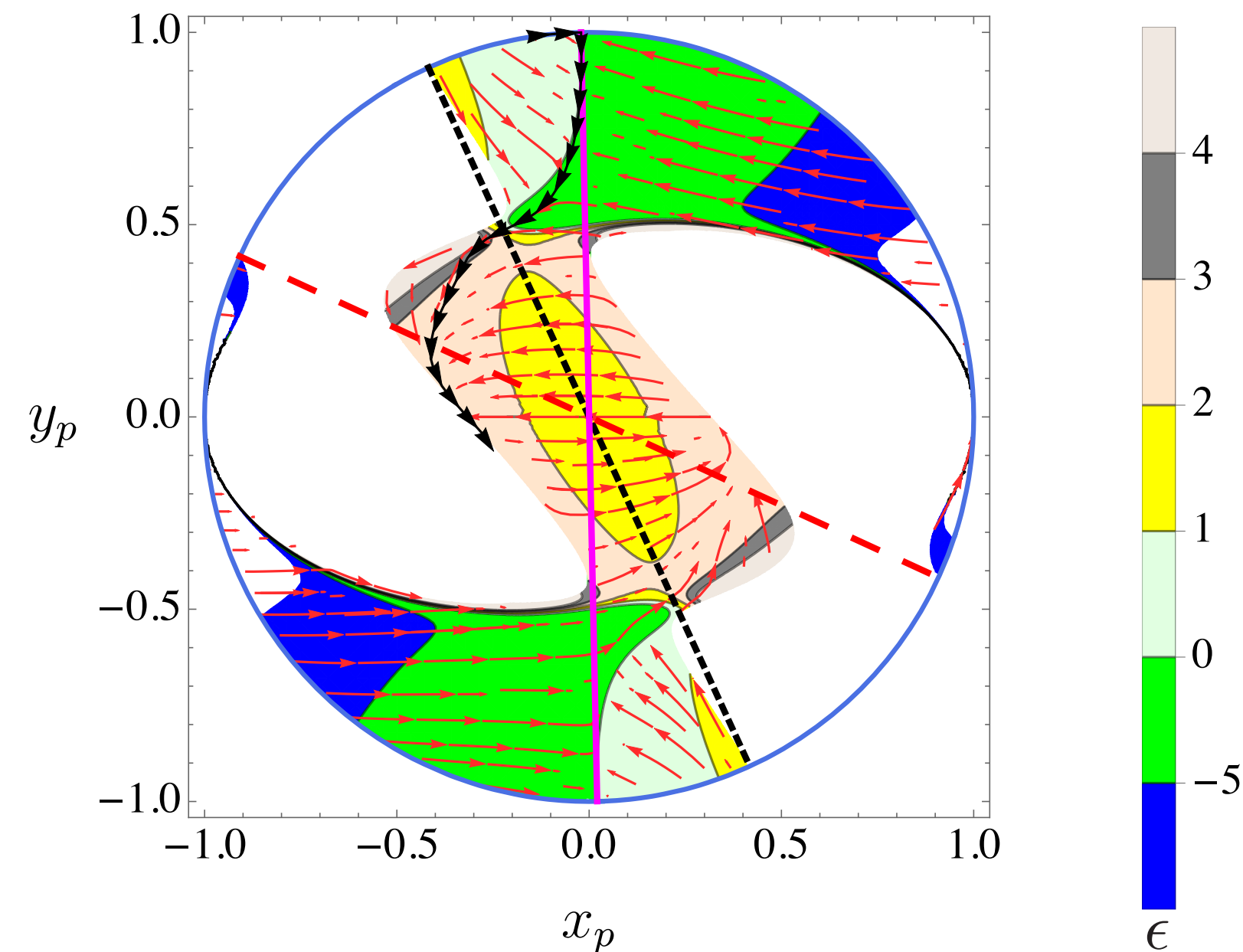


# Generalized SU(2) Proca theory and constant-roll inflation



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**COSMO 2022 - Rio de Janeiro - Brazil**

# Sequel

- E. Allys, P. Peter, and Y. Rodríguez, “Generalized Proca action for an Abelian vector field”, JCAP 1602 (2016) 004.
- E. Allys, J. P. Beltrán-Almeida, P. Peter, and Y. Rodríguez, “On the 4D generalized Proca action for an Abelian vector field”, JCAP 1609 (2016) 026.
- E. Allys, P. Peter, and Y. Rodríguez, “Generalized SU(2) Proca theory”, Phys. Rev. D 94 (2016) 084041.
- Y. Rodríguez and A. A. Navarro, “Scalar and vector Galileons”, J. Phys. Conf. Ser. 831 (2017) 012004.
- Y. Rodríguez and A. A. Navarro, “Non-Abelian S-term dark energy and inflation”, Phys. Dark Univ. 19 (2018) 129.
- A. Gallego Cadavid and Y. Rodríguez, “A systematic procedure to build the beyond generalized Proca field theory”, Phys. Lett. B 798 (2019) 134958.
- L. G. Gómez and Y. Rodríguez, “Stability conditions in the generalized SU(2) Proca theory”, Phys. Rev. D 100 (2019) 084048.
- A. Gallego Cadavid, Y. Rodríguez, and L. G. Gómez, “Generalized SU(2) Proca theory reconstructed and beyond”, Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020) 104066.
- J. C. Garnica, L. G. Gómez, A. A. Navarro, and Y. Rodríguez, “Constant-roll inflation in the generalized SU(2) Proca theory”, Ann. Phys. (Berlin) 534 (2022) 2100453.
- A. Gallego Cadavid, C. M. Nieto, and Y. Rodríguez, “Decoupling-limit consistency of the generalized SU(2) Proca theory”, Phys. Rev. D 105 (2022) 104051.
- A. Gallego Cadavid, C. M. Nieto, and Y. Rodríguez, “Towards the extended SU(2) Proca theory”, Phys. Rev. D 105 (2022) 124060.

