



# Lattice simulations of gravitational waves from cosmic domain walls

**Francisco Torrentí**

ICCUB, U. Barcelona

**INITIAL  
CONDITIONS:  
Vacuum energy**



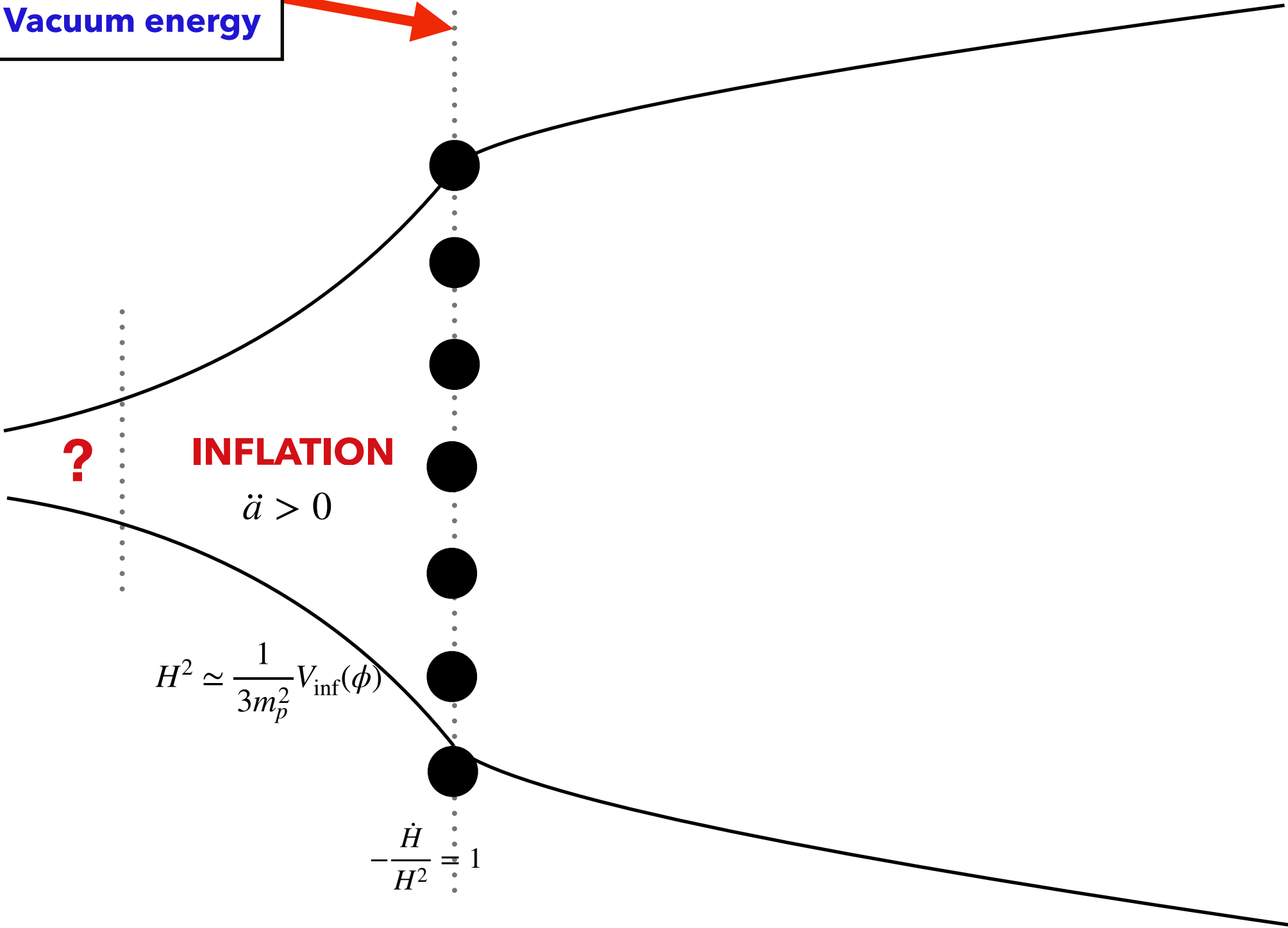
**?**

**INFLATION**

$$\ddot{a} > 0$$

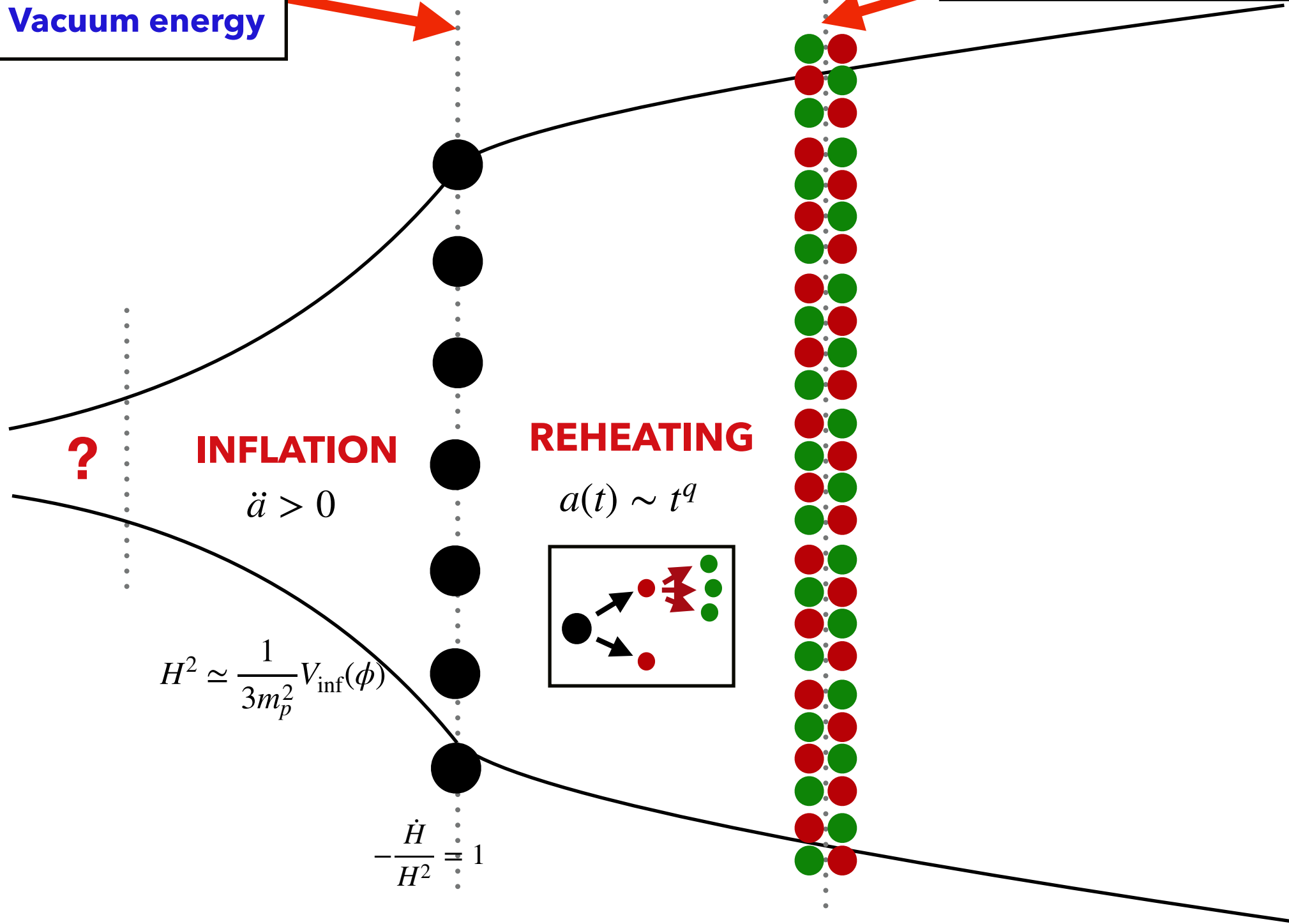
$$H^2 \simeq \frac{1}{3m_p^2} V_{\text{inf}}(\phi)$$

$$-\frac{\dot{H}}{H^2} \simeq 1$$



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**FINAL CONDITIONS:  
Thermal equilibrium,  $T_{rh}$**



?

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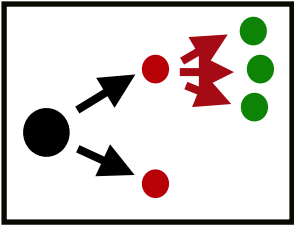
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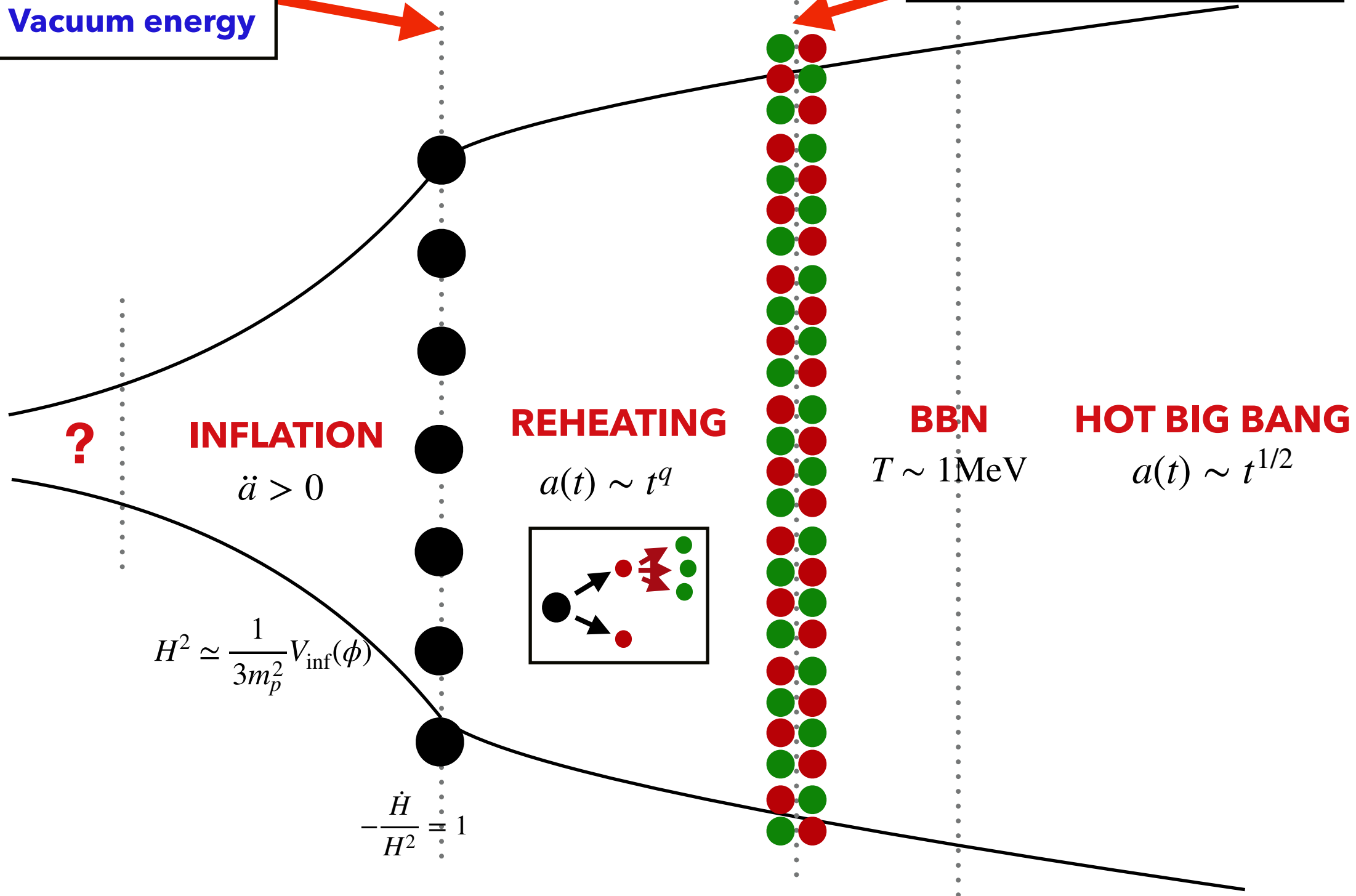
**REHEATING**

$$a(t) \sim t^q$$

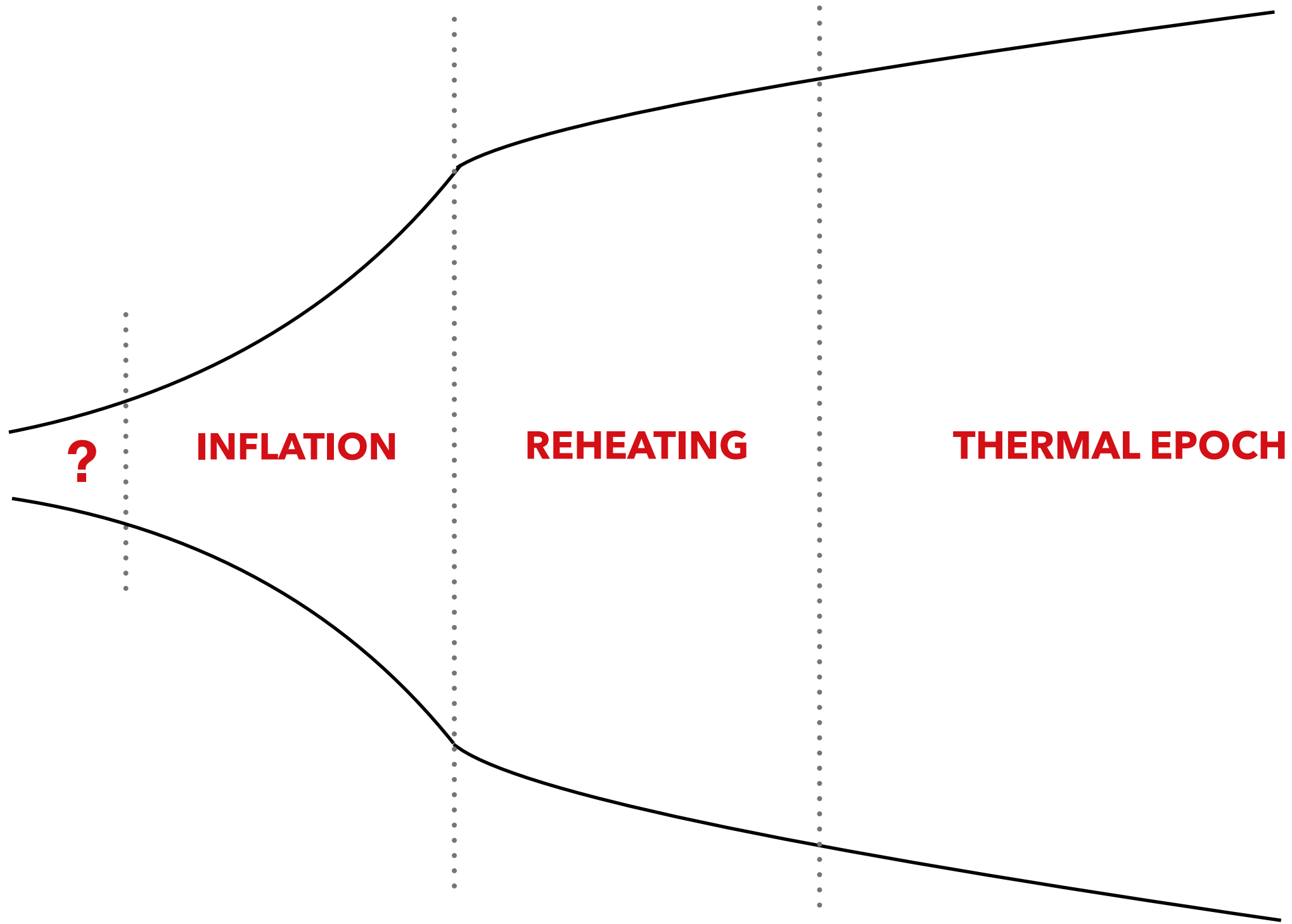


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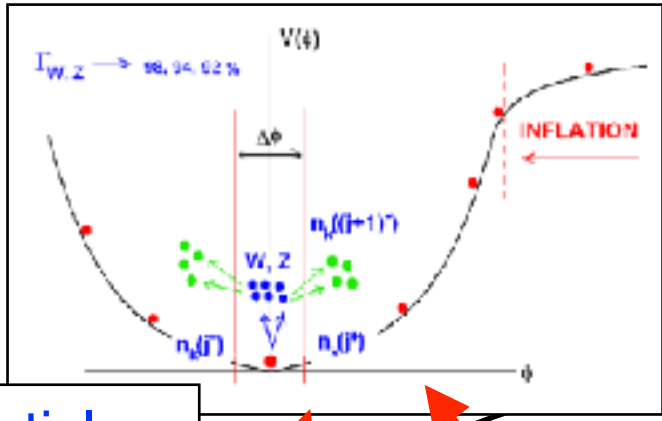


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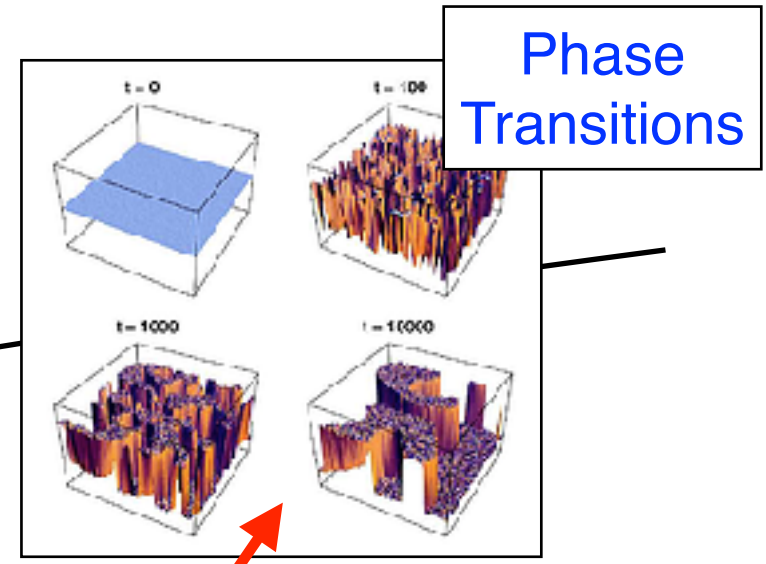
**INFLATION**

**REHEATING**

**THERMAL EPOCH**



Particle Production



Phase Transitions

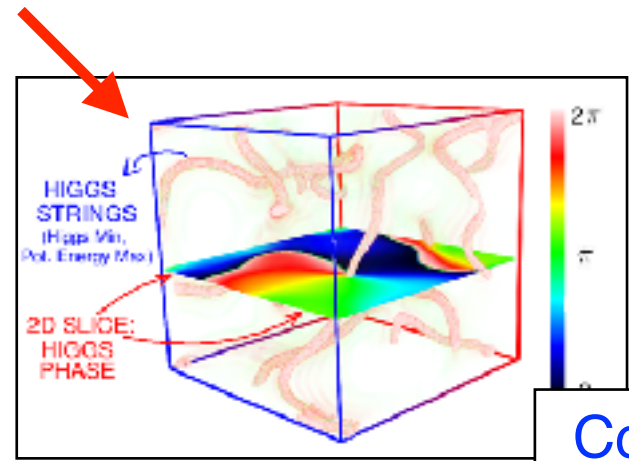
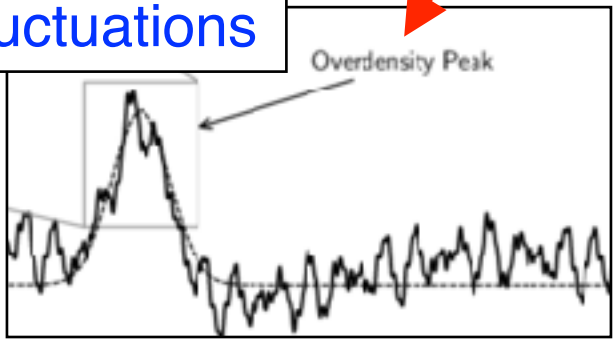
?

