

# **Gravitational waves from inflation**

Sachiko Kuroyanagi (ICRR, U. of Tokyo)

Summer Institute 2011, Aug. 5th

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## ■ Basics

- Generation mechanism
- Shape of the spectrum

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- Constraints on inflationary parameters
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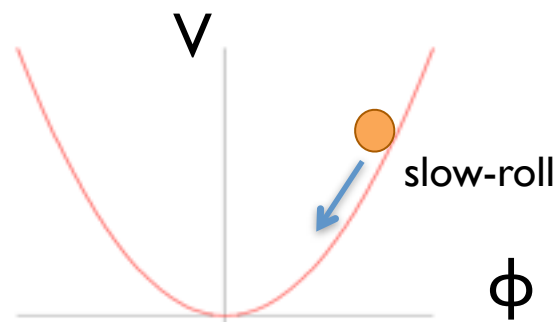
## ■ Summary

# ■ Introduction

Inflation: a phase of accelerated expansion of the universe  
solves the Horizon/Flatness/Monopole problem

## Standard picture of inflation

- driven by a scalar field  $\Phi$
- occurs when it slowly rolls down its potential



quantum fluctuations in  $\Phi \rightarrow$  scalar perturbations

$\rightarrow$  origin of the large scale structure

quantum fluctuations in space-time  $\rightarrow$  tensor perturbations

$\rightarrow$  exist as a gravitational wave background

# Gravitational waves from Inflation

**BIG BANG**

Inflation generates gravitational waves

Big Bang plus  
 $10^{-43}$  seconds

Big Bang plus  
300,000 Years

Gravitational  
waves

Big Bang plus  
15 Billion Years

Before the CMB's last scattering:  
Photons cannot propagate freely  
due to interaction with electrons

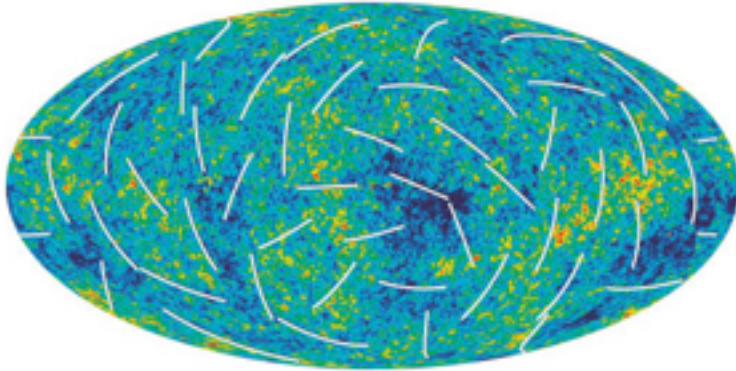
Light

Now

Inflationary GWs propagate freely because  
of their weak interactions with matter

→ Only way to directly observe inflation!

# ■ Ongoing efforts to detect the gravitational waves from inflation



WMAP Three Year Polarized CMB Sky (<http://wmap.gsfc.nasa.gov/>)

## CMB B-mode polarization

Planck (launched on 2009)

LiteBIRD, CMBpol, COrE (2020?)

Ground-based experiments

## Direct detection

Ground-based experiments

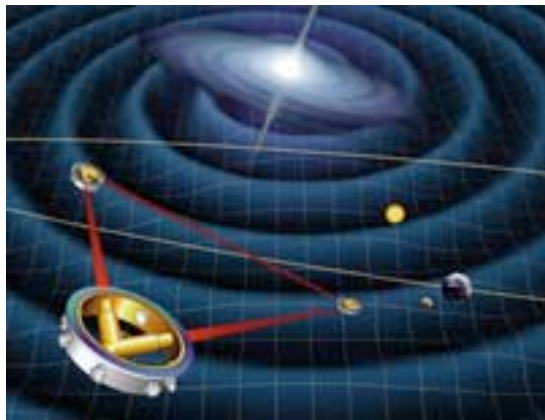
LIGO, LCGT

→ sensitivity is not enough

**BBO (post LISA, 2025-30???)**

**DECIGO (2027?)**

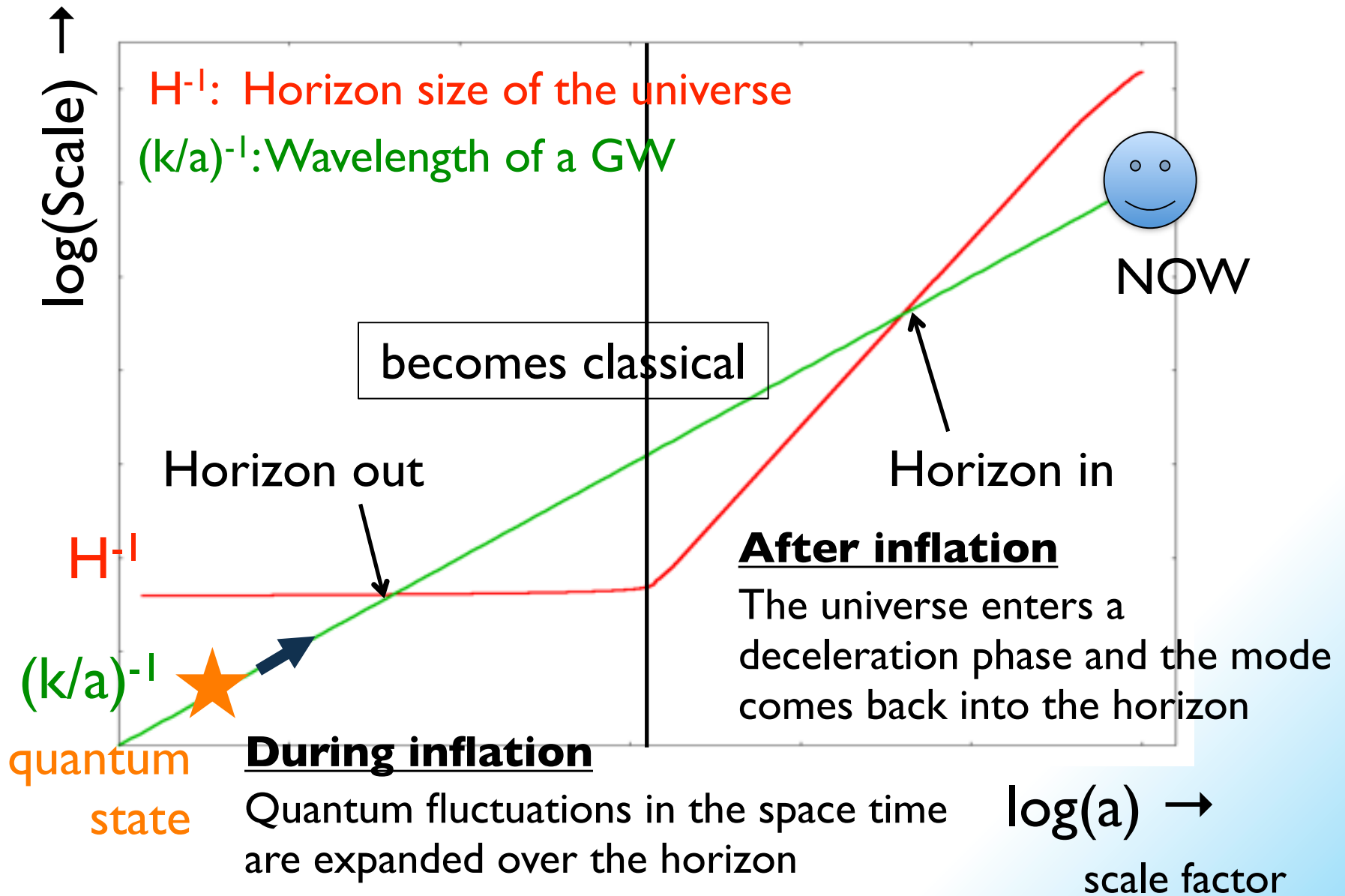
**→ next generation tools  
to probe inflation!**



LISA image (<http://lisa.nasa.gov/>)

# **Basics of the inflationary gravitational wave background**

# ■ Generation mechanism



# ■ Propagation equation for GWs

The Einstein equation yields

$$\ddot{h}_{ij} + 3H\dot{h}_{ij} - \frac{1}{a^2}\nabla^2 h_{ij} = 16\pi G\Pi_{ij}$$

expansion term

anisotropic stress term

The Robertson-Walker metric

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

Neglecting the anisotropic stress term and Fourier transforming the equation...

$$\ddot{h}_{\mathbf{k}}^\lambda + \underline{3H\dot{h}_{\mathbf{k}}^\lambda} + \underline{\frac{k^2}{a^2}h_{\mathbf{k}}^\lambda} = 0$$

• Outside the horizon ( $H > k/a$ )  $h_{\mathbf{k}}^\lambda \propto \text{const.}$

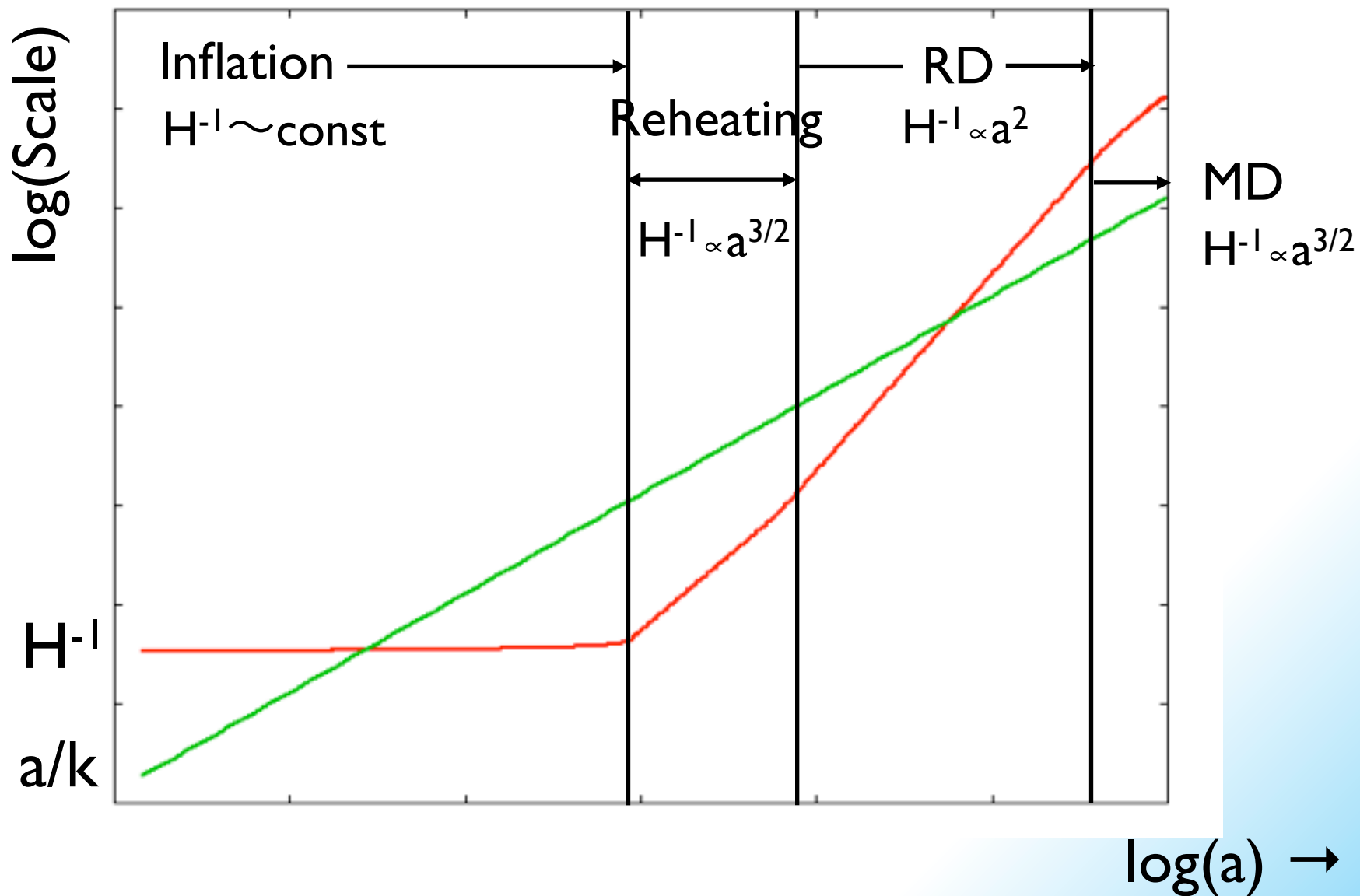
• Inside the horizon ( $H < k/a$ )  $h_{\mathbf{k}}^\lambda \propto a^{-1}e^{-ik\tau}.$

→ Hubble expansion rate (H) determines how the GW behaves.



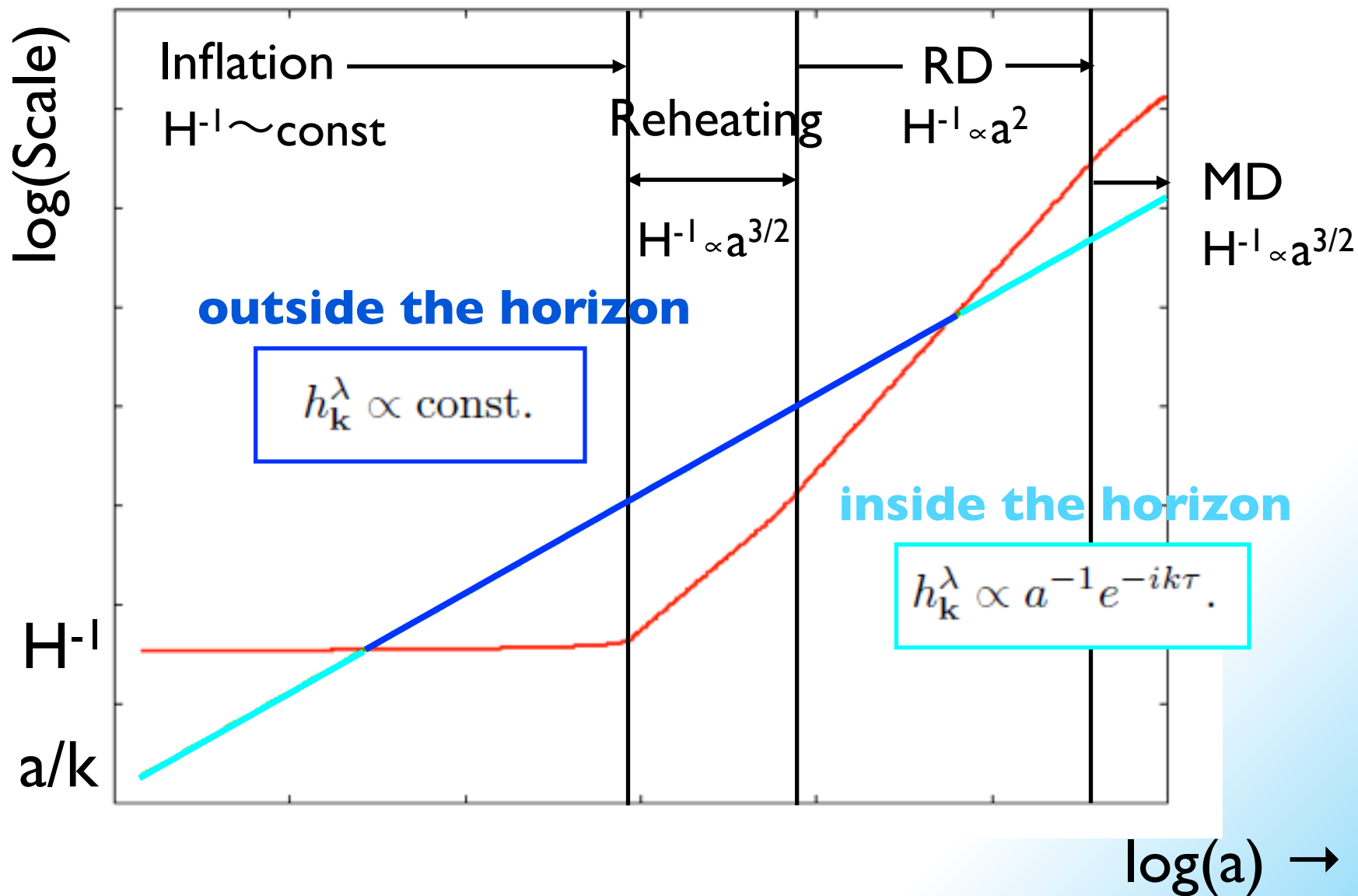
# ■ Hubble expansion history

↑ In the standard inflation cosmology



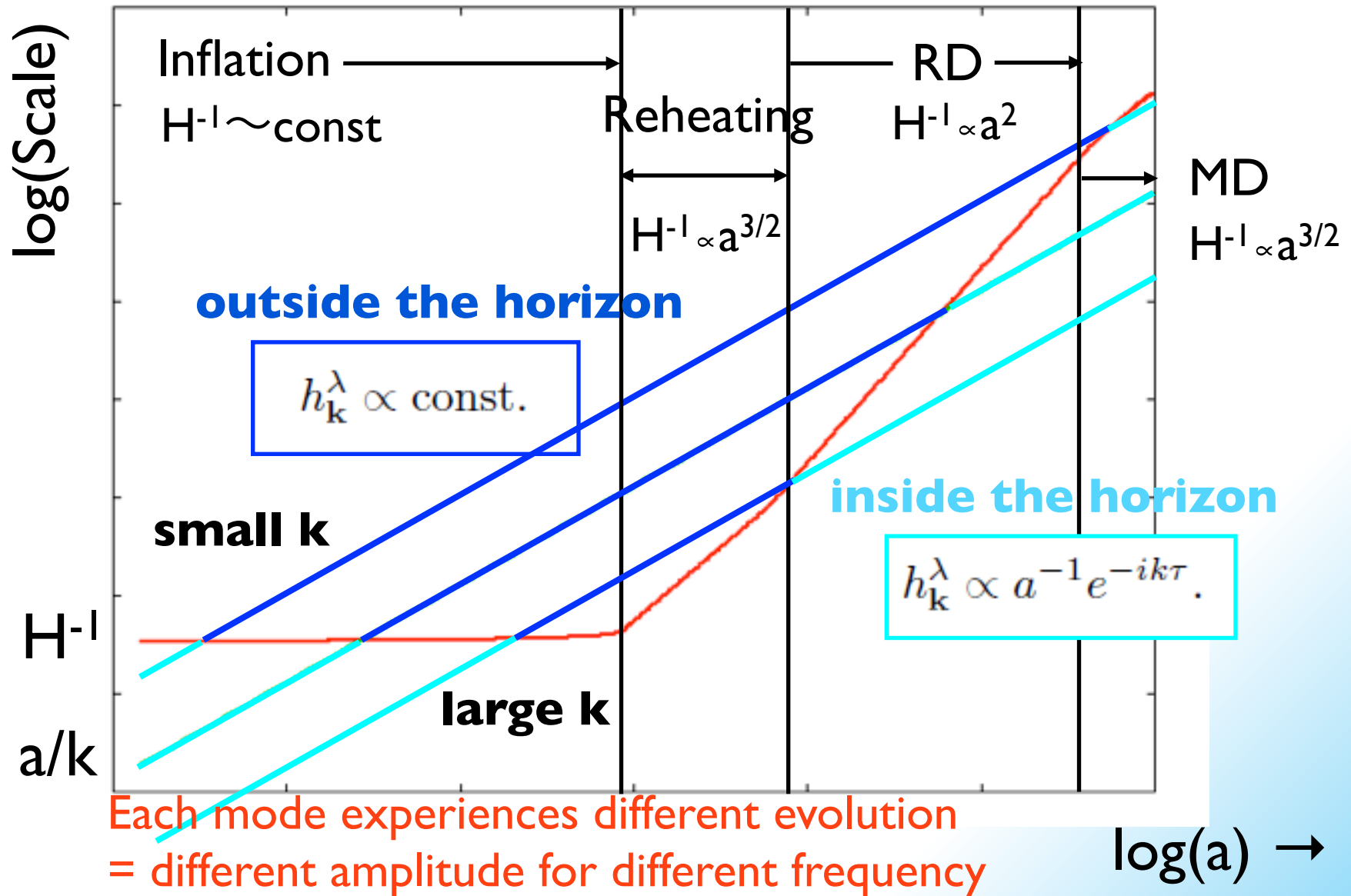
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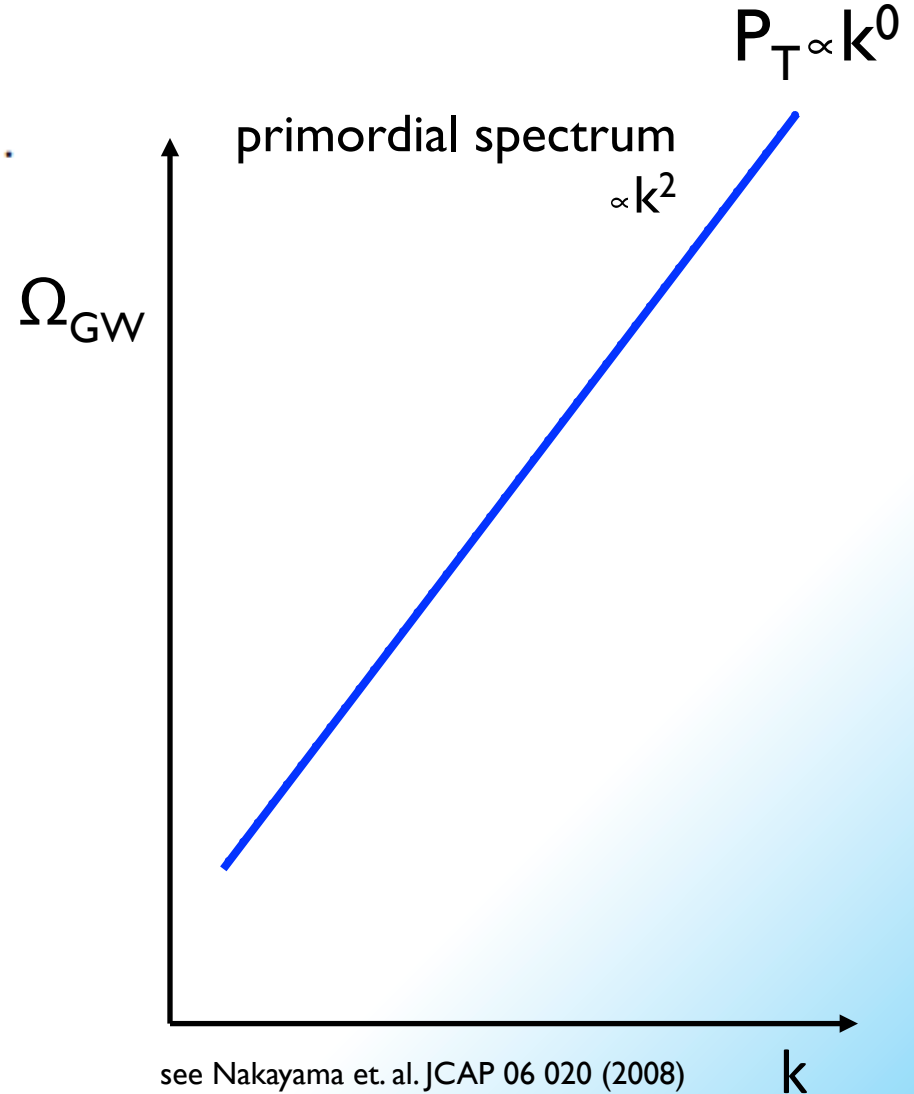
# ■ Spectrum shape

The spectral energy density  $\Omega_{\text{GW}} \equiv \frac{1}{\rho_c} \frac{d\rho_{\text{GW}}}{d \ln k} = \frac{1}{12} \left( \frac{k}{aH} \right)^2 \frac{k^3}{\pi^2} \sum_{\lambda} |h_{\mathbf{k}}^{\lambda}|^2$

**Outside the horizon**  $h_{\mathbf{k}}^{\lambda} \propto \text{const.}$

**Inside the horizon**  $h_{\mathbf{k}}^{\lambda} \propto a^{-1} e^{-ik\tau}$ .

**Inflation**  $a \propto \exp(Ht)$   
scale invariant spectrum



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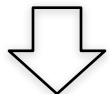
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$$P_T \propto k^0$$

