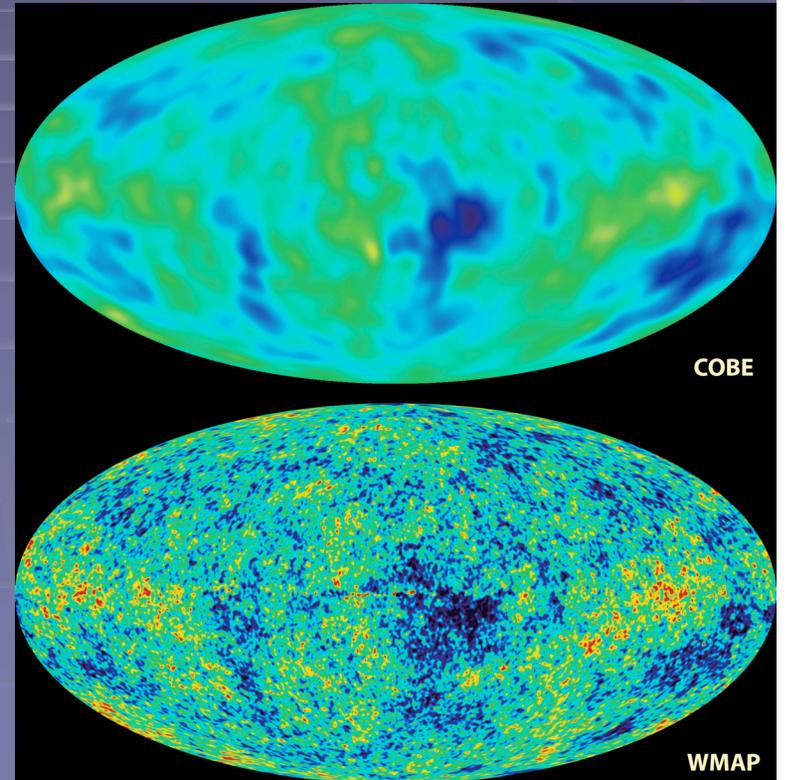


Inflationary Cosmology: from Theory to Observation and Back

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“Big Questions” in Cosmology

- The Hot Big Bang is clearly right, but our understanding is incomplete.
- 1. What is the Dark Matter?
- 2. What is the Dark Energy?
- 3. What is the Inflaton?
- My research has focused on looking for answers to these questions.
- WHAT'S NEW? Today, my talk is about inflation because our theoretical ideas are being tested with new data released by the WMAP team last month.

On: the role of observations

“Faith is a fine invention
When Gentlemen can see ---
But Microscopes are prudent
In an Emergency

Emily Dickinson, 1860

We're starting to see the internal machinery of the mechanism that drives inflation.

OUTLINE

- I. Puzzles Unresolved by Hot Big Bang cosmology
- II. Resolution proposed by Inflationary Scenario
- III Theoretical Models: (i) tunneling (ii) rolling
- IV. Testable Predictions of Inflation
- V. How do these predictions compare to data?
- VI. What do data tell us about theory?

Outline

- Why Inflation?
- Inflation Solves Cosmological Problems
- Theoretical Ideas in Inflation
- Testing Inflation
- Focus on Natural Inflation: theory and data

SUMMARY:

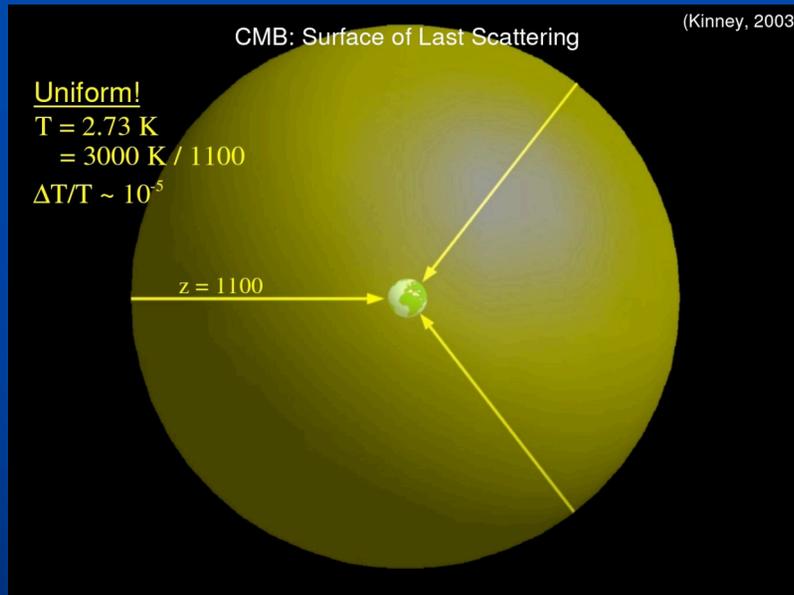
- **I. The predictions of inflation are right:**
 - (i) the universe has a critical density
 - (ii) Gaussian perturbations
 - (iii) superhorizon fluctuations
 - (iv) density perturbation spectrum nearly scale invariant
 - (v) gravitational wave modes detectable in upcoming polarization experiments
- **II. Polarization measurements will tell us which model is right.**
 - WMAP already selects between models.
 - Natural inflation (Freese, Frieman, Olinto) looks great

WHY INFLATION?

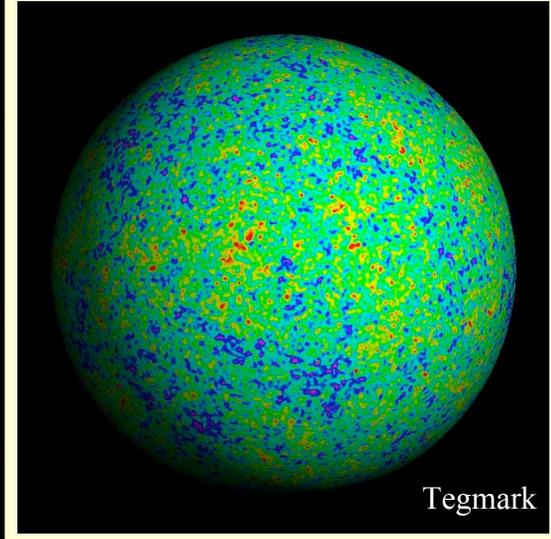
- Cosmological Puzzles unresolved by standard Hot Big Bang:
 - 1) Large-scale 'smoothness' -- homogeneity and isotropy
 - 2) flatness and oldness
 - 3) GUT magnetic monopoles
- The idea of inflation was proposed to resolve these puzzles
- BONUS: causal generation of density fluctuations required for galaxy formation

1) The Homogeneity Problem

- Universe is homogenous and isotropic on large scales: cosmic microwave background



2D picture of universe when 3×10^5 years old



Early universe (photons)

$t \sim 300,000$ years recombination

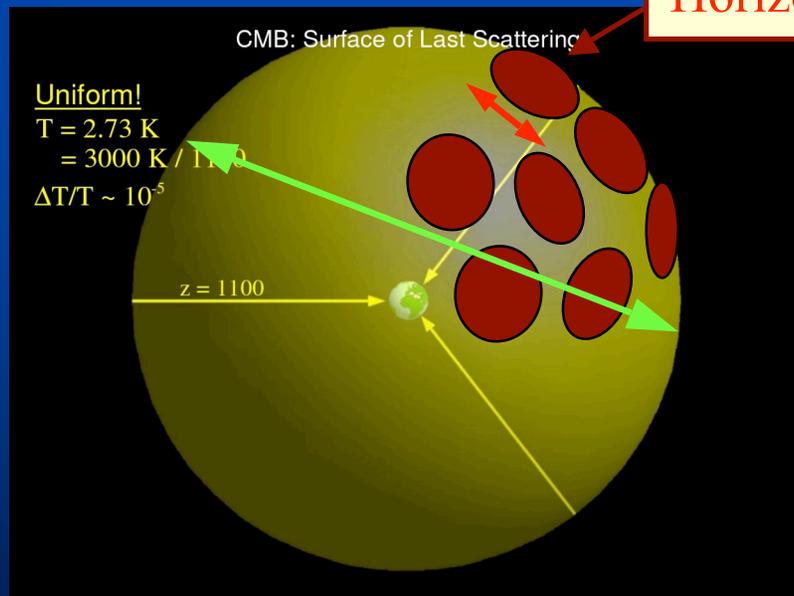
universe becomes transparent to radiation (photons no longer scatter)

Today ($T \sim 3 \text{ K}$).

In each direction in the sky, photons arrive that last scattered during recombination. The origin of these photons is the “surface of last scattering.”

Homogeneity

- Uniform to $\Delta T/T \sim 10^{-5}$
 - Our observable universe today scaled back to the time of last scattering is $\sim 10^{25}$ cm
 - ● Horizon size at the time of last scattering is $ct \sim 10^{20}$ cm (corresponds to $\theta \sim 1^\circ$)



Horizon ct

Present observable universe was then $\sim 10^5$ causally distinct regions!

2) The Flatness Problem: Curvature

- Einstein's equations

$$H^2 = \left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a} \right)^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3} \rho - \frac{k}{a^2}$$

a : scale factor
of the universe

ρ : energy density
 $\propto a^{-4}$ (radiation)
 $\propto a^{-3}$ (matter)

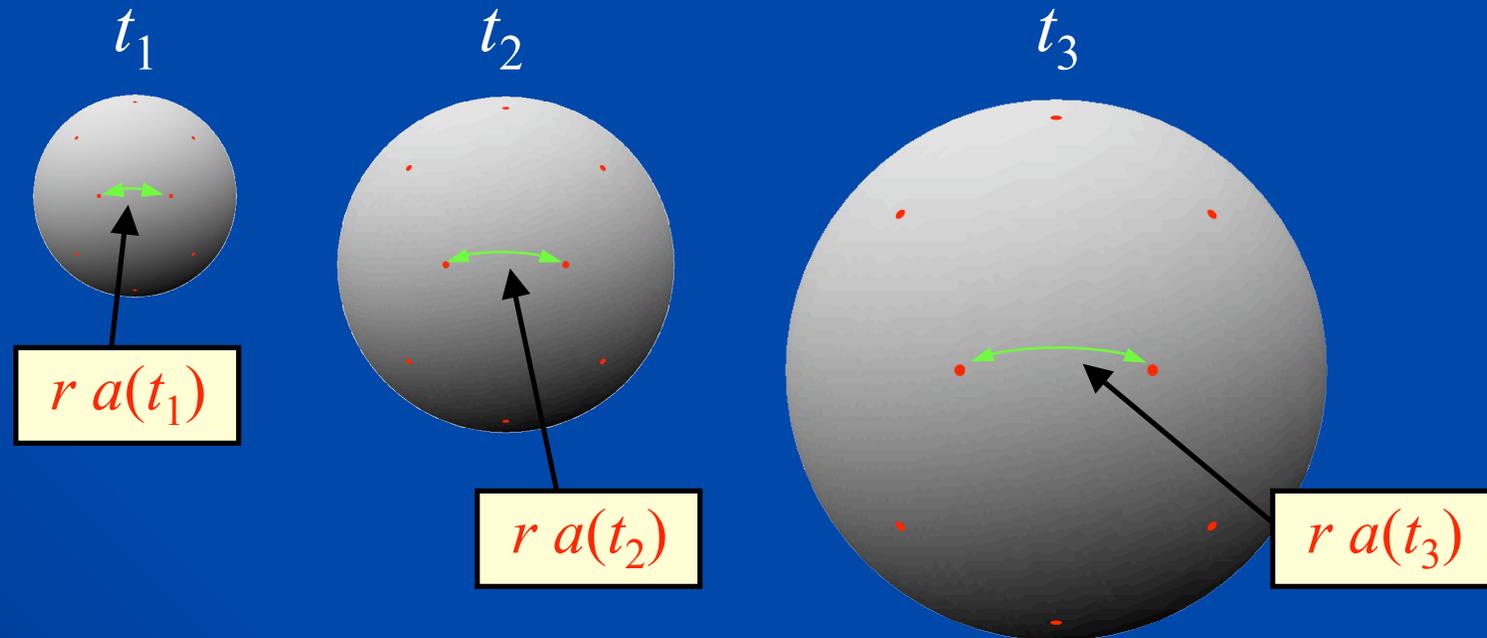
curvature $k = 0, \pm 1$

- Critical density

$$\rho_c \equiv \frac{3H_0^2}{8\pi G} = 1.88 \times 10^{-29} h_0^2 \text{ g/cm}^3 \sim 10^{-46} \text{ GeV}^4$$

$$\Omega \equiv \frac{\rho}{\rho_c}$$

Expansion



- Hubble constant

$$H_0 = \frac{\dot{a}}{a} = 100 h_0 \frac{\text{km/s}}{\text{Mpc}}$$

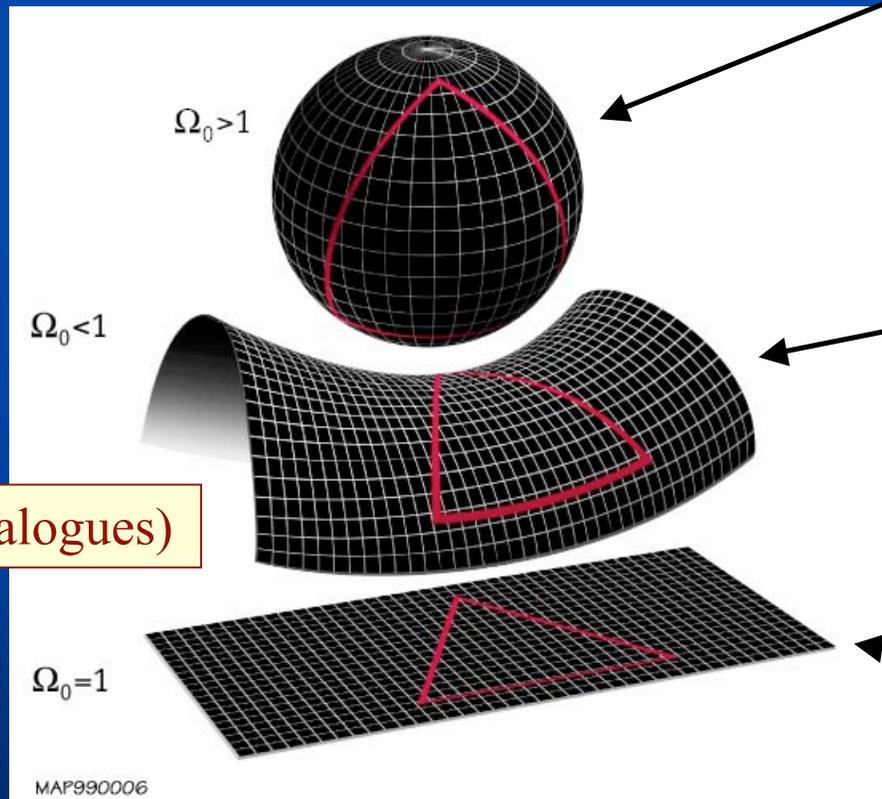
$$h_0 \sim 0.7$$

Curvature

$$\left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{8\pi G\rho}{3} - \frac{k}{a^2}$$

$$\Omega \equiv \frac{\rho}{\rho_c}$$

- 3 types of models



Closed ($k < 0$):

- positively curved
- $\Omega > 1$

Open ($k > 0$):

- negatively curved
- $\Omega < 1$

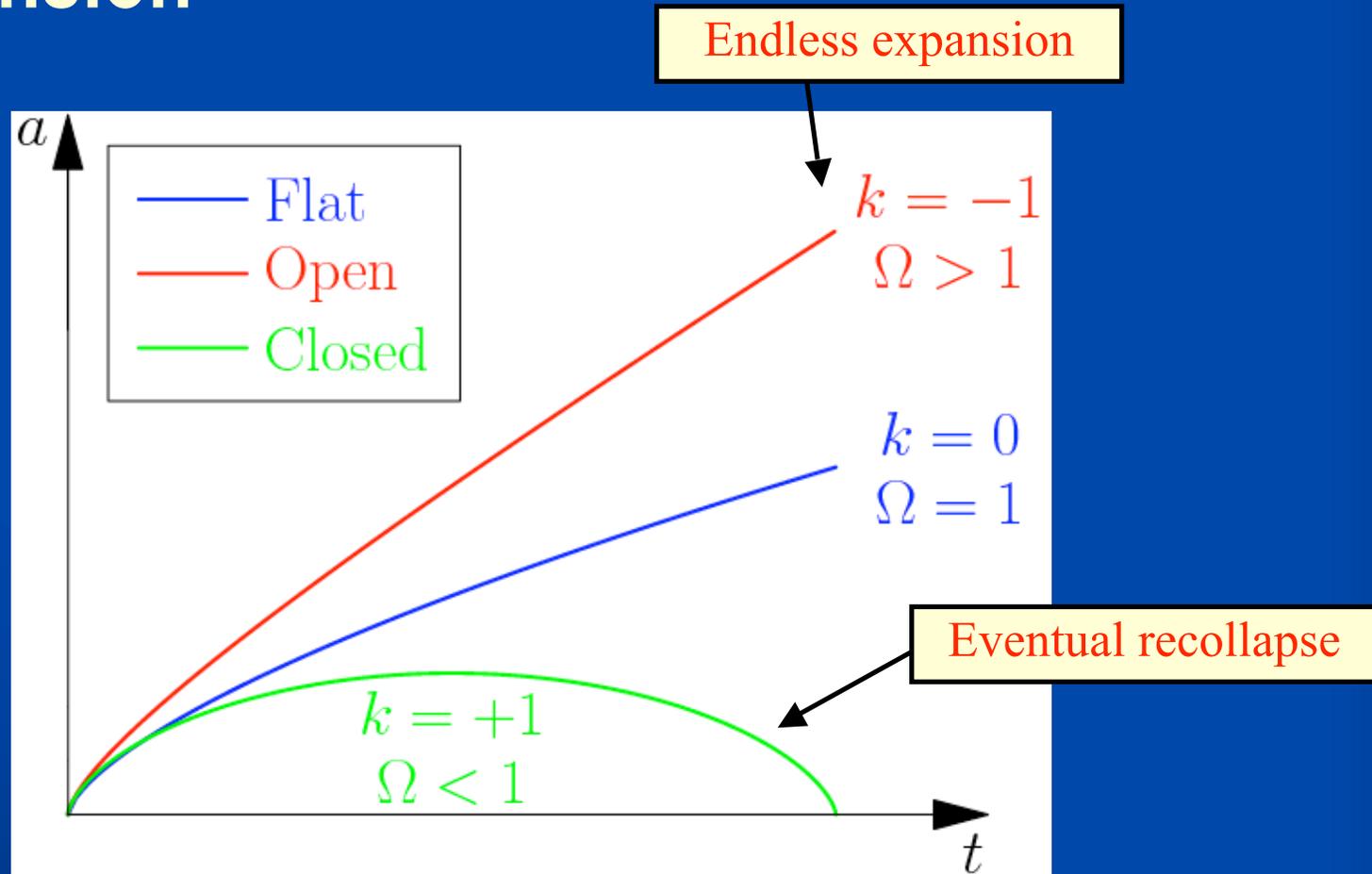
Flat ($k = 0$):

- no curvature
- $\Omega = 1$

Expansion

$$\left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{8\pi G\rho}{3} - \frac{k}{a^2}$$

$$\Omega \equiv \frac{\rho}{\rho_c}$$

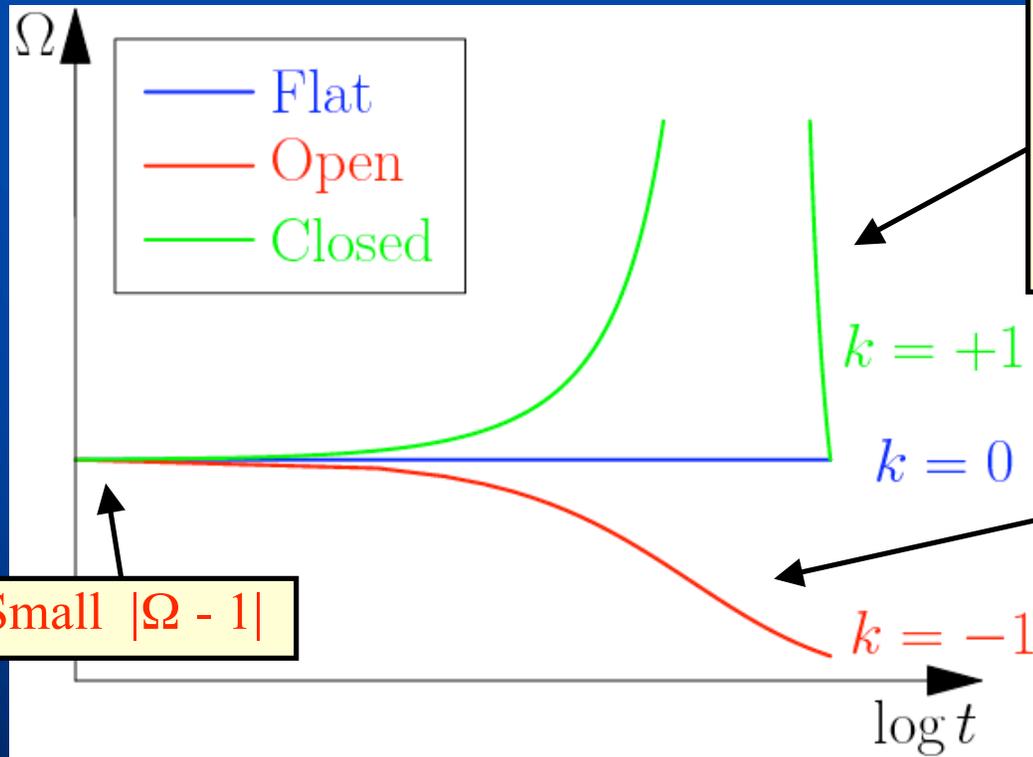


(in presence of matter and radiation only)

The Flatness (Oldness Problem)

$$\Omega(t) = \frac{1}{1 - x(t)}$$

$$x(t) \equiv \frac{k/R^2}{\frac{8\pi G}{3}\rho} \propto \begin{cases} R^2(t) & \text{radiation} \\ R(t) & \text{matter} \end{cases}$$



Closed ($k > 0$):
Initial value of $|\Omega - 1|$
must be small or else
universe would have
recollapsed already

Open ($k < 0$):
Initial value of $|\Omega - 1|$
must be small or else
 Ω would now be tiny
($\Omega \sim 1/a$ at late times)

3) The Monopole Problem

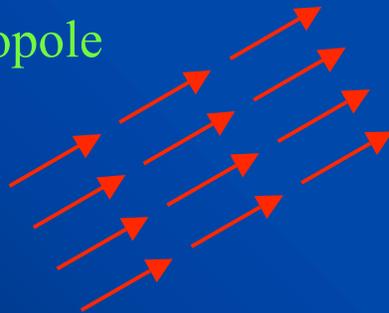
- Imbed $U(1)_{EM} \subset G$. Then, when:

$$G \xrightarrow[\mu]{SSB} G' \times U(1)$$

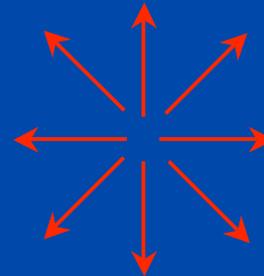
there exist gauge/Higgs field configurations
topologically stable monopoles of mass $M \sim \mu/\alpha$

$$e.g. \text{SU}(5) \xrightarrow[M \sim 10^{17} \text{ GeV}]{10^{16} \text{ GeV}} \text{SU}(3)_C \times \text{SU}(2)_L \times \text{U}(1)_Y$$

No monopole



Magnetic
monopole



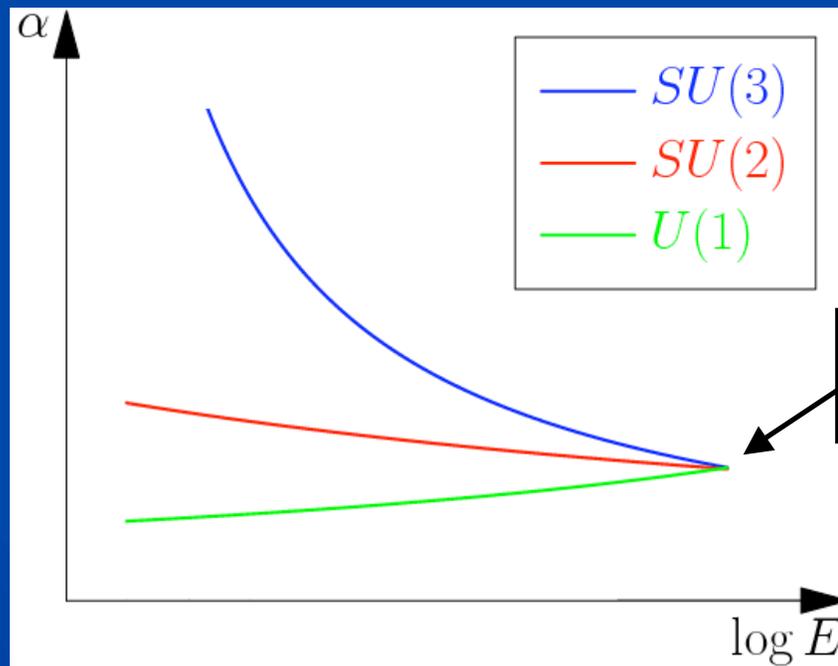
$$B \sim 1/r^2$$

Grand Unified Theory (GUT)

$$\text{GUT} \xrightarrow[\sim 10^{17} \text{ GeV}]{\text{SSB}} \overset{\text{strong}}{\text{SU}(3)_C} \times \underbrace{\overset{\text{electroweak}}{\text{SU}(2)_L \times \text{U}(1)_Y}}_{\downarrow \text{SSB}} \text{U}(1)_{\text{EM}}$$

Running of the
gauge couplings

Unify at high energies
(temperatures)



GUT
 $\sim 10^{17}$ GeV

GUT Magnetic Monopoles

't Hooft (1974)
Polyakov (1974)

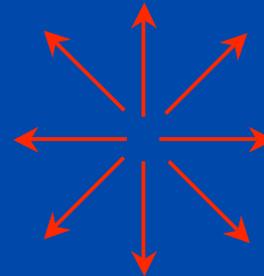
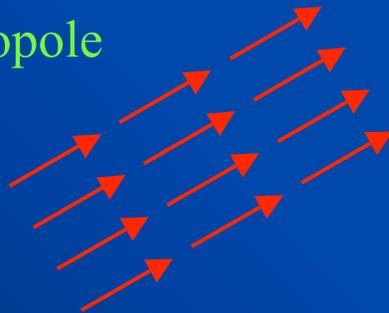
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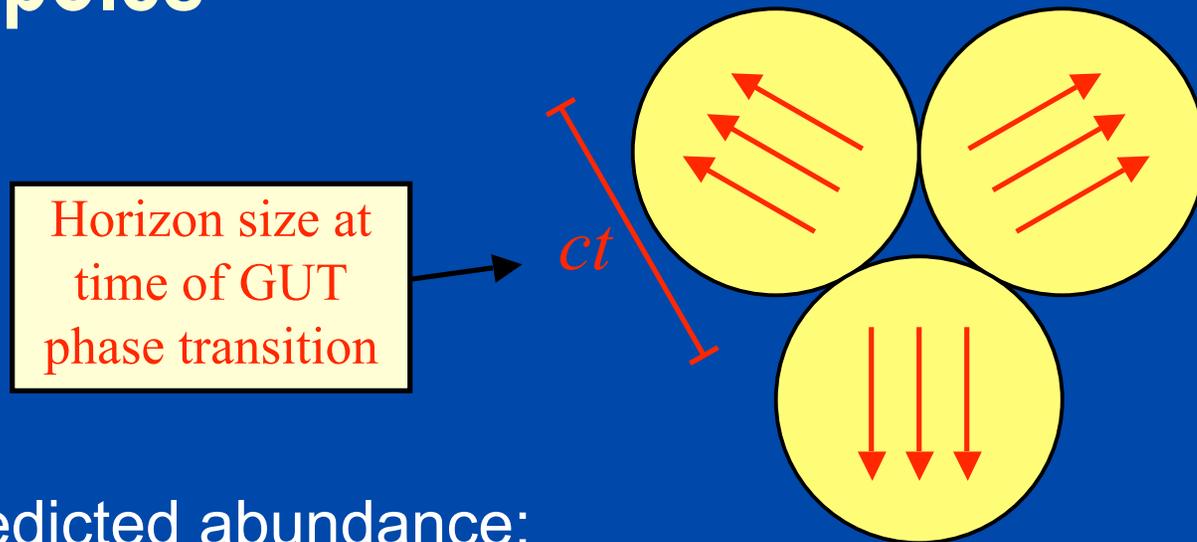
No monopole



Magnetic
monopole

$$B \sim 1/r^2$$

Monopoles



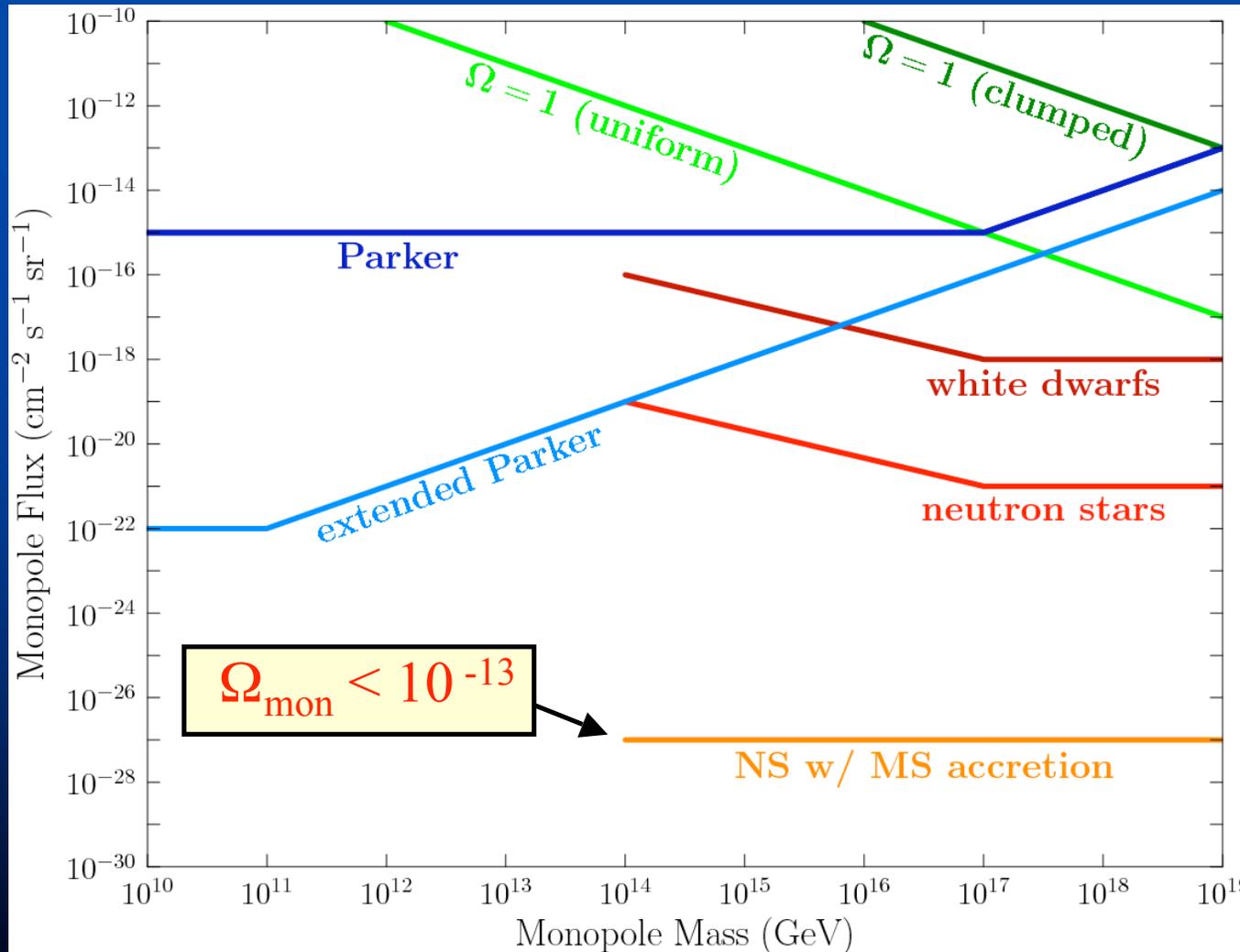
- Predicted abundance:
~ 1 / horizon volume (Kibble mechanism)

$$\Rightarrow \Omega_{\text{mon}} \approx 10^{12} \quad \text{NOT OUR UNIVERSE!}$$

Would imply $t = 30 \text{ yr}$ at $T = 3\text{K}$

Monopoles

Astrophysical bounds:
Far more severe than direct searches



Parker bound (due to survival of galactic magnetic field): Parker (1970); Turner, Parker & Bogdan (1982)

WD:
Freese (1984)

NS:
Kolb, Colgate & Harvey (1982); Dimopoulos, Preskill & Wilczek (1982); Freese, Turner & Schramm (1983)

