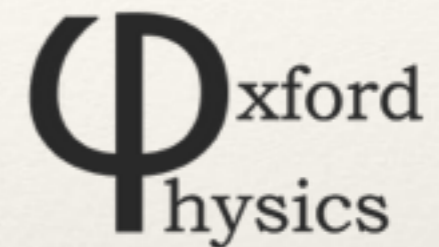


# PBH Dark Matter from Axion Inflation



Francesco Muia  
University of Oxford  
27/04/2017



**Based on:**

*"PBH Dark Matter from Axion Inflation"*

V. Domcke, FM, M. Pieroni & L. T. Witkowski  
arXiv: 1704.03464 [astro-ph.CO].

dedicated to the memory of Pierre Binétruy

**Progress on Old and New Themes in  
Cosmology 2017, Avignon**

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Zeldovich, Novikov, 1967

Hawking, 1971

Carr and Hawking, 1974

**Can PBHs compose a sizeable fraction of dark matter?**

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$$M \sim \frac{c^3 t}{G} \sim 10^{15} \left( \frac{t}{10^{-23} \text{ sec}} \right) \text{ g} \longrightarrow$$

Planck time

$$t_P \sim 10^{-43} \text{ sec} \longrightarrow$$

$$M \sim 10^{-5} \text{ g} \equiv M_p$$

pre-BBN

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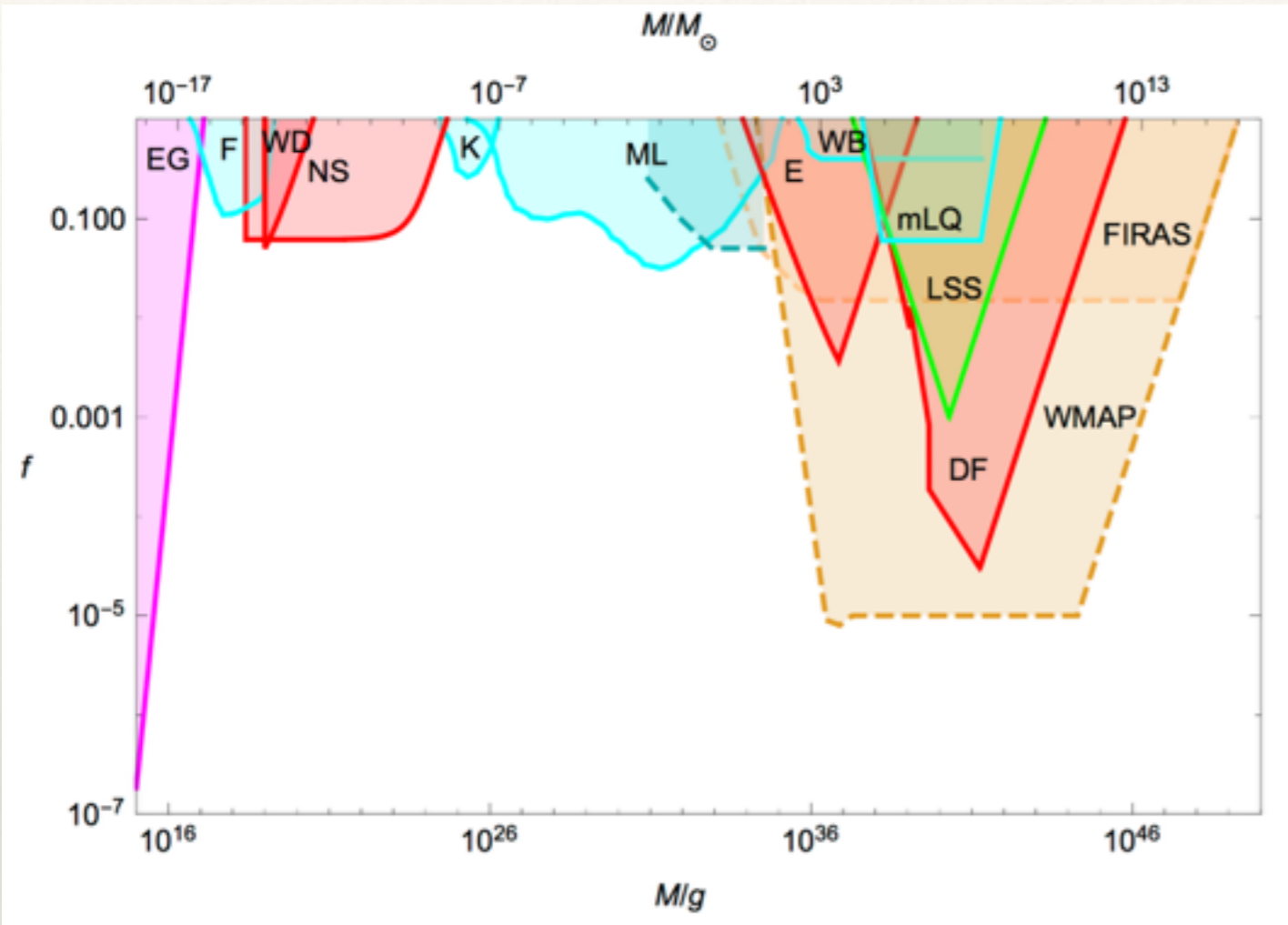
### - (Meta-)Stable: BHs evaporate through Hawking radiation.

$$\tau(M) \sim \frac{G^2 M^3}{\hbar c^4} \sim 10^{64} \left( \frac{M}{M_\odot} \right)^3 \text{ years} \longrightarrow$$

