

# F-term Monodromy Inflation

An aerial photograph of Ringberg Castle, a large stone building with multiple towers and conical roofs, situated on a hillside surrounded by dense green forest. A red arrow originates from the left side of the main building and points towards a smaller tower on the right side of the image.

**Gary Shiu**

University of Wisconsin & HKUST

Ringberg, July 2014

# F-term Monodromy Inflation

Marchesano, GS, Uranga, arXiv:1404.3040

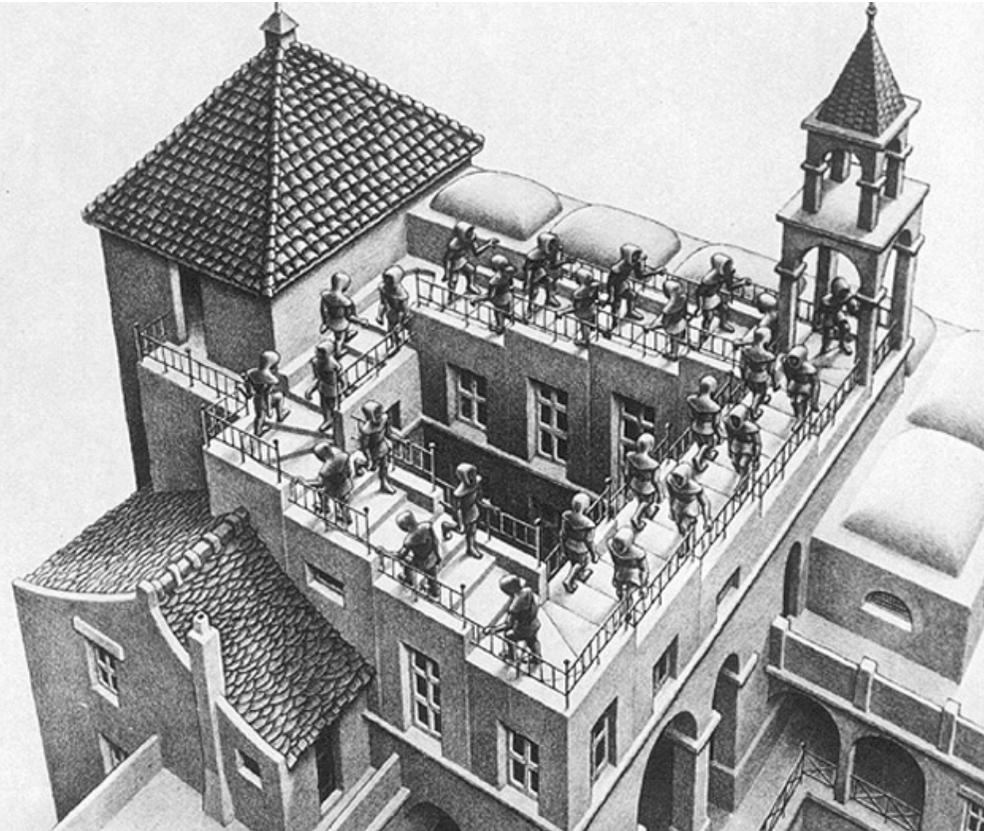


**Gary Shiu**

University of Wisconsin & HKUST

Ringberg, July 2014

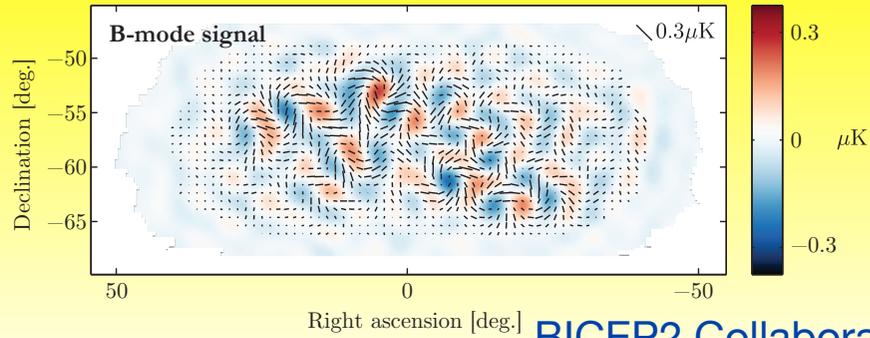
# Monodromies are everywhere ...



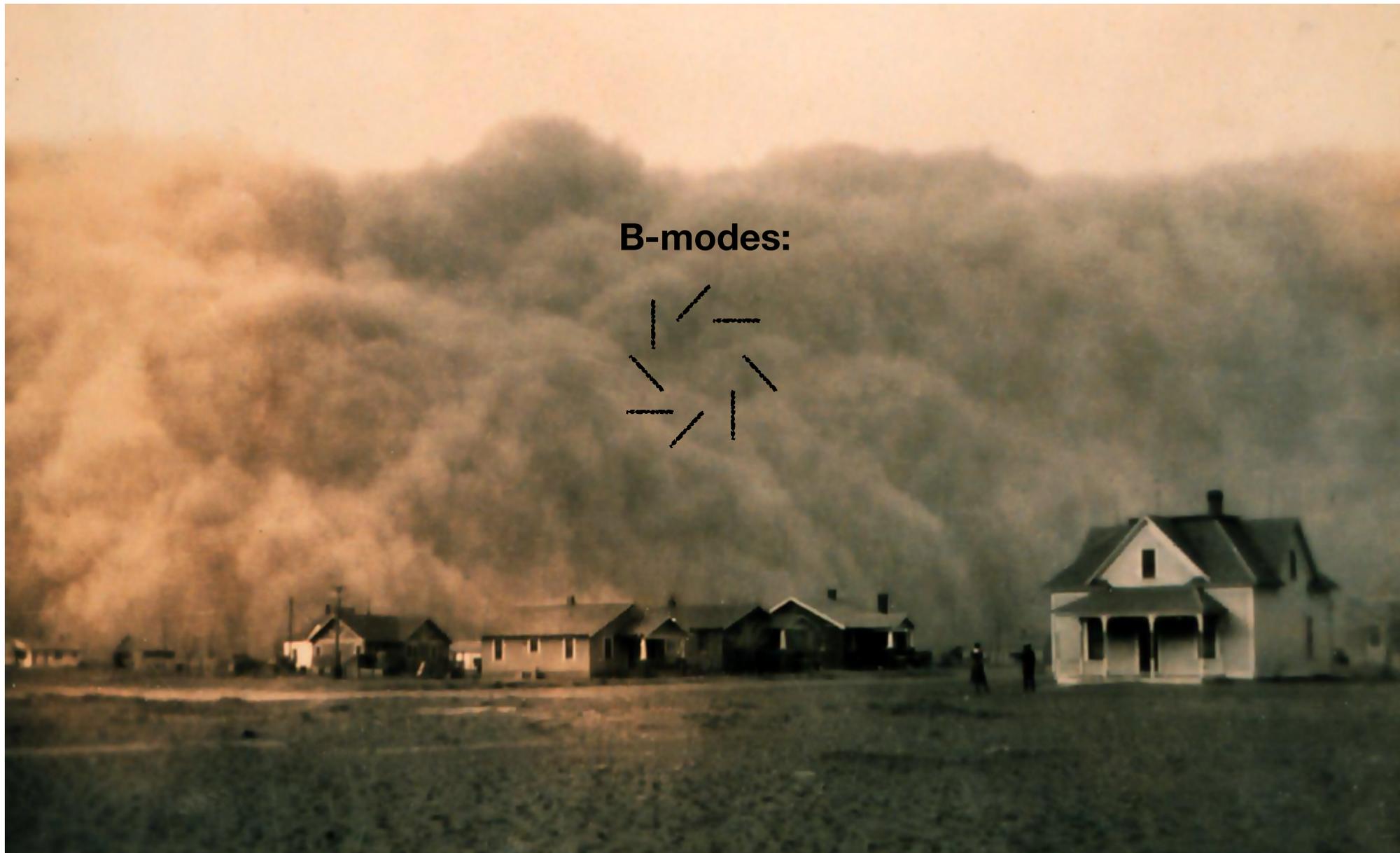
# Monodromies are everywhere ...



# Is it Primordial?



# Dust is not entirely settled ...



*See McAllister's review talk*

[Mortonson & Seljak]  
[Flauger, Hill & Spergel]

# BICEP2 and Inflation

**If** the **BICEP2** results are confirmed to be primordial, natural interpretations:

◆ **Inflation** took place

◆ The energy scale of inflation is the **GUT scale**

$$E_{\text{inf}} \simeq 0.75 \times \left( \frac{r}{0.1} \right)^{1/4} \times 10^{-2} M_{\text{Pl}}$$

◆ The inflaton field excursion was **super-Planckian**

$$\Delta\phi \gtrsim \left( \frac{r}{0.01} \right)^{1/2} M_{\text{Pl}}$$

*Lyth '96*

◆ Great news for string theory due to **strong UV sensitivity!**

# Assumptions in the Lyth Bound

- ▶ single field
- ▶ slow-roll
- ▶ Bunch-Davies initial conditions
- ▶ vacuum fluctuations

# Assumptions in the Lyth Bound

▶ single field

▶ slow-roll

▶ Bunch-Davies initial conditions

Ashoorioon, Dimopoulos, Sheikh-Jabbari, GS  
Collins, Holman, Vardanyan  
Aravind, Lorschbough, Paban

▶ vacuum fluctuations

# Assumptions in the Lyth Bound

▶ single field

▶ slow-roll

▶ Bunch-Davies initial conditions

▶ vacuum fluctuations

Ashoorioon, Dimopoulos, Sheikh-Jabbari, GS  
Collins, Holman, Vardanyan  
Aravind, Lorshbough, Paban

**Particle production during inflation  
can be a source of GWs**

$$\left[ \partial_\tau^2 + k^2 - \frac{a''}{a} \right] (a \delta g_{ij}) = S_{ij}$$

# Assumptions in the Lyth Bound

▶ single field

▶ slow-roll

▶ Bunch-Davies initial conditions

▶ vacuum fluctuations

Ashoorioon, Dimopoulos, Sheikh-Jabbari, GS  
Collins, Holman, Vardanyan  
Aravind, Lorshbough, Paban

**Particle production during inflation  
can be a source of GWs**

$$\left[ \partial_\tau^2 + k^2 - \frac{a''}{a} \right] (a \delta g_{ij}) = S_{ij}$$

Cook and Sorbo

Senatore, Silverstein, Zaldarriaga

Barnaby, Moxon, Namba, Peloso, GS, Zhou

Mukohyama, Namba, Peloso, GS

# Assumptions in the Lyth Bound

▶ single field

▶ slow-roll

▶ Bunch-Davies initial conditions

▶ vacuum fluctuations

**Only known model** of particle production shown to give detectable tensors w/o too large non-Gaussianity

Ashoorioon, Dimopoulos, Sheikh-Jabbari, GS  
Collins, Holman, Vardanyan  
Aravind, Lorshbough, Paban

**Particle production during inflation  
can be a source of GWs**

$$\left[ \partial_\tau^2 + k^2 - \frac{a''}{a} \right] (a \delta g_{ij}) = S_{ij}$$

Cook and Sorbo

Senatore, Silverstein, Zaldarriaga

Barnaby, Moxon, Namba, Peloso, GS, Zhou

Mukohyama, Namba, Peloso, GS

# Assumptions in the Lyth Bound

▶ single field

▶ slow-roll

▶ Bunch-Davies initial conditions

▶ vacuum fluctuations

Ashoorioon, Dimopoulos, Sheikh-Jabbari, GS  
Collins, Holman, Vardanyan  
Aravind, Lorshbough, Paban

**Particle production during inflation  
can be a source of GWs**

$$\left[ \partial_\tau^2 + k^2 - \frac{a''}{a} \right] (a \delta g_{ij}) = S_{ij}$$

Cook and Sorbo

Senatore, Silverstein, Zaldarriaga

Barnaby, Moxon, Namba, Peloso, GS, Zhou

Mukohyama, Namba, Peloso, GS

**Only known model** of particle production shown to give detectable tensors w/o too large non-Gaussianity

✱ Due to an **axionic**  $F \wedge F$  coupling, tensor spectrum is **chiral** and **non-Gaussian**.

