

# Species Cosmology

*based on*  
2312.13210 Lüst, Masias, Muntz, MS  
2401.09533 MS  
2406.17851 Herraéz, Lüst, Masias, MS  
*work in progress* Lüst, Masias, Pieroni, MS

**Marco Scalisi**

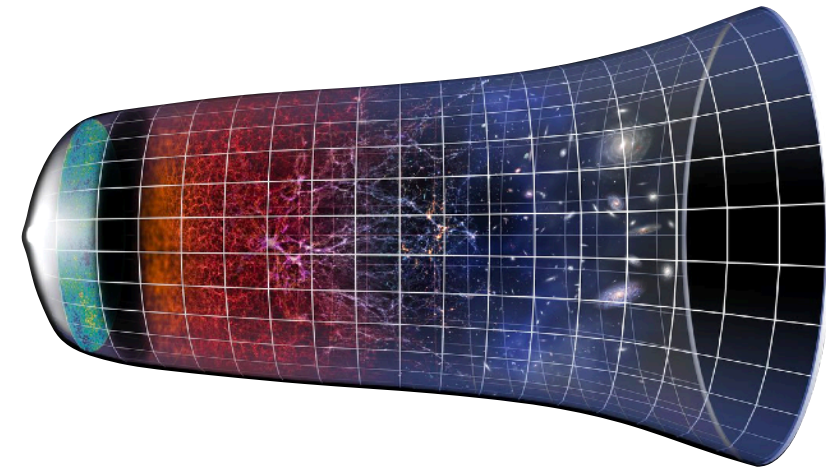
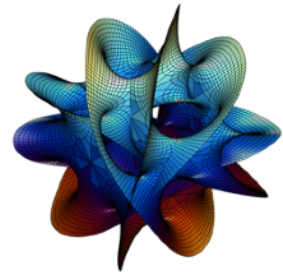
September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
TFI 2024, Napoli

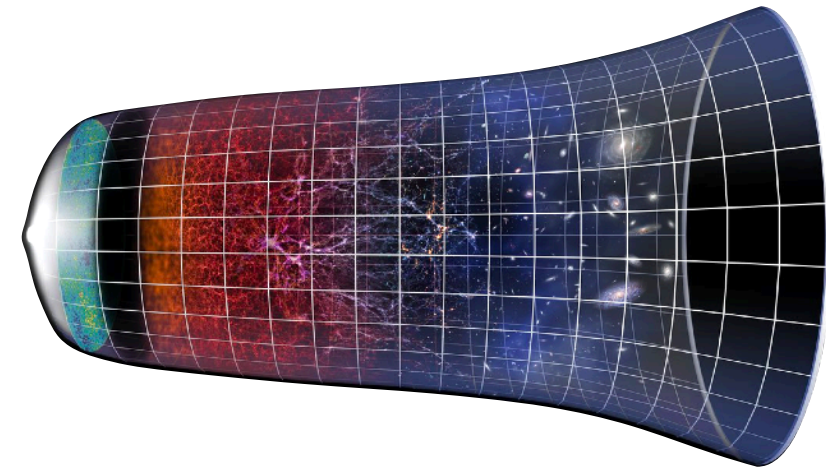
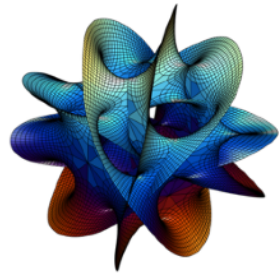
MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT  
FÜR PHYSIK



UNIVERSITÀ  
degli STUDI  
di CATANIA

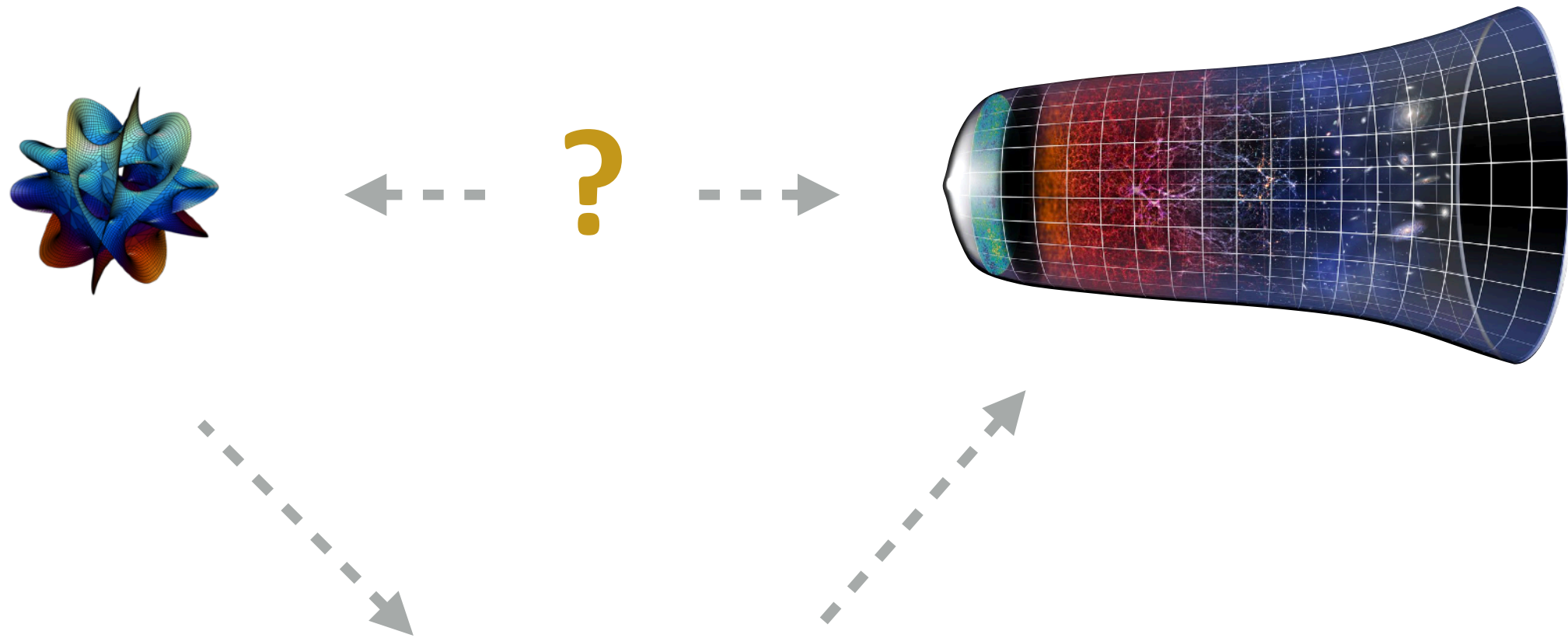




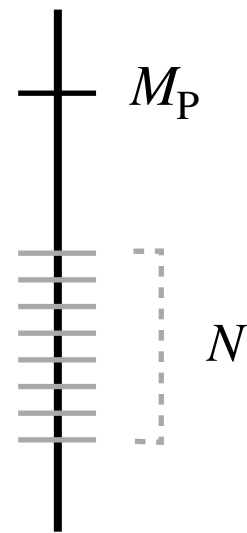


$$M_{\text{P}}$$

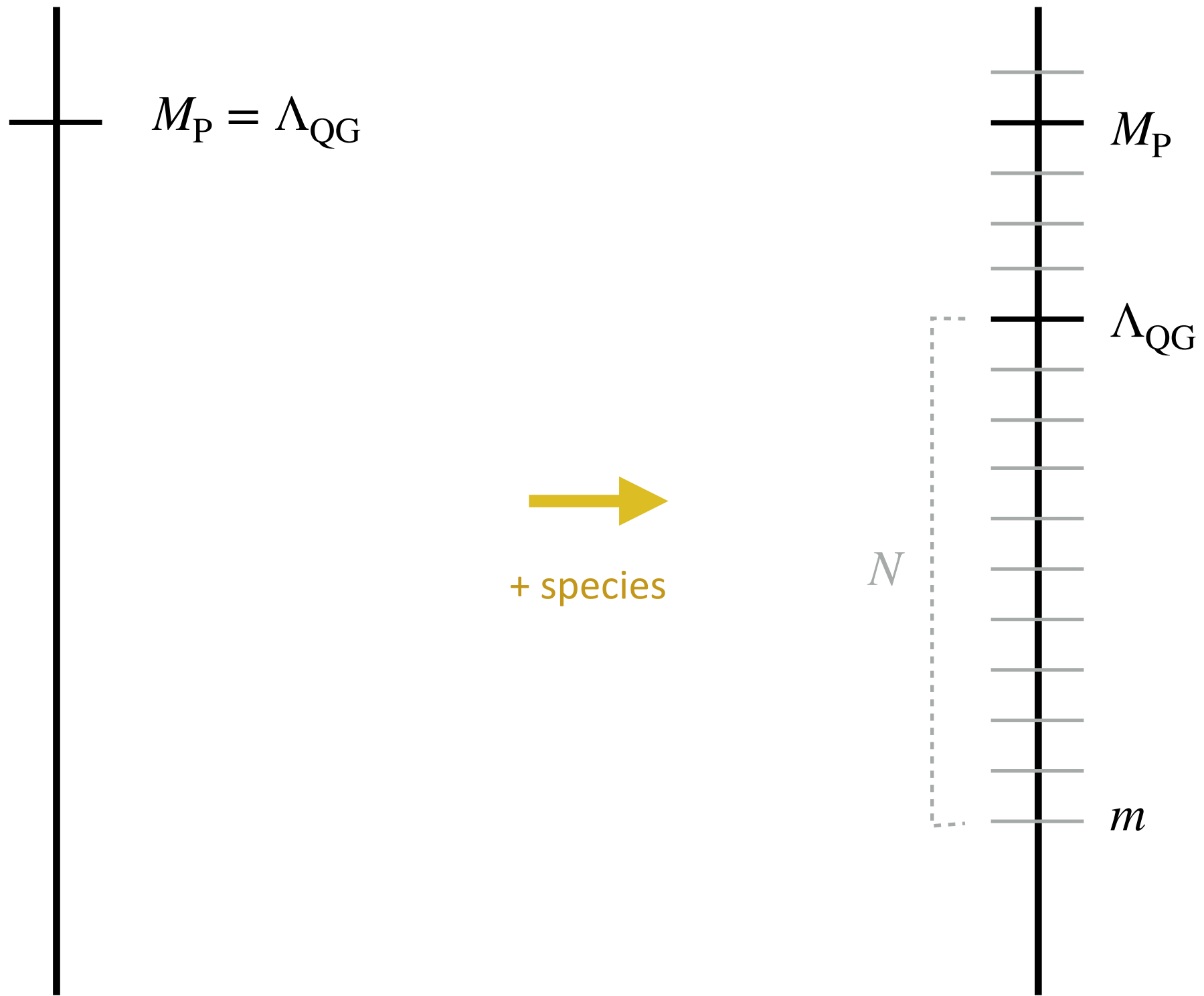
$$H \lesssim 10^{-5} M_{\text{P}}$$



Species



$$\Lambda_{\text{QGG}} < M_P$$





# OUTLINE

The Species Scale

Species  $\rightarrow$  Cosmology

Species  $\leftarrow$  Cosmology

Species and  $R^2$ -Inflation



The background of the slide is a complex marbled paper pattern. It features swirling, organic shapes in shades of dark blue, teal, and brown, set against a black base. The pattern is dense and intricate, with fine lines and larger, more diffuse areas of color. In the center of the image, there is a white rectangular box with a dashed yellow border. Inside this box, the text "The Species Scale" is written in a bold, teal-colored font.

