

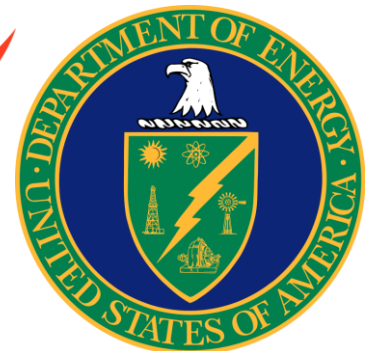
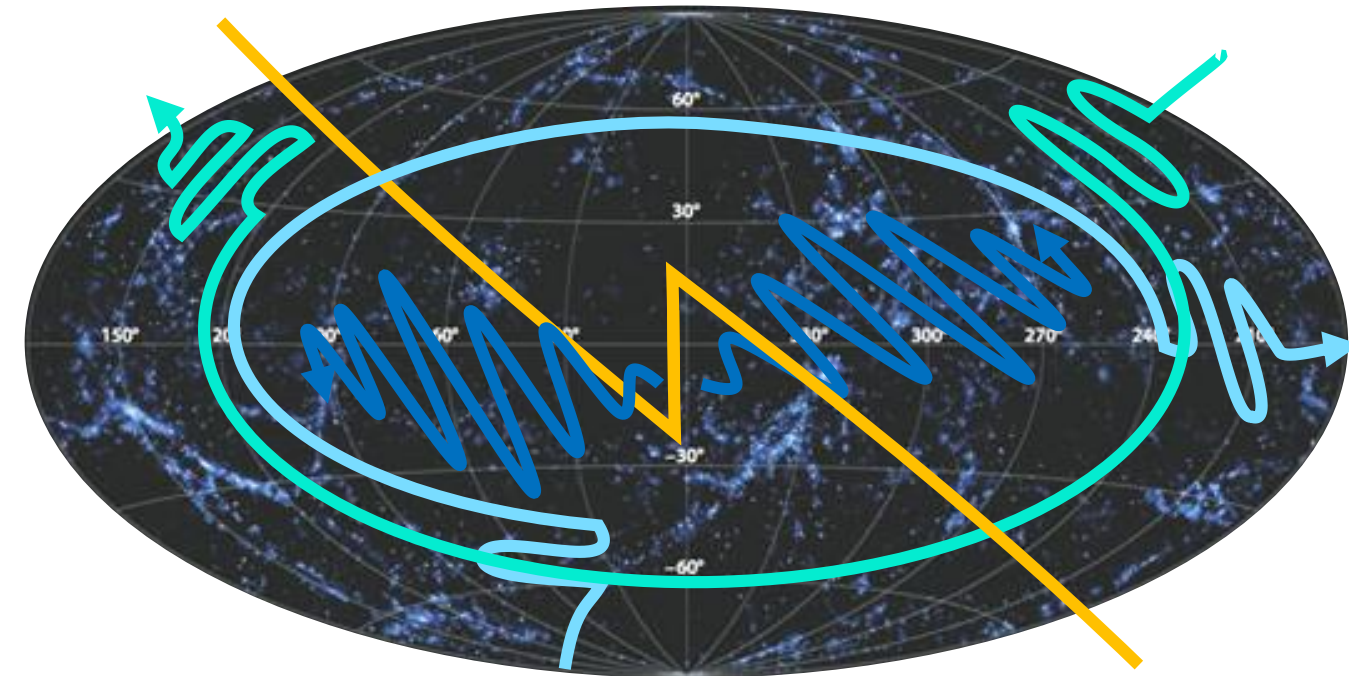
# New Inflationary probes of Axion & Hybrid Cosmology Colliders

Lingfeng Li

Brown University

Oct 22, 2023, U. Florida

The Early Universe: Window to New Physics  
2303.03406, With Xingang Chen & JiJi Fan

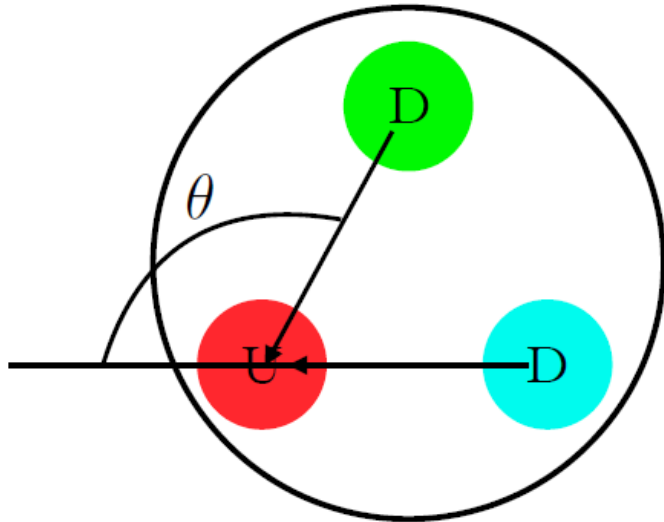


# Strong CP and QCD Axion

Experimental hints: neutron EDM

Naive expectation:  $O(Q \times \text{fm}) \approx 10^{-13}$  e cm

Experimental result  $\lesssim 10^{-26}$  e cm,  $\theta \lesssim 10^{-10}$

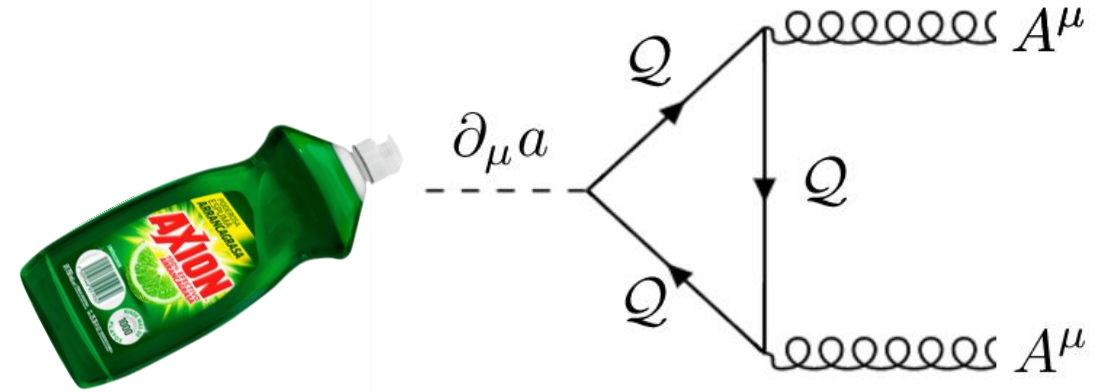


A. Hook, 2018

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \theta \frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} G\tilde{G}$$

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Collider of Axion | 2303.03406

QCD axion: A pseudo Nambu-Goldstone Boson (pNGB) of a the Peccei-Quinn symmetry

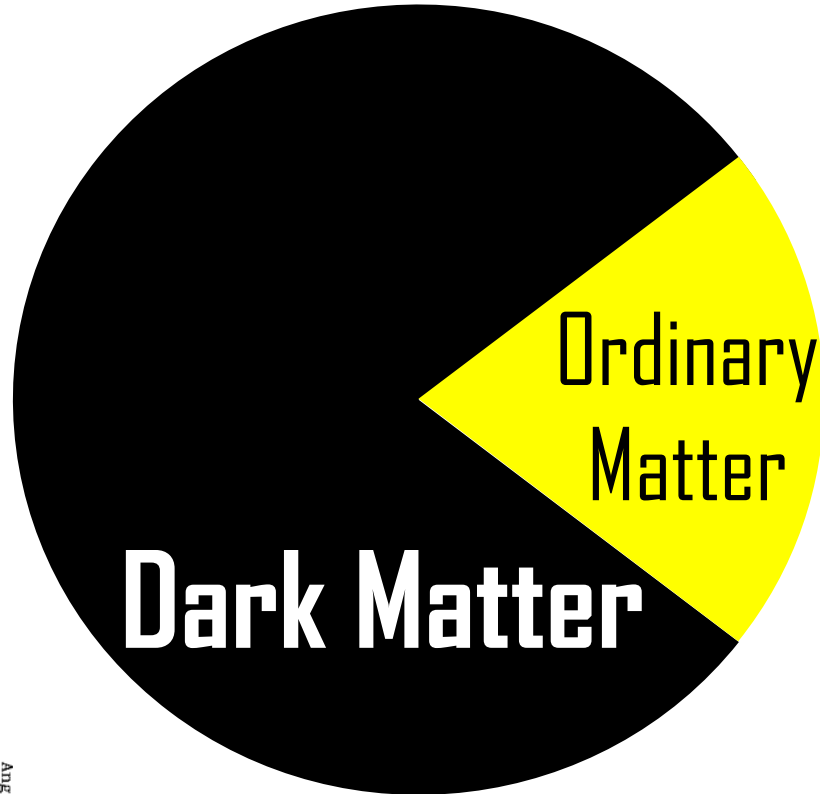
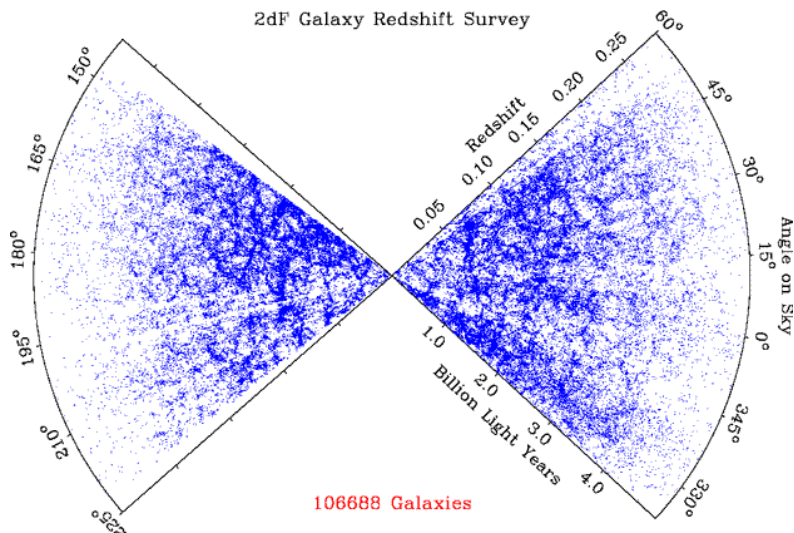
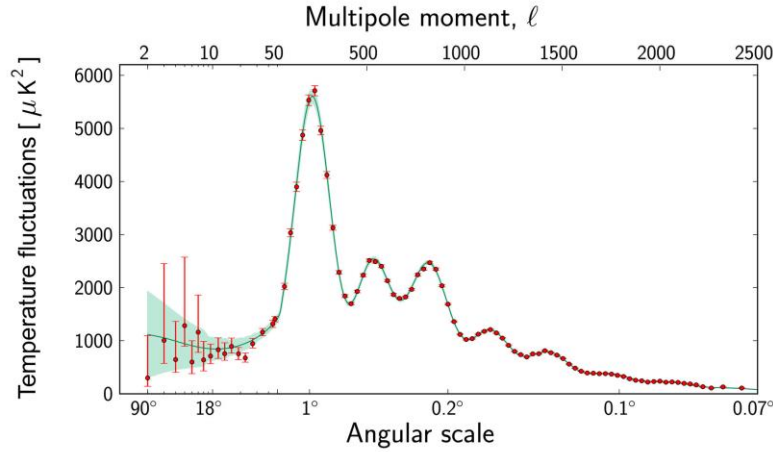


The strong CP  $\theta$  angle are set to zero at the minima

$$V = -m_\pi^2 f_\pi^2 \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_u m_d}{(m_u + m_d)^2} \sin^2 \left( \frac{a}{2f_a} + \frac{\bar{\theta}}{2} \right)}$$

Peccei, Quinn; Weinberg; Wilczek; Kim; Shifman,  
Vainshtein, Zakharov; Zhitnitsky; Dine, Fischler,  
Srednicki; L.F. Abbott, P. Sikivie 1977-1982

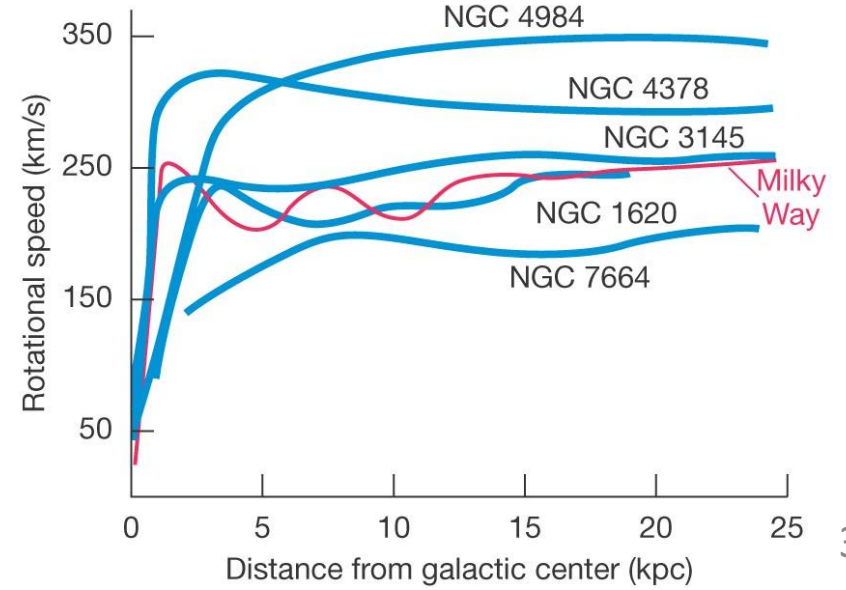
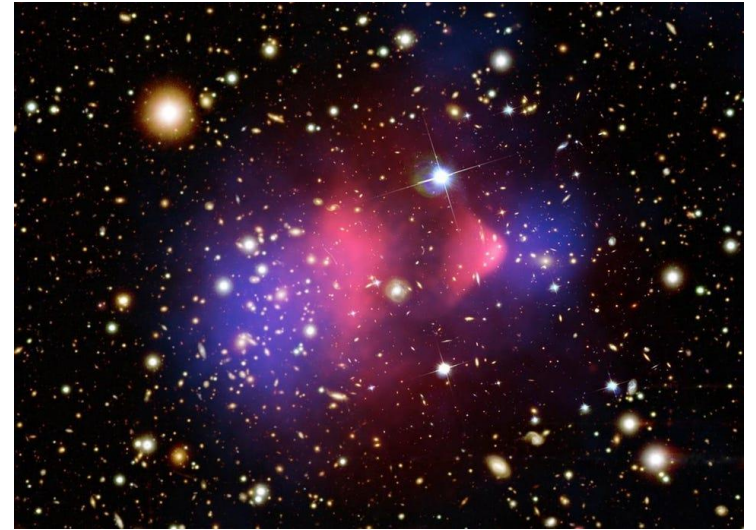
# Dark Matter Exists



