

Hubble-induced phase transitions and Higgs Vacuum Stability

Based on G. Laverda, JR, JCAP 03 (2024) 033 & JHEP 05 (2024) 339

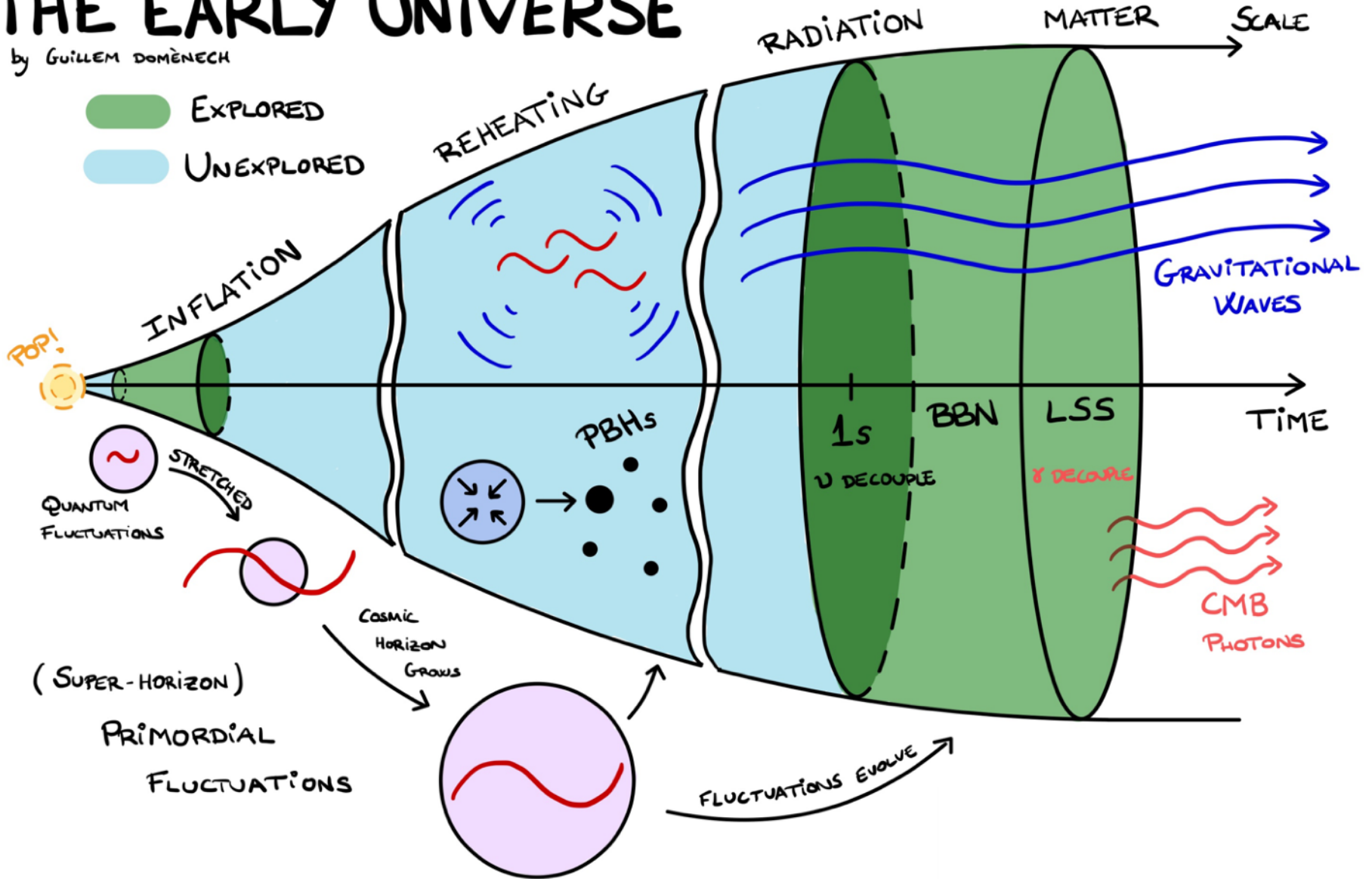


Giorgio Laverda



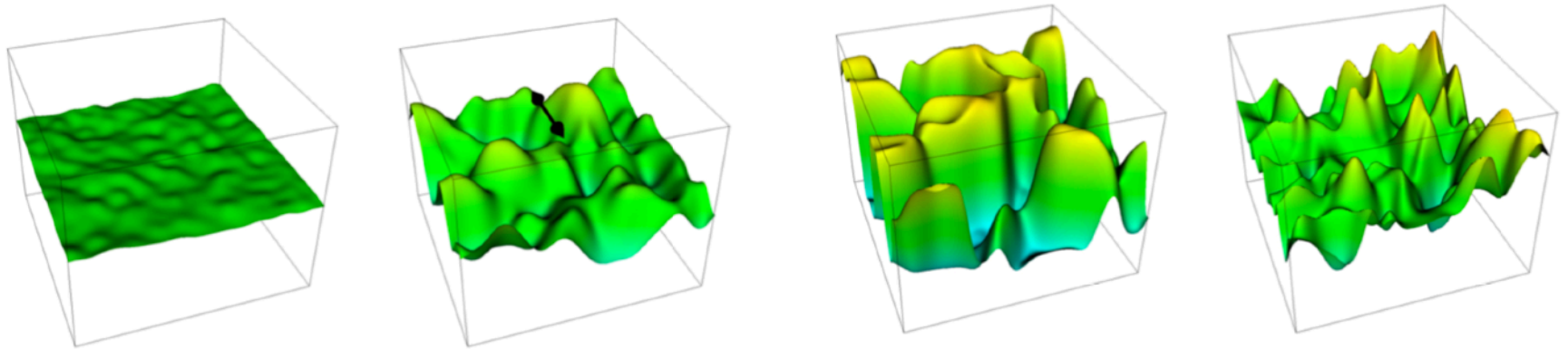
THE EARLY UNIVERSE

by GUILLEM DOMÈNECH



Hubble-induced phase transitions

$$\frac{\mathcal{L}}{\sqrt{-g}} = \frac{M_P^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\chi)^2 - f(R, R_{\mu\nu})\chi^2 - V(\chi)$$



- Natural triggering mechanism for phase transitions
- Non-thermal & non-perturbative
- Short-lived topological defects

A dedicated program

1. Quintessential Affleck-Dine baryogenesis with non-minimal couplings,
D. Bettoni, J. Rubio Phys.Lett.B 784 (2018) 122-129
2. Gravitational waves from global cosmic strings in quintessential inflation,
D. Bettoni, G. Domènech, J. Rubio, JCAP 02 (2019) 034
3. Hubble-induced phase transitions: Walls are not forever.
D. Bettoni, J. Rubio, JCAP 01 (2020) 002
4. Hubble-induced phase transitions on the lattice with applications to Ricci reheating.
D. Bettoni, J. Rubio, JCAP 01 (2022) 01, 002
5. Ricci reheating reloaded,
G. Laverda, JCAP 03 (2024) 033
6. From Hubble to Bubble,
M. Kierkla, G. Laverda, M. Lewicki, A. Mantziris, M. Piani, JHEP 11 (2023) 077
7. The rise and fall of the Standard-Model Higgs: electroweak vacuum stability during kination.
G. Laverda, J. Rubio, JHEP 05 (2024) 339

For a review see [D. Bettoni, JR, Galaxies 10 \(2022\) 1, 22](#)

