



# A New Paradigm for Particle Cosmology

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November 2020

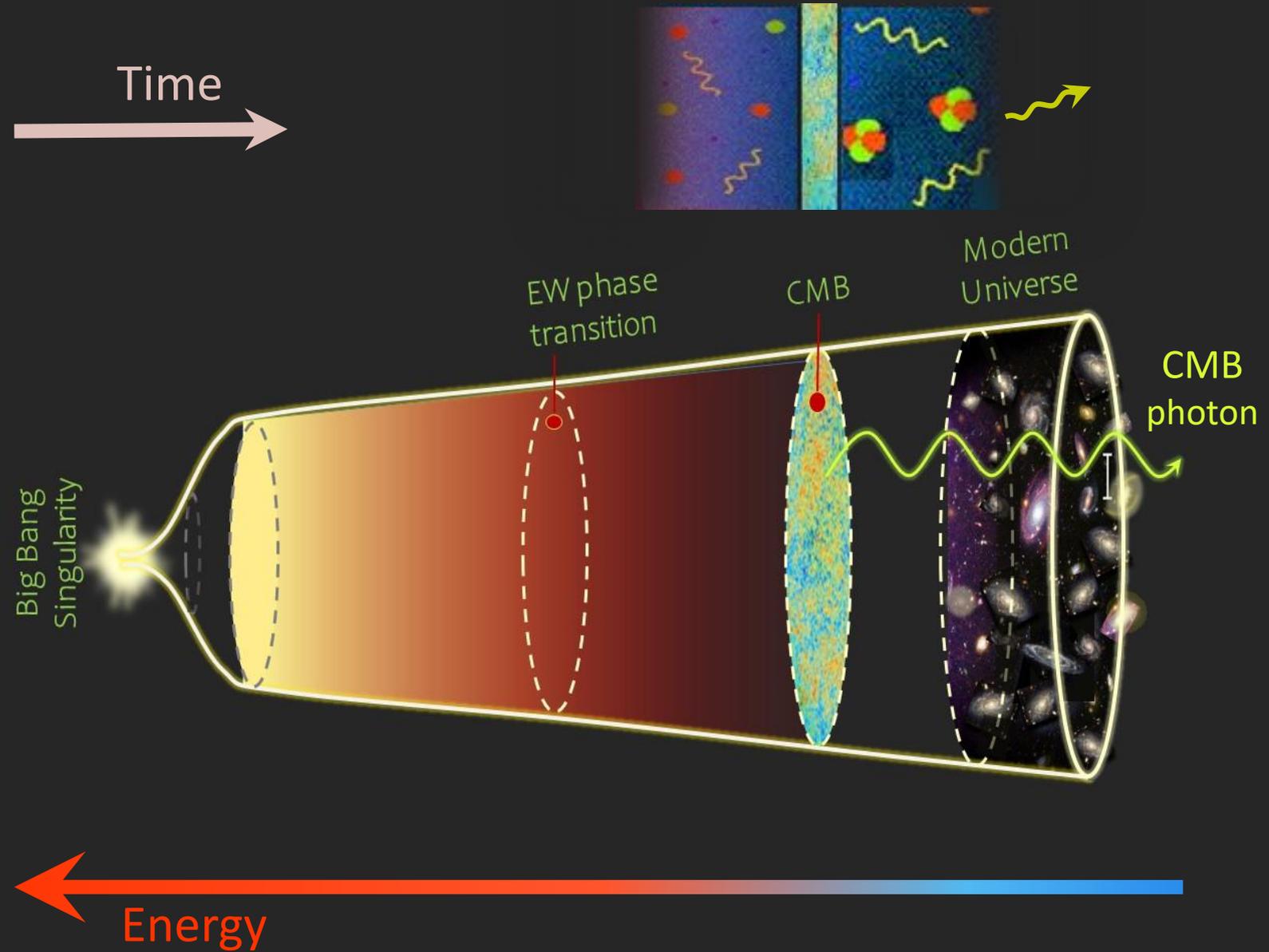
Virtual HET @ Brookhaven National Lab

*Background: Discover magazine*

PART ONE      Motivation & Big Picture

PART TWO      All of the Exciting Details!

# Cosmic History



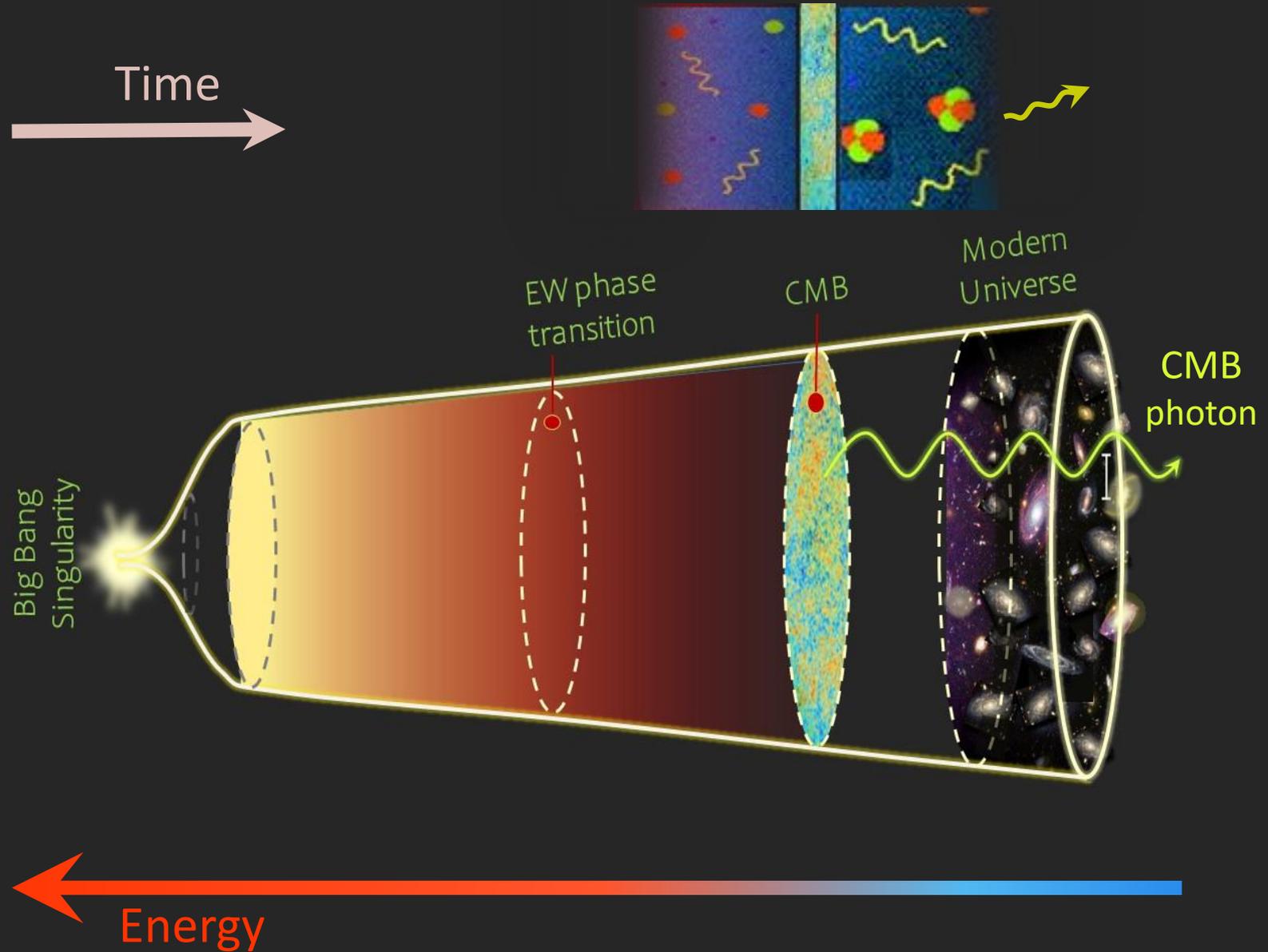
# Cosmic History

CMB is nearly  
homogenous &  
isotropic!

$$T_{\text{CMB}} = 2.7 \text{ K}$$

with  
small fluctuation

$$\frac{\Delta T}{T_{\text{CMB}}} = 10^{-5}!$$

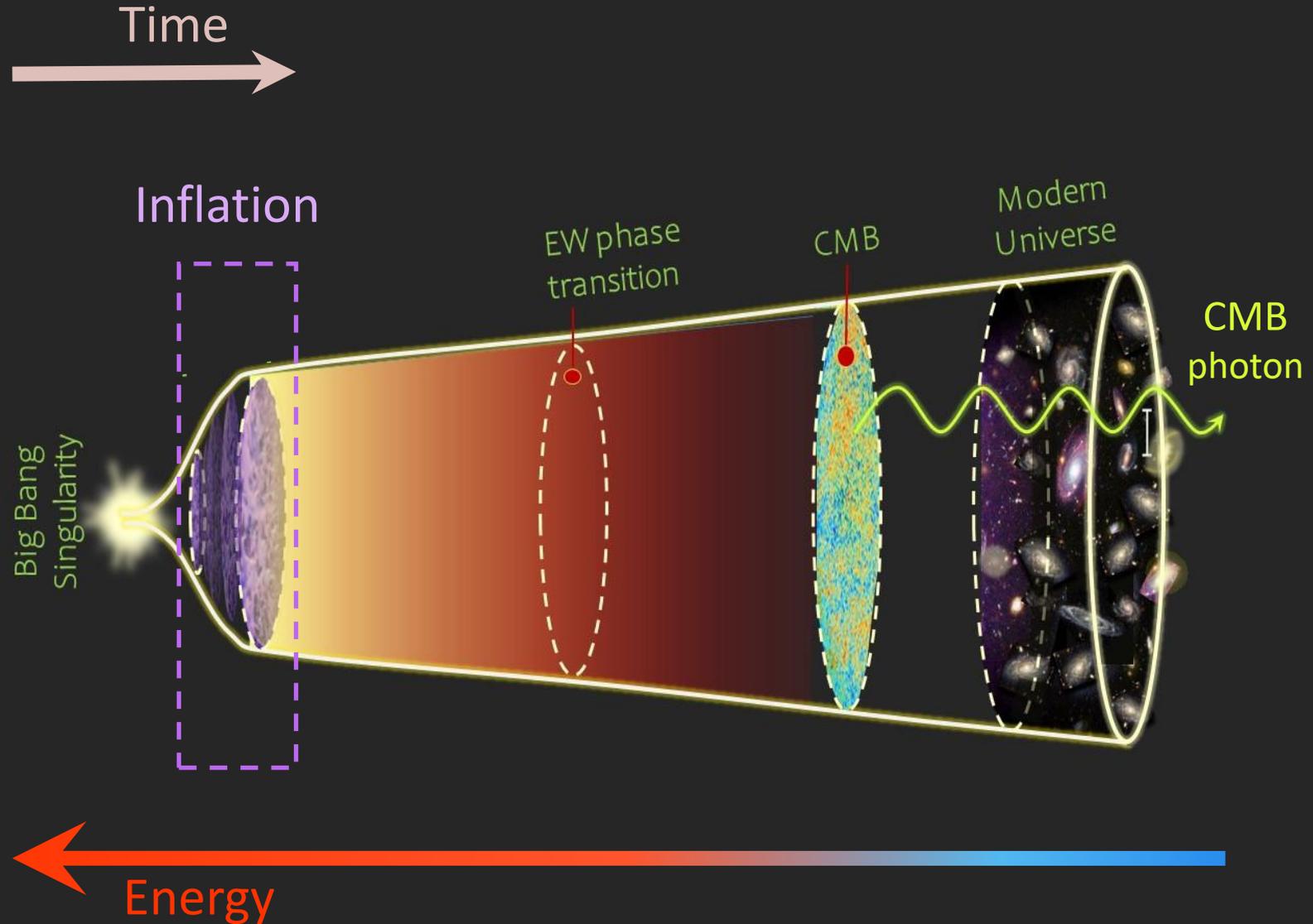


# Cosmic Inflation

A period of exponential expansion of space shortly after the Big Bang



$$\frac{a_f}{a_i} = e^{60} \approx 10^{26}!$$



# Cosmic Inflation

A period of exponential expansion of space shortly after the Big Bang



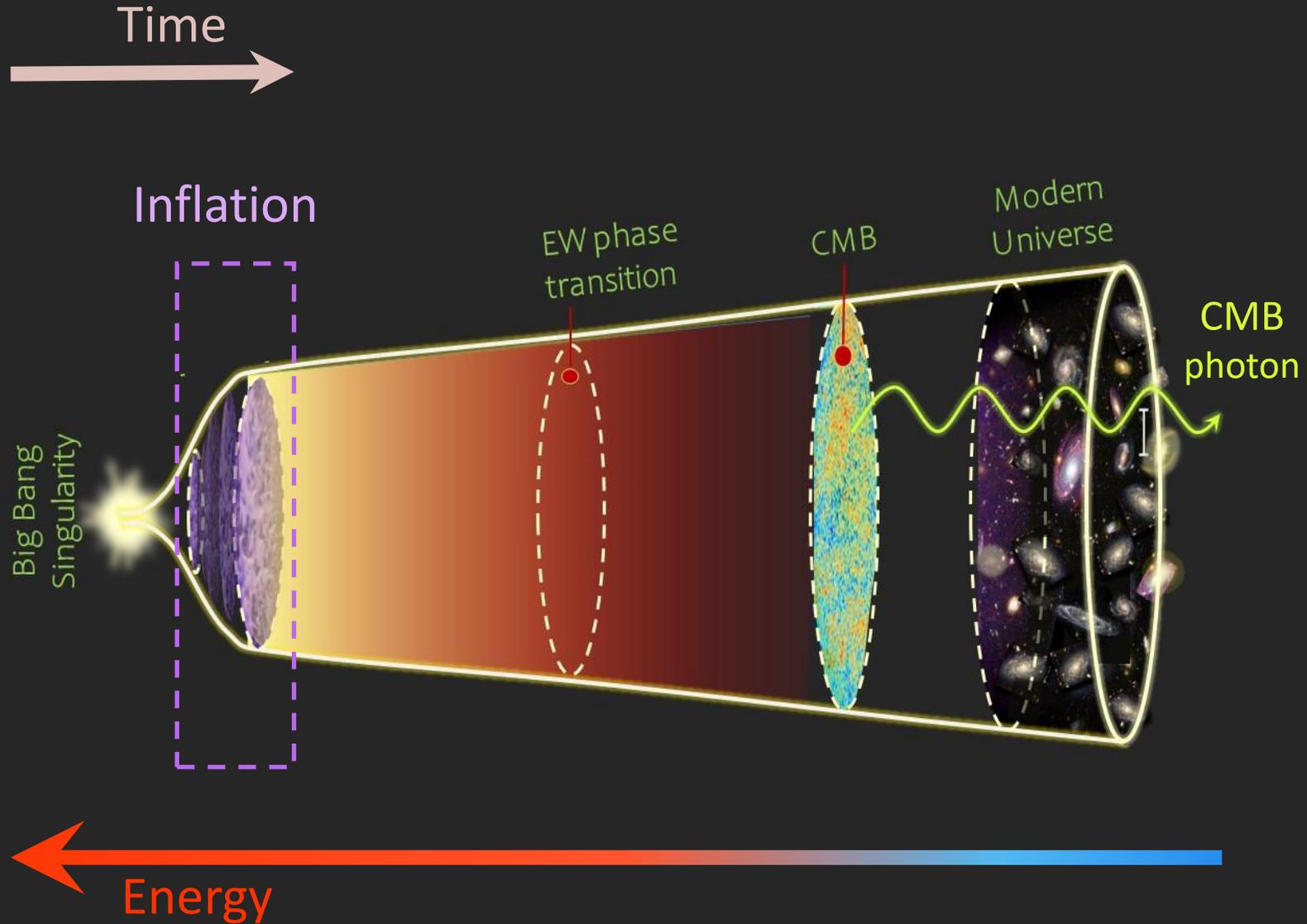
$$\frac{a_f}{a_i} = e^{60} \approx 10^{26}!$$