# The Species Scale



# Species scale

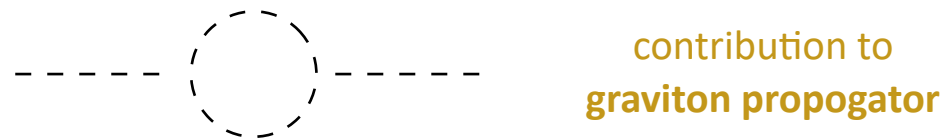
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*Dvali, 2007*  
*Dvali, Redi 2007*



## Perturbative argument

$N$  light species weakly coupled to gravity

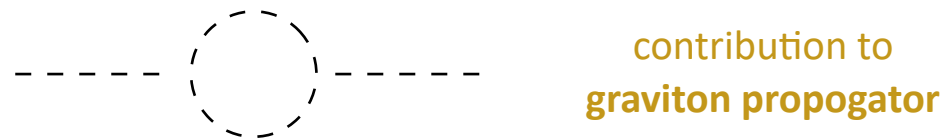


$$\pi^{-1}(p^2) = p^2 \left[ \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{tree level}}}{1} - \frac{N p^2}{120\pi M_{\text{P}}^2} \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{1-loop}}}{\log\left(-\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}\right)} \right]$$



## Perturbative argument

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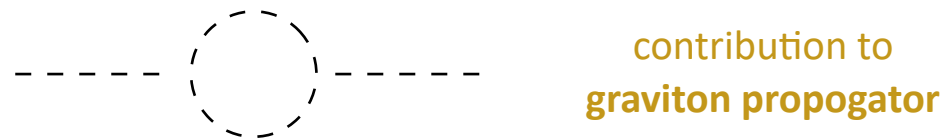
perturbation theory breaks down when  
tree level = 1-loop

$$p \sim \frac{M_{\text{P}}}{\sqrt{N}} \equiv \Lambda_{\text{s}}$$



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$N$  light species weakly coupled to gravity



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## Non-perturbative argument

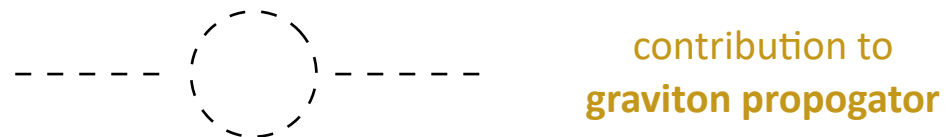
Black hole with  $N$  species

What is its **minimal radius**?



## Perturbative argument

$N$  light species weakly coupled to gravity



$$\pi^{-1}(p^2) = p^2 \left[ \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{tree level}}}{1} - \frac{N p^2}{120\pi M_{\text{P}}^2} \log\left(\underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{1-loop}}}{-\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}}\right) \right]$$

perturbation theory breaks down when  
tree level = 1-loop

$$p \sim \frac{M_{\text{P}}}{\sqrt{N}} \equiv \Lambda_{\text{s}}$$

## Non-perturbative argument

Black hole with  $N$  species

What is its **minimal radius**?

$$R_{\text{BH}} \simeq \frac{1}{M_{\text{P}}}$$

corresponds to

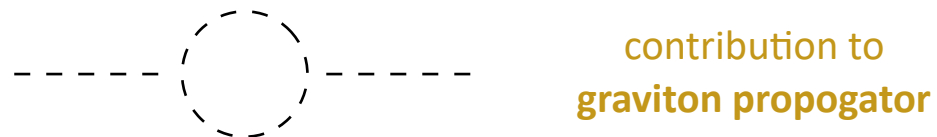
$$S_{\text{BH}} \simeq R_{\text{BH}}^{d-2} M_{\text{P}}^{d-2} = 1$$





## Perturbative argument

$N$  light species weakly coupled to gravity



$$\pi^{-1}(p^2) = p^2 \left[ \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{tree level}}}{1} - \frac{N p^2}{120\pi M_{\text{P}}^2} \log\left(-\frac{p^2}{\mu^2}\right) \right]$$

1-loop

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## Non-perturbative argument

Black hole with  $N$  species

What is its **minimal radius**?

$$R_{\text{BH}} \simeq \frac{1}{M_{\text{P}}}$$

corresponds to

$$S_{\text{BH}} \simeq R_{\text{BH}}^{d-2} M_{\text{P}}^{d-2} = 1$$



Conundrum resolved if

$$R_{\text{min}} \simeq N^{\frac{1}{d-2}} M_{\text{P}}^{-1} = \Lambda_{\text{s}}^{-1}$$



$$\Lambda_s = \begin{array}{l} - \text{scale at which } \mathbf{gravity} \text{ becomes } \mathbf{strongly coupled} \\ - \text{scale of the } \mathbf{minimal size} \text{ of BH} \\ - \text{scale of higher curvature corrections} \end{array} = \Lambda_{\text{QG}}$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{QG}} = \frac{M_{\text{P}}}{N_{\text{S}}^{\frac{1}{d-2}}}$$

(renormalization of the Planck mass)



# Species scale

Dvali, 2007  
Dvali, Redi 2007

$$\Lambda_s = \begin{array}{l} - \text{ scale at which } \mathbf{gravity} \text{ becomes } \mathbf{strongly coupled} \\ - \text{ scale of the } \mathbf{minimal size} \text{ of BH} \\ - \text{ scale of higher curvature corrections} \end{array} = \Lambda_{\text{QG}}$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{QG}} = \frac{M_{\text{P}}}{N_s^{\frac{1}{d-2}}}$$

in string theory

**Kaluza-Klein** modes

**String oscillator** modes

*Lee, Lerche, Weigand 2019*

At this scale

EFT has **holographic properties**

$$S \sim \Lambda_{\text{QG}}^{-(d-2)}$$

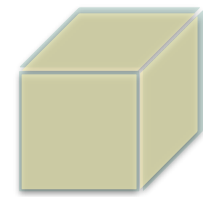
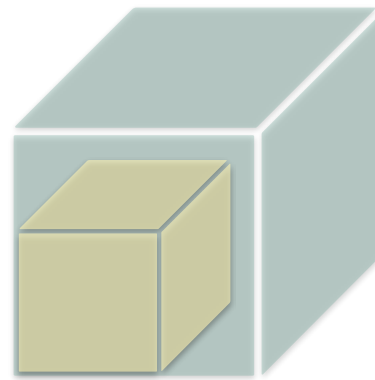
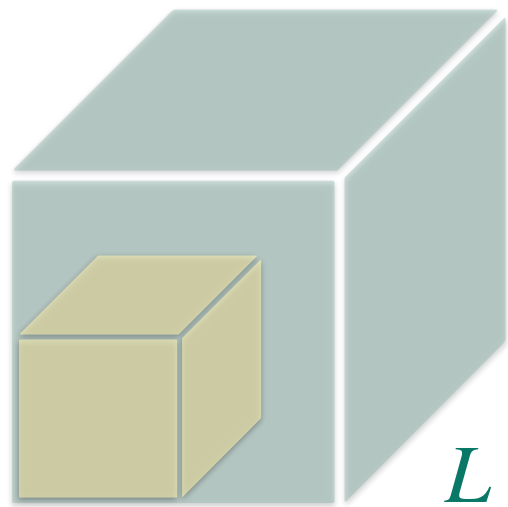
*Cribiori, Lüst, Montella 2023*

*Herraez, Lüst, Masias, MS - 2406.17851*



# Species thermodynamics and its origin

Herraez, Lüst, Masias, MS - 2406.17851



$$\Lambda_{\text{UV}}^{-1} = T^{-1}$$

$$L \sim T^{-1} \sim \Lambda_s^{-1}$$

$$S \sim N_T T^{d-1} L^{d-1}$$



$$S \sim \Lambda_s^{d-2} \sim N_s$$

$$T \rightarrow \Lambda_s$$

$$\Lambda_s \sim \frac{1}{L}$$



## Swampland Distance Conjecture

“Infinite scalar field variations  $\Delta$  are always associated to (at least) an infinite tower of states becoming exponentially light”

$$m = m_0 e^{-\gamma\Delta} \quad \Delta \rightarrow \infty$$



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**exponential drop-off of the QG cut-off**

$$\Lambda_{\text{QG}} = \Lambda_0 e^{-\lambda\Delta}$$

$\Lambda_0 \leq M_P$   
original naive cut-off



# Species and the Swampland

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$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{(d-1)(d-2)}} \leq \lambda = \left| \frac{\Lambda'_{\text{QG}}}{\Lambda_{\text{QG}}} \right| \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{d-2}}$$

*van de Heisteeg, Vafa, Wiesner, Wu 2023*  
*Calderón-Infante, Castellano, Herráez, Ibáñez 2023*

*van de Heisteeg, Vafa, Wiesner, 2023*  
*van de Heisteeg, Vafa, Wiesner, Wu 2023*  
*Lüst, Masias, Muntz, MS 2023*



## Main message

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- ▶ Towers of states lead to a **renormalization** of the **quantum gravity cut-off**

$$\Lambda_{\text{QGG}} = \frac{M_{\text{P}}}{N^{\frac{1}{d-2}}} < M_{\text{P}}$$

- ▶ **Distance conjecture** implies **exponential drop-off** in field space of  $\Lambda_{\text{QGG}}$

$$\Lambda_{\text{QGG}} \sim e^{-\lambda\Delta}$$

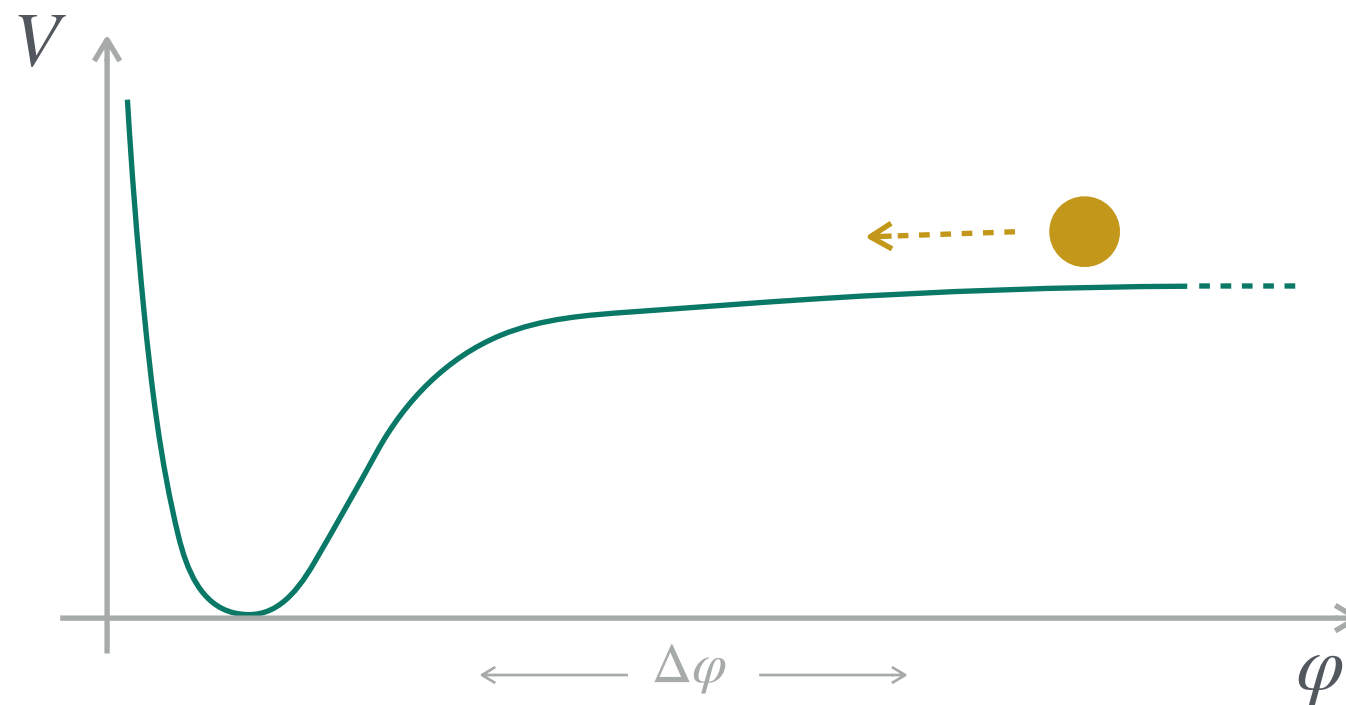


The background of the image is a detailed map of the Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) radiation. It shows a complex pattern of temperature fluctuations across the universe, with a color scale ranging from dark blue (cooler regions) to red and orange (warmer regions). The fluctuations are most prominent in the central and lower-left areas, showing a clear dipole anisotropy. A white rectangular box with a dashed yellow border is centered in the image, containing the text 'Species → Cosmology' in a bold, teal font.

