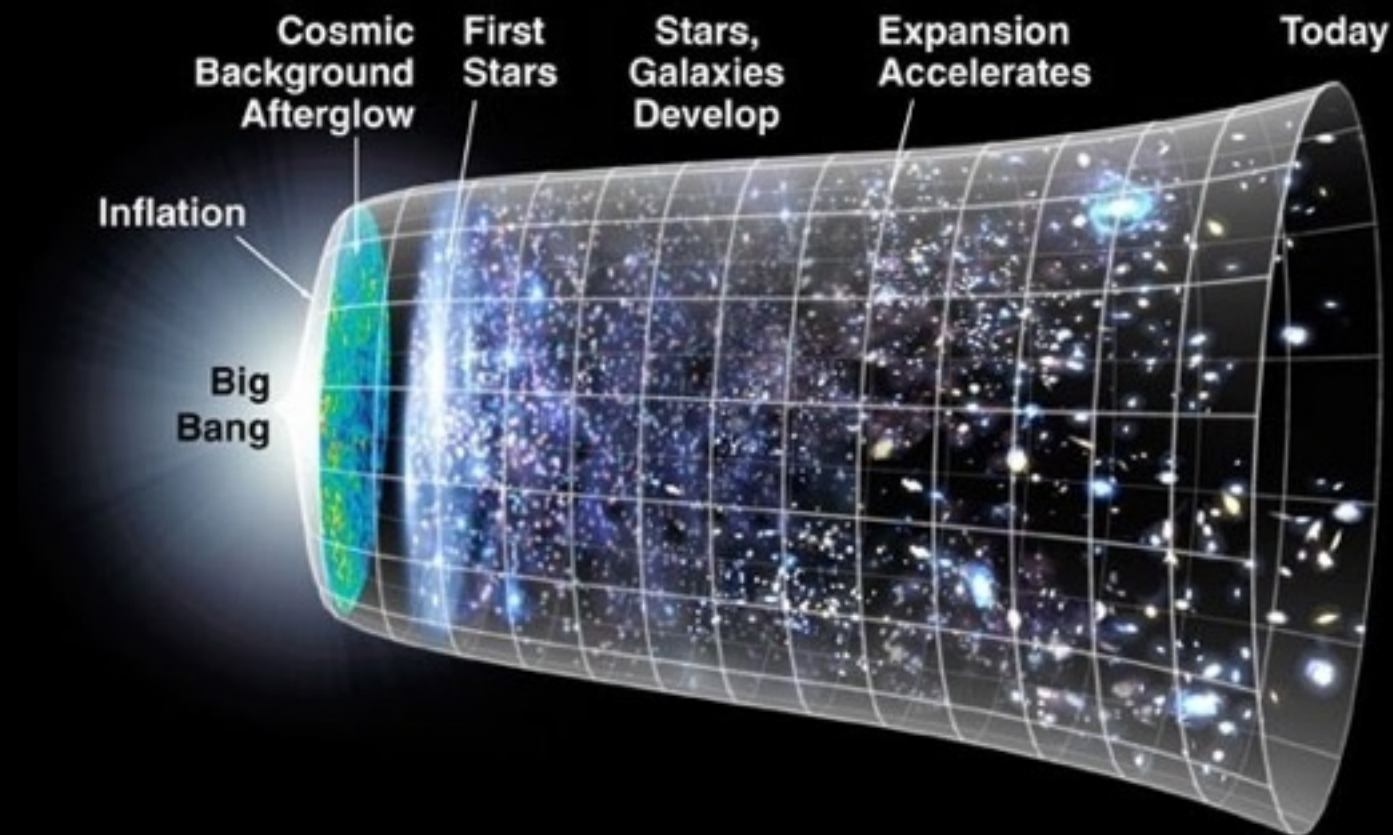


# Primordial GW from Axion-Gauge Fields Dynamics



Matteo R. Fasiello  
IFT Madrid

June 8th 2023

10th LISA CosWG meeting, Stavanger, Norway

# Inflation, the minimal paradigm, SFSR

Simplest realization: single-scalar field in slow-roll

- Scalar field :

$$p_\phi = \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{2} - V(\phi) \approx -V(\phi)$$
$$\rho_\phi = \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{2} + V(\phi) \approx V(\phi)$$

$$\dot{\phi}^2 \ll V$$

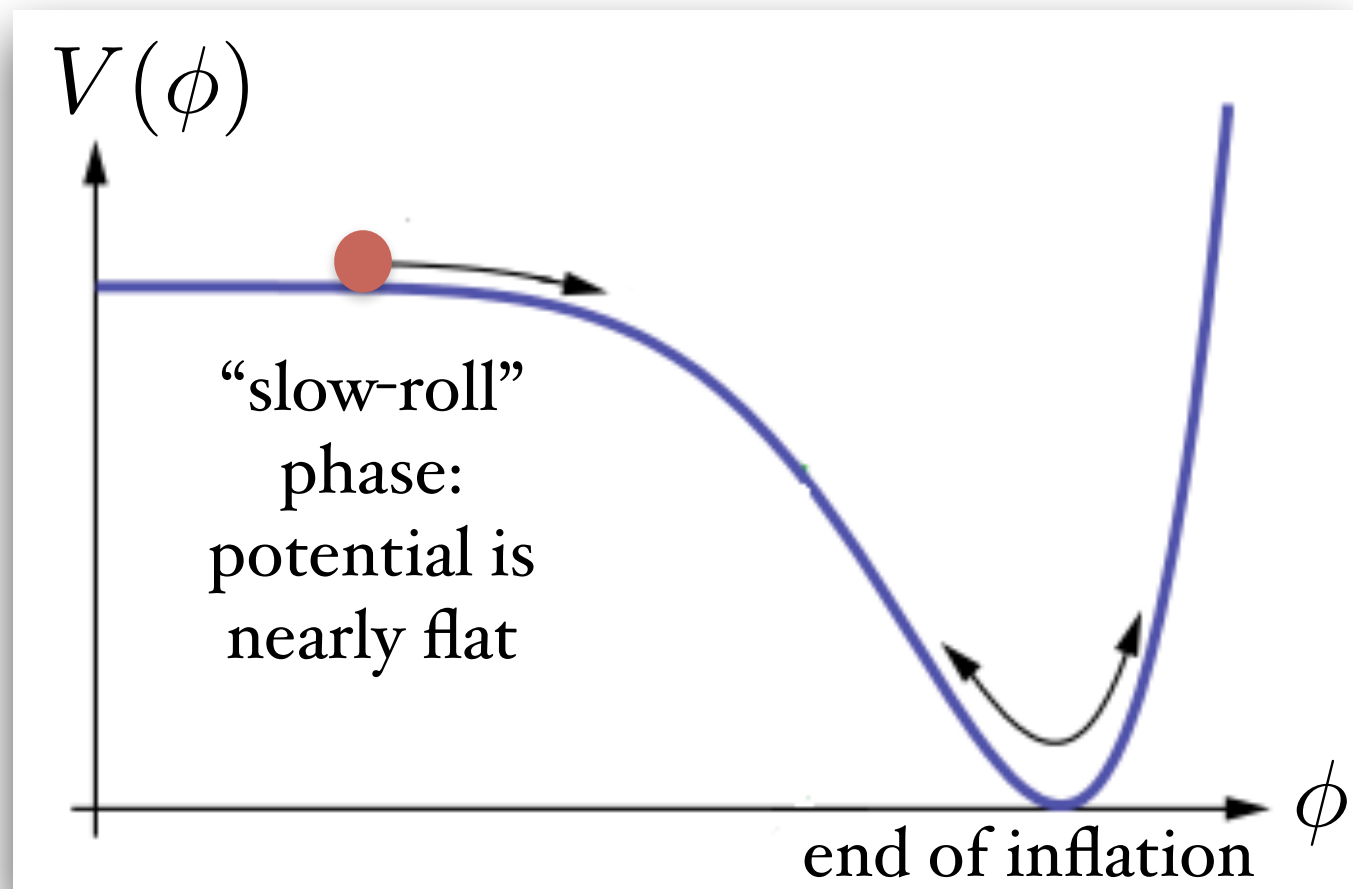
$$p_\phi \approx -\rho_\phi$$

start flat

$$\epsilon \equiv -\frac{\dot{H}}{H^2} \simeq \frac{M_{\text{P}}^2}{2} \left( \frac{V'}{V} \right)^2 \simeq \frac{3}{2} \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{V} \ll 1$$

stay flat

$$|\eta| \equiv \frac{|\dot{\epsilon}|}{H\epsilon} \simeq -\frac{2}{3} \left( \frac{V''}{H^2} \right) + 4\epsilon \ll 1$$



# Metric Fluctuations

$$ds^2 = (-dt^2 + a(t)^2 [e^{2\zeta} \delta_{ij} + \gamma_{ij}] dx^i dx^j)$$

scalar fluctuations

tensor perturbations

# Primordial Fluctuations

(in the minimal scenario)

$$ds^2 = (-dt^2 + a(t)^2 [e^{2\zeta} \delta_{ij} + \gamma_{ij}] dx^i dx^j)$$

scalar fluctuations

$$\mathcal{P}_\zeta(k) = \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \frac{1}{\epsilon} \frac{H^2}{M_{\text{pl}}^2} \left(\frac{k}{k_*}\right)^{n_s-1}$$

