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# **CMB CONSTRAINTS ON THE INFLATON COUPLINGS IN $\alpha$ -ATTRACTOR INFLATION**

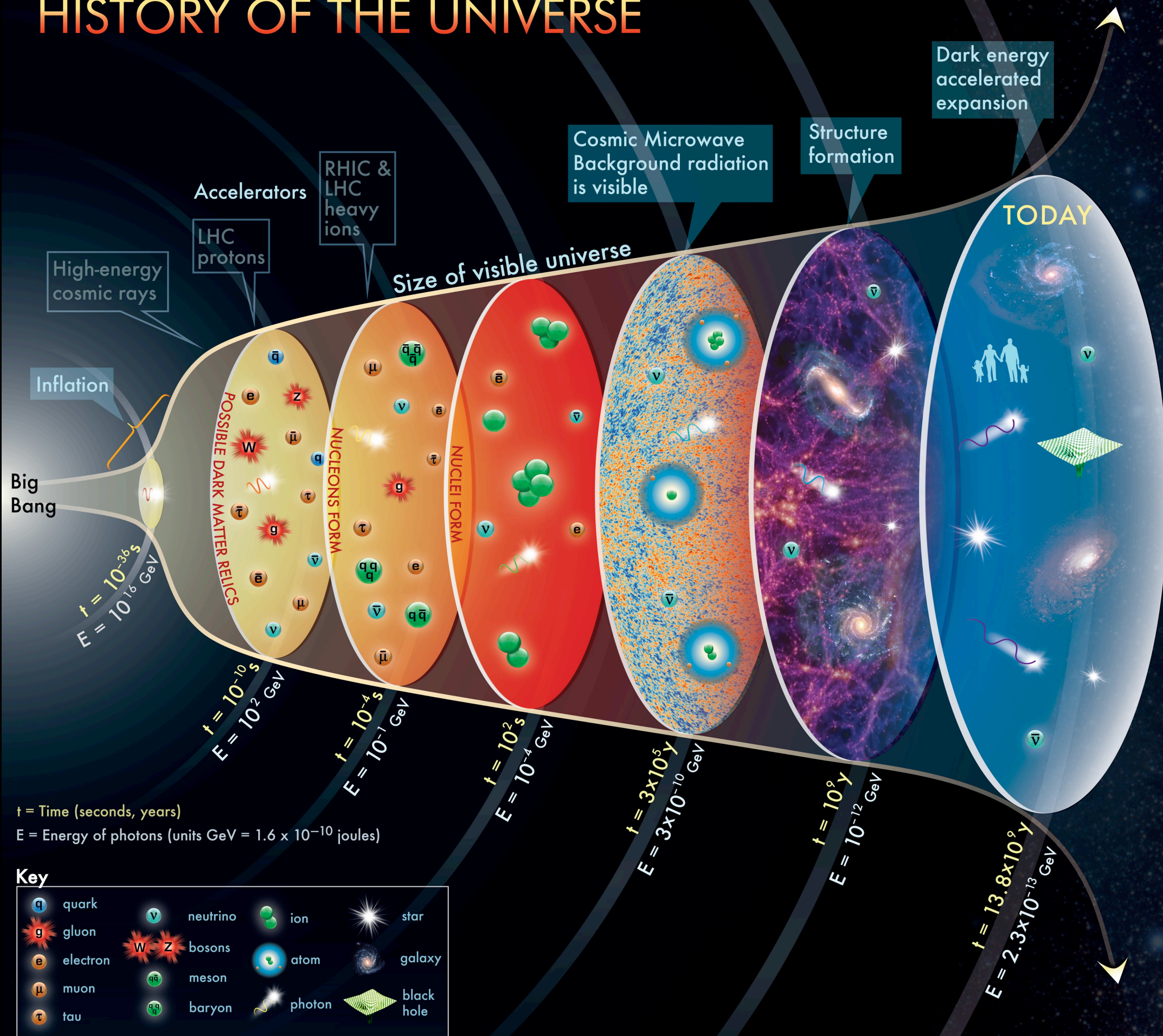
**28.09.2017**

**DESY  
Theory  
Workshop**

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**based on arXiv:1708.01197 and arXiv:1511.03280**  
**in collaboration with Jin U Kang and Ui Ri Mun**

# HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE



t = Time (seconds, years)

E = Energy of photons (units GeV =  $1.6 \times 10^{-10}$  joules)

## Key

	quark		neutrino		ion		star
	gluon		W bosons		atom		galaxy
	electron		meson		photon		black hole
	muon		baryon				
	tau						

The concept for the above figure originated in a 1986 paper by Michael Turner.

Particle Data Group, LBNL © 2015

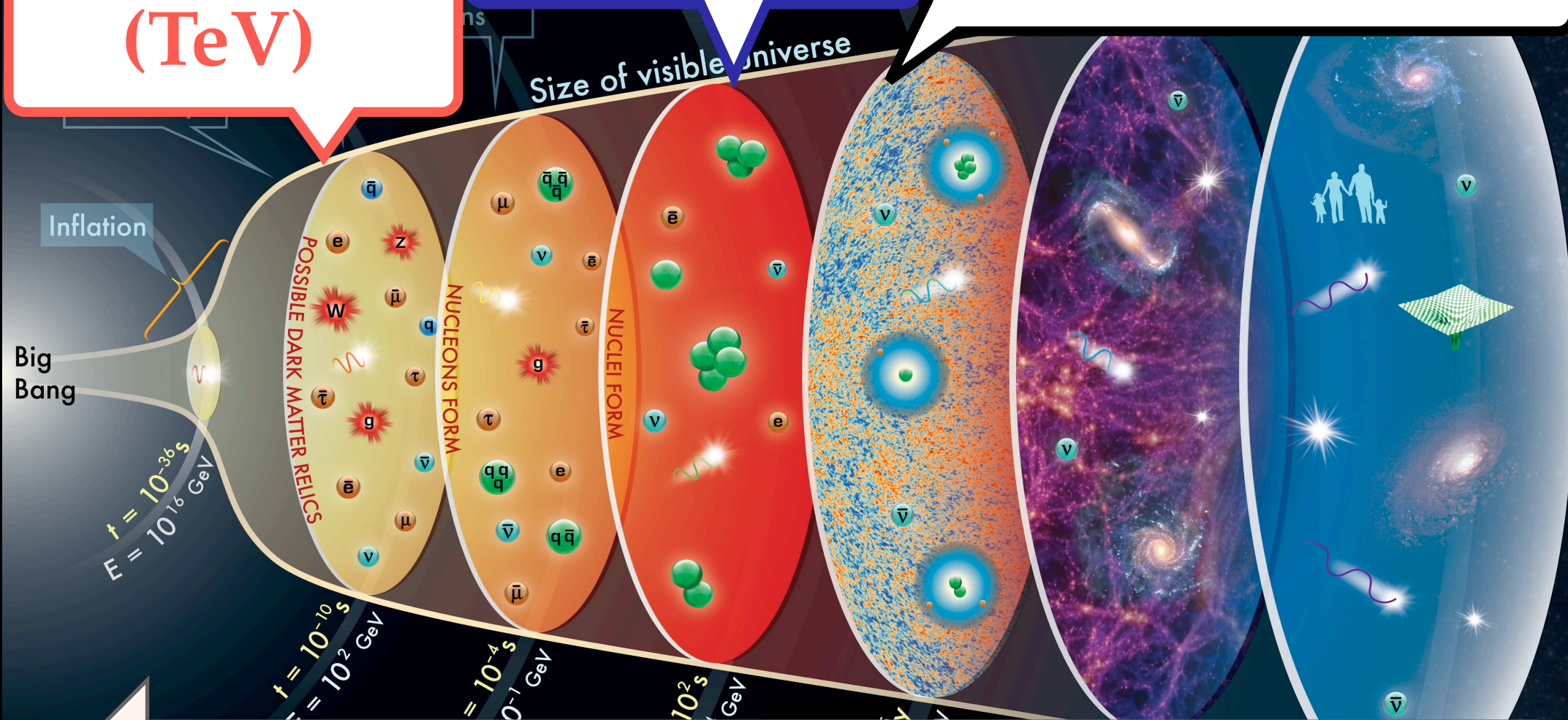
Supported by DOE



Large  
Hadron  
Collider  
(TeV)

astro  
chemistry  
(MeV)

astronomical  
observations  
(eV)



