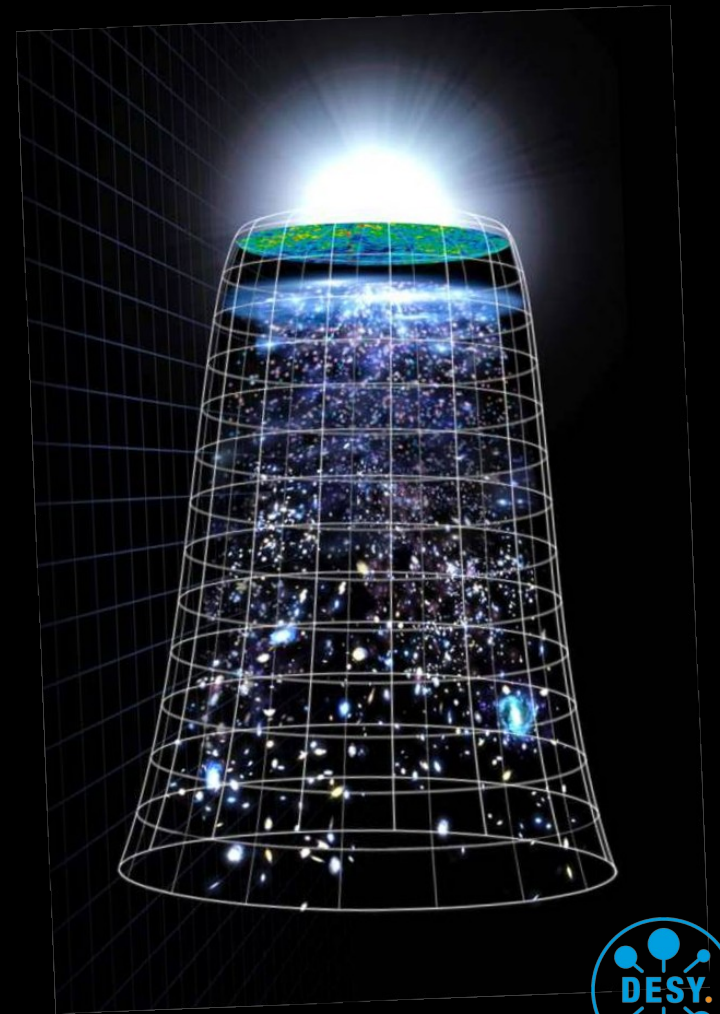


# CMB hotspots from tachyonic instability of the Higgs potential

Julia Ziegler

In collaboration with: Sven Ha, Gudrid Moortgat-Pick,  
Bibhushan Shakya



# Tachyonic instability of the Higgs potential

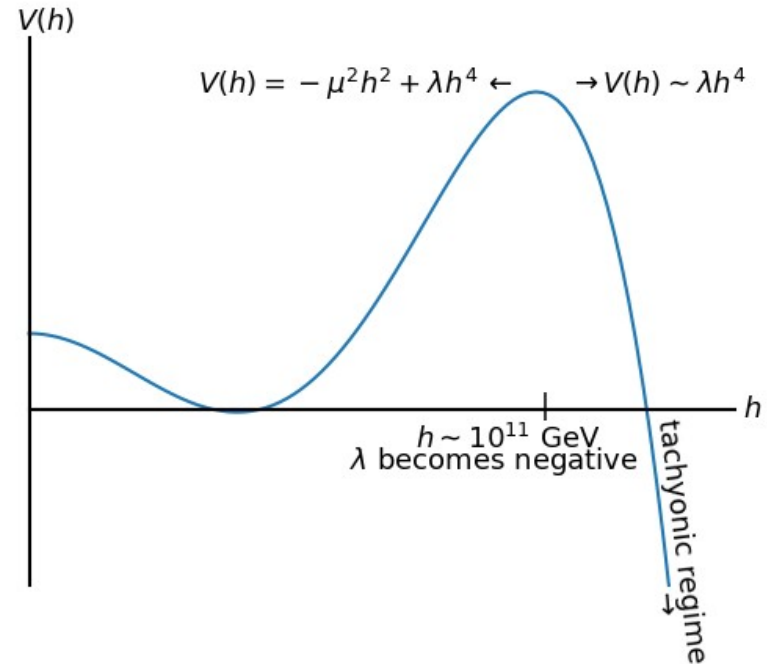
B. Shakya, arXiv: 2301.08754

Standard Model Higgs potential:

$$V(h) = -\mu^2 h^2 + \lambda h^4$$

$\approx -0.001$   
at high energies,  
 $h \approx 10^{11}$  GeV

Dominates  
at high energies



→ potential runs negative

# Tachyonic instability of the Higgs potential

B. Shakya, arXiv: 2301.08754

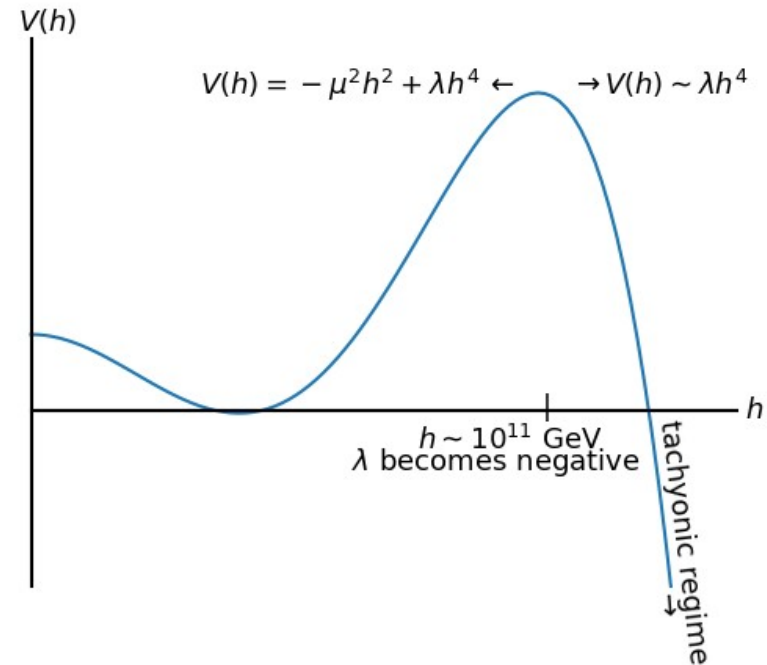
- Potential runs negative at  $h \approx 10^{11}$  GeV  
→ exponential enhancement of Higgs particle production:

- Equation of motion of Higgs field:

$$\ddot{h} + 3H\dot{h} = \frac{dV}{dh}$$

- Hubble friction causes Higgs field to slow-roll for several e-folds until  $h \approx \sqrt{(-3/4\lambda)} \approx 17.3H$
- After this Hubble friction becomes negligible, Higgs field diverges quickly. Inflaton energy density dominates over Higgs potential energy until  $h \approx (-3/8\pi\lambda)^{1/4} \sqrt{HM_{\text{PL}}} \approx 3\sqrt{HM_{\text{PL}}}$
- Higgs particle production becomes important for:

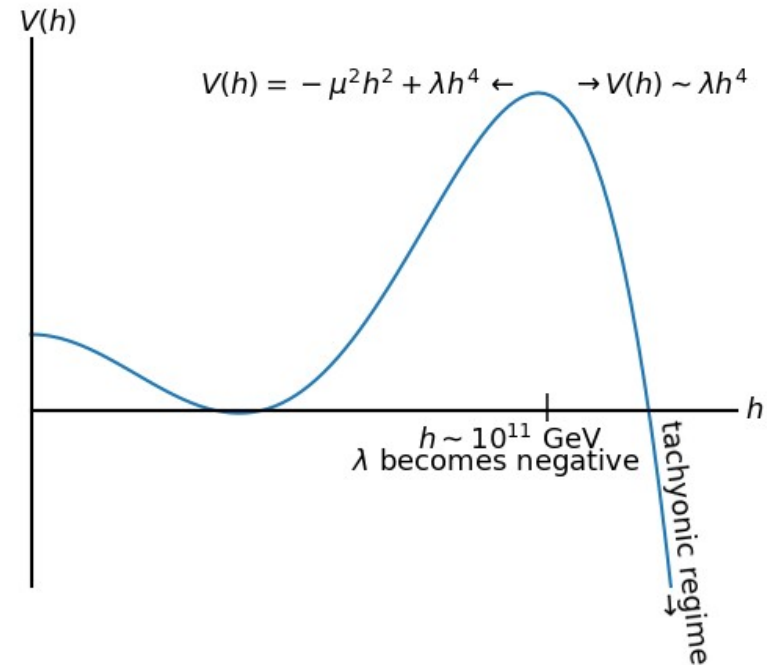
$$17.3H < h < 3\sqrt{HM_{\text{PL}}}$$

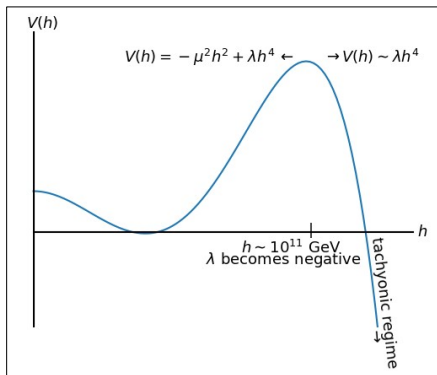


# Tachyonic instability of the Higgs potential

B. Shakya, arXiv: 2301.08754

- Higgs particle production becomes important for:  
 $17.3H < h < 3\sqrt{(HM_{\text{PL}})}$
- Higgs mass evolves non-adiabatically
- Modes with momenta  $k \gtrsim |m_h|$  get populated with occupation number  
 $n_k = |\beta_k|^2 \sim 1$
- For tachyonic masses:  $\beta_k$  gets enhanced exponentially as:  
 $\beta \sim \exp(-i\omega t)$ ,  $\omega^2 = m_h^2 + k^2$
- Observable effects: gravitational waves, primordial black holes (PBH), imprints on CMB