**Classical Gravity**

**Newton (Universal gravity law)**

**Einstein (General relativity)**

**Fundamental or effective?:  
we don't know**

**Singularities**

**Effective**

## Breakdown of GR:

Infrared



True nature of accelerated expansion

Ultraviolet



Renormalizability

Intermediate scale  
in the strong  
gravity regime



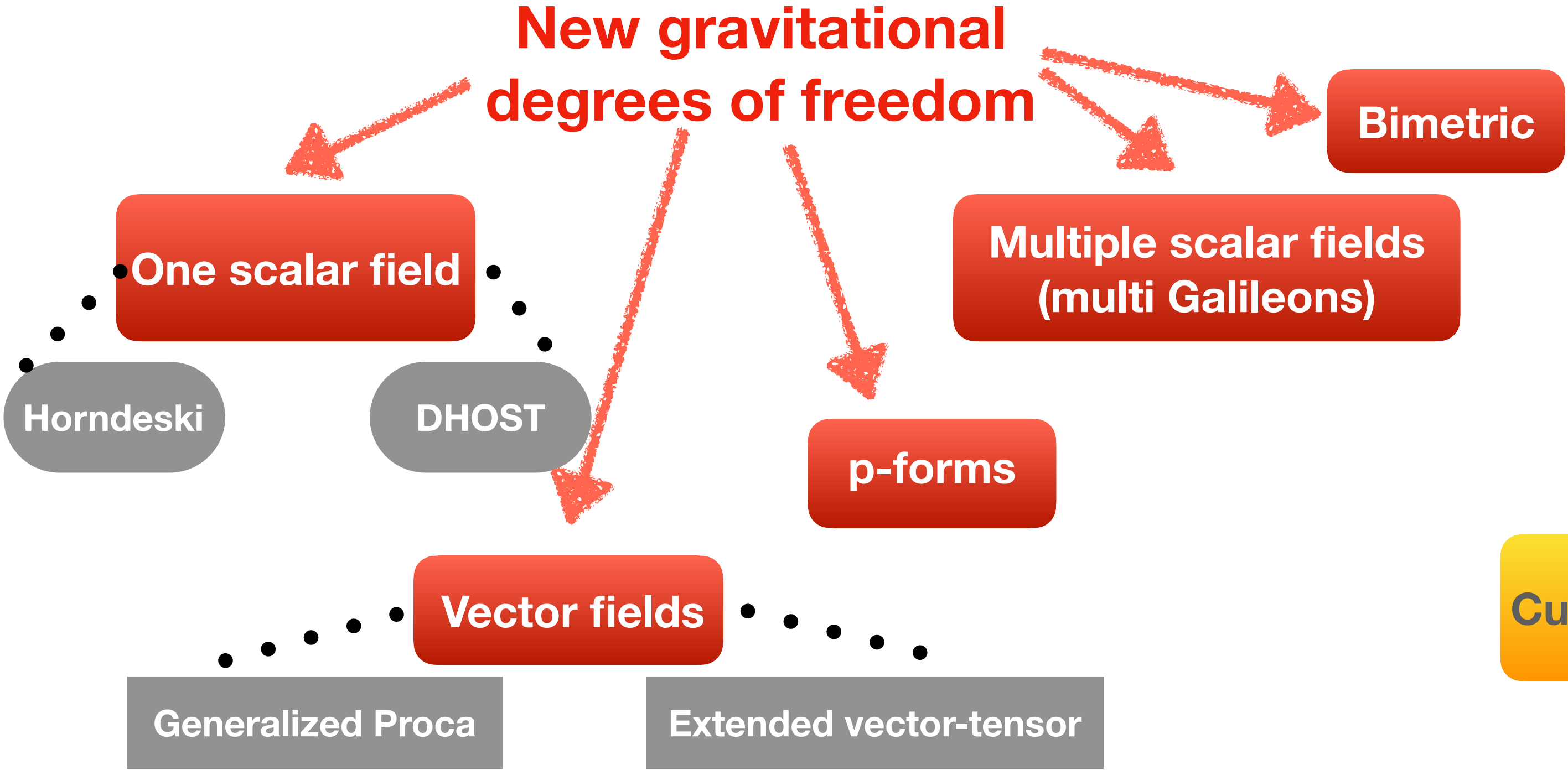
Departures from GR  
could be seen in  
compact objects  
(multi-messenger astronomy)

**Are we in the verge of a scientific crisis?**

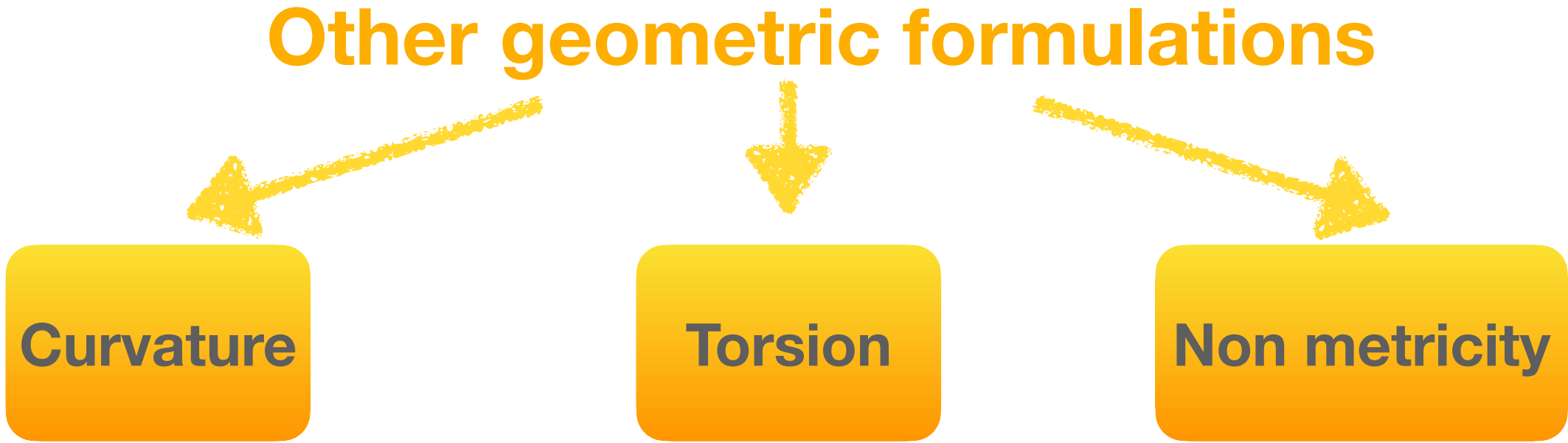


# Different possibilities to extend GR:

## Massive gravity (dRGT)



## Extra dimensions (preserving second-order differential structure of field equations - Lovelock)



# Vector fields in gravity and/or cosmology

Why to introduce them?

