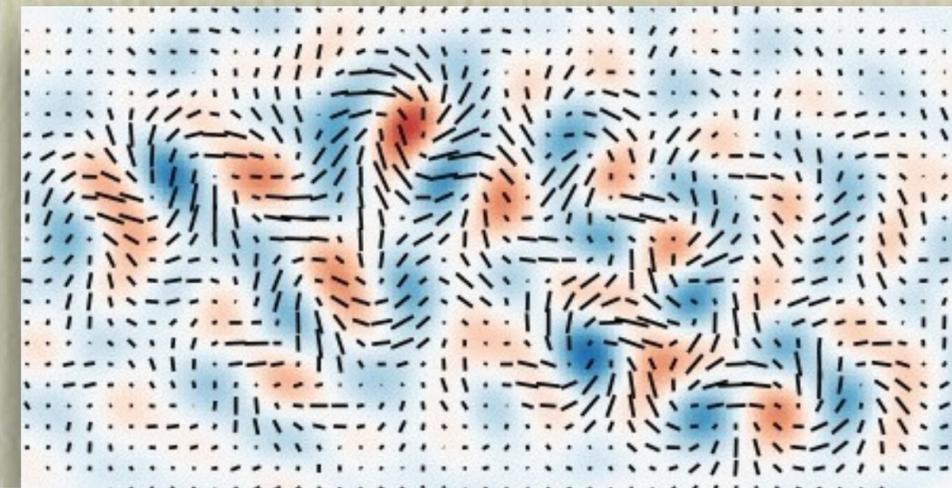
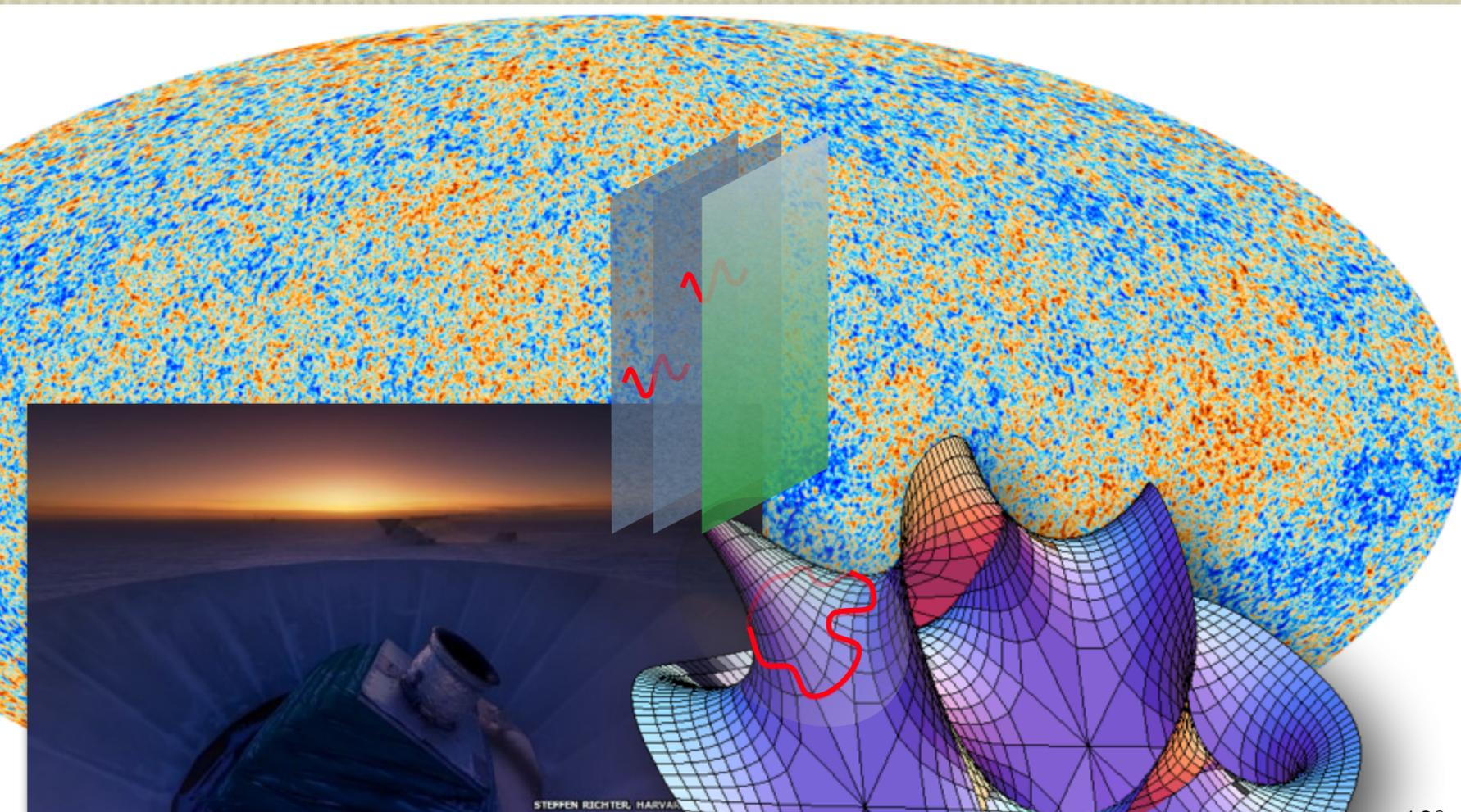


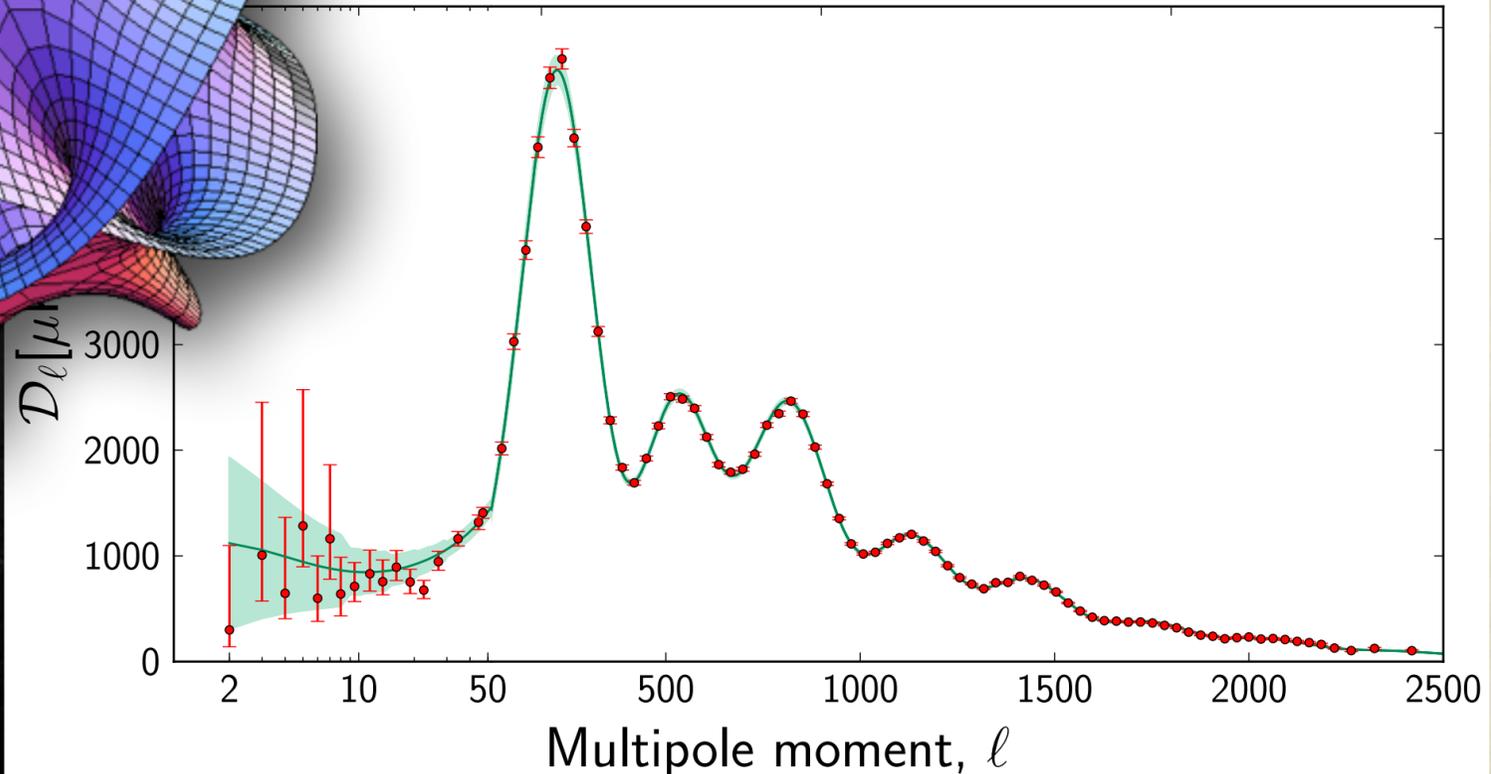
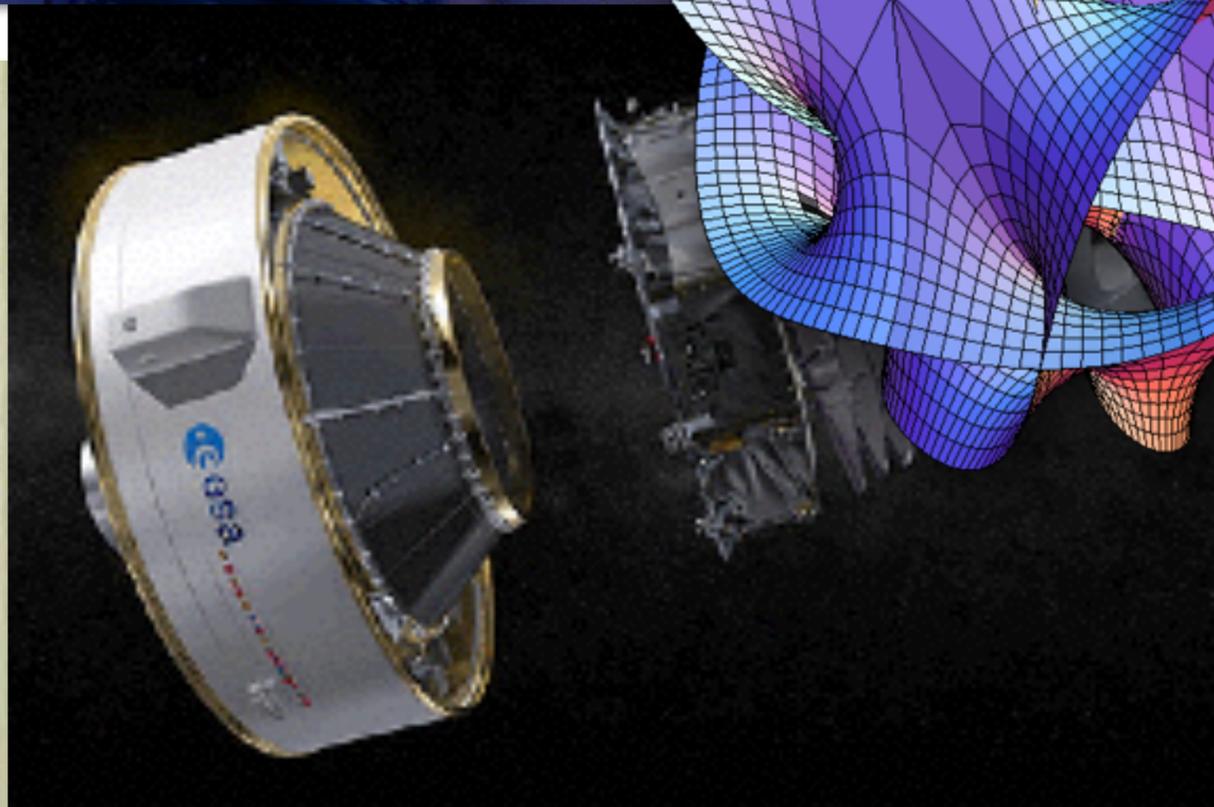
# Large-field inflation - strings & pheno

