

# Hubble induced phase transitions: Defects are not forever

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Based on: **arXiv:1810.11117 (JCAP 1902 (2019) 034)** and **arXiv:1911.03484 (JCAP01 (2020) 002)**

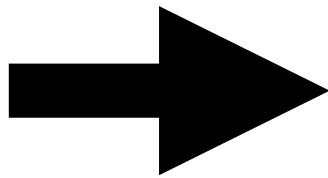
J. Rubio (IST, Lisbon), G. Domenech (INFN, Padova), A. Lopez-Eigueren (Tufts University)

# Introduction

## Gravity-mediated interplay between inflation and matter fields

Rich phenomenology

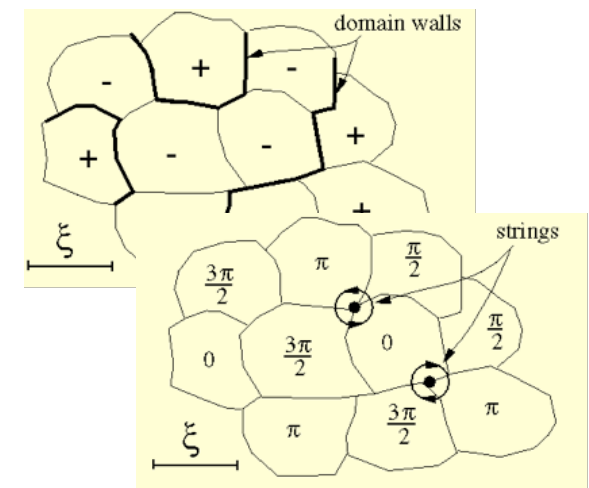
Usually in terms of homogeneous field evolution!



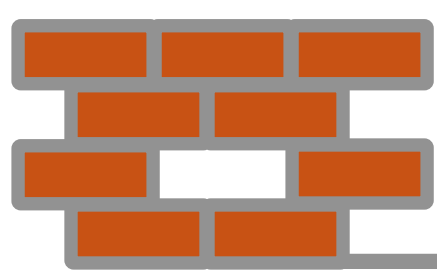
- Baryogenesis [Bettoni, Rubio (2018)]
- Cosmic strings [Bettoni, Domenech, Rubio (2018)]
- Domain Walls [Bettoni, Rubio (2019)]
- Reheating [Dimopoulos et al. (2018), Opferkuch et al. (2019)]
- Dark Matter [Fairbairn et al. (2018) & Alonso-Álvarez (2018)]

### Key concepts:

- *Spontaneous breaking of internal symmetries*
- Formation of *topological defects*
- The dynamics of defects leads to
  - *Gravitational waves spectrum*
  - Heating (radiation domination)



$$h''_{ij} + k^2 h_{ij} = 16\pi G a(\tau) T_{ij}^{TT}$$



# Hubble building defects

**Spectator field**  $\rho_\chi \ll \rho_{\text{inf}}$

Non-minimal coupling

Internal symmetries

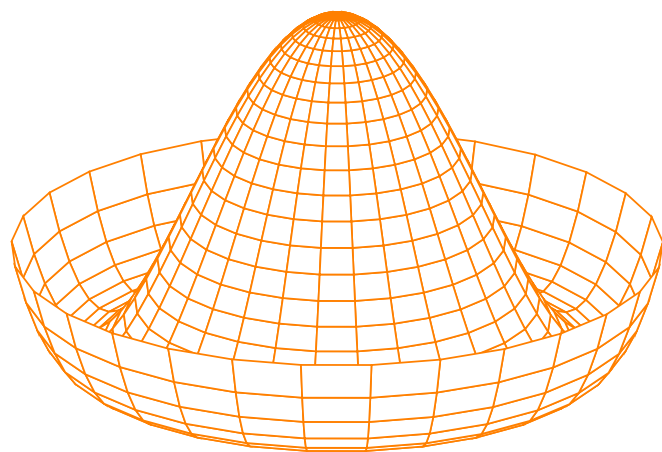
$$V_{\text{eff}} = (m_\chi^2 + \xi R)|\chi|^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4}|\chi|^4$$

