

# COSMOLOGICAL EXPLANATIONS OF THE HIGGS MASS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM



Raffaele Tito D'Agnolo

**1980**

You will find new physics at LEP

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**1990**

You will find new physics at the Tevatron

**1980**

You will find new physics at LEP

**1990**

You will find new physics at the Tevatron

**2000**

You will certainly find new physics at the LHC,  
it's now or never

# Cosmological Constant

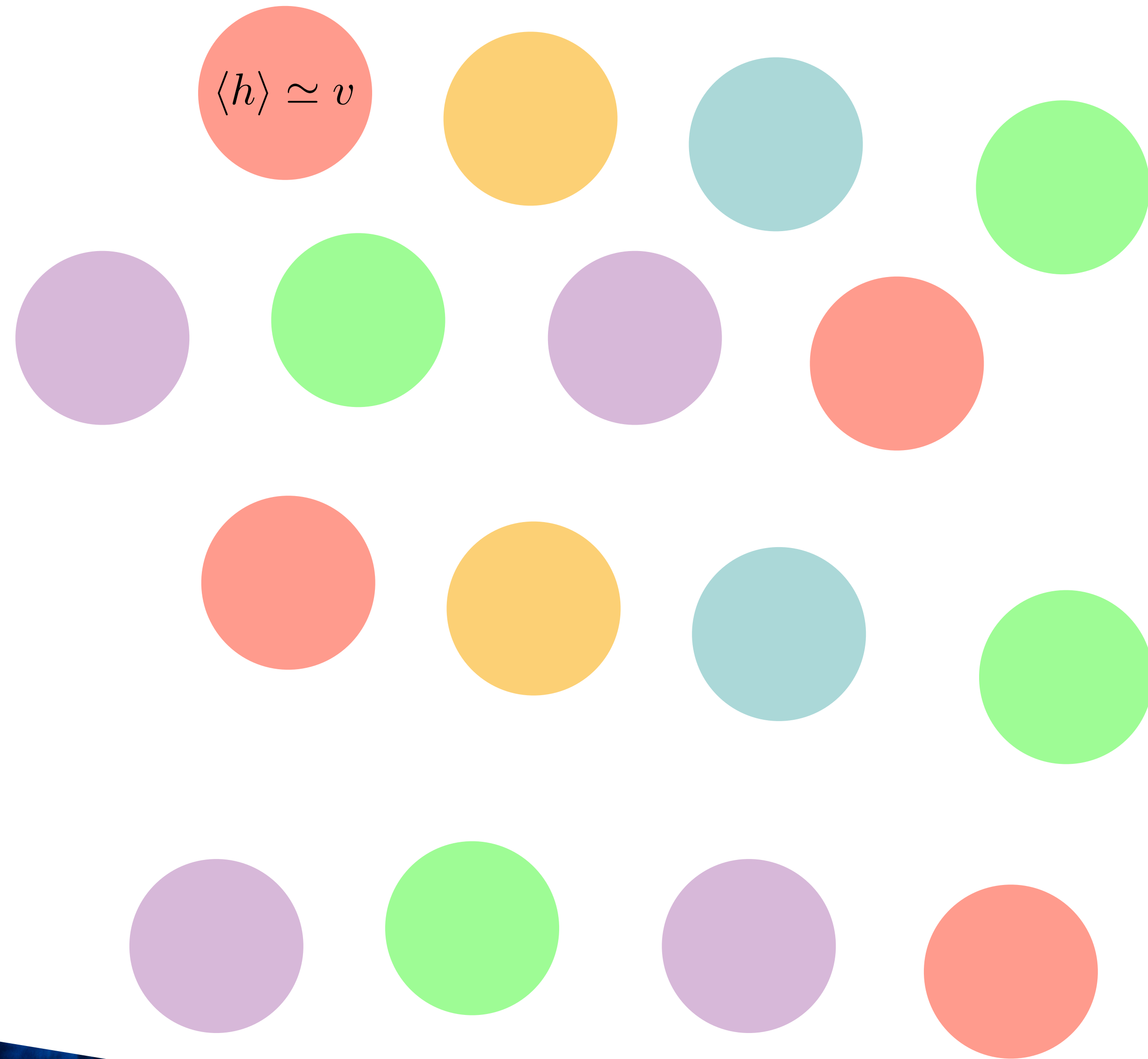
$$\Lambda^4$$

Theory  $\sim 10^{120}$  Experiment

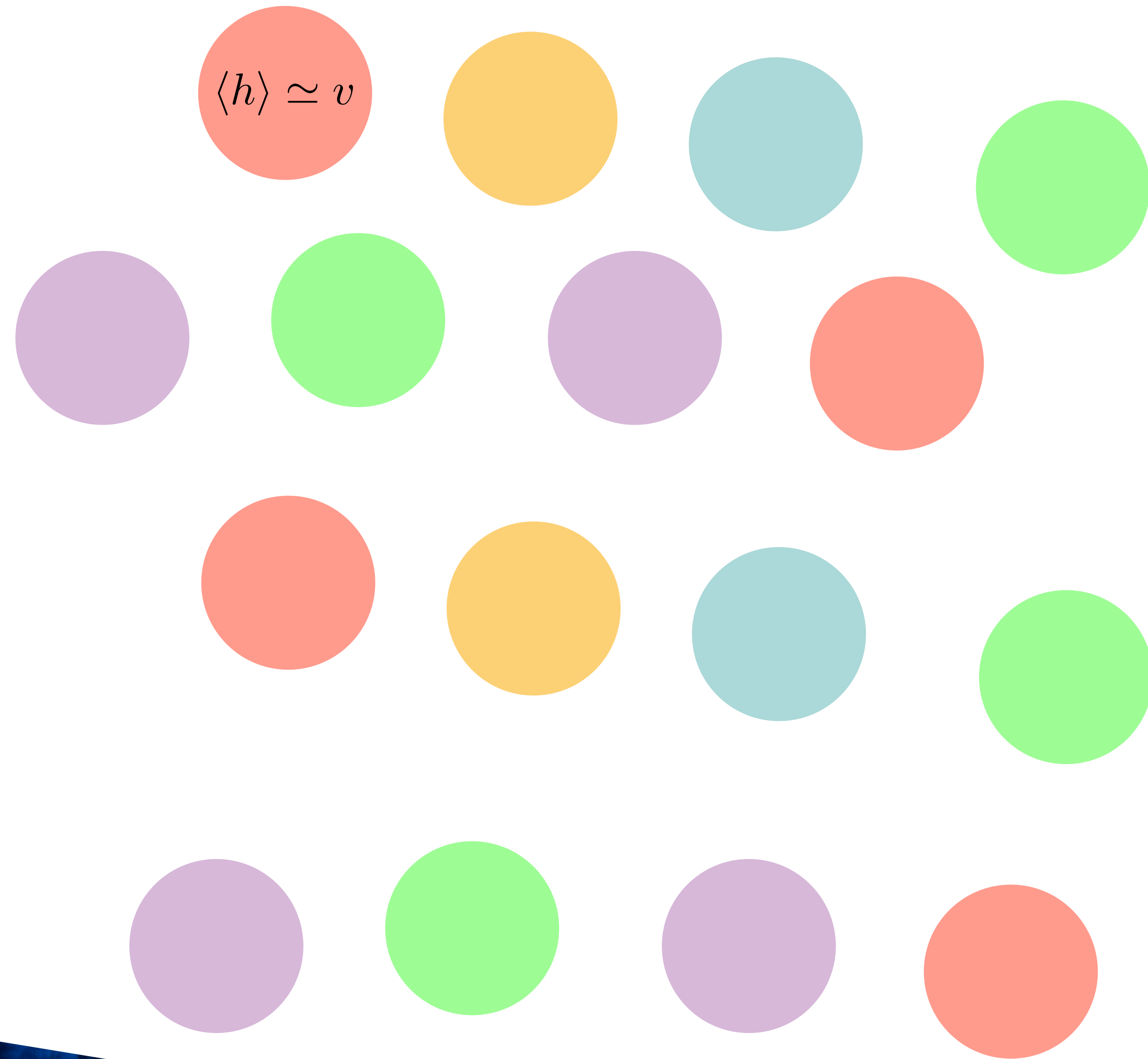
# Higgs Mass Squared

$$m_h^2 |H|^2$$

Theory  $\sim 10^{34}$  Experiment



Causally Disconnected  
Universes with different  
values of the Standard  
Model parameters,  
populated by eternal  
inflation



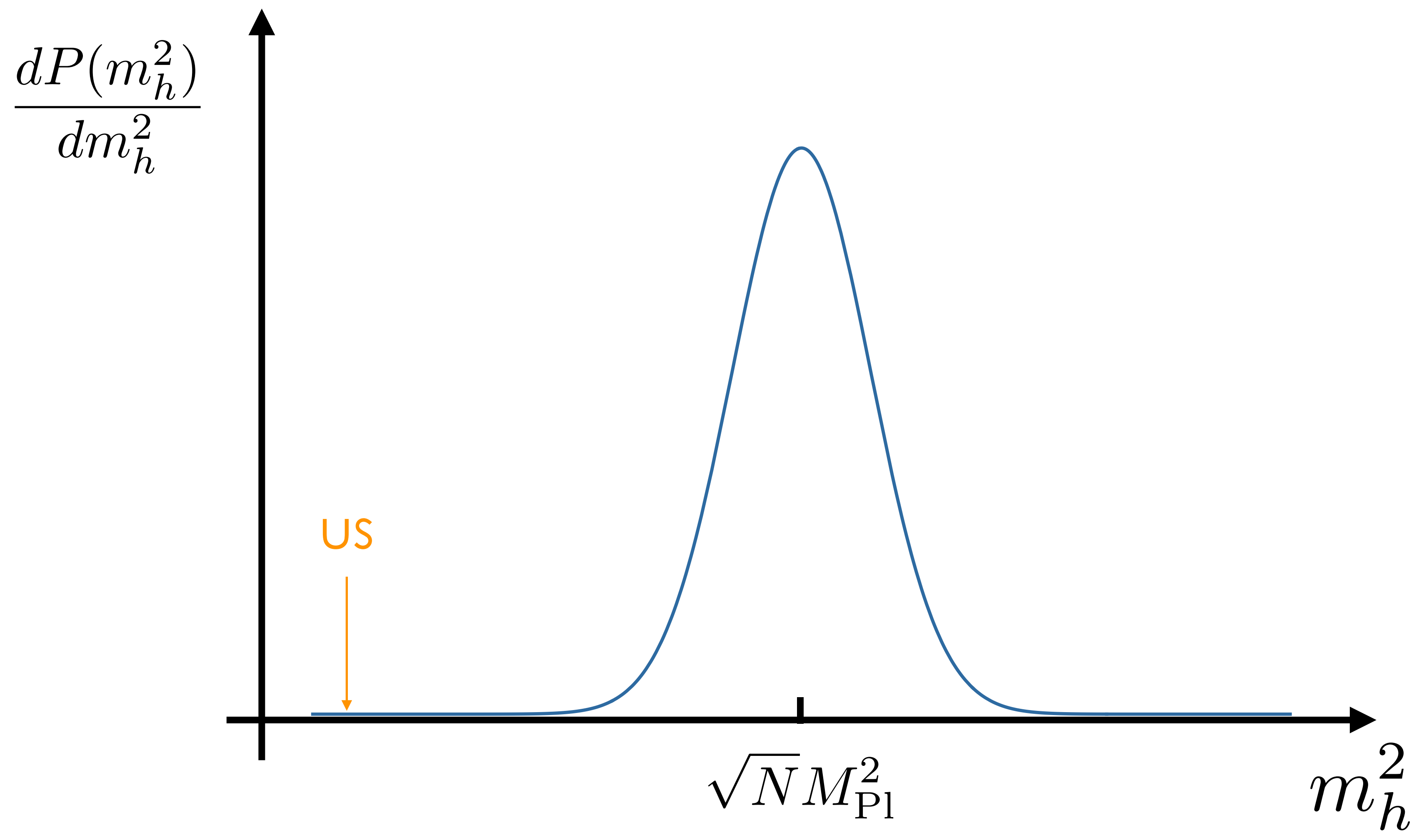
1. One day it can be tested experimentally
2. Currently our most concrete explanation for the cosmological constant
3. It probably exists independently of the problem

