

# Stochastic inflation and applications to primordial black holes

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# Primordial Black Holes

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- Black holes which could have formed in the early Universe through a non-stellar way

Hawking [1971] : *Gravitationally collapsed objects of very low mass*

Carr & Hawking [1974]: *Black holes in the early Universe*

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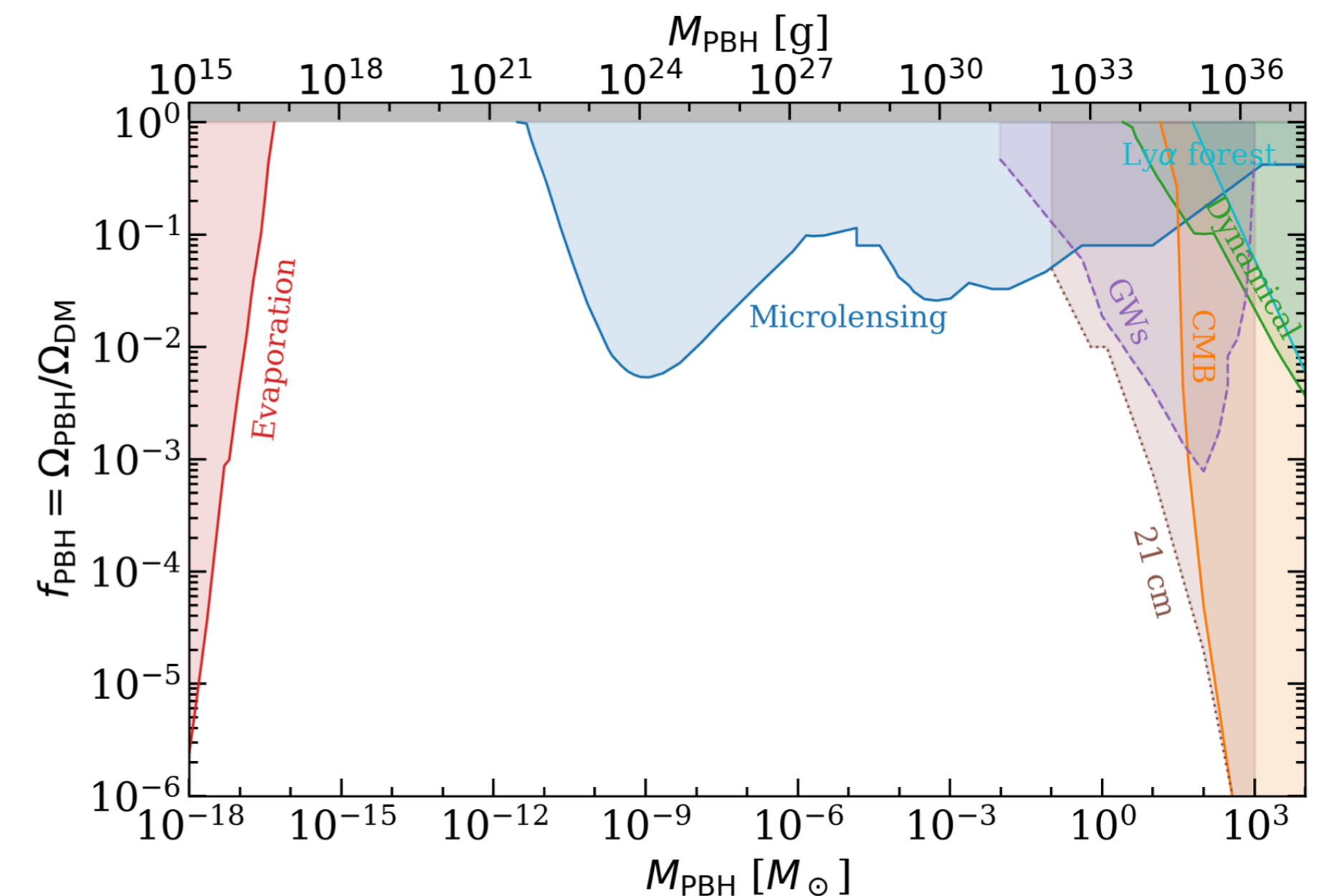
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- They could solve several conundrums in astrophysics and cosmology

- They could be the totality, or a fraction, of the Dark Matter
- They may explain the existence of progenitors for the merging events observed by LIGO/VIRGO
- They could be the seeds of supermassive black holes in galactic nuclei
- They could generate cosmological structures

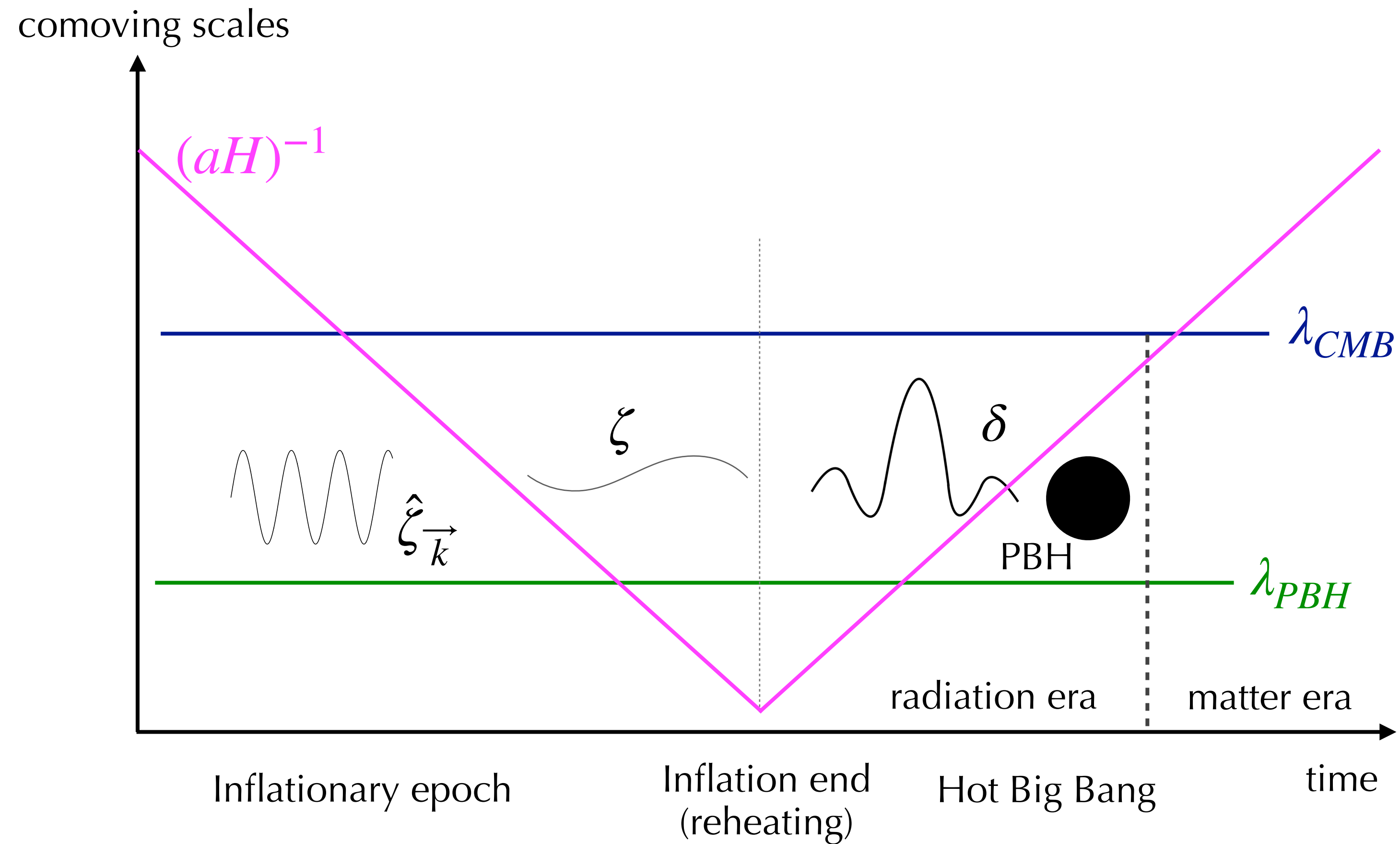


P. Villanueva-Domingo, O. Mena, S. Palomares-Ruiz [2021]  
*A brief review on primordial black holes as dark matter*



# Primordial Black Holes : How?

- PBHs may be originated from peaks of the density perturbations generated in the early universe



$$\delta \sim \left. \frac{\delta\rho}{\rho} \right|_{k=aH} \sim \zeta > \zeta_c \sim 1$$

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- Large fluctuations are needed to form PBHs

They could backreact on the expansion dynamics

Backreaction can be incorporated in an effective (stochastic) theory

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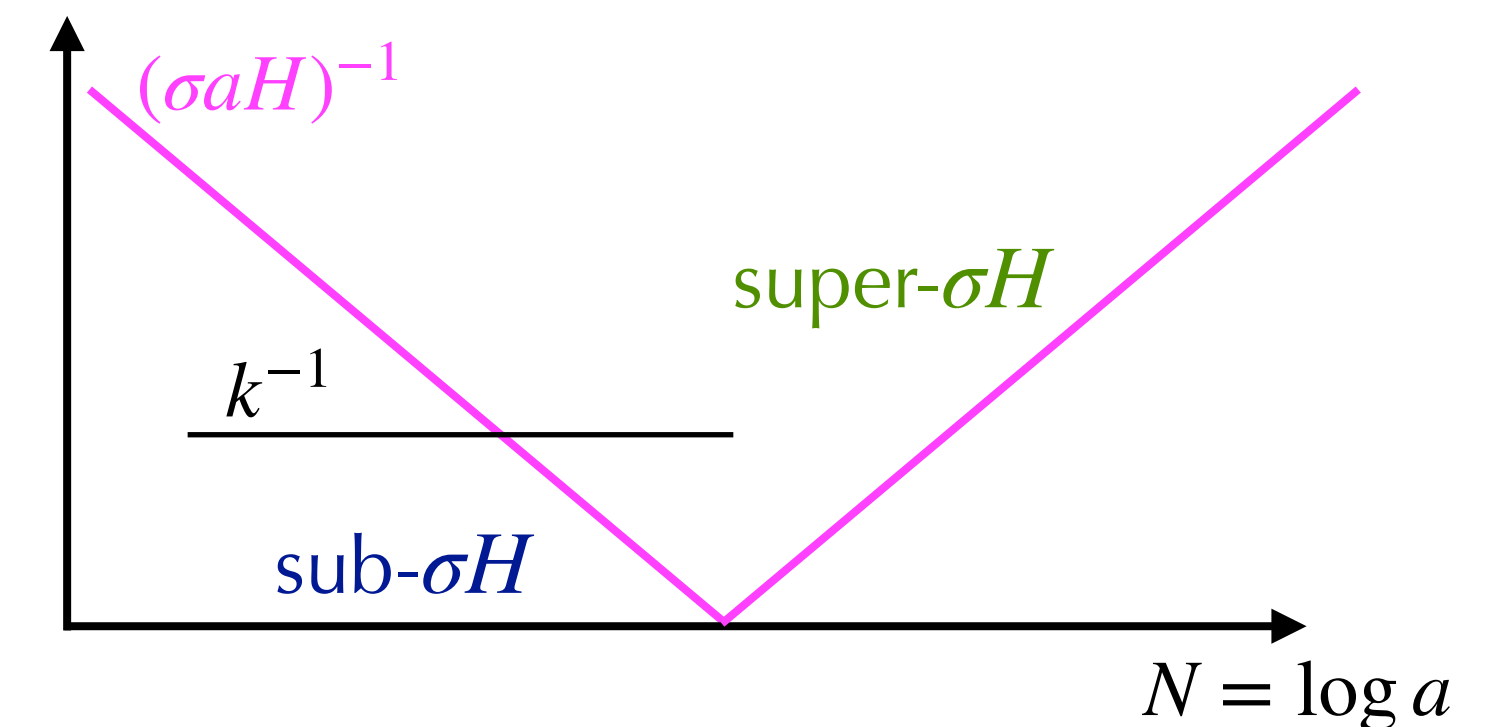
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- **Stochastic inflation**     A. Starobinsky [1986] *Stochastic de Sitter (inflationary) stage in the early universe*

Splitting fields into UV and IR part: coarse-graining scale  $k_{cg} = \sigma a H$

$$\phi(x) = \phi_{cg} + \int \frac{dk}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} W\left(\frac{k}{\sigma a H}\right) \left[ \phi_k(N) e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}} + h.c. \right]$$

Quantum subhorizon fluctuations source the background



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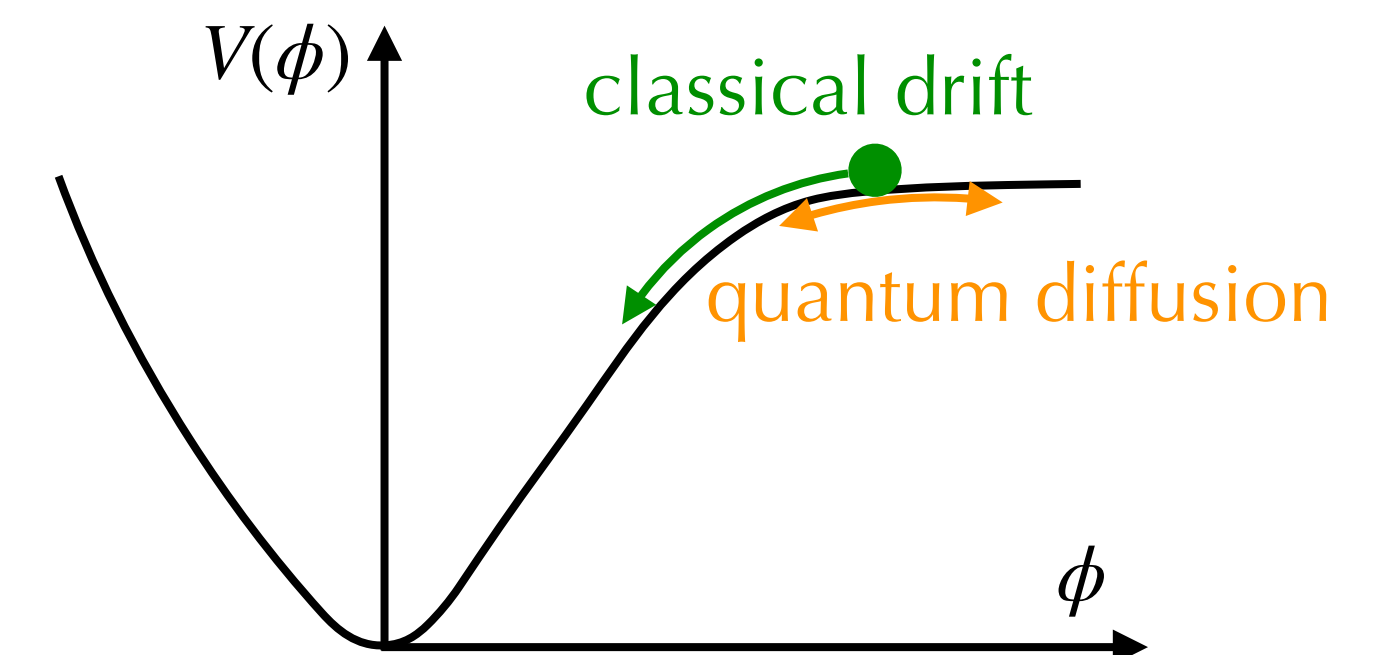
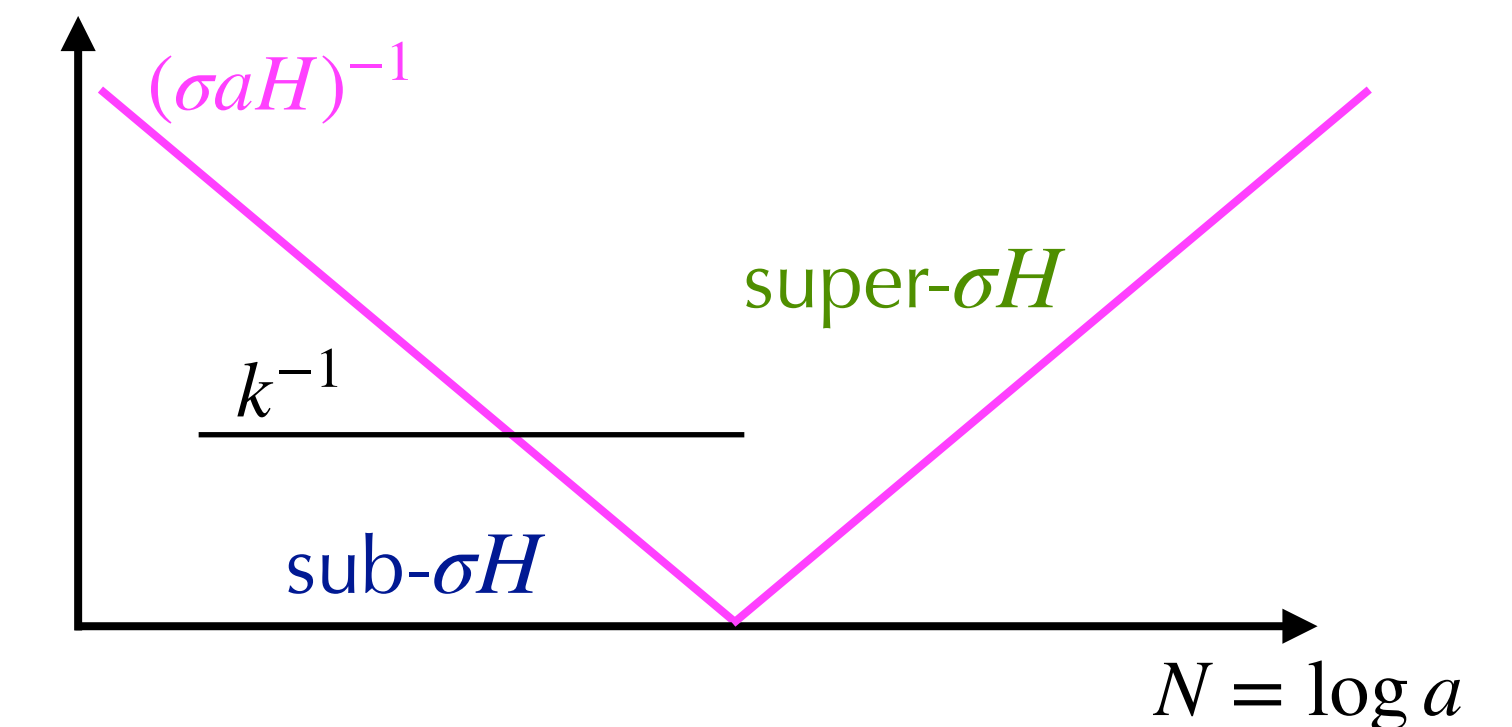
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Dynamics at leading order in slow roll:

$$\frac{d}{dN} \phi_{cg} = -\frac{V_{,\phi}(\phi_{cg})}{3H^2(\phi_{cg})} + \frac{H(\phi_{cg})}{2\pi} \xi(N)$$



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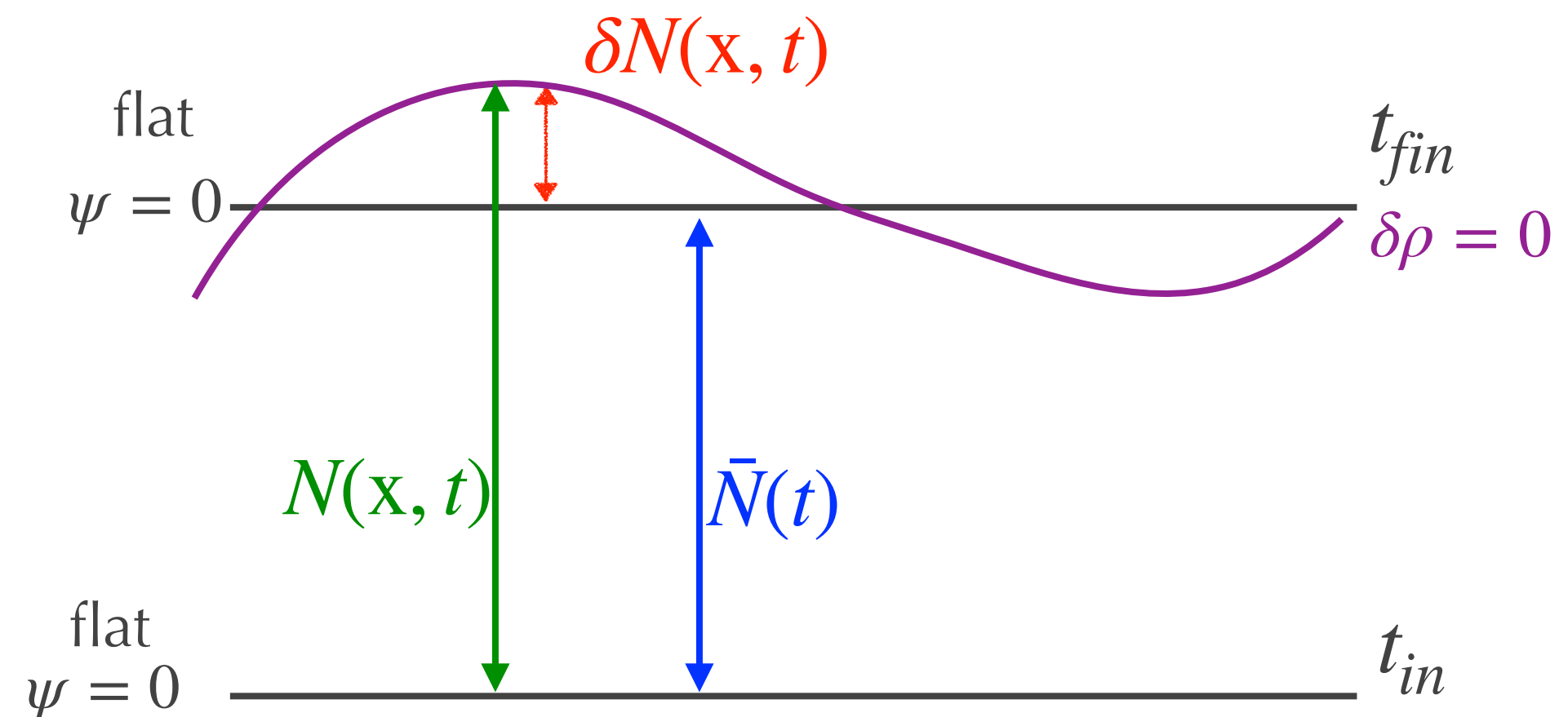
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# Primordial Black Holes and Quantum Diffusion

- How to reconstruct the statistics of  $\zeta$  in presence of quantum diffusion?

- $\delta N$  formalism



$$\zeta(t, \mathbf{x}) = N(t, \mathbf{x}) - \bar{N}(t) \equiv \delta N$$

Lifshitz, Khalatnikov [1960]

Starobinsky [1983]

Wands, Malik, Lyth, Liddle [2000]

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- Stochastic- $\delta N$  formalism

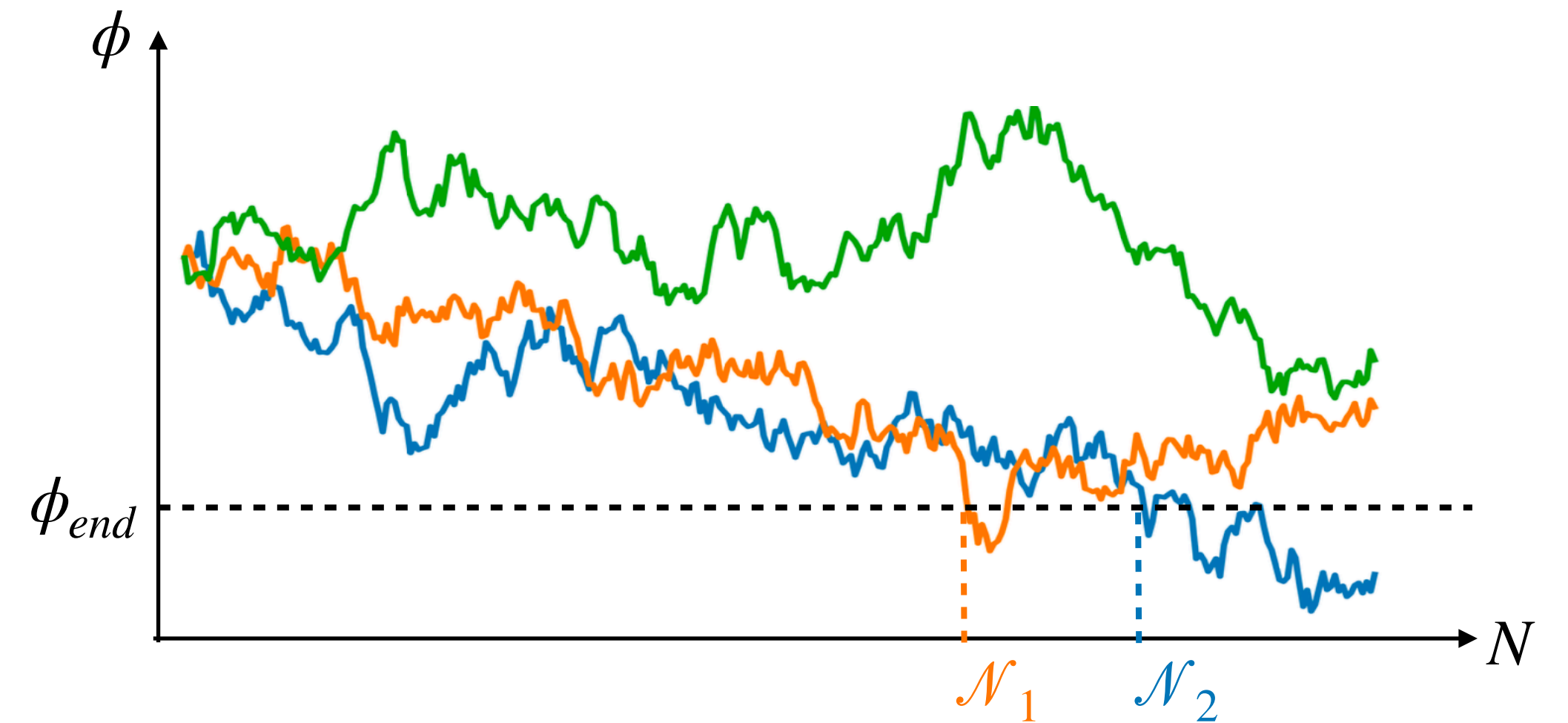
[Enqvist, Nurmi, Podolsky, Rigopoulos [2008]

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Number of  $e$ -folds is a stochastic variable  $\mathcal{N}$

Statistics of  $\zeta$  from the statistics of  $\mathcal{N}$

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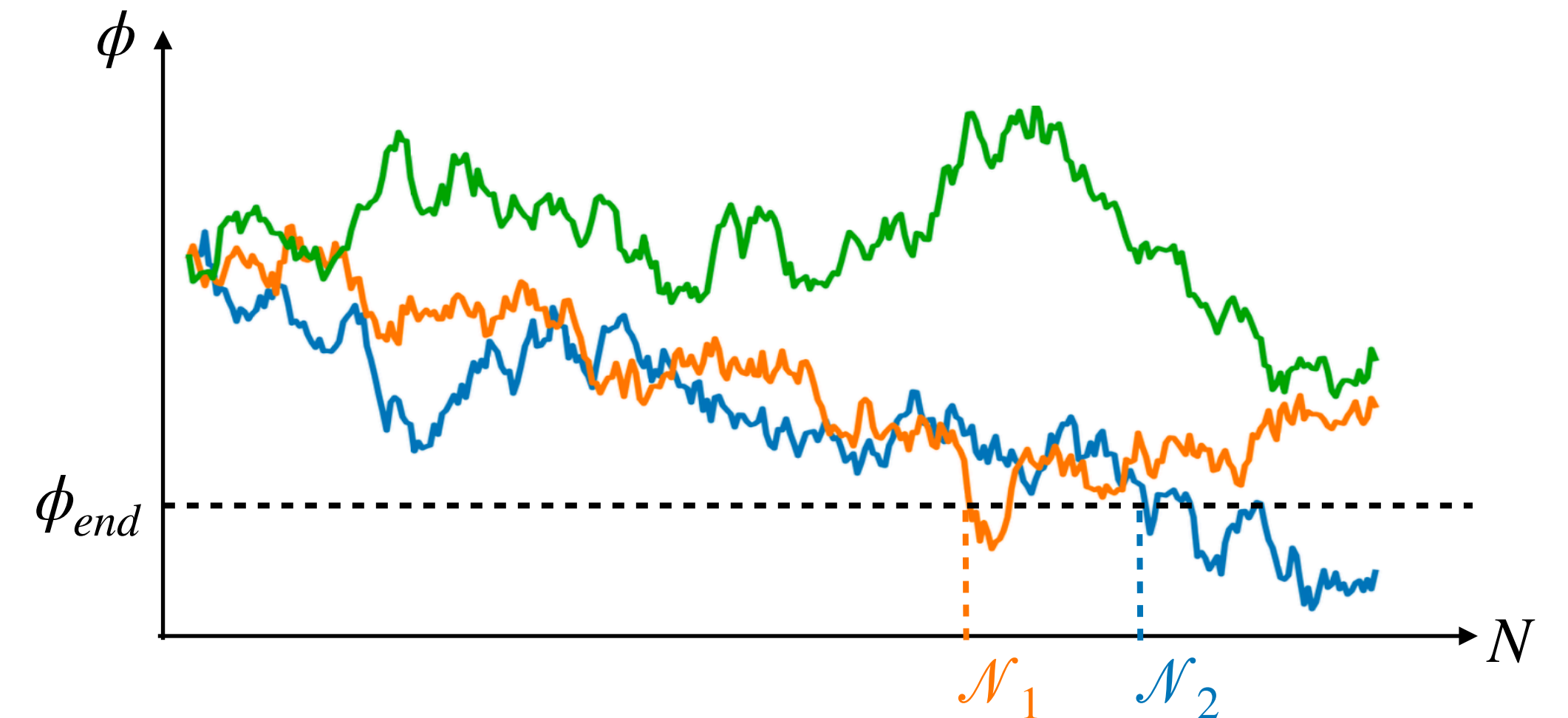
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Distribution function for the duration of inflation ( first passage time )

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathcal{N}} P(\mathcal{N}, \phi) = \mathcal{L}_{FP}^\dagger(\phi) \cdot P(\mathcal{N}, \phi)$$

$$\frac{1}{M_{Pl}^2} \mathcal{L}_{FP}^\dagger(\phi) = -\frac{v'(\phi)}{v(\phi)} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} + v(\phi) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2}$$

$$v = \frac{V}{24\pi^2 M_{Pl}^4}$$

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- Characteristic function ( includes all moments )

$$\chi(t, \phi) \equiv \langle e^{it\mathcal{N}} \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{it\mathcal{N}} P(\mathcal{N}, \phi) d\mathcal{N} \quad \longrightarrow \quad P(\mathcal{N}, \phi) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-it\mathcal{N}} \chi(t, \phi) dt$$



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- Useful trick: pole expansion

