

Title: The Weak Scale as a Trigger Part I: Crunching Dilaton, Hidden Naturalness

Speakers: Raffaele D'Agno

Series: Particle Physics

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Abstract: I discuss a new approach to the Higgs naturalness problem, where the value of the Higgs mass is tied to cosmic stability and the possibility of a large observable Universe. The Higgs mixes with the dilaton of a CFT sector whose true ground state has a large negative vacuum energy. If the Higgs VEV is non-zero and below  $O(\text{TeV})$ , the CFT also admits a second metastable vacuum, where the expansion history of the Universe is conventional. As a result, only Hubble patches with unnaturally small values of the Higgs mass support inflation and post-inflationary expansion, while all other patches rapidly crunch. I will also comment on alternative realizations of the mechanism that do not require a CFT sector and have a simple perturbative description.

# THE WEAK SCALE AS A TRIGGER

## PART I: CRUNCHING DILATON, HIDDEN NATURALNESS



# FINE-TUNING 101

A physical observable can be computed as the sum of multiple unrelated contributions

$$\mathcal{O} = O_1 + O_2 + \dots$$

At least two of them are much larger than its observed value

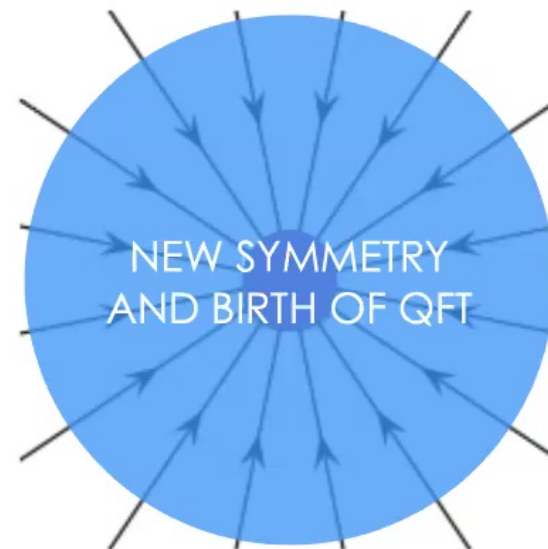
$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{obs}} \ll |\mathcal{O}_{1,2}|$$

# PAST FINE-TUNING PROBLEMS

## Mysterium Cosmographicum



## Electron Self-Energy



Both have paradigm-shifting resolutions



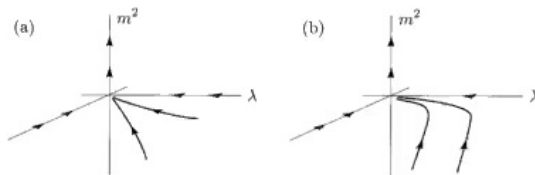


# THE HIERARCHY PROBLEM

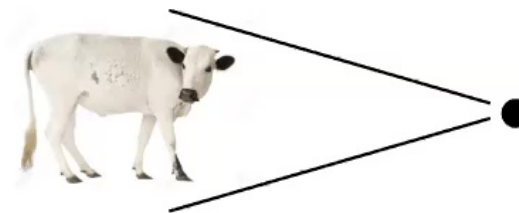
# EFFECTIVE FIELD THEORIES

In Quantum Field Theory: Systematic way of integrating out high energy degrees of freedom to obtain a simplified low energy theory

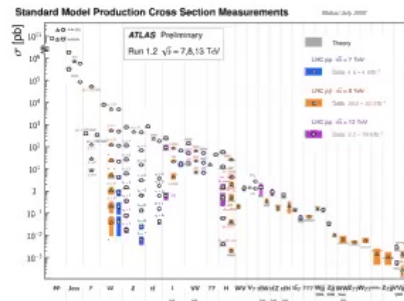
## RENORMALIZATION



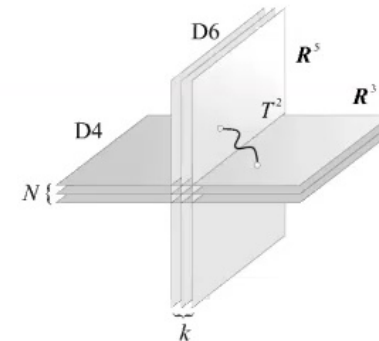
## SYMMETRIES FROM COARSE GRAINING



## PRECISION CALCULATIONS



## QFT INSIGHTS FROM STRING THEORY

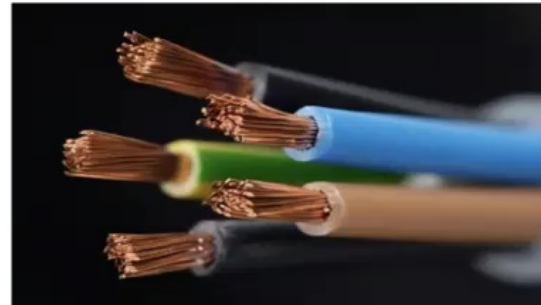


# ONE TOOL FOR MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS

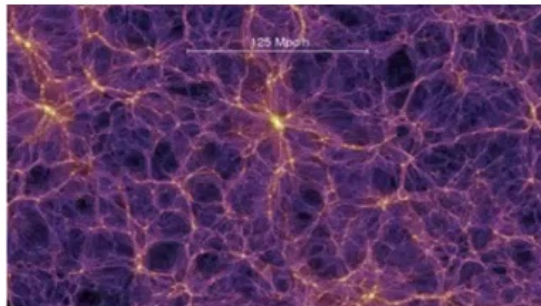
POST-NEWTONIAN EXPANSIONS



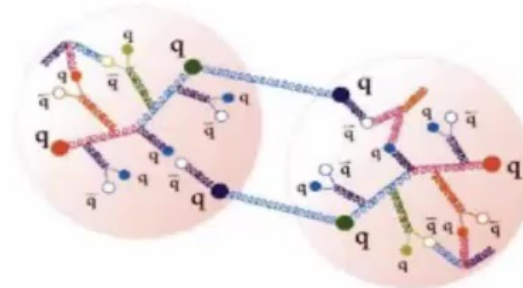
LANDAU THEORY OF FERMILIQUIDS



LARGE SCALE STRUCTURE



CHIRAL PERTURBATION THEORY



# THE HIERARCHY PROBLEMS

Take a heavy mass scale [Gravity] and apply this procedure of integrating out:

SIZE OF THE UNIVERSE  $\sim 10^{-60}$  observed

HIGGS BOSON MASS  $\sim 10^{16}$  observed



# THE HIERARCHY PROBLEMS

Take a heavy mass scale [Gravity] and apply this procedure of integrating out:

These answers are based on something more fundamental than the procedure itself: Symmetry

$\sim 10^{-60}$  observed

$\sim 10^{16}$  observed

# HIGGS MASS EXPLANATIONS

There is only a handful of conceptually distinct ways in which we know how to solve the problem. All have deep implications for our understanding of Nature.

1. Symmetry
2. Lower the cut-off
3. Multiverse + Anthropic selection
4. Unnaturalness [Arkani-Hamed, Cohen, **RTD**, Hook, Kim, Pinner]
5. Dynamical Selection Last five years
- 6.\* Gravity does not compute in a Wilsonian way

# TODAY'S TALK

## Crunching Dilaton, Hidden Naturalness

[Csaki, **RTD**, Geller, Ismail] '20

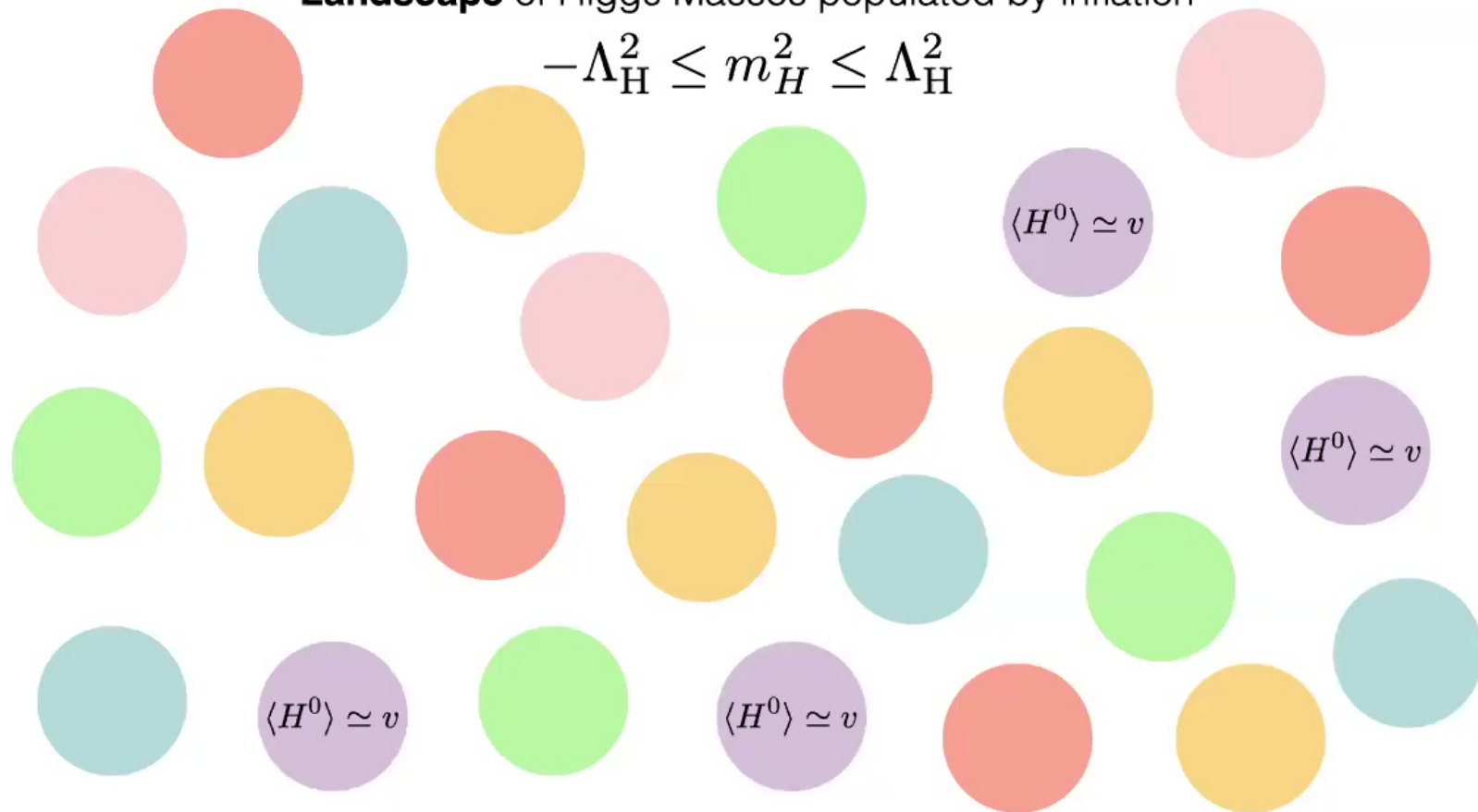
1. Symmetry
2. Lower the cut-off
3. Multiverse + Anthropic selection
4. Unnaturalness [Arkani-Hamed, Cohen, **RTD**, Hook, Kim, Pinner] '16
5. Dynamical Selection
- 6.\* Gravity does not compute in a Wilsonian way