# A MULTIVERSE WITHOUT NEW SYMMETRIES

$$m_h^2 = a_1 M_{\text{P}1}^2 + a_2 M_{\text{P}1}^2 + \dots$$



# A MULTIVERSE WITHOUT NEW SYMMETRIES



## One Universe

$$m_h^2$$

Its value is telling us  
something about the  
underlying theory of Nature

## One Universe

$$m_h^2$$

Its value is telling us something about the underlying theory of Nature

## One Multiverse

$$m_h^2$$

Its value can be accidental

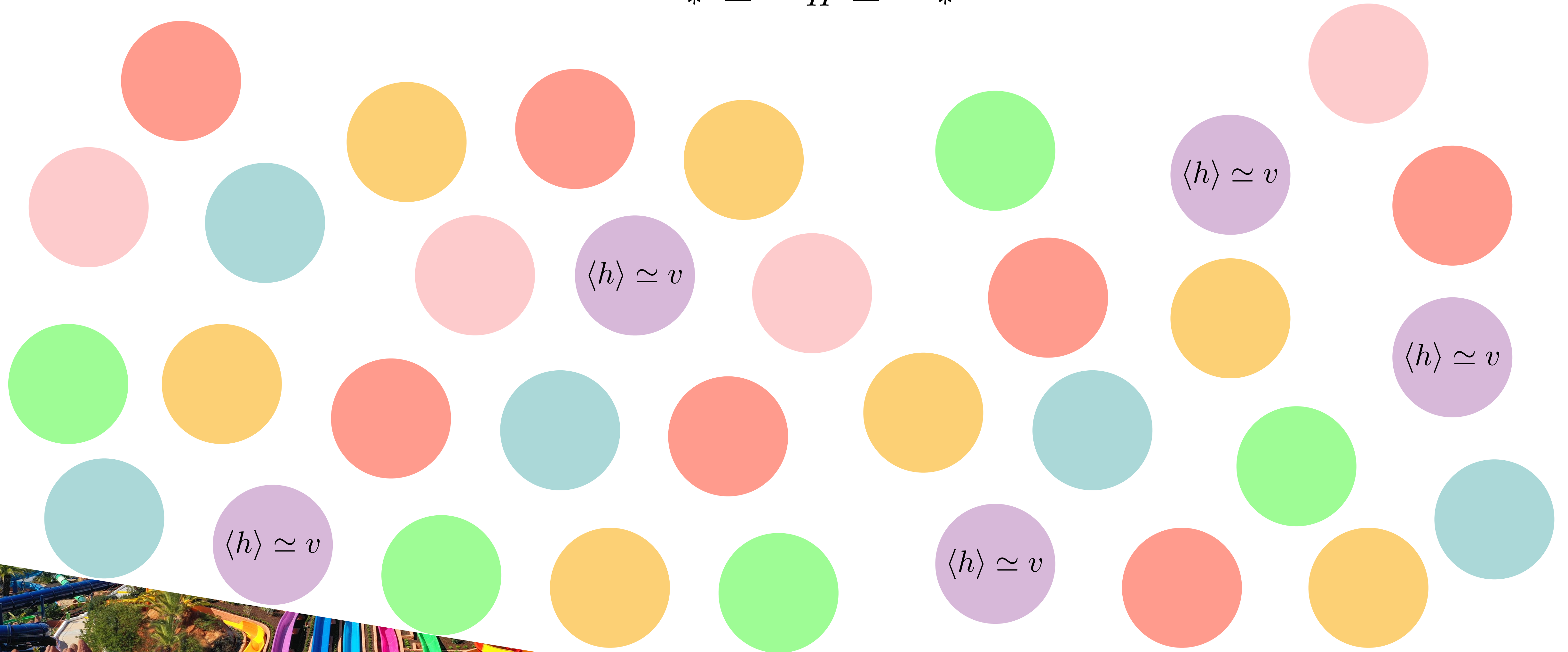
# EXAMPLE: SLIDING NATURALNESS

[RTD, Teresi] '21



**Landscape** of Higgs Masses populated by inflation

$$-M_*^2 \leq m_H^2 \leq M_*^2$$



# SLIDING NATURALNESS

After reheating and a time

$$t_c \sim 1/H(\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}) \sim 10^{-5} \text{ s}$$

All patches where the Higgs vev

$$\langle h \rangle \simeq v$$

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

$$\langle h \rangle \simeq v$$

Is outside of a certain range

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

$$\langle h \rangle \simeq v$$

**crunch**

$$\langle h \rangle \simeq v$$

$$\langle h \rangle \simeq v$$

# SLIDING NATURALNESS

Only universes with the observed value of the weak scale can live cosmologically long times. **Today the multiverse looks like:**

$$\langle h \rangle \simeq v$$

$$\langle h \rangle \simeq v$$

$$\langle h \rangle \simeq v$$

$$\langle h \rangle \simeq v$$

Two new scalars approximately decoupled from each other

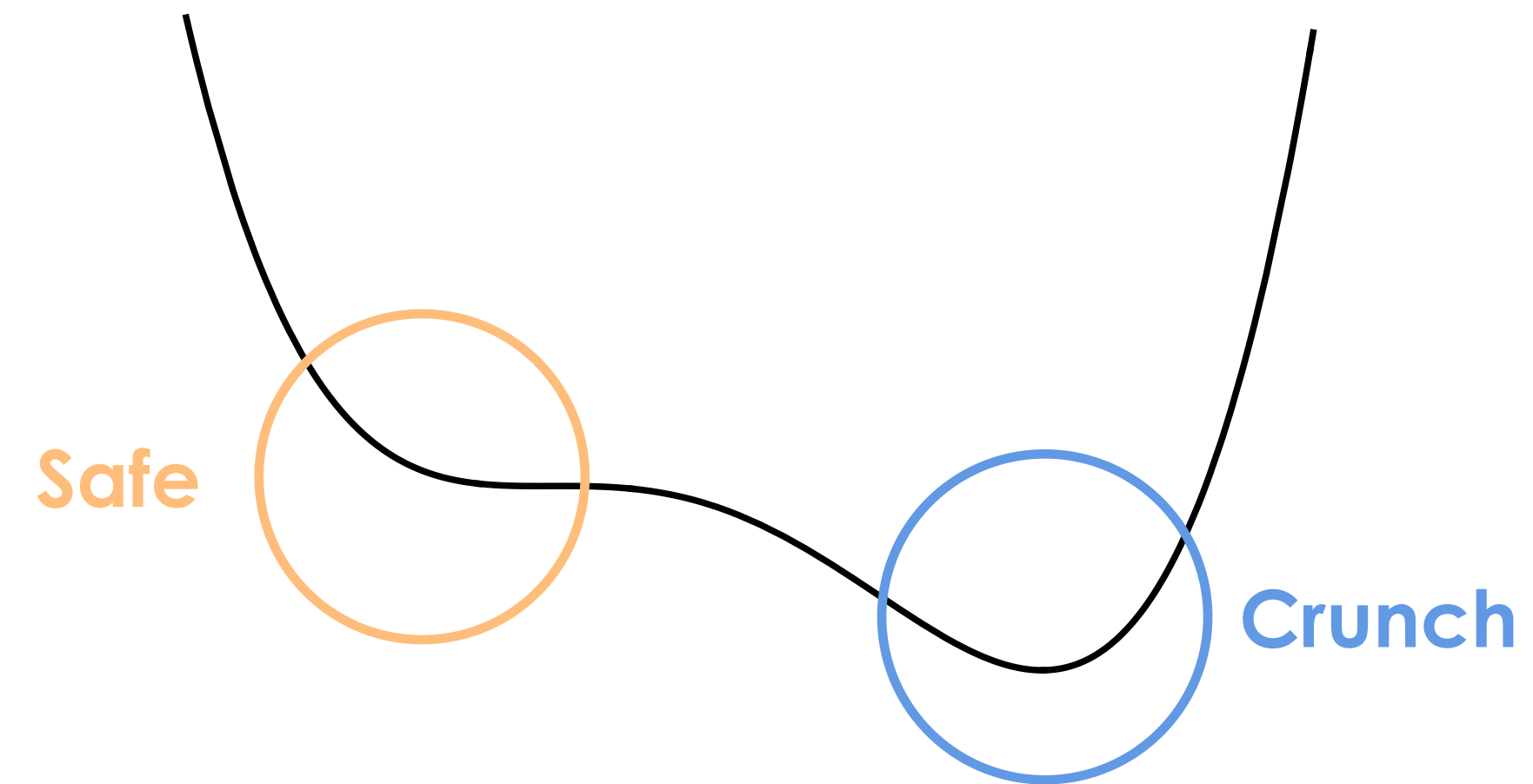
$$V = V_{\phi_-} + V_{\phi_+} + V_{H\phi_-} + V_{H\phi_+}$$



