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Charting new particle physics with primordial GWs

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Particle physics beyond the Standard Model can generate non-standard expansion histories which leave signatures in primordial stochastic backgrounds of gravitational waves (GW).
e detection of GW from cosmic strings in the next decades would tell about the presence of an early ma er-dominated era induced by a heavy unstable relic, about the presence of an early vacuum-dominated era induced by a supercooled first-order phase transition, or about the presence of a kination-dominated era induced by spinning axion dynamics. e later case is particularly interesting since it generates a smoking-gun GW peak which enhances the detectability of primordial inflation and local/global cosmic strings.

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