

# Cosmic birefringence and its implications

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ダークマターの正体は何か？

広大なディスカバリースペースの網羅的研究

What is dark matter? - Comprehensive study of the huge discovery space in dark matter



文部科学省  
科学研究費助成事業  
学術変革領域研究  
( 2020-2024 )



2024.6.11 Copernicus Webinar

# Cosmic birefringence

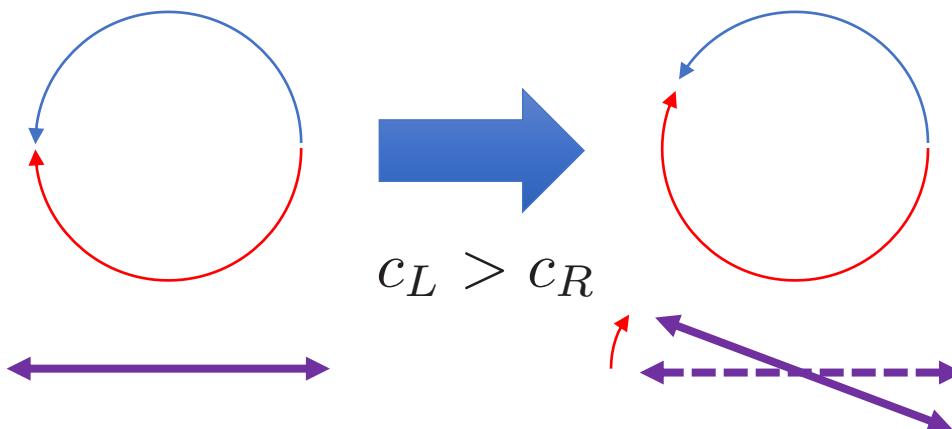
*Carroll, Field & Jackiw (1990); Harari & Sikivie (1992); Carroll (1998); ...*

**Parity-violating phenomenon by a cosmic birefringent material**

Ex: pseudo scalar field - electromagnetic interaction

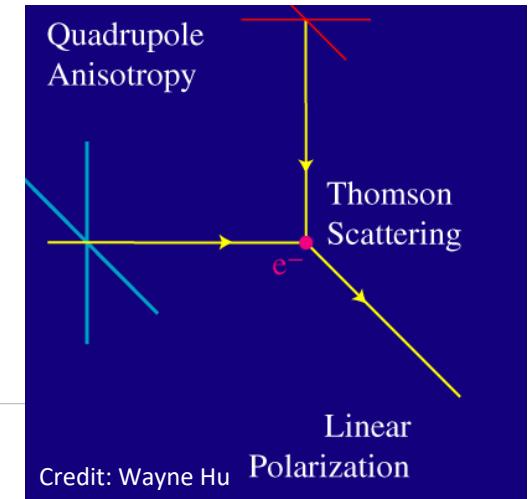
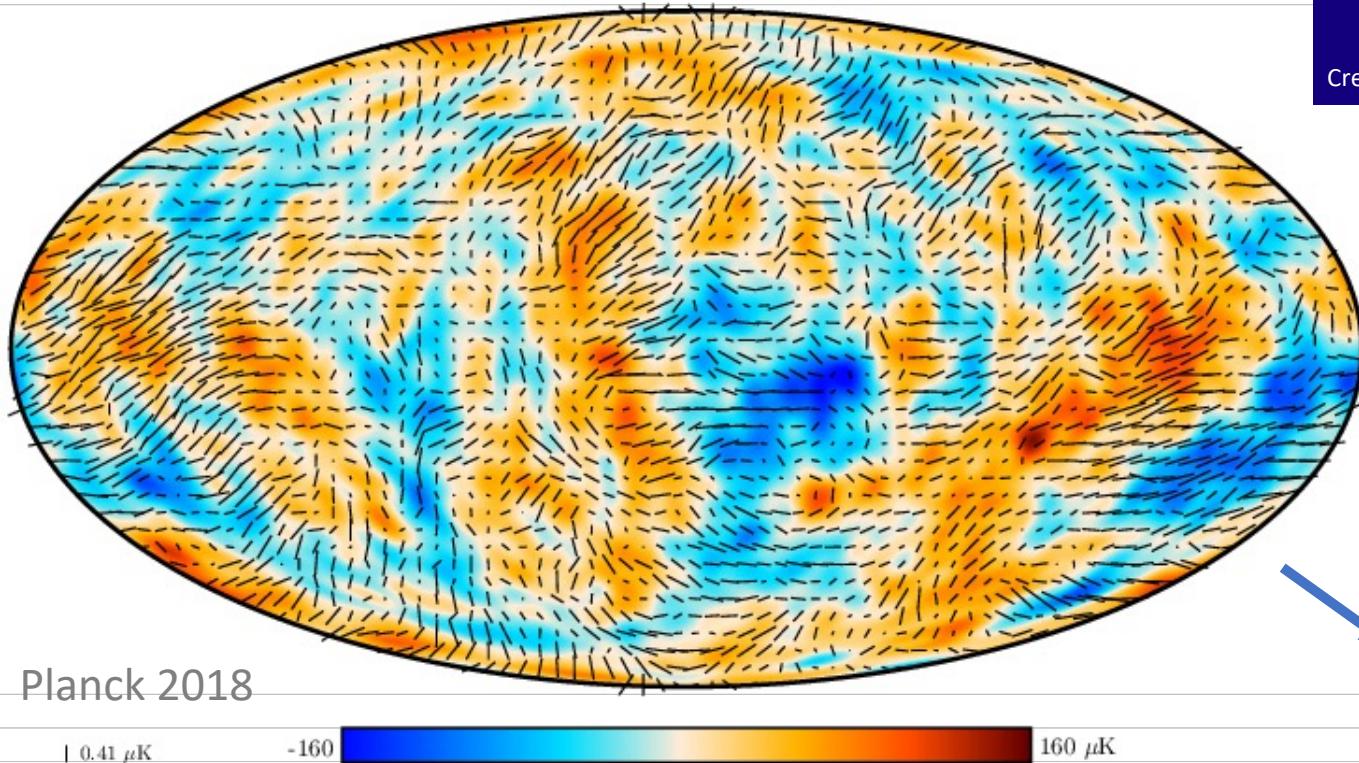
$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma} \varphi F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}, \quad F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu$$

Dispersion relation:  $\ddot{A}_k^{L/R} + \omega_{L/R}^2 A_k^{L/R} = 0, \quad c_{L/R} \equiv \frac{\omega_{L/R}}{k} = \sqrt{1 \pm \frac{g_{a\gamma} \dot{\varphi}}{k}}$

