

# Polonyi Inflation

Dynamical Supersymmetry Breaking and Late-Time  
 $R$  Symmetry Breaking as the Origin of Cosmic Inflation ■



Kai Schmitz

Postdoc in the Particle and Astroparticle Physics Division at  
Max Planck Institute for Nuclear Physics (MPIK), Heidelberg, Germany

Based on *arXiv:1604.04911 [hep-ph]*.

In collaboration with Tsutomu T. Yanagida (IPMU).

PASCOS 2016

XIIth Rencontres du Vietnam, ICISE, Quy Nhon, Vietnam  
Parallel Session V: Inflation and Alternatives | July 12, 2016

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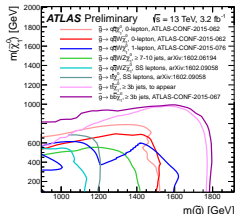
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# Status of inflation and low-scale SUSY in 2016

## Inflation

## Supersymmetry



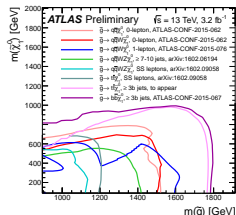
- ▶ Plethora of models in the literature.
- ▶ Particle physics origin rather unclear.
- ▶ No SUSY signals at the LHC, so far.
- ▶  $m_h \simeq 125 \text{ GeV}$  calls for large  $\tilde{t}$  loops.

**This talk:** Link b/w inflation and supersymmetry. Answer to the question: *Why inflation?*

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**This talk:** Link b/w inflation and supersymmetry. Answer to the question: *Why inflation?*

Let go of SUSY as a solution to the hierarchy problem:

- ▶  $R$  parity  $\rightarrow$  stable LSP  $\rightarrow$  dark matter.
- ▶ Unification at  $\Lambda_{\text{GUT}} \sim 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$ .
- ▶ UV completion in string theory.
- ▶ Soft masses of  $\mathcal{O}(10) \text{ TeV}$  or larger.
- ▶ No gravitino / Polonyi problems.
- ▶ Mediation: solely via gravity (PGM, ...)

# High-scale SUSY breaking as the origin of inflation

Another intriguing possibility in high-scale supersymmetry:

- ▶ Spontaneous SUSY results in a nonzero contribution to the vacuum energy density:

$$\langle V \rangle = \Lambda_{\text{SUSY}}^4, \quad \Lambda_{\text{SUSY}}^2 \sim \langle F \rangle \text{ or } \langle D \rangle$$

**Our idea:** If  $\Lambda_{\text{SUSY}}$  large enough,  $\Lambda_{\text{SUSY}}^4$  may be the vacuum energy driving inflation!

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Consider SUSY breaking via nonzero F-terms:

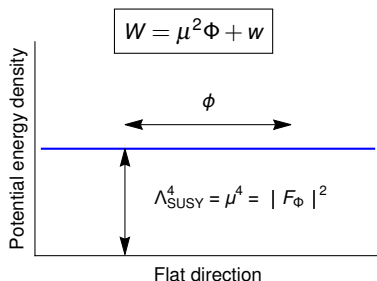
[O’Raifeartaigh ’75]

- ▶ Nonzero vacuum energy density  $\Lambda_{\text{SUSY}}^4$ .
- ▶ In global SUSY, flat direction at tree level.  
[Ray ’06] [Shih ’08]
- ▶ Flatness of the potential protected by SUSY nonrenormalization theorem.  
[Grisaru, Siegel & Rocek ’79] [Seiberg ’93]

**Our goal:** Realize successful inflation in the Polonyi model. → **Polonyi inflation!**

Simplest example: the Polonyi model

[Polonyi ’78]



## Late-time $R$ symmetry breaking

Things are of course not as simple: SUGRA corrections typically spoil slow-roll inflation.

- ▶ In SUGRA, the cosmological constant (CC) needs to vanish in the true vacuum:

$$\langle V \rangle = |\langle F \rangle|^2 - 3 e^{\langle K \rangle} |\langle W \rangle|^2 \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

- ▶ E.g., in the Polonyi model, constant in the superpotential:  $w \rightarrow w_0 = (2 - \sqrt{3}) \mu^2$ .
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- 1 Assume unbroken  $R$  symmetry in the sector responsible for  $w_0 \Rightarrow w = 0$  initially.
- 2 Assume SUSY and  $R$  symmetry are broken dynamically at times  $t_{\text{SUSY}}$  and  $t_R$ .
- 3 Assume there is no other sources of inflation present in the theory.