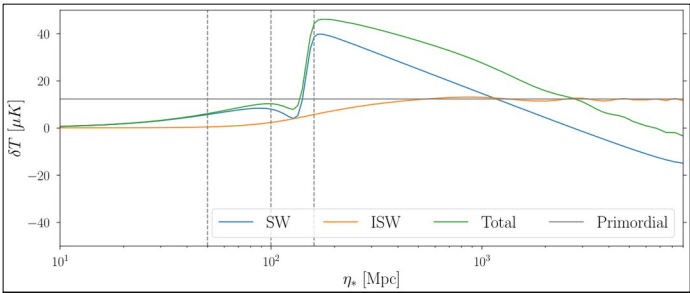
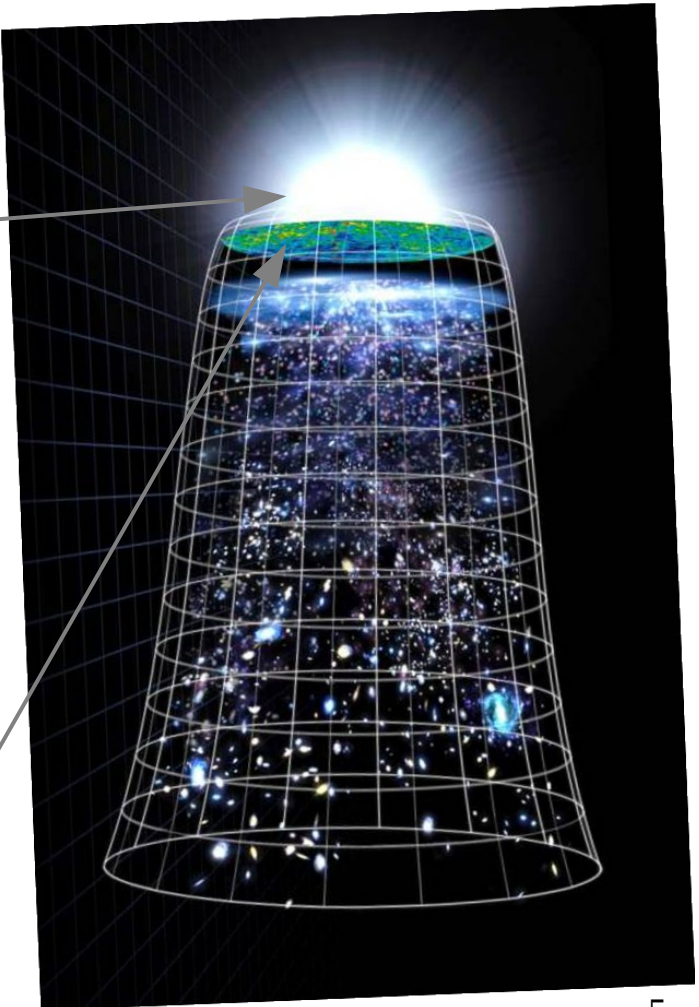


Inflation,  $10^{-34}$  s:  
 Higgs particle production

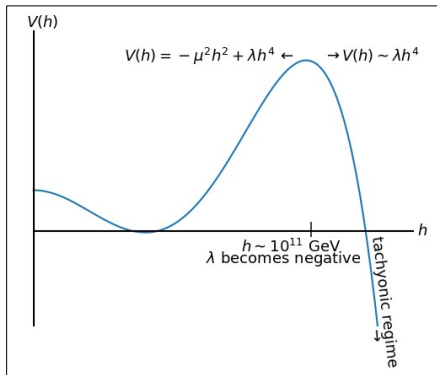
Massive Higgs particles modify curvature perturbations

Localized curvature perturbations cause CMB hotspots

Recombination,  $10^5$  y:  
 CMB radiation which we observe today



J. H. Kim, S. Kumar, A. Martin, Y. Tsai,  
 arXiv: 2107.09061

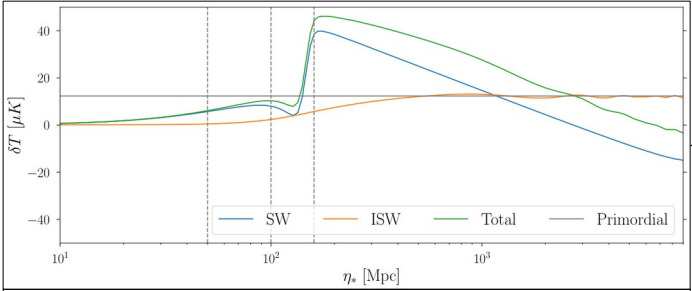
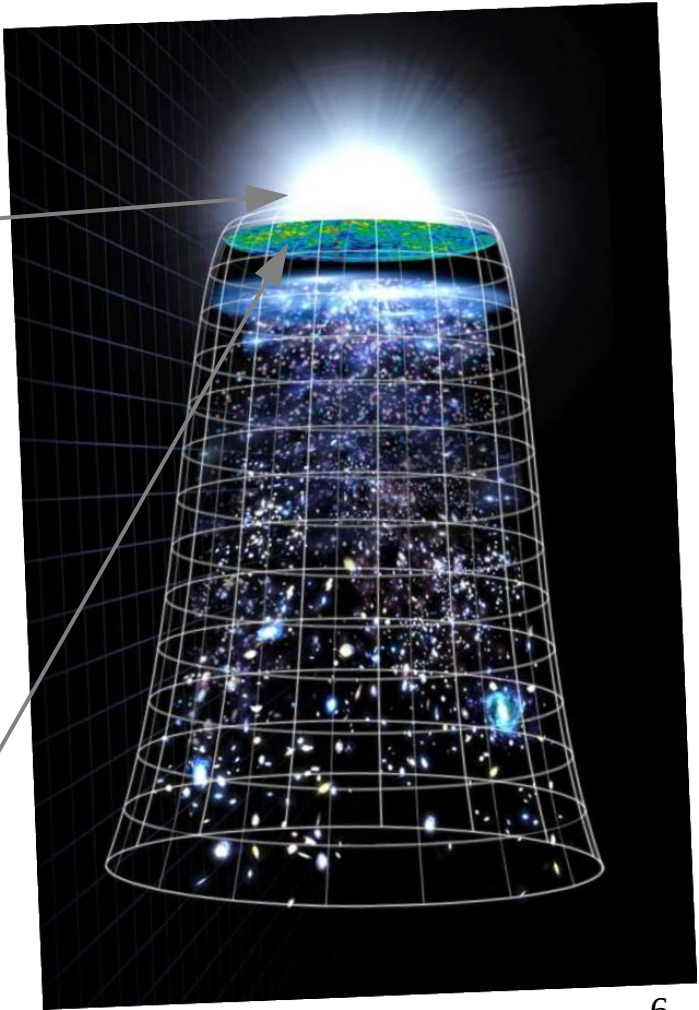


