

# VISHv: solving five SM shortcomings with a protected electroweak scale

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# Variant-axIon Seesaw Higgs $\nu$ -trino extensions to the Standard Model

AS, Volkas (2022)

# The Standard Model is incomplete:

## Key issues for BSM physics:

1. Small neutrino masses
2. Dark matter
3. Baryon asymmetry of the universe
4. No neutron EDM (strong  $CP$  problem)

## Scale of BSM\* physics?

1.  $\sim m_{EW}$
2.  $\gg m_{EW}$  (new heavy fundamental scale).

\*non-gravitational!

# RH neutrinos

- Small **active neutrino masses** from Type-I seesaw mechanism:

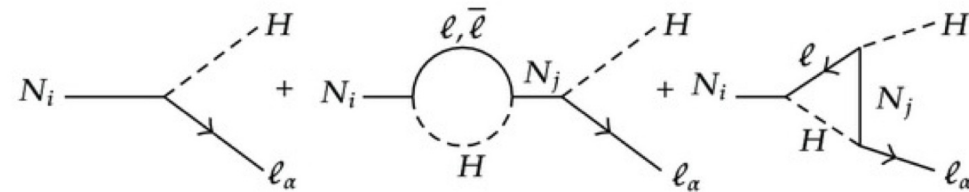
Minkowski (1977)  
 Yanagida (1979)  
 Gell-Mann, Ramond, Slansky (1979)  
 Mohapatra, Senjanovic 1980

$$-\mathcal{L} \supset y_N \bar{\ell}_L \tilde{\Phi} \nu_R + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\nu}_R M_N \nu_R + h.c. \quad \longrightarrow \quad m_\nu = \frac{v^2}{2} y_N M_N^{-1} y_N^T$$

- **BAU from thermal leptogenesis:**

$$M_1 \gtrsim 5 \times 10^8 \text{ GeV}$$

Davidson, Ibarra (2002)  
 Giudice + (2004)



(out of equilibrium)

Fukugita, Yanagida (1986)  
 Langacker, Peccei, Yanagida (1986)

- ~~$U(1)_L$~~  and  $M_i \sim \langle S \rangle \gg m_{EW}$ .

Chikashige, Mohapatra, Peccei (1980)

# ... and an invisible axion

Identify seesaw scale with Peccei-Quinn scale:

Langacker, Peccei, Yanagida (1986)  
Shin (1987)

$$S = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{2}} e^{i a / v_S}$$

- Impose global  $U(1)_{PQ}$  which is spontaneously broken by vev of  $S$  (also breaks lepton number)  
 $U(1)_L \subset U(1)_{PQ}$

with a colour anomaly:  $\partial_\mu J_{PQ}^\mu \supset \mathcal{N} \frac{g_3^2}{16\pi^2} G\tilde{G}$

Peccei, Quinn (1977)  
Weinberg (1978), Wilczek (1978)

$$\mathcal{L}_\theta = \bar{\theta} \frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} G^{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu} \xrightarrow{\langle S \rangle \neq 0} \mathcal{L}_\theta = \left( \frac{a(x)}{f_a} + \bar{\theta} \right) \frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} G^{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu} \quad \text{and} \quad \langle a \rangle = -\bar{\theta} f_a$$

$$\bar{\theta} \lesssim 10^{-10}$$

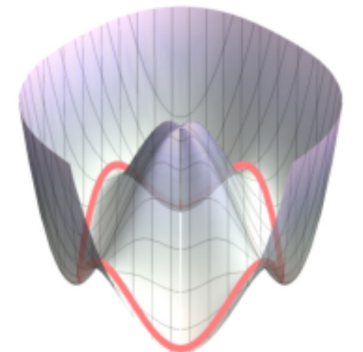
Abel+ (2020)

axion

$\Rightarrow$  CP-invariant strong interactions.

$T \ll T_{\text{QCD}}$

$V(\Phi)$



- Dark matter: DFSZ or KSVZ invisible axion

Zhitnitskii (1980) Dine, Fischler, Srednicki (1981)



# $\nu$ DFSZ

- Global  $U(1)_{PQ/L}$  broken by vev of complex scalar-singlet  $S$ .
- Three right-handed sterile neutrinos.
- Two Higgs electroweak doublets  $\Phi_1, \Phi_2$  in Type II setup.

$$\langle S \rangle = \frac{v_S}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad \langle \Phi_i \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v_i \end{pmatrix} \quad v_S \gg v_i$$