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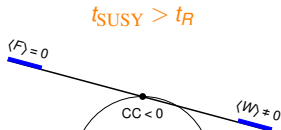
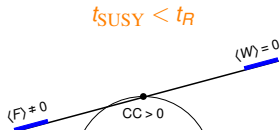
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- ▶ dS,  $CC > 0$ , exponential expansion

- ▶ AdS,  $CC < 0$ , finite spatial extent

Universes (feat. SUSY and  $CC = 0$ ) that are habitable to life are bound to experience inflation & late-time  $R$  symmetry breaking!  $\Rightarrow$  Reason for inflation in our cosmic past!

# Ingredients for successful Polonyi inflation

## 1 Unbroken $R$ symmetry in the sector responsible for the generation of $w \subset W$ :

- ▶ Assume discrete, anomaly-free  $R$  symmetry:  $Z_N^R$

[Krauss & Wilczek '89] [Ibanez & Ross '91; '92] [Banks & Dine '92] [Ibanez '93]

- ▶ Best candidate:  $Z_4^R$ , also allows to solve the  $\mu$  problem in the MSSM.

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## ② Strong gauge dynamics accounting for $\mu$ and $w$ in the Polonyi superpotential:

- ▶ UV completion in the context of strongly coupled supersymmetric gauge theories.
- ▶ No dimensionful input parameters. All mass scales generated via dim. transmutation:

[Affleck, Dine & Seiberg '84; '84; '85]

$$\Lambda_{\text{SUSY}} \equiv \Lambda_{\text{inf}} \sim \Lambda$$

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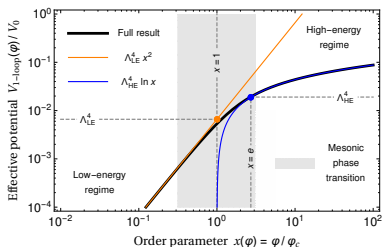
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**Our work:** Minimal example of successful Polonyi inflation & late-time  $R$  symmetry breaking

- ▶ IYIT model of dynamical SUSY breaking to generate  $V_{\text{inf}} \sim \mu^4$ .
- ▶  $R$  symmetry breaking via gaugino condensation in a pure  $SU(2)$  gauge theory.
- ▶ Small inflaton value triggers mass deformation of the  $R$  symmetry breaking sector.

# Dynamical UV completion of the Polonyi model

## Low-energy effective regime of the IYIT model



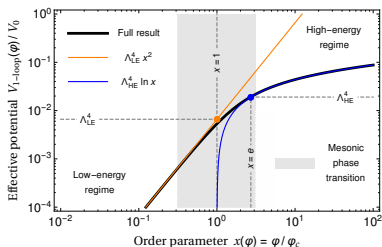
- ▶  $SU(2)$  theory + 4 quarks, 6 singlets.
- ▶ Effective superpotential at low energies

$$W_{\text{eff}} \simeq \kappa_{\Phi} \Phi \left[ v^2 - \frac{1}{2} (X^n)^2 \right] + m_n S_n X^n + \dots$$

- ▶  $m_a \geq \kappa_{\Phi} v \Rightarrow$  Keep vacuum energy after inflation!  $\Rightarrow$  **No topological defects!**
- ▶ Plus radiative & gravitational corrections.

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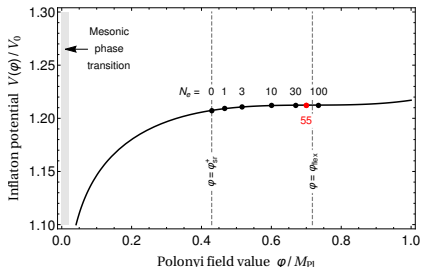
## $R$ symmetry breaking via gaugino condensation at small inflaton field values

- ▶  $SU(2)$  theory + 4 quarks coupled to a singlet “waterfall” field,  $W \supset P Q^i Q^i$ .
- ▶ Render the field  $P$  unstable towards the end of inflation,  $W \supset \alpha Y (v_P^2 - P^2) + \beta Y^3$ .
- ▶ Choose  $\alpha$  such that  $m_P^2 = -\alpha^2 v_P^2 + 3H^2(\phi)$  only becomes negative at late times.
- ▶  $R$  symmetry breaking sector turns into pure SYM,  $W \supset w \sim \langle P \rangle \tilde{\Lambda}^2$ .

