

# Cosmological implications of hidden scale invariance

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This talk is based on arXiv: 1701.04927, 701.04927, 1710.091032 + work in progress, with Neil Barrie, Shelley Liang, Suntharan Arunasalam, Cyril Lager and Albert Zhou.

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# Higgs and naturalness

- Why is the Higgs mass light relative to a UV scale,

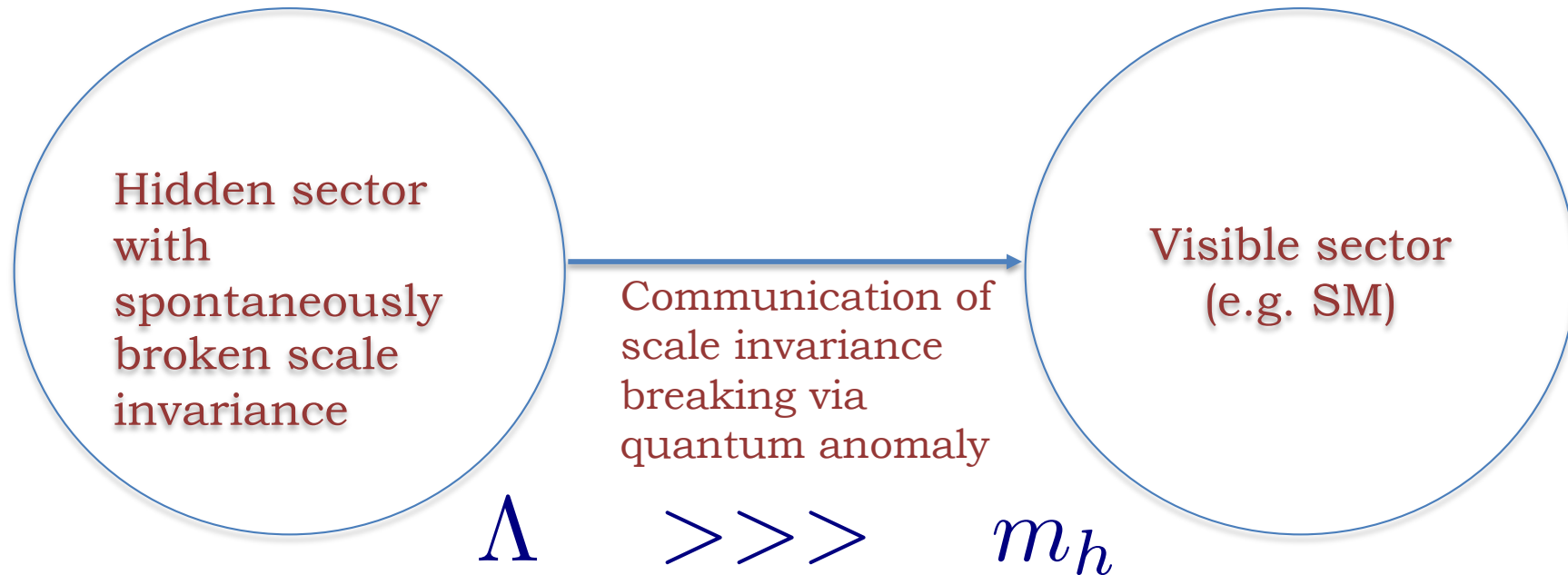
$$m_h/\Lambda \ll 1$$

- New dynamics (supersymmetry, composite Higgs, extra dimensions) at ‘radiative distance’,

$$\Lambda \sim m_h/\alpha \sim \text{few TeV}$$

- Higgs with  $m_h \approx 125$  GeV is somewhat heavy than in typical supersymmetric models and somewhat light than typical prediction of technicolour models.
- No sign of new physics at LHC or elsewhere

# Scale invariant paradigm



- There is only one scale generated via dimensional transmutation
- Hierarchy of scales emerge only through the hierarchy of dimensionless couplings
- The hierarchy is natural if the relevant beta-functions (aka anomaly) are small in the infrared [Wetterich 84'; Bardeen 95'; Meissner, Nicolai; Foot, AK, McDonald, Volkas, 07' ]

