Axion Fragmentation



N. Fonseca, E. Morgante, RS, G. Servant, 1911.08472, JHEP 04 (2020) 010
N. Fonseca, E. Morgante, RS, G. Servant, 1911.08473, JHEP 05 (2020) 080
E. Morgante, W. Ratzinger, RS, B.A. Stefanek, 2109.13823, JHEP 12 (2021) 037
C. Eröncel, RS, P. Sørensen, G. Servant, in preparation

2022. 5. 14 @ Physics in LHC and beyond

[1/33]

Axion (-like) particle

Axion field : ϕ

Shift symmetry (NG boson) + Chern-Simons coupling

 $\phi \rightarrow \phi + \delta \phi$

 $\frac{1}{f}\phi G_{\mu\nu}\widetilde{G}^{\mu\nu}$ $V(\phi) = \Lambda_b^4 \cos \frac{\phi}{f}$

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 Shift symmetry breaking by strong dynamics

- Theoretical motivation, interesting phenomenology, ... •
 - Strong CP problem, QCD axion
 - Naturalness of electroweak scale, Relaxion
 - Axion monodromy
 - Axion inflation
 - . . .

Axion (-like) particle & cosmology

Dynamics of axion field is interesting

- Axion dark mattter
- Relaxion : dynamical expanation of electroweak scale
- ...

Solving EOM $\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + V'(\phi) = 0$ with some initial condition



ex) Axion (-like) particle DM scenario

Misalignment mechanism •

[Preskill, Wise, Wilczek (1983)] [Abbott, Sikivie (1983)] [Dine, Fischler (1983)]

nitial condition

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi &= \phi_0 \neq 0 \\
\dot{\phi} &= 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathsf{W}(\theta) \\
\underbrace{\mathsf{Misalignment Mechanism}}_{\theta_i = 0} \\
\vdots \\
\theta_i \\
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\theta_i \\
\theta_i
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathsf{EOM} \\
\begin{aligned}
\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + \frac{\Lambda_b^4(T)}{f}\sin\frac{\phi}{f} = 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathsf{V}(\theta) \\
\underbrace{\mathsf{Misalignment Mechanism}}_{\theta_i} \\
\vdots \\
\theta_i
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathsf{Itakon from Co. Hall. Harigava (2010)}_{\theta_i}
\end{aligned}$$

[taken from Co, Hall, Harigaya (2019)]

The axion starts to oscillate when $3H(T) \sim m(T)$

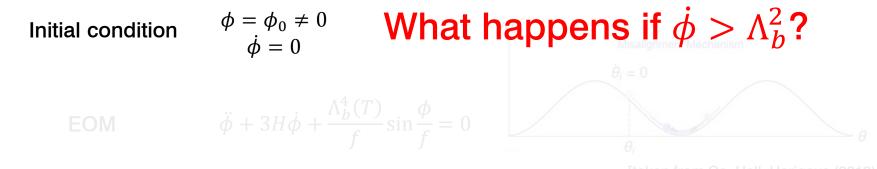
$$\rho_{DM} \sim m_a \times \left(\frac{a(T_{osc})}{a_0}\right)^3 \times \frac{\Lambda_b(T_{osc})^4 \theta_i^2}{m_a(T_{osc})} \qquad \text{w/} \quad m_a(T_{osc}) \sim 3H(T_{osc})$$
mass Dilution factor Number density at $T = T_{osc}$

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ex) Axion (-like) particle DM scenario

Misalignment mechanism

Preskill, Wise, Wilczek (1983)] Abbott, Sikivie (1983)] Dine, Fischler (1983)]



[taken from Co, Hall, Harigaya (2019)]

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[5/33]

ex) Axion (-like) particle DM scenario

Kinetic Misalignment mechanism

[Co, Hall, Harigaya (2019)] [Chang, Cui (2019)]

nitial condition
$$\dot{\phi} > \Lambda_b^2$$

EOM $\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + \frac{\Lambda_b^4(T)}{f}\sin\frac{\phi}{f} = 0$

[taken from Co, Hall, Harigaya (2019)]

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The axion starts to oscillate when $\dot{\phi}^2(T) \sim \Lambda_b^4(T)$

$$\rho_{DM} \sim m_a \times \left(\frac{a(T_{osc})}{a_0}\right)^3 \times \frac{\Lambda_b(T_{osc})^4}{m_a(T_{osc})} \qquad \qquad \mathbf{W}/ \quad \dot{\phi}^2(T_{osc}) \sim \Lambda_b^4(T_{osc})$$
mass Dilution factor Number density at $T = T_{osc}$

Delay of onset of oscillation \rightarrow larger ρ_{DM}

Axion fluctuation?

What people usually do

Solving EOM for spatially homogeneous field : $\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + V'(\phi) = 0$

However...

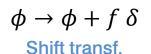
Even we start from (almost) homogeneous field configuration, fluctuations can grow later.

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Velocity as U(1) charge

Velocity $\dot{\phi}$ is U(1) charge :

$$\rho_{\rm shift} = f \frac{\partial L}{\partial_0 \phi} = f \dot{\phi}$$



Explicit breaking of U(1) :

$$V(\phi) = \Lambda_b^4 \cos \frac{\phi}{f} + \cdots$$



U(1) charge will be lose = energy dissipation

Axion fragmentation

[Fonseca, Morgante, RS, Servant (2019)]

For related earlier works, see [Green, Kofman, Starobinsky (1998)] [Flauger, McAllister, Pajer, Westphal, Xu (2009)] [Jaeckel, Mehta, Witkowski (2016)] [Arvanitaki, Dimopoulos, Galanis, Lehner, Thompson, Van Tilburg (2019)]

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Introduction Perturbative analysis Non-perturbative analysis

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Axion fragmentation

Let us investigate the simplest case.

