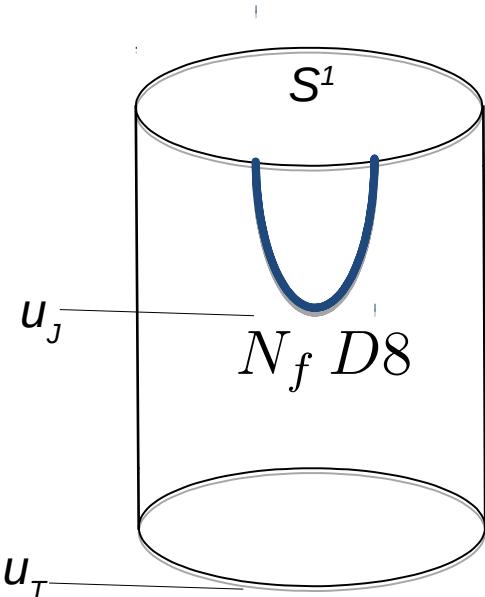


$$T \sim \sqrt{u_T}$$

# *Extensions: baryons and deconfinement*

## Deconfined phase

- In Holographic QCD: chiral symmetry can persist if D8 non-antipodal [Aharony-Sonnenschein-Yankielowicz 06]
- Chiral symmetry breaking transition at new scale  $f_\chi \sim u_J$
- Chiral symmetry broken phase: • Chiral symmetry unbroken phase:

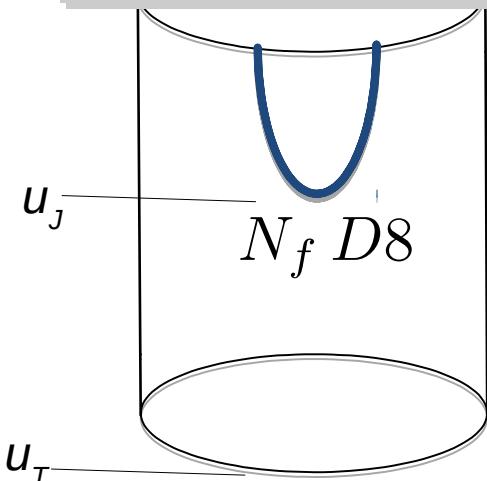


# *Extensions: baryons and deconfinement*

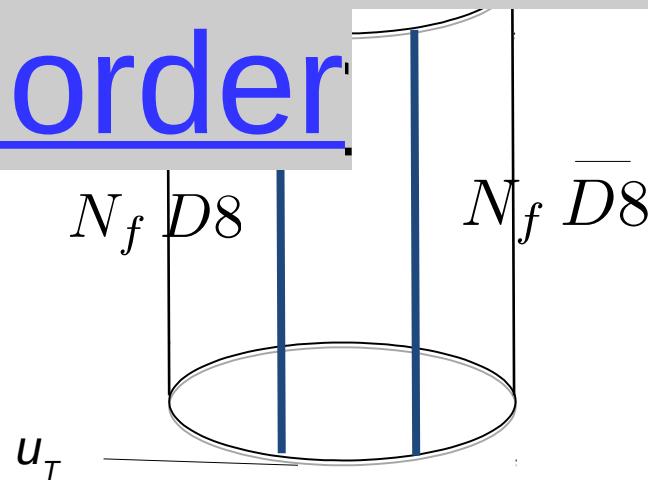
## Deconfined phase

- In Holographic QCD: chiral symmetry can persist if D8 non-antipodal [Aharony-Sonnenschein-Yankielowicz 06]
- Chiral symmetry breaking transition at new scale  $f_\chi \sim u_J$

Chiral symmetry unbroken phase:  
breaking/restoration transition



is first order



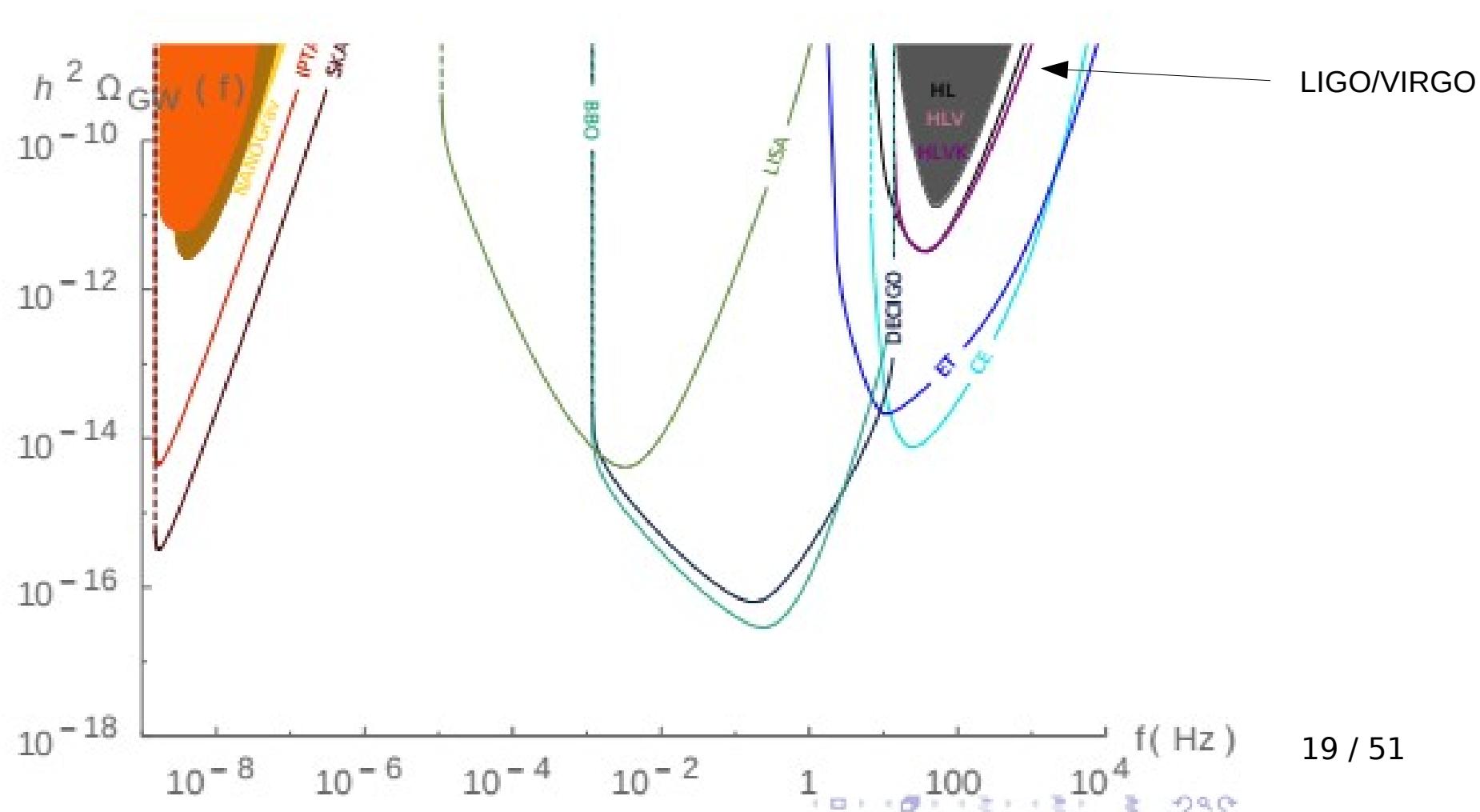
# *Gravitational waves and cosmology*

## Abstract

- I. We are in an era of Gravitational Wave (GW) observations
- II. Cosmological first order transitions generate GWs
- III. “Dark sectors” (hidden sectors) can undergo cosmological first order transitions
- IV. If dark sectors holographic: calculate GW spectra from dual string description
- V. These GW spectra can be within reach of future experiments

# *Gravitational waves and cosmology*

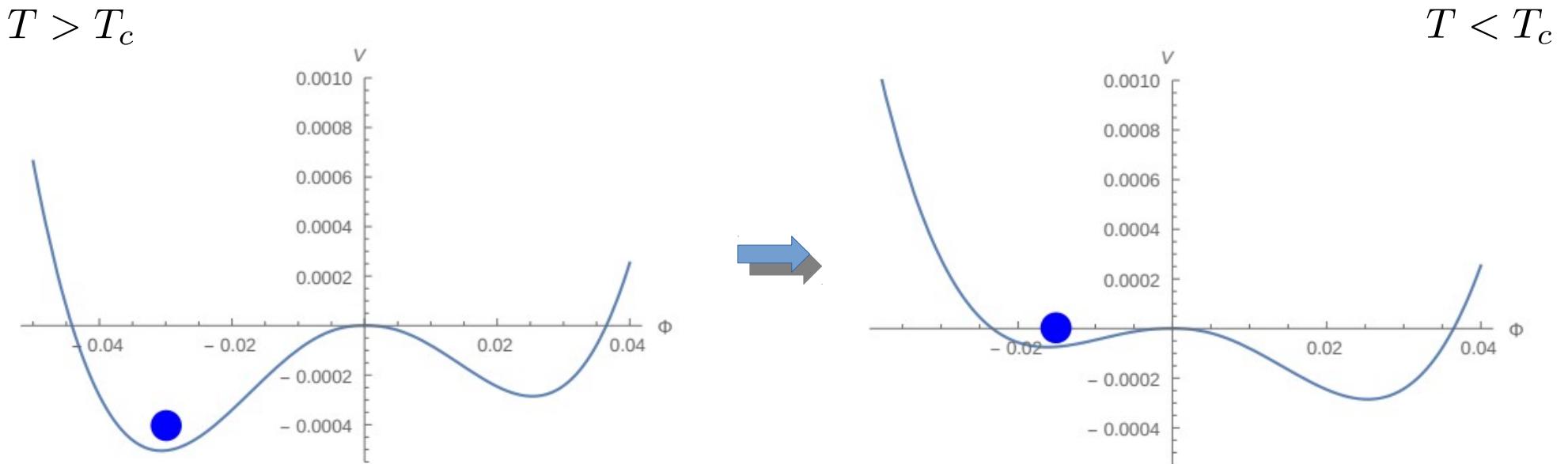
## Zoo of experimental sensitivity curves



