

Gravitational waves from first-order phase transition during inflation

Haipeng An (Tsinghua University)

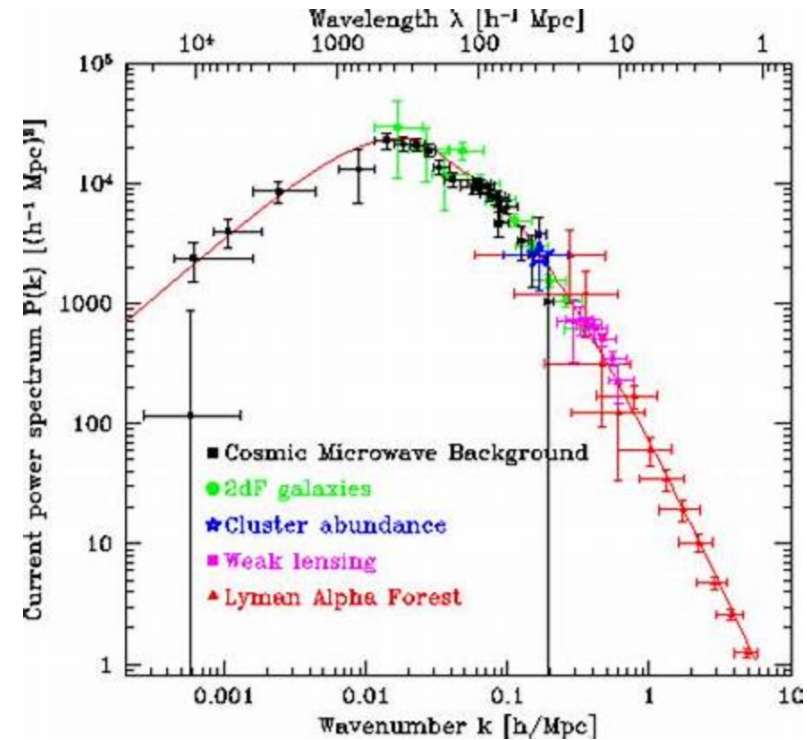
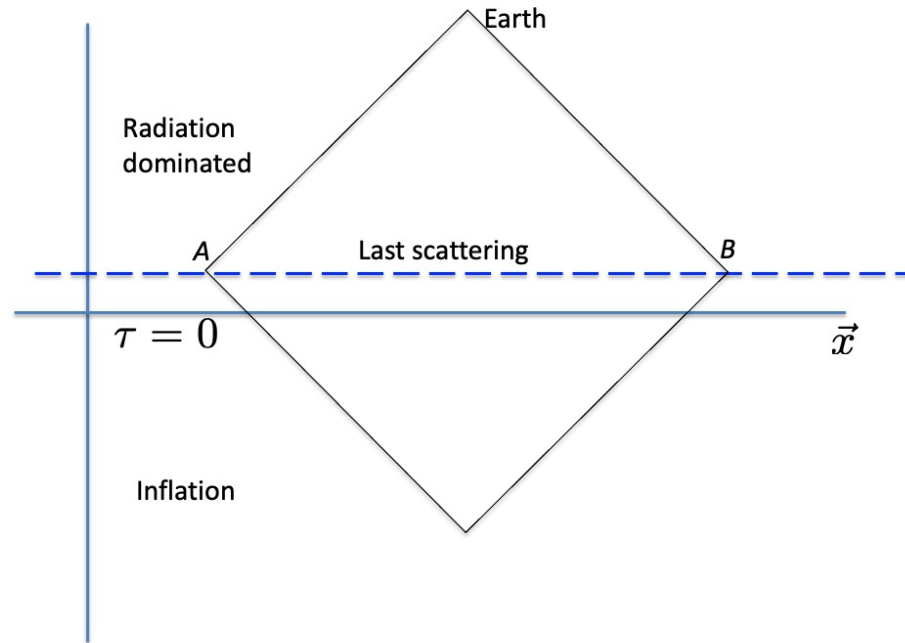
Phenomenology Symposium 2021

24–26 May 2021, University of Pittsburgh

In collaboration with Kun-Feng Lyu, Lian-Tao Wang and Siyi Zhou

2009.12381, 210X.XXXXX

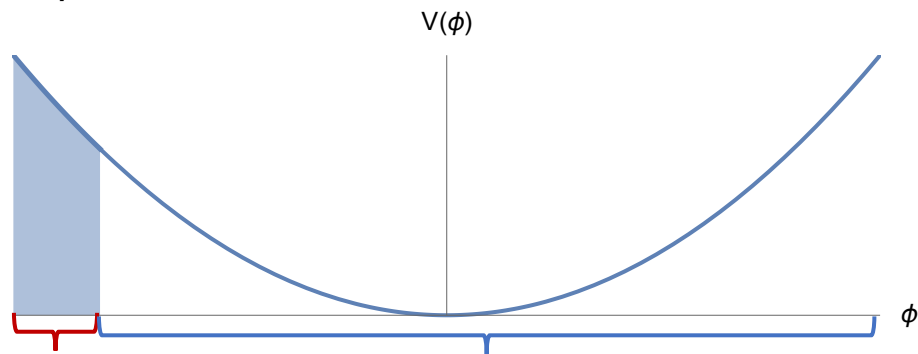
Very brief history of our universe



- To solve the problems, 40 to 60 e-folds is required, BUT we can only observe ten!

First order phase transition driven by the evolution of the inflaton

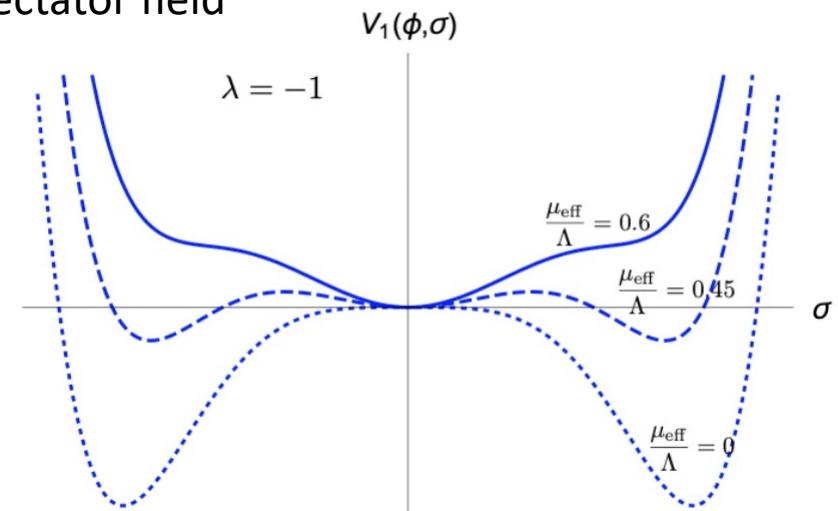
- ϕ : inflaton field



Measured by
CMB and LSS

No measurement

- σ : spectator field



$$V_1(\phi, \sigma) = -\frac{1}{2}(\mu^2 - c^2\phi^2)\sigma^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4}\sigma^4 + \frac{1}{8\Lambda^2}\sigma^6$$

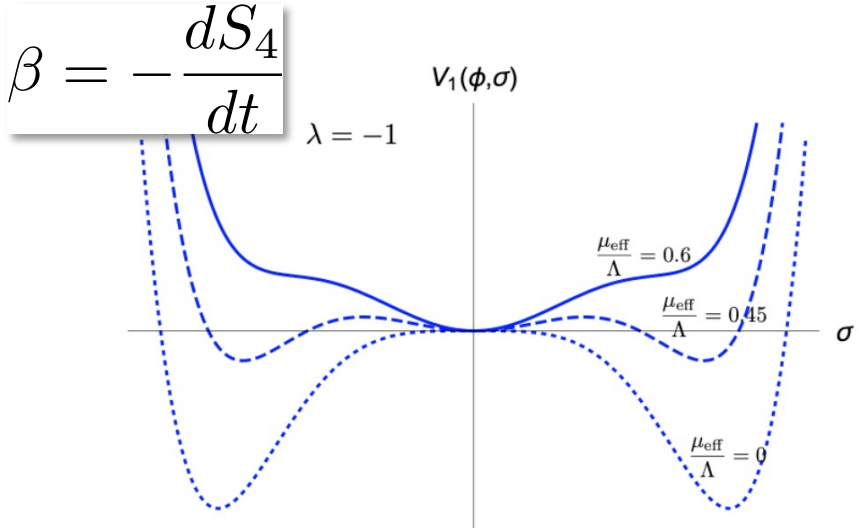
- It is generic to expect the inflaton to couple to some spectator sector.
- The masses or couples in the spectator sector can be changed drastically due to the evolution of the inflaton field.
- It may induce **first order phase transitions in the spectator sector** so that classical gravitational waves might be generated.

First order phase transition during inflation

- Bubble nucleation rate: $\frac{\Gamma}{V} = I_0 m_\sigma^4 e^{-S_4}$
- Phase transition starts: $\mathcal{O}(1) = \int_{-\infty}^t dt' H^{-3} I_0 m_\sigma^4 e^{-S_4(t')}$
- The bounce: $S_4 \sim \log \left(\frac{\phi H}{\dot{\phi}} \frac{m_\sigma^4}{H^4} \right) \sim \log \left(\frac{\phi}{\epsilon^{1/2} M_{\text{pl}}} \frac{m_\sigma^4}{H^4} \right)$
- First order phase transition: $S_4 \gg 1$

$$H^4 \ll m_\sigma^4 \ll 3M_{\text{pl}}^2 H^2$$

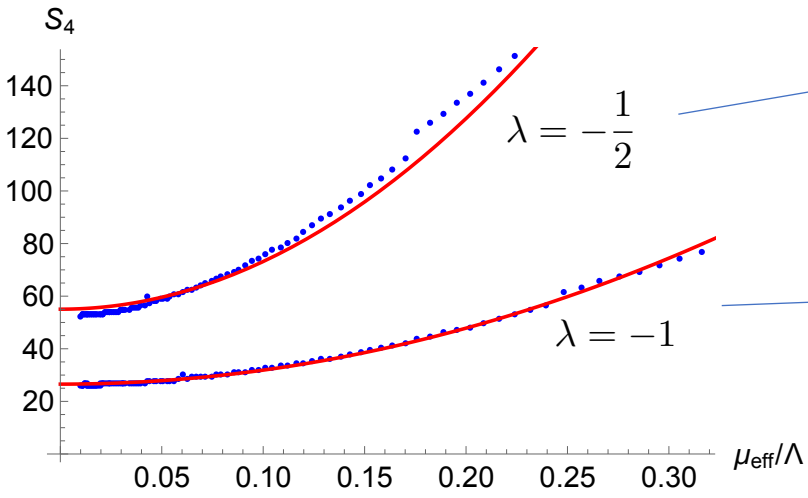
First order phase transition during inflation



$$\frac{\beta}{H} = \left| \frac{dS_4}{d \log \mu_{\text{eff}}^2} \right| (2\epsilon)^{1/2} \times \frac{M_{\text{pl}}}{\left| \phi \left(1 - \frac{\mu^2}{c^2 \phi^2} \right) \right|}$$

