

# Scalar field dark matter and the Higgs field

**Catarina M. Cosme**

in collaboration with  
João Rosa and Orfeu Bertolami

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# Outline

- Introduction and Motivation;
- Oscillating scalar field as dark matter candidate;
- Inflation and initial conditions;
- Possible scenarios
  - Non-renormalizable interactions model;
  - Warped extra-dimension model;
- Conclusions and future work.

# Introduction and motivation

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## What is dark matter made of?

- We propose: oscillating scalar field as DM candidate, coupled to the Higgs boson;
- Previous works: **“Higgs-portal” DM models**: abundance of DM is set by the decoupling and freeze-out from thermal equilibrium  $\Rightarrow m \sim GeV - TeV$  (Weakly Interacting Massive Particles - WIMPs) [Silveira, Zee 1985; Bento, Bertolami, Rosenfeld 2001; Burgess, Pospelov, ter Veldhuis 2001; Tenkanen 2015].



# Oscillating scalar field as DM candidate

## Our proposal:

- Oscillating scalar field,  $\phi$ , as DM candidate;
- $\phi$  acquires mass through the Higgs mechanism;
- Feeble interactions with the Higgs boson  $\Rightarrow m_\phi \ll eV$  ; extremely small self-interactions  $\Rightarrow$  oscillating scalar condensate that is never in thermal equilibrium.

# Oscillating scalar field as DM candidate

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$$H_{rad} = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{90}} \sqrt{g_*} \frac{T^2}{M_{Pl}}$$

$$\rho_{\phi,0} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{m_{\phi}^2}{a_0^3} \phi_i^2$$

$$\frac{n_{\phi}}{s} = \frac{\rho_{\phi}/m_{\phi}}{\frac{2\pi^2}{45} g_* T^3} = \text{const}$$



# Oscillating scalar field as DM candidate

DM abundance:  $\Omega_{\phi,0} \equiv \frac{\rho_{\phi,0}}{\rho_{c,0}} = \frac{m_{\phi}^2 \phi_i^2}{6H_0^2 M_{Pl}^2} \frac{g_{*s,0}}{g_{*s}} \frac{T_0}{T_{osc}^3}$

