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Damped and Driven Waves in Galaxy Clusters

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Acoustic waves excited by AGN have long been considered an important channel for heating the intracluster medium. Although heating by nearly adiabatic plane waves is quite simple to calculate, heating by spherical waves in a highly dissipative medium is less simple. I'll describe joint work with Vladimir Mirnov (UW-Madison) in which we calculate the driving and damping of acoustic and thermal modes by an oscillating source, and the implications of our results for plasma heating as a function of position within the cluster.

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