

Title: Perturbative Bounds in Inflation && Quantum Loops

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Abstract: We estimate the size of loop corrections in various inflationary systems and determine the region of parameter space where the perturbation theory around a quasi de Sitter background is strongly coupled. In some models, we argue that backreaction to the inflationary background become important before the perturbations become strongly coupled while in others, there seems to exist a legitimate strongly coupled but still inflating regime. We also demonstrate that loop effects could be dominant in the bispectrum while still having a well controlled perturbation theory and we explore the phenomenological implications.

# The Perturbative Regime of Inflation and Loop Corrections

Louis Leblond  
Texas A&M



arXiv:0802.2290  
arXiv:0805.1229  
work in progress

L.L. and Sarah Shandera  
Bhaskar Dutta, Jason Kumar, L.L.  
Jason Kumar, L.L., Arvind Rajaraman

# Motivation

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$$\langle \zeta_k^2 \rangle =$$

- ◆ From observation: Planck and other data set are coming. We want to calculate more precisely the primordial curvature 2-pt and higher.
- ◆ From theory: Holographic description of the early universe (dS/CFT), eternal inflation... Anomalous dimensions of some operators in quasi-de Sitter.

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$2.74 \times 10^{-9}$   
(on CMB scale)

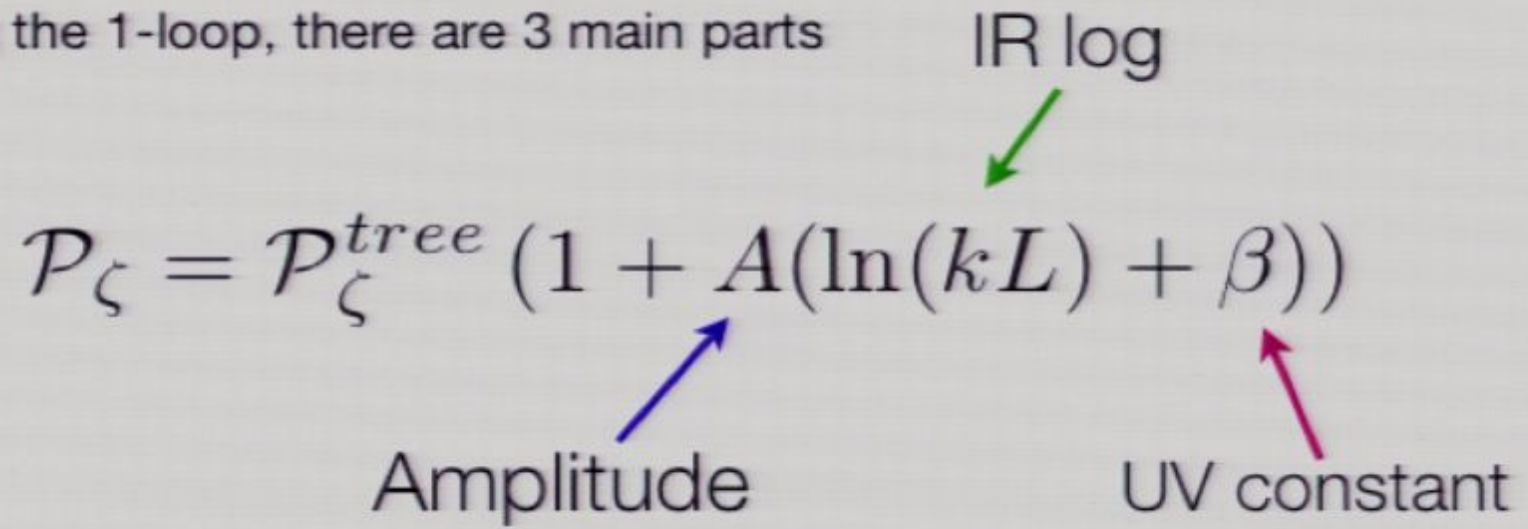
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# Precision cosmology = Loops?

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- ◆ Dissecting the 1-loop, there are 3 main parts

$$\mathcal{P}_\zeta = \mathcal{P}_\zeta^{tree} (1 + A(\ln(kL) + \beta))$$



- ◆ Q: When does the perturbative regime breaks down? For log of order 1,  $A \sim 1$ .
- ◆ Q: Can we have large loops effect?
- ◆ Q: Renormalization? Resummation of Logs?

# Outline

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- ◆ Set-up: 2 examples & 4 numbers
- ◆ Backreaction/perturbative bounds
- ◆ Loop dominated higher point functions.

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IR log

Amplitude

UV constant

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## 2 examples, 4 numbers:

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- ◆ Single field, general sound speed. (e.g DBI & Ghost inflation)

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (M_p^2 R + 2P(X, \phi))$$

$$X = -\frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi \quad c_s^2 = \frac{dP}{d\rho} = \frac{P_{,X}}{P_{,X} + 2XP_{,XX}}$$

- ◆ Many uncoupled fields (e.g. N-flation type or 1 inflaton and N spectators massless fields)

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{g} \left( \sum_i \frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}_i^2 - V(\phi_i) \right)$$

# Effective Field Theory of Perturbation

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- ◆ Expand around a FRW inflating background. (set the tensor modes to zero).

$$\delta\phi(\vec{x}, t) = \zeta(\vec{x}, t)$$

$$S = S_0 + S_2 + S_3 + \dots$$

$$S_0 > S_2 \quad \text{Gradient Energy Condition}$$

$$S_2 > S_n, \quad n \geq 3 \quad \text{Perturbative Regime}$$

c.f. Nicolis

very simplified, power counting

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## Explicit -- single field

Acquaviva, Bartolo, Mattarese, Riotto  
Maldacena,  
Seery Lidsey,  
Chen, Huang, Kachru, Shiu

$$S_0 \sim V(\phi) \sim H^2 M_p^2$$

$$S_2 = M_p^2 \int dt d^3x \left( a^3 \frac{\epsilon}{c_s^2} \dot{\zeta}^2 - a\epsilon (\partial\zeta)^2 \right)$$

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Neglecting interactions and solving EoM

$$\langle \zeta^2 \rangle^{1/2} \sim \frac{H}{\sqrt{\epsilon c_s} M_p}$$

over time  
and size

$$t \sim 1/H$$
$$\Delta x \sim \frac{c_s}{aH}$$



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Seery/Sloth

Gao & Xu

Dimastrogiovanni  
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- ◆ These are order of magnitude estimates which are not true in general. No huge IR effect included, no cancellation of diagrams.
- ◆ For small sound speed, there might be higher derivative interaction besides X but no new more dominant term seem to appear.
- ◆ Generic action at quadratic order also gets the same bound (including gravity terms) for single field.