**Inflation**

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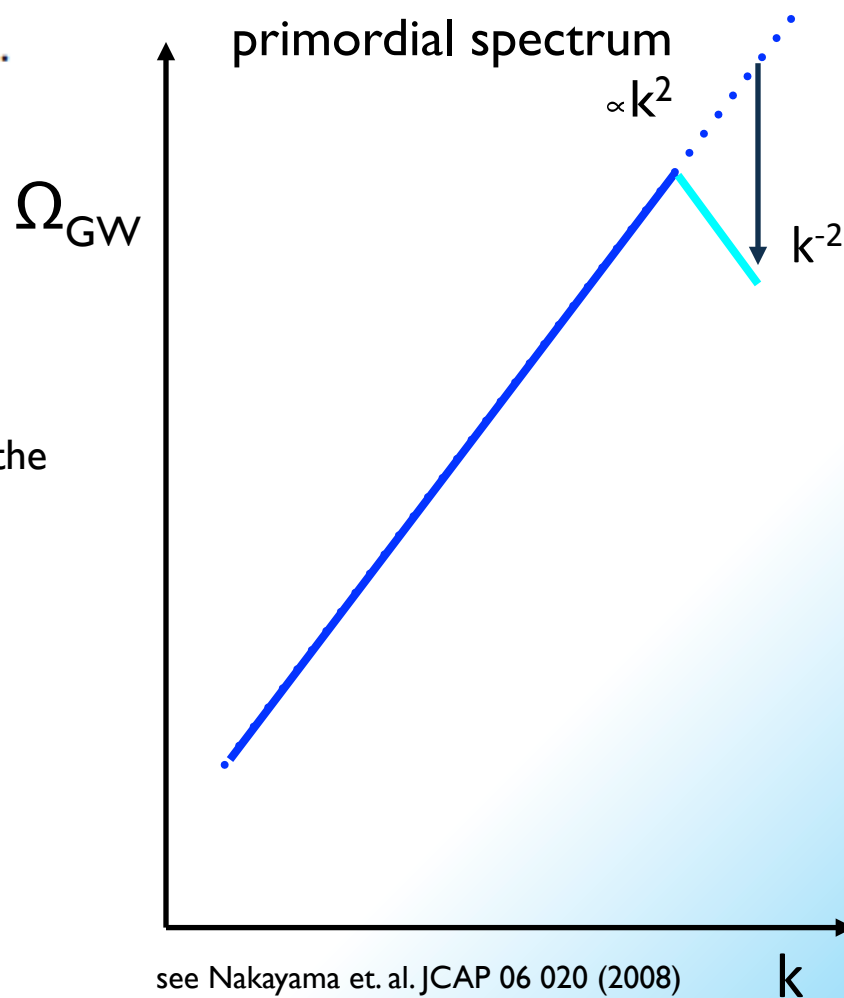
scale invariant spectrum



**reheating**

$$a \propto t^{2/3} \longrightarrow k^{-2}$$

small scale modes begin to enter the horizon and damp with  $\propto a^{-1}$



see Nakayama et. al. JCAP 06 020 (2008)

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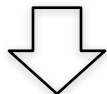
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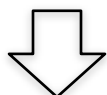
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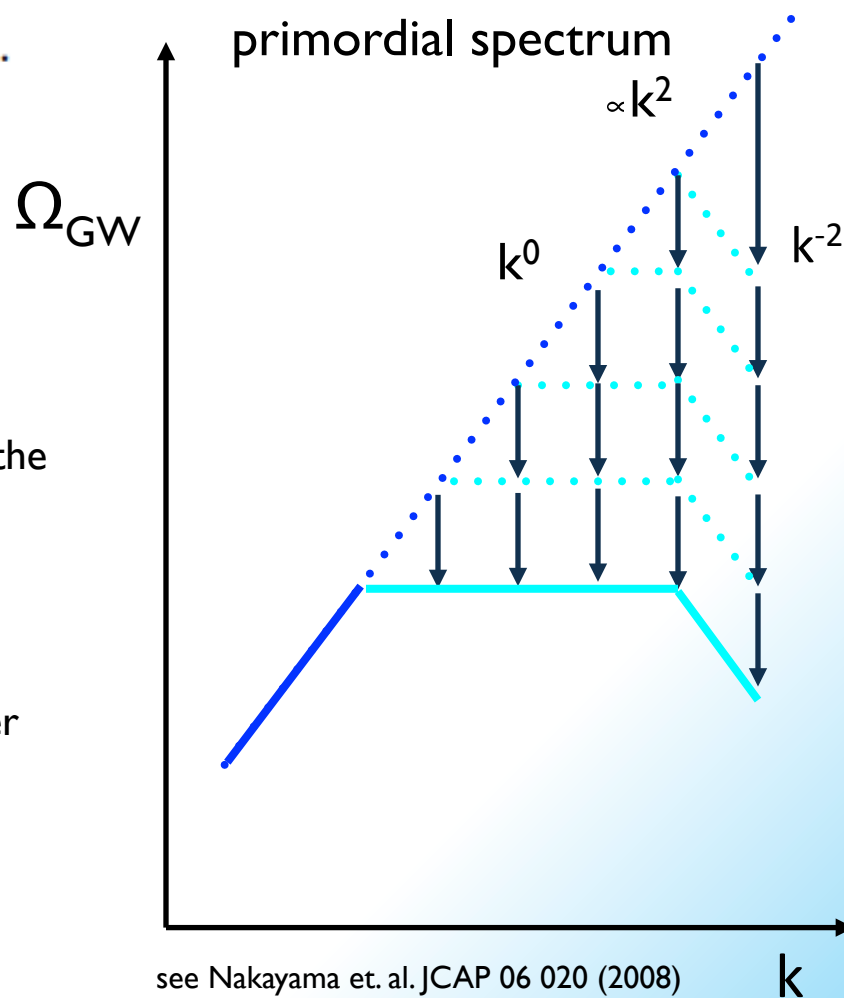


**radiation dominant**

small scale modes begin to enter the horizon and damp with  $\propto a^{-1}$

$$a \propto t^{1/2} \longrightarrow k^0$$

the expansion decelerates so the damping  $\propto a^{-1}$  becomes smaller



see Nakayama et. al. JCAP 06 020 (2008)

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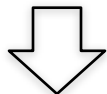
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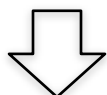
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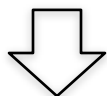
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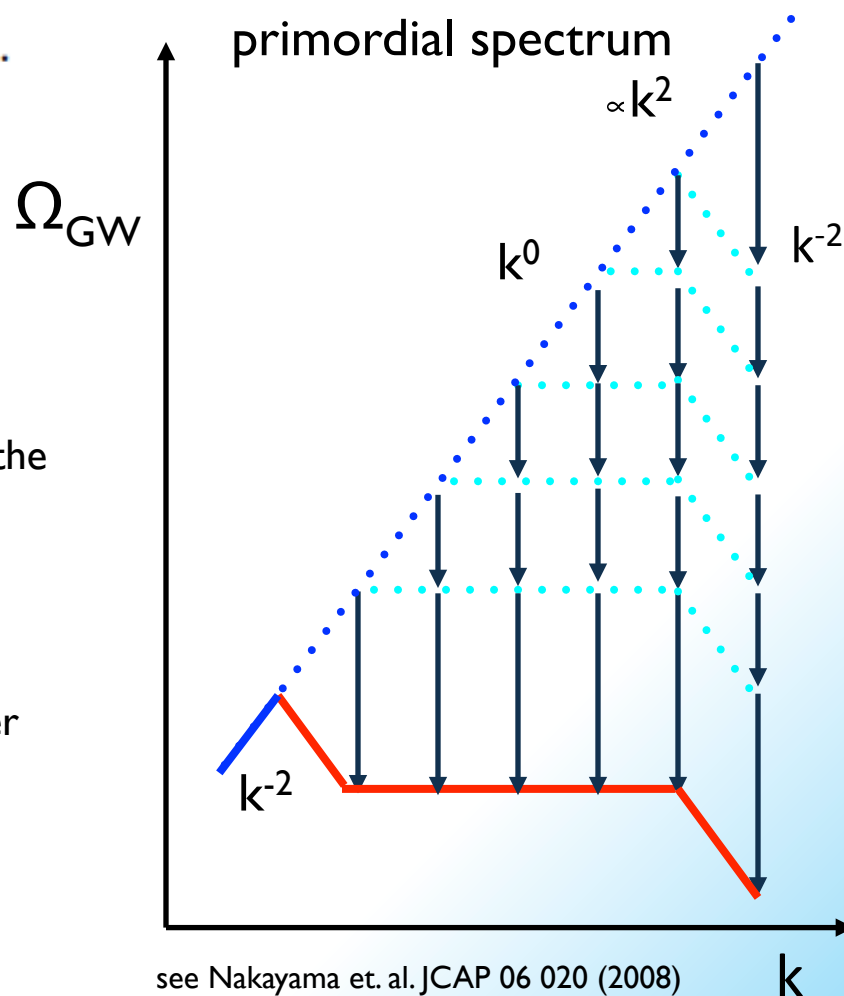
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**matter dominant**

$$a \propto t^{2/3} \longrightarrow k^{-2}$$

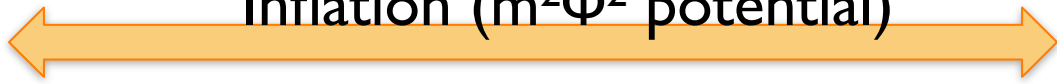
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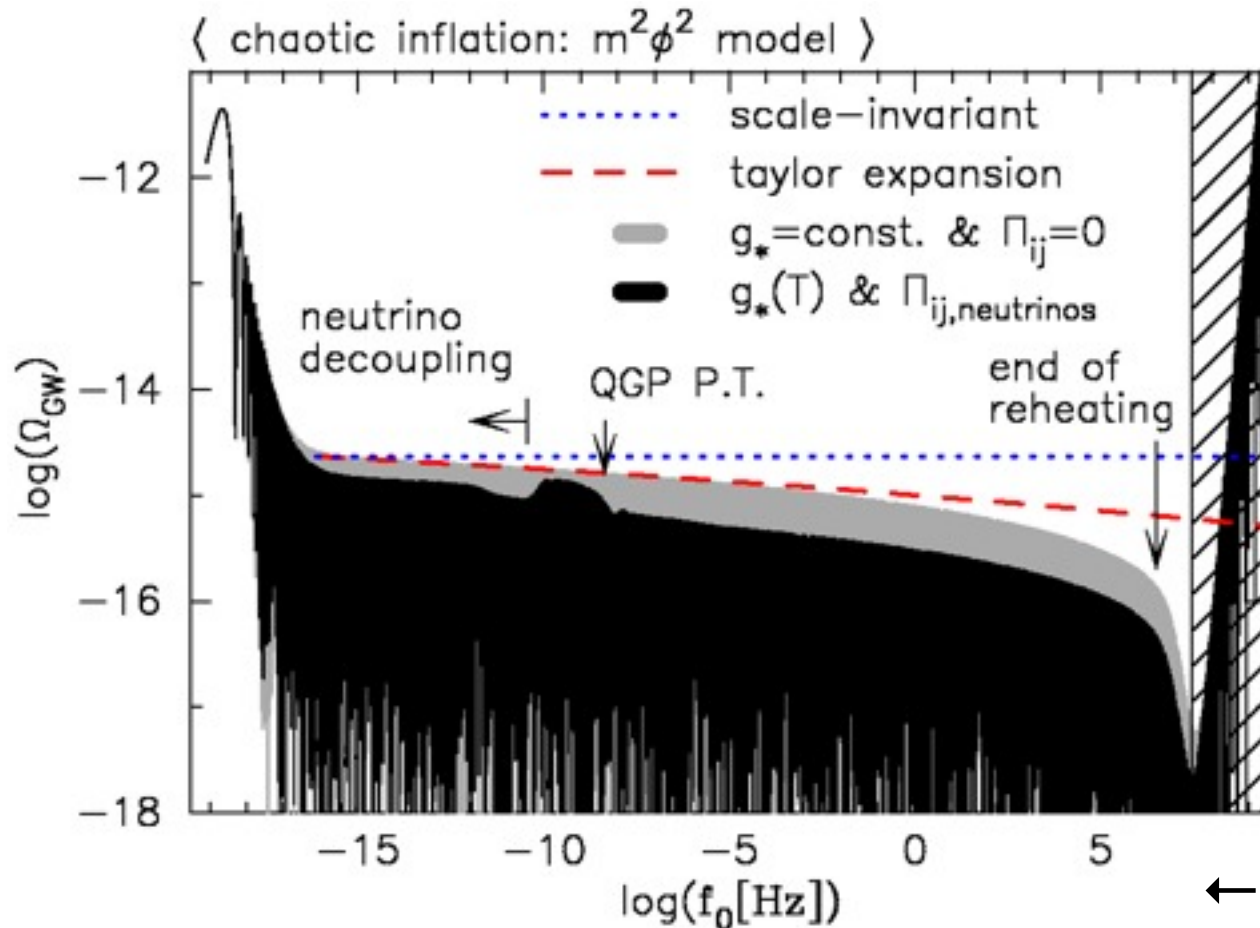
see Nakayama et. al. JCAP 06 020 (2008)

# ■ Spectrum shape from numerical calculation

Inflation ( $m^2\phi^2$  potential)



$V(\phi)$



S. Kuroyanagi, T. Chiba and N. Sugiyama,  
Phys. Rev. D 79, 103501 (2009)

← frequency  $f = k/2\pi$



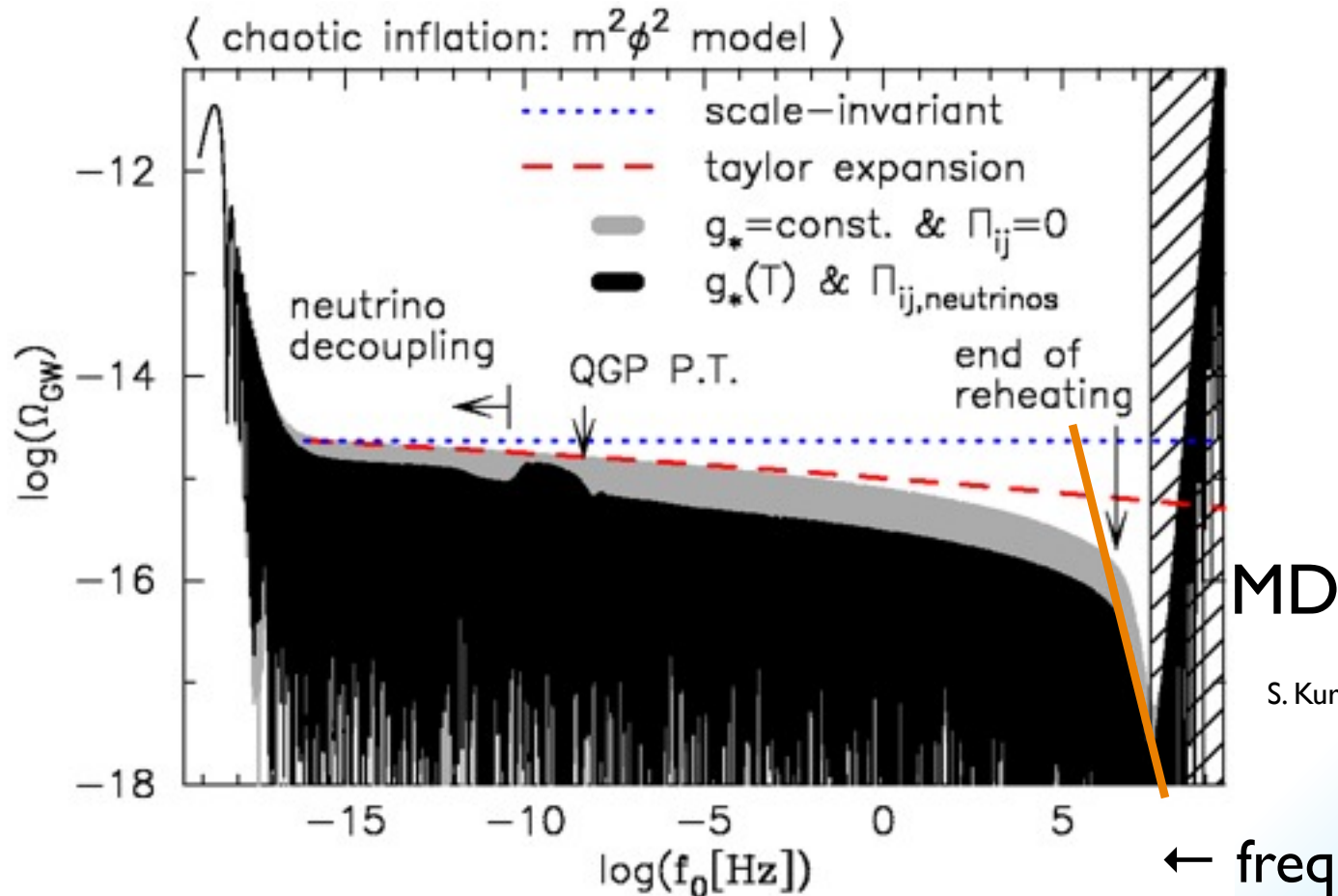
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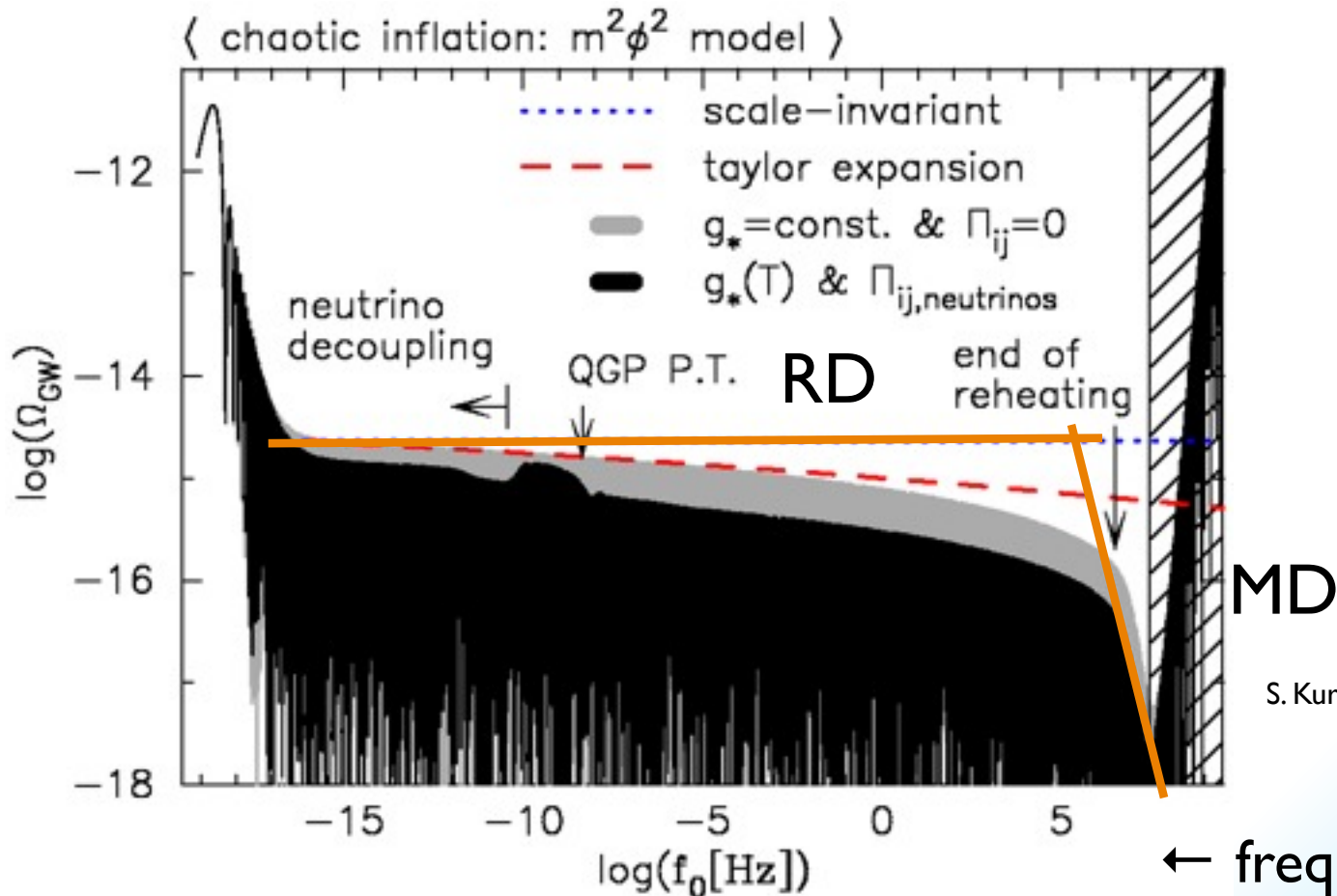
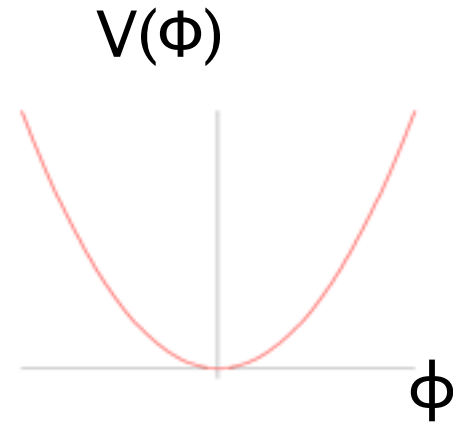
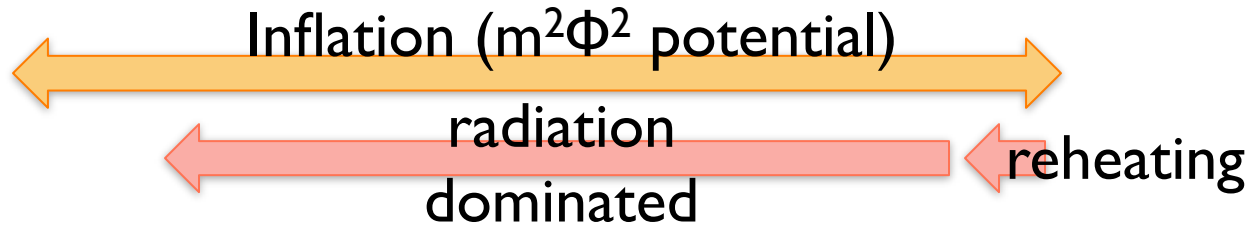
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$\phi$