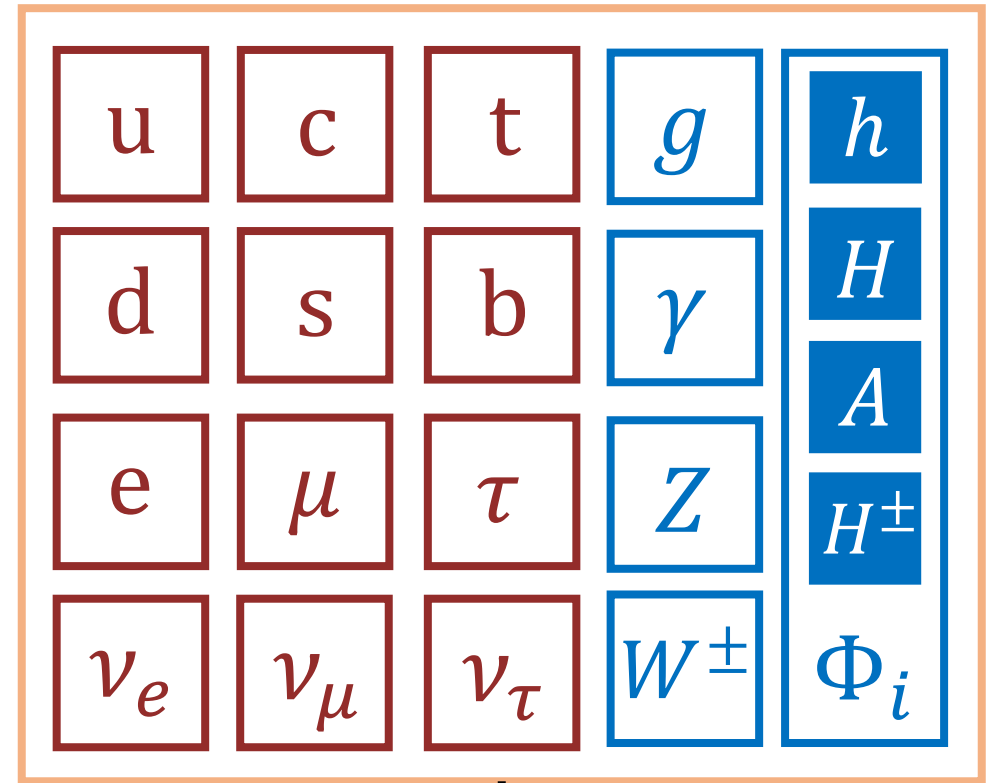
Can resolve four key issues for particle physics/cosmology.

Volkas, Davies, Joshi (1988)  
 Clarke, Foot, Volkas (2015)  
 Clarke, Volkas (2016)

$$\begin{aligned}
 V = & M_{11}^2 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1 + M_{22}^2 \Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2 + M_{SS}^2 S^* S + \frac{\lambda_1}{2} (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1)^2 + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 + \frac{\lambda_S}{2} (S^* S)^2 \\
 & + \lambda_3 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1) (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2) + \lambda_4 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2) (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1) + \lambda_{1S} (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1) (S^* S) + \lambda_{2S} (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2) (S^* S) \\
 & + \begin{cases} \kappa \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 S + \text{h.c.} & [\text{VISH}\nu] \\ \epsilon \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 S^2 + \text{h.c.} & [\nu\text{DFSZ}] \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$|\lambda_{1S}| \lesssim 10^{-18}, \quad |\lambda_{2S}| \lesssim 10^{-16} \quad \text{and} \quad |\kappa| \ll O(0.1) \text{ keV}$$

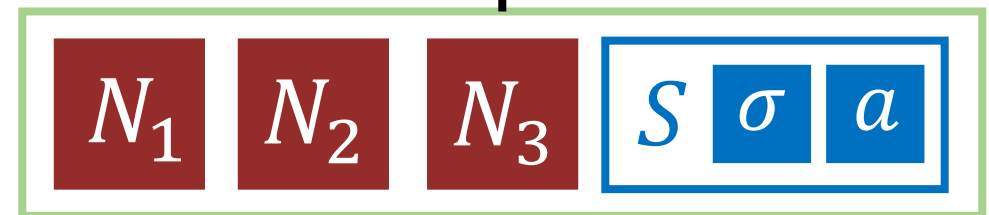
$$-\mathcal{L}_Y \supset y_\nu \bar{l}_L \tilde{\Phi}_2 \nu_I + \frac{1}{2} y_N \overline{(\nu_R)^c} S \nu_R + \text{H.c.},$$



Electro-weak sector

weakly-coupled

Hidden sector



## Theory aside (Poincaré protection):

Volkas, Davies, Joshi (1988)

Foot, Kobakhidze, McDonald, Volkas (2014)

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \sum_i (\mathcal{L}_{\text{mix},i} + \mathcal{L}_i)$$

Decoupling Limit

$$S = S_{SM} + S_i = \int d^4x \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \int d^4x' \mathcal{L}_i$$

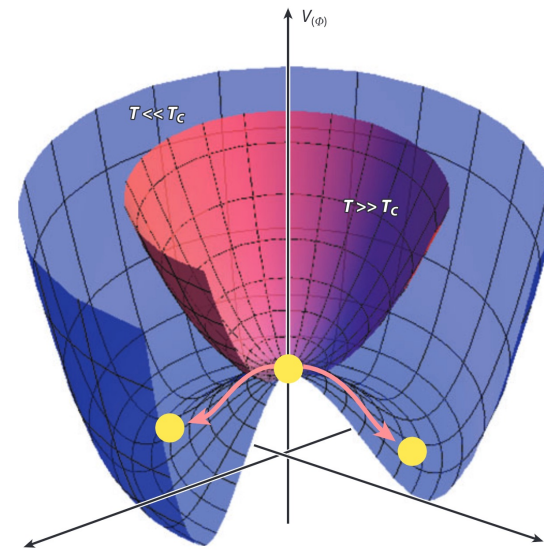
$ISO(3,1) \otimes ISO(3,1) \otimes \dots$

i.e. **technically natural**.