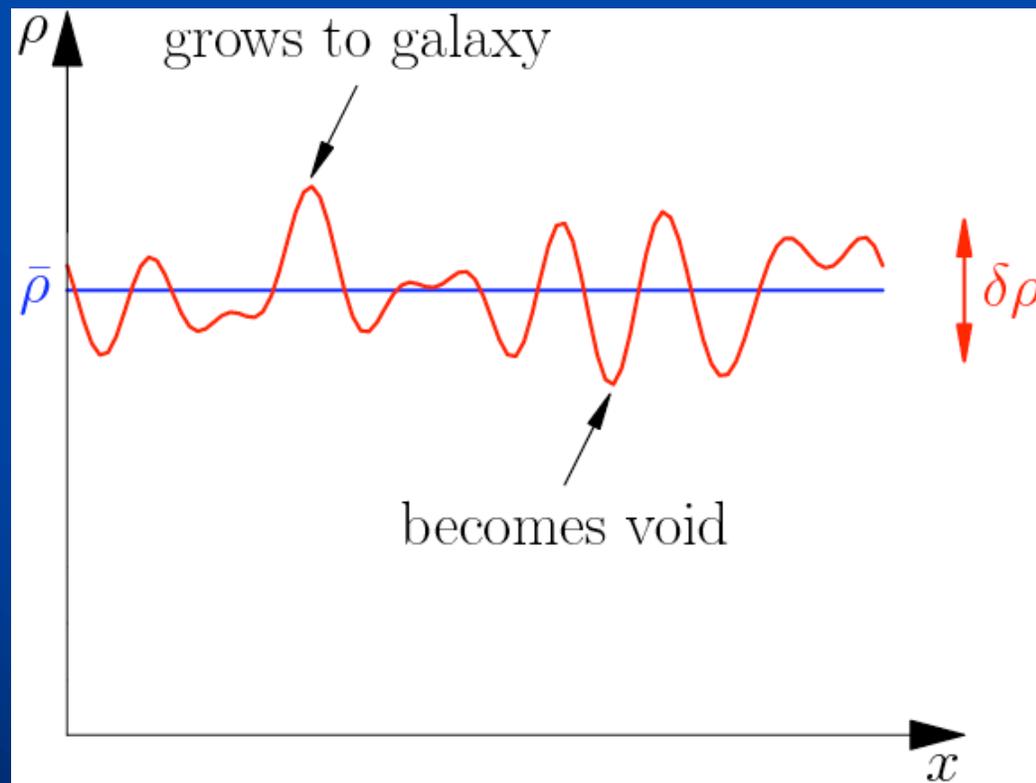
NS w/ MS accretion:
Frieman, Freese & Turner (1988)

Extended Parker:
Adams, Fatuzzo, Freese, Tarle, Watkins & Turner (1993); Lewis, Freese & Tarle (2000); [Particle Data Book]

1a) Inhomogeneities: galaxies, clusters, large scale structure

- Small density fluctuations produced in inflation can give rise to structures that we see.

$$\frac{\delta\rho}{\rho}$$



Cosmological Problems addressed by inflation:

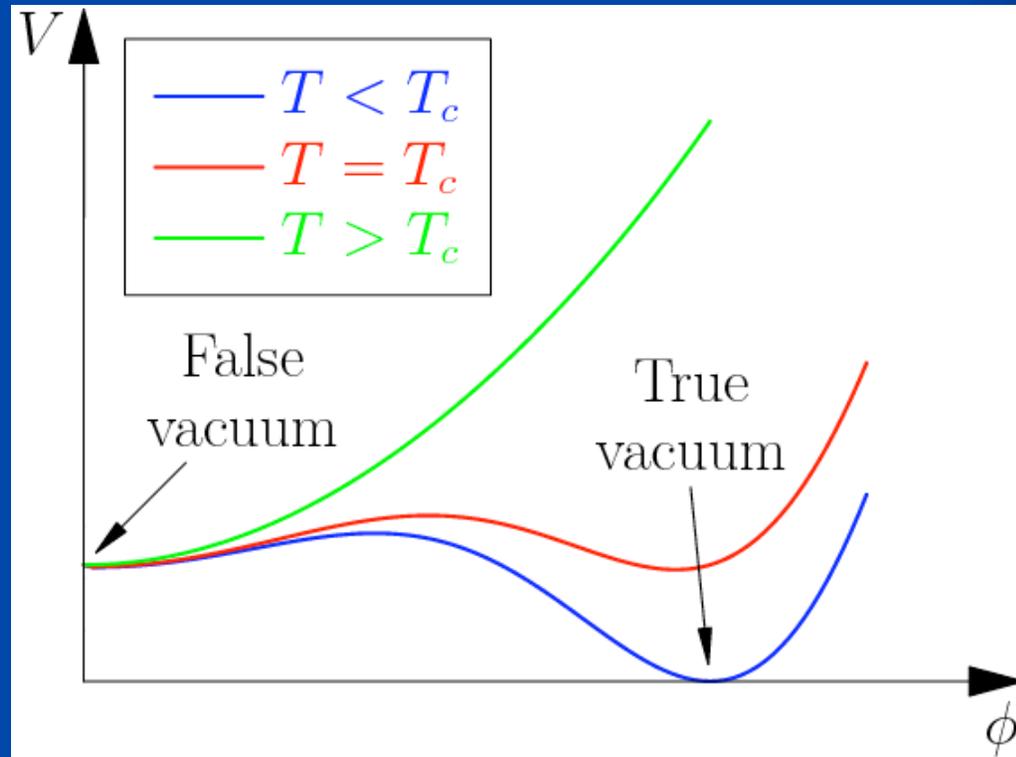
- 1) Homogeneity and isotropy of the universe
- 2) Flatness/oldness of universe
- 3) Excess magnetic monopoles produced at Grand Unified phase transition
- 1a) Inhomogeneity: origin of density fluctuations that give rise to large scale structure

The Solution: Inflation

Original Proposal: Old Inflation

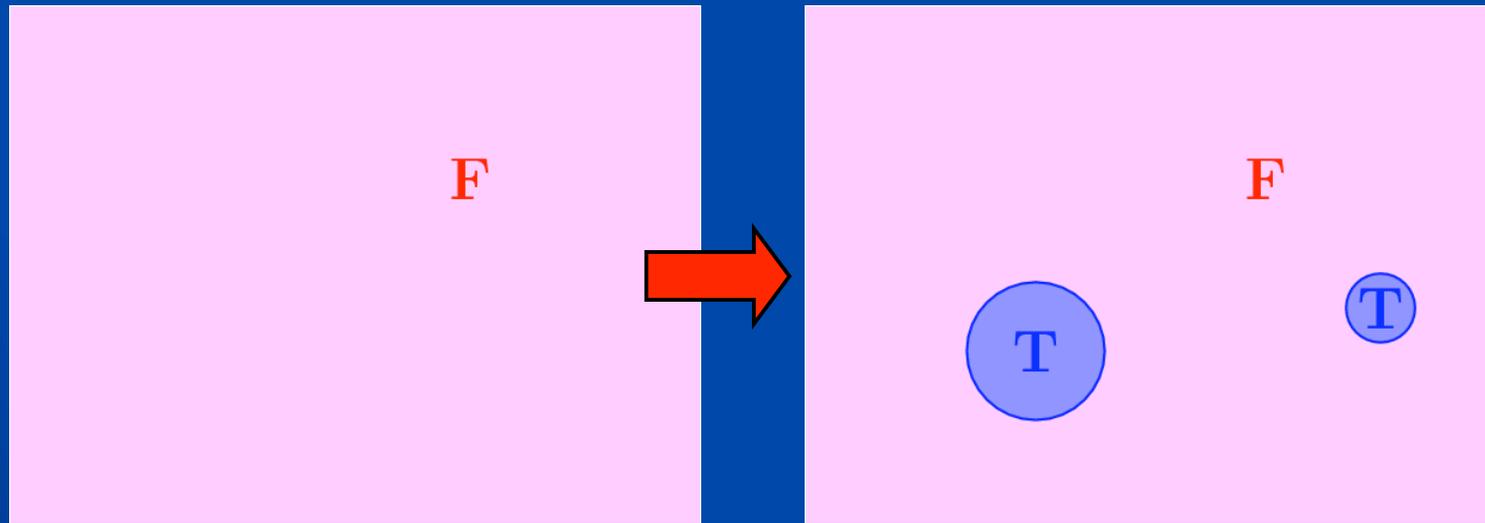
Guth (1981)

- Temperature-dependent potential
- Initially at global minimum $\phi = 0$
- When $T < T_c$, no longer global minimum \Rightarrow false vacuum



Old Inflation

- Vacuum decay



Entire universe is in false vacuum (**F**)

Nucleate bubbles of true vacuum (**T**)

Old Inflation

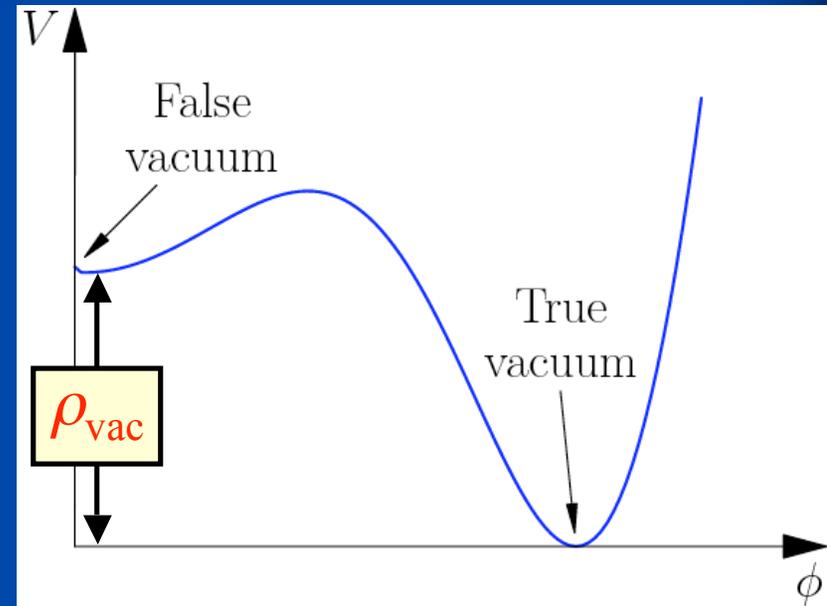
- With tunneling, the nucleation rate is slow, so the universe is trapped in the false vacuum for a long time
- The vacuum energy dominates over matter and radiation
⇒ de Sitter-like expanding universe

$$H^2 = \left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3} \rho_{\text{vac}} = \text{constant}$$

$$\text{solution: } a \sim e^{Ht}, \quad H = \left[\frac{8\pi G}{3} \rho_{\text{vac}}\right]^{1/2}$$

- Enough inflation to solve problems:

$$a_{\text{end}} = a_{\text{begin}} \times 10^{27} = a_{\text{begin}} \times e^{65}$$



Horizon Volume

$$d_H = ct$$

$$d_H = 10^{-28} \text{ cm}$$



smooth



Inflation

$$d_H = 10^{-1} \text{ cm}$$



$T \sim 100 \text{ K}$

smooth



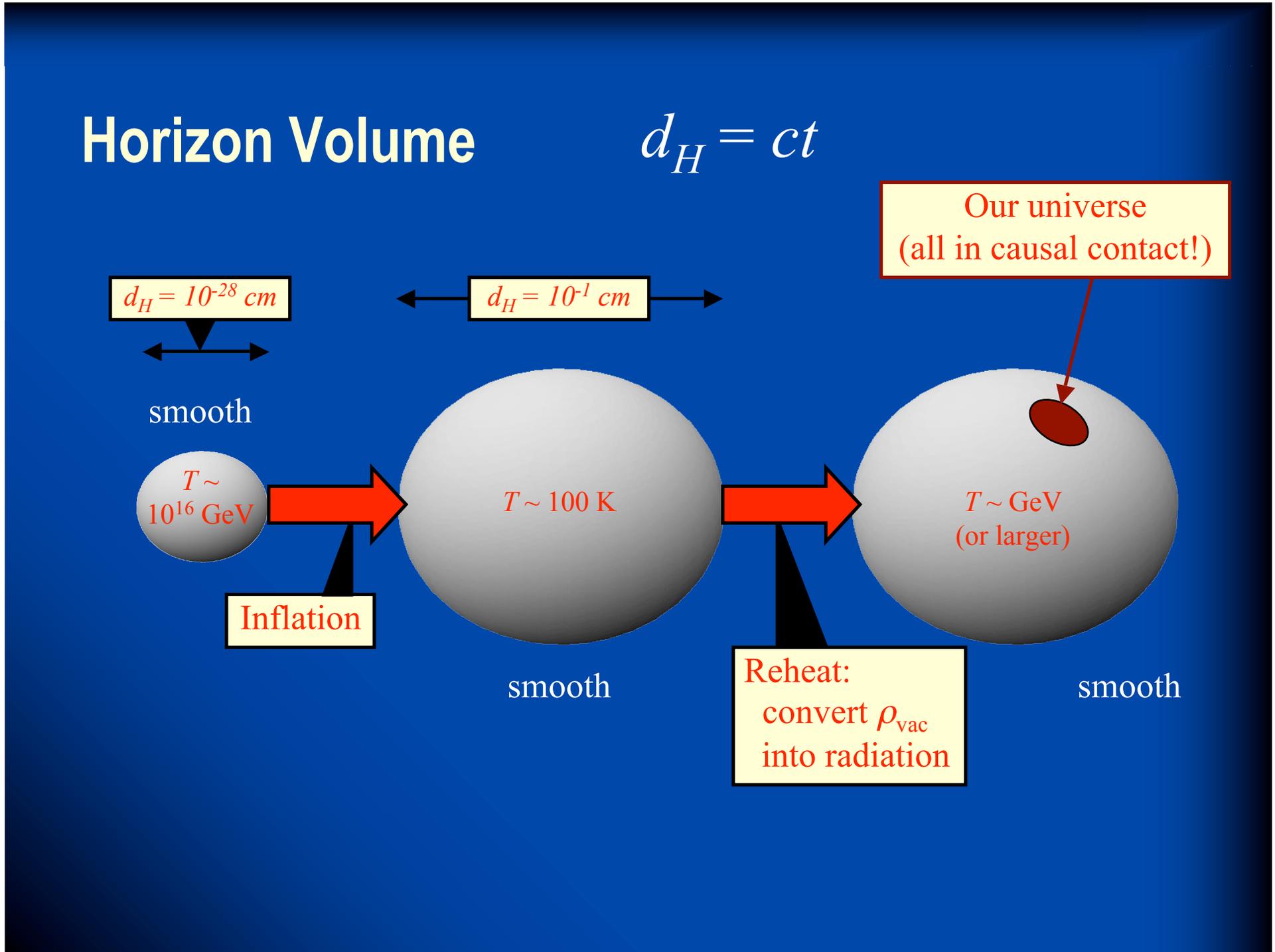
Reheat:
convert ρ_{vac}
into radiation

Our universe
(all in causal contact!)



$T \sim \text{GeV}$
(or larger)

smooth



Inflation Parameters

$$\left(\frac{\dot{R}}{R}\right)^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3} \rho_{\text{vac}} - \frac{k}{R^2}$$

Before

$$R_0$$

$$T_0 \sim 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$$

$$k / R_0^2$$

$$x \equiv \frac{k / R^2}{\frac{8\pi G}{3} \rho_{\text{vac}}}$$

$$\Omega \equiv 1/(1-x)$$

$$d_H \equiv ct \sim 10^{-28} \text{ cm}$$

During

$$R_0 e^{Ht}$$

$$T_0 e^{-Ht}$$

$$(k / R_0^2) e^{-Ht}$$

After

$$e^{65} R_0 = 10^{27} R_0$$

$$100 \text{ K} \\ \text{(reheat)} \rightarrow \geq \text{GeV}$$

$$10^{-54} (k / R_0^2)$$

$$10^{-54} x$$

$$\Omega = 1.00000\dots$$

$$\sim 0.1 \text{ cm}$$

Inflation Resolves Cosmological Problems

- Horizon Problem (homogeneity and isotropy): small causally connected region inflates to large region containing our universe
- Flatness Problem $k/a^2 \rightarrow \text{small}$ $\Omega \rightarrow 1$
- Monopole Problem: tightest bounds on GUT monopoles from neutron stars (Freese, Schramm, and Turner 1983); monopoles inflated away (outside our horizon)
- BONUS: Density Perturbations that give rise to large scale structure are generated by inflation

Theoretical Models of Inflation

- **1) Tunneling Models:**

Why Old Inflation Failed

New proposals for tunneling models:

- (i) double-field inflation (Adams and Freese)

- (ii) extended inflation (Steinhardt)

- (iii) Chain inflation (Freese and Spolyar)

- **2) Rolling Models:**

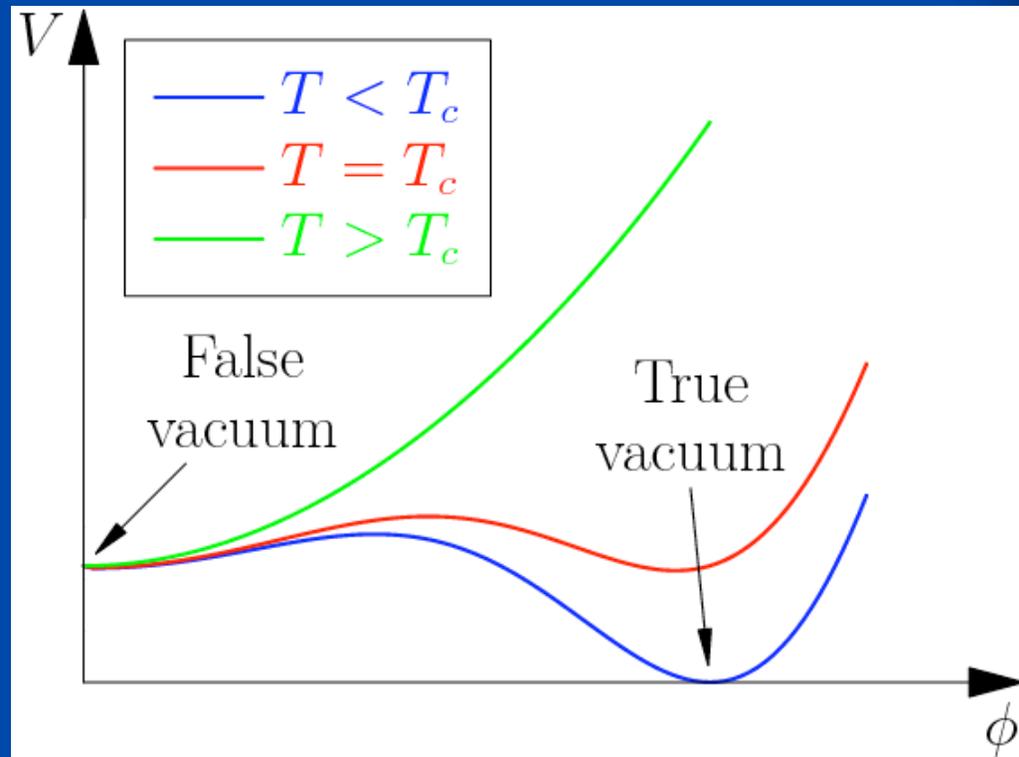
- new inflation, chaotic inflation, hybrid inflation

- Natural inflation (Freese, Frieman, Olinto)

Old Inflation

Guth (1981)

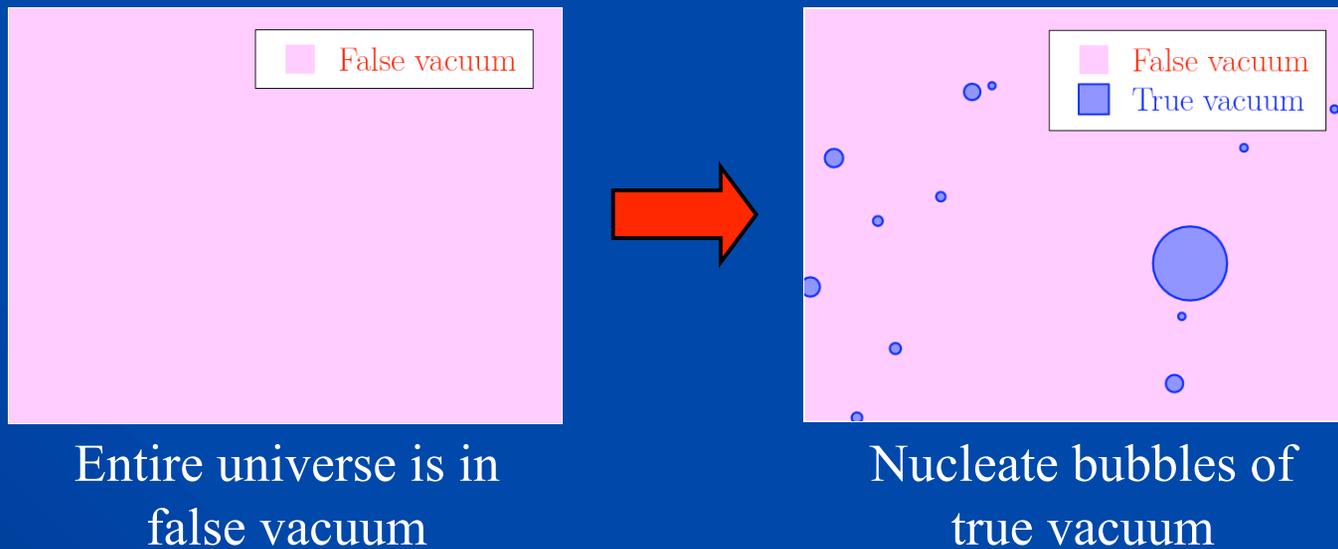
- Universe goes from false vacuum to true vacuum.



- Bubbles of true vacuum nucleate in a universe of false vacuum
(first order phase transition)

Old Inflation

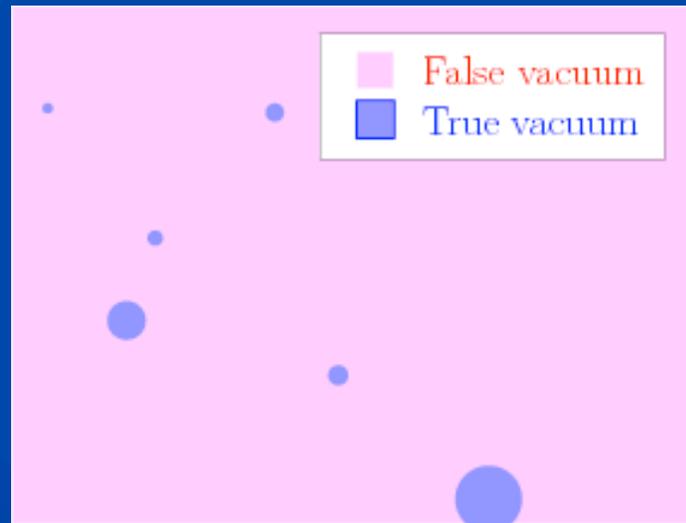
- Vacuum decay: “swiss cheese problem”



Problem: bubbles never percolate & thermalize
⇒ NO REHEATING

Old Inflation

- Bubbles inflate away faster than they form & grow
⇒ no end to inflation & no reheating



What is needed for tunneling inflation to work?

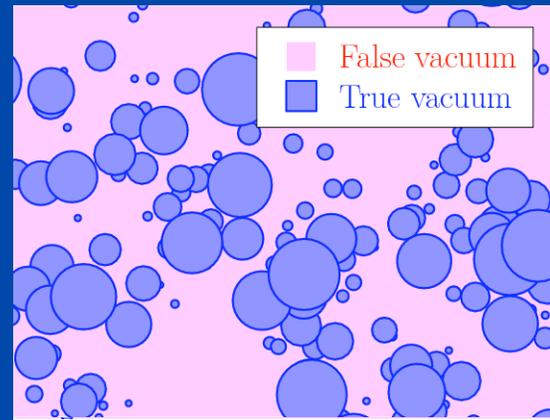
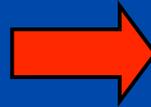
- Two requirements for inflation:
- 1) Sufficient Inflation: 60 e-foldings
- 2) The universe must thermalize and reheat; i.e. the entire universe must go through the phase transition at once. Then the phase transition completes.
- Can achieve both requirements with
- (i) time-dependent nucleation rate in Double-field inflation (Adams and Freese '91) with two coupled fields in a single tunneling event
- (ii) Chain Inflation (Freese and Spolyar 2005) with multiple tunneling events

Rapid phase transition leads to percolation (entire universe goes through phase transition at once)

- Vacuum decay: “swiss cheese problem”



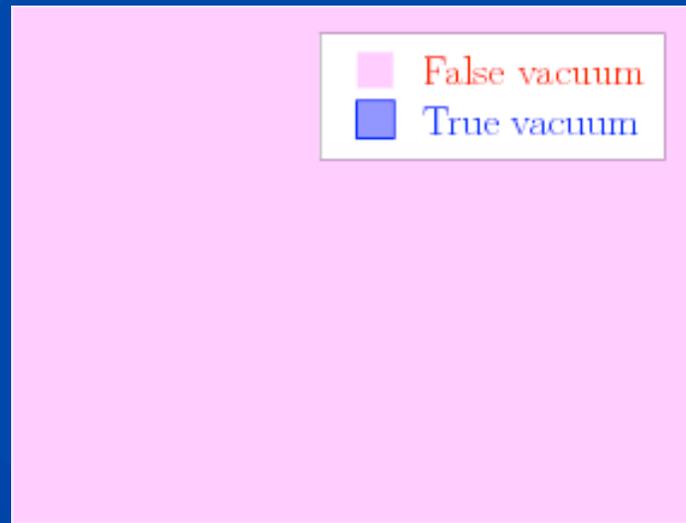
Entire universe is in false vacuum



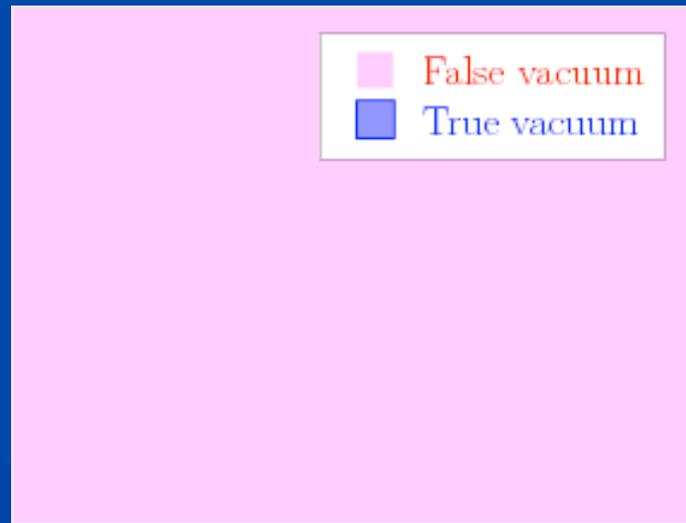
Nucleate bubbles of true vacuum

Rapid Phase Transition

- Need bubbles to form and grow faster than inflation
⇒ inflation comes to an end and reheating occurs

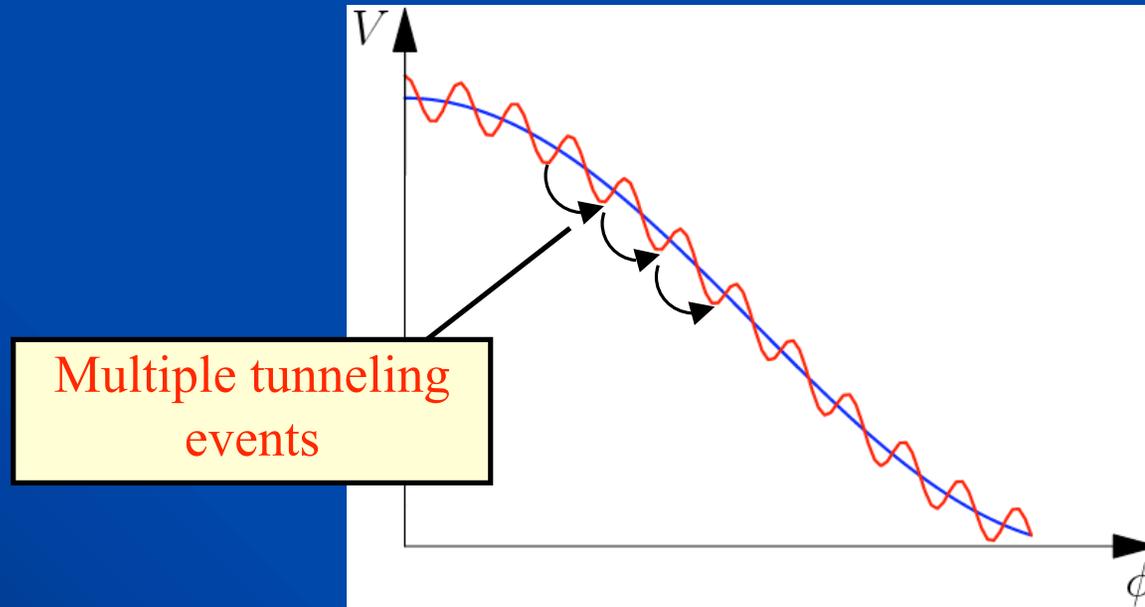


- Need bubbles to form and grow faster than inflation
⇒ inflation comes to an end and reheating occurs



Chain Inflation

Freese & Spolyar (2005)



Relevant to:

- stringy landscape
- QCD (or other) axion

- Graceful exit:
requires that the number of e-foldings per stage is $N < 1/3$
- Sufficient inflation:
total number of e-foldings is $N_{\text{tot}} > 60$

Second Class of Models: Rolling Models of Inflation

Linde (1982)
Albrecht & Steinhardt (1982)

- Equation of motion:

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

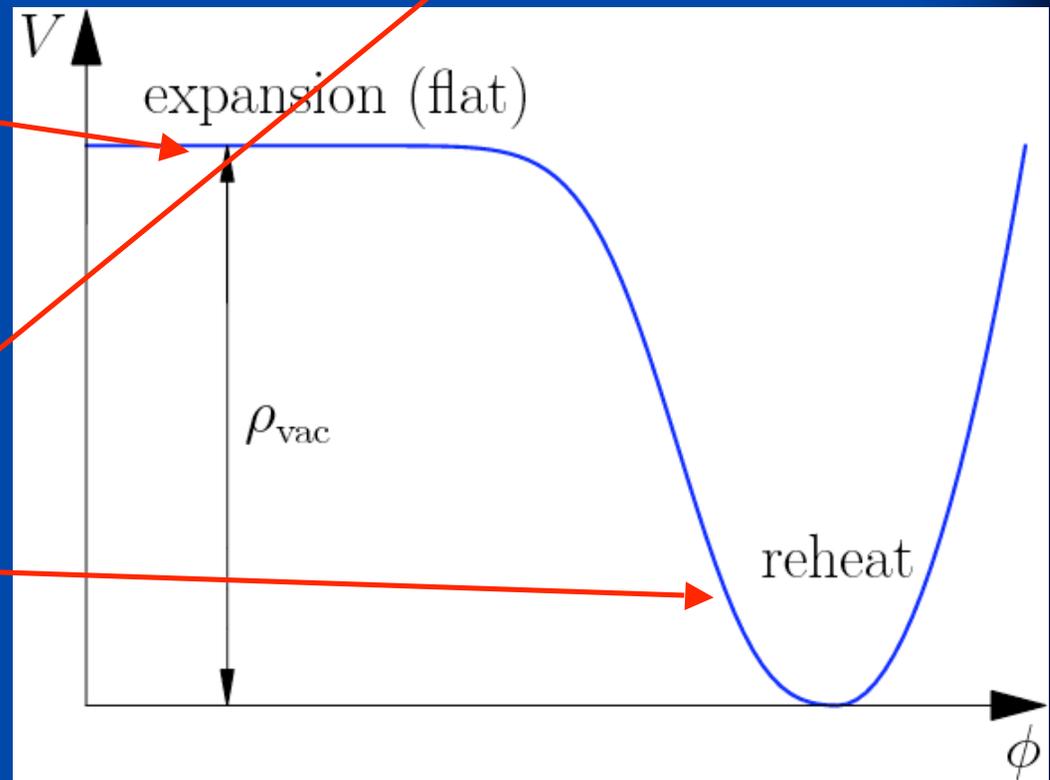
- Flat region:

- V almost constant
- ρ_{vac} dominates energy density

$$\rightarrow a \approx a_i e^{Ht}$$

- Decay of ϕ :

- Particle production
- Reheating



Examples of Rolling Models

- New Inflation (Linde 1982, Albrecht and Steinhardt 1982)
- Chaotic Inflation (Linde 1983)
- Power Law Inflation (Lucchin and Mattarese 1985, Liddle 1989)
- Natural Inflation (Freese, Frieman, Olinto 1990)
- Different models make different predictions for data.

Inflation is a very nice theoretical framework.
Now it is time to test the model.

On: the role of observations

“Faith is a fine invention
When Gentlemen can see ---
But Microscopes are prudent
In an Emergency

Emily Dickinson, 1860

From Theory to Observation: Predictions of Inflation

- 1) flat universe:

$$\Omega = 1$$

- 2) Spectrum of density perturbations:

$$|\delta_k|^2 \propto k^n, \quad n \sim 1$$

- 3) gravitational wave modes
- Individual models make specific predictions.
- Can test inflation as a concept and can differentiate between models.