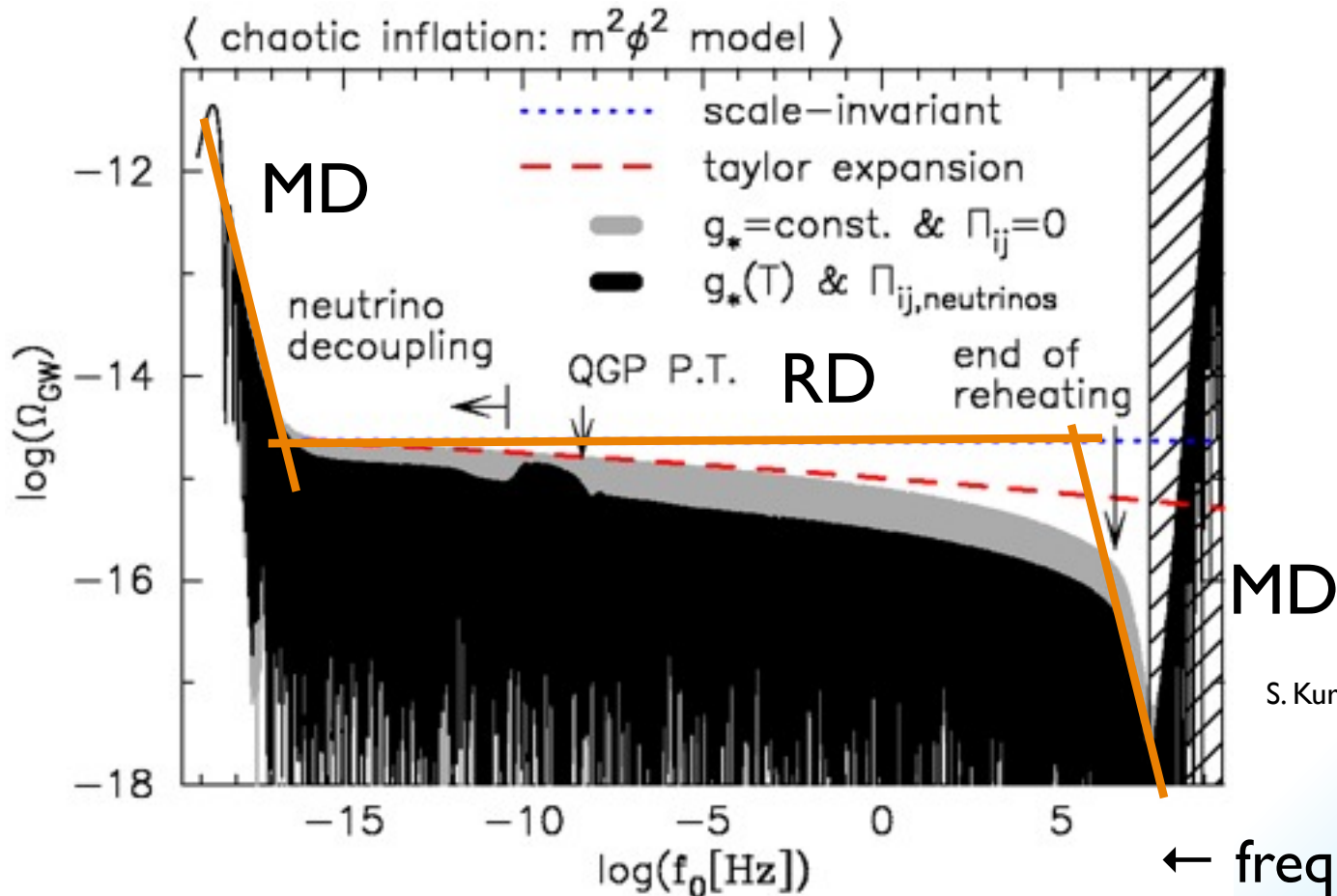
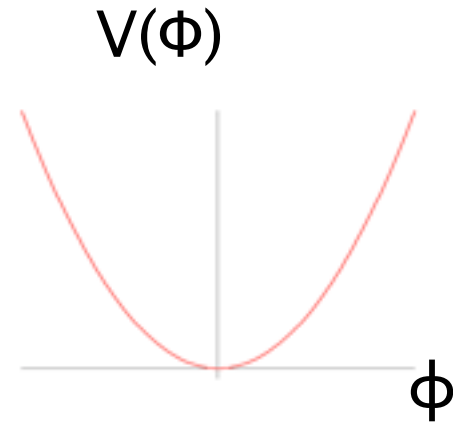
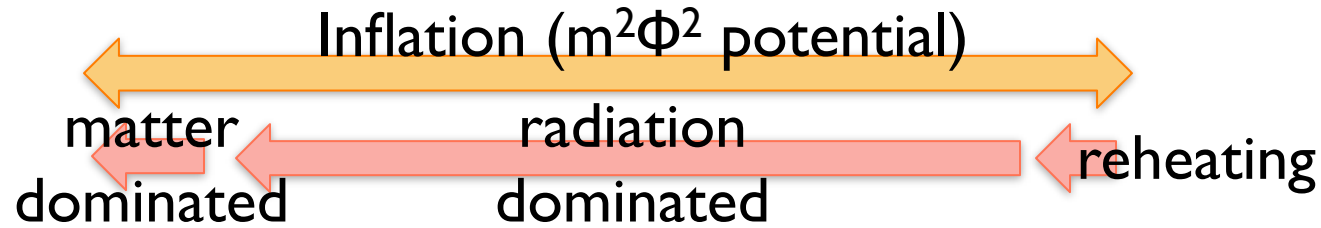
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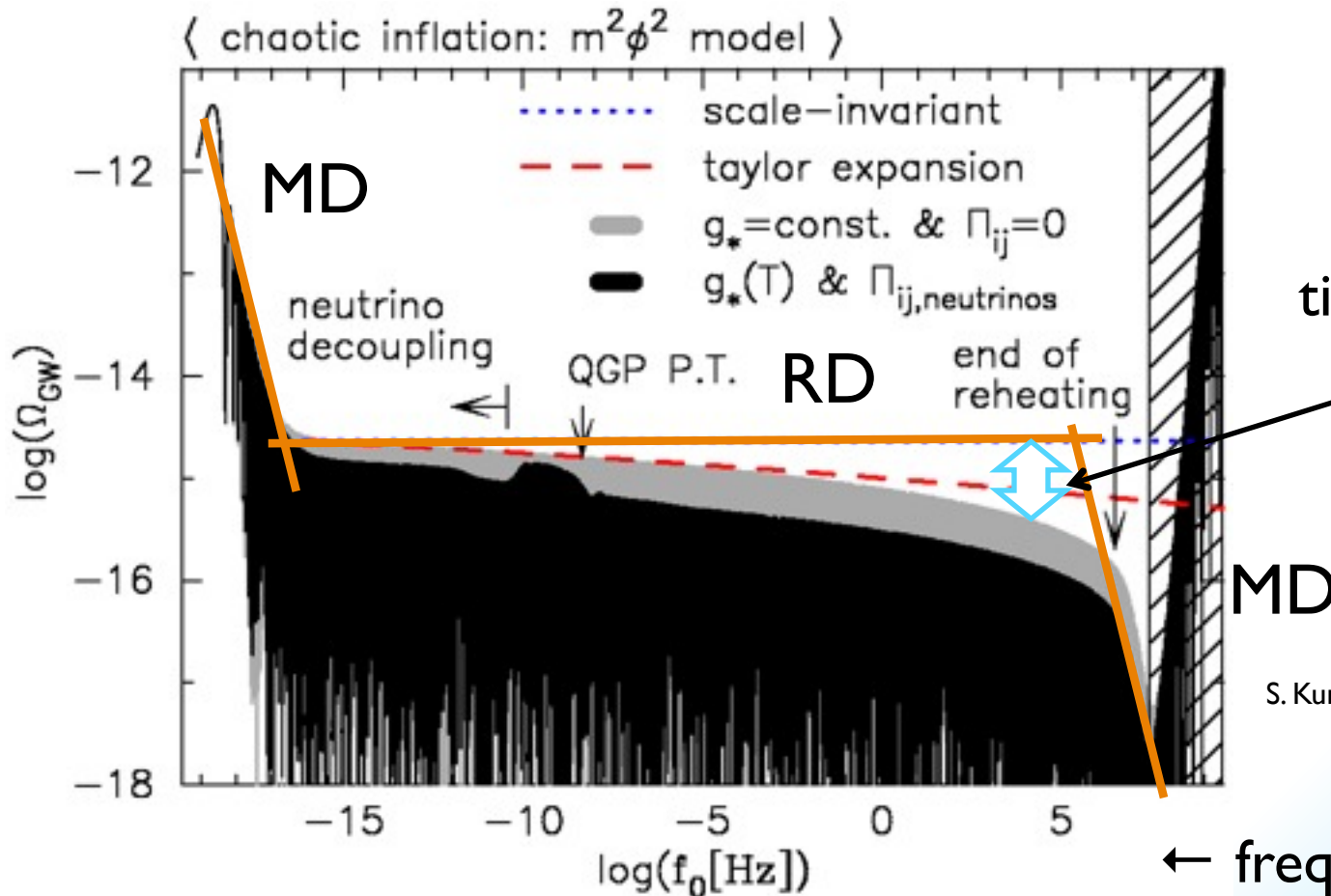
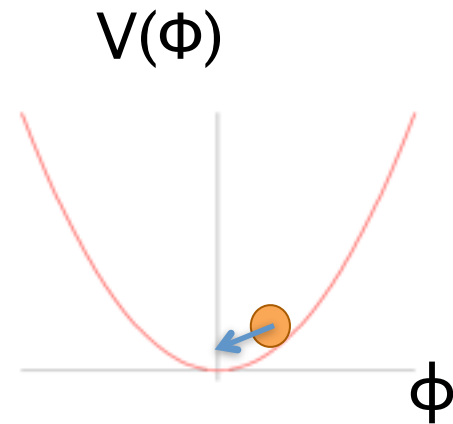
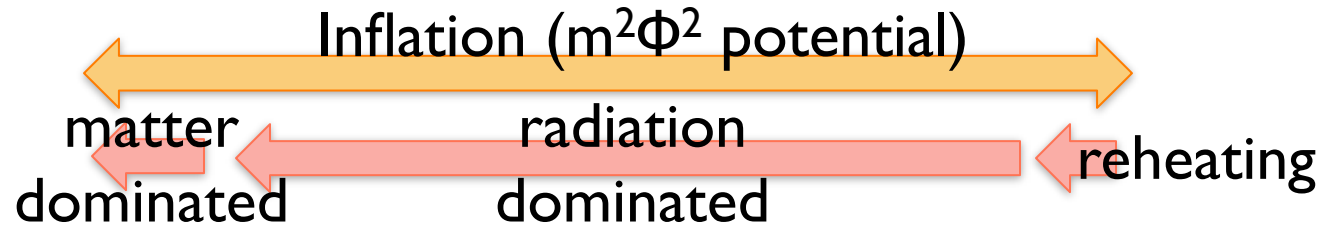
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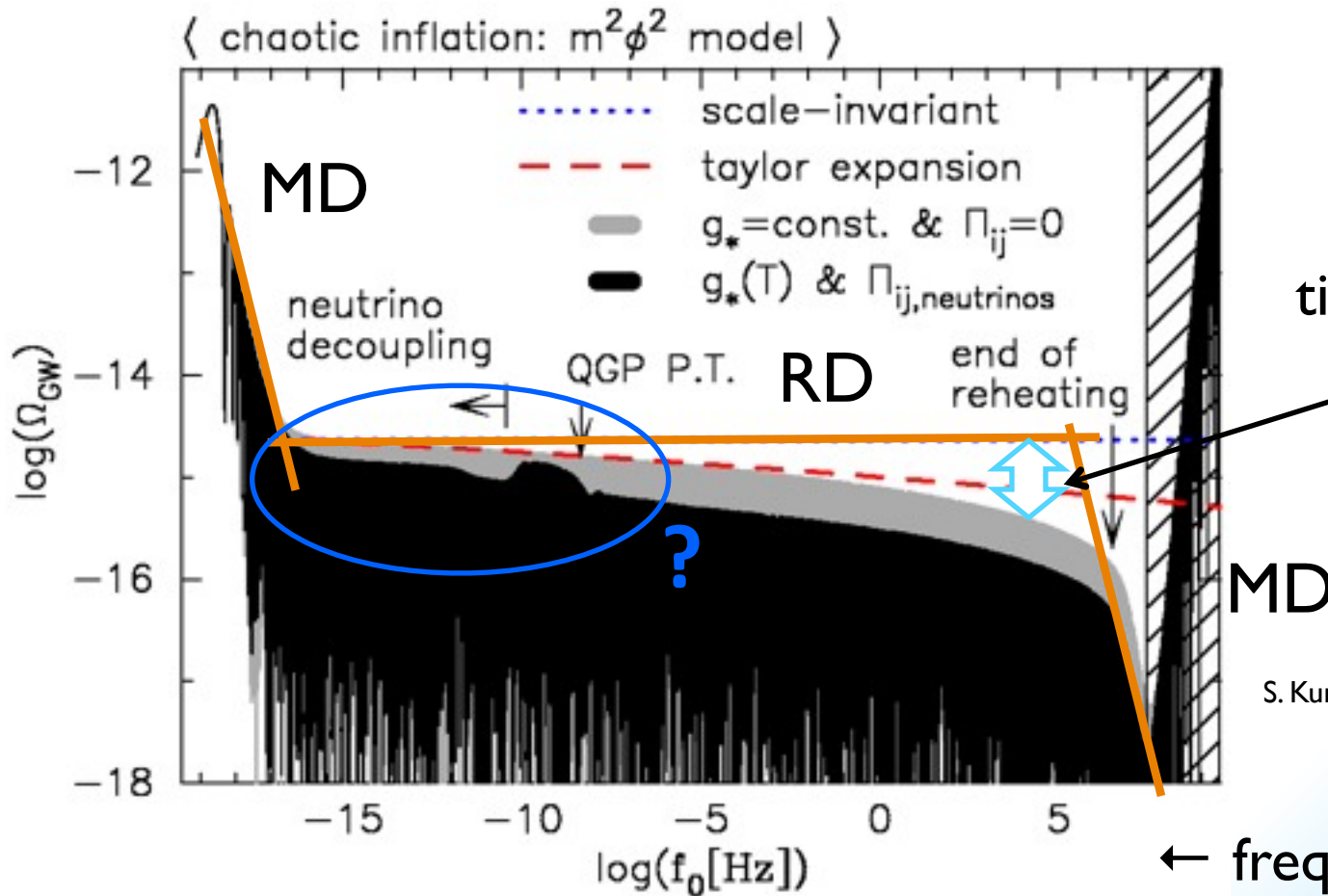
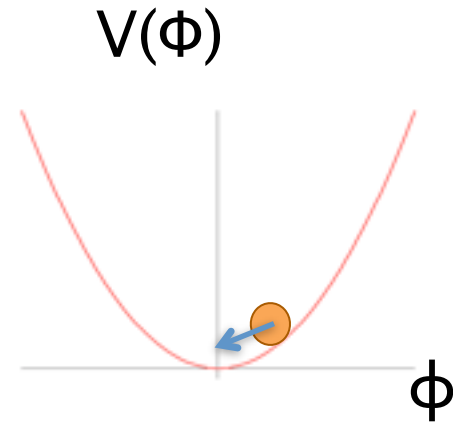
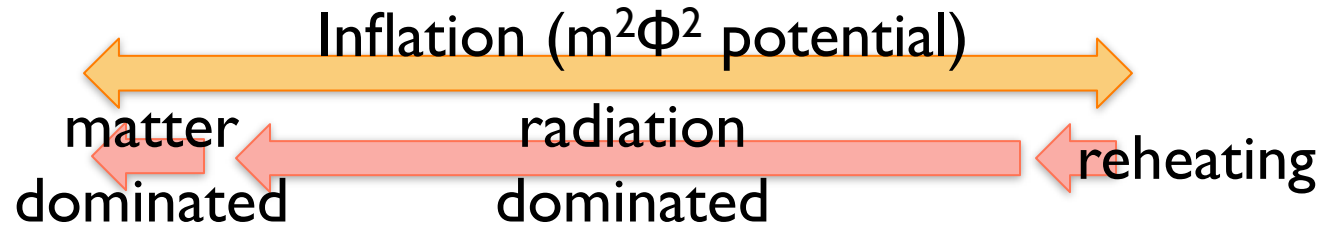


tilt of the spectrum  
+  
deviation from  
the slow-roll

S. Kuroyanagi, T. Chiba and N. Sugiyama,  
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← frequency  $f = k/2\pi$

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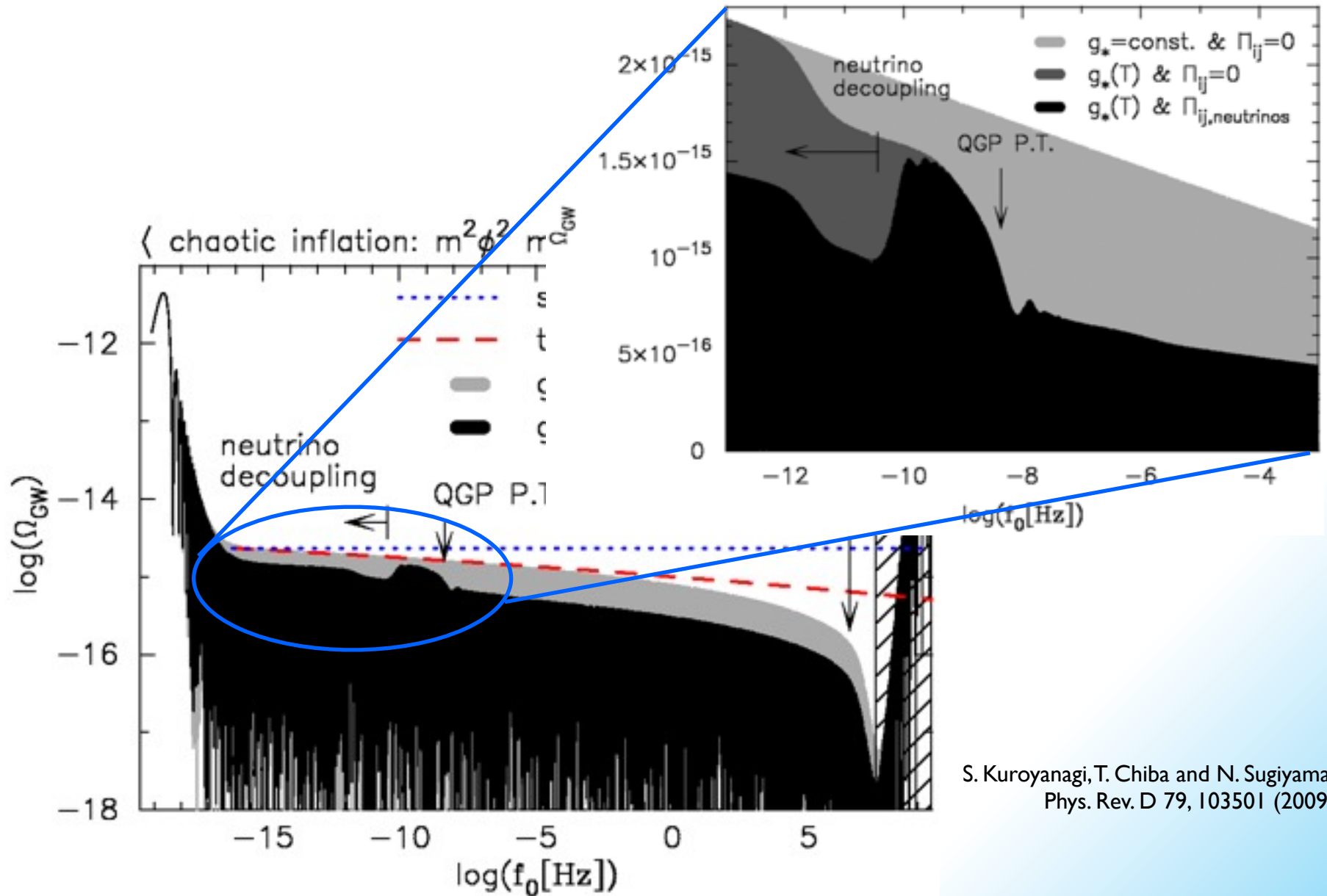


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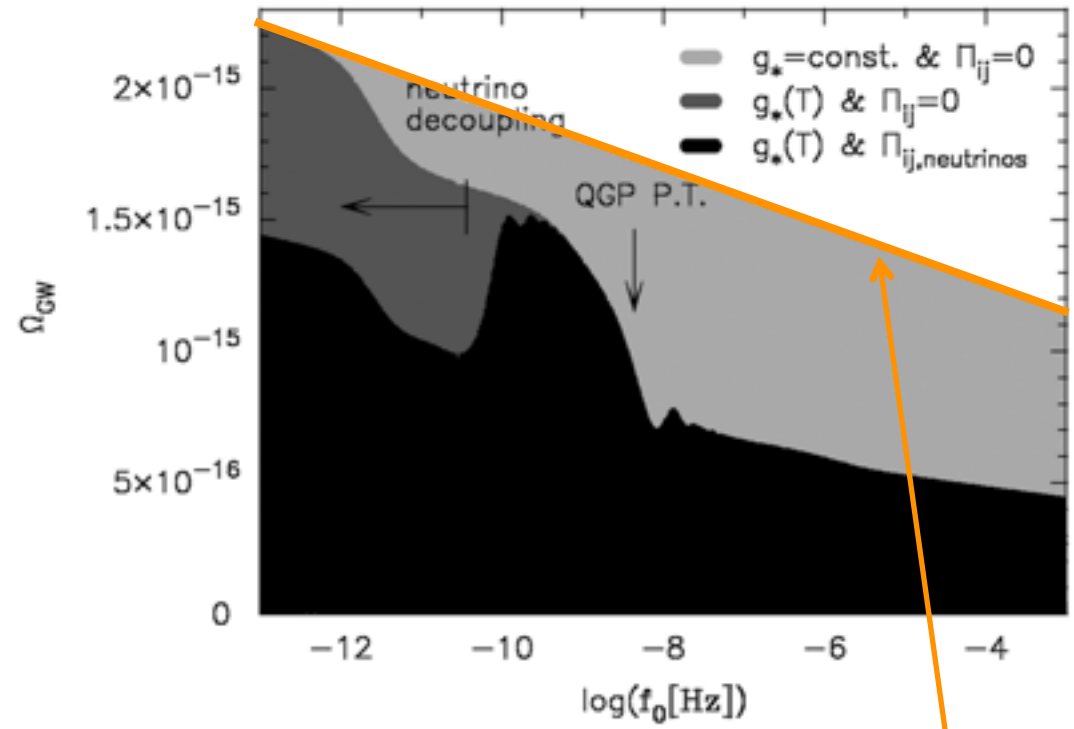
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# ■ Spectrum shape from numerical calculation



primordial spectrum with tilt

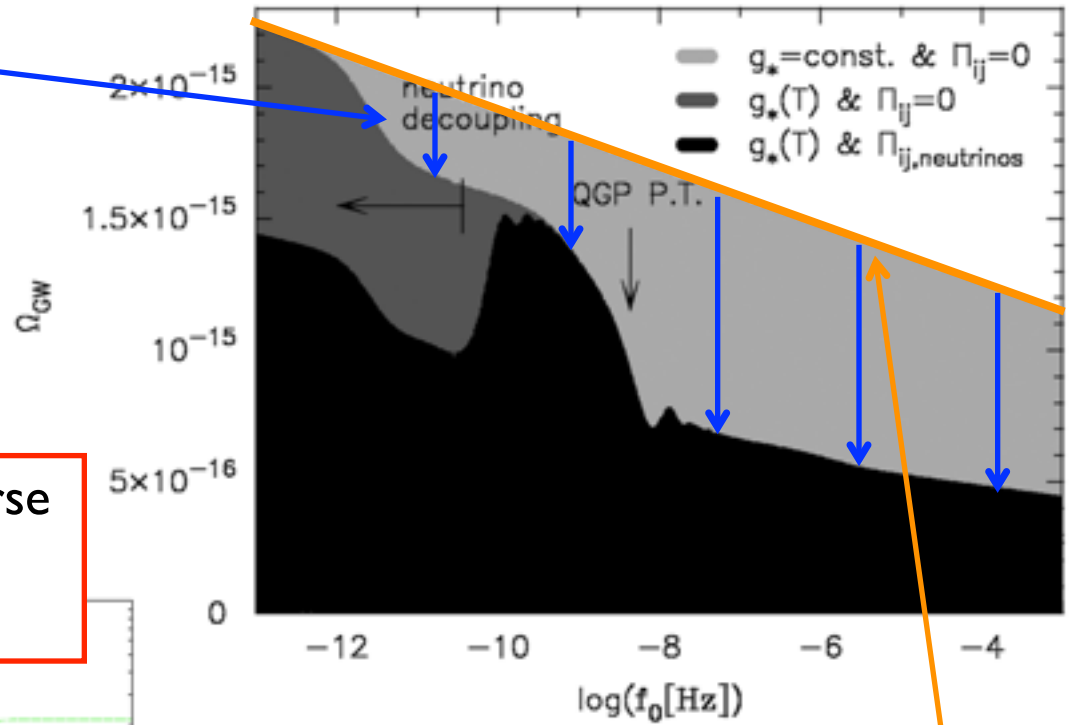
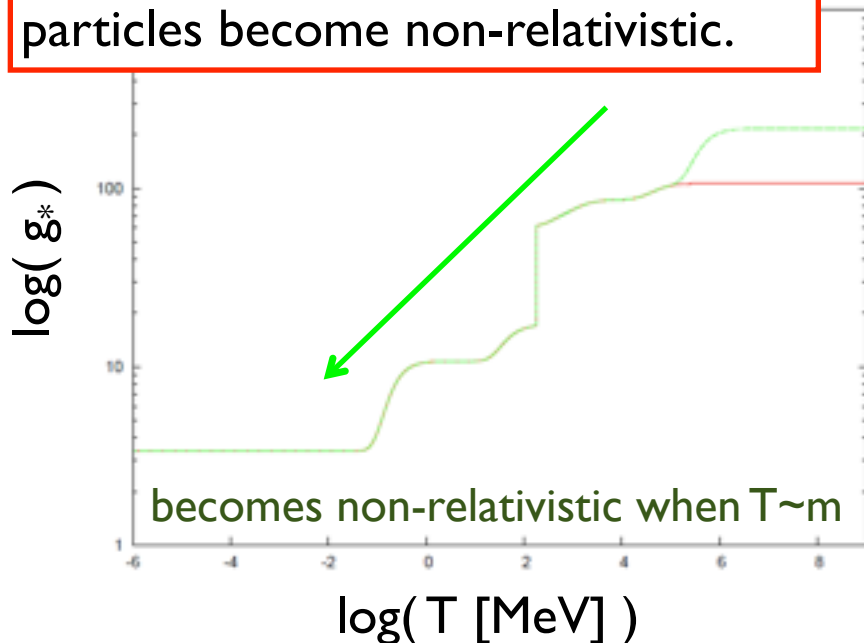
# ■ Spectrum shape from numerical calculation

