



# eVダーグマター

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Wen Yin (Tohoku University)



# Axion domain wall formations and implications

**Wen Yin (Tohoku University)**

Based on [2012.11576](#), [2211.06849](#), [2205.05083](#), [2306.17146](#)

In collaboration with D. Gonzalez, N. Kitajima, F. Kozai, J. Lee, K. Murai, F. Takahashi,

# 伝えたいこと

- ・ストリング理論由来のアクションから宇宙ストリングを伴わないドメインウォールができる。
- ・ドメインウォール問題を解決する宇宙に起こりうる現象の探索はストリング理論へのアプローチの可能性

# Plan

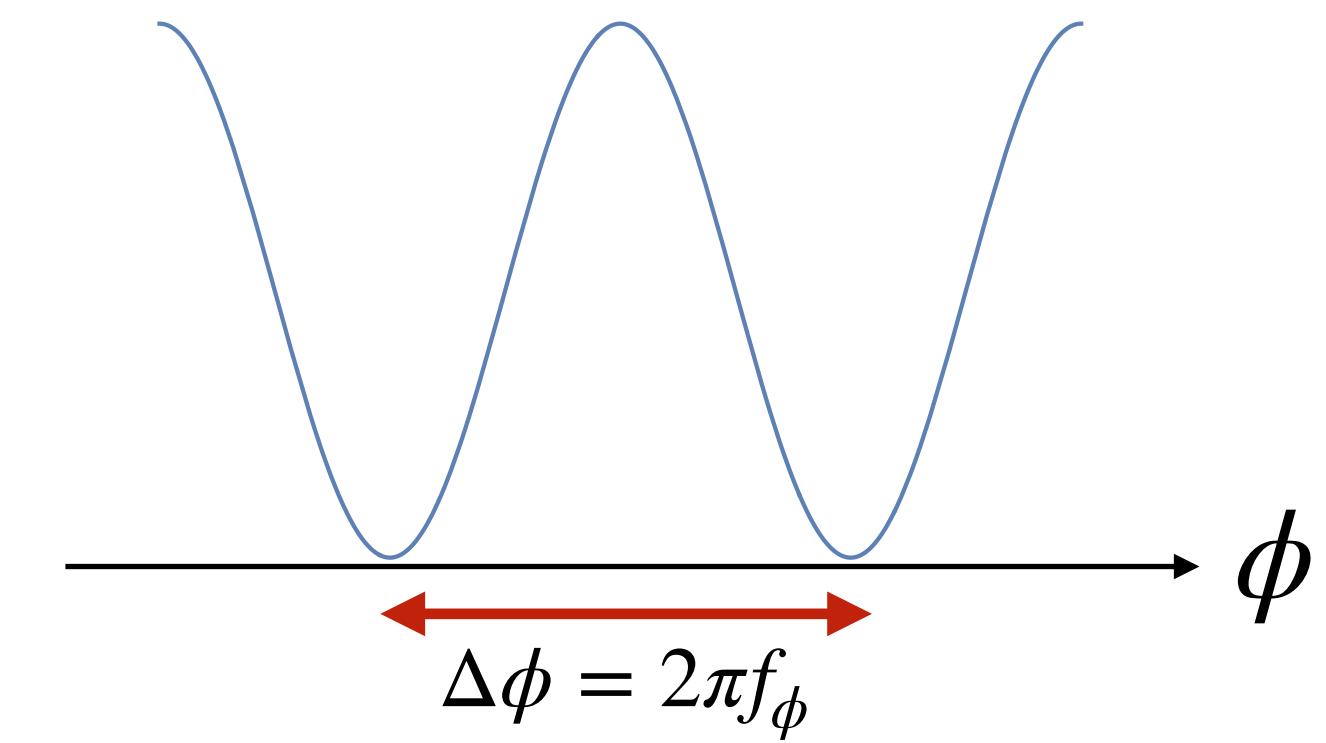
- Introduction
- Axion DW network from inflationary fluctuations  
is stable —String axion DWs without a string—
- Cosmological implications
- Conclusions

# 1. Introduction

# What is axion, $\phi$ ?

Axion has a periodic field space satisfying  $\phi \leftrightarrow \phi + 2\pi f_\phi$ ,  
and an approximate shift symmetry,  $\phi \rightarrow \phi + C$ .

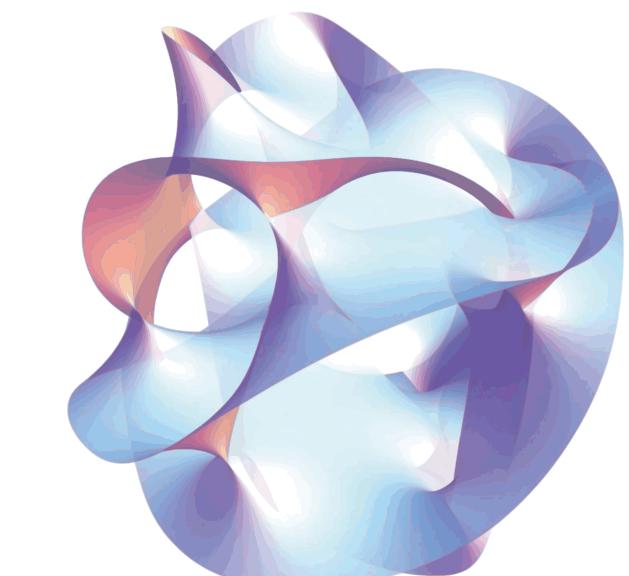
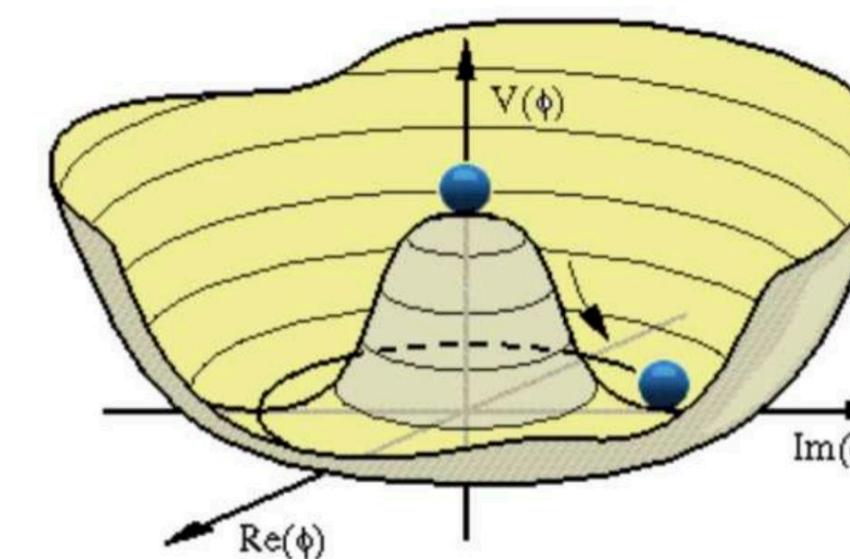
$$V(\phi) = V(\phi + 2\pi f_\phi)$$



Axion gets **periodic potential** and **small mass** from non-perturbative effect.

## UV completions:

- U(1)SSB
- String/M theory

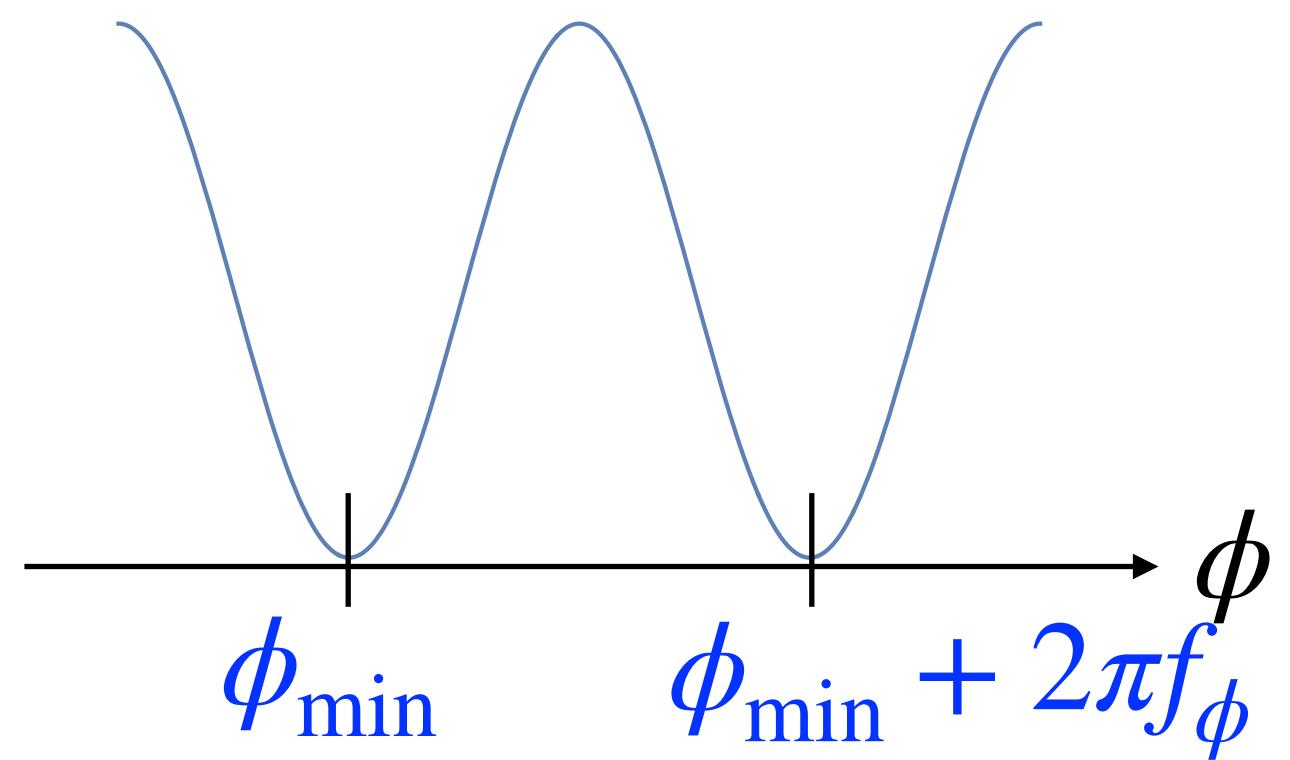


# A stable domain wall (DW) configuration must exist in axion theories!

Periodicity predicts degenerate vacua.

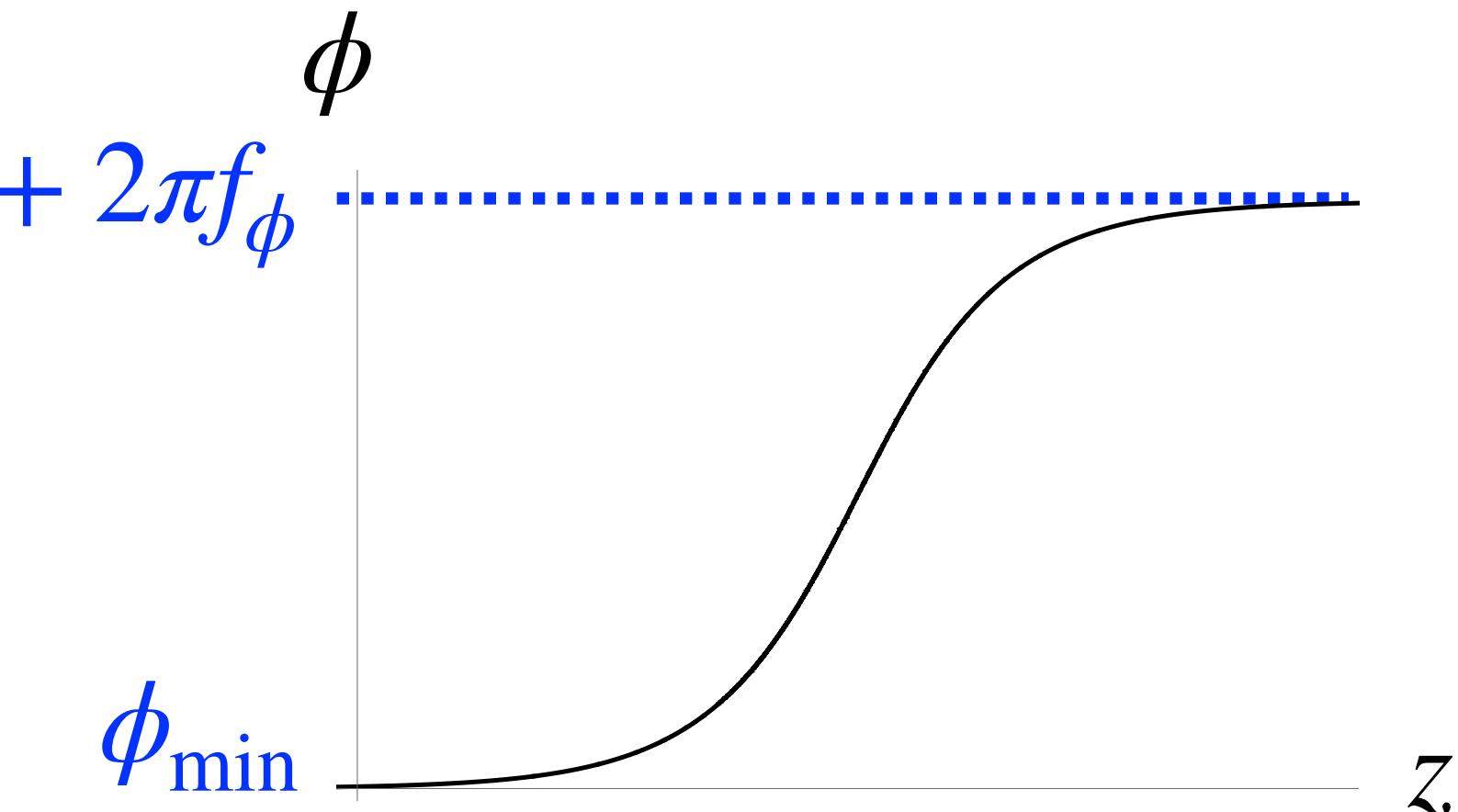
$$e.g. V(\phi) = V_0(1 - \cos(\phi/f_\phi))$$

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Configuration connecting the vacua gives domain wall.

$$dz = d\phi / \sqrt{2V(\phi)}$$

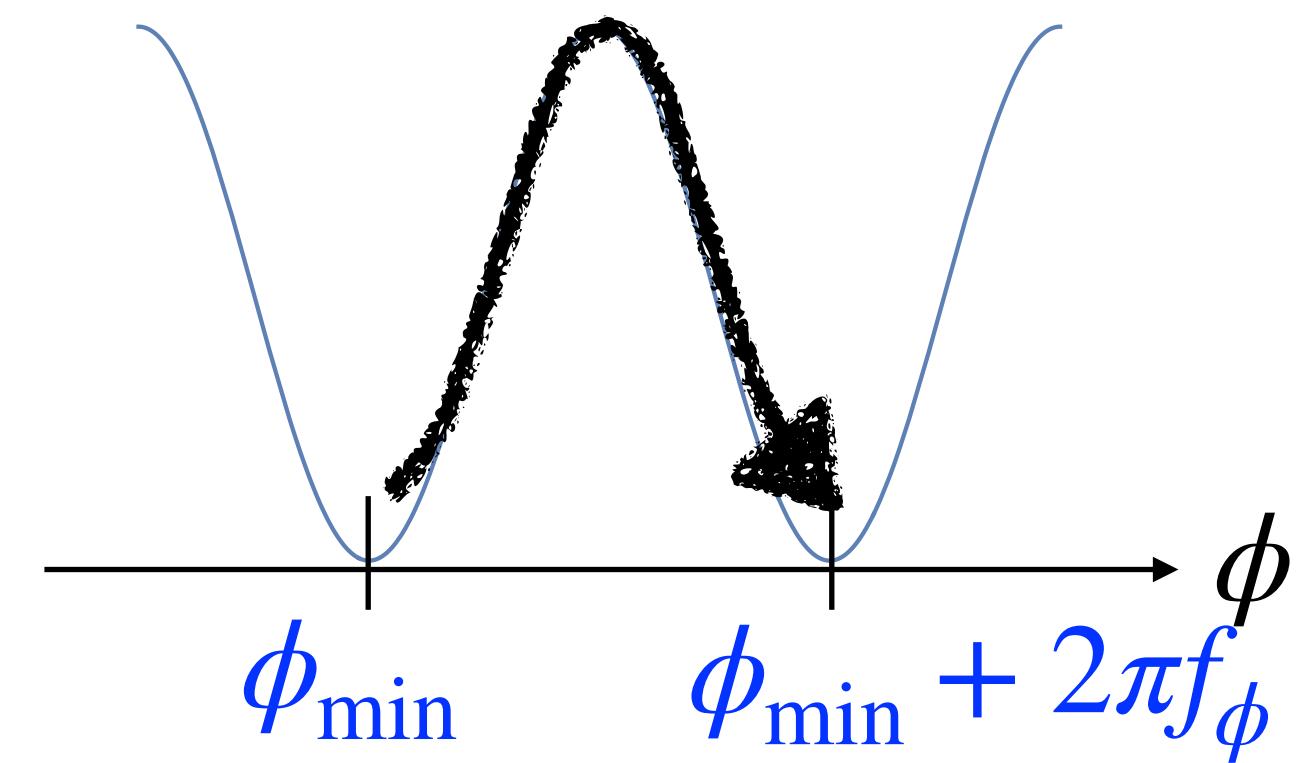


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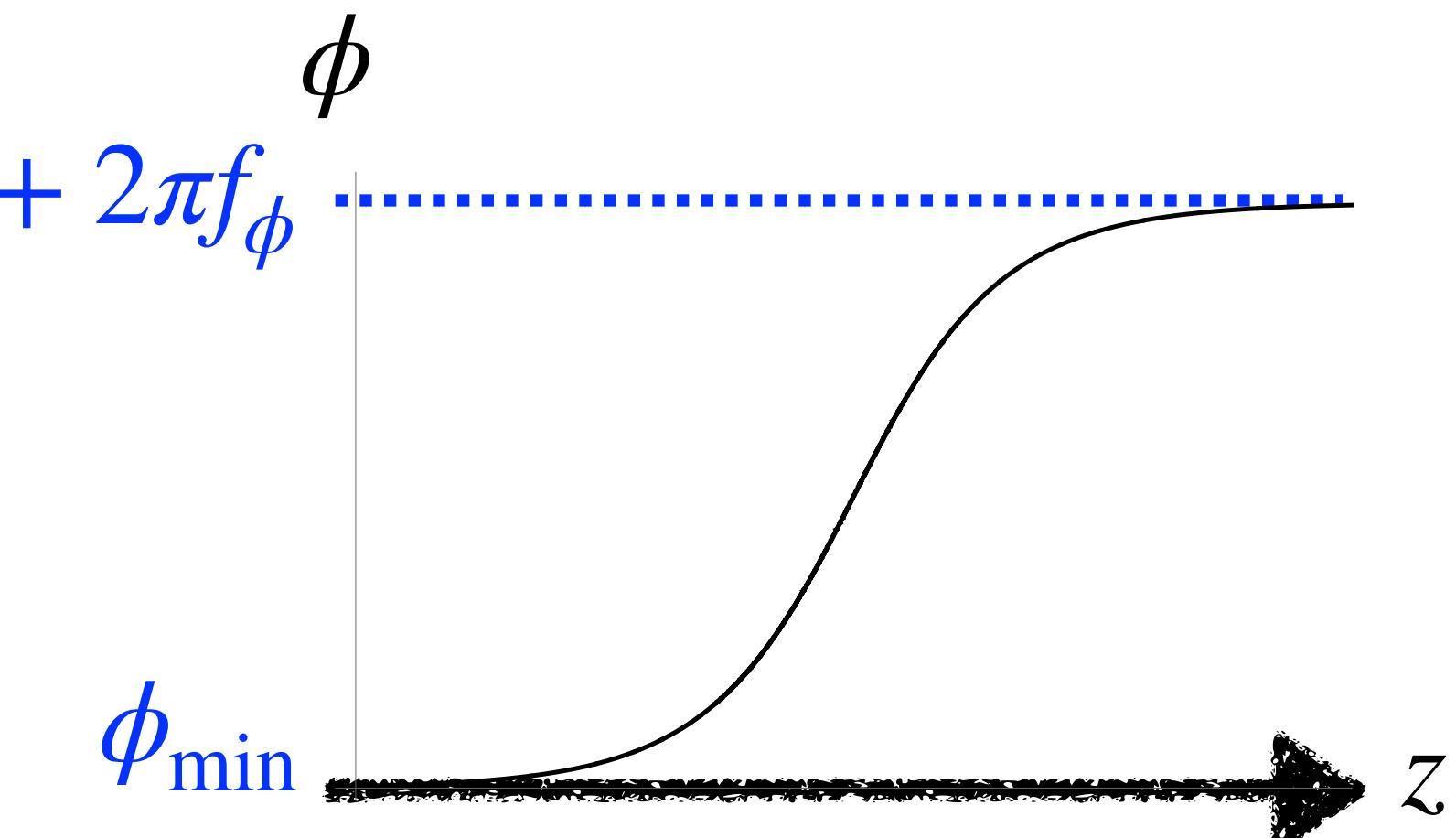
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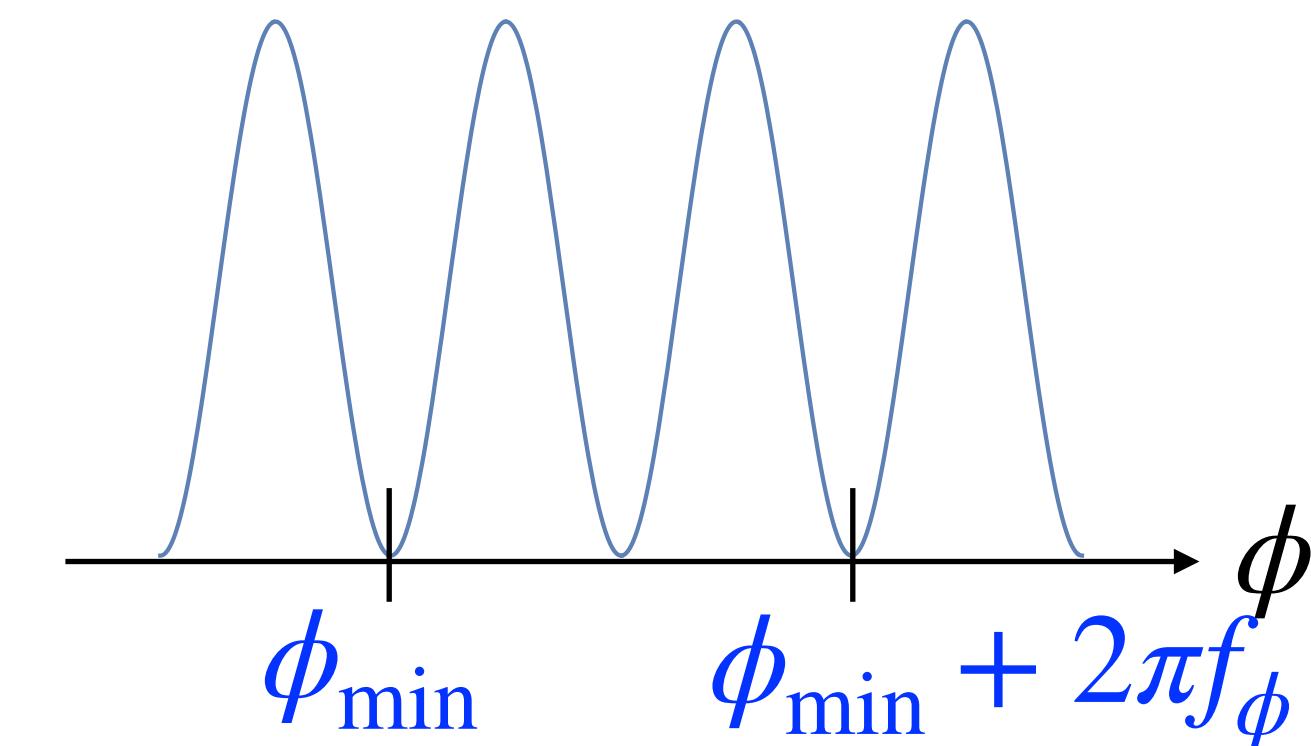


