
Calculation of scalar condensation decay in two different approaches

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[JHEP 04 (2026) 003], [26XX.XXXXXX]

Introduction

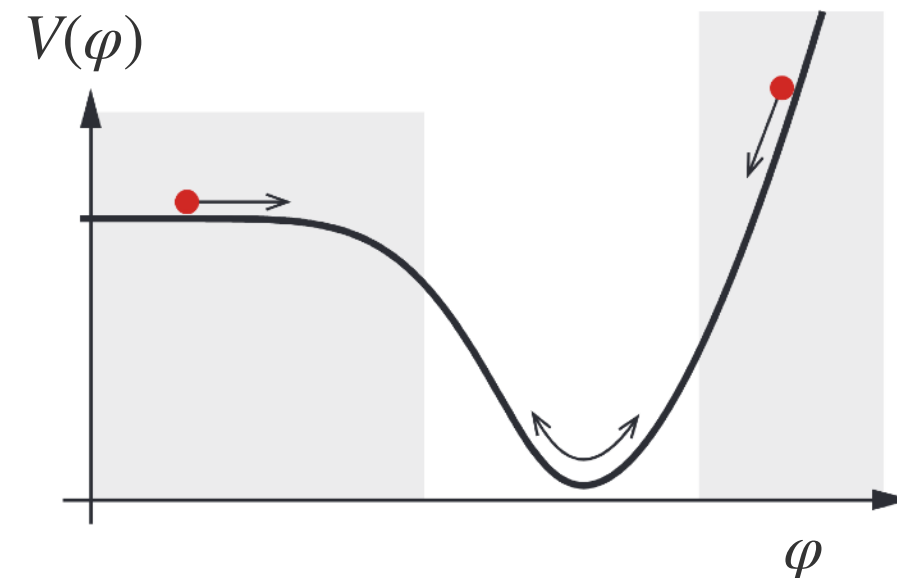
- **Scalar condensation**: scalar bosons exist in the same quantum state such that it behave coherently in whole spacetime.

Example: Inflaton, Axion, ...

Similar phenomena: Bose-Einstein condensation

a state such that a macroscopic number of bosons condense into a grand state in low temperature.

- It is described by the macroscopic wave function. [From D. baumann, 1807.03098]
- After inflation, scalar condensation (inflaton) decay plays an important role in the thermal history of the Universe.
- Due to the decay, catastrophic particle productions can happen (**parametric resonance**.)



Parametric resonance [1/2]

- Toy model

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial\varphi)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\partial\chi)^2 - \frac{1}{2}m_\varphi^2\varphi^2 - \frac{1}{2}m_\chi^2\chi^2 - \frac{1}{2}\mu\varphi\chi^2$$

φ : Parent particle $\varphi = A_\varphi \sin(m_\varphi t)$.

χ : Daughter particle

- Equation of motion (Mathieu equation) χ_k : Mode function of χ

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2}\chi_k(t) + E_k^2(t)\chi_k(t) = 0$$

[L. Kofman, A. D. Linde, A. A. Starobinsky, PRD56, 3258(1997)]
[Yoshimura, PTP, 1995]

$$E_{\chi k}^2(t) = k^2 + m_{\chi\text{eff}}^2(t) \quad , \quad m_{\chi\text{eff}} = m_\chi^2 + \mu A_\varphi \sin(m_\varphi t)$$

- Hubble expansion rate is neglected.
- The effective mass $m_{\chi\text{eff}}$ oscillates depending on time.

Parametric resonance [2/2]