- H = 0 (no cosmic expansion)
- $V(\phi) = \Lambda_h^4 \cos(\phi/f)$

- We have only three parameters : $\vec{\phi}_0$: initial velocity f : decay constant Λ_b^4 : height of barrier

EOM of axion :

$$\frac{d^2\phi}{dt^2} - \nabla^2\phi - \frac{\Lambda_b^4}{f}\sin\frac{\phi}{f} = 0$$

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We decompose
$$\phi(\vec{x},t) = \bar{\phi}(t) + \left[\int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \delta \phi_k(t) e^{ikx} + h.c.\right]$$

$$\frac{d^2\phi}{dt^2} - \nabla^2\phi - \frac{\Lambda_b^4}{f}\sin\frac{\phi}{f} = 0$$

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At the leading order of $\delta \phi_k$,

$$\frac{d^2\bar{\phi}}{dt^2} - \frac{\Lambda_b^4}{f} \sin\frac{\bar{\phi}}{f} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Lambda_b^4}{f^3} \sin\frac{\bar{\phi}}{f} \int \frac{d^3x}{V_{vol}} \langle \delta\phi(x) \rangle^2$$
Back reaction
$$\frac{d^2\delta\phi}{dt^2} - \nabla^2\delta\phi - \frac{\Lambda_b^4}{f^2} \cos\frac{\bar{\phi}}{f} \delta\phi = 0$$

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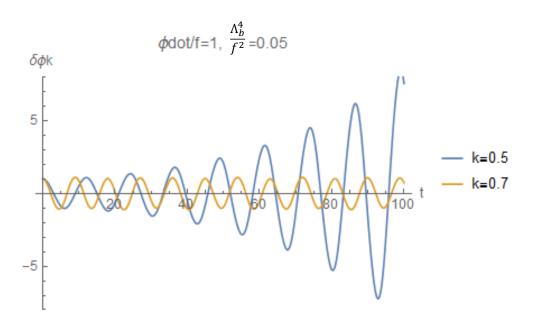
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Back reaction

$$\frac{d^2\delta\phi_k}{dt^2} + \left(k^2 - \frac{\Lambda_b^4}{f^2}\cos\frac{\dot{\phi}t}{f}\right)\delta\phi_k = 0$$

Mathieu equation

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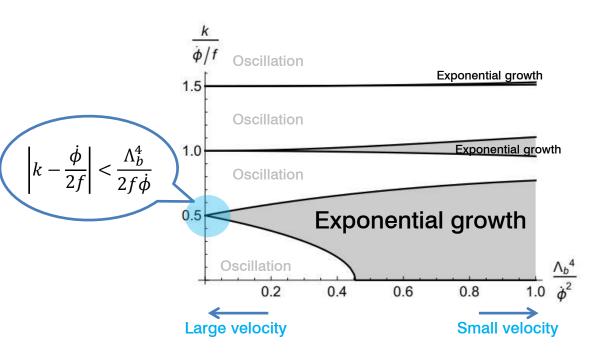


There exist resonant solutions for this. It's like a swing!

$$\frac{d^2 \delta \phi_k}{dt^2} + \left(k^2 - \frac{\Lambda_b^4}{f^2} \cos \frac{\dot{\phi}t}{f}\right) \delta \phi_k = 0$$

Mathieu equation

[14/33]





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Mathieu equation

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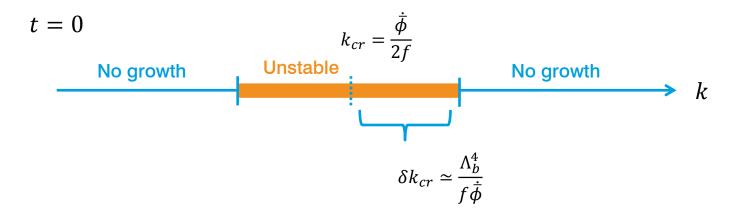
Growth of fluctuation

 $\sqrt{1}$

Back reaction to zeromode

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As long as
$$\dot{\phi}$$
 is constant, $\delta \phi_k \sim \exp\left(\frac{\Lambda_b^4 t}{f \dot{\phi}}\right)$ for $\left|k - \frac{\dot{\phi}}{2f}\right| < \frac{\Lambda_b^4}{2f \dot{\phi}}$

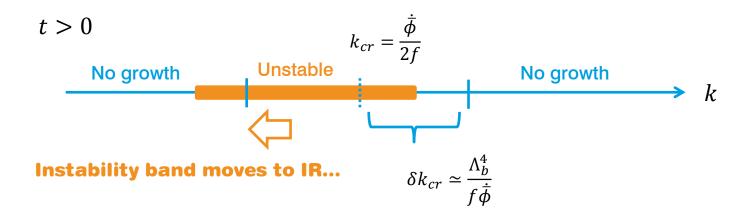


By using dimensional analysis

$$\rho_{fluc}(t) \sim k_{cr}^3 \delta k_{cr} \exp\left(\frac{\Lambda_b^4 t}{f \dot{\bar{\phi}}}\right)$$

[17/33]

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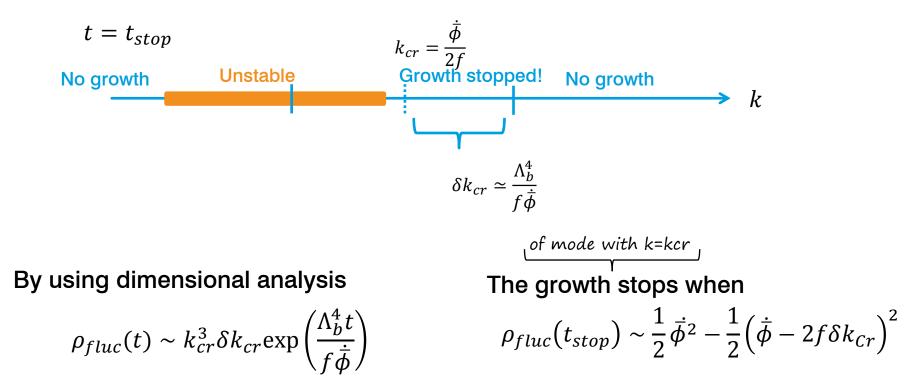