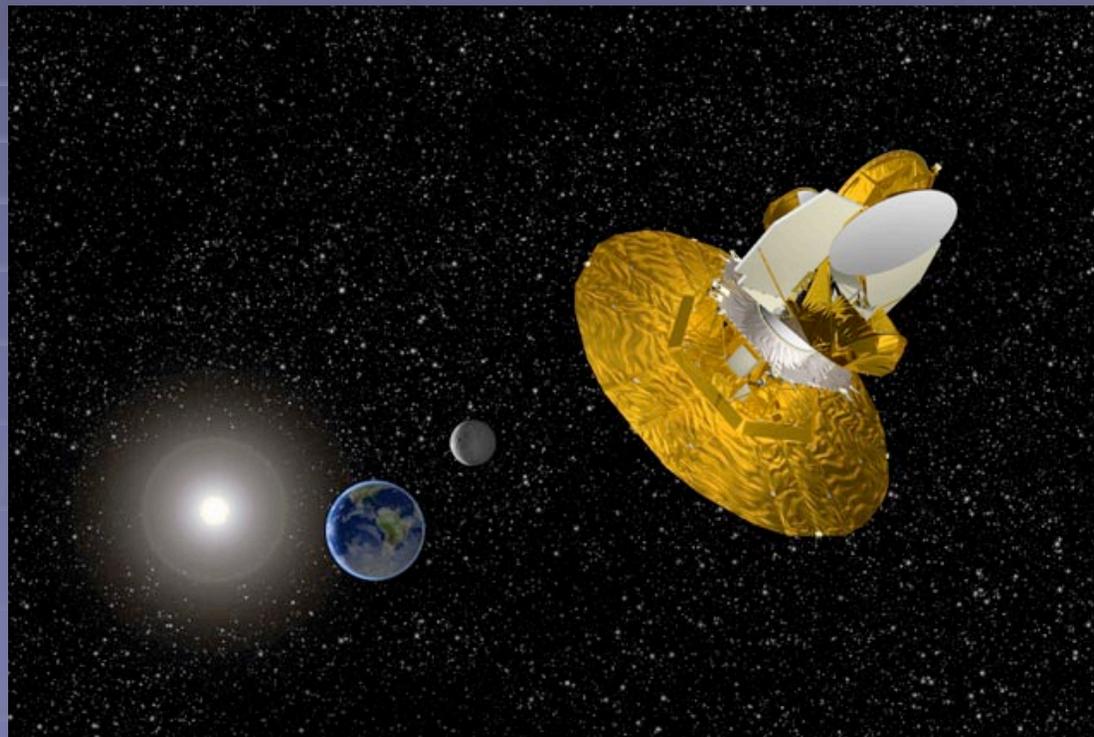
Prediction 1 of Inflation:

The geometry of the universe is flat;
i.e. the density is critical and

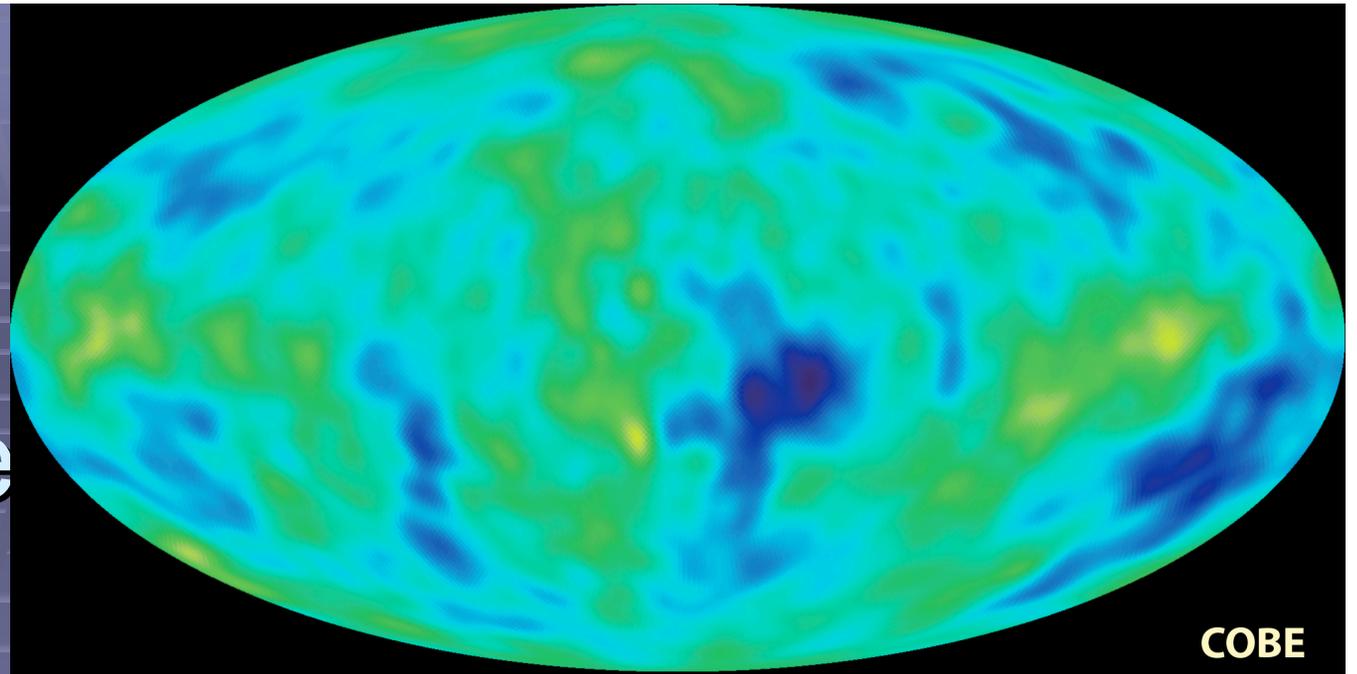
$$\Omega = 1$$

WMAP Satellite

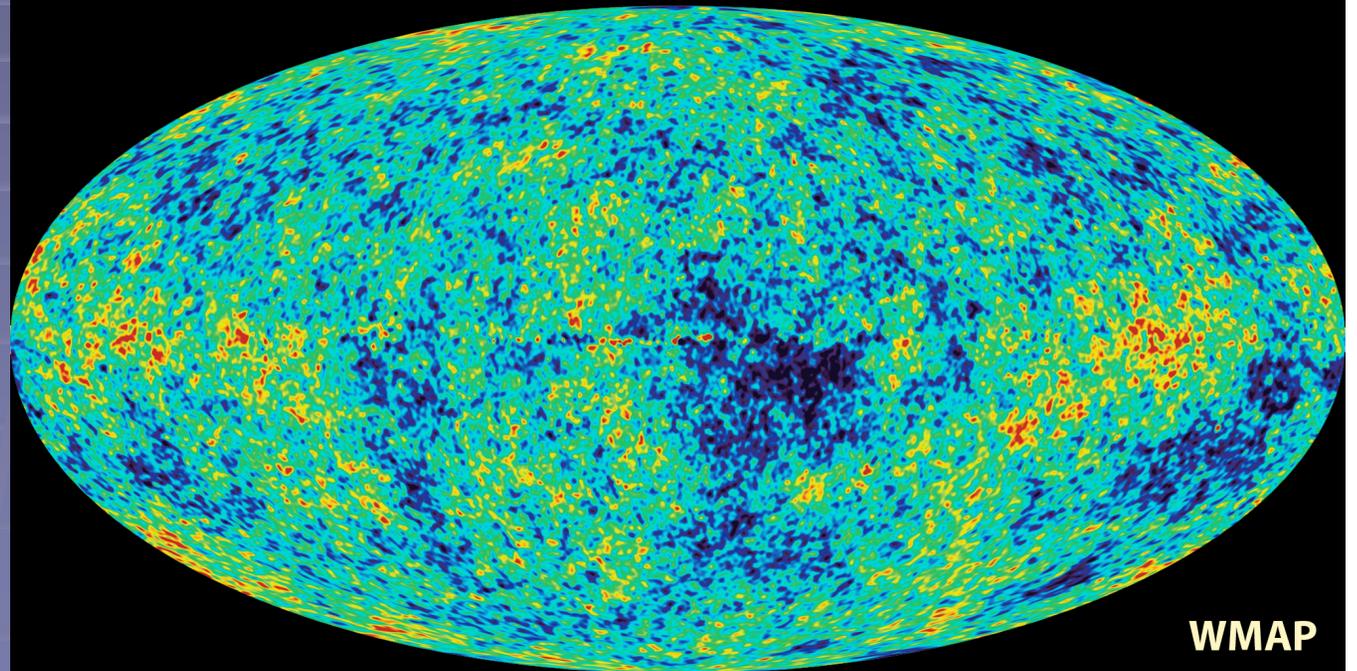
- Launched June 2002
- Data released Feb. 2003



The Microwave Sky



COBE

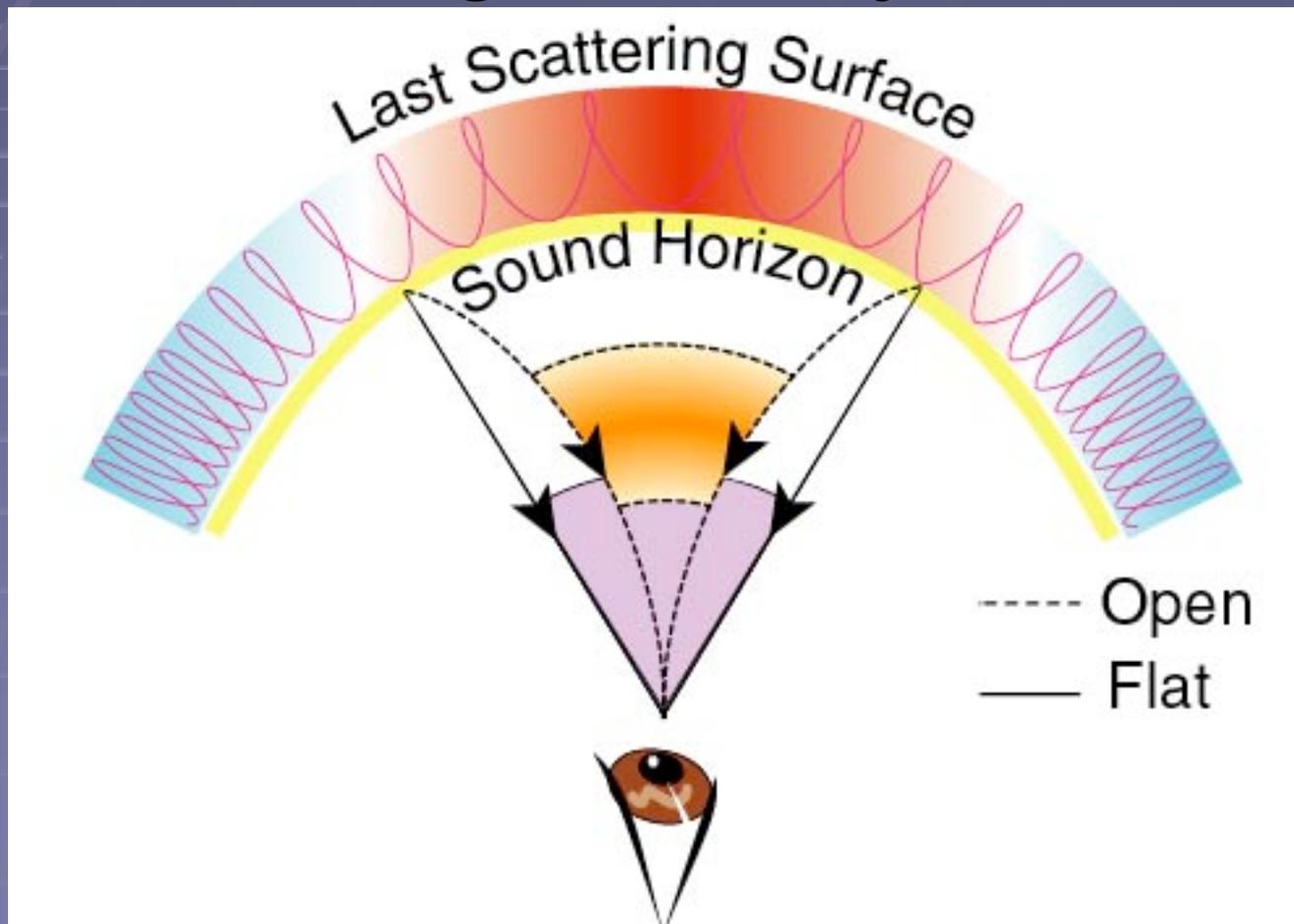


WMAP

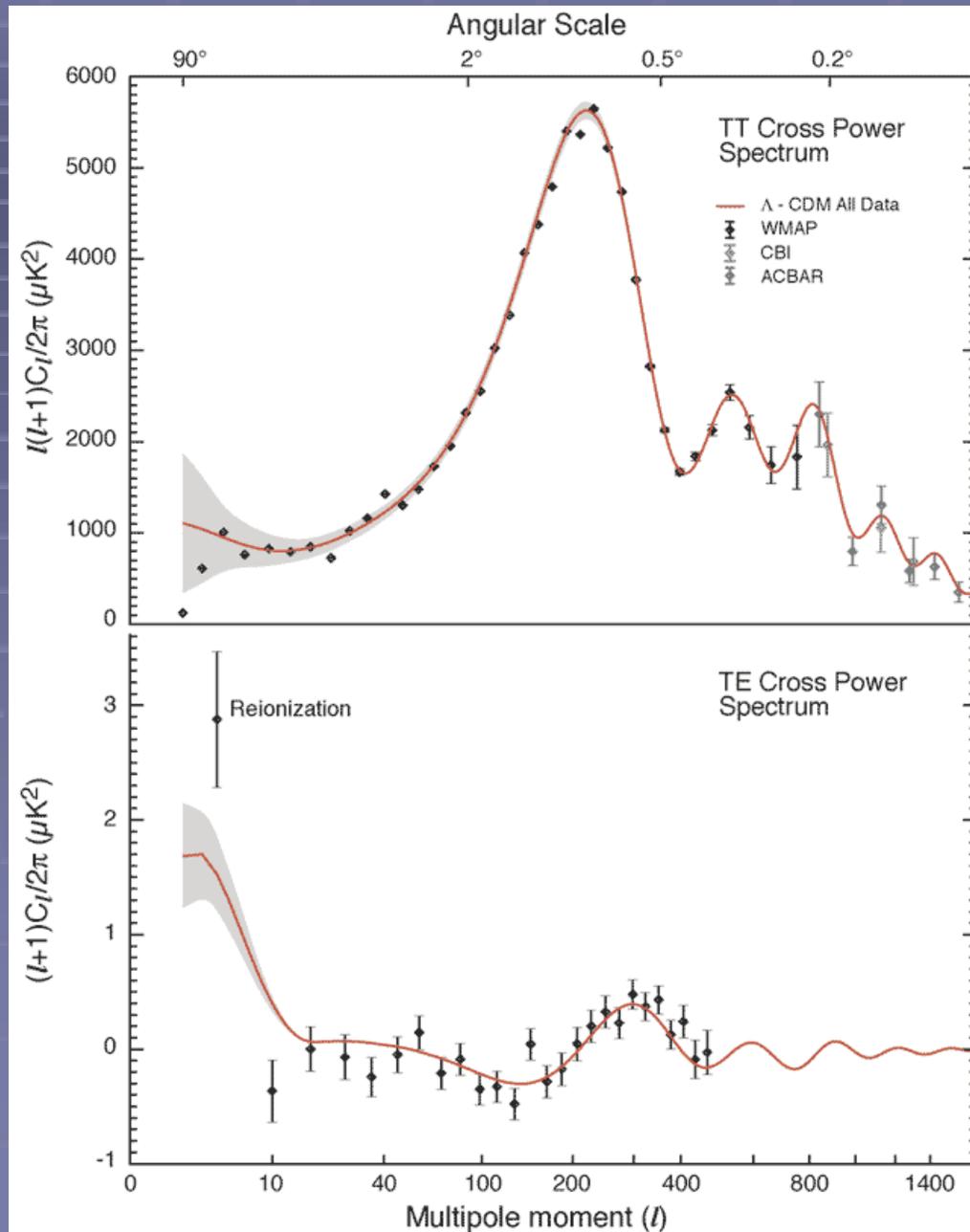
The Doppler Peak

- Acoustic oscillations in the photon/atom fluid are imprinted at last scattering. We expect a peak in the microwave background at the sound horizon (distance sound could travel in the age of the universe).
- If the universe is flat, the peak is at one degree.
- If the universe is a saddle, the peak is at less than one degree.

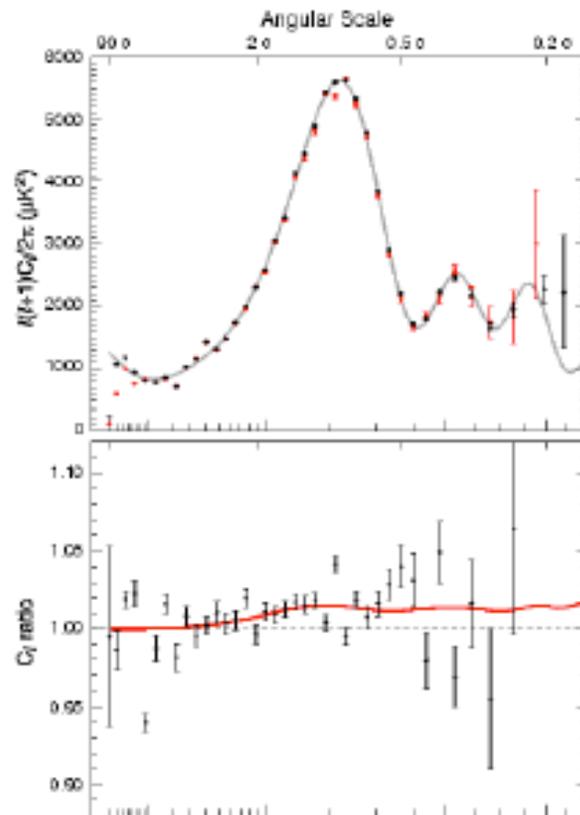
How can Microwave Background tell us about geometry?



Doppler Peak at 1 degree (WMAP1)



Comparison to First-year Spectrum



top:

Black: 3-year; red: 1-year

bottom:

ratio: 3-year/1-year

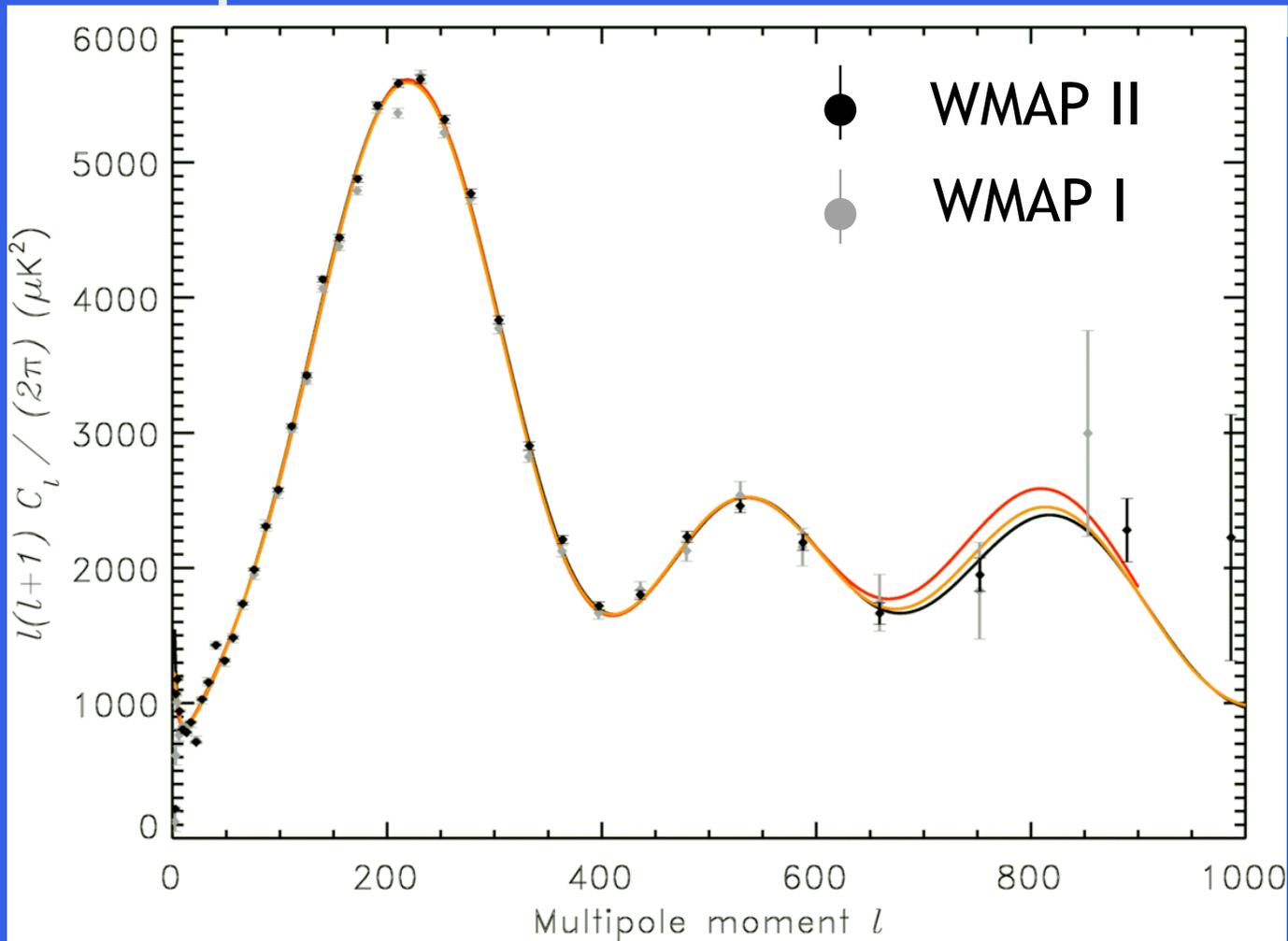
high l : noise reduced by a factor of >3 .
(3 times more data and finer sky map pixels)

intermediate l : improvement in modeling beam response raises spectrum 1-2%

low l : improvement in power estimation from maps with sky cuts ($l < 10$). $l=2$ still low, $l=3$ changes by factor of ~ 2 .

Ratio at left shows low- l results with fixed methodology - only 2-3% change in sky map data.

Comparison with WMAP I

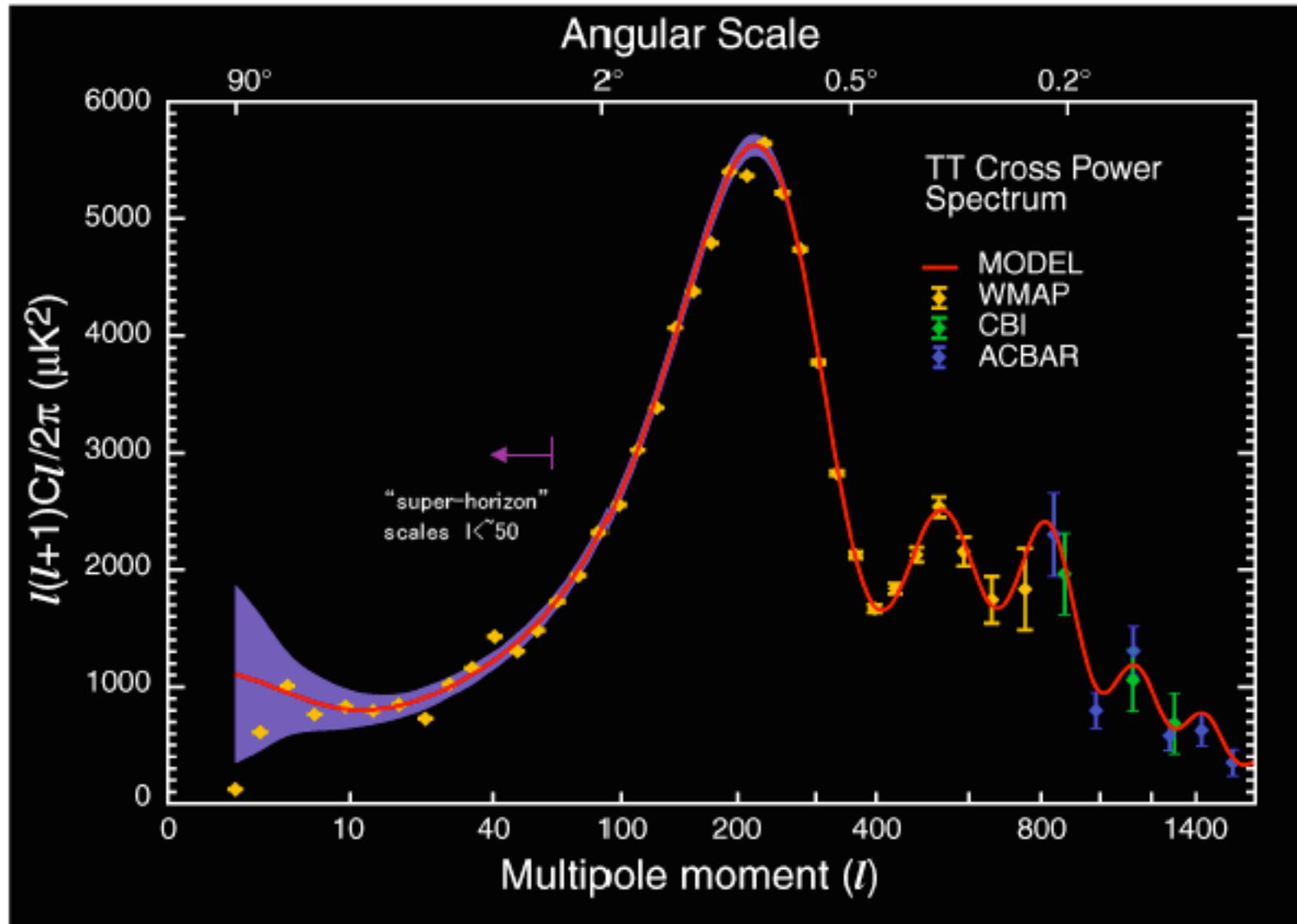


3 year:
Black curve.
Longer
integration
times,
smaller
Pixels

n.b. MOND
is a very
poor fit
to large- l
third peak

- Best fit LCDM WMAP I
- Best fit LCDM WMAP I Ext
- Best fit LCDM WMAP II

PREDICTION OF INFLATION: SUPERHORIZON MODES



Prediction 1 is confirmed

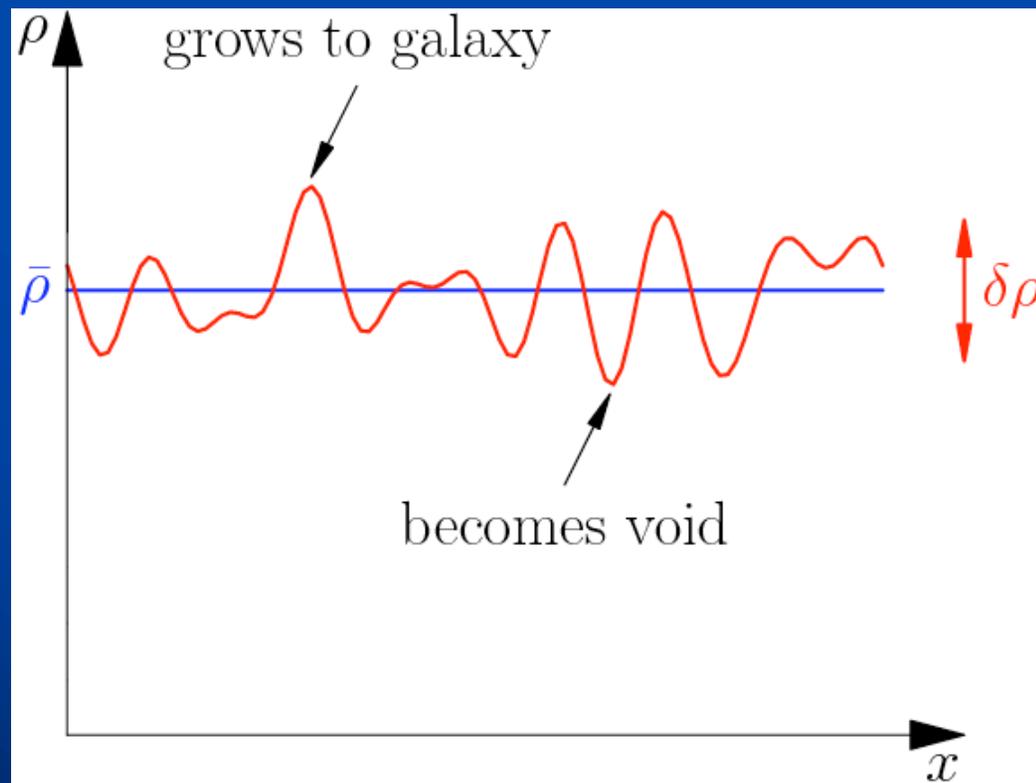
- WMAP confirms the inflationary prediction that $\Omega = 1$

Prediction 2 of Inflation: Density Fluctuations

- Density fluctuations are produced in rolling models of inflation
 - Origin: quantum fluctuations

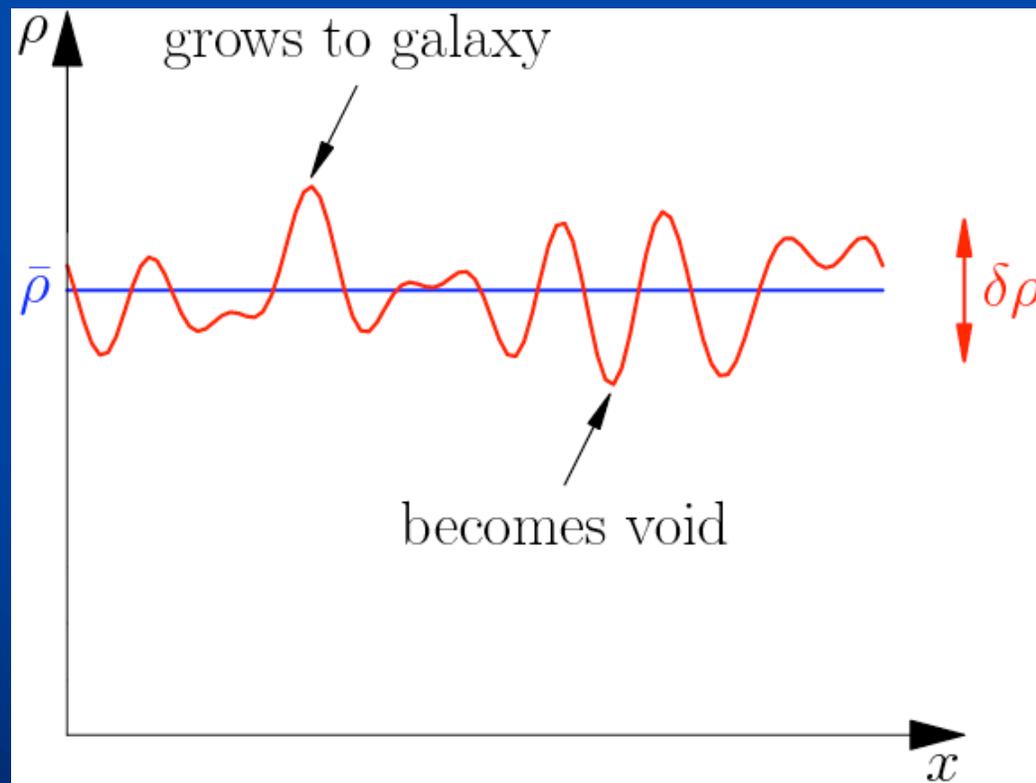
$$\frac{\delta\rho}{\rho}$$

$$\langle \Delta\phi^2 \rangle \sim H / 2\pi$$



Density Fluctuations

- Different regions of the universe start at different values of ϕ , take different times to reach bottom \Rightarrow end at different energy densities



Density Perturbations

Hubble radius

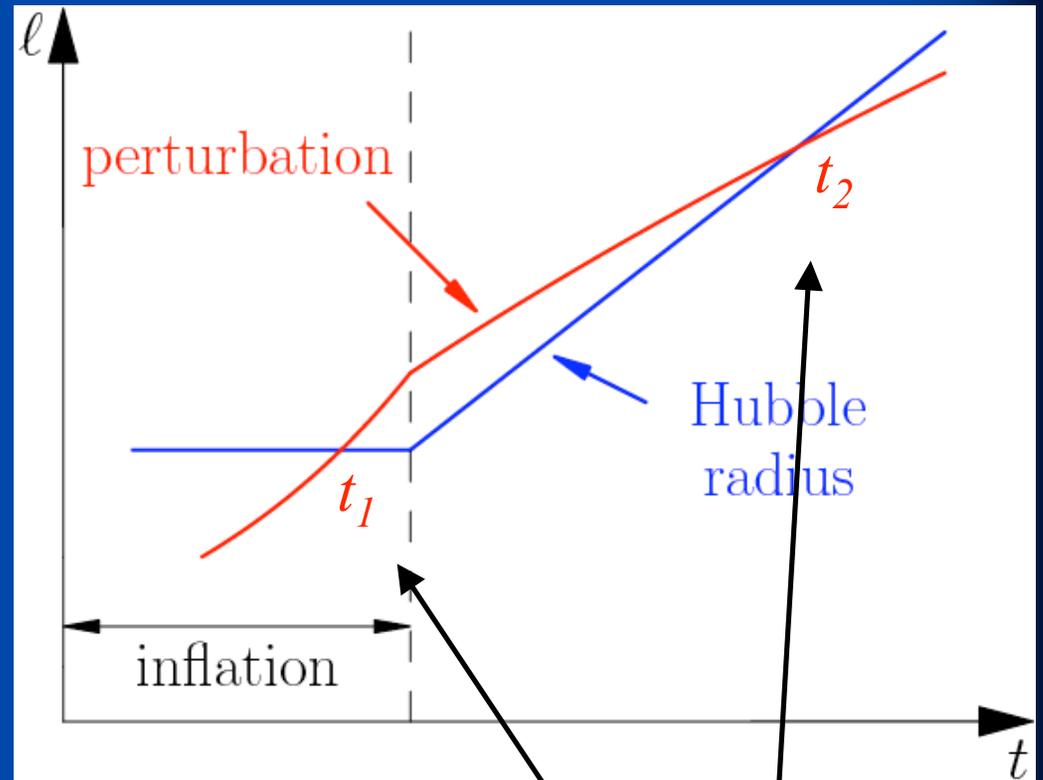
$$\ell_H \sim \frac{1}{H} \sim \begin{cases} \text{constant} & \text{during inflation} \\ t & \text{post inflation} \end{cases}$$

Perturbation

$$\lambda_{\text{pert}} \sim \begin{cases} e^t & \text{during inflation} \\ t^{2/3} & \text{post inflation} \end{cases}$$

Two horizon crossings

Causal microphysics before t_1 describes density perturbations at t_2

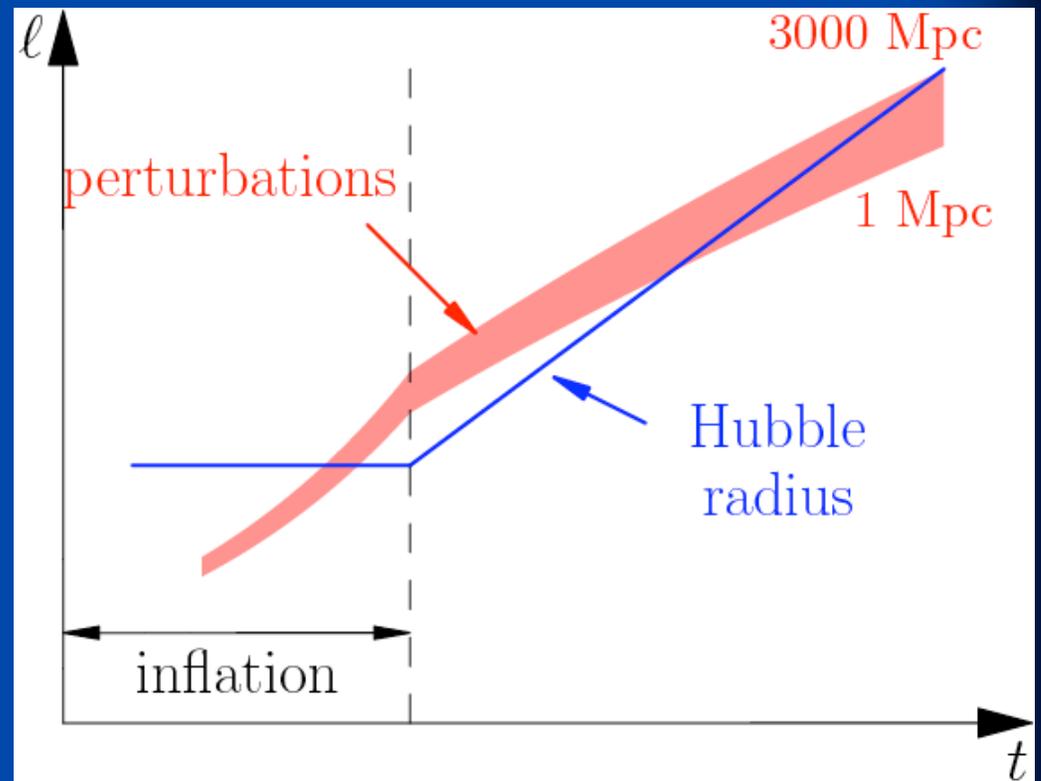


$$\frac{H^2}{\dot{\phi}} \Big|_{t_1} = \frac{\delta\rho}{\rho} \Big|_{t_2}$$

Density Perturbations

Scales of structure in Universe:

- Distance between galaxies
~ 1 Mpc
- Horizon size (size of our observable universe)
~ 3000 Mpc



Density Perturbations

Lead to test of inflation theory:

- Must match amplitude of observations

$$\frac{\delta\rho}{\rho} \sim \frac{\delta T}{T} \sim 10^{-5}$$

- Must match spectrum of observations
(amplitude on all length scales)

Spectrum of Perturbations

■ Fourier Transform $\frac{\delta\rho}{\rho} \xrightarrow{F.T.} \delta_k$

■ Power Spectrum $P_k = |\delta_k|^2 \sim k^n$

- $n = 1$: equal power on all scales
(when perturbations enter the horizon)
Harrison-Zel'dovich-Peebles-Yu
- $n < 1$: extra power on large scales

Spectrum of Perturbations

- Power Spectrum

$$P_k = |\delta_k|^2 \sim k^n$$

- During inflation, H and $d\phi/dt$ vary slowly

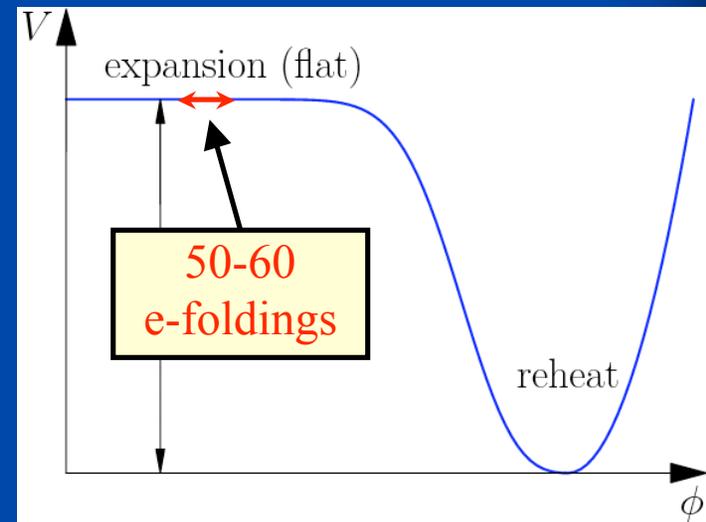
$$\frac{\delta\rho}{\rho} \text{ (when entering horizon)} = \frac{H^2}{\dot{\phi}} \text{ (exiting horizon during inflation)}$$

\sim same on all scales

- Predicts $n \sim 1$: CORRECT
- Precise predictions of n in different models leads to test of models

Spectrum of Perturbations

- Total number of inflation e-foldings $N_{\text{tot}} \geq 60$
- Spectrum of observable scales is produced $\sim 50 - 60$ e-foldings before the end of inflation
 - 50: later during inflation
→ smaller scales (~ 1 Mpc)
 - 60: earlier during inflation
→ larger scales (~ 3000 Mpc)



Prediction 2 of inflation is confirmed

- Multiple data sets (WMAP, large scale structure, etc) confirm n near 1.
- More detail shown in a minute to differentiate between models

Prediction 3 of Inflation:

Existence of gravitational wave perturbations (tensor modes)

Prediction 3 of Inflation: Tensor (gravitational wave) modes

- In addition to density fluctuations, inflation also predicts the generation of tensor fluctuations with amplitude $P_T^{1/2} = \frac{H}{2\pi}$.
- For comparison with observation, the tensor amplitude is conventionally expressed as:
- $r = \frac{P_T^{1/2}}{P_\zeta^{1/2}}$ (denominator: scalar modes)

In principle there are four parameters describing the scalar and tensor fluctuations: the amplitudes and spectra of both components. The amplitude of the scalar perturbations is normalized by the height of the potential (the energy density Λ^4). The tensor spectral index n_T is not an independent parameter since it is related to the tensor/scalar ratio by the inflationary consistency condition $r = -8n_T$. The remaining free parameters are the spectral index n of the scalar density fluctuations, and the tensor amplitude (given by r).