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# Massive particles → curvature perturbations

J. H. Kim, S. Kumar et al, arXiv: 2107.09061

- Action of a single heavy particle with mass  $M$ :

$$\begin{aligned} S &= - \int d\eta M \sqrt{-\dot{x}^\mu{}^2} \\ &\approx - \int dt M \sqrt{-g_{00}} \\ &= - \int dt M - \int dt M \frac{\zeta}{H} \end{aligned}$$

Comoving curvature perturbation  
(gauge invariant):

$$\zeta = \underbrace{\Psi}_{\text{Generalized gravitational potential}} + H \underbrace{\frac{\delta\phi}{\dot{\phi}}}_{\text{Inflaton field}}$$

Generalized  
gravitational  
potential

Inflaton field

# Massive particles → curvature perturbations

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 S &= - \int d\eta M \sqrt{-\dot{x}^\mu{}^2} \\
 &\approx - \int dt M \sqrt{-g_{00}} \\
 &= - \int dt M \left( - \int dt M \frac{\dot{\zeta}}{H} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

→ switch to conformal time  $\eta$ , switch to momentum (k)-space, compute one point function using in-in formalism, integrate over time → curvature perturbation:

$$\langle \zeta \rangle \Rightarrow \frac{H^4}{\dot{\phi}_0^2} \int_{\eta_*}^0 d\eta \frac{M}{H} \frac{\eta}{k} \sin(k\eta) e^{-i\vec{k}\vec{x}}$$

Hubble factor

Conformal time of particle production

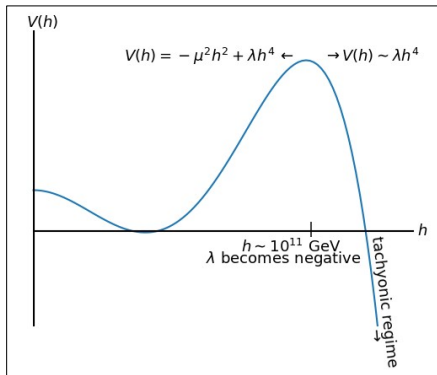
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Generalized gravitational potential

Inflaton field



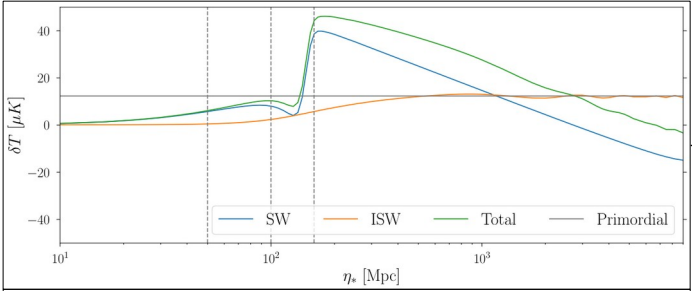
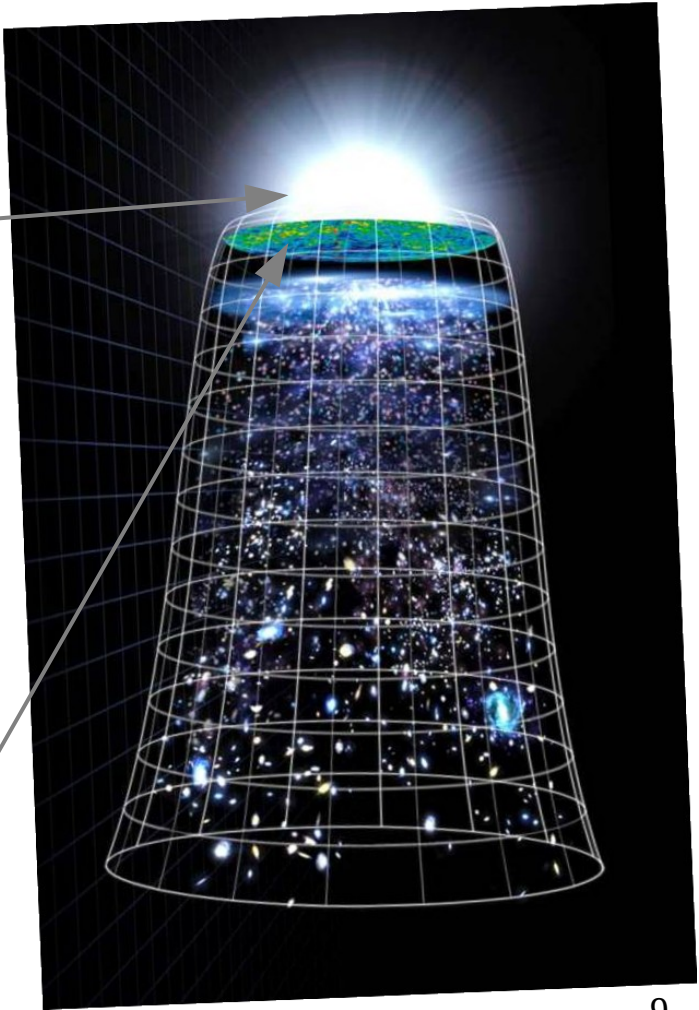