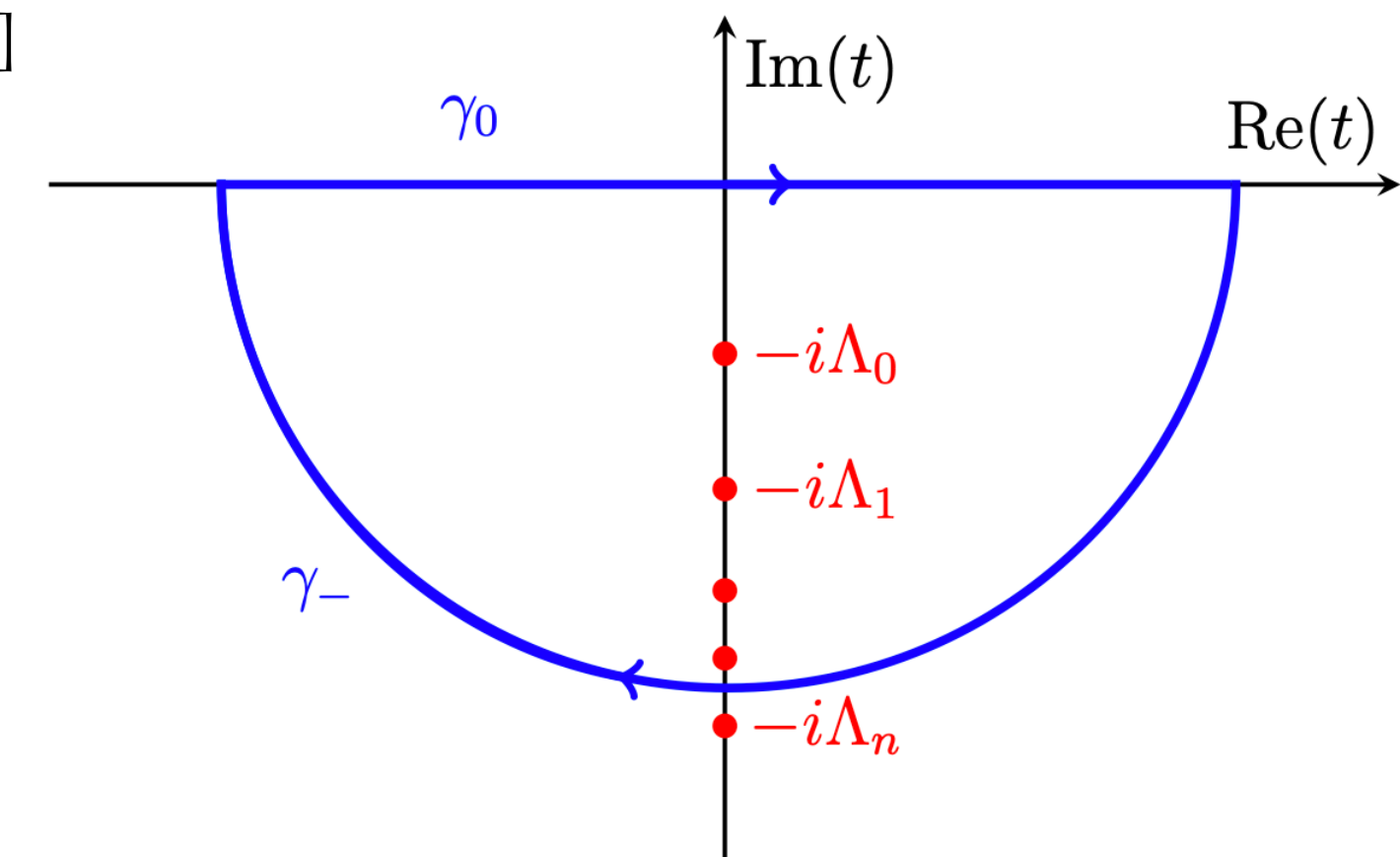
[Ezquiaga, Garcia-Bellido, Vennin (2020)]

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$$\chi(t, \phi) = \sum_n \frac{a_n(\phi)}{\Lambda_n - it} + g(t, \phi)$$

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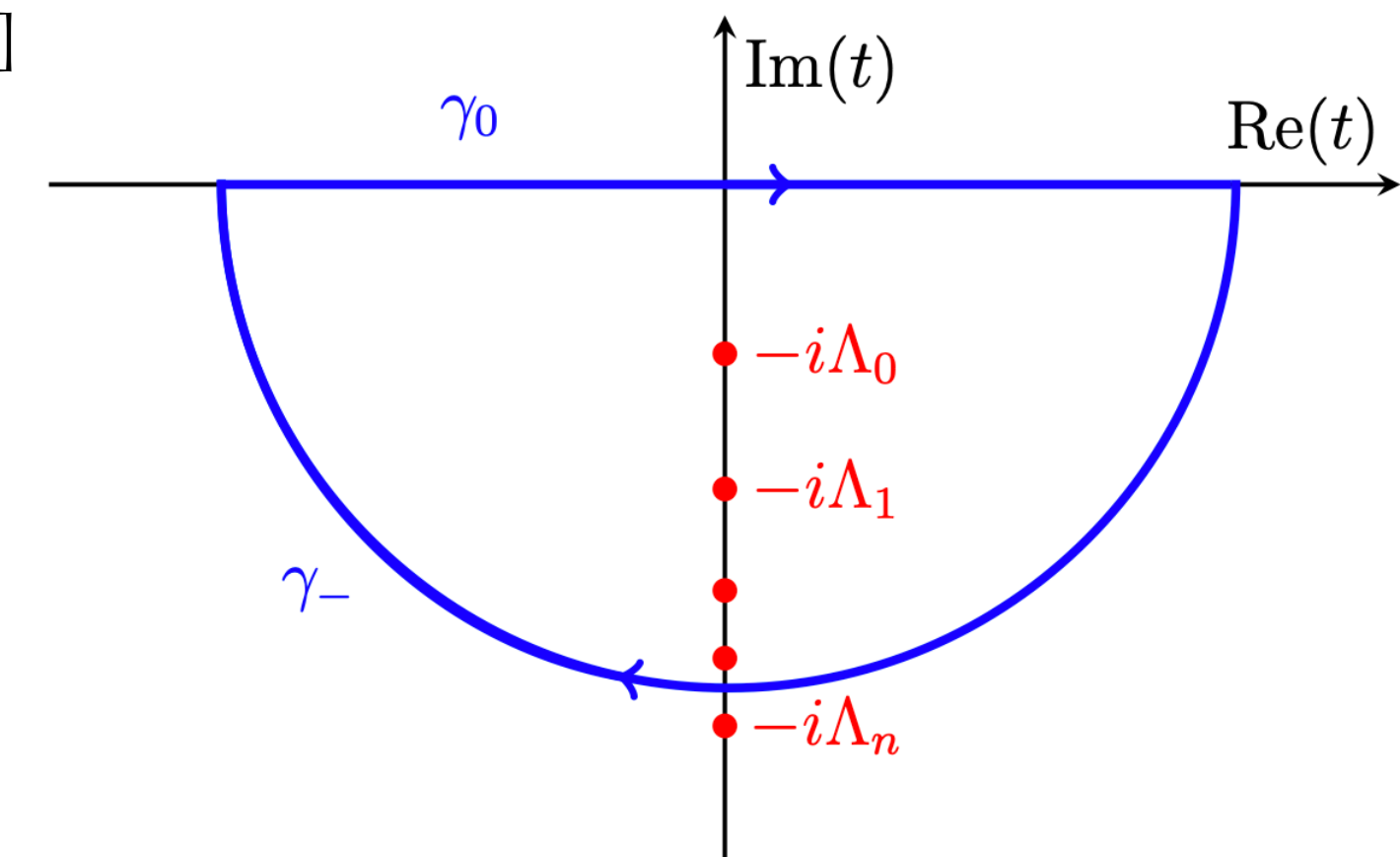
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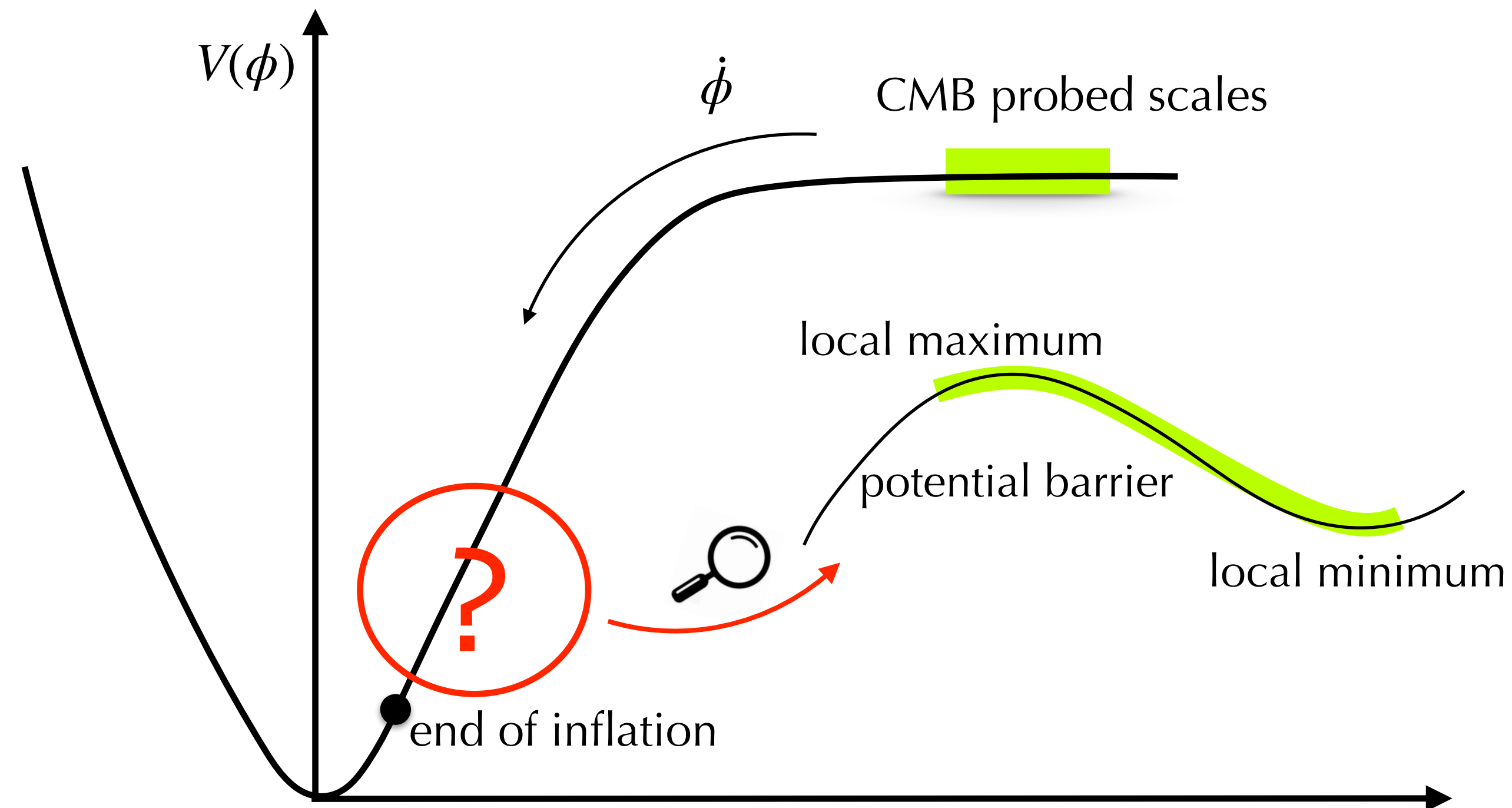


- This type of non-Gaussianities cannot be captured by perturbative parametrisations (such as the fNL expansion) !

# Stochastic tunnelling

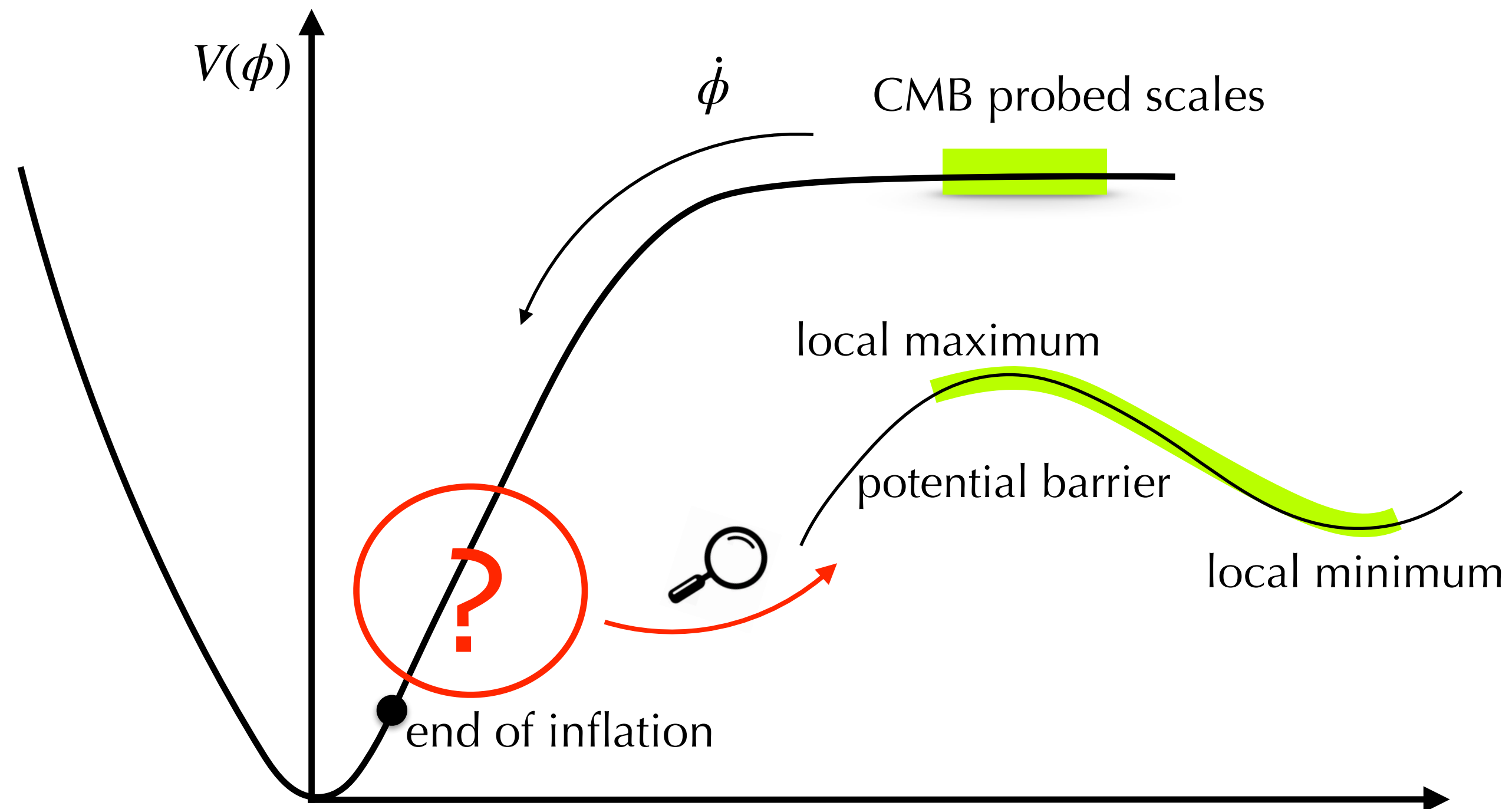
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JCAP 02(2023) 043



# Stochastic tunnelling

- False vacuum state

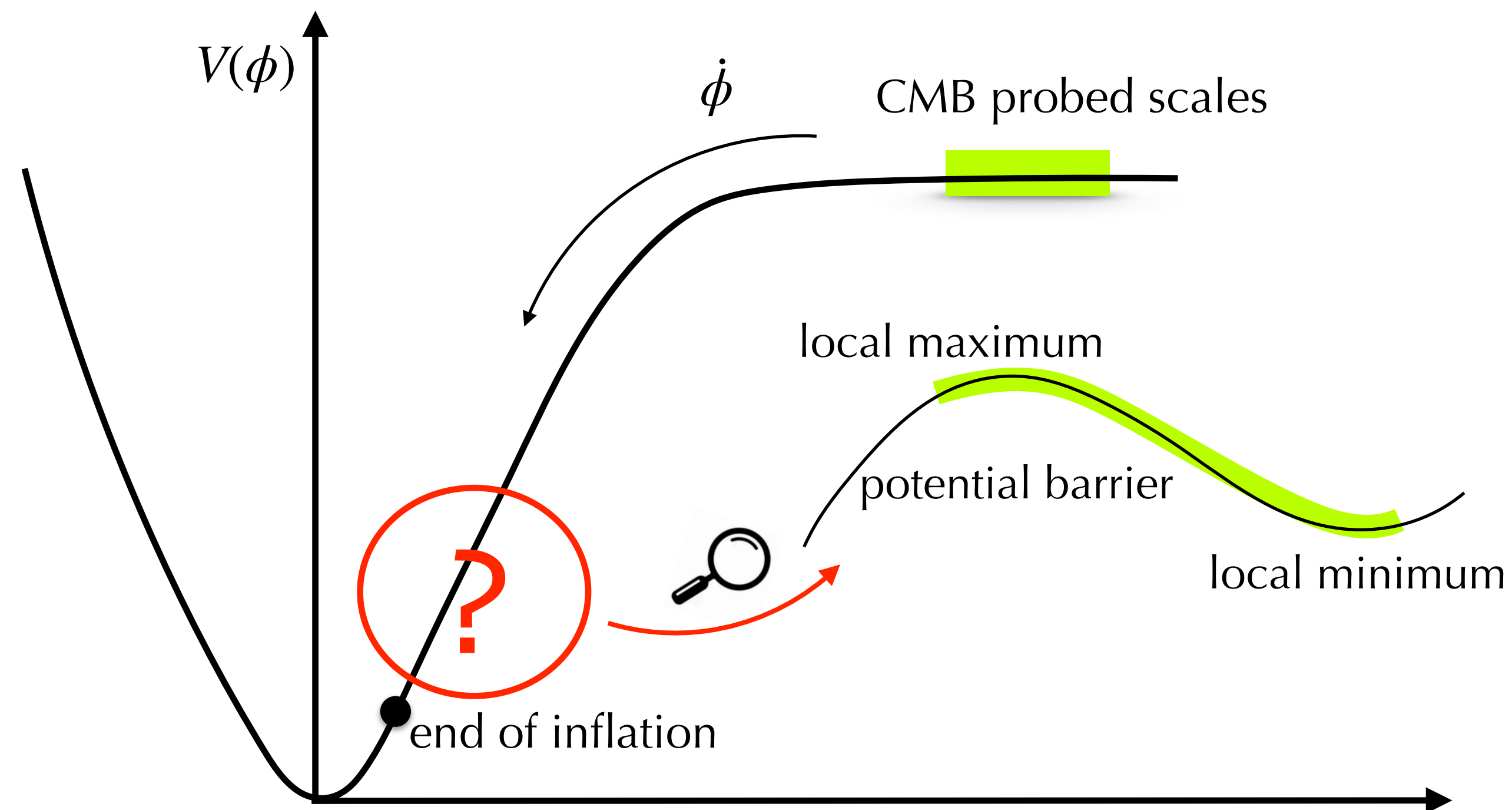


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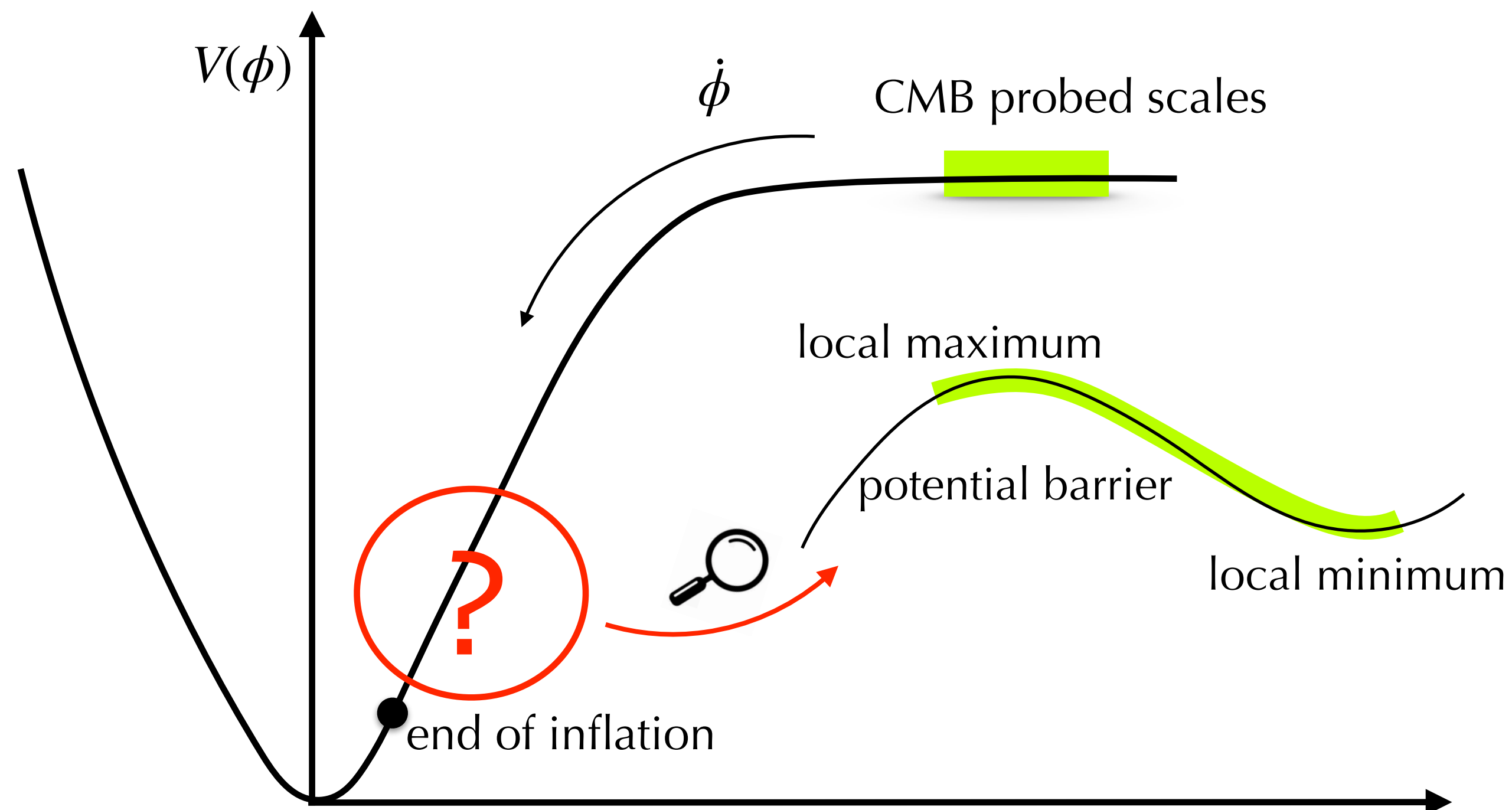
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- False vacuum state
- Local minima naturally appear in various contexts: - high energy constructions (supersymmetry, supergravity)  
- breaking of flat-inflection point condition through radiative corrections  
- etc.



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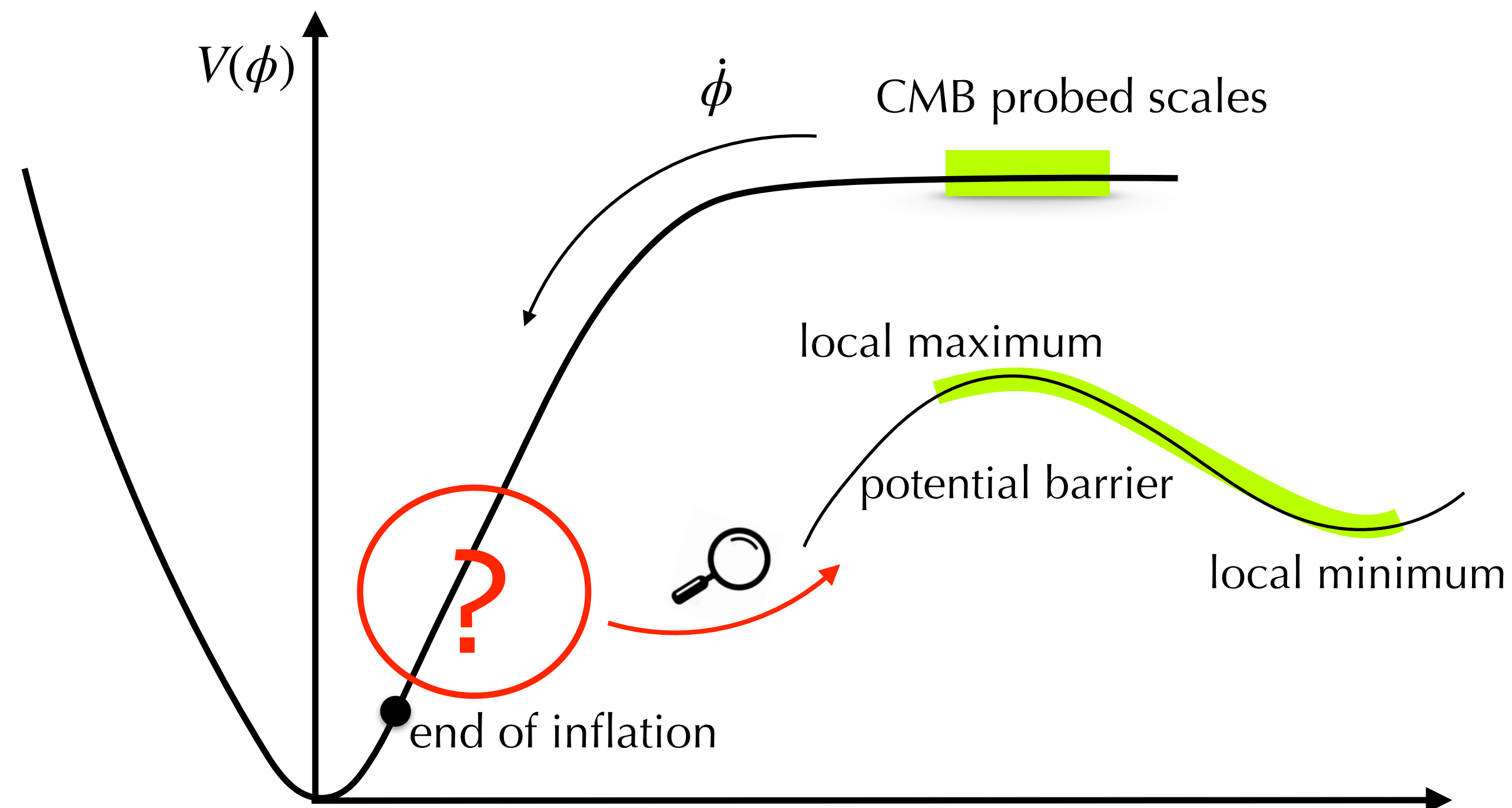
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2) "Stochastic tunnelling": quantum fluctuations jiggle the inflaton and push it outwards



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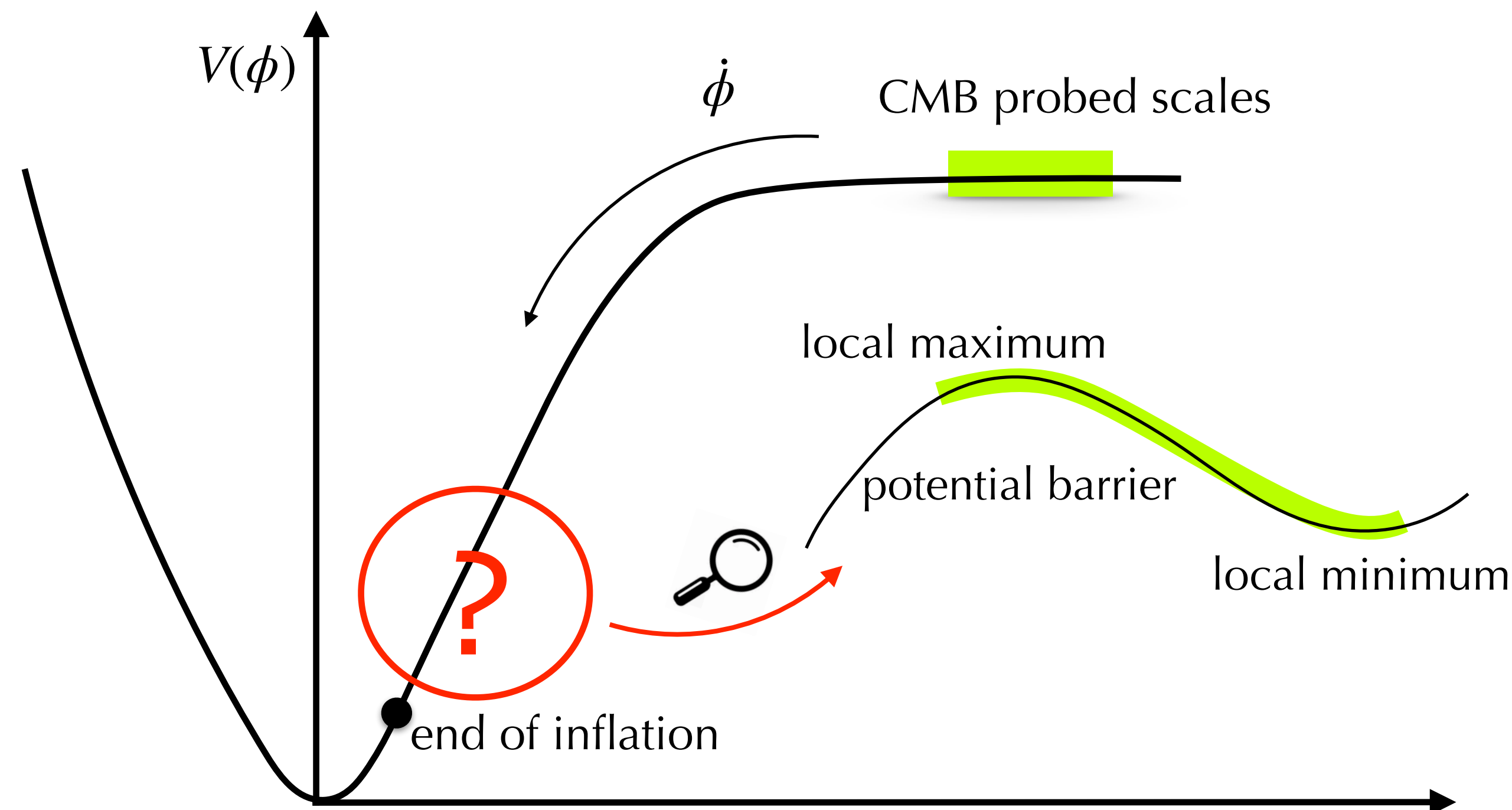




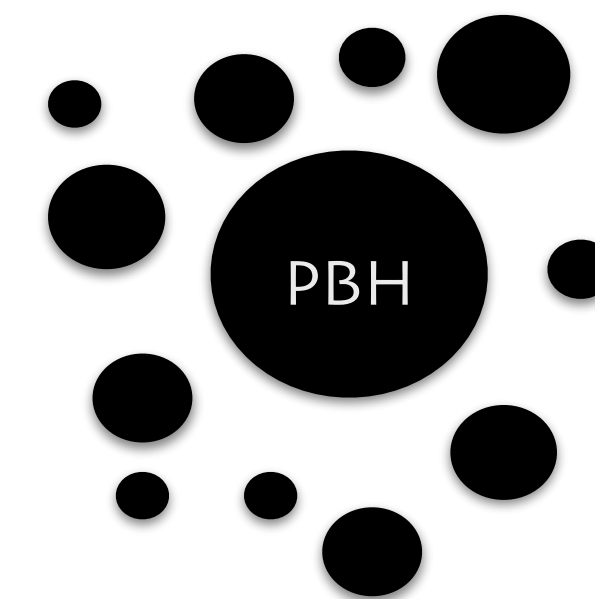
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$$\zeta > \zeta_c \simeq 1$$

