

# Inflation with Dissipation and Metastability

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# Outline

## Higgs & Inflation

Introduction

Dissipation

Metastability

Metastability  
from Higgs  
potential?

1 Introduction

2 Dissipation

3 Metastability

4 Metastability from Higgs potential?

# Inflation

Higgs &  
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- In FLRW metric, expansion described by  $a(t)$

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + a^2(t)d\vec{x}^2$$

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$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + a^2(t)d\vec{x}^2$$

- Einstein equations for a homogeneous/isotropic space

$$H^2 \equiv \left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{\rho}{3M^2}$$
$$\dot{\rho} = -3H(\rho + p)$$

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- $\Rightarrow a(t) = e^{Ht}$

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- We need  $p \sim -\rho$  dominating energy density

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- We need  $p \sim -\rho$  dominating energy density
- Simple approach: a new scalar field

$$\rho = V(\phi) + \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{2} \quad p = -V(\phi) + \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{2} \quad (1)$$

$$(\dot{\phi}^2/2 \ll V)$$



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**Hubble friction** dominates:

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + V_\phi(\phi) = 0 \quad (2)$$

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- $\Rightarrow$  Slowly rolls for  $\left(\frac{a_I}{a_F}\right) = e^N \gtrsim e^{60}$

# Slow-roll

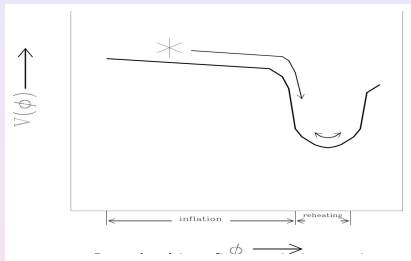
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- Then fast roll and decay to other particles ("Reheating")

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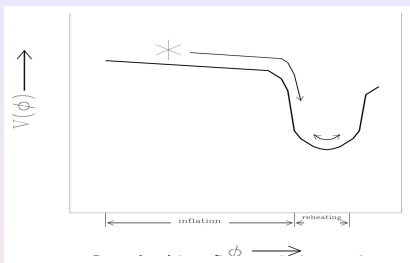
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- It also fluctuates  $\Rightarrow$  **Density fluctuations**

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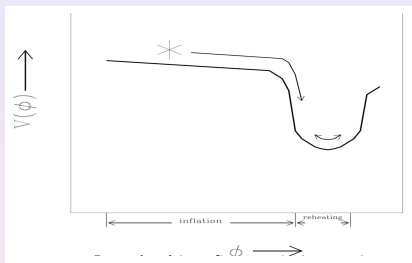
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- Then fast roll and decay to other particles ("Reheating")
- It also fluctuates  $\Rightarrow$  Density fluctuations
- May be also "multi-field"

# Slow-roll Inflation: simple but...

- **Unknown**  $V$
- Unusually **flat**  $V$
- **Unknown** couplings and Reheating process
- **Unseen** Inflaton particles

# Slow-roll Inflation: simple but...

- **Unknown**  $V$
- Unusually **flat**  $V$
- **Unknown** couplings and Reheating process
- **Unseen** Inflaton particles
  
- Difficult to **test**:
  - Usually at very high-energy
  - Thermalization

# Alternatives

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- Can we slow down  $\phi$  by dissipation?  
(no flat potential)



# Alternatives

## Higgs & Inflation

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- Can we slow down  $\phi$  by dissipation?  
(no flat potential)
- Can Inflation end with a phase transition?  
(additional signatures)

# Alternatives

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- Can we slow down  $\phi$  by dissipation?  
(no flat potential)
- Can Inflation end with a phase transition?  
(additional signatures)
- Can we link to Standard Model and experiments?

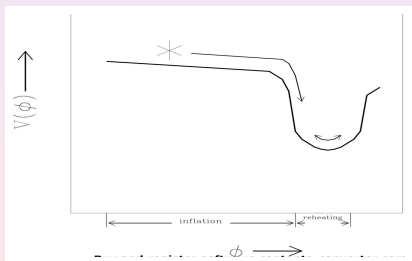
# Dissipation: the Reheating case

- Qualitatively reheating is described by:

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + V_{\phi}(\phi) + \Gamma\dot{\phi} = 0$$

with  $\Gamma \gg H$  coming from decay into other particles:

$$\phi \rightarrow 2\psi$$



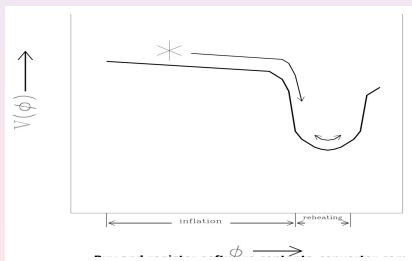
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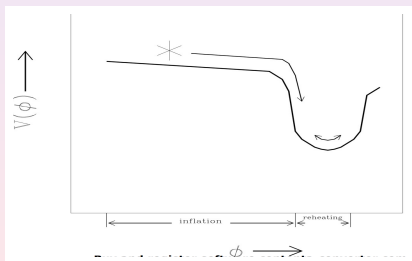
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- Is it possible already **during inflation**?

# Dissipation during Inflation?

- During inflation:

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- $\mathcal{L}_{int} = \lambda\phi\psi^2 \rightarrow m_{\psi} = \lambda\langle\phi\rangle + m_{\psi}^0$  does **NOT** work

# A concrete realization

- $\phi$  coupled to **U(1) gauge fields**:

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left( \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi + V(\phi) + \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{\phi}{4f_\gamma} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \right)$$

(Sorbo and Anber '2009)

- $F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu$

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- Photons are **massless** ( $\phi$  coupled derivatively)

# A concrete realization

- (Sorbo & Anber '09): in a time dependent  $\phi$  and in FLRW (with conformal time  $ad\tau = dt$ ):

$$A''_{\pm} + \left( k^2 \mp \frac{k\phi'}{f_{\gamma}} \right) A_{\pm} = 0,$$

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- **One helicity is unstable:**  $\langle F\tilde{F} \rangle$  becomes quickly large
- Assumed that its **backreaction** slows down  $\phi$ :

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + V_{,\phi}(\phi) + \frac{\langle F\tilde{F} \rangle}{f_{\gamma}} = 0,$$

- Found inflationary solution

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- Solution at  $\tau = +\infty$ :

$$A_-^{an} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2k}} \left( \frac{k}{2\xi aH} \right)^{1/4} e^{\pi\xi - 2\sqrt{2\xi k/(aH)}} \quad (4)$$

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- "Almost" going to vacuum fluctuations  $A_k = e^{ik\tau} \sqrt{2k}$  at  $\tau = -\infty$

# A concrete realization

- (Sorbo & Anber '09) estimated:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\langle F\tilde{F} \rangle}{4} &= \frac{1}{2a^4} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} k \frac{d[|A_+|^2 - |A_-|^2]}{d\tau}, \\ &\approx \left(\frac{H}{\xi}\right)^4 e^{2\pi\xi}\end{aligned}$$

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- $\rightarrow \dot{\phi} \approx 2\xi f_\gamma H$



# A concrete realization

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- Valid for any  $V(\phi)$ !  
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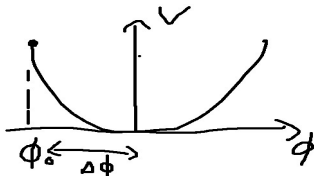
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( $\xi$  depends only logarithmically on  $V(\phi)$ )
- $\frac{d\phi}{dN} \equiv \frac{d\phi}{H dt} \approx f_\gamma \rightarrow N_{TOT} \approx \frac{\Delta\phi}{f_\gamma}$
- $f_\gamma$  much smaller than the field excursion  $\Delta\phi$



# Questions/Doubts

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- The above estimate *assumes* friction domination:

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- What is the flat spacetime,  **$H \rightarrow 0$  limit?** (infinite friction??)