Why not?

Let's be pragmatic:  
there are much more vector fields in nature  
than fundamental scalar fields

Despite of these problems:

Ghosts, anisotropies  
in cosmology, etc.



The role of vector fields in  
gravitation, astrophysics, and  
cosmology has attracted a  
lot of interest in recent years



Generalized Proca theory

# Generalized Proca theory

G. Tasinato, JHEP 2014

L. Heisenberg, JCAP 2014

E. Allys, P. Peter, and Y. Rodríguez, JCAP 2016

E. Allys, P. Peter, J. P. Beltrán Almeida, and Y. Rodríguez, JCAP 2016

J. Beltrán Jiménez and L. Heisenberg, Phys. Lett. B 2016

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{m_P^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} m^2 B_\mu B^\mu + \dots$$

Proca theory in  
curved spacetime

Terms that break  
internal gauge symmetries

Principle of construction:

$B_\mu$  has four degrees of freedom  
but only three can propagate

According to the structure of the  
irreducible representations of  
the Poincaré group

Then, it must be degenerate by construction

Its decoupling limit reduces to the Horndeski theory, so it's healthy

# Generalized Proca theory in astrophysics and cosmology

L. Heisenberg, Phys. Rep. 2019

**Compact objects**

**Inflation**

**Dark energy**



Restoration of the isotropy

**Rapid oscillations**

**Dilution by a companion scalar field**

**Suppression of the spatial components against the temporal one**

**Cosmic triad**

Cosmic triad



Particular case of the most general spherically symmetric configuration:

$$B_{0a}(t) = b_0(t)\hat{r}_a$$

$$B_{ia}(t) = b_1(t)\hat{r}_i\hat{r}_a + b_2(t)[\delta_{ia} - \hat{r}_i\hat{r}_a] + b_3(t)\epsilon_{ial}\hat{r}_l$$

**Except for the suppression of the spatial components against the temporal one, all the other options require global invariance of the action under SU(2)**

**This is the main motivation for the construction of the generalized SU(2) Proca theory (GSU2P)**

E. Witten, Phys. Rev. Lett. 1977

D. Sivers, Phys. Rev. D 1986

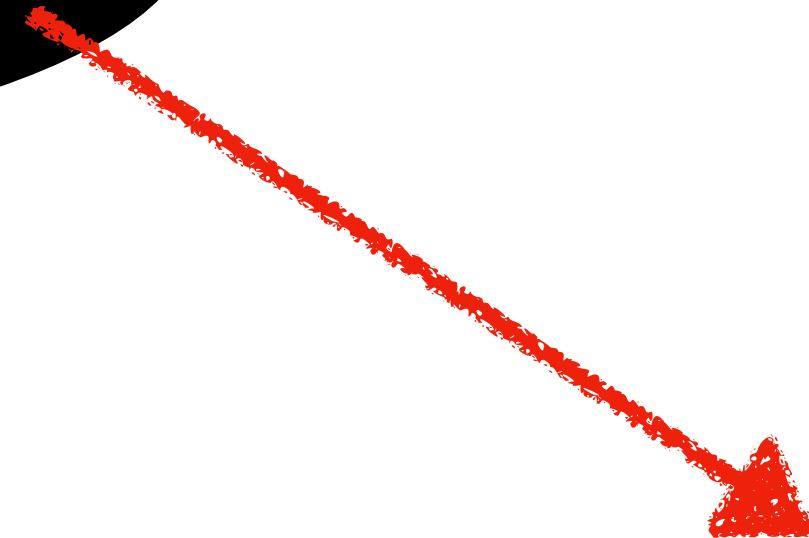
P. Forgács and N. S. Manton, Commun. Math. Phys. 1980

**GSU2P**

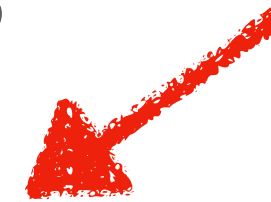


**Globally invariant under internal SU(2)**

**Spherically symmetric configuration**



**This is, anyway, extraordinarily reasonable: it seems to be nature's strategy to produce all patterns we see in condensed matter systems (fluids, superfluids, solids, supersolids)**



**It spontaneously breaks:**

- 1. the internal SU(2) symmetry**
- 2. the Lorentz rotational symmetry**
- 3. the Lorentz boosts**



# Building the GSU2P

Implemented by (in strict order):

- The construction of Lorentz-invariant and group-invariant Lagrangian building blocks
- The primary constraint enforcing relation
- The secondary constraint enforcing
- The covariantization
- The remotion of redundant terms via total derivatives
- The decoupling limit and its healthiness

E. Allys, P. Peter, and Y. Rodríguez, Phys. Rev. D 2016

A. Gallego Cadavid, Y. Rodríguez, and L. G. Gómez, Phys. Rev. D 2020

A. Gallego Cadavid, C. M. Nieto, and Y. Rodríguez, Phys. Rev. D 2022

**Healthiness: either second-order field equations or degeneracy**



# The GSU2P and beyond

(up to six space-time indices  
in the Lagrangian building  
blocks before contractions)

$$S_{\mu\nu}^a \equiv \nabla_\mu B_\nu^a + \nabla_\nu B_\mu^a$$

$$A_{\mu\nu}^a \equiv \nabla_\mu B_\nu^a - \nabla_\nu B_\mu^a$$

$$\mathcal{L}_2 \equiv \mathcal{L}_2(A_{\mu\nu}^a, B_\mu^a)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4,0} \equiv G_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu a} B_a^\nu$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4,2} \equiv \sum_{i=1}^6 \frac{\alpha_i}{m_P^2} \mathcal{L}_{4,2}^i + \sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{\tilde{\alpha}_i}{m_P^2} \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{4,2}^i$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{5,0} \equiv B^{\nu a} R^\sigma{}_{\nu\rho\mu} B_\sigma^b \tilde{A}^{\mu\rho c} \epsilon_{abc}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4,2}^1 \equiv (B_b \cdot B^b) [S_\mu^{\mu a} S_{\nu a}^\nu - S_\nu^{\mu a} S_{\mu a}^\nu]$$