A simple scenario

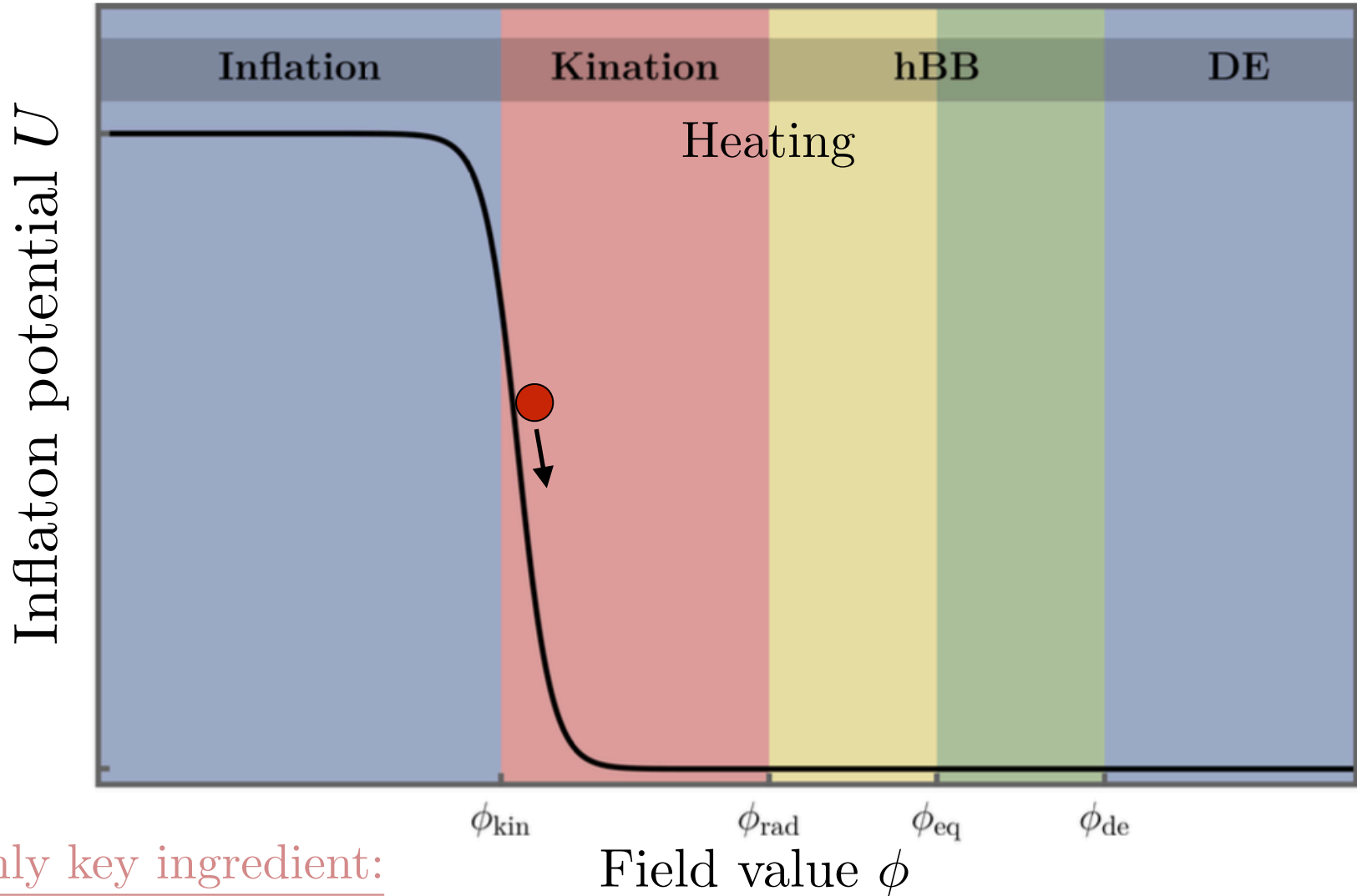
- A single field ϕ for both inflation and dark energy (quintessential inflation)
- An unavoidable non-minimal coupling of the Higgs field H to gravity
- No additional degrees of freedom beyond the electroweak scale

$$\frac{\mathcal{L}}{\sqrt{-g}} = \frac{M_{\text{P}}^2}{2} R - g^{\mu\nu} (D_\mu H)^\dagger (D_\nu H) - \lambda \left(H^\dagger H - \frac{v_{\text{EW}}^2}{2} \right)^2 - \xi H^\dagger H R + \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \mathcal{L}_\phi.$$

Interesting outputs

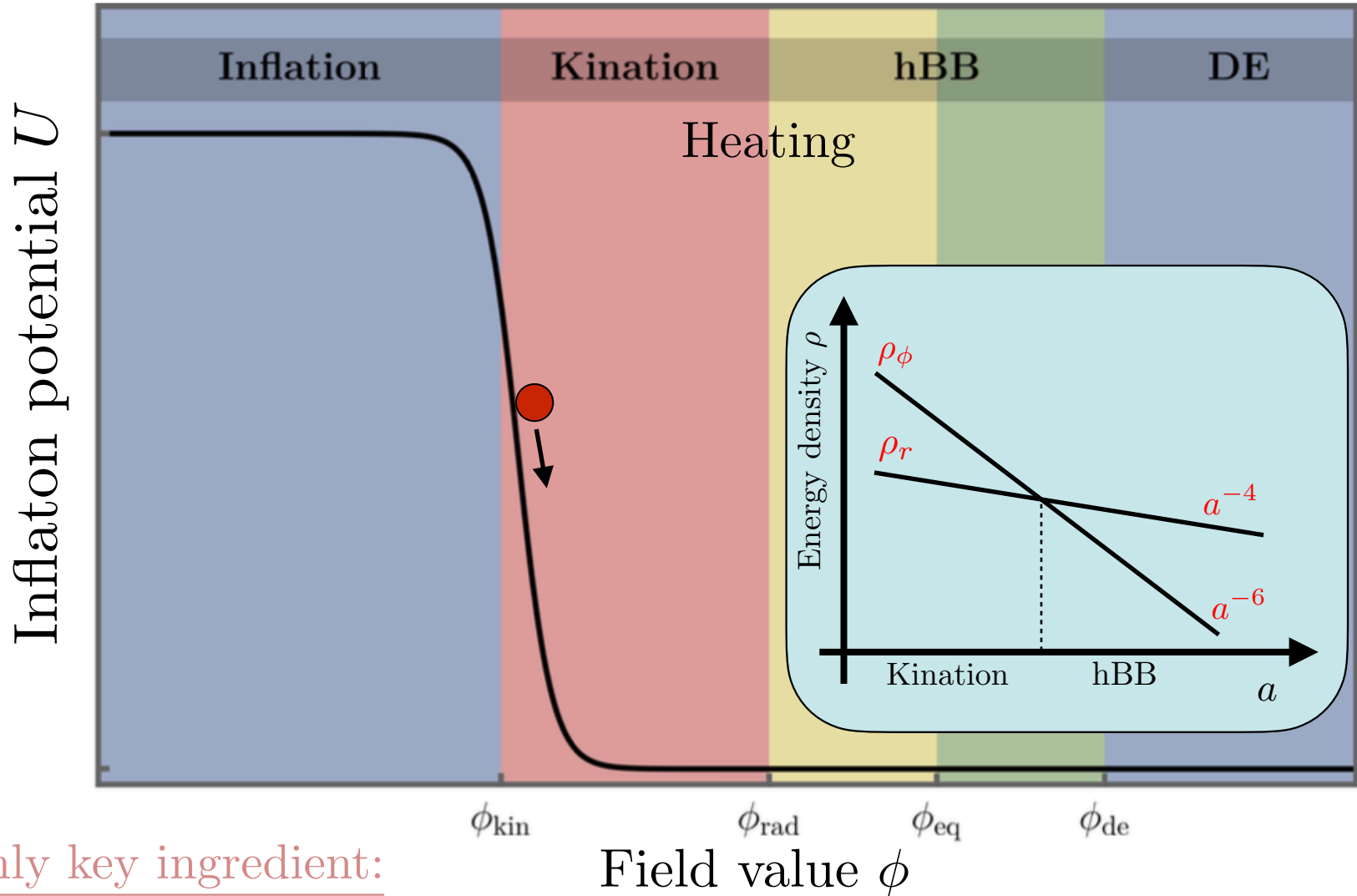
- The Higgs field is safely stabilized during inflation (no isocurvature pert.)
- Appealing connection between SM parameters and (post-)inflationary era
- The Higgs field itself can be responsible for heating the Universe