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- **Cosmological Perturbations?**



# Our work

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- Solved the coupled system for  $\phi$  and  $A_{\pm}$

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- For discrete values of  $k$  ( $O(100)$  modes)
- Approximated the integral as a sum
- Solved the coupled system for  $\phi$  and  $A_{\pm}$
- For  $k < f_{\gamma}$  (cutoff of the effective theory)

# Flat spacetime case

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- The simplest case  $H = 0$ :

# Flat spacetime case

- The simplest case  $H = 0$ :

$$\ddot{\phi} + V_{,\phi}(\phi) + \frac{\langle F\tilde{F} \rangle}{f} = 0 \quad (6)$$

$$\ddot{A}_{\pm} + \left( k^2 \mp \frac{k\dot{\phi}}{f} \right) A_{\pm} = 0 \quad (7)$$

$$\langle F\tilde{F} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} k \frac{d[|A_+|^2 - |A_-|^2]}{dt} \quad (8)$$

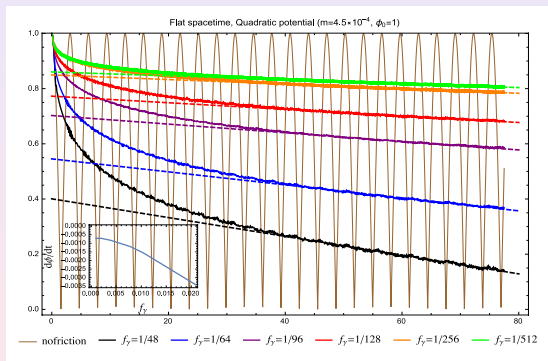
# Flat spacetime case: Results

- The  $A_-$  and  $\langle \tilde{F}F \rangle$  grow faster than the free evolution **if**  
 $f_\gamma \ll \Delta\phi$
- Independently on  $V(\phi)$

# Flat spacetime case: Results

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$\phi$  evolution



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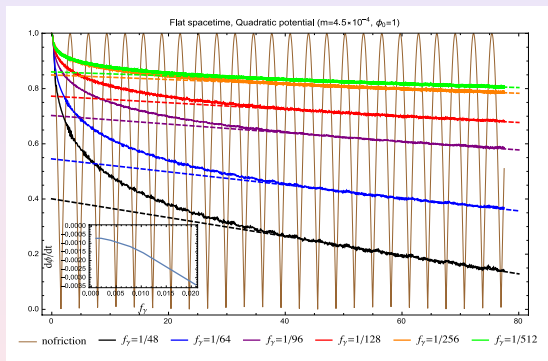
Metastability  
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# Flat spacetime case: Results

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$\phi$  evolution

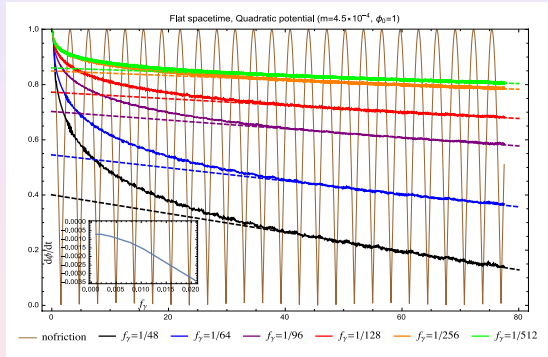


$$\dot{\phi} \approx f_\gamma^2$$

# Flat spacetime case: Results

Higgs &  
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$\phi$  evolution



$$\dot{\phi} \approx f_\gamma^2$$

Plus oscillations

# Flat spacetime case: Results

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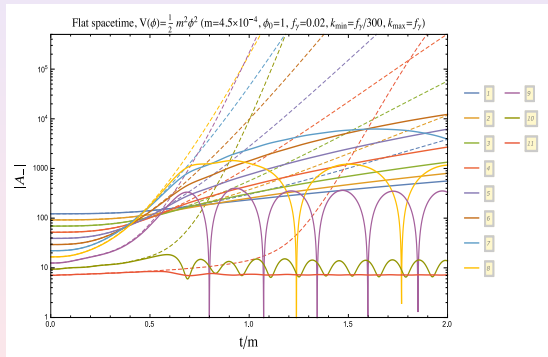
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## A<sub>-</sub> Mode evolution



# Flat spacetime case: Results

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$$\text{Spectra for: } \langle \tilde{F}F \rangle = E \cdot B, \rho_R = \frac{E^2 + B^2}{2}$$

$$\langle \tilde{F}F \rangle \equiv \int P_B(k) \frac{dk}{k}$$

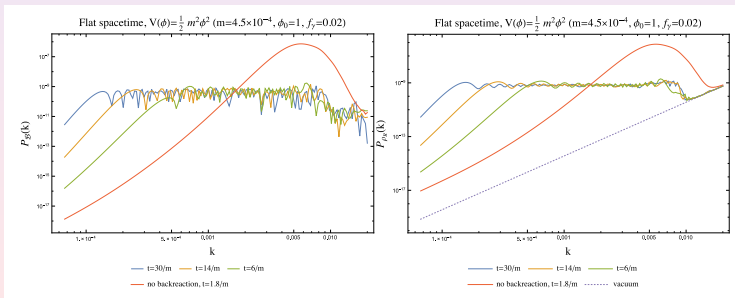
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# Flat spacetime case: Results

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# FLRW case: Results

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from Higgs  
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- If the scale of the potential  $V_\phi \gg H^3$  and for a time  $t \ll 1/H$ , we can **neglect the expansion**

# FLRW case: Results

- If the scale of the potential  $V_\phi \gg H^3$  and for a time  $t \ll 1/H$ , we can **neglect the expansion**
- So we are back to the previous case:
- The  $A_-$  and  $\langle \tilde{F}F \rangle$  grow faster than the free evolution **if**  
 $f_\gamma \ll \Delta\phi$
- **Independently** on  $V(\phi)$

# FLRW case: Results

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 $H \approx \text{const}$



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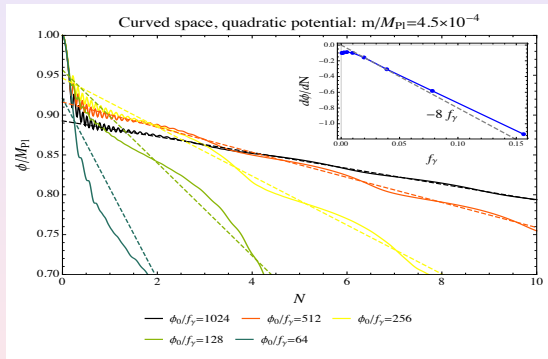
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# FLRW case: Results

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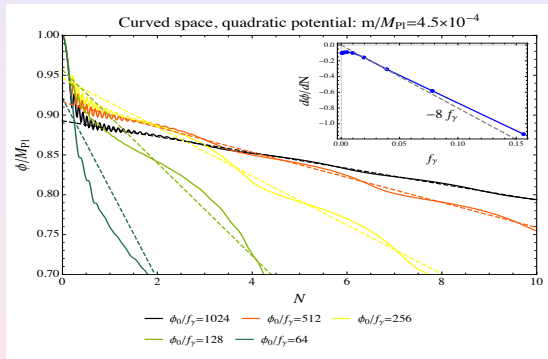
$\phi$  evolution



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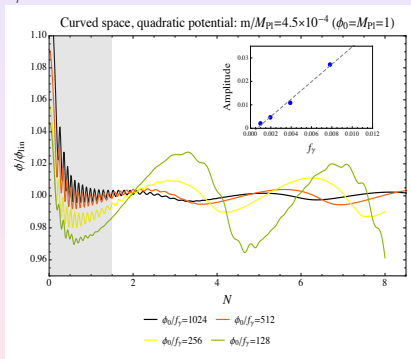


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# FLRW case: Results

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## Oscillations in $\phi$ :



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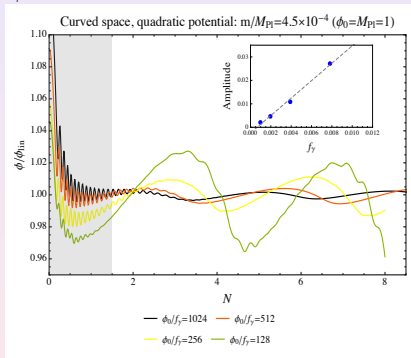
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## Oscillations in $\phi$ :



- **Period** of about 4 e-folds
- **Amplitude**  $\propto f_\gamma$

# FLRW case: Results

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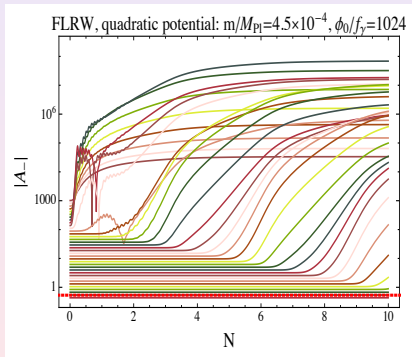
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## A<sub>-</sub> Mode evolution





