

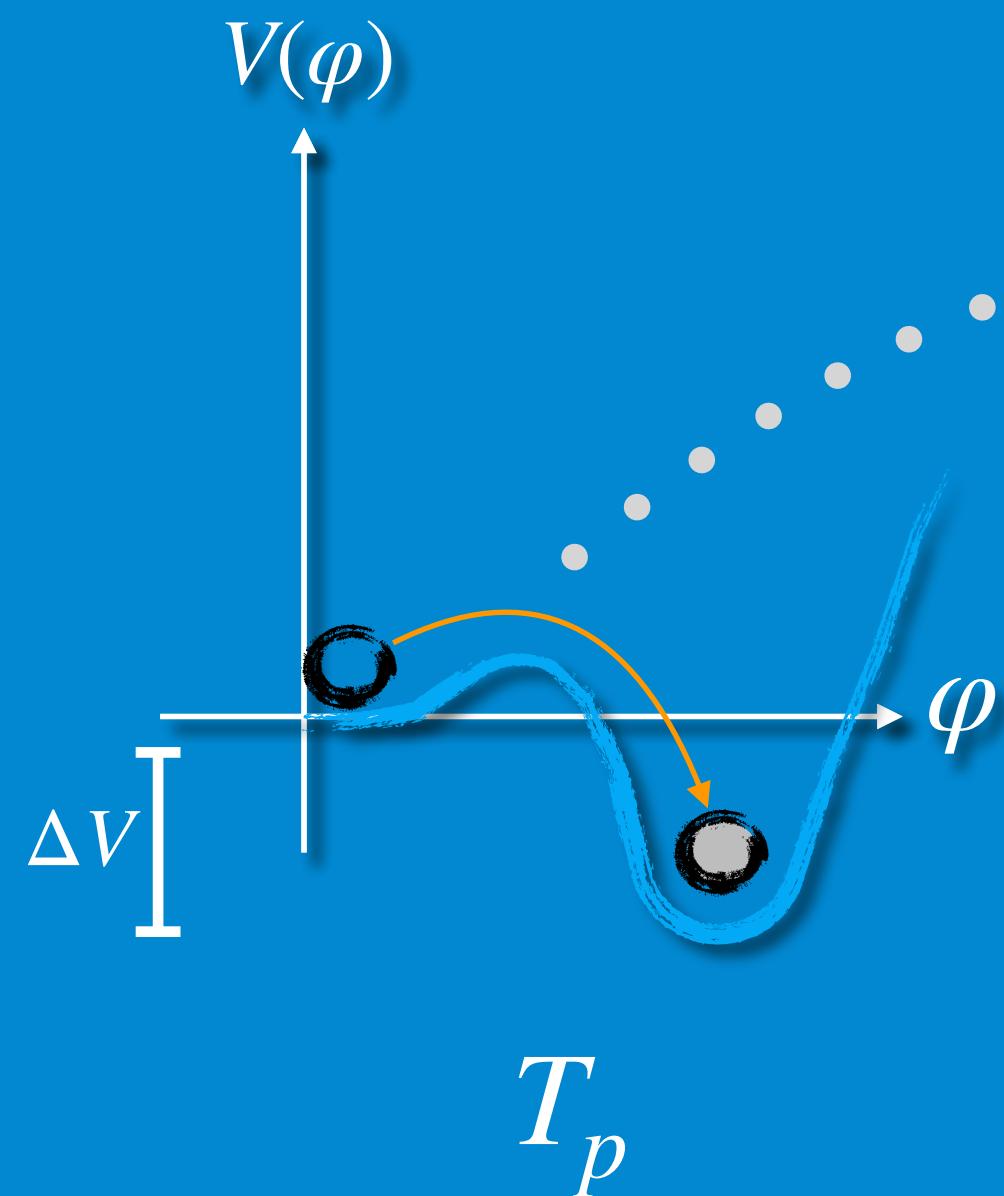
Finite-temperature (supercooled) bubble-nucleation with shifting scale hierarchies

Maciej Kierkla, University of Warsaw

Based on: 2503.13597, 2506.15496

This talk

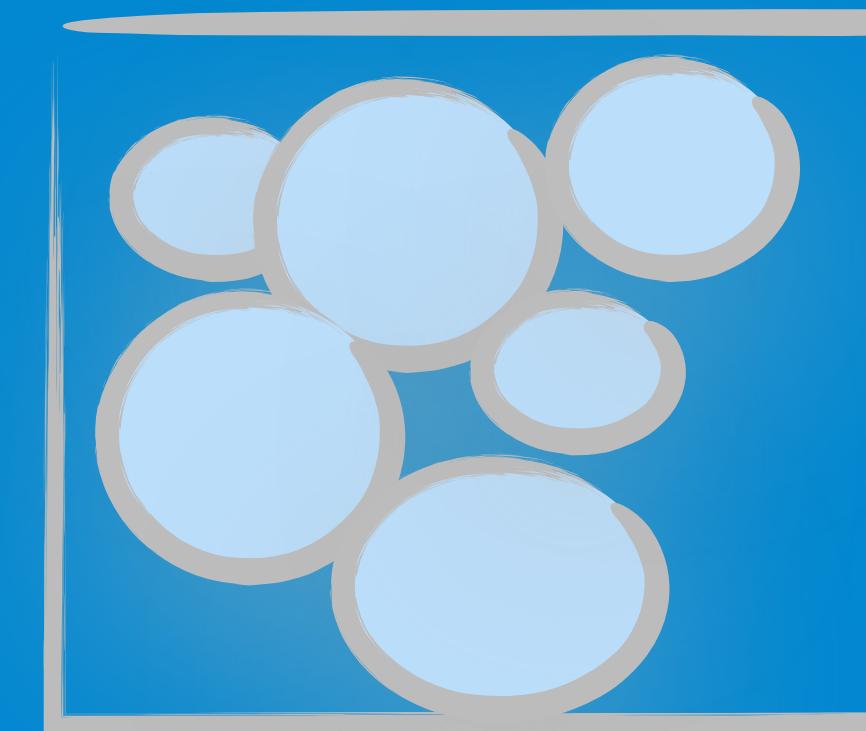
Field theory



Bubble nucleation rate

$$\frac{\Gamma_T}{H^4}$$

Cosmology



Bubble nucleation rate

$$\Gamma(T) = A_{\text{dyn}} \times A_{\text{stat}}$$

Non-equilibrium effects

Dimension $[T]$

Equilibrium effects

Dimension $[T^3]$

Statistical part

In the saddlepoint approximation

$$A_{\text{stat}} = A e^{-(S_{\text{eff}}[\phi_b] - S_{\text{eff}}[\phi_F])}$$

ϕ_b is the solution to Euclidean EOMs,

ϕ_F is the false vacuum

Why study supercooled PTs?

DM/pBHs
production [*]

PTA
data (?)

Strong GW
signal!

LISA is coming

Needs robust
framework

4d theory



$$V_{\text{tree}} = \frac{1}{4} (\lambda_1 h^4 + \lambda_2 h^2 \phi^2 + \lambda_3 \phi^4)$$