# Scale invariant SM with light dilaton

- Consider SM as an effective Wilsonian theory with ‘physical’ cut-off  $\Lambda$ .

$$V(\Phi^\dagger\Phi) = V_0(\Lambda) + \lambda(\Lambda) [\Phi^\dagger\Phi - v_{ew}^2(\Lambda)]^2 + \dots,$$

- Assume, the ‘fundamental’ theory exhibits scale invariance. Scale invariance implies the full conformal invariance [Komorgodski, Schwimmer 11] which is spontaneously broken down to the Poincare invariance,

$$SO(2, 4) \rightarrow ISO(1, 3)$$

- Only one scalar (pseudo)Goldstone is relevant in the low energy theory, the **dilaton**,  $\chi(x)$

# Scale invariant SM with light dilaton

- This symmetry is non-linearly realized in the low-energy effective theory. Promote all dimensionfull parameters in the low energy action to  $\chi(x)$  [Coleman, 85']:

$$\Lambda \rightarrow \Lambda \frac{\chi}{f_\chi} \equiv \alpha\chi, \quad v_{ew}^2(\Lambda) \rightarrow \frac{v_{ew}^2(\alpha\chi)}{f_\chi^2} \chi^2 \equiv \frac{\xi(\alpha\chi)}{2} \chi^2, \quad V_0(\Lambda) \rightarrow \frac{V_0(\alpha\chi)}{f_\chi^4} \chi^4 \equiv \frac{\rho(\alpha\chi)}{4} \chi^4$$

- Theory becomes manifestly scale invariant (up to quantum anomaly):

$$V(\Phi^\dagger\Phi, \chi) = \lambda(\alpha\chi) \left[ \Phi^\dagger\Phi - \frac{\xi(\alpha\chi)}{2} \chi^2 \right]^2 + \frac{\rho(\alpha\chi)}{4} \chi^4$$

# Scale invariant SM with light dilaton

- The dilaton dependence of couplings is determined through the relevant RG beta-functions

$$\lambda^{(i)}(\alpha\chi) = \lambda^{(i)}(\mu) + \beta_{\lambda^{(i)}}(\mu) \ln(\alpha\chi/\mu) + \beta'_{\lambda^{(i)}}(\mu) \ln^2(\alpha\chi/\mu) + \dots,$$

$$\beta_{\lambda^{(i)}}(\mu) = \left. \frac{\partial \lambda^{(i)}}{\partial \ln \chi} \right|_{\alpha\chi=\mu} \sim \mathcal{O}(\hbar), \quad \beta'_{\lambda^{(i)}}(\mu) = \left. \frac{\partial^2 \lambda^{(i)}}{\partial (\ln \chi)^2} \right|_{\alpha\chi=\mu} \sim \mathcal{O}(\hbar^2), \dots$$

- At leading order, dilaton-SM interactions are given by:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\chi-SM} \propto \frac{\chi}{f_\chi} T_\mu^\mu \text{ (SM anomaly)}$$

- The model can incorporate e.g. neutrino masses, various DM candidates, axion physics...

# Scale invariant SM with light dilaton

- Find vacuum configuration + impose cancelation condition on vacuum energy:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left. \frac{dV}{d\chi} \right|_{\Phi=\langle\Phi\rangle, \chi=\langle\chi\rangle} &= 0 & \rho(\Lambda) &= 0, \\
 \left. \frac{dV}{d\Phi} \right|_{\Phi=\langle\Phi\rangle, \chi=\langle\chi\rangle} &= 0 & \beta_\rho(\Lambda) &= 0, \\
 & \implies & \xi(\Lambda) &= \frac{v_{ew}^2}{v_\chi^2}. \\
 V(v_{ew}, v_\chi) &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