# FLRW case: Results

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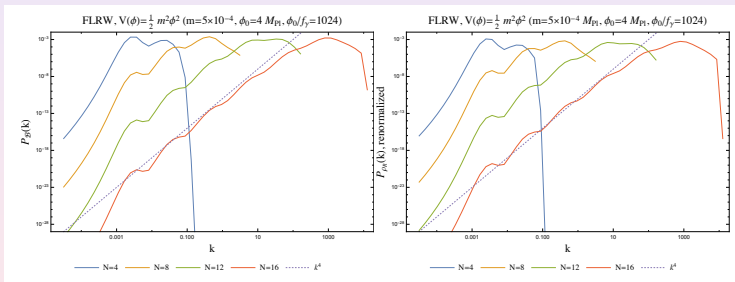
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$$\langle \tilde{F}F \rangle = E \cdot B \text{ and } \rho_R = \frac{E^2 + B^2}{2} \text{ spectra:}$$



$k^4$  behavior (suppression on large scales)

# FLRW case: Results

Higgs &  
Inflation

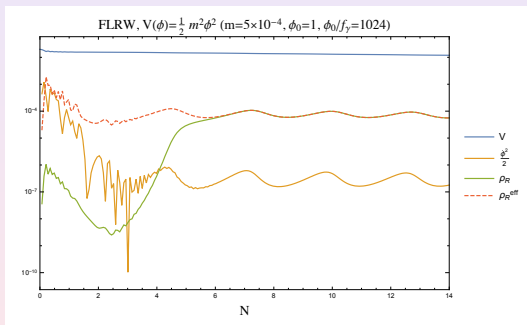
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## Energy densities:



$$V \gg \rho_R \gg \dot{\phi}^2/2$$

# Reheating

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- There is no separation between reheating and inflation
- **Model independent** reheating

# Reheating

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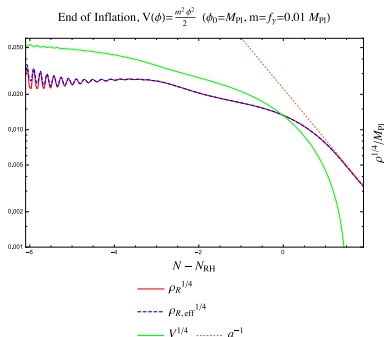
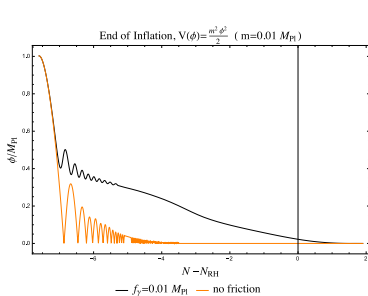
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# Perturbations??

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- Very involved:  $\phi + A_\mu + \text{metric}$

# Perturbations??

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- Estimated  $\delta\phi_p$
- Found too large density fluctuations  
(unless a large number  $N$  of gauge fields is invoked)



# Perturbations??

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- Objections:

- $\zeta \neq \frac{H}{\dot{\phi}} \delta\phi$

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  - $\delta\ddot{\phi}_p + 3H\delta\dot{\phi}_p + \frac{p^2}{a^2}\delta\phi_p = \frac{(\tilde{F}F)_p}{f_\gamma}$
  - Assumed  $(\tilde{F}F)_p = \frac{\partial\langle\tilde{F}F\rangle}{\partial\dot{\phi}}\delta\dot{\phi}_p + (\tilde{F}F)_p|_{\delta\phi=0}$
  - A **dissipative** term and a **source** term

# Perturbations??

So they wrote:

- $\delta\ddot{\phi}_p + \left(3H - \frac{1}{\tilde{f}_\gamma} \frac{\partial \langle \tilde{F}F \rangle}{\partial \dot{\phi}}\right) \delta\dot{\phi}_p + \frac{p^2}{a^2} \delta\phi_p = \frac{1}{\tilde{f}_\gamma} (\tilde{F}F)_p|_{\delta\phi=0}$
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  - On small scales: a term  $\nabla\delta\phi \wedge \mathbf{A}'$  is present

# Slow-roll parameters

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- We did not attempt yet a complete study of perturbations
- **Usual** slow-roll parameters related to  $\epsilon \equiv \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{2H^2}$  and its **time variation**

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$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_\phi &\equiv \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{2M_{Pl}^2 H^2}, & \eta_\phi &\equiv 2\epsilon_\phi + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d \log \epsilon_\phi}{dN}, \\ \epsilon_R &\equiv \frac{2\rho_R}{3M_{Pl}^2 H^2}, & \eta_R &\equiv 2\epsilon_R + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d \log \epsilon_R}{dN}\end{aligned}$$

# Slow-roll parameters

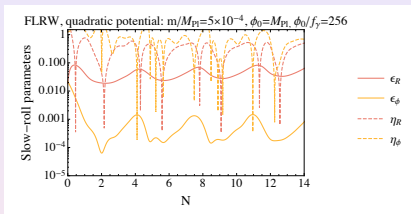
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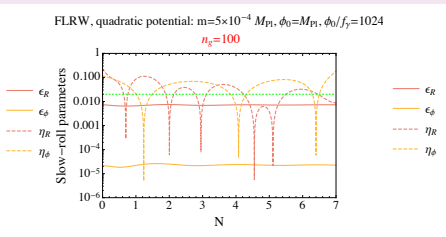
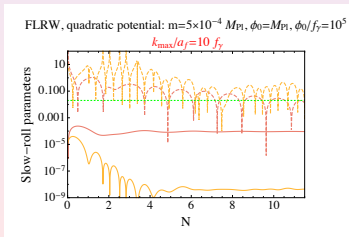
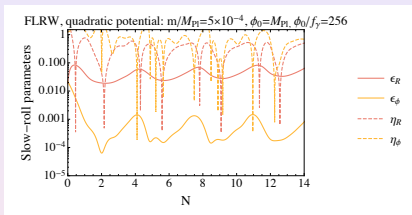
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# Summary on dissipation

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- If  $f_\gamma \ll \delta\phi$  the system is slowed down

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- Perturbations still have to be **carefully understood**
- **Oscillations** with about 4 efolds period should be present in all spectra

# Comment on $f_\gamma \ll \Delta\phi$

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- If  $\phi$  is an **Axion**
- $\frac{\phi}{f_\gamma} \tilde{F}F$  naturally present

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- So we need  $\frac{1}{f_\gamma} \gg \frac{1}{f_G}!$
- It is possible: **independent** parameters.  $\frac{1}{f_\gamma}$  does not induce corrections to  $\frac{1}{f_G}$  (would break the shift symmetry)

# Inflation in a False Minimum

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- Can we end Inflation with a tunneling from a False vacuum?

# Inflation in a False Minimum

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- ...It was the first way to introduce Inflation ("Old" Inflation, Guth, 1982).

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- Can we end Inflation with a tunneling from a False vacuum?
- ...It was the first way to introduce Inflation ("Old" Inflation, Guth, 1982).
- Old Inflation does **not** have **Graceful Exit**:  
non-successful Bubble Nucleation

# Nucleation of Bubbles

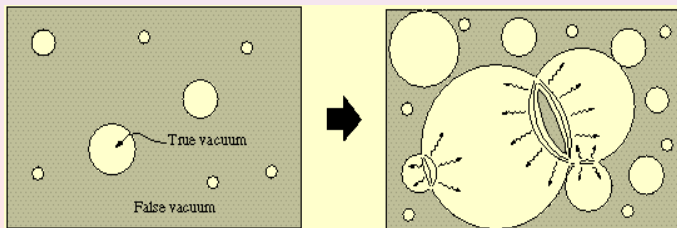
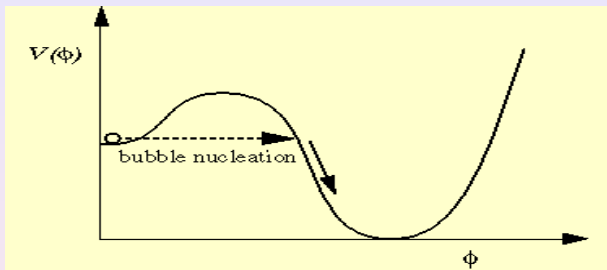
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# What is the problem of False Vacuum Inflation?