SU(2) parameters
 g_X, M_X

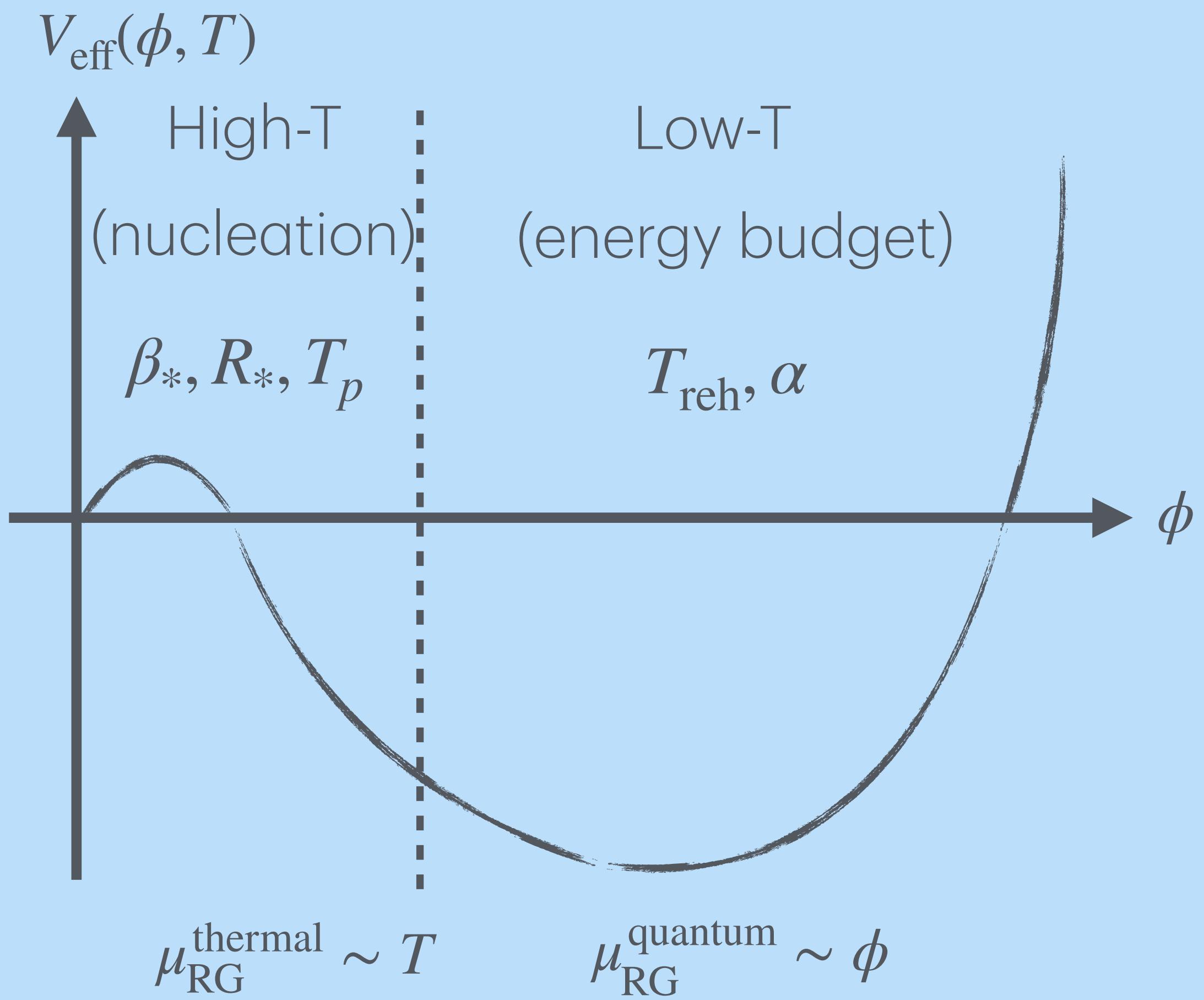
4d theory



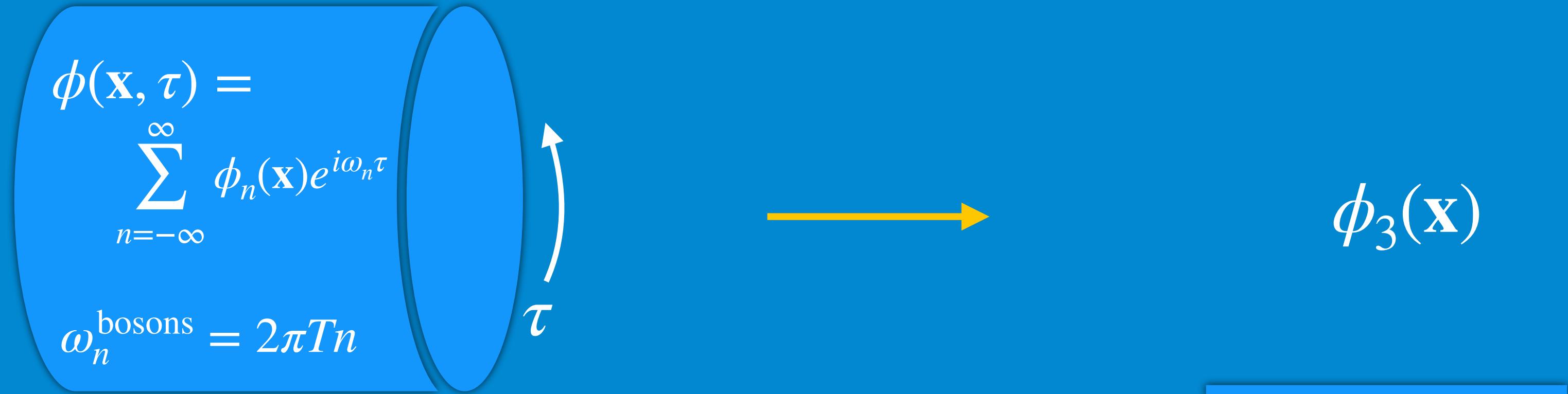
$$V_{\text{tree}} = \frac{1}{4} (\lambda_1 h^4 + \lambda_2 h^2 \phi^2 + \lambda_3 \phi^4)$$

SU(2) parameters
 g_X, M_X

HT vs LT regimes



High-temperature Dimensional Reduction (DR)



\longrightarrow
 \mathbf{x}

Integrating out
 $\omega_{n \neq 0}$

\longrightarrow
 \mathbf{x}

$$Z = \int D\phi \exp \left(- \int_0^{\frac{1}{T}} d\tau \int d^3\mathbf{r} \mathcal{L}_E \right)$$



$$Z_3 = \int D\phi_{n=0} \exp \left(- \frac{1}{T} \int d^3\mathbf{r} \mathcal{L}_3 \right)$$

Fields: ϕ, X
Couplings: g, λ

Fields: $\phi_3, X_3, X_{0,3}$
Couplings: $m_3(T), g_3(T), \lambda_3(T)$

Daisy resummation = DR at LO matching

$$\lambda_3 = T \left(\lambda_\varphi + \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \frac{3}{8} g_X^4 \left(1 - \frac{3}{2} L_b \right) \right)$$

$$g_{X,3}^2 = g_X^2 T$$

$$h_3 = \frac{1}{2} g_X^2 T,$$

$$m_{D,X}^2 = \frac{5}{6} g_X^2 T^2,$$

$$m_3^2 = \frac{3}{16} g_X^2 T^2,$$

VS

$$\lambda_3 = T \left(\lambda_\varphi + \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \left(\frac{3}{8} g_X^4 + L_b \left(-\frac{9}{16} g_X^4 - 12\lambda_\varphi + \frac{9}{2} g_X^2 \lambda_\varphi - \lambda_{h\varphi}^2 \right) \right) \right)$$

$$g_{X,3}^2 = g_X^2 T \left(1 + \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} g_X^2 \left(\frac{2}{3} + \frac{43}{6} L_b \right) \right)$$

$$h_3 = \frac{1}{2} g_X^2 T \left(1 + \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \left(g_X^2 \left(\frac{17}{2} + \frac{43}{6} L_b \right) + 12\lambda_\varphi \right) \right),$$

$$m_{D,X}^3 = \frac{5}{6} g_X^2 T^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} T^2 \left(g_X^2 \left(\frac{69}{20} + \frac{43}{6} L_b \right) + \frac{2}{5} (3\lambda_\varphi + \lambda_{h\varphi}) \right) \right)$$

$$m_3^2 = T^2 \left\{ \frac{3}{16} g_X^2 + \frac{1}{6} (3\lambda_\varphi + \lambda_{h\varphi}) \right.$$

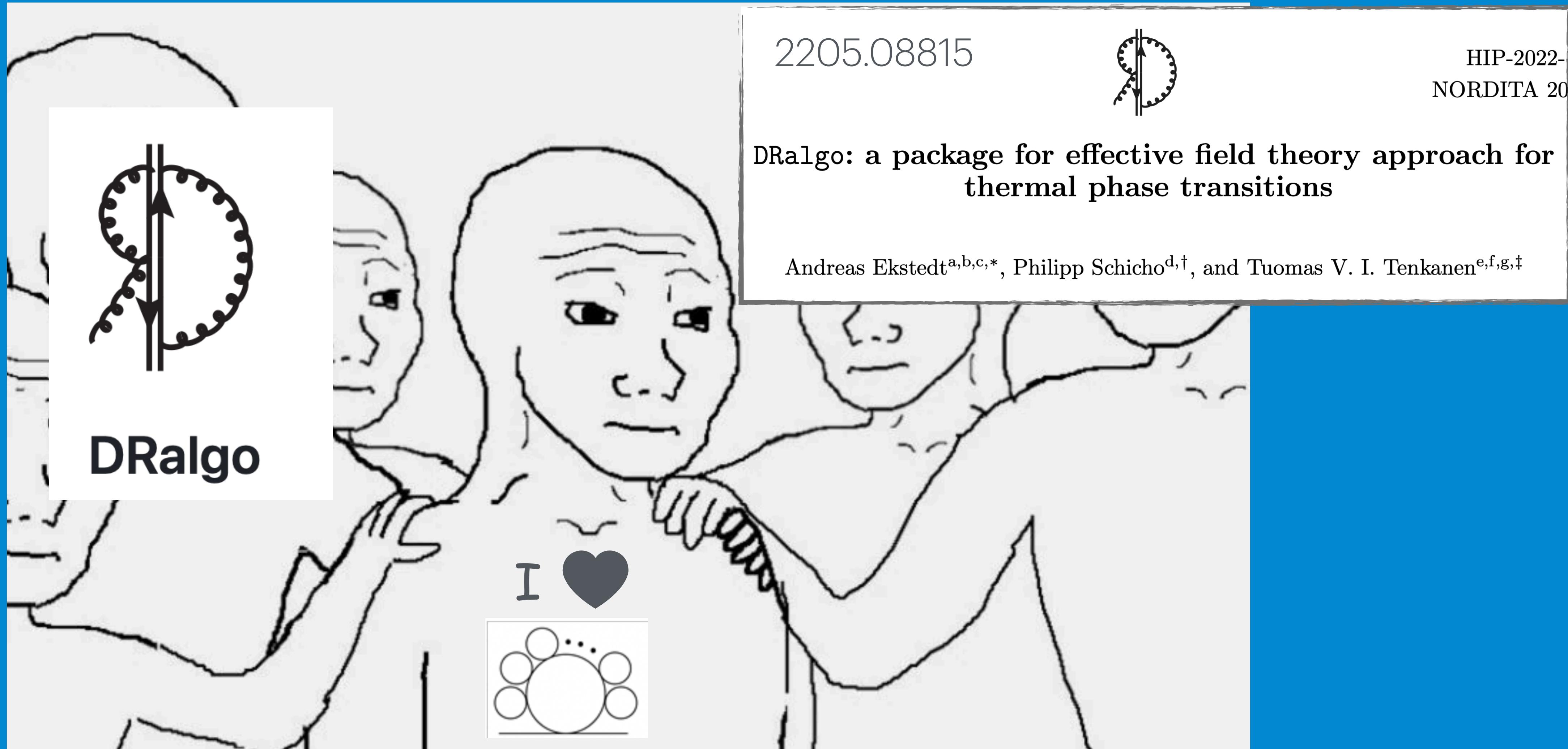
$$+ \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \left(\frac{167}{96} g_X^4 + \frac{1}{12} (3g_2^2 + g_1^2 + 3L_f y_t^2) \lambda_{h\varphi} + \frac{3}{4} g_X^2 \lambda_\varphi \right.$$

$$+ L_b \left(-\frac{47}{32} g_X^4 - \frac{9}{4} g_X^2 \lambda_\varphi - \frac{1}{8} (9g_2^2 + 3g_1^2 + 3g_X^2 + 6y^2 + 8\lambda_h + 8\lambda_\varphi) \lambda_{h\varphi} + \frac{1}{6} \lambda_{h\varphi}^2 \right)$$

$$+ \gamma \left(\frac{81}{32} g_X^4 + \frac{1}{2} (3g_2^2 + g_1^2) \lambda_{h\varphi} - \lambda_{h\varphi}^2 + \frac{9}{2} g_X^2 \lambda_\varphi - 6\lambda_\varphi^2 \right)$$

$$+ \ln(A) \left(-\frac{243}{2} g_X^4 - 6 (3g_2^2 + g_1^2) \lambda_{h\varphi} + 12\lambda_{h\varphi}^2 - 54g_X^2 \lambda_2 + 72\lambda_\varphi^2 \right) \Big\}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \ln \left(\frac{\mu_3}{\mu_4} \right) \left(-\frac{36}{16} g_{X,3}^4 + \frac{3}{2} \lambda_{VL8}^2 - 6g_{X,3}^2 \lambda_{VL8} \right)$$