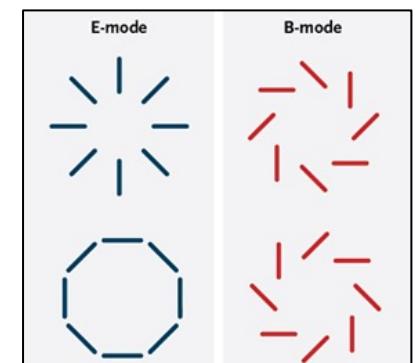


→ leading to the rotation of linear-polarization direction

# CMB polarization map



E-mode v.s. B-mode

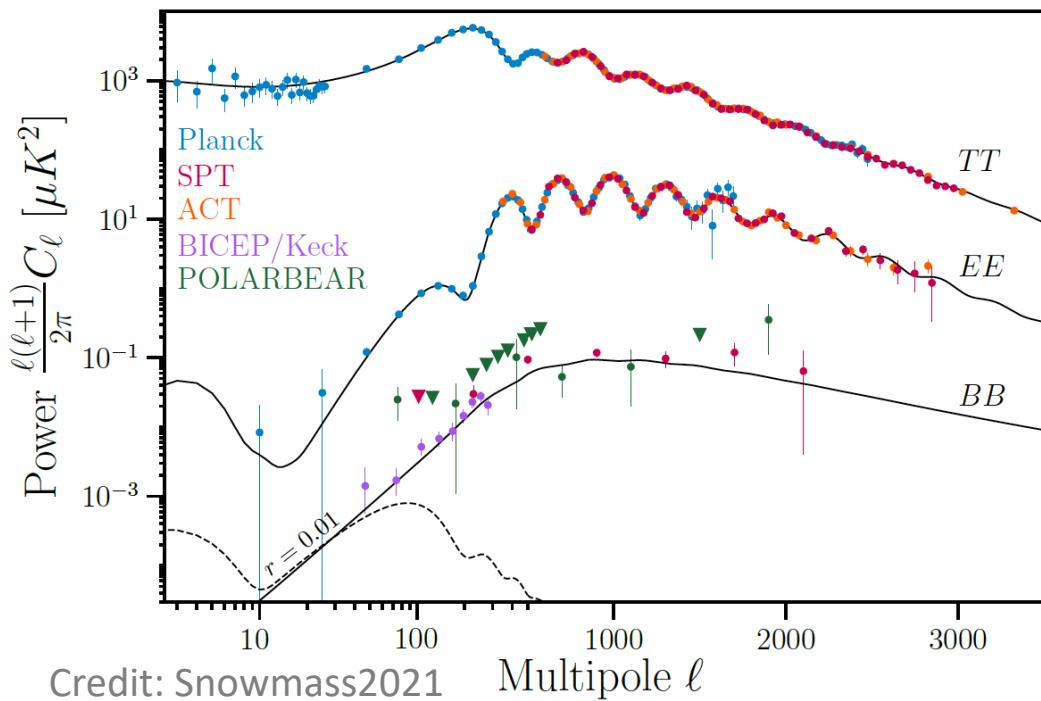


# CMB angular power spectra

$$\langle T(\ell)T^*(\ell') \rangle = (2\pi)^2 \delta^{(2)}(\ell - \ell') C_\ell^{TT}$$

$$\langle E(\ell)E^*(\ell') \rangle = (2\pi)^2 \delta^{(2)}(\ell - \ell') C_\ell^{EE}$$

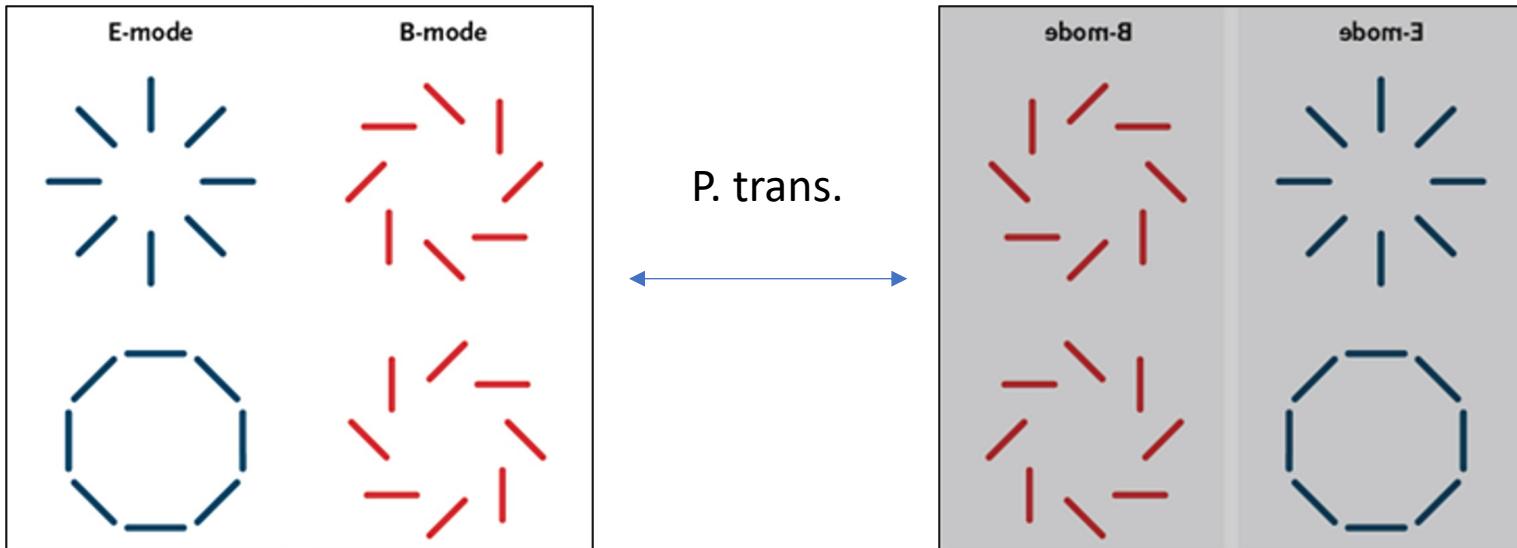
$$\langle B(\ell)B^*(\ell') \rangle = (2\pi)^2 \delta^{(2)}(\ell - \ell') C_\ell^{BB}$$



- Power spectra of T and E-mode have been precisely measured
- B-mode is still dominated by instrumental noises.  
(especially for the inflationary B-mode)
- More to come in next decade!

***Simons Observatory(2023~)***  
***LiteBIRD(2032~)...***

# Parity flip in polarization pattern

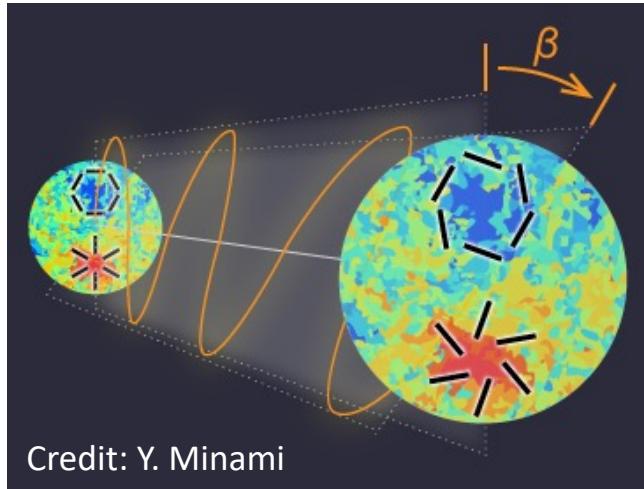


Parity-even:  $C_\ell^{TT}$ ,  $C_\ell^{EE}$ ,  $C_\ell^{BB}$ ,  $C_\ell^{TE}$  (parity-invariant theory, well measured)

Parity-odd:  $C_\ell^{TB}$ ,  $C_\ell^{EB}$  → **parity-violating physics, not well measured**

# Generation EB correlation function

*Lue, Wang & Kamionkowski (1999); Feng+ (2005,2006); Liu, Lee & Ng (2006); ...*



- Cosmic birefringence converts E and B as

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_{\ell m} \\ B_{\ell m} \end{pmatrix}^{\text{obs}} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(2\beta) & -\sin(2\beta) \\ \sin(2\beta) & \cos(2\beta) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_{\ell m} \\ B_{\ell m} \end{pmatrix}^{\text{CMB}}$$

↑ observed polarizations

↑ intrinsic

- It produces a parity-odd EB correlation

$$C_{\ell}^{EB,o} = \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\beta) \left( C_{\ell}^{EE,\text{CMB}} - C_{\ell}^{BB,\text{CMB}} \right) + \cos(4\beta) C_{\ell}^{EB,\text{CMB}}$$