Dark Matter

Ordinary Matter

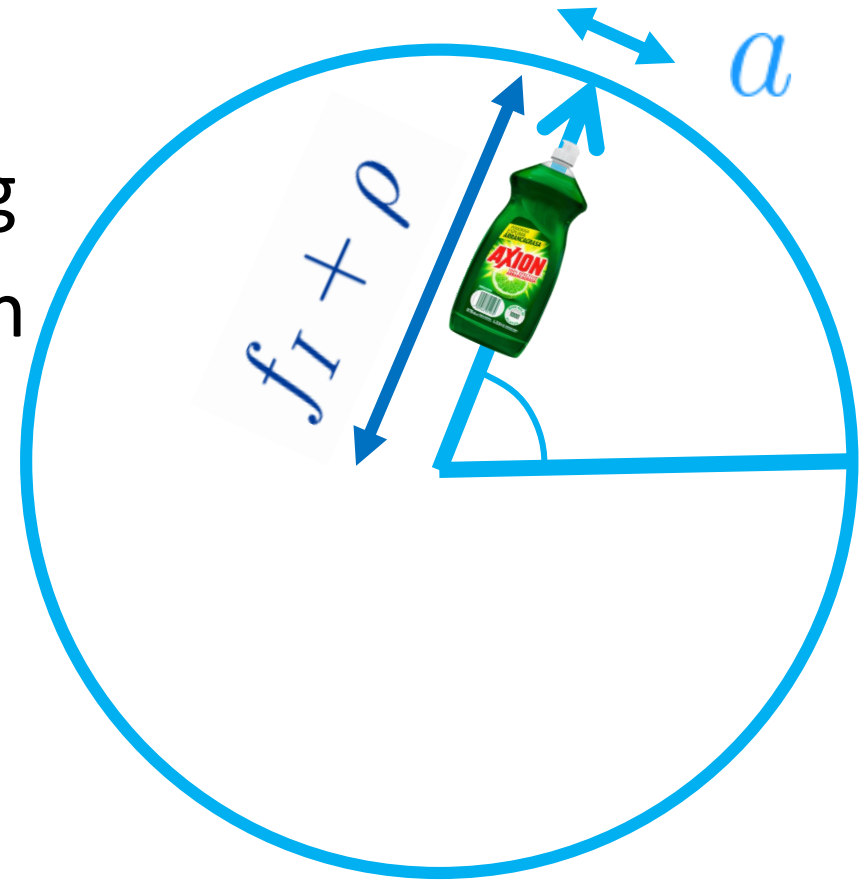
The matter budget of our universe



# Axion DM from Misalignment

$$\delta\theta \simeq H/2\pi f_a \ll 1$$

- $f_a > H_i / 2\pi$  with inflationary Hubble and PQ symmetry is not restored during (p)reheating
- DM created when  $H \lesssim m_a$ , isocurvature given by quantum fluctuations of  $a$



Reverse story:

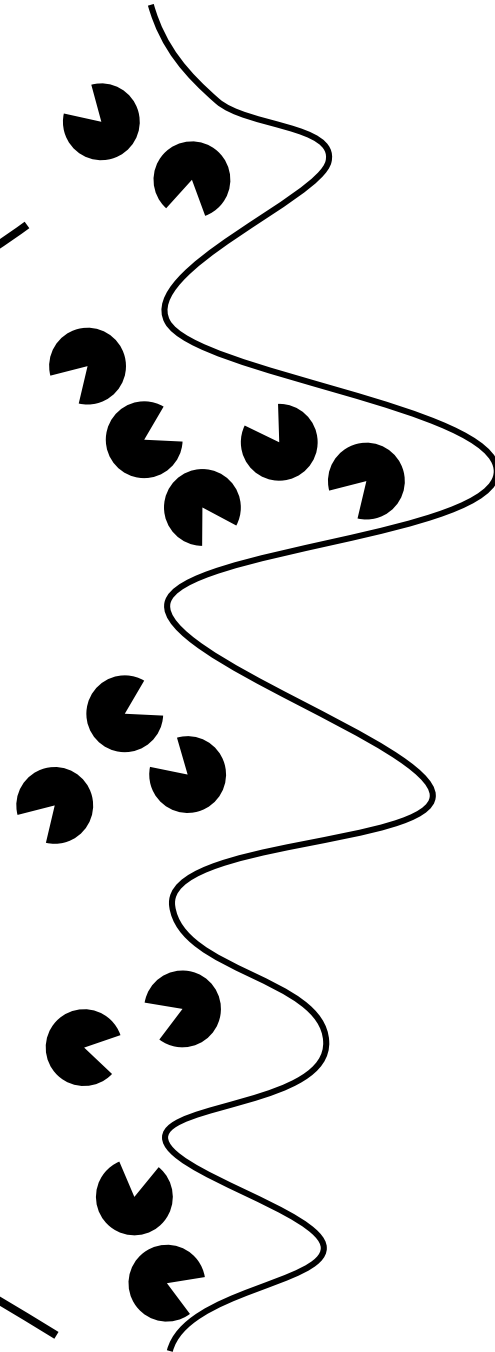
Y. Bao, J. Fan, LL, 2022



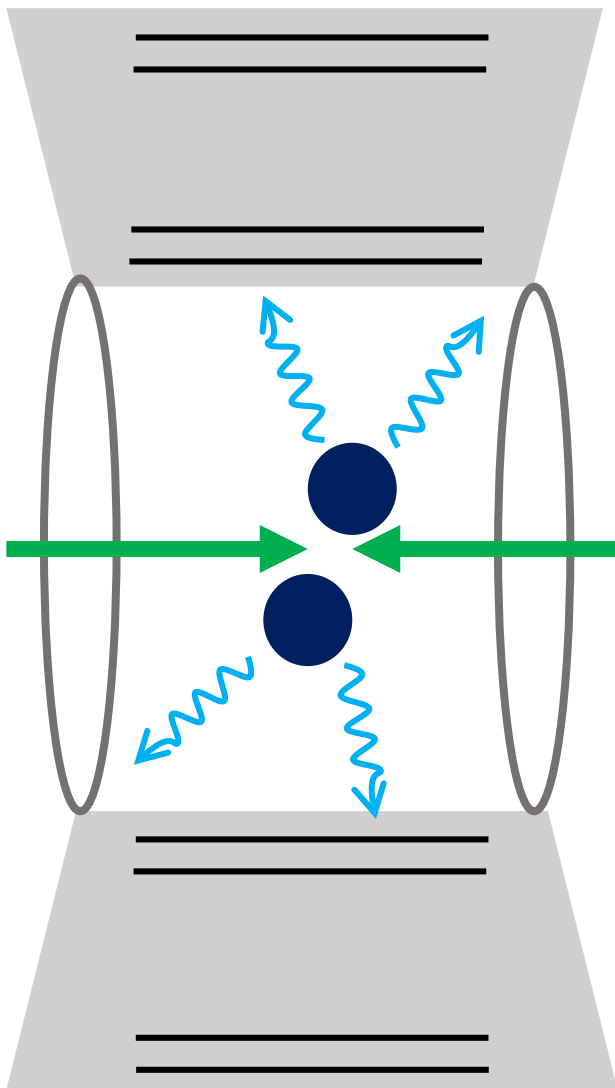
\*Oscillating field creates non-relativistic, coherent axion particles



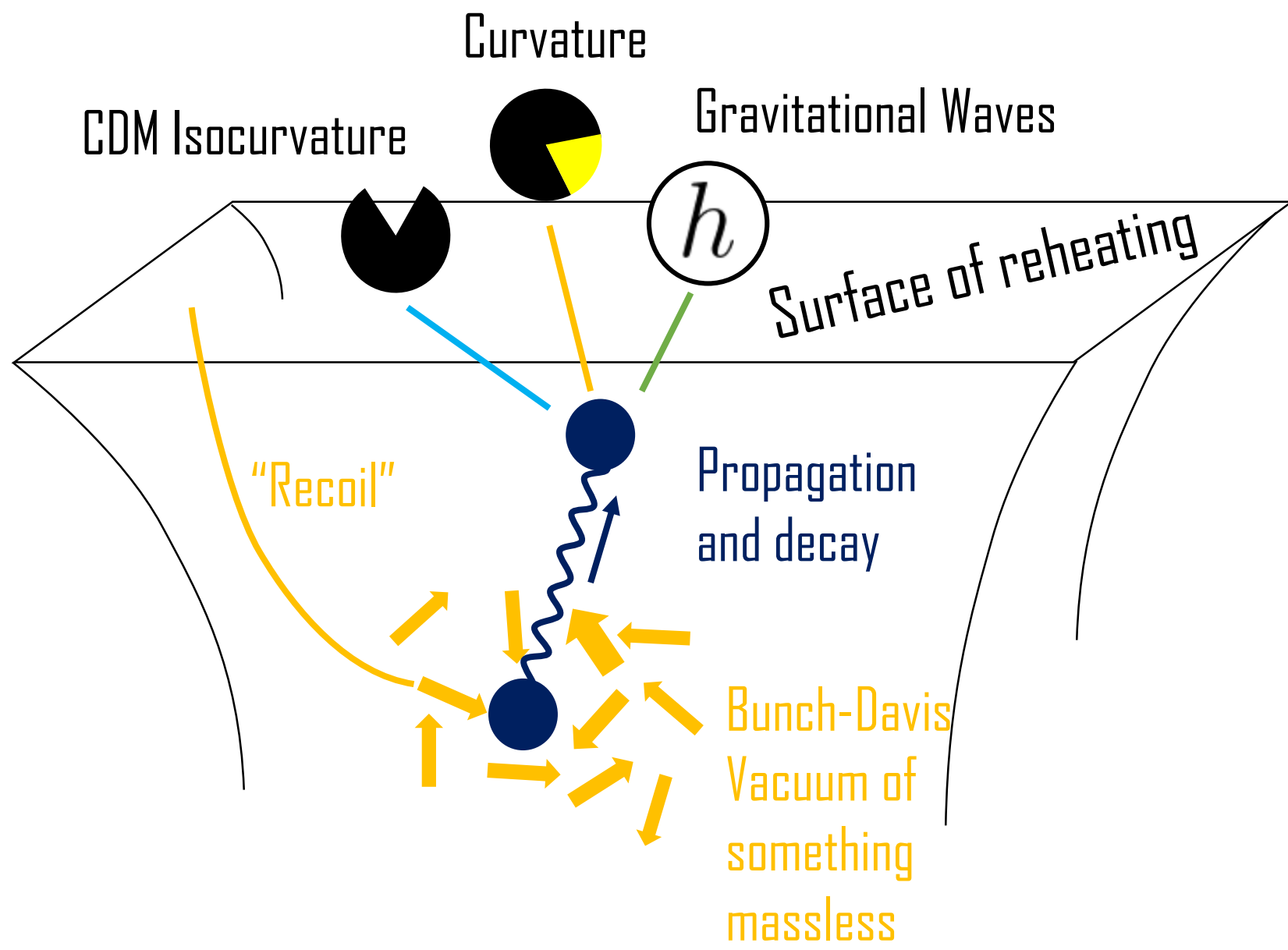
# Primordial Non-Gaussianity & Cosmological Collider