Quintessential inflation



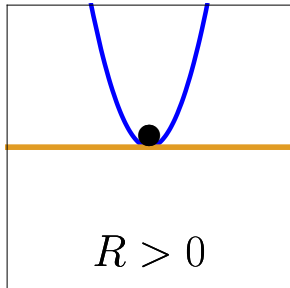
Only key ingredient:
Period of kination

Quintessential inflation

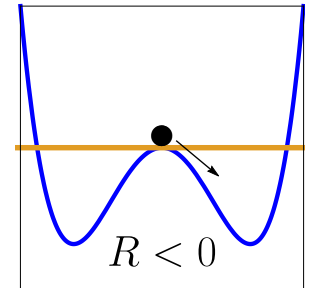


Only key ingredient:
Period of kination

Hubble-induced Higgs mass

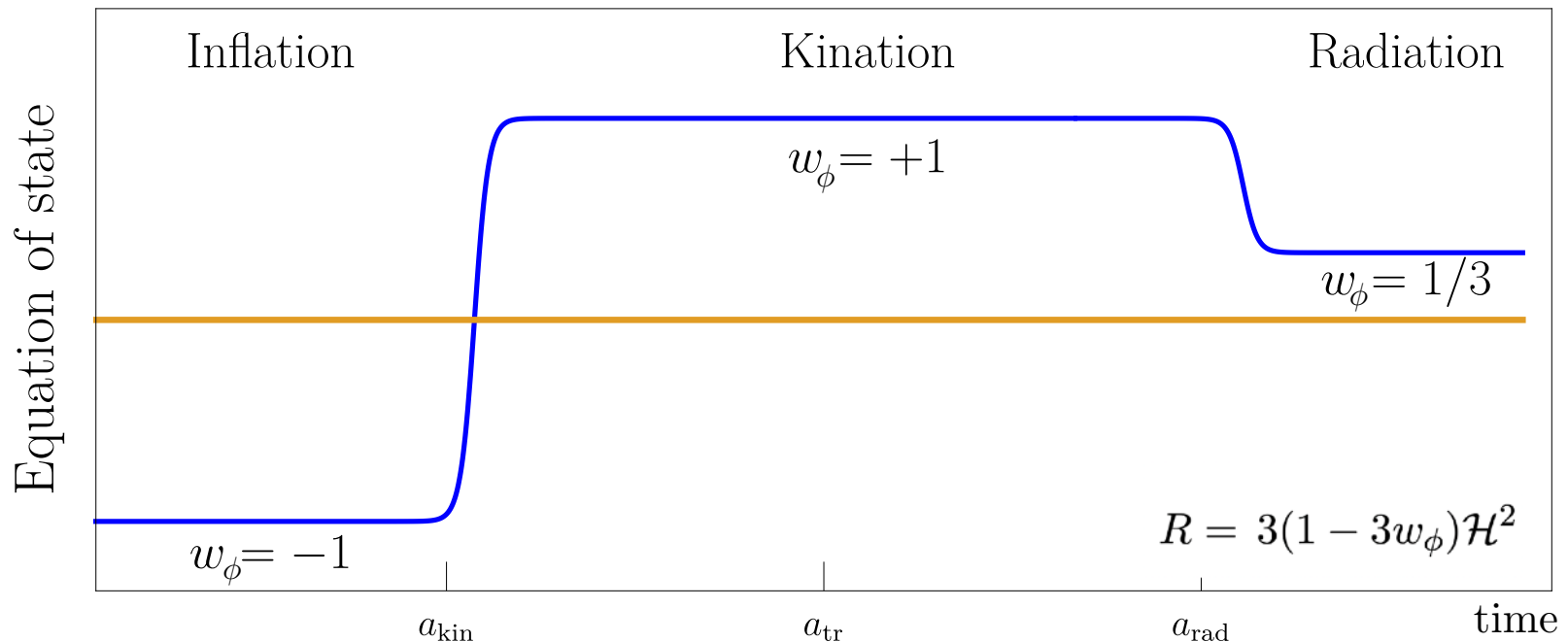


$$\frac{\mathcal{L}}{\sqrt{-g}} = -\frac{1}{2}(\partial h)^2 - \frac{1}{2}\xi R h^2 - \frac{\lambda}{4}h^4$$

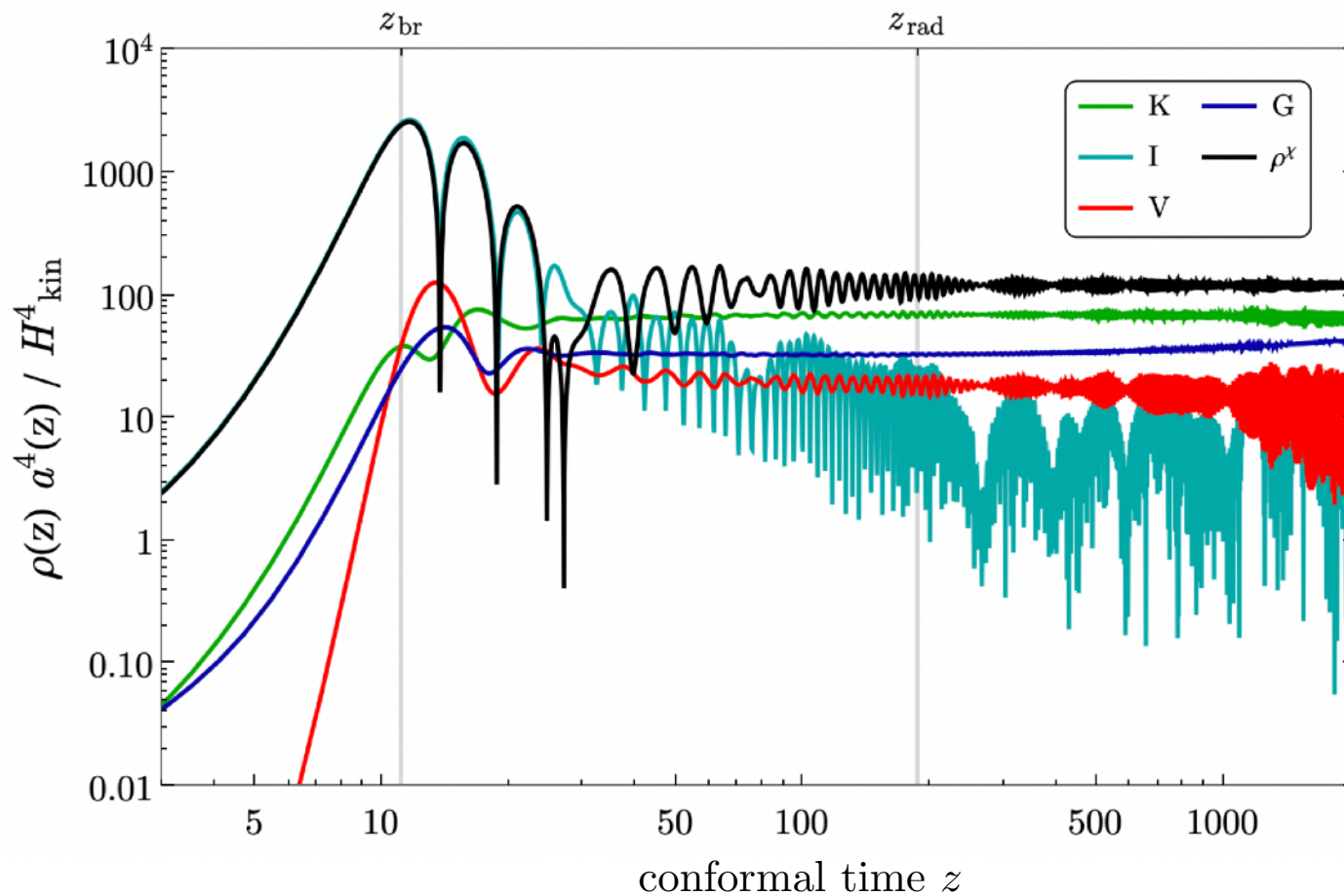


Energetically subdominant / Spectator field

Negligible contribution to the effective Planck mass, $\xi h^2 \ll M_P^2$



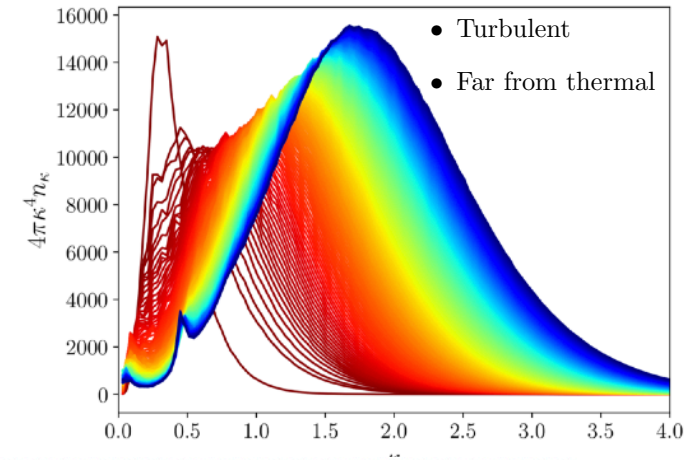
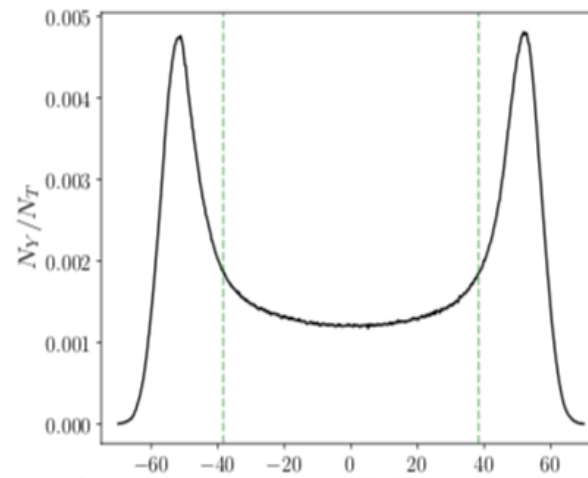
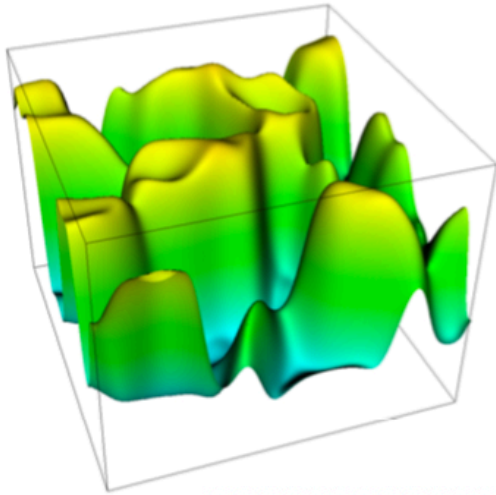
Tachyonic particle production