(note:  $\beta$  is assumed to be constant)

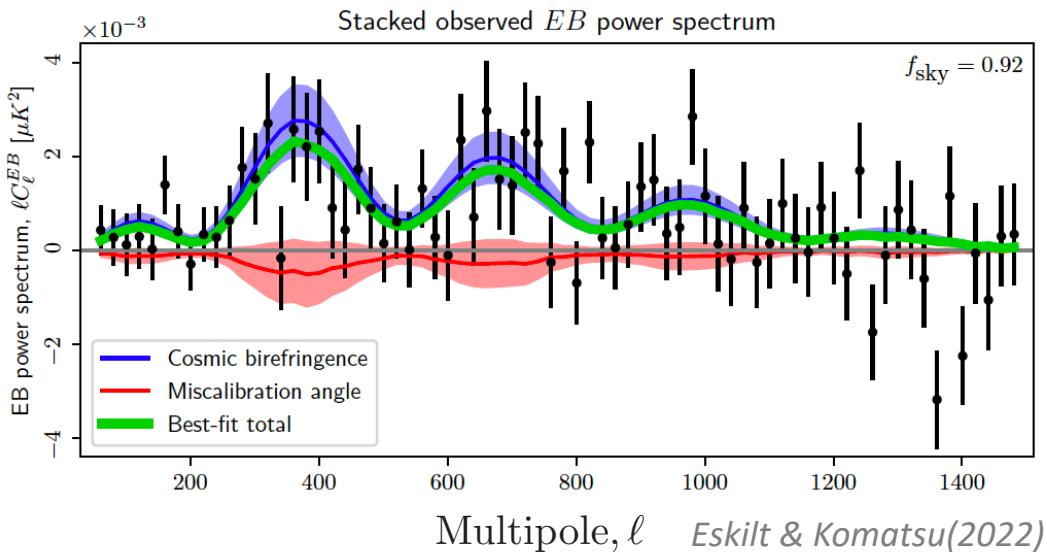
↑assuming 0

# Measurements of cosmic birefringence

- Nonzero isotropic cosmic birefringence (ICB) angle was reported by *Planck* data:

*PR3*:  $\beta = 0.35 \pm 0.14$  deg      ***Minami, Komatsu (2020);***

*PR4*:  $\beta = 0.30 \pm 0.11$  deg      ***Diego-Palazuelos+ (2022);***



- *Planck/WMAP* joint analysis:  
***Eskilt & Komatsu (2022);***

$$\beta = 0.34 \pm 0.09 \text{ deg } (3.6\sigma)$$

# To explain ICB...

- Linear polarization rotation is potentially caused by the axion-photon interaction

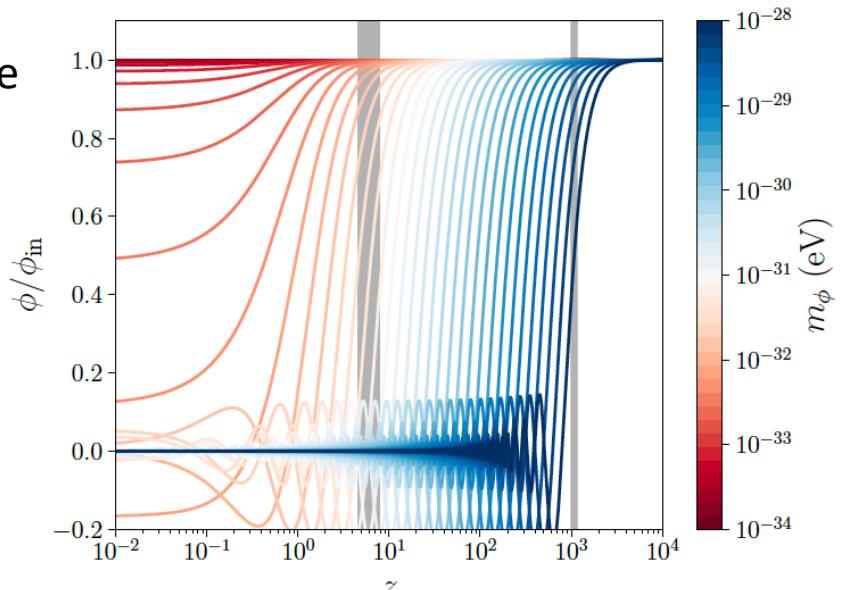
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = \frac{1}{4} g_{\phi\gamma} \phi F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \quad \rightarrow \quad \omega_{L/R} = k \sqrt{1 \pm \frac{g_{\phi\gamma} \dot{\phi}}{k}} \simeq k \pm \frac{g_{\phi\gamma}}{2} \dot{\phi}$$

$$\beta = \frac{1}{2} \int_{t_{\text{emit}}}^{t_{\text{obs}}} dt (\omega_L - \omega_R) = \frac{g_{\phi\gamma}}{2} \int_{t_{\text{emit}}}^{t_{\text{obs}}} dt \dot{\phi} = \frac{g_{\phi\gamma}}{2} [\phi(t_{\text{obs}}) - \phi(t_{\text{emit}})]$$

- Field displacement is given by a time evolution of axion background:

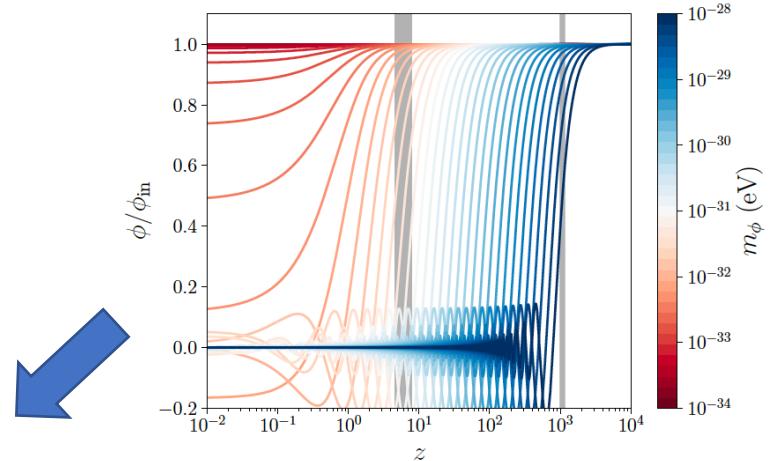
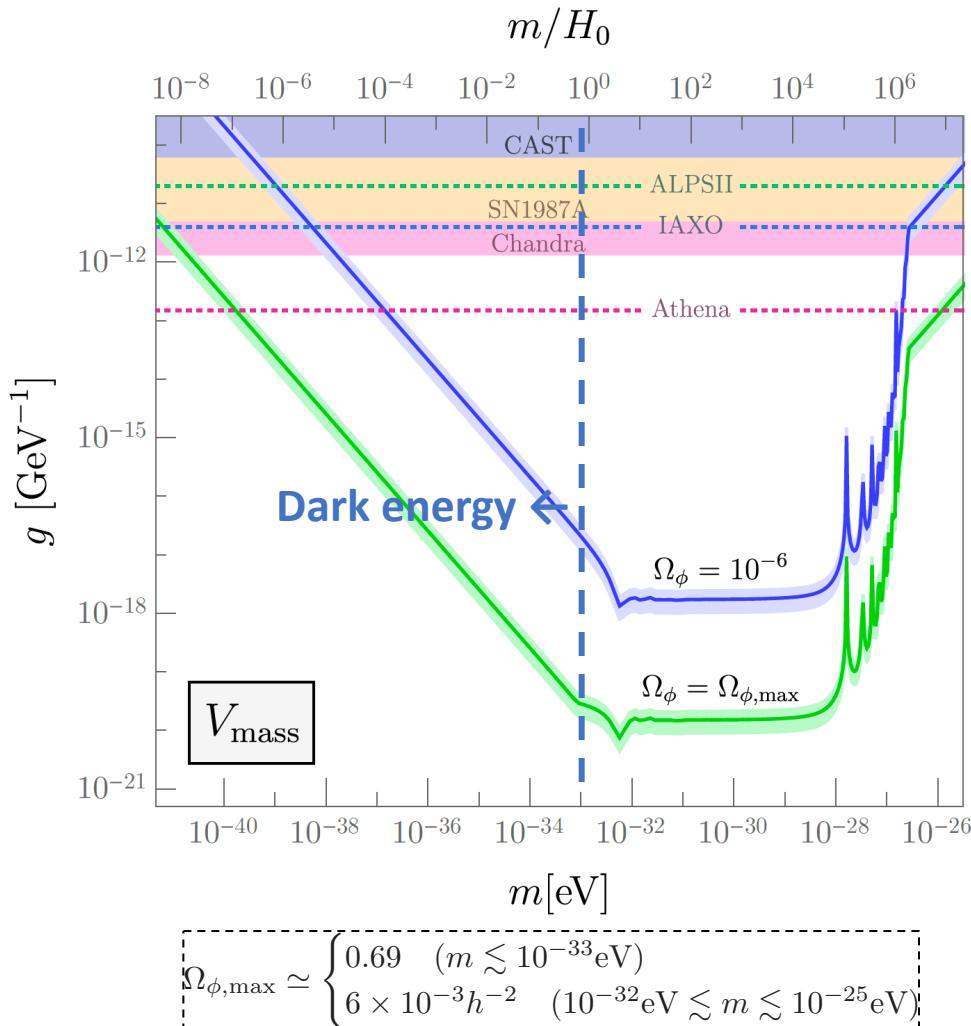
Ex)  $V(\phi) = \frac{1}{2} m_\phi^2 \phi^2$