X. Chen, Y. Wang, 2009;  
Arkani-Hamed, Maldacena, 2015



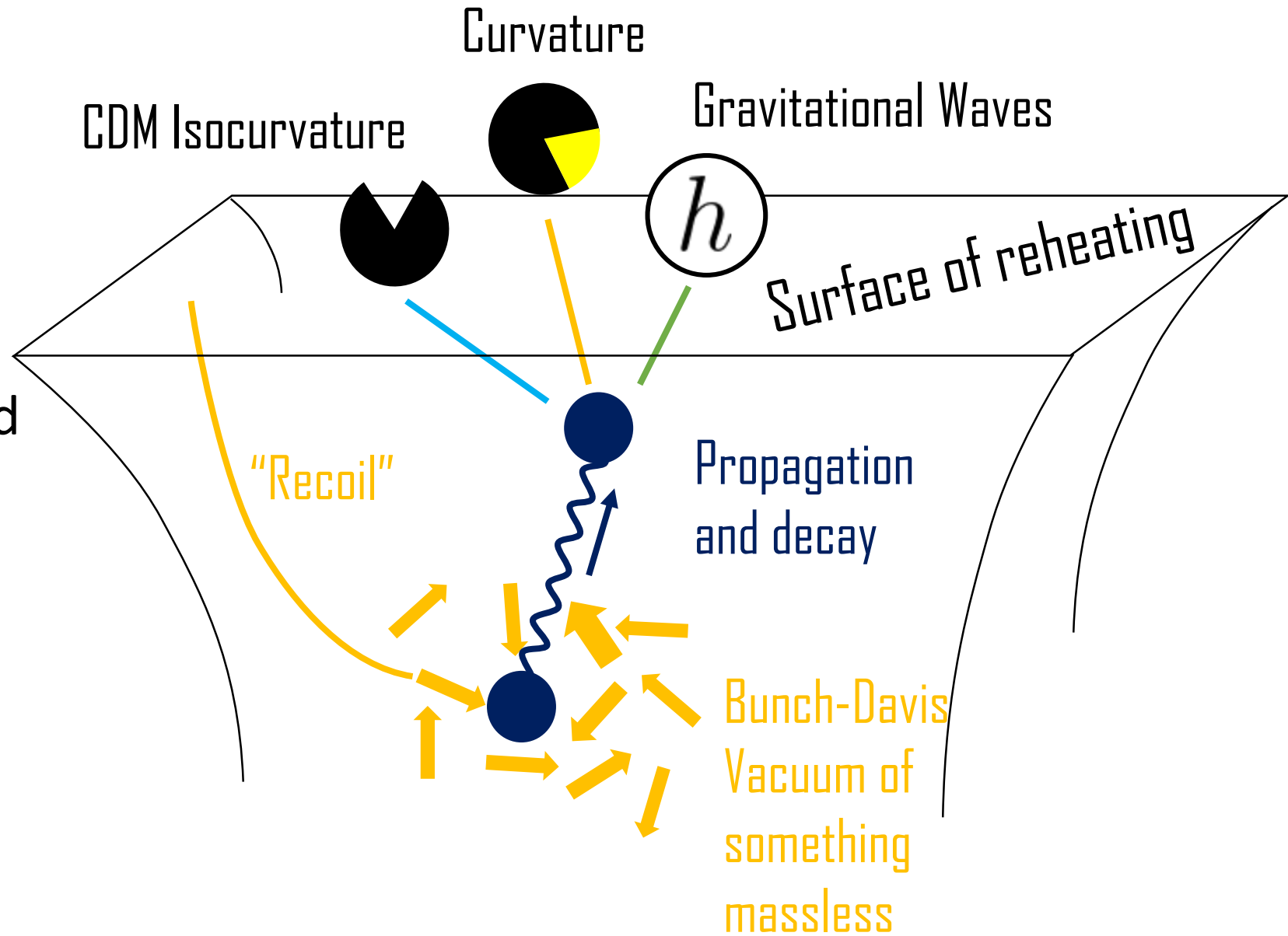
Lingfeng Li | Hybrid Cosmological Collider of Axion| 2303.03406



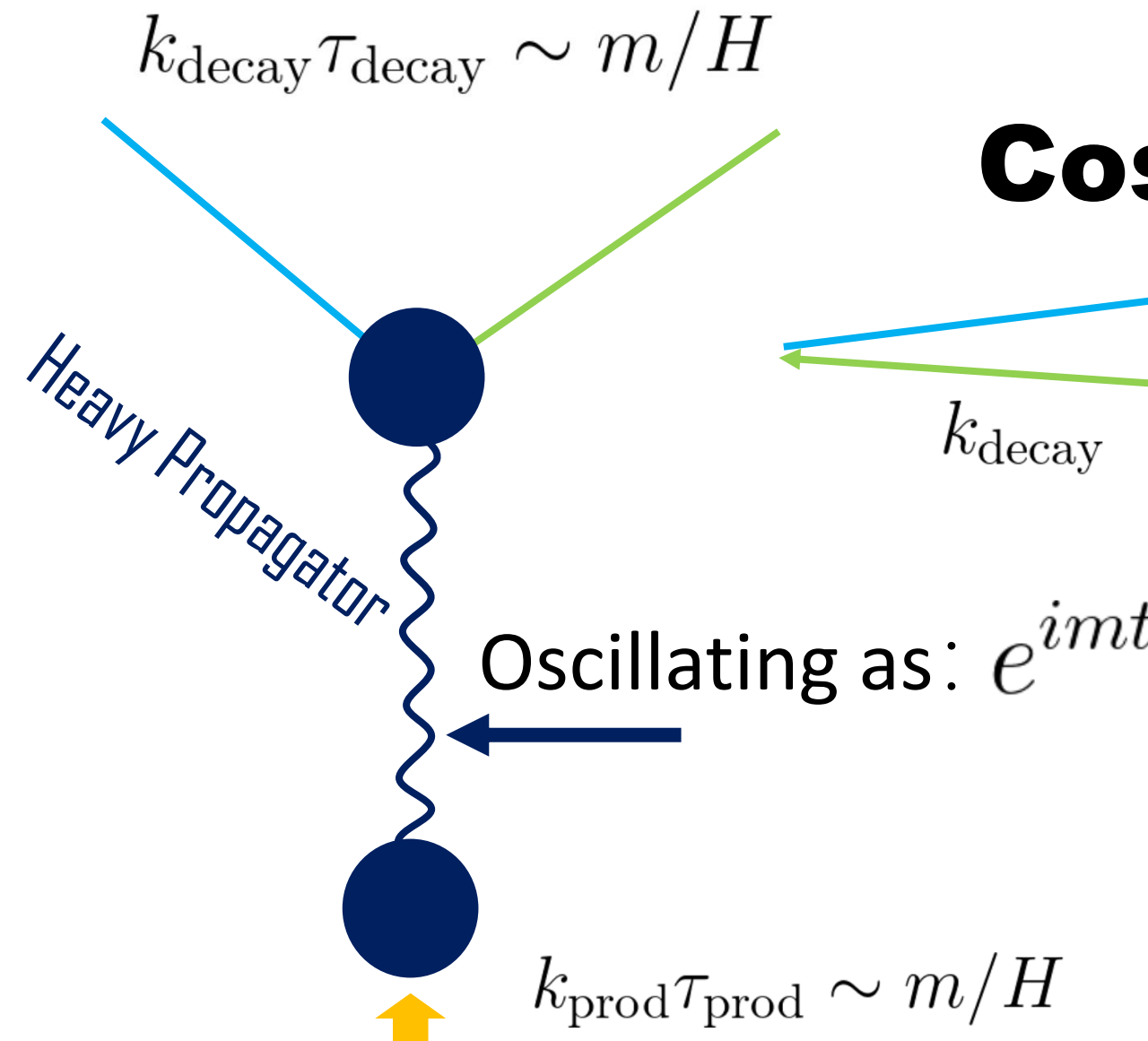
❑ Heavy field created by quantum fluctuations vs. Well-prepared beams

❑ Interfere with background fluctuations, amplitude instead of its square

❑ Time invariance breaks down by inflation: No invariant masses



# Sketch of a Cosmological Collider



$k_{\text{prod}}$   
 $k_{\text{decay}} \gg k_{\text{prod}}$

Mass observed through phases:

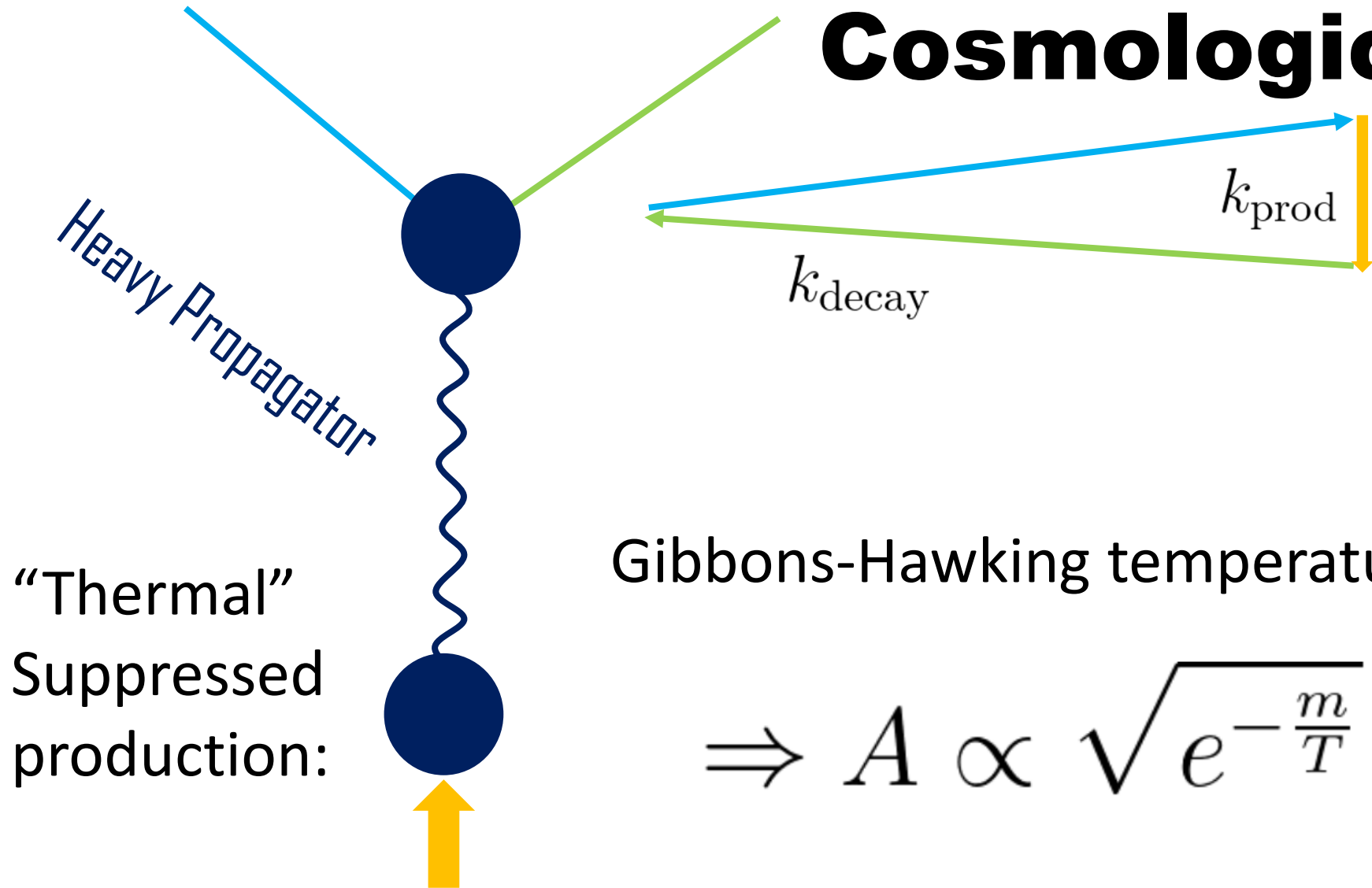
$$|\tau| \sim H^{-1} e^{-Ht} \Rightarrow$$

$$t_{\text{decay}} - t_{\text{prod}} \simeq H^{-1} \log \left| \frac{\tau_{\text{prod}}}{\tau_{\text{decay}}} \right|$$

$$e^{im\Delta t} \sim \left( \frac{k_{\text{decay}}}{k_{\text{prod}}} \right)^{im/H}$$



# Sketch of a Cosmological Collider



Gibbons-Hawking temperature:  $T \sim \frac{H}{2\pi}$

$$\Rightarrow A \propto \sqrt{e^{-\frac{m}{T}}} \sim e^{-\frac{\pi m}{H}}$$

# Beyond Boltzmann Suppression

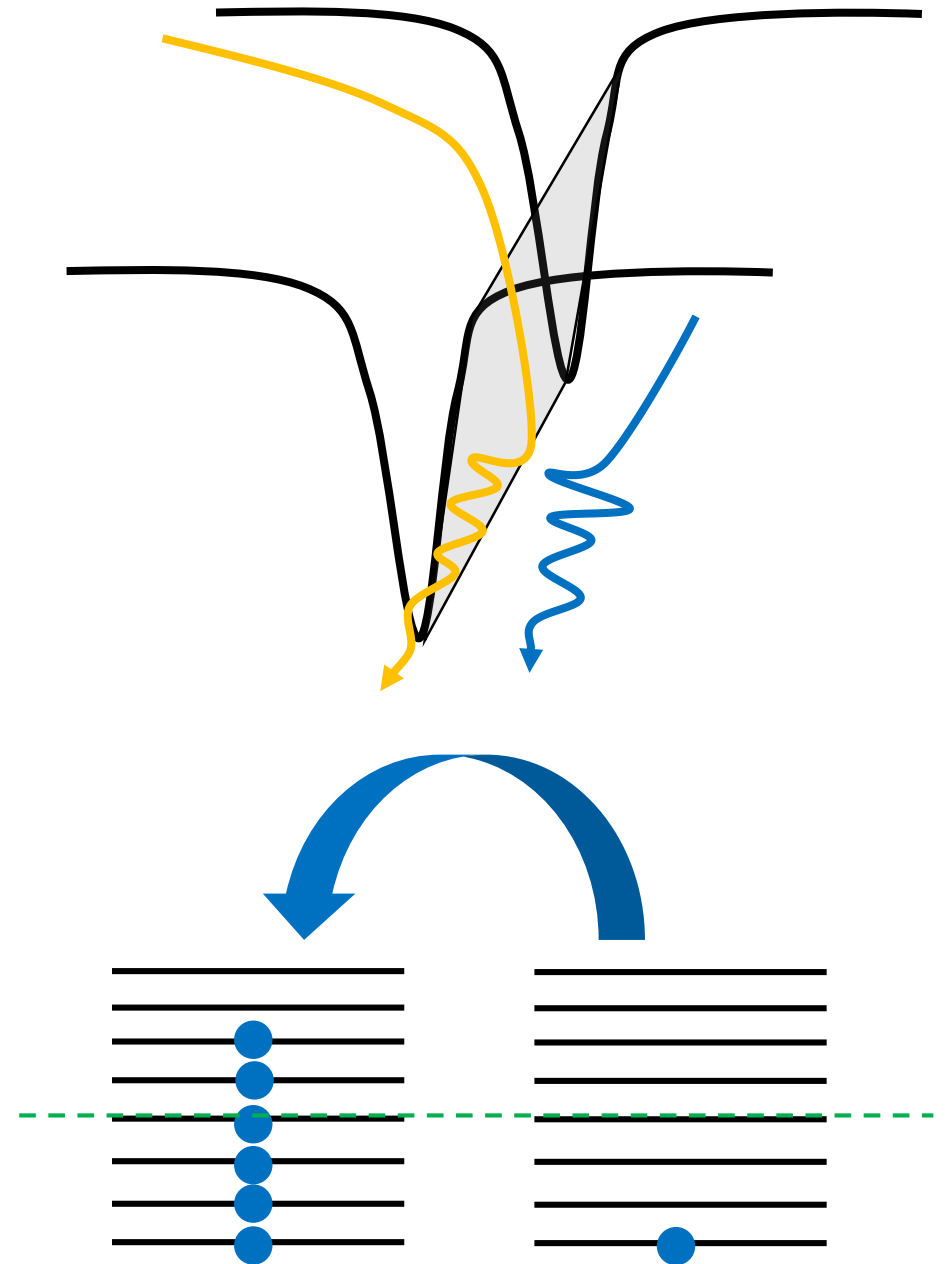
## □ Classical Feature

X. Chen, 2011; X. Chen, R. Ebadi, S. Kumar, 2022; A. Bodas, R. Sundrum, 2022 ...

## □ Chemical potential

A. Bodas, S. Kumar, R. Sundrum, 2020; C. M. Sou, X. Tong, Y. Wang, 2022 ...

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Collider of Axion | 2303.03406