- Scalar mass spectrum:
 
$$m_h^2 \simeq 2\lambda(\Lambda)v_{ew}^2,$$

$$m_\chi^2 \simeq \frac{\beta'_\rho(\Lambda)}{4\xi(\Lambda)}v_{ew}^2 \propto m_h^2\xi, \text{ (@ 2-loop!)}$$

$$\sin \alpha \sim \sqrt{\xi}$$

Foot, AK, Volkas, 11'  
AK, Liang, 17'

# Scale invariant SM with light dilaton

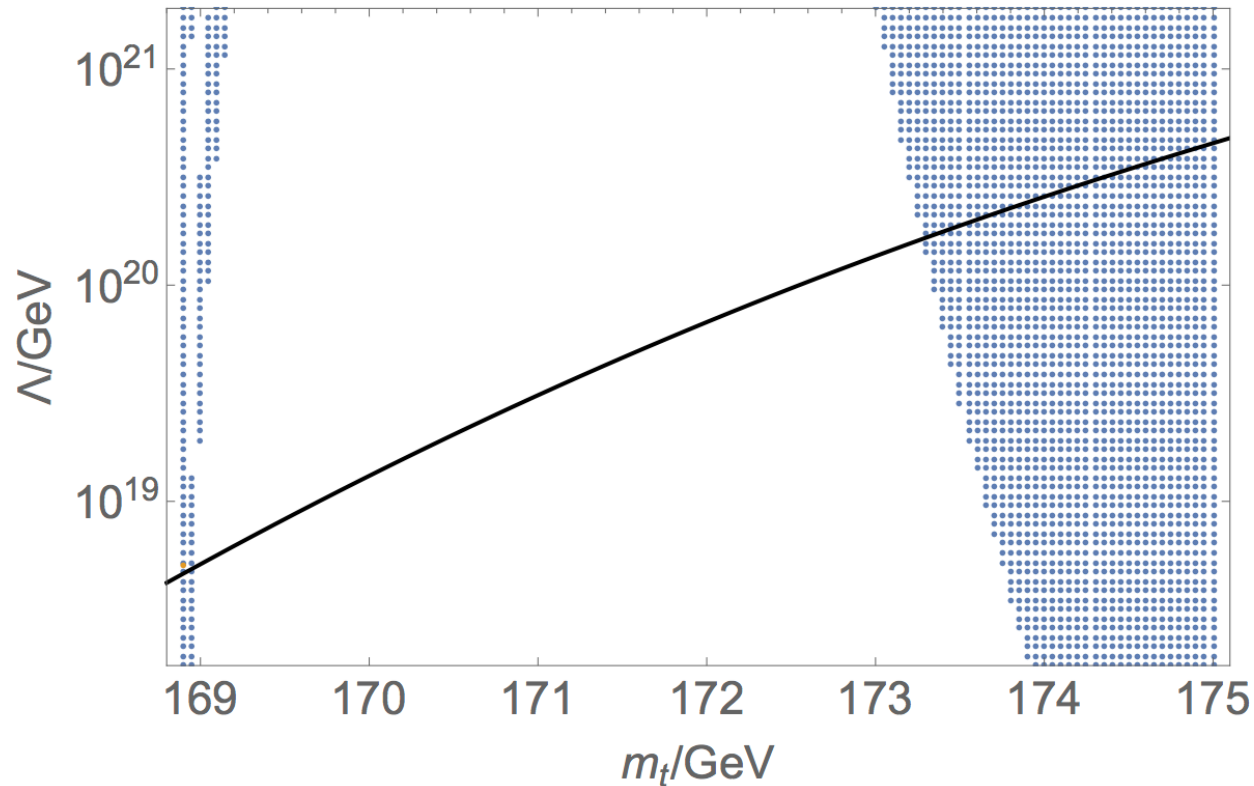


Figure 1: Plot of the allowed range of parameters (shaded region) with  $m_\chi^2(v_{ew}) > 0$ , i.e., the electroweak vacuum being a minimum. The solid line displays the cut-off scale  $\Lambda$  as function of the top-quark mass  $m_t$  for which the conditions in Eq. (6) are satisfied.