**SUSY breaking scale:**  $\mu^2 \sim \kappa_\Phi v^2 \sim \kappa_\Phi \Lambda^2$ .  **$R$  symmetry breaking constant:**  $w \sim \langle P \rangle \tilde{\Lambda}^2$ .

# Scalar potential driving inflation

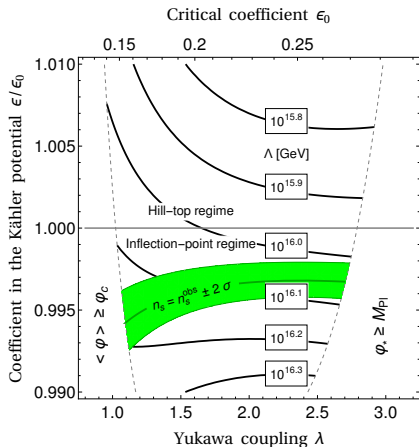
$$V(\varphi) = \mu^4 \left[ 1 - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \left( \frac{\varphi}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{8} \left( 1 - \frac{7\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{8\varepsilon^2}{3} \right) \left( \frac{\varphi}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^4 + \dots \right] + \frac{6m^4}{16\pi^2} \ln \frac{\varphi}{\varphi_c}$$



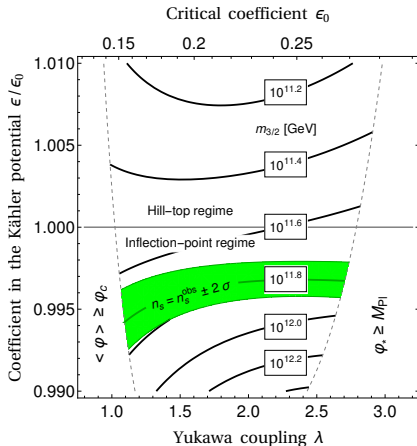
- ▶ Potential of FHI: incl. SUGRA and loop corrections, in the limit  $m_{3/2} = 0$ .  
[Bastero-Gil, King, Shafi '07]
- ▶ **No tadpole term** (no odd powers), no dependence on complex phase.  
[Buchmüller, Covi & Delpine '00]
- ▶ Usual slow-roll bound  $m_{3/2} \lesssim 10^{-3} H$  does not apply. In fact,  $m_{3/2} \simeq H$ .  
[Buchmüller, Domcke, Kamada & K.S. '14]

Dynamical realization of F-term hybrid inflation minus all its shortcomings!

# Inflationary CMB observables



Dynamical scale  $\Lambda \sim 10^{16}$  GeV



Gravitino mass  $m_{3/2} \sim 10^{12}$  GeV

- ▶  $A_s^{\text{obs}} \simeq 2 \times 10^{-9}$  and  $n_s^{\text{obs}} \simeq 0.968$  for natural parameter values:  $\lambda \simeq 2$  and  $\epsilon \simeq 0.2$ .
- ▶ **Similarity / equivalence of scales:**  $\Lambda \sim \Lambda_{\text{GUT}}$  and  $H \simeq m_{3/2}$ .  $\Rightarrow r \sim 10^{-5} \dots 10^{-4}$ .

# Dark matter, baryogenesis and electroweak vacuum stability

Thermally produced winos with a fine-tuned mass as dark matter:

- ▶ Assume anthropic selection of a fine-tuned wino mass. AMSB + Higgsino loops:

[Ibe, Matsumoto & Yanagida '12] [Hall, Nomura & Shirai '13]

$$M_{\text{wino}} \sim 3\text{TeV}$$

- ▶ Nonthermal relics reach thermal equilibrium. **Simple solution to the Polonyi problem!**
  - ▶ **Our prediction:** neutral/charged winos only sparticles at low energies (detectable!).
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## Reheating via gravitino decay:

- ▶ Polonyi inflation is followed by a phase of gravitino domination (nonrelativistic matter).

[Jeong & Takahashi '13]

- ▶ Reheating temperature not a free parameter, but fixed by  $m_{3/2} = m_{3/2} (A_s^{\text{obs}})$ ,

$$T_{\text{rh}} \simeq 0.4 \sqrt{\Gamma_{3/2} M_{\text{Pl}}} \sim 10^8 \text{ GeV}, \quad \Gamma_{3/2} = \frac{193}{384\pi} \frac{m_{3/2}^3}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}$$

- ▶ Thermal leptogenesis plus moderate resonance effects or nonthermal leptogenesis.