# Scenario 1: Classical Feature

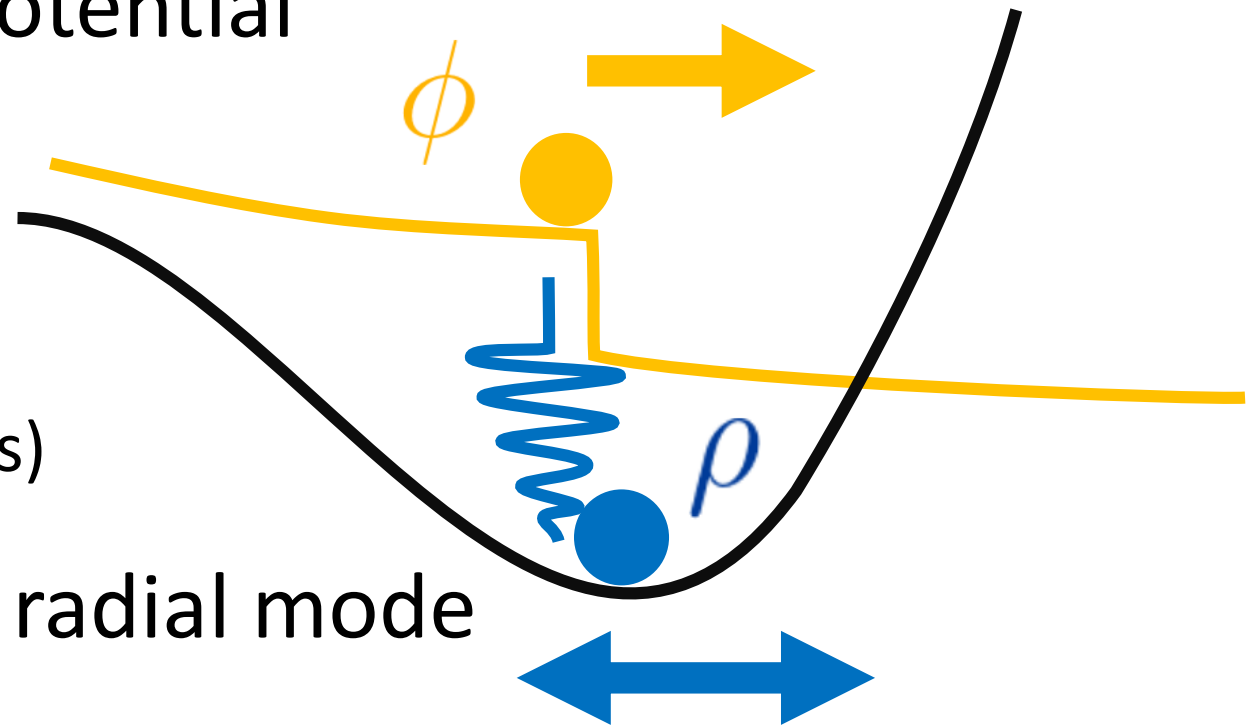
$$\mathcal{L}_1 = -\frac{(\partial_\mu \phi)^2}{2} - |\partial_\mu \chi|^2 - V_\phi(\phi) - V_\chi(\chi) - \left[ \frac{c}{\Lambda^2} (\partial\phi)^2 |\chi|^2 \right]$$

+ Toy feature: a step in potential

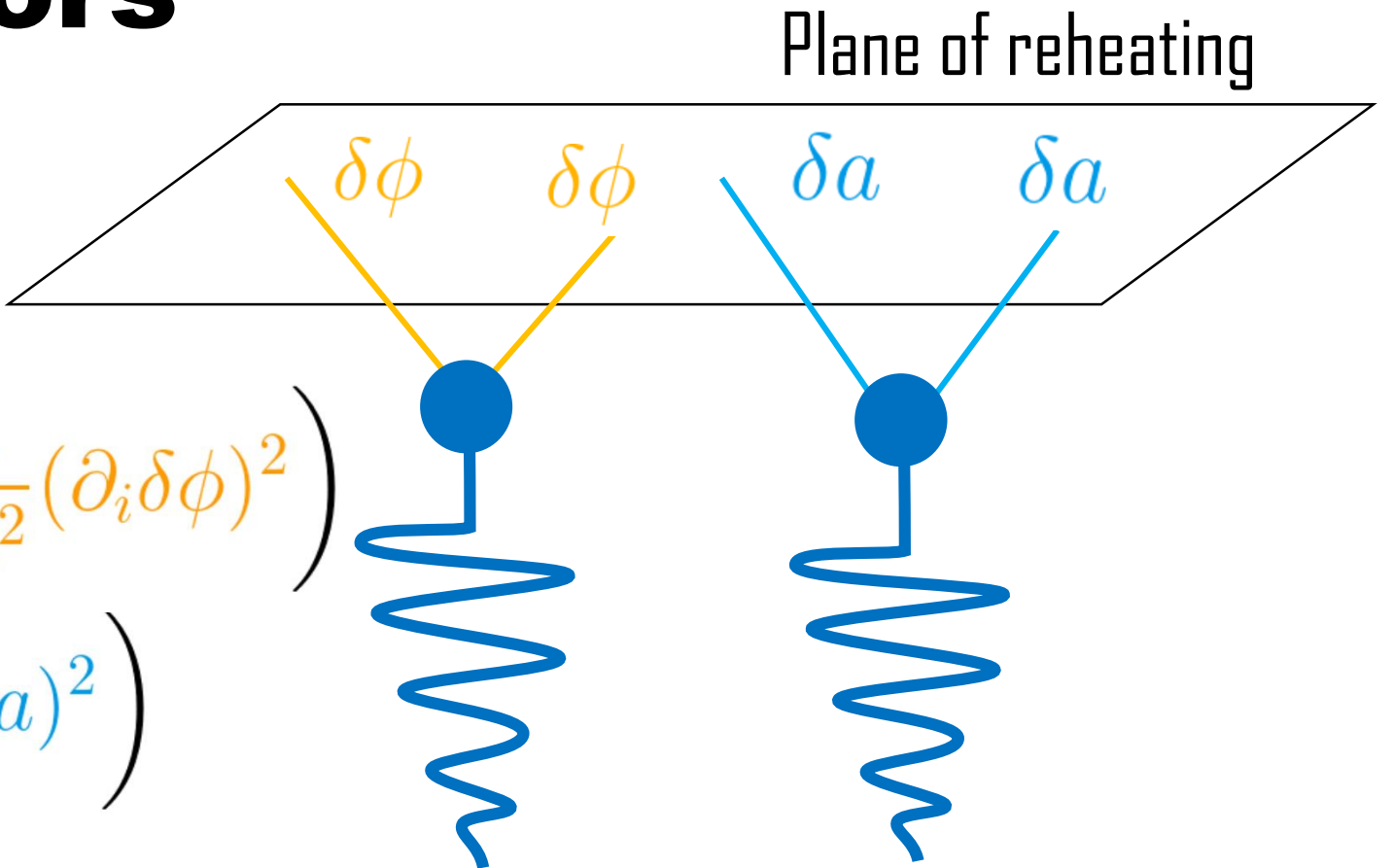
$$V_{\phi 1}(\phi) = -bV_{\phi 0} \theta(\phi - \phi_s)$$

(Could be a phase transition or other more realistic approaches)

Mediator excited:  $\rho$  the radial mode



# 2-PT Correlators

$$\mathcal{L}_1^{(2)} \supset \frac{cf_I^2}{\Lambda^2} \frac{\rho_{\text{bkg}}}{f_I} \left( (\delta\dot{\phi})^2 - \frac{1}{R^2} (\partial_i \delta\phi)^2 \right) + \frac{\rho_{\text{bkg}}}{f_I} \left( (\delta\dot{a})^2 - \frac{1}{R^2} (\partial_i \delta a)^2 \right)$$