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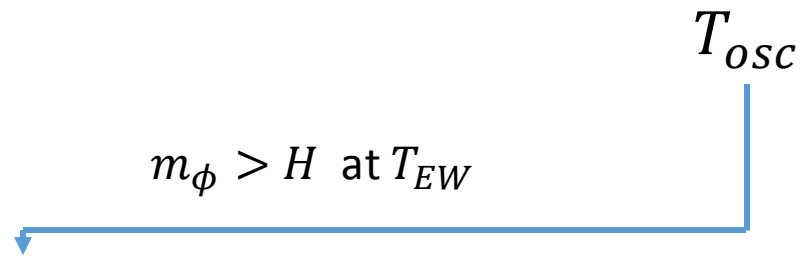
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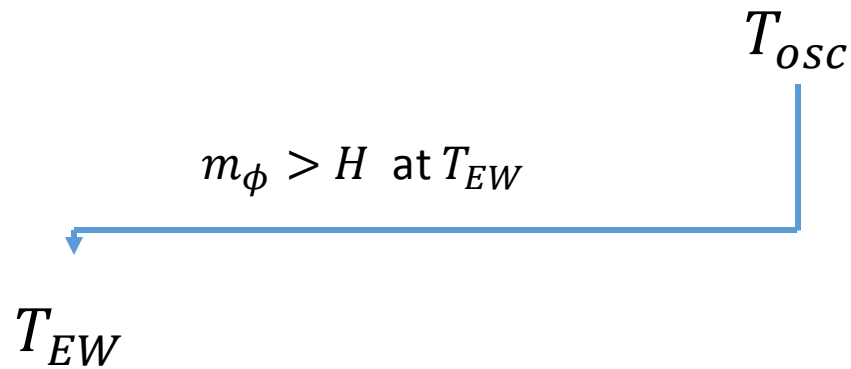
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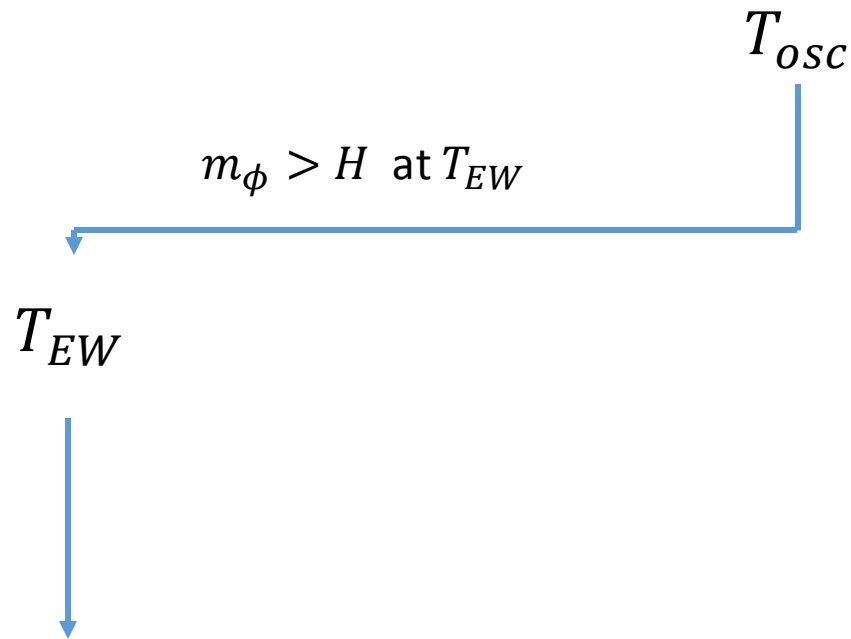
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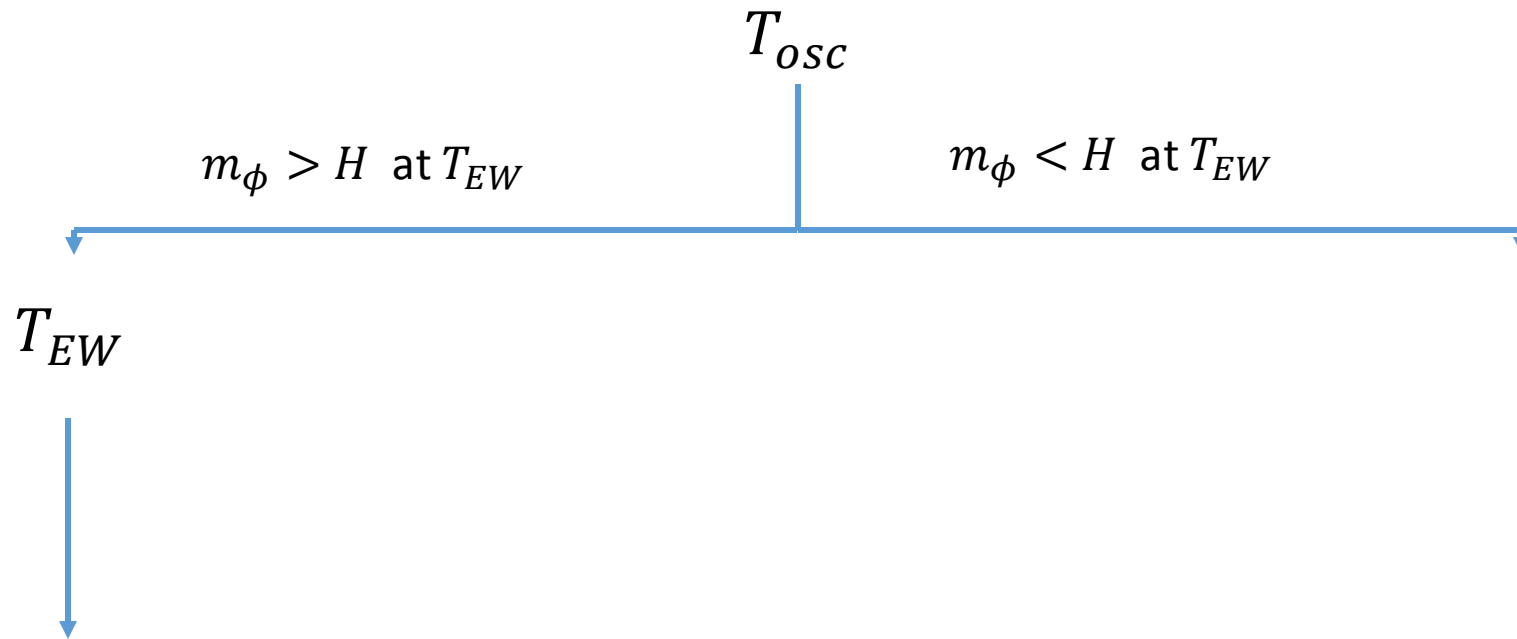


$$m_\phi(\phi_i) = 2 \times 10^{-5} \left( \frac{g_*}{100} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{\phi_i}{10^{13} \text{ GeV}} \right)^{-1} \text{ eV}$$

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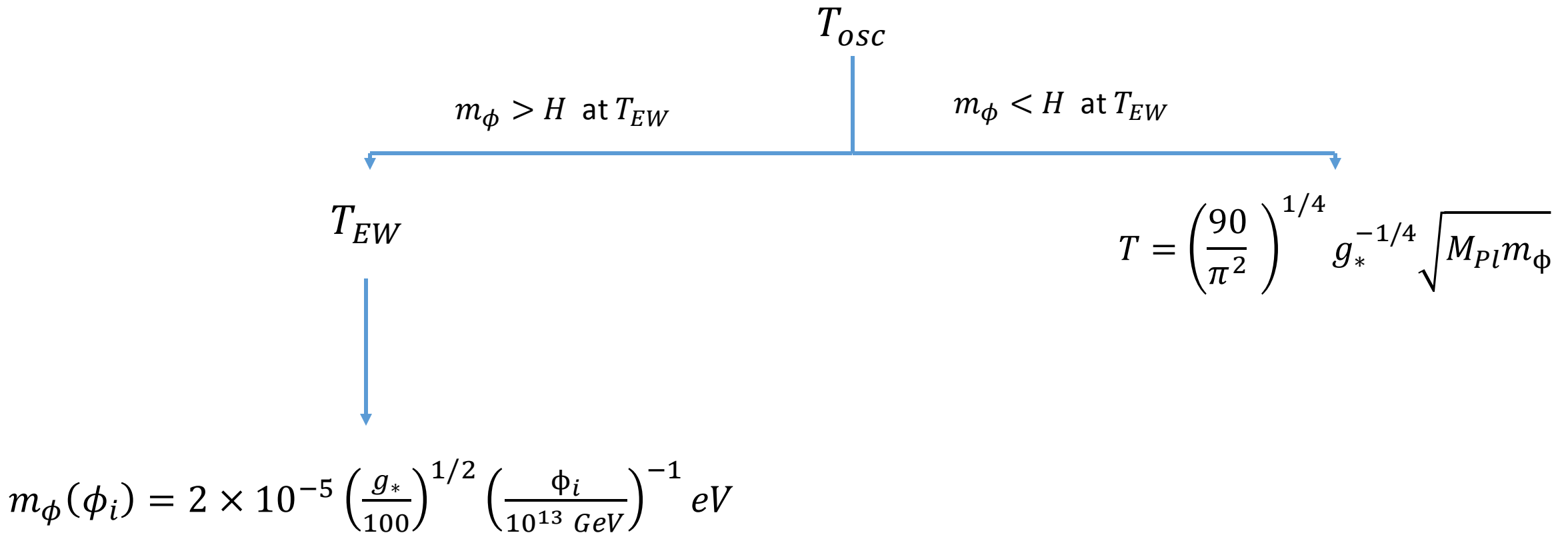