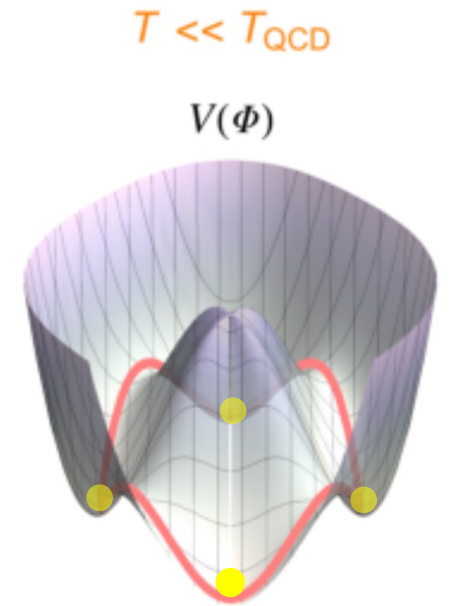
Cosmological challenge:

# Domain wall problem

- Post-inflation DFSZ axion models have a domain wall problem because  $N_{DW} > 1$ .
  - Stable string-domain-wall network forms around QCD phase transition.



Kawasaki, Nakayama (2013)



Armengaud+ (2019)

**VISHν extensions are variations of the νDFSZ which remove this problem.**

- **Top-specific PQ** is well-motivated. Our implementation is:

Peccei, Wu, Yanagida (1986) Krauss, Wilczek (1986)

$$N_{DW} = 1$$

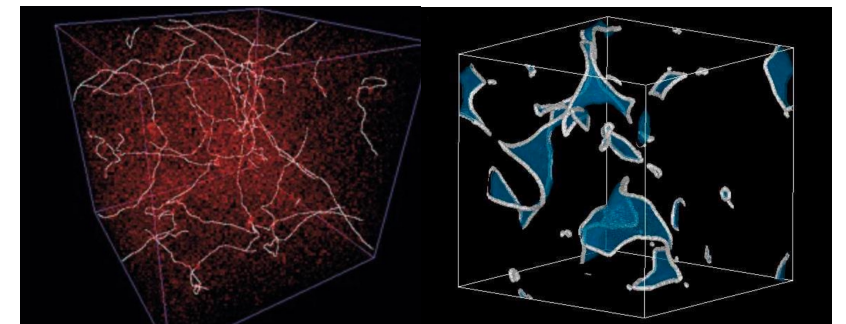
$$-\mathcal{L}_Y = \overline{q}_L^j y_{u1}^{j3} \tilde{\Phi}_1 u_R^3 + \overline{q}_L^j y_{u2}^{ja} \tilde{\Phi}_2 u_R^a + \overline{q}_L^j y_d^{jk} \Phi_2 d_R^k + \overline{l}_L^j y_e^{jk} \Phi_2 e_R^k + \overline{l}_L^j y_\nu^{jk} \tilde{\Phi}_2 \nu_R^k + \frac{1}{2} (\nu_R)^c y_N^{jk} S \nu_R^k + \text{h.c.},$$

✓ Large top mass from  $v_1 \gg v_2$  !

(small protected vev hierarchy req. for natural leptogenesis)

| Field  | $q_L$ | $u_R^a$         | $u_R^3$        | $d_R$          | $l_L$                        | $e_R$                          | $\nu_R$        | $\tilde{\Phi}_1$ | $\tilde{\Phi}_2$ | $S$ |
|--------|-------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|-----|
| Charge | 0     | $-\sin^2 \beta$ | $\cos^2 \beta$ | $\sin^2 \beta$ | $\sin^2 \beta - \frac{1}{2}$ | $2 \sin^2 \beta - \frac{1}{2}$ | $-\frac{1}{2}$ | $\cos^2 \beta$   | $-\sin^2 \beta$  | 1   |

$$\tan \beta \equiv v_2/v_1$$



Hiramatsu+ (2012)



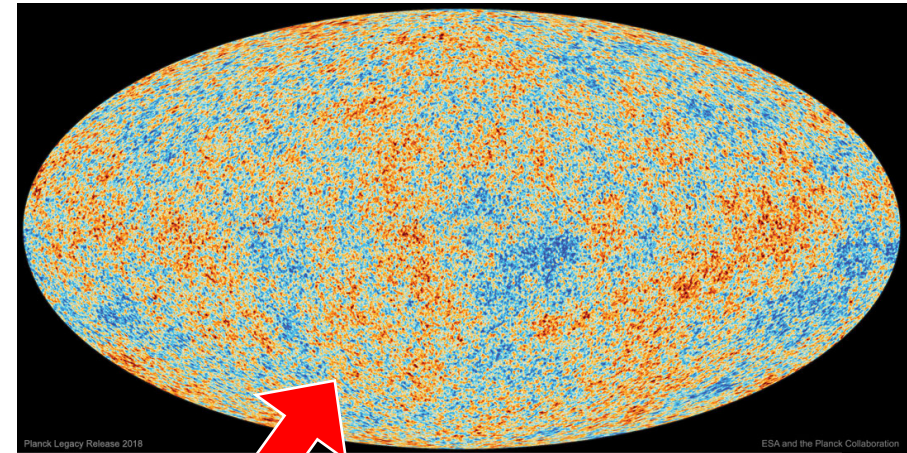
*Cosmological frontier:*  
**Inflation**

