

Title: Black Box

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Abstract:

Inflation Requires 2 basic ingredients

1. Sufficient e-foldings of inflation
2. the universe must thermalize and reheat

Old inflation, with a single tunneling event, failed to do both.

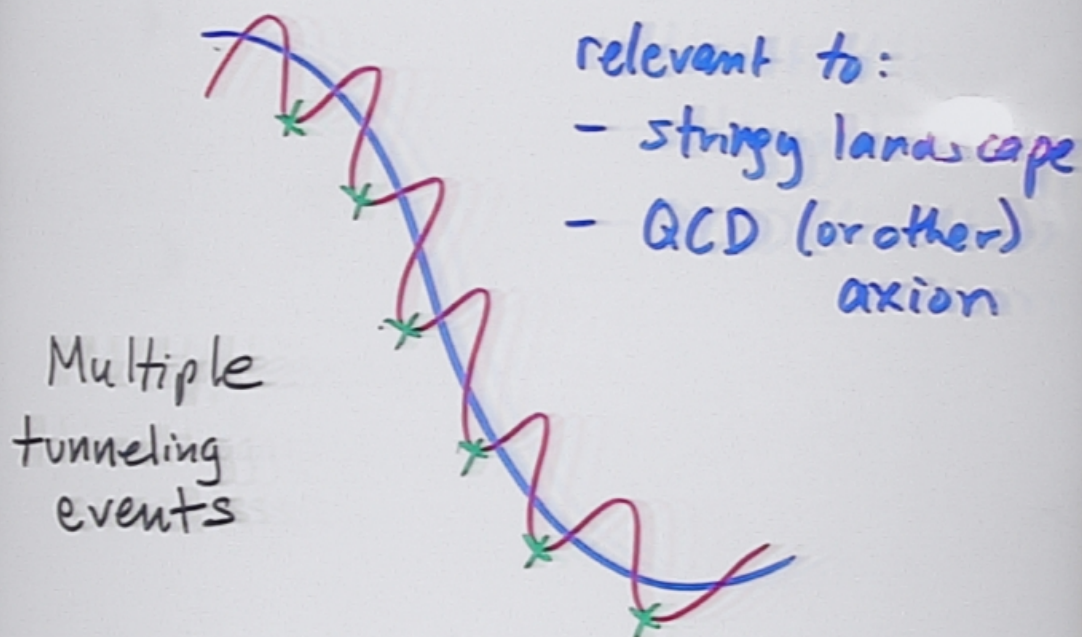
Here, multiple tunneling events

Each responsible for a fraction of an e-fold (adds to enough).

Graceful exit obtained:

Phase transition completes
at each tunneling event.

Basic Scenario



Graceful exit:

requires that the number of
e-foldings per stage $N < 1/3$

Sufficient Inflation:

total number of e-foldings

Short Comings of Inflationary Models

- Old Inflation: Fails- No Grace Full Exit

Except through a time dependent β (Double Field)
F. Adams And K. Freese, 1991

- New Inflation: Fine-Tuned

Natural Inflation- avoids fine-tuning with a shift symmetry
K. Freese, J Frieman AND A Olineto, 1990

Short Comings of Inflationary Models

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Chain Inflation

Short Comings of Inflationary Models

Slow Inflation: Fails- No Grace Full Exit

Except through a time dependent β (Double Field)