- growing mode

$$\chi_k(t) \propto \exp(\lambda(k)m_\varphi t/2)$$

- Instability bound

$$n_\varphi^2 = 1 : \varphi \rightarrow \chi\chi$$

$$n_\varphi^2 = 4 : \varphi\varphi \rightarrow \chi\chi$$

⋮

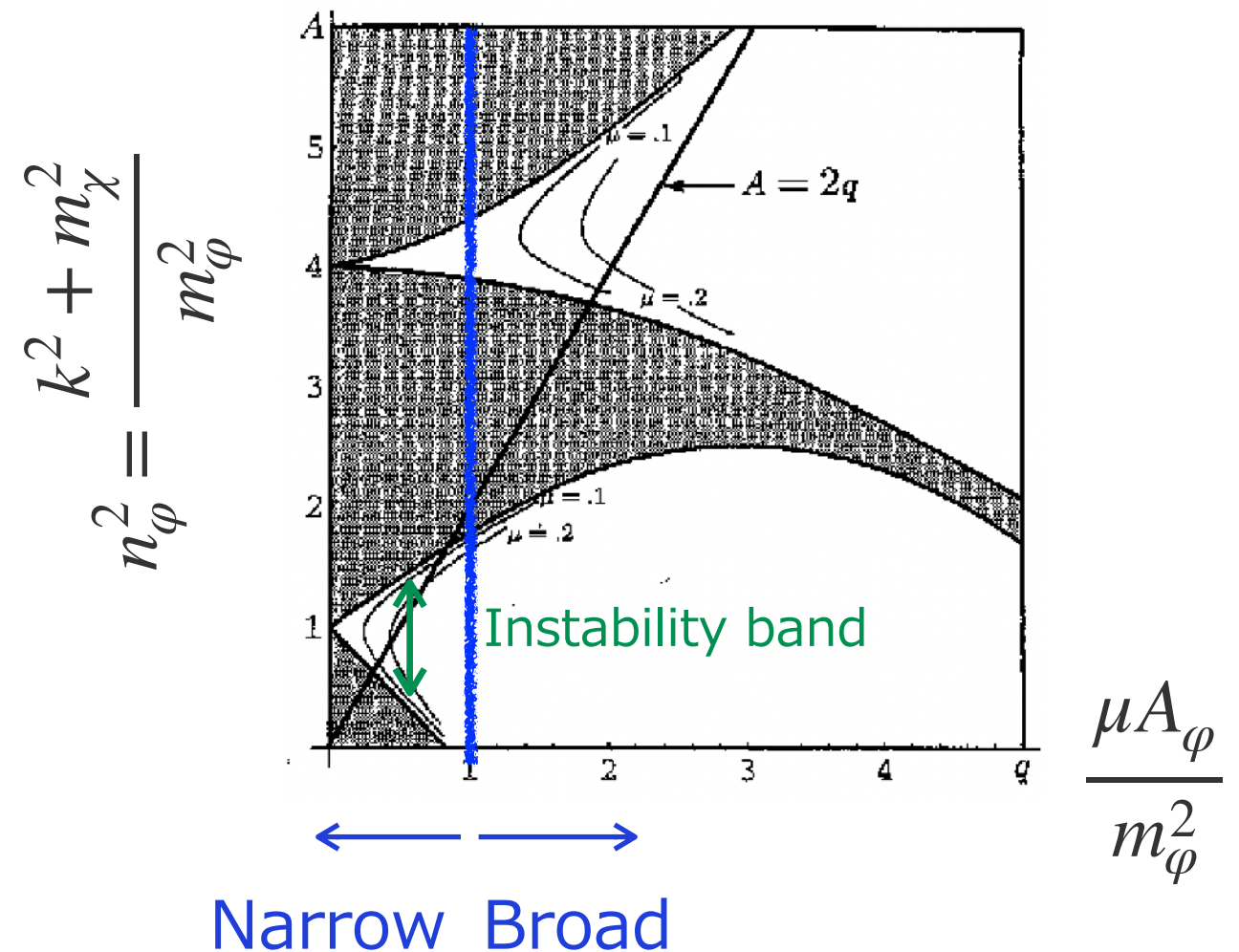
- Narrow resonance regime: ← Our focus

$$\mu A_\varphi / (m_\varphi^2) \lesssim 1$$

We evaluate the scalar condensation decay rate :

$$\Gamma_\varphi = \Gamma_\varphi^{n_\varphi=1} + \Gamma_\varphi^{n_\varphi=2} + \dots$$

[L. Kofman, A. D. Linde, A. A. Starobinsky, PRD56, 3258(1997)]



Open question

There are distinct ways to evaluate the scalar condensation decay.

- 1. Feynman diagrammatic approach Evaluation of decay amplitude of scalar condensation
- 2. Parametric resonance approach Track the evolution of the mode function of the daughter particle

Do they give the same result?

- Whether these approaches are consistent or not is nontrivial.
- Considering the model with a trilinear interaction, we clarified it.

1. Feynman diagrammatic approach

[T. Moroi, S. Matsumoto, PRD77 (2008)]

[A. Kamada, KS, JHEP 04 (2026) 003]

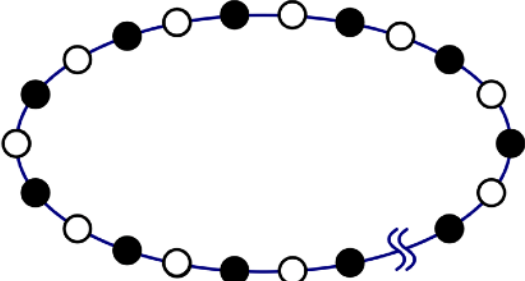
- Vacuum-to-vacuum transition amplitude can be evaluated the effective action:

$${}_{\text{out}}\langle 0|0\rangle_{\text{in}} = \exp(iS_{\text{eff}}[\varphi]) = \mathcal{D}\chi \exp\left(i \int S[\varphi, \chi]\right)$$

- S_{eff} is given by the sum of the bubble diagrams:

$$\exp(iS_{\text{eff}}[\varphi]) \ni \cdots + \text{bubble diagram} + \cdots$$

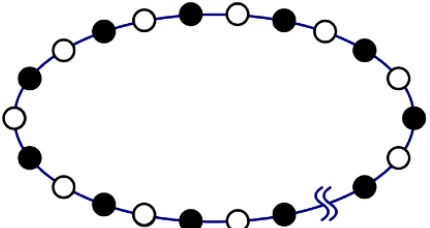
$\varphi^-(x) : \text{ingoing } \varphi$
 $\varphi^+(x) : \text{outgoing } \varphi$



- Im(bubble diagrams) gives the decay rate of φ .

$$\Gamma_{\varphi} \sim \text{Im}[\cdots + \text{bubble diagram} + \cdots]$$

$|{}_{\text{out}}\langle 0|0\rangle_{\text{in}}|^2 \propto \exp(-\Gamma L^3 T),$



2. Parametric resonance approach

[Yoshimura, PTP, 1995]

- Vacuum to vacuum transition amplitude:

$$|_{\text{out}}\langle 0 | 0 \rangle_{\text{in}}|^2 = \prod_k \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + n_k}}$$

$$n_k \sim \exp(\lambda m_\phi t)$$

$$\Rightarrow |_{\text{out}}\langle 0 | 0 \rangle_{\text{in}}|^2 \simeq \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \sum_k \log n_k\right)$$

$$\propto \exp\left(-\frac{m_\phi}{2} \int \frac{dk^3}{(2\pi)^3} \lambda V t\right) \equiv \exp(-\Gamma_\phi V t)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma_\phi = \frac{m_\phi}{2} \int \frac{dk^3}{(2\pi)^3} \lambda_k$$

Expansions parameters

- The decay rate can be schematically given by

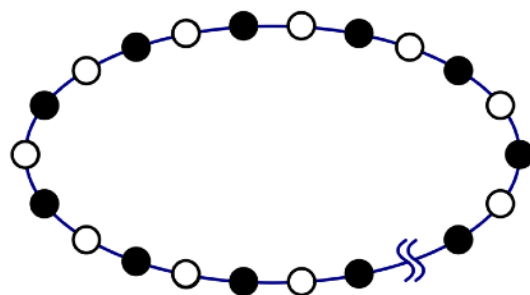
$$\Gamma \ni A\beta^{1-2q}\theta^{2p} \quad q, p : \text{positive integer}, p \geq 1, q \geq 0,$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ll} \theta = \frac{\mu A_\varphi}{m_\varphi^2} & \text{Small amplitude: } \theta \ll 1 \\ \beta = \sqrt{1 - 4m_\chi^2/(n_\varphi^2 m_\varphi^2)} & \text{Small velocity: } \beta \ll 1 \end{array} \right.$$

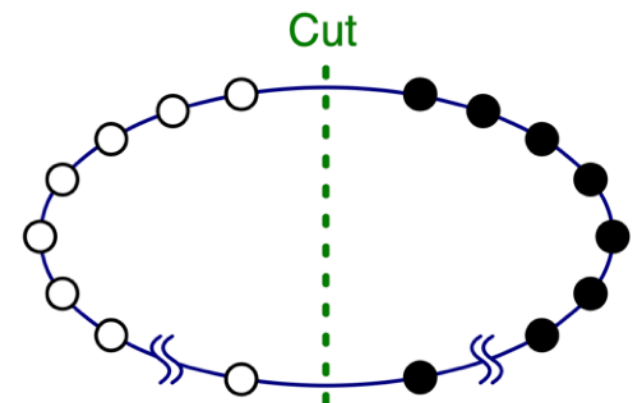
- For given p , the maximum of q is fixed.

$$\Gamma = \dots + \underbrace{\beta\theta^{2p} \left[\frac{A_{q_{\max}}}{\beta^{2q_{\max}}} + \frac{A_{q_{\max}-1}}{\beta^{2(q_{\max}-1)}} + \dots + A_0 \right]}_{\text{Dominant contributions in } \beta \text{ expansion}} + \dots$$