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## Requirements:

# What is the problem of False Vacuum Inflation?

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## Way-out:

- **Start** with  $\Gamma \ll H^4$
- And **then**  $\Gamma \simeq H^4$

# Get a Graceful exit

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If a field  $\chi$  is trapped in a false vacuum:

# Get a Graceful exit

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If a field  $\chi$  is trapped in a false vacuum:

- Need additional degree of freedom  $\phi$  to set **time dependence** in  $\Gamma/H^4$

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# Get a Graceful exit

If a field  $\chi$  is trapped in a false vacuum:

- Need additional degree of freedom  $\phi$  to set **time dependence** in  $\Gamma/H^4$
- Extra Scalar  $\phi$
- Two possibilities
  - Make  **$H$  variable** (couple  $\phi$  to gravity)
  - Make  **$\Gamma$  variable** (couple  $\phi$  to  $\chi$ )

# Variable $H$

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- If  $H$  decreases with time
- At some point  $\Gamma^{1/4} = H$



# Modifying $\mathcal{L}_G...$

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Adding a Non-Minimally coupled scalar field ( $\phi$ )

$\Rightarrow$  Graceful exit

F.Di Marco & A.N., Phys.Rev.D '05,  
T. Biswas & A.N. Phys.Rev.D '06

# An initial Lagrangian

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- As a starting point we take the action

$$S_1 = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi - f(\phi) R + V(\chi_0) \right]$$

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# An initial Lagrangian

- As a starting point we take the action

$$S_1 = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi - f(\phi) R + V(\chi_0) \right] + [U(\phi)] ,$$

- We assume

$$f(\phi) = M^2 + \beta \phi^2 + \gamma_4 \frac{\phi^4}{M^2} + \gamma_6 \frac{\phi^6}{M^4} + \dots$$

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- **Two cases:**  $\beta$  dominant or  $\gamma_n$  dominant
- Assume  $U(\phi)$  to be negligible ( $U \lesssim V(\chi_0)$ ) in the Early Universe.

# Early Time Evolution

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from Higgs  
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$$S_1 = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{1}{2} M^2 R + \frac{1}{2} \gamma \frac{\phi^n}{M^{n-2}} R - \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi + V(\chi_0) \right],$$

where  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $n > 2$ .

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4.  $H \propto \frac{1}{t}$  and when  $H = \Gamma^{1/4} \Rightarrow$  **Graceful Exit.**

# Evolution of $H$

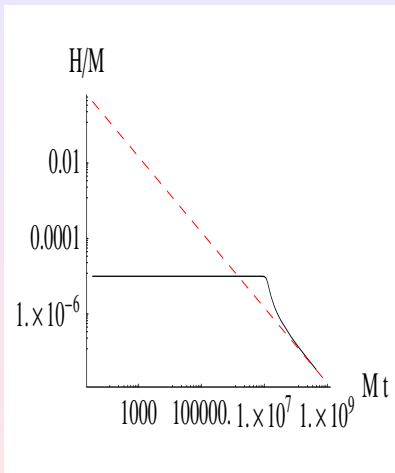
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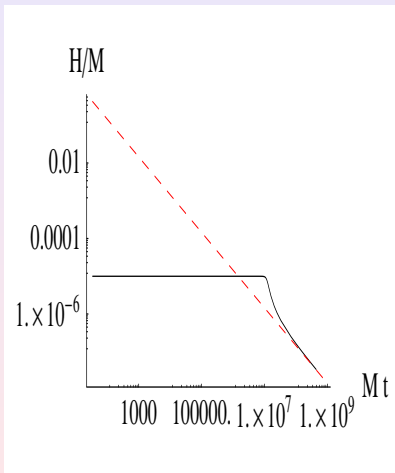
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Crucially



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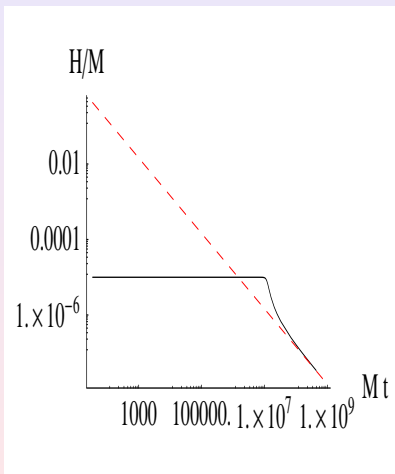
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## Crucially

- *Phase I*: Perturbations that we see

# Evolution of $H$

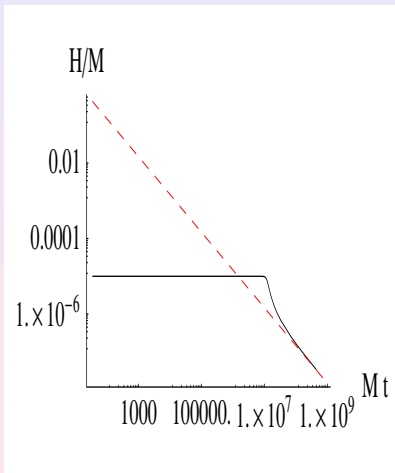
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## Crucially

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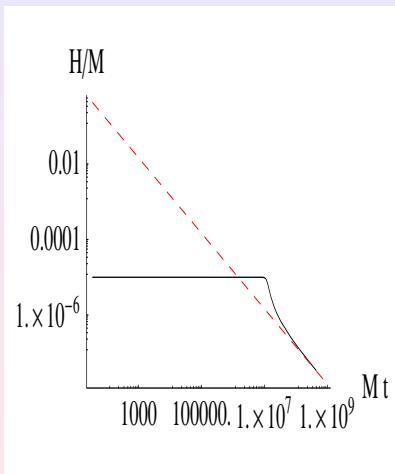
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## Crucially

- *Phase I*: Perturbations that we see
- If Phase II short enough
- When  $H \simeq \Gamma^{1/4} \Rightarrow$  Graceful Exit

# General Lagrangian

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- If we regard  $M$  as the fundamental scale of the theory
- The full theory has operators like

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ M^2 + \beta \phi^2 + \gamma_4 \frac{\phi^4}{M^2} + \gamma_6 \frac{\phi^6}{M^4} + \dots \right] R,$$

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- Higher order operators **important** at  $\phi \gg M$
- The transition is strong enough (**decelerated** expansion), for any  $f(\phi) > \phi^2$ !
- Without knowing exactly  $f(\phi)$  (...an infinite number of couplings)!

# Transition to radiation and Stabilization

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- When  $H^4 \simeq \Gamma$  many bubbles of  $\chi_{out} < \chi_0$  are **nucleated**
- They **collide** producing a nearly homogeneous field  $\chi_{out}$



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- They **collide** producing a nearly homogeneous field  $\chi_{out}$
- $\chi$  rolls down, produces radiation and relaxes to true minimum
- During radiation  $\phi$  **slows down**:

$$R = 6(2H^2 + \dot{H}) \approx 0.$$

# Stabilization of $\phi$

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- Nonetheless we need to stabilize  $\phi$  at late times:

# Stabilization of $\phi$

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  - variation of  $G_N$  during matter domination.

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- ...We can reintroduce **the potential  $U(\phi)$**  in the original Lagrangian
- Assumed to be irrelevant before ( $U \lesssim V(\chi_0)$ ).
- Any potential which drives  $\phi$  to a **minimum** ( $\phi \rightarrow 0$ ) is good

# Flat spectrum of $\phi$ fluctuations

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- Fuctuations in  $\phi$  that ends inflation.



# Flat spectrum of $\phi$ fluctuations

- Fluctuations in  $\phi$  that ends inflation.
- In Einstein frame there is a potential  $\Rightarrow$  **almost flat spectrum**

$$\bar{V} \approx V(\chi_0) \left[ 1 - 2\gamma \left( \frac{\phi}{M} \right)^\eta \right].$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} n_S - 1 = 2\eta - 6\epsilon \\ \Delta_R^2 = \left( \frac{\bar{H}_I}{M} \right)^2 \frac{1}{8\pi^2\epsilon} \Big|_{\phi=\phi(\bar{N} \approx \bar{N}_{3000h^{-1} \text{Mpc}})} \end{array} \right.$$

# Parameter values (quadratic term absent)

- We predicted the spectral index:

$$n_s \simeq 1 + 2\eta \simeq 1 - \frac{2}{\mathcal{N}_{3000h^{-1}\text{Mpc}}} \left( \frac{n-1}{n-2} \right) = 0.95 - \frac{0.04}{n-2}$$

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# Gravity waves at LISA

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- Reheating proceeds through bubble collisions.