Adams And K. Freese, 1991

Low Inflation: Fine-Tuned

Natural Inflation- avoids fine-tuning with a shift symmetry

Freese, J Frieman AND A Olinto, 1990

NEW FRAMEWORK for INFLATION

Over Coming Short Comings

with Chain Inflation

- No Fine Tuning
- Large Range of Energy Scales

10^{16} GeV to 10 MeV

- Saves Old Inflation

Graceful Exit- phase transition occurs very quickly

Chain Inflation

1. Old Inflation

- Why it fails

2. What's needed:

time-dependent Γ/H^4

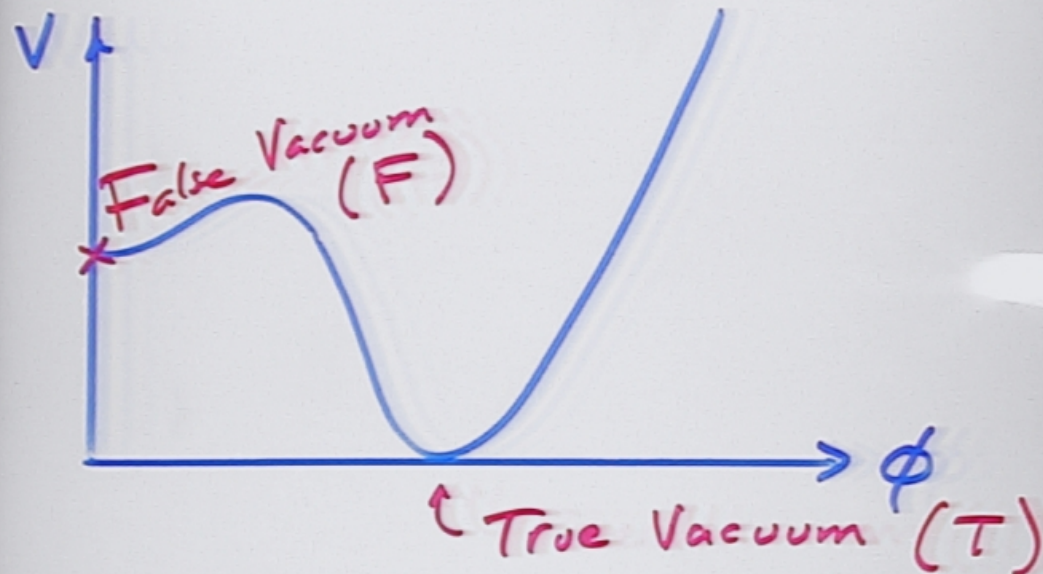
3. Current model:

Multiple tunneling events

each with $N_e \ll 1$

couple to graceful exit

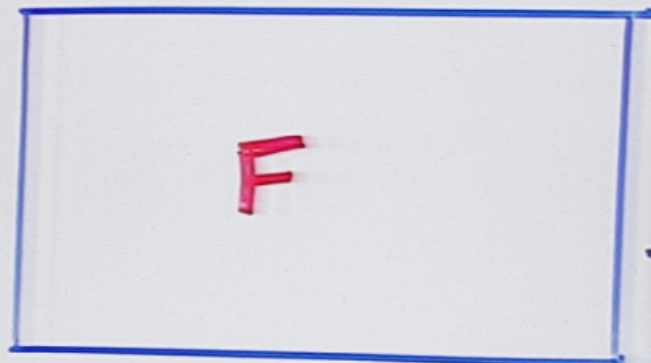
Old Inflation



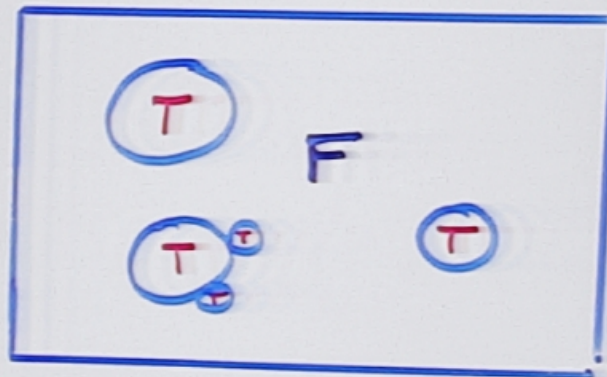
Universe goes from
false vacuum \rightarrow true vacuum

Bubbles of true vacuum
nucleate in sea of false vacuum
(first order phase transition)

Swiss Cheese Problem of Old Inflation



entire
universe
in
false
vacuum
(F)



nucleate
bubbles
of
true
vacuum
(T)

Problem: Bubbles never
percolate + thermalize

What is needed for
tunneling inflation to work?