$n_s - 1 \simeq -2\epsilon - \eta$

$2.2 \times 10^{-9}$   
 $0.9649 \pm 0.0042$   
 $[k_* = 0.05 \text{ Mpc}^{-1}, 68\% \text{ C.L.}]$   
 from Planck measurements  
 of CMB anisotropies

tensor perturbations

$$\mathcal{P}_\gamma^{\text{vacuum}}(k) = \frac{2}{\pi^2} \frac{H^2}{M_{\text{pl}}^2} \left(\frac{k}{k_*}\right)^{n_T}$$

energy scale of inflation

**red tilt**

$$n_T \simeq -2\epsilon \simeq -r/8$$

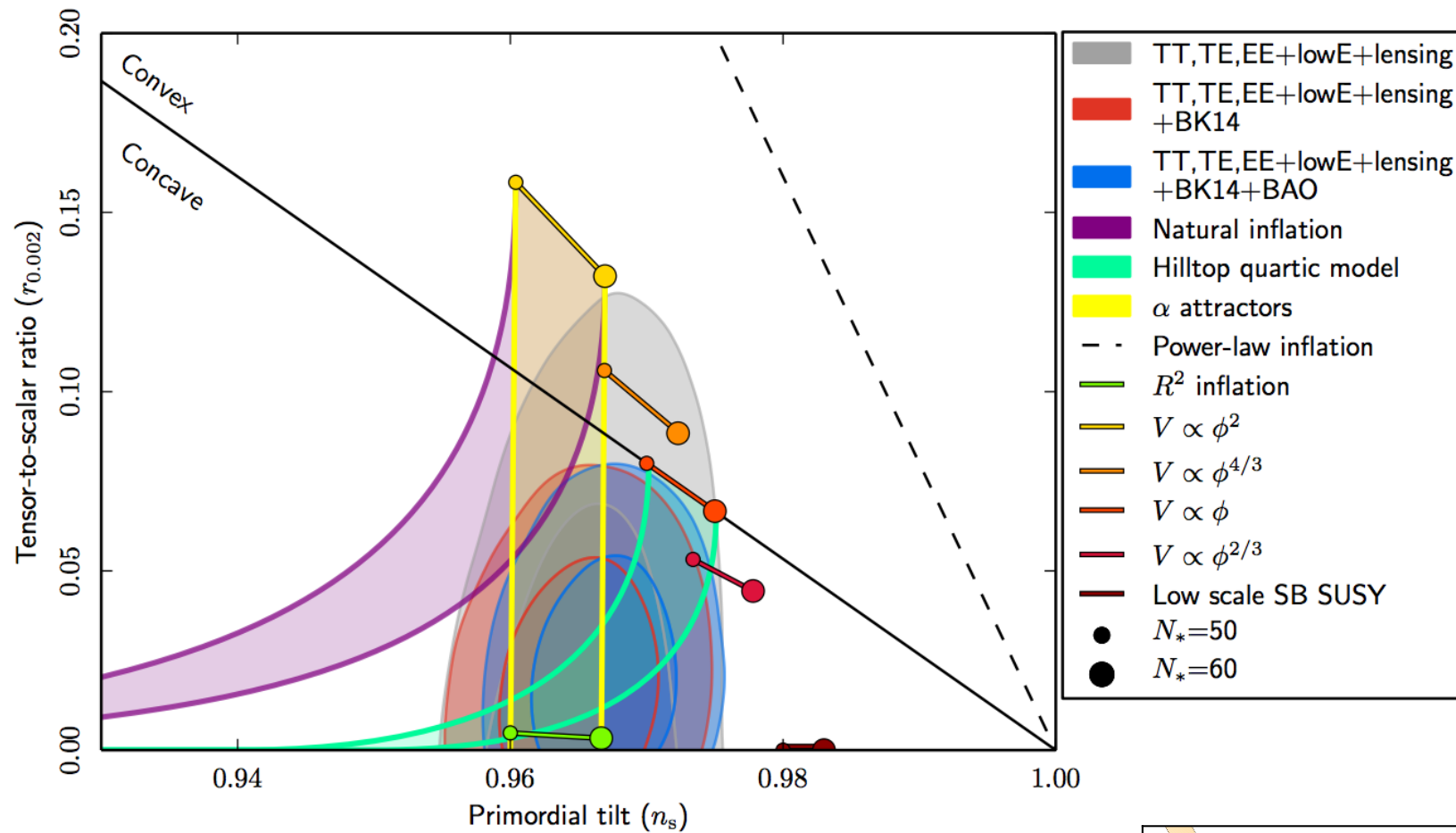
tensor-to-scalar ratio  $r \equiv \frac{\mathcal{P}_\gamma}{\mathcal{P}_\zeta}$

bounds

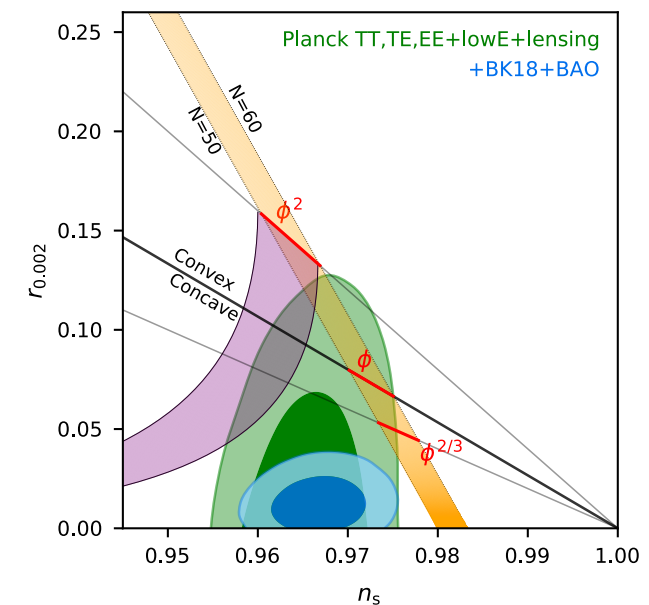
$$\begin{cases} \text{current} \\ r < 0.032 \text{ (95\% CL, Planck}^+) \\ \text{future} \\ r < 0.01 \text{ (CMB-S3); } r < 0.001 \text{ (-S4)} \end{cases}$$

# Single-field Inflation is doing well

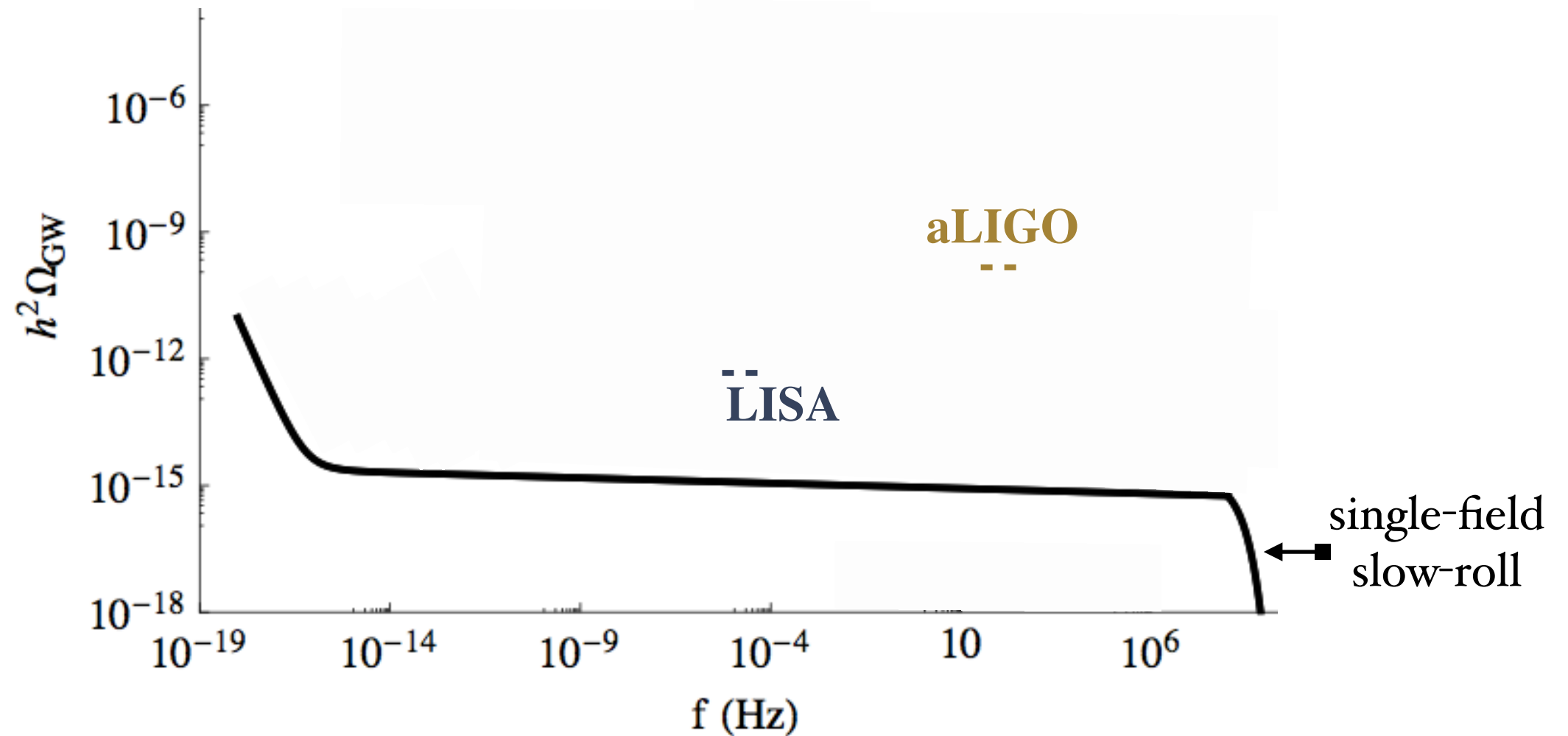
Planck Collaboration: Constraints on Inflation



