

# Hellings-Downs curve deformed by ultra-light vector dark matter

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@Gravitational Wave Probes of Physics Beyond Standard Model

# Introduction

- NANOGrav found evidence of the stochastic gravitational wave background!

## The NANOGrav 15 yr Data Set: Evidence for a Gravitational-wave Background

NANOGrav Collaboration · [Gabriella Agazie \(Marquette U.\)](#) [Show All\(114\)](#)

Jun 28, 2023

24 pages

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e-Print: [2306.16213](#) [astro-ph.HE]

DOI: [10.3847/2041-8213/acdac6](#)

Experiments: [NANOGRAV](#)

View in: [ADS Abstract Service](#)

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 284 citations

- Many talks about PTAs in this workshop.

# Introduction

## Stochastic Gravitational Wave Background (SGWB)

- Superposition of many unresolvable gravitational wave.
- Important observational target of current observation
- Origin: Binary Black hole, Inflation, Phase transition, Cosmic String,.....

Pulsar Timing Array can also probe ultra-light dark matter. (Porayko+, 2014)

- What if both gravitational wave background and ultra-light dark matter exist at the same time?

# Pulsar Timing Array & GW



- Pulsar emits a pulse periodically.
- When a pulse travels in gravitational waves, its period gets redshift.

$$z_a(t) \equiv \frac{\nu_0 - \nu_{\text{obs}}(t)}{\nu_0} = \frac{1}{2} u_a^i u_a^j \int_0^t dt' \partial_{t'} h_{ij}(t', x) \Big|_{x=x(t')}$$

$u_a$ : unit vector pointing from the pulsar to Earth

$$\Delta T_{\text{GW},a}(t) = \int_0^t dt' z_a(t'), \quad \text{Timing residual}$$

# Correlation Analysis

SGWB seen by a single pulsar is “noise”

➔ Taking the correlation between pulsars  
can distinguish SGWB and noise

Total timing residual:  $\Delta T_{\text{tot},a} = \underbrace{\Delta T_{\text{GW},a}}_{\text{SGWB}} + \underbrace{N_a}_{\text{Noise}}$

Cross-Correlation:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Delta T_{\text{tot},a} \Delta T_{\text{tot},b} \rangle &= \langle \Delta T_{\text{GW},a} \Delta T_{\text{GW},b} \rangle + \langle N_a N_b \rangle \\ &= \langle \Delta T_{\text{GW},a} \Delta T_{\text{GW},b} \rangle \quad (\text{Noise are independent}) \end{aligned}$$

Only SGWB remain  
(relatively amplified)

# Hellings-Downs curve

(Hellings&Downs, 1983)

One can analytically calculate the angular correlation between the pulsar.

$$\langle \Delta T_{\text{GW},a} \Delta T_{\text{GW},b} \rangle = \int df \Gamma_{\text{HD}}(\xi) \Phi_{\text{GW}}(f) \cos 2\pi f t$$

$\xi$ : angle between pulsar,  $\Phi_{\text{GW}}$ : amplitude of GW

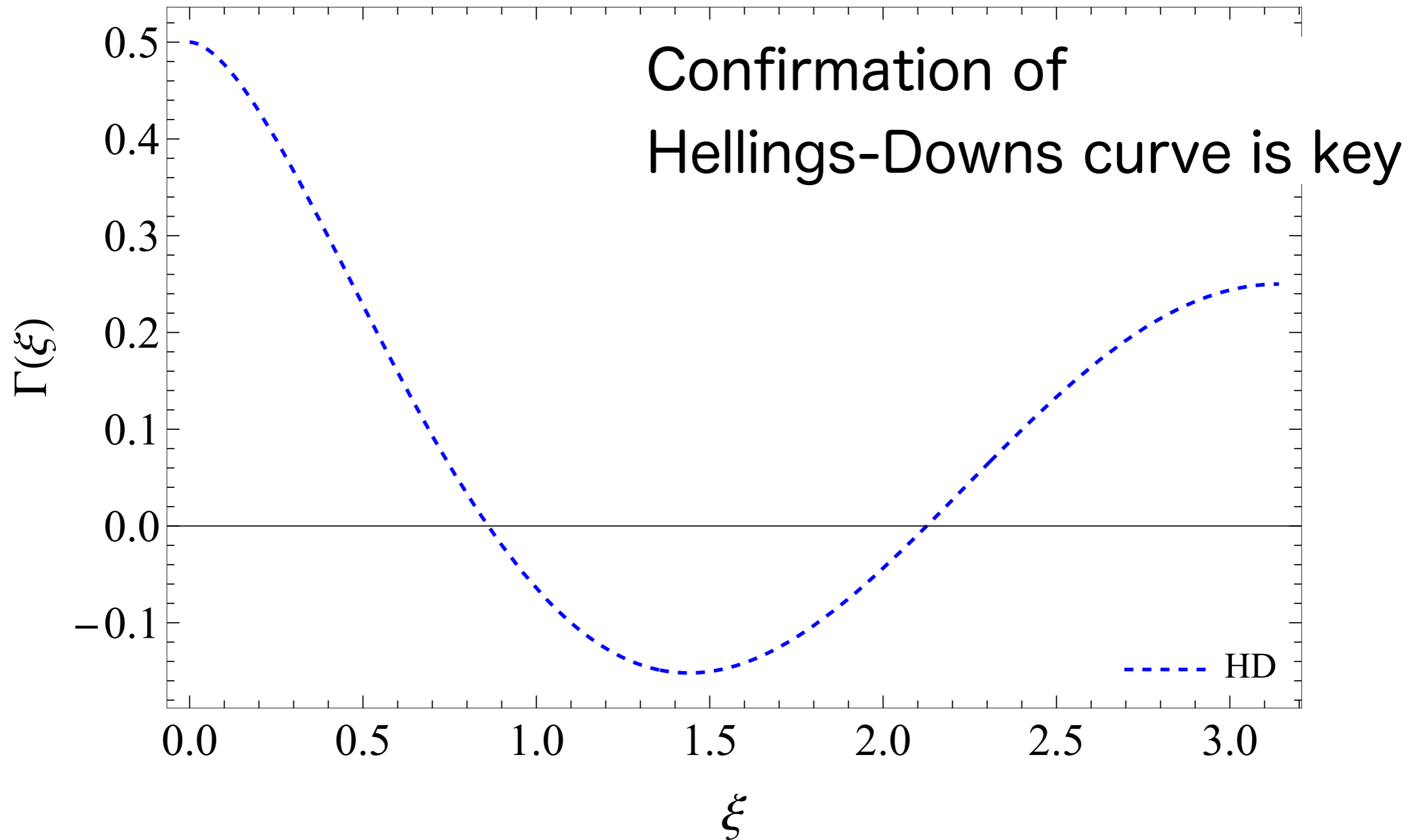
$$\Gamma_{\text{HD}}(\xi) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{1 - \cos \xi}{2} \right) \log \left( \frac{1 - \cos \xi}{2} \right) - \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{1 - \cos \xi}{2} \right),$$

