

# Reheating and geometrical destabilisation in String Inflation



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Based on:

MC, Guidetti, Pedro, Vacca, 1807.03818

MC, Piovano, 1809.01159

MC, Guidetti, Pedro, 1903.01497

# Challenges for string inflation

- Conditions for string inflation:
  - (i) inflaton is a **pseudo NG boson** to control quantum corrections
  - (ii) **moduli stabilisation** to control all directions and fix energy scales
  - (iii) **CY embedding** to check theoretical consistency
  - (iv) understand **post-inflationary cosmology** to make trustable **predictions**
- $n_s$  and  $r$  depend on:
  - i)  $N_e$  which depends on post-inflation:  
reheating:  $T_{\text{re}}$ ?  $w_{\text{re}}$ ?  
moduli domination:  $N_{\text{mod}}$ ?  
$$N_e + \frac{1}{4}N_{\text{mod}} + \frac{1}{4}(1 - 3w_{\text{re}})N_{\text{re}} \approx 57 + \frac{1}{4}\ln r + \frac{1}{4}\ln\left(\frac{\rho_*}{\rho_{\text{end}}}\right)$$
  - ii) fix  $n_s$  by matching observations and then predict  $r$   
**BUT** Planck value of  $n_s$  depends on **priors**:  
 $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} = 0 \longrightarrow n_s = 0.965 \pm 0.004 \quad [\text{Planck coll. 2018}]$   
 $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} = 0.39 \longrightarrow n_s = 0.983 \pm 0.006 \quad [\text{Planck coll. 2015}]$   
can get different  $r!$   $\longrightarrow$  compute **dark radiation**  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$       ultra-light **axions**?

# Moduli stabilisation

- Swiss-cheese CY volume

$$\mathcal{V} = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i,j,k=1}^{N_{\text{large}}} k_{ijk} t_i t_j t_k - \frac{1}{6} \sum_{s=1}^{N_{\text{small}}} k_{sss} t_s^3 \quad N_{\text{large}} + N_{\text{small}} = h^{1,1}$$

- EFT coordinates: Kahler moduli

$$T_i = \tau_i + i \vartheta_i \quad \tau_i = \frac{\partial \mathcal{V}}{\partial t_i}$$

- Leading order:  $\alpha'$  + non-perturbative effects

$$K = -2 \ln \left( \mathcal{V} + \frac{\xi}{2 g_s^{3/2}} \right) \quad W = W_0 + \sum_{s=1}^{N_{\text{small}}} A_s e^{-a_s T_s}$$

- LVS models: fix  $\mathcal{V}$  +  $N_{\text{small}}$  del Pezzo moduli [MC, Conlon, Quevedo]

$$\mathcal{V} \simeq e^{a_s \tau_s} \gg 1 \quad \tau_s \simeq g_s^{-1} > 1 \quad \forall s = 1, \dots, N_{\text{small}} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} N_{\text{flat}} &= h^{1,1} - N_{\text{small}} - 1 \text{ flat directions!} \\ &+ N_{\text{flat}} + 1 \text{ massless axions!} \end{aligned}$$

- Flat directions lifted by perturbative corrections

→ Good inflaton candidates:

1) Inflaton naturally lighter than H

2) Flatness protected by rescaling shift symmetry

$g_s$  loops  
higher derivative  $\alpha'$  effects

[Burgess, MC, Williams, Quevedo]

# Explicit CY models

- Need CY 3-folds with (from Kreuzer-Skarke list):

$$N_{\text{small}} \geq 1$$

$$N_{\text{flat}} = h^{1,1} - N_{\text{small}} - 1 \geq 1$$

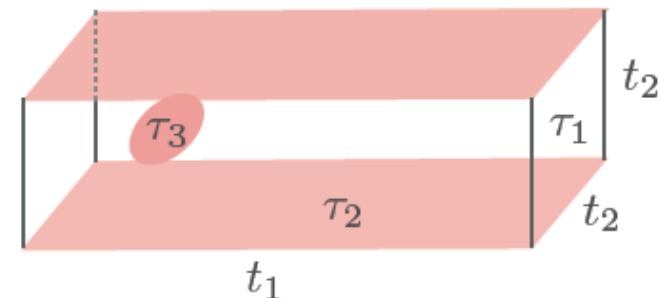
$$h^{1,1} \geq N_{\text{small}} + 2 \geq 3$$

- $h^{1,1} = 3$ : brane set-up + moduli stabilisation + inflation + no **chirality** [MC,Muia,Shukla]
- CY volume with 2 **large** moduli (**K3** fibre over a **P<sup>1</sup>** base):

$$\mathcal{V} = t_1 t_2^2 + t_3^3 = \sqrt{\tau_1 \tau_2} - \tau_3^{3/2}$$

- $\tau_1$  is the **inflaton** with  $\mathcal{V}$  constant

→ 2 **ultra-light** axions  $\vartheta_1$  and  $\vartheta_2$



- $h^{1,1} = 4$ : brane set-up + moduli stabilisation + inflation + **chirality** [MC,Ciupke,Diaz,Guidetti,Muia,Shukla]

- CY volume with 3 **large** moduli (3 K3 fibrations):

$$\mathcal{V} = t_1 t_2 \tilde{t}_2 + t_3^3 = \sqrt{\tau_1 \tau_2 \tilde{\tau}_2} - \tau_3^{3/2}$$

- Visible sector on D7s wrapping  $\tau_1$ ,  $\tau_2$  and  $\tilde{\tau}_2$
- Turn on gauge fluxes → FI-term = 0 fixes  $\tau_2 \sim \tilde{\tau}_2$  → reduce to  $h^{1,1} = 3$  case
- dS from hidden sector F-terms: background fluxes + gauge fluxes (T-branes)

$$V_{\text{up}} = m^2 |\phi|^2$$

[MC,Quevedo,Valandro]

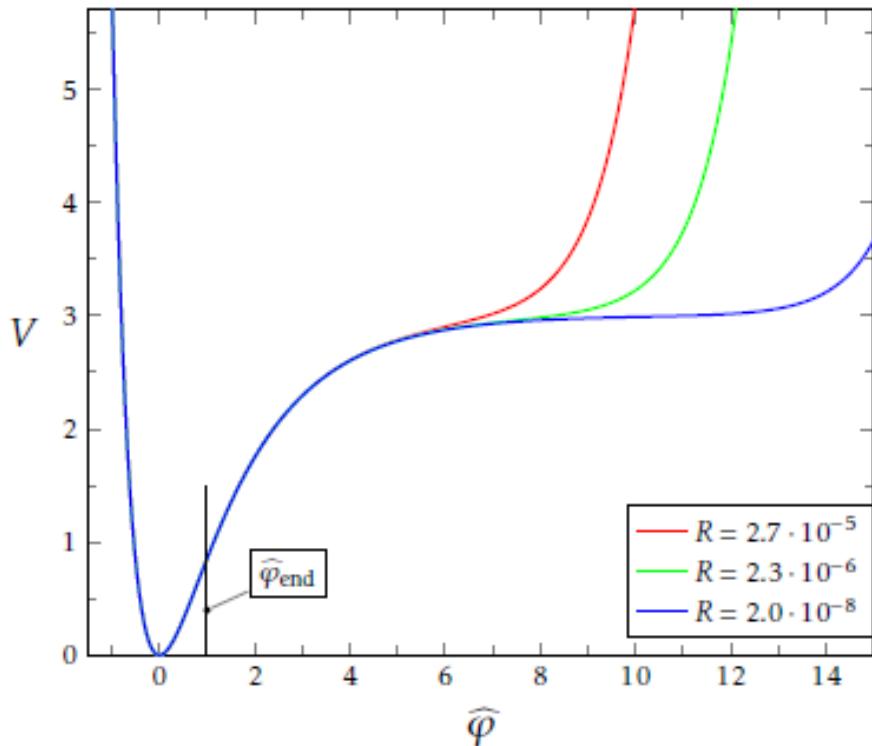
# Fibre Inflation

- Potential for canonical inflaton shifted from minimum:

$$V_{\text{inf}} = V_0 \left( 3 - R - 4 e^{-\varphi/\sqrt{3}} + e^{-4\varphi/\sqrt{3}} + R e^{2\varphi/\sqrt{3}} \right)$$