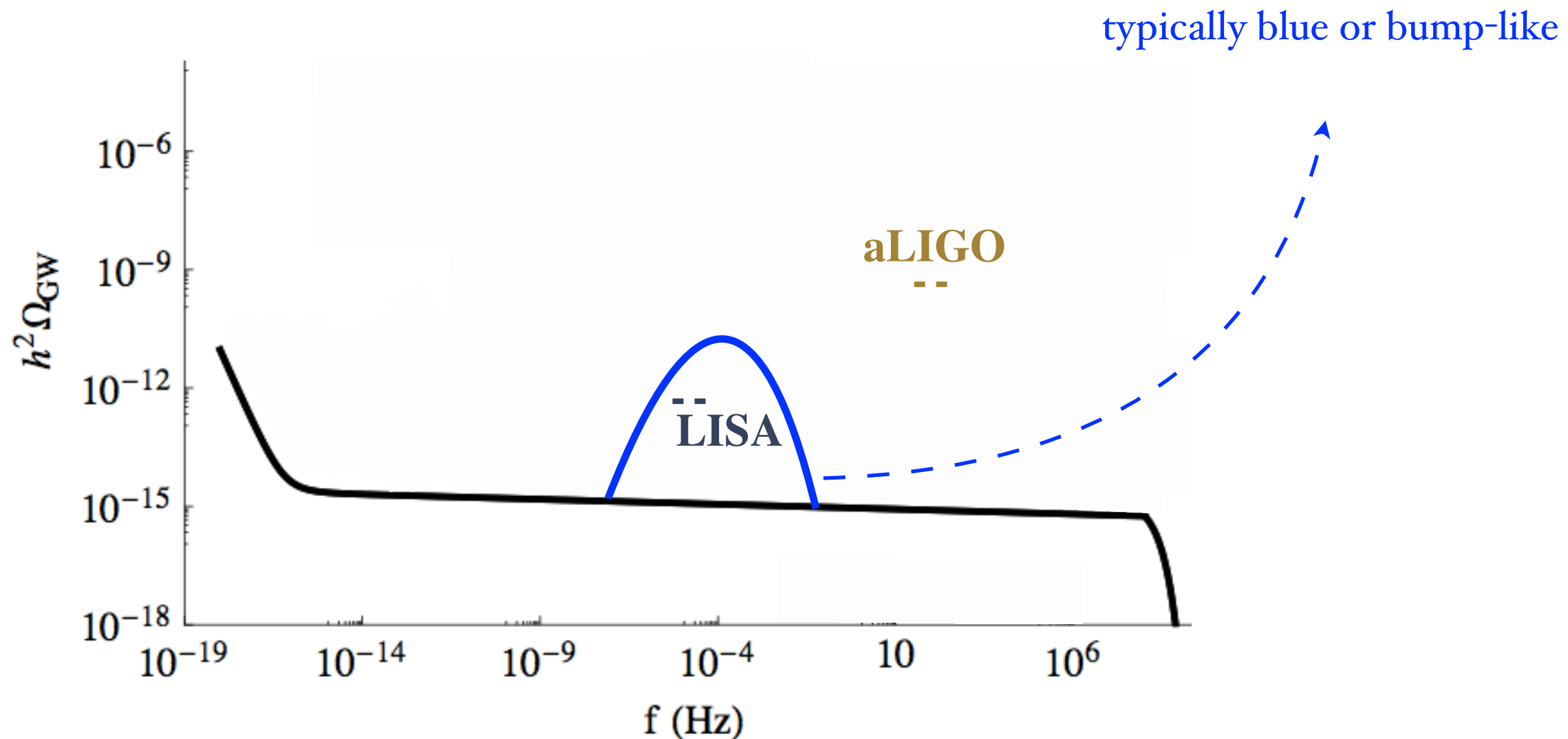
+BK update:



# Amplitude & Scale Dependence in SFSR



# Axion-Gauge Field Models



Laser Interferometers a new frontier to test primordial physics at small scales

# Why go beyond the single-field scenario?

**interpreting observations**

what to infer from GW detection?  
e.g.  $r \leftrightarrow H$  relation

**likely**

string theory

|

flux compactifications

|

4D EFT with many moduli fields

**interesting**

signatures of new content  
on GW spectrum:  
PS: scale-dependence, chirality,  
n-G: (amplitude, shape, angular..)

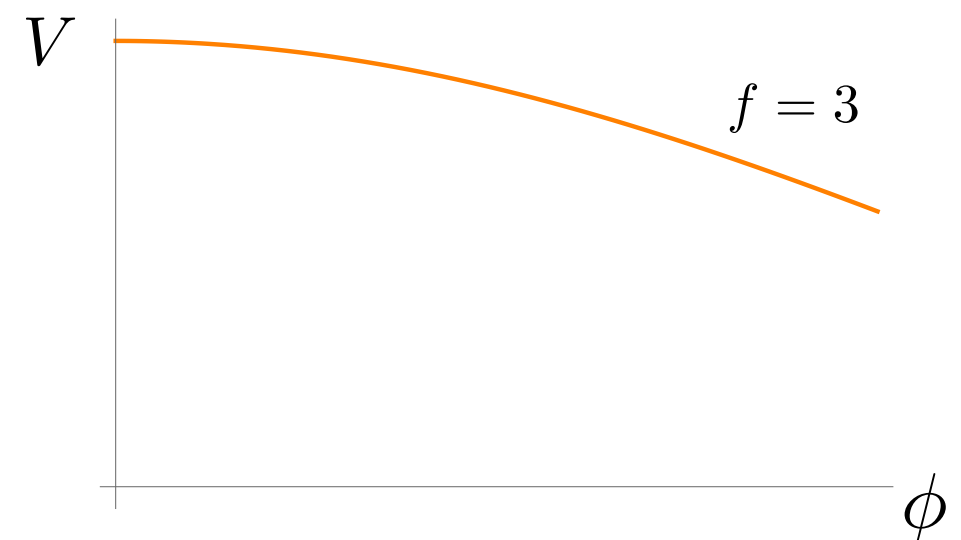
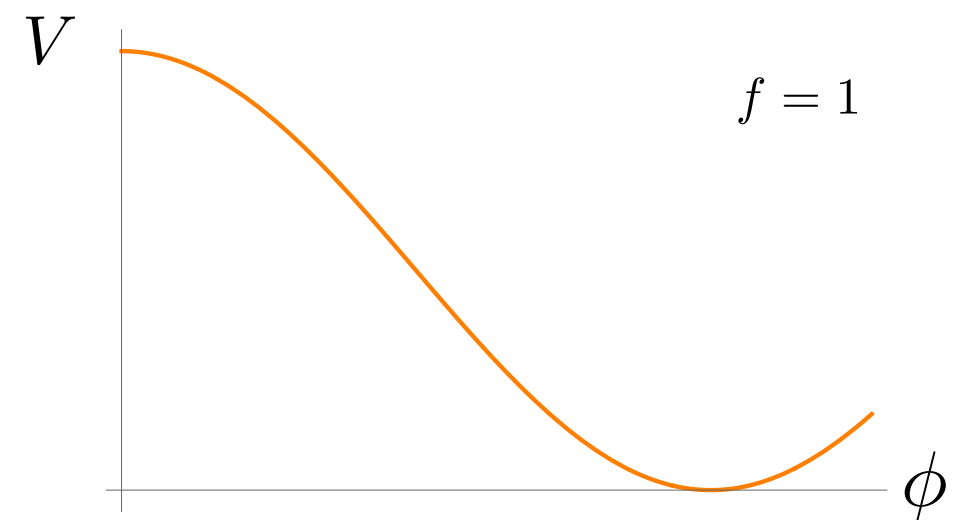


# Natural Inflation

$$\mathcal{L} = \sqrt{-g} \left[ R[g] - (\partial\phi)^2 - \mu^4 (1 + \text{Cos}[\phi/f]) \right]$$

[Freese, Frieman, Olinto]

axion-like potential



simple

(technically) natural: shift symmetry

viable for  $f \gtrsim M_{\text{P}}$

# Chromo Natural Inflation

[Adshead, Wyman]

[Dimastrogiovanni, MF, Tolley]

[Dimastrogiovanni, Peloso],

[Domcke, Mares, Muia, Pieroni], [...]

