

The background of the slide is a reproduction of the painting 'The Starry Night' by J.M.W. Turner. It depicts a night scene with a turbulent, swirling blue sky filled with bright, glowing yellow stars and a large, luminous crescent moon. In the foreground, a dark, silhouetted cypress tree stands on the left, and a small village with a prominent church spire is visible in the lower center. The overall style is characterized by visible brushstrokes and a rich, textured appearance.

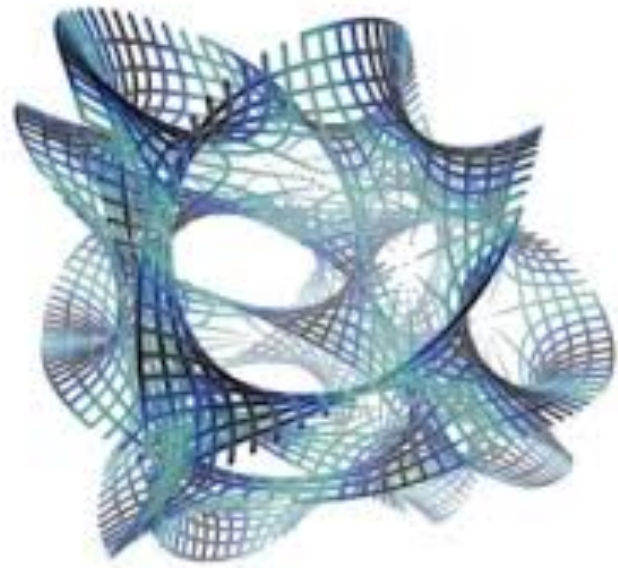
# Recent Developments in Primordial Cosmology

**Daniel Baumann**  
Cambridge University

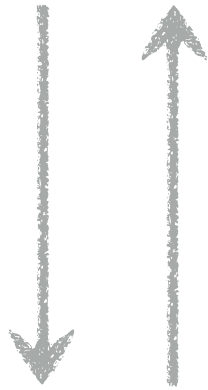
Bad Honnef, March 2015



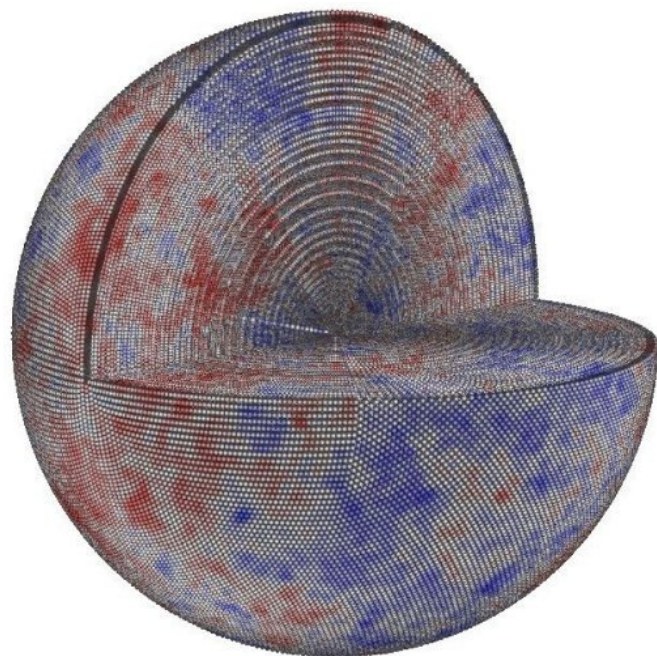
*ultraviolet completion*



**3.**



**2.**



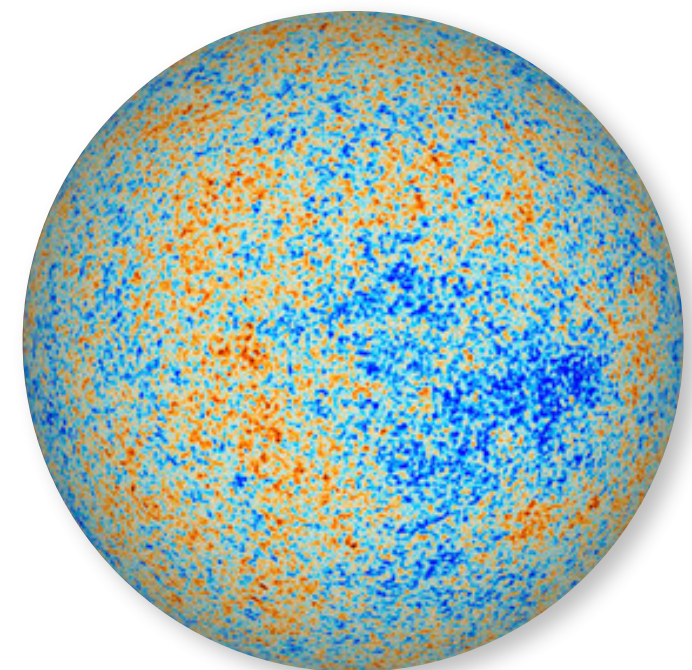
*primordial perturbations*

**1.**



# Outline

1. Recent Results from Planck
2. Inflation from the Bottom Up
3. Inflation from the Top Down
4. Conceptual Problems of Inflation



*CMB anisotropies*

# References

DB and McAllister, *Inflation and String Theory*, Cambridge University Press, 2015.

*Planck 2015. XX. Constraints on Inflation*, [arXiv:1502.02114]

*Planck 2015. XVII. Constraints on Primordial Non-Gaussianity*, [arXiv:1502.01592]

*Ade et al, A Joint Analysis of BICEP2/Keck Array and Planck Data*, [arXiv:1502.00612]

DB, Green, and Porto, *B-modes and the Nature of Inflation*, [arXiv:1407.2621]

DB, Green, Lee, and Porto, *Signs of Analyticity in Single-Field Inflation*, [arXiv:1502.07304]

DB and Green, *Signatures of Supersymmetry from the Early Universe*, [arXiv:1109.0292]

Assassi, DB, Green, and McAllister, *Planck-Suppressed Operators*, [arXiv:1304.5226]

Arkani-Hamed and Maldacena, *Cosmological Collider Physics*, [to appear]

**Please ask questions**



1.

# Recent Results from Planck

*Planck 2015. XX. Constraints on Inflation, [arXiv:1502.02114]*

*Planck 2015. XVII. Constraints on Primordial Non-Gaussianity, [arXiv:1502.01592]*



# Preliminaries



*The temperature anisotropies (and polarization) of the cosmic microwave background measure **distortions of space**:*

$\zeta$

scalar mode

$$d\ell^2 = a^2(t) \left[ 1 + \underline{2\zeta(t, \mathbf{x})} \right] \delta_{ij} dx^i dx^j$$

curvature perturbation

expansion  
of space

isotropic  
stretching

$h_{ij}$

tensor mode

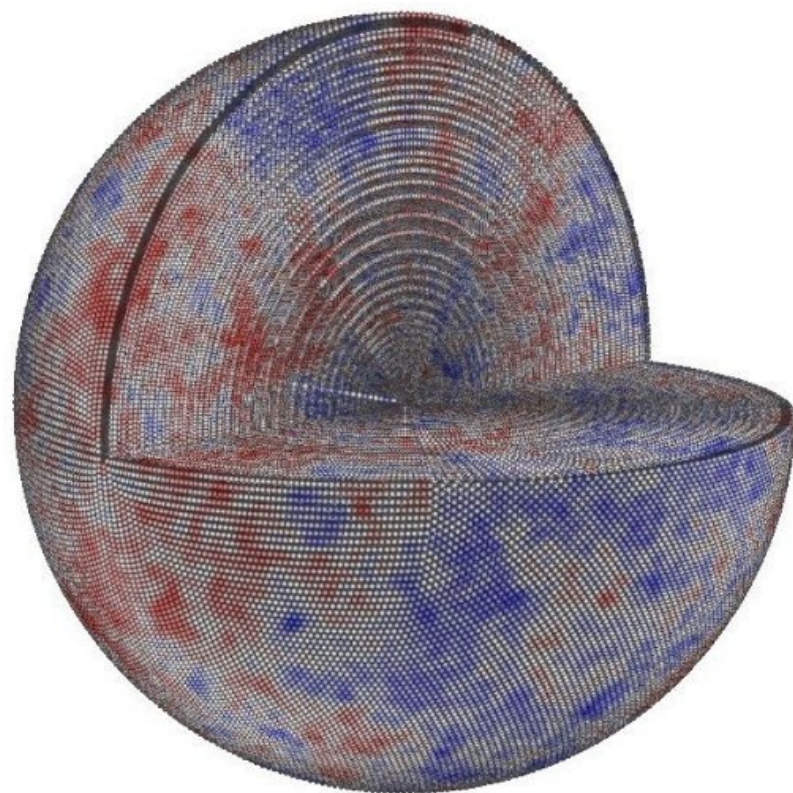
$$d\ell^2 = a^2(t) \left[ \delta_{ij} + \underline{h_{ij}(t, \mathbf{x})} \right] dx^i dx^j$$

gravitational waves

anisotropic  
stretching

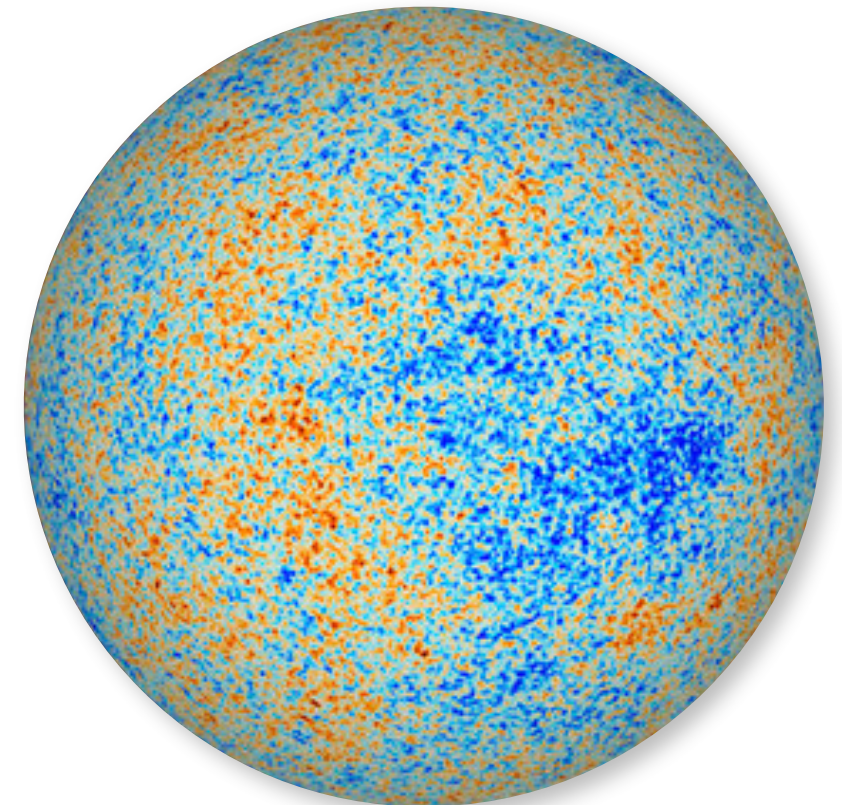


*These metric perturbations are small and can be traced back to their cosmic origin in perturbation theory:*



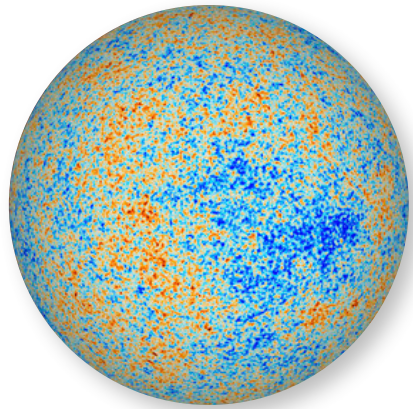
primordial perturbations

←→  
transfer function



CMB anisotropies

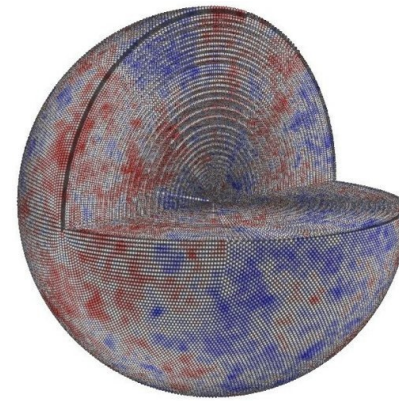
*All cosmological observables are (computable) remappings of the primordial perturbations.*



$$C_\ell = \int \frac{dk}{k} \Delta_\ell^2(k) P(k)$$




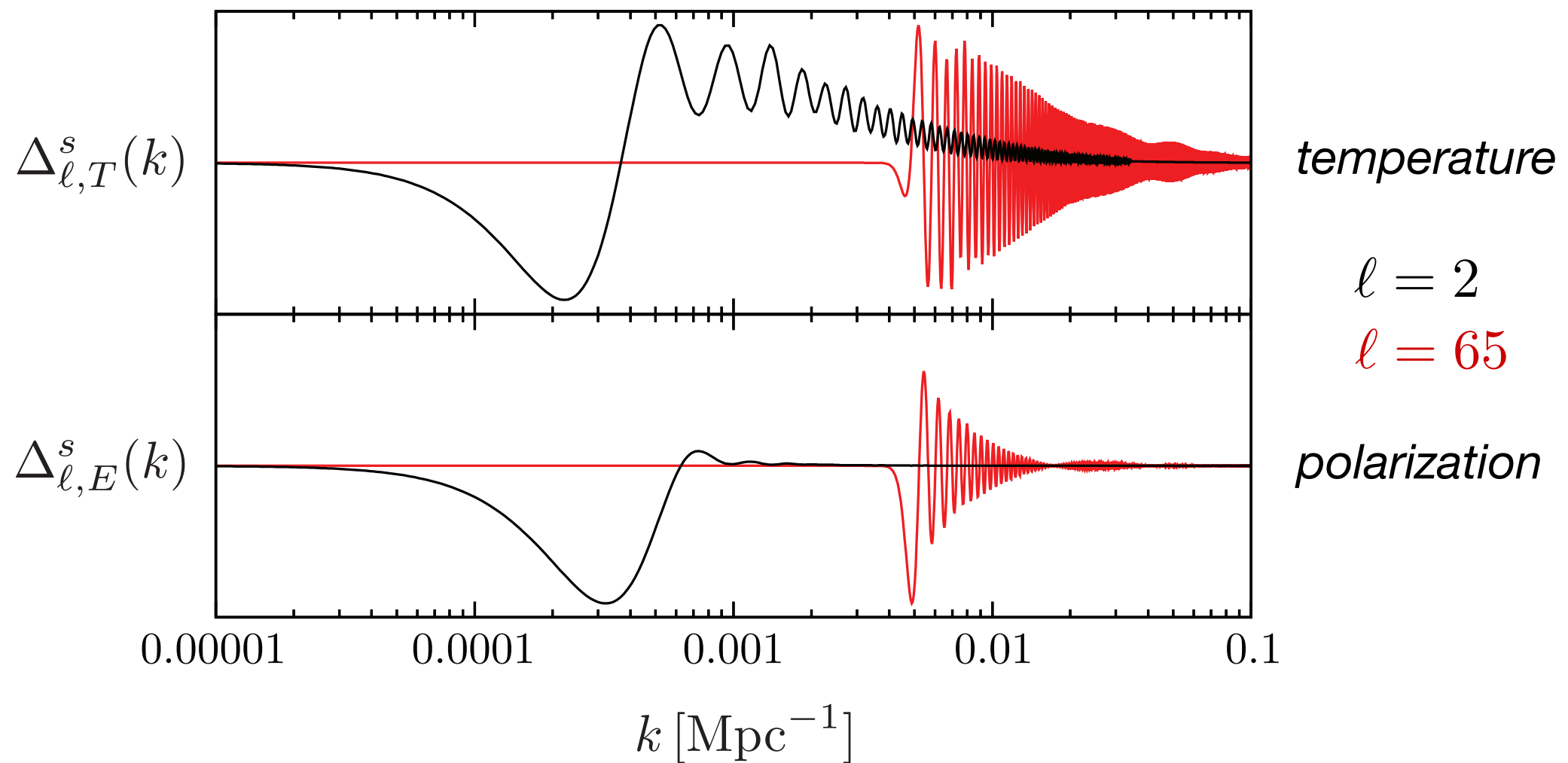
transfer function  
= evolution  $\times$  projection

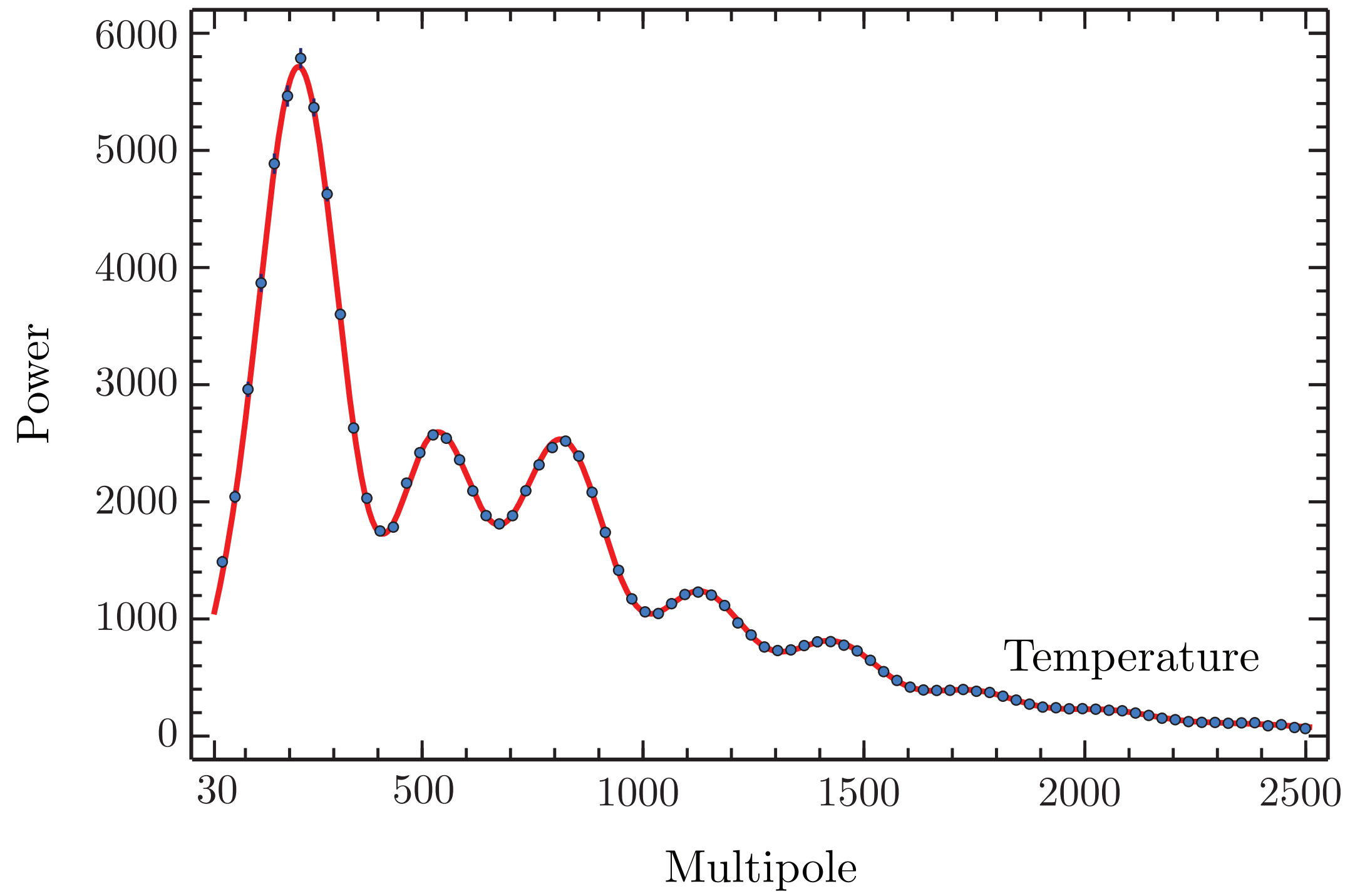




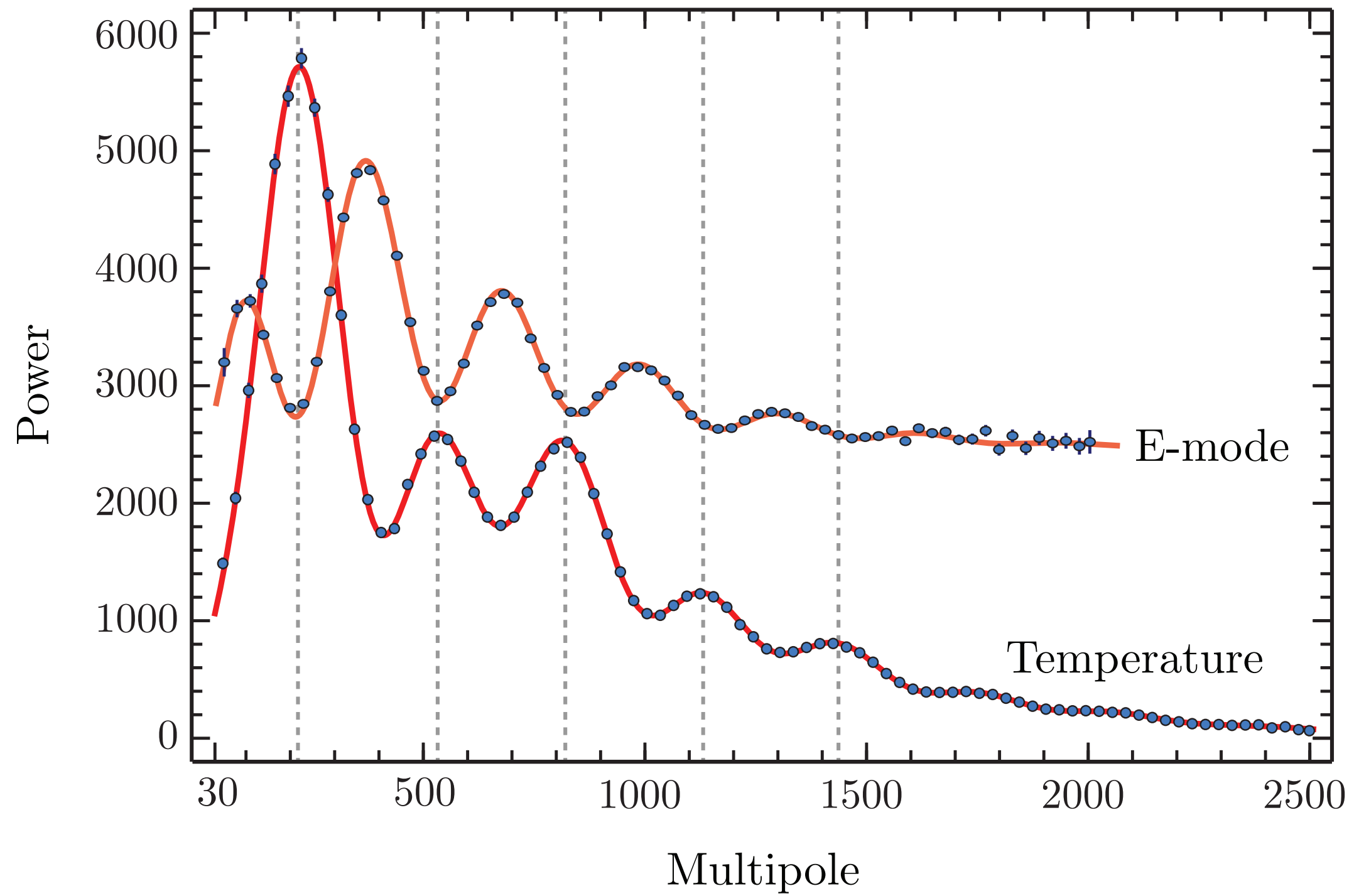
$$C_{\ell}^{XY} = \int \frac{dk}{k} \Delta_{\ell,X}^s(k) \Delta_{\ell,Y}^s(k) P_{\mathcal{R}}(k)$$

 **curvature perturbations**




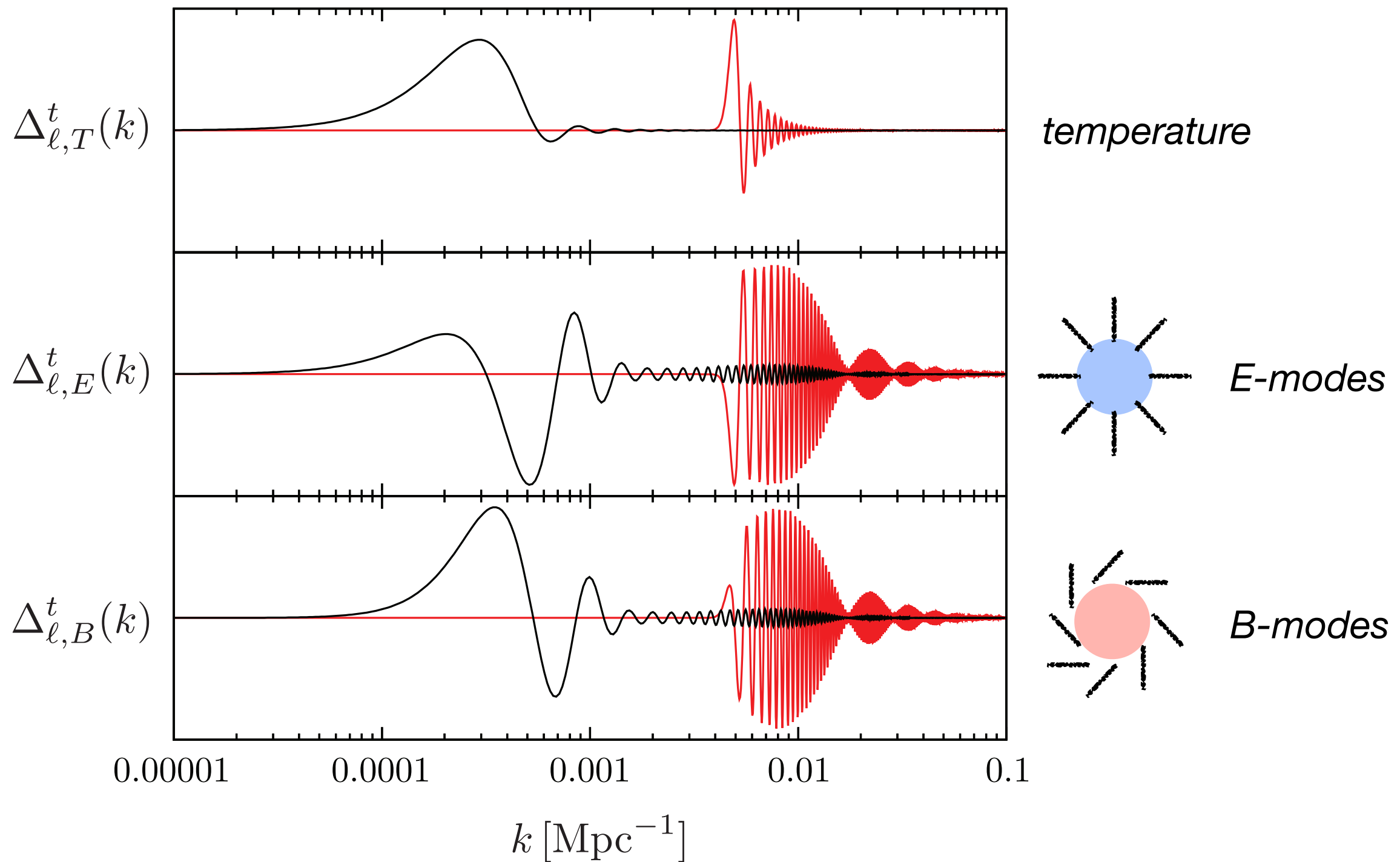




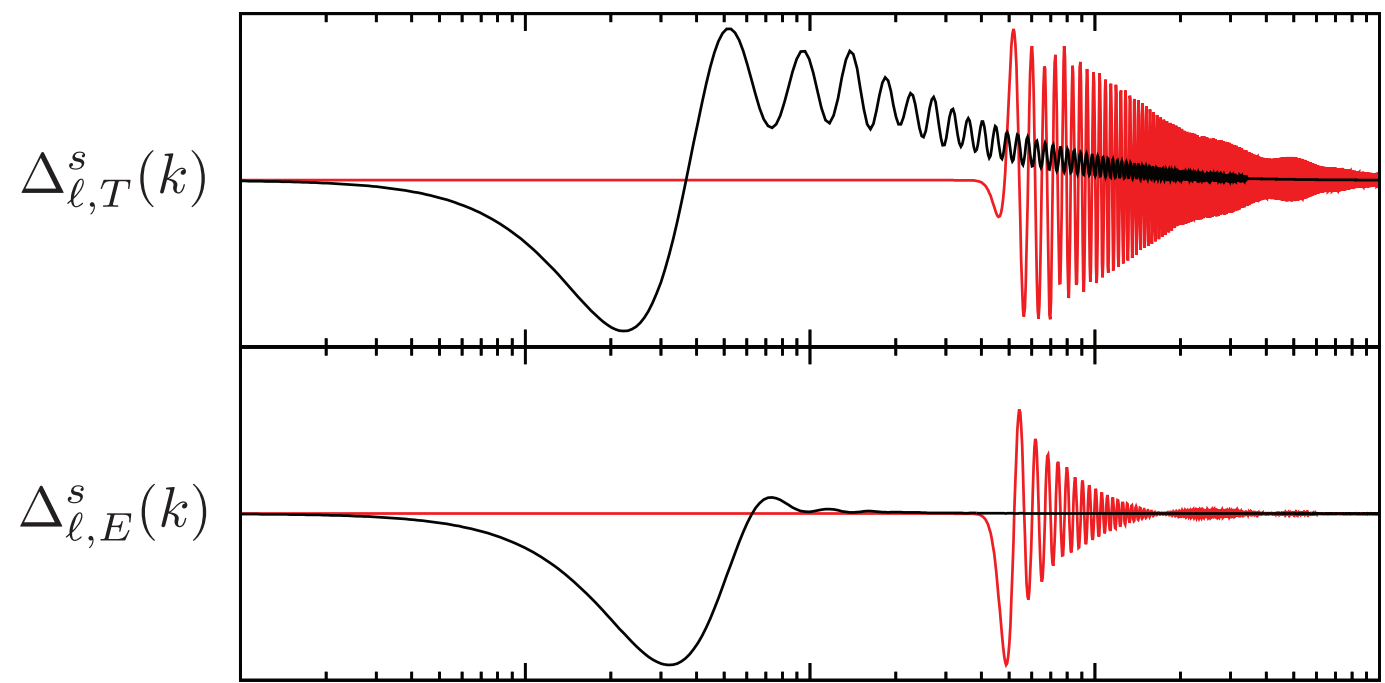


$$C_{\ell}^{XY} = \int \frac{dk}{k} \Delta_{\ell,X}^s(k) \Delta_{\ell,Y}^s(k) P_t(k)$$