$$+ 2(B_a \cdot B_b) [S_\mu^{\mu a} S_\nu^{\nu b} - S_\nu^{\mu a} S_\mu^{\nu b}]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4,2}^2 \equiv A_{\mu\nu}^a S_\sigma^{\mu b} B_a^\nu B_b^\sigma - A_{\mu\nu}^a S_\sigma^{\mu b} B_b^\nu B_a^\sigma + A_{\mu\nu}^a S_\rho^{\rho b} B_a^\mu B_b^\nu$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4,2}^3 \equiv B^{\mu a} R^\alpha{}_{\sigma\rho\mu} B_{\alpha a} B^{\rho b} B_b^\sigma + \frac{3}{4} (B_b \cdot B^b) (B^a \cdot B_a) R$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4,2}^4 \equiv [(B_b \cdot B^b) (B^a \cdot B_a) + 2(B_a \cdot B_b) (B^a \cdot B^b)] R$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4,2}^5 \equiv G_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu a} B_a^\nu (B^b \cdot B_b)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4,2}^6 \equiv G_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu a} B^{\nu b} (B_a \cdot B_b)$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{4,2}^1 \equiv -2A_{\mu\nu}^a S_\sigma^{\mu b} B_{\alpha a} B_{\beta b} \epsilon^{\nu\sigma\alpha\beta} + S_{\mu\nu}^a S_\sigma^{\nu b} B_{\alpha a} B_{\beta b} \epsilon^{\mu\sigma\alpha\beta}$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{4,2}^2 \equiv A_{\mu\nu}^a S_\sigma^{\mu b} B_{\alpha a} B_{\beta b} \epsilon^{\nu\sigma\alpha\beta} - \tilde{A}_a^{\alpha\beta} S_{\rho\alpha}^b B^{\rho a} B_{\beta b}$$

$$+ \tilde{A}_a^{\alpha\beta} S_{\rho b}^\rho B_\alpha^a B_\beta^b$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{4,2}^3 \equiv B_\beta^b R^\alpha{}_{\sigma\rho\mu} B_\alpha^a (B_a \cdot B_b) \epsilon^{\mu\rho\sigma\beta}$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{4,2}^4 \equiv B_{\beta a} R^\alpha{}_{\sigma\rho\mu} B_\alpha^a (B^b \cdot B_b) \epsilon^{\mu\rho\sigma\beta}$$

# The GSU2P and beyond

$$S_{\mu\nu}^a \equiv \nabla_\mu B_\nu^a - \nabla_\nu B_\mu^a$$

$$A_{\mu\nu}^a \equiv \nabla_\mu B_\nu^a + \nabla_\nu B_\mu^a$$

There are new interactions of purely non-Abelian character!

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{5,0} \equiv B^{\nu a} R^\sigma_{\nu\rho\mu} B_\sigma^b \tilde{A}^{\mu\rho c} \epsilon_{abc}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4,2}^1 \equiv (B_b \cdot B^b) [S_{\mu}^{\mu a} S_{\nu a}^{\nu} - S_{\nu}^{\nu a} S_{\mu a}^{\mu}]$$

$$+ 2(B_a \cdot B_b) [S_{\mu}^{\mu a} S_{\nu}^{\nu b} - S_{\nu}^{\nu a} S_{\mu}^{\mu b}]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4,2}^2 \equiv A_{\mu\nu}^a S_{\sigma}^{\mu b} B_a^\nu B_b^\sigma - A_{\mu\nu}^a S_{\sigma}^{\mu b} B_b^\nu B_a^\sigma + A_{\mu\nu}^a S_{\rho}^{\rho b} B_a^\mu B_b^\nu$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4,2}^3 \equiv B^{\mu a} R^\alpha_{\sigma\rho\mu} B_{\alpha a} B^{\rho b} B_b^\sigma + \frac{3}{4} (B_b \cdot B^b) (B^a \cdot B_a) R$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4,2}^4 \equiv [(B_b \cdot B^b) (B^a \cdot B_a) + 2(B_a \cdot B_b) (B^a \cdot B^b)] R$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4,2}^5 \equiv G_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu a} B_a^\nu (B^b \cdot B_b)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4,2}^6 \equiv G_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu a} B^{\nu b} (B_a \cdot B_b)$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{4,2}^1 \equiv -2A_{\mu\nu}^a S_{\sigma}^{\mu b} B_{\alpha a} B_{\beta b} \epsilon^{\nu\sigma\alpha\beta} + S_{\mu\nu}^a S_{\sigma}^{\nu b} B_{\alpha a} B_{\beta b} \epsilon^{\mu\sigma\alpha\beta}$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{4,2}^2 \equiv A_{\mu\nu}^a S_{\sigma}^{\mu b} B_{\alpha a} B_{\beta b} \epsilon^{\nu\sigma\alpha\beta} - \tilde{A}_a^{\alpha\beta} S_{\rho\alpha}^b B^{\rho a} B_{\beta b}$$

$$+ \tilde{A}_a^{\alpha\beta} S_{\rho b}^a B_\alpha^a B_\beta^b$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{4,2}^3 \equiv B_\beta^b R^\alpha_{\sigma\rho\mu} B_\alpha^a (B_a \cdot B_b) \epsilon^{\mu\rho\sigma\beta}$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{4,2}^4 \equiv B_{\beta a} R^\alpha_{\sigma\rho\mu} B_\alpha^a (B^b \cdot B_b) \epsilon^{\mu\rho\sigma\beta}$$

# A novel mechanism to implement inflation

- Let's split artificially our vector field fluid into two components: one corresponding to the Yang-Mills term and the other corresponding to the new Proca terms.
- What would happen if, due to the dynamics of the vector field,  $\rho_{YM} \rightarrow \infty$  ?
- That means a singularity in the energy-momentum tensor which must be avoided. How?:  $\rho_{nP} \rightarrow -\infty$  so that  $\rho_{nP}/\rho_{YM} \rightarrow -1$  . Fine tuning??: yes, but the system could “self tune”.