$$\Phi_{\text{GW}}(f) = \frac{A_{\text{GW}}^2}{12\pi^2} \frac{1}{T_{\text{obs}}} \left( \frac{f_i}{f_{\text{ref}}} \right)^{-\gamma} f_{\text{ref}}^{-3}.$$

NANOGrav:  $A_{\text{GW}} \sim 2.4 \times 10^{-15}$  with  $f_{\text{ref}} = 1 \text{ yr}^{-1}$ ,  $\gamma = 13/3$

# Hellings-Downs curve

(Hellings&Downs, 1983)



# Ultra-Light Dark Matter

Not only gravitational waves, but ultra-light dark matter can produce timing residual. (Porayko+, 2014, Nomura+, 2019)

## Ultra-light dark matter

- Bosonic particle with mass  $\sim 10^{-24} - 1$  eV
- Behaves as cold dark matter on a large scale
- Wave-like properties appear on a small scale
- Spin-0 (or axion-like particle) is considered in many literature but the higher spin field is also possible

In this talk, we focus on vector-type dark matter.



# Configuration of ULVDM

(Nomura+, 2019)

Coherent Length

$$k^{-1} = \frac{2\pi}{\mu v_{\text{DM}}} \sim 0.4 \text{ kpc} \left( \frac{10^{-22} \text{ eV}}{\mu} \right) \left( \frac{10^{-3}}{v_{\text{DM}}} \right),$$

Equation of Motion

$$\nabla_{\mu} F^{\mu\nu} - \mu^2 A^{\nu} = 0, \quad F_{\mu\nu} = \nabla_{\mu} A_{\nu} - \nabla_{\nu} A_{\mu}$$

**→**  $A_0 \sim 0, \quad A(t, \mathbf{x}) \sim \mathbf{\Omega}_A(\mathbf{x}) A \cos(\mu t + \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}) .$

$\mathbf{\Omega}_A$ : Direction of the vector field

$A$ : Amplitude of the vector field

- Coherent length is much longer than the Compton wavelength. Thus, the spatial derivative is much smaller than the time derivative.

# Configuration of ULVDM

(Nomura+, 2019)

## Stress-Energy tensor

$$T_{00} \sim \frac{1}{2} \mu^2 A^2 ,$$

$$T_{ij} \sim -\frac{1}{2} \mu^2 A^2 \left( \delta_{ij} - 2\Omega_{A,i} \Omega_{A,j} \right) \underline{\cos(2\mu t + 2\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x})} ,$$

Time-dependent

- Large amplitude for small mass (energy density is fixed).
- Time-dependent pressure exists.



Time-dependent metric perturbation is produced!