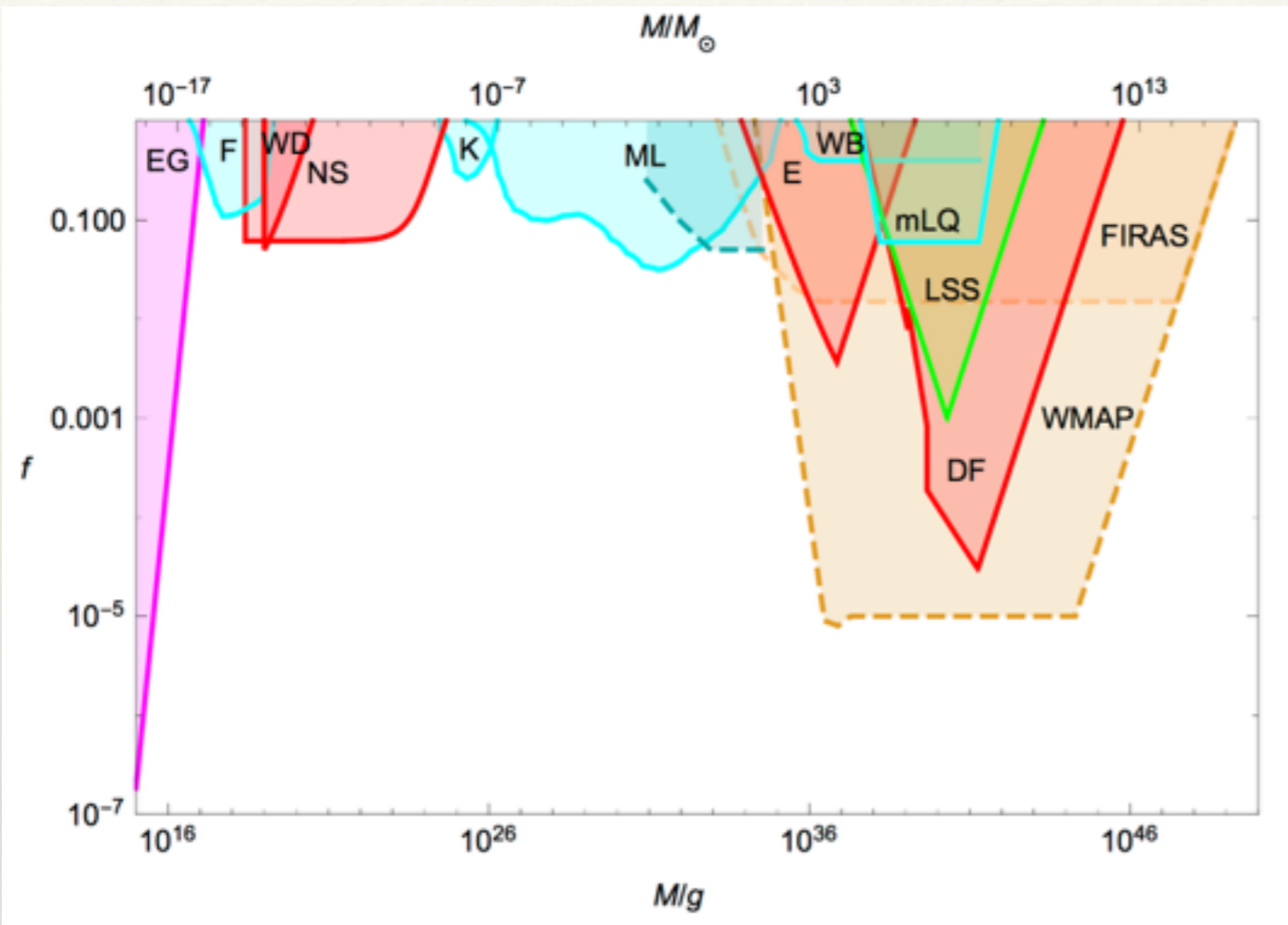
$$M > M_* \equiv 10^{15} \text{ g}$$

such PBHs survive till today  
and can compose dark matter

**the abundance of PBHs is subject to many strong constraints**



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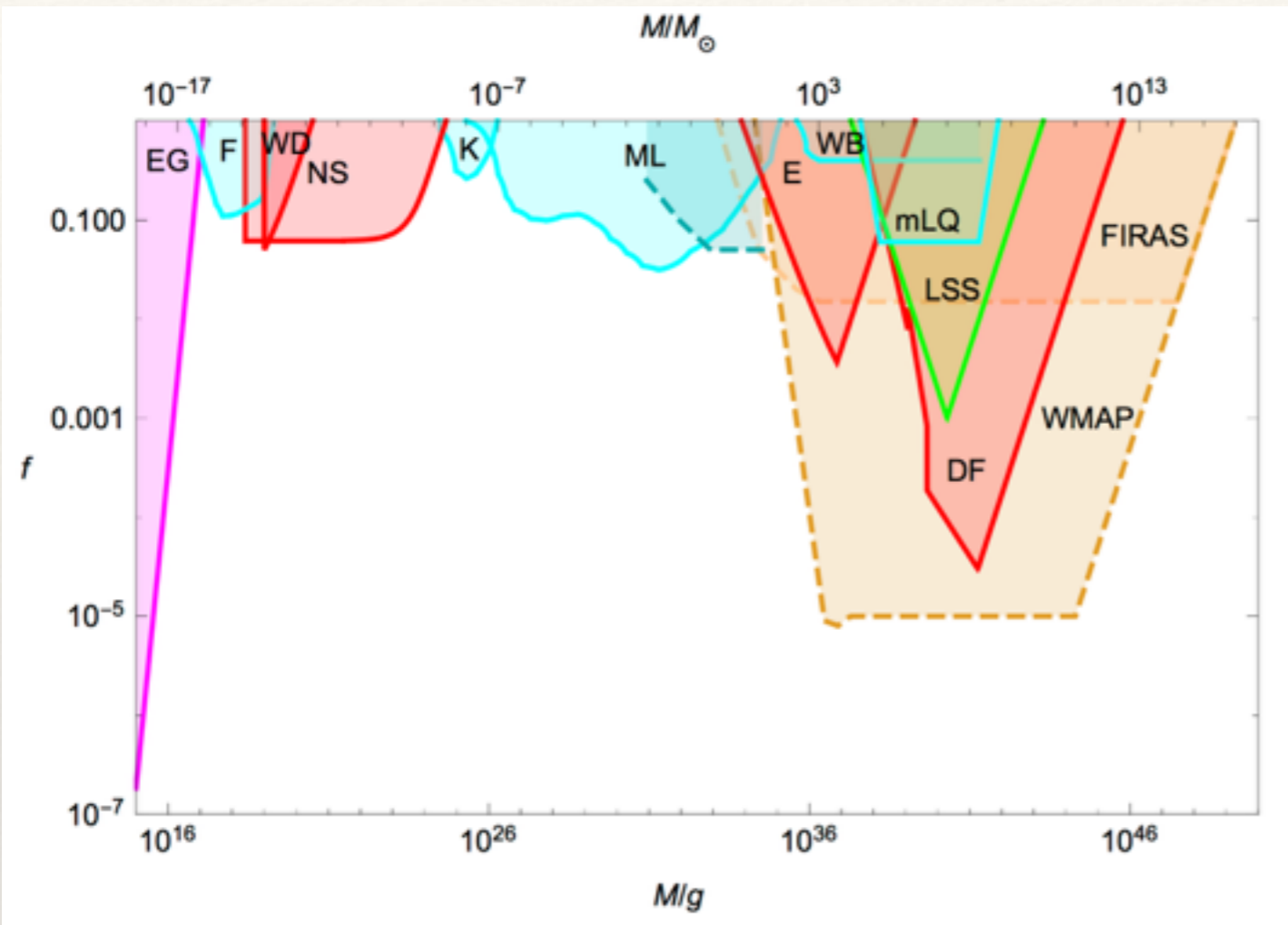