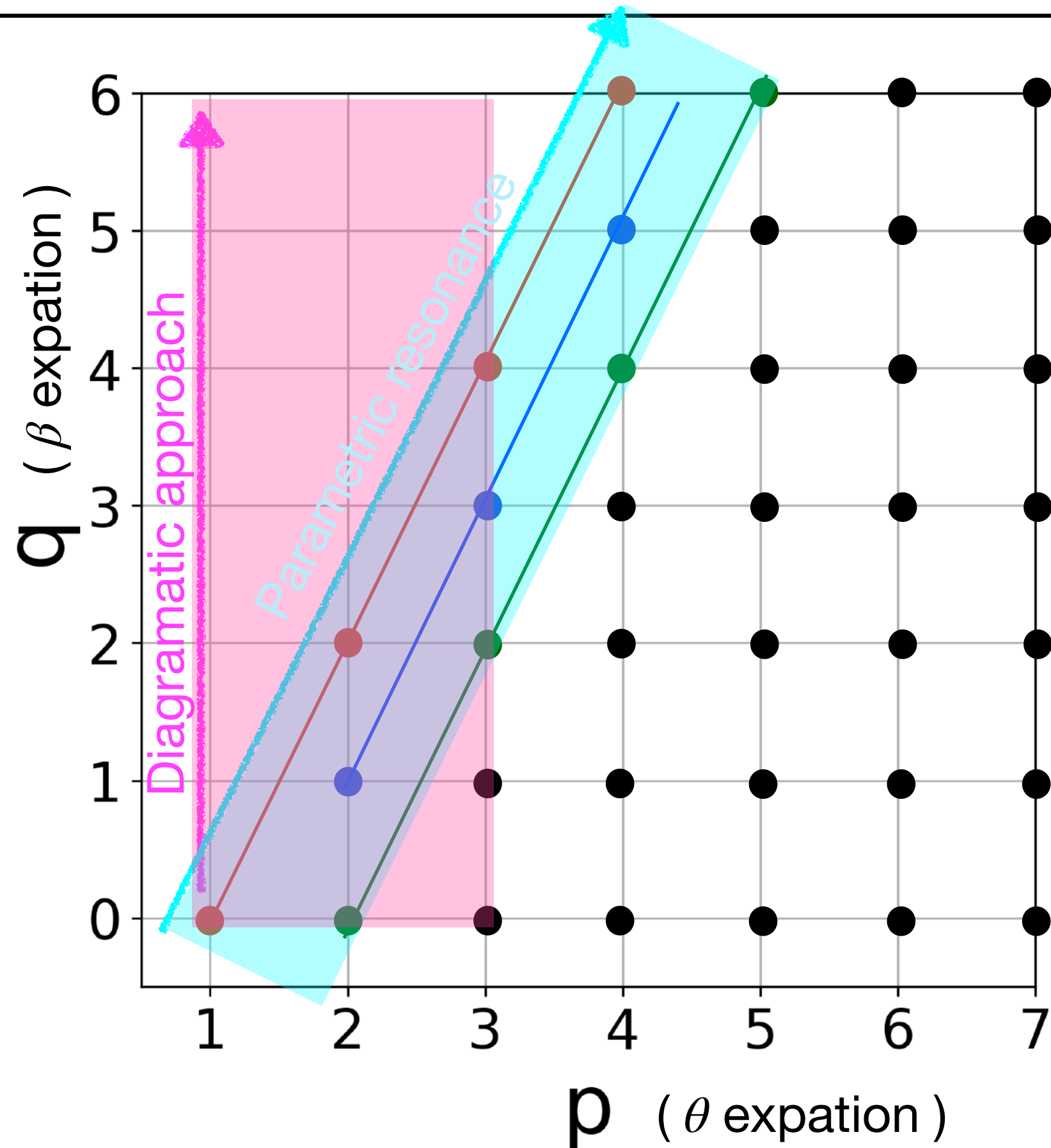
Dominant contributions in β expansion



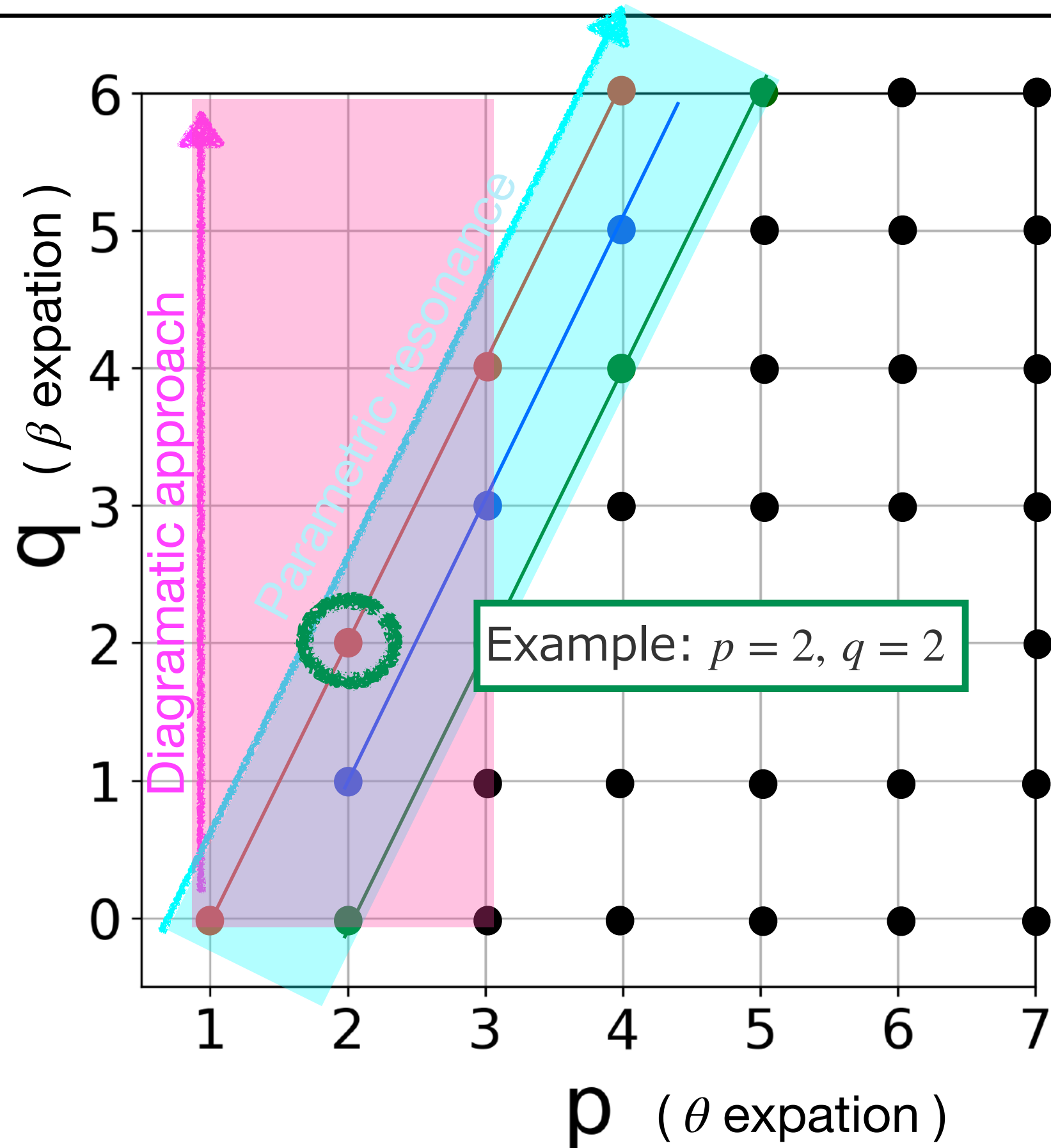
Highest order contributions in β expansion