# BASIC PICTURE

**Landscape** of Higgs Masses populated by inflation

$$-\Lambda_H^2 \leq m_H^2 \leq \Lambda_H^2$$



# BASIC PICTURE

After a time

$$t_c < M_{\text{Pl}}/\Lambda_{\text{H}}^2$$

All patches where the Higgs  
vev

$$\langle H^0 \rangle \equiv h$$

Is outside of a certain range

$$h_{\text{min}} \lesssim h \leq h_{\text{crit}}$$

**crunch**

$$\langle H^0 \rangle \simeq v$$

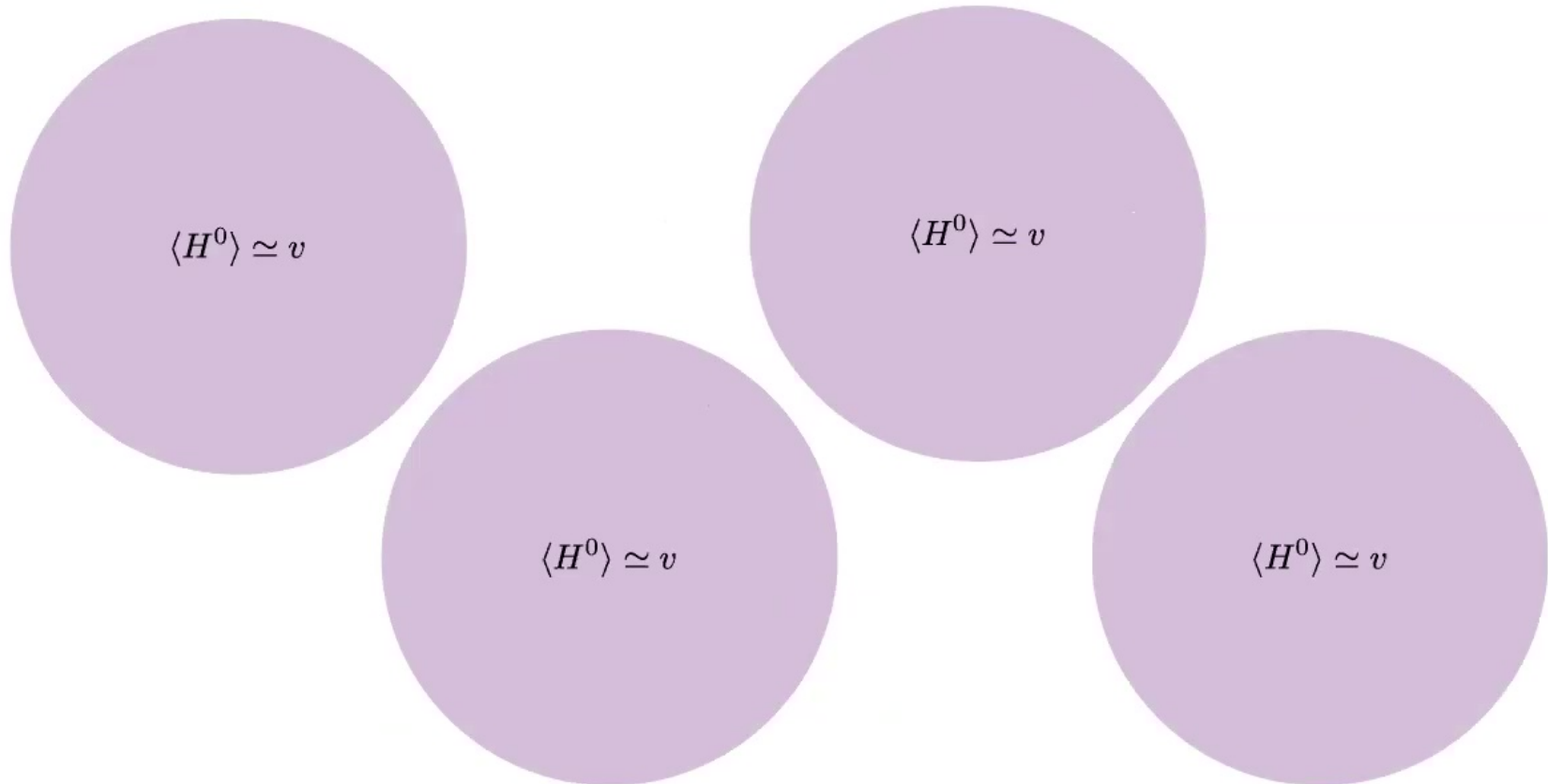
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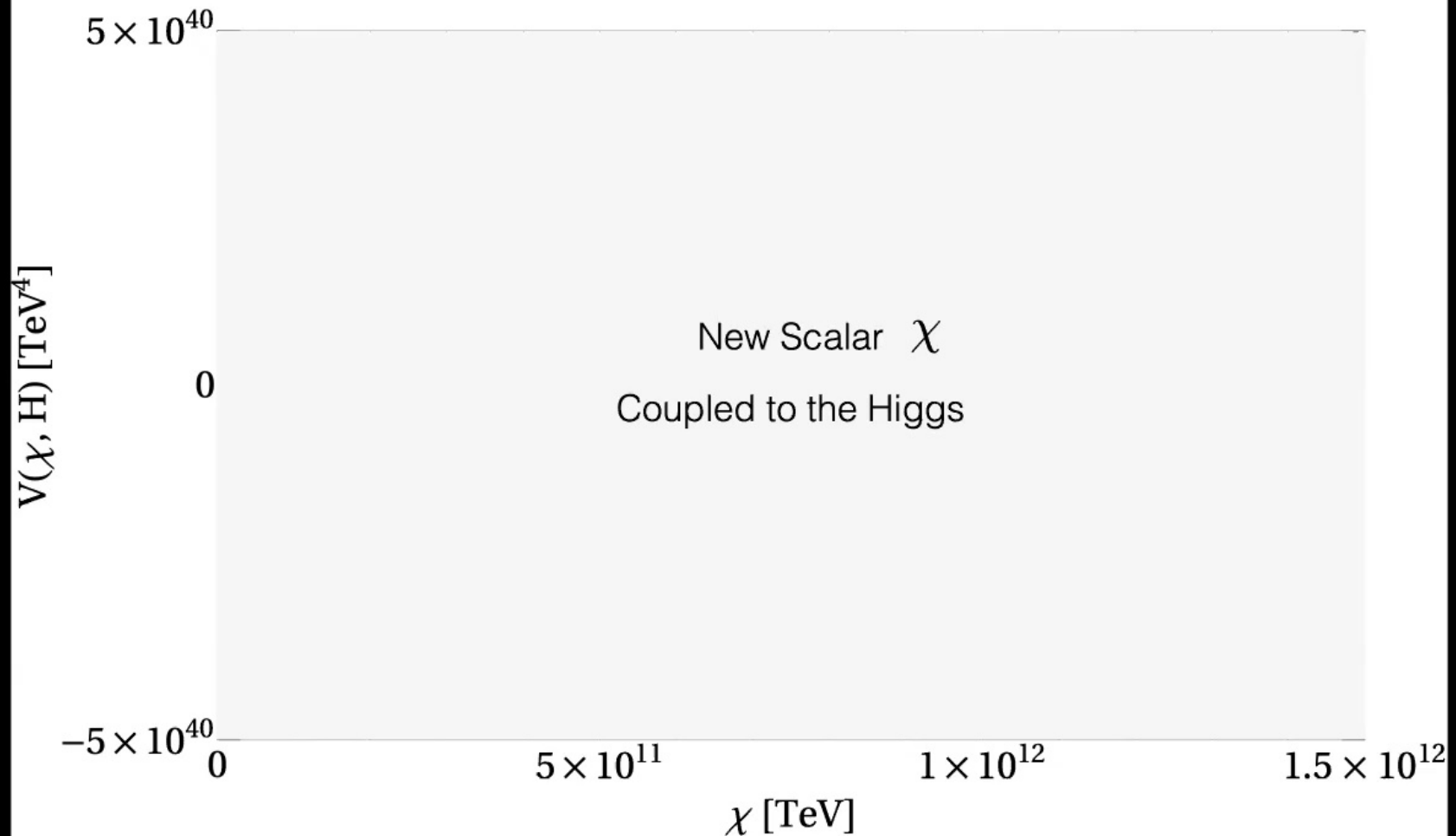
$$\langle H^0 \rangle \simeq v$$