[Fukugita & Yanagida '86] [Pilaftsis '97; Pilaftsis & Underwood '04] [Lazarides & Q. Shafi '91]

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**Vacuum stability:** SUSY prevents  $\lambda_h < 0$  as long as  $m_{\text{soft}} \lesssim 10^{12 \dots 13} \text{ GeV}$ . Coincidence!?

# A close link between inflation and dynamical SUSY breaking

**Observation:** High-scale SUSY offers the possibility to unify SUSY breaking and inflation!

- ▶ Expansion driven by  $\Lambda_{\text{SUSY}}^4$ , pseudoflat Polonyi direction acts as the inflaton field.
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**Implications:** Polonyi inflation, similar to F-term hybrid inflation in the limit  $m_{3/2} = 0$ .

- ▶ No tadpole term in the inflaton potential, no topological defects, no bound on  $m_{3/2}$ .

$$H \simeq m_{3/2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad m_{3/2} \simeq \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{r A_s^{\text{obs}}} \sim 10^{12} \text{ GeV} \left( \frac{r}{10^{-4}} \right)^{1/2}$$

- ▶ Suppose anthropic selection of  $A_s^{\text{obs}}$ .  $\Rightarrow$  Explanation for large SUSY-breaking scale.
  - ▶ Wino LSP (DM, only sparticles at low energies), leptogenesis, EW vacuum stability.
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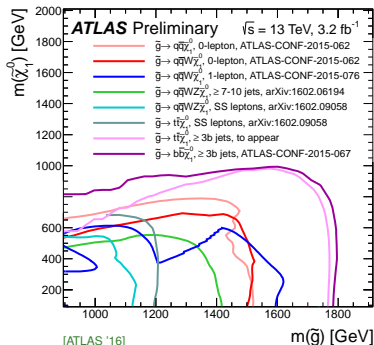
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**Next steps:** Seek alternative UV completions of the Polonyi model,  $W = \mu^2 \Phi + w$ . More comprehensive study of reheating and low-energy phenomenology.  $\Rightarrow$  **Lots of work to do!**

Thank you for your attention!

# Supplementary Material

# Status of supersymmetry in early 2016



## Low-scale supersymmetry under pressure:

- ▶ No SUSY signals at the LHC, so far.
- ▶ SM Higgs boson mass of a 125 GeV calls for large stop loop corrections.

## No need to give up on SUSY altogether:

- ▶  $R$  parity  $\rightarrow$  stable LSP  $\rightarrow$  dark matter.
- ▶ Gauge unification at  $\Lambda_{\text{GUT}} \sim 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$ .
- ▶ UV completion of the SM in string theory.

## What if we let go of the notion that SUSY is responsible for stabilizing the EW scale?

- ▶ Allow for soft sparticle masses of  $\mathcal{O}(10) \text{ TeV}$  and larger.
- ▶ No more gravitino / Polynyi problems in cosmology. Less tension from  $\mathcal{CP}$  & FCNCs.
- ▶ Simple mediation to the visible sector: solely via gravitational interactions (PGM).

[Giudice, Luty, Murayama & Rattazzi '98] [Wells '03; '05] [Arkani-Hamed & Dimopoulos '05] [Ibe, Moroi & Yanagida '07; Ibe & Yanagida '12]  
 [Arkani-Hamed, Gupta, Kaplan, Weiner & Zorawski '12] [Hall & Nomura '12] [Arvanitaki, Craig, Dimopoulos & Villadoro '13]

# Our starting point for a realistic model of Polonyi inflation

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[Antoniadis & Knoops '14; '16] [Antoniadis, Ghilencea & Knoops '15]
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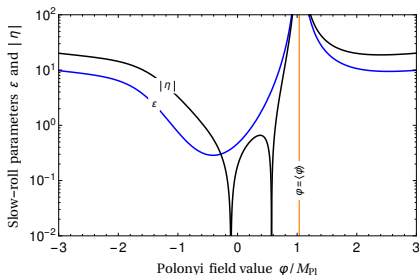
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**Program:** Find UV completion of the Polonyi model, identify flat tree-level direction in global SUSY, study inflationary potential in dependence of *gravitational and radiative corrections*.