Damping due to the changes in effective number of degrees of freedom  $g_*$

$$\rho(T) = \frac{\pi^2}{30} g_*(T) T^4,$$

$$s(T) = \frac{2\pi^2}{45} g_{*s}(T) T^3$$

As the temperature of the universe decreases, relativistic matter particles become non-relativistic.



primordial spectrum with tilt

- temperature decreases
- contribution to  $\rho$  and  $s$  decreases
- step-like changes in  $H$
- step shape in  $\Omega_{\text{GW}}$

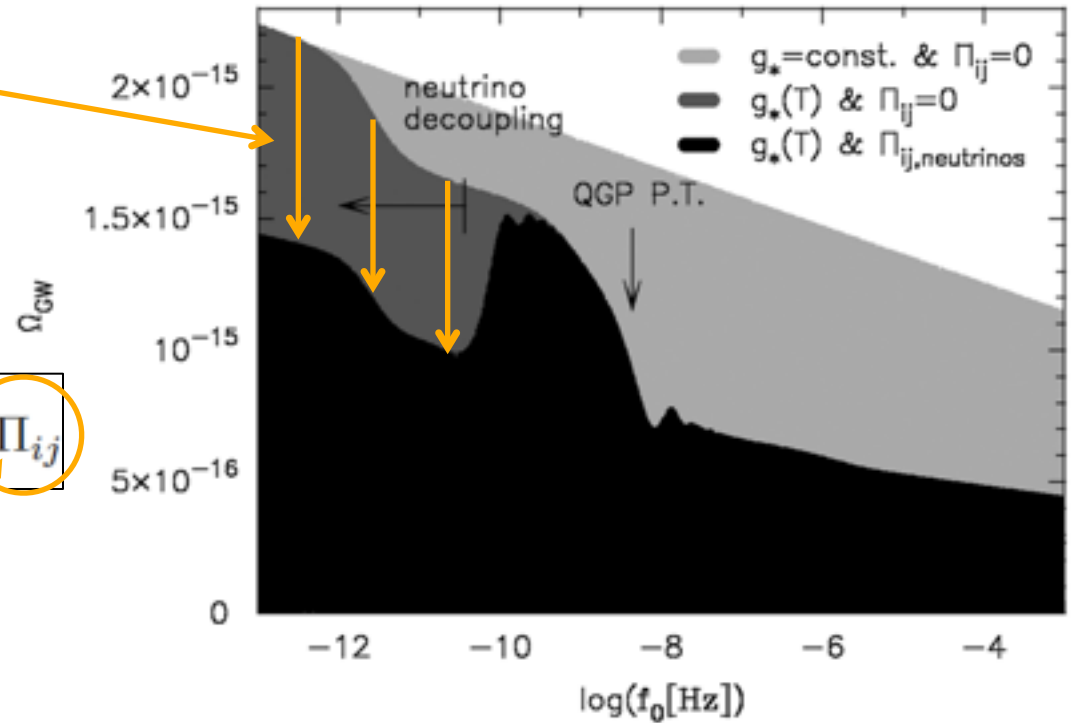


# ■ Spectrum shape from numerical calculation

Damping due to the neutrino anisotropic stress

$$\ddot{h}_{ij} + 3H\dot{h}_{ij} - \frac{1}{a^2}\nabla^2 h_{ij} = 16\pi G\Pi_{ij}$$

anisotropic stress term

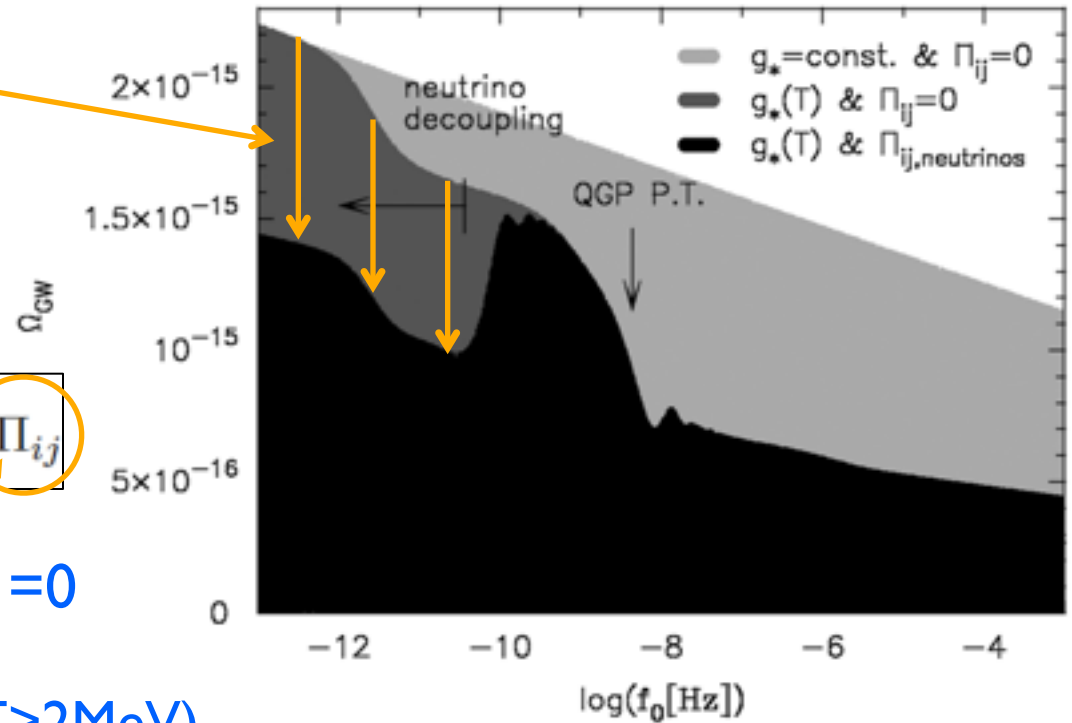


# ■ Spectrum shape from numerical calculation

Damping due to the neutrino anisotropic stress

$$\ddot{h}_{ij} + 3H\dot{h}_{ij} - \frac{1}{a^2}\nabla^2 h_{ij} = 16\pi G\Pi_{ij}$$

anisotropic stress term = 0



Before neutrino decoupling ( $T > 2\text{MeV}$ )

Anisotropic stress is suppressed by the coupling with matter ( $e^\pm$ )

# ■ Spectrum shape from numerical calculation

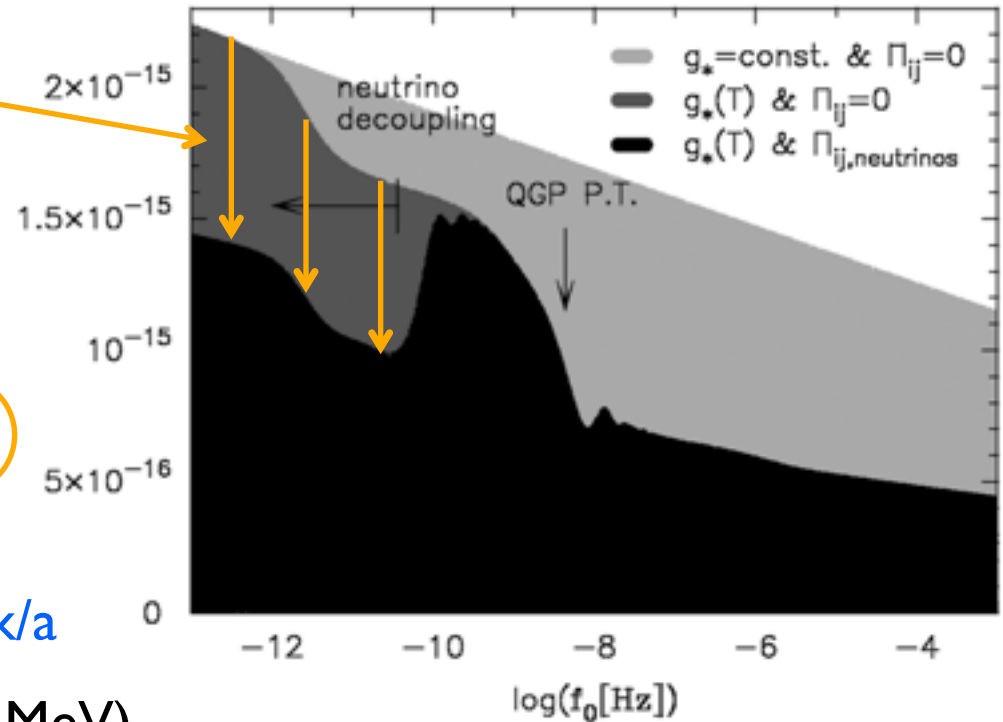
Damping due to the neutrino anisotropic stress

initially = 0

$$\ddot{h}_{ij} + 3H\dot{h}_{ij} - \frac{1}{a^2}\nabla^2 h_{ij} = 16\pi G\Pi_{ij}$$

gives energy

→ Damping only when  $H \sim k/a$



Before neutrino decoupling ( $T > 2\text{MeV}$ )

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After neutrino decoupling ( $T < 2\text{MeV}$ )

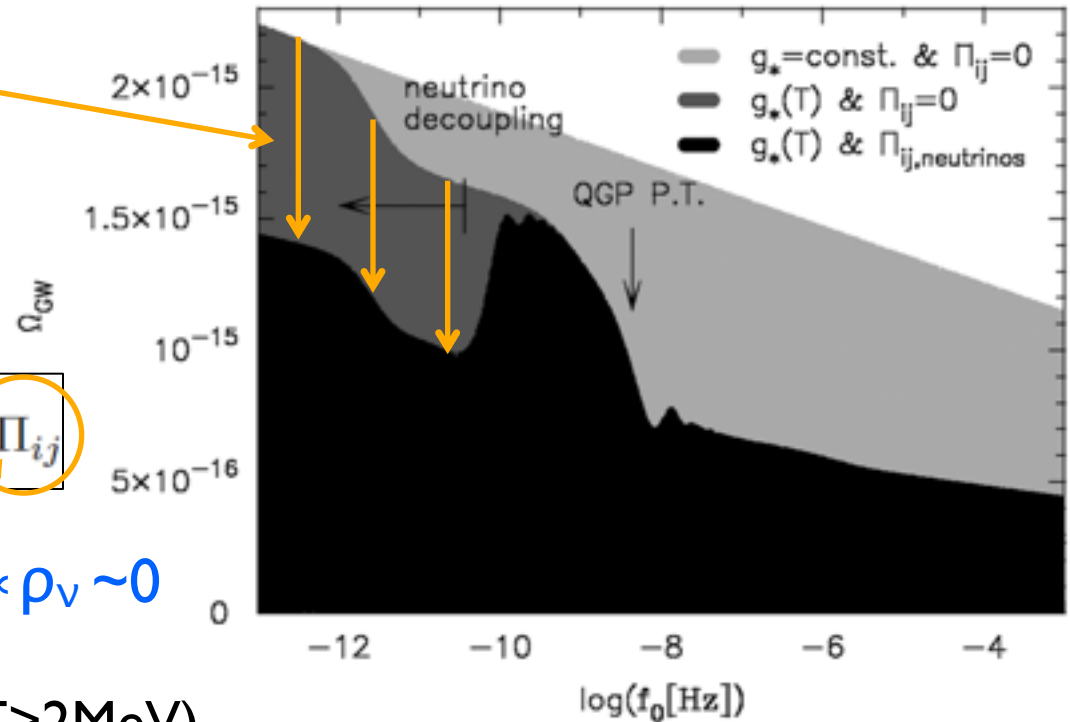
Neutrino anisotropic stress affects GWs as a viscosity when they enter the horizon

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Damping due to the neutrino anisotropic stress

$$\ddot{h}_{ij} + 3H\dot{h}_{ij} - \frac{1}{a^2}\nabla^2 h_{ij} = 16\pi G\Pi_{ij}$$

anisotropic stress term  $\propto \rho_\nu \sim 0$



Before neutrino decoupling ( $T > 2\text{MeV}$ )

Anisotropic stress is suppressed by the coupling with matter ( $e^\pm$ )

After neutrino decoupling ( $T < 2\text{MeV}$ )

Neutrino anisotropic stress affects GWs as a viscosity when they enter the horizon

After the Universe becomes matter-dominated

The energy density of radiation becomes negligible

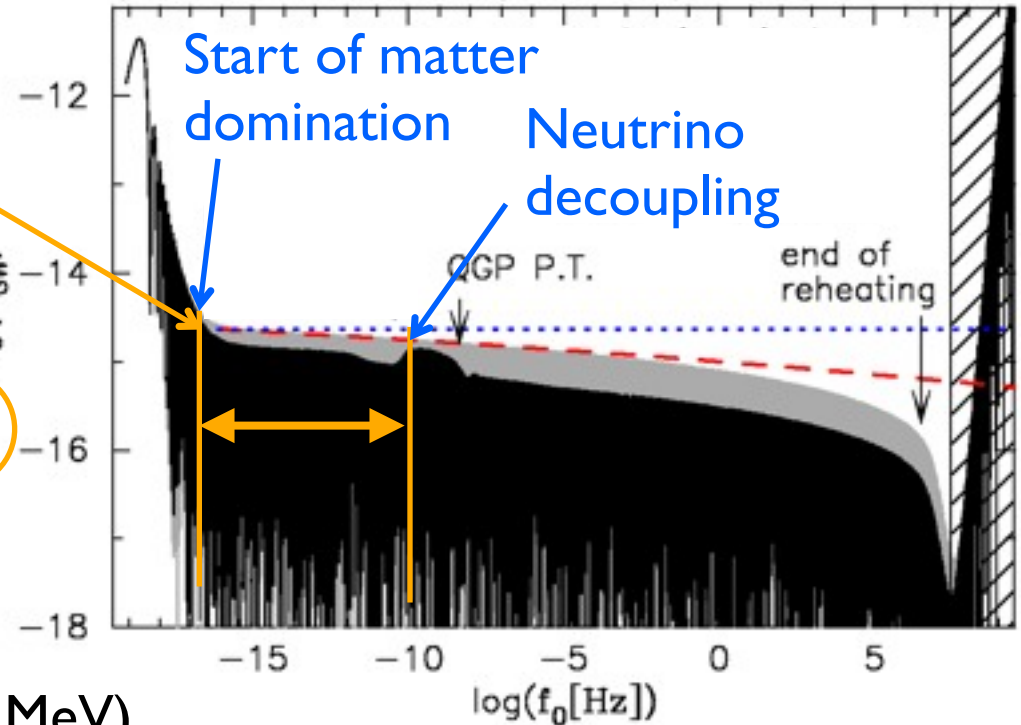
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Damping due to the neutrino anisotropic stress

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anisotropic stress term

( chaotic inflation:  $m^2\phi^2$  model )



Before neutrino decoupling ( $T > 2\text{MeV}$ )

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After neutrino decoupling ( $T < 2\text{MeV}$ )

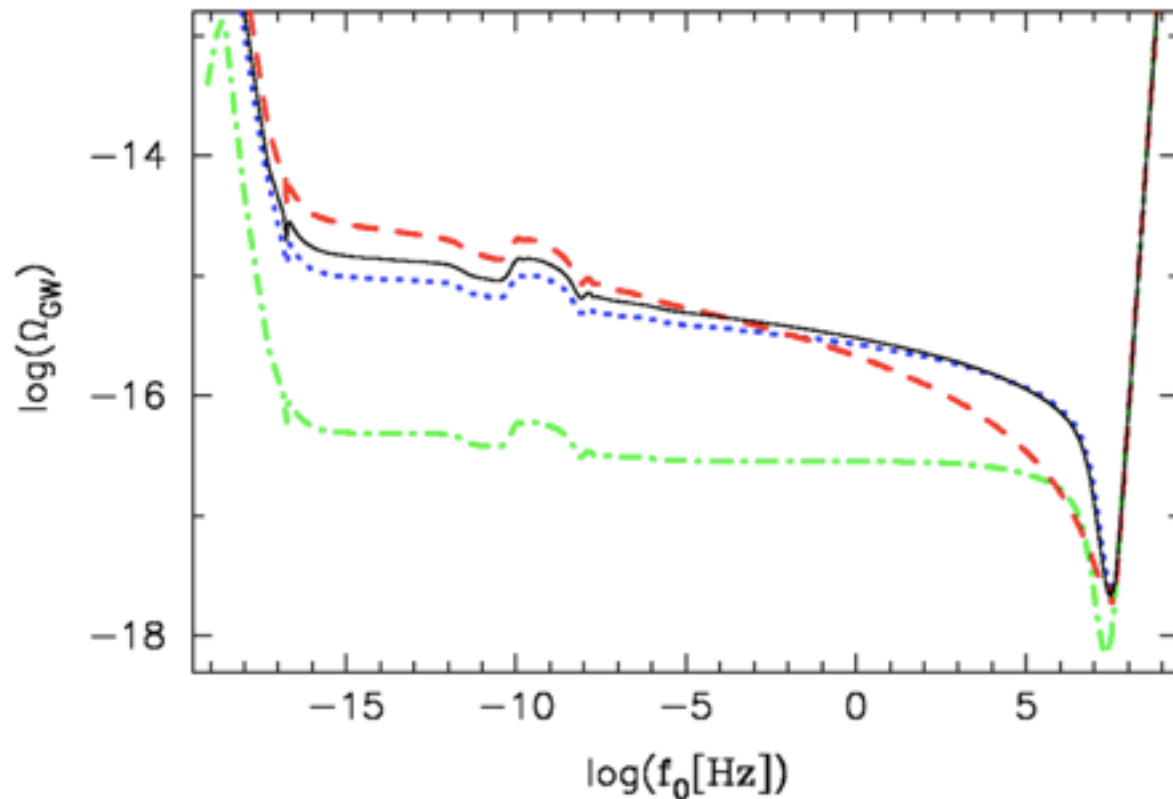
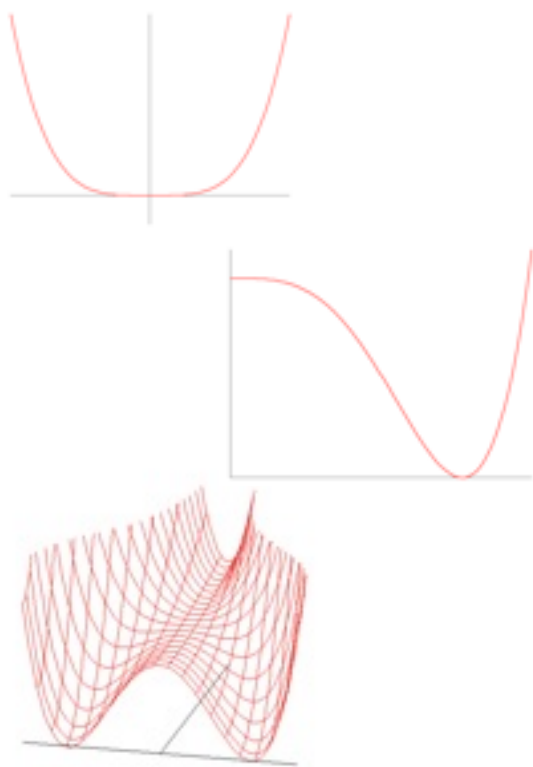
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After the Universe becomes matter-dominated

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# Other inflation models

- $m^2\phi^2$  model
- - -  $\lambda\phi^4$  model
- ⋯ new inflation
- · - · hybrid inflation

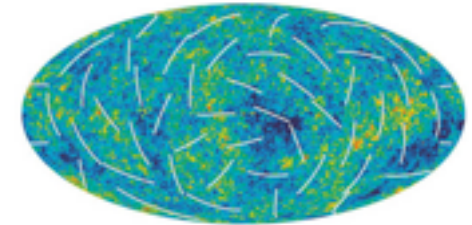
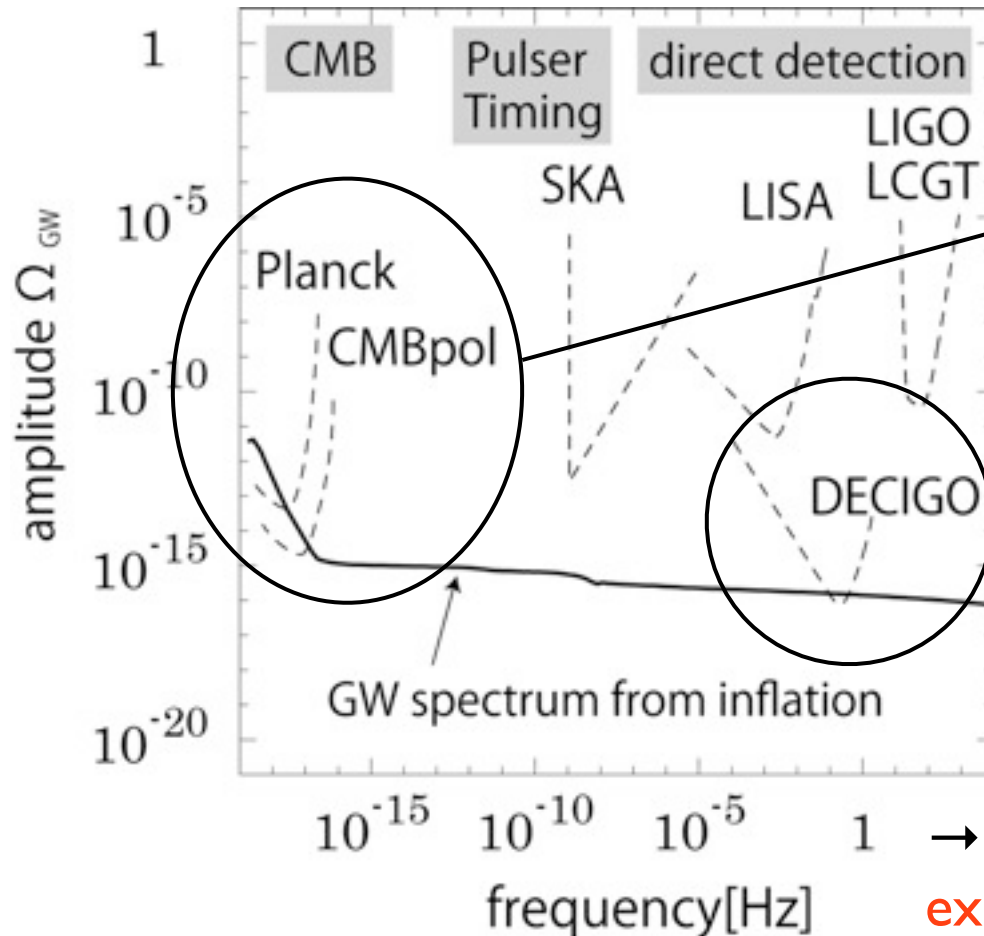


- Differences in the amplitude and the tilt
- can be used to specify inflation model

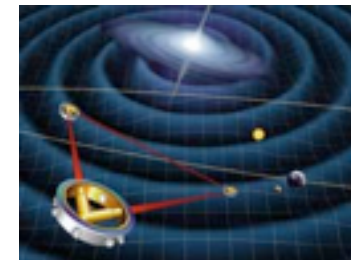
# **Observational aspects of the inflationary gravitational wave background**

# ■ Ongoing efforts to detect the GWB

Sensitivity curves of future gravitational wave experiments & spectrum of the gravitational wave background



CMB B-mode polarization



Direct detection

→ looking at two different frequencies.  
expected to provide independent  
information from each other.