$\sim \mu_{\text{eff}}^2 / \Lambda^2$

$$\int_{\phi_{\text{end}}}^{\phi_{\text{PT}}} \frac{d\phi}{\sqrt{2\epsilon} M_{\text{pl}}} = N_e$$



$$\frac{\beta}{H} \sim \frac{3800}{N_e}$$

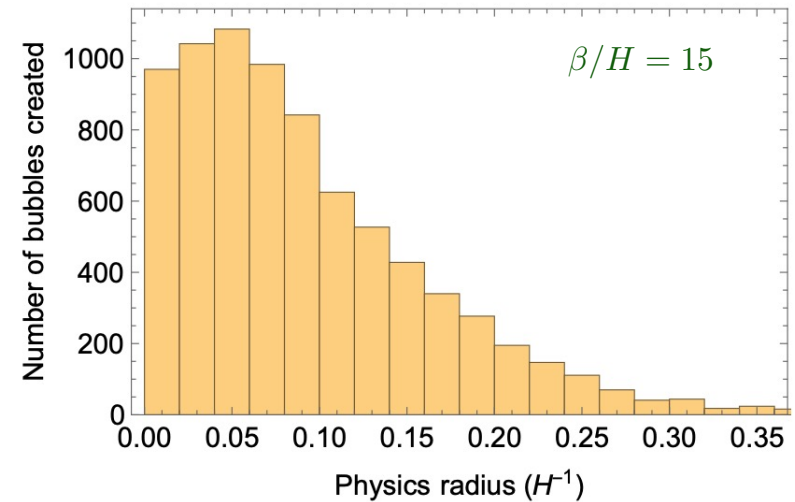
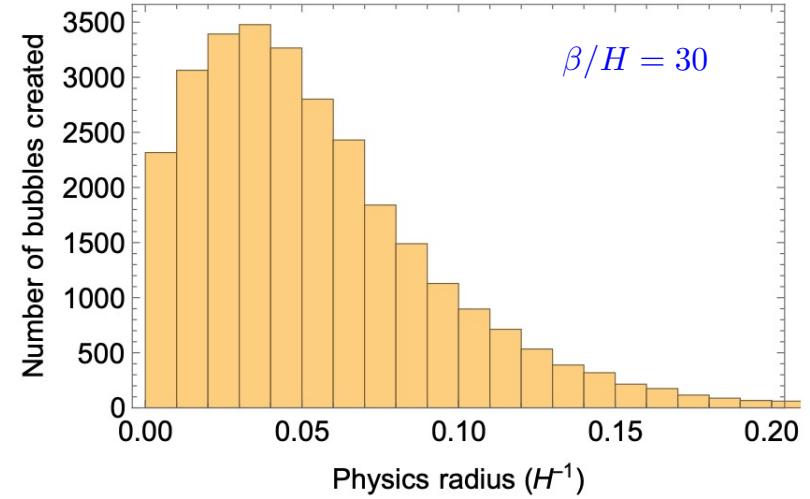
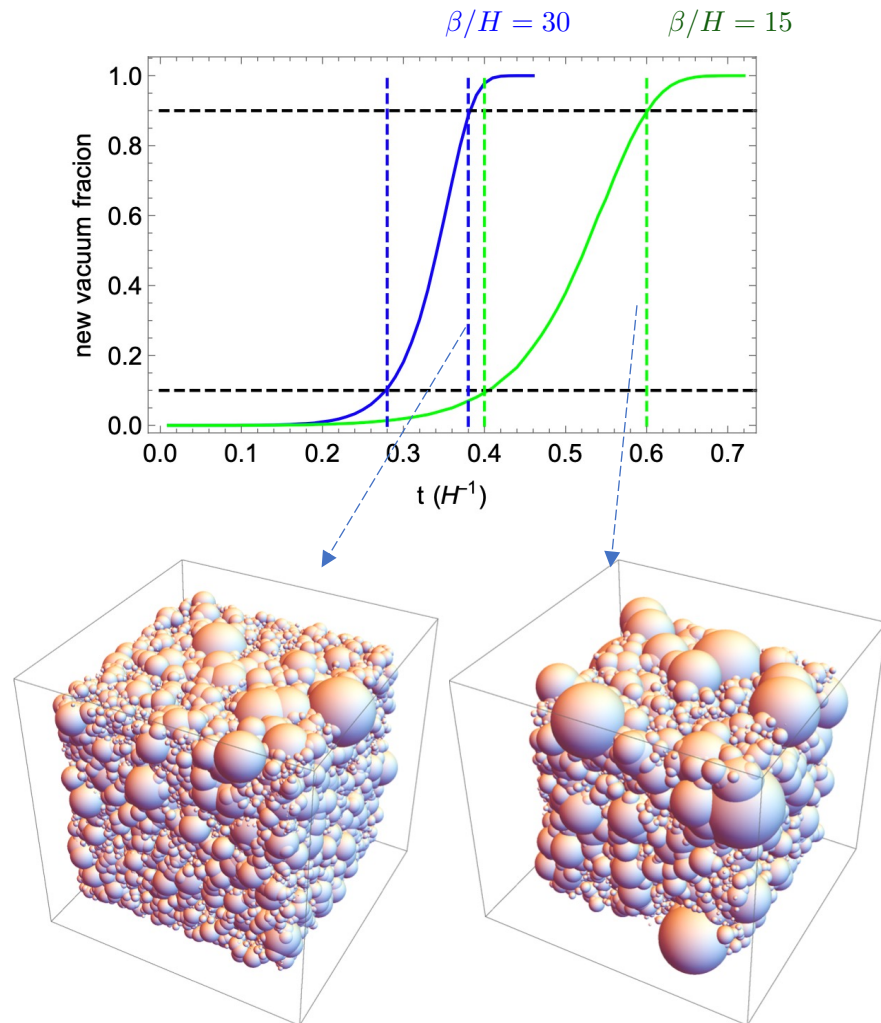
$$\frac{\beta}{H} \sim \frac{500}{N_e}$$

$$\frac{\beta}{H} \sim \mathcal{O}(10) - \mathcal{O}(100)$$

CosmoTransitions

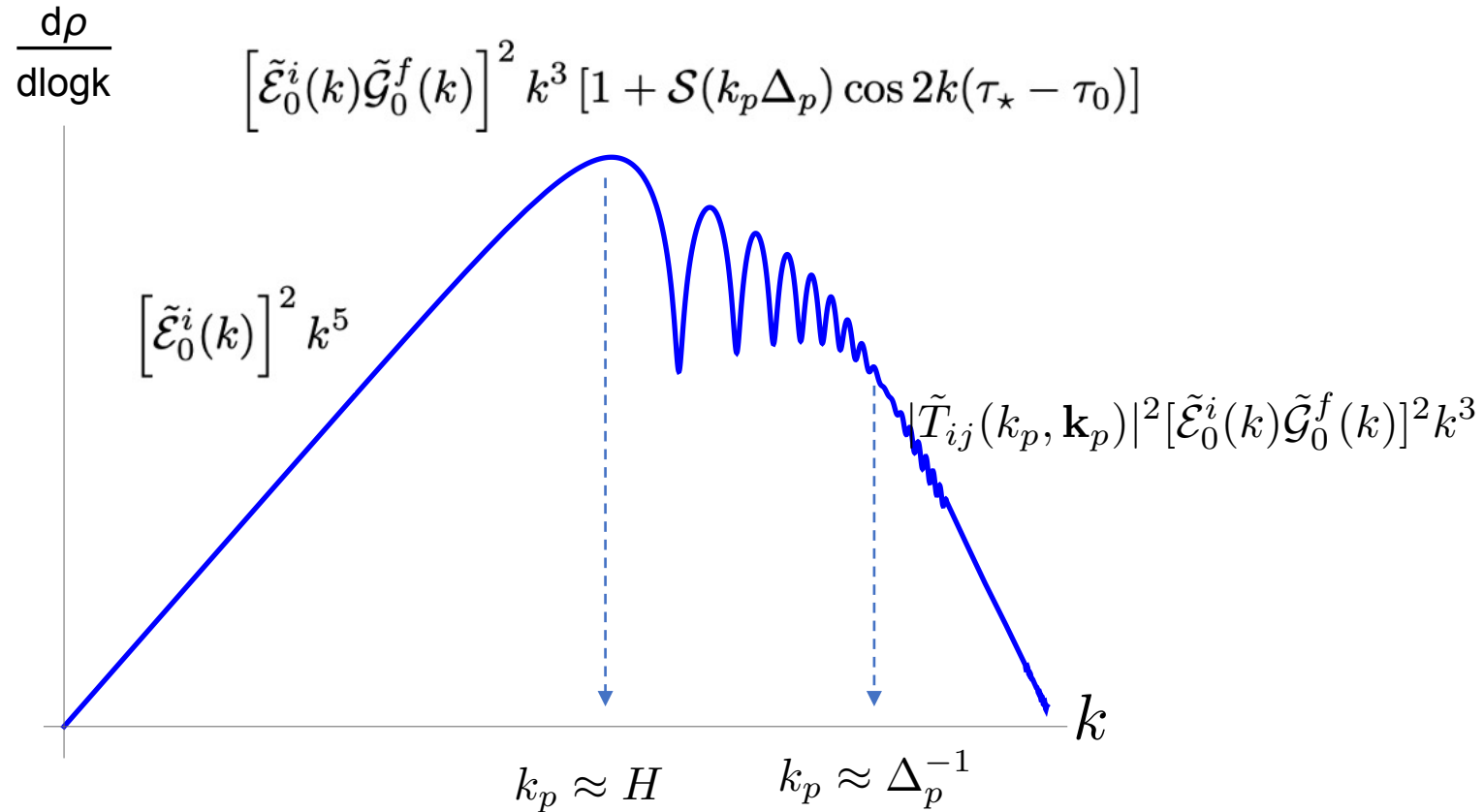
Numerical results

$$R_{\text{bubble}} \approx \beta^{-1} \ll H^{-1}$$



Generic features of GW spectrum

- Shape of the spectrum



How to calculate GW?

- In E&M: $\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} = J^\nu$

- We solve the Green's function first.
- We convolute the Green's function with the source.

- In GR:

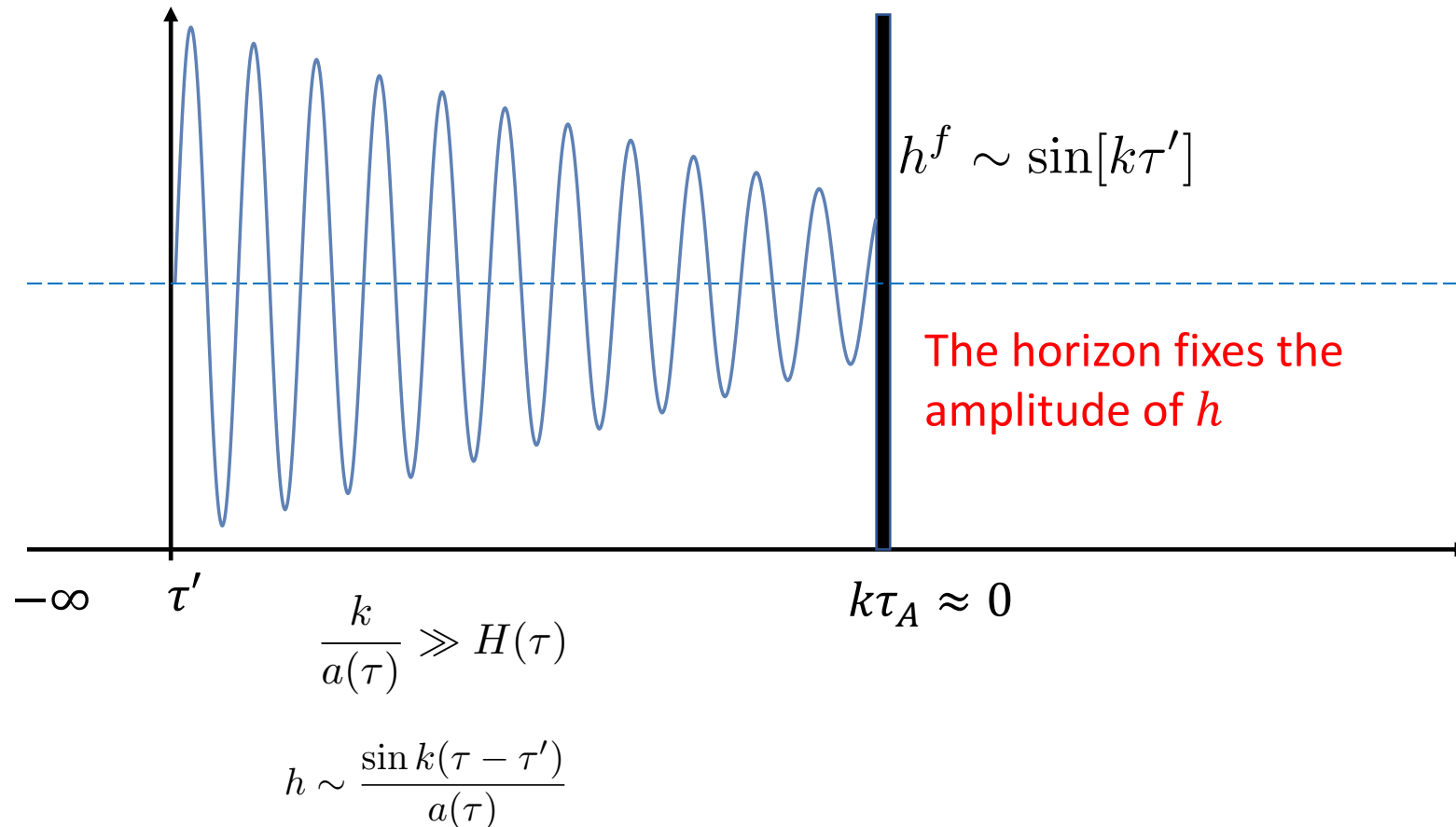
$$G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu} \qquad h''_{ij} + \frac{2a'}{a} h'_{ij} - \nabla^2 h_{ij} = 16\pi^2 G_N a^2 \sigma_{ij}$$