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# Curvature perturbations → CMB temperature anisotropies

A. Riotto, arXiv: 0210162

- First order perturbation of Friedmann-Lemaitre-Robertson-Walker metric:

$$g_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}^{(0)} + \delta g_{\mu\nu}$$

can be decomposed into scalar, vector and tensor perturbations

- Scalar perturbations: spin 0 → response of metric to irrotational distribution of matter → interesting for this work

# Curvature perturbations → CMB temperature anisotropies

A. Riotto, arXiv: 0210162

- First order perturbation of Friedmann-Lemaitre-Robertson-Walker metric:

$$g_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}^{(0)} + \delta g_{\mu\nu}$$

- Line element, considering only scalar perturbations:

$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu$$
$$= a^2 [ \underbrace{-(1 + 2\Phi)}_{\text{Distortion of scale factor } a} d\tau^2 + \underbrace{2\partial_i B}_{= 0 \text{ in Newtonian gauge}} d\tau dx^i + ((1 - 2\Psi)_{\text{Generalized gravitational potential}} \delta_{ij} + \underbrace{D_{ij} E}_{= 0 \text{ in Newtonian gauge}}) dx^i dx^j ]$$

Distortion of  
scale factor  $a$

= 0 in  
Newtonian  
gauge

Generalized  
gravitational  
potential

= 0 in  
Newtonian  
gauge

# Curvature perturbations → CMB temperature anisotropies

J. Lesgourges, arXiv: 1302.4640

- Temperature anisotropy due to curvature perturbations:

$$\frac{\delta T}{T} = \Theta = \int_{\eta_i}^{\eta_0} d\eta [g(\Theta_0 + \Psi + \hat{n} \cdot \vec{v}_b) + e^{-\tau}(\Phi' + \Psi')] \\ \approx \underbrace{(\Theta_0 + \Psi + \hat{n} \cdot \vec{v}_b)}_{\text{Sachs-Wolfe effect}} \Big|_{dec} + \underbrace{\int_{\eta_{dec}}^{\eta_0} d\eta (\Phi' + \Psi')}_{\text{Integrated Sachs-Wolfe effect}}$$

Instantaneous decoupling approximation

Temperature anisotropy measured by observer

Temperature anisotropy at point of last scattering

Sachs-Wolfe effect

Doppler effect, can be neglected

Integrated Sachs-Wolfe effect

Line element, considering only scalar perturbations:

$$ds^2 = a^2[-(1+2\Phi)d\tau^2 + (1-2\Psi)dx^i dx_i]$$

# Curvature perturbations → CMB temperature anisotropies

J. Lesgourges, arXiv: 1302.4640

- Temperature anisotropy due to curvature perturbations:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\delta T}{T} = \Theta &= \int_{\eta_i}^{\eta_0} d\eta [g(\Theta_0 + \Psi + \hat{n} \cdot \vec{v}_b) + e^{-\tau}(\Phi' + \Psi')] \\ &\approx (\Theta_0 + \Psi + \hat{n} \cdot \vec{v}_b)|_{dec} + \int_{\eta_{dec}}^{\eta_0} d\eta(\Phi' + \Psi') \\ &= f_{SW}(k)\langle\zeta(\vec{k})\rangle + f_{ISW}(k)\langle\zeta(\vec{k})\rangle\end{aligned}$$

↓ Instantaneous  
decoupling  
approximation

↓ Neglect Doppler  
contribution

Line element, considering only scalar perturbations:

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Instantaneous decoupling approximation

Neglect Doppler contribution

Get from CLASS:  
[https://lesgourg.github.io/class\\_public/class.html#download](https://lesgourg.github.io/class_public/class.html#download)

