

# Gravitational waves from phase transitions during inflation

Haipeng An (Tsinghua University)

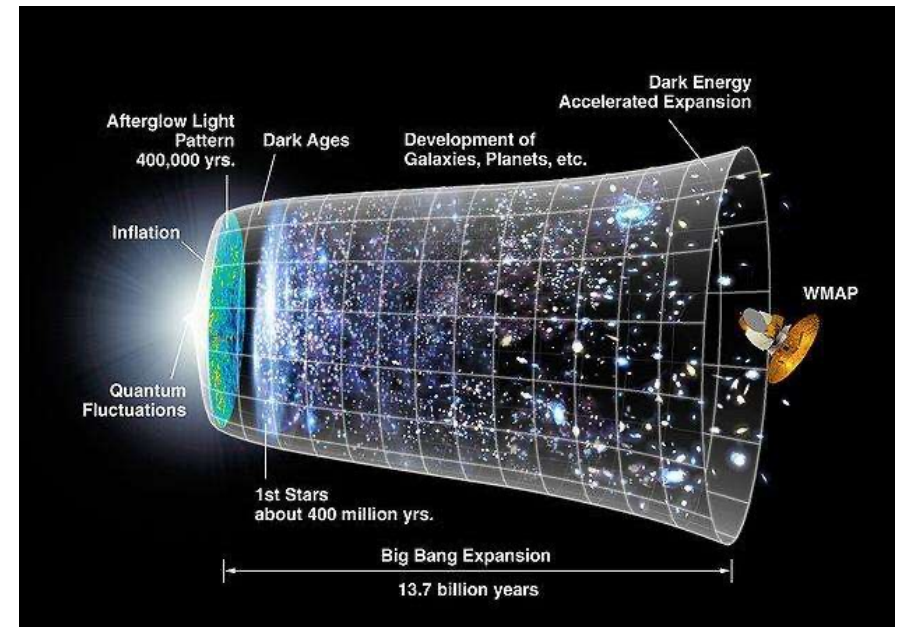
IAS Program on High Energy Physics (Feb 12 – 16, 2023)

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

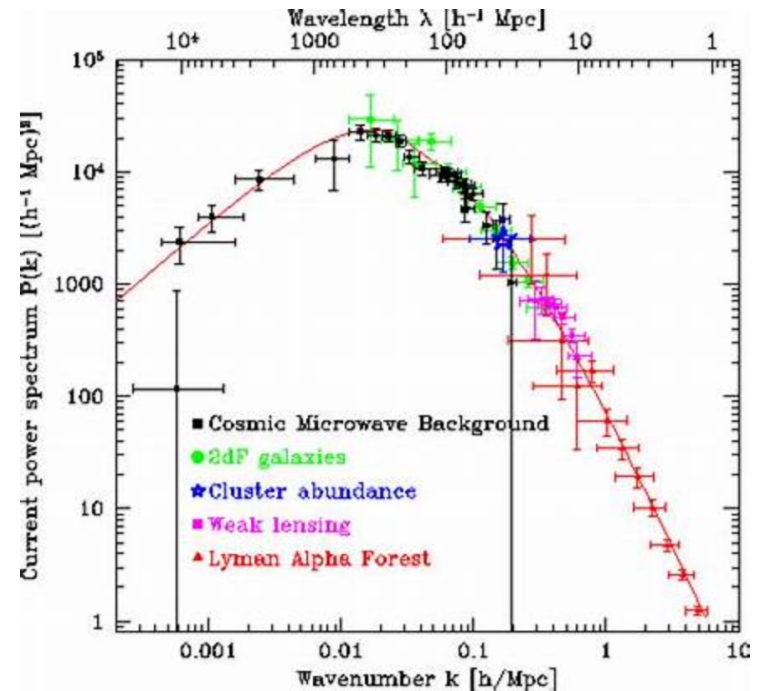
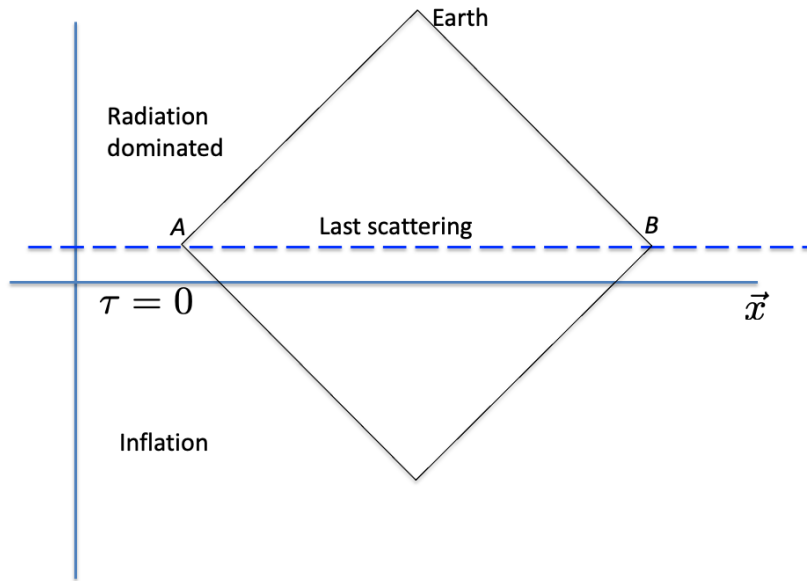
2009.12381, 2201.05171

# Very brief introduction of inflation

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



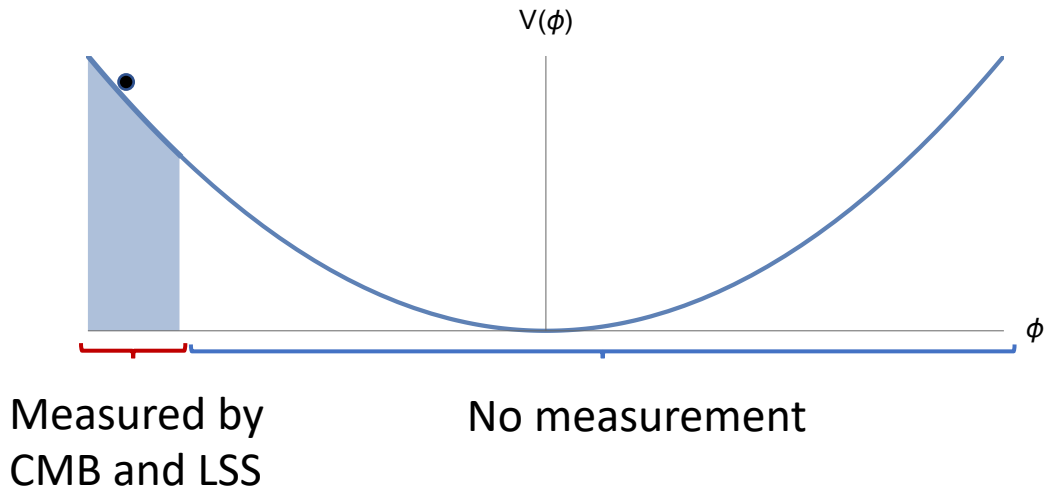
# Very brief introduction of inflation



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

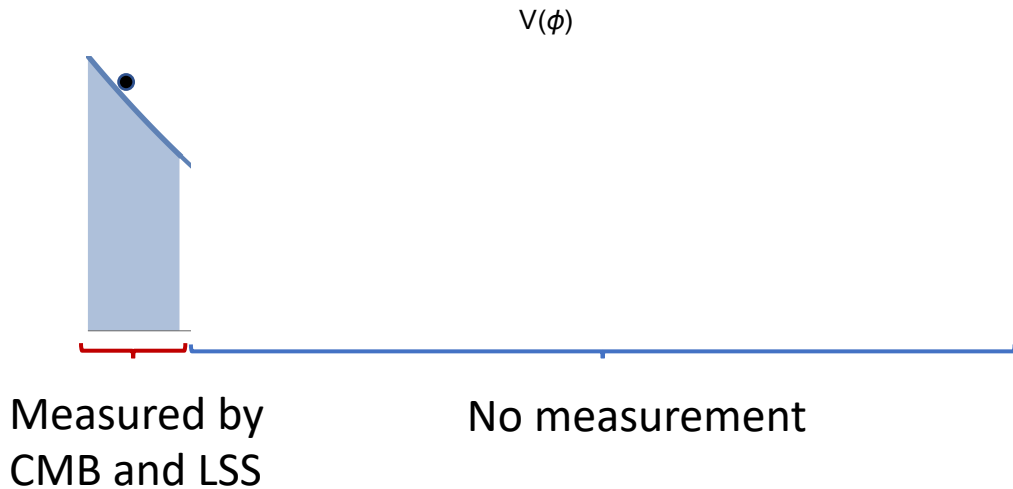
# Slow roll models

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



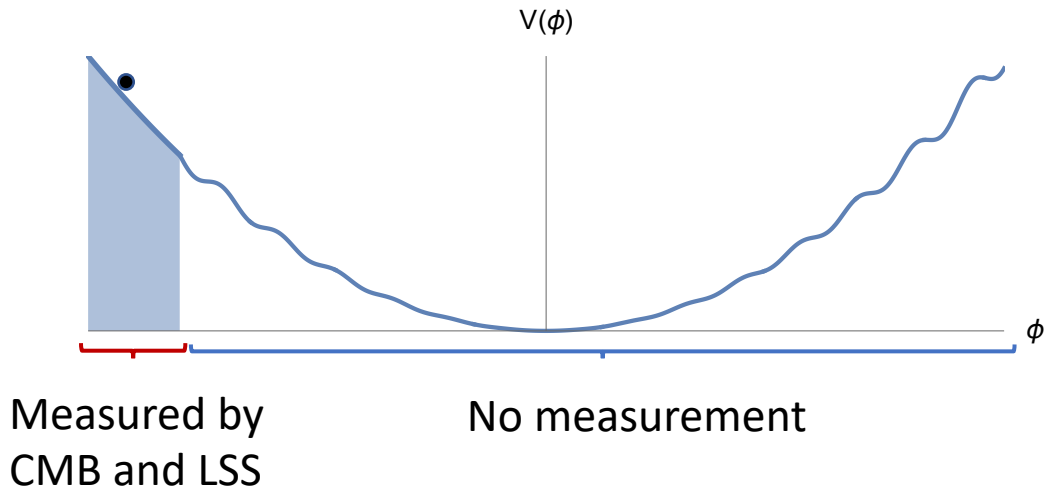
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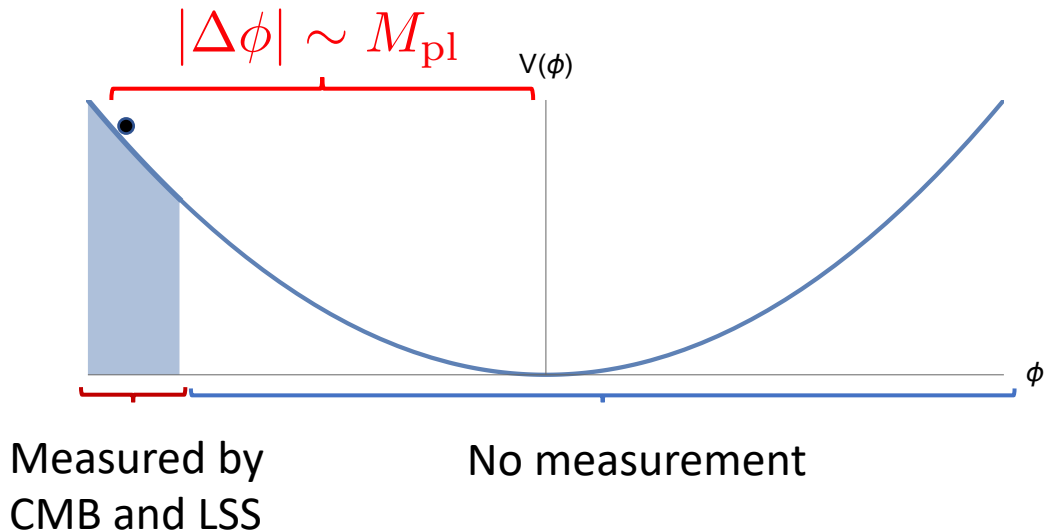
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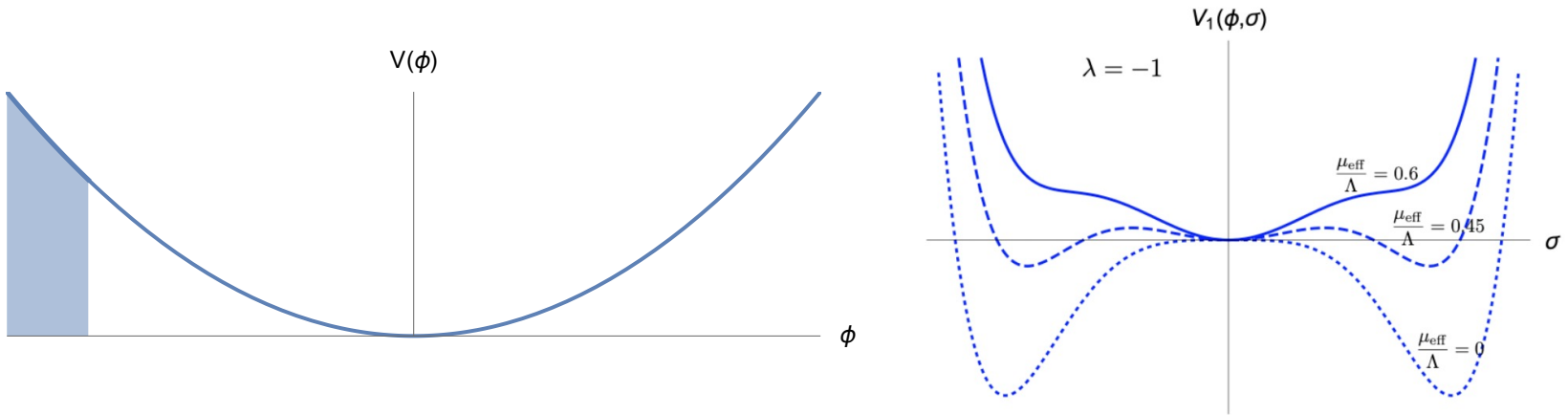
- The inflaton must couple to some spectator field.
- The masses or couplings in the spectator sector can be changed drastically due to the evolution of the inflaton field.

# Phase transitions in the spectator sector

•  $\phi$ : inflaton field

$\sigma$ : spectator field

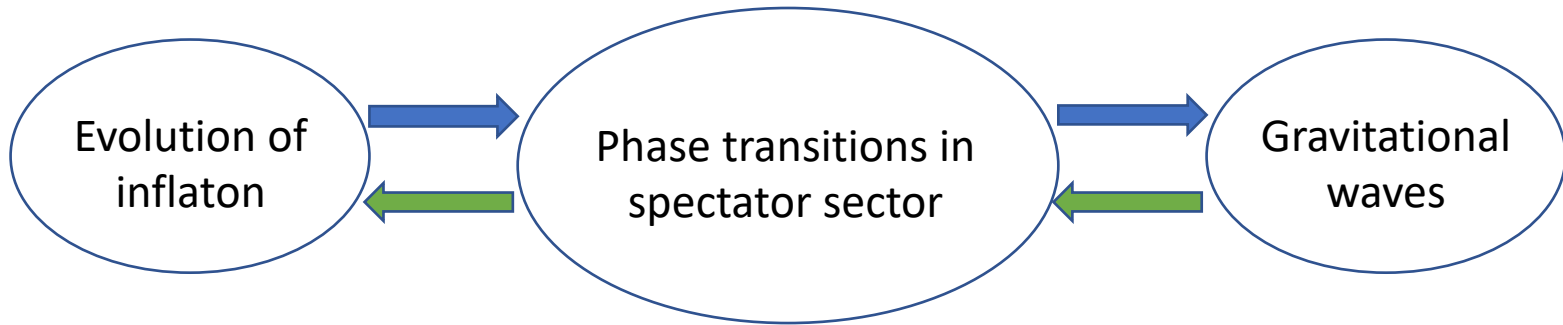
Example 1: 
$$V_1(\phi, \sigma) = -\frac{1}{2}(\mu^2 - c^2\phi^2)\sigma^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4}\sigma^4 + \frac{1}{8\Lambda^2}\sigma^6$$



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

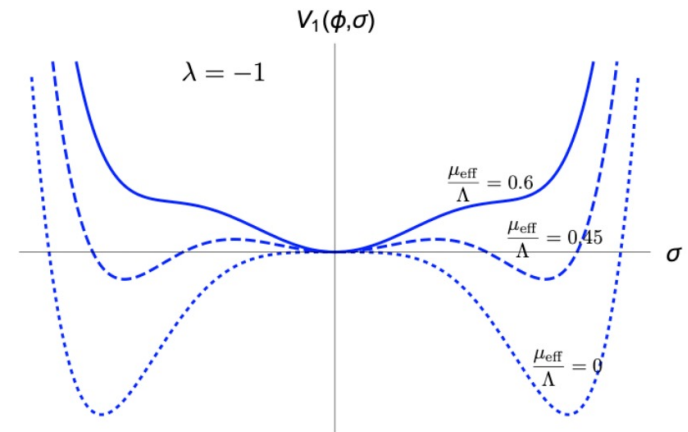
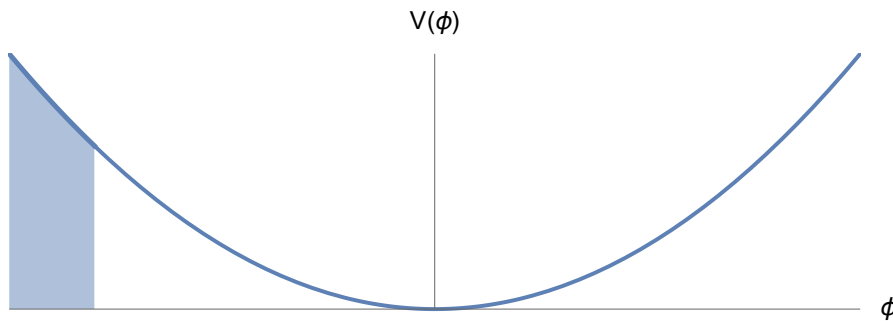


# Phase transitions in the spectator sector



$\phi$ : inflaton field

$\sigma$ : order parameter in the spectator sector



We focus on first-order phase transitions in this talk.

# Models of first order phase transition during inflation

- Models in the literature:
  - Open inflation  
K. Sugimura, D. Yamauchi, M. Sasaki, 1110.4773
  - GUT phase transition at the beginning of inflation  
H. Jiang, T. Liu, S. Sun, Y. Wang, 1512.07538
  - Obtained the correct UV behavior of the GW spectrum  
Y.-T. Wang, Y. Cai, Y.-S. Piao, 1801.03639

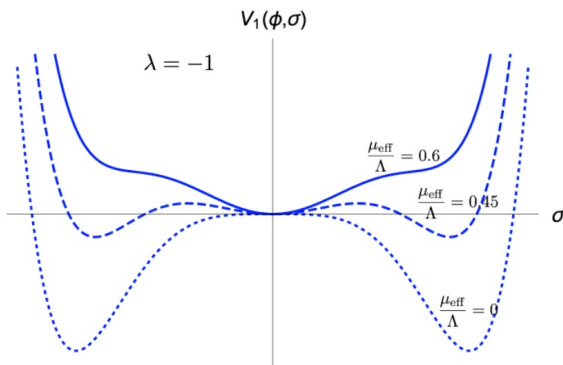
# Outline

- Conditions for first-order phase transitions to complete during inflation
- Properties of GWs from first-order phase transition during inflation
- Possible detections
- Summary and outlook

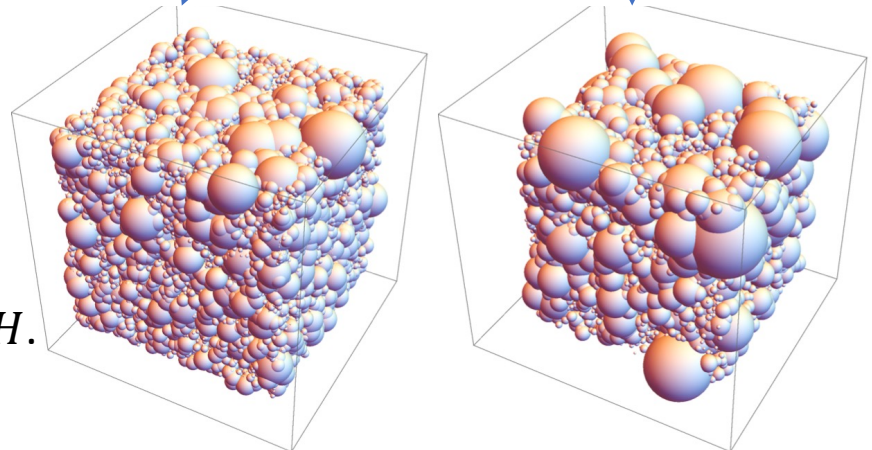
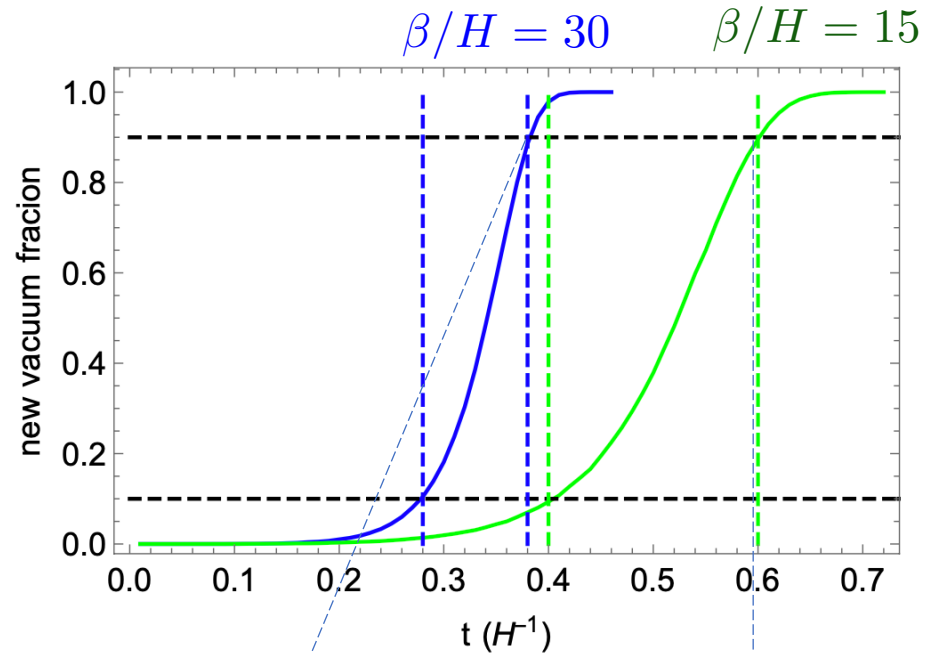
# First-order phase transition during inflation

$$\frac{\Gamma}{V} = I_0 m_\sigma^4 e^{-S_4}$$

$S_4$  becomes smaller during



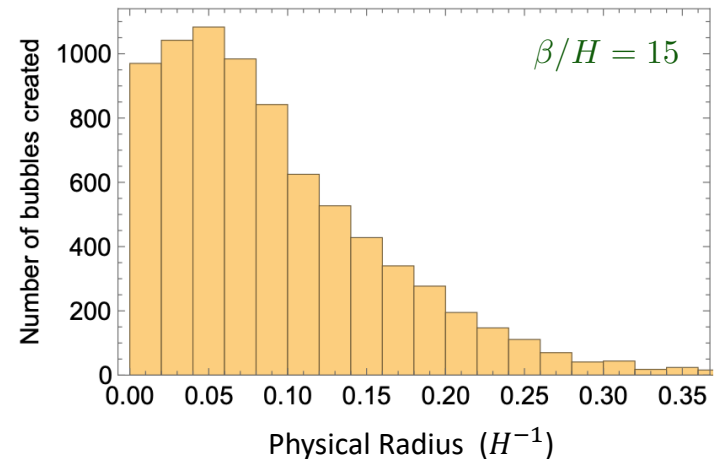
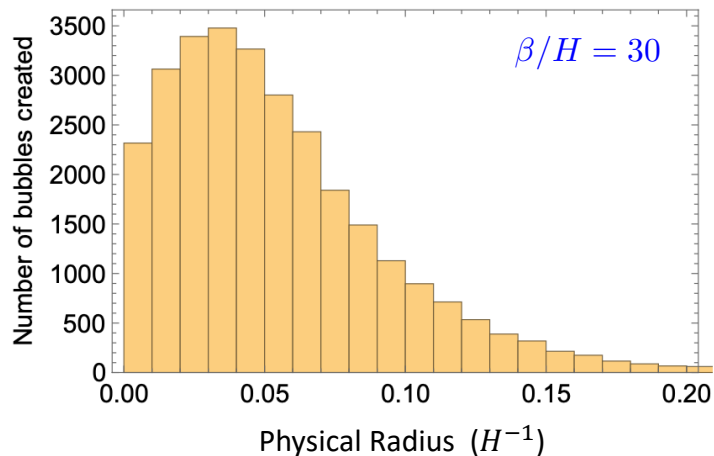
- $\beta = -\frac{dS_4}{dt}$ , determines the rate of the phase transition.
- Phase transition completes if  $\beta \gg H$ .