Alexander Westphal  
(DESY)



Angular scale

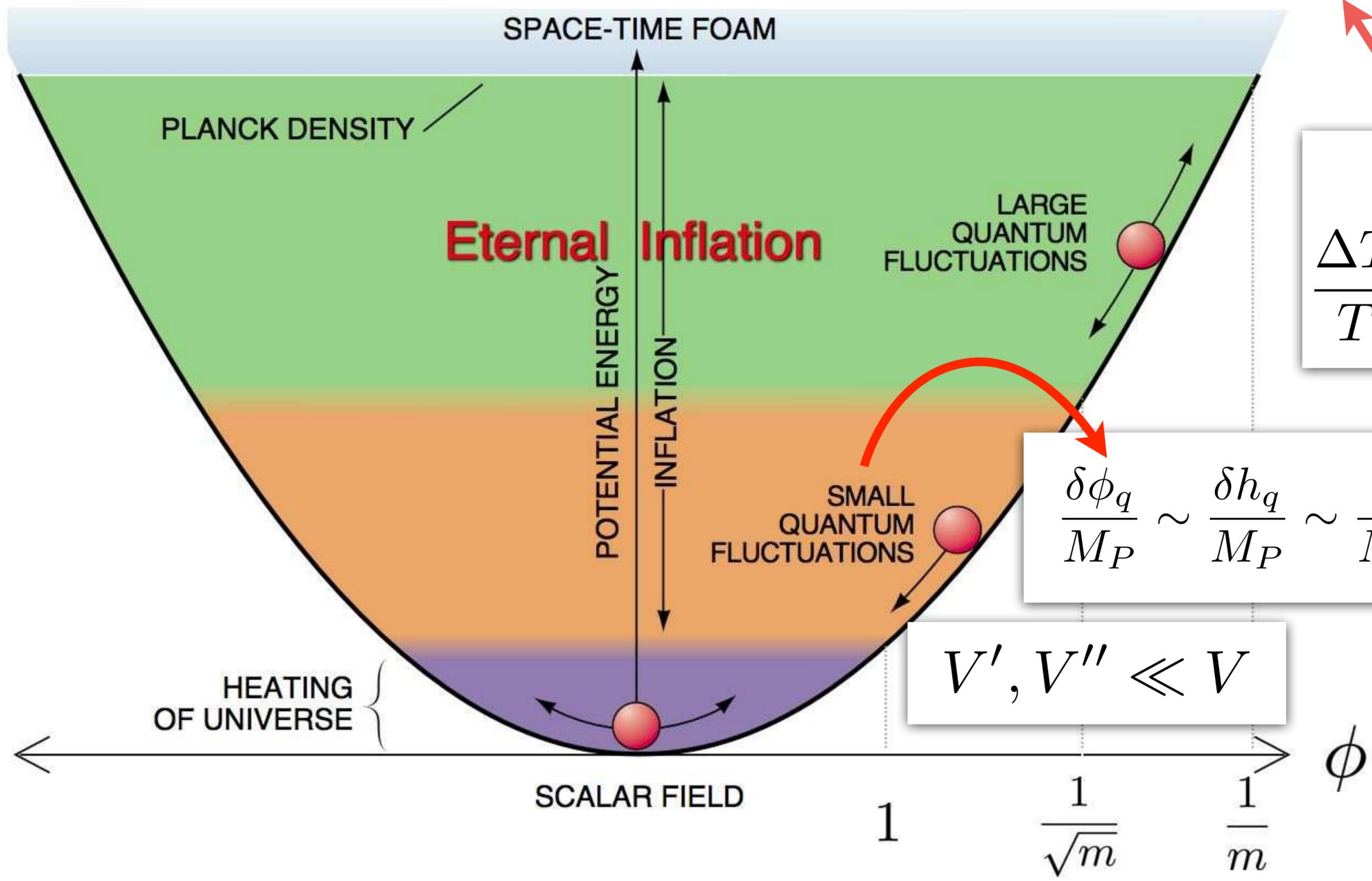
18° 1° 0.2° 0.1° 0.07°



# slow-roll inflation ...

[Guth, Linde, Albrecht, Steinhardt '80s]

$$V(\phi) = \frac{m^2}{2} \phi^2 \quad m \sim 10^{13} \text{ GeV}$$



CMB:  
 $\frac{\Delta T}{T} \sim 10^{-5}$

$$\frac{\delta\phi_q}{M_P} \sim \frac{\delta h_q}{M_P} \sim \frac{H}{M_P} \sim 10^{-5}$$

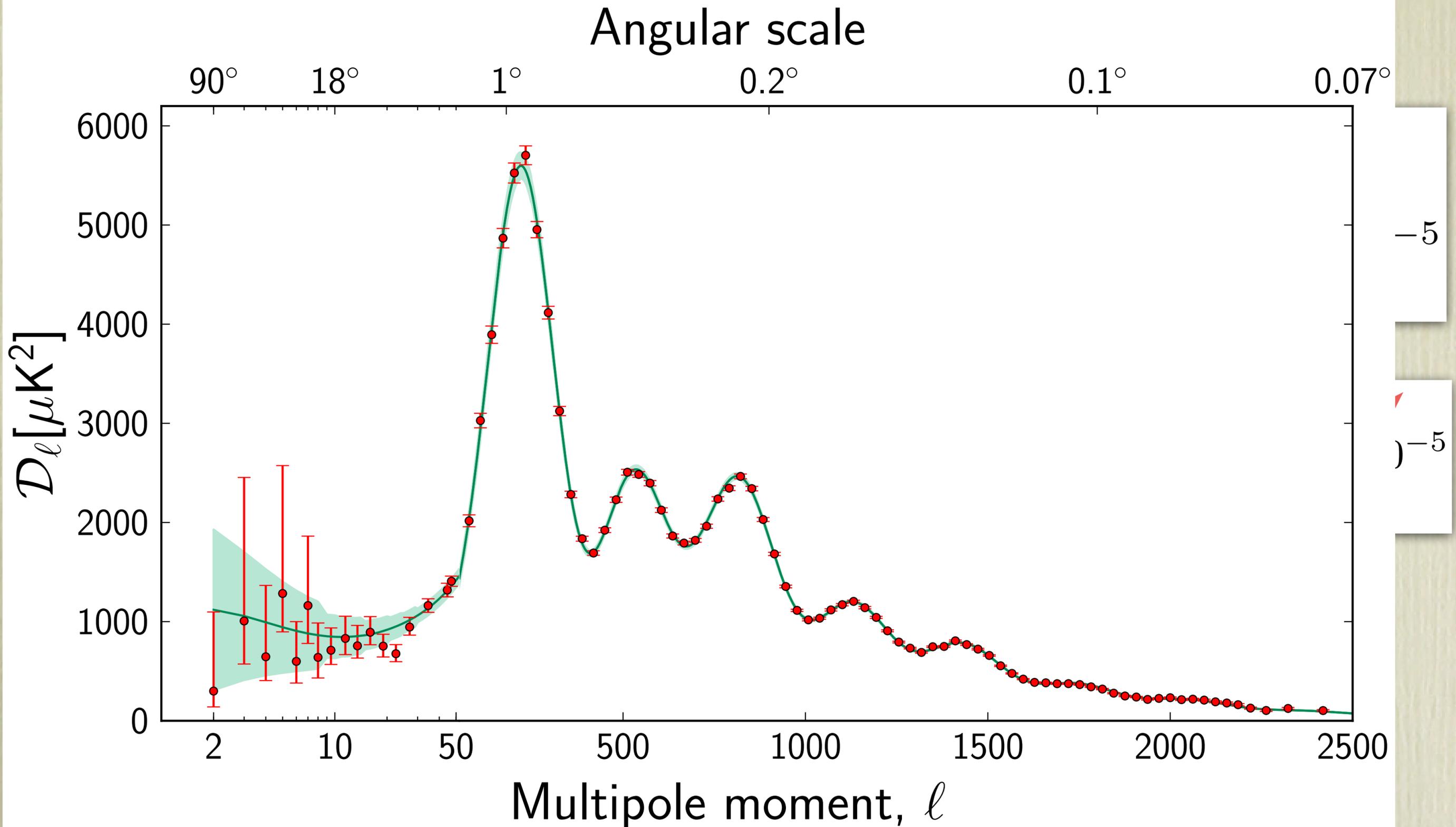
$$V', V'' \ll V$$

[picture from lecture notes: Linde '07]

# slow-roll inflation ...

[Guth, Linde, Albrecht, Steinhardt '80s]

$$V(\phi) = \frac{m^2}{2} \phi^2 \quad m \sim 10^{13} \text{ GeV}$$



# Inflation ...

- inflation: period quasi-exponential expansion of the very early universe

(solves horizon, flatness problems of hot big bang ...)

[Guth '80]

- driven by the vacuum energy of a slowly rolling light scalar field:

e.o.m.:  ~~$\ddot{\phi}$~~  +  $3H\dot{\phi} + V' = 0$

[Linde; Albrecht & Steinhardt '82]

# Inflation ...

- **slow-roll inflation:**

[Linde; Albrecht & Steinhardt '82]

scale factor **grows exponentially** :  $a \sim e^{Ht}$  if :  $\begin{cases} \dot{\phi}^2 \ll V \\ |\ddot{\phi}| \ll |3H\dot{\phi}| \end{cases}$

$$\Rightarrow \epsilon \equiv -\frac{\dot{H}}{H^2} \simeq \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{V'}{V} \right)^2 \ll 1, \quad \eta \equiv \frac{\dot{\epsilon}}{\epsilon H} \simeq \frac{V''}{V} \ll 1$$

**with the Hubble parameter:**  $H^2 = \frac{\dot{a}^2}{a^2} \simeq \text{const.} \sim V$

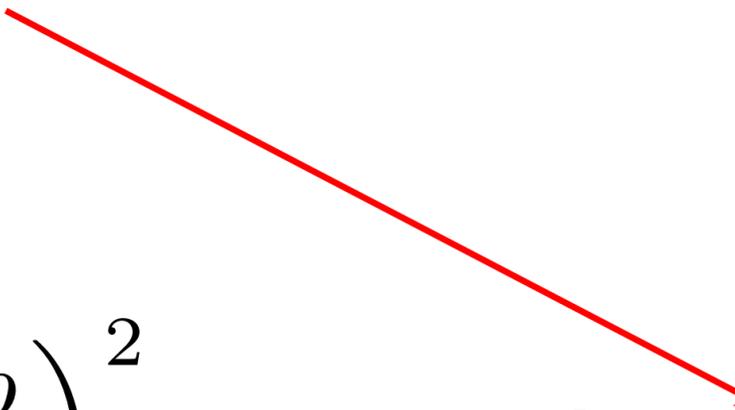
**e-folds  $N_e$  in  $a \sim e^{N_e}$  :**  $N_e = \int H dt = \int_{\phi_E}^{\phi_E + \Delta\phi} \frac{d\phi}{\sqrt{2\epsilon}}$

# Inflation ...

- inflation generates metric perturbations:  
scalar (us) & tensor


$$\mathcal{P}_S \sim \frac{H^2}{\epsilon} \sim \left( \frac{\delta\rho}{\rho} \right)^2$$
$$\sim k^{n_S - 1}$$

and


$$\mathcal{P}_T \sim H^2 \sim V$$


window to GUT scale &  
direct measurement of inflation scale

- scalar spectral index:

$$n_S = 1 - 6\epsilon + 2\eta$$

- tensor-to-scalar ratio:

$$r \equiv \frac{\mathcal{P}_T}{\mathcal{P}_S} = 16\epsilon$$

# why strings?

- We need to understand generic  $\dim \geq 6$  operators

$$\mathcal{O}_{p \geq 6} \sim V(\phi) \left( \frac{\phi}{M_{\text{P}}} \right)^{p-4}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta\eta \sim \left( \frac{\phi}{M_{\text{P}}} \right)^{p-6} \gtrsim 1 \quad \forall p \geq 6 \quad \text{if } \phi > M_{\text{P}}$$

- requires **UV-completion**, e.g. string theory: need to know string and  $\alpha'$ -corrections, backreaction effects, ... if  $\phi > M_{\text{P}}$  we need a **shift symmetry** !
- strings have extra dimensions — detailed information about **moduli stabilization necessary** !