energy density, temperature

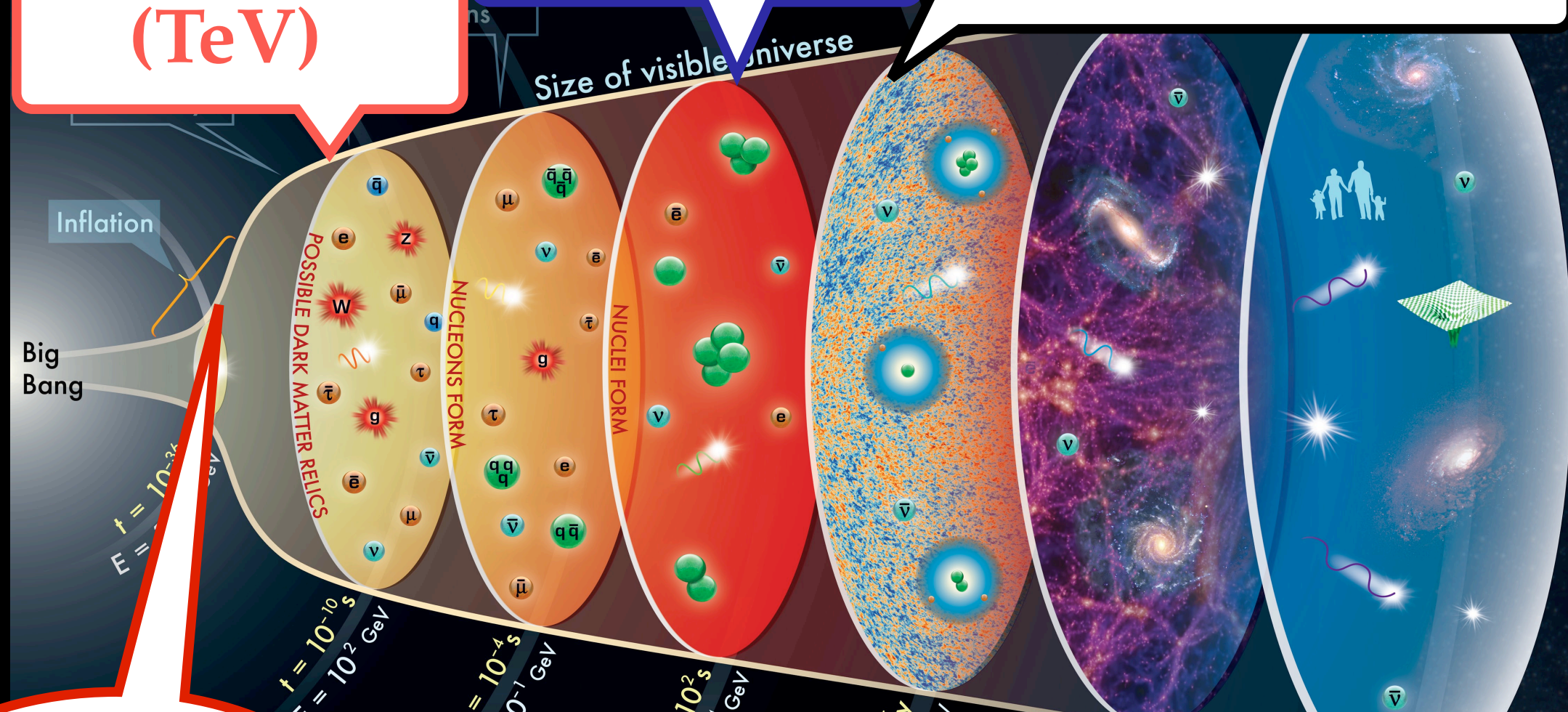
cosmic time



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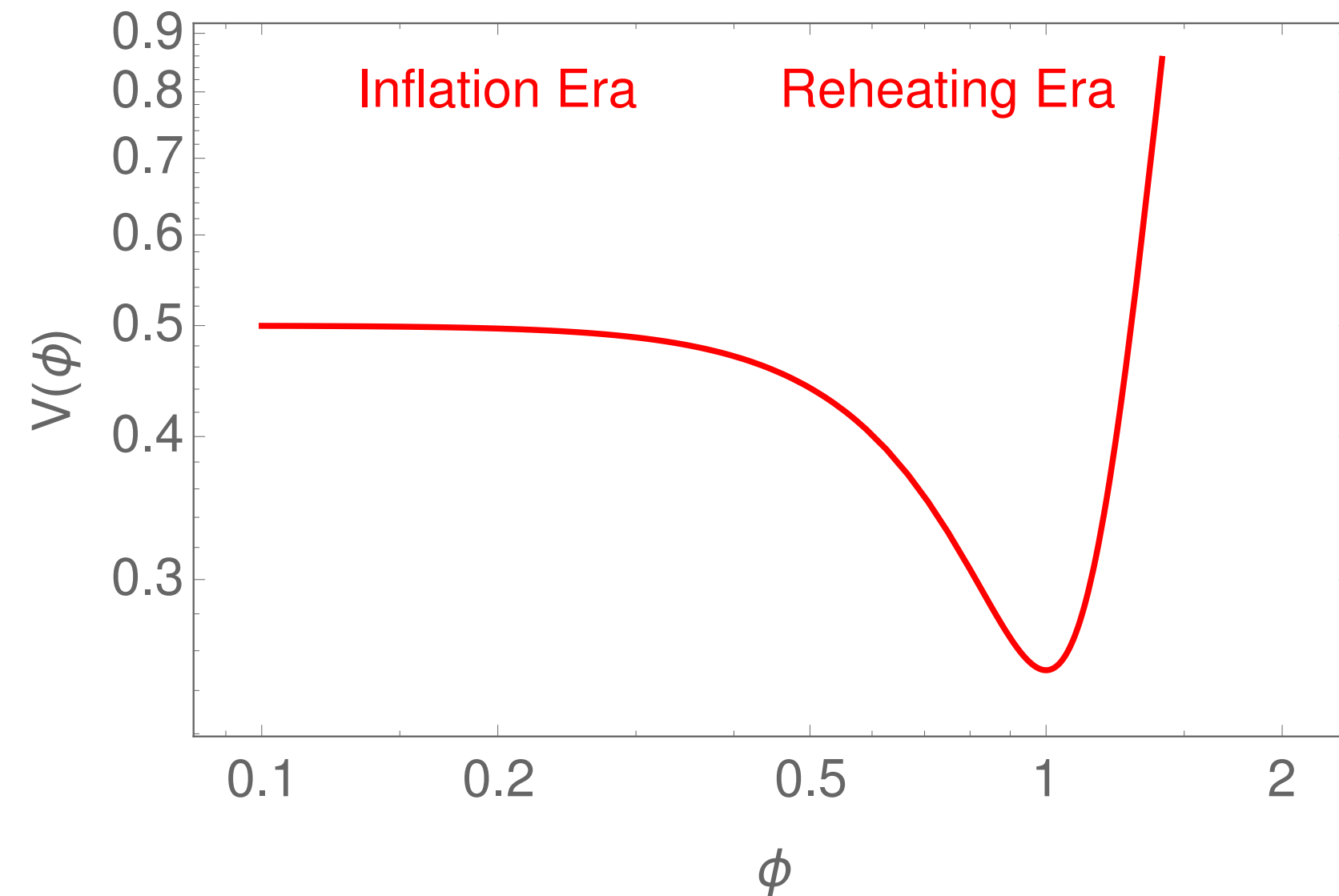
Cosmic  
Inflation

energy density, temperature

cosmic time

# Inflation

- explains homogeneity, isotropy and flatness of the universe
- explains origin of density fluctuations from blown-up quantum fluctuations



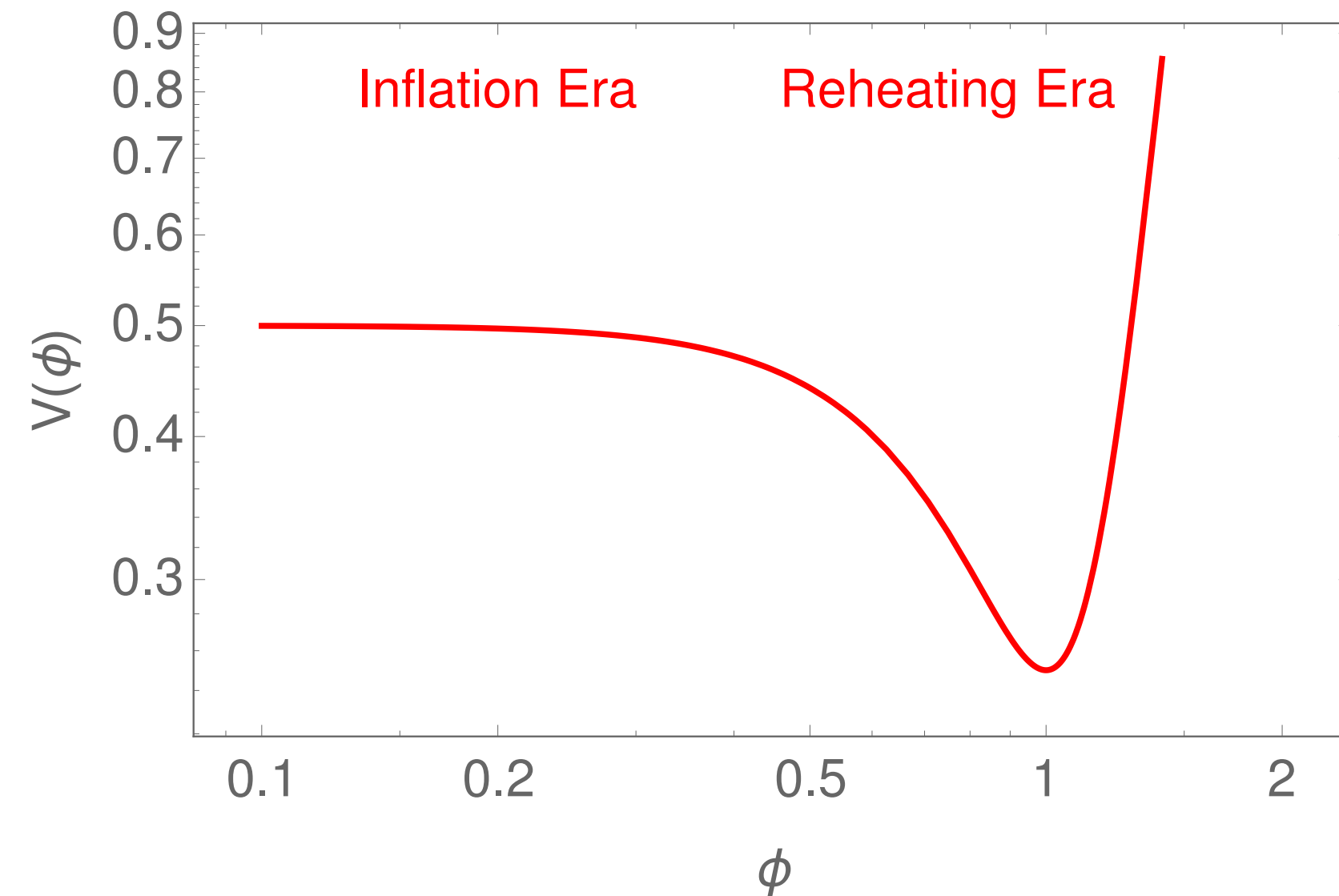
## Reheating

dissipative processes fill the universe with radiation (“hot big bang”)

$$\ddot{\phi} + (3H + \Gamma)\dot{\phi} + \partial_{\phi} V(\phi) = 0$$

# Inflation

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## Reheating

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$$\ddot{\phi} + (3H + \Gamma)\dot{\phi} + \partial_{\phi} V(\phi) = 0$$

dissipation rate

effective potential

# The Reheating Era

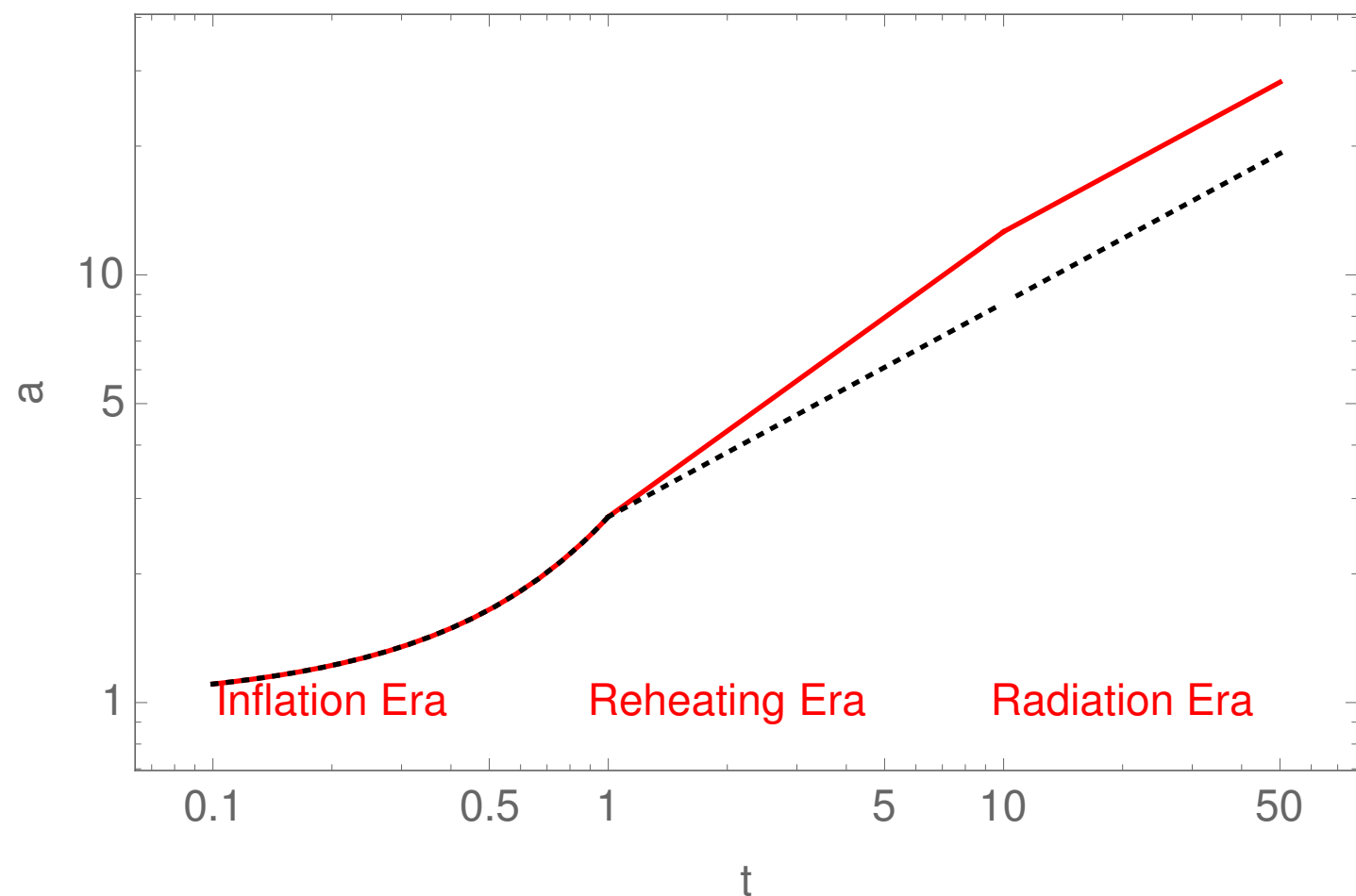
$$\ddot{\phi} + (3H + \Gamma_{\varphi})\dot{\phi} + \partial_{\phi}V(\phi) = 0$$