✱ **Model building constraints:**  $f/M_P \geq 10^{-4}$  quite natural in string theory

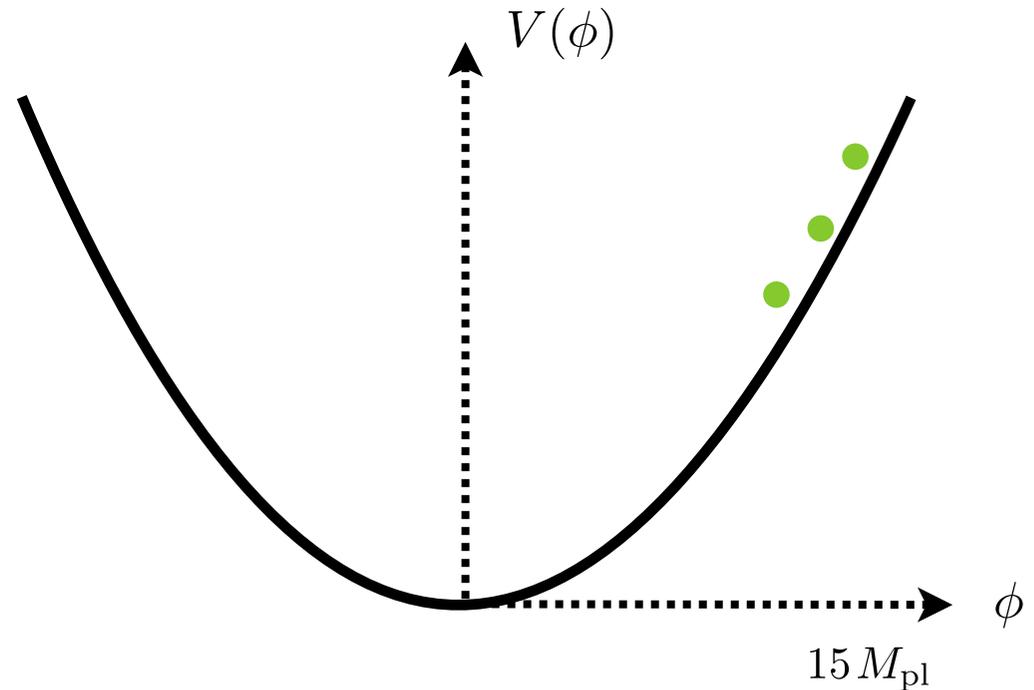
# Chaotic Inflation

*Linde '86*

❖ A poster child inflation model (also seems **avored**) is  $V = m^2\phi^2$ :

- ◆ Loop corrections involving inflaton and gravitons are small due to **approximate shift symmetry**

$$\phi \mapsto \phi + \text{const.}$$



- ◆ Coupling to **UV degrees of freedom** in quantum gravity a priori breaks this shift symmetry and lead to corrections that **spoil inflation**, because of the large field excursions

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}[\phi] = \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2}m^2\phi^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} c_i \phi^{2i} \Lambda^{4-2i}$$

# Chaotic Inflation

*Linde '86*

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}[\phi] = \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2}m^2\phi^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} c_i \phi^{2i} \Lambda^{4-2i}$$



*figure taken from Baumann & McAllister '14*

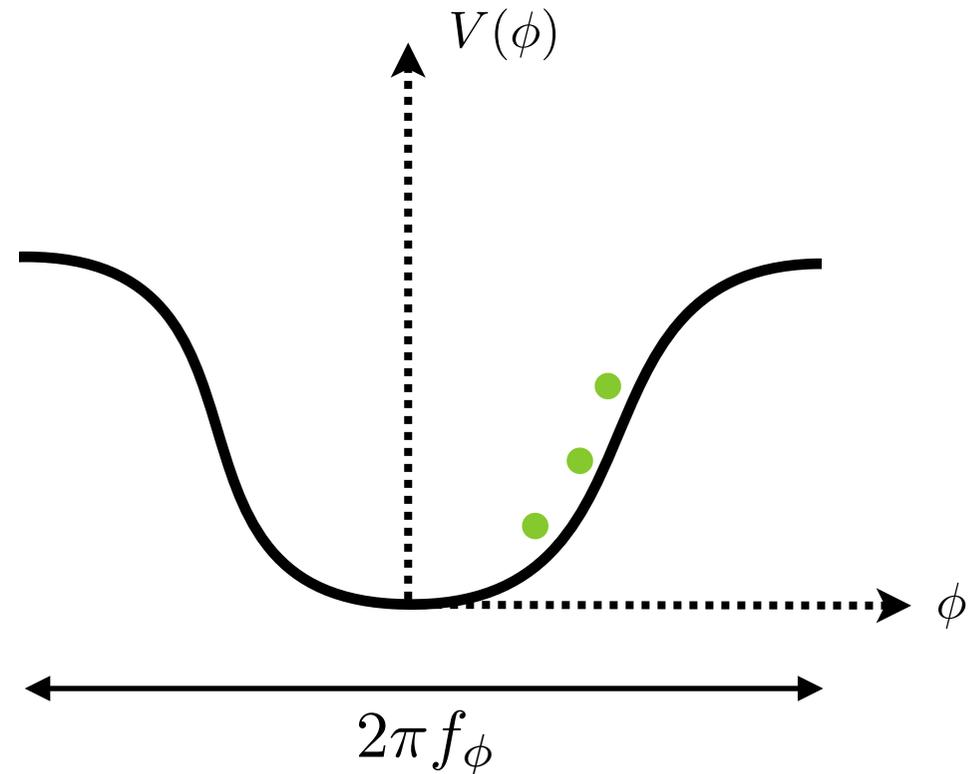
# Natural Inflation

*Freese, Frieman, Olinto '90*

❖ String models where the **inflaton is an axion** in principle can avoid this problem

◆ Shift symmetry broken by non-perturbative effects+UV completion, but **periodicity is exact**

◆ In string theory axions generically come from p-forms, so **above the KK scale** the shift symmetry becomes a **gauge symmetry**



$$\phi = \int_{\pi_p} C_p$$

$$F_{p+1} = dC_p$$
$$C_p \rightarrow C_p + d\Lambda_{p-1}$$

*Dimopoulos et al. '05*

# Natural Inflation

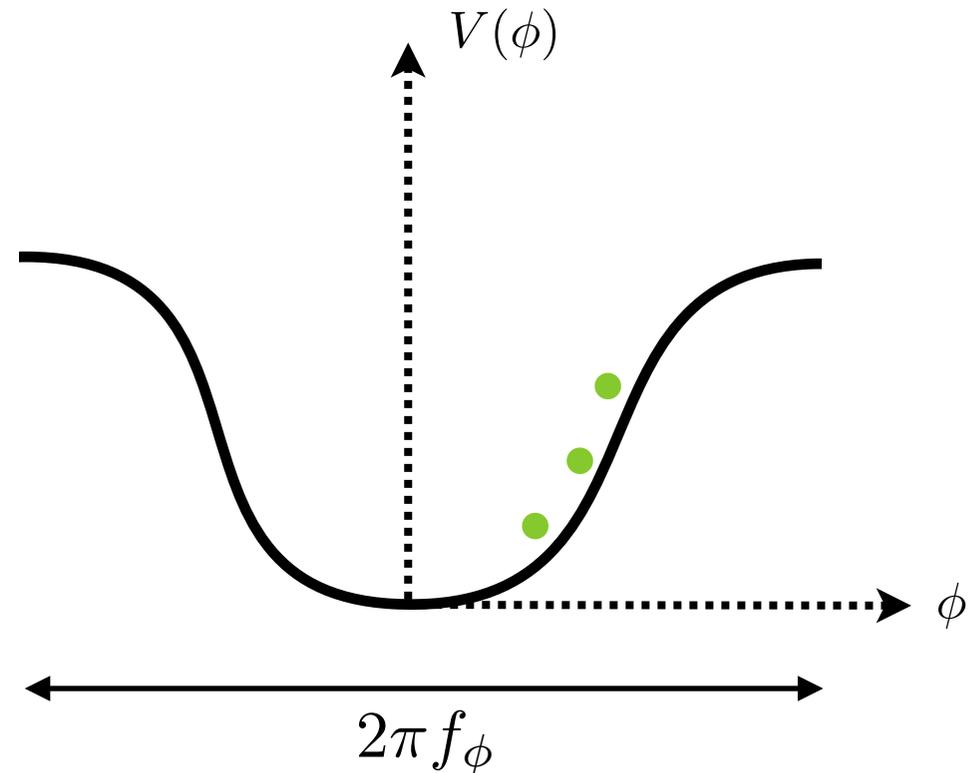
*Freese, Frieman, Olinto '90*

❖ String models where the **inflaton is an axion** in principle can avoid this problem

◆ Shift symmetry broken by non-perturbative effects+UV completion, but **periodicity is exact**

◆ In string theory axions generically come from p-forms, so **above the KK scale** the shift symmetry becomes a **gauge symmetry**

◆ However, these axions have **sub-Planckian** decay constants



$$\phi = \int_{\pi_p} C_p$$

$$F_{p+1} = dC_p$$
$$C_p \rightarrow C_p + d\Lambda_{p-1}$$

*Banks et al. '03*

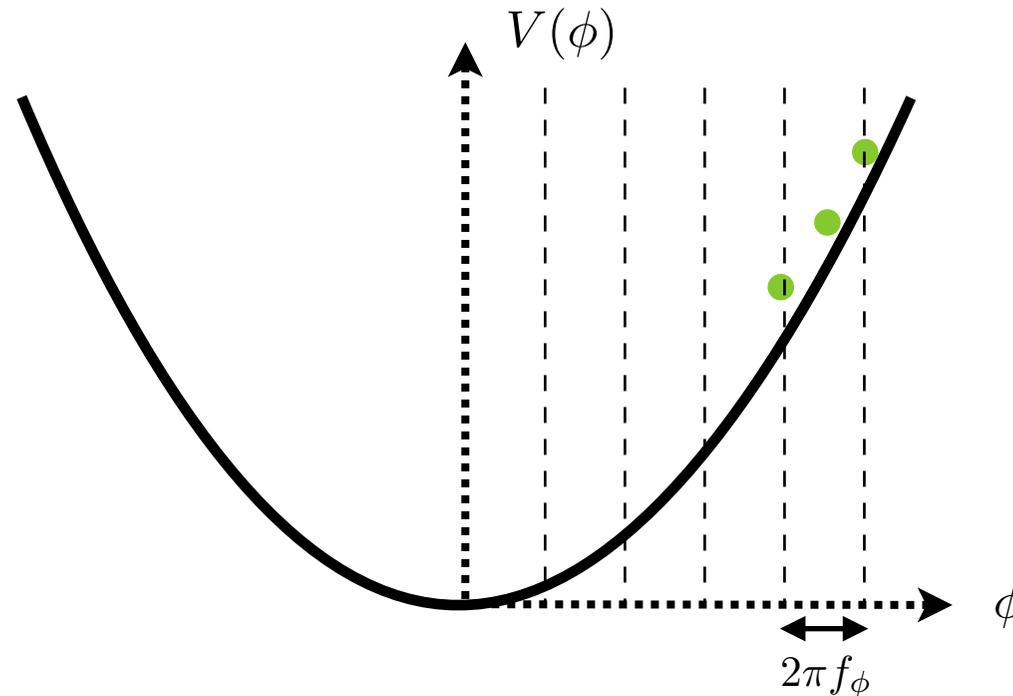
*Suracek & Witten '06*

# Axion Monodromy Inflation

*Siverstein & Westphal '08*

Idea:

Combine chaotic inflation and natural inflation



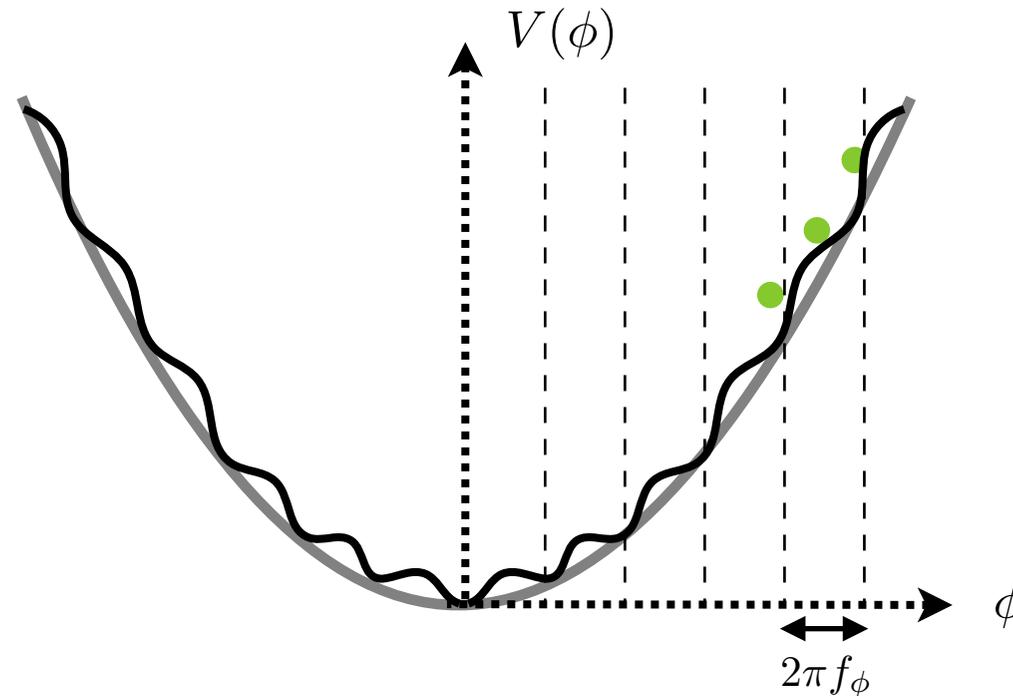
The axion periodicity is lifted, allowing for super-Planckian displacements. The UV corrections to the potential should still be constrained by the underlying symmetry.