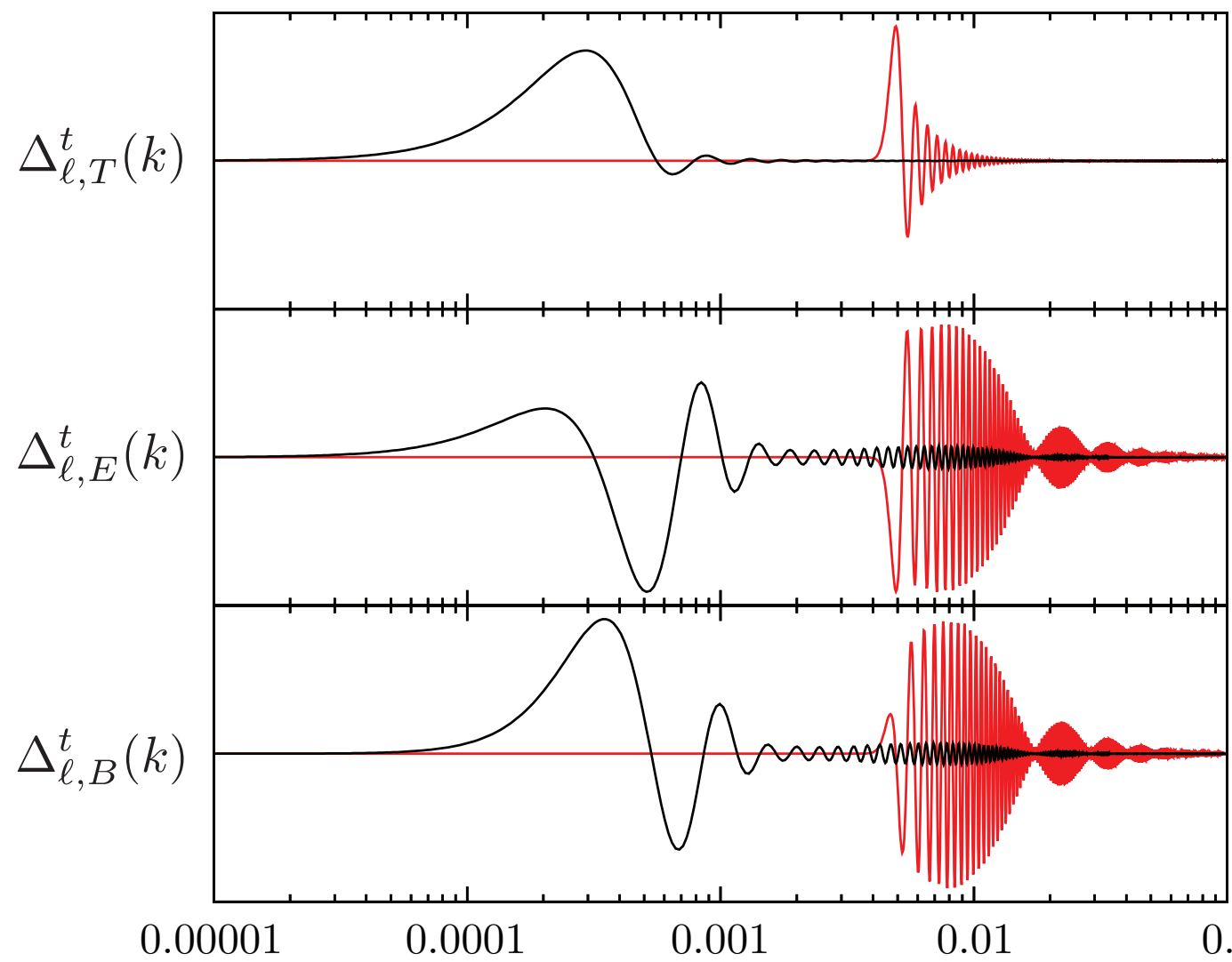

**gravitational waves**







**scalars**



**tensors**

$k$  [Mpc<sup>-1</sup>]

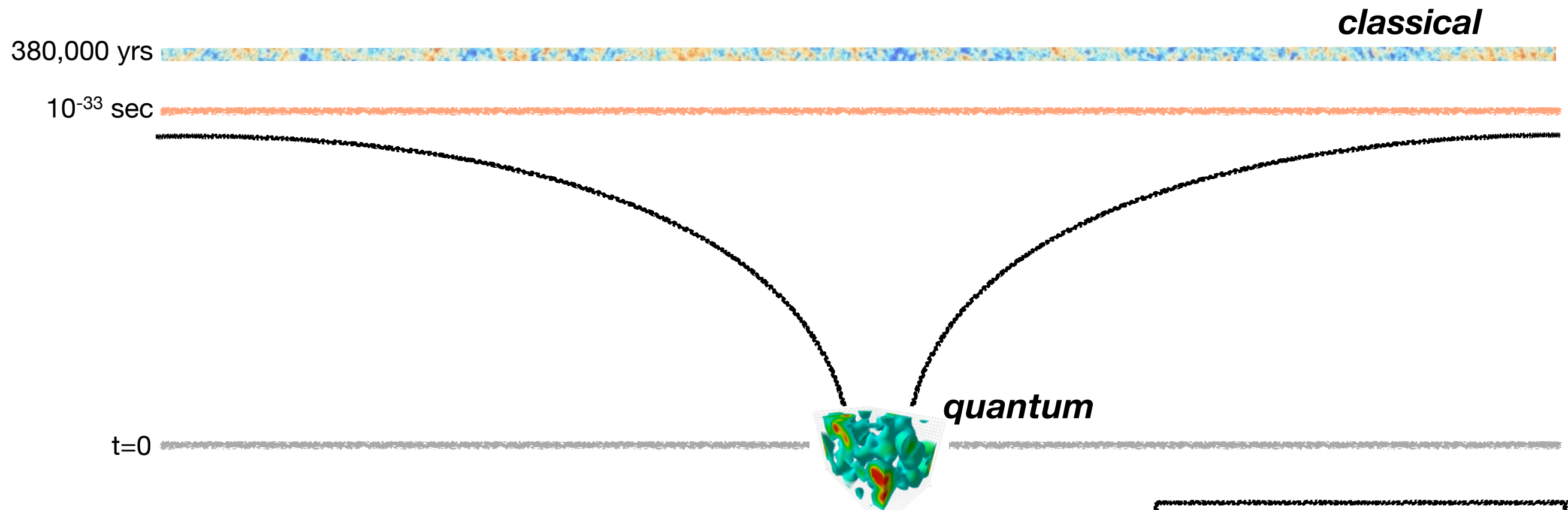
*Given that we understand the evolution so well, we can use the observations to probe the initial conditions.*



# **Constraints on Initial Conditions**

# Hypothesis

*The primordial perturbations originated from quantum fluctuations in a quasi-de Sitter background*



$$ds^2 = dt^2 - e^{2Ht} dx^2$$

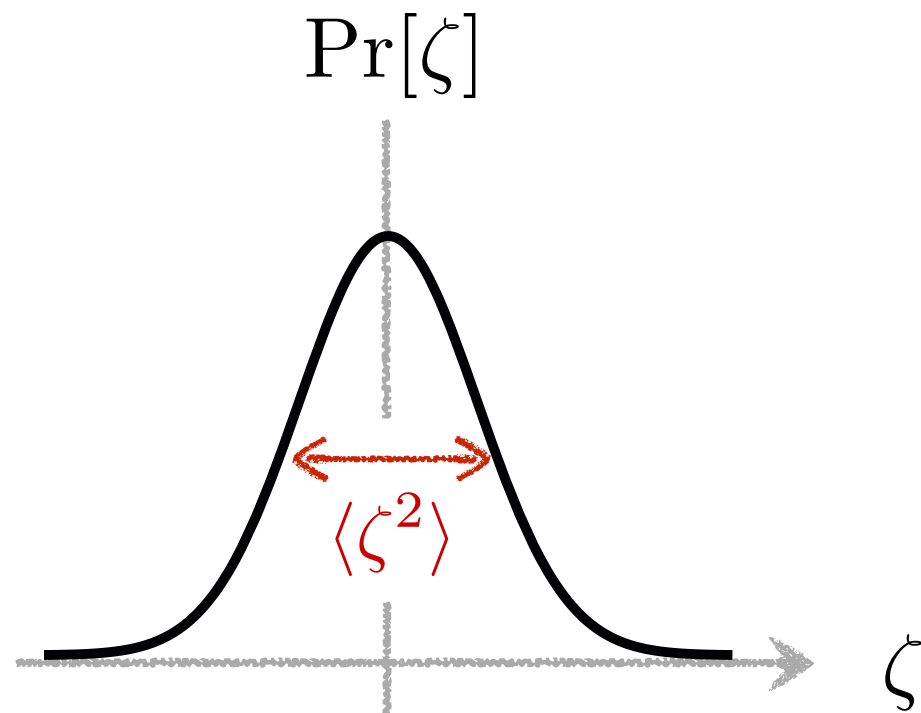
*exponential expansion*

*constant expansion rate*

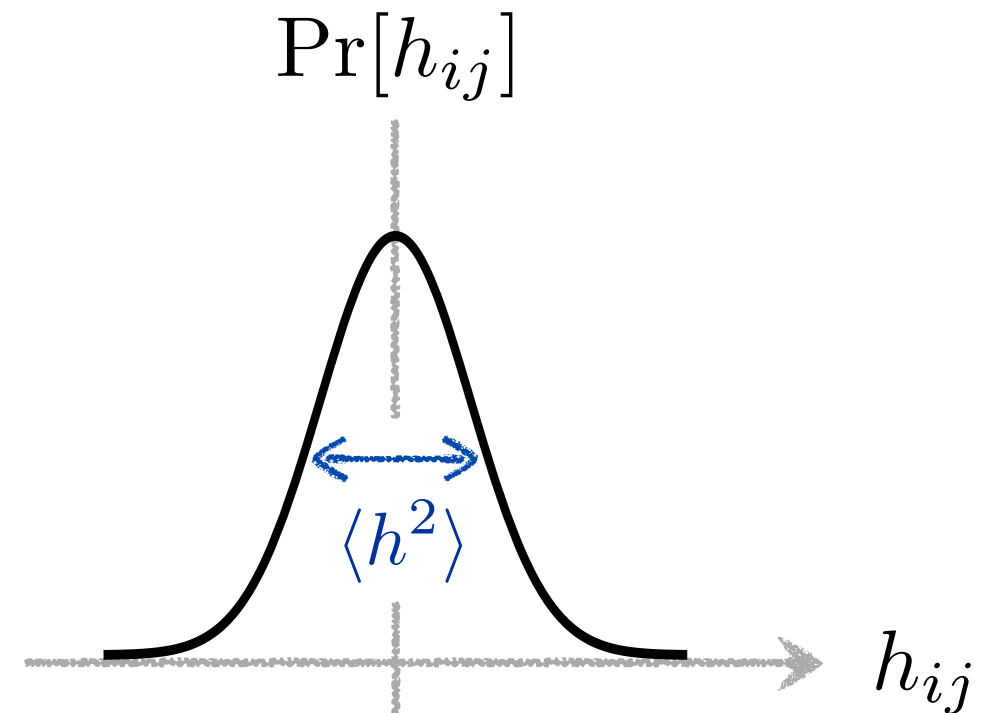
$$\epsilon_1 \equiv -\frac{\dot{H}}{H^2} \ll 1$$

# Predictions

- $\zeta$  and  $h_{ij}$  are drawn from nearly **Gaussian** distributions



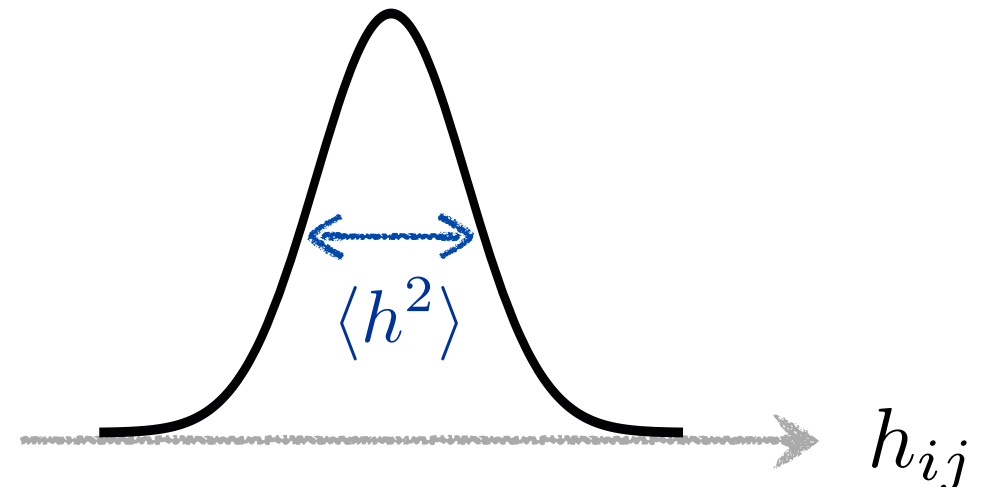
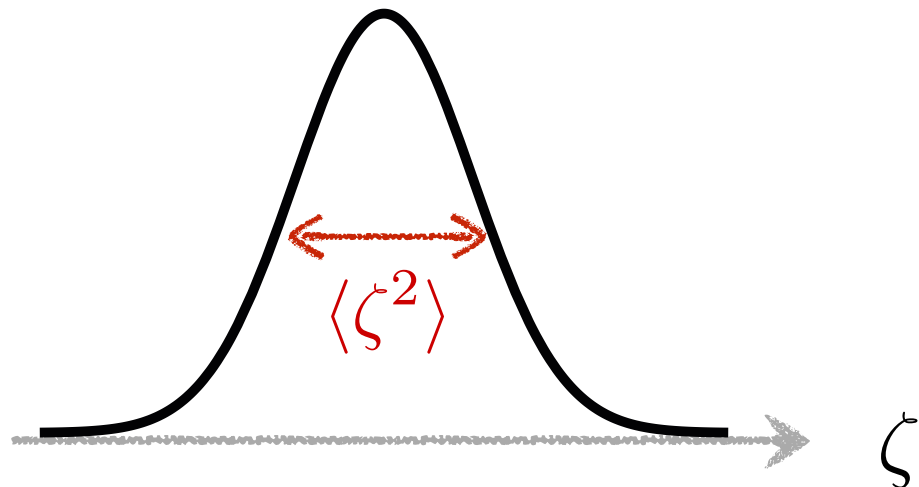
$$P_{\zeta}(k) \equiv \frac{k^3}{2\pi^2} \langle \zeta^2 \rangle$$



$$P_t(k) \equiv \frac{k^3}{2\pi^2} \langle h^2 \rangle$$

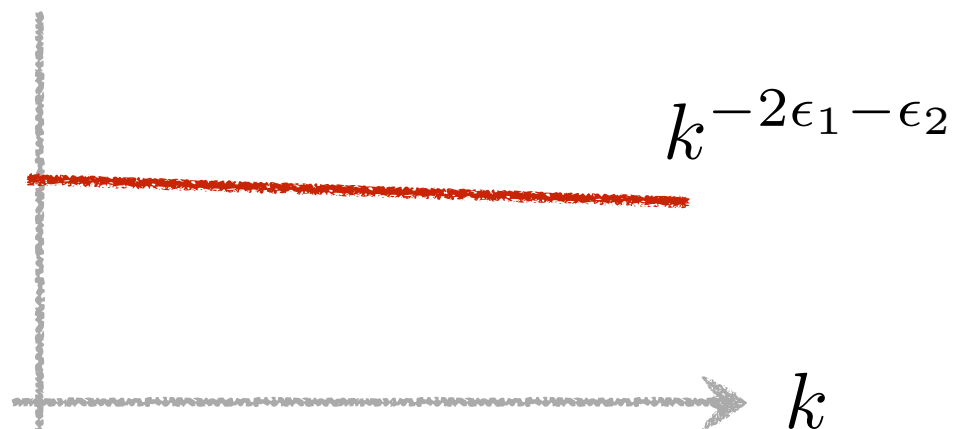
# Predictions

- $\zeta$  and  $h_{ij}$  are drawn from nearly **Gaussian** distributions.

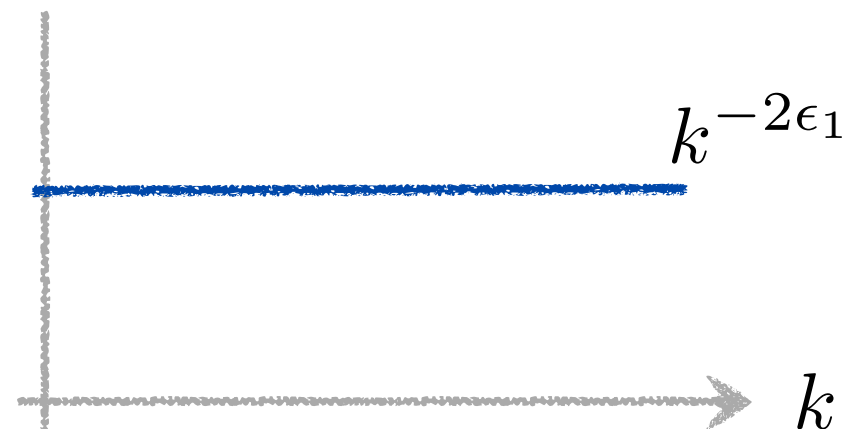


- The spectrum of fluctuations is nearly **scale-invariant**

$$P_\zeta(k)$$



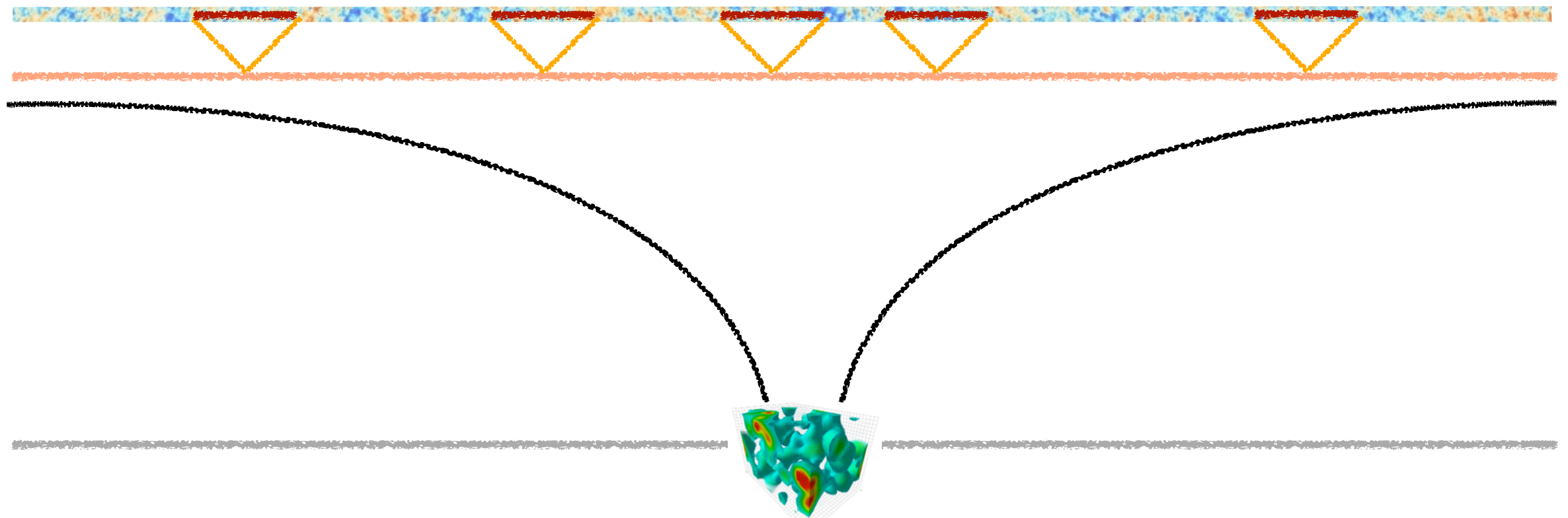
$$P_t(k)$$





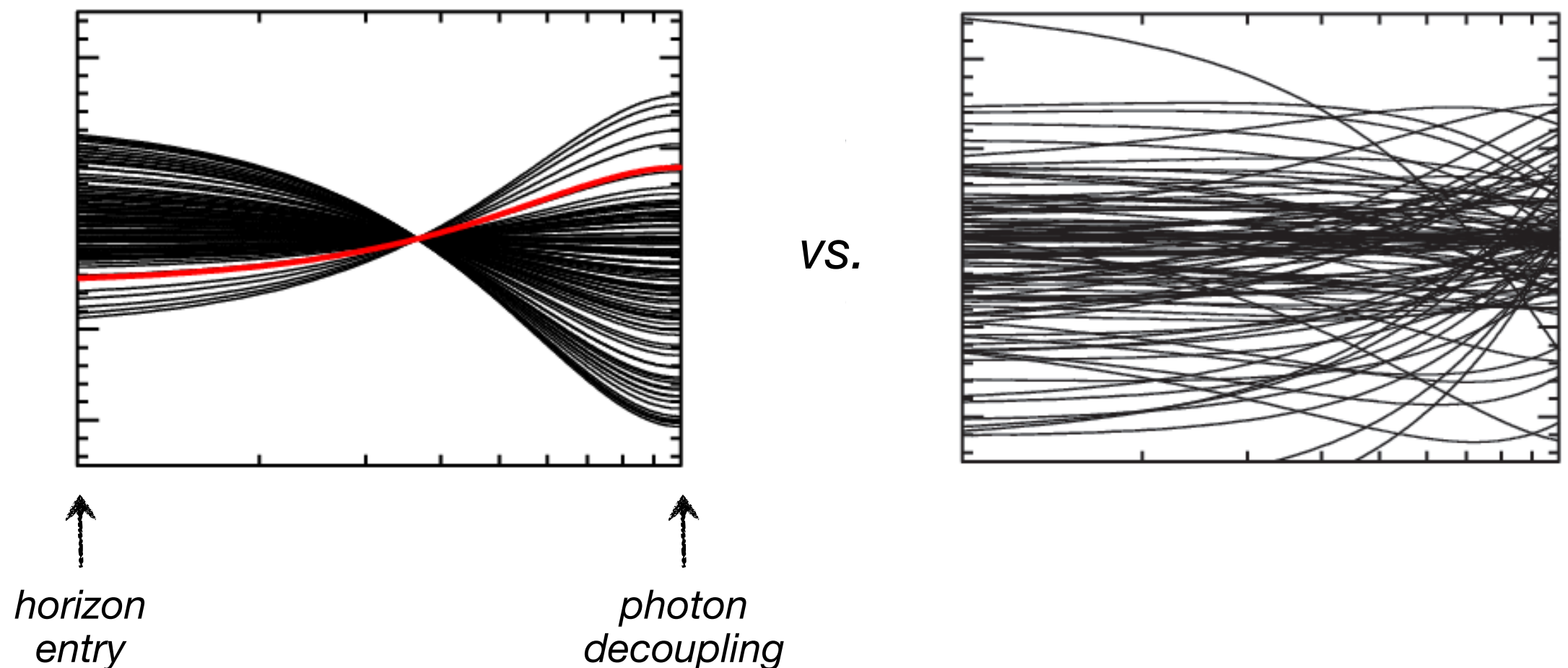
# Predictions

- ▶  $\zeta$  and  $h_{ij}$  are drawn from nearly **Gaussian** distributions.
- ▶ The spectrum of fluctuations is nearly **scale-invariant**.
- ▶ They span **superhorizon** scales at recombination



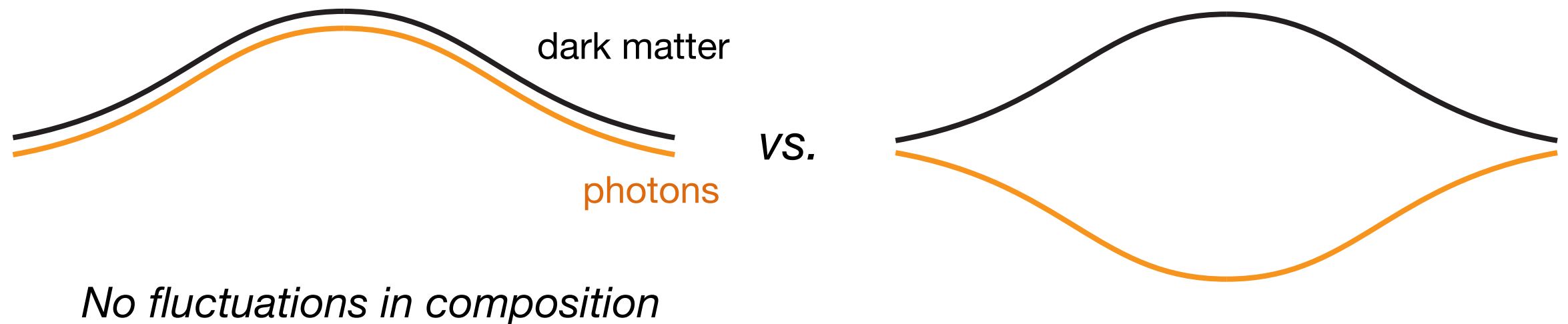
# Predictions

- ▶  $\zeta$  and  $h_{ij}$  are drawn from nearly **Gaussian** distributions.
- ▶ The spectrum of fluctuations is nearly **scale-invariant**.
- ▶ They span **superhorizon** scales at recombination.
- ▶ They have **coherent phases**



# Predictions

- ▶  $\zeta$  and  $h_{ij}$  are drawn from nearly **Gaussian** distributions.
- ▶ The spectrum of fluctuations is nearly **scale-invariant**.
- ▶ They span **superhorizon** scales at recombination.
- ▶ They have **coherent phases**.
- ▶ They are **adiabatic**

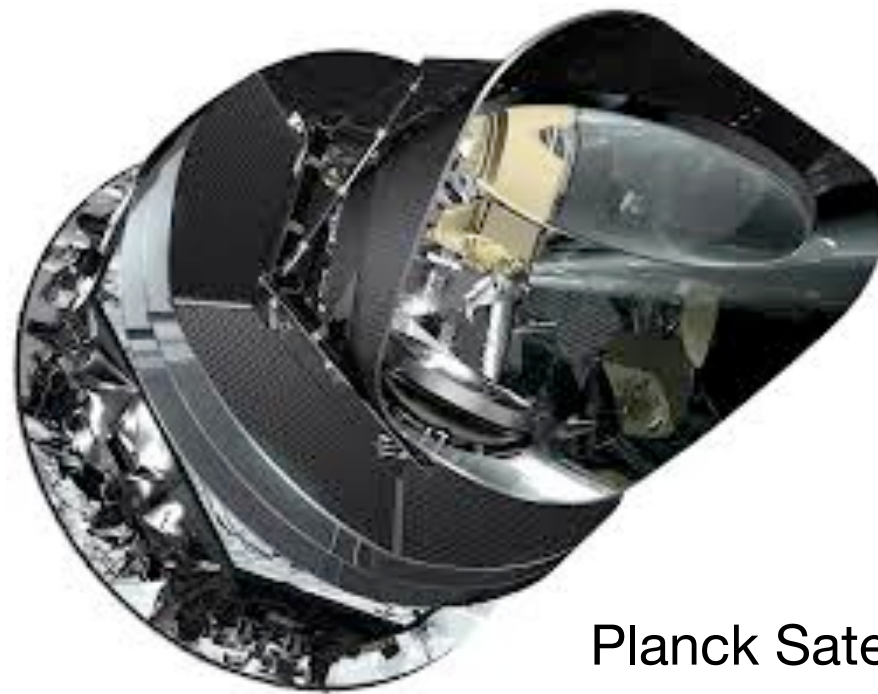


# Predictions

*The primordial perturbations are:*

- ▶ **Gaussian**
- ▶ **scale-invariant**
- ▶ **superhorizon**
- ▶ **coherent phases**
- ▶ **adiabatic**

