## Smashing Solitons of Cosmology



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![](_page_3_Figure_1.jpeg)

### plan for the talk

- WHAT was it that you saw ?
- WHY is it relevant for cosmology ?
- IMPLICATIONS ?

## cosmological scalar fields self-interaction + gravity

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{m_{\rm pl}^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial \phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right]$$

![](_page_5_Figure_2.jpeg)

\*opening up means of the potential there is an attractive interaction in addition to gravity

## why study such systems ?

- relevant for end of inflation because observations favor such "opened up" potentials for inflation
- relevant for axions/axion-like fields (dark matter)

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{m_{\rm pl}^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial \phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right] \qquad V(\phi) = \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 + V_{\rm nl}(\phi)$$

### observational implications incomplete list!

- eq. of state & energy transfer after inflation ?
- stochastic gravitational wave-generation ?
- primordial black hole (PBH) formation ?

- distinguishability from "usual" dark matter ?
- additional early/late early structure formation
- compact objects
  - eg. sources of gravitational waves ?
- source of signature in light

dark matter

after inflation

![](_page_8_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Picture_1.jpeg)

-> understanding the dynamics: soliton formation & interactions

• implications

### instability — formation of solitons (non-topological "solitons" in real scalar fields)

![](_page_9_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Figure_2.jpeg)

### instability — formation of solitons (non-topological "solitons" in real scalar fields)

![](_page_10_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Figure_2.jpeg)

MA (2010) 1006.3075

### instability — formation of solitons (non-topological "solitons" in real scalar fields)

![](_page_11_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_11_Figure_2.jpeg)

MA (2010) 1006.3075

![](_page_12_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_0.jpeg)

# insensitive to initial conditions

![](_page_15_Figure_1.jpeg)

simulation of "quasi-thermal" example in Farhi, Guth, Iqbal, Graham 2008

# insensitive to initial conditions

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

simulation of "quasi-thermal" example in Farhi, Guth, Iqbal, Graham 2008

### soliton formation in 3D

![](_page_17_Picture_1.jpeg)

MA, Easther, Finkel, Flauger & Hertzberg (2011) 1106.3335

# solitons ?

(1) oscillatory (2) spatially localized (3) very long lived

![](_page_18_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_3.jpeg)

For example: Bogolubsky & Makhankov (1976) Segur & Kruskal (1987) Gleiser (1994) Copeland et al. (1995) **MA & Shirokoff (2010)** Hertzberg (2011) **MA (2013)** Mukaida et. al (2016) Salmi & Hindmarsh (2014) **Zhang, MA, et. al (2020)** 

# family of scalar field solitons

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

### long term dynamics ?

![](_page_20_Picture_1.jpeg)

assuming coupling to other fields is sufficiently weak

![](_page_21_Picture_0.jpeg)

self-interactions

## include gravity ?

gravitational interactions

- gravitational clustering takes time ...
- long time makes it difficult to resolve very fast oscillatory time scale

self-interactions + gravity\* (Schrodinger-Poisson)

expansion self-interactions gravitational int. relativistic? X

MA & Mocz (2019) 1902.07261 \*self interaction more important than gravity initially \*\*there are a number of caveats in the non-relativistic approximations

### gravitational clustering of solitons

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

### self-interactions + gravity\* (Schrodinger-Poisson)

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_2.jpeg)

## strong interactions: mergers

![](_page_25_Picture_1.jpeg)

## strong interactions: mergers

![](_page_26_Picture_1.jpeg)

## strong interactions: mergers

![](_page_27_Picture_1.jpeg)

### strong interactions: bounce

![](_page_28_Picture_1.jpeg)

### strong interactions: bounce

![](_page_29_Picture_1.jpeg)

## strong interactions: bounce

![](_page_30_Picture_1.jpeg)

## strong interactions: orbit

![](_page_31_Picture_1.jpeg)

resolution is limited at late very times

## strong interactions: orbit

![](_page_32_Picture_1.jpeg)

resolution is limited at late very times

### phase dependent interactions

![](_page_33_Figure_1.jpeg)

$$\phi \propto \Re[\psi]$$
  
 $\psi_a(t, \mathbf{x}) = \Psi_a(\mathbf{x})e^{-i\nu_a t + \theta_a}$ 

$$|\theta_1 - \theta_2| \simeq \pi$$

 $|\theta_1 - \theta_2| \simeq 0$ 

EFT of non-topological solitons — MA & Iqbal (in progress)

+ undergrads Anamitra Paul and Rohith Karur

### observational implications

- gravitational
- non-gravitational (typically more fields needed)

### observational implications incomplete list!

- eq. of state & energy transfer after inflation ?
- stochastic gravitational wave-generation ?
- primordial black hole (PBH) formation ?