- string compactification produces **moduli -- stabilize them!!** :
  - spectrum of massive scalars - field range in string theory?
    - i) first level question: kinematical field-range
      - > **large-volume / weak-coupling** limits:  
kinematic large field ranges arise straight forwardly  
*however* — extra states becoming light in parametric limit!
      - > **monodromy**:  
branes and fluxes *unwind* would-be  
periodic directions into kinematically unbounded fields
    - ii) 2nd-level question: dynamical field-range
      - > effects of moduli stabilization and backreaction/flattening  
may limit the available field range

# inflaton should be light ...

- supersymmetry/warping

- D-brane positions

**no symmetry  
protection**

**bounded by volume**

- no-scale structure

- 'cycle' radii
- overall volume modulus

**no symmetry  
protection**

**bounded by volume**

**unbounded**

[Dodelson, Dong, Silverstein & Torroba '13]

- gauge/shift symmetries

- axions

**good symmetry  
protection**

**periodically bounded  
by non-pert. effects**

- *exclude dilaton  $S = 1/g_s$  -- pervasive couplings to all sectors*

# varieties of string inflation ...

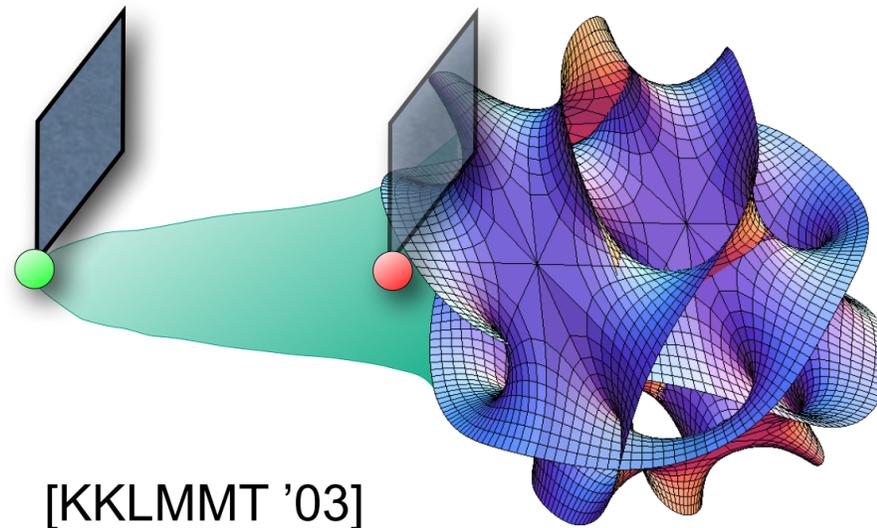
- tensor-to-scalar ratio linked to field range:

$$\frac{\Delta\phi(N_e)}{M_P} \gtrsim \frac{N_e}{50} \sqrt{\frac{r}{0.01}}, \quad r = \frac{\mathcal{P}_T}{\mathcal{P}_S} \quad [\text{Lyth '97}]$$

- $r \ll O(1/N_e^2)$  models:

$$\Delta\phi \ll \mathcal{O}(M_P) \Rightarrow$$

warped D-brane inflation & DBI;



[KKLMMT '03]

[Baumann, Dymarsky, Klebanov, McAllister & Steinhardt '07]

- $r = O(1/N_e^2)$  models:

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- $r = O(1/N_e)$  models:

$$\Delta\phi \sim \sqrt{N_e} M_P \gg M_P \Rightarrow$$

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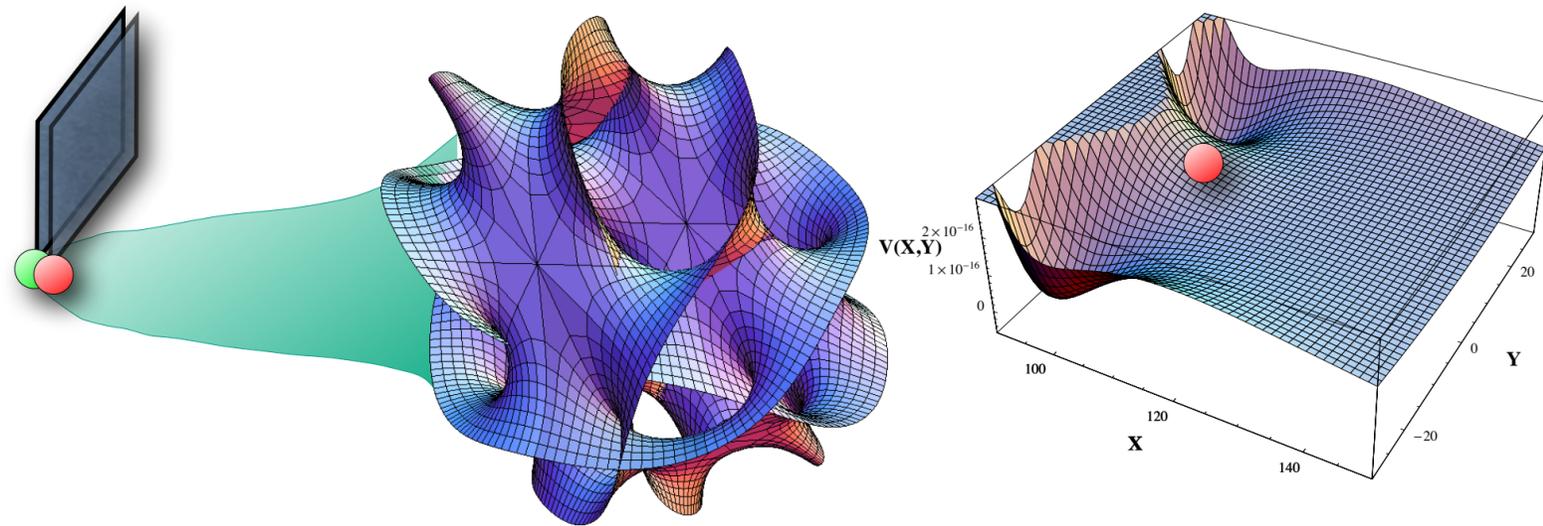
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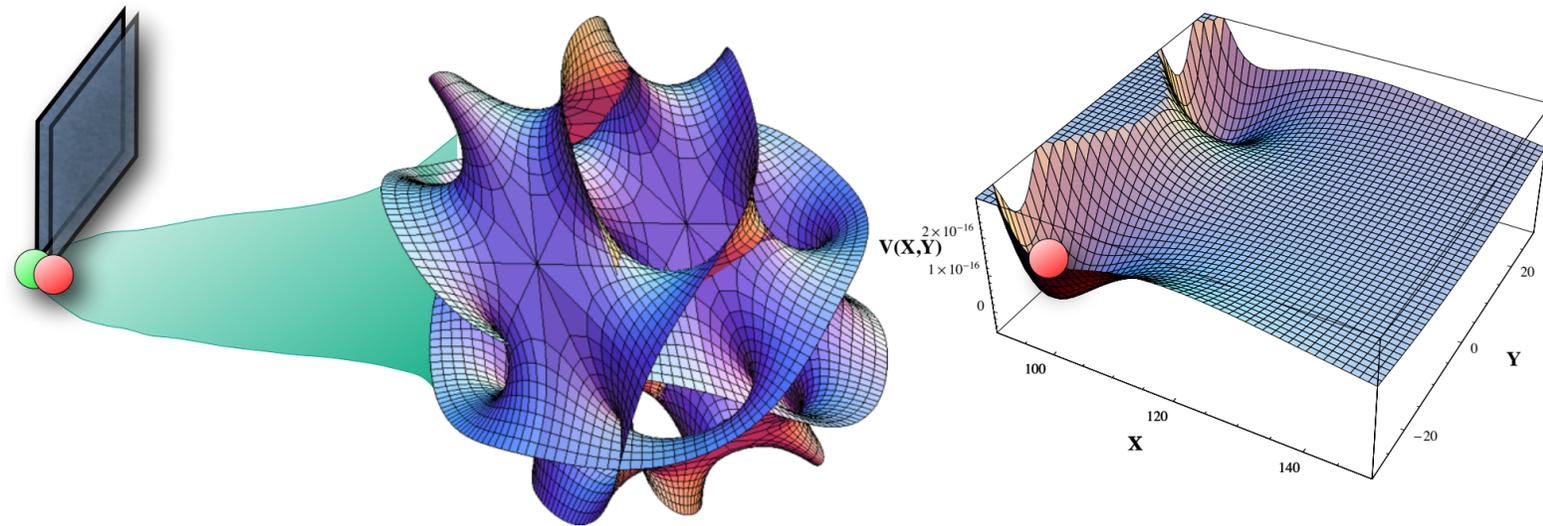
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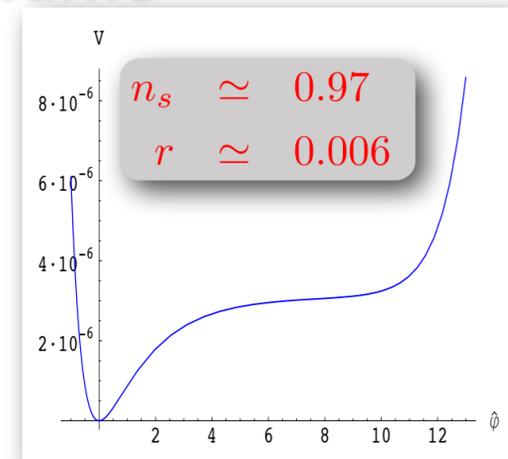
$$\Delta\phi \sim \mathcal{O}(M_P) \Rightarrow$$

fibre inflation in LARGE volume  
scenarios (LVS)

[Cicoli, Burgess & Quevedo '08]

- $r = O(1/N_e)$  models:

$$\Delta\phi \sim \sqrt{N_e} M_P \gg M_P \Rightarrow$$



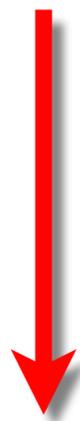
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[Lyth '97]

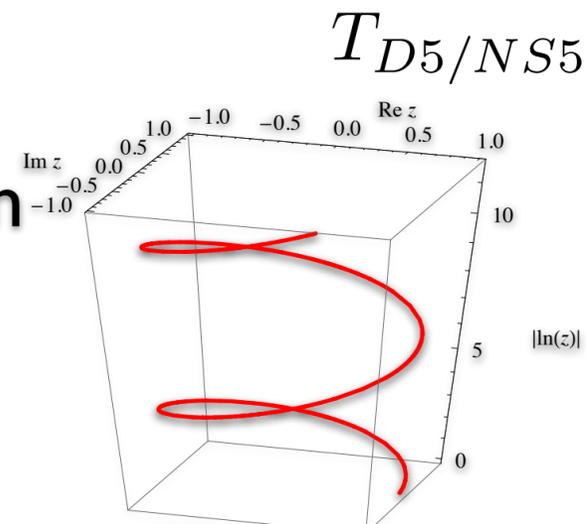
observable tensors:  $r > 0.01$



- $r = O(1/N_e)$  models:

$$\Delta\phi \sim \sqrt{N_e} M_P \gg M_P \Rightarrow$$

axion monodromy inflation  
2-axion inflation  
N-flation



**large fields ...**

# shift symmetry

- effective theory of large-field inflation:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}R + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu\phi)^2 - \mu^{4-p}\phi^p$$

- the last term — the potential — spoils the shift symmetry ...

- However, if:  $V_0 = \mu^{4-p}\phi^p \ll M_{\text{P}}^4$

- quantum GR only couples to  $T_{\mu\nu}$ :

$$\delta V^{(n)} \sim V_0 \left( \frac{V_0}{M_{\text{P}}^4} \right)^n, \quad V_0 \left( \frac{V_0''}{M_{\text{P}}^2} \right)^n \ll V_0 \quad \textbf{not} \quad \delta V^{(n)} \sim c_n \frac{\phi^n}{M_{\text{P}}^n}$$

## shift symmetry

- while field fluctuation interactions:

$$\mu^{4-p} (\phi_\star + \delta\phi)^p \sim \mu^{4-p} \phi_\star^p \left( 1 + \sum_n c_n \frac{\delta\phi^n}{\phi_\star^n} \right)$$

die out with increasing field displacement ...