- inflation ends when kinetic energy is sizeable

$$w > -1/3$$

- reheating ends when dissipation exceeds Hubble damping

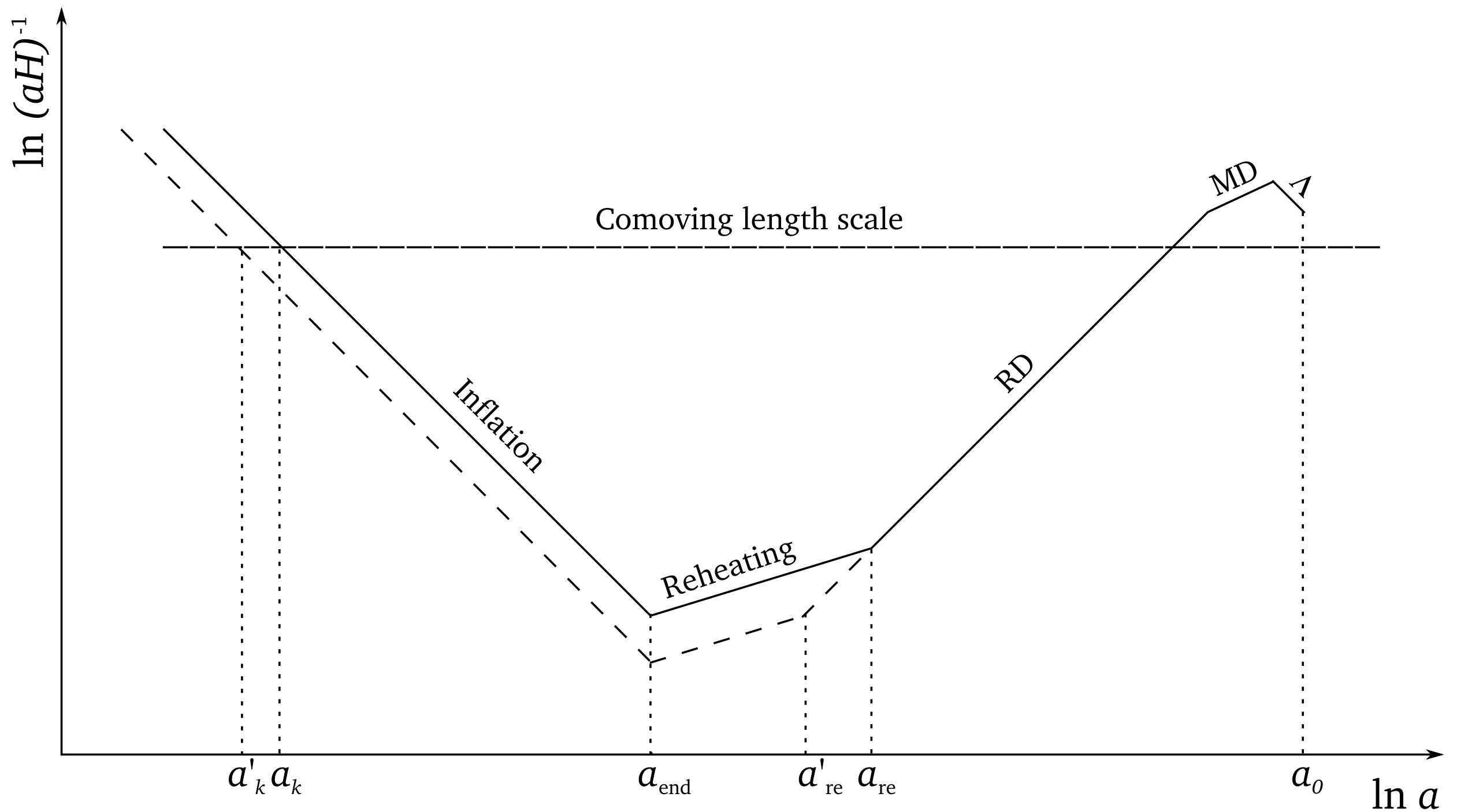
$$\Gamma = H$$



In between:  $-1/3 < w < 1/3$

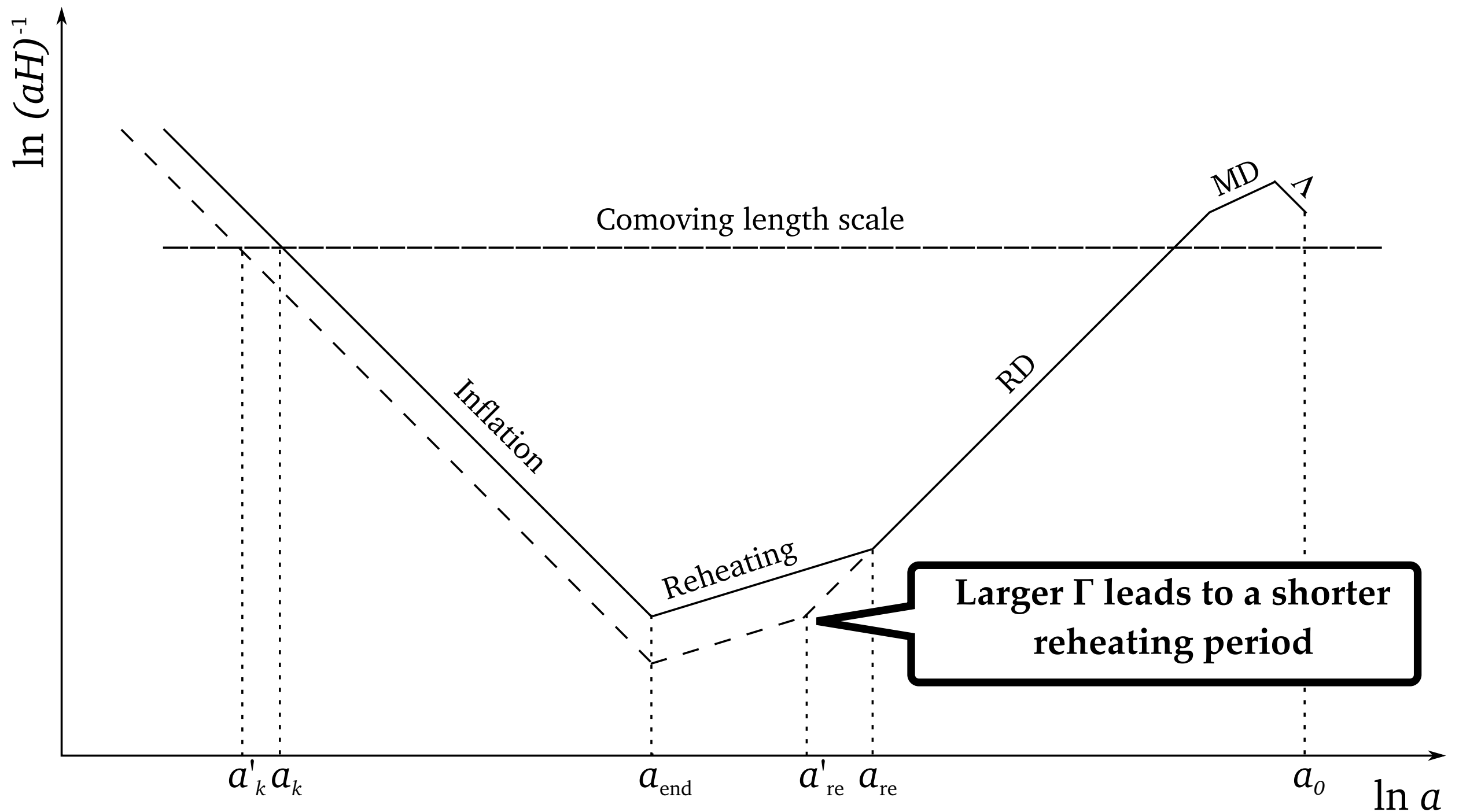
⇒ affects expansion history and redshirting of CMB modes!