- Green's function in Fourier space

$$h''(\tau, \mathbf{k}) + \frac{2a'}{a} h'(\tau, \mathbf{k}) + k^2 h(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = 16\pi G_N a^{-1} T \delta(\tau - \tau')$$

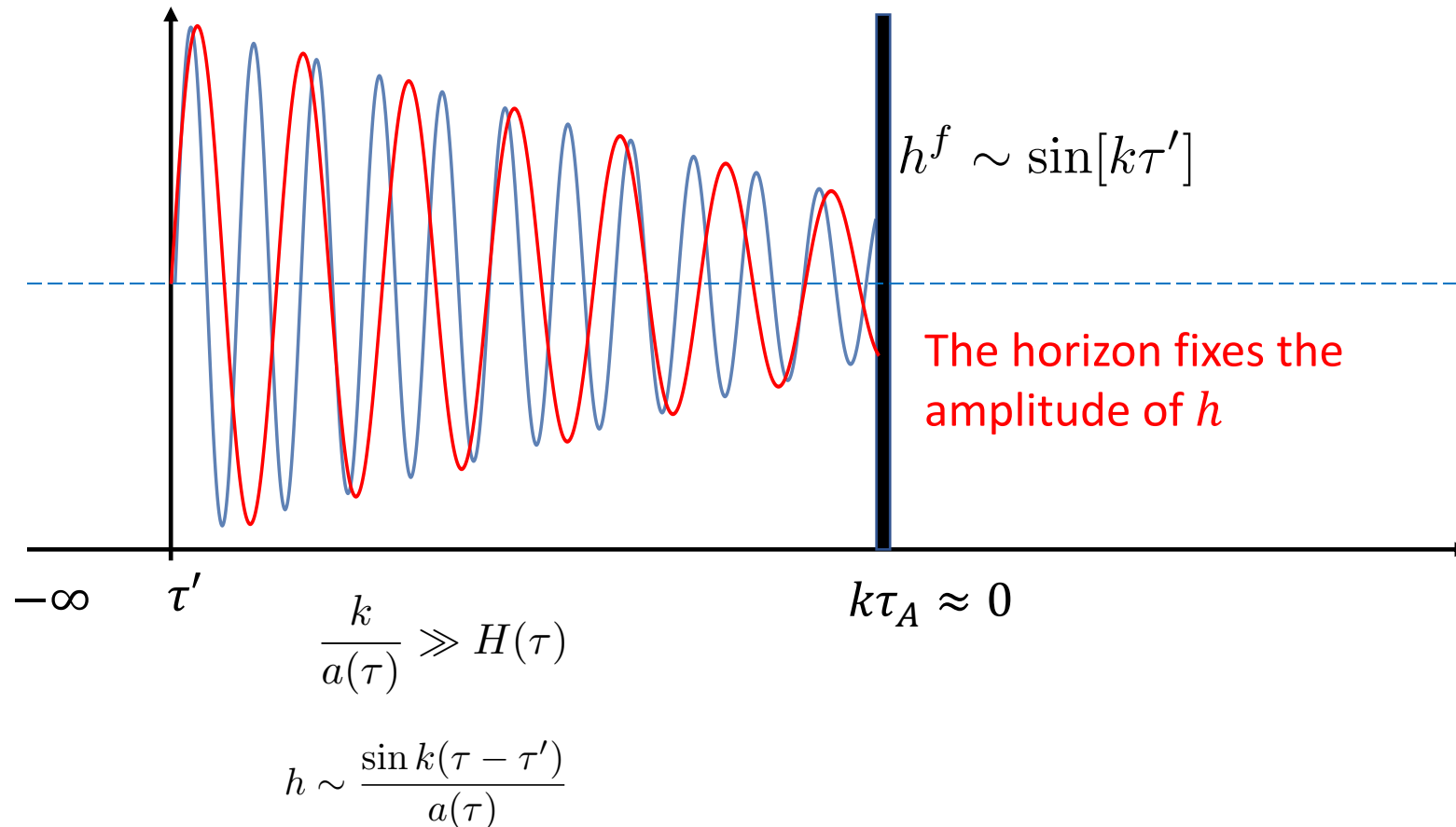
GW from instantaneous and local sources (qualitative study)

- $$h''(\tau, \mathbf{k}) + \frac{2a'}{a}h'(\tau, \mathbf{k}) + k^2h(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = 16\pi G_N a^{-1}T\delta(\tau - \tau')$$



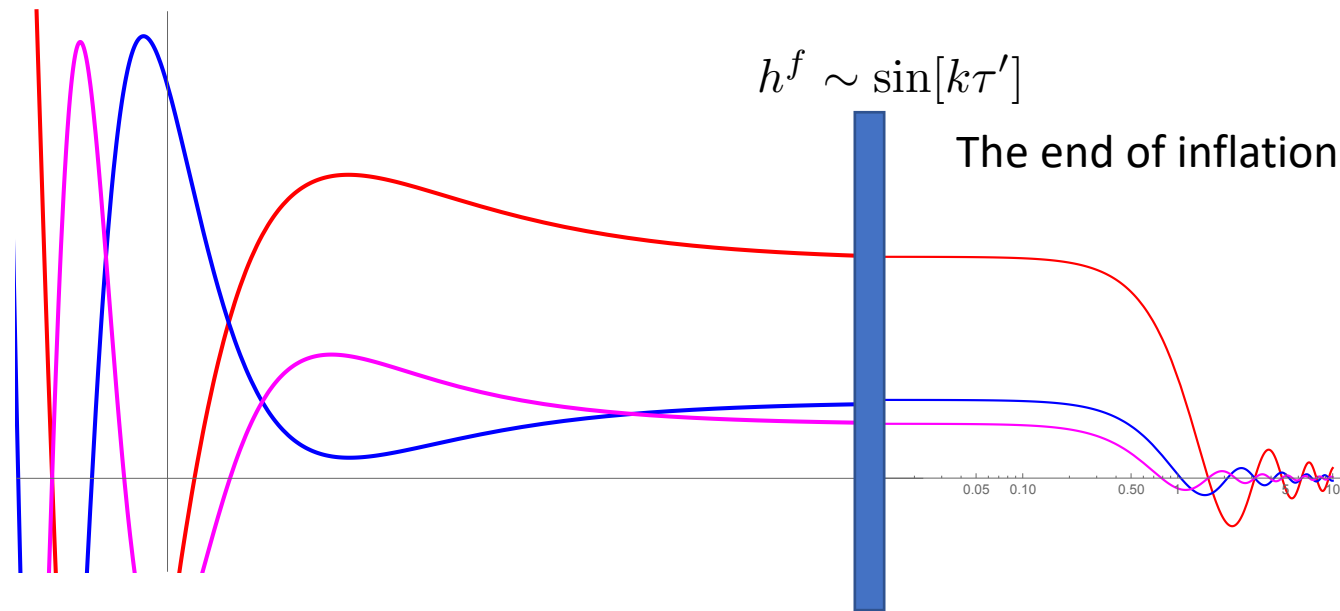
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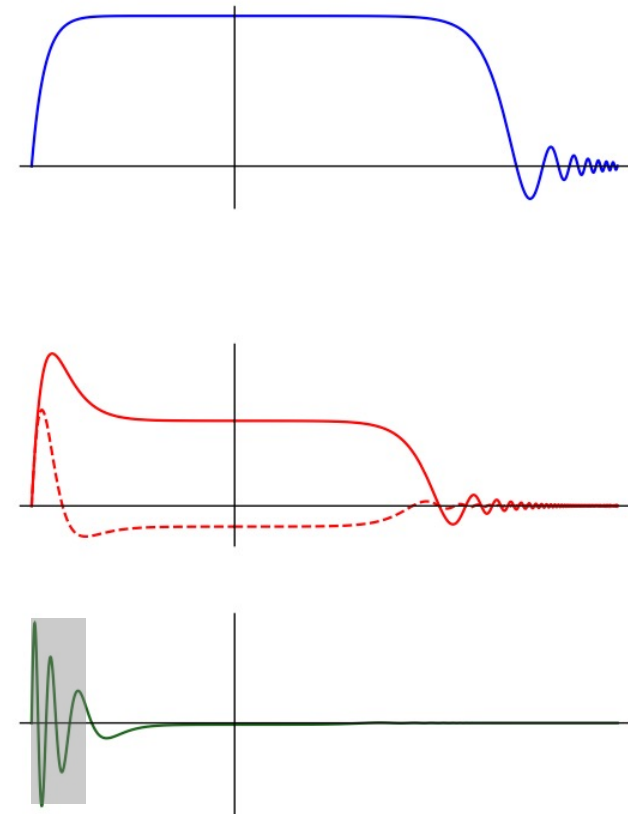
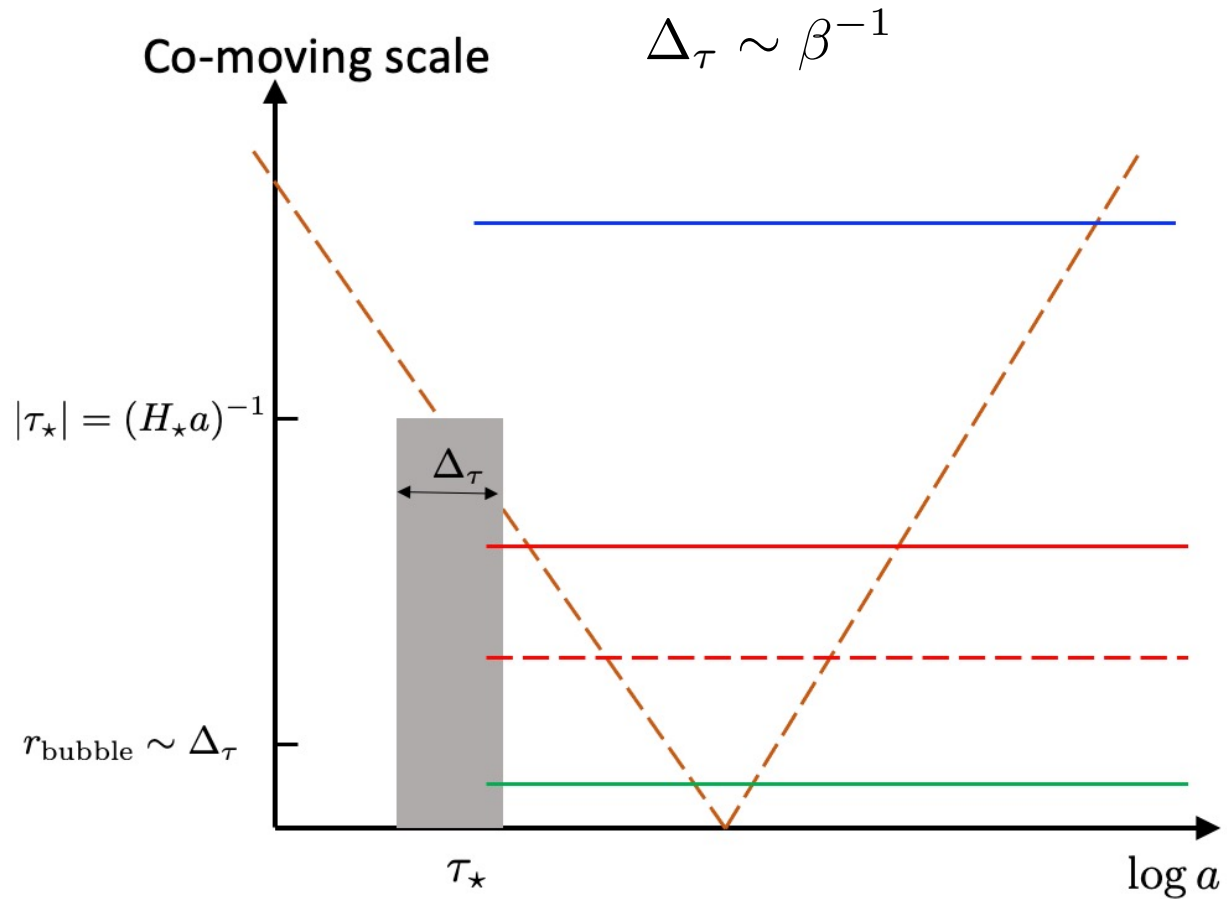