(Soft scale) 3d EFT

$$S_3 = \int d^3\mathbf{x} \left\{ \frac{1}{4} F_{ij}^a F_{ij}^a + (D_i \phi)^\dagger (D_i \phi) + \frac{1}{2} (D_i X_0^a)^2 + V_3(\phi, X_0^a) \right\}$$

$$V_3 = \frac{1}{2} m_3^2 \phi_3^2 + \frac{1}{4} \lambda_3 \phi_3^4$$

$$m_3 \sim m_D = gT \neq 0$$

$$m_{X,3}^2 = \frac{1}{4} g_{X,3}^2 \phi_3^2, \quad m_{X_0,3}^2 = m_{D,X}^2 + \frac{1}{2} h_3 \phi_3^2.$$

(Soft scale) 3d EFT

$$S_3 = \int d^3\mathbf{x} \left\{ \frac{1}{4} F_{ij}^a F_{ij}^a + (D_i \phi)^\dagger (D_i \phi) + \frac{1}{2} (D_i X_0^a)^2 + V_3(\phi, X_0^a) \right\}$$

$$V_3 = \frac{1}{2} m_3^2 \phi_3^2 + \frac{1}{4} \lambda_3 \phi_3^4$$

Thermal mass

$$m_{X,3}^2 = \frac{1}{4} g_{X,3}^2 \phi_3^2, \quad m_{X_0,3}^2 = m_{D,X}^2 + \frac{1}{2} h_3 \phi_3^2.$$

$$m_3 \sim \dot{m}_D = gT \neq 0$$

Effective action perturbatively

$$S_{\text{eff}}[\phi_b] = \underbrace{S^{\text{LO}}[\phi_b^{\text{LO}}]}_{\mathcal{O}(g^3)} + \underbrace{S^{\text{NLO}}[\phi_b^{\text{LO}}]}_{\mathcal{O}(g^4)} + \dots$$

One can get to NLO just with the LO bounce solution!

Nucleation rate in 3D SU(2)cSM at 1-loop

$$\Gamma = A_{\text{dyn}} \text{Det}_S e^{-\left(S_3[\phi_b] - S_3[\phi_F]\right) - \log \text{Det}_{X_0} - \log \text{Det}_{XG}}$$

overall prefactor

$$\sim T^4$$

(Effective) action in the exponential

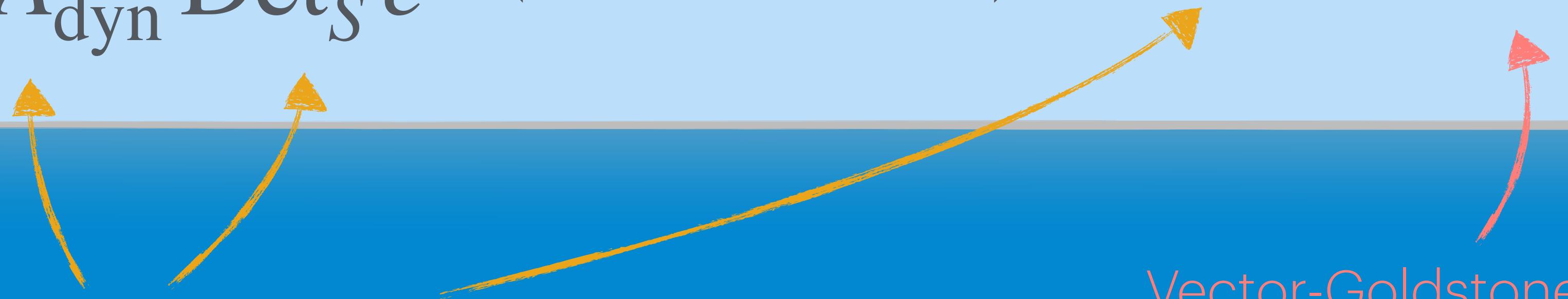
Nucleation rate in 3D SU(2)cSM at 1-loop

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Can be easily computed using

BubbleDet: A Python package to compute functional determinants for bubble nucleation

Andreas Ekstedt^{*1}, Oliver Gould^{†2}, and Joonas Hirvonen^{‡3}



Vector-Goldstone
determinant

(Not so easy to compute...)

Vector-Goldstone determinant in derivative expansion

$\frac{m_3}{m_X} \ll 1$

$$-\log \text{Det}_{VG} \simeq \underbrace{\int_x \frac{-3}{48\pi} g^3 \phi_b^3}_{\text{LO}} + \underbrace{\int_x \frac{1}{2} \delta Z[\phi_b] (\partial \phi_b)^2}_{\text{NLO}} + \dots$$

Barrier generating term

Terms with higher powers in derivatives

$$\delta Z = - \frac{11}{16\pi} \frac{g_3}{\phi_b}$$

S_{eff} at LO and NLO in derivative expansion

$$S^{\text{LO}}[\phi_b^{\text{LO}}] = 4\pi \int dr \ r^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} (\partial_i \phi_b^{\text{LO}})^2 + V^{\text{LO}}[\phi_b^{\text{LO}}] \right]$$

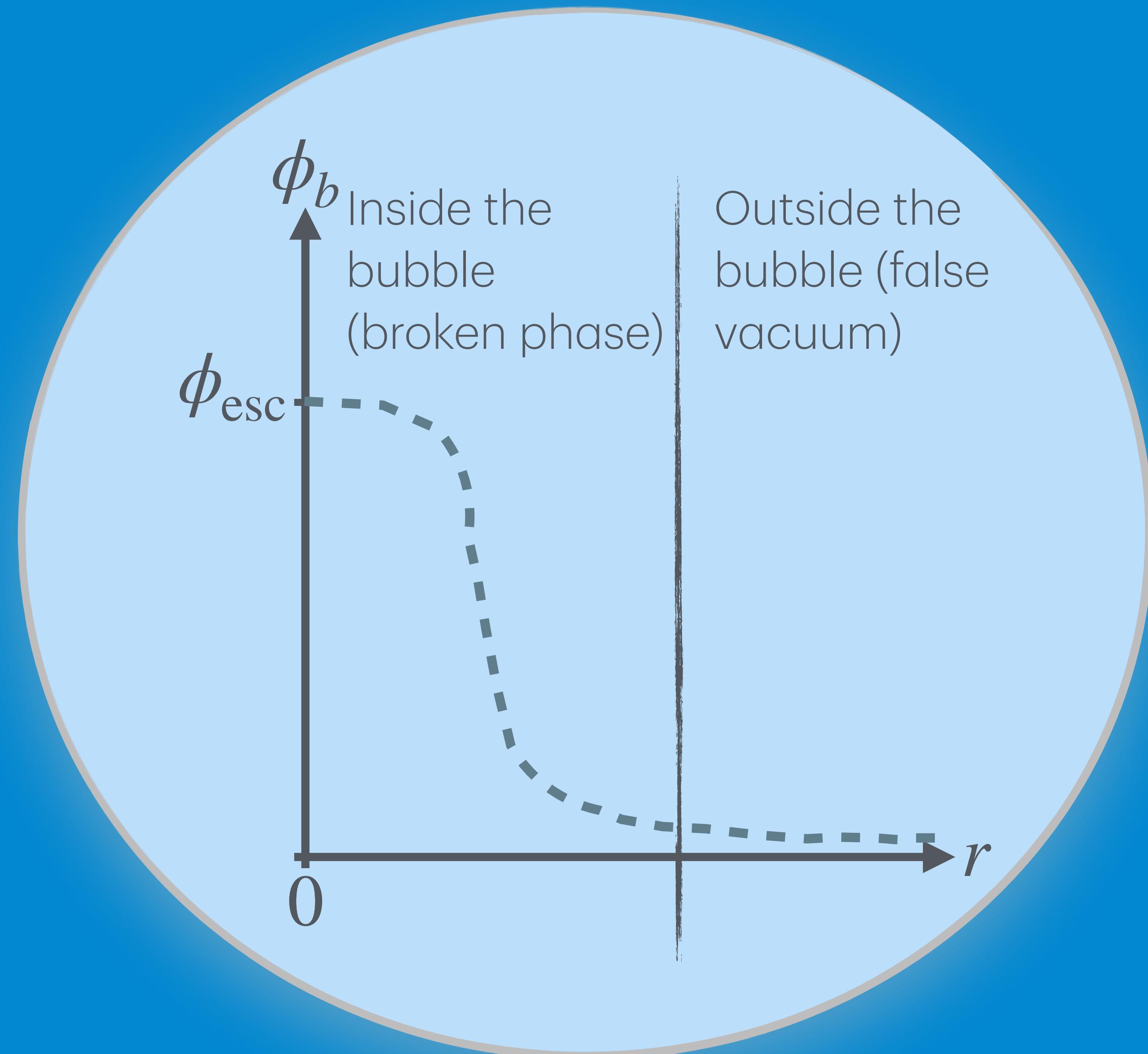
$$S^{\text{NLO}}[\phi_b^{\text{LO}}] = 4\pi \int dr \ r^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} \delta Z[\phi_b] (\partial \phi_b)^2 + V^{\text{NLO}}[\phi_b^{\text{LO}}] \right]$$

$$V^{\text{LO}}[\phi_b^{\text{LO}}] = \frac{1}{2} m_3^2 \phi_3^2 + \frac{1}{4} \lambda_3 \phi_3^4 - \frac{1}{12\pi} \left(6(m_{X,3}^2)^{\frac{3}{2}} + 3(m_{X_0,3}^2)^{\frac{3}{2}} \right)$$