Bacterium

$D \approx 10 \mu\text{m}$



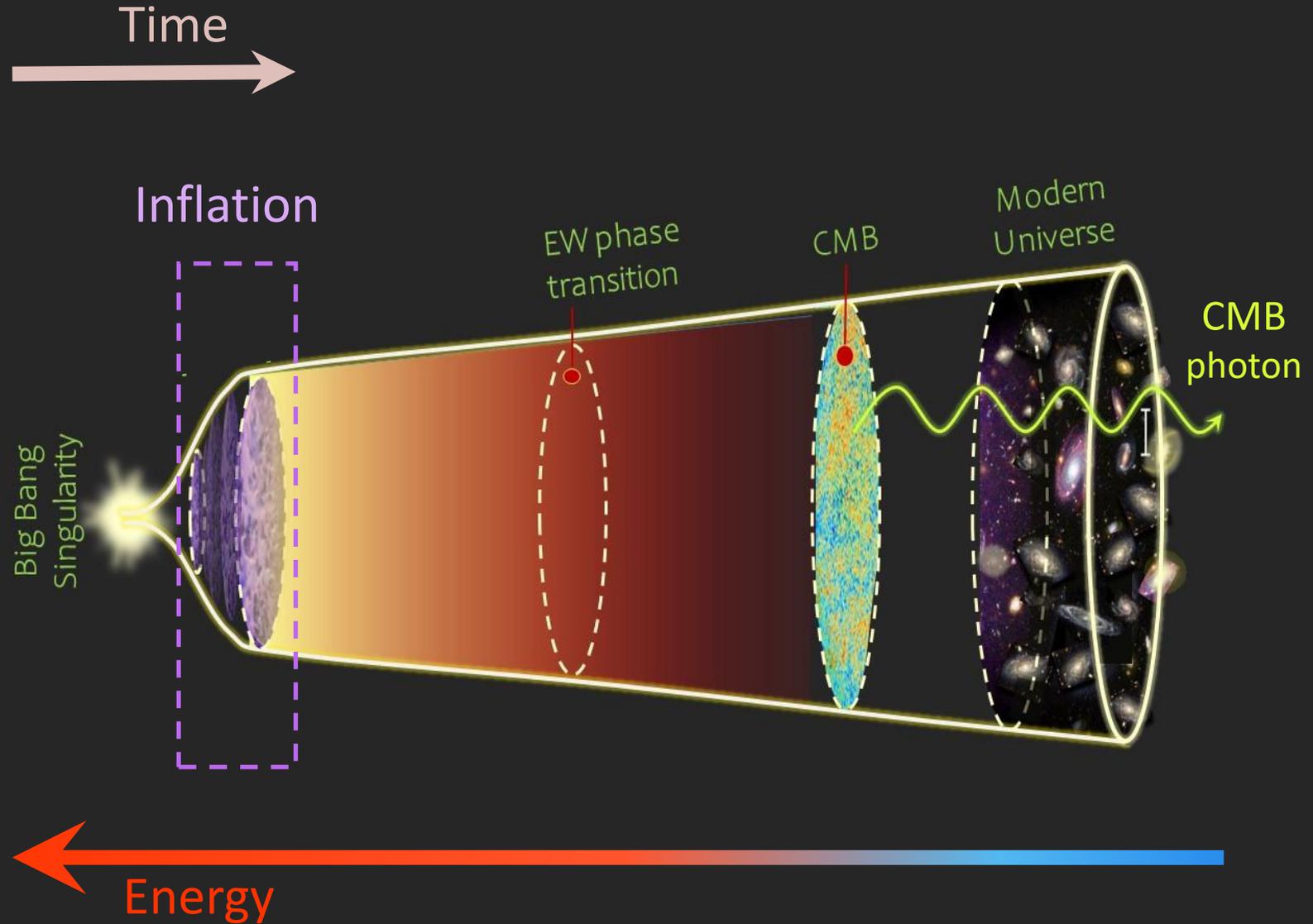
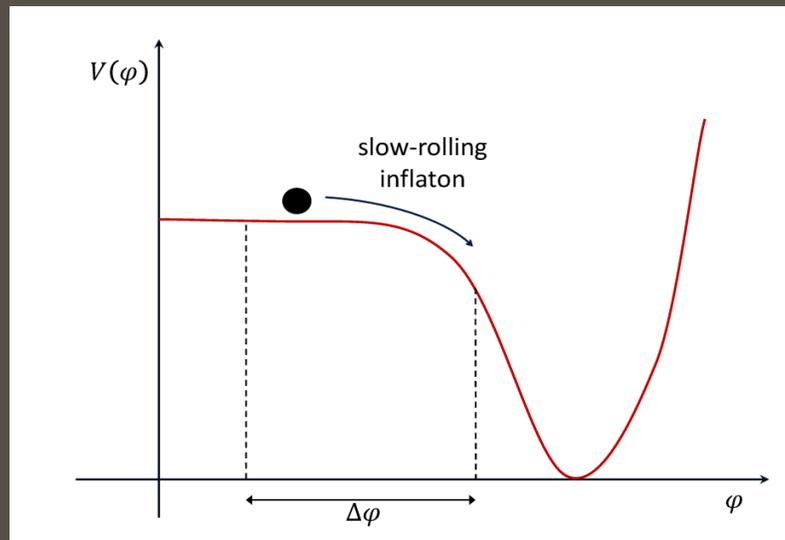
Milky Way



# Cosmic Inflation

What caused inflation?

A **scalar field** “slow-rolling” toward its true vacuum provides a simple model for inflation.



# Quantum Vacuum

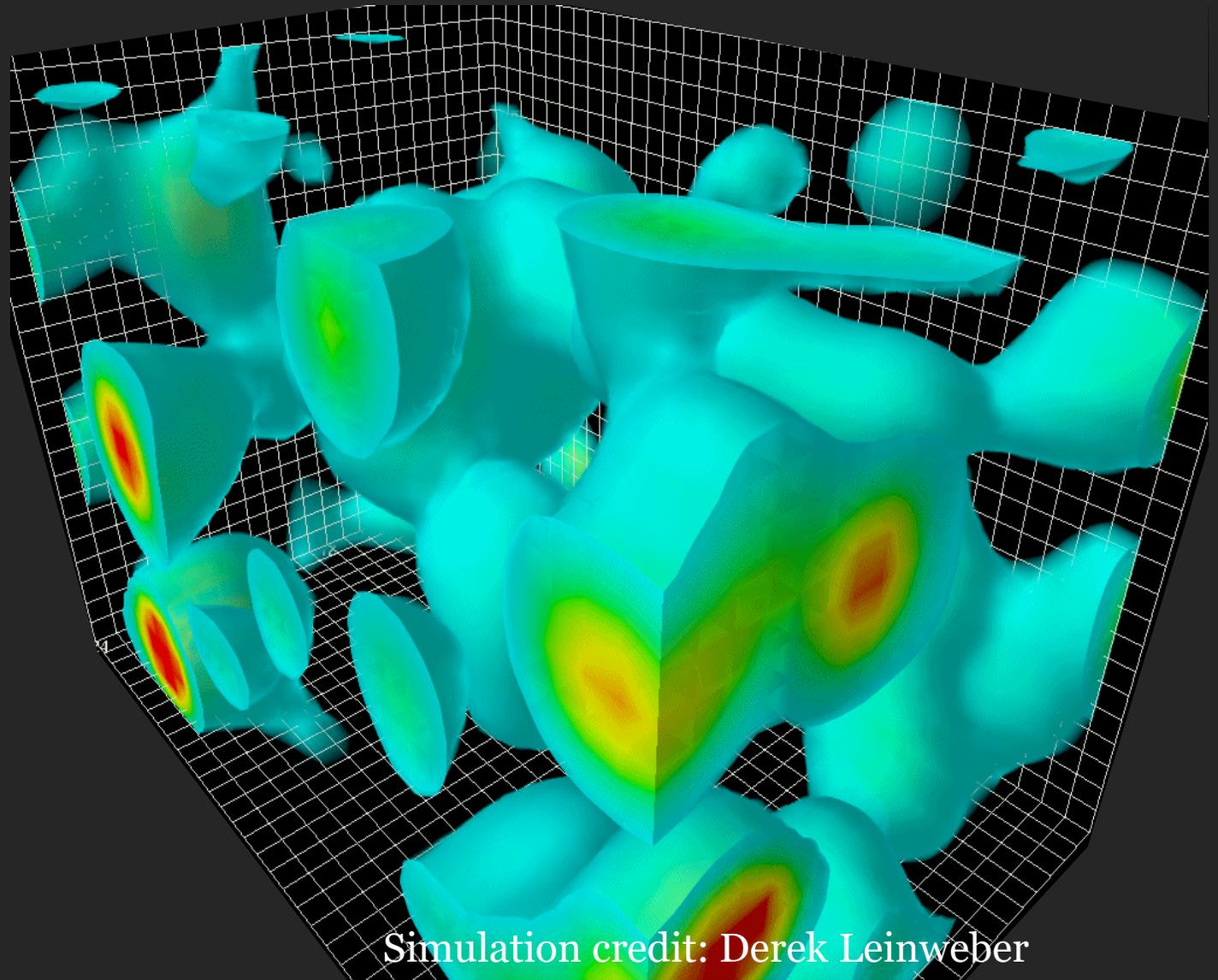
$$\hbar \neq 0$$

Due to Uncertainty Principle

$$\Delta x \Delta p \geq \hbar/2$$

the quantum vacuum is

**NOT** nothing!



Simulation credit: Derek Leinweber

# Quantum Vacuum

$$\hbar \neq 0$$

Due to Uncertainty Principle

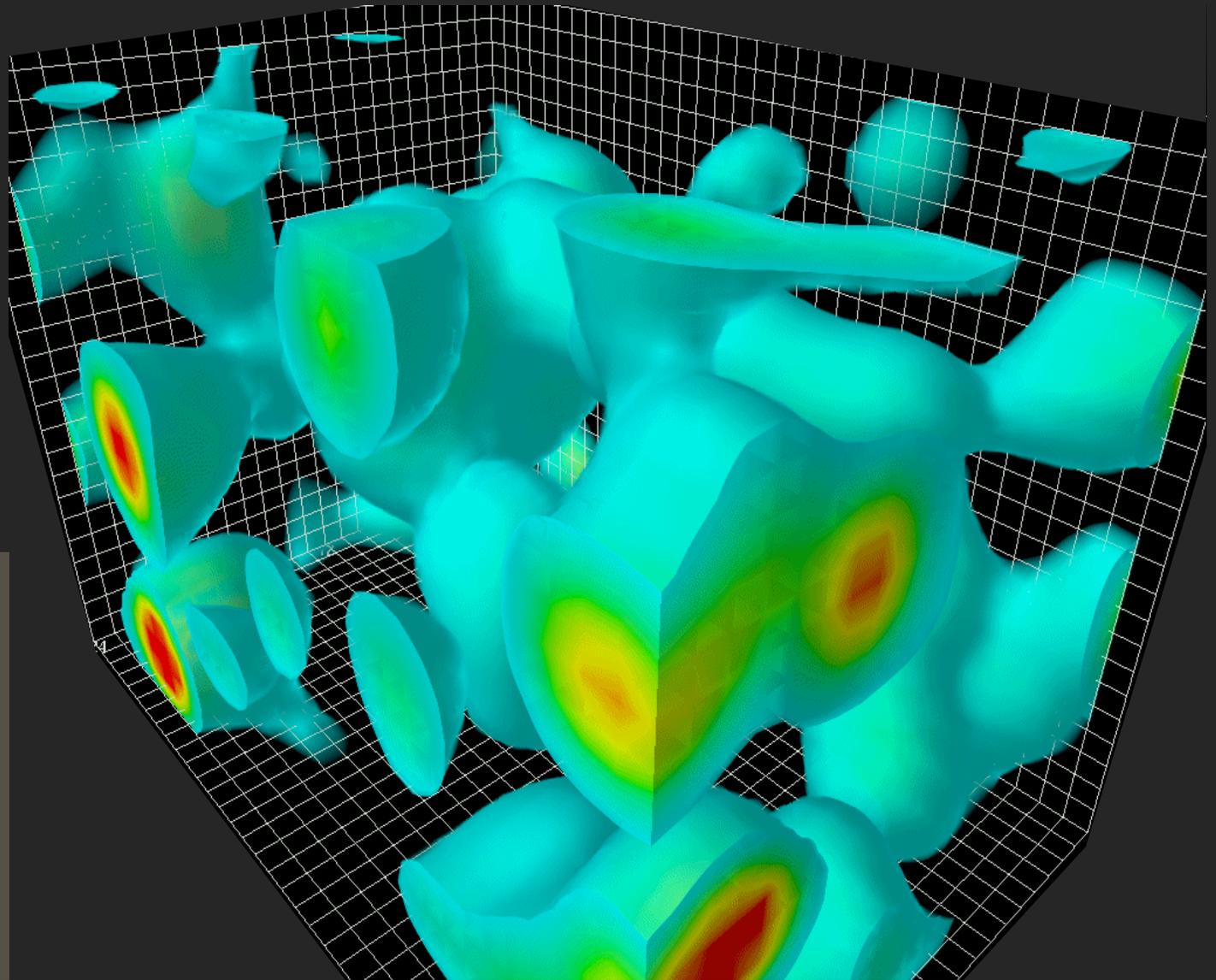
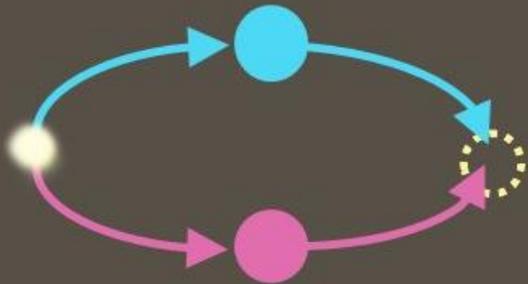
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the quantum vacuum is