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + a^2(t) \left[ \left( \frac{1}{1 - kr^2} \right) dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega^2 \right]$$

- Early period of accelerated scale-factor expansion
- Large-scale homogeneity, flatness w/o initial fine-tuning

Starobinsky (1980)

Guth (1981)



Scalar/tensor power spectra:

$$\Delta_s^2(k) = A_s(k_*) \left( \frac{k}{k_*} \right)^{n_s(k_*) - 1} \quad r \equiv \frac{\Delta_t^2(k)}{\Delta_s^2(k)}$$

BICEP/KECK  
2021

$$A_s \sim 2.1 \times 10^{-9} \quad n_s = 0.9649 \pm 0.0042$$

PLANCK 2018

$k_* = 0.05 \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$

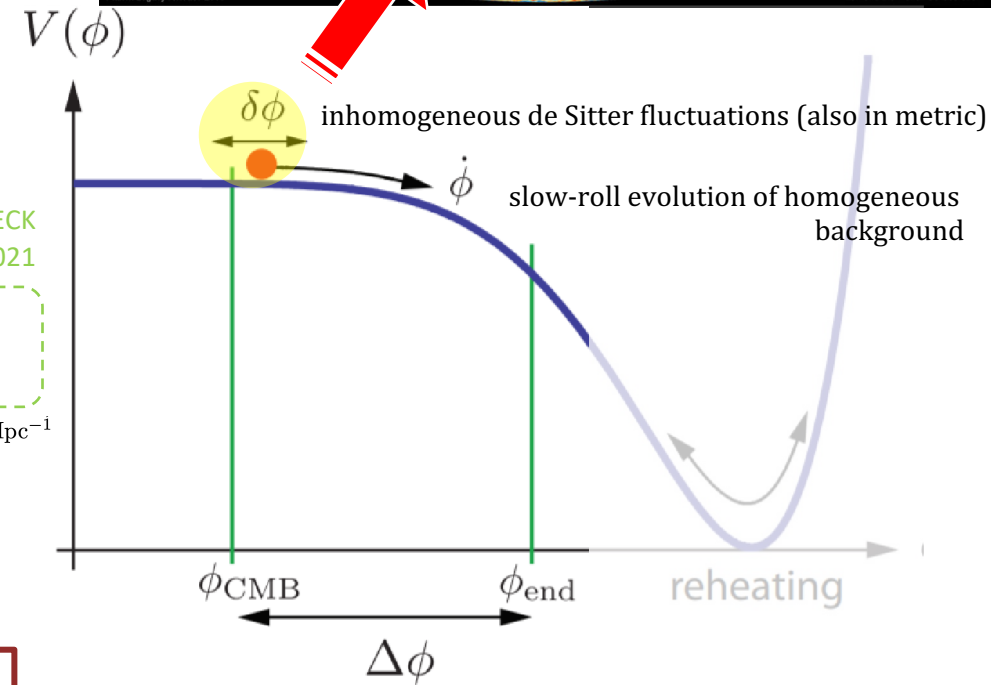
$$r < 0.036$$

$k_* = 0.05 \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$

Slight scale-dependence  
in scalar spectrum

Suppression of primordial GW

⇒ favour concave (flat) potentials.



# Einstein Frame

Adopting  $\Phi_1^0 = \frac{\rho_1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{i\vartheta_1/v_1}$ ,  $\Phi_2^0 = \frac{\rho_2}{\sqrt{2}} e^{i\vartheta_2/v_2}$ ,  $S = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{2}} e^{i\vartheta_S/v_S}$

- **Non-minimal couplings** of scalars to gravity generically arise in curved spacetime:

$$\frac{\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{J}}}{\sqrt{-g^{\mathcal{J}}}} \supset \left( \frac{M_P^2}{2} + \xi_1 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1 + \xi_2 \Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2 + \xi_S S^\dagger S \right) R^{\mathcal{J}} \xrightarrow{\text{Jordan frame}}$$

- Weyl rescaling  $g_{\mu\nu}^{\mathcal{J}} \rightarrow g_{\mu\nu}^{\mathcal{E}} = \Omega^2(\rho_1, \rho_2, \sigma) g_{\mu\nu}^{\mathcal{J}}$  where  $\Omega^2 \equiv 1 + \frac{\xi_1 \rho_1^2 + \xi_2 \rho_2^2 + \xi_S \sigma^2}{M_P^2}$ .