**Stiff equation of state**

$$R = 3(1 - 3w)H^2 < 0$$

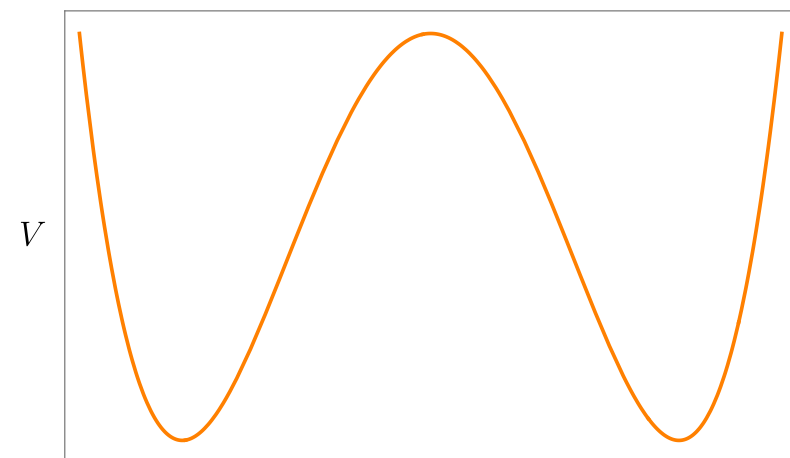
E.g., quintessential inflation

$U(1)$  symmetry



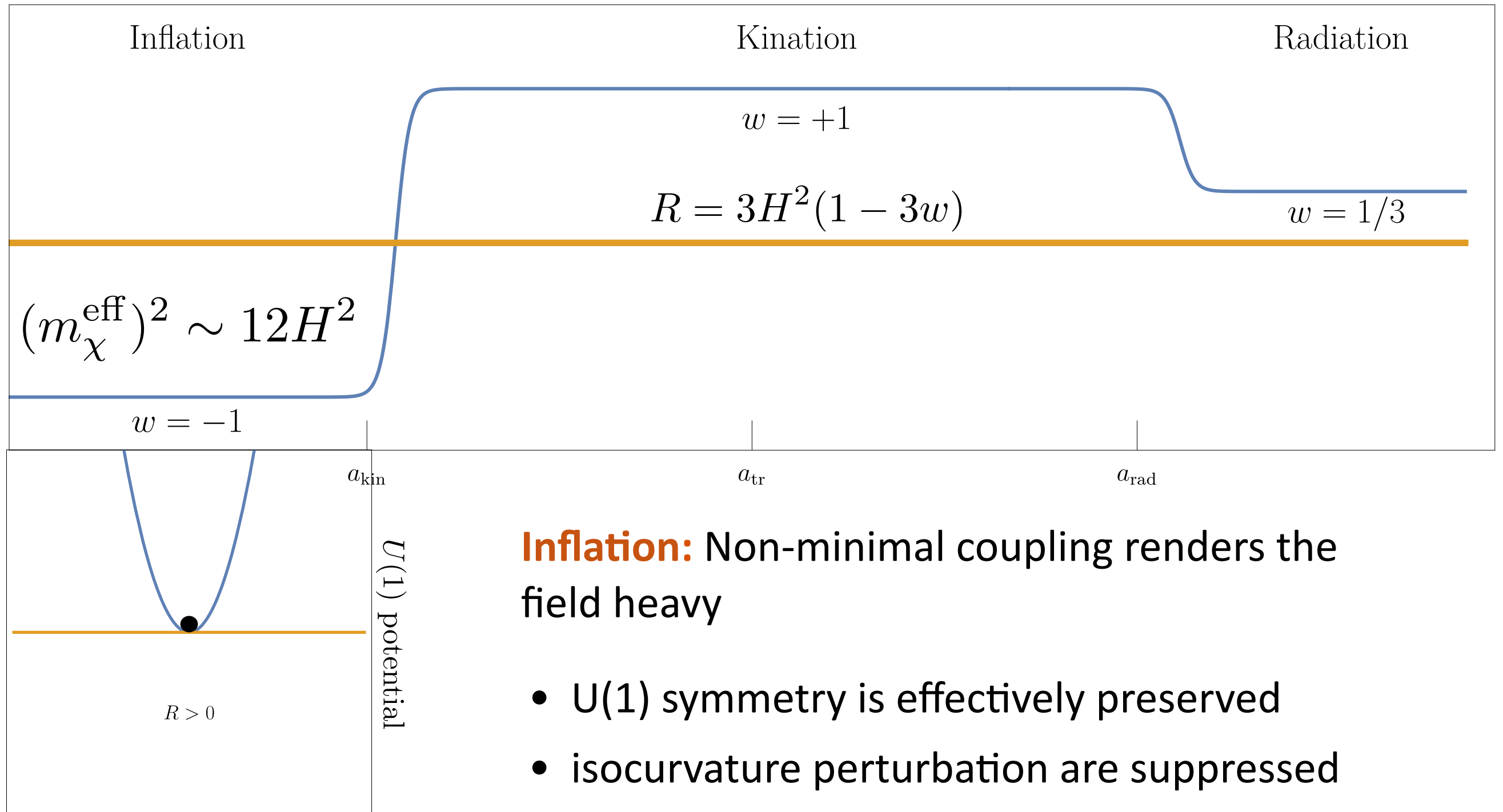
arXiv:1810.11117

$Z_2$  symmetry



arXiv:1911.03484