Shandera

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Cheung, Creminelli, Fitzpatrick  
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# Comments on Eternal Inflation

- ◆ Eternal inflation occurs when the quantum fluctuations of the inflaton are of the same order as the classical motion. This translates to order 1 curvature perturbations

$$\zeta \sim 1 \quad \mathcal{P}^\zeta \sim 1$$

Creminelli, Dubovsky, Nicolis, Senatore, Zaldarriaga

- ◆ For slow-roll, you can locally reach order one curvature in the weak coupling regime

$$\mathcal{P}^\zeta \sim \frac{1}{\epsilon}$$

- ◆ But for small sound speed

$$\mathcal{P}^\zeta < c_s^4 < 1$$

c.f. Shander  
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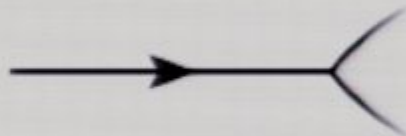
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Tolley, Wyman  
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# Large Loops Effect?

◆ All the A are very small.  $\frac{H^2}{M_p^2} < 10^{-10}$

◆ The Gaussianity of CMB tells us that these effect have to be small

$$|f_{NL}| \sim \frac{1}{c_s^2} < 10^2 \quad \frac{\mathcal{P}_\zeta}{c_s^4} < 10^{-5}$$

L.L. Shandera  
Armendaritz-Picon, Lin  
Khoury, Piazza

◆ could get large loops on other scales than CMB. For example running of  $c_s$

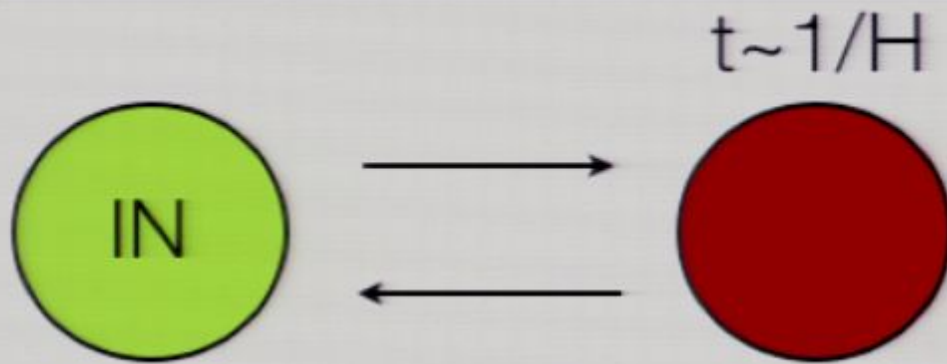
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Switch to a completely different way  
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## Loops from $\delta N$

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# Large Loops Effect?

◆ All the A are very small.  $\frac{H^2}{M_p^2} < 10^{-10}$

◆ The Gaussianity of CMB tells us that these effect have to be small

$$|f_{NL}| \sim \frac{1}{c_s^2} < 10^2 \quad \frac{\mathcal{P}_\zeta}{c_s^4} < 10^{-5}$$

L.L. Shandera  
Armendaritz-Picon, Lin  
Khoury, Piazza

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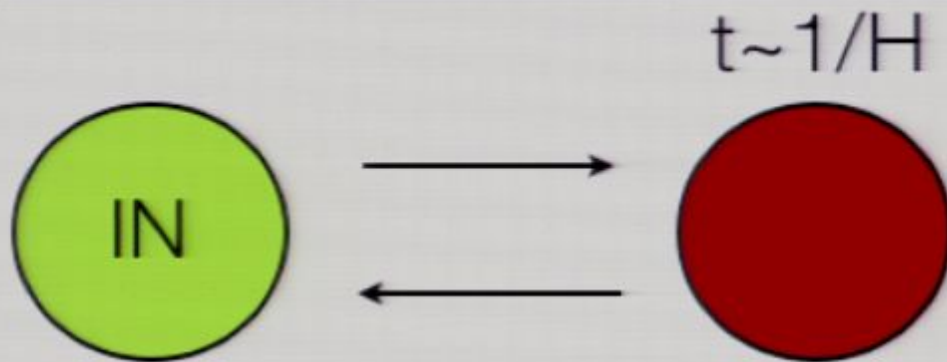
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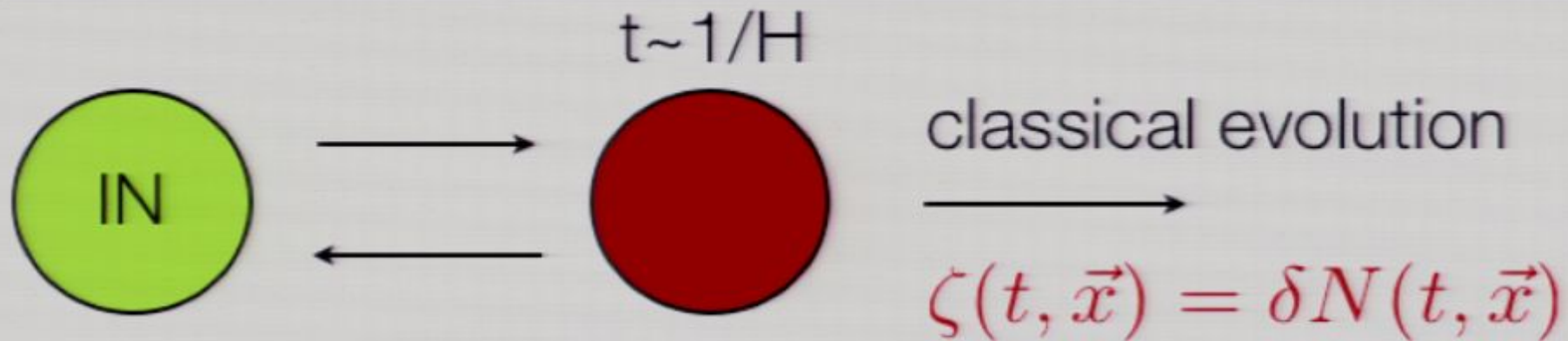