# BASIC PICTURE

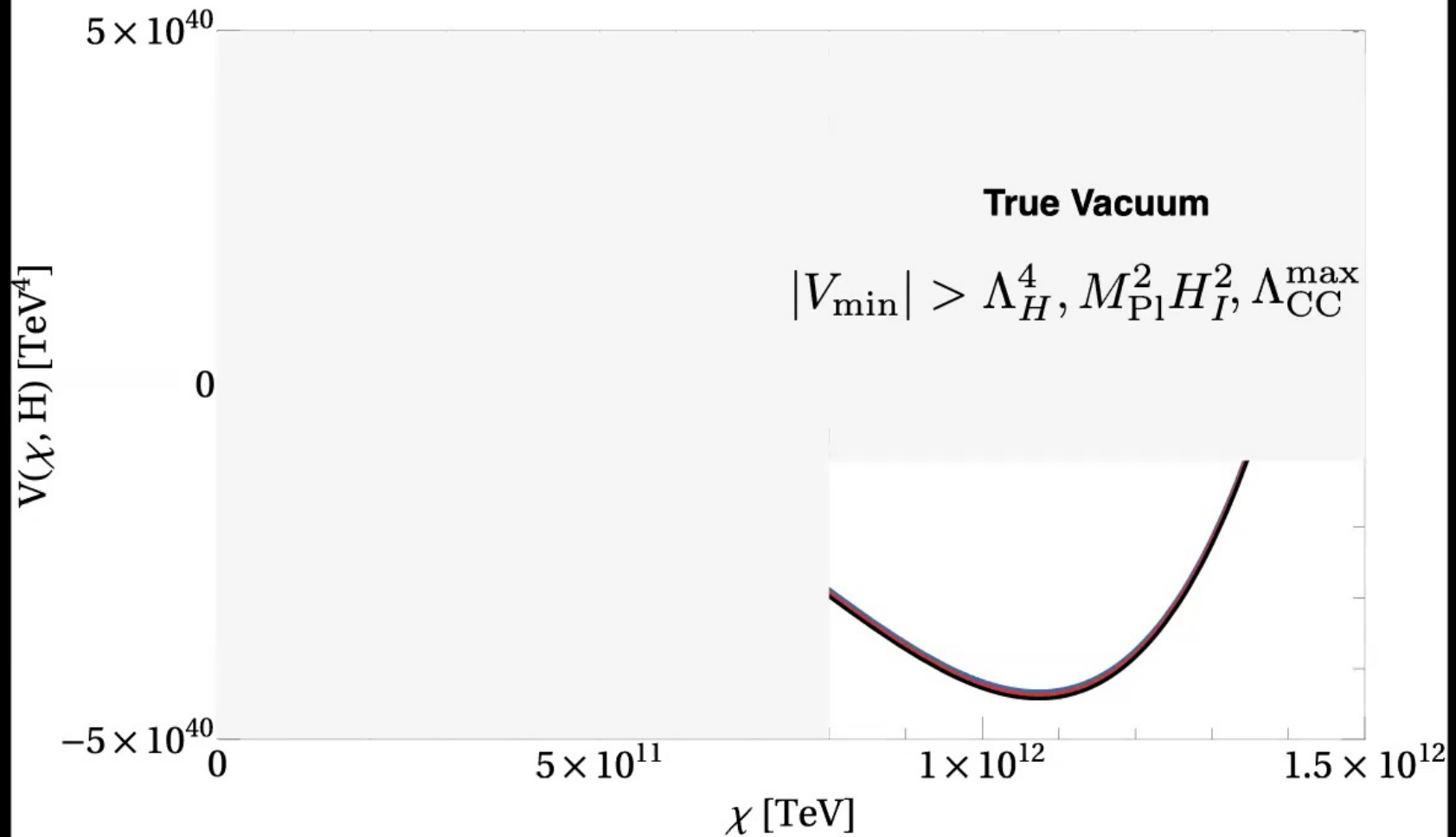
Only universes with the observed value of the weak scale can live longer than a Planck time and inflate. **Today the multiverse looks like:**



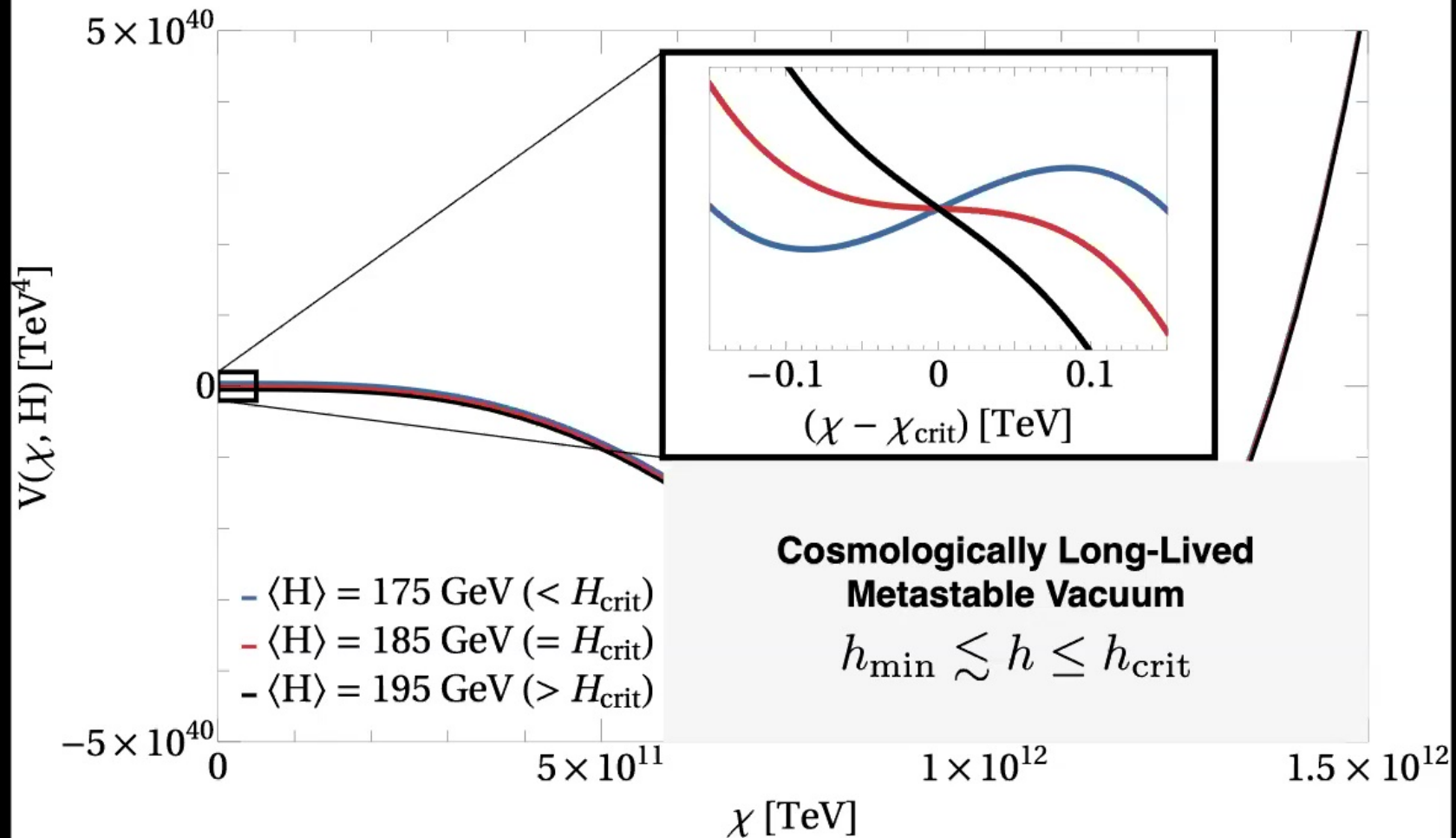
# CRUNCHING MECHANISM



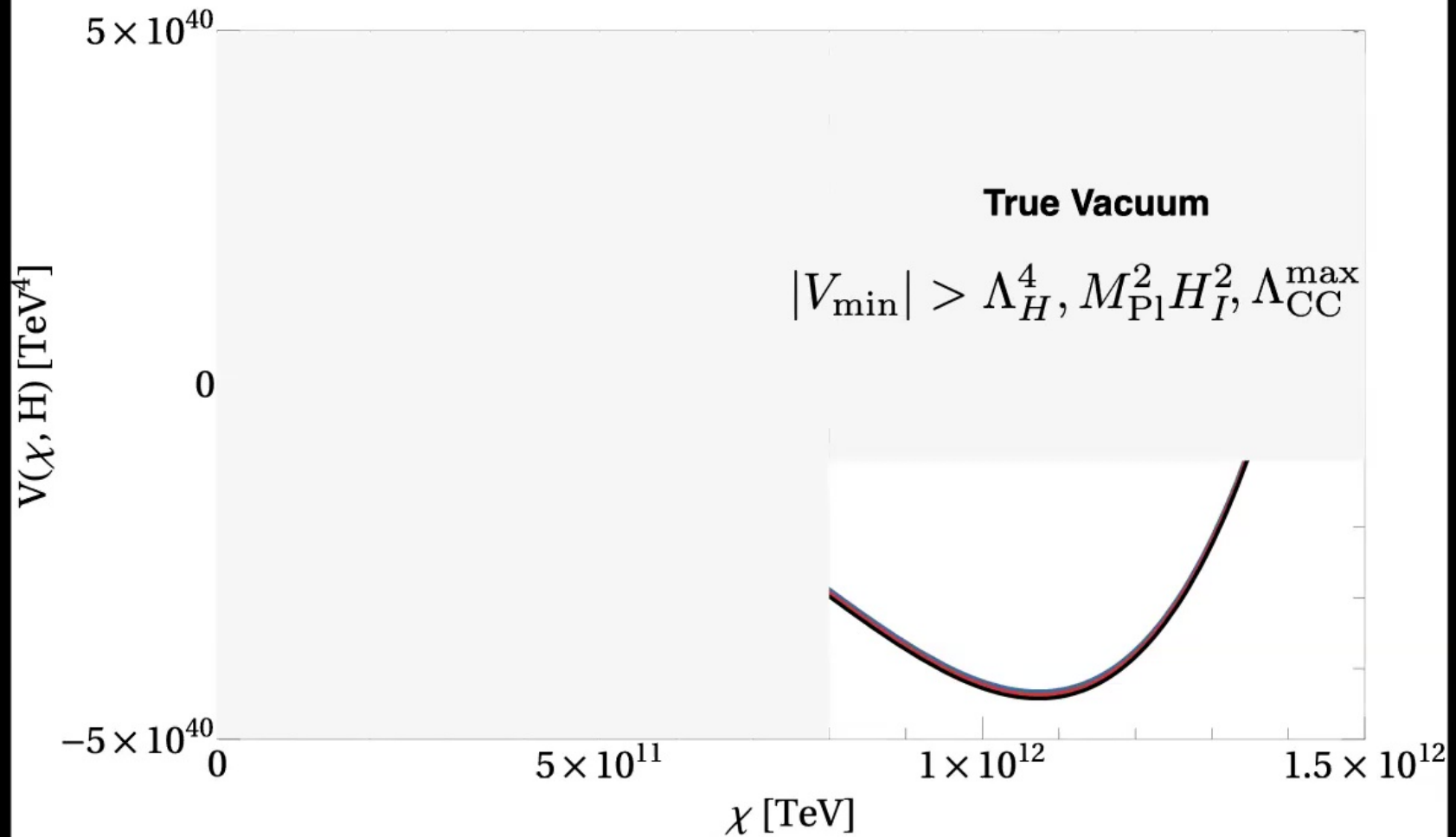
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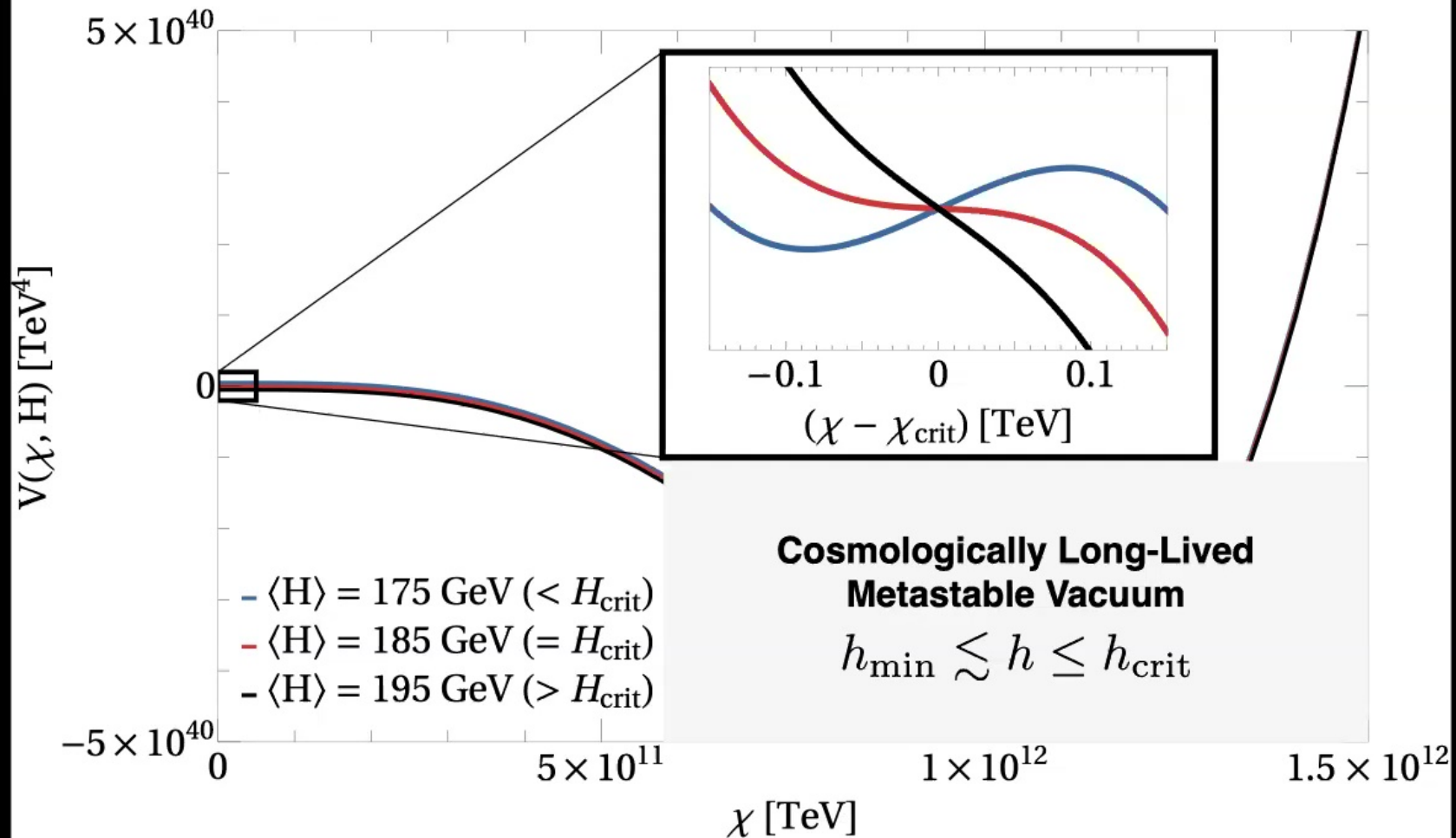