# Effect on CMB Modes

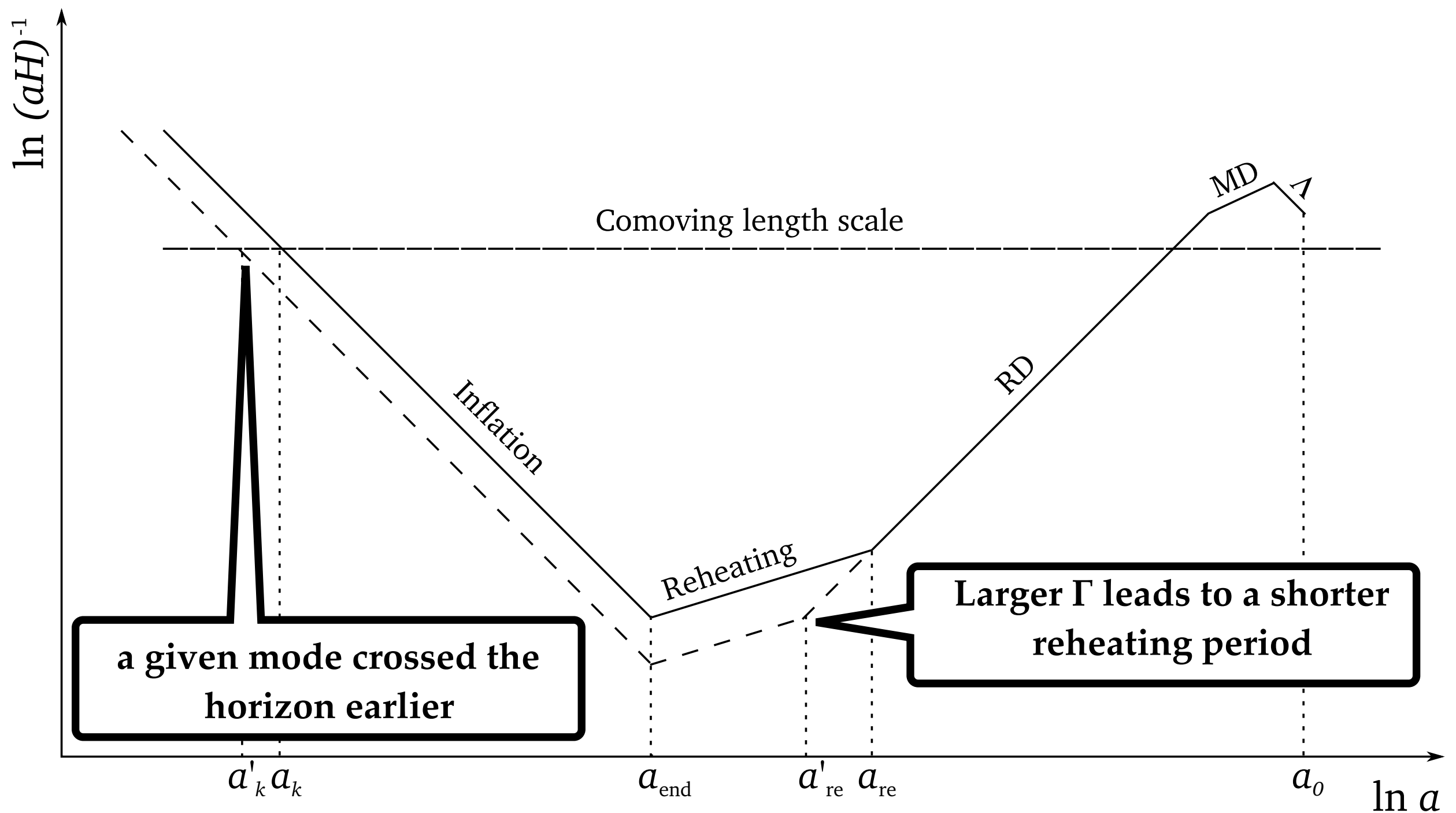




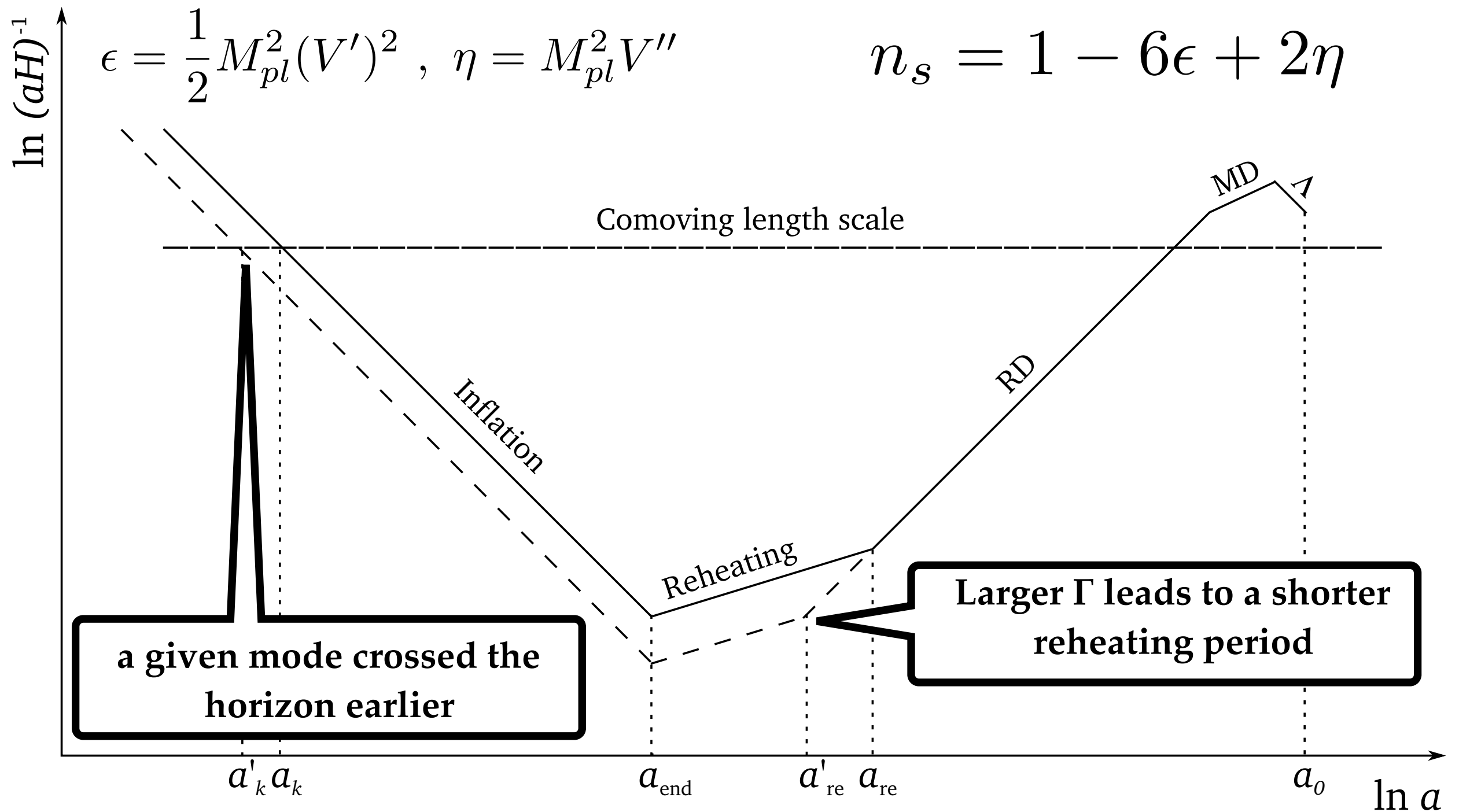
# Effect on CMB Modes



# Effect on CMB Modes

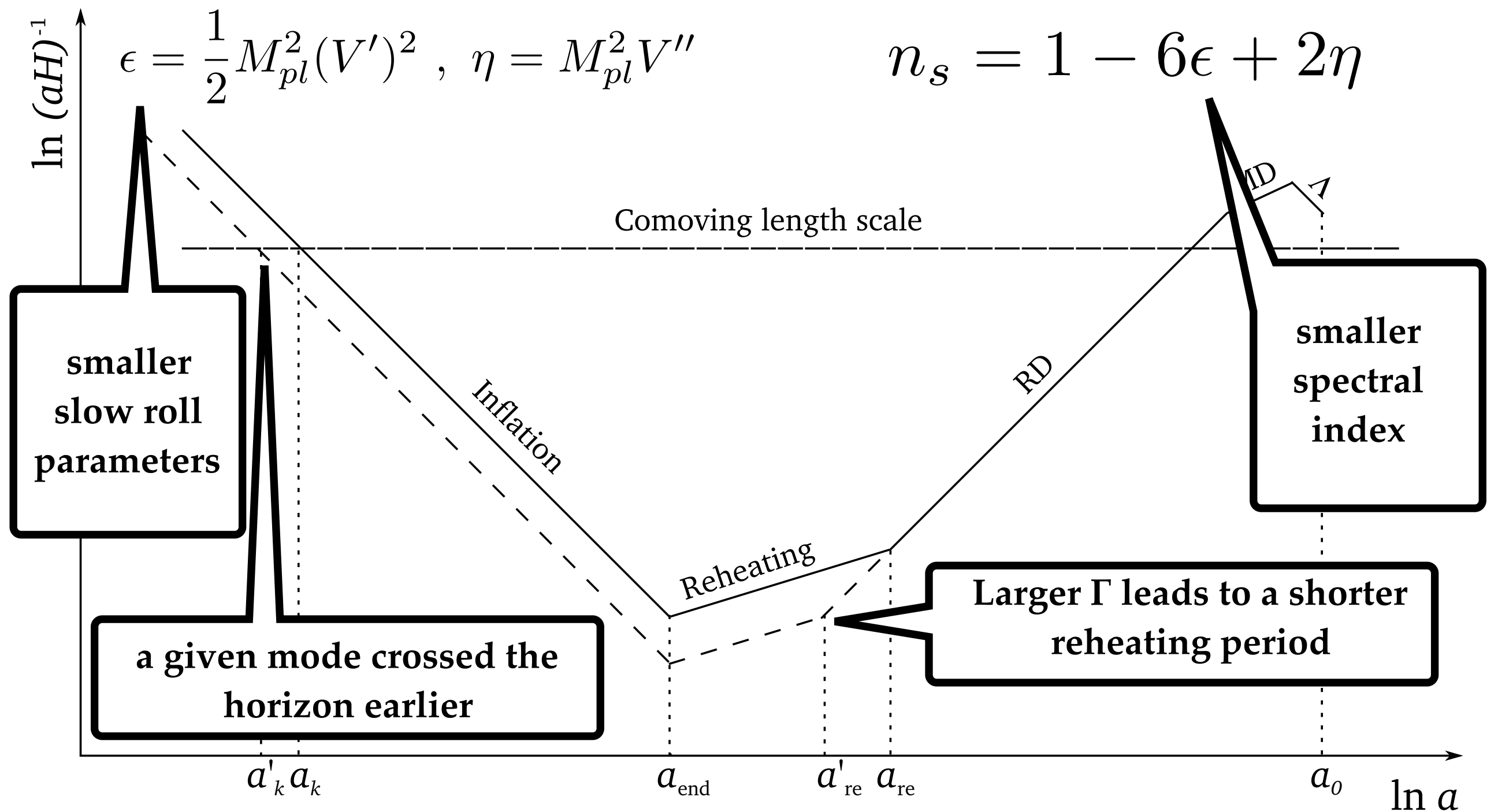


# Effect on CMB Modes

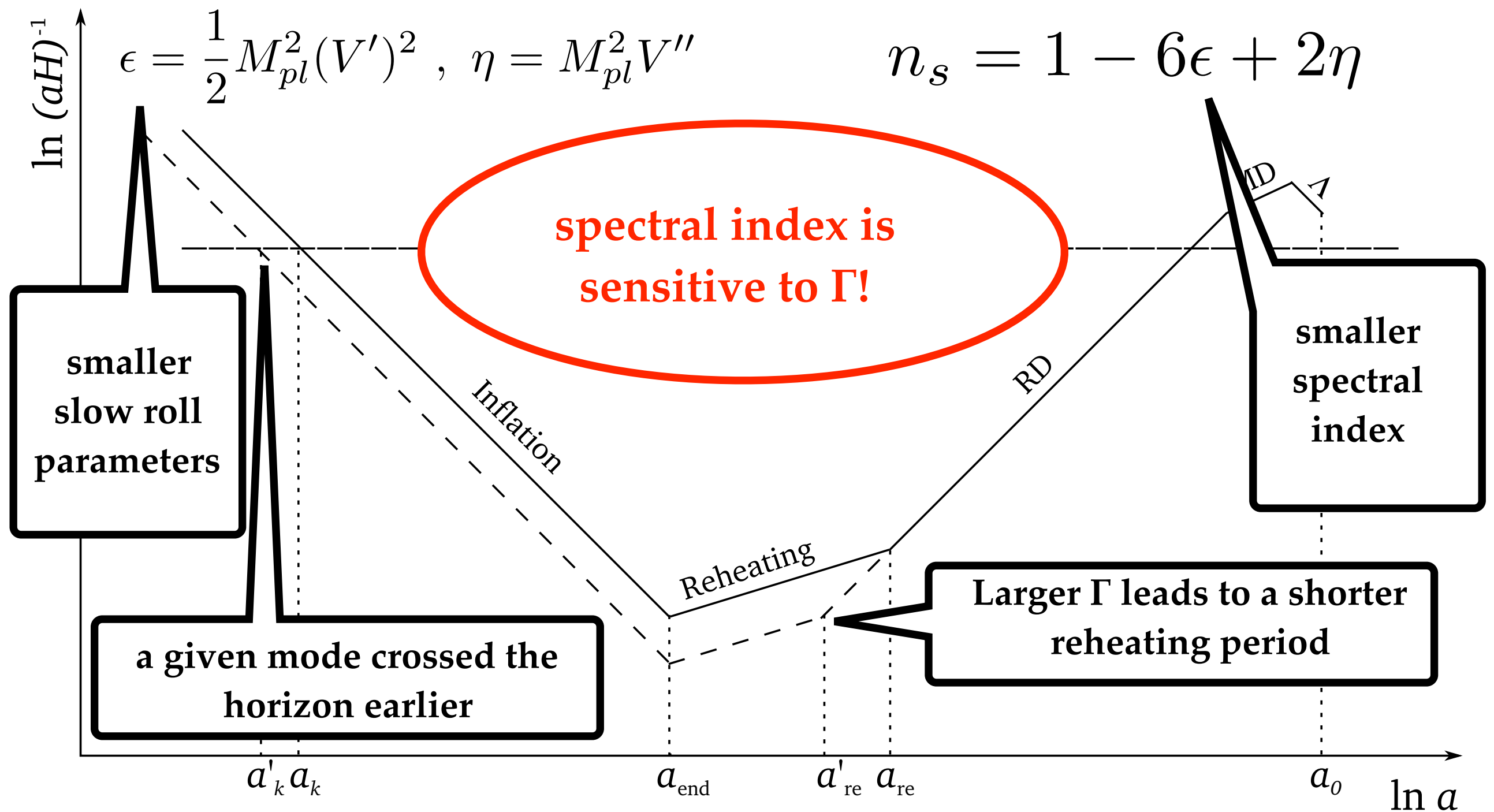




# Effect on CMB Modes



# Effect on CMB Modes



This is not really new, see e.g. Kinney / Riotto 2006.