- Result  $\frac{\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{E}}}{\sqrt{-g^{\mathcal{E}}}} \supset \frac{M_P^2}{2} R^{\mathcal{E}} - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{G}_{IJ}^{\mathcal{E}} \partial_\mu \varphi^I \partial^\mu \varphi^J - V^{\mathcal{E}}(\varphi^I)$  and **flattened** potential at **large-field values**:

$$(\xi_1 \rho_1^2 + \xi_2 \rho_2^2 + \xi_S \sigma^2 \gg M_P^2).$$

Induced field-space metric

$$g_{IJ}^{\mathcal{E}} = \frac{\delta_{IJ}}{\Omega^2} + \frac{3M_P^2}{2} \frac{\partial \log \Omega^2}{\partial \varphi^I} \frac{\partial \log \Omega^2}{\partial \varphi^J}.$$

Einstein frame

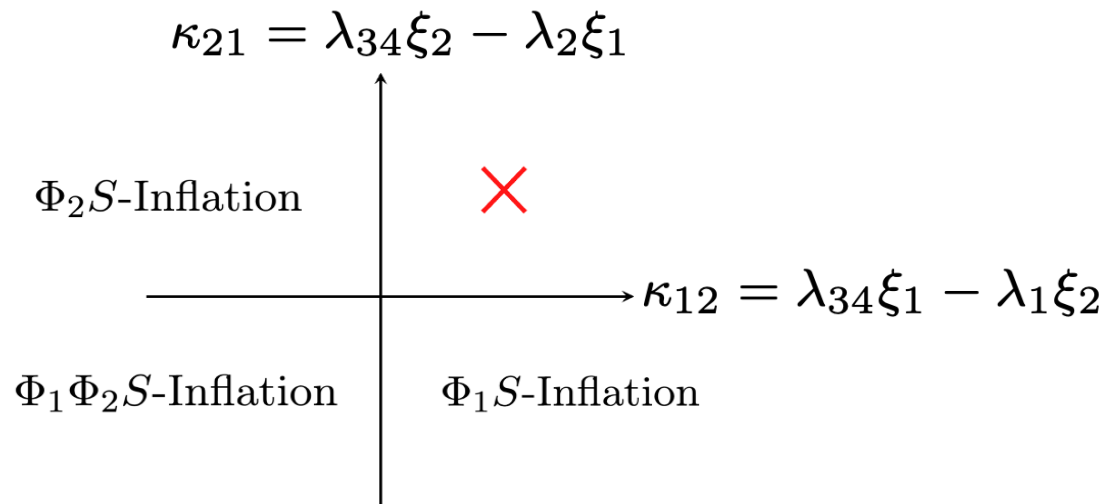
$$V^{\mathcal{E}}(\varphi^I) = \Omega^{-4}(\varphi^I) V^{\mathcal{J}}(\varphi_I) \simeq \frac{M_P^4}{8} \frac{\lambda_i \rho_i^4 + 2\lambda_{34} \rho_1^2 \rho_2^2 + 2\lambda_{iS} \rho_i^2 \sigma^2 + \lambda_S \sigma^4}{(M_P^2 + \xi_i \rho_i^2 + \xi_S \sigma^2)^2}$$

$$(\lambda_{34} \equiv \lambda_3 + \lambda_4)$$

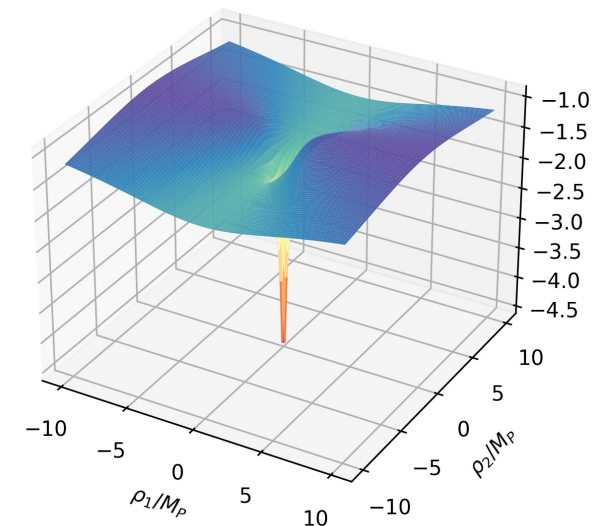
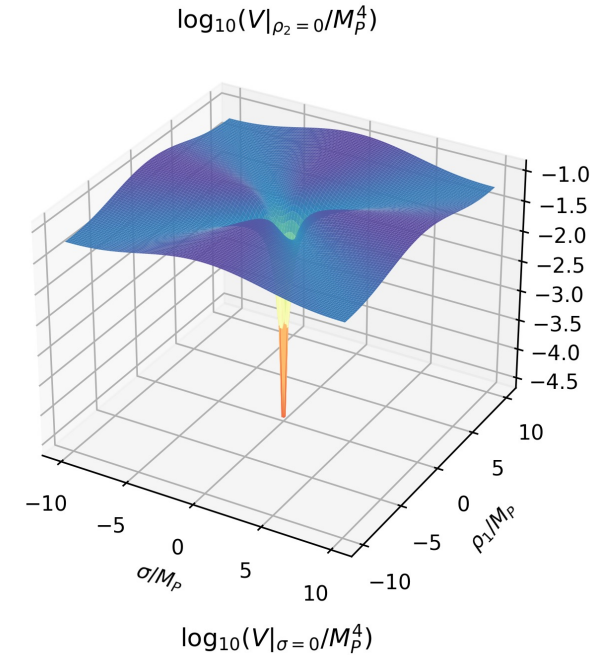
# Inflaton Valleys