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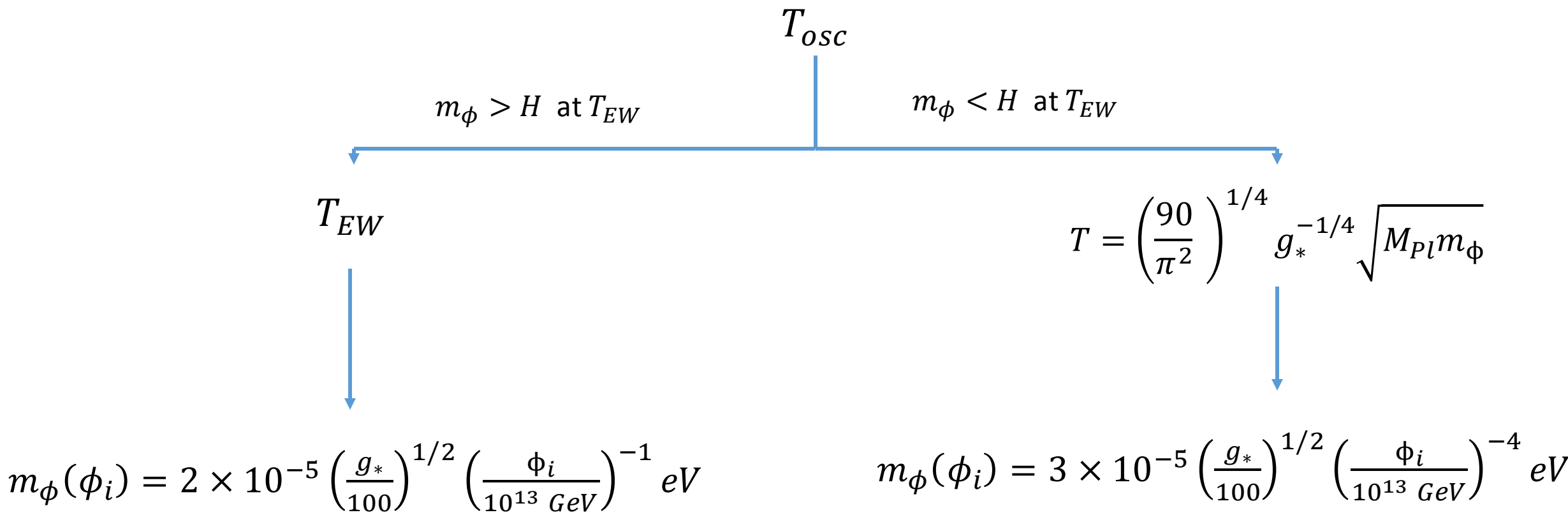
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- If the **Higgs field** is the **unique source of mass** during inflation  $\Rightarrow m_\phi \sim \mathcal{O}(\text{EW scale}) \Rightarrow$  **Light field**  $\Rightarrow$  de-Sitter fluctuations  $\sim \frac{H_{inf}}{2\pi} \Rightarrow$  sizeable Cold Dark Matter (CDM) isocurvatures modes in the CMB spectrum  $\Rightarrow$  **ruled out** (do not respect the observational constraints on the CDM isocurvatures perturbations).

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- **Gravitational interactions** during inflation  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{int} = \frac{c}{2} \frac{\phi^2 V(\chi)}{M_{Pl}^2} \Rightarrow m_\phi \sim H_{inf} \Rightarrow$  **Massive field;**