[MC, Burgess, Quevedo]  
 [MC, Ciupke, de Alwis, Muia]

$$V_0 \simeq \frac{M_p^4}{\mathcal{V}^{10/3}} \quad R \simeq \left( \frac{C_1 C_2}{C_3} \right)^2 \frac{g_s^4}{18} \leq 10^{-5} \quad g_s \leq 0.1 \quad C_i \sim O(1)$$



Assume no instability of **ultra-light axions**

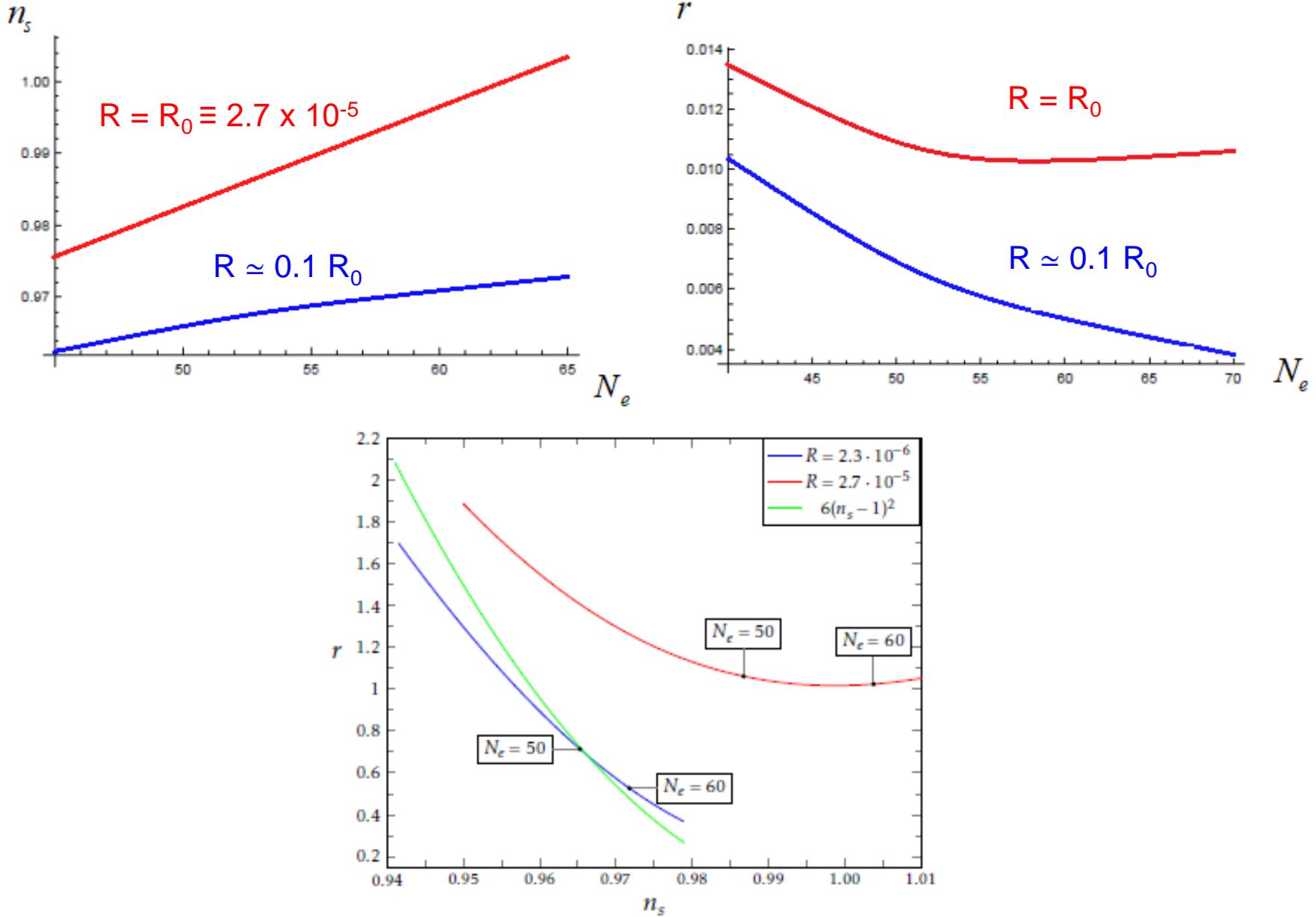
$\alpha$ -attractor (E-model) with  $\Delta\varphi \simeq 5M_p$

BUT predictions depend on **reheating**

$$n_s = n_s(\varphi_*, R) = n_s(N_e, R) = n_s(w_{\text{rh}}, T_{\text{rh}}, R)$$

$$r = r(\varphi_*, R) = r(w_{\text{rh}}, T_{\text{rh}}, R)$$

# Cosmological predictions



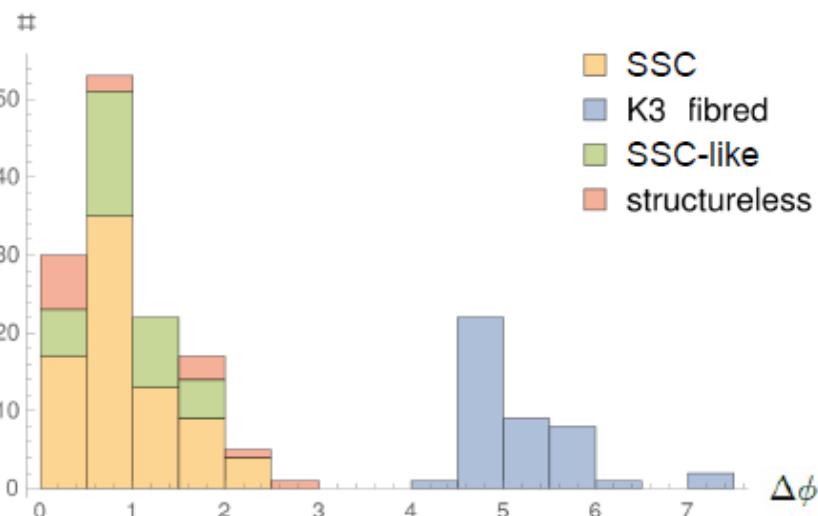
# Geometrical bounds

[MC, Ciupke, Mayrhofer, Shukla]

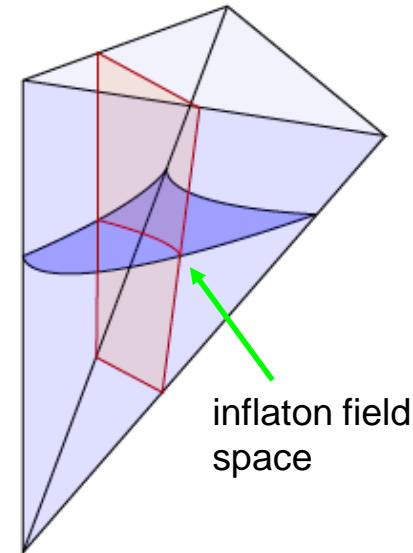
- Upper bounded inflaton range due to Kahler cone

$$\frac{\Delta\phi}{M_p} \leq c \ln \mathcal{V} \quad c \sim O(1)$$

- Scan of  $\Delta\phi$  for all toric LVS vacua with  $h^{1,1} = 3$ ,  $\mathcal{V} = 10^5$  and  $g_s = 0.1$



right ballpark  
to match  $\delta\rho/\rho$



- $\Delta\phi > M_p$  only for examples we need for inflation (K3 fibrations)!
- agreement with swampland distance conjecture

# Bound on tensor modes

[MC, Ciupke, Mayrhofer, Shukla]