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + m_\phi^2 \phi = 0$$



# ICB from axion dark energy (DE)

Fujita, Murai, Nakatsuka & Tsujikawa (2020);...



- Due to a slow-roll motion of DE, field excursion is approximately  $\Delta\phi \propto m^2 \phi / H^2$

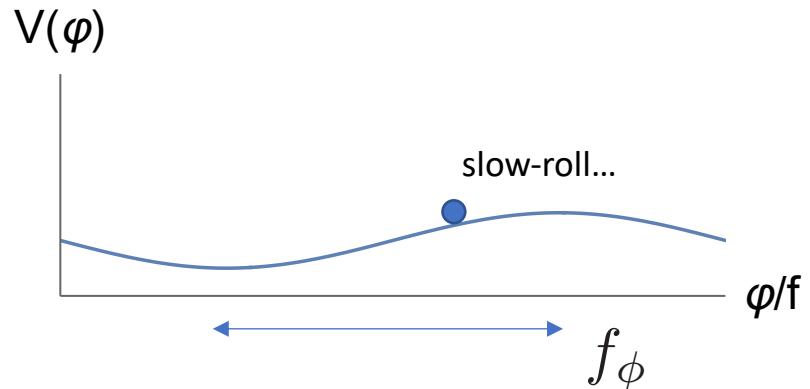
$$\rightarrow \beta = \frac{g}{2} \Delta\phi \propto gm\sqrt{\Omega_\phi}$$

# Conventional issue of axion DE model

*Friemann+ (1995); ...*

- Consider a **nearly flat** axion cosine potential

$$V(\phi) = m_\phi^2 f_\phi^2 \left[ 1 - \cos \left( \frac{\phi}{f_\phi} \right) \right]$$



- Slow-roll condition (constraint on the equation of state for DE) requires

$$f_\phi \simeq 14 M_{\text{Pl}} \left( \frac{\Omega_\phi}{0.69} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{m_\phi/H_0}{0.1} \right)^{-1} > M_{\text{Pl}}$$

(In controlled setup,  $f_\phi \ll M_{\text{Pl}}$  ) **Banks+ (2003);**

Or we could avoid it by relying on a fine-tuning of initial axion displacement...

# Axion monodromy

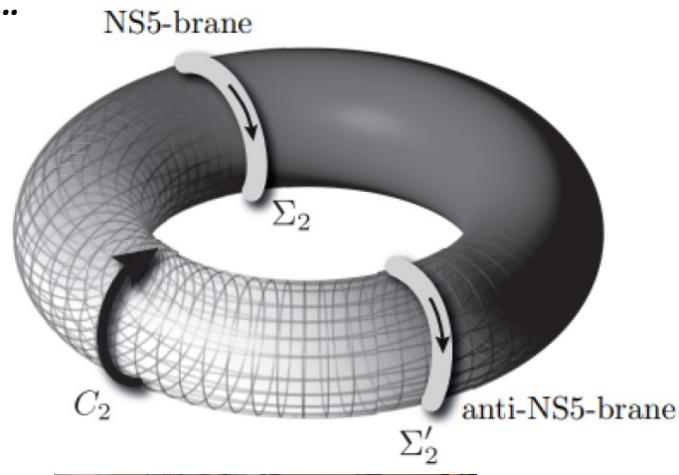
Silverstein, Westphal (2008); McAllister, Silverstein, Westphal (2008);...

- Axion potential from wrapped branes:

$$V = \frac{2\epsilon}{(2\pi)^5 g_s^2 \alpha'^2} \sqrt{L^4 + g_s^2 a^2}$$

$$V \rightarrow \mu^4 \frac{\phi}{f_a} \quad (a \gg L^2/g_s)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu^4 &\equiv \frac{2\epsilon}{(2\pi)^5 g_s \alpha'^2} \\ \phi &\equiv f_a a \end{aligned}$$



- The potential energy is not bounded from above, but experiences a *monodromy*

→ extends axion field value to the periodic scale:

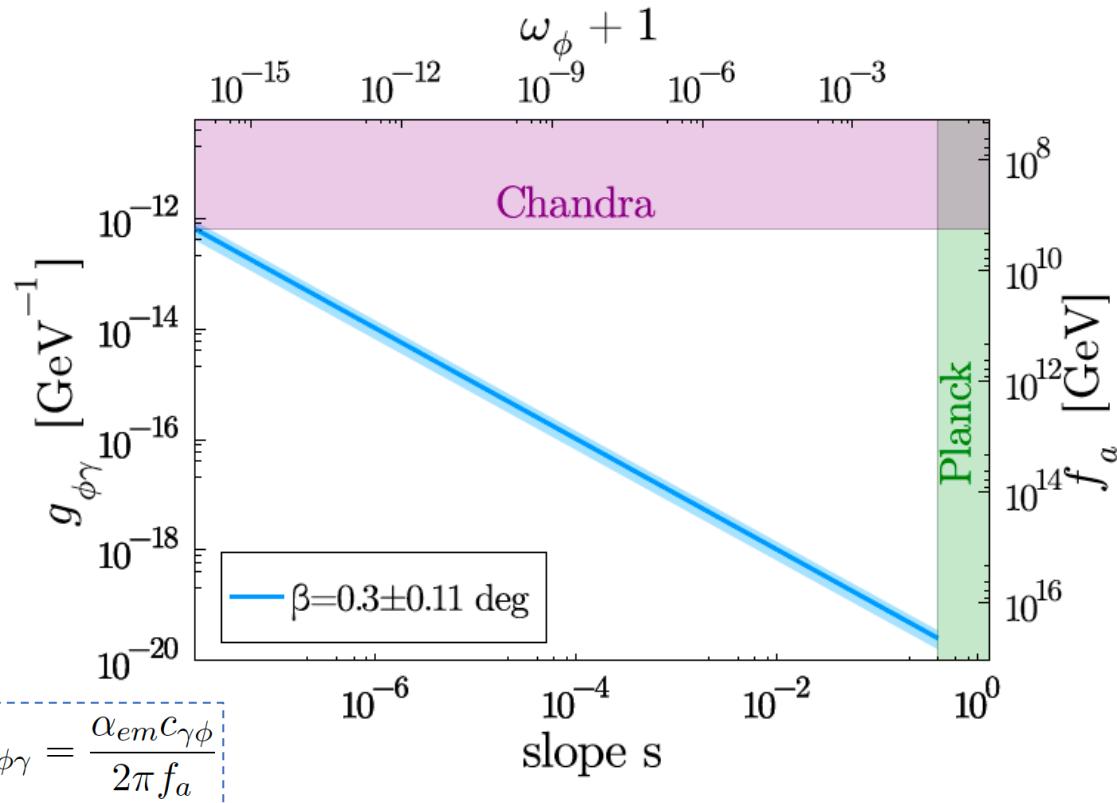
$$\phi \gg M_{\text{Pl}} \text{ with } f_a \ll M_{\text{Pl}}$$