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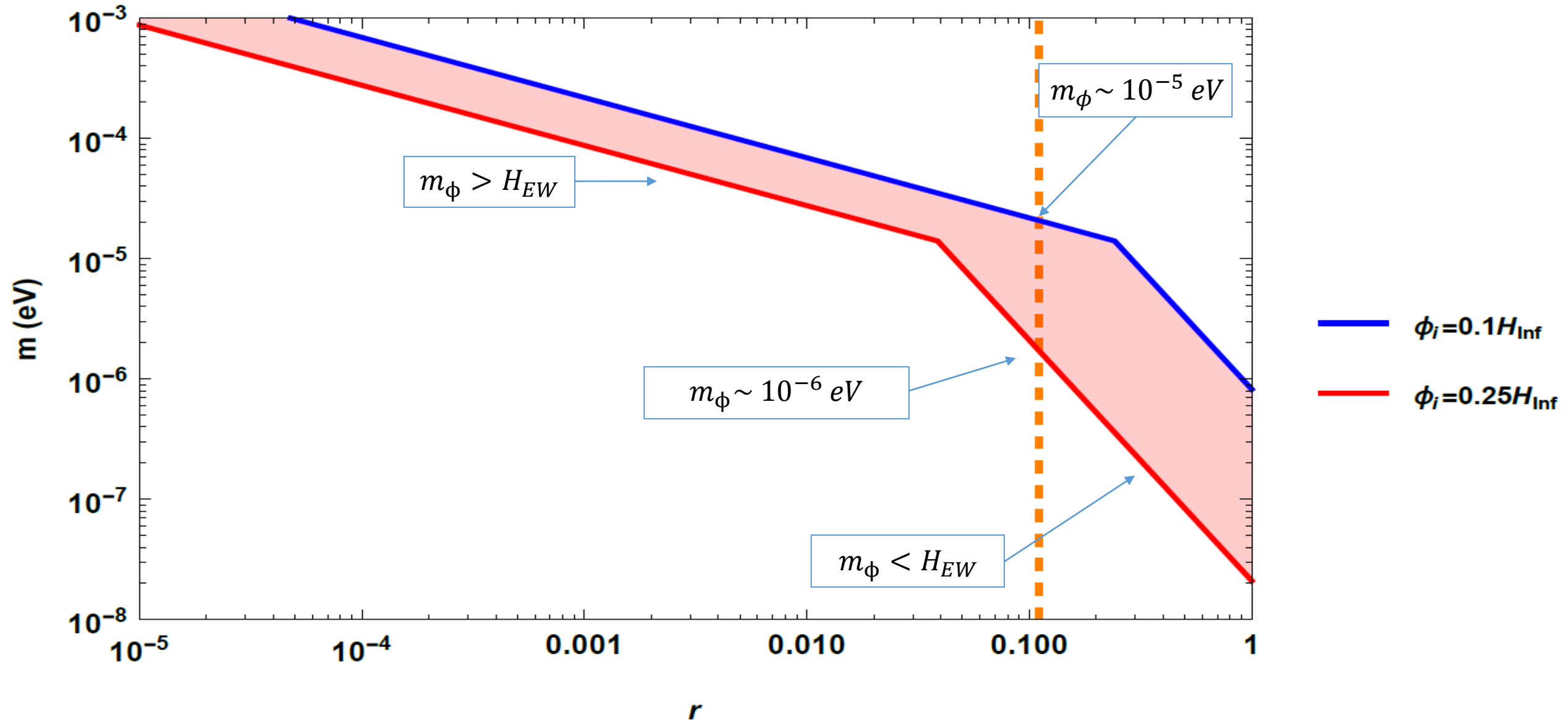
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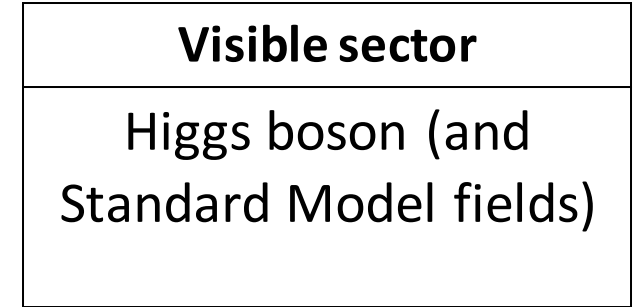
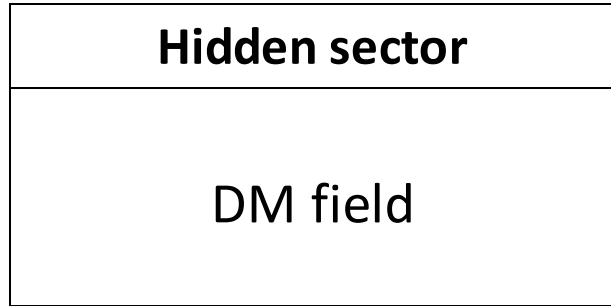
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- $H_{inf} \simeq 2.5 \times 10^{13} \left(\frac{r}{0.01}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \text{ GeV}, \quad r < 0.11.$  [Planck Collaboration 2015].