# SLIDING NATURALNESS

[RTD, Teresi] '21

$$V_- = \underbrace{V_{\phi_-}} + V_{H\phi_-}$$

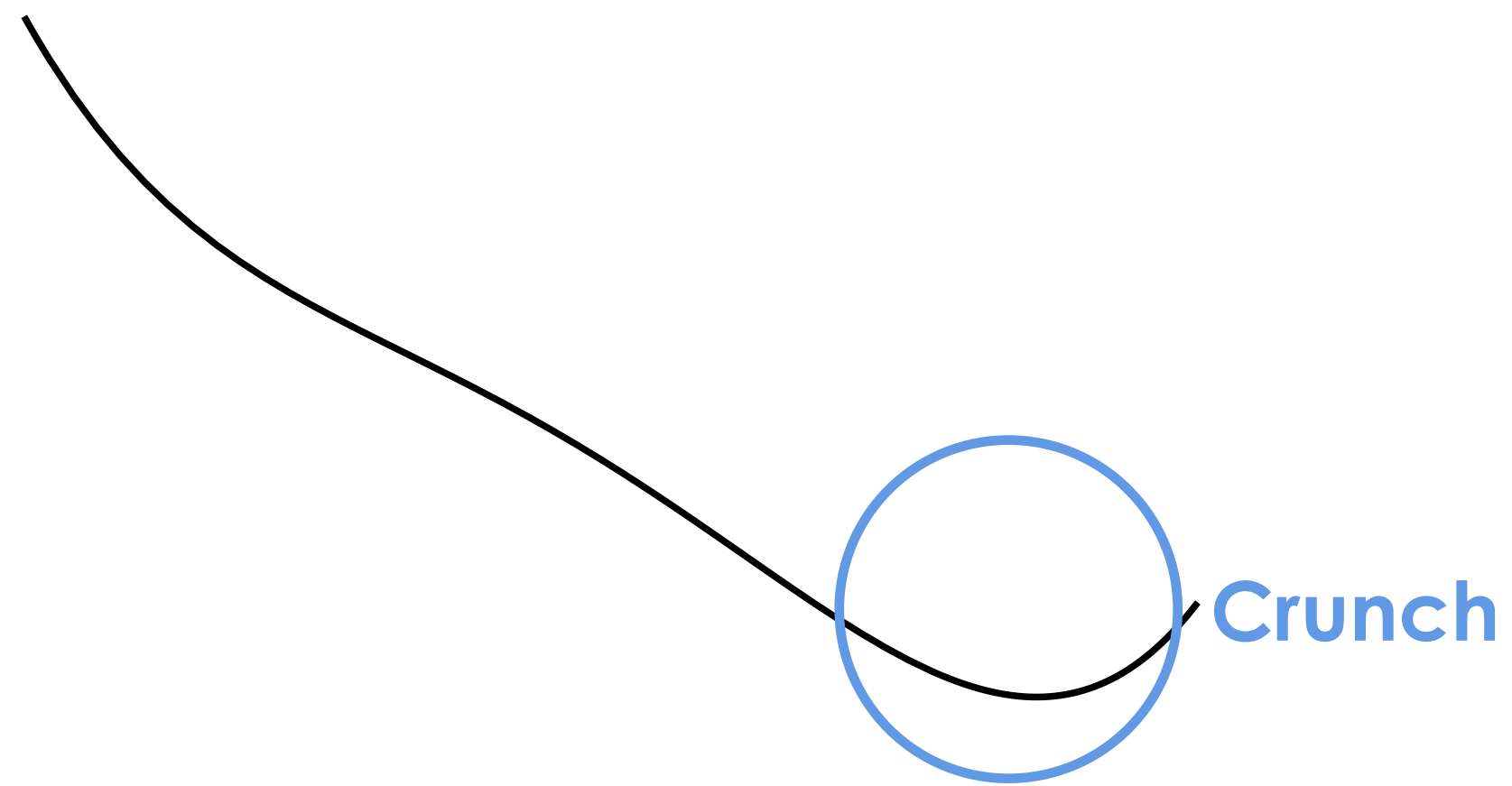


# SLIDING NATURALNESS

[RTD, Teresi] '21

$$V_- = V_{\phi_-} + \underline{V_{H\phi_-}}$$

$$\langle h \rangle \gg v$$

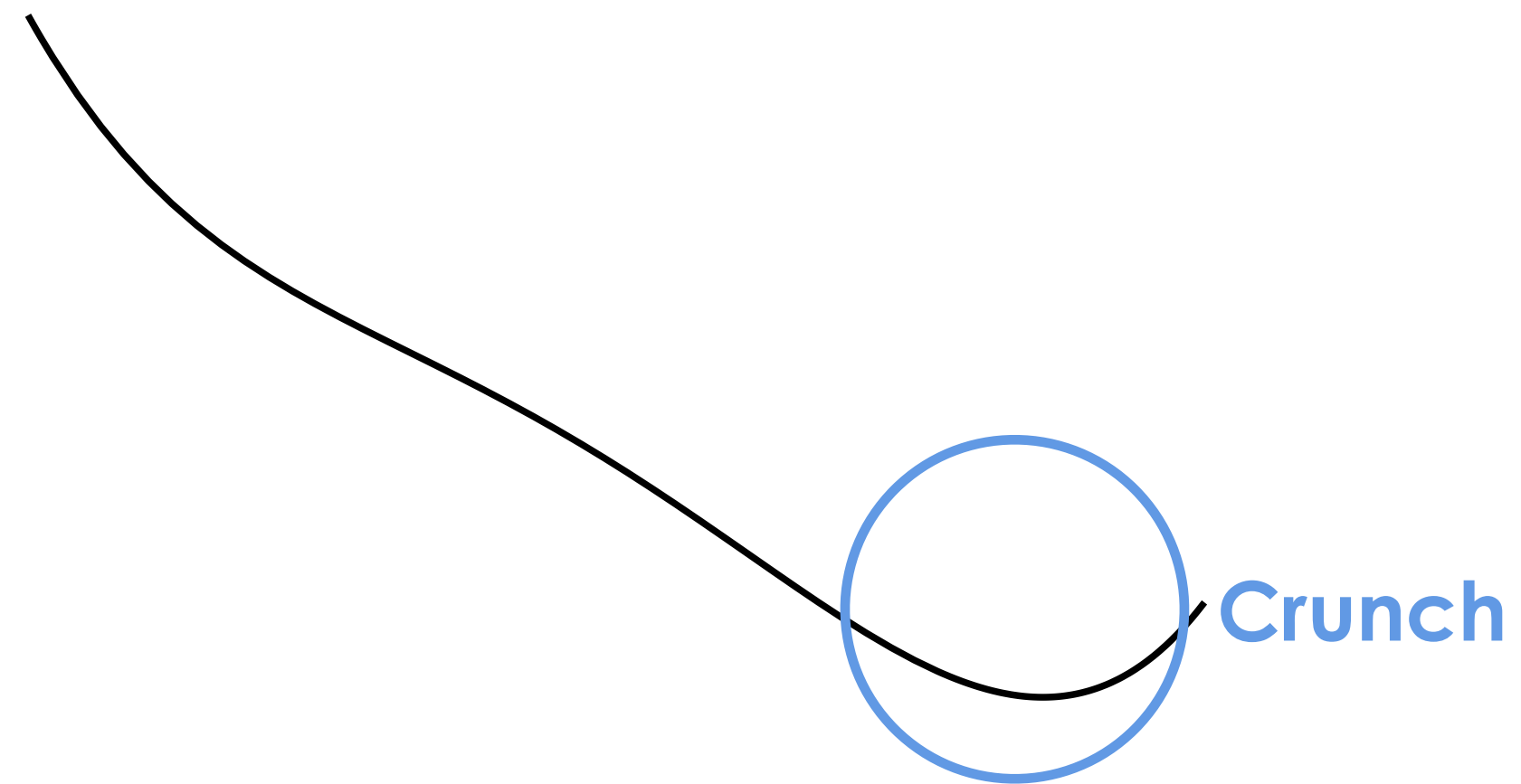


# SLIDING NATURALNESS

[RTD, Teresi] '21

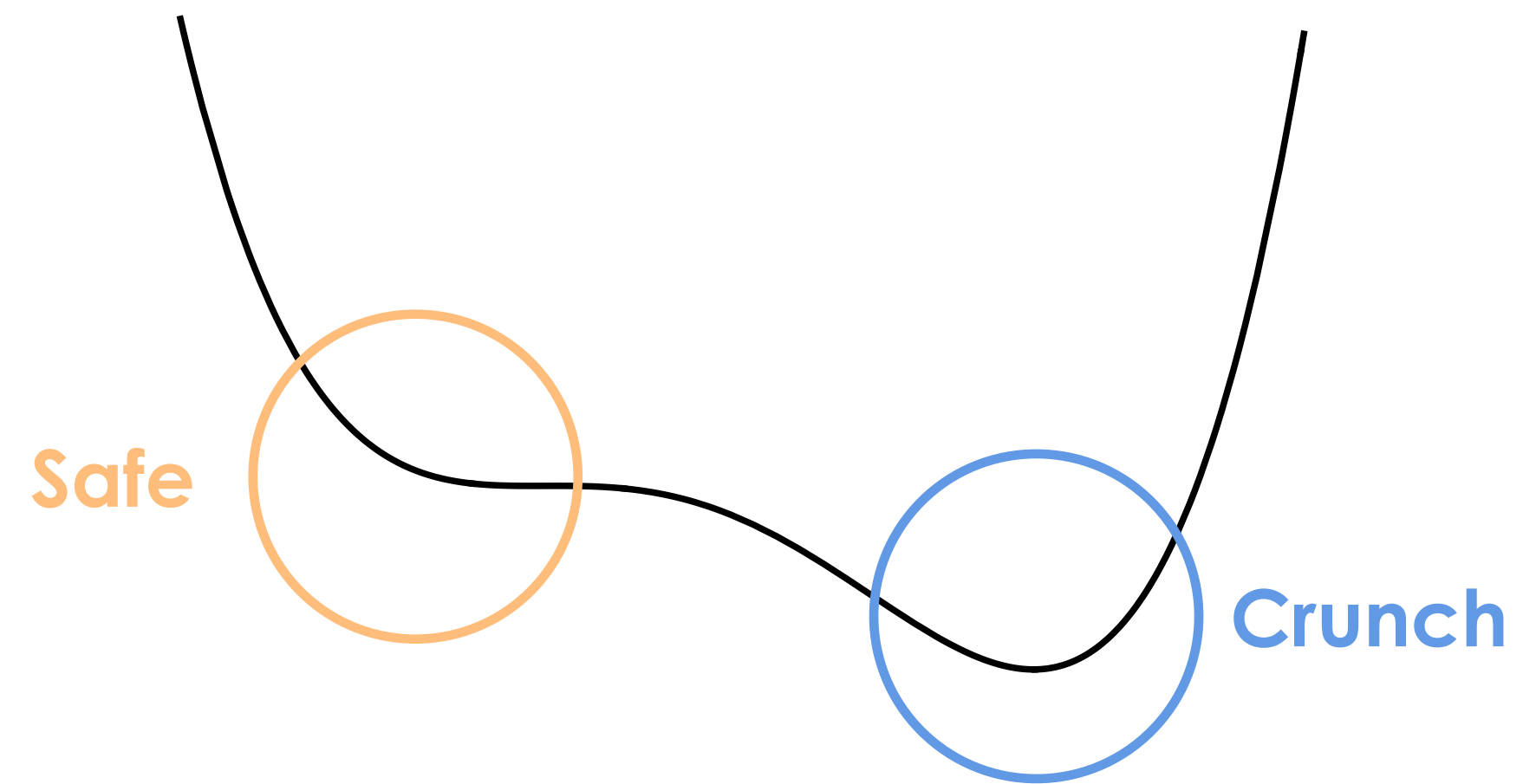
$$V_+ = \underbrace{V_{\phi_+}} + V_{H\phi_+}$$

$$\langle h \rangle \ll v \quad \text{Or} \quad \theta \gg 10^{-10}$$



$$V_+ = V_{\phi_+} + V_{H\phi_+}$$

$$\langle h \rangle \gtrsim v \quad \text{And} \quad \theta \lesssim 10^{-10}$$



# MANY OTHER SIMILAR IDEAS

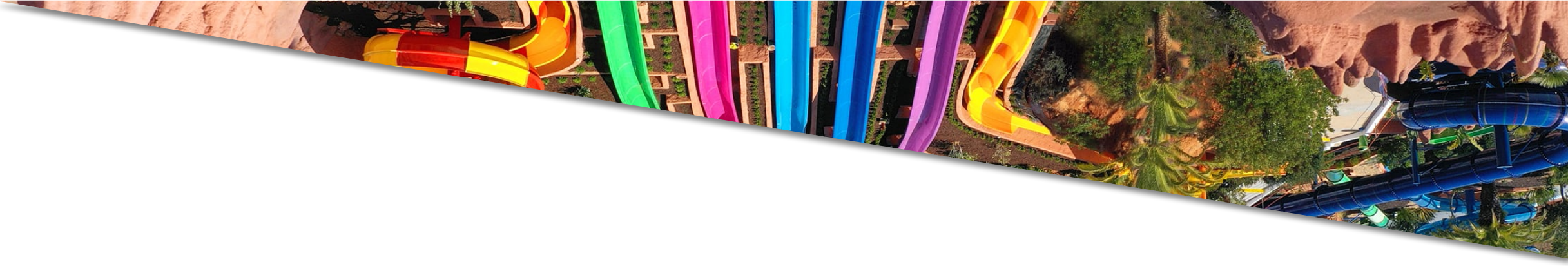
1998

Atomic Principle

2003

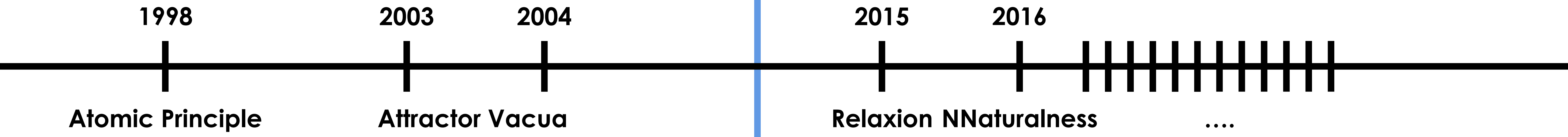
Attractor Vacua

2004



# MANY OTHER SIMILAR IDEAS

Higgs Discovery  
2012



# MANY OTHER SIMILAR IDEAS WITH SOMETHING IN COMMON

$$V_- = V_{\phi_-} + \underline{V_{H\phi_-}}$$

$$V_+ = V_{\phi_+} + \underline{V_{H\phi_+}}$$

# MANY OTHER SIMILAR IDEAS WITH SOMETHING IN COMMON

$$V_- = V_{\phi_-} + \underline{V_{H\phi_-}}$$

$$V_+ = V_{\phi_+} + \underline{V_{H\phi_+}}$$

$$V_{H\phi_{\pm}} = \left( \frac{\phi_{\pm}}{f} + \theta \right) G\tilde{G} \simeq a\theta(y_u + y_d) \mathbf{v} f_{\pi}^3 \frac{\phi_{\pm}}{f} + \dots$$



# MANY OTHER SIMILAR IDEAS WITH SOMETHING IN COMMON

$$V_- = V_{\phi_-} + \underline{V_{H\phi_-}}$$

$$V_+ = V_{\phi_+} + \underline{V_{H\phi_+}}$$

$$V_{H\phi_{\pm}} = \left( \frac{\phi_{\pm}}{f} + \theta \right) G\tilde{G} \simeq a\theta(y_u + y_d) v f_{\pi}^3 \frac{\phi_{\pm}}{f} + \dots$$

$$V_{H\phi_{\pm}} = a\phi_{\pm} H_1 H_2 \simeq a\phi_{\pm} v^2 + \dots$$

A photograph of a water park with several colorful slides (yellow, green, blue, purple) winding down a rocky hillside. The image is positioned at the top and bottom corners of the slide, partially cut off by the white background.

**General QFT question** relevant beyond cosmological naturalness:

Does anything change (in the SM) as we vary the Higgs mass squared?

A photograph of a water park with several colorful slides (yellow, green, blue, purple) winding down a rocky hillside. The image is positioned at the top and bottom corners of the slide, partially cut off by the white background.

**Most relevant phenomenologically:**

Physics coupled to the Higgs with

$$m \lesssim v$$

**One trigger = Many solutions** to the hierarchy problem

# WEAK SCALE TRIGGERS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM



Does anything change in Nature as we vary  
the Higgs mass squared?

$$\frac{d \log f(\langle h \rangle)}{d \log \langle h \rangle} = O(1)$$

Does anything change  
as we vary the Higgs mass?

## LOCAL

$$\text{Tr}[G \wedge G] \equiv G \tilde{G}$$

## NON-LOCAL

On-shell N-point  
functions of massive SM  
particles

# STANDARD MODEL TRIGGERS

$$G\tilde{G}$$

[Graham, Rajendran, Kaplan, '15],  
Arkani-Hamed, RTD, Kim, '20], [Csaki, RTD,  
Geller, Ismail, '20], [RTD, Teresi, '21],  
[Geller, Hochberg, Kuflik, '18], ...

# Axion-Like Phenomenology



# STANDARD MODEL TRIGGERS

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[Graham, Rajendran, Kaplan, '15],  
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[Geller, Hochberg, Kuflik, '18], ...

Axion-Like  
Phenomenology

$$W\tilde{W}$$

Axion-Like  
Phenomenology



A close-up photograph of a black, polymer BSM (Brenton Safety Module) trigger assembly. The trigger is shown from a side-on perspective, highlighting its ergonomic shape and various adjustment points. The word "BRENTON" is printed in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters on the upper right portion of the trigger's body. Several circular holes and recessed areas are visible, which are used for adjusting the trigger's pull weight and safety features. The background is plain white, and the trigger is reflected on a surface below it.