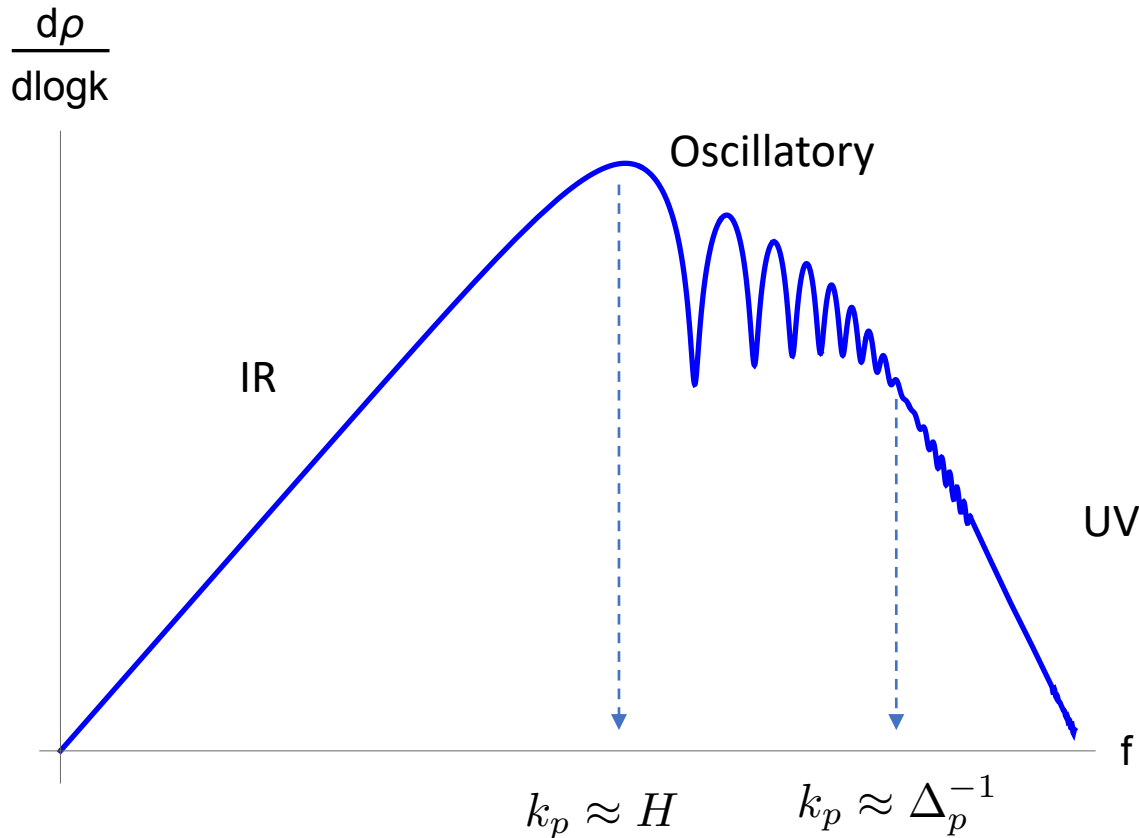
# First-order phase transition during inflation

- Bubble radius also determined by  $\beta$ .

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



# Generic features of GW spectrum



$k_p$ : Physical momentum when it is produced.  
 $\Delta_p$ : Duration of the phase transition.

# 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:  $G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}$ 
  - We solve the Green's function first. (instantaneous and local source)
  - We convolute the Green's function with the source.

# GW from instantaneous and local sources (qualitative study)

- E.O.M. of GW 
$$h''_{ij} + \frac{2a'}{a}h'_{ij} - \nabla^2 h_{ij} = 16\pi^2 G_N a^2 \sigma_{ij}$$

$$ds^2 = a^2(\tau) [-d\tau^2 + (\delta_{ij} + h_{ij})dx^i dx^j]$$

- For an instantaneous and local source, the source can be seen as delta function in both space and time.

$$\sigma_{ij} \sim \delta(\mathbf{x})\delta(\tau - \tau')$$

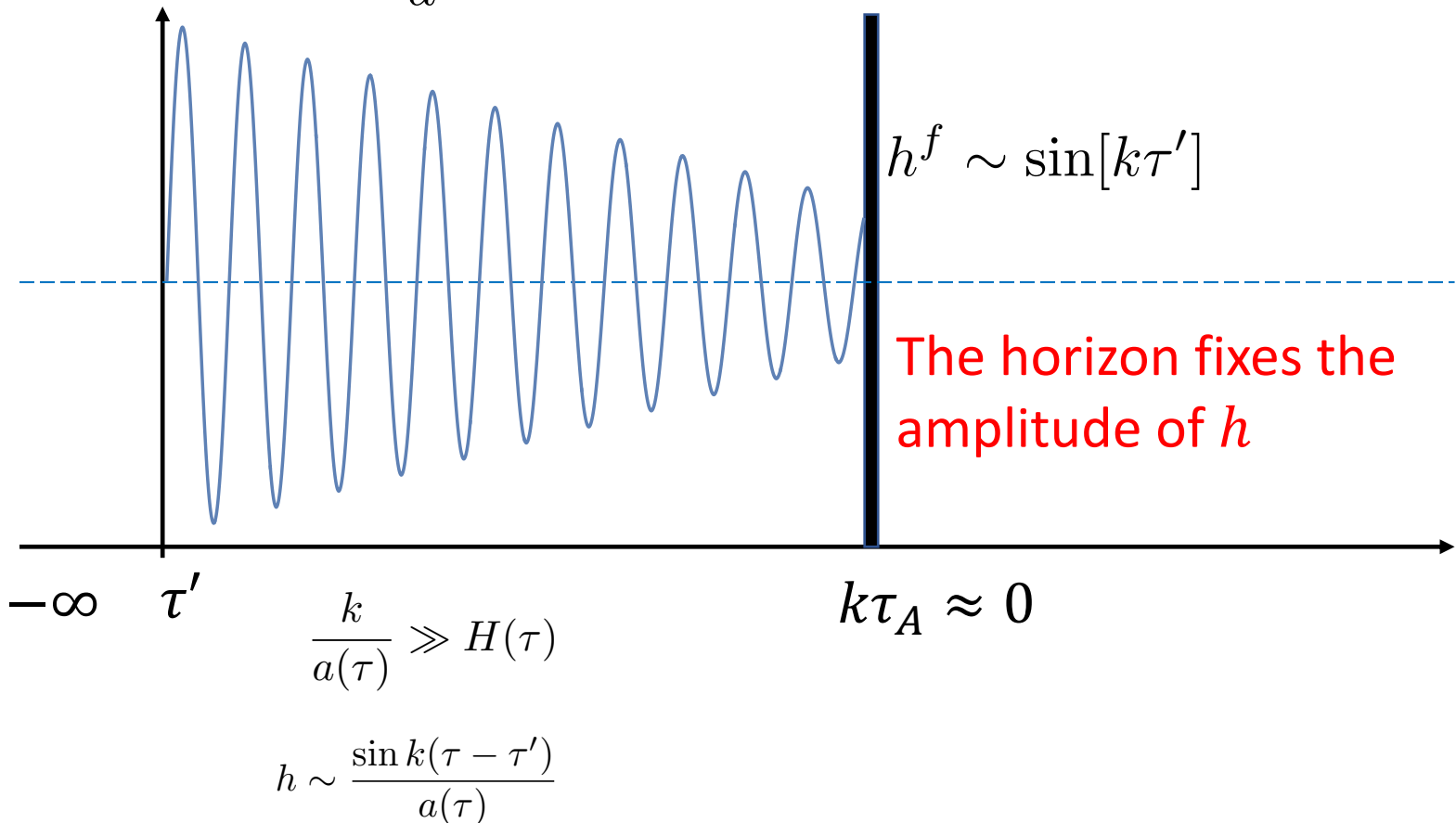
- E.O.M. in Fourier space

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



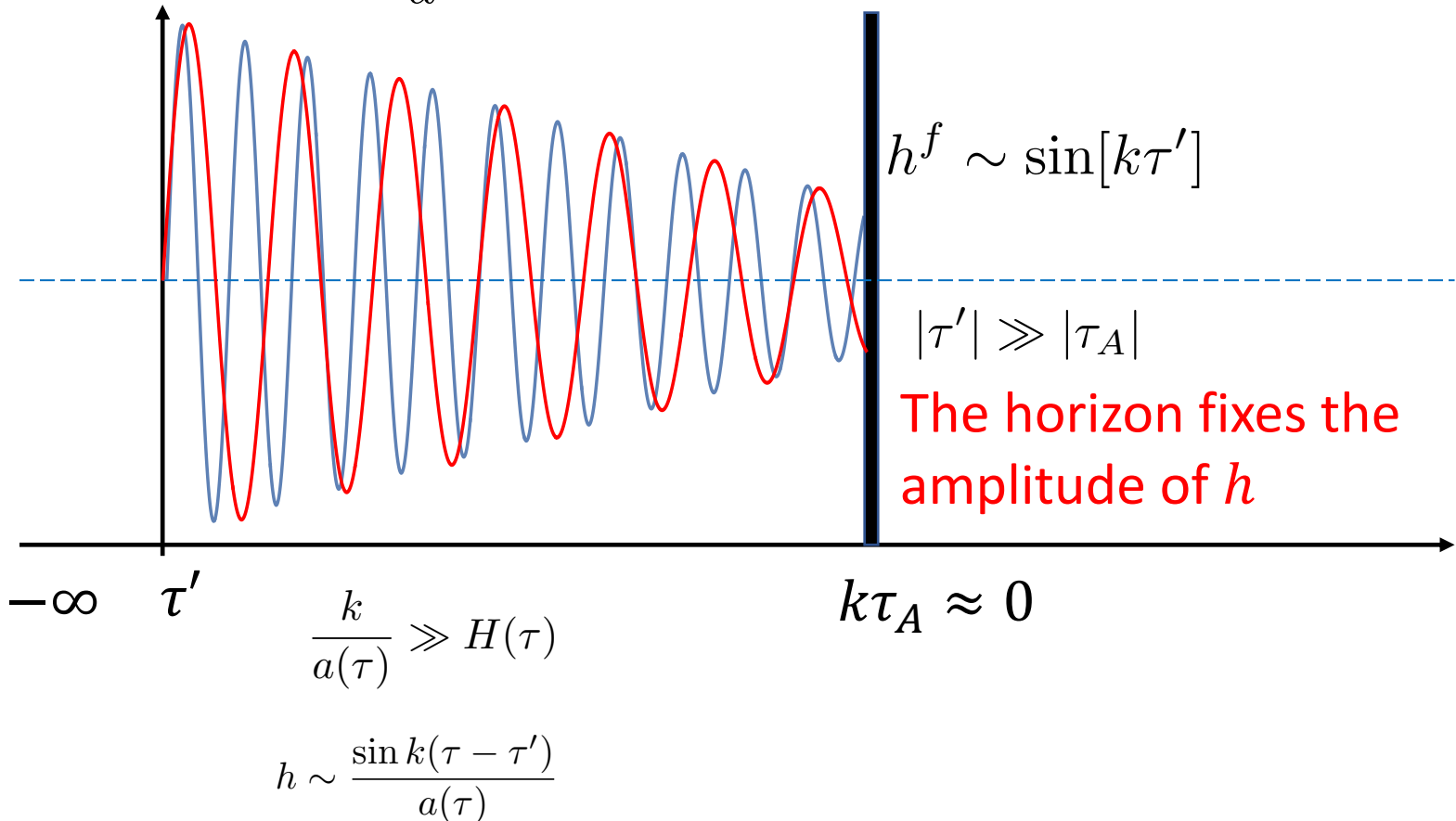
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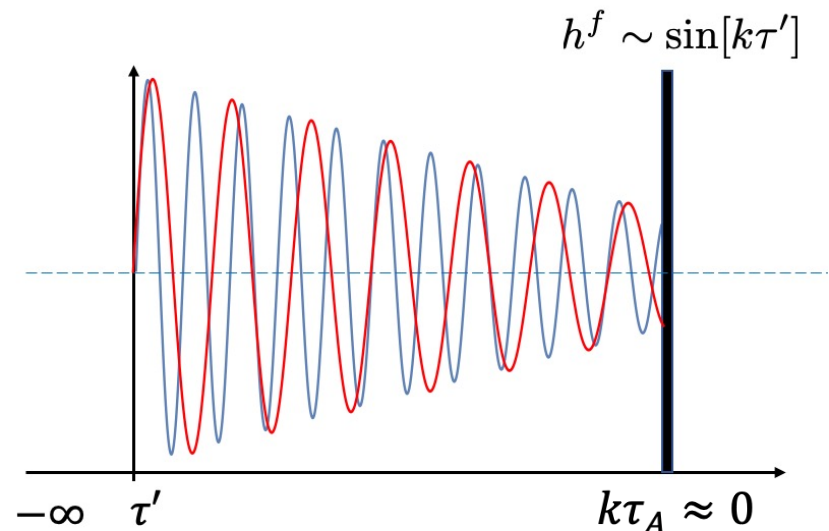
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# GW from instantaneous and local sources (qualitative study)

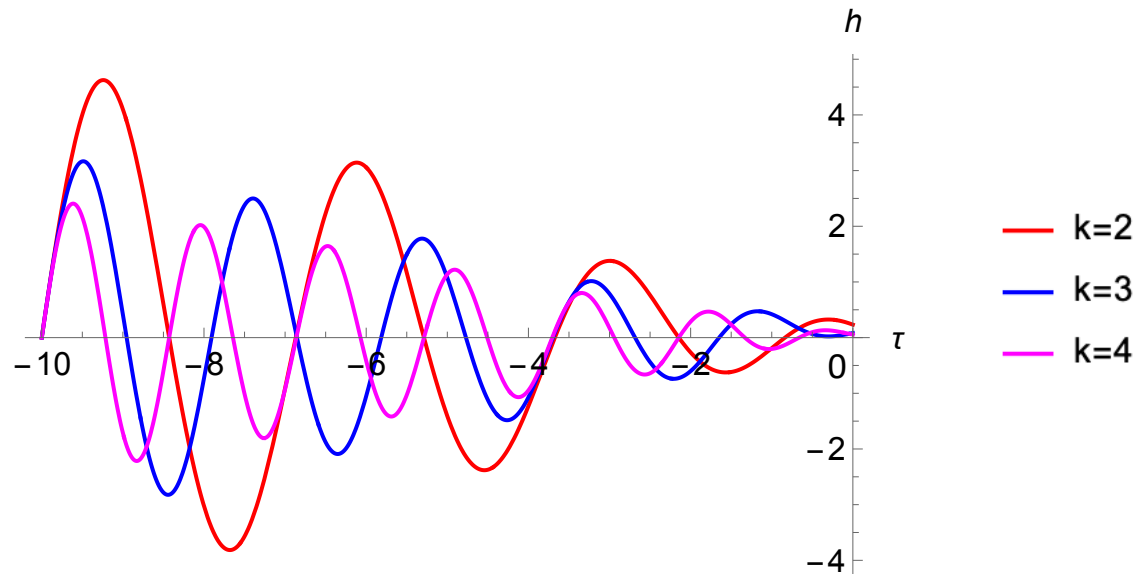
- The conformal time between the source and the horizon is fixed.
- The phase of  $h$  at the source is fixed.
- The value of  $h^f$  at the horizon oscillates with  $k$ .
- $h^f$  is the initial condition for later evolution.



# Quasi-de Sitter inflation as an example

- $$a = -\frac{1}{H\tau}$$

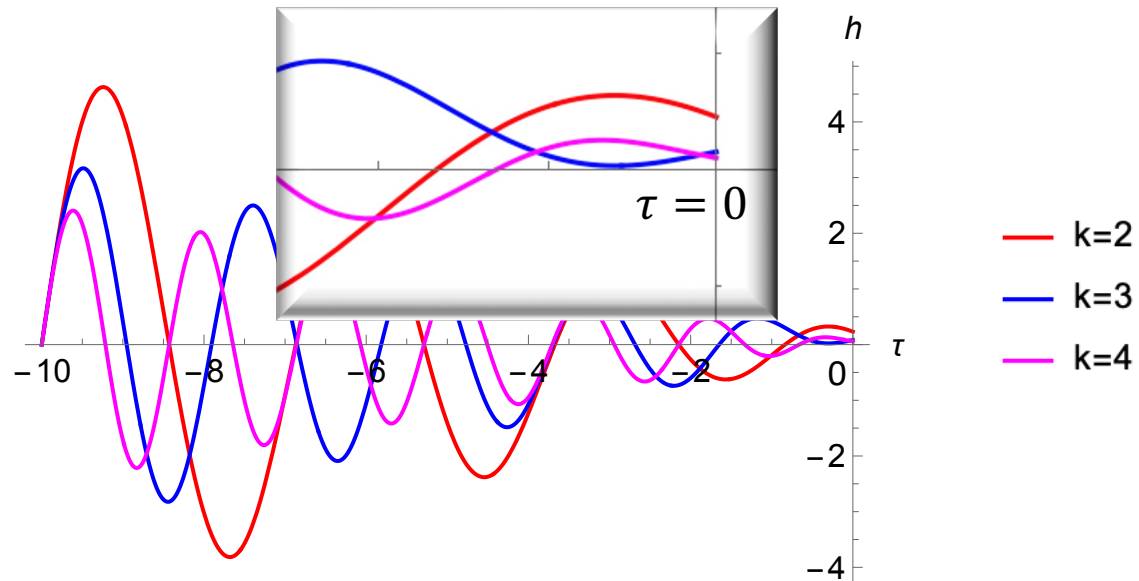
- $$h_{ij}(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = -\frac{16\pi G_N H T_{ij} \tau}{k} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{k\tau} - \frac{1}{k\tau'} \right) \cos k(\tau - \tau') + \left( 1 + \frac{1}{k^2 \tau \tau'} \right) \sin k(\tau - \tau') \right]$$



# De Sitter inflation as an example

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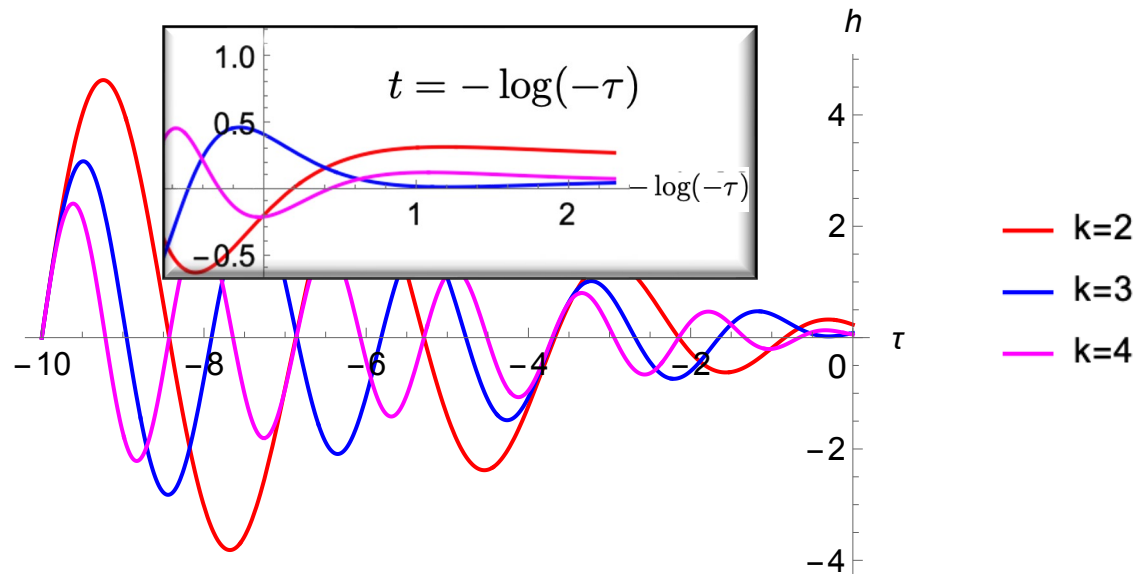
- $$h_{ij}(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = -\frac{16\pi G_N H T_{ij} \tau}{k} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{k\tau} - \frac{1}{k\tau'} \right) \cos k(\tau - \tau') + \left( 1 + \frac{1}{k^2 \tau \tau'} \right) \sin k(\tau - \tau') \right]$$



# De Sitter inflation as an example

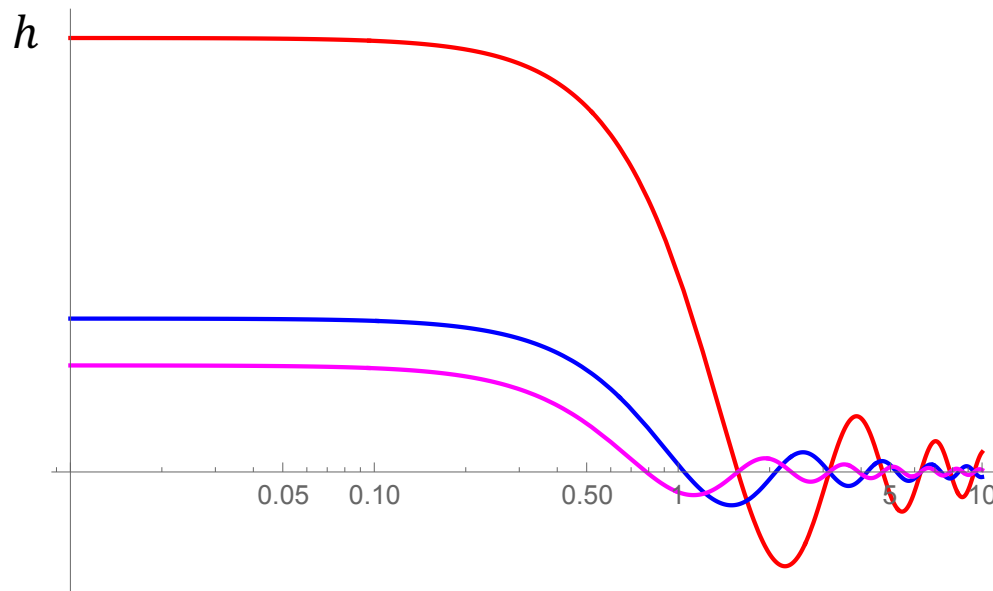
- $a = -\frac{1}{H\tau}$

- $$h_{ij}(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = -\frac{16\pi G_N H T_{ij} \tau}{k} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{k\tau} - \frac{1}{k\tau'} \right) \cos k(\tau - \tau') + \left( 1 + \frac{1}{k^2 \tau \tau'} \right) \sin k(\tau - \tau') \right]$$



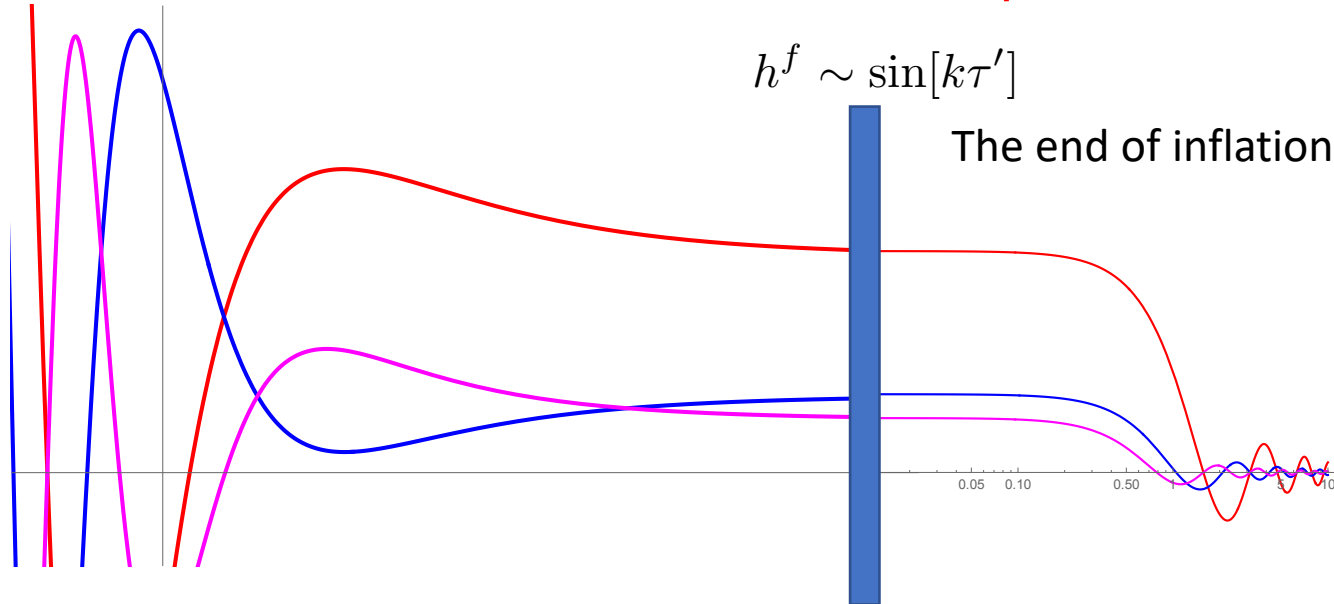
# After inflation

- $h^f(k)$  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  $\sin k\tau / k\tau$