Scale-dependent oscillation in 2-pt, **LARGER** in isocurvature

# “Music” of Dark Matter

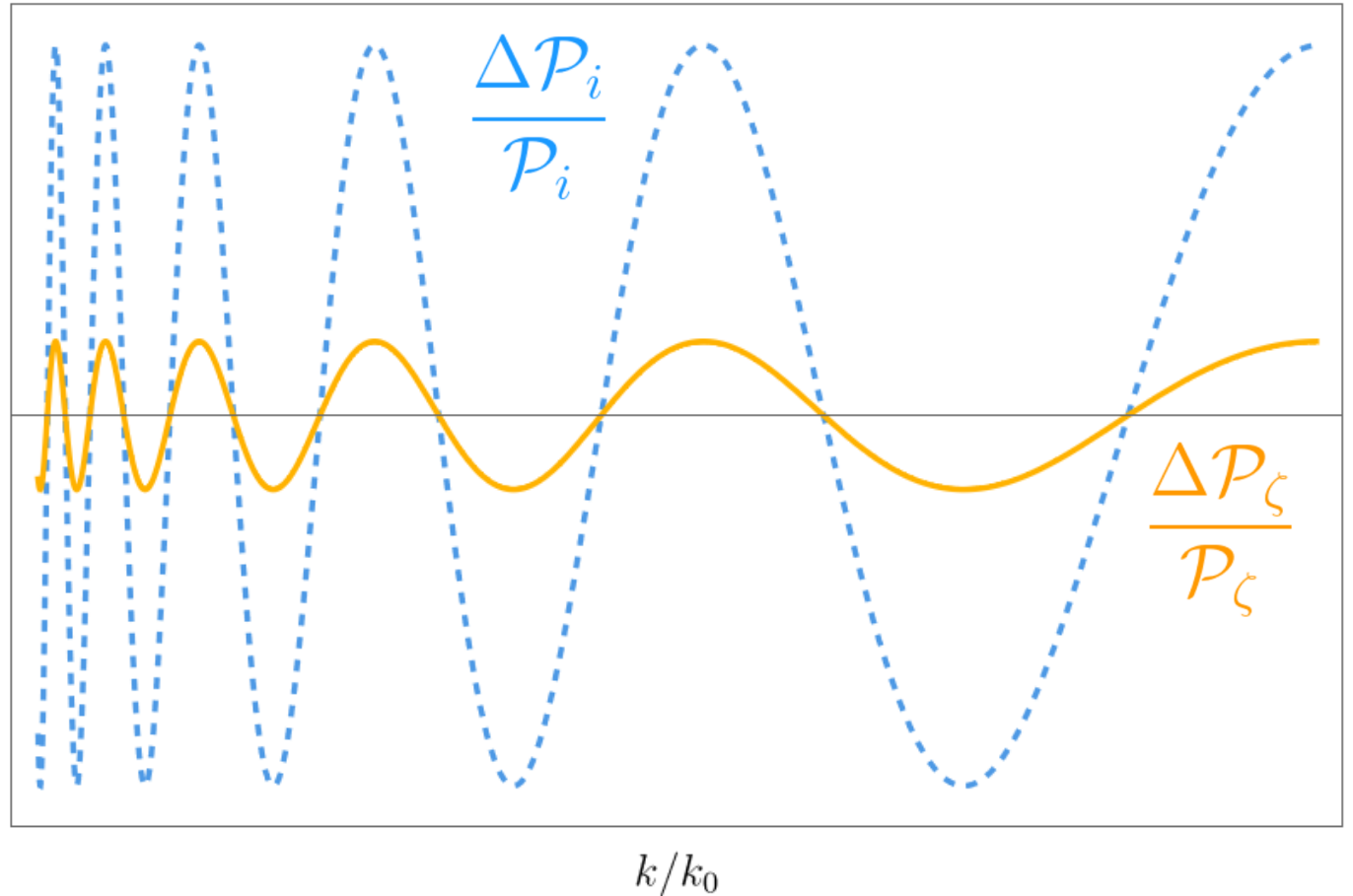
Inflation



Feature  $\sim$  Reed

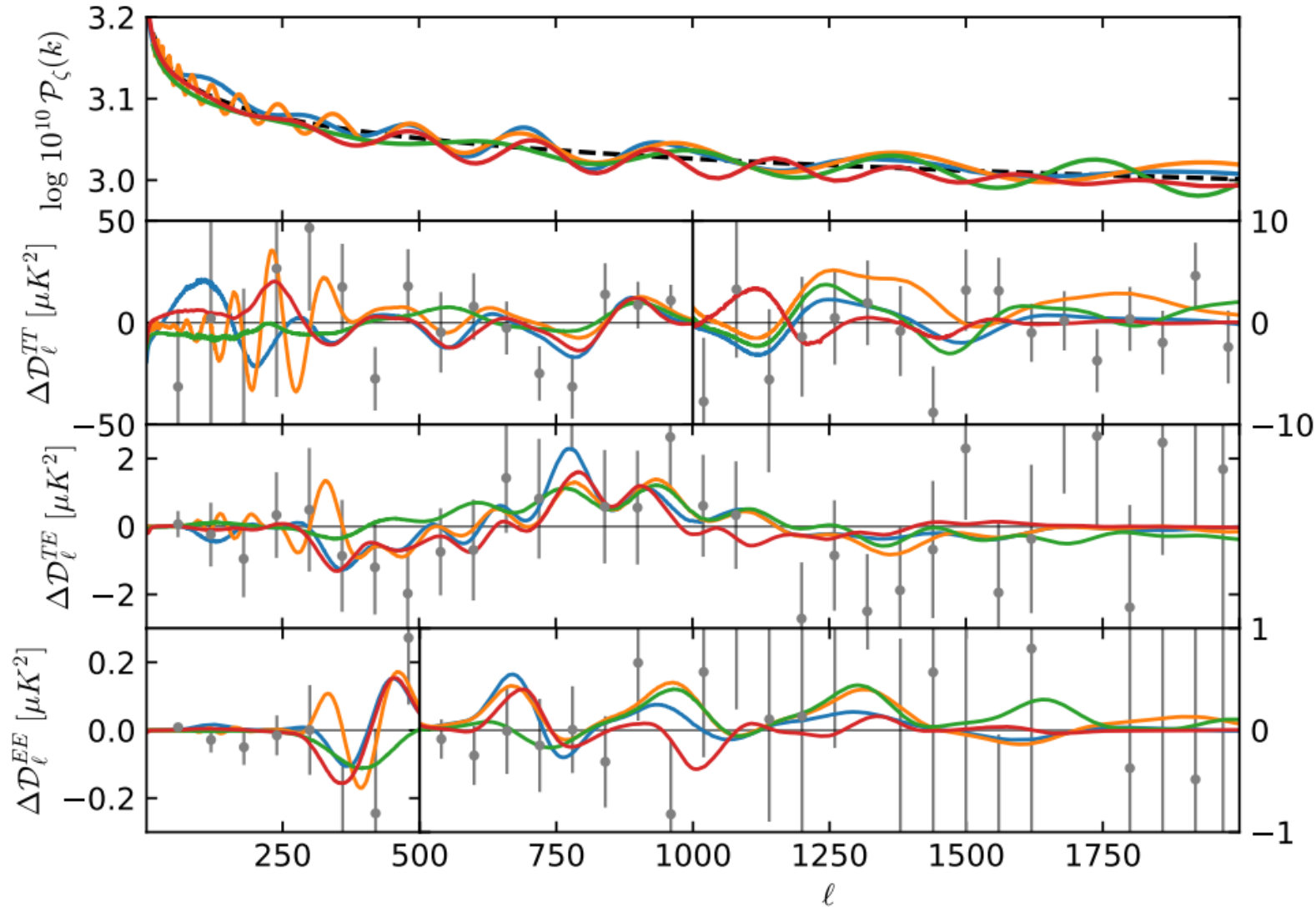
$$\frac{\Delta \mathcal{P}}{\mathcal{P}} \propto \sin \left( \frac{m_\rho}{H} \log \frac{k}{k_{\text{feature}}} \right)$$

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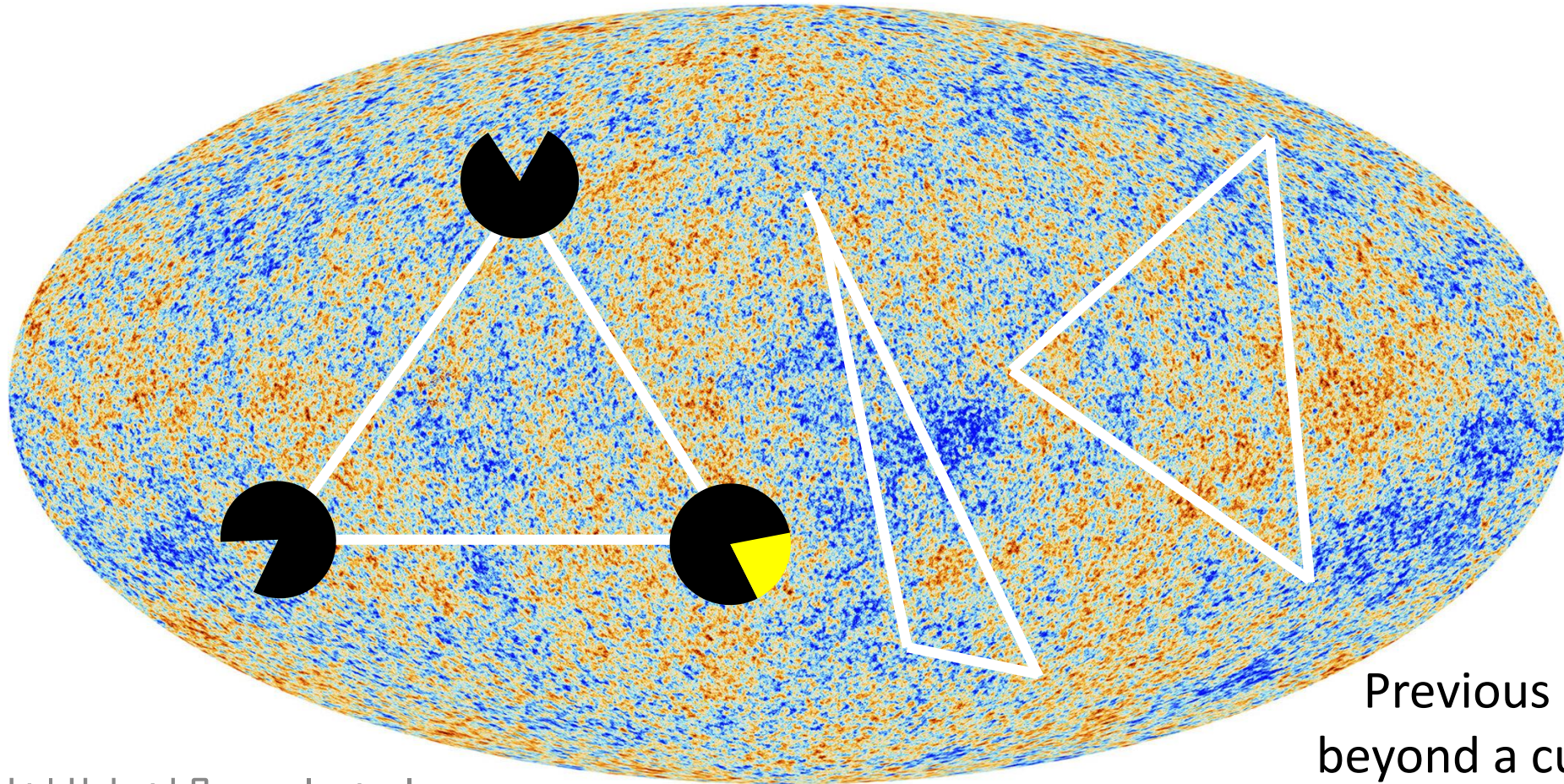


# Observational Hints



M. Braglia, X. Chen and D. K. Hazra 2021; A. Antony, F. Finelli, D. K. Hazra and A. Shafieloo, 2022; M. Braglia, X. Chen, D. K. Hazra and L. Pinol, 2022

# Cosmological Collider Signals of Hybrid Modes



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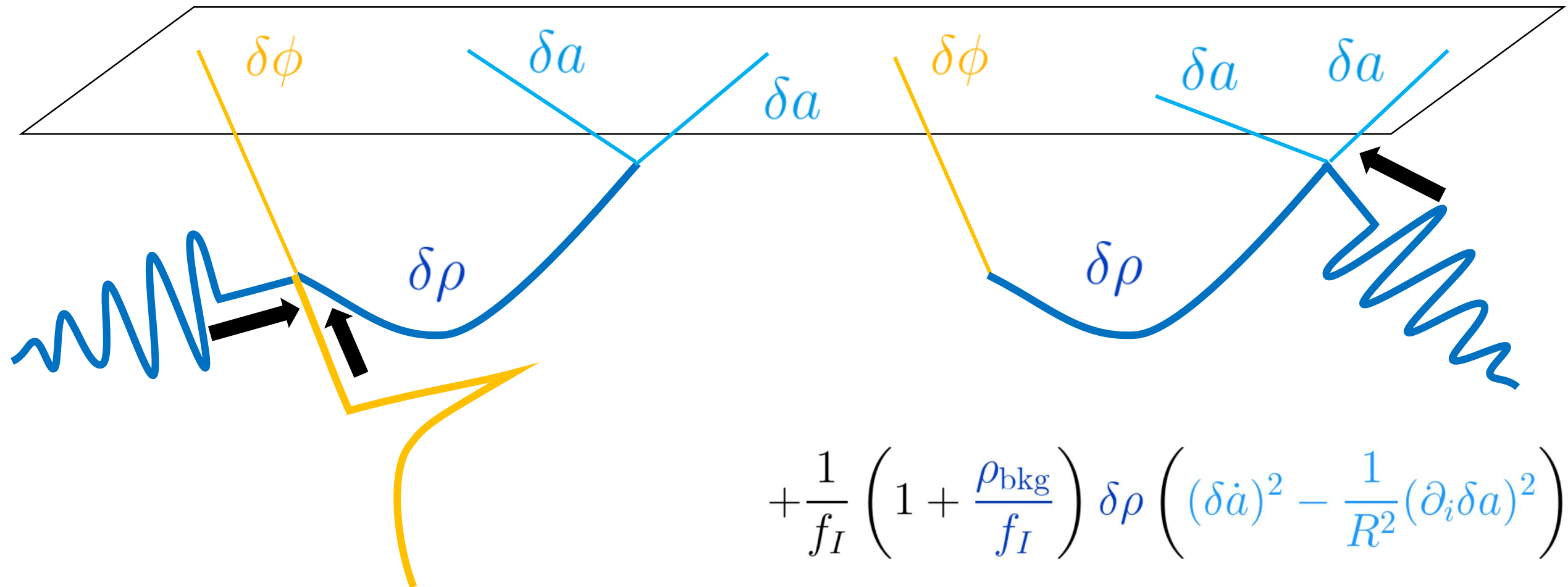
S. Lu, 2021;  
Zhou, 2021

Previous attempts to go  
beyond a curvature collider:

LL, S. Lu, Y. Wang, S.  
18



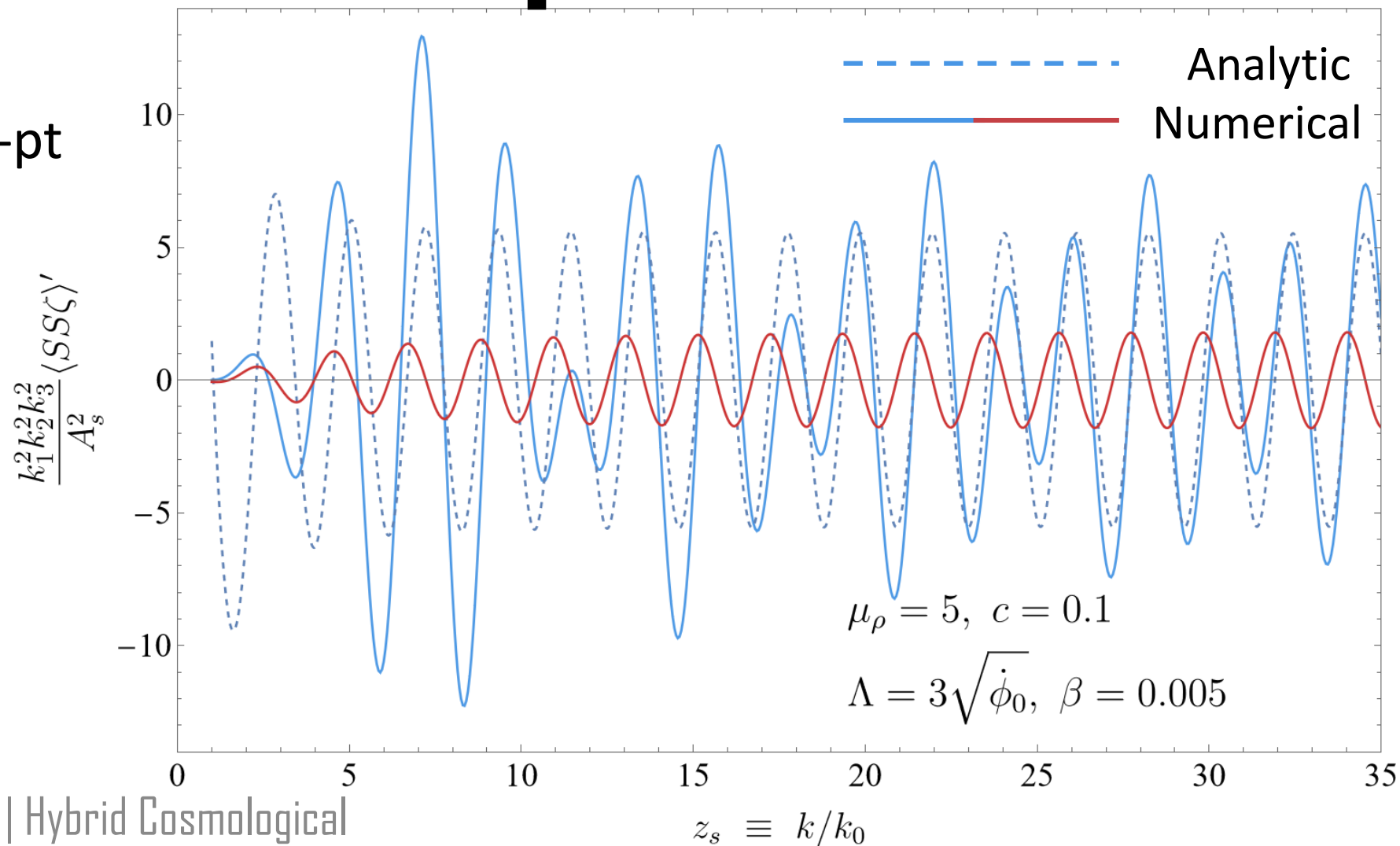
$$\frac{2cf_I\dot{\phi}_0}{\Lambda^2} \left( 1 + \frac{\dot{\phi}_1}{\dot{\phi}_0} + \frac{\rho_{\text{bkg}}}{f_I} \right) \delta\dot{\phi}\delta\rho$$



$$+ \frac{1}{f_I} \left( 1 + \frac{\rho_{\text{bkg}}}{f_I} \right) \delta\rho \left( (\delta\dot{a})^2 - \frac{1}{R^2} (\partial_i \delta a)^2 \right)$$