# Metric perturbation by ULVDM

(Nomura+, 2019)

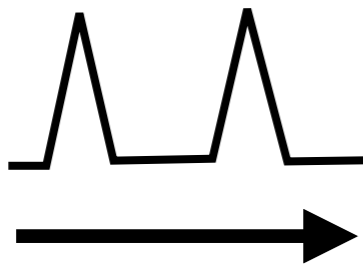
Solving linearized Einstein equation.....

$$ds^2 = -(1 - 2\Psi(t, \mathbf{x}))dt^2 + [(1 + 2\Psi(t, \mathbf{x}))\delta_{ij} + \gamma_{ij}(t, \mathbf{x})] dx^i dx^j ,$$

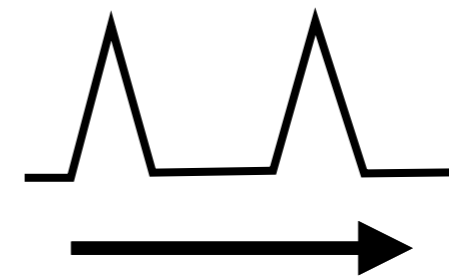
$$\Psi(t, \mathbf{x}) = \Psi_{\text{osc}}(\mathbf{x}) \cos(2\mu t + 2\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}) ,$$

$$\gamma_{ij}(t, \mathbf{x}) = h_{\text{osc}}(\mathbf{x}) (\delta_{ij} - 3\Omega_{A,i}(\mathbf{x})\Omega_{A,j}(\mathbf{x})) \cos(2\mu t + 2\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}) ,$$

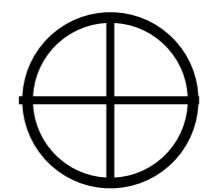
Pulsar



Dark Matter



Earth



Similar situation as gravitational waves.

# Timing Residual by ULVDM

(Nomura+, 2019)

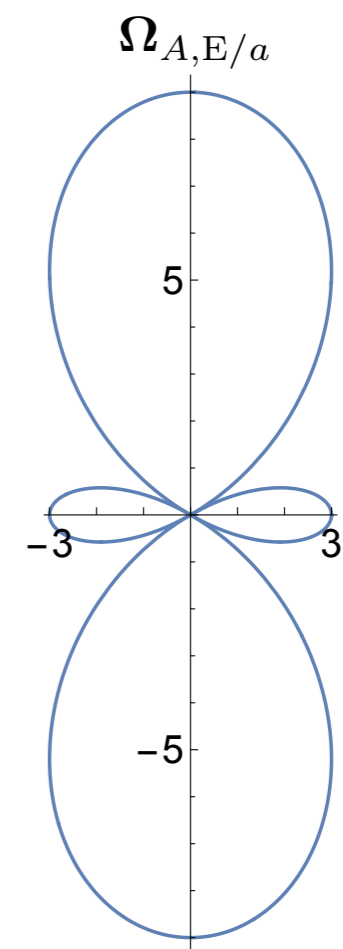
$$\Delta T_{\text{DM},a} = \frac{1}{2\mu} \left( \underbrace{F_{a,E}^{\text{DM}} \Psi_{\text{osc}}(\mathbf{x}_E) \sin(2\mu t + 2\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}_E)}_{\text{Contribution from perturbation@Earth}} - \underbrace{F_{a,P}^{\text{DM}} \Psi_{\text{osc}}(\mathbf{x}_a) \sin(2\mu t - 2\mu L_a + 2\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}_a)}_{\text{Contribution from perturbation@Pulsar}} \right)$$

$$F_{a,E}^{\text{DM}} = -3 \left( 1 - 4(\mathbf{u}_a \cdot \boldsymbol{\Omega}_{A,E})^2 \right) ,$$

$$F_{a,P}^{\text{DM}} = -3 \left( 1 - 4(\mathbf{u}_a \cdot \boldsymbol{\Omega}_{A,a})^2 \right) .$$

Response of the PTA to the ULVDM

Response is Monopole+Quadrupole



# Cross correlation

(HO+, 2023)

$$\langle \Delta T_{\text{DM},a} \Delta T_{\text{DM},b} \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{2(2\mu)^2} \left[ \langle \Psi_{\text{osc}}(\mathbf{x}_a) \Psi_{\text{osc}}(\mathbf{x}_b) \rangle \langle F_{a,\text{P}}^{\text{DM}} F_{b,\text{P}}^{\text{DM}} \rangle \right. \\ &\quad \times \cos(2\mu\tau + 2\mu(L_a - L_b) - 2\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{x}_a - \mathbf{x}_b)) \\ &\quad - \langle \Psi_{\text{osc}}(\mathbf{x}_\text{E}) \Psi_{\text{osc}}(\mathbf{x}_b) \rangle \langle F_{a,\text{E}}^{\text{DM}} F_{b,\text{P}}^{\text{DM}} \rangle \\ &\quad \times \cos(2\mu\tau - 2\mu L_b - 2\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{x}_\text{E} - \mathbf{x}_b)) \\ &\quad - \langle \Psi_{\text{osc}}(\mathbf{x}_\text{E}) \Psi_{\text{osc}}(\mathbf{x}_a) \rangle \langle F_{a,\text{P}}^{\text{DM}} F_{b,\text{E}}^{\text{DM}} \rangle \\ &\quad \times \cos(2\mu\tau + 2\mu L_a - 2\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{x}_a - \mathbf{x}_\text{E})) \\ &\quad \left. + \langle \Psi_{\text{osc}}^2(\mathbf{x}_\text{E}) \rangle \langle F_{a,\text{E}}^{\text{DM}} F_{b,\text{E}}^{\text{DM}} \rangle \cos 2\mu\tau \right] \end{aligned}$$

“Pulsar term”

- We take an average over observed pulsars.