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Sasaki & Stewart

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Beyond linear order

$$\zeta = \alpha \delta\phi + \beta \delta\phi^2$$

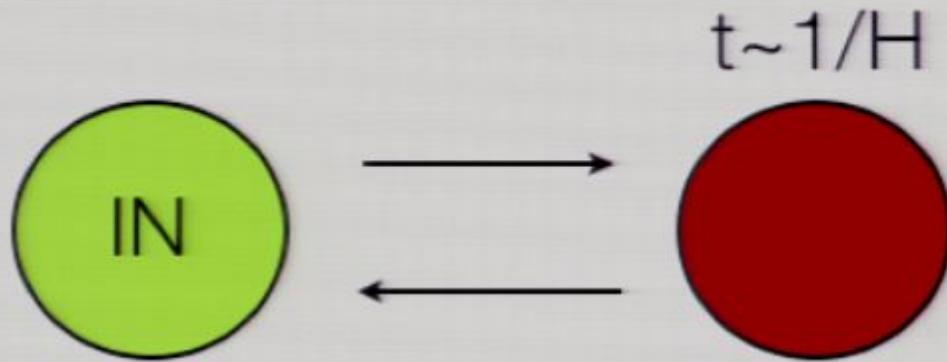
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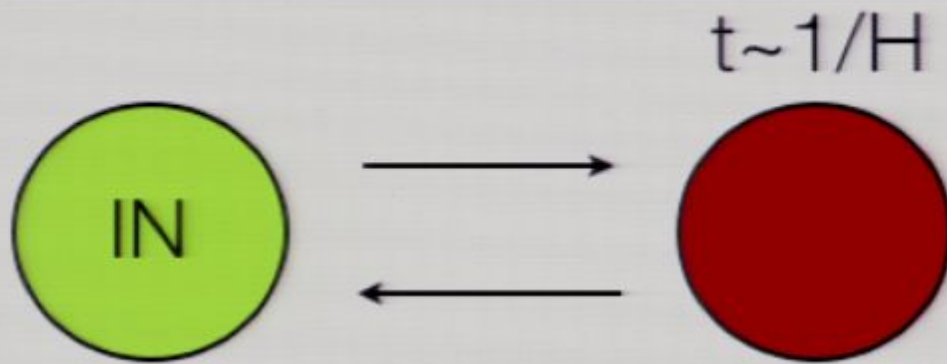
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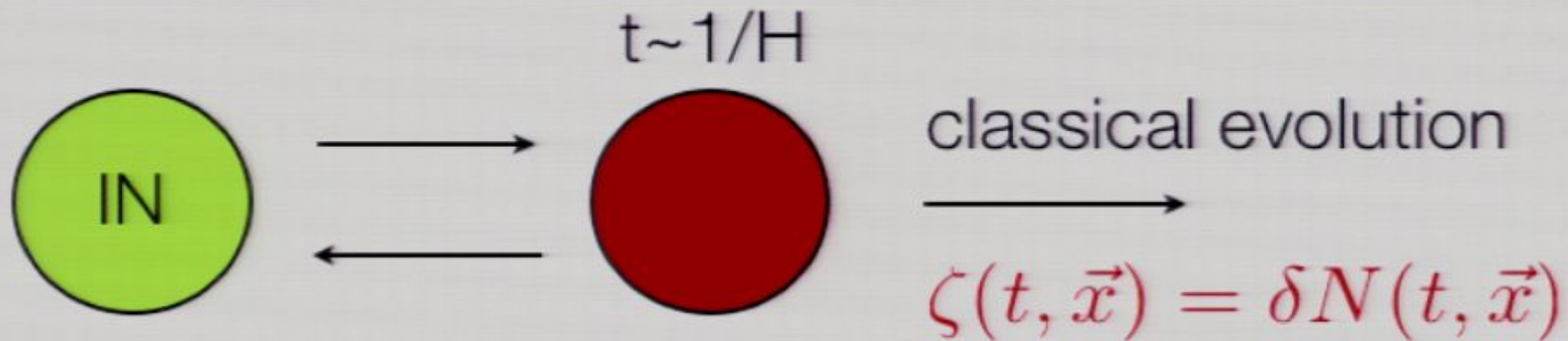
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Assuming no tilt, loop integral has two poles