# Gravity waves at LISA

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- Reheating proceeds through bubble collisions.
- Produces a lot of relic gravity waves (GW)<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>M. S. Turner and F. Wilczek, A. Kosowsky, R. Watkins, M. Kamionkowski (1990-1995) 

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- Amplitude at the peak is big enough to be **detectable**:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Expected value at peak} \quad \Omega_{GW} h^2 \approx 10^{-7} \\ \text{LISA sensitivity} \quad \Omega_{GW} h^2 \approx 10^{-11} \end{array} \right.$$

---

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# GW detectors

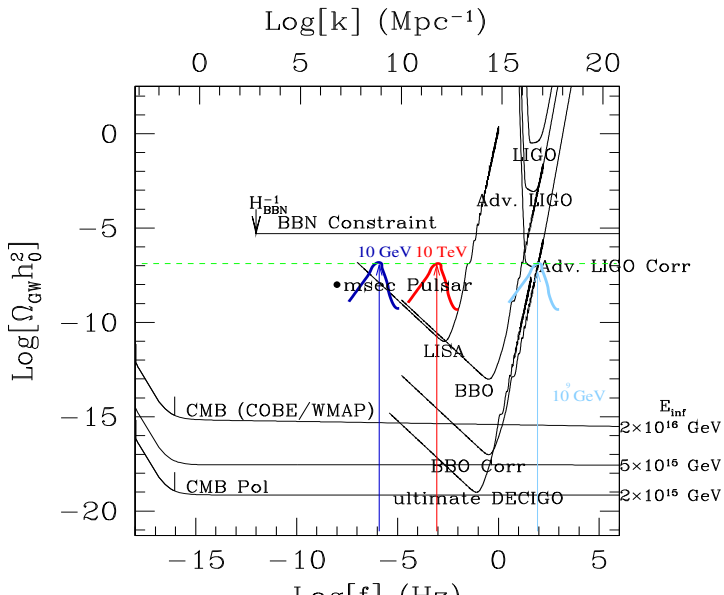
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# Higgs Potential?

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- Can we use Higgs potential to source such an Inflation?

# Higgs Potential?

## Higgs & Inflation

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- Can we use **Higgs potential to source such an Inflation?**
- Link to Standard Model and **experiments**

# Close look to Higgs potential


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$$V_{Higgs}(\chi) = \frac{1}{24} \lambda (\chi^2 - v^2)^2$$

# Close look to Higgs potential



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- $\lambda(\mu)$  depends on the scale  $\mu \sim \chi$ :

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- RGE equations  $\frac{d\lambda}{d \log(\mu)} = \dots$

The Higgs couples mostly through:

- Gauge couplings,  $g_{U(1)}$ ,  $g_{SU(2)}$ ,  $g_{SU(3)}$  and  $h_{top}$

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$$\frac{d}{dt}\lambda(t) = \beta_\lambda(\lambda, h, g_1, g_2, g_3), \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}h(t) = \beta_h(\lambda, h, g_1, g_2, g_3),$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}g_1(t) = \beta_{g_1}(\lambda, h, g_1, g_2, g_3),$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}g_2(t) = \beta_{g_2}(\lambda, h, g_1, g_2, g_3),$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}g_3(t) = \beta_{g_3}(\lambda, h, g_1, g_2, g_3)$$

$$t \equiv \log(\mu/m_Z) \quad \mu \simeq \chi$$

# Running

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- $\lambda(0)$  given by  $m_H^2 \propto \lambda(0)v^2$

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- $\lambda(0)$  given by  $m_H^2 \propto \lambda(0)v^2$
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- **Theoretical uncertainties**

3-loop RGE: Bednyakov et al. arXiv:1303.4364, Chetyrkin - Zoller JHEP 2013.

2-loop matching: Bezrukov et al. 2012, Degrassi et al. 2012, S. Alekhin et al. 2012

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- Largest experimental uncertainties:

- $m_{\text{top}} \propto h(0)v$



# Running

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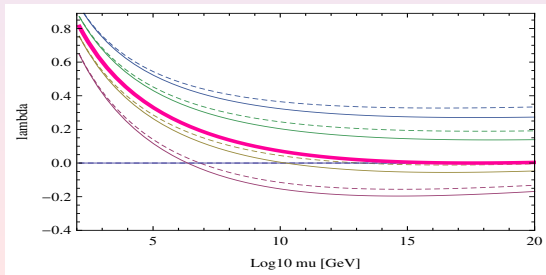
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# Instability & False Vacuum

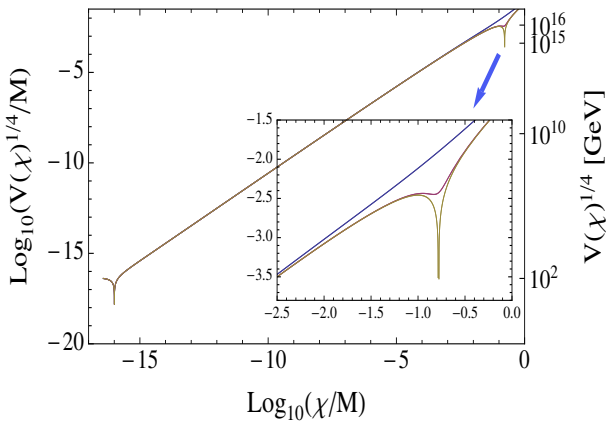
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- $m_H = 125.2, 125.158, 125.157663$  GeV,  
 $m_t = 171.8$  GeV

# Higgs False vacuum Inflation?

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potential?

- In this minimum:  $p = -\rho$

# Higgs False vacuum Inflation?

## Higgs & Inflation

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Dissipation

Metastability

Metastability  
from Higgs  
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- In this minimum:  $p = -\rho$
- And  $V^{1/4} \simeq 10^{16} - 10^{17}$  GeV !

# Higgs False vacuum Inflation?

## Higgs & Inflation

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- "Minimal"? Need another scalar!

# Higgs False vacuum Inflation?

## Higgs & Inflation

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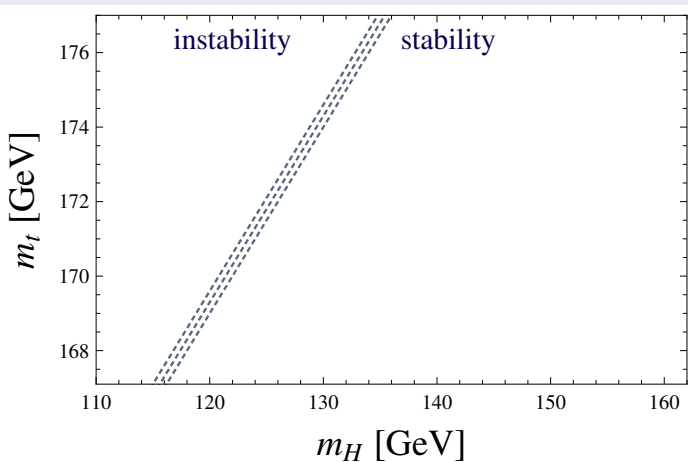
Metastability  
from Higgs  
potential?

- In this minimum:  $p = -\rho$
- And  $V^{1/4} \simeq 10^{16} - 10^{17}$  GeV !
- "Minimal"? Need another scalar!
- **Experiments** can decide!