- **Effective single-field inflation along valleys** of the potential = attractors for general initial trajectories due to Hubble friction.
  - Negligible turn rate + suppressed multi-field effects\*
- Classification of valley-structure in a general three-scalar problem leads to nine possibilities (parameter space in paper).
- Only three are generally satisfied in VISHν models:

\*axion isocurvature fluctuations are an exception



## 3D slices:



$$\xi \gg 1$$

$$V^\varepsilon \simeq \frac{M_P^4}{8} \frac{\lambda_{\text{eff}}}{\xi_{\text{eff}}^2} \left[ 1 - e^{-\frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} \frac{\chi_r}{M_P}} \right]^2$$

- Large non-minimal couplings reproduce Starobinsky and Higgs inflation potential (excellent fit to CMB data).

$$\chi_r \equiv \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} M_P \log(\Omega^2 - 1)$$

$$\frac{\lambda_{\text{eff}}}{\xi_{\text{eff}}^2} \simeq \frac{\lambda_S L}{\lambda_S(\lambda_2 \xi_1^2 - 2\lambda_{34} \xi_1 \xi_2 + \lambda_1 \xi_2^2) + \xi_S^2 L}$$

$$L \equiv \lambda_1 \lambda_2 - \lambda_{34}^2$$

$\Phi_1 \Phi_2 S$ -Inf.

$$\frac{\lambda_S \lambda_i}{\lambda_S \xi_i^2 + \lambda_i \xi_S^2}$$

$\Phi_i S$ -Inf.

- We compute the inflation observables in the slow-roll approximation.

Not plotted: running in scalar spectral index in agreement with data for standard  $N_*$

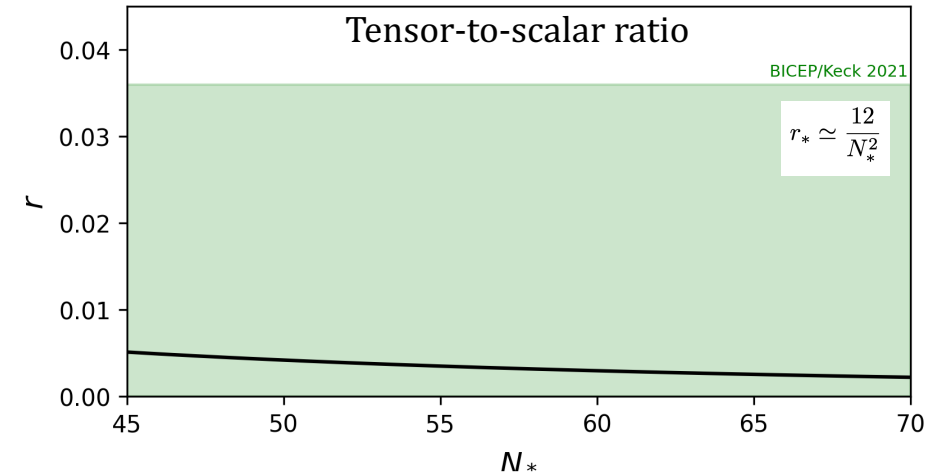
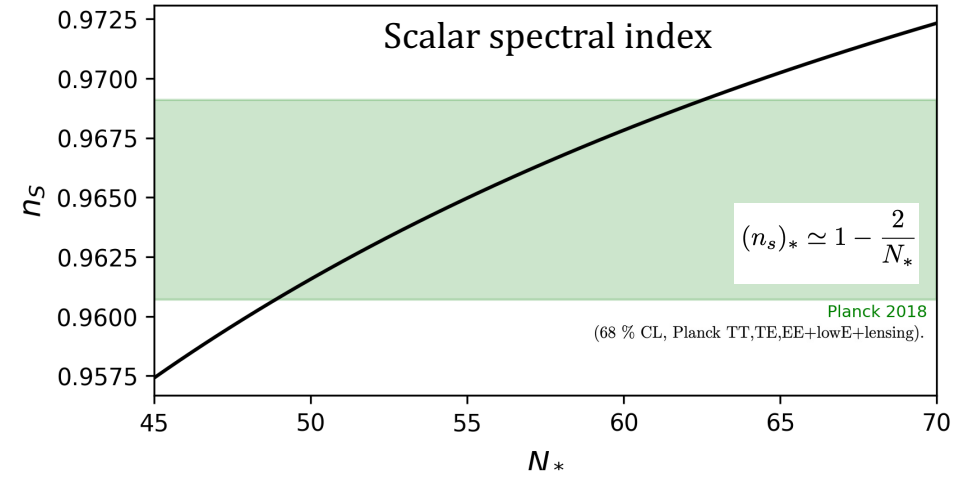
$$\alpha_s \equiv \frac{dn_s}{d \log k} = -0.0045 \pm 0.0067$$

(68 % CL, Planck TT,TE,EE+lowE+lensing).

$$\frac{\lambda_{\text{eff}}}{\xi_{\text{eff}}^2} \sim 8.9 \times 10^{-10}$$

$$A_s \sim 2.1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ [Planck, 2018]}$$

$k_* = 0.05 \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$   
[favoured region]