# *Gravitational waves and cosmology*

## Bubbles in first order transitions

[Coleman 77, Callan-Coleman 77, Coleman-DeLuccia 78, Linde 81-83]



- Single scalar potential

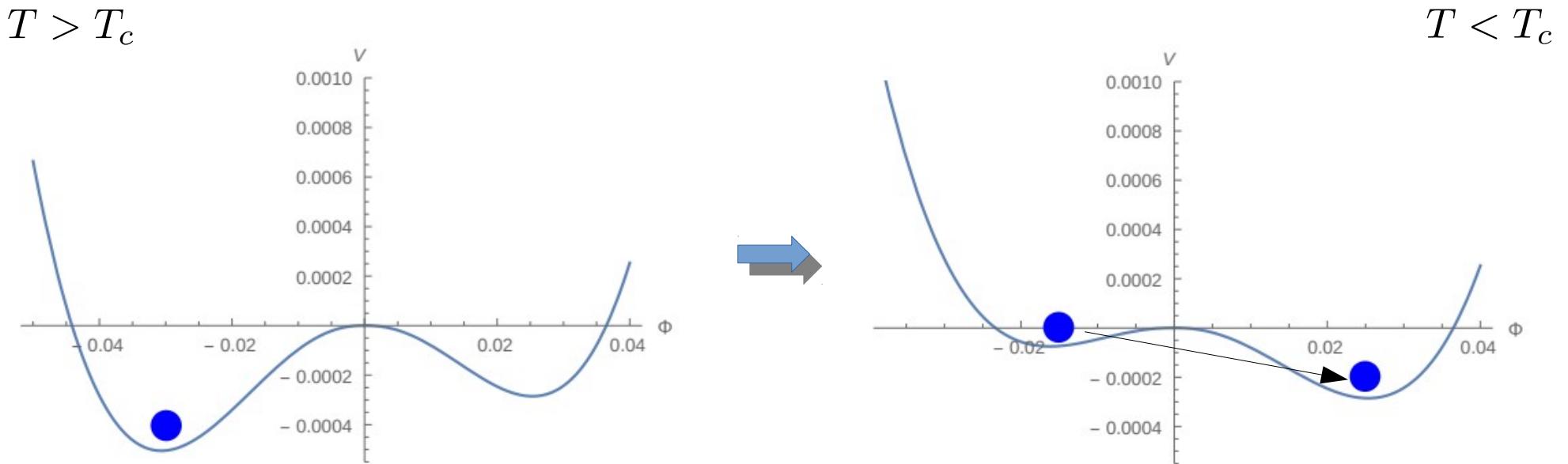
$$V = - \left( 5\Phi^3 + T(-\Phi)^{5/2} \right) \Theta(-\Phi) + \left( 5\Phi^3 - M_{KK}\Phi^{5/2} \right) \Theta(\Phi)$$

- Universe expands and cools down
- First order transition at  $T = T_c = M_{KK}$

# *Gravitational waves and cosmology*

## Bubbles in first order transitions

[Coleman 77, Callan-Coleman 77, Coleman-DeLuccia 78, Linde 81-83]



- When  $T < T_c$  Universe is in the “false vacuum”
- Starts nucleation of bubbles of “true vacuum” with rate

$$\Gamma \sim T^4 \text{ Exp}[-S(\Phi_{bubble})]$$

# *Gravitational waves and cosmology*

## Bubbles in first order transitions

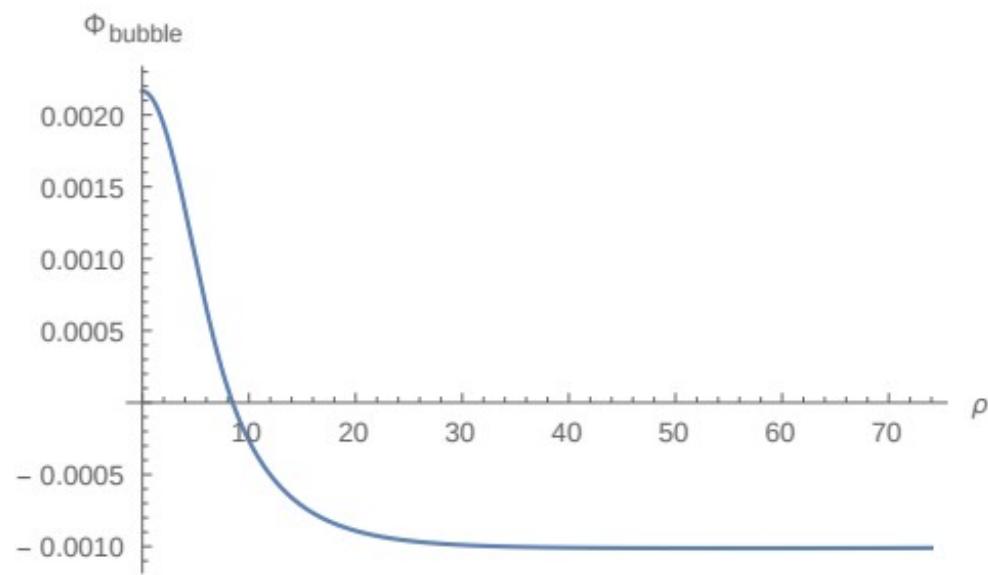
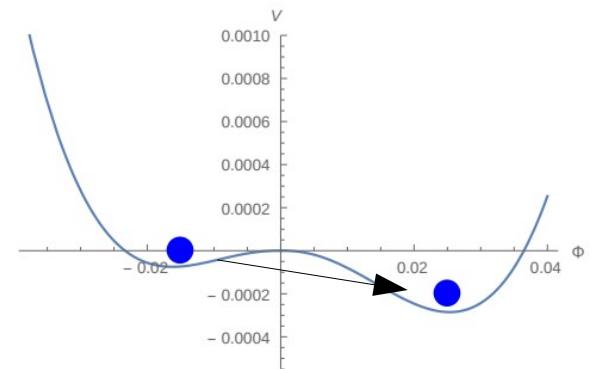
[Coleman 77, Callan-Coleman 77, Coleman-DeLuccia 78, Linde 81-83]

Radial direction in Minkowski

$\Phi_{bubble}(\rho)$  : bubble configuration interpolating

between “true vacuum” for  $\rho \rightarrow 0$

and “false vacuum” for  $\rho \rightarrow \infty$



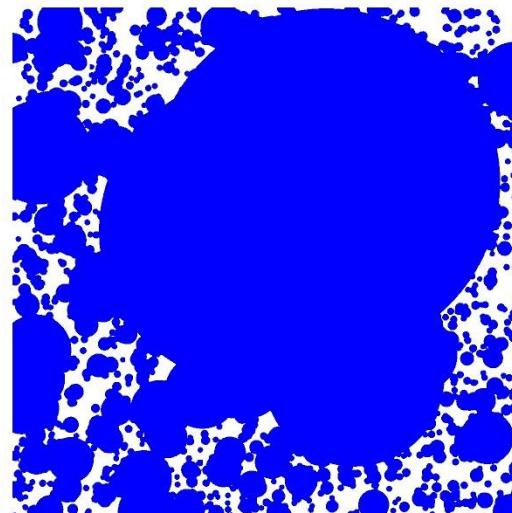
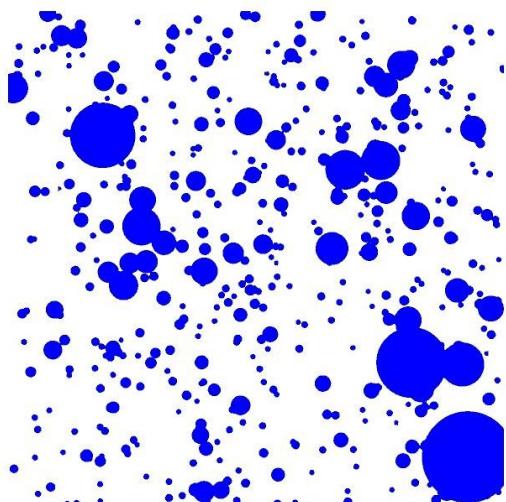
# *Gravitational waves and cosmology*

