

Non-Gaussianities & the Scale of UV Physics

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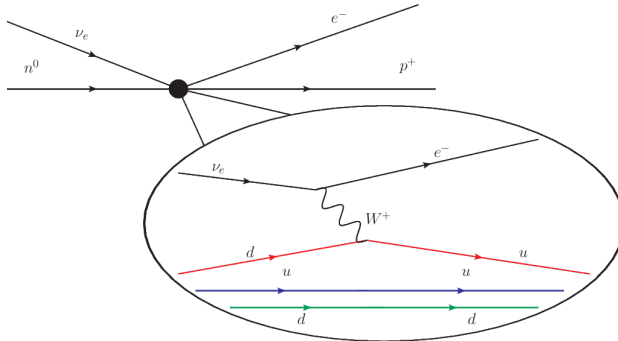
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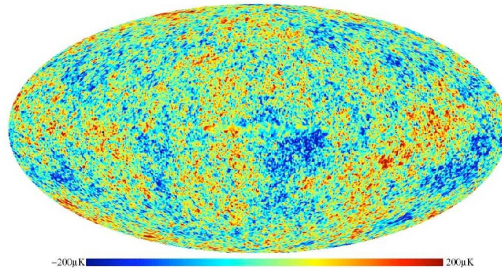
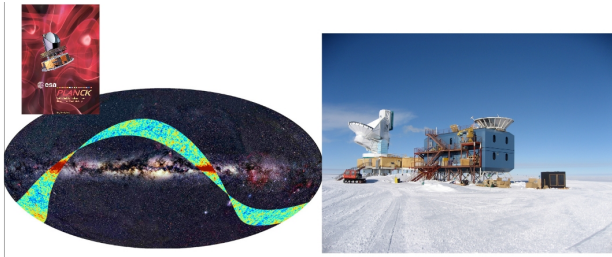
2nd NBIA-APCTP Workshop

@ NBI, Copenhagen

based on [1210.3020,1406.1947,1407.8268](#)

with Rhiannon Gwyn, Jinn-Ouk Gong, Gonzalo Palma, Mairi Sakellariadou, Min-Seok Seo





Outline

- 1** Effective Field Theory For Inflation
- 2** EFT of Weakly Coupled Models
 - Effective description of heavy physics
 - New physics regime
- 3** Interpretation of Cosmological Observables
 - Energy Scales of the EFT
- 4** Concluding Remarks

- **General statement:** Inflation = QFT on a time dependent gravitational background

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- We want to study perturbations of a scalar field following a time-dependent solution

$$\phi(x, t) = \phi_0(t) + \delta\phi(x, t)$$

Creminelli et al. '06, Cheung et al., Weinberg '08,

Senatore/Zaldarriaga '09

How to construct the EFT for the fluctuations $\delta\phi$?

Use every possible operator that respects the **symmetries** of the theory !

The set of such operators is easily identifiable in the unitary gauge:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} M_{\text{Pl}}^2 R - c(t) g^{00} - \Lambda(t) + \mathcal{L}^{(2)}(\delta g^{00}, \delta K_{\mu\nu}, \delta R_{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}, \nabla_\mu; t)$$

Requirement of **homogeneous** background

$$\implies c(t) = -\dot{H} M_{\text{Pl}}^2, \quad \Lambda(t) = (3H^2 + \dot{H}) M_{\text{Pl}}^2$$

Now $\delta\varphi = \pi\dot{\phi}_0$ may appear via the Stuckelberg trick, i.e. as the Goldstone boson related to the breaking of time reparametrizations due to the time dependence of the background:

$$\mathcal{L}^{(2)} \supset -M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \dot{H} \left[\dot{\pi}^2 - \frac{(\partial\pi)^2}{a^2} \right] + 2M_2^4 \dot{\pi}^2$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{(3)} \supset +2M_2^4 \left[\dot{\pi}^3 - \dot{\pi} \frac{(\partial\pi)^2}{a^2} \right] - \frac{4}{3} M_3^4 \dot{\pi}^3 + \dots$$

- ★ $c_s < 1 \Rightarrow f_{NL} > 0$,
- ★ Multiple contributions to the 3-point functions, etc...