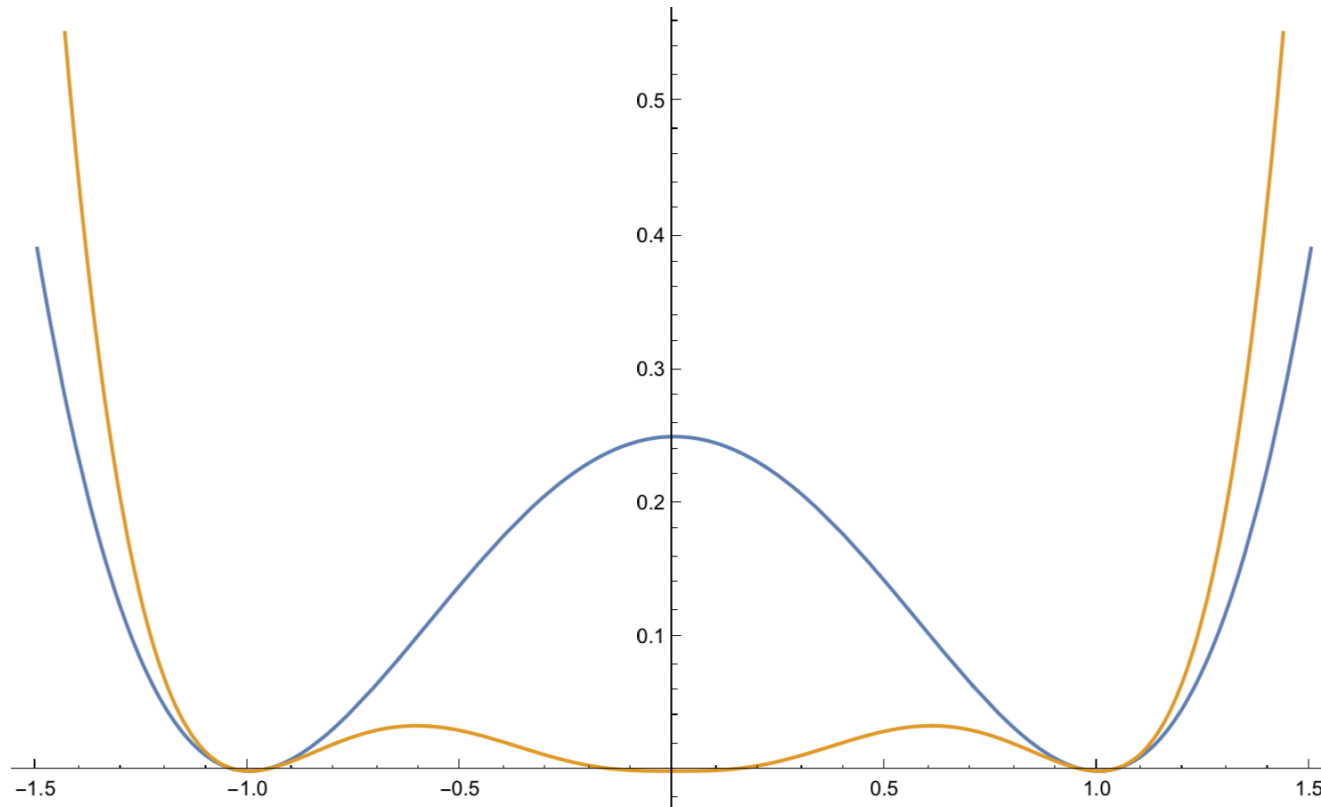
- If  $\Lambda \sim 10^{19}$  GeV,  $m_\chi \sim 10^{-8}$  eV!



# Cosmological electroweak phase transition

[Arunasalam, AK, Lagger, Liang, Zhou, 17']

- Higgs-dilaton potential: the energy densities at the origin and at the electroweak vev are degenerate and are separated by a small barrier (flat direction lifted by 2-loop quantum corrections).