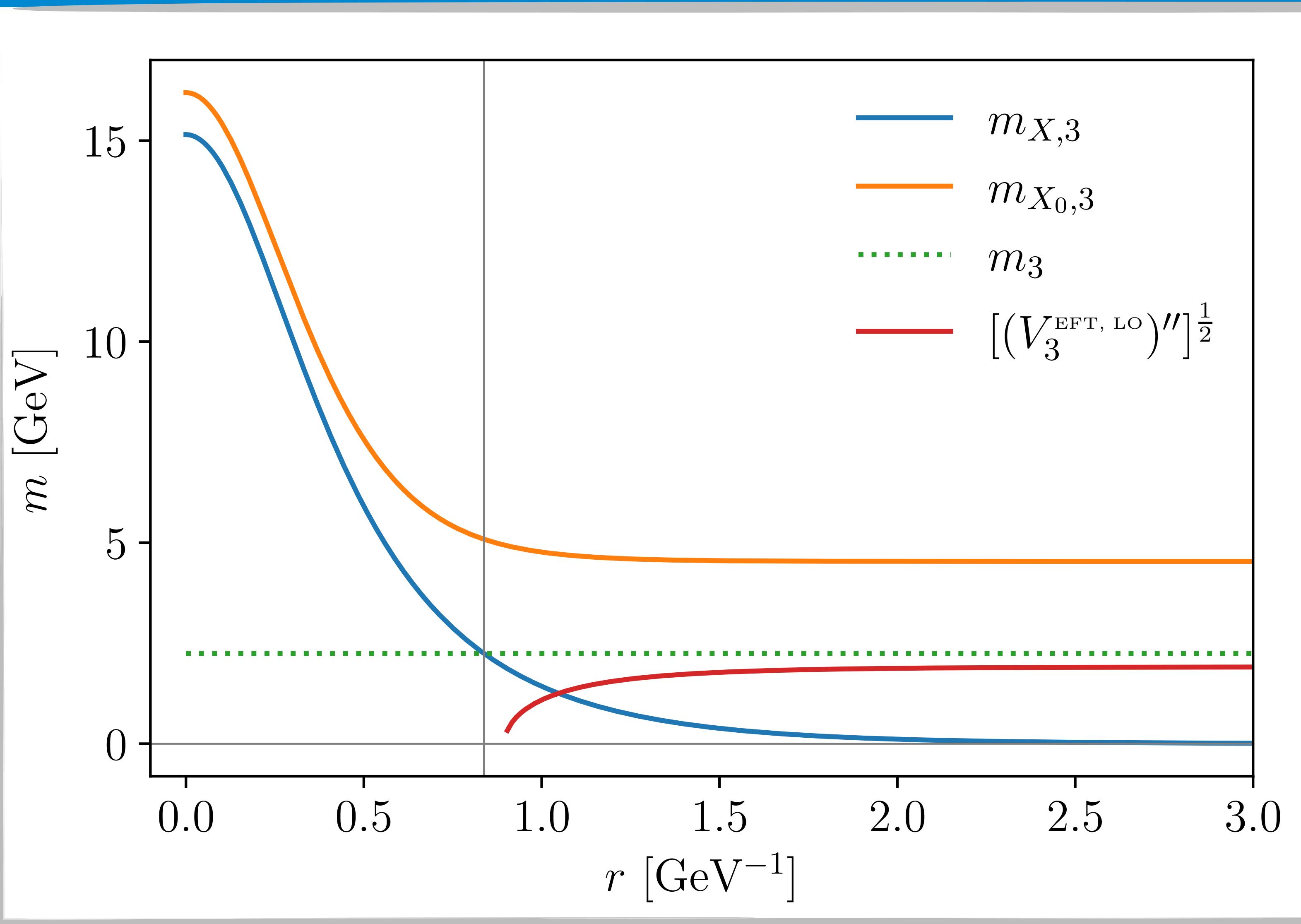
$$\begin{aligned} V^{\text{NLO}} = & \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \left\{ \frac{3}{64} g_{X,3}^2 \left(56m_{X,3}^2(1 - 3\ln(3)) + g_{X,3}^2 v_3^2(2 - \ln(256)) \right. \right. \\ & \left. \left. + 2 \left(80m_{X,3}^2 - 3g_{X,3}^2 v_3^2 \right) \ln \left(\frac{\mu_3}{2m_{X,3}} \right) \right) \right\} \\ & + \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \left\{ \frac{3}{4} g_{X,3}^2 \left(6m_{X_0,3}^2 + 4m_{X,3}m_{X_0,3} - m_{X,3}^2 \right) + \frac{15}{4} \kappa_3 m_{X_0,3}^2 \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{3}{8} h_3^2 v_3^2 \left(1 + 2 \ln \left(\frac{\mu_3}{2m_{X_0,3}} \right) \right) - \frac{3}{2} g_{X,3}^2 \left(m_{X,3}^2 - 4m_{X_0,3}^2 \right) \ln \left(\frac{\mu_3}{2m_{X_0,3} + m_{X,3}} \right) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Q: Is derivative expansion always valid? 🤔

LO bounce solution



Scale-shifters in SU(2)cSM

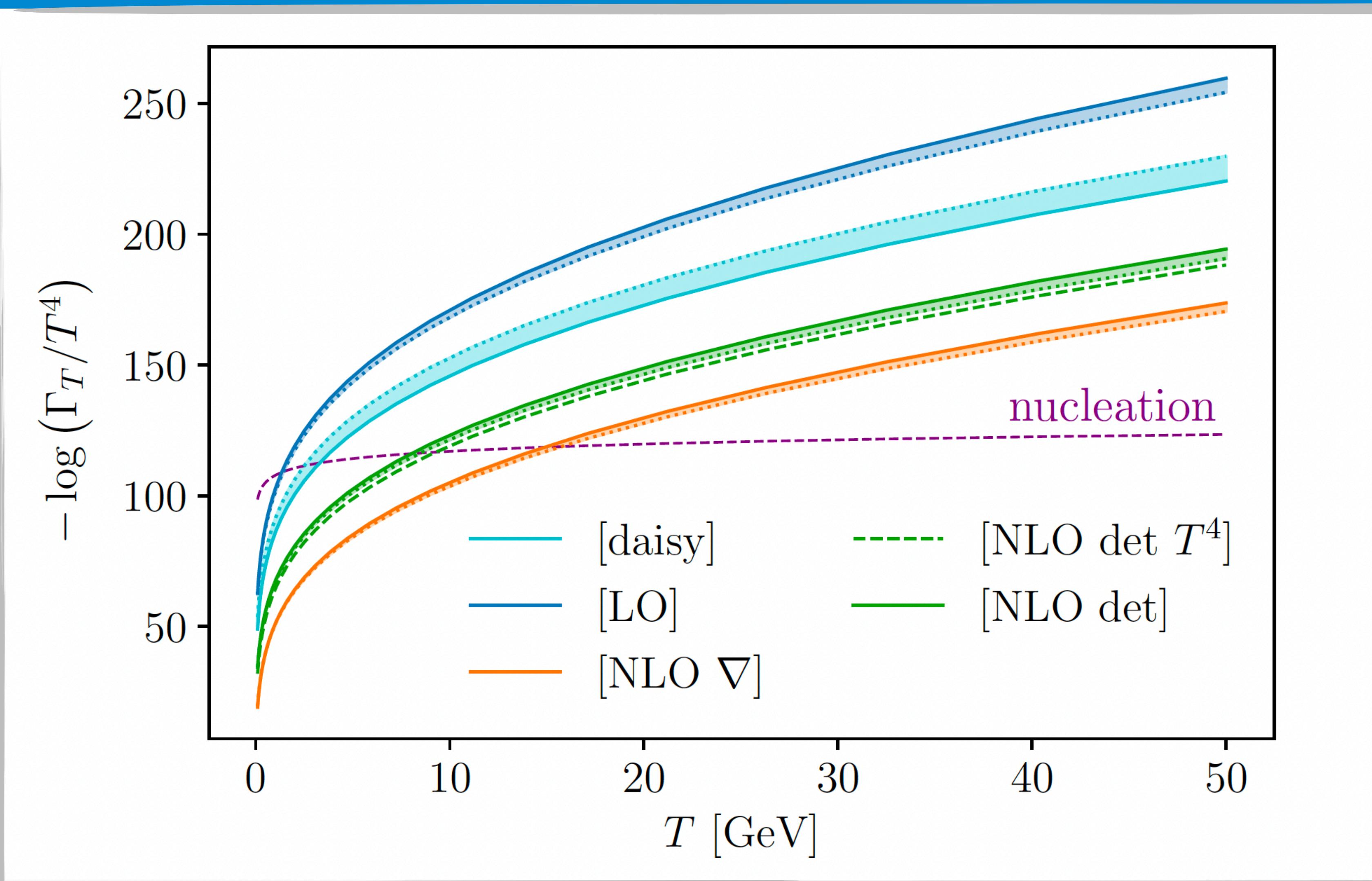


Q: Is derivative expansion always valid?