Probability of a point remaining
in false vacuum phase :

$$p(t) \sim e^{-\beta H t}$$

$$\text{where } \beta = \frac{\Gamma}{H^4}$$

nucleation
rate of true
vacuum
bubbles

[Guth +
Wittenberg
1981]

expansion rate of
universe

Theories with constant β fail
(e.g. old inflation)

Small β : phase transition proceeds slowly,
universe inflates, but phase transition
never completes

Large β : phase transition is fast,
no inflation,

yes: nucleation rate is high

Graceful Exit Achieved

Guth and Weinberg, 1983

Turner, Weinberg, and Widrow, 1992

calculated that a critical value of

$$\beta = \frac{\Gamma}{H^4} \geq \beta_{crit} = 9/4\pi$$

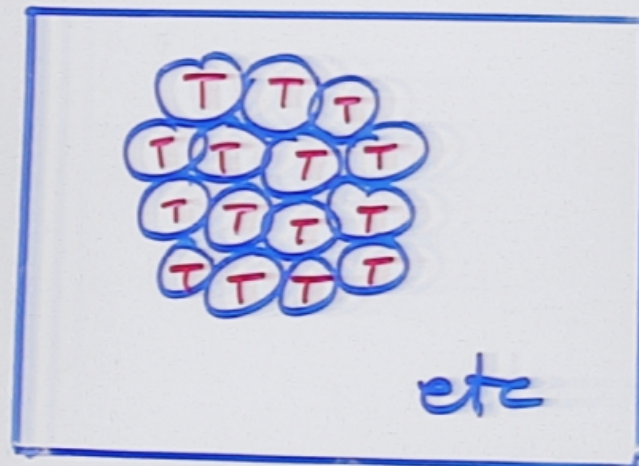
is required in order for percolation and thermalization to be achieved. In terms of e -foldings, this is

$$\chi \leq \chi_{crit} = 1/3.$$

Chain Inflation



↓ Bubble Bubble



POP

2 requirements for inflation

$$p(t) \sim \exp\left(-\frac{4\pi}{3}\beta H t\right)$$

$$\sim \exp(-t/\tau)$$

$$\beta \equiv V/H^4$$

lifetime of field in metastable state:

$$\tau \approx \frac{3}{4\pi H \beta} = \frac{3}{4\pi} \frac{H^3}{\Gamma}$$

Number of e-foldings from
single tunneling event:

$$N_{\text{eff}} = \int H dt \sim H \tau \sim \frac{3}{4\pi \beta}$$

Sufficient inflation:

$$N_{\text{tot}} > 60$$

Reheating (percolation + thermalization)

$$\beta \geq \beta_{\text{crit}} = 9/16$$

How to achieve both criteria:

$$N_{\text{tot}} \geq 60$$

Sufficient
inflation

$$N \leq N_{\text{crit}} = 1/3 \text{ Reheat:}$$

with single tunneling event:

"Double Field inflation" (Adams +
Freese 1991)

- time dependent nucleation rate
- couple 2 scalar fields

with multiple tunneling events

- Chain Inflation

get a fraction of an e-folding
at each stage,

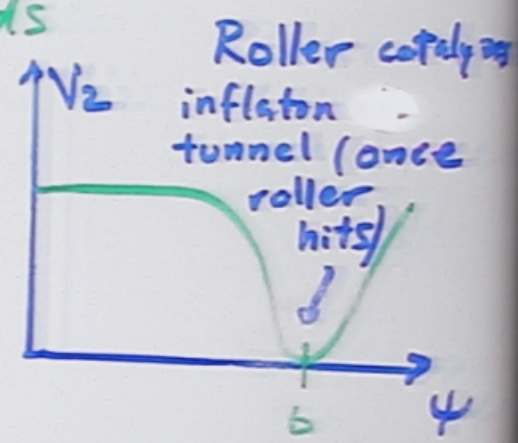
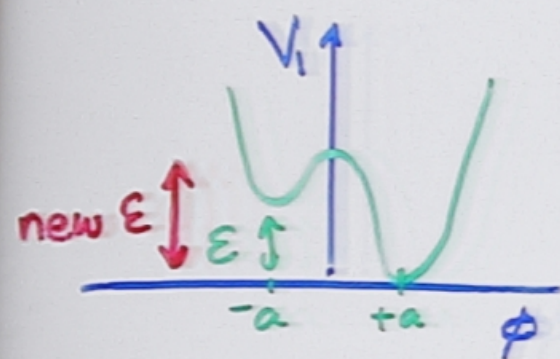
adds to more than 60 in the end

Double Field Inflation

Adam + Freese 1991

Time-Dependent Nucleation Rate

Couple 2 scalar fields



Once ψ rolls to its minimum, $\epsilon_{eff} \uparrow$
 Tunneling rate for ϕ increases