(potentially explains the cosmic birefringence?)

Panda, Sumitomo, Trivedi (2010);...

# ICB from monodromic axion DE

*Gasparotto & IO (2022);*



■ Constraint on a potential slope

$$s \equiv \frac{dV/d\phi}{3M_{\text{Pl}}^2 H_0^2} = \frac{\mu^4/f_a}{3M_{\text{Pl}}^2 H_0^2}$$

of linear potential

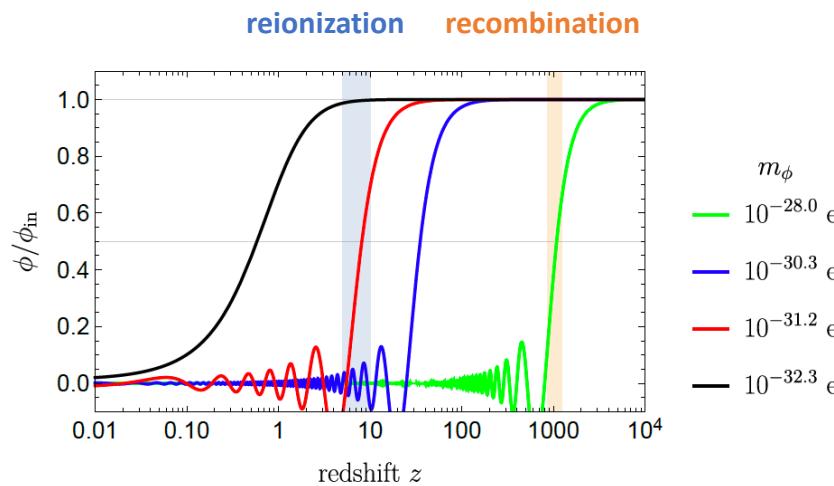
$$\frac{f_a}{c_{\gamma\phi}} = 4.52 \times 10^{16} \text{ GeV} \left( \frac{0.30 \text{ deg}}{|\beta|} \right) \left( \frac{s}{0.4} \right)$$

← sub-Planckian (GUT) scale!

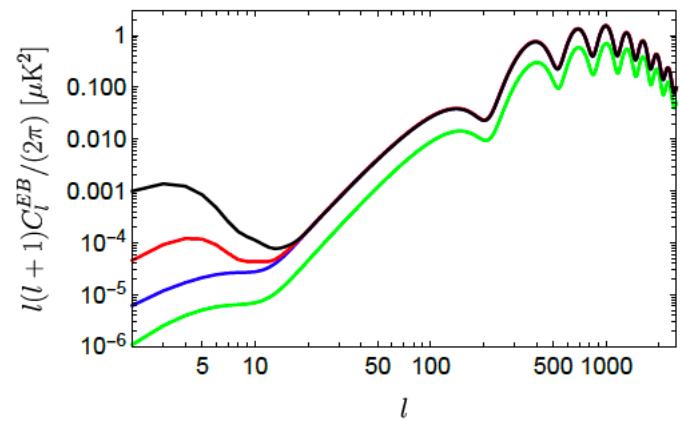
# ICB constraints on heavier axions

*Sherwin & Namikawa (2021); Nakatsuka, Namikawa & Komatsu (2022); ...*

- Axion dynamics at reionization/recombination provides unique EB spectral shapes



Nakatsuka, Namikawa, Komatsu (2022)



- Several constraints on...

Early dark energy

*Murai, Naokawa, Namikawa, Komatsu (2022); Eskilt+ (2023);*

Gravitational lensing

*Naokawa & Namikawa (2023);*

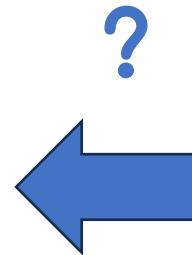
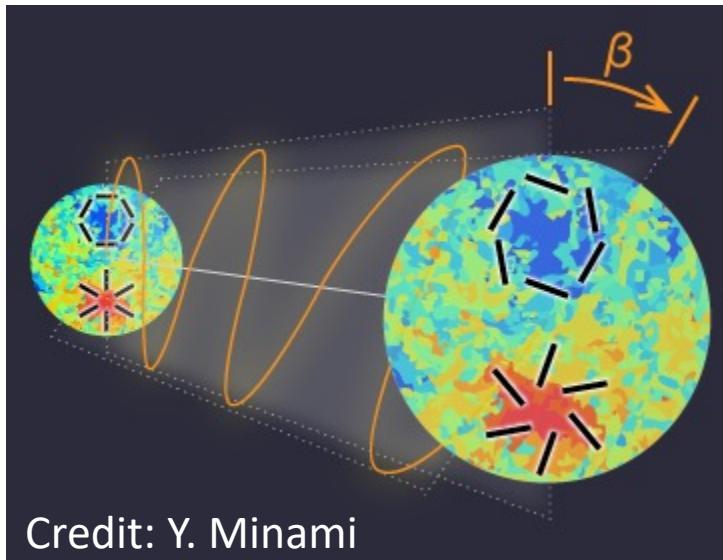
Polarized SZ effect

*Lee, Hotinli, Kamionkowski (2022); Namikawa & IO (2023);*

Topological defects

*Takahashi & Yin (2020); Ferreira, Gasparotto, Hiramatsu, IO, Pujolas (2023);*

# Question



axions  
new physics

**Why new physics?**

**Why not our known  
physics in Standard Model?**



**“All things being  
equal, the simplest  
solution tends to be  
the best one.”**

**William of Ockham**

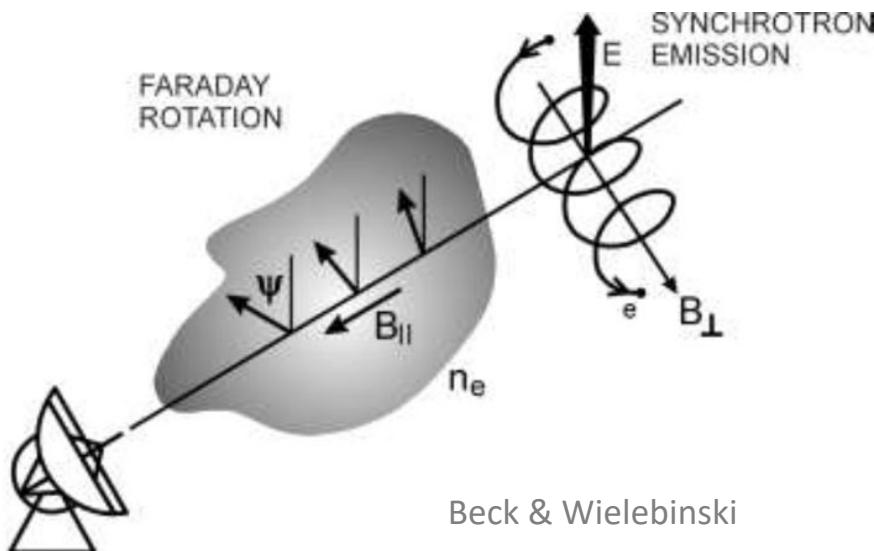
[LinkedIn.com](https://www.linkedin.com)