$$\int d^3 \vec{k}' \frac{1}{|\vec{k} - \vec{k}'|^3 k'^3} \sim \ln(kL)$$

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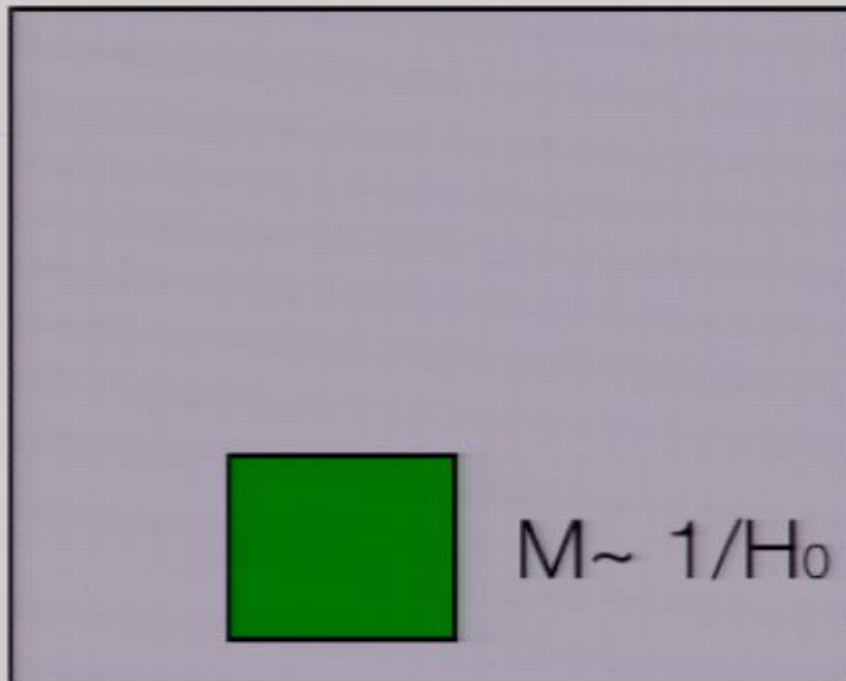
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Riotto & Seery/  
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2 procedures that gives  
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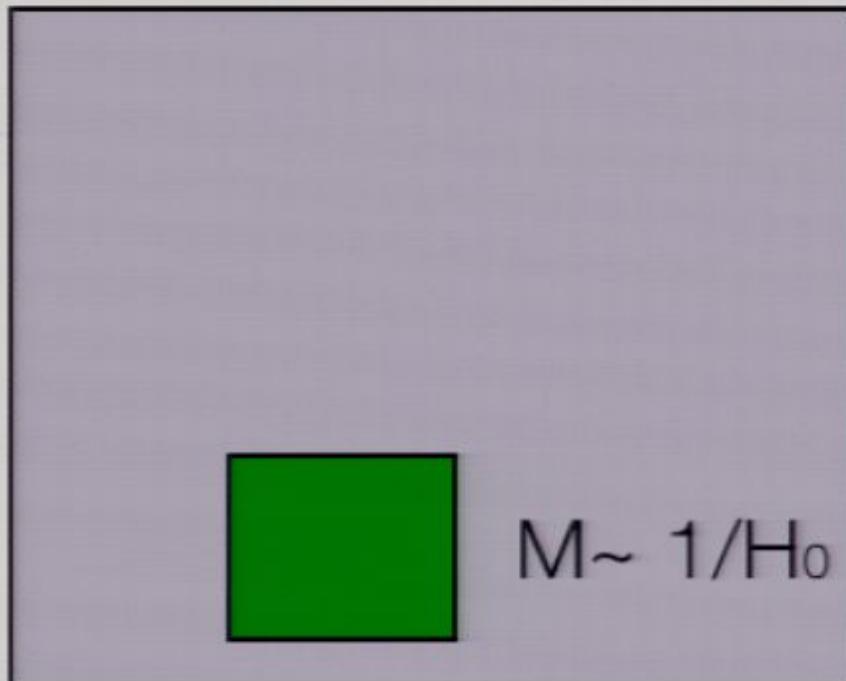
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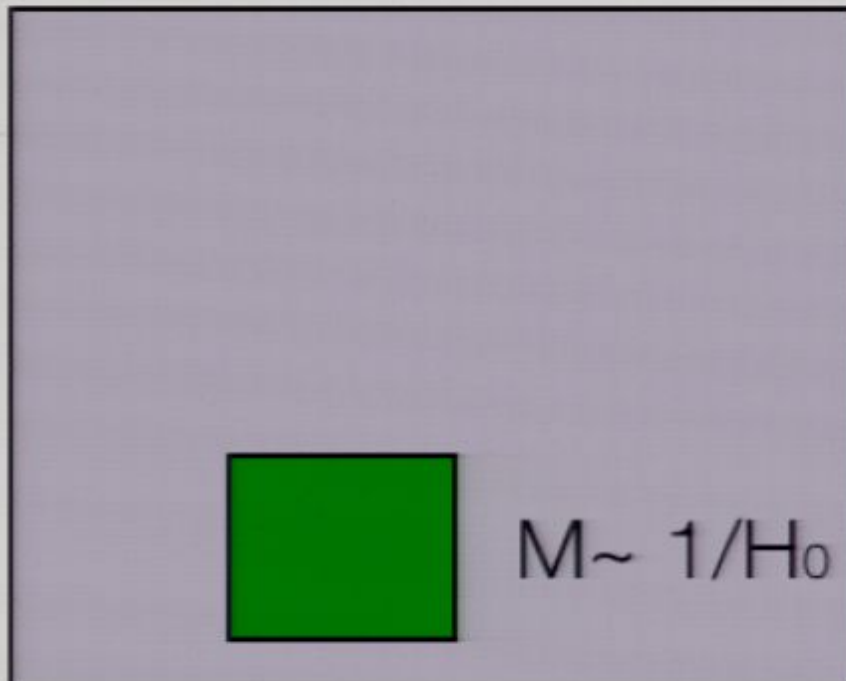