**NOT** nothing!

But, a vast ocean made of

Virtual particles



# Quantum Vacuum



# Particle Production

Due to Uncertainty Principle

$$\Delta x \Delta p \geq \hbar/2$$

the quantum vacuum is

**NOT** nothing!

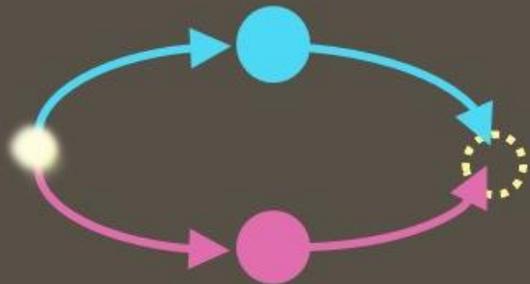
But, a vast ocean made of

**Background field** can upgrade them into **actual particles**!

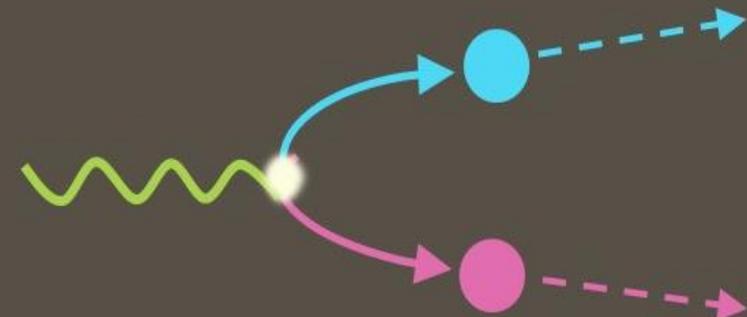
Examples of such BG fields:

- 1) Electric (*Schwinger effect*)
- 2) Gravitational (*Gravitational production*)

Virtual particles

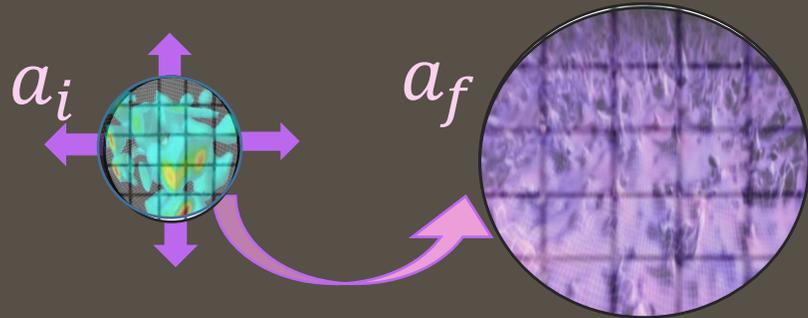


Actual particles



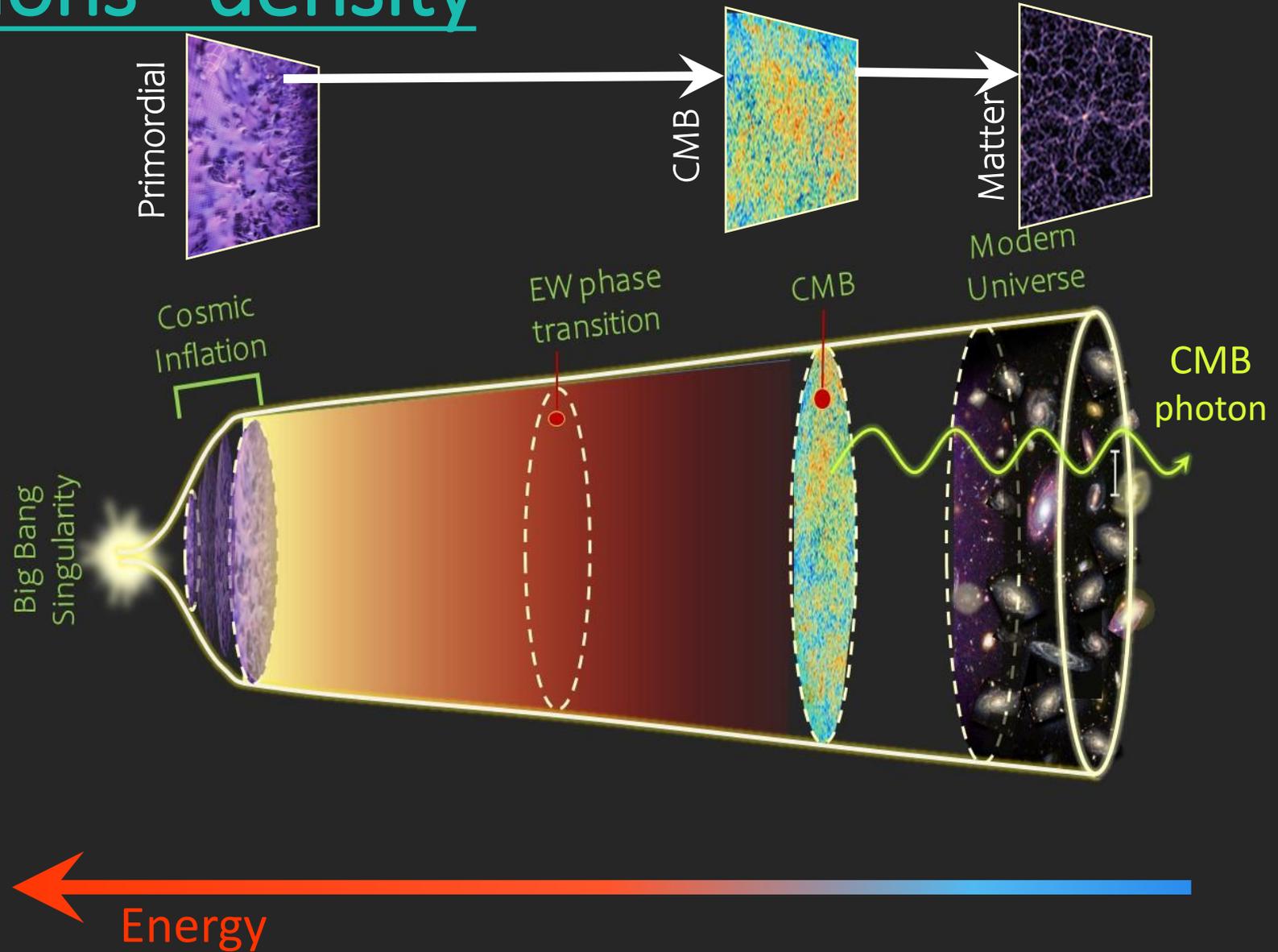
# Cosmic Perturbations - density

Exponential expansion turns initial **quantum vacuum** into



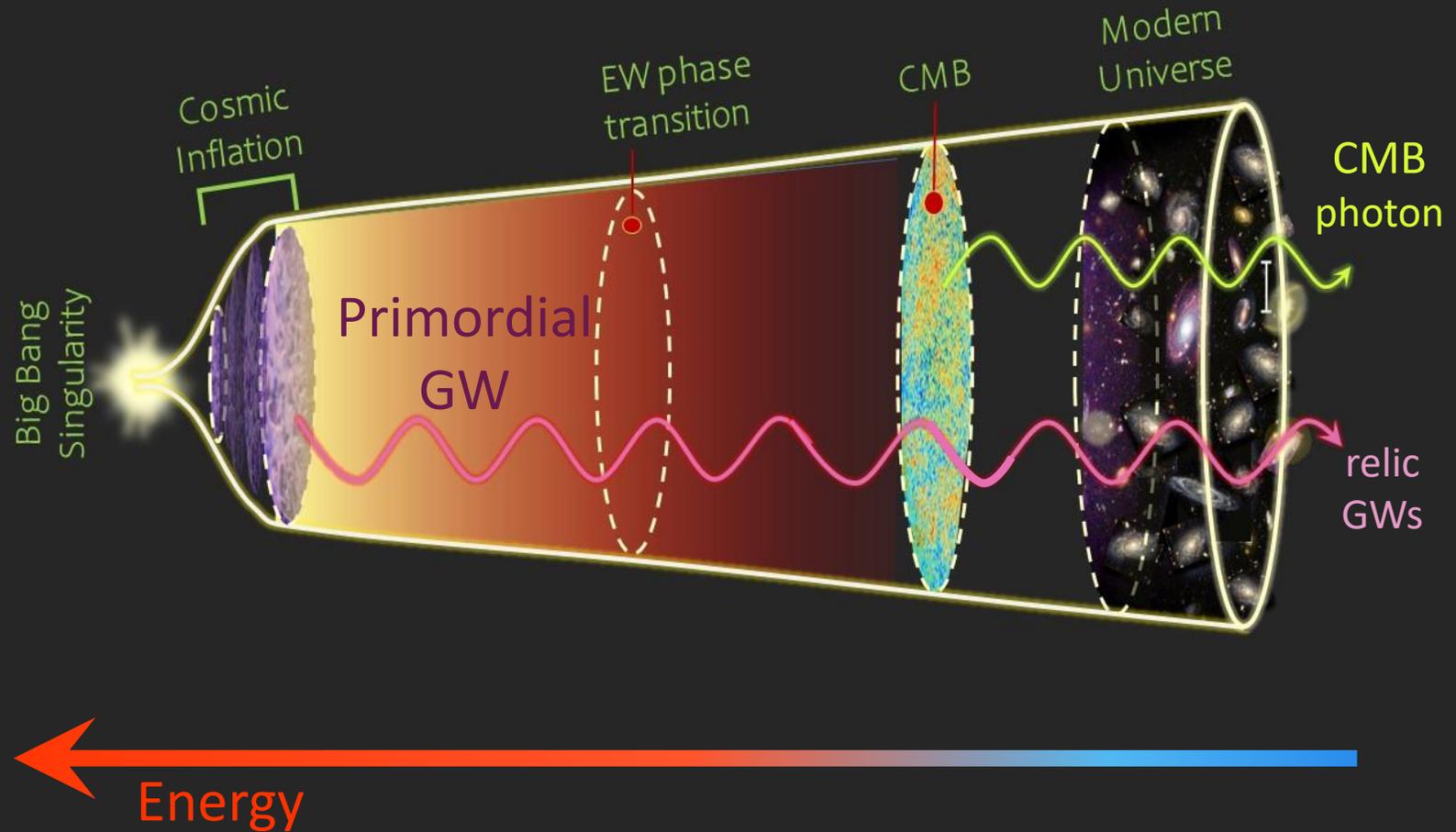
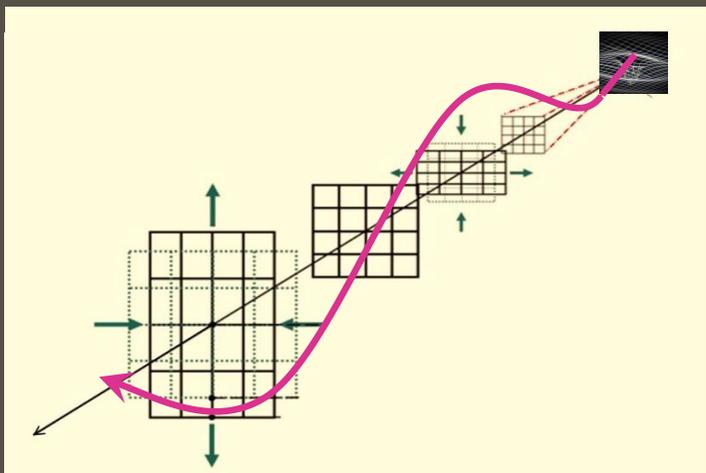
actual **cosmic perturbations!**

We all came ultimately from quantum fluctuations!



# Cosmic Perturbations – Gravitational Waves

Inflation also predicts  
primordial GWs:



# Cosmic Perturbations – Gravitational Waves

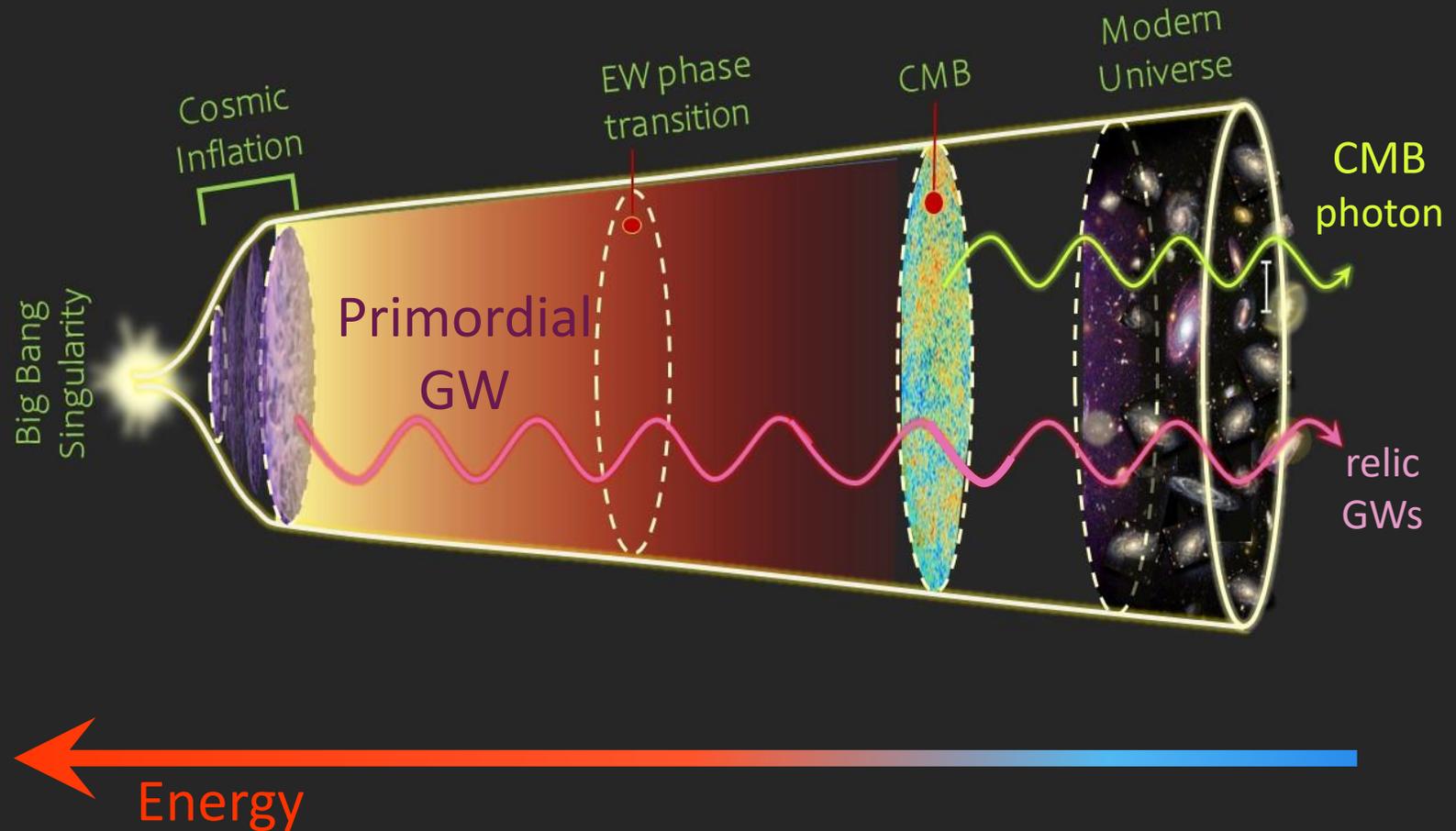
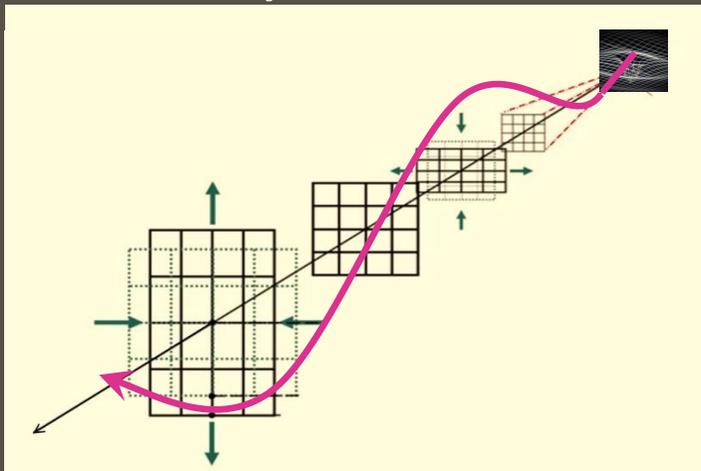
- Inflation also predicts primordial GWs:

$$\square h_{ij}=0 \rightarrow h_{\pm} = h_{\pm}^{vac}$$

- Unpolarized

$$\langle |h_{+}^{vac}|^2 \rangle = \langle |h_{-}^{vac}|^2 \rangle$$

- Nearly Gaussian



# Cosmic Perturbations – Gravitational Waves

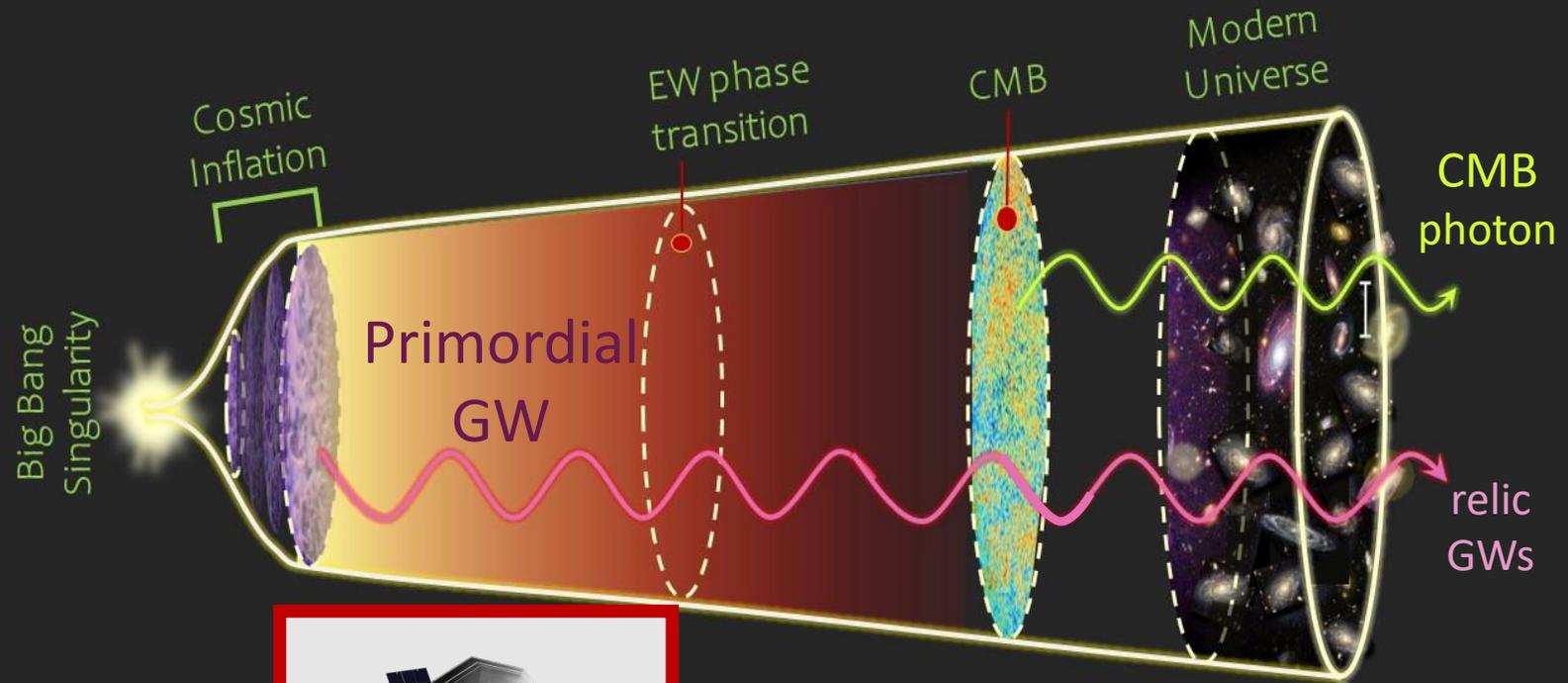
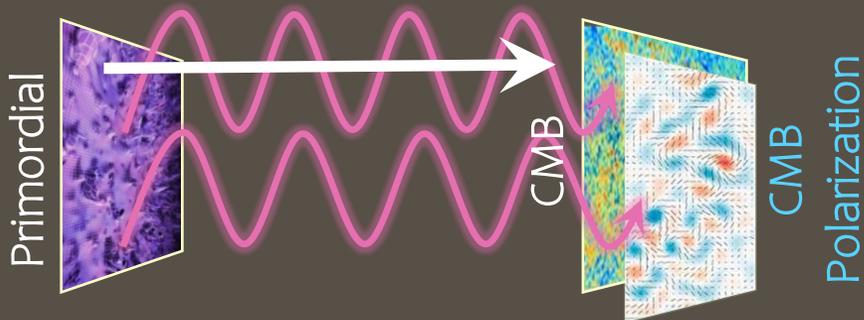
- Inflation also predicts primordial GWs:

$$\square h_{ij}=0 \rightarrow h_{\pm} = h_{\pm}^{vac}$$

- Unpolarized

$$\langle |h_{+}^{vac}|^2 \rangle = \langle |h_{-}^{vac}|^2 \rangle$$

- Nearly Gaussian
- CMB polarization



## As Yet:

- Observations are in perfect agreement with Inflation.
- The Particle Physics of Inflation is still unknown.
- The Standard models of inflation are based on Scalars.

What about Gauge Fields?

# Why Gauge Fields during Inflation?!

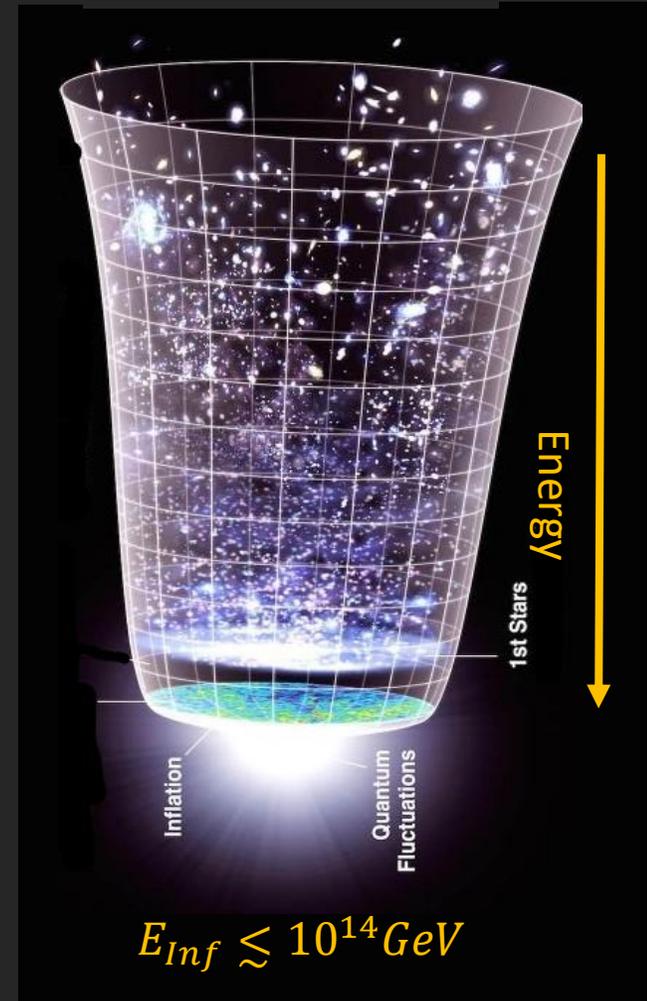
- *Why not?*

- I. Inflation happened at highest energy scales observable!
- II. Gauge fields are ubiquitous in physics & building blocks of standard model (SM) and beyond.

- *What do they do in inflation?*

Can Gauge Fields Contribute to Physics of Inflation & leave an observable signature?

Mission **Impossible?!!**



Comparing to LHC

$$\frac{E_{Inf}}{E_{LHC}} \lesssim 10^{11} !!!!$$

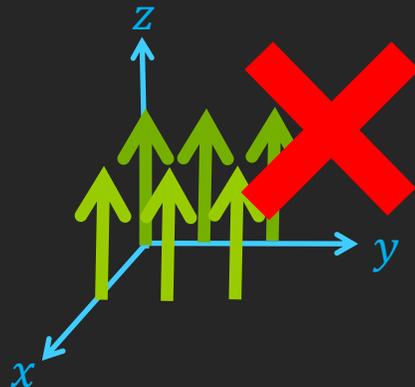


# Challenges:

- 1) Conformal symmetry of Yang-Mills gauge field decays like  $A_\mu \sim 1/a$
- 2) Respecting gauge symmetry  
Not to break gauge symmetry explicitly
- 3) Spatial isotropy & homogeneity

U(1) vacuum  $A_\mu$

$$A_i = Q(t)\delta_i^3$$



A.M. & Sheikh-Jabbari, 2011

Adding new terms to the gauge theory

$$\frac{\kappa}{384} (F\tilde{F})^2$$

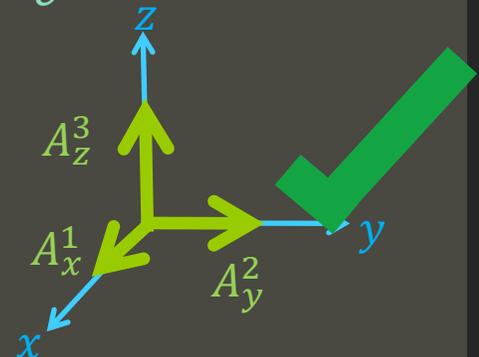
or  $\frac{\lambda}{8f} F\tilde{F} \varphi$  Axion

SU(2) vacuum  $A_\mu = A_\mu^a T_a$

$$[T_a, T_b] = i \varepsilon^{abc} T_c$$

Spatially isotropic

$$A_i^a = Q(t)\delta_i^a$$



so(3) & su(2) are isomorphic

# Why Gauge Fields during Inflation?!

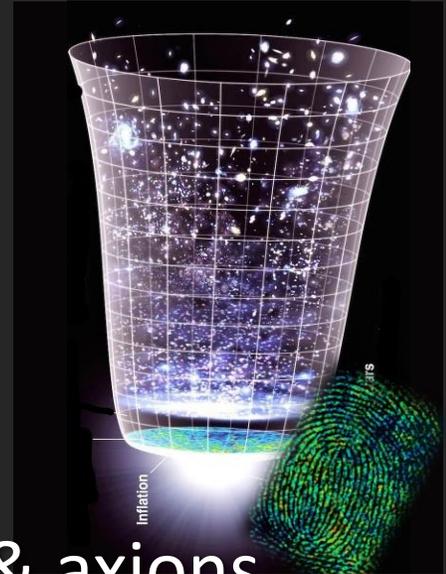
Non-Abelian Gauge fields can contribute to inflation & respect spatial isotropy!

A new class of inflation models with SU(2) gauge fields & axions,  
SU(2)-axion models!

It opens a New Window to Particle Cosmology:

A.M. & Sheikh-Jabbari, 2011

**Novel Observable Signatures  
e.g. Chiral, non-Gaussian GWs!**



# SU(2)-axion Inflation: a Complete Setup

**SM** of Particle Physics, the most rigorous theory of physics cannot explain **Cosmology**!

**Big Questions** of modern Cosmology & Particle Physics:

- I) ) Particle physics of Inflation,
  - II) Origin of matter asymmetry,
  - III) Particle nature of DM,
  - IV) Primordial GWs
- (only missing prediction of inflation)

Fundamental discrete Symmetries and their violation played a key role in understanding SM, e.g. **C** & **P** violation in weak interactions, **CP** violation to explain matter asymmetry.

Yet, it is mostly assumed that physics of inflation is **P** and **CP** symmetric.

**SU(2)-axion inflation**  
Spontaneously breaks **P** and **CP**  
and relates all of these seemingly  
unrelated Phenomena in early and late  
cosmology!