# Sometimes, degenerate vacua are more.

Number of degenerate vacua in  $[0, 2\pi f_\phi)$  is DW number,  $N_{\text{DW}}$ .

$$\text{e.g. } V(\phi) = V_0(1 - \cos(2\phi/f_\phi))$$

$$N_{\text{DW}} = 2$$

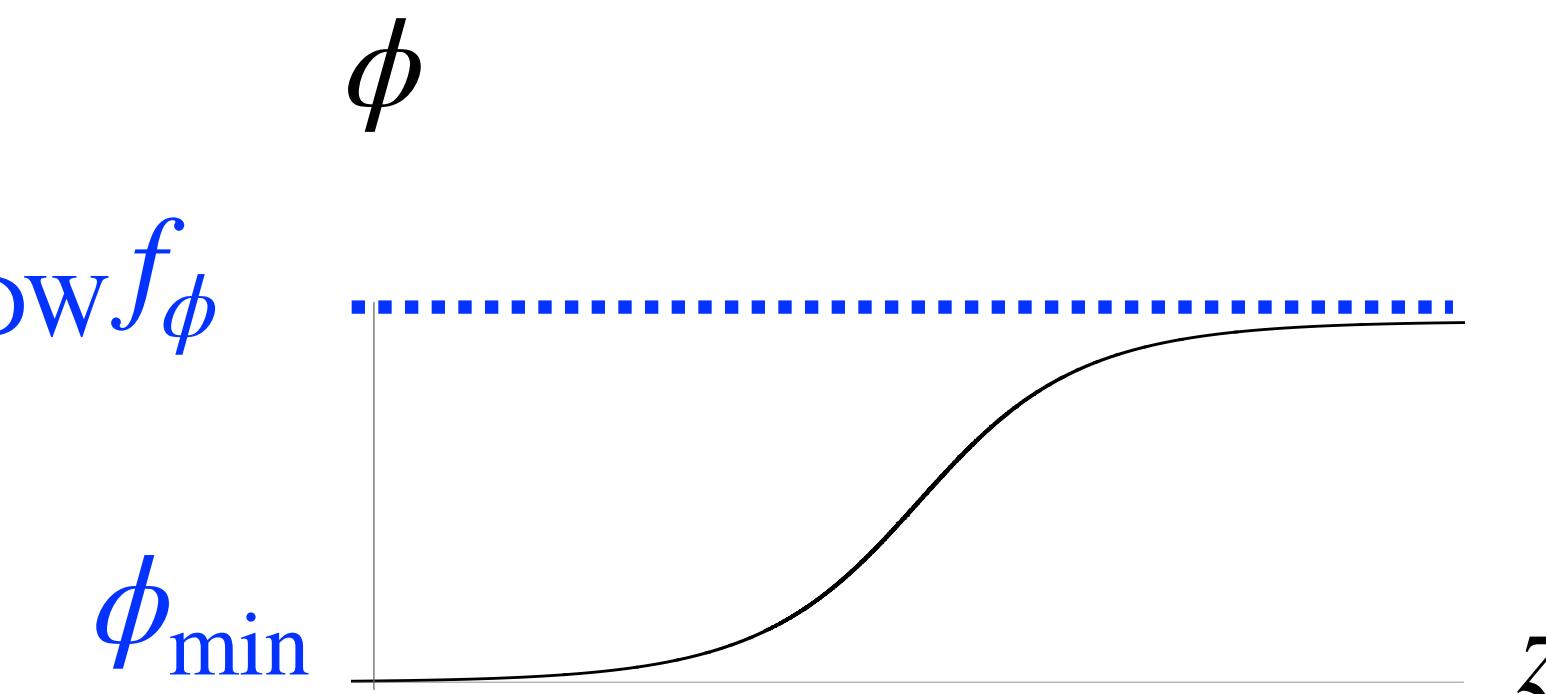


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Configuration connecting the adjacent vacua gives DW.

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$$\phi_{\min} + 2\pi/N_{\text{DW}}f_\phi$$

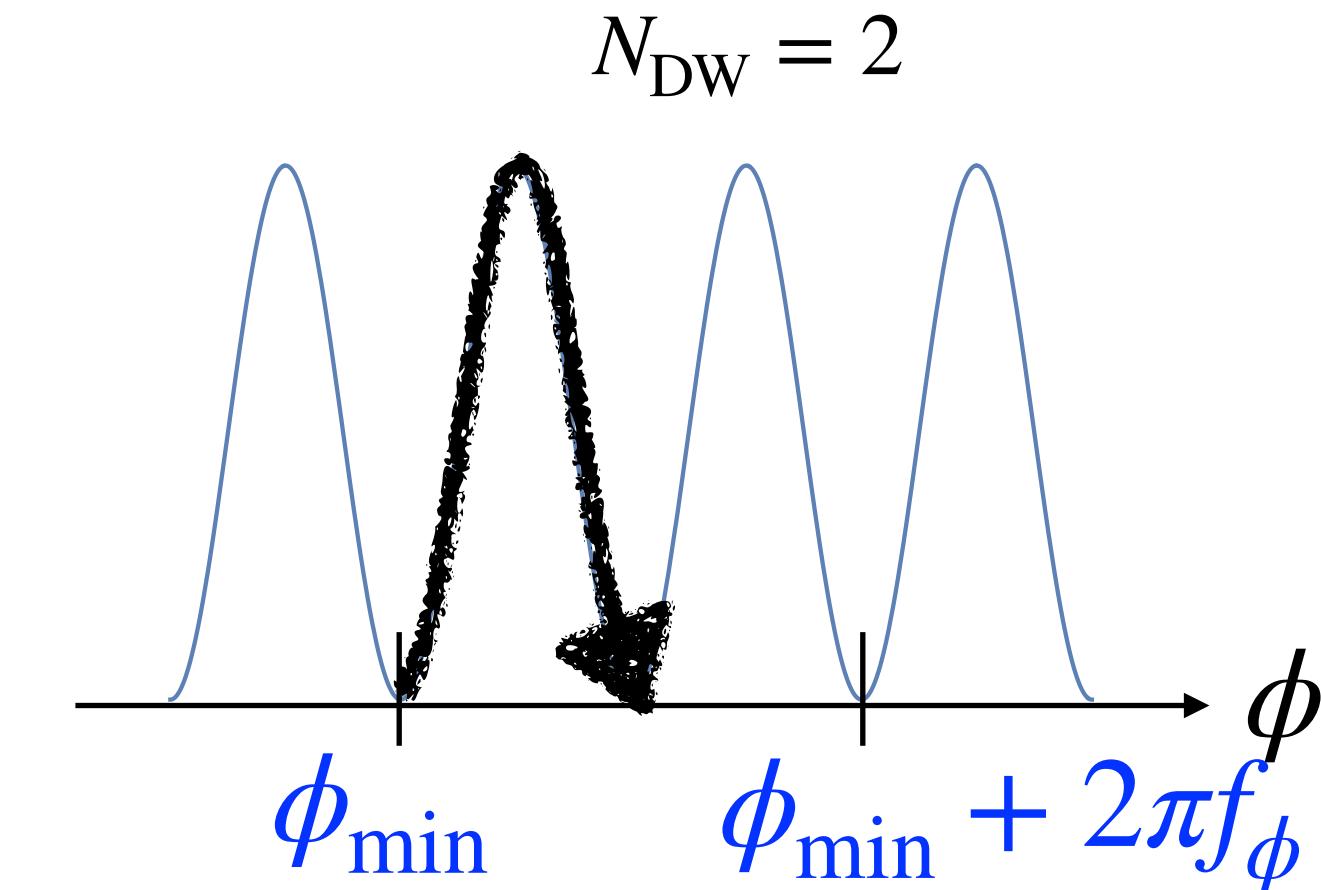


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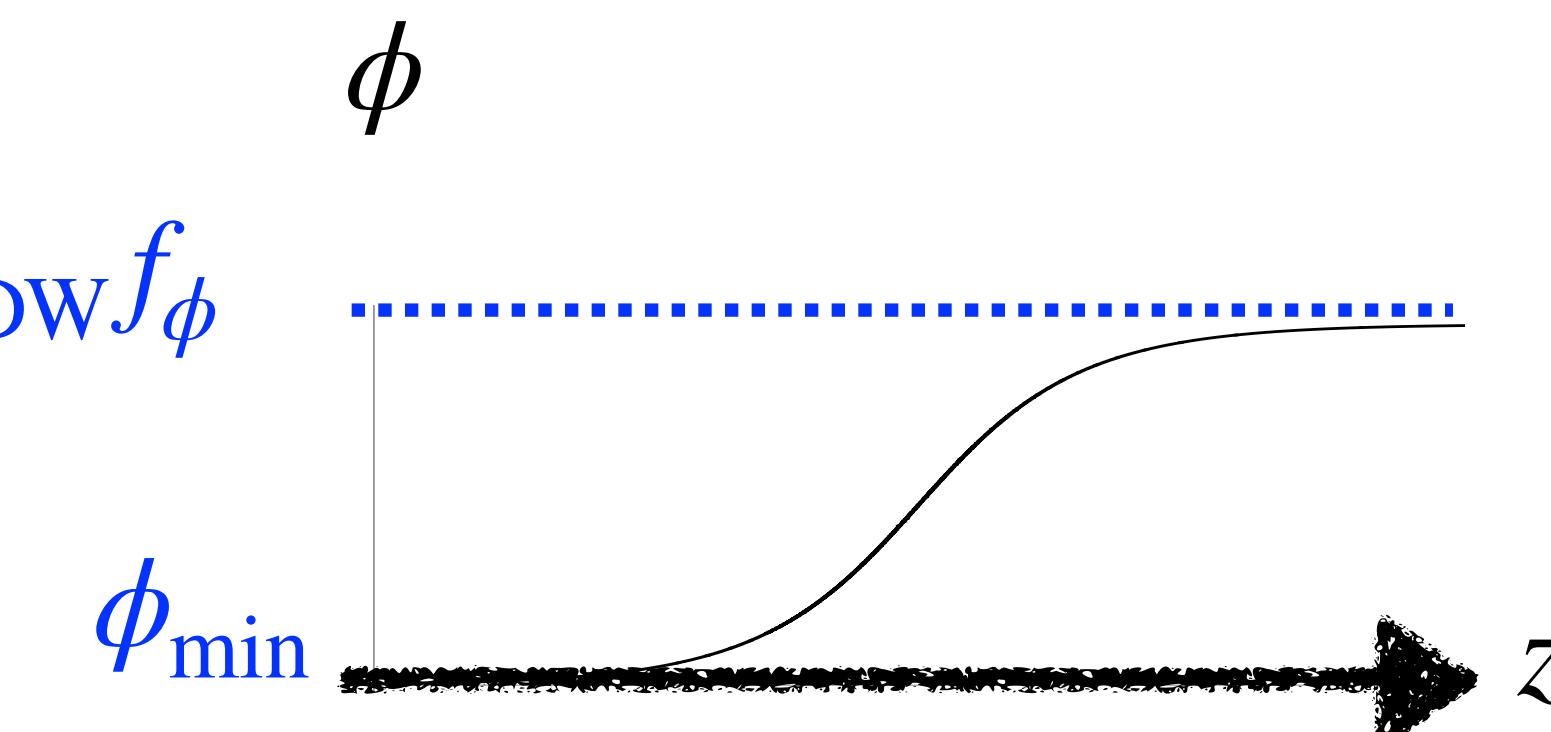
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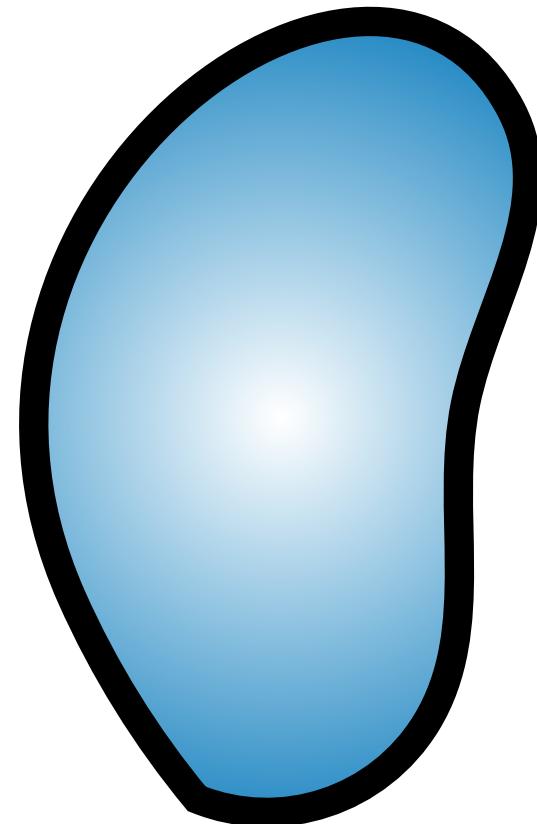
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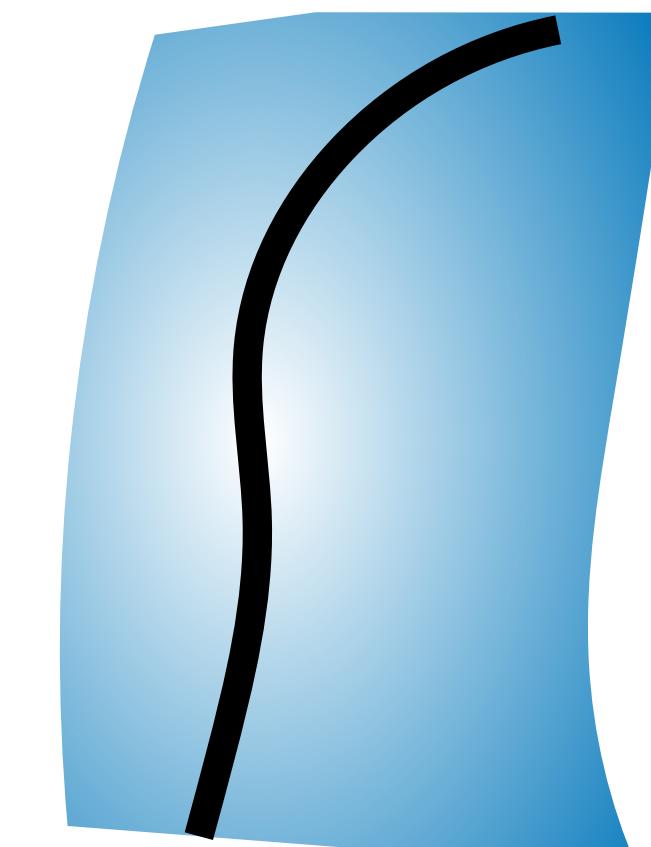
# DW network formation in the early Universe

Phase transition of the  
approximate U(1) Kibble, Zurek

Strings + DWs



$$N_{\text{DW}} = 1$$



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$N_{\text{DW}} \geq 2$  :stable string-DW network

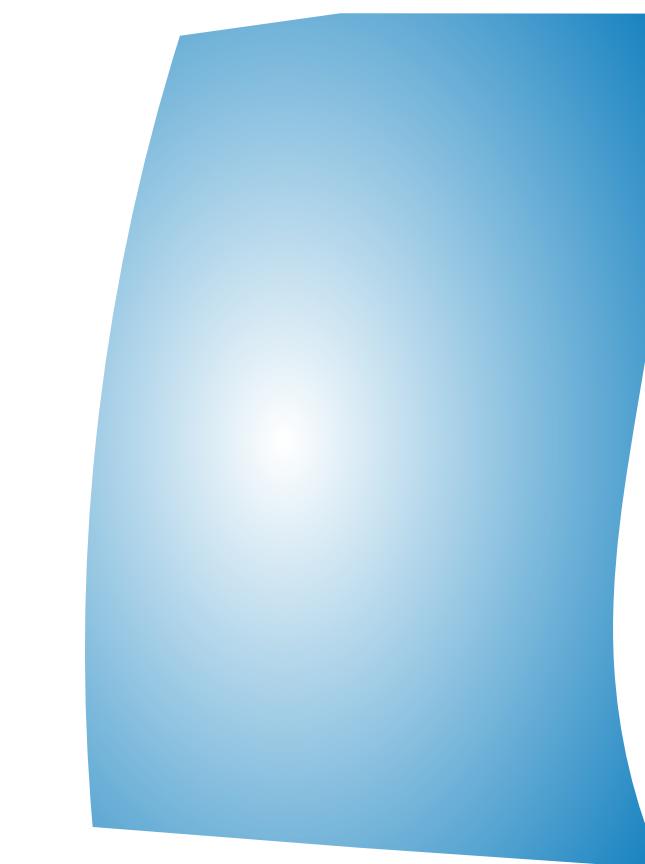
Applicable to:

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Inflationary fluctuation in  
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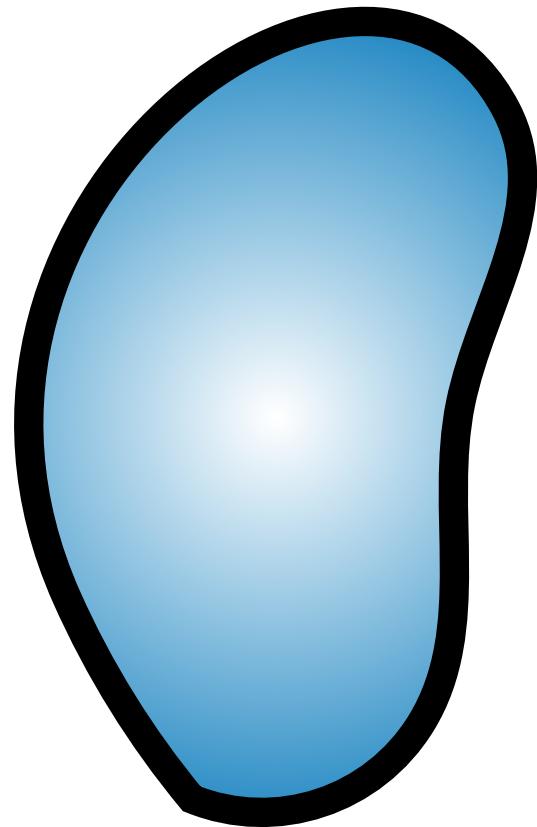


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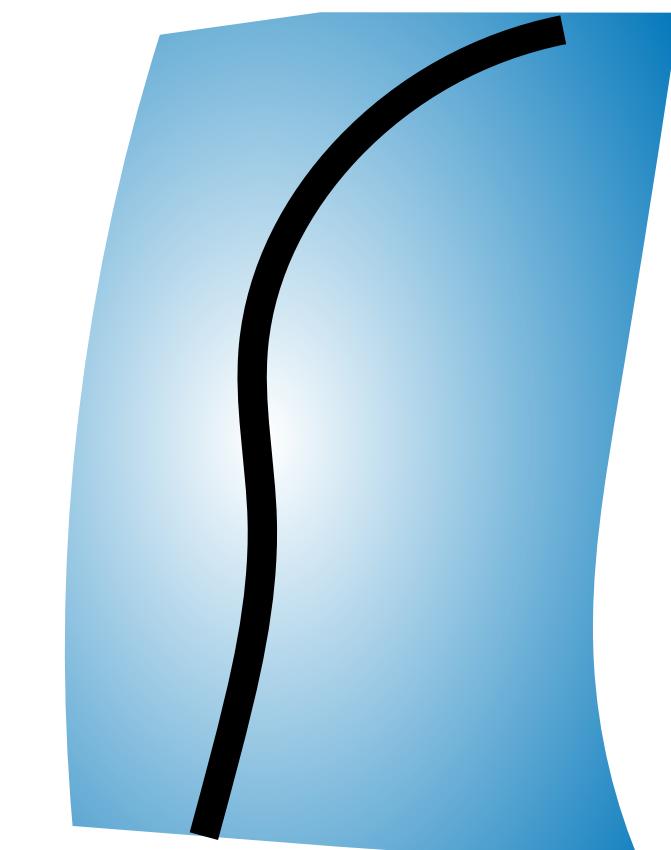
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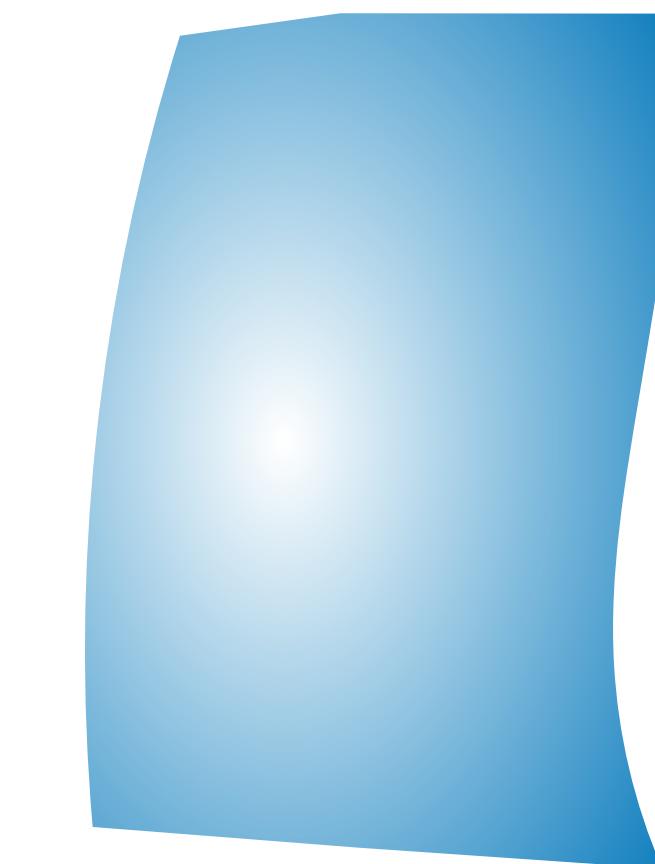
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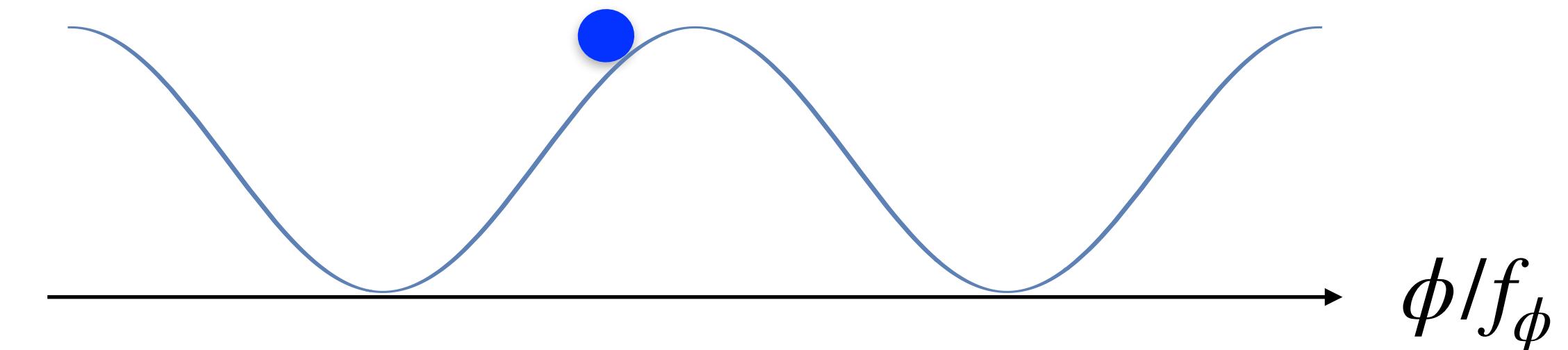


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# DW from inflationary fluctuations

Let us consider axion EFT (U(1) symmetry never restore.)