Perturbations

Field perturbations:

$$\phi = \phi_0 + \delta\phi$$

Metric perturbations:

$$g_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}^{(0)} + \delta g_{\mu\nu}$$

Modes:

scalar

~~vector~~

tensor

none in inflation
(no rotational velocity fields)

Perturbations

- Tensor modes

$$h_{ij} = h_+ e_{ij}^+ + h_\times e_{ij}^\times$$

- traceless transverse
- 2 physical degrees of freedom (polarization)

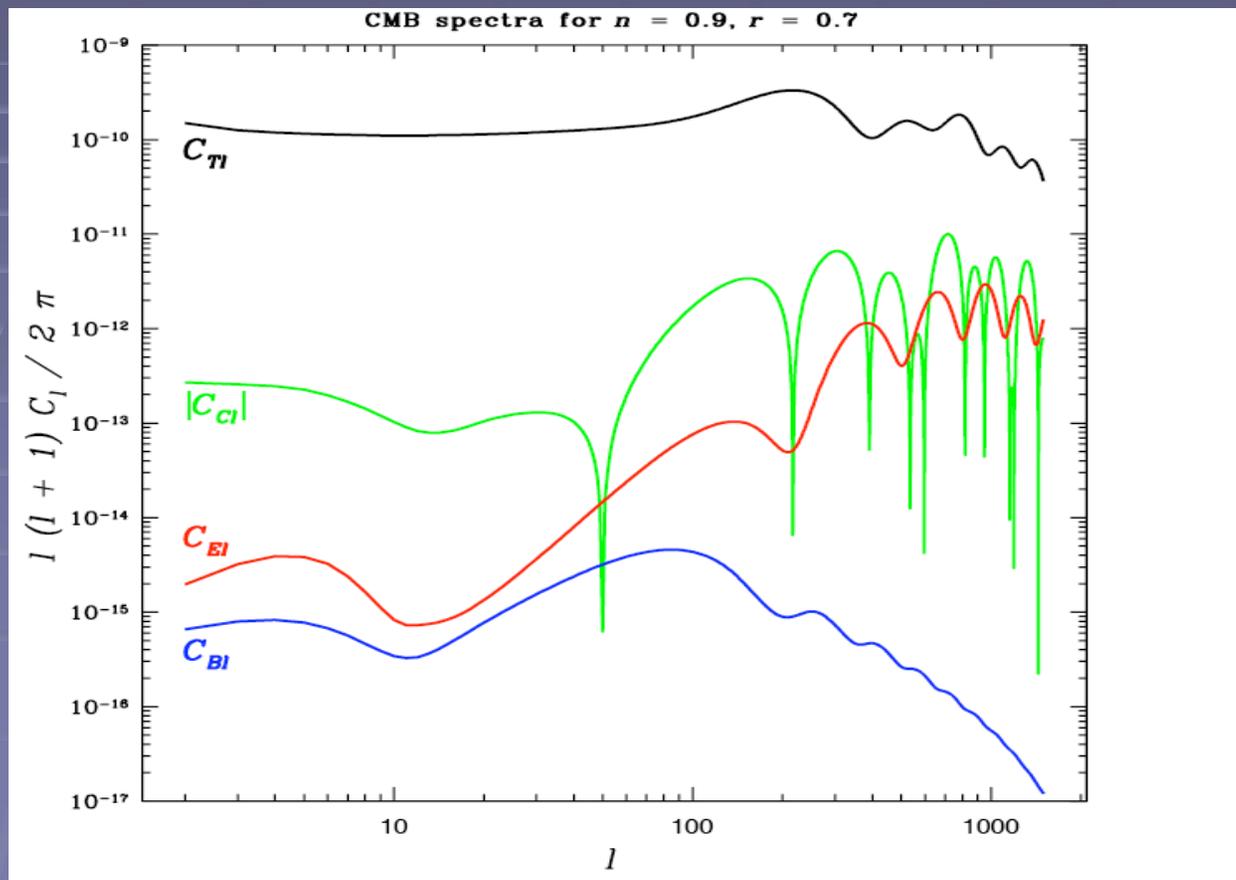
- Gravitational wave modes

$$P_T^{1/2} = \frac{H}{2\pi}$$

- B modes

- Not yet detected
- Can only arise from gravity waves
⇒ smoking gun

Gravity Modes are (at least) two orders of magnitude smaller than density fluctuations: hard to find!



Polarization

Temperature anisotropy, however, is not the whole story. The cosmic microwave background is also expected to be *polarized* due to the presence of fluctuations. Observation of polarization in the CMB will greatly increase the amount of information available for use in constraining cosmological models. Polarization is a *tensor* quantity, which can be decomposed on the celestial sphere into “electric-type”, or scalar, and “magnetic-type”, or pseudoscalar modes. The symmetric, trace-free polarization tensor \mathcal{P}_{ab} can be expanded as [16]

$$\frac{\mathcal{P}_{ab}}{T_0} = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^l \left[a_{lm}^E Y_{(lm)ab}^E(\theta, \phi) + a_{lm}^B Y_{(lm)ab}^B(\theta, \phi) \right], \quad (27)$$

where the $Y_{(lm)ab}^{E,B}$ are electric- and magnetic-type tensor spherical harmonics, with parity $(-1)^l$ and $(-1)^{l+1}$, respectively. Unlike a temperature-only map, which is described by the single multipole spectrum of C_l^T 's, a temperature/polarization map is described by three spectra

$$\langle |a_{lm}^T|^2 \rangle \equiv C_{Tl}, \quad \langle |a_{lm}^E|^2 \rangle \equiv C_{El}, \quad \langle |a_{lm}^B|^2 \rangle \equiv C_{Bl}, \quad (28)$$

and three correlation functions,

$$\langle a_{lm}^{T*} a_{lm}^E \rangle \equiv C_{Cl}, \quad \langle a_{lm}^{T*} a_{lm}^B \rangle \equiv C_{(TB)l}, \quad \langle a_{lm}^{E*} a_{lm}^B \rangle \equiv C_{(EB)l}. \quad (29)$$

Parity requires that the last two correlation functions vanish, $C_{(TB)l} = C_{(EB)l} = 0$, leaving four spectra: temperature C_{Tl} , E-mode C_{El} , B-mode C_{Bl} , and the cross-correlation C_{Cl} . Figure 1 shows the four spectra for a typical case. Since scalar density perturbations have no “handedness,” it is impossible for scalar modes to produce B-mode (pseudoscalar) polarization. Only tensor fluctuations (or foregrounds [54]) can produce a B-mode.

Four parameters from inflationary perturbations:

I. Scalar perturbations:

amplitude $(\delta\rho/\rho)|_S$ spectral index n_S

II. Tensor (gravitational wave) modes:

amplitude $(\delta\rho/\rho)|_T$ spectral index n_T

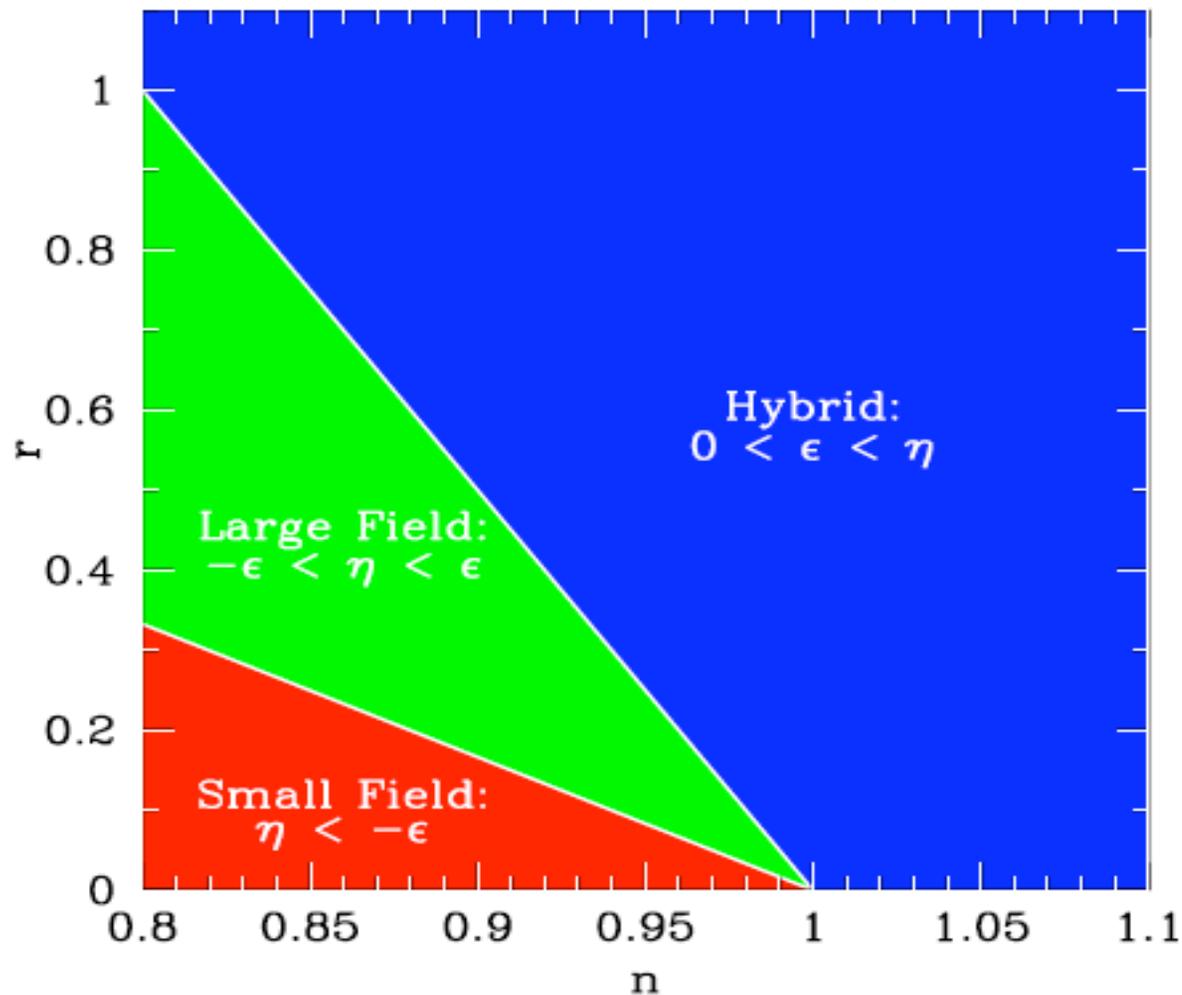
Expressed as

$$r \equiv \frac{P_T^{1/2}}{P_S^{1/2}}$$

Inflationary consistency condition: $r = -8n_T$

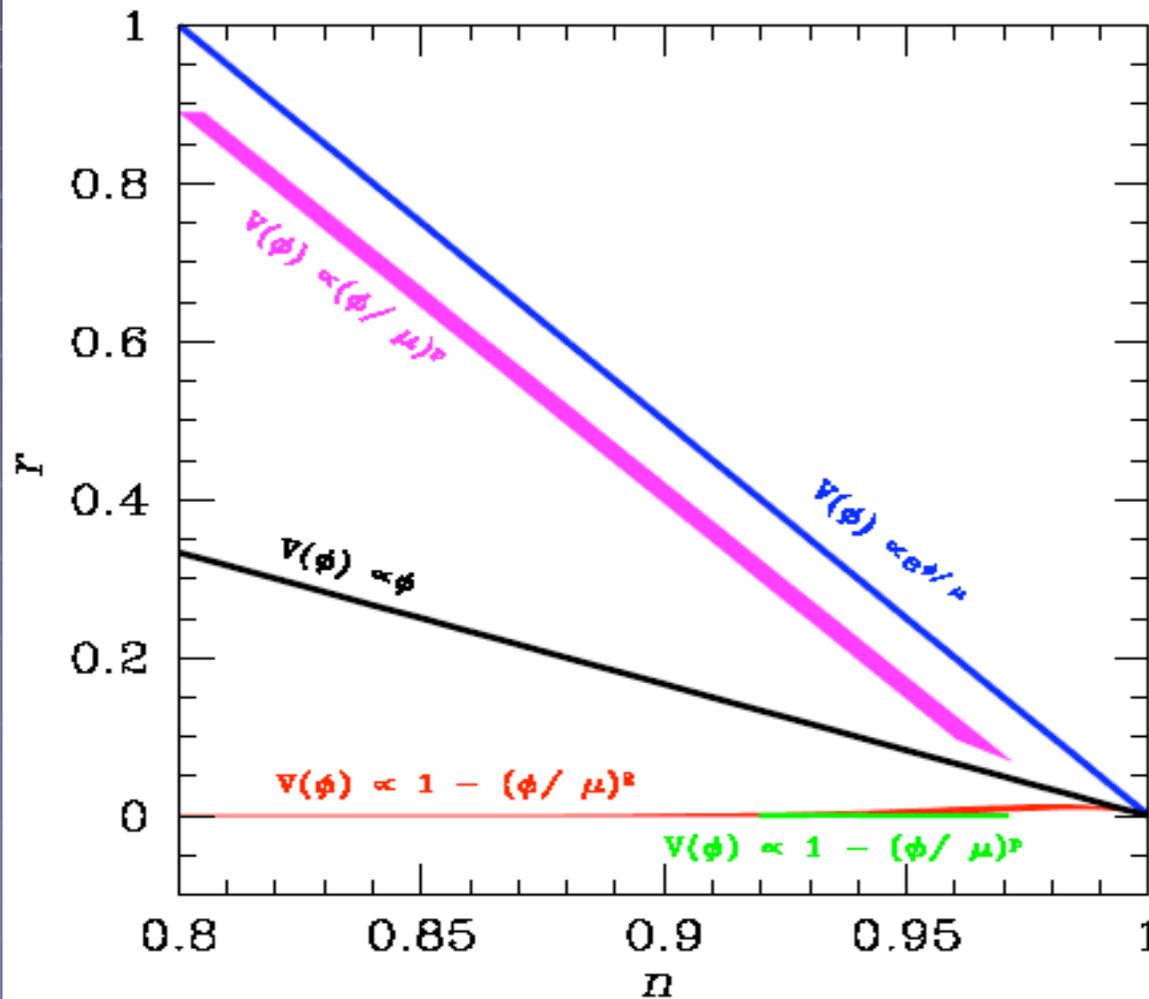
Plot in r-n plane

Different Types of Potentials in the r-n plane



(KINNEY
2002)

Examples of Models



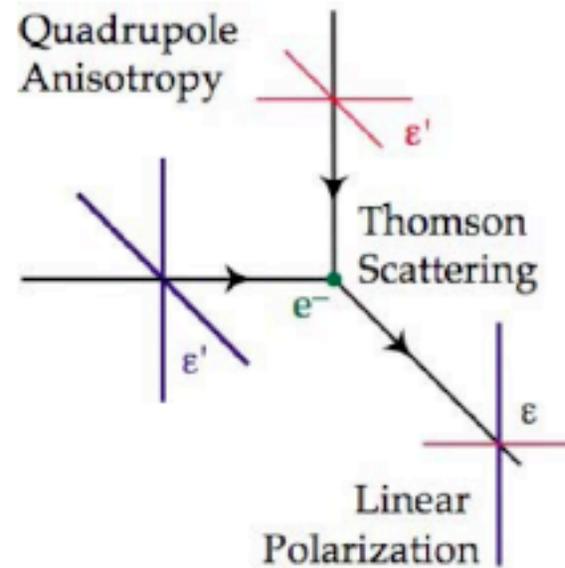
Sources of Polarization

Two ingredients

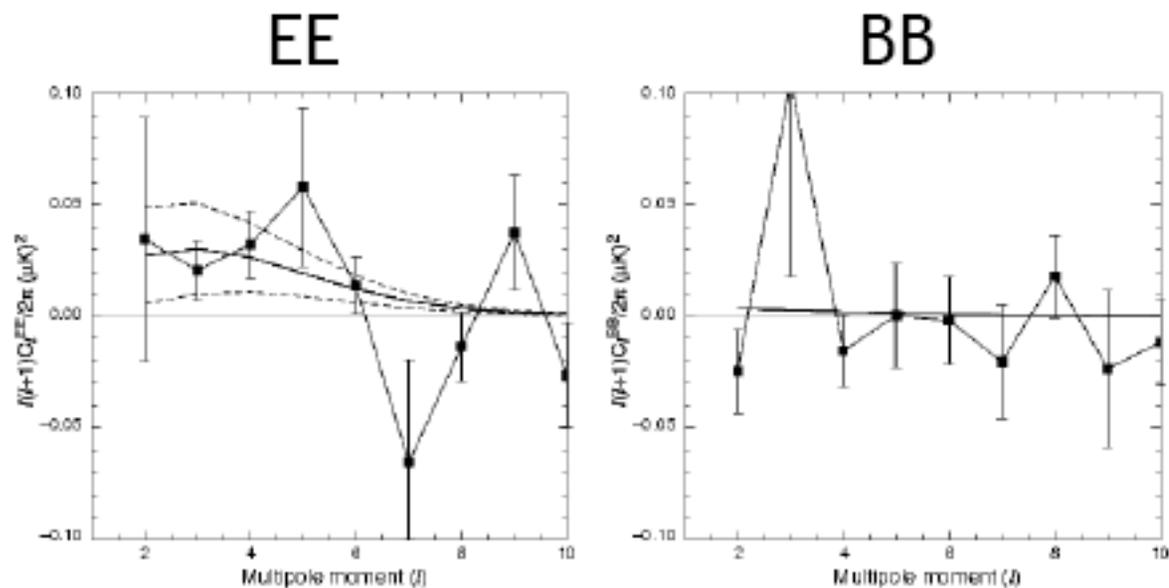
1. Free electrons
2. Incident quadrupole anisotropy

Scattering at $z \sim 1100$ produces signal on degree scales

Scattering at $z \sim 10$ produces signal on 10 degree scales - probes reionization from first stars.



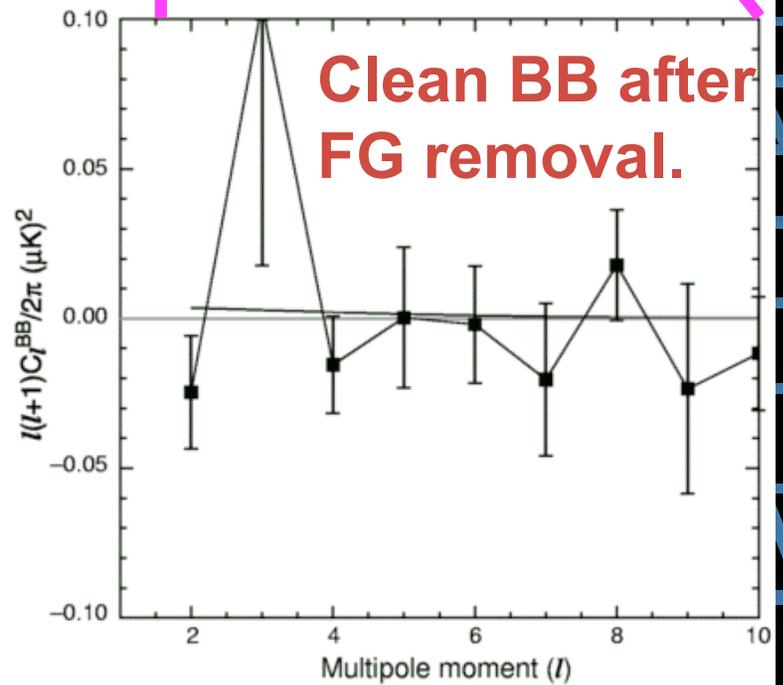
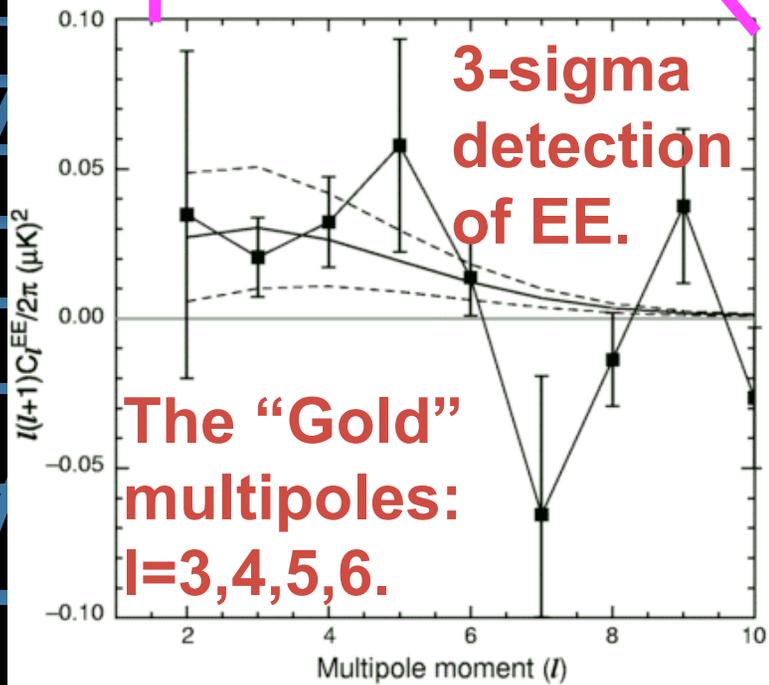
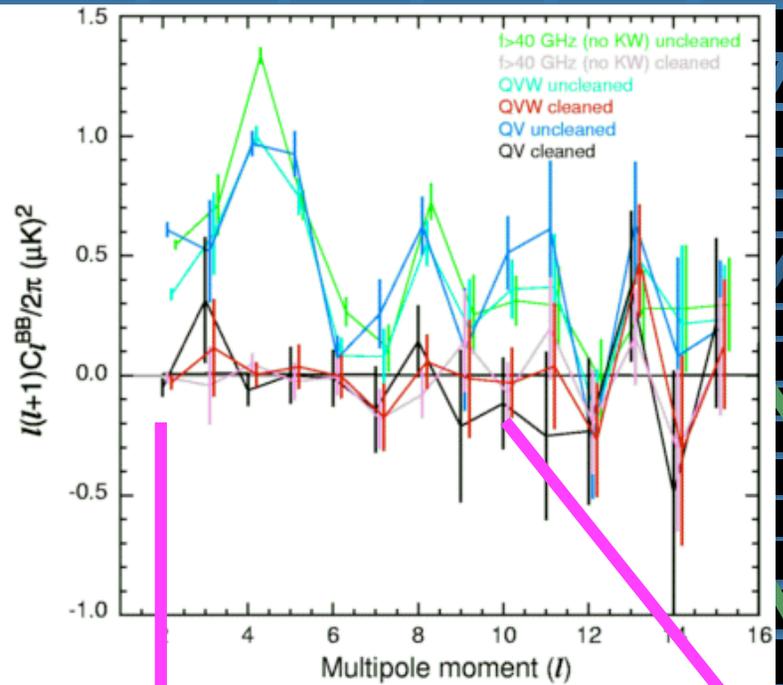
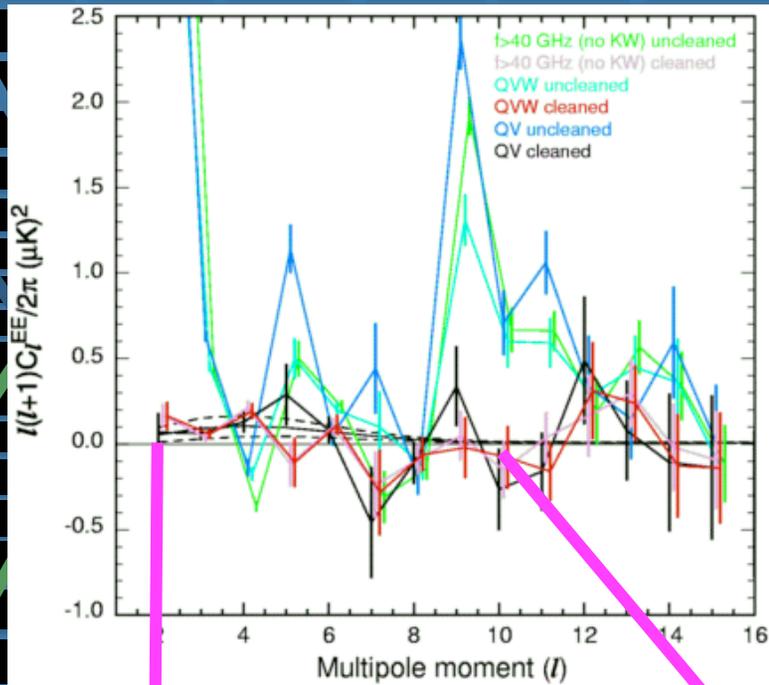
Best Estimate of Low- l Polarization Spectra



Data from 41 and 61 GHz only.

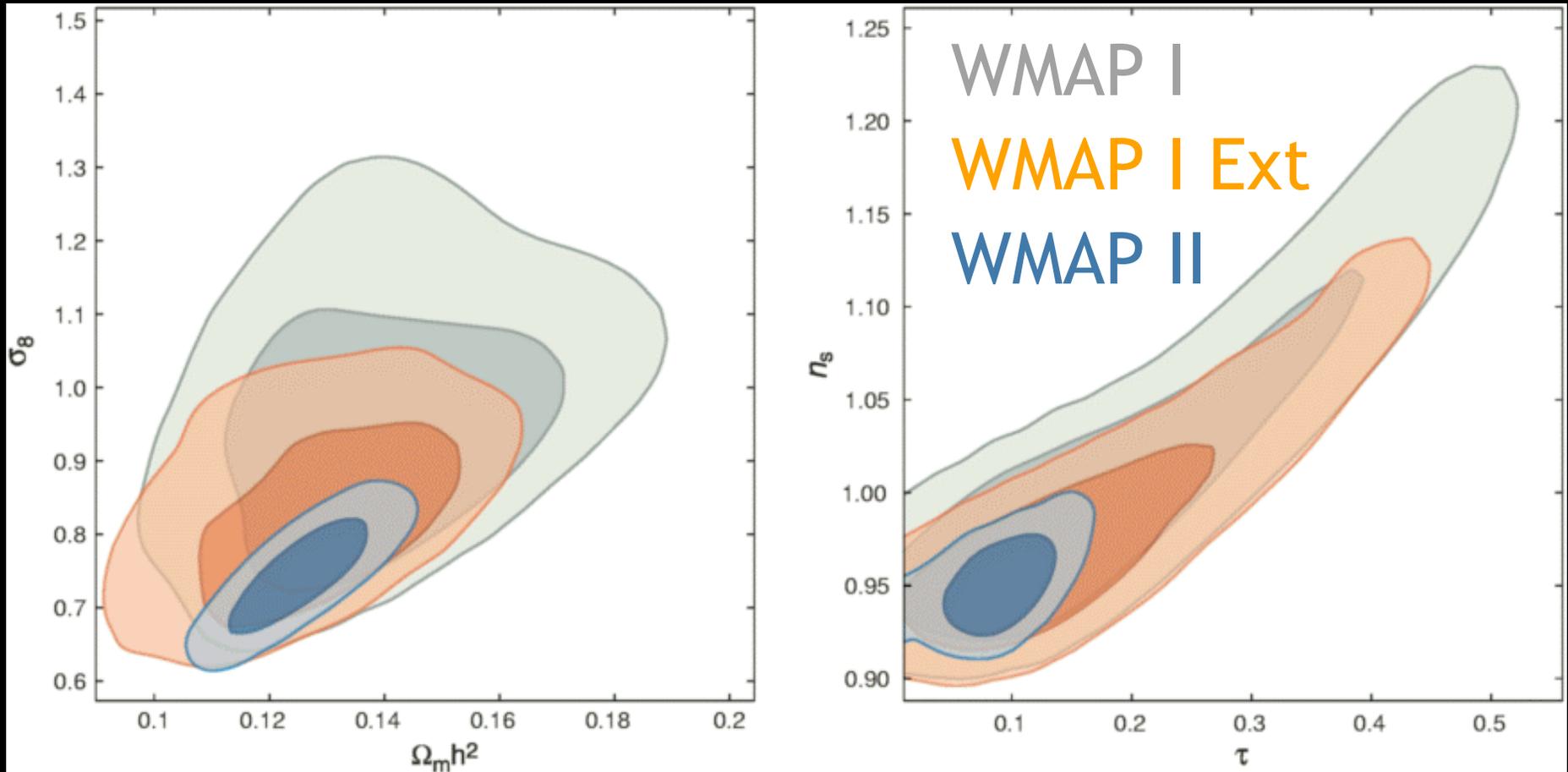
EE signal proportional to τ^2 , provides new constraints on optical depth to last scattering surface (next slide).

BB consistent with zero.