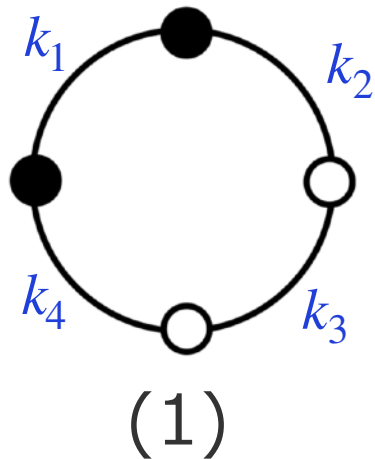
Schematic picture of expansions in each way



Schematic picture of expansions in each way

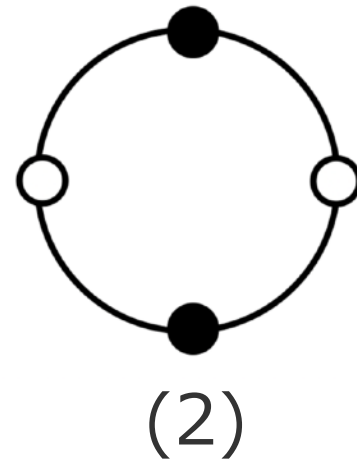


Example: $p=2, n_\varphi = 1$ [Feynman diagrammatic approach]

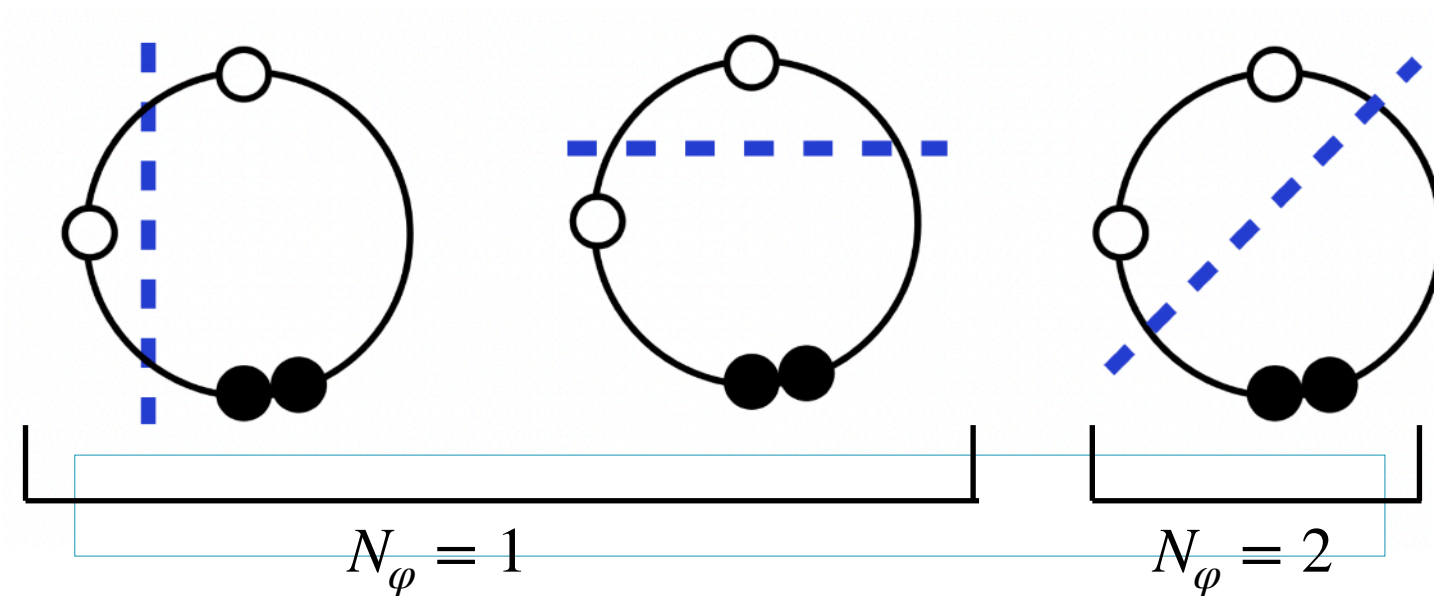


For diagram1: $k_1 = k_3$

For diagram2: $k_1 = k_3 \quad k_2 = k_4$



- Procedure to evaluate bubble diagrams



① "Pinch" diagrams: $(k^2 - m_\chi^2)^{-2} \rightarrow - \lim_{\xi \rightarrow m_\chi^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} (k^2 - \xi)^{-1}$

② Apply cutting rules: $(k'^2 - m_\chi^2)^{-1} \rightarrow \delta(k'^2 - m_\chi^2)$

$$\Gamma_\varphi = -\frac{m_\varphi^4}{16\pi} \left(\frac{\mu A_\varphi}{2m_\varphi^2} \right)^4 \times \left[\frac{1}{2\beta_1^3} + \frac{3}{2\beta_1} + \beta_1 \right]$$

Example: $p=2, n_\varphi = 1$ [Parametric resonance approach]

$$\Gamma_{\beta_1 \rightarrow 0}^{N_\varphi=1} = \frac{m_\varphi^4}{128\pi^2} \int_{-\theta}^{\theta} d\epsilon \underbrace{\sqrt{(\beta_1^2 + \epsilon)}}_{\sim \mathcal{O}(\theta)} \underbrace{\sqrt{(\theta^2 - \epsilon^2)}}_{\sim \mathcal{O}(\theta)}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\theta^2 - \epsilon^2}$$

$$-\theta < \epsilon < \theta$$

$$= \beta_1 \left[1 - \frac{1}{8} \left(\frac{\epsilon}{\beta^2} \right)^2 - \frac{5}{128} \left(\frac{\epsilon}{\beta^2} \right)^4 \dots \right]$$