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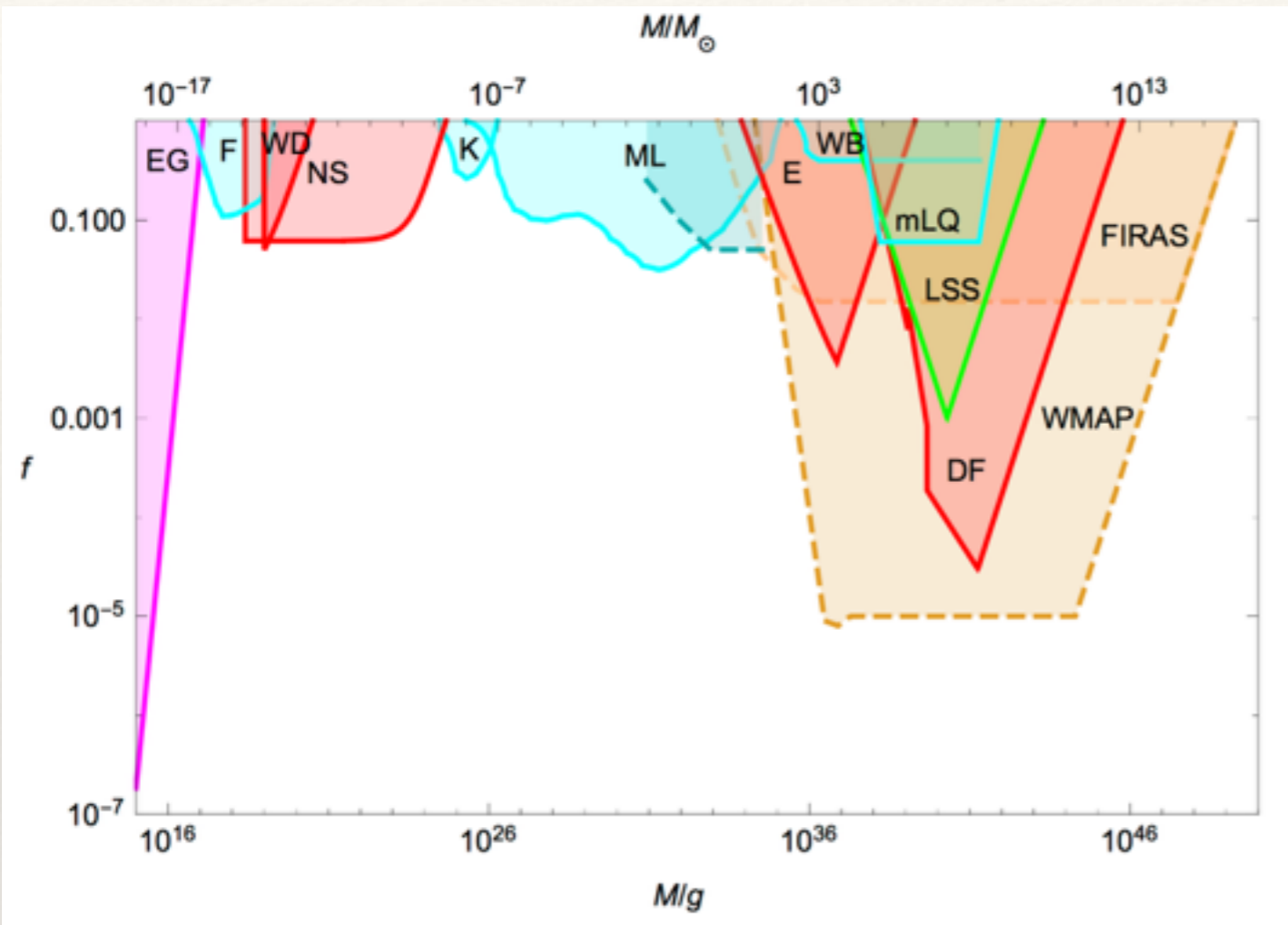
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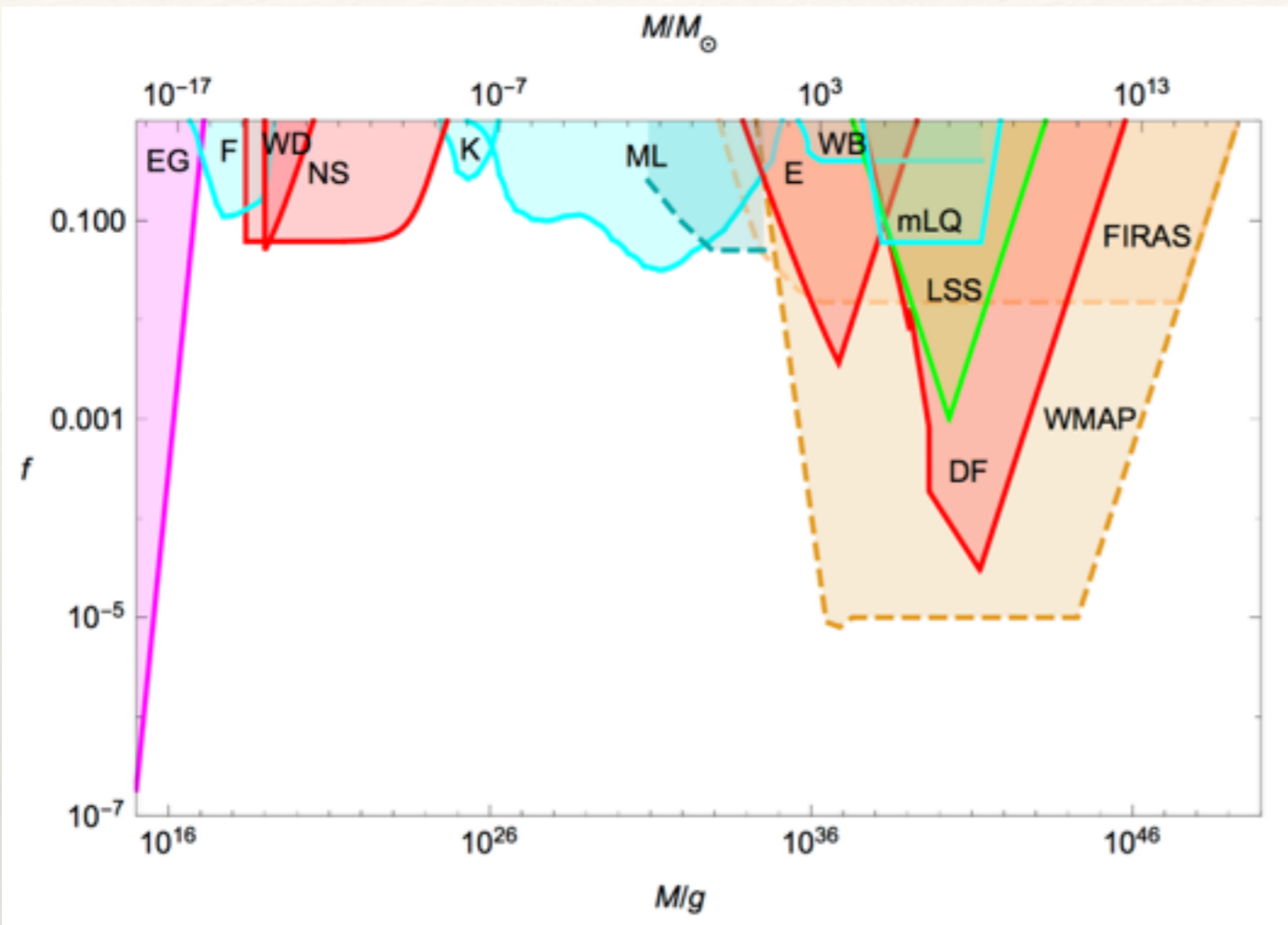
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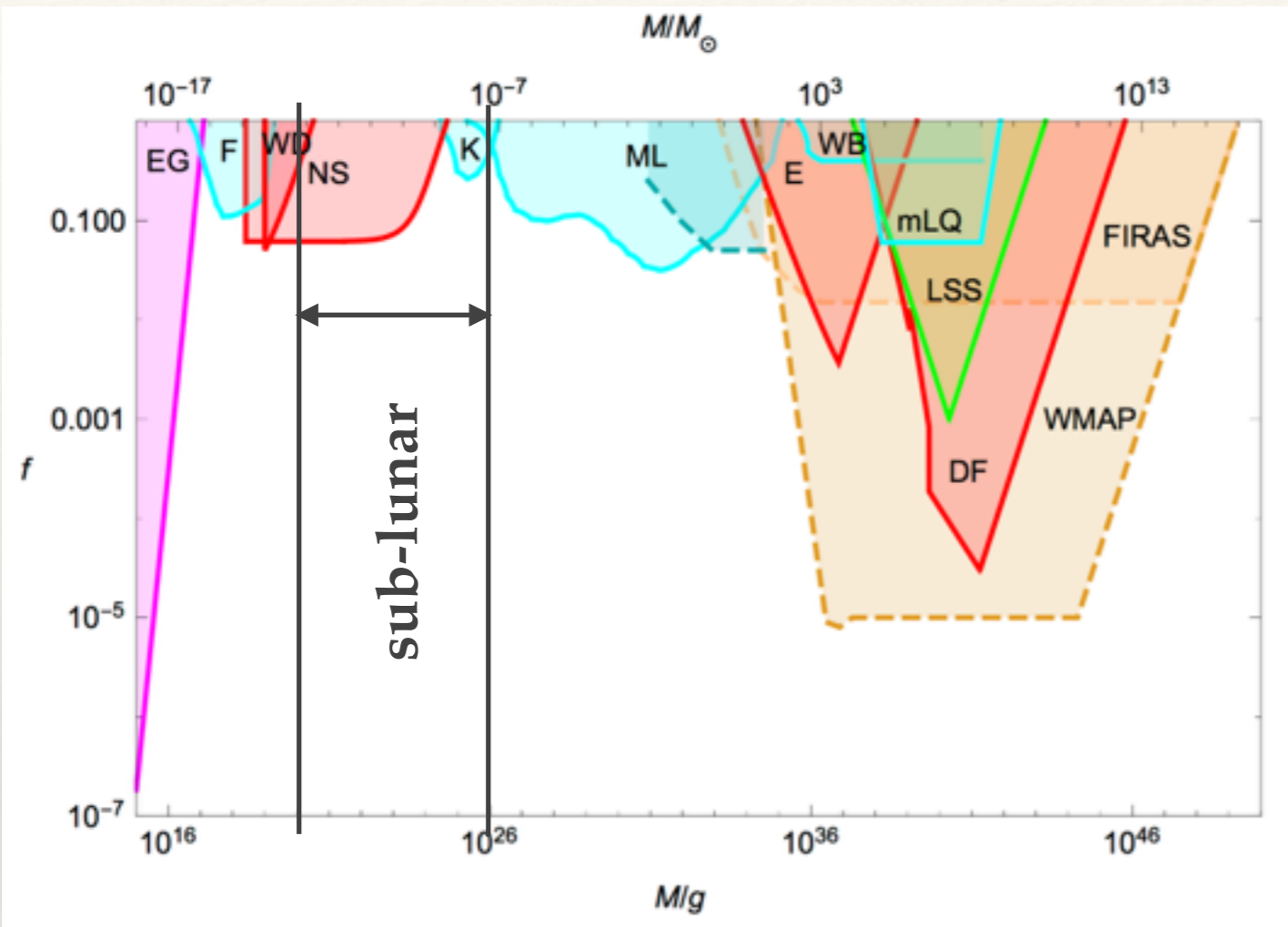
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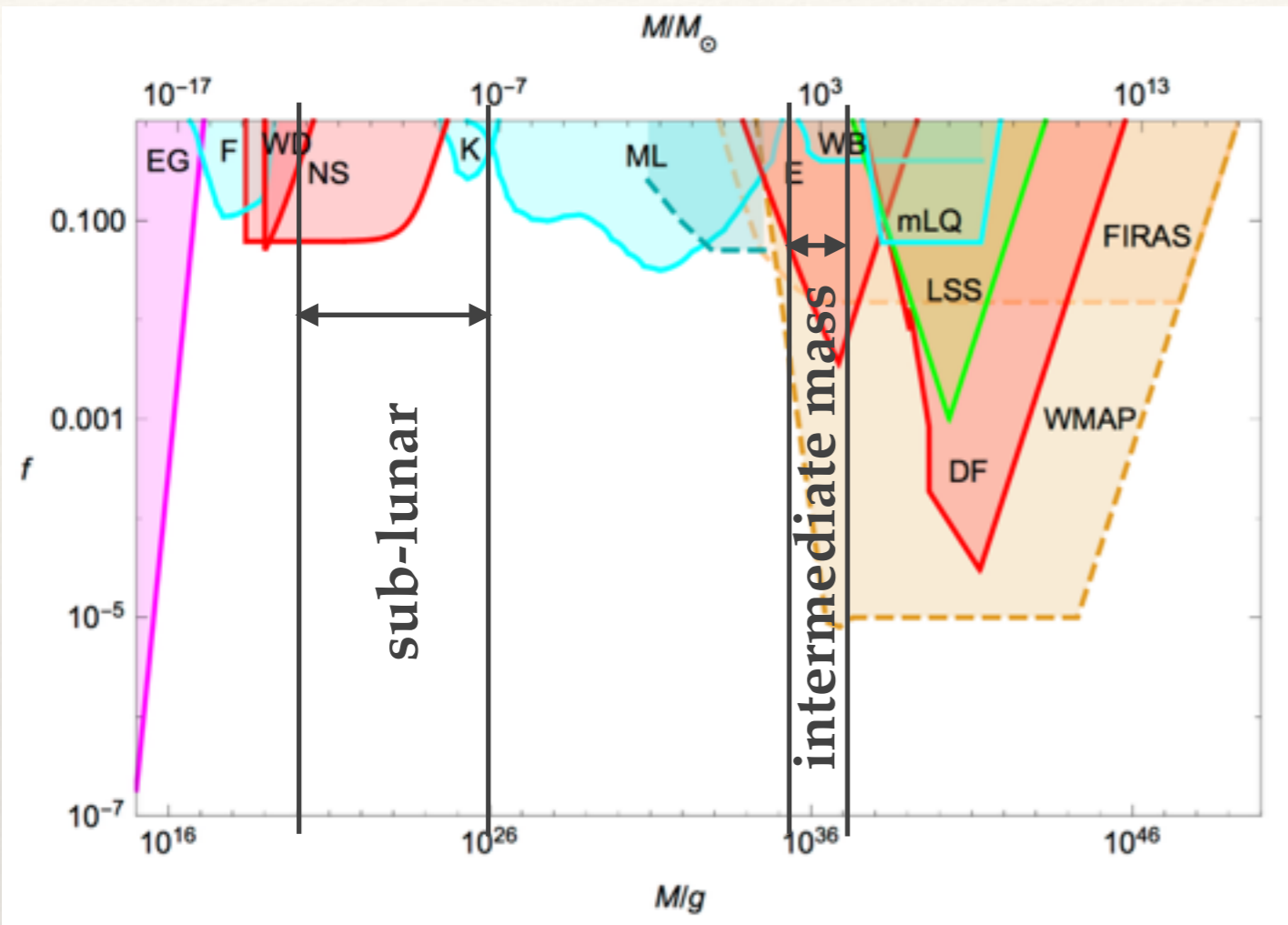
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intermediate mass  $10^2 M_\odot < M < 10^4 M_\odot$

WMAP constraints depend upon uncertain astrophysical parameters.

## REQUIREMENTS & PROPERTIES:

- **Production of PBHs requires high densities.**  
**Early universe is a natural framework.**

Schwarzschild radius

$$R_s = \frac{2GM}{c^2} \simeq 2 \left( \frac{M}{M_\odot} \right) \text{ Km}$$

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these have to be large, to ensure the collapse to a BH



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  - vi) etc.