INFLATION

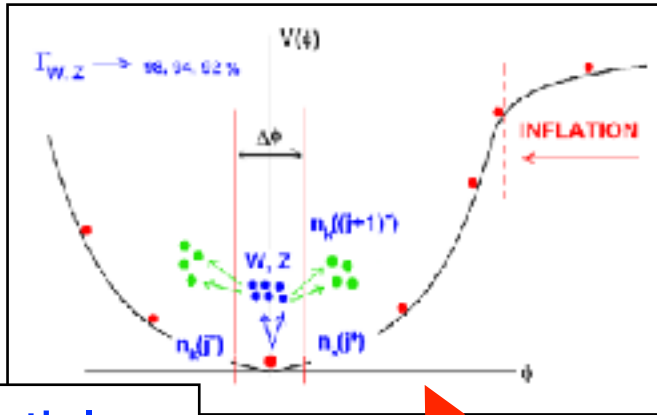
REHEATING

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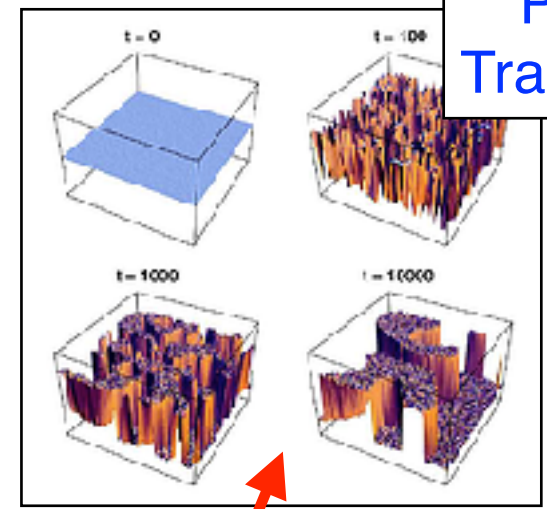
Quantum Fluctuations



Cosmic Defects



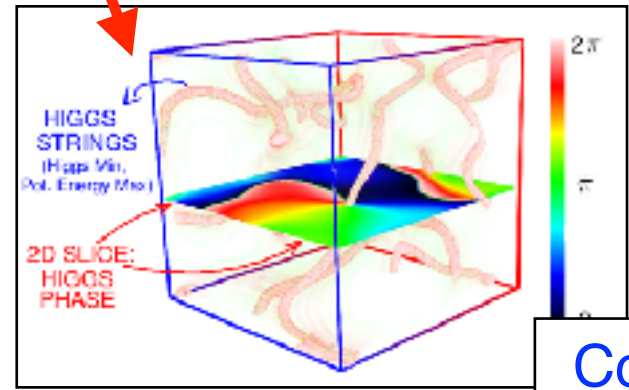
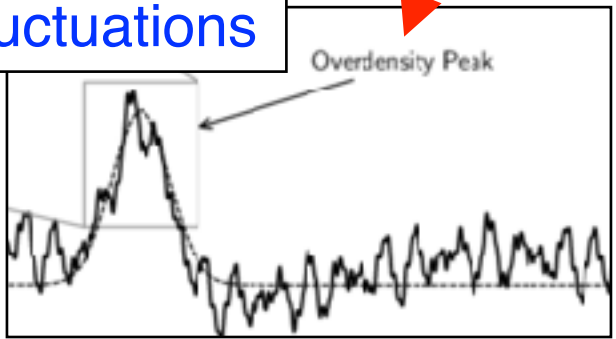
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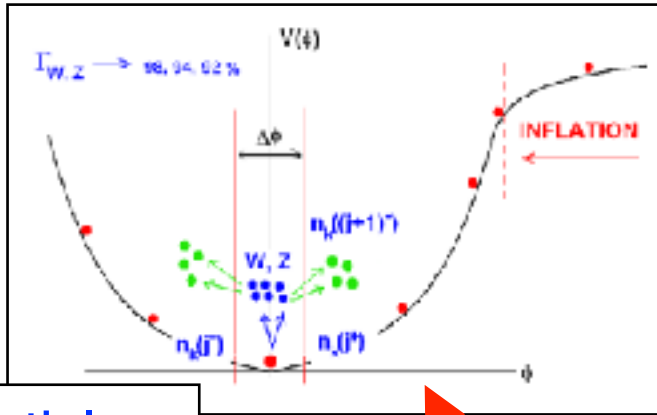
Phase Transitions

# NON-LINEAR DYNAMICS

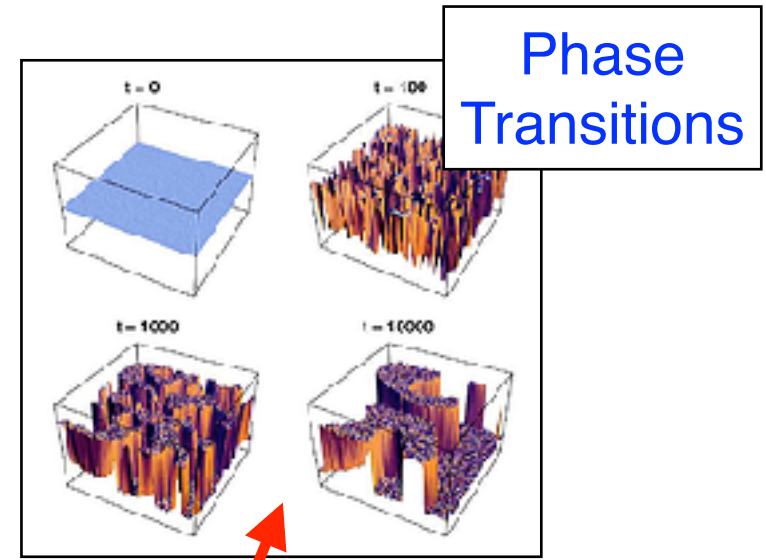
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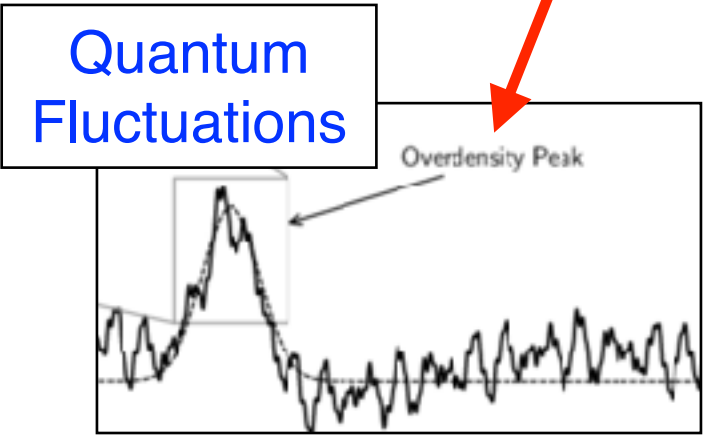


Particle Production

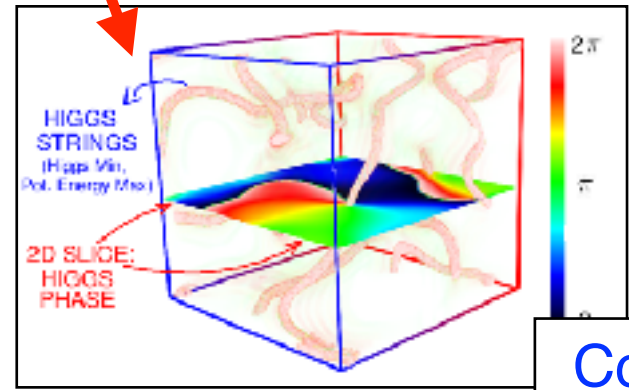


Phase Transitions

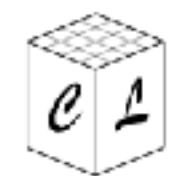
(CLASSICAL)  
**LATTICE SIMULATIONS**



Quantum Fluctuations

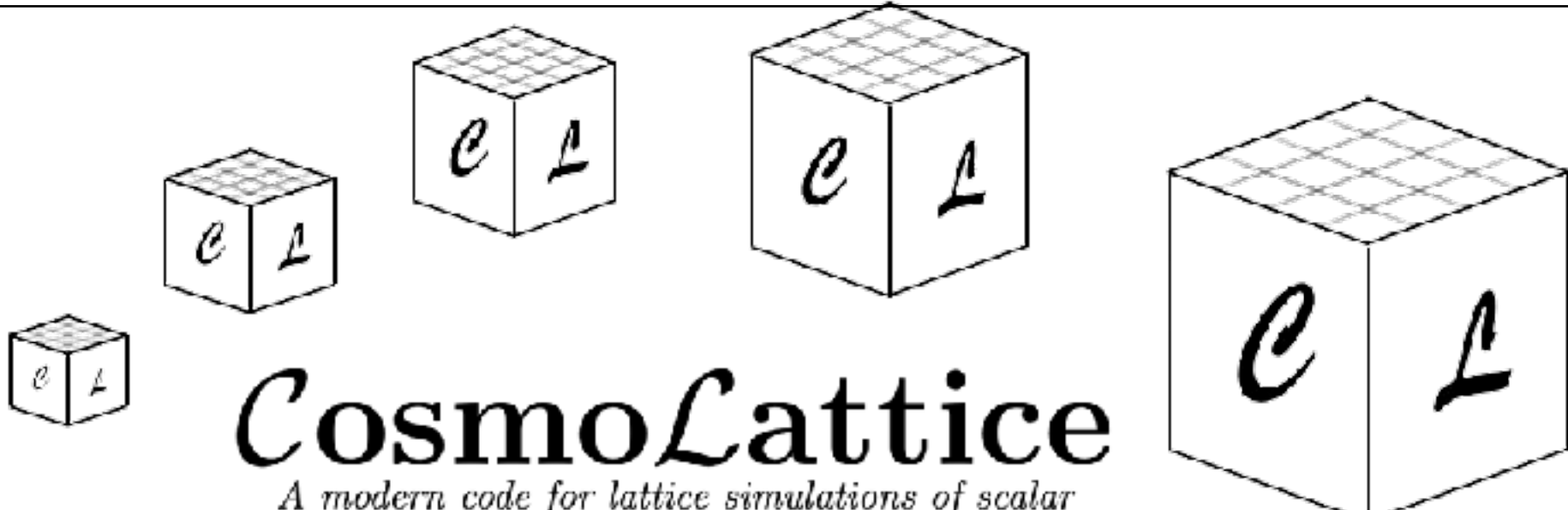


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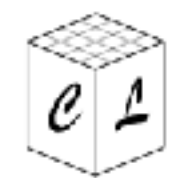
# CosmoLattice

arXiv: 2102.01031

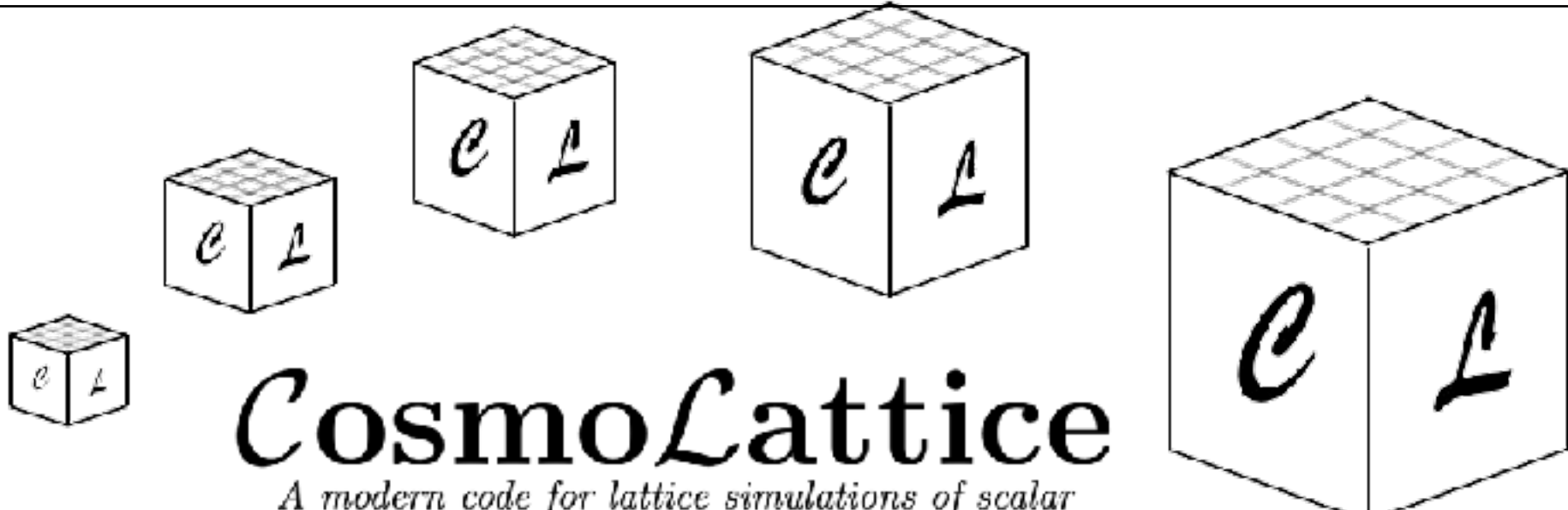


**CosmoLattice**  
*A modern code for lattice simulations of scalar  
and gauge field dynamics in an expanding universe*

Daniel G. Figueroa<sup>1</sup>, Adrien Florio<sup>2</sup>, Francisco Torrenti<sup>3</sup> and Wessel Valkenburg<sup>4</sup>



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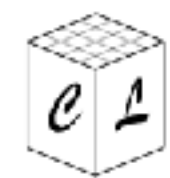
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## **The Art of Simulating the Early Universe**

*A dissertation on lattice techniques for the simulation of  
scalar and gauge field dynamics in an expanding Universe*

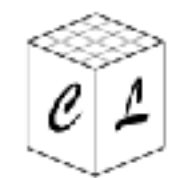
**Monographic review:** JCAP 04 (2021) 035



Publicly released  
in February 2021

**CosmoLattice:**

<http://www.cosmolattice.net>



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## CosmoLattice:

- It simulates **scalars**, **U(1)** and **SU(2)** gauge fields.