# ■ Constraints on inflationary parameters

## In CMB observations

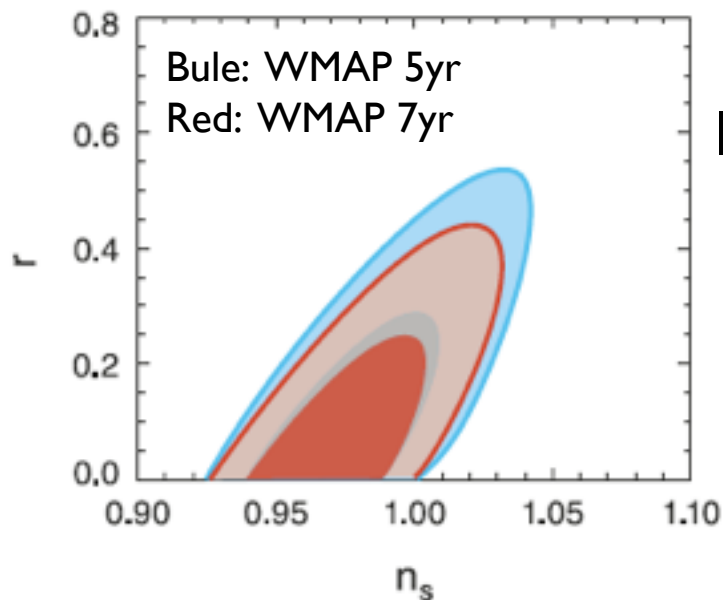
Slow-roll parameters  $\epsilon \equiv \frac{m_{Pl}^2}{16\pi} \left(\frac{V'}{V}\right)^2$   $\eta \equiv \frac{m_{Pl}^2}{8\pi} \frac{V''}{V}$

→ related to observational values

common parametrization of inflation

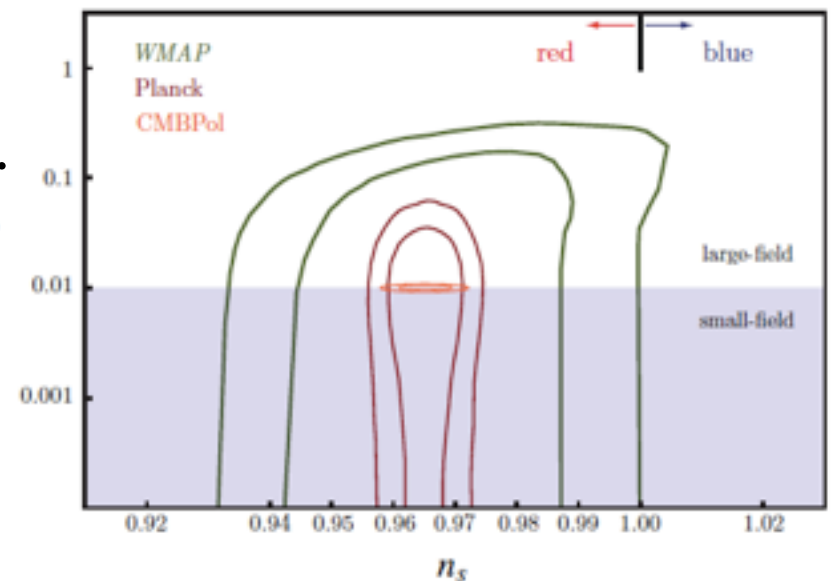
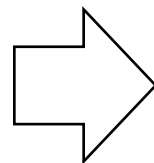
tilt of the scalar spectrum  $n_S - 1 \simeq -6\epsilon - 2\eta$

tensor-to-scalar ratio  $r \simeq 16\epsilon$



WMAP 7yr constraint: E. Komatsu, et al. APJ Suppl. 192, 18 (2011)

In future...



D. Baumann et al., arXiv:0811.3919 [astro-ph]

# ■ Constraints on inflationary parameters

## In CMB observations

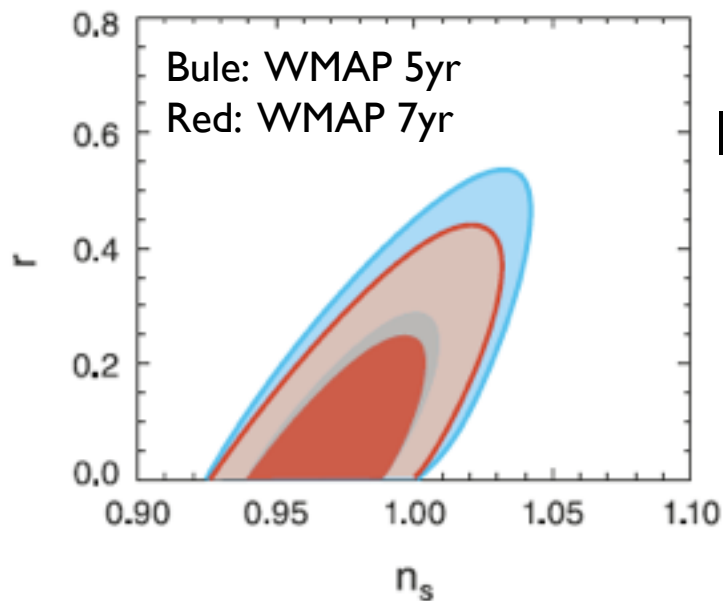
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→ related to observational values

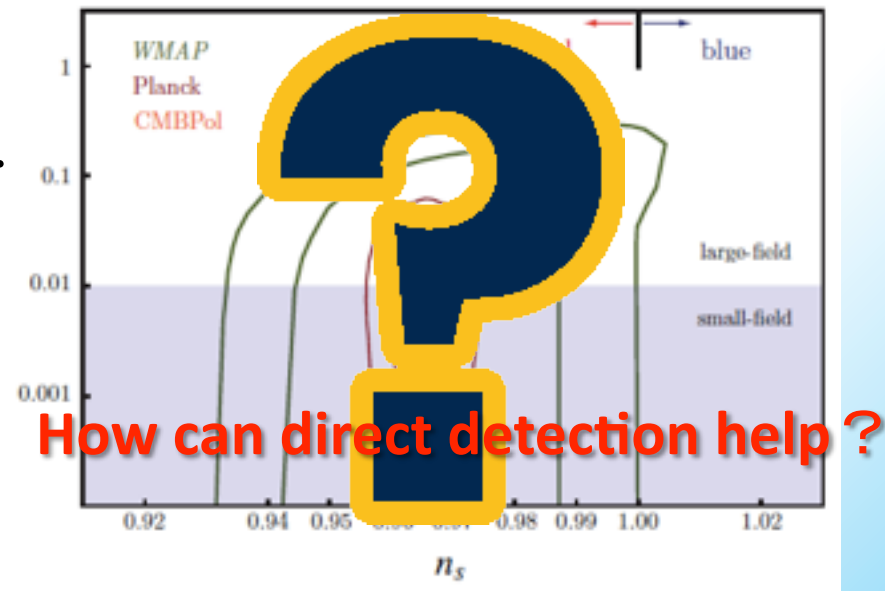
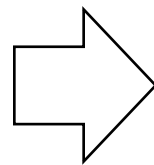
common parametrization of inflation

tilt of the scalar spectrum  $n_S - 1 \simeq -6\epsilon - 2\eta$

tensor-to-scalar ratio  $r \simeq 16\epsilon$



In future...



How can direct detection help?

WMAP 7yr constraint: E. Komatsu, et al. APJ Suppl. 192, 18 (2011)

D. Baumann et al., arXiv:0811.3919 [astro-ph]

# ■ Constraints from direct detection

In slow-roll parametrization...

primordial spectrum

transfer function

includes all effects after inflation

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}} = \frac{1}{12} \left( \frac{k}{H_0} \right)^2 \mathcal{P}_T(k) T_T^2(k)$$

Parametrizing the scale dependence in the form of the Taylor expansion around the CMB scale  $k_*$

$$\mathcal{P}_T(k) = \mathcal{P}_{T*} \exp \left[ n_{T*} \ln \frac{k}{k_*} + \frac{1}{2!} \alpha_{T*} \ln^2 \frac{k}{k_*} + \dots \right]$$

normalization at the CMB scale

spectral index

running

$$\mathcal{P}_T = r \mathcal{P}_S$$

$$n_T \simeq -2\epsilon$$

$$\alpha_T \simeq 4\epsilon\eta - 8\epsilon^2$$

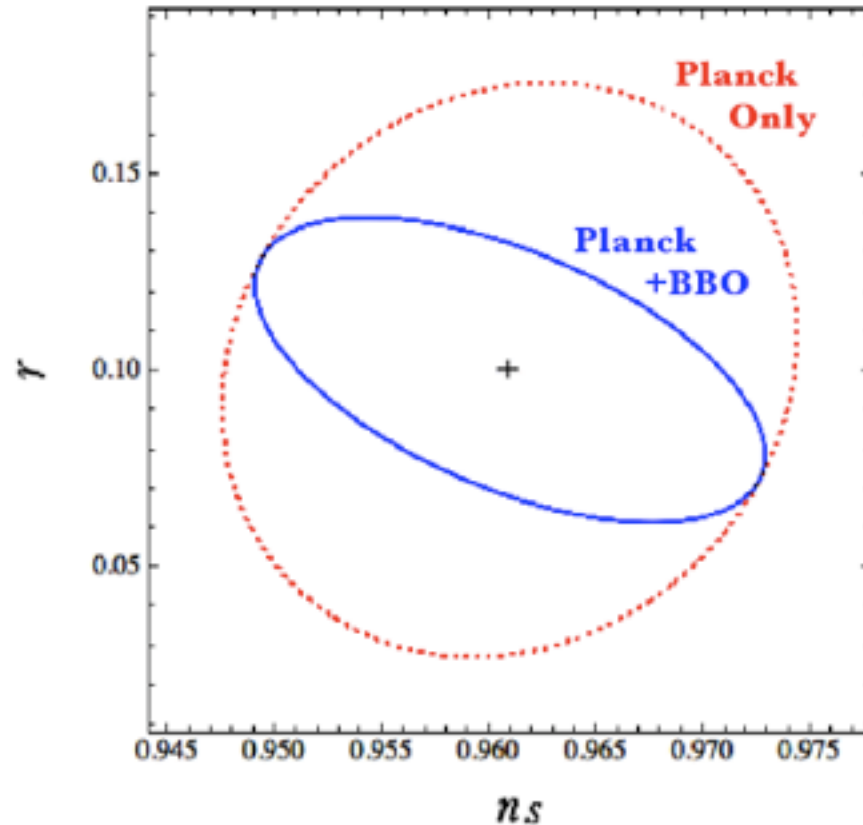
→ can be related to the parameters for CMB

$$n_S - 1 \simeq -6\epsilon - 2\eta$$

$$r \simeq 16\epsilon$$

# ■ Constraints from direct detection

$$r_{\text{fid}}=0.1, \text{SNR}=18.2$$



10 year observation

Direct detection mainly tightens the constraint on tensor-to-scalar ratio ( $r$ )

## ■ Testing the consistency relation

tensor-to-scalar ratio:  $r \simeq 16\epsilon$

tilt of the tensor spectrum:  $n_T \simeq -2\epsilon$

$$\text{Consistency relation: } r = -8n_T$$

→ **test of the inflation theory**

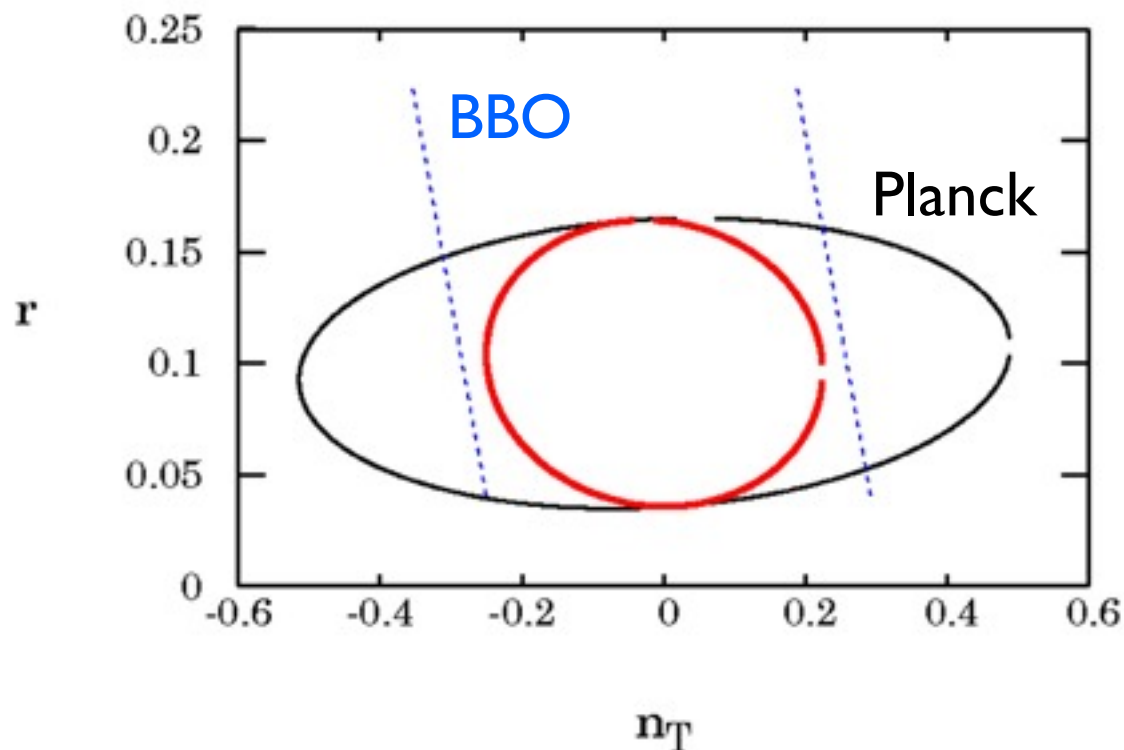
# ■ Testing the consistency relation

tensor-to-scalar ratio:  $r \simeq 16\epsilon$

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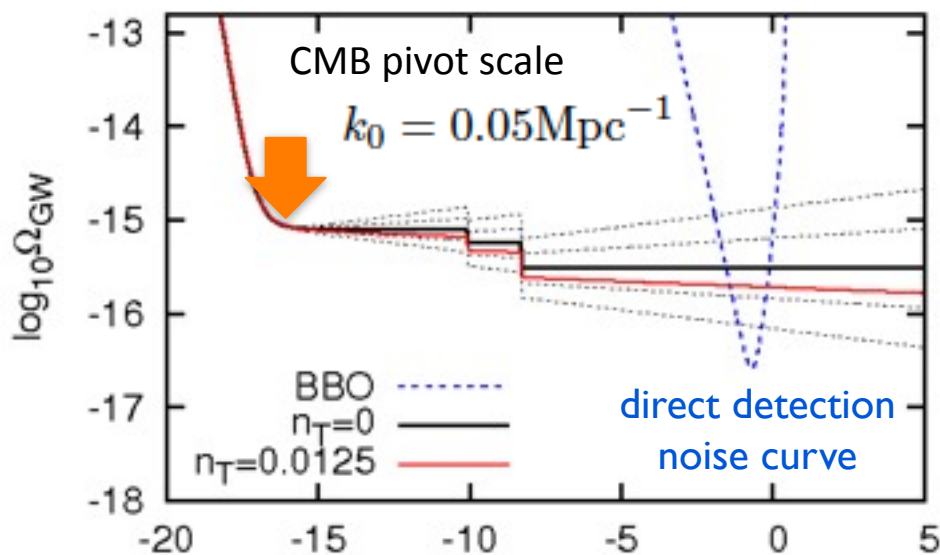
$$\text{Consistency relation: } r = -8n_T$$

→ test of the inflation theory



$$\mathcal{R} = -\frac{r}{8n_T} = 1.0 \pm 7.6$$

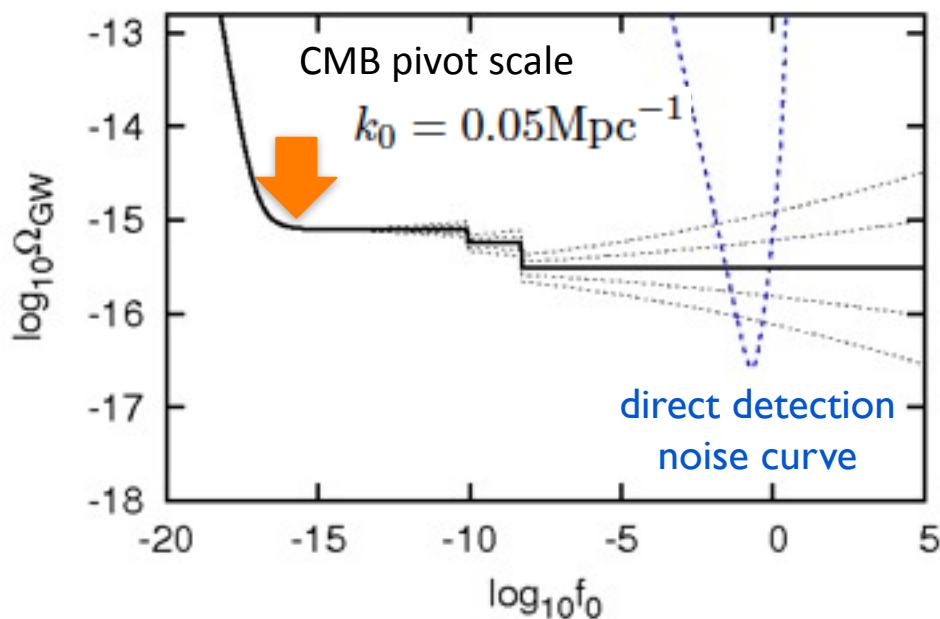
# ■ Testing the consistency relation



$$\mathcal{P}_{T^*} \exp \left[ n_{T^*} \ln \frac{k}{k_*} + \frac{1}{2!} \alpha_{T^*} \ln^2 \frac{k}{k_*} + \dots \right]$$

running

Changing  $n_T$ ...  
 ( $n_T = \pm 0.2, \pm 0.4, -r/8$ )



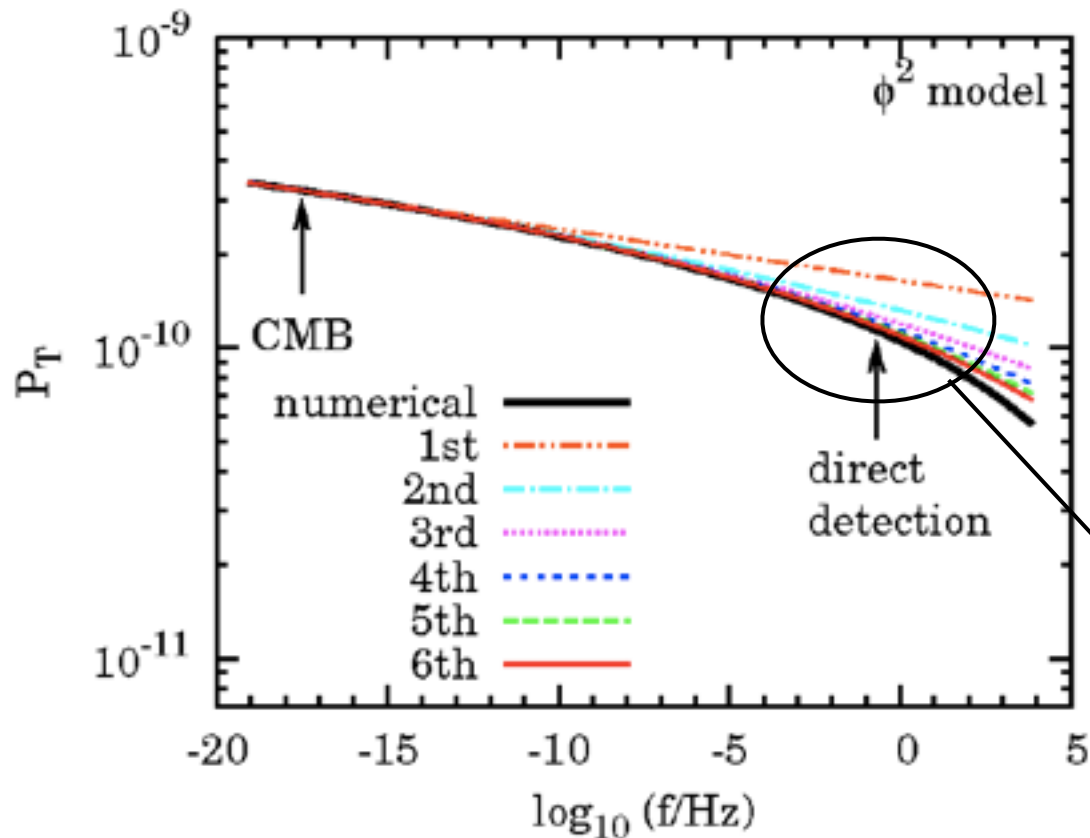
Changing  $\alpha_T$ ...  
 ( $\alpha_T = \pm 0.001, \pm 0.002$ )

→ strong degeneracy  
 between  $n_T$  and  $\alpha_T$

# ■ Note on the slow-roll expression

## Effect of higher order terms

$$\mathcal{P}_T(k) = \mathcal{P}_{T\star} \exp \left[ n_{T\star} \ln \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{2!} \alpha_{T\star} \ln^2 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{3!} \beta_{T\star} \ln^3 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{4!} \gamma_{T\star} \ln^4 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{5!} \delta_{T\star} \ln^5 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{6!} \theta_{T\star} \ln^6 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \dots \right]$$



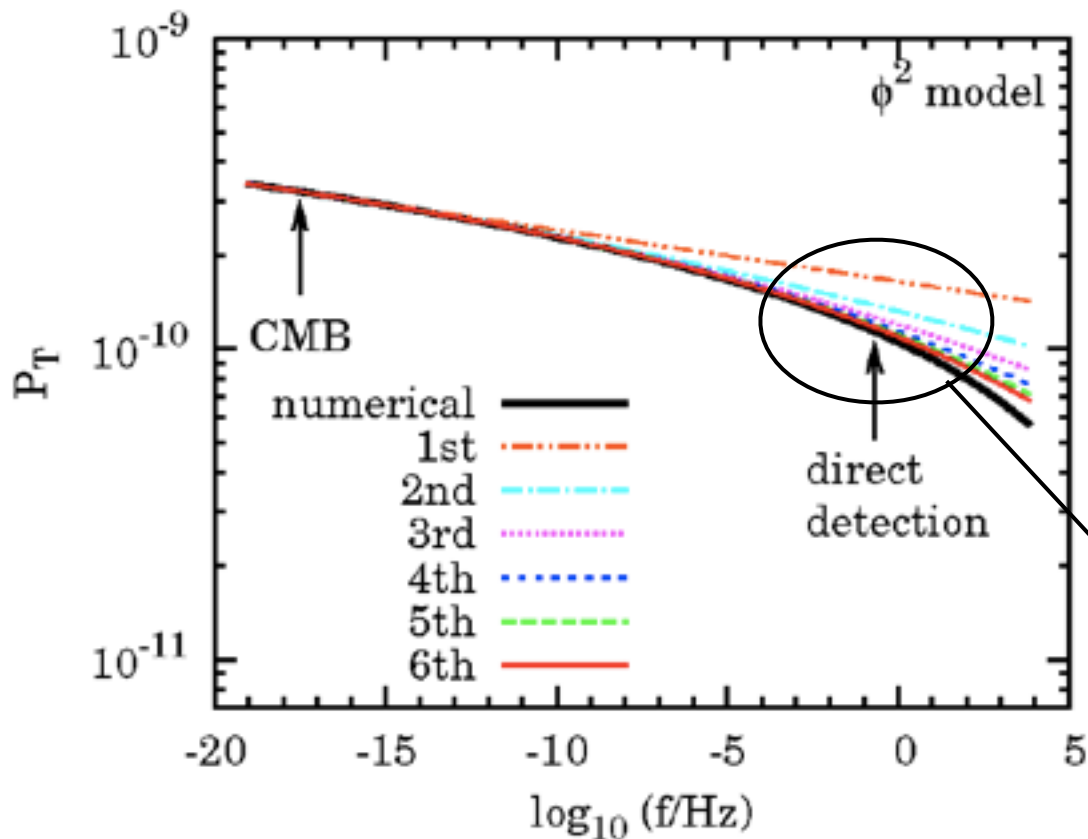
overestimation of the spectrum amplitude!



# ■ Note on the slow-roll expression

## Effect of higher order terms

$$\mathcal{P}_T(k) = \mathcal{P}_{T\star} \exp \left[ n_{T\star} \ln \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{2!} \alpha_{T\star} \ln^2 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{3!} \beta_{T\star} \ln^3 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{4!} \gamma_{T\star} \ln^4 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{5!} \delta_{T\star} \ln^5 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{6!} \theta_{T\star} \ln^6 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \dots \right]$$



↑ coefficient parameters suppress the higher order terms with  $O(\epsilon^n)$

overestimation of the spectrum amplitude!