# NG in the Equilateral limit

Sizable  
hybrid 3-pt  
signal



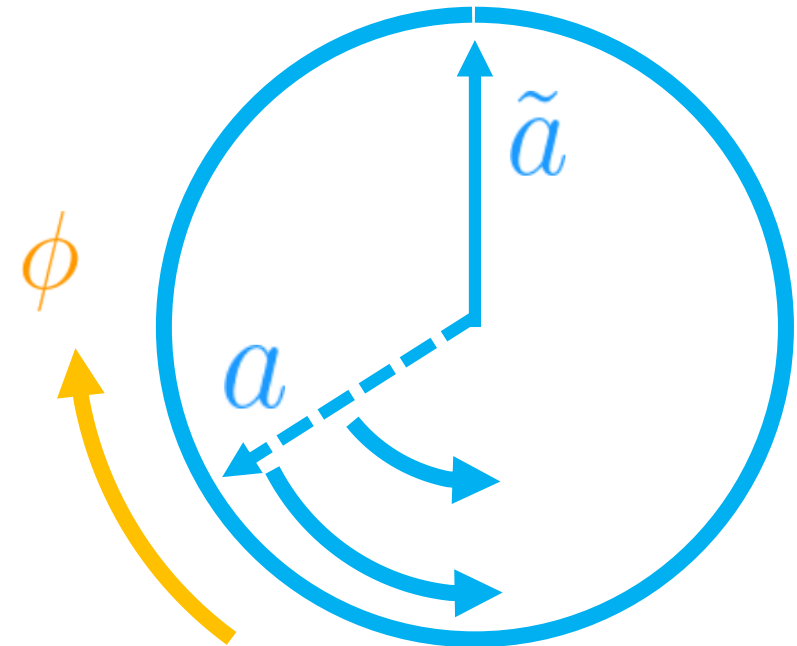
# Scenario 2: Chemical Potential

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{chem}} = -\frac{(\partial_\mu \phi)^2}{2} - |\partial_\mu \chi|^2 - V(\phi) - \frac{\lambda}{2} \left( |\chi|^2 - \frac{f_a^2}{2} \right)^2 - i \frac{\kappa \partial_\mu \phi}{\Lambda} (\chi^\dagger \partial^\mu \chi - \chi \partial^\mu \chi^\dagger)$$

Kinetic mixing between the massless axion and still massive inflaton:

$$\tilde{\rho} = \rho, \quad \tilde{a} = a - z\phi, \quad z \equiv \frac{\kappa f_I}{\Lambda}$$

$\tilde{a}$  will convert into isocurvature after the inflation ends





# Axion-Fermion Coupling

Take a KSVZ-type theory w/ PQ symmetry

Using vector-like quarks to induce coupling to QCD:

J.E. Kim, 1979; M. A. Shifman, A. I. Vainshtein, V. I. Zakharov, 1980

“Native” in QCD axion scenarios

$\partial_\mu \tilde{a}$  or  $\partial_\mu \phi$

$$\frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_I} \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \psi = \frac{\partial_\mu \tilde{a} + z \partial_\mu \phi}{2f_I} \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \psi$$

Lingfeng Li | 2303.03406 &  
2209.09908

# Chemical Potential

A rolling axion field introduces a chemical potential  
 Opposite sign for different fermion helicity

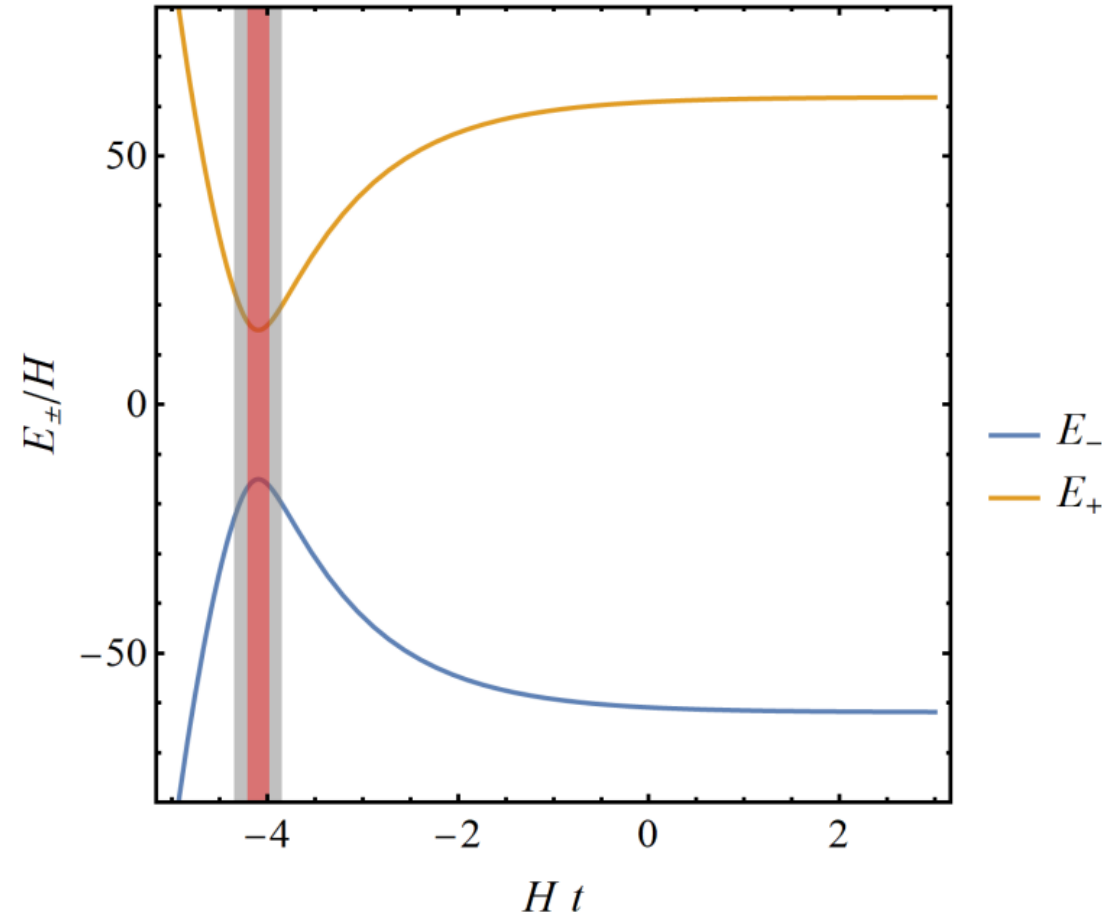
X. Chen, Y. Wang, and Z.-Z. Xianyu, 2018; L.-T. Wang and Z.-Z. Xianyu, 2019; A. Bodas, S. Kumar, R. Sundrum 2020; C. M. Sou, X. Tong, Y. Wang 2021

$$\frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_I} \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \psi \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mu_c \equiv \frac{z \dot{\phi}_0}{2f_I}$$

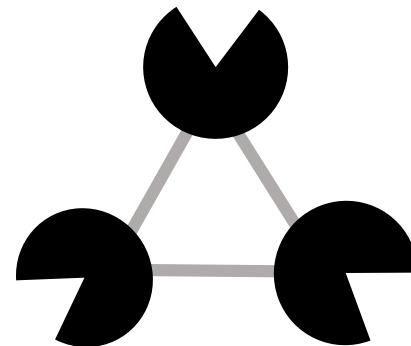
The chemical potential

In de Sitter background, non-adiabatic transition happens with little suppression

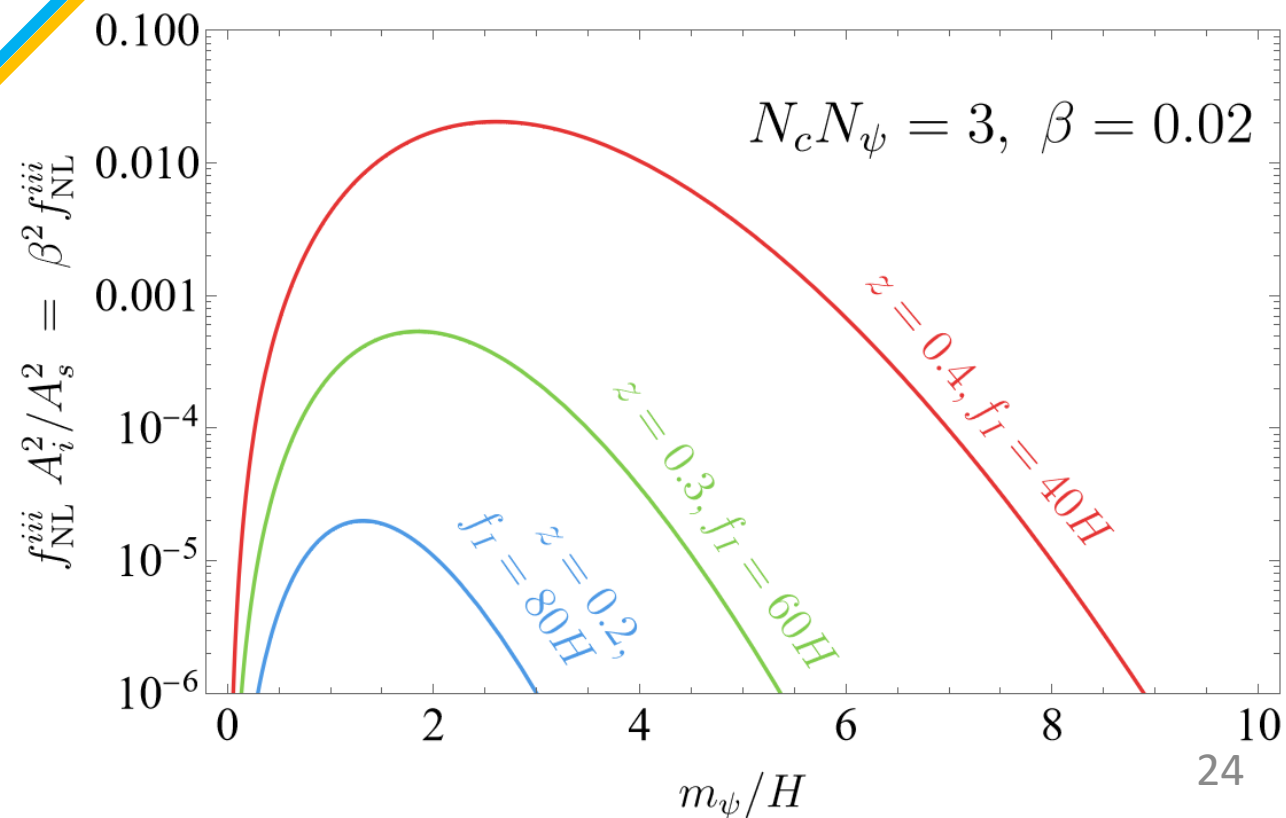
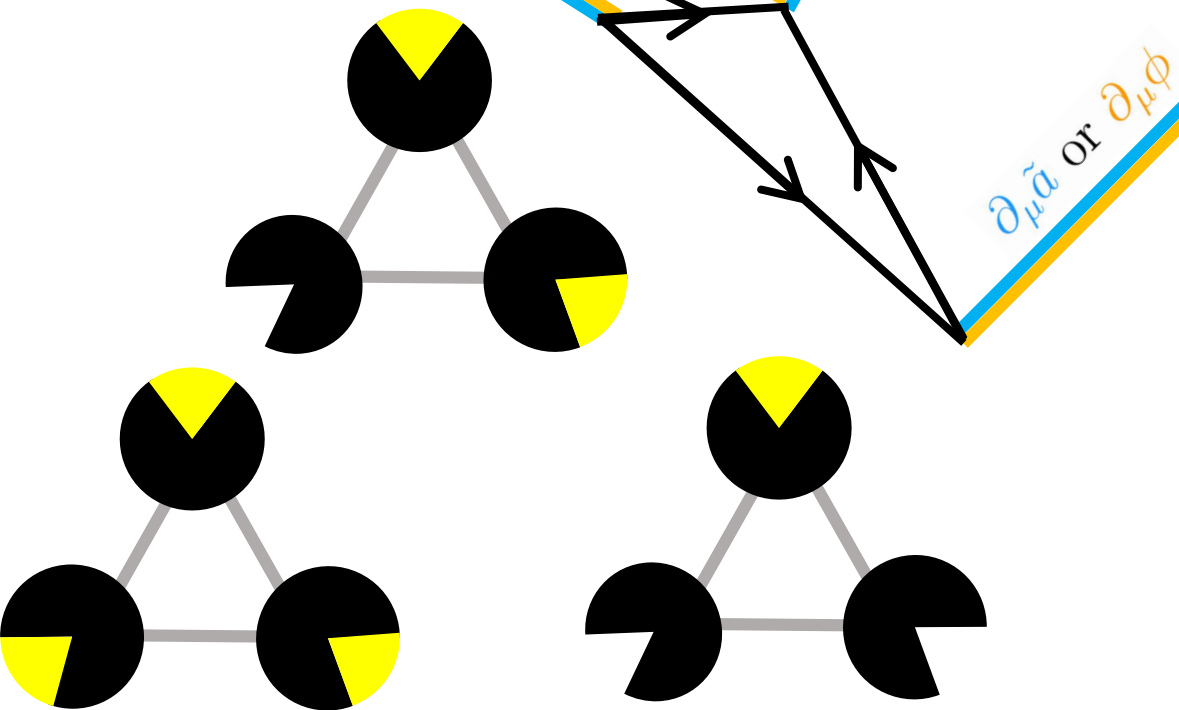
$$\sim e^{-\frac{2\pi m_\psi}{H_I}} \Rightarrow \sim e^{\frac{-m_\psi^2}{\mu_c H_I}}$$