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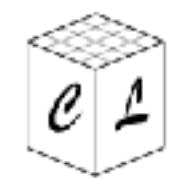


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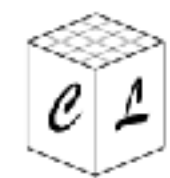


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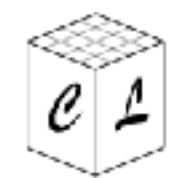


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- Parallellized with **MPI** in multiple spatial dimensions.
- Includes several numerical symplectic evolution algorithms, with accuracy ranging from  $\delta\mathcal{O}(\delta t^2)$  -  $\delta\mathcal{O}(\delta t^{10})$

<http://www.cosmolattice.net>



# CosmoLattice: Field theory

► Matter content:

$$S = - \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi + (D_\mu^A \varphi)^* (D_A^\mu \varphi) + \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + (D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger (D^\mu \Phi) + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}\{G_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}\} + V(\phi, |\varphi|, |\Phi|) \right\}$$



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$$\phi \in \mathcal{R}e$$

Scalar sector



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Potential  
(Interactions)



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Self-consistent expansion (Friedmann equations)



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- Self-consistent expansion (Friedmann equations)
- Fixed power-law background  $a(t) \sim t^{\frac{2}{3(1+w)}}$



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➤ GWs (version 1.1 - released in may 2022):

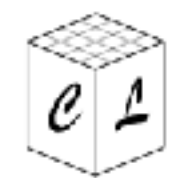
[Baeza-Ballesteros, Figueroa, Florio, Loayza]

$$ds^2 = - a^{2\alpha}(\eta) d\eta^2 + a^2(\eta) (\delta_{ij} + h_{ij}) dx^i dx^j$$



$$\ddot{h}_{ij} + 3H\dot{h}_{ij} - \frac{\nabla^2}{a^2} h_{ij} = \frac{2}{m_p^2 a^2} \Pi_{ij}^{\text{TT}}$$

$$\Pi_{ij}^{\text{TT}} = (\partial_i \phi \partial_j \phi)^{\text{TT}}$$

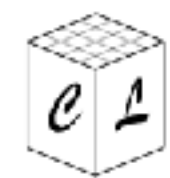


# CosmoLattice: Lattice formulation

- Equations are written as a set of **coupled first-order differential equations**, which are solved with a **Hamiltonian scheme**:

## Example: scalar field

$$\phi'' - \frac{1}{a^2} \nabla^2 \phi + \frac{3}{a} \frac{da}{dt} \frac{d\phi}{dt} = - \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi}$$

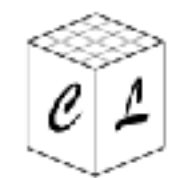


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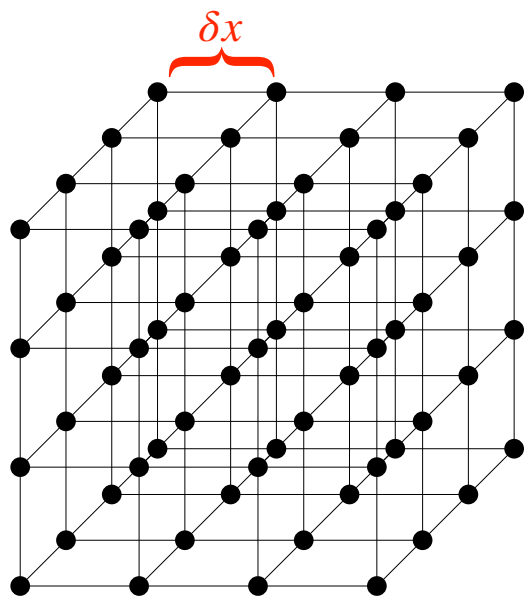
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- Scalar fields and momenta are defined in the **lattice sites**:



$N$ : number of points/dimension

$L = N \cdot \delta x$ : length side

$\delta t$ : time step

Minimum and maximum momenta:

$$k_{\min} = \frac{2\pi}{L} \quad k_{\max} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} N k_{\min}$$





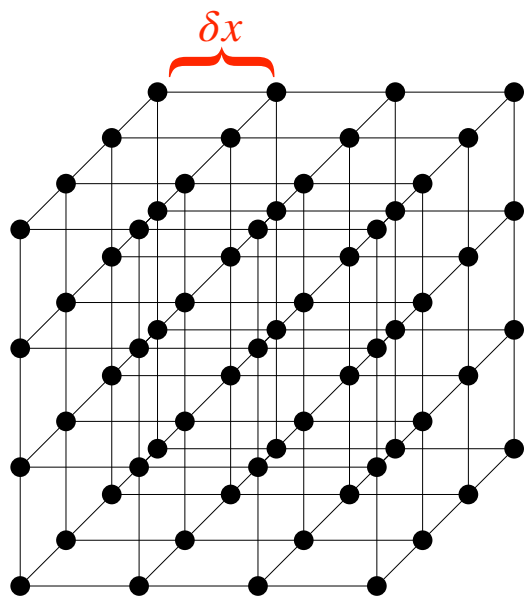
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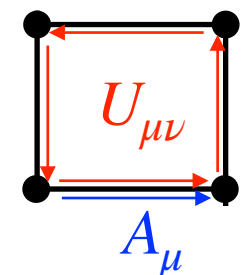
$L = N \cdot \delta x$  : length side

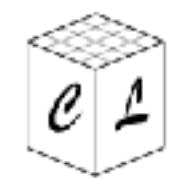
$\delta t$  : time step

Minimum and maximum momenta:

$$k_{\min} = \frac{2\pi}{L} \quad k_{\max} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} N k_{\min}$$

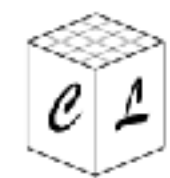
- Gauge fields** introduced via **links** and **plaquettes** (like in **lattice-QCD**)





# CosmoLattice: Output

**Three  
kinds of  
output**

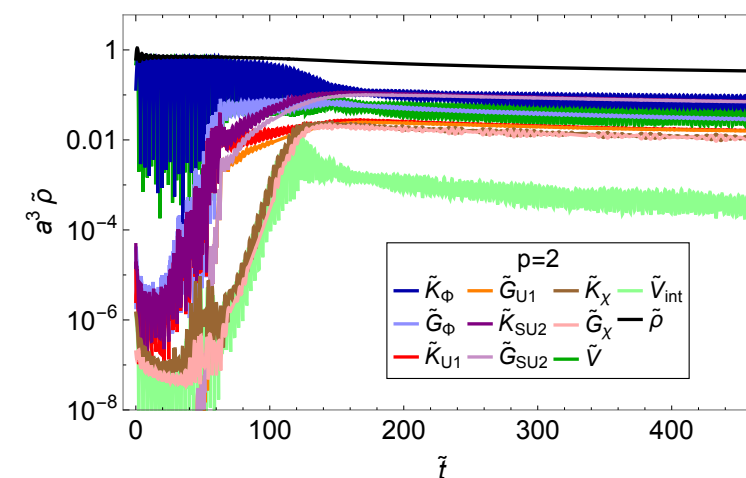
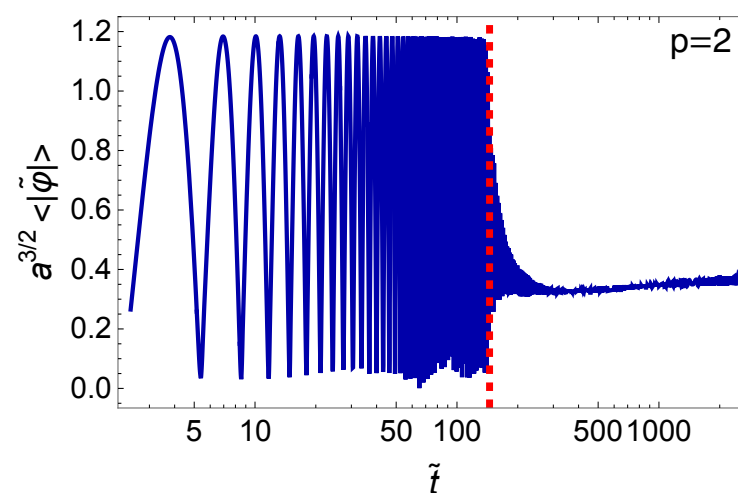


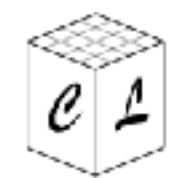
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**Volume averages:** Spatial averages of certain quantities, such as field amplitudes or energies



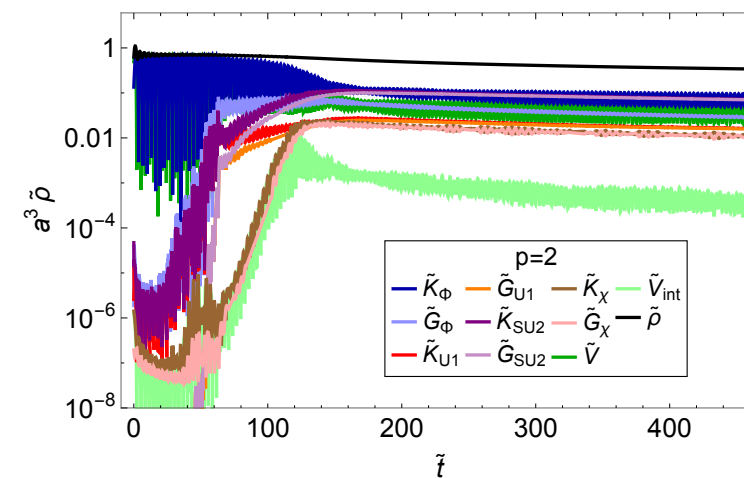
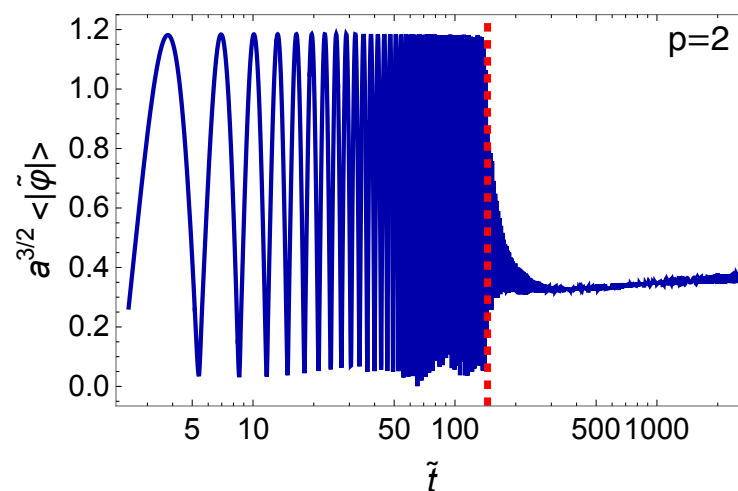


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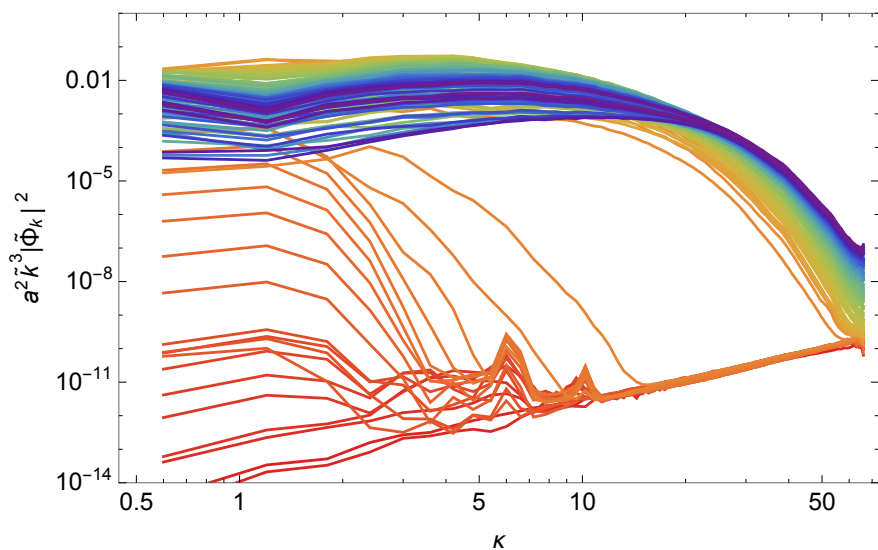
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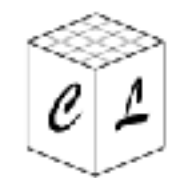


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**Spectra:** Binned spectra in momentum space

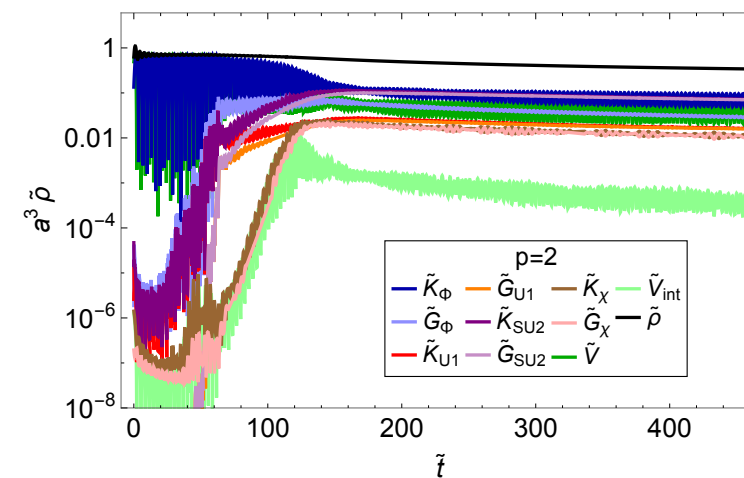
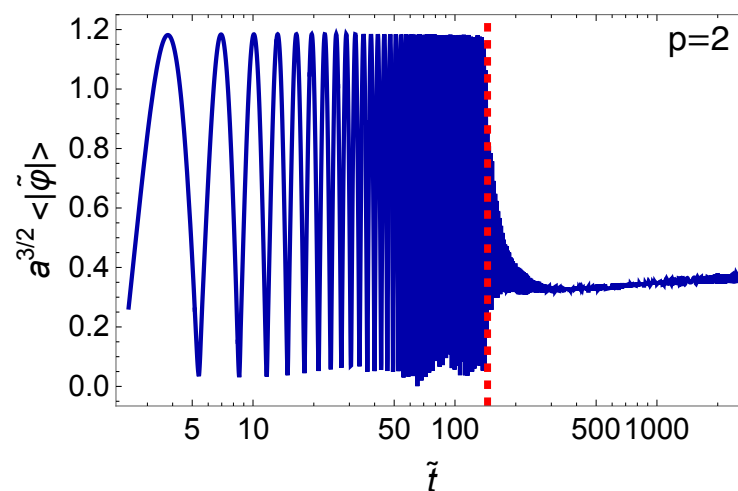




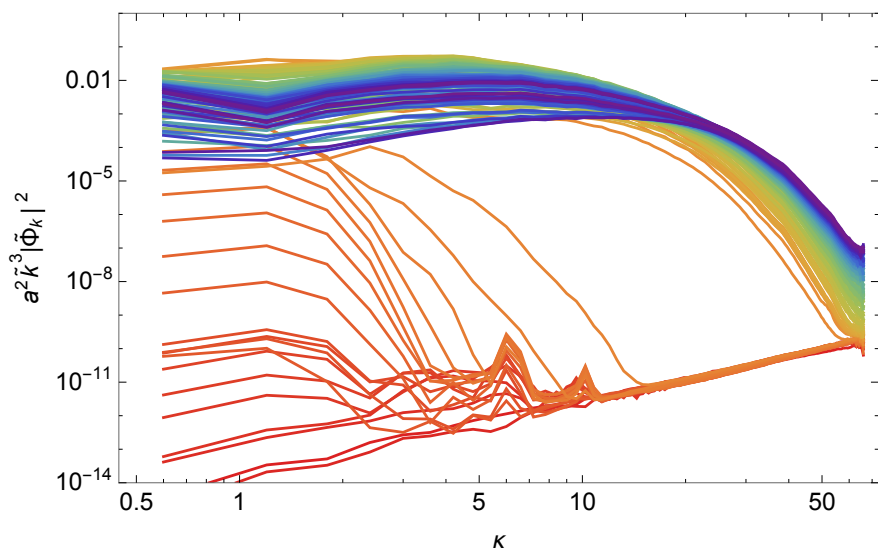
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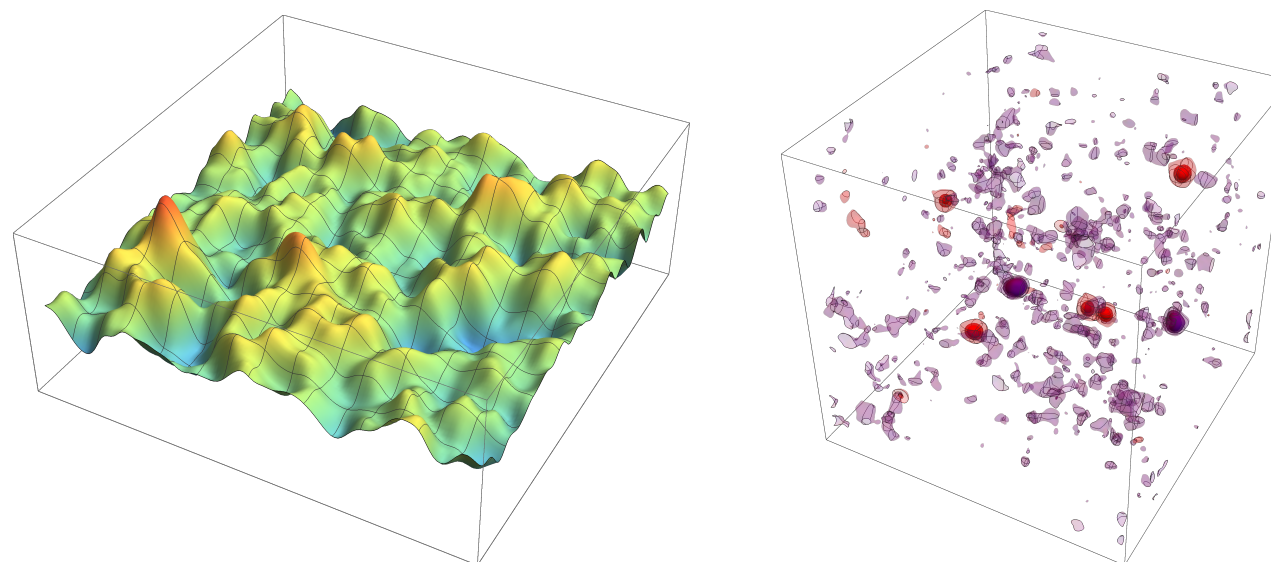
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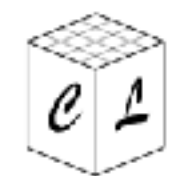


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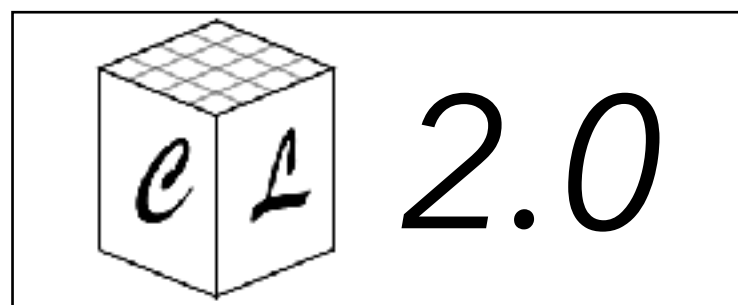


**Snapshots:** Values of a certain quantity at all points of the lattice.



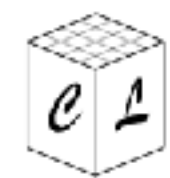


# CosmoLattice 2.0

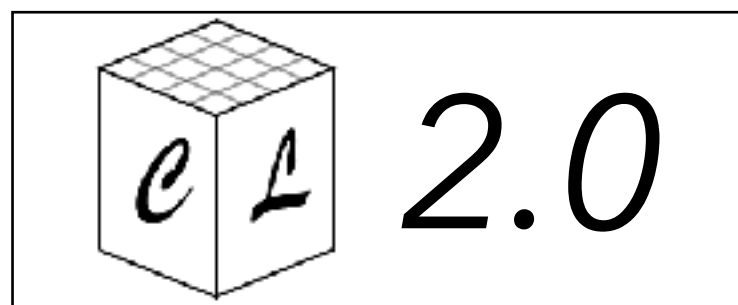


Baeza, Figueroa, Florio,  
Loayza, F.T., & Urio





# CosmoLattice 2.0



Baeza, Figueroa, Florio,  
Loayza, F.T., & Urio

- Axion - gauge interactions  $\phi F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$  [Figueroa, Lizarraga, Urio, Urrestilla, (2023)]
- Non-minimal gravitational coupling  $\xi\phi^2 R$  [Figueroa, Florio, Opferkuch, Stefanek (2023)]
- Cosmic defects
- Simulations in  $d+1$  dimensions
- New technical features (visualization, initial conditions...)
- ...