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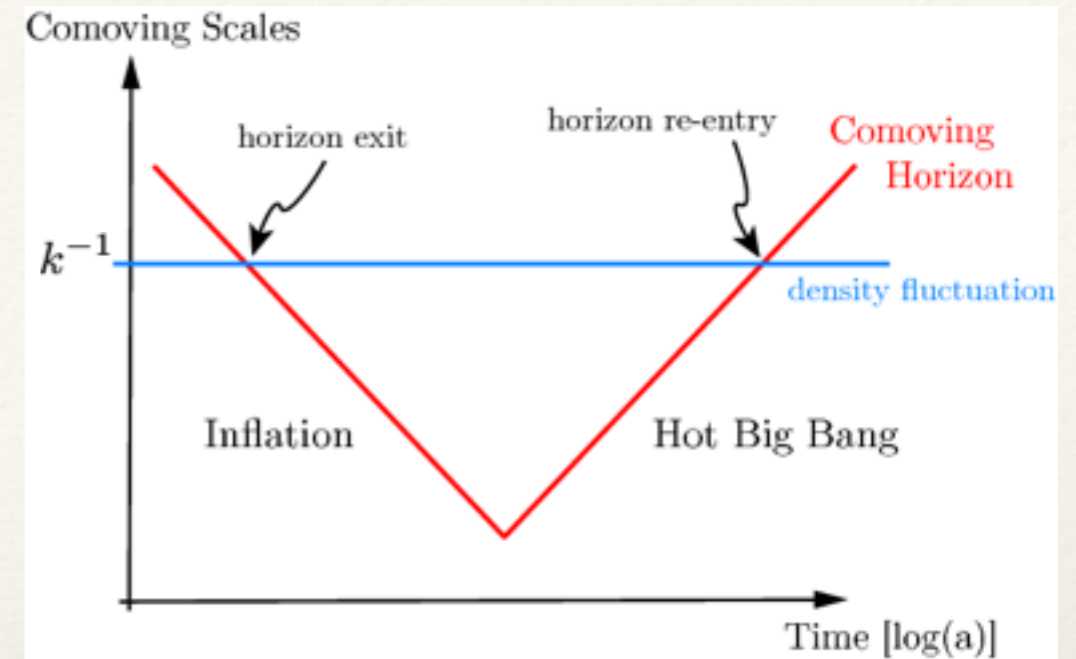
we focus on v):

**large inhomogeneities created by some mechanism during inflation**

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a PBH is formed when a mode re-enters the horizon if the related amplitude of the curvature perturbation is above a certain threshold

Garcia-Bellido et al., 1996



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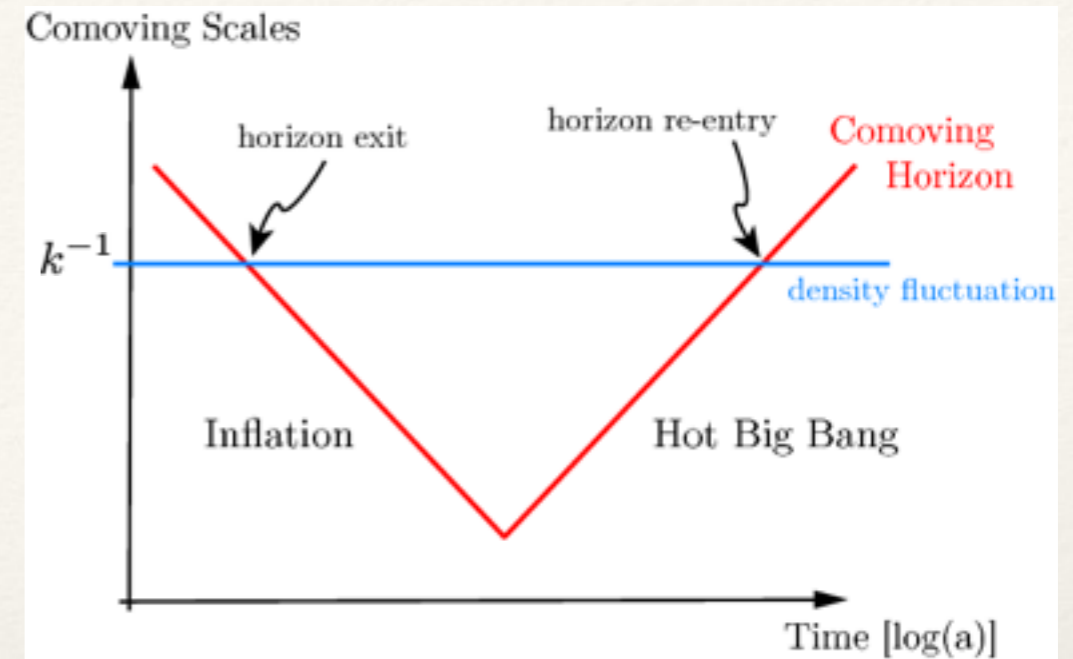


1-1 map between N and M

$$M \simeq 4\pi\gamma M_p^2 \frac{e^{2N}}{H_{\text{inf}}}$$

N = number of e-foldings  
(before the end of inflation)  
at which the mode k left the horizon

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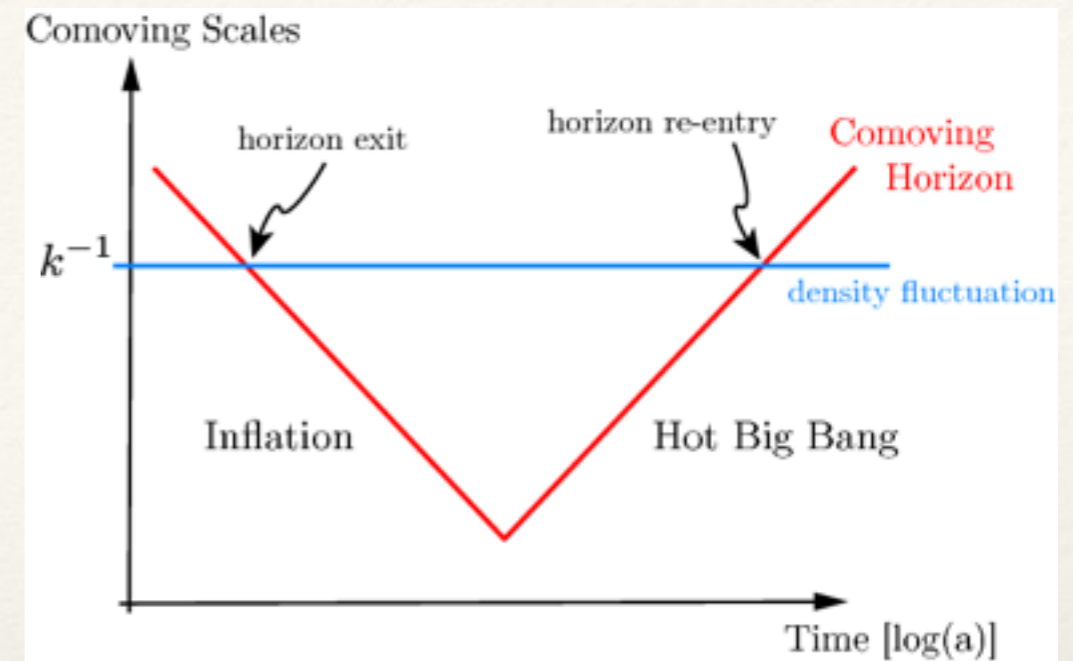
the probability of forming a PBH with mass M is then

$$\beta(M) = \int_{\zeta_c}^{\infty} \mathcal{P}(\zeta_k) d\zeta_k$$

→ threshold for the collapse to occur

$\mathcal{P} \equiv$  probability density for  $\zeta$

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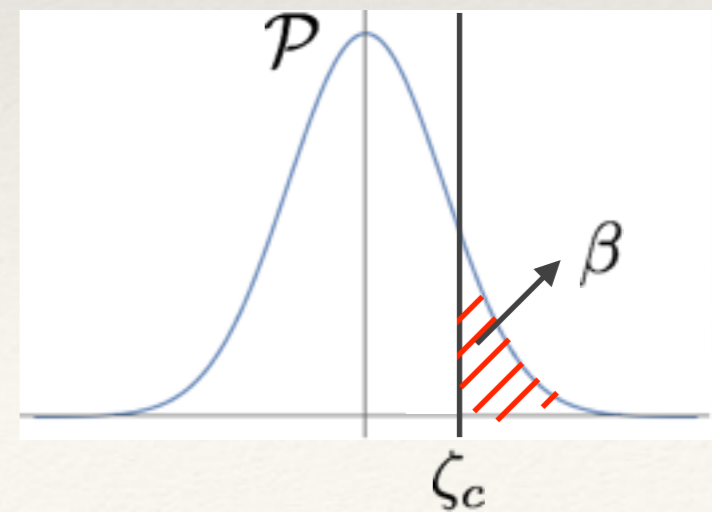
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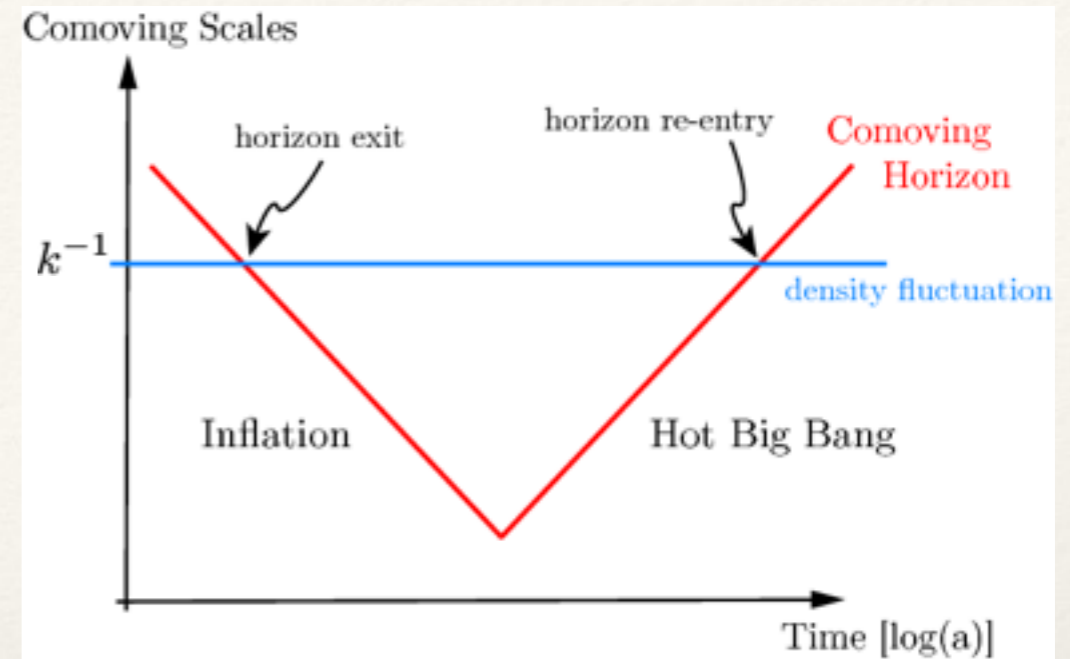
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e.g.  $\mathcal{P} \equiv$  gaussian



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Carr et al., 2010, 2017

radiation domination  $\rho \propto T^4$

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the fraction of PBH dark matter today is

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in realistic cases the mass distribution  
 won't be a delta-function

$$f_{\text{tot}} = \int \frac{dM}{2M} f(M)$$

Carr et al., 2017

at the CMB scales

COBE normalisation

$$\Delta_s^2|_{\text{CMB}} \simeq 10^{-9}$$

the spectrum is *locally* almost flat

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we consider axion inflation...