# A novel mechanism to implement inflation

- **What about the pressure?:** since  $P_{YM} = \rho_{YM}/3$  , we have again a singularity in the energy-momentum tensor unless  $P_{nP} \rightarrow -\infty$  , i.e.,  $P_{nP}/P_{YM} \rightarrow -1$
- **The only possible consistent way to do this is if the new Proca component behaves as radiation:**  $P_{nP} = \rho_{nP}/3$  .
- **The new Proca component: a radiation-like component with negative energy density and pressure.**

# A novel mechanism to implement inflation

- If the two components behave as radiation, could we say that the complete system also behaves as radiation?

- No. 0 divided by 0 could be anything:

$$\omega \equiv \frac{P_{YM} + P_{nP}}{\rho_{YM} + \rho_{nP}}$$

- The actual value of the equation of state parameter depends on the characteristics of the model.

- A realization of this scenario, with  $\omega = -1$ , i.e.,  $\epsilon = 0$  and self tuning will be presented in the following.

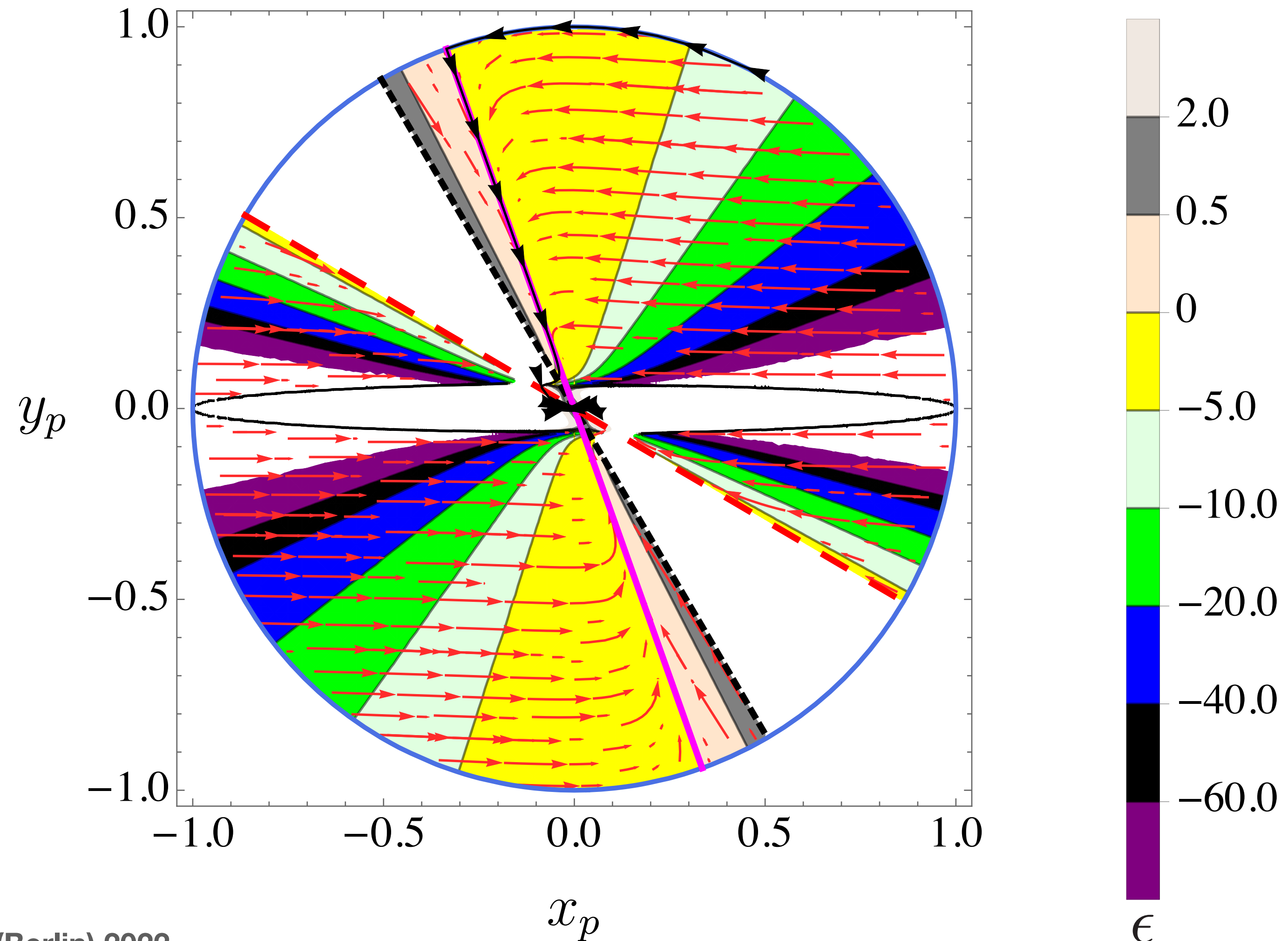


# Constant-roll inflation ( $\ddot{\psi} = \frac{1}{\beta} H \dot{\psi}$ ) as a non-eternal asymptotic behaviour ( $y_p \rightarrow \beta x_p$ )