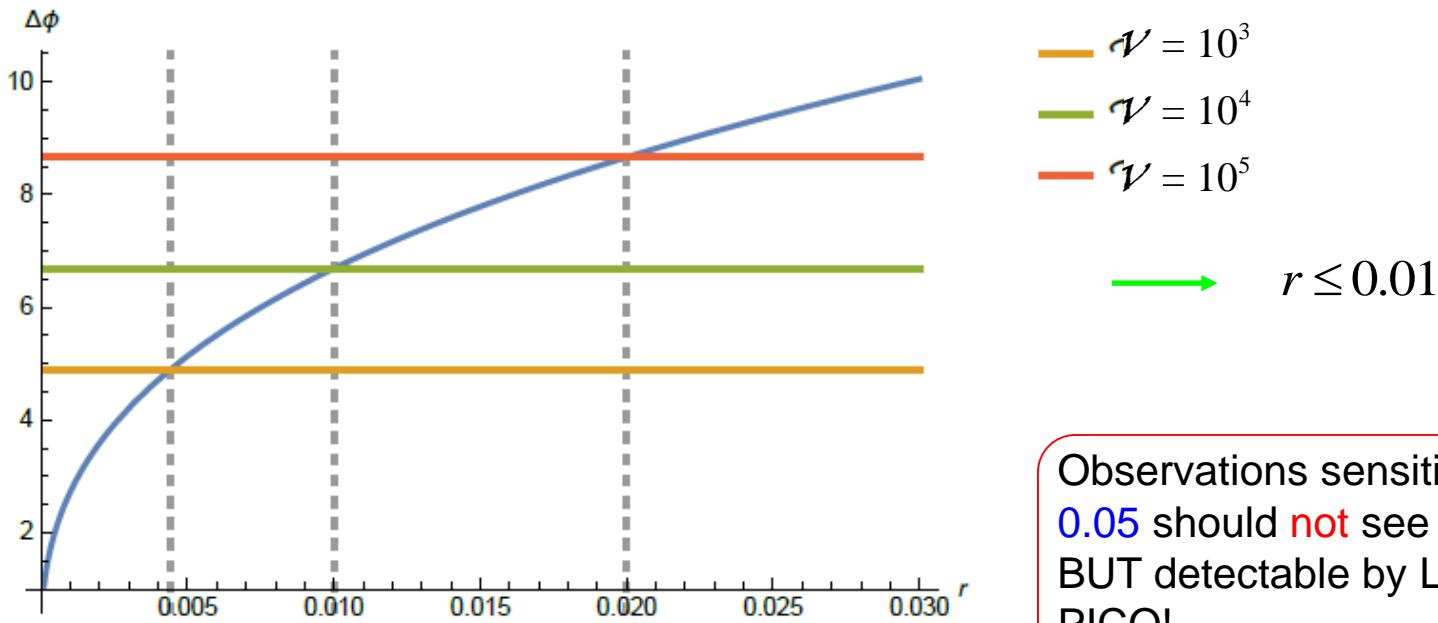
- Generic LVS inflationary model

$$V \simeq V_0 \left(1 - c_1 e^{-c_2 \phi}\right) \longrightarrow \epsilon = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{V'}{V}\right)^2 \simeq \frac{1}{2} c_1^2 c_2^2 e^{-2c_2 \phi}$$

- For  $\epsilon(\phi_{\text{end}}) \simeq 1$  and  $r(\phi_*) = 16 \epsilon(\phi_*)$

$$N_e = \int_{\phi_{\text{end}}}^{\phi_*} \sqrt{\frac{8}{r(\phi)}} d\phi \longrightarrow \frac{\Delta\phi}{M_p} \simeq \frac{N_e}{2} \sqrt{\frac{r(\phi_*)}{2}} \ln \left( \frac{4}{\sqrt{r(\phi_*)}} \right)$$

- Combine with  $\Delta\phi/M_p \leq c \ln \mathcal{V}$  for  $N_e = 50$

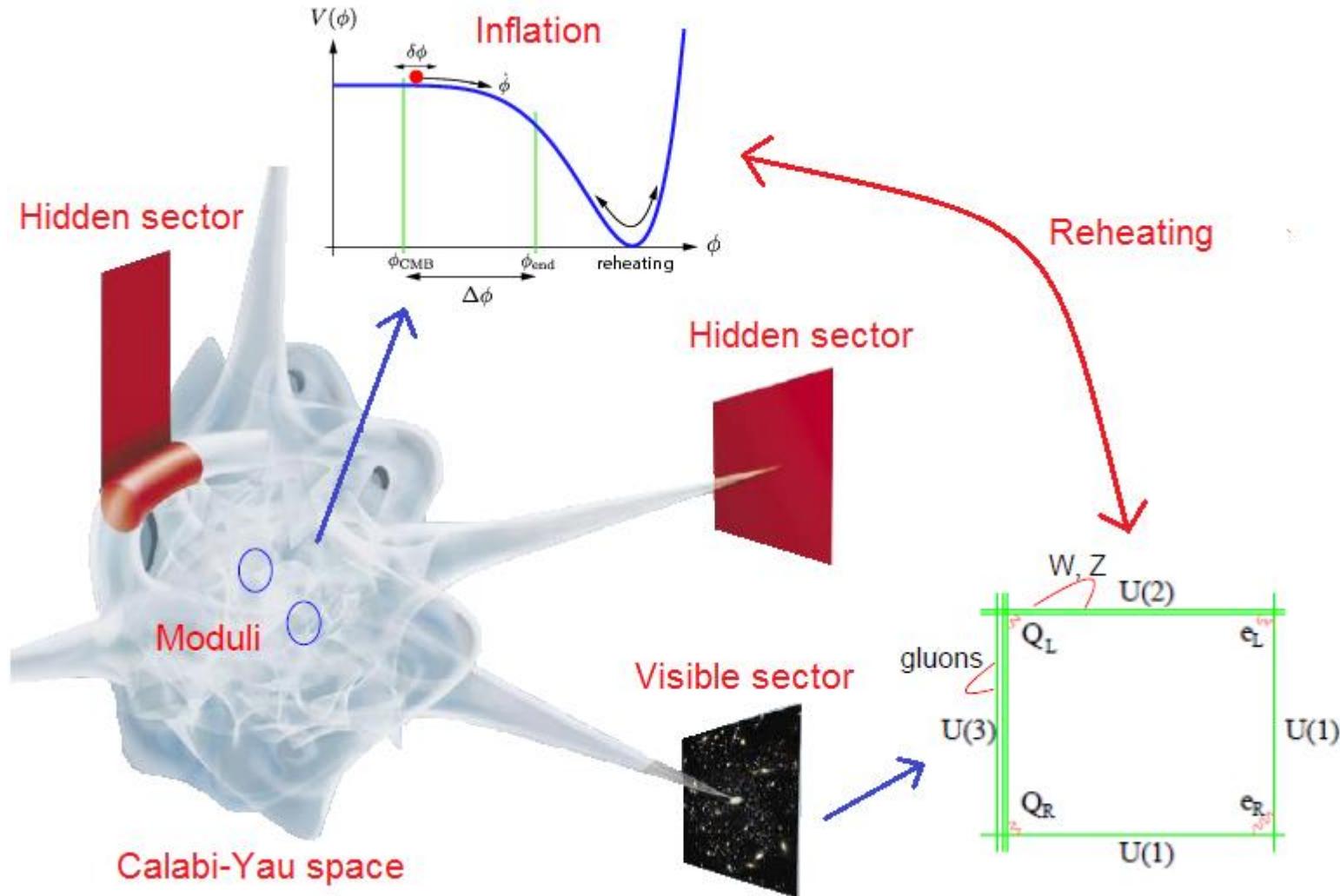


Observations sensitive to  $r$  of order 0.05 should not see tensors!  
BUT detectable by LiteBIRD and PICO!