(e-folds between end of inflation and horizon exit of CMB pivot scale)

$$\xi \lesssim 1$$

- Stability of the singlet direction ( $\hat{\lambda}_S > 0$ ) can be preserved for viable inflaton self-couplings ( $\lambda_S \gtrsim 10^{-11}$ ) provided

$$y_N^{\max} < 10^{-3}$$

$$\hat{\lambda}_S(\sigma_*) \sim \lambda_S(\mu) - \mathcal{O}(k) (y_N^{\max})^4 \log(\sigma_*/\mu) \rightarrow \mu \sim m_\sigma$$

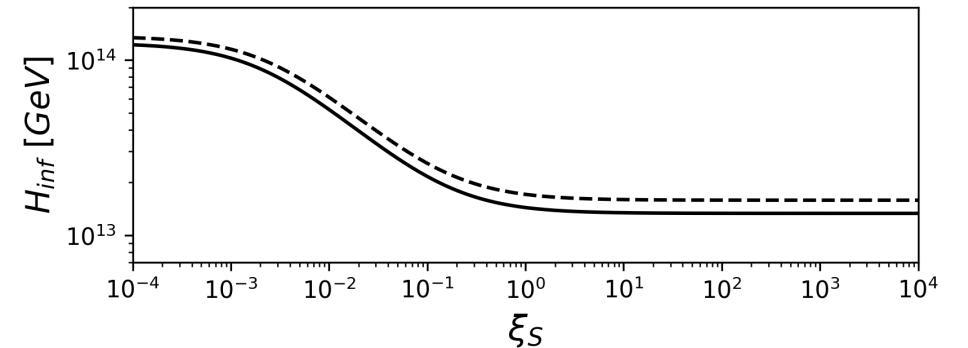
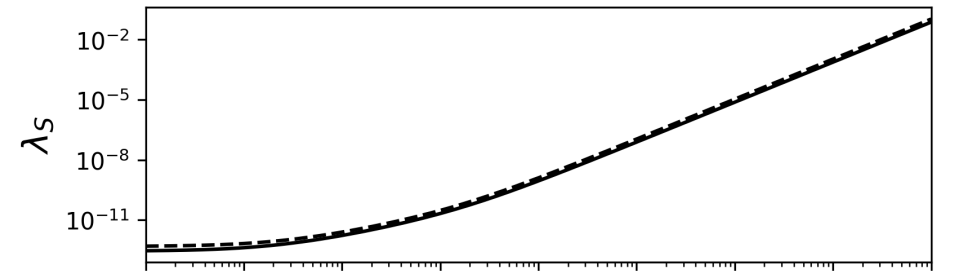
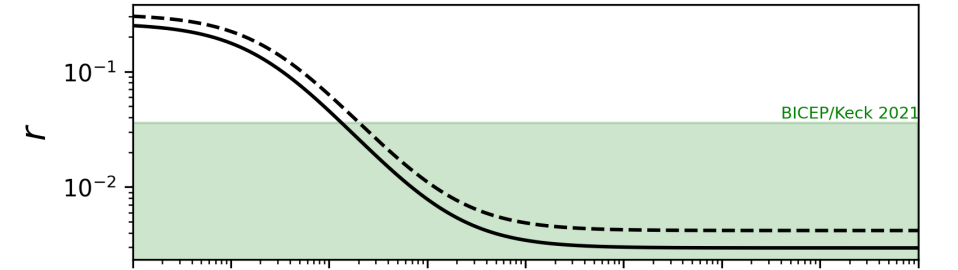
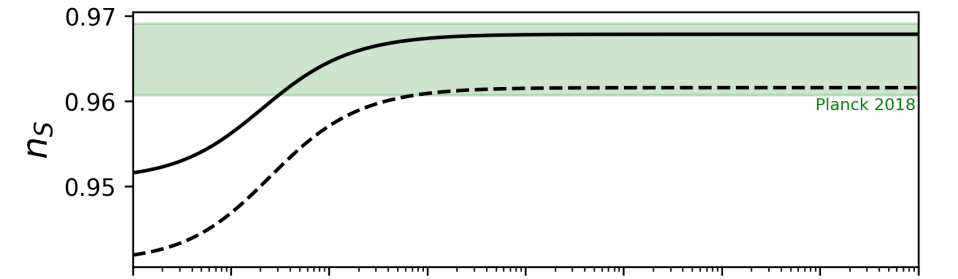
$$k = 1/16\pi^2$$

$$\sigma_* \sim \mathcal{O}(10)M_P$$

➤ Smaller non-minimal couplings are viable ( $\xi > 0.01$ )