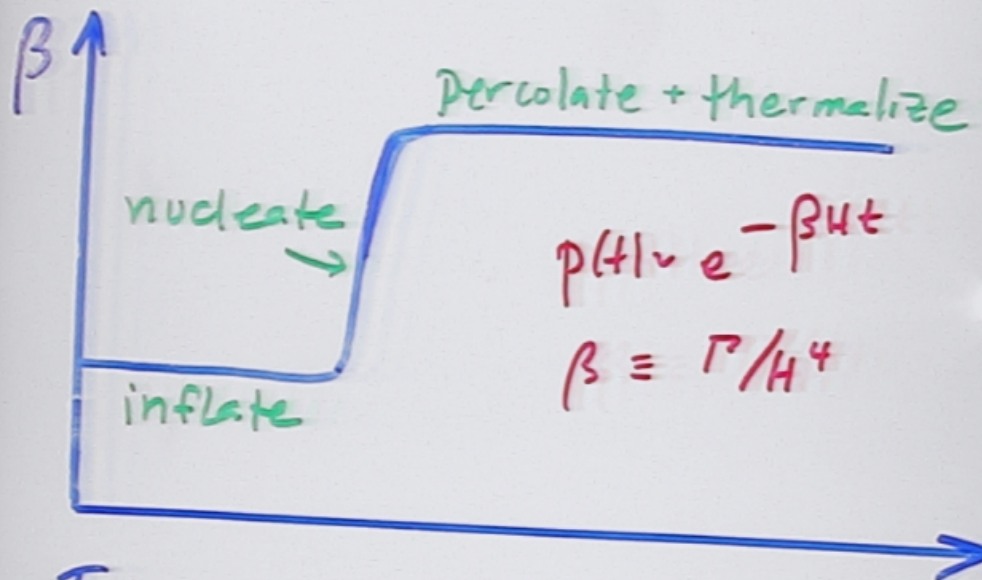
$$V_{tot} = V_1(\phi) + V_2(\psi) + V_{int}(\phi, \psi)$$

$$\epsilon_{eff} = \epsilon + f(\psi) a^4 \quad \uparrow \quad \frac{a^4}{2a} f(\psi) (\phi - a)$$

Tunneling rate: $\Gamma \sim e^{-S_E}, S_E \sim \frac{1}{\epsilon_{eff}^3}$

\int 0 for ψ at top of potential

Need:



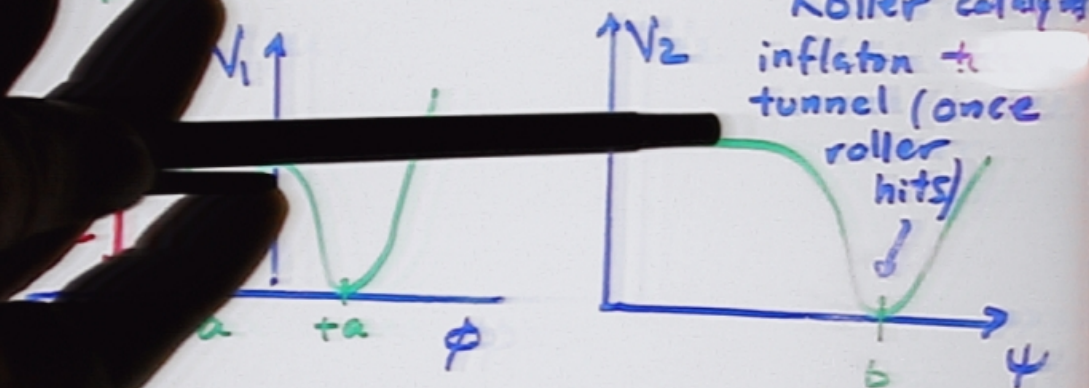
To solve problems of old inflation, t
need β initially small \Rightarrow get inflation.
Then, suddenly, β gets large so that
all of universe goes from
false \rightarrow true vacuum at once.
All bubbles of same size,
get percolation + thermalization