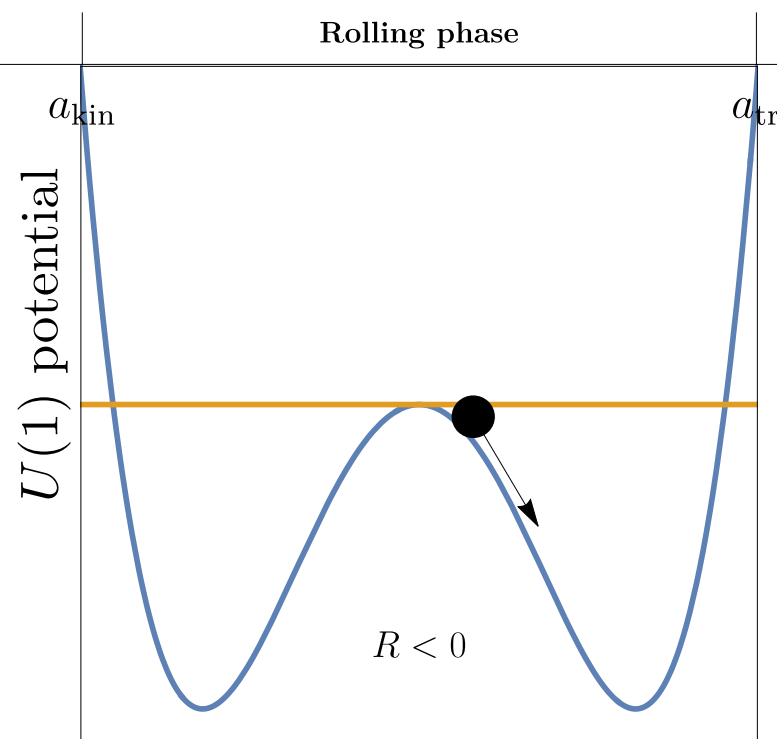
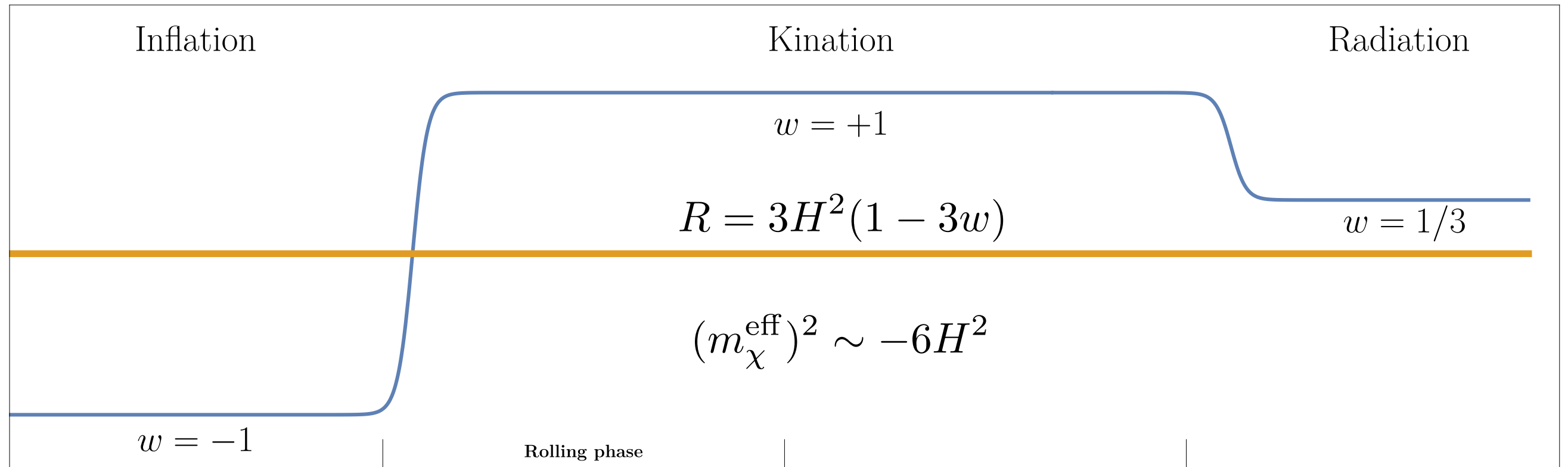
# Spectator field dynamics



**Inflation:** Non-minimal coupling renders the field heavy

- U(1) symmetry is effectively preserved
- isocurvature perturbation are suppressed