Heavy “imprints” in the EFT ?

Main idea:

self-interactions in the IR appear due to mediation of massive particle states in the UV

Baumann/Green '11

Gwyn/Palma/Sakellariadou/SS '12

In other words

$$M_n \rightarrow M_n \frac{\mathcal{M}^2}{\mathcal{M}^2 - \square}$$

Two EFT expansions:

$$\frac{1}{\mathcal{M}^2 - \square} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{M}^2 - \nabla} - \frac{\partial_t^2}{(\mathcal{M}^2 - \nabla)^2}$$

Gwyn/Palma/Sakellariadou/SS

or

$$\frac{1}{\mathcal{M}^2 - \square} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{M}^2} \left(1 + \frac{\square}{\mathcal{M}^2} \right)$$

Gong/Seo/SS

leading to different momentum/time dependence of the 3-point integrals.

EFT from integration of massive fields

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{F}} = \dot{\mathcal{F}}^2 - (\nabla \mathcal{F})^2 - \mathcal{M}^2 \mathcal{F}^2 - \alpha \mathcal{F} \delta g^{00}(\pi) - \beta \mathcal{F}^2 \delta g^{00}(\pi) - \gamma \mathcal{F}^3 \delta g^{00}(\pi)$$

By restricting ourselves to low energies we can integrate out \mathcal{F} .

EOM:

$$\mathcal{F} = \frac{\alpha}{\mathcal{M}^2 - \nabla^2} \left[\delta g^{00} \frac{\beta}{\mathcal{M}^2 - \nabla^2} \right] \delta g^{00}$$

EFT from integration of massive fields

In general the resulting **effective** Lagrangian reads:

$$\mathcal{L} = -M_{\text{Pl}}^2 a^3 \dot{H} \left[\dot{\pi} \left(1 + \frac{2M_2^4}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 |\dot{H}|} \frac{\mathcal{M}^2}{\mathcal{M}^2 - \tilde{\nabla}^2} \right) \dot{\pi} - (\tilde{\nabla} \pi)^2 \right] + \mathcal{O}(\pi^3)$$

Recall ~~Lorentz~~ so the system may find itself in a non-relativistic regime.

Low energy condition :

$$\omega^2 < \mathcal{M}^2 + p^2 \implies \omega < \mathcal{M}/c_s \equiv \Lambda_{\text{UV}}$$

where $\frac{1}{c_s^2} = 1 + \frac{2M_2^4}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 |\dot{H}|}$ the speed of sound.

Non-locality and ghosts

Higher derivative theories: Ostrogradsky instability.

EFT is not such a case.

Eliezer/Woodard '89, Sousa/Woodard '03

Pole structure:

Biswas/Mazumdar/Siegel '06, Barnaby/Kamran '08

$$D(p^2) \propto \frac{1}{\Gamma(p^2)}, \quad \Gamma(p^2) = p^2 - \omega^2 - \frac{2\mathcal{M}^2\omega^2/c_s^2}{\mathcal{M}^2 + p^2 - \omega^2}$$

Poles: $\omega_+^2(p) \sim \Lambda_{\text{UV}}^2 + \mathcal{O}(p^2)$,

$$\omega_-^2(p) = c_s^2 p^2 + \frac{(1-c_s^2)^2}{\mathcal{M}^2 c_s^{-2}} p^4 + \mathcal{O}(p^6)$$

ω_+^2 has a **negative** residue!

no ghosts $\implies \omega \ll \Lambda_{\text{UV}}$

Dispersion relation

There is an important scale hidden in the dispersion relation!