$$x \equiv \frac{\dot{\psi}}{\sqrt{2}m_P H}$$

$$y \equiv \frac{\psi}{\sqrt{2}m_P}$$

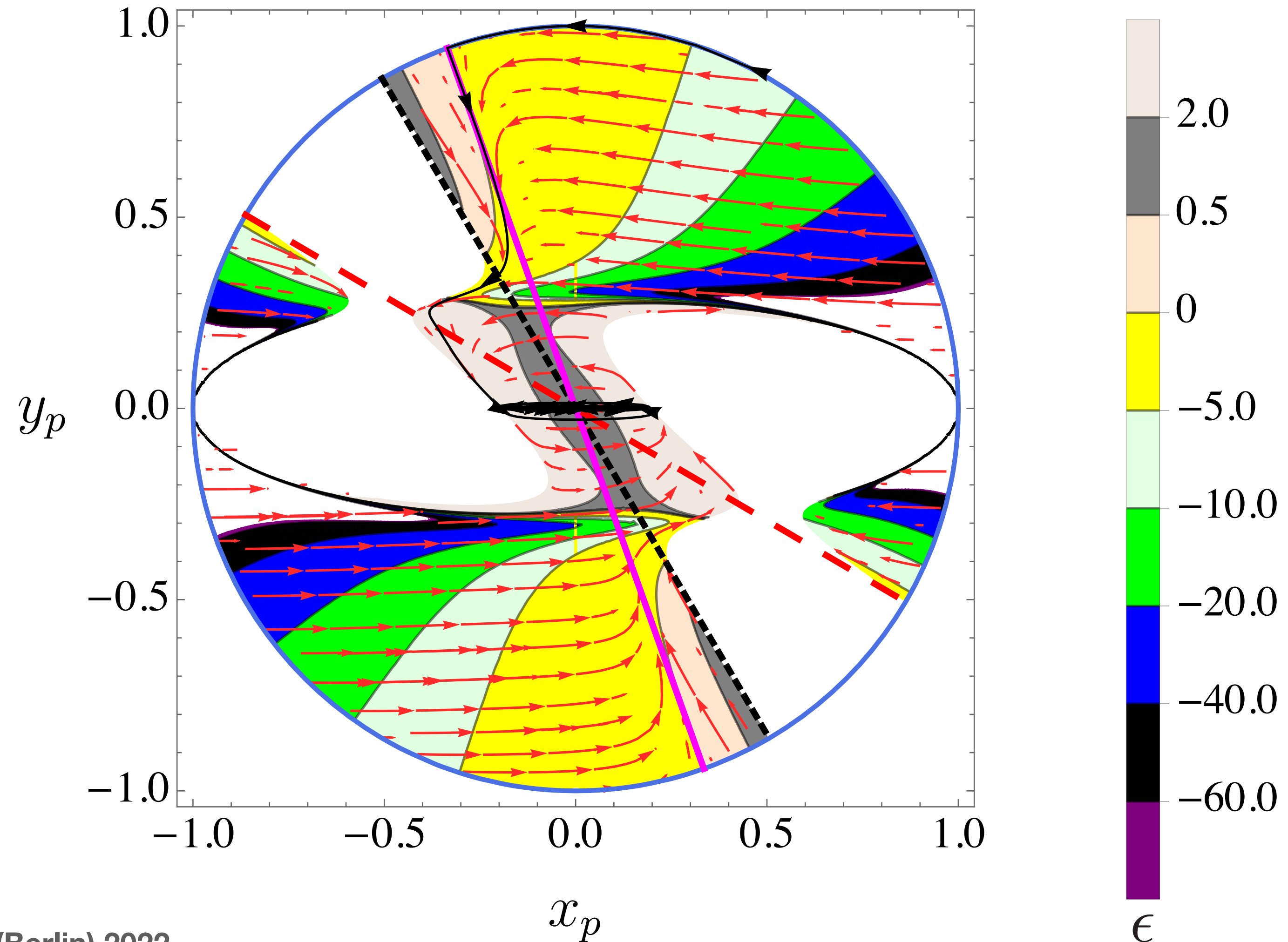
- **Cosmic triad:**  $B_{0a}(t) = 0$   
 $B_{ia}(t) = a(t)\psi(t)\delta_{ia}$
- **Almost all the available parameter space exhibits a non-eternal asymptotic behaviour that corresponds to an inflationary solution with  $\epsilon = 0$ .**
- **These results can be made consistent with the gravity waves speed constraint!**



# Inflation exit

- When  $x_p$  and  $y_p$  approach 0, solutions leave the asymptotic behaviour and inflation ends through oscillations of  $\psi$  around 0 and oscillations of  $\epsilon$  around 2 (like a scalar inflaton decaying into radiation).
- This scenario is free of ghosts and Laplacian instabilities in the tensor sector since it behaves as general relativity at the perturbative (tensorial) level at least up to second order.

$$x \equiv \frac{\dot{\psi}}{\sqrt{2}m_P H}$$
$$y \equiv \frac{\psi}{\sqrt{2}m_P}$$