After inflation

- $h^f(k)$ is the initial amplitude for the GW oscillation after inflation.
- All the modes start to oscillate with the same phase.
- Example, in RD, the oscillation is $\sin k\tau / k\tau$



GW spectrum for a real source



Generic features of GW spectrum

- Inflation models

- de Sitter inflation $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f \sim \frac{1}{k}$

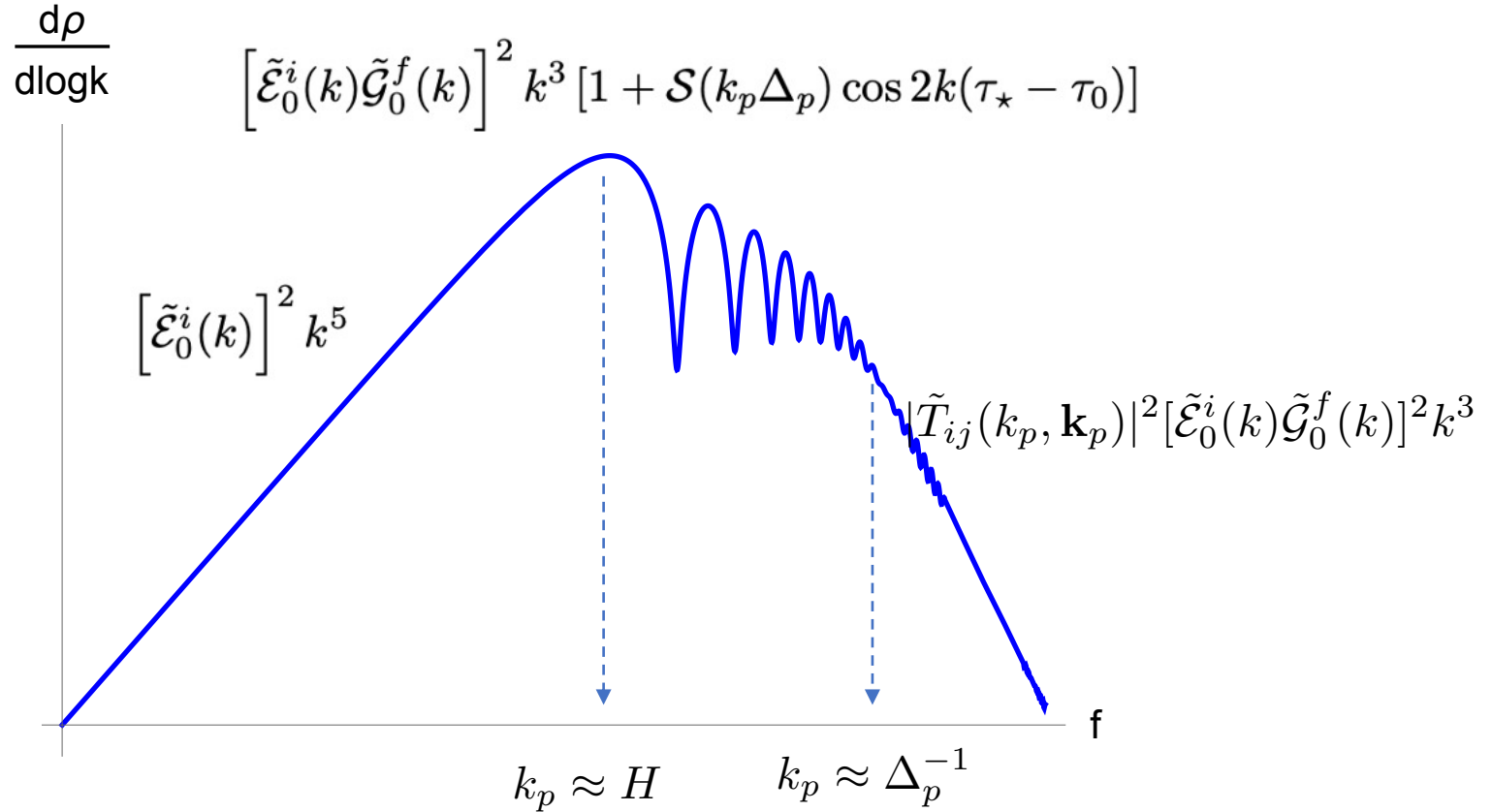
- t^p inflation $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f \sim k^{\frac{p}{1-p}}$

- Evolution after inflation

- In RD, $\tilde{\mathcal{E}}_0^i \sim k^{-1}$

- In MD, $\tilde{\mathcal{E}}_0^i \sim k^{-2}$

- In $t^{\tilde{p}}$, $\tilde{\mathcal{E}}_0^i \sim k^{\tilde{p}/(\tilde{p}-1)}$



Spectrum distortion

Flat space-time

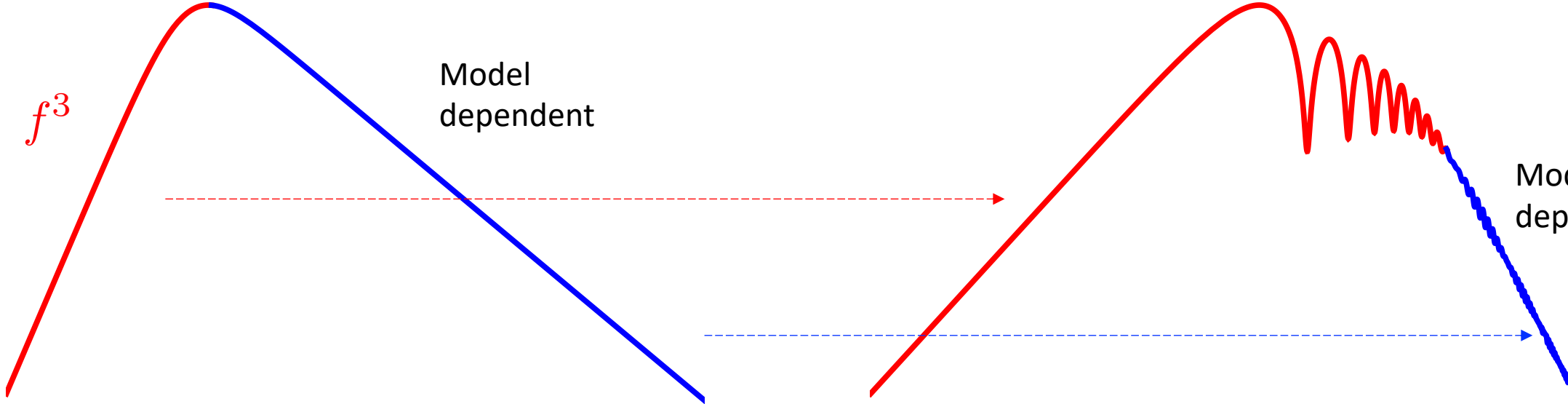
Quasi de Sitter

f^3

Model dependent

Model dependent

Cai, Pi, Sasaki, 1909.13728



GW Power spectrum

- Assume quasi-dS inflation, RD re-entering and fast reheating

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(k_{\text{today}}) = \underbrace{\Omega_R \frac{H_{\text{inf}}^4}{k_p^4}}_{\text{Dilution factor}} \left[\frac{1}{2} + \underbrace{\mathcal{S}(k_p \beta^{-1})}_{\text{Smearing}} \cos\left(\frac{2k_p}{H_{\text{inf}}}\right) \right] \underbrace{\frac{\Delta\rho_{\text{vac}}}{\rho_{\text{inf}}}}_{\text{Suppressed by the energy fraction}} \underbrace{\frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}^{\text{flat}}}{\Delta\rho_{\text{vac}} d \log k_p}}_{\text{Flat space spectrum}}$$

Redshift

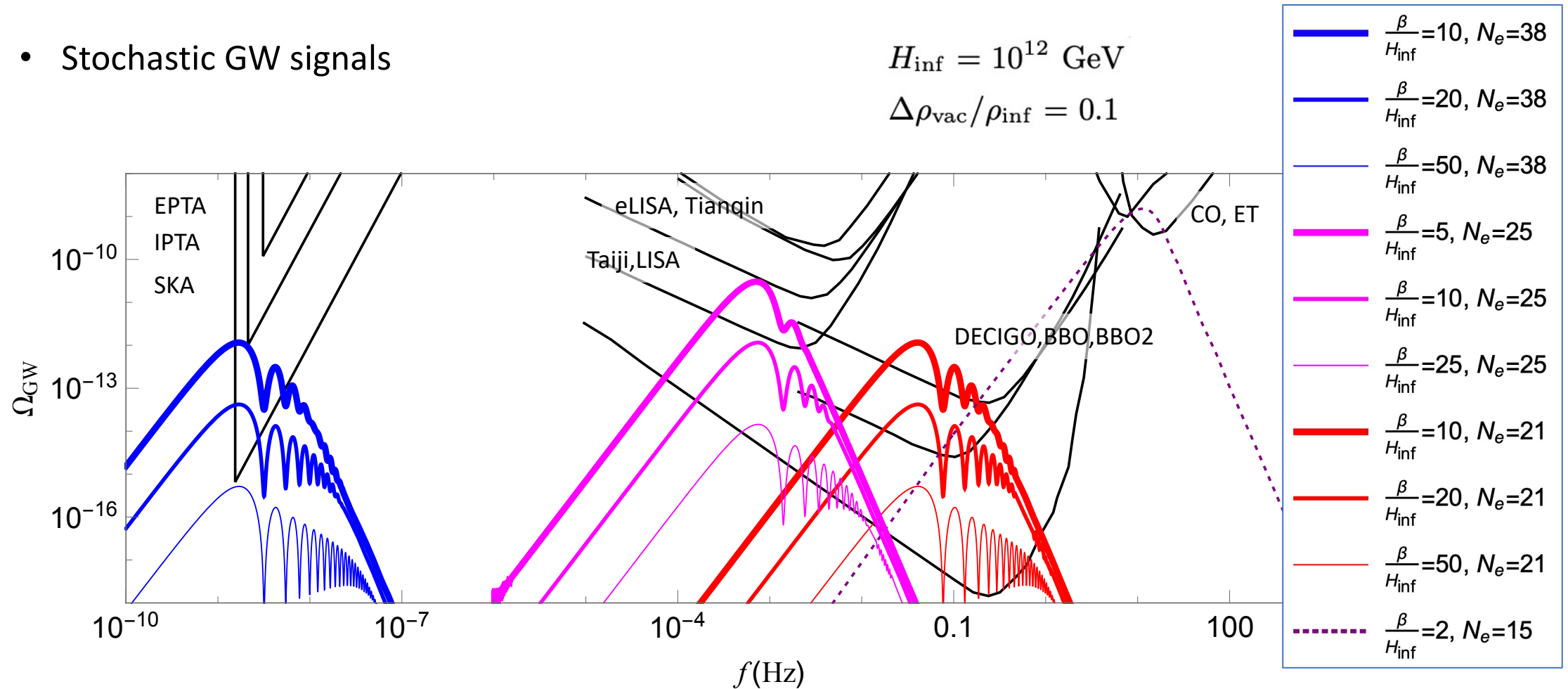
$$\frac{f_{\text{today}}}{f_{\star}} = \frac{a(\tau_{\star})}{a_1} \left(\frac{g_{\star S}^{(0)}}{g_{\star S}^{(R)}} \right)^{1/3} \frac{T_{\text{CMB}}}{\left[\left(\frac{30}{g_{\star}^{(R)} \pi^2} \right) \left(\frac{3H_{\text{inf}}^2}{8\pi G_N} \right) \right]^{1/4}}$$