# Why loop corrections? Inflation in the bare Polonyi model

Study viability of inflation in the original Polonyi model for different choices of  $K$  and  $w$ :



Superpotential:

$$W = \mu^2 \Phi + w$$

Kähler potential (the usual suspects):

$$K_{\text{can}} = |\Phi|^2 + \frac{\epsilon}{4} |\Phi|^4 + \dots$$

$$K_{\text{shi}}^{\pm} = \pm \frac{1}{2} (\Phi \pm \Phi^{\dagger})^2 \mp \frac{\epsilon}{2} (\Phi \mp \Phi^{\dagger})^2 + \dots$$

|           | $K_{\text{can}} (\epsilon \leq 0)$ | $K_{\text{can}} (\epsilon > 0)$ | $K_{\text{shi}}^{\pm} (\epsilon = 0)$ | $K_{\text{shi}}^{+} (\epsilon \neq 0)$ | $K_{\text{shi}}^{-} (\epsilon \neq 0)$ |
|-----------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| $w = w_0$ | <del>SR</del>                      | <del>SR</del>                   | $V \rightarrow -\infty$               | $\langle V \rangle < 0$                | <del>SR</del>                          |
| $w = 0$   | $n_s \geq 1$                       | $w \rightarrow w_0?$            | $V \rightarrow -\infty$               | $\langle V \rangle < 0$                | $\langle V \rangle < 0$                |

**Conclusion:** Inflation **not** feasible in the bare Polonyi model. Need radiative corrections!

# Dynamical SUSY breaking in the IYIT model

[Izawa &amp; Yanagida '96]

[Intriligator &amp; Thomas '96]

**IYIT model:** Simplest vector-like model of dynamical SUSY breaking. **Use to generate  $\mu$ !**

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- ▶ Strongly coupled  $SU(2)$  SUSY gauge theory with 4 fundamental quark fields  $\Psi^i$ .
- ▶ At low energies, quantum moduli space of degenerate SUSY vacua, spanned by

$$M^{ij} \simeq \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{1}{\Lambda} \langle \Psi^i \Psi^j \rangle, \quad M^{ij} = -M^{ji}, \quad \text{Pf}(M^{ij}) \simeq \frac{\Lambda^2}{16\pi^2}$$

- ▶ 6 gauge-invariant composite flat directions (“mesons”) subject to deformed constraint.
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- ▶ 6 gauge-invariant composite flat directions (“mesons”) subject to deformed constraint.

**Break SUSY by introducing appropriate tree-level couplings to 6 singlet fields  $Z_{ij}$  in  $W_{\text{tree}}$ :**

$$W_{\text{IYIT}}^{\text{tree}} = \frac{1}{4} \lambda_{ij}^{kl} Z_{kl} \Psi^i \Psi^j \quad \rightarrow \quad W_{\text{IYIT}}^{\text{eff}} \simeq \frac{1}{16\pi} \lambda_{ij}^{kl} \Lambda Z_{kl} M^{ij}$$

- ▶ Lifts the flat directions in moduli space.  $\text{Pf}(M) \neq 0$  no longer compatible with  $V = 0$ .
- ▶ SUSY broken à la O’Raifeartaigh by nonvanishing singlet F-terms,  $F_Z \sim \lambda \langle M \rangle \neq 0$ .

**Next:** Perform some magic and derive the superpotential of hybrid inflation from  $W_{\text{IYIT}}^{\text{eff}}$ .

# F-term hybrid inflation with massive waterfall fields

[Copeland, Liddle, Lyth, Stewart & Wands '94] [Dvali, Shafi & Schaefer '94] [Dimopoulos, Dvali & Rattazzi '97] [Izawa '98]

$$W_{\text{IYIT}}^{\text{eff}} \simeq \frac{1}{16\pi} \lambda_{ij}^{kl} \Lambda Z_{kl} M^{ij} \rightarrow \kappa_{\Phi} \Phi \left[ v^2 - \frac{1}{2} (\Xi^0)^2 - \frac{1}{2} (X^n)^2 \right] + m_0 \Sigma \Xi^0 + m_n S_n X^n + \dots$$

## 1 Transform singlet and meson fields $Z_{kl}$ and $M^{ij}$ from $SU(4)$ to $SO(6)$ basis:

- ▶ Global  $SU(4)$  flavor symmetry if  $\lambda_{ij}^{kl} = \lambda \delta_i^k \delta_j^l$ . Antisymmetric tensors  $Z_{kl}, M^{ij} \sim \mathbf{6}$  of  $SU(4)$ .
- ▶  $SU(4) \cong SO(6) \Rightarrow$  Switch to vectors  $S_a, X^a \sim \mathbf{6}$  of  $SO(6) \Rightarrow W_{\text{IYIT}}^{\text{eff}} \simeq \lambda_a / 4\pi S_a X^a$ .