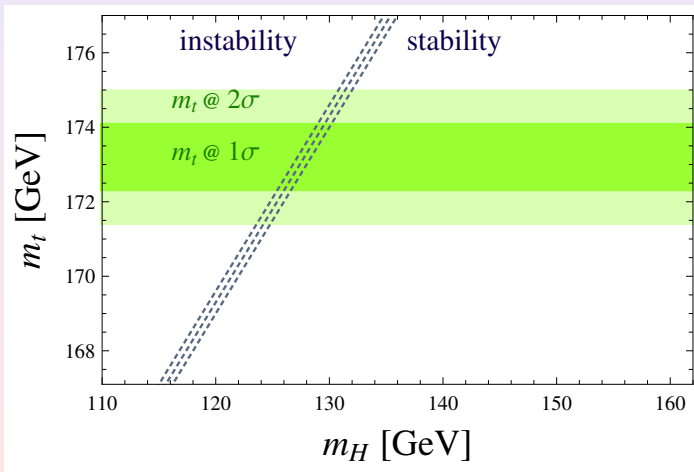
# Requirements on Higgs and top mass

- Having a metastable vacuum  $\Rightarrow$
- Fixes a line in the plane  $m_{top} - m_H$



# Requirements on Higgs and top mass

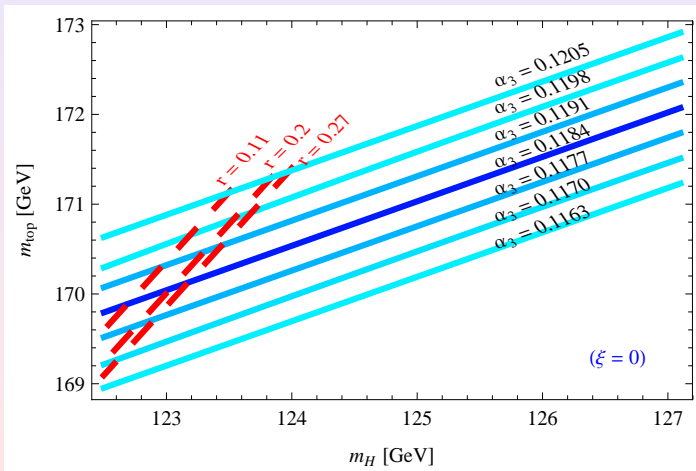
- Having a metastable vacuum  $\Rightarrow$
- Fixes a line in the plane  $m_{top} - m_H$



# Requirements on Higgs, $\alpha_s$ and top mass

Higgs &  
Inflation

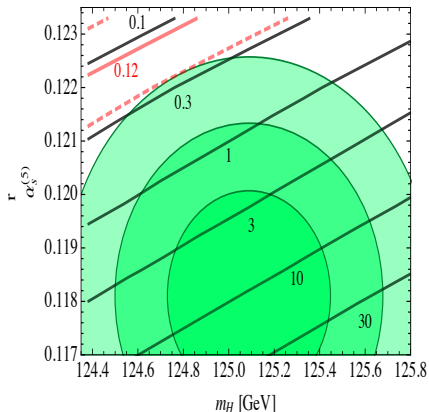
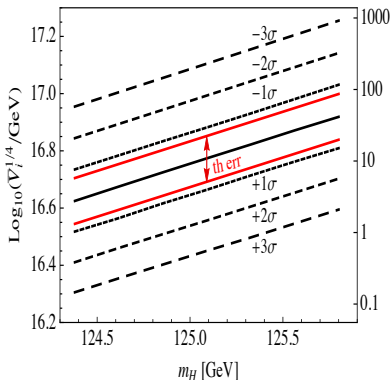
- Having the right Amplitude of tensors  $r$



# Requirements on Higgs, $\alpha_s$ and top mass

Higgs &  
Inflation

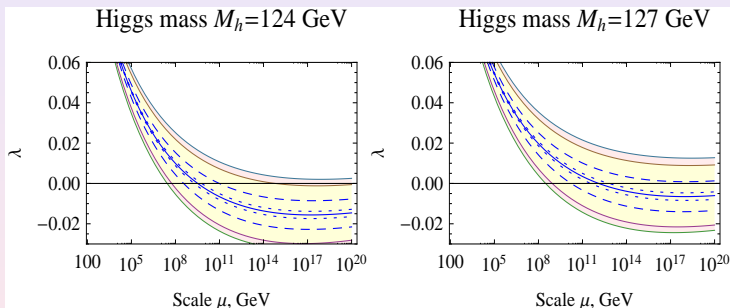
- With updated (doubled) error on world average of  $\alpha_s$ :



G.Iacobellis and A.Masina, arXiv:1604.06046

# Requirements on Higgs and top mass

- From Bezrukov et al. JHEP '2012:

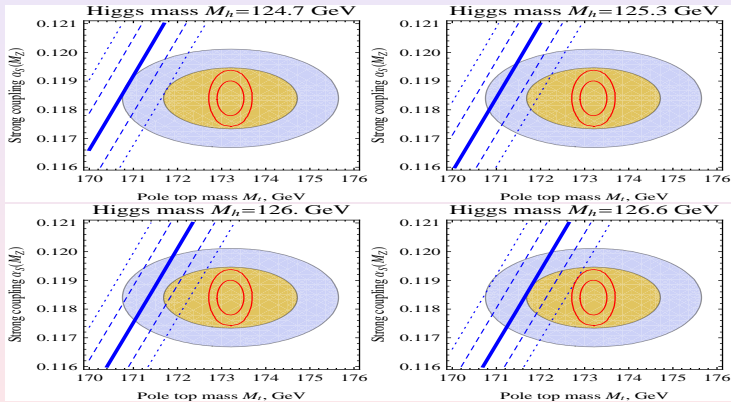


**Figure:** Dashed (dotted) line corresponding to the experimental uncertainty in the top mass  $M_t$  (strong coupling constant), and the shaded yellow (pink) regions correspond to the total experimental error and theoretical uncertainty, with the latter estimated as  $[1.2] \text{ GeV}$  ( $[2.5] \text{ GeV}$ )

# Requirements on Higgs and top mass

Higgs &  
Inflation

- From Bezrukov et al. JHEP '2012:



**Figure:** Tevatron 68% and 95% experimentally allowed regions for  $\alpha_s$  and  $M_t$  are given by shaded areas. The dashed (dotted) lines correspond to  $\pm 1\sigma$  ( $\pm 2\sigma$ ) uncertainty in the  $M_{\min}$  theoretical determination. Red lines in the center: expected precision from a  $e^+e^-$  collider.

# Requirements on Higgs and top mass

From Bezrukov et al. JHEP '2012:

$$M_{\min} = \left[ 128.95 + \frac{M_t - [172.9] \text{ GeV}}{[1.1] \text{ GeV}} \times 2.2 - \frac{-0.1184}{0.0007} \times 0.56 \right] \text{ GeV}.$$

<i>Source of uncertainty</i>	<i>Nature of estimate</i>	$\Delta M_{\min}$ , GeV
3-loop matching $\lambda$	Sensitivity to $\mu$	1.0
3-loop matching $y_t$	Sensitivity to $\mu$	0.2
4-loop to $y_t$	educated guess	0.4
confinement, $y_t$	educated guess $\sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$	0.5
4-loop running $M_W \rightarrow M_P$	educated guess	< 0.2
total uncertainty	sum of squares	1.2
total uncertainty	linear sum	2.3

**Table:** Theoretical uncertainties in the present  $M_{\min}$  evaluation.

# Requirements on Higgs and top mass

Higgs &  
Inflation

- From Degraasi et al. JHEP '2012:

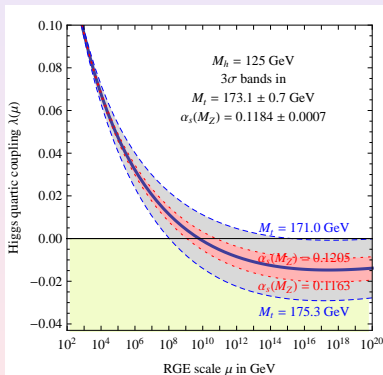
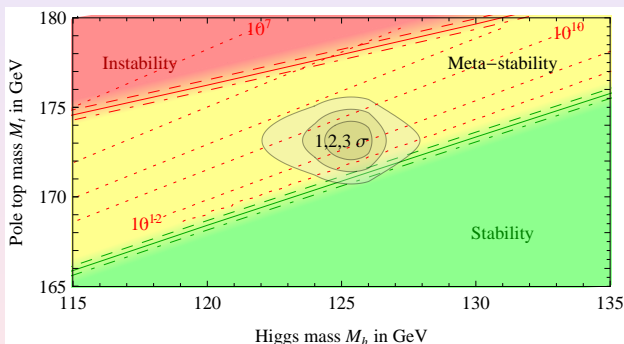


Figure: RG evolution of  $\lambda$  varying  $M_t$  and  $\alpha_s$  by  $\pm 3\sigma$ .