- After nucleation, bubbles expand
- At “nucleation temperature”  $T_n$  such that

$$\frac{\Gamma}{H^4}|_{T_n} \sim 1$$

Hubble parameter →

bubbles percolate, leaving whole Universe in “true vacuum”



# *Gravitational waves and cosmology*

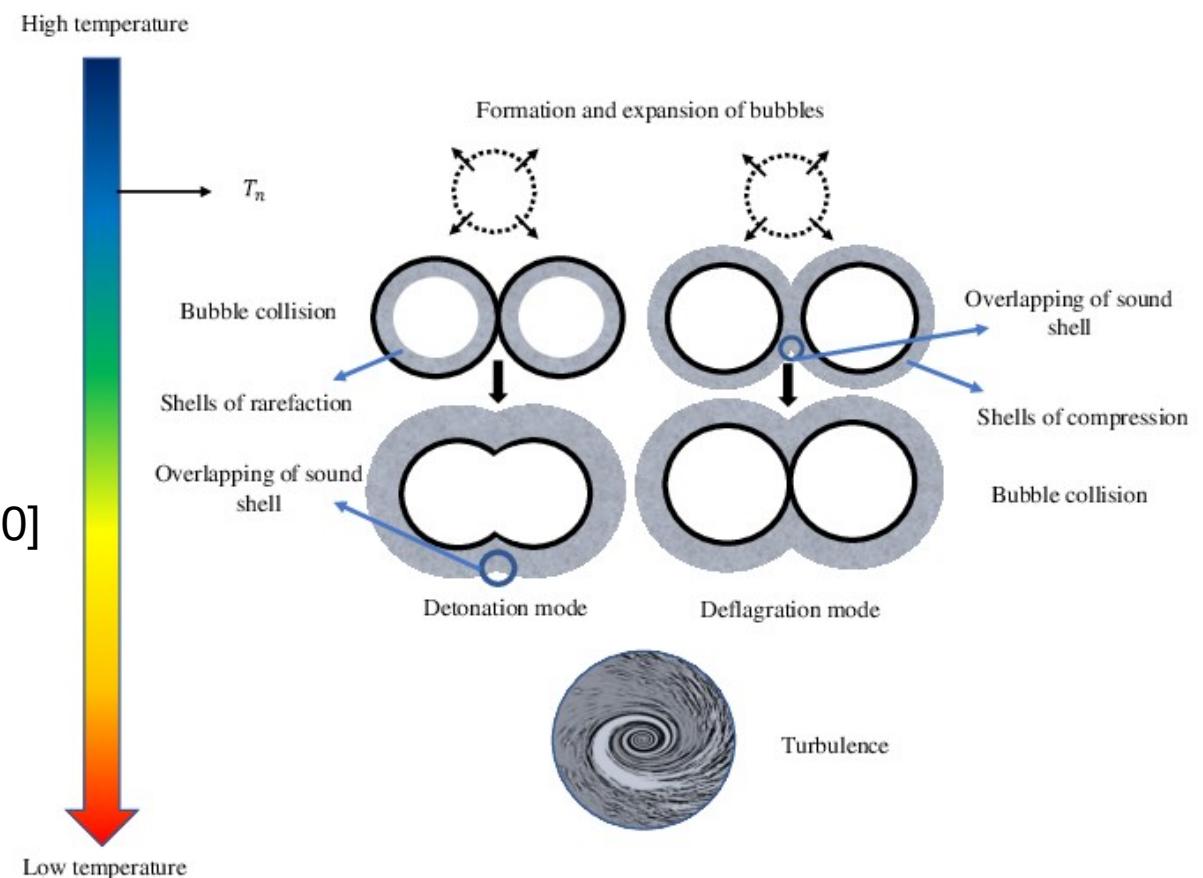
Bubbles excite plasma modes. GW produced by:

I. Bubble collisions

II. Sound wave collisions

III. Turbulence in plasma

Image from [Wang-Huang-Zhang 20]



Sound wave component dominates spectrum: let's focus on it

# Gravitational waves and cosmology

$$h^2 \Omega_{sw}(f) \sim 8.5 \cdot 10^{-6} \left( \frac{\beta}{H} \right)^{-1} \left( \frac{\kappa_v \alpha}{1 + \alpha} \right)^2 \left( \frac{100}{g_*} \right)^{1/3} v S_{sw}(f)$$

$f$  = wave frequency

[Hindmarsh-Huber-Rummukainen-Weir 17]

$$\frac{\beta}{H} = -\frac{T}{\Gamma} \frac{d\Gamma}{dT} \Big|_{T_n} = \text{inverse phase transition duration}$$

$$\kappa_v = \frac{\alpha}{0.73 + 0.083\sqrt{\alpha} + \alpha} = \text{efficiency factor}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{\Delta\rho - 3\Delta p}{4\rho_{radiation}} = \text{phase transition strength}$$

*Quantities in blue  
to be computed in  
microscopic model*

$g_*$  = # of relativistic degrees of freedom

$v$  = bubble velocity

$$S_{sw} = \left( \frac{f}{f_{sw}} \right)^3 \left( \frac{7}{4 + 3(f/f_{sw})^2} \right)^{7/2} = \text{spectral shape}$$

$$f_{sw} = 8.9 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{Hz} \frac{1}{v} \left( \frac{\beta}{H} \right) \left( \frac{T_*}{100 \text{GeV}} \right) \left( \frac{g_*}{100} \right)^{1/6} = \text{peak frequency}$$

# *Gravitational waves and cosmology*

$$h^2 \Omega_{sw}(f) \sim 8.5 \cdot 10^{-6} \left( \frac{\beta}{H} \right)^{-1} \left( \frac{\kappa_v \alpha}{1 + \alpha} \right)^2 \left( \frac{100}{g_*} \right)^{1/3} v S_{sw}(f)$$

$f$  = wave frequency

[Hindmarsh-Huber-Rummukainen-Weir 17]

$$\beta = T d\Gamma$$

We calculate the parameters  
 $\kappa_v = \frac{0.73 + 0.08}{0.73 - 0.08}$  to be computed in  
 $\alpha = \frac{\Delta\rho - 3\Delta p}{4\rho_{radiation}}$  microscopic model

$g_*$  = # of relativistic degrees of freedom

$v$  = bubble velocity

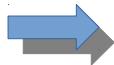
$$S_{sw} = \left( \frac{f}{f_{sw}} \right)^3 \left( \frac{7}{4 + 3(f/f_{sw})^2} \right)^{7/2} = \text{spectral shape}$$

$$f_{sw} = 8.9 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{Hz} \frac{1}{v} \left( \frac{\beta}{H} \right) \left( \frac{T_*}{100 \text{GeV}} \right) \left( \frac{g_*}{100} \right)^{1/6} = \text{peak frequency}$$

# *Dark holograms*

## Motivations:

- A number of proposed “Dark sectors” are Yang-Mills or QCD-like theories
- Strong dynamics is crucial
- If gauge group rank sufficiently large, theory might admit gravity dual
- Holography describes strong dynamics in reliable way, or models it effectively



Let's model Dark sector with the (top-down) holographic theory closest to QCD:

Witten-Sakai-Sugimoto model

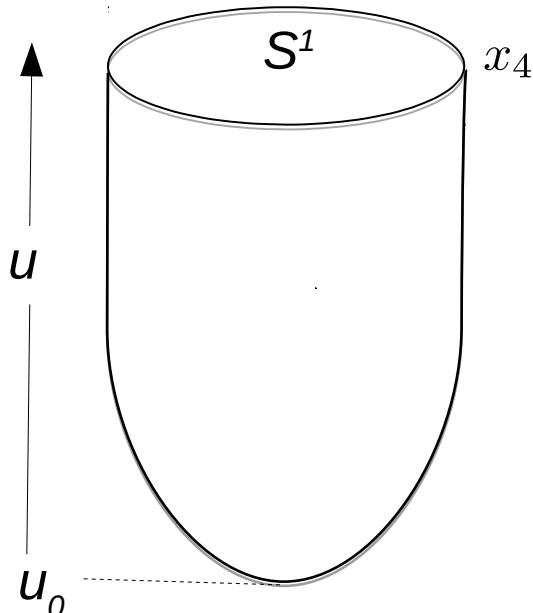
# Dark holograms

## “Dark glueball scenario”

[Witten 98]

- IIA background from  $N_c$  D4 wrapped on  $S^1$
- Low energy: dual to 4d  $SU(N_c)$  YM + KK modes
- Confined phase:

$$ds^2 = \left(\frac{u}{R}\right)^{3/2} (dx^\mu dx_\mu + f(u) dx_4^2) + \left(\frac{R}{u}\right)^{3/2} \frac{du^2}{f(u)} + R^{3/2} u^{1/2} d\Omega_4^2$$



$$f(u) = 1 - \frac{u_0^3}{u^3}$$

Parameters:

- $N_c \gg 1$        $\lambda = g_{YM}^2 N_c \gg 1$
- $\Lambda_{YM} \equiv M_{KK} \sim \sqrt{u_0}$