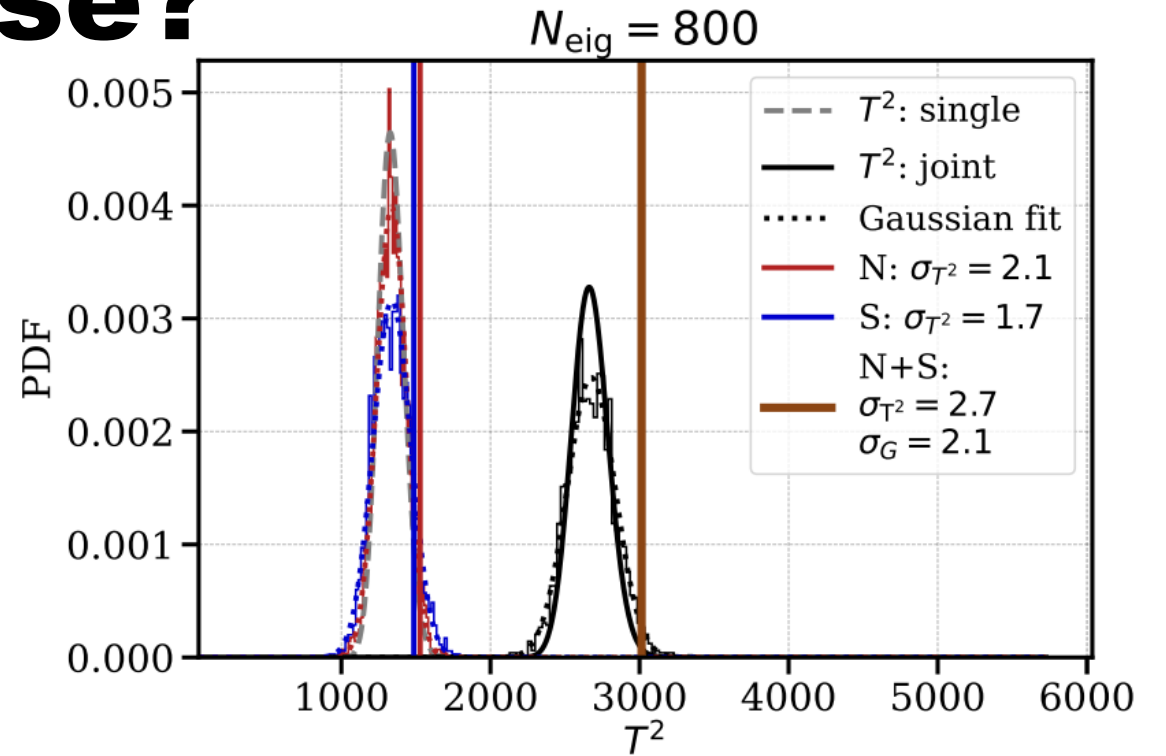
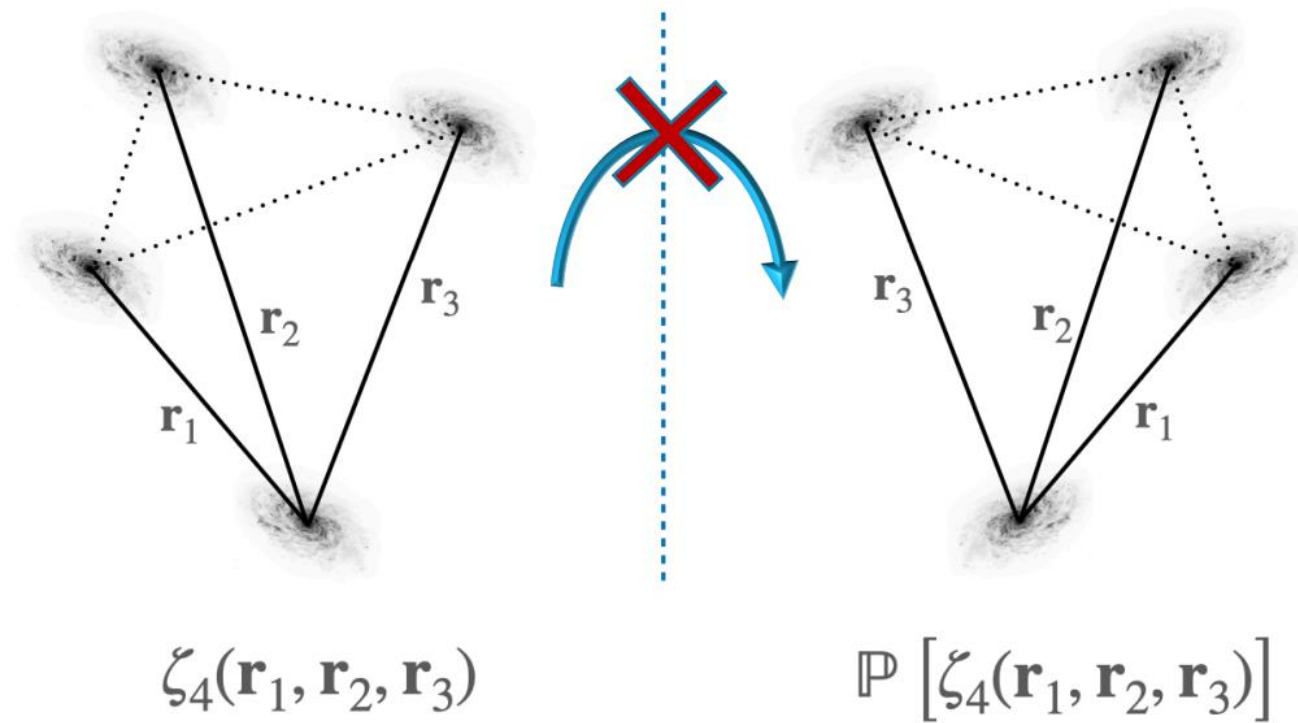
# Hybrid Mode of All Types



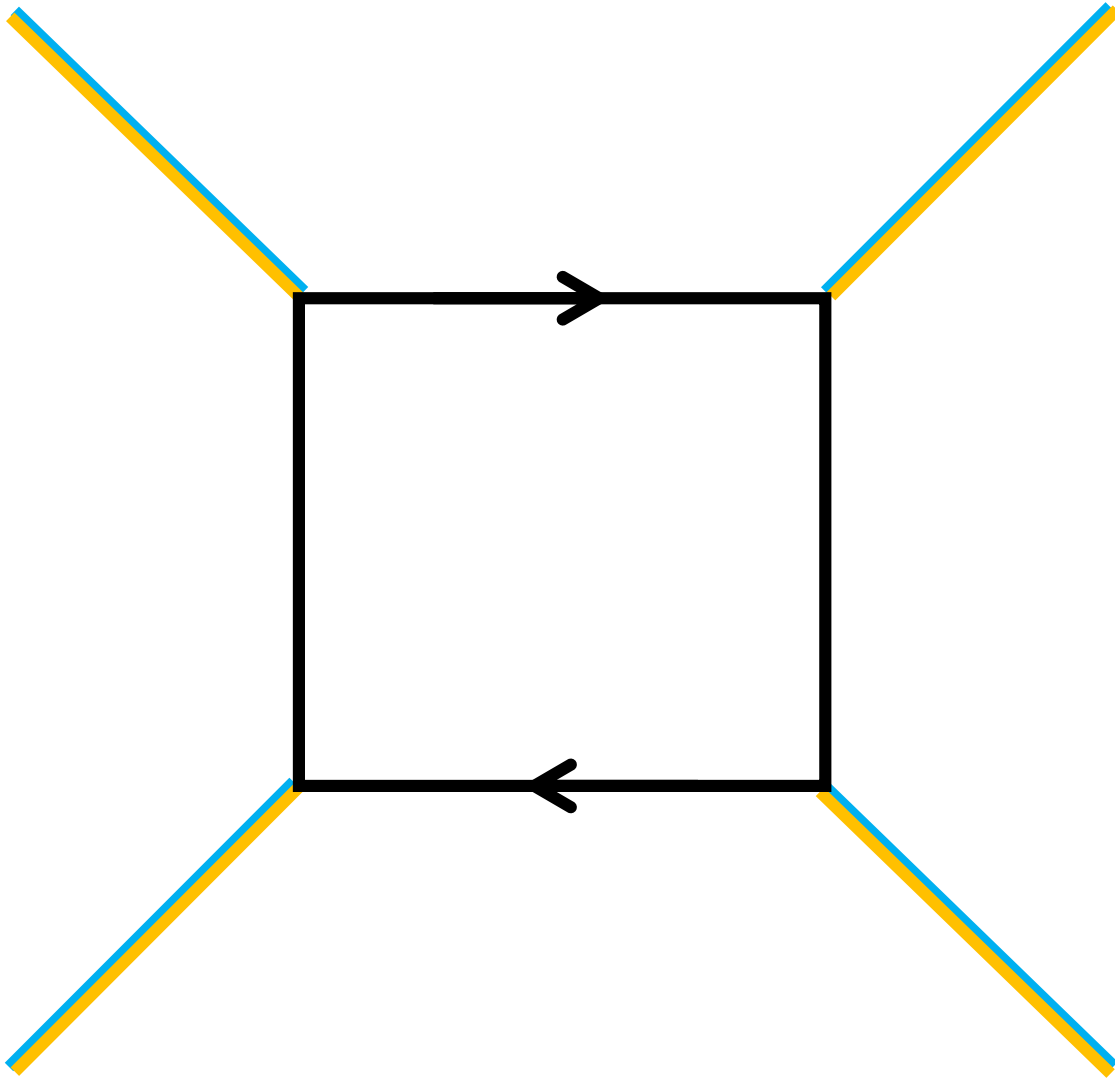
X. Chen, Y. Wang, and Z.-Z. Xianyu, 2018; A. Hook, J. Huang, D. Racco, 2019



# Parity Odd Universe?



Hints from LSS that the four-point trispectrum of galaxies is parity odd



For the boson loop version,  
see X. Niu, M. H. Rahat, K.  
Sirinivasan, W. Xue 2022

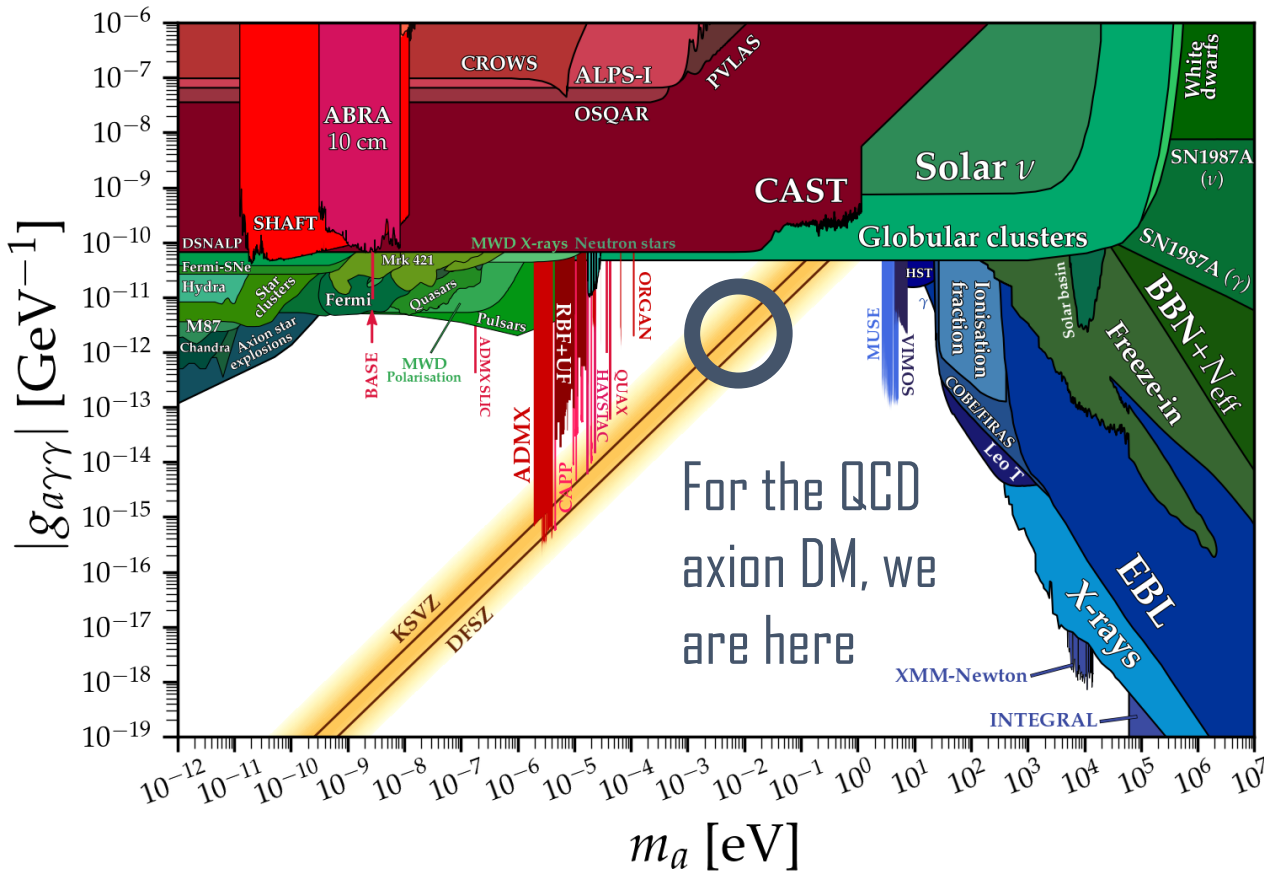
## See also

V. Gluscevic, M. Kamionkowski, 2010  
T. Liu, X. Tong, Y. Wang, Z.-Z.  
Xianyu, 2019; R.N. Cahn, Z.  
Slepian, J. Hou, 2021; S. Jazayeri,  
S. Renaux-Petel, X. Tong, D. Werth,  
Y. Zhu, 2023