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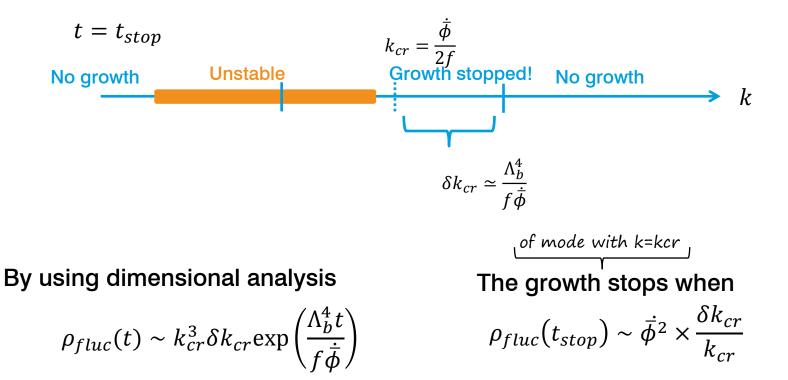
[18 / 33]

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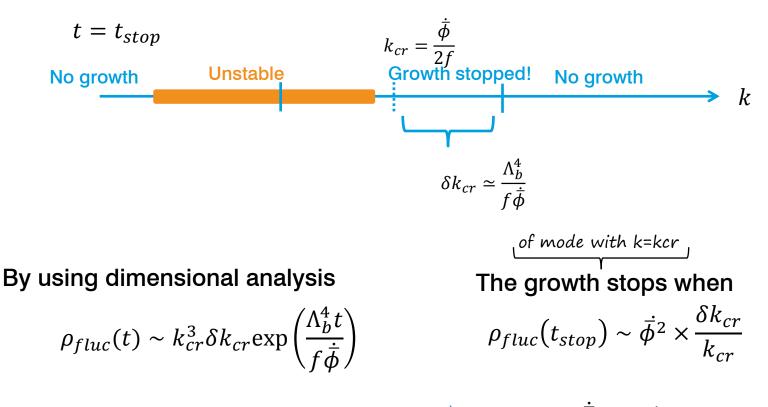
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 $\Box t_{stop} \sim \frac{f\bar{\phi}}{\Lambda_b^4} \log \frac{f^4}{\bar{\phi}^2}$

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Time scale of growth of single mode :

Energy stored in fluctuations :

$$t_{stop} \sim \frac{f\dot{\phi}}{\Lambda_b^4} \log \frac{f^4}{\dot{\phi}^2}$$

$$\rho_{fluc}(t_{stop}) \sim \overline{\phi}^2 \times \frac{\delta k_{cr}}{k_{cr}},$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}\dot{\phi}^2 \sim -\frac{\rho_{fluc}(t_{stop})}{t_{stop}} \sim -\frac{\Lambda_b^8}{f\dot{\phi}} \left(\log\frac{f^4}{\dot{\phi}^2}\right)^{-1}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}\dot{\phi} \sim -\frac{\Lambda_b^8}{f\dot{\phi}^2} \left(\log\frac{f^4}{\dot{\phi}^2}\right)^{-2}$$

c.f.) WKB approx. with $\dot{\phi} \gg \Lambda_b^2$ gives $\frac{d\dot{\phi}}{dt} = -\frac{\pi}{2} \frac{\Lambda_b^8}{f\dot{\phi}^2} \left(\log \frac{32\pi^2 f^4}{\dot{\phi}^2}\right)^{-1}$

(see 1911.08472 for details)

Time scale of fragmentation :

$$\Delta t_{frag} \sim f \frac{\dot{\phi}_0^3}{\Lambda_b^8} \log \frac{f^4}{\dot{\phi}_0^2}$$

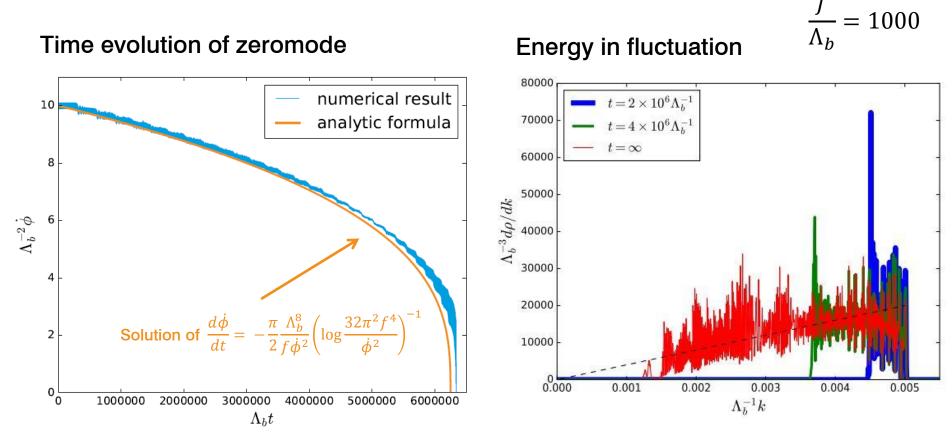
Field excursion:

 $\Delta \phi_{frag} \sim \dot{\phi_0} \Delta t_{frag} \sim f \frac{\dot{\phi}_0^4}{\Lambda_b^8} \log \frac{f^4}{\dot{\phi}_0^2}$

<u>_____</u> [22 / 33]

Numerical Example

It works!



[Fonseca, Morgante, RS, Servant (2019)]

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Introduction Perturbative analysis Non-perturbative analysis

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Non-linear analysis

In perturbative analysis OK?

Inittial kinetic energy : $\dot{\phi}_0^2/2$

Typical wavenumber : $\dot{\phi}_0/f$

Energy conservation :

$$(\delta\phi)^2 \times \left(\dot{\phi}_0/f\right)^2 \sim \dot{\phi_0}^2$$



Typical field variation :
$$\delta \phi \sim f$$

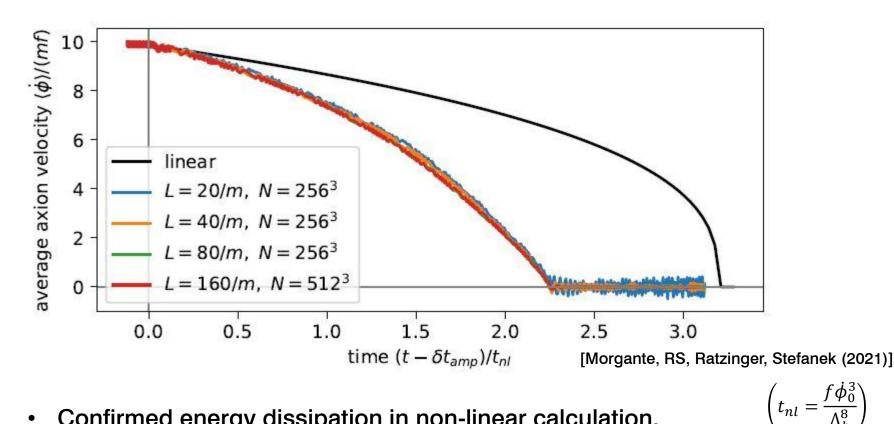
Classical lattice simulation

$$\ddot{\phi} = \nabla^2 \phi + \frac{\Lambda_b^4}{f} \sin \frac{\phi}{f} \qquad \square$$