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# Spectrum of GW from a real source

- $|k\tau'| > \eta_A$  (the mode produced inside horizon)
  - At the end of inflation

$$\tilde{h}_{ij}^f(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{16\pi G_N \tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f(k)}{k} \int d\tau' \tilde{T}_{ij}(\tau', \mathbf{k}_p) \cos[k(\tau - \tau')]$$

- After inflation (damped oscillation)

$$\tilde{h}_{ij}(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = \tilde{h}_{ij}^f(\mathbf{k}) \mathcal{E}(k\tau)$$

$$\mathcal{E}(\eta) = \tilde{\mathcal{E}}_0^i(k) a^{-1} \sin(\eta + \phi)$$

- $\rho_{\text{GW}} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_N a^2} \langle h'_{ij}{}^2(\tau, \mathbf{x}) \rangle$

# Generic features of GW spectrum

- Inflation models

- de Sitter inflation

$$\tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f \sim \frac{1}{k}$$

- $t^p$  inflation

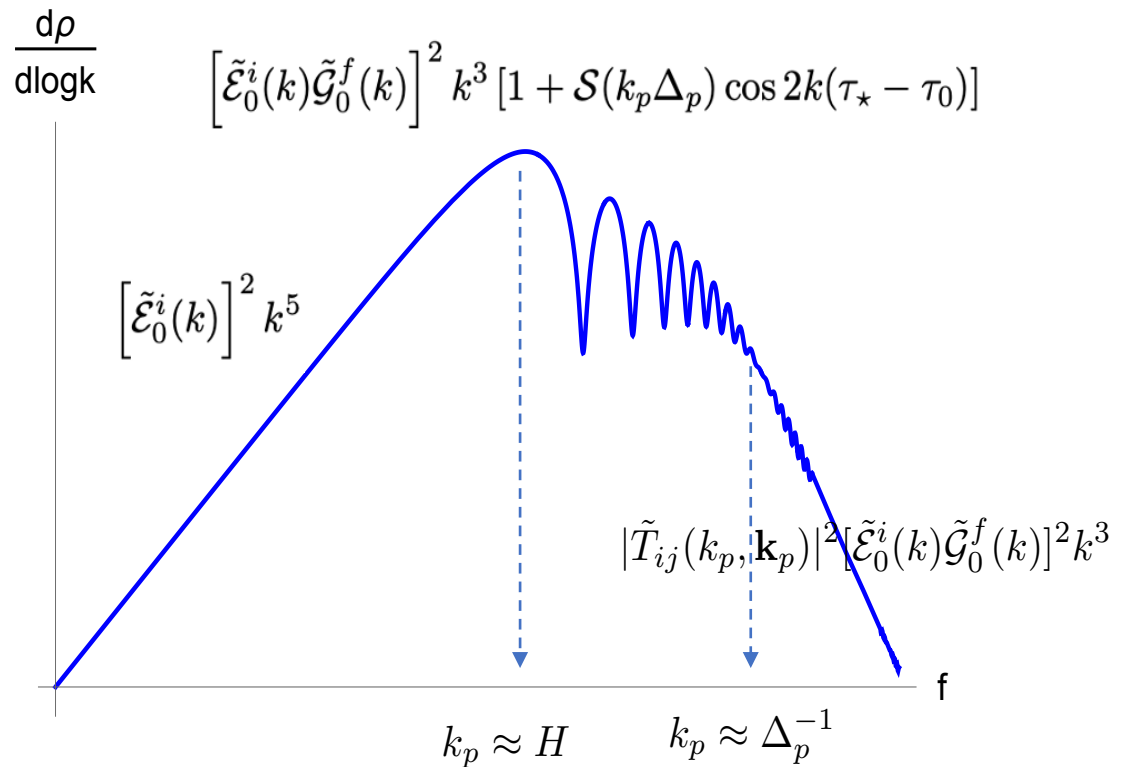
$$\tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f \sim k^{\frac{p}{1-p}}$$

- Evolution after inflation

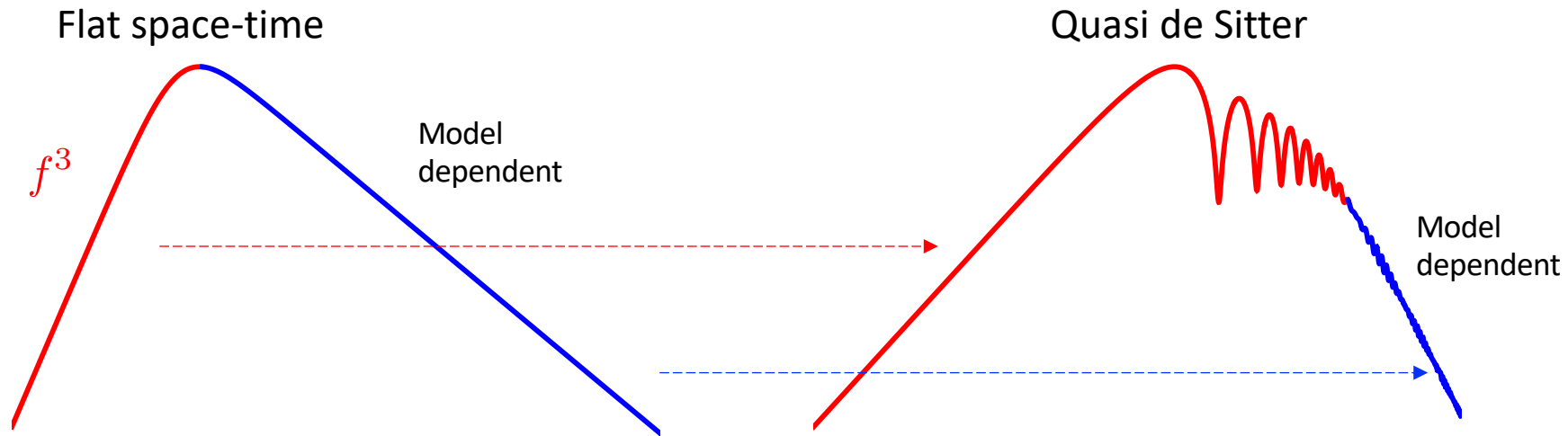
- In RD,  $\tilde{\mathcal{E}}_0^i \sim k^{-1}$

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

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

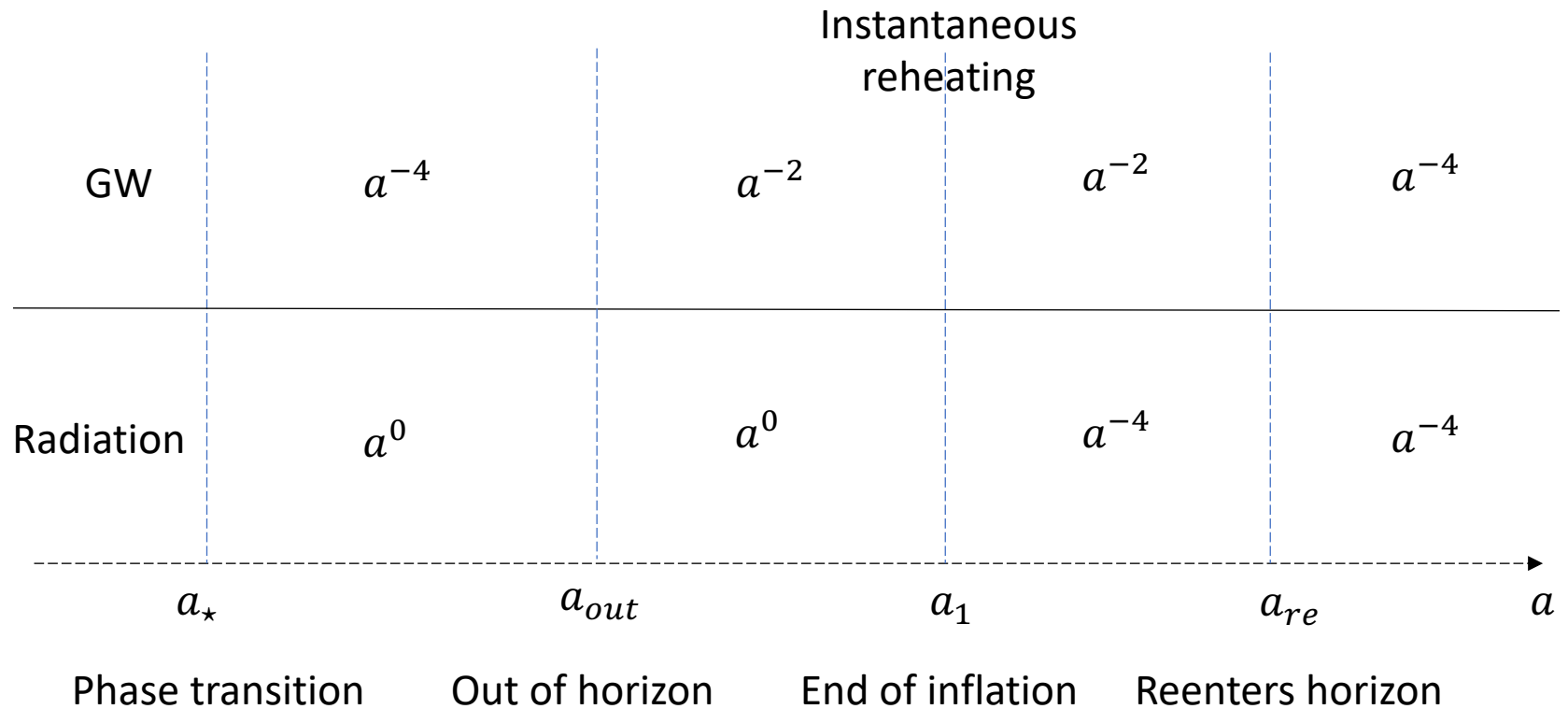


# Spectrum distortion by inflation

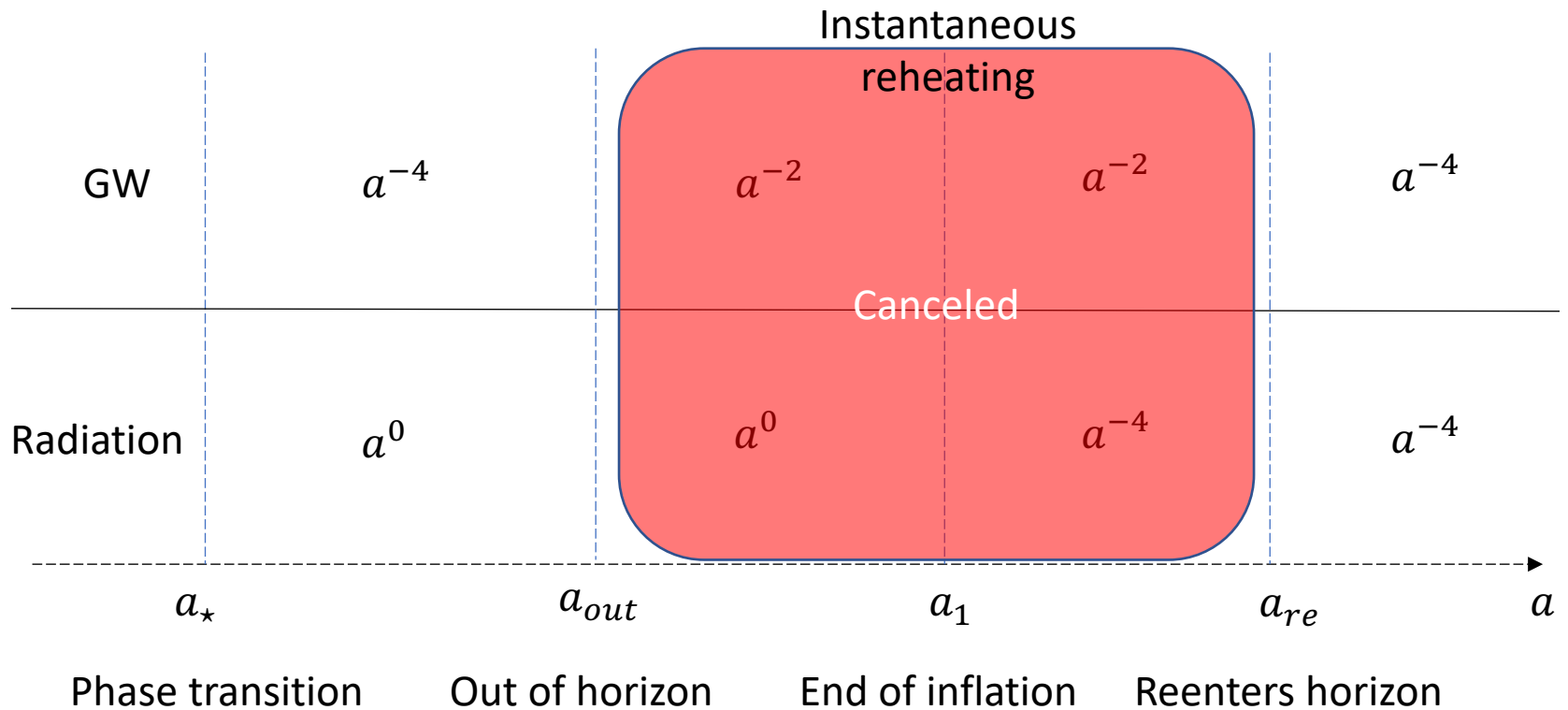


Cai, Pi, Sasaki, 1909.13728

# Redshifts of the GW signal

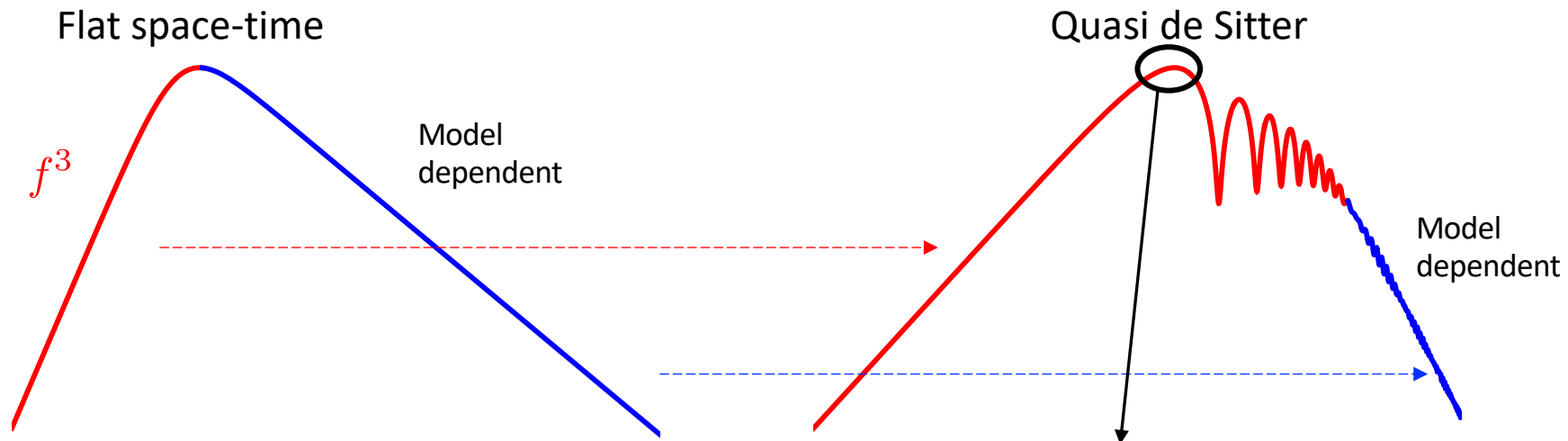


# Redshifts of the GW signal



$$\frac{\Omega_{\text{GW}}}{\Omega_{\gamma}} \sim \left( \frac{a_{\star}}{a_{\text{out}}} \right)^4 \sim \left( \frac{H}{\beta} \right)^4$$

# Spectrum distortion by inflation



$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_{\text{GW}} &\approx \Omega_R \left( \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{\beta} \right)^5 \left( \frac{\Delta\rho_{\text{vac}}}{\rho_{\text{inf}}} \right)^2 \\ &\approx 10^{-12} \times \left( \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{0.1\beta} \right)^5 \left( \frac{\Delta\rho_{\text{vac}}}{0.1\rho_{\text{inf}}} \right)^2 \\ &\approx 10^{-17} \times \left( \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{0.01\beta} \right)^5 \left( \frac{\Delta\rho_{\text{vac}}}{0.1\rho_{\text{inf}}} \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

# First order phase transition during inflation

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

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(k_{\text{today}}) = \Omega_R \frac{H_{\text{inf}}^4}{k_p^4} \left[ \frac{1}{2} + \mathcal{S}(k_p \beta^{-1}) \cos\left(\frac{2k_p}{H_{\text{inf}}}\right) \right] \left(\frac{\Delta\rho_{\text{vac}}}{\rho_{\text{inf}}}\right)^2 \frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}^{\text{flat}}}{\Delta\rho_{\text{vac}} d \log k_p}$$

Dilution factor

Smearing

Suppressed by  
the energy  
fraction

Redshift

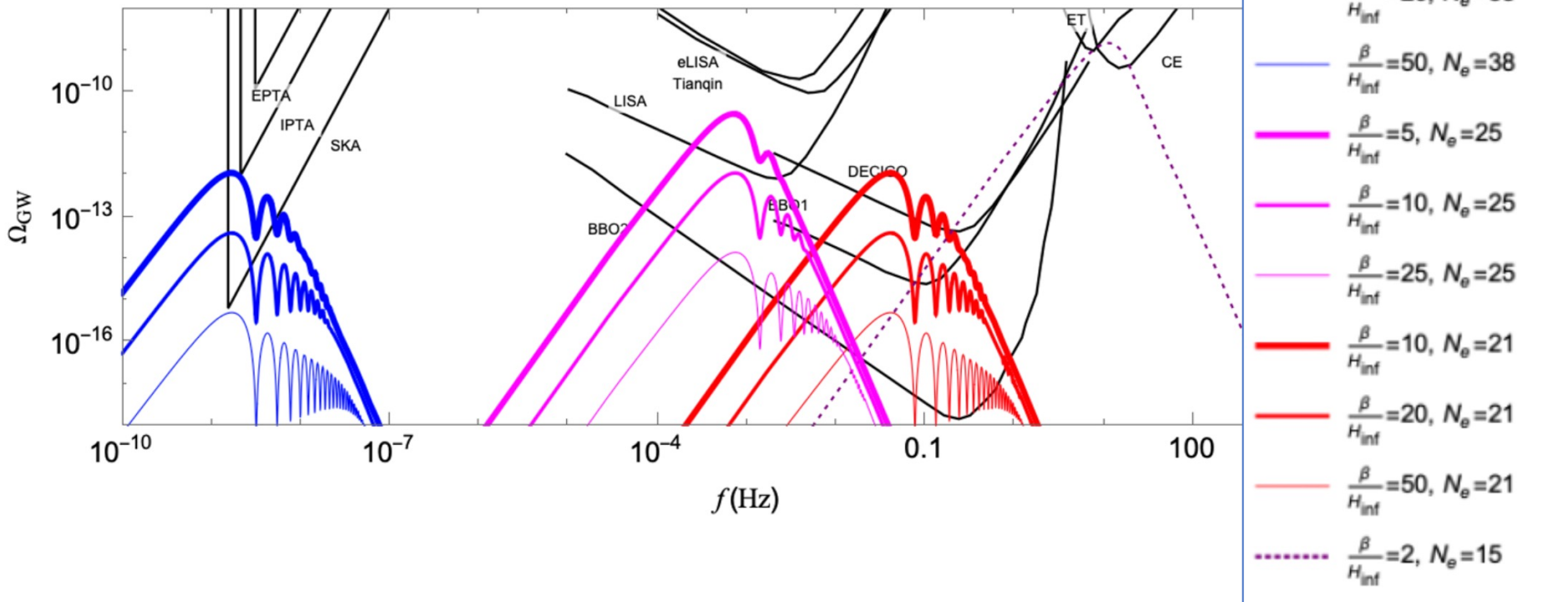
$$\frac{f_{\text{today}}}{f_{\star}} = \frac{a(\tau_{\star})}{a_1} \left( \frac{g_{*S}^{(0)}}{g_{*S}^{(R)}} \right)^{1/3} \frac{T_{\text{CMB}}}{\left[ \left( \frac{30}{g_{*}^{(R)} \pi^2} \right) \left( \frac{3H_{\text{inf}}^2}{8\pi G_N} \right) \right]^{1/4}}$$

$e^{-N_e}$

$N_e$ : e-folds before the end of inflation

# First order phase transition during inflation

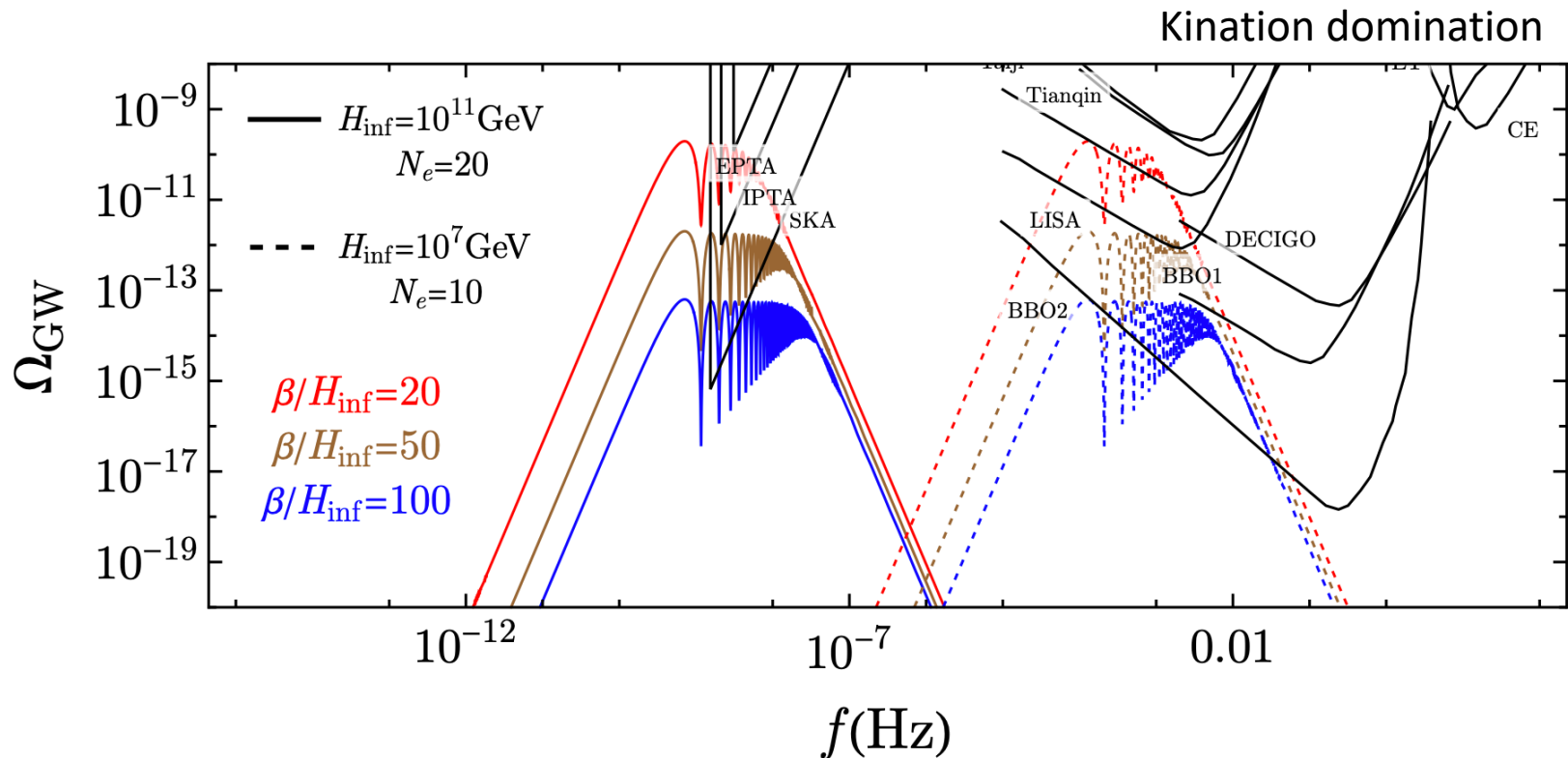
- Primordial stochastic GW signals  $H_{\text{inf}} = 10^{12}$  GeV  
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{vac}}/\rho_{\text{inf}} = 0.3$