# SU(2) Gauge fields and Inflation: Two examples

- **Gauge-flation** A. M. & Sheikh-Jabbari, 2011

$$S_{Gf} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left( -\frac{R}{2} - \frac{1}{4} F^2 + \frac{\kappa}{384} (F\tilde{F})^2 \right)$$

- **Chromo-natural** P. Adshead, M. Wyman, 2012

$$S_{Cn} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left( -\frac{R}{2} - \frac{1}{4} F^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left( (\partial_\mu \varphi)^2 - \mu^4 \left( 1 + \cos\left(\frac{\varphi}{f}\right) \right) \right) - \frac{\lambda}{8f} \varphi F\tilde{F} \right)$$

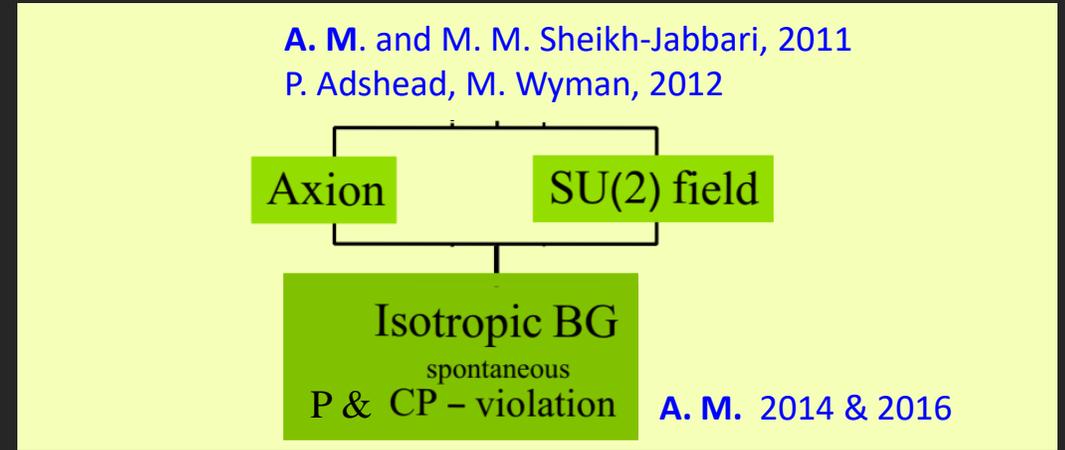
- Inspired by them, several different models with SU(2) fields have been proposed and studied.

# A New Window to Particle Cosmology

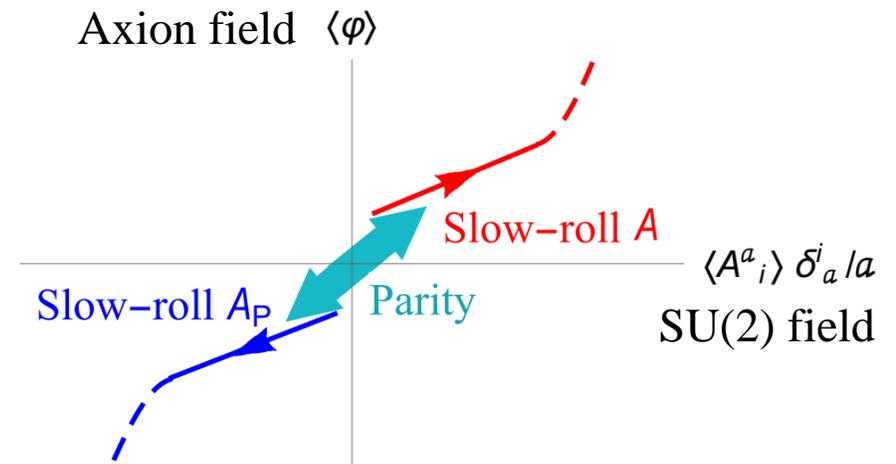
- SU(2)-axion models acquire a vacuum during inflation.

This vacuum **violates Parity!**

- Particles with spin, e.g. Fermions & Spin-2 fields are sensitive to this **non-trivial Vacuum during inflation!**
- Pre-Hot Big Bang Particle Production!  
( during inflation)



## Vacuum structure of SU(2)-axion inflation

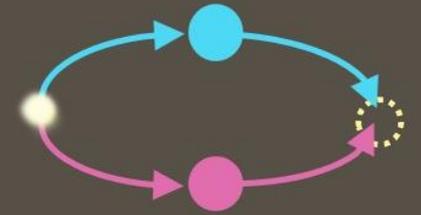


# Particle Production

- Vacuum is a vast ocean of **virtual particles** &
- Background field upgrades it to **actual particles!**  
Background Gauge field  
(Schwinger effect)
- In flat space, it has never been observed,  $E > 10^{18} V/m$ .
- Schwinger particle production is important in Physics of Inflation:

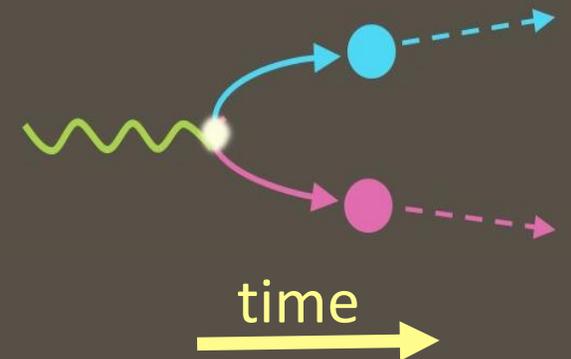
Particle Production during Inflation!

Virtual particles



BG fields

Actual particles



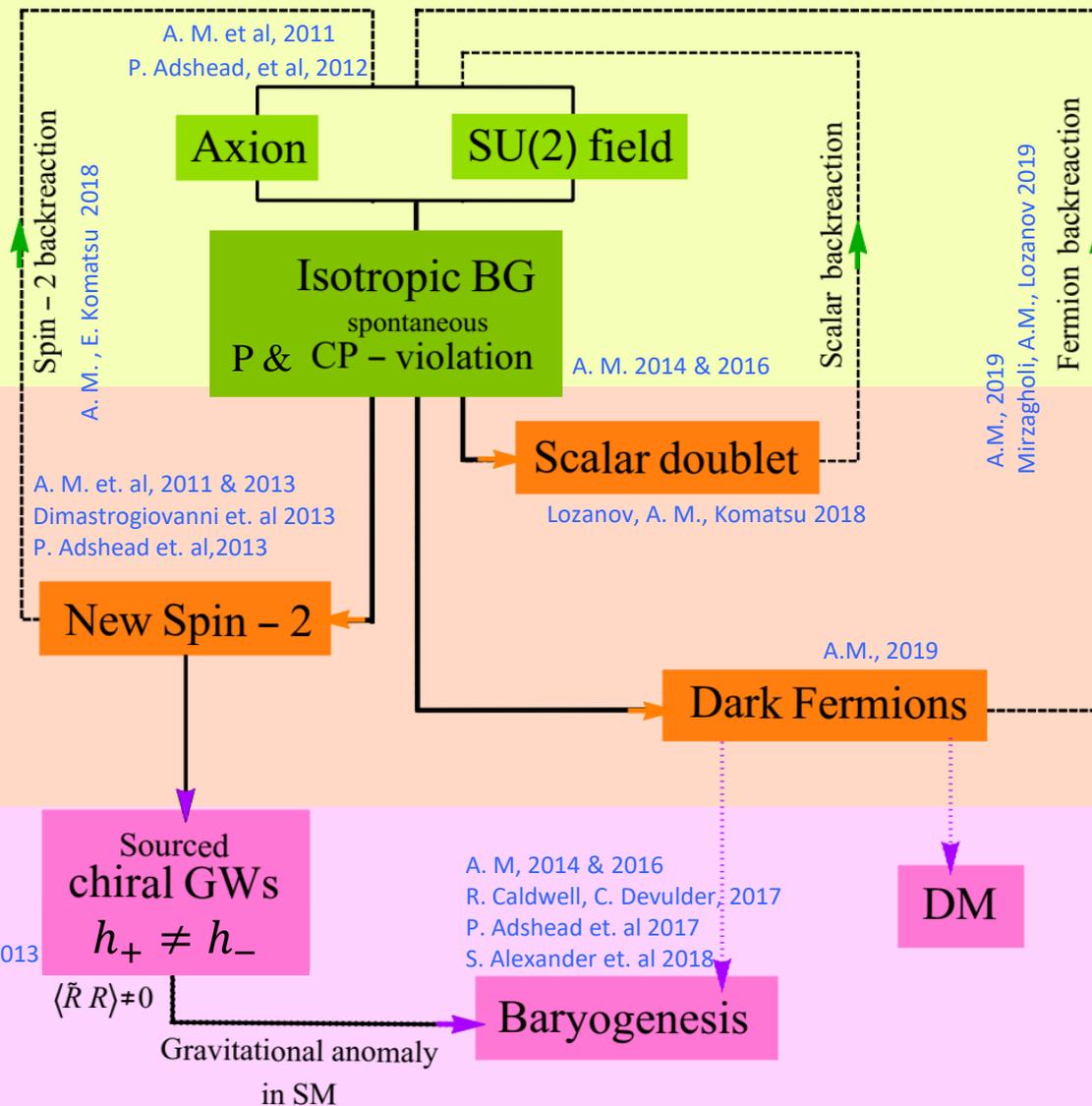
# A New Window to Particle Cosmology

Cosmic Inflation

This vacuum **violates Parity!**

Particle Production  
(during Inflation)

Observables



# A New Window to Particle Cosmology

- New tensorial field in perturbed SU(2):

$$\delta A_i^a \ni B_{ij} \delta_i^a$$

- It is Chiral  $\langle |B_+|^2 \rangle \neq \langle |B_-|^2 \rangle$

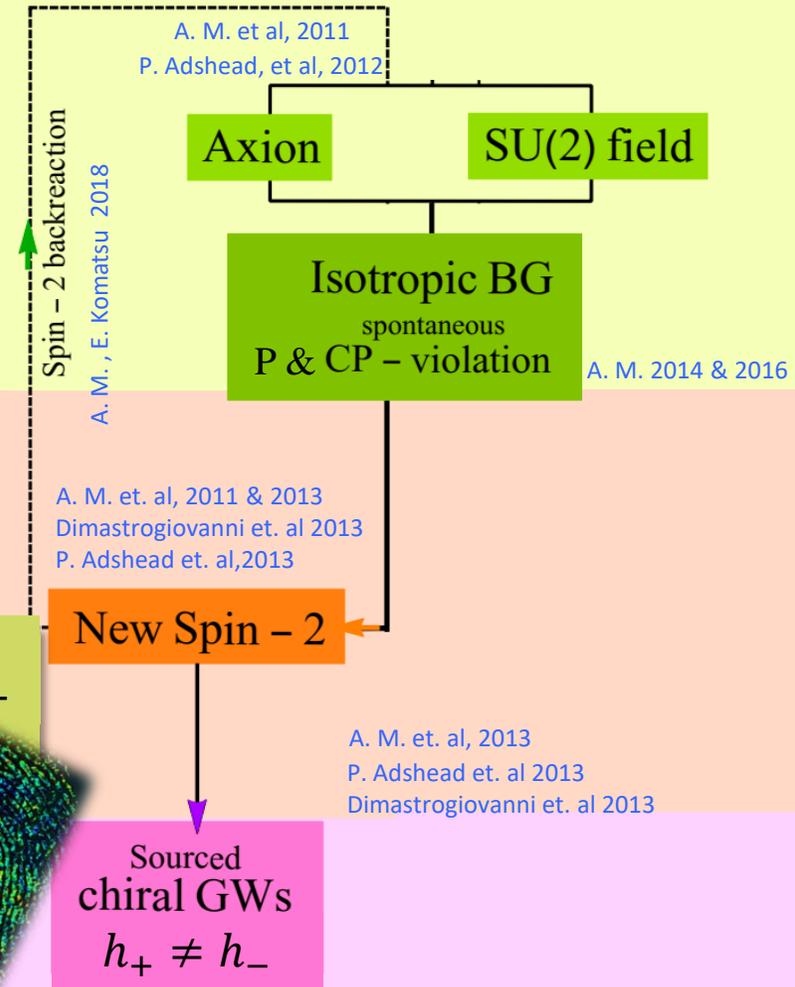
- linearly coupled to Gravitational Waves (GWs)

$$\square h_{ij} = -16\pi G \delta \Pi_{ij}$$

$$h_{\pm} = \underbrace{h_{\pm}^{vac}}_{\text{Vacuum}} + \underbrace{h_{\pm}^s}_{\text{Sourced}} \rightarrow h_{\pm}^s \text{ is Chiral } h_+ \neq h_- \text{ \& non-Gaussian}$$

- Novel **Observable Signatures** on CMB!

Future CMB missions, e.g. **LiteBIRD** & **CMB-S4**, will nail it!



# A New Window to Particle Cosmology

- New Spin-2 field in perturbed SU(2):

$$\delta A_i^a \ni B_{ij} \delta_i^a$$

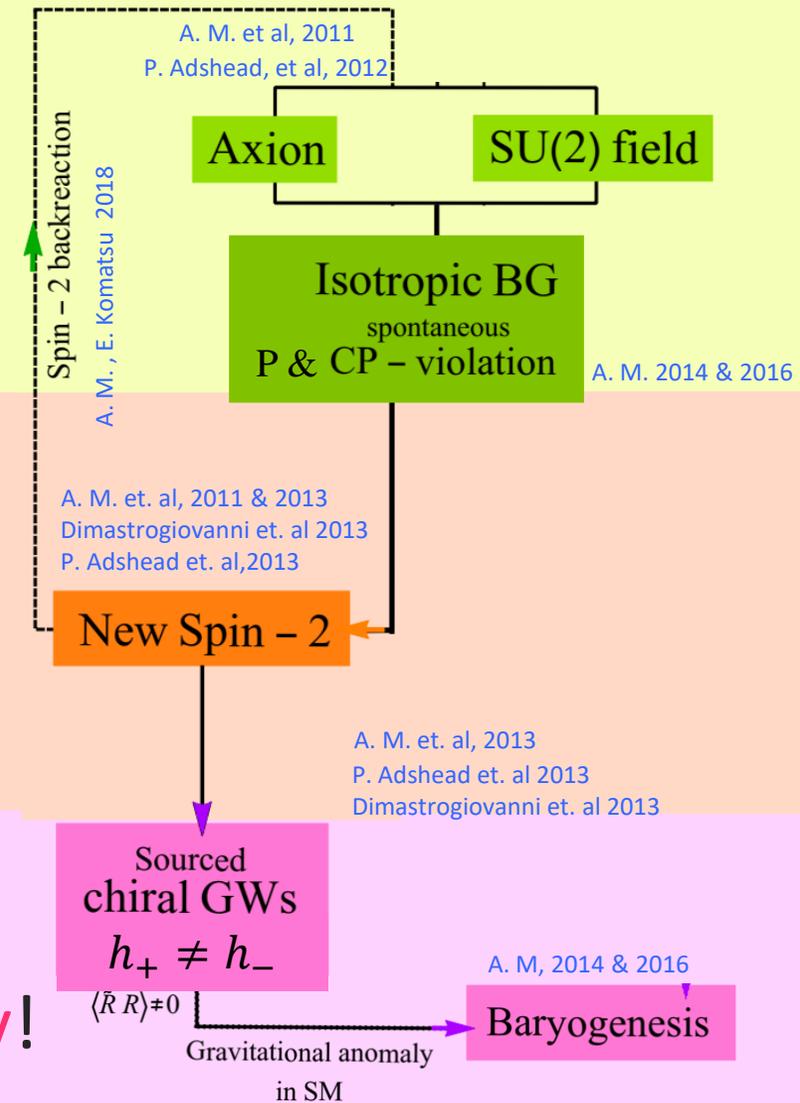
- It is Chiral  $B_R \neq B_L$

- linearly coupled to Gravitational Waves

$$\square h_{ij} = -16\pi G \delta \Pi_{ij}$$

$$h_{\pm} = h_{\pm}^{vac} + h_{\pm}^s$$

- $\not{C}\not{P}$  in inflation so it is a natural setting for leptogenesis to explain the matter asymmetry!