# CRUNCHING MECHANISM

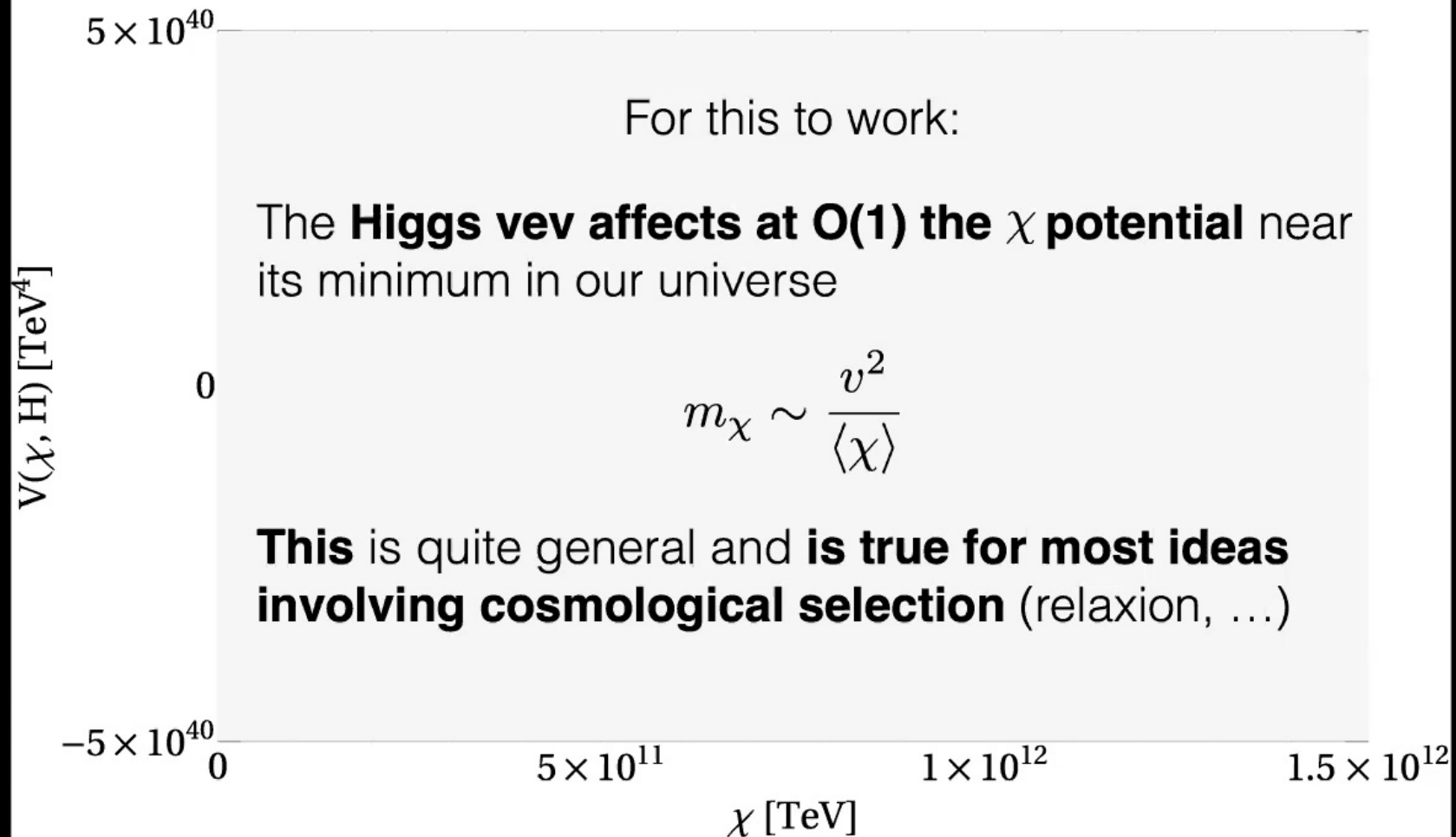




# CRUNCHING MECHANISM

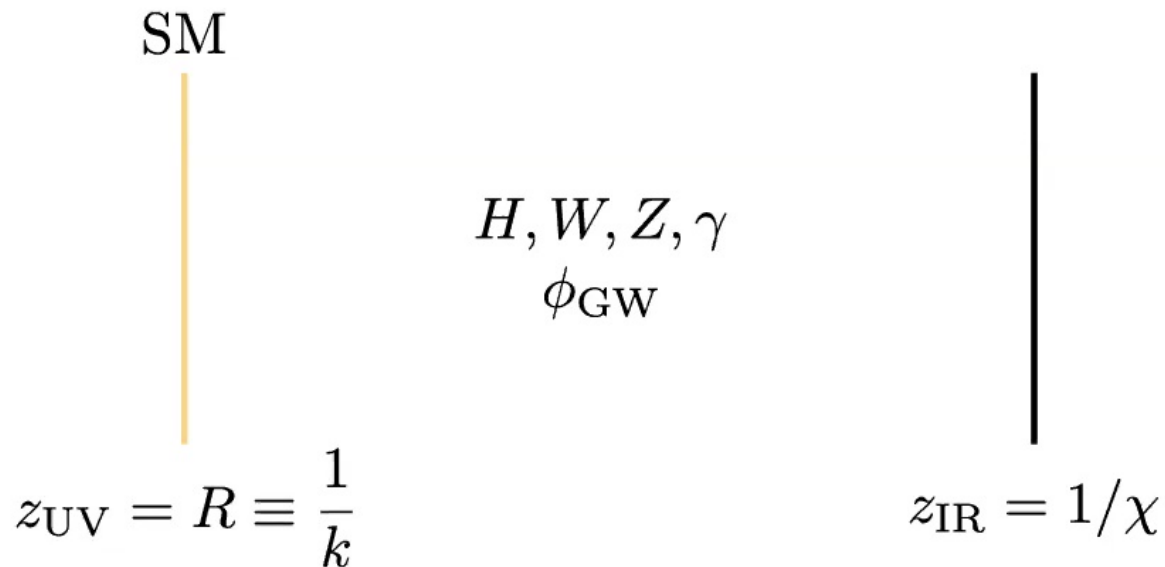


# CRUNCHING MECHANISM



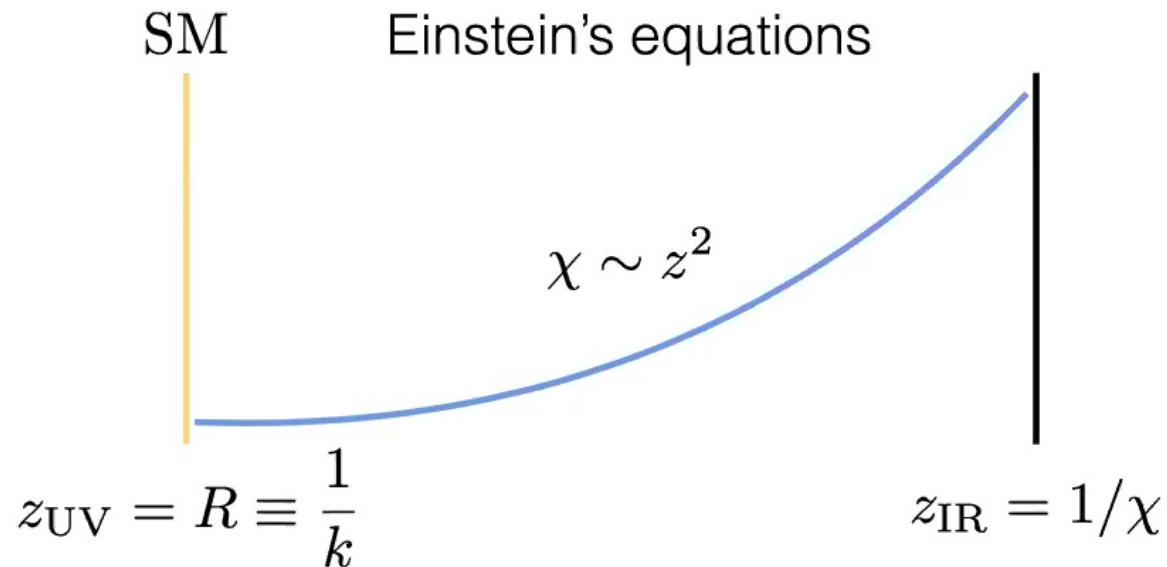
# CRUNCHING POTENTIAL FROM ADS

$$ds^2 = \left(\frac{R}{z}\right)^2 (\eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu - dz^2)$$