# Reheating

- End of inflation: inefficient particle production at preheating [Antusch,Cefalà,Krippendorf,Muia,Orani,Quevedo]

→ Inflaton energy transferred to SM via perturbative decay



# SM and dark radiation

- Where is the SM?
- Ultra-light **bulk axions** from inflaton decay contribute to  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$
- Observational constraint:  $N_{\text{eff}} = 2.99 \pm 0.17$  Planck + galaxy BAO [Planck coll. 2018]  
 $N_{\text{eff}} = 3.41 \pm 0.22$  Planck + galaxy BAO + LyαF BAO + HST [Riess et al 2016]



- Decay rates into bulk axions [Angus] [Hebecker,Mangat, Rompineve,Witkowski]

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Gamma_{\Phi \rightarrow a_1 a_1} = \frac{1}{24\pi} \frac{m_\Phi^3}{M_P^2} \\ \Gamma_{\Phi \rightarrow a_2 a_2} = \frac{1}{96\pi} \frac{m_\Phi^3}{M_P^2} \end{array} \right. \longrightarrow \Gamma_{\Phi \rightarrow \text{hid}} = c_{\text{hid}} \Gamma_0 \quad \Gamma_0 = \frac{1}{48\pi} \frac{m_\Phi^3}{M_P^2} \quad c_{\text{hid}} = \frac{5}{2}$$

- SM on D3s at a singularity  $\longrightarrow$  sequestering  $\longrightarrow$  loop suppressed decay rates

$$\Gamma_{\Phi \rightarrow \text{visible}} \simeq \left( \frac{\alpha_{SM}}{4\pi} \right)^2 \Gamma_0 \longrightarrow \Delta N_{\text{eff}} \sim \left( \frac{4\pi}{\alpha_{SM}} \right)^2 \sim 10^4$$

Dark radiation overproduction!

$\longrightarrow$  SM on D7s wrapping inflaton cycle to increase branching ratio into visible dof

# Reheating temperature

[MC, Piovano]

- SM on D7s wrapping  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$   $\longrightarrow$  desequestering

$$M_{\text{soft}} \simeq m_{3/2} \simeq 5 \cdot 10^{15} \text{ GeV} \gg m_\phi \simeq 5 \cdot 10^{13} \text{ GeV}$$

$\longrightarrow$  inflaton cannot decay to SUSY particles

- Leading inflaton decay into gauge bosons

$$\Gamma_{\Phi \rightarrow AA} = 12\gamma^2 \Gamma_0 \quad \gamma = \frac{\langle \tau_1 \rangle}{\langle \tau_1 \rangle - h(F)g_s^{-1}}$$

$$\longrightarrow \quad \Gamma_{\Phi \rightarrow \text{vis}} = c_{\text{vis}} \Gamma_0 \quad c_{\text{vis}} = 12 \gamma^2$$

- Reheat temperature:

$$T_{\text{rh}} \simeq 0.12 \gamma m_\Phi \sqrt{\frac{m_\Phi}{M_p}} \simeq 3\gamma \cdot 10^{10} \text{ GeV} \simeq 10^{10} \text{ GeV} \quad \longrightarrow \quad g_*(T_{\text{rh}}) = 106.5$$

- Oscillating scalar behaves as matter  $\longrightarrow w_{\text{rh}} \simeq 0 \longrightarrow N_e \simeq 52 + \frac{1}{3} \ln \gamma \simeq 52$

$$n_s = n_s(w_{\text{rh}}, T_{\text{rh}}, R) \quad \rightarrow \quad n_s = n_s(R)$$

$$r = r(w_{\text{rh}}, T_{\text{rh}}, R) \quad \rightarrow \quad r = r(R)$$

# Dark radiation and tensors

[MC, Piovano]

- Fix  $R$  in  $n_s(R)$  by matching Planck after computing  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$

→ Predict tensor modes from  $r(R)$

- Dark radiation prediction almost insensitive to Higgs coupling  $z$ :

$$\Delta N_{\text{eff}} = \frac{43}{7} \frac{\Gamma_{\Phi \rightarrow \text{hid}}}{\Gamma_{\Phi \rightarrow \text{vis}}} \left( \frac{g_*(T_{\text{dec}})}{g_*(T_{\text{rh}})} \right)^{1/3} \simeq \frac{0.6}{\gamma^2}$$

$$\gamma = \frac{\langle \tau_1 \rangle}{\langle \tau_1 \rangle - h(F) g_s^{-1}}$$

- Expand  $F$ :

$$F = 2\pi n_1 \hat{D}_1 + 2\pi n_2 \hat{D}_2 + 2\pi n_3 \hat{D}_3 \quad n_i \in \mathbb{Z}$$

→  $h(F) = \frac{1}{2} k_{122} n_2^2 \geq 0$



$$\gamma \geq 1$$



$$\Delta N_{\text{eff}} \leq 0.6$$

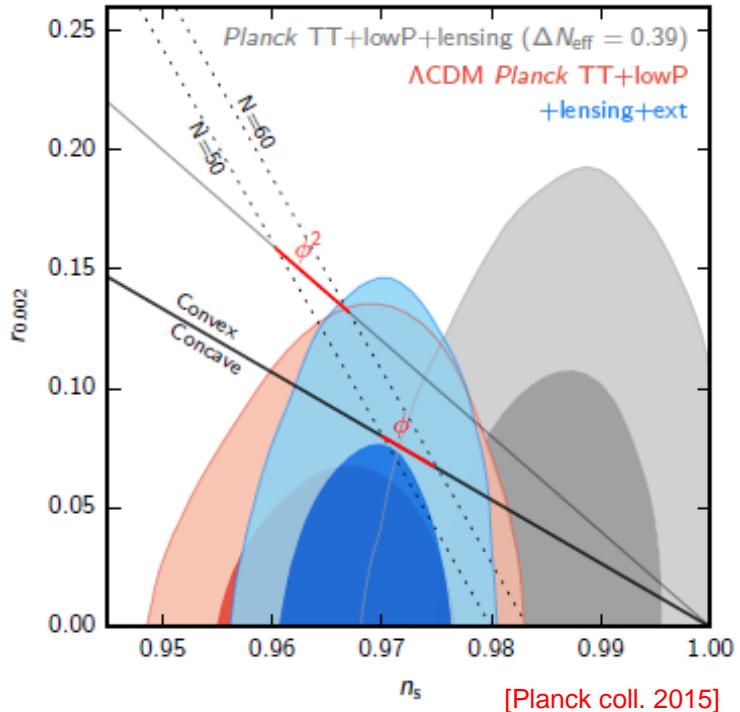
# Fluxless case

[MC, Piovano]

- $F = 0$  case:  $n_2 = 0$

$$\longrightarrow \gamma = 1 \quad \langle \tau_1 \rangle = \frac{\alpha_{\text{vis}}^{-1}}{2} = 12.5 \quad \Delta N_{\text{eff}} \simeq 0.6 \quad \text{prior for Planck}$$

- Cosmological prediction:



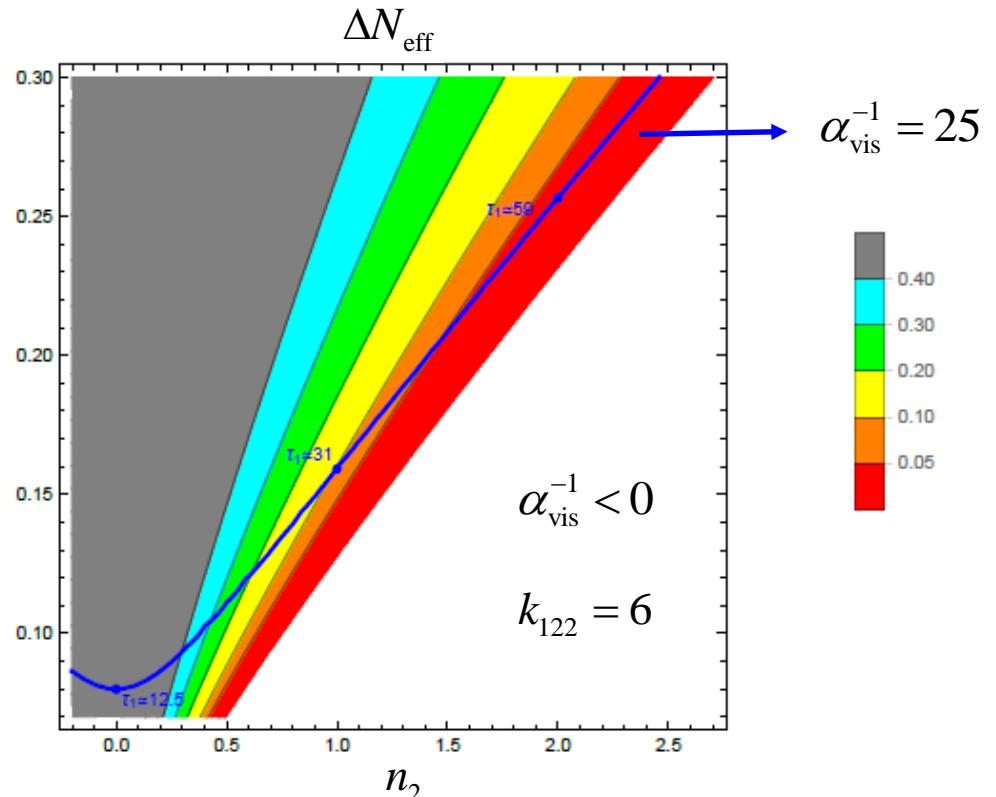
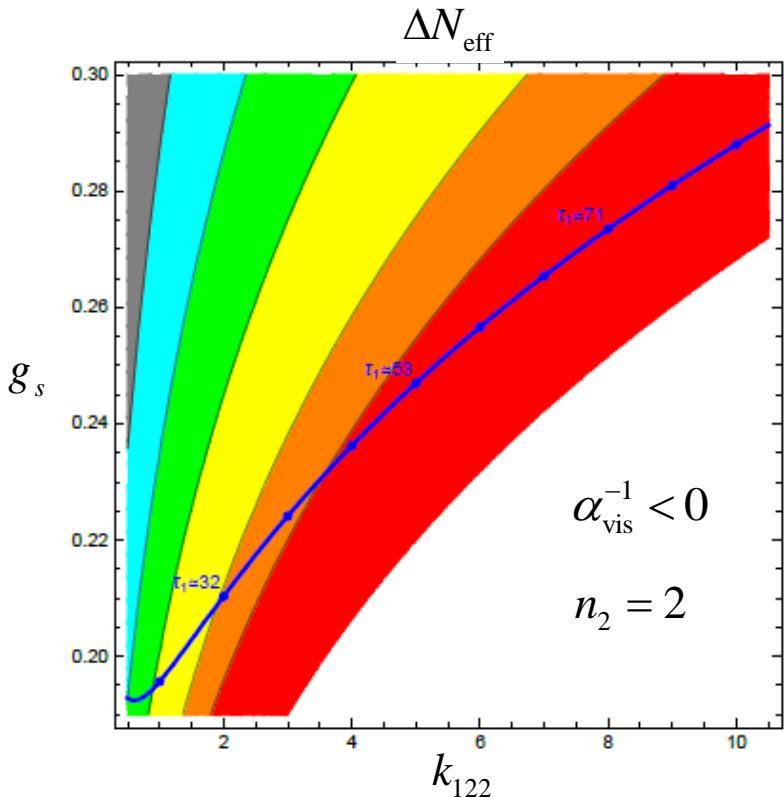
- need to reproduce  $n_s = n_s(R) \approx 0.99$
- horizon exit in **steepening** region with  $R = R_0$
- $r = r(R) \approx 0.01$
- $\tau_1 = 12.5$  small enough to get  $N_e = 52$   
with  $\Delta\phi \leq \ln \mathcal{V}$  for  $\mathcal{V} = 10^3$

# Fluxed case

[MC, Piovano]

- $F \neq 0$  case:  $n_2 \neq 0$

$$\longrightarrow \gamma > 1 \quad \langle \tau_1 \rangle = \gamma \frac{\alpha_{\text{vis}}^{-1}}{2} > 12.5 \quad \Delta N_{\text{eff}} \ll 0.6 \quad \text{prior for Planck}$$



- Cosmological prediction:  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} \leq 0.2$   $\longrightarrow$  need to reproduce  $n_s = n_s(R) \simeq 0.965$   
 $\longrightarrow$  horizon exit in **plateau** region with  $R \lesssim 0.1 R_0$   $\longrightarrow$   $r = r(R) \simeq 0.007$
- $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} \lesssim 0.2$  implies  $\tau_1 \gtrsim 20$ : too large to get  $N_e = 52$  with  $\Delta\phi \leq \ln V$  for  $V = 10^3$ ?  
 NO due to **plateau!**

# Geometrical destabilisation?

[MC,Guidetti,Pedro,Vacca]

- Generic non-linear sigma model

$$\mathcal{L}/\sqrt{|g|} = \frac{1}{2} \gamma_{ij}(\phi_i) \partial_\mu \phi_i \partial^\mu \phi_j - V(\phi_i)$$

- Effective mass-squared of isocurvature perturbations for  $i=1,2$ :

$$m_{\text{eff}}^2 = V_{\perp\perp} - \Gamma_{\perp\perp}^i V_i + (\varepsilon R + 3\eta_\perp^2) H^2$$

↑  
 field-space Ricci scalar

$$\eta_\perp = \frac{V_\perp}{H |\dot{\phi}|}$$

↑  
 turning-rate of trajectory

$$|\dot{\phi}| = \sqrt{\gamma_{ij} \dot{\phi}_i \dot{\phi}_j}$$

- For  $R < 0$  and geodesic motion with  $\eta_\perp = 0$  :

$$m_{\text{eff}}^2 = V_{\perp\perp} - \Gamma_{\perp\perp}^i V_i - \varepsilon |R| H^2$$

→ geometrical destabilisation during inflation? (if  $m_{\text{eff}}^2 < 0$ )

- Instability even for heavy fields with  $V_{\perp\perp} \gg H^2$  if  $|R| = M_p / M \gg 1$  even if  $\varepsilon \ll 1$

[Renaux-Petel,Turzinsky]

→ premature end of inflation? Perturbation theory breakdown?

- No pathology since the instability is classical  
background solution: attractor → repulsor

→ new attractor solution where  $m_{\text{eff}}^2 > 0$

[MC,Guidetti,Pedro,Vacca]

# Unstable ultra-light fields?

- Effective mass-squared of isocurvature perturbations with  $R < 0$  and  $\eta_{\perp} = 0$ :

$$m_{\text{eff}}^2 = V_{\perp\perp} - \Gamma_{\perp\perp}^i V_i - \varepsilon |R| H^2 \quad \text{destabilisation during inflation?}$$

- In strings/SUGRA generically  $R \sim O(1)$  and  $R < 0$  since

$$K = -3 \ln(T + \bar{T}) \quad \longrightarrow \quad R = -8/3$$

- 1) Non shift-symmetric **heavy** fields

$$V_{\perp\perp} \geq H^2 \gg \varepsilon |R| H^2 \sim \varepsilon H^2 \quad \longrightarrow \quad m_{\text{eff}}^2 > 0 \quad [\text{MC,Guidetti,Pedro,Vacca}]$$

- 2) Shift-symmetric **ultra-light** fields with  $H^2 \gg V_{\perp\perp} \simeq 0$

$$m_{\text{eff}}^2 = -\Gamma_{\perp\perp}^i V_i - \varepsilon |R| H^2 \quad \longrightarrow \quad m_{\text{eff}}^2 < 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \Gamma_{\perp\perp}^i V_i > 0$$

- In Fibre Inflation  $\eta_{\perp} = 0$

- i) **Heavy** fields are stable

- ii) **Ultra-light** fields:  $\vartheta_2$  axion is stable while  $\vartheta_1$  axion can be unstable!

[MC,Guidetti,Pedro]

- Breakdown of perturbation theory? Kick along  $\vartheta_1$  and **backreaction** from  $\eta_{\perp} \neq 0$ ?

- Potential phenomenological implications:

large **non-Gauss.** localised in k-space? **PBHS?** **GWs** at interferometric scales?