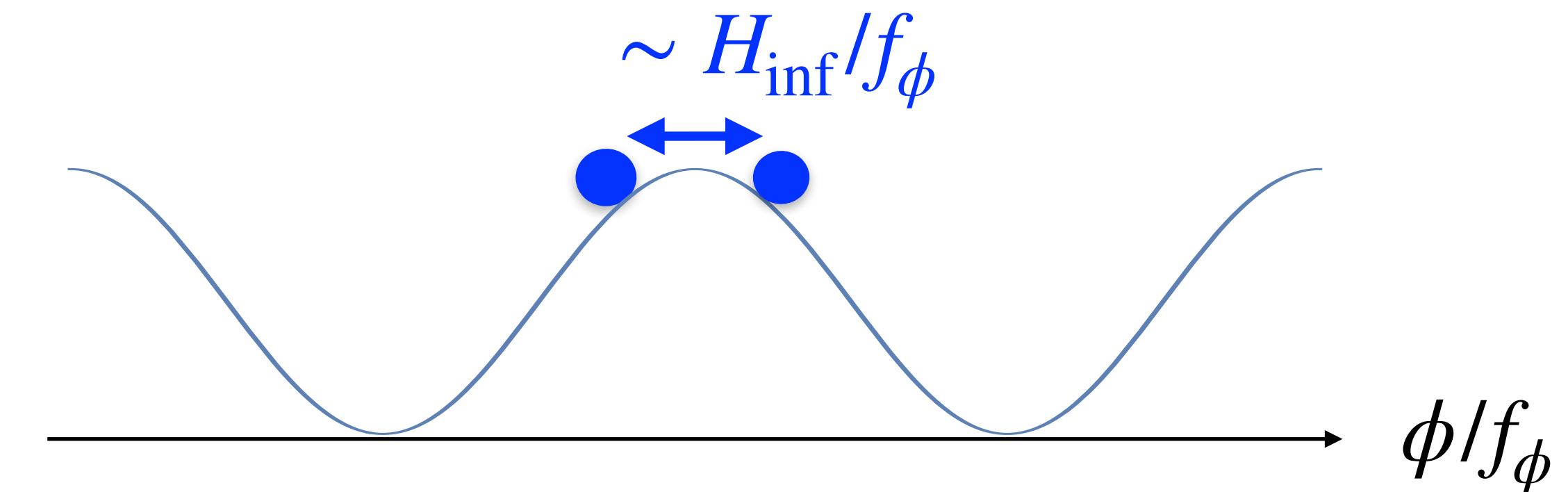
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- In the observable Universe, the values follow a typical distribution around an averaged field value.



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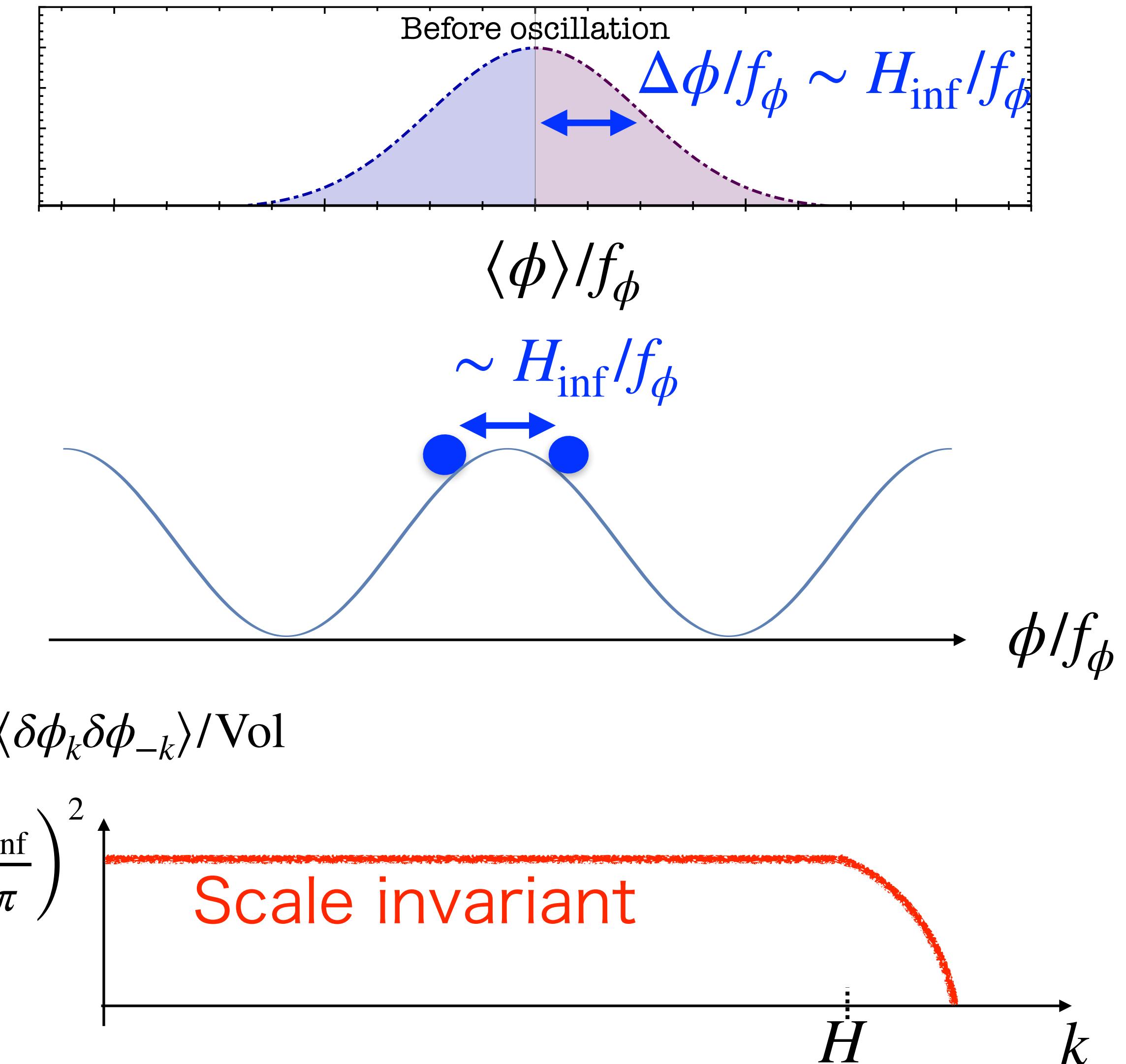
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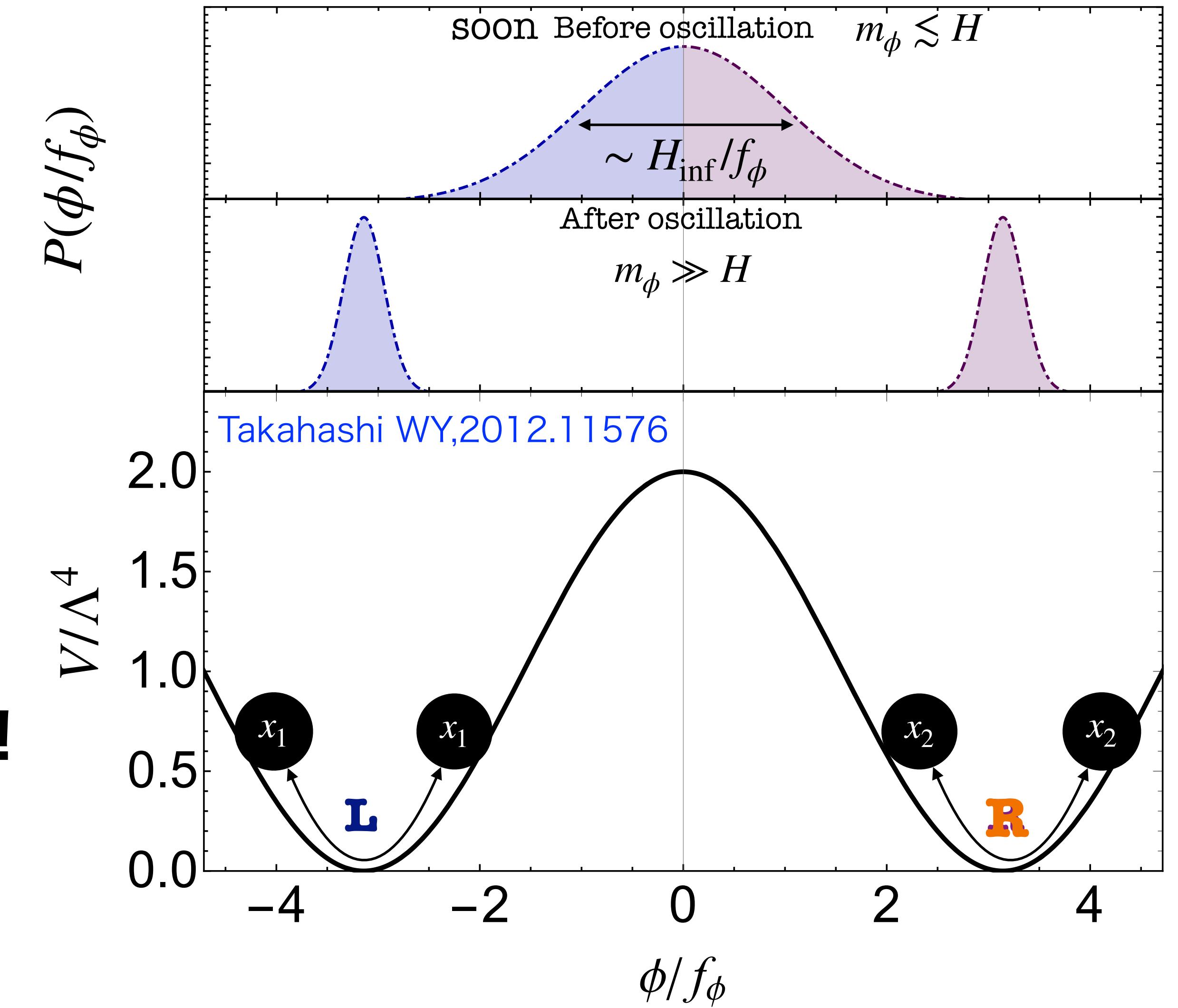
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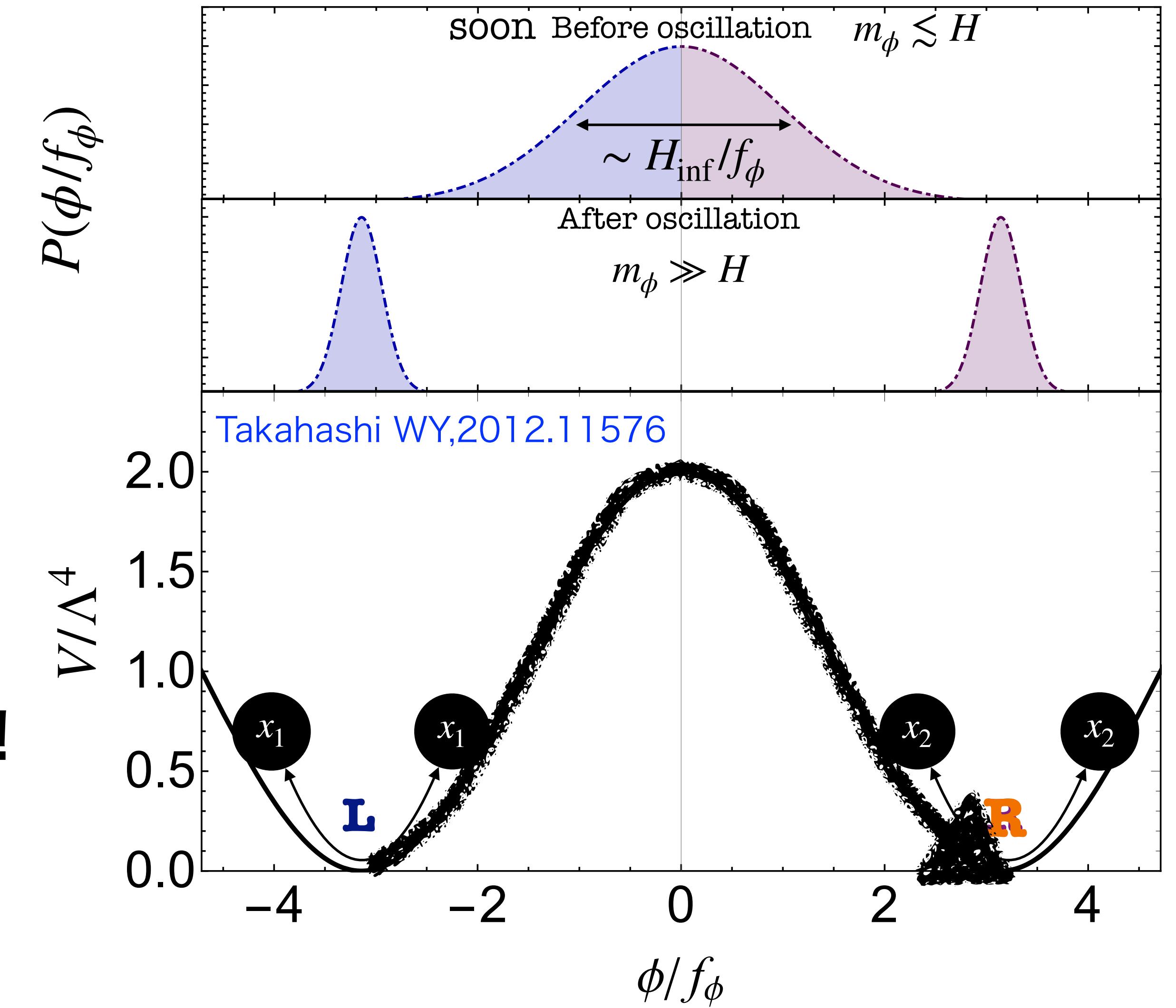
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- When  $m_\phi \sim H$ , domain walls form!
- O(1) DWs in 1 Hubble volume.
- No cosmic string!



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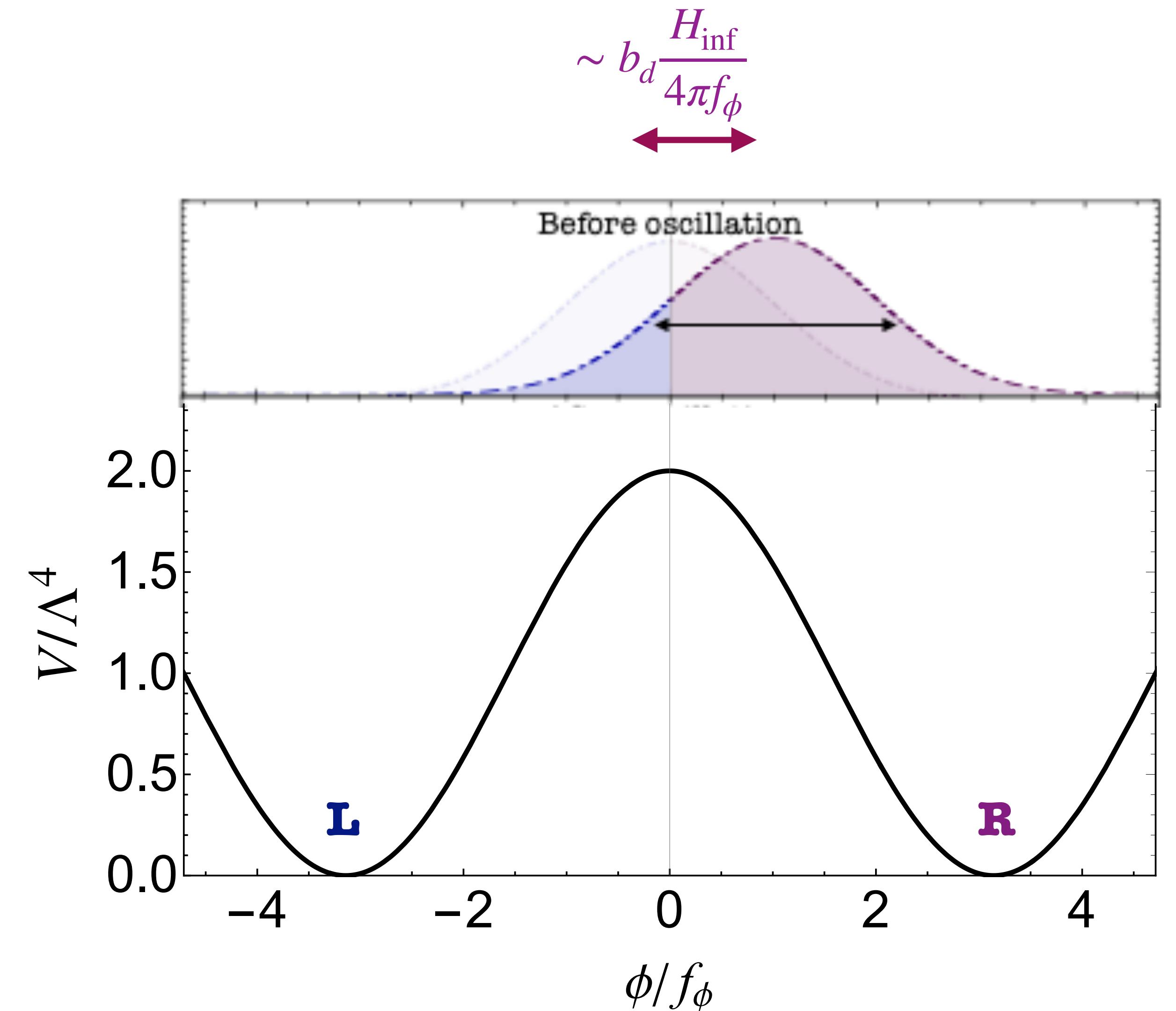
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# It was considered that stable DW from inflationary fluctuation requires serious fine-tuning.

e.g. Lalak et al, 95, Coulson, et al 96

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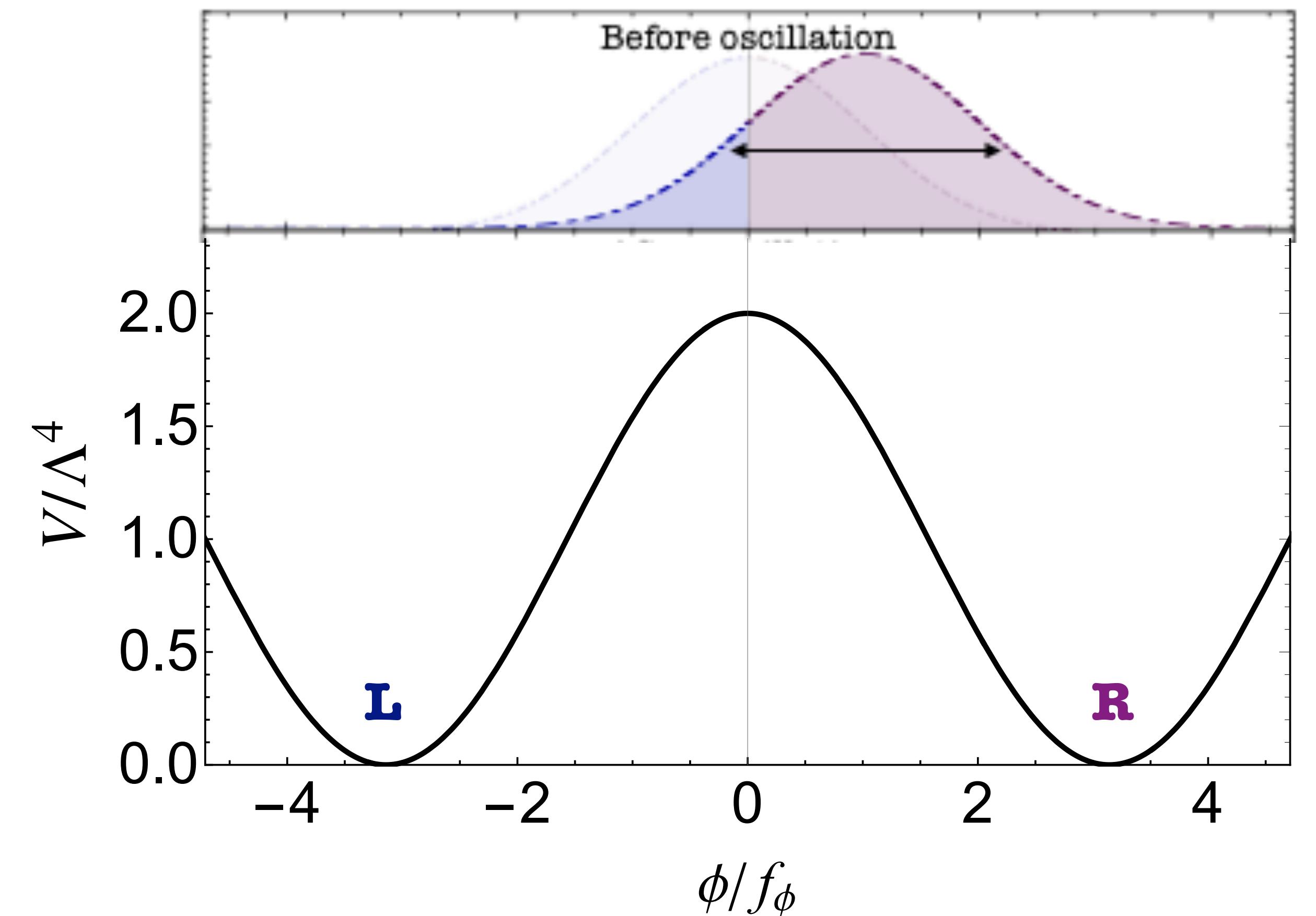
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Not true for inflationary fluctuation!