Effect of more data

LCDM model

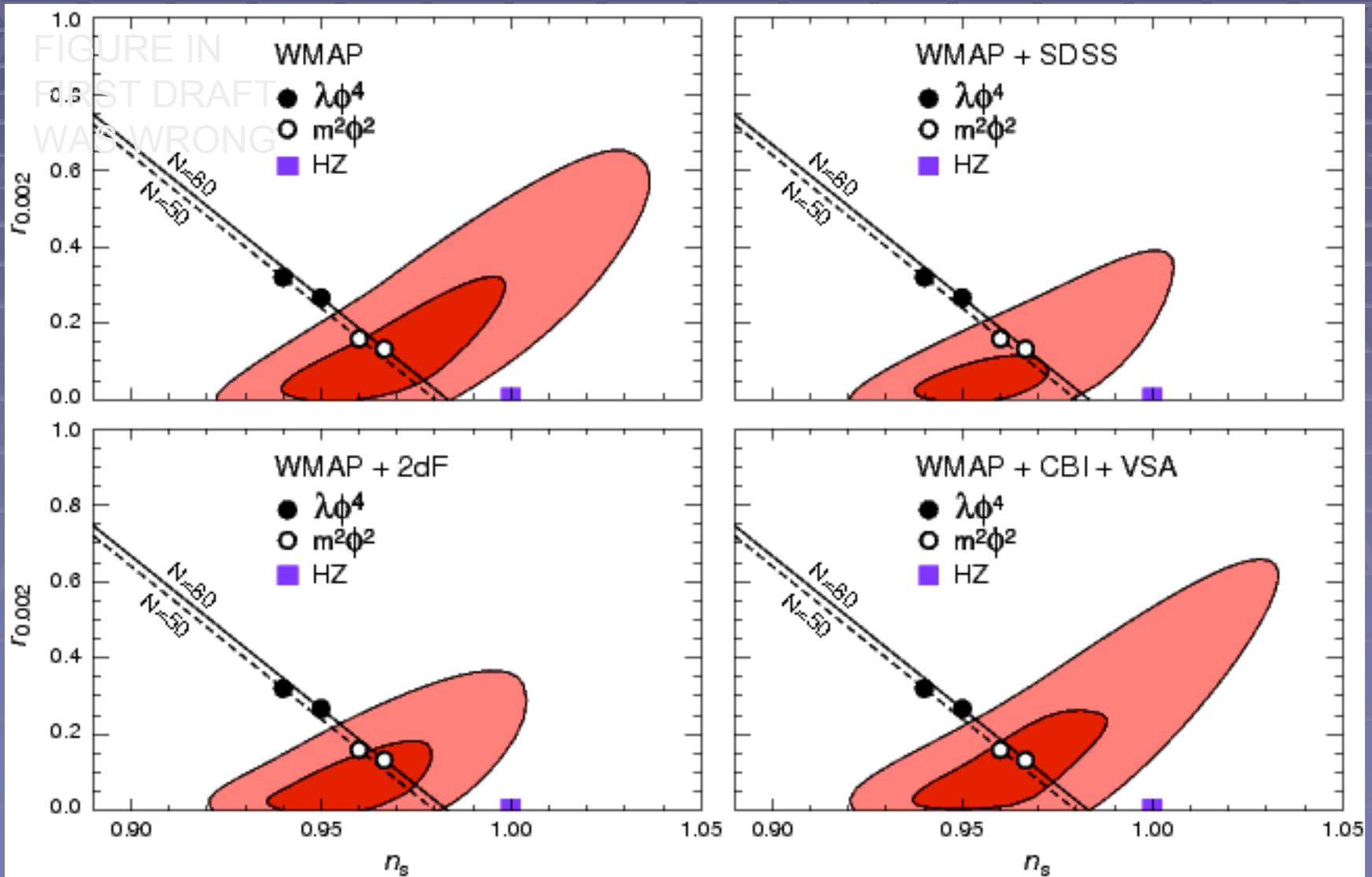


Reducing the noise by 3 \rightarrow degeneracies broken

(taken from L. Verde)

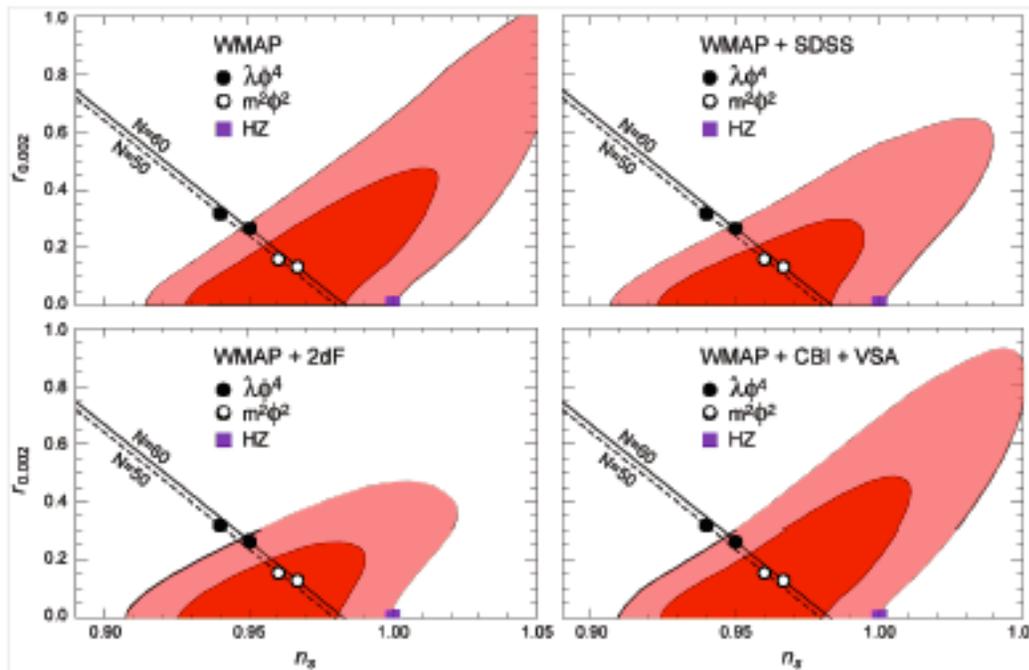
Tensor-to-scalar ratio r vs. scalar spectral index n_s

(FIGURE IN FIRST DRAFT WAS WRONG!)



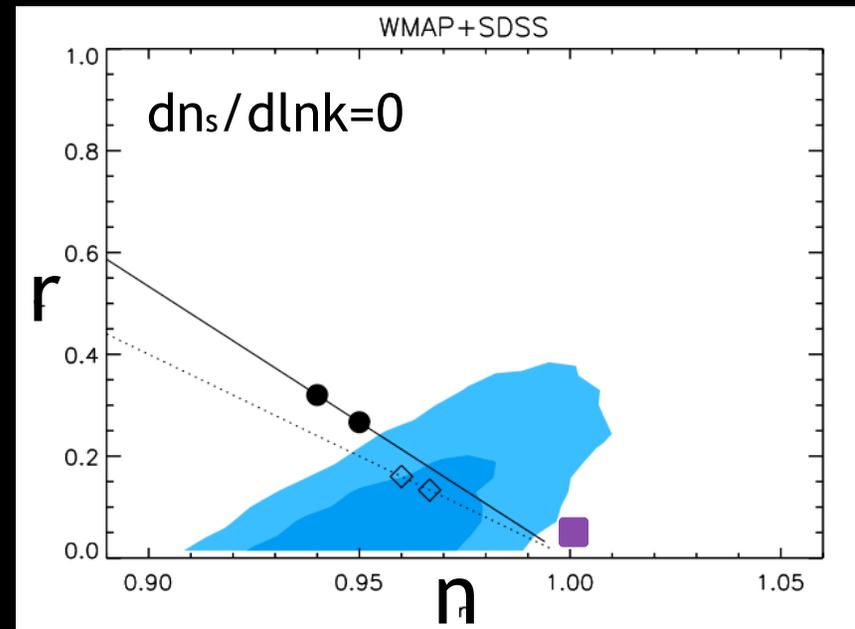
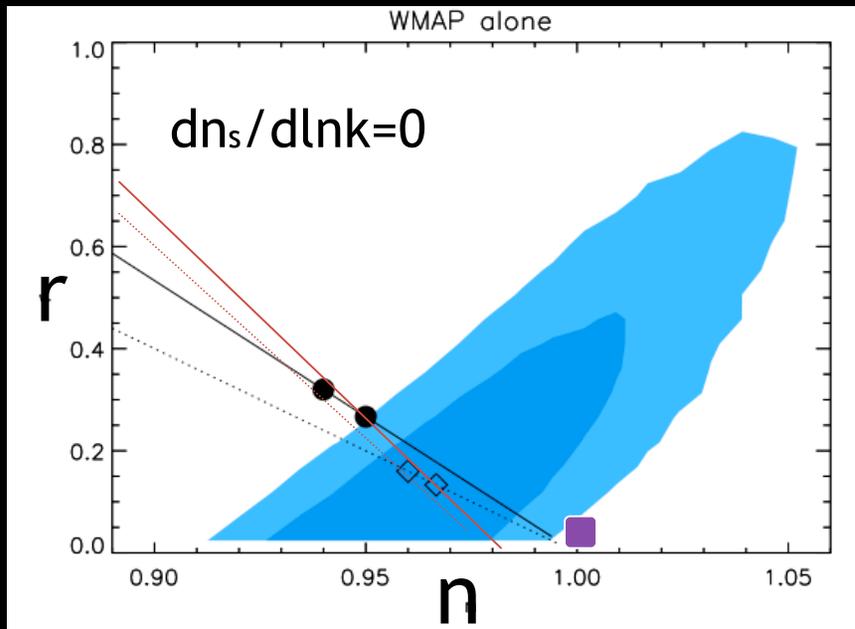
Tensor-to-scalar ratio r vs. scalar spectral index n_s

Testing Inflation with Tensors



Spectral index vs. tensors

Specific models critically tested



Models like $V(\phi) \sim \phi^p$

○ $p=4$

◆ $p=2$

For 50 and 60 e-foldings

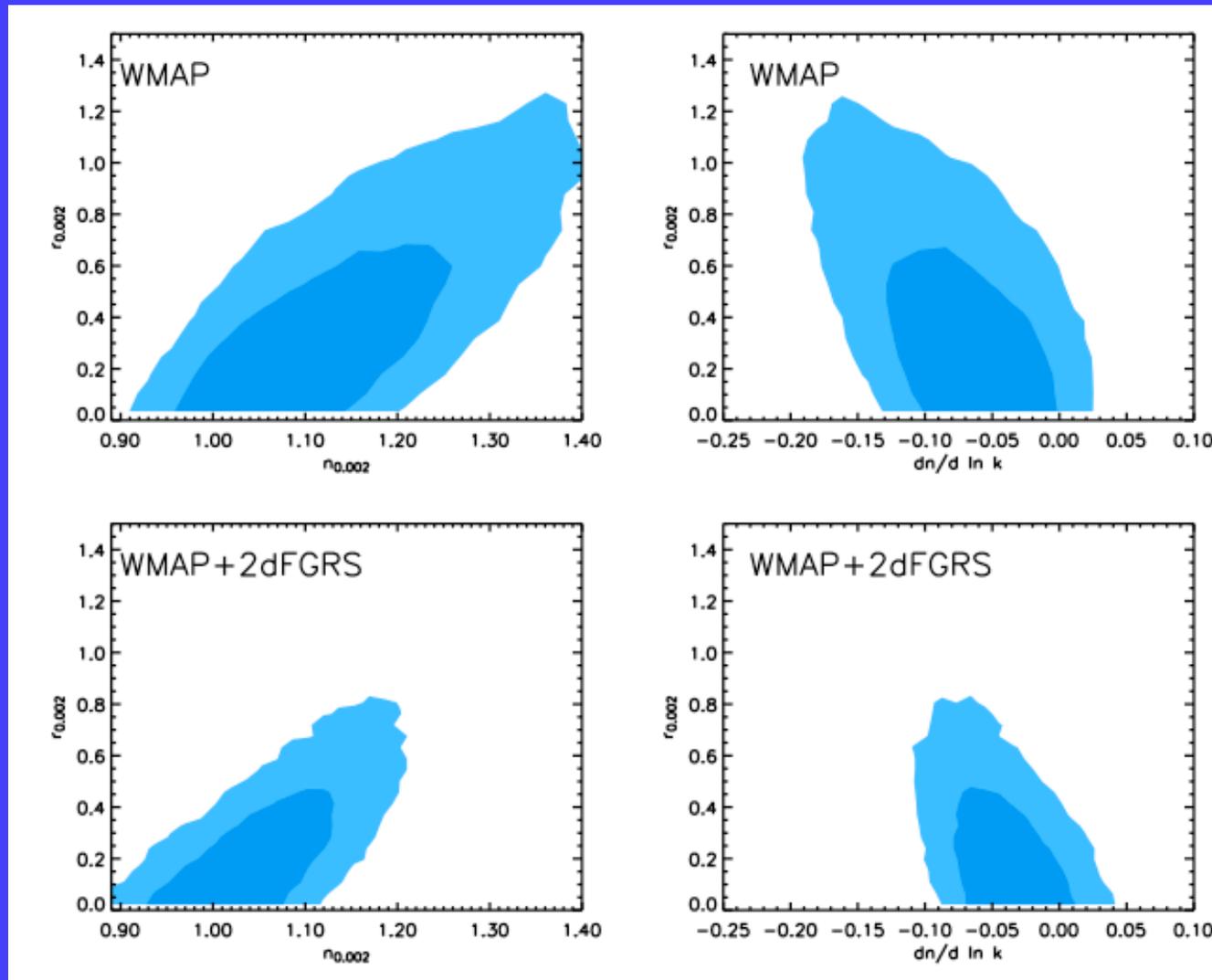
■ HZ

— p fix, N_e varies
 — p varies, N_e fix

p fix, N_e varies
 p varies, N_e fix

(taken from L. Verde)

The full treatment:



Where are we?

- General idea of inflation compares well to data: critical density, nearly scale invariant perturbations, superhorizon fluctuations.
- Now the data are becoming good enough to differentiate between models.
- Reconstructing the inflaton potential:
Kolb, Lidsey, Abney, Copeland, Liddle 1995; Kinney, Kolb, Melchiorri, Riotto 2006; Alabidi and Lyth 2006

Natural Inflation after WMAP

Theoretical motivation: no fine-tuning

Recent interest in light of theoretical developments

Unique predictions:

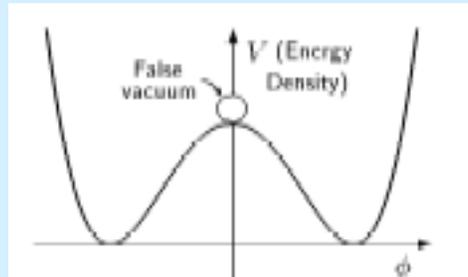
Looks good compared to data

Katherine Freese

Christopher Savage

Fine Tuning in Rolling Models

- ┌ The potential must be very flat:



$$\frac{\Delta V}{(\Delta \Phi)^4} = \frac{\text{height}}{\text{width}^4} \leq 10^{-8},$$

e.g. $V(\phi) = \lambda \Phi^4, \lambda \leq 10^{-12}$

(Adams, Freese, and Guth 1990)

But particle physics typically gives this ratio = 1!

Inflationary Model Constraints

Success of inflationary models with rolling fields
⇒ constraints on $V(\phi)$

- Enough inflation

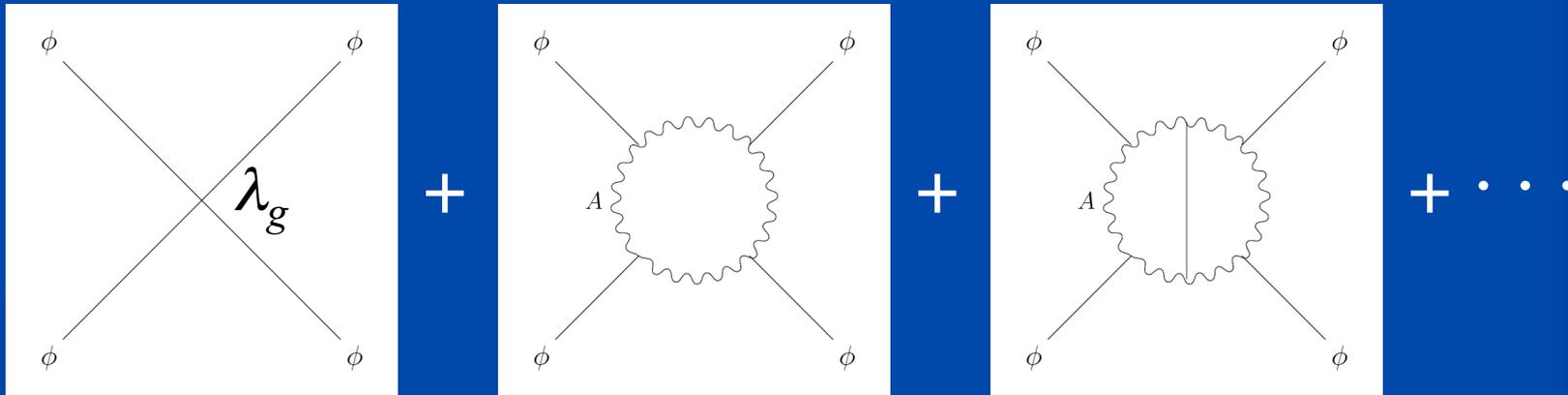
Scale factor a must grow enough

$$\ln\left(\frac{a_{\text{end}}}{a_{\text{begin}}}\right) = \int_{t_{\text{begin}}}^{t_{\text{end}}} H dt = -8\pi G \int \frac{V(\phi)}{V'(\phi)} d\phi \geq 60$$

- Amplitude of density fluctuations not too large

$$\left. \frac{\delta\rho}{\rho} \right|_{\text{enter horizon}} \sim \left. \frac{H^2}{\dot{\phi}} \right|_{\text{exit horizon}} \leq \frac{\delta T}{T} \sim 10^{-5}$$

Fine Tuning due to Radiative Corrections



- Perturbation theory: 1-loop, 2-loop, 3-loop, etc.
- To keep $\lambda \sim 10^{-12}$ must balance tree level term against corrections to each order in perturbation theory. Ugly!

Inflation needs small ratio of mass scales

$$\frac{\Delta V}{(\Delta\Phi)^4} = \frac{\text{height}}{\text{width}^4} \leq 10^{-8},$$

- Two attitudes:
 - 1) We know there is a hierarchy problem, wait until it's explained
 - 2) Two ways to get small masses in particles physics:
 - (i) supersymmetry
 - (ii) Goldstone bosons (shift symmetries)

Natural Inflation: Shift Symmetries

- Shift (axionic) symmetries protect flatness of inflaton potential

$\Phi \rightarrow \Phi + \text{constant}$ (inflaton is Goldstone boson)

- Additional explicit breaking allows field to roll.
- This mechanism, known as natural inflation, was first proposed in

Freese, Frieman, and Olinto 1990;
Adams, Bond, Freese, Frieman and Olinto 1993

Shift Symmetries

→ “Natural Inflation”

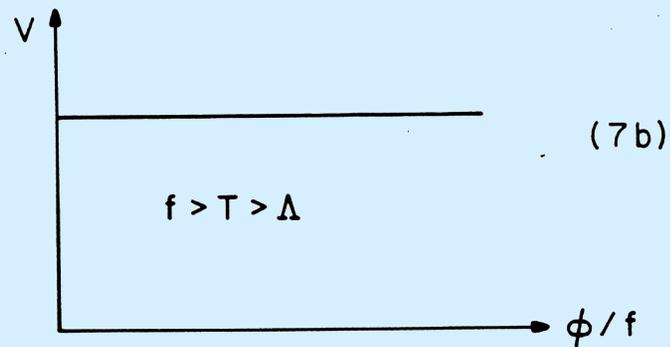
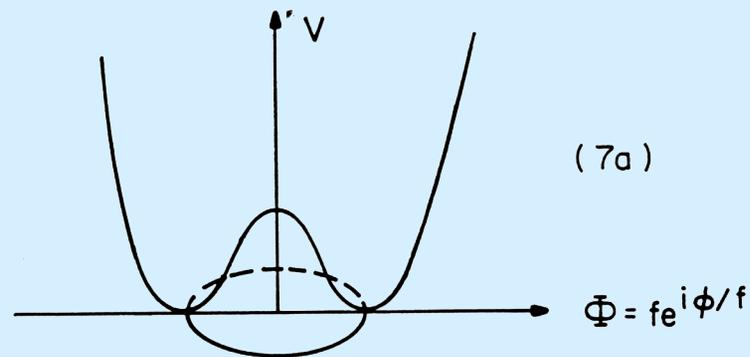
Freese, Frieman & Olinto (1990)

- We know of a particle with a small ratio of scales:
the **axion**

$$\lambda_a \sim \left(\frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{f_{\text{PQ}}} \right)^4 \sim 10^{-64}$$

- IDEA: use a potential similar to that for axions in inflation
⇒ natural inflation (no fine-tuning)
 - Here, we do not use the QCD axion.
We use a heavier particle with similar behavior.

e.g., mimic the physics of the
axion (Weinberg; Wilczek)



Natural Inflation

For QCD axion:

$$f \sim 10^{12} \text{ GeV}$$

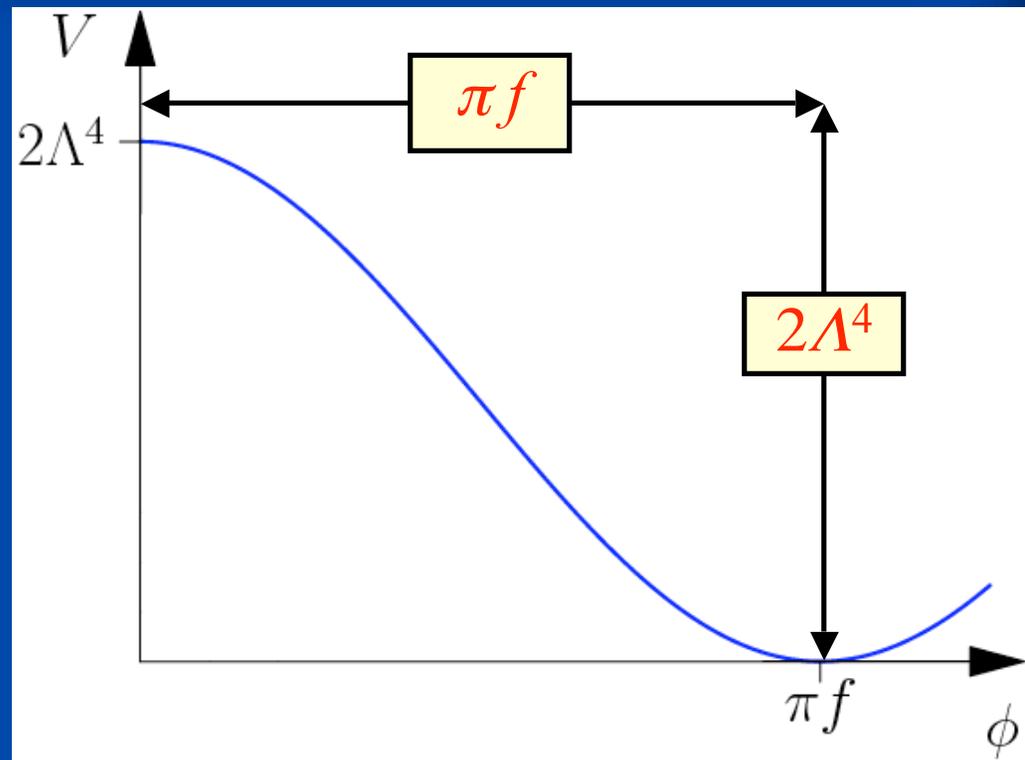
$$\Lambda \sim 100 \text{ MeV}$$

For natural inflation:

$$f \sim M_{\text{Pl}}$$

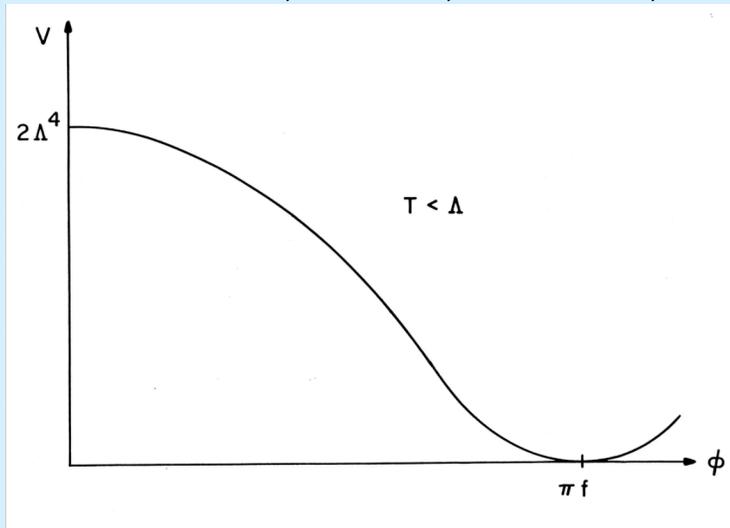
$$\Lambda \sim M_{\text{GUT}}$$

- Width f :
Scale of spontaneous symmetry breaking of some global symmetry
- Height Λ :
Scale at which gauge group becomes strong



Natural Inflation

(Freese, Frieman, and Olinto 1990;
Adams, Bond, Freese, Frieman and Olinto 1993)



$$V(\Phi) = \Lambda^4 [1 + \cos(\Phi/f)]$$

- ┌ Two different mass scales:
- ┌ Width f is the scale of SSB of some global symmetry
- ┌ Height Λ is the scale at which some gauge group becomes strong

Two Mass Scales Provide required hierarchy

┆ For QCD axion,

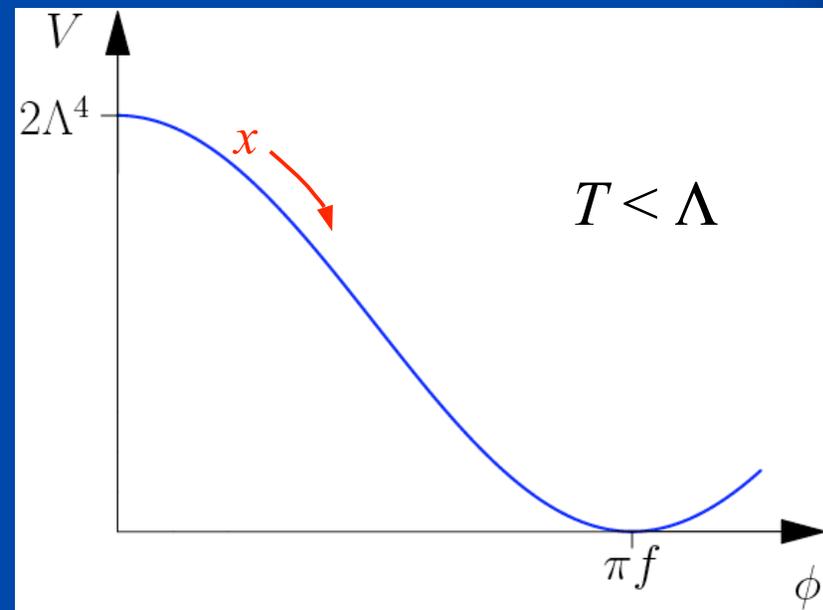
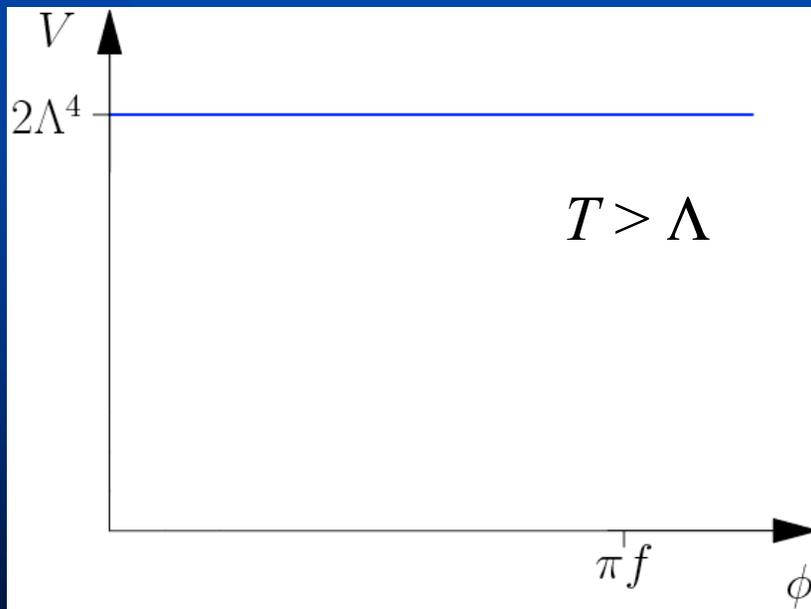
$$\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \sim 100\text{MeV}, f_{PQ} \sim 10^{12}\text{GeV}, \frac{\text{height}}{\text{width}} \sim 10^{-64}!!$$

┆ For inflation, need $\Lambda \sim m_{GUT}, f \sim m_{pl}$

Enough inflation requires width = $f \approx m_{pl}$,
Amplitude of density fluctuations requires
height = $\Lambda \sim m_{GUT}$

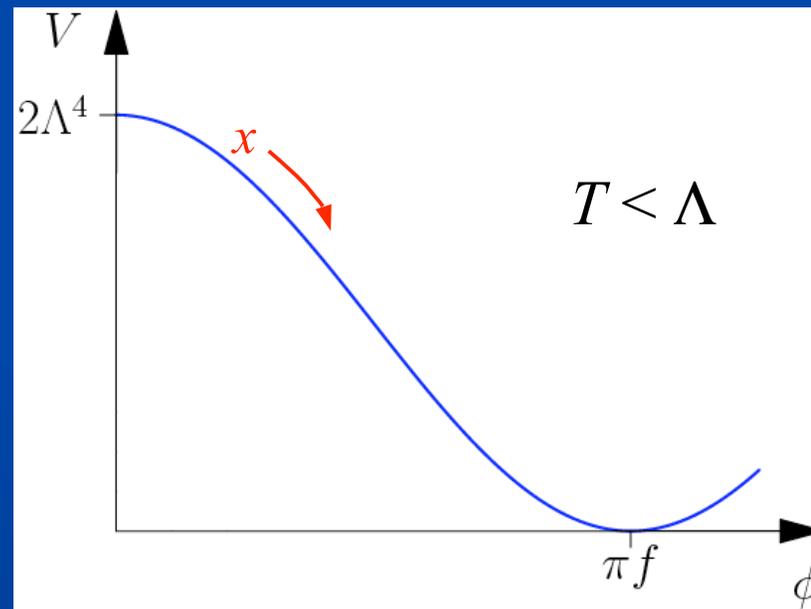
Sufficient Inflation

- ϕ initially randomly distributed between 0 and πf at different places in the universe.
- $T < \Lambda$: ϕ rolls down the hill. The pieces of the universe with ϕ far enough uphill will inflate enough.



Sufficient Inflation

- ϕ rolls down the hill.
The pieces of the universe with ϕ far enough uphill will inflate enough.



Sufficient Inflation

- *A posteriori* probability:

Those pieces of the universe that do inflate end up very large. Slice the universe after inflation and see what was probability of sufficient inflation.

- Numerically evolved scalar field

$$N \equiv \ln\left(\frac{a_2}{a_1}\right) = \int H dt = \frac{-8\pi}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \int \frac{V}{V'} d\phi = \frac{16\pi f^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \ln \left[\frac{\sin(\phi_2/2f)}{\sin(\phi_1/2f)} \right] \geq 60$$

$$P = 1 - \frac{\int_{\phi_1^{\text{max}}}^{\pi f} d\phi_1 \exp[3N(\phi_1)]}{\int_{H/2\pi}^{\pi f} d\phi_1 \exp[3N(\phi_1)]}$$

For $f \geq 0.06 M_{\text{Pl}}$,
 $P = O(1)$

Density Fluctuations

Largest at 60 e-folds
before end of inflation

$$\frac{\delta\rho}{\rho} \approx \frac{H^2}{\dot{\phi}} \approx \frac{3\Lambda^2 f}{M_{\text{Pl}}^3} \frac{[1 + \cos(\phi_1^{\text{max}} / f)]^{3/2}}{\sin(\phi_1^{\text{max}} / f)} \sim 10^{-5}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Lambda \sim 10^{15} \text{ GeV} - 10^{16} \text{ GeV} \text{ (height of potential)}$$

$$\Rightarrow m_\phi = \Lambda^2 / \phi \sim 10^{11} \text{ GeV} - 10^{13} \text{ GeV}$$

- Density fluctuation spectrum is non-scale invariant with extra power on large length scales

$$P_k = |\delta_k|^2 \sim k^{n_s}$$

$$\text{with } n_s \approx 1 - \frac{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}{8\pi f^2} \text{ (for } f < M_{\text{Pl}})$$

$$\text{WMAP} \Rightarrow f > 0.7 M_{\text{Pl}}$$

Implementations of natural inflation's shift symmetry

- Natural chaotic inflation in SUGRA using shift symmetry in Kahler potential (Gaillard, Murayama, Olive 1995; Kawasaki, Yamaguchi, Yanagida 2000)
- In context of extra dimensions: Wilson line with (Arkani-Hamed et al 2003) but Banks et al (2003) showed it fails in string theory. $f \gg m_{pl}$
- “Little” field models (Kaplan and Weiner 2004)
- In brane Inflation ideas (Firouzjahi and Tye 2004)
- Gaugino condensation in $SU(N) \times SU(M)$: Adams, Bond, Freese, Frieman, Olinto 1993; Blanco-Pillado et al 2004 (Racetrack inflation)

Legitimacy of large axion scale?

Natural Inflation needs $f > 0.6m_{pl}$

Is such a high value compatible with an effective field theory description? Do quantum gravity effects break the global axion symmetry?

Kinney and Mahantappa 1995: symmetries suppress the mass term and $f \ll m_{pl}$ is OK.

Arkani-Hamed et al (2003): axion direction from Wilson line of U(1) field along compactified extra dimension provides $f \gg m_{pl}$

However, Banks et al (2003) showed it does not work in string theory.