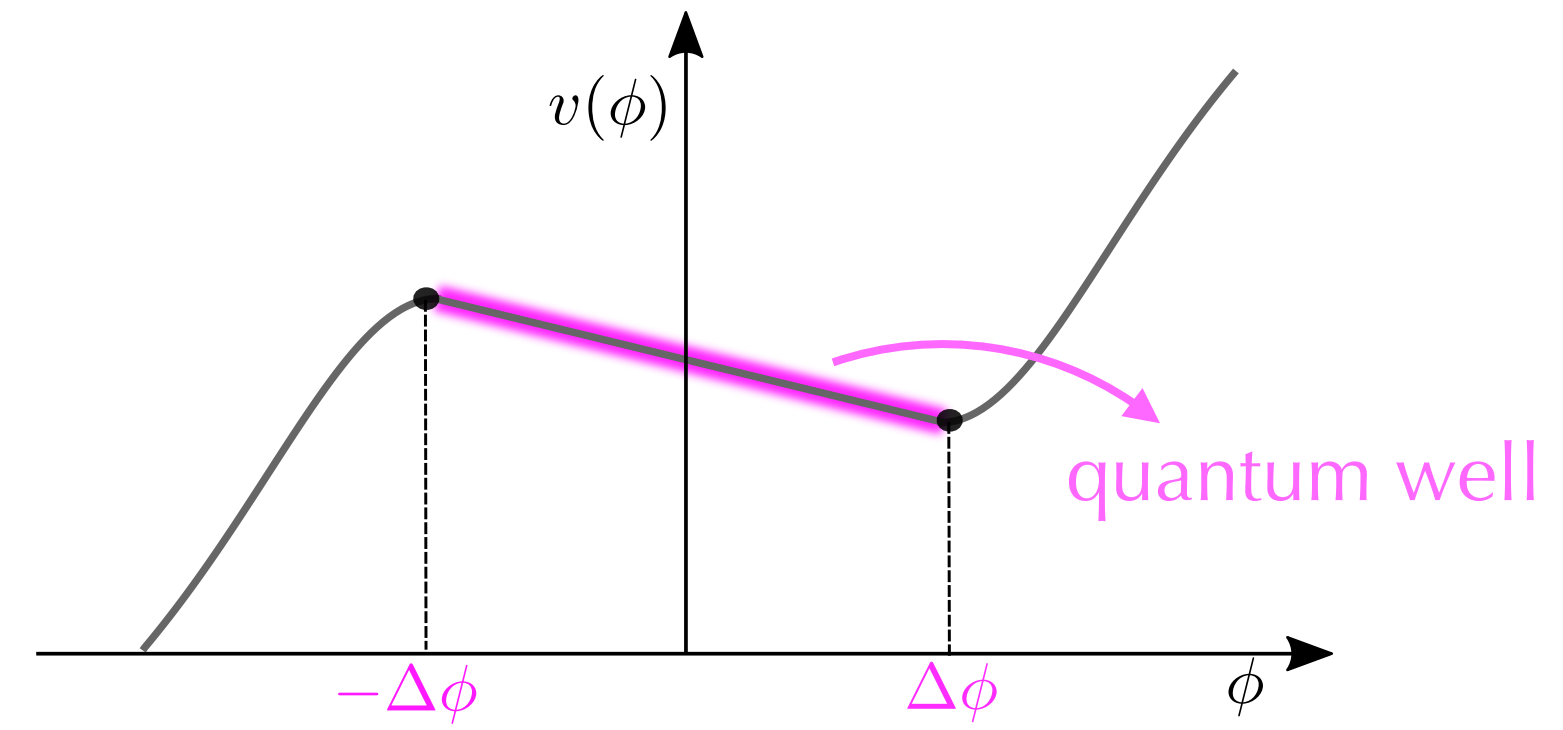


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- Linear model

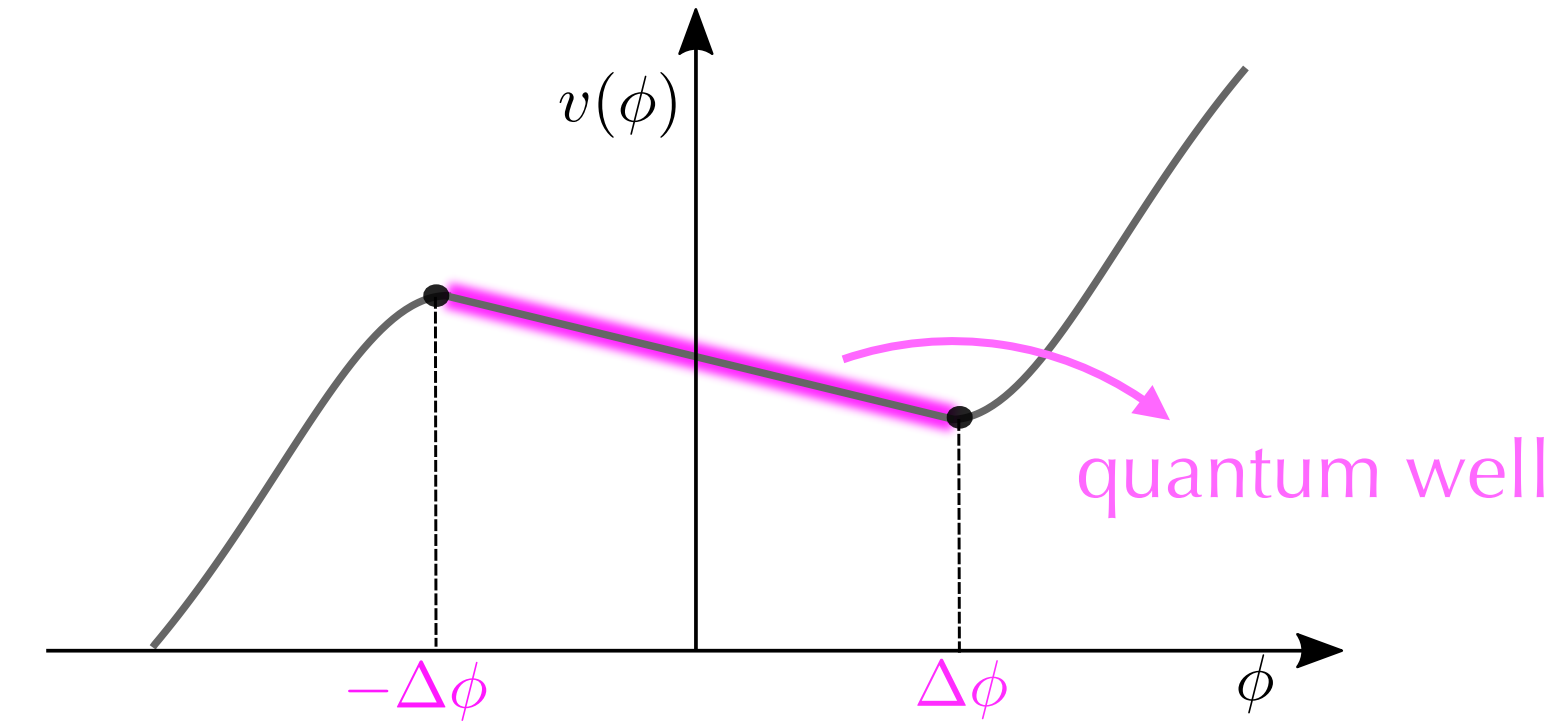
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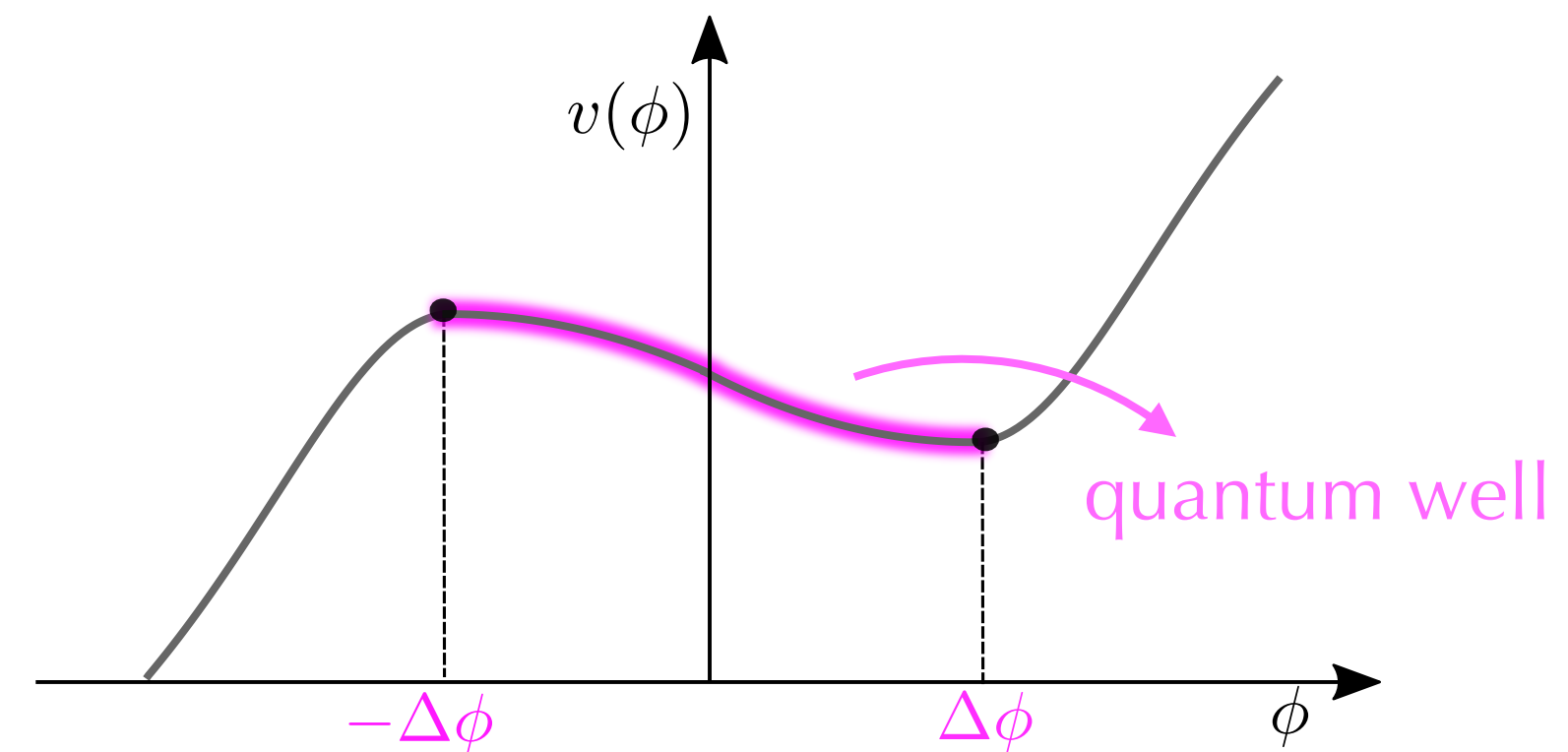
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- Quadratic model ("two-parabola approximation")

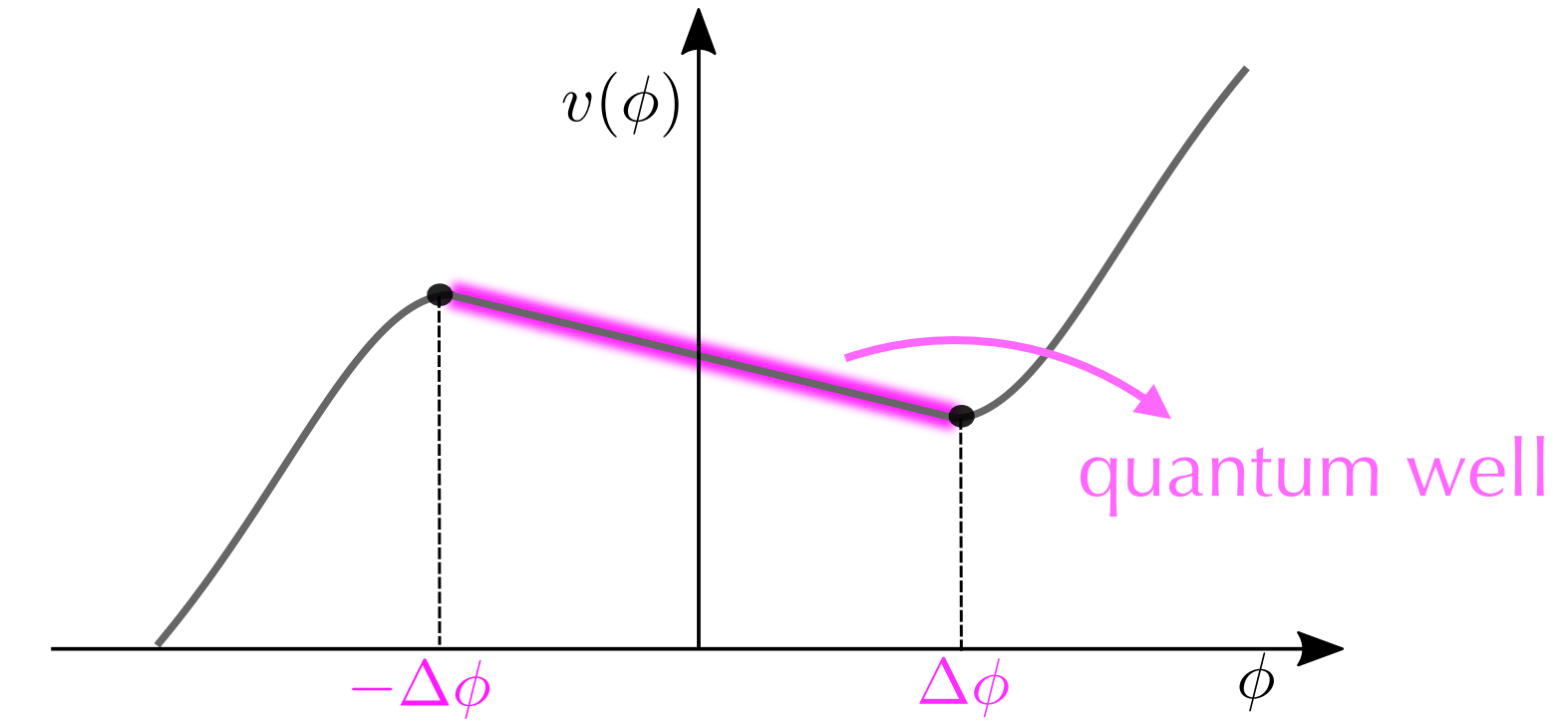
$$v(\phi) = v_0 \begin{cases} 1 + \alpha \left[ \left( \frac{\phi}{\Delta\phi} - 1 \right)^2 - 1 \right] & \text{if } 0 \leq \phi \leq \Delta\phi \\ 1 - \alpha \left[ \left( \frac{\phi}{\Delta\phi} + 1 \right)^2 - 1 \right] & \text{if } -\Delta\phi \leq \phi \leq 0 \end{cases}$$



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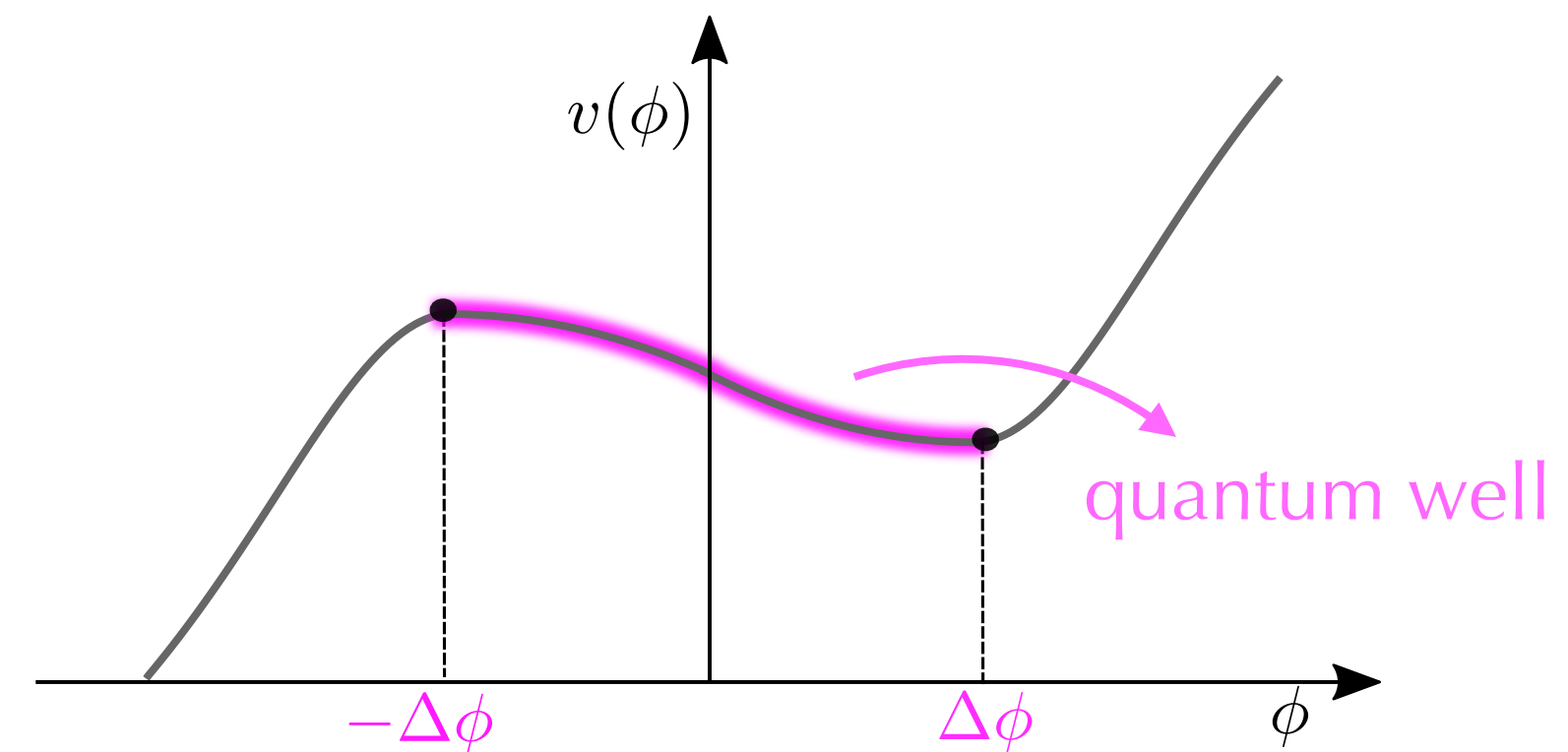
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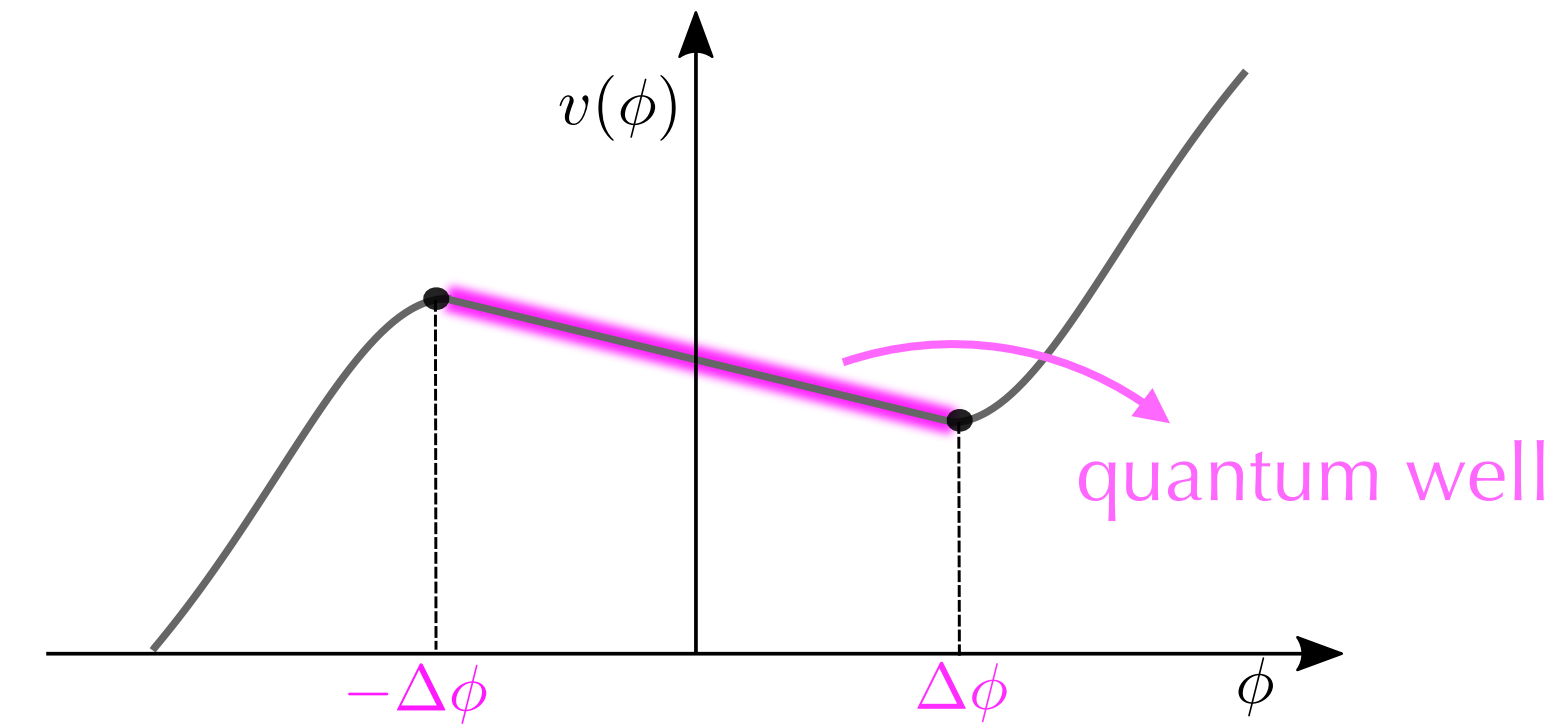
$$\mu^2 = \frac{(2 \Delta\phi)^2}{v_0 M_{Pl}^2} \propto \frac{M_{Pl}^2 \Delta\phi^2}{V}$$

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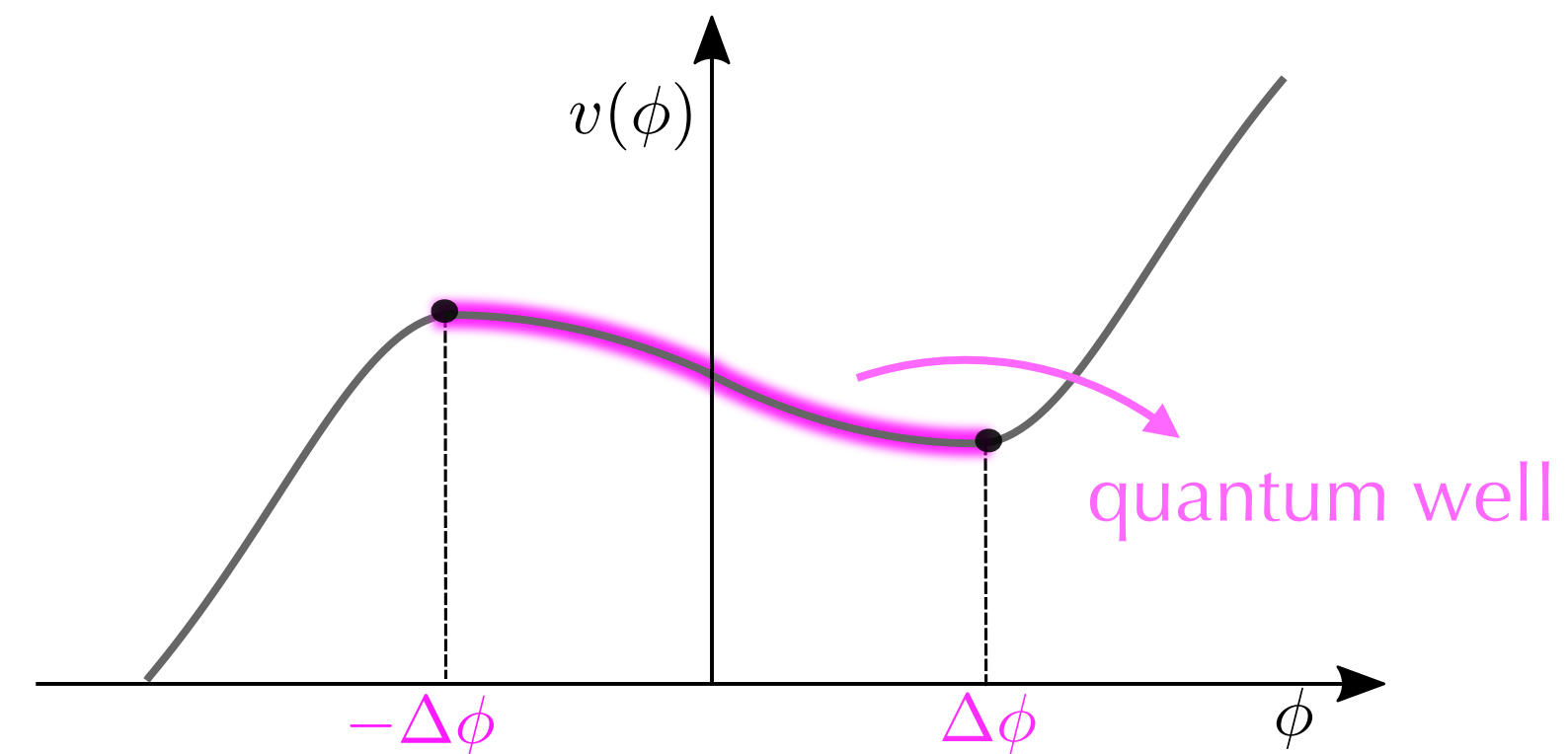
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Quantum diffusion in highlighted regions, potential gradient elsewhere

Slow roll preserved:  $\epsilon = \frac{M_{Pl}^2}{2} \left( \frac{v'}{v} \right)^2 \ll 1$ ,  $|\eta| = \left| M_{Pl}^2 \frac{v''}{v} \right| \ll 1$

$\langle \mathcal{N} \rangle$  smaller than  $\sim 50$ :  $\Delta v = v(-\Delta\phi) - v(\Delta\phi) \ll v_0$

$$\mu^2 = \frac{(2 \Delta\phi)^2}{v_0 M_{Pl}^2} \propto \frac{M_{Pl}^2 \Delta\phi^2}{V}$$

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False vacuum: linear model



# False vacuum: linear model

- shallow-well limit

$$\Lambda_n^{shallow} = \frac{1}{\mu^2} \left[ \pi^2 \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 - 2a + \mathcal{O}(a^2) \right]$$

$$P^{shallow}(\mathcal{N}, \phi = \Delta\phi) \simeq \frac{\pi}{\mu^2} (1 - a) e^{-\left(\frac{\pi^2}{4} - 2a\right) \frac{\mathcal{N}}{\mu^2}}$$

$\sim e^{2a\mathcal{N}/\mu^2} \simeq e^{a\mathcal{N}/\langle\mathcal{N}\rangle}$  enhancement on the tail:  
large for  $\mathcal{N} \sim 1/a$   $\sigma$ -away from the mean

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## ■ deep-well limit

$$\Lambda_0^{deep} = \frac{4a^2 e^{-2a}}{\mu^2} \left[ 1 + 2(2a - 1)e^{-2a} + \mathcal{O}(e^{-4a}) \right]$$

$$\Lambda_{n+1}^{deep} = \frac{a^2}{\mu^2} + \frac{\pi^2}{\mu^2} (n + 1)^2 \left[ 1 + \frac{2}{a} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{a^2}\right) \right]$$

$$P^{deep}(\mathcal{N}, \phi = \Delta\phi) \simeq 4 \frac{a^2}{\mu^2} e^{-2a} e^{-\frac{4a^2}{\mu^2} e^{-2a} \mathcal{N}}$$