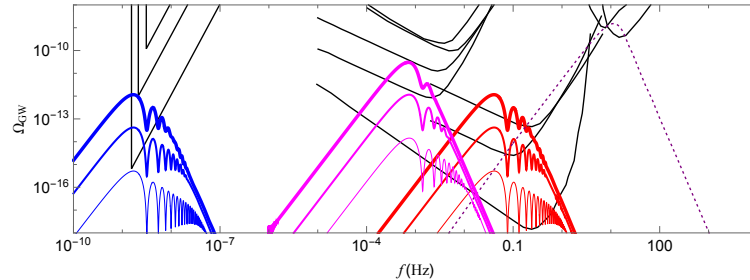


# First order phase transition during inflation

- Signal strength is also sensitive to intermediate stages



# Summary



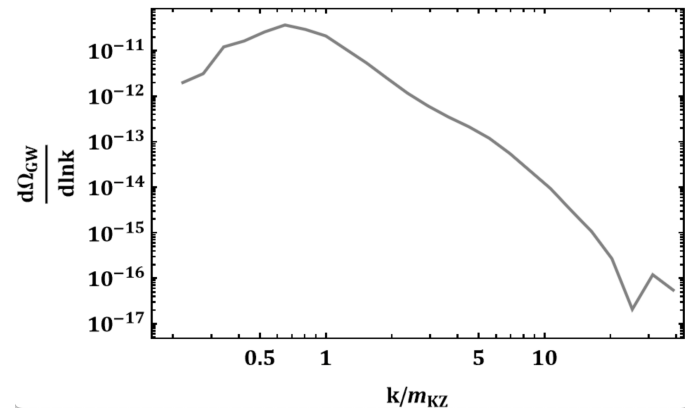
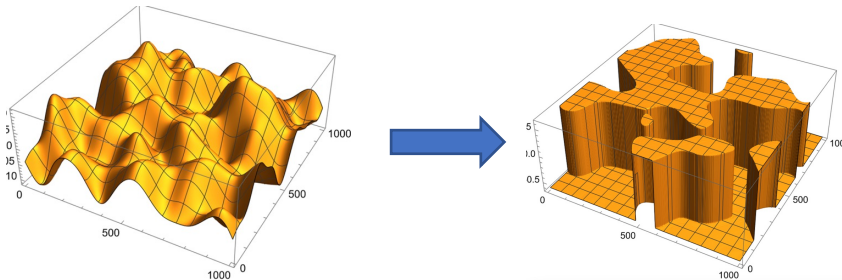
- First-order phase transitions can happen in a spectator sector during inflation.
- We show that there is an oscillatory feature in the spectrum.
- The slopes of the spectrum can tell us information about the inflation model and evolution of the universe when the modes re-enter the horizon.
- If we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

# Outlook

- Back reaction to the inflaton field  $\sigma \rightarrow \delta\phi$ 
  - Primordial black holes from first-order phase transition during inflation
  - Secondary GWs from  $\delta\phi$
- GWs from second-order phase transition during inflation
  - Collision of pseudo-bubbles
  - Topological defects

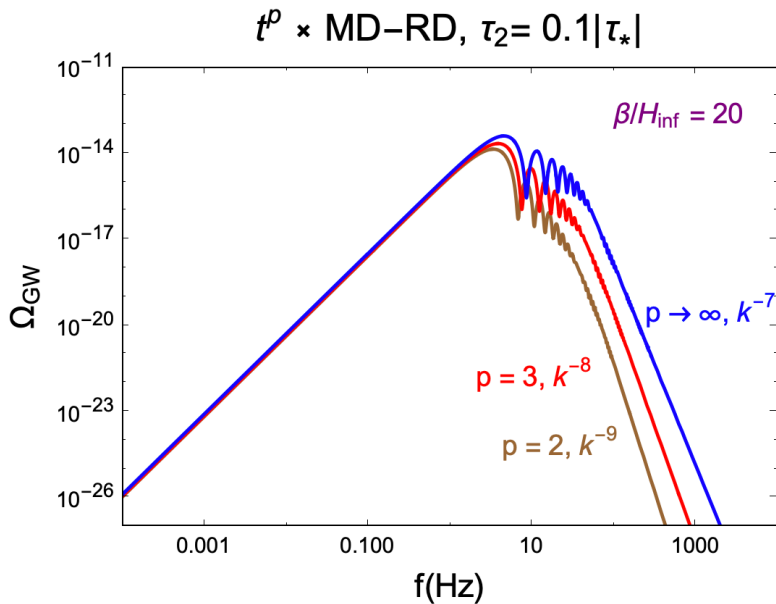
with Boye Su, Hanwen Tai, Xi Tong,  
Liantao Wang, Chen Yang, Siyi Zhou

with Tingyu Li and Chen Yang



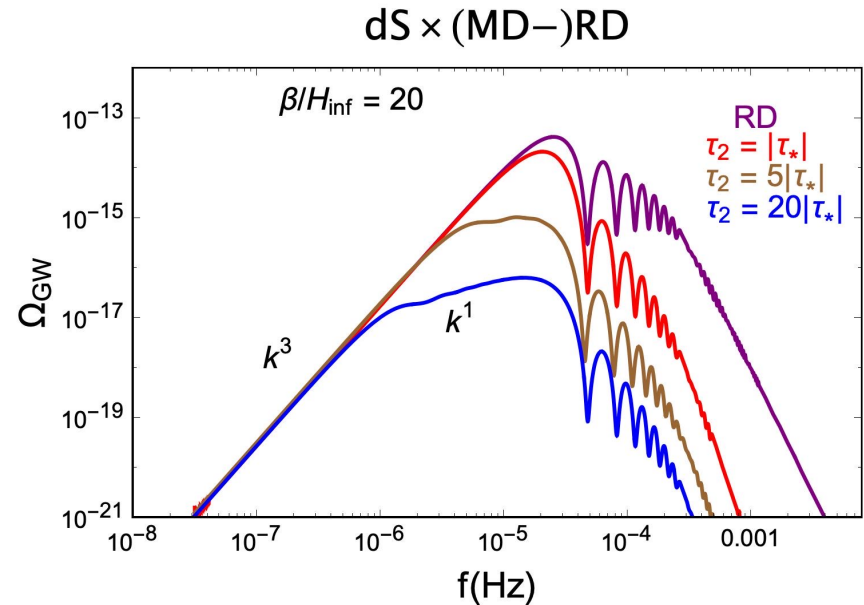
# Backups

# Comparing scenarios



Different inflation scenarios

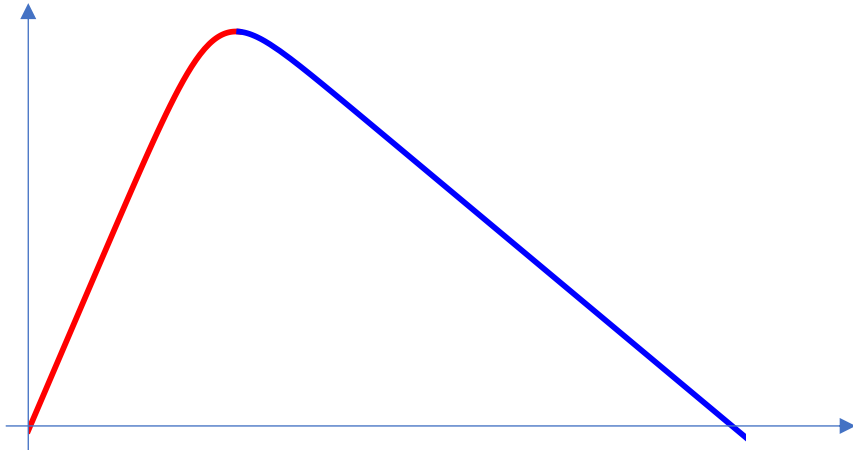
➔ Different slopes in the UV and oscillatory parts



Temporary MD between inflation and RD

$\tau_2$ : MD-RD transition

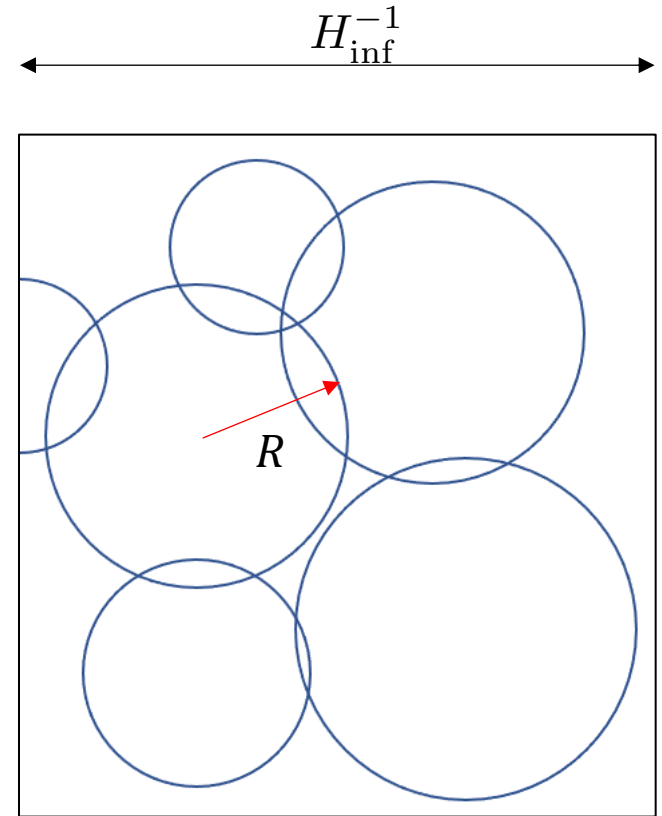
# GWs produced in flat space-time



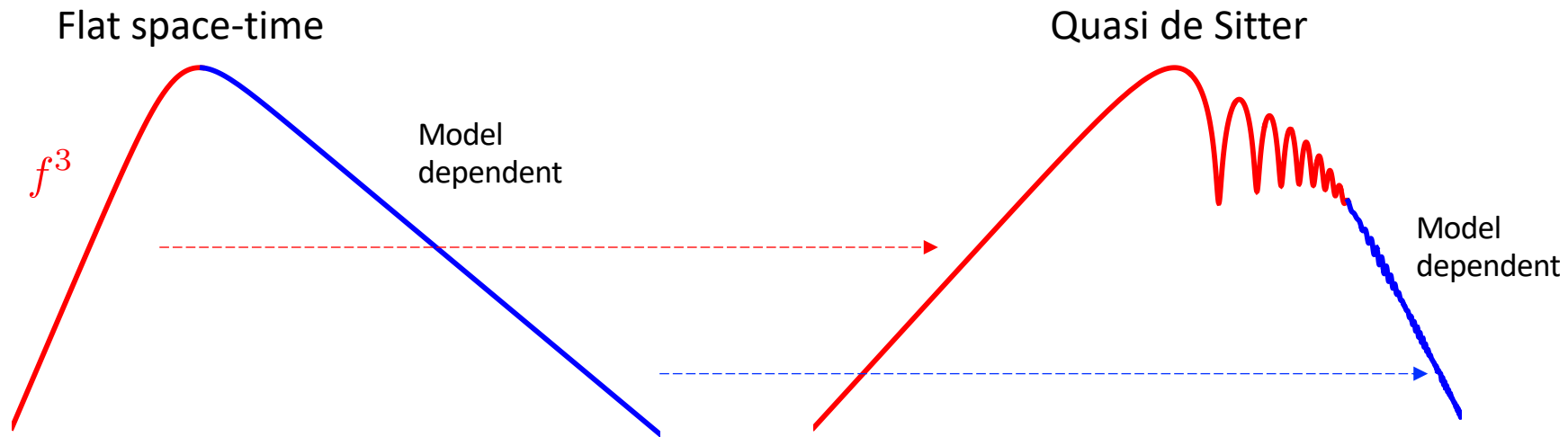
$$\frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}^{\text{flat}}}{\Delta\rho_{\text{vac}} d \log k_p} \approx \left( \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{\beta} \right)^2 \times \frac{\beta k_p^{2.8}}{\beta^{3.8} + 2.8 k_p^{3.8}}$$

*Huber and Konstandin, 0806.1828*

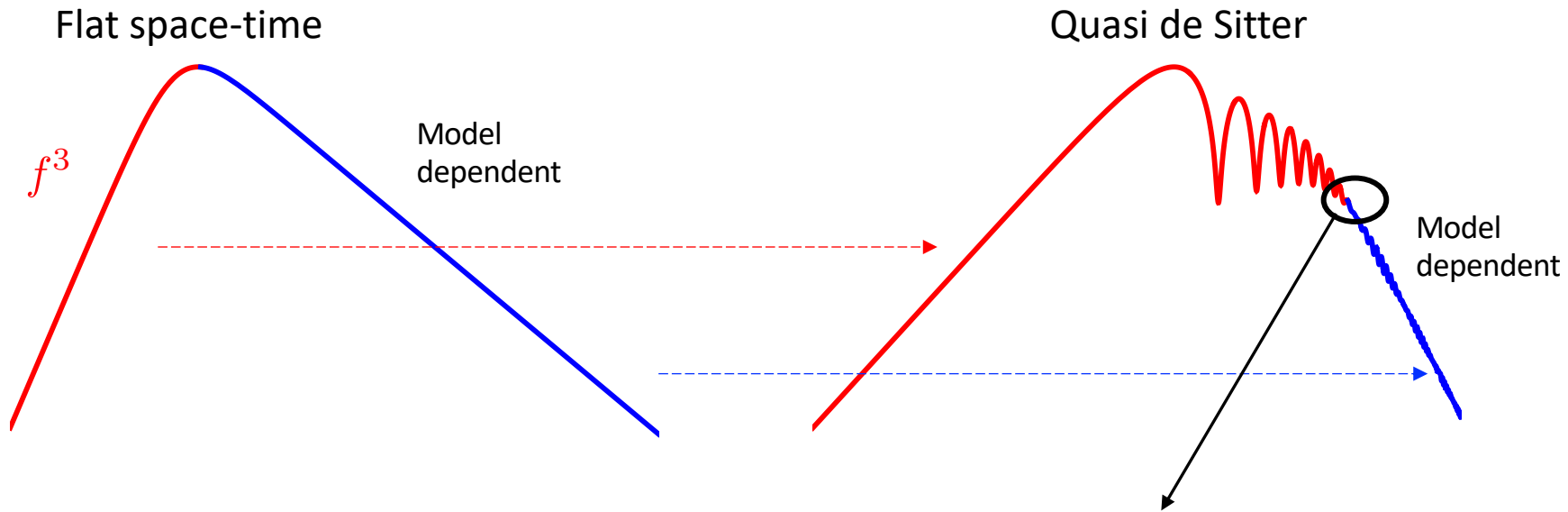
$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}^{(0)} \approx \Omega_R \left( \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{\beta} \right)^2 \frac{\beta k_p^{2.8}}{\beta^{3.8} + 2.8 k_p^{3.8}}$$



# Spectrum distortion by inflation



# Spectrum distortion by inflation

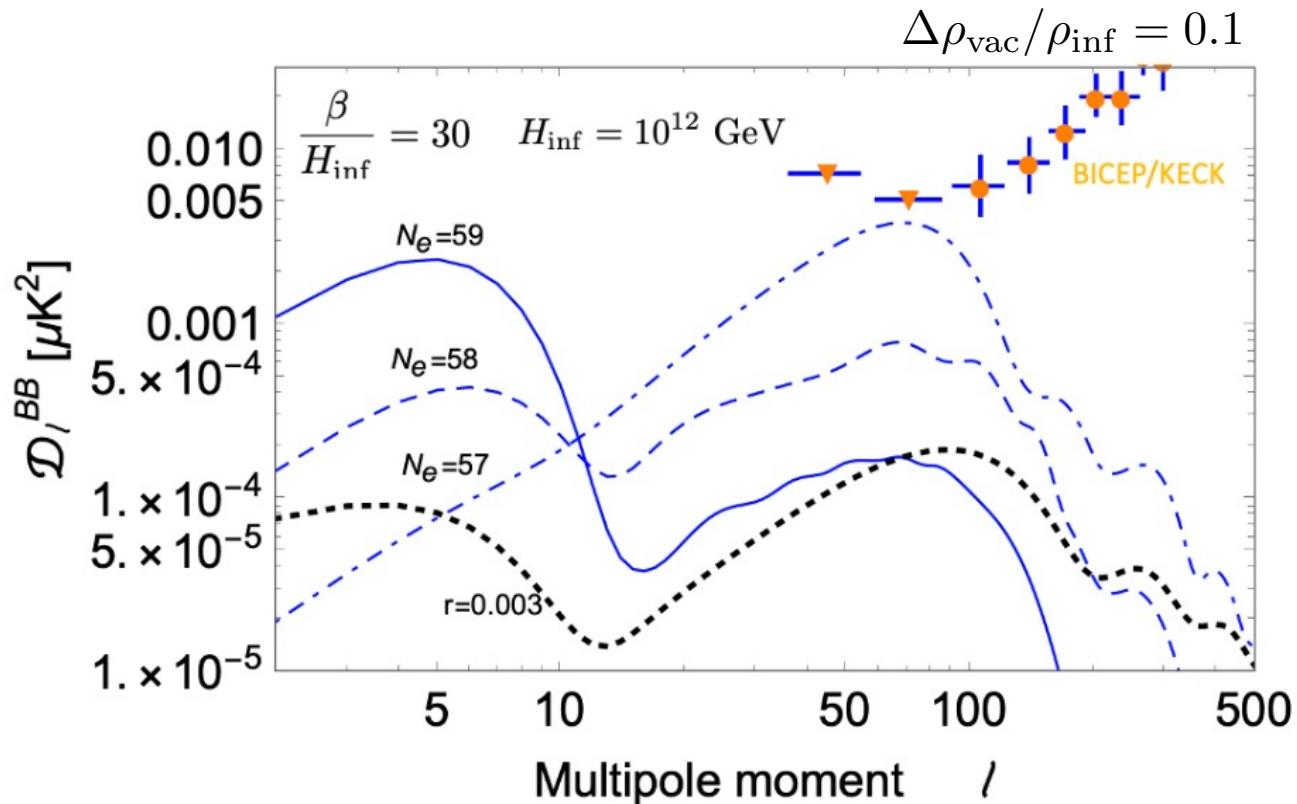


$$\Omega_{\text{GW}} \approx \Omega_R \left( \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{\beta} \right)^6 \left( \frac{\Delta\rho_{\text{vac}}}{\rho_{\text{inf}}} \right)^2$$



# First order phase transition during inflation

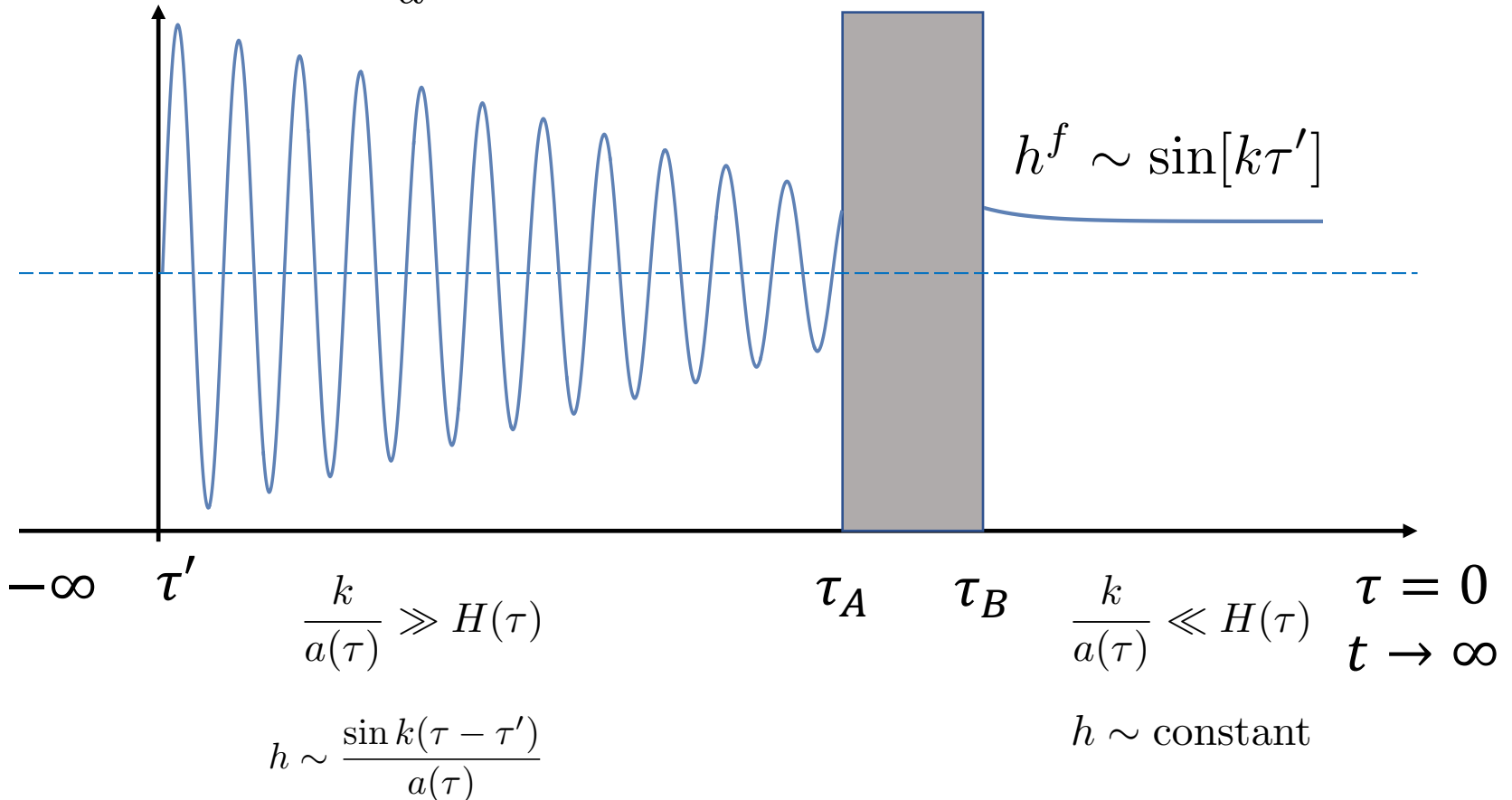
- CMB B modes



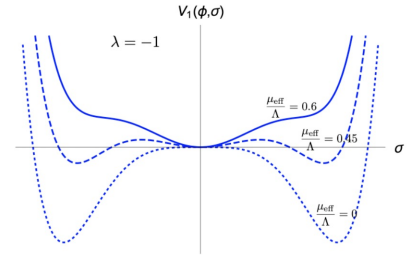
Simulation with the CLASS package.

# GW from instantaneous and local sources (qualitative study)

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



# 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:

$$S_4 \sim \log \left( \frac{\phi H m_\sigma^4}{\dot{\phi} H^4} \right) \sim \log \left( \frac{\phi m_\sigma^4}{\epsilon^{1/2} M_{\text{pl}} H^4} \right)$$

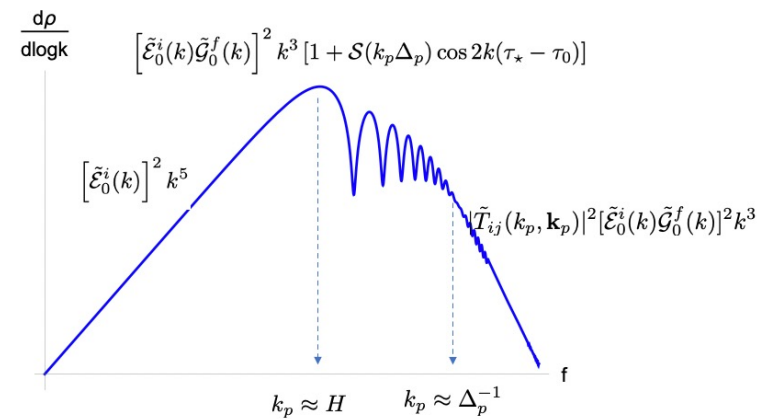
- First order phase transition:  $S_4 \gg 1 \quad \longrightarrow \quad H^4 \ll m_\sigma^4$

- Total energy density dominated by the inflaton sector:

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

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


# Summary



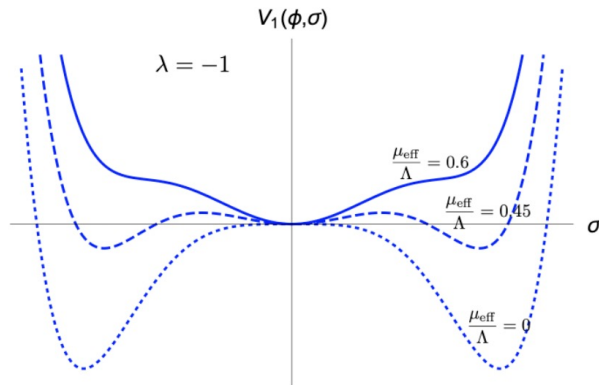
- We study the features of classical GWs produced from instantaneous sources during inflation.
- We show that there is an oscillatory feature in the spectrum.
- The slopes of the spectrum can tell us information about the inflation model and evolution of the universe when the modes re-enter the horizon.
- 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.