e^{-N_e}

N_e : e-folds before the end of inflation

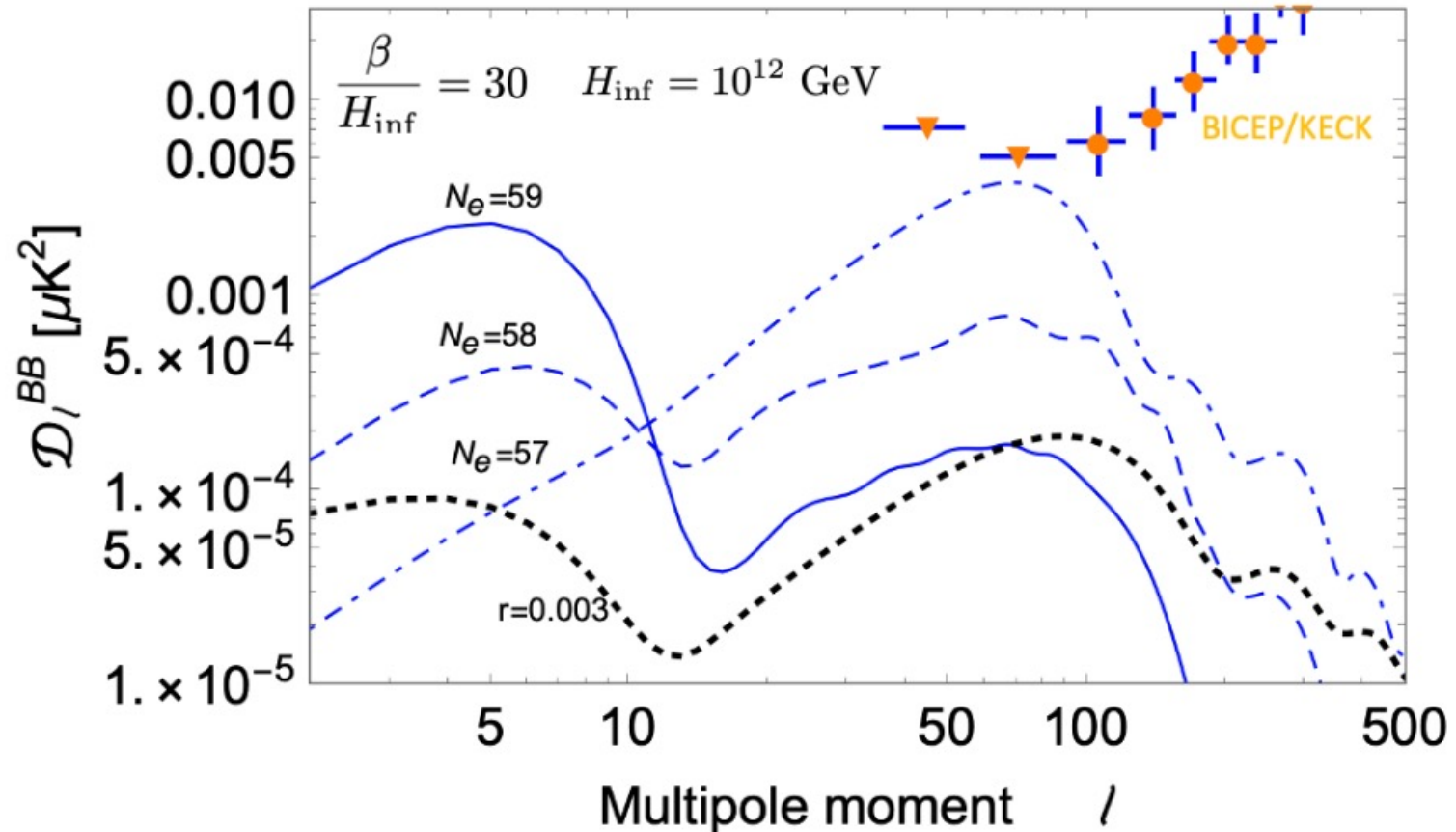
First order phase transition during inflation

- Stochastic GW signals



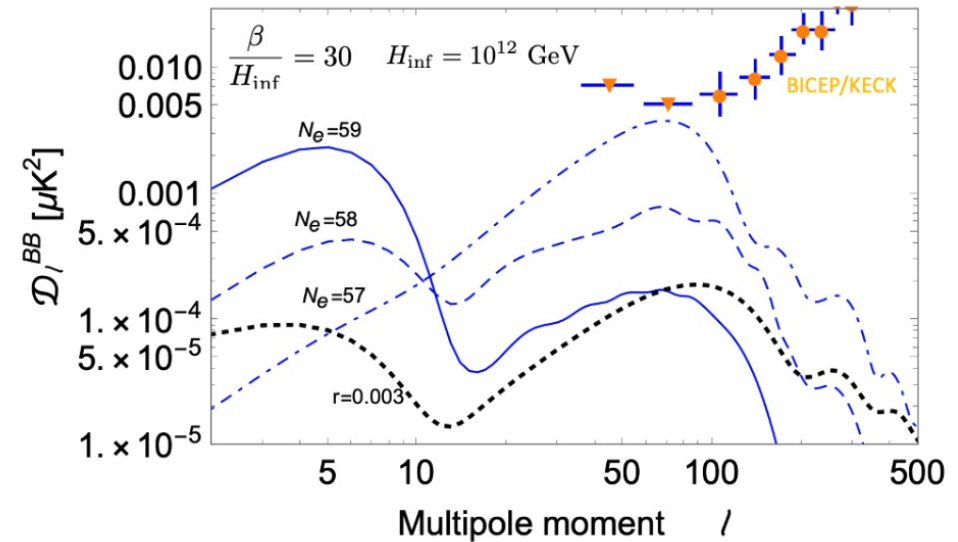
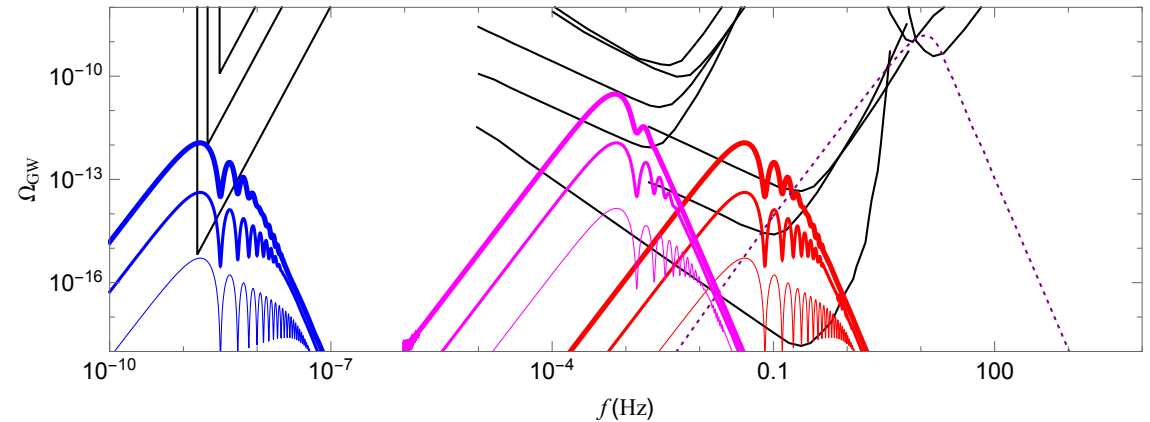
First order phase transition during inflation

- CMB B modes



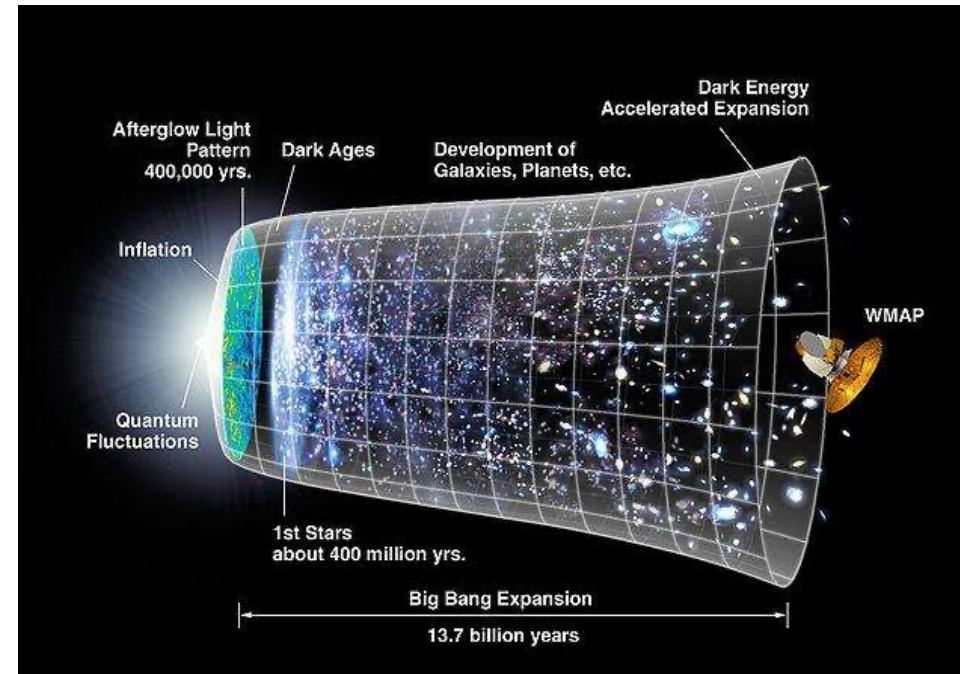
Summary

- We show that there is an oscillatory feature in the spectrum.
- The slopes of the spectrum can tell us information about the inflation model and evolution of the universe when the modes re-enter the horizon.
- First order phase transition during inflation can be realized with simple models.
- If we are lucky enough, such a signal can be detected by future GW detectors.