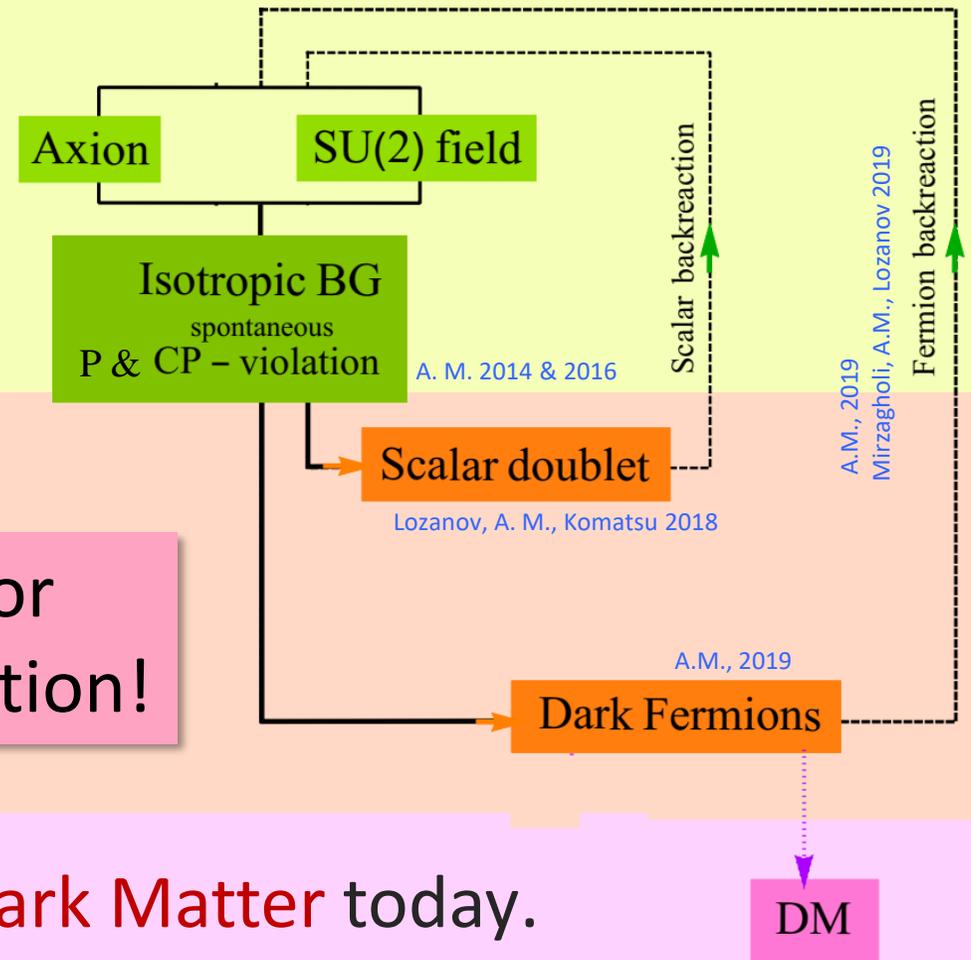
# A New Window to Particle Cosmology

- Scalar doublet, and Dark Fermions charged under the Primordial SU(2) will be created by it!

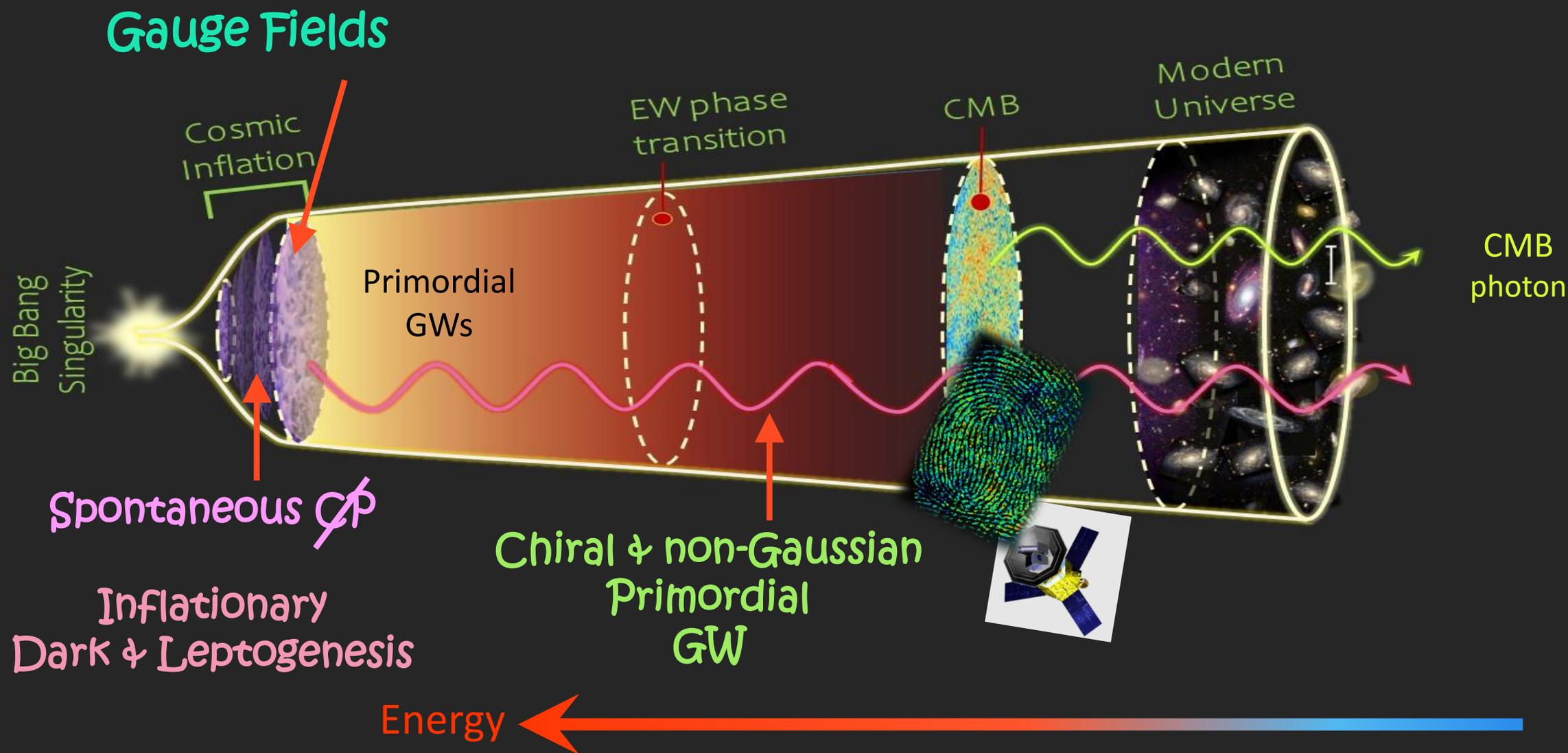
- They will backreact to it as well.

• A new non-thermal mechanism for generating Dark Fermions during Inflation!

- This Dark fermions can be part of Dark Matter today.



# Gauge Fields in Inflation



# PART TWO: (the exciting details)

- SU(2)-Axion Model Building
- Particle Production in Inflation

The background of the slide is a dark red color with a faint, repeating pattern of Feynman diagrams. On the right side, there is a 3D-style graphic of a red cube with a white grid pattern on its front face. The text "SU(2)-Axion Model Building" is centered on the left side in a white, sans-serif font.

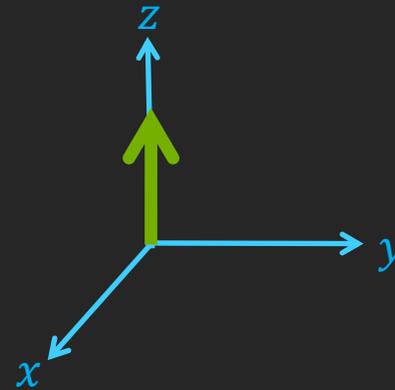
# SU(2)-Axion Model Building

# How $su(2)$ algebra restores the spatial isotropy?

Let us work in temporal gauge,  $A_0 = 0$ .

U(1) vacuum  $A_\mu$

$$A_i = Q(t)\delta_i^3$$

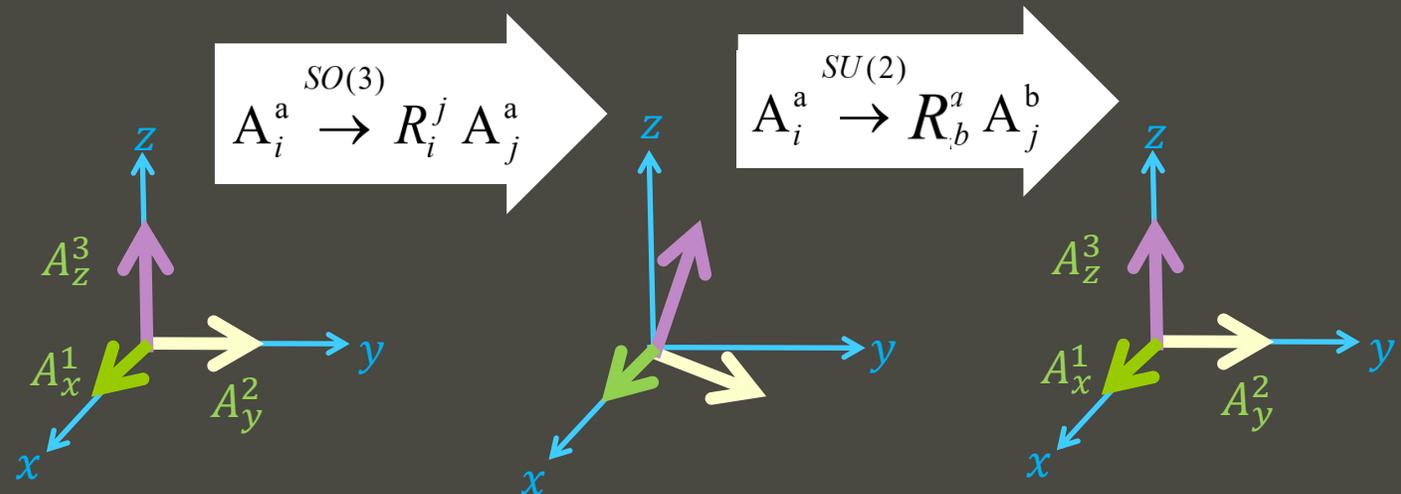


SU(2) VEV,  $A_\mu = A_\mu^a T_a$

$$A_i^a = Q(t)\delta_i^a$$



Isomorphism of  $so(3)$  &  $su(2)$  algebras



# SU(2)-Axion Model Building

- **Gauge-flation** A. M. and M. M. Sheikh-Jabbari, 2011

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- Inspired by them, several different models with SU(2) fields have been proposed and studied.

# An incomplete list of Different Realizations of the Setup:

1. **A. M.** and M. M. Sheikh-Jabbari, Phys. Rev. D 84:043515, 2011 [[arXiv:1102.1513](#)]
2. P. Adshead, M. Wyman, Phys. Rev. Lett.(2012) [[arXiv:1202.2366](#)]
3. **A. M.** JHEP 07 (2016) 104 [[arXiv:1604.03327](#)]
4. C. M. Nieto and Y. Rodriguez Mod. Phys. Lett. A31 (2016) [[arXiv:1602.07197](#)]
5. E. Dimastrogiovanni, M. Fasiello, and T. Fujita JCAP 1701 (2017) [[arXiv:1608.04216](#)]
6. P. Adshead, E. Martinec, E. I. Sfakianakis, and M. Wyman JHEP 12 (2016) 137 [[arXiv:1609.04025](#)]
7. P. Adshead and E. I. Sfakianakis JHEP 08 (2017) 130 [[arXiv:1705.03024](#)]
8. R. R. Caldwell and C. Devulder Phys. Rev. D97 (2018) [[arXiv:1706.03765](#)]
9. E. McDonough, S. Alexander, JCAP11 (2018) 030 [[arXiv:1806.05684](#) ]
10. L. Mirzagholi, E. Komatsu, K. D. Lozanov, and Y. Watanabe, [[arXiv:2003.04350](#)]
11. Y. Watanabe, E. Komatsu, [[arXiv:2004.04350](#)]

....

- SU(2)-Axion Inflation models :

$$S = S_A(A_\mu, \varphi) + \alpha_s S_s(\chi) + \alpha_H S_H(A_\mu, H)$$

All share these features:

$$\alpha_H = \begin{cases} 0 \\ 1 \end{cases} \text{ massive SU(2)}$$

$$\alpha_s = \begin{cases} 0 \\ 1 \end{cases} \text{ Spectator SU(2)}$$

- i) SU(2) gaugefield background: (respect isotropy & homogeneity)

$$A_\mu^a(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \mu = 0 \\ Q(t) a(t) \delta_i^a & \mu = i \end{cases}$$

$e_i^a = a(t) \delta_i^a$   
spatial part of tetrads

- ii) P and CP violating in inflation background.

- iii) New spin-2 degrees of freedom:

$$\delta A_i^a(t, \vec{x}) = \underbrace{\delta S_i^a}_{\text{Scalar and vector d.o.f}} + \overline{B_{ij}} \delta_i^a$$

Spin-2 field

- iv) Spin-2 field is chiral & linearly coupled to GWs

$$h_\pm = h_\pm^{vac} + h_\pm^S \longrightarrow \text{Chiral, non-Gaussian primordial GWs!}$$



Background Perturbation

# SU(2) Gauge fields and Initial Anisotropies

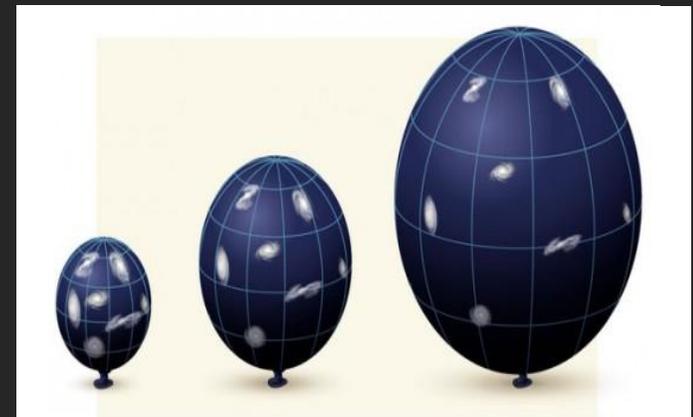
- SU(2) gauge fields are **FRW friendly**: (respect isotropy & homogeneity)

$$A_{\mu}^a(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \mu = 0 \\ Q(t)a(t)\delta_i^a & \mu = i \end{cases}$$



Isotropic  
Background

- How stable is the isotropic ansatz against **initial anisotropies**, i.e. Bianchi



Anisotropic  
Background??