# First order phase transition during inflation

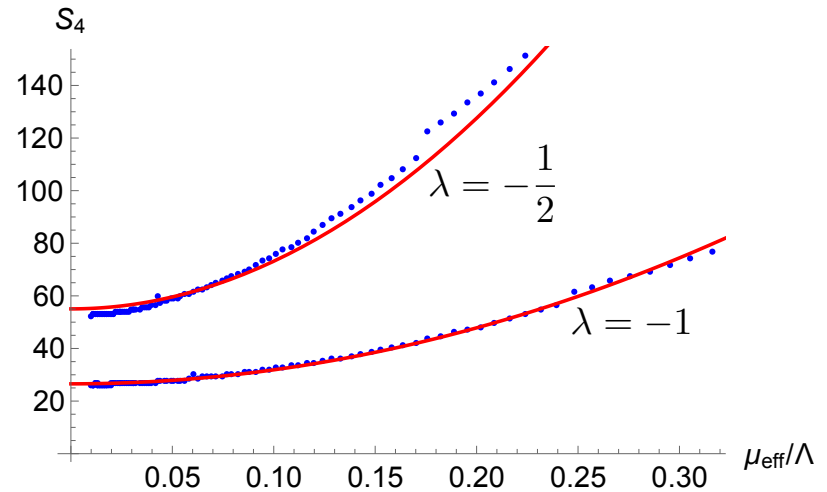
- $$\beta = \left| \frac{dS_4}{dt} \right| = \frac{dS_4}{d \log \mu_{\text{eff}}^2} \times \left| \frac{2\dot{\phi}}{\phi \left( 1 - \frac{\mu^2}{c^2 \phi^2} \right)} \right| \quad \mu_{\text{eff}}^2 = -(\mu^2 - c^2 \phi^2)$$



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




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



CosmoTransitions

# First order phase transition during inflation

- $$\beta = \left| \frac{dS_4}{dt} \right| = \frac{dS_4}{d \log \mu_{\text{eff}}^2} \times \left| \frac{2\dot{\phi}}{\phi \left( 1 - \frac{\mu^2}{c^2 \phi^2} \right)} \right| \quad \mu_{\text{eff}}^2 = -(\mu^2 - c^2 \phi^2)$$



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

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

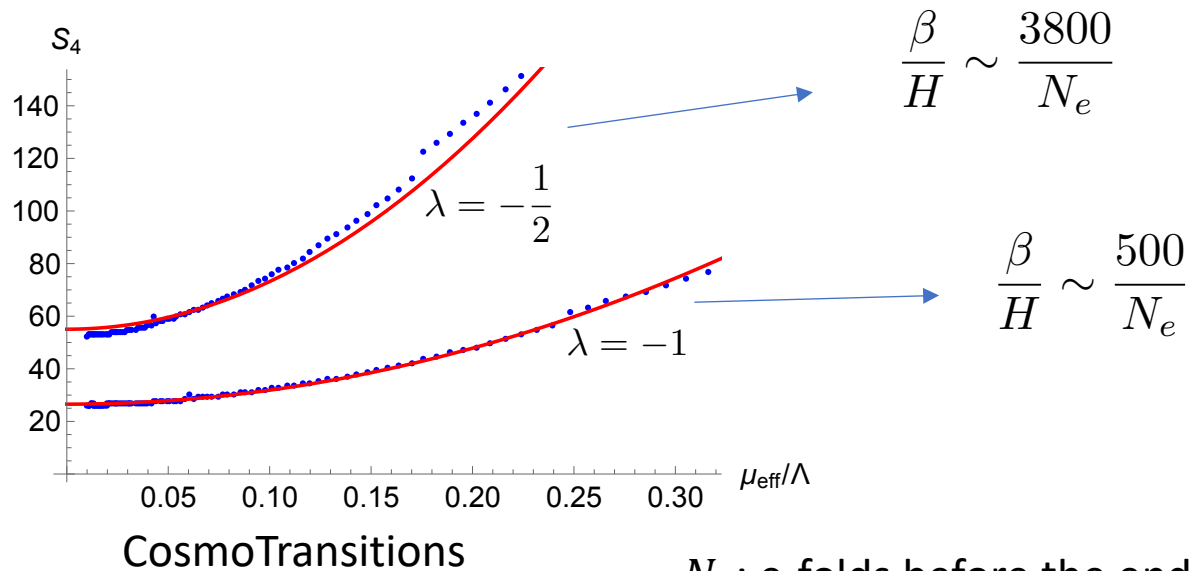
$$\int_{\phi_{\text{end}}}^{\phi_{\text{PT}}} \frac{d\phi}{\sqrt{2\epsilon} M_{\text{pl}}} = N_e$$

$$\frac{\beta}{H} \sim \left| \frac{dS_4}{d \log \mu_{\text{eff}}^2} \right| \times \frac{\Lambda^2}{\mu_{\text{eff}}^2} \times \frac{1}{N_e}$$

$N_e$ : e-fold before the end of the inflation.

# First order phase transition during inflation

- $$\frac{\beta}{H} \sim \left| \frac{dS_4}{d \log \mu_{\text{eff}}^2} \right| \times \frac{\Lambda^2}{\mu_{\text{eff}}^2} \times \frac{1}{N_e}$$



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

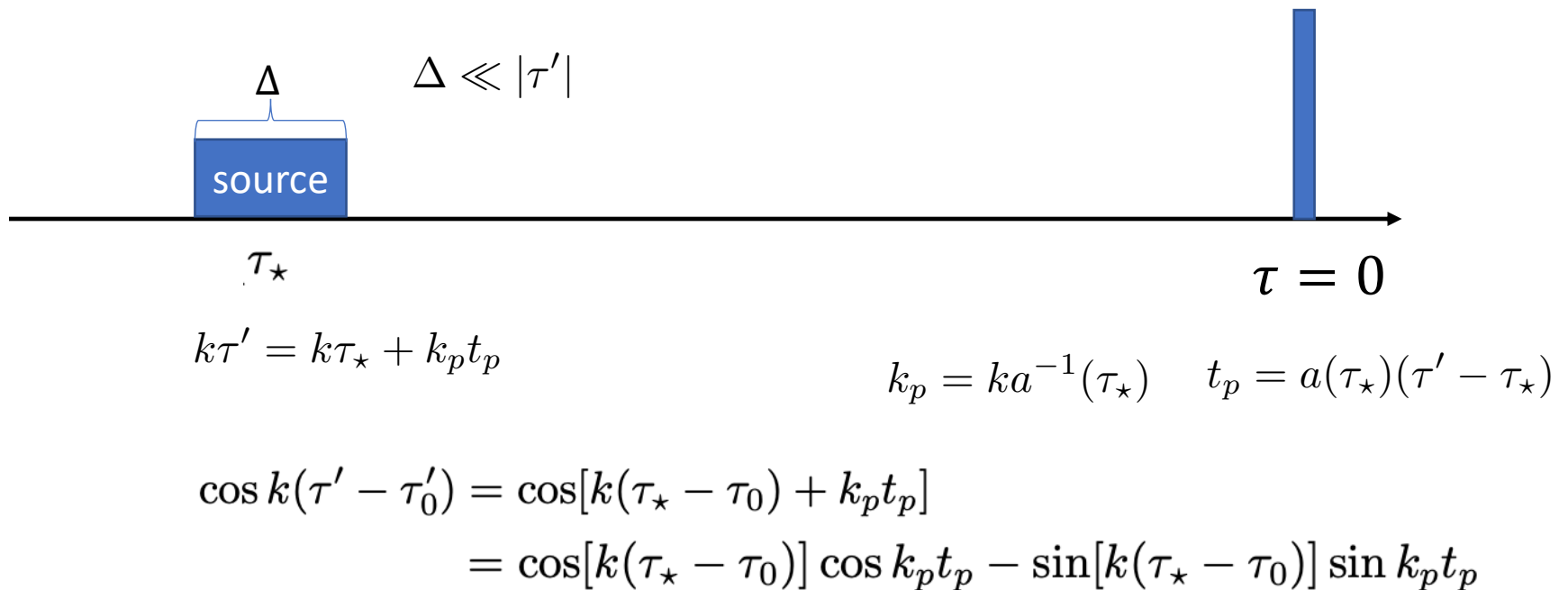
# Outline

- Motivations
- GWs from an instantaneous source during inflation
- **GWs from a source with finite duration during inflation**
- GWs from first order phase transition during inflation
- Summary



# Generic features of GW spectrum

- Instantaneous source



# Generic features of GW spectrum

- $k_p \ll \Delta_p^{-1}$        $\cos k_p t_p \rightarrow 1$  ,    $\sin k_p t_p \rightarrow 0$

$$\rho_{\text{GW}}(\tau) = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{8\pi G_N \left[ \tilde{\mathcal{E}}_0^i(k) \tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f(k) \right]^2}{V a^4(\tau) a^2(\tau_\star)} \cos^2 k(\tau_\star - \tau_0) \tilde{T}_{ij}(0, \mathbf{k}_p) \tilde{T}_{ij}^*(0, \mathbf{k}_p)$$

$$\tilde{T}_{ij}(0, \mathbf{k}_p) = \int dt_p \tilde{T}_{ij}(\tau, \mathbf{k}_p)$$

$\langle \tilde{T}_{ij} \tilde{T}_{ij}^* \rangle_{k_p \ll \Delta_p^{-1}}$  independent of  $k$ .      Cai, Pi and Sasaki, 1909.13728

- $k\Delta \ll 1 \ll |k\tau_\star|$ , an oscillating feature in the GW spectrum

$$\frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}}{d \log k} = \frac{4G_N |\tilde{T}_{ij}(0, 0)|^2}{\pi^2 V a^4(\tau) a^2(\tau_\star)} \left\{ \left[ \tilde{\mathcal{E}}_0^i(k) \tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f(k) \right]^2 k^3 \cos^2 k(\tau_\star - \tau_0) \right\}$$

# Generic features of GW spectrum

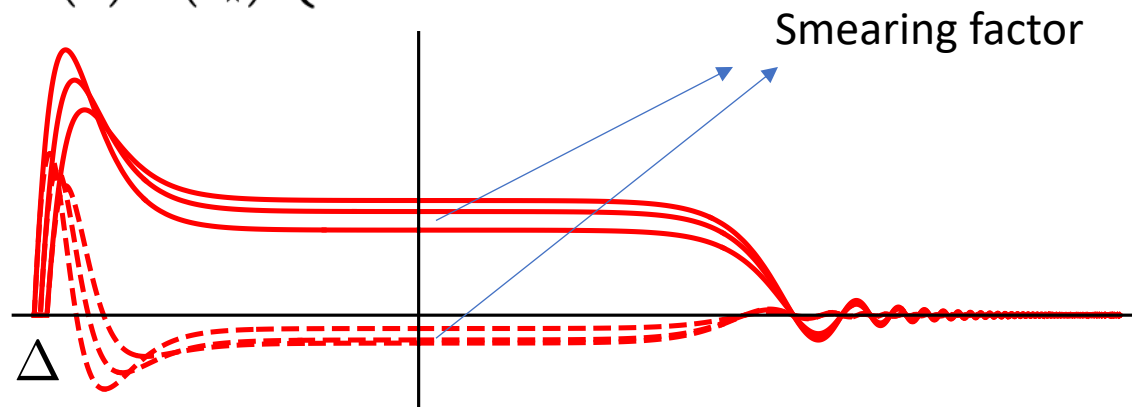
- Finite size effect

$$\frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}}{d \log k} = \frac{4G_N |\tilde{T}_{ij}(0,0)|^2}{\pi^2 V a^4(\tau) a^2(\tau_*)} \left\{ \left[ \tilde{\mathcal{E}}_0^i(k) \tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f(k) \right]^2 k^3 \cos^2 k(\tau_* - \tau_0) \right\}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \cos 2k(\tau_* - \tau_0)$$

Oscillating

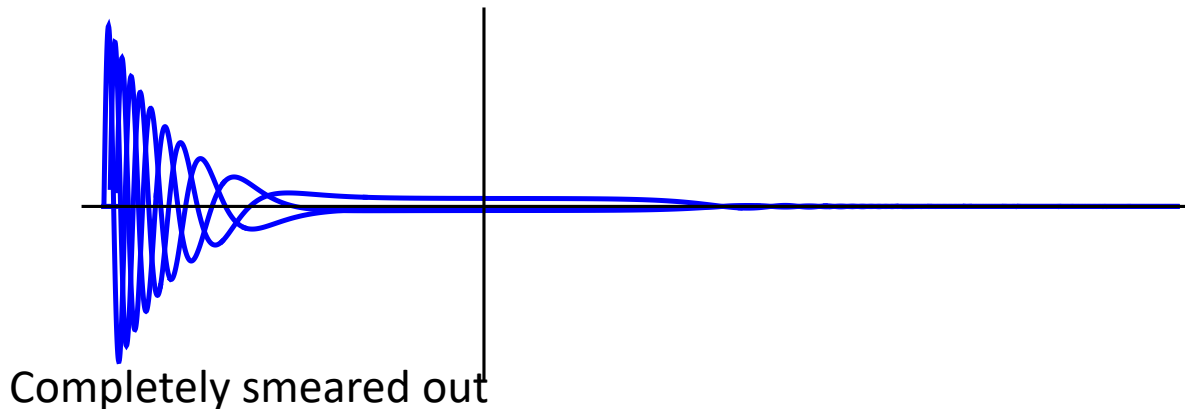
$$\frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}^{\text{osc}}}{d \log k} = \frac{2G_N |\tilde{T}_{ij}(0,0)|^2}{\pi^2 V a^4(\tau) a^2(\tau_*)} \left\{ \left[ \tilde{\mathcal{E}}_0^i(k) \tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f(k) \right]^2 k^3 [1 + \mathcal{S}(k_p \Delta_p) \cos 2k(\tau_* - \tau_0)] \right\}$$



# Generic features of GW spectrum

- The UV part of the spectrum
  - $k_p \Delta_p \gg 1$ , the oscillation pattern is completely smeared out.

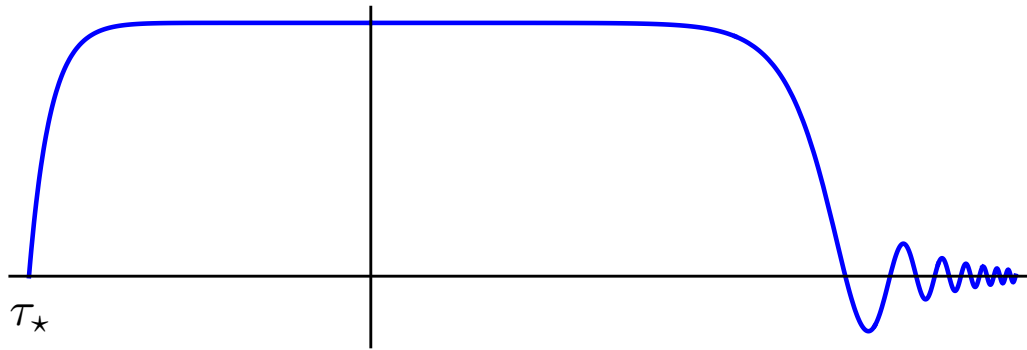
$$\frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}^{\text{UV}}}{d \log k} = \frac{2G_N |\tilde{T}_{ij}(k_p, \mathbf{k}_p)|^2}{\pi^2 V a^4(\tau) a^2(\tau_*)} \left\{ \left[ \tilde{\mathcal{E}}_0^i(k) \tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f(k) \right]^2 k^3 \right\}$$



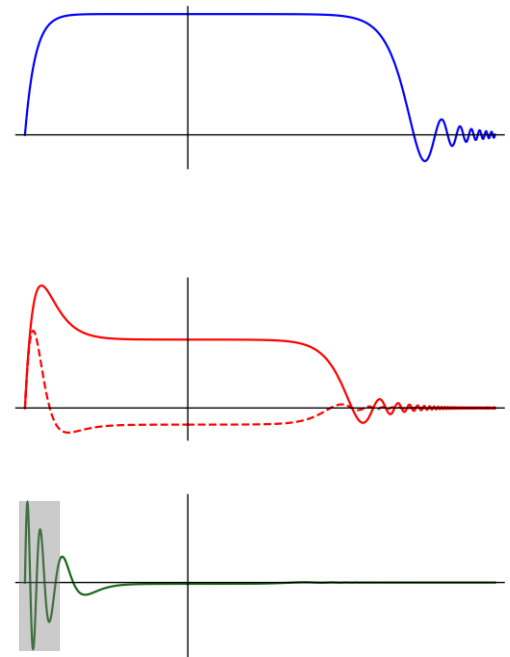
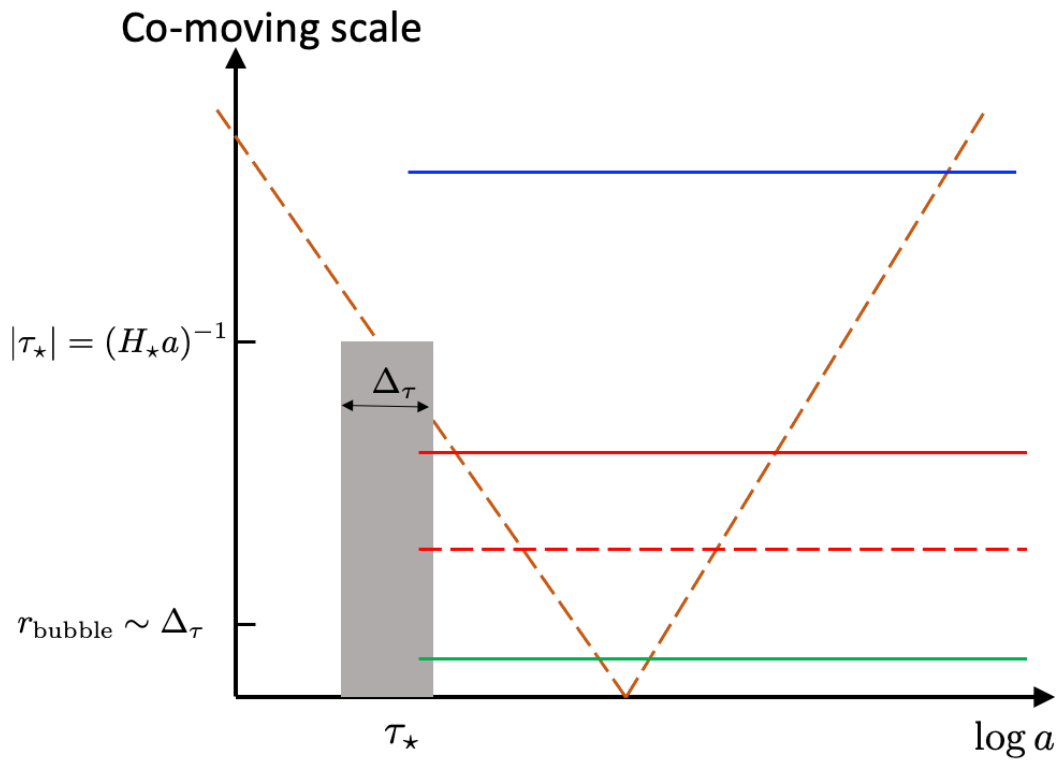
# Generic features of GW spectrum

- The IR part of the spectrum  $|k\tau_\star| \ll 1$ 
  - $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}^f$  is flat, no oscillation pattern in the spectrum either,

$$\frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}^{\text{IR}}}{d\log k} = \frac{4G_N |\tilde{T}_{ij}(0,0)|^2}{\pi^2 V a^4(\tau)} \left[ \int_{\tau_\star}^0 a^{-2}(\tau_1) d\tau_1 \right]^2 \left\{ [\tilde{\mathcal{E}}_0^i(k)]^2 k^5 \right\}$$

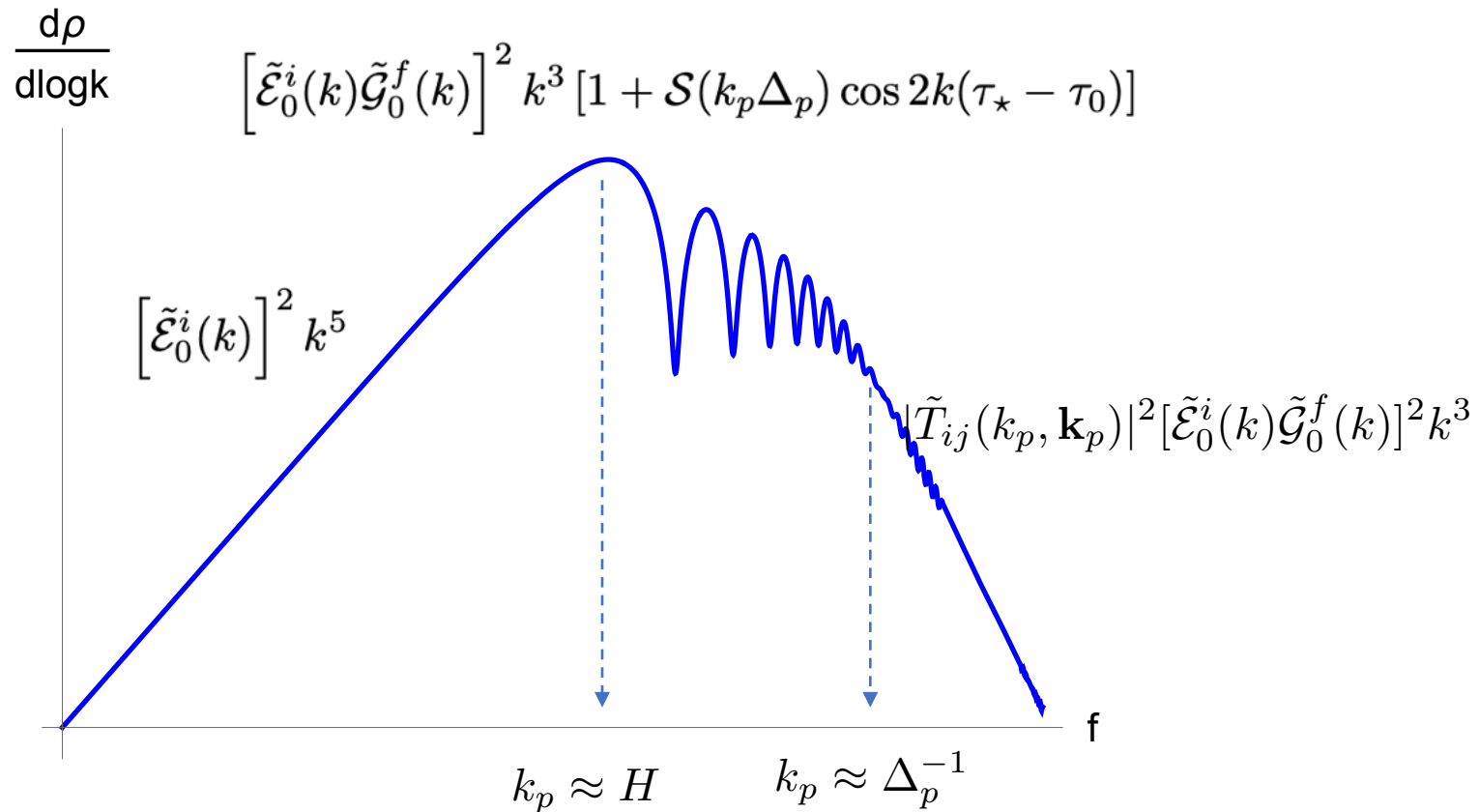


# Generic features of GW spectrum



# Generic features of GW spectrum

- Shape of the spectrum



# Examples

- Inflation models

- Quasi-de Sitter inflation  $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f = \left( -\frac{H}{k} \right), \quad \eta'_0 = 0$

- $t^p$  inflation  $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f = a_0^{-1}(-k\tau_0)^{\frac{p}{1-p}} \frac{2^{\frac{p}{-1+p}}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{-1+p}\right), \quad \eta'_0 = \frac{\pi}{2-2p}$

In  $t^p$  inflation, we have the slow-roll parameter  $\epsilon = -\frac{\dot{H}}{H^2} = \frac{1}{p}$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f \sim k^{-\frac{1}{1-\epsilon}}$$

- Evolution after inflation

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

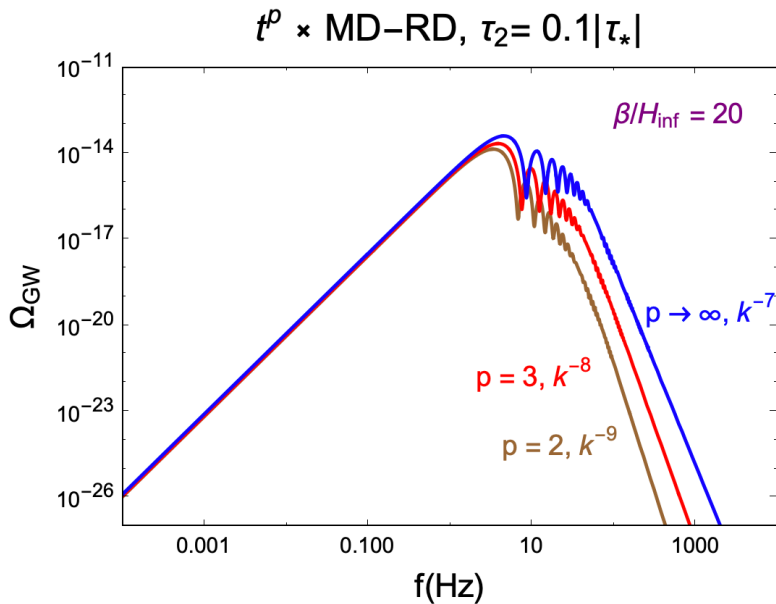
- In MD,  $\tilde{\mathcal{E}}_0^i \sim k^{-2}$