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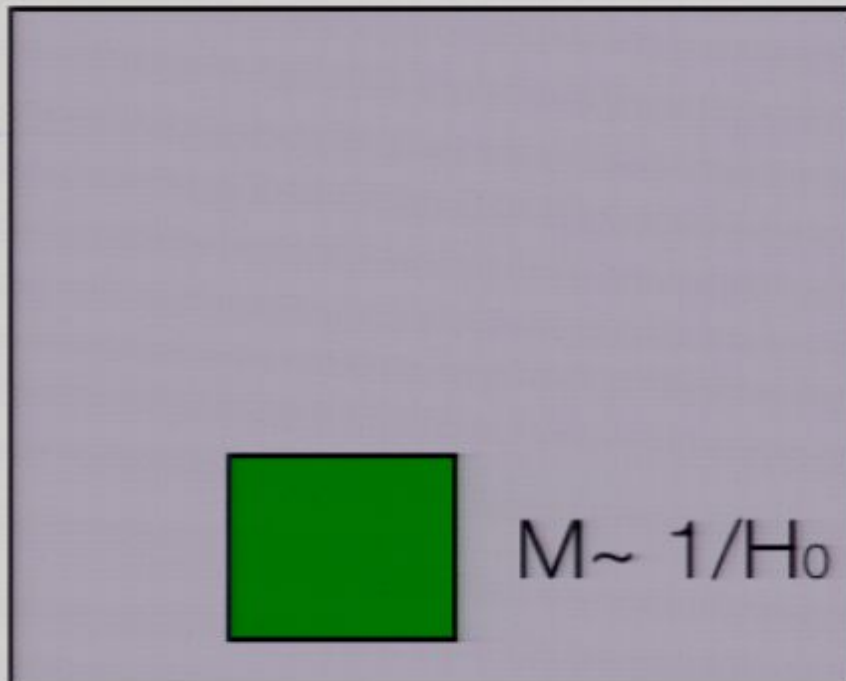
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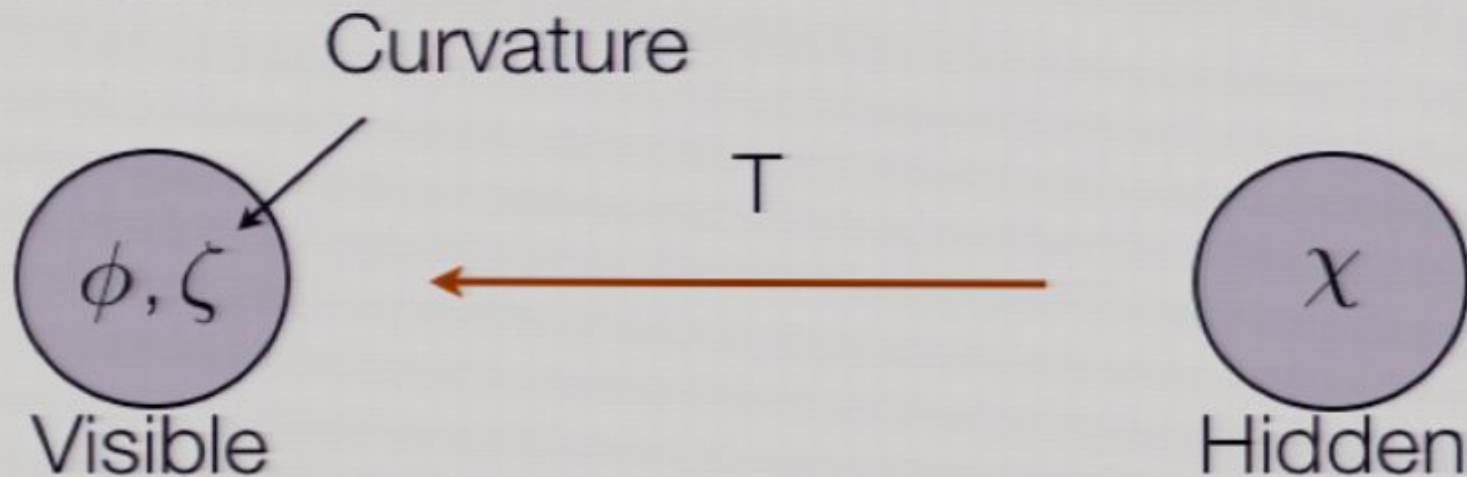
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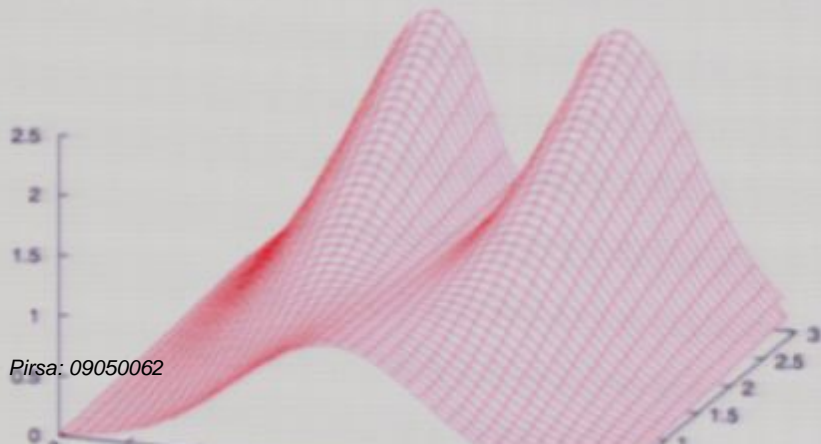
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## Tachyon Mediated Density Perturbations

◆ In Hybrid inflation



We are not generating density perturbations from the tachyon. (assume that contribution from tachyon preheating for example are small)