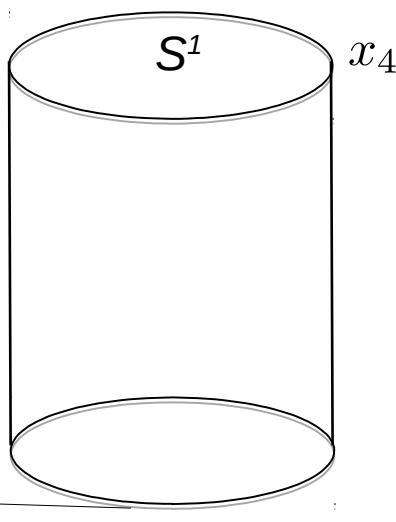
# Dark holograms

“Dark glueball scenario”

[Witten 98]

- IIA background from  $N_c$  D4 wrapped on  $S^1$
- Low energy: dual to 4d  $SU(N_c)$  YM + KK modes
- Deconfined phase:

$$ds^2 = \left(\frac{u}{R}\right)^{3/2} (-f_T(u)dt^2 + dx^i dx_i + dx_4^2) + \left(\frac{R}{u}\right)^{3/2} \frac{du^2}{f_T(u)} + R^{3/2} u^{1/2} d\Omega_4^2$$



$$f_T(u) = 1 - \frac{u_T^3}{u^3}$$

Parameters:

- $N_c \gg 1$        $\lambda = g_{YM}^2 N_c \gg 1$
- $T \sim \sqrt{u_T}$

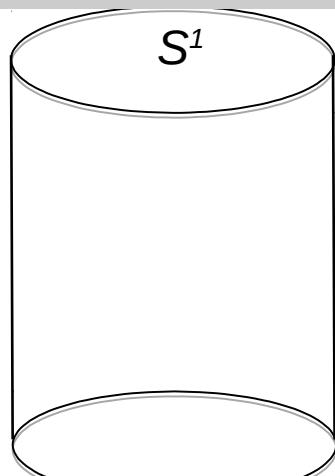
# Dark holograms

“Dark glueball scenario”

[Witten 98]

- IIA background from  $N_c$  D4 wrapped on  $S^1$

• Confinement / deconfinement  
first order transition at  $T_c = M_{KK}^{1/2} \sqrt{\Omega_4^2}$



$$f_T(u) = 1 - \frac{u_T^3}{u^3}$$

Parameters:

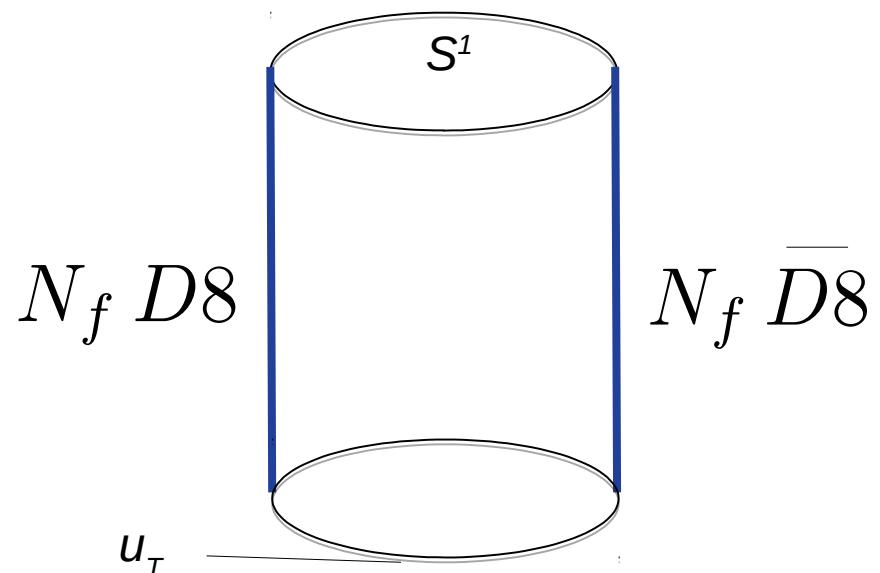
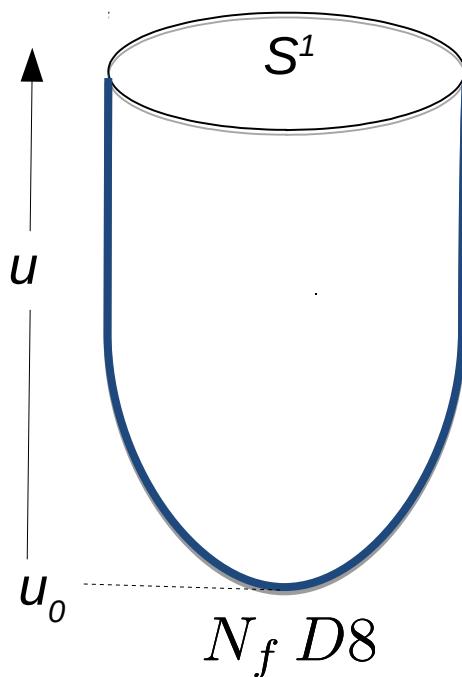
- $N_c \gg 1$        $\lambda = g_{YM}^2 N_c \gg 1$
- $T \sim \sqrt{u_T}$

# Dark holograms

## “Dark QCD scenario”

[Sakai-Sugimoto 04, Aharony-Sonnenschein-Yankielowicz 06]

- Add  $N_f$  antipodal probe  $D8/\text{anti-}D8$  pairs
- Low energy: dual to 4d  $SU(N_c)$  YM + KK modes +  $N_f$  quark flavors
- Confined phase:
- Deconfined phase:

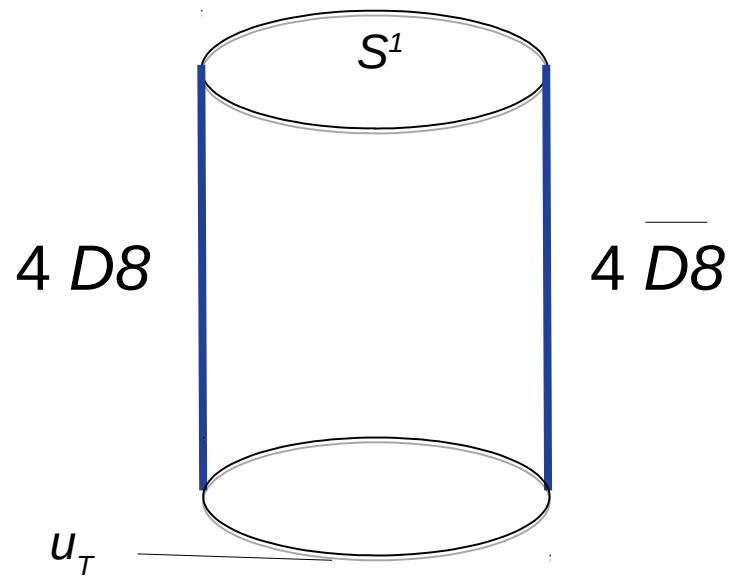
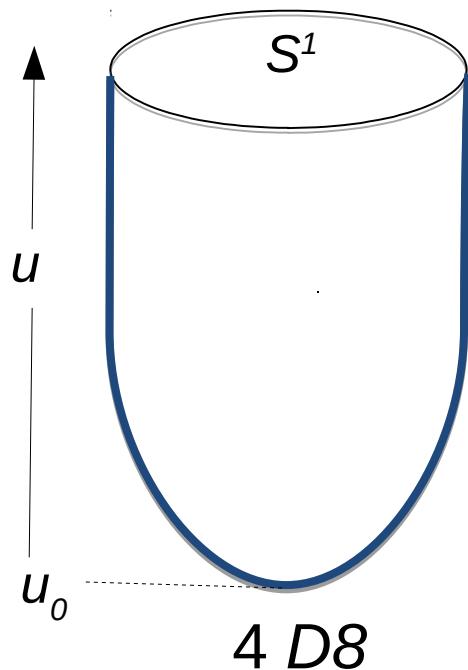


# Dark holograms

## “Dark Axion scenario”

[Kim, Choi-Kim, Kaplan 1985, Bigazzi-Caddeo-ALC-Paredes 20]

- Add  $N_f=3+1$  antipodal probe  $D8/\text{anti-}D8$  pairs, realize composite axion as PNGB
- Flavors are in triplet and singlet of ordinary color  $SU(3)_c$
- Confined phase:
- Deconfined phase:



# Dark holograms

## “Dark Axion scenario”

[Kim, Choi-Kim, Kaplan 1985, Bigazzi-Caddeo-ALC-Paredes 20]