**expected date: 2025**





# So you want to CosmoLattice?

- We have organized two editions of the CosmoLattice School:
  - Valencia, 5-8 Sept 2022
  - Online, 25-29 Sept 2023





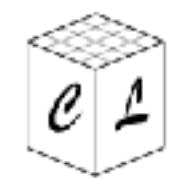


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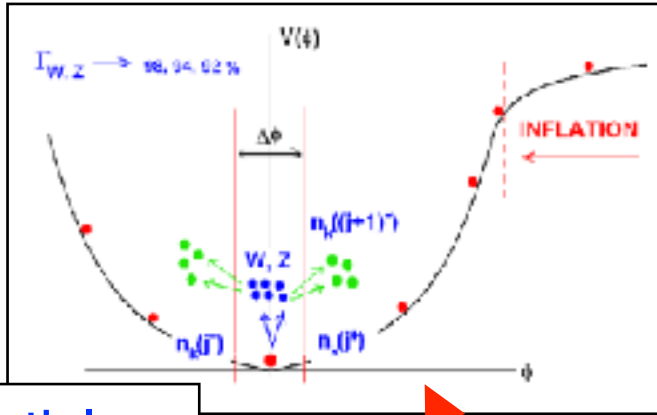
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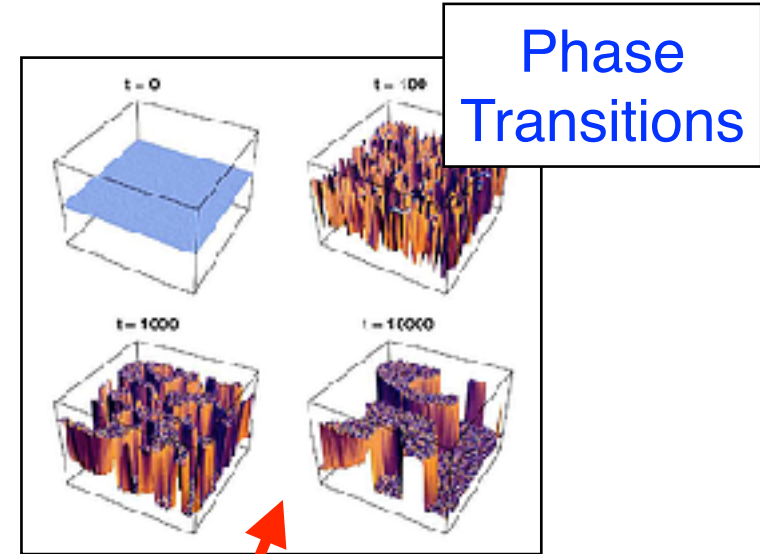
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**Recorded lectures:**

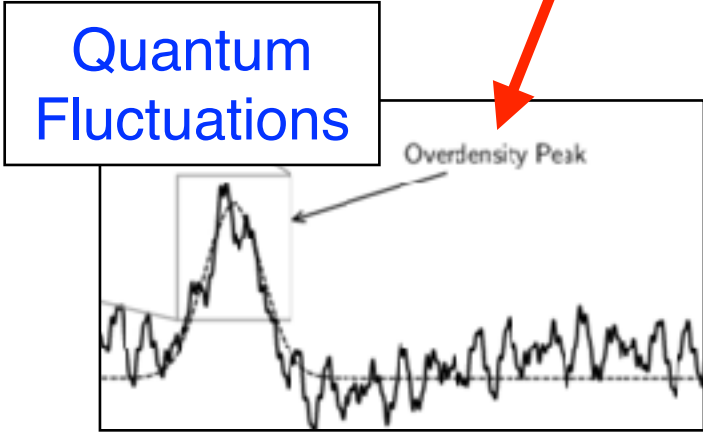
**<https://www.youtube.com/@CosmoLattice>**



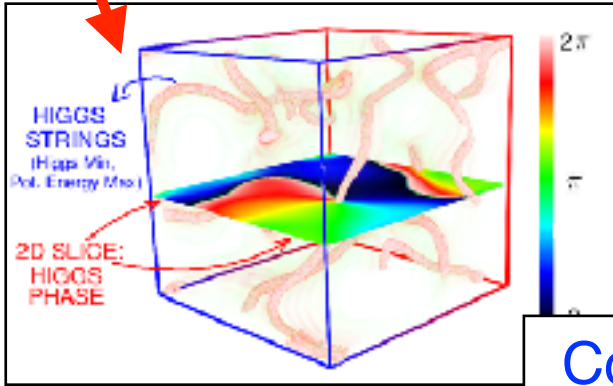
Particle Production



(CLASSICAL)  
**LATTICE SIMULATIONS**

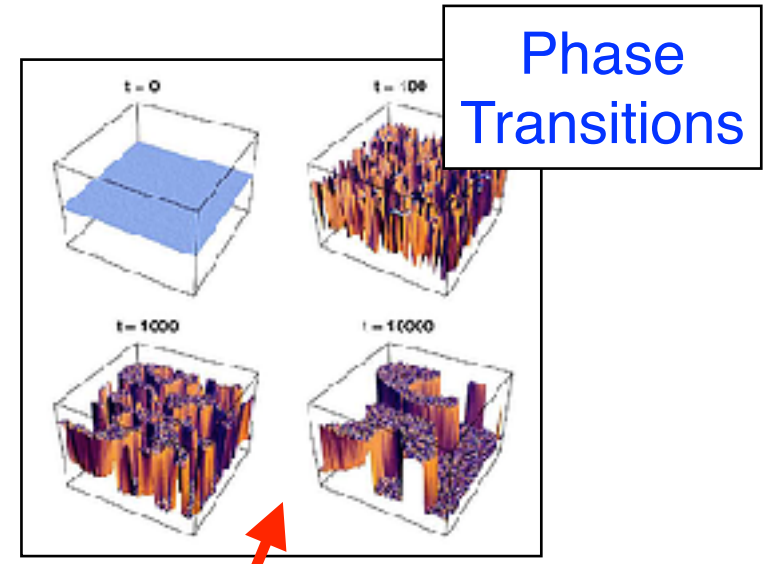
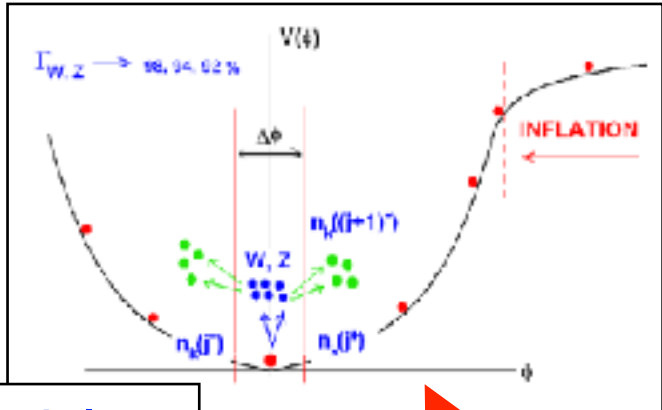


Quantum Fluctuations



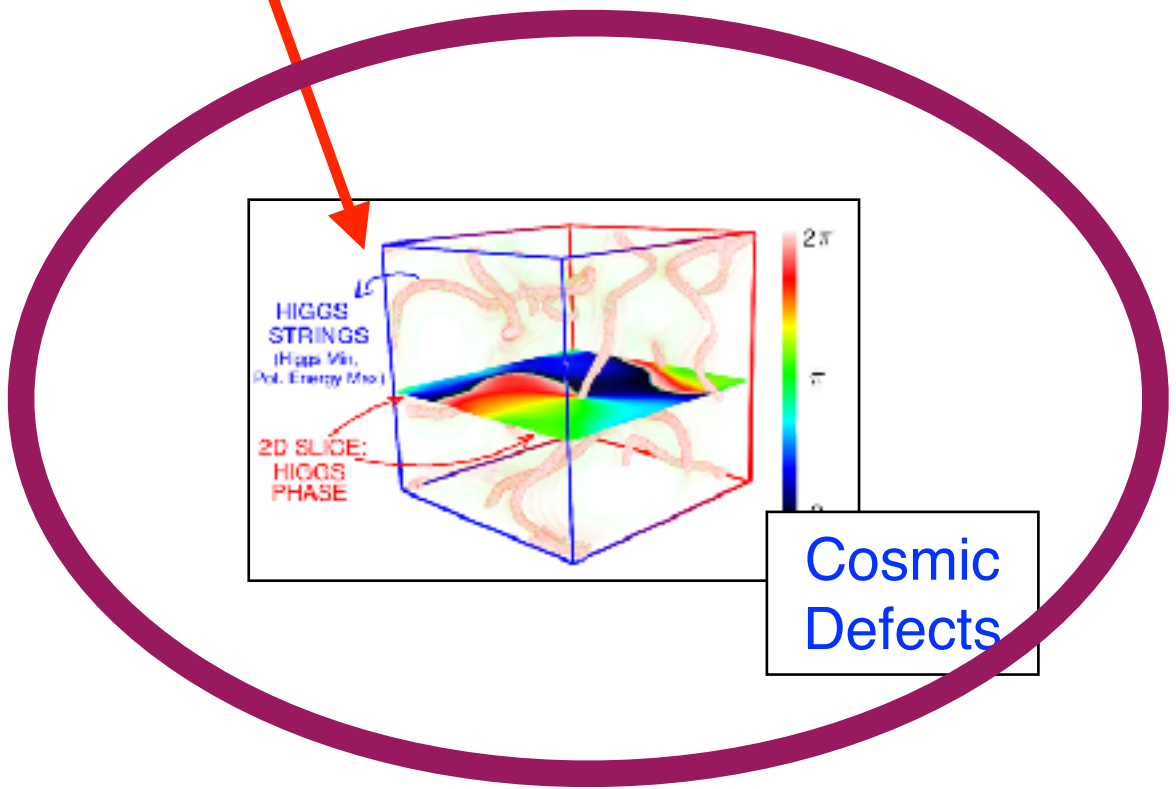
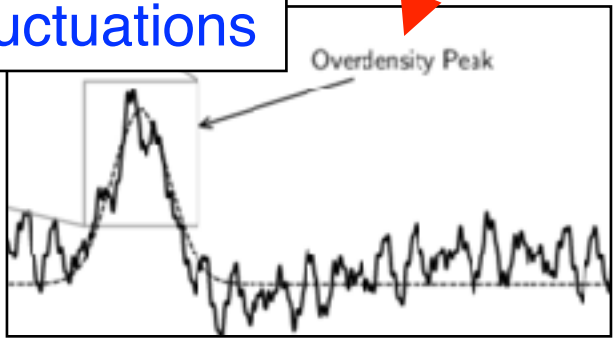
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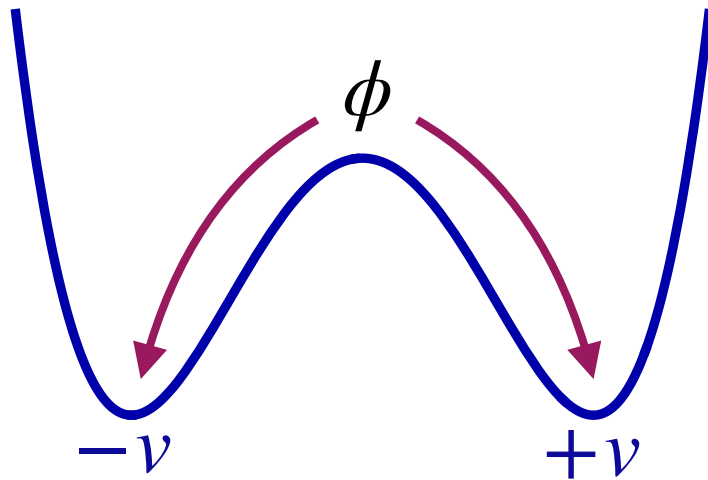
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- We are studying the **GW** production from cosmic domain walls with lattice simulations [Notari, Rompineve & F.T; arXiv: 2502.XXXXX].