A: Nope

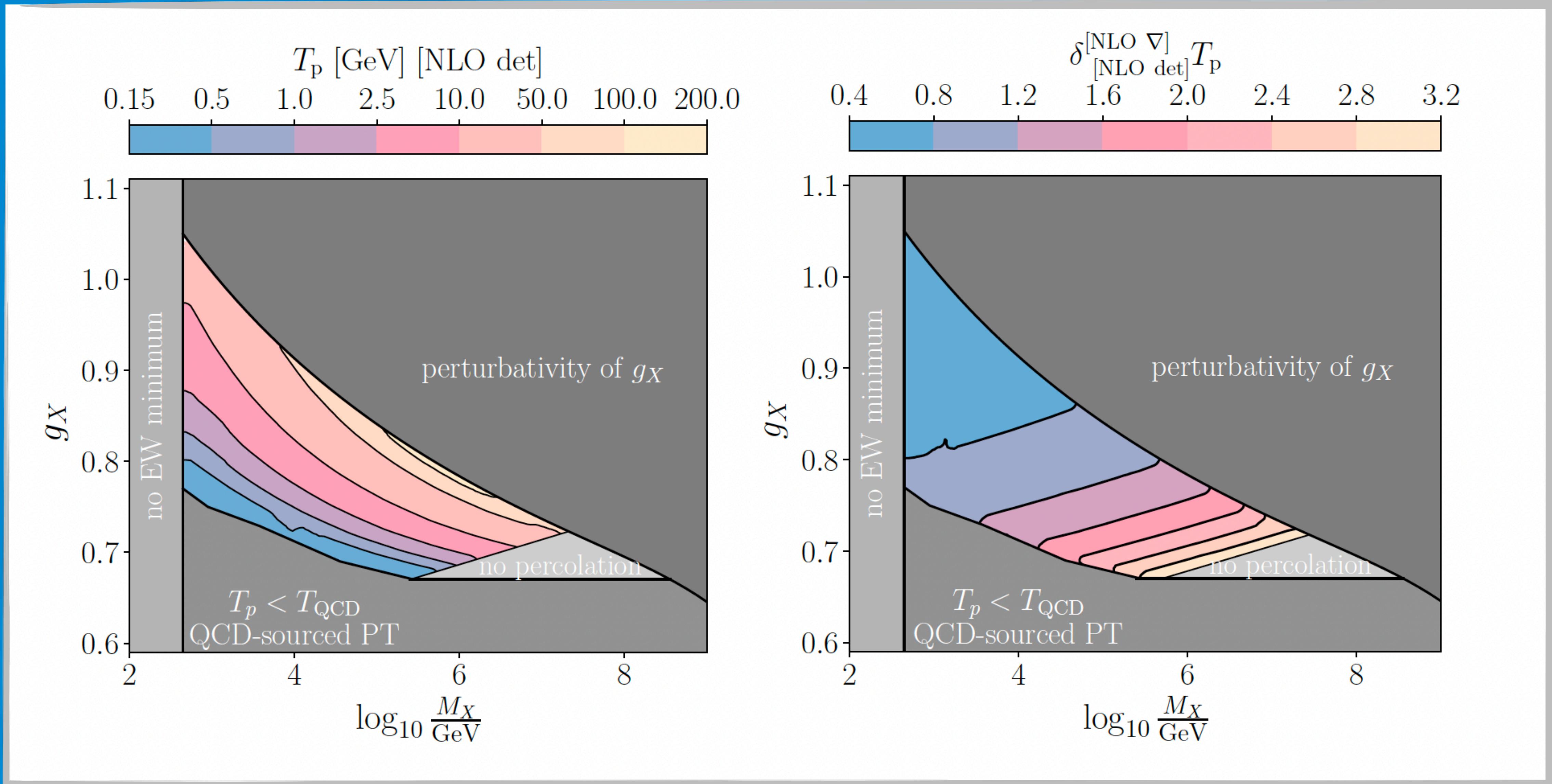


Results: Nucleation rate from different “recipes”

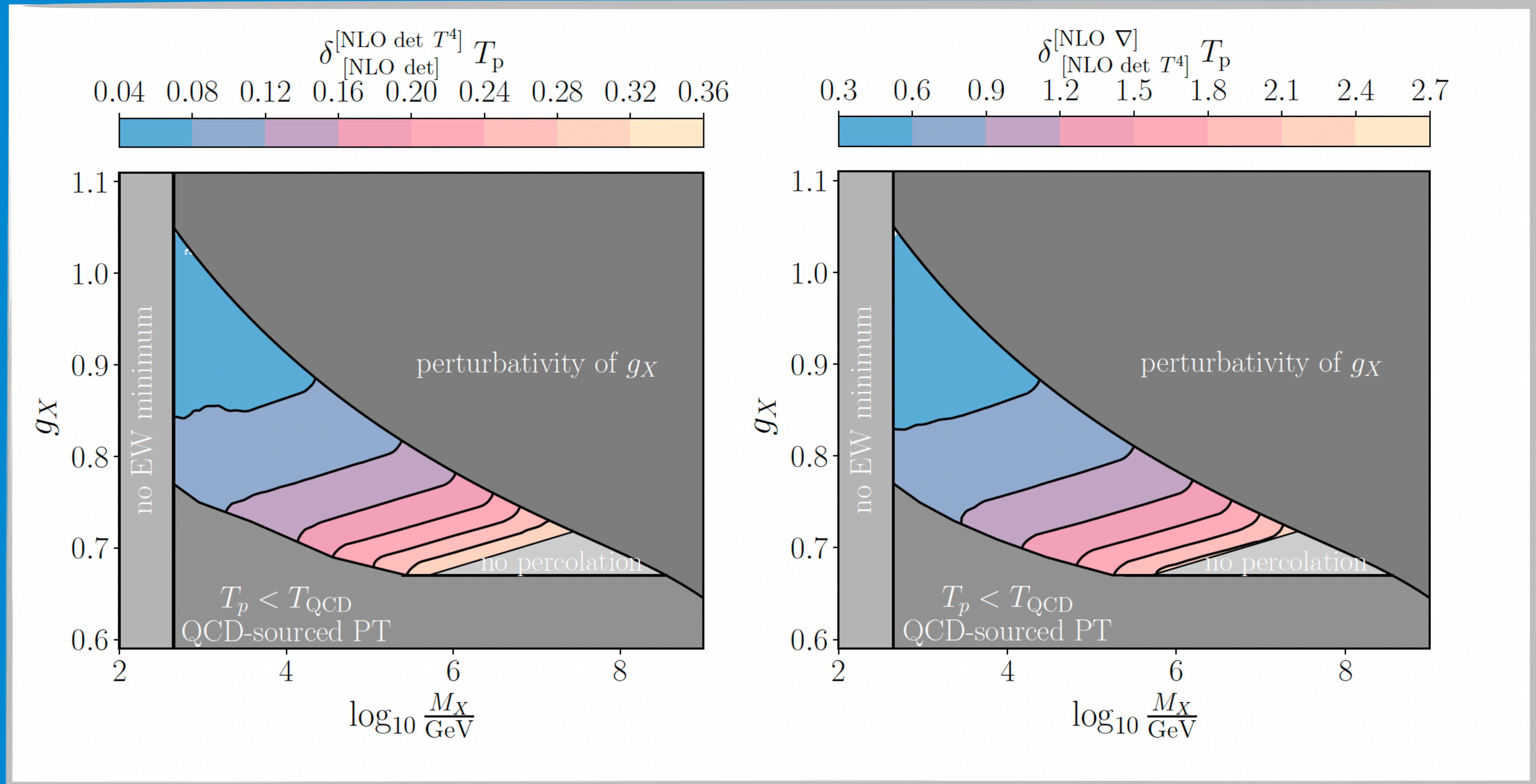


Note:
 $A_{\text{dyn}} \det_S \simeq T^4$
everywhere
except [NLO det]