# Misalignment Details

<https://cajohare.github.io/AxionLimits>



□ May be a good way to pin down the inflationary scale:

➤  $f_a$  inferred from alternative methods (e.g. Helioscopes)

➤  $H^2\theta^2 f_a^{1/3}$  from isocurvature spectrum

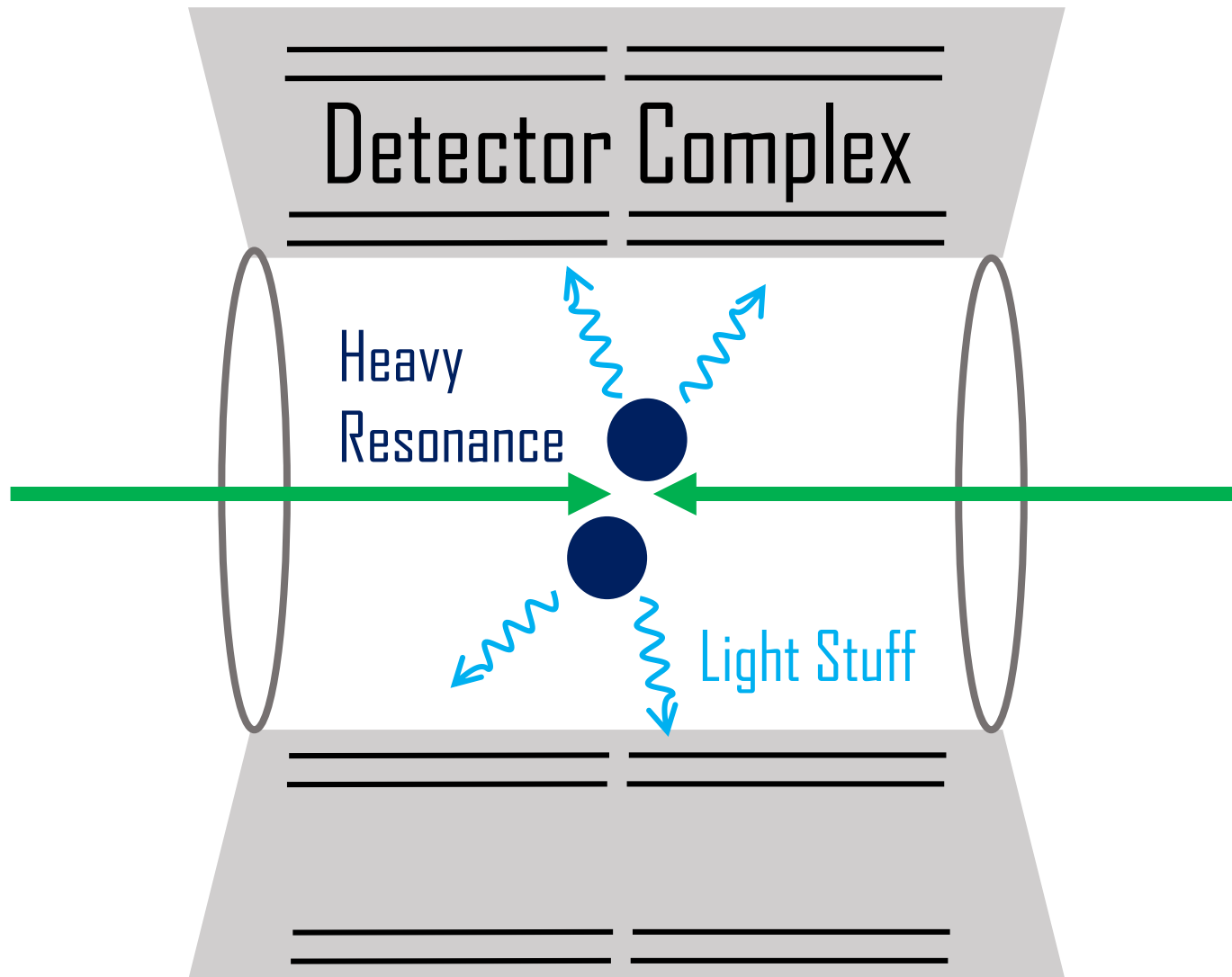
➤  $H/(\lambda^{1/2} f_a)$  from cosmological collider

# Summary

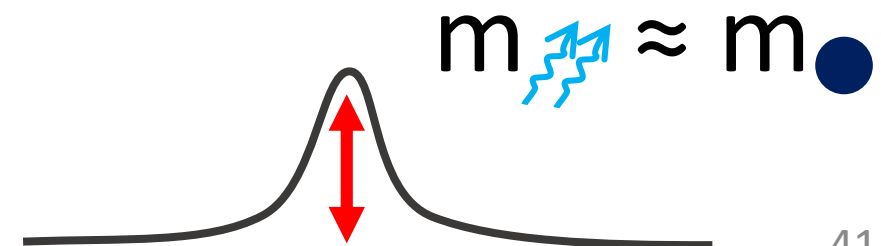
- ❑ Non-minimal coupling between the PQ field and inflaton can do a lot
- ❑ Rich cosmological signals in both curvature and isocurvature modes
- ❑ Applies to axion-like-particles
- ❑ May point out the scale of inflation
- ❑ Potential relation to the (C)P properties of our universe

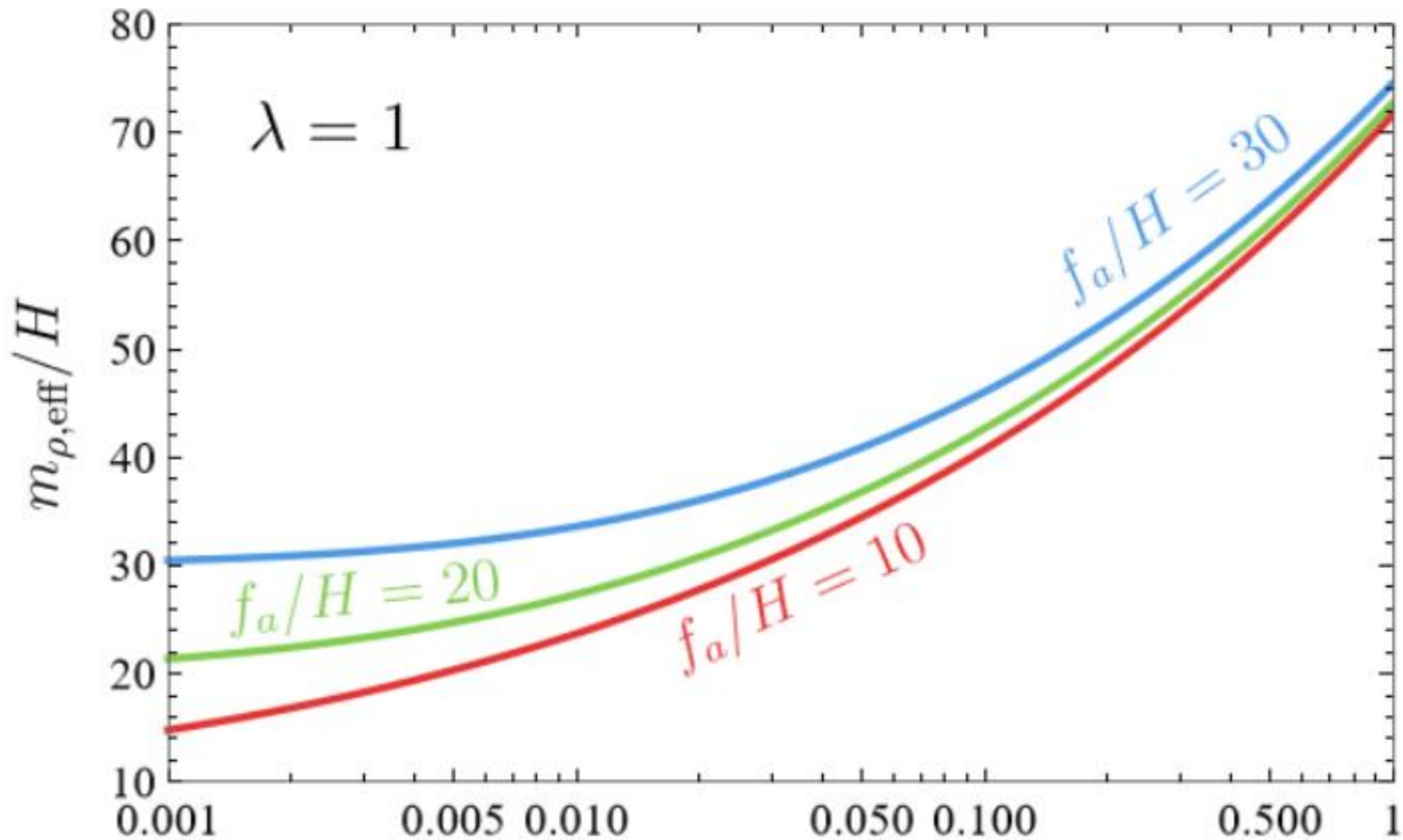
# **BAKCUPS & EXTRA THOUGHTS**

# Cosmological Collider: Start from an Actual Collider



- ❑ Precisely prepared initial state: fixed  $E_{cm}$ , luminosity, direction...
- ❑ Short-lived resonances: the detector surfaces are too far compared to  $m_{\bullet}^{-1}$
- ❑ Multi-species:  $\gamma$ ,  $e^{\pm}$ ,  $\pi^{\pm}$ ,  $K^{\pm}$  ...
- ❑ Flat space time: invariant mass





$$q \equiv cf_I^2/\Lambda^2 \ll 1$$

# In-in Formalism

$$\langle W(t) \rangle = \left\langle \left( T e^{-i \int_{-\infty}^t H_{\text{int}}(t') dt'} \right)^\dagger W(t) \left( T e^{-i \int_{-\infty}^t H_{\text{int}}(t'') dt''} \right) \right\rangle$$

$$\langle W(t) \rangle = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} i^N \int_{-\infty}^t dt_N \int_{-\infty}^{t_N} dt_{N-1} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{t_2} dt_1 \langle [H_{\text{int}}(t_1), [H_{\text{int}}(t_2), \dots [H_{\text{int}}(t_N), W(t)] \dots]] \rangle$$



# Numerical Benchmark

$$\left| \frac{\Delta P_\zeta}{P_\zeta} \right|_{\text{clock;amp}} = \frac{2c^2 b V_{\phi 0} f_I^2}{\Lambda^4 H^2} \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{\mu_\rho^3}}$$

$$\approx 0.019 \left( \frac{q}{0.02} \right)^2 \left( \frac{b V_{\phi 0}}{0.3 \dot{\phi}_0^2} \right) \left( \frac{\dot{\phi}_0}{(60H)^2} \right)^2 \left( \frac{40H}{f_I} \right)^{7/2} \left( \frac{1}{\lambda} \right)^{3/4}$$

$$\left| \frac{\Delta P_i}{P_i} \right|_{\text{clock;amp}} \approx \frac{2cb V_{\phi 0}}{\Lambda^2 H^2} \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{\mu_\rho^3}}$$

$$\approx 0.96 \left( \frac{q}{0.02} \right) \left( \frac{b V_{\phi 0}}{0.3 \dot{\phi}_0^2} \right) \left( \frac{\dot{\phi}_0}{(60H)^2} \right)^2 \left( \frac{40H}{f_I} \right)^{7/2} \left( \frac{1}{\lambda} \right)^{3/4}$$

# Numerical Approximation

X. Chen, Y. Wang, and Z.-Z. Xianyu, 2018;  
A. Hook, J. Huang, D. Racco, 2019

$$|f_{\text{NL}}^{iii}| \frac{A_i^2}{A_s^2} \approx \frac{\boxed{N_c N_\psi} \beta^{3/2}}{6\pi \sqrt{A_s}} \left(\frac{H}{2f_I}\right)^3 \left(\frac{m_\psi}{H}\right)^3 \frac{\mu_c^2 \sqrt{m_\psi^2 + \mu_c^2}}{H^3}$$

*≥ 3 if QCD*

$$\times \frac{e^{\pi\mu_c/H} \Gamma\left(-i\sqrt{m_\psi^2 + \mu_c^2}/H\right)^2 \Gamma\left(2i\sqrt{m_\psi^2 + \mu_c^2}/H\right)^3}{2\pi \Gamma\left[i\left(\sqrt{m_\psi^2 + \mu_c^2} + \mu_c\right)/H\right]^3 \Gamma\left[1 + i\left(\sqrt{m_\psi^2 + \mu_c^2} - \mu_c\right)/H\right]}$$