“Pulsar term” is relatively suppressed by  $\cos \mu L$  or  $\sin \mu L$  if we observe a large number of pulsars.

$$\times 10^3 \lesssim \mu L \lesssim 10^5 \text{ for } \mu \sim 10^{-22} \text{eV.}$$

# Angular correlation

Dropping pulsar terms

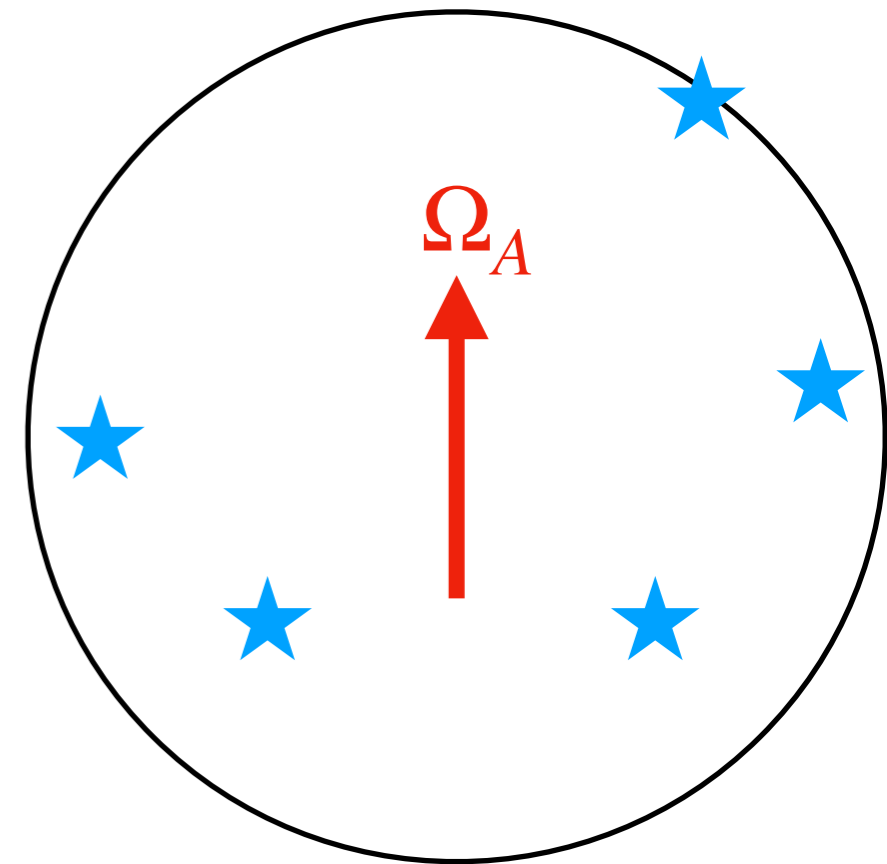
$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \Delta T_a(t) \Delta T_b(t + \tau) \rangle \\ & \approx \frac{1}{2(2\mu)^2} \langle \Psi_{\text{osc}}^2(\mathbf{x}_E) \rangle \langle F_{a,E}^{\text{DM}} F_{b,E}^{\text{DM}} \rangle \cos 2\mu\tau . \end{aligned}$$