A large effective axion scale

(Kim, Nilles, Peloso 2004)

- Two or more axions with low PQ scale can provide large $f_{eff} \sim m_{pl}$
- Two axions θ and ρ

$$V = \Lambda_1^4 \left[1 - \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{f} + \frac{\epsilon_1 \rho}{g}\right) \right] + \Lambda_2^4 \left[1 - \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{f} + \frac{\epsilon_2 \rho}{g}\right) \right]$$

- Mass eigenstates are linear combinations of θ and ρ
- Effective axion scale can be large,

$$f_\xi = \frac{\sqrt{\epsilon_1^2 f^2 + g^2}}{\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2} \gg f \text{ if } |\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2| \ll 1$$

Also, N-flation has a large number of axions (Dimopolous et al 2005)

Density Fluctuations and Tensor Modes can determine which model is right

- **Density Fluctuations:**

$$\frac{\delta\rho}{\rho} \sim \frac{H^2}{\dot{\phi}}$$

$$|\delta_k|^2 \sim k^{n_s}$$

WMAP data:

$$|n_s - 1| < 0.1$$

Slight indication of running of spectral index

- **Tensor Modes**

$$P_T^{1/2} = \frac{H}{2\pi}$$

gravitational

wave modes, detectable in upcoming experiments

Density Fluctuations in Natural Inflation

- Power Spectrum:

$$|\delta_k|^2 \sim k^{n_s}, n_s = 1 - \frac{m_{pl}^2}{8\pi f^2}$$

- WMAP data:

implies $|n_s - 1| < 0.1$

$$f \geq 0.6m_{pl}$$

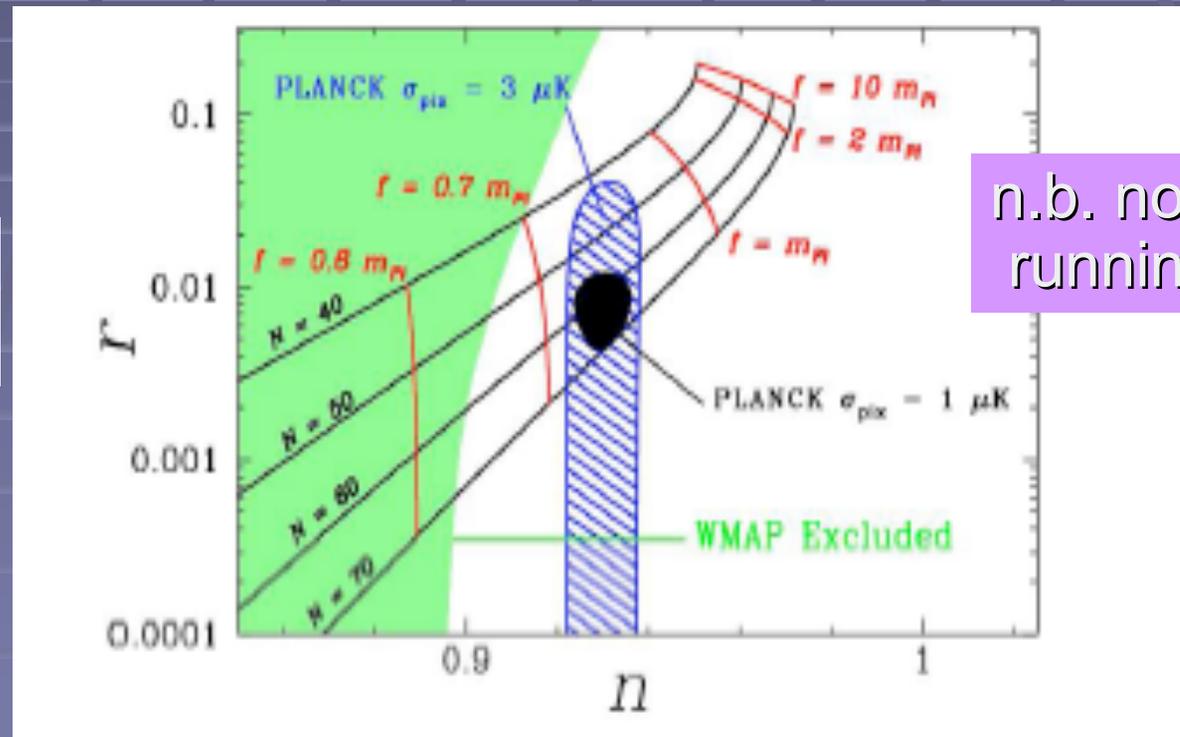
(Freese and Kinney
2004)

Tensor Modes in Natural Inflation

(original model) (Freese and Kinney 2004)

Two predictions, testable in next decade: 1) Tensor modes, while smaller than in other models, must be found. 2) There is very little running of n in natural inflation.

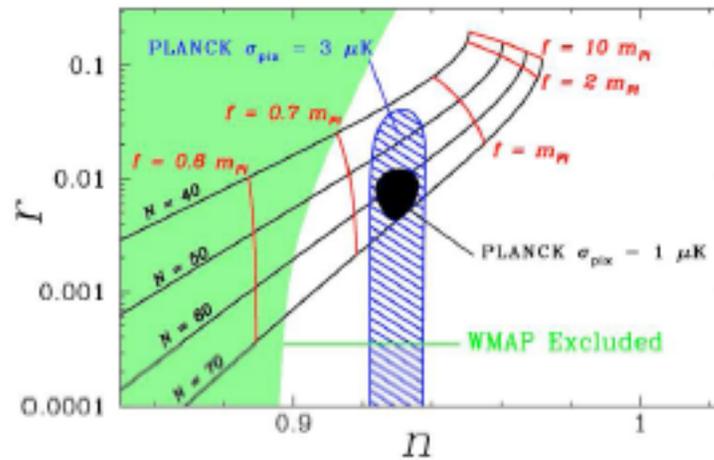
$$r = \frac{P_T^{1/2}}{P_s^{1/2}} = 16\epsilon$$



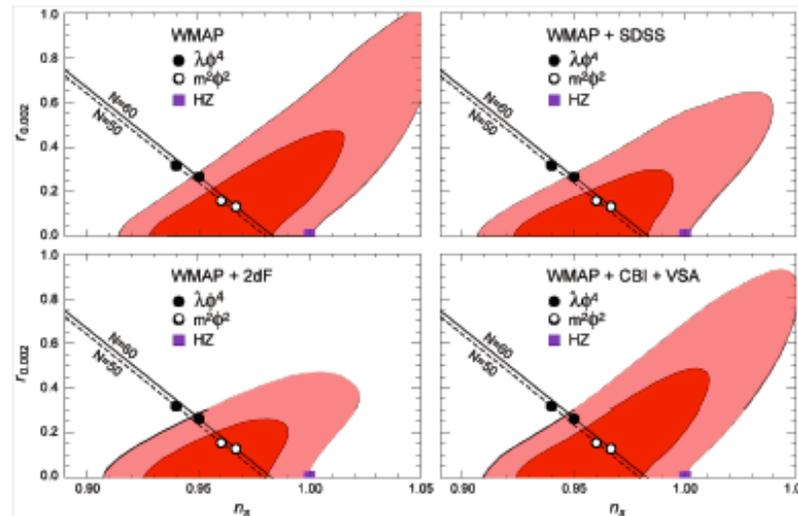
n.b. not much running of n

Sensitivity of PLANCK: error bars +/- 0.05 on r and 0.01 on n .
Next generation expts (3 times more sensitive) must see it.

Natural
Inflation
agrees well
with WMAP!

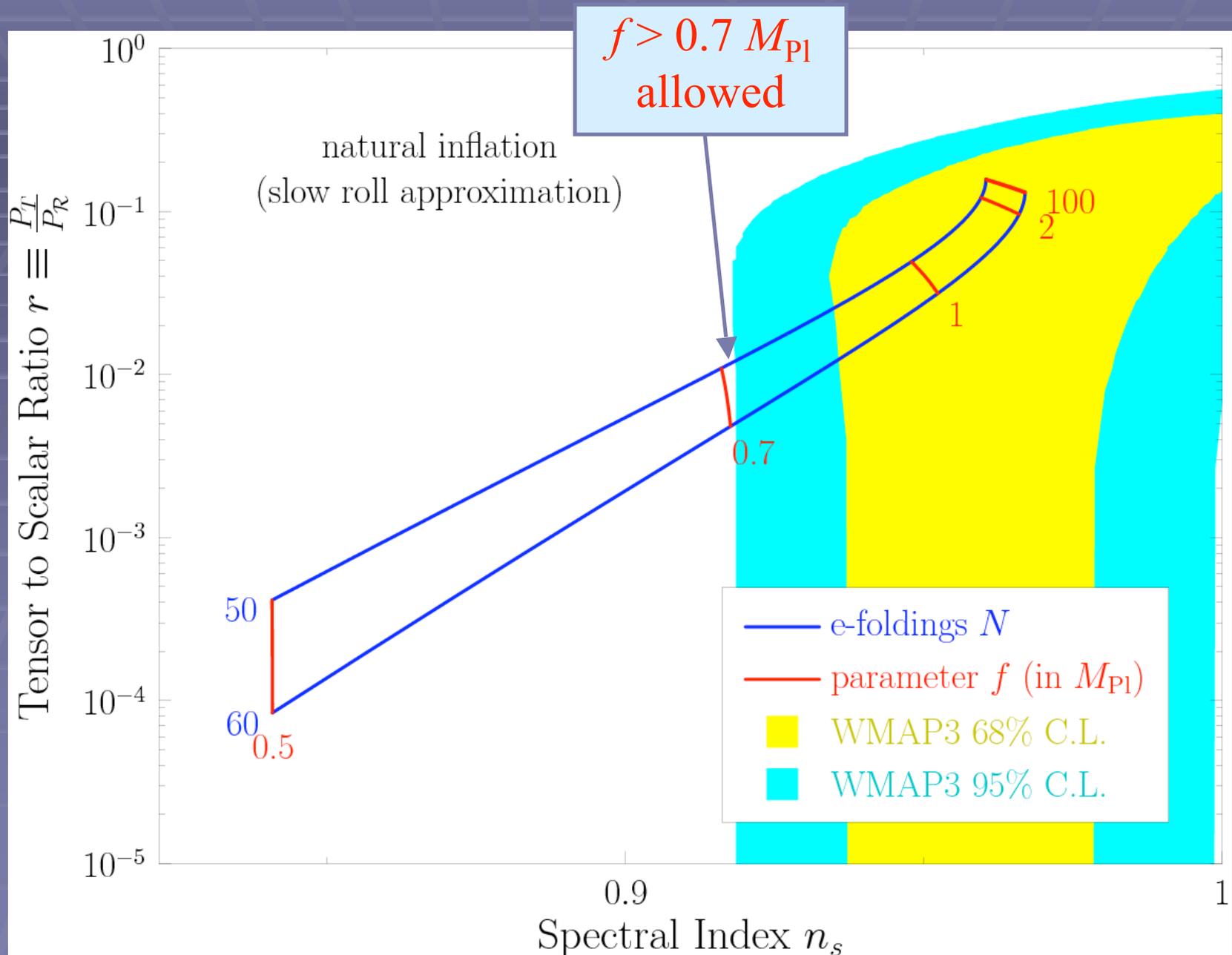


Testing Inflation with Tensors



Spectral index vs. tensors

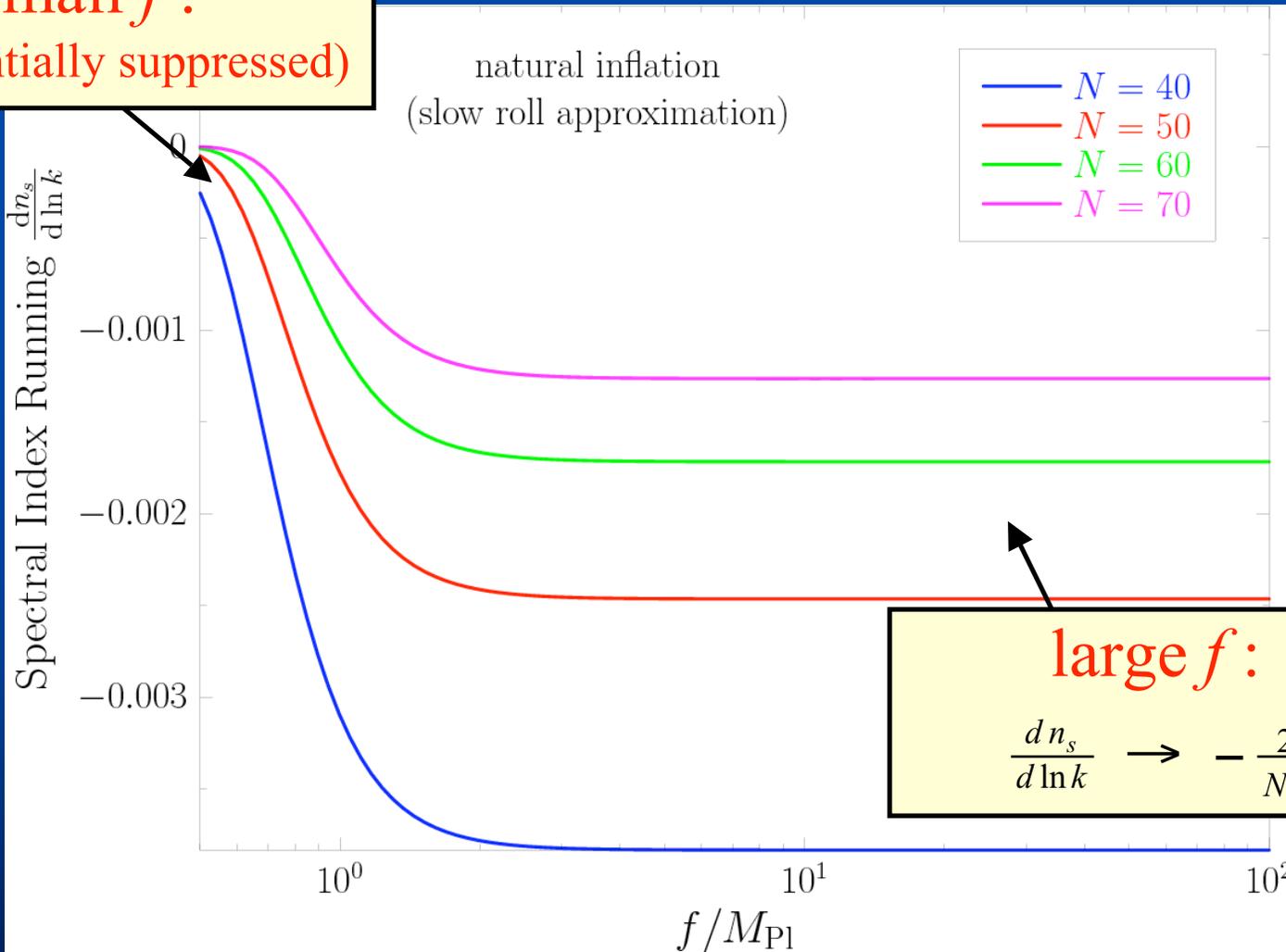
r - n plane: Natural inflation after WMAP 3



Spectral Index Running

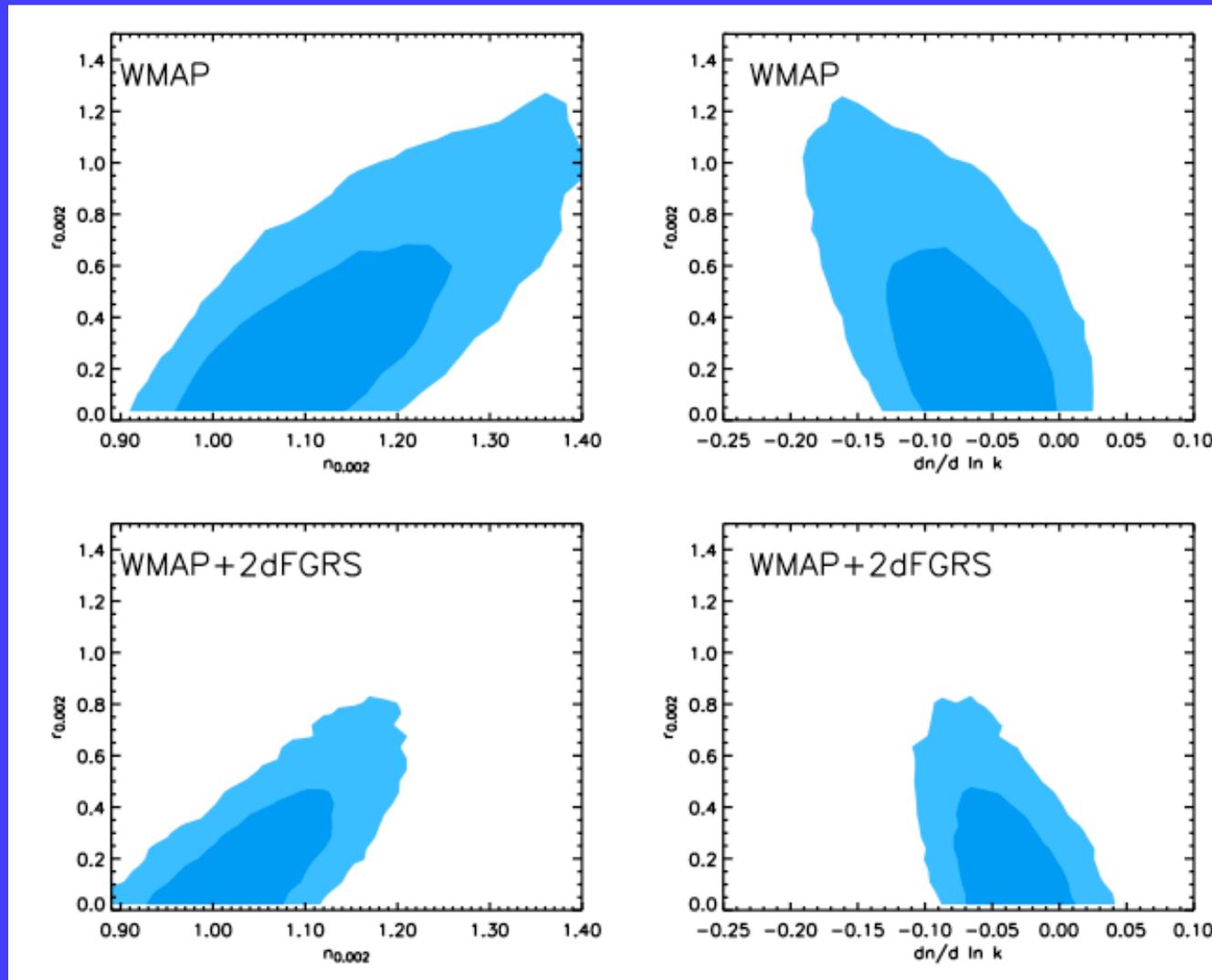
$$\frac{dn_s}{d \ln k}$$

small f :
(exponentially suppressed)

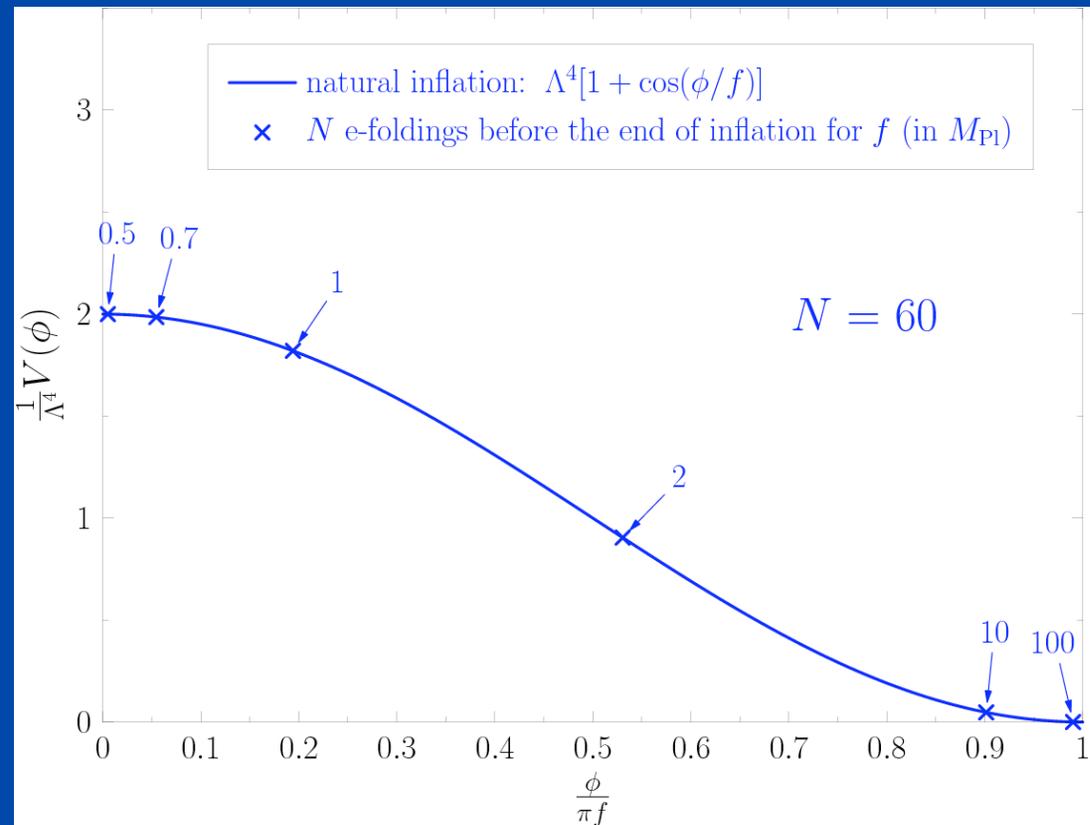


large f :
 $\frac{dn_s}{d \ln k} \rightarrow -\frac{2}{N^2}$

The full treatment:

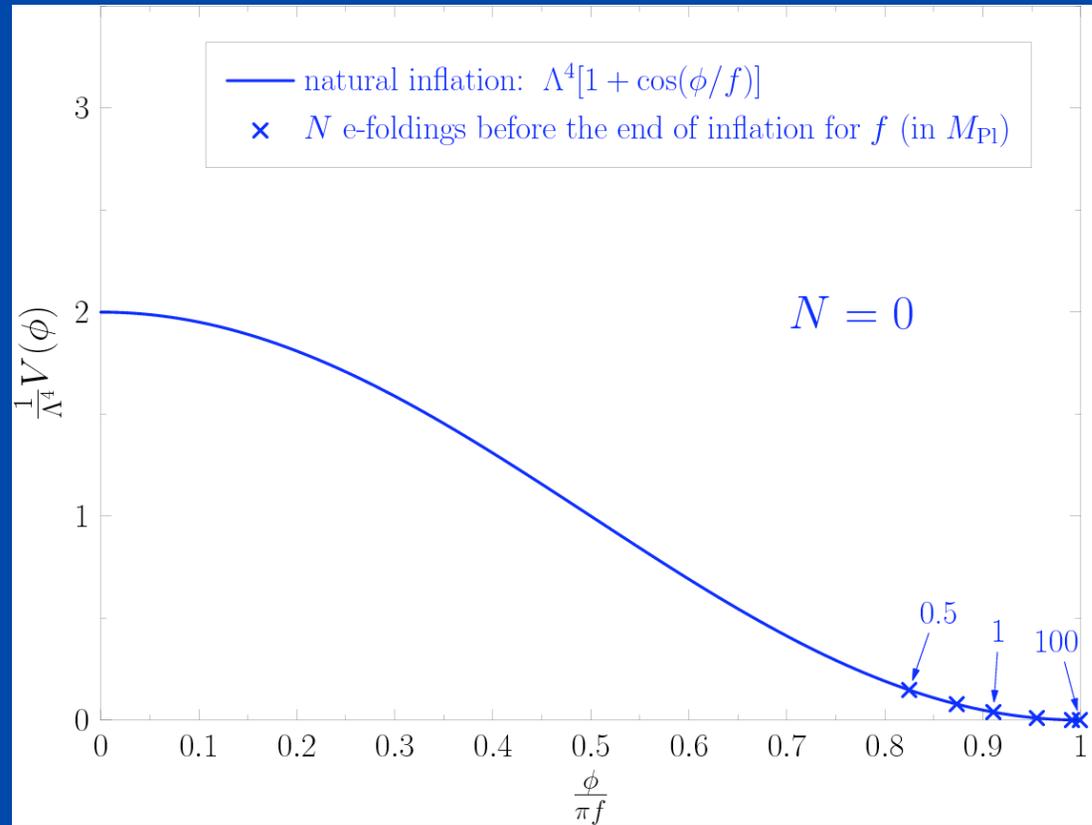


Potential



- 60 e-foldings before the end of inflation
~ present day horizon

Potential



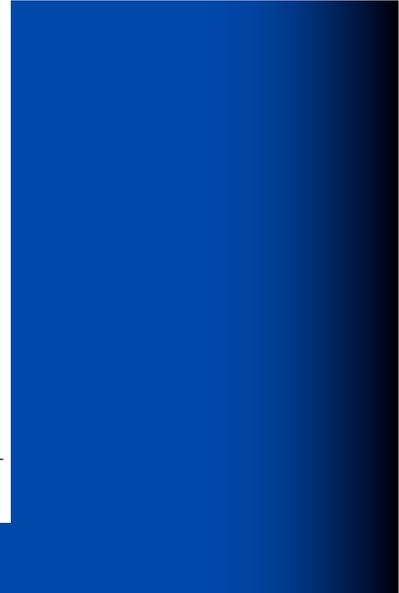
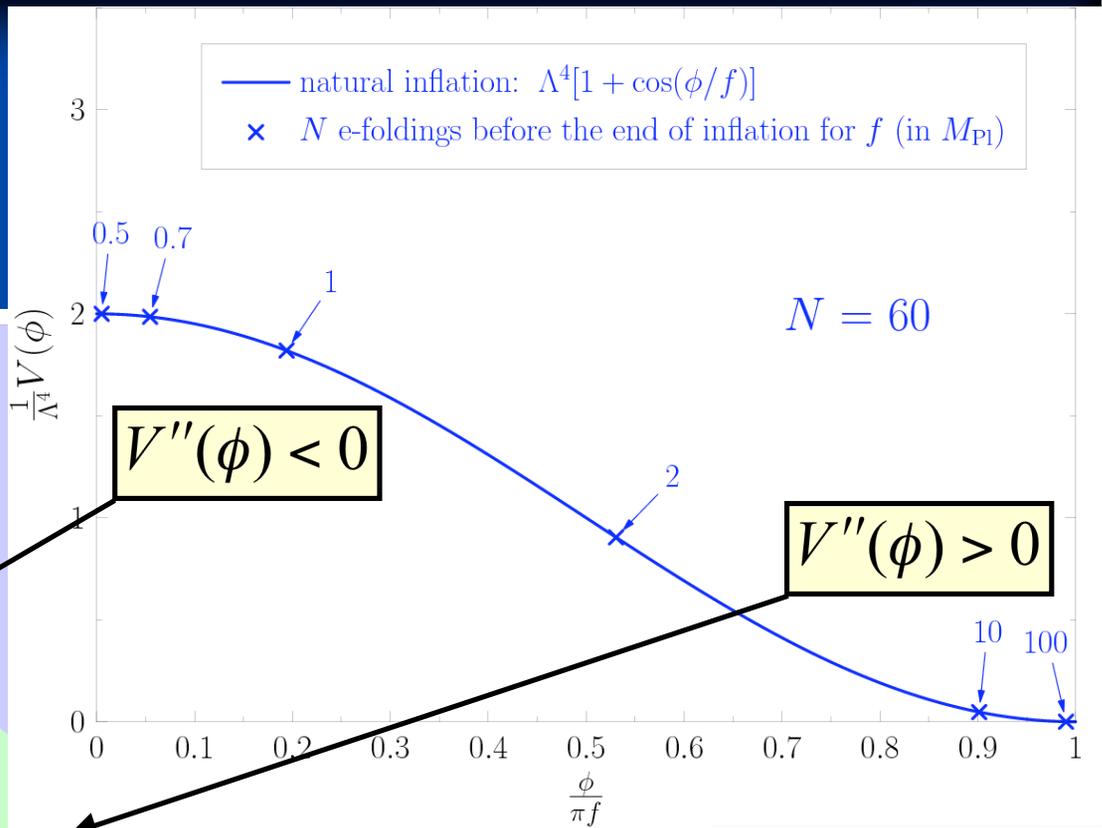
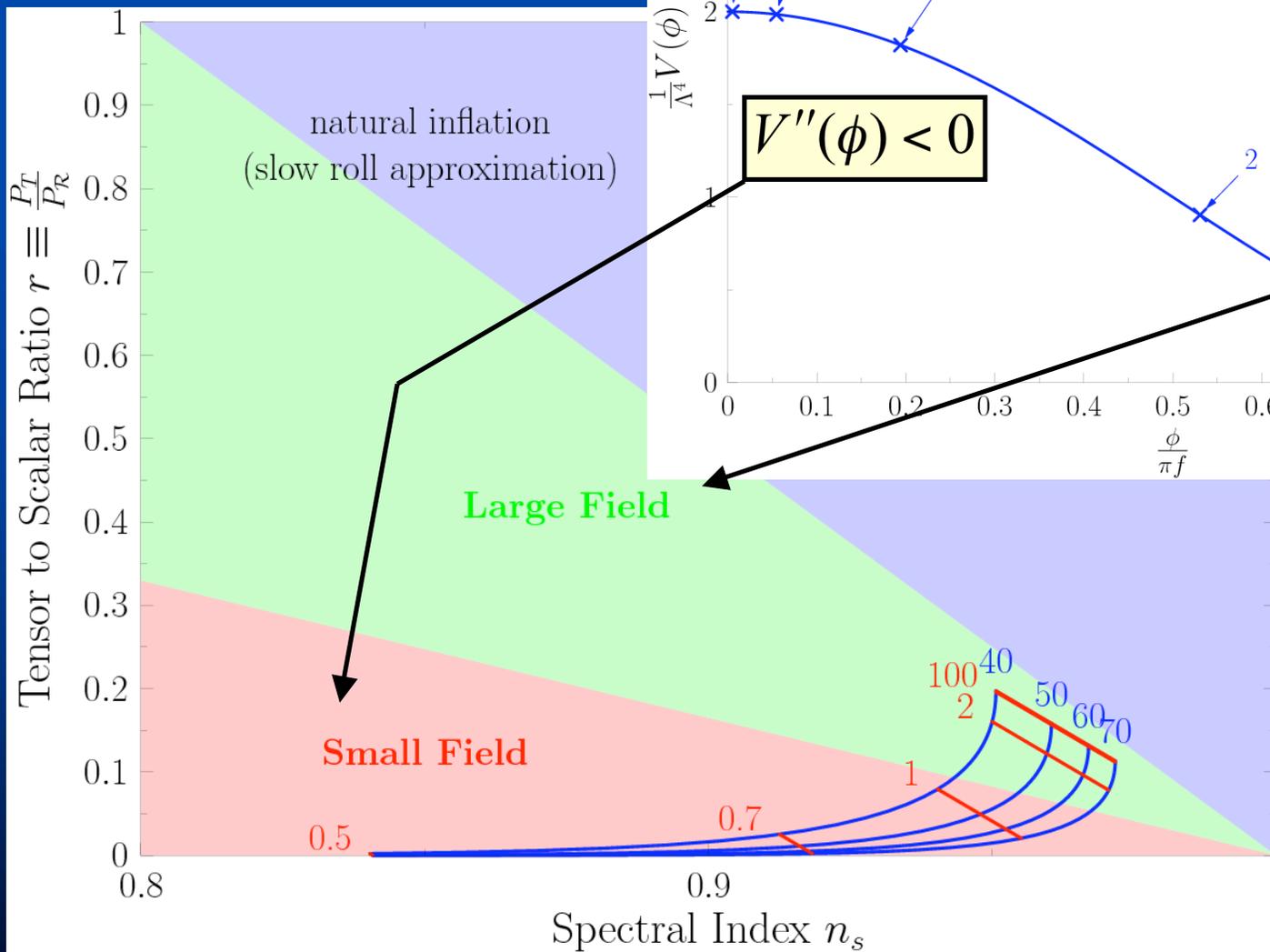
- At the end of inflation

Model Classes

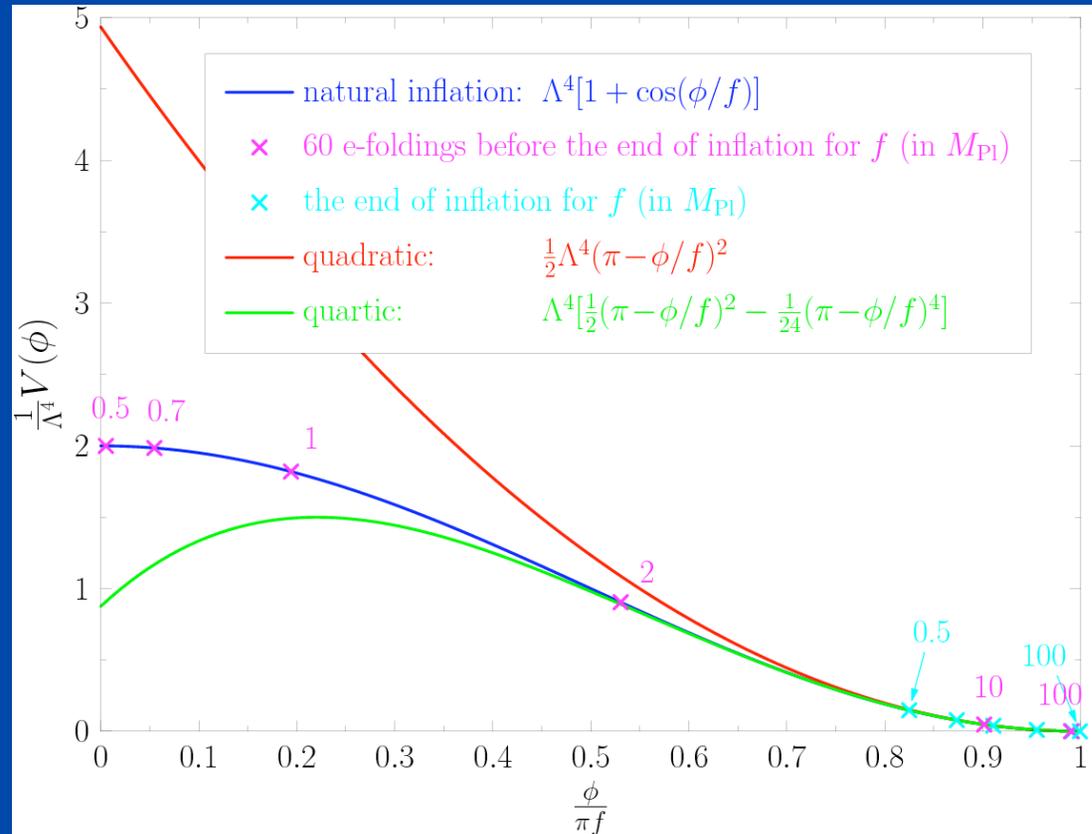
- Kinney & collaborators

- Large-field $-\varepsilon < \eta \leq \varepsilon$ $V''(\phi) > 0$
- Small-field $\eta < -\varepsilon$ $V''(\phi) < 0$
- Hybrid $0 < \varepsilon < \eta$

Model Classes



Potential



- $f > \text{few } M_{\text{pl}}$:

$V(\phi) \sim \text{quadratic}$

Natural Inflation Summary

- No fine tuning,
naturally flat potential

- WMAP 3-year data:

$f < 0.7 M_{\text{Pl}}$ excluded

$f > 0.7 M_{\text{Pl}}$ consistent

- Tensor/scalar ratio r
- Spectral index n_s
- Spectral index running $dn_s/d \ln k$

To really test inflation need B modes, which can only be produced by gravity waves.