The order of β and that of θ is related:

$$q = 2(p - 2) \text{ [for } \beta^{1-2q}\theta^{2p} \text{]}$$

$$= -\frac{m_\varphi^4}{16\pi} \sum_{p=1}^{\infty} \beta^{5-4p} \left(\frac{\mu A_\varphi}{2m_\varphi^2} \right)^{2p} \frac{(4p-7)!!}{(p-1)!p!}$$

$$= -\frac{m_\varphi^4}{16\pi} \left[-\beta_1 \left(\frac{\mu A_\varphi}{2m_\varphi^2} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2\beta_1^3} \left(\frac{\mu A_\varphi}{2m_\varphi^2} \right)^4 + \frac{5}{4\beta_1^7} \left(\frac{\mu A_\varphi}{2m_\varphi^2} \right)^6 + \dots \right]$$

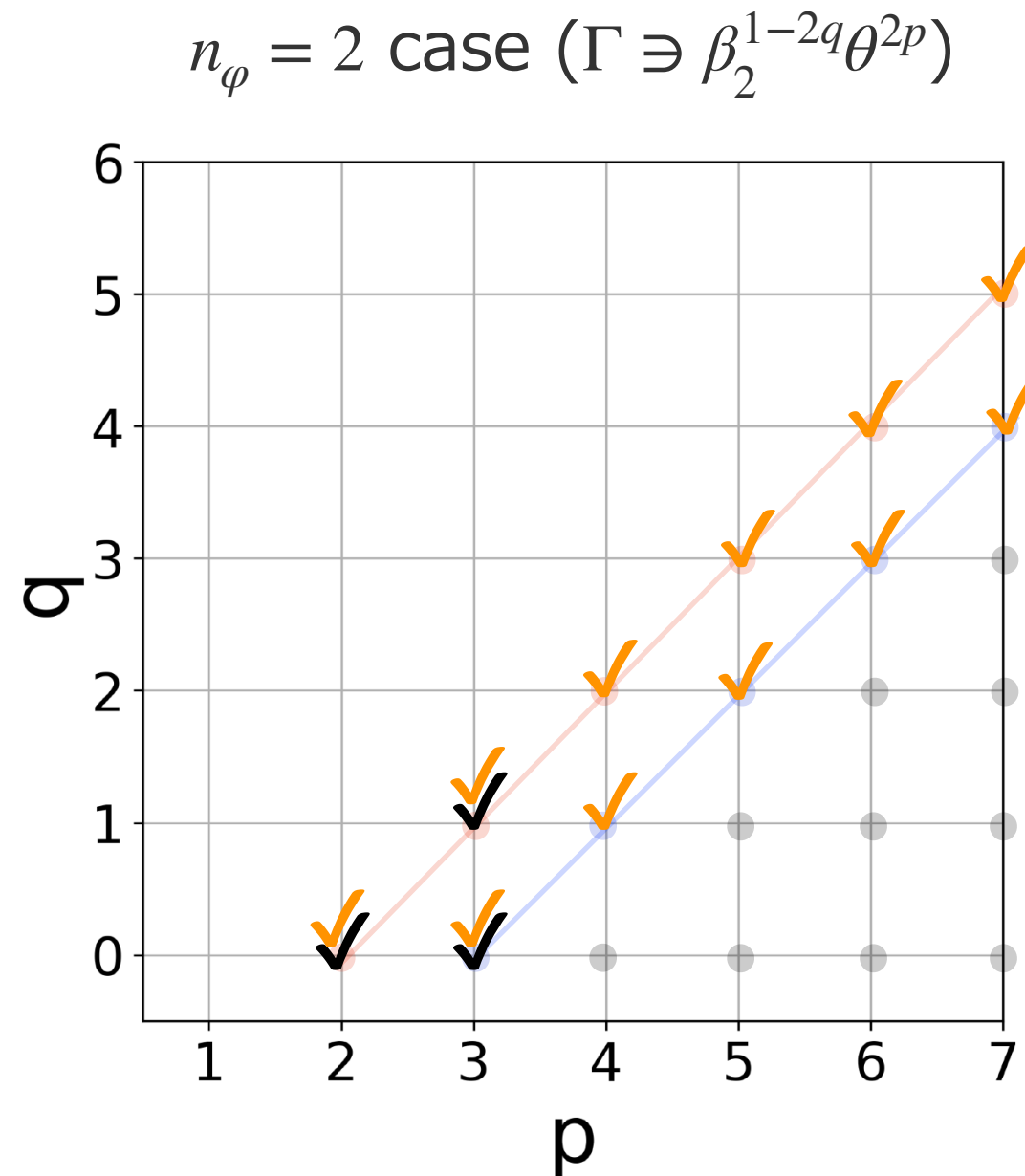
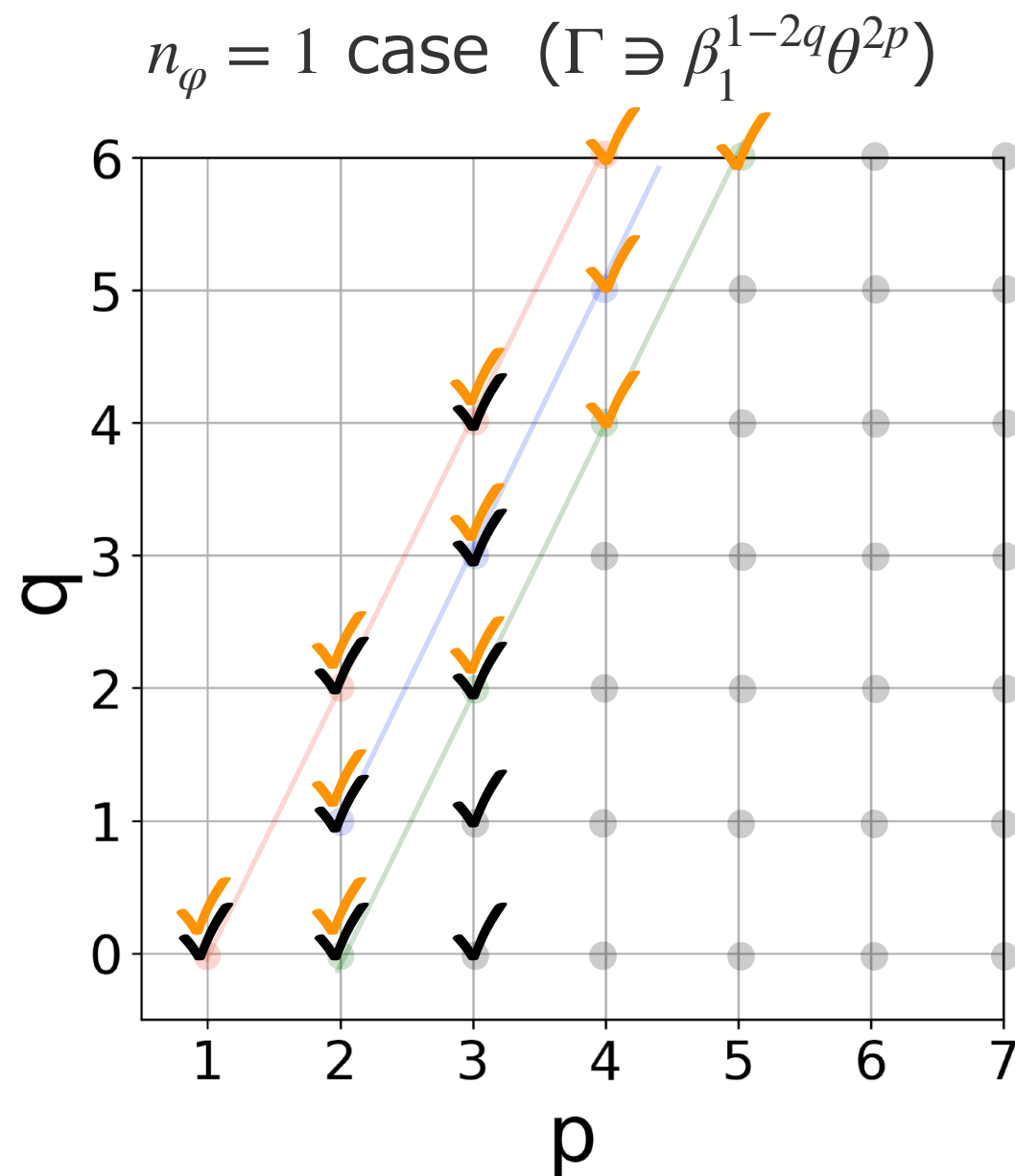
$$\longleftrightarrow \text{(QFT result): } \Gamma^{(N_\varphi=1)} = -\frac{m_\varphi^4}{16\pi} \left(\frac{\mu A_\varphi}{2m_\varphi^2} \right)^4 \left[\frac{1}{2\beta_1^3} + \frac{3}{2\beta_1} + \beta_1 \right]$$