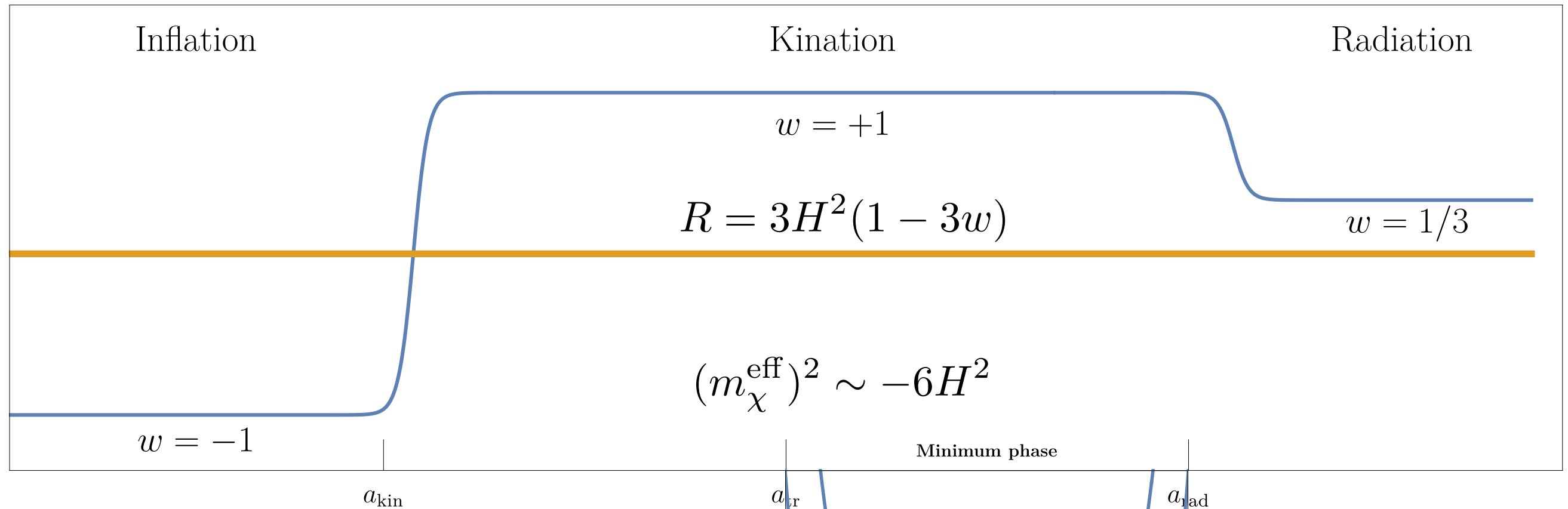
# Spectator field dynamics



**Rolling phase:** The field starts to roll towards the new minimum at large values

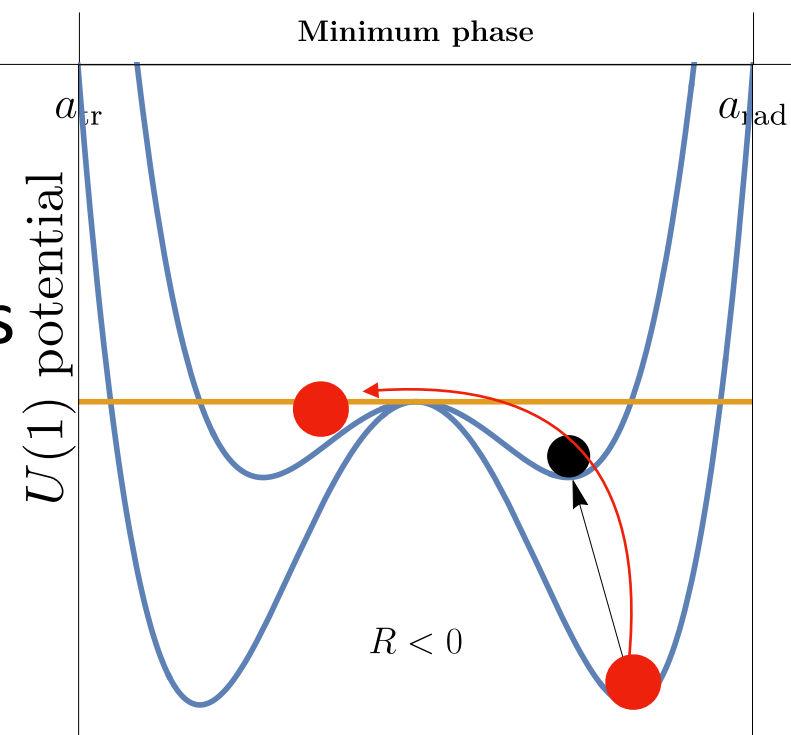
**Defects start to form!**

# Spectator field dynamics



**Minimum phase:** The field approaches the new time dependent minimum

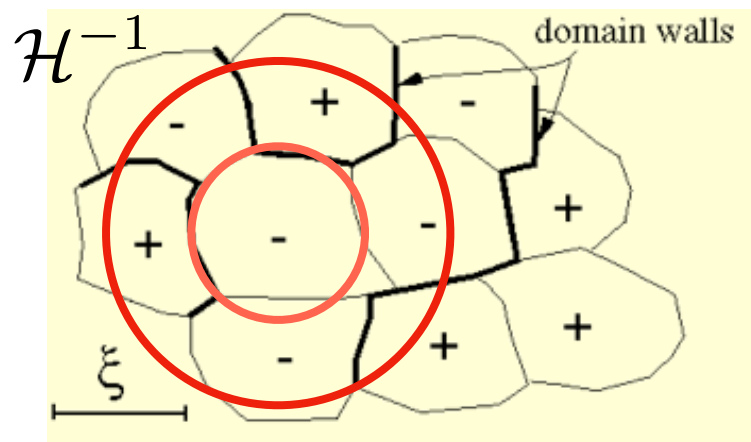
Trapping ...  
or Jumping?



Highly non-linear dynamics, simulations are needed!