“super-exponential” dependence on  $a$

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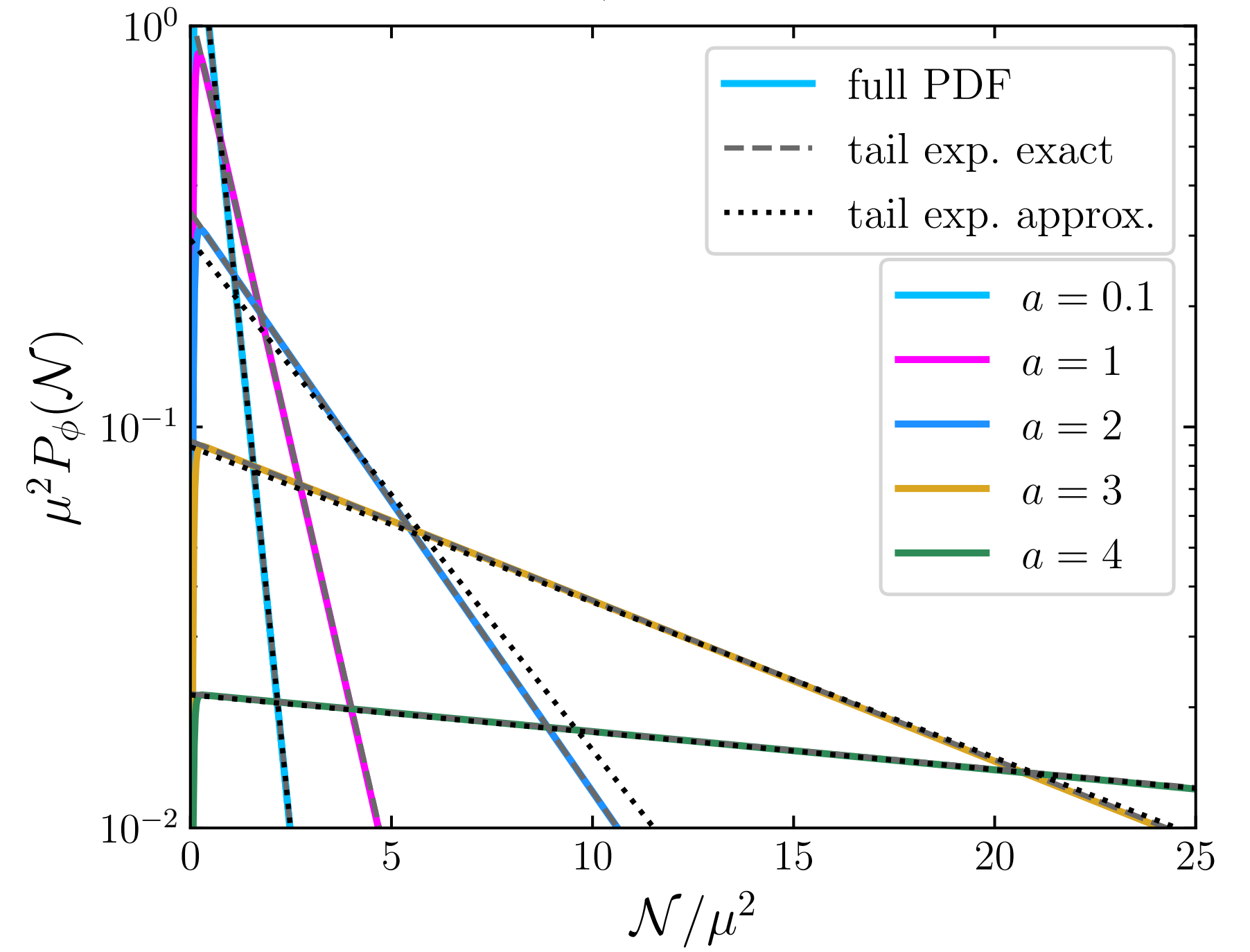
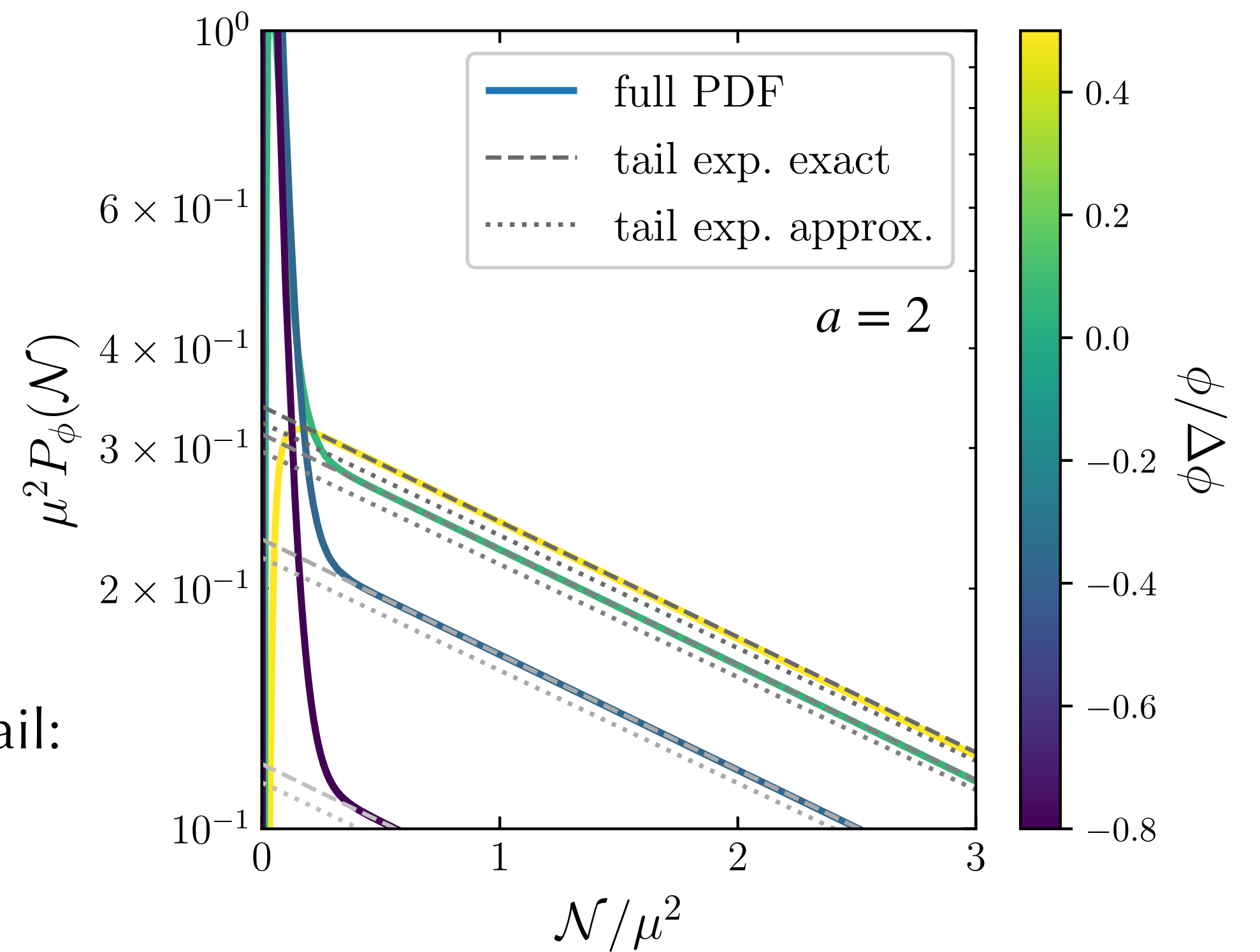
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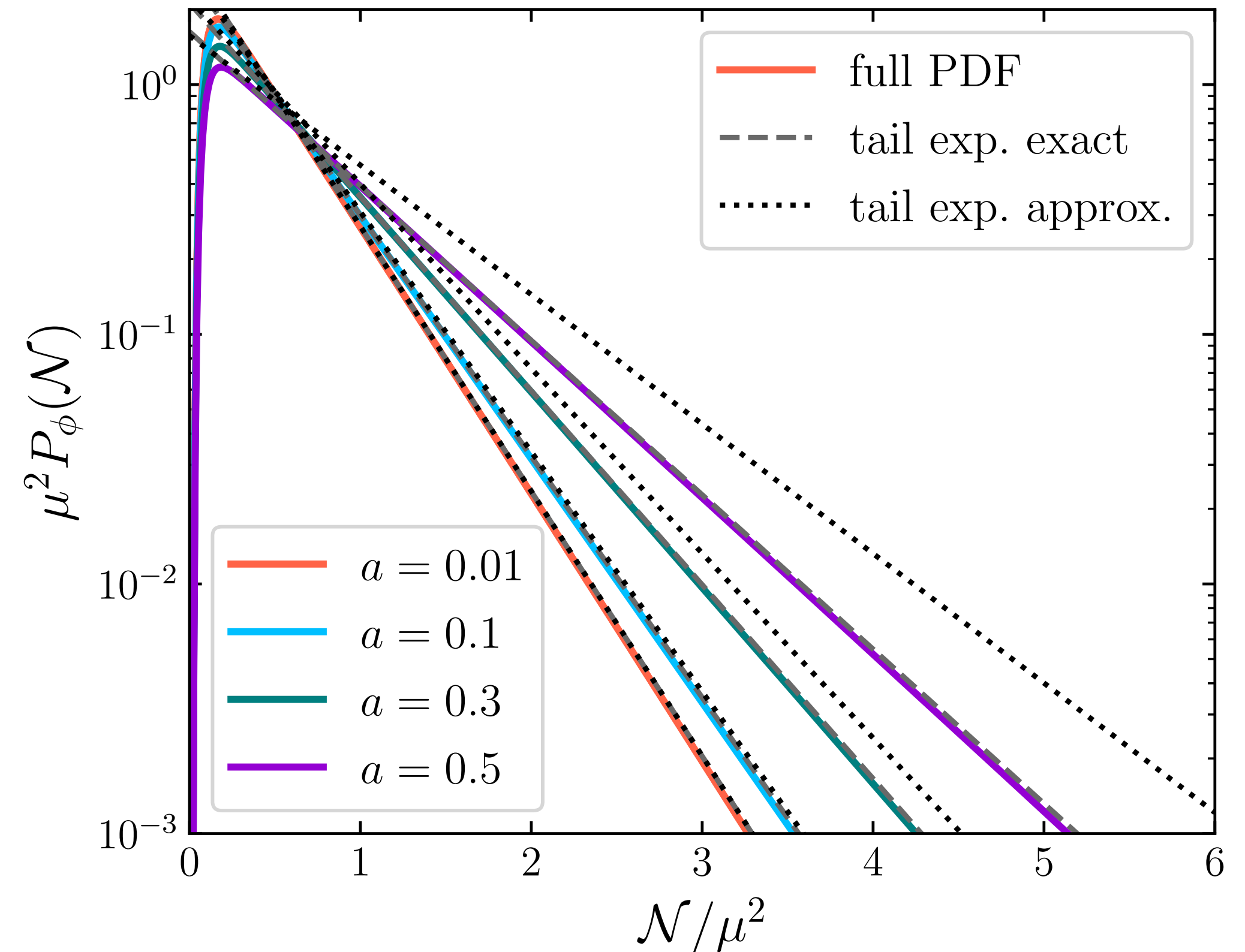
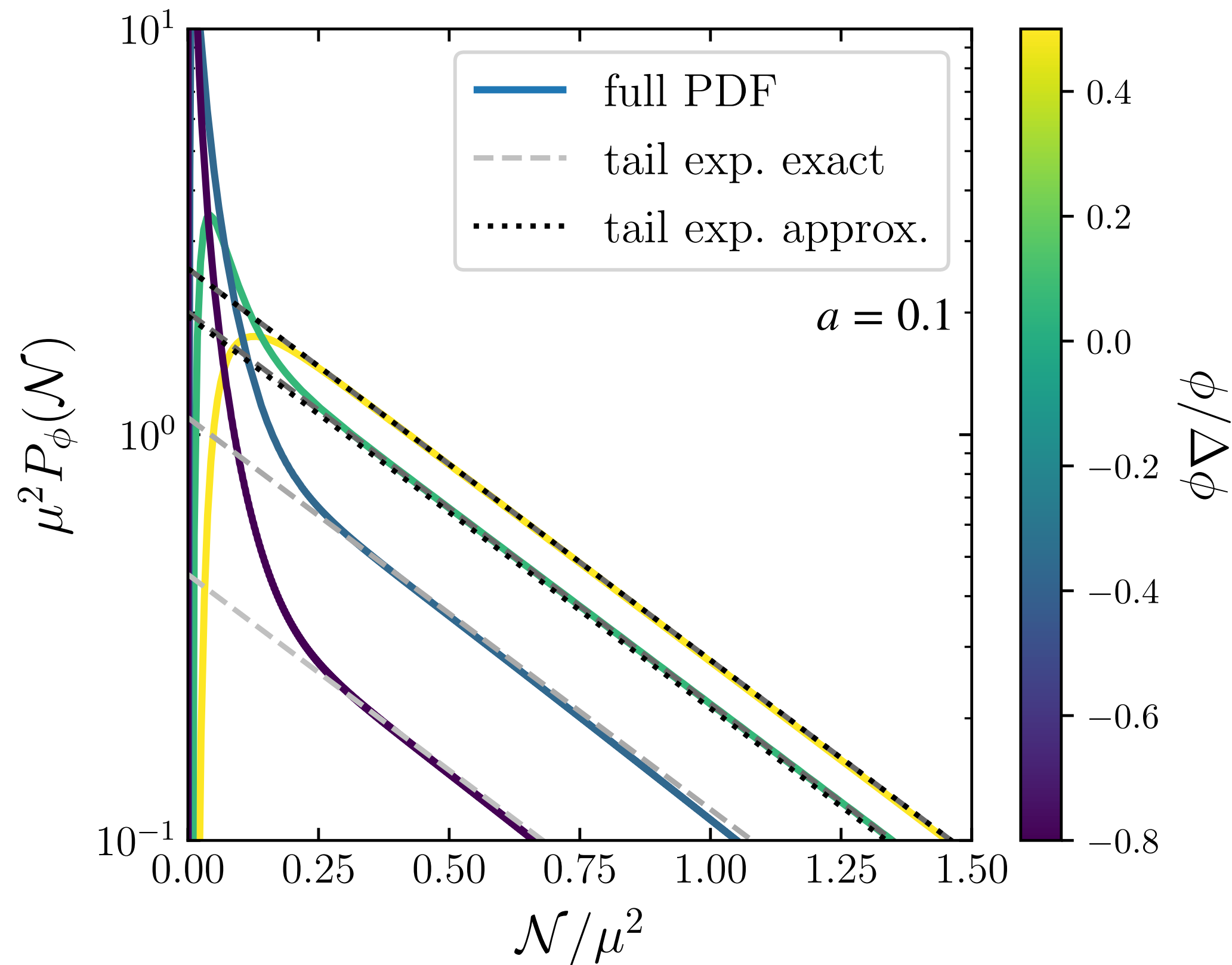


# False vacuum: quadratic model

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$$\Lambda_n^{shallow} = \frac{\pi^2}{\mu^2} \left[ \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 + \frac{4a^2}{3\pi^2} - (-1)^n \frac{8a}{\pi^3(2n+1)} \right] + \mathcal{O} \left[ (n + 1/2)^{-2} \right]$$

$$P^{shallow}(\mathcal{N}, \phi = \Delta\phi) \simeq \frac{\pi}{\mu^2} (1-a) e^{-\left(\frac{\pi^2}{4} - \frac{8}{\pi}a\right) \frac{\mathcal{N}}{\mu^2}}$$



# False vacuum: implications for Primordial Black Holes

- Typical abundance: Press-Schechter estimate

$$\beta \sim \int_{\zeta_c}^{\infty} P(\zeta) d\zeta \quad \longrightarrow \quad \beta \sim \int_{\langle \mathcal{N} \rangle + \zeta_c}^{\infty} P(\mathcal{N}, \phi = \Delta\phi) d\mathcal{N} \quad \zeta_c \sim 1$$

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$$\beta^{lin,shallow} \simeq \frac{4}{\pi} \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{8}{\pi^2} - \frac{\pi^2}{12} \right) a \right] e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{8} - \left( \frac{\pi^4}{4} - 2a \right) \frac{\zeta_c}{\mu^2}}$$

$$\beta^{quad,shallow} \simeq \frac{4}{\pi} \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{32}{\pi^3} + \frac{4}{\pi} - \frac{5\pi^2}{48} - 1 \right) a \right] e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{8} - \left( \frac{\pi^4}{4} - \frac{8}{\pi} a \right) \frac{\zeta_c}{\mu^2}}$$

Similar abundances :

$$\beta \sim \beta(a=0) e^{A a \frac{\zeta_c}{\mu^2}} \quad A^{lin} = 2 \quad A^{quad} = \frac{8}{\pi}$$

exponential enhancement



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$$\langle \mathcal{N} \rangle(\phi) = \sum_n \frac{a_n(\phi)}{\Lambda_n}$$

$$\beta^{lin,shallow} \simeq \frac{4}{\pi} \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{8}{\pi^2} - \frac{\pi^2}{12} \right) a \right] e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{8} - \left( \frac{\pi^4}{4} - 2a \right) \frac{\zeta_c}{\mu^2}}$$

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Similar abundances :

$$\beta \sim \beta(a=0) e^{A a \frac{\zeta_c}{\mu^2}} \quad A^{lin} = 2 \quad A^{quad} = \frac{8}{\pi}$$

exponential enhancement

What the slow-roll assumption implies?

quadratic model:  $\mu \gg \sqrt{a}$   $\longrightarrow$  exponential factor negligible  $\longrightarrow$  flat-well limit applies where slow roll satisfied

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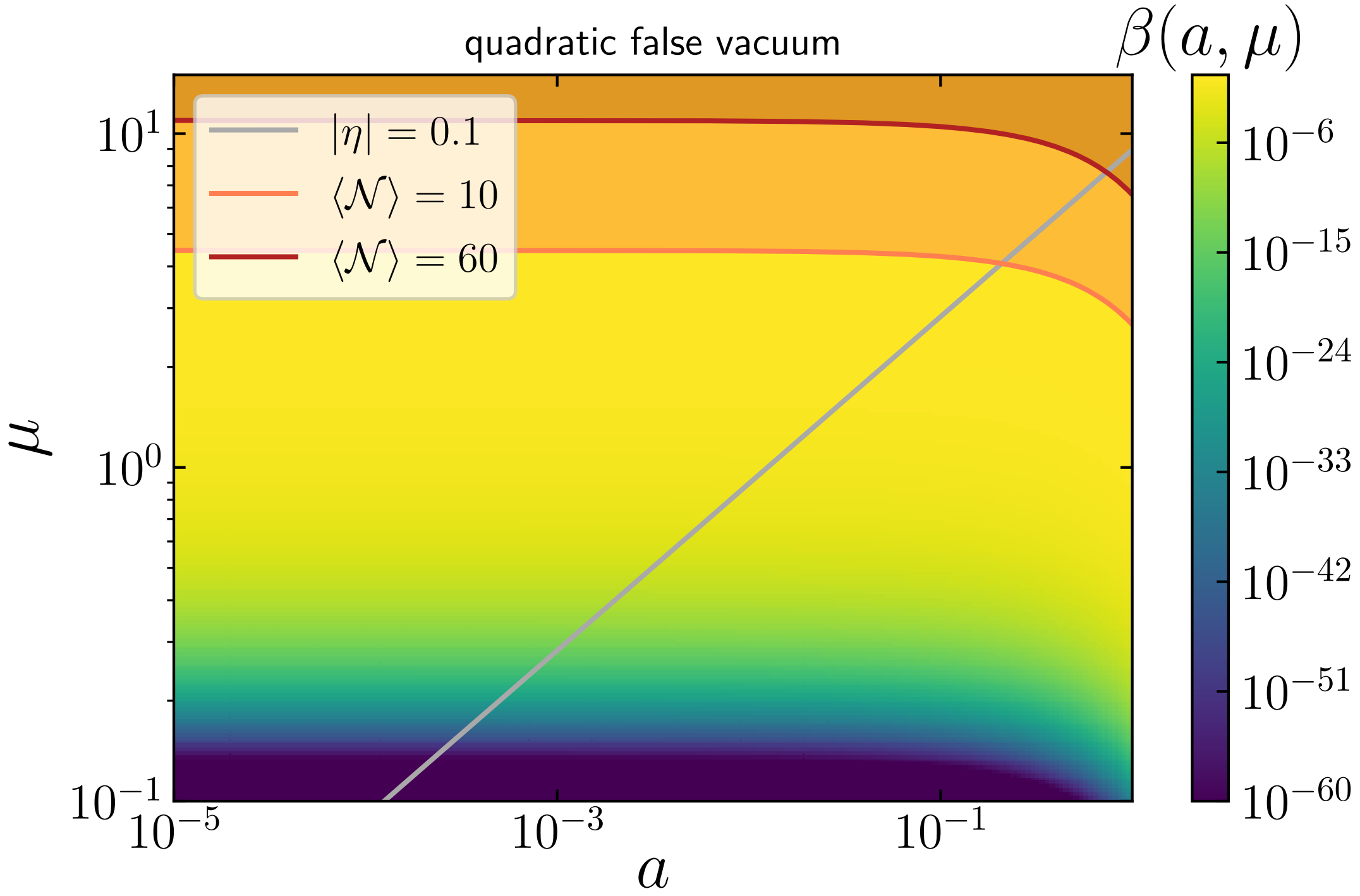
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# False vacuum: implications for Primordial Black Holes

## Quadratic model

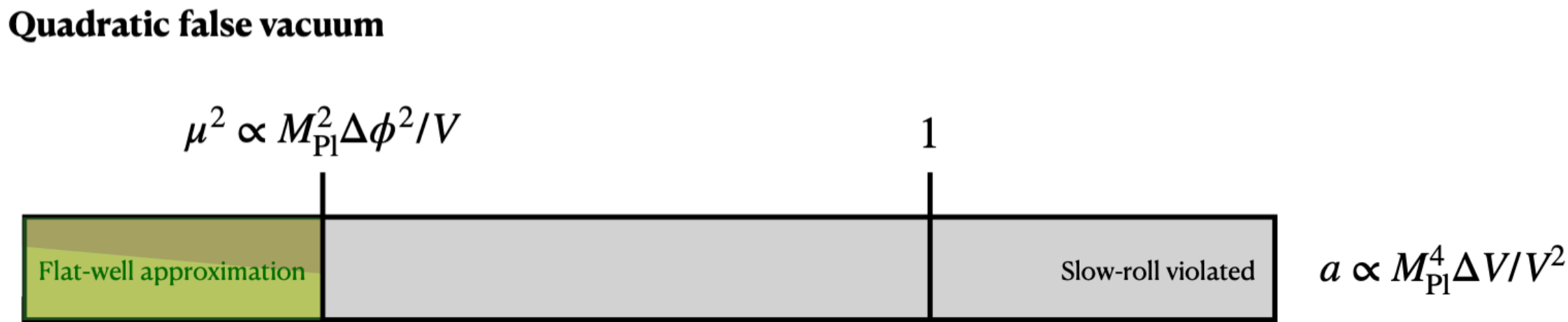
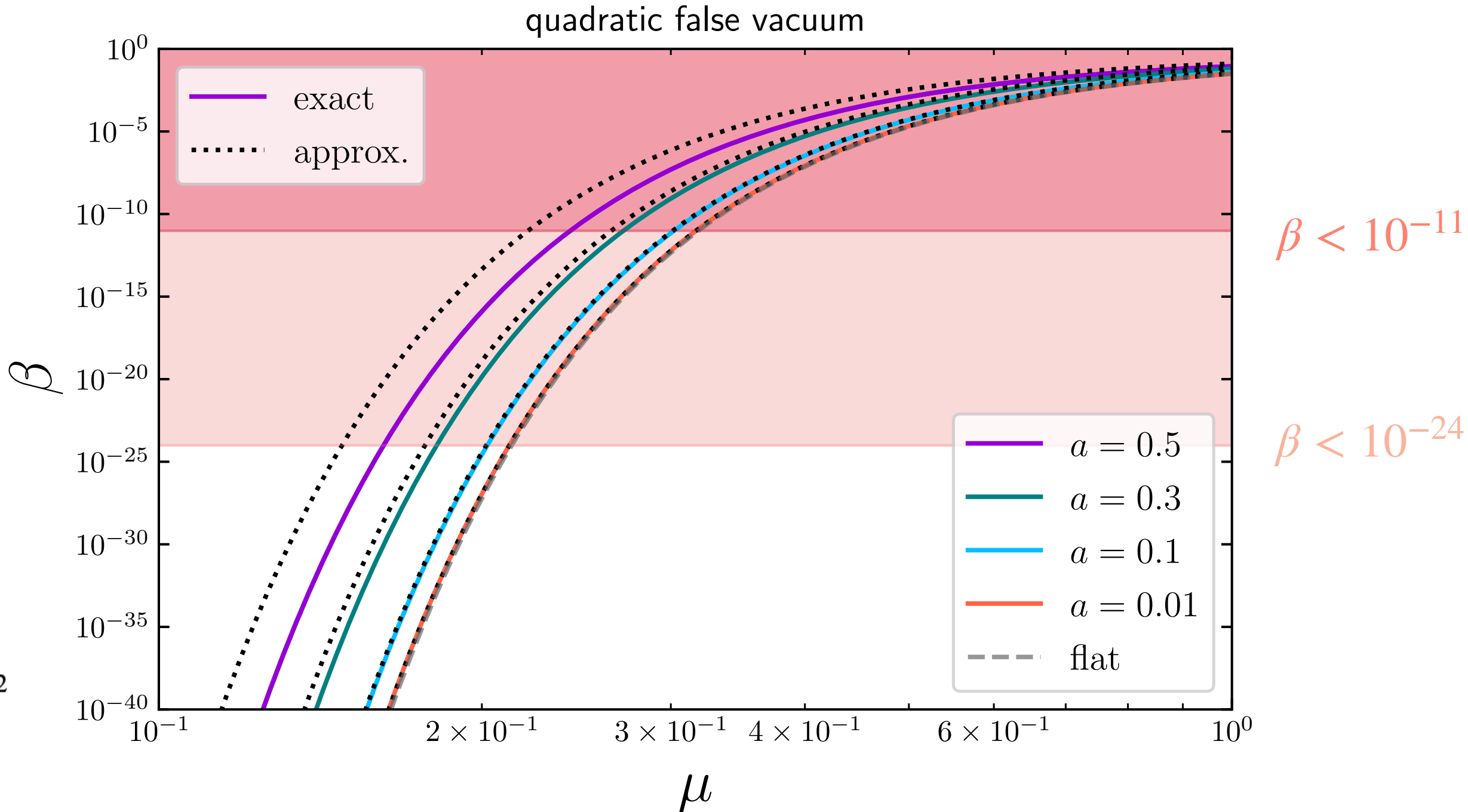


PBH abundance well captured by a flat-well limit ( $a = 0$ )

If  $\mu \ll 1$ , tiny amount of PBHs produced

If  $\mu \lesssim 1$ , PBHs produced with sizable abundance

If  $\mu \gtrsim 1$ , PBHs overproduced



# False vacuum: implications for Primordial Black Holes

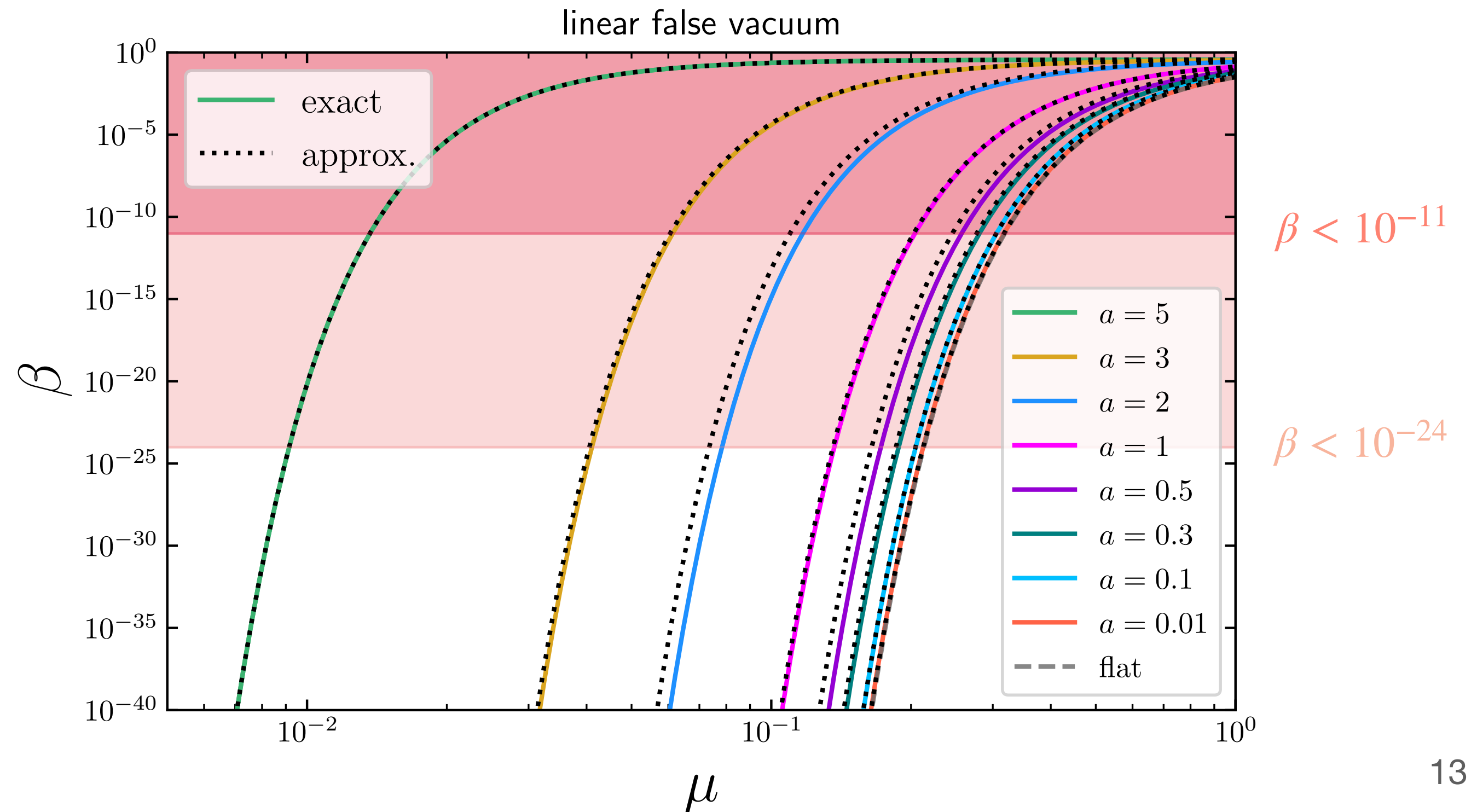
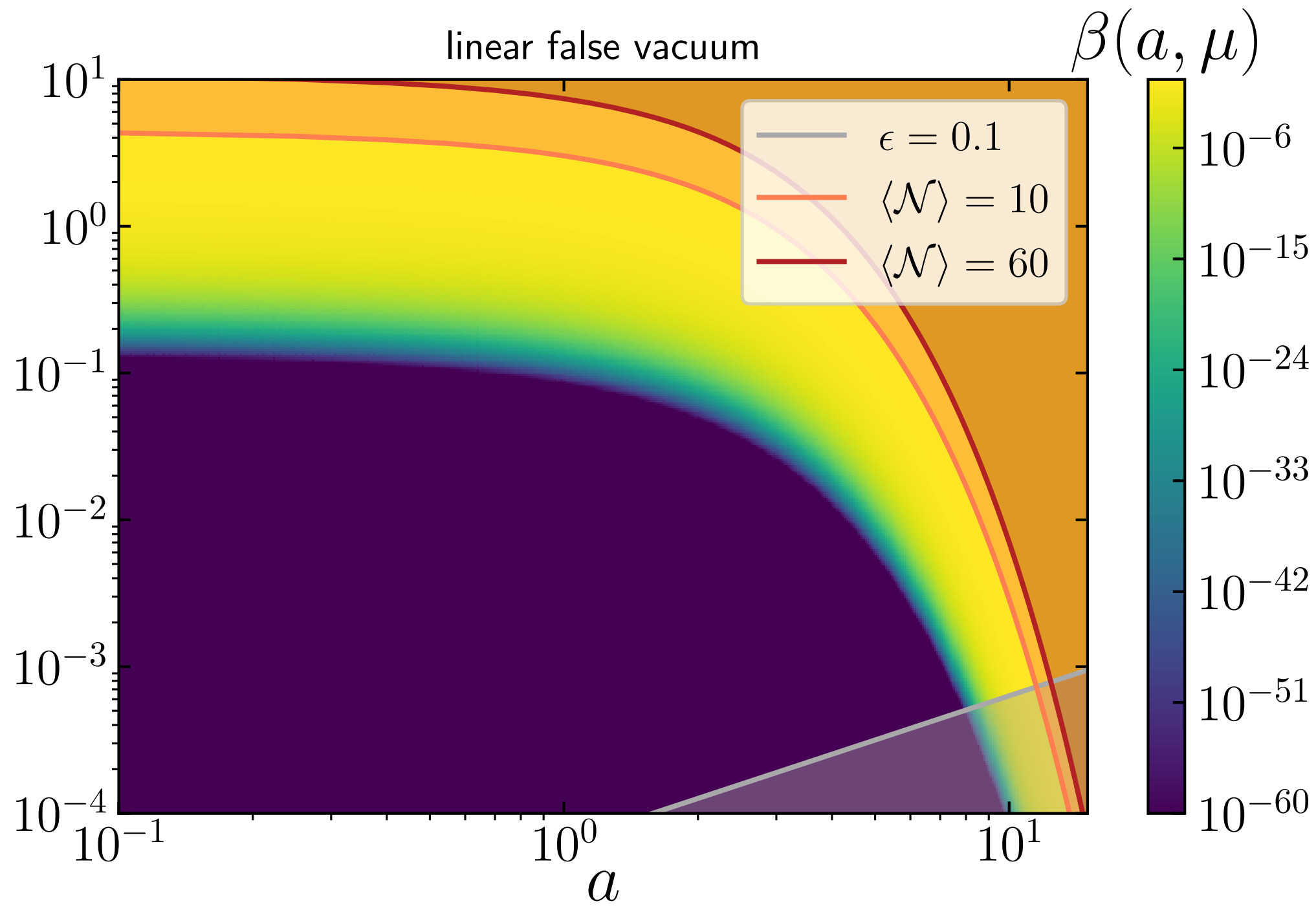
## Linear model

Additional regimes:

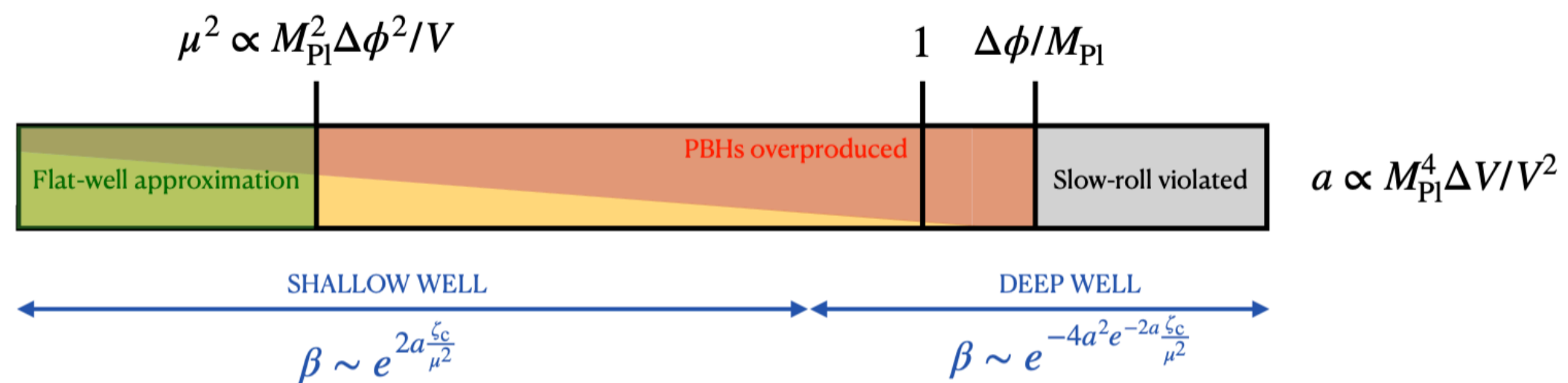
If  $\mu^2 \ll a \ll 1$  ( $\mu$  small):

large deviations from flat-well, still shallow-well domain;  
non-trivial imprint of the false-vacuum profile

If  $a \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$ : large PBH production



Linear false vacuum



# Coarse graining in stochastic inflation

C.A., V. Vennin  
In preparation

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Y.Tada, V. Vennin  
JCAP02(2022)021



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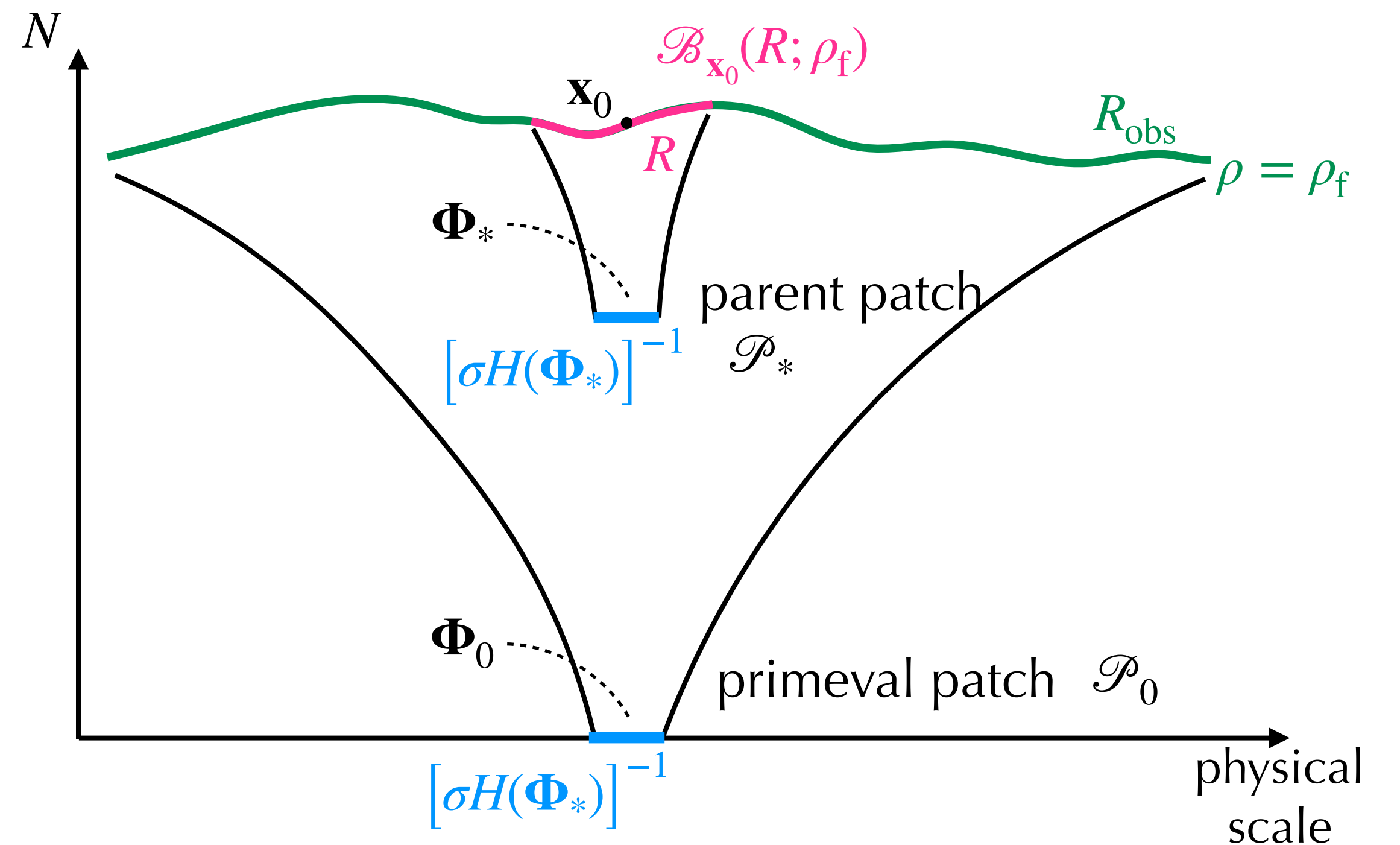
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$$\mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{x}_0}(R; \rho_f) = \{\mathbf{x} \mid r_{\text{ph}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_0; \rho_f) \leq R\}$$

$$\zeta_R(\mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{1}{V[\mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{x}_0}(R; \rho_f)]} \int_{\rho=\rho_f} d\mathbf{x} \zeta(\mathbf{x}) W \left[ \frac{r_{\text{ph}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_0; \rho_f)}{R} \right]$$

$$\frac{4}{3} \pi R^3 = \frac{1}{\sigma^3 H^3(\Phi_*)} \int_{\mathcal{B}} e^{3\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x})} d\mathbf{x}$$