- Will confirm key prediction of inflation.
- Will differentiate between models.
- Need next generation experiments.

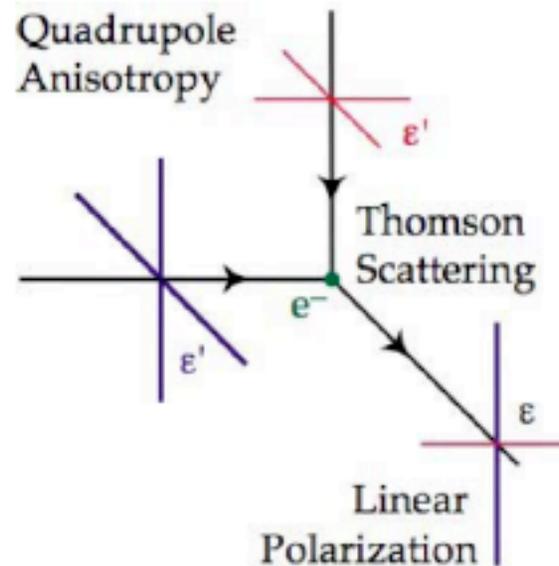
Sources of Polarization

Two ingredients

1. Free electrons
2. Incident quadrupole anisotropy

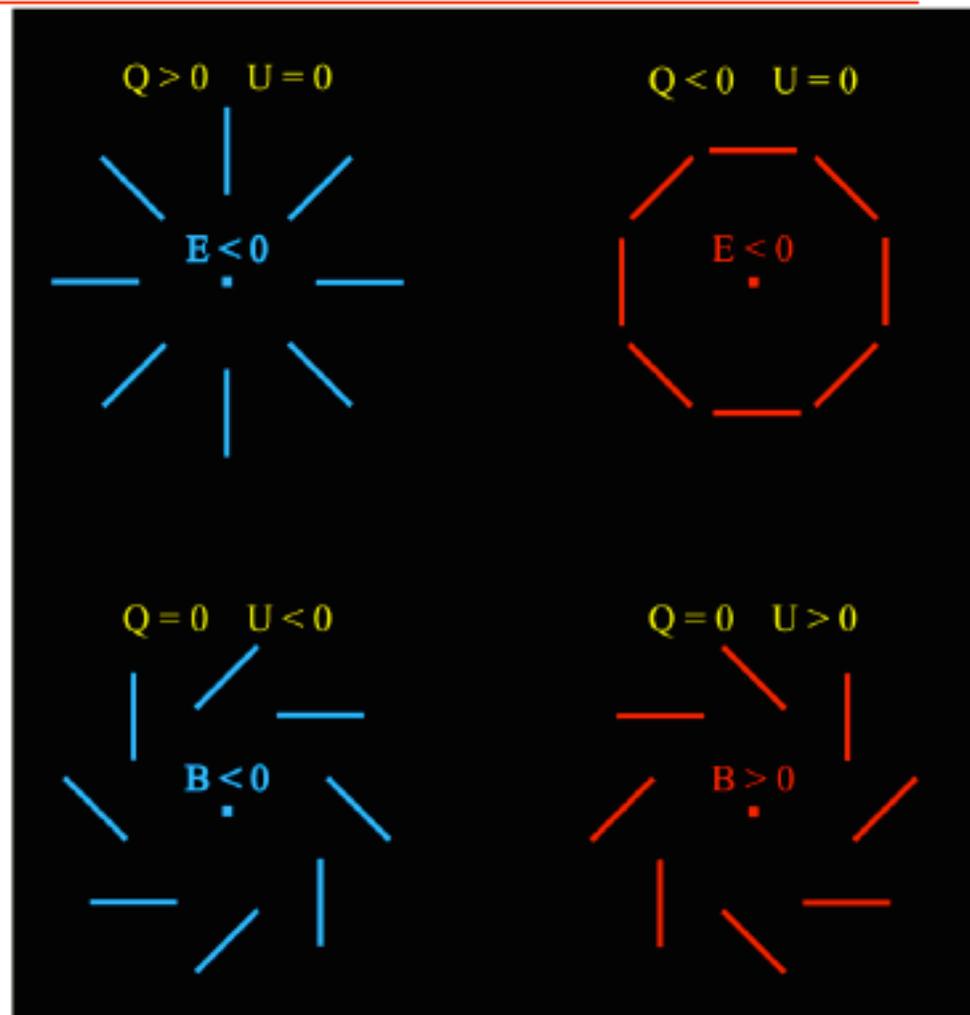
Scattering at $z \sim 1100$ produces signal on degree scales

Scattering at $z \sim 10$ produces signal on 10 degree scales - probes reionization from first stars.



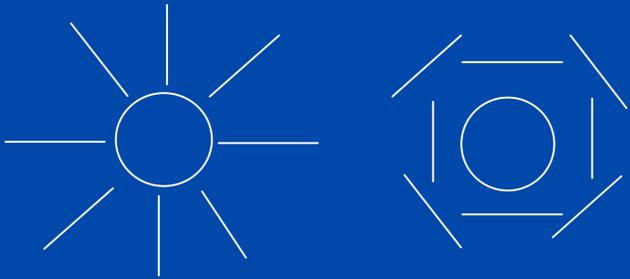
The E's and B's of Polarization Spectra

- Polarization decomposable into E mode (gradient) and B mode (curl) components.
- Tensor fluctuations produce both E and B mode components.
- Scalar fluctuations produce only E mode component (except for transformation by gravitational lensing).
- B modes directly probe gravity waves.

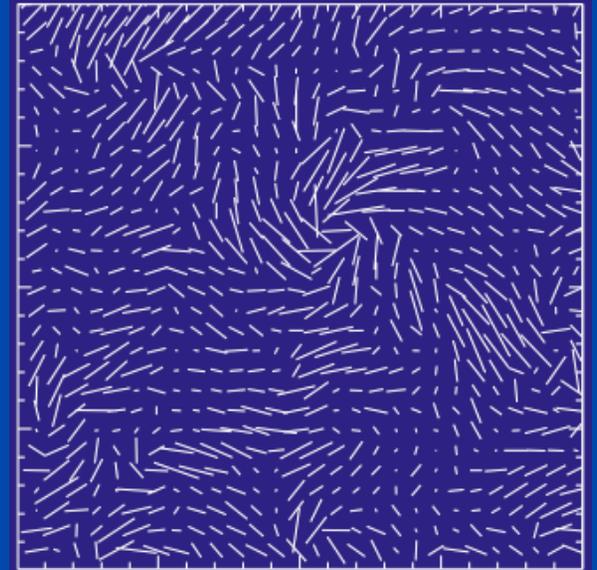
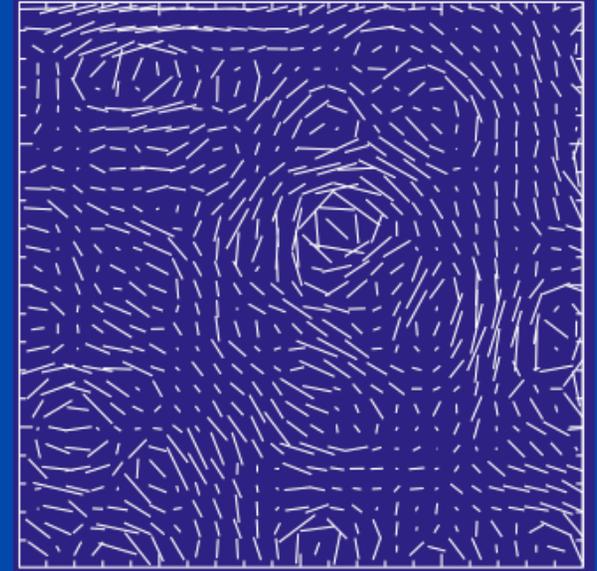
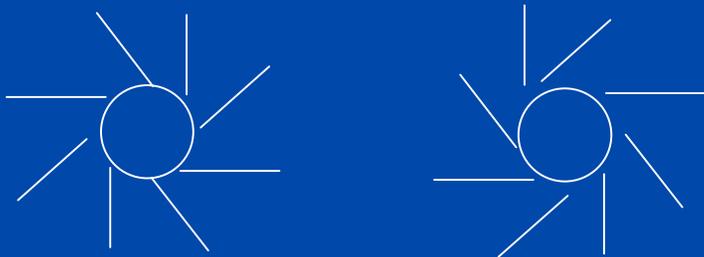


E and B modes polarization

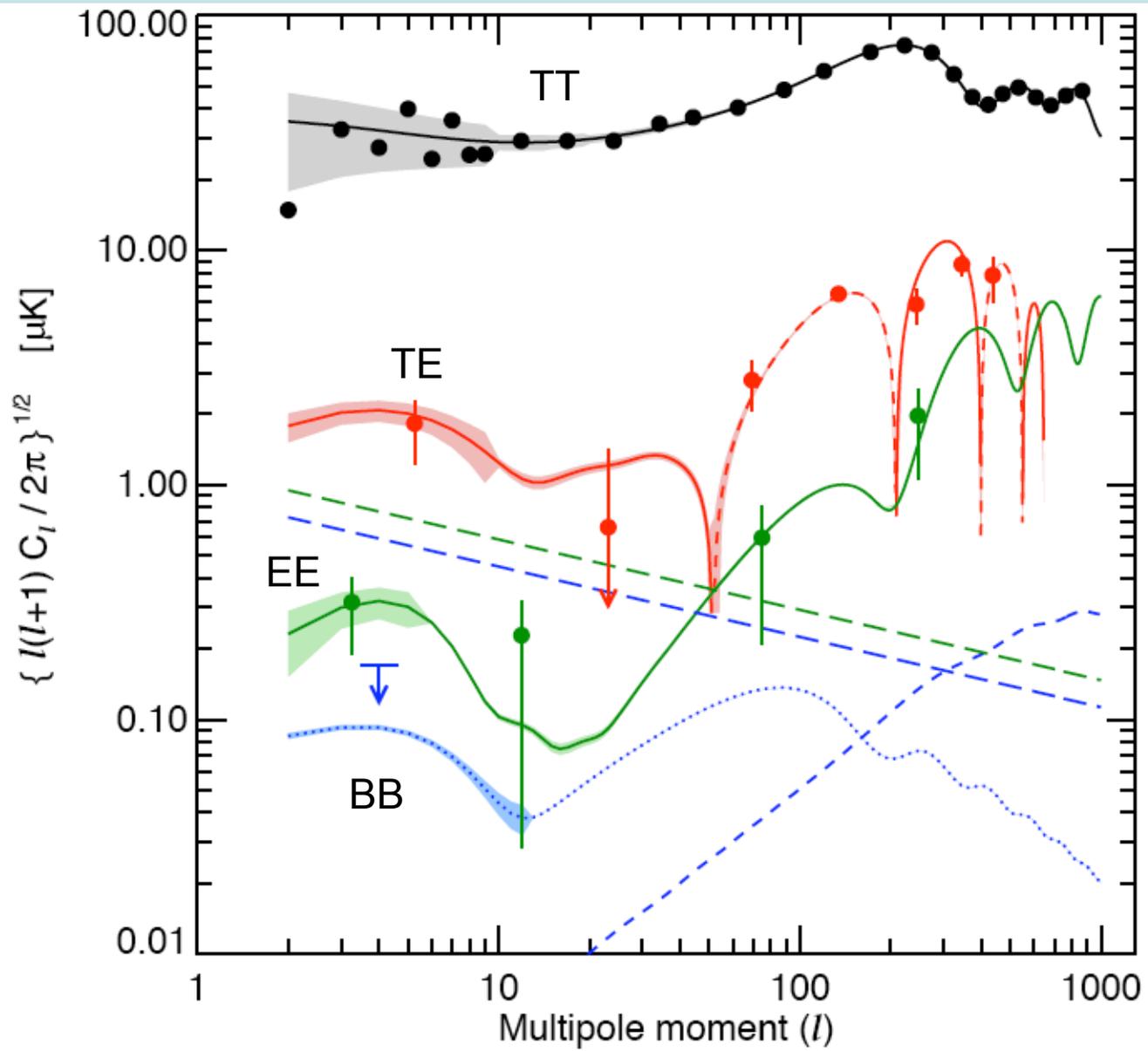
E polarization
from scalar, vector and tensor modes



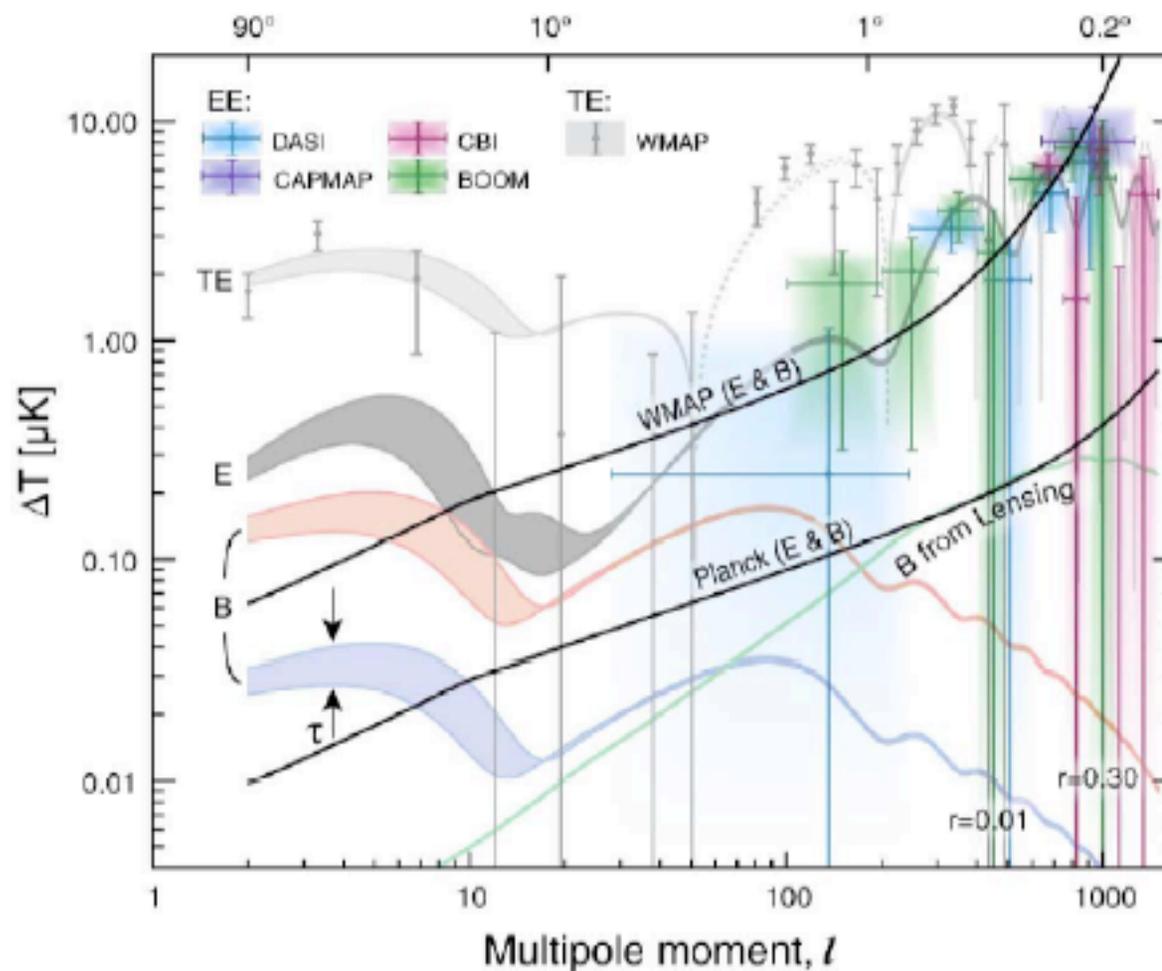
B polarization only from (vector)
tensor modes



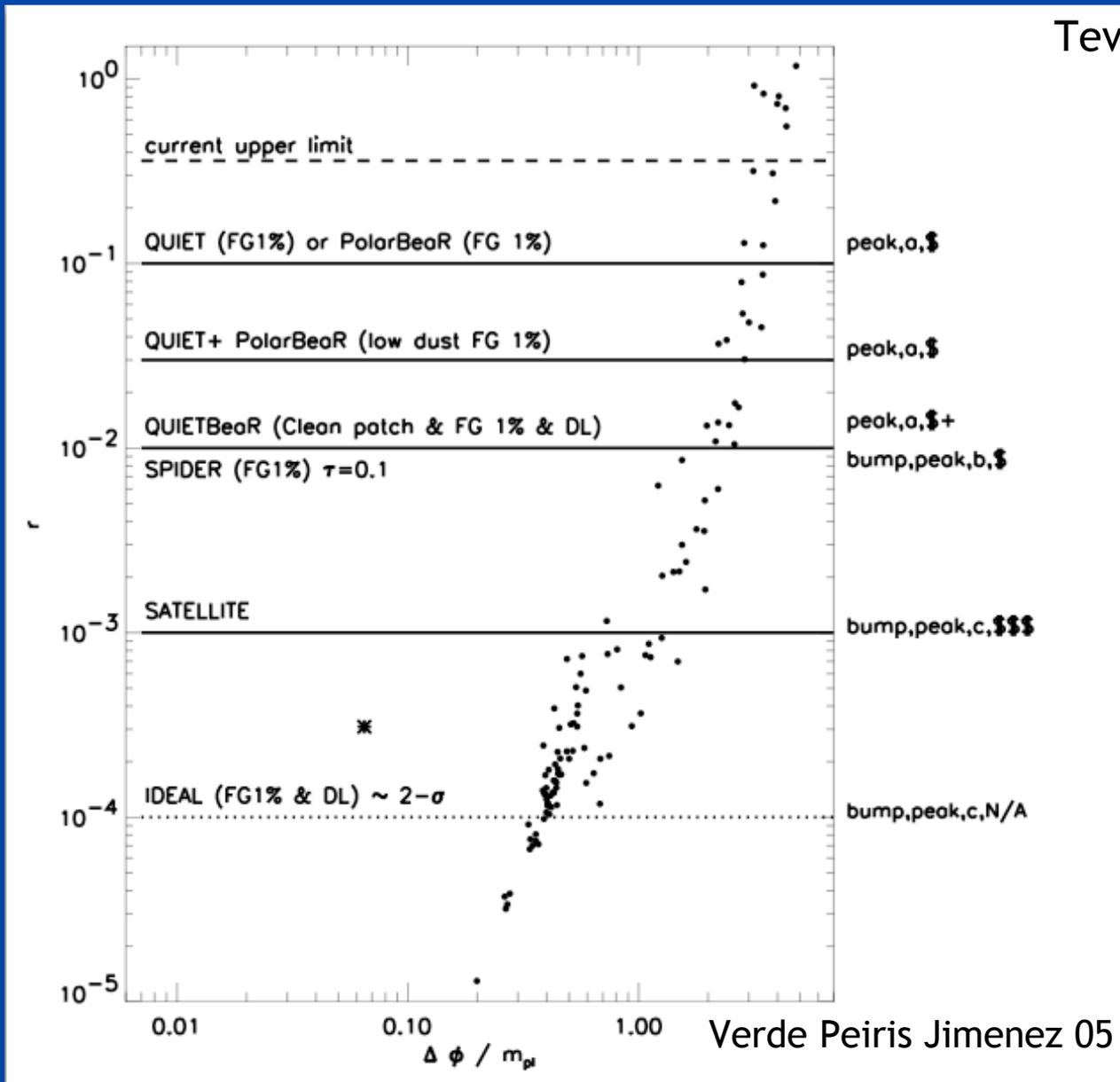
WMAP3 data



The E's and B's of Polarization Spectra



Future prospects: gravity waves



3.2×10^{13}

1.7×10^{13}

9.7×10^{12}

5.5×10^{12}

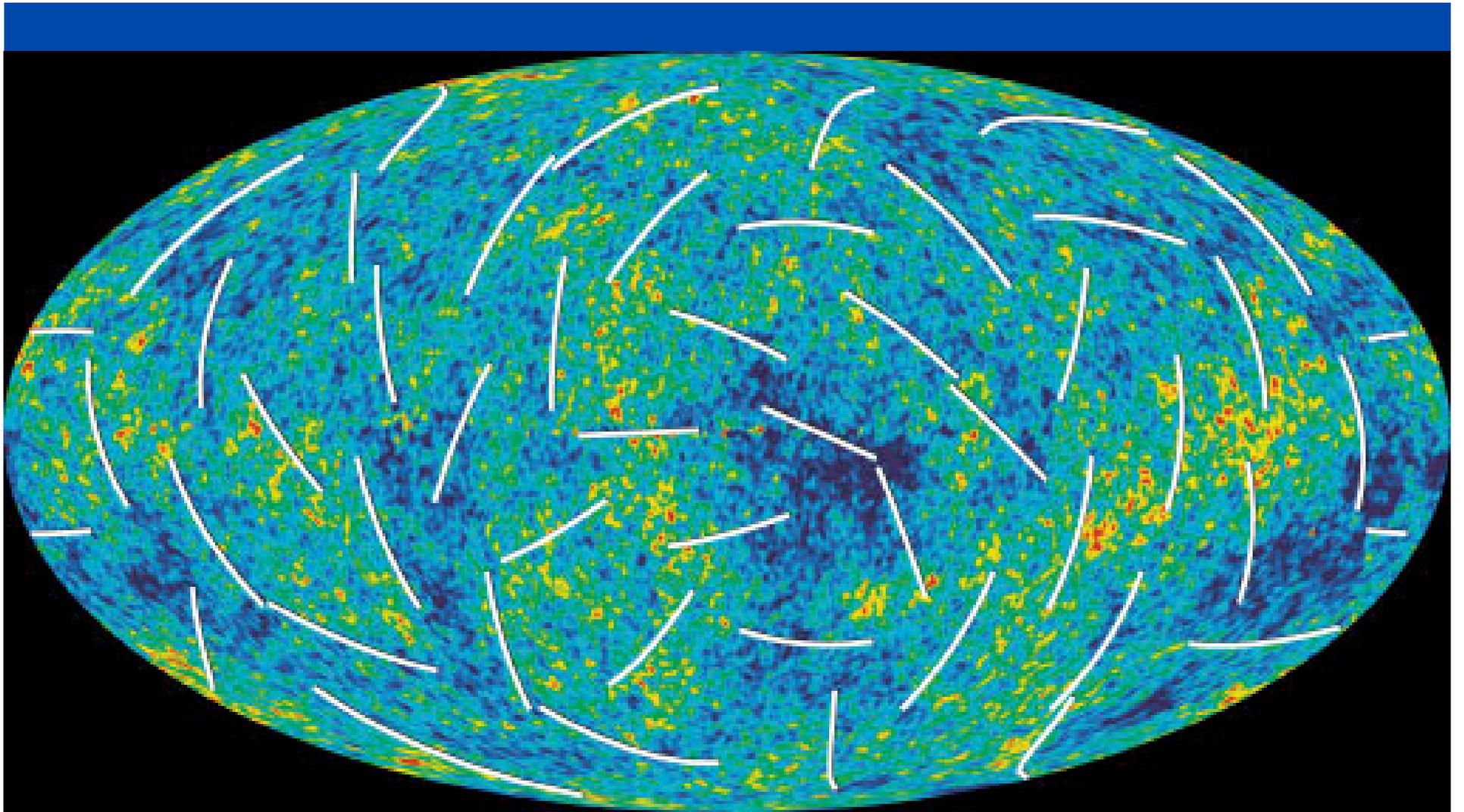
3×10^{12}

SUMMARY:

- ┌ **I. The predictions of inflation are right:**
 - (i) the universe has a critical density
 - (ii) Gaussian perturbations
 - (iii) superhorizon fluctuations
 - (iv) density perturbation spectrum nearly scale invariant
 - (v) detection of polarization (from gravitational wave modes) in upcoming data may provide smoking gun for inflation
- ┌ **II. Polarization measurements will tell us which model is right.**
 - WMAP already selects between models.
 - Natural inflation (Freese, Frieman, Olinto) looks great

Predictions/Status of Inflation

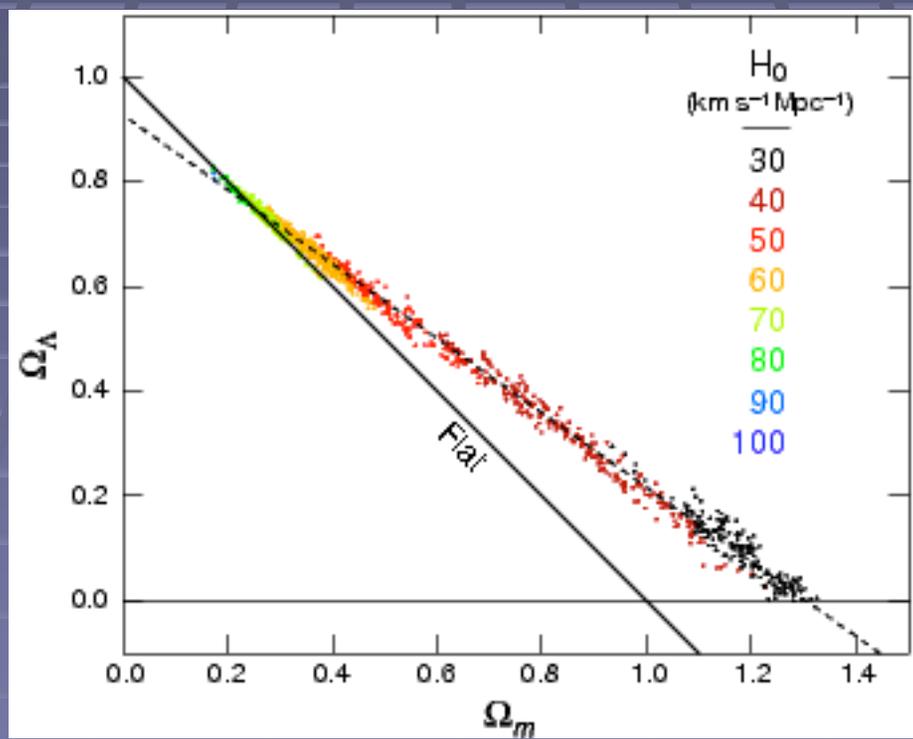
- The universe has a critical density ✓✓
- Gaussian perturbations (single field models) ✓ (so far)
- Superhorizon fluctuations ✓
- Density perturbations $n_s \sim 1$ ✓
- Gravitation wave modes upcoming



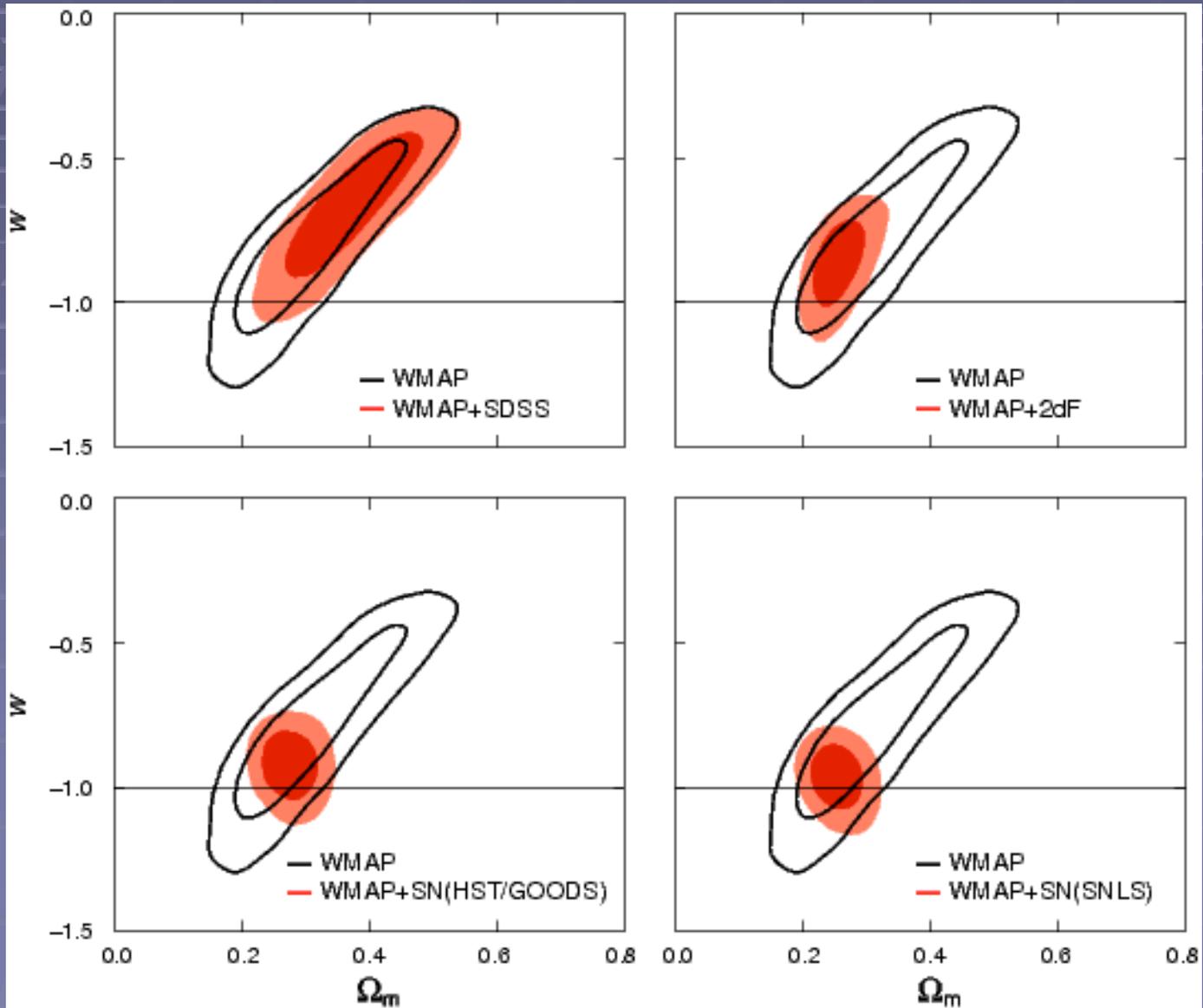
end

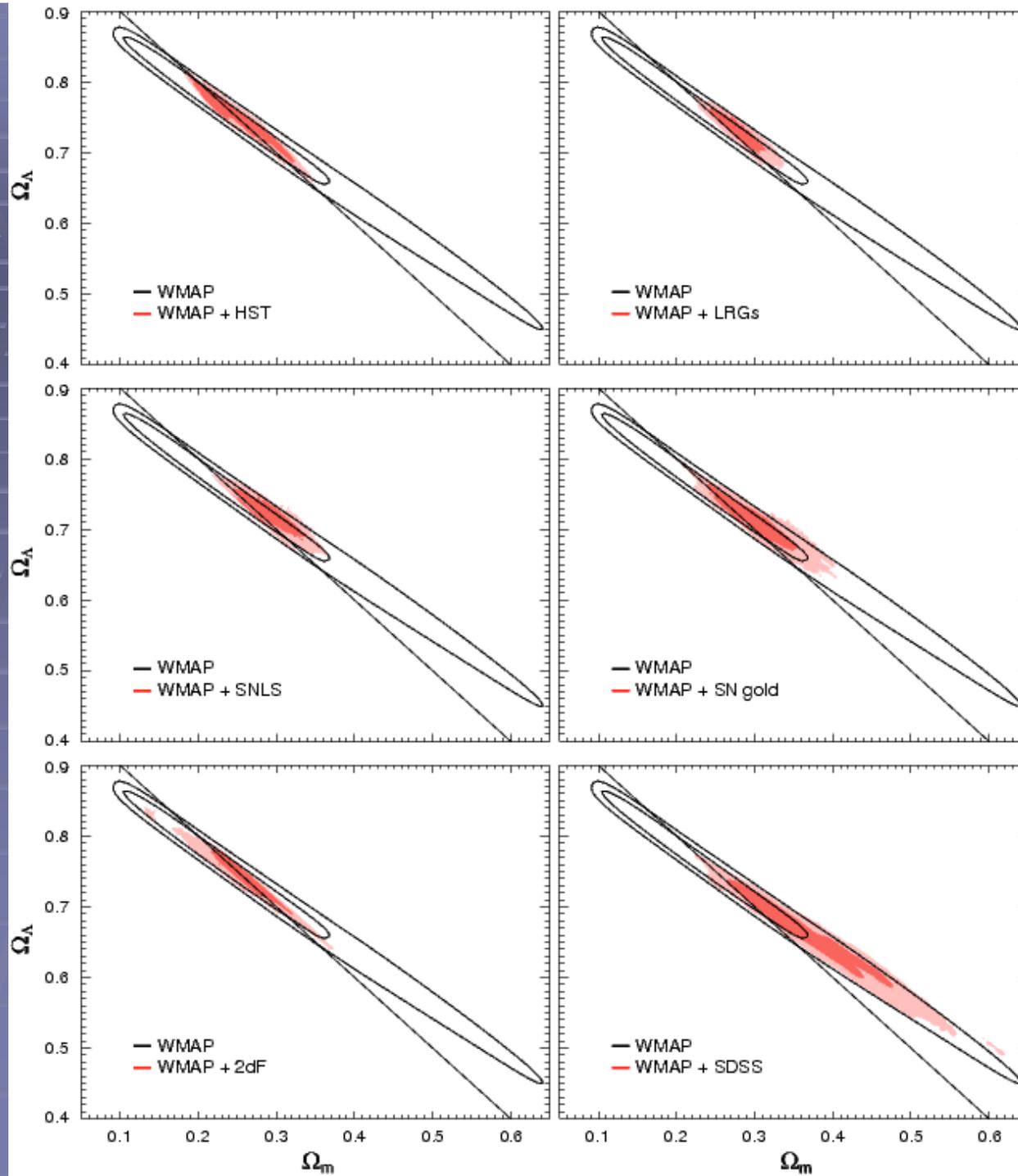
Tests of Inflation

- The following are “generic” predictions of inflation, for which we had little evidence in the 1980’s (adapted from Steinhardt):
 - near scale invariance [COBE]
 - flatness [TOCO, Boomerang, WMAP1]
 - adiabatic fluctuations [WMAP1]
 - gaussian fluctuations [WMAP1]
 - super-horizon fluctuations [WMAP1-TE]
 - $n_s < 1$ [WMAP2, ...]
 - gravity waves [CMBPOL?]