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## 2 Include deformed moduli constraint using a Lagrange multiplier field $T$ :

$$W_{\text{eff}}^{\text{dyn}} \simeq 4\pi T [\text{Pf}(M^{ij}) - \Lambda^2 / 16\pi^2], \quad \text{Pf}(M^{ij}) = \frac{1}{2} (X^a)^2$$

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## 3 Determine SUSY-breaking vacuum and shift the $X^0$ meson by its VEV (assume w.l.o.g. $\lambda_0 \leq \lambda_n$ ):

$$X^0 = \langle X^0 \rangle + \Xi^0, \quad \langle X^0 \rangle = f(\lambda) \Lambda / 4\pi, \quad \langle T \rangle = g(\lambda) \langle S_0 \rangle$$

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## 4 Diagonalize the mass matrix of the SUSY-breaking fields $S_0$ and $T$ :

$$(\Phi \Sigma)^T = R(\beta) \cdot (S_0 T)^T, \quad \tan \beta = g(\lambda)$$

$$v \sim \Lambda / 4\pi, \quad \kappa_{\Phi} \sim \lambda_0, \quad m_0 = m / \sin \beta, \quad m = \kappa_{\Phi} v = \lambda_0 / 4\pi \Lambda, \quad m_n = \lambda_n / 4\pi \Lambda$$

## Low-energy effective theory

$$W_{\text{IYIT}}^{\text{eff}} \simeq \kappa_{\Phi} \Phi \left[ v^2 - \frac{1}{2} (\Xi^0)^2 - \frac{1}{2} (X^n)^2 \right] + m_0 \Sigma \Xi^0 + m_n S_n X^n + \dots$$

- ▶ Polonyi field  $\Phi$ : linear combination of the IYIT singlet  $S_0$  & the Lagrange multiplier  $T$ .
- ▶ Mesons  $\Xi^0$ ,  $X^n$ :  $SO(6)$  multiplet of *would-be* waterfall fields with masses  $m_0$ ,  $m_n$ .
- ▶  $m_a \geq m = \kappa_{\Phi} v \Rightarrow$  **Keep vacuum energy density after inflation!**  $\Rightarrow$  **No top. defects!**

Low-energy effective theory below the meson mass thresholds  $m_a \sim \Lambda$ :

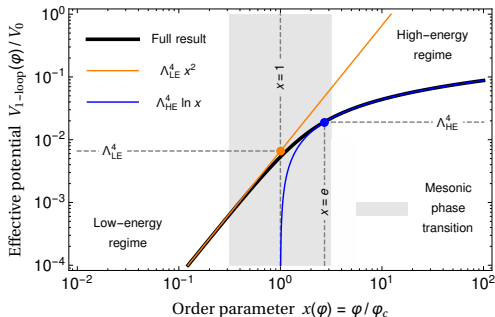
$$W_{\text{IYIT}}^{\text{eff}} \simeq \mu^2 \Phi \quad , \quad \mu = \kappa_{\Phi}^{1/2} v \sim \lambda^{1/2} / 4\pi \Lambda$$

Dynamical UV completion of half the Polonyi model!

- ▶ Complex Polonyi scalar  $\phi \subset \Phi$ : flat tree-level direction in global SUSY.
- ▶ Dynamically generated SUSY-breaking scale:  $\mu \sim \lambda^{1/2} / 4\pi \Lambda$ .

**However:** Now  $\Phi$  couples to massive matter fields  $\Rightarrow$  Radiative corrections!

# Radiative corrections from massive meson loops



Inflaton-dependent mass:

$$\phi = \frac{\varphi}{\sqrt{2}} e^{i\theta}, \quad M(\varphi) = \frac{\kappa_\Phi \varphi}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Critical field value:

$$M(\varphi_c) = \Lambda, \quad \varphi_c = \sqrt{2} \frac{\Lambda}{\kappa_\Phi}$$

Order parameter:

$$x(\varphi) = \frac{\varphi}{\varphi_c} = \frac{M(\varphi)}{\Lambda}$$

$$V_{1\text{-loop}}(\varphi) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} m_{\text{eff}}^2 \varphi^2 & ; \quad \varphi \ll \varphi_c & \text{(effective mass around the origin)} \\ \frac{6m^4}{16\pi^2} \ln \varphi / \varphi_c & ; \quad \varphi \gg \varphi_c & \text{(usual log corrections as in FHI)} \end{cases}$$

►  $\phi$  stabilized around the origin by strong dynamics:  $m_{\text{eff}}^2 \sim N_{\text{eff}}(\lambda_n) \frac{\kappa_\Phi^2}{16\pi^2} m^2$ .