- if the inflaton potential breaks the shift symmetry weakly & smoothly (means: with falling derivatives)

—  
it does not matter, if the shift symmetry is periodically broken, or secularly

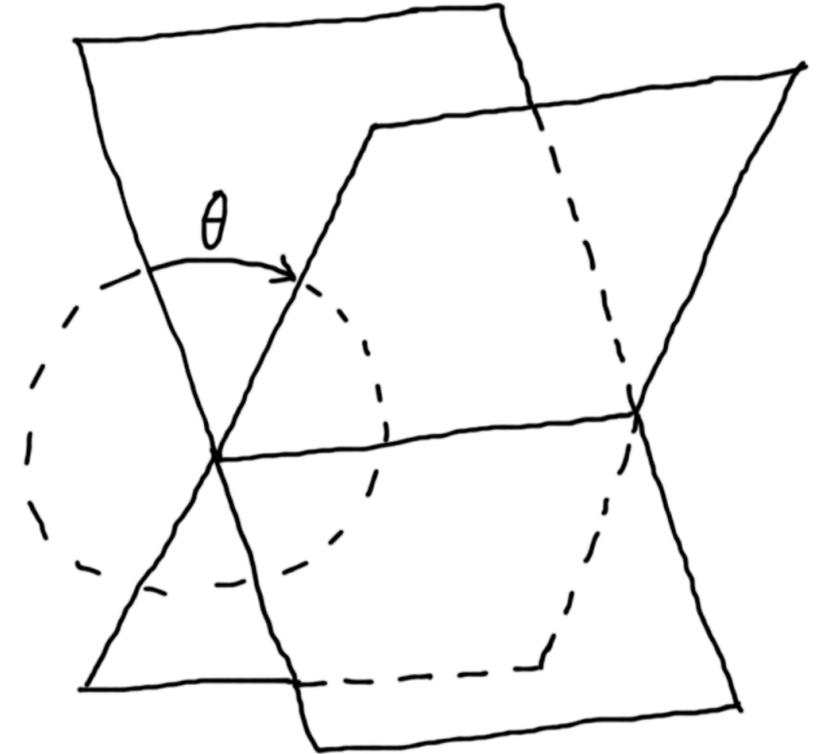
- a shift symmetry itself does not guarantee smoothness of breaking — need UV theory as input, for all models!

**axion monodromy**

# stringy large field inflation - why the worry?

- many periodic inflaton candidates  
e.g. brane positions or  
angles  $\theta_a$  between branes

$$a < (2\pi)^2 \quad \text{or} \quad a < L^q$$



- $E_{internal} \rightarrow 0$  for  $L$  large,  
all internal sources die at large volume

$$\mathcal{L}_{kin} \sim \frac{M_{\text{P}}^2}{L^p} (\partial_\mu a)^2, \quad p > q$$

- field range is limited to  $< M_{\text{P}}$

[Banks, Dine, Fox & Gorbатов '03; Srvcek & Witten '06]

[Baumann, McAllister '06]

# axion inflation in string theory ...

- shift symmetry dictates use of string theory axions for large-field inflation

- periodic, e.g.

$$b = \int_{\Sigma_2} B_2 \quad , \quad b \rightarrow b + (2\pi)^2 \quad \text{since} \quad S_{string} \supset \frac{1}{2\pi\alpha'} \int B_2$$

- field range from kinetic terms  $f < M_{\text{P}}$  :

$$S \sim \int d^{10}x \sqrt{-g} |H_3|^2 \supset \int d^4x \sqrt{-g_4} \frac{1}{L^4} (\partial_\mu b)^2$$

$$B_2 = b\omega_2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \phi = fb \quad , \quad f = \frac{M_{\text{P}}}{L^2} < M_{\text{P}}$$

[Banks, Dine, Fox & Gorbatov '03]

however, maybe not strict: [Grimm; Blumenhagen & Plauschinn; Kenton & Thomas '14]

# axion inflation in string theory ...

- large field-range from assistance effects of many fields

- N-flation ...

[Dimopoulos, Kachru, McGreevy & Wacker '05]

[Easter & McAllister '05]

[Grimm '07]

[Cicoli, Dutta & Maharana '14]

[Bachlechner, Long & McAllister '14]

[Bachlechner, Dias, Frazer & McAllister '14]

- or monodromy

- generic presence from branes & fluxes !

[Silverstein & AW '08]

[Dong, Horn, Silverstein & AW '10]

[McAllister, Silverstein & AW '08] [Lawrence, Kaloper & Sorbo '11]

[Kaloper & Sorbo '08]

- cos-potential for 2 axions can align/tune for

large-field direction

[Kim, Nilles & Peloso '04]

[Berg, Pajer & Sjörs '09]

[Ben-Dayana, Pedro & AW '14]

[Tye & Wong; Long, McAllister & McGuirk '14]

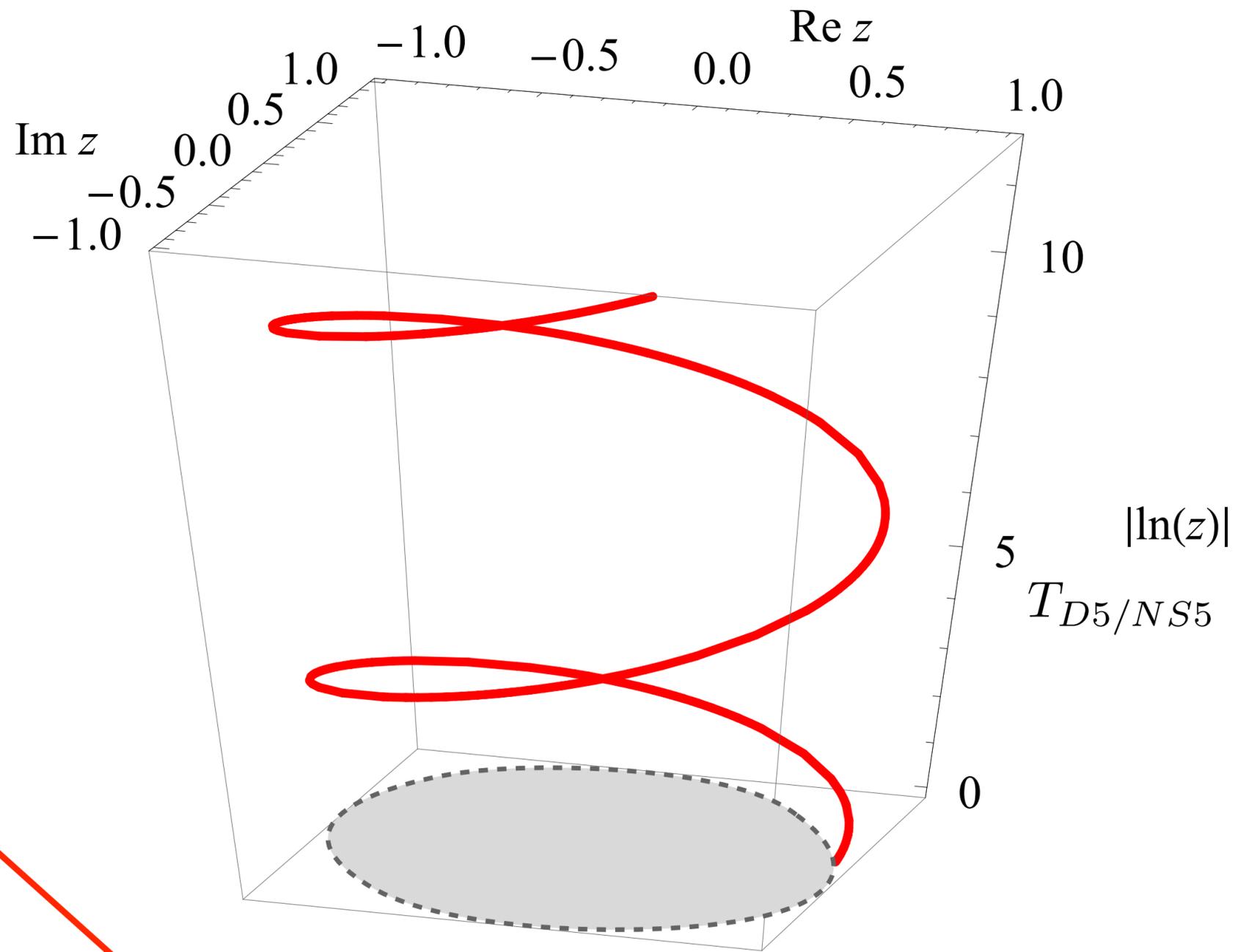
[Gao, Li & Shukla; Higaki & Takahashi '14]

# axion monodromy — the 5-brane example

- we have seen this:  
think of

$$\int B_2, \int C_2$$

$$S_{5\text{-brane}} \sim \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \sqrt{v^2 + \phi^2} \sim \phi$$



[McAllister, Silverstein & AW '08]

embedding into a type IIB picture:

- e.g. CY with KKLT moduli stabilization — consistency constraints

# axion monodromy — the general story

- EM Stueckelberg gauge symmetry:

$$S_{EM} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left\{ F_{MN} F^{MN} - \rho^2 (A_M + \partial_M C)^2 + \dots \right\}$$

$$A_M \rightarrow A + \partial_M \Lambda_0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad C \rightarrow C - \Lambda_0$$

- string theory contains analogous gauge symmetries for NSNS and RR axions - e.g. IIA:

$$\begin{array}{ll} H = dB, & \delta B = d\Lambda_1, \\ F_0 = Q_0, & \Rightarrow \delta C_1 = -F_0 \Lambda_1, \\ \tilde{F}_2 = dC_1 + F_0 B, & \delta C_3 = -F_0 \Lambda_1 \wedge B \\ \tilde{F}_4 = dC_3 + C_1 \wedge H_3 + \frac{1}{2} F_0 B \wedge B & \end{array}$$

- type IIB similar

# flux monodromy

[Marchesano, Shiu & Uranga '14]  
[Blumenhagen & Plauschinn '14]  
[Hebecker, Kraus & Witkowski '14]  
[McAllister, Silverstein, AW & Wrase '14]

- fluxes generate a potential for the axions:

$$-\frac{1}{\alpha'^4} \int d^{10}x \sqrt{-G} \left\{ \frac{1}{g_s^2} |H|^2 + |Q_0 B|^2 + |Q_0 B \wedge B|^2 + \gamma_4 g_s^2 |Q_0 B \wedge B|^4 + \dots \right\}$$

↖ tune small ...