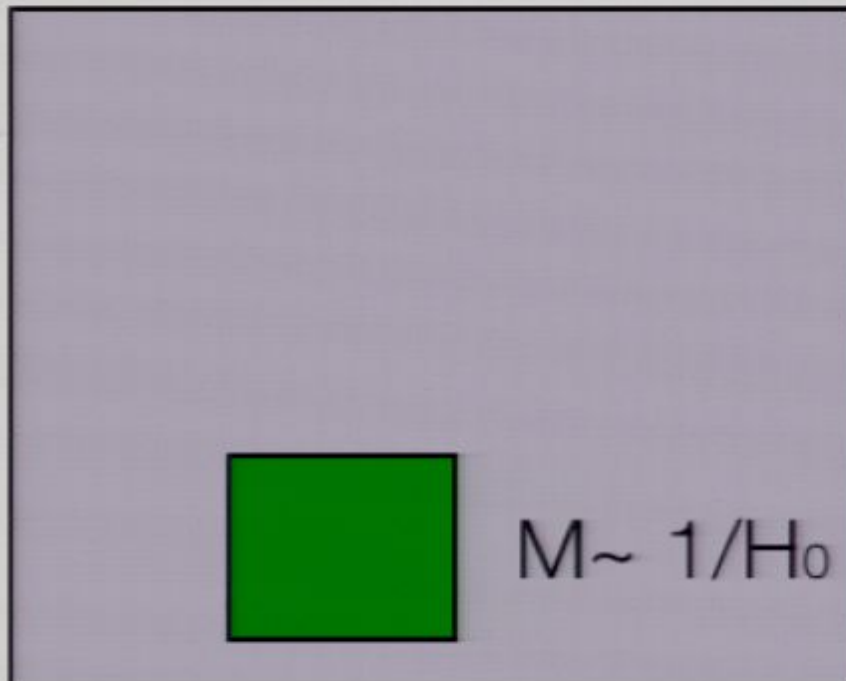


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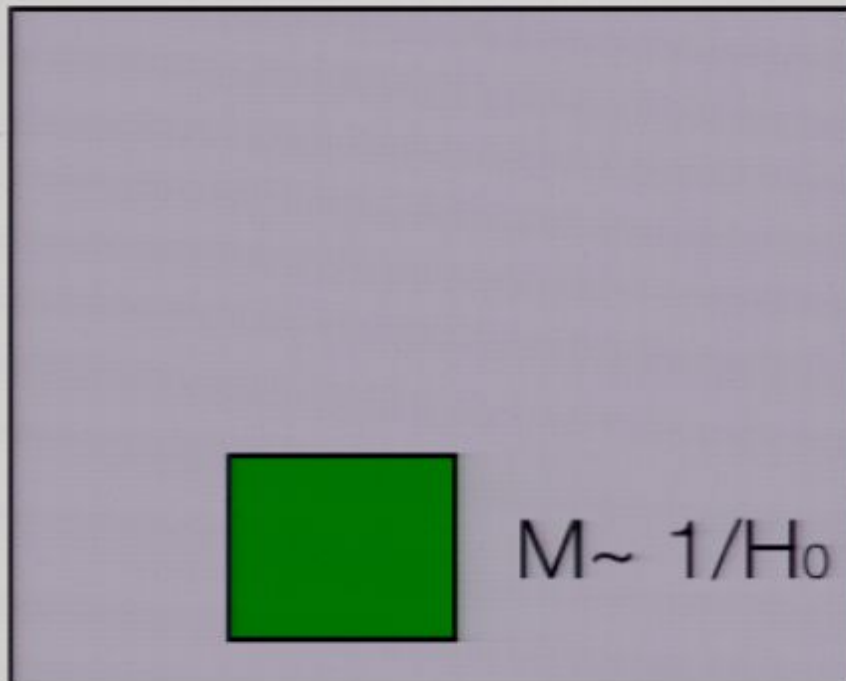
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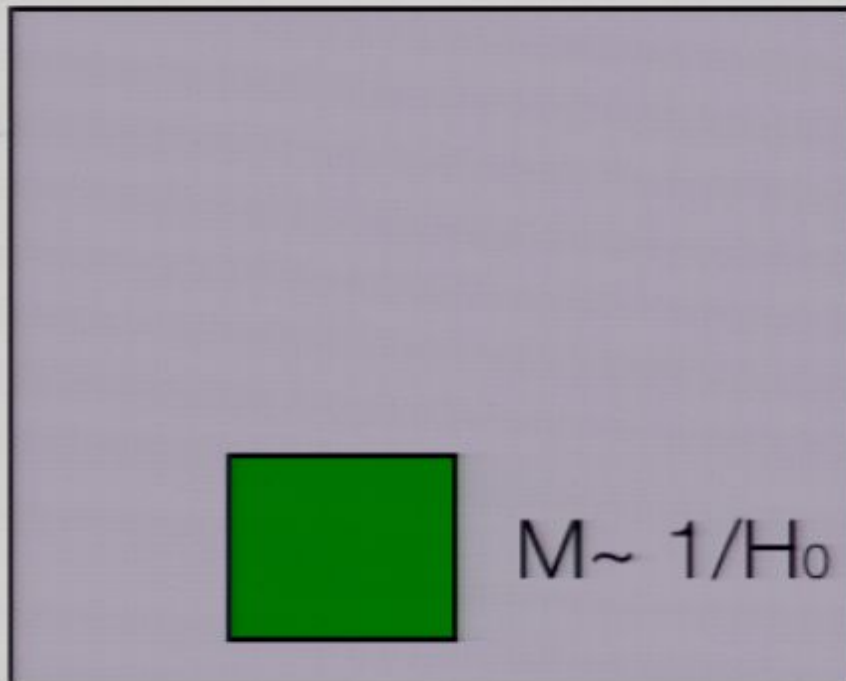