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$$ds^2 = \left(\frac{R}{z}\right)^2 (\eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu - dz^2)$$



# CRUNCHING POTENTIAL

$$V(\chi, H) = \underline{V_{\text{GW}}(\chi)} + V_{H\chi}(\chi, H) + V_H(H)$$

Usual GW stabilization of the dilaton

$$V_{\text{GW}}(\chi) = -\lambda \chi^4 + \lambda_{\text{GW}} \frac{\chi^{4+\delta}}{k^\delta}$$

Scale invariant (detuning of brane and bulk tension)

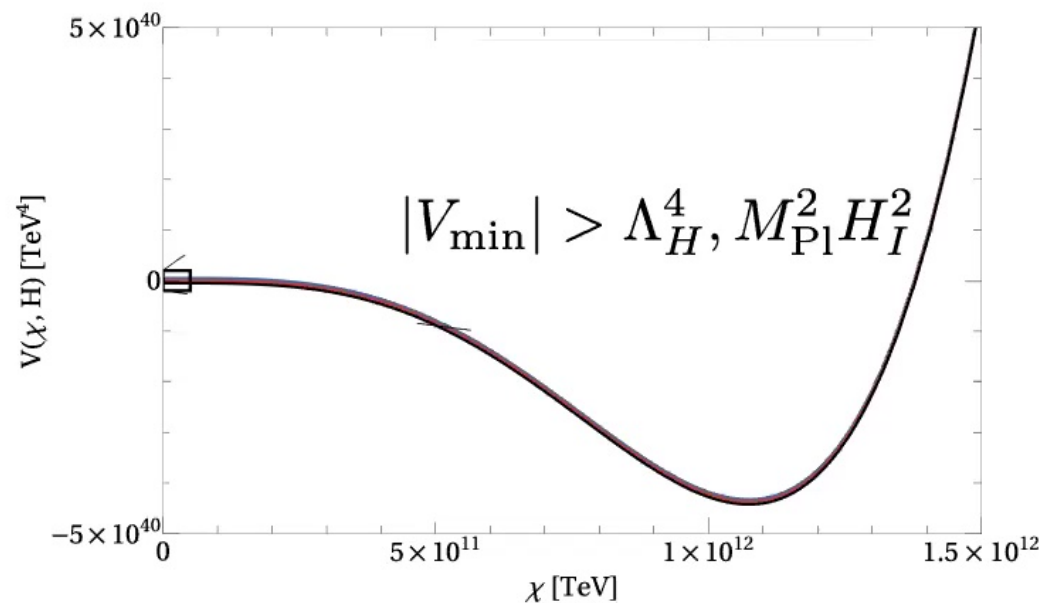
Breaking of scale invariance from GW scalar mass

$$\delta = \frac{m_{\text{GW}}^2 z_{\text{UV}}^2}{4}$$

# CRUNCHING POTENTIAL

$$V(\chi, H) = \underline{V_{\text{GW}}(\chi)} + V_{H\chi}(\chi, H) + V_H(H)$$

Usual GW stabilization of the dilaton



# CRUNCHING POTENTIAL

$$V(\chi, H) = V_{\text{GW}}(\chi) + V_{H\chi}(\chi, H) + \underline{V_H(H)}$$

Higgs UV brane Potential

$$V_H(H) = -\underline{m_H^2} |H|^2 + \lambda_H |H|^4$$

The Higgs mass is scanning in the landscape

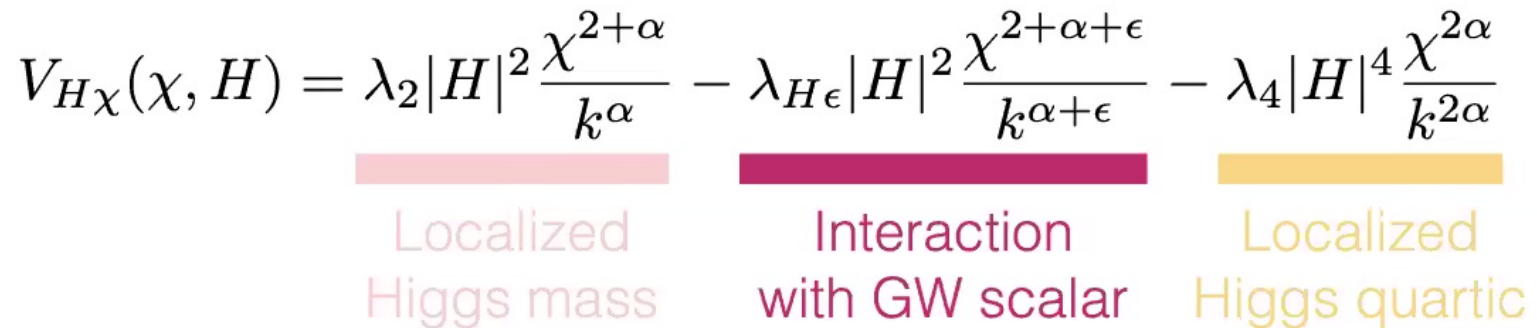


# CRUNCHING POTENTIAL

$$V(\chi, H) = V_{\text{GW}}(\chi) + \underline{V_{H\chi}(\chi, H)} + V_H(H)$$

Generation of a metastable minimum around a TeV

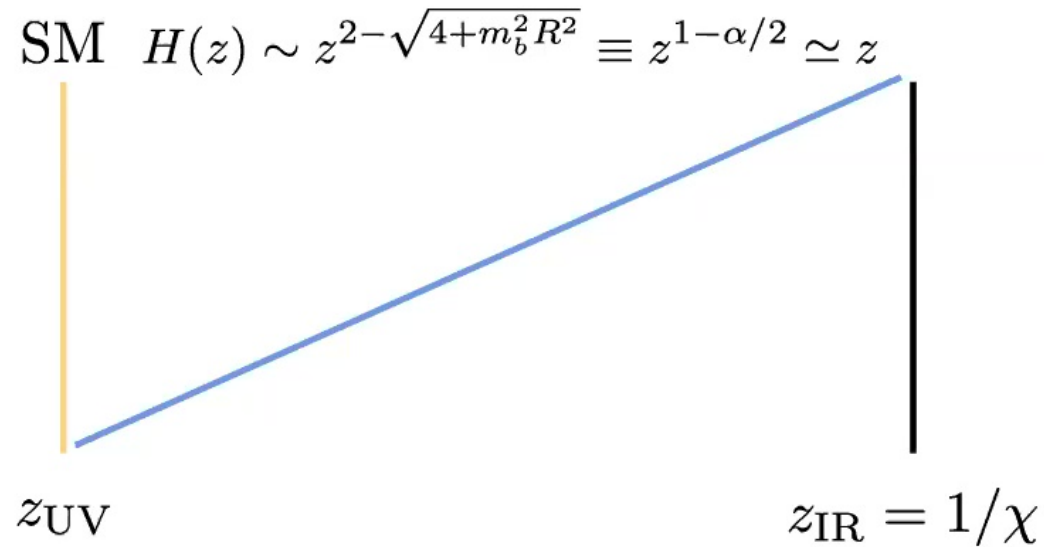
$$V_{H\chi}(\chi, H) = \lambda_2 |H|^2 \frac{\chi^{2+\alpha}}{k^\alpha} - \lambda_{H\epsilon} |H|^2 \frac{\chi^{2+\alpha+\epsilon}}{k^{\alpha+\epsilon}} - \lambda_4 |H|^4 \frac{\chi^{2\alpha}}{k^{2\alpha}}$$



Localized Higgs mass      Interaction with GW scalar      Localized Higgs quartic

# CRUNCHING POTENTIAL

$$V(\chi, H) = V_{\text{GW}}(\chi) + \underline{V_{H\chi}(\chi, H)} + V_H(H)$$



$$|H_{\text{IR}}|^2 \quad \longrightarrow \quad |H_{\text{UV}}|^2 \chi^{2+\alpha}$$