$$\frac{d^2\phi_{i,j,k}}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{a^2} \left(\phi_{i+1,j,k} - 2\phi_{i,j,k} + \phi_{i-1,j,k} \right) \\ + \frac{1}{a^2} \left(\phi_{i,j+1,k} - 2\phi_{i,j,k} + \phi_{i,j-1,k} \right) \\ + \frac{1}{a^2} \left(\phi_{i,j,k+1} - 2\phi_{i,j,k} + \phi_{i,j,k-1} \right) \\ + \frac{\Lambda_b^4}{f} \sin \frac{\phi_{i,j,k}}{f}.$$

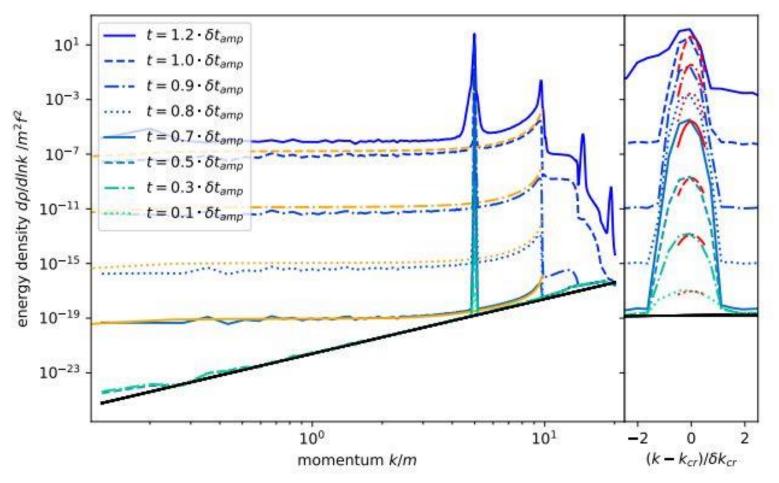
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Velocity of zeromode



- Confirmed energy dissipation in non-linear calculation. •
- Dissipation effect is stronger than linear analysis. •

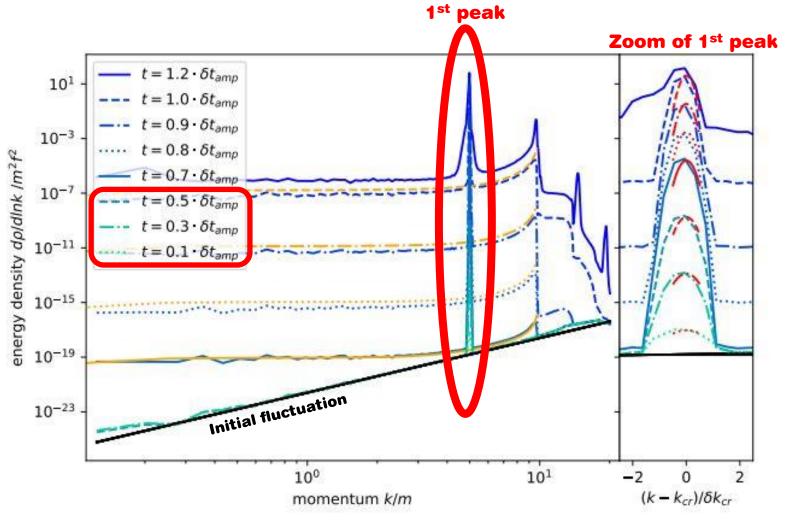
[26/33]



[Morgante, RS, Ratzinger, Stefanek (2021)]

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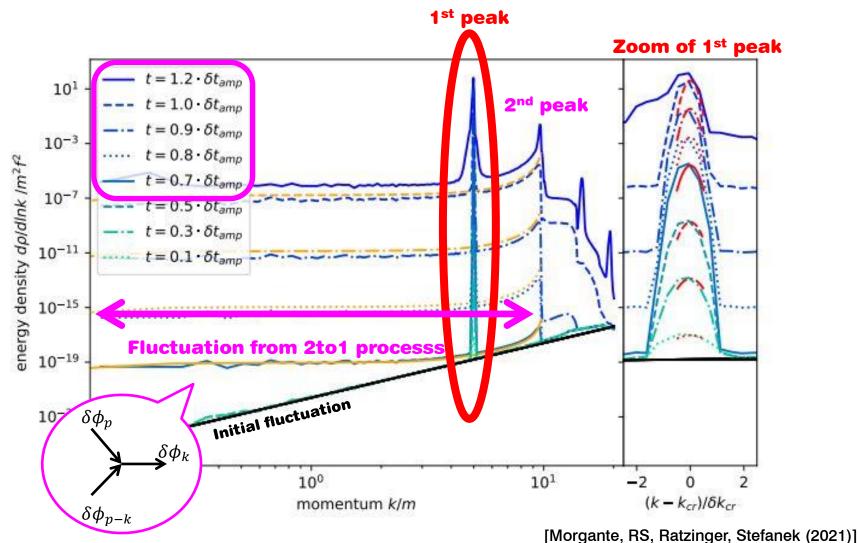
 $\delta t_{amp} \equiv \frac{f\dot{\phi}}{\Lambda_b^4} \log \frac{16f^4}{\dot{\phi}^2}$



[Morgante, RS, Ratzinger, Stefanek (2021)]