But one may ask

Can one translate a  
“measurement” of  $\Gamma$   
into a “measurement” of  
microphysical parameters?



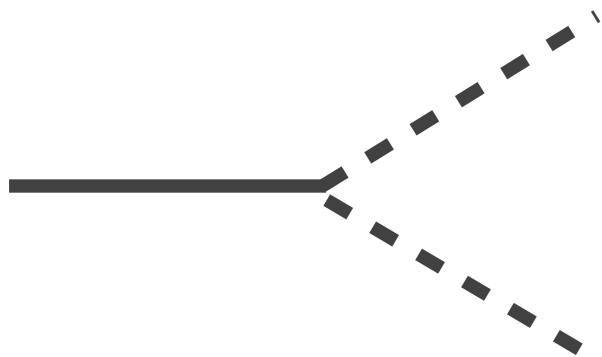
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# Inflaton Decay

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Consider a simple scalar interaction  $g\phi\chi^2$

In vacuum, the inflaton decays via  $1 \rightarrow 2$  decays



$$\Gamma = \frac{g^2}{8\pi m_\phi}$$

But what about the feedback of the produced particles on  $\Gamma$ ?

Feedback will lead to a very complicated relation between  $g$  and  $\Gamma(t)$ .

# Parametric Resonance

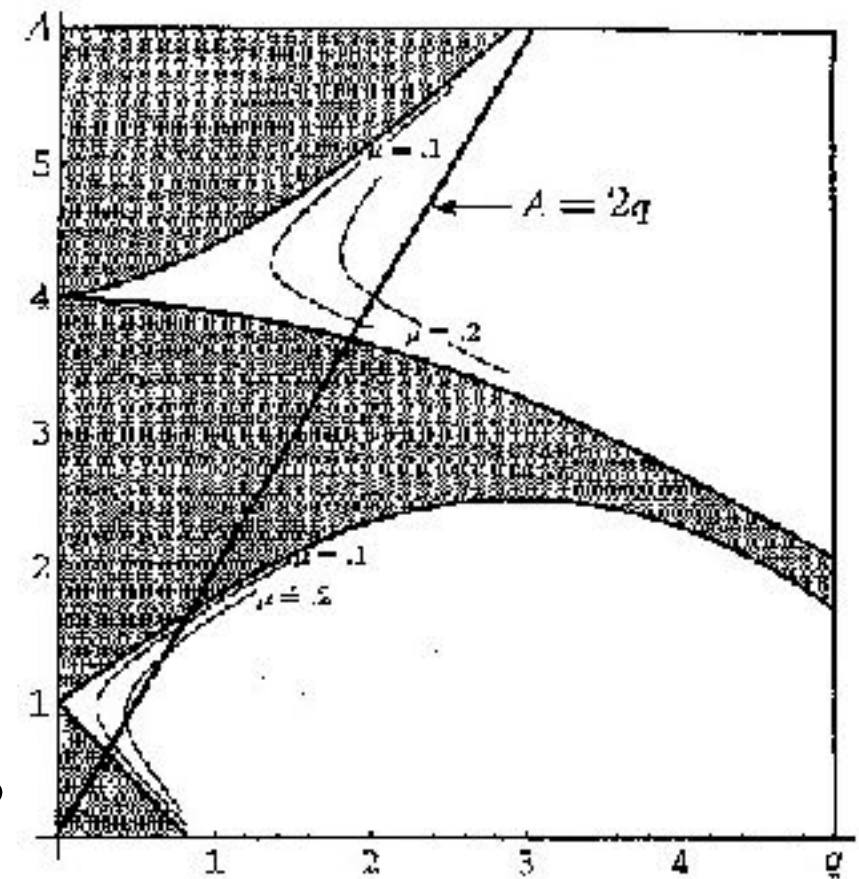
Mode equation for produced particles

$$\ddot{\chi}_k + [k^2 + m_\chi^2 + 2\tilde{g}m_\phi\Phi\sin(m_\phi t)]\chi_k = 0$$

Can be rewritten as Mathieu equation

$$\chi_k'' + [A_k - 2q\cos(2x)]\chi_k = 0$$

with  $A_k = 4(k^2 + m_\chi^2)/m_\phi^2$  ,  $q = 4\tilde{g}\Phi/m_\phi$



# Parametric Resonance

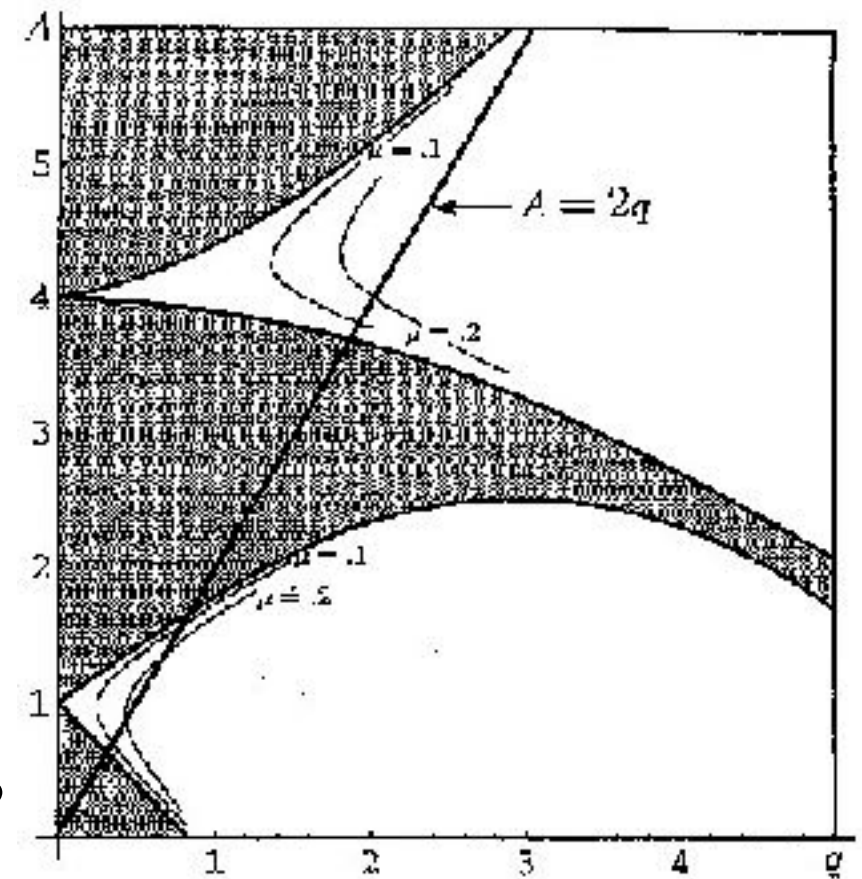
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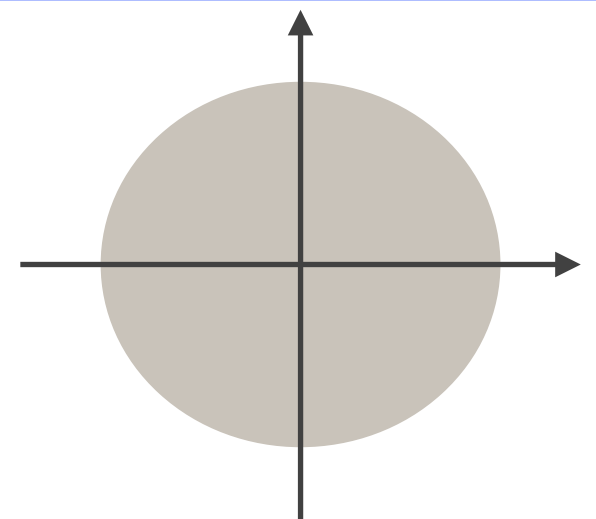
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with  $A_k = 4(k^2 + m_\chi^2)/m_\phi^2$  ,  $q = 4\tilde{g}\Phi/m_\phi$



**“broad resonance”** for  $q > 1$ , i.e.  $\tilde{g} > m_\phi/\Phi$

non-perturbative production of particles  
with momenta  $k < (m_\phi^2 \tilde{g} \Phi)^{1/3}$





# Parametric Resonance

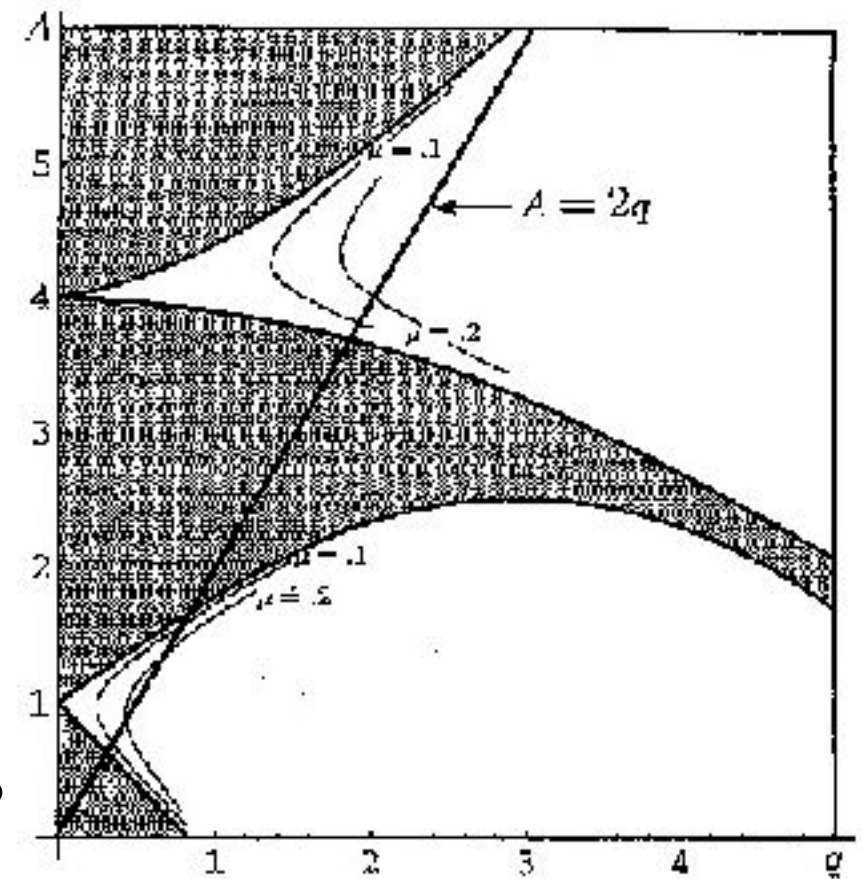
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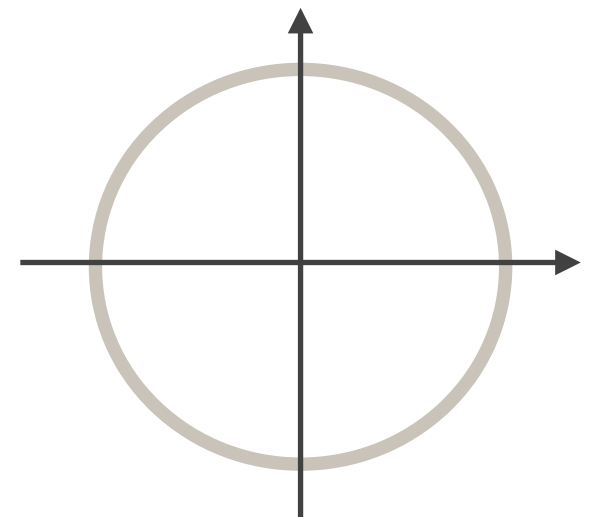
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with  $A_k = 4(k^2 + m_\chi^2)/m_\phi^2$  ,  $q = 4\tilde{g}\Phi/m_\phi$