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

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

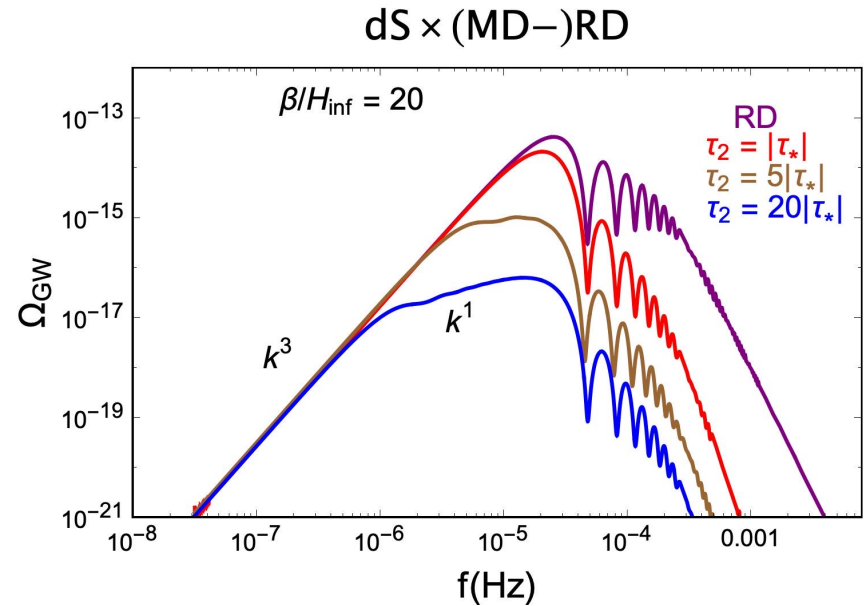


# Comparing scenarios



Different inflation scenarios

➔ Different slopes in the UV and oscillatory parts



Temporary MD between inflation and RD

$\tau_2$ : MD-RD transition

# Outline

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- Summary

# Why first order phase transition during inflation?

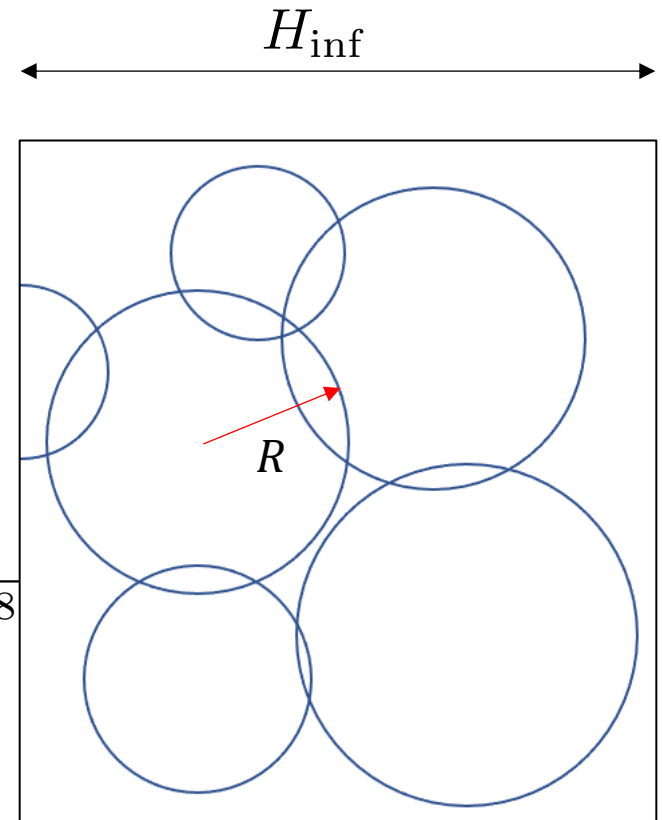
- For phase transition to finish

$$R = \Delta_p \ll H_{\text{inf}}^{-1}$$

$$\beta = \frac{dS_4}{dt} \sim \Delta_p^{-1} \gg H_{\text{inf}}$$

$$\frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}^{\text{flat}}}{\Delta\rho_{\text{vac}} d \log k_p} \approx \left( \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{\beta} \right)^2 \times \frac{\beta k_p^{2.8}}{\beta^{3.8} + 2.8 k_p^{3.8}}$$

*Huber and Konstandin, 0806.1828*



# Models of first order phase transition during inflation

- Models in the literature:
  - Open inflation  
K. Sugimura, D. Yamauchi, M. Sasaki, 1110.4773
  - GUT phase transition at the beginning of inflation  
H. Jiang, T. Liu, S. Sun, Y. Wang, 1512.07538
  - Obtained the correct UV behavior of the GW spectrum  
Y.-T. Wang, Y. Cai, Y.-S. Piao, 1801.03639

# Models of first order phase transition during inflation

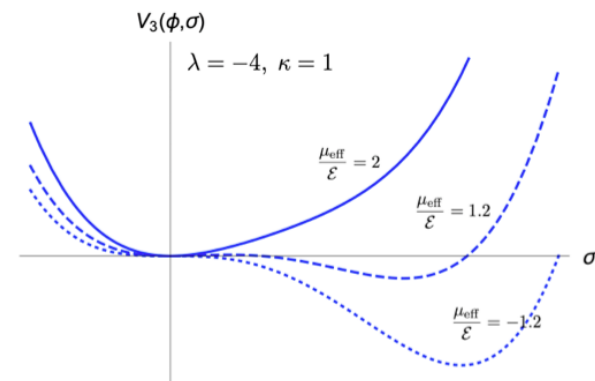
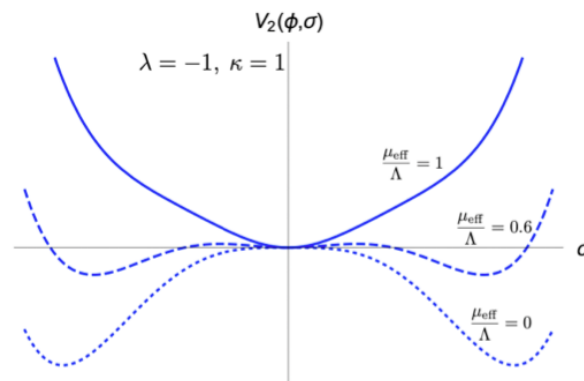
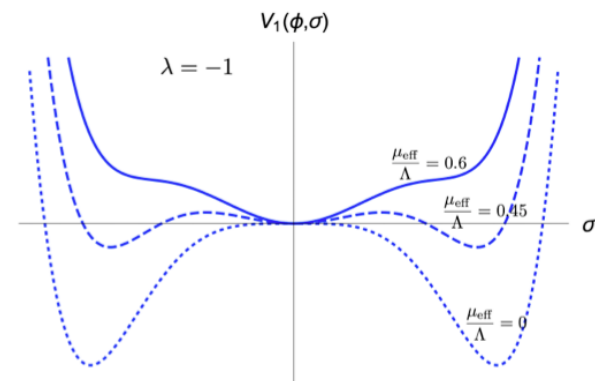
- Simple models:  $\phi$  : inflaton field,  $\sigma$  : spectator

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

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

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

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




# First order phase transition 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:  $S_4 \sim \log \left( \frac{\phi H m_\sigma^4}{\dot{\phi} H^4} \right) \sim \log \left( \frac{\phi}{\epsilon^{1/2} M_{\text{pl}}} \frac{m_\sigma^4}{H^4} \right)$
- First order phase transition:  $S_4 \gg 1$

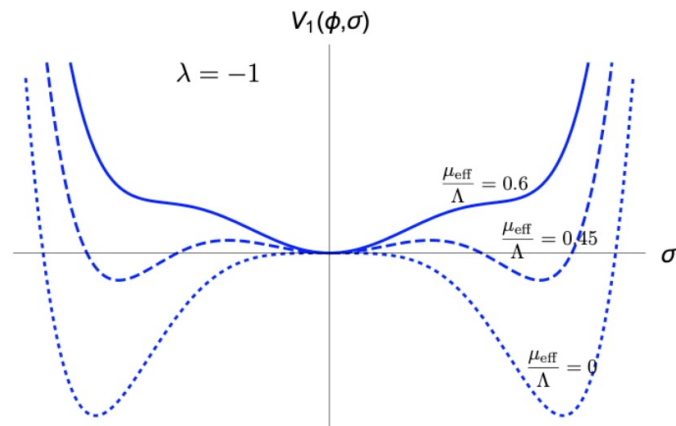
$$H^4 \ll m_\sigma^4 \ll 3M_{\text{pl}}^2 H^2$$

# First order phase transition during inflation

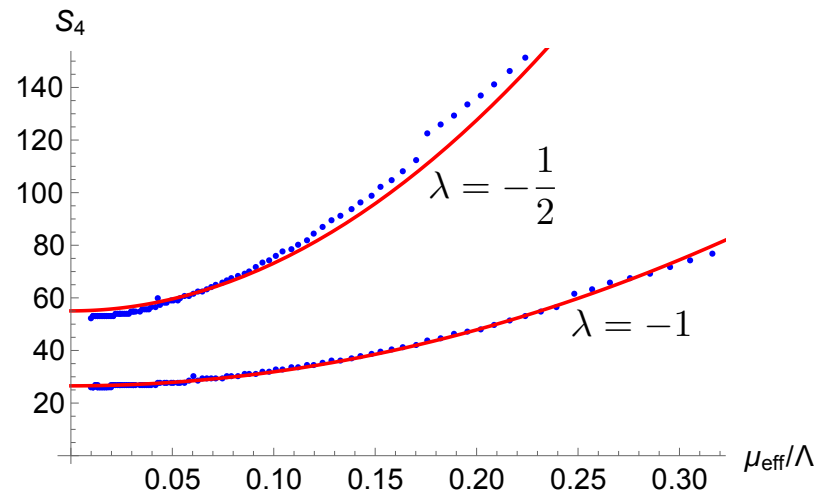
- $$\beta = \left| \frac{dS_4}{dt} \right| = \frac{dS_4}{d \log \mu_{\text{eff}}^2} \times \left| \frac{2\dot{\phi}}{\phi \left( 1 - \frac{\mu^2}{c^2 \phi^2} \right)} \right| \quad \mu_{\text{eff}}^2 = -(\mu^2 - c^2 \phi^2)$$



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



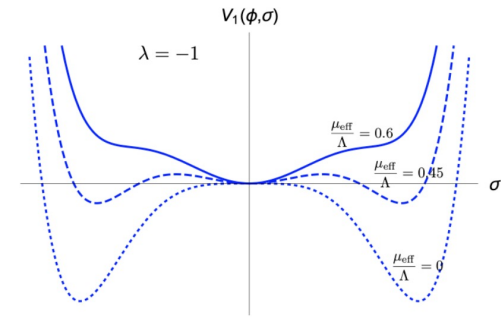
$$V_1(\phi, \sigma) = -\frac{1}{2}(\mu^2 - c^2 \phi^2)\sigma^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4}\sigma^4 + \frac{1}{8\Lambda^2}\sigma^6$$



CosmoTransitions

# First order phase transition during inflation

- $$\beta = \left| \frac{dS_4}{dt} \right| = \frac{dS_4}{d \log \mu_{\text{eff}}^2} \times \left| \frac{2\dot{\phi}}{\phi \left( 1 - \frac{\mu^2}{c^2 \phi^2} \right)} \right|$$



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

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

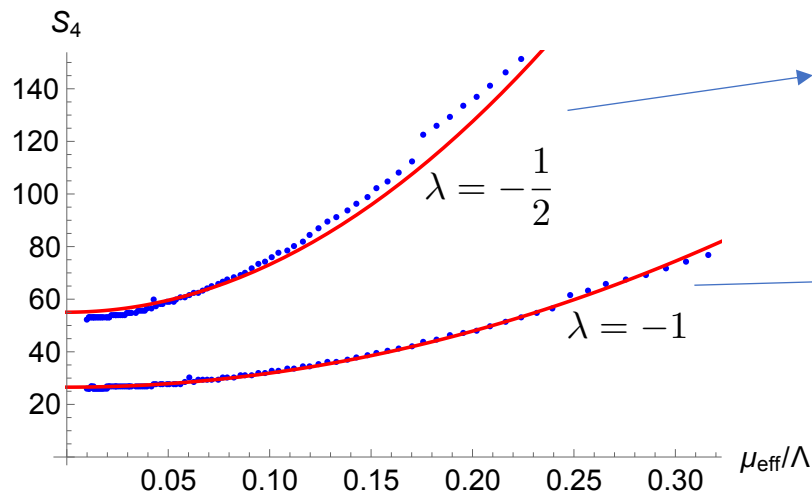
$$\sim \mu_{\text{eff}}^2 / \Lambda^2$$

$$\frac{\beta}{H} \sim \left| \frac{dS_4}{d \log \mu_{\text{eff}}^2} \right| \times \frac{\Lambda^2}{\mu_{\text{eff}}^2} \times \frac{1}{N_e}$$



# First order phase transition during inflation

- $$\frac{\beta}{H} \sim \left| \frac{dS_4}{d \log \mu_{\text{eff}}^2} \right| \times \frac{\Lambda^2}{\mu_{\text{eff}}^2} \times \frac{1}{N_e}$$



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

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

$N_e$ : e-folds before the end of inflation

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

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

# First order phase transition during inflation

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

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(k_{\text{today}}) = \Omega_R \frac{H_{\text{inf}}^4}{k_p^4} \left[ \frac{1}{2} + \mathcal{S}(k_p \beta^{-1}) \cos\left(\frac{2k_p}{H_{\text{inf}}}\right) \right] \frac{\Delta\rho_{\text{vac}}}{\rho_{\text{inf}}} \frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}^{\text{flat}}}{\Delta\rho_{\text{vac}} d \log k_p}$$

↓
↓
↓

Dilution factor      Smearing      Suppressed by the energy fraction

Redshift

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

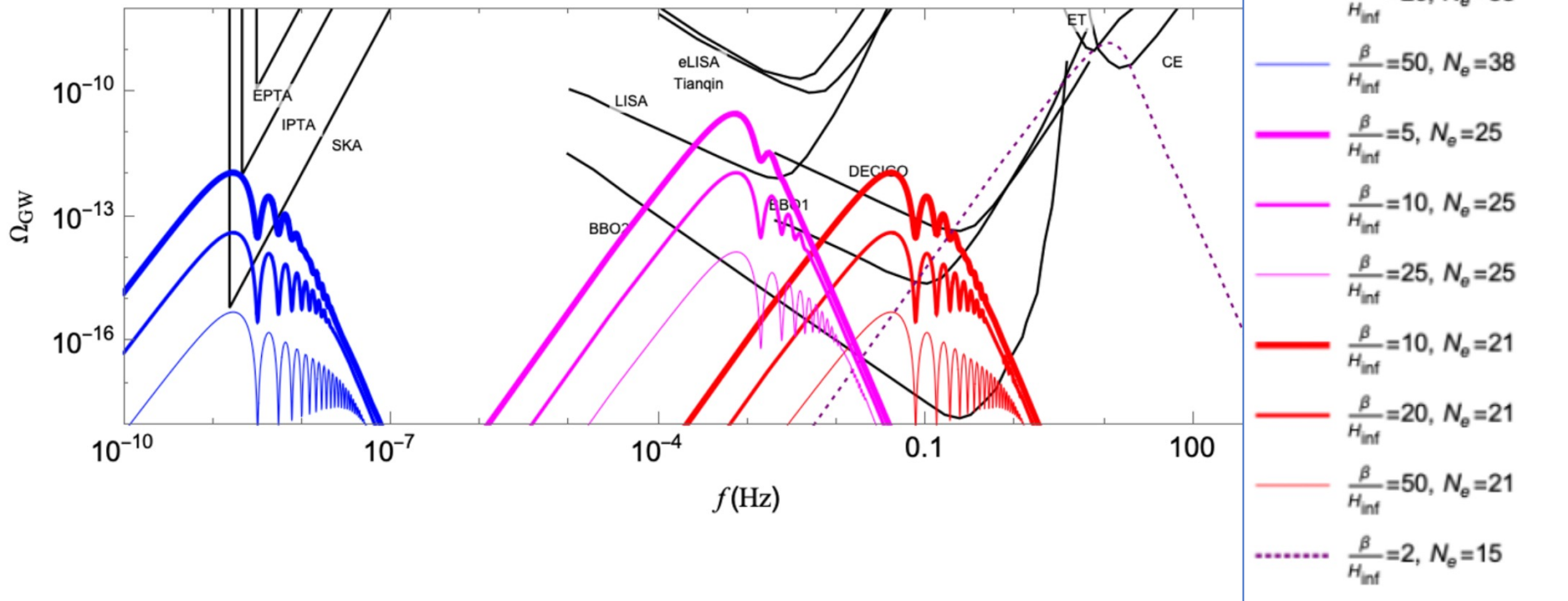
↓

$e^{-N_e}$

$N_e$ : e-folds before the end of inflation

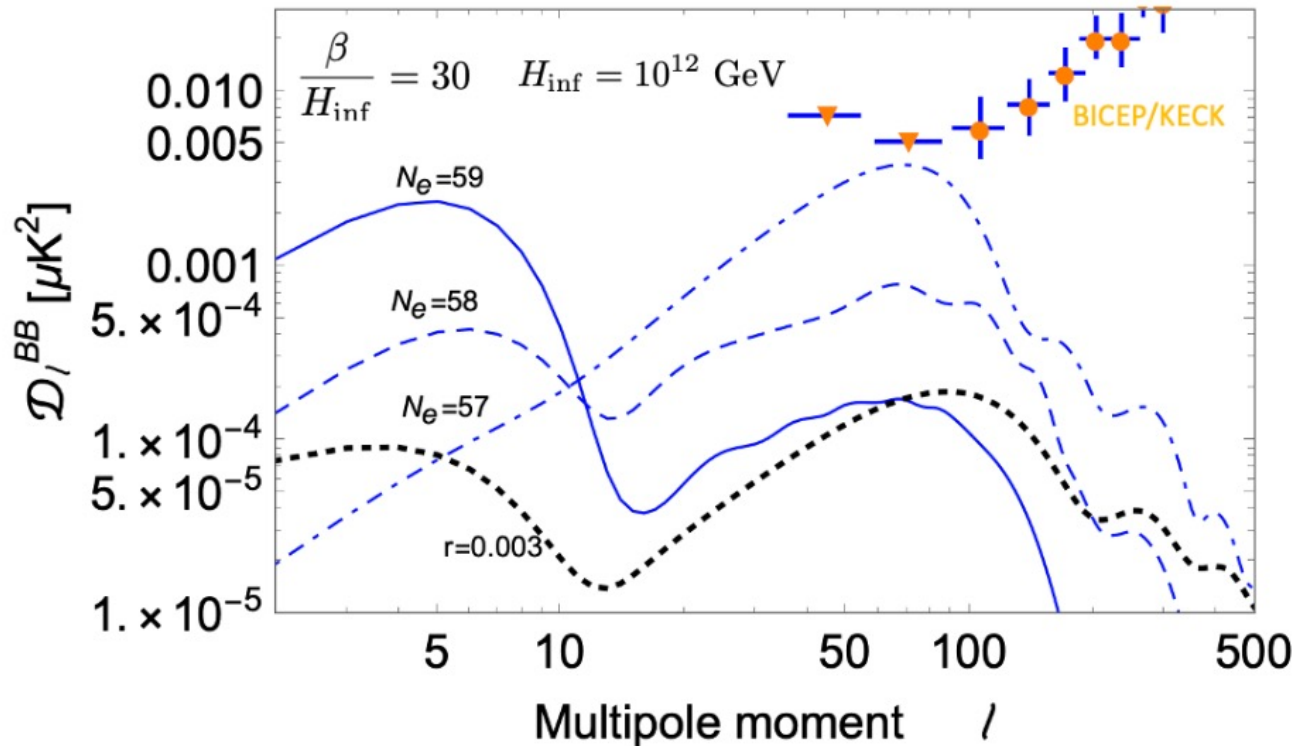
# First order phase transition during inflation

- Primordial stochastic GW signals  $H_{\text{inf}} = 10^{12}$  GeV  
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{vac}}/\rho_{\text{inf}} = 0.1$

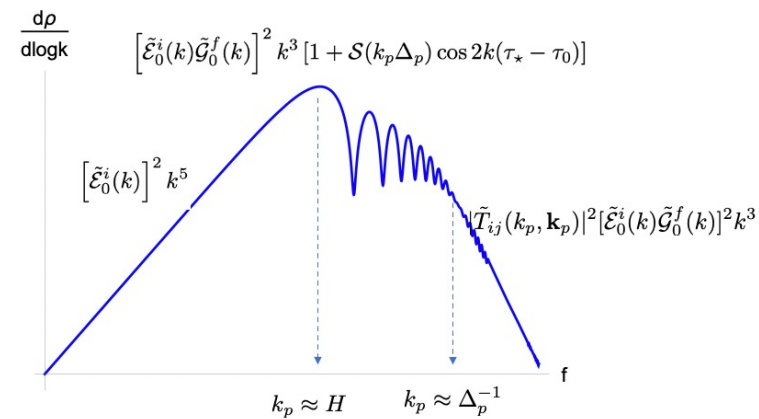


# First order phase transition during inflation

- CMB B modes



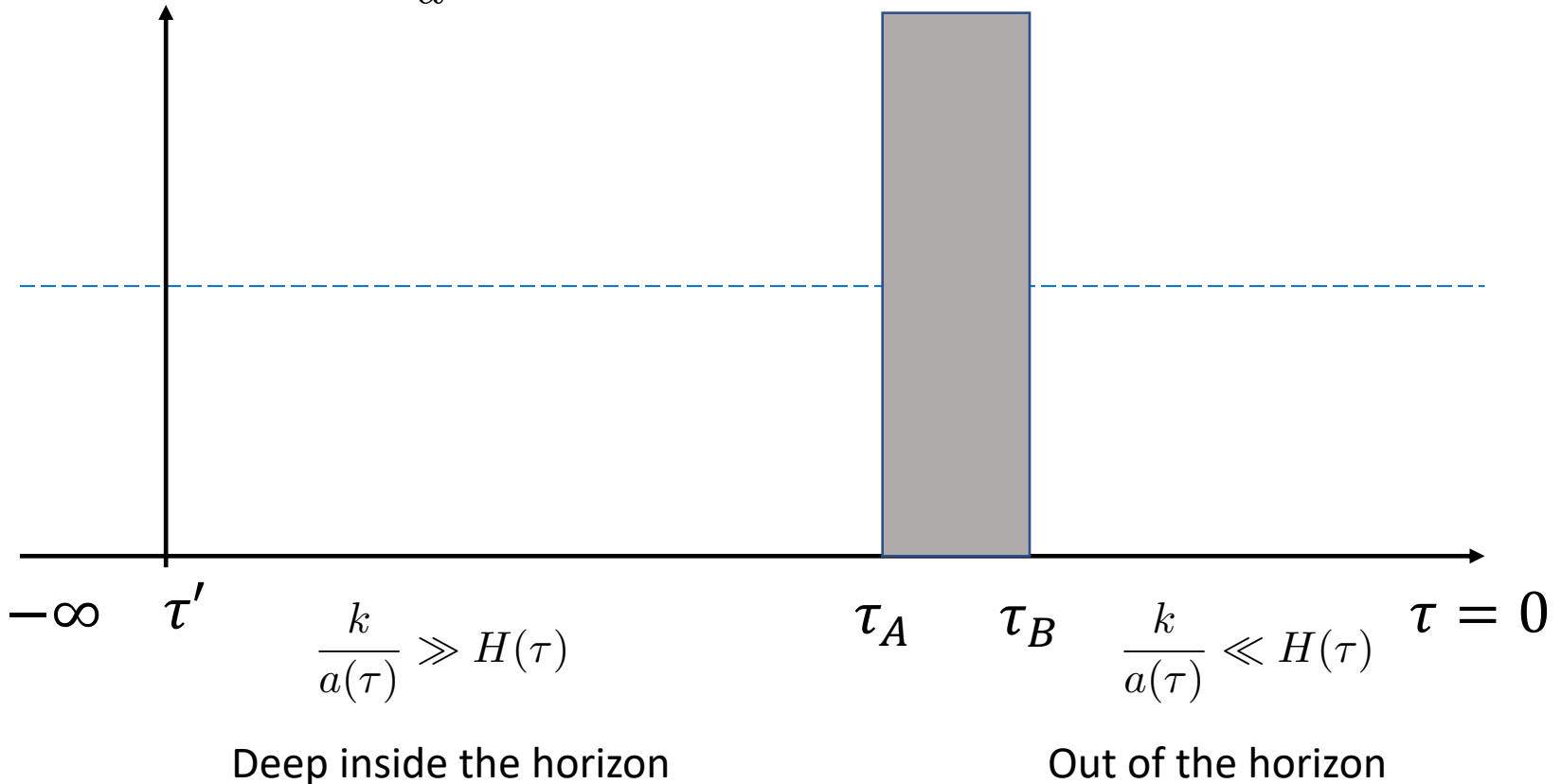
# Summary



- We study the features of classical GWs produced from instantaneous sources during inflation.
- 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.