# Symmetry Breaking

- $\chi(\vec{x})$  with  $\langle \chi \rangle = 0$

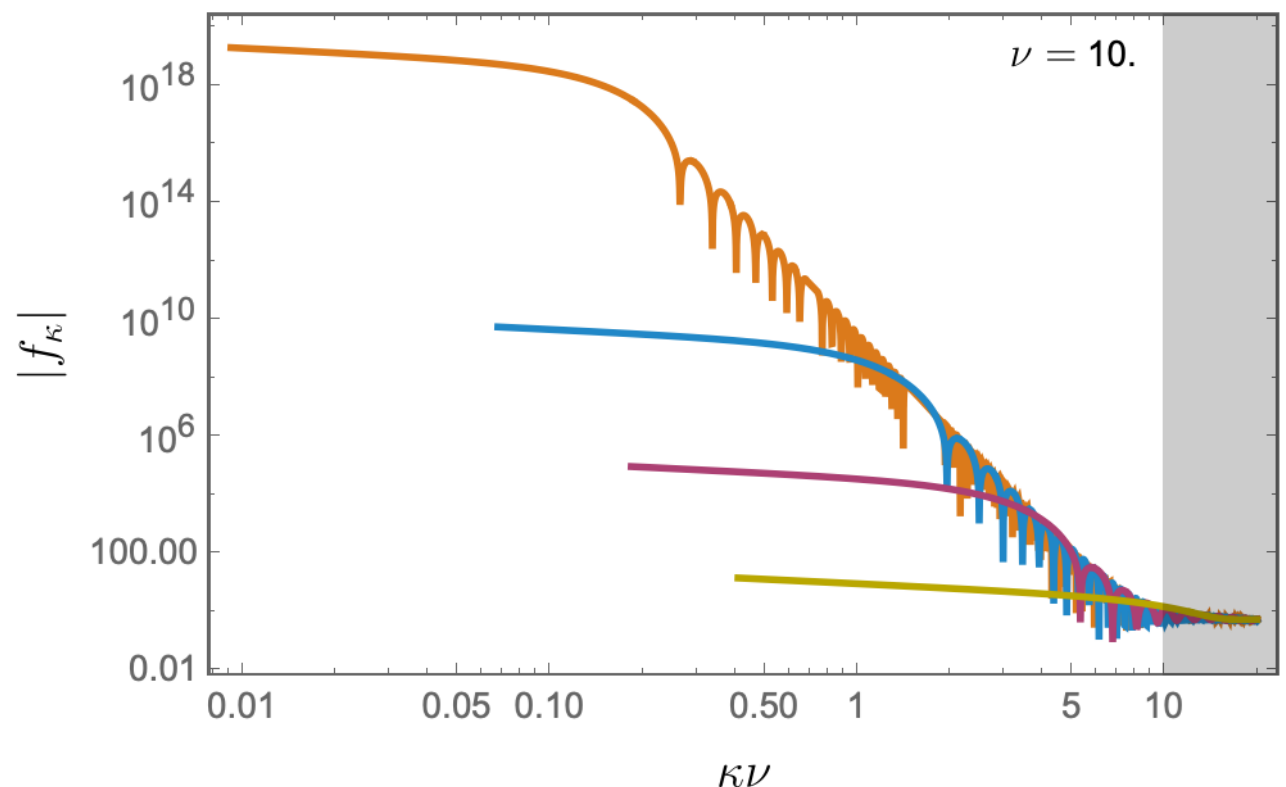
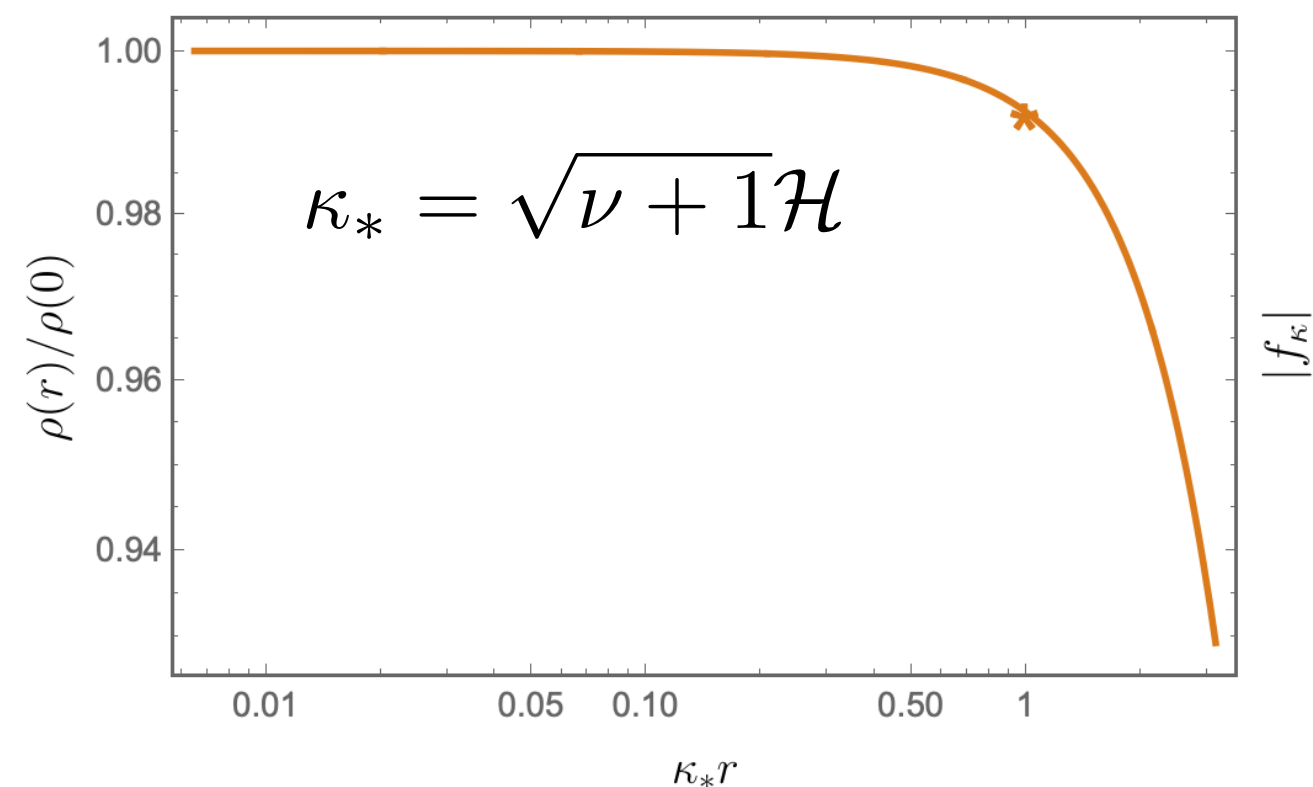


- Semi-classical process
- Spinodal/Tachyonic instability
- Classicalization (analytical)