Averaging over pulsars all over the sky

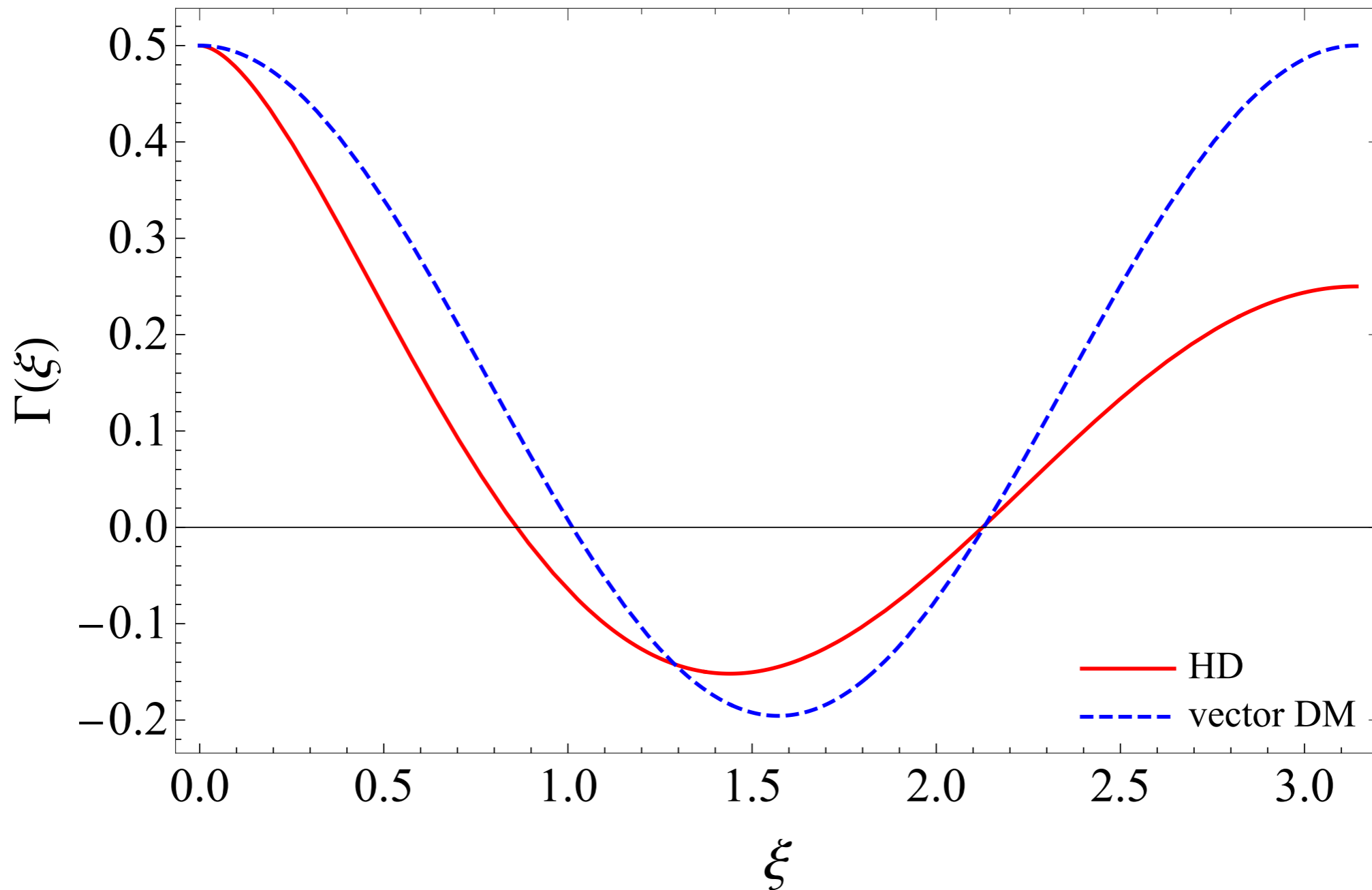
↔ Average over direction of the vector field.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle F_{a,E}^{\text{DM}} F_{b,E}^{\text{DM}} \rangle &= 9 \int \frac{d\Omega_A}{4\pi} (1 - 4(\mathbf{u}_a \cdot \boldsymbol{\Omega}_{A,E})^2) \\ & \quad \times (1 - 4(\mathbf{u}_b \cdot \boldsymbol{\Omega}_{A,E})^2) \\ &= \frac{3}{5} (7 + 16 \cos 2\xi) \equiv \frac{138}{5} \Gamma_{\text{DM}}(\xi) . \end{aligned}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{DM}}(\xi) = \frac{5}{138} P_0(\cos \xi) + \frac{64}{138} P_2(\cos \xi)$$