# GW from instantaneous and local sources (qualitative study)

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



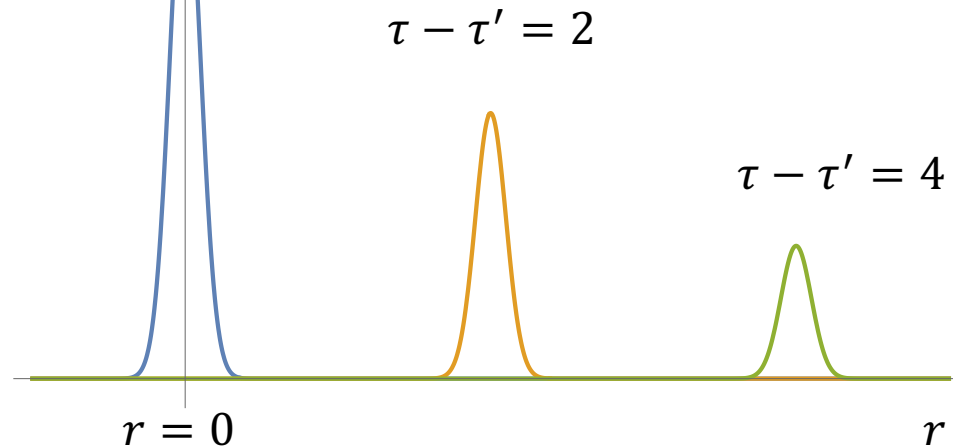
# de Sitter inflation as an example

- What is the spatial configuration of  $h_{ij}$ ?

- In Minkowski space

$$h = \frac{16\pi G_N T}{4\pi r} \delta(\tau - \tau' - r)$$

Shell with radius  $|\tau - \tau'|$



# de Sitter inflation as an example

- What is the spatial configuration of  $h_{ij}$ ?
- In de Sitter space

$$h_{ij}(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = -16\pi G_N H T_{ij} \tau \Theta(\tau - \tau') \left[ \frac{\sin k(\tau - \tau')}{k} + \left( \frac{1}{k^2 \tau} - \frac{1}{k^2 \tau'} \right) \cos k(\tau - \tau') + \frac{1}{k^3 \tau \tau'} \sin k(\tau - \tau') \right]$$



# de Sitter inflation as an example

- What is the spatial configuration of  $h_{ij}$ ?
- In de Sitter space

$$\begin{aligned}
 h_{ij}(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = & -16\pi G_N H T_{ij} \tau \Theta(\tau - \tau') \left[ \frac{\sin k(\tau - \tau')}{k} \right. \\
 & \left. + \underbrace{\left( \frac{1}{k^2 \tau} - \frac{1}{k^2 \tau'} \right) \cos k(\tau - \tau') + \frac{1}{k^3 \tau \tau'} \sin k(\tau - \tau')}_{\frac{1}{4\pi} \Theta(\tau - \tau' - |\mathbf{x}|)} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

# de Sitter inflation as an example

- What is the spatial configuration of  $h_{ij}$ ?
- In de Sitter space

$$h(\tau, \mathbf{x}) \sim \frac{\tau}{4\pi x} \delta(\tau - \tau' - x) + \frac{1}{4\pi} \Theta(\tau - \tau' - x)$$

Similar to Minkovski

Intrinsic in de Sitter

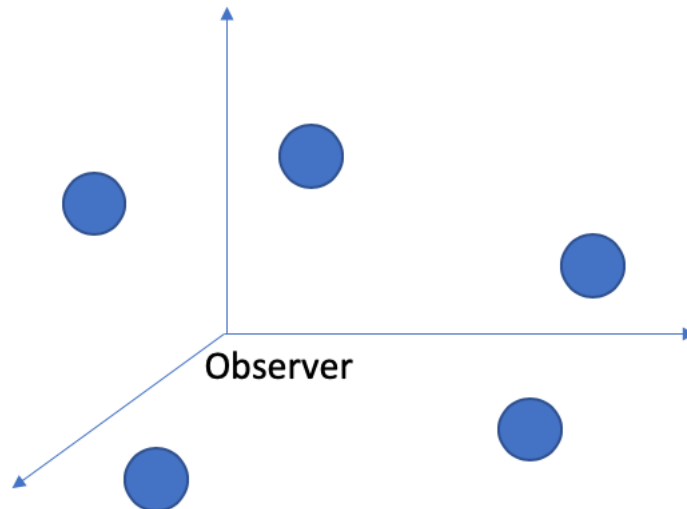
Decreases with both  $x$  and  $\tau$

constant

Vanishes out of horizon

# de Sitter inflation as an example

- At  $\tau \rightarrow 0$   $h(\tau, \mathbf{x}) \sim \frac{1}{4\pi} \Theta(|\tau'| - x)$
- A ball of GW, with radius  $|\tau'|$
- $h$  uniformly distributed inside the GW balls.
- All the balls have the same radius.

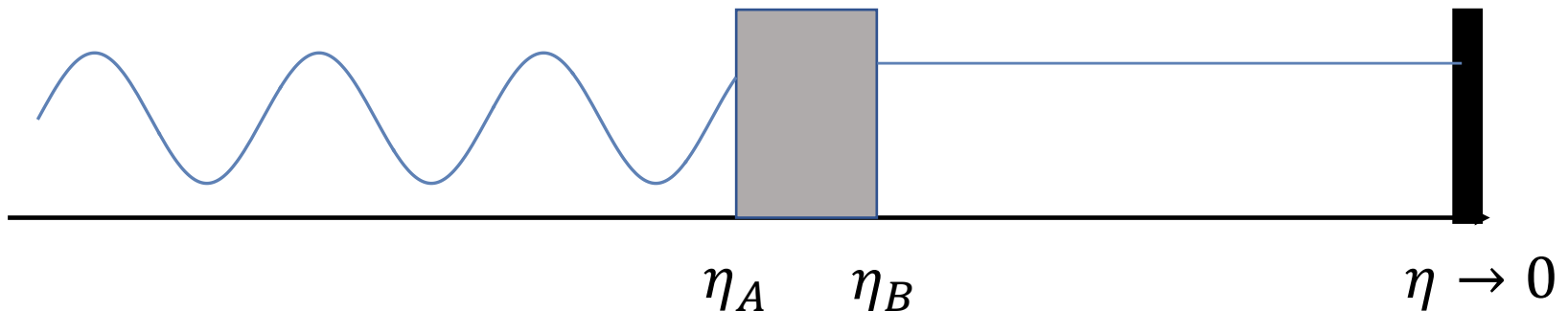


# Green's function of GW in inflation

- Generic features

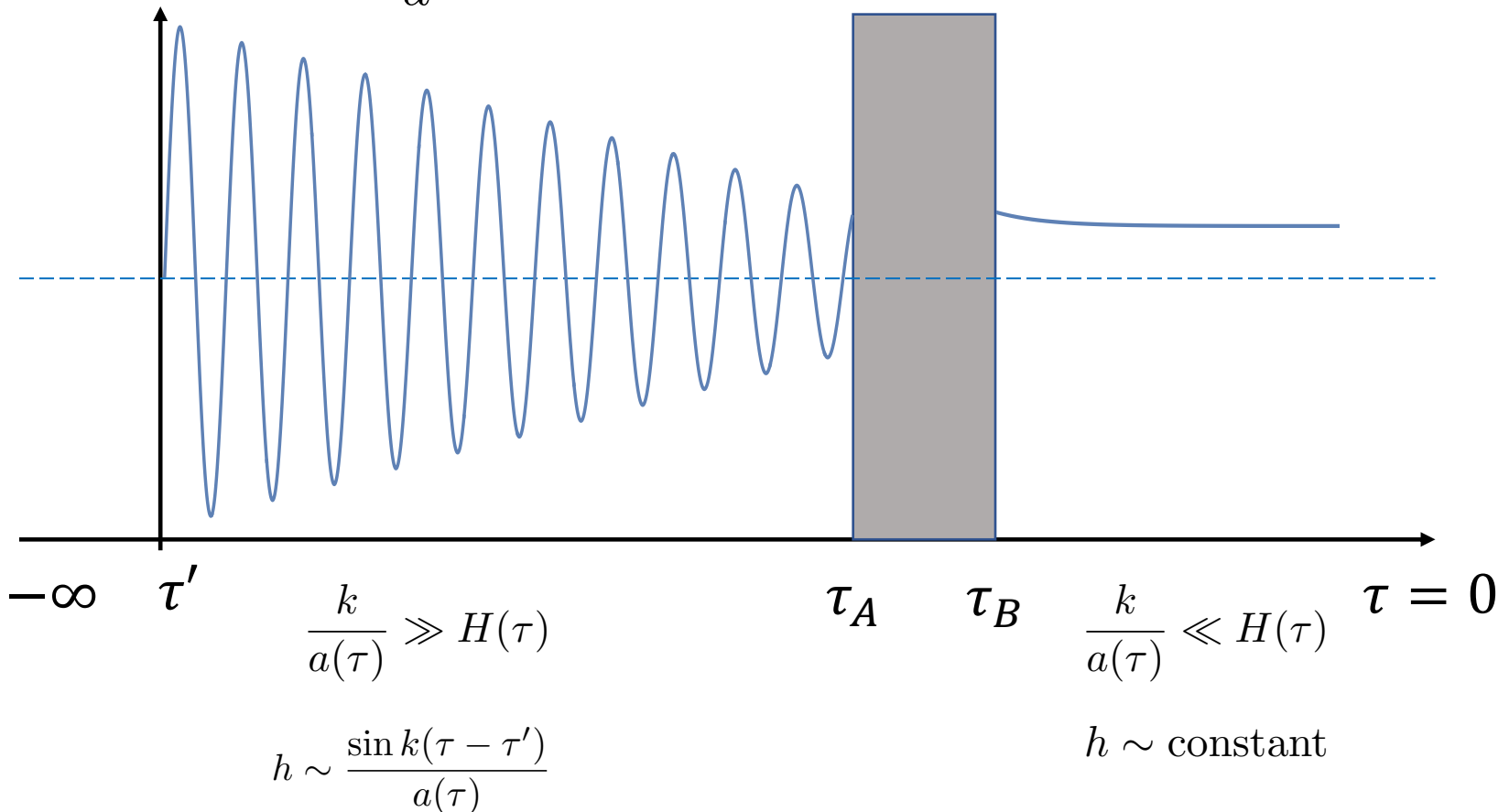
- For  $|k\tau'| > \eta_A$ ,  $h^f = k^{-1} \cos k(\tau' - \tau'_0) \tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f(k)$

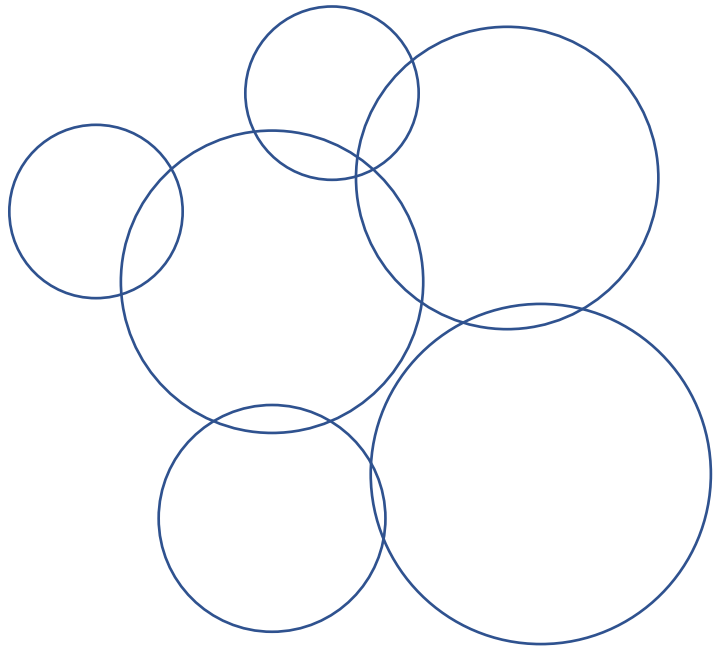
- For  $|k\tau'| < \eta_B$ ,  $h^f = \left[ a(\tau') \int_{\tau'}^0 a^{-2}(\tau_1) d\tau_1 \right]$



# GW from instantaneous and local sources (qualitative study)

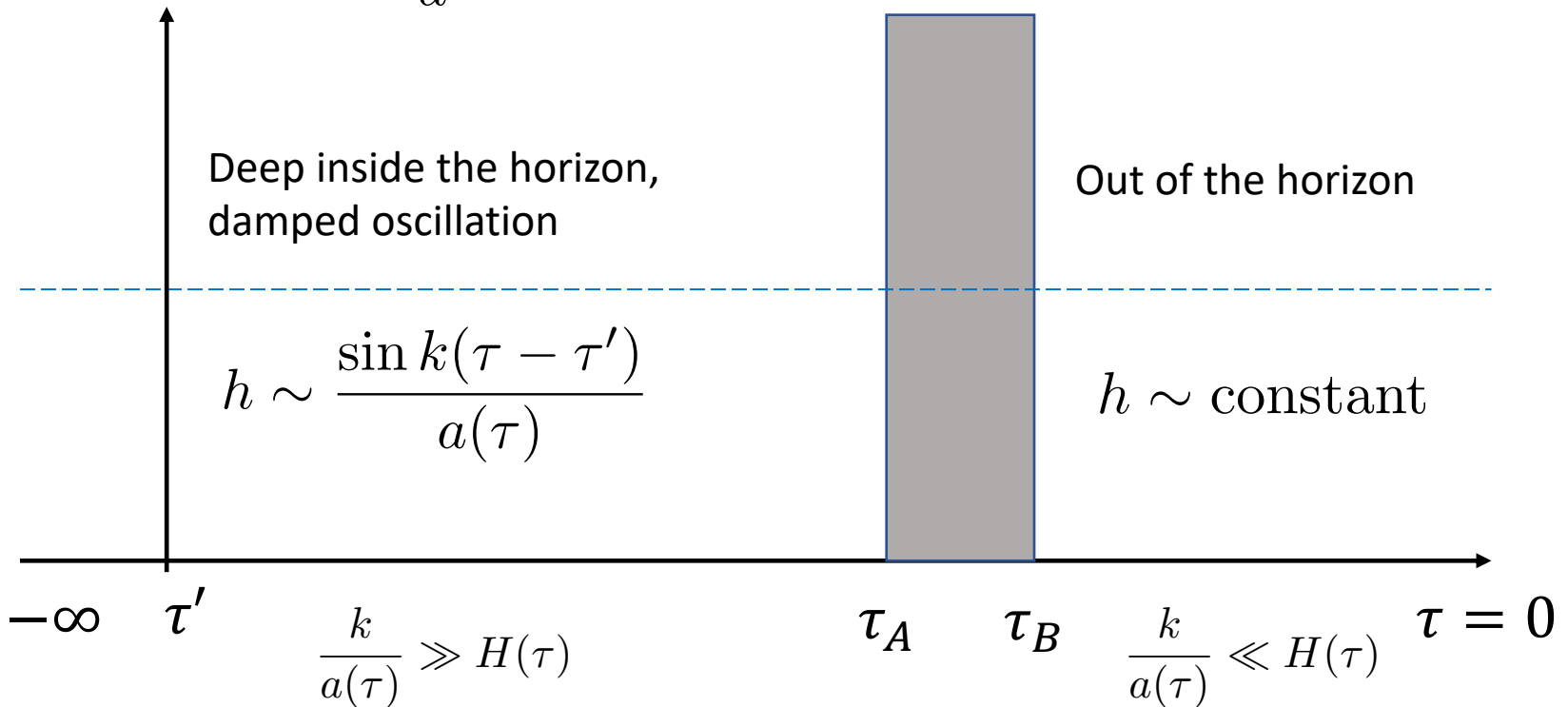
- $$h''(\tau, \mathbf{k}) + \frac{2a'}{a}h'(\tau, \mathbf{k}) + k^2h(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = 16\pi G_N a^{-1}T\delta(\tau - \tau')$$





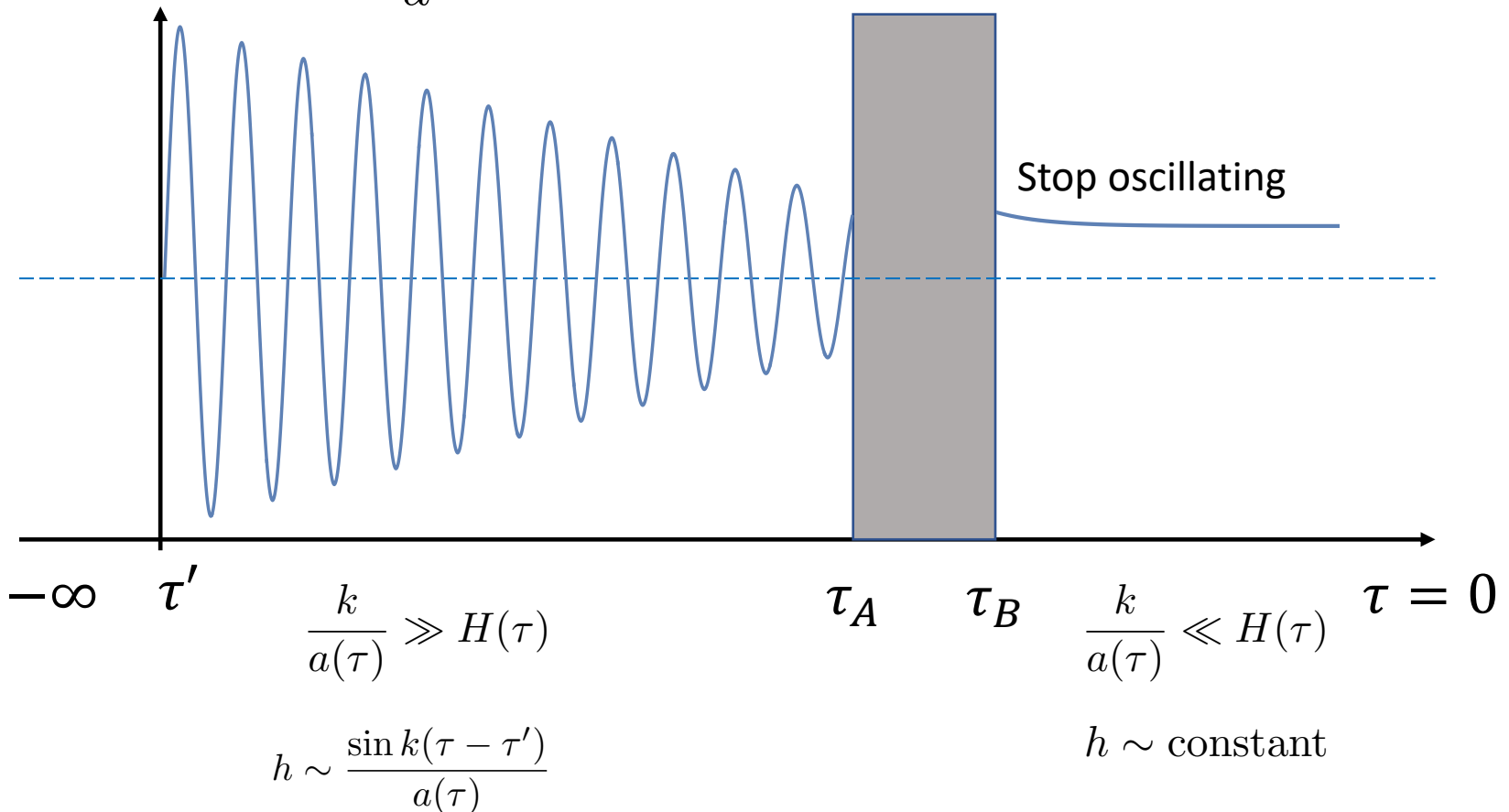
# GW from instantaneous and local sources (qualitative study)

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# GW from instantaneous and local sources (qualitative study)

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





# $h^f$ in a generic inflation model

- Generic features

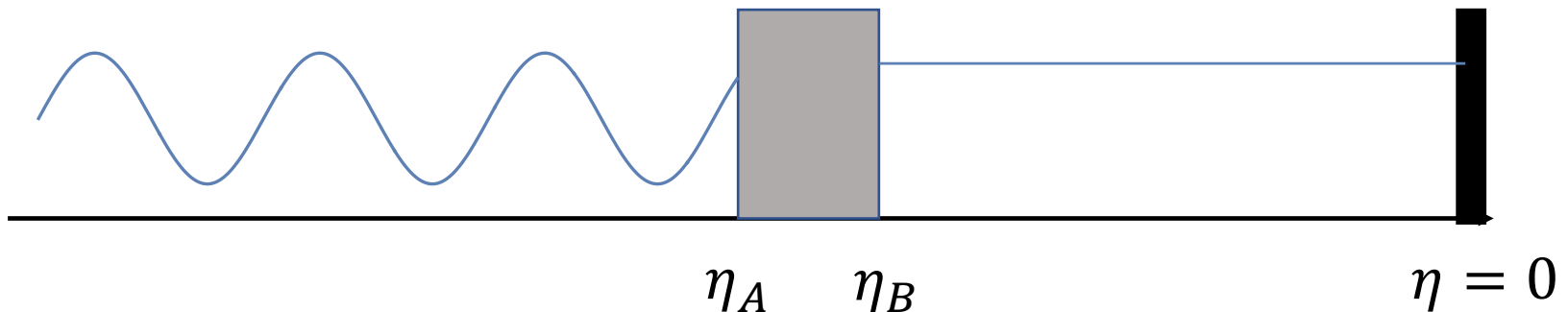
- For  $|k\tau'| > \eta_A$ ,  $h^f = k^{-1} \cos k(\tau' - \tau'_0) \tilde{\mathcal{G}}_0^f(k)$

- For  $|k\tau'| < \eta_B$ ,  $h^f = \left[ a(\tau') \int_{\tau'}^0 a^{-2}(\tau_1) d\tau_1 \right]$

source

Model dependent

Independent of k



# Outline

- Motivations
- Phase transi
- GWs from an instantaneous source during inflation
- GWs from a source with finite duration during inflation
- GWs from first order phase transition during inflation
- Summary

# Properties of universe undergoing an accelerated expansion

- The metric  $ds^2 = -dt^2 + a^2(t)(\delta_{ij} + \underline{h_{ij}})dx^i dx^j$

- Conformal time

GW in transverse  
traceless part of  $h$

$$ds^2 = a^2(\tau) [-d\tau^2 + (\delta_{ij} + h_{ij})dx^i dx^j]$$

- Inflation

- $\ddot{a} > 0$ ,  $d\tau = a^{-1}(t)dt$ ,  $\tau$  has a **finite** upper bound.

We shift  $\tau$  so that  $\tau \leq 0$ .

- $|\tau|$  is the size of the comoving horizon.

# GW from instantaneous and local sources (qualitative study)

- E.O.M. of GW 
$$h''_{ij} + \frac{2a'}{a}h'_{ij} - \nabla^2 h_{ij} = 16\pi^2 G_N a^2 \sigma_{ij}$$
- For an instantaneous and local source, the source can be seen as delta function in both space and time.