Interesting for many good reasons:

- large tensor-to-scalar ratio,
- several phenomenological consequences,
- well motivated from the bottom-up perspective (arguably less motivated from the top down).

# Axion inflation coupled to gauge fields

Generic lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu\phi\partial^\mu\phi - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - V(\phi) - \frac{\alpha}{4\Lambda}\phi F_{\mu\nu}\tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

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for modes

$$(8\xi)^{-1} \lesssim \frac{k}{aH} \lesssim 2\xi$$

**tachyonic instability**

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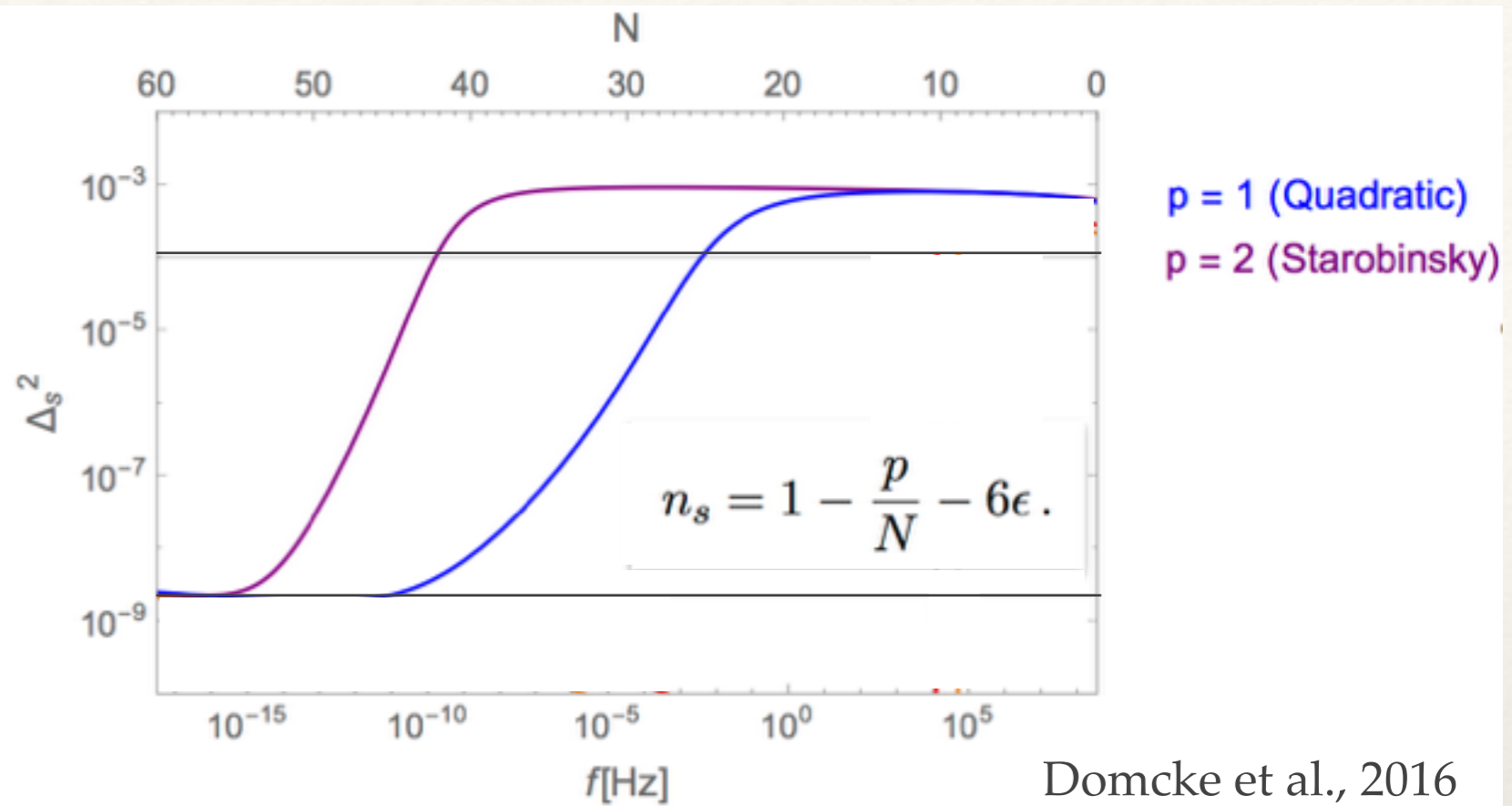
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generic pheno features of the model

observable *chiral* GWs at interferometers, non-gaussianities



$$\Delta_s^2(k) = \left( \frac{H^2}{2\pi|\dot{\phi}|} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\alpha \langle \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} \rangle}{3\Lambda b H \dot{\phi}} \right)^2$$

$$b \equiv 1 - 2\pi\xi \frac{\alpha \langle \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} \rangle}{3\Lambda H \dot{\phi}}$$

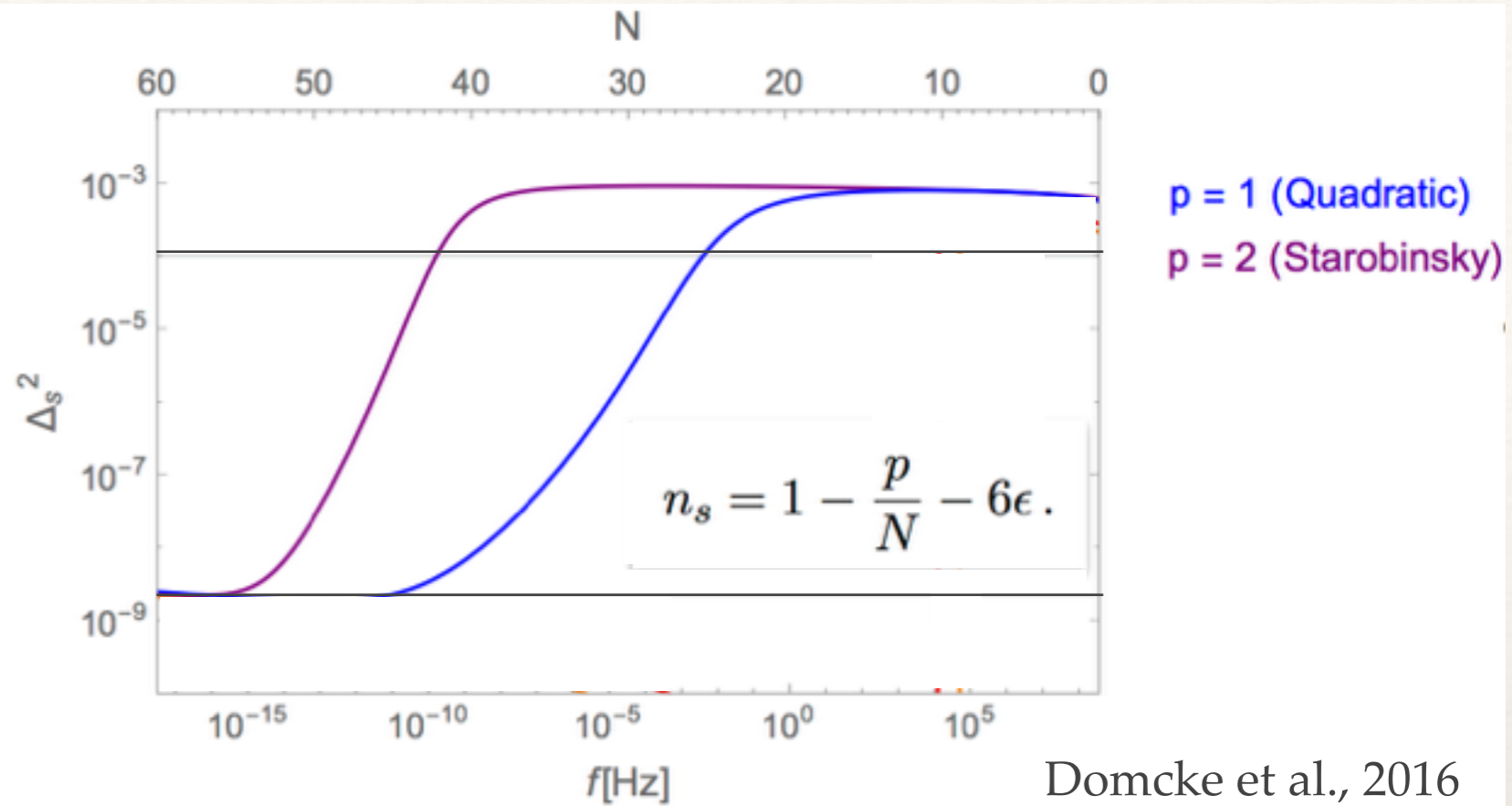
$$\langle \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} \rangle \simeq 2.4 \times 10^{-4} \frac{H^4}{\xi^4} e^{2\pi\xi}$$