Equivarent!

Consistency between two approaches

✓: computed by QFT approach

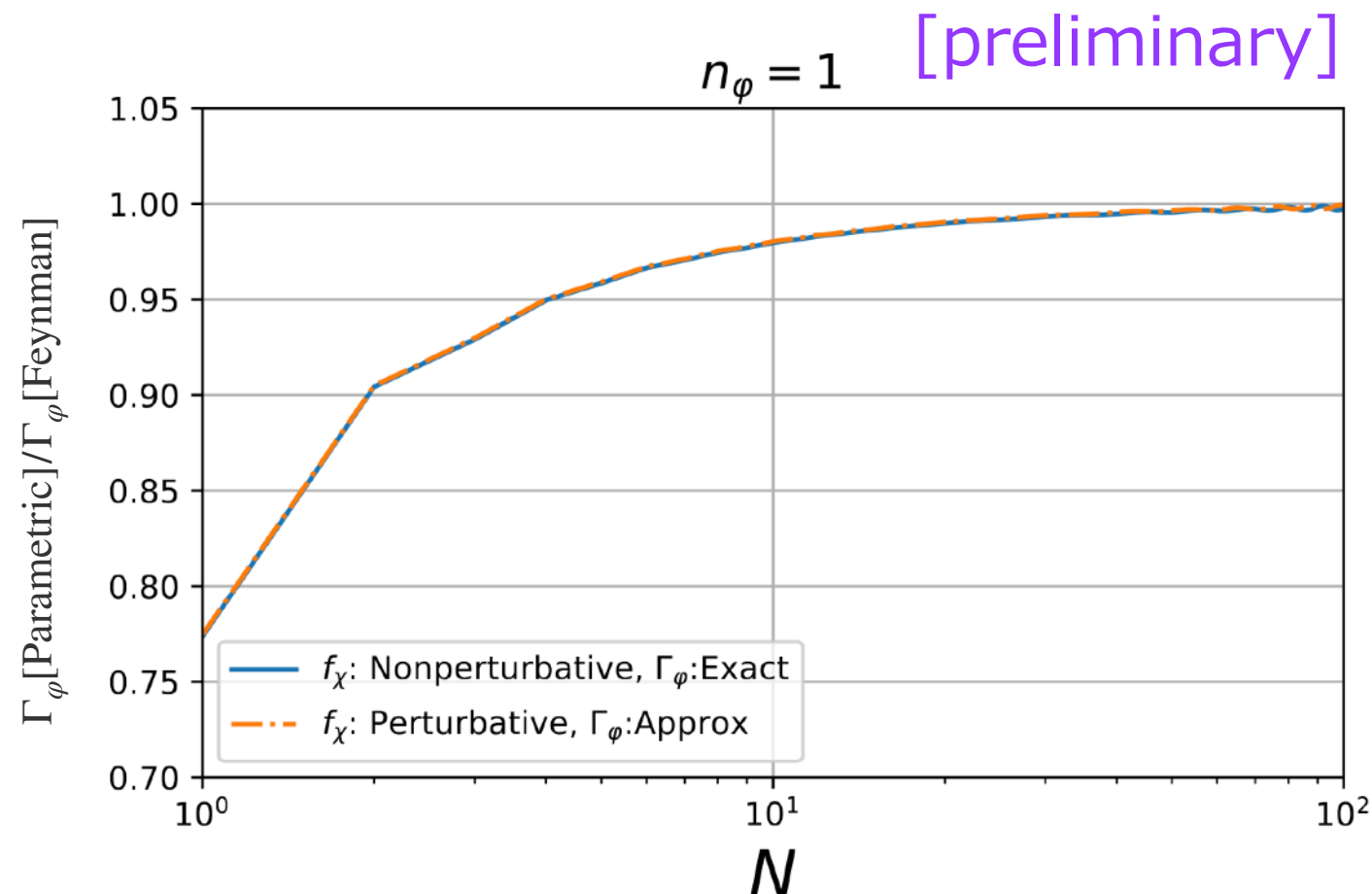
✓: computed by parametric resonance



We checked consistency in between these two approaches for overlapped points.