$$r \equiv \frac{\Delta_t^2}{\Delta_{\mathcal{R}}^2}$$

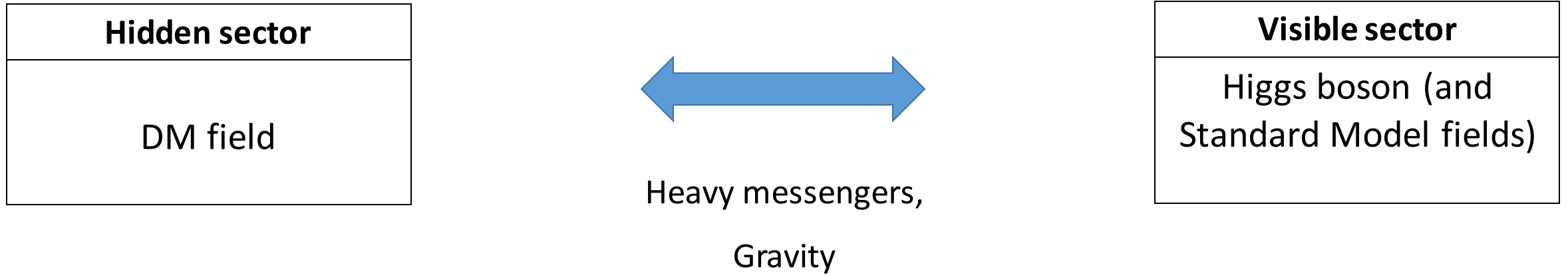
# Initial conditions – Results



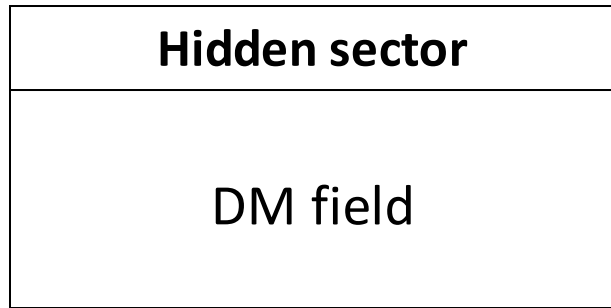
# Non-renormalizable interactions model



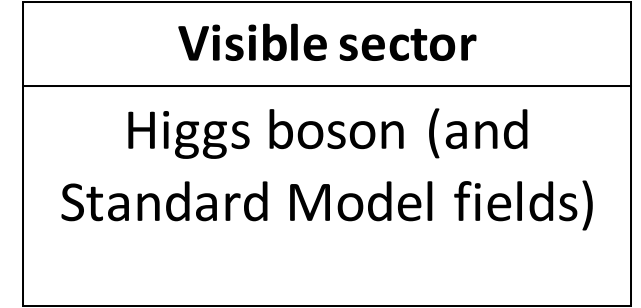
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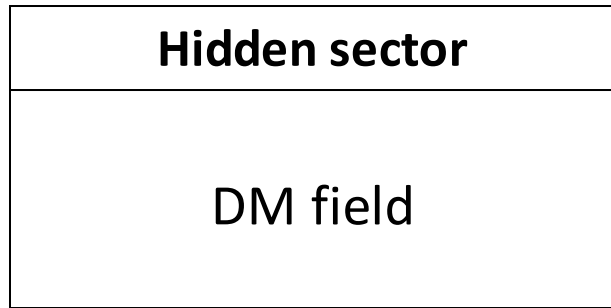
Heavy messengers,  
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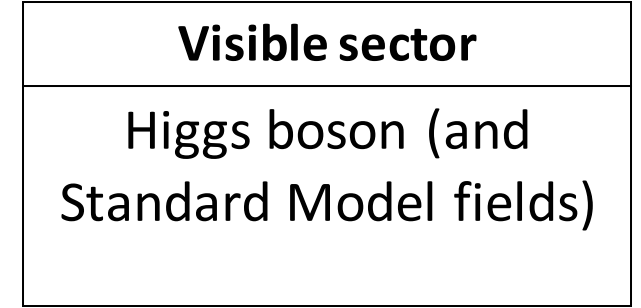
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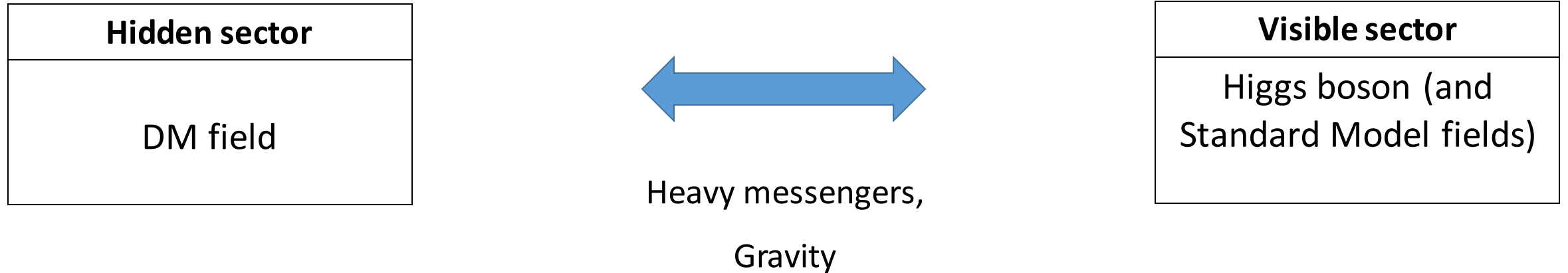
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Electroweak symmetry breaking