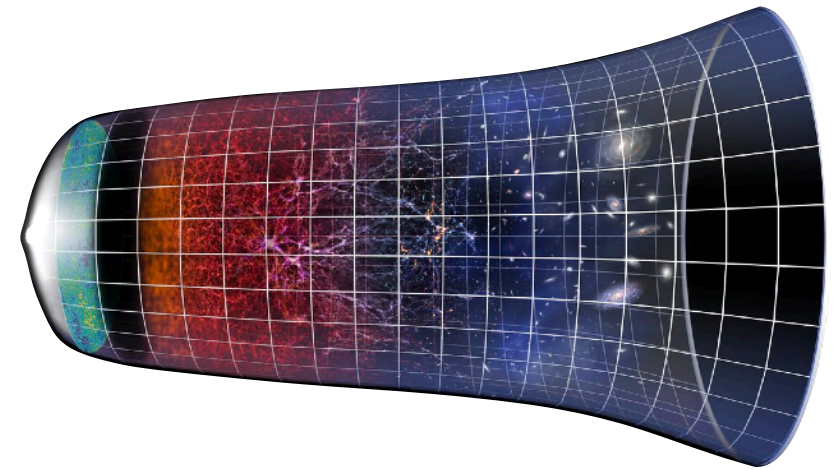
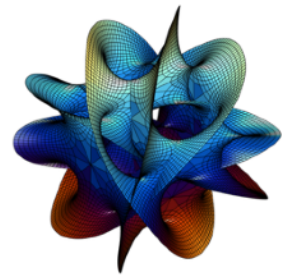
**Species → Cosmology**

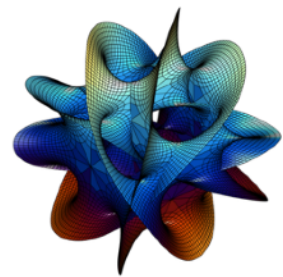


# Focus on **time-dependent** cosmic acceleration

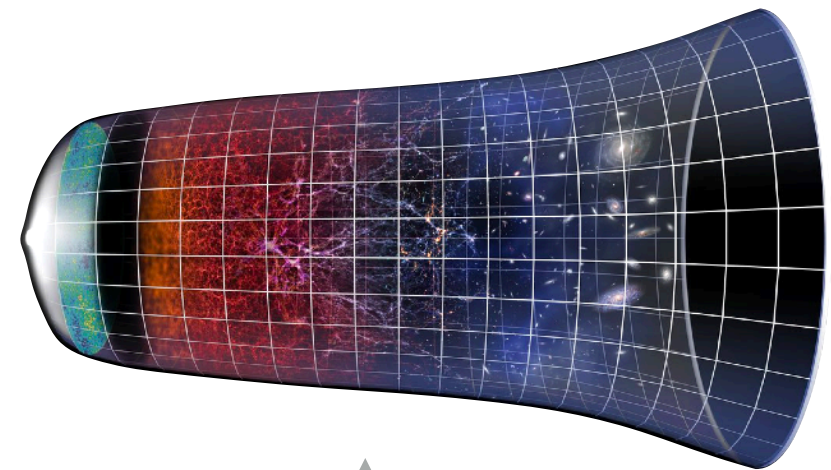








$\Lambda_{QG}$



- ▶ Universal **upper bound** on  $\Delta\varphi$
- ▶ Cosmological **species production**



# Universal upper bound on scalar field range

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*MS, Valenzuela 2018*

$$H < \Lambda_{QG} \leq M_{\text{P}} e^{-\lambda \Delta\varphi}$$



*consistency of EFT*



*implication of the SDC*

# Universal upper bound on scalar field range

MS, Valenzuela 2018

see also

van de Heisteeg, Vafa, Wiesner, Wu 2023

$$H < \Lambda_{QG} \leq M_{\text{P}} e^{-\lambda \Delta\varphi}$$



consistency of EFT



implication of the SDC



**upper bound on field displacement**

$$\Delta\varphi < \frac{1}{\lambda} \log \frac{M_{\text{P}}}{H}$$



# Universal upper bound on scalar field range

MS, Valenzuela 2018

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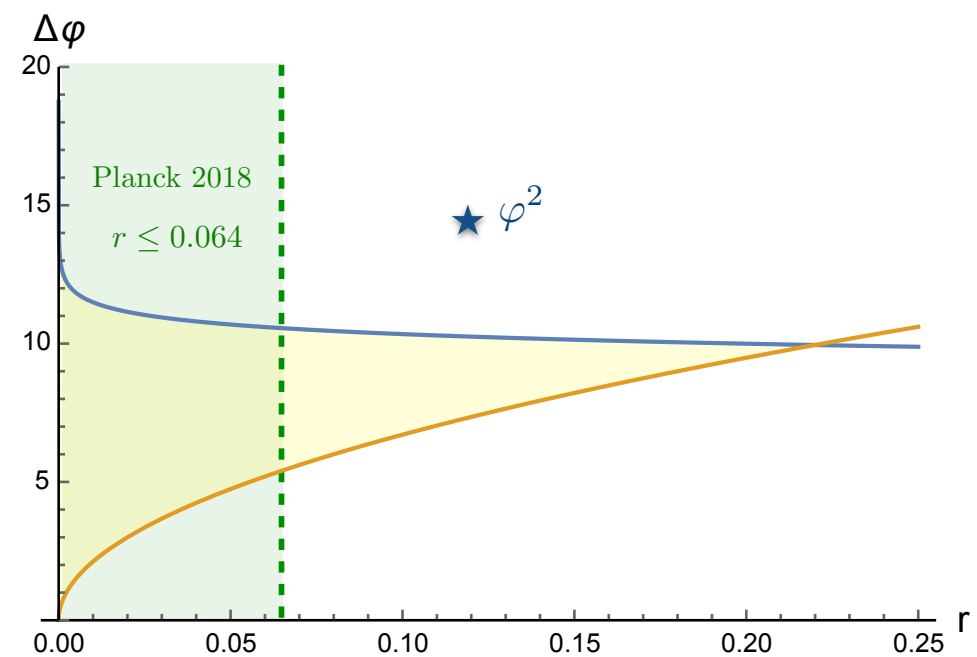
upper bound on field displacement

$$\Delta \varphi < \frac{1}{\lambda} \log \frac{M_{\text{P}}}{H}$$



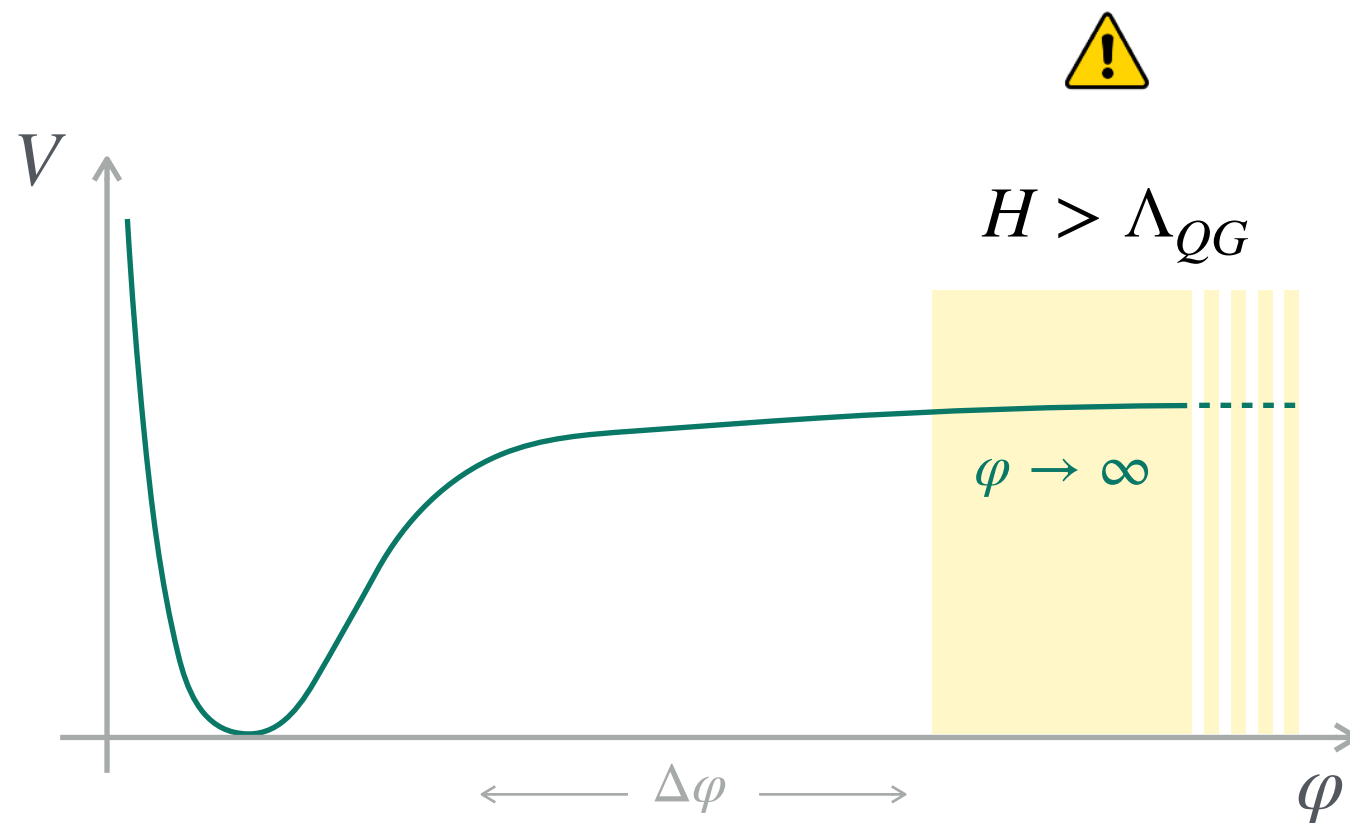
inflation

$$\Delta \varphi < \frac{1}{2\lambda} \left( \log \frac{\pi^2 A_s}{2} + \log r \right)$$