No significant tuning!

$$\sim b_d \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{4\pi f_\phi}$$



- 2. Axion DW network from inflationary fluctuations is stable
  - String axion DWs without a string—

Gonzalez, Kitajima, Takahashi, WY, 2211.06849

# Lattice simulation of DW evolutions

We use  $Z_2$ symmetric,  $\phi^4$  theory to approximate system.

$$V(\phi) = V_0 - \frac{1}{2}m_0^2\phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4}\phi^4.$$

The essential difference between the two formation mechanisms are **initial conditions of  $\phi_{k \neq 0}$  modes**.

Thermal fluctuation

with  $k \ll H$

**White noise:**

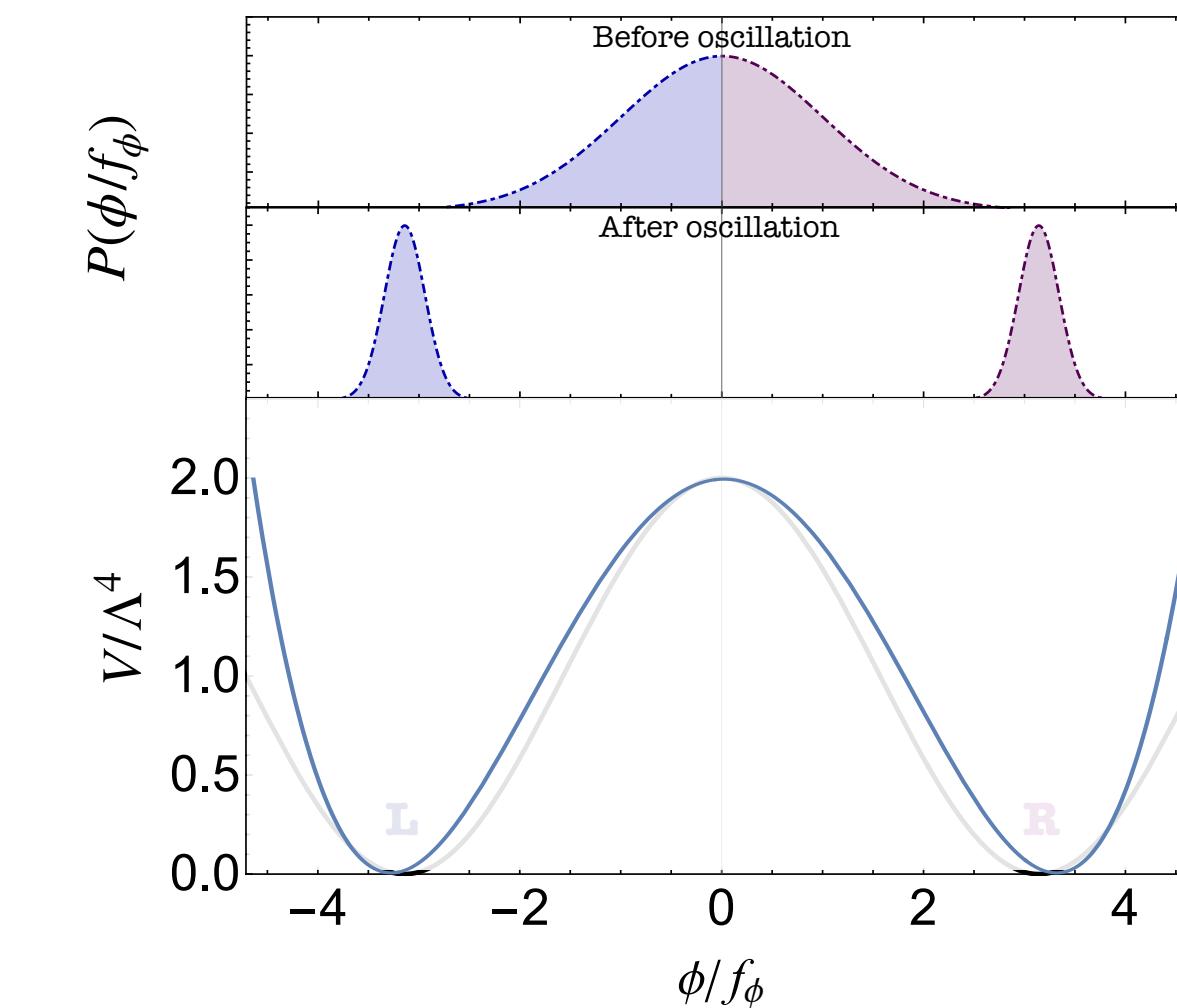
$$k^d \langle \phi_k \phi_{-k} \rangle \propto k^d$$

Inflationary fluctuation

with  $k \ll H$  [Gonzalez, Kitajima, Takahashi, WY, 2211.06849](#)

**Scale invariant:**

$$k^d \langle \phi_k \phi_{-k} \rangle \propto \left( \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{2\pi} \right)^2$$

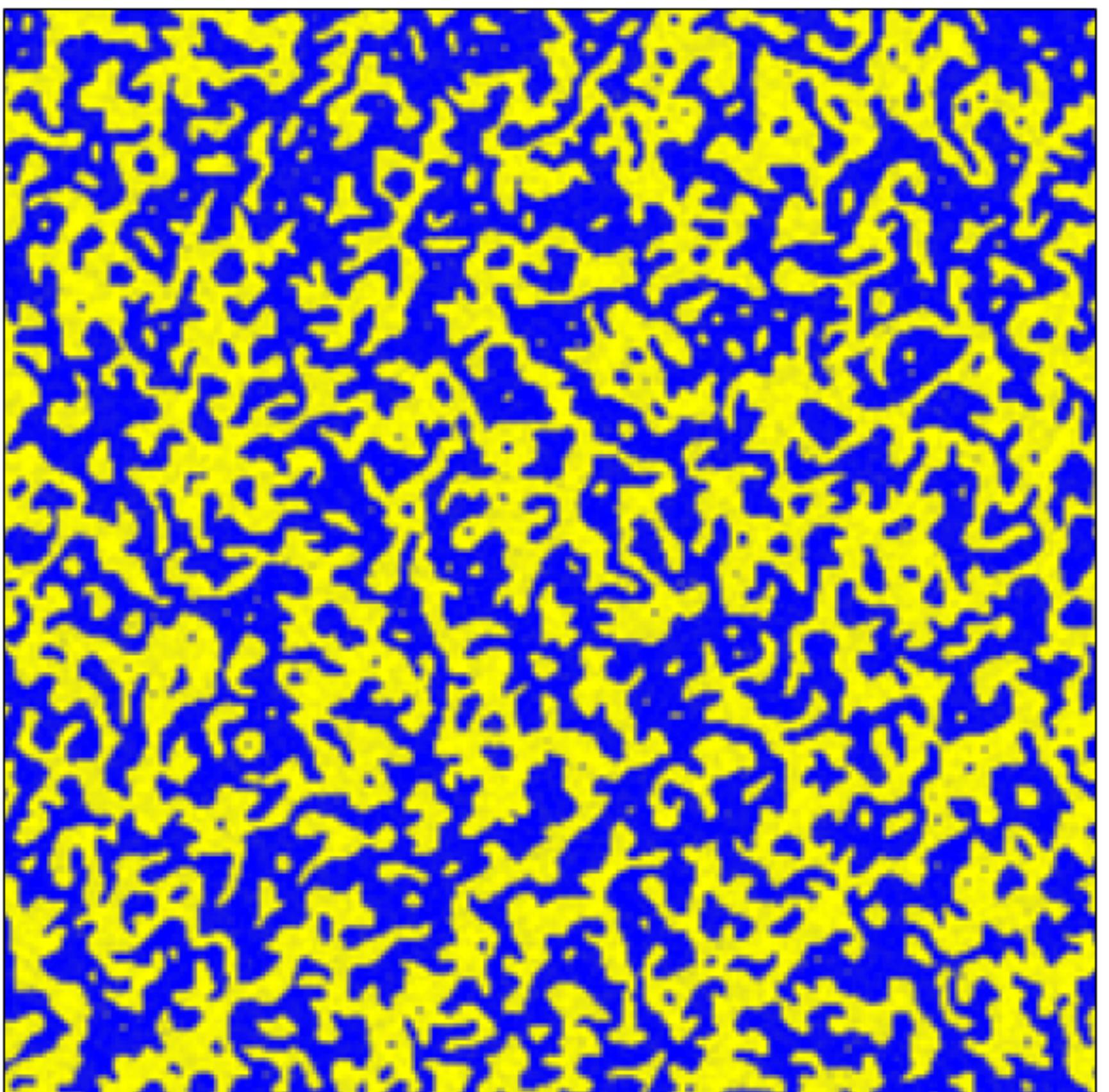


# DW network with $\langle \phi \rangle = 0$ ( $b_d = 0$ ).

Both cases have O(1) DW in a Hubble patch, but the structures are quite different.

Gonzalez, Kitajima, Takahashi, WY, 2211.06849

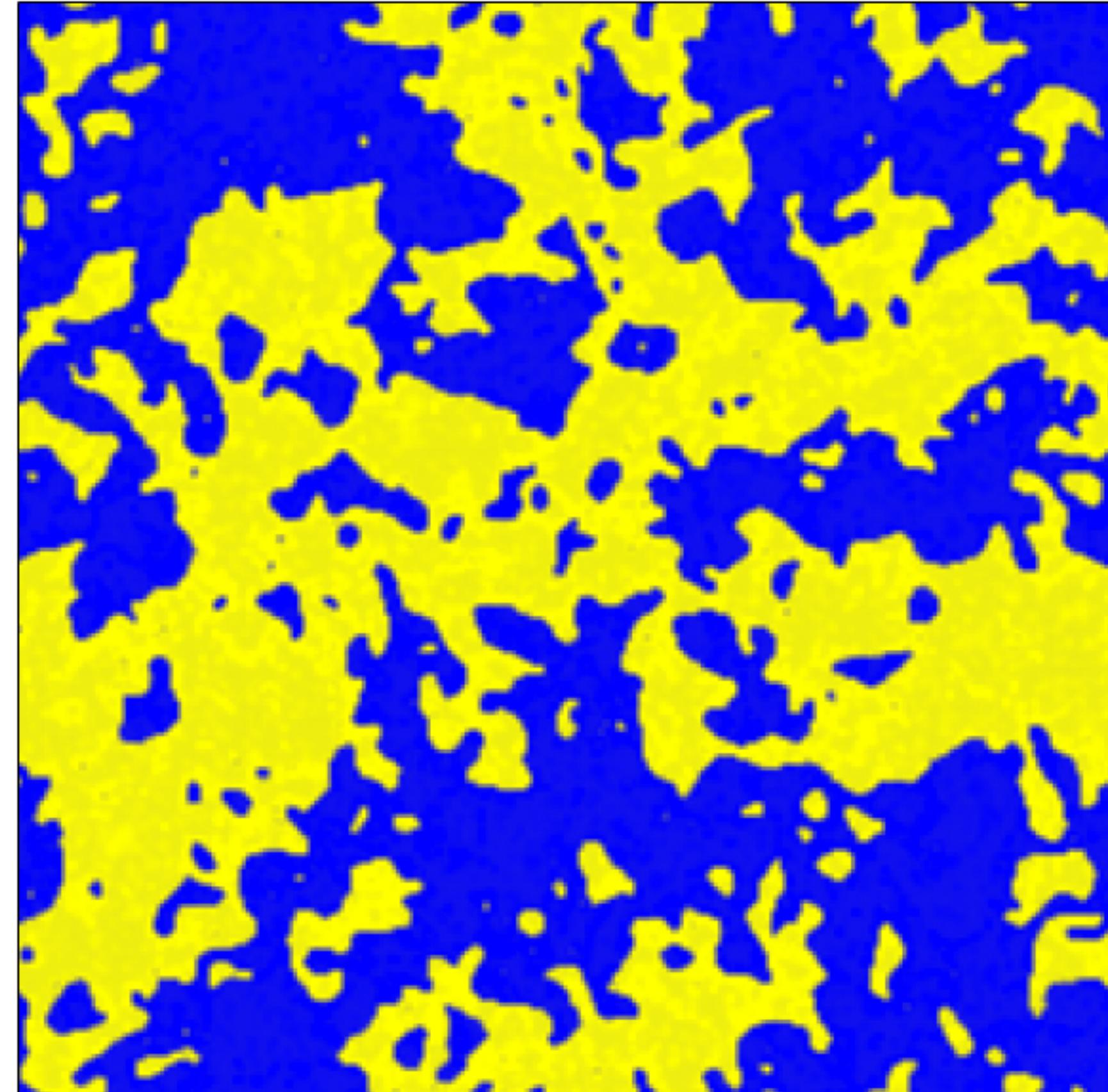
White noise:



$@\tau = 10/m_0$

$H^{-1}$

Scale invariant:



$H^{-1}$

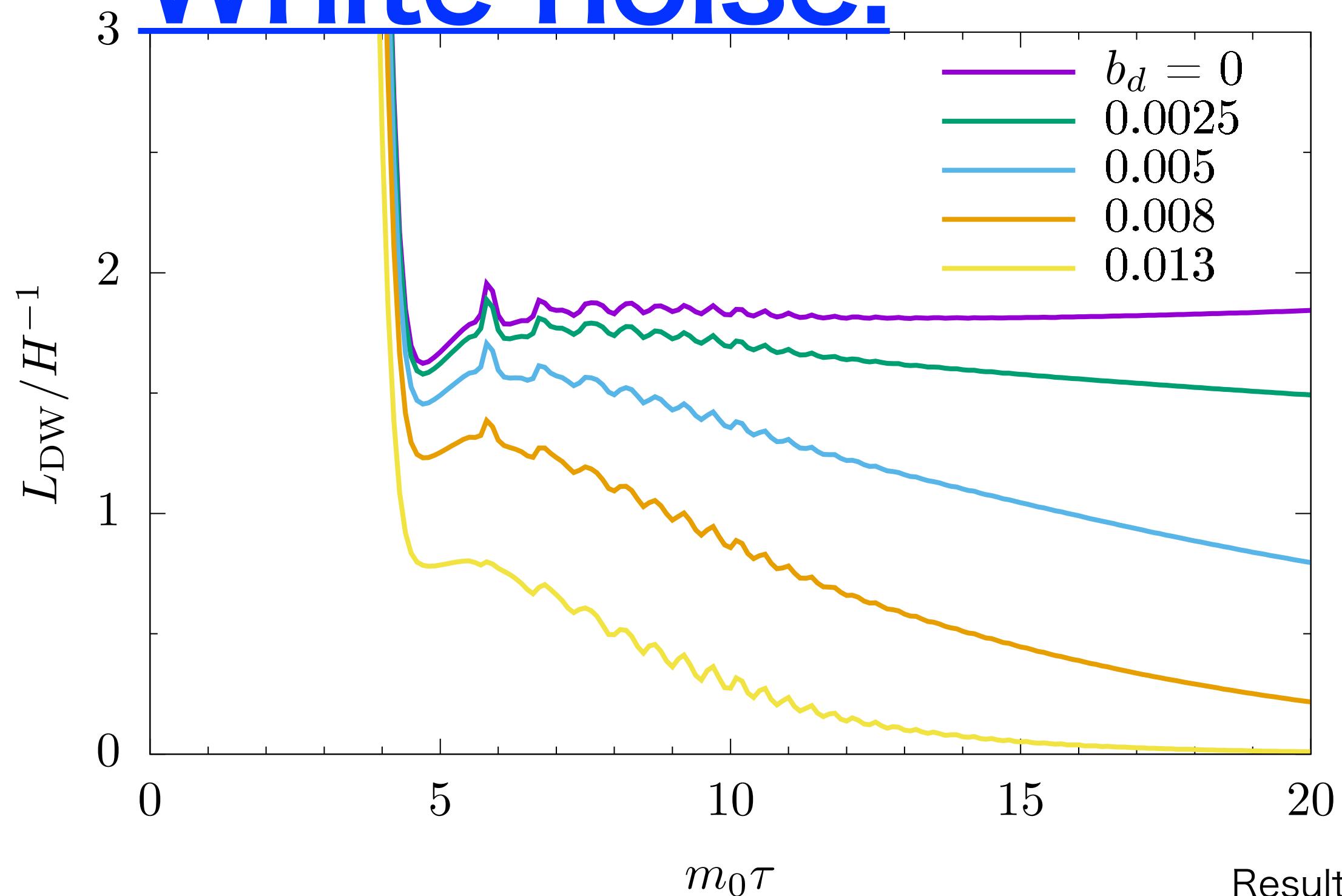
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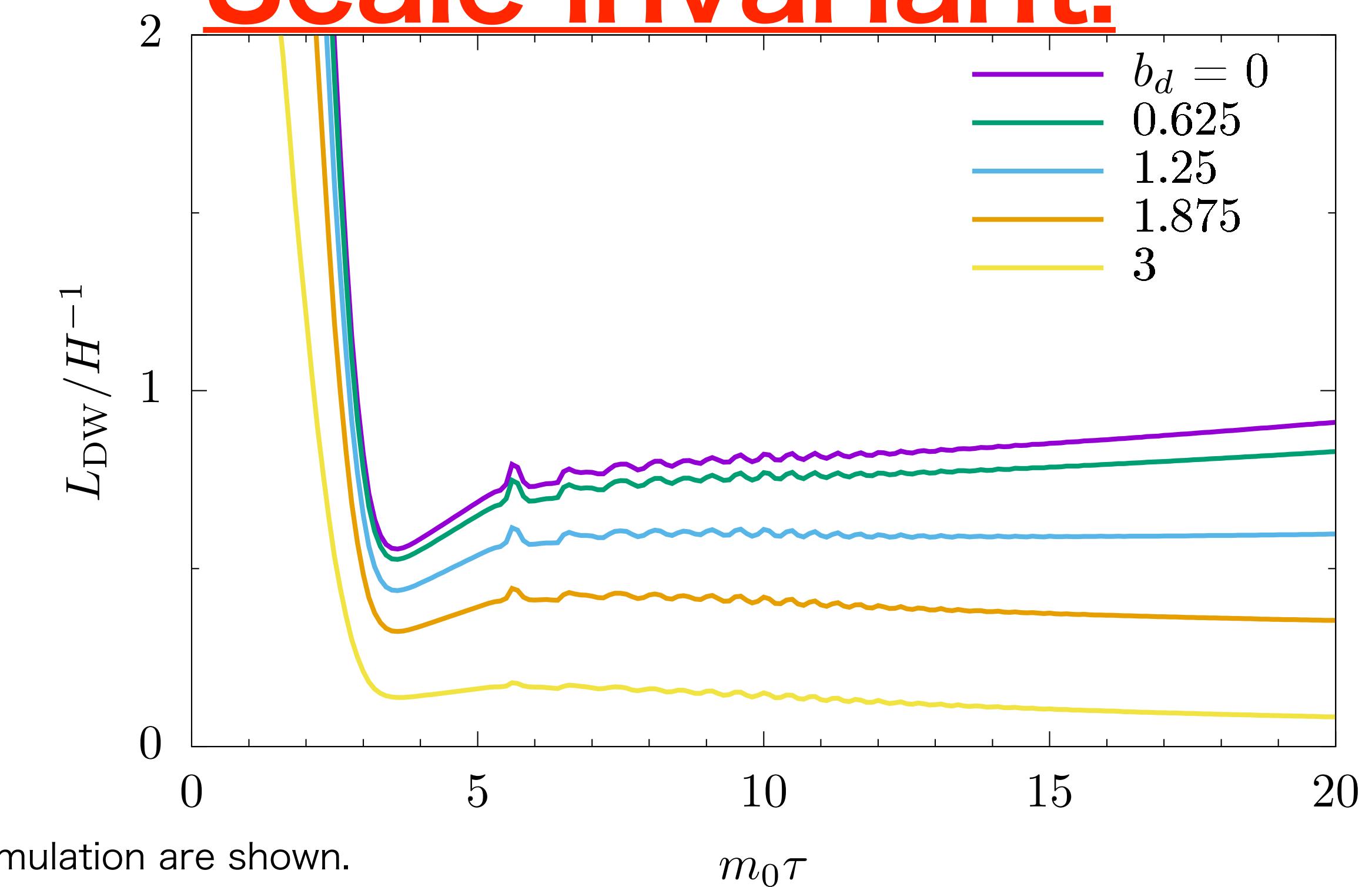
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The key point is the correlated superhorizon modes that have been omitted so far.