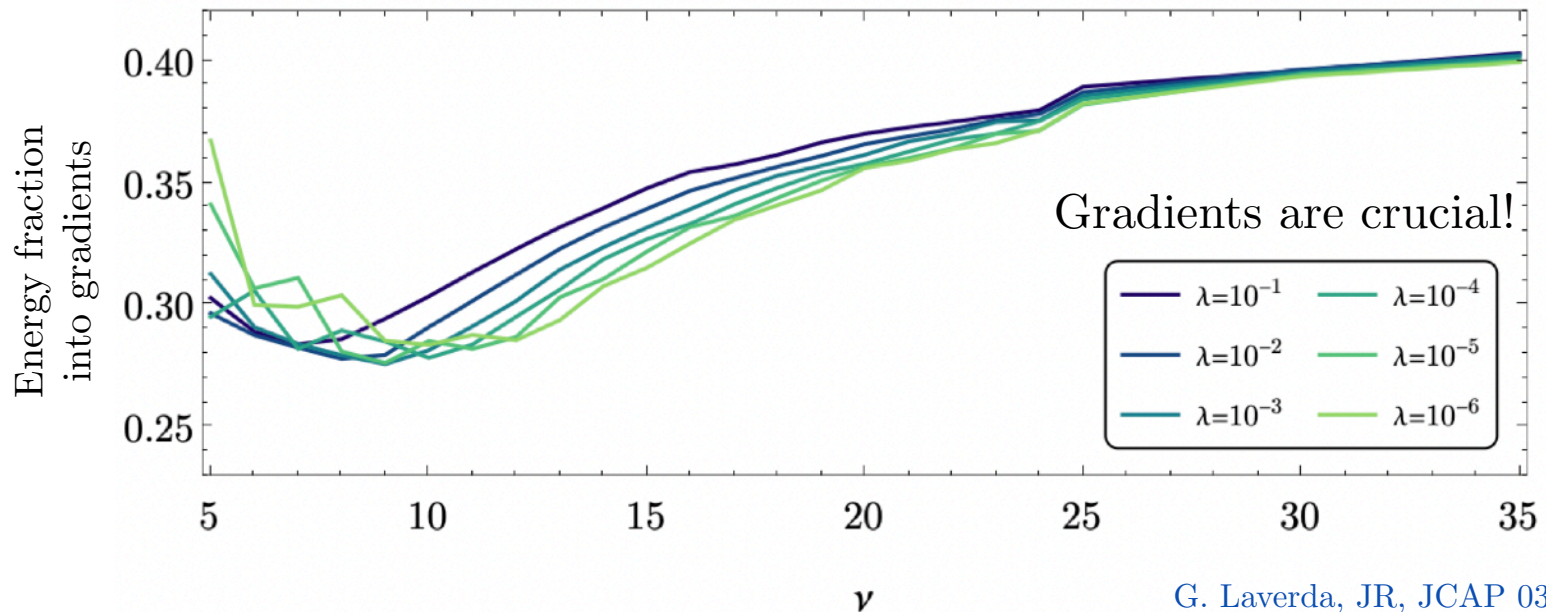
Lattice-based fitting formulas: $O(100)$ 3+1 classical lattice simulations

$$\rho_{\text{tac}}(\lambda(\mu), \xi) = 16 \mathcal{H}_{\text{kin}}^4 \exp(\beta_1(\lambda) + \beta_2(\lambda) \nu + \beta_3(\lambda) \ln \nu) \quad \nu = \sqrt{\frac{3\xi}{2}}$$

Non-linear non-homogeneous dynamics



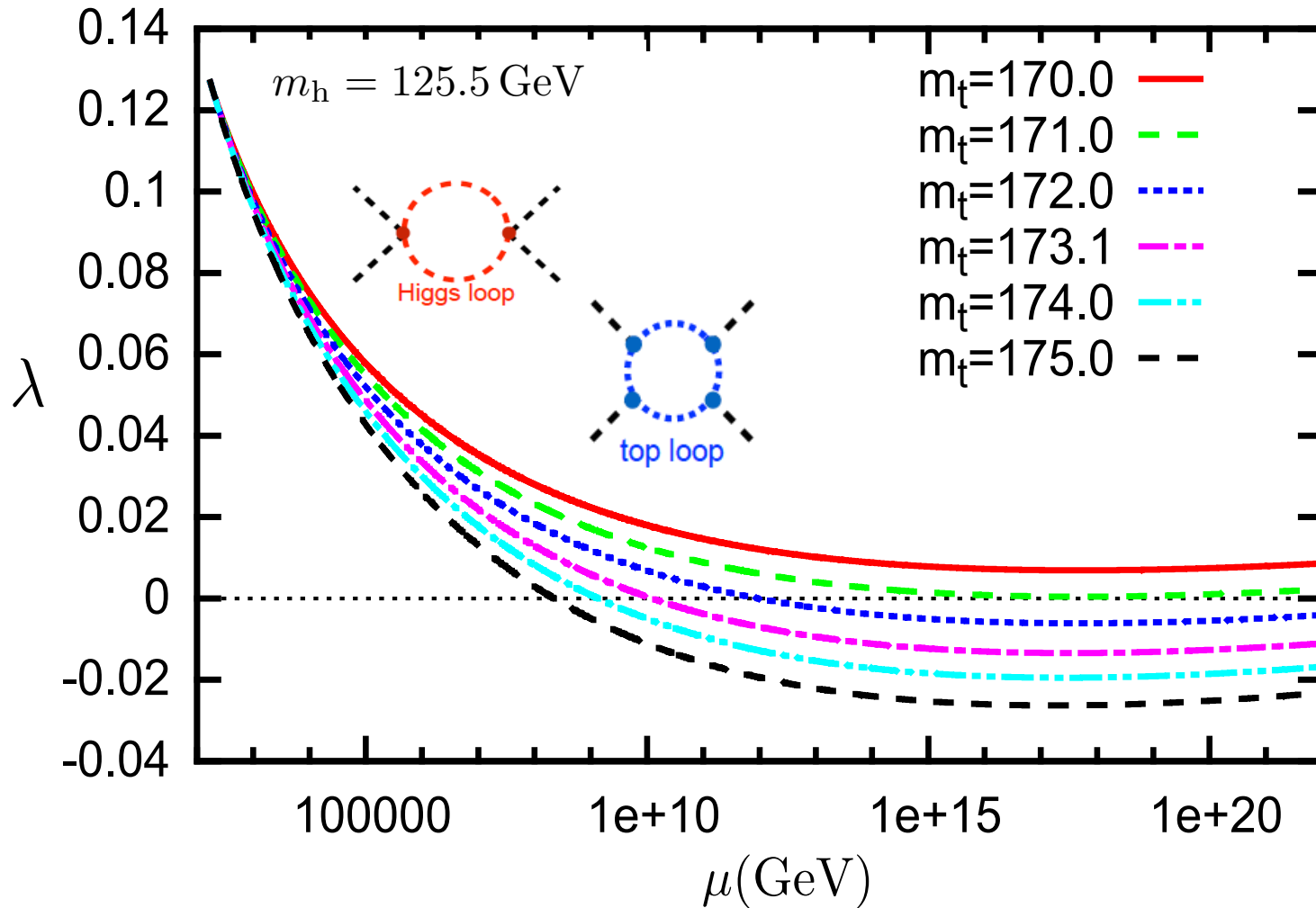
D.Bettoni, A. Lopez-Eiguren, JR, JCAP 01 (2022) 01, 002