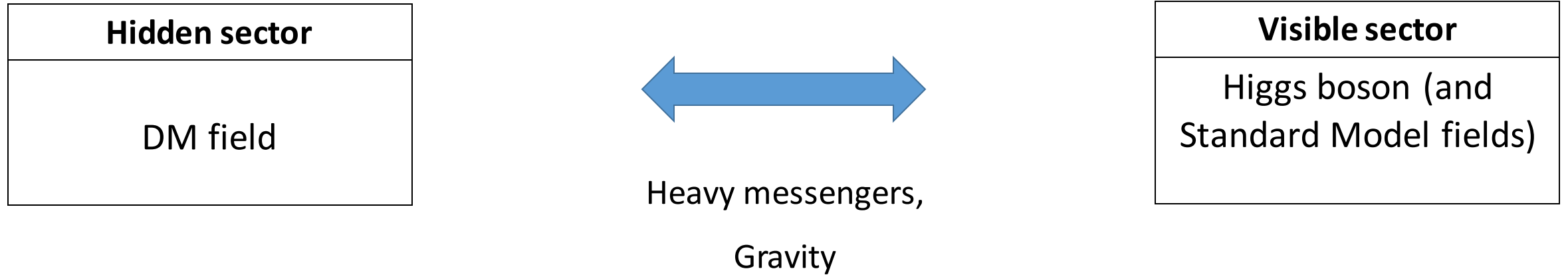
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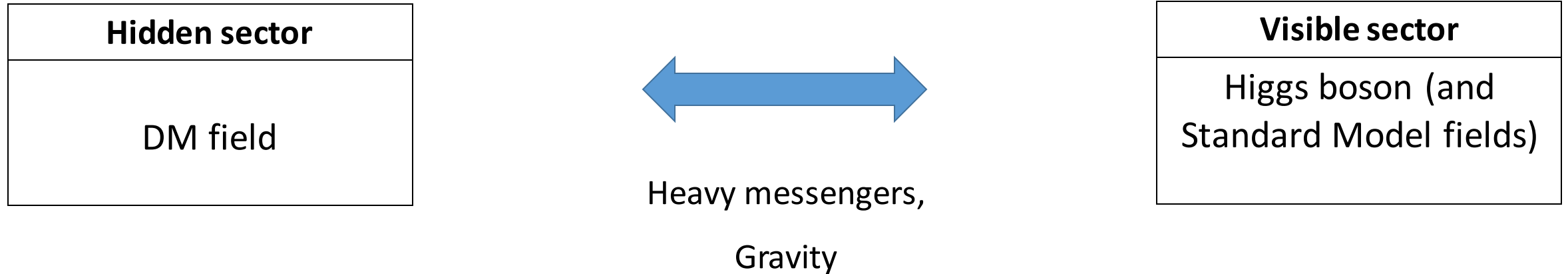


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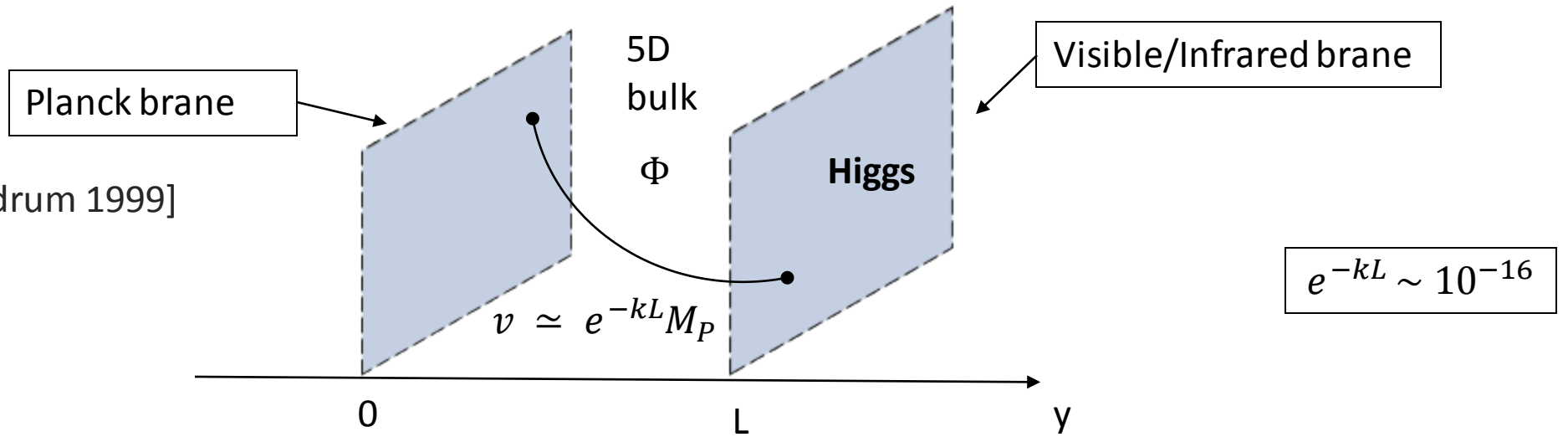
↑  
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# Warped extra-dimension model

## Randall-Sundrum inspired model:

[L. Randall, R. Sundrum 1999]



$$\text{Metric: } ds^2 = e^{-2k|y|} g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu + dy^2$$

$$S = \int d^4x \int dy \sqrt{-G} \left[ \frac{1}{2} G^{MN} \partial_M \Phi \partial_N \Phi - \frac{1}{2} M_\Phi^2 \Phi^2 + \delta(y-L) \left( G^{MN} \partial_M h^\dagger \partial_N h - V(h) + \frac{1}{2} g_5^2 \Phi^2 h^2 \right) \right]$$

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Mass in the required range.  
Interesting hierarchy again:

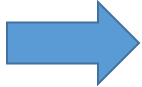
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Planck-suppressed non-renormalizable operator



Renormalizable interaction in a higher-dimensional warped geometry.