➤  $\xi \lesssim 1$  avoid possible unitarity issues

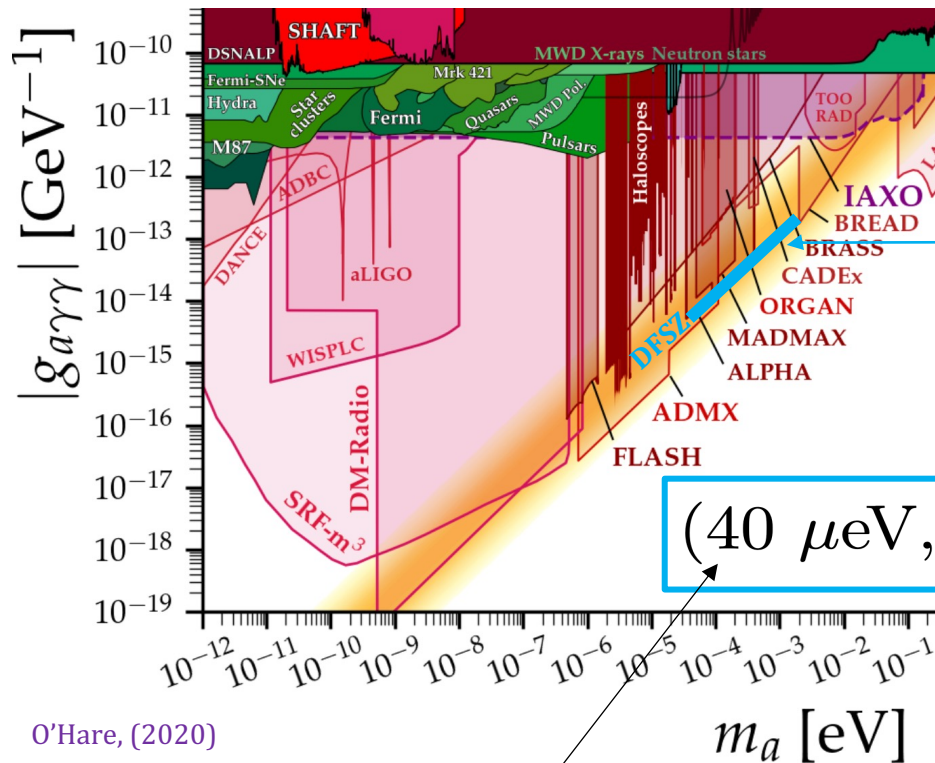
- Sufficient to analyse the singlet modulus direction (kinetic mixing an obstruction otherwise)





# Some experimental prospects

Expect post-inflationary **axion** scenario accessible to haloscope projections:



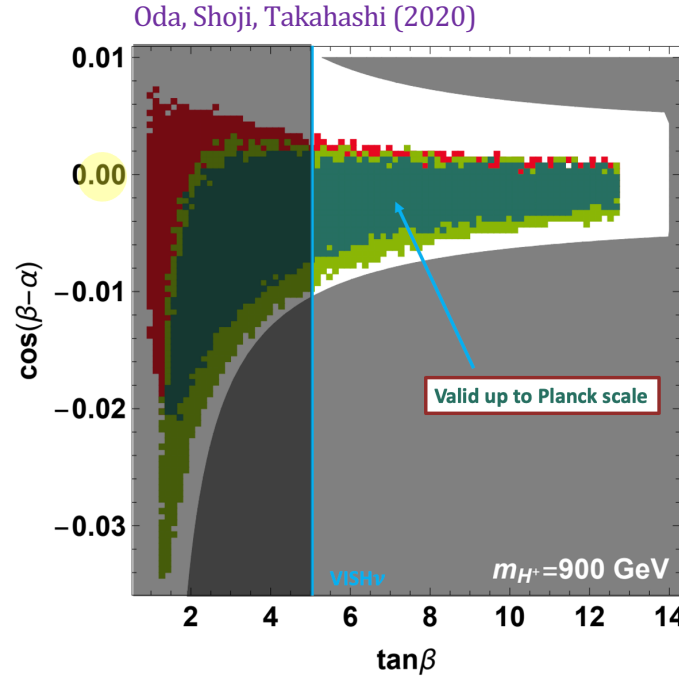
O'Hare, (2020)

Fixed by CDM density and unit domain wall number (subject to theoretical uncertainty in simulations)

$(40 \mu\text{eV}, \sim 2 \text{ meV})$

DFSZ-like stellar cooling bound (RGB)

## Colliders:



Oda, Shoji, Takahashi (2020)

Expect FCNC decays of top quark:

$$\mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow hc) < 0.073 \text{ (0.051) \%}, \quad \text{CMS, (2022)}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow hu) < 0.019 \text{ (0.031) \%},$$

$$a^2 \sin^2 \rho < 0.023, \quad \text{Chiang+, (2018)}$$

$$a = (\tan \beta + \cot \beta) \cos(\beta - \alpha)$$

+ other processes, e.g.  $cg \rightarrow tH$  or  $tA$

Kodak, Modak, Hou, (2020)

Alignment preferred for high-scale validity and natural leptogenesis.

HL-LHC likely insensitive to predicted  $g_{hVV}$  deviations

Next generation of CMB experiments will decisively probe tensor-to-scalar ratio predictions:  $r \gtrsim 0.01$

+ possible gravitational waves signatures from PQ phase transition

Ringwald, Saikawa, Tamarit, (2021)

# Summary

- VISH $\nu$  extensions are successful inflation models that meet particle physics objectives, solving five SM shortcomings:
  - ✓ Dark matter, active neutrino masses, BAU, strong  $CP$  and inflation (+ heavy top mass...)
- Accomplished *without* introducing naturalness issues to the SM (and *with* a detectable dark matter candidate).
  - ✓ Existence proof that weakly-coupled high-scale physics is a minimal + coordinated way of addressing these issues.
- Reheating outcomes under investigation.

*Thank you for listening.*