# Coarse graining in stochastic inflation

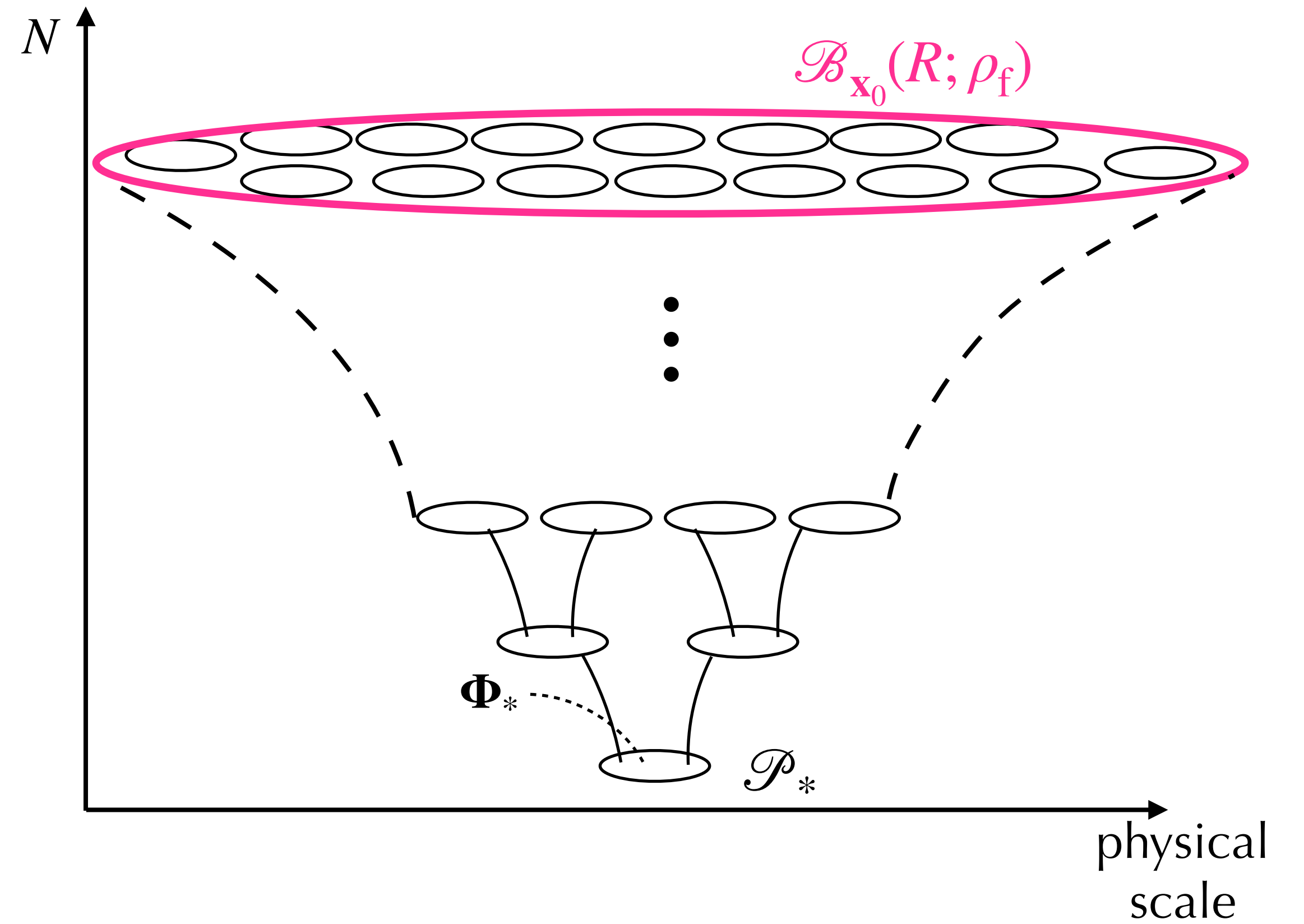
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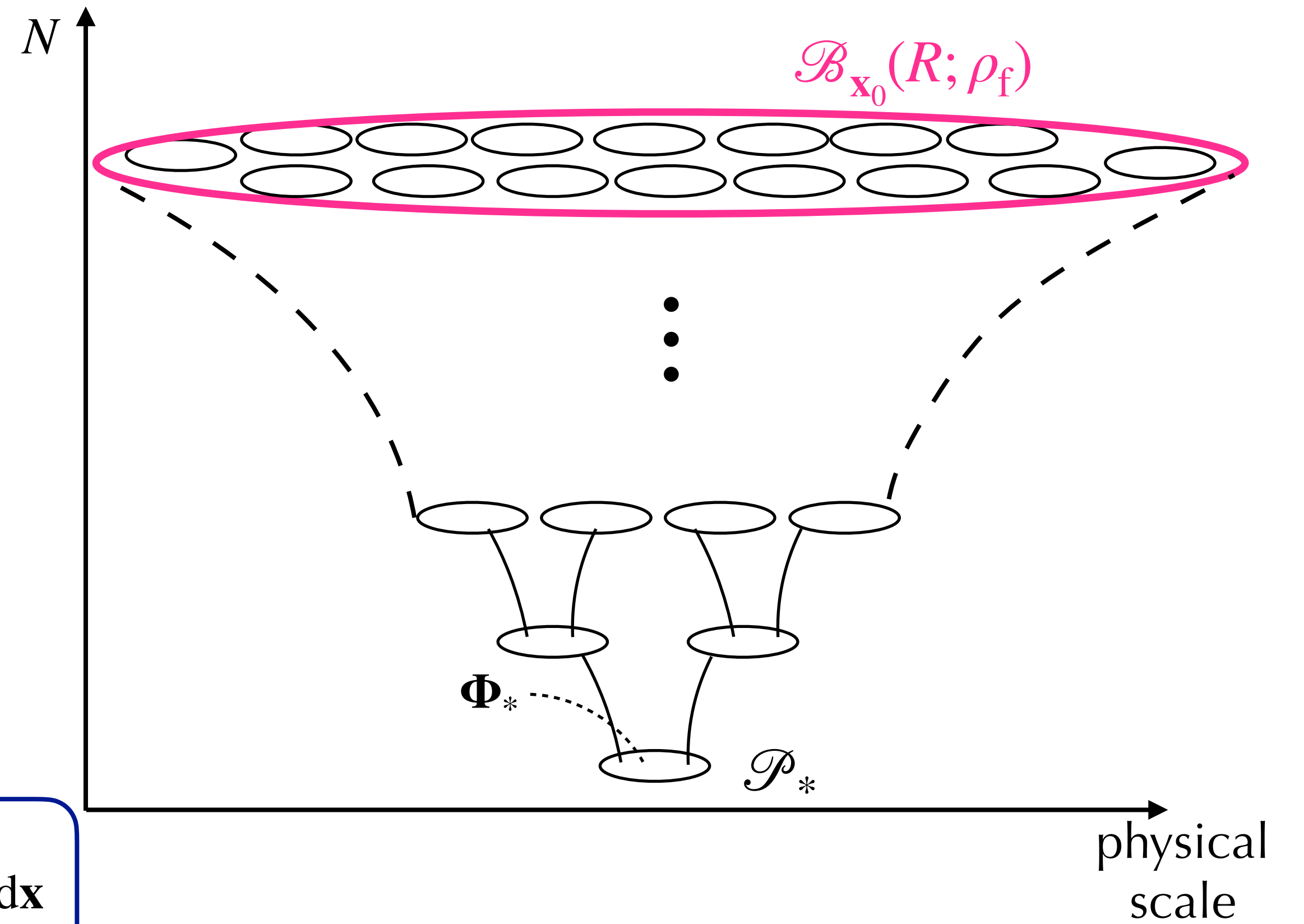
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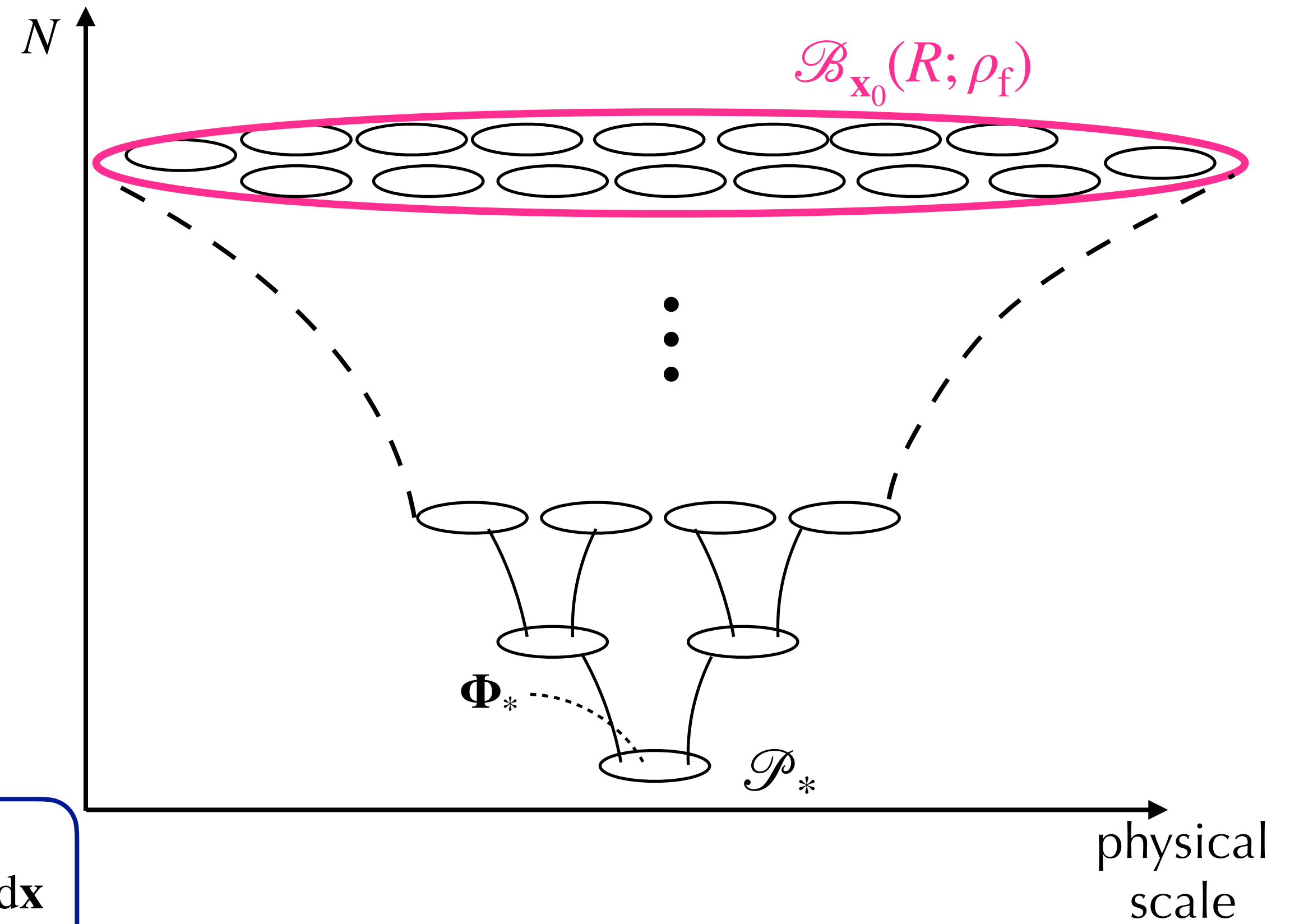
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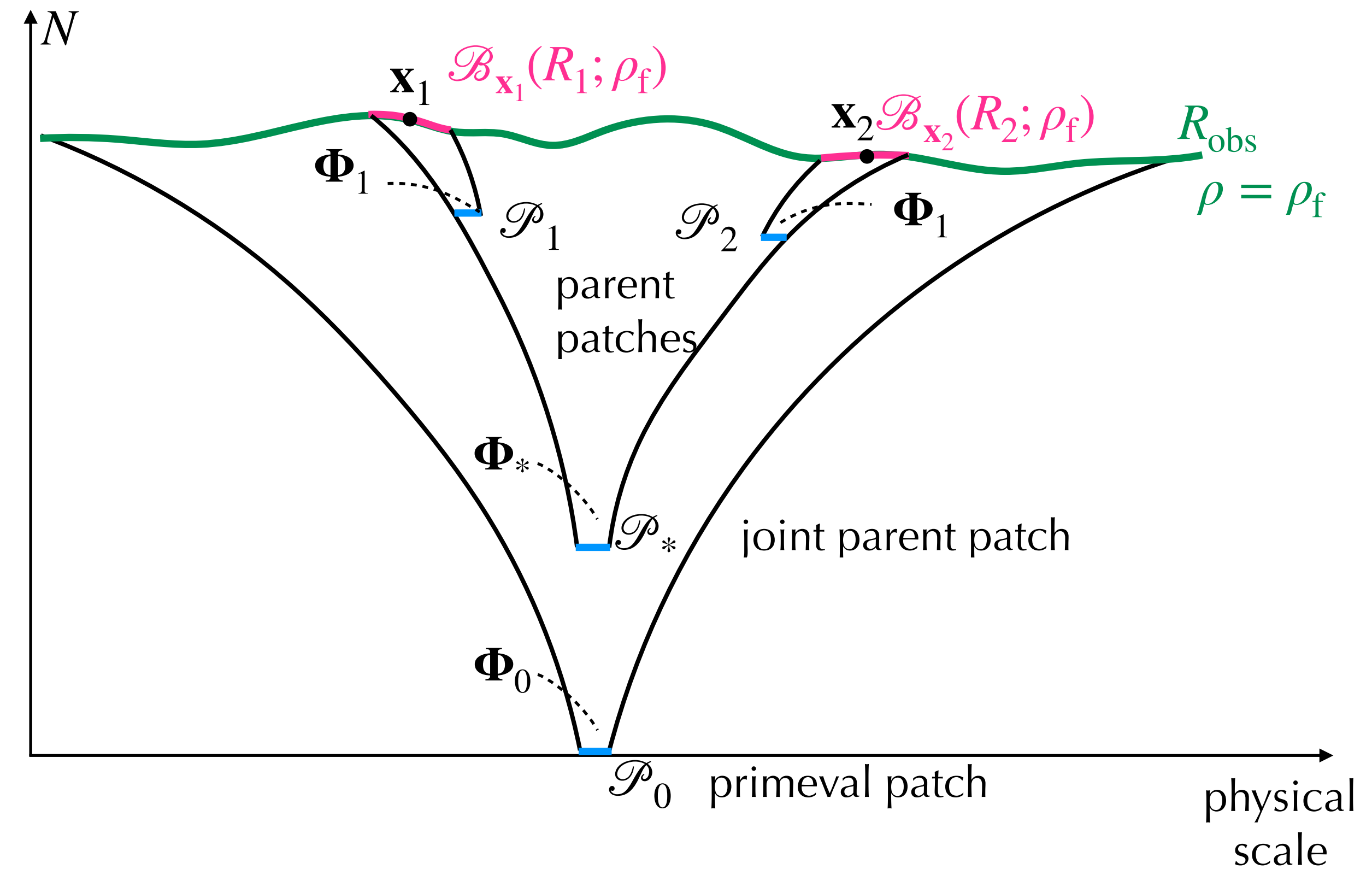
K.Ando, V. Vennin  
JCAP 04 (2021) 057

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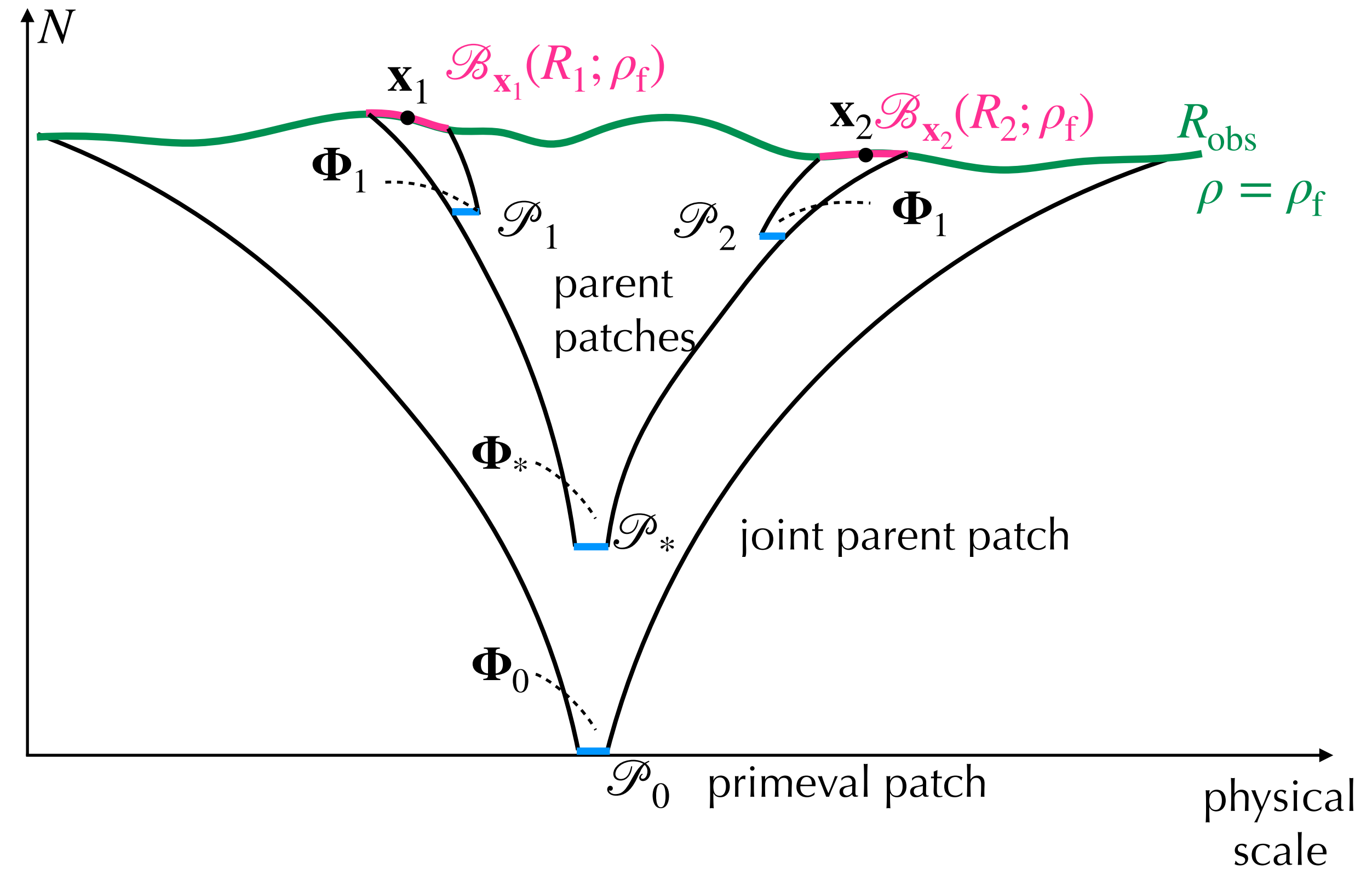
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$$\zeta_{R_1} = \mathcal{N}_{\Phi_0 \rightarrow \Phi_*} + \mathcal{N}_{\Phi_* \rightarrow \Phi_1} - \langle \mathcal{N} \rangle(\Phi_0) + \langle \mathcal{N} \rangle(\Phi_1)$$

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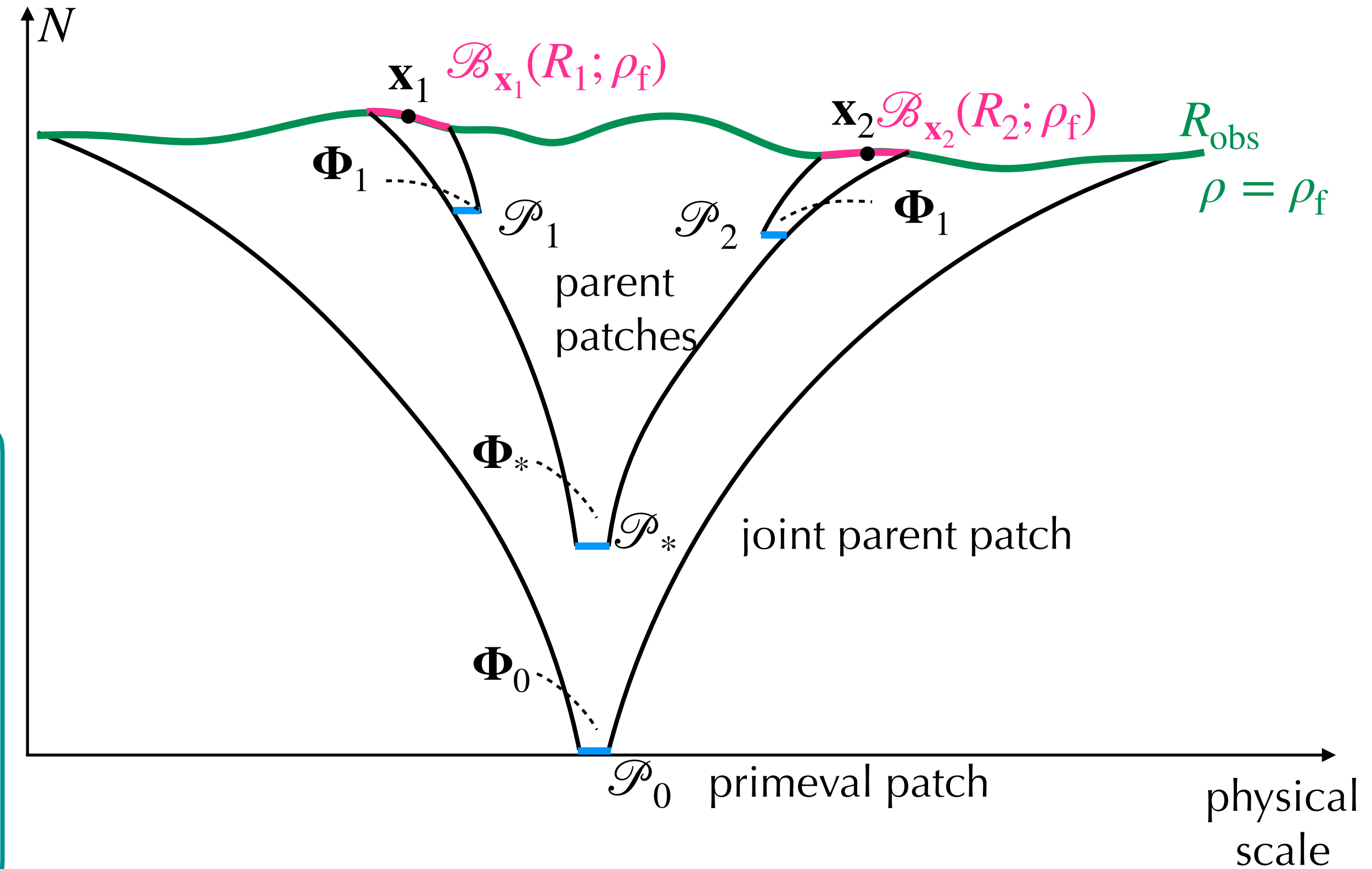
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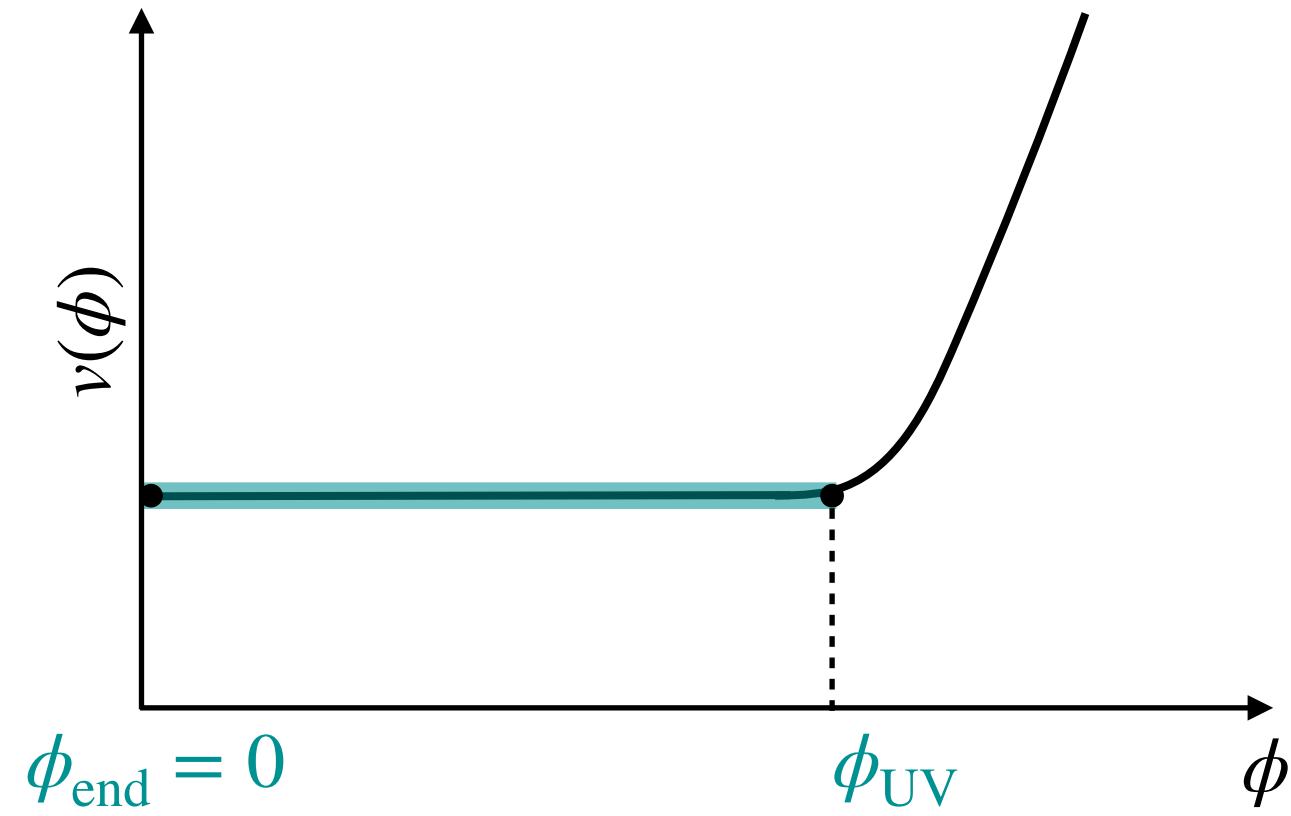
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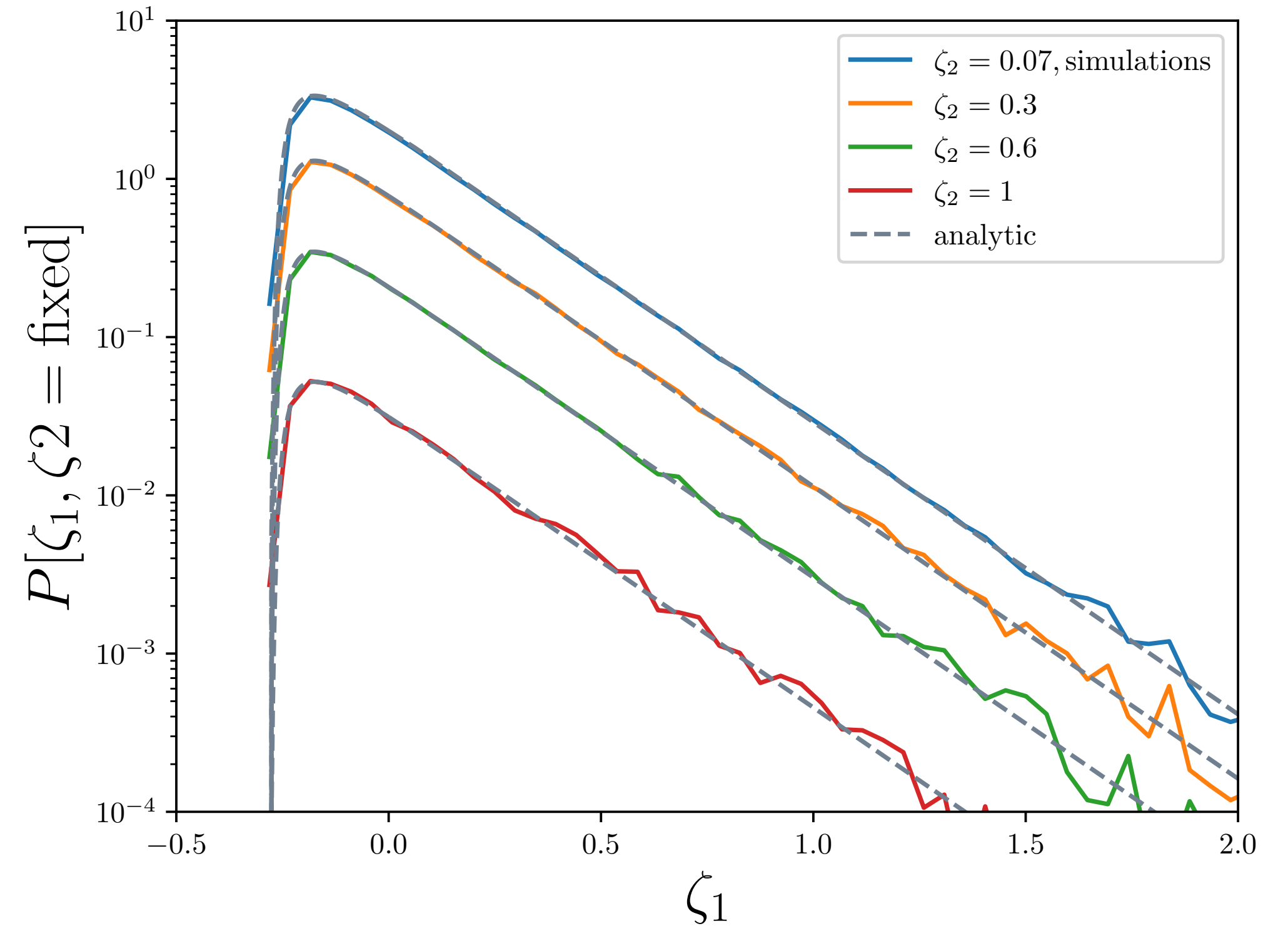
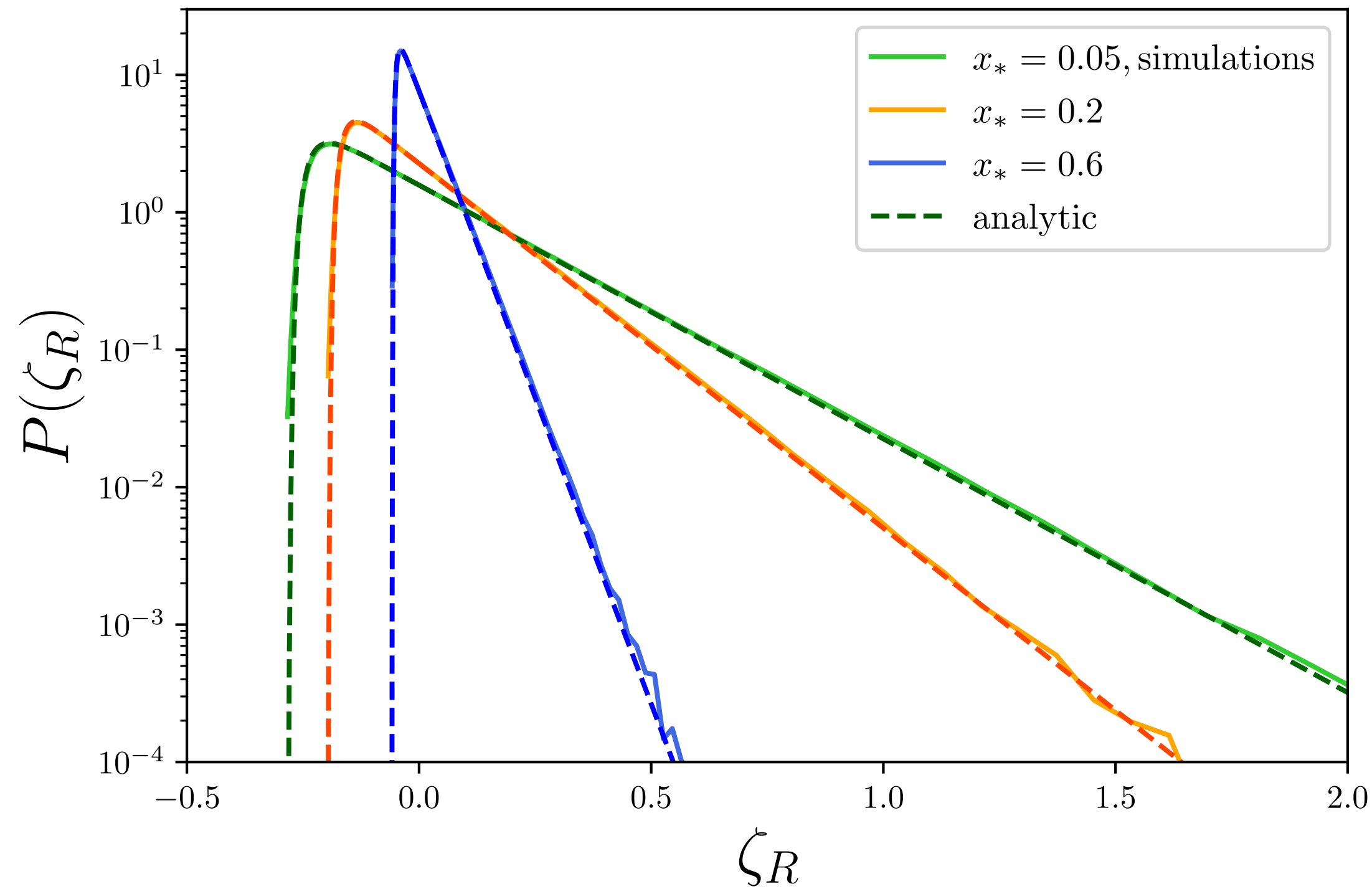
# Single clock models