Double Field Inflation

Adam +
Freese
1991

Time-Dependent Nucleation Rate

couple 2 scalar fields



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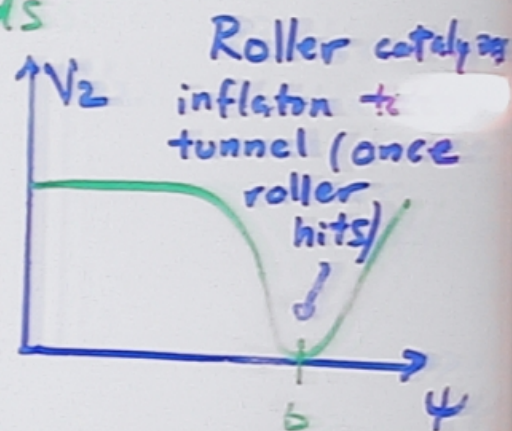
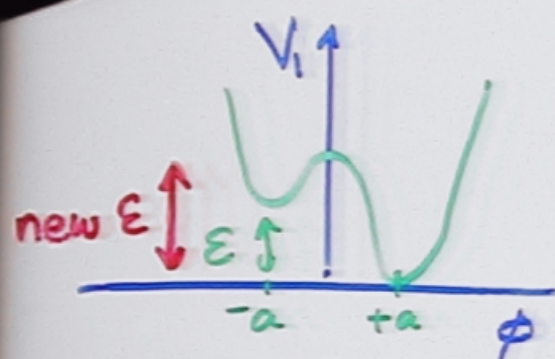
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Double Field Inflation

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Time-Dependent Nucleation Rate

Example 2 scalar fields



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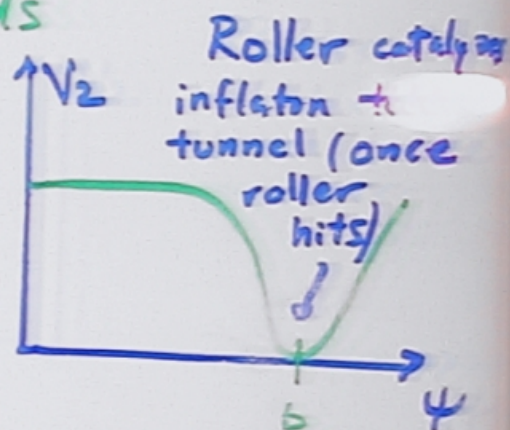
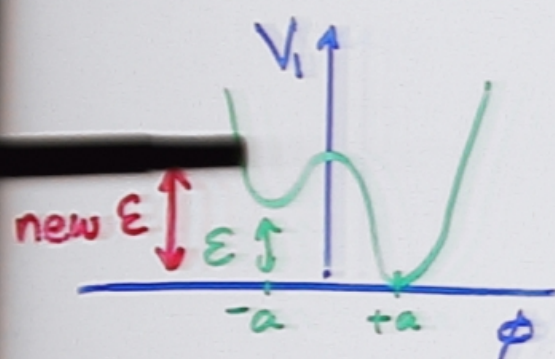
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Double Field Inflation

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Couple 2 scalar fields



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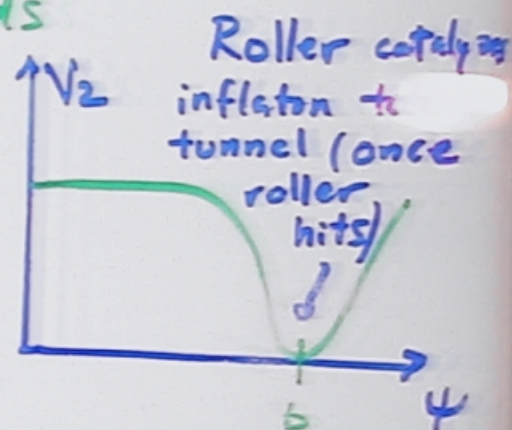
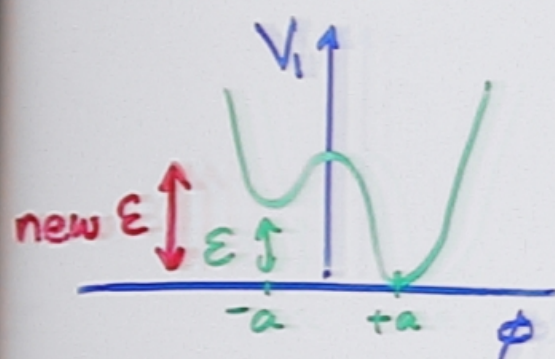
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Double Field Inflation