# Inflationary **particle production** and the **Swampland**

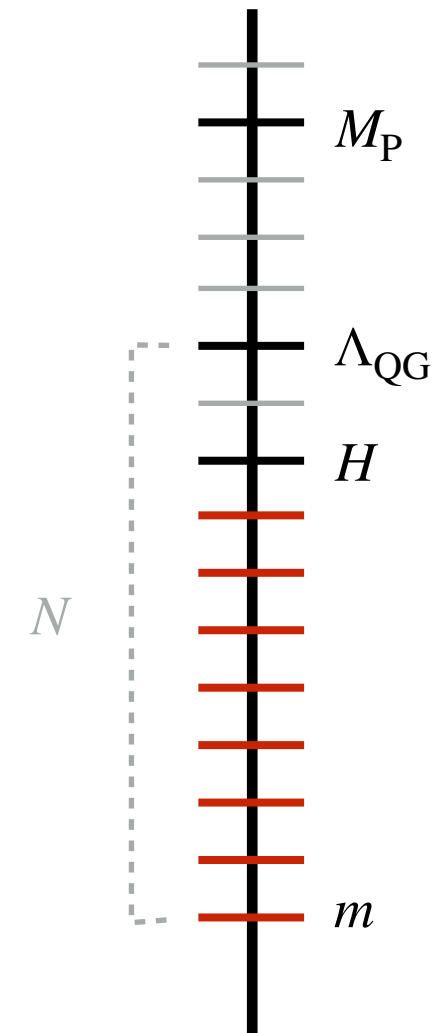
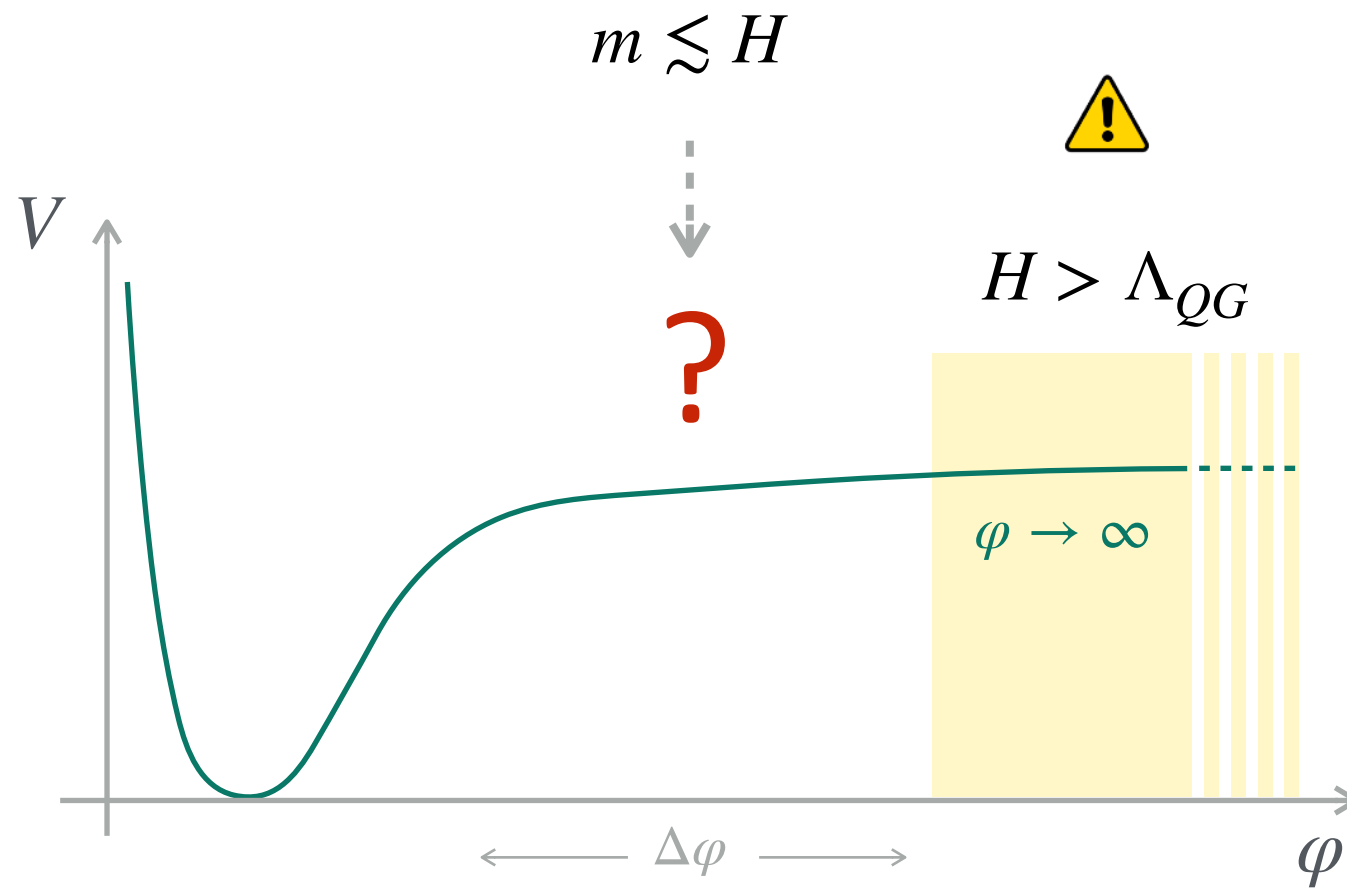
Lüst, Masias, Pieroni, MS - work in progress





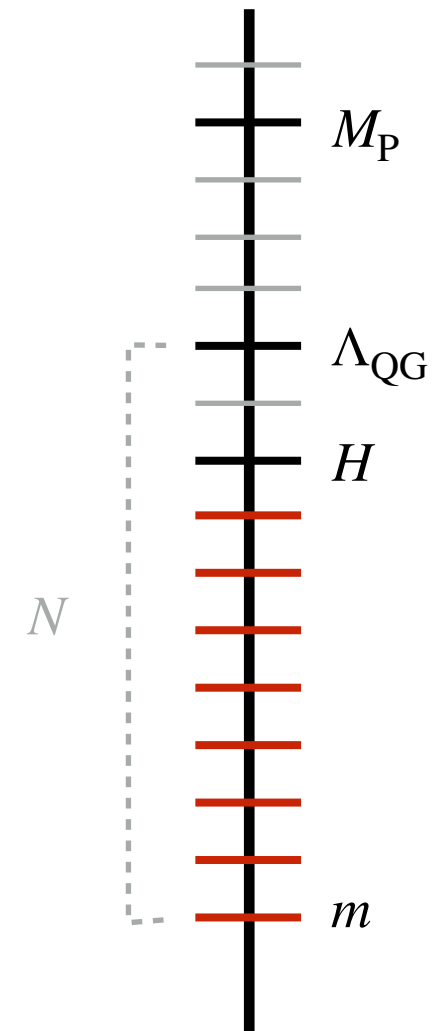
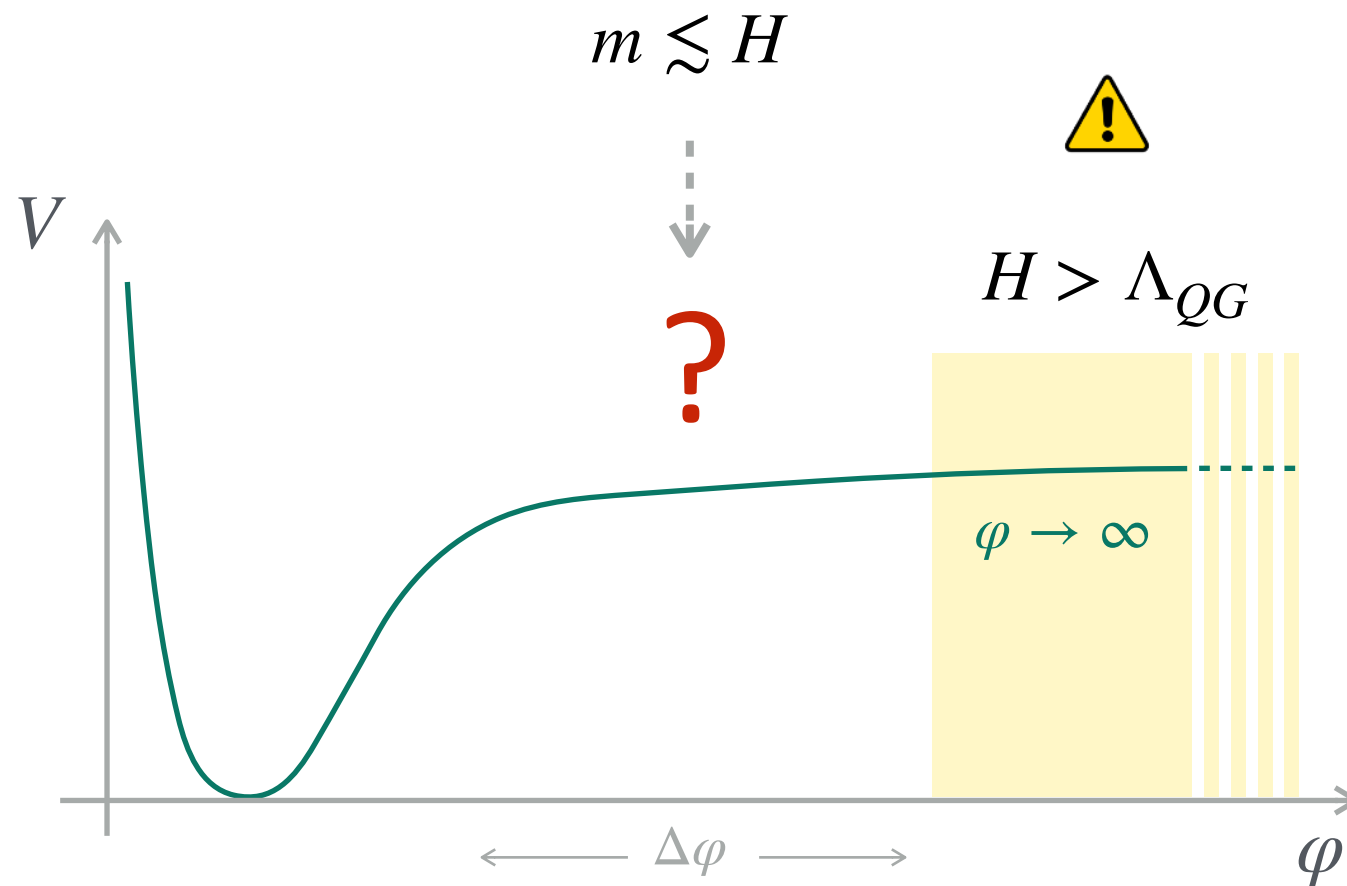
# Inflationary **particle production** and the **Swampland**

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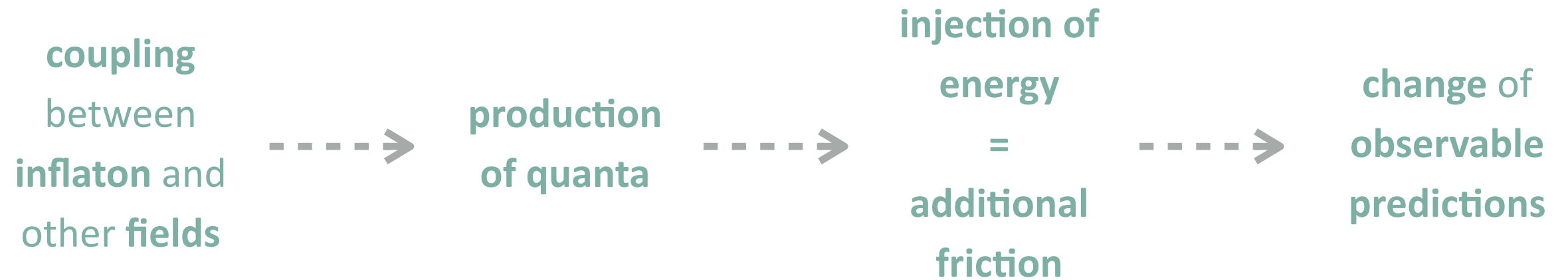