- distinguishability from "usual" dark matter ?
- additional early/late early structure formation
- sources of gravitational waves ?
- source of signature in light

### late universe

### early universe

## relevant scales

![](_page_36_Figure_2.jpeg)

\*numbers are different when held together by gravity instead of self interactions

## exploring soliton collisions with full numerical GR

$$\begin{split} S &= \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{m_{\rm pl}^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial \phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right] \\ V(\phi) &= \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 + V_{\rm pl}(\phi) \qquad \text{ignore self-interactions} \end{split}$$

interested in gravitational wave emission from ultracompact solitons

Helfer, Lim, Garcia & MA (2018)

# sub-critical collisions (no black hole formation)

![](_page_38_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Picture_4.jpeg)

time  $\rightarrow$ 

using GRChombo

# sub-critical collisions (no black hole formation)

![](_page_39_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_39_Picture_3.jpeg)

using GRChombo

# sub-critical collisions (no black hole formation)

![](_page_40_Figure_2.jpeg)

using GRChombo

### implications critical collisions (black-hole formation after collision)

 1 = 2 m = 0	)			
			-	

![](_page_41_Picture_2.jpeg)

time  $\rightarrow$ 

### implications critical collisions (black-hole formation after collision)

![](_page_42_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_42_Picture_2.jpeg)

time  $\rightarrow$ 

### implications critical collisions (black-hole formation after collision)

![](_page_43_Figure_1.jpeg)

## gravitational waves from ultra-compact soliton collisions

implications

![](_page_44_Figure_1.jpeg)

black = corresponding mass black hole g-wave signal

## more energy in g-waves than corresponding mass BHs

![](_page_45_Figure_2.jpeg)

 $c \approx 0$ 

### important caveats/questions

- how likely are these ultra-compact solitons to form and collide ?
- head-on collisions: inspirals might change the answers
- distinguishability?

# electromagnetic bursts from oscillon mergers?

$$S = \int d^4x \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi - V(\phi) - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{g_{\phi\gamma}}{4} \phi F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \right]$$

$$V(\phi) = \frac{1}{2}m^2\phi^2 + V_{\rm nl}(\phi)$$

interested in electromagnetic wave emission from merger of oscillons [we ignore gravity]

![](_page_47_Figure_5.jpeg)

\* for the idea in a non-relativistic, non-interacting context with analytic estimates

\* see Tkachev (2014, for FRBs), Hertzberg & Schiappacasse (2018), Hertzberg et. al (2020)

WORKIN PROGRESS

![](_page_48_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_2.jpeg)

### electromagnetic bursts from mergers

![](_page_52_Figure_2.jpeg)

## important elements

- no emission before merger
- explosive after merger
- a threshold & resonant effect

![](_page_53_Picture_5.jpeg)

WORK IN BROGRES

\*assumption about axion-photon coupling  $g_{a\gamma} \sim 1/M$ 

## some numbers

energy emitted ?

$$E_{\gamma} \sim 0.1 \times M_{\rm osc} c^2$$

$$\sim 10^{36} \left(\frac{M}{10^{12} \,\mathrm{GeV}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{10^{-2} \mathrm{eV}}{m}\right) \,\mathrm{GeV}$$

NORKINSS PROGRESS

### frequency ?

$$\omega_{\gamma} \sim m$$

$$\sim 10^4 \left(\frac{m}{10^{-2} {\rm eV}}\right) \, {\rm GHz}$$

\*choice of numbers is partly related to making these axions dark matter

### caveats

 $\Gamma \sim \mathcal{O}(1) \left(\frac{f_{\rm osc}}{10^{-2}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{10^{12}\,{\rm GeV}}{M}\right)^4 \left[1 + 10^{-6} \left(\frac{M}{10^{12}\,{\rm GeV}}\right)^2\right] \frac{{\rm collisions}}{{\rm galaxy\,year}} \,.$ 

- merger rates? (collision rate > one/per yr/galaxy!)
- detailed history of formation, abundance/ distribution in a galaxy?
- off-axis, in-spirals, different phases etc.
- lifetimes of solitons with strong self-interactions
- axion-photon coupling?  $g_{a\gamma} \sim M^{-1}$

![](_page_55_Picture_8.jpeg)

NORREE ROGREE

![](_page_56_Picture_0.jpeg)

### **Classical Decay Rates of Oscillons**

Hong-Yi Zhang, Mustafa A. Amin, Edmund J. Copeland, Paul M. Saffin, Kaloian D. Lozanov arXiv: 2004.01202

![](_page_56_Figure_3.jpeg)

- decay rates for large amplitude oscillons

#### key improvement:

systematically including a spacetime-dependent effective mass term in the radiation calculation.

Capable of capturing **non-trivial features** at large amplitudes

![](_page_56_Figure_8.jpeg)

### tangential digression

![](_page_57_Picture_1.jpeg)

### related solitons in BECs

![](_page_58_Figure_1.jpeg)

Nguyen, Luo & Hulet (2017)

nonlinear Klein Gordon — nonlinear Schrodinger eq.

$$\begin{array}{c} \partial_t^2 \phi - c^2 \nabla^2 \phi + \partial_\phi V(\phi) = 0 \\ & \swarrow \\ \partial_t^2 \varphi - c_{\rm s}^2 \nabla^2 \varphi + \partial_\varphi \mathcal{V}(\varphi) = 0 & \longleftrightarrow \\ \partial_t \psi = \left[ -\frac{1}{2m} \nabla^2 + U'(|\psi|^2) \right] \psi \\ \text{relative phase between different condensates} \\ & \text{non-relativistic} \end{array}$$

# end tangential digression

![](_page_59_Picture_1.jpeg)

### summary

![](_page_60_Figure_1.jpeg)

### thanks !

![](_page_61_Picture_1.jpeg)

# thanks!

![](_page_62_Picture_1.jpeg)