- produces periodically spaced set of multiple branches of large-field potentials:

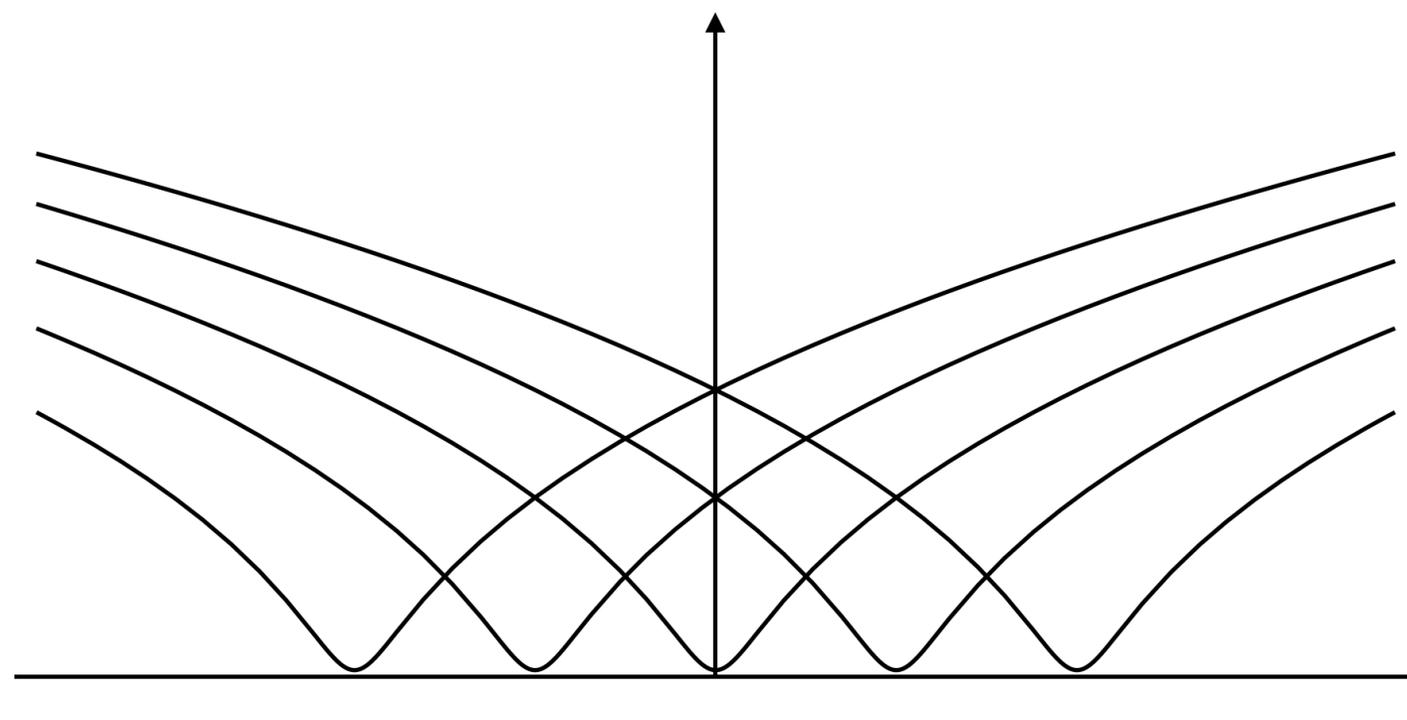
$$f(\chi, \dots) \frac{(Q^{(n)} a^n + Q^{(n-1)} a^{n-1} + \dots + Q^{(0)})^2}{L^{2n'}} + \dots \sim \tilde{f}(\chi, \dots) a^{p_0} \quad \text{for } a \gg 1$$

- for given flux quanta  $Q^{(i)}$  potential is non-periodic – we roll on a given branch
- $Q^{(i)}$  change by brane-flux tunneling –  $Q^{(i)}$  shift absorbed by axion-shift – many branches:
  - brane spectrum on axion cycle has full periodicity
  - bulk moduli sector not periodic, account for back reaction:  
**flattening**
  - on each branch: weakly broken effective shift symmetry

- p-form axions get **non-periodic** potentials from coupling to **branes** or **fluxes/field-strengths**
- produces periodically spaced set of multiple branches of large-field potentials:

$$V(\phi) \sim \mu^{4-p} \phi^p + \Lambda^4 \cos(\phi/f)$$

$$f = f(\phi)$$



leads to oscillations  
in the power spectrum  
& resonant *non-Gauss*.

# flux monodromy - 4D effective picture

[Kaloper & Sorbo '08]

[Dubovsky, Lawrence & Roberts '11]

[Lawrence, Kaloper & Sorbo '11] [Kaloper & Lawrence '14]

- 4D effective action:  $F_4$  field strength, axion  $\phi$  :

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} m_{pl}^2 R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{48} F_{(4)}^2 + \frac{\mu}{24} \phi^* F_{(4)}$$

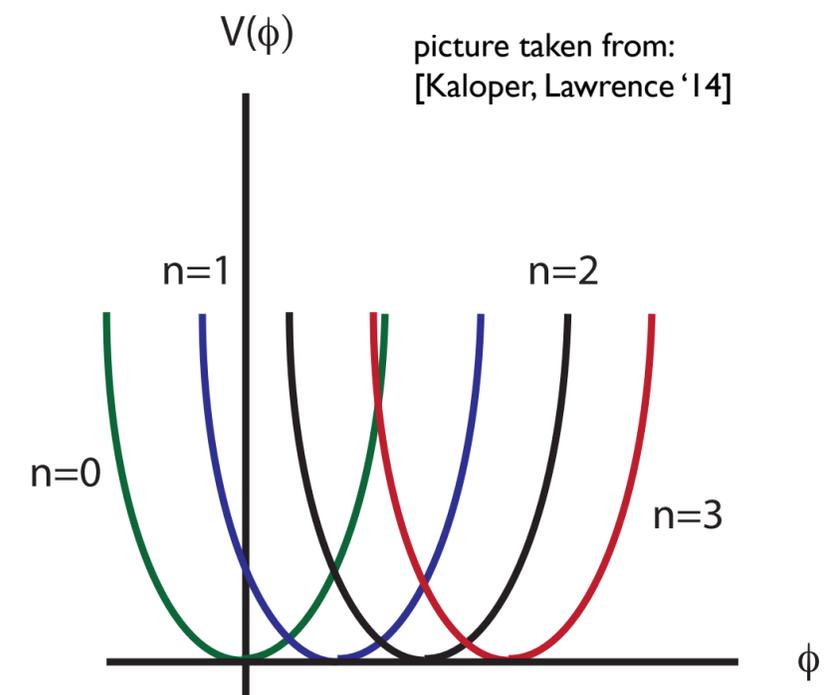
- 4D effective Hamiltonian:

$$H = \frac{1}{2} (p_\phi)^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\nabla\phi)^2 + \frac{1}{2} (ne^2 + \mu\phi)^2$$

$$\phi \rightarrow \phi + f \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mu f = e^2, \quad n \rightarrow n + 1$$

- again:

- axion unwound into multiple branches
- $n$  jumps by flux tunneling,  $e^{-S}$ -suppressed
- periodicity by summing over branches



# flux monodromy with F-term supergravity description

- flux-induced potentials for  $B_2$ - or  $C_2$ -axions & D7-brane position moduli, the T-duals of Wilson lines

[Marchesano, Shiu & Uranga '14]

IIA F-term axion monodromy of  $B_2$ -  
or  $C_2$ -axions or Wilson lines from

-beautiful F-term realizations — but

flux

open question: moduli stabilization!!  
 $\phi^2, \phi^4$  potentials

-addressed in supergravity model:

> the D7-position proposal

[Hebecker, Kraus & Witkowski '14]

-and non-supergravity model:

> IIB on Riemann surfaces:  $\phi^{4/3}, \phi^2, \phi^3$

[McAllister, Silverstein, AW & Wrase '14]

[Hebecker, Kraus & Witkowski '14]

IIB F-term D7-position  
axion monodromy from  
F-theory  $G_4$  flux

$\phi^2$  potential

[Ibanez, Marchesano &  
Valenzuela '14]

[Garcia-Etxebarria, Grimm &  
Valenzuela '14]

# flux axion monodromy with moduli stabilization

[McAllister, Silverstein, AW & Wrase '14]

- type IIB string theory:

$$\int d^{10}x \left( \frac{|dB|^2}{g_s^2} + |F_1|^2 + |F_3|^2 + |\tilde{F}_5|^2 \right)$$

$$\text{with: } \tilde{F}_5 = dC_4 - B_2 \wedge F_3 + C_2 \wedge H_3 + F_1 \wedge B_2 \wedge B_2$$

- $\phi^2, \phi^3, \phi^4$  terms ...

- generically flattening of the potential from adjusting moduli and/or flux rearranging its distribution on its cycle - 'sloshing', while preserving flux quantization

[Dong, Horn, Silverstein & AW '10]

# flux axion monodromy with moduli stabilization

[McAllister, Silverstein, AW & Wrase '14]

- simple torus example:  $ds^2 = \sum_{i=1}^3 L_1^2 (dy_1^{(i)})^2 + L_2^2 (dy_2^{(i)})^2$

axion  $B = \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{b}{L^2} dy_1^{(i)} \wedge dy_2^{(i)}$

fluxes  $F_3 = Q_{31} dy_1^{(1)} \wedge dy_1^{(2)} \wedge dy_1^{(3)} + Q_{32} dy_2^{(1)} \wedge dy_2^{(2)} \wedge dy_2^{(3)}$

$F_1 = \frac{Q_1}{L_1} \sum_{i=1}^3 dy_1^{(i)}$

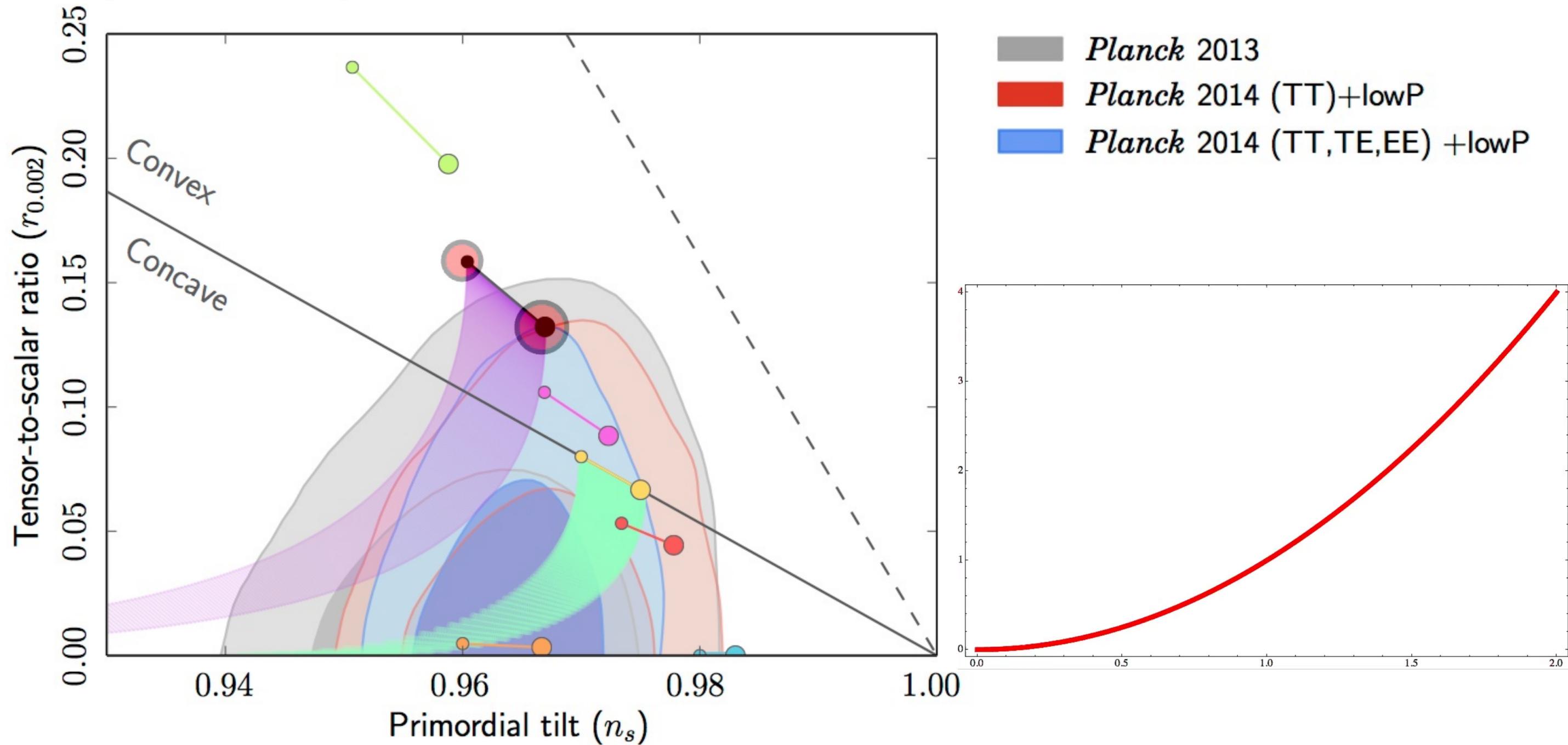
- effective 4d action gives  $\phi^3$ -potential:  $u = \frac{L_2}{L_1}$  ,  $\frac{\phi}{M_{\text{P}}} = \frac{b}{L^2}$

$$\mathcal{L} \sim M_{\text{P}}^2 \frac{\dot{b}^2}{L^4} + M_{\text{P}}^4 \frac{g_s^4}{L^{12}} \left[ Q_1^2 L^4 \left( \frac{b}{L^2} \right)^4 u + Q_{31}^2 u^3 + \frac{Q_{32}^2}{u^3} \right] \sim \dot{\phi}^2 + \mu \phi^3$$