*Let's check.*

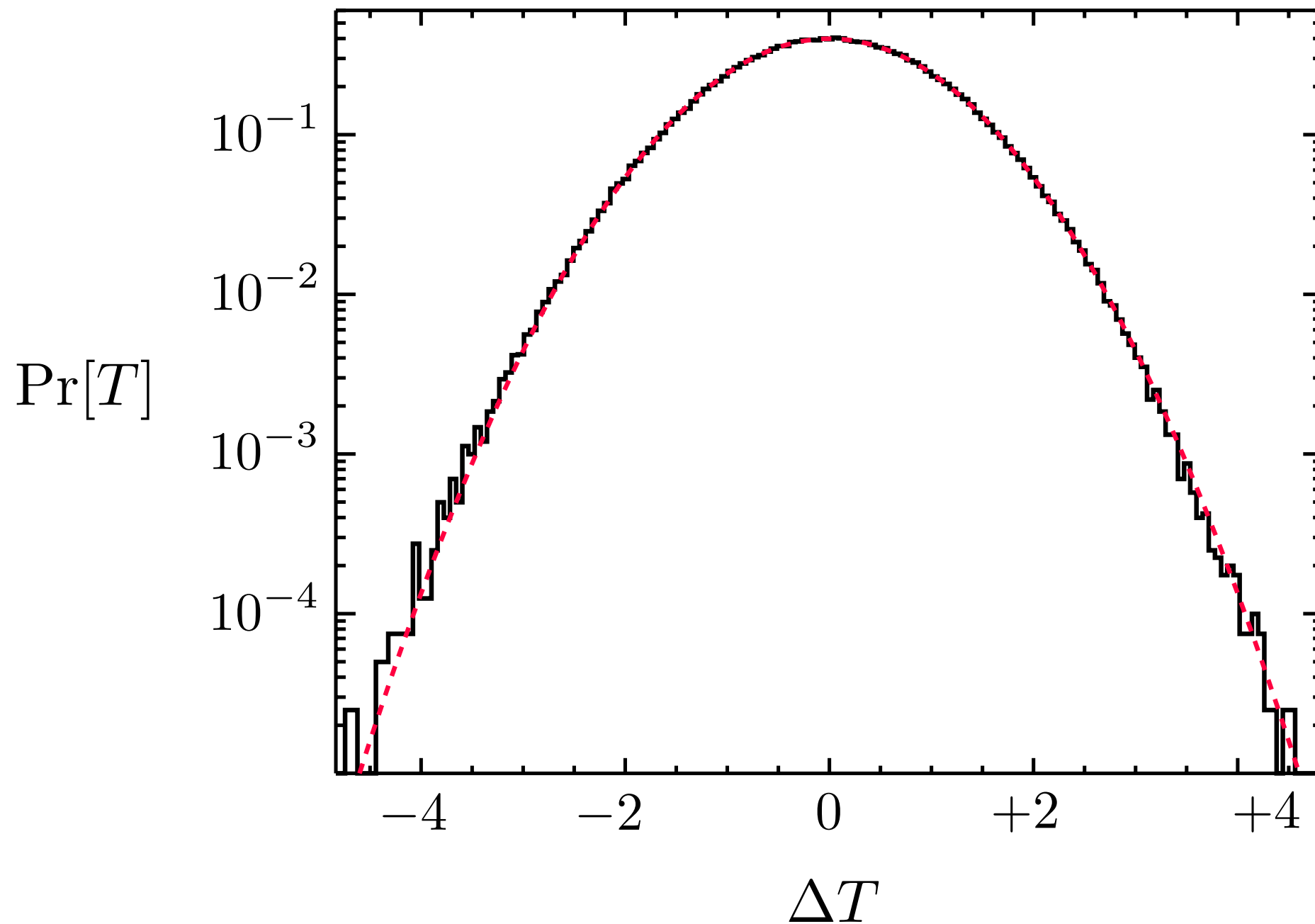


Planck Satellite



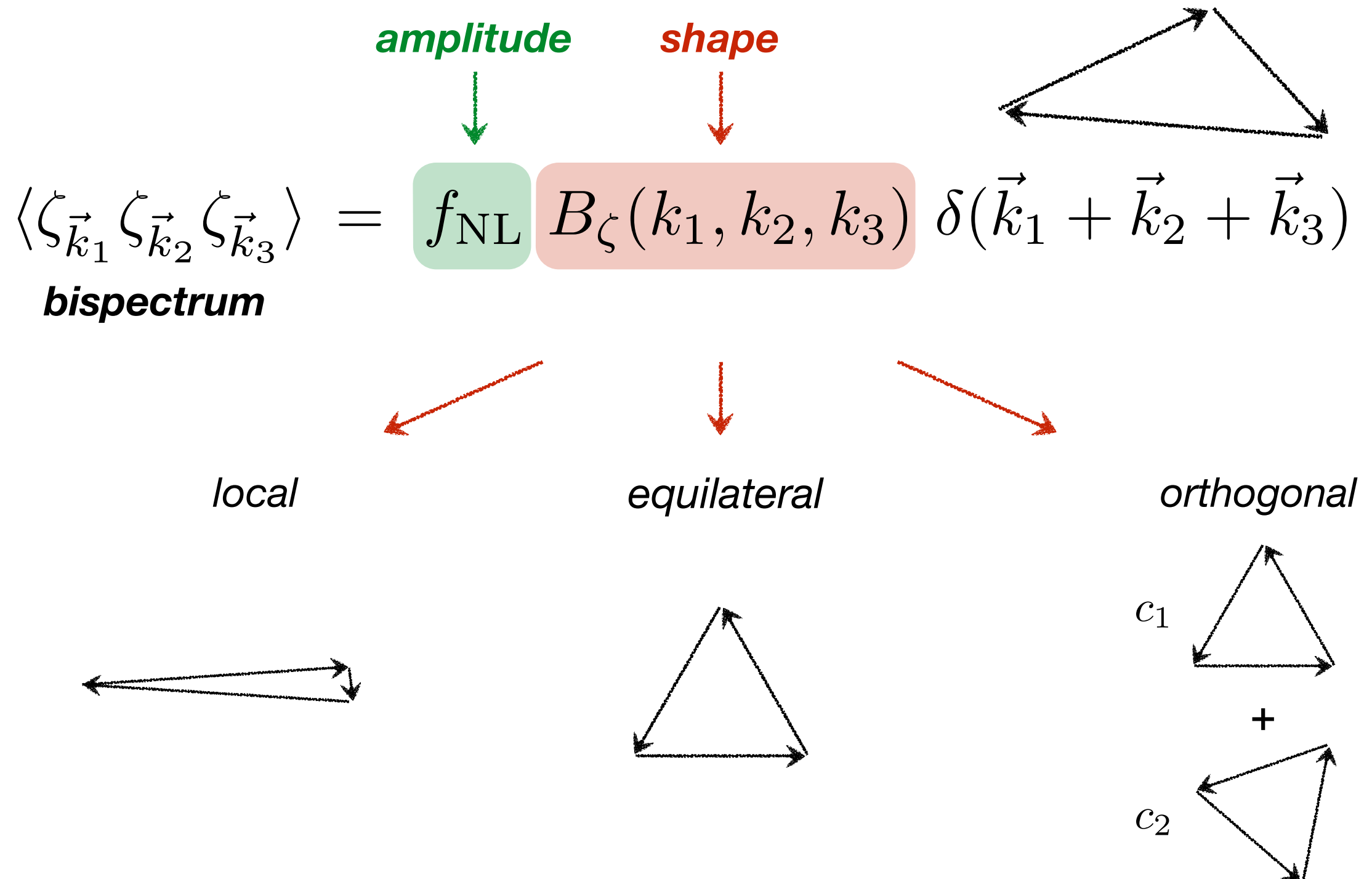
# Gaussian?

✓ *The one-point PDF doesn't show any deviations from Gaussianity:*



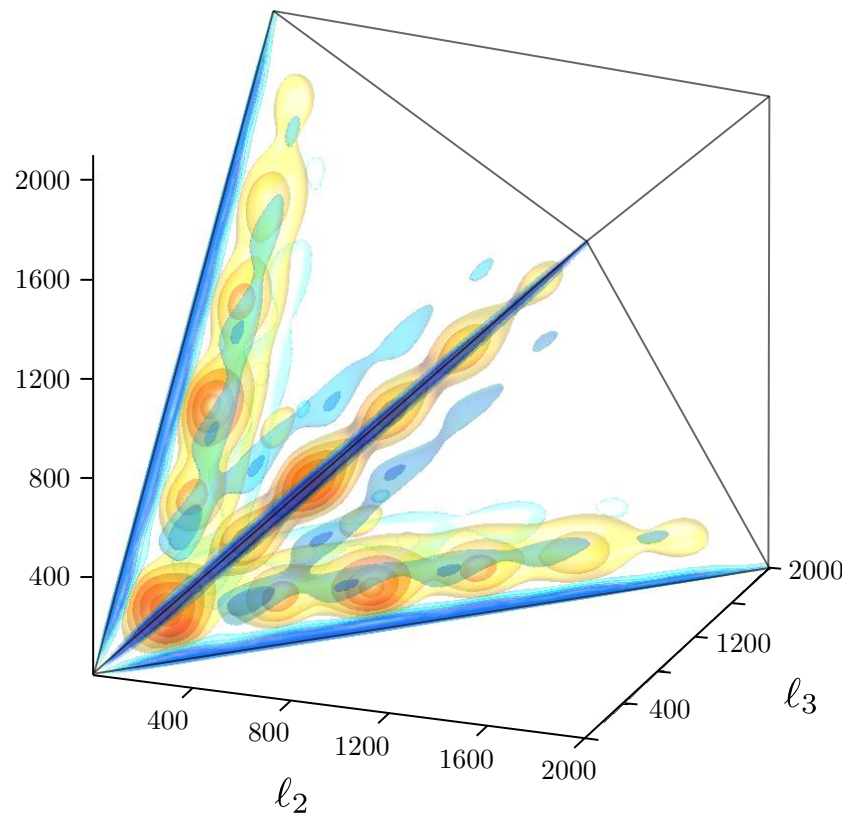
# Gaussian?

*To tease out small levels of non-Gaussianity, we need a template:*

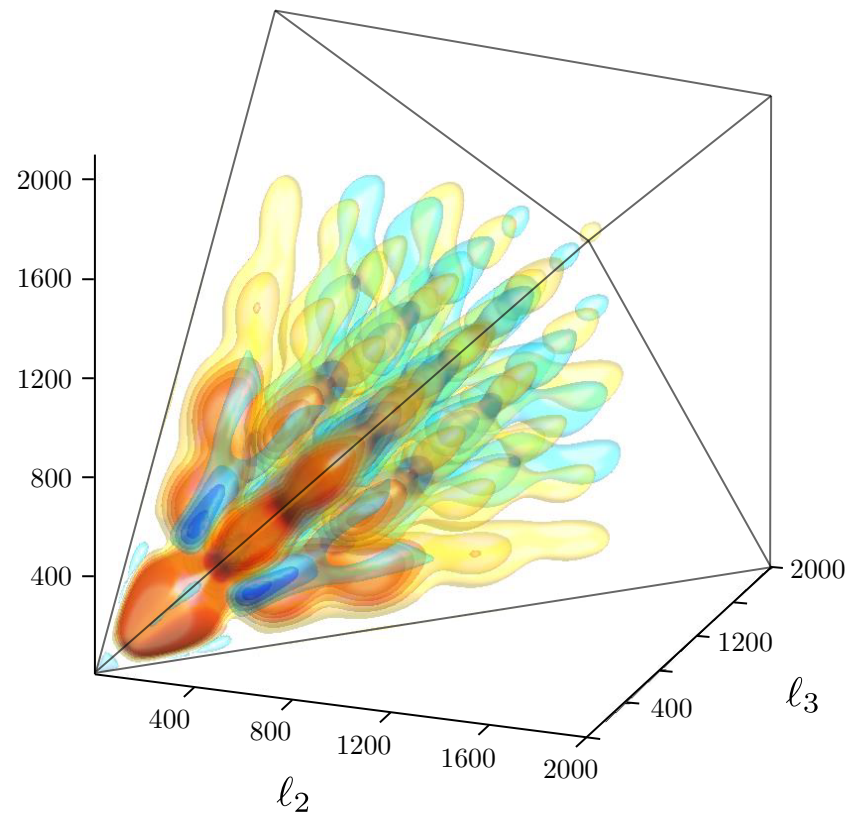


# Gaussian?

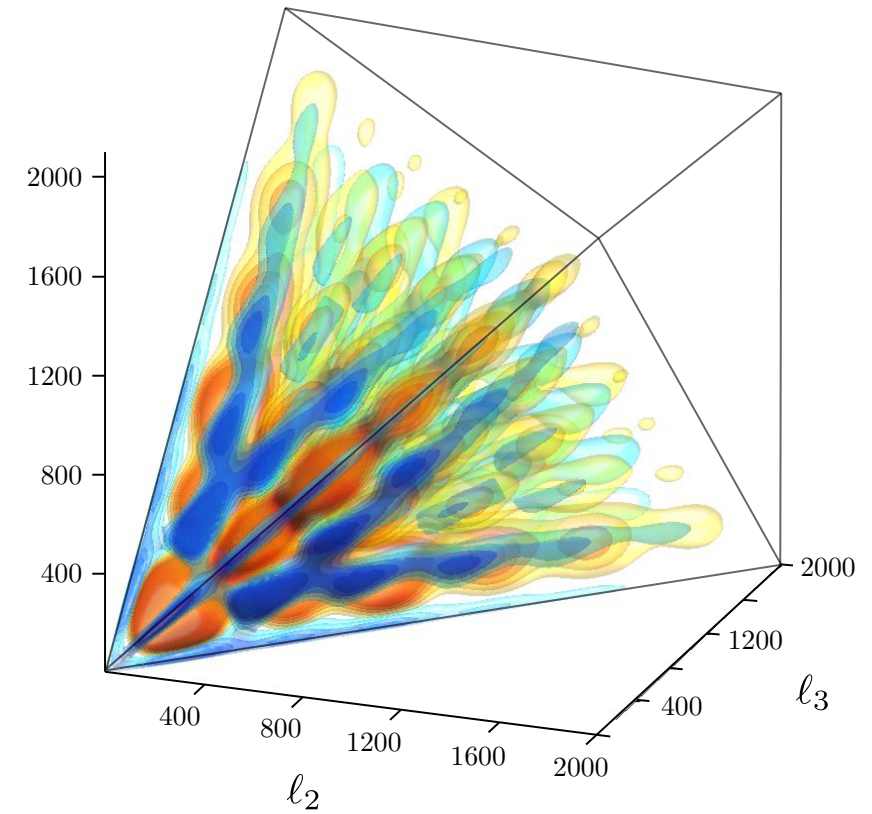
*local*



*equilateral*



*orthogonal*



---

Temperature only:

$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{local}} = 1.8 \pm 5.6$$

$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{equil}} = -9.2 \pm 69$$

$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{ortho}} = -20 \pm 33$$

---

With polarization:

$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{local}} = 0.7 \pm 5.1$$

$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{equil}} = -9.5 \pm 44$$

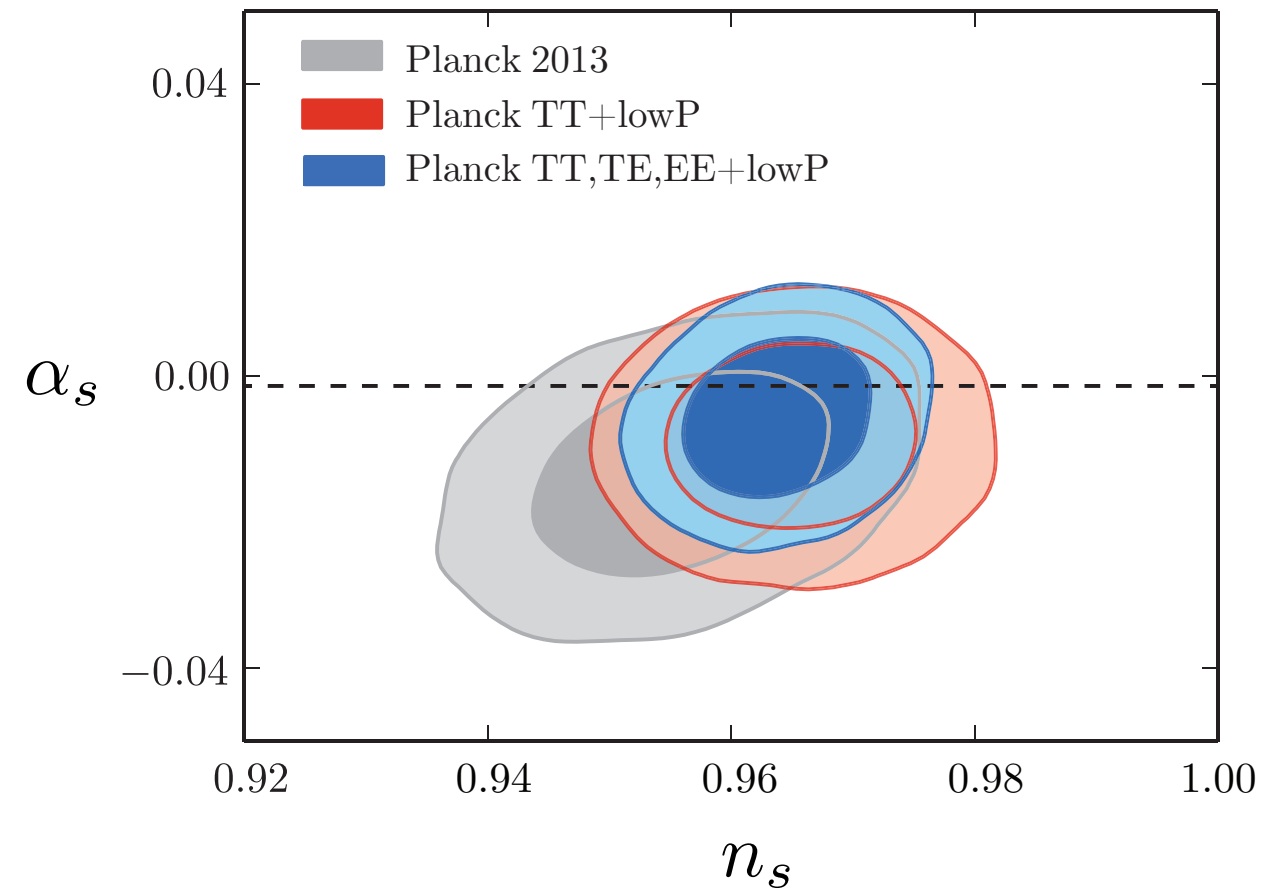
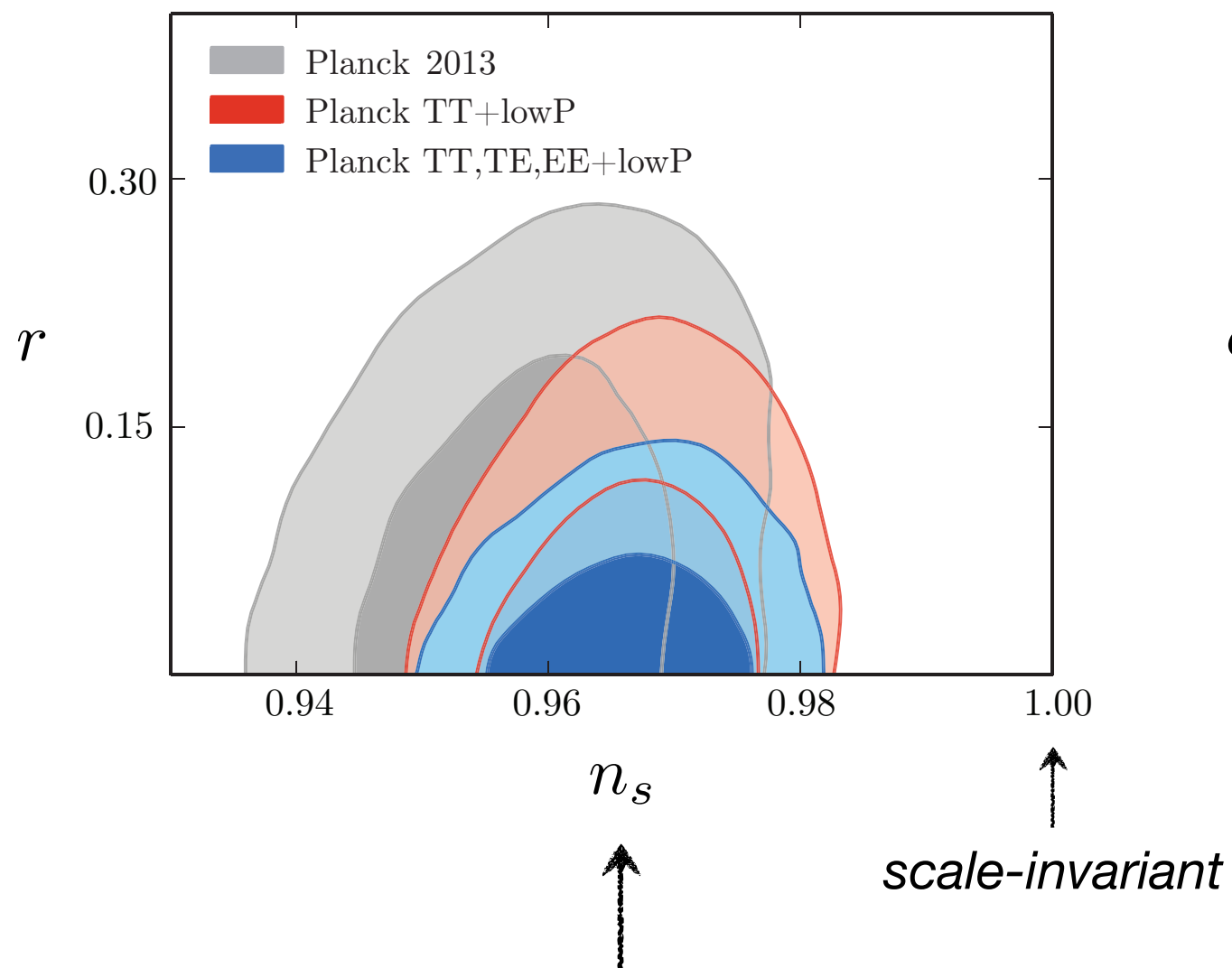
$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{ortho}} = -25 \pm 22$$

# Scale-Invariant?

$$n_s \equiv 1 + \frac{d \ln P_\zeta}{d \ln k} = 0.968 \pm 0.006$$

*no running*  
↓

$$\alpha_s \equiv \frac{dn_s}{d \ln k} = -0.003 \pm 0.007$$



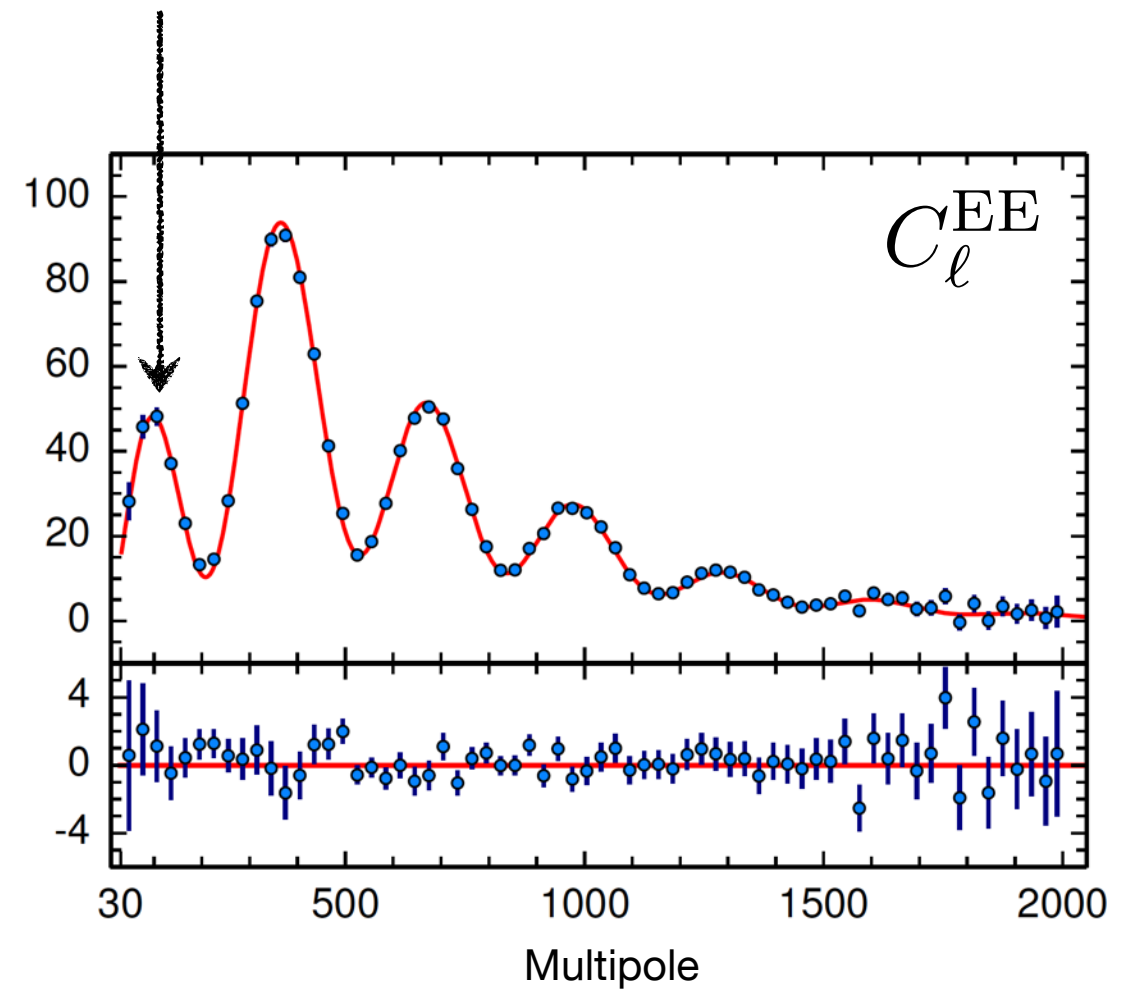
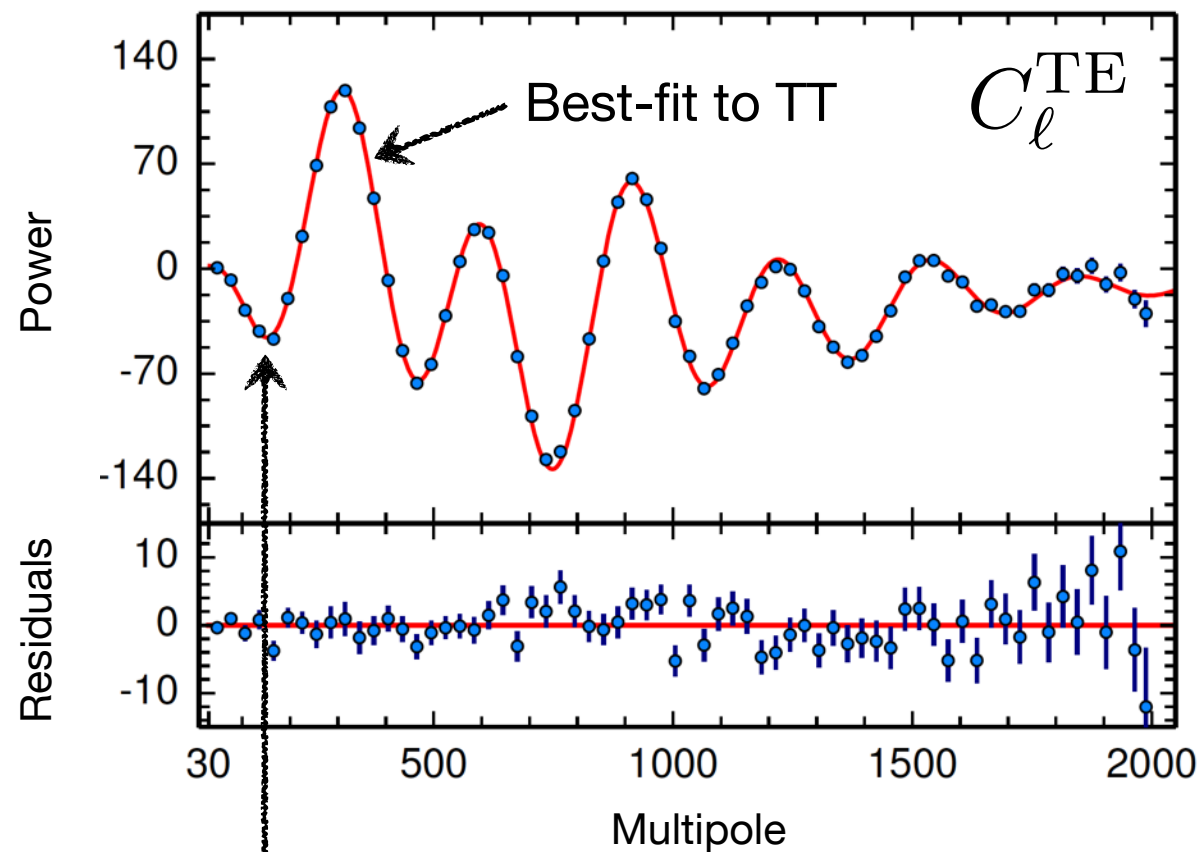
expected percent-level deviation