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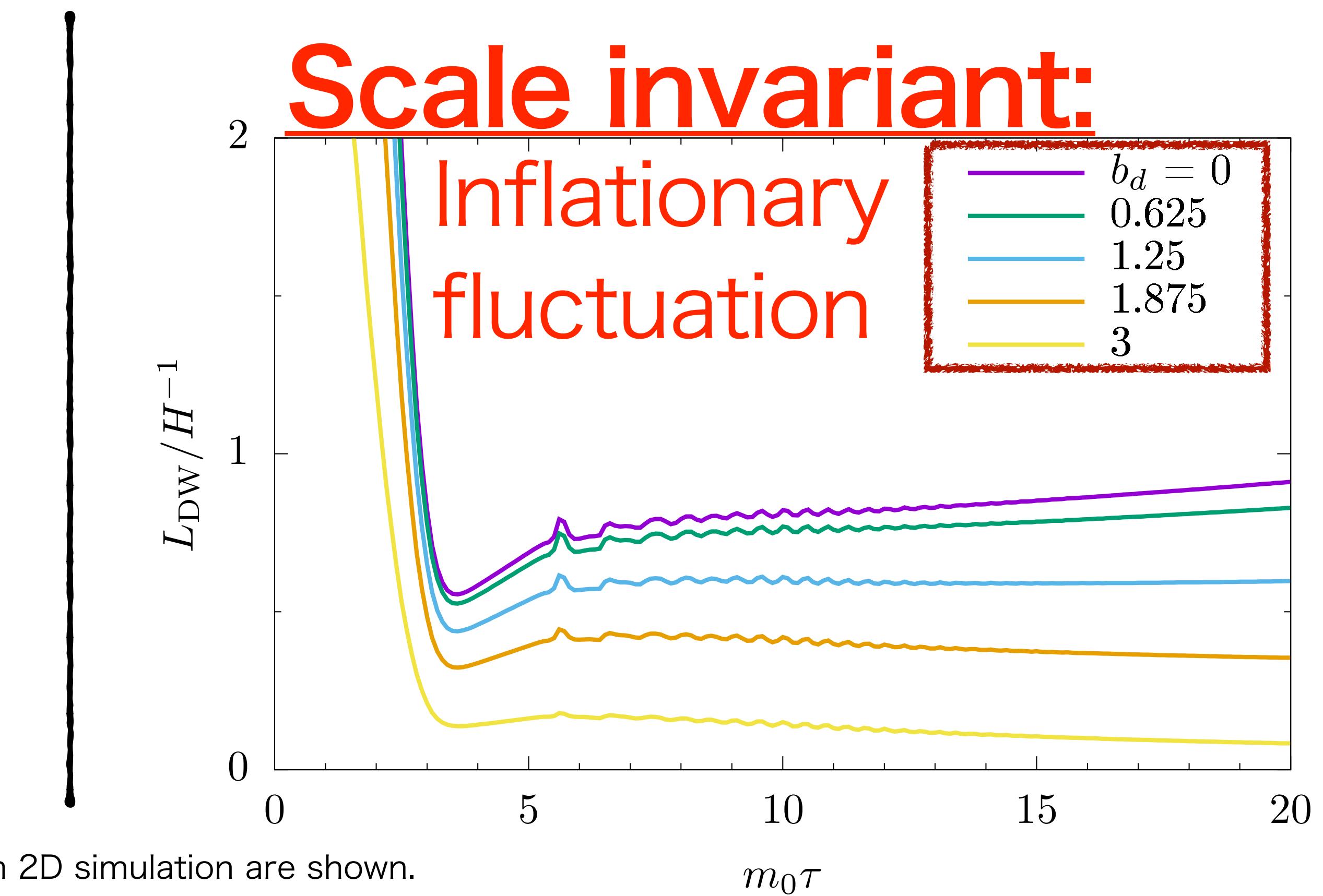
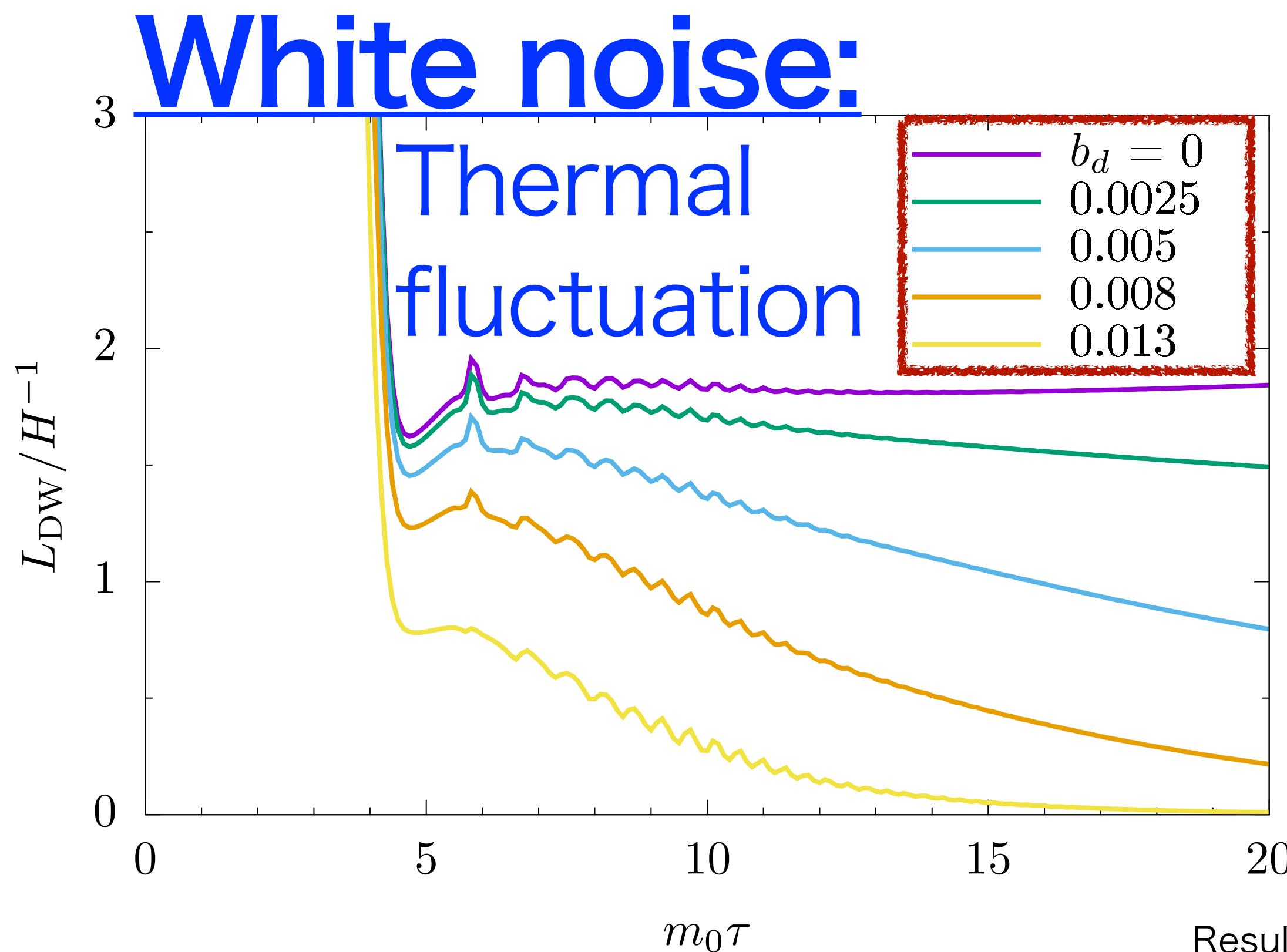
Results from 2D simulation are shown.  
3D case is checked as well.

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# Scenarios of DWs from inflationary fluctuations

For  $b_d \lesssim O(1)$ ,

1.  $f_\phi \sim H_{\text{inf}}$

Reminder :  $H_{\text{inf}} \lesssim 10^{13} \text{ GeV}$  (tensor-to-scalar ratio)

2.  $f_\phi^{\text{inf}} \sim H_{\text{inf}}$ , with time-dependent  $f_\phi$ .

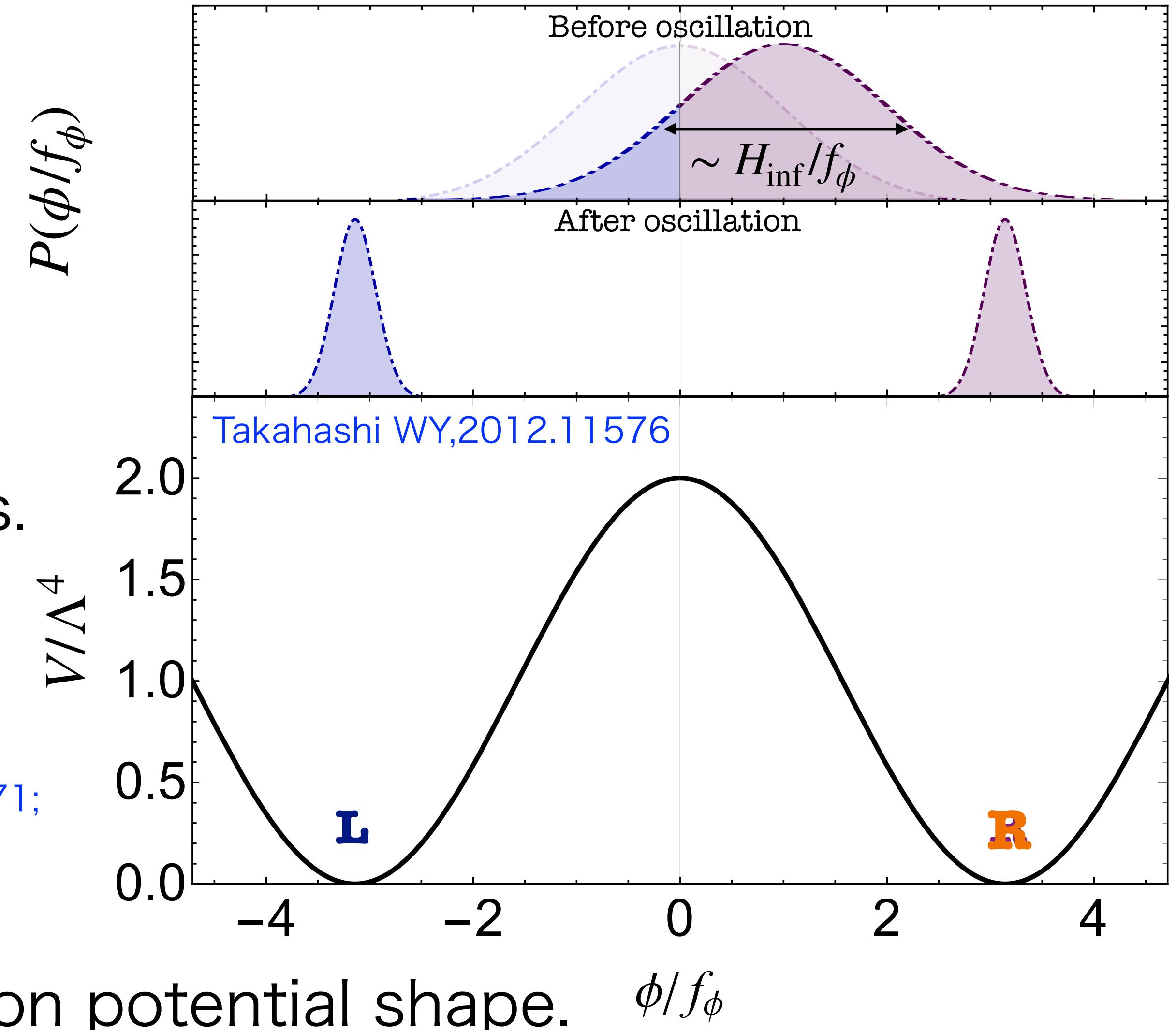
Takahashi WY,2012.11576

3.  $N_{\text{axion}} H_{\text{inf}} \gtrsim f_\phi$ , i.e., many light axions.

e.g.  $N_{\text{axion}} \gtrsim 10^2$  for  $H_{\text{inf}} = 10^{13} \text{ GeV}$ ,  $f_\phi = 10^{15} \text{ GeV}$

4. Mixing induced shift of  $\phi/f_\phi$  by  $\pi$ .

Daido, Takahashi, WY, [1702.03284](#) ; Takahashi, WY, [1908.06071](#);  
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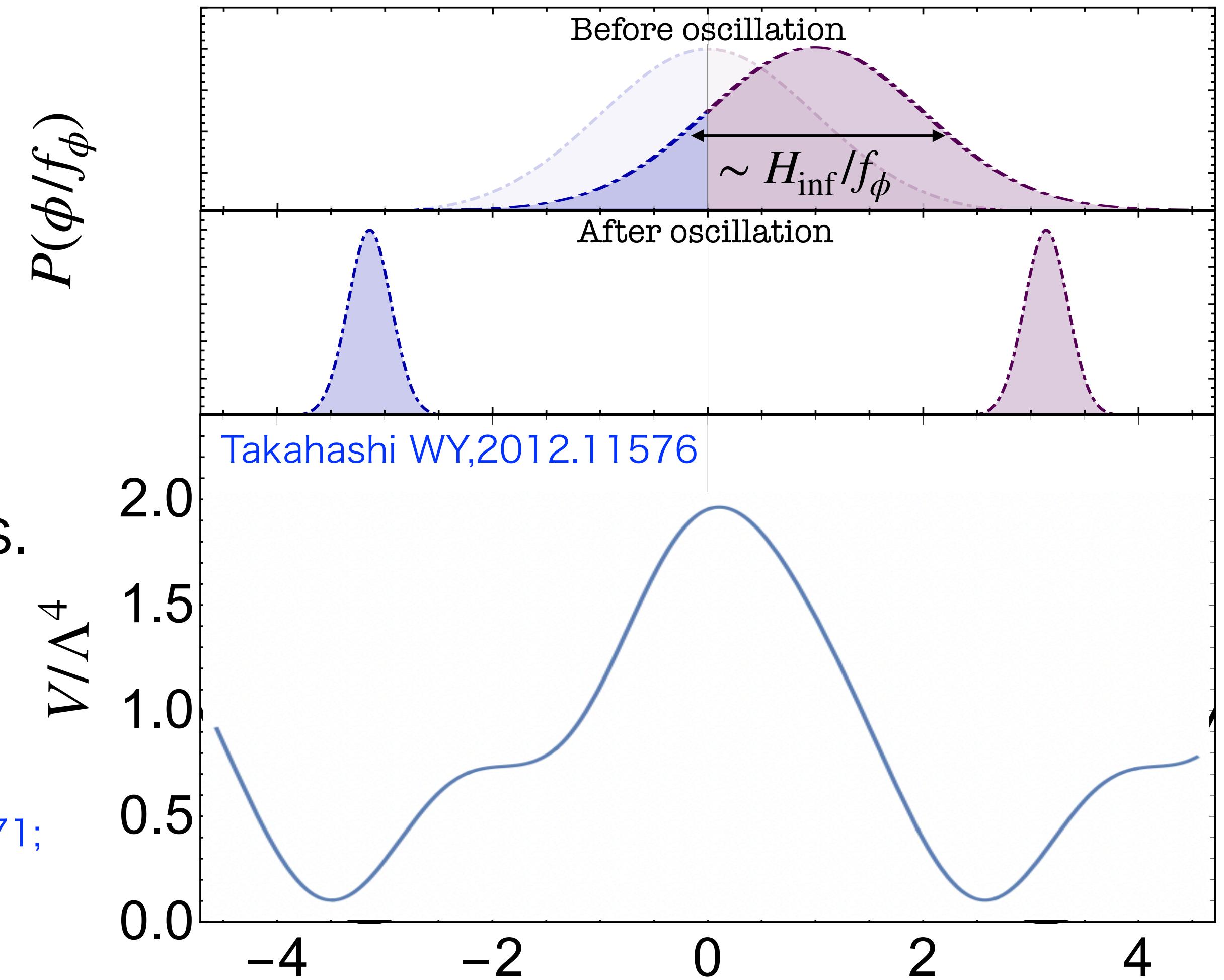
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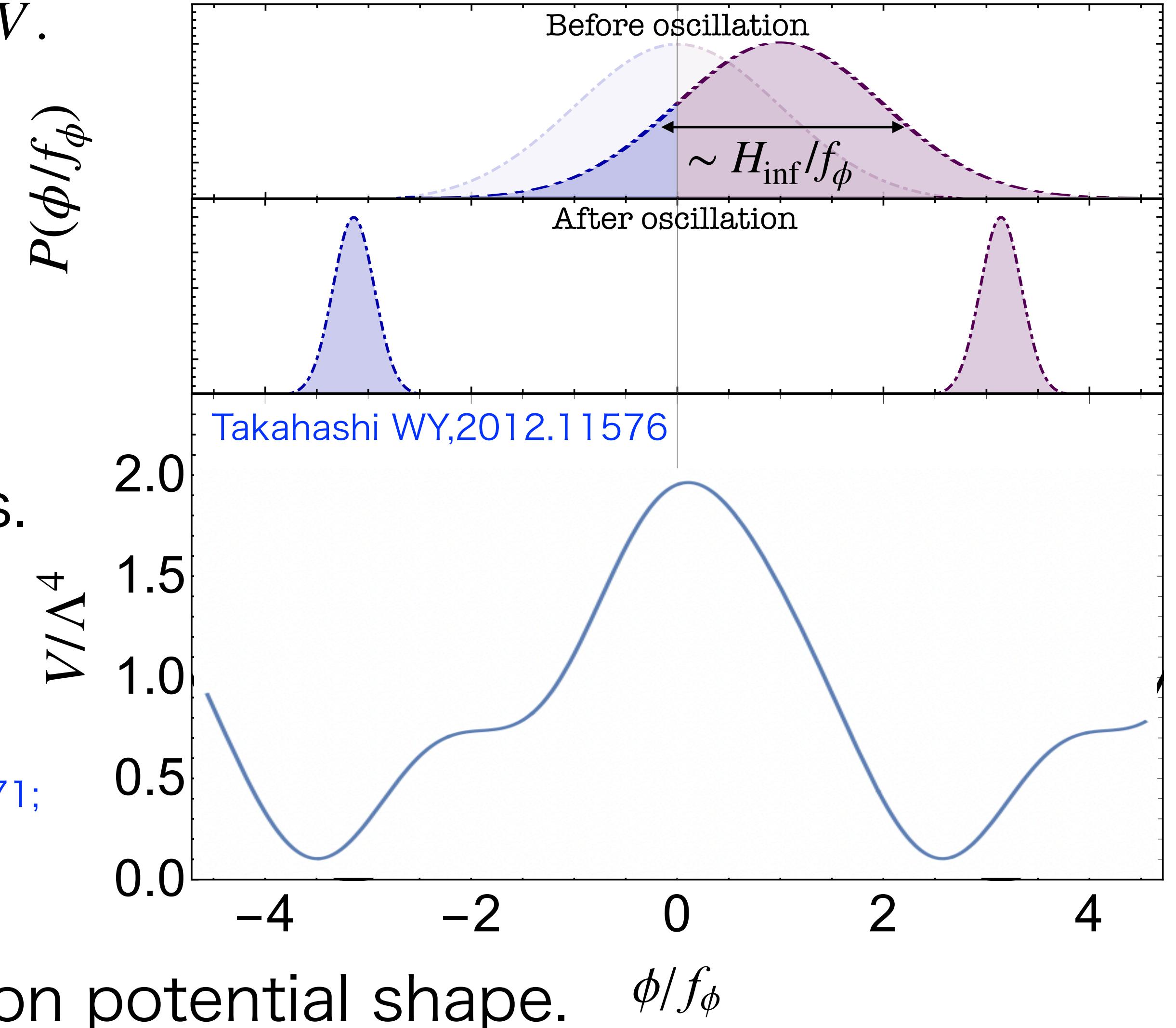
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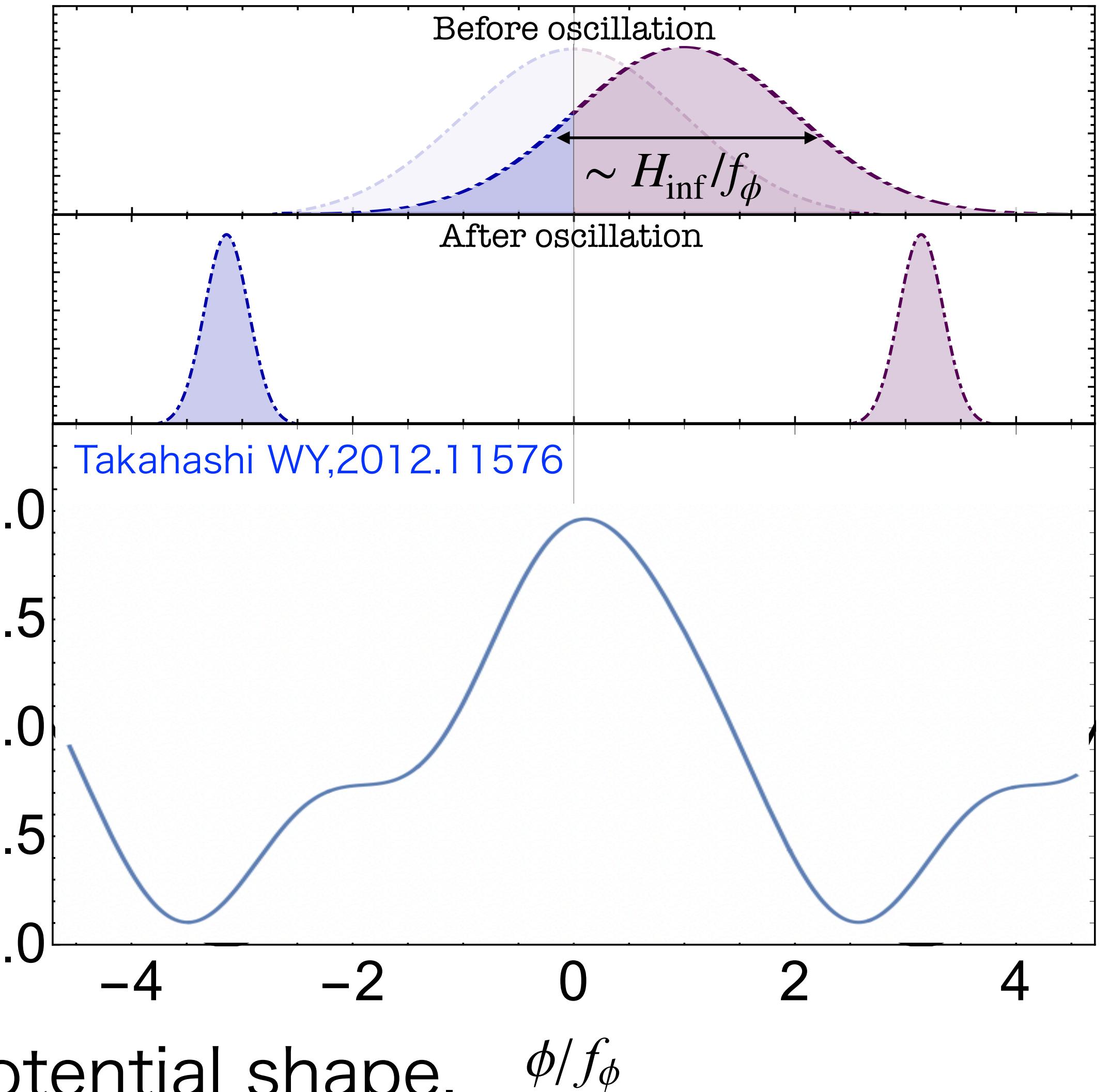
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$$P(\phi/f_\phi)$$

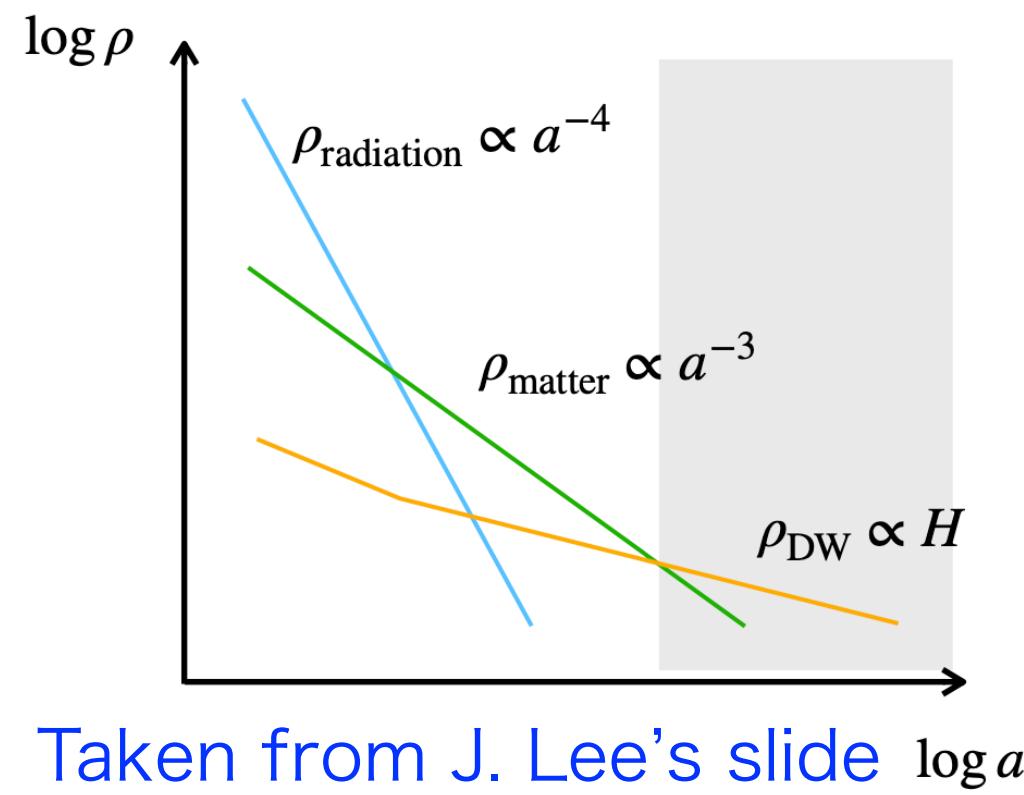
$$V/\Lambda^4$$



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### **• 3. Cosmological implications**

# Once the DW network is formed, we must deal with the DW problem.



DW problem

Zel'dovich, Kobzarev,  
Okun '74, Kibble '76, ...