**“narrow resonance” for  $q < 1$ , i.e.  $\tilde{g} < m_\phi/\Phi$**

Bose-enhanced production of particles  
with momenta  $k = m_\phi/2$



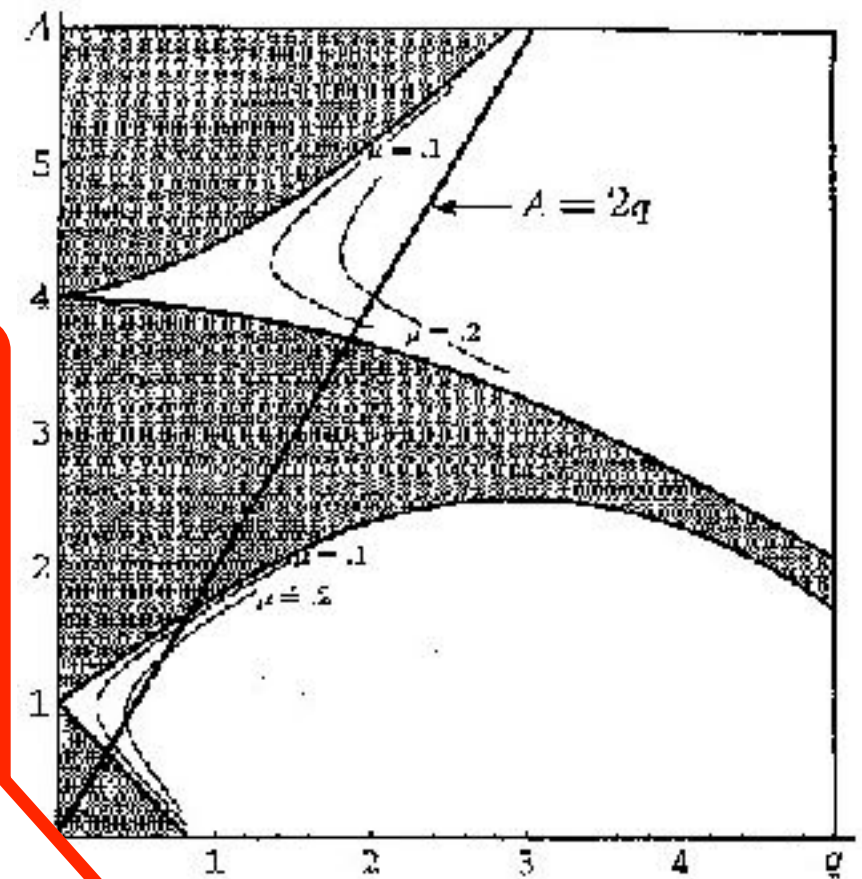
# Parametric Resonance

Mode equation for produced particles

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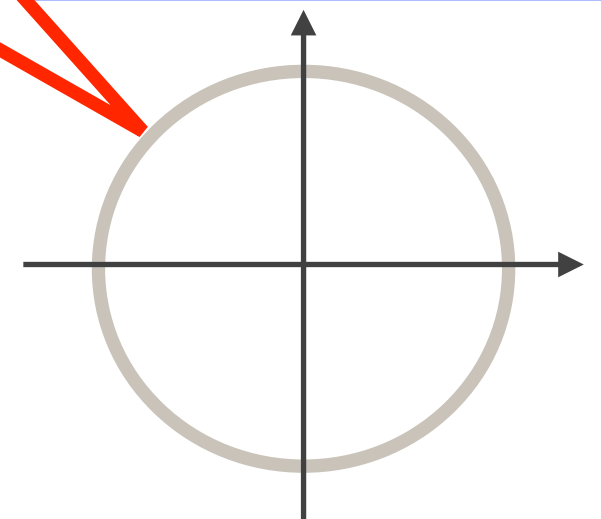
Can be avoided due to redshifting if  $\Gamma < H$  or

$$\tilde{g} < \frac{V_{\text{end}}^{1/4}}{\rho_{\text{end}}} \left( \frac{m_\phi}{24M_{pl}} \right)^{1/2}$$



**“narrow resonance” for  $q < 1$ , i.e.  $\tilde{g} < m_\phi/\Phi$**

Bose-enhanced production of particles  
with momenta  $k = m_\phi/2$



# Perturbative Reheating

But: Big Bang Nucleosynthesis requires  $T > 10 \text{ MeV}$  when  $\Gamma=H$ .

This implies 
$$\tilde{g} > (8\pi m_\phi)^{1/2} \left( \frac{\pi^2 g_*}{90 M_{pl}} \right)^{1/4} T_{\text{BBN}}$$

The vacuum decay rate can be used to describe reheating if

$$(8\pi m_\phi)^{1/2} \left( \frac{\pi^2 g_*}{90 M_{pl}} \right)^{1/4} T_{\text{BBN}} < \tilde{g} < \frac{V_{\text{end}}^{1/4}}{\rho_{\text{end}}} \left( \frac{m_\phi}{24 M_{pl}} \right)^{1/2}$$



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# Example: $\alpha$ Attractor E Model

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$$V = \Lambda^4 \left( 1 - e^{-\sqrt{\frac{2}{3\alpha}} \frac{\phi}{M_{pl}}} \right)^{2n}$$

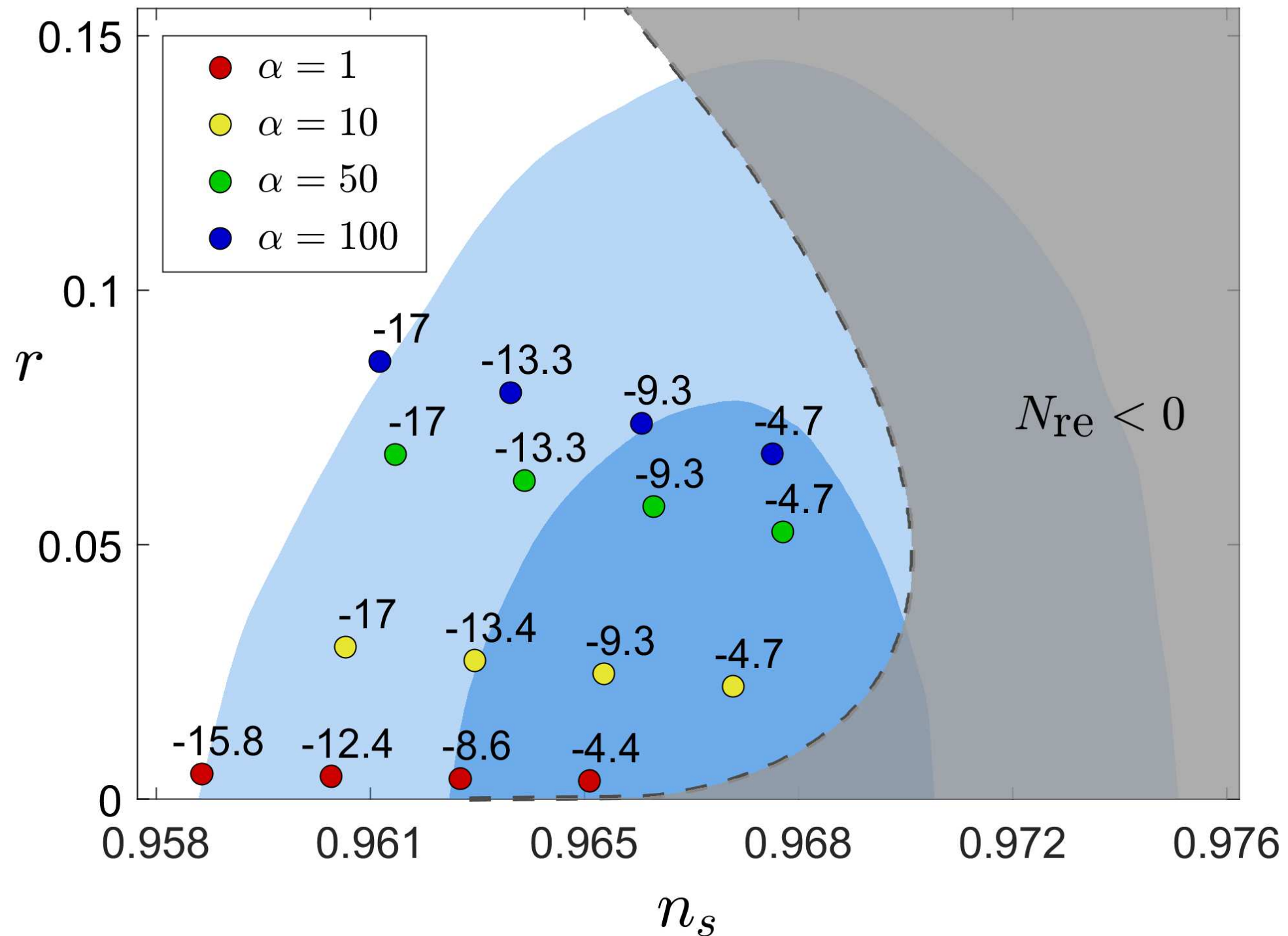
Kallosh/Linde 2013 ...