# ■ Note on the slow-roll expression

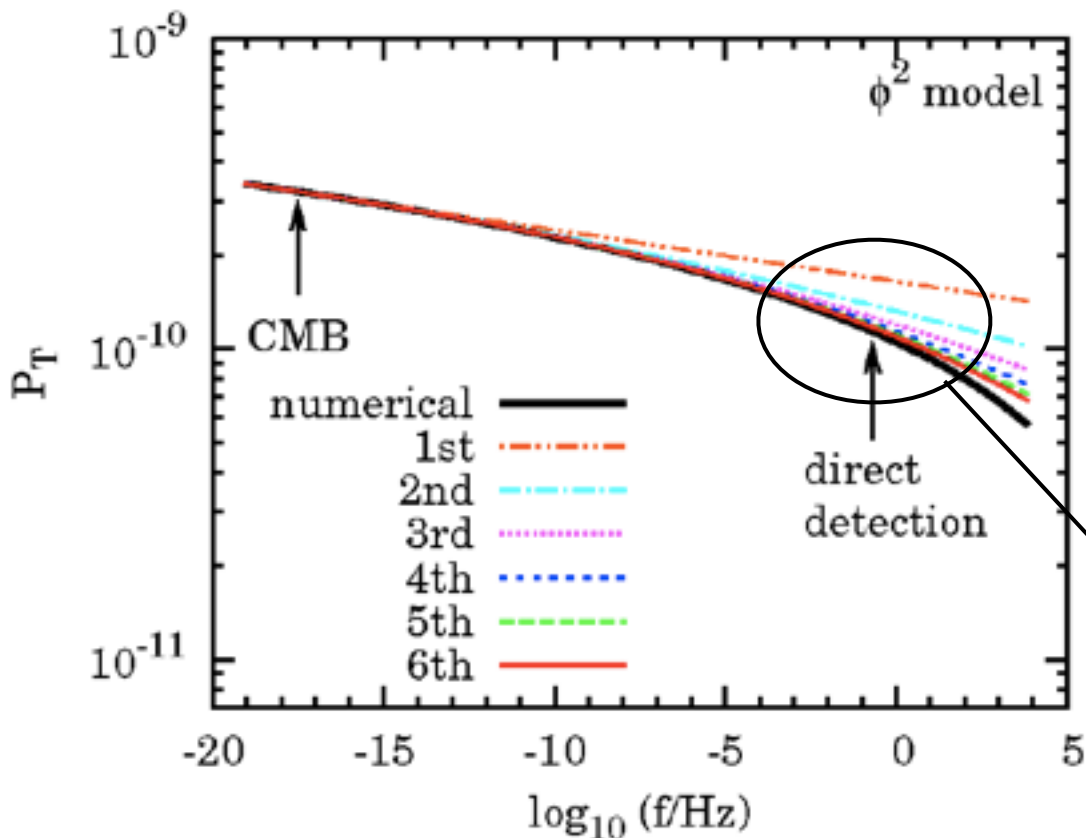
## Effect of higher order terms

$$\mathcal{P}_T(k) = \mathcal{P}_{T\star} \exp \left[ \underbrace{n_{T\star}}_{\text{circled}} \ln \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{2!} \underbrace{\alpha_{T\star}}_{\text{circled}} \ln^2 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{3!} \underbrace{\beta_{T\star}}_{\text{circled}} \ln^3 \frac{k}{k_\star} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{4!} \underbrace{\gamma_{T\star}}_{\text{circled}} \ln^4 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{5!} \underbrace{\delta_{T\star}}_{\text{circled}} \ln^5 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{6!} \underbrace{\theta_{T\star}}_{\text{circled}} \ln^6 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \dots \right]$$

↑ coefficient parameters suppress the higher order terms with  $O(\epsilon^n)$

But  $\ln(k_{0.2\text{Hz}}/k_\star) \simeq 38.7$   
for the direct detection scale

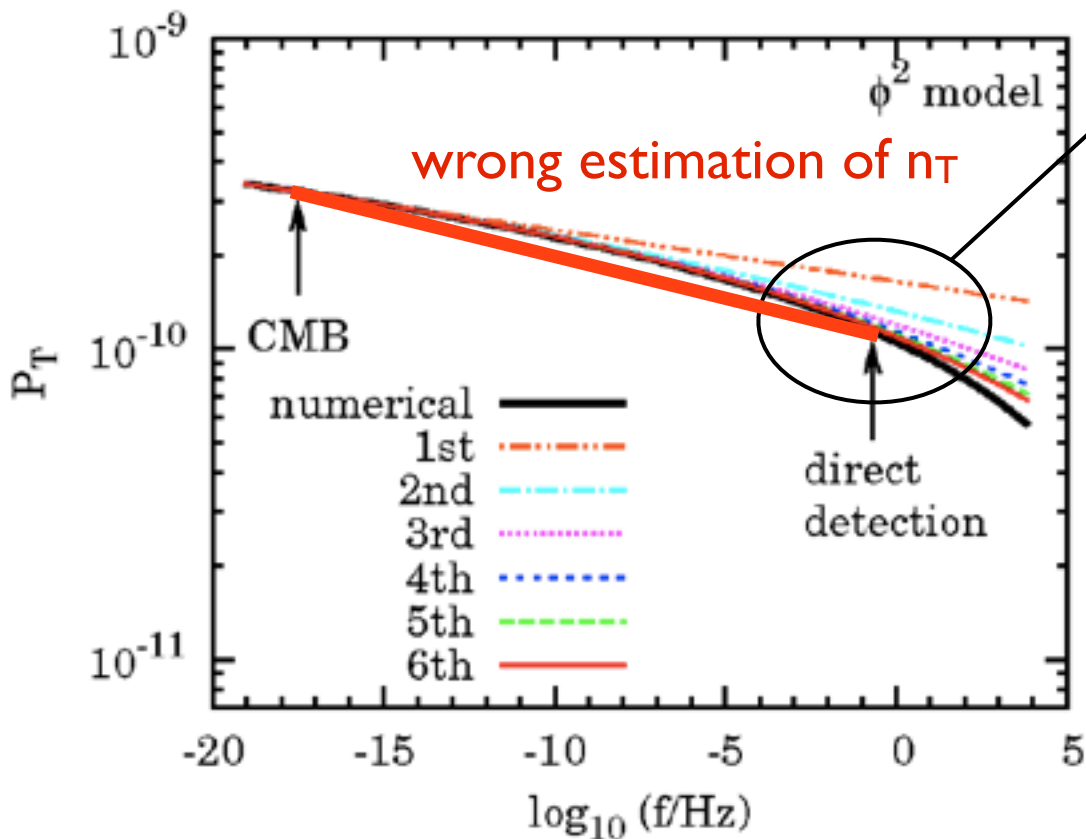
overestimation of the spectrum amplitude!



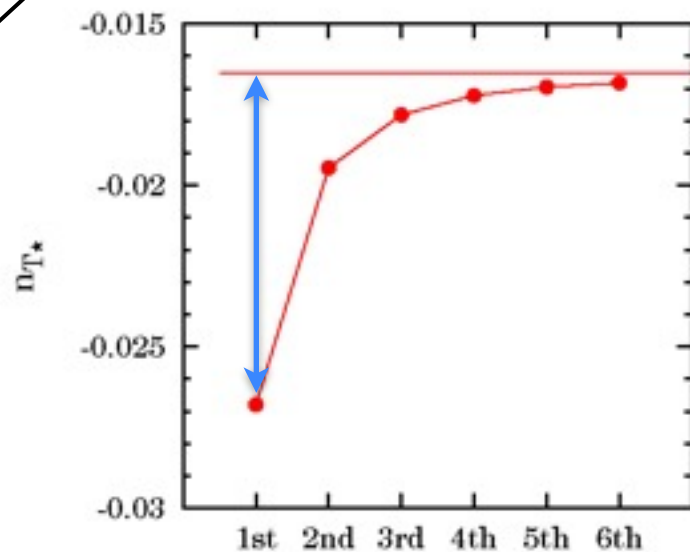
# ■ Note on the slow-roll expression

## Effect of higher order terms

$$\mathcal{P}_T(k) = \mathcal{P}_{T\star} \exp \left[ n_{T\star} \ln \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{2!} \alpha_{T\star} \ln^2 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{3!} \beta_{T\star} \ln^3 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{4!} \gamma_{T\star} \ln^4 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{5!} \delta_{T\star} \ln^5 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \frac{1}{6!} \theta_{T\star} \ln^6 \frac{k}{k_\star} + \dots \right]$$



affects parameter estimation



There still some deviation even if we include the second order

# ■ Note on the slow-roll expression

## Effect of higher order terms

$$\mathcal{P}_T(k) = \mathcal{P}_{T^*} \exp \left[ n_{T^*} \ln \frac{k}{k_*} + \frac{1}{2!} \alpha_{T^*} \ln^2 \frac{k}{k_*} + \frac{1}{3!} \beta_{T^*} \ln^3 \frac{k}{k_*} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{4!} \gamma_{T^*} \ln^4 \frac{k}{k_*} + \frac{1}{5!} \delta_{T^*} \ln^5 \frac{k}{k_*} + \frac{1}{6!} \theta_{T^*} \ln^6 \frac{k}{k_*} + \dots \right]$$

coefficient parameters of higher order terms  $\propto \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^n)$

large slow-roll parameter  $\rightarrow$  large overestimation

= large tensor to scalar ratio  $r \simeq 16\epsilon$

$\rightarrow$  more important in case where inflationary gravitational waves are detectable by experiments

$\rightarrow$  numerical approach is better?

$\rightarrow$  **Need to know the inflation model**

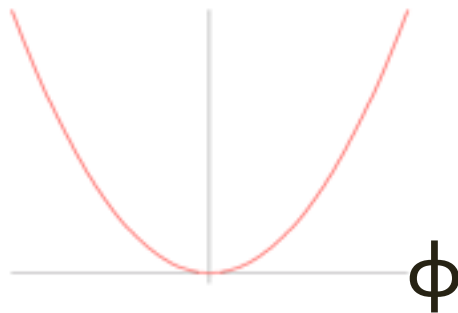
# ■ Constraints on specific inflation model

Suppose that future observations support the chaotic inflation

Some constraints from WMAP

Chaotic inflation ( $\Phi^2$  potential)

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



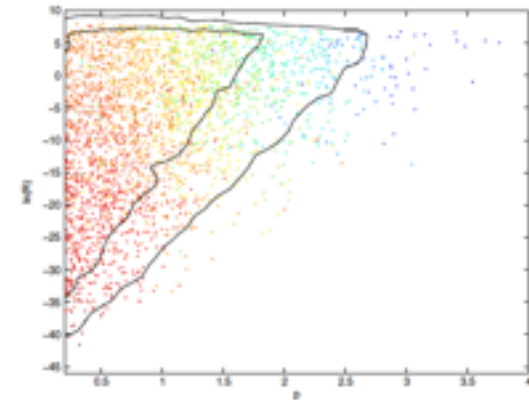
2 model parameters

m: mass of the scalar field

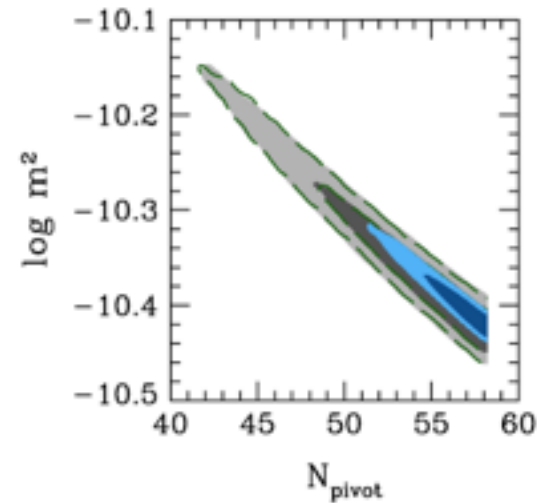
N: e-folding number

constraint on N?

connecting to Reheating temperature?

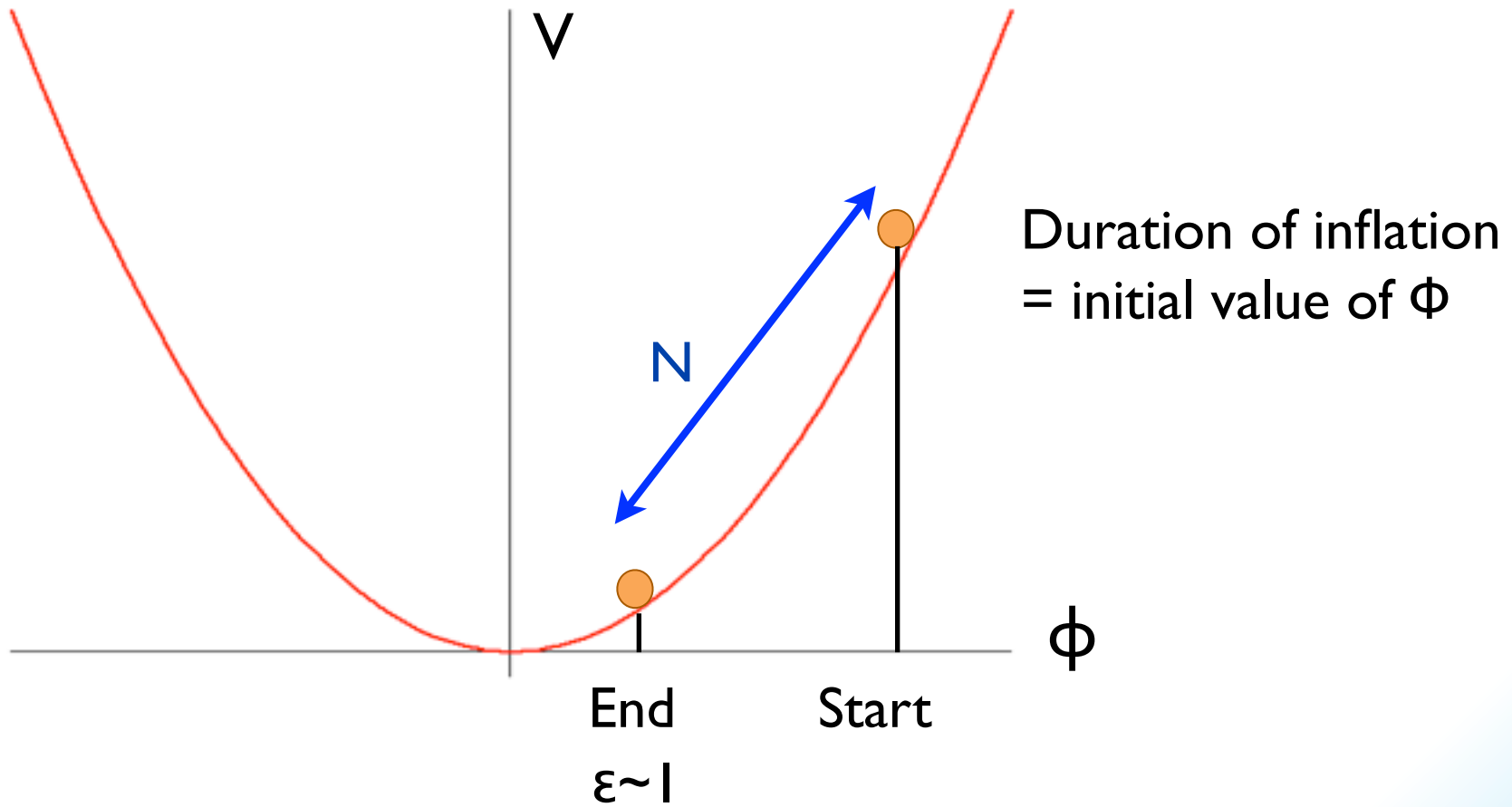


Martin and Ringeval, PRD 83, 043505 (2011)

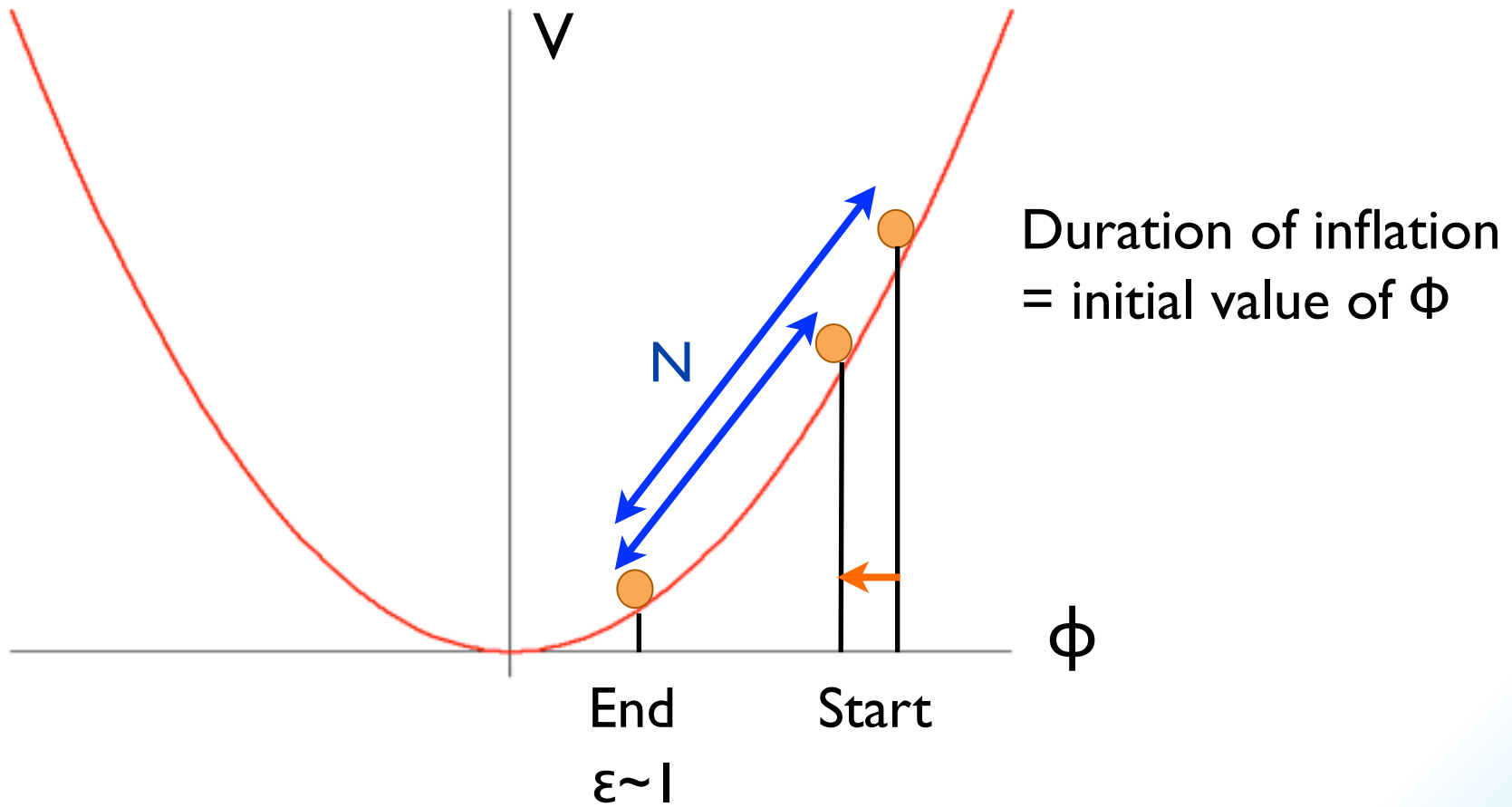


Mortonson et al. PRD 83, 043505 (2011)

