



ID de la contribución : 31

Tipo : **Talk**

Gravitational waves from supermassive black holes at pulsar timing arrays

lunes, 3 de noviembre de 2025 15:30 (15)

Inspiralling supermassive black hole (SMBH) binaries provide a natural explanation for the gravitational wave (GW) background observed in pulsar timing array (PTA) data. In this talk, I present a semi-analytical estimate of the GW background from SMBH binaries and discuss how the SMBH-based fit to the PTA data reveals evidence of environmental effects or binary eccentricities. I also explore potential observational signatures that could help distinguish between these effects and confirm whether the signal indeed originates from SMBH binaries.

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Clasificación de la sesión : Gravitational Waves

Clasificación de temáticas : Gravitational waves