**BRENTON**

**BSM TRIGGERS**

$$F\tilde{F} + yLHE^c$$

$$H_1H_2$$

$$m \lesssim v \simeq 174 \text{ GeV}$$

HL-LHC!

$$m \lesssim v \simeq 174 \text{ GeV}$$

HL-LHC!

$$H_1 H_2$$

Protected by the **Z2 symmetry**

$$H_1 H_2 \rightarrow -H_1 H_2$$

$H_1 H_2$  **without Z2** first considered as 'paleo'-trigger in: [Espinosa, Grojean, Panico, Pomarol, Pujolas '15], [Dvali, Vilenkin '01]. Today these models require **two coincidences of scales to be alive at the LHC.**

# TYPE-0 2HDM

[Arkani-Hamed, RTD, Kim, '20]

$$V_{H_1 H_2} = m_1^2 |H_1|^2 + m_2^2 |H_2|^2 + \frac{\lambda_1}{2} |H_1|^4 + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} |H_2|^4 \\ + \lambda_3 |H_1|^2 |H_2|^2 + \lambda_4 |H_1 H_2|^2 + \left( \frac{\lambda_5}{2} (H_1 H_2)^2 + \text{h.c.} \right)$$

$$H_1 H_2 (B\mu + \lambda_6 |H_1|^2 + \lambda_7 |H_2|^2)$$

$$B\mu = \lambda_{6,7} = 0$$

# TYPE-0 2HDM

[Arkani-Hamed, RTD, Kim, '20]

$$m_{A,H^\pm}^2 \sim \lambda v^2, \quad \lambda \lesssim 2$$

$$m_H^2 \sim \lambda_1 v_1^2 \leq m_h^2 = (125 \text{ GeV})^2$$

# TYPE-0 2HDM

[Arkani-Hamed, RTD, Kim, '20]

For quarks and leptons we choose the **phenomenologically safest  $Z_2$  charge assignments**

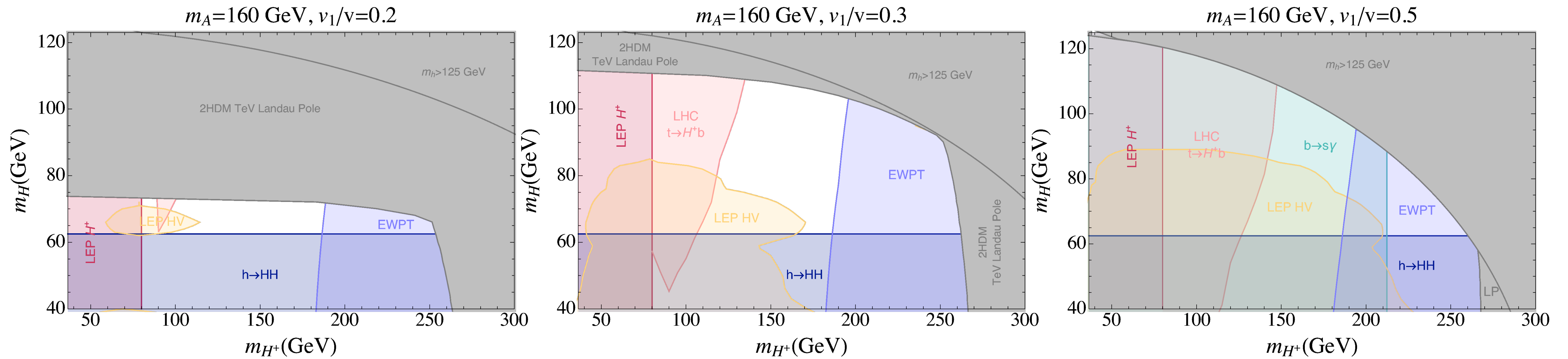
$$H_2 \rightarrow -H_2, \quad (qu^c) \rightarrow -(qu^c), \quad (qd^c) \rightarrow -(qd^c), \quad (le^c) \rightarrow -(le^c)$$

This gives

$$V_Y = Y_u q H_2 u^c + Y_d q H_2^\dagger d^c + Y_e l H_2^\dagger e^c$$

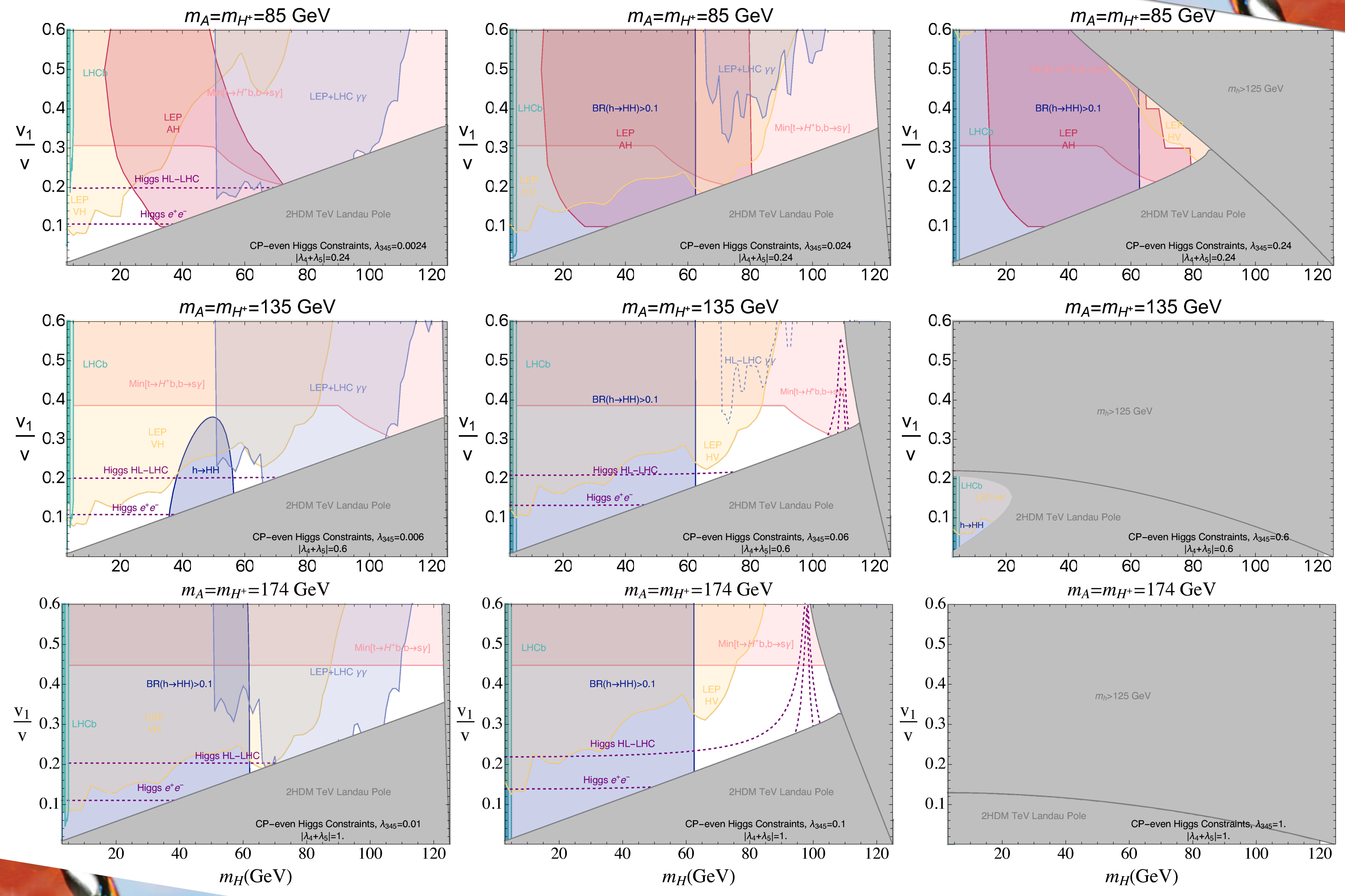
# TYPE-0 2HDM

[Arkani-Hamed, RTD, Kim, '20]



Sharp target for HL-LHC and FCC  
which **can't be decoupled!**  
(See also the next slide)

# [Arkani-Hamed, RTD, Kim, '20]







**One trigger = Many solutions** to the hierarchy problem



# EVERY SINGLE TRIGGER

$$G\tilde{G}$$

$$W\tilde{W}$$

Axion-Like  
Phenomenology

---

$$F\tilde{F} + yLHE^c$$

Vector-like Leptons

$$H_1H_2$$


Second Higgs  
doublet

**BSM triggers** = Physics coupled to the Higgs with

$$m \lesssim v$$



**BACKUP**


$$\langle G\tilde{G} \rangle \simeq (y_u + y_d) \langle h \rangle f_\pi^3 (\langle h \rangle) \theta$$

**Non-trivial!**

1.  $U(1)_A$  breaking that can interfere with QCD instantons
2. Sensitivity to the Higgs mass ( $U(1)_A$  breaking and/or  $SU(3)$  running)

3.  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \lesssim m_h$



# INSTANTONS

$$\phi \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} F_{\mu\nu} F_{\rho\sigma}$$

$$V(\phi) \sim \int_0^\infty \frac{d\rho}{\rho^4} e^{-\frac{8\pi^2}{g^2(\rho)}} \times \dots$$

Approximate scale invariance of gauge theory = big hierarchy of scales

# EXAMPLE: SU(2) CONSTRAINED INSTANTONS

SM

$W\widetilde{W}$

Not observable



# EXAMPLE: SU(2) CONSTRAINED INSTANTONS

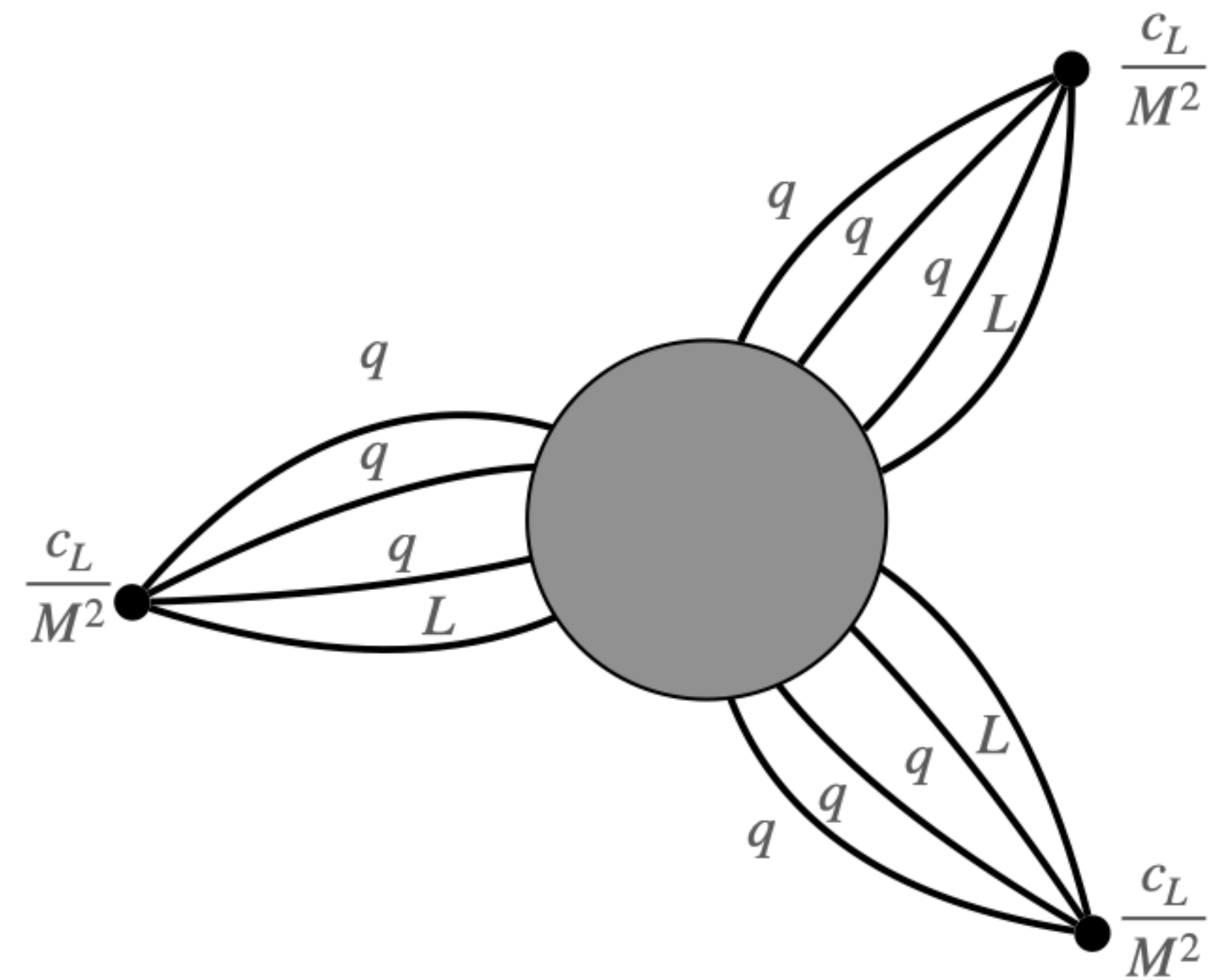
SM

$$W\widetilde{W}$$

Not observable

SM+GUT

$$W\widetilde{W} + \frac{QQQL}{M^2}$$



# EXAMPLE: SU(2) CONSTRAINED INSTANTONS

$$W\widetilde{W} + \frac{QQQL}{M^2}$$

$$V(\phi) \sim \frac{\langle h \rangle^{10}}{M^6} e^{-\frac{2\pi}{\alpha_2(\langle h \rangle)}} + M^4 e^{-\frac{2\pi}{\alpha_2(M)}}$$