# Superhorizon and Coherent Phases?

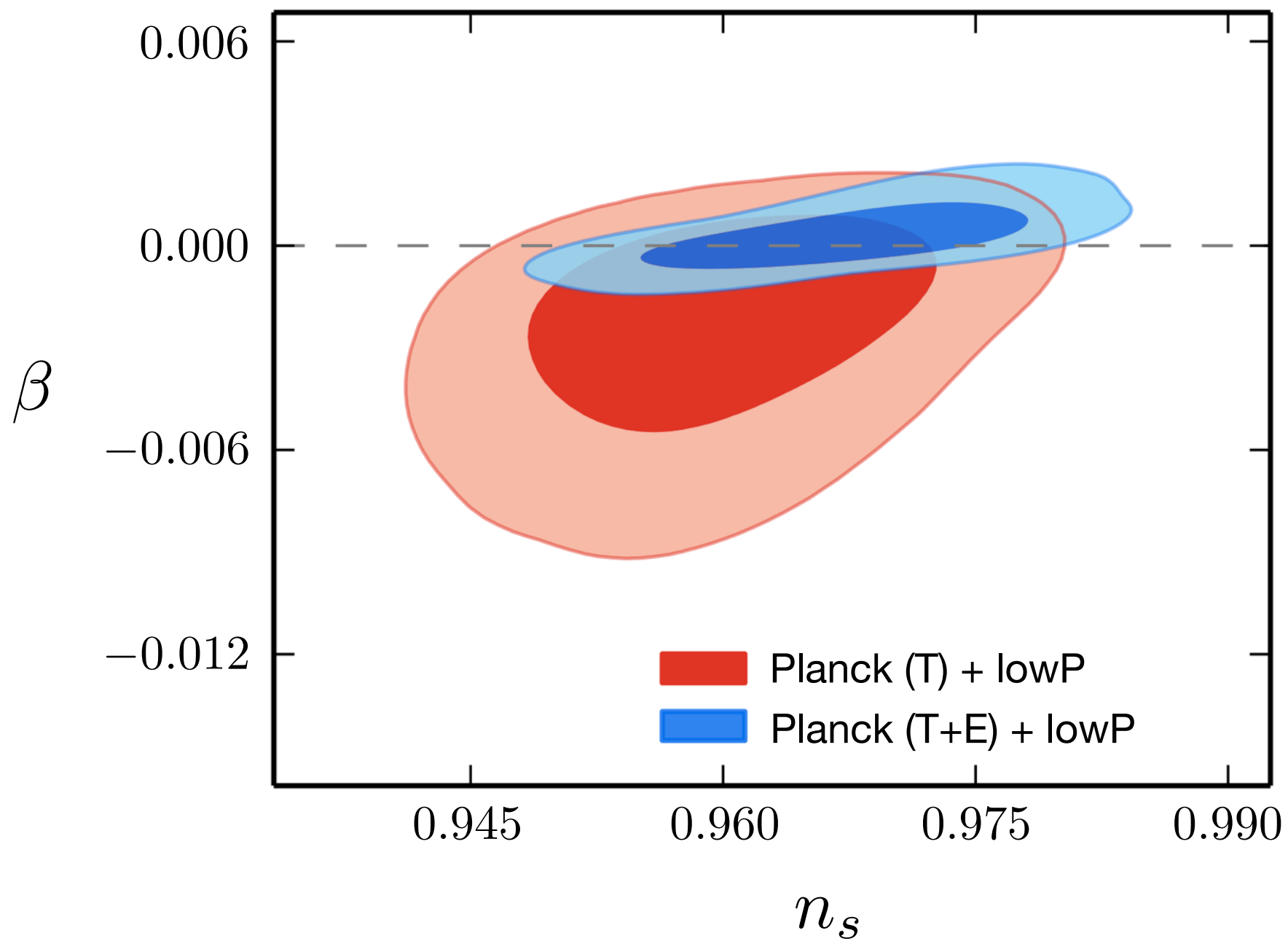


coherence



superhorizon

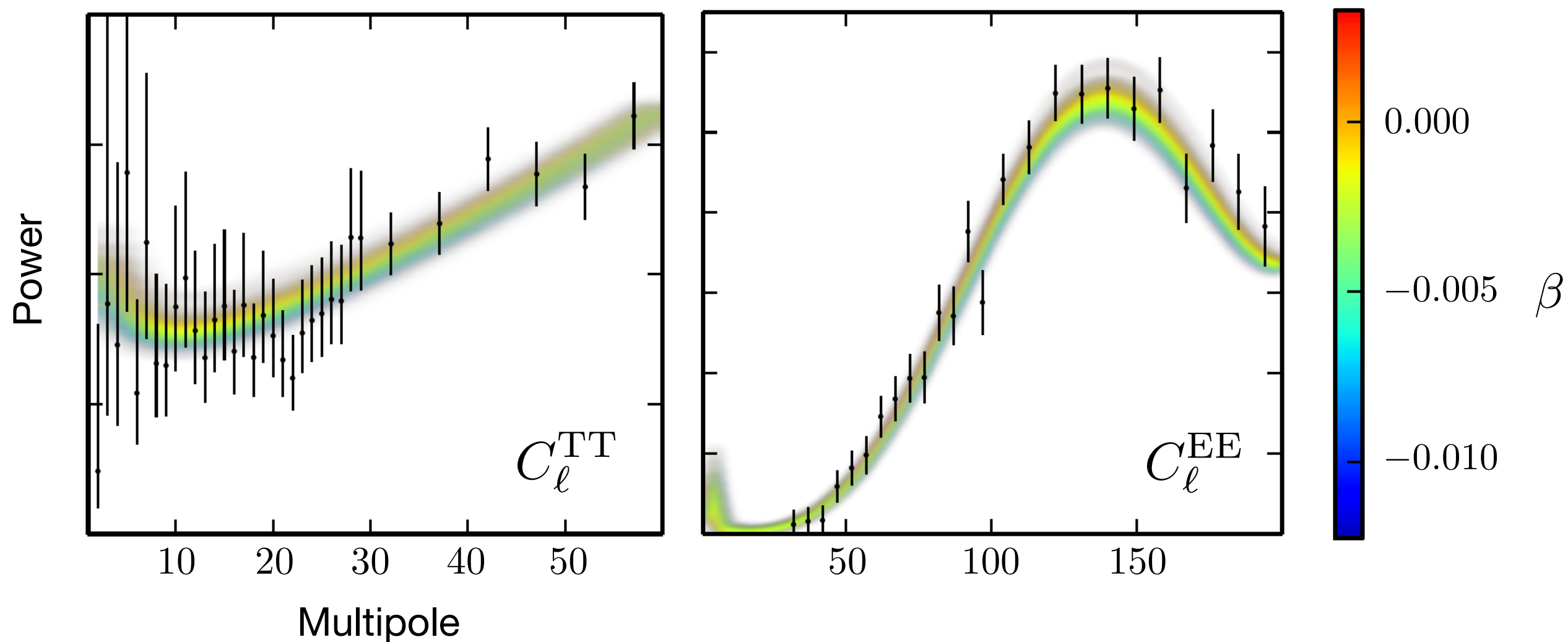
# Adiabatic?



adiabatic



# Adiabatic?

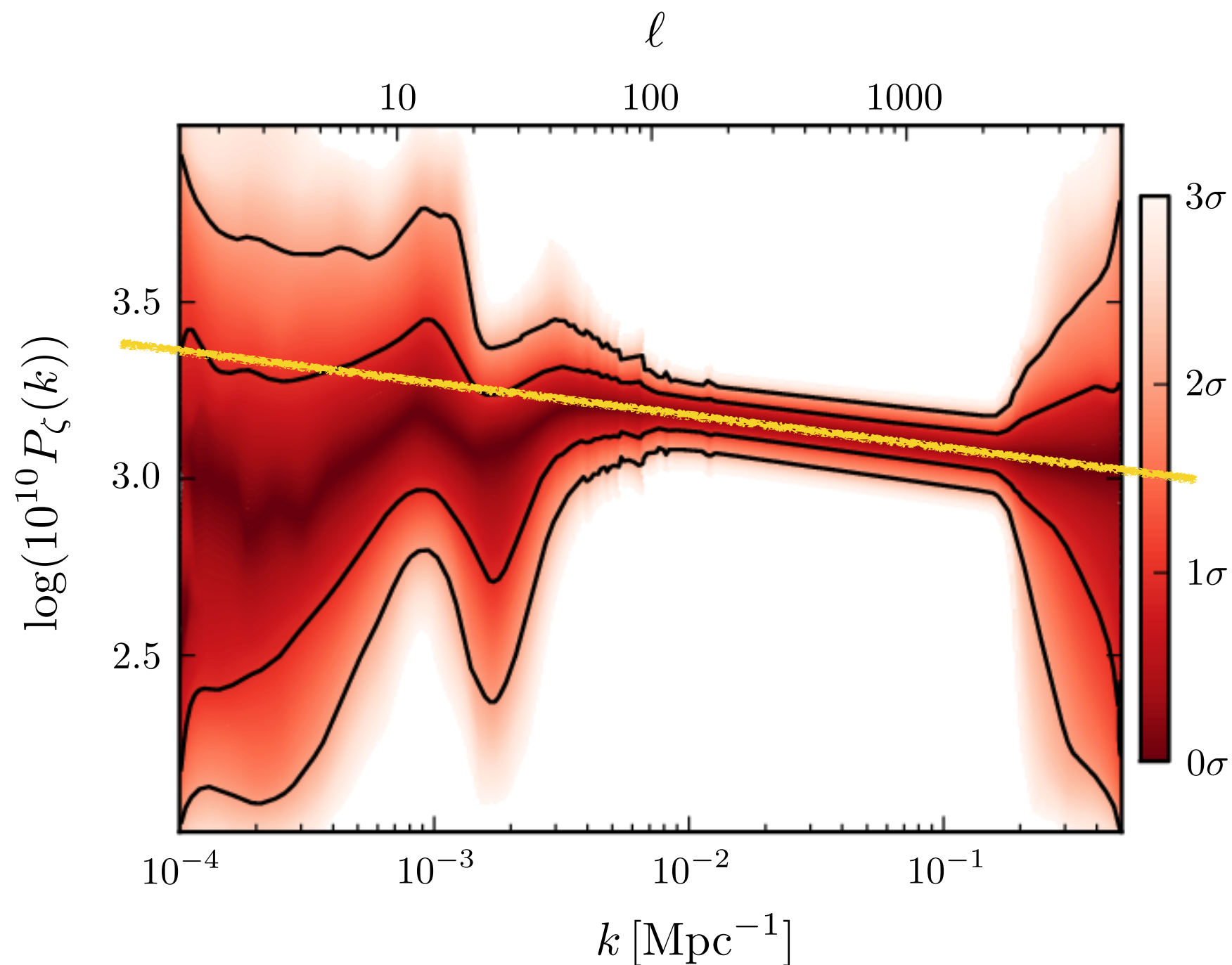


*Preference for anti-correlated isocurvature from low- $\ell$   $TT$ , disfavoured around the first peak of  $EE$ .*

***2-sigma deviations in search of a theory***

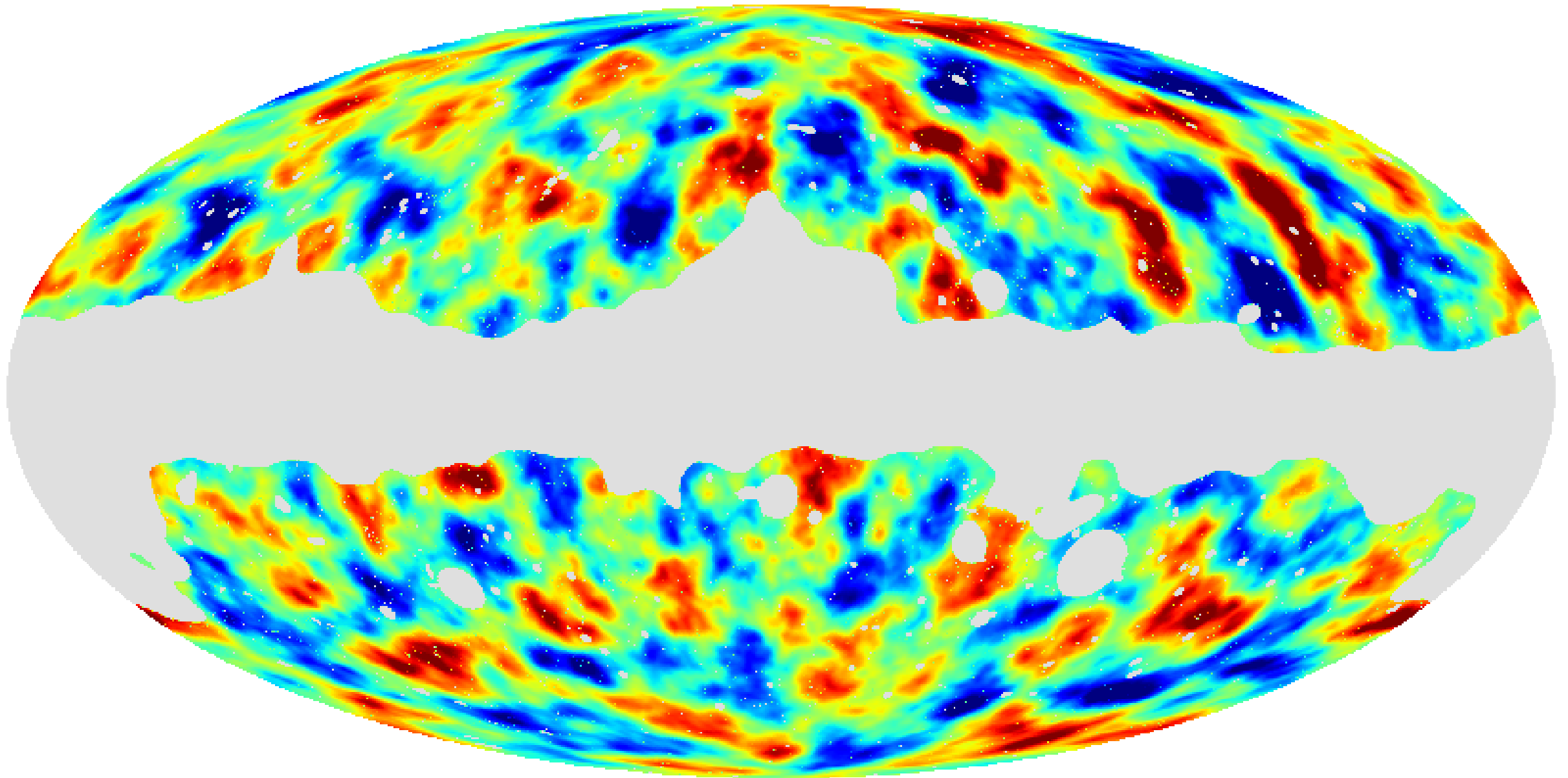


# Lack of Large-Scale Power?



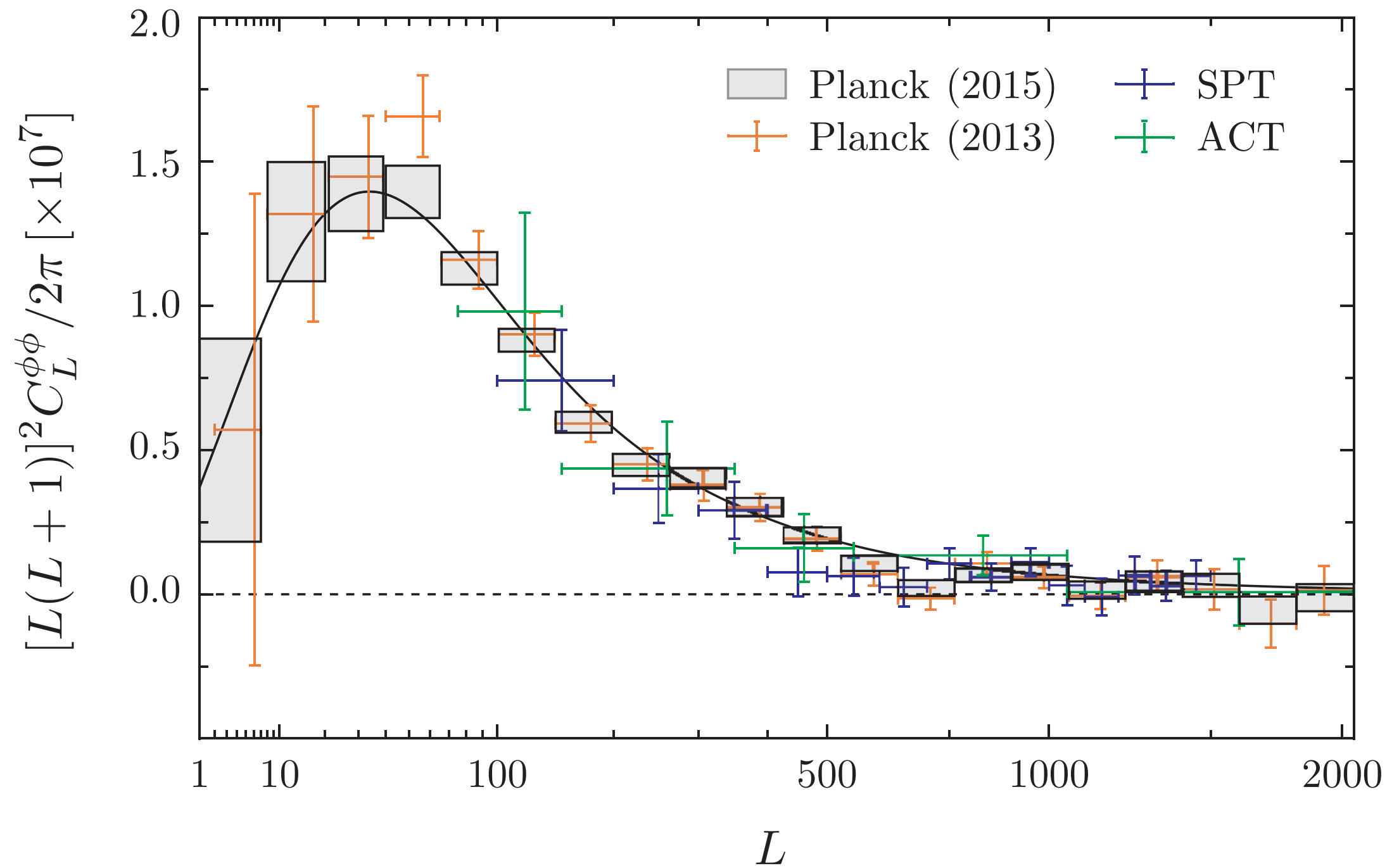
*The significance of the lack of power at low- $\ell$  is hard to evaluate in the absence of a theory.*

# Lensing Anomaly?

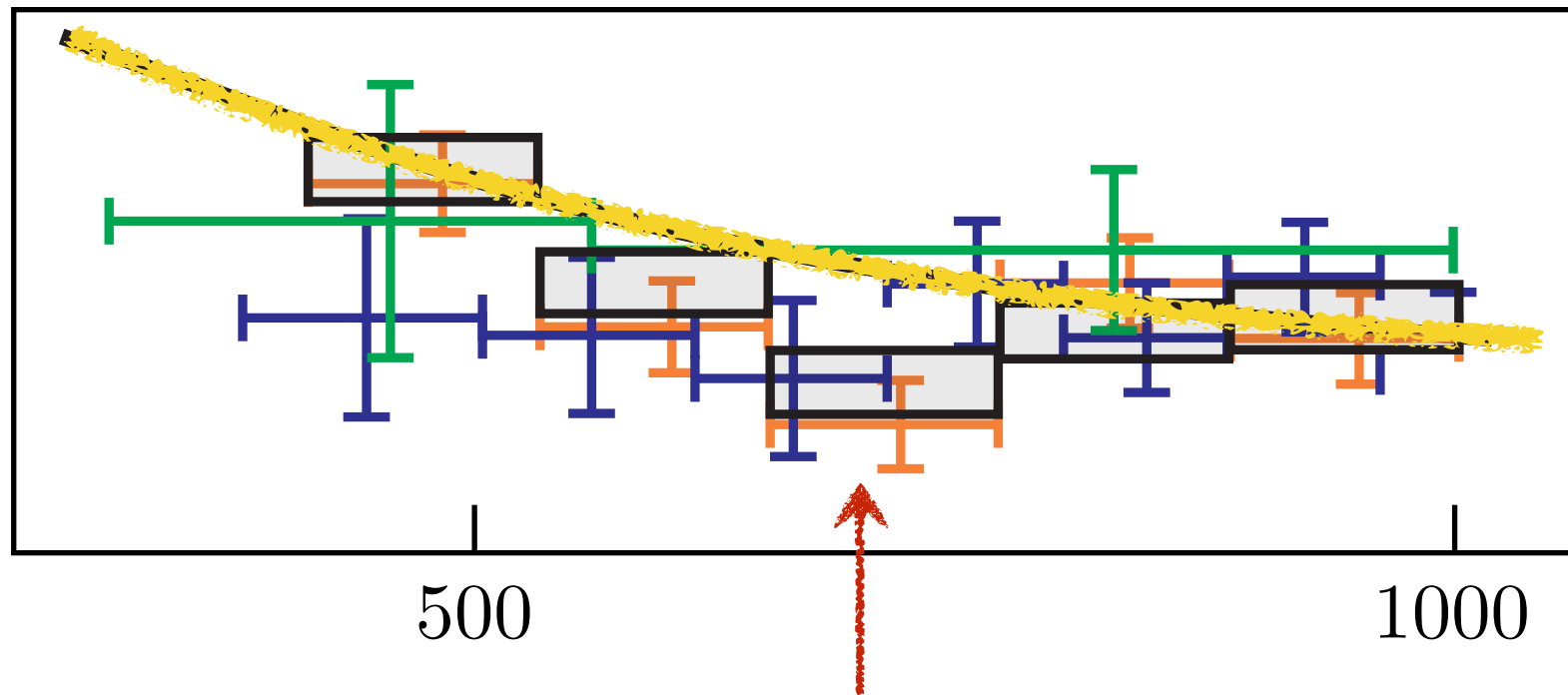


*Planck detected gravitational lensing at a stupendous 50-sigma.*

# Lensing Anomaly?



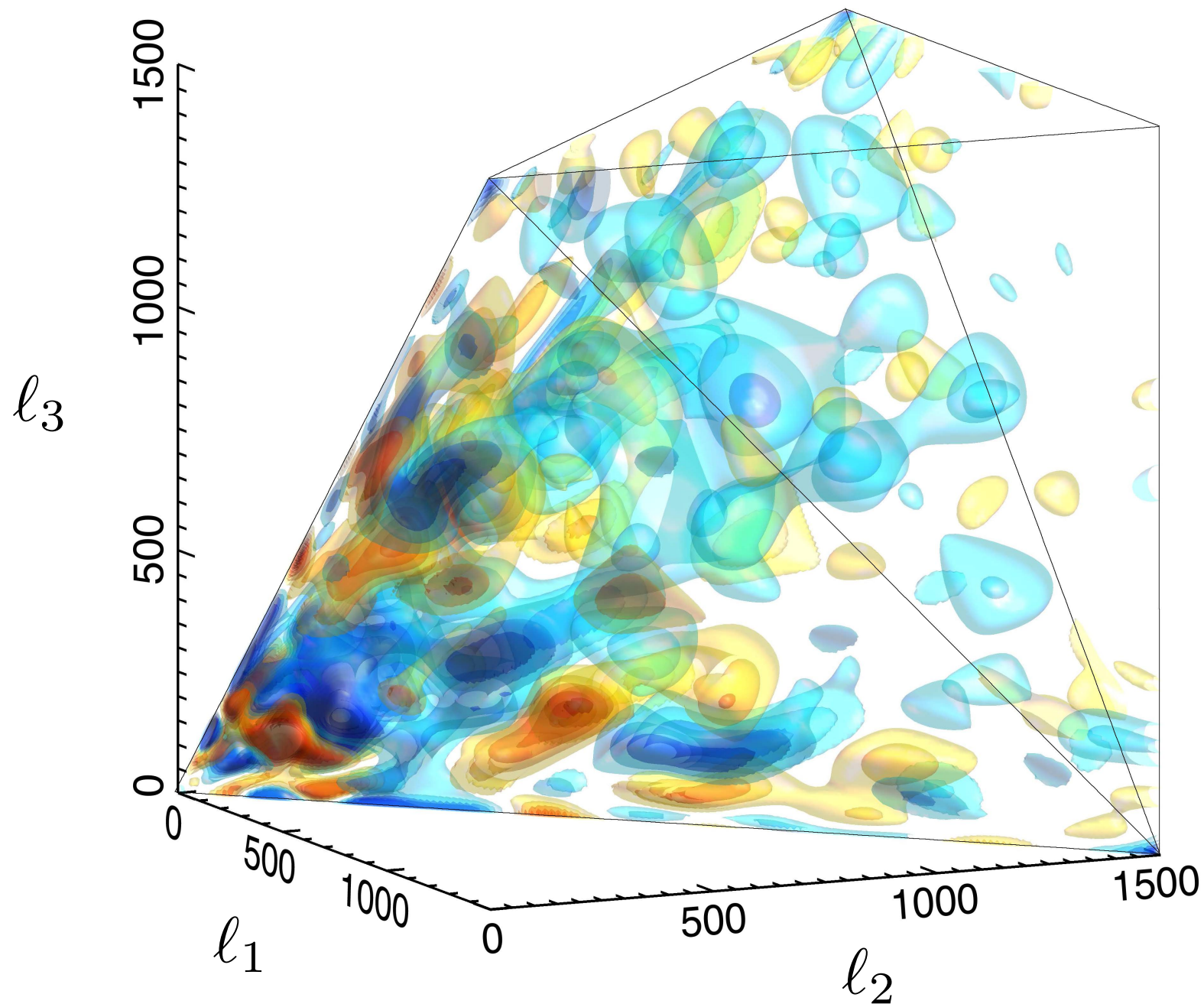
# Lensing Anomaly?



more than 3-sigma off

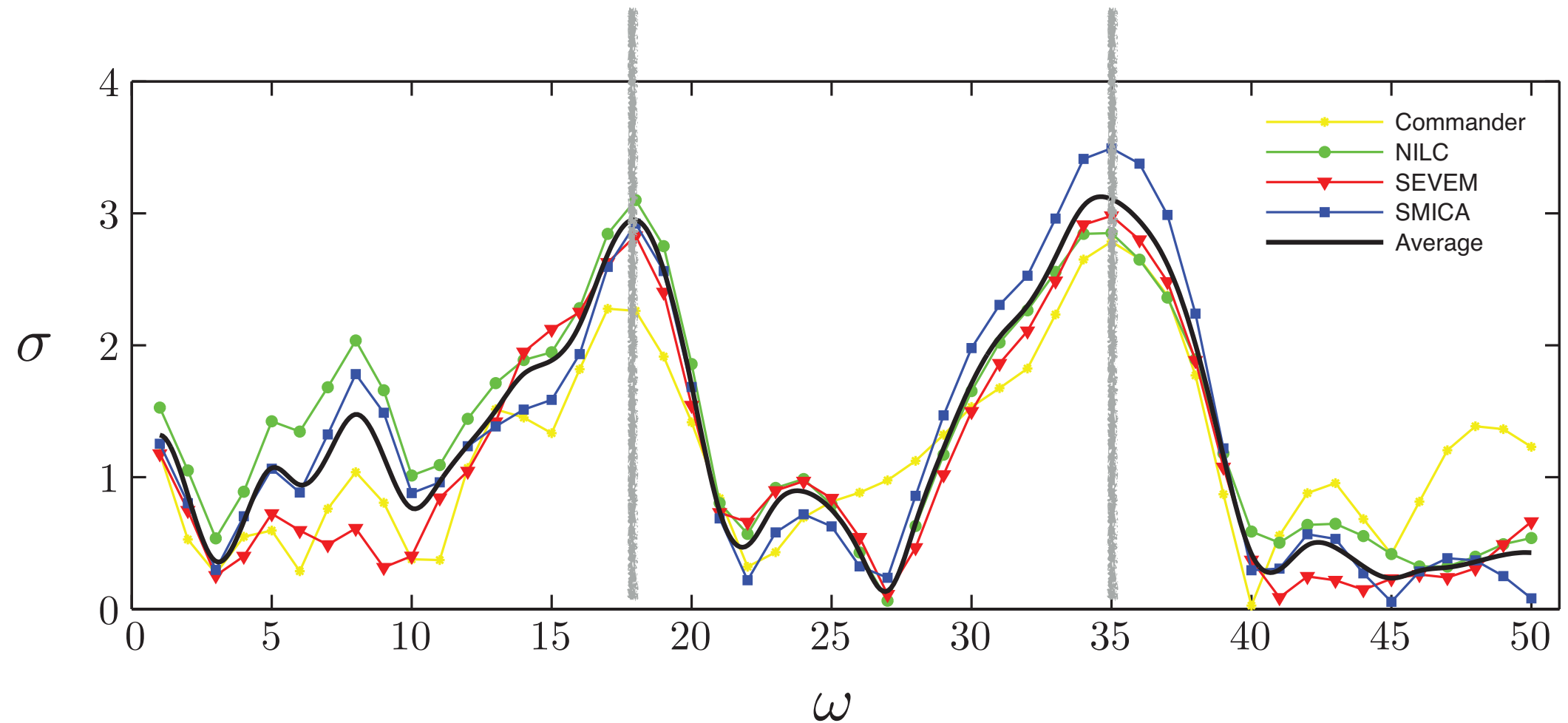
(systematic or primordial four-point function?)