## ■ Constant potential



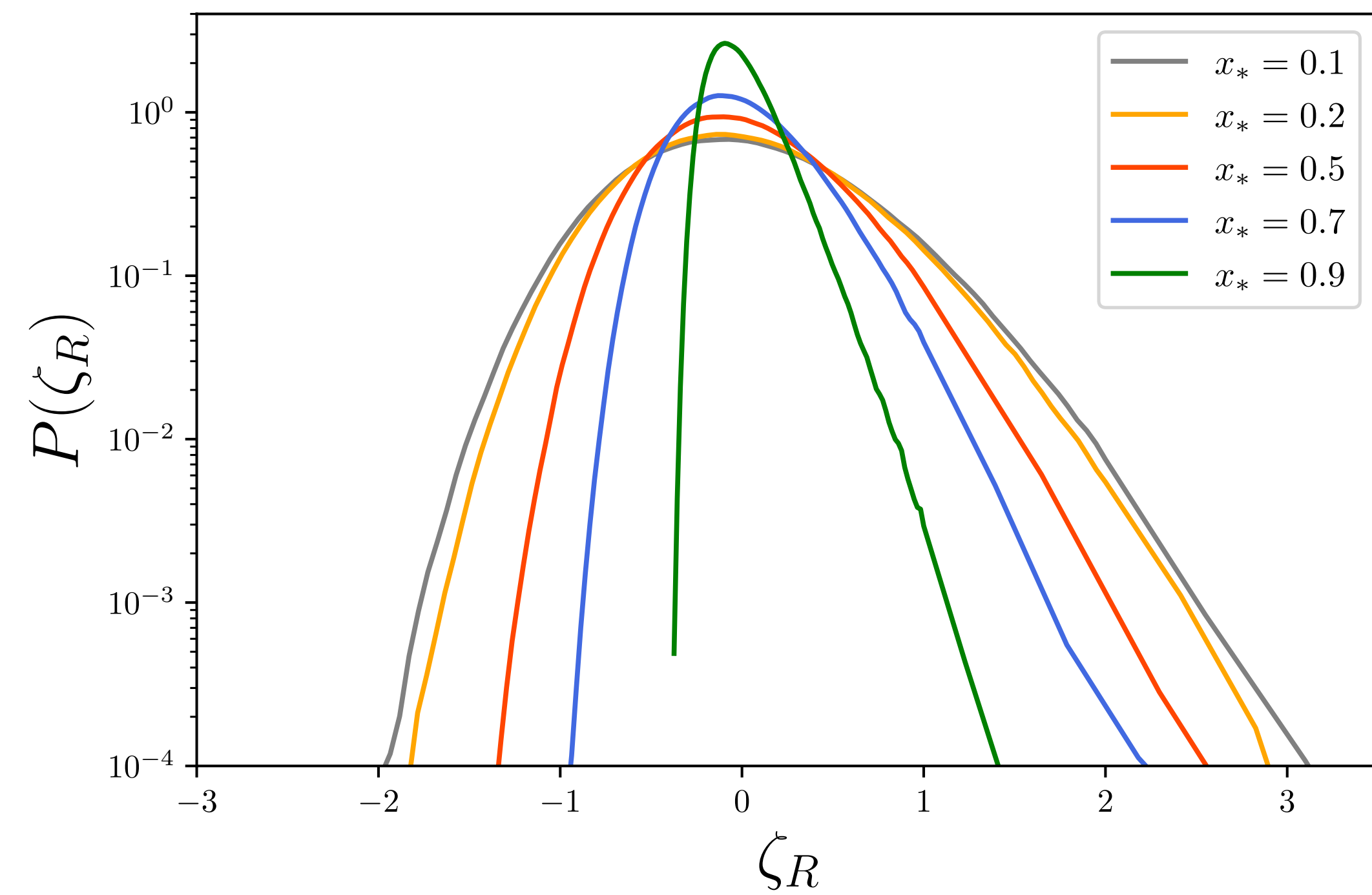
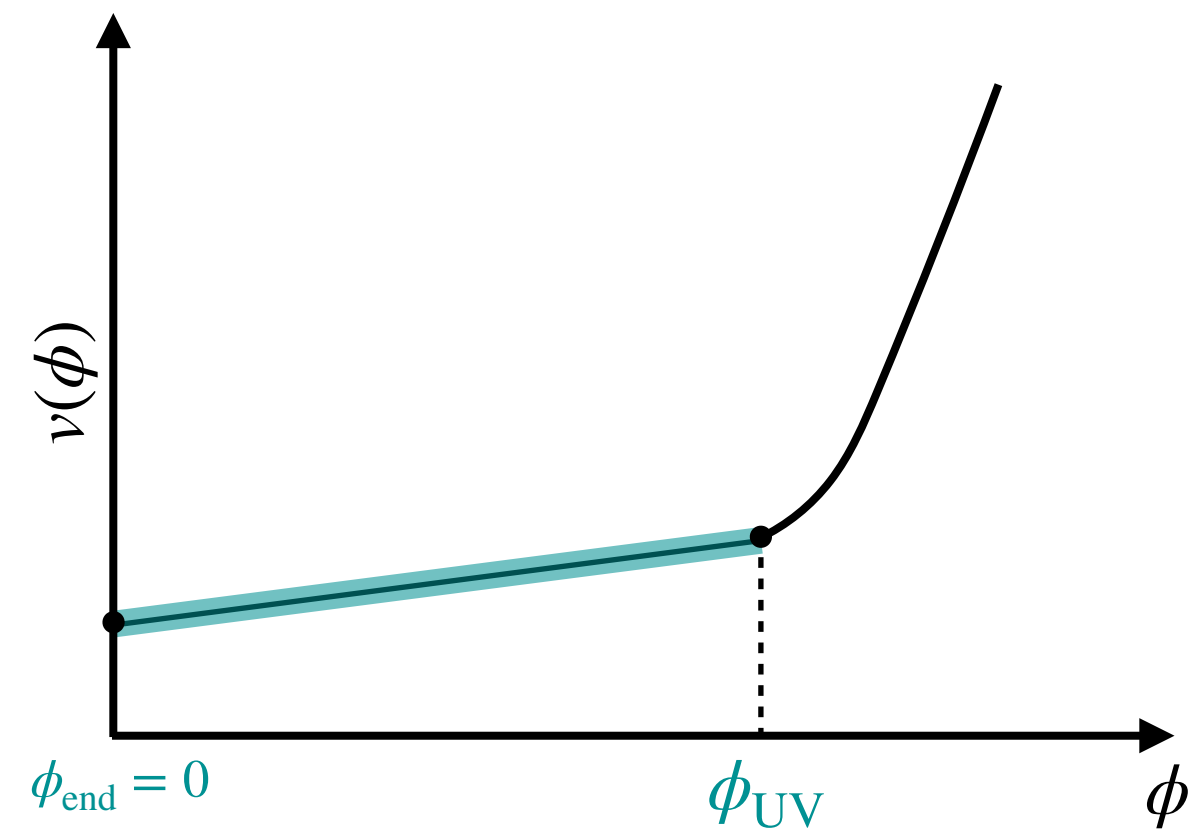
$$P(\zeta_R) = -\frac{\pi}{2\mu^2(1-x_*)^2} \vartheta'_2 \left[ \frac{\pi}{2}, e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{\mu^2(1-x_*)^2} \left[ \zeta_R + \frac{\mu^2}{2}(1-x_*)^2 \right]} \right] \quad x_* = \phi_*/\Delta\phi = \phi_*/\phi_{\text{UV}}$$

$$P(\zeta_{R_1}, \zeta_{R_2}) = -\frac{\pi^3}{8\mu^6(1-x_*)^2(1-x_1)^2(1-x_2)^2} \int d\mathcal{N}_{x_0 \rightarrow x_*} \vartheta'_2 \left[ \frac{\pi}{2}, e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{\mu^2(1-x_*)^2} \mathcal{N}_{x_0 \rightarrow x_*}} \right] \\ \times \vartheta'_2 \left[ \frac{\pi}{2} x_*, e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{\mu^2(1-x_1)^2} \left[ \zeta_{R_1} - \mathcal{N}_{x_0 \rightarrow x_*} + \frac{\mu^2}{2}(1-x_1)^2 \right]} \right] \vartheta'_2 \left[ \frac{\pi}{2} x_*, e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{\mu^2(1-x_2)^2} \left[ \zeta_{R_2} - \mathcal{N}_{x_0 \rightarrow x_*} + \frac{\mu^2}{2}(1-x_2)^2 \right]} \right]$$

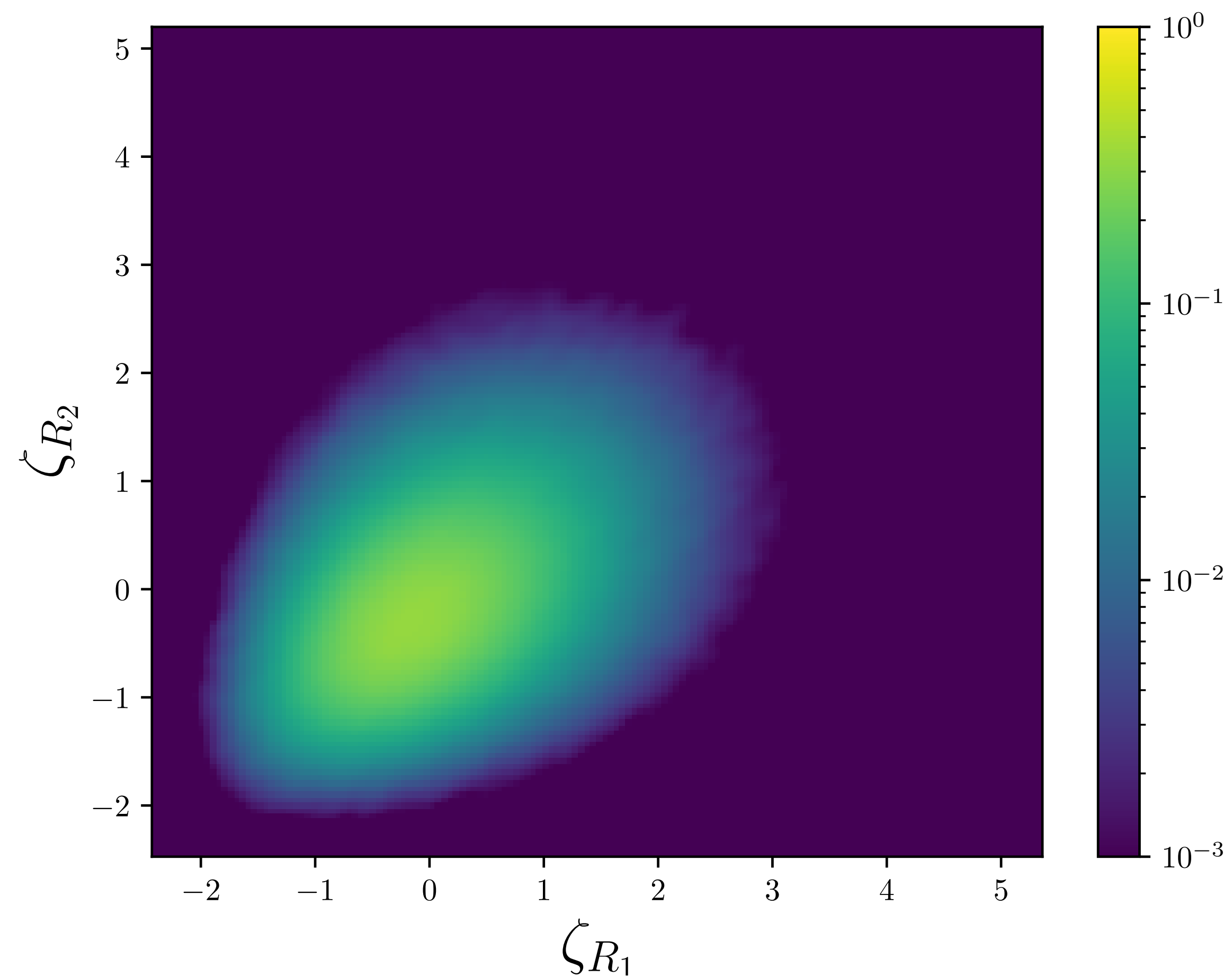


# Single clock models

■ Linear potential positive slope



$$P(\zeta_{R_1}, \zeta_{R_2})$$





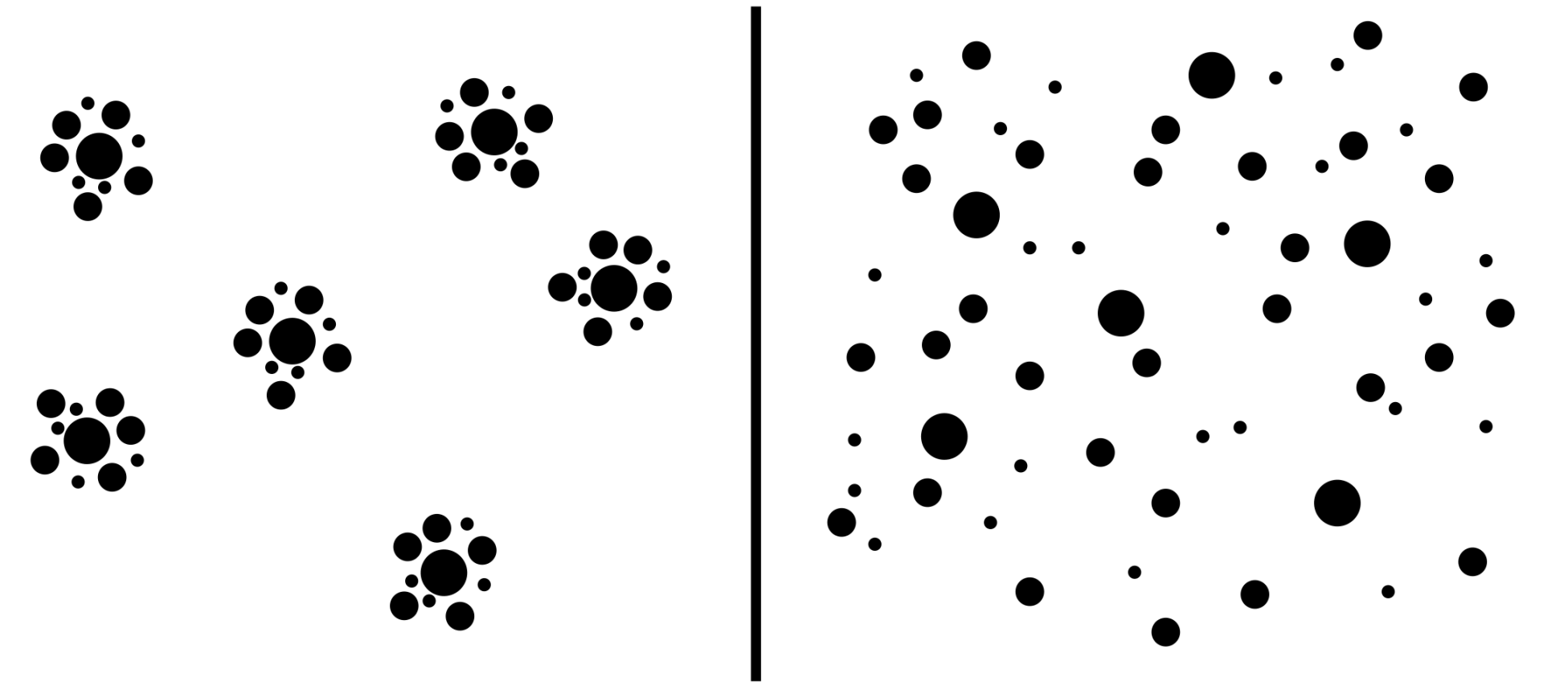
Are primordial black holes clustered at formation?

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- Two-point correlation function of overdensities

$$1 + \xi(r) = \frac{p(\zeta(0) > \zeta_c, \zeta(r) > \zeta_c)}{p^2(\zeta(0) > \zeta_c)} \equiv \frac{P_2}{P_1^2}$$

$$\xi(r) \equiv \xi_{\text{PBH}}(r) \equiv \xi_{\text{red}}(r) \quad \text{for} \quad r \gtrsim CR$$



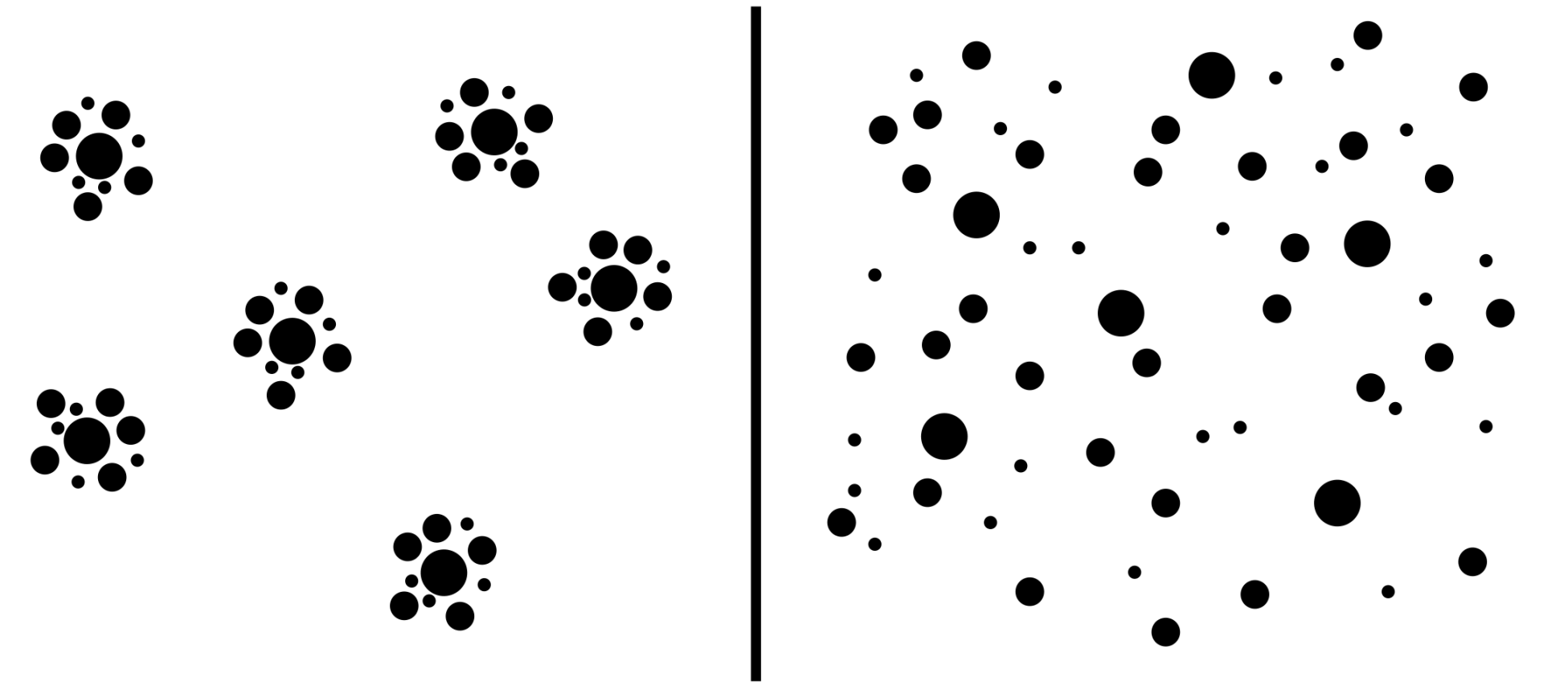
clustered vs non-clustered spatial distribution

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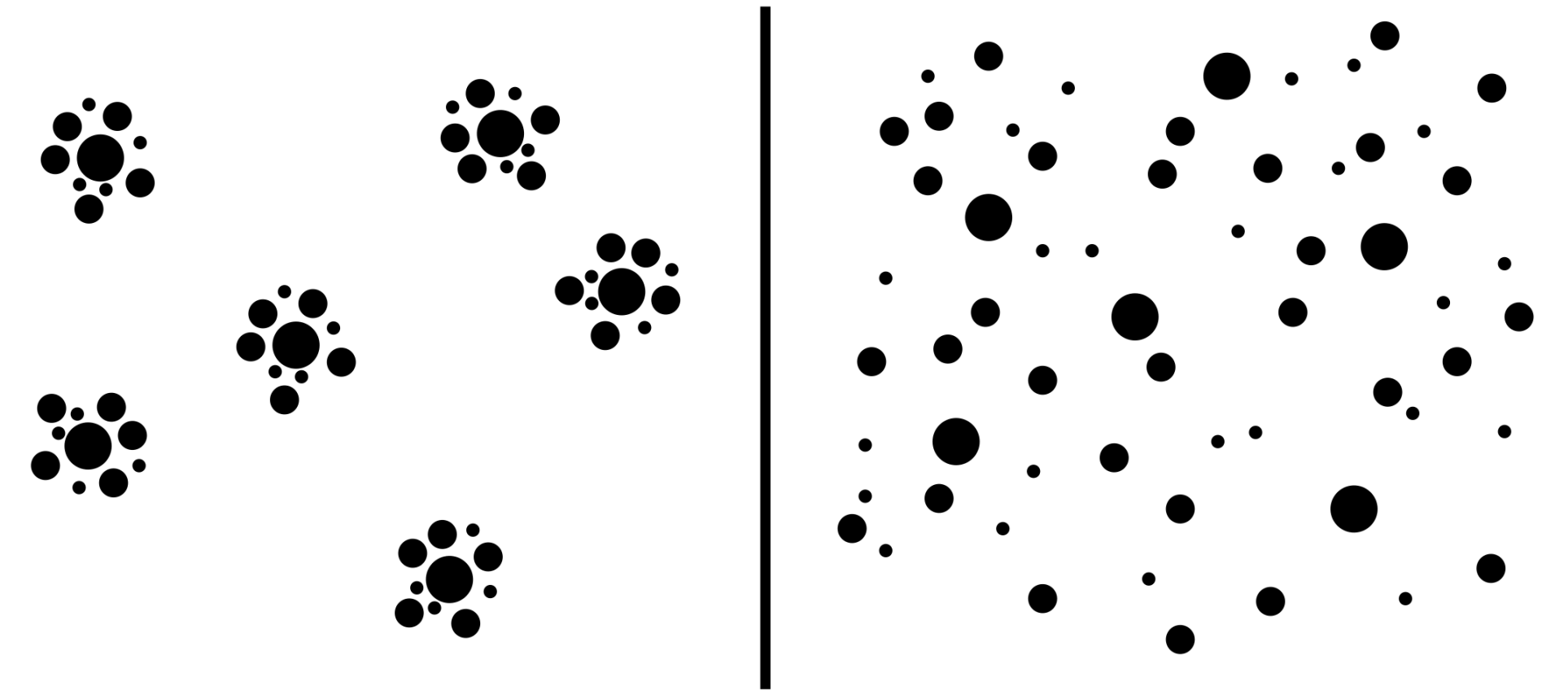
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Franciolini, Kehagias, Matarrese, Riotto [2018], JCAP 03016

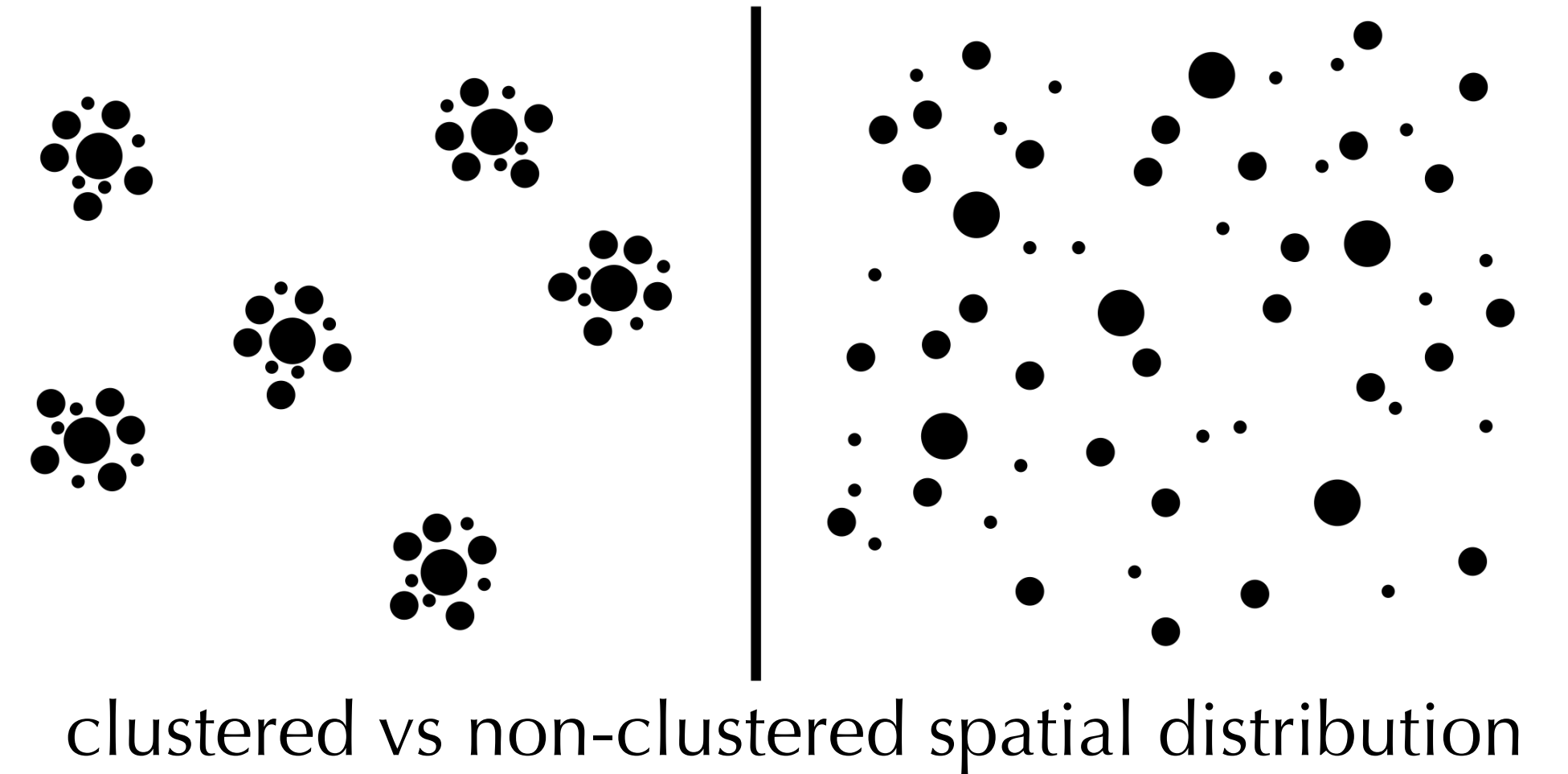
T. Suyama, S. Yokoyama [2019], PTEP, 103E02

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- Non perturbative non gaussianities?

$$P_1 = \int_{\zeta_c} d\zeta P(\zeta) \quad P_2 = \int_{\zeta_c} d\zeta_1 d\zeta_2 P(\zeta_1, \zeta_2)$$

C.A., V. Vennin  
In preparation

# In summary

- PBHs are a useful probe of inflation beyond tested regimes
- PBHs may be produced by large fluctuations during inflation: quantum diffusion cannot be neglected; it can be incorporated by the stochastic  $\delta N$  formalism: non gaussian tails
- We can extend the stochastic delta N formalism to arbitrary coarse graining scales, and to multiple point statistics
- Do non-perturbative non gaussianities also affect the spatial distribution of PBHs?