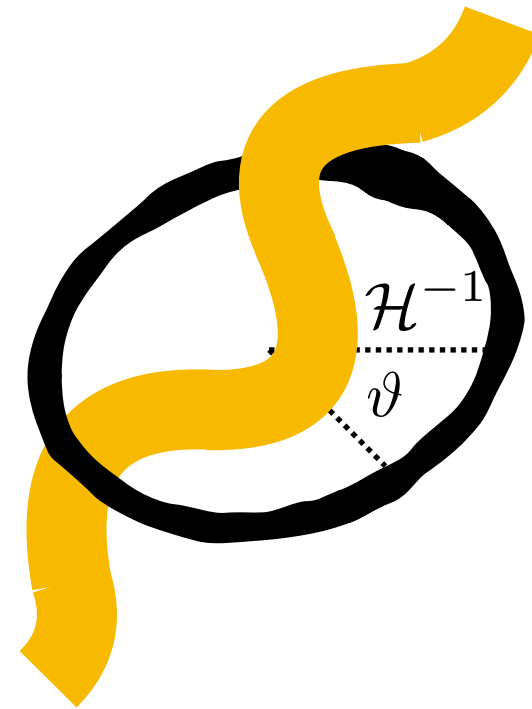
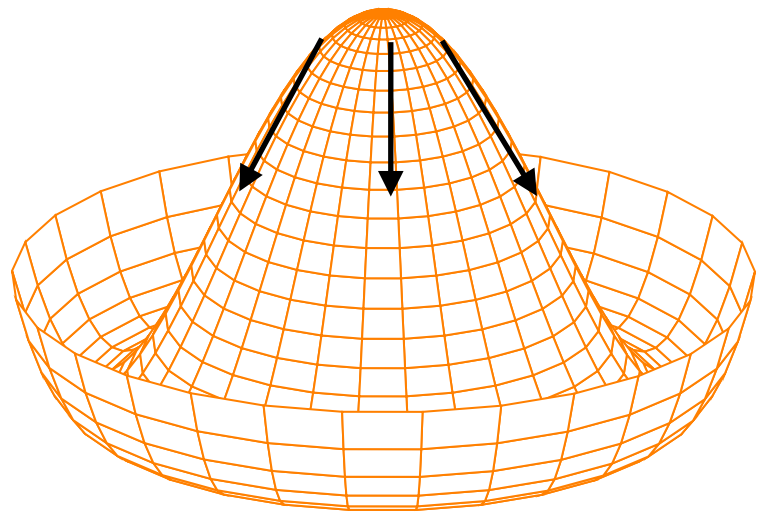
$$\omega_{\kappa}^2(z) = \kappa^2 - \frac{\nu^2 - 1/4}{(z + \nu)^2}$$

Following dynamics needs numerical simulations. However, **statistical** properties

Treat field as classical Gaussian random field with quantum initial conditions

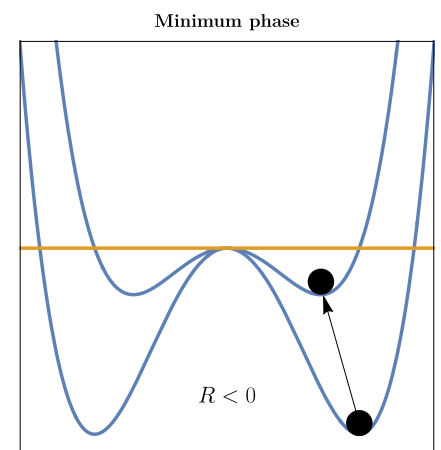
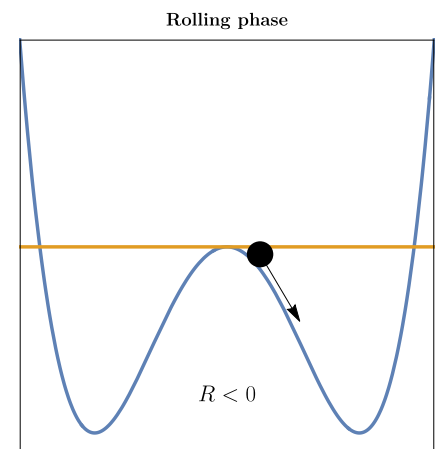