DW network decays  
in early Universe

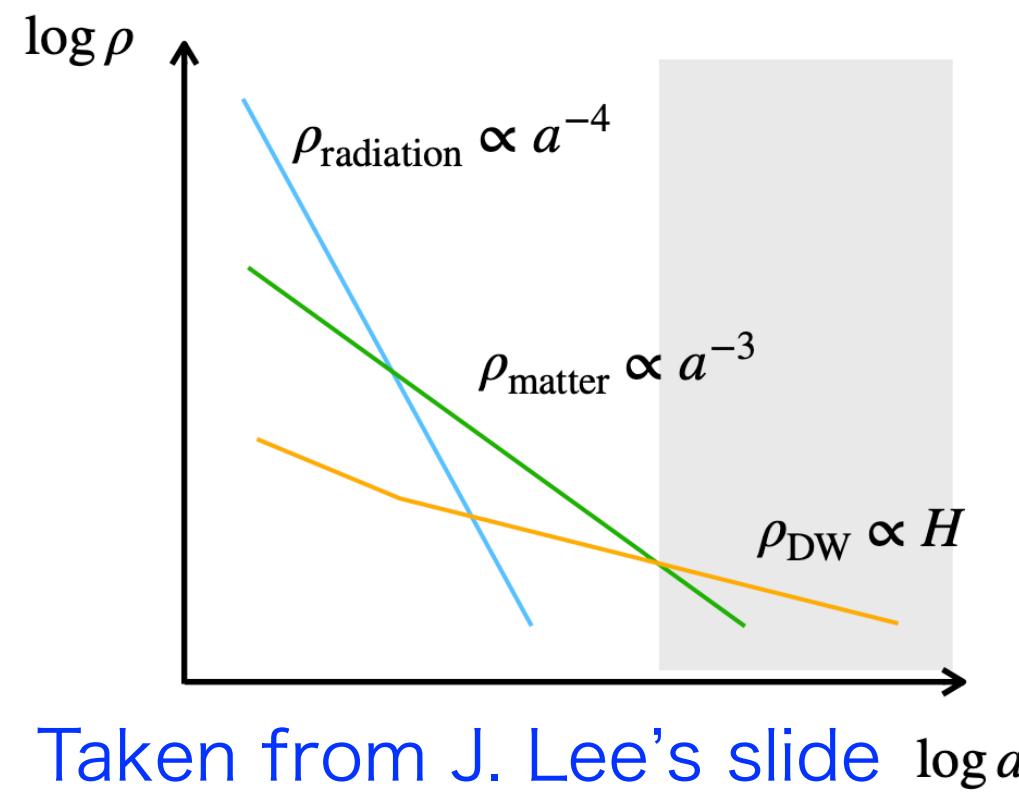
Gravitational waves

\*Potential bias does not work for DW with  $N_{\text{DW}} = 1$ .

Small tension  $\sigma < MeV^3$

Birefringence

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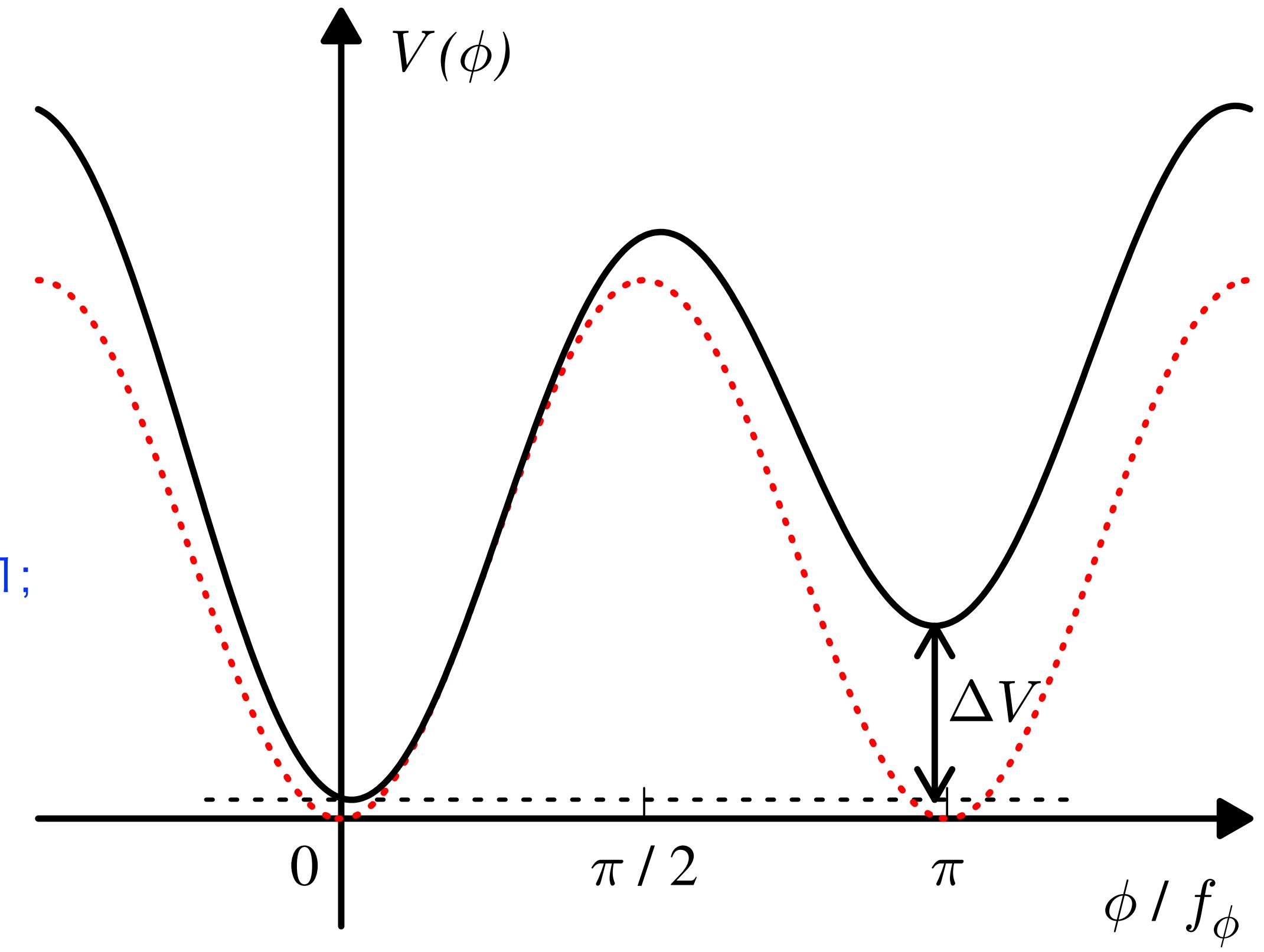
Birefringence

# Gravitational Waves (GWs) from DW collapse

For instance,

$$V = V_0 \left( 1 - \cos\left(\frac{2\phi}{f_\phi}\right) \right) + \epsilon \left( 1 - \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{f_\phi} + \theta\right) \right)$$

- Potential bias makes DW collapse at  $\sigma \times H \sim \Delta V$  at which GWs can be dominantly produced.
- Only GWs from scaling DWs with  $\Delta V = 0$  have been numerically studied so far.  
e.g. [Hiramatsu, Kawasaki, Saikawa, 1002.1555; 1309.5001](#);
- The numerical lattice simulation is difficult for the full system because scaling solution vs. potential bias, calculation time vs. resolution.

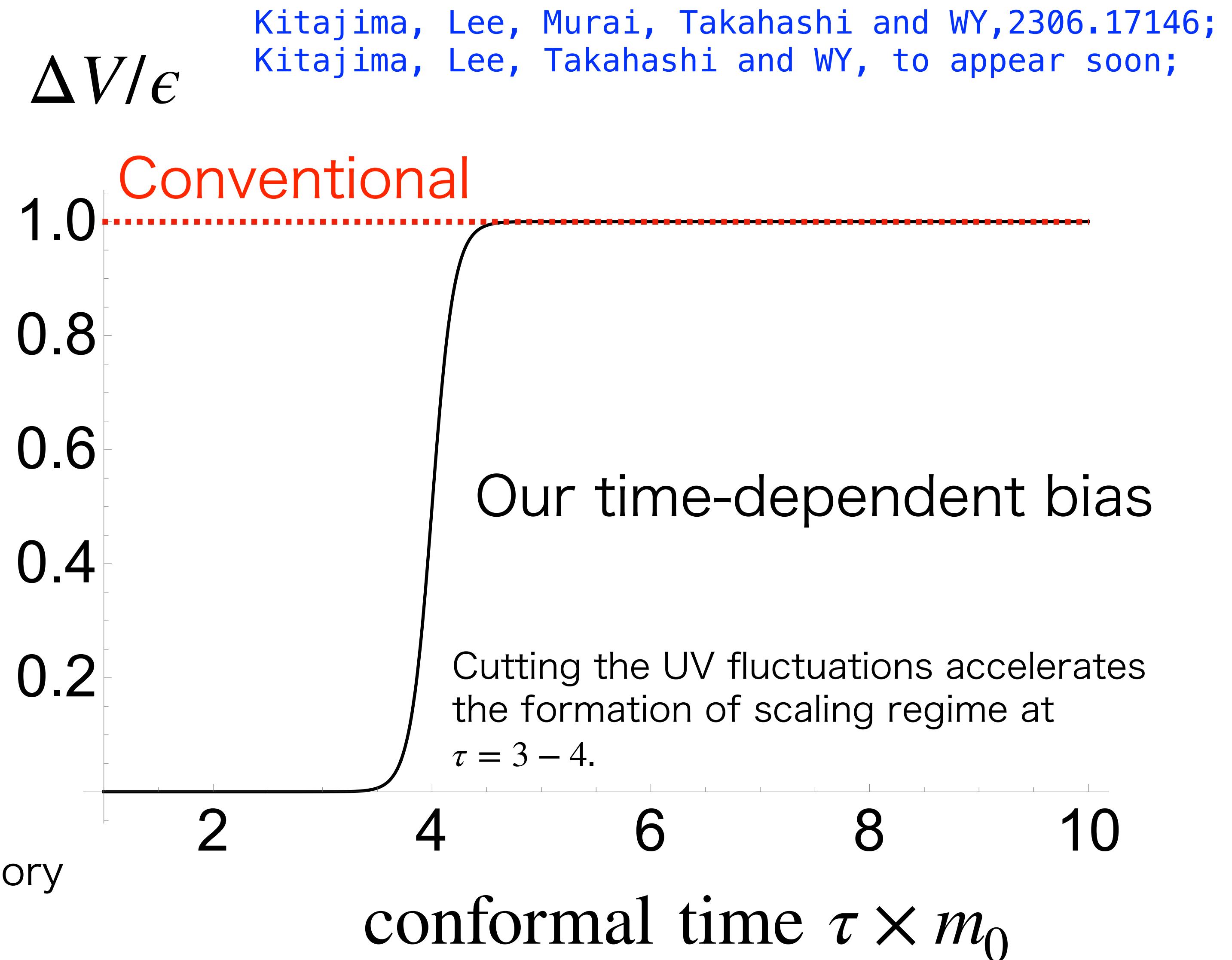


# The first lattice simulation of the GW from decaying DW!

The key point of our analysis: time-dependent bias.

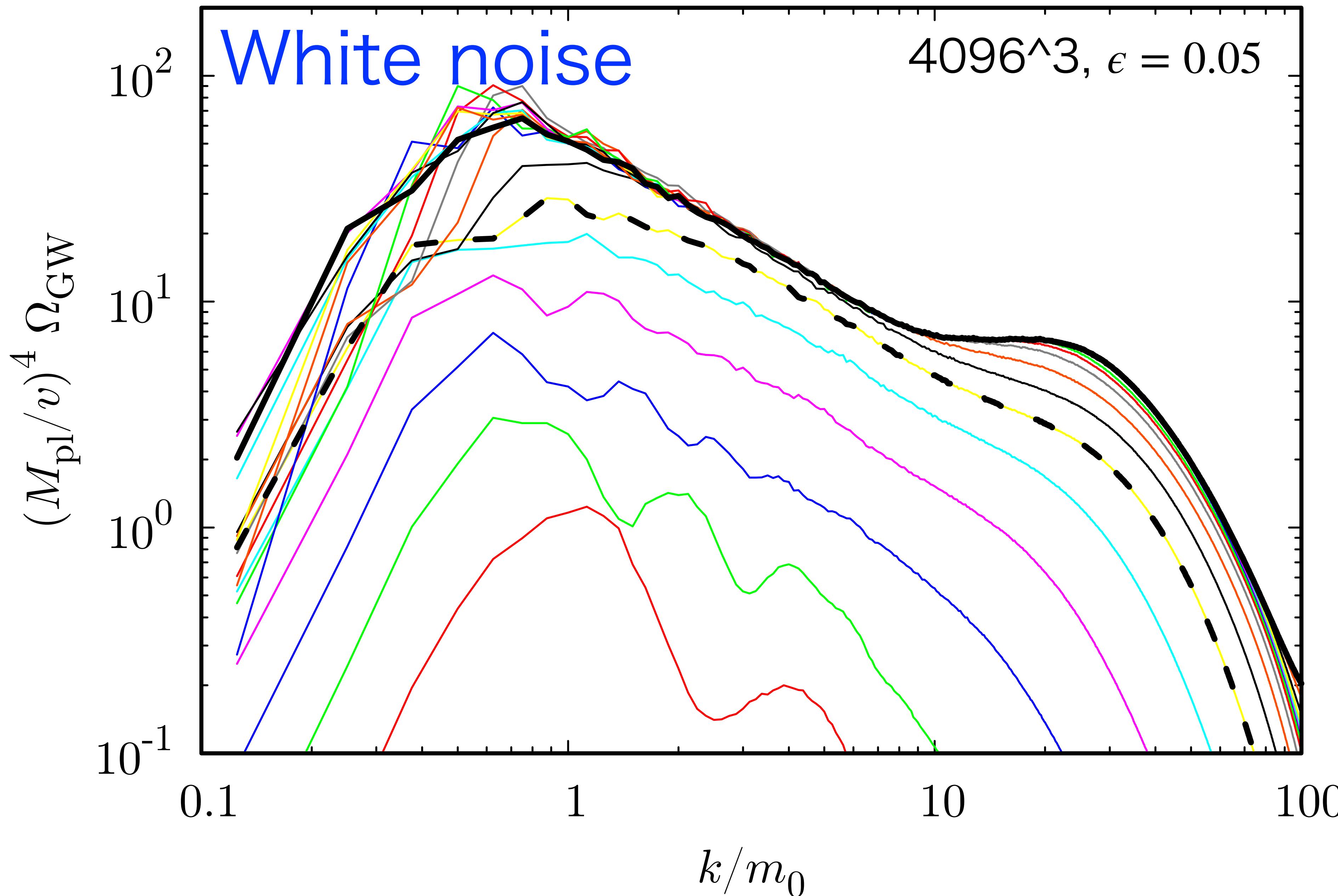
- DW collapse after scaling regime ✓
- DW collapse in a short time ✓
- Good approximation if DW bias has a QCD-axion like potential  $\Delta V \propto \chi(T)$ .

Reminder: We use  $Z_2$ symmetric,  $\phi^4$  theory to approximate system.



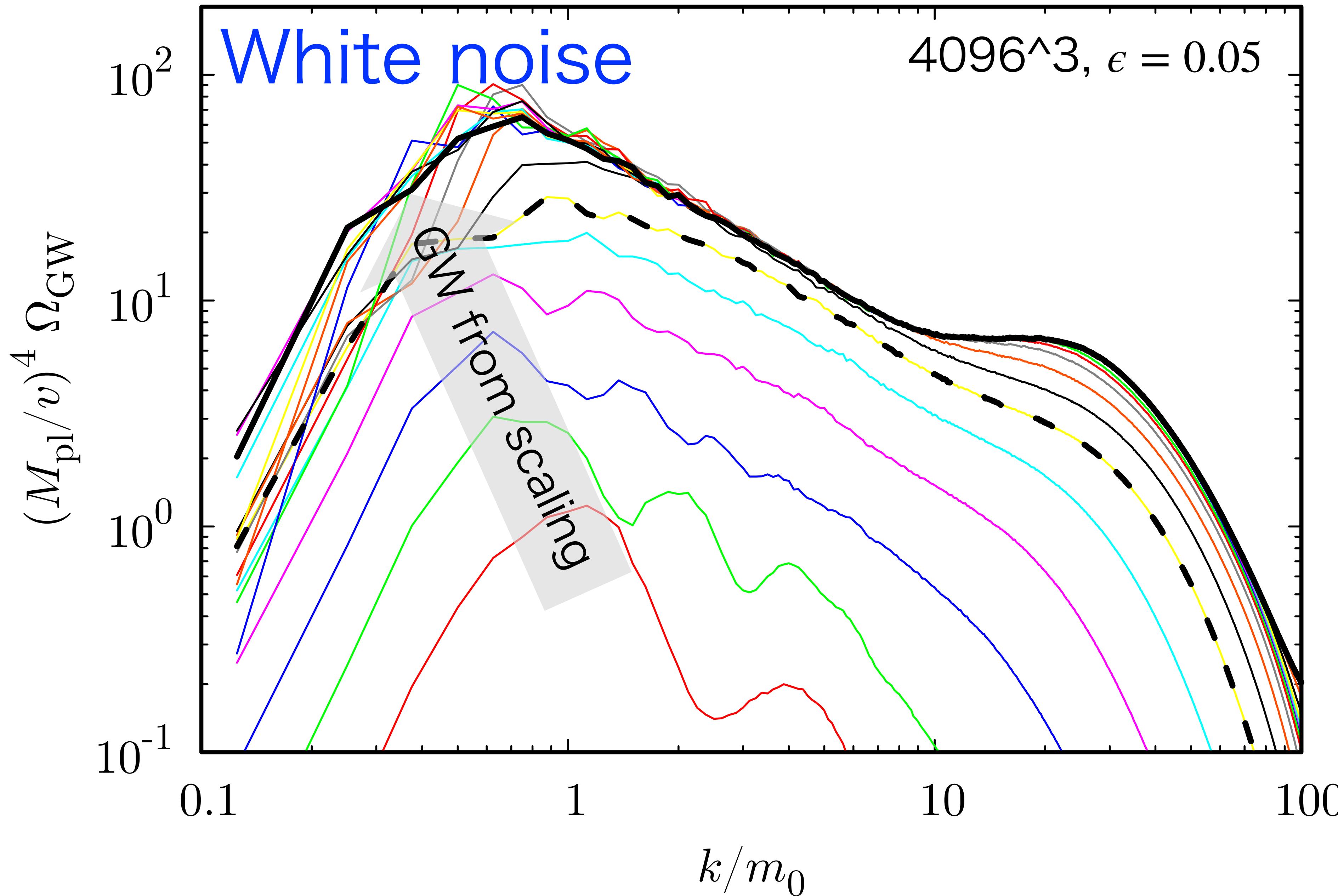
# New dominant contribution to the GW from decaying DW!

Kitajima, Lee, Murai, Takahashi and WY, 2306.17146;