# SU(2) Gauge fields and Initial Anisotropies

- SU(2) gauge fields are **FRW friendly**: (respect isotropy & homogeneity)

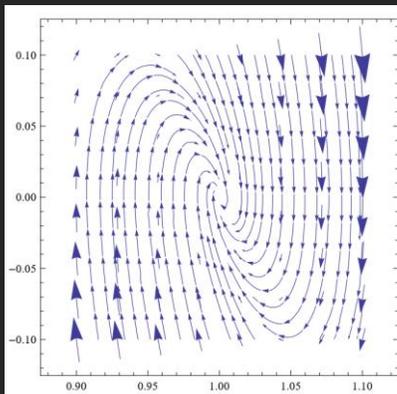
$$A_{\mu}^a(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \mu = 0 \\ Q(t)a(t)\delta_i^a & \mu = i \end{cases}$$



Background  
Isotropic

- How stable is the isotropic ansatz against **initial anisotropies**, i.e. Bianchi

$\lambda(t)$  Parametrizes the amount of anisotropy in the gauge field



$$(2 + \lambda^6)\left(\frac{\lambda''}{\lambda} + 3\frac{\lambda'}{\lambda}\right) - 6\frac{\lambda'^2}{\lambda^2} + (\lambda^6 - 1)(2 + \lambda^2\gamma) \simeq 0;$$

Isotropic Solution is the  
Attractor!



Background  
~~Anisotropic~~

# Particle Production

1. Tensor modes



2. Dark Scalar



3. Dark Fermions



# New Tensorial mode & Chiral GWs

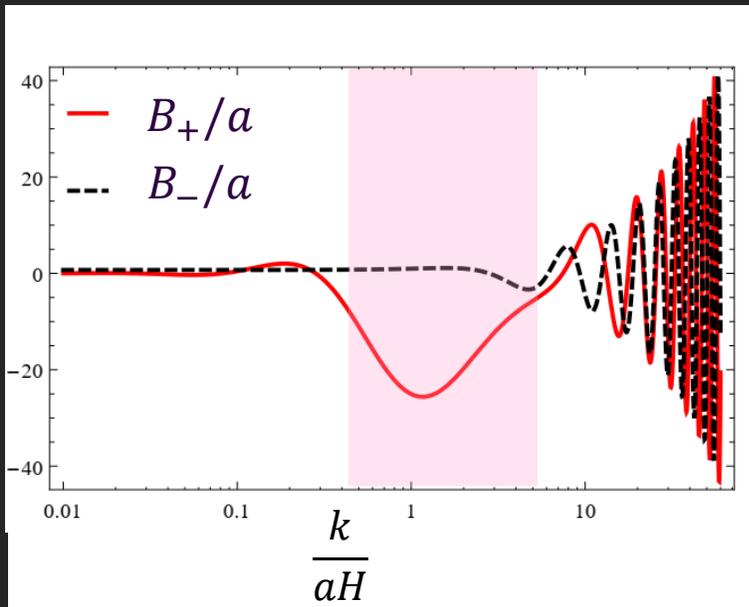
- New spin-2 field  $\delta A_i^a(t, \vec{x}) = B_{ij}(t, \vec{x}) \delta_i^a$  is governed by

$$B_{\pm}'' + \underbrace{\left[ k^2 \mp \delta_c k \mathcal{H} + \frac{m^2}{H^2} \mathcal{H}^2 - \frac{a''}{a} \right]}_{\omega_{\pm}^2 \text{ effective frequency}} B_{\pm} \approx 0$$

( $\delta_c$  and  $\frac{m^2}{H^2}$  are positive, given by BG)

$\omega_{\pm}^2$  effective frequency

- The  $B_+$  has a short phase of **particle production** before horizon exit.



$$n_B \sim \frac{H^3}{6\pi^2} \delta_c^3 e^{\frac{(2-\sqrt{2})\pi}{2} \delta_c}$$

- Backreaction of the spin-2 field is important:

$$BR \approx g_A n_B \sim \delta_c^3 e^{\frac{(2-\sqrt{2})\pi}{2} \delta_c}$$

# New Tensorial & Chiral GWs

- New spin-2 field  $\delta A_i^a(t, \vec{x}) = B_{ij}(t, \vec{x}) \delta_i^a$  is governed by

$$B_{\pm}'' + [k^2 \mp \delta_C k \mathcal{H} + \frac{m^2}{H^2} \mathcal{H}^2 - \frac{a''}{a}] B_{\pm} \approx 0$$

- That sourced the GWs  $\delta g_{ij}(t, \vec{x}) = a h_{ij}(t, \vec{x})$  as  $(h_{ij} \equiv a \gamma_{ij})$

$$h_{\pm}'' + [k^2 - \frac{a''}{a}] h_{\pm} = \frac{2Q}{M_{Pl}} \mathcal{H}^2 \Pi_{\pm}[B_{\pm}]$$

- Gravitational waves have two uncorrelated terms



$$h_{\pm} = \underbrace{h_{\pm}^{vac}}_{\substack{\text{Vacuum} \\ \text{GWs} \\ \text{unpolarized} \\ h_{+}^{vac} = h_{-}^{vac}}} + \underbrace{h_{\pm}^s}_{\substack{\text{Sourced by} \\ B_{\pm} \\ \text{Polarized} \\ h_{+}^s \neq h_{-}^s}}$$



- i) Tensor power spectrum is not entirely specified by the **scale of inflation**,
- ii) The tensor power spectrum is partially chiral and **parity odd correlations**  
 $\langle TB \rangle$  and  $\langle EB \rangle$  are non-zero, &
- iii) Non-Gaussian Primordial GWs!



- **Gravitational waves** have two uncorrelated terms:

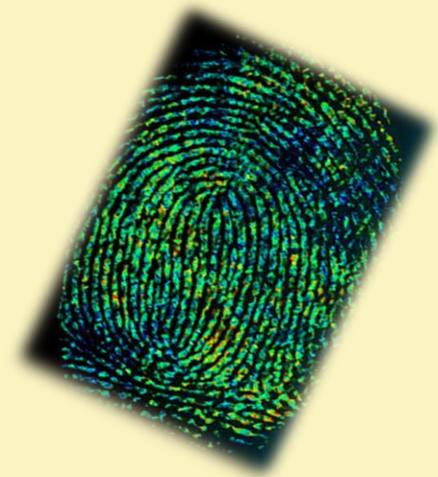
$$h_{\pm} = \underbrace{h_{\pm}^{vac}}_{\text{Vacuum}} + \underbrace{h_{\pm}^S}_{\text{Sourced by } B_{\pm}}$$

- The ratio of the power spectrum of **sourced** to **vacuum** is

$$\frac{P_T^S}{P_T^{vac}} \approx \left(\frac{Q}{M_{Pl}}\right)^2 \times \left(\frac{n_B}{H^3}\right)$$



- i) Tensor power spectrum is not entirely specified by the **scale of inflation**,
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 $\langle TB \rangle$  and  $\langle EB \rangle$  are non-zero, &
- iii) Non-Gaussian Primordial GWs!



**Backreaction of New Spin-2** puts constraints on ratio of the power spectra of sourced to vacuum gravitational waves

A. M. and E. Komatsu, 2018

$$\frac{P_T^S}{P_T^{vac}} \approx \left(\frac{Q}{M_{Pl}}\right)^2 \times \left(\frac{n_B}{H^3}\right)$$

A. M. and E. Komatsu, 2018



# Novel Observable Signature: CMB

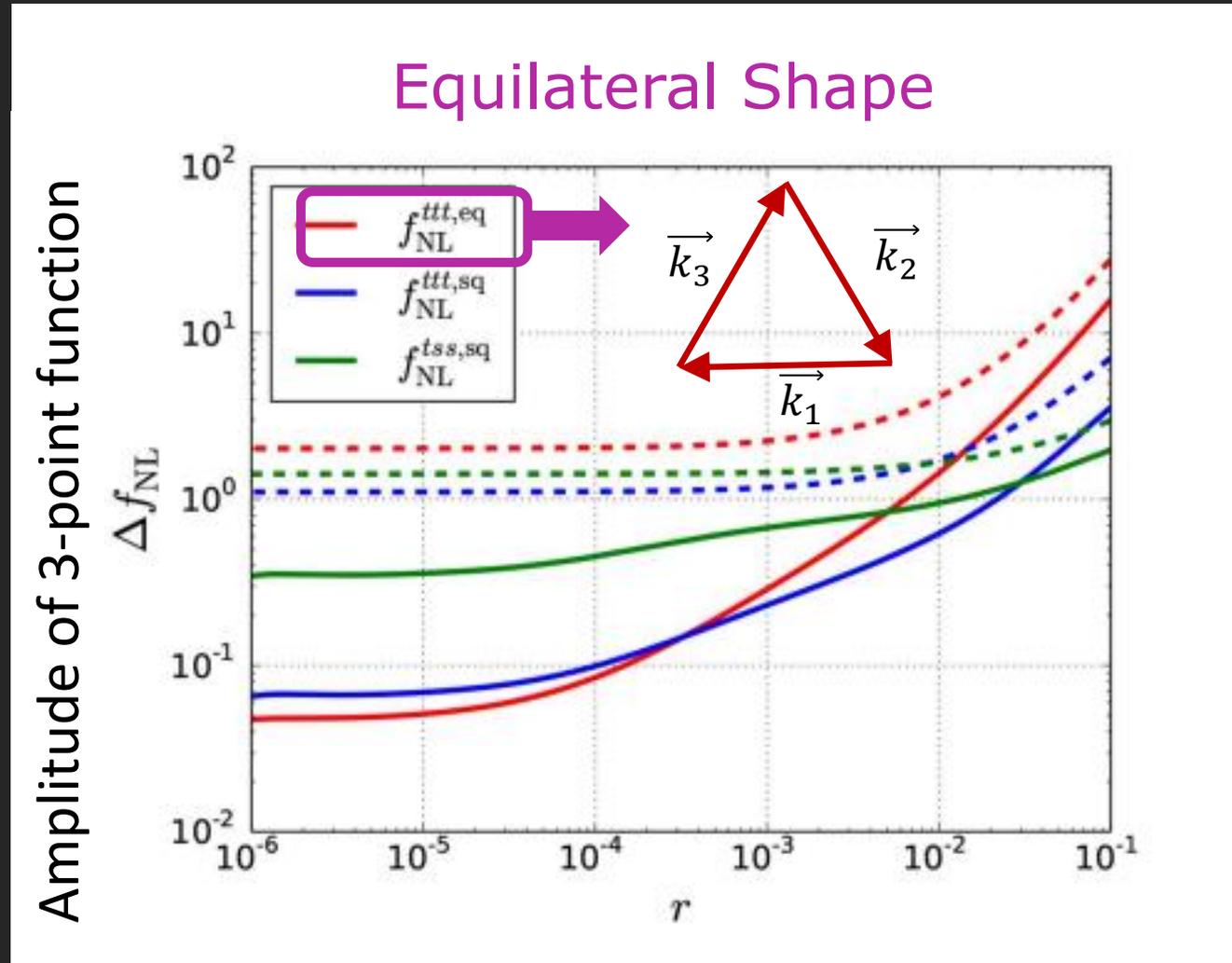
- The sourced tensor modes is Highly non-Gaussian.

Agrawal, Fujita, Komatsu 2018

- That can be probe with future CMB missions., e.g. *Litebird*

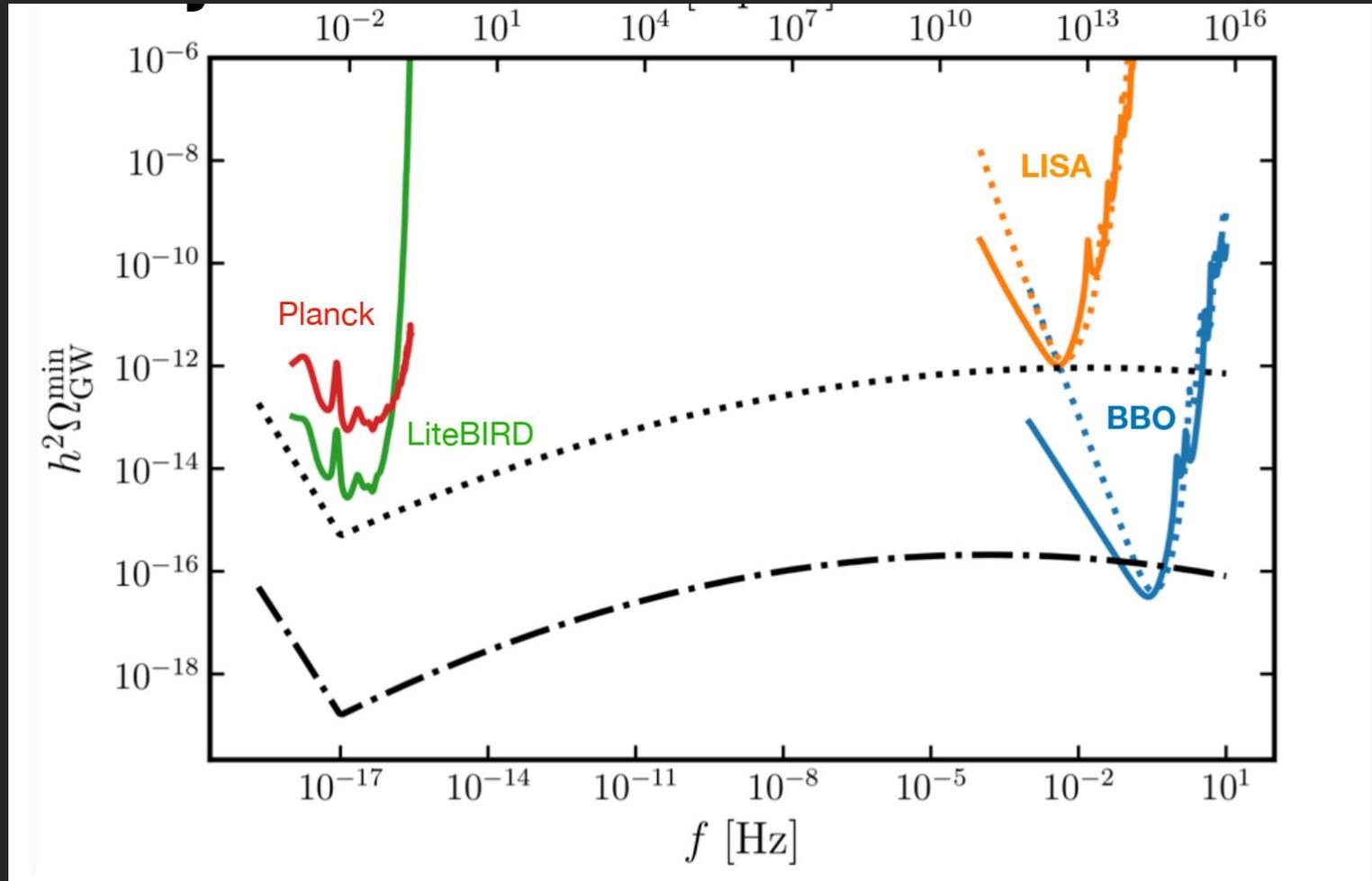


and *CMB-S4*!