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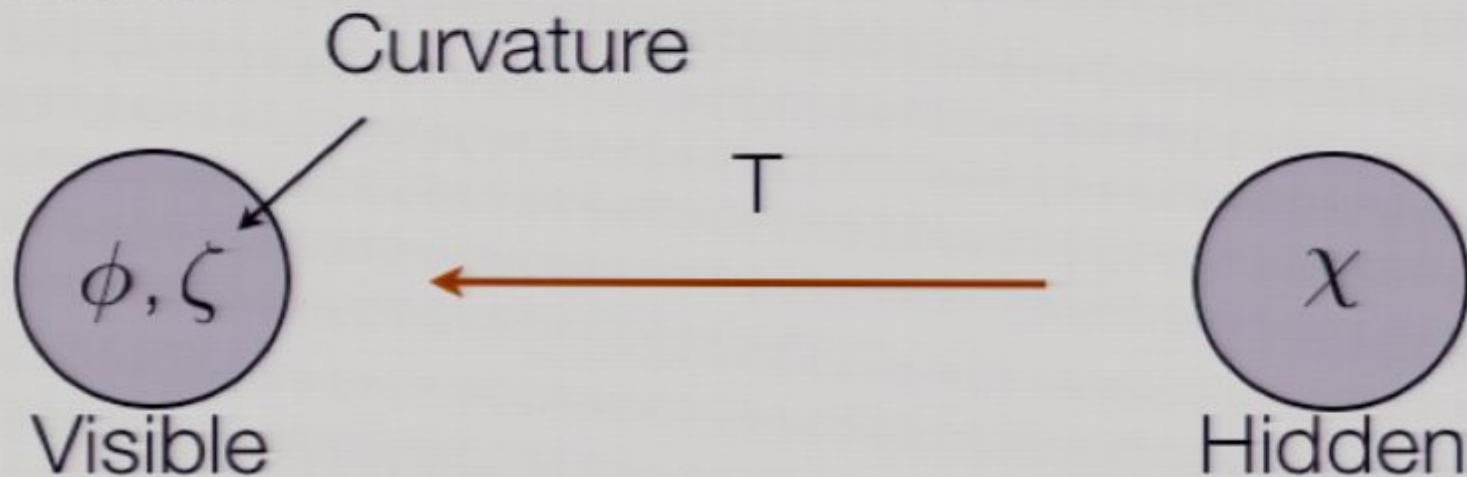
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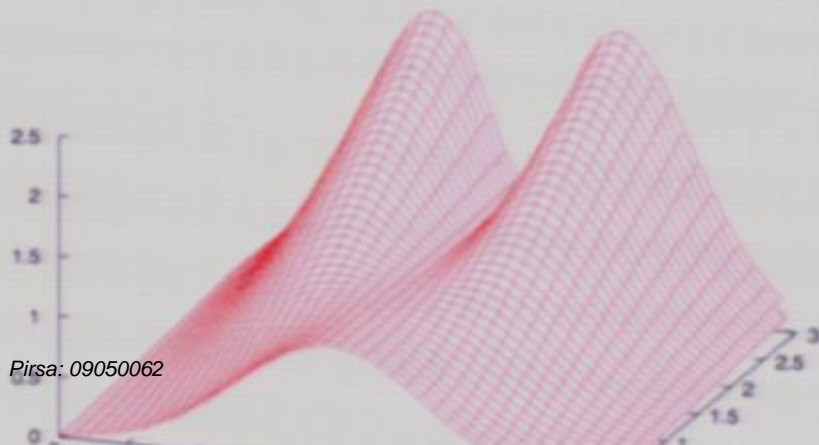
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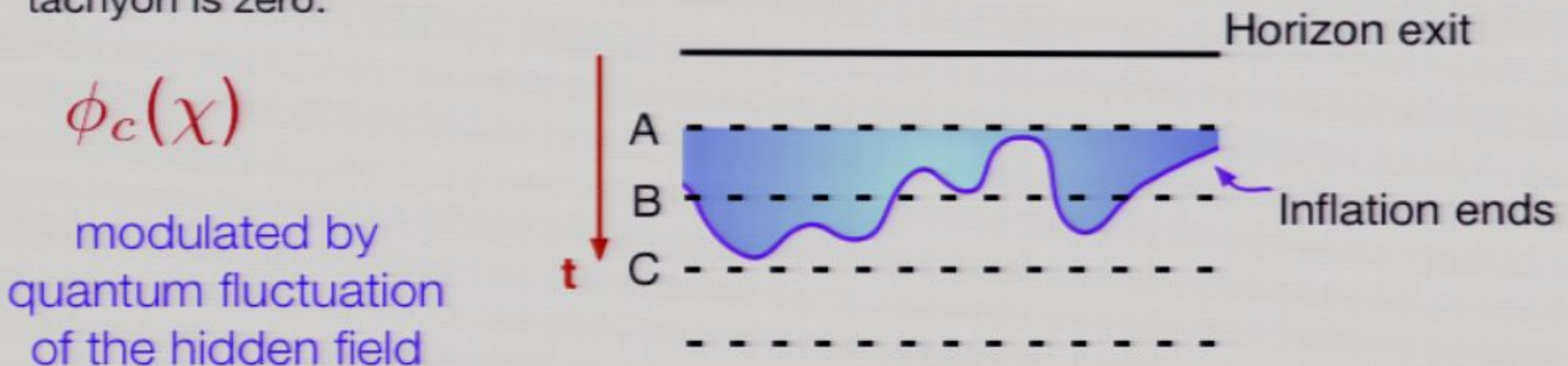


# Basic Idea

- ◆ Couple Hybrid inflation (2 fields) to an extra field. (Here Tachyon = Waterfall field)

$$V = V_{\text{inf}}(\phi) + V_{\text{hid}}(\chi) + V_{\text{mess}}(\phi, \chi, T)$$

- ◆ There is no direct coupling between  $\phi$  and  $\chi$ . They couple only through the T which is very massive during inflation.
- ◆ Inflation ends at a critical value of the inflaton for which the mass of the tachyon is zero.



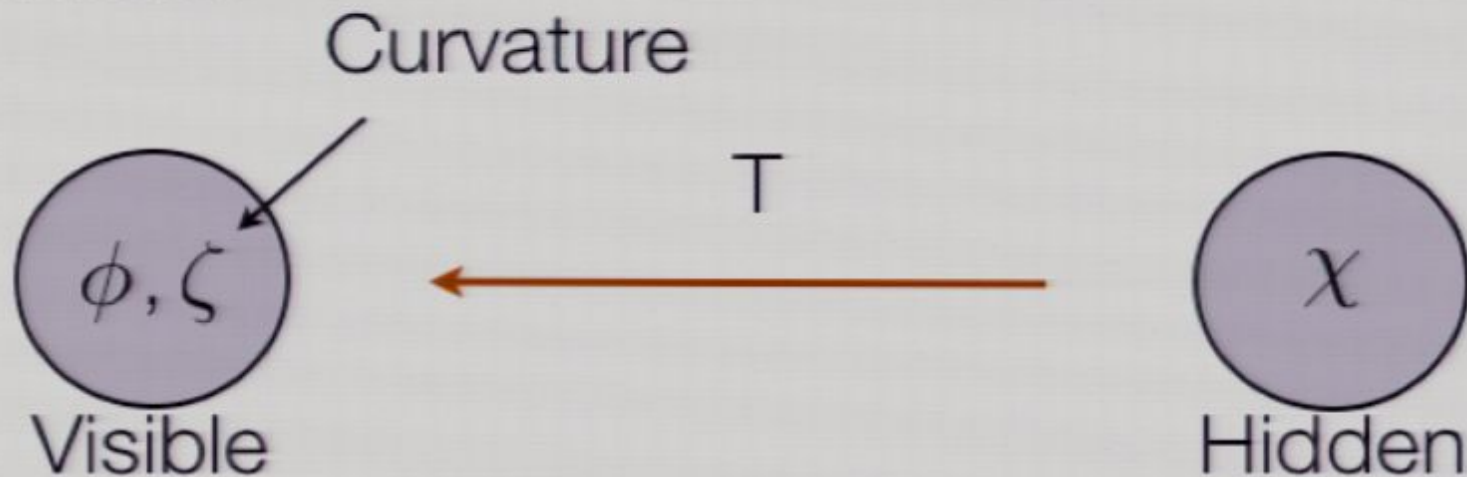
$$m_T^2 = -\xi + \lambda^2 \phi^2 + \lambda'^2 \chi^2$$