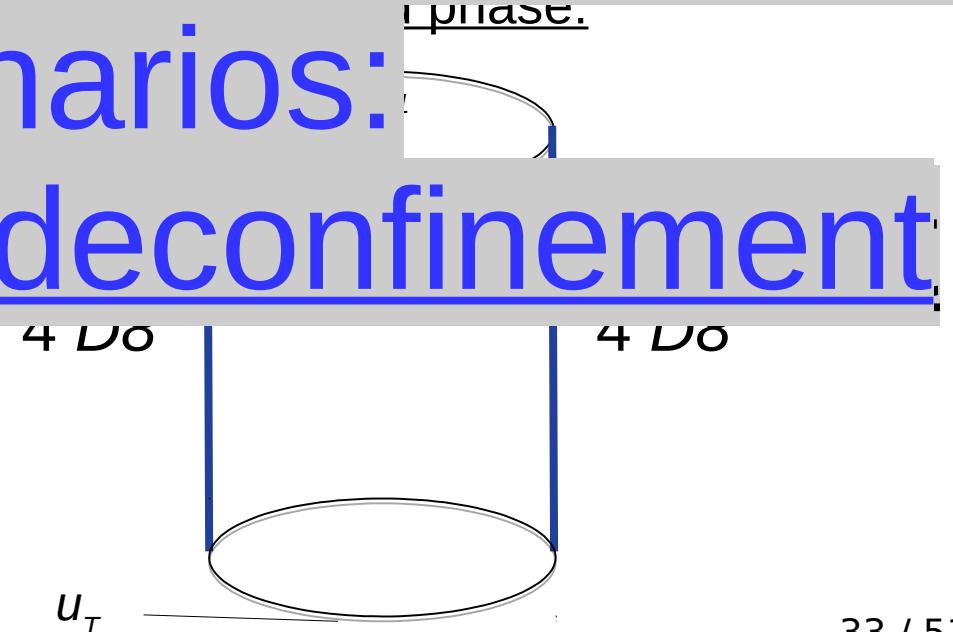
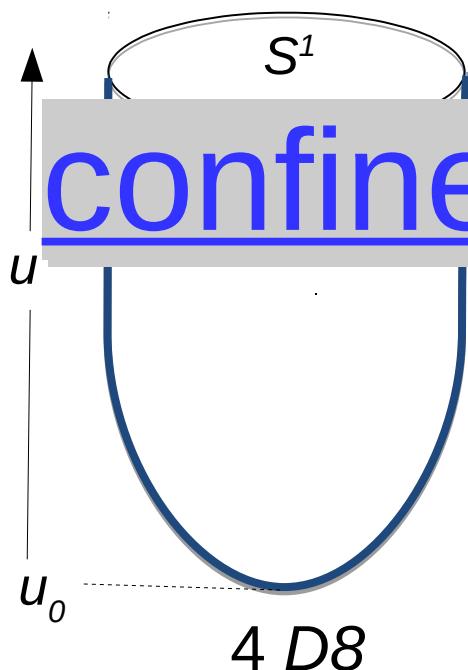
- Add  $N_f=3+1$  antipodal probe  $D8/\text{anti-}D8$  pairs, realize composite axion as PNGB

Same first order transition in all

confining phases.

3 scenarios:

1 phase.

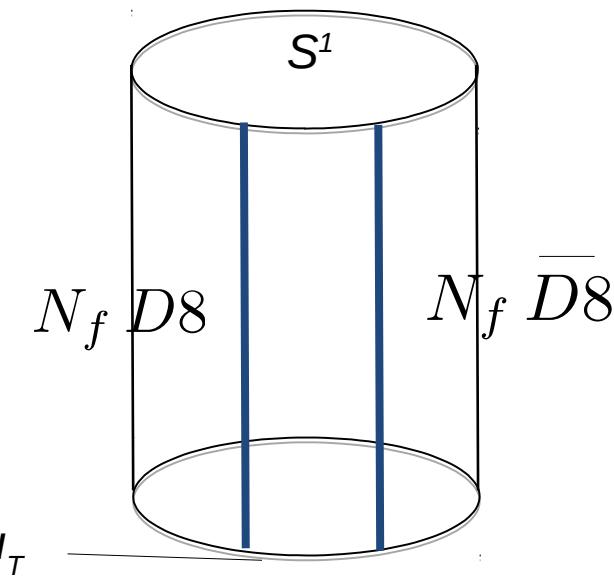
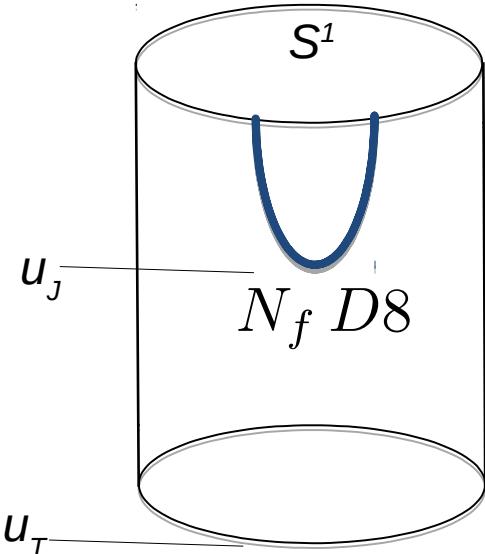


# Dark holograms

## “Dark QCD ChiSB scenario”

[Aharony-Sonnenschein-Yankielowicz 06]

- Add  $N_f$  non-antipodal probe  $D8/\text{anti-}D8$  pairs
- Chiral symmetry breaking transition at new scale  $f_\chi \sim u_J$  (in deconfined phase)
- Chiral symmetry broken phase:
- Unbroken phase:



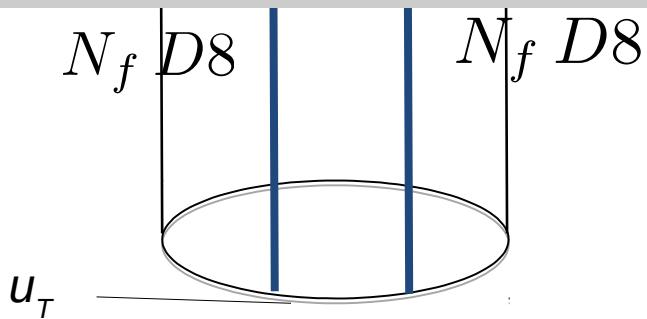
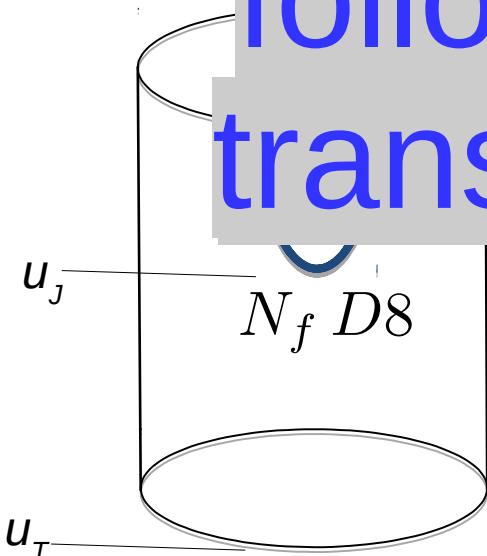
# Dark holograms

“Dark QCD ChiSB scenario”

[Aharony-Sonnenschein-Yankielowicz 06]

- Add  $N_f$  non-antipodal probe  $D8/\text{anti-}D8$  pairs

- Chiral symmetry breaking (hase)
- Chiral symmetry breaking followed by confinement transition: both first order

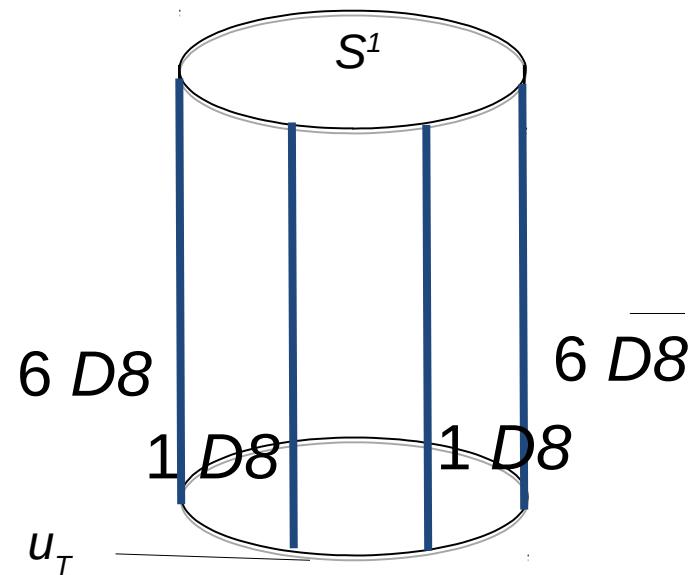
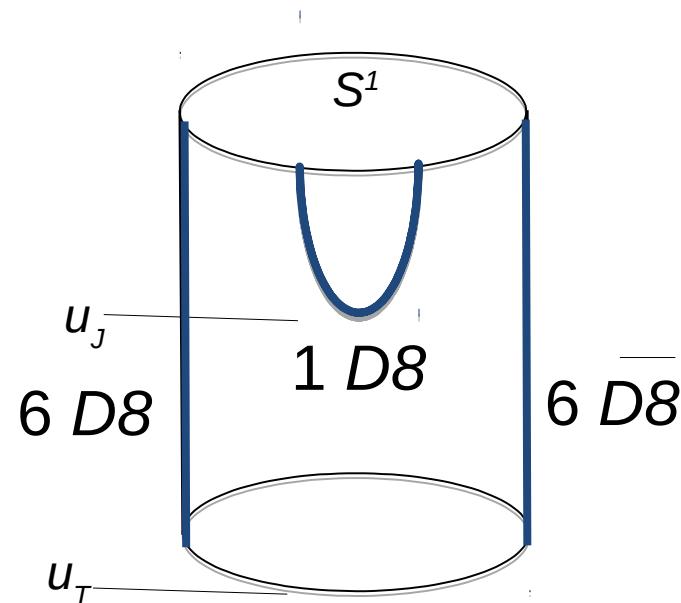