$$\omega^2(p) = c_s^2 p^2 + \frac{(1-c_s^2)}{\mathcal{M}^2 c_s^{-2}} p^4$$

$$p \ll \mathcal{M}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\omega \simeq c_s p$$

$$\mathcal{M} c_s \equiv \Lambda_{\text{new}} \ll \Lambda_{\text{UV}}$$

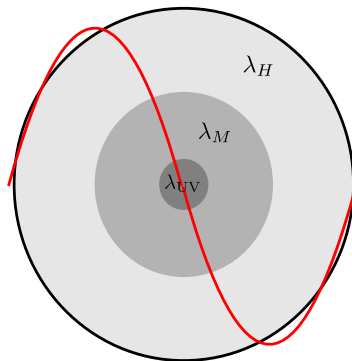
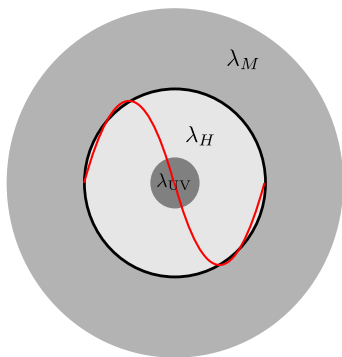
$$p \gg \mathcal{M}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\omega \simeq \frac{p^2}{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}} + \frac{1}{2} \Lambda_{\text{new}}$$

Light mode propagates in a **medium** $\rightarrow c_s \ll 1$.

Phonon excitations vs particle excitations



Left panel: mode freezes within the dispersive medium.

Right panel: mode freezes outside the effective medium.

λ_M sets the characteristic scale of the medium.

Inflationary Observables

For horizon crossing in the new phys. regime $H > \Lambda_{\text{new}}$,

$$p^2 \rightarrow \Lambda_{\text{UV}} H, \quad \partial_t \rightarrow H$$

$$\pi_k(\tau) = \frac{H}{\sqrt{2M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \epsilon}} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{8}} \frac{k}{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}} (-\tau)^{5/2} H_{5/4}^{(1)}(x), \quad x \equiv \frac{H}{2\Lambda_{\text{UV}}} k^2 \tau^2$$

$$\mathcal{P}_\zeta \propto \frac{H^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \epsilon} \sqrt{\frac{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}}{H}}, \quad r \propto \epsilon \sqrt{\frac{H}{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}}}, \quad f_{\text{NL}} \sim \frac{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}}{H}$$

as compared to $\mathcal{P}_\zeta \propto \frac{H^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \epsilon c_s}, \quad r \propto \epsilon c_s, \quad f_{\text{NL}} \sim \frac{1}{c_s^2}$

Speed of sound **replaced** by the ratio $\sqrt{H/\Lambda_{\text{UV}}} \equiv v_{\text{ph}}|_{\omega=H}$

Weakly coupled inflation

Scattering of four scalars \rightarrow loss of unitarity \rightarrow strong coupling scale

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = \frac{(1-c_s^2)}{16M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \epsilon H^2} (\nabla \pi_n)^2 \frac{\mathcal{M}^2 c_s^{-2}}{\mathcal{M}^2 - \nabla^2} (\nabla \pi_n)^2$$

$$\mathcal{A}(p_1, p_2 \rightarrow p_3, p_4) = 16\pi \left(\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial p} \frac{\omega^2}{p^2} \right) \sum_{\ell} (2\ell + 1) P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) a_{\ell}$$

optical theorem: $a_{\ell} + a_{\ell}^* \leq 1$

$$\Lambda_{\text{s.c.}} \sim \Lambda_{\text{s.b.}} \sim \Lambda_{\text{UV}}$$

Low derivative EFT: $\Lambda_{\text{s.c.}} \sim c_s^{5/4} (M_{\text{Pl}}^2 |\dot{H}|)^{1/4}$, $\Lambda_{\text{s.b.}} \sim c_s M_{\text{Pl}}^2 |\dot{H}|$

3-pt correlators

The main interactions leading to new effects are due to M_2^4 and M_3^4 and are given by

$$\mathcal{L}_I^{(3)} = M_{\text{Pl}}^2 a^3 |\dot{H}| \dot{\pi}^2 \Sigma(\nabla^2) \dot{\pi}$$