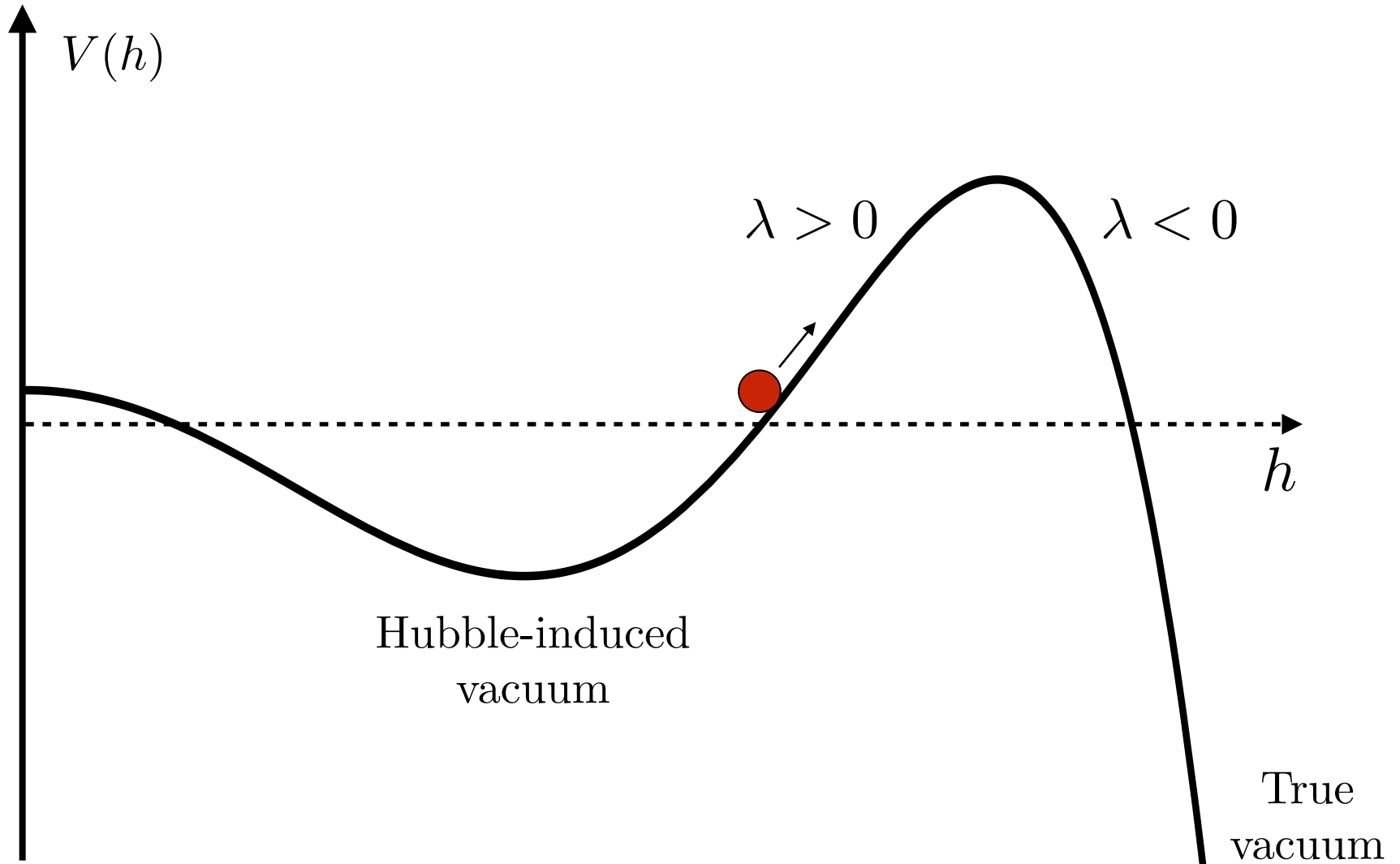
G. Laverda, JR, JCAP 03 (2024) 033

Beyond tree level

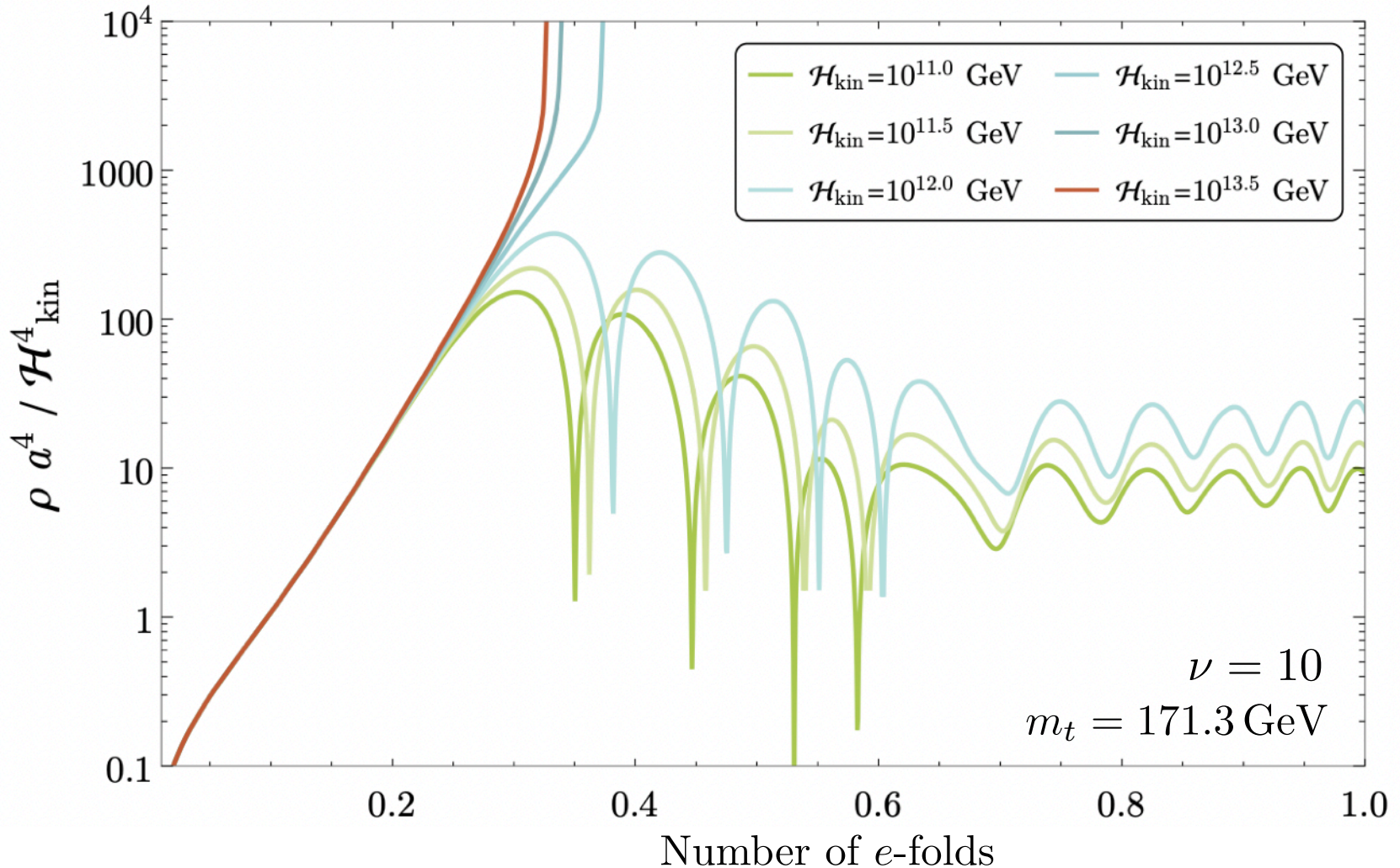
Quantum contributions of heavy SM particles to effective potential important