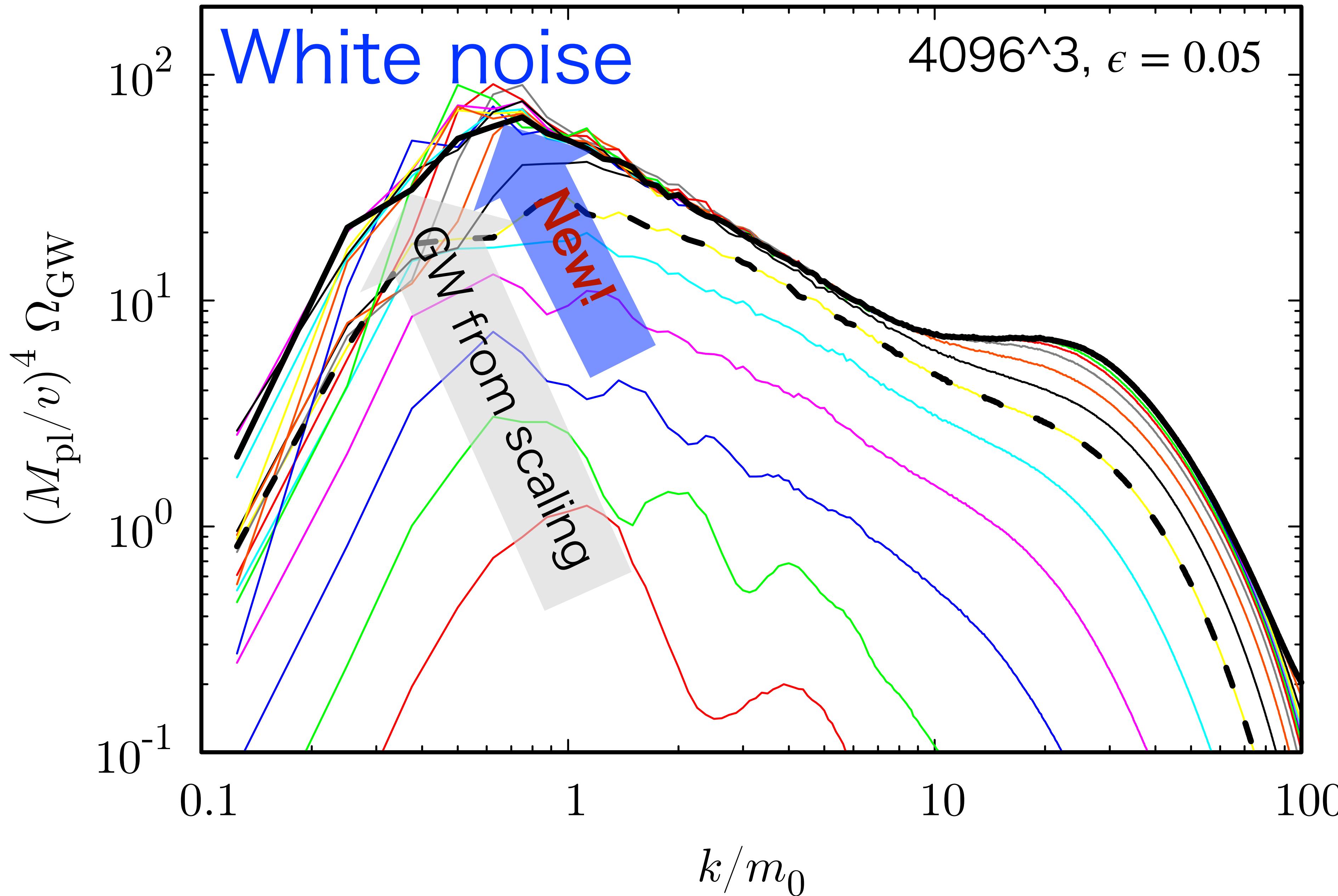
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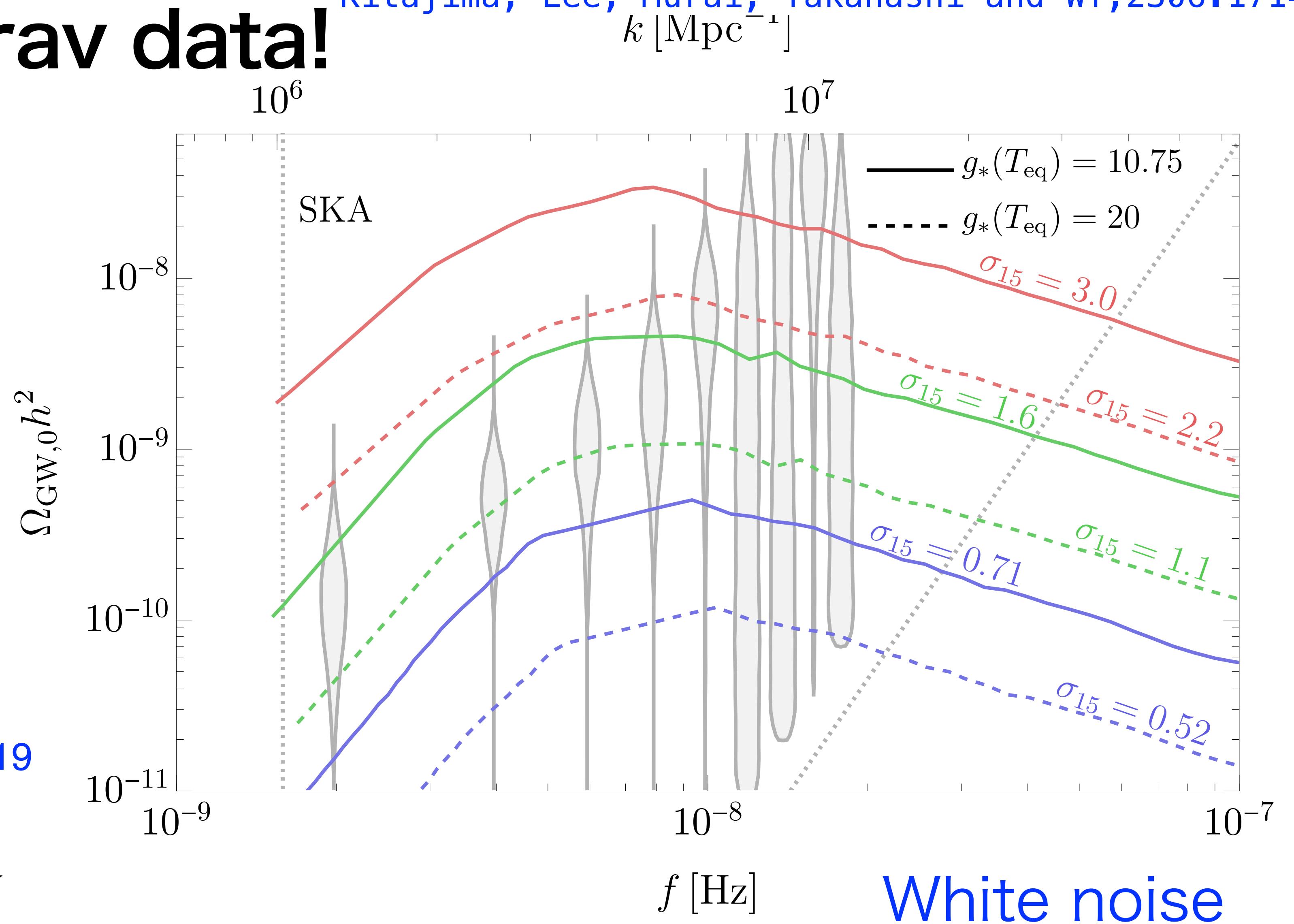
Kitajima, Lee, Murai, Takahashi and WY, 2306.17146;



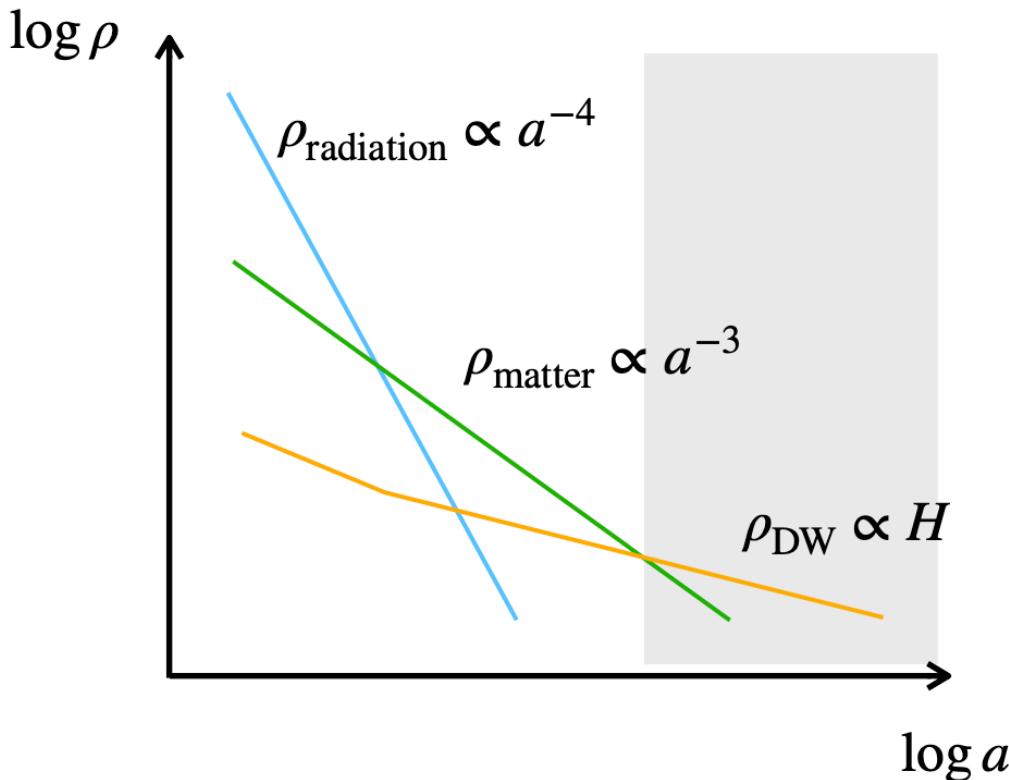
# Application: time-dependent bias is natural to explain NANOGrav data!

Kitajima, Lee, Murai, Takahashi and WY, 2306.17146;

- $\delta\mathcal{L} = \alpha_s \frac{\phi}{8\pi f_\phi} G\tilde{G}$
- $\rightarrow \delta V = \chi(T) \cos(\frac{\phi}{f_\phi} + \theta_{\text{QCD}})$
- DW decay induced by QCDPT predicts nHz GW!
- It naturally explains the NANOGrav data!  
[NANOGrav collaboration, 2306.16219](#)
- It is unlikely the string axion, because  $f_\phi < 10^8 \text{ GeV}$



# Once DW network is formed we have to deal with DW problem.



DW problem

Zel'dovich, Kobzarev,  
Okun '74, Kibble '76, ...

DW network decays  
in early Universe.

\*Does not work for DW with  $N_{\text{DW}} = 1$ .

Small tension  $\sigma < MeV^3$

Gravitational waves

Birefringence

# Stable DW with small tension $\sigma < MeV^3$

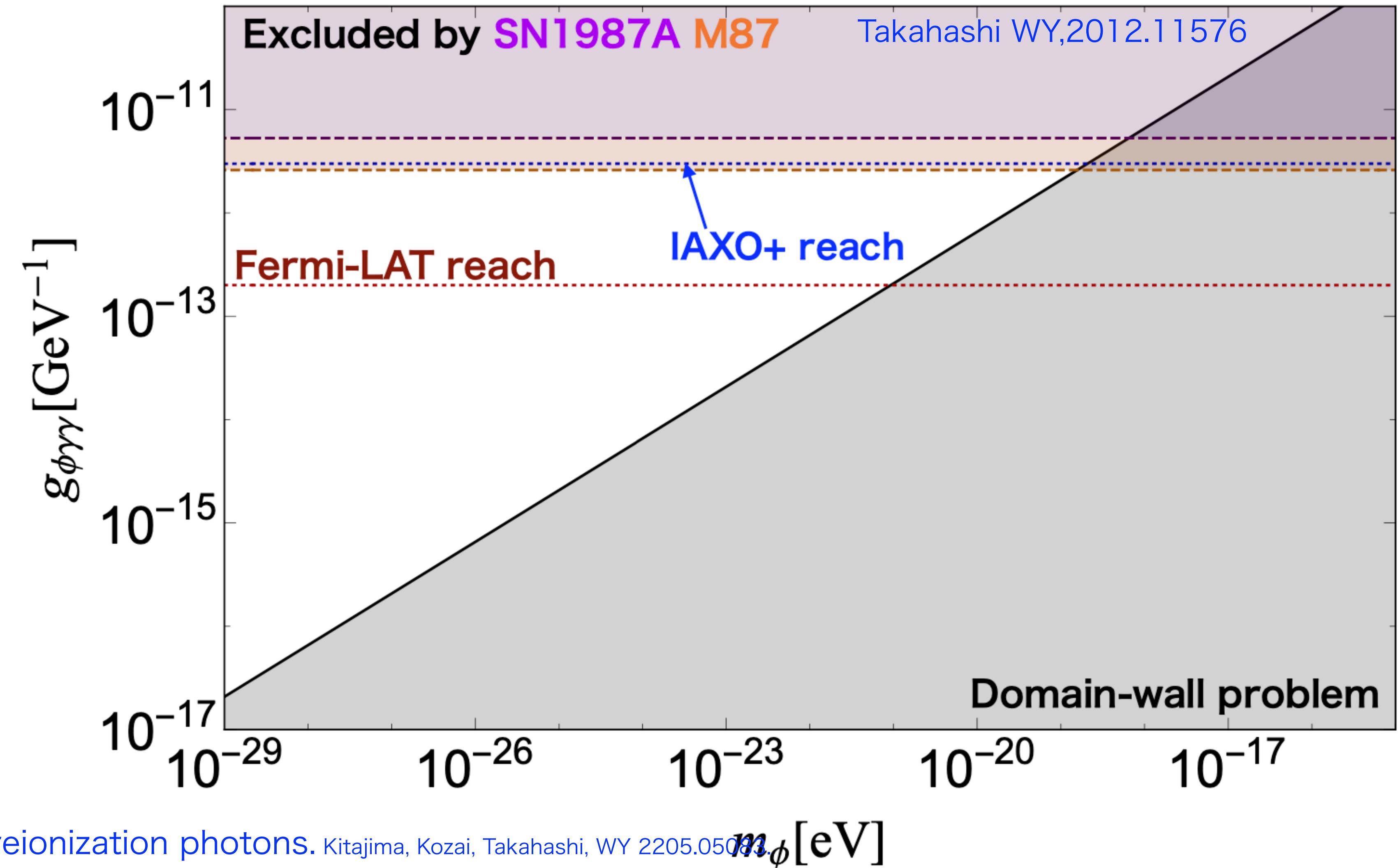
Such DW can induce observable effects if there is coupling to Standard Model particle.

Let us consider photon coupling

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{g_{\phi\gamma\gamma}}{4}\phi F\tilde{F}$$

$$\equiv \frac{\alpha\phi}{8\pi f_\phi} F\tilde{F}$$

With  $m_\phi = 10^{-33} - 10^{-29} eV$ ,



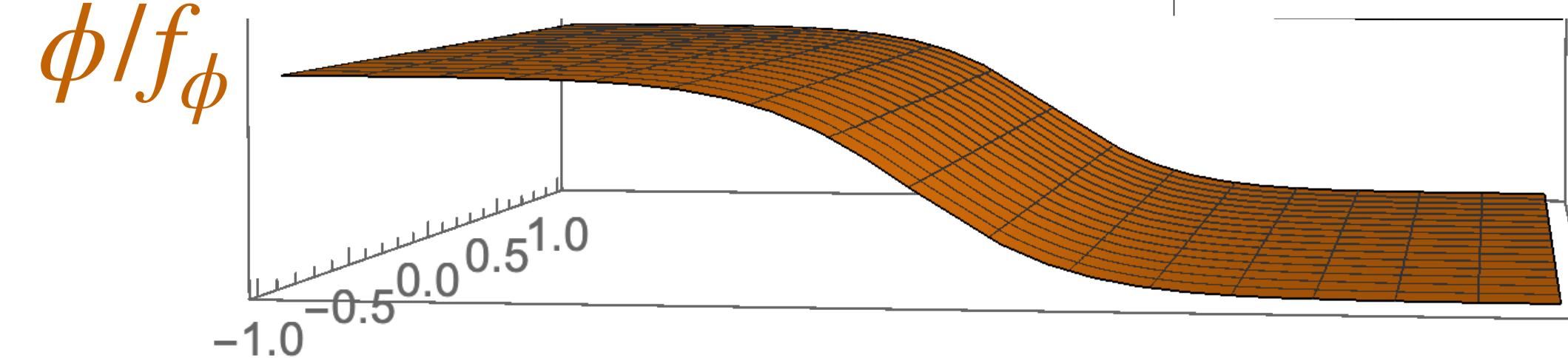
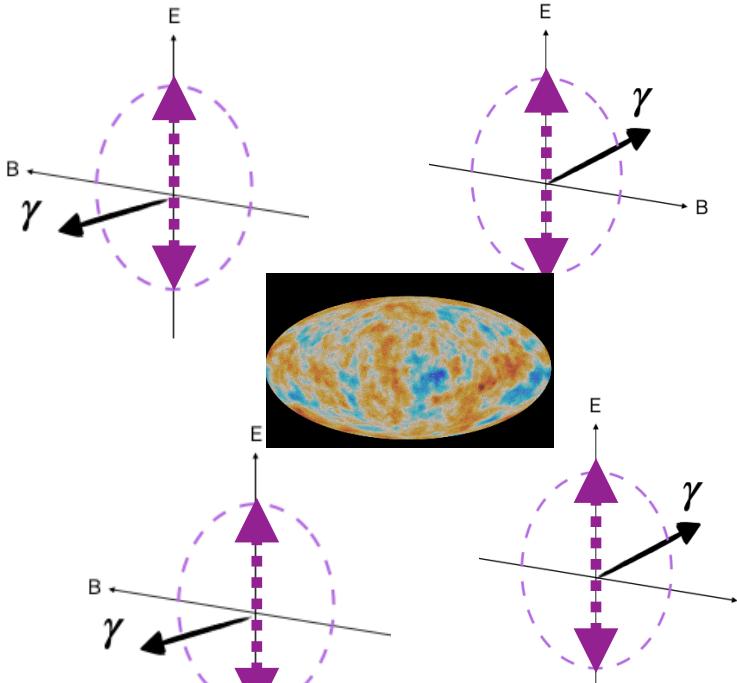
we can have anisotropic CB from reionization photons. Kitajima, Kozai, Takahashi, WY 2205.05083.

# Cosmic birefringence (CB) from axion domain walls

Changes of background axion  
the field rotate propagating  
photon polarization.

Carroll, Field, Jackiw, 1990; Harari, Sikivie, 1992;  
Carroll, 1998;

$$\Phi(\Omega) = 0.42 \text{ deg} \times c_\gamma \left( \frac{\phi_{\text{Earth}} - \phi_{\text{LSS}}(\Omega)}{2\pi f_\phi} \right),$$



- **Observables:**

- **Isotropic CB**

$$\beta \equiv \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d\Omega \Phi[\Omega]$$

$$\beta_{\text{obs}} = 0.36 \pm 0.11 \text{ deg}$$

Minami and Komatsu, 2006.15982,  
Diego-Palazuelos et al, 2201.07682.

- **Anisotropic CB**

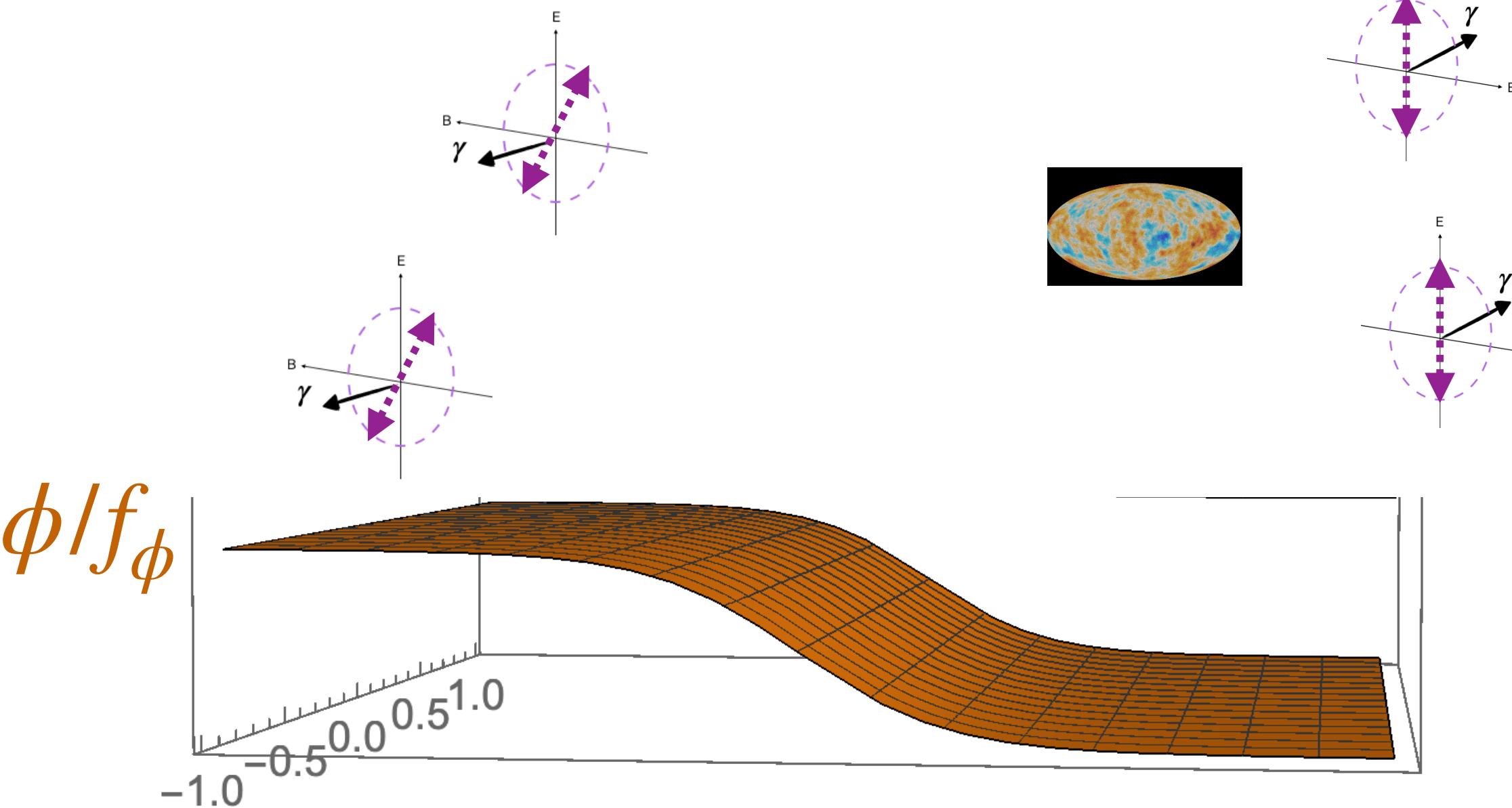
$$\text{e.g. } C_\ell^\Phi \leftrightarrow \langle \Phi(\vec{\Omega}) \Phi(\vec{\Omega}') \rangle$$

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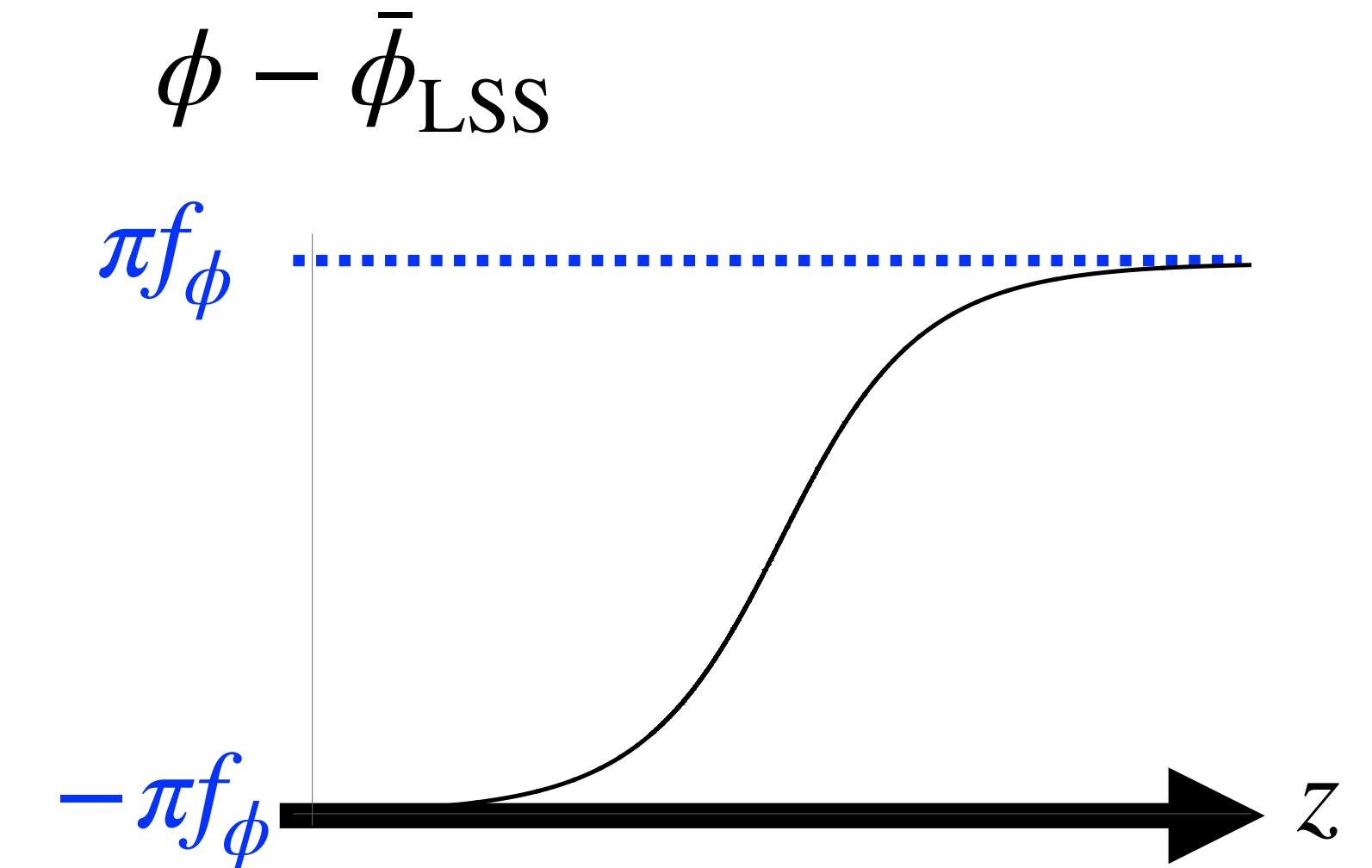
# Scaling DW without a string naturally explains isotropic CB!