unknowns :  $(\Lambda, \alpha, n, g)$

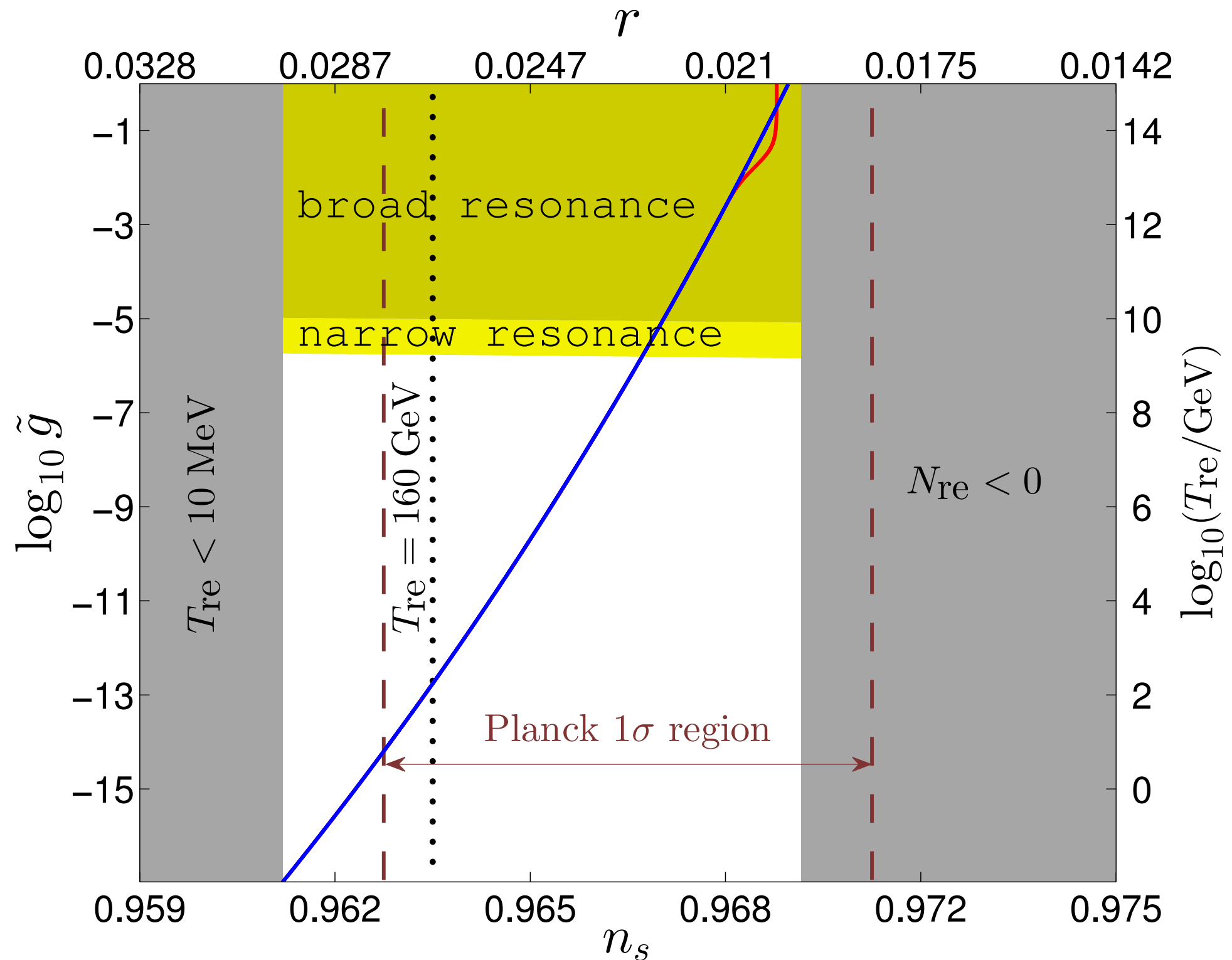
observables :  $(A_s, n_s, r)$

- We fix  $n=1$  and study different values of  $\alpha$
- $r$  is uniquely determined by the spectral index
- reheating temperature is fixed by  $g$

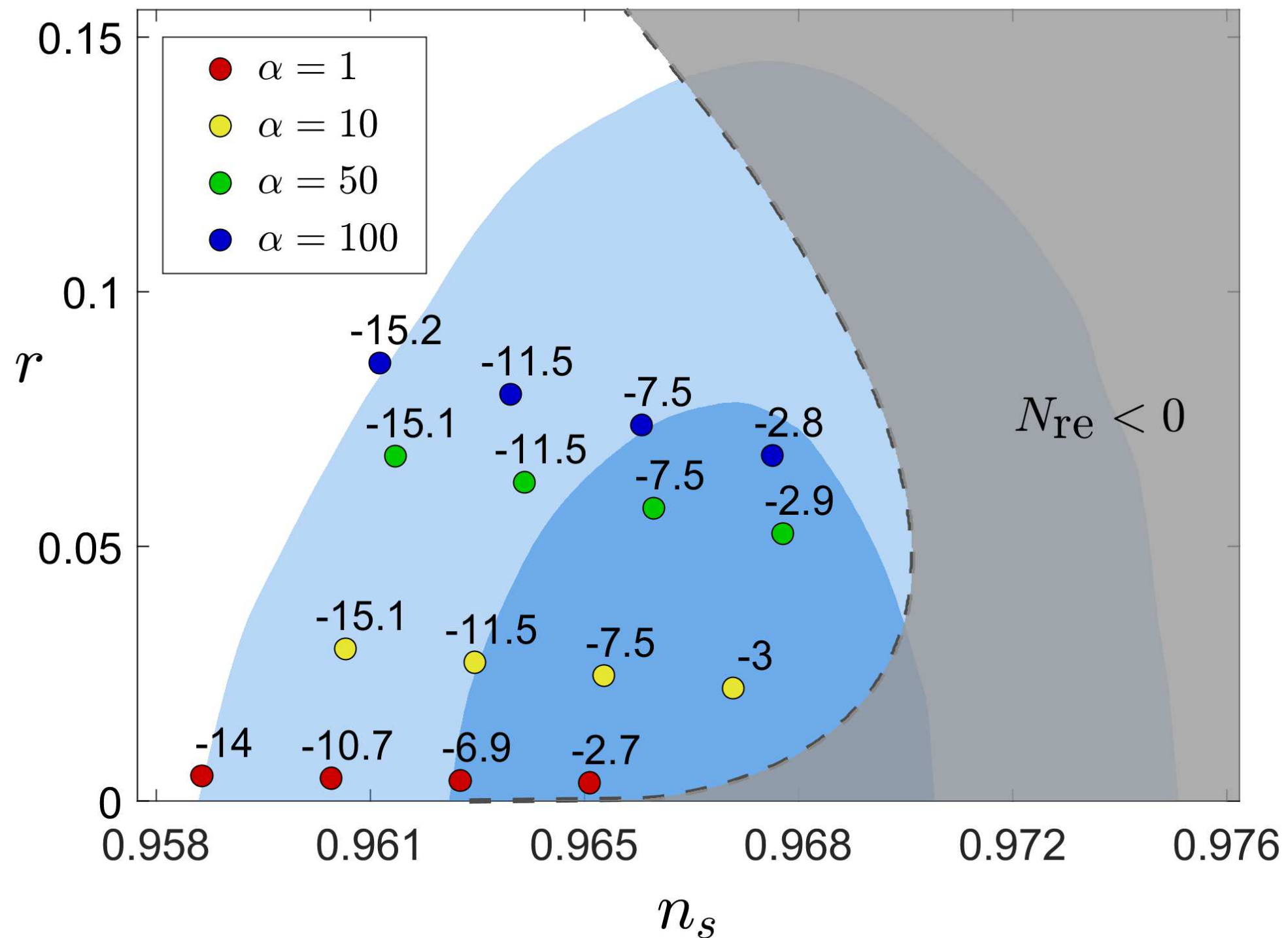
# Results for $g\varphi\chi^2$ Interaction



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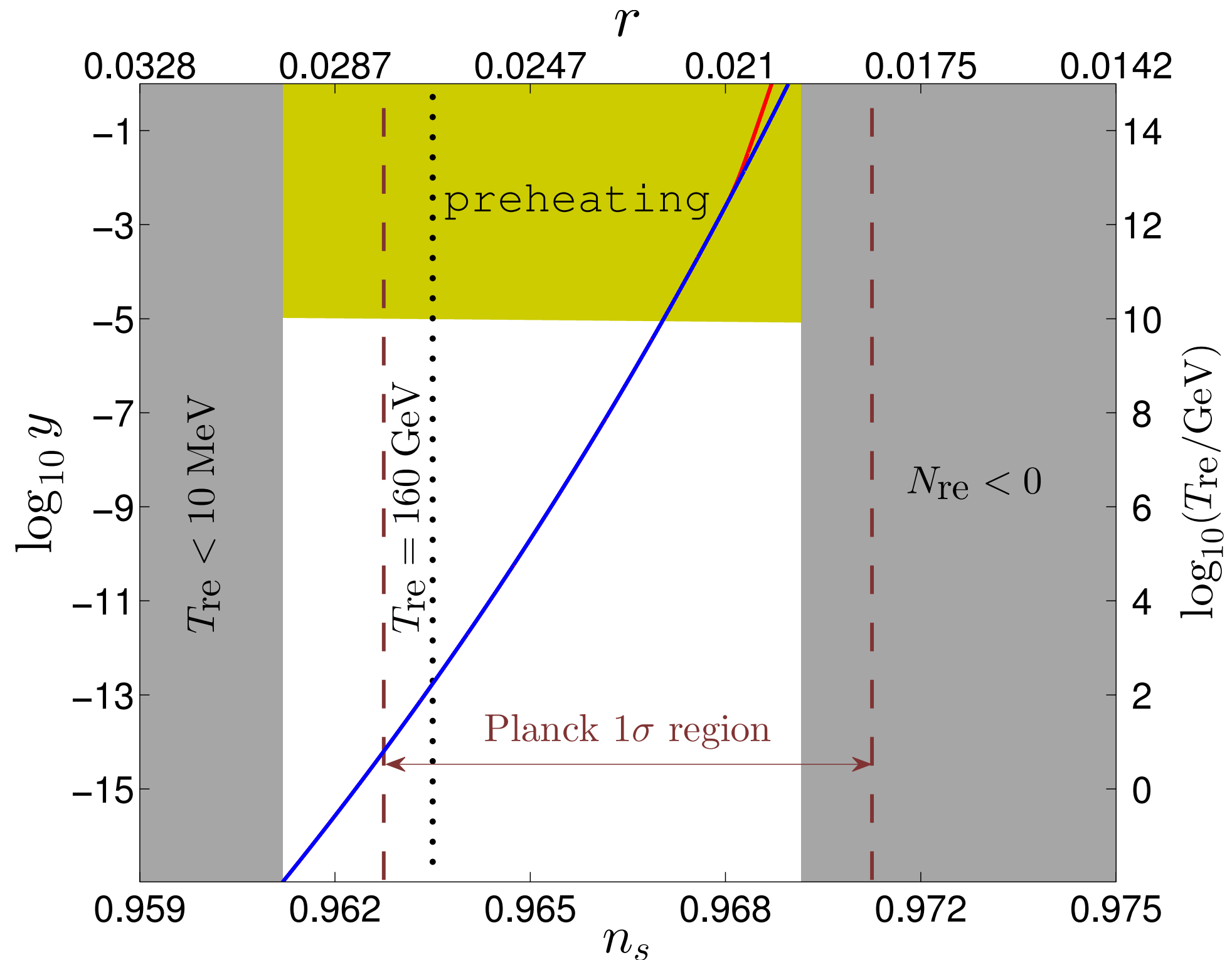