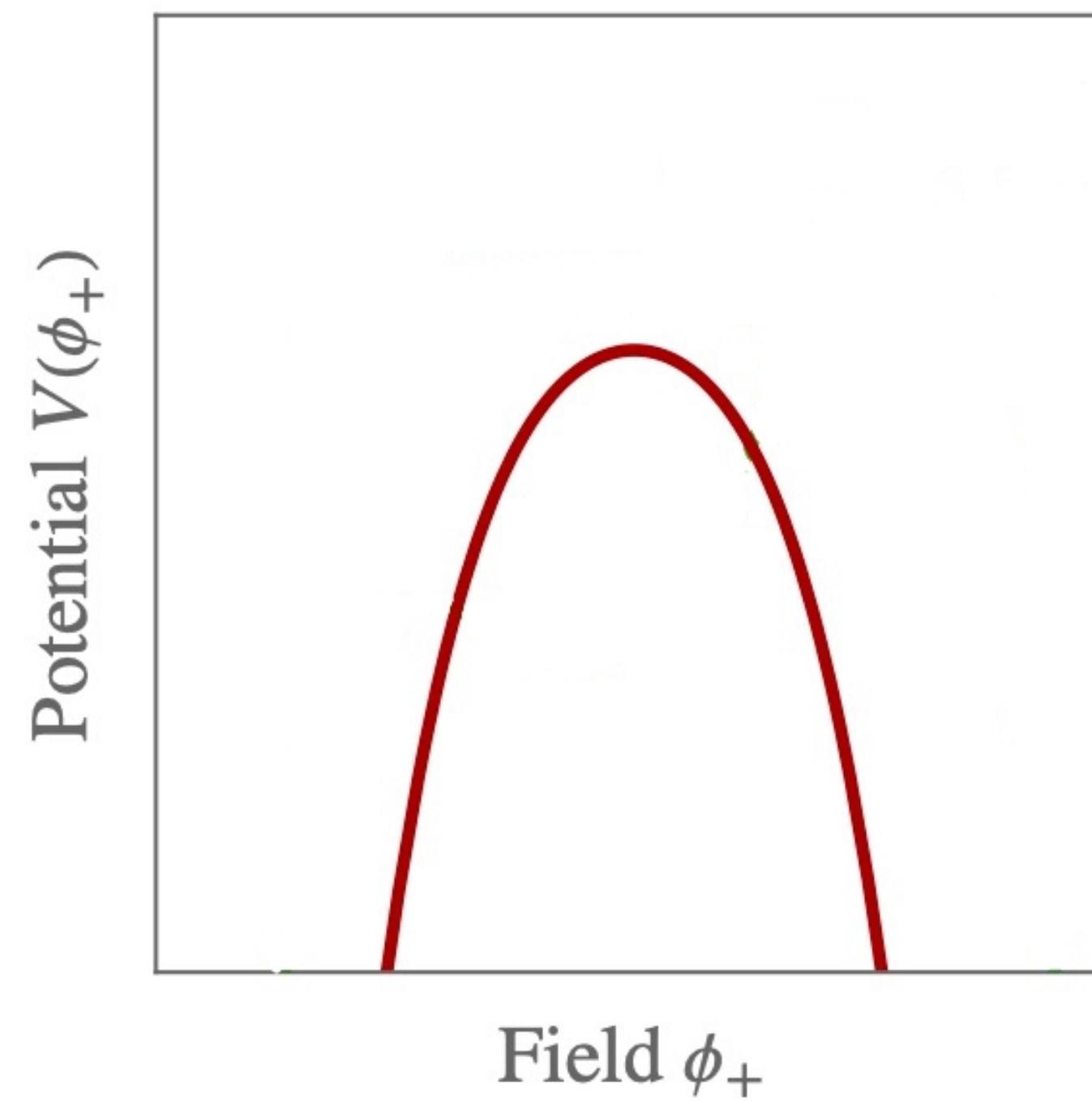
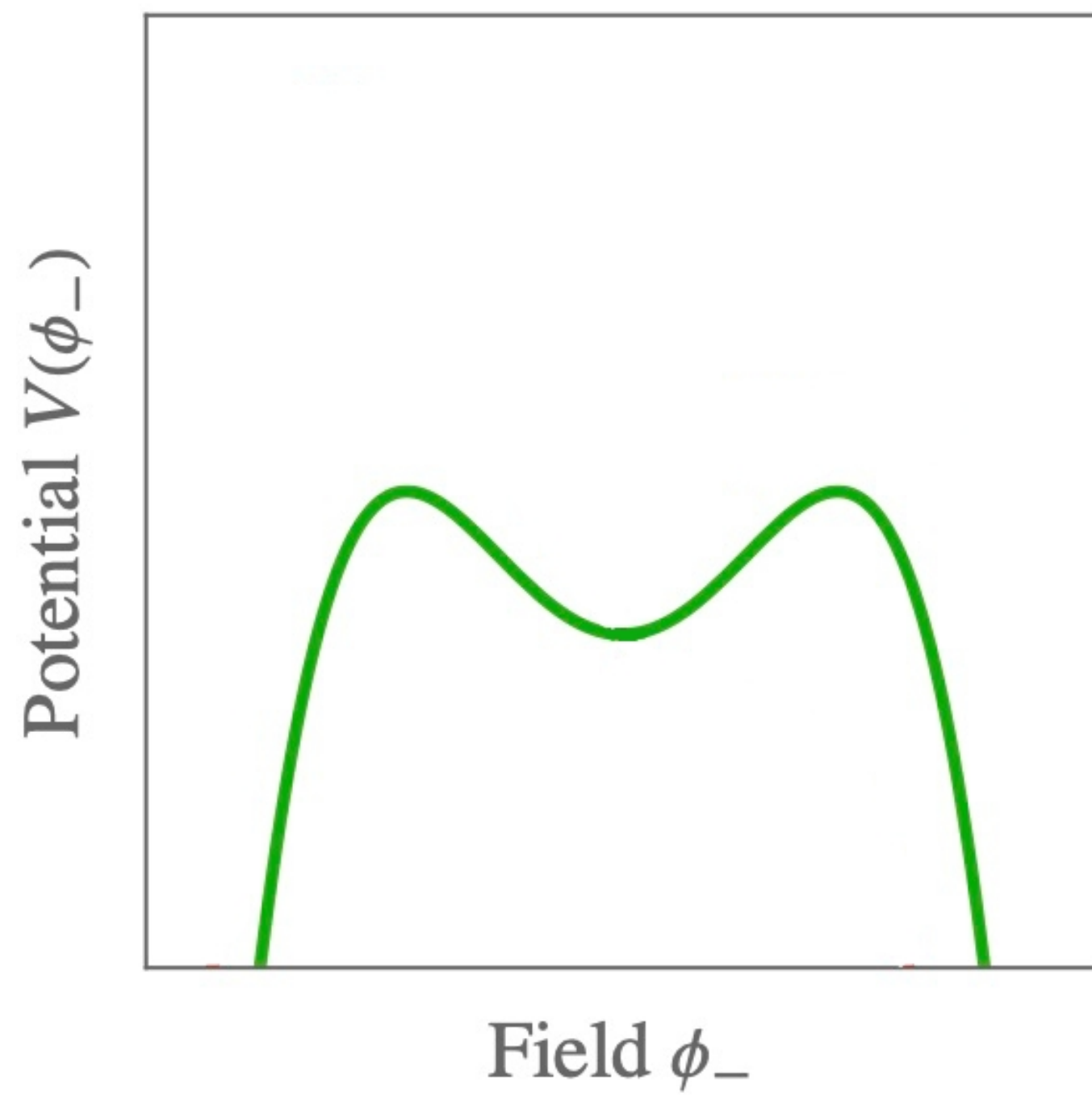
Tantalizing T=0 connection between B+L breaking  
and Higgs mass

# TOY MODEL (zoom in on shallow minimum)

$$V_{\phi_{\pm}} = \mp \frac{m^2}{2} \phi_{\pm}^2 - \frac{\lambda}{4} \phi_{\pm}^4$$

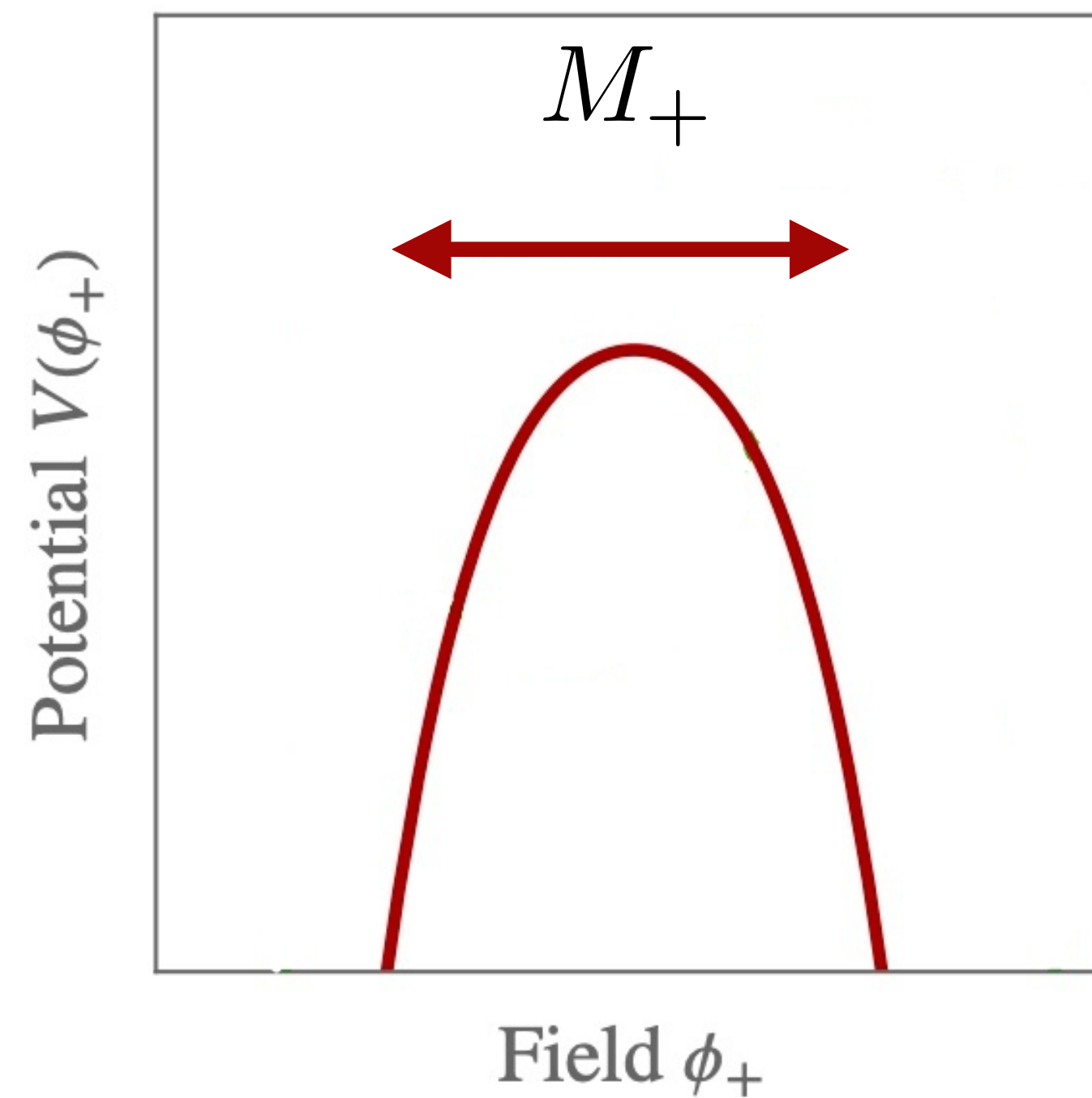
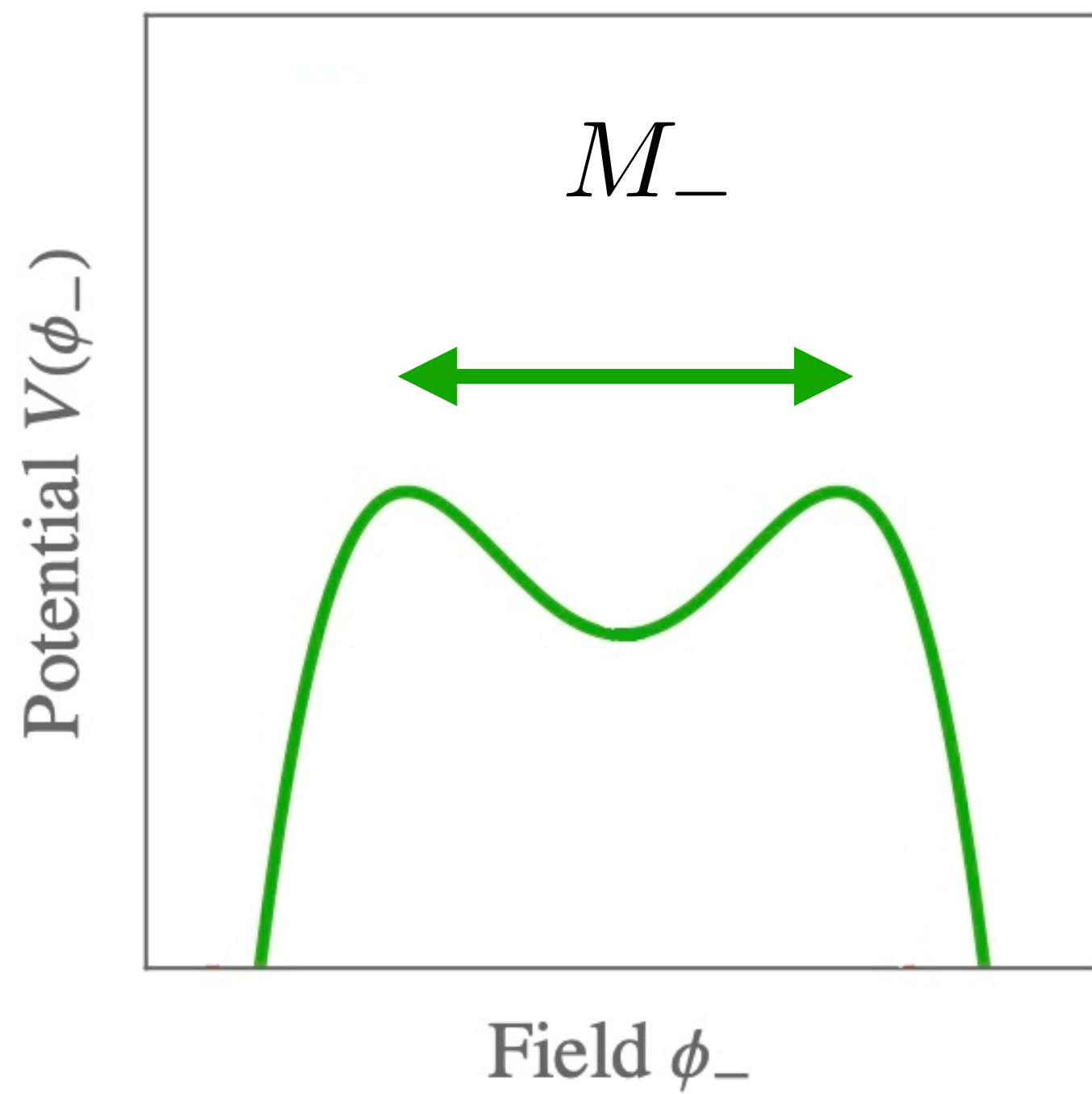
# TOY MODEL (zoom in on shallow minimum)