# Cosmological electroweak phase transition

- In cosmological setting a thermal barrier is also generated which implies that the critical temperature of the transition is  $T_c=0$ .
- QCD condensates drive the electroweak phase transition! [Witten 81']

# Cosmological electroweak phase transition

$$V_T(h, \chi) = \frac{\lambda(\Lambda)}{4} \left[ h^2 - \frac{v_{ew}^2}{v_\chi^2} \chi^2 \right]^2 + \sum_i n_i (-1)^{2s_i+1} \left[ \frac{m_i^4}{32\pi^2} \log \frac{\alpha\chi}{m_i} - \frac{1}{2\pi^2} T^4 J_i(m_i^2/T^2) \right]$$

- High temperature/small field expansion:

$$V_T(h, \chi) = \frac{\lambda(\Lambda)}{4} \left[ h^2 - \frac{v_{ew}^2}{v_\chi^2} \chi^2 \right]^2 + c(h)\pi^2 T^4 - \frac{\lambda(\Lambda)}{24} \frac{v_{ew}^2}{v_\chi^2} \chi^2 T^2 + \frac{1}{48} \left[ 6\lambda(\Lambda) + 6y_t^2(\Lambda) + \frac{9}{2}g^2(\Lambda) + \frac{3}{2}g'^2(\Lambda) \right] h^2 T^2$$

- Solve for the dilaton field:

$$\chi^2 = \frac{v_\chi^2}{v_{ew}^2} h^2 + \frac{v_\chi^2}{v_{ew}^2} T^2$$

# Cosmological electroweak phase transition

- The Higgs potential becomes:

$$V_T(h, \chi(h)) = \left[ c(h)\pi^2 - \frac{\lambda(\Lambda)}{576} \frac{v_{ew}^2}{v_\chi^2} (2 + v_{ew}^2/v_\chi^2) \right] T^4 \\ + \frac{1}{48} \left[ 4\lambda(\Lambda) + 6y_t^2(\Lambda) + \frac{9}{2}g^2(\Lambda) + \frac{3}{2}g'^2(\Lambda) \right] h^2 T^2$$

$4\lambda(\Lambda) + 6y_t^2(\Lambda) + \frac{9}{2}g^2(\Lambda) + \frac{3}{2}g'^2(\Lambda) > 0 \implies h=0$  is a local minimum for any  $T$ .

- If so, the universe would be trapped in symmetric vacuum  $h=0$ .

# Cosmological electroweak phase transition

- In  $h=0$  vacuum all quarks are massless.  $SU(6) \times SU(6)$  chiral symmetry is broken at  $T_c \sim 132$  MeV. The quark condensate breaks the electroweak symmetry as well.

$$\langle \bar{q}q \rangle_T = \langle \bar{q}q \rangle \left[ 1 - (N^2 - 1) \frac{T^2}{12N f_\pi^2} - \frac{1}{2} (N^2 - 1) \left( \frac{T^2}{12N f_\pi^2} \right)^2 + \mathcal{O} \left( (T^2 / 12N f_\pi^2)^3 \right) \right]$$
$$\langle \bar{q}q \rangle \approx -(250 \text{ MeV})^3$$

[Gasser & Leutwyler, 86']

- Higgs-quark Yukawa interactions:  $y_q \langle \bar{q}q \rangle_T h / \sqrt{2}$
- $y_q \langle \bar{q}q \rangle_T / \sqrt{2} + \frac{\partial V_T}{\partial h} = 0 \rightarrow h=0$  is no more an extremum

# Cosmological electroweak phase transition

- Quark condensate tips the Higgs field from the origin, which ‘runs down’ classically towards the electroweak minimum, smoothly and quickly completing the transition