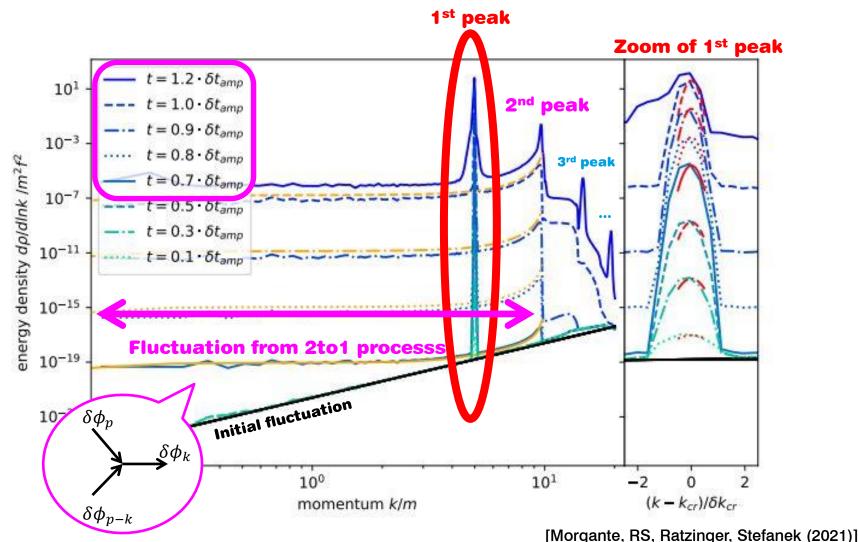
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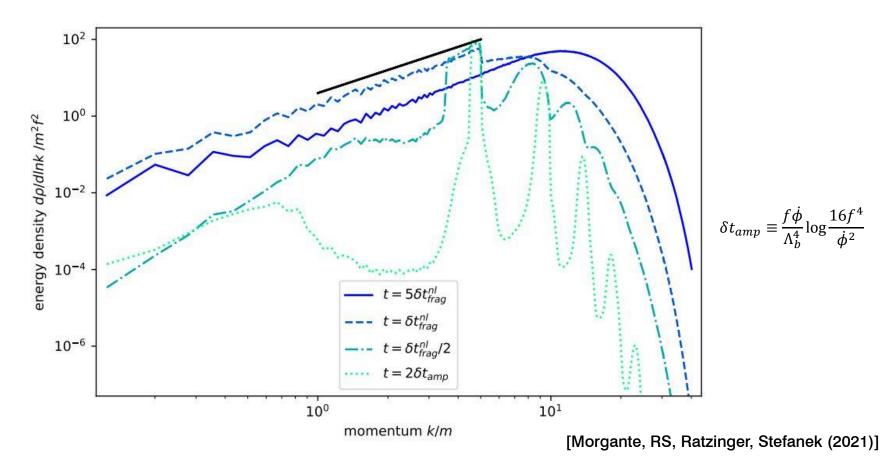
[29/33]



 $\delta t_{amp} \equiv \frac{f \dot{\phi}}{\Lambda_b^4} \log \frac{16 f^4}{\dot{\phi}^2}$

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Growth of spectrum (late stage)



- We can see peak-like structure in the early stage
- The spectrum becomes broad
- Cascading towards UV (early stage of thermalization)

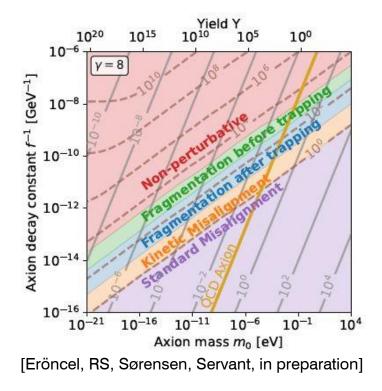
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Physical implication?

ALP dark matter (Work in progress)

Fragmentation could happen before axion starts to oscillate

- Fluctuation \rightarrow axion minicluster? ٠



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Relaxion scenario (1911.08473, Fonseca-Morgante-Sato-Servant)

Relaxion fragmentation can be a source of friction to stop relaxion.

Any other application?

Generic phenomena

- Periodic potential Large kinetic energy

Summary

- Large axion velocity → growth of fluctuation
- Zeromode kinetic energy dissipates into fluctuations
- Generic phenomena w/ periodic potential and large velocity. •

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- Applications

 - Relaxion
 Axion dark matter scenario

Backup

References

Green, Kofman, Starobinsky, hep-ph/9808477

Parametric resonance from large amplitude

Flauger, McAllister, Pajer, Westphal, Xu, 0907.2916

Cosine + linear term, monodromy infl.

Jaeckel, Mehta, Witkowski, 1605.01367

Cosine + quadratic term, linear

Berges, Chatrchyan, Jaeckel, 1903.03116

Cosine + quadratic term, non-perturbative

Arvanitaki, Dimopoulos, Galanis, Lehner, Thompson, Van Tilburg, 1909.11665

Parametric resonance from large amplitude

Non-zero slope & Hubble expansion

What happens for non-zero μ^3 & non-zero *H*?

• Fragmentation
$$\ddot{\phi}_{frag} = -\frac{\pi \Lambda_b^8}{2f \dot{\phi}^2} \left(\log \frac{32\pi^2 f^4}{\dot{\phi}^2} \right)^{-1}$$

• Acceleration by slope μ^3

• Hubble expansion $3H\dot{\phi}$

Fragmentation works if

• During inflation $(3H\dot{\phi} \sim \mu^3)$

 $3H\dot{\phi} < \sim |\ddot{\phi}_{frag}|$ If not, axion keeps rolling with slow-roll velocity

• Not during inflation $(3H\dot{\phi} \ll \mu^3)$

 $\mu^3 < \sim |\ddot{\phi}_{frag}|$ If not, axion is just accelerated by slope

Details on back reaction (1).

$$\phi(x,t) = \overline{\phi}(t) + \delta\phi(x,t) \qquad \qquad \delta\phi(x,t) = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} a_k u_k(t) e^{ikx} + h.c.$$

Creation annihilation op :

Boundary condition for Wave function :

Bunch-Davies vacuum:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_k, a_{k'}^* \end{bmatrix} = (2\pi)^3 \delta^{(3)}(k - k')$$
$$t \to -\infty \qquad u_k \to \frac{e^{-ikt}}{\sqrt{2k}}$$
$$a|0\rangle = 0$$

$$\int \frac{dx^3}{V_{vol}} \langle \delta \phi(x)^2 \rangle = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} |u_k|^2$$

Details on back reaction (2).