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4}F^2 + \frac{\lambda\phi}{4f}F\tilde{F} - (\partial\phi)^2 - U_{\text{axion}}(\phi)$$

◆  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} f \ll M_{\text{P}} \quad \text{realization} \\ \text{very interesting GW signatures!} \end{array} \right.$

# Chromo Natural Inflation

[Adshead, Wyman]  
[Dimastrogiovanni, MF, Tolley]  
[Dimastrogiovanni, Peloso],  
[Domcke, Mares, Muia, Pieroni], [...]

→ SU(2) but could be U(1)!



$$\mathcal{L} \supset \left[ -\frac{1}{4}F^2 + \frac{\lambda\phi}{4f}F\tilde{F} \right] - (\partial\phi)^2 - U_{\text{axion}}(\phi)$$

◆  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} f \ll M_{\text{P}} \quad \text{realization} \\ \text{very interesting GW signatures!} \end{array} \right.$

# Spectator Chromo Natural Inflation

[Dimastrogiovanni, MF, Fujita]

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \mathcal{L}_{\text{inflaton}} - \frac{1}{4} F^2 + \frac{\lambda \chi}{4f} F \tilde{F} - (\partial \chi)^2 - U_{\text{axion}}(\chi)$$

- ◆  $f \ll M_{\text{P}}$  realization
- same interesting GW spectrum
- observationally viable

# Spectator Chromo Natural Inflation

[Dimastrogiovanni, MF, Fujita]

SU(2) but could be U(1) !  
e.g. Juan's talk on Tuesday 

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \mathcal{L}_{\text{inflaton}} - \frac{1}{4} F^2 + \frac{\lambda \chi}{4f} F \tilde{F} - (\partial \chi)^2 - U_{\text{axion}}(\chi)$$

◆  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} f \ll M_{\text{P}} \text{ realization} \\ \text{same interesting GW spectrum} \\ \text{observationally viable} \end{array} \right.$

# Primordial GW in SCNI

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \mathcal{L}_{\text{inflaton}} - \frac{1}{4} F^2 + \frac{\lambda \chi}{4f} F \tilde{F} - (\partial \chi)^2 - U_{\text{axion}}(\chi)$$

$$\text{SU}(2) \begin{cases} A_0^a = 0 \\ A_i^a = a Q \delta_i^a \\ \delta A_i^a = t_{ai} + \dots \end{cases}$$

$$\ddot{\gamma}_{ij}^\lambda + 3H \dot{\gamma}_{ij}^\lambda + k^2 \gamma_{ij}^\lambda \propto t_{ij}^\lambda + \dots + \dots$$

[Dimastrogiovanni, MF, Fujita]

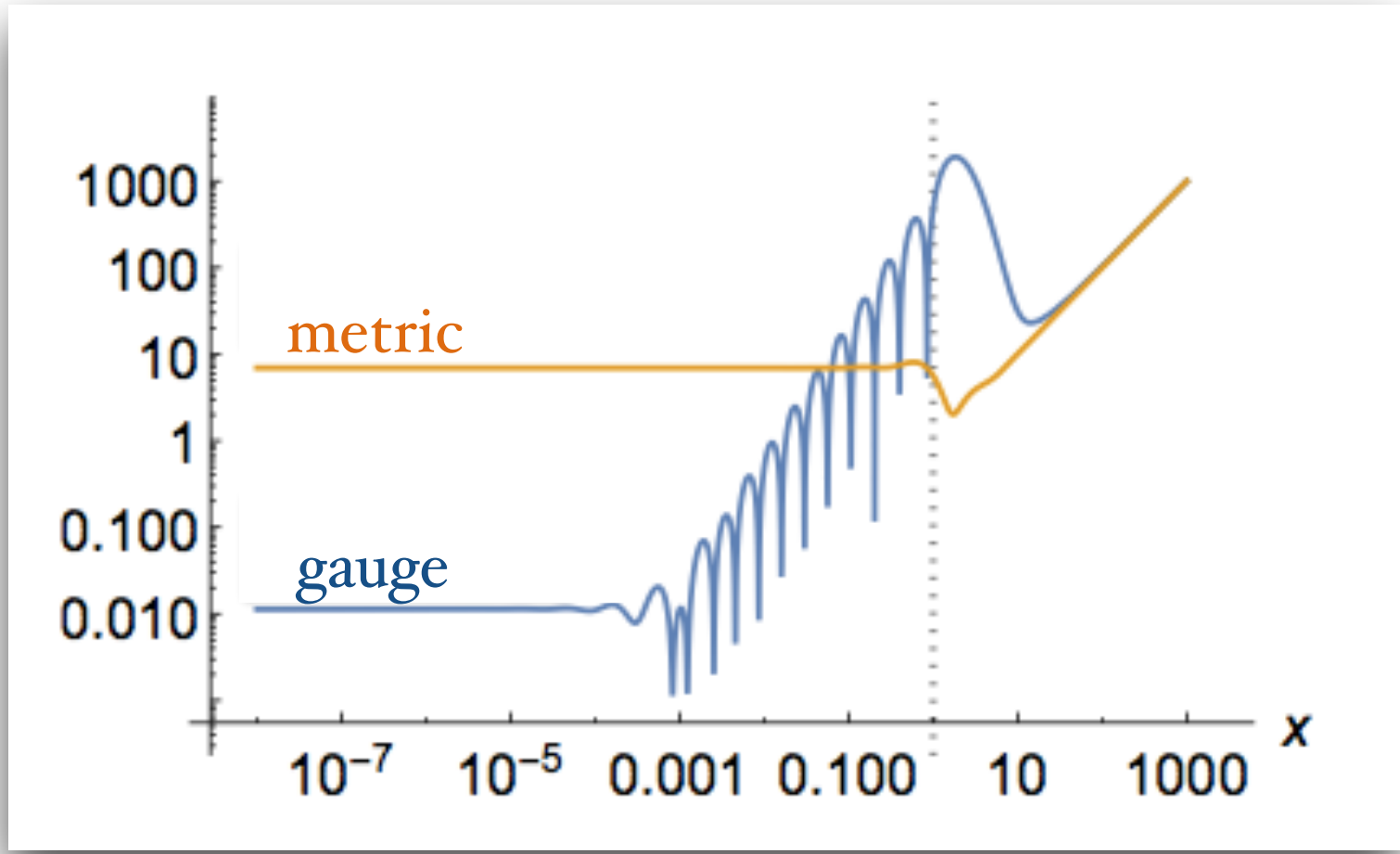
$$P_\lambda^{\text{sourced}} \gtrsim P_\lambda^{\text{vacuum}}$$

now possible!

$$\begin{cases}
 \text{metric} & \Psi''_{R,L} + \left(1 - \frac{2}{x^2}\right) \Psi_{R,L} = \mathcal{O}^{(1)}(t_{R,L}) \\
 \text{gauge} & t''_{R,L} + \left[1 + \frac{2m_Q \xi}{x^2} \mp \frac{2}{x} (m_Q + \xi)\right] t_{R,L} = \tilde{\mathcal{O}}^{(1)}(\Psi_{R,L})
 \end{cases}$$