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# TOY MODEL (zoom in on shallow minimum)

$$V_{\phi_{\pm}} = \mp \frac{m_{\phi_{\pm}}^2}{2} \phi_{\pm}^2 - \frac{\lambda}{4} \phi_{\pm}^4$$



$$V_{H\phi_{\pm}} = -\frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \left( \frac{\phi_+}{F_+} + \frac{\phi_-}{F_-} + \theta \right) \tilde{G}G$$

$$V_{H\phi_{\pm}} = -\frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \left( \frac{\phi_+}{F_+} + \frac{\phi_-}{F_-} + \theta \right) \tilde{G}G$$

**Small Breaking of Shift-Symmetry at low Energy**

$$M_{\pm}/F_{\pm} \ll 1$$

$$M_-/F_- \ll \theta$$

**Familiar from QCD**

$$F_{\pm} \leftrightarrow f_{\pi}$$

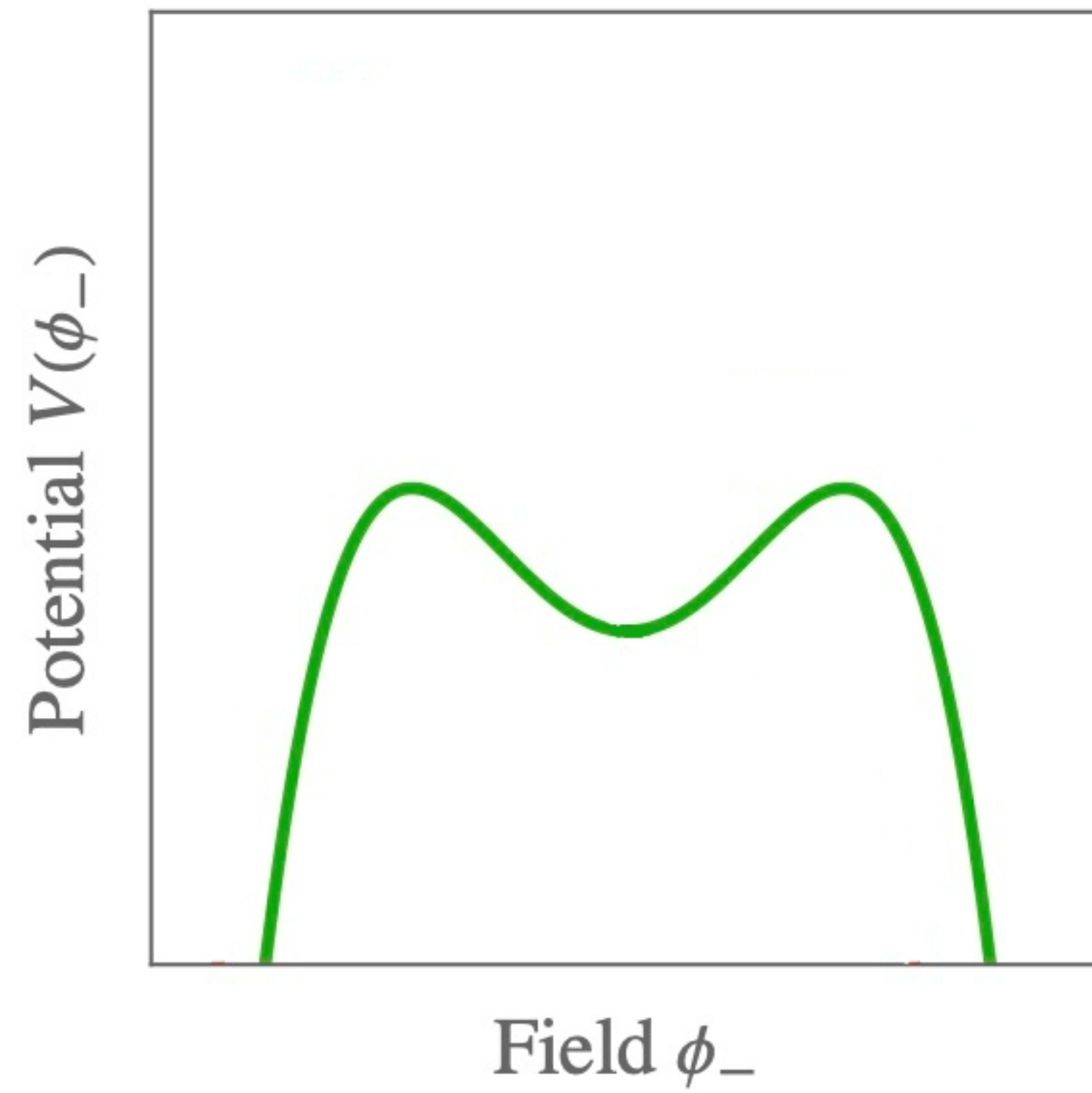
$$M_{\pm} \leftrightarrow m_q$$

$$V_{H\phi_{\pm}} = -\frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \left( \frac{\phi_+}{F_+} + \frac{\phi_-}{F_-} + \theta \right) \tilde{G}G$$

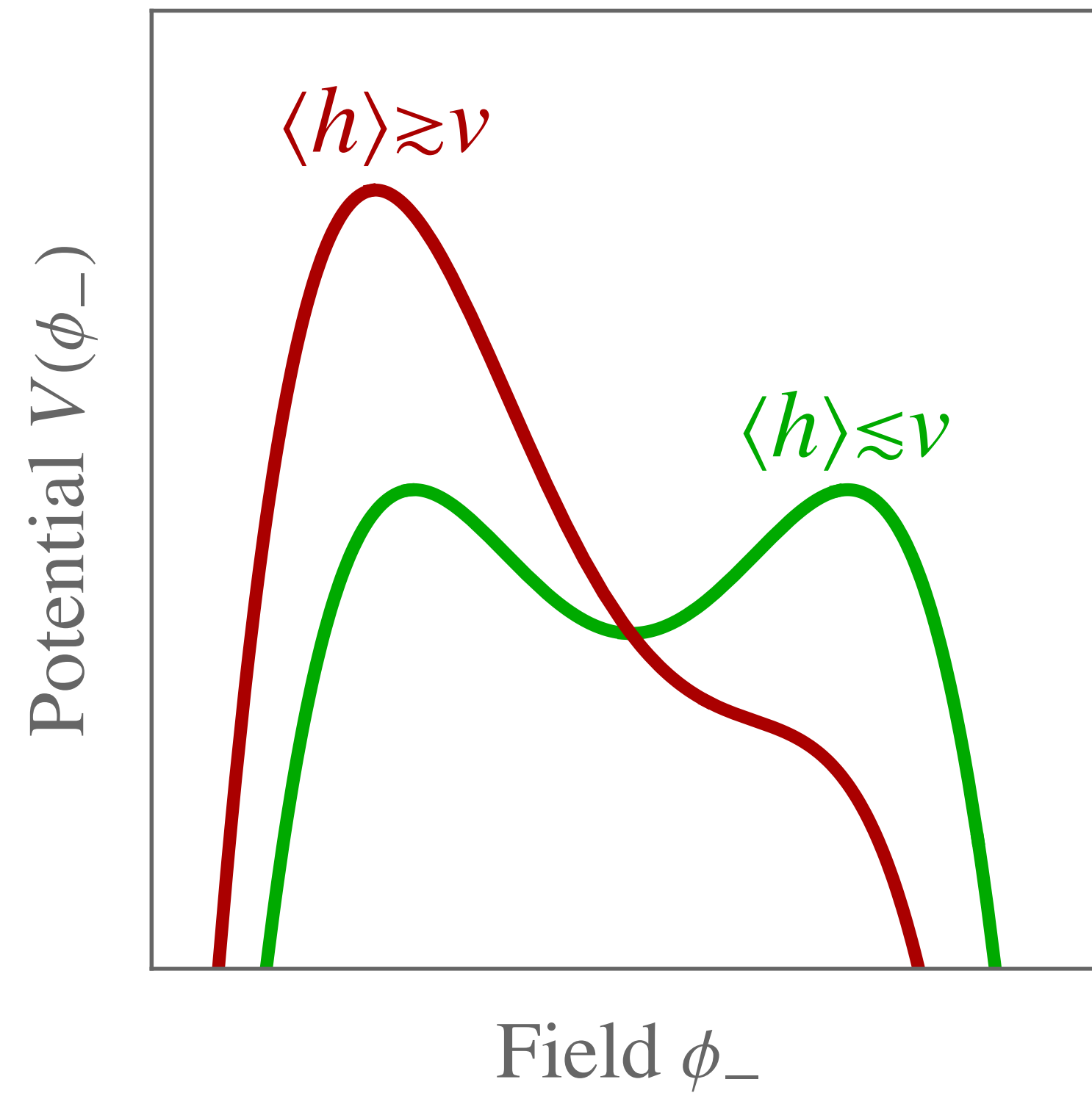
$$\simeq \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4 (\langle h \rangle) \left[ \left( \theta \frac{\phi_+}{F_+} + \frac{\phi_+^2}{F_+^2} \right) + \theta \frac{\phi_-}{F_-} + \dots \right]$$



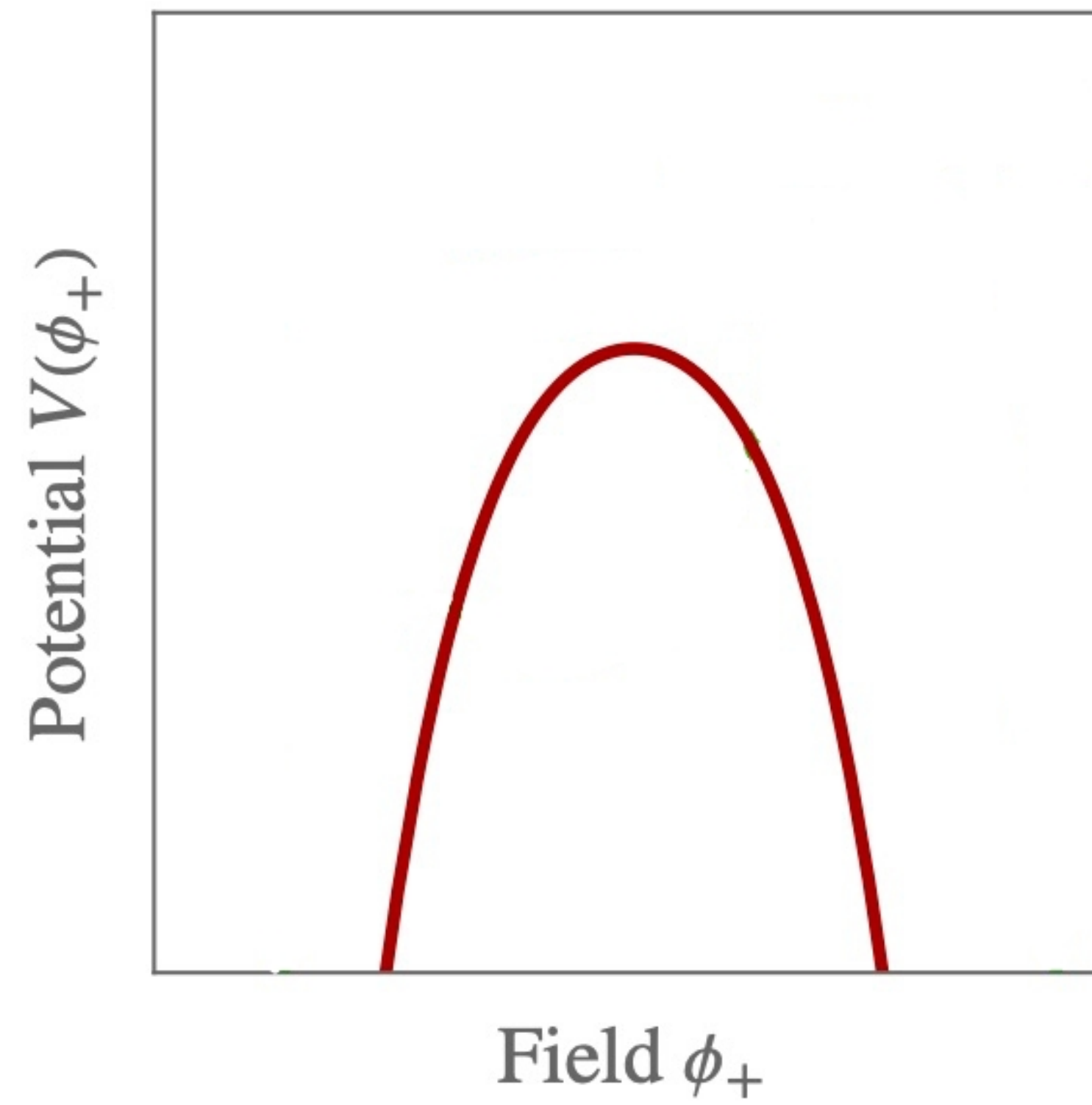
$$V_{H\phi_-} \simeq \theta_{\text{eff}} \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4 (\langle h \rangle) \frac{\phi_-}{F_-}$$