# Non-Gaussian Features?



*The reconstructed bispectrum has strong features.*

# Non-Gaussian Features?



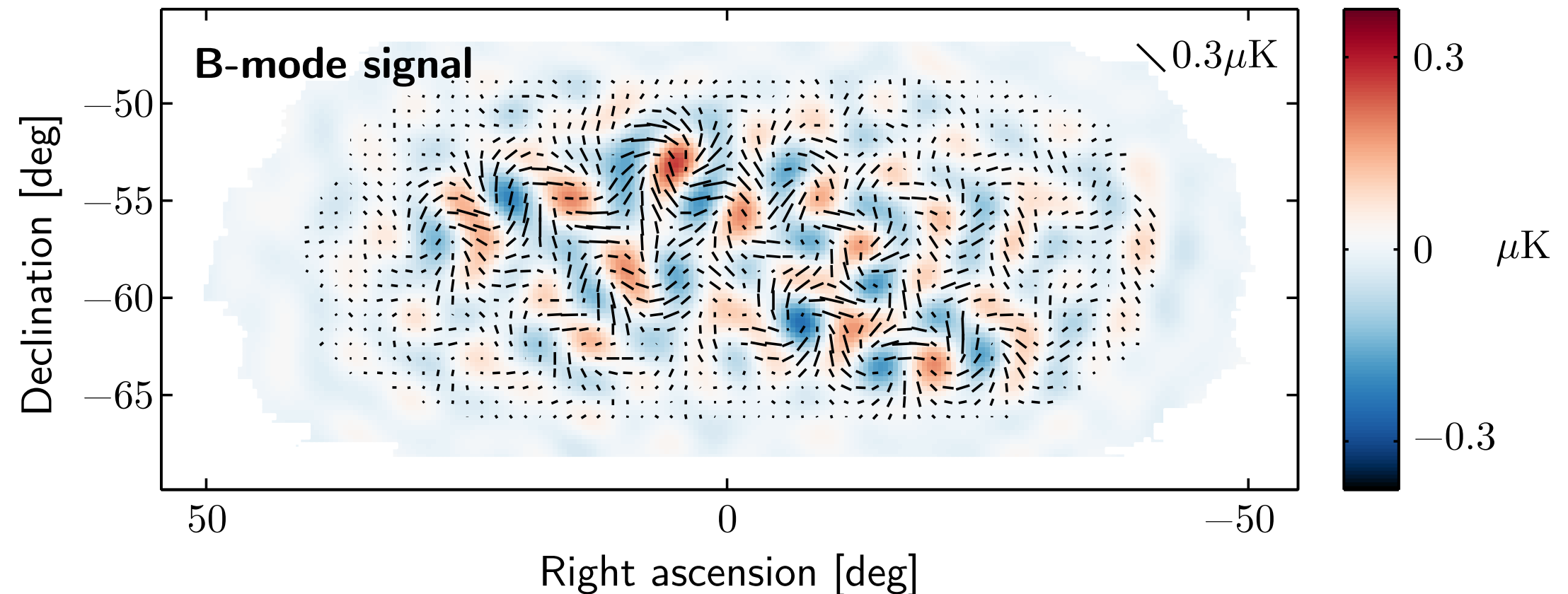
*Oscillatory equilateral bispectra are observed at more than 3-sigma (after look-elsewhere).*



# B-modes and BICEP

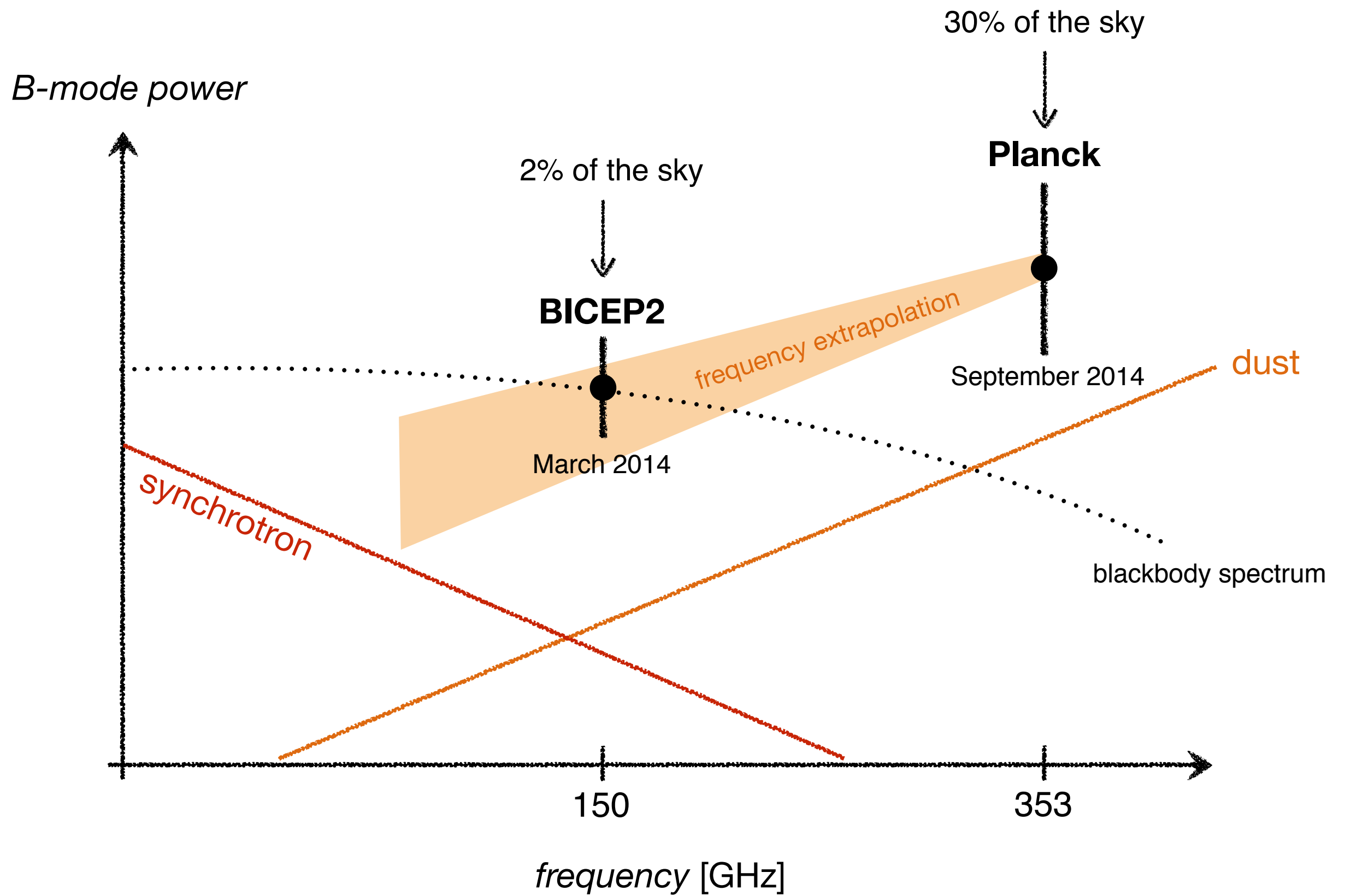


*There is no question that the BICEP team has performed a heroic measurement of B-mode polarization:*

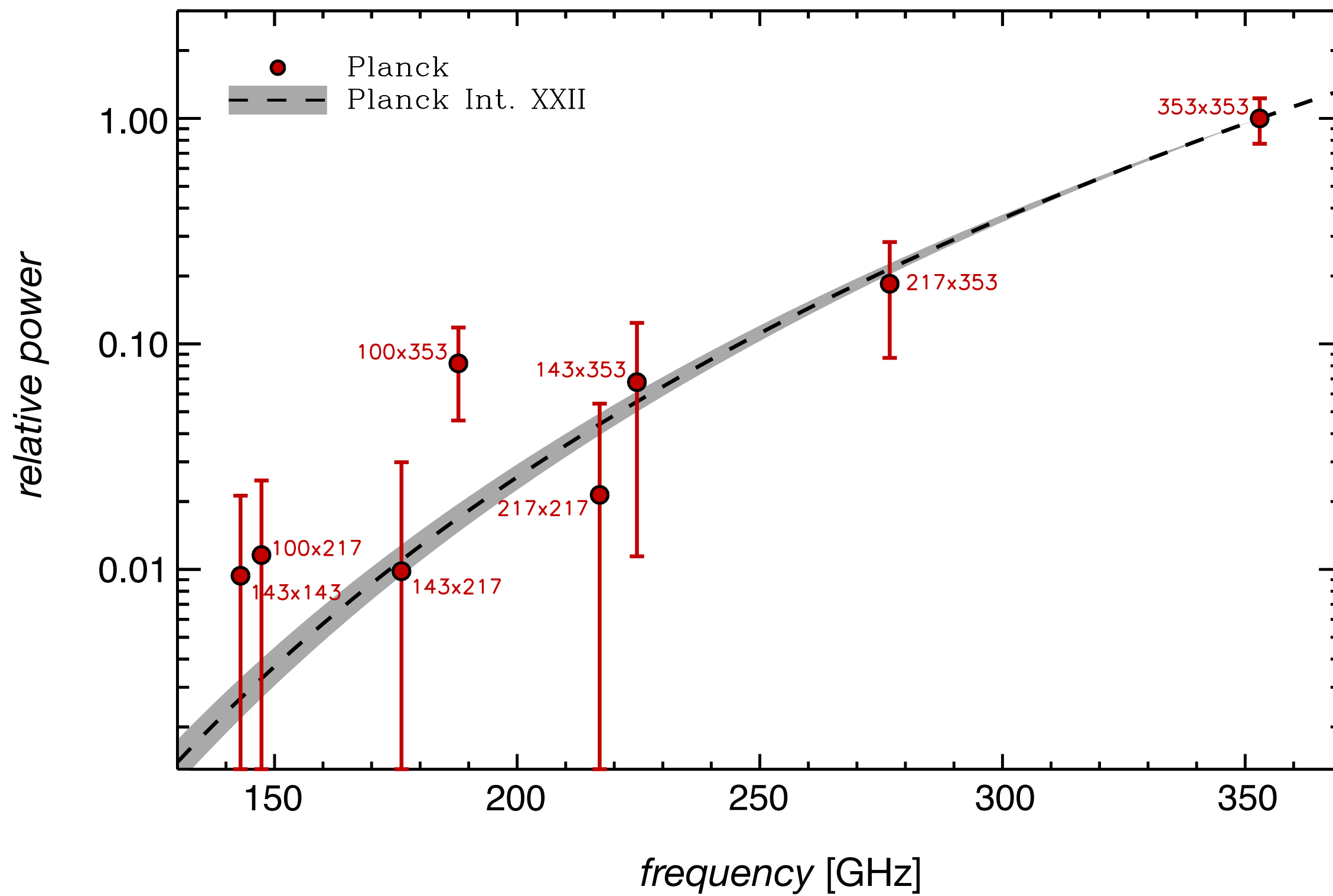


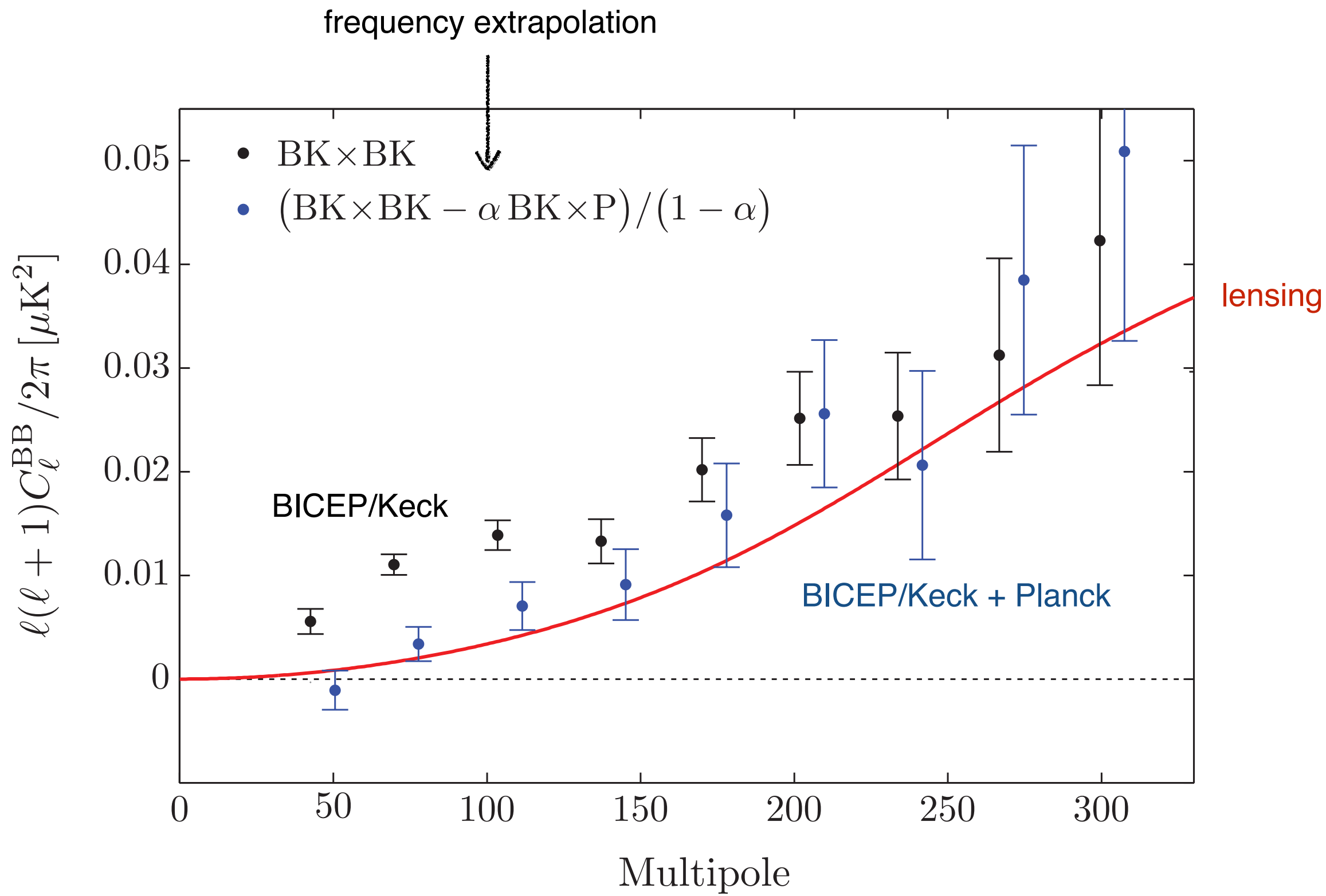
*We are only arguing about the interpretation of the result.*

*Let's discuss where we stand today.*

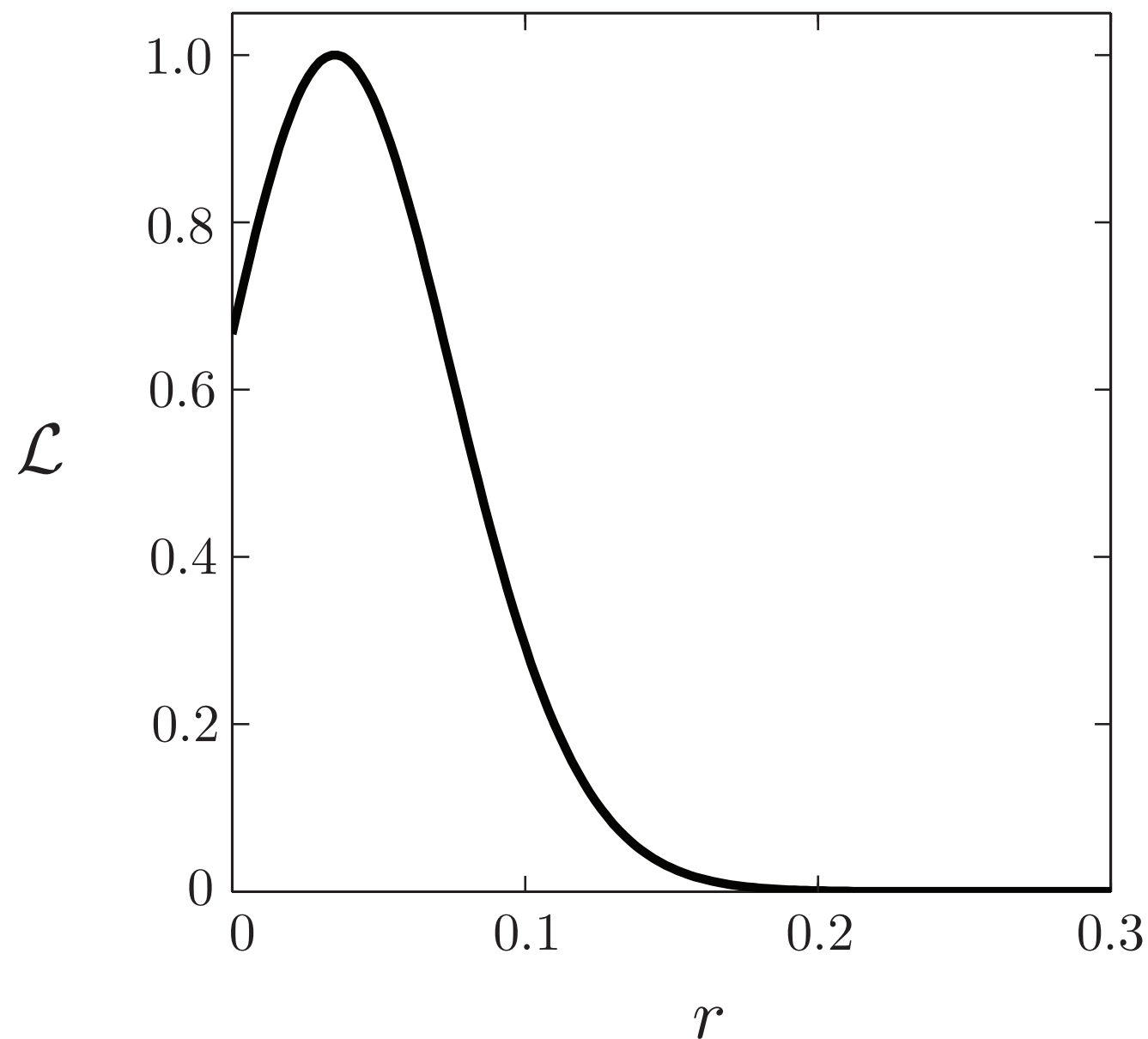








*The final likelihood is somewhat sensitive to the priors assumed in the frequency extrapolation.*



$$r < 0.12 \quad (95\%)$$

*The situation will be clarified later this year with the release of the 100 GHz data of the Keck Array.*



**2.**

**Inflation from the Bottom Up**

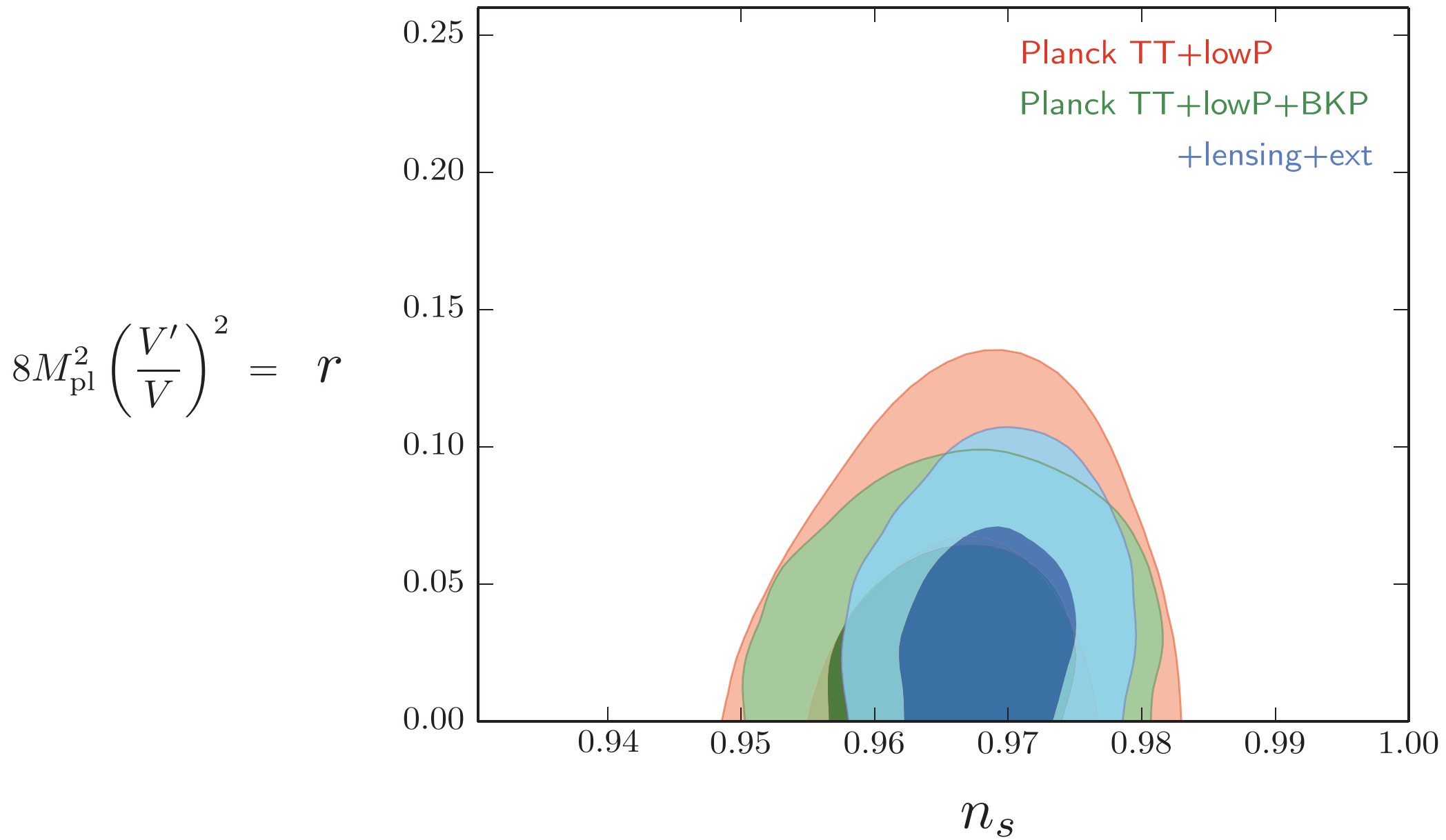


$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 - V(\phi) + \sum_i c_i \frac{\mathcal{O}_i[\phi]}{M^{\Delta_i-4}}$$

*slow-roll inflation*

*UV corrections*

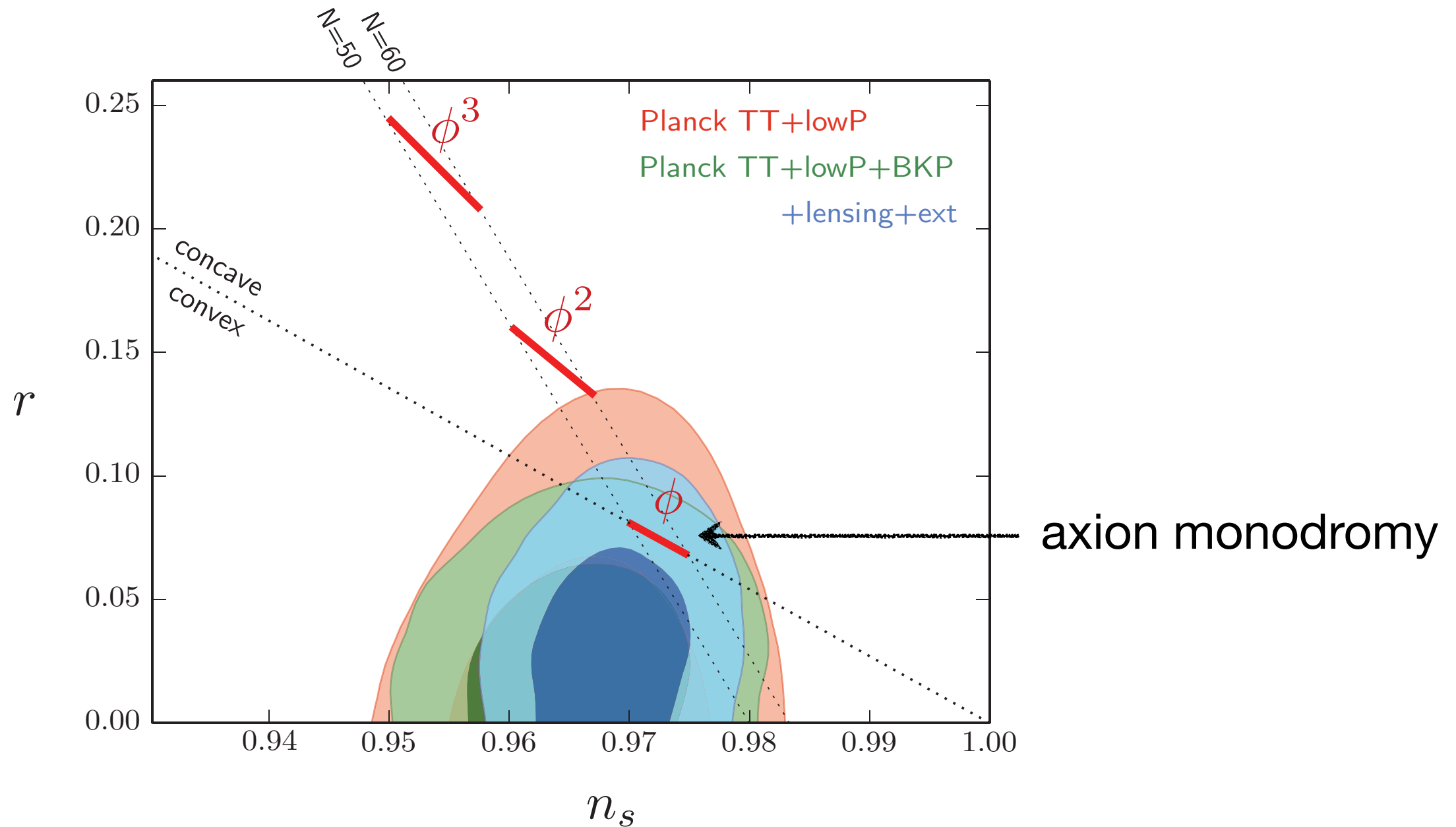
# Constraint on Slow-Roll Inflation



$$= 1 - 3M_{\text{pl}}^2 \left( \frac{V'}{V} \right)^2 + 2M_{\text{pl}}^2 \frac{V''}{V}$$

# Chaotic Inflation

$$V(\phi) = \lambda M_{\text{pl}}^4 \left( \frac{\phi}{M_{\text{pl}}} \right)^n$$

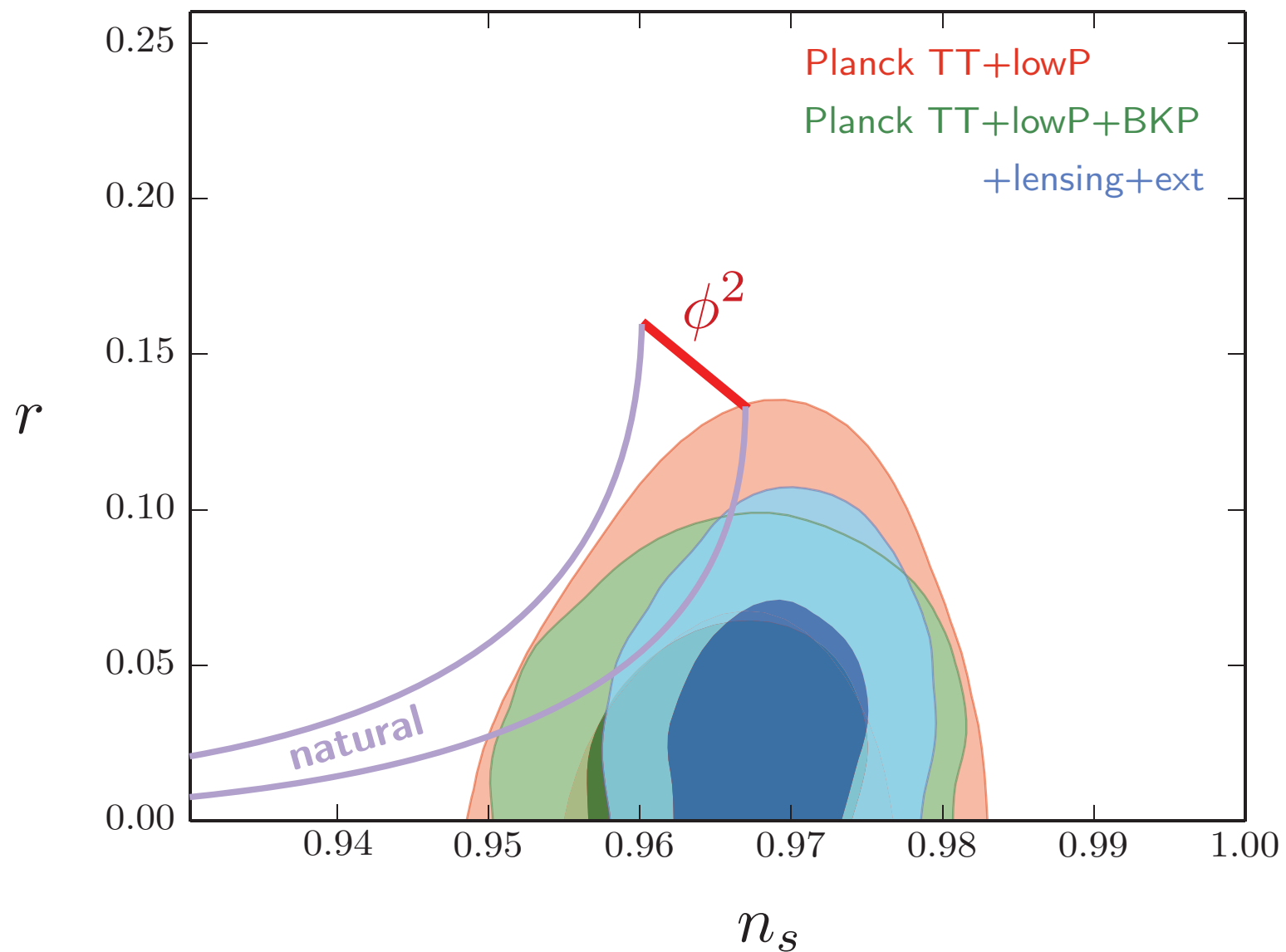


*Does coupling to heavy fields really flatten the potential?*

Dong et al.