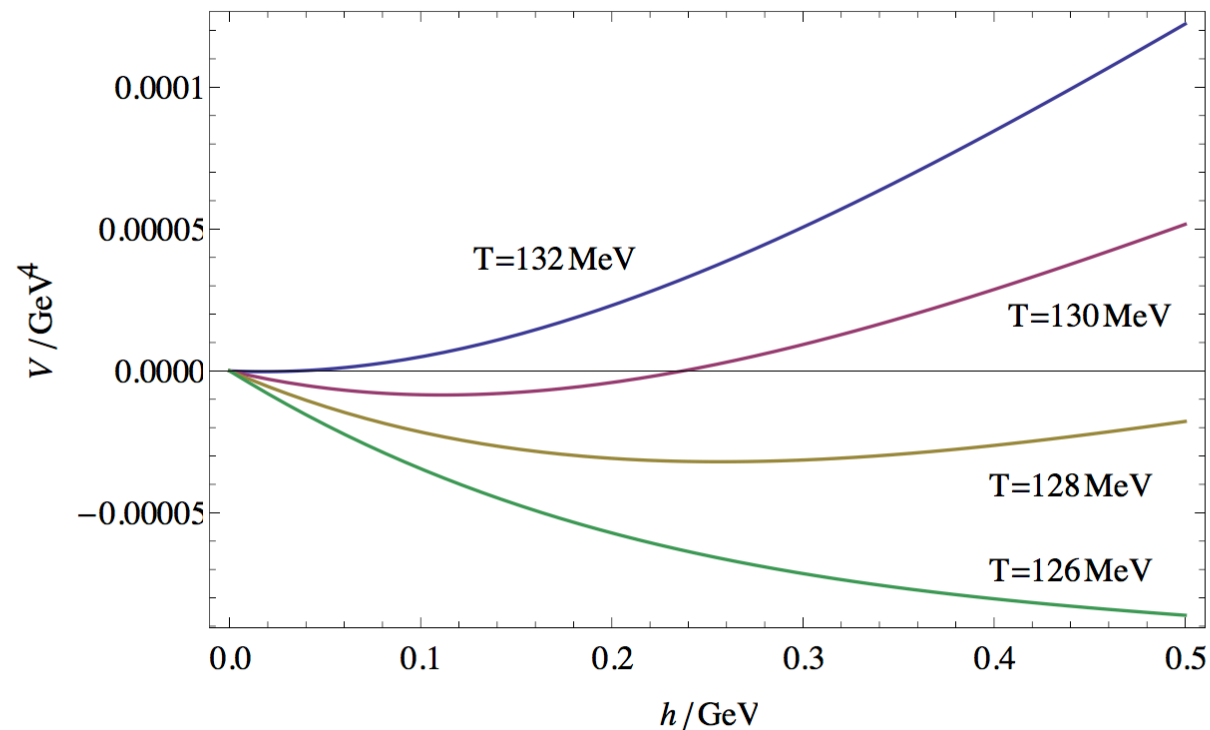


Figure 2:  $V_T(h) - V_T(0)$  for different temperatures below the chiral phase transition.

# Cosmological electroweak phase transition

- QCD with  $N=6$  quarks undergoes first-order phase transition, unlike the standard case with  $N=3$  [Pisarski, Wilczek 84’].
- Formation of 6 flavour quark matter nuggets of mass  $\sim 10^7$  kg and size  $\sim 1$  mm [Bai, Long 17’, Witten 84’]. Can constitute 100% dark matter.