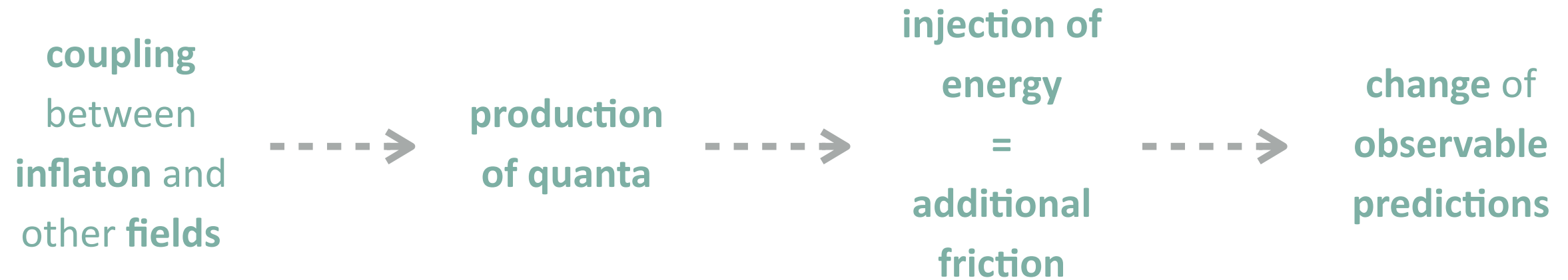
**Species production**



# Inflationary **particle production** and the **Swampland**

Lüst, Masias, Pieroni, MS - work in progress





- **Inflaton-gauge fields coupling** *Anber, Sorbo 2010*

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2}(\partial\varphi)^2 - V(\varphi) - \varphi F\tilde{F}$$

- **Inflaton-scalar fields coupling** *Green, Horn, Senatore, Silverstein 2009* “Trapped inflation”

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2}(\partial\varphi)^2 - V(\varphi) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_n [(\partial\chi_n)^2 - g^2(\varphi - \varphi_{0n})^2 \chi_n^2]$$



# Inflationary **particle production** and the **Swampland**

Lüst, Masias, Pieroni, MS - work in progress

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2}(\partial\varphi)^2 - V(\varphi) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_n [(\partial\chi_n)^2 - m_n^2 e^{-2\gamma\varphi} \chi_n^2]$$

mass of the SDC tower


$$m \sim e^{-\gamma\varphi}$$

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2}(\partial\varphi)^2 - V(\varphi) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_n [(\partial\chi_n)^2 - m_n^2 e^{-2\gamma\varphi} \chi_n^2]$$

mass of the SDC tower

$$m \sim e^{-\gamma\varphi}$$

$$\xi_n''(\tau, \vec{k}) + \left[ k^2 - \frac{2 - \delta_n}{\tau^2} \right] \xi_n(\tau, \vec{k}) = 0$$

with

$$\delta_n = \frac{m_n^2}{H^2} e^{-2\gamma\varphi}$$

$$\xi_n \equiv a(\tau)\chi_n$$

$$\xi_n(\tau, \vec{k}) = \frac{\sqrt{-\pi}}{2} \exp \left[ \frac{i\pi}{4} \sqrt{9 - 4\delta_n} + \frac{i\pi}{4} \right] \sqrt{-\tau} H_{\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{9 - 4\delta_n}}^{(1)}(-k\tau)$$

$H^{(1)}$  = Bessel function of the 3rd kind (or Hankel function of the 1st kind)



# Inflationary **particle production** and the **Swampland**

Lüst, Masias, Pieroni, MS - work in progress

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2}(\partial\varphi)^2 - V(\varphi) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_n [(\partial\chi_n)^2 - m_n^2 e^{-2\gamma\varphi} \chi_n^2]$$

mass of the SDC tower

$$m \sim e^{-\gamma\varphi}$$

main result

$$\text{corrections} \propto \left( \frac{H}{\Lambda_{\text{QG}}} \right)^{2+p}$$

► **Scalar power spectrum**

$$P_\zeta(k) = P_\zeta^h + P_\zeta^s = \frac{H^4}{(2\pi)^2 \dot{\phi}_0^2} \left( 1 + 0.0025 \frac{H^3}{\Lambda_{QG}^3} \gamma^2 \right)$$

$$p = 1$$

► **Non Gaussianities**

$$f_{NL,equil} \simeq 0.0007 \frac{\gamma \dot{\phi}}{H} (\gamma M_P)^2 \left[ 1 + 0.0025 (\gamma M_P)^2 \left( \frac{H}{\Lambda_{QG}} \right)^3 \right]^{-2} \left( \frac{H}{\Lambda_{QG}} \right)^3$$

► **Tensor-to-scalar ratio**

$$r = 9.2 \cdot 10^7 \frac{H^2}{M_P^2} \left[ 1 + 0.17 \left( \frac{H}{\Lambda_{QG}} \right)^3 \right]$$

► **Scalar spectral tilt**

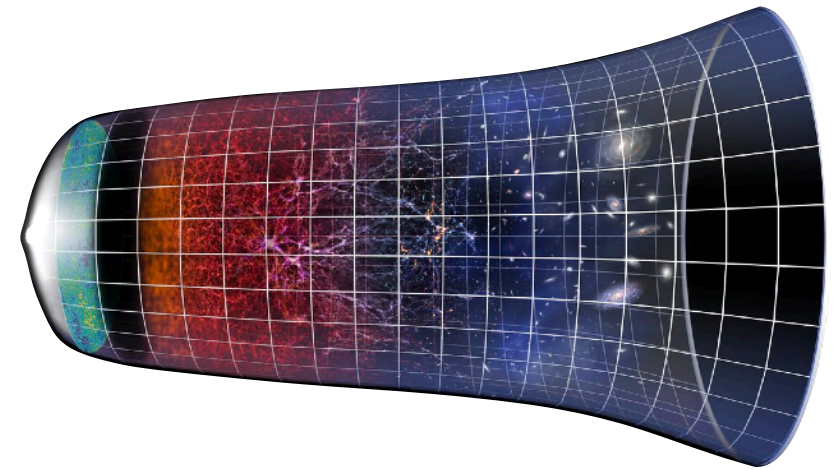
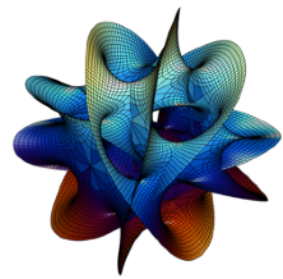
$$n_s - 1 = (-2\epsilon - \eta) \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{\gamma M_P}{20} \right)^2 \left( \frac{H}{\Lambda_{QG}} \right)^3 \right] - (5\epsilon + \sqrt{2\epsilon} \gamma M_P) \left( \frac{\gamma M_P}{20} \right)^2 \left( \frac{H}{\Lambda_{QG}} \right)^3$$



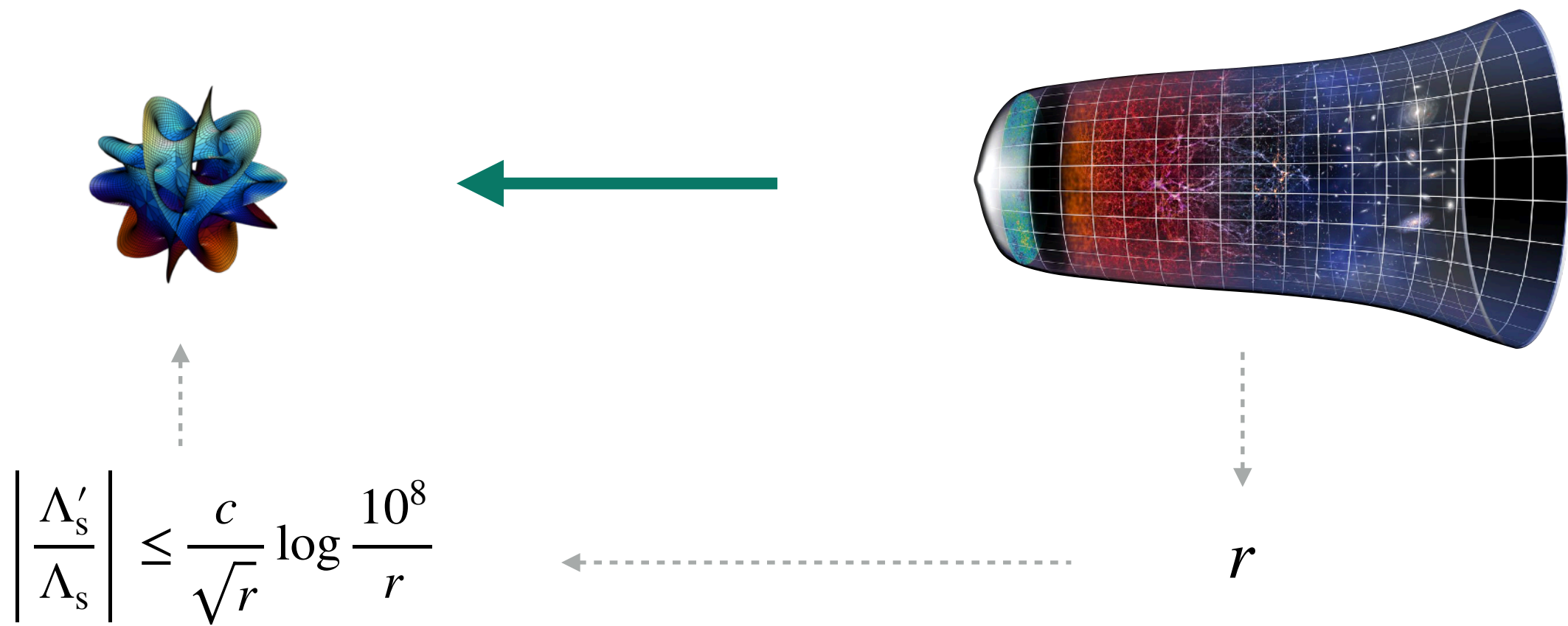
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**Species ← Cosmology**









EFT consistency  $H \leq \Lambda_s \sim e^{-\lambda \Delta\varphi}$  Distance Conjecture



$$\lambda = \left| \frac{\Lambda'_s}{\Lambda_s} \right| \leq \frac{1}{\Delta\varphi} \log \frac{M_{\text{P}}}{H}$$



$$\left| \frac{\Lambda'_s}{\Lambda_s} \right| \leq \frac{1}{2\Delta\varphi} \log \frac{10^8}{r}$$