# Unstable ultra-light fields?

[MC,Guidetti,Pedro]

- $\phi_1$  = inflaton and  $\phi_2$  = **ultra-light** field  $\Leftrightarrow V_2 = 0$

$$\dot{\pi}_2 = -a^3 V_2 = 0 \quad \xrightarrow{\hspace{2cm}} \quad \pi_2 = a^3 f^2 \dot{\phi}_2 = \text{const} \quad \gamma_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & f^2(\phi_1) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\hspace{2cm}} \quad \dot{\phi}_2(t) \simeq \dot{\phi}_2(0) \left( \frac{f(0)}{f(t)} \right)^2 e^{-3N_e}$$

- Isocurvature mass-squared with non-zero Christoffels:

$$m_{\text{eff}}^2 = -\Gamma_{22}^1 V_1 + (\varepsilon R + 3\eta_\perp^2) H^2$$

- 2 cases:

i)  $f$  decays exponentially with  $N_e$   $\xrightarrow{\hspace{2cm}}$   $\dot{\phi}_2 \neq 0 \xrightarrow{\hspace{2cm}} \eta_\perp \neq 0$   
 $\xrightarrow{\hspace{2cm}} m_{\text{eff}}^2 > 0$  e.g. **quintessence** potentials

ii)  $f$  does not decay exponentially with  $N_e$   $\xrightarrow{\hspace{2cm}} \dot{\phi}_2 \rightarrow 0 \xrightarrow{\hspace{2cm}} \eta_\perp \simeq 0$  e.g. **Fibre Inflation**

$$m_{\text{eff}}^2 = -\Gamma_{22}^1 V_1 + \varepsilon R H^2 = -\left( 3 \frac{f_1}{f} + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} \frac{f_{11}}{f} \right) \sqrt{2\varepsilon} H^2$$

- $R$  negative and constant:

$$R = -2 \frac{f_{11}}{f} = \text{const} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad f(\phi_1) = A_+ e^{\lambda\phi_1} + A_- e^{-\lambda\phi_1} \quad \text{with} \quad \lambda = \sqrt{\frac{|R|}{2}}$$

# Unstable ultra-light fields?

[MC,Guidetti,Pedro]

- Isocurvature mass-squared simplifies to:

$$m_{\text{eff}}^2 \underset{\varepsilon \ll 1}{\simeq} -3 \frac{f_1}{f} \sqrt{2\varepsilon} H^2 = \pm \lambda V_1$$

- Stability of **ultra-light** fields determined by the sign of  $V_1$
- Fibre inflation:

i)  $\vartheta_1$  axion       $A_+ = 0$        $\longrightarrow$        $m_{\text{eff}, \vartheta_1}^2 \underset{\varepsilon \ll 1}{\simeq} -\lambda V_1$

ii)  $\vartheta_2$  axion       $A_- = 0$        $\longrightarrow$        $m_{\text{eff}, \vartheta_2}^2 \underset{\varepsilon \ll 1}{\simeq} +\lambda V_1$

- 2 cases:

i)  $V_1 > 0$  (R-L inflation)       $\longrightarrow$        $\vartheta_1$  axion **unstable**,  $\vartheta_2$  axion **stable**

[MC,Burgess,Quevedo]

[MC,Ciupke,de Alwis,Muia]

ii)  $V_1 < 0$  (L-R inflation)       $\longrightarrow$        $\vartheta_1$  axion **stable**,  $\vartheta_2$  axion **unstable**

[Broy,Ciupke,Pedro,Westphal]

- One axion is always potentially unstable!

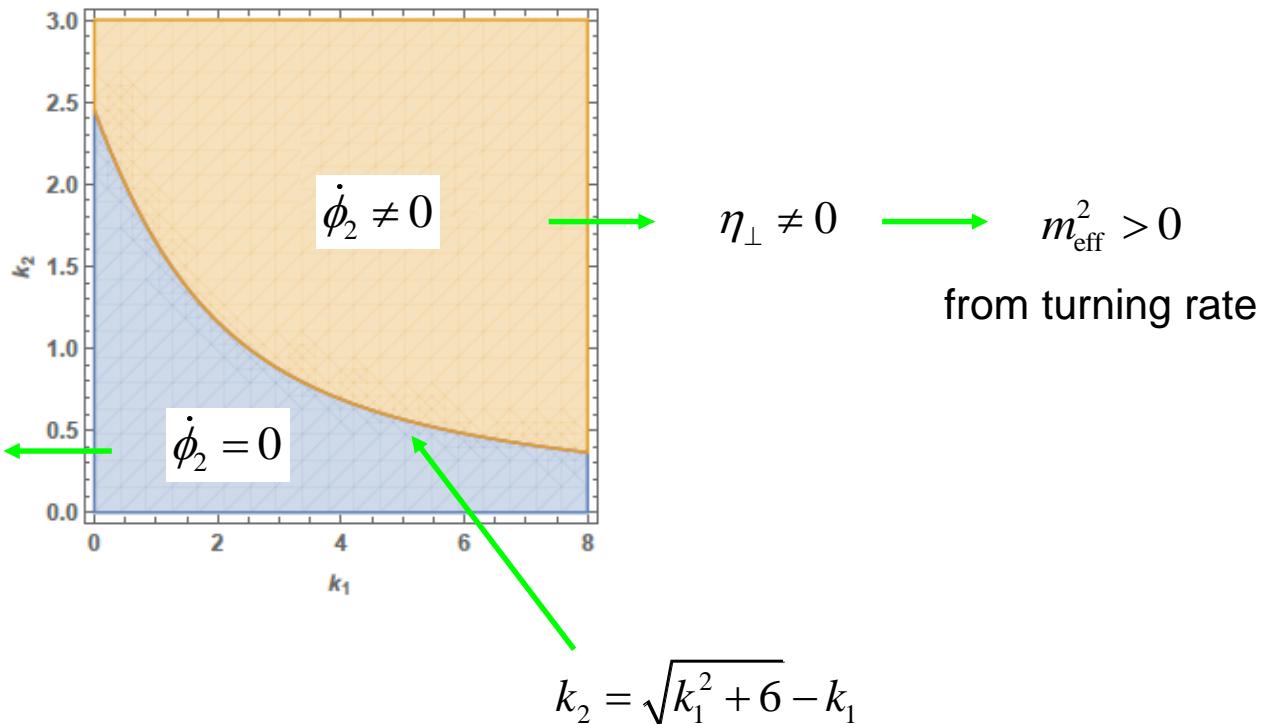
# Stable ultra-light fields for quintessence

[MC,Guidetti,Pedro]

- Potential and kinetic function:

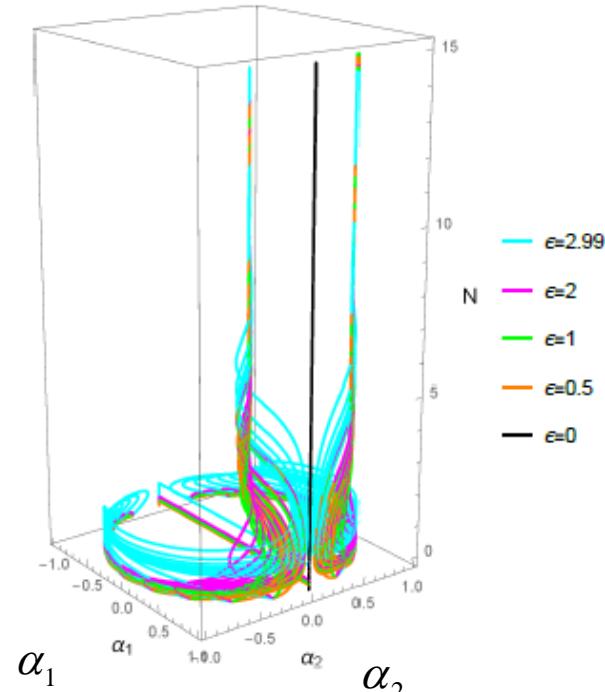
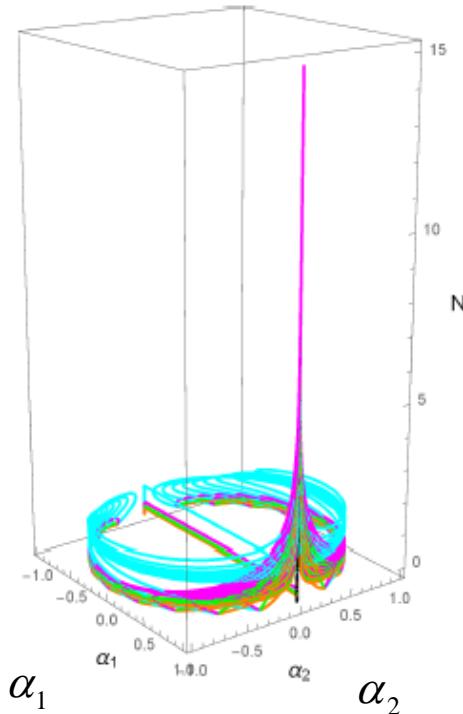
$$V = V_0 e^{-k_2 \phi} \quad f = f_0 e^{-k_1 \phi}$$