Higgs effective potential



Vacuum stability during kination



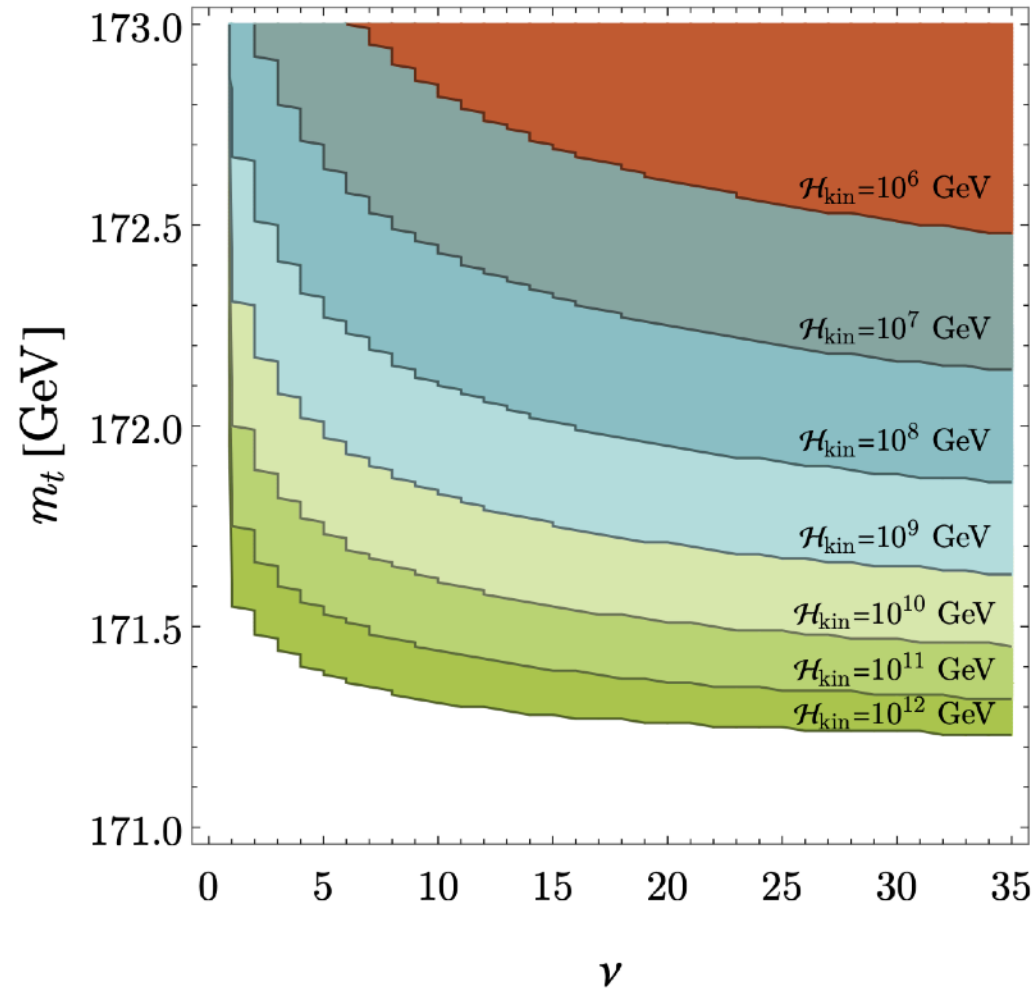
Scanning of parameter space

- Three-loop renormalisation-group running of the Higgs self-coupling
- Agnostic approach to top quark mass values, $m_t = 170 - 173$ GeV
- Wide range for non-minimal coupling parameter $\xi \sim 1 - 700$
- Wide range for the onset scale of kination $\mathcal{H}_{\text{kin}} \sim 10^6 - 10^{15}$ GeV
- O(1000) 3+1-dimensional classical lattice simulations.
- Checking for existence and crossing of the barrier

$$\xi < \frac{y_\Lambda^4 \mu_\Lambda^2}{32 e^{3/2} \pi^2 \mathcal{H}^2}$$

$$\rho_{\text{tac}}(\lambda(\mu), \xi) < V(h_{\text{max}}(\xi, y_\Lambda, \mathcal{H}, \mu_\Lambda))$$

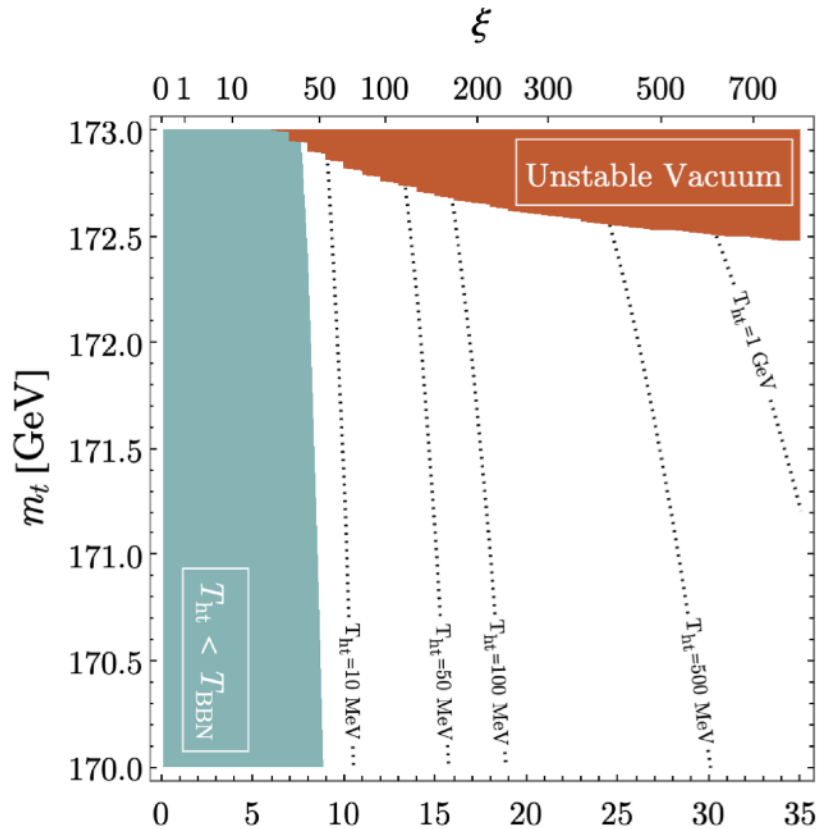
Stability constraints on the top mass



Favours lower masses for the top quark

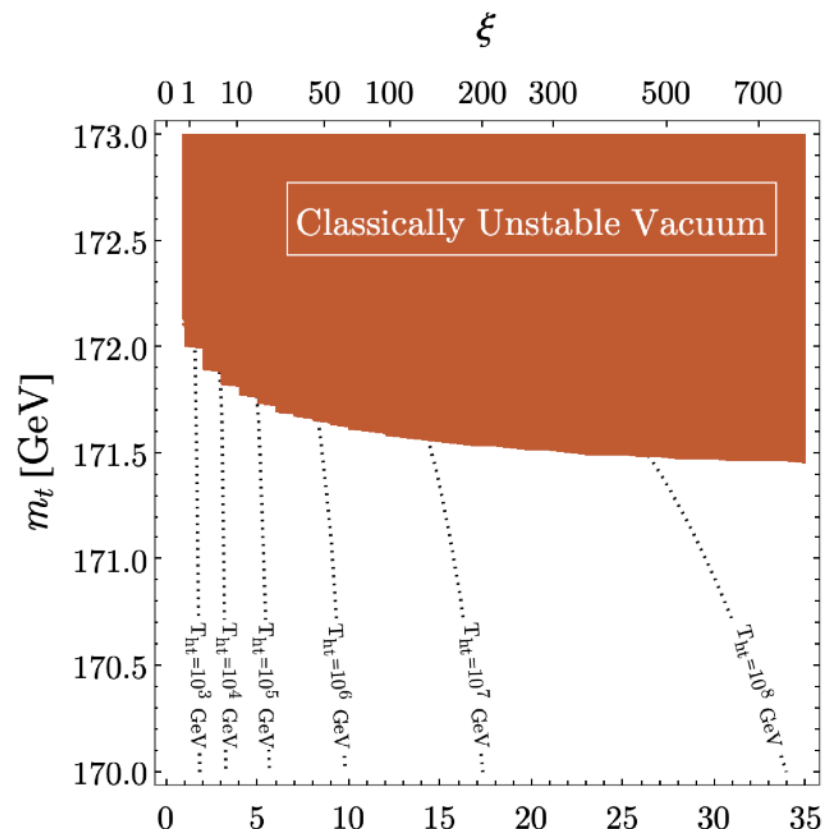
Heating the Universe before BBN

Explosive tachyonic Higgs production allows to heat the Universe.
 Additional restrictions on parameter space