# Dark holograms

## "Holo-Axion scenario"

[Bigazzi-Caddeo-ALC-Di Vecchia-Marzolla 19]

- Add 6 antipodal and 1 non-antipodal probe  $D8/\text{anti-}D8$  pairs
- Model of QCD + axion,  $f_\chi = f_a$  = axion decay constant
- Chiral symmetry broken phase: • Unbroken phase:



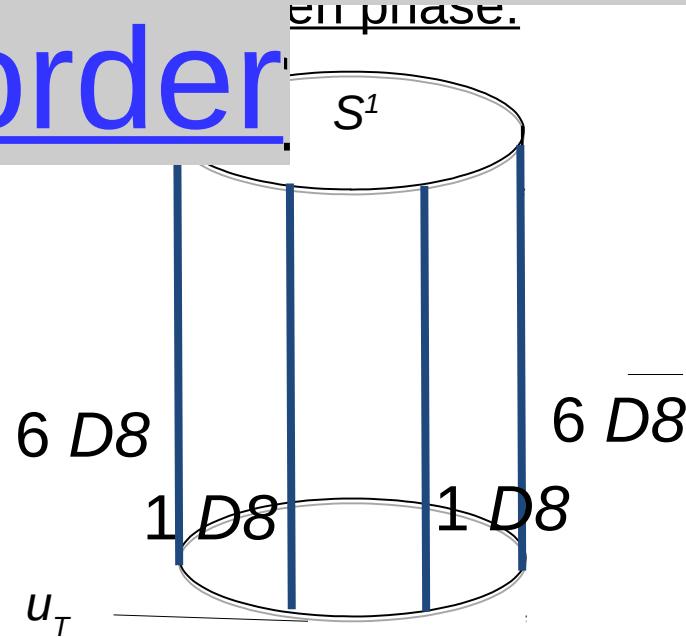
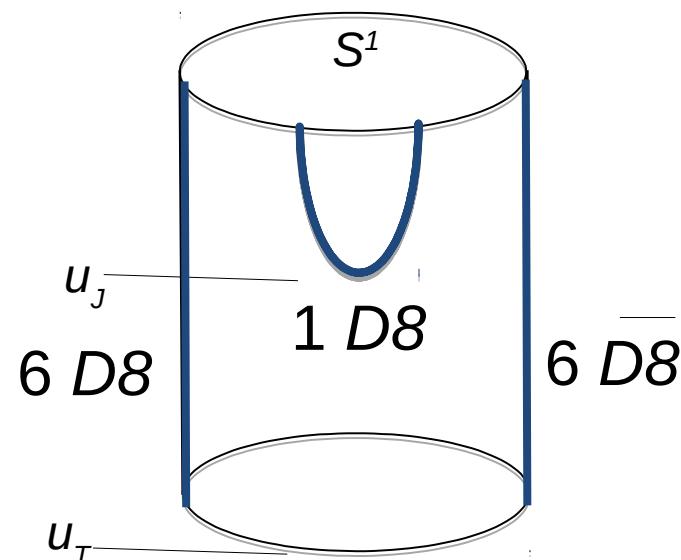
# Dark holograms

## "Holo-Axion scenario"

[Bigazzi-Caddeo-ALC-Di Vecchia-Marzolla 19]

- Add 6 antipodal and 1 non-antipodal probe  $D8/\text{anti-}D8$  pairs
- Model CP symmetry breaking
- Chiral symmetry breaking in phase.

**Peccei-Quinn transition is  
first order**



# GWs from Confinement transition

$$h^2 \Omega_{sw}(f) \sim 8.5 \cdot 10^{-6} \left( \frac{\beta}{H} \right)^{-1} \left( \frac{\kappa_v \alpha}{1 + \alpha} \right)^2 \left( \frac{100}{g_*} \right)^{1/3} v S_{sw}(f)$$

- Thermodynamic-related parameters easily determined from standard relation

$$f = \frac{S_{gravity}^{ren} T}{V_3}$$

Free energy density      Three dimensional volume      Renormalized on-shell gravitational action

obtaining  $\alpha, g_*, \kappa_v, v$

- Difficult part: bubble configuration  $\Phi_{bubble}(\rho)$  to get  $\beta/H, T_*$

In principle: solve full set of 10d supergravity equations ← extremely challenging!

In practice: model bubble with single scalar mode

# **GWs from Confinement transition**

Model bubble with single scalar mode [Creminelli-Nicolis-Rattazzi 2001]

- Bubble has to interpolate between two metrics

1) Conf:  $ds^2 = \left(\frac{u}{R}\right)^{3/2} (dx^\mu dx_\mu + f(u) dx_4^2) + \left(\frac{R}{u}\right)^{3/2} \frac{du^2}{f(u)} + R^{3/2} u^{1/2} d\Omega_4^2$   
 $f(u) = 1 - \frac{u_0^3}{u^3}$

2) Deconf:  $ds^2 = \left(\frac{u}{R}\right)^{3/2} (-f_T(u) dt^2 + dx^i dx_i + dx_4^2) + \left(\frac{R}{u}\right)^{3/2} \frac{du^2}{f_T(u)} + R^{3/2} u^{1/2} d\Omega_4^2$   
 $f_T(u) = 1 - \frac{u_T^3}{u^3}$

- Idea: main contribution from modes  $u_0$  (conf phase) and  $u_T$  (deconf phase)

Combine them in a single scalar field  $\Phi(\rho)$

Potential and kinetic term given by gravity action

# GWs from Confinement transition

$$u_T(\rho) \sim T_h^2(\rho)$$

- Potential ([Creminelli-Nicolis-Rattazzi 01] in AdS case)

When  $T_h = T$  black brane geometry is regular, free energy

$$f_{BB} = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^7 \pi^4 \lambda N_c^2 \frac{T_h^6}{M_{KK}^2}$$

When  $T_h \neq T$  geometry has conical singularity: extra free energy contribution estimated by replacing singularity with spherical cap [Fursaev-Solodukhin 95]

$$f_{sing} = -\frac{T}{2\kappa_{10}^2 V_3} \int d^{10}x \sqrt{g} e^{-2\phi} \mathcal{R}_{S^2} = 3 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^7 \pi^4 \lambda N_c^2 \frac{T_h^6}{M_{KK}^2} \left(1 - \frac{T}{T_h}\right)$$



$$V(T_h) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^7 \pi^4 \lambda N_c^2 \frac{1}{M_{KK}^2} (5T_h^6 - 6TT_h^5)$$

# **GWs from Confinement transition**

$$u_T(\rho) \sim T_h^2(\rho)$$

- Kinetic term [Bigazzi-Caddeo-ALC-Paredes 20]

From gravity action term

$$S_{kin} = -\frac{1}{2\kappa_{10}^2} \int d^{10}x \sqrt{g} [e^{-2\phi} (\mathcal{R} + 4\partial_\rho\phi\partial^\rho\phi)] \sim \int d^4x \partial_\mu T_h \partial^\mu T_h$$

Divergence from integration in  $u$   holographic renormalization

Add counter-term

$$S_{kin\ ct} = -\frac{1}{2\kappa_{10}^2} \left( -\frac{40R}{9g_s^{1/3}} \right) \int_{u=u_{UV}} d^9x \sqrt{h} e^{-\frac{5}{3}\phi} h^{mn} \partial_m\phi \partial_n\phi$$

# **GWs from Confinement transition**

- Similar story for  $u_0(\rho) \sim M_h^2(\rho)$  (“radion” in Randall-Sundrum set-ups)
- Define  $\Phi = (-T_h^2 \text{ for } \Phi < 0, +M_h^2 \text{ for } \Phi > 0)$
- Full action

$$\frac{S_3}{T} = \frac{32\pi^4}{3^5 \bar{T}} \lambda N_c^2 \int_0^\infty d\bar{\rho} \bar{\rho}^2 \left[ \left( 5 - \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{3}} \right) \Phi'^2 + V(\Phi) \right]$$

with

$$V(\Phi) = \frac{16\pi^2}{9} \left[ - \left( 5\Phi^3 + \frac{3}{\pi} \bar{T}(-\Phi)^{5/2} \right) \Theta(-\Phi) + \left( 5\Phi^3 - \frac{3}{\pi} \Phi^{5/2} \right) \Theta(\Phi) \right]$$



Just solve for this system

$$\Phi_{bubble} \Rightarrow \Gamma \Rightarrow \beta/H, T_* \Rightarrow \Omega_{GW}$$

# **GWs from Confinement transition**

Bonus track: same story in Randall-Sundrum (AdS)

- Potential known from [Creminelli-Nicolis-Rattazzi 01]
- Kinetic term in deconfined phase [Bigazzi-Caddeo-ALC-Paredes 20]

$$S_{deconf} = \frac{N_c^2}{16\pi^2} p \int d^4x \left[ 6\pi^2 (\partial_\mu T_h)^2 + 2\pi^4 (3T_h^4 - 4T_h^3 T) \right]$$