# Axion Monodromy Inflation

*Siverstein & Westphal '08*

Idea:

Combine chaotic inflation and natural inflation



The **axion periodicity is lifted**, allowing for **super-Planckian displacements**. The UV corrections to the potential should still be constrained by the underlying symmetry

# Axion Monodromy Inflation

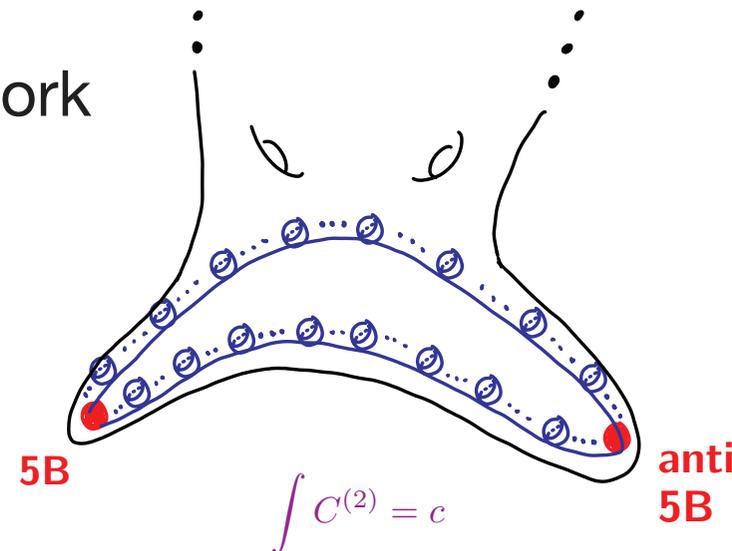
*Silverstein & Westphal '08*

Idea:

Combine chaotic inflation and natural inflation

Early developments: *see McAllister's talk*

- ◆ McAllister, Silverstein, Westphal → String scenarios
- ◆ Kaloper, Lawrence, Sorbo → 4d framework



*taken from McAllister, Silverstein, Westphal '08*

# Axion Monodromy Inflation

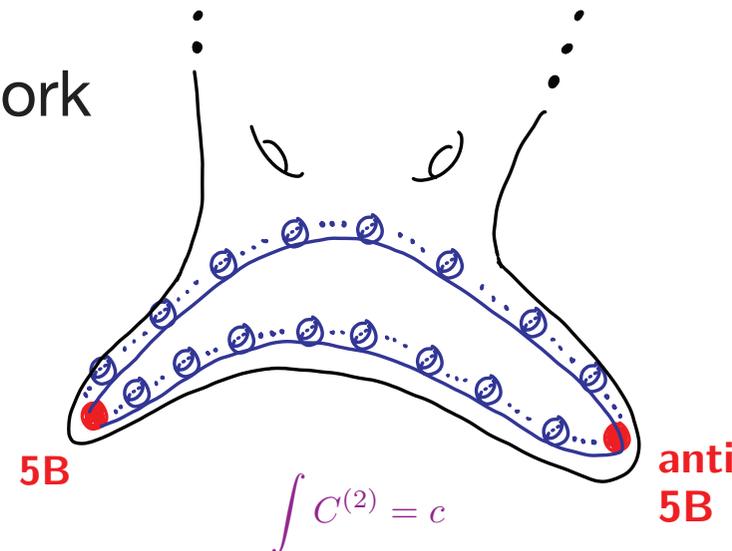
*Silverstein & Westphal '08*

Idea:

Combine chaotic inflation and natural inflation

Early developments: *see McAllister's talk*

- ◆ McAllister, Silverstein, Westphal → String scenarios  
exceedingly complicated, uncontrollable ingredients, backreaction, ...
- ◆ Kaloper, Lawrence, Sorbo → 4d framework



*taken from McAllister, Silverstein, Westphal '08*

# Axion Monodromy Inflation

*Silverstein & Westphal '08*

Idea:

Combine chaotic inflation and natural inflation

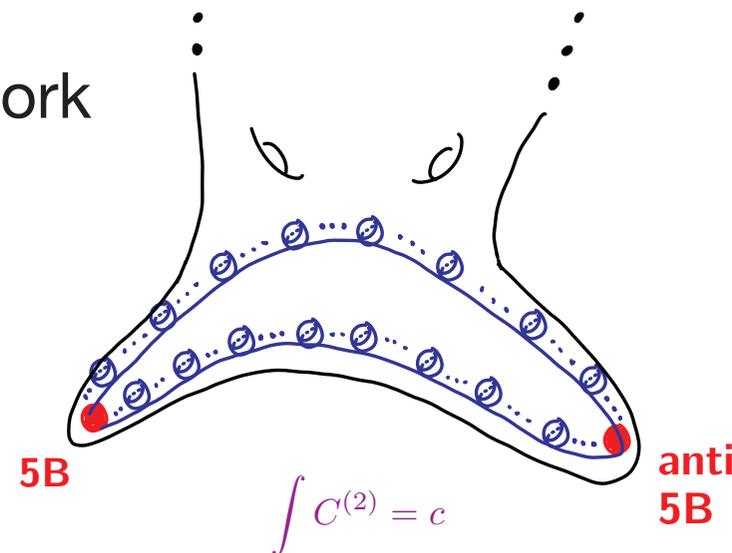
Early developments: *see McAllister's talk*

◆ McAllister, Silverstein, Westphal → String scenarios

exceedingly complicated, uncontrollable ingredients, backreaction, ...

◆ Kaloper, Lawrence, Sorbo → 4d framework

UV completion?



*taken from McAllister, Silverstein, Westphal '08*

# Axion Monodromy Inflation

*Silverstein & Westphal '08*

Idea:

Combine chaotic inflation and natural inflation

Early developments: *see McAllister's talk*

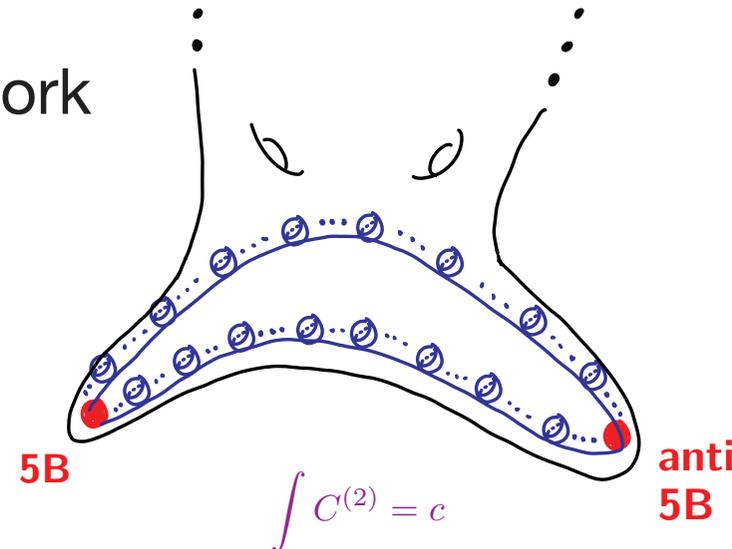
◆ McAllister, Silverstein, Westphal → String scenarios

*exceedingly complicated, uncontrollable ingredients, backreaction, ...*

◆ Kaloper, Lawrence, Sorbo → 4d framework

*UV completion?*

*See also Palti, Weigand; Blumenhagen, Plauschinn;  
Hebecker, Kraus, Witowski; Ibáñez, Valenzuela;  
Hassler, Lust, Massai;  
McAllister, Silverstein, Westphal, Wrase; ....*



*taken from McAllister, Silverstein, Westphal '08*

# F-term Axion Monodromy Inflation

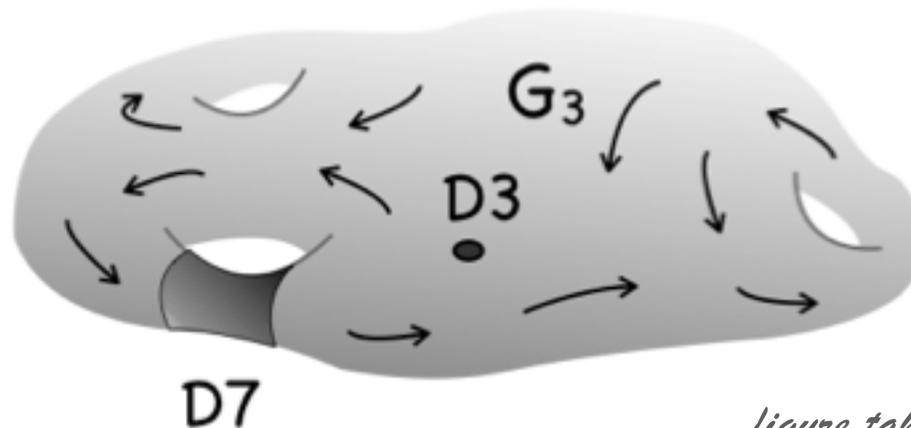
Obs:

Axion Monodromy

~

Giving a mass to an  
axion

- ◆ Done in string theory within the **moduli stabilization** program: adding ingredients like background fluxes generate **superpotentials** in the effective 4d theory



*figure taken from Ibáñez & Uranga '12*

# F-term Axion Monodromy Inflation

Obs:

Axion Monodromy

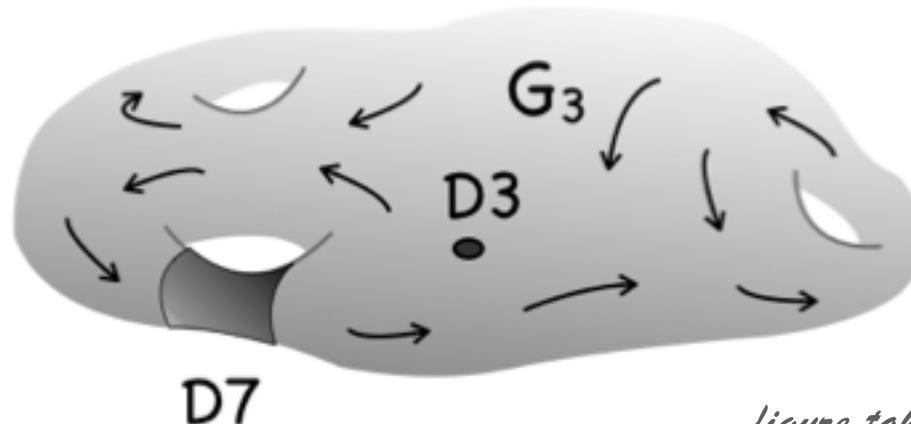
~

Giving a mass to an axion

- ◆ Done in string theory within the **moduli stabilization** program: adding ingredients like background fluxes generate **superpotentials** in the effective 4d theory

Idea:

Use same techniques to generate an inflation potential



*figure taken from Ibáñez & Uranga '12*

# F-term Axion Monodromy Inflation

Obs:

Axion Monodromy

~

Giving a mass to an  
axion

- ◆ Done in string theory within the **moduli stabilization** program: adding ingredients like background fluxes generate **superpotentials** in the effective 4d theory

Idea:

Use same techniques to  
generate an inflation potential

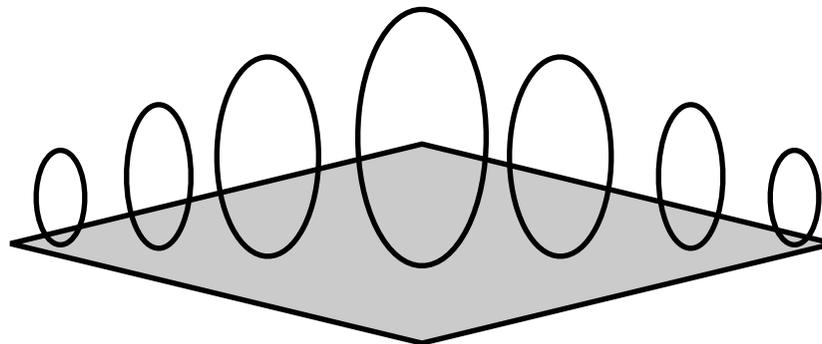
- **Simpler** models, all sectors understood at weak coupling
- **Spontaneous SUSY breaking**, no need for brane-anti-brane
- **Clear endpoint of inflation**, allows to address reheating

# Toy Example: Massive Wilson line

- ✿ Simple example of axion: (4+d)-dimensional gauge field integrated over a circle in a compact space  $\Pi_d$

$$\phi = \int_{S^1} A_1 \quad \text{or} \quad A_1 = \phi(x) \eta_1(y)$$

- ◆  $\phi$  massless if  $\Delta\eta_1 = 0 \Rightarrow S^1$  is a non-trivial circle in  $\Pi_d$   
exact periodicity and (pert.) shift symmetry
- ◆  $\phi$  massive if  $\Delta\eta_1 = -\mu^2 \eta_1 \Rightarrow kS^1$  homologically trivial in  $\Pi_d$   
(non-trivial fibration)



# Toy Example: Massive Wilson line

- ❖ Simple example of axion: (4+d)-dimensional gauge field integrated over a circle in a compact space  $\Pi_d$

$$\phi = \int_{S^1} A_1 \quad \text{or} \quad A_1 = \phi(x) \eta_1(y)$$

- ◆  $\phi$  massless if  $\Delta\eta_1 = 0 \Rightarrow S^1$  is a non-trivial circle in  $\Pi_d$   
exact periodicity and (pert.) shift symmetry
- ◆  $\phi$  massive if  $\Delta\eta_1 = -\mu^2 \eta_1 \Rightarrow kS^1$  homologically trivial in  $\Pi_d$   
(non-trivial fibration)

$$F_2 = dA_1 = \phi d\eta_1 \sim \mu\phi \omega_2 \Rightarrow \text{shifts in } \phi \text{ increase energy via the induced flux } F_2$$

$\Rightarrow$  periodicity is broken and shift symmetry approximate

# MWL and twisted tori

- ❖ Simple way to construct massive Wilson lines: consider **compact extra dimensions**  $\Pi_d$  with circles fibered over a base, like the **twisted tori** that appear in flux compactifications
- ❖ There are **circles** that are **not contractible but** do not correspond to any harmonic 1-form. Instead, they correspond to **torsional elements in homology** and cohomology groups

$$\text{Tor } H_1(\Pi_d, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{Tor } H^2(\Pi_d, \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}_k$$

# MWL and twisted tori

- ❖ Simple way to construct massive Wilson lines: consider **compact extra dimensions**  $\Pi_d$  with circles fibered over a base, like the **twisted tori** that appear in flux compactifications
- ❖ There are **circles** that are **not contractible but** do not correspond to any harmonic 1-form. Instead, they correspond to **torsional elements in homology** and cohomology groups

$$\text{Tor } H_1(\Pi_d, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{Tor } H^2(\Pi_d, \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}_k$$

- ❖ Simplest example: **twisted 3-torus**  $\tilde{\mathbb{T}}^3$

$$H_1(\tilde{\mathbb{T}}^3, \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}_k$$

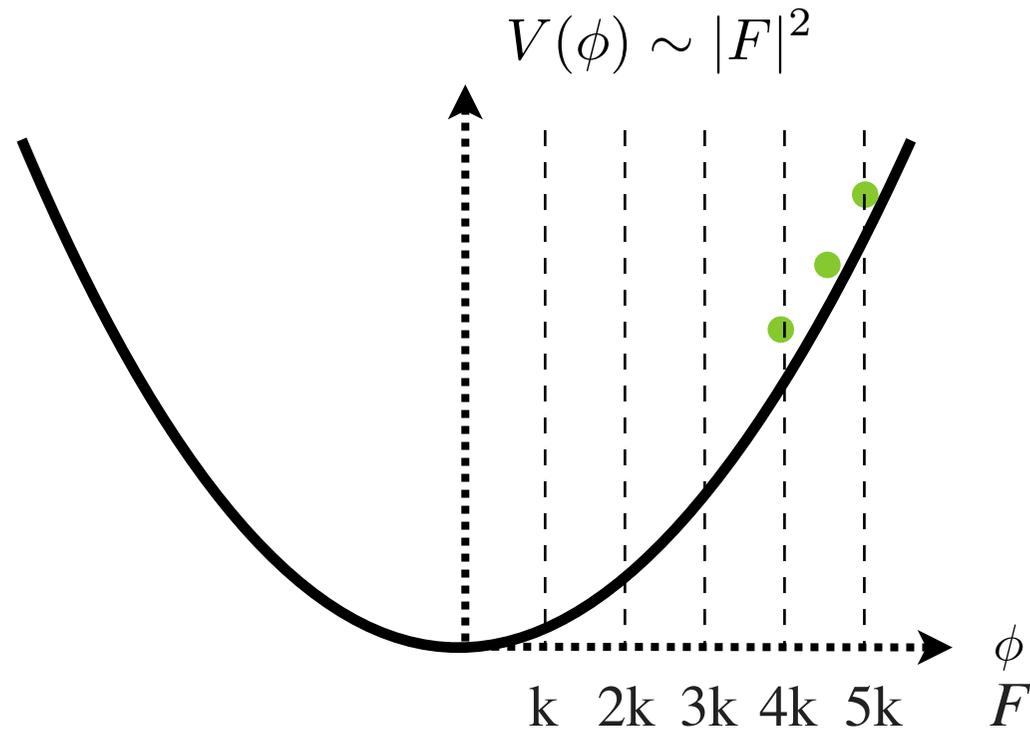
$$d\eta_1 = k dx^2 \wedge dx^3 \rightarrow F = \phi k dx^2 \wedge dx^3$$

two normal 1-cycles      one torsional 1-cycle

$$\mu = \frac{k R_1}{R_2 R_3}$$

under a **shift**  $\phi \rightarrow \phi + 1$   
 **$F_2$  increases** by  $k$  units

# MWL and monodromy



Question:

How does monodromy and approximate shift symmetry help prevent wild UV corrections?

# Torsion and gauge invariance

- ❖ Twisted tori **torsional invariants** are not just a fancy way of detecting non-harmonic forms, but are related to a **hidden gauge invariance** of these axion-monodromy models
- ❖ Let us again consider a **7d gauge theory on  $M^{1,3} \times \tilde{\mathbb{T}}^3$** 
  - ◆ Instead of  $A_1$  we consider its **magnetic dual  $V_4$**

$$V_4 = C_3 \wedge \eta_1 + b_2 \wedge \sigma_2 \xrightarrow{d\eta_1 = k\sigma_2} dV_4 = dC_3 \wedge \eta_1 + (db_2 - kC_3) \wedge \sigma_2$$

# Torsion and gauge invariance

❖ Twisted tori **torsional invariants** are not just a fancy way of detecting non-harmonic forms, but are related to a **hidden gauge invariance** of these axion-monodromy models

❖ Let us again consider a **7d gauge theory on  $M^{1,3} \times \tilde{T}^3$**

◆ Instead of  $A_1$  we consider its **magnetic dual  $V_4$**

$$V_4 = C_3 \wedge \eta_1 + b_2 \wedge \sigma_2 \xrightarrow{d\eta_1 = k\sigma_2} dV_4 = dC_3 \wedge \eta_1 + (db_2 - kC_3) \wedge \sigma_2$$

◆ From dimensional reduction of the **kinetic term**:

$$\int d^7x |dV_4|^2 \longrightarrow \int d^4x |dC_3|^2 + \frac{\mu^2}{k^2} |db_2 - kC_3|^2$$

- Gauge invariance  $C_3 \rightarrow C_3 + d\Lambda_2$   $b_2 \rightarrow b_2 + k\Lambda_2$
- Generalization of the Stückelberg Lagrangian

# Effective 4d theory

- ✿ The effective 4d Lagrangian

$$\int d^4x |dC_3|^2 + \frac{\mu^2}{k^2} |db_2 - kC_3|^2$$

describes a **massive axion**, has been applied to QCD axion  $\Rightarrow$  generalized to **arbitrary  $V(\phi)$**

*Kallosh et al. '95*

*Dvali, Jackiw, Pi '05*

*Dvali, Folkerts, Franca '13*

- ✿ Reproduces the **axion-four-form Lagrangian** proposed by Kaloper and Sorbo as **4d model of axion-monodromy inflation** with mild UV corrections

$$\int d^4x |F_4|^2 + |d\phi|^2 + \phi F_4$$

$$F_4 = dC_3$$

$$d\phi = *_4 db_2$$

*Kaloper & Sorbo '08*

- ✿ It is related to an **F-term** generated mass term

*Groh, Louis, Sommerfeld '12*

# Effective 4d theory

## ✿ Effective 4d Lagrangian

$$\int d^4x |dC_3|^2 + \frac{\mu^2}{k^2} |db_2 - kC_3|^2$$

$$F_4 = dC_3$$
$$d\phi = *_4 db_2$$

## ✿ Gauge symmetry $\Rightarrow$ UV corrections only depend on $F_4$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}[\phi] = \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2}\mu^2\phi^2 + \Lambda^4 \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} c_i \frac{\phi^{2i}}{\Lambda^{2i}}$$

$$\sum_n c_n \frac{F^{2n}}{\Lambda^{4n}} \longrightarrow \mu^2\phi^2 \sum_n c_n \left(\frac{\mu^2\phi^2}{\Lambda^4}\right)^n$$

$\Rightarrow$  suppressed corrections up to the scale where  $V(\phi) \sim \Lambda^4$

$\Rightarrow$  effective scale for corrections  $\Lambda \rightarrow \Lambda_{\text{eff}} = \Lambda^2/\mu$

# Effective 4d theory

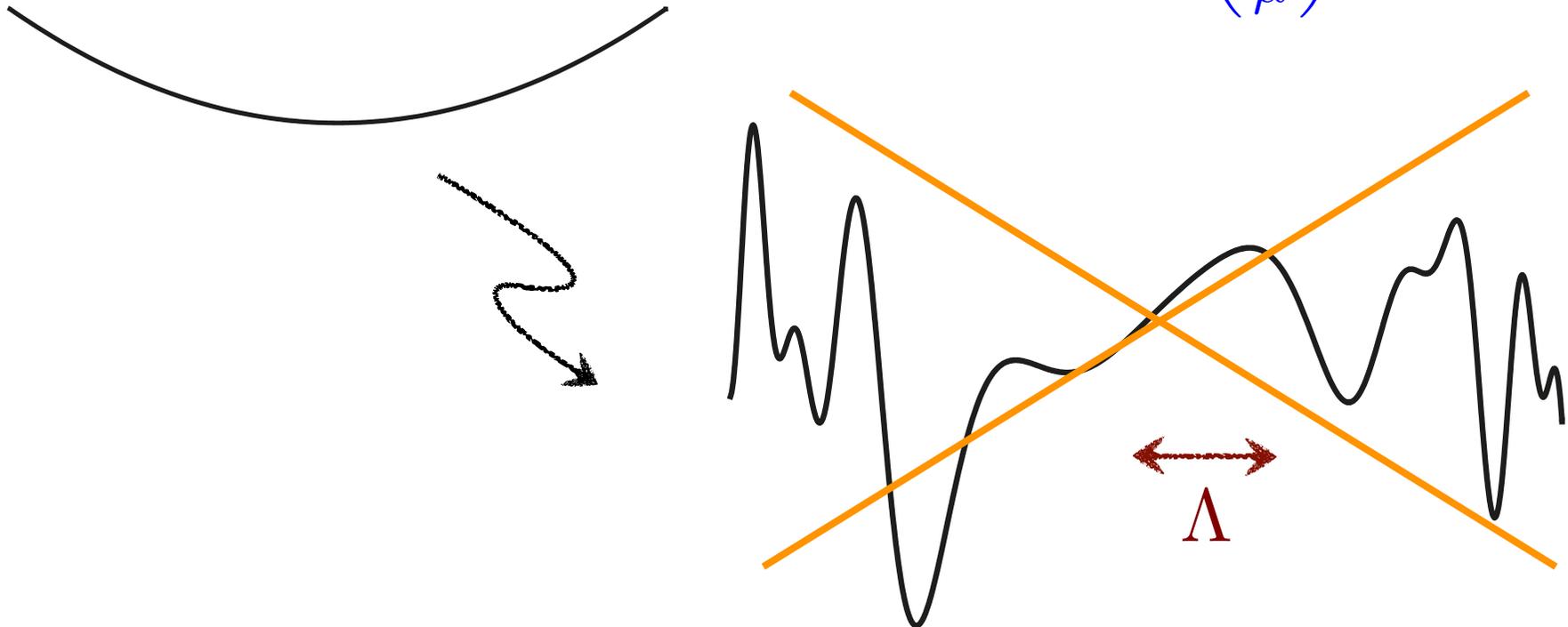
## ✿ Effective 4d Lagrangian

$$\int d^4x |dC_3|^2 + \frac{\mu^2}{k^2} |db_2 - kC_3|^2$$

$$F_4 = dC_3$$
$$d\phi = *_4 db_2$$

## ✿ Gauge symmetry $\Rightarrow$ UV corrections only depend on $F_4$

$$\Lambda \rightarrow \Lambda_{\text{eff}} = \Lambda \left( \frac{\Lambda}{\mu} \right)$$