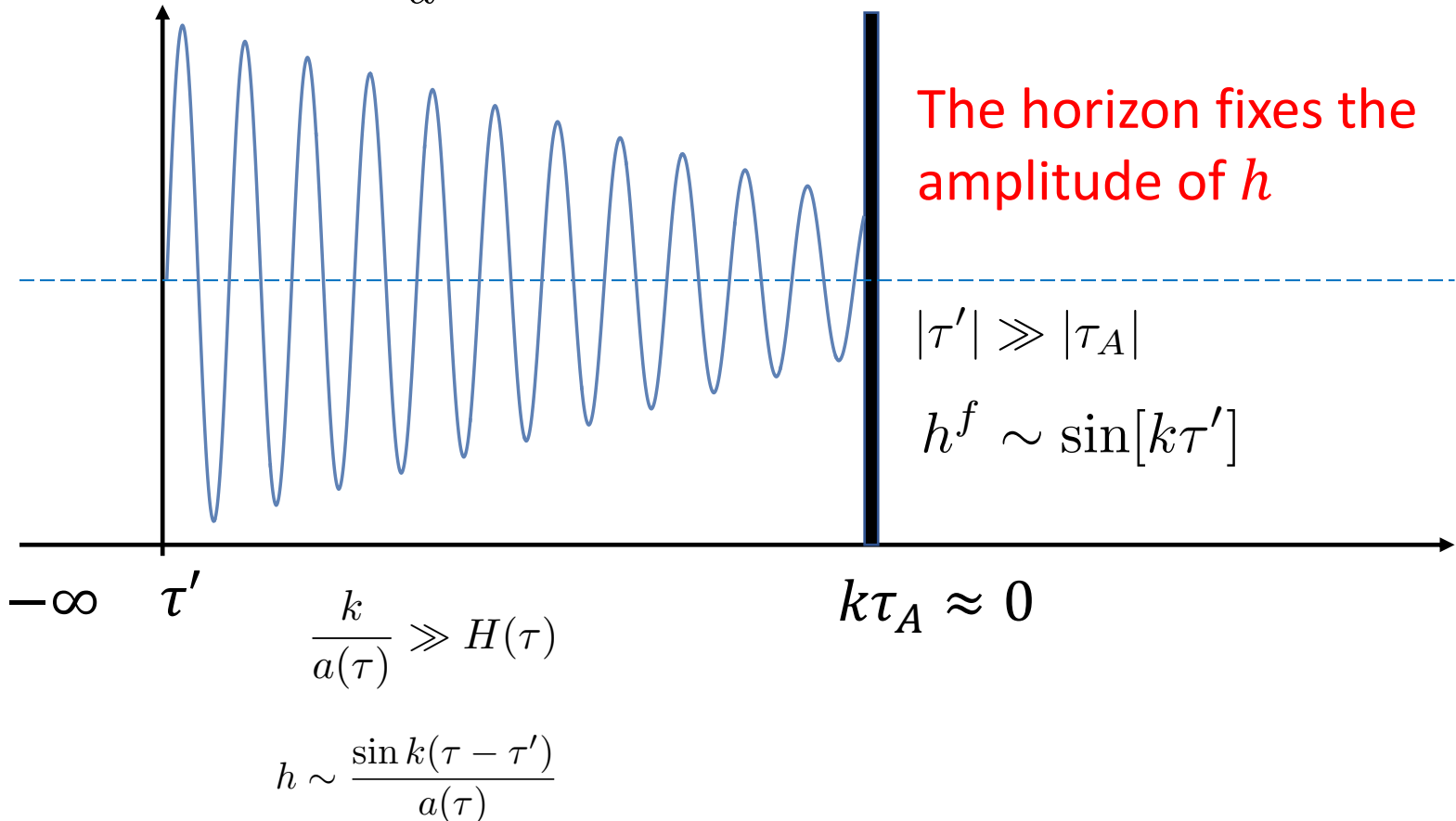
$$\sigma_{ij} \sim \delta(\mathbf{x})\delta(\tau - \tau')$$

- E.O.M. in Fourier space

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

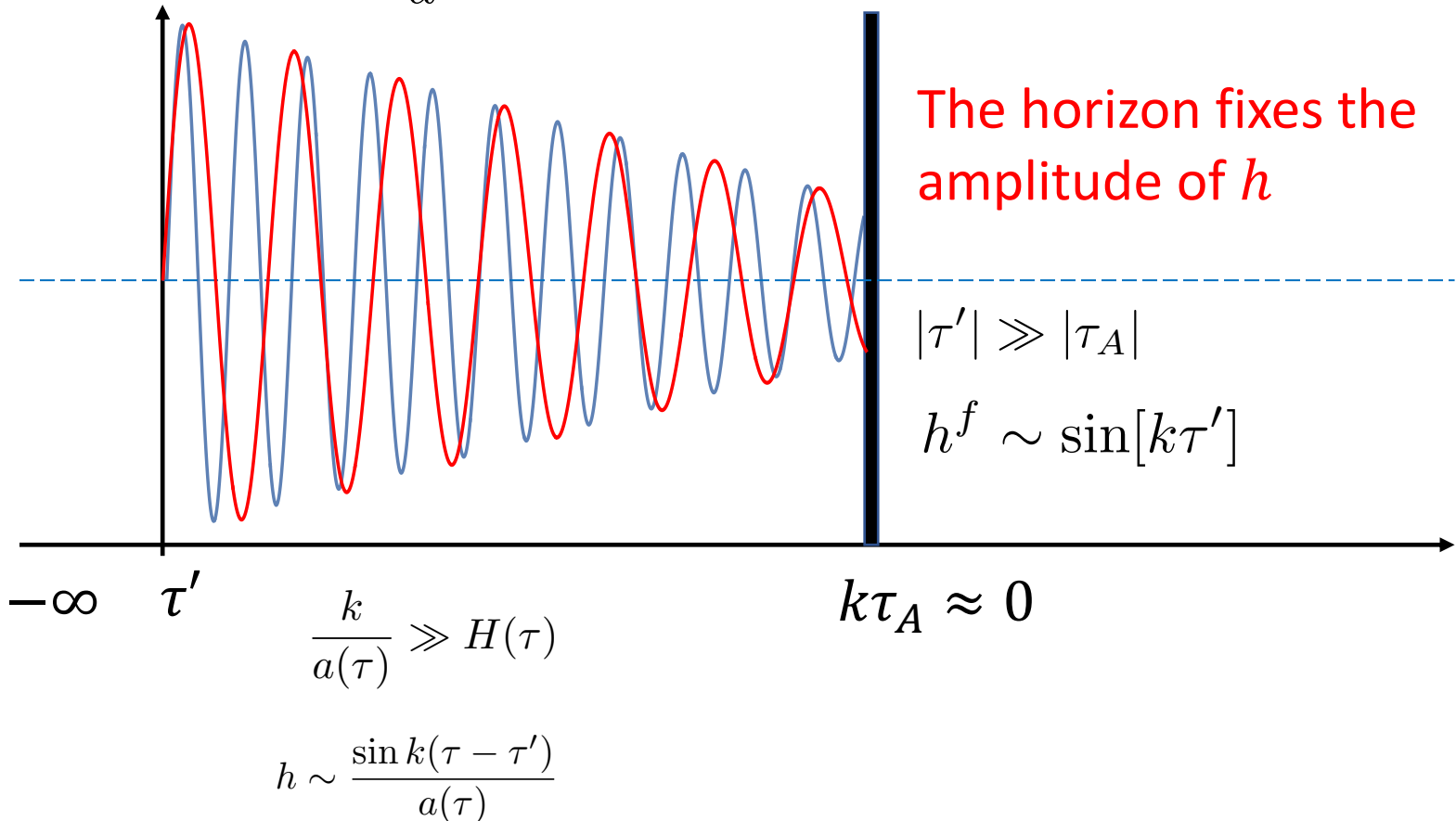
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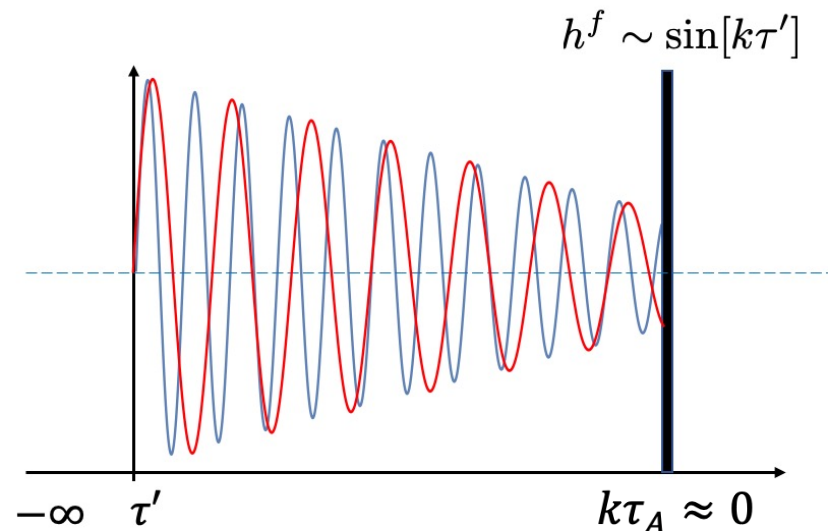
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# GW from instantaneous and local sources (qualitative study)

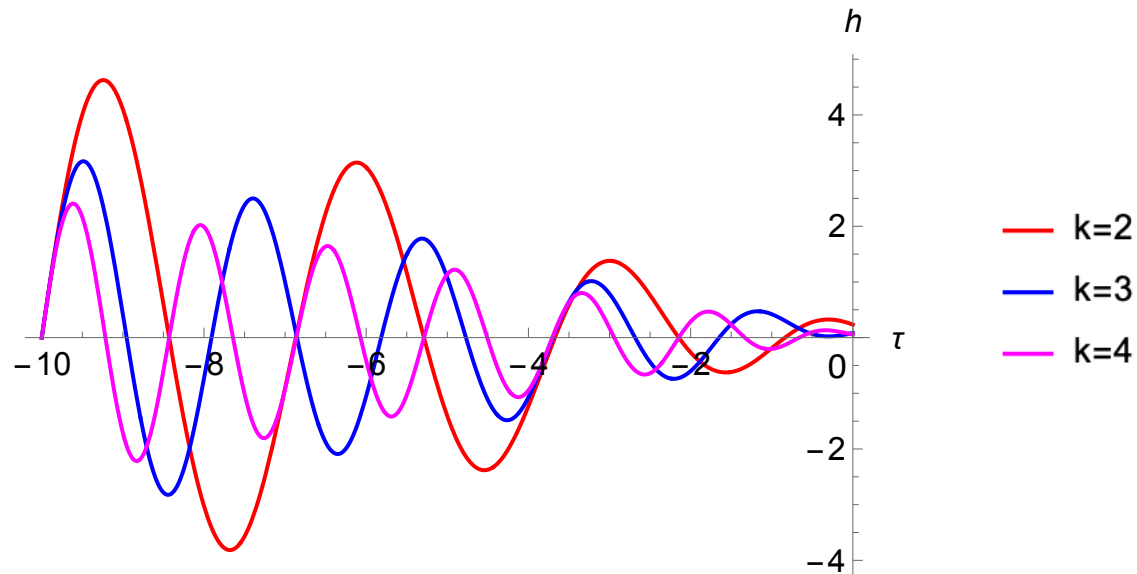
- The conformal time between the source and the horizon is fixed.
- The phase of  $h$  at the source is fixed.
- The value of  $h$  at the horizon oscillates with  $k$ .
- The amplitude  $h^f$  oscillates with  $k$ .
- $h^f$  is the initial condition for later evolution.



# Quasi-de Sitter inflation as an example

- $a = -\frac{1}{H\tau}$

- $$h_{ij}(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = -\frac{16\pi G_N H T_{ij} \tau}{k} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{k\tau} - \frac{1}{k\tau'} \right) \cos k(\tau - \tau') + \left( 1 + \frac{1}{k^2 \tau \tau'} \right) \sin k(\tau - \tau') \right]$$

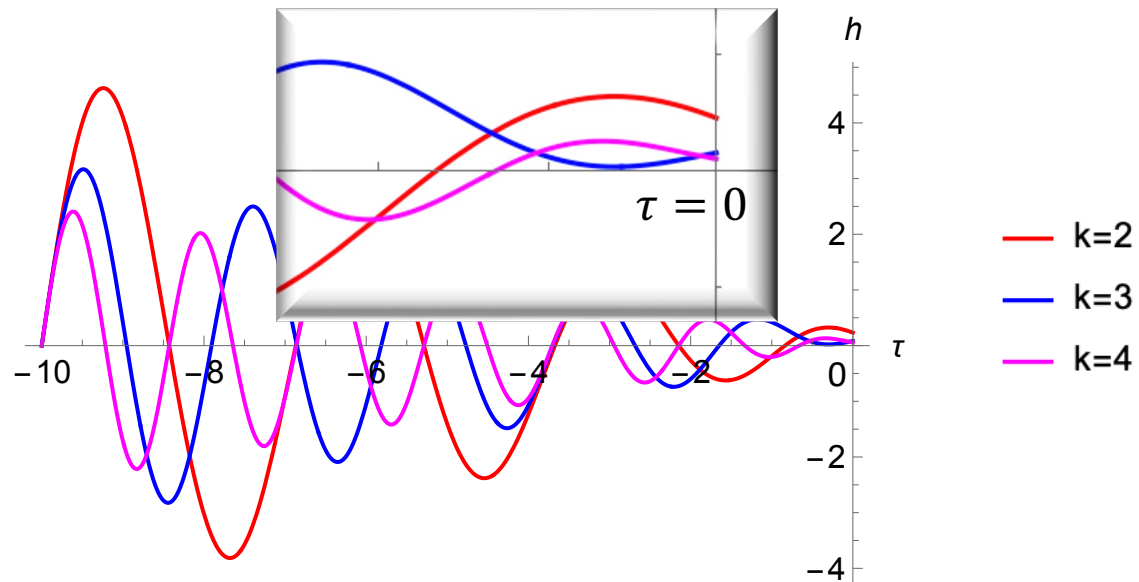




# De Sitter inflation as an example

- $$a = -\frac{1}{H\tau}$$

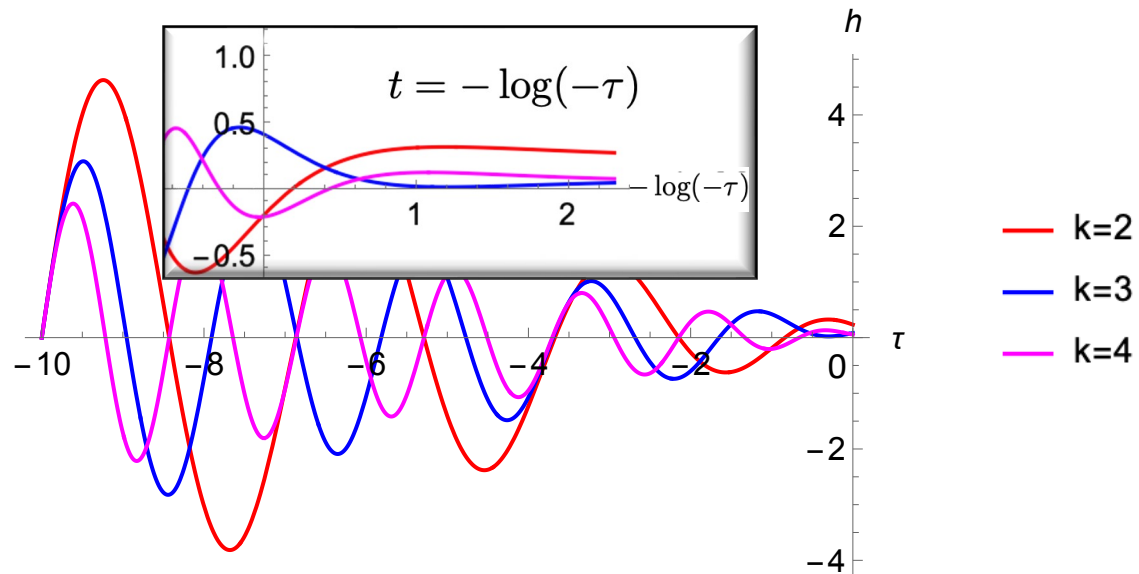
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# De Sitter inflation as an example

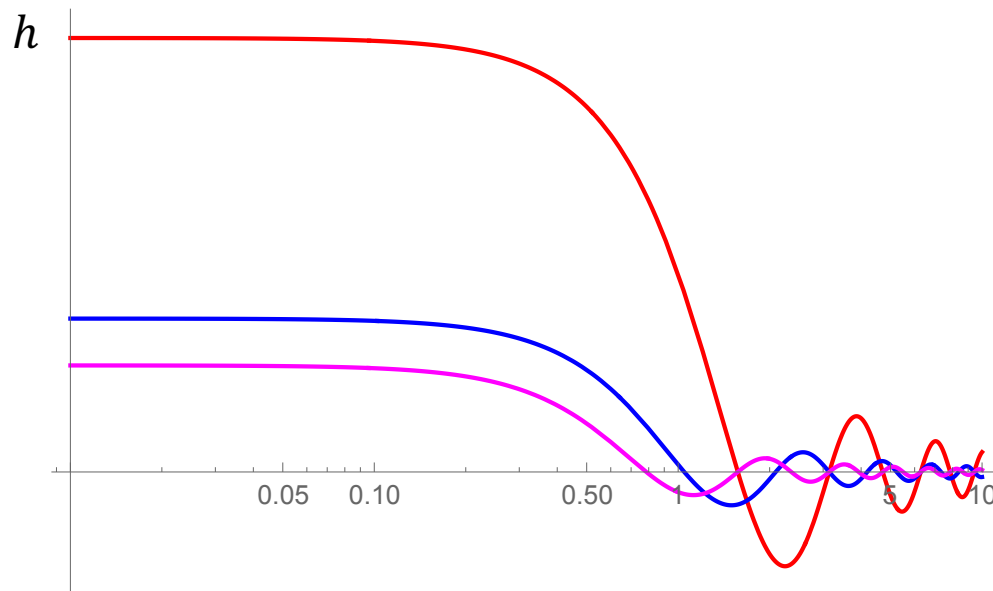
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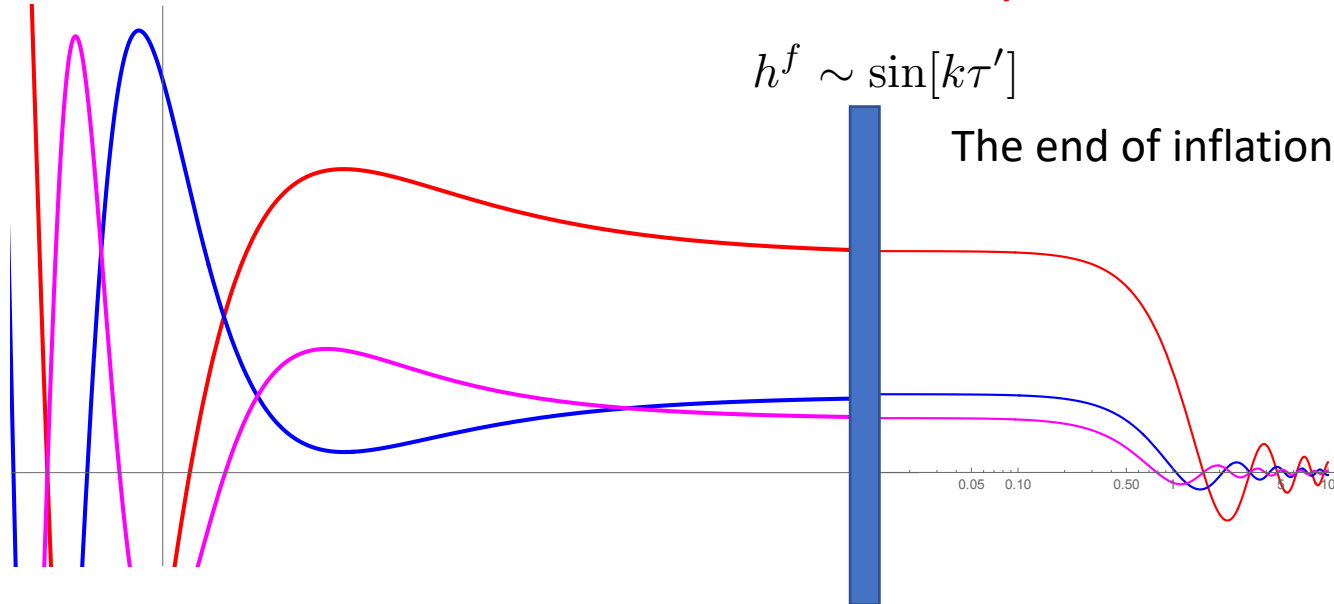
# After inflation

- $h^f(k)$  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  $\sin k\tau / k\tau$



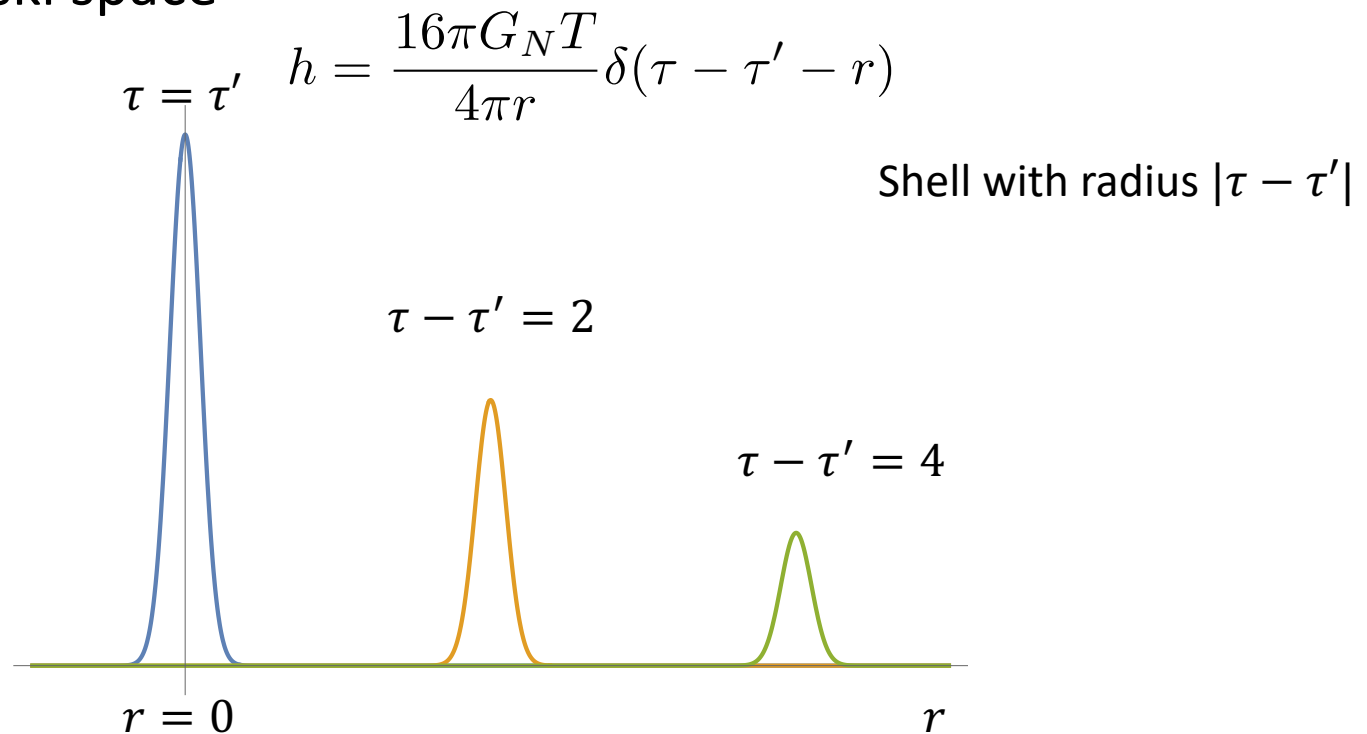
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# Another way to see the oscillatory pattern

- What is the spatial configuration of  $h$  from an instantaneous and local source?
- In Minkowski space



# Another way to see the oscillatory pattern

- What is the spatial configuration of  $h$  from an instantaneous and local source?
- In de Sitter space

$$h_{ij}(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = -16\pi G_N H T_{ij} \tau \Theta(\tau - \tau') \left[ \frac{\sin k(\tau - \tau')}{k} + \left( \frac{1}{k^2 \tau} - \frac{1}{k^2 \tau'} \right) \cos k(\tau - \tau') + \frac{1}{k^3 \tau \tau'} \sin k(\tau - \tau') \right]$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 h_{ij}(\tau, \mathbf{k}) = & -16\pi G_N H T_{ij} \tau \Theta(\tau - \tau') \left[ \frac{\sin k(\tau - \tau')}{k} \right. \\
 & \left. + \underbrace{\left( \frac{1}{k^2 \tau} - \frac{1}{k^2 \tau'} \right) \cos k(\tau - \tau') + \frac{1}{k^3 \tau \tau'} \sin k(\tau - \tau')}_{\frac{1}{4\pi} \Theta(\tau - \tau' - |\mathbf{x}|)} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

# Another way to see the oscillatory pattern

- What is the spatial configuration of  $h$  from an instantaneous and local source?
- In de Sitter space

$$h(\tau, \mathbf{x}) \sim \frac{\tau}{4\pi x} \delta(\tau - \tau' - x) + \frac{1}{4\pi} \Theta(\tau - \tau' - x)$$

Similar to Minkovski

Intrinsic in de Sitter

Decreases with both  $x$  and  $\tau$

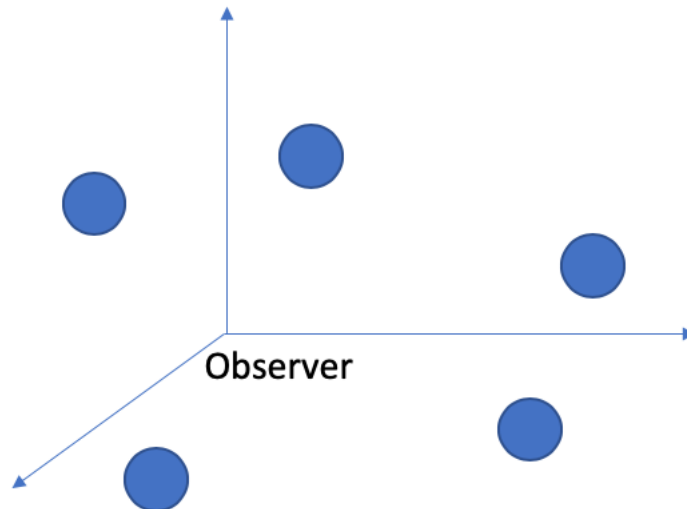
constant

Vanishes out of horizon



# de Sitter inflation as an example

- At  $\tau \rightarrow 0$   $h(\tau, \mathbf{x}) \sim \frac{1}{4\pi} \Theta(|\tau'| - x)$
- A ball of GW, with radius  $|\tau'|$
- $h$  uniformly distributed inside the GW balls.
- All the balls have the same radius.



# Spectrum of GW from a real source