# Natural Inflation

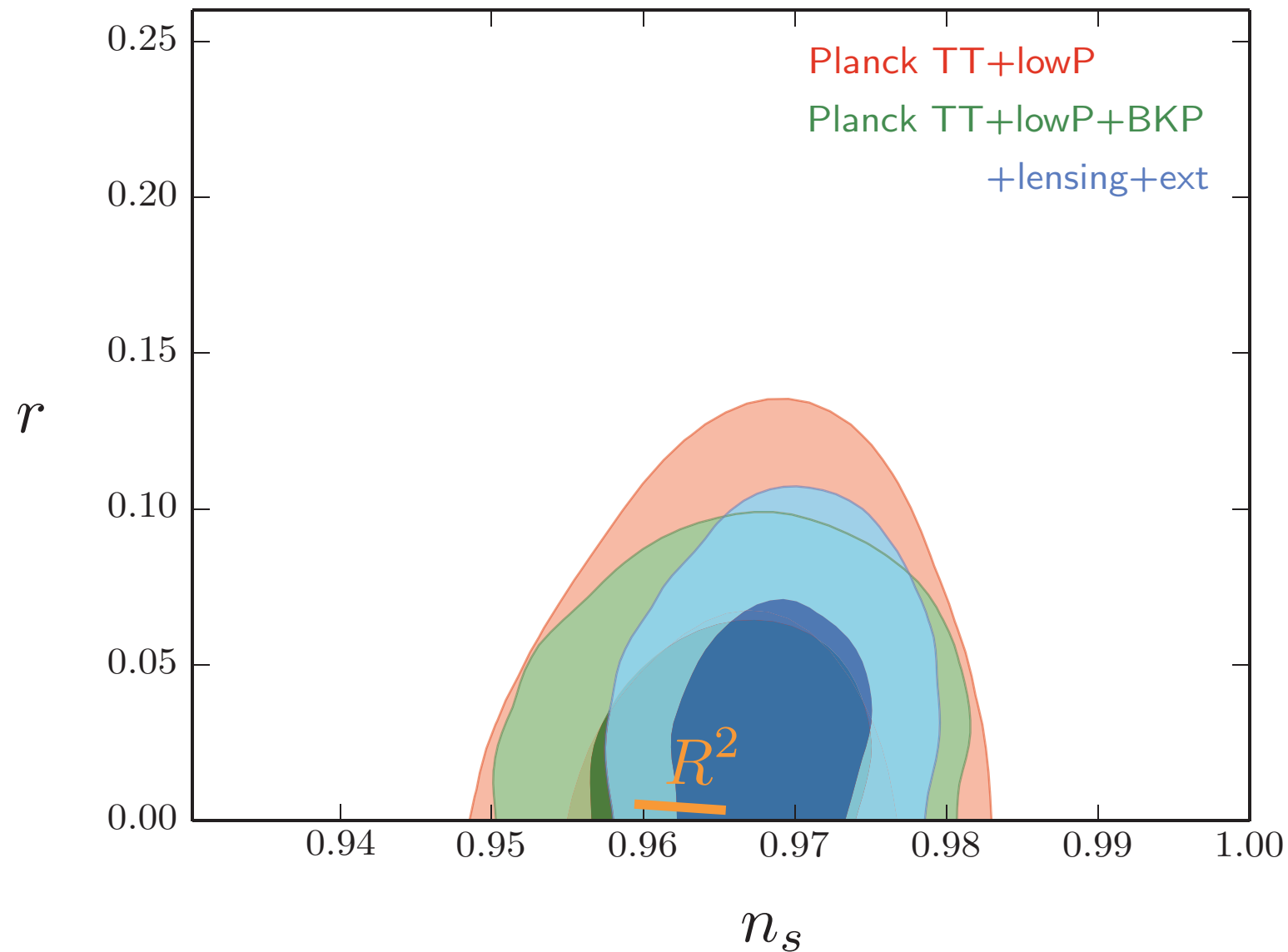
$$V(\phi) = \Lambda^4 \left[ 1 + \cos \left( \frac{\phi}{f} \right) \right] \quad f > 6.9 M_{\text{pl}}$$



*Is a super-Planckian axion possible?*

# Starobinsky Inflation

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \frac{M_{\text{pl}}^2}{2} \left( R + \frac{R^2}{M^2} \right) \longrightarrow V(\phi) = \Lambda^4 \left( 1 - e^{-\sqrt{2/3} \phi / M_{\text{pl}}} \right)^2$$



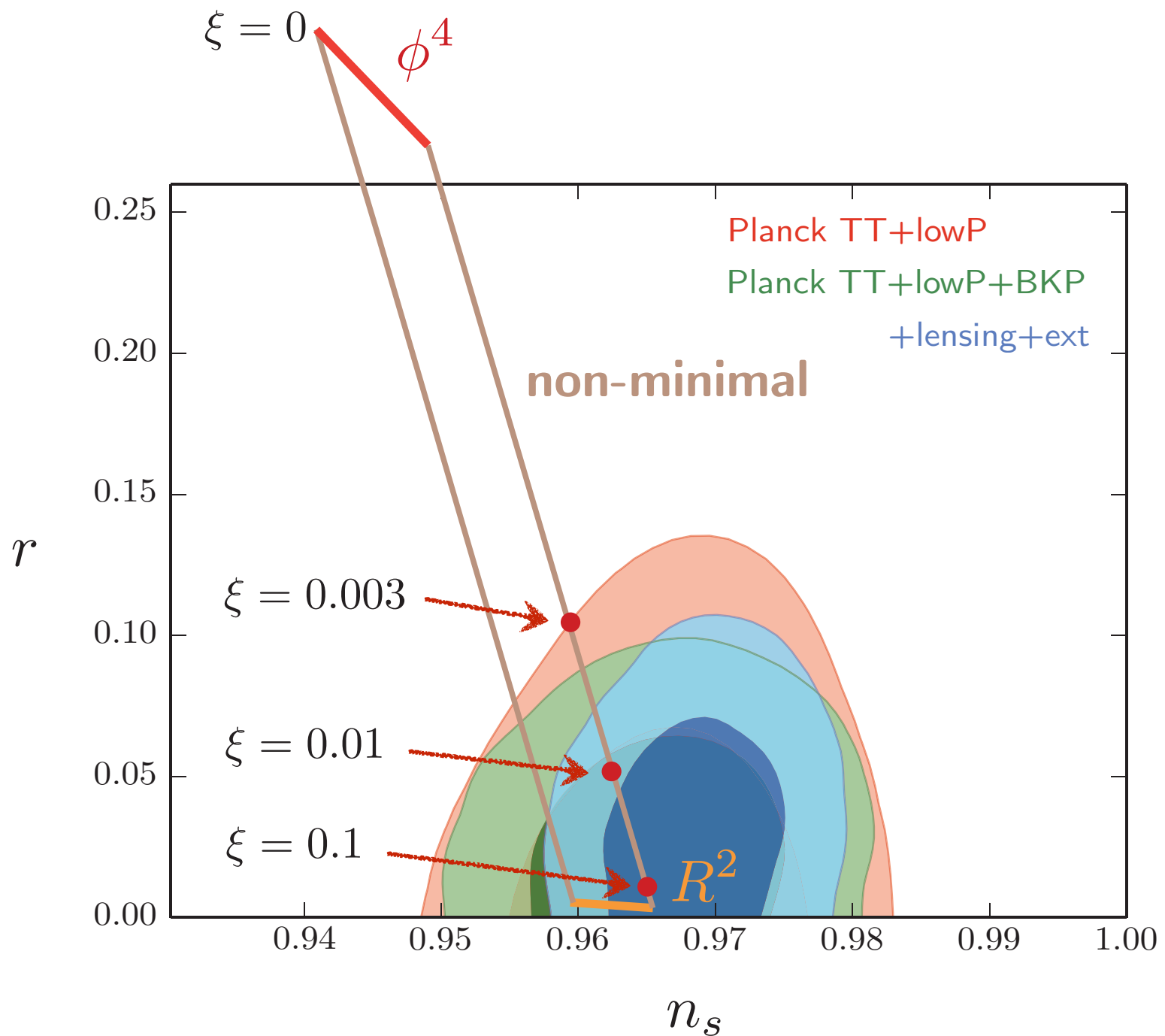
*Where does Starobinsky come from?*

see Ralph's talk?



# Non-Minimally Coupled Inflation

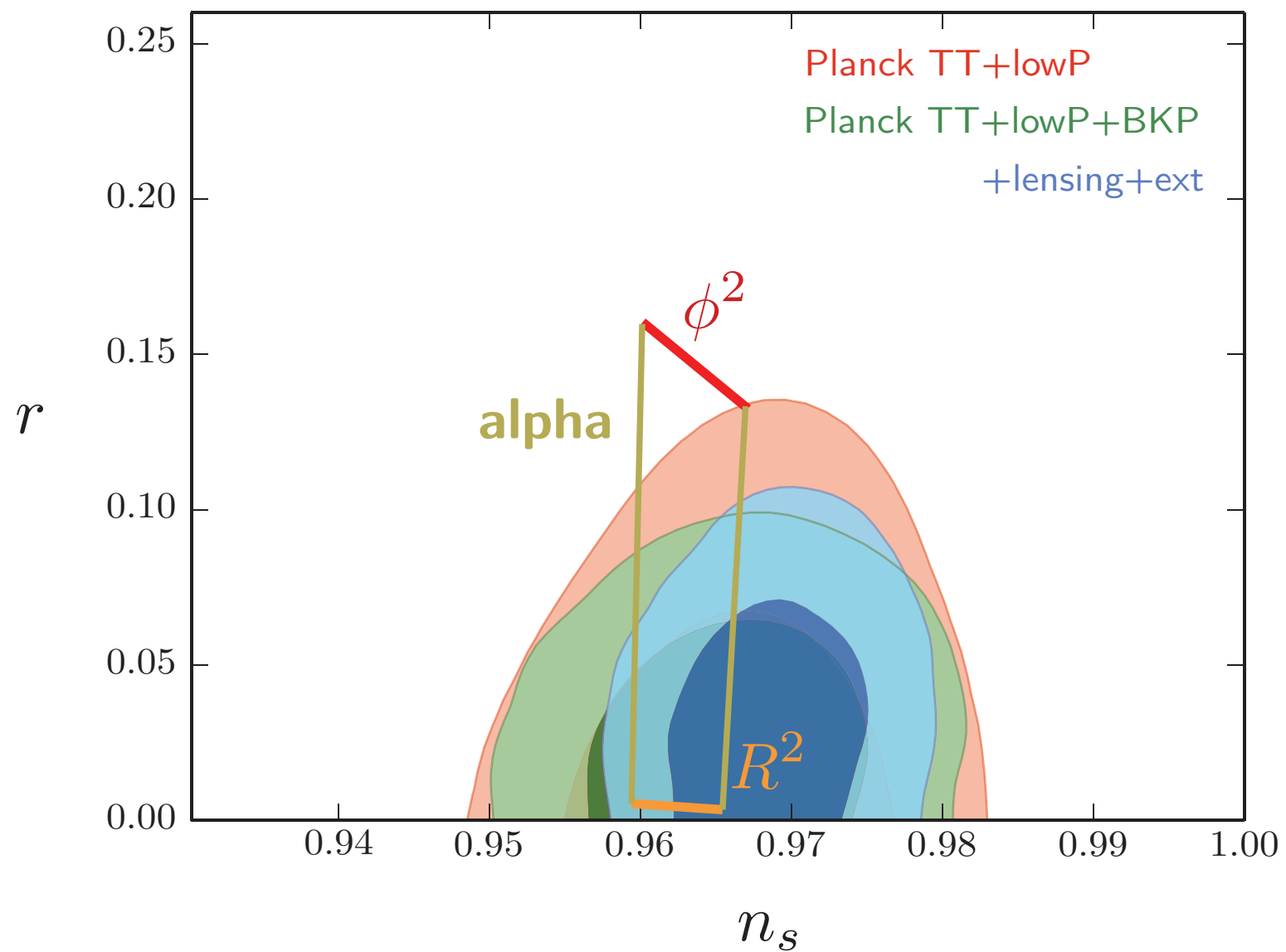
$$V(\phi) = \frac{\lambda}{4}\phi^4 - \frac{\xi}{2}\phi^2 R$$



# Alpha-Attractors

$$V(\phi) = \Lambda^4 \left( 1 - e^{-\sqrt{2/(3\alpha)}\phi/M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^2$$

Kallosch and Linde



*Is the bias towards slow-roll  
models justified by observations?*

*Just because theorists have an easier time working with weakly  
coupled scalars, doesn't mean that the same holds for Nature ...*

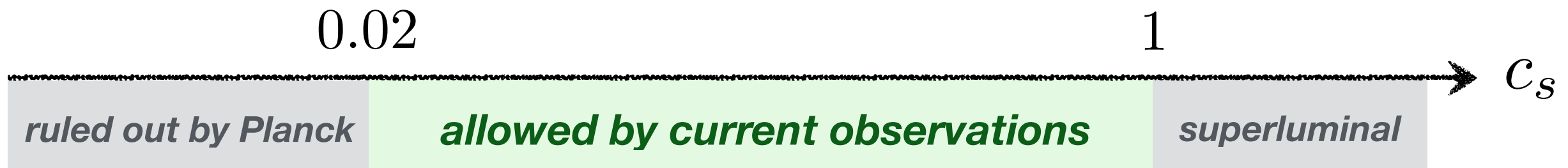
# Speed of Sound

Broken Lorentz allows for a non-trivial sound speed for the perturbations:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{M_{\text{pl}}^2 |\dot{H}|}{c_s^2} \left[ \overset{\text{modified dispersion}}{\left( \dot{\pi}^2 - \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{non-linearly realized symmetry}}}{c_s^2} (\partial_i \pi)^2 \right)} - \overset{\text{non-Gaussianity}}{(1 - c_s^2) \dot{\pi} (\partial_\mu \pi)^2} + \dots \right]$$

where  $\pi \equiv \frac{\delta\phi}{\dot{\phi}}$  is the Goldstone boson of broken time-translations. Cheung et al.

The Planck constraint on the sound speed is:



$\uparrow$  Is this a strong or weak constraint?

# Perturbative Unitarity

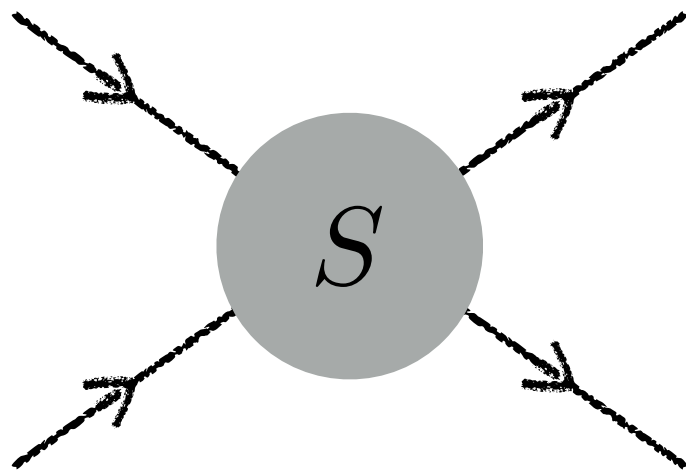
Writing  $\tilde{x}^i = c_s x^i$  and  $\pi_c \equiv (2M_{\text{pl}}^2 |\dot{H}| c_s)^{1/2} \pi \equiv f_\pi^2 \pi$ , we get

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{\partial}_\mu \pi_c)^2 - \frac{\dot{\pi}_c (\tilde{\partial}_\mu \pi_c)^2}{\Lambda^2} + \dots$$


where  $\Lambda^2 \equiv f_\pi^2 \frac{c_s^2}{1 - c_s^2}$  is the **strong coupling scale**.

---

We use this to compute the 2-2 scattering of the Goldstone bosons:



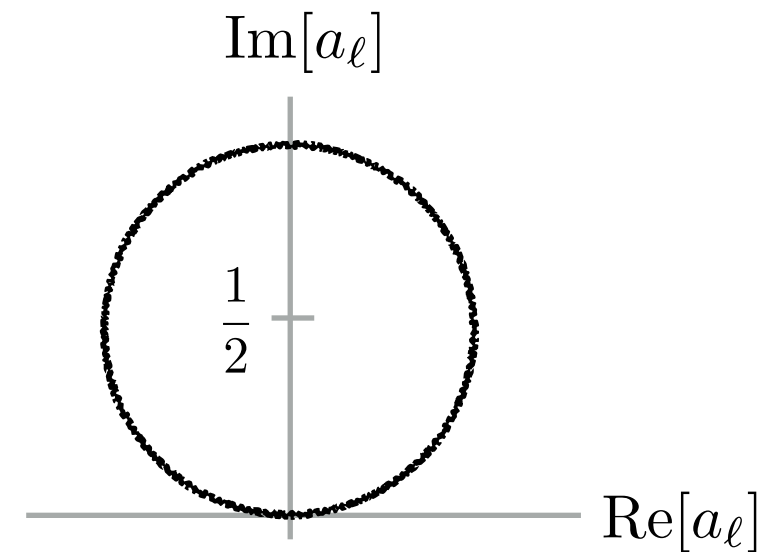
$$= 16\pi \sum_{\ell} (2\ell + 1) a_{\ell}(\omega) P_{\ell}(\cos \theta)$$

  
 partial wave amplitude

# Perturbative Unitarity

Unitarity requires

$$\text{Im}[a_\ell] = |a_\ell|^2 \iff |\text{Re}[a_\ell]| < \frac{1}{2}$$



Only the sound speed interaction contributes to the d-wave amplitude:

$$|\text{Re}[a_2]| = \frac{1}{60\pi} \frac{1 - c_s^2}{c_s^4} \frac{\omega^4}{f_\pi^4} < \frac{1}{2}$$



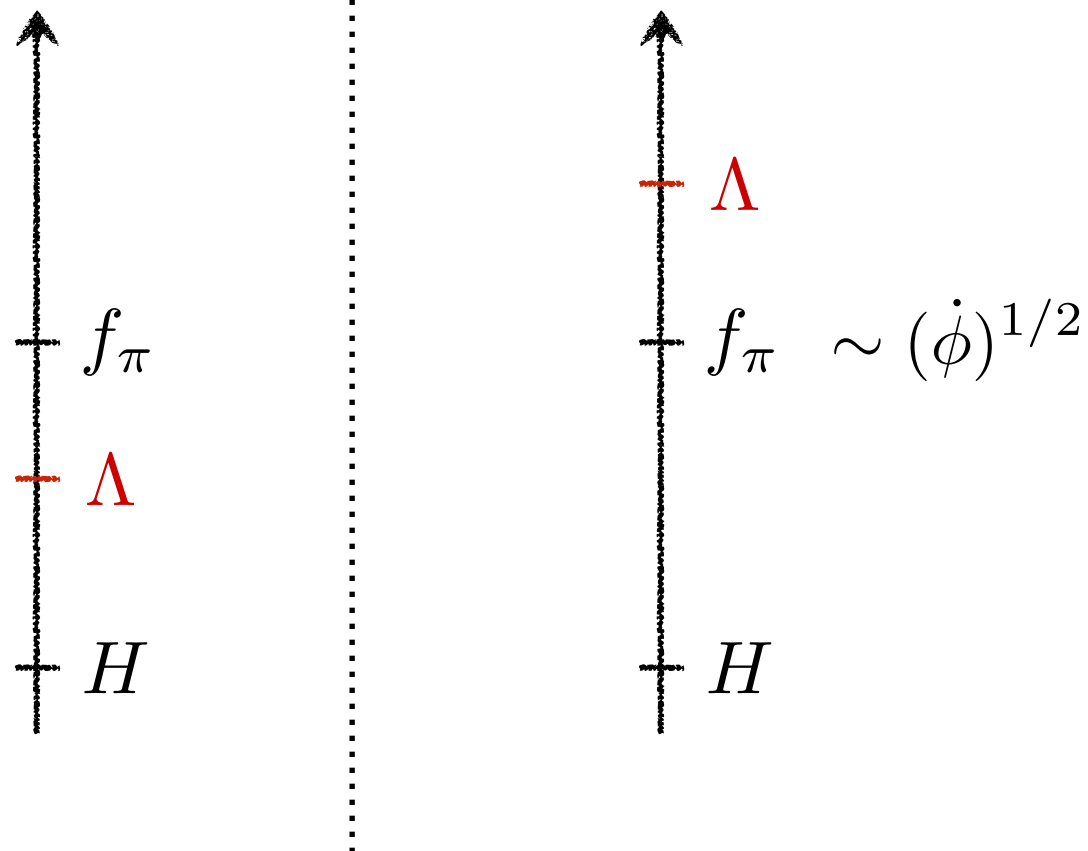
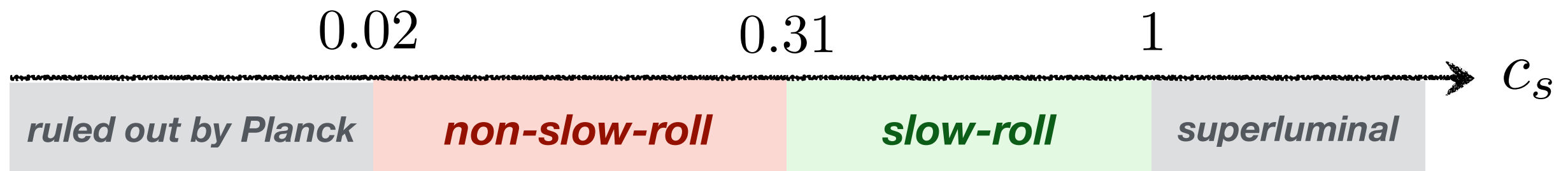
symmetry breaking scale:

$$f_\pi^4 \equiv 2M_{\text{pl}}^2 |\dot{H}| c_s$$



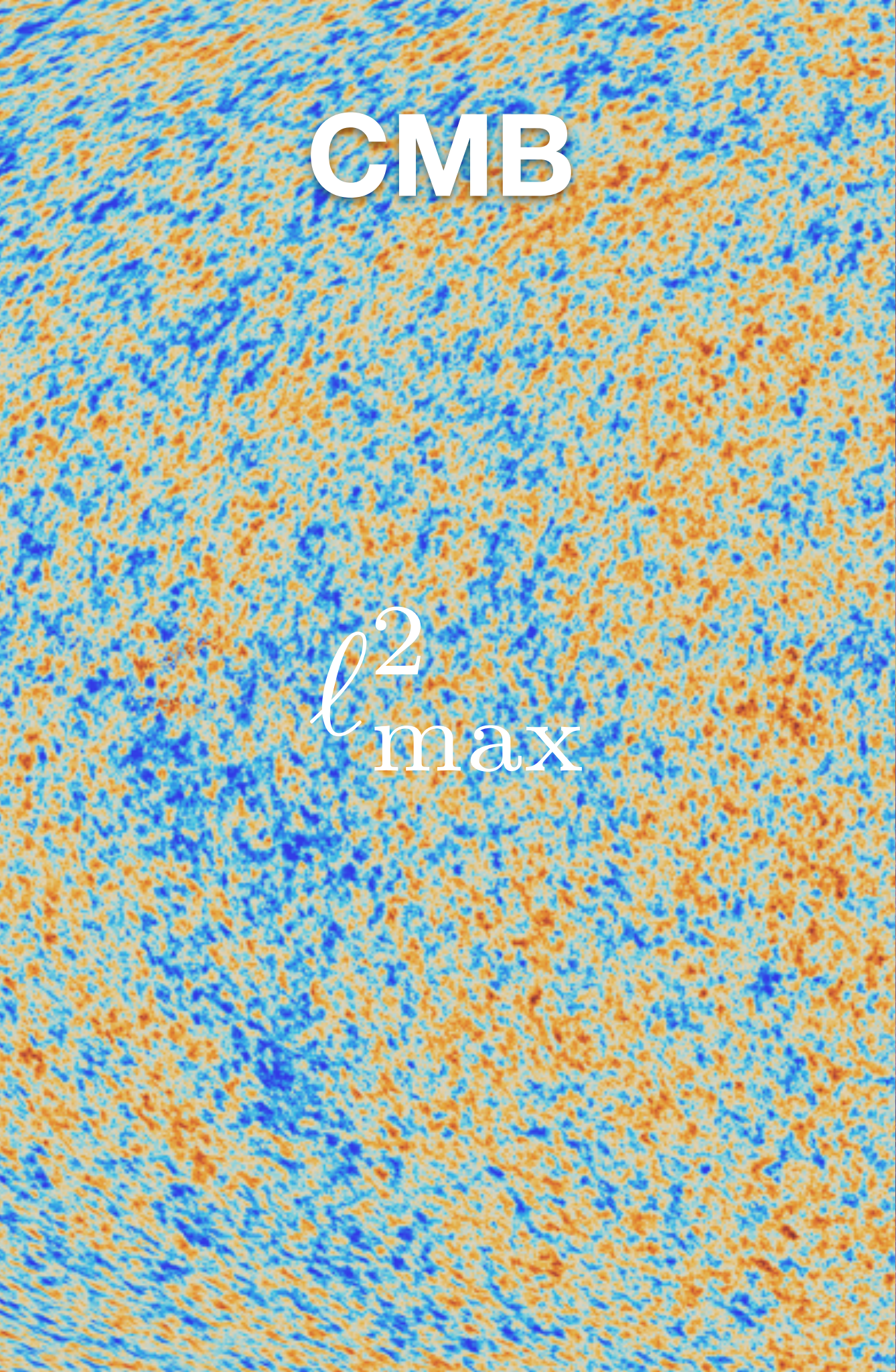
# A Critical Sound Speed

Asking for the theory to be weakly coupled up to the symmetry breaking scale implies a critical value for the sound speed:  $(c_s)_\star = 0.31$



We are still one order of magnitude away from ruling out a strongly coupled inflationary background.



A Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) fluctuation map showing a noisy pattern of blue and orange/yellow pixels. The label 'CMB' is in the top right, and the symbol  $\ell_{\text{max}}^2$  is in the bottom left.

**CMB**

$\ell_{\text{max}}^2$

A Large Scale Structure (LSS) map showing a complex web of purple filaments and nodes with bright yellow/orange spots representing galaxy clusters. The label 'LSS' is in the top right, and the symbol  $k_{\text{max}}^3$  is in the bottom right.

**LSS**

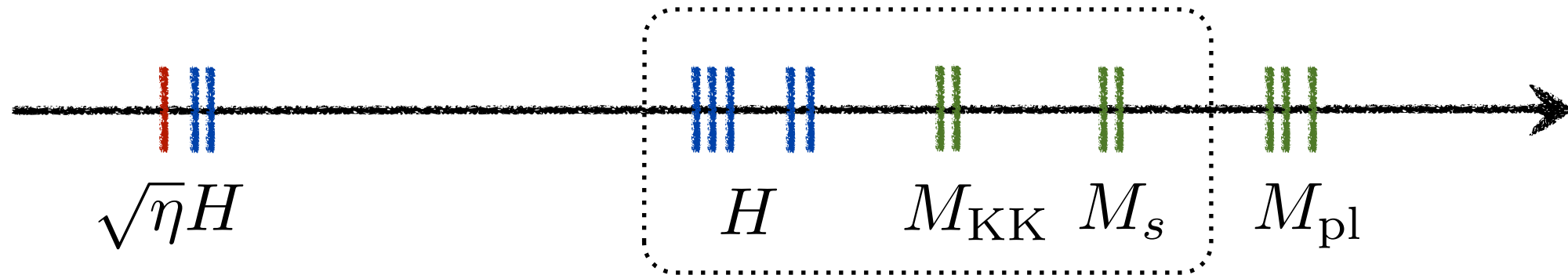
$k_{\text{max}}^3$



**3.**

## **Inflation from the Top Down**

# String compactifications are **complex**



What is the phenomenology of inflation if we take this seriously?