# Discrete symmetries and domain walls

✿ The integer  $k$  in the Lagrangian

$$\int d^4x |F_4|^2 + \frac{\mu^2}{k^2} |db_2 - kC_3|^2$$

corresponds to a **discrete symmetry of the theory broken spontaneously** once a choice of four-form flux is made. This amounts to choose a **branch of the scalar potential**

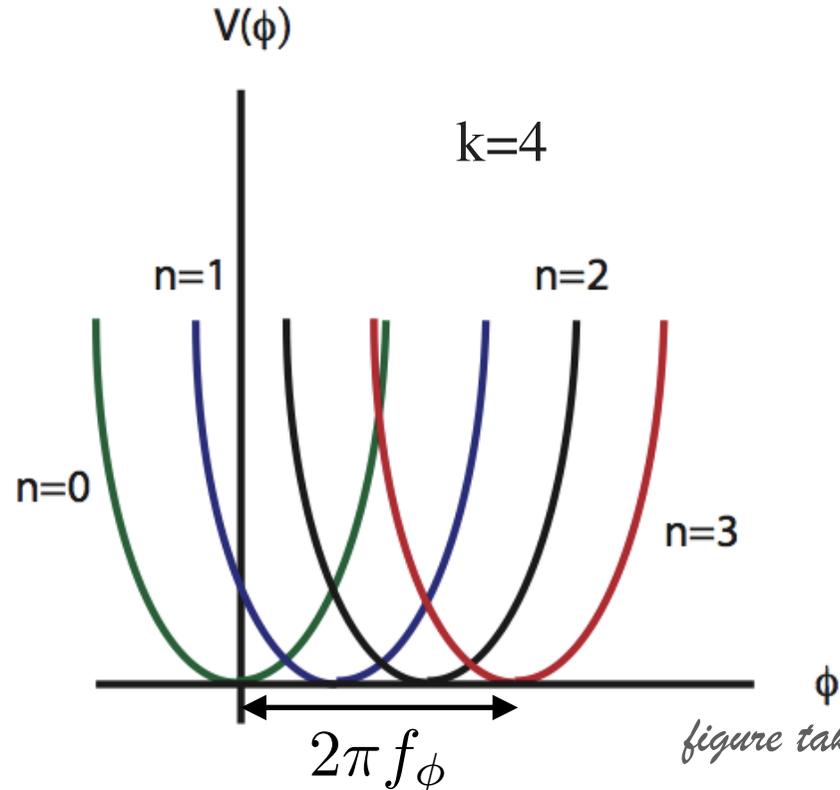


figure taken from Kaloper & Lawrence '14

# Discrete symmetries and domain walls

- ❖ The integer  $k$  in the Lagrangian

$$\int d^4x |F_4|^2 + \frac{\mu^2}{k^2} |db_2 - kC_3|^2$$

corresponds to a discrete symmetry of the theory broken spontaneously once a choice of four-form flux is made. This amounts to choose a branch of the scalar potential

- ❖ Branch jumps are made via nucleation of domain walls that couple to  $C_3$ , and this puts a maximum to the inflaton range
- ❖ Domain walls analysed in string constructions:

*Berasaluce-Gonzalez, Camara, Marchesano, Uranga '12*

- They correspond to discrete symmetries of the superpotential/landscape of vacua, and appear whenever axions are stabilised
- $k$  domain walls decay in a cosmic string implementing  $\phi \rightarrow \phi+1$

# Massive Wilson lines in string theory

- ❖ Simple example of MWL in string theory: D6-brane on  $M^{1,3} \times \tilde{\mathbb{T}}^3$
- ❖ An inflaton vev induces a non-trivial flux  $F_2$  proportional to  $\phi$  but now this flux enters the DBI action

$$\sqrt{\det(G + 2\pi\alpha' F_2)} = d\text{vol}_{M^{1,3}} (|F_2|^2 + \text{corrections})$$

# Massive Wilson lines in string theory

- ❖ Simple example of MWL in string theory: D6-brane on  $M^{1,3} \times \tilde{\mathbb{T}}^3$
- ❖ An inflaton vev induces a non-trivial flux  $F_2$  proportional to  $\phi$  but now this flux enters the DBI action

$$\sqrt{\det(G + 2\pi\alpha' F_2)} = d\text{vol}_{M^{1,3}} (|F_2|^2 + \text{corrections})$$

- ❖ For small values of  $\phi$  we recover chaotic inflation, but for large values the corrections are important and we have a potential of the form

$$V = \sqrt{L^4 + \langle\phi\rangle^2} - L^2$$

Similar to the D4-brane model of Silverstein and Westphal except for the inflation endpoint

# Massive Wilson lines in string theory

- ❖ Simple example of MWL in string theory: D6-brane on  $M^{1,3} \times \tilde{\mathbb{T}}^3$
- ❖ An inflaton vev induces a non-trivial flux  $F_2$  proportional to  $\phi$  but now this flux enters the DBI action

$$\sqrt{\det(G + 2\pi\alpha' F_2)} = d\text{vol}_{M^{1,3}} (|F_2|^2 + \text{corrections})$$

- ❖ For small values of  $\phi$  we recover chaotic inflation, but for large values the corrections are important and we have a potential of the form

$$V = \sqrt{L^4 + \langle\phi\rangle^2} \left( -L^2 \right)$$

Similar to the D4-brane model of Silverstein and Westphal except for the inflation endpoint

# Massive Wilson lines and flattening

- ✿ The DBI modification

$$\langle \phi \rangle^2 \rightarrow \sqrt{L^4 + \langle \phi \rangle^2} - L^2$$

can be interpreted as **corrections due to UV completion**

- ✿ E.g., **integrating out moduli** such that  $H < m_{\text{mod}} < M_{\text{GUT}}$  will correct the potential, although not destabilise it

*Kaloper, Lawrence, Sorbo '11*

- ✿ In the DBI case the **potential is flattened**: argued general effect due to couplings to heavy fields

*Dong, Horn, Silverstein, Westphal '10*

- ✿ **Large vev flattening** also observed in examples of confining gauge theories whose **gravity dual** is known [Witten'98]

*Dubovsky, Lawrence, Roberts '11*

- ✿  $\alpha'$  corrections are important for **inflation** even w/ a symmetry

*Garcia-Etxebarria, Hayashi, Savelli, GS '12, Junghans, GS '14 and next 2 talks.*

# Other string examples

- ❖ We can integrate a **bulk p-form potential**  $C_p$  over a p-cycle to get an axion

$$F_{p+1} = dC_p, \quad C_p \rightarrow C_p + d\Lambda_{p-1} \quad c = \int_{\pi_p} C_p$$

- ❖ If the **p-cycle is torsional** we will get the **same effective action**

$$\int d^{10}x |F_{9-p}|^2 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \int d^4x |dC_3|^2 + \frac{\mu^2}{k^2} |db_2 - kC_3|^2$$

# Other string examples

- ✿ We can integrate a **bulk p-form potential**  $C_p$  over a p-cycle to get an axion

$$F_{p+1} = dC_p, \quad C_p \rightarrow C_p + d\Lambda_{p-1} \quad c = \int_{\pi_p} C_p$$

- ✿ If the **p-cycle is torsional** we will get the **same effective action**

$$\int d^{10}x |F_{9-p}|^2 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \int d^4x |dC_3|^2 + \frac{\mu^2}{k^2} |db_2 - kC_3|^2$$

- ✿ The **topological groups** that detect this possibility are

$$\text{Tor } H_p(\mathbf{X}_6, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{Tor } H^{p+1}(\mathbf{X}_6, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{Tor } H^{6-p}(\mathbf{X}_6, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{Tor } H_{5-p}(\mathbf{X}_6, \mathbb{Z})$$

one should make sure that the corresponding axion mass is well below the compactification scale (e.g., using warping)

# Other string examples

- ❖ Axions also obtain a mass with **background fluxes**
- ❖ **Simplest example:  $\phi = C_0$**  in the presence of NSNS flux  $H_3$

$$W = \int_{\mathbf{X}_6} (F_3 - \tau H_3) \wedge \Omega \quad \tau = C_0 + i/g_s$$

- ❖ We also recover the **axion-four-form potential**

$$\int_{M^{1,3} \times \mathbf{X}_6} C_0 H_3 \wedge F_7 = \int_{M^{1,3}} C_0 F_4 \quad F_4 = \int_{\text{PD}[H_3]} F_7$$

# Other string examples

- ❖ Axions also obtain a mass with **background fluxes**
- ❖ **Simplest example:**  $\phi = C_0$  in the presence of NSNS flux  $H_3$

$$W = \int_{\mathbf{X}_6} (F_3 - \tau H_3) \wedge \Omega \quad \tau = C_0 + i/g_s$$

- ❖ We also recover the **axion-four-form potential**

$$\int_{M^{1,3} \times \mathbf{X}_6} C_0 H_3 \wedge F_7 = \int_{M^{1,3}} C_0 F_4 \quad F_4 = \int_{\text{PD}[H_3]} F_7$$