# Case 1: Faraday rotation in CMB

- Polarization rotation due to (cosmological) magnetic field and free electron:

$$\beta = \text{RM} \lambda^2$$

$$\text{RM} = \frac{e^3}{2\pi m_e^2 c^4} \int_0^d ds n_e(s) B_{\parallel}(s)$$



Beck & Wielebinski

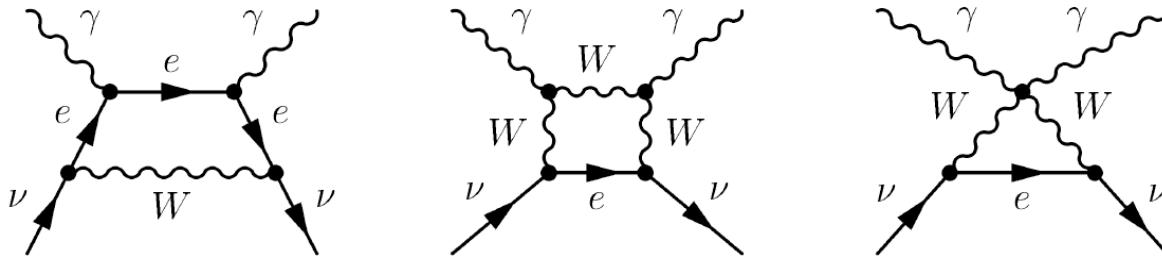
- Large scale primordial magnetic field could provide EB correlation
- Upper limit on primordial magnetic field from CMB observations:

$$B_{1\text{Mpc}} \lesssim \mathcal{O}(1)\text{nG}$$

# Case 2: Cosmic neutrino background

**Mohanty, Nieves, Pal (1997); Karl, Novikov (2000);...**

*Karl & Novikov (2004);*



- Via loop-interactions, neutrino-antineutrino background asymmetry could provide a difference of photon's propagation between two helicities.
- Photon's rotation angle per length:

$$\frac{\phi}{l} = \frac{112\pi G_F \alpha_{\text{em}}}{45\sqrt{2}} \left[ \ln \left( \frac{M_W}{m_e} \right)^2 - \frac{8}{3} \right] \frac{\omega^2 T_\nu^2}{M_W^4} (n_\nu - n_{\bar{\nu}}) \quad (\omega \ll M_W)$$

(In plasma): 
$$\frac{\phi}{l} = \frac{\sqrt{2}G_F \alpha_{\text{em}}}{3\pi} \left( \frac{\omega_p^2}{m_e^2} \right) (n_{\nu_e} - n_{\bar{\nu}_e})$$

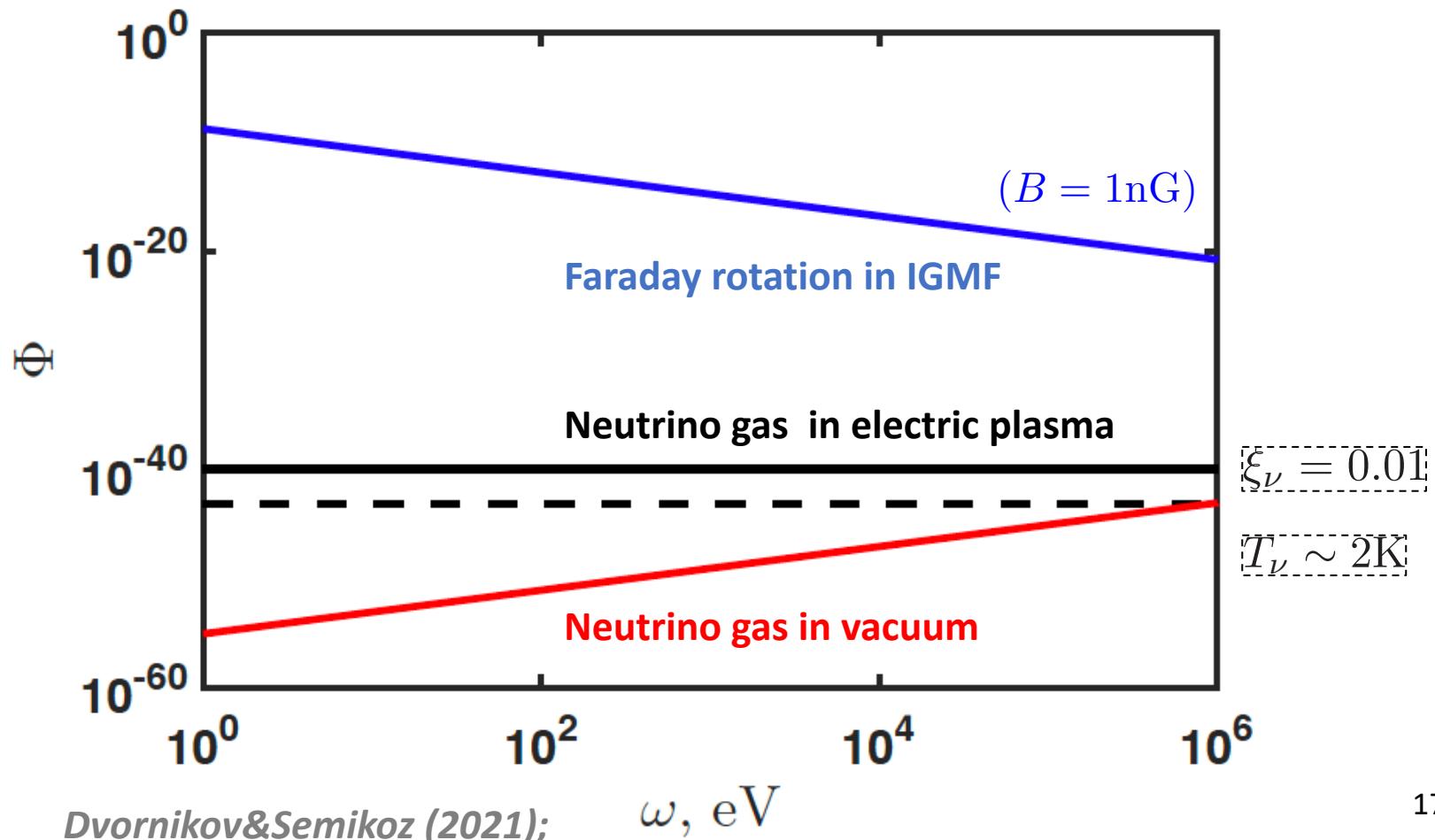
$$\omega_p \equiv \sqrt{\frac{e^2 n_e}{m_e}}$$

neutrino-asymmetry:  $n_\nu - n_{\bar{\nu}} \simeq \xi_\nu T_\nu^3 / 6$        $\xi_\nu \equiv \mu_\nu / T_\nu \ll 1$