Asymptotic behavior of wave function u_k :

$$t \to -\infty$$
 $u_k \to \frac{e^{-ikt}}{\sqrt{2k}}$
 $t \to +\infty$ $u_k \to \frac{1}{\sqrt{2k}} 2 \exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{4} \frac{\Lambda_b^8}{\dot{\phi}^2 \ddot{\phi} f^4}\right) \times \cos kt$

1)
$$d\rho/dt$$
 from u_k

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -\left(\frac{d}{dt}\frac{\dot{\phi}}{2f}\right) \times \frac{4\pi k^2}{(2\pi)^3} \left(\frac{1}{2}|\dot{u}_k|^2 + \frac{1}{2}k^2|u_k|^2\right)$$

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \dot{\phi}\ddot{\phi}$$

$$= -\frac{\dot{\phi}^3\ddot{\phi}}{32\pi^2 f^4} \exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\frac{\Lambda_b^8}{\dot{\phi}^2\ddot{\phi}f^4}\right)$$
2) $d\rho/dt$ from definition

Consistency between 1) and 2) gives $\ddot{\phi} = -\frac{\pi \Lambda_b^8}{2\dot{\phi}^2 f} \left(\log \frac{32\pi^2 f^4}{\dot{\phi}^2} \right)^{-1}$

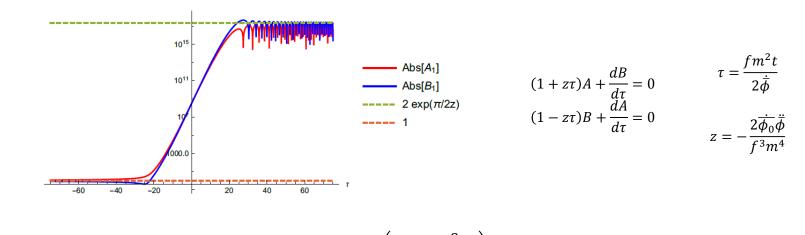
"Modified" Mathieu equation.

$$\frac{d^2 u_k}{dt^2} + \left(k^2 + m^2 \cos\frac{\bar{\phi}}{f}\right) u_k = 0 \qquad \text{with} \quad \dot{\bar{\phi}} = \frac{\bar{\phi}_0}{\bar{\phi}_0} + \ddot{\bar{\phi}}t$$

Boundary condition at $t \to -\infty$:

$$u_k
ightarrow rac{e^{-ikt}}{\sqrt{2k}}$$

Behavior at $\dot{\phi}/f \simeq 2k$: $u_k \simeq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2k}} \left(A(t) \cos \frac{\bar{\phi}}{2f} + B(t) \sin \frac{\bar{\phi}}{2f} \right)$



Asymptotic behavior at
$$t \to +\infty$$
: $u_k \to \frac{1}{\sqrt{2k}} 2 \exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{4} \frac{\Lambda_b^8}{\dot{\phi}_0^2 \ddot{\phi} f^4}\right) \times \cos kt$

Setup.

> The original GKR (non-QCD) model [Graham, Kaplan, Rajendran (2015)]

$$V = -(\Lambda^2 - g'\Lambda\phi)H^2 + \lambda H^4 + g\Lambda^3\phi + \Lambda_b^4(H)\cos\frac{\phi}{f}$$

Higgs potential slope Wiggles

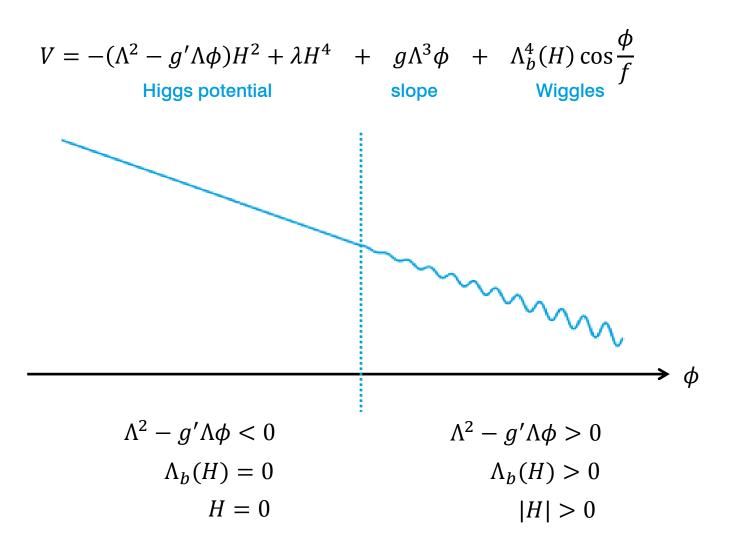
New strong dynamics gives wiggle

$$L_{eff} = m_N \overline{N}N + m_L \overline{L}L + yH\overline{N}L + \tilde{y}H^*\overline{L}N + \frac{\phi}{f}G'\widetilde{G'}$$

$$\swarrow V \simeq \frac{y\tilde{y}\Lambda_s^3}{m_L}|H|^2\cos\frac{\phi}{f}$$

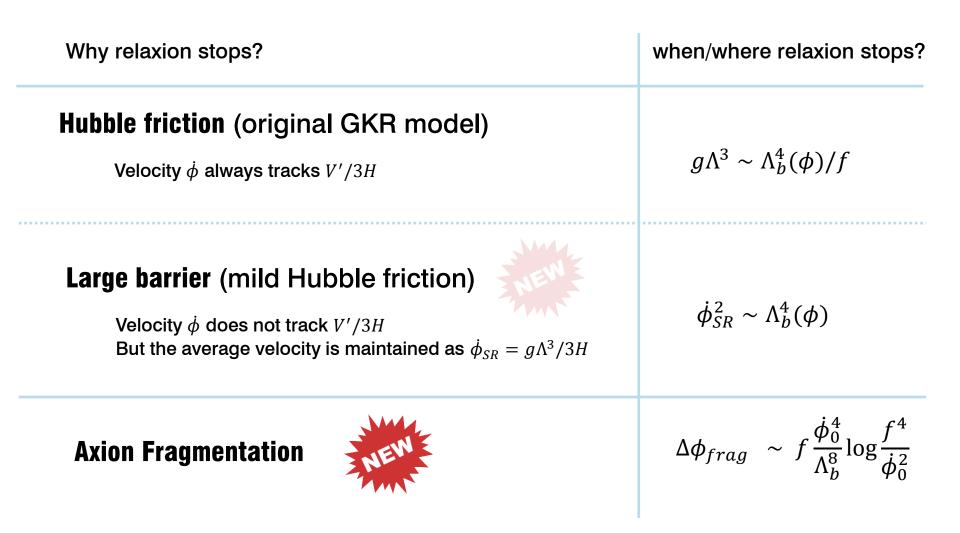
$$(m_L > \Lambda_s > m_N)$$

Graham-Kaplan-Rajendran model



Graham-Kaplan-Rajendran model

Friction is required to stop relaxion scanning (because of energy conservation)