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Time-Dependent Nucleation Rate

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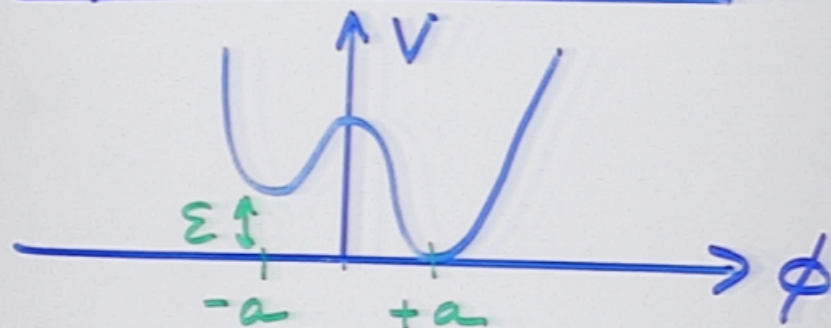
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0 for ψ at top of potential

Asymmetric Double Well



Nucleation Rate

$$\Gamma \sim \epsilon e^{-S_E}$$

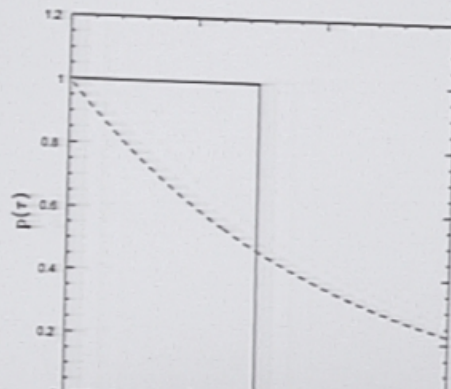
(Callan, Coleman,
Volichin, Okon,
Ostarev)

$$S_E = \frac{\pi^2}{6} \frac{d^2 a^{12}}{\epsilon^3}$$

(thin wall)

n.b. as ϵ increases
so does nucleation rate

Tunneling Rates, Graceful and not



How to achieve both

$$X_{\text{tot}} > 60 \quad \text{sufficient inflation}$$

$$X < X_{\text{crit}} = 1/3 \quad \text{percolation}$$

with single tunneling event:

Double Field Inflation Adams + Freese 91

time dependent nucleation rate
couple two scalars

with multiple tunneling events

Chain Inflation

- with QCD axion
- in landscape

QCD Axion: Tilted Cosine

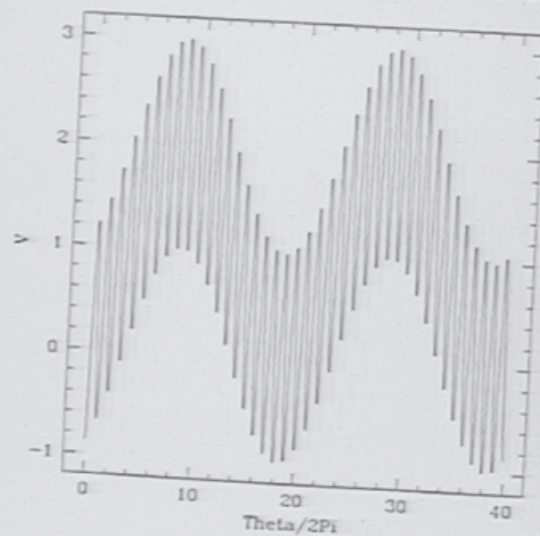


Figure 5: The soft-breaking potential is a tilted cosine as in the potential. Here we have taken $N = 20$ and $\eta = V_0$.