# Cosmic string formation



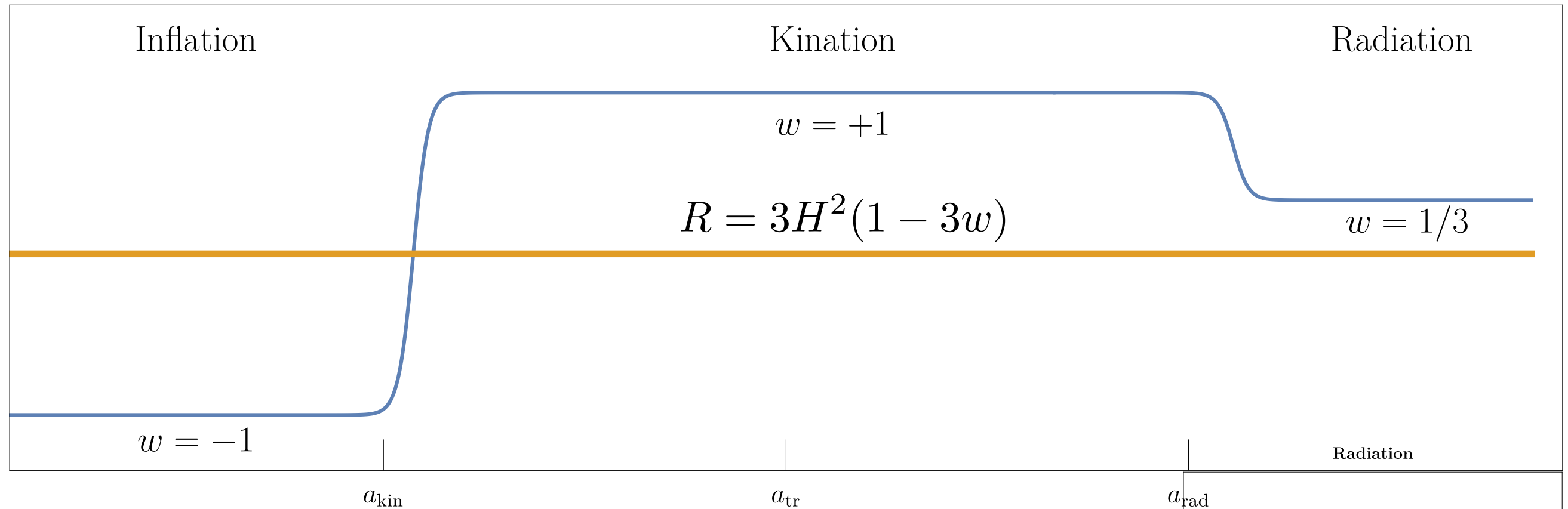
- Time dep. VEV
- *Short-lived*
- *fat* string
- Non scaling

$$\Omega_{\text{cs}} \sim \frac{|\chi(t)|^2}{M_{\text{P}}^2} \begin{cases} a^{\sqrt{6}\xi} \\ a^{-\frac{6}{n-2}} \end{cases}$$





# Spectator field dynamics



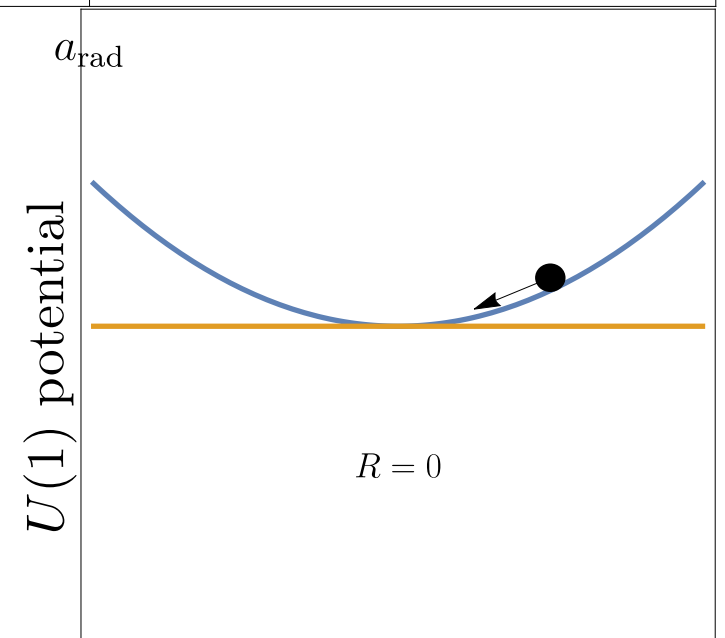
Symmetry restoration:

Exact

$$R = 0$$

Effective

$$\omega_{\kappa}^2(z) = \kappa^2 - M^2(z) + 3\lambda Y_{\text{rms}}^2(z)$$



- The origin is again the minimum
- Field start to oscillate around the origin



**Cosmic defects decay!**



# GW spectrum

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(\tau, k) = \int_{\tau_i}^{\tau} d \log \tau' \frac{\Delta P_{\text{GW}}(\tau', k)}{\Delta \log \tau'} \left( \frac{a(\tau')}{a(\tau)} \right)^b$$

- Instantaneous GW spectrum

$$\frac{\Delta P_{\text{GW}}(t, k)}{\Delta N} \simeq \begin{cases} P_{\text{peak}}(t) \left( \frac{k}{k_{\text{peak}}(t)} \right)^{\alpha} & \text{for } k \lesssim k_{\text{peak}} , \\ P_{\text{peak}}(t) \left( \frac{k}{k_{\text{peak}}(t)} \right)^{-\bar{\alpha}} & \text{for } k > k_{\text{peak}} , \end{cases}$$

$$P_{\text{peak}}(t) \sim \left( \frac{|\chi(t)|}{M_{\text{P}}} \right)^4 \quad k_{\text{peak}}(t) \sim aH$$