# CRUNCHING POTENTIAL

$$V(\chi, H) = V_{\text{GW}}(\chi) + \underline{V_{H\chi}(\chi, H)} + V_H(H)$$

SM



$z_{\text{UV}}$

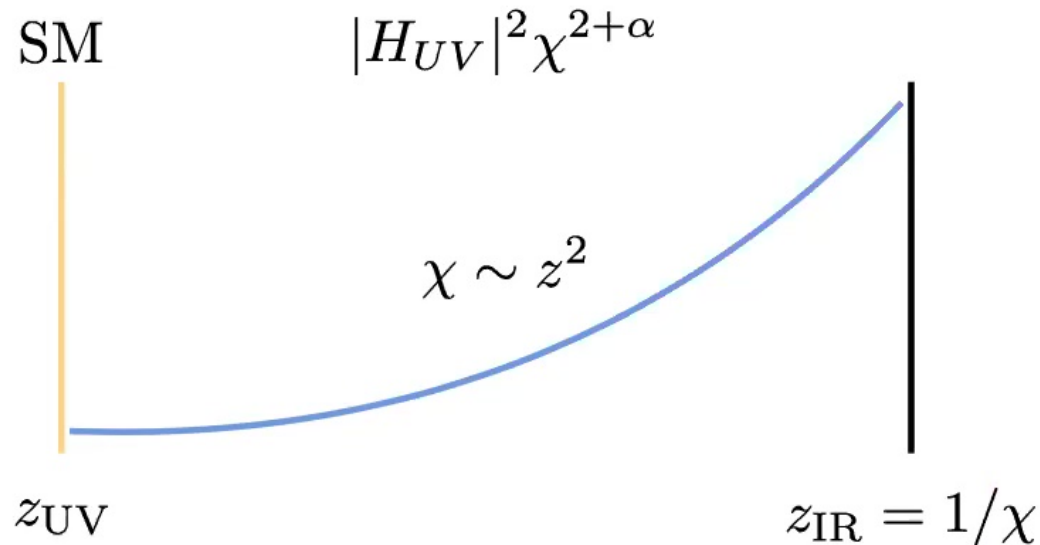
$$m_b^2 |H|^2$$



$$z_{\text{IR}} = 1/\chi$$

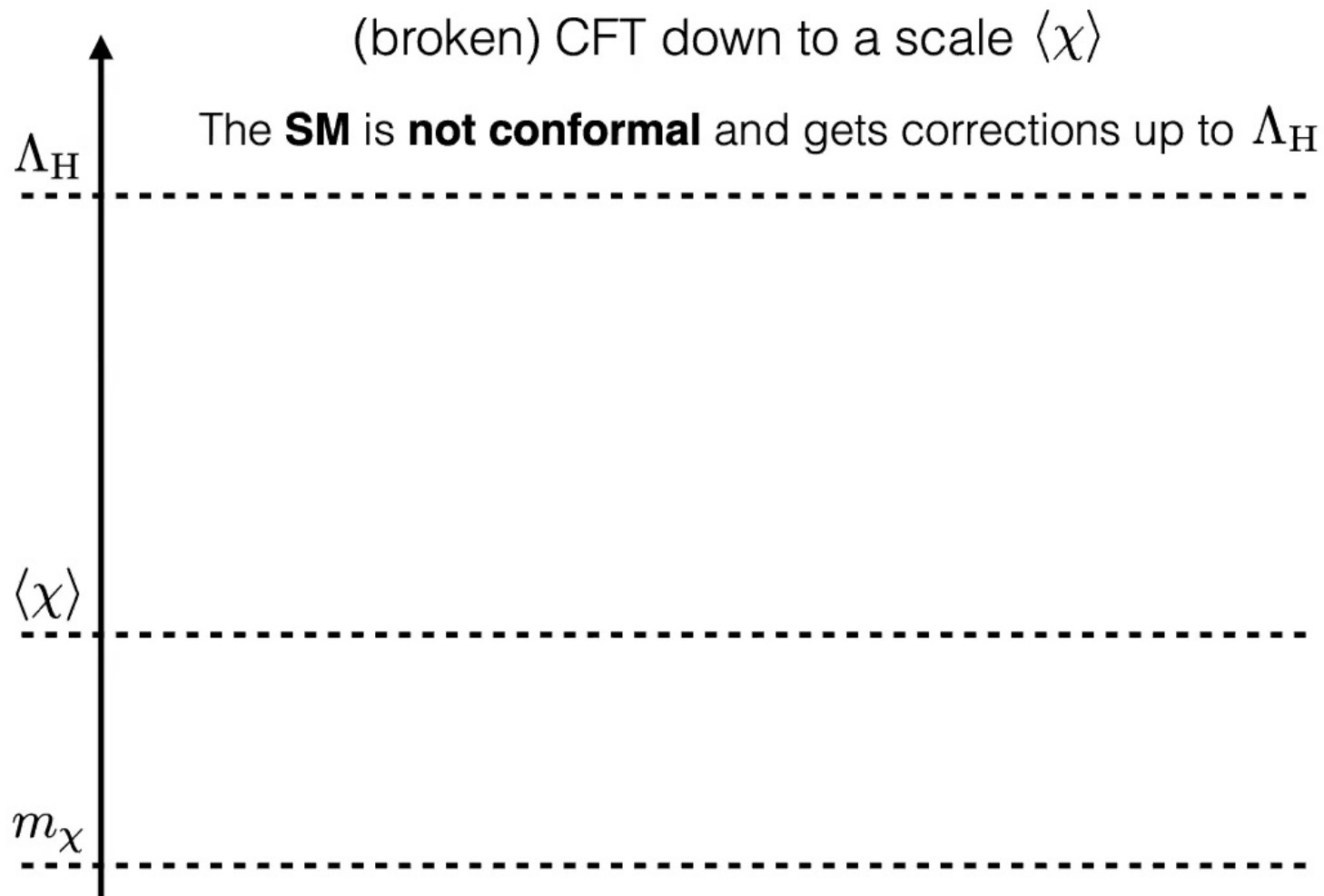
# CRUNCHING POTENTIAL

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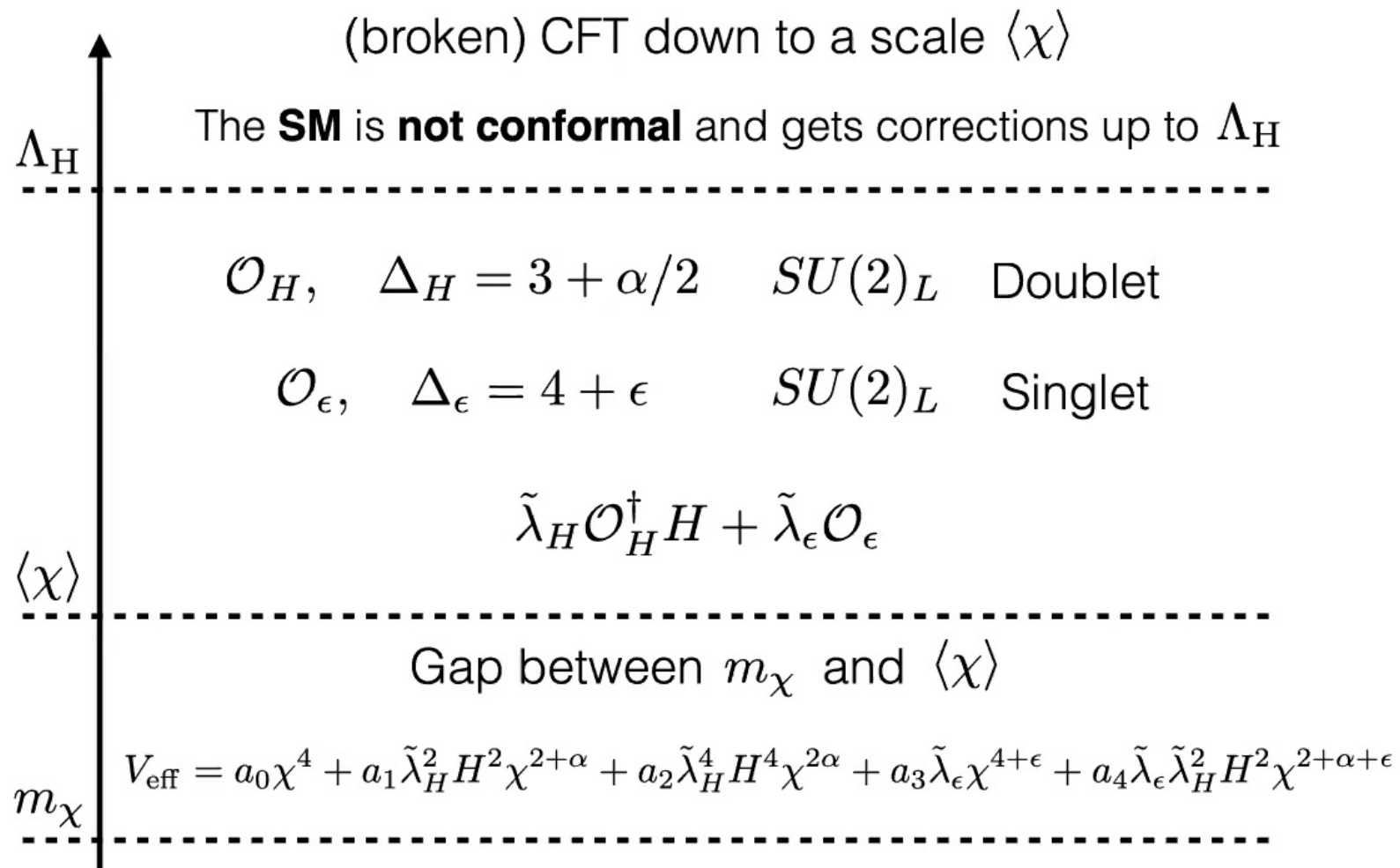


Warping Trick: **the dilaton is sensitive to the Higgs vev** because loops in the **UV** are **redshifted to the weak scale** in the IR

# CFT INTERPRETATION



# CFT INTERPRETATION







# POTENTIAL DYNAMICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY



# DYNAMICS OF THE DILATON POTENTIAL

$$V(\chi, H) = V_{\text{GW}}(\chi) + V_{H\chi}(\chi, H) + V_H(H)$$

For simplicity take the GW potential such that at the metastable minimum

$$V_{\text{GW}}(\chi_{\text{min}}) \ll V_{H\chi}(\chi_{\text{min}})$$

Then we need to examine only the cross terms to see if a universe is “alive”

$$V_{H\chi}(\chi, H) = \lambda_2 |H|^2 \frac{\chi^{2+\alpha}}{k^\alpha} - \lambda_{H\epsilon} |H|^2 \frac{\chi^{2+\alpha+\epsilon}}{k^{\alpha+\epsilon}} - \lambda_4 |H|^4 \frac{\chi^{2\alpha}}{k^{2\alpha}}$$

# DYNAMICS OF THE DILATON POTENTIAL

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$$\langle H^0 \rangle \equiv h = 0$$

$V_{H\chi} = 0$  No low energy minimum

$$h \lesssim H_I$$

The minimum is not sensitive to the Higgs during inflation

$$h \gtrsim h_{\text{crit}}$$

$V_{H\chi} \sim -\lambda_4 \chi^{2\alpha}$  No low energy minimum

# DYNAMICS OF THE DILATON POTENTIAL

$$V(\chi, H) = V_{\text{GW}}(\chi) + V_{H\chi}(\chi, H) + V_H(H)$$

The critical Higgs vev can be computed exactly

$$h_{\text{crit}} = k \left( \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_{H\epsilon}} \frac{4 - \alpha^2}{(2 + \epsilon)^2 - \alpha^2} \right)^{\frac{1 - \alpha/2}{\epsilon}} \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_4} \frac{\epsilon(2 + \alpha)}{2\alpha(2 - \alpha + \epsilon)}}$$

$$\epsilon, \alpha \lesssim 1 \quad \rightarrow \quad h_{\text{crit}} \ll k$$

**Interpretation:**  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  **approximate scale invariance**  
at low energy

# DYNAMICS OF THE DILATON POTENTIAL

$$V(\chi, H) = V_{\text{GW}}(\chi) + \underline{V_{H\chi}(\chi, H)} + V_H(H)$$

The size of the extra dimension depends on the Higgs vev

$$\chi_{\min} \simeq \left( \frac{h^2}{k^\alpha} \frac{2\alpha\lambda_4}{(2+\alpha)\lambda_2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2-\alpha}}$$

So also in this case parametrically

$$\boxed{\epsilon, \alpha \lesssim 1 \quad \rightarrow \quad \chi_{\min} \ll k}$$