EFT consistency  $H \leq \Lambda_s \sim e^{-\lambda \Delta\varphi}$  Distance Conjecture



$$\lambda = \left| \frac{\Lambda'_s}{\Lambda_s} \right| \leq \frac{1}{\Delta\varphi} \log \frac{M_{\text{P}}}{H}$$



$$\left| \frac{\Lambda'_s}{\Lambda_s} \right| \leq \frac{1}{2\Delta\varphi} \log \frac{10^8}{r}$$

$$\Delta\varphi(r) = ?$$

$$\epsilon(N) = \frac{\beta}{N^p}$$



$$p = 1$$

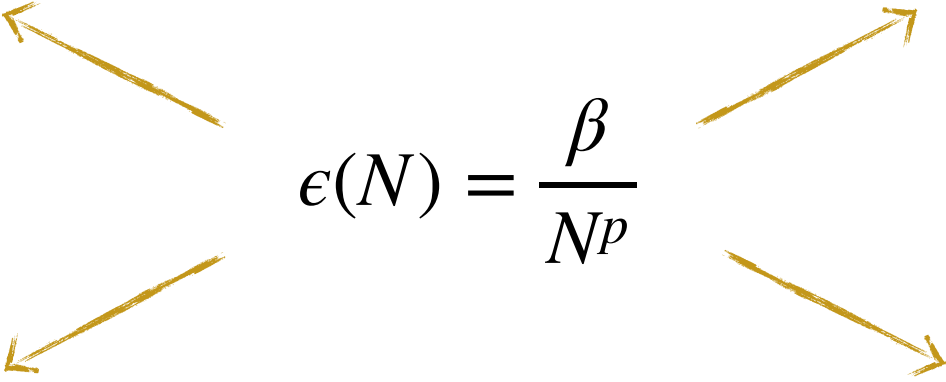
*Monomial potentials*

$$V(\varphi) \sim \varphi^n$$

$$p = 2$$

*Starobinsky-like potentials*

$$V(\varphi) \sim [1 - e^{-n\varphi} + \dots]$$

$$\epsilon(N) = \frac{\beta}{N^p}$$


$$1 < p < 2$$

*Inverse-hilltop-like potentials*  
(brane inflation)

$$V(\varphi) \sim \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{\mu}{\varphi} \right)^n + \dots \right]$$

$$p > 2$$

*Hilltop-like potentials*

$$V(\varphi) \sim \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{\varphi}{\mu} \right)^n + \dots \right]$$

$$p = 1$$

*Monomial potentials*

$$\left| \frac{\Lambda'_s}{\Lambda_s} \right| \approx \frac{1}{60\sqrt{2r}} \log \frac{10^8}{r}$$

$$p = 2$$

*Starobinsky-like potentials*

$$\left| \frac{\Lambda'_s}{\Lambda_s} \right| \approx \frac{1}{30 \log(60)\sqrt{2r}} \log \frac{10^8}{r}$$

$$\epsilon(N) = \frac{\beta}{N^p}$$

$$1 < p < 2$$

*Inverse-hilltop-like potentials  
(brane inflation)*

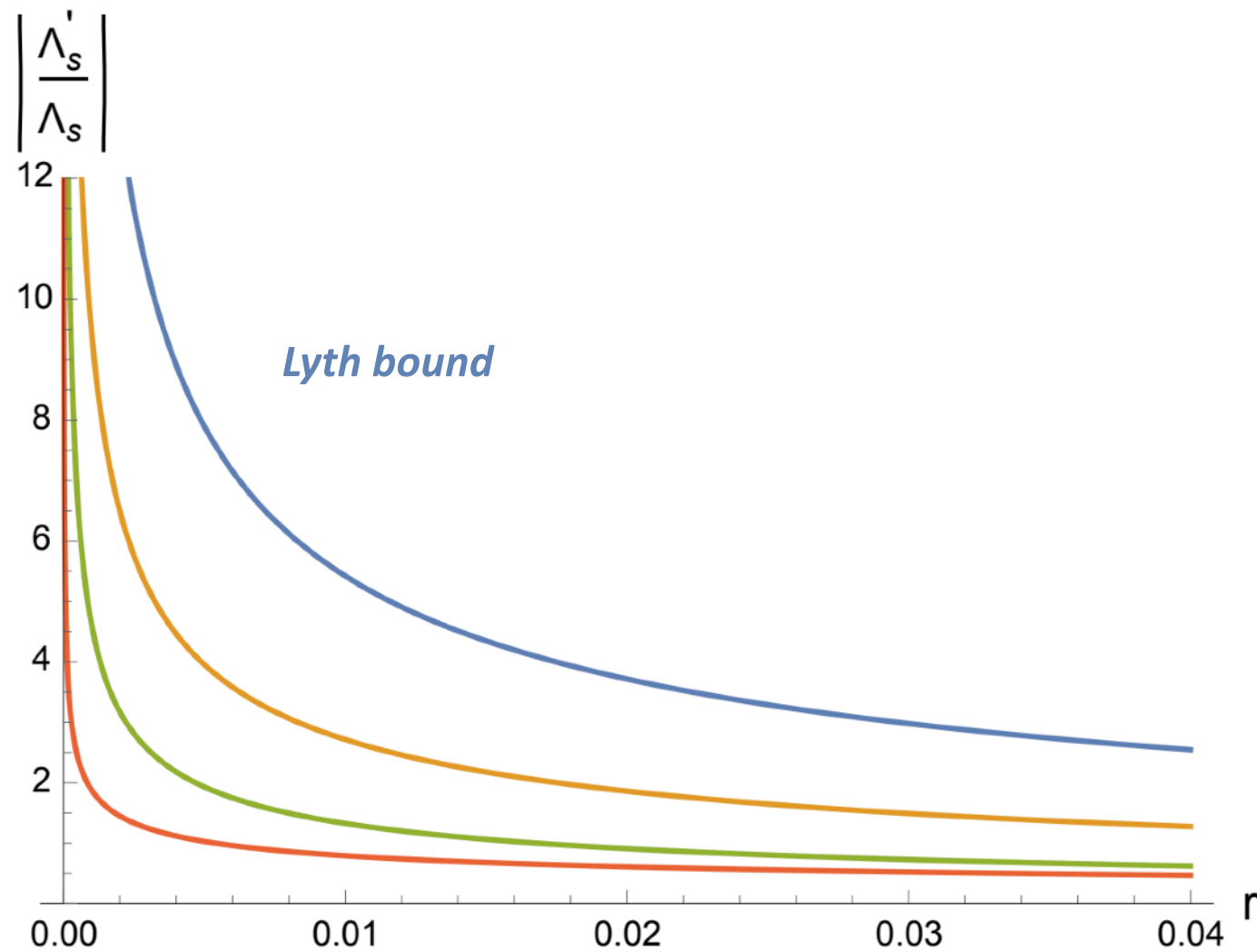
$$\left| \frac{\Lambda'_s}{\Lambda_s} \right| \approx \frac{1}{(2+n)30\sqrt{2r}} \log \frac{10^8}{r}$$

$$p > 2$$

*Hilltop-like potentials*

$$\left| \frac{\Lambda'_s}{\Lambda_s} \right| \approx 2^{\frac{4}{p}-\frac{7}{2}} \frac{p-2}{15} r^{-\frac{1}{p}} \log \frac{10^8}{r}$$





$$p = 1$$

*Monomial potentials*

$$p = 2$$

*Starobinsky-like potentials*

$$p = 3$$

*Hilltop-like potentials*

*e.g.*

**$D3 - \overline{D3}$  inflation**

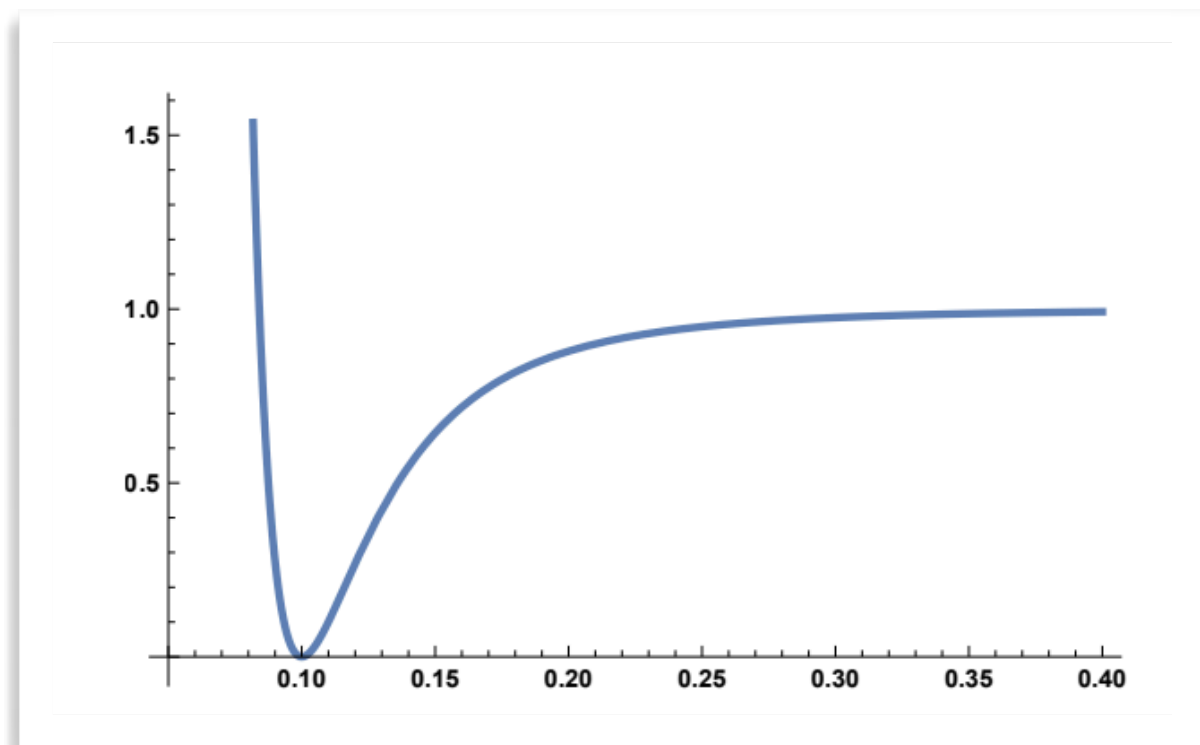
Kachru, Kallosh, Linde, Maldacena, McAllister, Trivedi 2003  
Burgess, Quevedo 2022

$$V(\varphi) \sim \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{\mu}{\varphi} \right)^4 + \dots \right]$$



$$\left| \frac{\Lambda'_s}{\Lambda_s} \right| \lesssim 0.5$$

$$(r \lesssim 0.036)$$



*plot taken from Burgess, Quevedo 2022*



The background is a dark, swirling marbled paper pattern in shades of blue, green, and brown. A central white rectangular box with a dashed yellow border contains the text.