- use Riemann surfaces: can fix  $Vol = L^6$  as well & get  $\phi^{2/3}$  ,  $\phi^{4/3}$  ,  $\phi^2$

# phenomenology ... flattening!

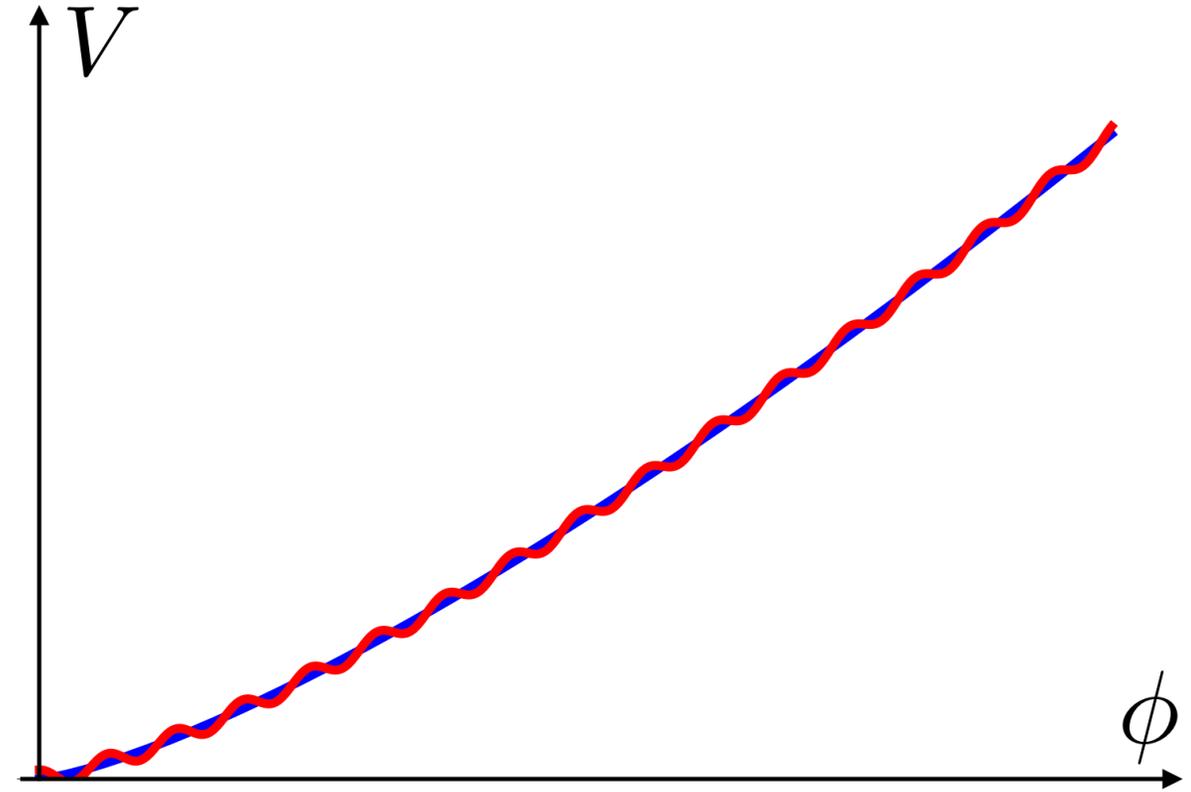
[ $n_s$ - $r$  limits Planck 2014 (Ferrara),  
**preliminary!!**]



# phenomenology ... drifting CMB oscillations !

[Flauger, McAllister, Silverstein & AW '14]

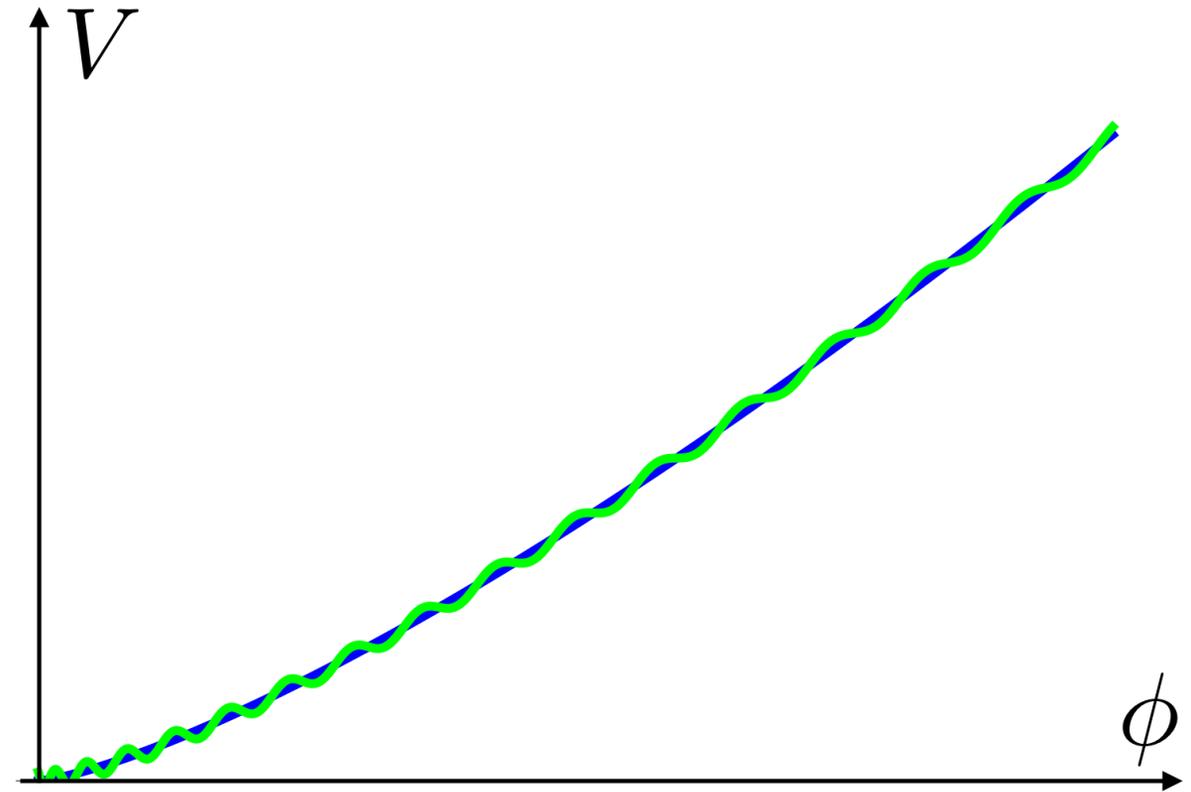
$$V(\phi) \sim \mu^{4-p} \phi^p + \Lambda^4 \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{f}\right)$$



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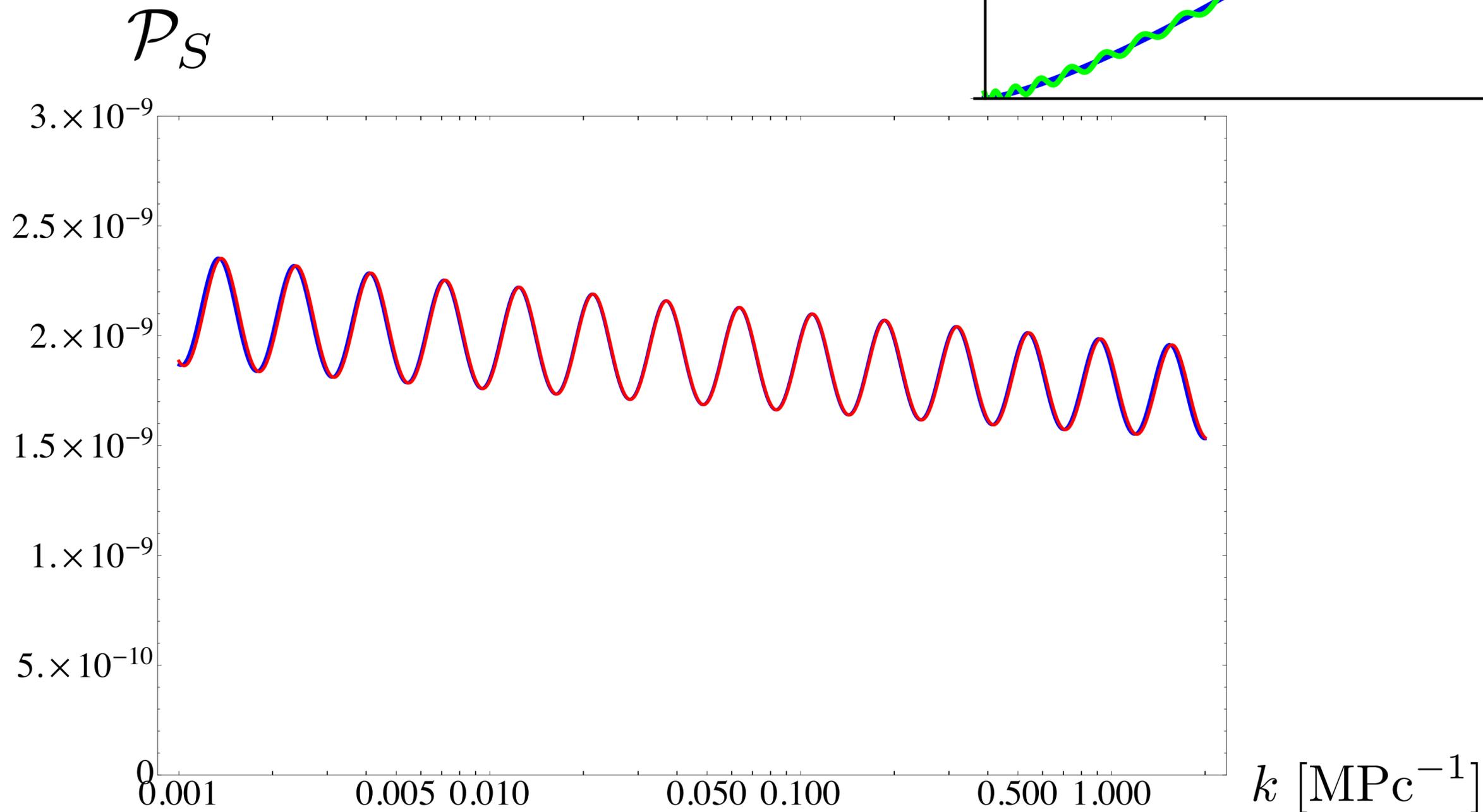
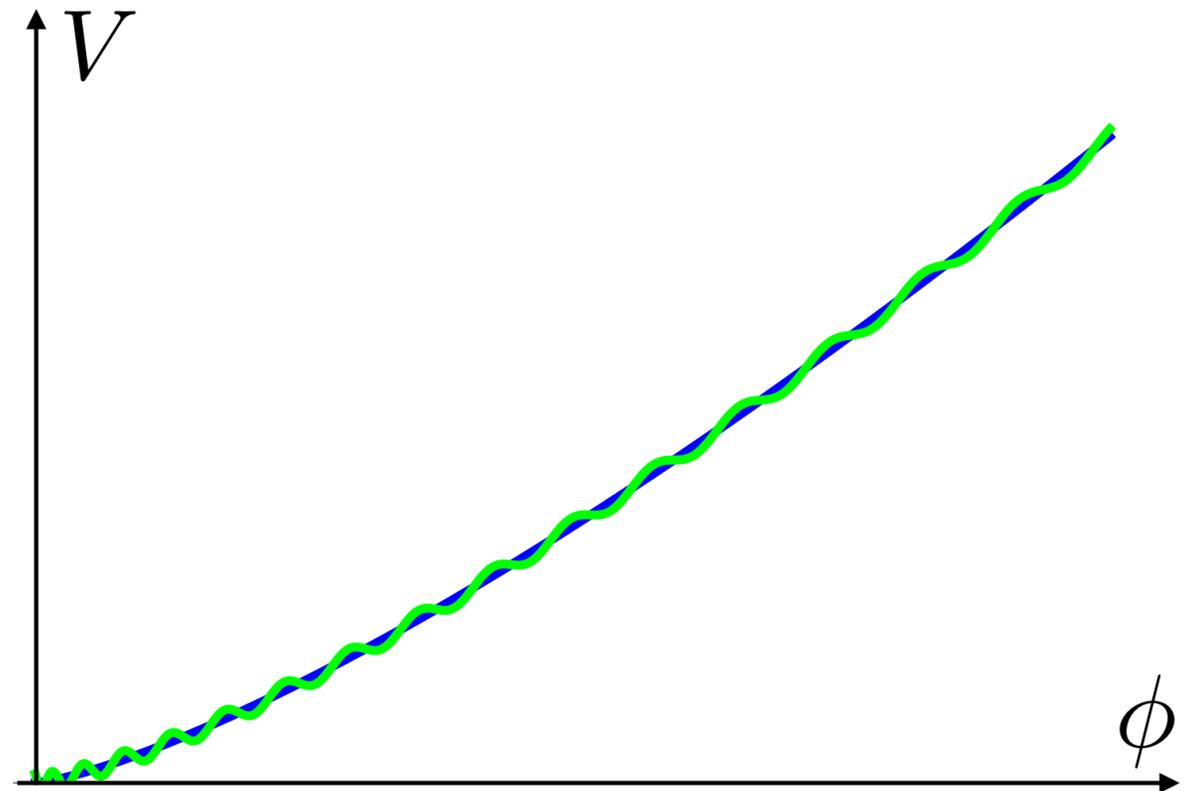
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[Flauger, McAllister, Silverstein & AW '14]