plateau in the scalar  
power spectrum



$$\beta(M) \sim \text{const.} \lesssim 10^{-28}$$

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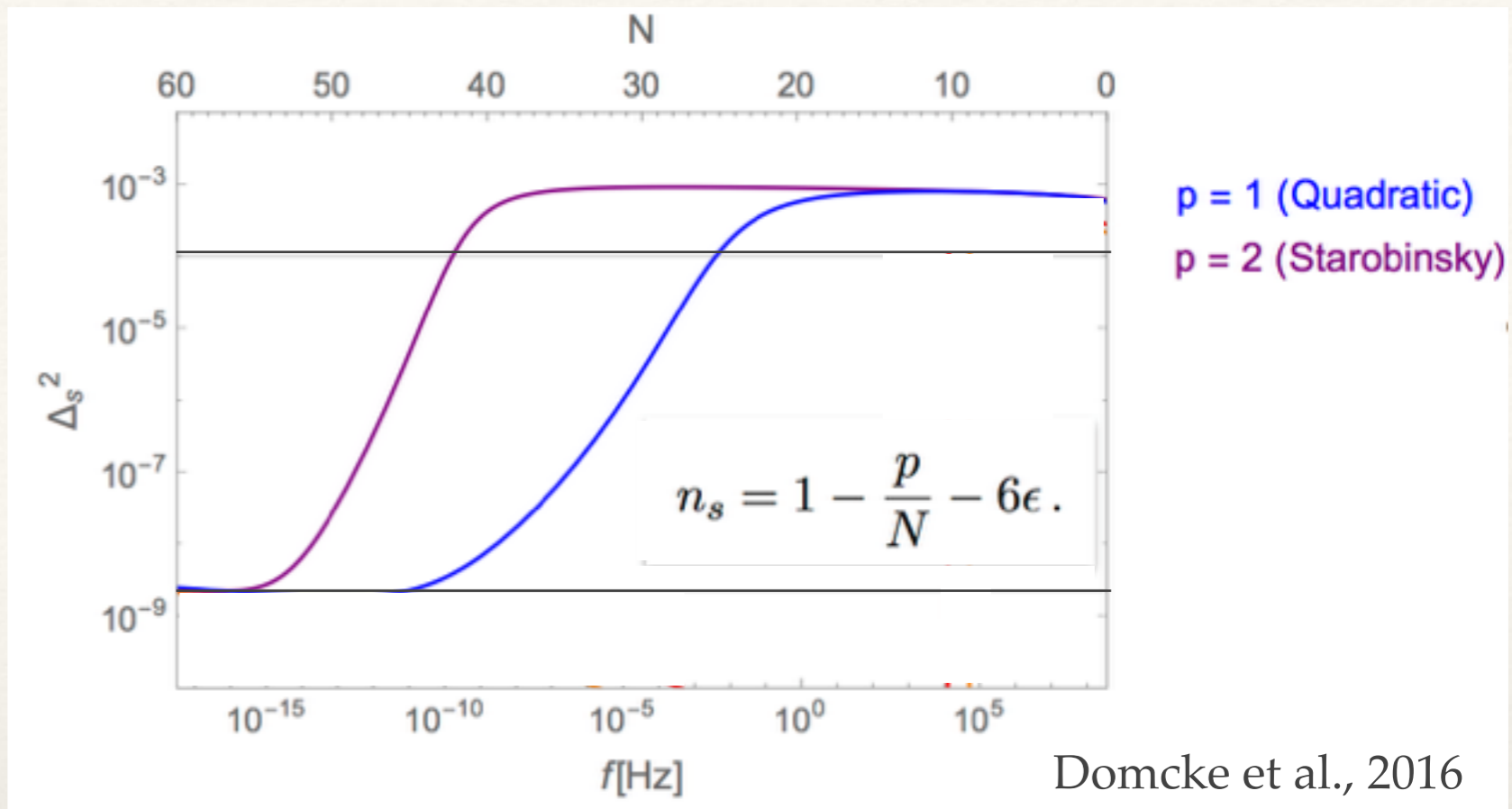
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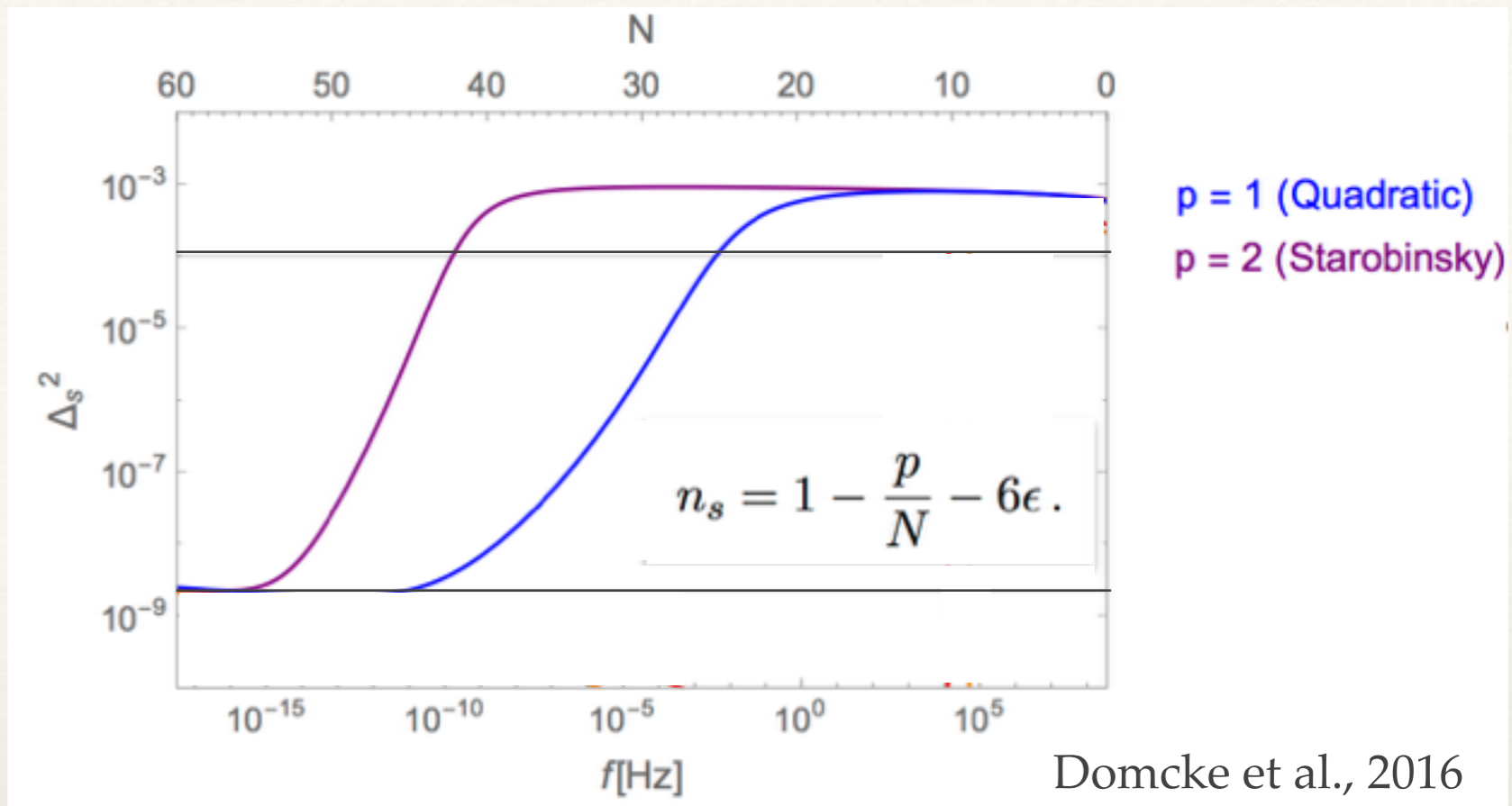
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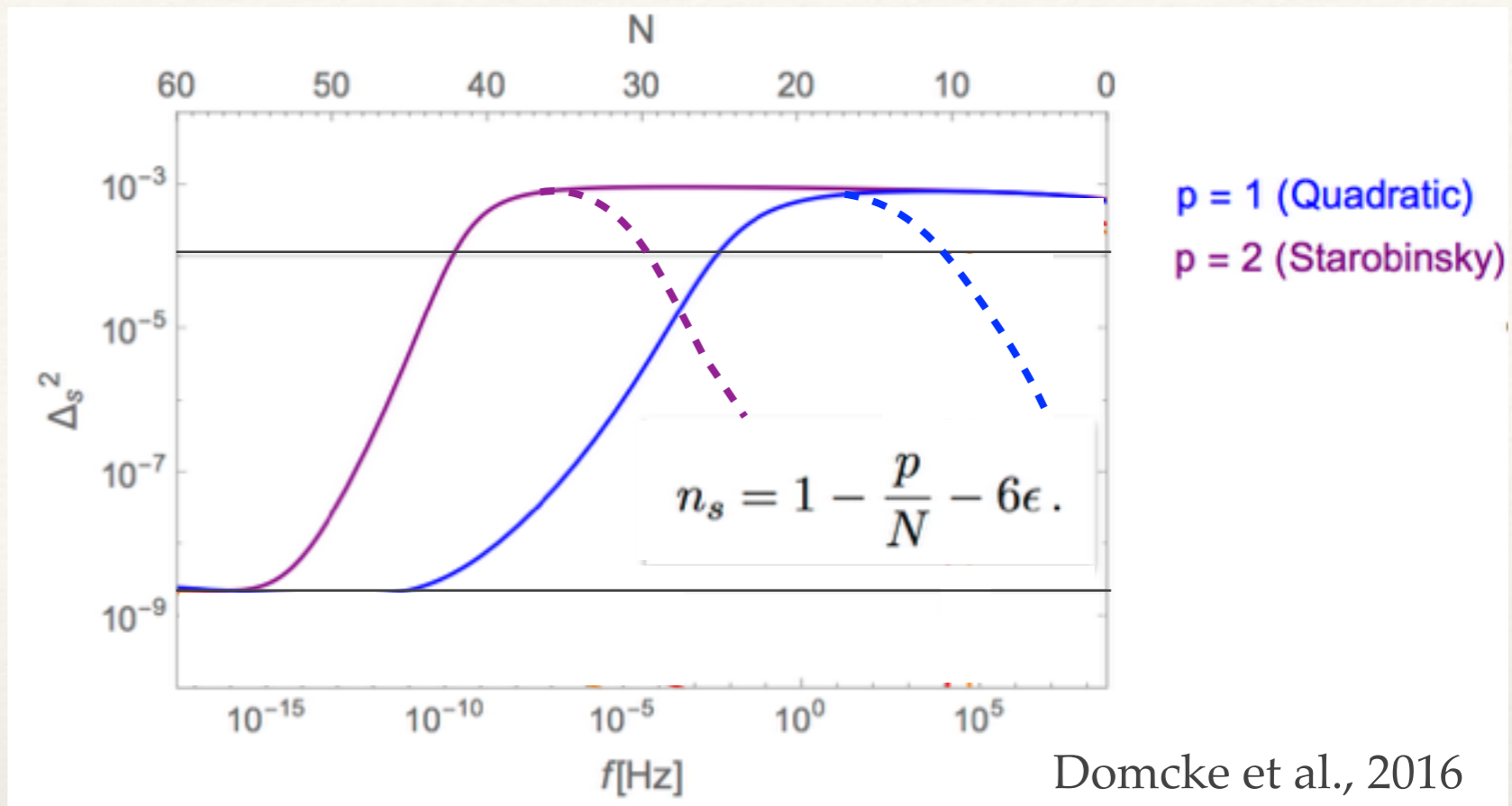
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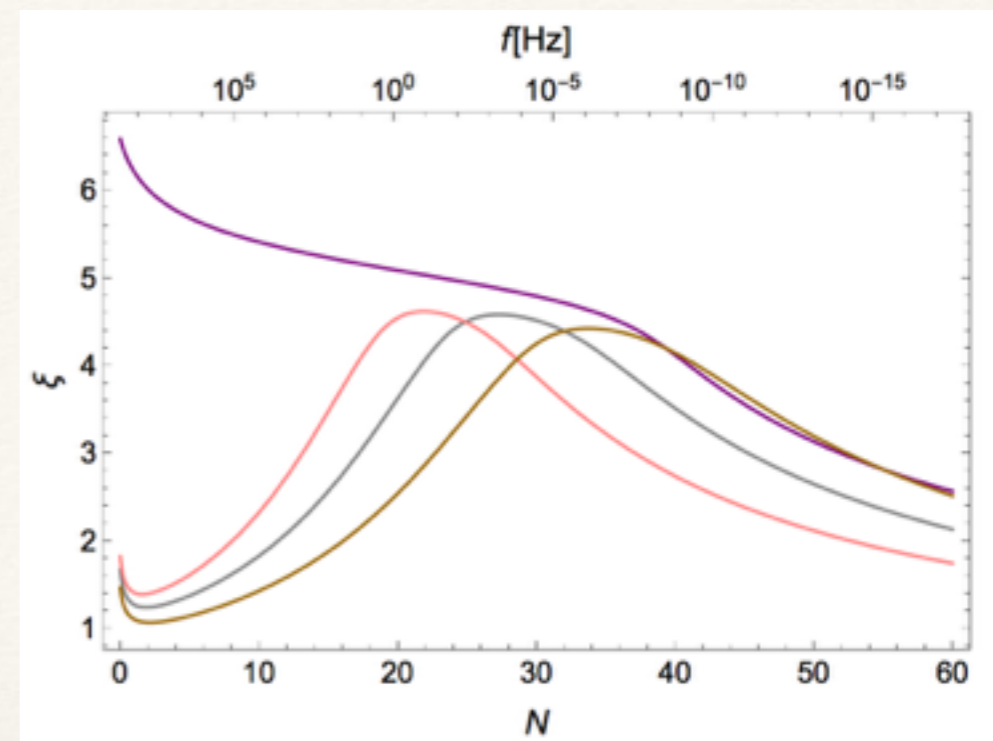
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attractors at strong coupling  $K(\phi) = \frac{1 + \varsigma h(\phi) + 3/2 \varsigma^2 h_{,\phi}^2(\phi)}{(1 + \varsigma h(\phi))^2}$   $V(\phi) = \lambda^4 \frac{h^2(\phi)}{(1 + \varsigma h(\phi))^2}$