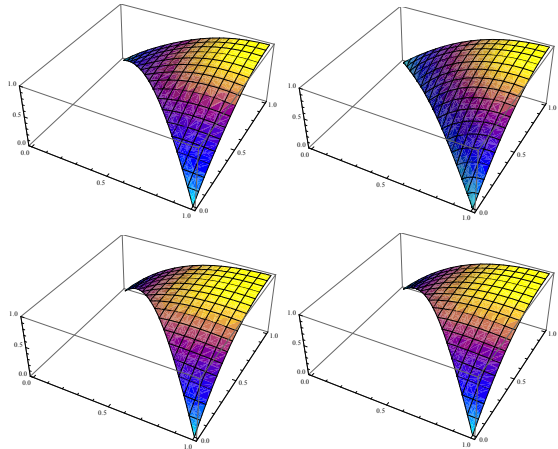
$$\mathcal{L}_{II_1}^{(3)} = -M_{\text{Pl}}^2 a^3 |\dot{H}| (\tilde{\nabla}^2 \pi)^2 \Sigma(\nabla^2) \dot{\pi}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{II_2}^{(3)} = -M_{\text{Pl}}^2 a^3 |\dot{H}| \frac{2M_3^4 c_s^2}{3M_2^4} \dot{\pi} \Sigma(\nabla^2) (\dot{\pi} \Sigma(\nabla^2) \dot{\pi})$$

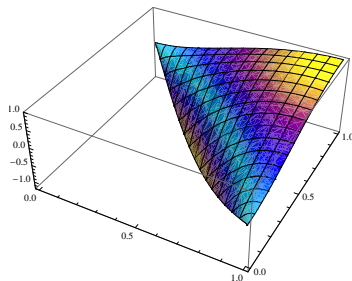
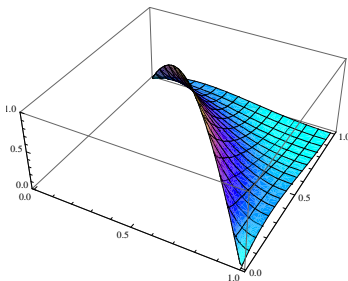
$$\mathcal{L}_{III}^{(3)} = M_{\text{Pl}}^2 a^3 |\dot{H}| \frac{2M_2^2 \tilde{M}_3 c_s^4}{3M_3^3} (\Sigma(\nabla^2) \dot{\pi})^3$$

$$\text{where } \Sigma(\tilde{\nabla}^2) \rightarrow -\frac{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}^2}{\tilde{\nabla}^2}$$

leading to



as well as folded and orthogonal shapes, arising from linear combinations of the four basic shapes



The non linearity parameters read

$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{equil}}(v_{\text{ph}}, \tilde{c}_3, \tilde{d}_3) = 0.0157 + 1.8961 v_{\text{ph}}^{-2} + 0.0128 \tilde{c}_3 v_{\text{ph}}^{-2} + 0.0167 \tilde{d}_3 v_{\text{ph}}^{-4},$$

$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{ortho}}(v_{\text{ph}}, \tilde{c}_3, \tilde{d}_3) = 0.0005 + 0.1719 v_{\text{ph}}^{-2} - 0.0004 \tilde{c}_3 v_{\text{ph}}^{-2} - 0.0003 \tilde{d}_3 v_{\text{ph}}^{-4},$$

$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{flat}}(v_{\text{ph}}, \tilde{c}_3, \tilde{d}_3) = 0.0028 + 0.3182 v_{\text{ph}}^{-2} + 0.0024 \tilde{c}_3 v_{\text{ph}}^{-2} + 0.0031 \tilde{d}_3 v_{\text{ph}}^{-4},$$

which can be inverted to yield

$$\frac{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}}{H} = -0.0009 + 38.4502 f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{equil}} - 29.577 f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{ortho}} - 209.997 f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{flat}},$$

$$\tilde{c}_3 \frac{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}}{H} = 3.5240 + 46461.8 f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{equil}} - 41701.4 f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{ortho}} - 254330 f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{flat}},$$

$$\tilde{d}_3 \frac{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}^2}{H^2} = -3.54037 - 39917.2 f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{equil}} + 35320.9 f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{ortho}} + 218778 f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{flat}}.$$

where \tilde{c}_3, \tilde{d}_3 dimensionless combinations of the couplings M_2, M_3, \tilde{M}_3 .