- Solution of EOM gives



# Stable ultra-light fields for quintessence

[MC,Guidetti,Pedro]



$$\alpha_i = \frac{\dot{\phi}_i}{\dot{\phi}_0}$$

$$\alpha_1^2 + \alpha_2^2 = 1$$



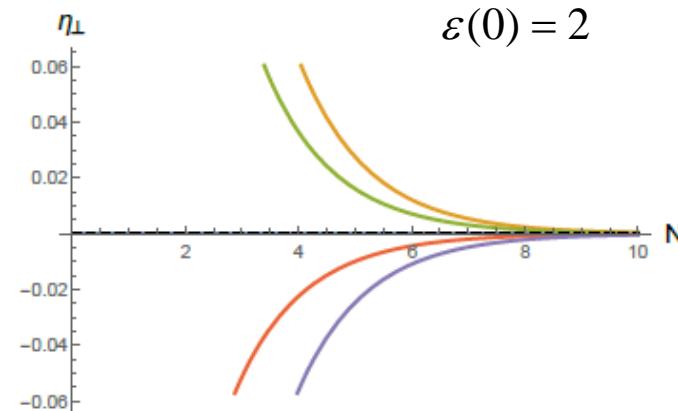
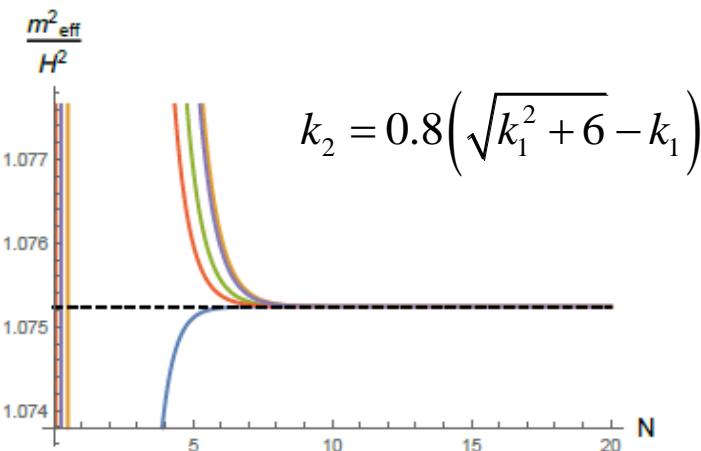
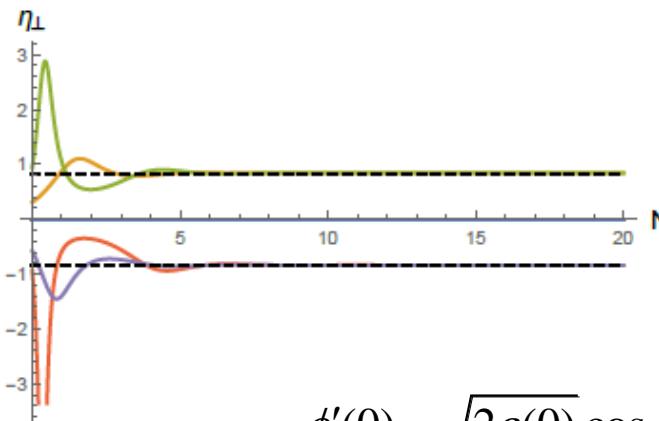
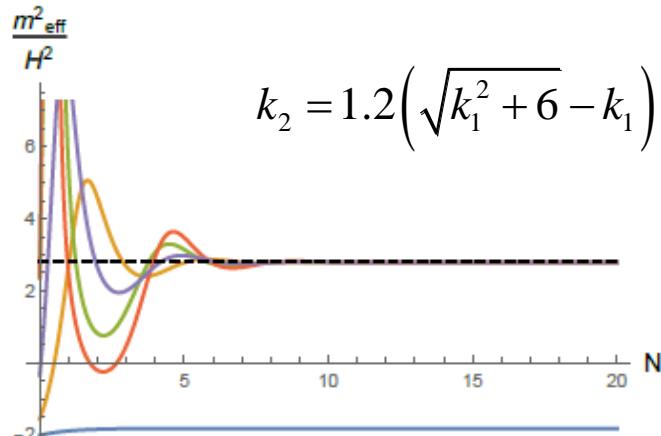
$$k_2 = 0.8 \left( \sqrt{k_1^2 + 6} - k_1 \right)$$

$$k_2 = 1.2 \left( \sqrt{k_1^2 + 6} - k_1 \right)$$

- $\epsilon=2.99$
- $\epsilon=2$
- $\epsilon=1$
- $\epsilon=0.5$
- $\epsilon=0$

# Stable ultra-light fields for quintessence

[MC,Guidetti,Pedro]



$$\phi'_1(0) = \sqrt{2\varepsilon(0)} \cos \omega$$

$$f\phi'_2(0) = \sqrt{2\varepsilon(0)} \sin \omega$$

$$\varepsilon(0) = 2$$

- $\omega = 0$
- $\omega = \frac{\pi}{10}$
- $\omega = \frac{2\pi}{5}$
- $\omega = \frac{7\pi}{5}$
- $\omega = \frac{9\pi}{5}$
- - - Analytic

# Ultra-light axions in Fibre Inflation

[MC, Guidetti, Pedro]

- Potential of Fibre Inflation:

$$V \simeq V_0 \left( 3 - 4 e^{-k\phi_1} \right) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \phi_1(N_e) - \phi_1(0) \simeq \frac{1}{k} \ln \left( 1 - \frac{4N_e}{9} e^{-k\phi_1(0)} \right)$$

$$f^2(\phi_1) = A_-^2 e^{-4k\phi_1}$$

$\vartheta_1$  axion

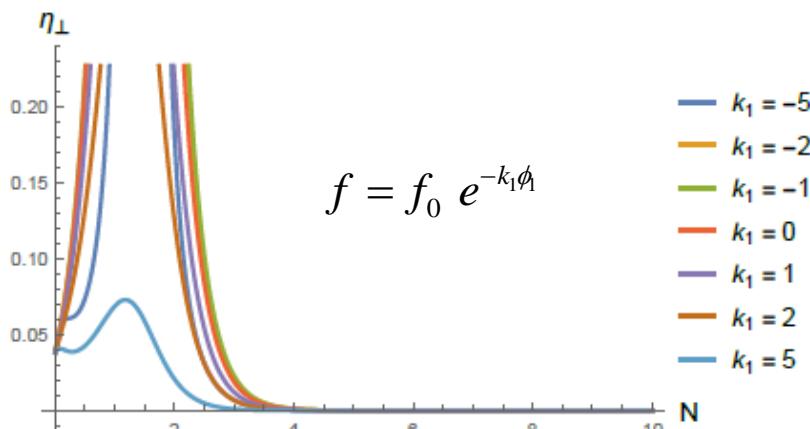
- Kinetic function:

$$f^2(\phi_1) = A_+^2 e^{2k\phi_1}$$

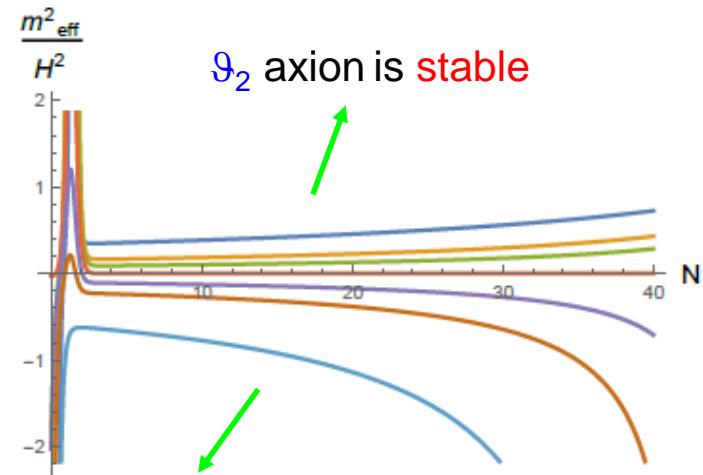
$\vartheta_2$  axion

- Geodesic motion:

$$\dot{\vartheta}_i(N_e) \simeq \dot{\vartheta}_i(0) \left( \frac{f(0)}{f(N_e)} \right)^2 e^{-3N_e} \simeq \dot{\vartheta}_i(0) \left( \frac{f(0)}{A_{\pm}} \right)^2 e^{-3N_e \pm ck\phi_1(N_e)} \rightarrow 0 \quad \forall i = 1, 2 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \eta_{\perp} = 0$$



$$\phi'_1(0) = \sqrt{2} \cos(7\pi/5) \quad f\phi'_2(0) = \sqrt{2} \sin(7\pi/5)$$



# Stable massive axions?

[MC,Guidetti,Pedro]