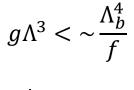


Parameter space.

$$f$$
 is set to give correct EW scale : $f \simeq \frac{2\pi\lambda\Lambda_b^8 v_{ew}}{g'\Lambda\dot{\phi}_0^4 \times O(10)}$

We also impose the following consistency conditions:

- Wiggle makes local minima
- Potential stability against rad. corr.
- Consistency of EFT
- Initial kinetic energy is large enough
- Particle production is fast enough



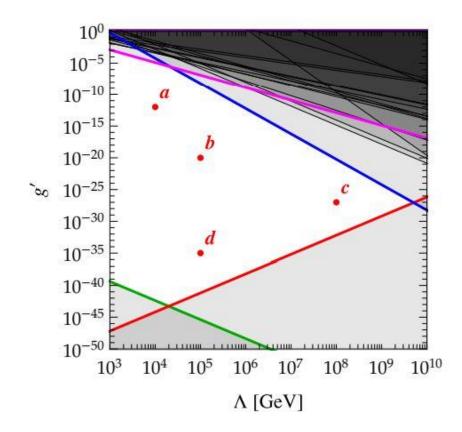
$$\Lambda_b < \sim v_{ew}$$

$$f > \sim \Lambda$$

$$\frac{\phi_0}{2} > \sim \Lambda_b^2$$

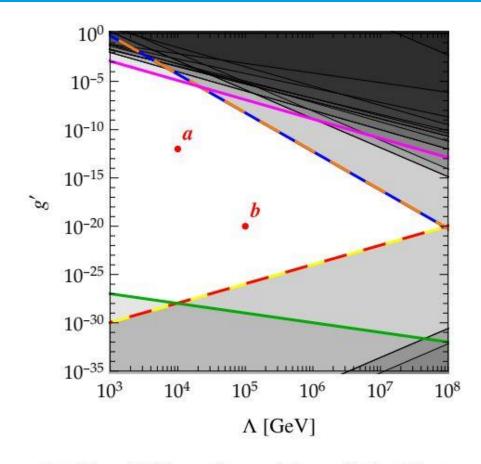
$$\Delta t_{pp} < \sim H^{-1}$$

GKR (Hubble friction).



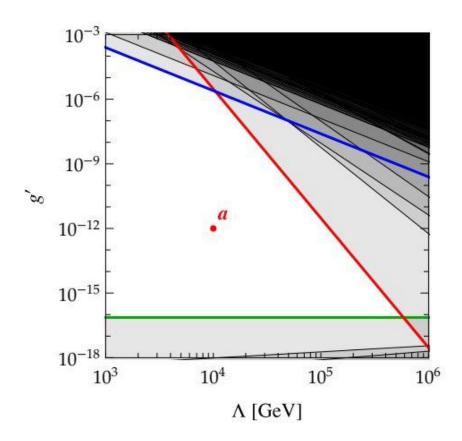
- Symmetry breaking pattern Eq. (3.5) and microscopic origin of the barriers Eq. (3.6)
- Classical rolling Eq. (3.16) and relaxion subdominant with respect to the inflaton Eq. (3.13)
- Reheating Eq. (3.9) and sub-Planckian decay constant Eq. (3.8)
- Eq. (3.5) and precision of the Higgs mass scanning Eq. (3.3)

GKR (large barrier).



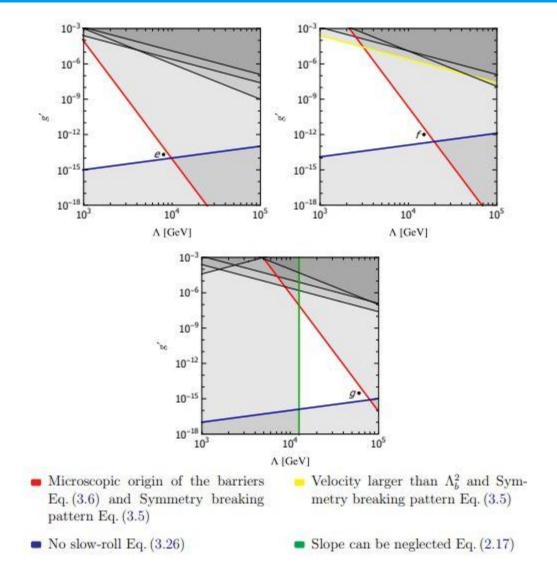
- Symmetry breaking pattern Eq. (3.5), going over 1 wiggle in less than 1 Hubble time Eq. (3.19) and microscopic origin of the barriers Eq. (3.6)
- Eq. (3.5), large barriers Eq. (3.4) and Eq. (3.6)
- Eq. (3.5), Eq. (3.19) and relaxion subdominant with respect to inflaton Eq. (3.13)
- Eq. (3.5), large barriers Eq. (3.4) and Eq. (3.13)
- Eq. (3.5) and precision of the Higgs mass scanning Eq. (3.3)
- Reheating Eq. (3.9) and Eq. (3.13)

GKR (relaxion fragmentation w/ inflation)



- Symmetry breaking pattern Eq. (3.5) and large velocity Eq. (3.22)
- Eq. (3.5), efficient fragmentation
 Eq. (2.16) and microscopic origin of
 the barriers Eq. (3.6)
- Relaxion subdominant with respect to inflaton Eq. (3.13) and Eq. (2.16)