- Enhancement due to background

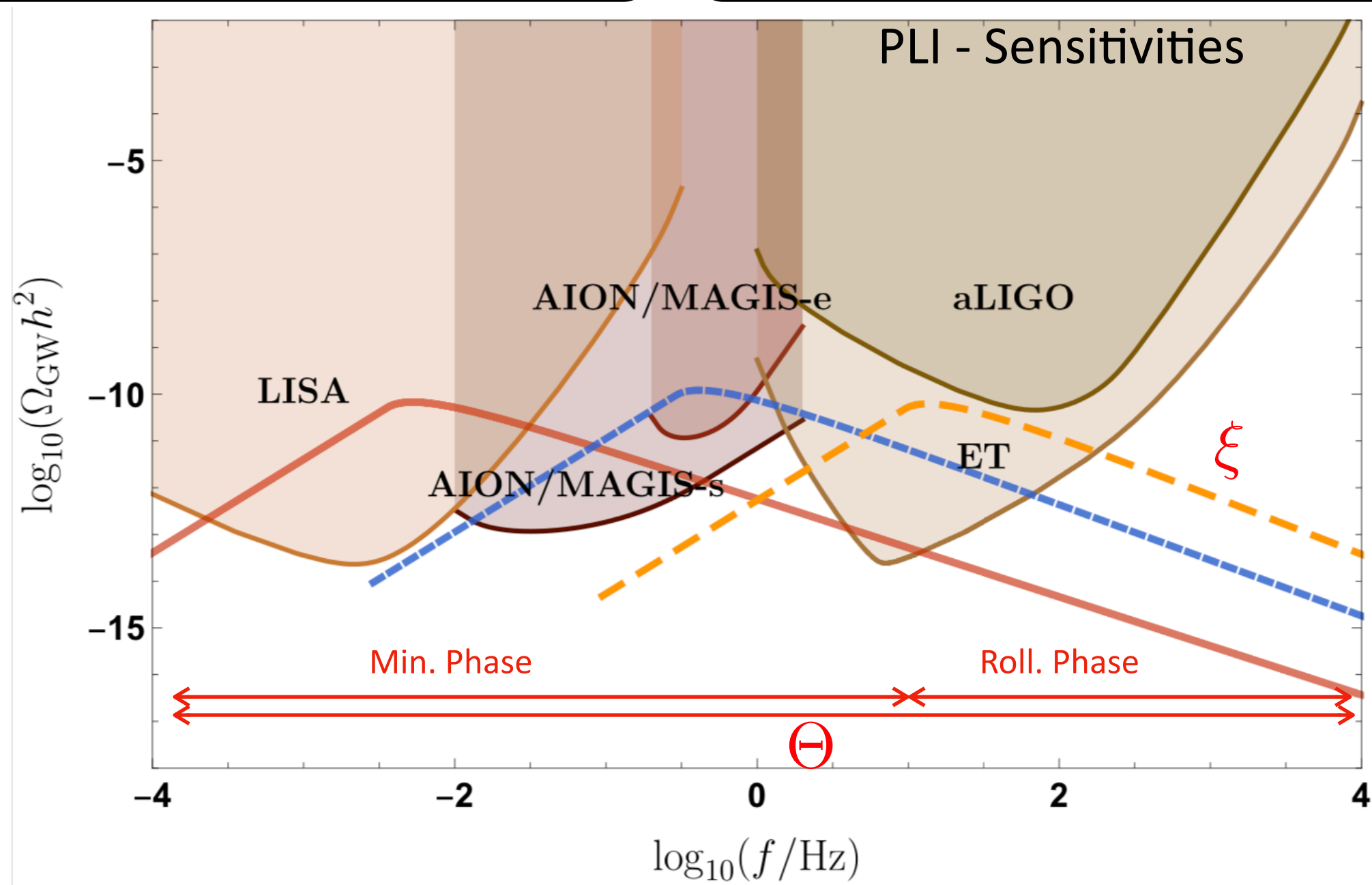
$$\rho_{\text{GW}} \sim a^{-4} \quad \rho_{\phi} \sim a^{-6}$$

# GW spectrum

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(\tau_0, k)h^2 = \Omega_{\text{R}}h^2 \left( \frac{|\chi(\tau_{\text{kin}})|}{M_{\text{P}}} \right)^4 \Theta^{-1} F(k)$$

$$f_0^{\text{kin}} \sim 3 \times 10^{11} \text{Hz} \left( \frac{H_{\text{kin}}}{10^{11} \text{GeV}} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{\Theta}{10^{-14}} \right)^{-1/4}$$

$$f_0^{\text{osc}} \sim 3 \times 10^{-3} \text{Hz} \left( \frac{H_{\text{kin}}}{10^{11} \text{GeV}} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{\Theta}{10^{-14}} \right)^{3/4} \left( \frac{a_{\text{rad}}}{a_{\text{osc}}} \right)^2$$





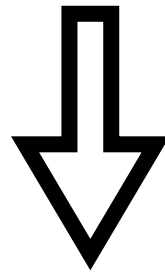
# Conclusions

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NMC

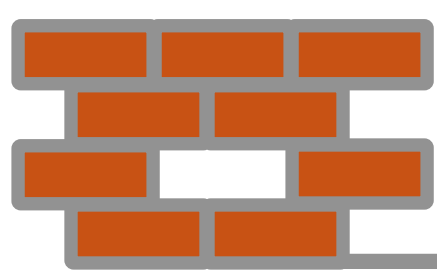
+

Kinetic dominated epoch



Formation of **topological defects** and associated **GW** background

- Potentially detectable with forthcoming experiments
- Slopes related to the NMC and HO operators
- Peak position related to transition between *rolling* and *minimum* phases and  $\Theta$
- Amplitude of the peak related to  $H_{\text{kin}}$  and  $\Theta$



# Conclusions

The process requires a **quantum** and **local** description

In order to draw phenomenological conclusions and parameter estimation need to take into account

- Backreaction
- Gradients
- Defects dynamics
- GW production

Numerical simulations needed to quantify are running...  
... stay tuned!