Takahashi, WY, 2012.11576

$$\beta \simeq 0.21 \text{ deg} c_\gamma \left( \frac{\phi_{\text{earth}} - \bar{\phi}_{\text{LSS}}}{\pi f_\phi} \right)$$

$$\text{c.f. } \beta_{\text{obs}} = 0.36 \pm 0.11 \text{deg}$$

Minami and Komatsu, 2006.15982,  
Diego-Palazuelos et al, 2201.07682.

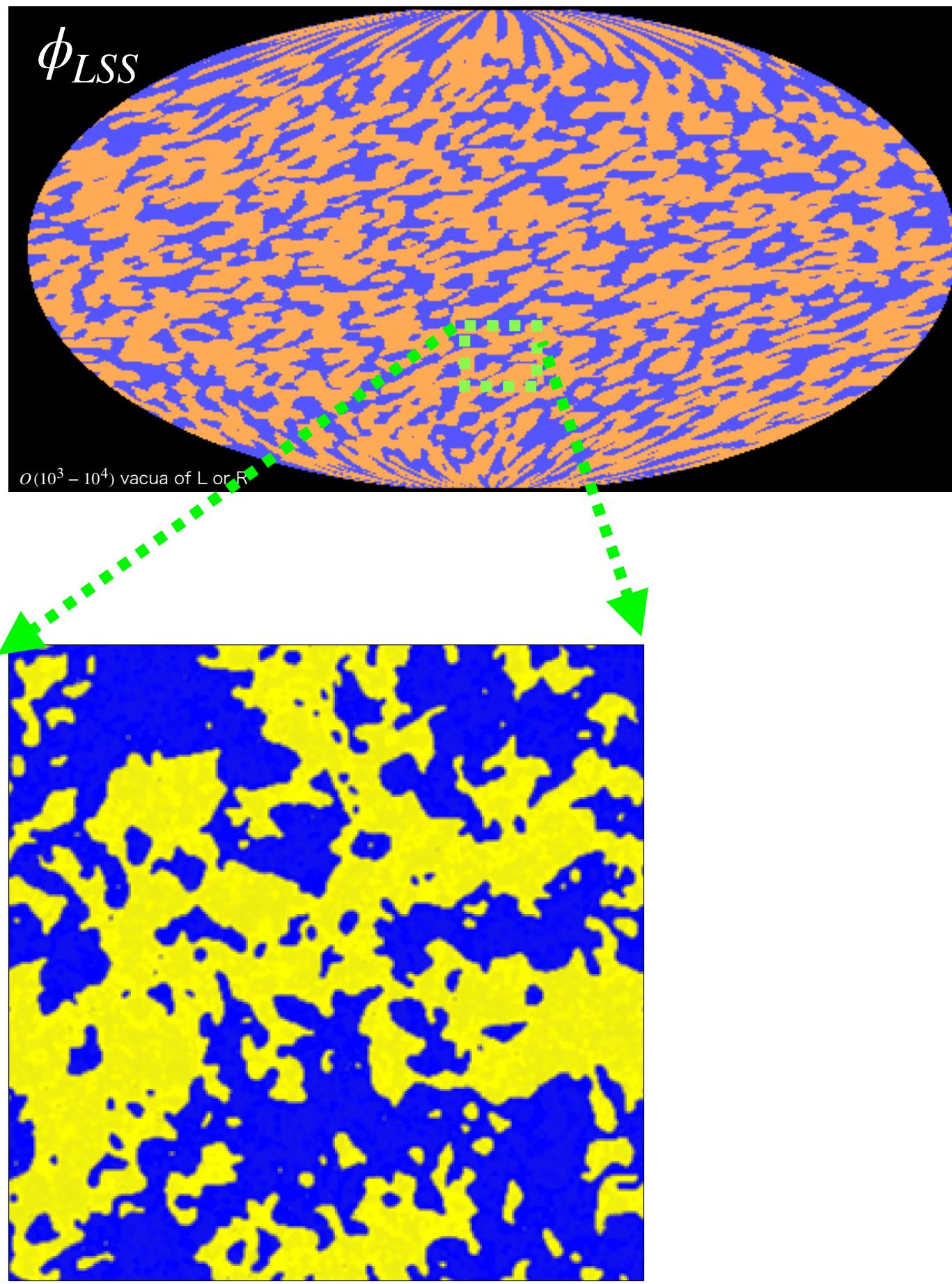


DWs +string from U(1) symmetry is difficult to explain it.

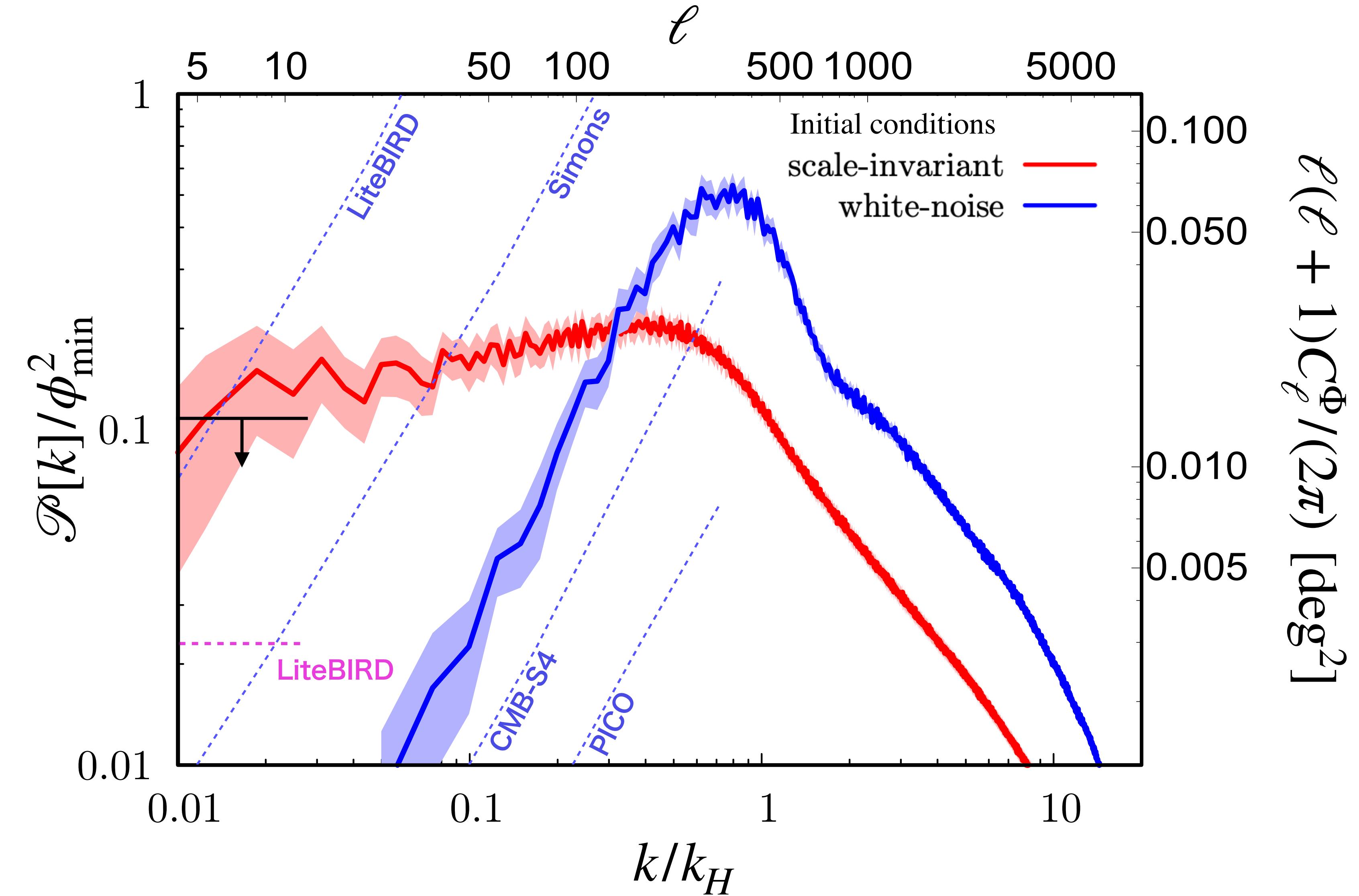
Agrawal, et al, 1912.02823, Takahashi, WY, 2012.11576, Jain et al, 2208.08391

# Anisotropic CB will be probed soon.

Takahashi, WY, 2012.11576; Takahashi, Kitajima and Kozai, WY, 2205.05083; Gonzalez, Kitajima, Takahashi, WY, 2211.06849



With  $m_\phi = 10^{-33} - 10^{-29} \text{ eV}$ ,



we can have anisotropicCB from reionization photons. Kitajima, Kozai, Takahashi, WY 2205.05083.

# Conclusions:

Axion models always involve stable domain wall (DW) configurations.

- Due to inflationary fluctuations, DW formation is natural in string axiverse with many axions.
- Avoiding the DW problem by potential bias predicts gravitational waves (GWs). From lattice simulation, we found a new dominant contribution to GWs.
- Avoiding the DW problem by a small tension, the stable DW without a string can explain the isotropic cosmic birefringence (CB). This will be tested by future anisotropic CB.
- They both may be the probes of string axiverse because  $f_\phi = 10^{15-17}$  GeV can also be probed as well.

# Backup

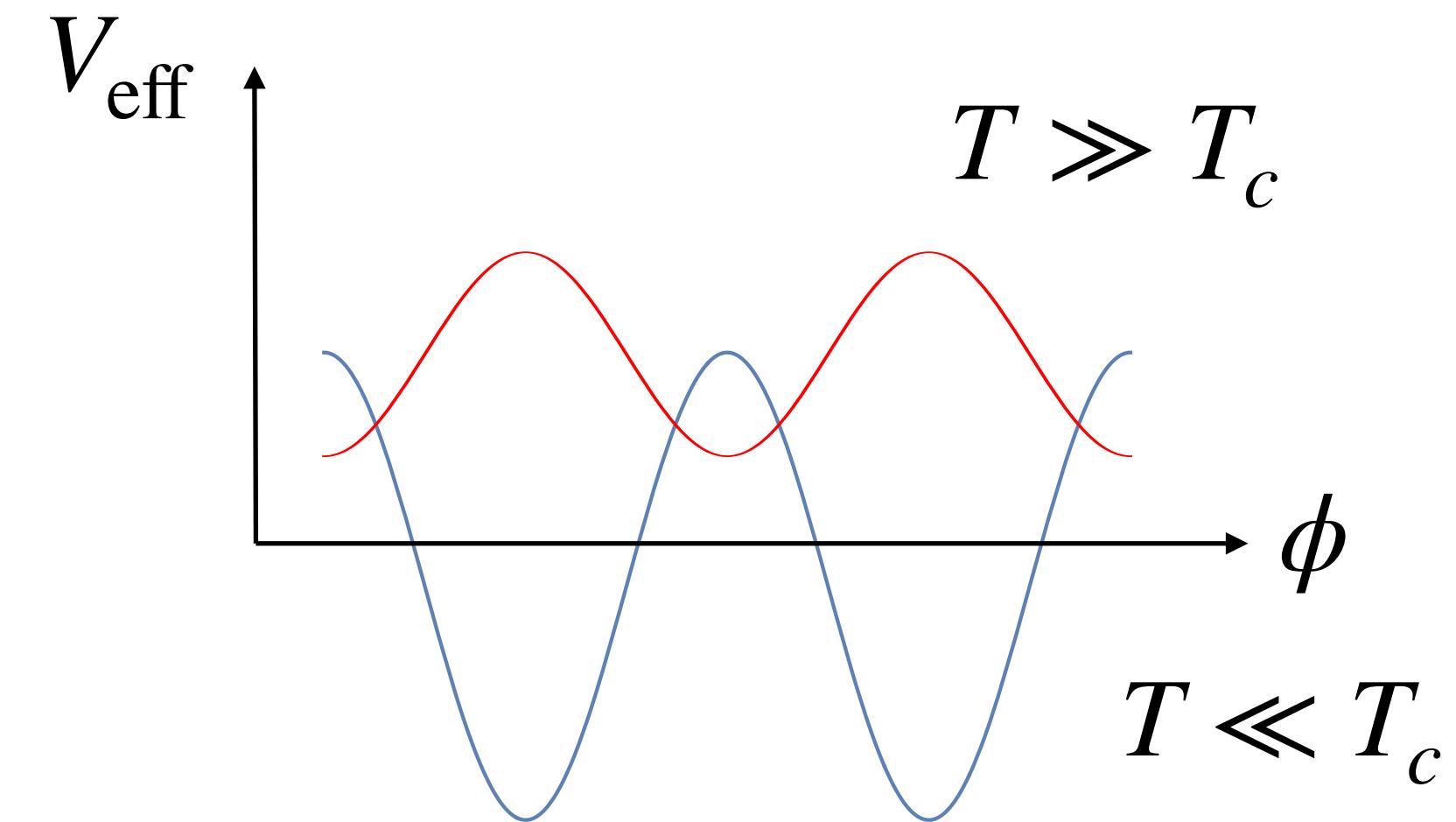
# Axion domain wall from phase transition for dark charge conjugation, $C_{\text{dark}}$ , breaking.

$U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$  breaking but  $C_{\text{dark}}$  conserving interaction in the UV model,

$$\mathcal{L} = -y\Phi\bar{\Psi}_L\Psi_R - M\bar{\Psi}_L\Psi_R + \text{h.c.} \quad y, M \text{ are real.}$$

$$\delta V_{\text{eff}} \supset -\frac{T^2}{24}M_{\text{eff}}^2 \supset -\frac{T^2}{24}\sqrt{2}yf_aM\cos(a/f_a).$$

Gonzalez, Kitajima, Takahashi, WY, 2211.06849



This results in white noise DW without string if  $U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$  never restores.

# Axion induced birefringence

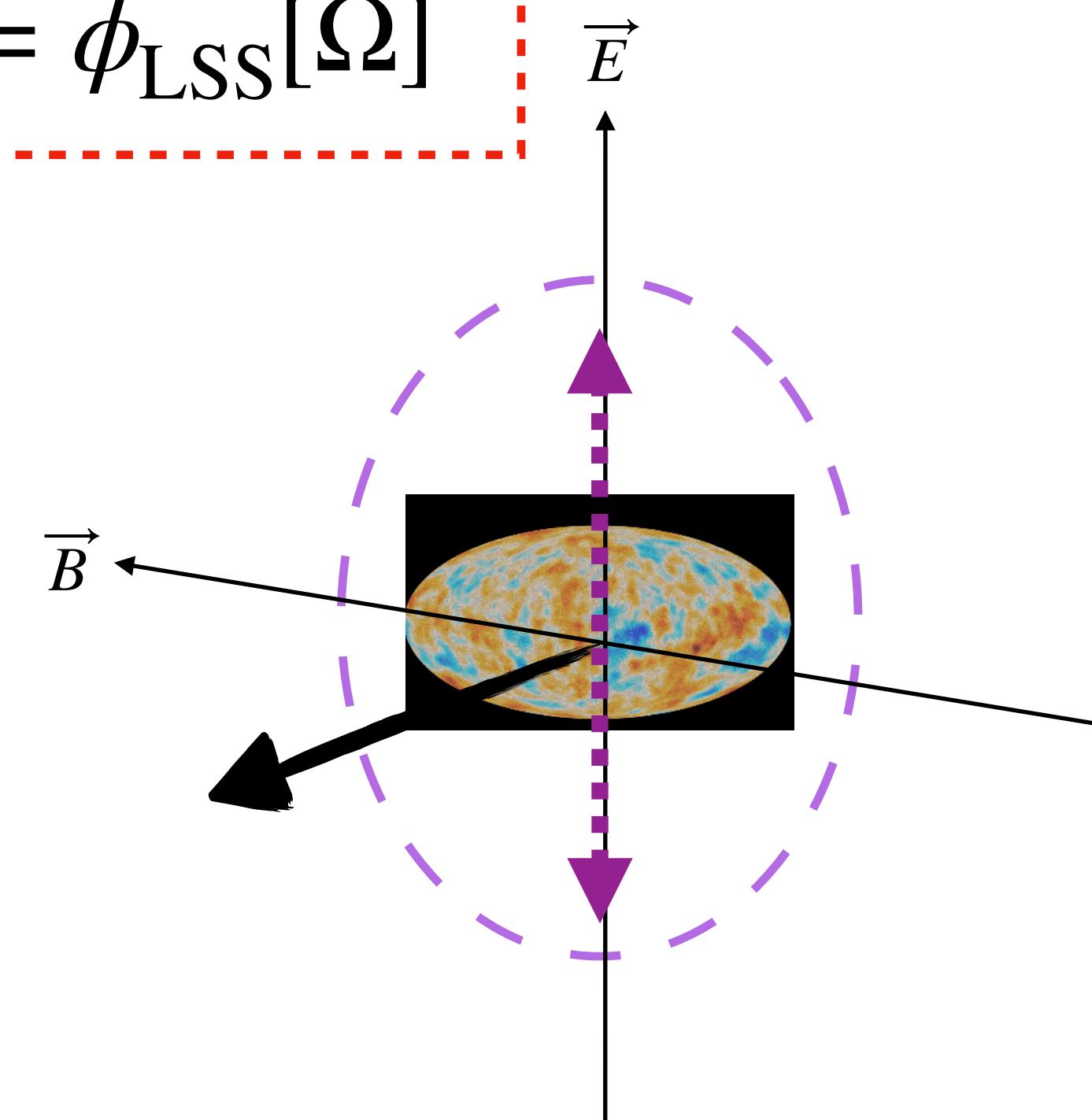
Carroll, Field, Jackiw, 1990; Harari, Sikivie, 1992; Carroll, 1998;

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - c_\gamma \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} \frac{\phi}{f_\phi} F_{\mu\nu}\tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(\vec{E}^2 - \vec{B}^2) - \frac{1}{4}g_{\phi\gamma\gamma}\phi(\vec{E} \cdot \vec{B})$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{2} \left[ \underbrace{(\vec{E} + \frac{1}{2}g_{\phi\gamma\gamma}\phi\vec{B})^2}_{''D''} - \underbrace{(\vec{B} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\phi\gamma\gamma}\phi\vec{E})^2}_{''H''} \right]$$

$$\boxed{\phi[\vec{x}_\gamma[t_{\text{rec}}], t_{\text{rec}}] = \phi_{\text{LSS}}[\Omega]}$$



# Axion induced birefringence

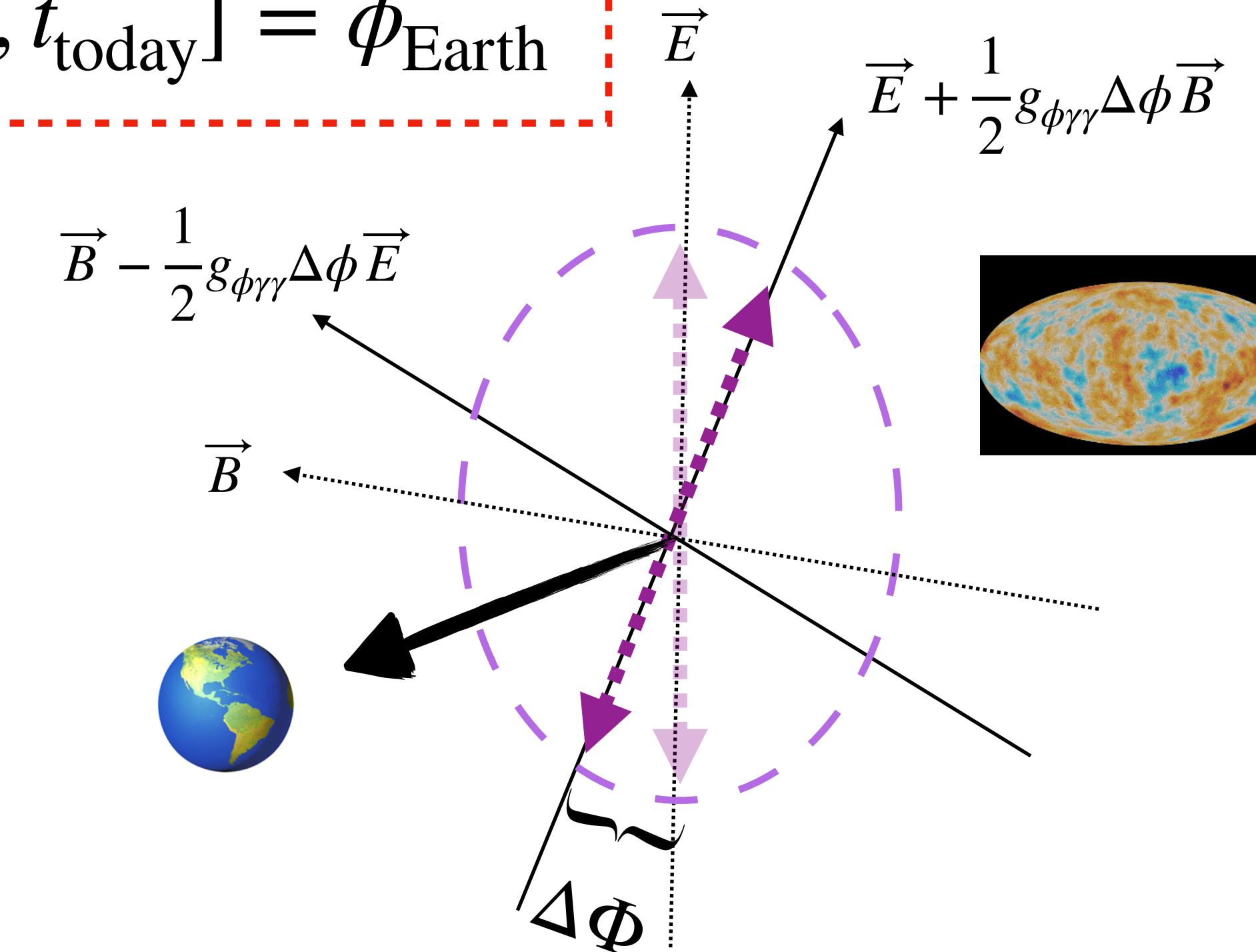
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$$\boxed{\phi[\vec{x}_\gamma[t_{\text{today}}], t_{\text{today}}] = \phi_{\text{Earth}}}$$



(if ALP background changes adiabatically.)

$$\boxed{\Delta\Phi(\vec{\Omega}) = \frac{1}{2}g_{\phi\gamma\gamma} \int_{\text{LSS}}^{\text{today}} d\phi = 0.42 \text{ deg} \times c_\gamma \left( \frac{\phi_{\text{Earth}} - \phi_{\text{LSS}}(\vec{\Omega})}{2\pi f_\phi} \right)},$$