# Results for $h\varphi\chi^3$ Interaction

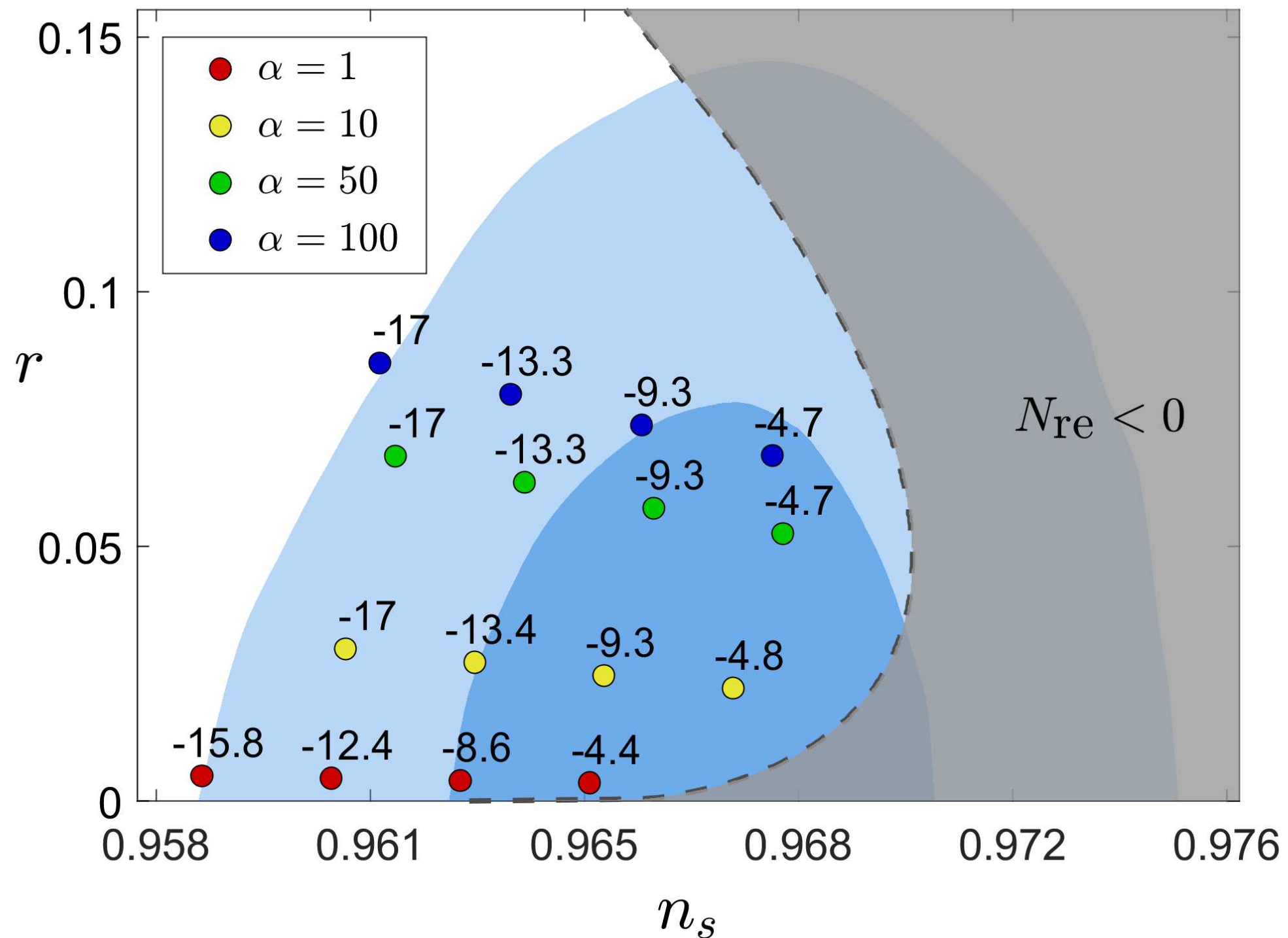




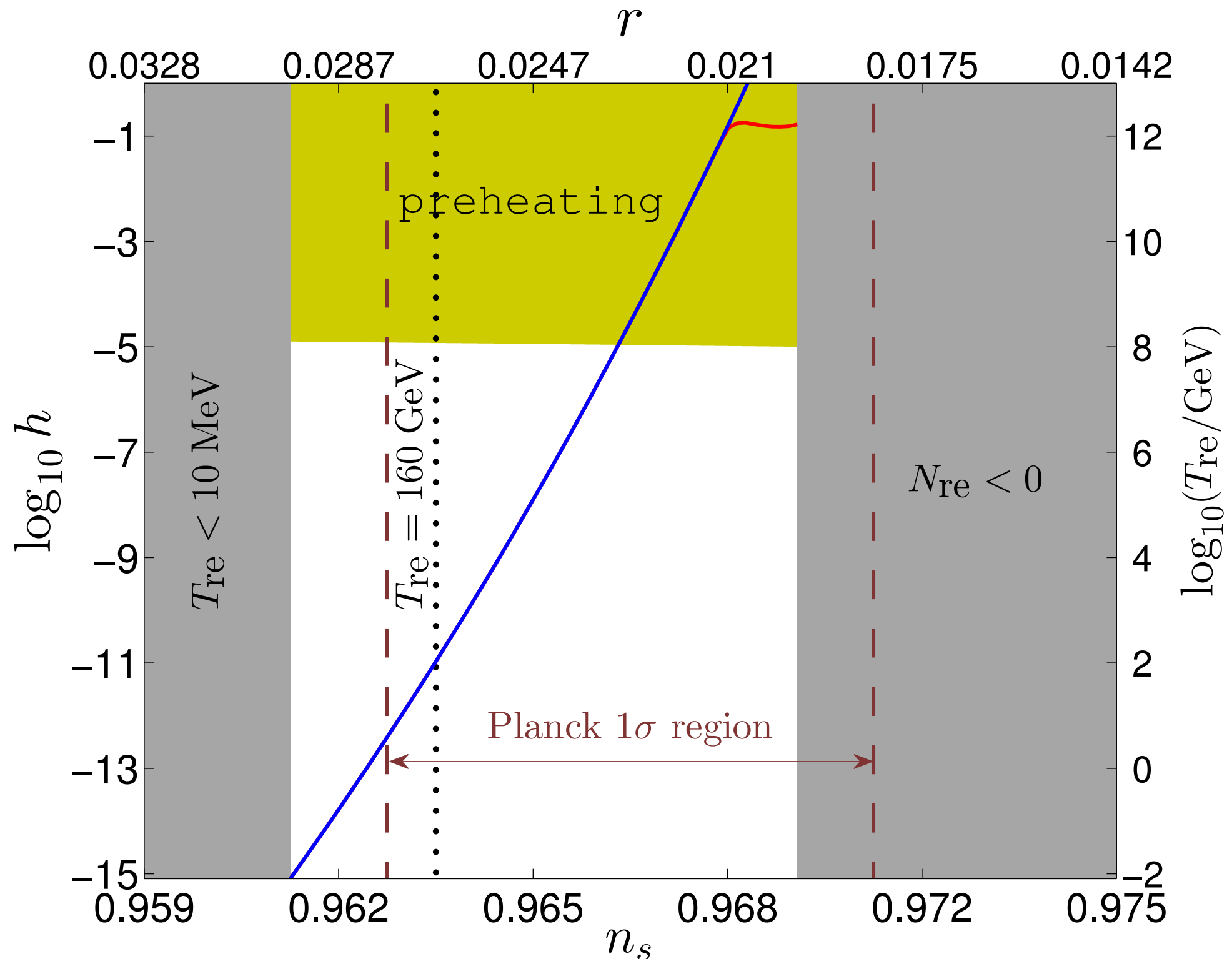
# Results for $h\varphi\chi^3$ Interaction



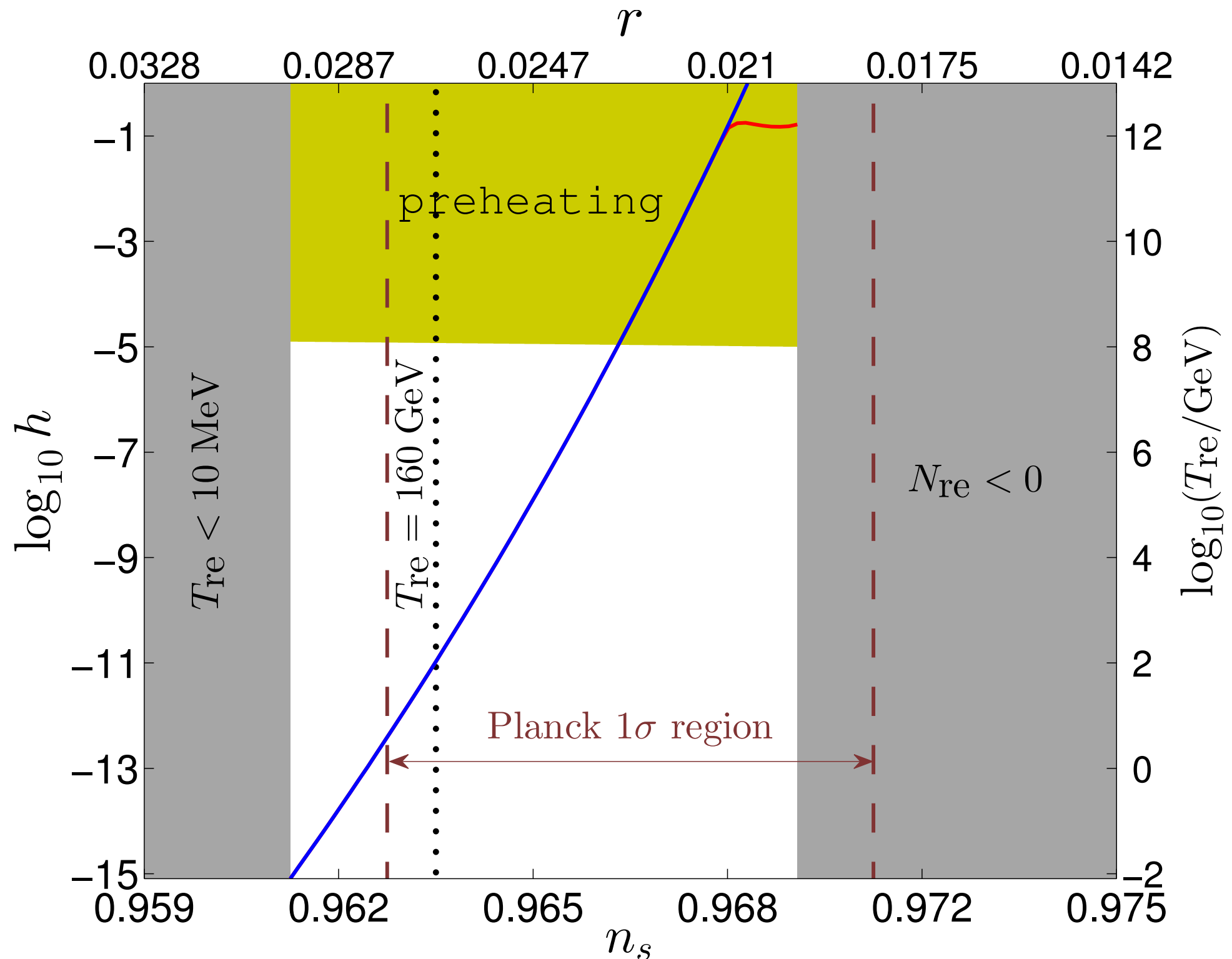
# Results for Yukawa Interaction



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# Results for Yukawa Interaction





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# Conclusions

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- CMB data allows to constrain the inflaton couplings in a given model of inflation
- We have done this for  $\alpha$  Attractor E models
- The coupling constants can be related to the spectral index via simple analytic formulae if they are smaller than  $\sim 10^{-5}$
- Currently the constraints are weak, but will improve with better measurements of the spectral index

PRO:

“measure” fundamental  
parameters at the scale of inflation!

CON:

Only possible within a given  
model