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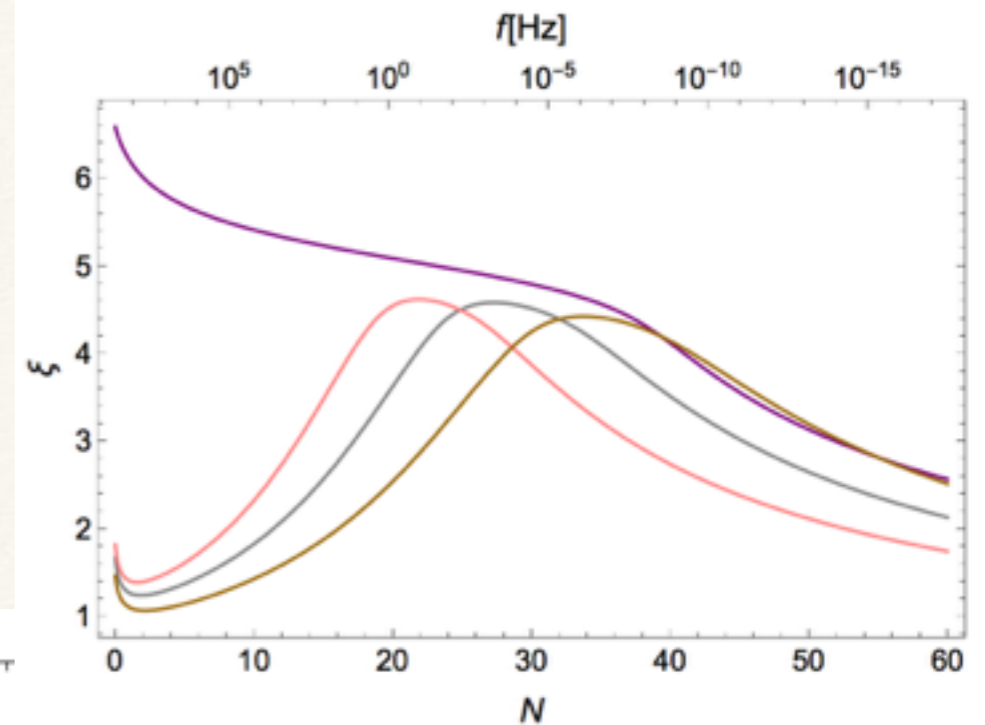
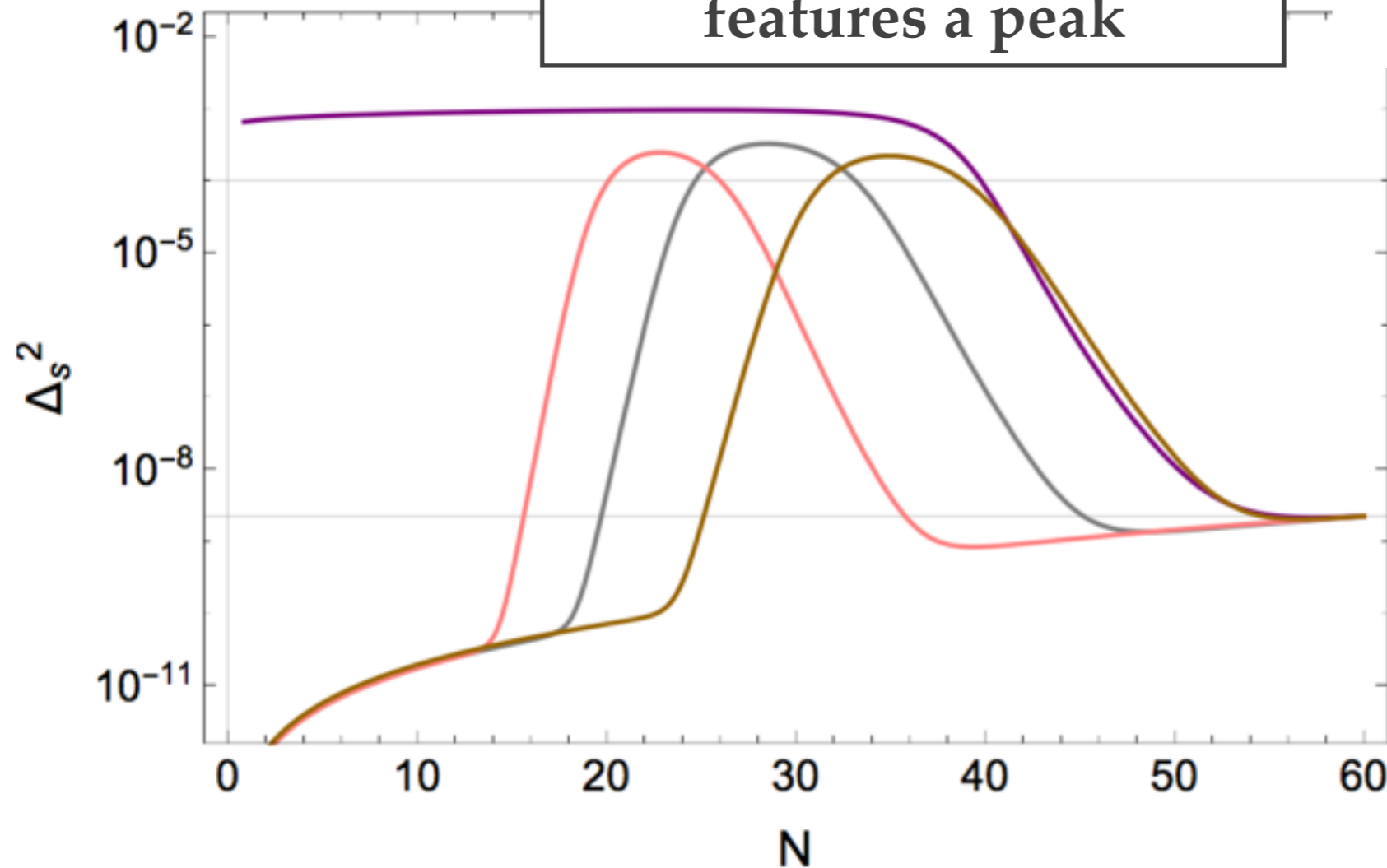


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the power spectrum features a peak