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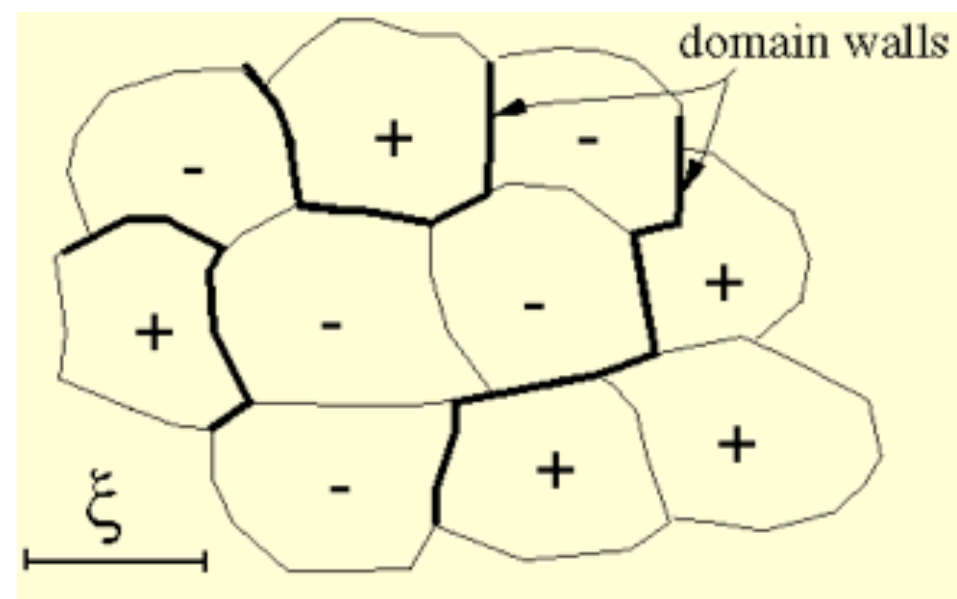
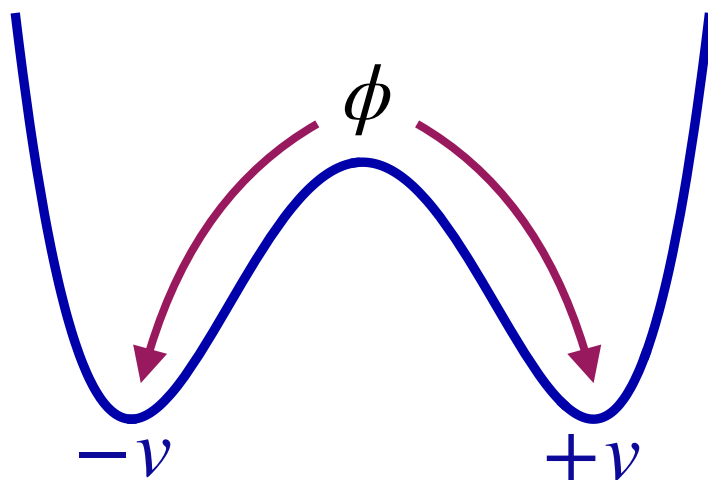
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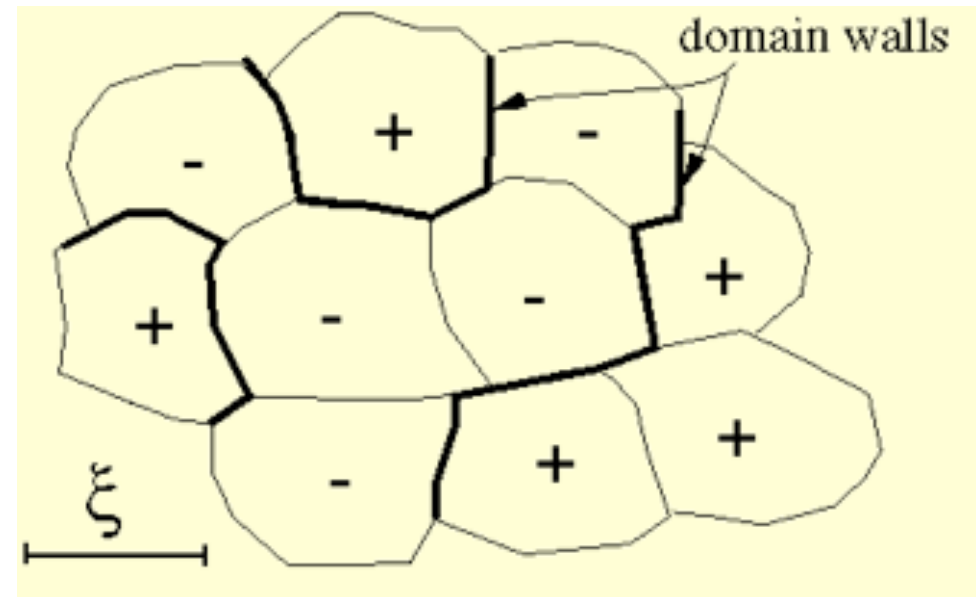
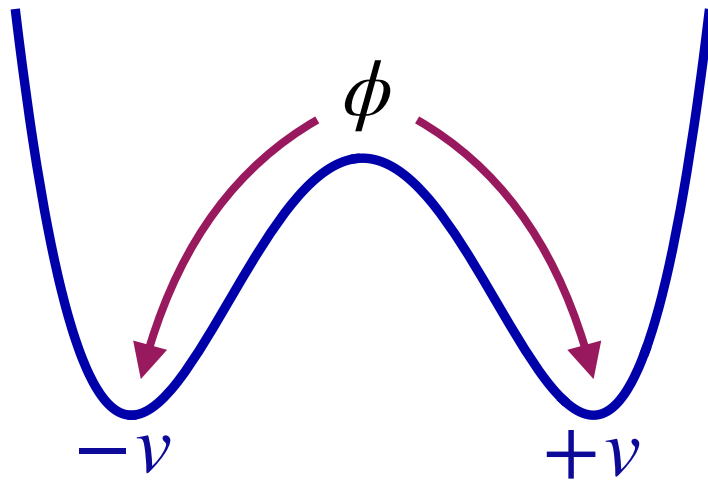
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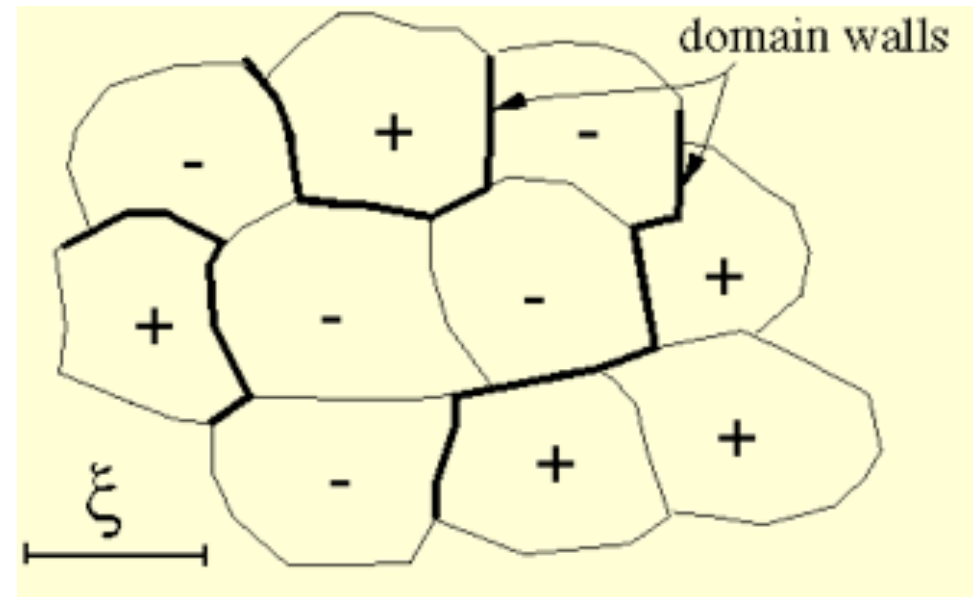
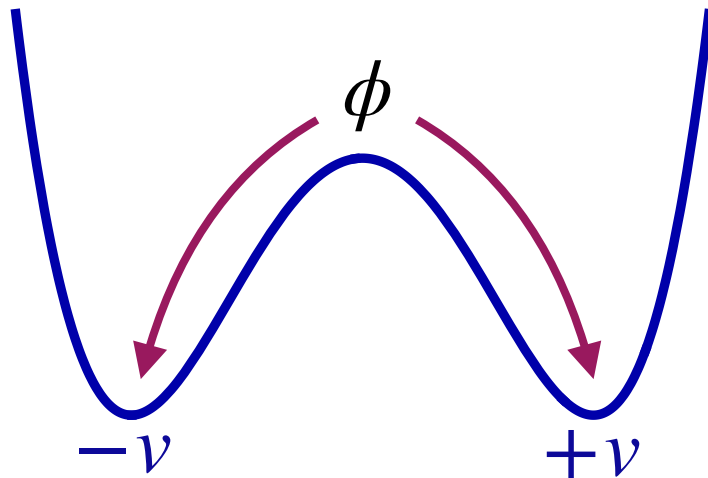
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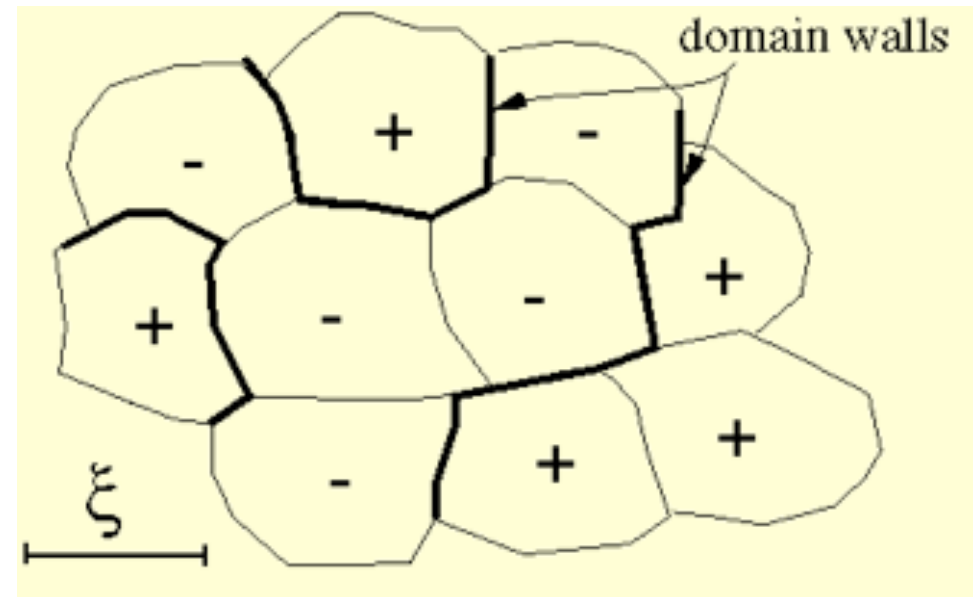
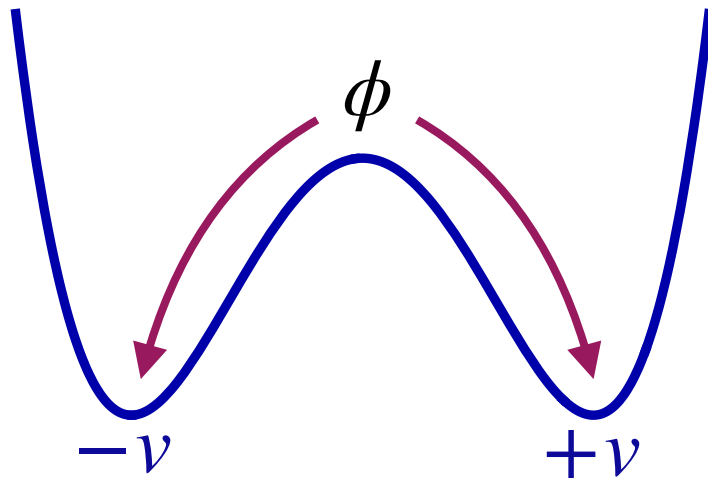
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- Tension:  $\sigma \equiv 2\sqrt{2\lambda}v^3/3$   
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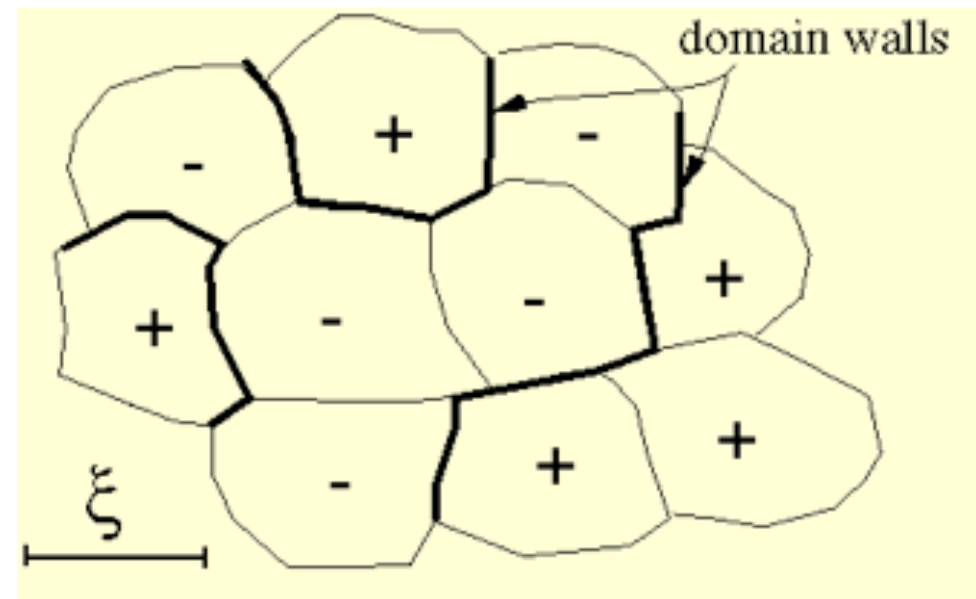
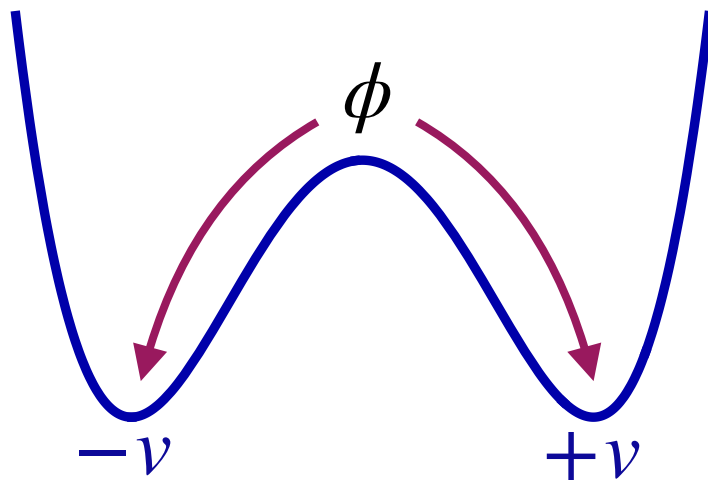
Energy density:

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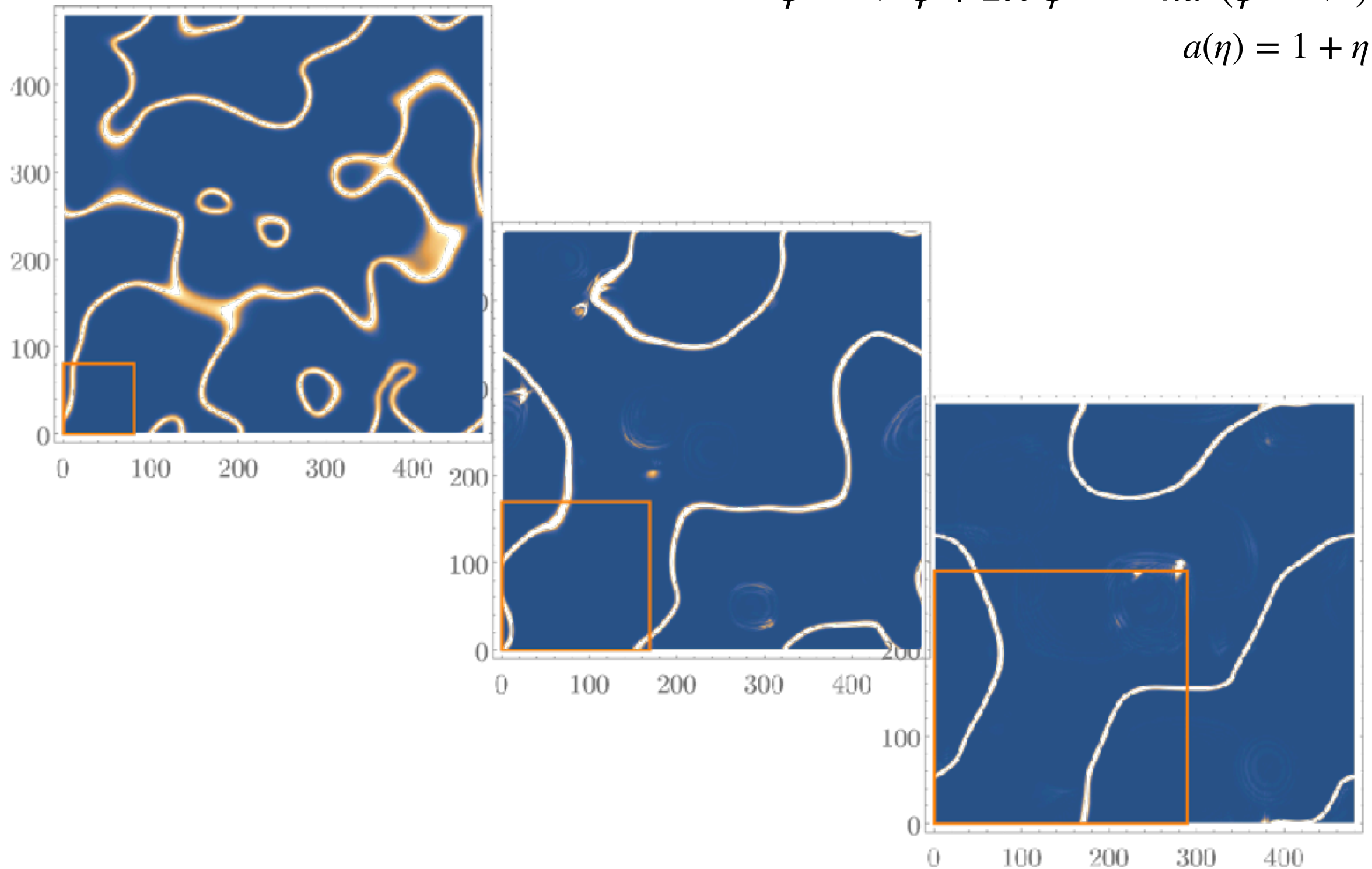
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$$\mathcal{A} \equiv \frac{A}{V} \frac{1}{2aH} \simeq \text{const}$$

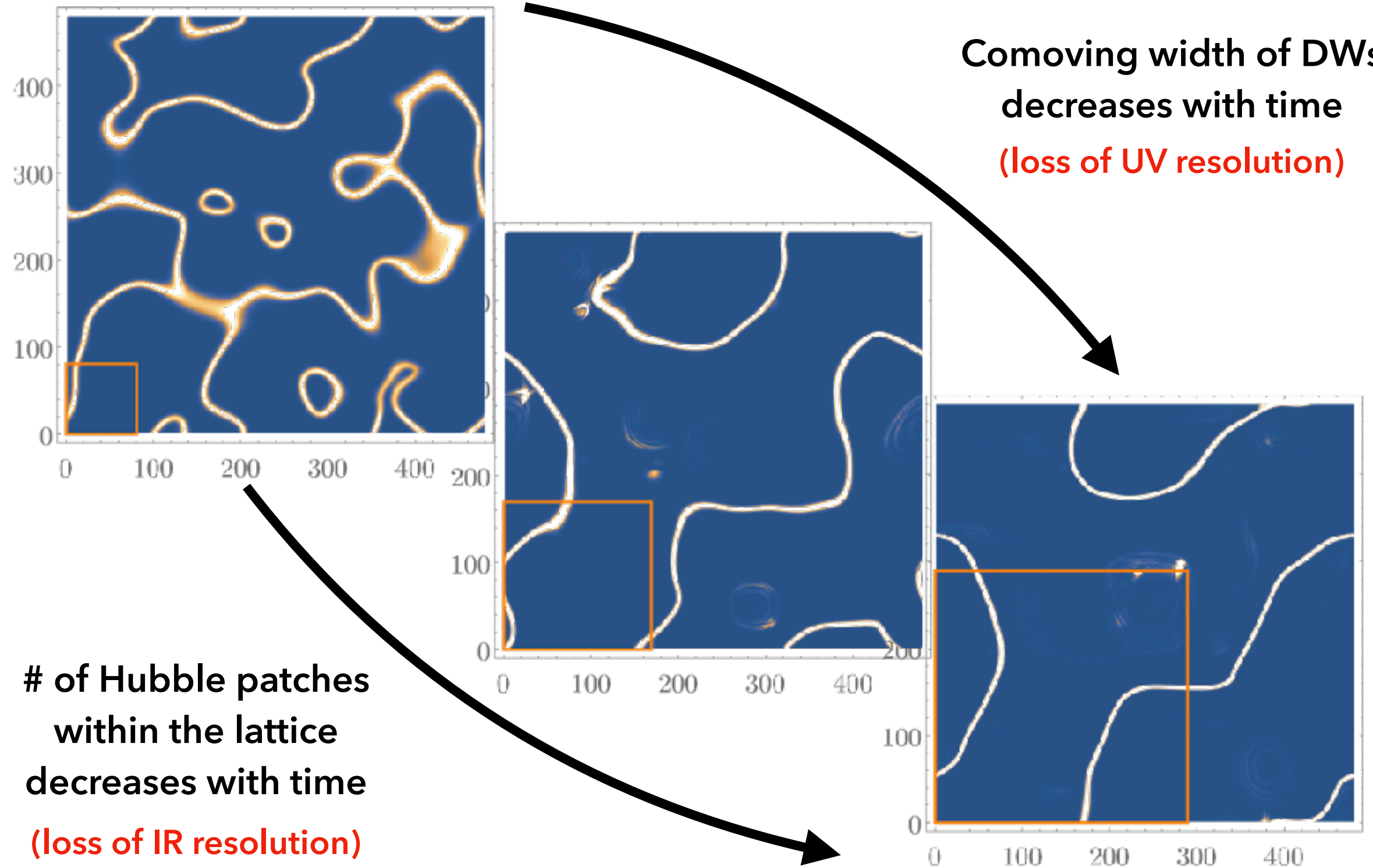
Area parameter

# Domain wall networks

$$\phi'' - \nabla^2 \phi + 2\mathcal{H}\phi' = -\lambda a^2(\phi^2 - v^2)\phi$$
$$a(\eta) = 1 + \eta$$