[Chacko, Luty & Ponton '98]

► Harmless confinement transition at  $\varphi \sim \varphi_c$ : quark/gluons  $\rightarrow$  mesons,  $SU(2) \rightarrow \mathbb{1}$ .

# Embedding into supergravity

Canonical Kähler potential plus subdominant higher-dimensional corrections:

$$K = \Phi^\dagger \Phi + \frac{\varepsilon}{4} (\Phi^\dagger \Phi)^2 + \dots$$

- ▶  $|\Phi|^4$  not forbidden by any symmetry. Expected in low-energy EFT of quantum gravity.
- ▶ Introduces Hubble-induced mass:  $m_\phi^2 = -3\varepsilon H^2$  (accidental cancellation if  $\varepsilon = 0$ ).
- ▶ Coefficient  $\varepsilon$  needs to be slightly suppressed to avoid the  $\eta$  problem in SUGRA.

[Dine, Fischler, Nemeschansky '84] [Coughlan, Holman, Ramond, Ross '84]

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Total scalar potential for the real Polonyi field  $\varphi$  in the large-field regime:

$$V(\varphi) = \mu^4 \left[ 1 - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \left( \frac{\varphi}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{8} \left( 1 - \frac{7\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{8\varepsilon^2}{3} \right) \left( \frac{\varphi}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^4 + \dots \right] + \frac{6m^4}{16\pi^2} \ln \frac{\varphi}{\varphi_c}$$

- ▶ Same potential as in FHI: incl. SUGRA and loop corrections, in the limit  $m_{3/2} = 0$ .  
[Bastero-Gil, King, Shafi '07]
- ▶ **No tadpole term** (no odd powers), no dependence on the complex phase  $\theta = \arg \phi$ .  
[Buchmüller, Covi & Delpine '00]
- ▶ Usual slow-roll bound  $m_{3/2} \lesssim 10^{-3} H$  does not apply. In fact,  $m_{3/2} \simeq H$  in our case.  
[Buchmüller, Domcke, Kamada & K.S. '14]
- ▶ No waterfall transition, **no production of topological defects** at the end of inflation.

Dynamical realization of F-term hybrid inflation minus all its shortcomings!

# Gaugino condensation in a mass-deformed hidden sector

Simplest possibility for  $\mathcal{R}$ : GC in a strongly coupled pure SYM theory. Use to generate  $w$ !

[Veneziano & Yankielowicz '82]

Introduce separate SQCD sector with field-dependent quark masses:

$$W_R = P Q^i \bar{Q}^i$$

- ▶  $\langle P \rangle = 0$ :  $SU(N_c)$  gauge theory with  $N_f$  massless flavors and quantum moduli space.
- ▶  $\langle P \rangle \gtrsim \tilde{\Lambda}$ : Integrate out heavy quarks  $\Rightarrow$  Pure SYM  $\Rightarrow$  Gaugino condensation.
- ▶ Obtain gaugino condensation scale  $\tilde{\Lambda}_{\text{eff}}$  from RGE matching at mass threshold  $\langle P \rangle$ ,

$$W_R^{\text{eff}} = \frac{N_c}{16\pi^2} \tilde{\Lambda}_{\text{eff}}^3, \quad \tilde{\Lambda}_{\text{eff}}^{3N_c} = \langle P \rangle^{N_f} \tilde{\Lambda}^{3N_c - N_f}, \quad \tilde{\Lambda} = M_{\text{Pl}} \exp \left[ -\frac{8\pi^2}{b} \frac{1}{\tilde{g}^2(M_{\text{Pl}})} \right]$$

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Constant term in the superpotential:

$$w = \frac{N_c}{16\pi^2} \langle P \rangle^{N_f/N_c} \tilde{\Lambda}^{3 - N_f/N_c}$$

- ▶  $U(1)_R \rightarrow Z_{2N_c}^R$  by  $SU(N_c)$  instantons in SYM.  $Z_{2N_c}^R \rightarrow Z_2^R$  by gaungino condensation.
- ▶ Simplest realization (consistent with  $Z_4^R$ ):  $N_c = N_f = 2$  (same as in the IYIT sector).
- ▶  $w$  controlled by  $\tilde{g}(M_{\text{Pl}})$ . CC problem deferred to boundary conditions in the UV.