# Species and $R^2$ -Inflation



# $R^2$ - Inflation and the species scale

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*Lüst, Masias, Muntz, MS - 2312.13210*



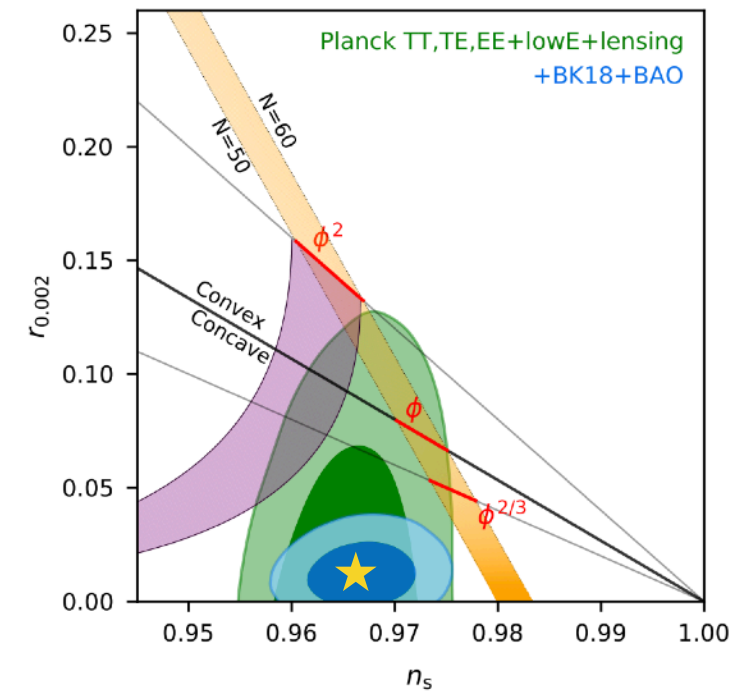
# $R^2$ - Inflation and the species scale

Lüst, Masias, Muntz, *MS* - 2312.13210

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{M_P^2}{2} \left( R + \frac{R^2}{M^2} \right) \right]$$

Starobinsky 1980

Starobinsky 1984



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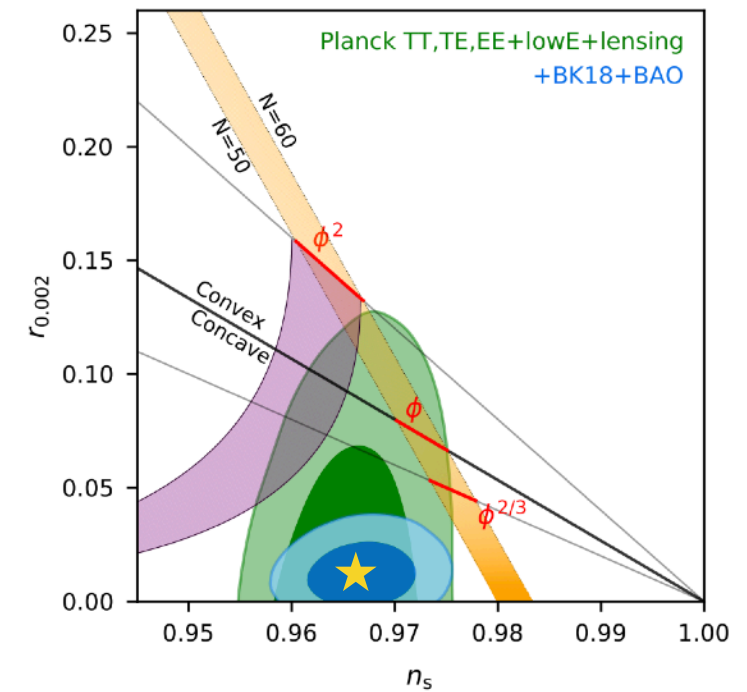
$$M = 10^{14} \text{ GeV}$$

fixed by CMB observation



$$M = ?$$

origin?



"Quantum loop corrections to Einstein field equation"  
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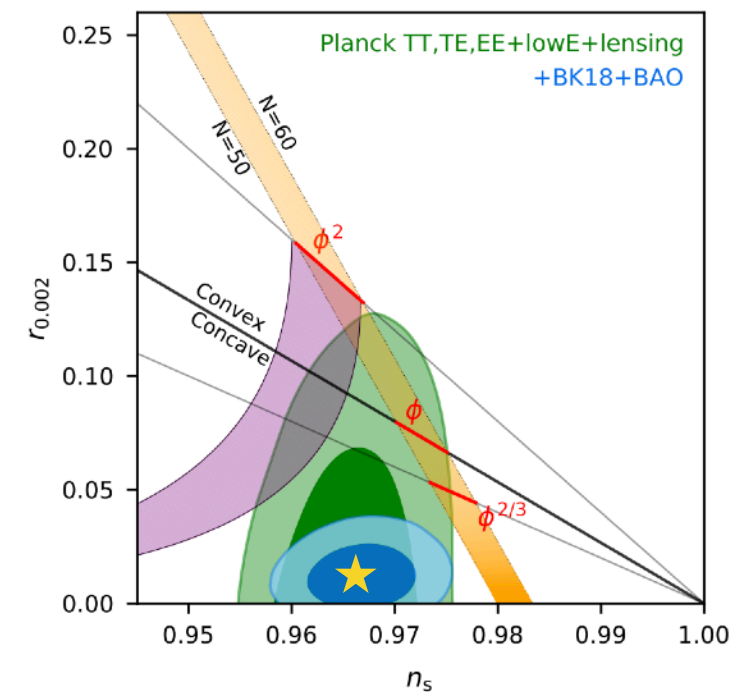
$$M = ?$$

origin?

we argue

$$M \simeq \Lambda_s$$

originated by quantum effects of towers of light species



"Quantum loop corrections to Einstein field equation"  
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## Consequences on inflationary EFT

► **Energy scale**

$$M \simeq \Lambda_s$$

but also

$$M \simeq H$$

(in the Starobinsky model)



$$\Lambda_s \simeq H$$

**boundary of the EFT validity**



## Consequences on inflationary EFT

### ► Energy scale

$$M \simeq \Lambda_s \quad \text{but also} \quad M \simeq H \quad \longrightarrow \quad \boxed{\Lambda_s \simeq H}$$

boundary of the EFT validity

### ► KK modes

$$M \simeq \Lambda_s \simeq 10^{14} \text{ GeV} \quad \longrightarrow \quad N_s \simeq 10^{10} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \boxed{m_{\text{kk}} \simeq 10^4 \text{ GeV}}$$

10 orders below H

## Consequences on inflationary EFT

- Cosmology constrains **Species Scale decay rate**

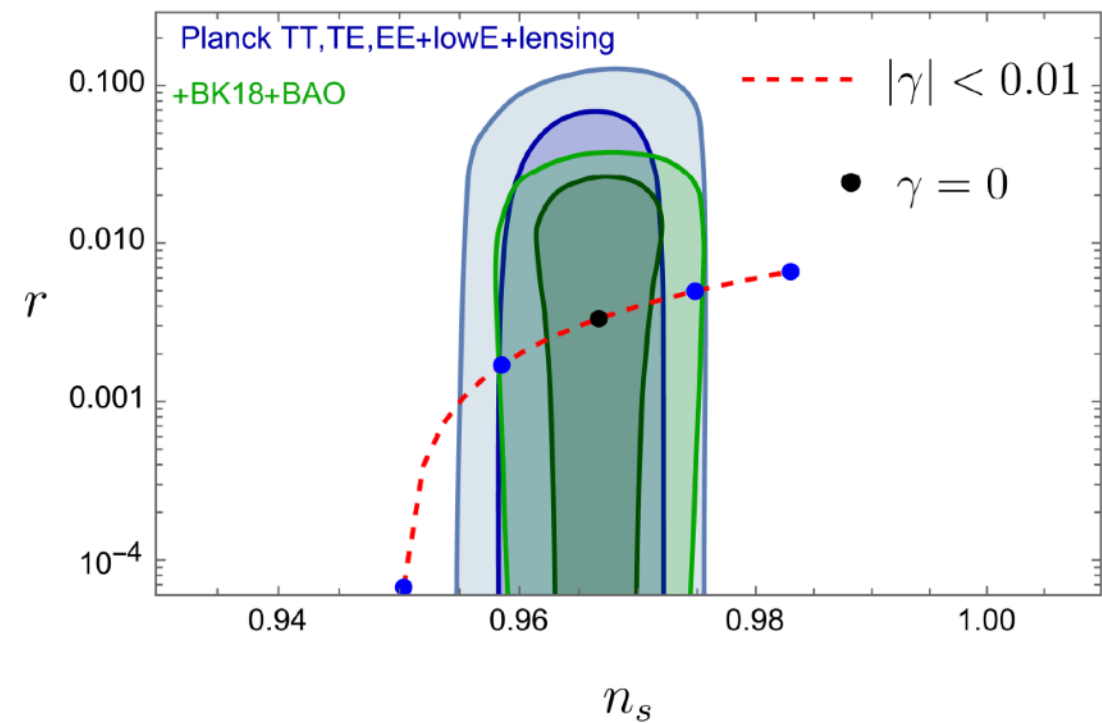
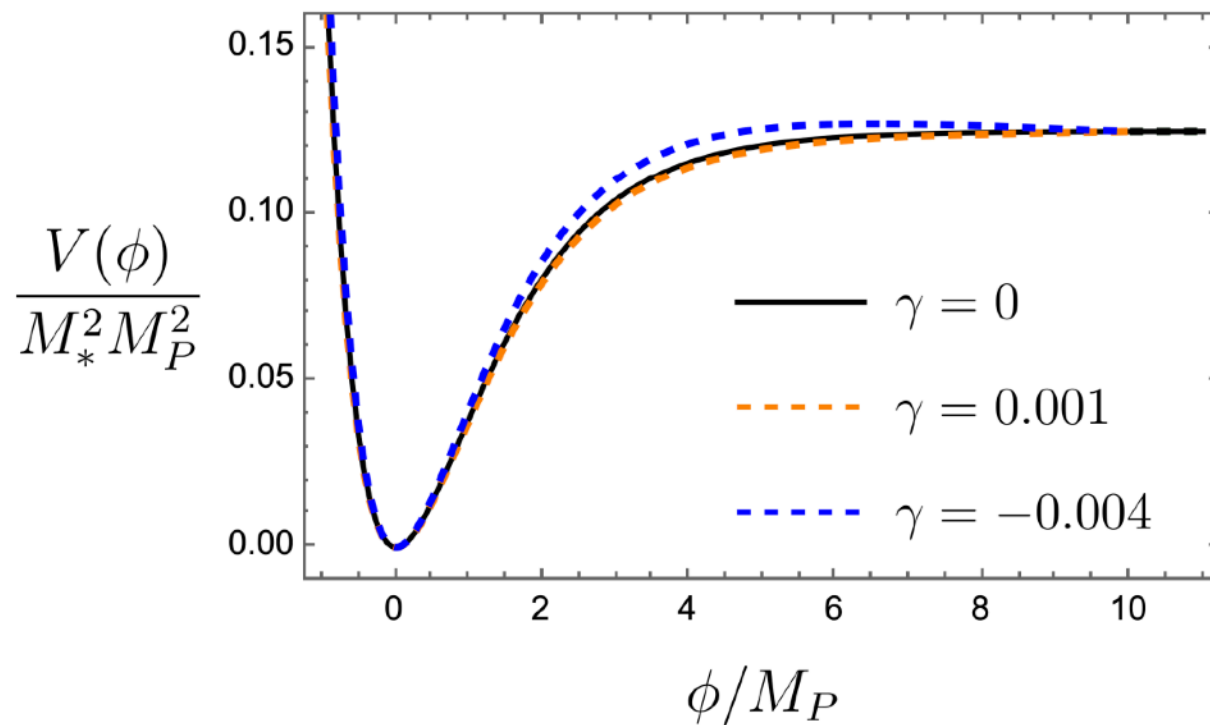
$$\Lambda_s = M_* e^{-\gamma\phi} \quad \longrightarrow \quad V(\phi) = \frac{M_*^2 M_P^2}{8} e^{-2\gamma\phi} \left( 1 - e^{-\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}\phi/M_P} \right)^2$$



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$$n_s - 1 \simeq -\frac{2}{N_e} - 2\gamma\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} + \mathcal{O}(\gamma^2)$$

$$r \simeq \frac{12}{N_e^2} - \gamma\frac{8\sqrt{6}}{N_e} + \mathcal{O}(\gamma^2)$$

CMB data  
→

$$-0.001 \leq \gamma \leq 0.004$$



too small

$$|\gamma| \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{(d-1)(d-2)}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}$$



The background is a dark, swirling marbled paper pattern in shades of blue, green, and brown. A central white rectangular box with a yellow dashed border contains the text.