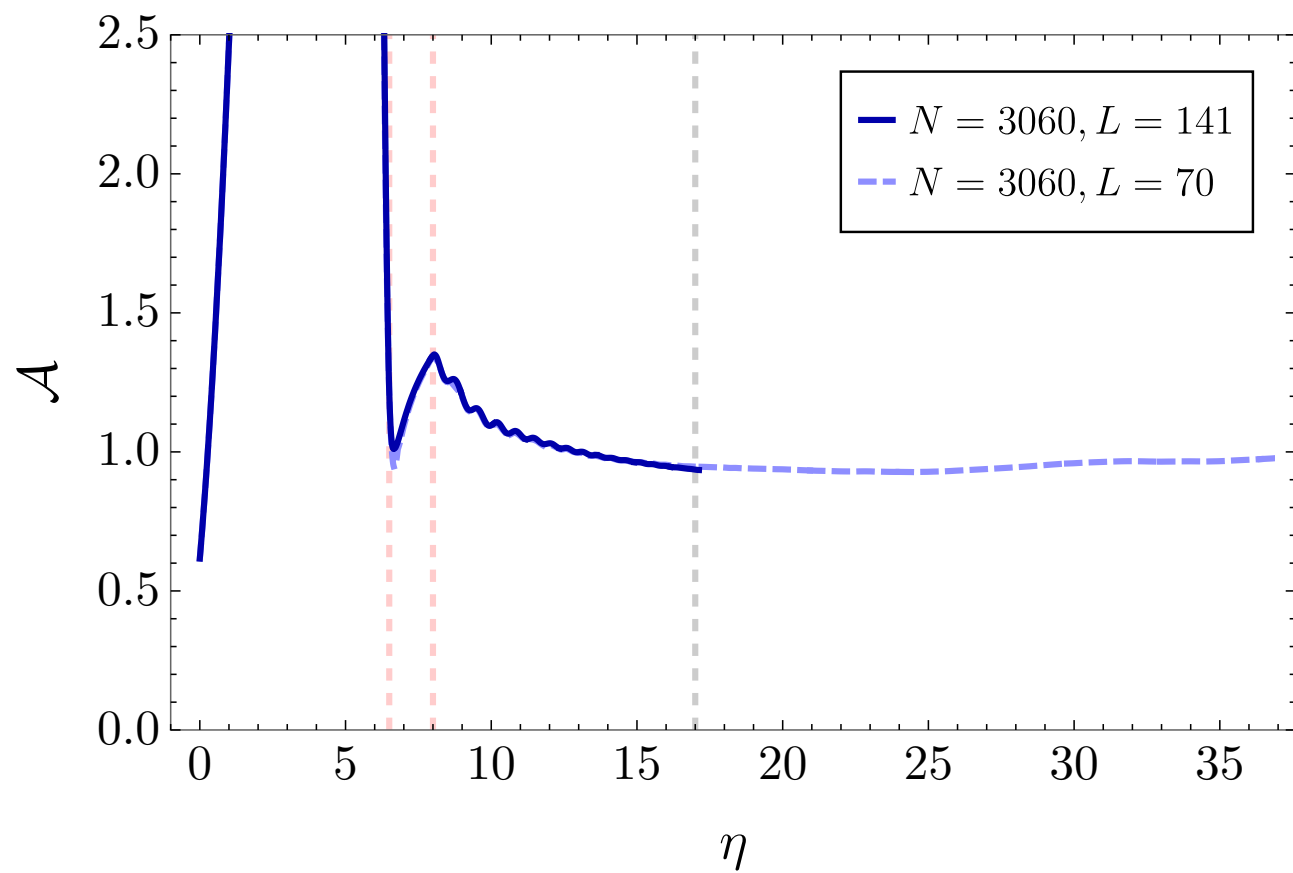


# Domain wall networks



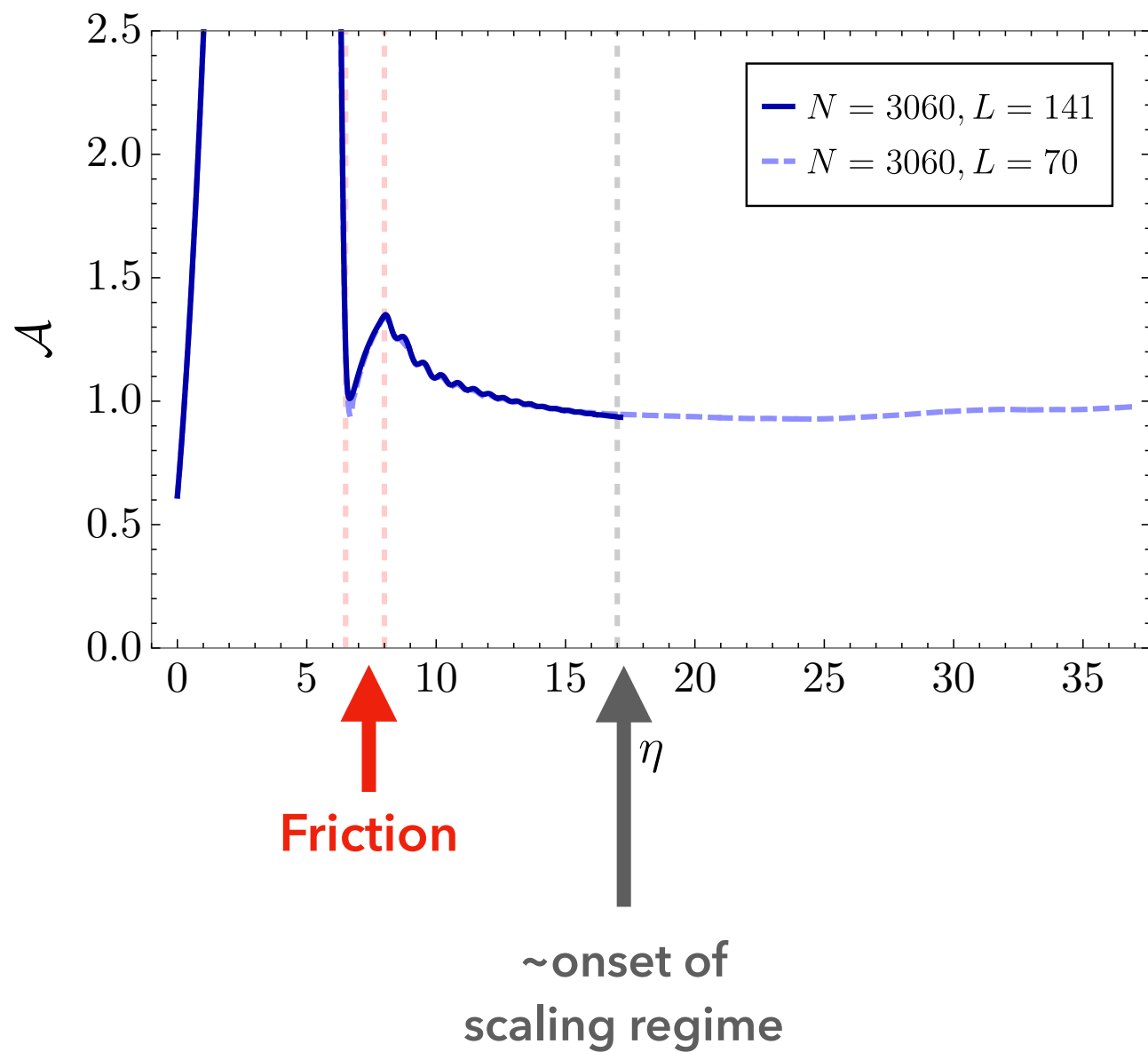
# DW network evolution (scaling regime)

Area parameter



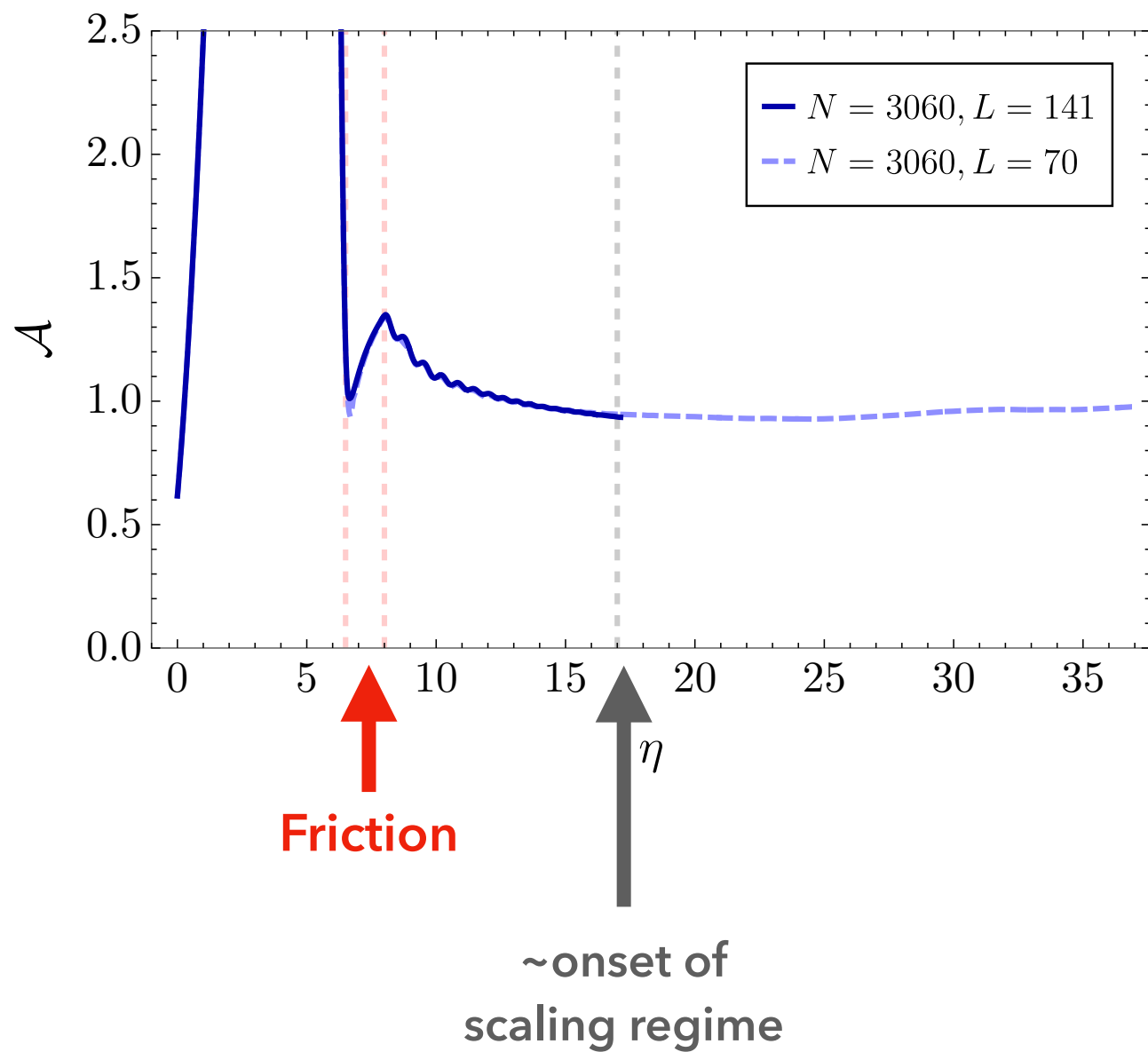
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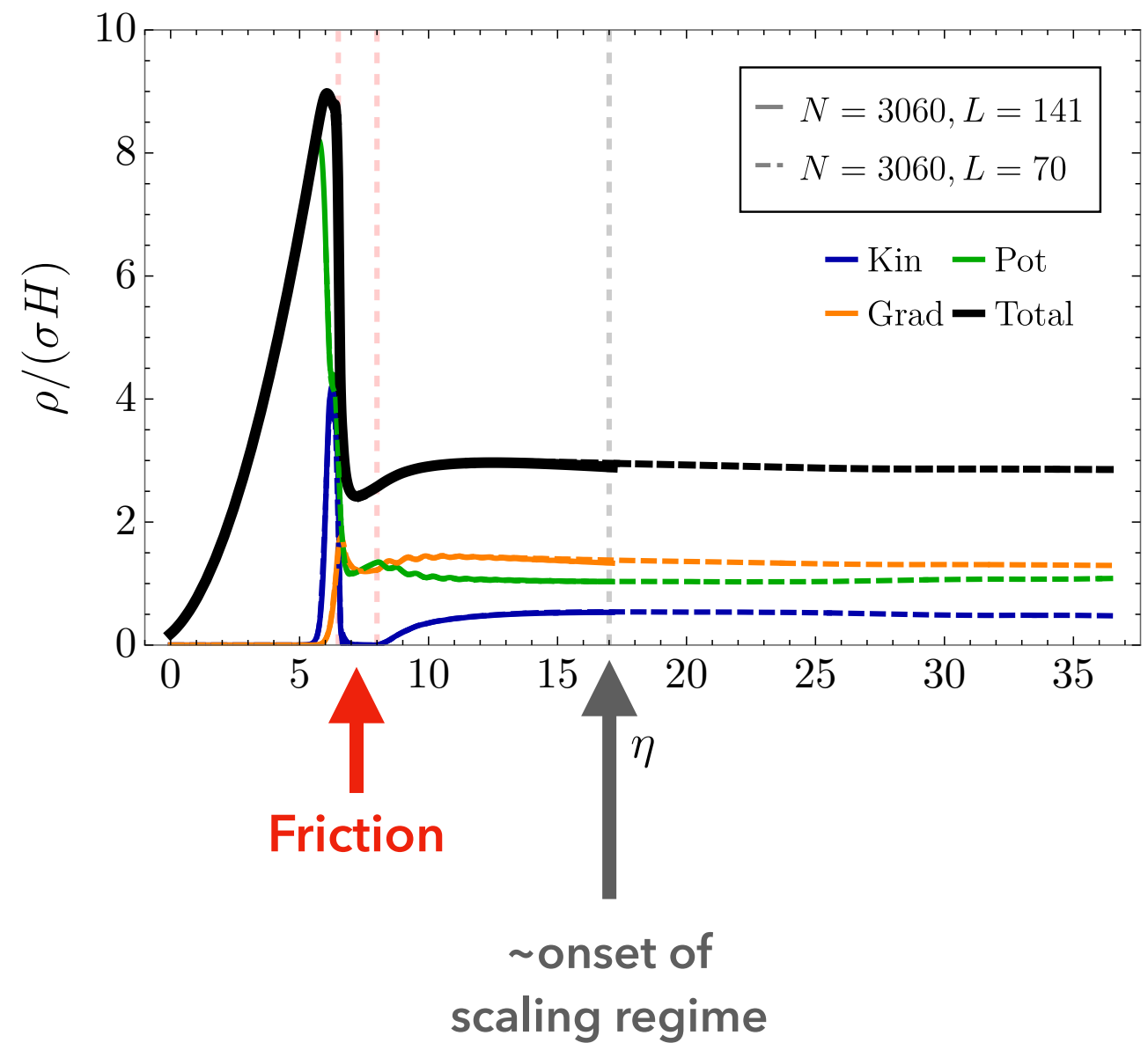