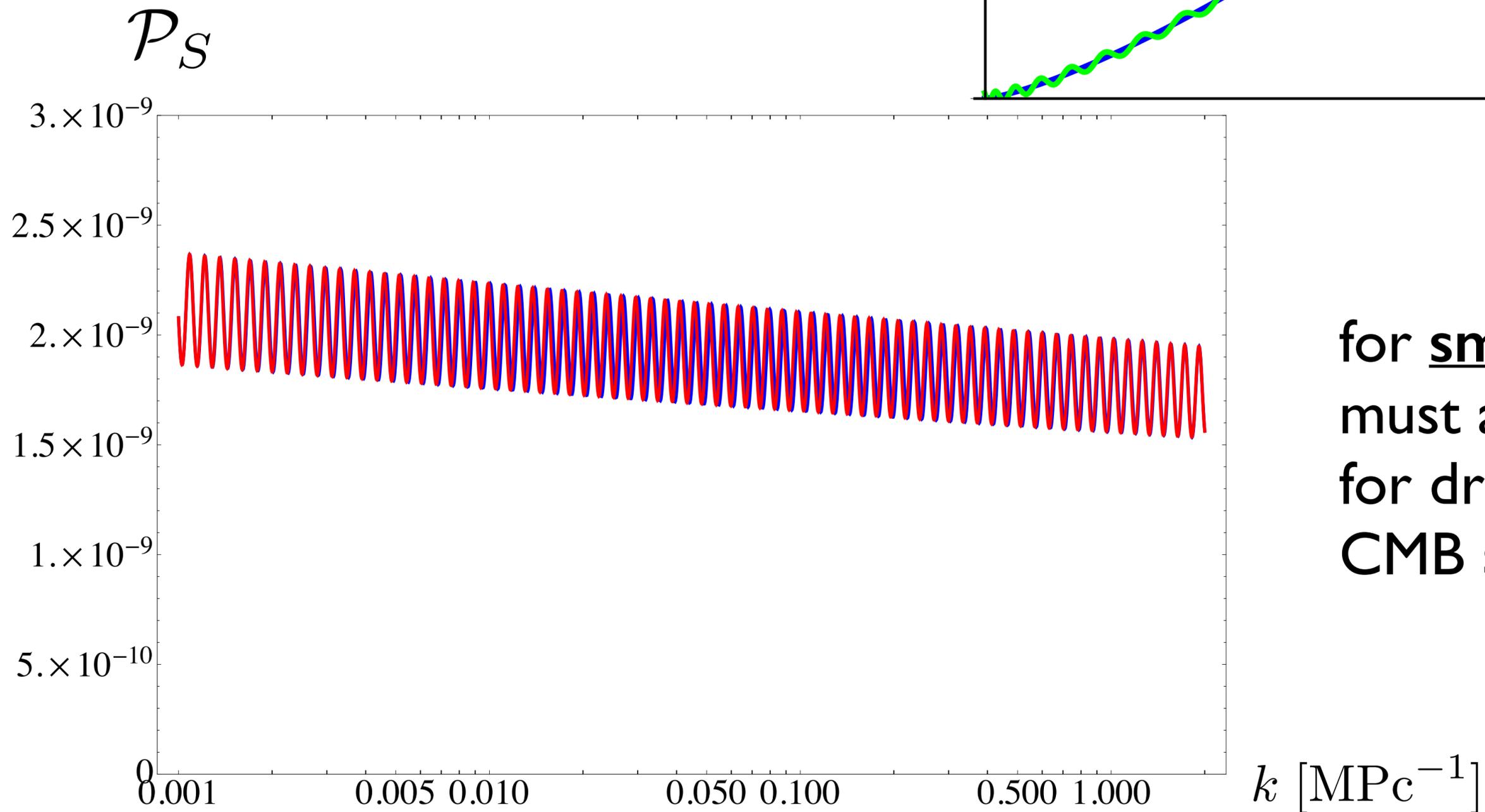
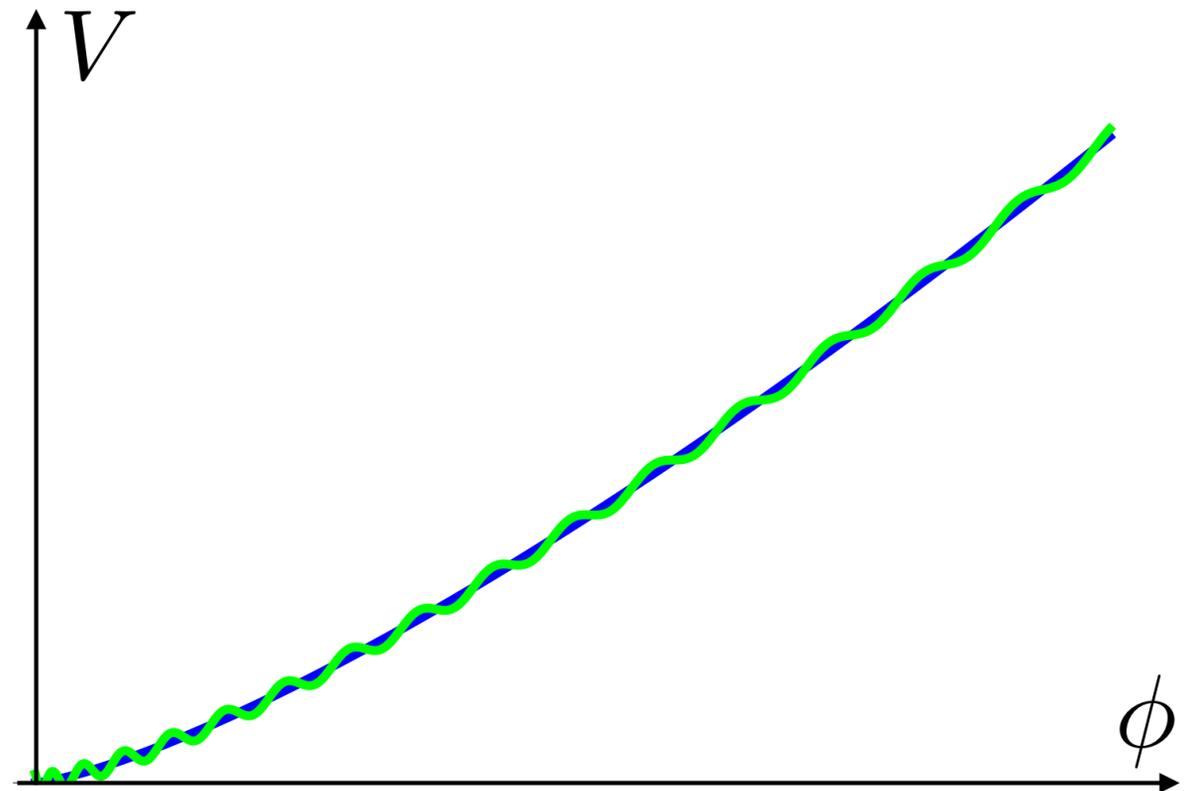
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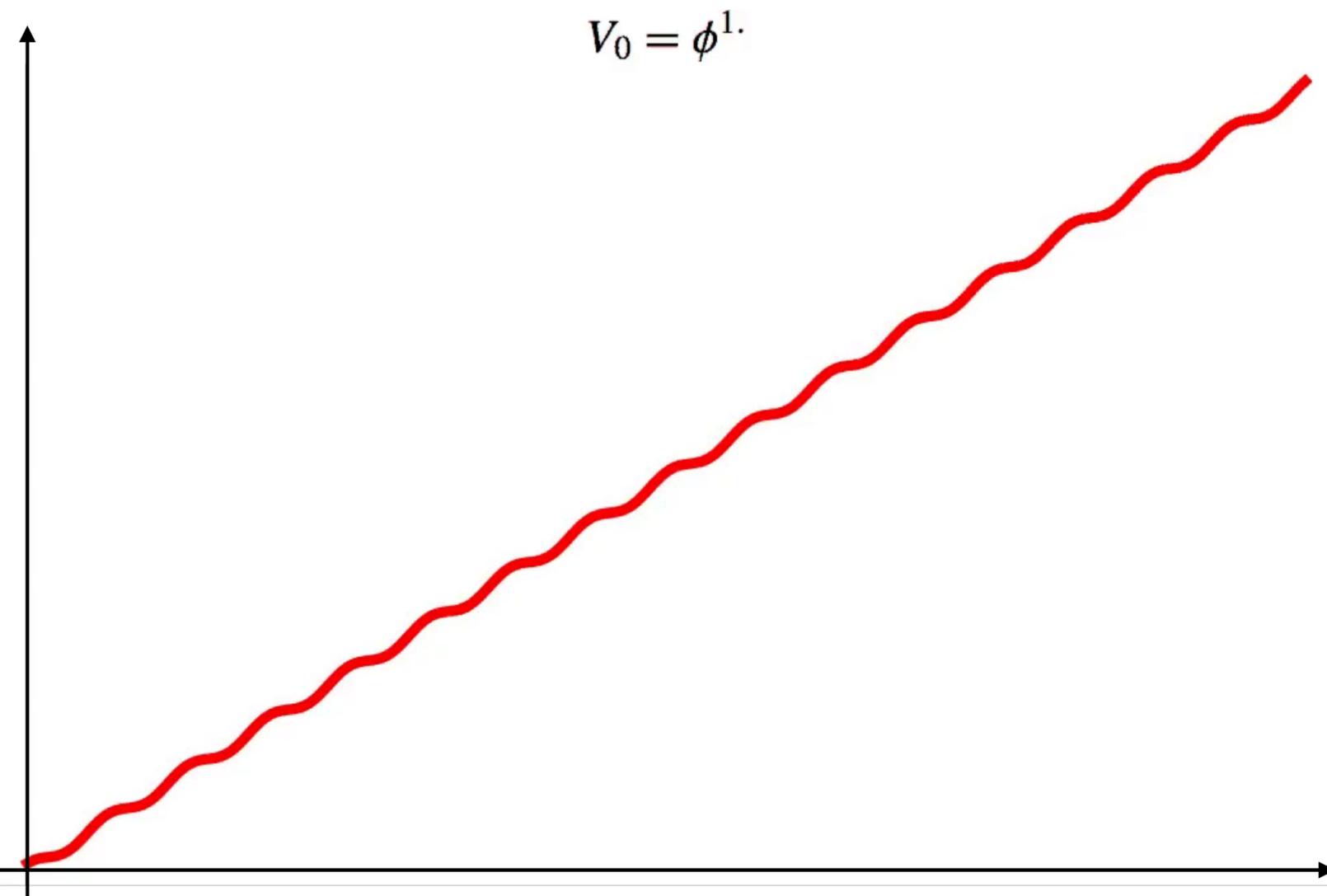
for small  $f$   
must account  
for drift in  
CMB search !