$$\xi = \frac{\lambda \dot{\chi}}{2fH}$$

$$x \sim -k\tau$$





# Chirality

(background +) Chern-Simons coupling  $\frac{\lambda\chi}{4f} F \tilde{F}$

$$\ddot{t}_{ij}^{L/R} \pm \lambda(\dots) t_{ij}^{L/R} + \dots = 0$$

$$\gamma_{ij}^L \neq \gamma_{ij}^R$$

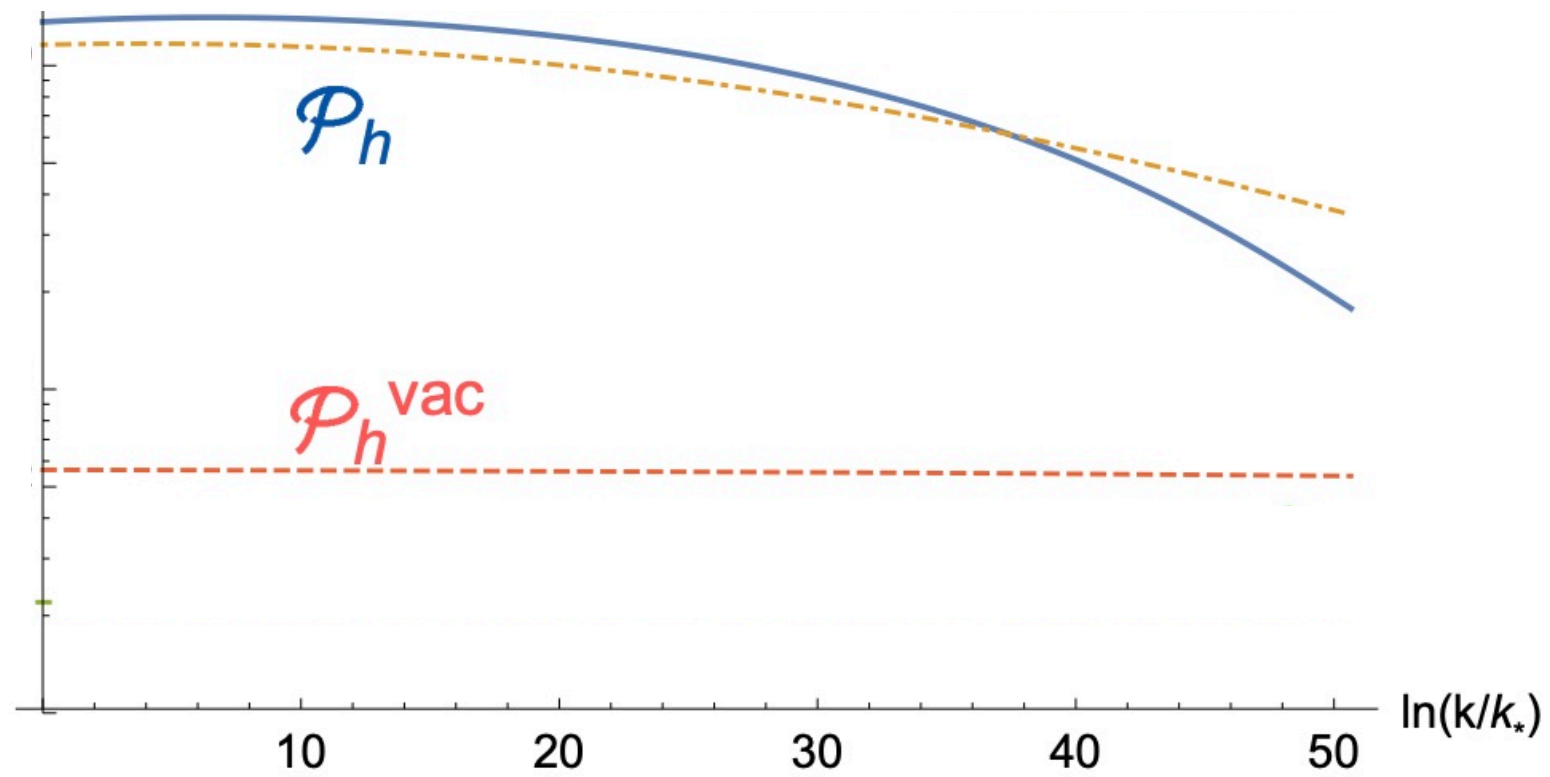
chiral spectrum

$$\mathcal{P}_\gamma^L \neq \mathcal{P}_\gamma^R$$

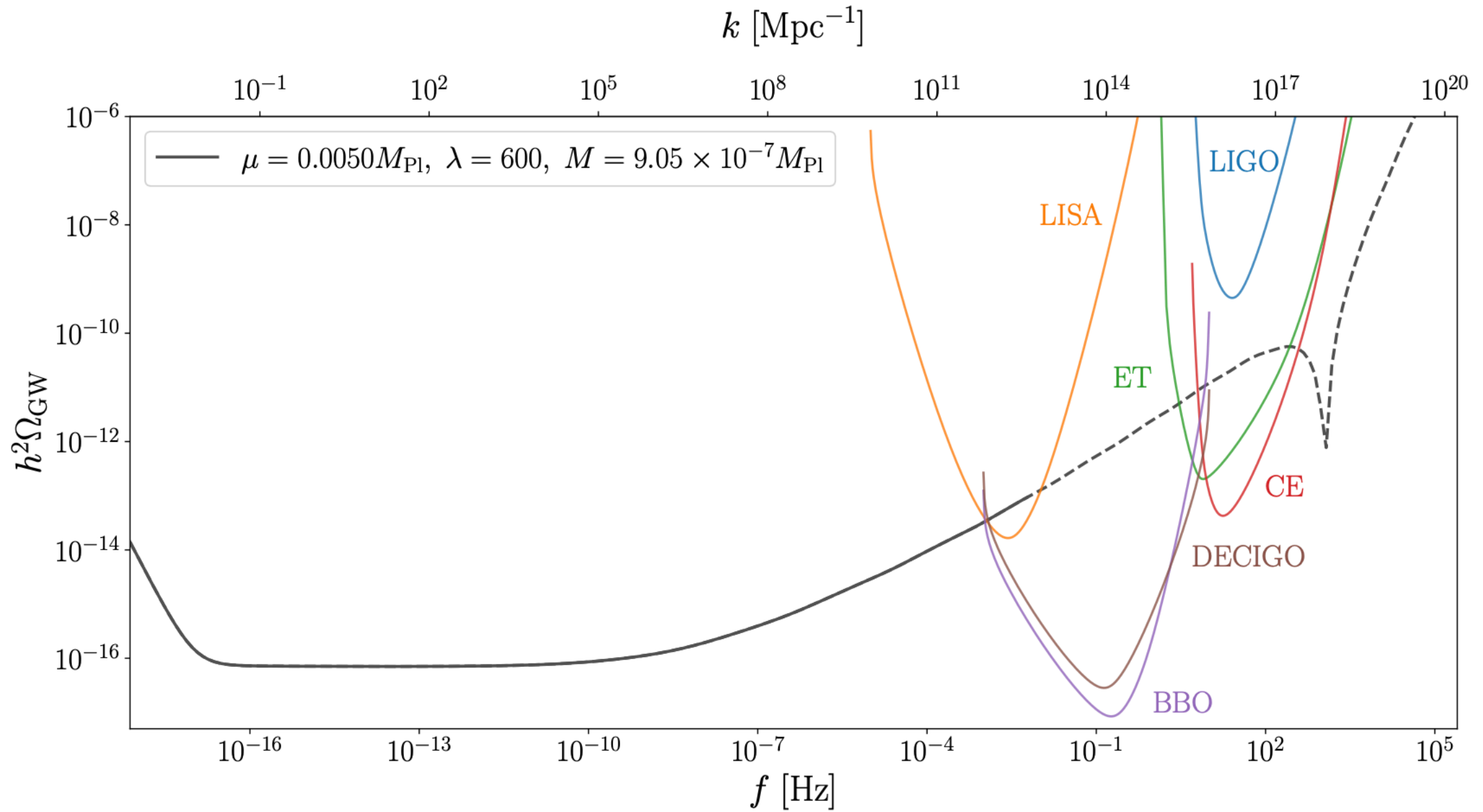
Testable at small scales via interferometers

{ cross-correlation @ different locations [Smith, Caldwell 2017]  
kinematically induced dipole [Domcke et al 2019]

# Slightly Bump-like GW Power Spectrum



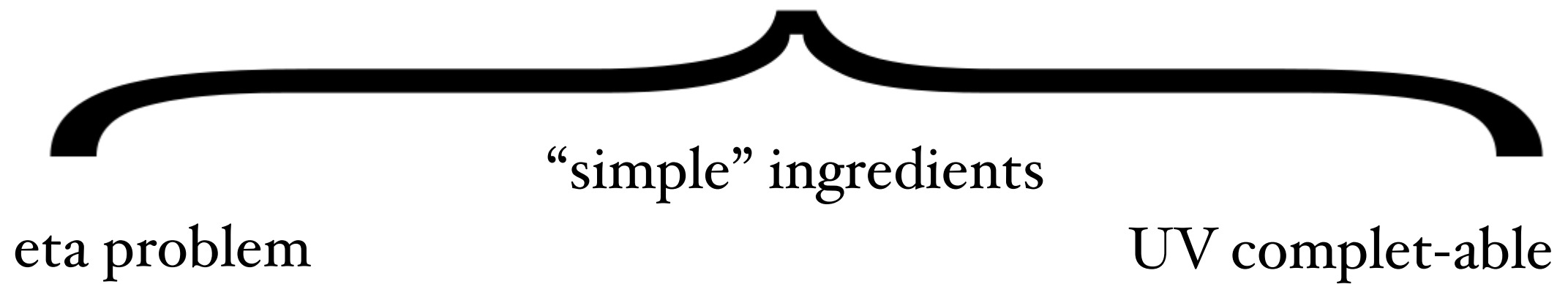
# Related models can be blue



[Dimastrogiovanni, MF, Michelotti, Pinol 2023]

# Appeal of axion-gauge field models

## Model Building



scale-dependence

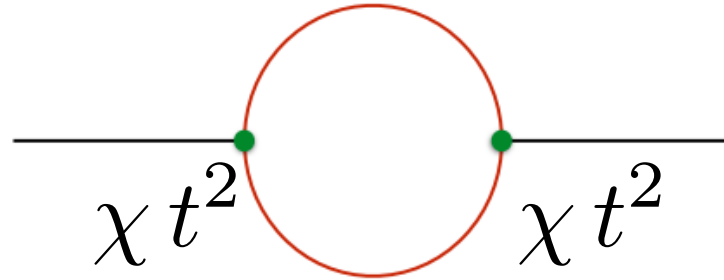
non-Gaussianity

chirality

## Tests



# Challenge I: Perturbativity



the same interaction enhancing sourced GW affects the 1-loop scalar PS

From  $P_{\zeta}^{\text{tree}} \ll P_{\zeta}^{1\text{-loop}}$  or at least  $P_{\zeta}^n \ll P_{\zeta}^{n+1}$  from a given  $n$  onwards

stem strong constraints on the theory parameter space

====>

in SCNI the sourced GW signal can be larger than the vacuum but within same order of magnitude