## Waterfall transition at small inflaton field values

How to use this mechanism of  $R$  symmetry breaking in the context of Polonyi inflation?

- ▶ The field  $P$  is stabilized during inflation by its Hubble-induced mass,  $m_P^2 \propto H^2$ .
- ▶ Why unstable at small field values? Introduce waterfall superpotential for the field  $P$ ,

$$W_P = \alpha Y \left( v_P^2 - \frac{1}{2} P^2 \right) + \frac{\beta}{6} Y^3 + \dots$$

- ▶  $\alpha, \beta$  dimensionless coefficients;  $v_P$  mass scale, maybe also of dynamical origin.
  - ▶  $Z_2$  parity:  $[Y] = +1, [P] = -1$ . Assume suppressed parity-breaking operators.
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Mass eigenstates in global supersymmetry:

$$m_{P^\pm}^2 = \pm \alpha^2 v_P^2, \quad m_{Y^\pm}^2 = \pm \alpha \beta v_P^2$$

- ▶ Choose  $\alpha$  such that  $-\alpha^2 v_P^2$  exceeds the Hubble-induced mass only after inflation.
- ▶ If  $\alpha$  too small / large, inflation never ends / never takes place.  $\Rightarrow$  Anthropic selection?

---

**Our novel approach:** Waterfall transition in a separate sector.  $\Rightarrow$  Control over  $t_R$ !

## (De)stabilization of the waterfall field $P$

Total mass of the waterfall scalar  $p^-$  in supergravity:

$$m_{p^-}^2(\varphi) = -\alpha^2 v_P^2 + \frac{V(\varphi)}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} + \Delta m^2(\varphi)$$

- ▶ Choose  $\alpha \simeq \mu^2/v_P/M_{\text{Pl}}$ , so that  $p^-$  becomes unstable close to  $\varphi = 0$ .
- ▶ During inflation, additional stabilization similarly as in standard F-term hybrid inflation,

$$\langle Y \rangle = \frac{|F_Y|}{m_{y^+}^2} \frac{\mu^2 \varphi}{\sqrt{2} M_{\text{Pl}}^2}, \quad |F_Y| = \alpha v_P^2, \quad \Delta m^2(\varphi) \supset \alpha \langle Y \rangle$$

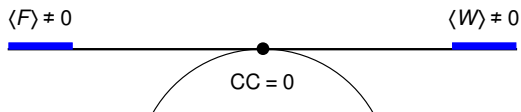
Size and gradient of  $m_{p^-}^2(\varphi)$  as a function of  $\varphi$  sensitive to noncanonical Kähler potential,

$$K_{\text{mix}} = \varepsilon_P \frac{|\Phi|^2 |P|^2}{M_*^2}, \quad \frac{V(\varphi)}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \rightarrow \left(1 - \varepsilon_P \frac{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}{M_*^2}\right) \frac{V(\varphi)}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}$$

- ▶ Only means of communication between the SUSY and  $R$  symmetry-breaking sectors.
- ▶ Arrange parameters such that  $|m_{p^-}| \gtrsim H$  before and after the waterfall transition.

Induced  $R$  symmetry-breaking phase transition at late times as a pure SUGRA effect!

# Tuning the cosmological constant to zero



SUSY-breaking sector:

$$W \simeq \mu^2 \Phi$$

$R$  symmetry-breaking sector:

$$W \simeq \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \langle P \rangle \tilde{\Lambda}^2$$

Required constant in the superpotential:

$$w_0 \simeq \frac{\mu^2 M_{\text{Pl}}}{\sqrt{3}}$$

Actual constant in the superpotential:

$$w \simeq \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \frac{6\sqrt{2}}{7} v_P \tilde{\Lambda}^2$$

Match these results by tuning the dynamical scale  $\tilde{\Lambda}$  in the  $R$  symmetry-breaking sector:

$$w \rightarrow w_0 \Rightarrow \tilde{\Lambda} \rightarrow \left( \frac{8\pi^2}{\sqrt{3}} \frac{7}{6\sqrt{2}} \frac{\mu^2 M_{\text{Pl}}}{v_P} \right)^{1/2}$$

Then, late-time  $R$  symmetry breaking after inflation resulting in  $\text{CC} = 0$ !