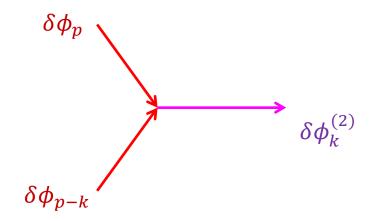
GKR (relaxion fragmentation w/o inflation)



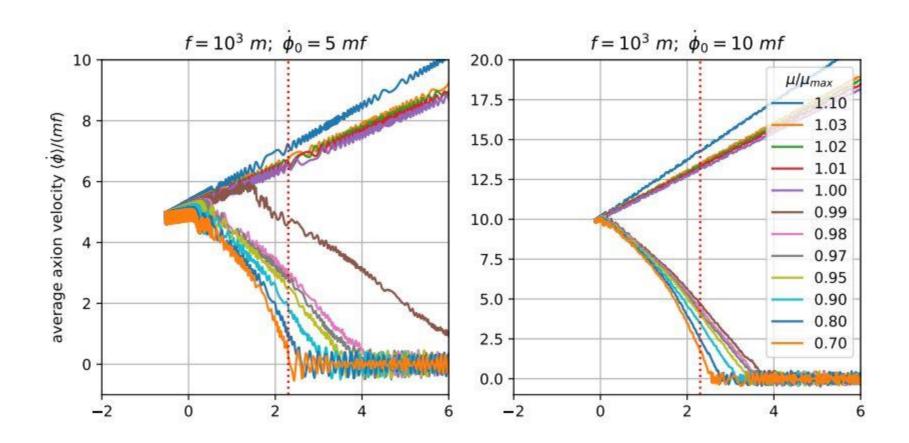
2 to 1 process

 $\phi(x,t) = \phi(t) + \frac{\delta\phi(x,t)}{\delta\phi(x,t)} + \delta\phi^{(2)}(x,t) + \dots$

- $\delta \phi_p$ with $|p| = \dot{\phi}/2f$ is amplified by resonance
- $\delta \phi$ becomes source term for $\delta \phi^{(2)}$



Lattice calc. w/ slope term

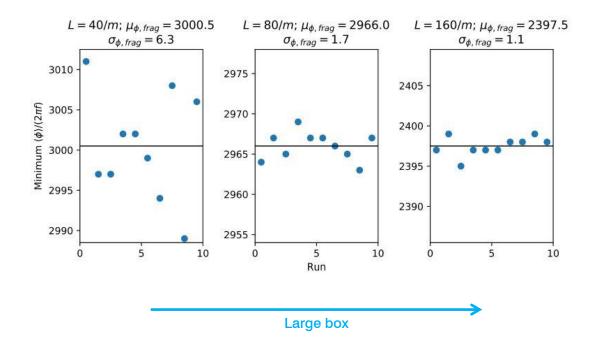


Domain wall?

Field variance after fragmentation is not so small : $\delta \phi \sim f$

Multiple run with finite size box

- $\delta \phi$ in multiple run = $\delta \phi$ of causally disconnected area
- Extrapolation to $V^{1/3} \approx \delta t_{\rm frag}$

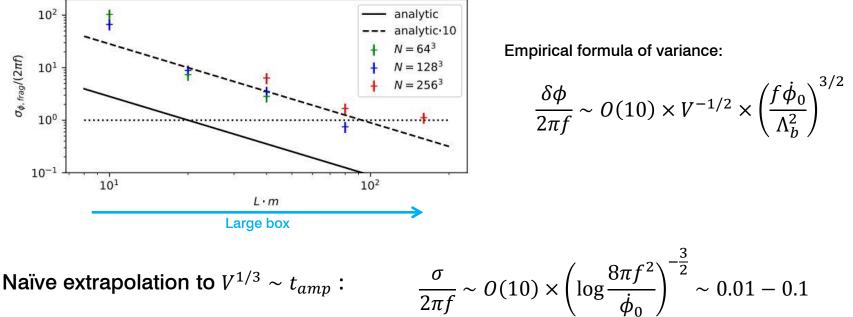


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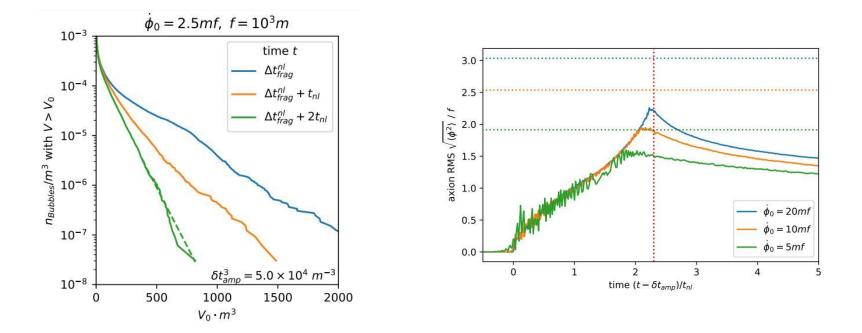


Domain wall formation probability is $\sim e^{-100} - e^{-10}$

Energy cascade into UV

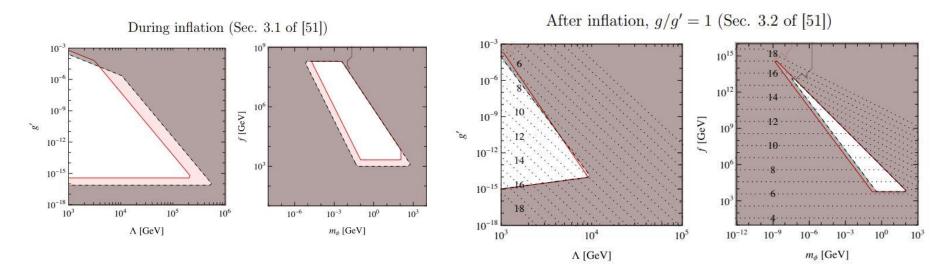
Number counting of "bubble"

Time evolution of variance $\langle \delta \phi^2 \rangle$



- Fluctuation with long wave-length is exponentially suppressed.
- The size of variance decreases in time.

How non-linear effect changes?



After inflation, $g/g' = 1/(4\pi)^2$ (Sec. 3.2 of [51])