[Dimastrogiovanni, MF, Hardwick, Assadullahi, Koyama, Wands 2018]

[Papageorgiou, Peloso, Unal 2018 & 2019]

◆ (mostly CMB) bounds on non-Gaussianity play a similar role

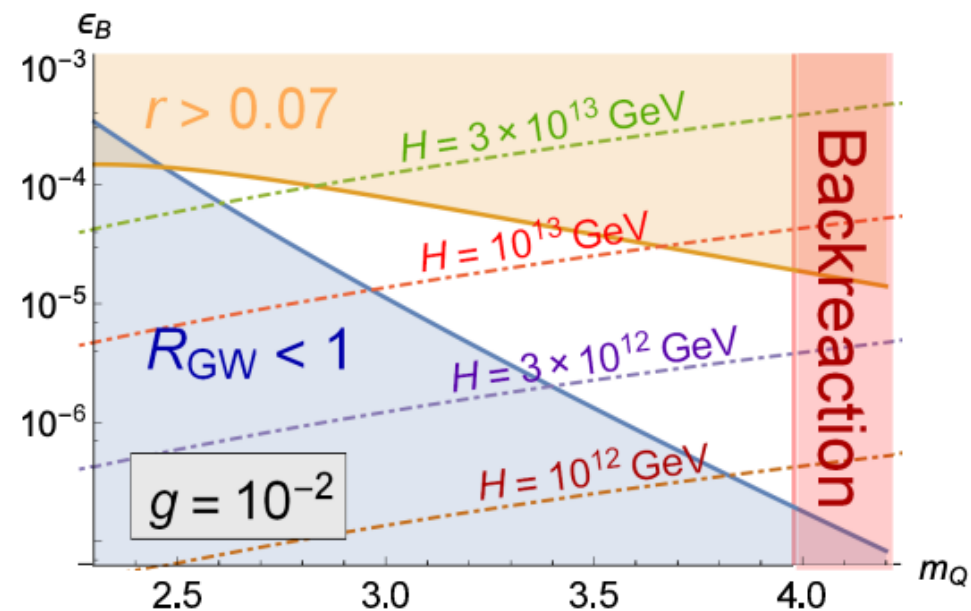
# Challenge II: Backreaction

eom for the gauge field background

$$\ddot{Q} + 3H\dot{Q} + (\dot{H} + 2H^2)Q + 2g^2Q^3 = \frac{g\lambda}{f}\dot{\chi}Q^2 + \dots$$

fluctuations backreact on background ==> reduced regime of validity

$$\mathcal{T}_{BR}^Q \equiv \frac{g\xi}{3a^2}H \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} |t_R|^2 + \frac{g}{3a^2} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{k}{a} |t_R|^2$$



SCNI further restricted, small window still viable. For non-Abelian need strong-backreaction regime, numerical & eventually lattice U(1) more well-studied, strong backreaction from the start + recent works including lattice qualitatively agreeing on main effects

# Challenge III: UV Completion

field content easily obtained, key is strength of CS interaction, i.e.  $\lambda$

interesting GW phenomenology requires  $\lambda > 100$

very hard to obtain in  
clockwork mechanisms

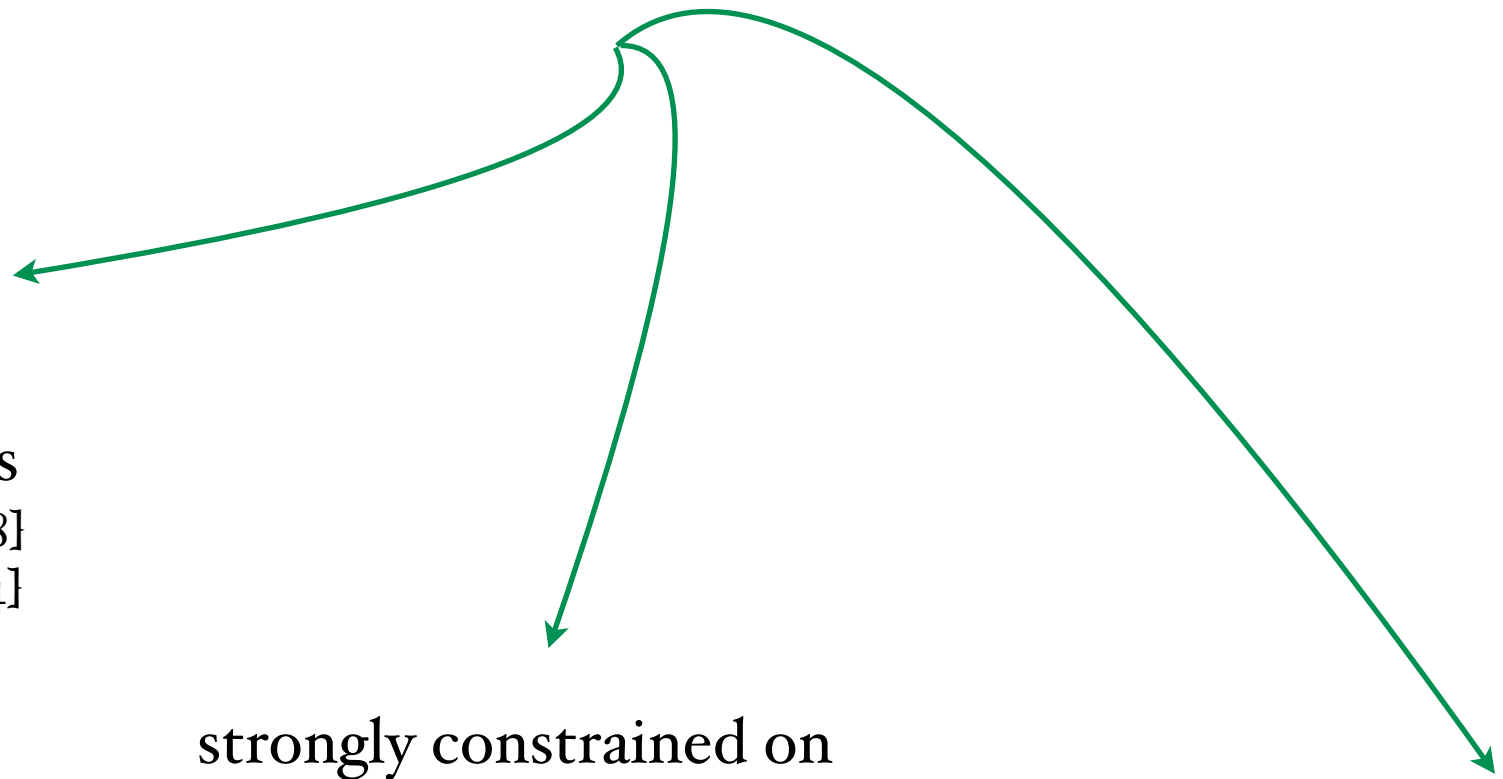
[Agrawal, Fan, Reece 2018]  
[Kim, Nilles, Peloso 2004]

strongly constrained on  
more general unitarity grounds

[Agrawal, Fan, Reece 2018]  
[Bagherian, Reece, Xu 2022]

nevertheless possible  
in string theory

[Holland, Zavala, Tasinato 2020]



For the latest on inflation & GW with non-Abelian fields



tune in for Martino's talk this afternoon!

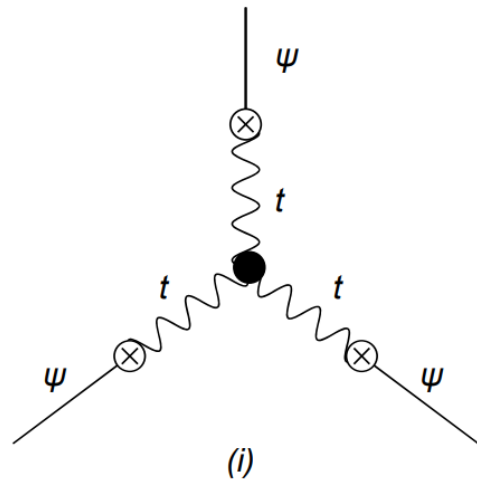


Thank you!