DARK ENERGY ($w=p/\rho$)





Testing Inflation: Gaussian, Random Phase?

>700 papers written since 1st data release based on WMAP results. Several questioning validity of standard model, specifically gaussianity of fluctuations.

Expand temperature field in Fourier space:

$$T(\hat{n}) = \sum_{lm} a_{lm} Y_{lm}(\hat{n})$$

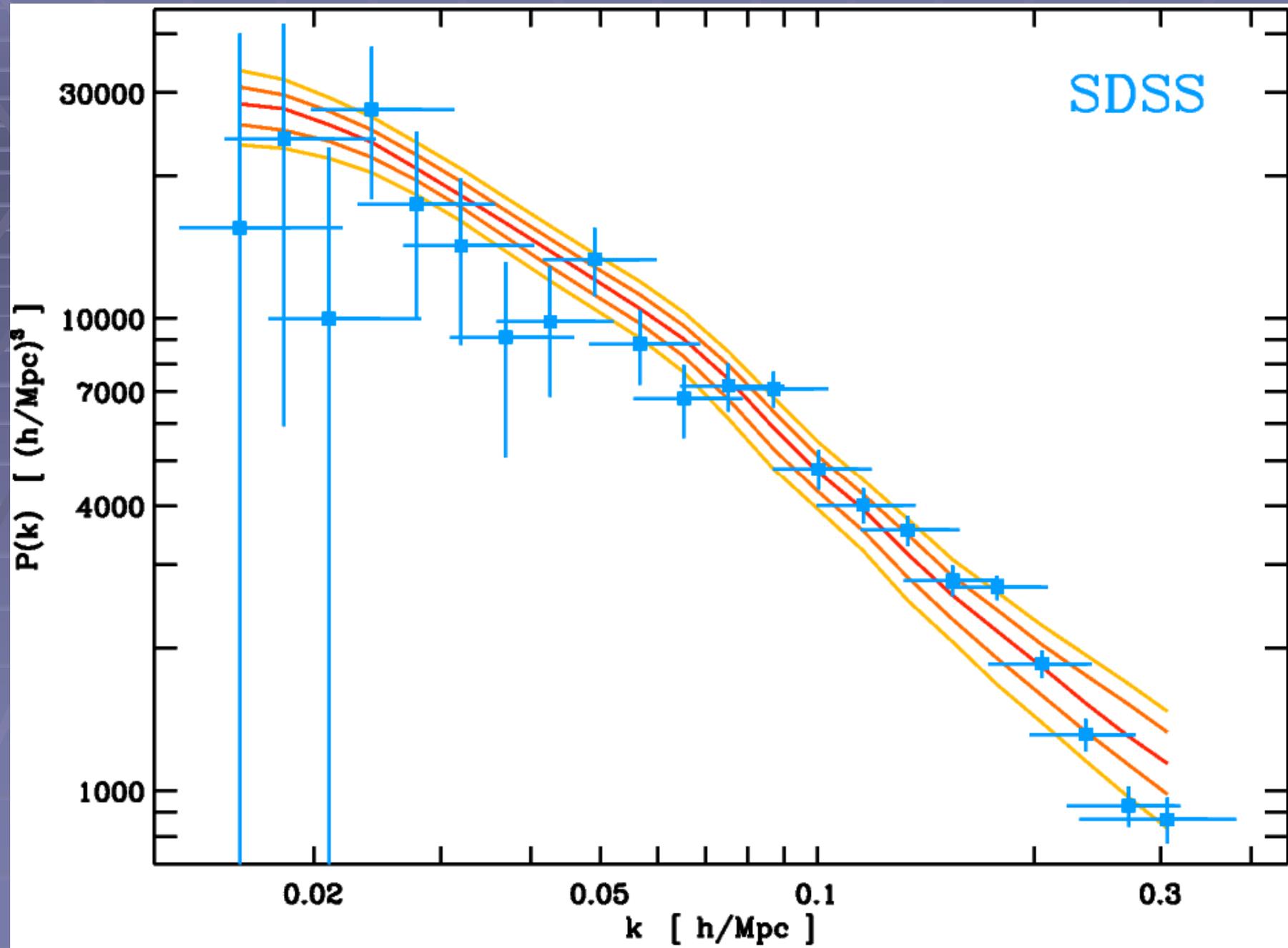
Simplest prediction of inflation is that a_{lm} coefficients are gaussian distributed:

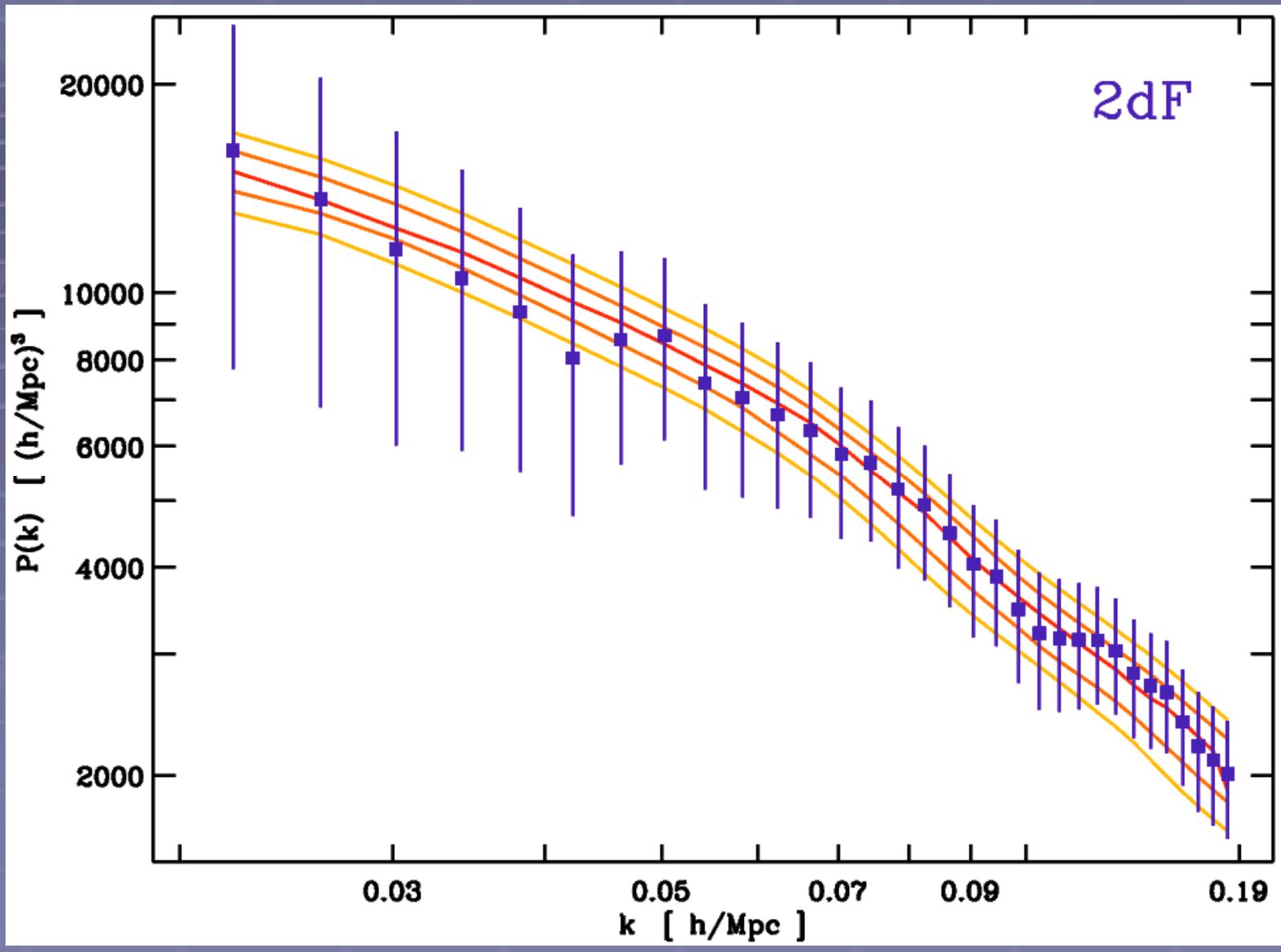
$$P(a_{lm}) \propto \exp(-\frac{1}{2} a_{lm}^2 / C_l)$$

with random (uncorrelated) phases:

$$\langle a_{lm} a_{l'm'}^* \rangle = C_l \delta_{ll'} \delta_{mm'}$$

STOP HERE



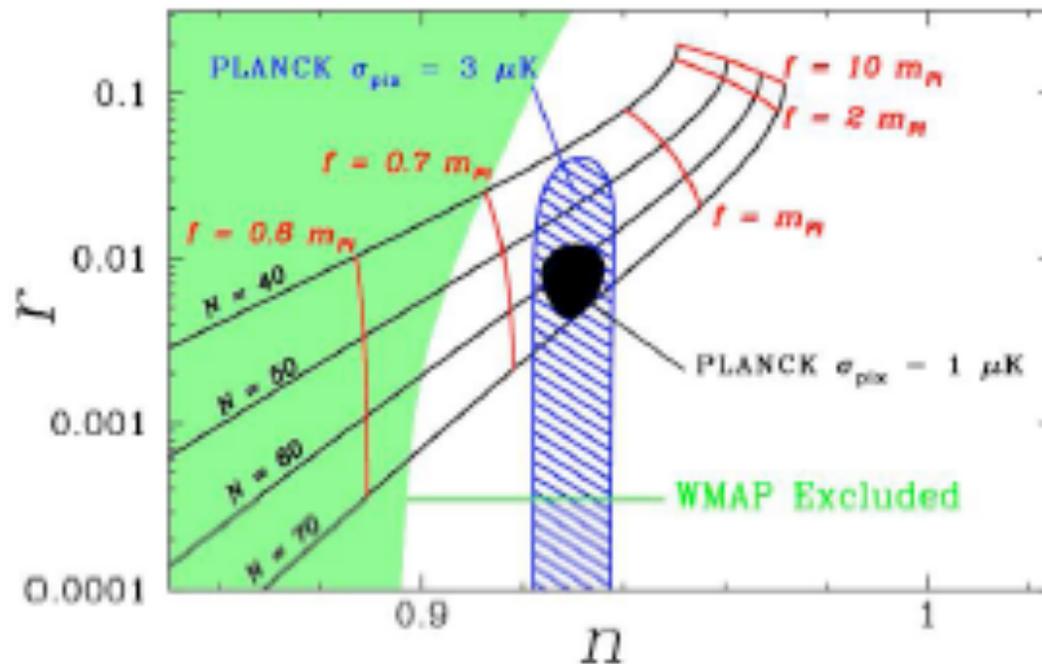


Prediction 2 of inflation is confirmed

- Multiple data sets (WMAP, large scale structure, etc) confirm n near 1.
- More detail shown in a minute to differentiate between models

Tensor-to-scalar ratio r vs. scalar spectral index n for natural inflation

(Freese and
Kinney 2004)



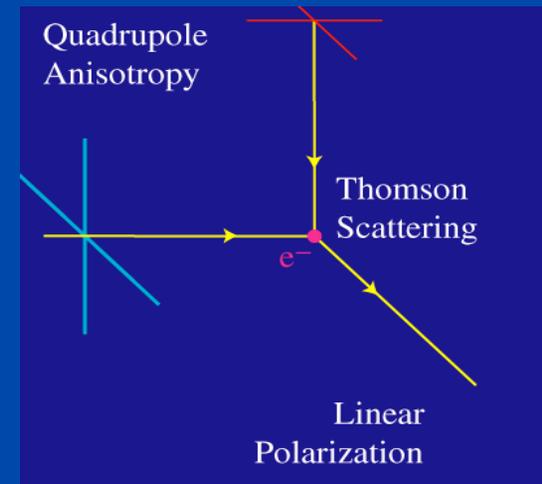
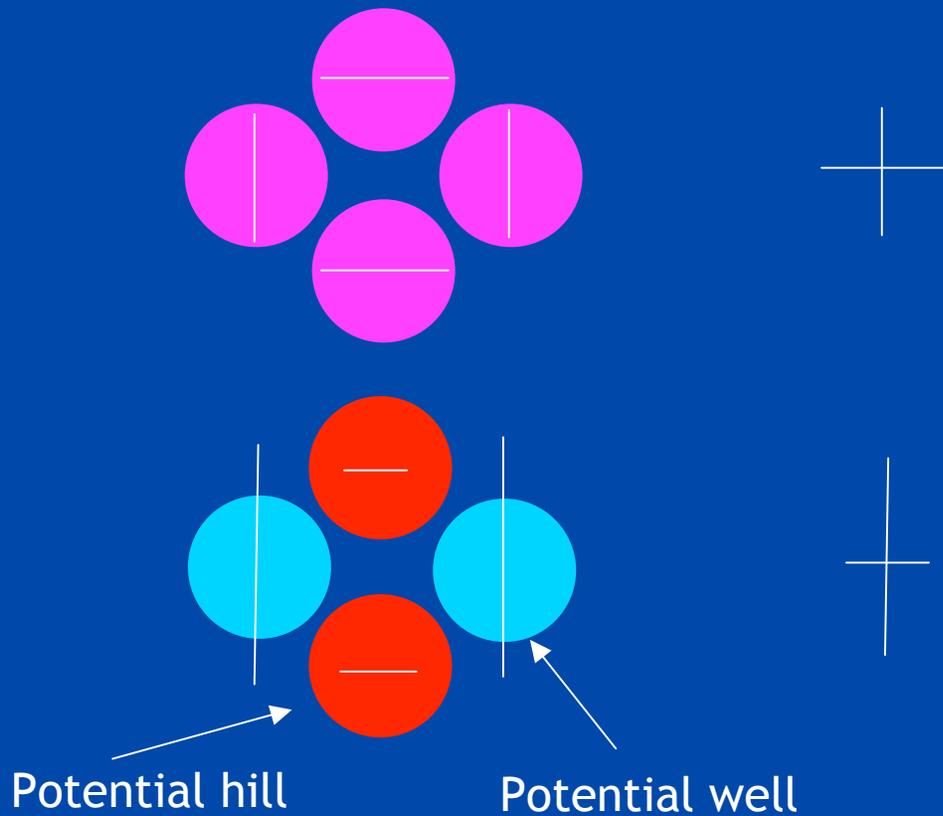
n.b. This is a
small-field
model

Conclusion

- An early period of inflation resolves cosmological puzzles: homogeneity, isotropy, oldness, and monopoles. It also generates density perturbations for galaxy formation.
- Details of density and gravitational wave modes can be used to test inflation as well as individual models.
- Predictions of inflation are confirmed!
- Natural inflation, which was theoretically well-motivated, fits the data very well.

Generation of CMB polarization

- Temperature quadrupole at the surface of last scatter generates polarization.



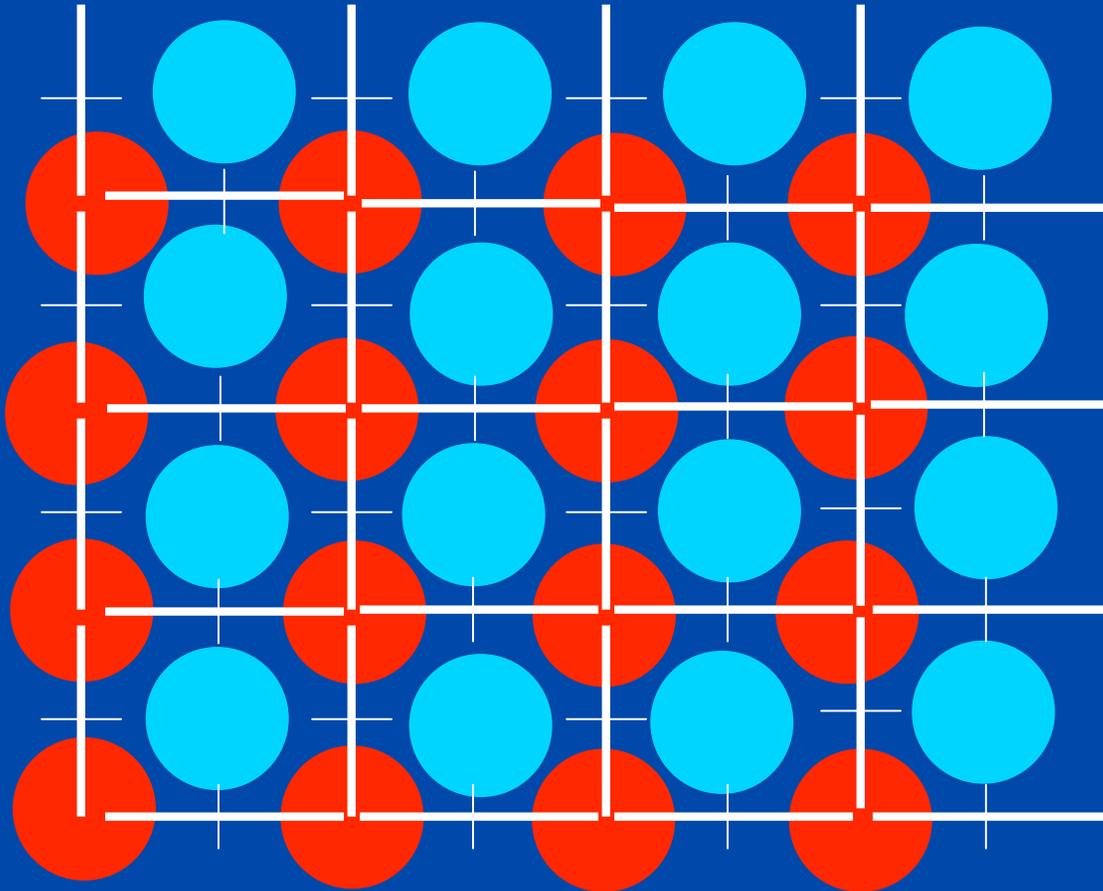
From Wayne Hu

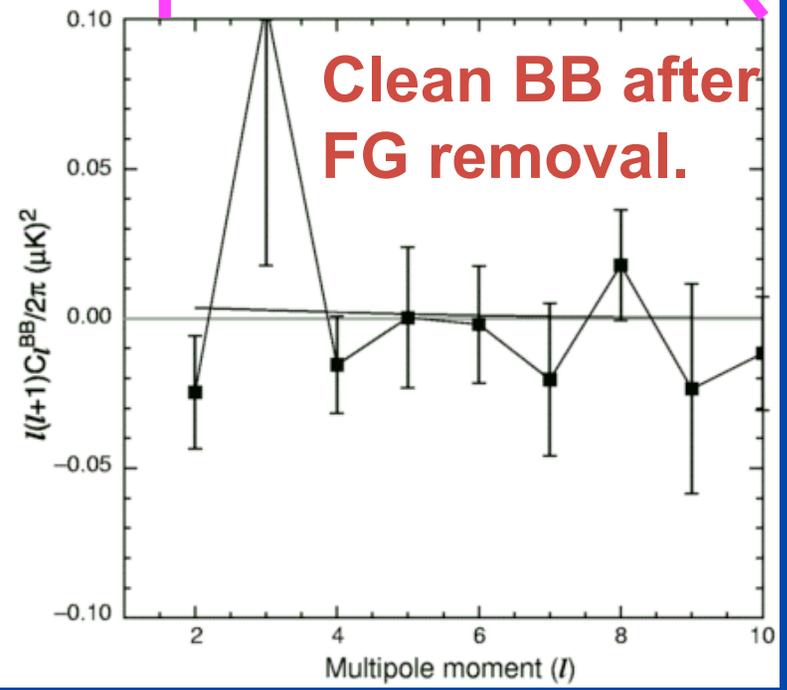
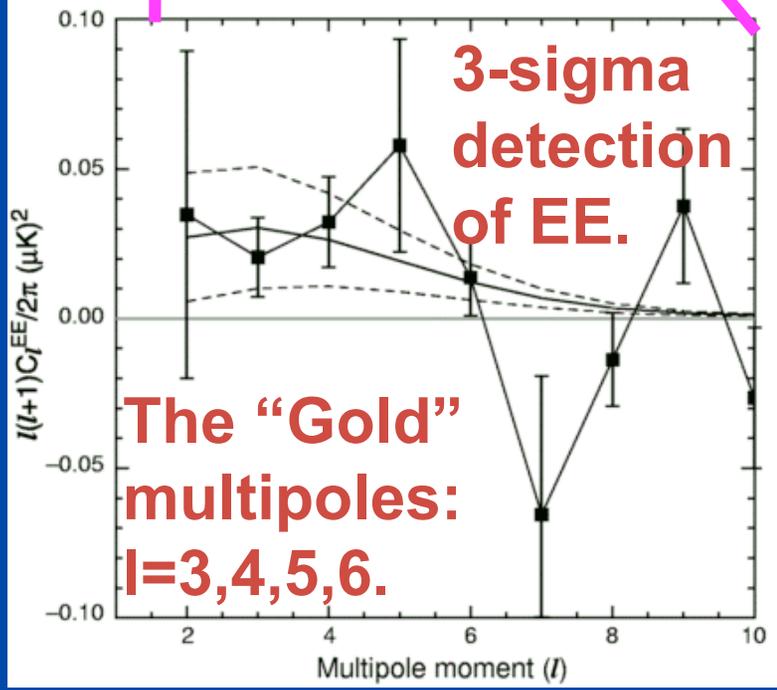
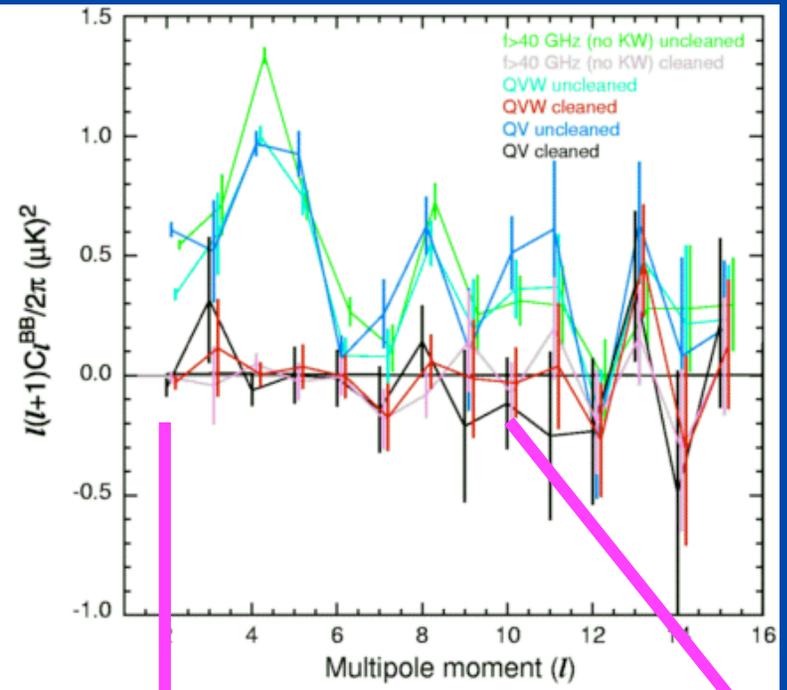
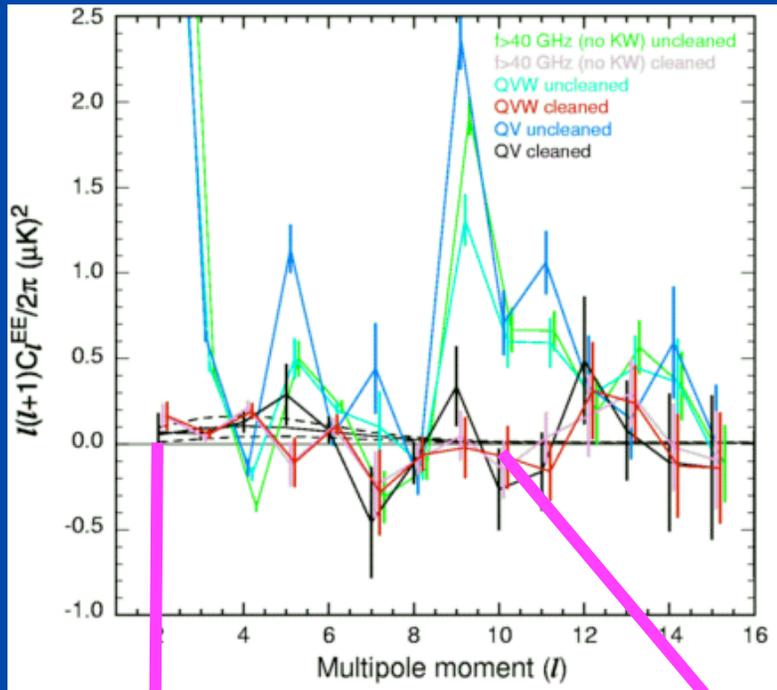
At the last scattering surface

At the end of the dark ages (reionization)

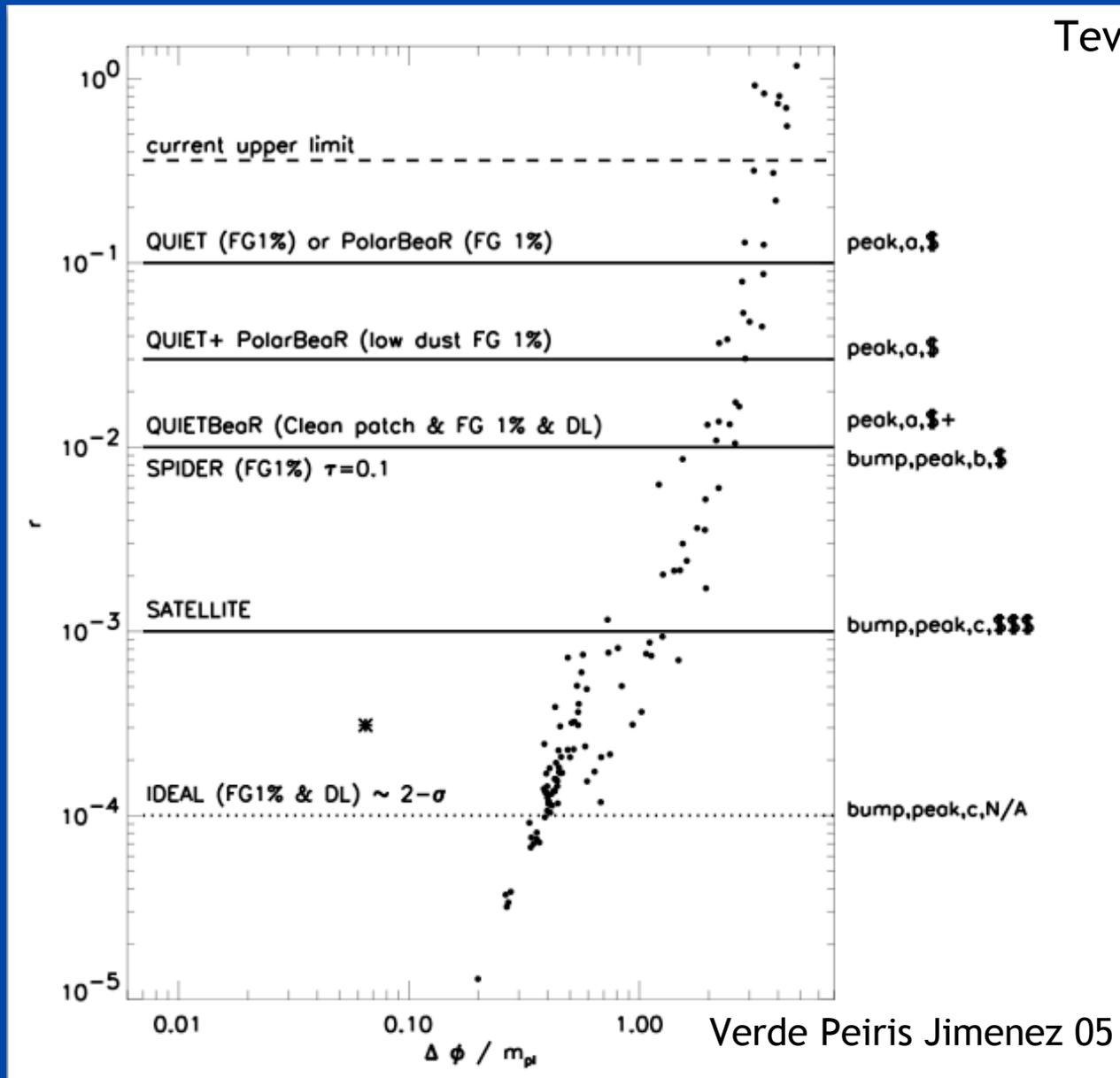
Polarization for density perturbation

- Radial (tangential) pattern around hot (cold) spots.





Future prospects: gravity waves



3.2×10^{13}

1.7×10^{13}

9.7×10^{12}

5.5×10^{12}

3×10^{12}

Density Fluctuations and Tensor Modes can determine which model is right

- **Density Fluctuations:**

$$\frac{\delta\rho}{\rho} \sim \frac{H^2}{\dot{\phi}}, \quad |\delta_k|^2 \sim k^{n_s}$$

WMAP data:

$$|n_s - 1| < 0.1$$

Slight indication of running of spectral index

- **Tensor Modes**

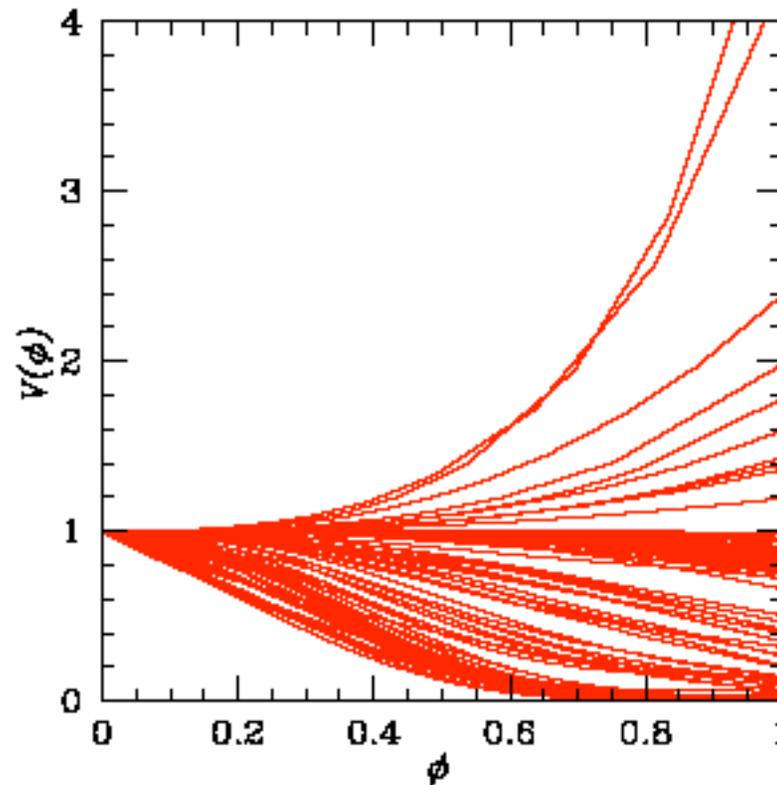
$$P_T^{1/2} = \frac{H}{2\pi}$$

gravitational

wave modes, detectable in upcoming experiments

1 sigma reconstruction of potential from 1-year WMAP data

WMAP plus seven other experiments



(KINNEY,
KOLB,
MELCHIORRI,
AND RIOTTO
2003)

Present Horizon Scale

- What point during inflation corresponds to the horizon scale today?
- e-foldings before the end of inflation N : $a = a_e e^{-N}$
- Depends on post-inflation physics

$$N(k) \approx 62 - \ln \frac{k}{a_0 H_0} - \ln \frac{10^{16} \text{ GeV}}{V_k^{1/4}} + \ln \frac{V_k^{1/4}}{V_e^{1/4}} - \frac{1}{3} \ln \frac{V_e^{1/4}}{\rho_{\text{RH}}^{1/4}}$$

Potential when mode leaves horizon

Potential at end of inflation

energy density after reheating

Present Horizon Scale

- Typical $N \approx 60$
- Dodelson & Hui (2003) $N < 67$
- Liddle & Leach (2003) $50 < N < 60$
- Non-standard cosmologies
 - Non radiation-like period (post-reheat)

$$40 \leq N \leq 70$$

Slow Roll

Linde (1982)
Albrecht & Steinhardt (1982)

- Evolution of the field ($\Gamma \rightarrow 0$): $\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + V'(\phi) = 0$
- Drop first term: $\ddot{\phi} \ll 3H\dot{\phi}$ for $\varepsilon, \eta \ll 1$

$$\varepsilon = \frac{M_{Pl}^2}{4\pi} \left(\frac{H'(\phi)}{H(\phi)} \right)^2 \approx \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{M_{Pl}}{f} \right)^2 \frac{\sin^2(\phi/f)}{[1 + \cos(\phi/f)]^2}$$

$$\eta \equiv \frac{M_{Pl}^2}{4\pi} \left(\frac{H''(\phi)}{H(\phi)} \right) \approx -\frac{1}{16\pi} \left(\frac{M_{Pl}}{f} \right)^2$$

End of Inflation

- Inflation ends when field starts accelerating rapidly

$$\varepsilon = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \phi_e \quad \cos(\phi_e / f) = \frac{1 - 16\pi \left(\frac{f}{M_{Pl}}\right)^2}{1 + 16\pi \left(\frac{f}{M_{Pl}}\right)^2}$$

- Define field ϕ in terms of number of e-foldings N prior to the end of inflation, i.e. $\phi(N)$

$$\sin(\phi / 2f) = \sin(\phi_e / 2f) \exp \left[-\frac{1}{16\pi} \left(\frac{M_{Pl}}{f}\right)^2 N \right]$$