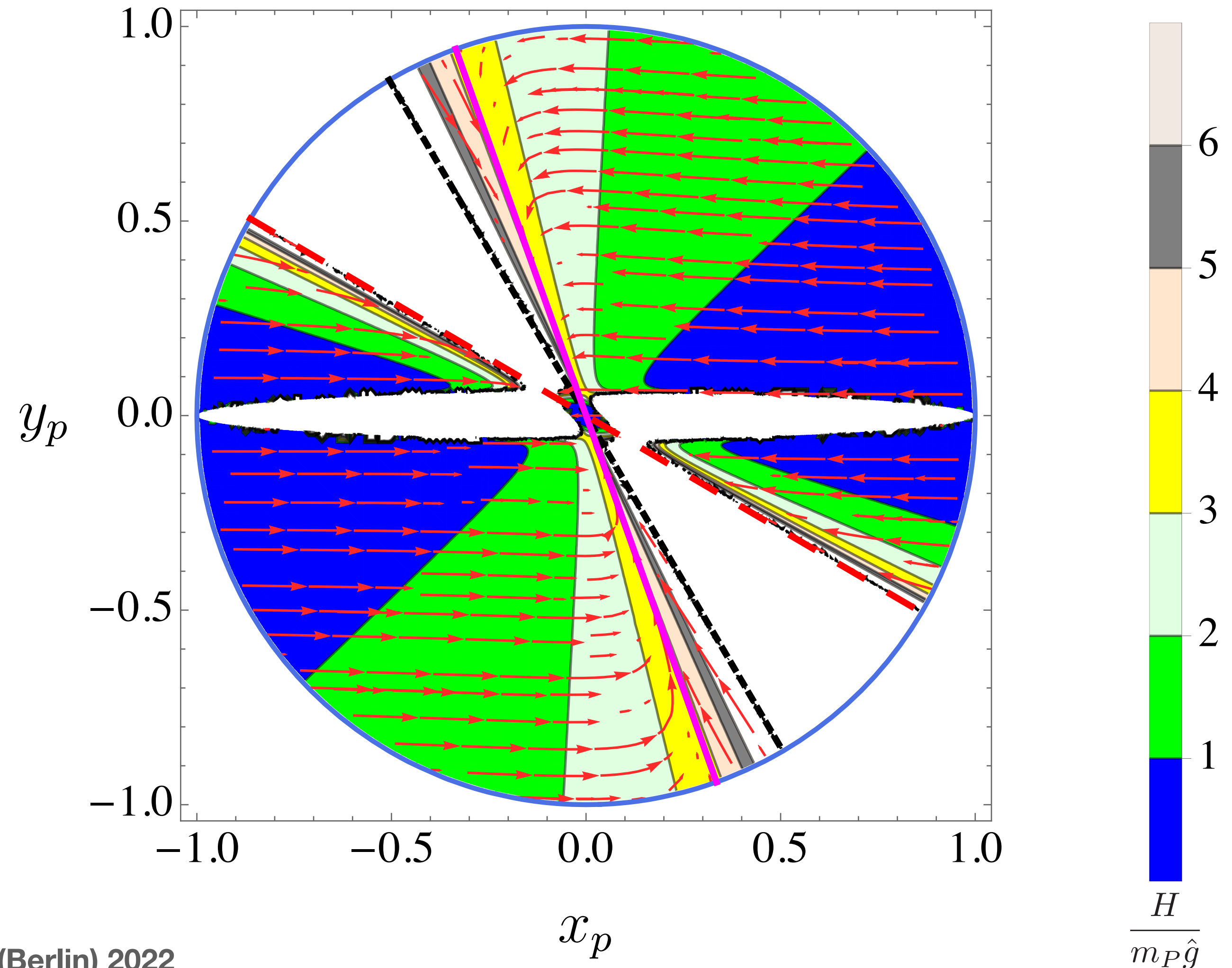
# Inflation exit

- The Hubble parameter contourplot reveals there are no Big-Bang singularities!
- The amount of constant-roll inflation is enough to solve the classical problems of the standard cosmology.

$$N \approx -\beta \ln |y_{ini}|$$

$$x \equiv \frac{\dot{\psi}}{\sqrt{2}m_P H}$$

$$y \equiv \frac{\psi}{\sqrt{2}m_P}$$



# Equations of state parameters

- Analytical results demonstrate that, in the asymptotic limit, when  $y \rightarrow \beta x$  and  $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$ , the system reveals the following behaviour for energy densities, pressures, and equations of state parameters:

$$\rho_{YM} \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\rho_{nP} \rightarrow -\infty$$

$$P_{YM} \rightarrow \infty$$

$$P_{nP} \rightarrow -\infty$$

$$\omega_{YM} \equiv P_{YM}/\rho_{YM} \rightarrow \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\omega_{nP} \equiv P_{nP}/\rho_{nP} \rightarrow \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\omega \equiv \frac{P_{YM} + P_{nP}}{\rho_{YM} + \rho_{nP}} \rightarrow -1$$