NLO nucleation rate results: percolation temperature



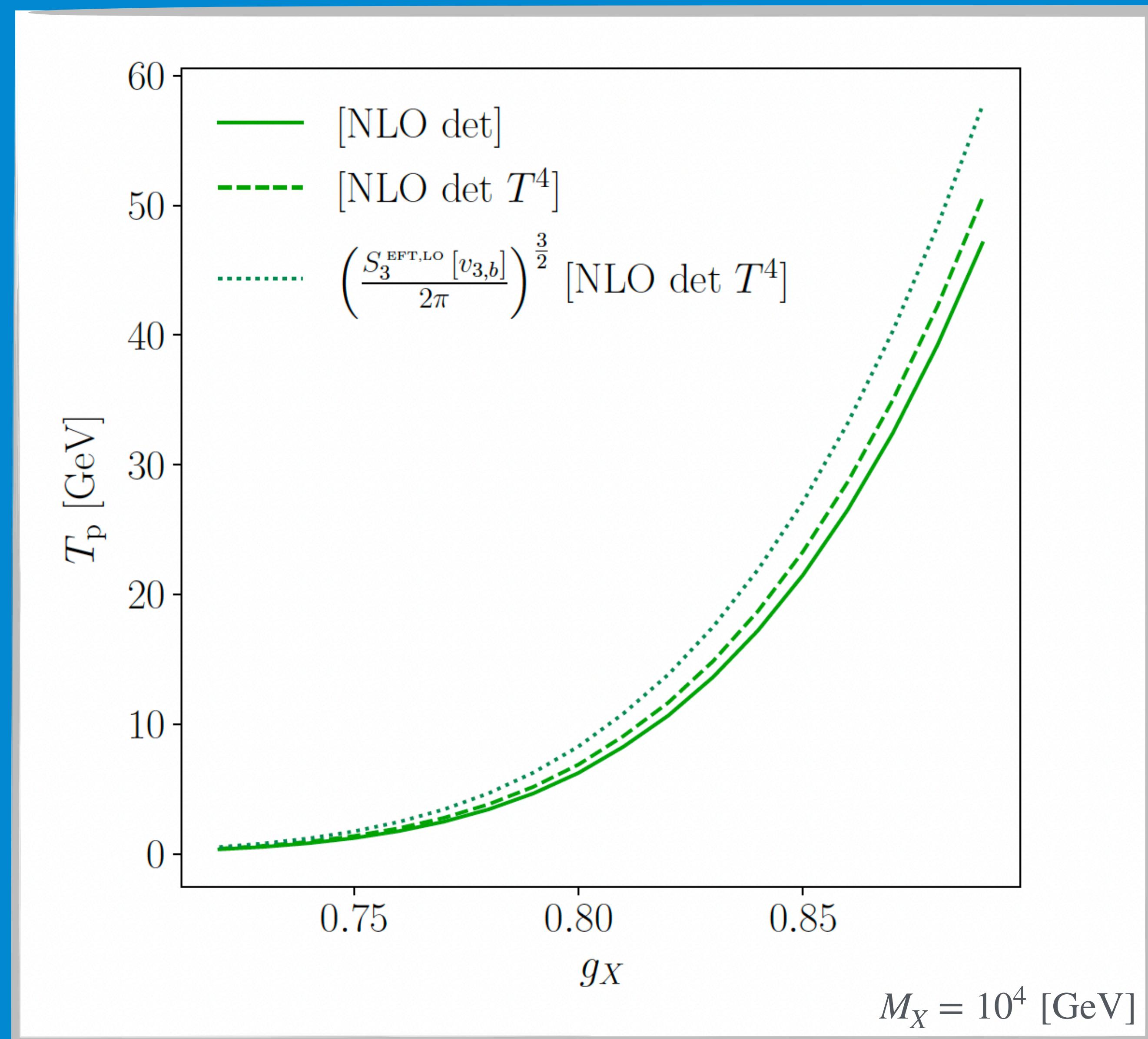
Direct influence of scale shifters: percolation temperature



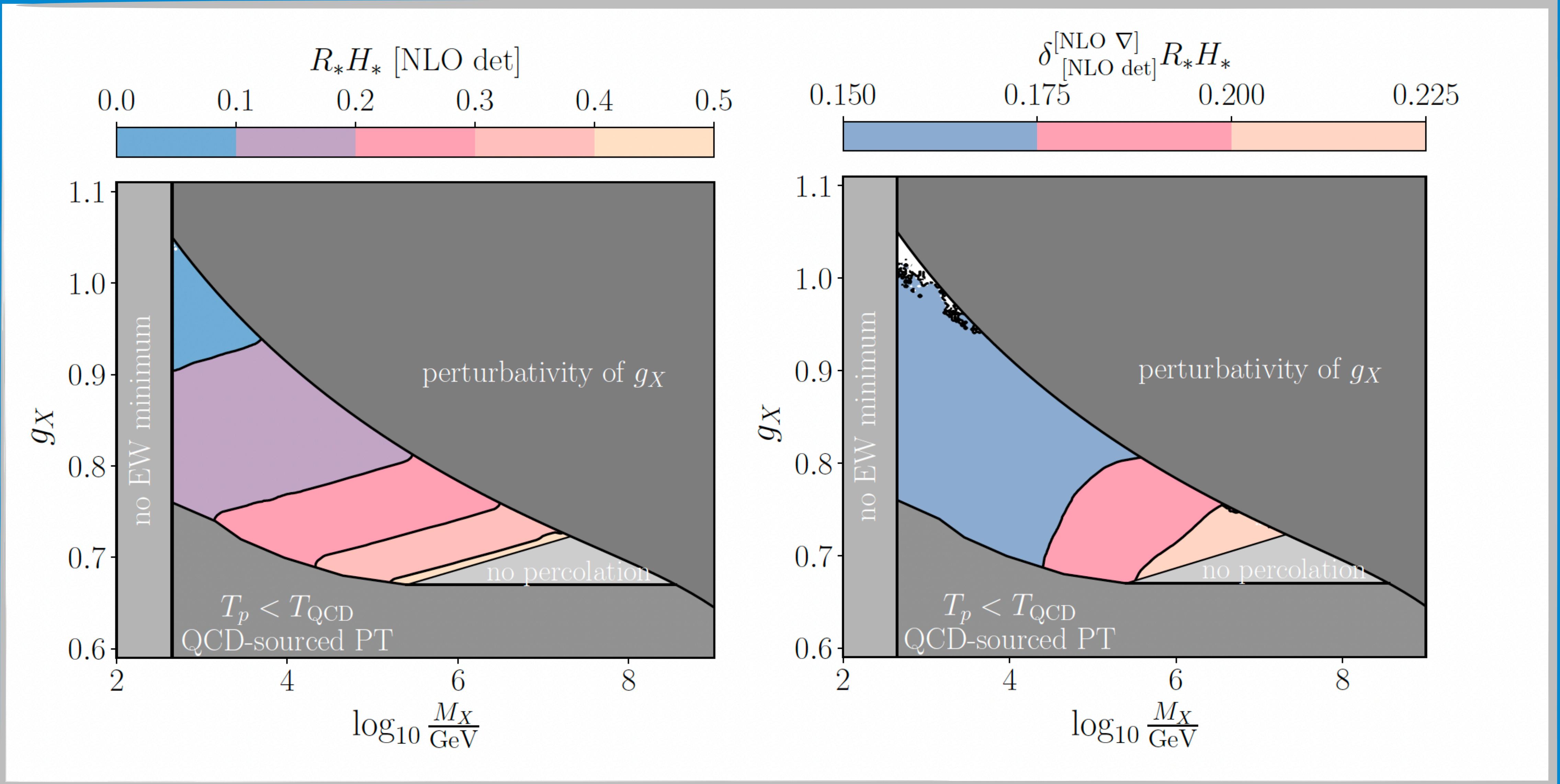
How to approximate the scalar prefactor?

Reminder:

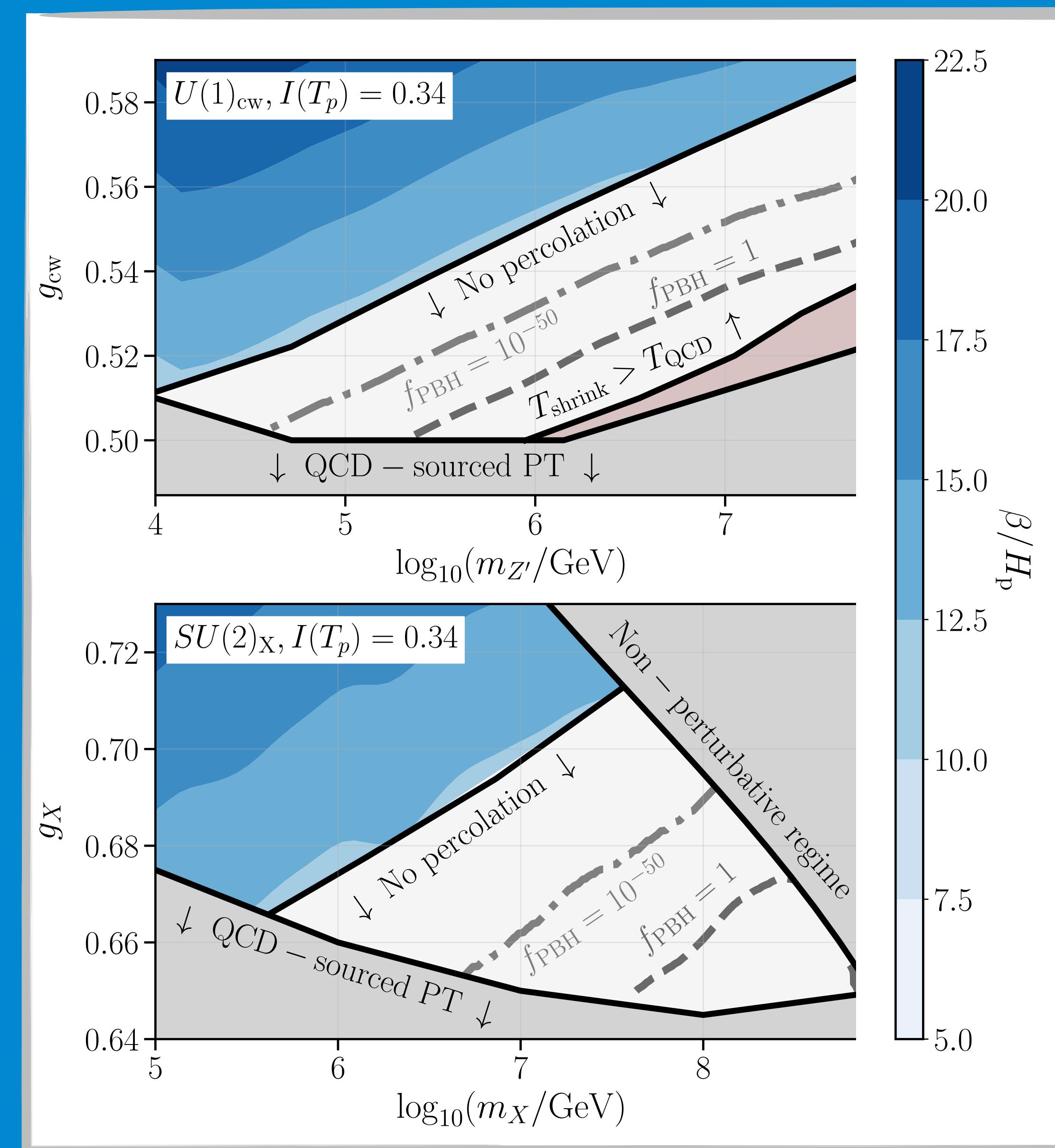
$$\Gamma_T = A e^{-S}$$



NLO nucleation rate results: bubble radius



U(1) model results & pBHs



See also talks by
Yann and Piotr

Summary

Derivative expansion for **gauge modes** introduces significant **errors**.