Time evolution of scalar condensation decay

- **Feynman-diagrammatic:** initial and final states are specified as asymptotic states, and no explicit time evolution is involved in the evaluation of the scattering amplitude.
- **Parametric resonance:** we do not use a approximation of the growing mode. we follow time evolution of the distribution function in both perturbative and nonperturbative ways.



- At $N \sim 100$, the distribution function is much populated.
- At $N \sim 2$, the distribution function is smaller than one.

Summary

- We discussed the evaluation of scalar condensation decays in two different ways.
- Calculations in the Feynman diagrammatic approach coincide with the Parametric resonance approaches. This is checked by including lower orders in the (p,q) plane.
- When $N > 2$, two approaches are consistent within the error of $\sim 10\%$.

Back up

Approach 1: Scalar condensation decays in QFT [1/3]

Set up

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \varphi)(\partial^\mu \varphi) + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \chi)(\partial^\mu \chi) - \frac{1}{2}m_\varphi^2 \varphi^2 - \frac{1}{2}\mu \varphi \chi^2$$

φ : scalar condensation, χ : scalar field

Basis ideas

- We assume that φ can be expressed as a coherent state.

$$|\varphi\rangle \equiv e^{-|C_\varphi|^2/2} e^{C_\varphi \hat{a}_0^\dagger} |0\rangle,$$

Solution of classical EOM of φ is produced:

$$\langle \varphi | \hat{\phi} | \varphi \rangle = A \cos(m_\varphi t)$$

- From the unitarity of S-matrix, the decay rate of any particle can be calculated by Im(T-matrix):

$$\text{Prob}(|\varphi\rangle \rightarrow \text{all}) = \sum_f \left| \langle f | \hat{\mathcal{T}} | \varphi \rangle \right|^2 = 2\Im \left[\langle \varphi | \hat{\mathcal{T}} | \varphi \rangle \right].$$

→ From them, scalar condensation decay rate can be systematically computed.

Approach 1: Scalar condensation decays in QFT [2/3]

[T. Moroi, S. Matsumoto, PRD77 (2008)]

$$\langle \varphi | \hat{\mathcal{T}} | \varphi \rangle \equiv \sum_{p=1}^{\infty} \sum_{\mathcal{F}^{(2p)}} \mathcal{T}^{\mathcal{F}^{(2p)}} \quad \leftarrow \text{Feynman diagrams with 2p coupling insertions at 1 loop level.}$$

$$\sum_{\mathcal{F}^{(2p)}} \mathcal{T}^{\mathcal{F}^{(2p)}} = \sum_{p=1}^{\infty} \frac{-i}{(2p)!} \left(\frac{i\mu}{2} \right)^{2p} \langle 0 | T \left[\int d^4x \underbrace{\{\varphi_-(x) + \varphi_+(x)\}} \hat{\chi}(x) \hat{\chi}(x) \right]^{2p} | 0 \rangle,$$

$$\langle \varphi | \hat{\varphi}(x) | \varphi \rangle = \varphi_-(x) + \varphi_+(x)$$

$\varphi^-(x)$: ingoing φ

$\varphi^+(x)$: outgoing φ

Approach 1: Scalar condensation decays in QFT [3/3]

[T. Moroi, S. Matsumoto, PRD77 (2008)]

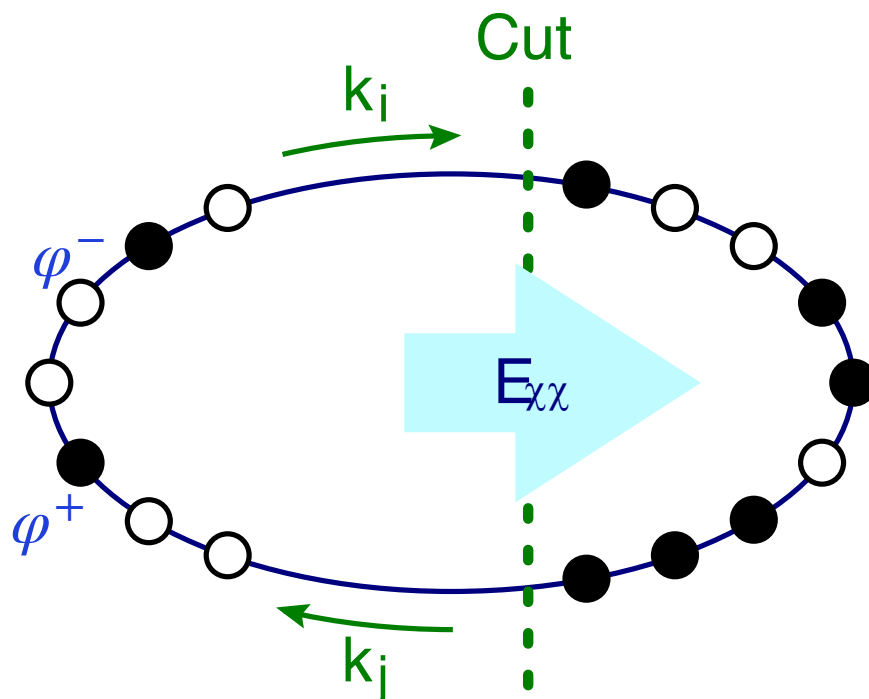
$$\langle \varphi | \hat{\mathcal{T}} | \varphi \rangle \equiv \sum_{p=1}^{\infty} \sum_{\mathcal{F}^{(2p)}} \mathcal{T}^{\mathcal{F}^{(2p)}} \quad \leftarrow \text{Feynman diagrams with } 2p \text{ coupling insertions at 1 loop level.}$$

$$\sum_{\mathcal{F}^{(2p)}} \mathcal{T}^{\mathcal{F}^{(2p)}} = \sum_{p=1}^{\infty} \frac{-i}{(2p)!} \left(\frac{i\mu}{2} \right)^{2p} \langle 0 | T \left[\int d^4x \underbrace{\{\varphi_-(x) + \varphi_+(x)\}} \hat{\chi}(x) \hat{\chi}(x) \right]^{2p} | 0 \rangle,$$

$$\langle \varphi | \hat{\varphi}(x) | \varphi \rangle = \varphi_-(x) + \varphi_+(x)$$

$\varphi^-(x)$: ingoing φ

$\varphi^+(x)$: outgoing φ



Matrix element:

$$L^3 T S_{\mathcal{F}} \left| \frac{\mu A_{\varphi}}{2} \right|^{2p} \int \frac{d^4 \tilde{k}}{(2\pi)^4} \prod_{I=1}^{2p} (k_I^2 - m_{\chi}^2 + i0^+)^{-2},$$

A_{φ} : amplitude of φ

The imaginary part is computed by applying cuts.