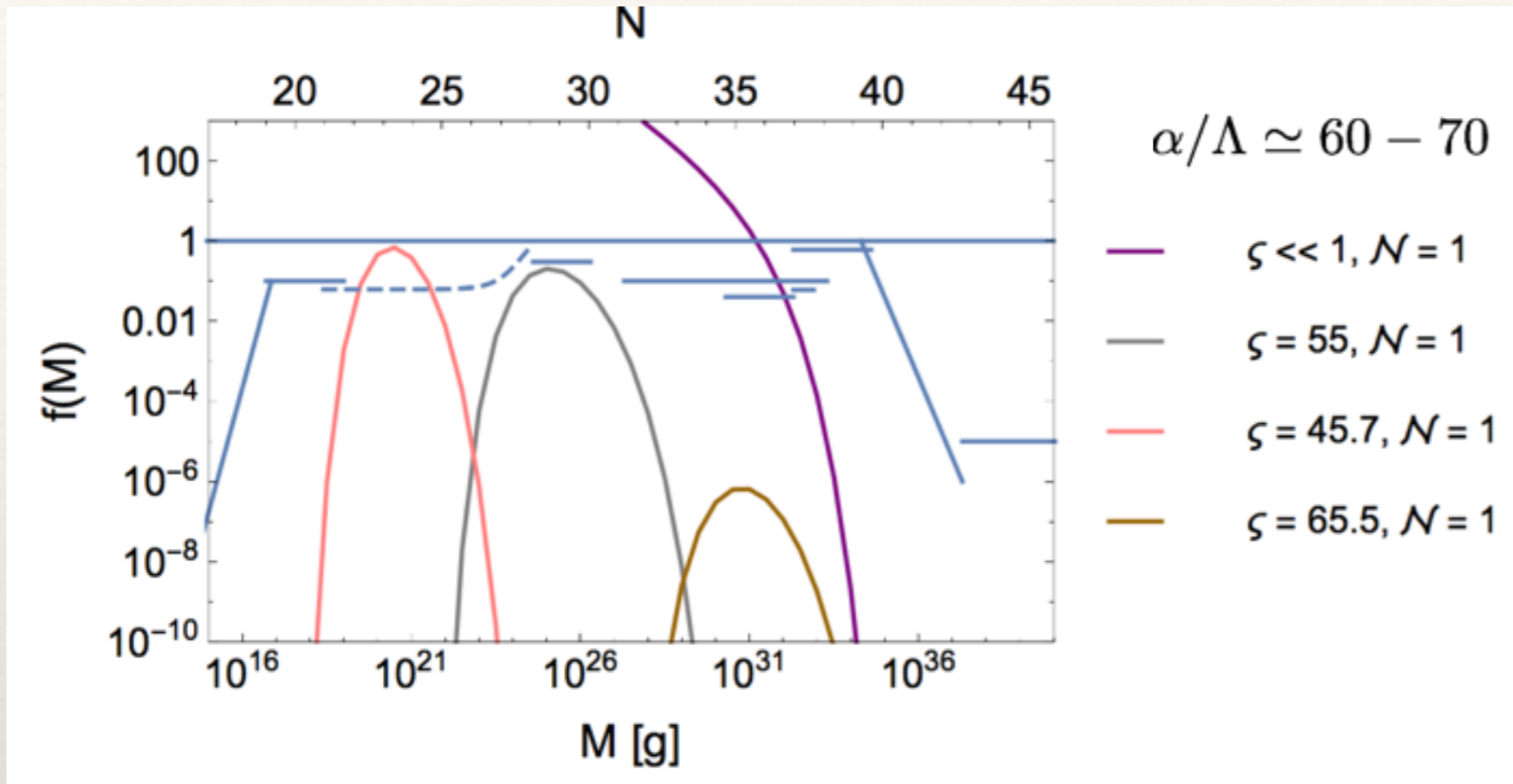
$\alpha/\Lambda \simeq 60 - 70$

- $\zeta = 0.01, \mathcal{N} = 1$
- $\zeta = 55, \mathcal{N} = 1$
- $\zeta = 45.7, \mathcal{N} = 1$
- $\zeta = 65.5, \mathcal{N} = 1$

- i) All curves satisfy COBE normalization
- ii) Increasing  $\alpha/\Lambda$  the tachyonic instability starts earlier.
- iii) Increasing  $\zeta$  the instability is turned off earlier.



# Results



## DM abundance

|  $f_{\text{tot}}^{\zeta=45.7} = 98.6\%$

|  $f_{\text{tot}}^{\zeta=55} = 39.4\%$

|  $f_{\text{tot}}^{\zeta=65.5} \simeq 10^{-4}\%$

- i) Increasing  $\alpha/\Lambda$  and  $\zeta$  shifts the peak towards larger mass values (modes involved exit the horizon earlier and re-enter later).
- ii) In the pink case we neglected NS capture constraints, since they rely on assumptions about the amount of DM in globular clusters, that are disputed.
- iii) The amplitude of the brown curve is constrained by CMB: cannot be larger than this.
- iv) The case with canonical kinetic terms is ruled out by PBH overproduction.

# Possible embedding in string theory?

Two crucial requirements for the embedding of axion inflation:

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string moduli:  $T = \tau + i\phi$

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Kaehler potential:  $K \equiv K(T + \bar{T})$

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3. The Kaehler metric has to depend on the inflaton

typically  $K$  doesn't depend on the axion at leading order due to the shift-symmetry  $\longrightarrow$  need to compute shift-symmetry violating corrections

# Conclusions

**Models of axion inflation with coupling to gauge fields are extremely interesting from a phenomenological point of view**

**potentially observable chiral GWs, non-gaussianities**

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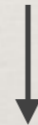
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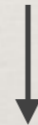
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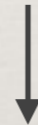
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not an easy task...

# TESTING STRING THEORY IN THE SKY



*Innovations to cope with experimental austerity*

Prof J Conlon, Dr S Krippendorf, Dr F Muia, F Day, N Jennings

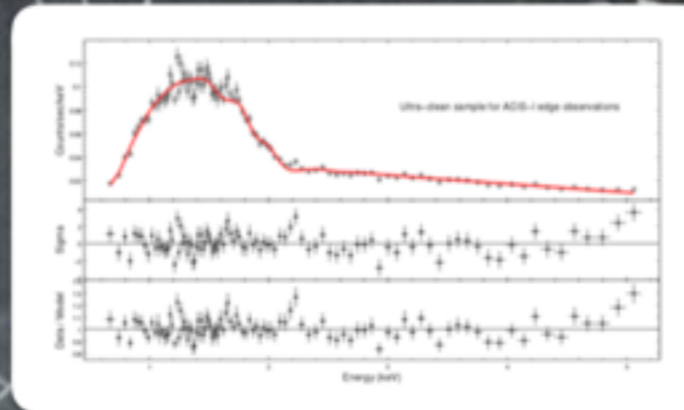
(previous group members: Dr D Marsh (now Cambridge), Dr M Rummel (now Perimeter Institute, Canada))



## Gravity waves from Early Universe:

- Moduli are particles which describe size and shape of extra spatial dimensions and don't interact strongly enough with usual matter. There are 100's of them.
- Their presence is important in the Early Universe and they can produce so-called phase transitions.
- Such phase transitions can produce observable gravity waves (e.g. SKA, LISA, LIGO).

(arXiv:1607.06813, with: I.Garcia Garcia, J. March-Russell)



## String theory:

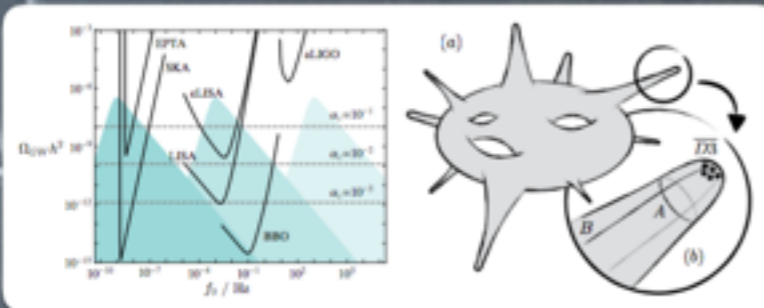
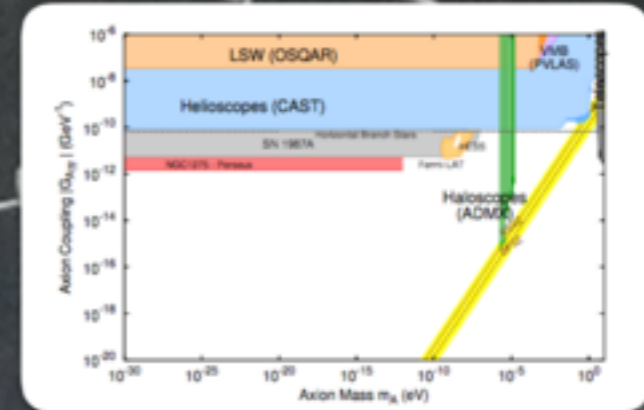
- Leading candidate for a unified theory of elementary particles and quantum gravity.
- Physical consistency: 10 dimensions.
- $10^{500}$  choices and no generic predictions for the LHC.

But how do we test it?  
 Hunt for moduli and axions

## Axions:

- Axions are light particles that interact with photons in magnetic fields. They are ubiquitous in string theory.
- The larger and stronger the magnetic field the better the interaction. The best places in the Universe are galaxy clusters.
- Existence of axions leads to spectral modulations, observable with X-ray satellites (e.g. Chandra, XMM-Newton, Athena).

(arXiv:1605.01043, with: M. Berg)



## Dark Radiation:

- Dark Radiation accounts for hidden relativistic particles in the Universe.
- The presence of Dark Radiation modifies the expansion of the Universe.
- Current measurements (e.g. from Planck, Hubble Space telescope) allow for a small amount of additional dark radiation.
- In most of string models the lightest modulus decays into dark radiation.

(arXiv:1208.3562, 1511.05447, with: M. Cicoli, F. Quevedo)

interested to find out more?

Research funded by:



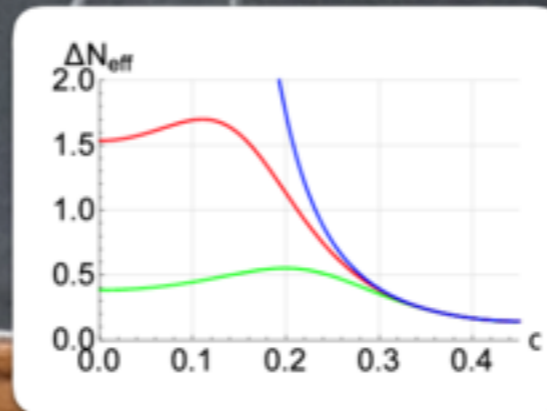
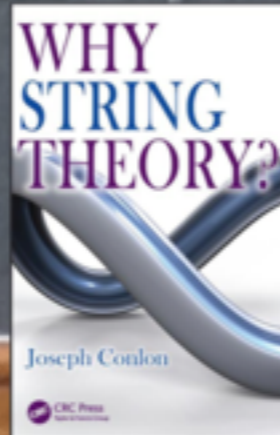
Science & Technology Facilities Council



European Research Council



THE ROYAL SOCIETY



Hope the collaboration between string theory and cosmology communities will strengthen in the next years!

**Thank you!**