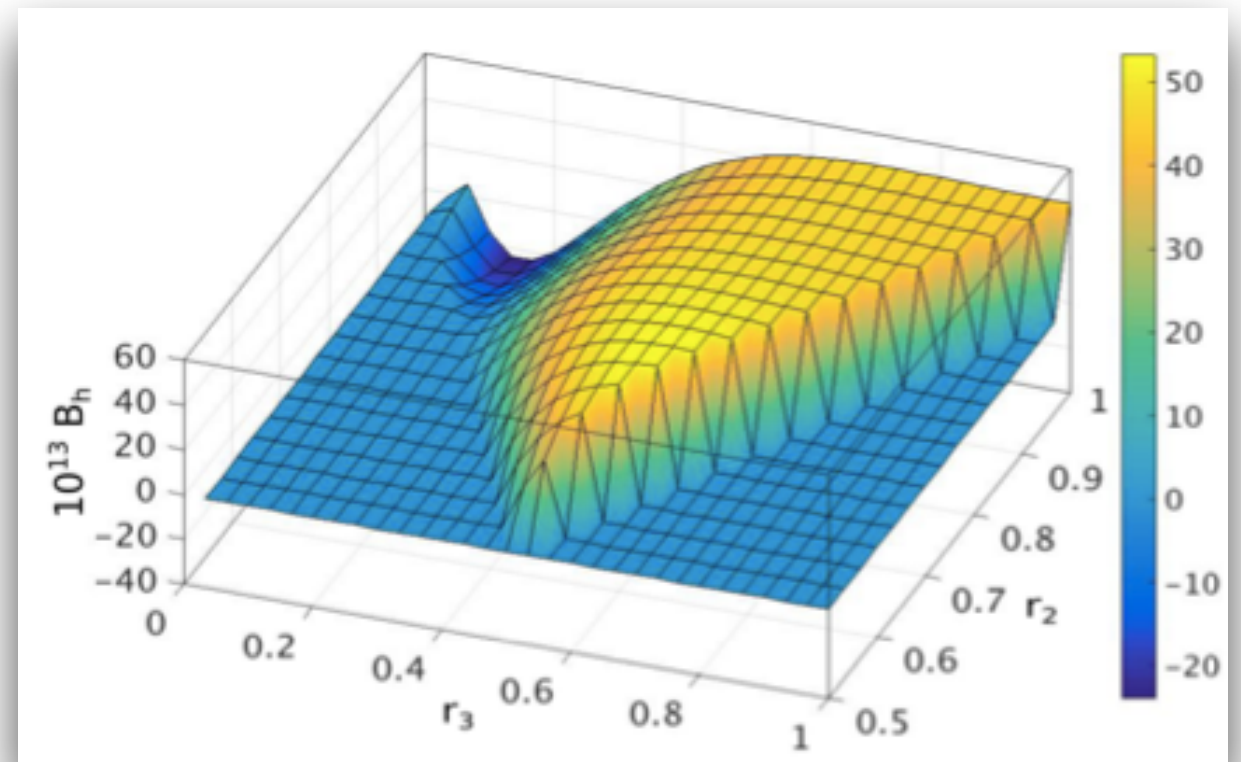
# non-Gaussianity (TTT)

[Agrawal - Fujita - Komatsu 2017]

$$\text{n-G} \quad \langle h_R(\vec{k}_1) h_R(\vec{k}_2) h_R(\vec{k}_3) \rangle = (2\pi)^3 \delta^{(3)} \left( \sum_{i=1}^3 \vec{k}_i \right) B_h(k_1, k_2, k_3)$$



$\Psi = \text{GW}$   
 $t = \text{tensor SU}(2)$



$m_Q = 3.45$   
 $\epsilon_B \simeq 10^{-5}$   
 $H \simeq 10^{13} \text{ GeV}$   
 $r_{\text{vac}} \simeq 0.002$   
 $r_{\text{sourced}} \simeq 0.04$

$$\frac{B_h}{P_\zeta^2} \lesssim r^2 10^6$$

sourced nG tensors  
 larger than in minimal SFSR

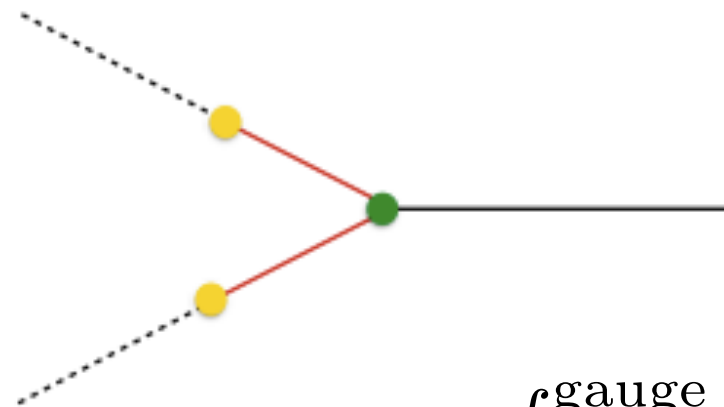
# non-Gaussianity (STT)

$$\langle \zeta \gamma \gamma \rangle$$

[Fujita, Namba, Obata]

[Dimastrogiovanni, MF, Hardwick, Koyama, Wands]

several channels (e.g. mixing terms between scalars)  
contribute to STT  $\Rightarrow$  folded shape



$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{gauge}} \sim 10^3 r$$

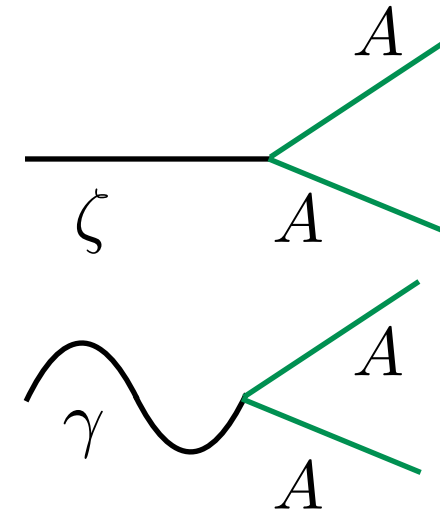
# Abelian case (intriguing phenomenology)

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{EH}} - (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 - V(\phi) - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\lambda}{4f} \phi F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

U(1) case

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu$$

$$\tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} = -\frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} F_{\alpha\beta}$$



Gauge field quanta produced by the rolling axion

$$\left[ \partial_\tau^2 + k^2 \pm \frac{2k\xi}{\tau} \right] A_\pm(\tau, k) = 0$$

$$A_+(\tau, k) \propto e^{\pi\xi}$$

$$\xi \equiv \frac{\lambda \dot{\phi}}{2fH}$$

[Anber, Sorbo 2009 - Barnaby, Peloso 2011, Barnaby, Namba, Peloso 2011, Bartolo et al 2014+...]

[Pajer, Peloso (2013)]

# By now a rich literature on the subject



...Anber - Sorbo 2009; Cook - Sorbo 2011; Barnaby - Peloso 2011;  
Adshead- Wyman 2011; Maleknejad - Sheikh-Jabbari, 2011;  
Dimastrogiovanni - MF - Tolley 2012; Dimastrogiovanni - Peloso 2012;  
Adshead - Martinec -Wyman 2013; Garcia-Bellido - Peloso - Unal 2016;  
Agrawal - Fujita - Komatsu 2017; Fujita - Namba - Obata 2018; Domcke -  
Mukaida 2018; Iarygina - Sfakianakis 2021; ...

Supergravity embedding  
[Dall'Agata]

Lots of research in this direction



+ gravitational Chern-Simons term  
+ fermions production  
+ back-reaction  
[Komatsu et al, x 3]

+ gravitational leptogenesis  
[Caldwell, Devulder]

+ perturbativity bounds  
[Papageorgiou, Peloso, Unal]

+ SCNI in string theory  
[Holland, Zavala, Tasinato]

$$\epsilon_B \equiv g^2 Q^4 / (H M_{\text{Pl}})^2$$

# Why not clockwork in a Nutshell

[Agrawal, Fan, Reece 2018]  
[Bagherian, Reece, Xu 2022]

From periodicity of axion field follows

$$\lambda = \frac{j \cdot k \cdot g^2}{8\pi^2}$$

Integer  $k$  from integrating out fermions carrying SU(2) gauge charge with  $\chi$ -dependent masses

Validity of such EFT of fermions (and gauge) fields needs  $k < 4\pi/g^2$

act on big “j” instead via clockwork

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \mu_{i+1}^4 \cos \left[ \frac{m_i \chi_i}{f_i} + \frac{\chi_{i+1}}{f_{i+1}} \right] + \mu_1^4 \cos \frac{\chi_1}{f_1}$$

Integrating out heaviest modes  $\implies$  parametrically light mode  $\chi$  with effective potential  $j = \prod m_i$  ✓

each cosine mediates axion scattering  $\implies$  perturbative unitarity bound  $\rightarrow$  upper bound on  $\mu$

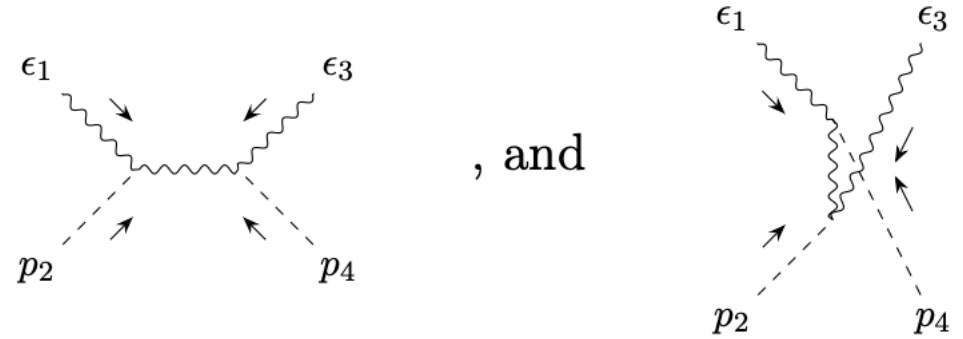
$\implies$

paired up with phenomenological constraints implies this mechanism does not work for the model