NLO corrections are **mandatory** for reliable pheno predictions

Including scalar determinant helps, but it's not the main source of errors

$$T^4 \text{ can work better than } T^4 \left(\frac{S}{2\pi} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

To do: Compute the dynamical part more carefully

To do:
impact of NLO corrections on model reconstruction from GW

It'd be nice to have a comparison to lattice!

Thank you!

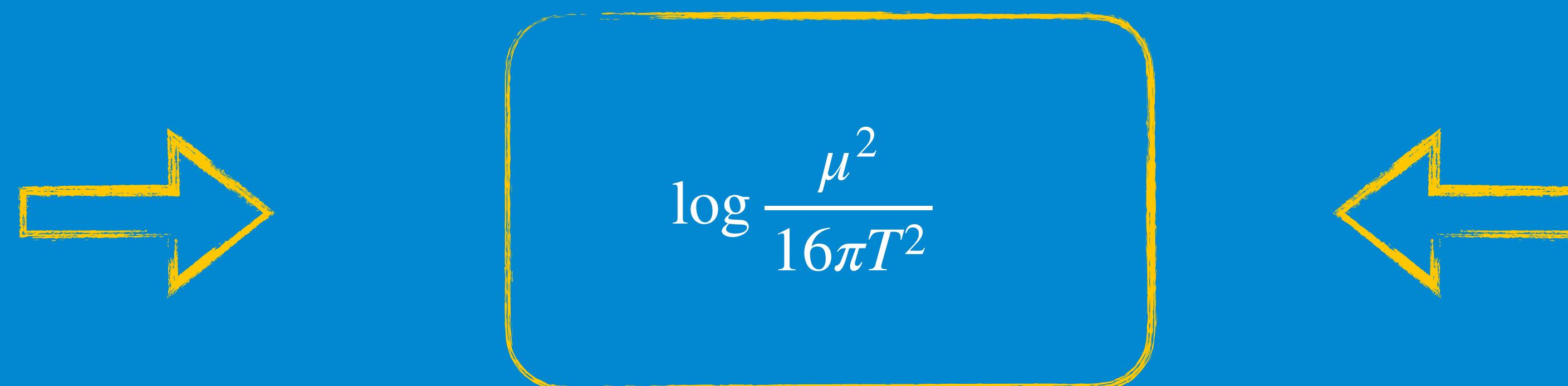
Feel free to ask questions: maciej.kierkla@fuw.edu.pl



What happens at high-temperature?

We are interested in dark sector only i.e. scalar + SU(2) gauge boson

$$V_0 + V_{CW} + V_T^{HT} = \frac{9M_X(\varphi, t)^4}{64\pi^2} \left(\log \frac{M_X(\varphi, t)^2}{\mu(\varphi)^2} - \frac{5}{6} \right) - \frac{9M_X(\varphi)^4}{64\pi^2} \left(\log \frac{M_X^2(\varphi)}{16\pi^2 T^2} - \frac{3}{2} + 2\gamma_E \right) + \dots$$



Computing effective action - 3D EFT toy model

Consider a simple theory involving two fields Φ, χ

$$\mathcal{L}_3 = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_i \Phi)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_i \chi)^2 + \frac{1}{2}m^2\Phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4}\Phi^4 + \kappa\chi^2\Phi^2 + \frac{1}{2}M^2\chi^2$$

In order to find nucleation rate we want to compute effective action using the background field method

$$\Gamma \sim e^{-S_{\text{eff}}[\phi_b]} = \int \mathcal{D}\chi e^{-S_3[\phi_b, \chi]}$$

Integrate out fluctuations
on the background

Computing effective action - 3D toy model

$$\mathcal{L}_3 = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_i\Phi)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_i\chi)^2 + \frac{1}{2}m^2\Phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4}\Phi^4 + \kappa\chi^2\Phi^2 + \frac{1}{2}M^2\chi^2$$

Expand field on its background

$$\Phi \rightarrow \phi_b(r) + H(x)$$

At 1-loop we need quadratic terms only

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \underbrace{\chi(-\nabla^2 + M^2 + \kappa\phi_b^2)\chi}_{\mathcal{M}_\chi}$$

$$e^{iS_{\text{eff}}[\phi_b]} \sim \left[\det(-\nabla^2 + M^2 + \kappa\phi_b^2) \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-S_3[\phi_b]}$$

Performing the $\int \mathcal{D}\chi$

Z-factor

$$Z_3^{\text{NLO}}(\phi_3) = -\frac{11}{16\pi} \frac{g_3}{\phi_3} + \frac{1}{64\pi} \frac{h_3^2 \phi_3^2}{m_{X_0,3}^2}$$

Spatial
gauge modes

Temporal
gauge modes

Higher-order momentum terms

$$S_3^{\text{EFT}}[v_{3,b}] \supset \int_{\mathbf{x}} \left[V^{\text{EFT}}(v_3) + \frac{1}{2} Z_{2,3} (\partial_i v_3)^2 + \frac{1}{2} Z_{4,3} (\partial^2 v_3)^2 \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{2} Y_{3,3} (\partial_i v_3)^2 \partial^2 v_3 + \frac{1}{8} Y_{4,3} (\partial_i v_3)^2 (\partial_j v_3)^2 + \mathcal{O}(\partial^6) \right],$$

Higher-order momentum terms

At 2-loop

$$S_3^{\text{EFT}}[v_{3,b}] \supset \int_{\mathbf{x}} \left[V^{\text{EFT}}(v_3) + \frac{1}{2} Z_{2,3} (\partial_i v_3)^2 + \frac{1}{2} Z_{4,3} (\partial^2 v_3)^2 \right.$$
$$\left. + \frac{1}{2} Y_{3,3} (\partial_i v_3)^2 \partial^2 v_3 + \frac{1}{8} Y_{4,3} (\partial_i v_3)^2 (\partial_j v_3)^2 + \mathcal{O}(\partial^6) \right],$$

The equation shows a Lagrangian density for a scalar field \$v_3\$ at 2-loop order. It includes a free term \$V^{\text{EFT}}(v_3)\$ and several interaction terms involving derivatives. Three terms are circled in red: \$(\partial^2 v_3)^2\$, \$\partial^2 v_3\$, and \$(\partial_j v_3)^2\$. These red-highlighted terms represent higher-order momentum terms that are divergent at large radius.

All of the red terms are divergent at large radius

Taming scale-shifters

Step 1. Obtain LO bounce solution ϕ_b^{LO} using S^{LO}

Step 2. Evaluate determinants numerically $\text{Det}_{VG}[\phi_b^{\text{LO}}]$

Step 2. Get the NLO bosons contribution $S^{\text{NLO}} \sim V_3^{\text{NLO}}$ on ϕ_b

Step 3. Obtain the action

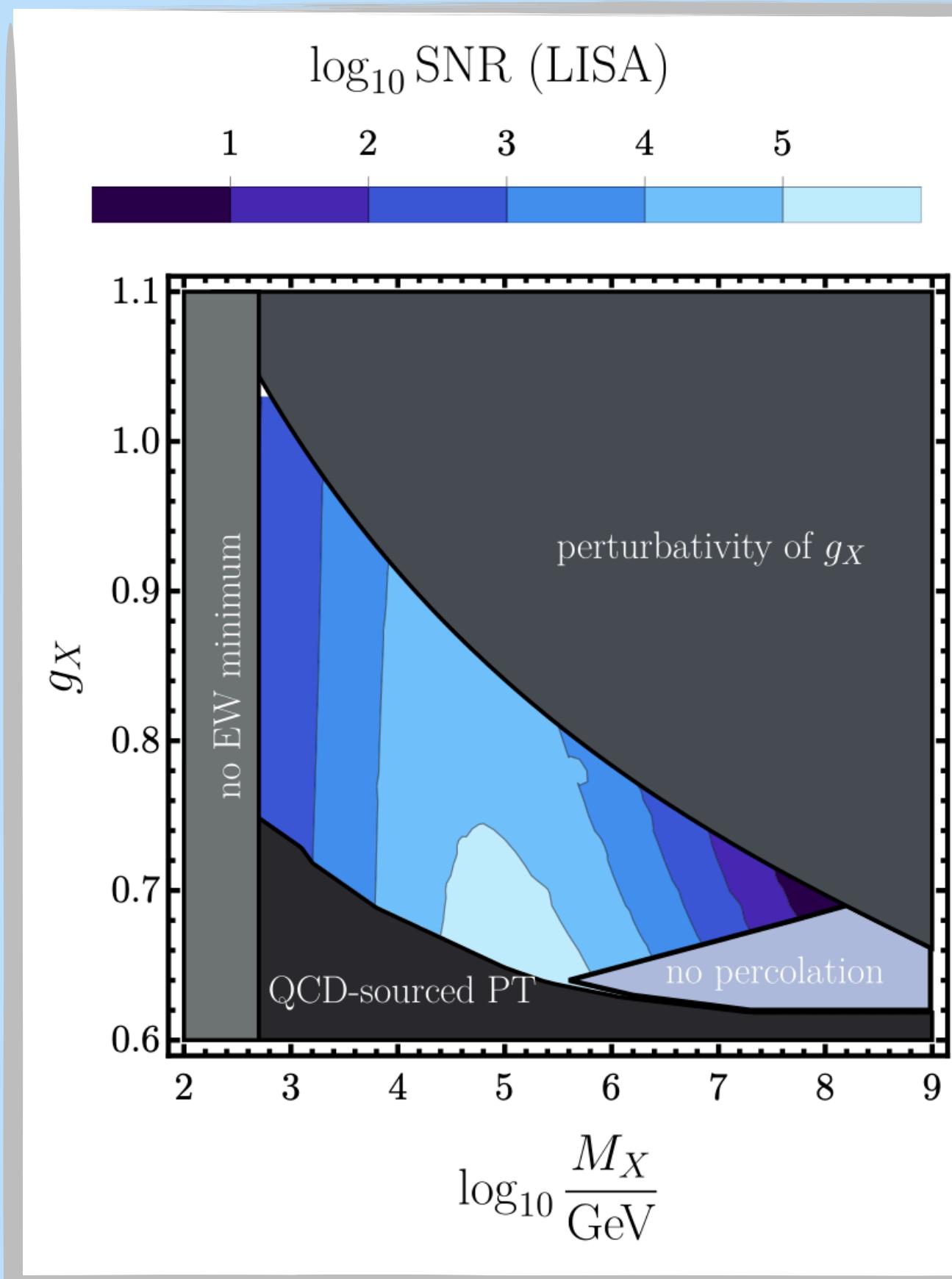
$$S_{\text{eff}} = (S^{\text{LO}} - S_{\text{bosons}}^{\text{LO}}) - \log \text{Det}_{VG} - S_{\text{NLO}}^{\text{pot}}$$