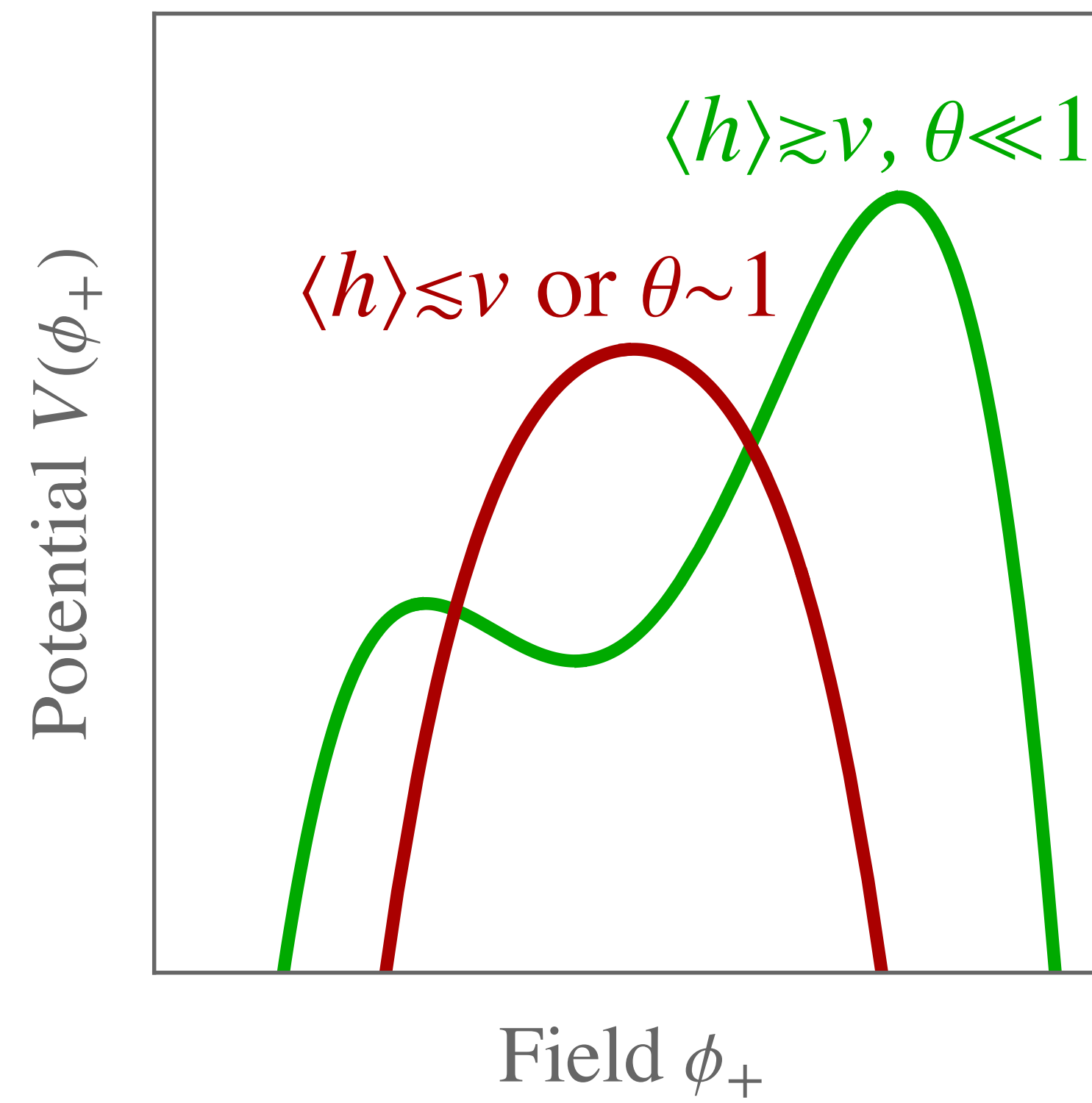
$$V_{H\phi_-} \simeq \theta_{\text{eff}} \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4 (\langle h \rangle) \frac{\phi_-}{F_-}$$



$$V_{H\phi_+} \simeq \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4 (\langle h \rangle) \left( \theta \frac{\phi_+}{F_+} + \frac{\phi_+^2}{F_+^2} \right)$$



$$V_{H\phi_+} \simeq \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4(\langle h \rangle) \left( \theta \frac{\phi_+}{F_+} + \frac{\phi_+^2}{F_+^2} \right)$$



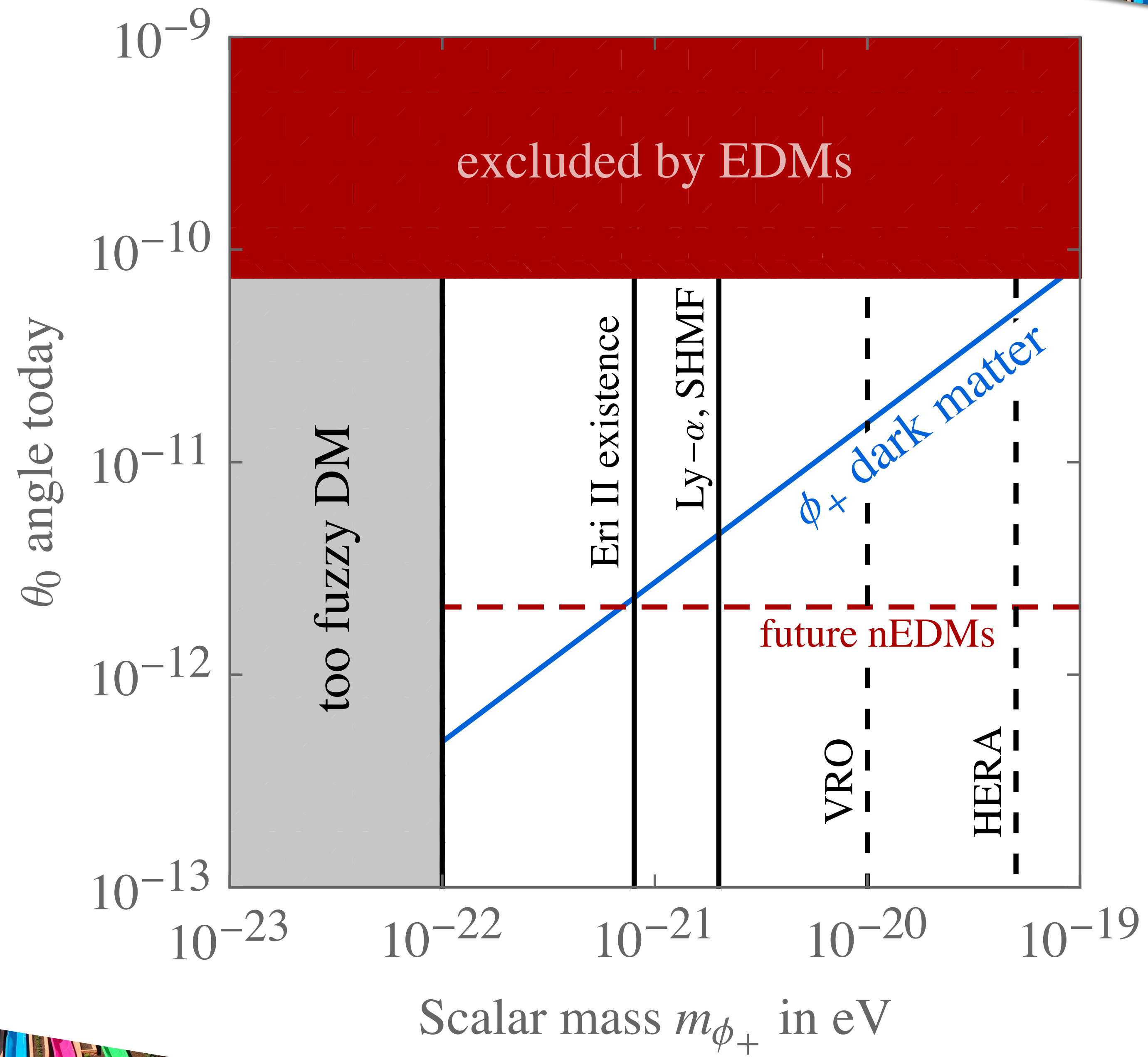
$$V_{\phi_{\pm}} = \mp \frac{m_{\phi_{\pm}}^2}{2} \phi_{\pm}^2 - \frac{\lambda}{4} \phi_{\pm}^4$$

$$V_{H\phi_{\pm}} = -\frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \left( \frac{\phi_+}{F_+} + \frac{\phi_-}{F_-} + \theta \right) \tilde{G}G$$

Solve Strong-CP and Hierarchy problem!

# SLIDING NATURALNESS

[RTD, Teresi] '21



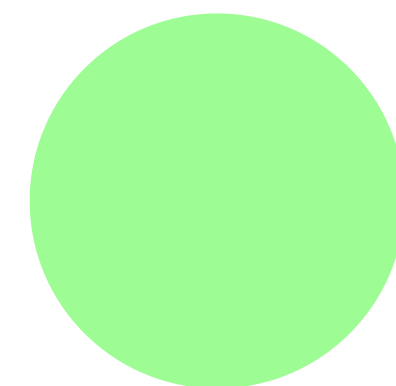
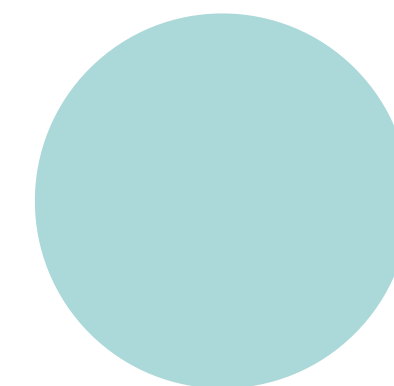
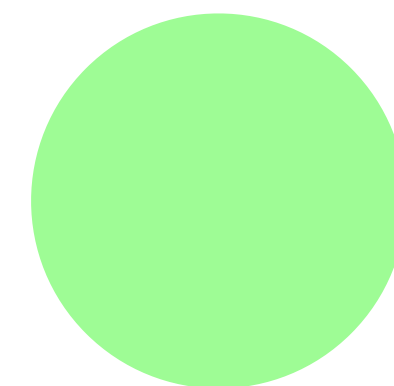
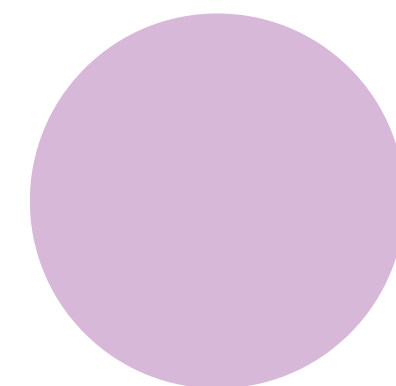
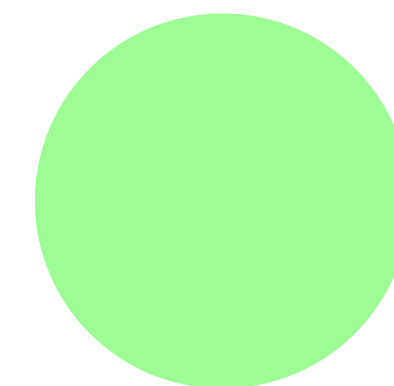
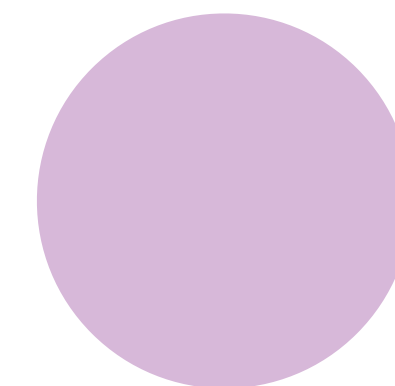
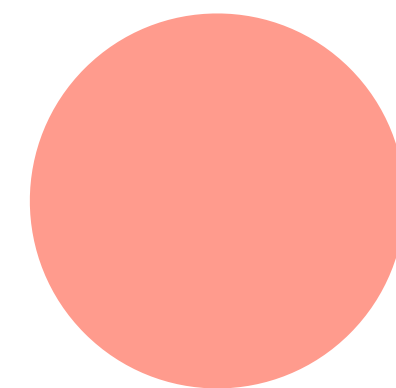
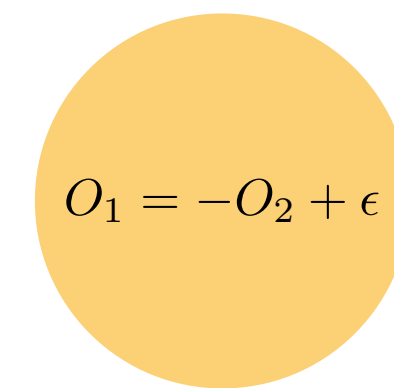
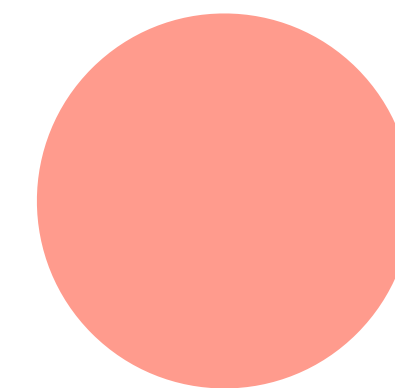
$$\phi_{\pm}$$