# Angular correlation

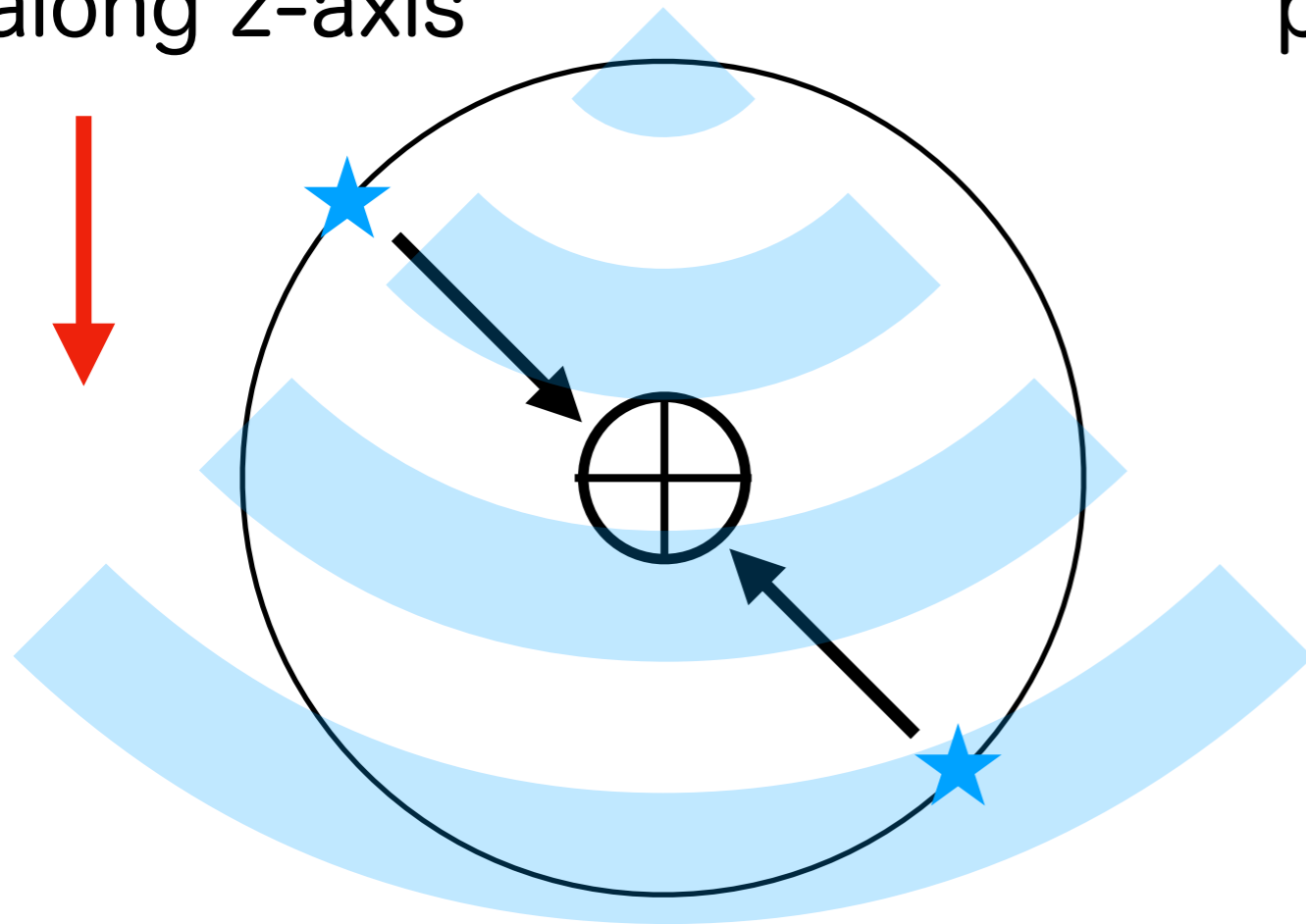


- Quadrupole component dominant for both cases.
- Higher multipoles exist in SGWB signal.

# Why Different?

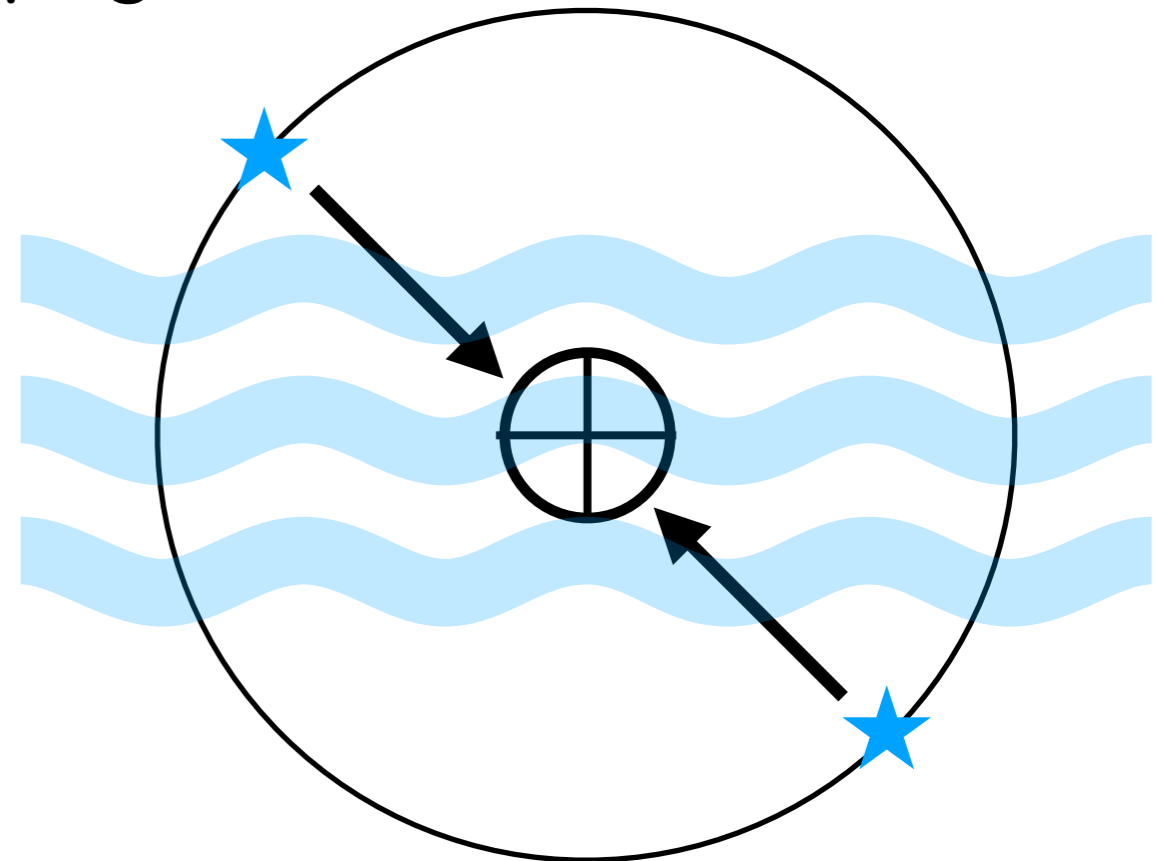
Propagate  
along z-axis

GW



No  
propagation

DM



Since ULDM is just a standing wave, pulses from opposite direction feels the same perturbation.