# LPENS

LABORATOIRE DE PHYSIQUE  
DE L'ÉCOLE NORMALE SUPÉRIEURE

*Many thanks for the attention!*



[chiara.animali@phys.ens.fr](mailto:chiara.animali@phys.ens.fr)

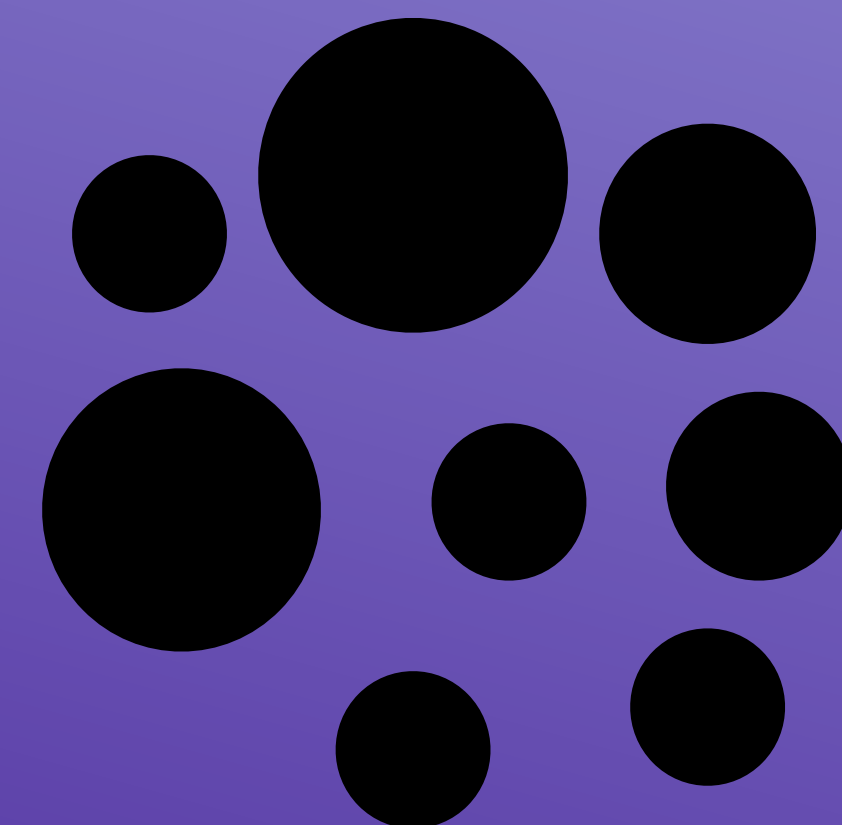


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Université  
Paris Cité



# Inflation



# Inflation

- High energy phase of accelerated expansion of spacetime

$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = - dt^2 + a^2(t) d\vec{x}^2 \quad \dot{a}, \ddot{a} > 0$$

$$(10 \text{ MeV})^4 < \rho < (10^{16} \text{ GeV})^4$$

# Inflation

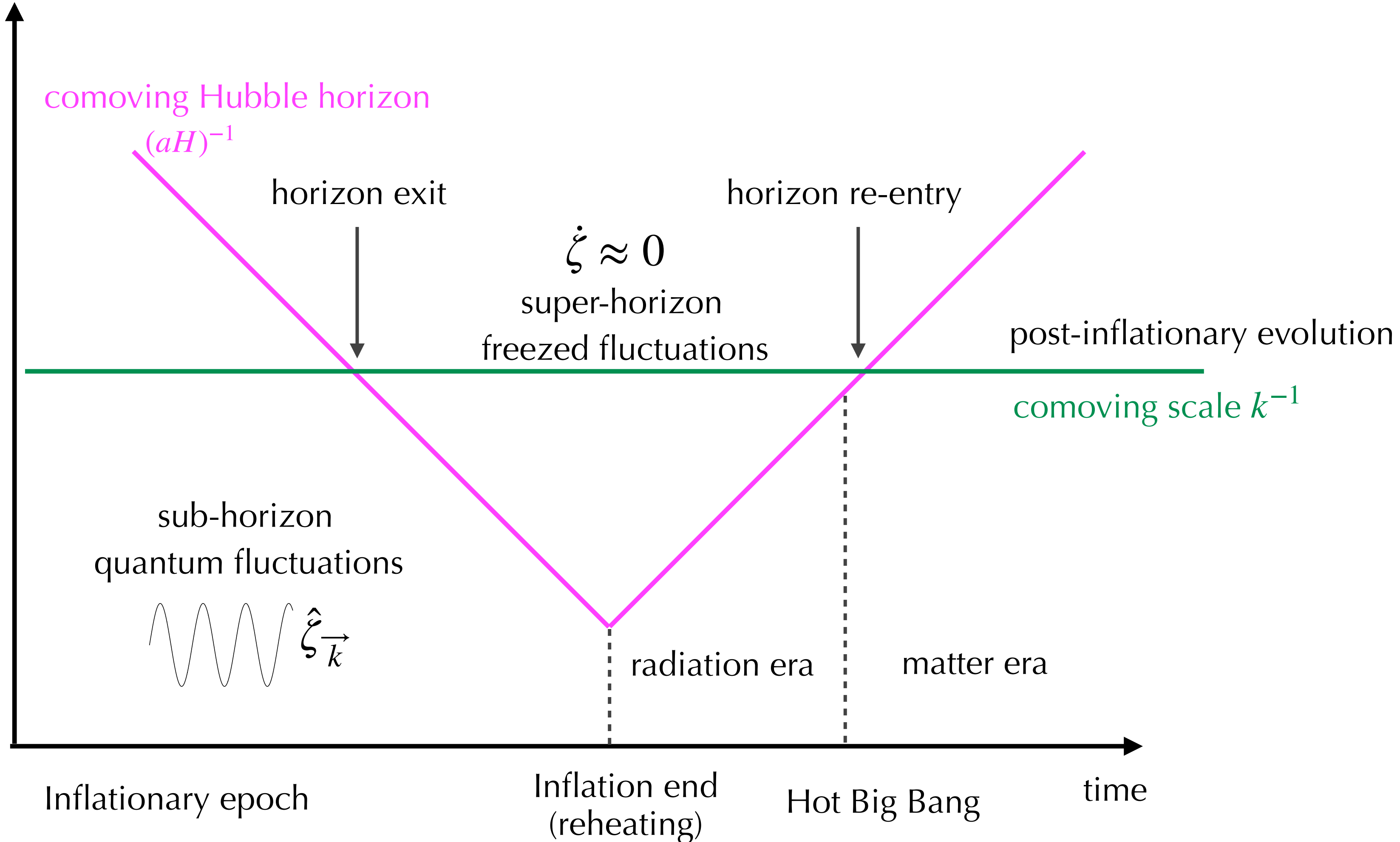
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comoving scales



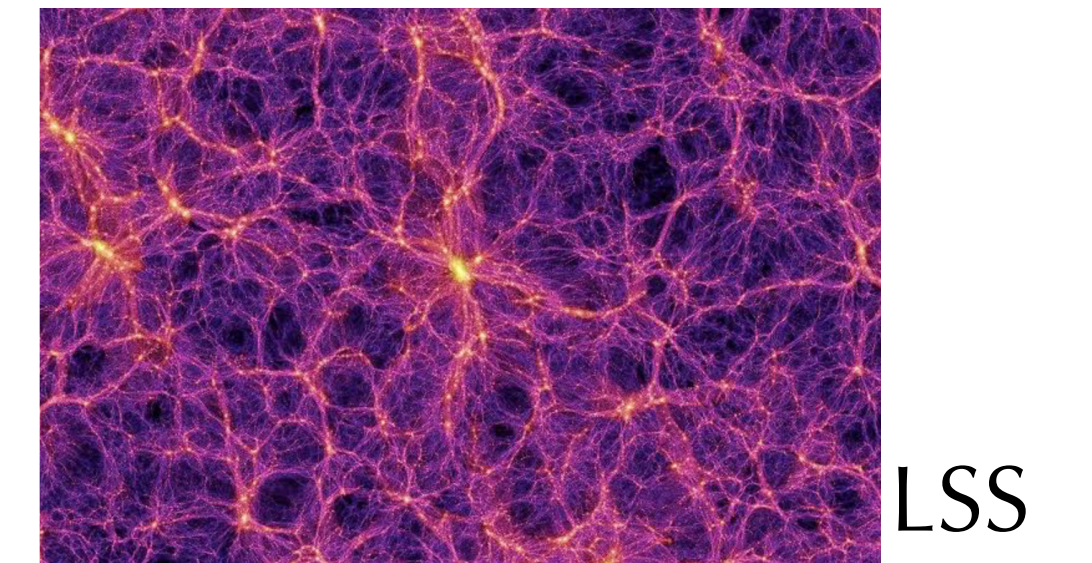
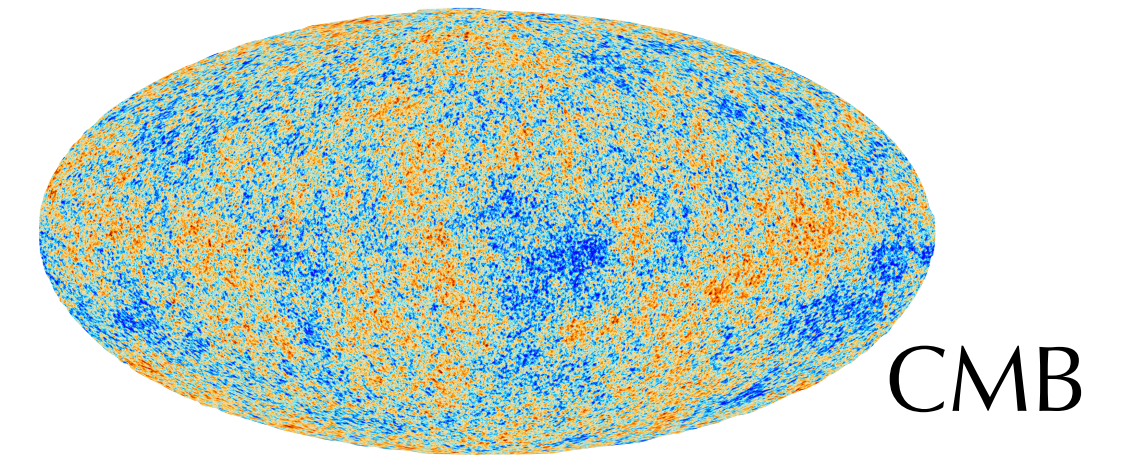
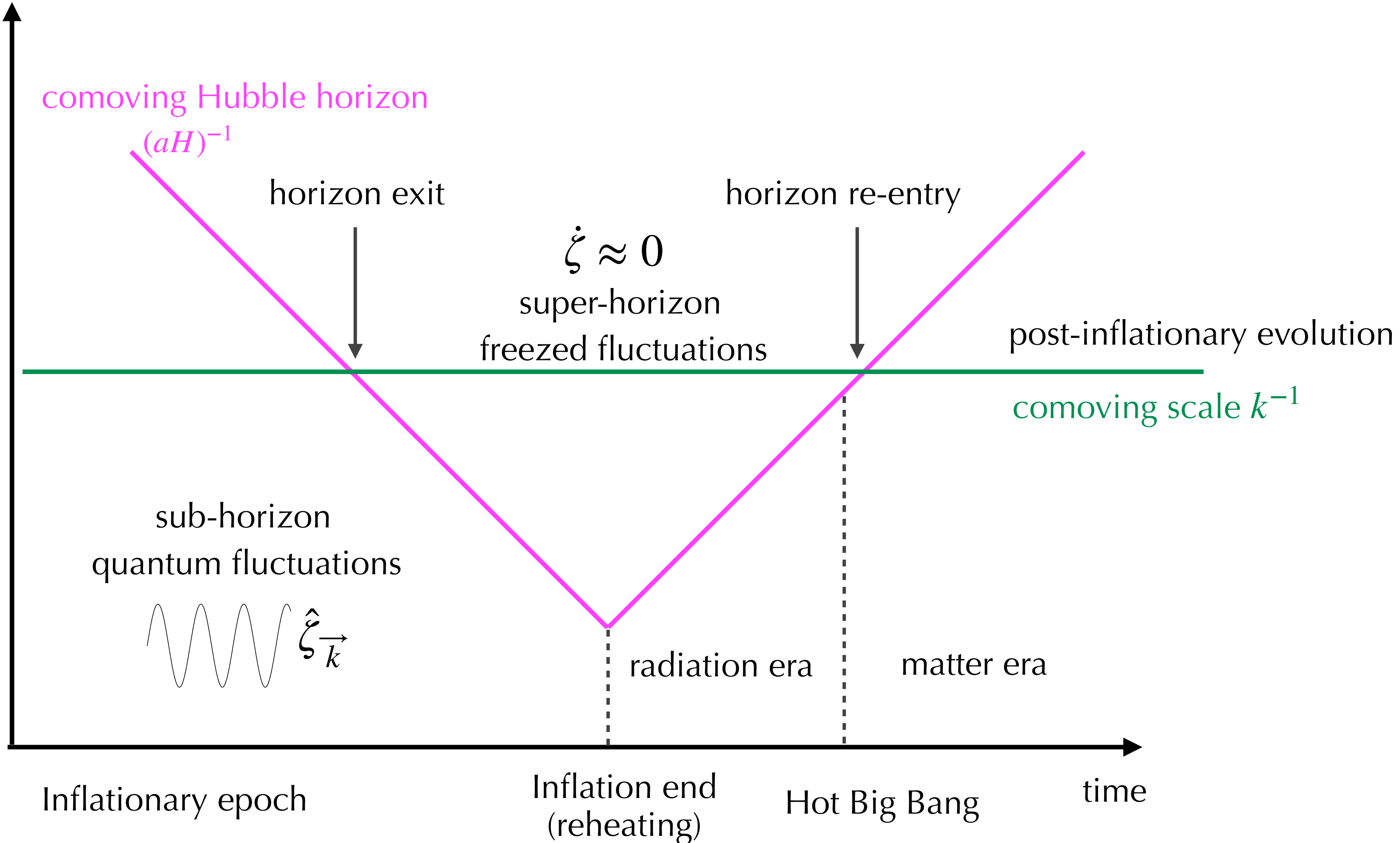
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- Simplest realisation: slow-roll inflation

scalar field  $\phi$  (inflaton) slowly rolling towards the minimum of its potential

$$S_\phi = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left( \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - V(\phi) \right)$$

$$\epsilon = -\frac{\dot{H}}{H^2} = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \left( \frac{V_{,\phi}}{V} \right)^2$$

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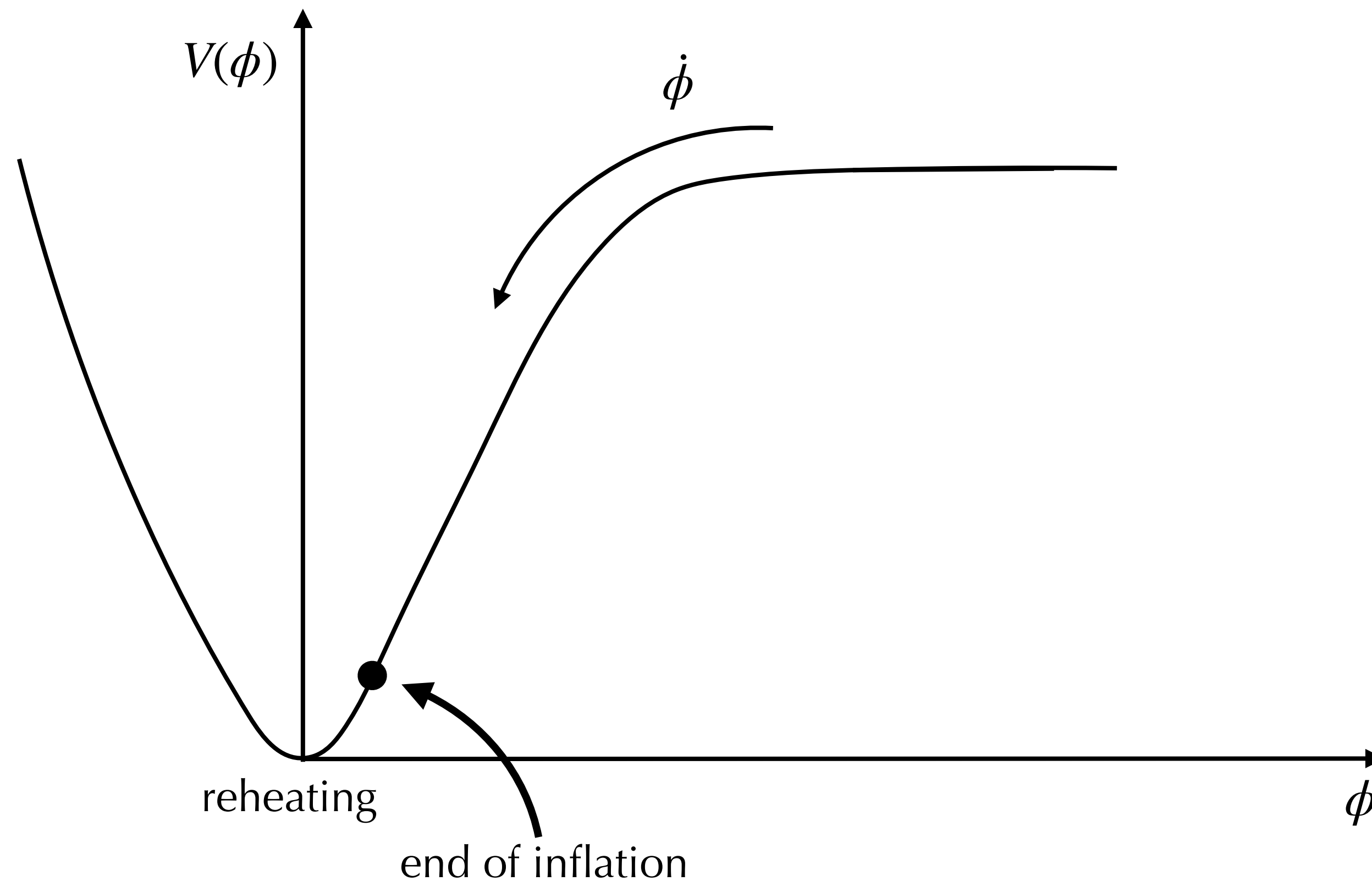
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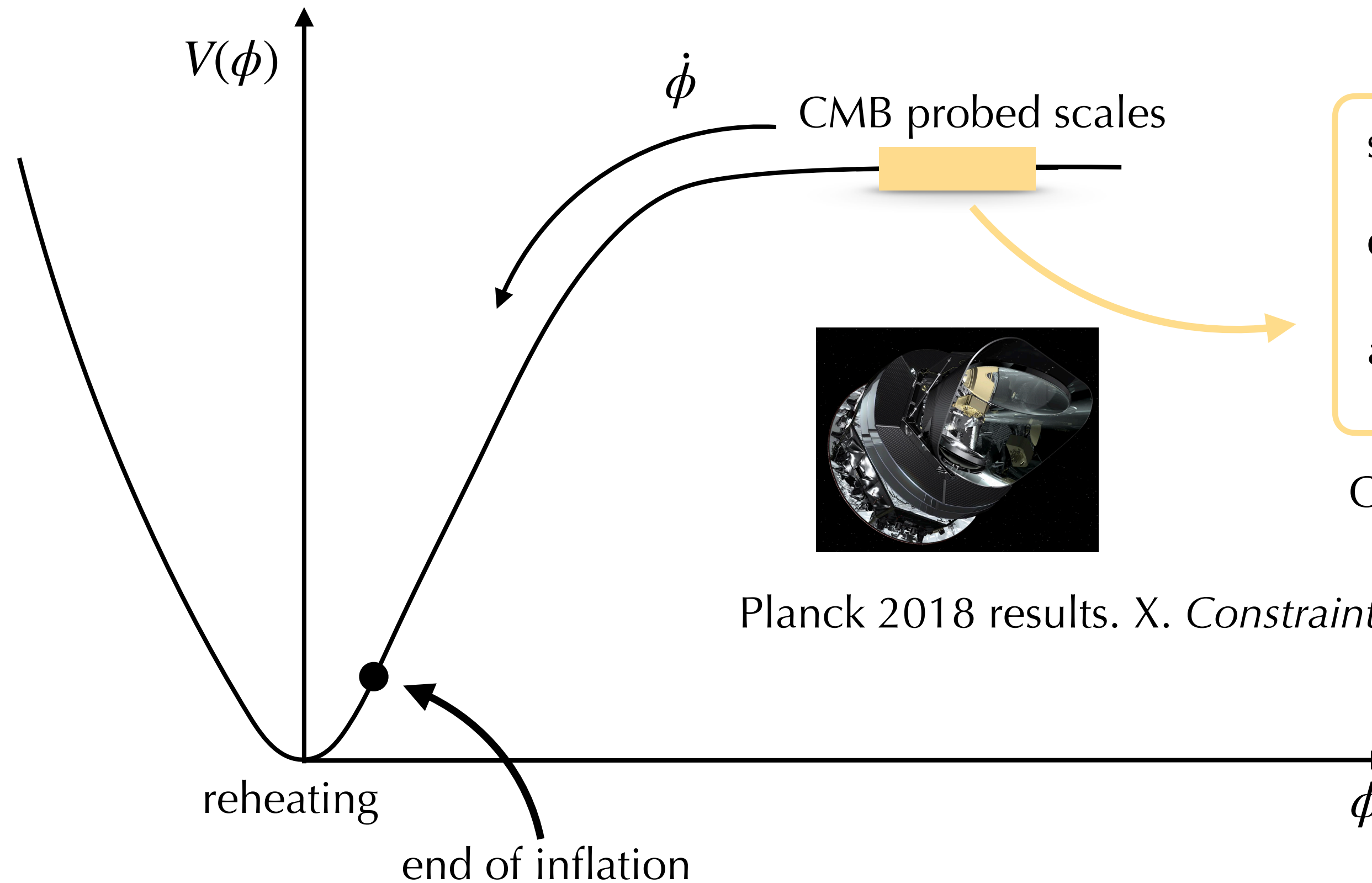
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small perturbations  $\zeta \simeq 10^{-5}$   
 quasi-Gaussian  
 almost scale invariant

Constrained window  $\sim 7$  e-folds

Planck 2018 results. X. Constraints on inflation



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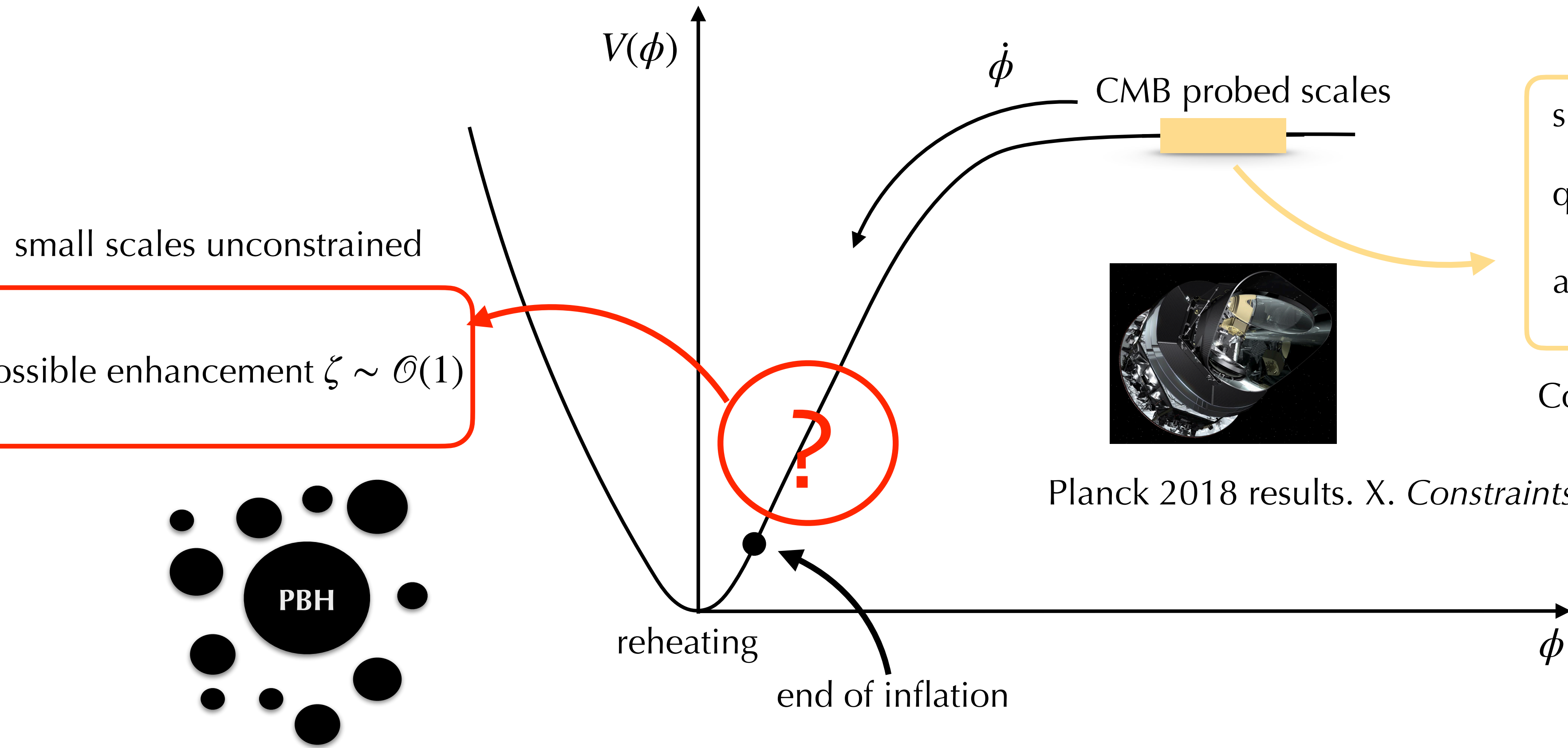
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- Black holes which could have formed in the early Universe through a non-stellar way

Hawking [1971] : *Gravitationally collapsed objects of very low mass*

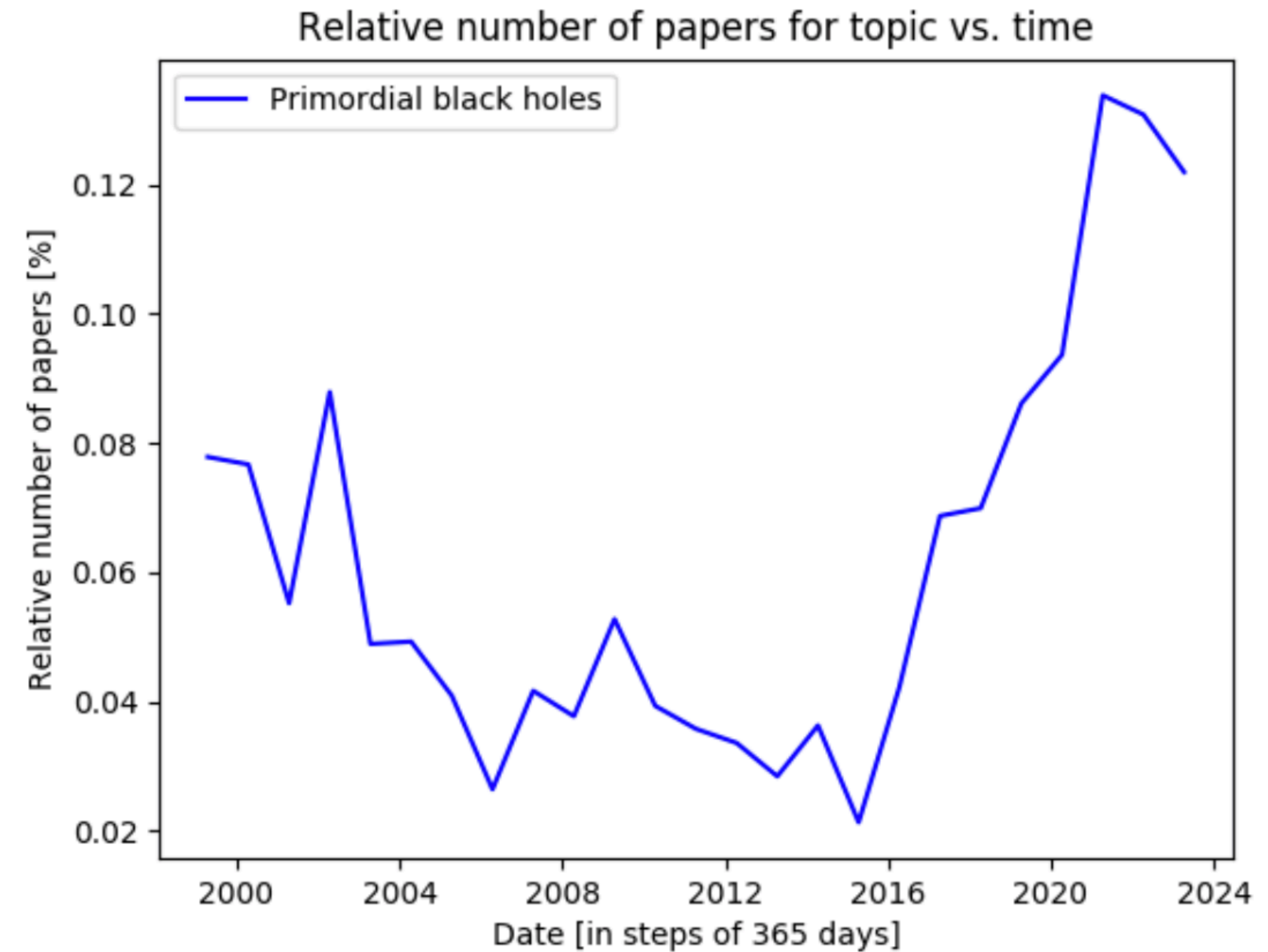
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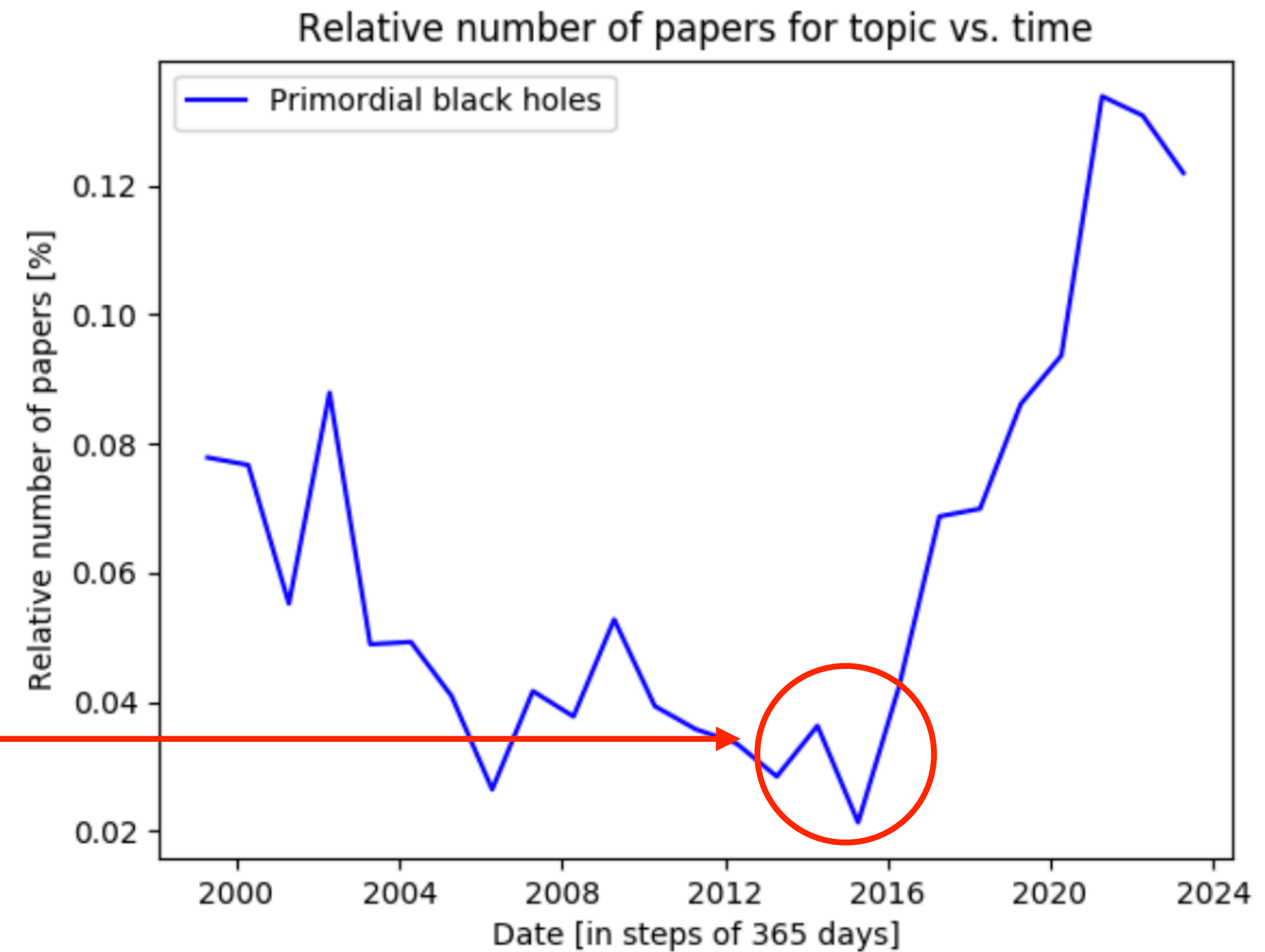
Carr & Hawking [1974]: *Black holes in the early Universe*

LIGO SCIENTIFIC, VIRGO collaboration [2016]:  
*Observation of gravitational waves from a binary black hole merger*