One point function of comoving curvature perturbation

Line element, considering only scalar perturbations:

$$ds^2 = a^2[-(1+2\Phi)d\tau^2 + (1-2\Psi)dx^i dx_i]$$

# Curvature perturbations → CMB temperature anisotropies

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 &\approx (\Theta_0 + \Psi + \hat{n} \cdot \vec{v}_b)|_{dec} + \int_{\eta_{dec}}^{\eta_0} d\eta(\Phi' + \Psi') \\
 &= f_{SW}(k)\langle\zeta(\vec{k})\rangle + f_{lSW}(k)\langle\zeta(\vec{k})\rangle \\
 &= \int \frac{d^3\vec{k}}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{k}\vec{x}_0} \sum_l i^l (2l+1) \mathcal{P}_l(\hat{k}\hat{n}) (f_{SW}(k) + f_{lSW}(k)) \langle\zeta(\vec{k})\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

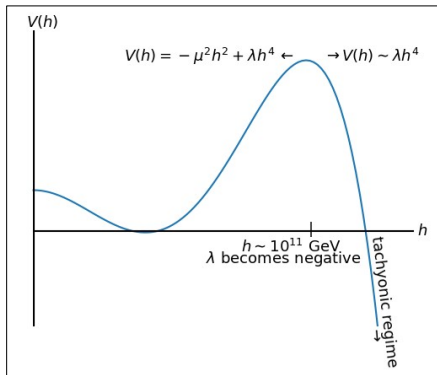
Instantaneous decoupling approximation

Neglect Doppler contribution

Got to position space, evaluate at  $x_0$

Line element, considering only scalar perturbations:

$$ds^2 = a^2[-(1+2\Phi)d\tau^2 + (1-2\Psi)dx^i dx_i]$$

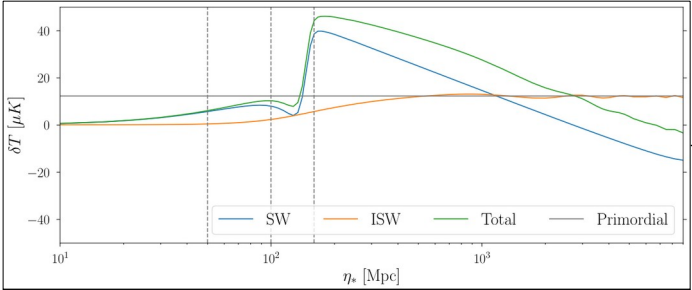
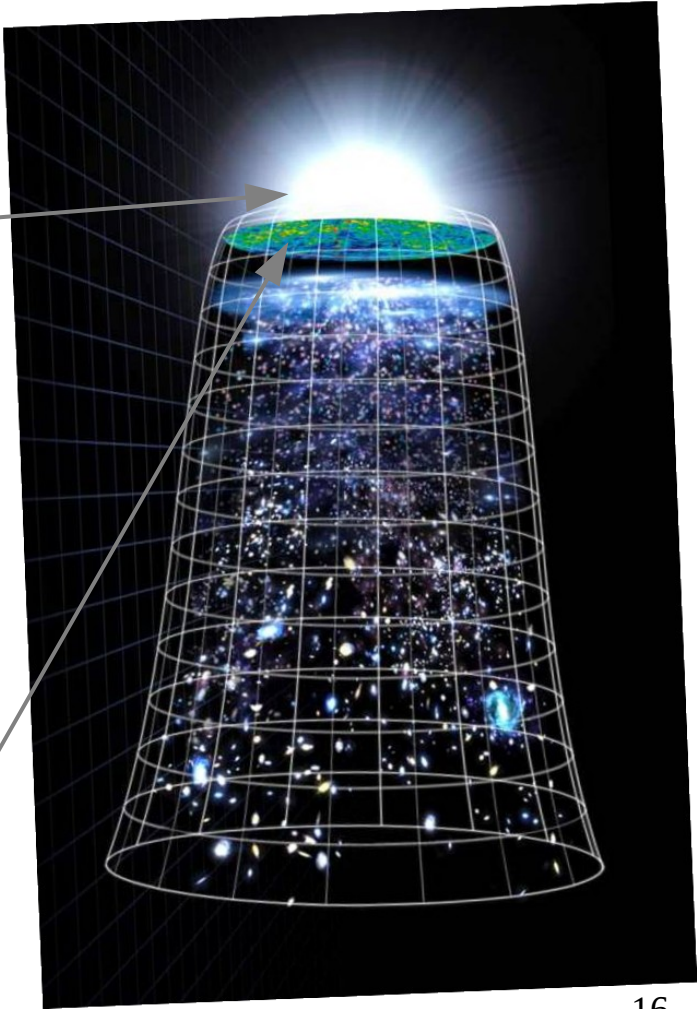


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# Preliminary Results/First estimates

T.N. Ukwatta et al, arXiv: 1510.04372

- Higgs particles collapse into micro black holes (microBH), with lifetime:

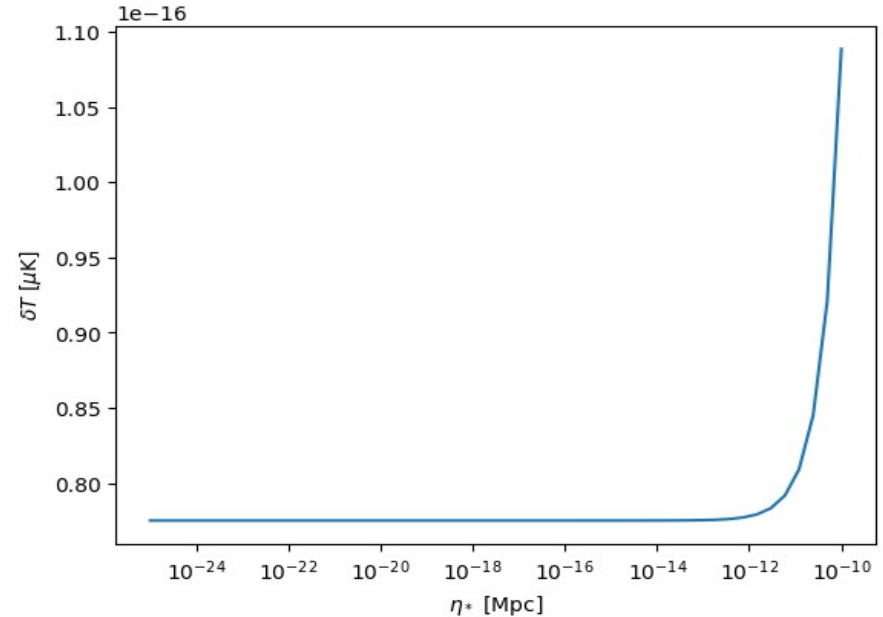
$$\tau_{BH} = \frac{M_{BH}^3}{f(M_{BH})}$$

- use step function as first estimate, with mass:

1000 kg

and lifetime:

45.5 ns



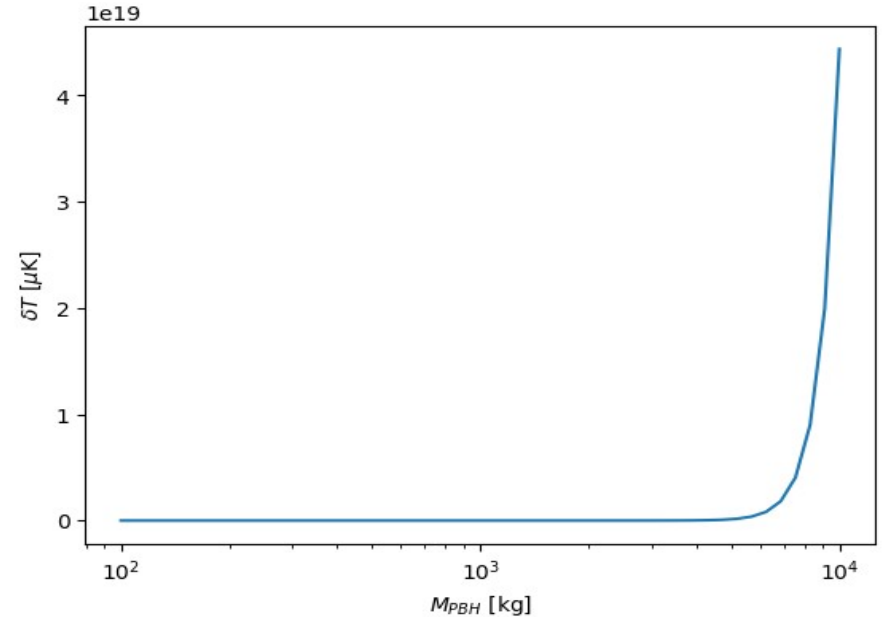
# Preliminary Results/First estimates

T.N. Ukwatta et al, arXiv: 1510.04372

- Higgs particles collapse into micro black holes (microBH), with lifetime:

$$\tau_{BH} = \frac{M_{BH}^3}{f(M_{BH})}$$

- use step function as first estimate, with varying mass and lifetime, produced at the end of inflation



# Preliminary Results/First estimates

A. Escrivá et al, arXiv: 2211.05767

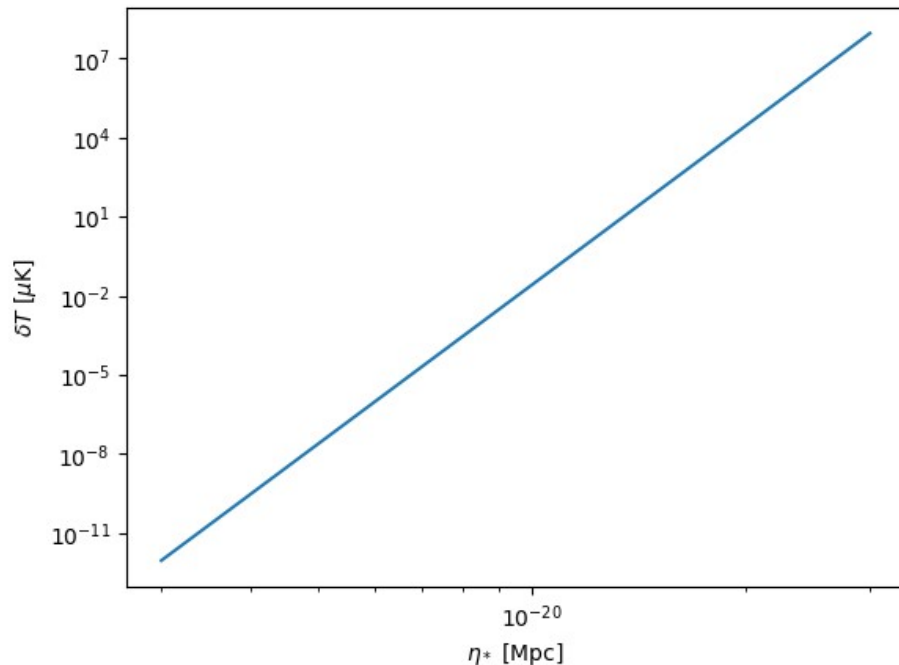
- We also try out results for general primordial black holes (PBH), with mass:

$$M_{PBH} \approx \left( \frac{g_*}{10.75} \right)^{-1/6} \left( \frac{k}{4.22 \cdot 10^6 \text{ Mpc}^{-1}} \right)^{-2} M_{\odot}$$

and lifetime:

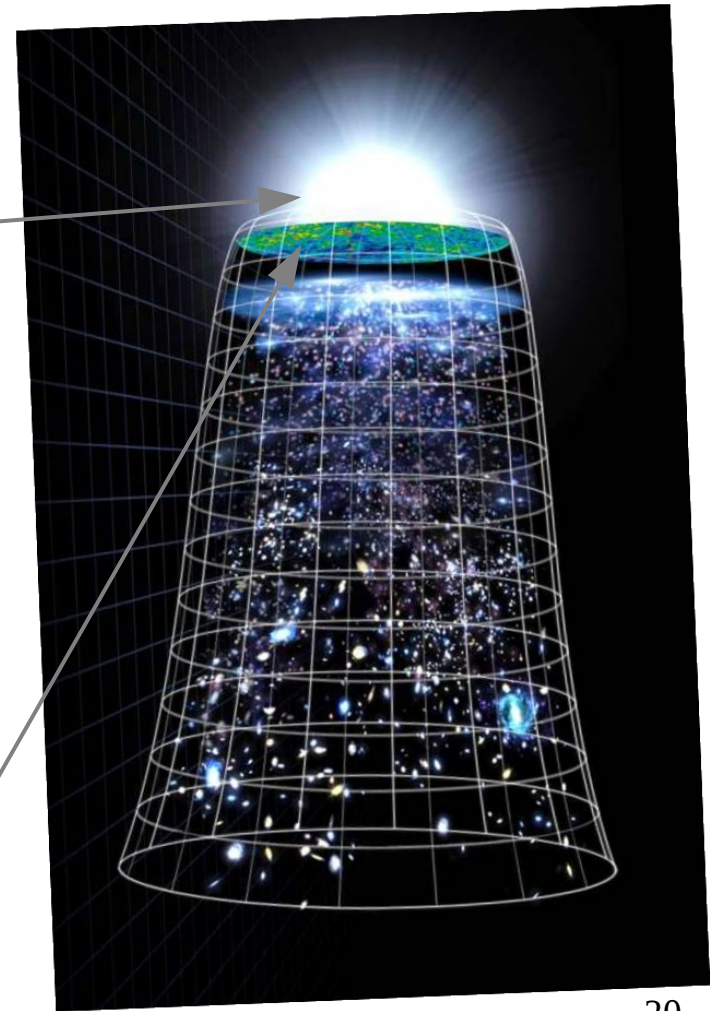
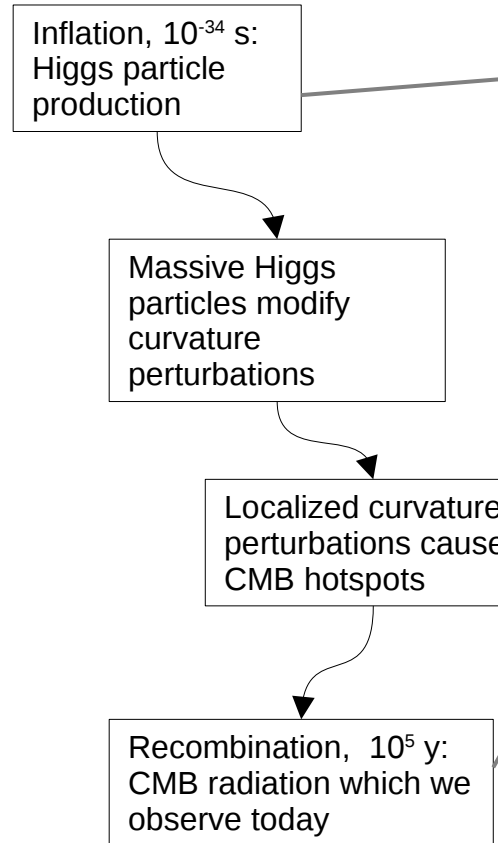
$$\tau_{BH} = \frac{M_{BH}^3}{f(M_{BH})}$$

and  $k=2\pi/\eta_*$  is the wave number of modes entering the horizon at time  $\eta_*$



# Future directions

- Include exact calculation for Higgs particle production
- Include distribution of Higgs particles/black holes
- Look into further effects



# Conclusions

- Potential possibility to produce observable signals
- Dependence on time of production only important for late times
- Strong dependence on mass input
  - Need to include exact results for the tachyonic Higgs