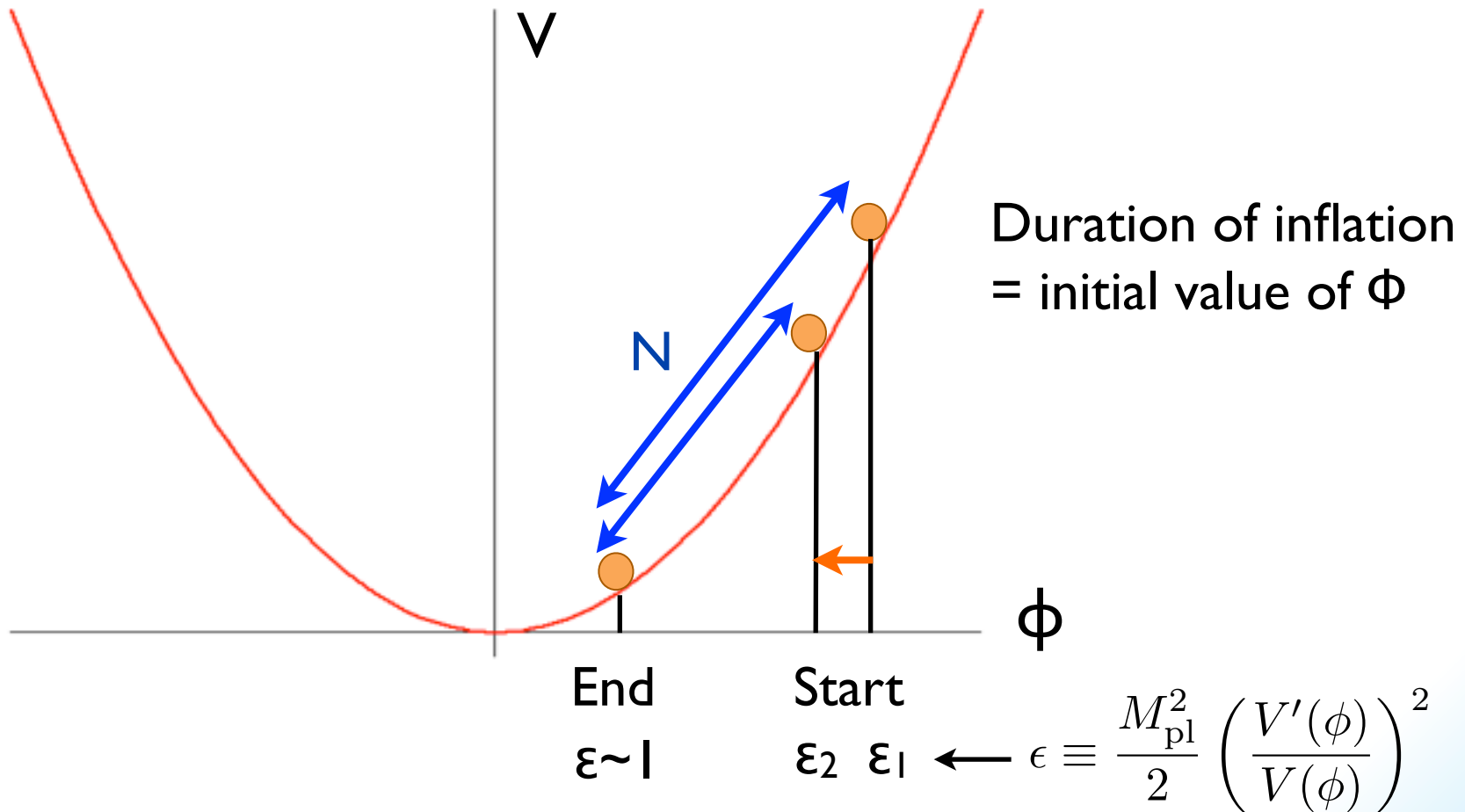
# ■ Constraint on length of inflation



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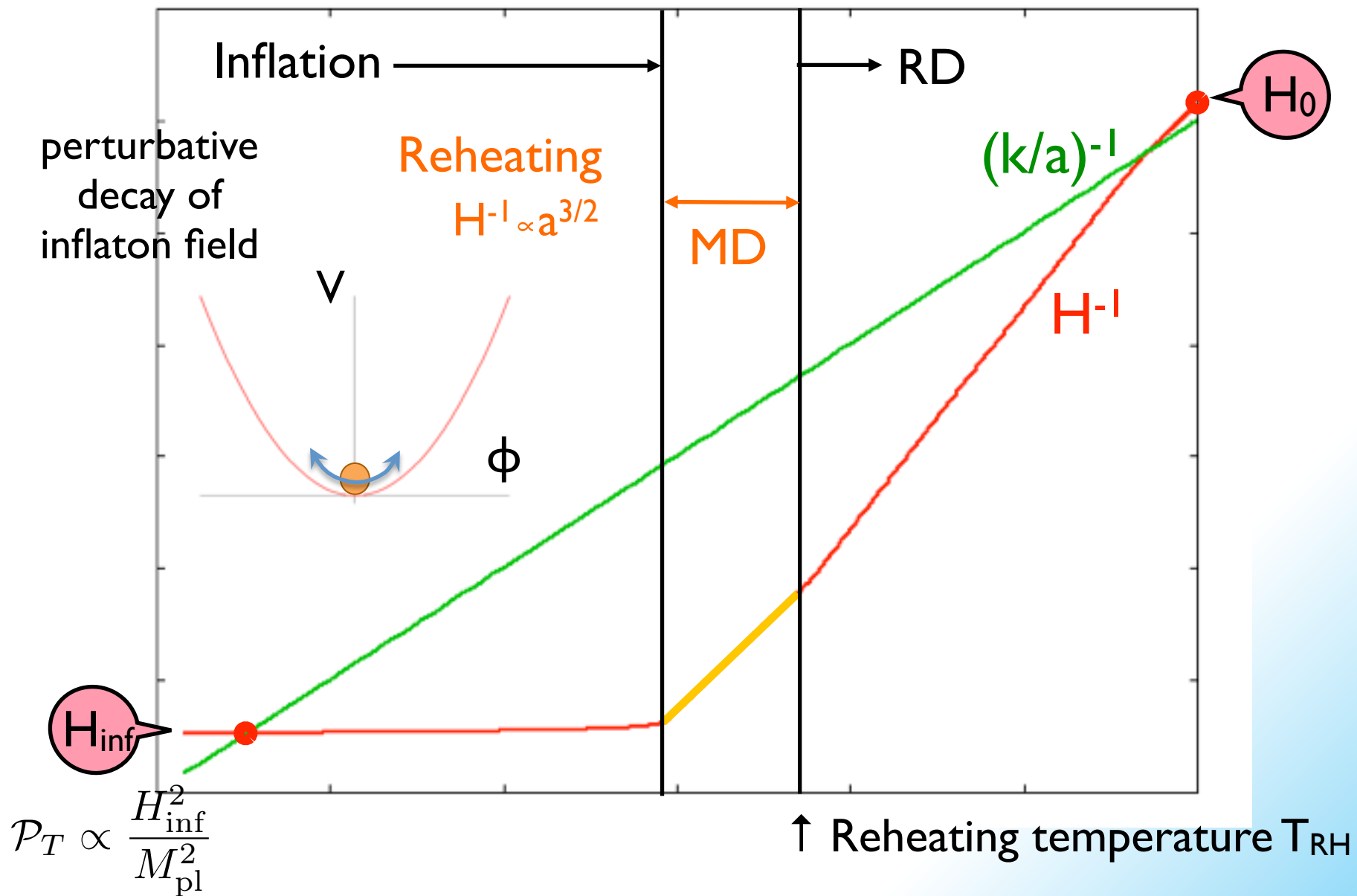
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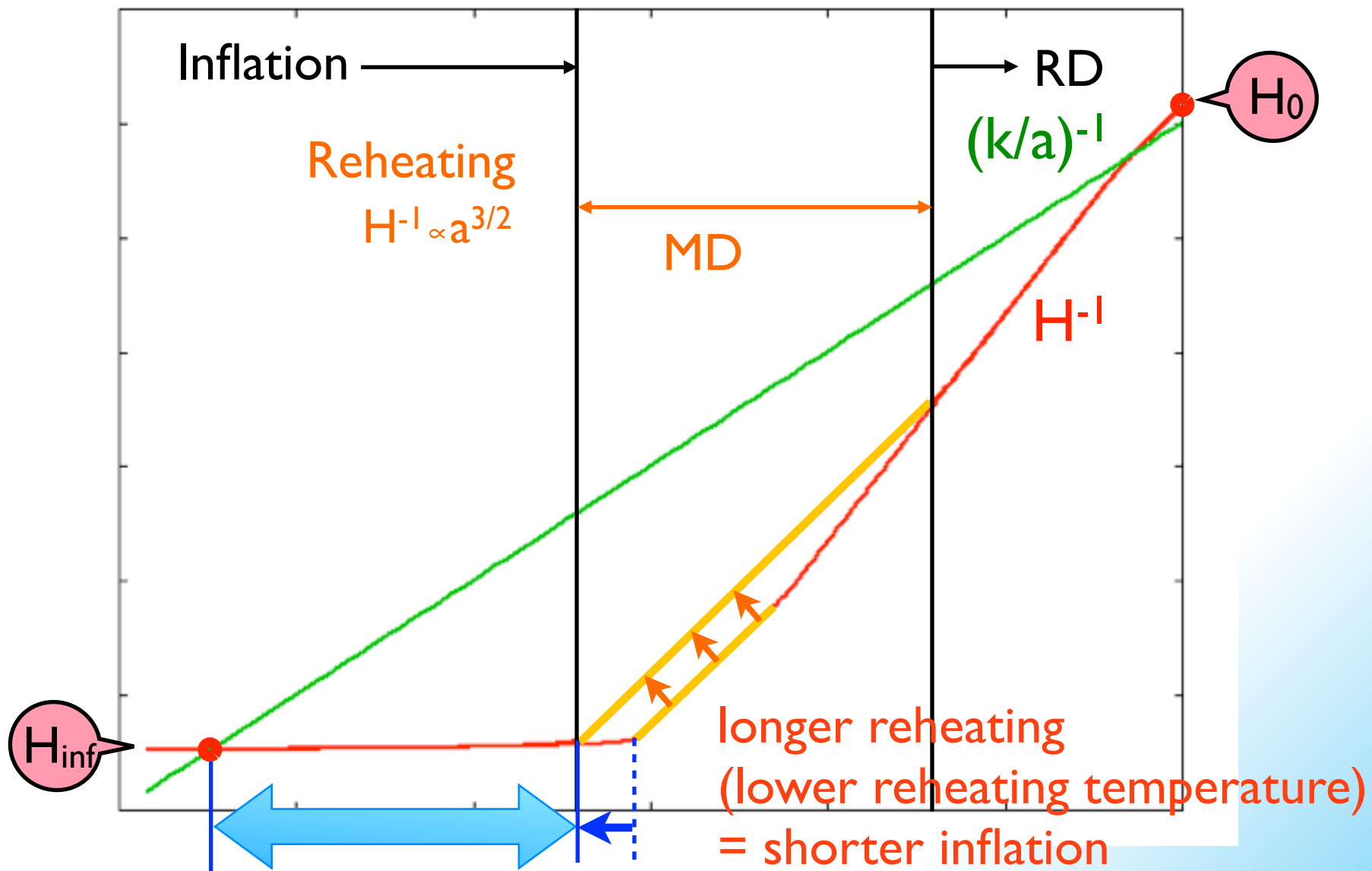
Shift of initial  $\Phi$  slightly changes the value of slow-roll parameters  
 → can correspond to observables  
 → depends on inflation model



# Relation with reheating temperature

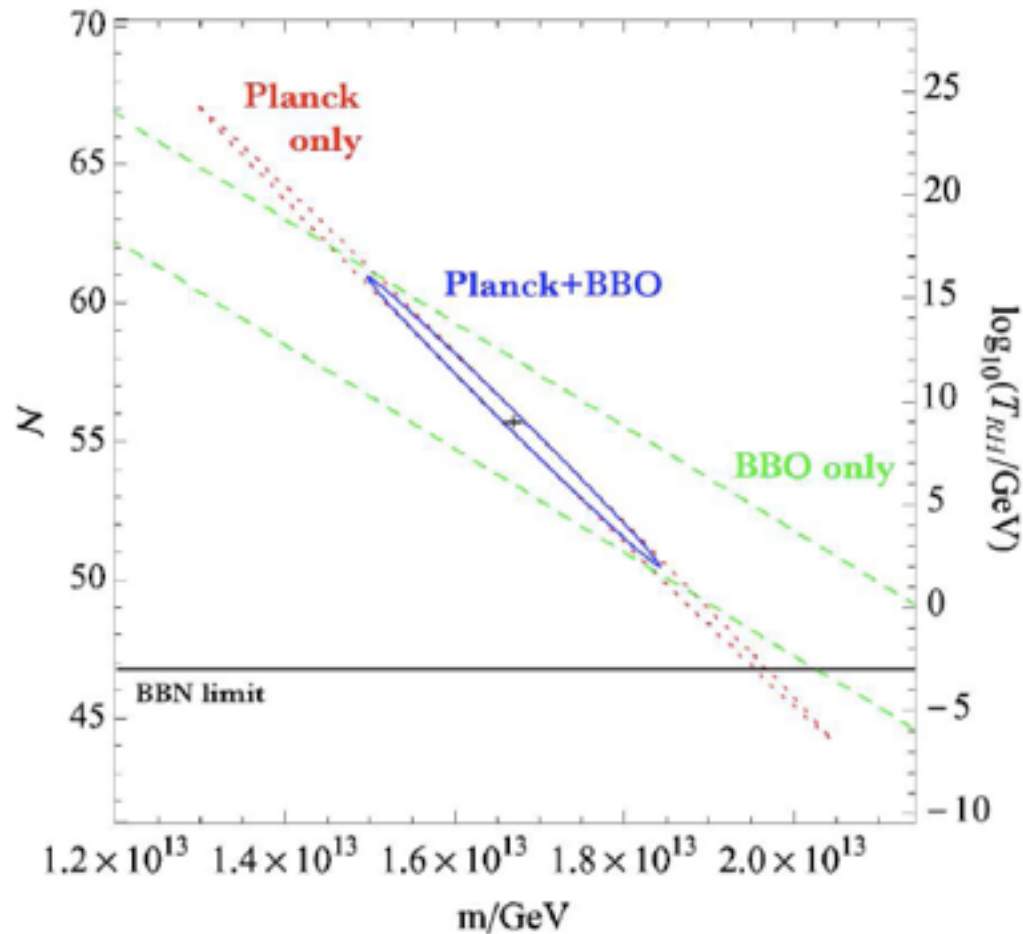


# ■ Relation with reheating temperature



# ■ Constraint from direct detection

Direct detection may give  $N$   
with accuracy of  $\pm 5$  ( $2\sigma$ )



S. Kuroyanagi et. al, Phys. Rev. D 81, 083524 (2011)

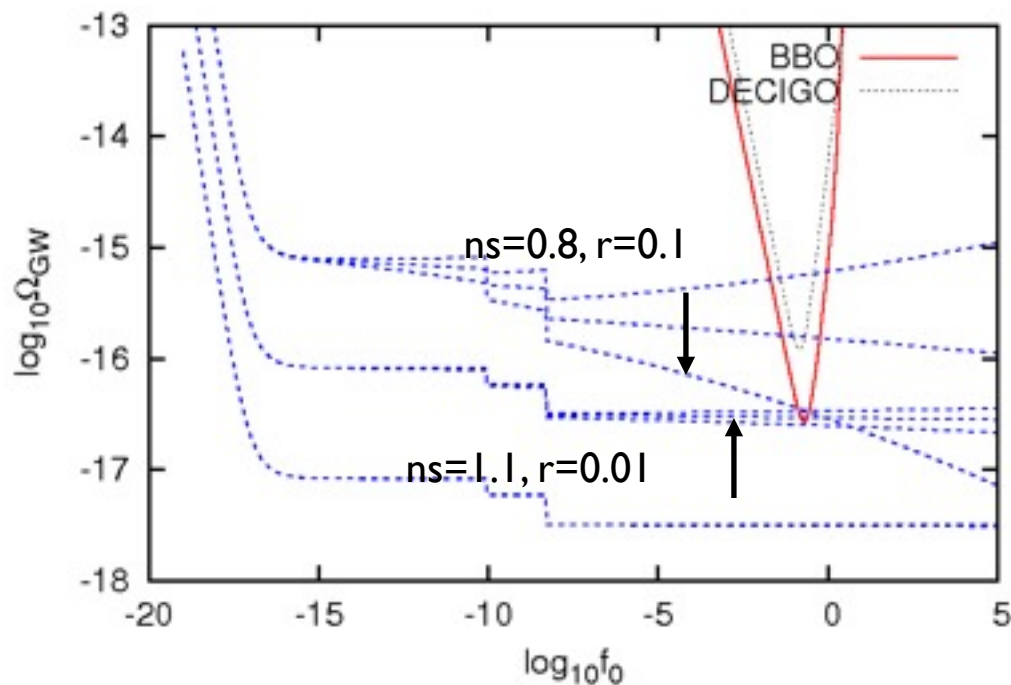
# ■ Parameter degeneracy

Direct detection detects GWs with a very narrow bandwidth

→ has sensitivity only to the amplitude of the spectrum at 0.1–1 Hz

→ cannot distinguish models which gives the same amplitude

→ **Direction of the degeneracy**



←  
 $r=0.1 \quad n_s=1.1$   
 $r=0.01 \quad n_s=0.963$   
 $r=0.001 \quad n_s=0.8$

# Parameter degeneracy

## Direction of the degeneracy

= Direction along which the model gives the same amplitude

## Width of the constraint

= Parameter range which the model predicts the similar amplitude

For  $\Phi^2$  potential...

$$\Omega_{GW} \propto H(k)^2 \propto V(k)$$

$$= m^2 \phi(k)^2 / 2$$

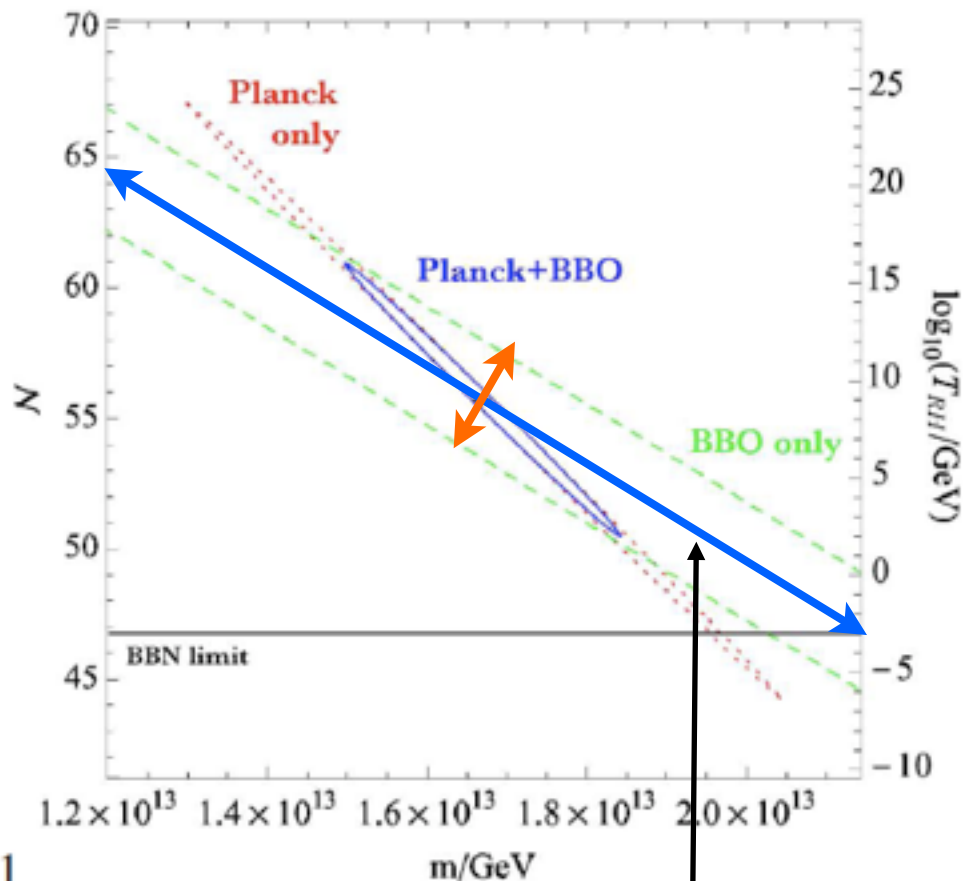
$$\downarrow \quad \phi(k)^2 = 2\mathcal{N}(k) + 1$$

$$= m^2 [2\mathcal{N}(k) + 1] = \text{const.}$$

$\mathcal{N}(k) \sim 16.4$  for direct detection



$$\Delta m / m + \Delta \mathcal{N} / [2\mathcal{N}(k) + 1] = 0$$

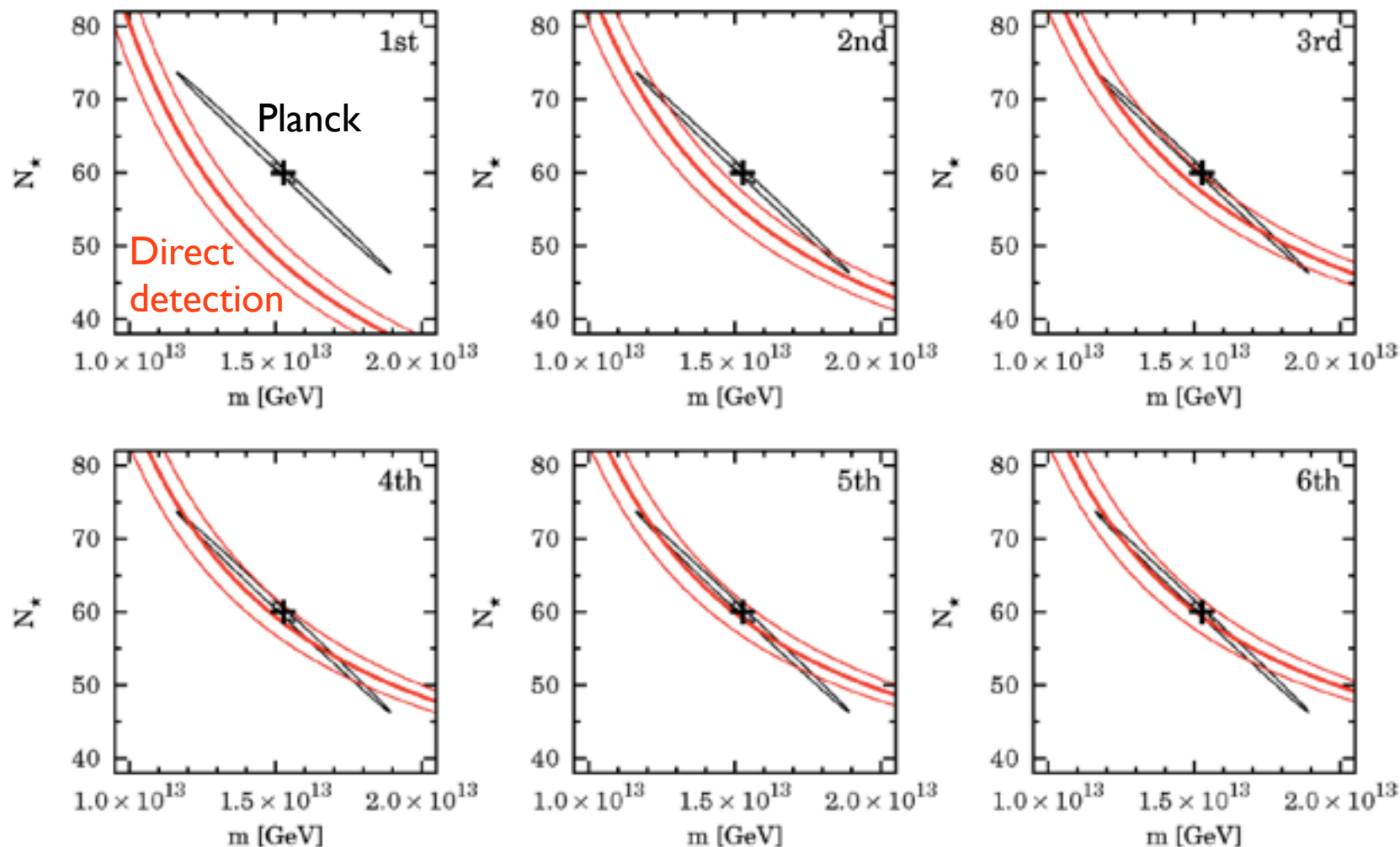


# ■ Effect of higher order terms

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**Wrong parameter constraints!**

S. Kuroyanagi and T. Takahashi, arXiv:1106.3437[astro-ph]



Red lines: Experimental errors in measuring  $\Omega_{\text{GW}}$  ( $2\sigma$ , DECIGO/BBO)

# ■ Natural inflation model

$$V(\phi) = \Lambda^4 [1 \pm \cos(N\phi/f)].$$

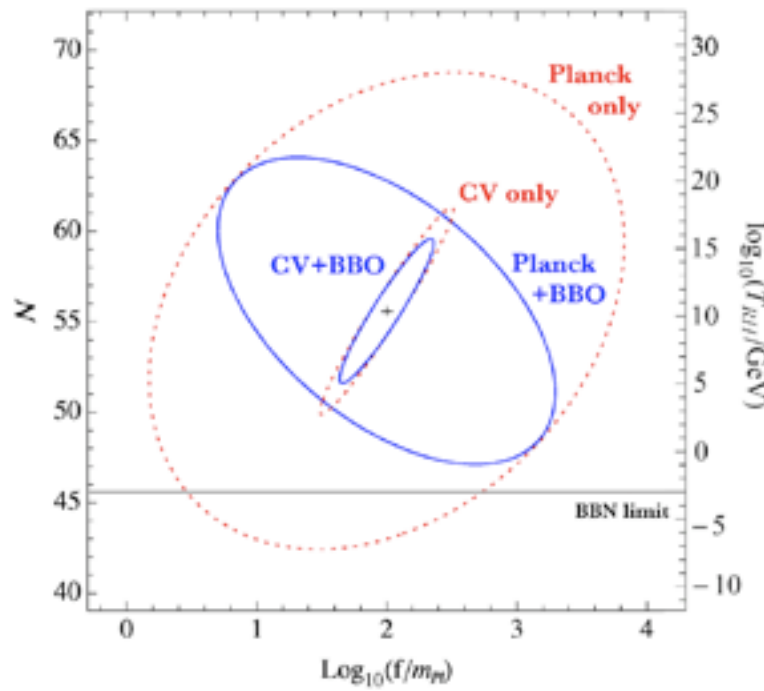
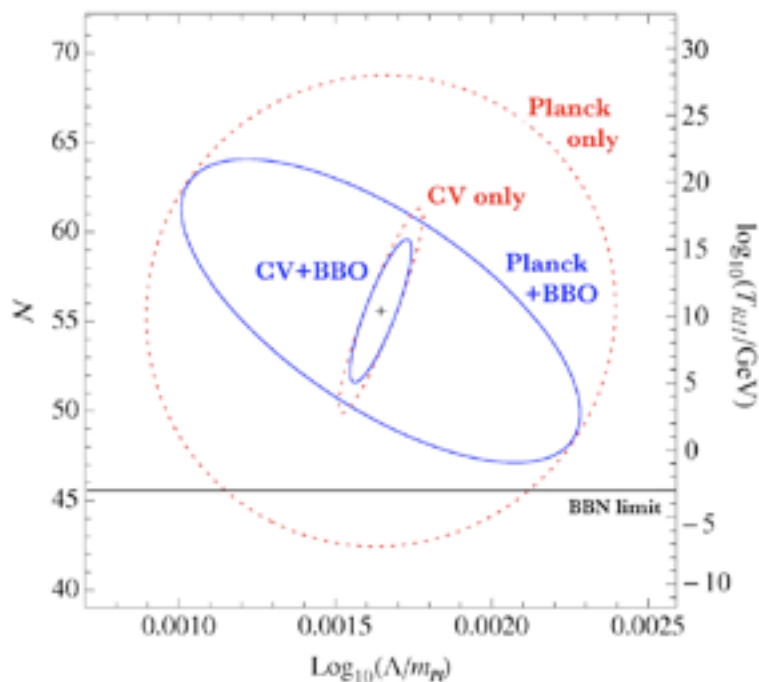
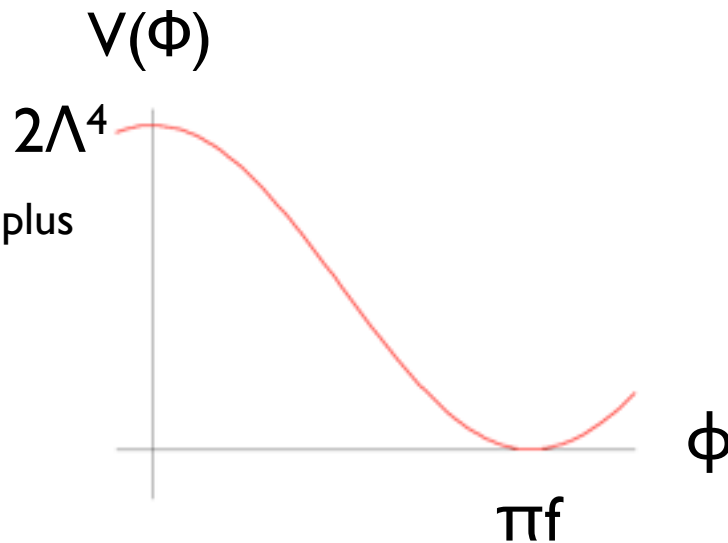
$\pm$  is taken to be plus  
 $N=1$  is assumed