- Avoid axion instability by turning on a **mass term**

- Focus on  $\mathfrak{g}_1$  axion with  $f^2(\phi_1) = A_-^2 e^{-4k\phi_1}$

- Non-perturbative effects break axionic shift-symmetry

$$W = W_0 + A_3 e^{-a_3 T_3} + A_1 e^{-a_1 T_1}$$

→  $V(\mathfrak{g}_1) = \Lambda \cos(a_1 \mathfrak{g}_1)$        $\Lambda = \Lambda_0(\langle \tau_1 \rangle) e^{-a_1 \langle \tau_1 \rangle e^{2\phi_1/\sqrt{3}}}$

**double exponential suppression and  $\phi$  dependence!**

- Isocurvature mass-squared:

$$m_{\text{eff}}^2 = \frac{V_{\mathfrak{g}_1 \mathfrak{g}_1}}{f^2} + \frac{f_{\phi_1}}{f} V_{\phi_1} + 3 \frac{V_{\mathfrak{g}_1}^2}{\dot{\phi}_1^2 f^2} \underset{\varepsilon \ll 1}{\simeq} -\lambda |V_{\phi_1}| \left[ 1 - \frac{a_1^2}{\lambda f^2 \sqrt{2\varepsilon}} \left( \frac{9\delta^2}{2\varepsilon} \sin^2(a_1 \mathfrak{g}_1) - \delta \cos(a_1 \mathfrak{g}_1) \right) \right]$$

- 2 options:

- i) keep **hierarchy** and trust inflationary model:

$$\delta \ll 1 \quad \rightarrow \quad m_{\text{eff}}^2 \underset{\varepsilon \ll 1}{\simeq} -\lambda |V_{\phi_1}| < 0$$

→ massive axions still unstable!

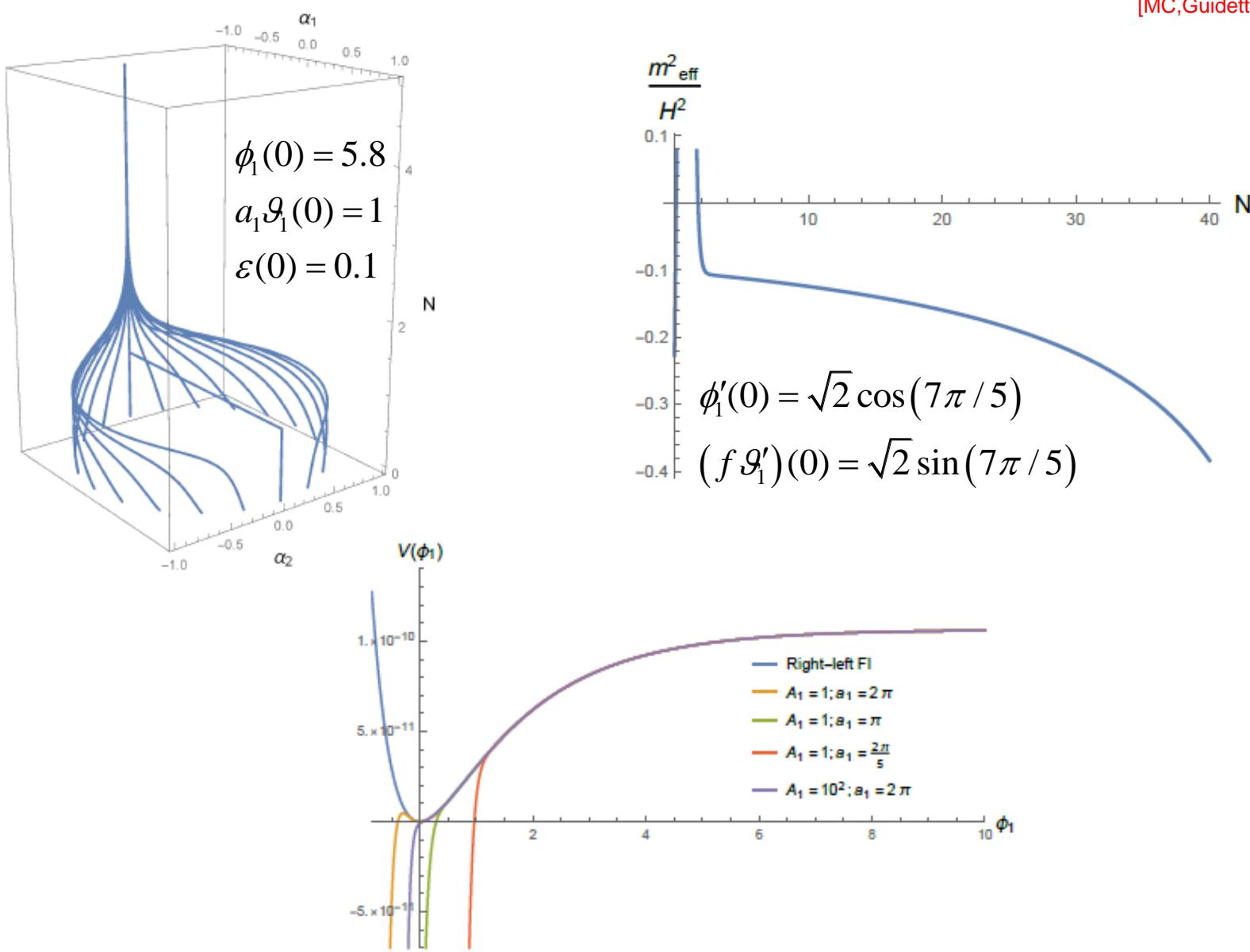
- ii) make  $m_{\text{eff}}^2 > 0$  for  $\delta \sim O(1)$

→ the dynamics changes and becomes **2-field!**

$$\delta \equiv \frac{\Lambda(\phi_1)}{V(\phi_1)}$$

# Unstable massive axions

[MC,Guidetti,Pedro]



# Conclusions

- 1) Fibre Inflation models: natural inflationary directions
- 2) Moduli stabilisation: non-perturbative +  $\alpha'$  effects + string loops
- 3) Effective symmetry: non-compact rescalings
- 4) Starobinsky-like inflation with large tensors:  $0.005 \lesssim r \lesssim 0.01$
- 5) Global CY embedding:  $h^{1,1} = 3$  case without chirality + chirality for  $h^{1,1} \geq 4$
- 6) Compact inflaton field space with  $\Delta\phi/M_p \leq c \ln V$  with  $\Delta\phi > M_p$  only for K3-fibrations
- 7) General prediction:  $r \lesssim 0.01 \longrightarrow$  agreement with swampland distance conjecture
- 8) Reheating: visible sector on D7s wrapping inflaton cycle to avoid large  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$
- 9)  $N_e \approx 52$  and  $T_{rh} \approx 10^{10}$  GeV  
fluxed D7:  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} \approx 0 \longrightarrow n_s \approx 0.965$  and  $r \approx 0.007$   
fluxless D7:  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} \approx 0.6 \longrightarrow n_s \approx 0.99$  and  $r \approx 0.01$
- 10) 2 ultra-light axions can be dark radiation but also dark matter, curvaton or quintessence
- 11) Are ultra-light fields stable during inflation? Phenomenological implications?