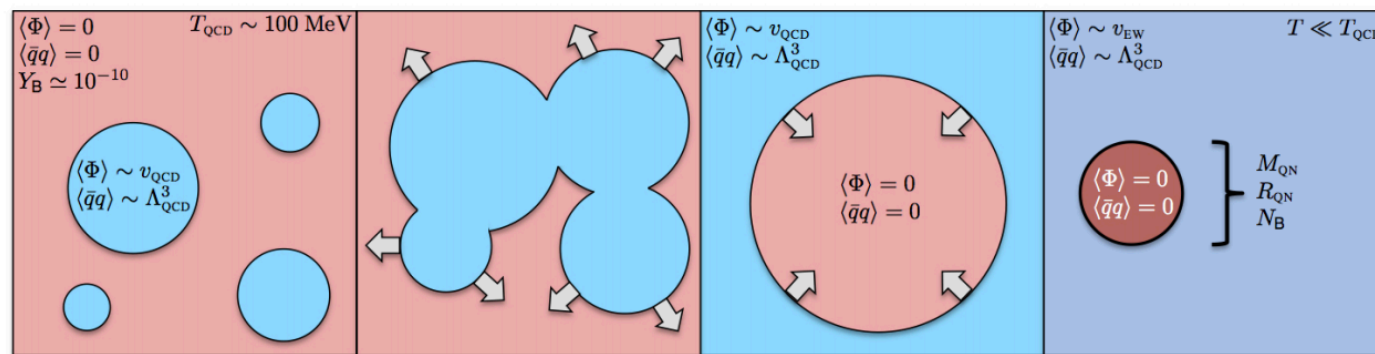


Figure 2: A cartoon illustrating the cosmological dynamics leading to the formation of nuggets of six-flavor quark matter. A first-order QCD phase transition causes the baryon number to accumulate into pockets of quark gluon plasma, which eventually cool to form 6FQM nuggets.

Taken from arXiv:1804.10249

# Cosmological electroweak phase transition

- Gravitational waves with peak frequency  $\sim 10^{-8}$  Hz, potentially detectable by means of pulsar timing (EPTA, SKA...)

$$f_{\text{GW}} \sim H_{\text{QCD}}(T_0/T_{\text{QCR}}) \sim 10^{-8} \text{ Hz}$$

- Production of primordial black holes with mass  $M_{bh} \sim M_{\odot}$

$$R \sim 1/H_{\text{QCD}} \sim M_P/T_{\text{QCD}}^2,$$

$$M_{bh} = R/2G \sim M_P^3/T_{\text{QCD}}^2 \sim 10^{30} \text{ kg}$$

- QCD baryogenesis (work in progress)
  - (i) B+L sphaleron-mediated non-equilibrium processes are active;
  - (ii) The CKM CP violation @ low T is strong.



# Conclusions

- Scale paradigm for natural mass hierarchies predicts a light, feebly coupled dilaton (could be dark matter).
- Electroweak phase transition driven by the QCD chiral phase transition and occurs at  $T \sim 130$  MeV.
- QCD phase transition could be strongly first order  $\Rightarrow$  quark matter nuggets, black holes, gravitational waves, QCD baryogenesis.
- Detection of a light scalar particle + the above astrophysical signatures will provide the strong evidence for the fundamental role of scale invariance in particle physics and cosmology.

# TeV Particle Astrophysics 2019

A nighttime photograph of the Sydney Opera House and the surrounding city skyline. The Opera House is illuminated with warm lights, and the city buildings in the background are lit up with various colors, including blue and red. The water in the foreground reflects the lights.

2-6 December 2019  
Australia/Sydney timezone

For more information see the conference webpage <https://indico.cern.ch/event/828038/>