- ❖ M-theory version: *Beasley, Witten '02*

- ❖ A rich set of superpotentials obtained with **type IIA fluxes**

$$\int_{\mathbf{X}_6} e^{J_c} \wedge (F_0 + F_2 + F_4) \quad J_c = J + iB$$

➔ **potentials higher than quadratic**

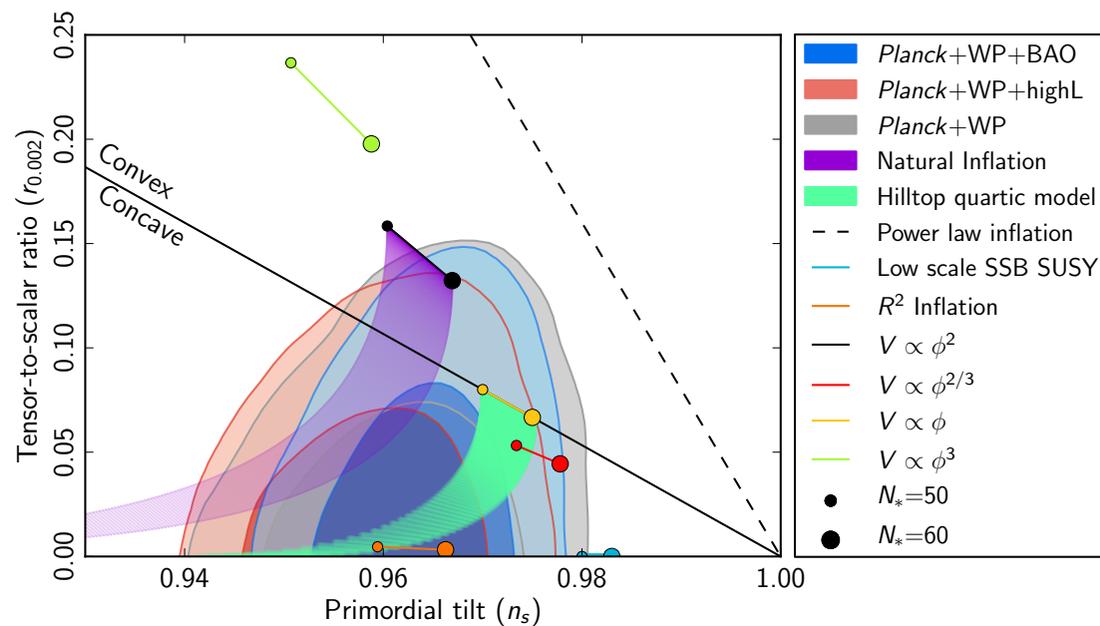
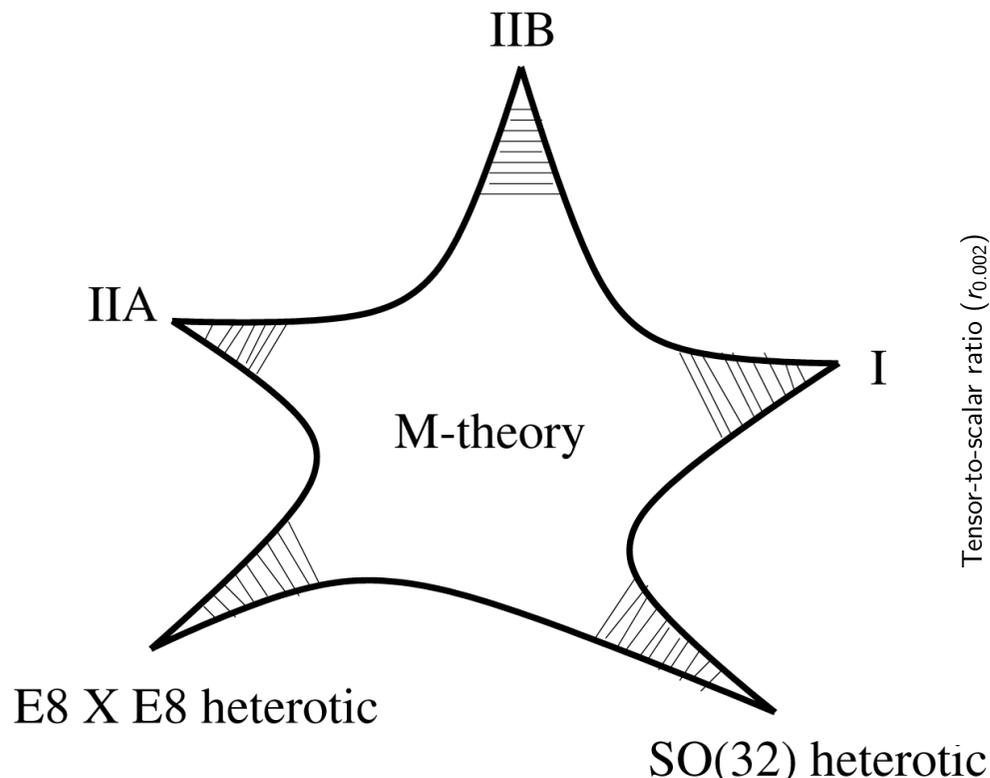
- ❖ Massive axions detected by **torsion groups** in K-theory

# Conclusions

- ❖ Axion monodromy is an elegant idea that combines chaotic and natural inflation, aiming to prevent disastrous UV corrections to the inflaton potential.
- ❖ We have discussed its **concrete** implementation in a **new framework**, dubbed **F-term axion monodromy inflation** compatible with spontaneous supersymmetry breaking.
- ❖ In a simple set of models the inflaton is a **massive Wilson line**. They show the **mild UV corrections** for large inflaton vev.
- ❖ **Effective action** reproduces the axion-four-form action proposed by **Kaloper and Sorbo**. Discrete symmetries classified by K-theory torsion groups.
- ❖  $\alpha'$  corrections to EFT [See D. Junghans, GS, 1407.0019 & next 2 talks] are important for **inflation** & **moduli stabilization**.

# Conclusions

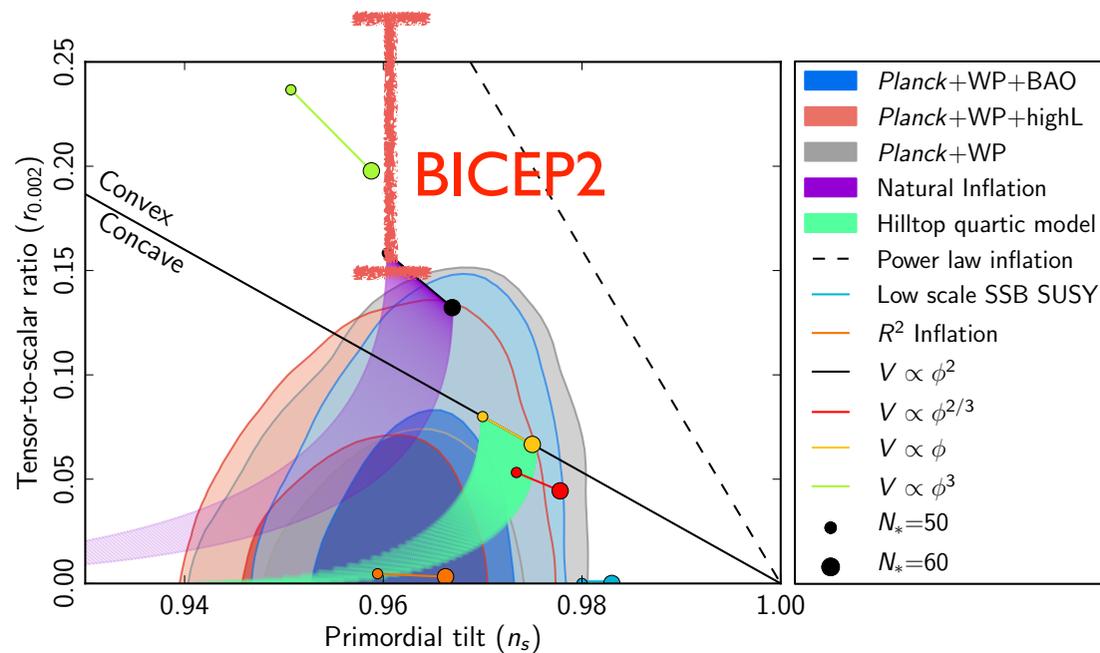
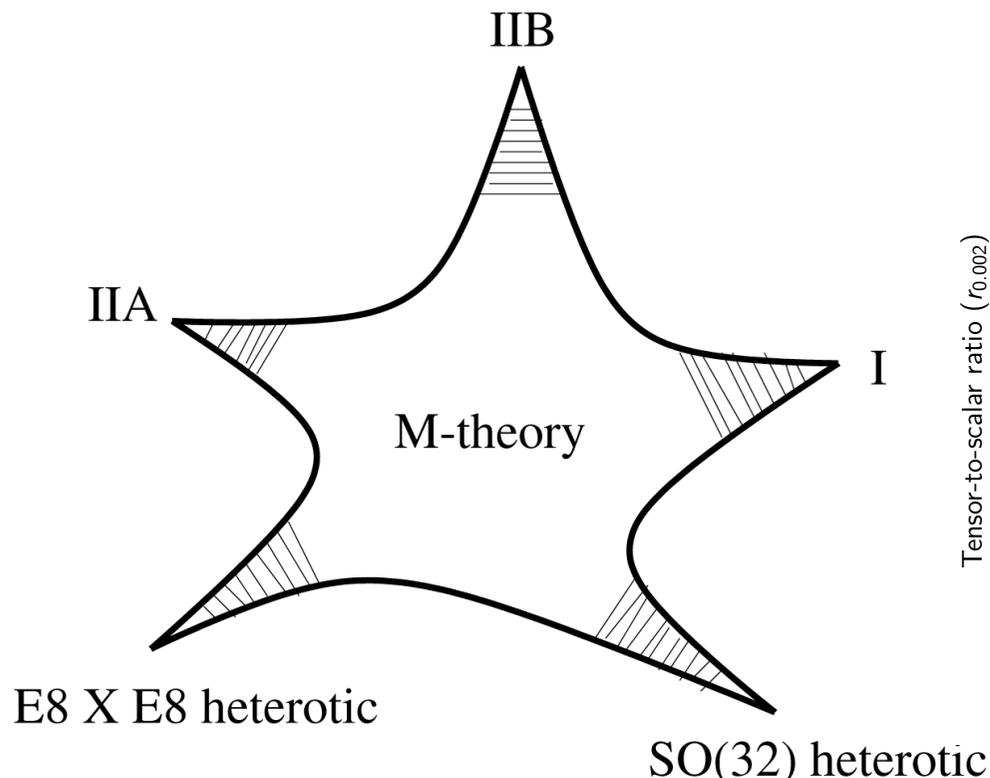
- ❖ A broad class of large field inflationary scenarios that can be implemented in any limit of string theory w/ rich pheno:



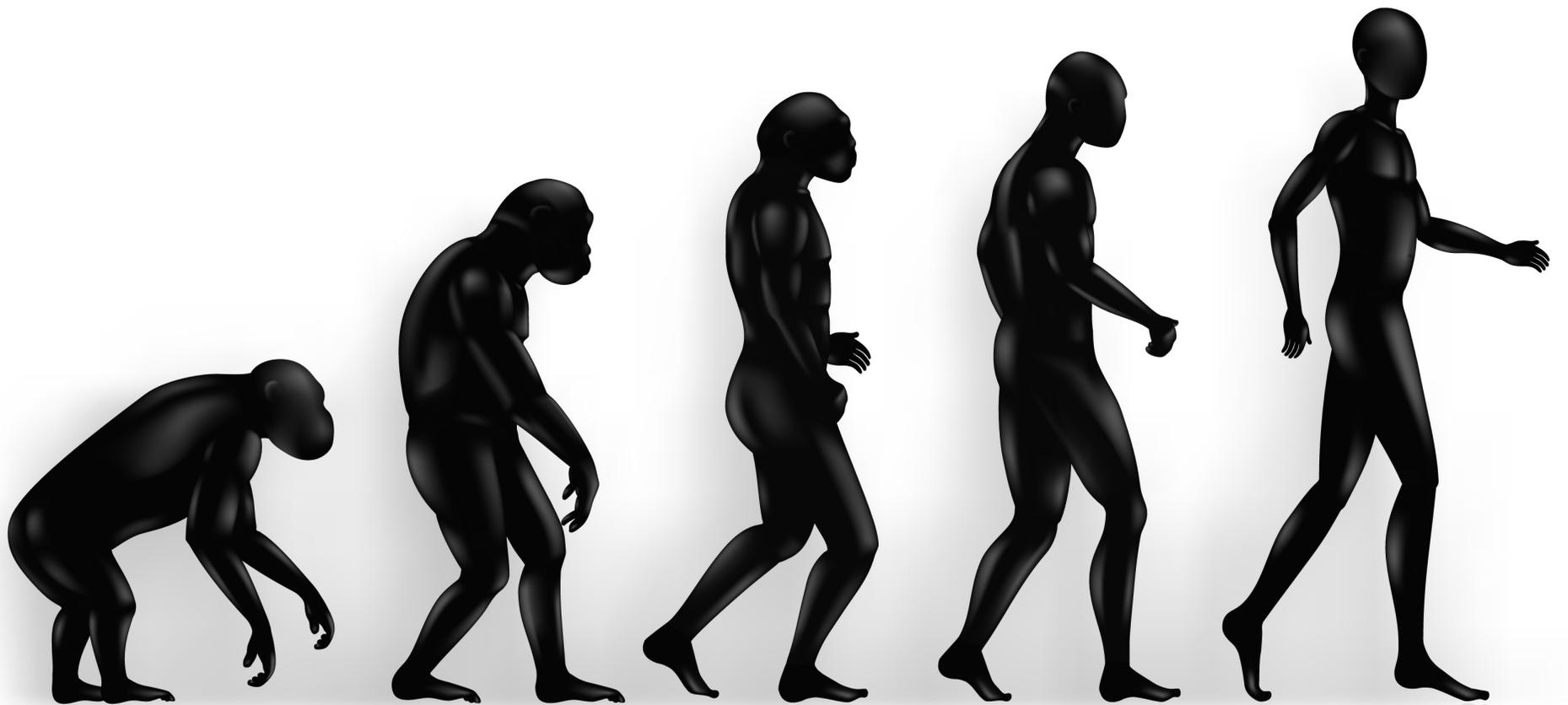
- ❖ Moduli stabilization needs to be addressed in detailed models  
[See Hebecker's talk and references therein]