# Unitarity Bounds

[Bagherian, Reece, Xu 2022]

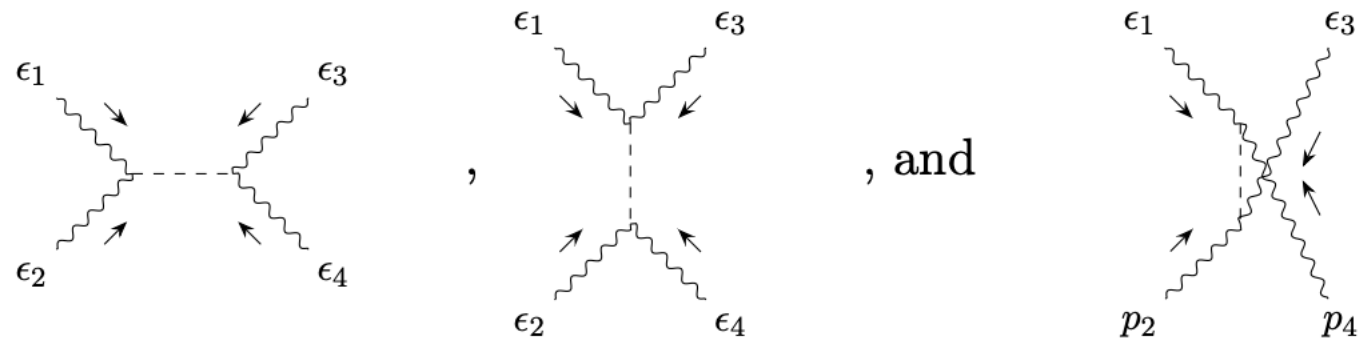
**a:**  $2 \rightarrow 2$  axion gauge scattering amplitudes



$$\mathcal{M}_{+-}^{A\chi} = \delta^{ab} \frac{u+s}{su} \left(\frac{\lambda}{2f}\right)^2 \langle 14 \rangle^2 [34]^2 \propto \delta^{ac} \left(\frac{\lambda}{4f}\right)^2 2s(1 - \cos \theta),$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{++}^{A\chi} = -2\delta^{ac} \left(\frac{\lambda}{2f}\right)^2 \langle 13 \rangle^2 \propto \delta^{ab} \left(\frac{\lambda}{4f}\right)^2 4s(1 - \cos \theta).$$

**b:** gauge scattering mediated by axion



$$\mathcal{M}_{++++}^{AA} = - \left(\frac{\lambda}{4f}\right)^2 \left[ \frac{\delta^{ab}\delta^{cd}}{s - m_\chi^2} [12]^2 [34]^2 + \frac{\delta^{ac}\delta^{bd}}{t - m_\chi^2} [34]^2 [13]^2 + \frac{\delta^{ad}\delta^{bc}}{u - m_\chi^2} [14]^2 [23]^2 \right]$$

**a & b** much weaker (than cw) bound  $\mu \lesssim 8\sqrt{\pi} \frac{f}{\lambda}$  small SCNI region still viable



# String Theory Embedding

[Holland, Zavala, Tasinato 2020]

## Framework

Kahler inflation in type IIB large volume string compactifications

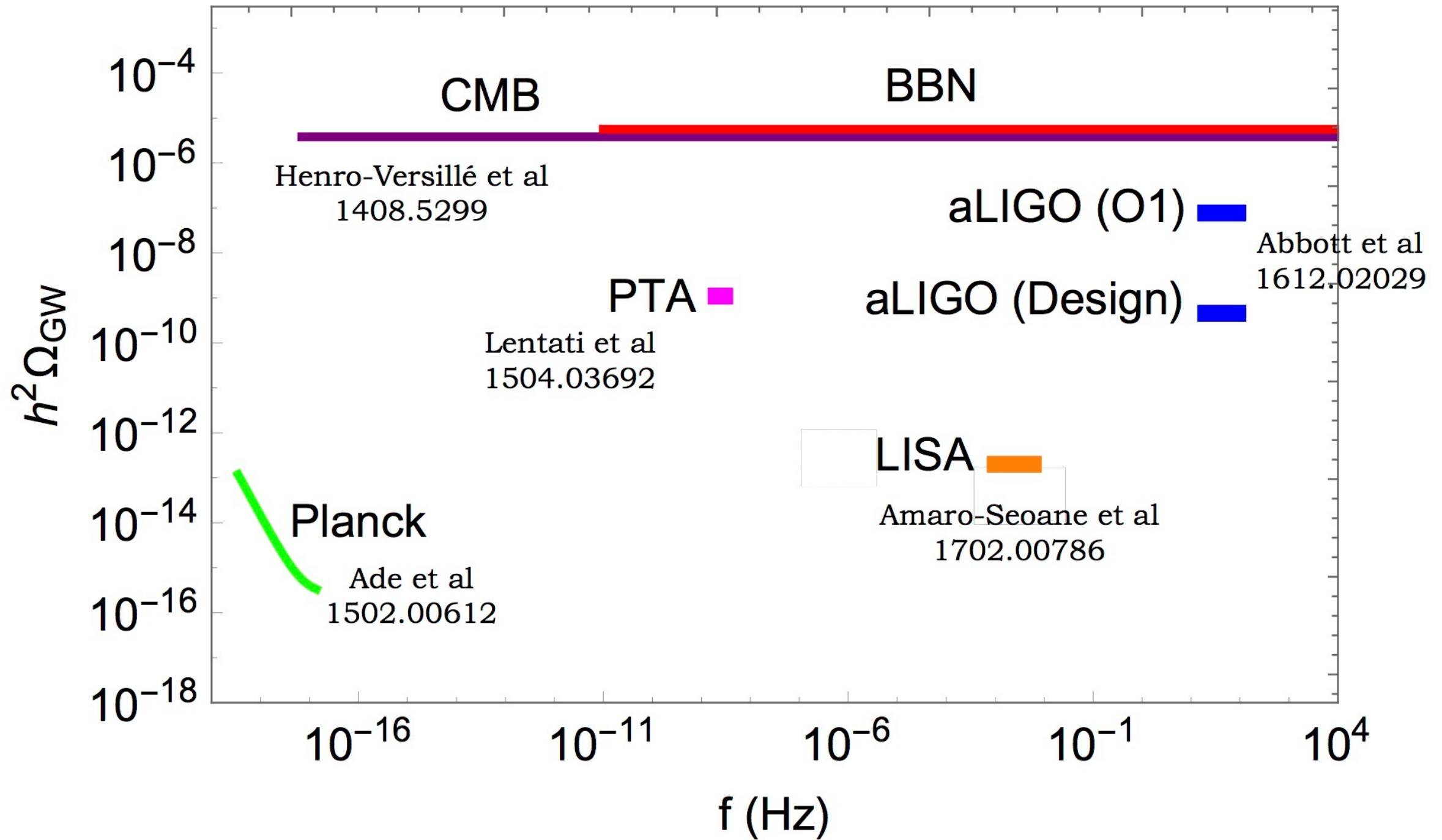
need spectator sector associated with gaugino condensation on multiply magnetised D7-branes

Successful inflation (+large GW enhancement) hinges on suitable values of three parameters:

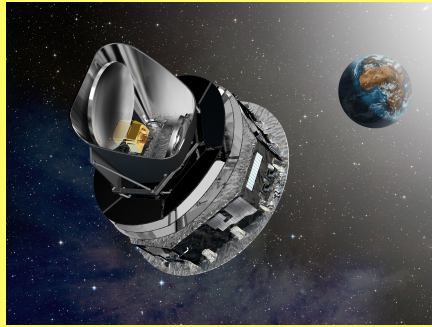
- magnetic flux
- degree of the condensing gauge group
- wrapping number of the D7-brane

gauge group degree  $N \sim 10^5$  not easy to realise, yet necessary for phenomenology!

# Observational bounds/sensitivities for SGWB



## Scalar bispectrum: current bounds



$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{local}} = -0.9 \pm 5.1 \quad f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{equil}} = -26 \pm 47 \quad f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{ortho}} = -38 \pm 24$$

[68 % CL]

## Scalar bispectrum: future bounds

- **LSST**
- **SKA**
- **SPHEREx**

$$\sigma(f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{local}}) \simeq 1$$

- **21-cm**  $\sigma(f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{local}}) \lesssim 10^{-1}$   
[Munoz, Ali-Haïmoud, Kamionkowski]

---

## Tensor bispectrum

- **Planck**  
 $f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{tens}} = (8 \pm 11) \times 10^2$   
[68 % CL]

$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{tens}} \equiv \frac{B_{\gamma}^{+++}(k, k, k)}{(18/5)P_{\zeta}^2(k)}$$

(parity violating models / roughly equilateral)

- **LiteBIRD**  
 $\sigma(f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{tens}}) = \text{a few}$   
(possibly also with **PICO**)

# Backreaction Under Control