# Conclusions



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Towers of species lead to a renormalization of the quantum gravity cut-off

$$\Lambda_{\text{QG}} = \frac{M_{\text{P}}}{N^{\frac{1}{d-2}}}$$

*Dvali 2007*

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Universal upper bound on the scalar field range

$$\Delta \lesssim -\log H$$

*MS, Valenzuela 2018*

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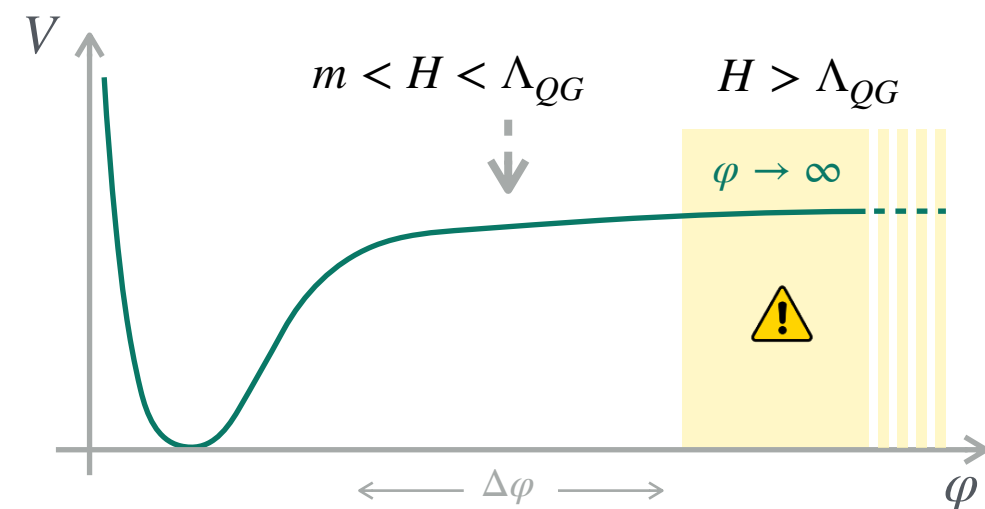
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Effects of species on inflationary observables



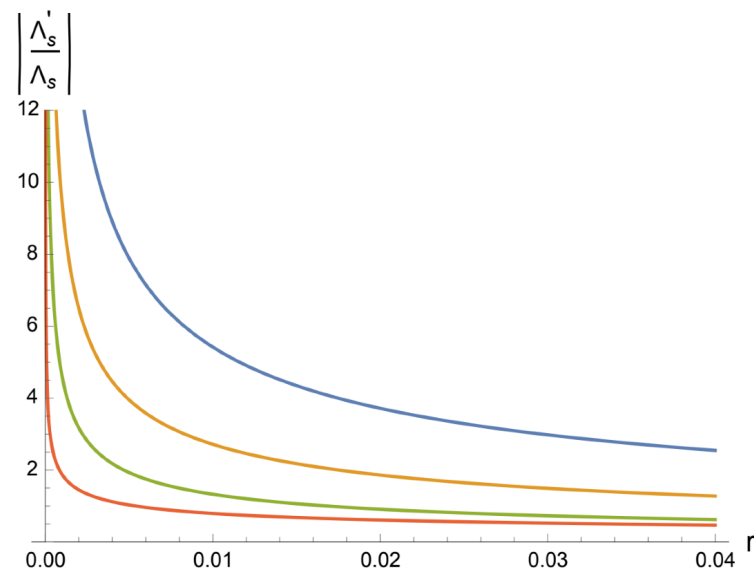
$$\delta\{n_s, r, f_{\text{NL}}\} \propto \left(\frac{H}{\Lambda_{\text{QG}}}\right)^{2+p}$$

*Lüst, Masias, Pieroni, MS - work in progress*

# Conclusions

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Detection of **PGWs** sets **upper bound** on decay rate of  $\Lambda_{\text{QG}}$



$$\left| \frac{\Lambda'_{\text{QG}}}{\Lambda_{\text{QG}}} \right| \lesssim \frac{c}{\sqrt{r}} \log \frac{10^8}{r}$$

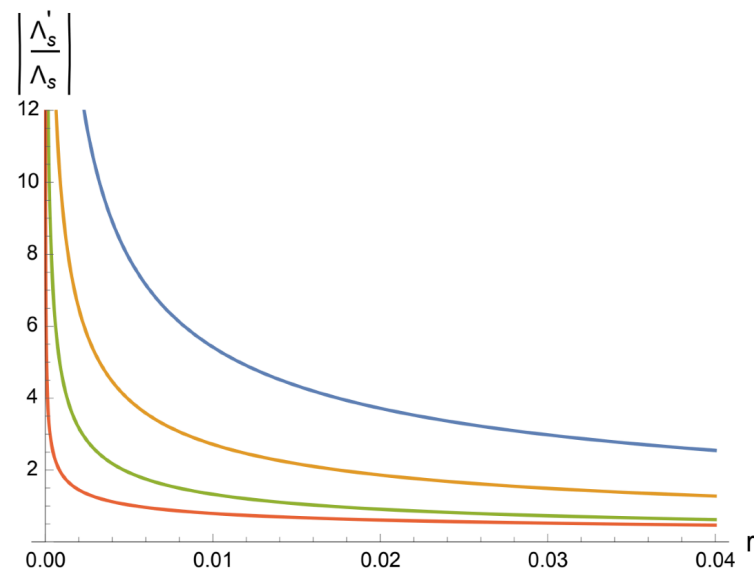
MS 2024



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**$R^2$ -inflation**  
(generated by species)  
in the **Swampland**

$$H \simeq \Lambda_s \simeq 10^{14} \text{ GeV}$$

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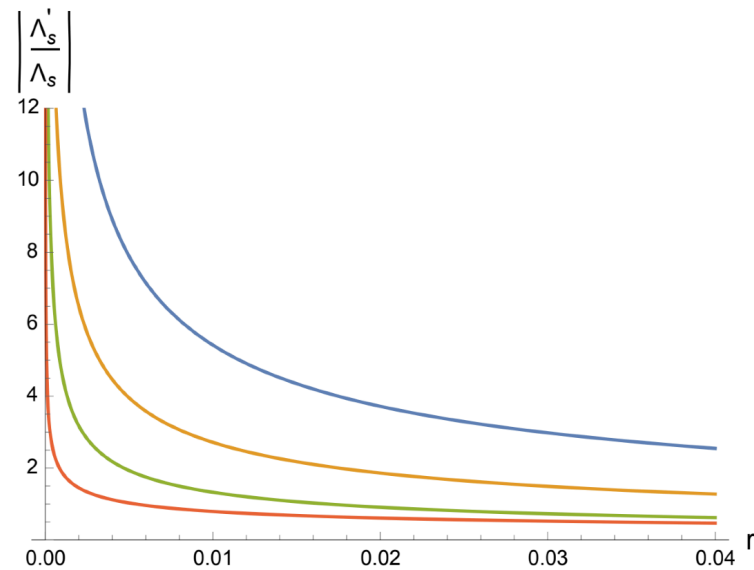
$\gamma$  too small

Lüst, Masias, Muntz, MS - 2312.13210

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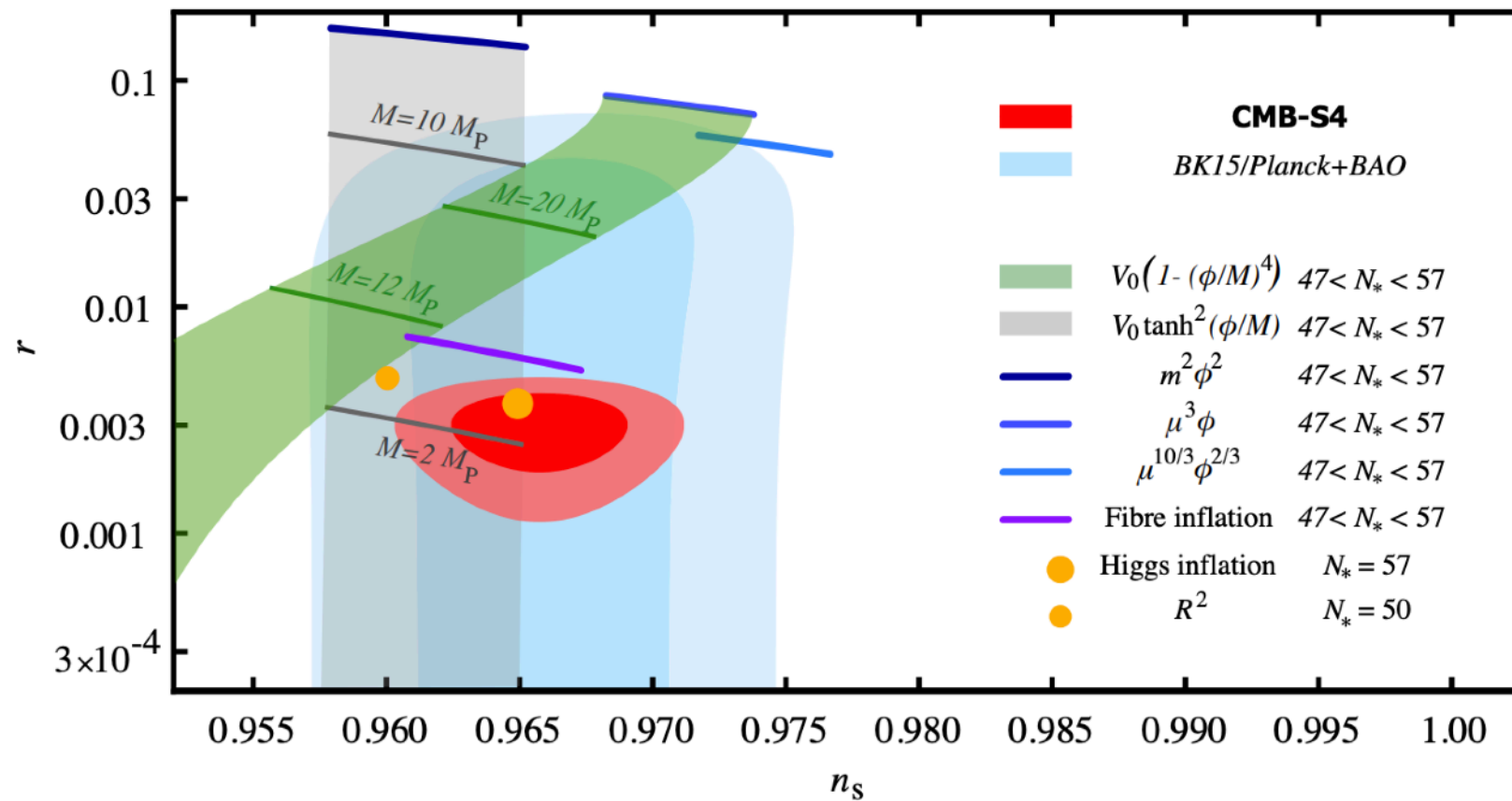
thanks!



The background is a complex marbled paper pattern. It features swirling, organic shapes in shades of dark blue, teal, and brown, set against a black base. The pattern has a fibrous, almost crystalline texture. In the center, there is a white rectangular box with a dashed yellow border. Inside this box, the text "Extra slides" is written in a bold, teal, sans-serif font.

**Extra slides**





Lyth bound  $\Delta\varphi \gtrsim \sqrt{\frac{r}{0.002}}$   $\dashrightarrow$   $\Delta\varphi \gtrsim M_{\text{P}}$  Super-Planckian field range



$$\Delta\varphi = \int \sqrt{2\epsilon} \, dN$$