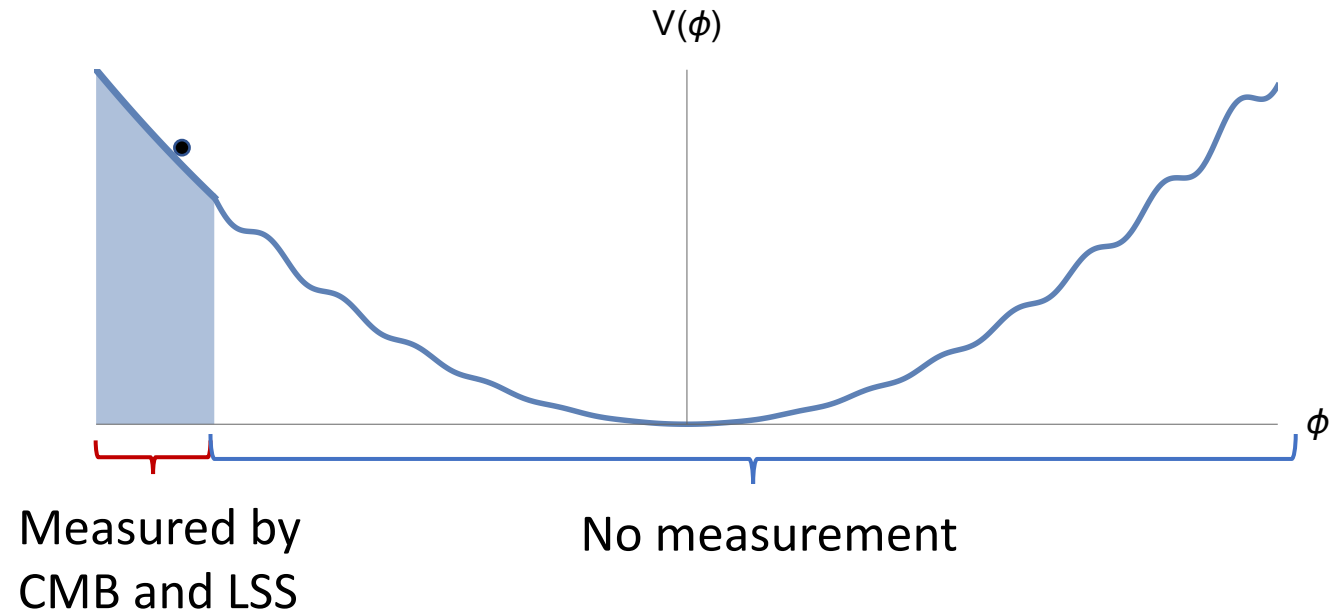
Very brief history of our universe

1. Solves the causality problem
2. Solves the flatness problem
3. Solves the magnetic monopole problem
4. Generates the seed of large scale structure



Slow roll models

- We usually assume a potential.
- Use it to calculate $n_s, r \dots$

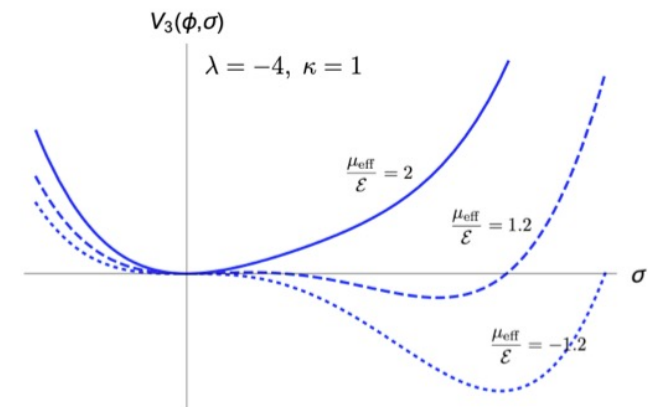
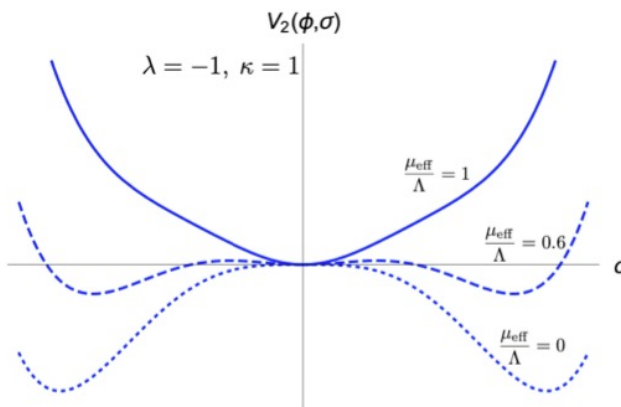
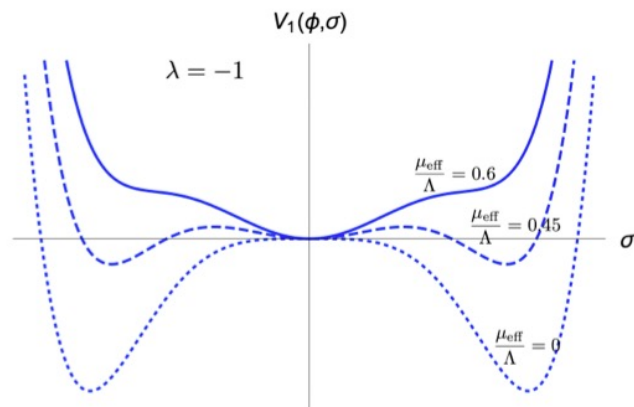


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- The masses or couples in the spectator sector can be changed drastically due to the evolution of the inflaton field.
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Models of first order phase transition during inflation

- Simple models:

ϕ : inflaton field, σ : spectator



$$V_1(\phi, \sigma) = -\frac{1}{2}(\mu^2 - c^2\phi^2)\sigma^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4}\sigma^4 + \frac{1}{8\Lambda^2}\sigma^6$$

$$V_2(\phi, \sigma) = -\frac{1}{2}(\mu^2 - c^2\phi^2)\sigma^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4}\sigma^4 + \frac{\kappa}{4}\sigma^4 \log \frac{\sigma^2}{\Lambda^2}$$

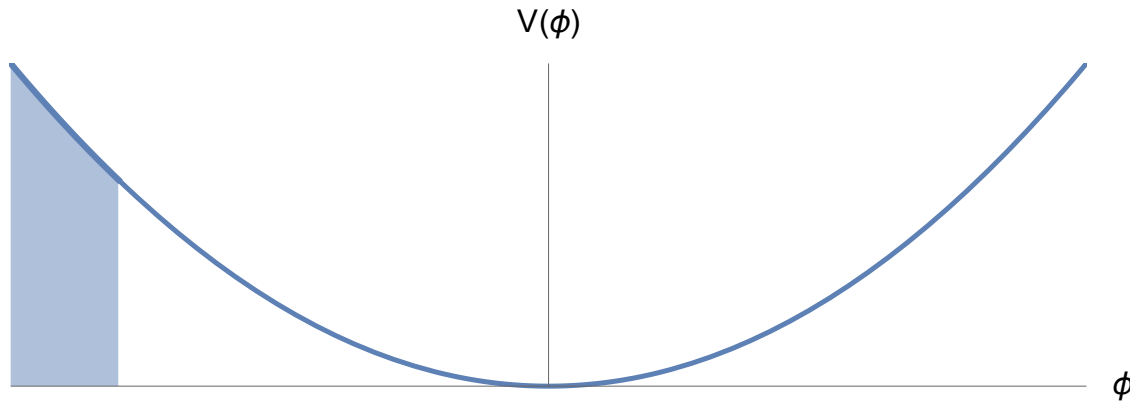
$$V_3(\phi, \sigma) = -\frac{1}{2}(\mu^2 - c^2\phi^2)\sigma^2 + \frac{\lambda}{3}\mathcal{E}\sigma^3 + \frac{\kappa}{4}\sigma^4 .$$