$\mathcal{H}_{kin} = 10^6$ GeV

ν



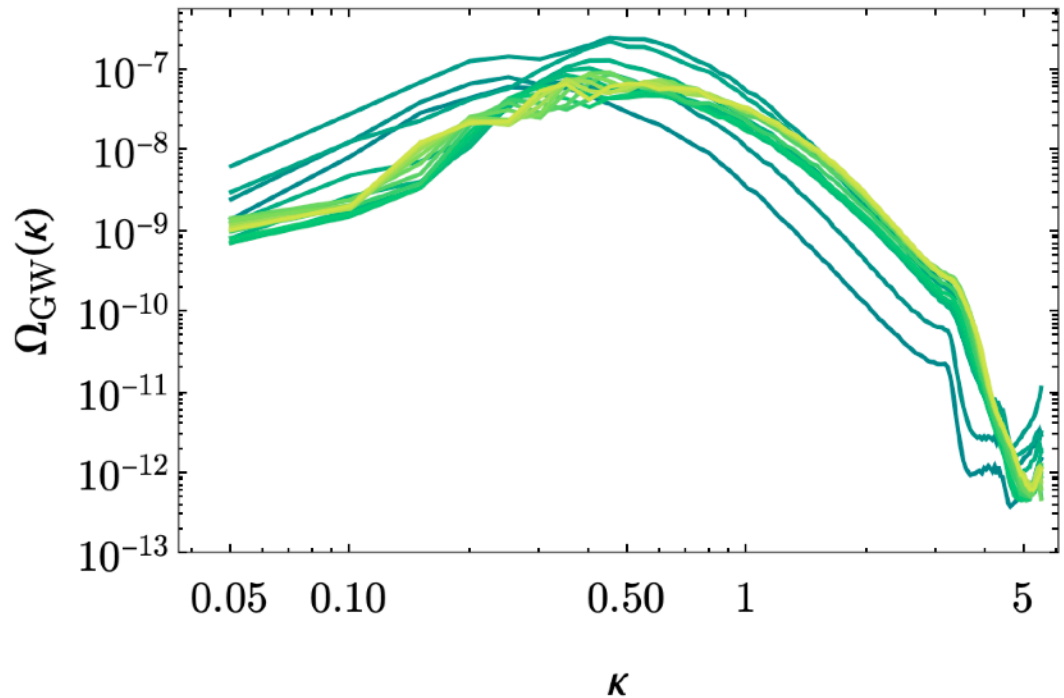
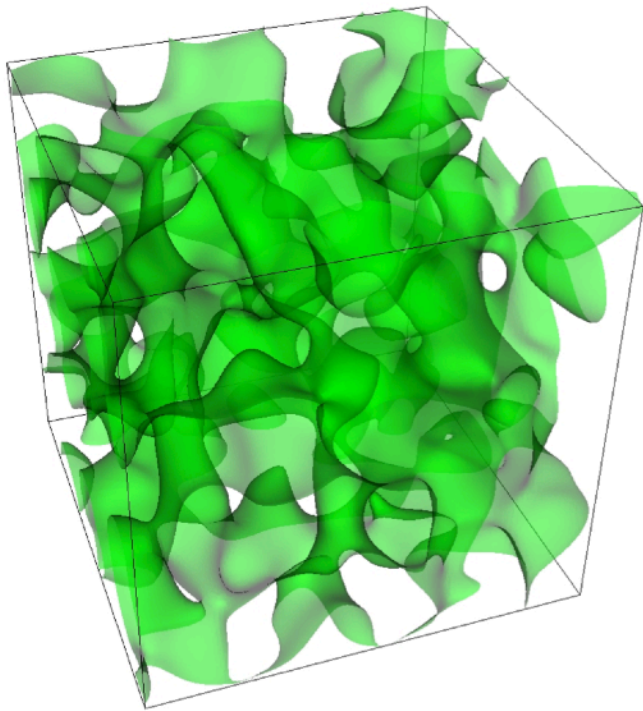
ν

$\mathcal{H}_{kin} = 10^{10}$ GeV

Lower bound on the inflationary scale

Gravitational waves

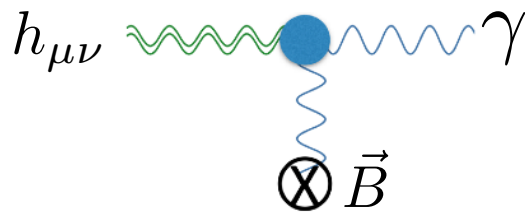
$$(h_{ij}^{TT})'' + 2H(h_{ij}^{TT})' - \frac{\nabla^2 h_{ij}^{TT}}{a^2} \simeq \frac{2a^2}{M_P^2} \Pi_{ij}^{TT}$$



Ultra High-Frequency GW detectors

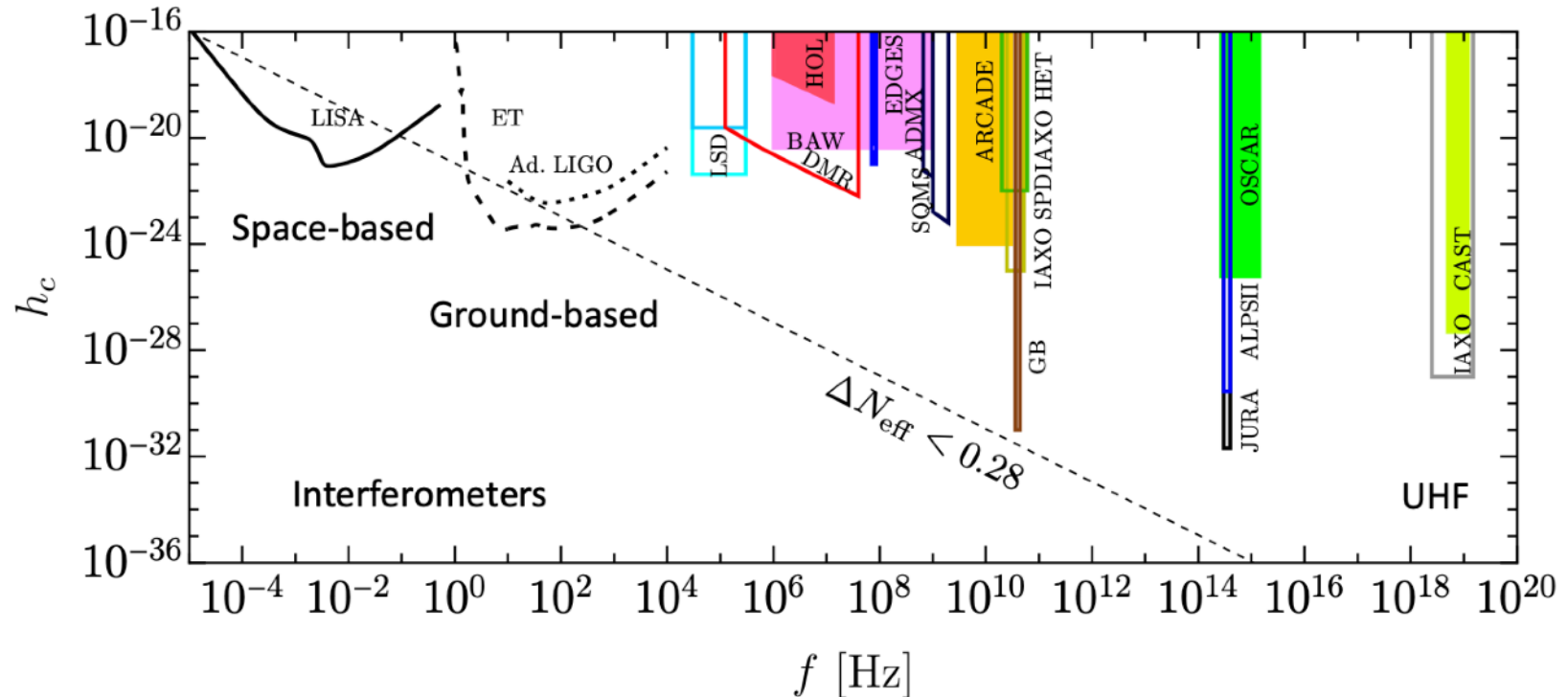
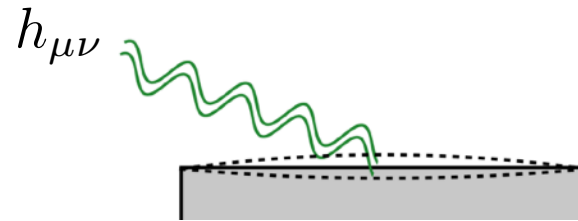
Inverse Gertsenshtein effect

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} g^{\mu\rho} g^{\nu\sigma} F_{\mu\nu} F_{\rho\sigma}$$