Inflating with the QCD Axion

Freese, J.T. Liu And D. Spolyar, hep-th/0502177

While the axion is *a priori* a Goldstone boson of the spontaneously broken Peccei-Quinn symmetry $U(1)_{PQ}$, QCD instanton effects induce an axion potential with residual Z_N symmetry. The model we consider includes an additional explicit soft-breaking term, which tilts the instanton induced potential. While the complete form of the axion potential is dependent on non-perturbative effects, it is well modeled by a potential of the form

$$V(a) = V_0 \left[1 - \cos \frac{Na}{v} \right] - \eta \cos \left[\frac{a}{v} + \gamma \right]. \quad (10)$$

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$$V(a) = V_0 \left[1 - \cos \frac{Na}{f} \right] + \eta \cos \left[\frac{a}{f} + \gamma \right]. \quad (10)$$

$$V = V_0 \left[1 - \cos \frac{Na}{v} \right] - \eta \cos \left[\frac{a}{v} + \gamma \right]$$

← from soft breaking of PQ symmetry

linear regime

$$\eta \cos \left[\frac{a}{v} + \gamma \right] \approx \eta \left(\cos \frac{a}{v} \right)$$

Bottom

Invisible axion (OPJZ)

Axion is identified as phase of a complex $SU_2 \times U_1$ singlet scalar σ below PQ symmetry breaking scale
 $\sigma = v/\sqrt{2}$

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (v + \rho / \exp(i a/v))$$

Soft breaking

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{soft}} = \mu^3 \sigma + \text{h.c.}$$

$$\Rightarrow V_{\text{soft}} = \eta \cos(a/v + \delta)$$

$$-\pi/N < \delta < \pi/N$$

$$2\pi/N$$

Same Criterion and Some More

- Previous Conditions

percolate each stage: $\chi \leq 1/3$

Sufficient Inflation: $N_{tot} \geq 60$

- neutron Electric Dipole Moment

Constrains Soft Breaking term

- Don't Go Over the Top

Chain Inflation

Tilted Cosine QCD Axion:tunneling Rate

In the thin wall limit, the tunneling rate is given by $\Gamma \sim e^{-S_E}$. We need to calculate $S_1 = \int \sqrt{2U_+(a)} da$, which is integrated from one minimum to the next, where the symmetric portion of the potential is $U_+(\theta) = V_0(1 - \cos\theta)$ so $S_1 = \sqrt{2V_0}f_a \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{1 - \cos\theta} d\theta = 8f_a\sqrt{V_0}$. Hence the Euclidean action is

$$S_E = \frac{27\pi^2 S_1^4}{2\epsilon^3} = 5 \times 10^5 \frac{V_0^2 f_a^4}{\epsilon^3}. \quad (1)$$

Coleman, 1977

Voloshin, Kobzarev AND Okun, 1975

Callan AND Coleman, 1977

Chain Inflation

The Neutron Electric Dipole Moment Limit

We must ensure that the soft-breaking term in the potential does not destroy the strong CP solution, *i.e.*, that the minimum of the potential is not shifted away from zero by more than is allowed by the electric dipole moment (EDM) of the neutron

$$\Delta\bar{\theta}|_{\text{EDM}} < 6 \times 10^{-10}. \quad (12)$$

G. harris, 1999

Implied constraints

For large N , we find that the shift from $\bar{\theta} = 0$ is given by

$$\Delta\bar{\theta}|_{\text{EDM}} = \left| \frac{\eta}{V_0 N} \sin \gamma \right| \sim \left| \frac{\eta}{V_0 N} \gamma \right| \sim \frac{\eta \pi}{2 V_0 N^2}. \quad (13)$$

- determined by finding the relative shift of vacua near the bottom
- In the last equality, we have used the fact that $|\gamma| < \pi/N$ to estimate that a typical arbitrary value of $\gamma \sim \pi/(2N)$.

Bottom Regime

At the bottom of the potential, $\epsilon(n=0) \sim 2\pi^2\eta/N^2$, using Eq. (13),

$$\epsilon_{\text{bottom}} \sim 4\pi V_0 \Delta\bar{\theta}|_{\text{EDM}}. \quad (14)$$

Combining this with the bound on the neutron EDM, we find that

$$\epsilon_{\text{bottom}}^{1/4} \leq 2\text{MeV}. \quad (15)$$

Inflating With the QCD Axion

- Necessary conditions for Chain inflation are met in the linear regime.
- Seem to get stuck at the bottom

Too Soon to tell

Some of the "fixes" just need to be looked at more carefully

More Generally

In this paper we have restricted discussion to axions which can solve the strong CP problem. Obviously, if we forego any contact with real QCD, then the allowed ranges for parameters becomes much larger. For example, the constraint from the neutron EDM vanishes. Then the ranges of potential width, barrier height, and energy difference between vacua are completely opened up. A tilted cosine may arise due to (non-QCD) "axions" in many other contexts, such as string theory, and would easily provide an inflaton candidate. Such a general case will be investigated in a future paper.