# Total Angular correlation

Total timing residual is sum of all components

$$\Delta T_{\text{tot},a} = \Delta T_{\text{GW},a} + \Delta T_{\text{DM},a} + N_a$$

GW signal and DM signal are independent

$$\begin{aligned} C_{ab}(\tau) &= \langle \Delta T_{\text{tot},a}(t + \tau) \Delta T_{\text{tot},b}(t) \rangle \\ &\sim \langle \Delta T_{\text{GW},a} \Delta T_{\text{GW},b} \rangle + \langle \Delta T_{\text{DM},a} \Delta T_{\text{DM},b} \rangle \\ &= \sum_i \Gamma_{\text{HD}}(\xi) \Phi_{\text{GW}}(f_i) \cos 2\pi f_i \tau \\ &\quad + \Gamma_{\text{DM}}(\xi) \Phi_{\text{DM}} \cos 2\mu \tau . \end{aligned}$$

When the frequency of dark matter is contained in the frequency bin, angular correlation is modified!

# Total Angular correlation

Define effective angular correlation as

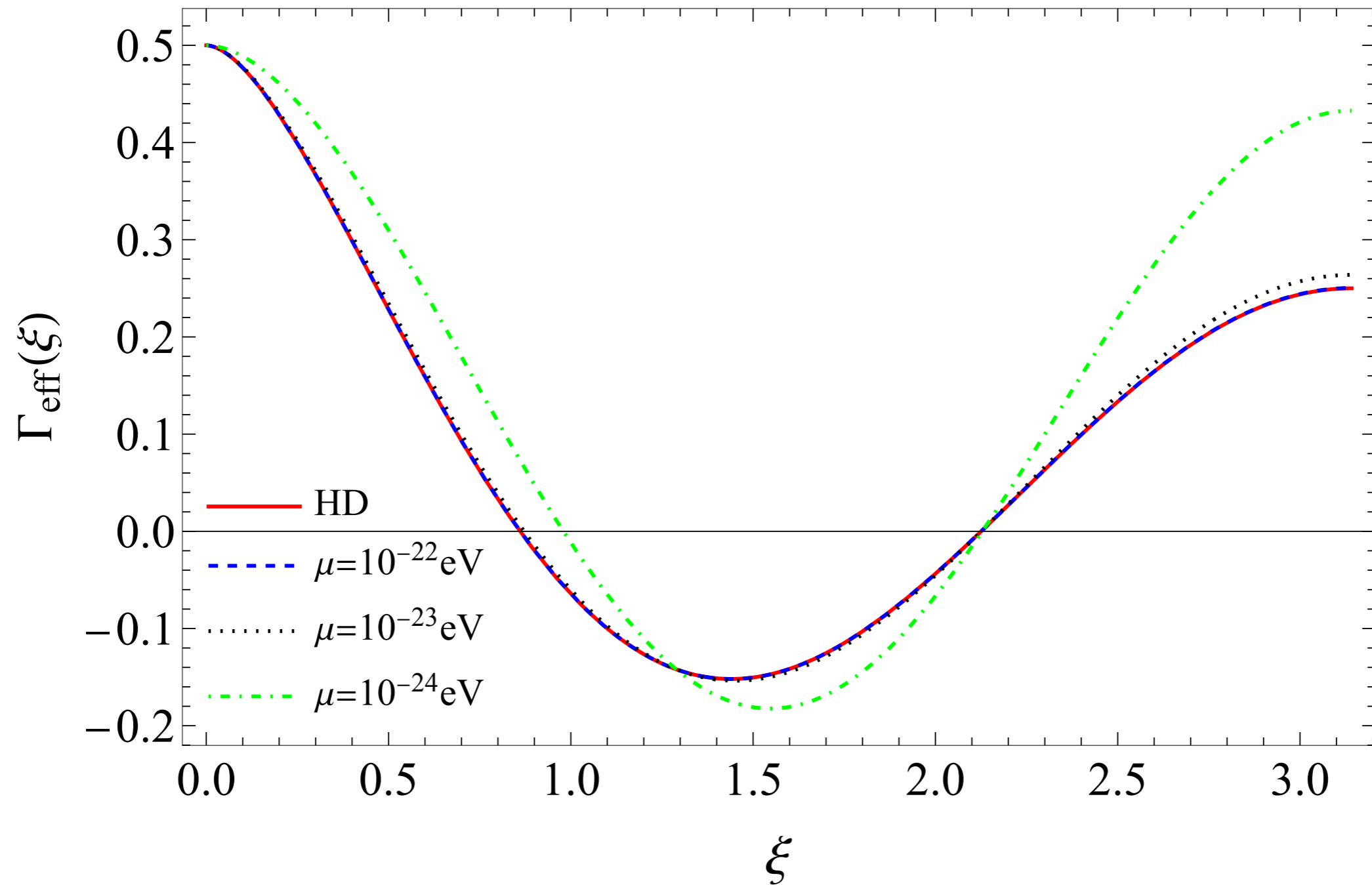
$$\Gamma_{\text{eff}}(\xi) = \frac{\Phi_{\text{GW}}(\mu/\pi)}{\Phi_{\text{GW}}(\mu/\pi) + \Phi_{\text{DM}}} \times \left( \Gamma_{\text{HD}}(\xi) + \frac{\Phi_{\text{DM}}}{\Phi_{\text{GW}}(\mu/\pi)} \Gamma_{\text{DM}}(\xi) \right) .$$