Input from PLANCK/BICEP \rightarrow Bounds on $\Lambda_{\text{UV}}, \tilde{c}_3, \tilde{d}_3$

Conclusions

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- Non-trivial **change** in the dispersion relation at horizon exit leading to novel interpretations for the cosmological **observables**: **constraints** on the scale of **UV** physics
- Heavy fields consistent with PLANCK/BICEP, e.g. assuming $\Lambda_{\text{UV}} \sim \Lambda_{\text{GUT}}$ requires $f_{\text{NL}} = \mathcal{O}(1)$
- Shapes are highly degenerate with the ones obtained in absence of heavy fields

Thank you !

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{equil}} \\ f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{ortho}} \\ f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{flat}} \\ f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{NL}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{S_I * S_{\text{equil}}}{S_{\text{equil}} * S_{\text{equil}}} & \frac{S_{II} * S_{\text{equil}}}{S_{\text{equil}} * S_{\text{equil}}} & \frac{S_{III} * S_{\text{equil}}}{S_{\text{equil}} * S_{\text{equil}}} & \frac{S_{III'} * S_{\text{equil}}}{S_{\text{equil}} * S_{\text{equil}}} \\ \frac{S_I * S_{\text{ortho}}}{S_{\text{ortho}} * S_{\text{ortho}}} & \frac{S_{II} * S_{\text{ortho}}}{S_{\text{ortho}} * S_{\text{ortho}}} & \frac{S_{III} * S_{\text{ortho}}}{S_{\text{ortho}} * S_{\text{ortho}}} & \frac{S_{III'} * S_{\text{ortho}}}{S_{\text{ortho}} * S_{\text{ortho}}} \\ \frac{S_I * S_{\text{flat}}}{S_{\text{flat}} * S_{\text{flat}}} & \frac{S_{II} * S_{\text{flat}}}{S_{\text{flat}} * S_{\text{flat}}} & \frac{S_{III} * S_{\text{flat}}}{S_{\text{flat}} * S_{\text{flat}}} & \frac{S_{III'} * S_{\text{flat}}}{S_{\text{flat}} * S_{\text{flat}}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_{\text{NL}}^I \\ f_{\text{NL}}^{II} \\ f_{\text{NL}}^{III} \\ f_{\text{NL}}^{III'} \end{pmatrix}$$

Using the templates

$$S_{\text{equil}}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = 6 \left(-\frac{1}{x_1^3 x_2^3} - \frac{1}{x_1^3 x_3^3} - \frac{1}{x_2^3 x_3^3} - \frac{2}{x_1^2 x_2^2 x_3^2} + \frac{1}{x_1 x_2^2 x_3^3} + 5 \text{ perm} \right)$$

$$S_{\text{ortho}}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = 6 \left(-\frac{3}{x_1^3 x_2^3} - \frac{3}{x_1^3 x_3^3} - \frac{3}{x_2^3 x_3^3} - \frac{8}{x_1^2 x_2^2 x_3^2} + \frac{3}{x_1 x_2^2 x_3^3} + 5 \text{ perm} \right)$$

$$S_{\text{flat}}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = 6 \left(\frac{1}{x_1^3 x_2^3} + \frac{1}{x_1^3 x_3^3} + \frac{1}{x_2^3 x_3^3} + \frac{3}{x_1^2 x_2^2 x_3^2} - \frac{1}{x_1 x_2^2 x_3^3} + 5 \text{ perm} \right)$$