$p$  determined by 10d embedding

$$p = \frac{\pi^3}{V(X_5)}$$

Volume of compact manifold

e.g.  $p = 1$  for  $X_5 = S^5$

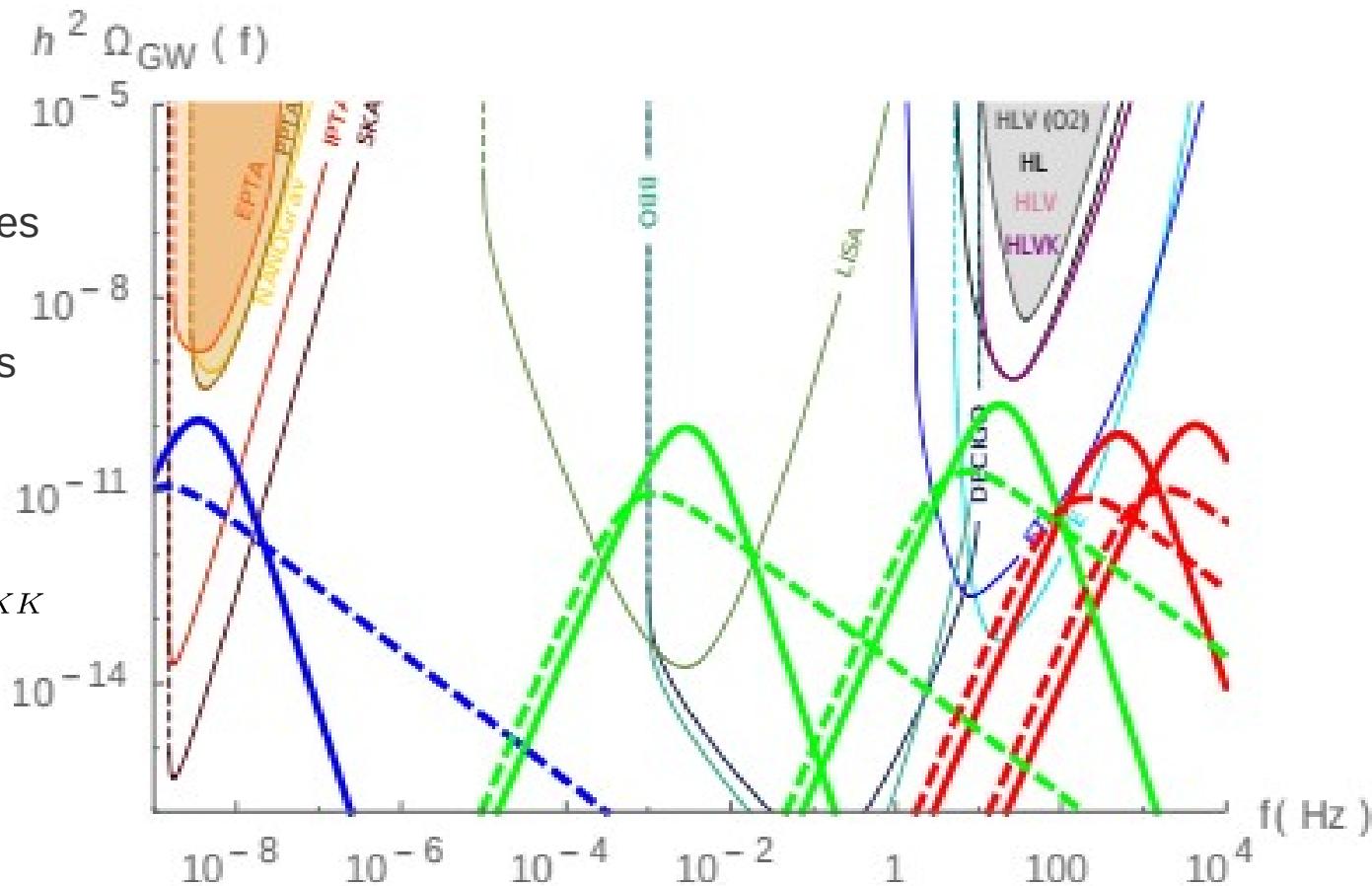
# GWs from Confinement transition

## Results:

Solid lines: sound waves

Dashed lines: collisions

Parameters:  $\lambda N_c^2$ ,  $M_{KK}$



- Blue: “Dark glueball scenario”,  $1 \text{ KeV} \leq M_{KK} \leq 10 \text{ MeV}$ , detectable in next experiments
- Green: “Dark QCD scenario”,  $10^2 \text{ MeV} \leq M_{KK} \leq 10^6 \text{ GeV}$ , detectable in next experiments
- Red: “Dark axion scenario”,  $f_a > 10^8 \text{ GeV}$ , non-detectable in next experiments

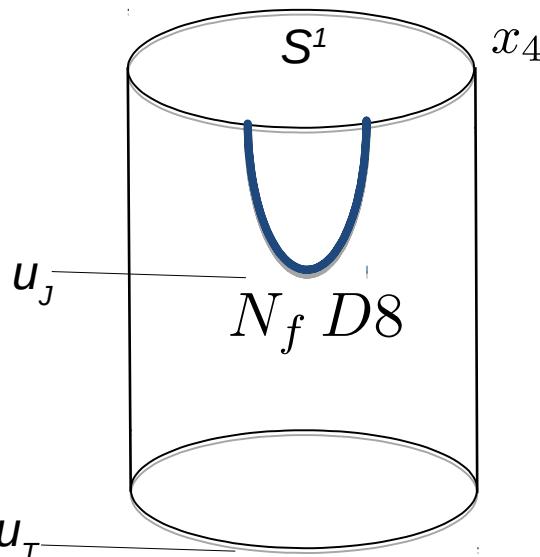
# **GWs from Chiral symmetry breaking**

True bubble profile can be computed from DBI action!

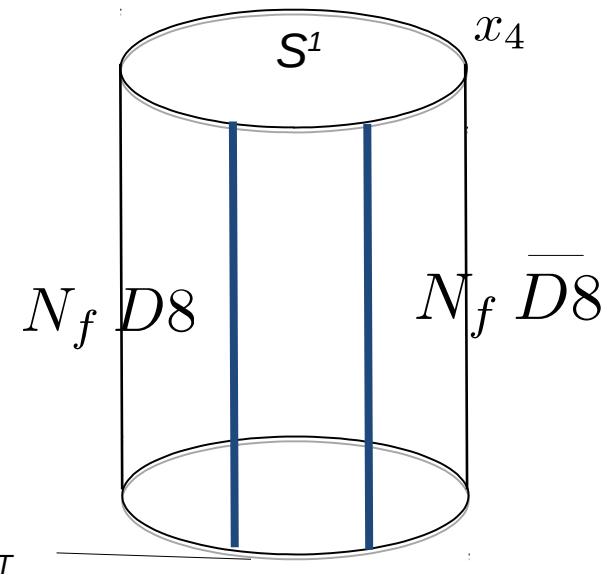
$$S_{DBI} = \frac{T_8}{g_s} \int d^9x \rho^2 \left(\frac{u}{R}\right)^{-\frac{3}{2}} u^4 \sqrt{1 + f_T(u) \left(\frac{u}{R}\right)^3 (\partial_u x_4(\rho, u))^2 + (\partial_\rho x_4(\rho, u))^2}$$

Describes profile of the branes

- Chiral symmetry broken phase:



- Unbroken phase:

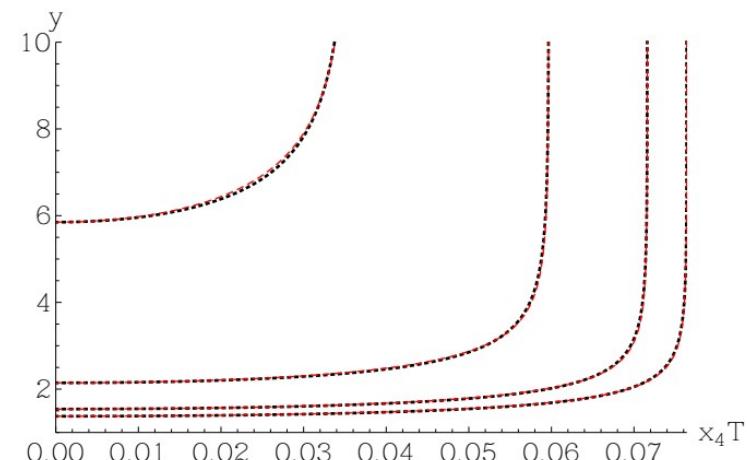
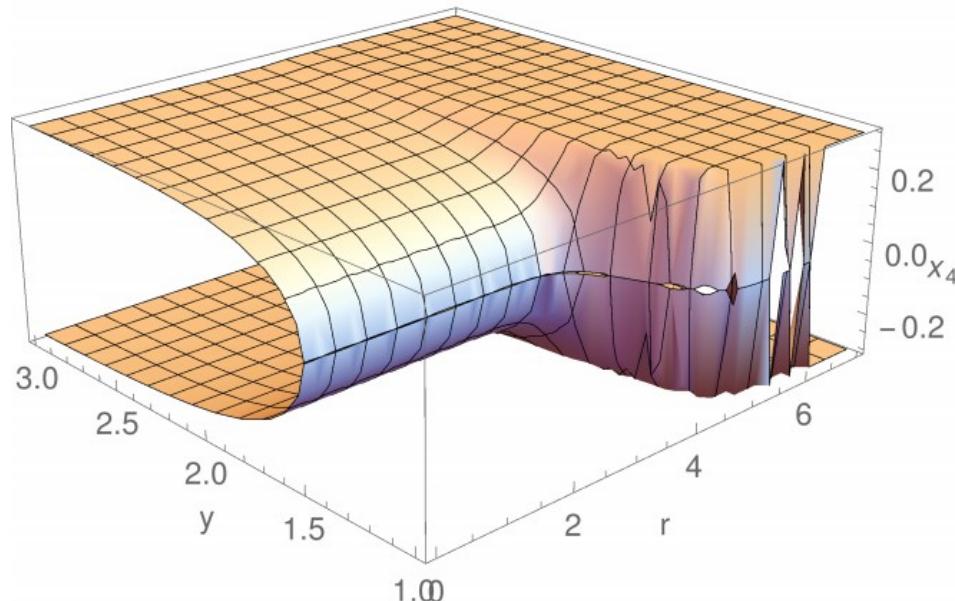