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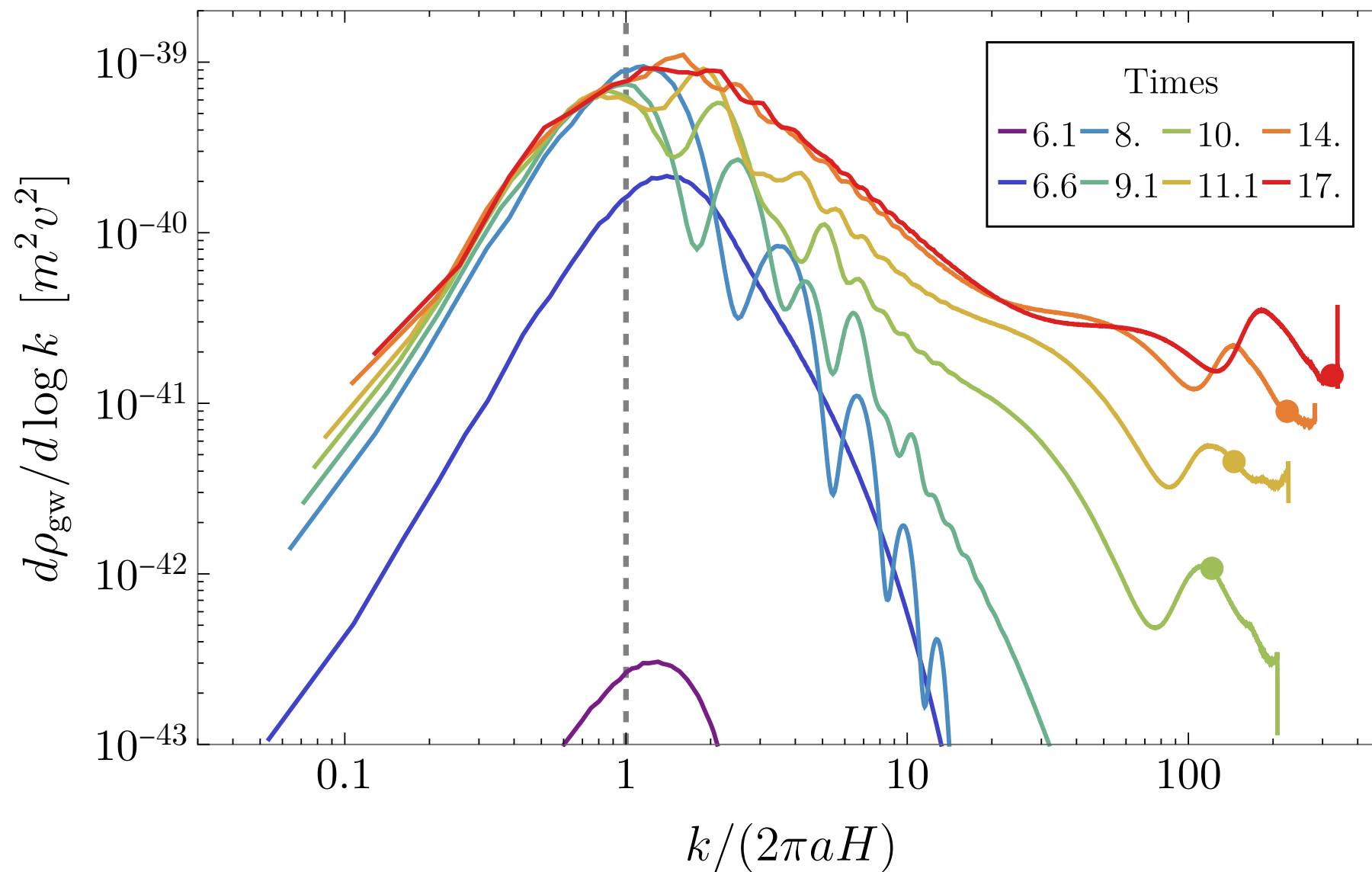
## Energy density





# GW spectrum from DWs (scaling)

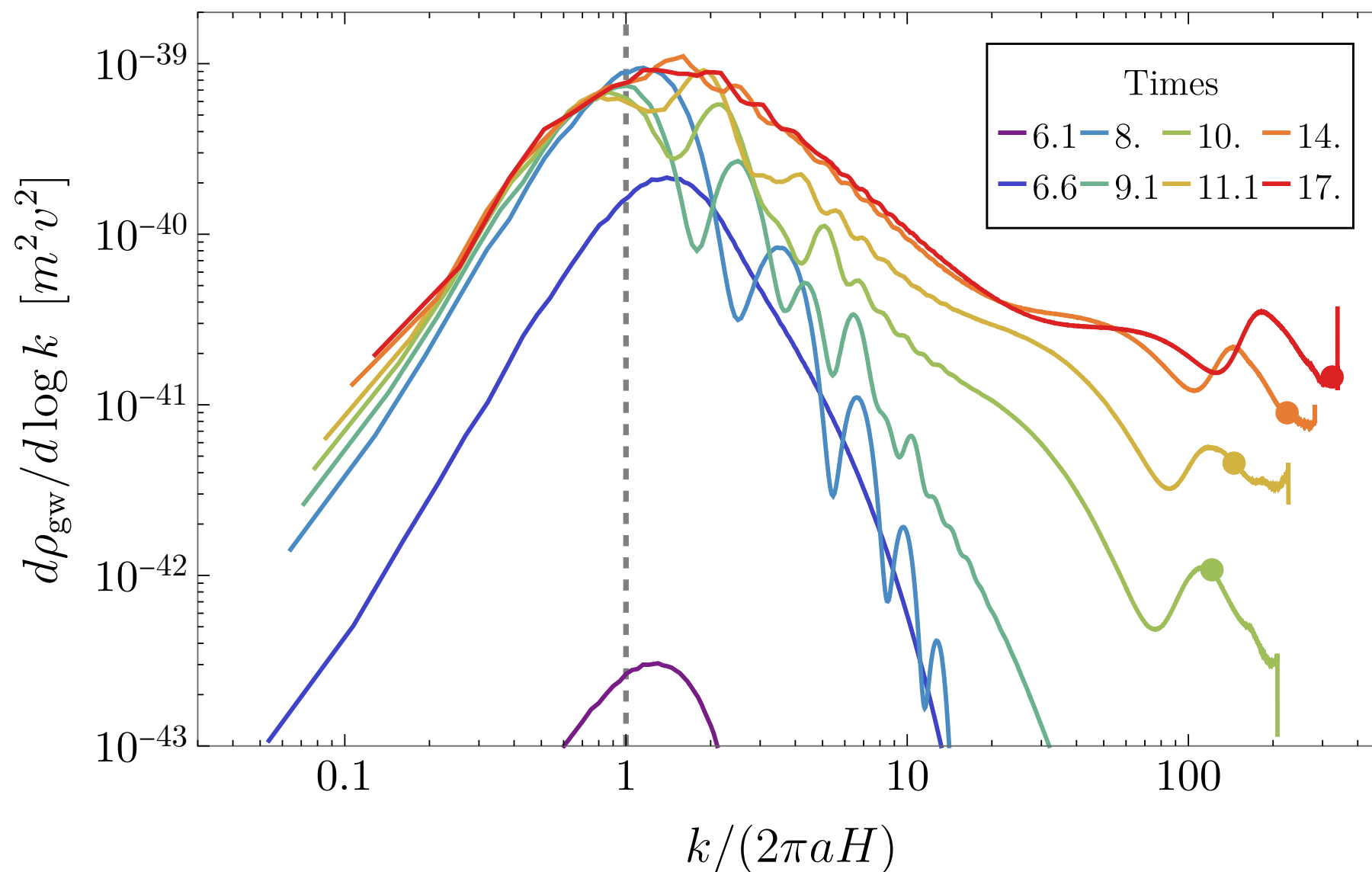
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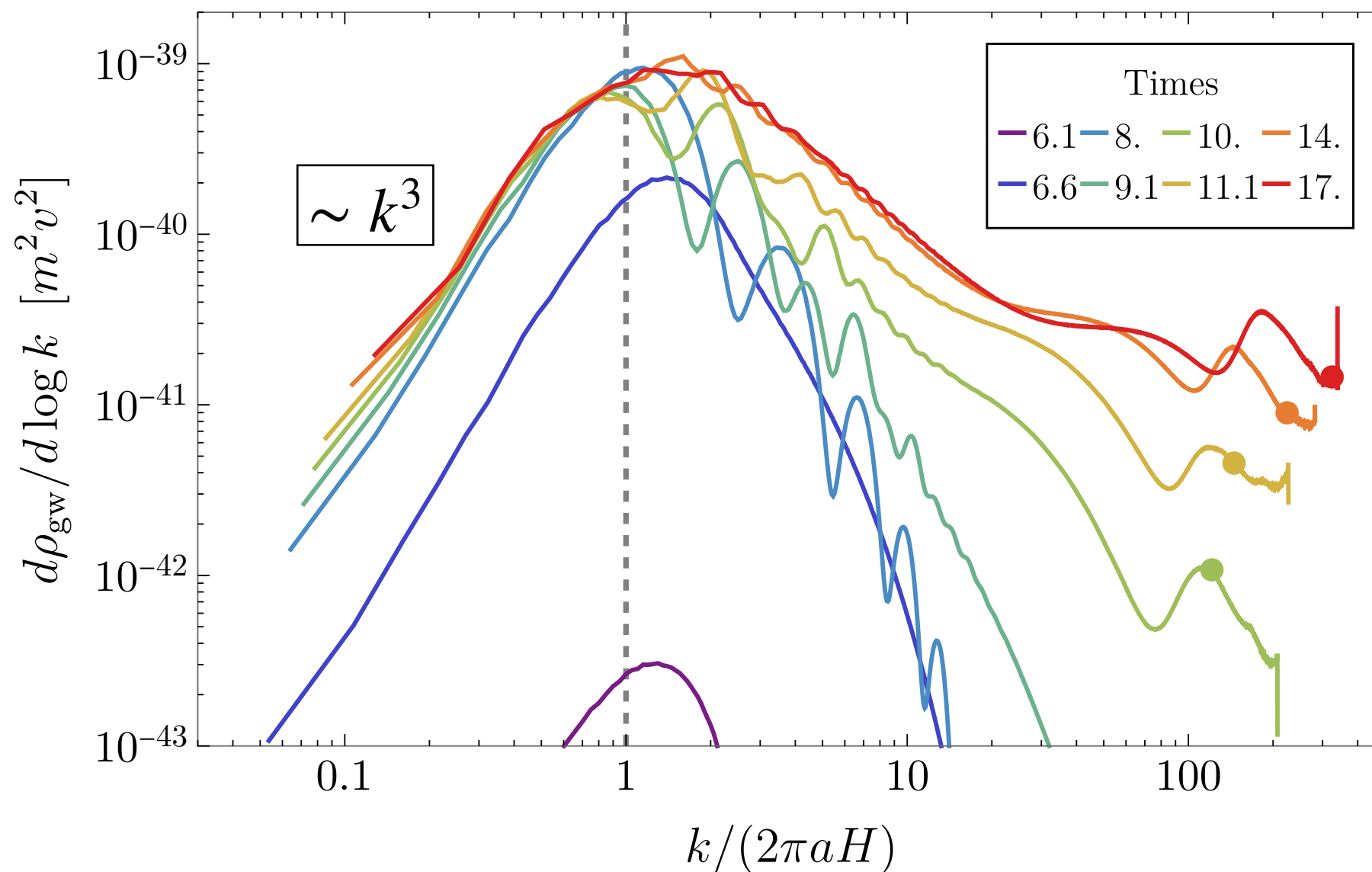
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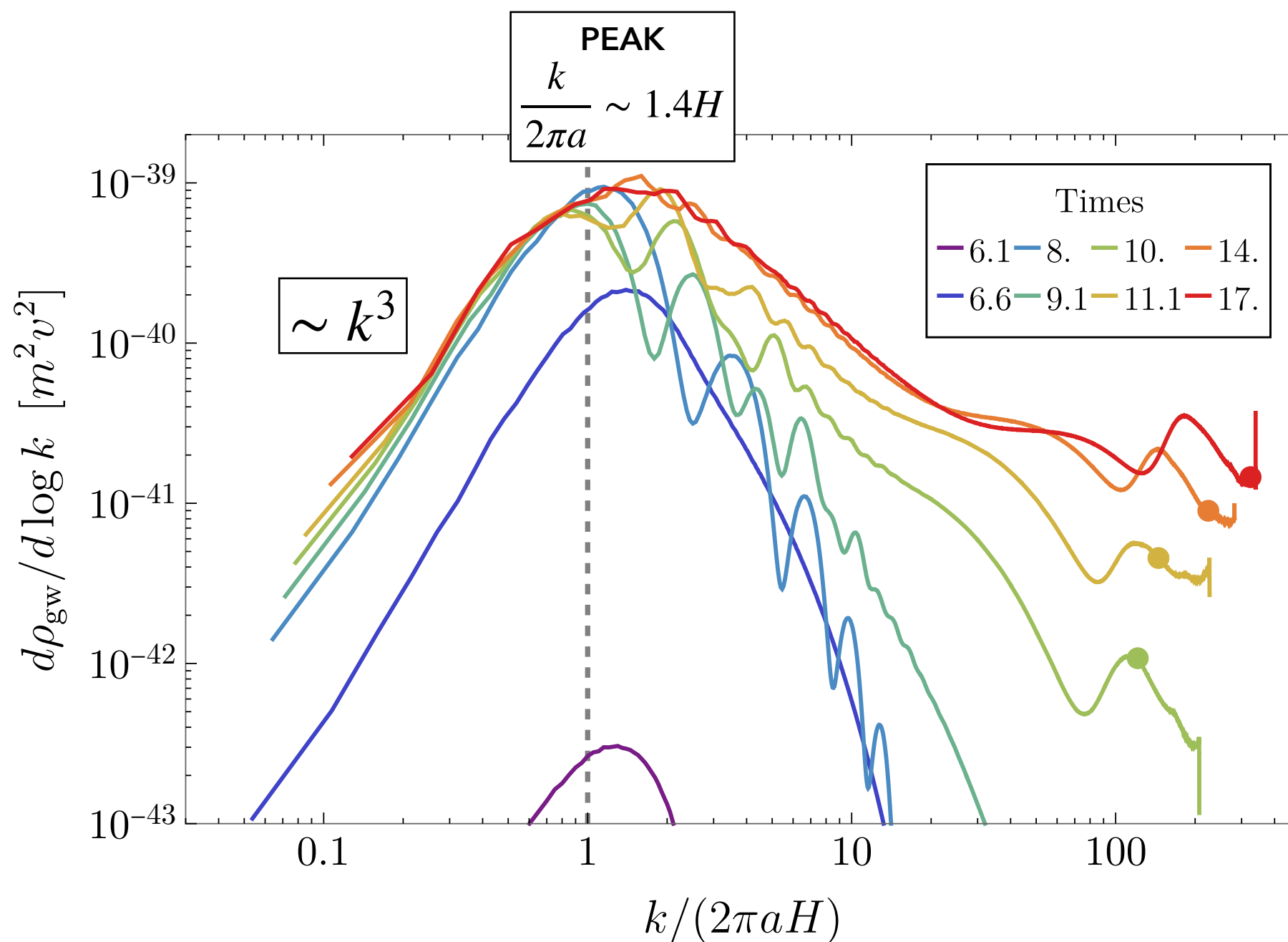
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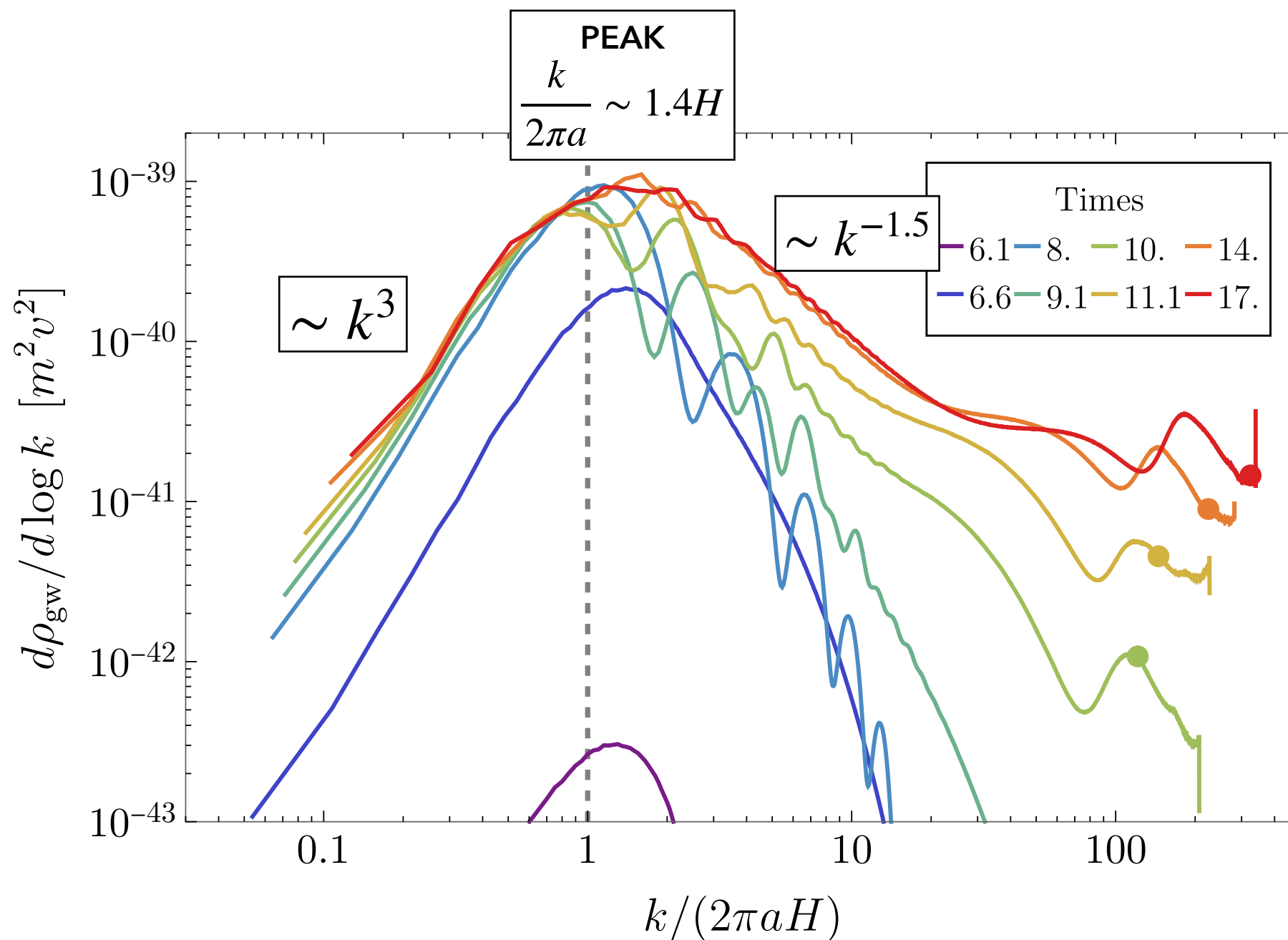
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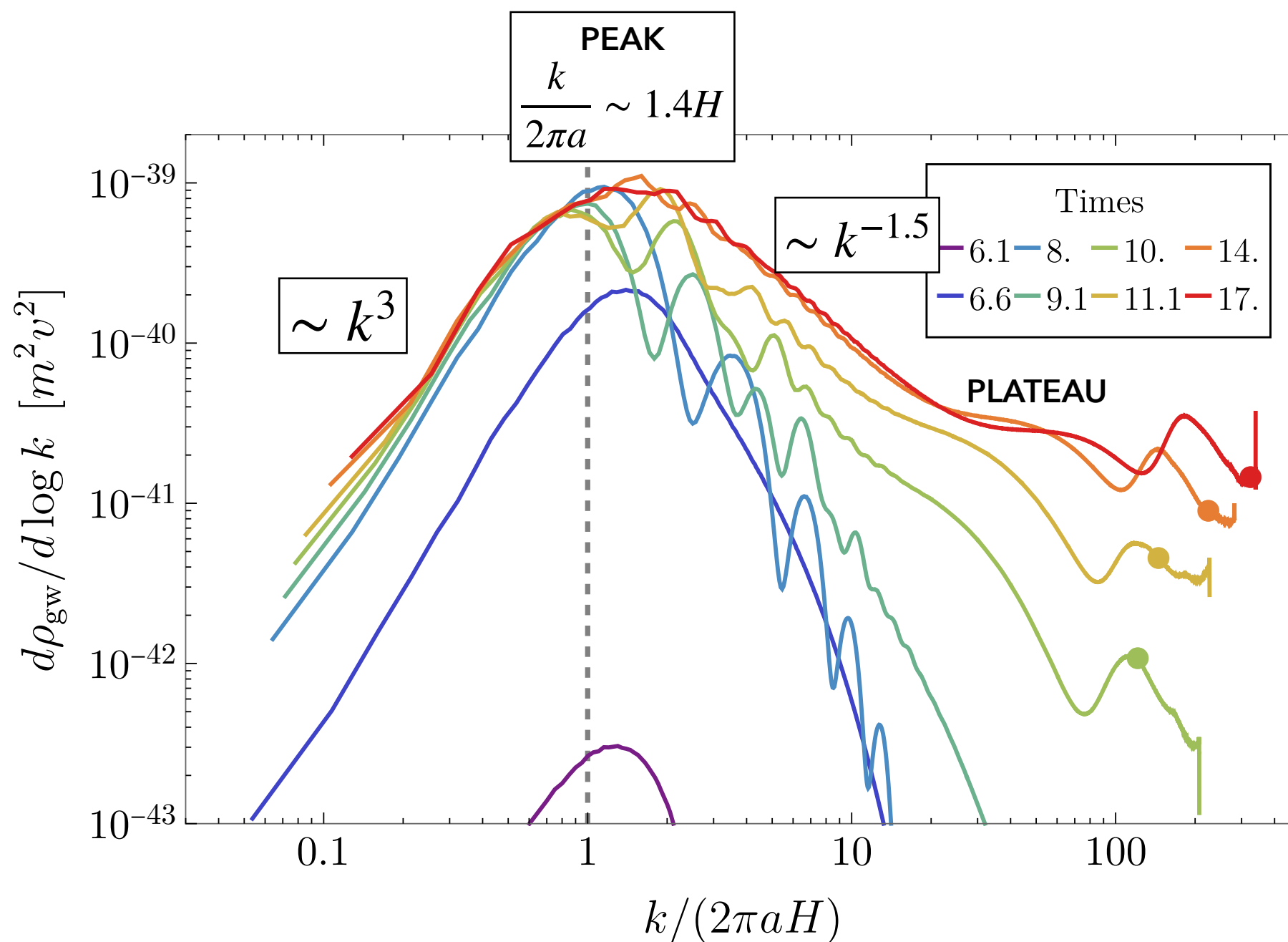
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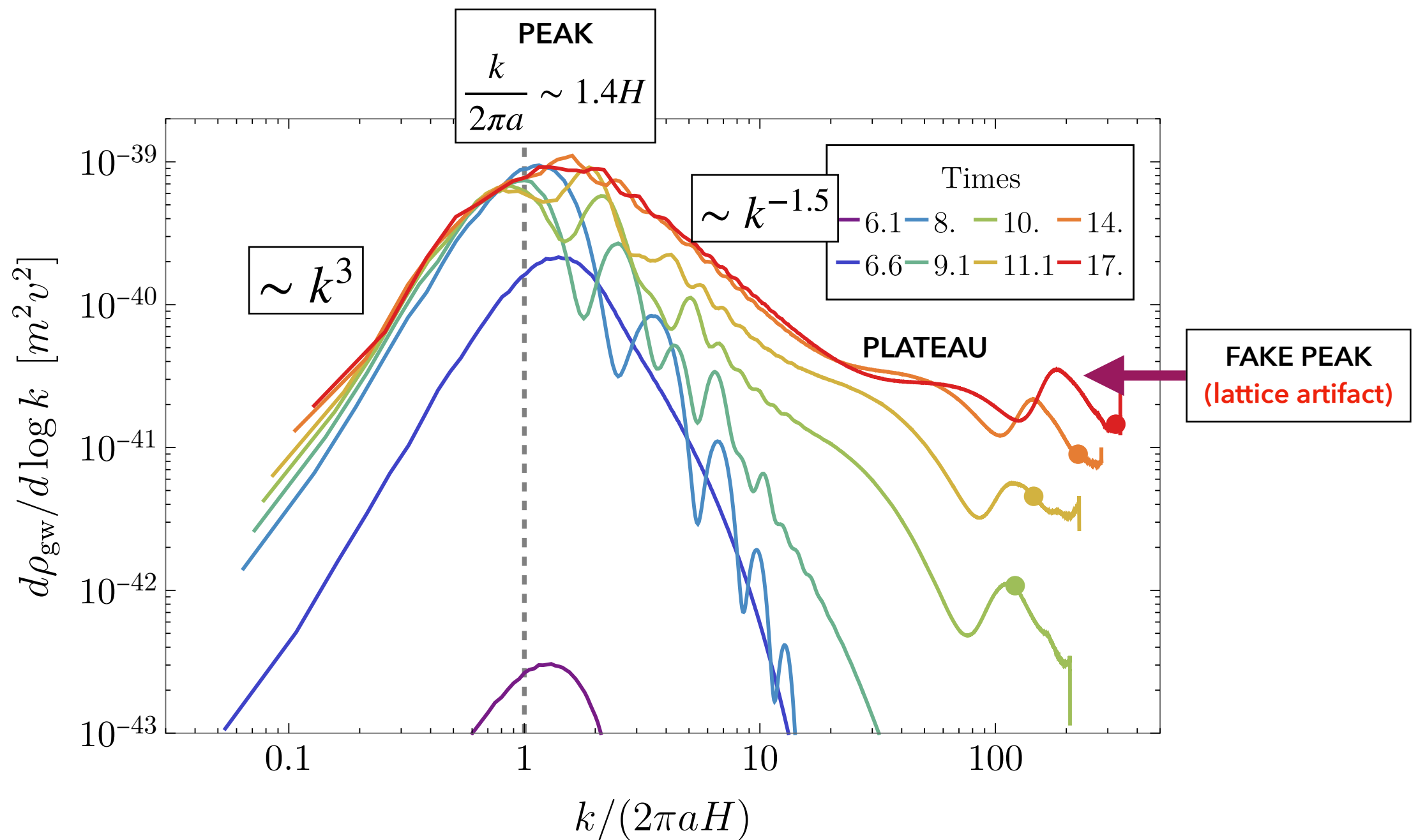
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# Annihilating domain walls