$$\mu_{\text{eff}}^2 = -(\mu^2 - c^2\phi^2)$$

First order phase transition driven by the evolution of the inflaton

- ϕ : inflaton field

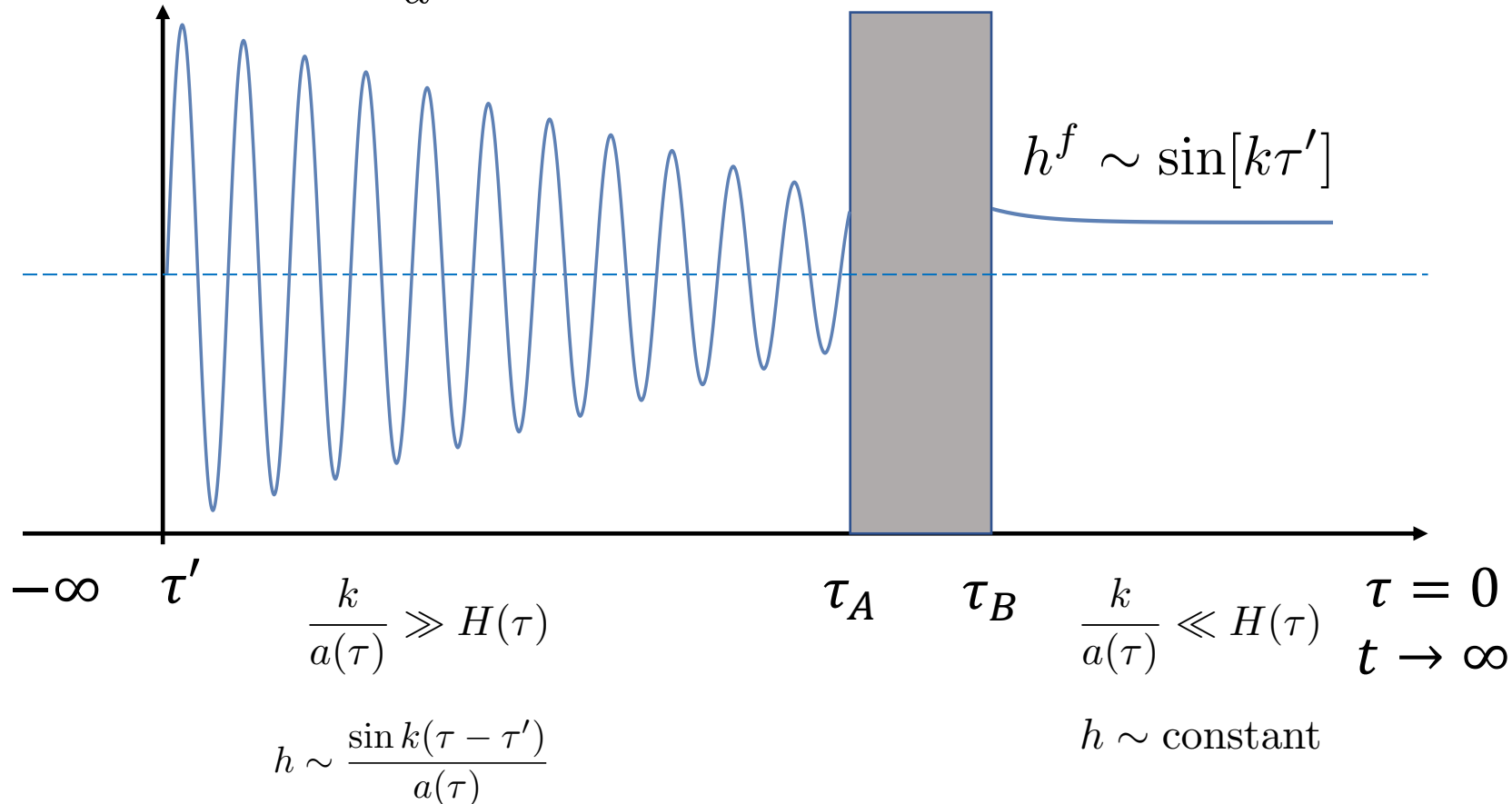
G : strong interacting spectator field



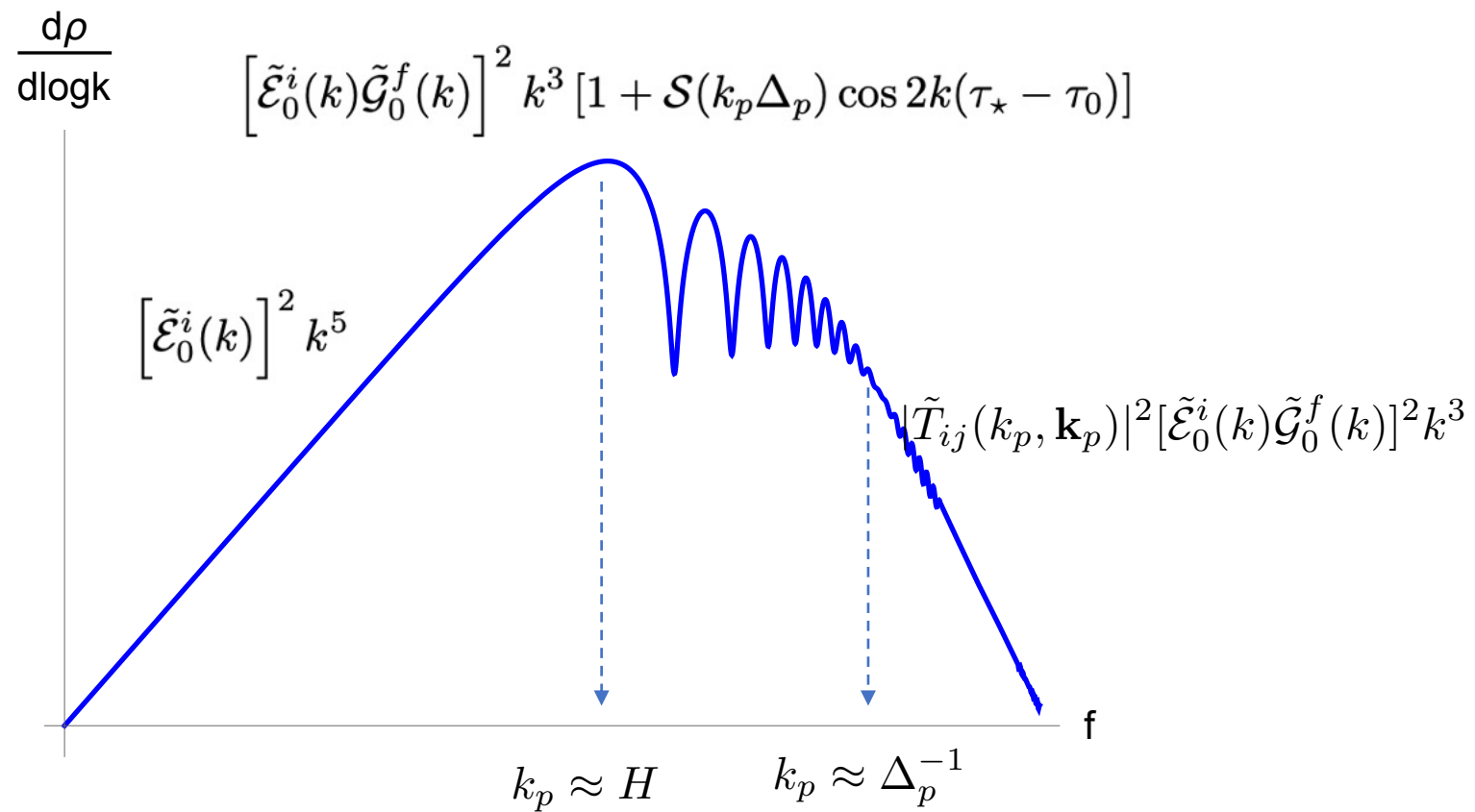
$$\mathcal{L}_\sigma = -\left(1 - \frac{c^2 \phi^2}{\Lambda^2}\right) \frac{1}{4g^2} G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu}$$

GW from instantaneous and local sources (qualitative study)

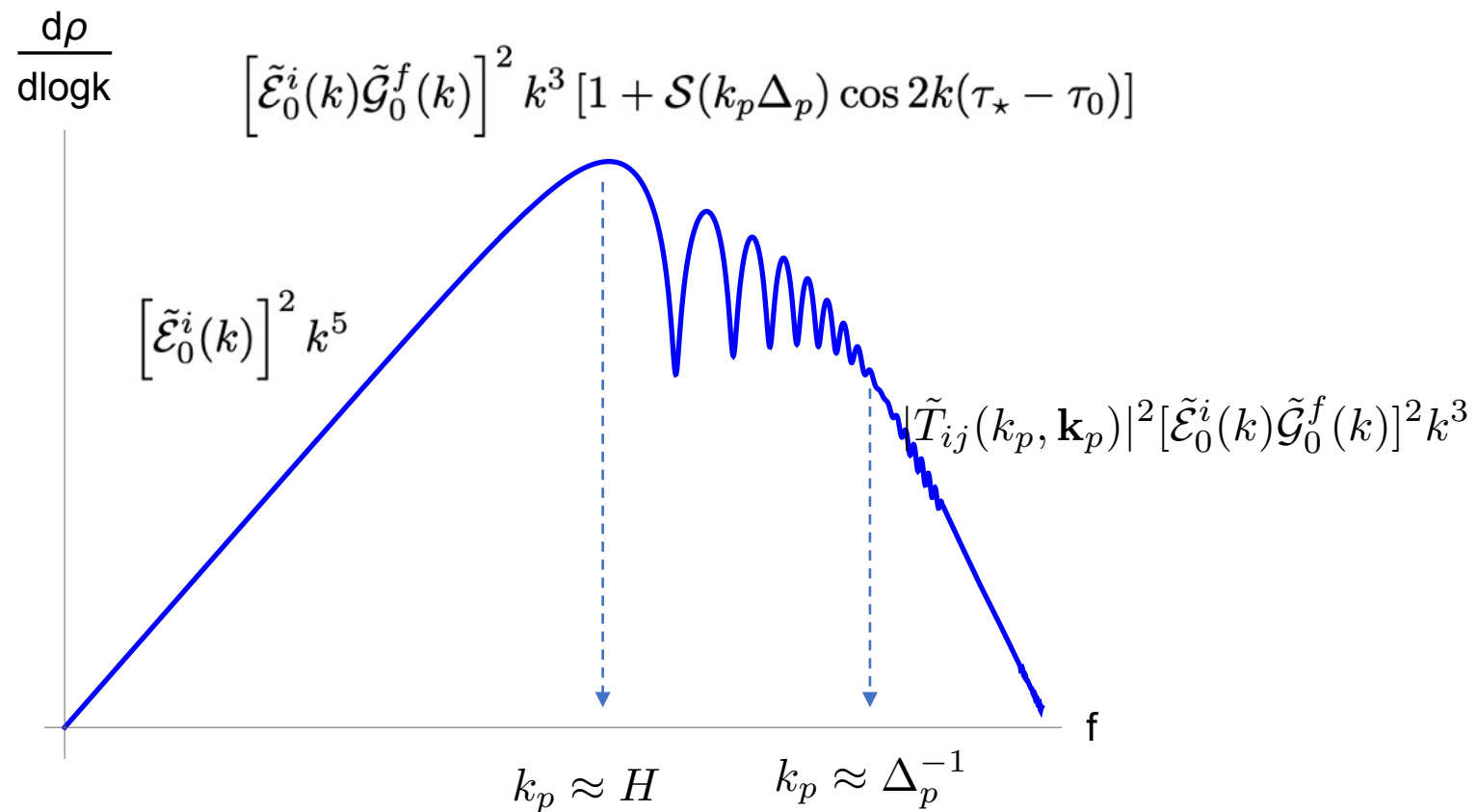
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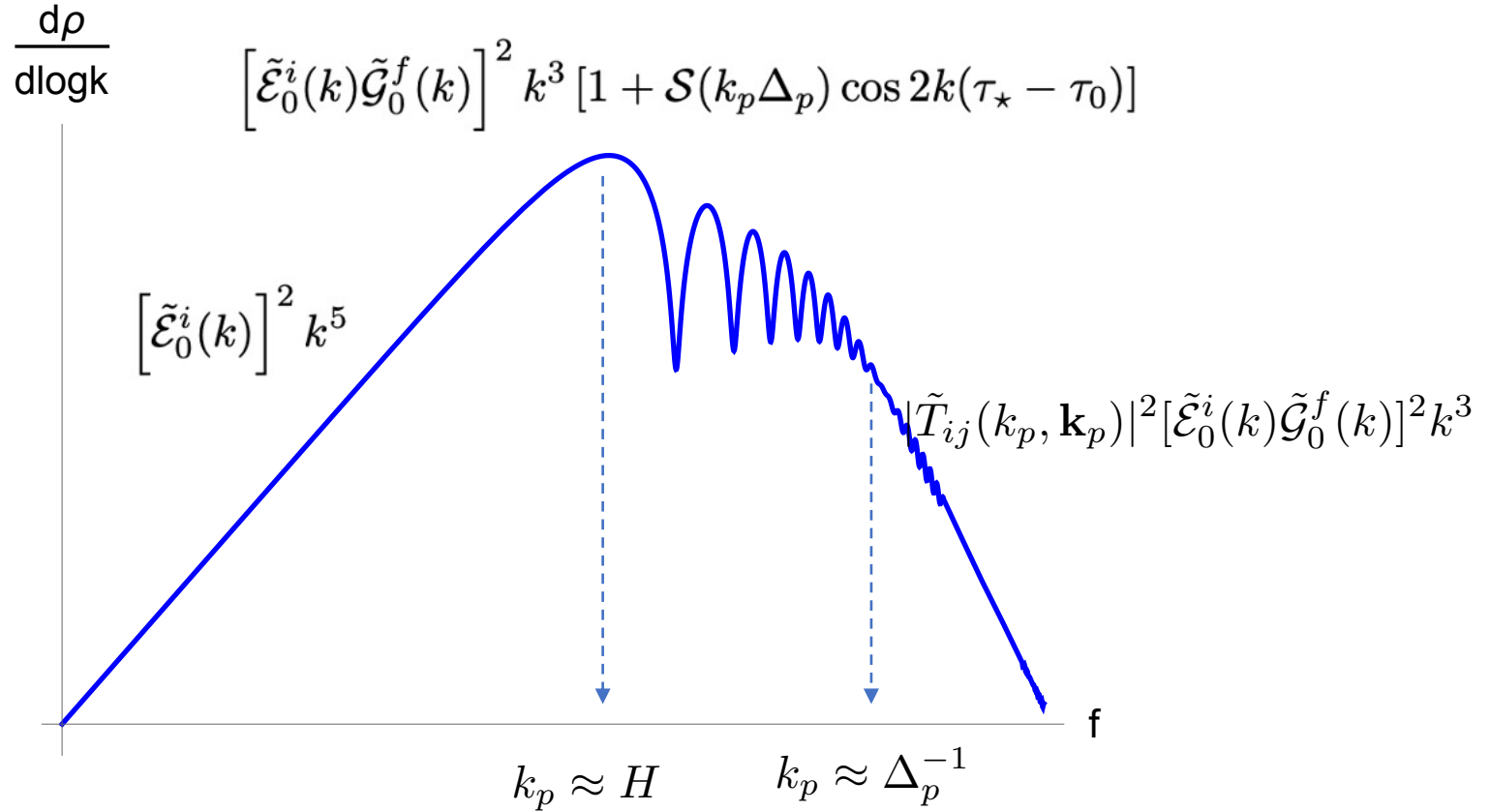
- t^p inflation $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f \sim k^{\frac{p}{1-p}}$