Step 4. Calculate nucleation rate

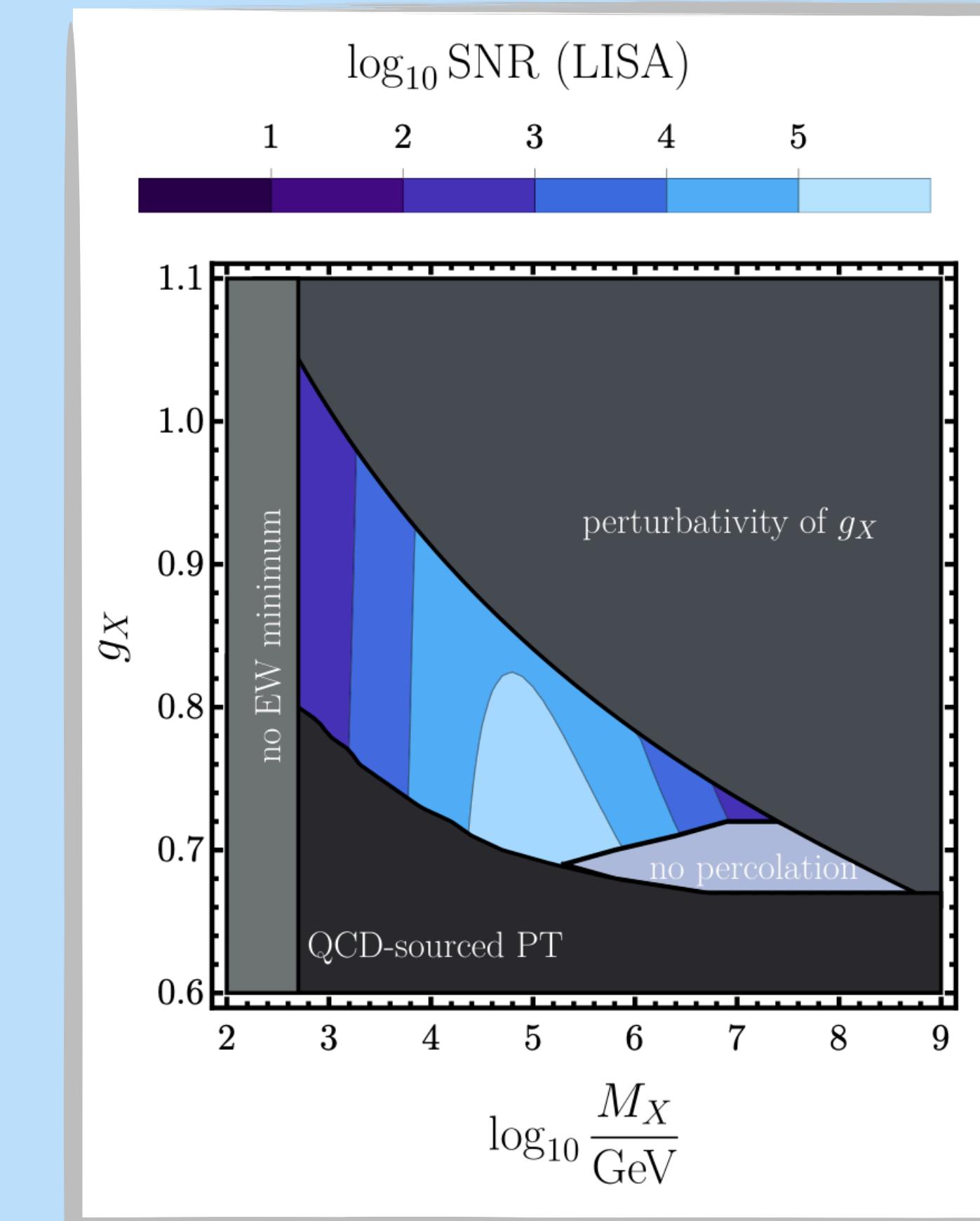
$$\Gamma_T = A_{\text{dyn}} \text{Det}_H e^{-S_{\text{eff}}[\phi_b]}$$

LISA SNR ([NLO grad] vs [daisy])

[NLO grad]



[daisy]

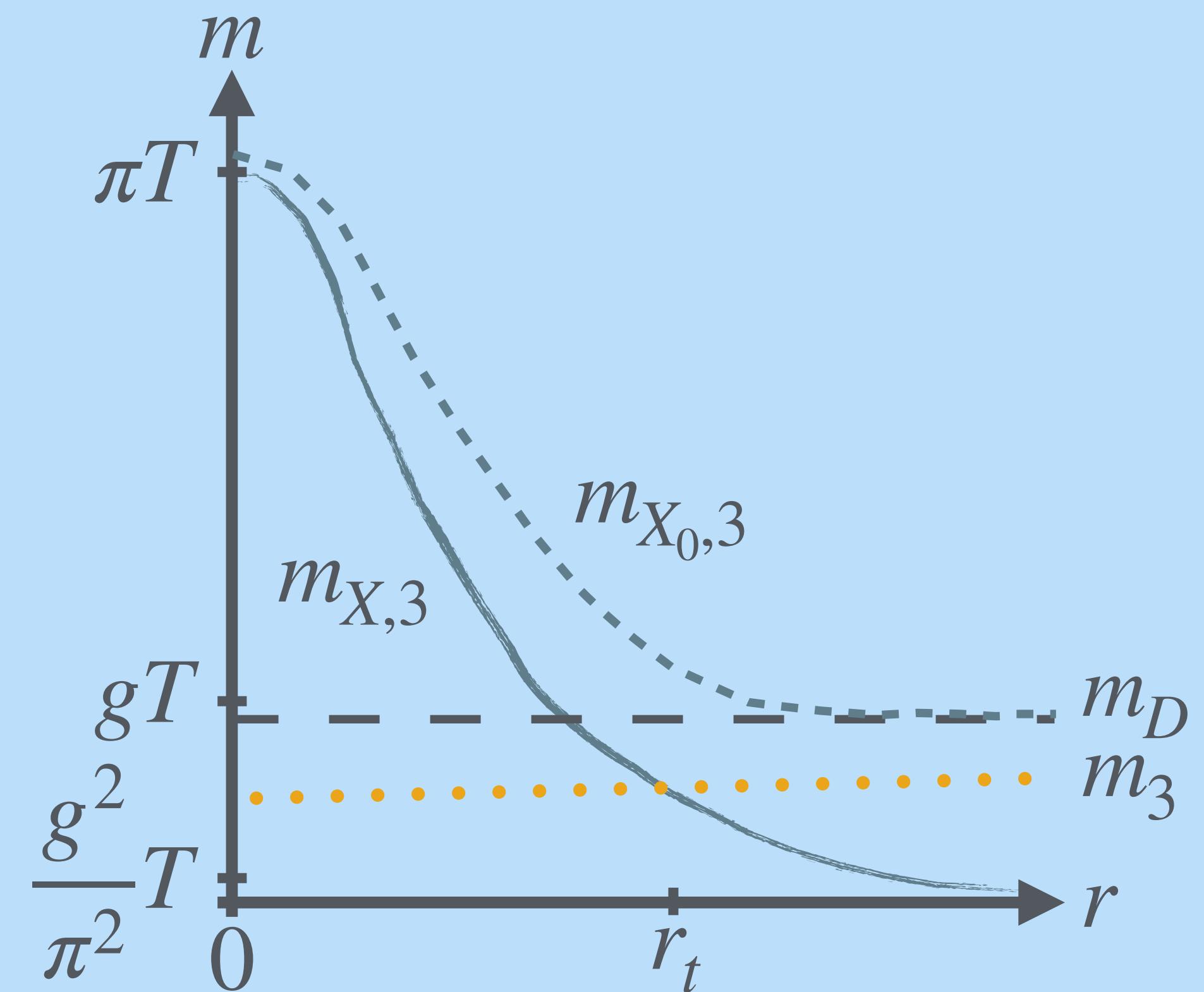


Scale-shifters

Reminder:

$$m_{X,3}^2 = \frac{1}{4}g_{X,3}^2\phi_3^2,$$

$$m_{X_0,3}^2 = m_{D,X}^2 + \frac{1}{2}h_3\phi_3^2.$$



Scale-shifters

Reminder:

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