1. *How does the simplicity of the data emerge from the complexity of the UV-completion?*
2. *Can we see imprints of stringy UV effects?*

# Challenge 1: Many Extra Fields

Amin and DB, *in progress*.



**Fine-tuning**



**Symmetry**



# Fine-tuning



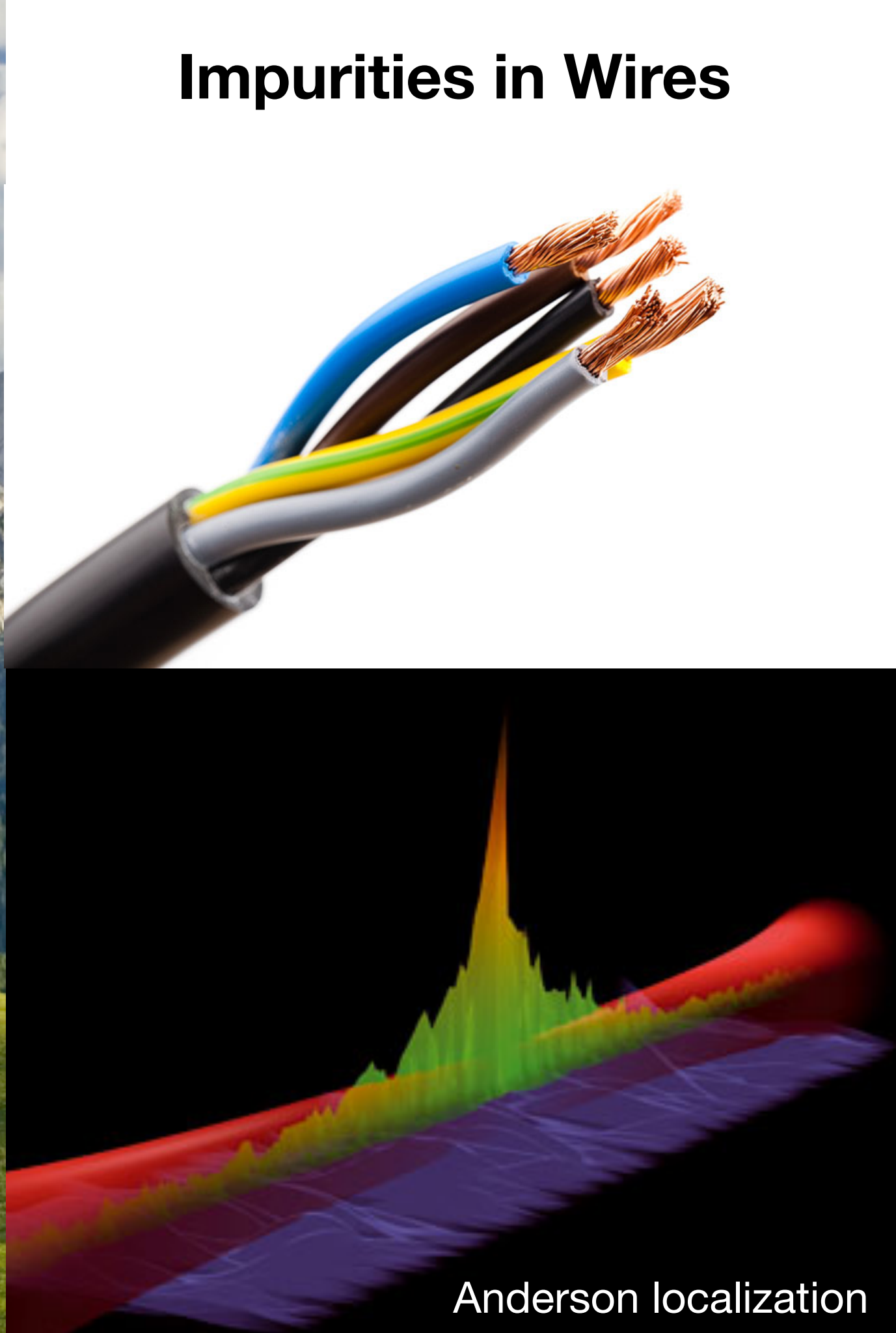
*How do we compute observables?*



# Disorder in Inflation



# Impurities in Wires

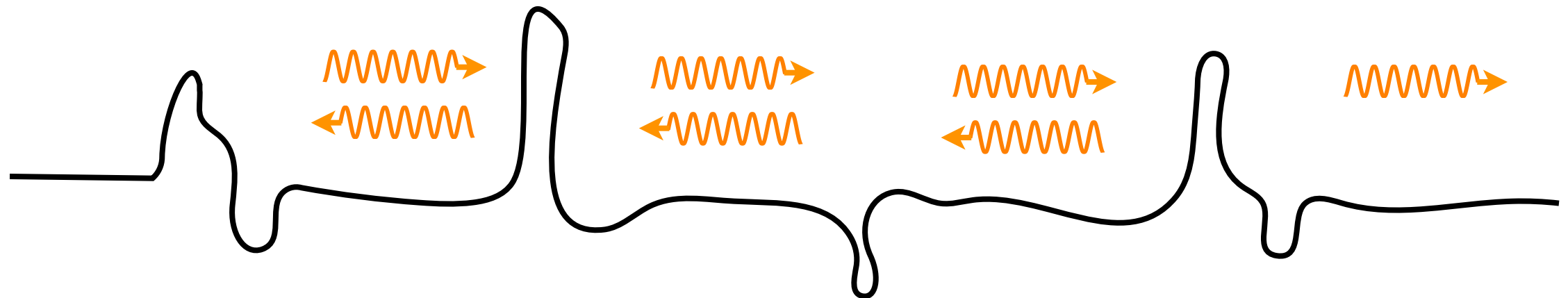


Anderson localization

# Disorder in Inflation

Time-dependent Klein-Gordon

$$\frac{d^2 \varphi_k}{d\tau^2} + (k^2 + m^2(\tau)) \varphi_k = 0$$



particle production

$$\langle n \rangle = e^{\mu T} - 1$$

Fokker-Planck equation

$$P(n, T)$$

multiple fields

etc.

# Impurities in Wires

Time-independent Schrödinger

$$\frac{d^2 \psi}{dx^2} + (E - V(x)) \psi = 0$$

Anderson localization

$$\langle \rho \rangle = e^{L/l}$$

Fokker-Planck equation

$$P(\rho, L)$$

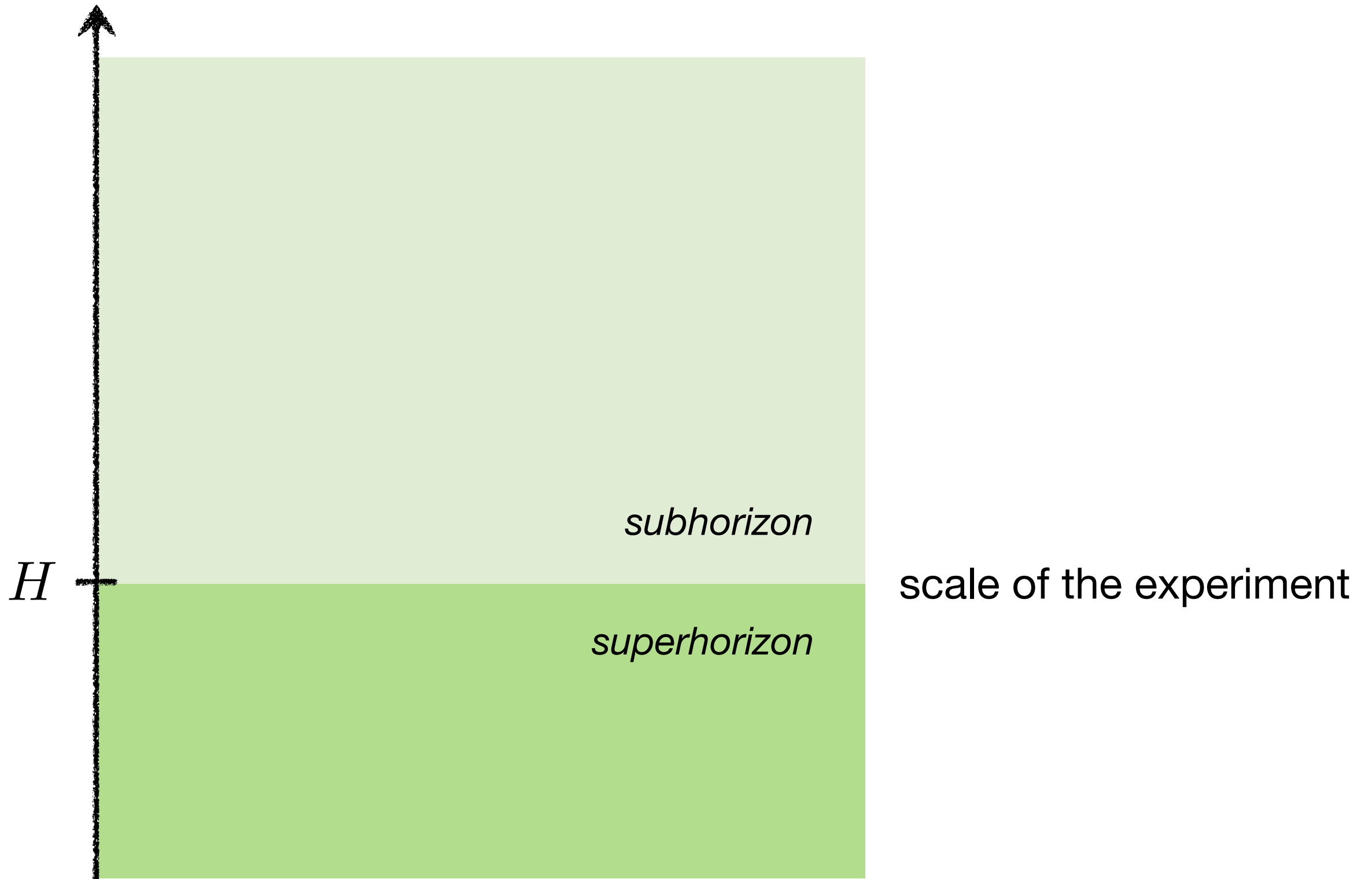
multiple channels

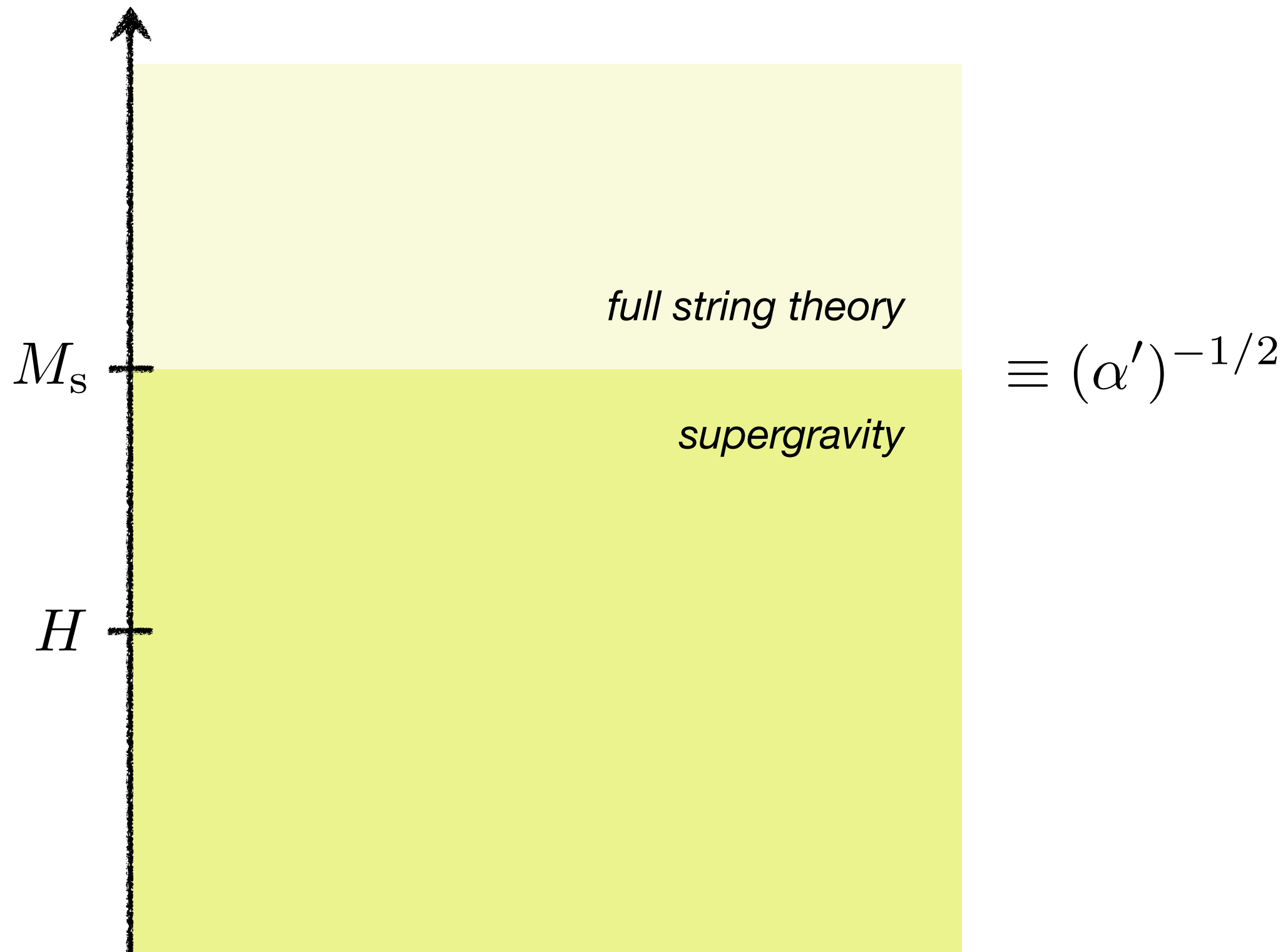
# Challenge 2: Many Extra Scales

DB and Green, *Signatures of Supersymmetry from the Early Universe*, [arXiv:1109.0292]

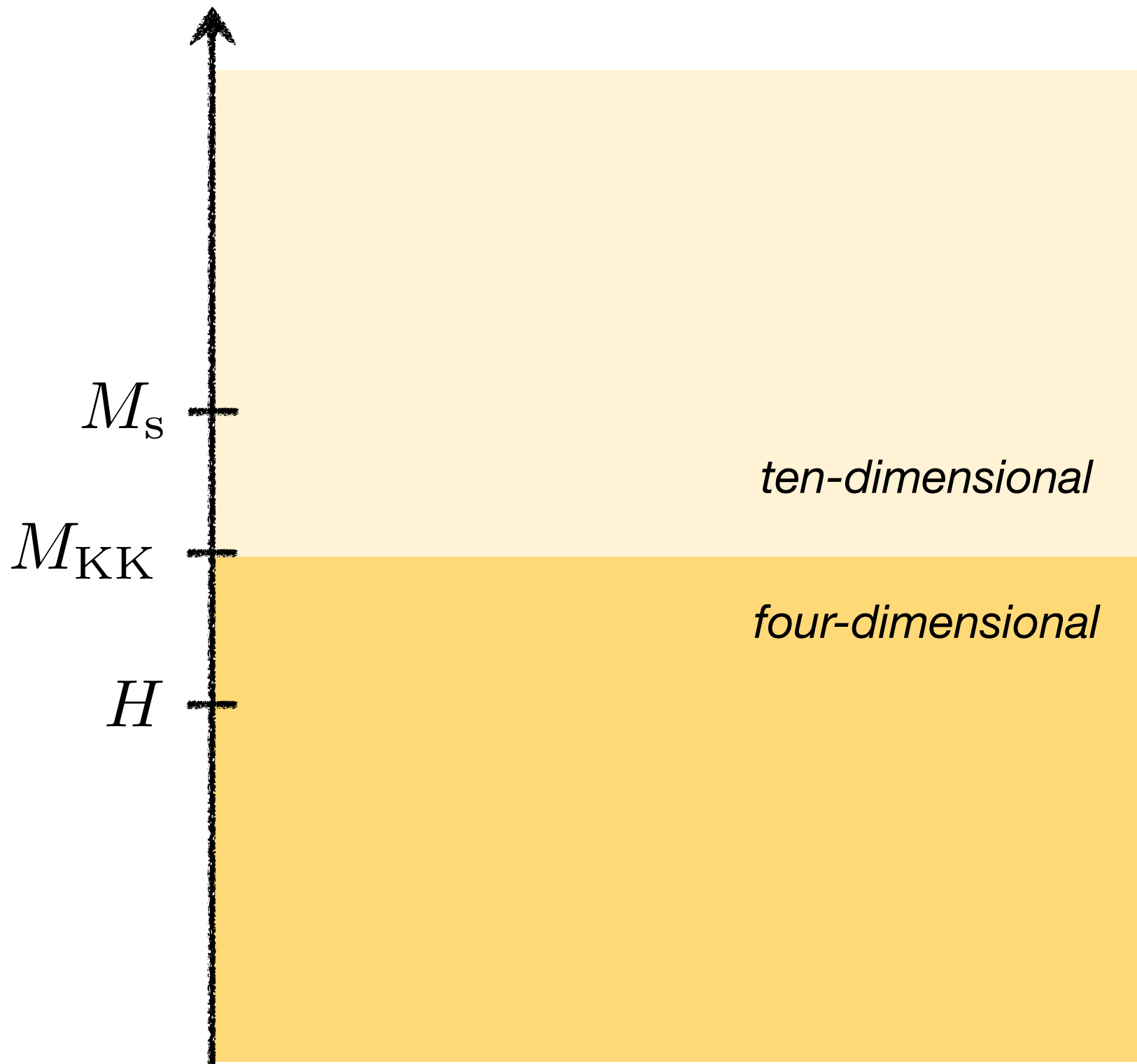
Assassi, DB, Green, and McAllister, *Planck-Suppressed Operators*, [arXiv:1304.5226]

Arkani-Hamed and Maldacena, *Cosmological Collider Physics*, [to appear]





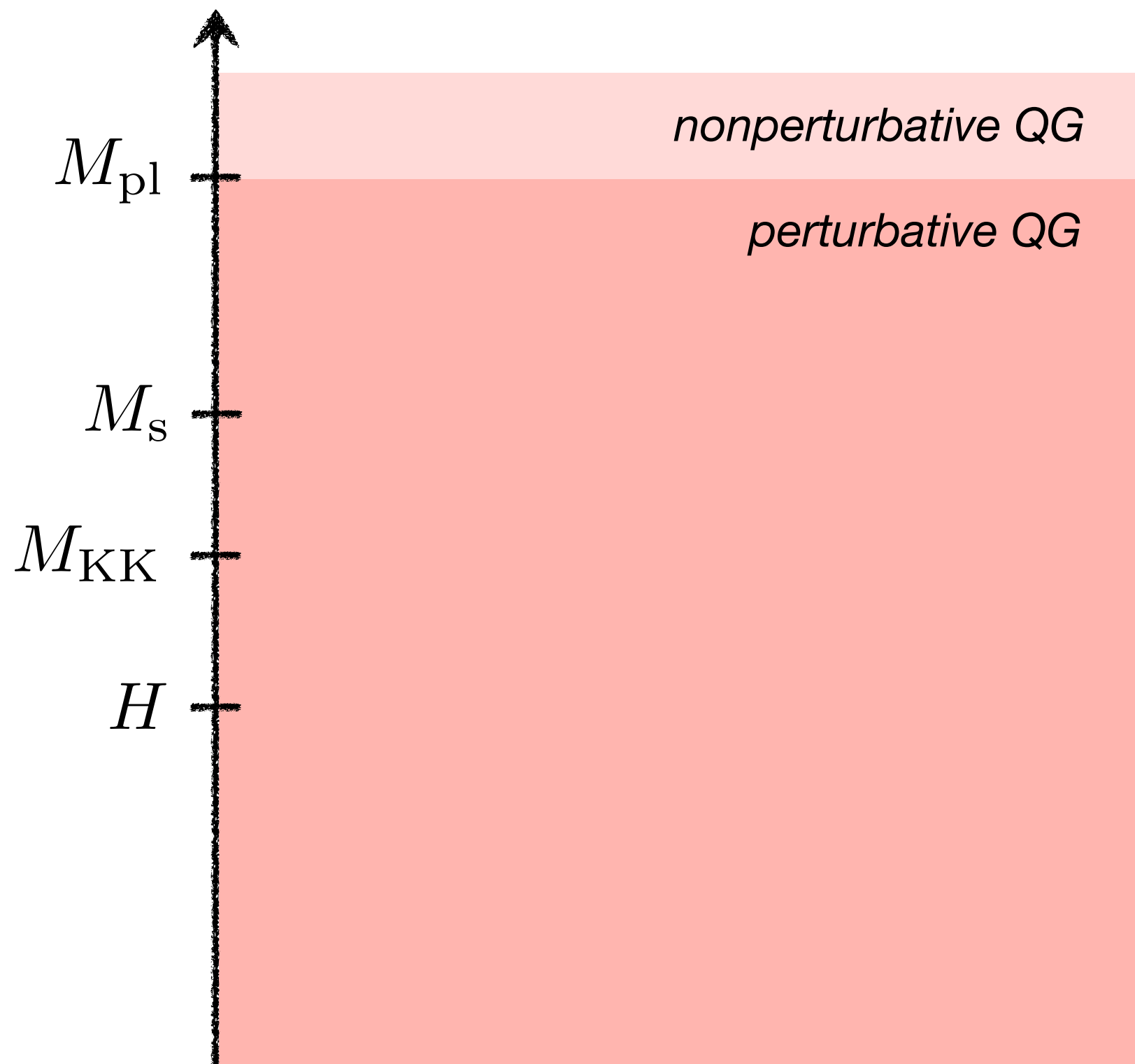




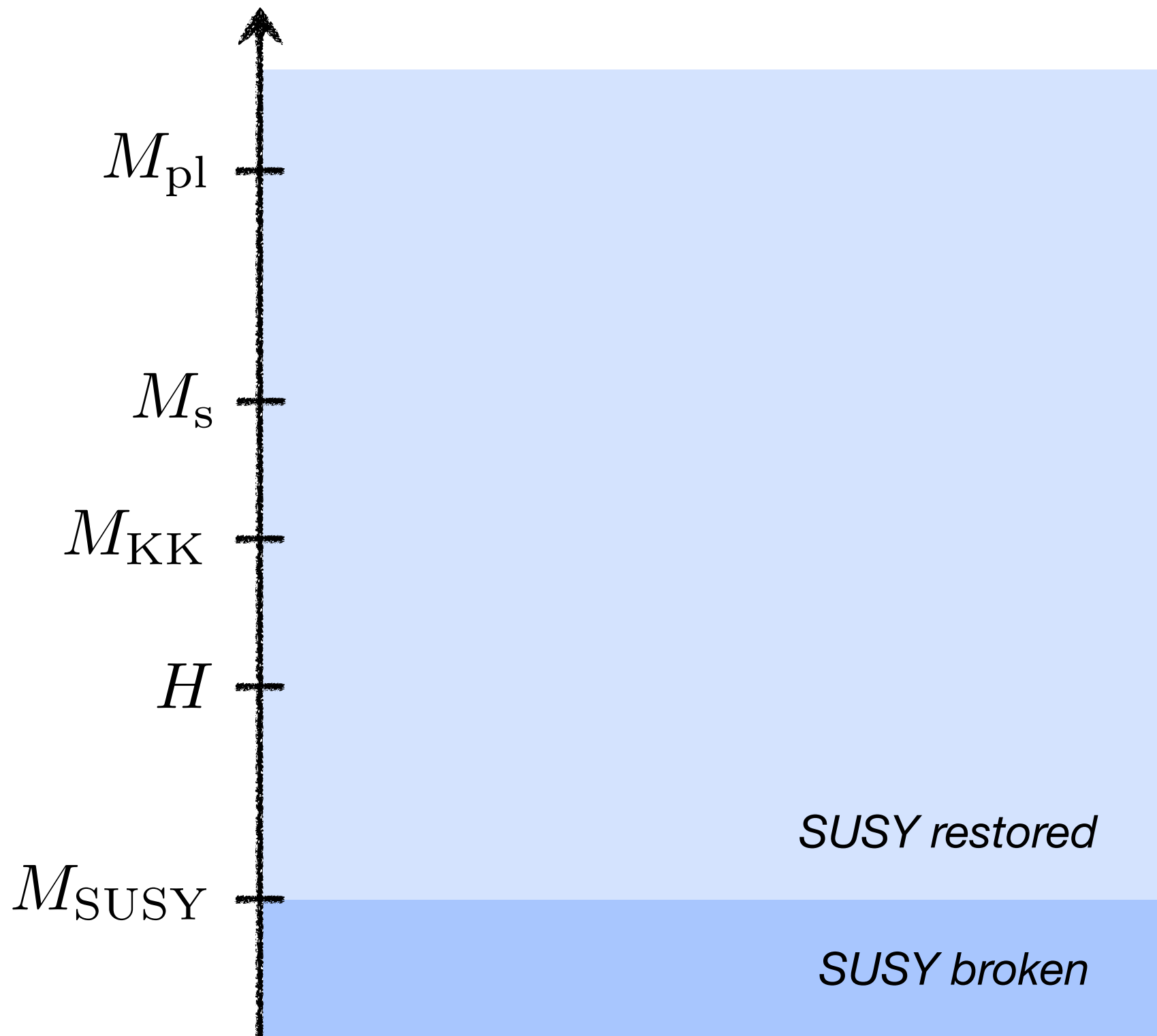
$$\sim M_s \mathcal{V}^{-1/6}$$

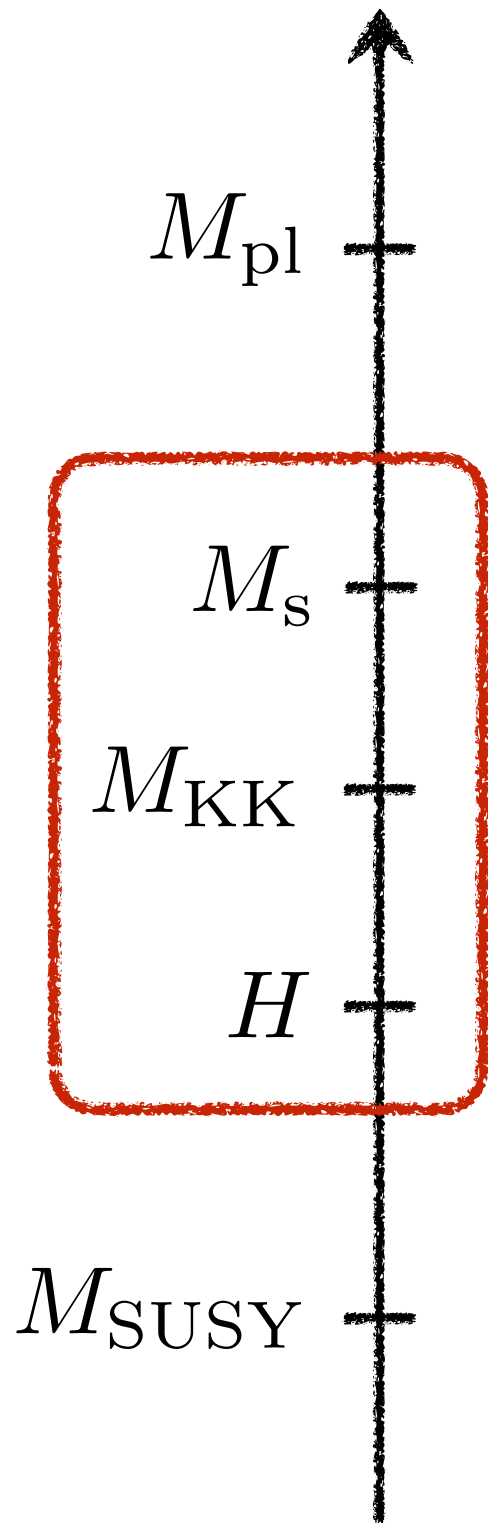
↑  
volume in string units





$$\sim \frac{M_s}{g_s} \left( \frac{M_s}{M_{\text{KK}}} \right)^3$$





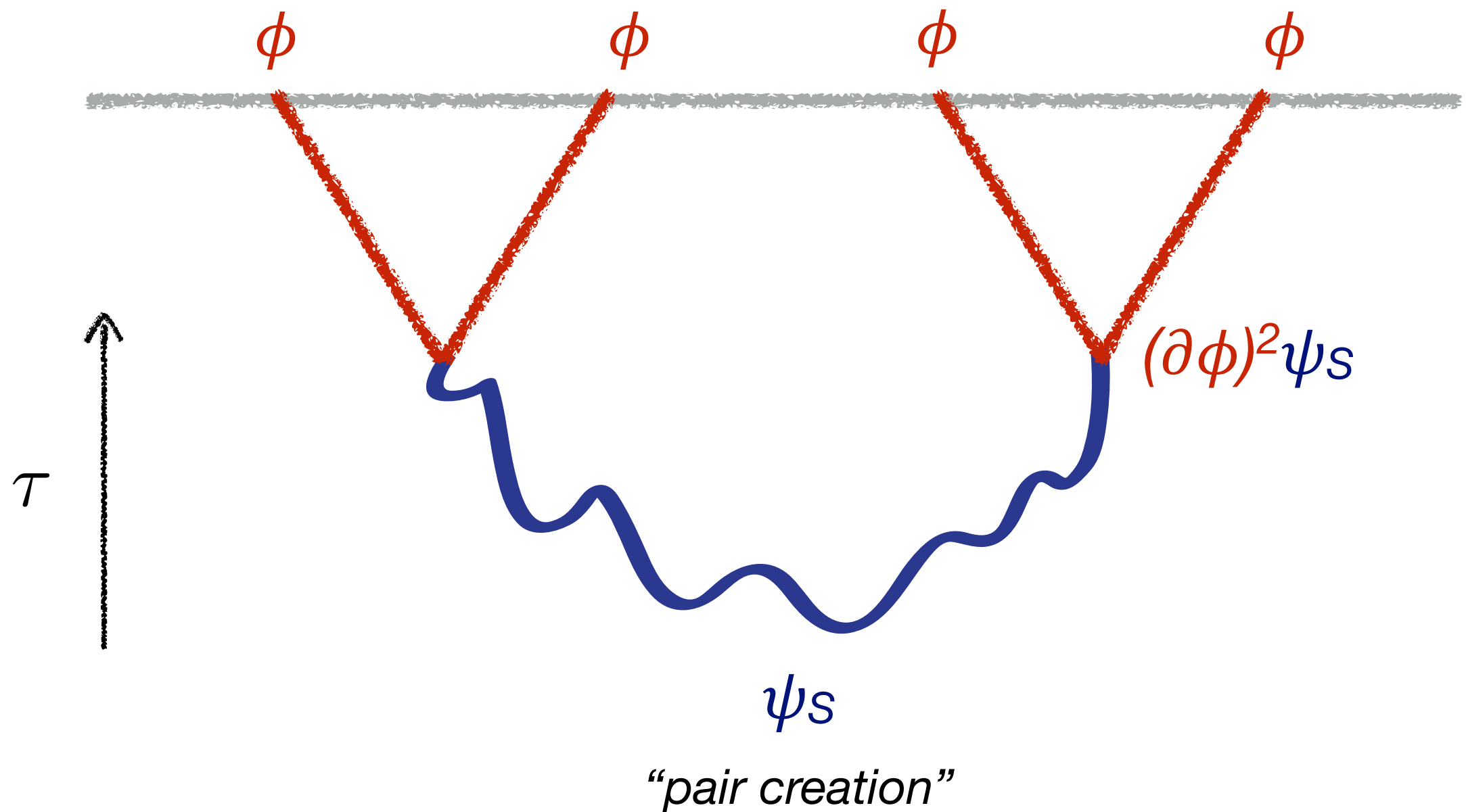
Especially, in high-scale inflation we struggle to decouple all UV effects from physics at the Hubble scale.

