Strong Mixing At the Cosmological Collider

Quantum Particle Production in cosmological data





Inflation As Origine of Structures



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Inflationary physics left imprints in cosmological data.

Energy Scales

• Inflationary physics = Very High energy scales.



- **PLANCK** constraints: $H \lesssim 10^{14} \text{GeV}$
- Energy Conservation: we cannot produce on-shell particles heavier than 10⁴GeV at the LHC.
- High-energy theories: often rely on the existence of very massive particles.

Idea: Use Inflation as a Cosmological Collider

How Do we detect new Particles?

• Breit-Wigner Resonance: mass/lifetime of exchanged particles.



Idea: Build an equivalent for inflation !

Observable: Bispectrum

- Simplest non-gaussian signal.
- Homogeneity of space imposes triangular configurations.



Particle Physics In Inflation

• We can build a general theory of inflationary fluctuation:

Inflaton fluctuations = massless particle

- We can build the most generic interaction with some massive particle.
- Here is the list of ALL the possible interactions patterns:



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Exchange Process in Inflation

- End of Inflation = Initial Condition for Large Scale Structures.
- Different process in the bulk leads to different correlations.



Cosmological Collider Signal

• Exchange of massive particles leads to oscillating behavior in the squeezed limit:

$$B(k_1, k_2, k_3) \sim \left(\frac{k_3}{k_2}\right)^{1/2} e^{-\pi m/H} \cos(m/H \log(k_3/k_1) + \varphi)$$



Figure from Werth, Pinol, Renaux-Petel, <u>2312.06559</u> Using Cosmo*F*low[™]

- Oscillation in $\log(k_3/k_1)$.
- Frequency = mass of the new particle.
- Amplitude suppressed by the mass \implies Small signal

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• Physically: property of massive field propagation if $m \gg H$:

$$X'' - \frac{2}{\tau}X' + \left(k^2 + \frac{m^2}{\tau^2 H^2}\right)X = 0$$

$$\implies X \sim (k\tau)^{\frac{3}{2} \pm \Delta}, \Delta = \sqrt{\frac{9}{4} - \frac{m^2}{H^2}}$$

- Strong Mixing: —— gives a strong contribution.
- We cannot rely on the simpler diagrams!





• Lack of analytic understanding.

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What about observations?

- Amplitude of three-point function $B \sim f_{NL}$.
- Current constraints, PLANCK 2018: $f_{NL} \leq O(10)$



• Need for analytical templates for strong mixing.

Effective Field Theory

• At low energy, any two-field system can be approximated by a single-field effective theory.



- Very accurate for small momentum ratios, even at strong mixing.
- Neglects the propagation of the heavy field: misses the cosmological collider physics!

Effective Field Theory

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Figure from Arkani-Hamed and al. 1811.00024

A Flavor of the idea

• We use the EFT to parametrize a field redefinition.



- New Variables = what the EFT is missing
- Two-field description: we cannot miss the Cosmic Collider signal.

It works!

• **Power Spectrum** in the new massless field *X*1:



• The effect of the strong mixing is included in the EFT description: its impact on the new variables is weak!

Consequence

• We can apply the standard computation technics.



• Generic extension of the EFT techniques.

Conclusion

- Particles of mass $m \gg E_{LHC}$ can be produced on-shell in inflation.
- Exchange of massive particles leave distinctive imprints in nongaussianities: Cosmological Collider Signal.



- **Strong Mixing** leads to a larger signal which can be understood by extending EFT techniques.
- Very promising way of probing high-energy physics!