# *GWs from Chiral symmetry breaking*

- Solve equations of motion with variational ansatz

$$x_4 \sim \tanh \left( \frac{\sqrt{y - y_0(r)}}{\sqrt{B(r)}} \right) , \quad y = u/u_T , \quad r = \frac{4\pi T}{3} \rho$$

- Gives excellent approximation to true solution in connected and disconnected cases
- Bubble solution



# ***GWs from Chiral symmetry breaking***

Observations:

- “Dark QCD ChiSB scenario”:
  - Chiral symmetry breaking transition followed by confinement transition:  
modifies formulae for spectra
  - Probe approximation: flavor contribution subleading  weaker signal
  - If confinement transition dominated by collisions: signal of ChiSB covered
- “Holo-Axion scenario”: parameters are constrained as in Sakai-Sugimoto

$$M_{KK} \sim 1 \text{ GeV}, \quad \lambda \sim 33, \quad N_c = 3, \quad N_f = 6, \quad f_a > 10^8 \text{ GeV}$$

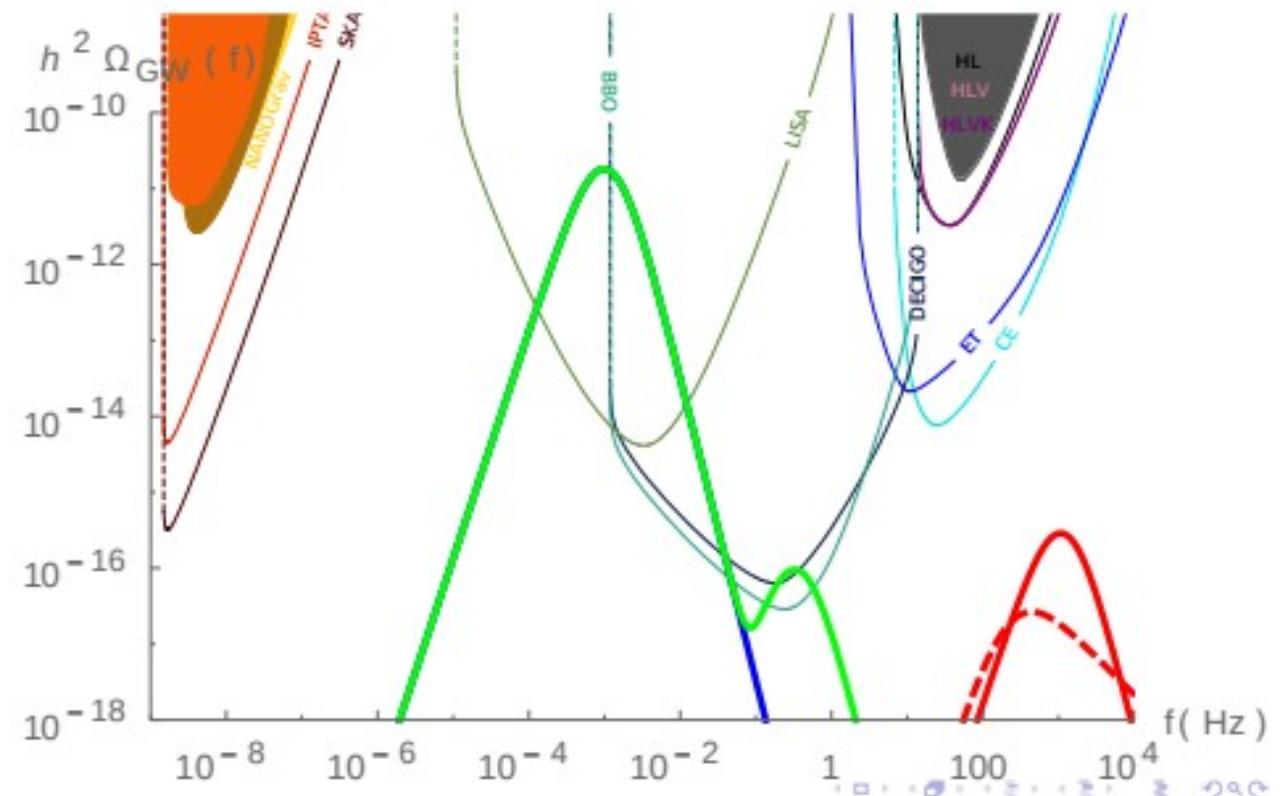
# GWs from Chiral symmetry breaking

## Results:

Solid lines: sound waves

Dashed line: collisions

Parameters:  $\lambda, N_c, N_f, M_{KK}, f_\chi$



- Blue: “Dark QCD scenario”, confinement transition only
- Green: “Dark QCD scenario”, confinement+ChiSB, detectable in next experiments
- Red: “Holo-Axion scenario”, non-detectable in next experiments

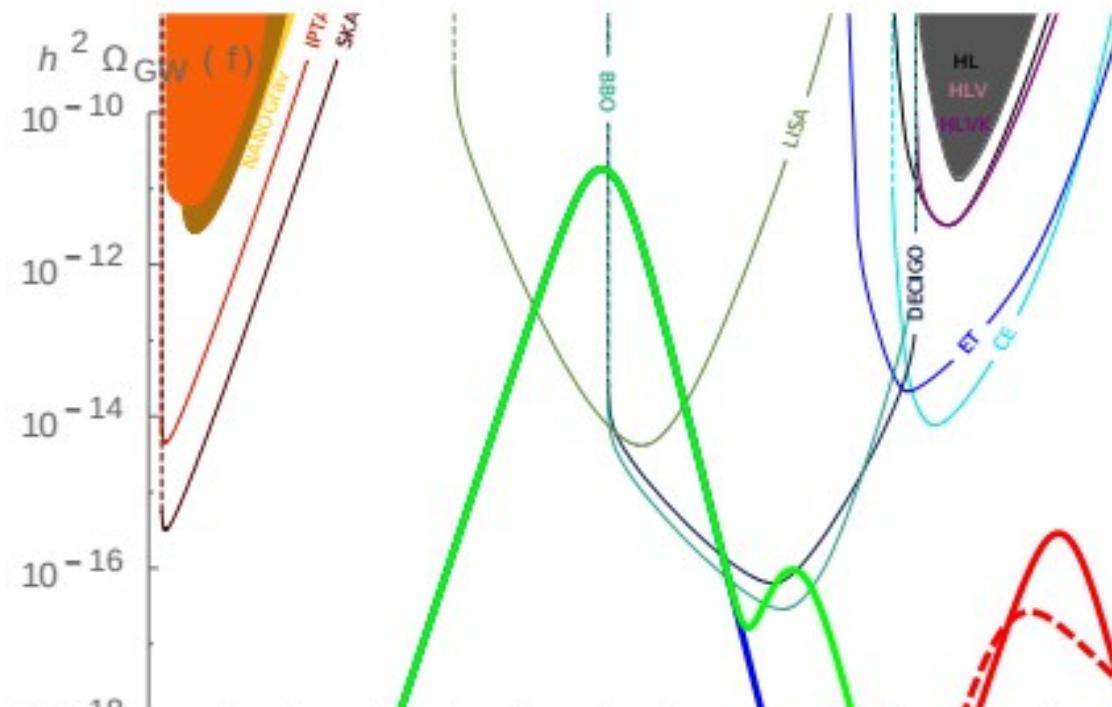
# GWs from Chiral symmetry breaking

## Results:

Solid lines: sound waves

Dashed line: collisions

Parameters:  $\lambda, N_c, N_f, M_{KK}, f_\chi$



Double peak “smoking gun” for this type of models

- Blue: “Dark QCD”
- Green: “Dark QCD”
- Red: “Holo-Axion scenario”, non-detectable in next experiments

# Overview

- YM or QCD-like holographic dark sectors (“Dark Holograms”) can generate detectable GW signals in a wide range of near future experimental facilities
- Holographic Peccei-Quinn transitions are non-detectable in near future
- Two peaks from ChiSB and confinement transitions single out this kind of models
  - Determining peak correlations would provide very distinctive predictions



*Thank you for your time!*