# Novel Observable Signature: Beyond CMB

- Comparison of the sensitivity curves for **LiteBIRD**, **Planck**, **LISA** & **BBO**.



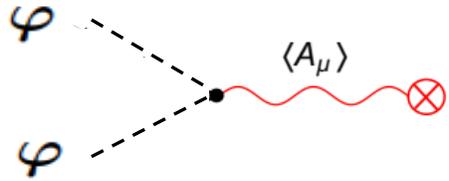
# Particle Production

1. Tensor Models
2. Dark Scalar
3. Dark Fermions



# Particle Production-scalar

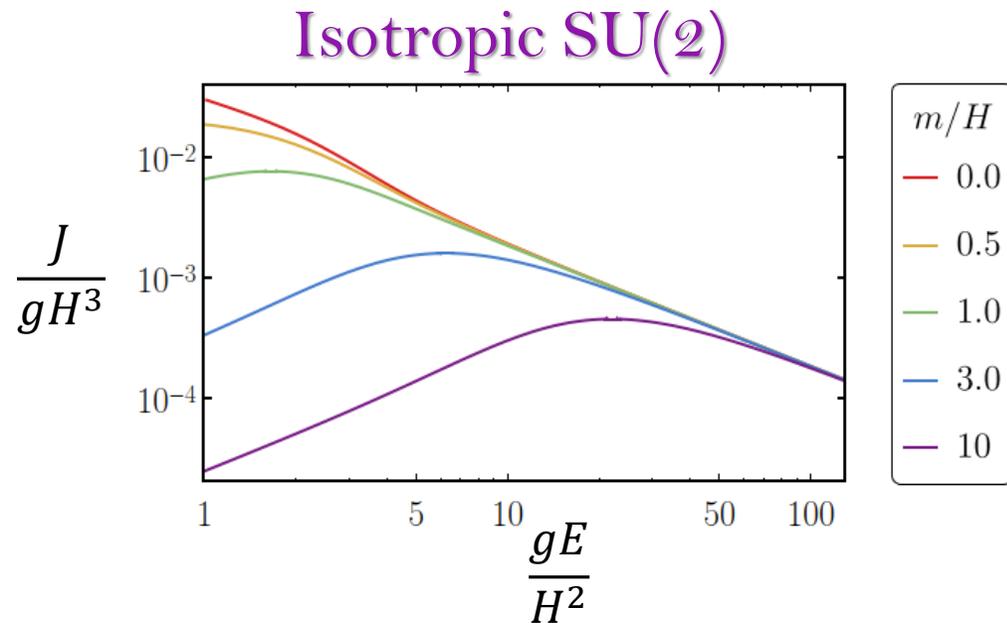
- Charged scalar fields coupled to the SU(2) gauge field BG



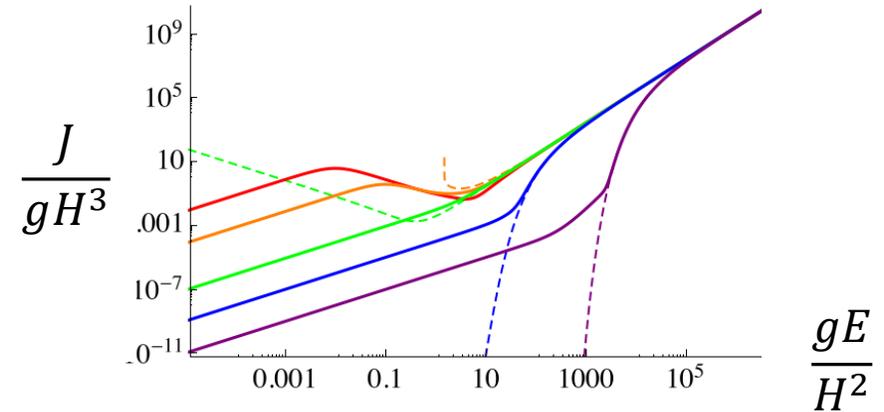
$$S_{\text{matter}} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ (\mathbf{D}_\mu \varphi)^\dagger \mathbf{D}^\mu \varphi - m^2 \varphi^\dagger \varphi \right]$$

$$\mathbf{D}_\mu \varphi = (\nabla_\mu + ig_A \mathbf{A}_\mu) \varphi$$

- The scalar field's induced current:

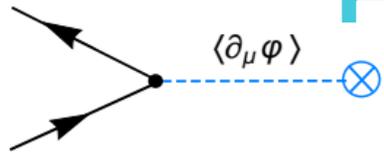


## Anisotropic U(1)

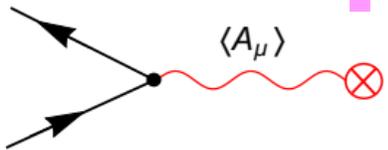


# Particle Production-Dark Fermion

Axion BG field



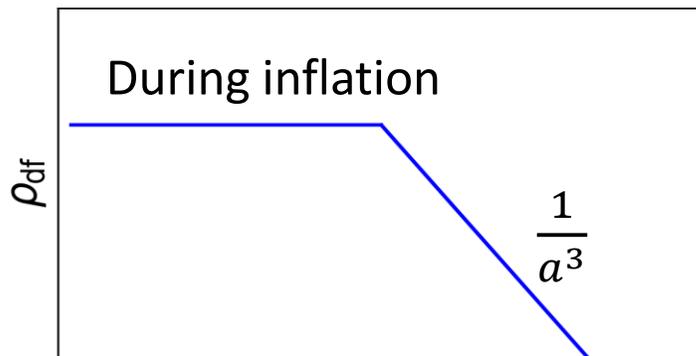
$$S_{\text{fermion}} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \underbrace{i\bar{\Psi} \not{D} \tilde{\Psi}} - m\bar{\Psi} \tilde{\Psi} + \beta \frac{\lambda \phi}{f} \nabla_\mu J_5^\mu \right]$$



$$\not{D} \equiv D_\mu \otimes \gamma^\mu = [\mathbf{I}_2 \nabla_\mu - ig_A A_\mu^a \mathbf{T}_a] \otimes \gamma^\mu$$

SU(2) gauge field BG

This vacuum **violates** both **P** & **CP**!



A. M JHEP 2020

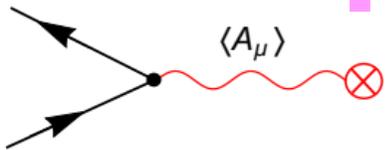
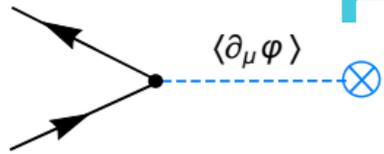
Fermions (massive and massless) are generated during inflation.

$$\nabla_\mu J_5^\mu = -\frac{2im}{a^3} \bar{\tilde{\Psi}} \gamma_5 \tilde{\Psi} + \frac{2g_A^2}{16\pi^2} F_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{F}_{a\mu\nu}$$

The efficiency of the process is proportional to the source of the CP breaking!

# Particle Production-Dark Fermion

Axion BG field



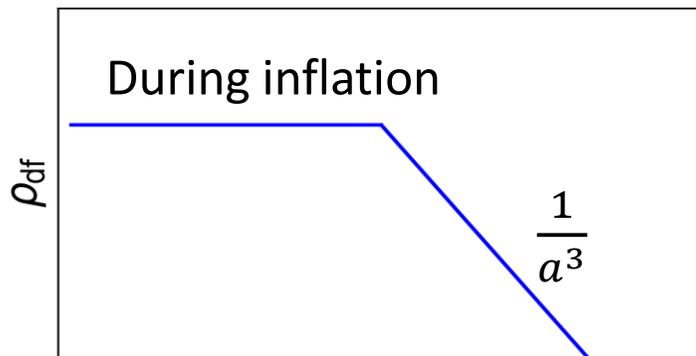
SU(2) gauge field BG

$$S_{\text{fermion}} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \underbrace{i\bar{\Psi} \not{D} \Psi}_{\text{red bracket}} - m\bar{\Psi}\Psi + \beta \frac{\lambda\phi}{f} \nabla_\mu J_5^\mu \right]$$

$$\not{D} \equiv D_\mu \otimes \gamma^\mu = [\mathbf{I}_2 \nabla_\mu - ig_A A_\mu^a \mathbf{T}_a] \otimes \gamma^\mu$$

This vacuum **violates** both **P** & **CP**!

Massive Dirac fermions are generated during inflation.



A. M arXiv:1909.11545

A new non-thermal mechanism for generating massive (Dark) fermions!

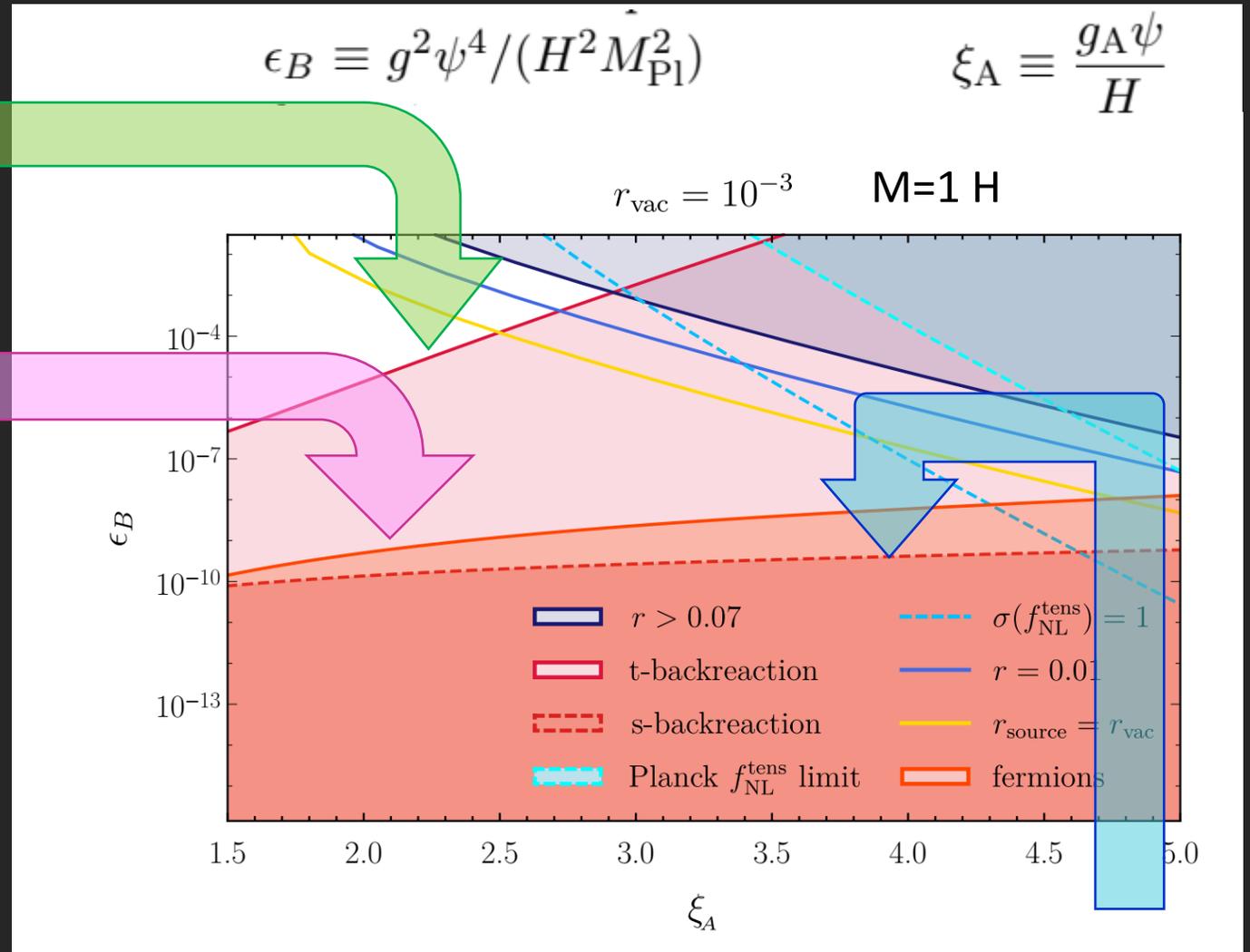
# Particle Production & Backreaction

The **spin-2** backreaction constraint

A.M. and Komatsu, 2018

The **Dirac fermion** backreaction for fermions with mass  $M=1$  H.

L. Mirzaghali, A.M. D. Lozanov, arXiv:1905.09258



The **scalar field** backreaction constraint.

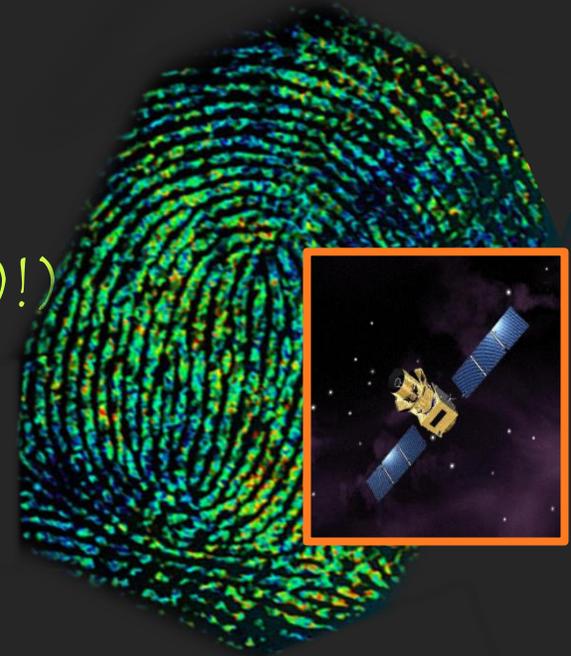
D. Lozanov, A.M., and Komatsu 2018

The background features a dark red gradient with several faint Feynman diagrams scattered across it. On the right side, there is a 3D red cube with a white grid pattern on its front face. The text 'Summary and Outlook' is centered in the lower half of the image.

# Summary and Outlook

- **SU(2)-axion models of inflation** enriches the Particle Cosmology.
- Spontaneous P & CP violation in Inflation.
- **Spin-2 particles:** *(The smoking gun for Primordial SU(2)!)*
  - 1) Gauge field includes a New chiral tensorial field
  - 2) It produces partially chiral and non-Gaussian GWs
- **Spin-1/2 particles:**

a new non-thermal mechanism for generating massive (Dark) fermions.



*Questions?!*