S. Bird, I. Cholis, J.B. Muñoz, Y. Ali-Haïmoud,

M. Kamionkowski, E. D. Kovetz, A. Raccanelli, A. G. Riess [2016]:

*Did LIGO detect dark matter?*



# Primordial black holes: observational constraints

Depends on the mass at which PBHs form

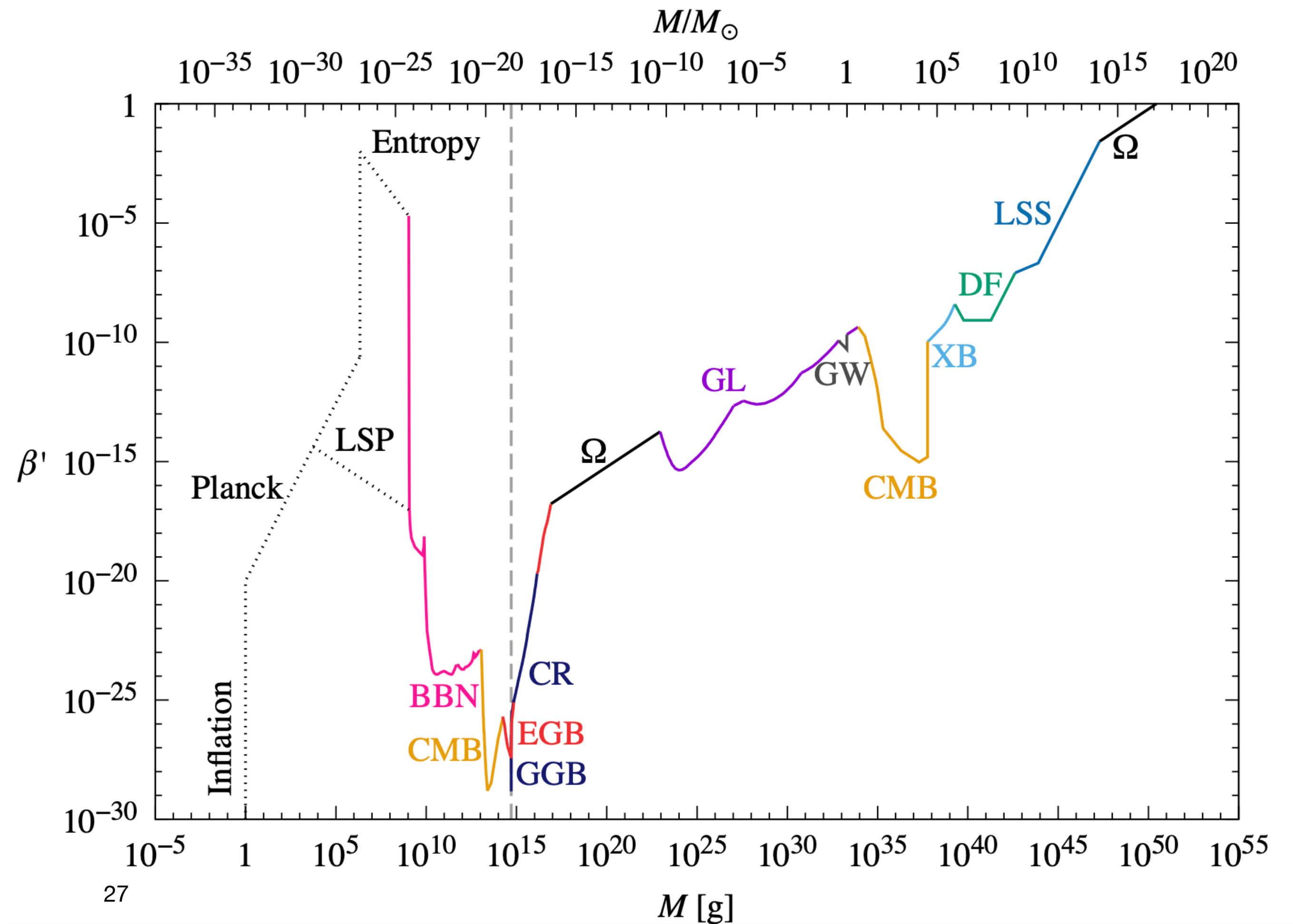
$10^9 g < M_{PBH} < 10^{16} g \longrightarrow$  from  $\beta < 10^{-24}$  to  $\beta < 10^{-17}$

$10^{16} g < M_{PBH} < 10^{50} g \longrightarrow$  from  $\beta < 10^{-11}$  to  $\beta < 10^{-5}$

$M_{PBH} < 10^9 g$  Evaporate before BBN: no direct imprint  
no constraints

PBH Hawking evaporation on Big Bang Nucleosynthesis and on the extragalactic photon background

Gravitational and astrophysical effects

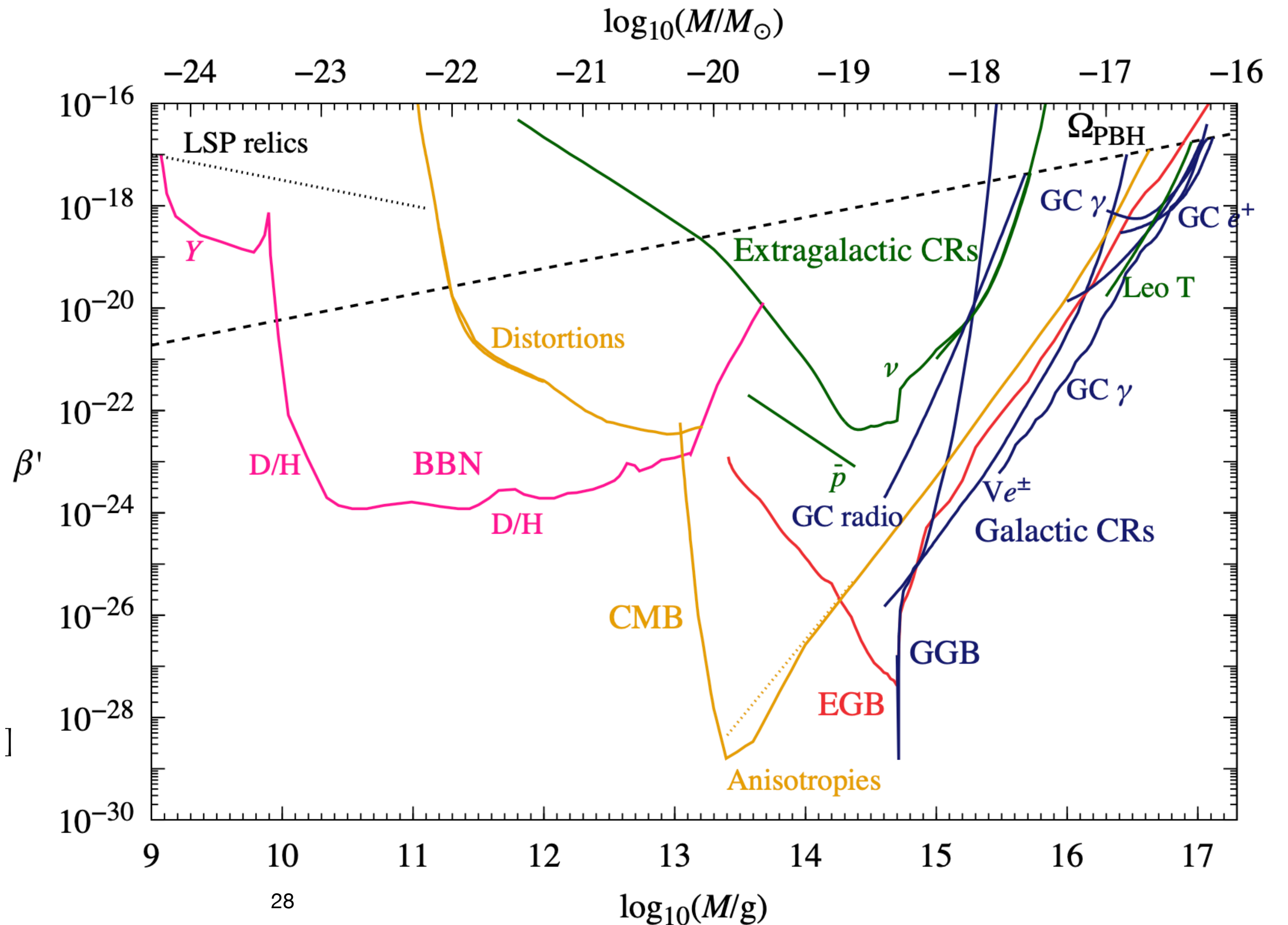


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# False vacuum: preserving slow roll

Slow roll requires:  $|\ddot{\phi}| \ll 3H|\dot{\phi}|, |V_{,\phi}|$

What happens if  $|V_{,\phi}| = 0$ ?

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3H(\phi, \dot{\phi})\dot{\phi} + V_{,\phi} = 0 \quad H^2(\phi, \dot{\phi}) = \frac{1}{3M_{Pl}^2} \left( V(\phi) + \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{2} \right)$$

Linearised Klein-Gordon equation

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3H_0\dot{\phi} + m^2\phi = 0 \quad H_0^2 = \frac{V_0}{3M_{Pl}^2}$$

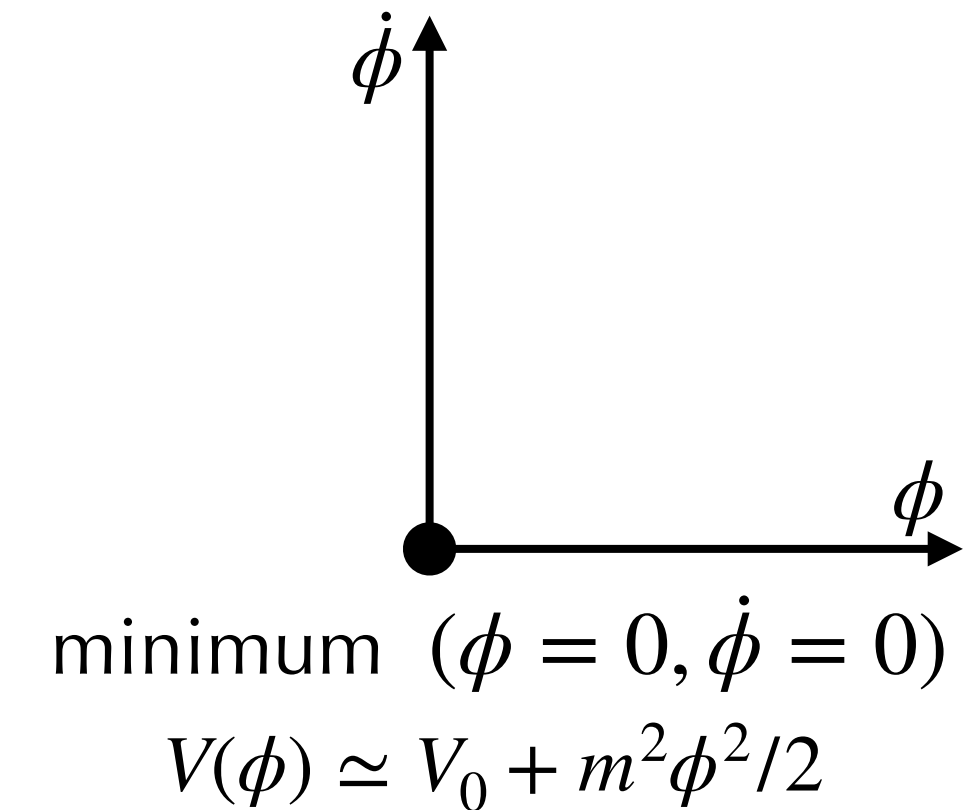
$$\phi = A \exp \left[ -\frac{3}{2} \left( 1 + \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m^2}{9H_0^2}} \right) H_0 t \right] + B \exp \left[ -\frac{3}{2} \left( -1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m^2}{9H_0^2}} \right) H_0 t \right]$$

$m \gg 3H_0/2$  : damped oscillations, friction term  $3H\dot{\phi}$  subdominant: far from slow-roll regime

$$m \ll 3H_0/2 \quad \phi \simeq A \exp(-3H_0 t) + B \exp\left(-\frac{1}{3} \frac{m^2}{H_0^2} H_0 t\right) \simeq B \exp\left(-\frac{m^2 t}{3H_0}\right)$$

$$3H\dot{\phi} \simeq -m^2\phi = -V_{,\phi}(\phi) \quad \ddot{\phi} \simeq \frac{m^4}{9H_0^2} \phi = \frac{m^2}{9H_0^2} V_{,\phi} \ll V_{,\phi}(\phi)$$

**slow-roll regime:** acceleration term subdominant  
( $m^2/H_0^2$  - suppressed)



False vacuum: parameter space



## False vacuum: parameter space

- $\langle \mathcal{N} \rangle$  features quadratic dependence on  $\mu$  and exponential dependence on  $a$
- $\mu$  constrained from below by slow-roll conditions

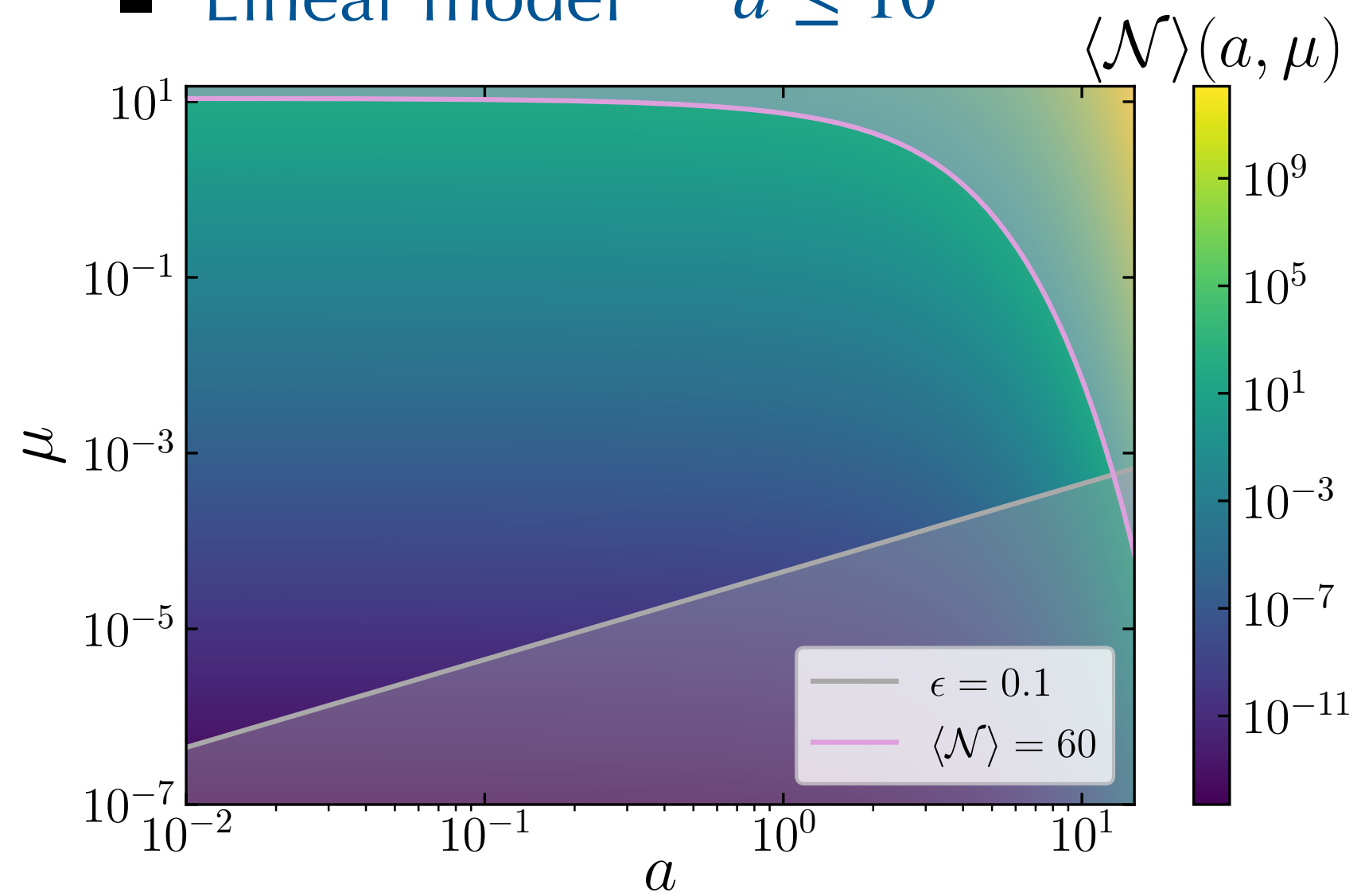
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## ■ Linear model $a \leq 10$



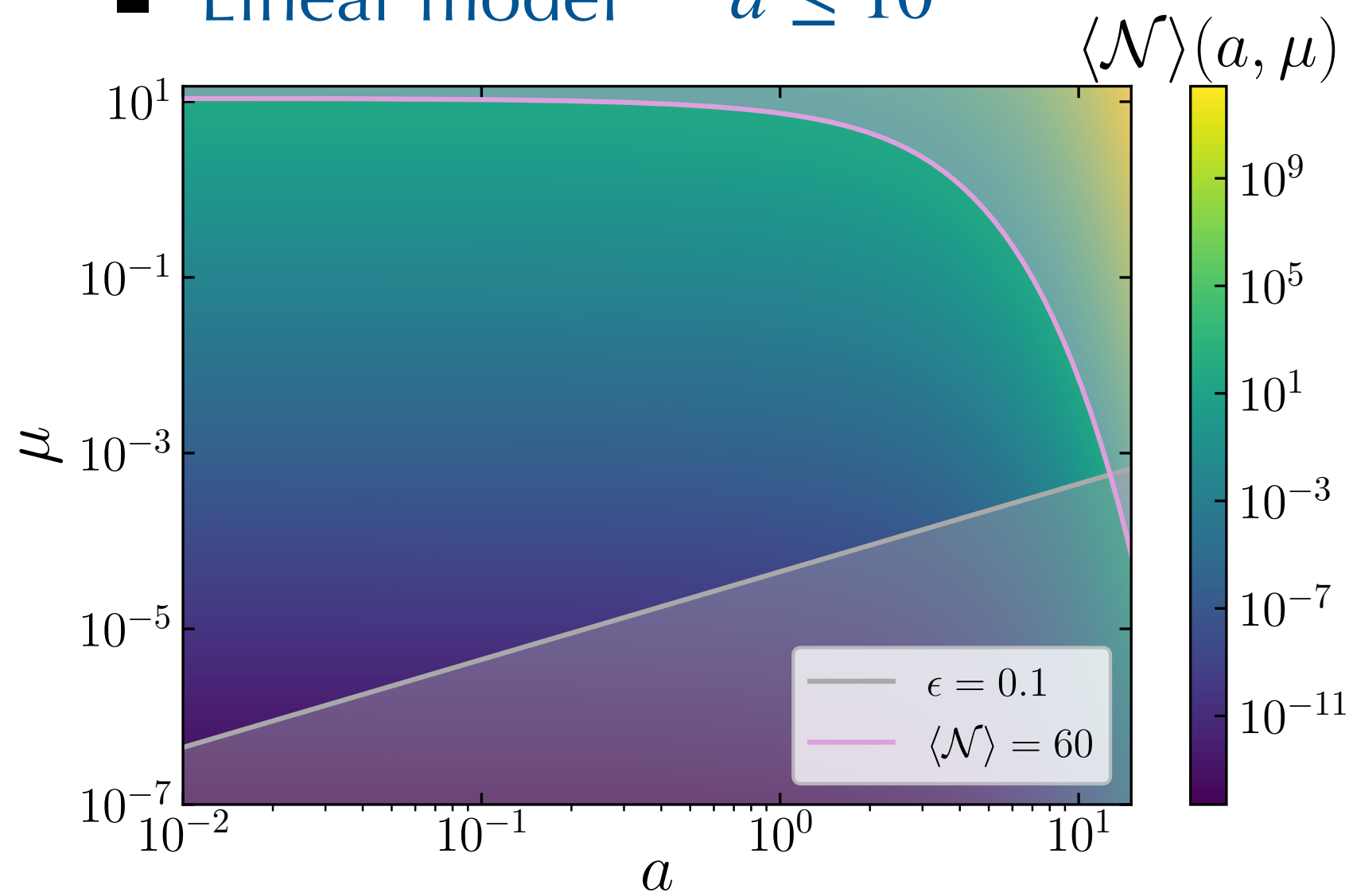
- $\epsilon \ll 1 \Rightarrow a \ll \frac{\Delta\phi}{M_{Pl}}$
- Two regimes: “shallow well” ( $a \lesssim 1$ )  
“deep well” ( $a \gtrsim 1$ )

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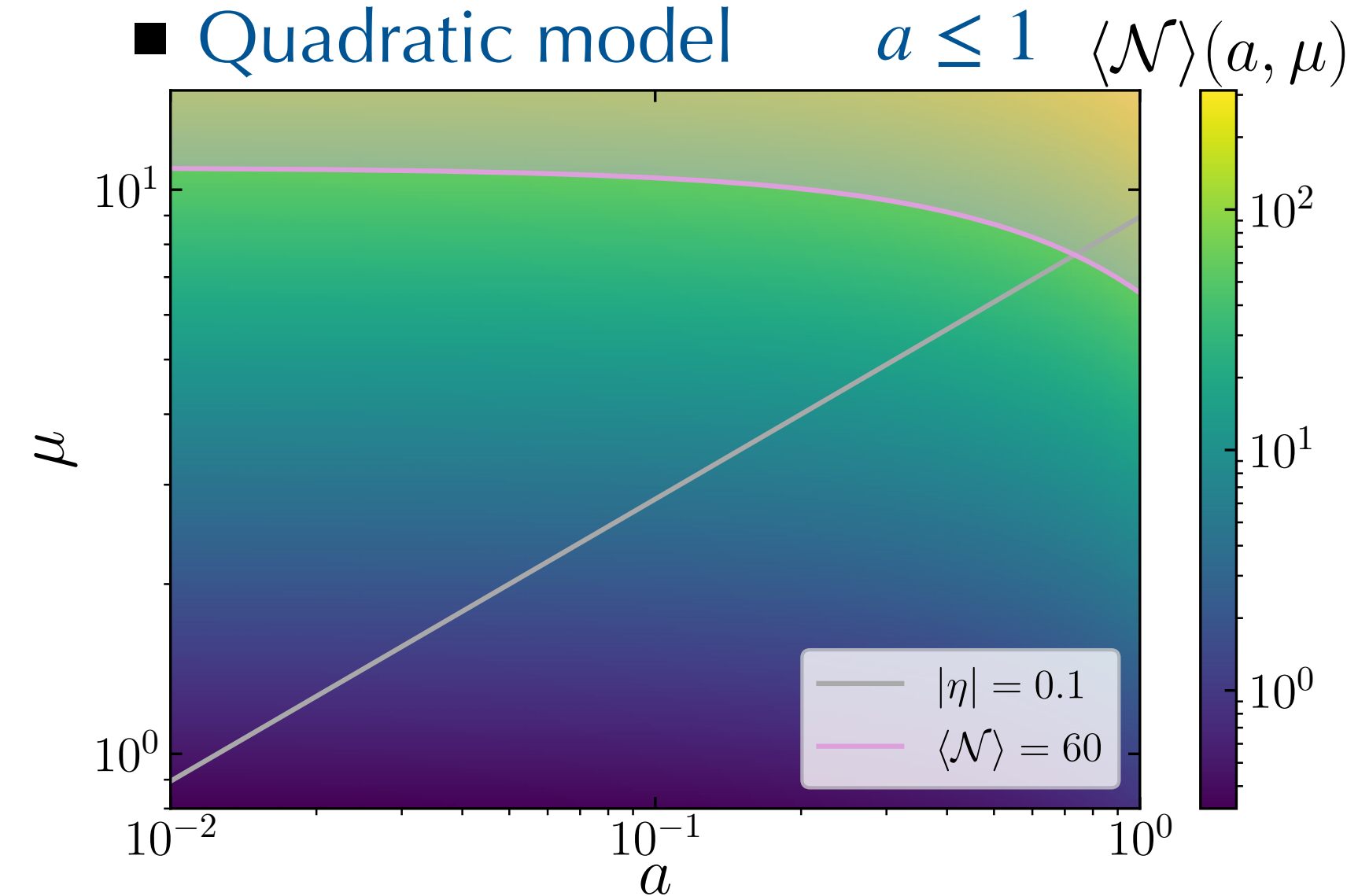
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## Linear model $a \leq 10$



## Quadratic model $a \leq 1$



- $\epsilon \ll 1 \Rightarrow \alpha \ll \frac{\Delta\phi}{M_{Pl}}$
- Two regimes: “shallow well” ( $a \lesssim 1$ )  
“deep well” ( $a \gtrsim 1$ )

- $\epsilon \ll 1 \Rightarrow \alpha \ll \frac{\Delta\phi}{M_{Pl}}$ ,  $|\eta| \ll 1 \Rightarrow \alpha \ll \left(\frac{\Delta\phi}{M_{Pl}}\right)^2$
- $\Delta\phi \ll M_{Pl} \Rightarrow |\eta| \gg \epsilon$
- Only a “shallow-well” regime

# $\delta N$ formalism

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

deviations from homogeneity and isotropy:  $ds^2 = -dt^2 + a^2(t) e^{2\zeta(t, \vec{x})} \gamma_{ij}$   $t$ —slices of uniform energy density  
 $x$ —worldlines comoving

local scale factor:  $\tilde{a}(t, \vec{x}) = a(t) e^{\zeta(t, \vec{x})}$

expansion from flat slice at time  $t_{in}$  to a slice of uniform energy density:

$$N(t, \vec{x}) = \log \left[ \frac{\tilde{a}(t, \vec{x})}{a(t_{in})} \right]$$

$$\zeta(t, \vec{x}) = N(t, \vec{x}) - N_0(t) \equiv \delta N$$

$$N_0(t) = \log \left[ \frac{a(t)}{a(t_{in})} \right]$$

# Stochastic- $\delta N$ formalism

Phase space field vector:  $\Phi = (\phi_1, \pi_1, \dots, \phi_n, \pi_n)$

$$\Phi_{cg} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} \int_{k < k_\sigma} d^3k \Phi_k e^{-ik\vec{x}}$$

$$\frac{d\Phi_{cg}}{dN} = F(\Phi_{cg}) + G(\Phi_{cg}) \cdot \xi$$

$$\langle \xi_i(\vec{x}_i, N_i) \xi_j(\vec{x}_j, N_j) \rangle = \delta_{ij} \delta(N_i - N_j)$$

$$(G^2)_{ij} = \frac{d \log k_\sigma}{dN} \mathcal{P}_{\Phi_i, \Phi_j} [k_\sigma(N), N]$$

$$\delta N_{cg}(\vec{x}) = \mathcal{N}(\vec{x}) - \langle \mathcal{N} \rangle = \zeta_{cg}(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} \int_{k_{in}}^{k_{end}} d\vec{k} \zeta_{\vec{k}} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}}$$

Curvature perturbation coarse grained between:

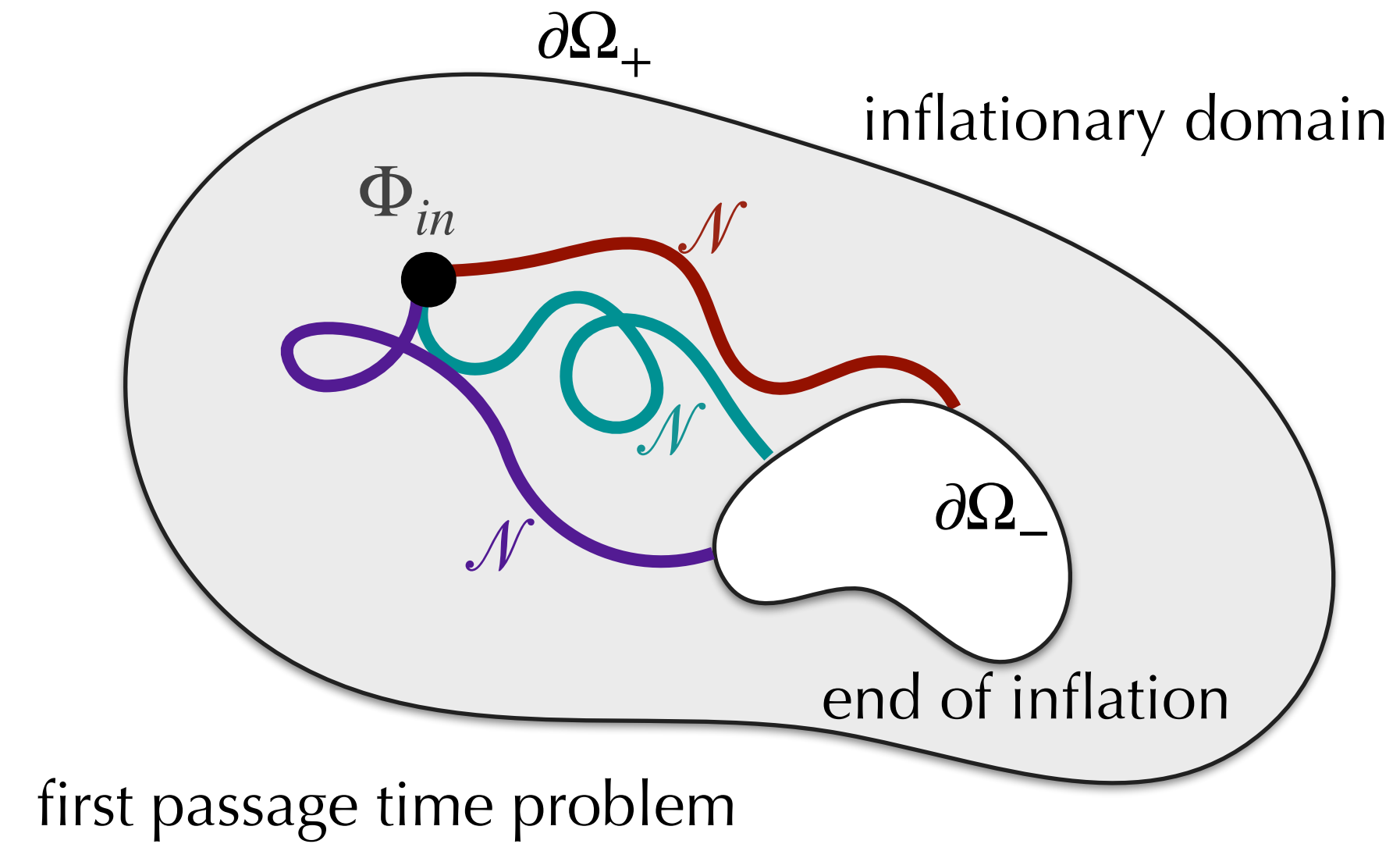
the scale that crosses the Hubble radius at initial time ( $k_{in}$ ) and the scale that crosses the Hubble radius at final time  $k_{end}$

# First passage time distribution

$$\mathcal{L}_{FP}^\dagger(\Phi) = F_i(\Phi) \frac{\partial}{\partial \Phi_i} + \alpha G_{il}(\Phi) \frac{\partial G_{lj}(\Phi)}{\partial \Phi_l} \frac{\partial}{\partial \Phi_i} + \frac{1}{2} G_{il}(\Phi) G_{jl}(\Phi) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \Phi_i \partial \Phi_j}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathcal{N}} P(\mathcal{N}, \Phi) = \mathcal{L}_{FP}^\dagger(\Phi) \cdot P(\mathcal{N}, \Phi)$$

$$\int d\Phi f_1(\Phi) [\mathcal{L}_{FP}(\Phi) \cdot f_2(\Phi)] = \int d\Phi [\mathcal{L}_{FP}^\dagger(\Phi) \cdot f_1(\Phi)] f_2(\Phi)$$



Boundary conditions  $\partial\Omega = \partial\Omega_- \cup \partial\Omega_+$

$\partial\Omega_-$ : all moments of the FPT vanish on  $\partial\Omega_-$  (absorbing boundary)

Sometimes additional conditions required on  $\partial\Omega_+$ : absorbing or reflective boundary  
(gradients of moments projected onto the orthogonal direction to the tangent surface of  $\partial\Omega_+$  vanish)

hierarchy of coupled differential equations:  $\mathcal{L}_{FP}^\dagger(\Phi^{in}) \cdot \langle \mathcal{N}^n \rangle(\Phi^{in}) = -n \langle \mathcal{N}^{n-1} \rangle(\Phi^{in})$

# Fokker-Planck equation

Evolution given by the Langevin equation: 
$$\Phi(N + \delta N) = \Phi(N) + F(\Phi)\delta N + G(\Phi) \cdot \int_N^{N+\delta N} d\tilde{N} \xi(\tilde{N})$$

Where to evaluate  $F$  and  $G$ ? At  $\Phi(N)$  or at  $\Phi(N + \delta N)$ ?

$$\Phi_\alpha(N) = (1 - \alpha)\Phi(N) + \alpha\Phi(N + \delta N) \quad 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$$

Itô prescription:  $\alpha = 0$

Stratonovitch prescription:  $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\Phi(N + \delta N) = \Phi(N) + F[\Phi_\alpha(N)]\delta N + G[\Phi_\alpha(N)] \cdot \int_N^{N+\delta N} d\tilde{N} \xi(\tilde{N})$$

Fokker-Planck equation: 
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial N} P(\Phi, N | \Phi^{in}, N_{in}) = \mathcal{L}_{FP}(\Phi) P(\Phi, N | \Phi^{in}, N_{in})$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{FP}(\Phi) = - \frac{\partial}{\partial \Phi_i} \left[ F_i(\Phi) + \alpha G_{lj}(\Phi) \frac{\partial G_{ij}(\Phi)}{\partial \Phi_l} \right] + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \Phi_i \partial \Phi_j} G_{il}(\Phi) G_{jl}(\Phi)$$