# Conclusions

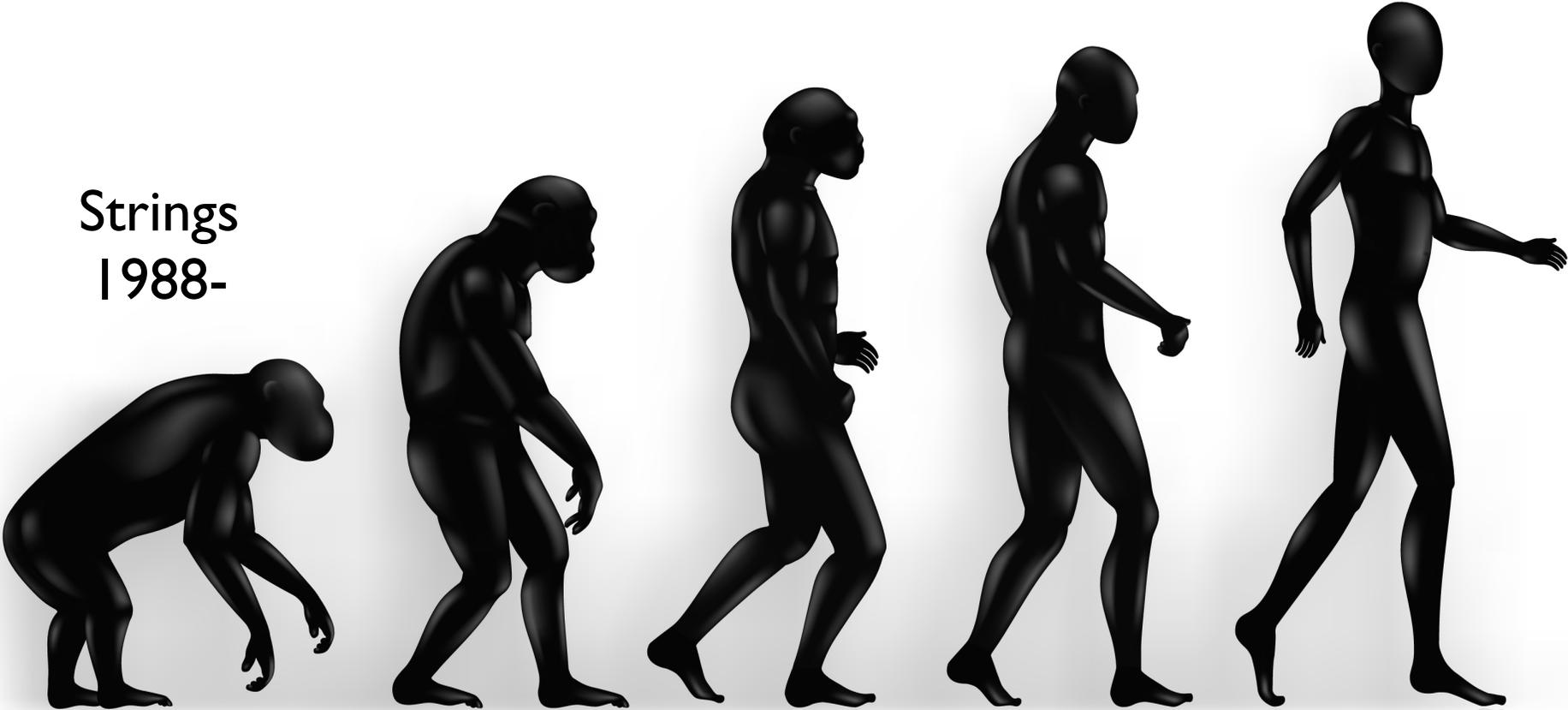
- ❖ A broad class of large field inflationary scenarios that can be implemented in any limit of string theory w/ rich pheno:



- ❖ Moduli stabilization needs to be addressed in detailed models  
[See Hebecker's talk and references therein]

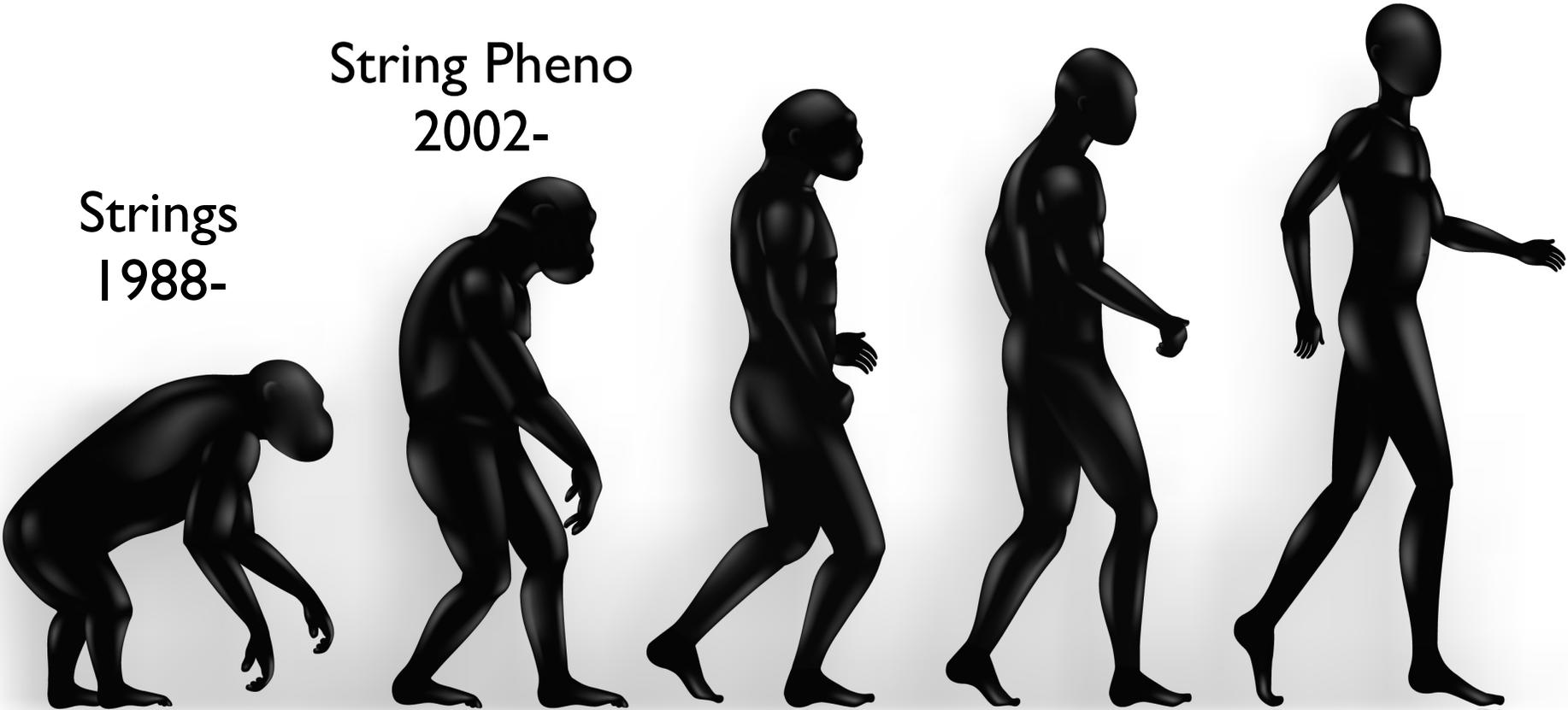


Strings  
1988-

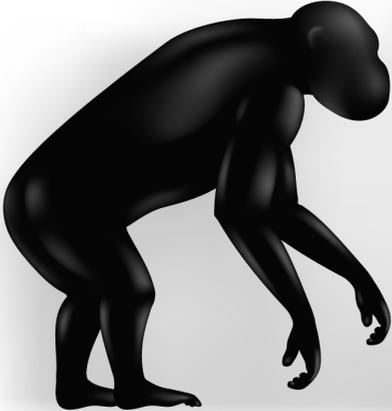


Strings  
1988-

String Pheno  
2002-



Strings  
1988-



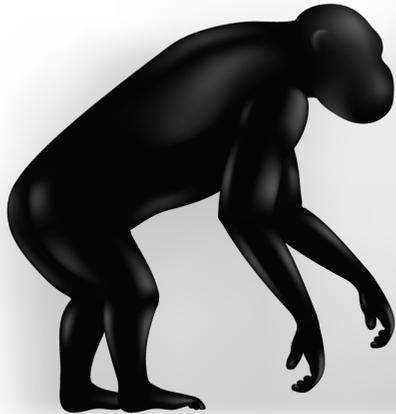
String Pheno  
2002-



String Math  
2011-



Strings  
1988-



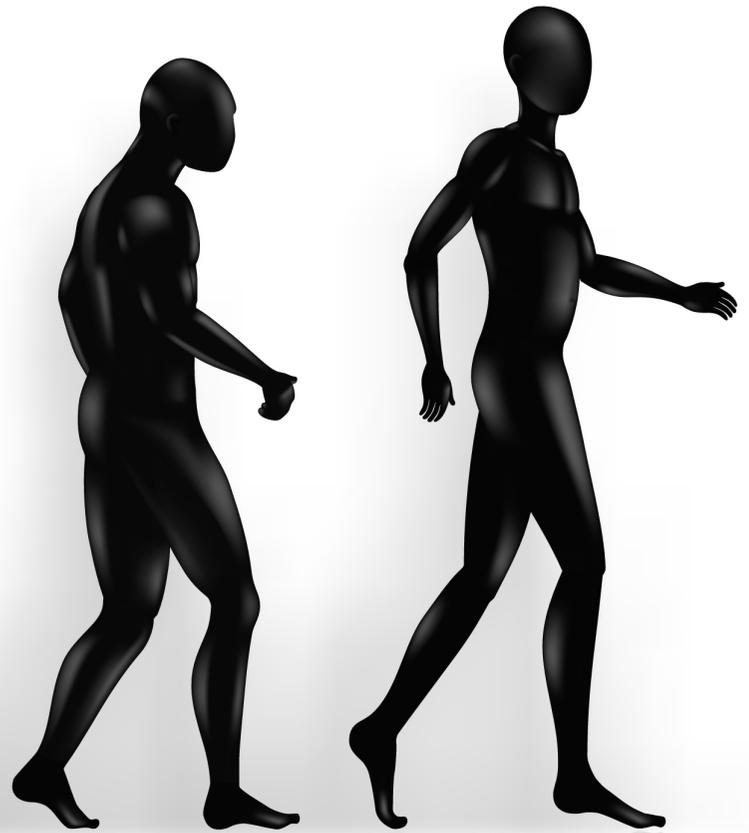
String Pheno  
2002-



String Math  
2011-



String Cosmo  
2015-



## String Theory & Cosmology

### New Ideas Meet New Experimental Data

May 31 - June 5, 2015  
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology  
Hong Kong, China

Chair:  
**Gary Shiu**

Vice Chair:  
**Ulf Danielsson**



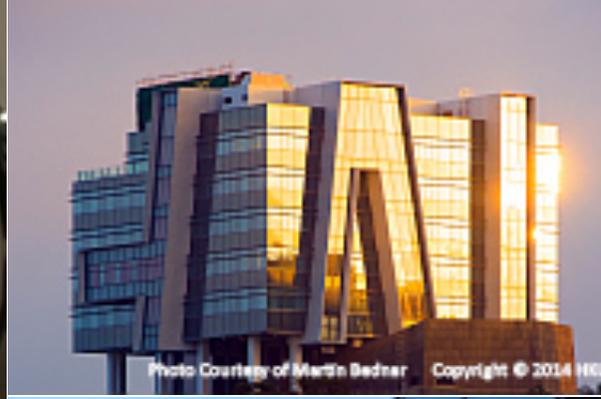
### Application Deadline

Applications for this meeting must be submitted by **May 3, 2015**. Please apply early, as some meetings become oversubscribed (full) before this deadline. If the meeting is oversubscribed, it will be stated here. *Note:* Applications for oversubscribed meetings will only be considered by the Conference Chair if more seats become available due to cancellations.