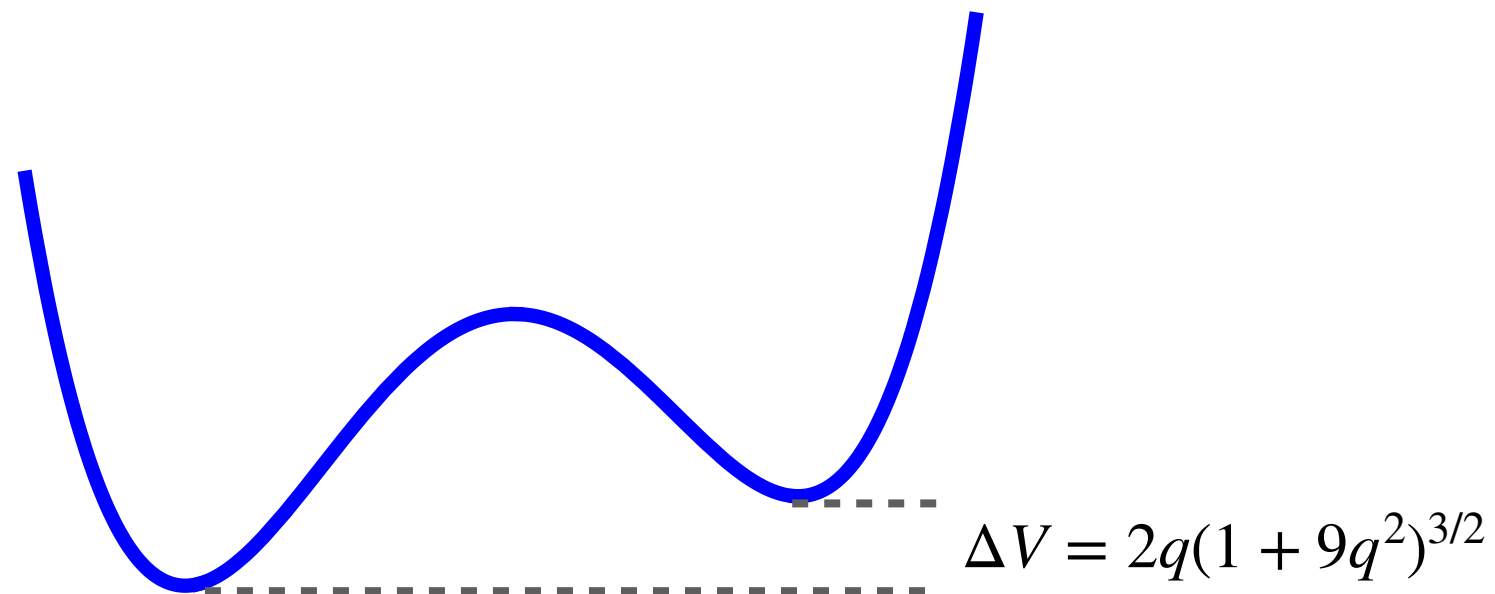
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$$V = V_{\mathbb{Z}_2} + V_{\text{bias}} = \frac{\lambda}{4} (\phi^2 - v^2)^4 + q\phi^3$$



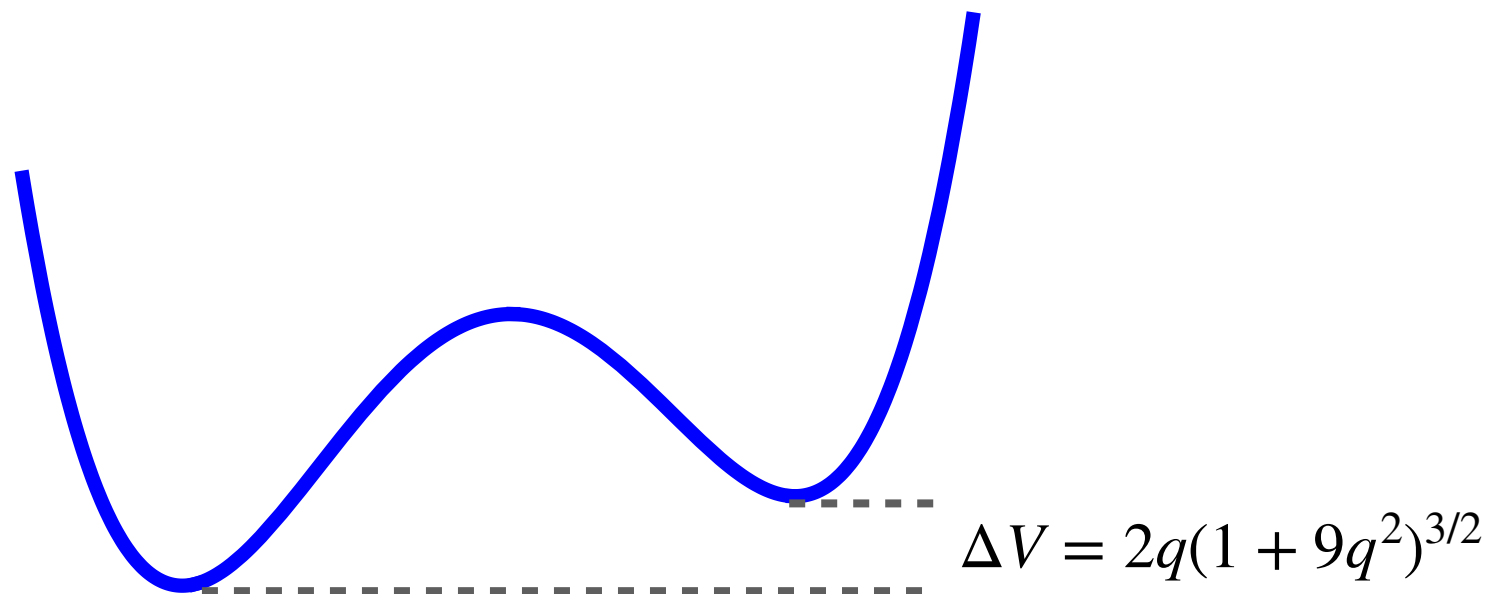
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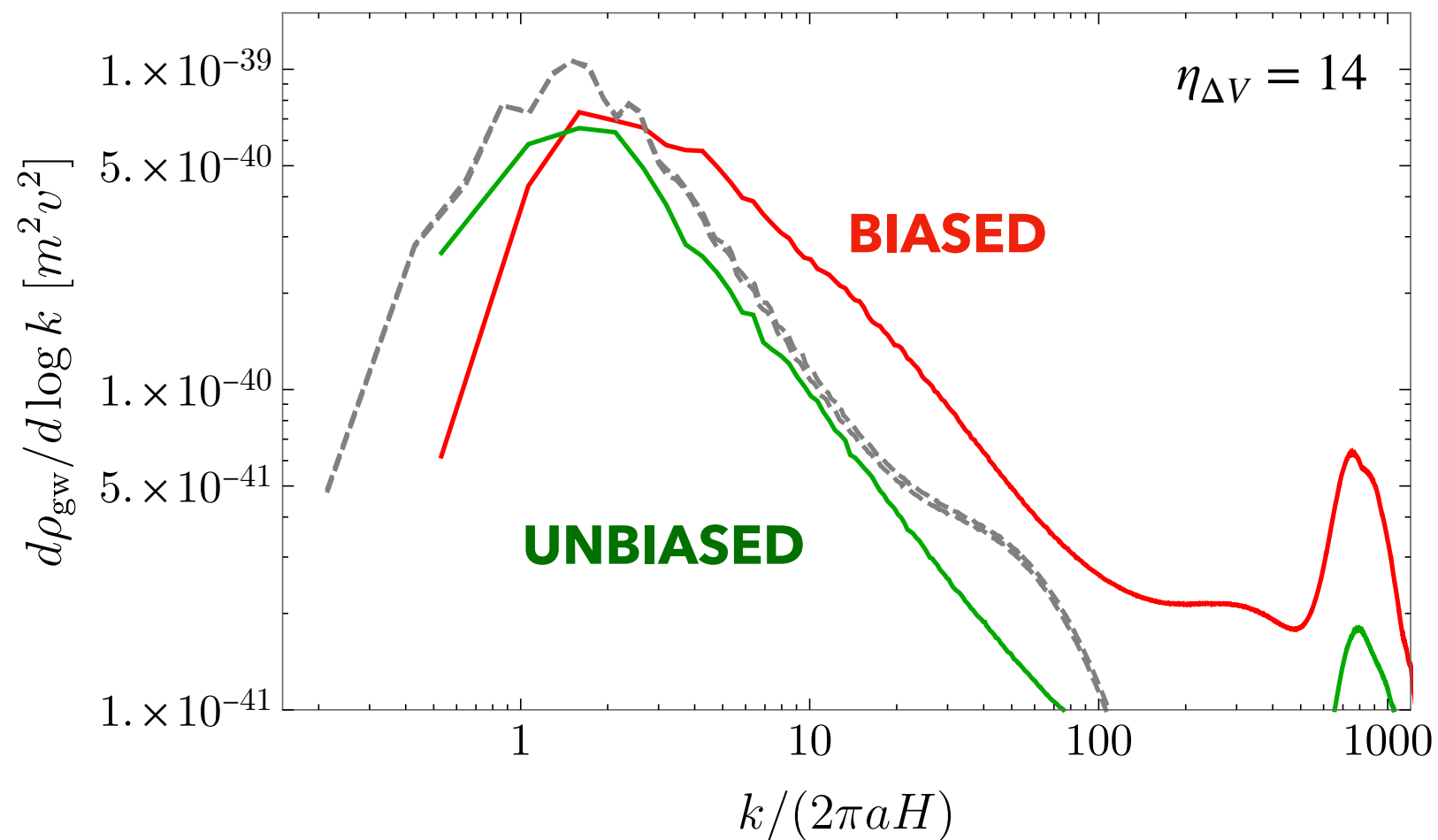
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**THANK YOU!**