Symmetric Sector

$$\Lambda_S \ll M_{\text{Pl}}$$

$$\phi_{\pm} G \tilde{G}$$

SM Landscape



# EXAMPLE 1: ANTHROPIC ARGUMENTS

[Agrawal, Barr, Donoghue, Seckel '97]

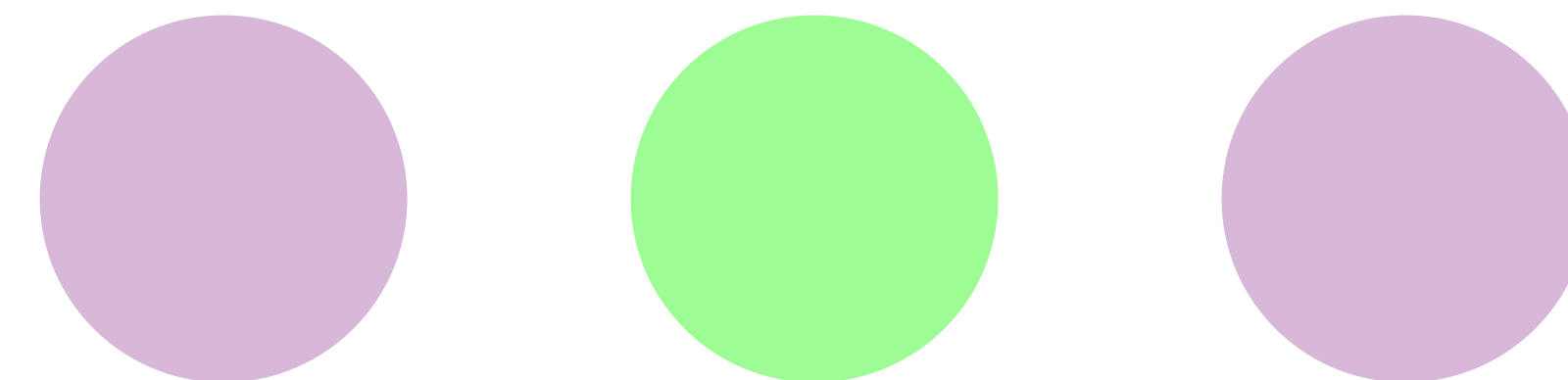
Symmetric Sector

$$\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \ll M_{\text{Pl}}$$

QCD

$$W_{qq}(x - y)$$

SM Landscape



“Friendly”  
String Landscape?

[Arakni-Hamed, Dimopoulos, Kachru, '05]



## EXAMPLE 2: STATISTICAL ARGUMENTS

[Dvali, Vilenkin '03], [Dvali '04]

$$F_4 = dA_3$$

$$S \supset \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left( \frac{F_4^2}{48} + M_{\text{Pl}}^2 (-1 + \frac{F_4^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} + \dots) |\phi|^2 + \dots \right) + q(\phi) \int d^3\xi A_{\mu\nu\rho} \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial \xi^a} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial \xi^b} \frac{\partial x^\rho}{\partial \xi^c} \epsilon^{abc}$$

## EXAMPLE 2: STATISTICAL ARGUMENTS

[Dvali, Vilenkin '03], [Dvali '04]

$$q(\phi) = \frac{\phi^N}{M_{\text{Pl}}^{N-2}}$$

$$\Delta \langle \phi \rangle^2 / \langle \phi \rangle^2 \sim \langle \phi \rangle^{N-2}$$

At every step the brane charge is smaller  
-> most vacua are at small vev

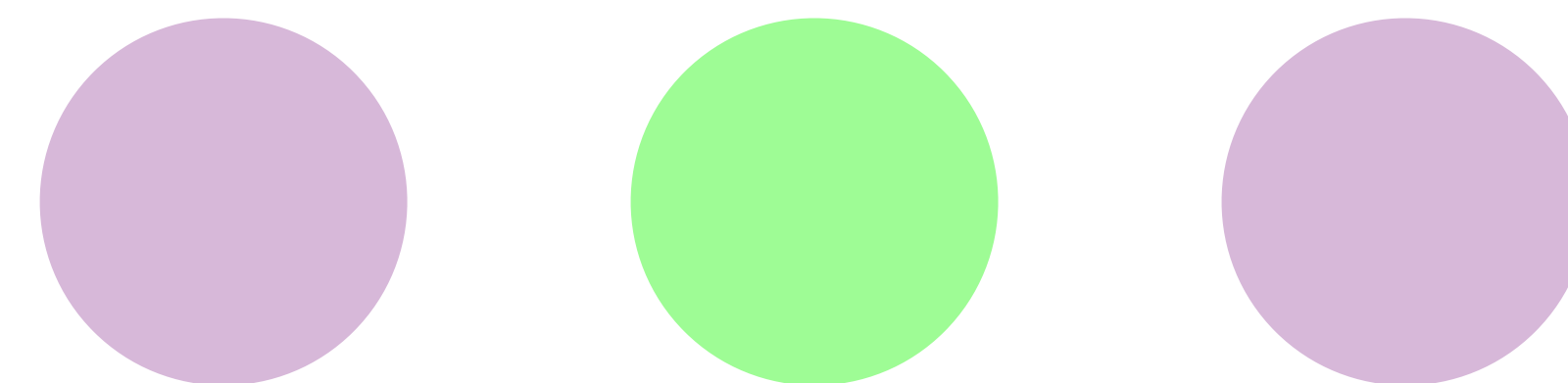
# EXAMPLE 2: STATISTICAL ARGUMENTS

[Dvali, Vilenkin '03], [Dvali '04]

Symmetric Sector

$$q(\phi) \lesssim M_{\text{Pl}}^2$$

SM Landscape



$$A_3$$

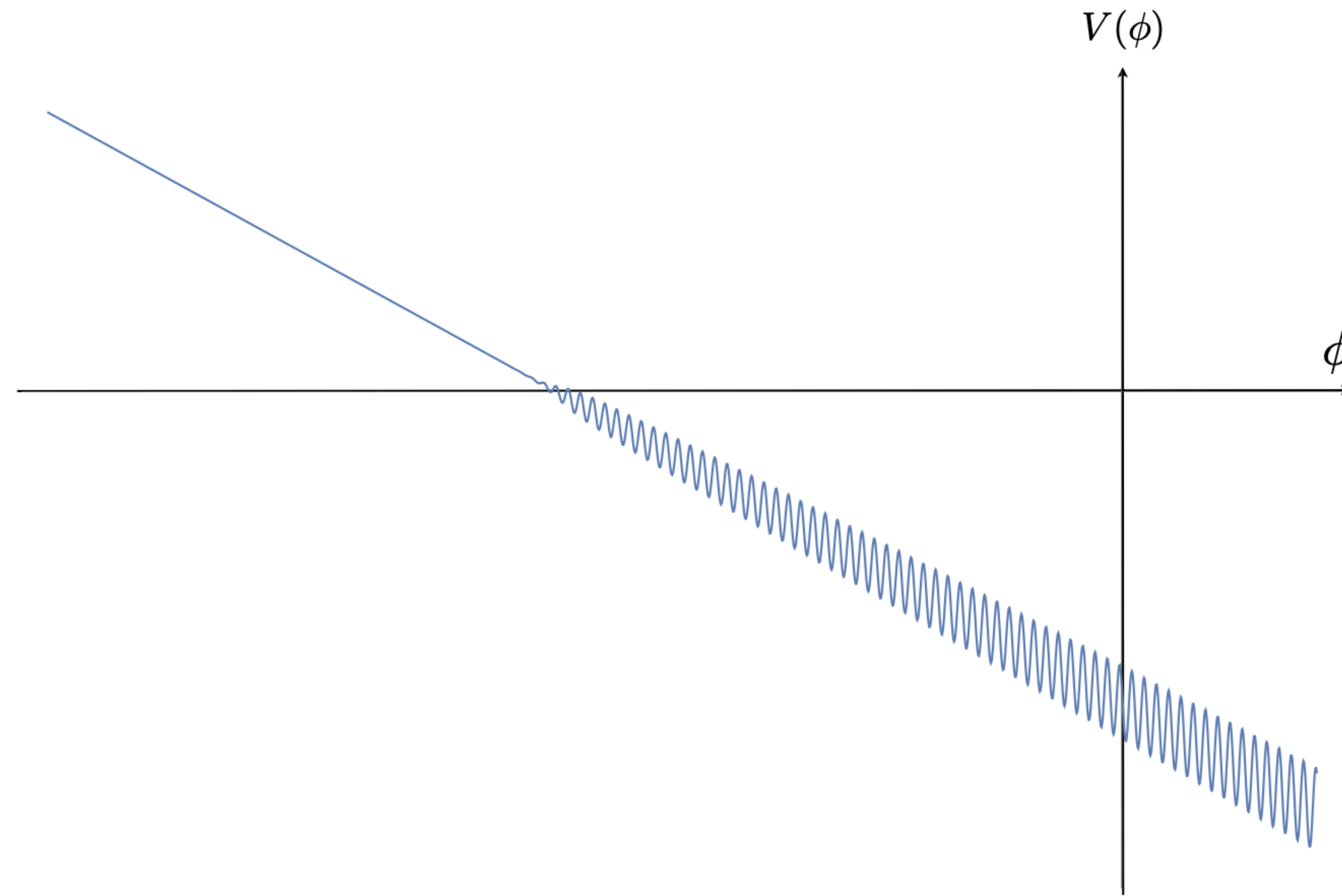
$$\frac{\phi^N}{M_{\text{Pl}}^{N-2}} \int_{2+1} A_3$$

$$\frac{F_4^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} |\phi|^2$$

# EXAMPLE 3: DYNAMICAL ARGUMENTS

[Graham, Kaplan, Rajendran '15],

$$V(\phi) = g\phi + \dots + (M^2 + g\phi + \dots)|H|^2 + \frac{\phi}{f}G\tilde{G}$$



# EXAMPLE 3: DYNAMICAL ARGUMENTS

[Graham, Kaplan, Rajendran '15],

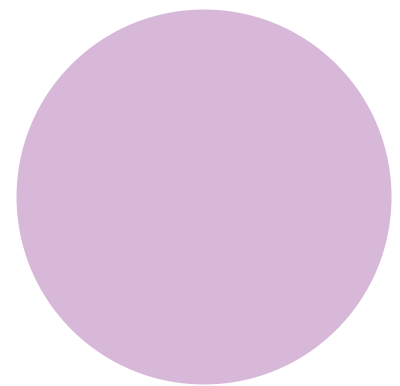
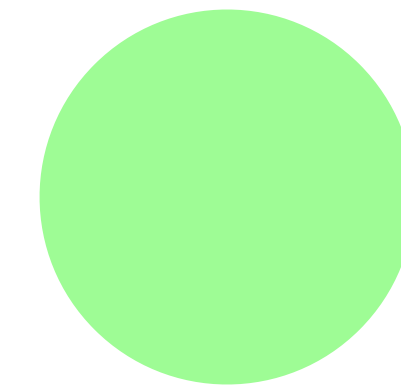
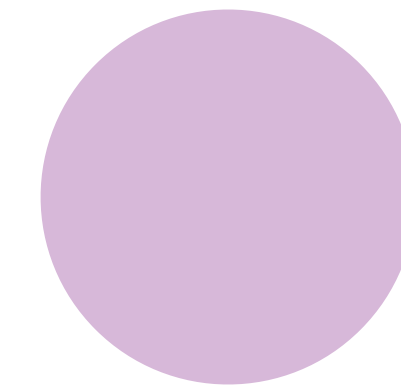
Symmetric Sector

$$g \ll M_{\text{Pl}}^3$$

$$\phi$$

$$\phi G \tilde{G}$$

SM Landscape



$$\phi |H|^2$$