Check out the website: <http://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?id=16938>

# Hong Kong Institute for Advanced Study





**Danke!**

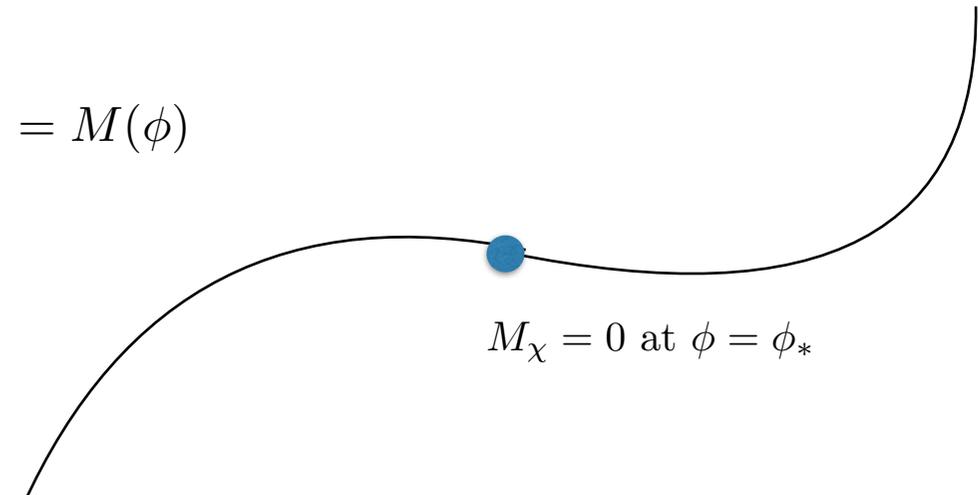
# Particle Production

Usual assumption:  $\left[ \partial_\tau^2 + k^2 - \frac{a''}{a} \right] (a \delta g_{ij}) = S_{ij} \quad , \quad S_{ij} = 0$

Particle production can provide a source of  $S_{ij}$

Simplest model: an additional scalar field  $\chi$

$$M_\chi = M(\phi)$$


$$M_\chi = 0 \text{ at } \phi = \phi_*$$

[Chung, Kolb, Riotto and Tkachev]; [Cook, Sorbo]; [Senatore, Silverstein and Zaldarriaga];  
[N. Barnaby, J. Moxon, R. Namba, M. Peloso, G. Shiu and P. Zhou]

- $\chi$  particles quickly become non-relativistic, quadrupole moment (source of GWs) is suppressed.
- Source highly non-Gaussian scalar perturbations not suppressed by the small quadrupole moment.

# Particle Production - Axion Model

A workable model: [N. Barnaby, J. Moxon, R. Namba, M. Peloso, G. Shiu and P. Zhou]

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{M_p^2}{2} R - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}(\partial\varphi)^2 - V(\varphi)}_{\text{inflaton sector}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}(\partial\psi)^2 - U(\psi) - \frac{1}{4}F^2 - \frac{\psi}{4f}F\tilde{F}}_{\text{hidden sector}} \right]$$

- *Continuous* production of relativistic vector quanta.
- Only known model of particle production during inflation that
  1. produces significant amount of GWs,
  2. avoids strong non-Gaussianity of scalar perturbations.
- Interesting signatures:
  1. Parity violation in GWs
  2. Non-Gaussian tensor fluctuations
  3. Can accommodate blue tilt in tensor spectrum
  - ...

# Gauge Field Production

- Time dependence of axion sources gauge fields

$$\left[ \partial_\tau^2 + k^2 \pm \frac{2k\xi}{\tau} \right] A_\pm(\tau, k) \simeq 0, \quad \xi \equiv \frac{\dot{\psi}}{2Hf},$$

- One helicity mode is copiously produced:

$$A_+ \simeq \left( \frac{-\tau}{8\xi k} \right)^{1/4} e^{\pi\xi - 2\sqrt{-2\xi k\tau}}, \quad \partial_\tau A_+ \simeq \sqrt{\frac{2\xi k}{-\tau}} A_+.$$

- Effects on scalar and tensor spectrum:

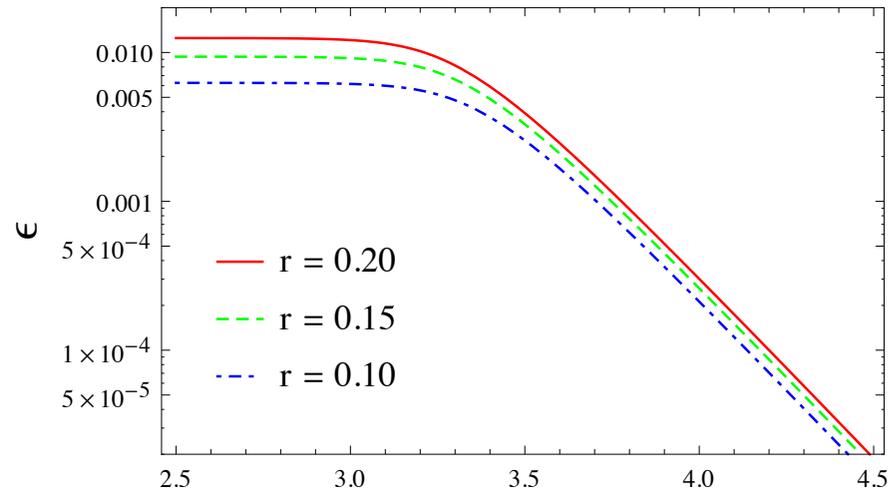
$$P_\zeta \simeq \mathcal{P} \left( 1 + 2.5 \cdot 10^{-6} \epsilon^2 \mathcal{P} \frac{e^{4\pi\xi}}{\xi^6} \right)$$

$$P_{\text{GW}} \simeq 16 \epsilon \mathcal{P} \left( 1 + 3.4 \cdot 10^{-5} \epsilon \mathcal{P} \frac{e^{4\pi\xi}}{\xi^6} \right)$$

- **Negligible effects on scalar spectrum**

$$P_\zeta \simeq \mathcal{P} \frac{1 - 0.0735\epsilon}{1 - 0.0046r}$$

- **Sourced GWs dominate over vacuum fluctuations in tensor spectrum for  $\xi \geq 3.4$**

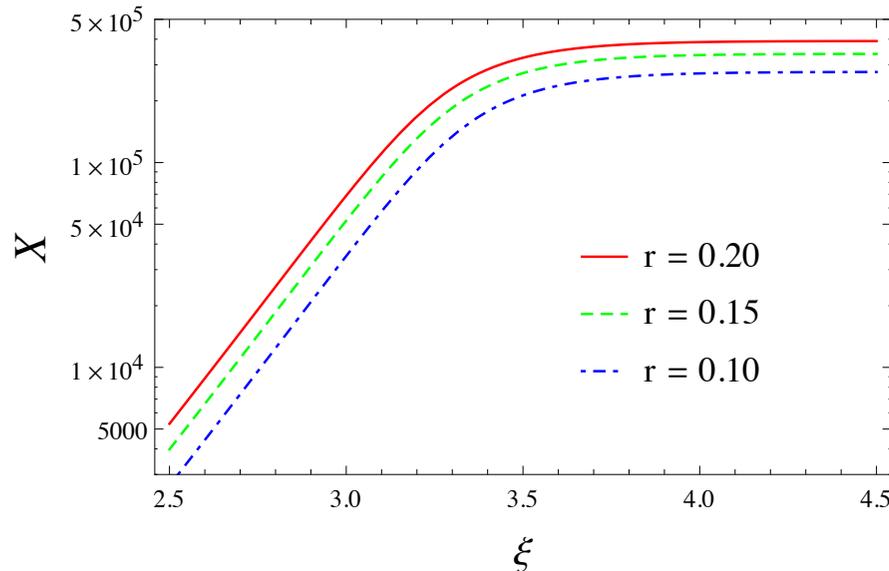


# Tensor Non-Gaussianity

- Sourced tensor modes can leave sizable non-Gaussianity of nearly equilateral shape on CMB temperature anisotropies & polarization.

[Cook, Sorbo]

- Decisive parameter:  $X \equiv \epsilon \frac{e^{2\pi\xi}}{\xi^3}$



**X saturates to:**

$$X \simeq 43 \sqrt{\frac{r}{P_\zeta}} \simeq 3.5 \cdot 10^5 \sqrt{\frac{r}{0.15}} .$$

- PLANCK temperature data can detect  $X \approx 5 \times 10^5$  at  $1\sigma$ .
- Inclusion of E-mode polarization data can improve the  $1\sigma$  limit to  $X \approx 3.8 \times 10^5$  (PLANCK) and  $2.9 \times 10^5$  (PRISM)
- Inclusion of B-mode polarization data can probe the full range of this model.

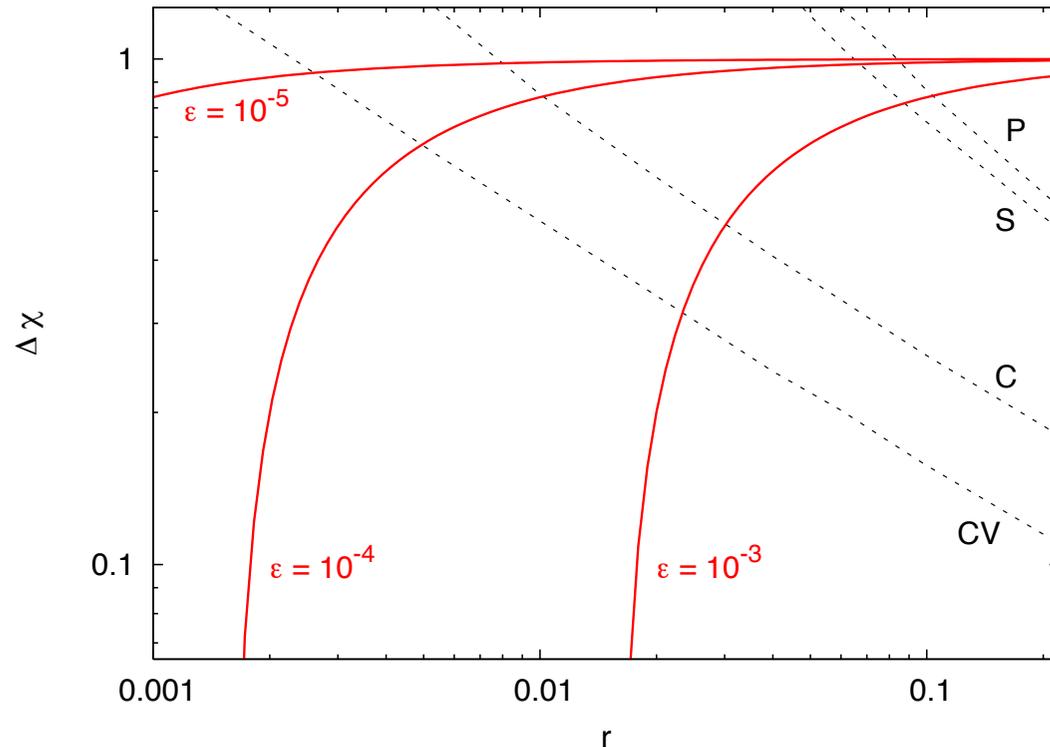
[Shiraishi, Ricciardone and Saga]

# Parity Violating Effects

- Only one helicity of GWs is efficiently generated since

$$A_+ + A_+ \rightarrow h_R$$

- Level of Chirality: 
$$\Delta\chi \equiv \frac{P_{\text{GW}}^R - P_{\text{GW}}^L}{P_{\text{GW}}^R + P_{\text{GW}}^L} \simeq \frac{3.4 \cdot 10^{-5} \epsilon \mathcal{P} \frac{e^{4\pi\xi}}{\xi^6}}{1 + 3.4 \cdot 10^{-5} \epsilon \mathcal{P} \frac{e^{4\pi\xi}}{\xi^6}}$$



PLANCK, SPIDER, CMBPol  
and a (hypothetical)  
cosmic variance limited experiment

[N. Barnaby, J. Moxon, R. Namba,  
M. Peloso, G. Shiu and P. Zhou]

Forecasted constraints (or signals) come from  $l \lesssim 10$  [Gluscevic, Kamionkowski]; do not expect constraints from BICEP2 (their jackknifed  $\langle \text{TB} \rangle$  &  $\langle \text{EB} \rangle$  signals appears consistent with zero).