

Opening a new window into the gravitational wave Universe with PTAs.

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By tracking arrival times of radio pulses from a collection of pulsars in the Milky Way, several pulsar timing array (PTA) collaborations have found convincing evidence for the presence of a stochastic background of gravitational waves permeating our galaxy. This background could originate from a cosmic population of super-massive black hole binaries orbiting each other at the center of galaxies, or from violent phenomena taking place fractions of a second after the Big Bang. I will discuss both these interpretations and how future data sets could allow us to pinpoint the origin of the observed gravitational wave background.







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