## 3 model parameters

$\Lambda$ : height of the potential

$f$ : position of the bottom

$N$ : e-folding number

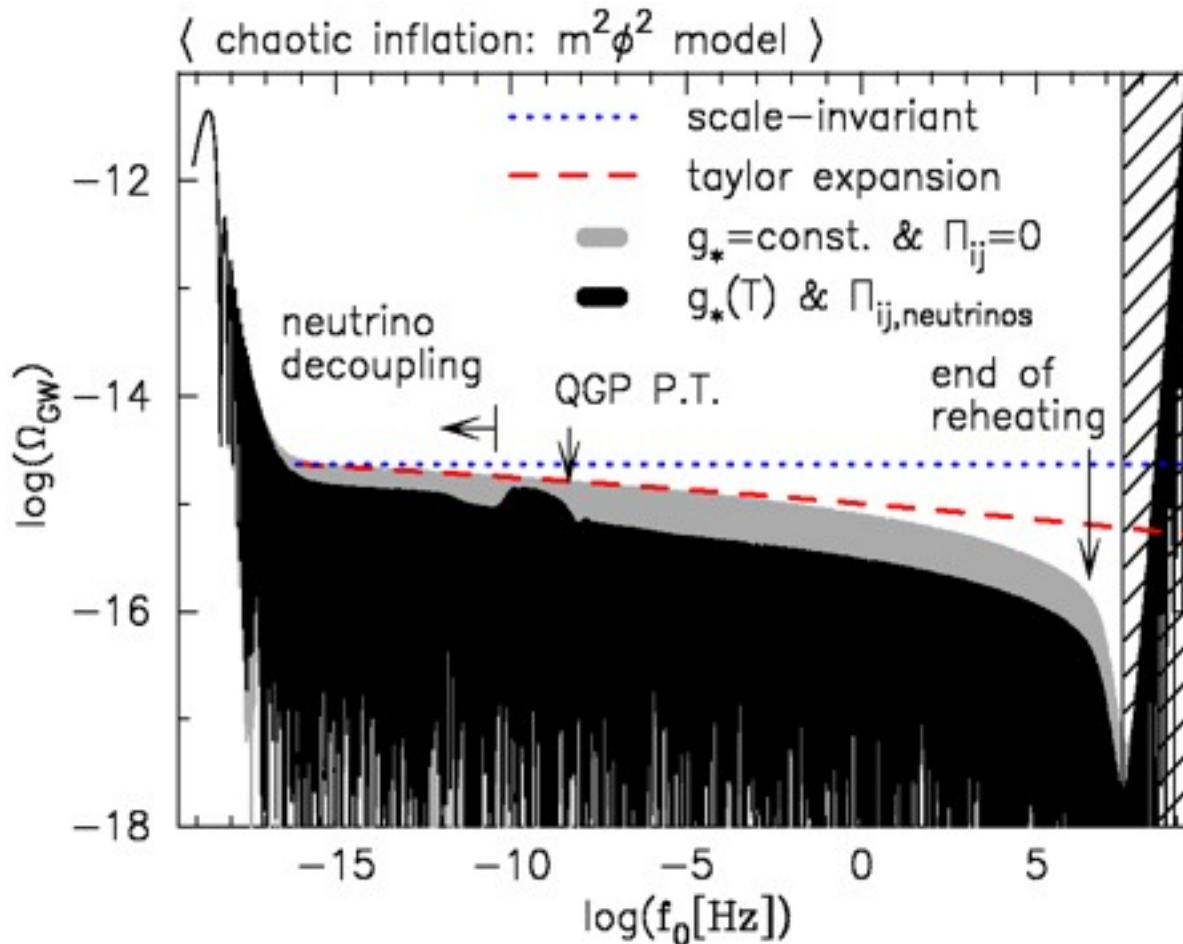


**Direct detection has power to improve the constraint from next-generation CMB experiments!**

# ■ Another probe of reheating

Matter dominated phase during reheating induces “dip” in the spectrum

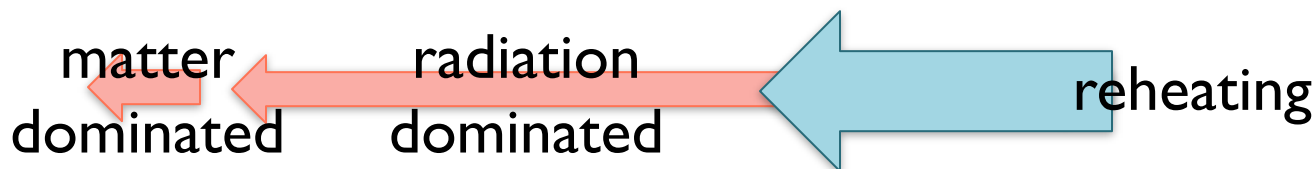
matter dominated ← radiation dominated ← reheating



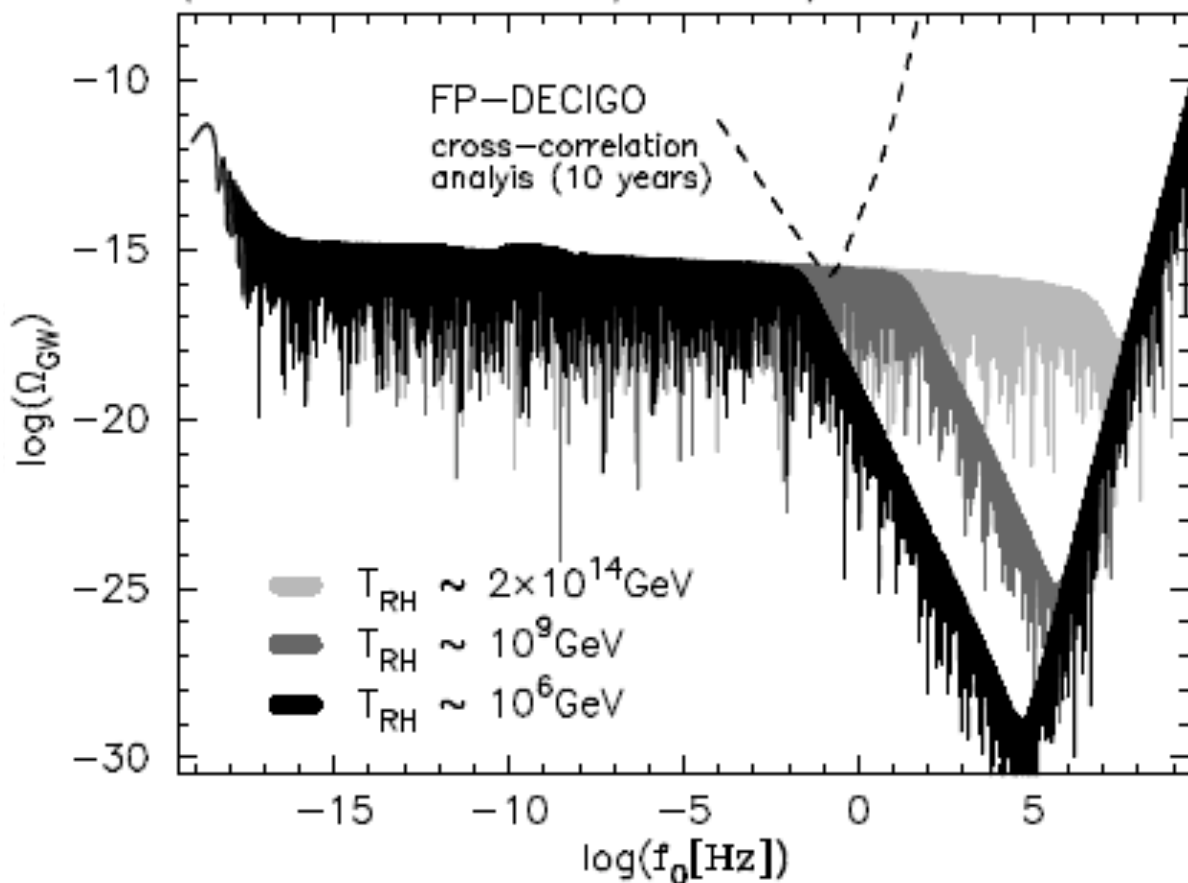


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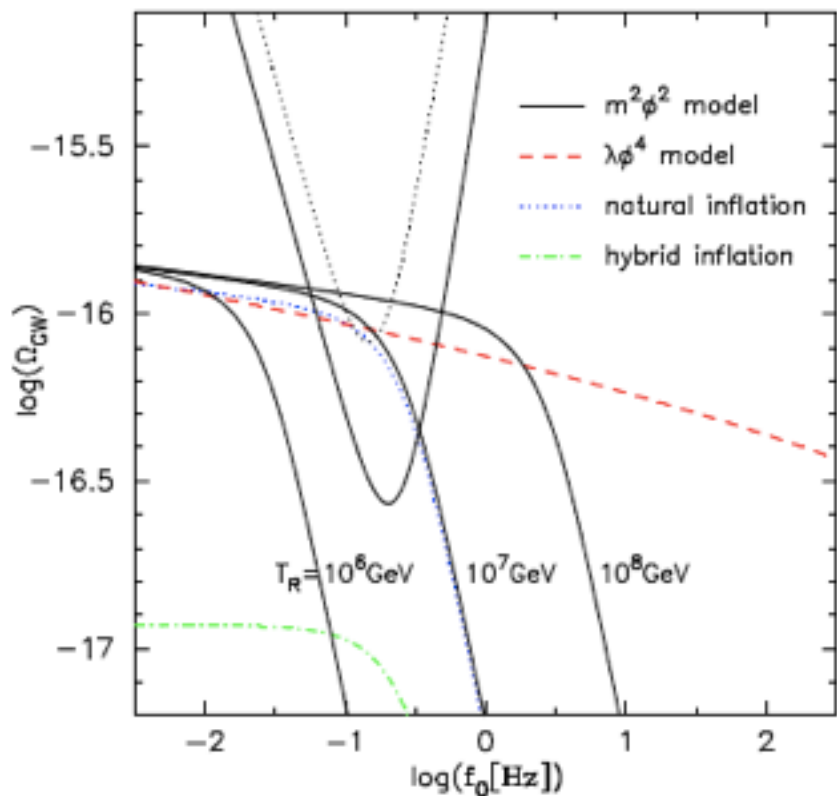
( chaotic inflation:  $m^2\phi^2$  model )



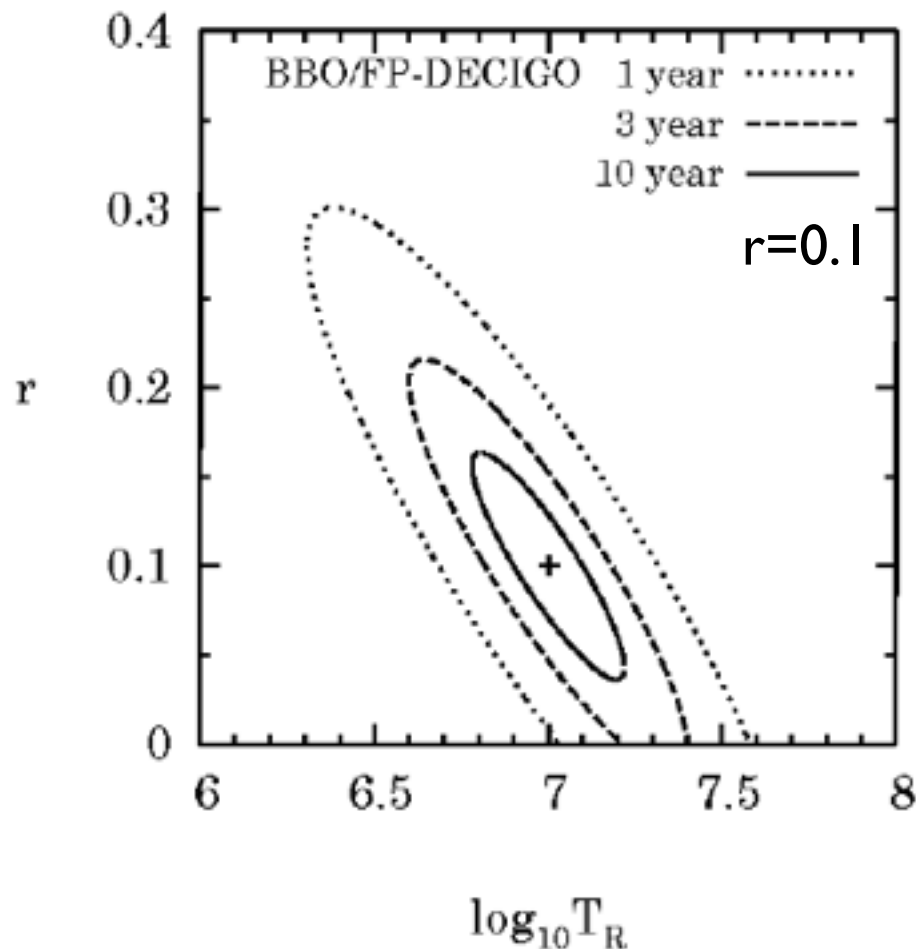
→ The edge comes in the target frequency of DECIGO/BBO

# ■ Constraint on reheating temperature

If the reheating temperature is  $\sim 10^7$  GeV, it may be possible to detect the signature of reheating (**could be only evidence of reheating!**) and give a constraint on the reheating temperature.

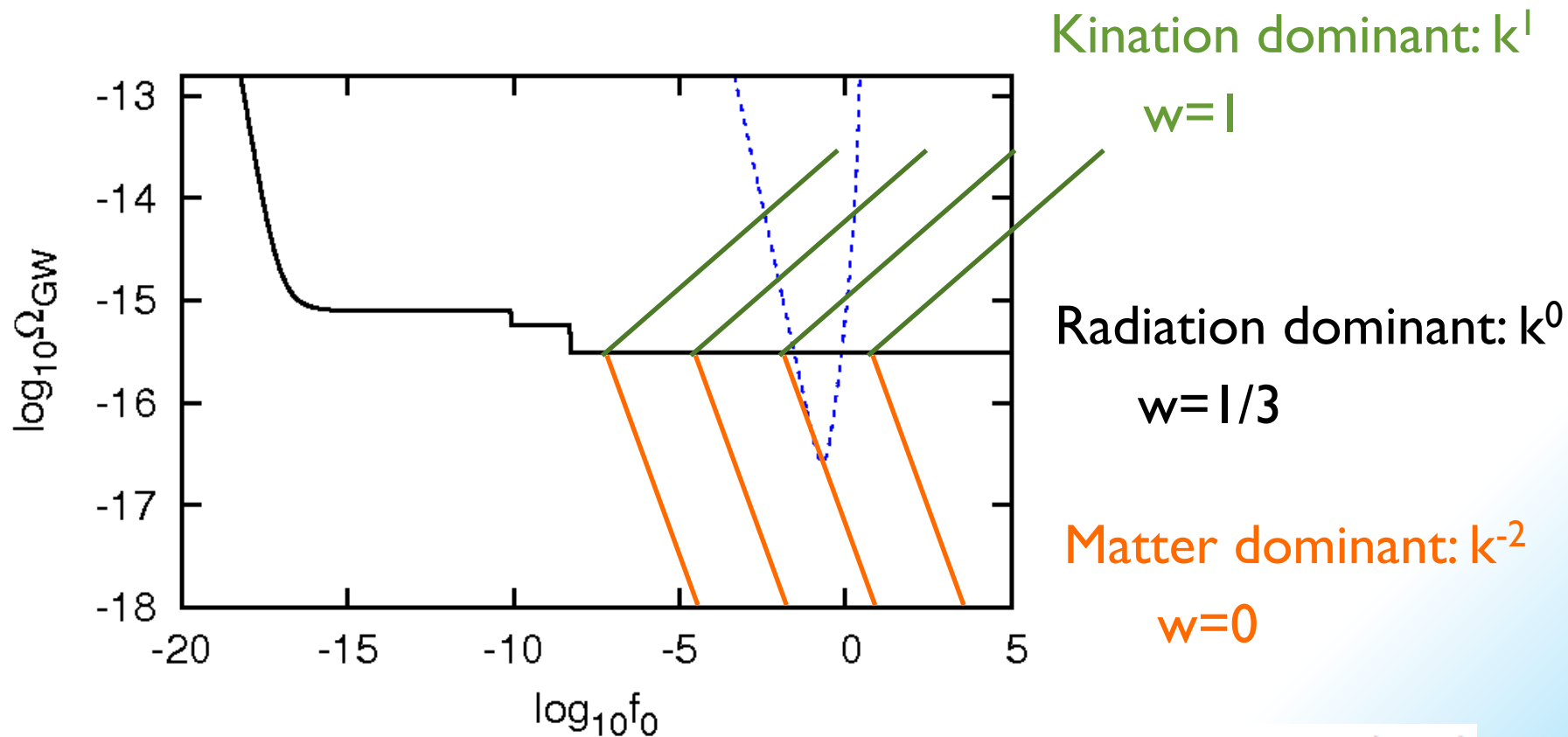


↑ position of the edge depends on reheating temperature



# ■ Constraint on the equation of state

Gravitational wave background traces the Hubble expansion history of the early universe.



Equation state of the universe:  $p = w\rho$

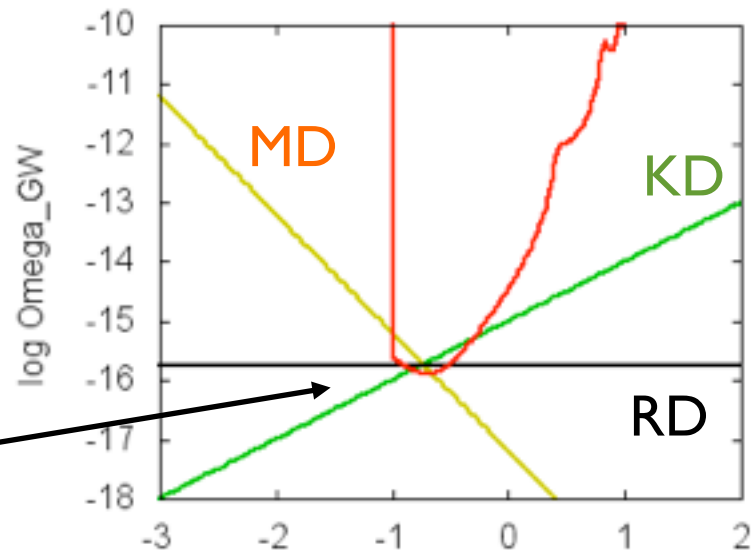
$$H \propto a^{-3(1+w)}$$

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}} \propto k^{\frac{2(3w-1)}{3w+1}}$$

# ■ Constraint on the equation of state

We can get a constraint on  $\omega$  by measuring the tilt of the spectrum in the sensitivity curve

normalization:  $r=0.1$  in the case of the flat spectrum (RD)



w

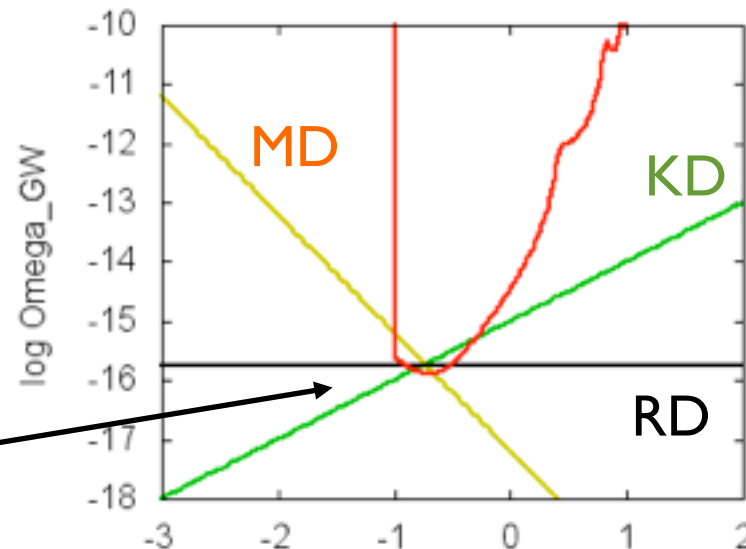
w

w

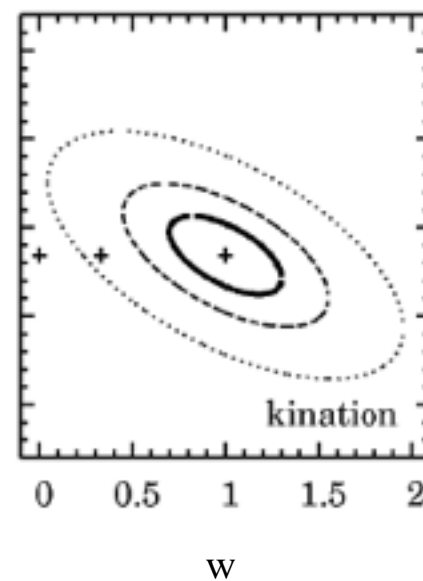
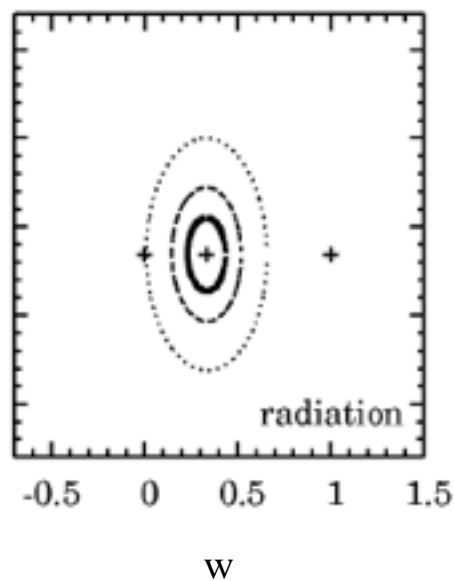
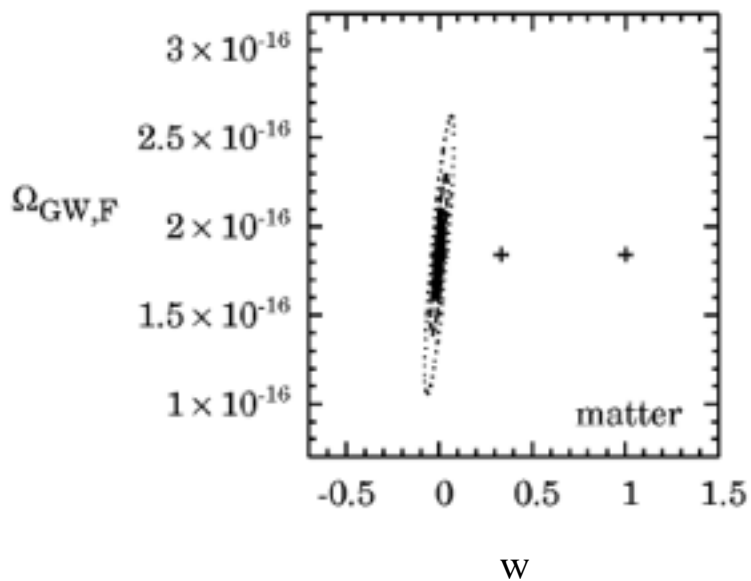
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Matter dominant:  $k^{-2}$     Radiation dominant:  $k^0$     Kination dominant:  $k^1$



## ■ Summary

**Gravitational waves generated during inflation have potential to be a powerful observational tool to probe the early universe.**

- ▶ If detected, they surely provide generous information about inflation.
- ▶ Combination of CMB and direct detection helps to constrain inflationary parameters more.
- ▶ May give some implication about reheating.
- ▶ Also about the equation state of the universe.
- ▶ We should note that the common analytic expression for the spectrum (= the Taylor expansion in terms of  $\log(k)$ ) may give poor estimation of the amplitude of the spectrum, and it causes wrong parameter estimation.