$$\rho_{nP}/\rho_{YM} \rightarrow -1$$

$$P_{nP}/P_{YM} \rightarrow -1$$

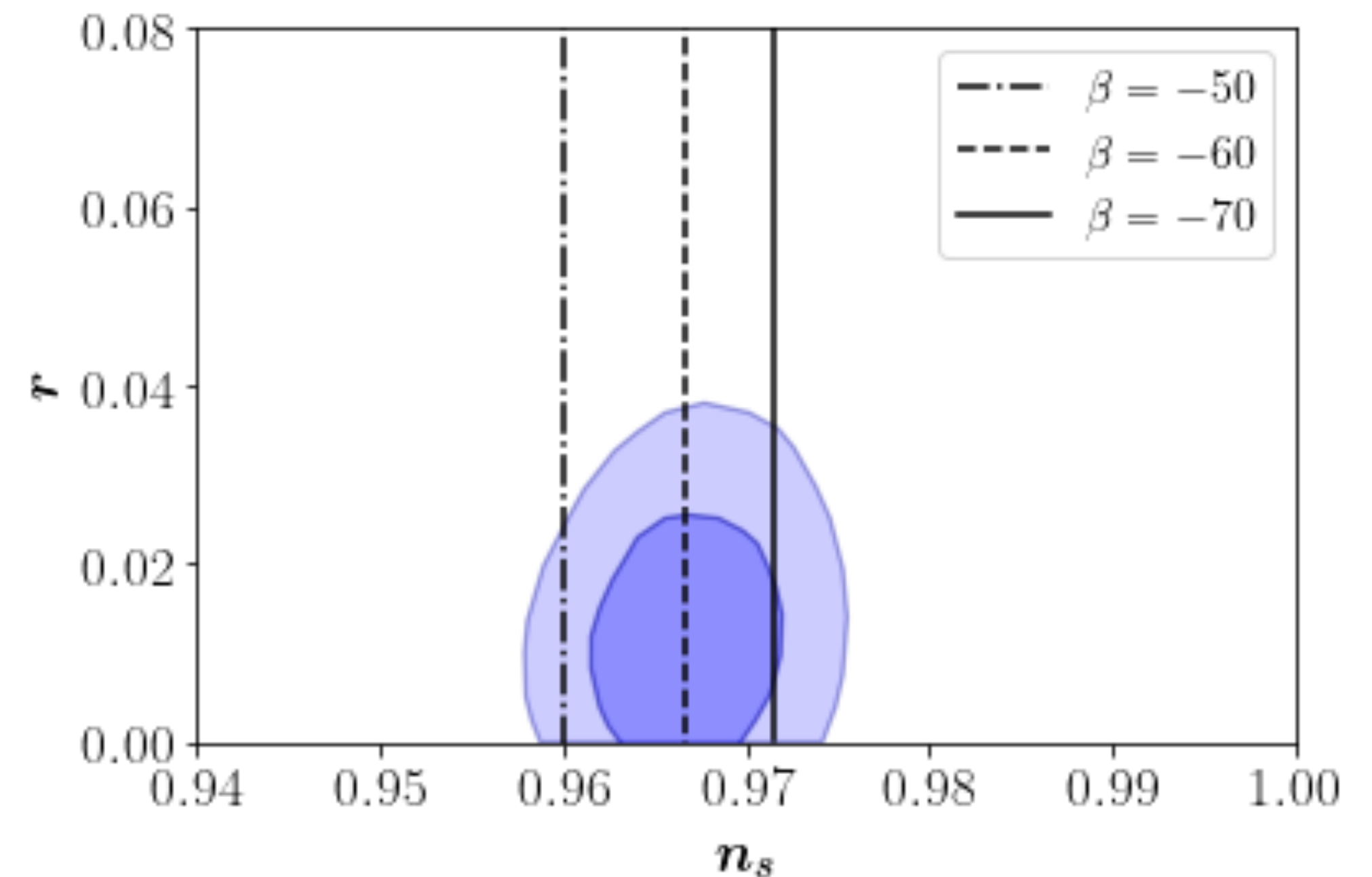
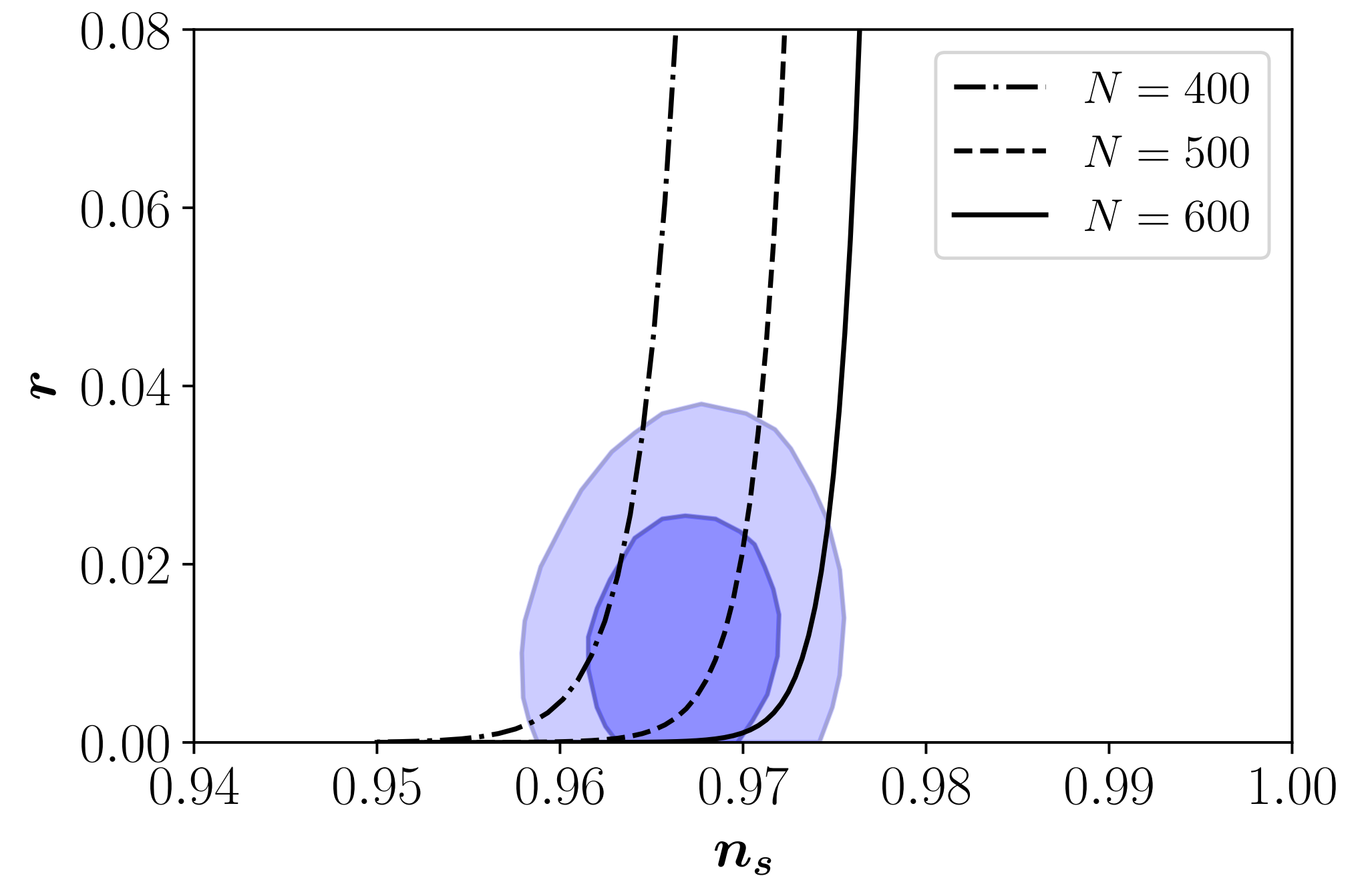
- This is consistent with our previous expectations!**

# Spectrum of $\zeta$

- There is only one degree of freedom in the background: the norm  $\psi$  of the fields in the cosmic triad.
- **Assuming the problem can be treated, perturbatively, as a single-field scenario, the spectrum is given by:**

$$\mathcal{P}_\zeta = \frac{3\psi_{ini}^2}{2m_P^2\beta^2} \left(\frac{H_*}{2\pi}\right)^2 \left(\frac{k}{a_*H_*}\right)^{2(\frac{1}{\beta}-\epsilon)}$$

- Consistency with observations!



# Some open questions

## Technical questions:

- Does the theory propagate the right number of degrees of freedom in curved spacetime?
- Stability issues (partially studied in [1] and [2])
- The cutoff scale of the theory

## Consistency with observations:

- Does the theory respect the equivalence principle?
- The causal structure of the theory
- Does there exist a screening mechanism?
- Applications to dark energy (partially explored in [3])

[1] L. G. Gómez and Y. Rodríguez, Phys. Rev. D 2019

[2] J. C. Garnica, L. G. Gómez, A. A. Navarro, and Y. Rodríguez, Ann. Phys. (Berlin) 2022

[3] Y. Rodríguez and A. A. Navarro, Phys. Dark Univ. 2018

**Thank you!**