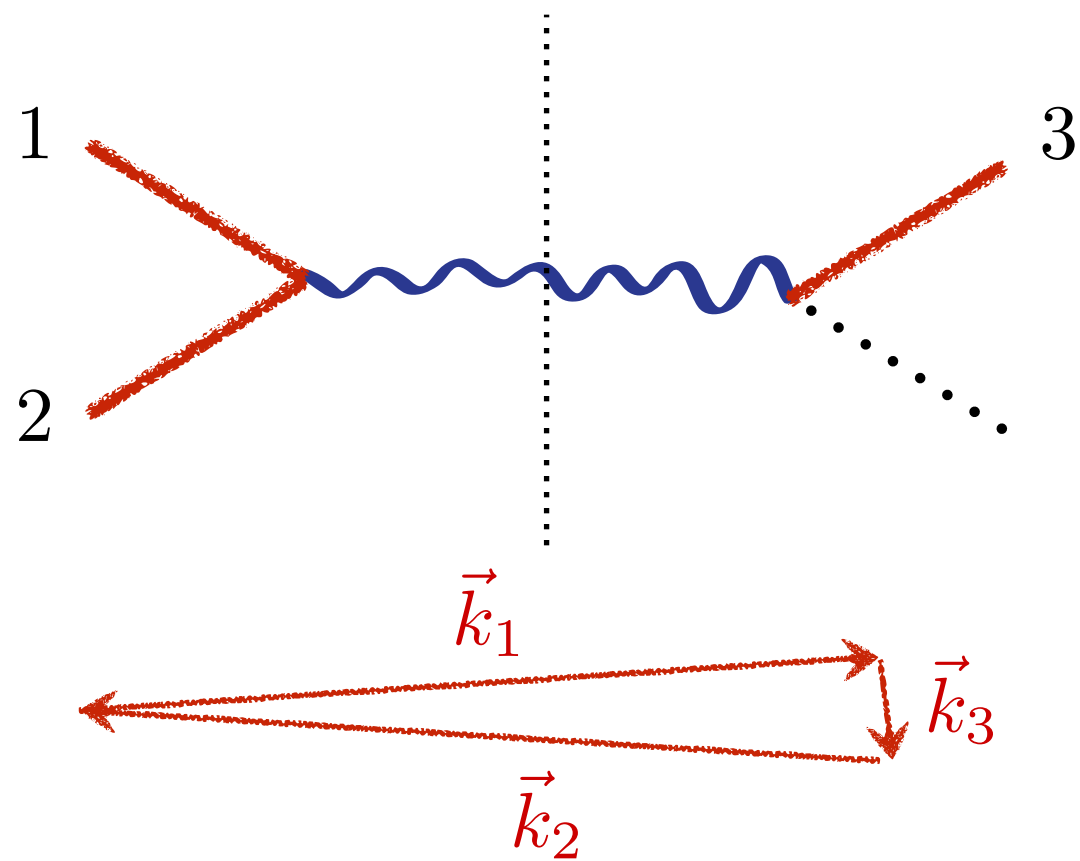
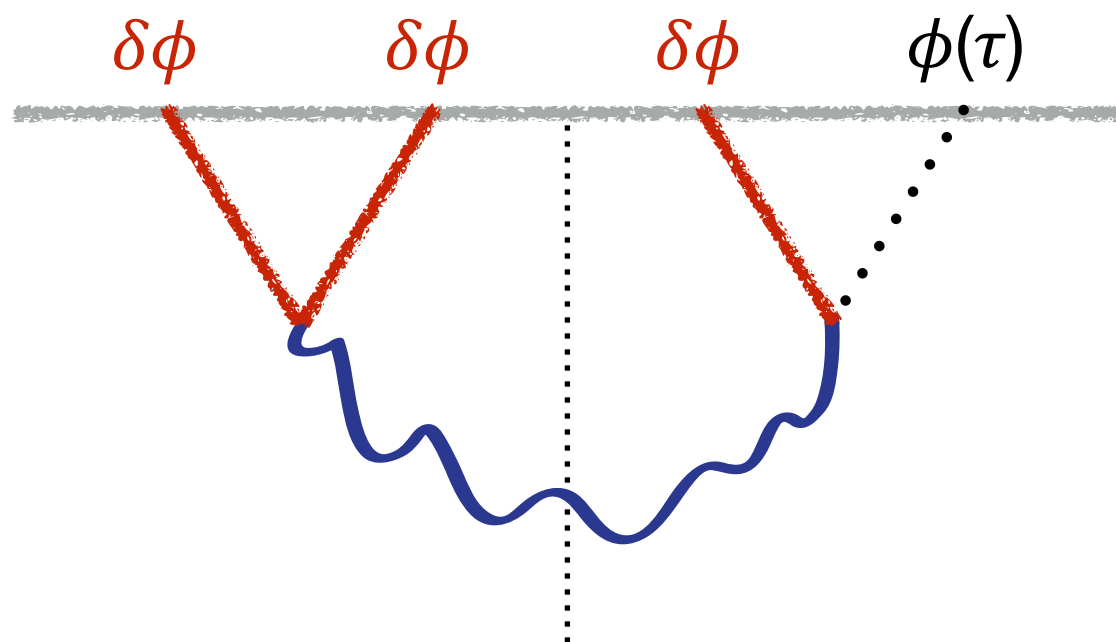
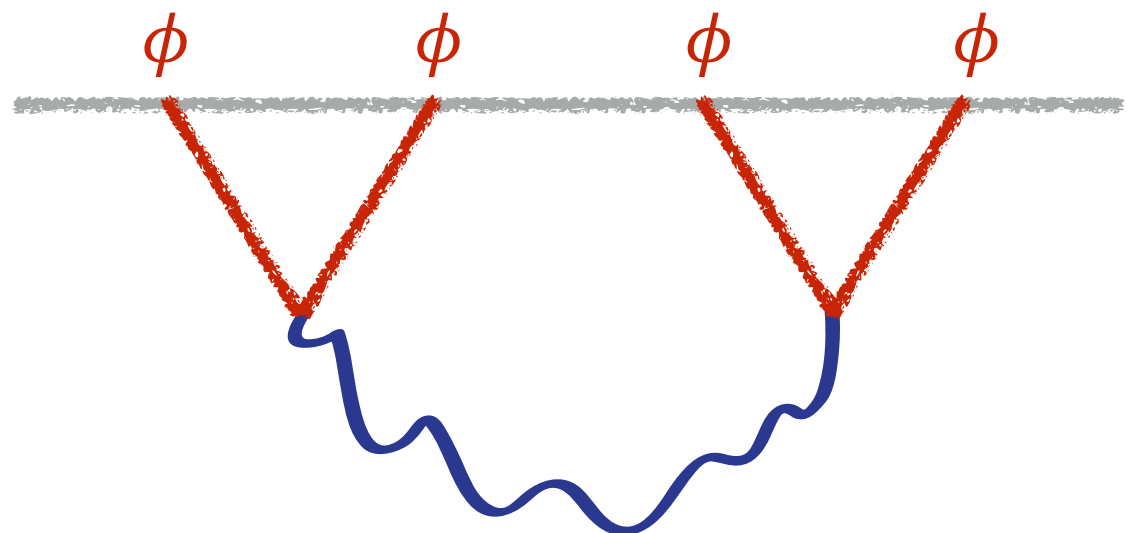
SUSY naturally leads to extra fields near the Hubble scale.

*Let's not fight it, but embrace it.*

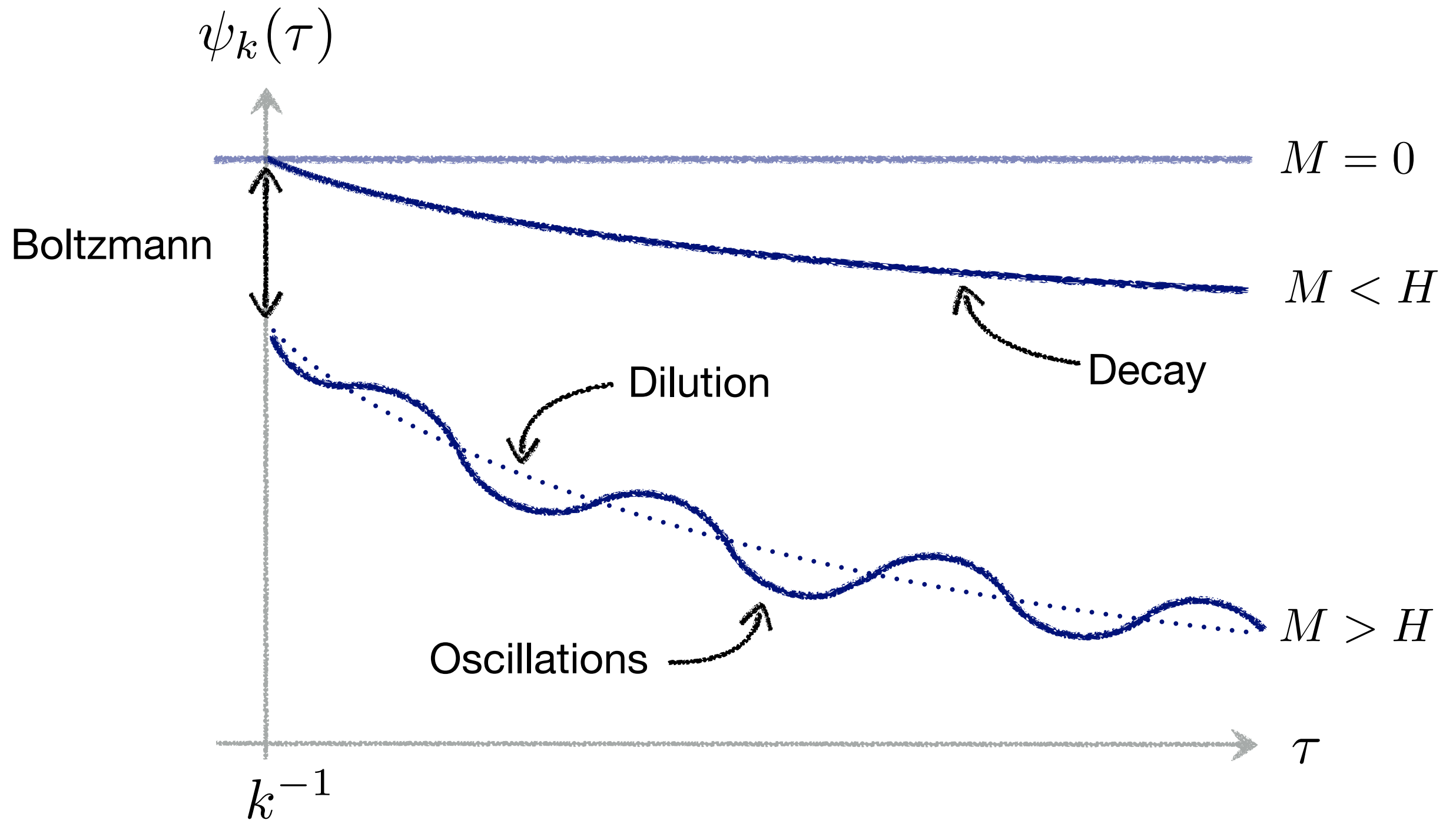
Let the inflaton  $\phi$  couple to particles  $\psi_S$  with mass  $M$  and spin  $S$ .

Pair creation of  $\psi_S$ -particles leads to non-Gaussian correlations of  $\phi$ -particles:





# Massive Fields in de Sitter Space



# Non-Gaussianity as a Particle Detector

Chen and Wang

DB and Green

Arkani-Hamed and Maldacena

The superhorizon evolution of the massive field gets imprinted in the squeezed limit of the bispectrum:

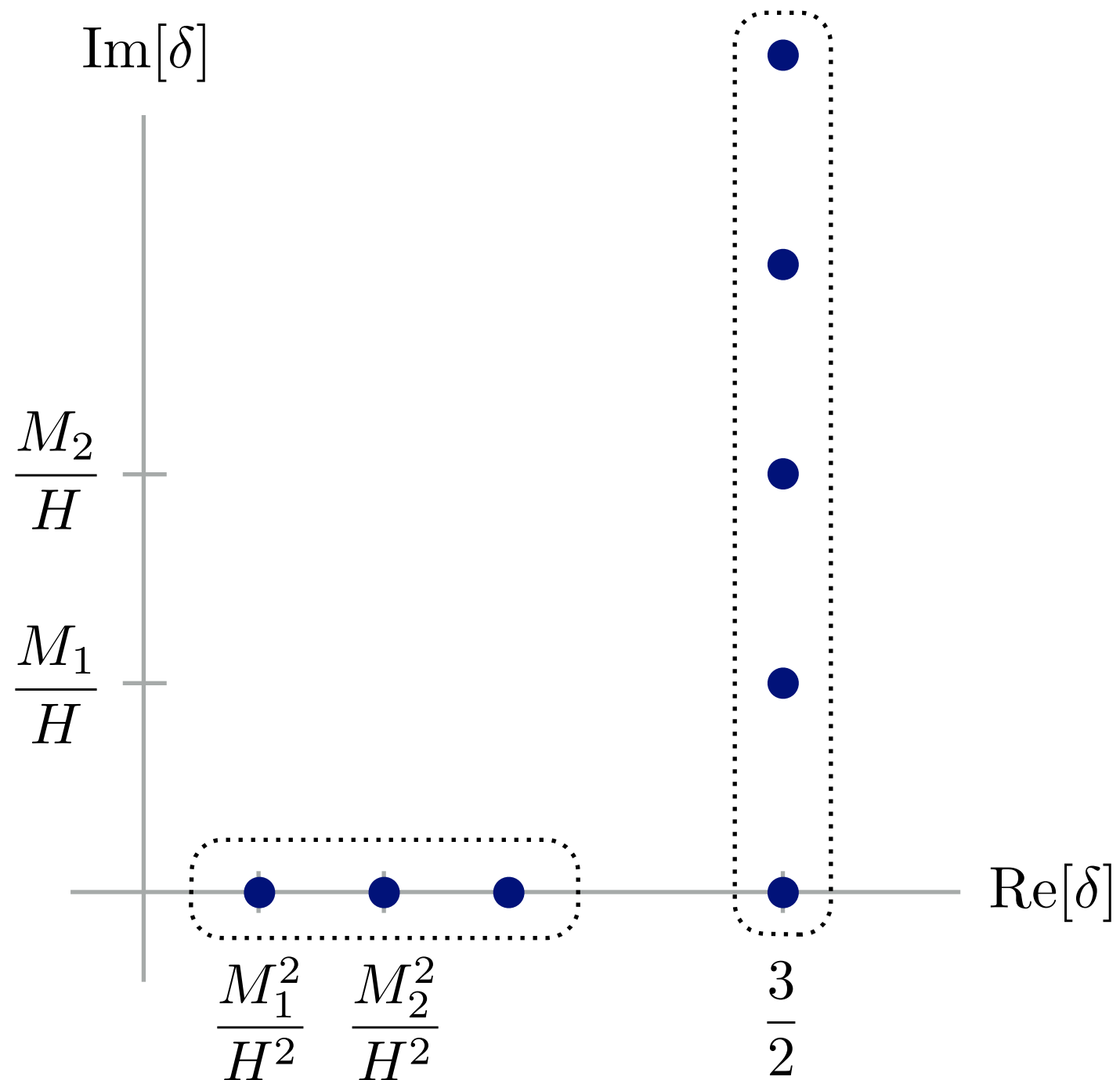
$$\lim_{k_3 \rightarrow 0} k_3^3 B(k_1, k_2, k_3) = \begin{cases} \left( \frac{k_3}{k_1 + k_2} \right)^{3/2 - \nu} & M < H \\ \left( \frac{k_3}{k_1 + k_2} \right)^{3/2} \cos(2i\nu \ln(k_3)) & M > H \end{cases}$$

$$\text{where } \nu \equiv \sqrt{\frac{9}{4} - \frac{M^2}{H^2}} .$$



# Regge Spectrum in Mellin Space

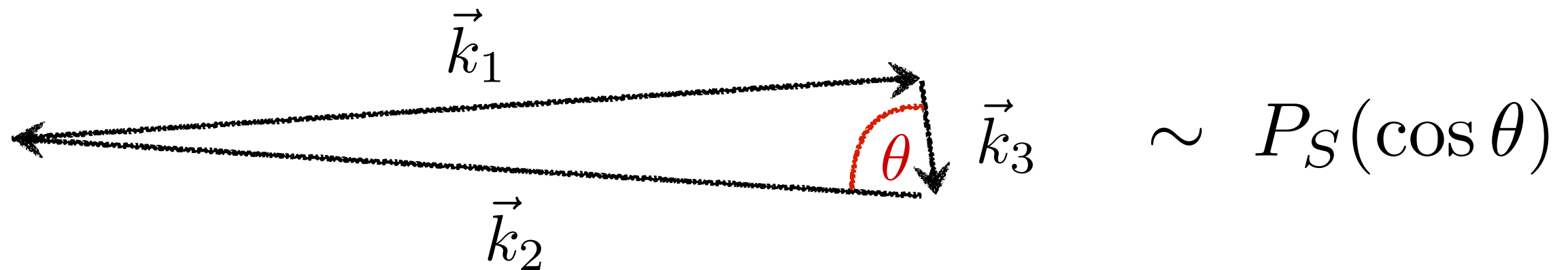
$$\tilde{B}(\delta) \equiv \int \frac{dk_3}{k_3} \left( \frac{k_3}{k_1 + k_2} \right)^{-\delta} B(k_1, k_2, k_3)$$



# Spin

*induces a unique signature in the bispectrum:*

Arkani-Hamed and Maldacena



*Finding  $S > 2$  would be very interesting.*

Weinberg

Green, Schwarz, and Witten

*Finding a correlation of the poles in Mellin space with the expected spins would be stupendous ...*



The background of the slide is a reproduction of the painting 'The Starry Night' by Vincent van Gogh. It features a swirling, turbulent night sky filled with numerous bright, glowing stars and a large, luminous crescent moon. In the foreground, a dark, jagged cypress tree stands on the left, while a small village with a prominent church spire is nestled in the valley below. The overall color palette is dominated by various shades of blue, with vibrant yellows for the celestial bodies and dark greens/browns for the landscape.

***Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit***



4.

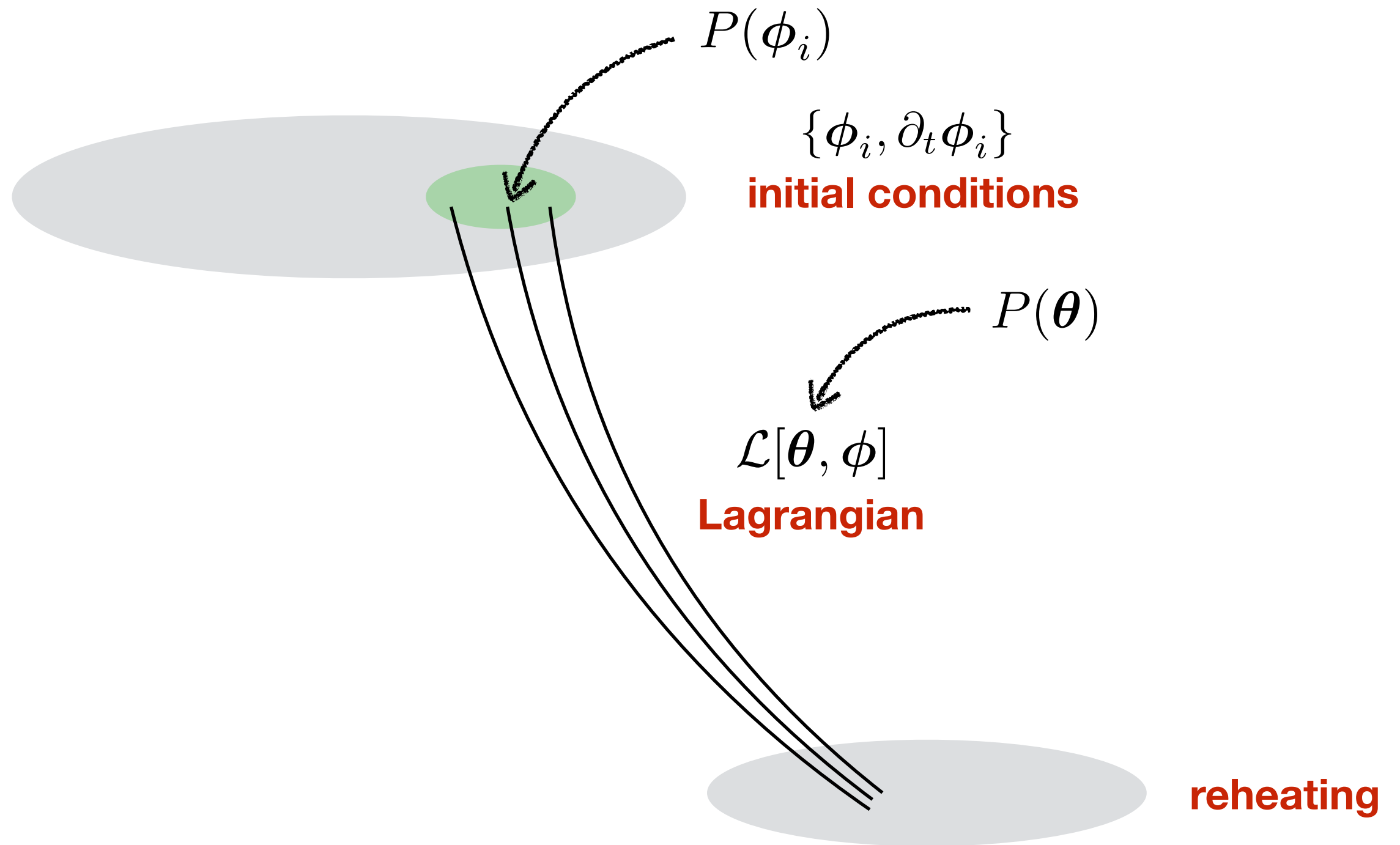
# Conceptual Problems of Inflation

Ijjas, Steinhardt and Loeb

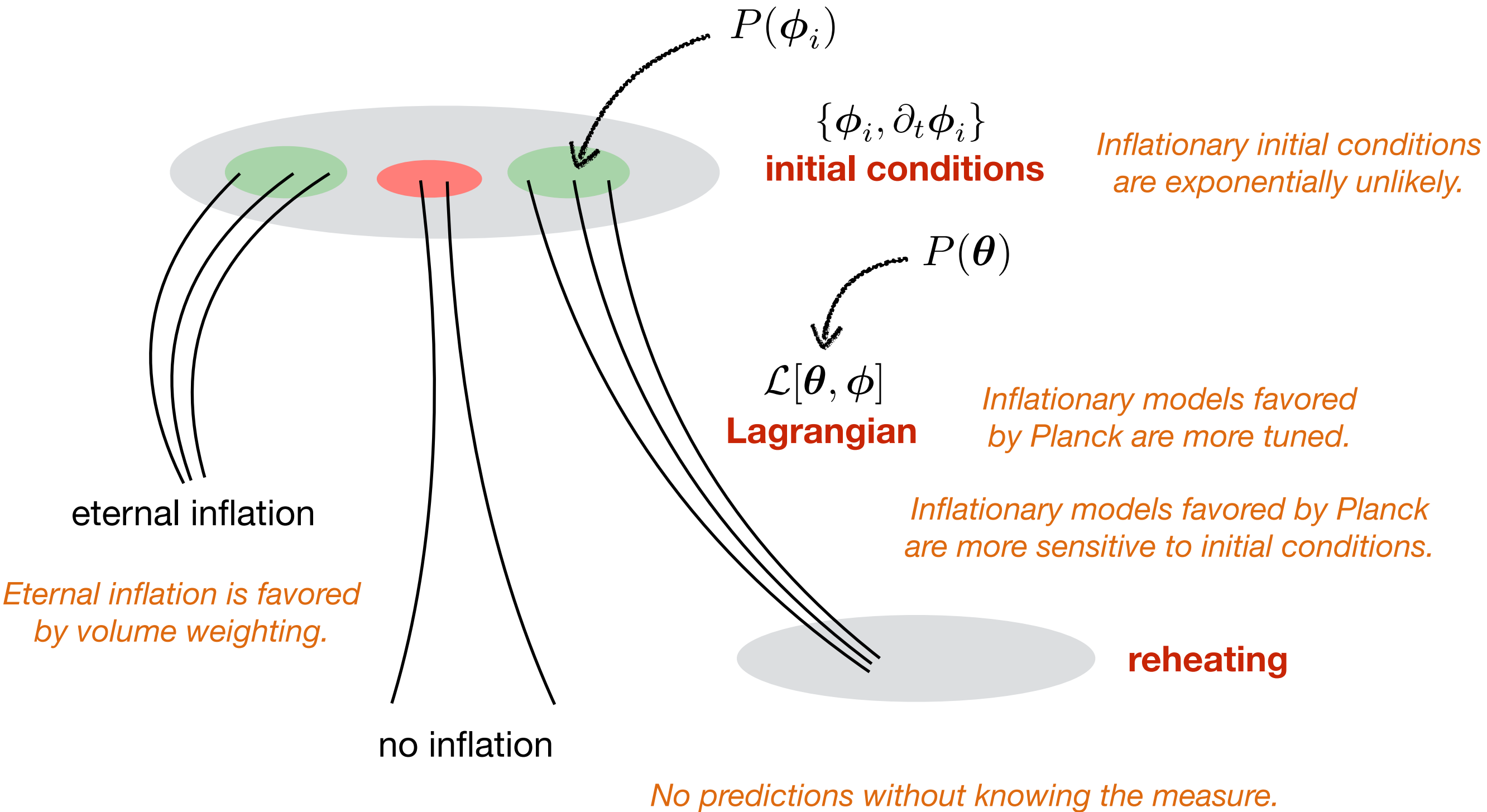
VS

Linde  
Guth, Kaiser, and Nomura

# Making Predictions in Inflationary Cosmology



# Critique of Steinhardt et al.



# Discussion

*Inflation is an incomplete theory.*