# Conclusions & Future work

- DM candidate: oscillating scalar field  $\phi$ , which acquires mass through the Higgs mechanism.
- Lower bound:  $m_\phi \gtrsim 10^{-6} - 10^{-5} \text{ eV}$  ;
- $m_\phi \sim \frac{v^2}{M_P} \sim 10^{-5} \text{ eV}$  obtained through either non-renormalizable interactions between  $\phi$  and the Higgs field or through a warped extra-dimension model.
- **Future work:**
  - Extend the model – study the effect of self-interactions;
  - Find out ways of testing our model (astrophysical signatures, ongoing experiments...);

**Thank you for your attention!**

# Backup slides

# Introducing the problem – Dark Matter

26.8% of the mass-energy content of the Universe [Planck Collaboration 2015].

## Dark Matter (DM)



### Candidates:

- Weakly Interacting Massive Particles (WIMPs);
- Axions;
- Supersymmetric particles;
- ...

### Evidence from:

- Galaxy rotation curve;
- Gravitational lensing;
- Anisotropies of the CMB;
- Bullet Cluster;

# Introduction and motivation

## Why a scalar field dark matter?

- **Fits:**

- evolution of cosmological densities [Matos, Vazquez-Gonzalez, Magana 2009];
- flat central density profile of the dark matter [Matos, Nunez 2003];
- acoustic peaks of CMB [Rodriguez-Montoya, Magana, Matos, Perez-Lorenzana 2010];
- observed properties of dwarf galaxies [Lee, Lim 2010];

- **Explains:**

- cusp and the missing satellite problems [Lee, Lim 2010; Lee 2009; Harko 2011];
- collision of galaxy clusters (e.g., Bullet Cluster) [Lee, Lim, Choi 2008];

# Oscillating scalar field as DM candidate

Does an oscillating scalar field behave like non-relativistic matter?

Potential:  $V(\phi) = \frac{1}{2} m_\phi^2 \phi^2$

Generic cosmological epoch:  $a(t) = \left(\frac{t}{t_i}\right)^p, p > 0.$  Hubble parameter:  $H = \frac{p}{t}$

Klein-Gordon (KG) eq. :

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3\frac{p}{t}\dot{\phi} + m_\phi^2 \phi = 0 \quad \xrightarrow{m_\phi t \gg 1} \quad \phi(t) \simeq \frac{\phi_i}{a(t)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cos(m_\phi t + \delta_\phi)$$

Energy density:  $\rho_\phi = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 + V(\phi) \sim a^{-3}$   $\longrightarrow$  Non-relativistic matter.



# Inflation and initial conditions

- If the **Higgs field** is the **unique source of mass** during inflation  $\Rightarrow m_\phi \sim \mathcal{O}(\text{EW scale}) \Rightarrow$  **Light field**  $\Rightarrow$  de-Sitter fluctuations  $\sim \frac{H_{inf}}{2\pi} \Rightarrow$  sizeable Cold Dark Matter (CDM) isocurvature modes in the CMB spectrum  $\Rightarrow$  **ruled out** (do not respect the observational constraints on the CDM isocurvature perturbations).
- **Gravitational interactions** during inflation  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{int} = \frac{c}{2} \frac{\phi^2 V(\chi)}{M_{Pl}^2} \Rightarrow m_\phi \sim H_{inf} \Rightarrow$  **Massive field**;
- **Quantum fluctuations** for a massive field:

$$v_\phi = \left( \frac{9}{4} - \frac{m_\phi^2}{H_{inf}^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$|\delta\phi_k| \simeq \frac{H_{inf}}{\sqrt{2}k^3} \left( \frac{k}{aH_{inf}} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}-v_\phi}$$

Integrating over all modes



$$\langle \phi^2 \rangle \simeq \frac{1}{3 - 2v_\phi} \left( \frac{H_{inf}}{2\pi} \right)^2$$

# Inflation and initial conditions

What is the minimum field's mass during inflation compatible with observational constraints on CDM isocurvature perturbations?

Dimensionless isocurvature power spectrum:  $\Delta_I^2 \equiv \frac{k^3}{2\pi^2} \left\langle \left( 2 \frac{\delta\phi}{\phi} \right)^2 \right\rangle = (3 - 2\nu_\phi) \left( \frac{k}{aH_{inf}} \right)^{\frac{3}{2} - \nu_\phi}$

$$\beta_{iso}(k_{mid}) = \frac{\Delta_I^2(k_{mid})}{\Delta_{\mathcal{R}}^2(k_{mid}) + \Delta_I^2(k_{mid})} < 0.037 \text{ [Planck Collaboration 2015]} \Rightarrow \nu_\phi \lesssim 1.3 \Rightarrow m_\phi \gtrsim 0.75 H_{inf}$$

Max:  $m_\phi \sim H_{inf}$

Min:  $m_\phi \sim 0.75 H_{inf}$



$$\langle \phi^2 \rangle = \alpha^2 H_{inf}^2, 0.1 \lesssim \alpha \lesssim 0.25$$

# Inflation and initial conditions

- Field remains overdamped until the EWPT  $\Rightarrow \langle \phi^2 \rangle$  sets the initial amplitude for field oscillations in the **post-inflationary era**:


$$\phi_i = \sqrt{\langle \phi^2 \rangle} \simeq \alpha H_{inf}$$

- $H_{inf} \simeq 2.5 \times 10^{13} \left(\frac{r}{0.01}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \text{ GeV}$ ,  $r < 0.11$ . [Planck Collaboration 2015].