Landscape

- Similarly in the landscape: a small causally connected patch (Our Universe) begins at some false vacuum state.
- this vacuum state couples to many other vacua
 - could tunnel to a large number of other vacuum states
- Ultimately there is only one single path through the various vacuum state in the landscape

The Landscape One More Time

- Toy model: a series of coupled asymmetric double wells.
each field provides a fraction of an e-fold
percolate and reheat every stage
provided if:

1. $\chi \leq 1/3$
2. $\chi_{tot} \geq 60$
3. need 200 vacua. Landscape has 10^{200} vacuum states.

- Don't get stuck
 - many different vacua the universe could tunnel to
 - avoid slow tunnelers
- Can't go too fast
 - for this patch will not inflate enough
- There is ultimately only one path
 - the slowest fast route

Chain Inflation

Coupled Double Wells

Considering a series of coupled double wells. The total potential for the system is

$$V_{tot}(\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_q) = \sum_i V_{tot,i} = \sum_i [V_i(\phi_i) + V_{i,i-1}] \quad (23)$$

where $0 < i \leq q$. We take asymmetric double-well potentials

$$V_i(\phi_i) = \frac{1}{4}\lambda_i(\phi_i^2 - a_i^2)^2 - \frac{\epsilon_i}{2a_i}(\phi_i - a_i) \quad (24)$$

Conclusion

- Chain inflation imposes some light conditions upon any workable model

$$\chi \leq 1/3$$

$$\chi_{tot} \geq 60$$

- two workable models

Stringy Landscape

QCD Axion

Chain Inflation

Conclusion

- many more workable models along the lines of the Axion can be found
- Chain Inflation is a useful mechanism which can produce the necessary inflation to solve the standard cosmology problems
- It offers an attractive alternative to other inflationary models

Wide Range of Scales

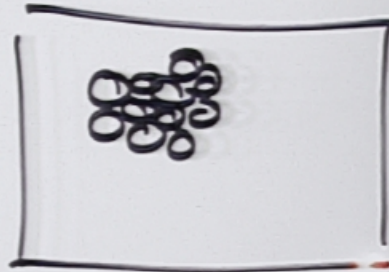
No Fine-Tuning

Graceful Exit

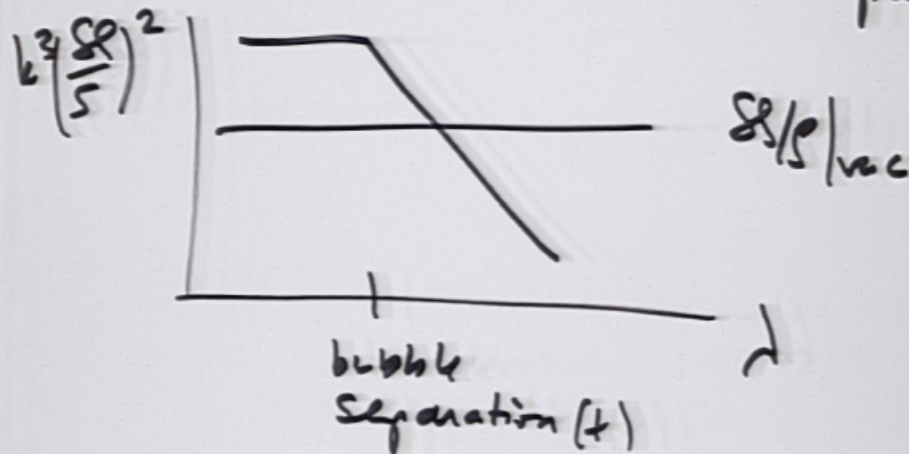
Chain Inflation

Density Perturbations

$$\Gamma/H^4 \gg 1$$



treat bumps as
friction in slow-roll (vacuum
part)



$$\frac{\delta}{s} \sim \left(\frac{P_{\text{bubble wall}}}{P_{\text{vac}}} \right)^2$$

roughly scale invariant