Amplitude of GW and DM is given by

$$\Phi_{\text{GW}}(\mu/\pi) \sim 5 \times 10^{-34} \text{yr}^2 \left( \frac{\mu}{10^{-22} \text{eV}} \right)^{-13/3} \left( \frac{15 \text{yr}}{T_{\text{obs}}} \right) .$$

$$\Phi_{\text{DM}} \sim 7 \times 10^{-37} \text{yr}^2 \left( \frac{\rho_{\text{DM}}}{0.4 \text{GeV} \cdot \text{cm}^{-3}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{10^{-22} \text{eV}}{\mu} \right)^6 .$$

# Total Angular correlation



Hellings-Downs curve is deformed due to the ULVDM

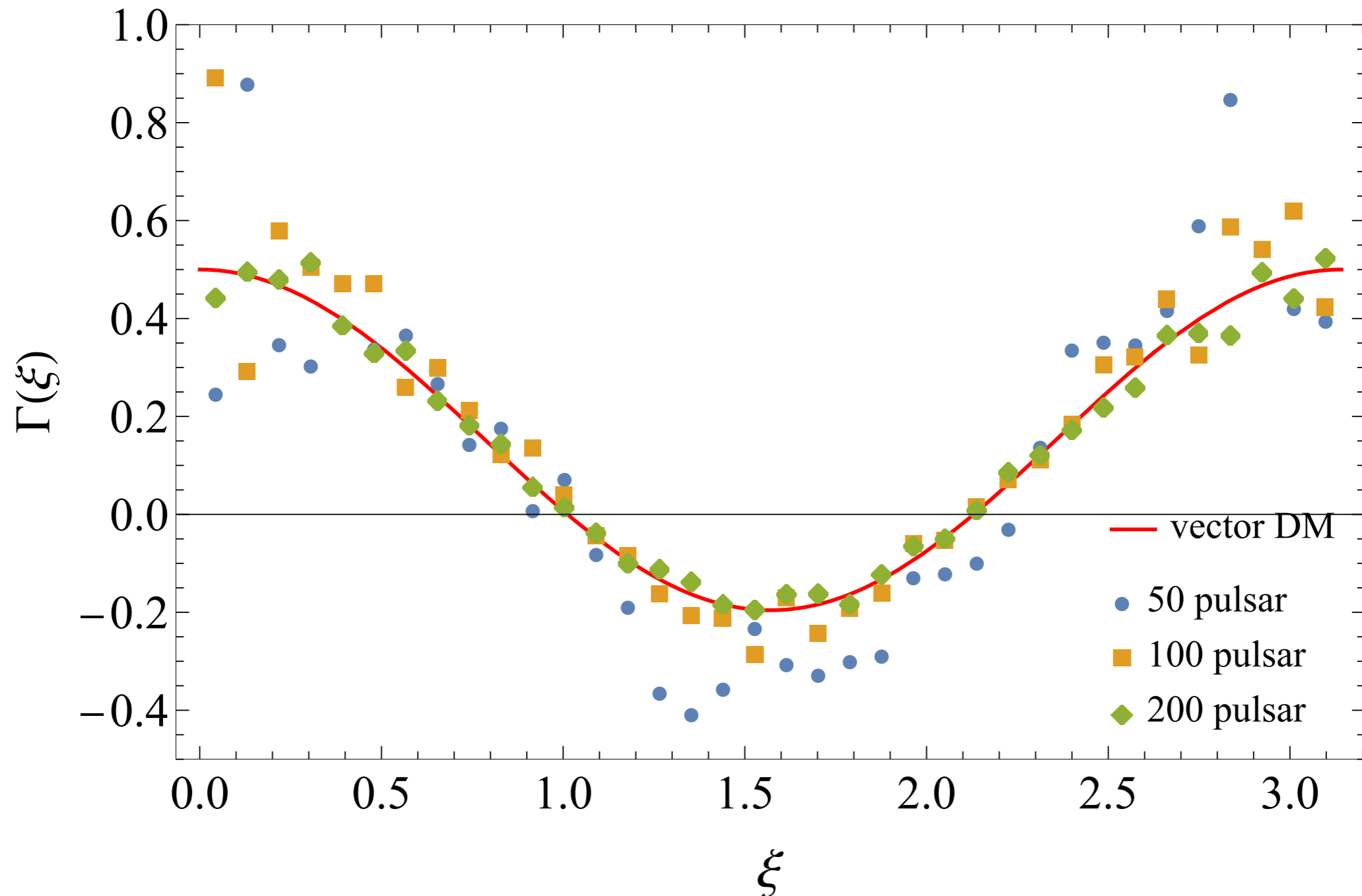
# Summary

- We considered angular correlation of PTA, produced by the ultra-light vector dark matter
- The angular correlation produced by ULVDM is different from that of GWs.
  - The difference comes from the standing wave nature of ULDM.
  - For dark matter mass  $\mu \lesssim 10^{-23}\text{eV}$ , the deformation of the Hellings-Downs curve is obvious by eye.
  - For mass  $\mu \gtrsim 10^{-22}\text{eV}$ , the amplitude of the ultra-light dark matter is too small to deform the Hellings-Downs curve.

Back up

# Average over pulsars

Generate pulsars randomly with uniform distribution.  
Average timing residual in each bin ( $5^\circ$ ).



# Average over pulsars

With pulsar term.