$$r \equiv \frac{\Delta_t^2}{\Delta_{\mathcal{R}}^2}$$

$$m_\phi \simeq 2 \times 10^{-5} \left(\frac{g_*}{100}\right)^{1/2} \times \begin{cases} \left(\frac{\alpha}{0.25}\right)^{-1} \left(\frac{r}{0.03}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \text{ eV}, & m_\phi > H_{EW}. \\ \left(\frac{\alpha}{0.25}\right)^{-4} \left(\frac{r}{0.03}\right)^{-2} \text{ eV}, & m_\phi < H_{EW}. \end{cases}$$

# Warped extra-dimension model

- Bulk mass:  $M_{\Phi}^2 = ak^2 + b\sigma''$        $\sigma = k|y|$ ;  $\sigma' = \frac{d\sigma}{dy} = k \operatorname{sgn}(y)$ ;  $\sigma'' = \frac{d^2\sigma}{d^2y} = 2k [\delta(y) - \delta(y - L)]$
- EOM:  $[e^{2k|y|} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} + e^{4k|y|} \partial_y (e^{-4k|y|} \partial_y) - M_{\Phi}] \Phi(x^{\mu}, y) = 0$ ;
- Decompose  $\Phi$  into **Kaluza-Klein modes**:  $\Phi(x^{\mu}, y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2L}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \Phi_n(x^{\mu}) f_n(y)$ ;
- The DM field corresponds to the **zero-mode**:  $f_0(y) = \sqrt{\frac{2kL(b-1)}{e^{2kL(b-1)} - 1}} e^{bky}$ ;
- Particular case:  $a = b = 0$   The bulk scalar is **scale invariant**;

# Warped extra-dimension model

**Do the heavier modes contribute to the DM density?**

$$m_n \simeq \left(n + \frac{1}{4}\right) \pi k e^{-kL} \longrightarrow m_n \sim \mathcal{O}(TeV) \gg m_0$$

Could lead to an overabundance of DM, if they oscillate with large amplitude after inflation.

**but**

$$f_n(L) \simeq e^{kL} f_0(L) \longrightarrow m_n \gg H_{inf} \Rightarrow \text{super-planckian}$$

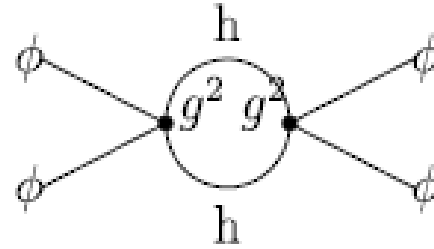
Might decay quickly through gravitational coupling.

Only the zero-mode contributes to the present abundance of DM

# Effects of field self-interactions

- Interactions with the Higgs field  $\Rightarrow$  quartic coupling for the DM:

$$\lambda \sim g^4$$



- After inflation,  $\phi_i \sim \alpha H_{inf}$



Contribution to the DM field mass:

$$\Delta m_\phi^2 \sim \lambda \phi_i^2 \sim g^4 H_{inf}^2$$

- Since

$$\frac{\Delta m_\phi^2}{m_\phi^2} \sim \frac{H_{inf}^2}{M_{Pl}^2} \ll 1$$



May neglect the effect of these self-interactions on the dynamics of the DM field.

# Effects of the reheating period

- The mass of DM field vanishes in the radiation era, before the Electroweak symmetry breaking.

**How does the reheating period affect the results?**

- During reheating: 
$$\frac{m_\phi^2}{H^2} \sim 3c \frac{V(\chi)}{V(\chi) + \frac{1}{2}\dot{\chi}^2 + \rho_r} \xrightarrow{\frac{V(\chi)}{\rho_r} \ll 1} \frac{m_\phi^2}{H^2} \sim \frac{3}{2}c$$

- There may be a period of inflaton matter-domination:

$$\phi(t) \sim t^\alpha, \quad \alpha = \frac{1}{2} \left( -1 + \sqrt{1 - \frac{8}{3}c} \right)$$

# Effects of the reheating period

- The interactions between the inflaton and  $\phi$  may lead to the production of  $\phi$  – particles.

$$\mathcal{L}_{int} = \frac{c \phi^2 V(\chi)}{2 M_{Pl}^2} = \frac{c m_\chi^2}{2 M_{Pl}^2} \chi^2 \phi^2 + \dots \equiv g^2 \chi^2 \phi^2$$

$$m_\chi^2 = V''(\chi_0) = 3\eta H_{inf}^2$$

- $g^2 \sim 10^{-12} \left(\frac{\eta}{0.01}\right) \left(\frac{r}{0.01}\right)$   Very small coupling.

**Do these particles contribute to the present DM abundance?**



# Effects of the reheating period

- $\phi$ -particles never thermalize in the cosmic history  $\Rightarrow$  initial amplitude set by  $\chi \rightarrow \phi \phi$ ;

$$n_{\phi_i} = B_\phi n_\chi = 2B_\phi \frac{\pi^2}{30} g_* \frac{T_R^4}{m_\chi}$$

- Contribution to the present DM abundance:

$$\Omega_{\phi,0} \simeq 0.01 B_\phi \left( \frac{m_\phi}{10^{-5} \text{ eV}} \right) \left( \frac{T_R}{10^{15} \text{ GeV}} \right) \left( \frac{m_\chi}{10^{12} \text{ GeV}} \right)^{-1} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{Negligible}$$

**We may neglect the reheating period effects in computing the present DM abundance.**