# Rotation angle at horizon size

$$\Phi = \phi / (\ell / \ell_H) \quad \ell_H = H_0^{-1}$$

*Planck/WMAP:*  $\beta \simeq 0.005[\text{rad}]$

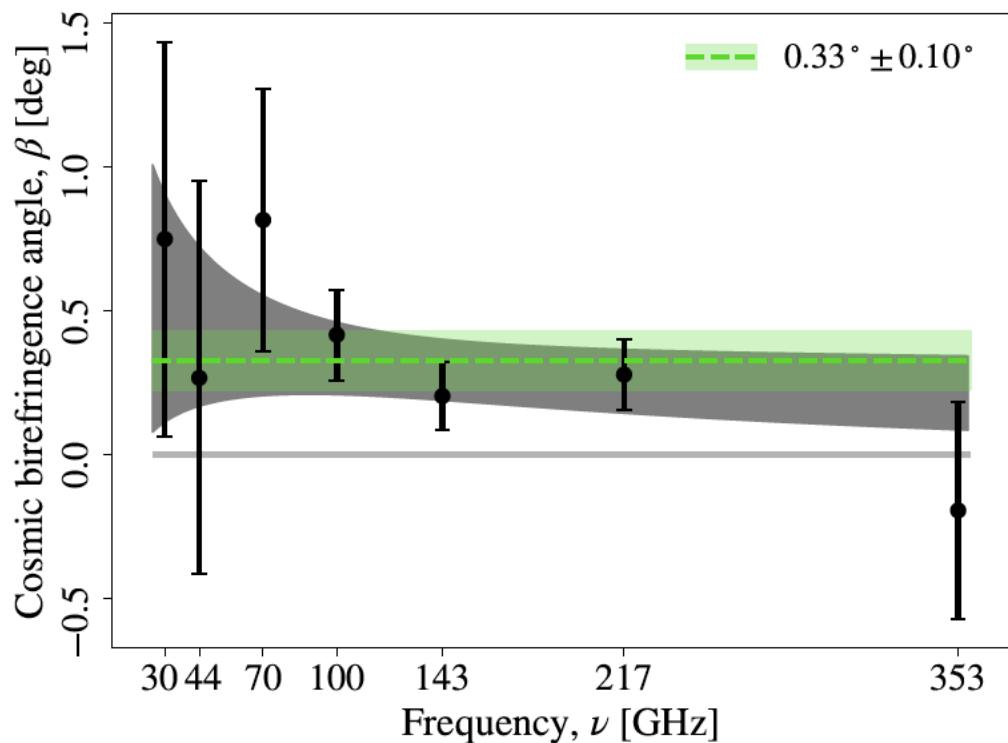


# Another important observational fact

*Eskilt (2022);*

- Constraint on a frequency-dependence of the birefringence angle  $\beta$ :

$$\beta_\nu = \beta_0 \left( \frac{\nu}{\nu_0 = 150\text{GHz}} \right)^n \quad (\text{Planck DR4 polarization maps})$$



- For a nearly full-sky measurement,

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_0 &= 0.29^\circ_{-0.11^\circ}^{+0.10^\circ} \\ n &= -0.35_{-0.47}^{+0.48} \end{aligned}$$

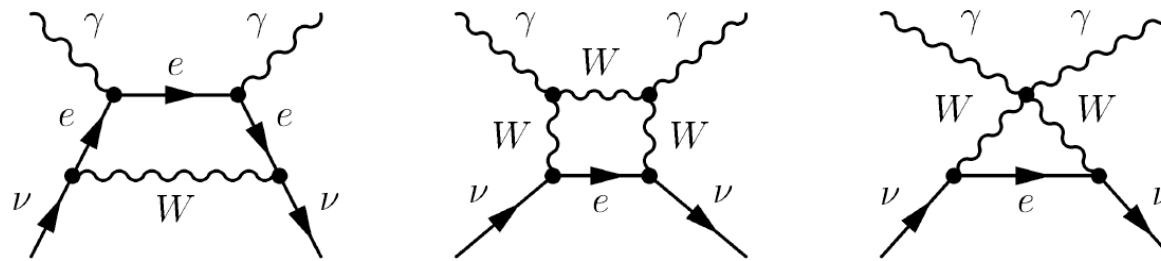
- Consistent with frequency-independent

## To be summarized...

- Is it impossible to explain the measured cosmic birefringence angle in our known fields?
- We may need to consider beyond Standard Model.  
But we may not need a new field.
- **We can list up whole relevant cases by using an effective field theory (EFT) of Standard Model (SMEFT)!**

# Effective Lagrangian approach

Ex) photon-neutrino loop interactions



■ For low energy  $\ll m_e, M_W$

above interactions can be described by the following operator: *Karl & Novikov (2004);*

$$\frac{1}{m^6} [F_{\mu\alpha}(\partial_\gamma \tilde{F}_{\mu\beta})][\bar{\nu}\gamma_\alpha \partial_\beta \partial_\gamma (1 + \gamma_5)\nu] + h.c.$$

■ Leading to a list of the parity-violating operator:  $-\frac{1}{4} F \hat{\mathcal{O}} \tilde{F}$

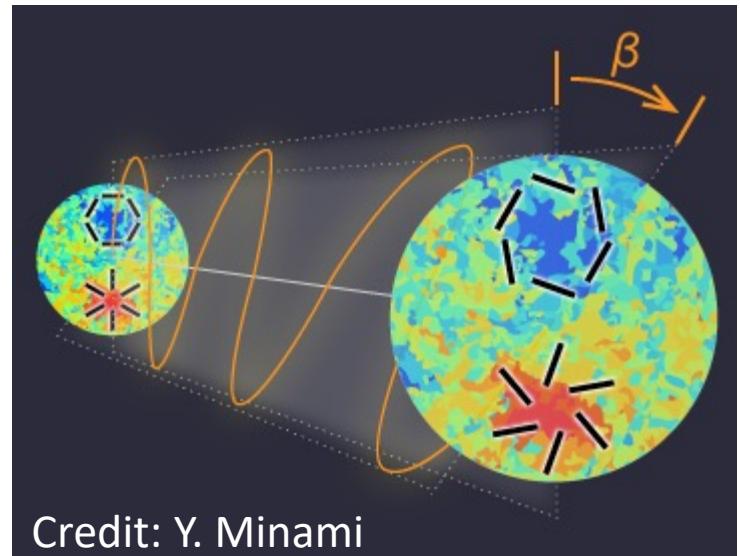
# Isotropic cosmic birefringence (ICB)

- To explain this, we need to consider:

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}FF - \frac{1}{4}F\tilde{\mathcal{O}}\tilde{F}$$

- On a cosmological background

$$\phi_{\tilde{\mathcal{O}}} \equiv \langle \tilde{\mathcal{O}} \rangle,$$



the rotation angle is given by **its field displacement**

$$\beta = \frac{1}{2} \int_{t_{\text{LSS}}}^{t_0} dt \frac{\partial \phi_{\tilde{\mathcal{O}}}}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{2} [\phi_{\tilde{\mathcal{O}}}(t_0) - \phi_{\tilde{\mathcal{O}}}(t_{\text{LSS}})]$$

(present)    (last scattering surface)

- If  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}} = \tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\partial) \rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\omega)$ , it leads to a frequency-dependent birefringence  
→ inconsistent with observations

# SMEFT and low-energy EFT (LEFT)

(caution: not Standard Model itself!)