# **BARE BONES PREDICTIONS**

# PHENOMENOLOGY

1. Low-energy Extra-Dimension (**KK W, Z, photon**, but no gluons or fermions)

$$1/R' = \langle \chi \rangle \equiv \chi_{\min} \simeq h$$

2. But not very low-energy (little hierarchy)

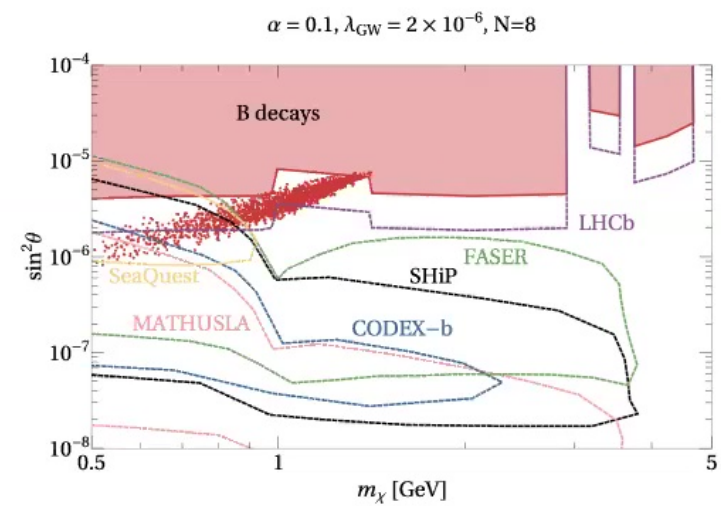
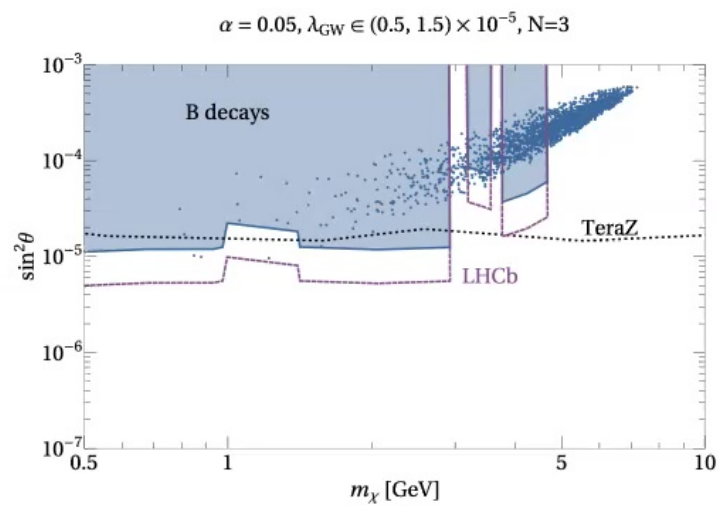
$$\chi_{\min} \simeq \left( \frac{h^2}{k^\alpha} \frac{2\alpha\lambda_4}{(2+\alpha)\lambda_2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2-\alpha}} \gtrsim \text{TeV}$$

$$\lambda_2 \simeq 10^{-2} \lambda_4$$

3. **Light dilaton** (little hierarchy)

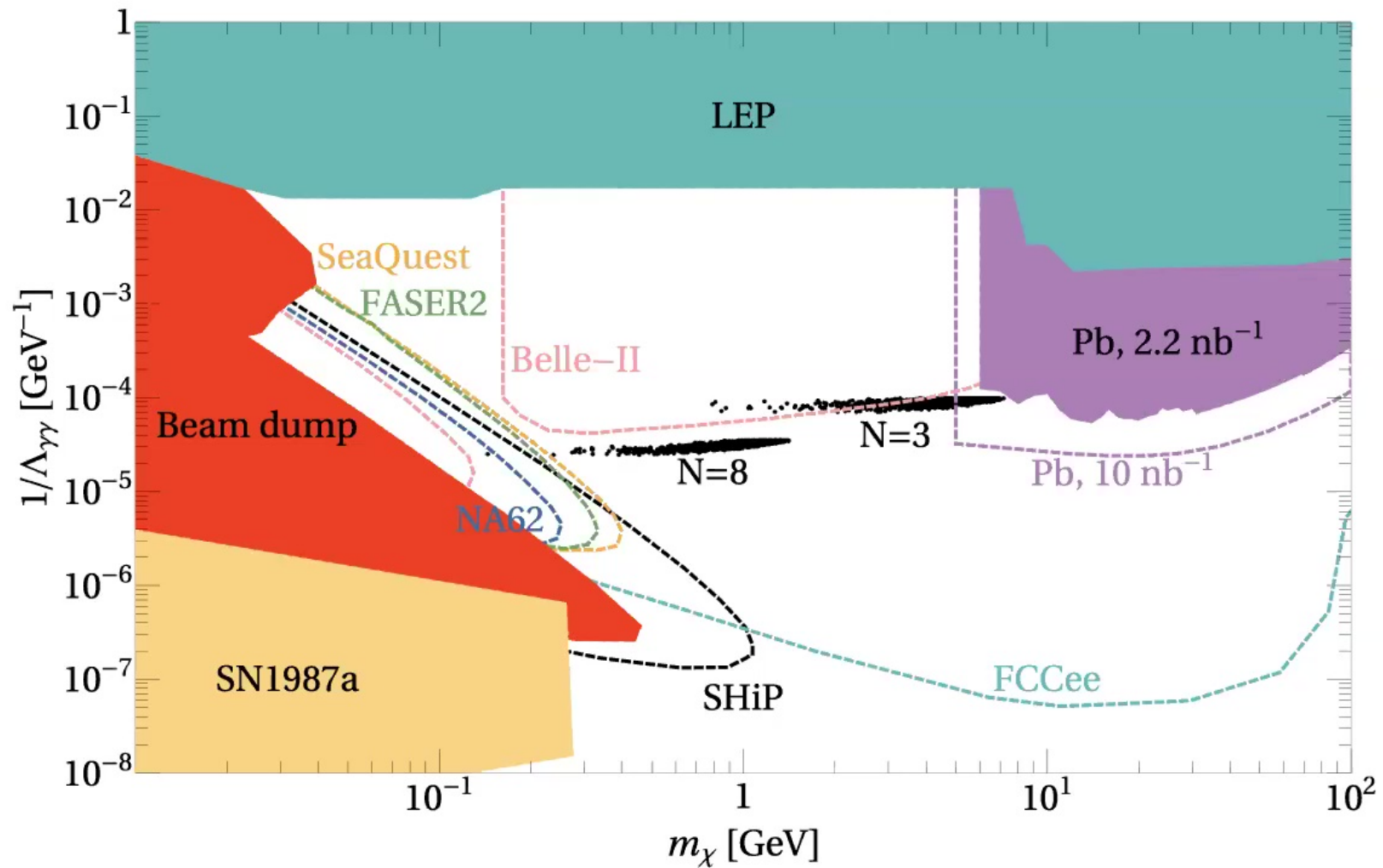
$$m_\chi \sim m_h \sqrt{\frac{h}{\chi_{\min}}}$$

# A LIGHT DILATON





# A LIGHT DILATON



# PHENOMENOLOGY

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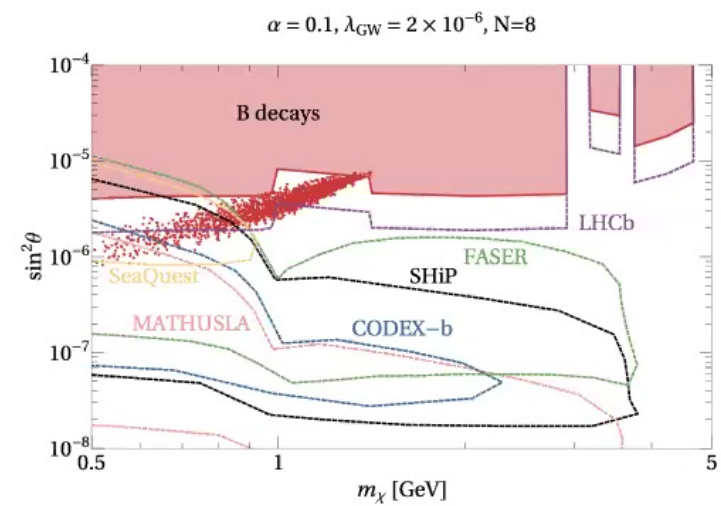
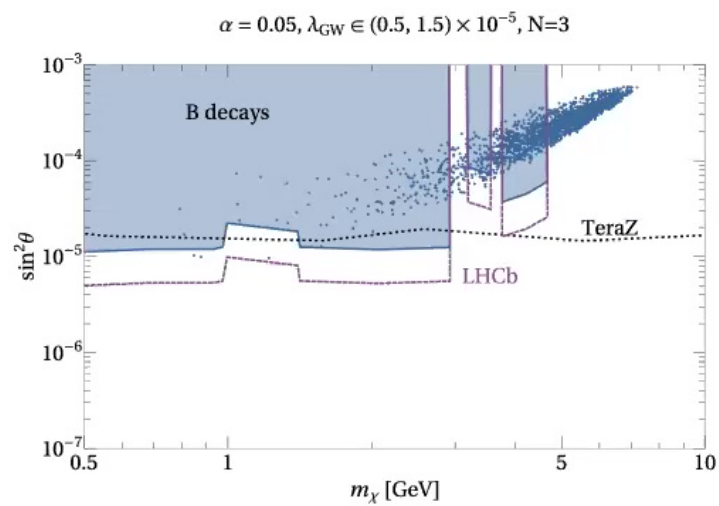
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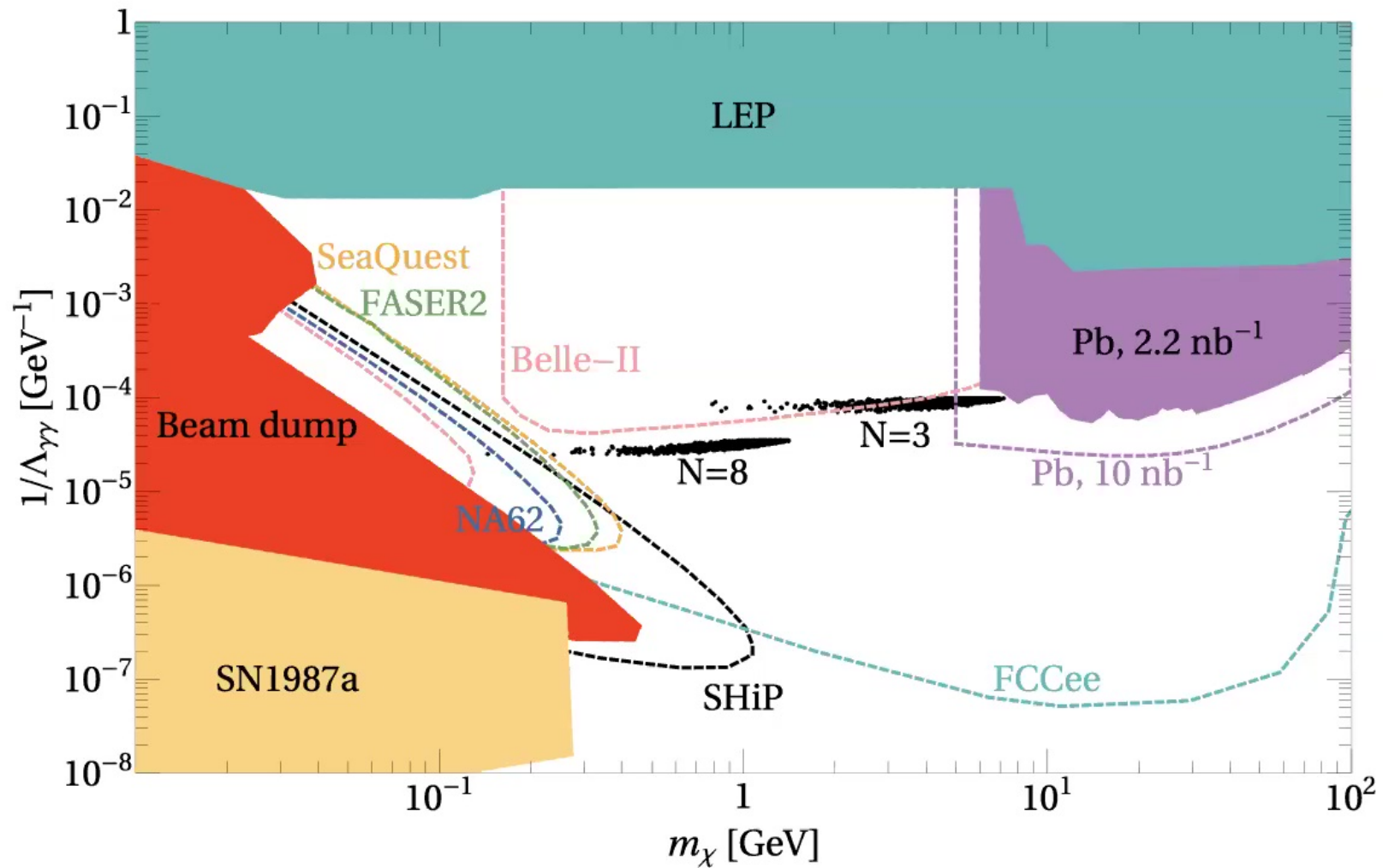
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# A LIGHT DILATON