# Requirements on Higgs and top mass

- From Degraffi et al. JHEP '2012:



**Figure:** *The three boundaries lines correspond to  $\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.1184 \pm 0.0007$ .*

# Requirements on Higgs and top mass

- From Degraasi et al. JHEP '2012:

$$M_h [\text{GeV}] > 129.4 + 1.4 \left( \frac{M_t [\text{GeV}] - 173.1}{0.7} \right) - 0.5 \left( \frac{\alpha_s(M_Z) - 0.1184}{0.0007} \right) \pm 1.0_{\text{th}} .$$

Type of error	Estimate of the error	Impact on $M_h$
$M_t$	experimental uncertainty in $M_t$	$\pm 1.4$ GeV
$\alpha_s$	experimental uncertainty in $\alpha_s$	$\pm 0.5$ GeV
<b>Experiment</b>	<b>Total combined in quadrature</b>	<b><math>\pm 1.5</math> GeV</b>
$\lambda$	scale variation in $\lambda$	$\pm 0.7$ GeV
$y_t$	$\mathcal{O}(\Lambda_{\text{QCD}})$ correction to $M_t$	$\pm 0.6$ GeV
$y_t$	QCD threshold at 4 loops	$\pm 0.3$ GeV
RGE	EW at 3 loops + QCD at 4 loops	$\pm 0.2$ GeV
<b>Theory</b>	<b>Total combined in quadrature</b>	<b><math>\pm 1.0</math> GeV</b>

# Requirements on Higgs and top mass

Higgs &  
Inflation

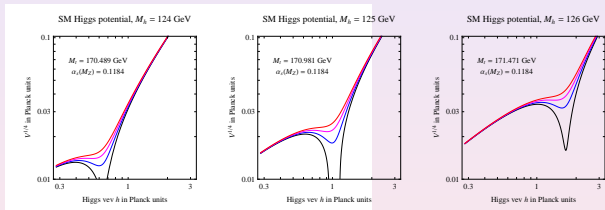
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Metastability  
from Higgs  
potential?

- From Degraffi et al. JHEP '2012:



**Figure:** Higgs potential around the critical top mass. The various curves correspond to variations in  $M_t$  by 0.1.

# Flat potential

Higgs &  
Inflation

Introduction

Dissipation

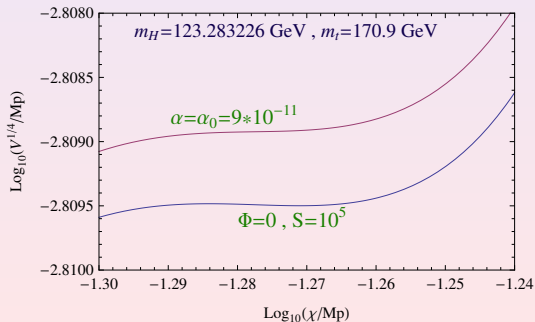
Metastability

Metastability  
from Higgs  
potential?

- Require: **almost flat potential**
- Otherwise too suppressed tunneling rate

# Flat potential

- Require: **almost flat potential**
- Otherwise too suppressed tunneling rate



# Potential Height

Higgs &  
Inflation

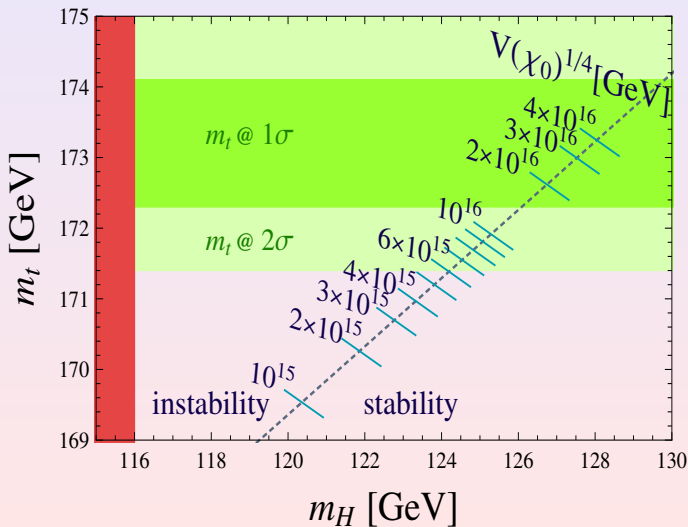
Introduction

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Metastability  
from Higgs  
potential?

• Fixes  $V$



# Potential Height

Higgs &  
Inflation

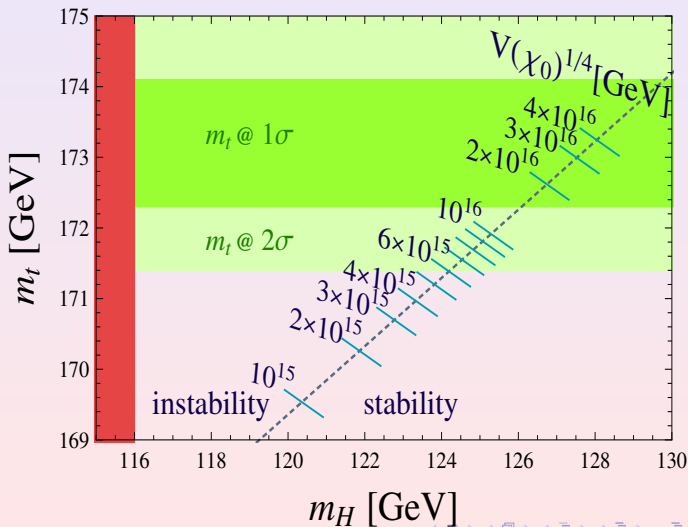
Introduction

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Metastability  
from Higgs  
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- In any case: **strictly an upper bound**



# Tensors from Inflation

Higgs &  
Inflation

- $P_T \simeq \frac{V}{M_{Pl}^4}$

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# Tensors from Inflation

Higgs &  
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- $P_T \simeq \frac{V}{M_{Pl}^4}$  ,  $P_S \simeq 10^{-9}$

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# Tensors from Inflation

Higgs &  
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- $P_T \simeq \frac{V}{M_{Pl}^4}$  ,  $P_S \simeq 10^{-9} \Rightarrow r \equiv \frac{P_T}{P_S}$

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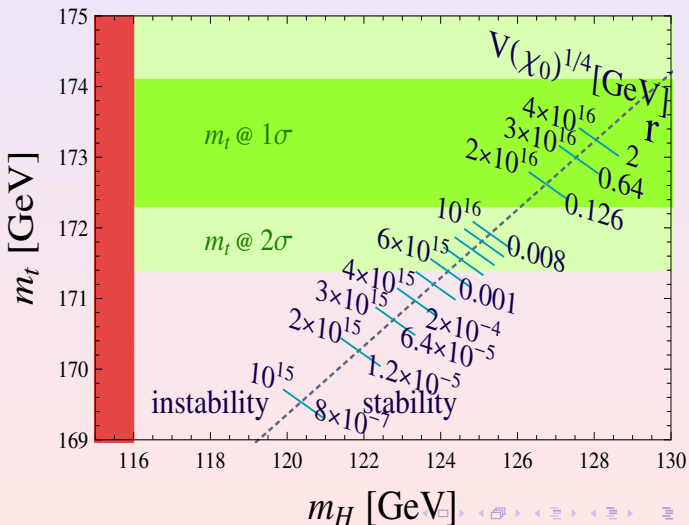
Metastability

Metastability  
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Higgs &  
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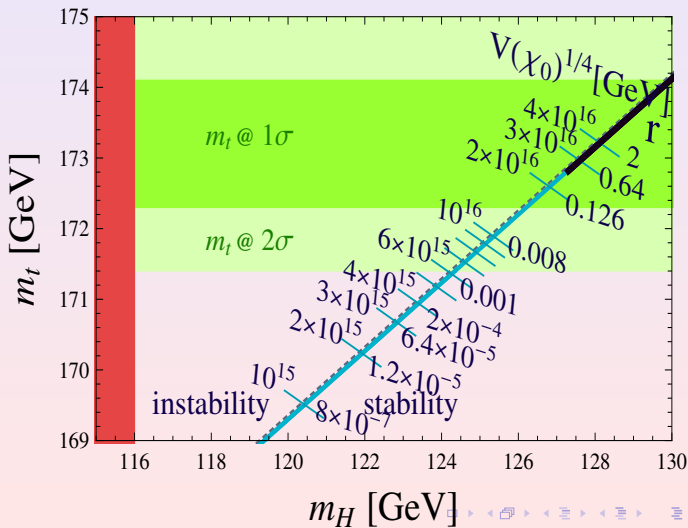
Metastability

Metastability  
from Higgs  
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# Bound on $m_H - m_t$

Higgs &  
Inflation

- $r \lesssim 0.2$  WMAP,  $r \lesssim 0.11$  Planck



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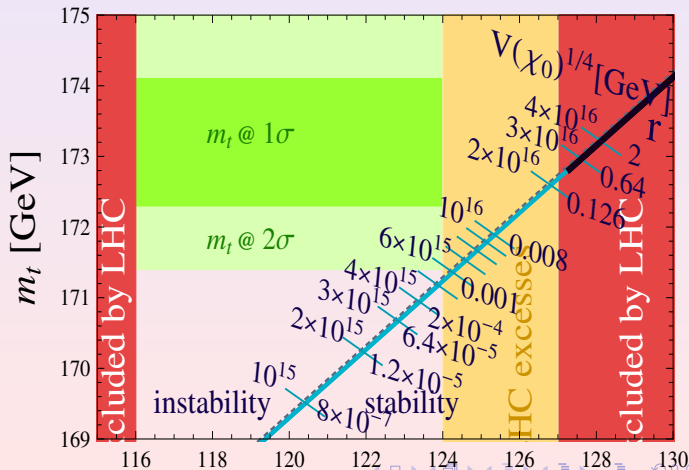
Dissipation

Metastability

Metastability from Higgs potential?