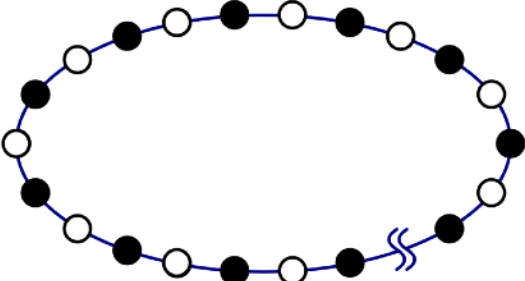
Effective action

[T. Moroi, S. Matsumoto, PRD77 (2008)]

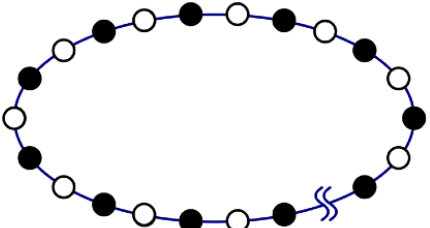
- Another way for the decay of the condensation is to evaluate the effective action:

$$\exp(iS_{\text{eff}}[\varphi]) = \exp\left(i \int \mathcal{D}\chi S_{\text{eff}}[\varphi, \chi]\right)$$

- S_{eff} is given by the sum of the bubble diagrams:

$$\exp(iS_{\text{eff}}[\varphi]) \ni \dots + \text{bubble diagram} + \dots$$


- $\text{Im}(\text{bubble diagrams})$ gives the decay rate of φ .

$$\Gamma_{\varphi} \sim \text{Im}[\dots + \text{bubble diagram} + \dots]$$


Approach 2: Formulation of the parametric resonance [1/2]

- Schrödinger equation of wave functional Ψ :

$$i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\Psi(q_k, t) = H\Psi(q_k, t), \quad H(t) = \sum_k = \frac{1}{2}\pi_k^2 + \frac{1}{2}E_{\chi.k,\text{eff}}^2(t)q_k^2$$

- q_k corresponds to the special Fourier components of $\chi(\mathbf{x}, t)$.
- Ψ can be decomposed into the products of each mode (space translation invariance):

$$\Psi(q_k, t) = \prod_k \psi_k(q_k, t)$$

$$i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\psi(q_k, t) = -\frac{1}{2}\psi(q_k, t) + \frac{1}{2}E_{\chi,\text{eff}}^2\psi(q_k, t)$$

Approach 2: Formulation of the parametric resonance [2/2]

- Gaussian ansatz:

$$\psi(q_k, t) = \frac{1}{u_k} \exp \left(\frac{i}{2} \frac{\dot{u}_k}{u_k} q_k^2 \right), \quad \ddot{u}_k(t) + E_{\chi,k,\text{eff}}(t)^2 u_k(t) = 0$$

- Initial conditions: $u_k(0) = \left(\frac{\pi}{E_{\chi,k,\text{eff}}} \right)^{1/2}, \quad \frac{\dot{u}_k(0)}{u_k(0)} = iE_{\chi,k,\text{eff}}(0) \rightarrow$ Gaussian solution for $\psi(q_k, 0)$

• Decay amplitude: $|\langle \psi(q_k, 0) | \psi(q_k, t) \rangle|^2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + n_k}} \quad n_k \sim \exp(\lambda m_\phi t)$

$\Rightarrow |\langle \Psi(q_k, 0) | \Psi(q_k, t) \rangle|^2 \simeq \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \sum_k \log n_k \right)$

$$\propto \exp \left(-\frac{m_\phi}{2} \int \Pi_k \lambda V t \right) \equiv \exp(-\Gamma V t)$$

Approach 2: Parametric resonance [1/3]

Matheieu equation: ($z \equiv m_\varphi t/2$)

$$\frac{d^2 u_{\mathbf{k}}}{dz^2} + \{h - \theta \exp(-2iz) - \theta \exp(2iz)\} u_{\mathbf{k}} = 0$$

$$\hat{\chi} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} \int dk^3 (u_{\mathbf{k}}^* \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}} \exp(i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}) + u_{\mathbf{k}} \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}} \exp(-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}))$$

$$h = 4 \frac{k^2 + m_\chi^2}{m_\varphi^2}, \quad \theta = \frac{\mu A_\varphi}{m_\varphi^2}$$

Floquet solution : $u = \exp(\lambda z) P(z)$

λ : growth factor

$P(Z)$: periodic function

- Parametric resonance for $\text{Re}(\lambda) > 0$
- Bloch wave for $\text{Re}(\lambda) = 0$

The decay rate of φ can be also obtained by integrating growth factor in the phase space.

Approach 2: Parametric resonance [2/3]

[M.Yoshimura, Prog. Theor. Phys.94 (1995)]

Calcuration of growth factor:

The periodic function $P(z)$ can be expressed by Fourier series

$$u = \exp(\lambda z)P(z), \quad P(Z) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} C_k(z) \exp(in + 2k)z$$

The coefficient C_k satisfies the recurrence relation,

$$\gamma_k C_k - \theta_+ C_{k+1} - \theta_- C_{k+1} = 0$$

$$\gamma_k = \begin{cases} -4k(n+k) + \mathcal{O}(\lambda, \epsilon) & (k \neq 0, -1) \\ \epsilon \pm 2in\lambda + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2) & (k = 0, -1) \end{cases}$$

- We have applied small amplitude limit ($\theta \ll 1$).
- The leading order term vanishes in the case of $k = 0, -1$.

Approach 2: Parametric resonance [3/3]

[M.Yoshimura, Prog. Theor. Phys.94 (1995)]

λ can be obtained from the relations for $k=0, -1$.

$$\begin{cases} \gamma_0 C_0 - \theta_+ C_1 - \theta_- C_{-1} = 0 \\ \gamma_{-n} C_{-n} - \theta_+ C_{-n+1} - \theta_- C_{-n-1} = 0 \end{cases}$$

Relation between C_k and $C_{k\pm 1}$ are calculated by solving the tridiagonal matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \gamma_N & -\theta_- & 0 & \dots & & & & & \\ -\theta_+ & \gamma_{N-1} & -\theta_- & \dots & & & & & \\ 0 & -\theta_+ & \dots & \dots & & & & & \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & -\theta_- & \dots & \dots & & \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & -\theta_+ & \gamma_0 & \dots & & & \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & -\theta_- & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & -\theta_+ & \gamma_{-n} & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & -\theta_- \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & -\theta_+ & \gamma_{-N} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_N \\ c_{N-1} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ c_0 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ c_{-n} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ c_{-N} \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

Concrete expressions of λ for $n = 1$ at LO

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\theta^2 - \epsilon^2} \quad -\theta < \epsilon < \theta$$

Analytical expression of λ can be obtained by iterative approximation.