- Evolution after inflation

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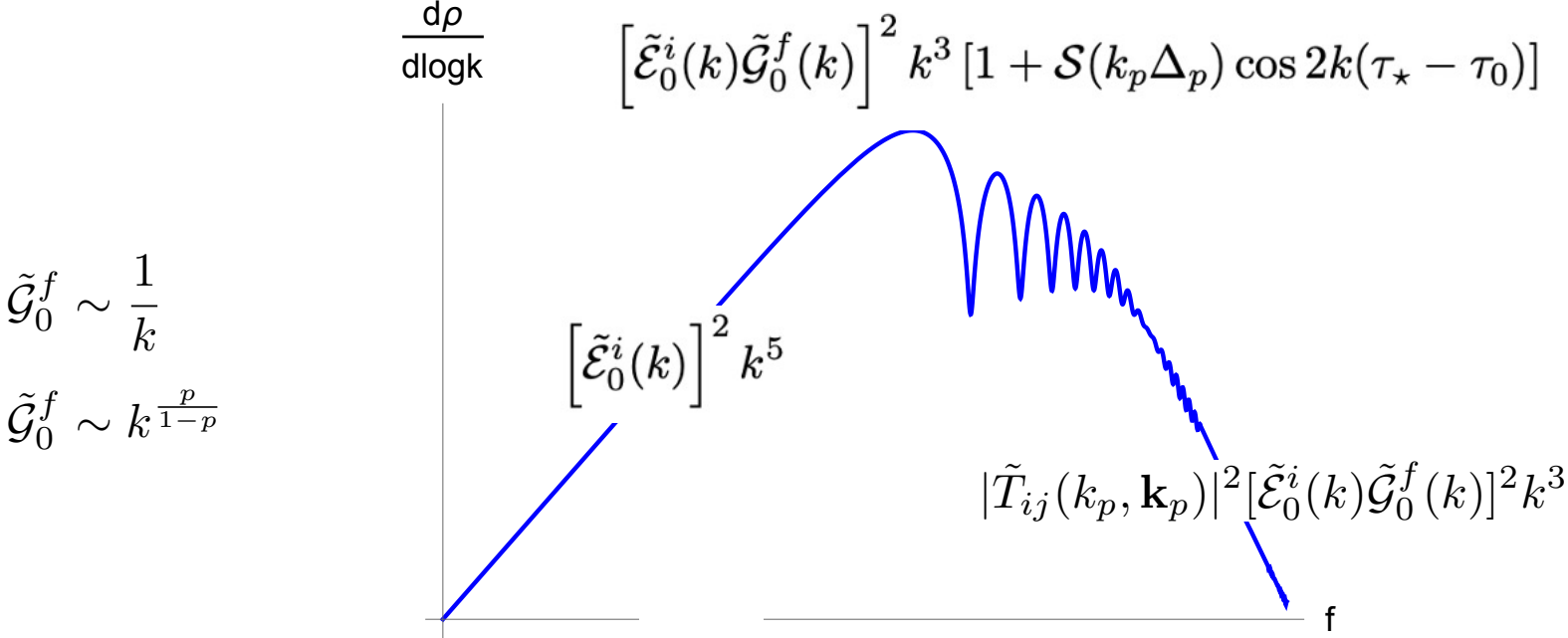
Examples

- Inflation models

- Quasi-de Sitter inflation
- t^p inflation

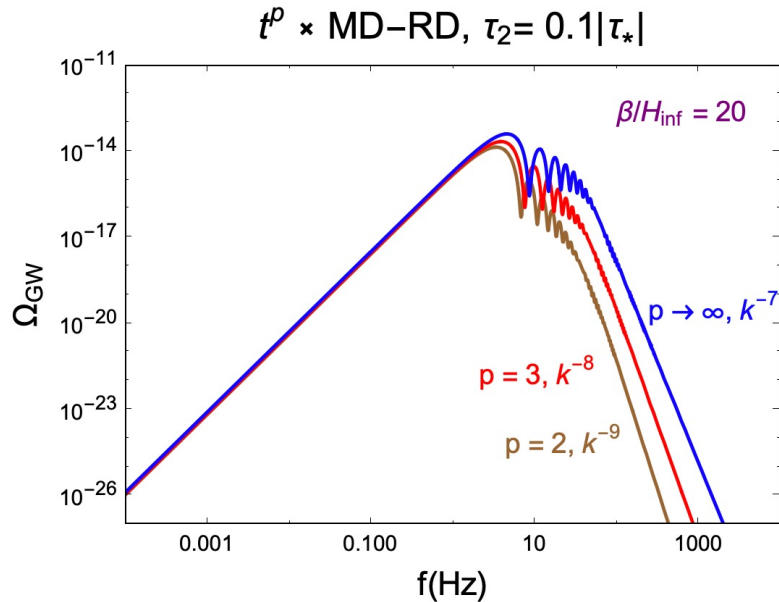
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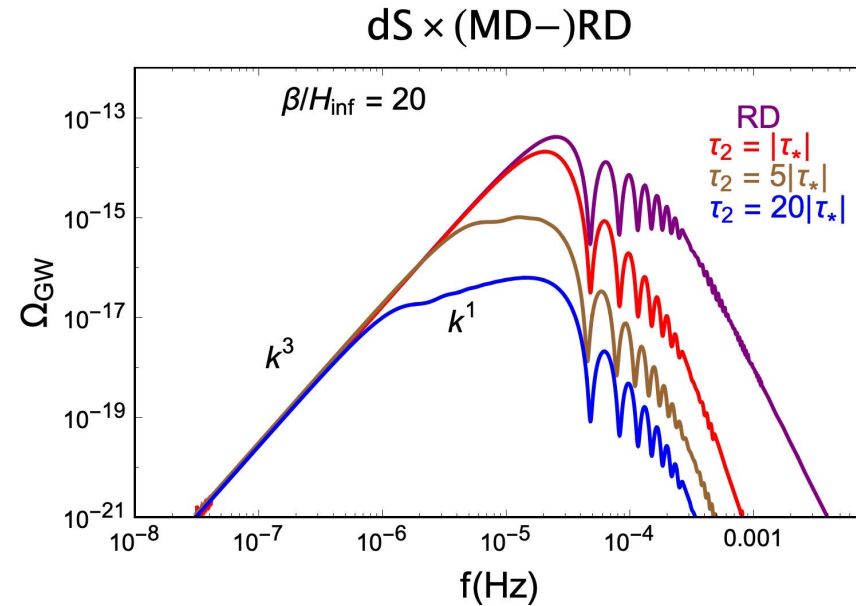
	w	$\rho(a)$	\tilde{p}
MD	0	a^{-3}	2/3
RD	1/3	a^{-4}	1/2
Λ	-1	a^0	∞
Cosmic string	-1/3	a^{-2}	1
Domain wall	-2/3	a^{-1}	2
kination	1	a^{-6}	1/3

Comparing scenarios



Different inflation scenarios

➔ Different slopes in the UV and oscillatory parts

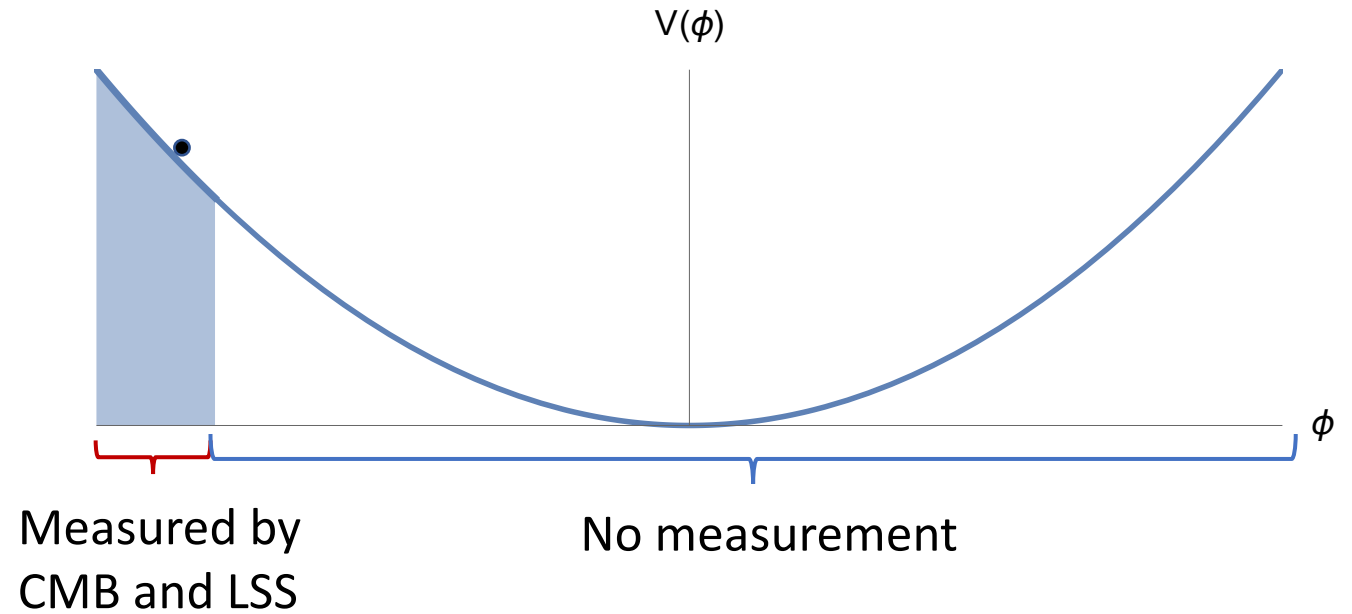


Temporary MD between inflation and RD

τ_2 : MD-RD transition

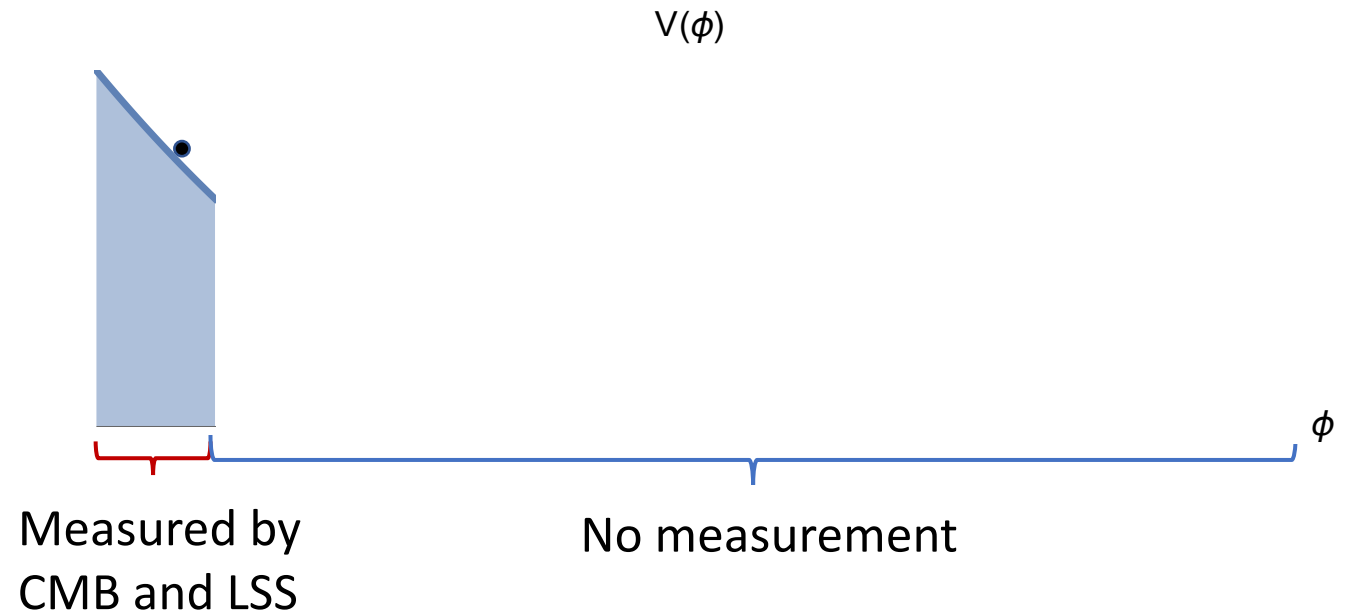
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