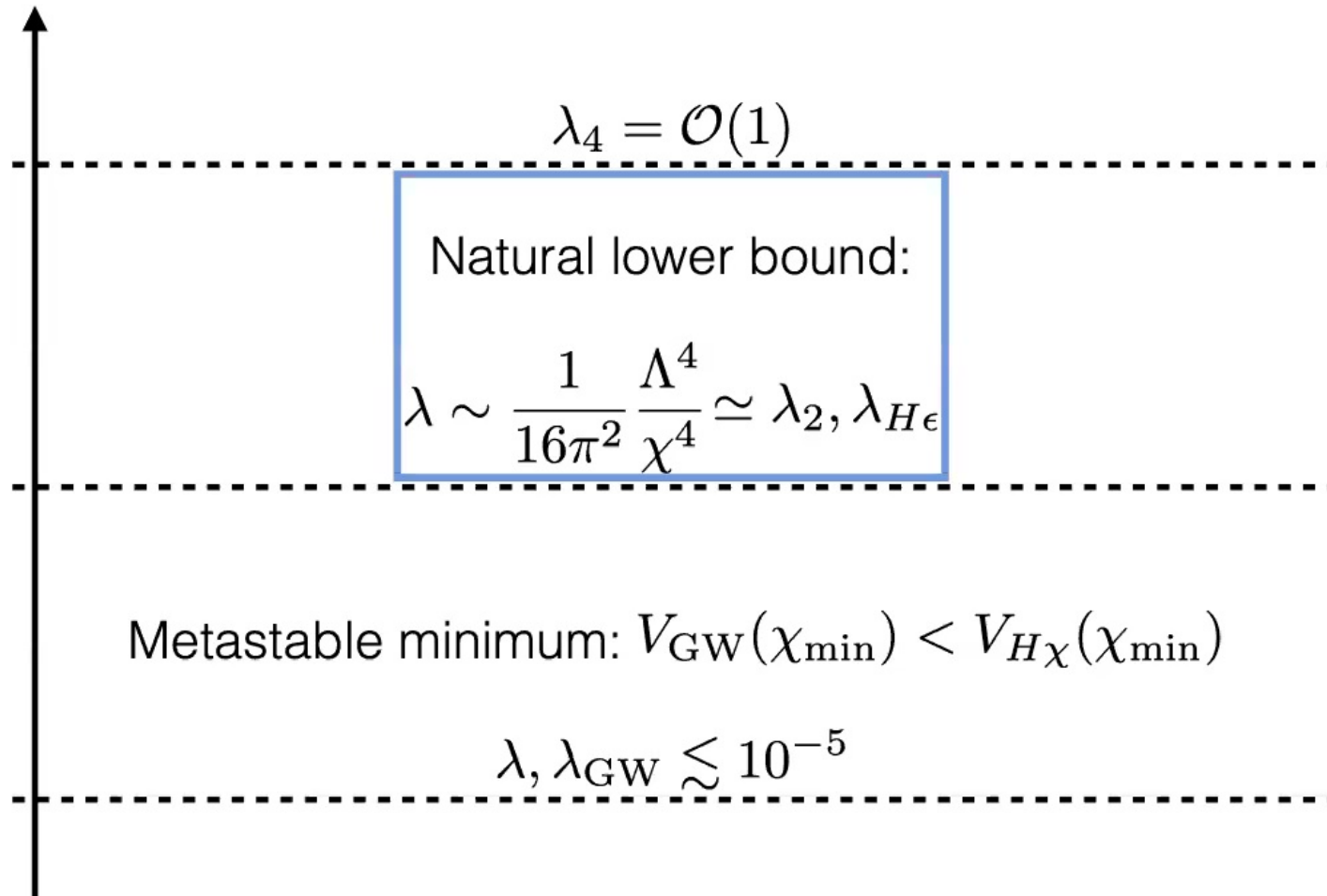
# A LIGHT DILATON







# LOW SCALE SUSY



# LOW SCALE SUSY

Low scale **bulk SUSY**?  
Note that SUSY is not solving the hierarchy problem

Natural lower bound:

$$\lambda \sim \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \frac{\Lambda^4}{\chi^4} \simeq \lambda_2, \lambda_{H\epsilon}$$

Metastable minimum:  $V_{\text{GW}}(\chi_{\min}) < V_{H\chi}(\chi_{\min})$

$$\lambda, \lambda_{\text{GW}} \lesssim 10^{-5}$$



# COSMOLOGY OF THE CRUNCH

$$\text{When } h = 0 \rightarrow V_\chi \simeq -\lambda\chi^4$$

The dilaton can be stuck near the origin for a long enough time that patches with the wrong vev inflate

**Solution:** new gauge group in the bulk (or QCD)

$$V_{H_\chi} \supset c\chi^\beta \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^{4-\beta}$$

$$\text{Below } \chi_* \sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$$

Hard breaking of the CFT and new phase transition

# PERTURBATIVE CRUNCH

## Sliding Naturalness

[RTD, Teresi] In Preparation

**BSM Ingredients:**

$$\phi, \phi_+, H_d$$

**Predictions:**

- New Higgs below 125 GeV (still alive!)
- Two ultralight scalars that can mediate long-range forces and be dark matter (target for 5th force searches!)

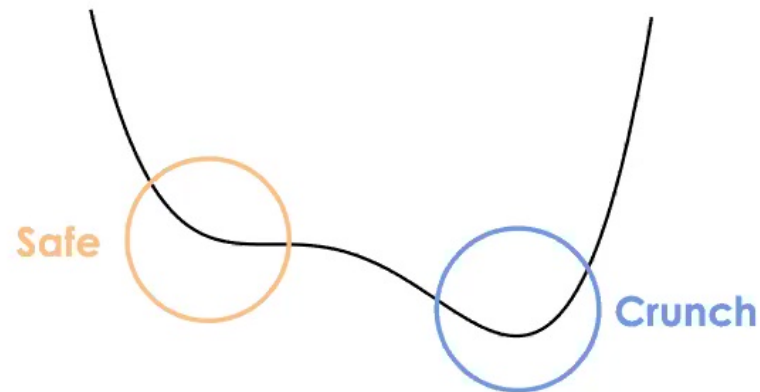
# PERTURBATIVE CRUNCH

## Sliding Naturalness

[RTD, Teresi] In Preparation

$$V_\phi = \frac{\epsilon^2 M_*^2}{2} \phi^2 + \epsilon' M_* \phi^3 + \frac{\epsilon^2}{4} \phi^4 + (\kappa \epsilon M_* \phi H_u H_d + \text{h.c.})$$

$$\langle H_u H_d \rangle = 0$$



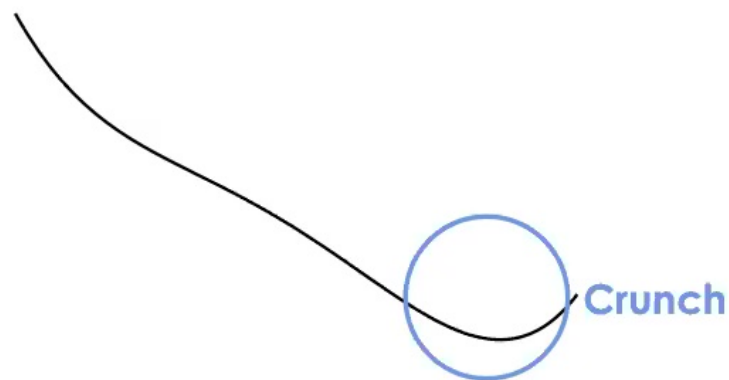
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$$\langle H_u H_d \rangle \gg v^2$$



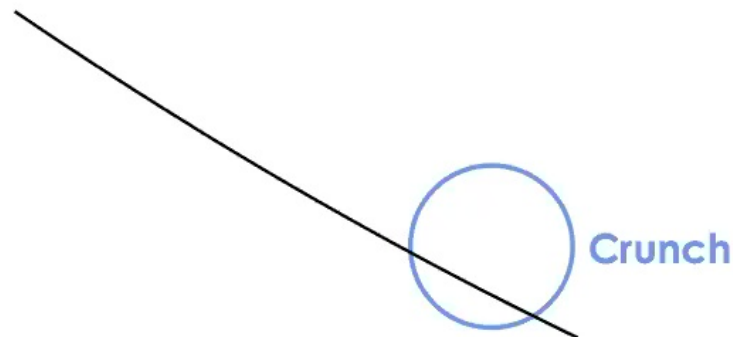
# PERTURBATIVE CRUNCH

## Sliding Naturalness

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$$V(\phi_+) = \eta M_*^3 \phi_+ + \eta^2 M_*^2 \phi_+^2 + (\lambda \phi_+^2 H_u H_d + \text{h.c.})$$

$$\langle H_u H_d \rangle = 0$$



# CONCLUSION

- A **qualitatively new solution** to the **hierarchy problem**
- Unique predictions for natural ED models: **light dilaton**, no fermionic (or coloured) KK states
- In its perturbative incarnation, unique predictions for fifth force searches and the LHC