- Include **all operators** of SM fields **respecting gauge symmetries**

$$SU(3)_C \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$$

(LEFT: EFT below the electroweak breaking scale)  $SU(3)_C \times U(1)_{EM}$

- Provided that no undiscovered light particles exist (such as axion)

**Our results** *Nakai, Namba, IO, Qiu, Saito (2023);*

- Only a CS-type effective operator  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$   
can produce a frequency-independent isotropic cosmic birefringence  
But...
  - **None of such effective operator leads to the desired birefringence angle**

# CS-type scalar operator

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CS}} = \frac{\alpha}{8\pi} \sum_a \frac{\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_a}{\Lambda_a^n} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \quad (a : \text{operator species}) \\ (n : \text{dimension of the operator})$$

$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_a$  : Lorentz scalars, singlets for SM symmetry  $SU(3)_C \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$

- List up all possible operators of each dimension in SMEFT/LEFT

Building blocks:

dimension 1

✓ Higgs field  $H$  ✓ Covariant derivative  $D$

dimension 3/2

✓ SM fermion  $\psi$

dimension 2

✓ SM field strength tensor  $X$

# Scalar operator (dimension-six)

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_a = H^2 \text{ or } D^2$$

*Grzadkowski+(2010);*

- The operators relevant to CS are reduced to Higgs one:

$$\frac{\alpha}{8\pi} \frac{H^\dagger H}{\Lambda_H^2} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

- Higgs field gets a vev below electroweak scale and **becomes time-independent**.

Constraint on the time variation via electron mass:  $\Delta m_e/m_e = (4 \pm 11) \times 10^{-3}$  (68% C.L.)

*Planck (2015);*

- From collider constraint,  $\Lambda_H > \text{TeV}$

**Higgs cannot explain the reported ICB**

# Scalar operator (dimension-seven)

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_a = \psi^2$$

$$\sum_{\psi=e,\nu,d,u} \frac{\alpha}{8\pi} \frac{\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_\psi}{\Lambda_\psi^3} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

electron:  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_e \equiv \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_e^{ij} \bar{e}^i P_L e^j + \text{h.c.}$ , → excluded (small density)

---

neutrino:  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_\nu \equiv \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_\nu^{ij} \bar{\nu}^i P_L \nu^j + \text{h.c.}$ , → most relevant?

---

quark:  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_d \equiv \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_d^{ij} \bar{d}^i P_L d^j + \text{h.c.}$ , → excluded (time-independent)

$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_u \equiv \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_u^{ij} \bar{u}^i P_L u^j + \text{h.c.}$ ,

$$P_L \equiv (1 - \gamma^5)/2$$

# Scalar operator (dimension-seven)

- Operator for neutrinos:

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_\nu = \frac{(\tilde{\mathcal{C}}_\nu^\dagger + \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_\nu)^{ij}}{2} \bar{\nu}^i \nu^j + \frac{(\tilde{\mathcal{C}}_\nu^\dagger - \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_\nu)^{ij}}{2} \bar{\nu}^i \gamma^5 \nu^j \quad (i : \text{flavor})$$

Evaluate cosmological background value:

$$\langle \bar{\nu}^i \nu^j \rangle = \delta^{ij} \mathcal{F}(t),$$

$$\mathcal{F}(t) \equiv \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{m_i}{E_p} [n^i(p, t) + \bar{n}^i(p, t)] \quad \langle \bar{\nu}^i \gamma^5 \nu^j \rangle = 0$$

- At the last scattering surface,

$$\mathcal{F}(t_{\text{LSS}}) \simeq 0.5 \frac{m_i}{T_{\text{LSS}}} (N^i + \bar{N}^i), \quad m_i \ll T_{\text{LSS}} \quad N_i^{1/3} = \mathcal{O}(10^{-10}) \text{ GeV}$$

$$\beta \simeq -0.008^\circ \frac{\alpha}{137^{-1}} \sum_i \frac{m_i}{T_{\text{LSS}}} (\tilde{\mathcal{C}}_\nu + \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_\nu^\dagger)^{ii} \frac{N^i + \bar{N}^i}{\Lambda_\nu^3}$$

*Altmannshofer, Tammaro, Zupan (2021);*

$\Lambda_\nu > \mathcal{O}(10^{-2}) \text{ GeV}$  to  $\mathcal{O}(10^2) \text{ GeV}$

**Neutrino cannot explain the reported ICB**

# Scalar operator (dimension-eight)

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_a = X^2 \sum_{X=F,Z,W,G} \frac{\alpha}{8\pi} \left( \frac{X_{\alpha\beta} X^{\alpha\beta}}{\Lambda_X^4} + \frac{X_{\alpha\beta} \tilde{X}^{\alpha\beta}}{\Lambda_{\tilde{X}}^4} \right) F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

- In the presence of background magnetic field,  $F_{\mu\nu} = F_{\mu\nu}^{(\text{bg})} + F_{\mu\nu}^{(\text{p})}$  the component  $(F_{\alpha\beta}^{(\text{bg})} F^{(\text{p})\alpha\beta})(F_{\mu\nu}^{(\text{bg})} \tilde{F}^{(\text{p})\mu\nu})$  leads to  $\mathbf{E}_{\parallel} \cdot \mathbf{B}_{\parallel}$  term  
(parallel to background vector)

→ providing spatially-dependent cosmic birefringence

- Weak bosons are unstable. Gluon condensate scale (QCD scale) would be much smaller than the cutoff mass scale ( $> \text{TeV}$ ) → excluded
- For dimensions over 8: does not contain new building blocks, will give subdominant effect  
→ excluded

# Beyond SMEFT/LEFT?

- Consider new particles with CS-operators

$$\frac{\alpha}{8\pi} \frac{\Phi^\dagger \Phi}{\Lambda^2} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \quad (\text{for a scalar } \Phi)$$

$$\frac{\alpha}{8\pi} \frac{\bar{\chi} \chi}{\Lambda^3} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \quad (\text{for a fermion } \chi)$$

- The cosmological background is bounded from above by the energy density as

$$\langle \Phi^\dagger \Phi \rangle \lesssim \rho/m^2, \quad \langle \bar{\chi} \chi \rangle \lesssim \rho/m \quad \rho < \rho_{c,\text{LSS}} \simeq (3 \times 10^{-13} \text{TeV})^4$$

$$m \lesssim 10^{-14} \text{ eV} \left( \frac{|\beta|}{0.3^\circ} \right)^{-1/2} \left( \frac{\Lambda}{\text{TeV}} \right)^{-1} \text{ (scalar)}$$

$$m \lesssim 10^{-40} \text{ eV} \left( \frac{|\beta|}{0.3^\circ} \right)^{-1} \left( \frac{\Lambda}{\text{TeV}} \right)^{-3} \text{ (fermion)}$$

- Similar argument can be applied for a dark photon

# Beyond SMEFT/LEFT?

- The vector-type CS-operator

$J_\mu K^\mu$  ;  $K^\mu \equiv 2A_\nu \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$  is allowed (if we have a Stückelberg field)

Then, it is rewritten as  $c_{\text{EB}} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}$ ,  $\dot{c}_{\text{EB}} = J_0 \sim H c_{\text{EB}}$

- For a neutrino background,  $J_0 \sim n_\nu$

$\beta = \mathcal{O}(0.1^\circ)$  is realized due to an enhancement of  $H^{-1}$

- Generating a photon mass:  $\mathcal{O}(10^{-18})\text{eV}$  (upper bound)

# Summary & Outlook

- Measured isotropic cosmic birefringence may give us a hint for new physics such as axions. But is it possible to explain it by Standard Model?
- SMEFT/LEFT is a powerful tool to systematically list up such operators in SM and its extension.
- Standard Model fields are impossible to explain the current measured angle of isotropic birefringence.
- Necessary to think of new light fields!

Thank you very much!