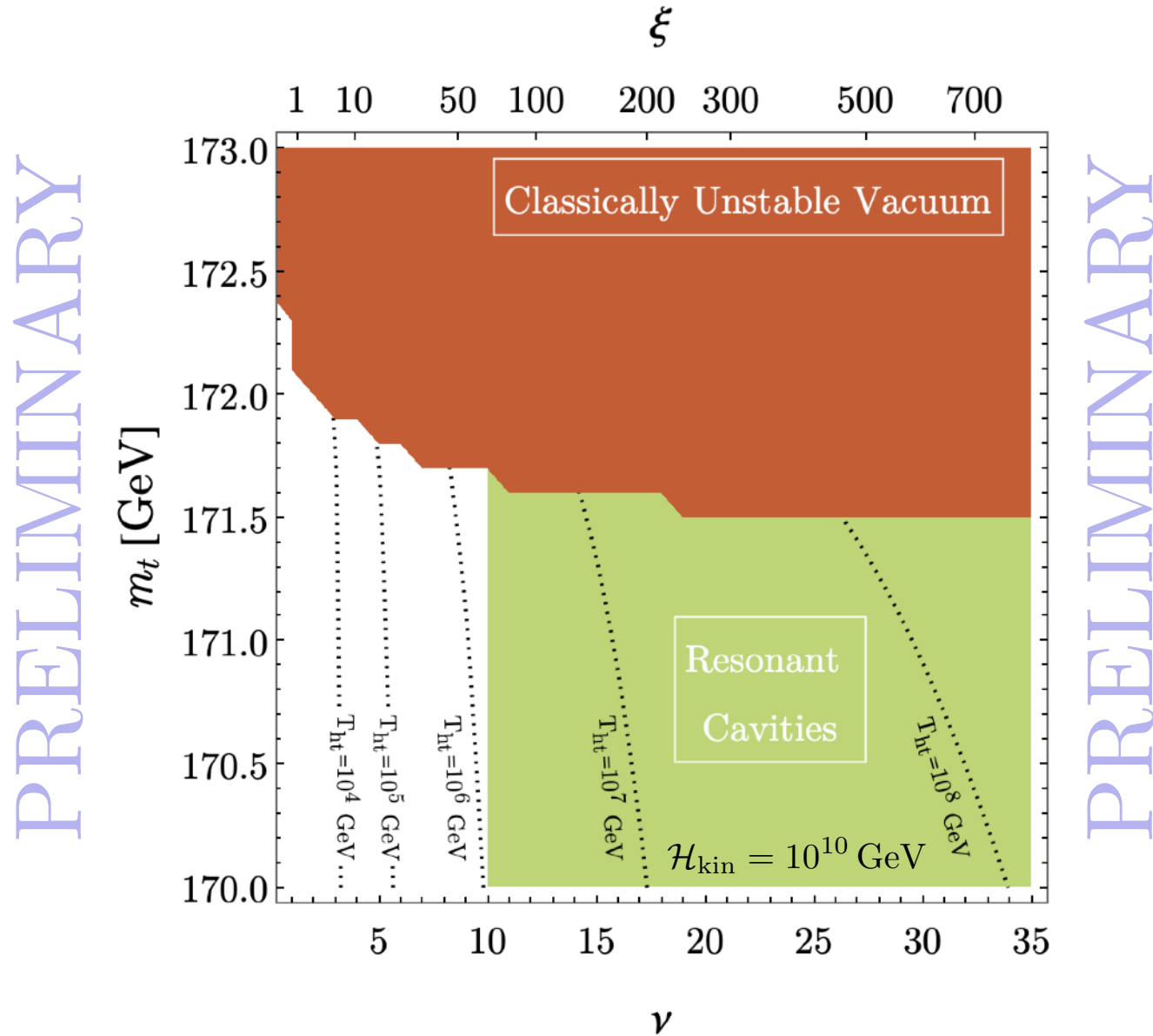


Mechanical resonators

$$\frac{d^2 x^\mu}{d\tau^2} + \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\mu(x) \frac{dx^\nu}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\rho}{d\tau} = 0$$



Potentially observable



Conclusions

- A non-minimally coupled Higgs is safely stabilized during inflation but undergoes a tachyonic instability during kination.
- The transition between the two phases acts as a natural cosmic clock, triggering a copious non-perturbative production of Higgs particles and bringing its amplitude close to the instability scale.
- Lower top quark masses are generically favored.
- The Higgs field itself can be responsible of heating the Universe after inflation.
- For $m_t = 171.3$ GeV, the heating temperature can be as large as 10^5 GeV.
- Potential gravitational waves signatures



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Dark Energy

Luca Amendola
(Heidelberg U.)

Data Inference and Machine Learning

Emille Ishida
(Clermont-Auvergne U.)

Galaxy Clusters

Florian Pacaud
(Bonn U.)

Testing Fundamental Physics with GW

Marek Lewicki
(Warsaw U.)



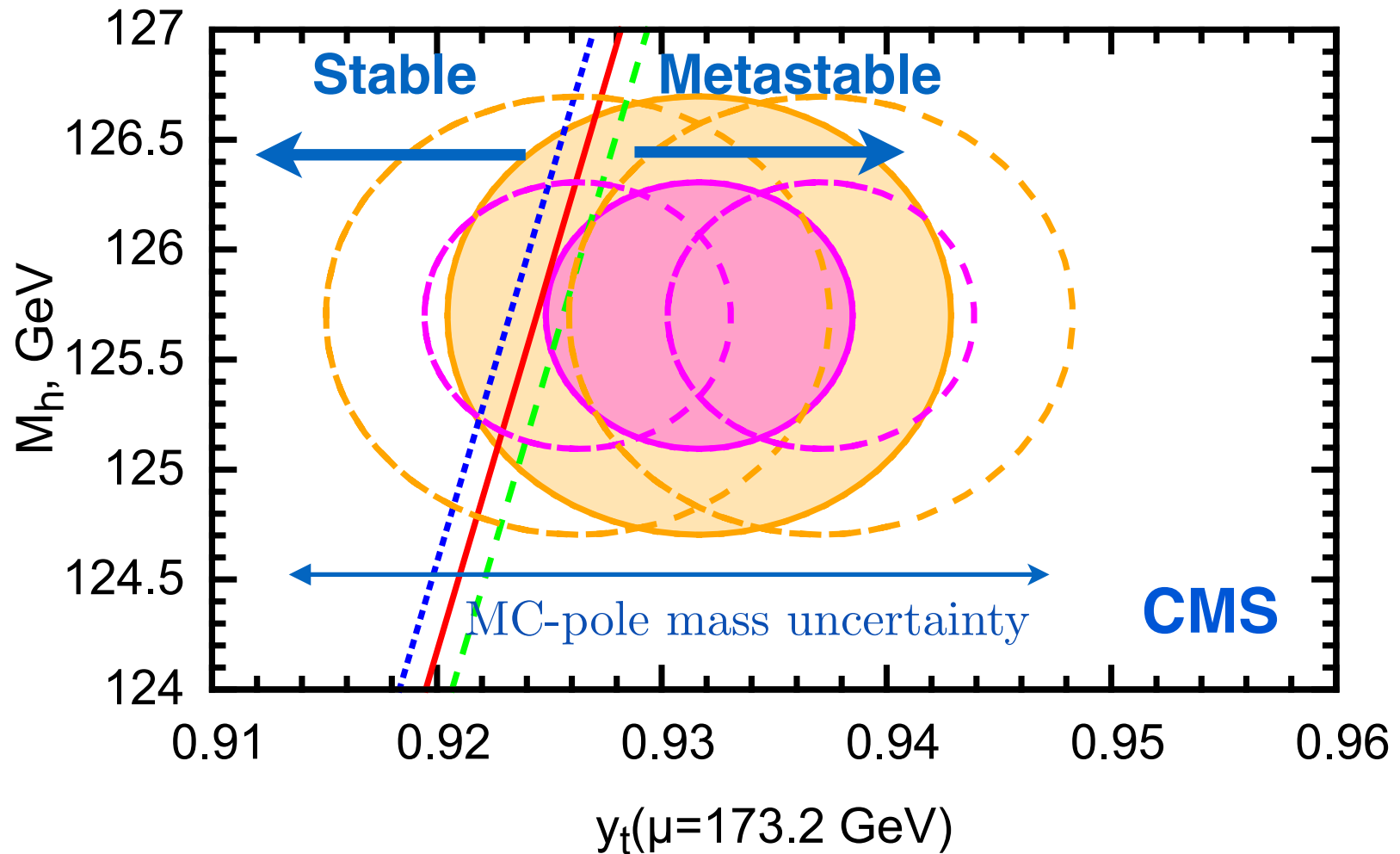
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C. Rampf, M. Rinaldi, J. Rubio

An open question

$$M_t = 172.38 \pm 0.66 \text{ GeV}$$



Top mass measurements