## Welcome to TeVPA 2019 in Sydney

# Constraints on light dilaton

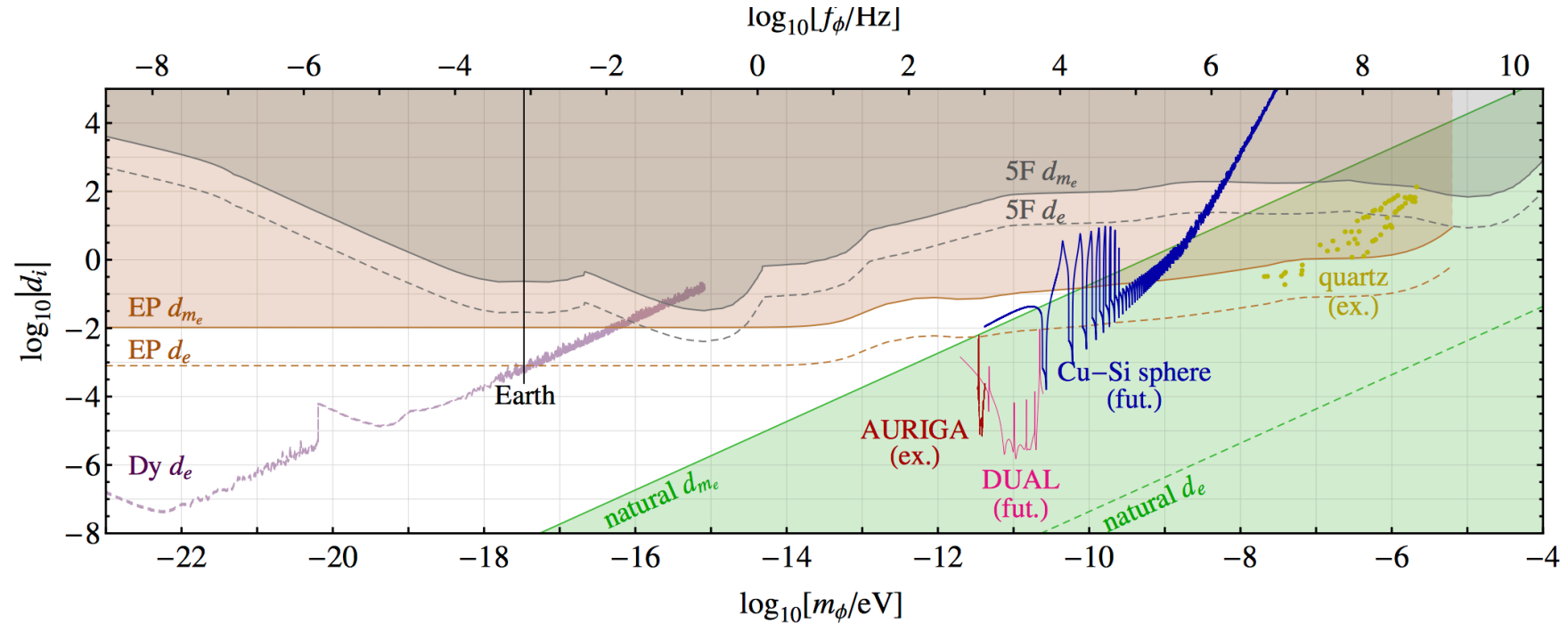


FIG. 1. Scalar field parameter space, with mass  $m_\phi$  and corresponding DM oscillation frequency  $f_\phi = m_\phi/2\pi$  on the bottom and top horizontal axes, and couplings of both an electron mass modulus ( $d_i = d_{m_e}$ ) and electromagnetic gauge modulus ( $d_i = d_e$ ) on the vertical axis. Natural parameter space for a 10 TeV cutoff is depicted in green, while the other regions and dashed curves represent 95% CL limits from fifth-force tests (“5F”, gray), equivalence-principle tests (“EP”, orange), atomic spectroscopy in dysprosium (“Dy”, purple), and low-frequency terrestrial seismology (“Earth”, black). The blue curve shows the projected SNR = 1 reach of a proposed resonant-mass detector—a copper-silicon (Cu-Si) sphere 30 cm in radius—after 1.6 y of integration time, while the red curve shows the reach for the current AURIGA detector with 8 y of recasted data. Rough estimates of the 1-y reach of a proposed DUAL detector (pink) and several harmonics of two piezoelectric quartz resonators (gold points) are also shown.

taken from [arXiv:1508.01798](https://arxiv.org/abs/1508.01798), Arvanitaki, Dimopoulos Tilburg, 15’

# Light dilaton dark matter

- Light, superweakly coupled dilaton is a candidate for dark matter particle

- Metastability implies:

$$\Lambda \gtrsim \left( 10^{-3} \frac{m_h^6}{H_0} \right)^{1/5} \sim 10^{10} \text{ GeV}$$

$$\text{or } m_\chi \lesssim \text{keV}$$

- Non-thermal dark matter (similar to axion), for  $m_\chi \lesssim eV$  behaves as an oscillating classical field