# ... A Myth of Creation ...

[Flauger, McAllister, Silverstein & AW '14]

for  $p < 1$ : → dS **minima** beyond critical field value !

→ false-vacuum eternal inflation + tunneling solves initial condition problem !



**maximum field value** due to control issues (backreaction/decompactification):

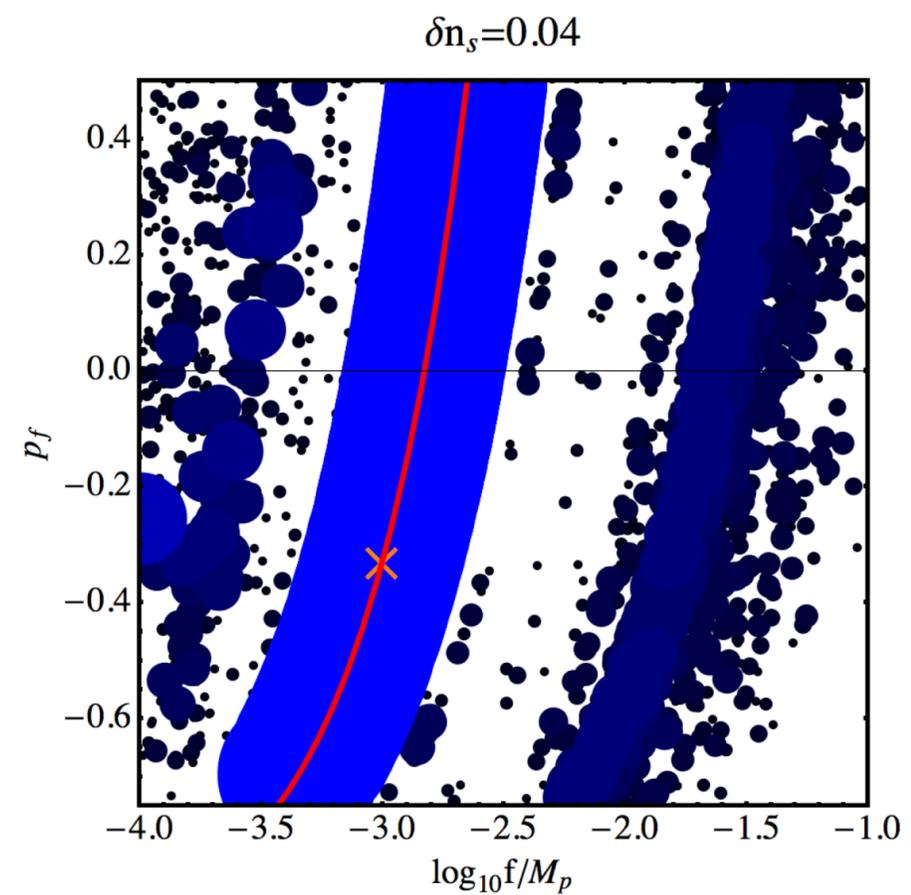
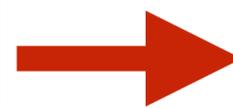
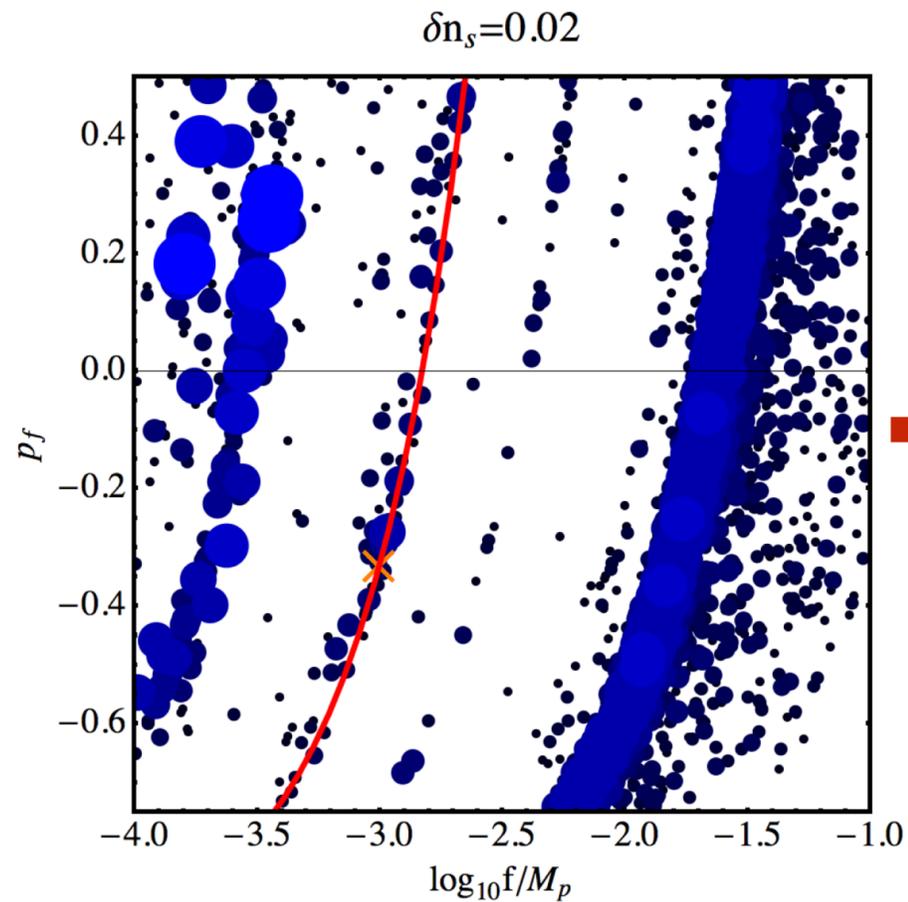
→ **upper bound** on  $p$

and on  $r$  (!!):

$$r \lesssim 0.04 \quad , \quad f = \text{const.}$$

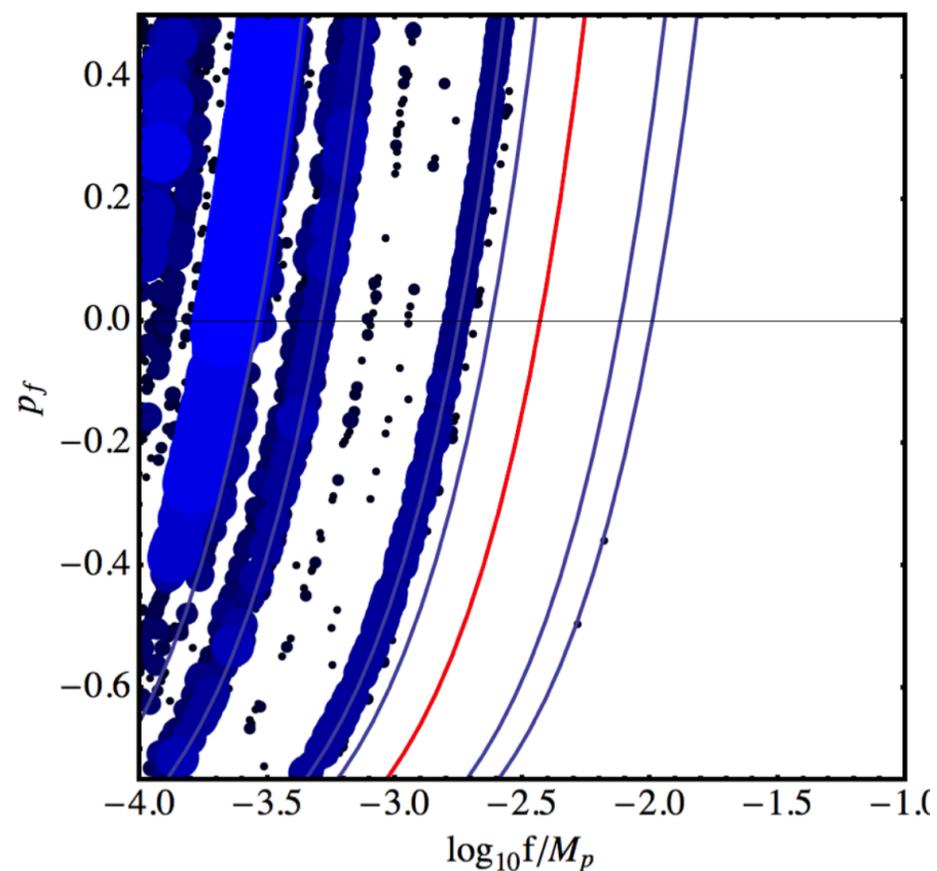
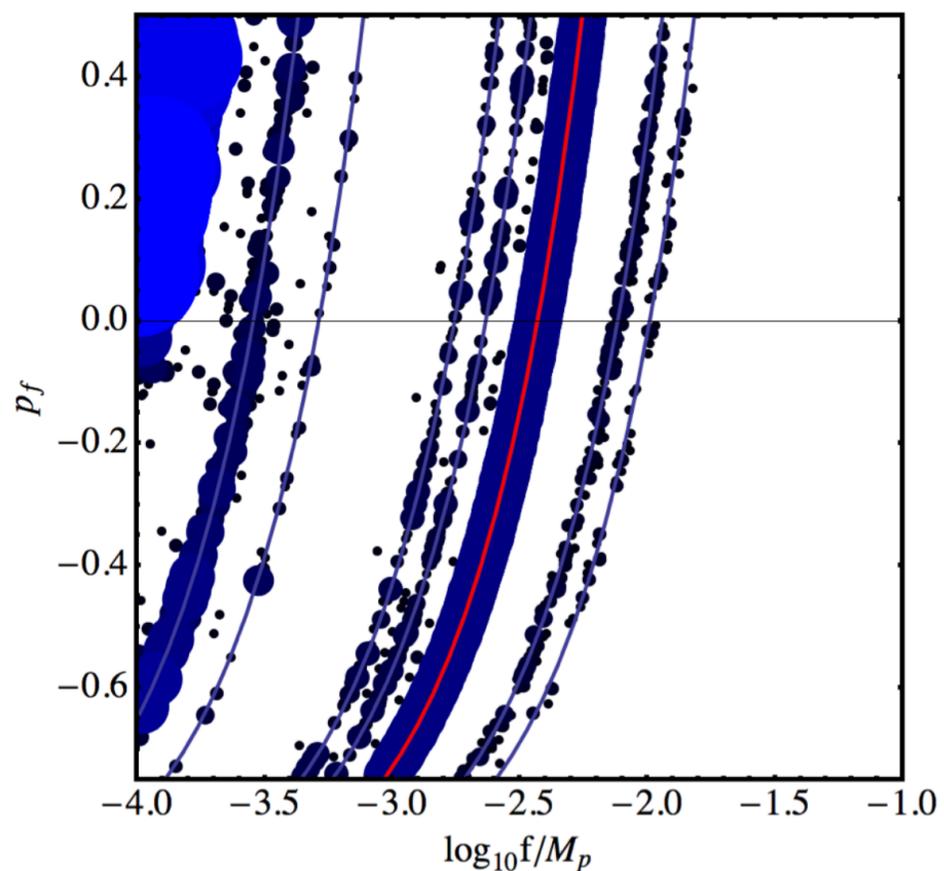
$$\Delta_{\mathcal{R}}^2(k) = \Delta_{\mathcal{R}}^2 \left( \frac{k}{k_{\star}} \right)^{n_s-1} \left( 1 + \delta n_s \cos \left[ \frac{\phi_0}{\tilde{f}} \left( \frac{\phi_k}{\phi_0} \right)^{p_f+1} + \Delta\varphi \right] \right)$$

**simulated**  
**data**



CAMSpec

CrossSpec Hybrid



**Planck 2013**  
**data**

[Flauger, McAllister,  
Silverstein & AW '14]

## summary ...

- moduli stabilization essential for string inflation!  
There is no meaningful way to talk about string inflation in presence of massless moduli ...
- first constructions: many small-field models,  $r = 0$
- field-range bounds, overcome by *monodromy* - many primary power-law large-field potentials  $\phi^{2/3} \dots \phi^4$
- *flattened* powers from moduli stabilization, so again crucial! *drifting oscillations* from NP effects!

⇒ if BICEP2 validated with  $r \sim 0.1$  — need large-field