# Correlating $m_H - m_t - r$

$m_H = 125.3 \pm 0.4(\text{stat}) \pm 0.5(\text{sys})\text{GeV}$  (CMS) ,  
 $m_H = 126.0 \pm 0.4(\text{stat}) \pm 0.4(\text{sys})\text{GeV}$  (ATLAS)



Higgs & Inflation

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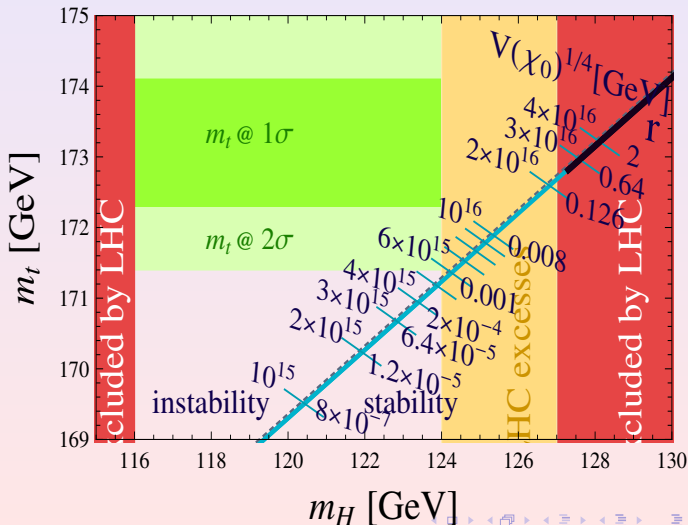
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Metastability from Higgs potential?

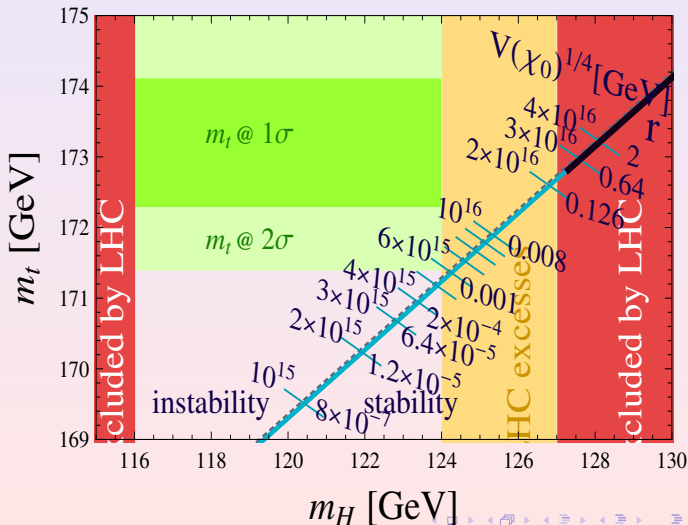
# Correlating $m_H - m_t - r$

- Theoretical errors:  $\Delta m_H \approx 3\text{GeV}$ ,  $\Delta m_t \approx 1\text{GeV}$  (?).



# Correlating $m_H - m_t - r$

- Improved errors:  $\Delta m_H \approx 1 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $\Delta m_t \approx 1 \text{ GeV}$ .



# Requirements on Higgs and top mass

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Figure: [arxiv:1403.5244](#) based on *De Grassi et al.*



# Shallow barrier

Higgs &  
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- Requirement:

- $\Gamma \gtrsim H_{\text{nuc}}^4 \simeq 10^{-25} \text{ GeV}$

# Shallow barrier

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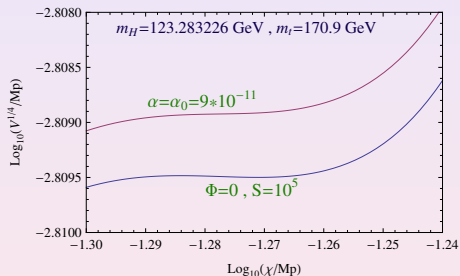
Metastability

Metastability  
from Higgs  
potential?

- Requirement:
  - $\Gamma \gtrsim H_{\text{nuc}}^4 \simeq 10^{-25} \text{ GeV}$
  - $\Rightarrow S \lesssim 380$

# Small action

- $S \lesssim 380$  only if potential almost flat



- Strong tuning!
- $m_{\text{Higgs}} = 125.2, 125.158, 125.157663 \text{ GeV}$ ,  
 $m_t = 171.8 \text{ GeV}$

# Going to the Einstein frame

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- It is convenient to transform

$$\bar{g}_{\mu\nu} = f(\phi)g_{\mu\nu},$$

# Going to the Einstein frame

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$$S_E = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-\bar{g}} [M^2 \bar{R} - K(\phi)(\bar{\partial}\phi)^2] + S_0,$$

# Going to the Einstein frame

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- Get canonical gravity:

$$S_E = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-\bar{g}} [M^2 \bar{R} - K(\phi)(\bar{\partial}\phi)^2] + S_0,$$

and the false vacuum energy, in this frame

$$-S_0 = \int d^4x \sqrt{-\bar{g}} \frac{V(\chi_0)}{f^2(\phi)} \equiv \int d^4x \sqrt{\bar{g}} \bar{V}(\chi_0, \phi).$$

becomes a potential (but it disappears after tunneling)

# Phase I: $\phi \ll M$

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- Expand

$$f(\phi) \approx 1 + \gamma_n \left( \frac{\phi}{M} \right)^n .$$

# Phase I: $\phi \ll M$

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# Phase I: $\phi \ll M$

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- it looks like slow roll on top of a hill

# Phase I: $\phi \ll M$

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- So in slow-roll approximation:

# Phase I: $\phi \ll M$

- So in slow-roll approximation:

$$\epsilon \equiv \frac{M^2}{2} \left| \frac{1}{V} \frac{dV}{d\phi} \right|^2 = 32\gamma_4^2 \left( \frac{\phi}{M} \right)^6 ,$$

$$\eta \equiv M^2 \frac{1}{V} \frac{d^2 V}{d\phi^2} = -24\gamma_4 \left( \frac{\phi}{M} \right)^2 .$$

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- When  $\phi$  of order  $M$ : end of slow-roll

# Phase II: $\phi \gg M$

Higgs &  
Inflation

- In this phase:

$$K(\phi) \equiv \frac{2f(\phi) + 3M^2 f'^2(\phi)}{2f^2(\phi)} \approx \frac{3M^2}{2} \left( \frac{f'}{f} \right)^2, \quad \bar{V}(\phi) \approx \frac{V(\chi_0)}{f(\phi)^2}.$$

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- So we introduce a **canonical variable** via

$$\Phi \equiv \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} M \ln f(\phi),$$

- The kinetic term is canonical and the potential becomes:

$$\bar{V}(\Phi) = V(\chi_0) \exp\left(-2\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \frac{\Phi}{M}\right).$$

# Phase II: $\phi \gg M$

## Higgs & Inflation

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- The exponential potential is well-known to lead to power-law expansion

$$\bar{a} \sim \bar{t}^p \quad \text{with} \quad p = \frac{3}{4}.$$



# Phase II: $\phi \gg M$

- The exponential potential is well-known to lead to power-law expansion

$$\bar{a} \sim \bar{t}^p \text{ with } p = \frac{3}{4}.$$

- The end of this phase when

$$\bar{H}^2 \simeq \bar{\Gamma}^{1/2}$$