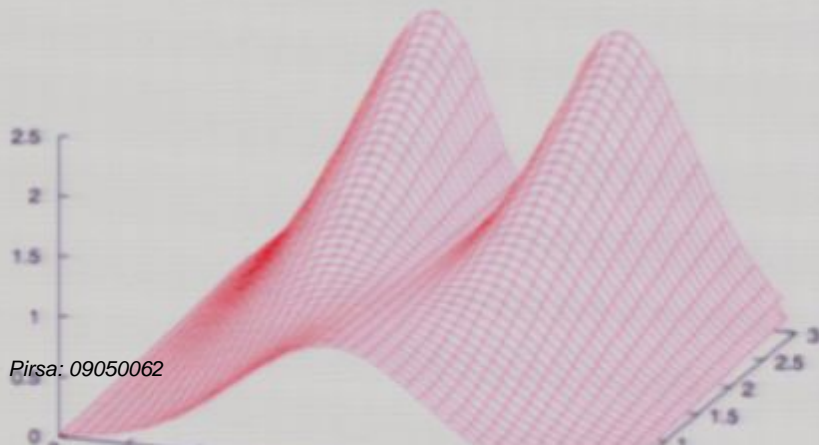
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## Tachyon Mediated Density Perturbations

◆ In Hybrid inflation



We are not generating density perturbations from the tachyon. (assume that contribution from tachyon preheating for example are small)



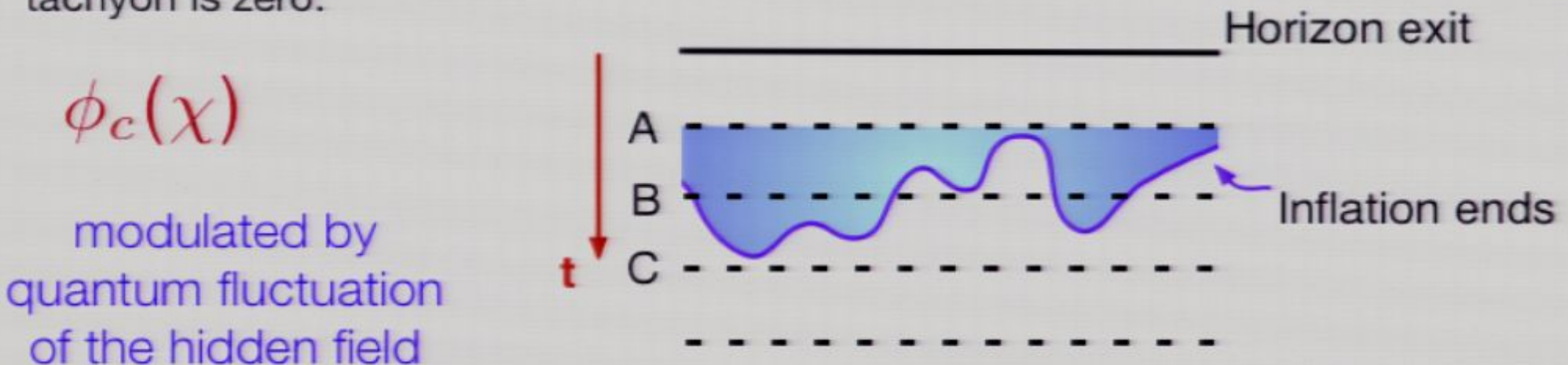


# Basic Idea

- ◆ Couple Hybrid inflation (2 fields) to an extra field. (Here Tachyon = Waterfall field)

$$V = V_{\text{inf}}(\phi) + V_{\text{hid}}(\chi) + V_{\text{mess}}(\phi, \chi, T)$$

- ◆ There is no direct coupling between  $\phi$  and  $\chi$ . They couple only through the  $T$  which is very massive during inflation.
- ◆ Inflation ends at a critical value of the inflaton for which the mass of the tachyon is zero.



$$m_T^2 = -\xi + \lambda^2 \phi^2 + \lambda'^2 \chi^2$$

# From field perturbations to curvature.

$$N = \int_{\phi_*}^{\phi_c} \frac{H}{\dot{\phi}} d\phi$$

$\phi_c(\chi)$

The new field only change the end of inflation  
 \* = horizon exit

$$\delta N = -\frac{H}{\dot{\phi}} \delta\phi \Big|_* + \frac{H}{\dot{\phi}} \frac{\partial \phi_c}{\partial \chi} \delta\chi \Big|_{\phi_c} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{H}{\dot{\phi}} \frac{\partial^2 \phi_c}{\partial \chi^2} (\delta\chi^2 - \langle \delta\chi^2 \rangle) \Big|_{\phi_c} + \dots$$

Usual contribution

Note sign difference

Assumption

$$\epsilon_* \approx \epsilon_f$$

“transfer function”

$$\gamma \equiv \frac{\partial \phi_c}{\partial \chi} \Big|_{\phi_c}$$

## 2-pt to 1-loop

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$$P^\zeta(k) = N'^2 P_* [1 + \gamma^2 + \gamma'^2 \mathcal{P}_* \ln(kL)]$$

$$n_s - 1 = \frac{\gamma'^2 \mathcal{P}_*}{1 + \gamma^2 + \gamma'^2 \mathcal{P}_* \ln kL}$$

◆ Constraints from  $n_s$

$$\gamma'^2 \mathcal{P}_* < 10^{-2}$$

We can take  $1 > \gamma'^2 \mathcal{P}_* > \gamma^2$



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$$f_{NL} \approx -\frac{5}{6} \frac{\gamma^2 \gamma'}{N'} \left( 1 + \frac{\gamma'^2}{\gamma^2} \ln(kL) \mathcal{P}_* \right)$$

Can push this up but limited by the spectral index

$$|f_{NL}| \approx \frac{5}{6} \frac{(\gamma'^2 \mathcal{P}_*)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{N' \mathcal{P}_*^{\frac{1}{2}}} \ln(kL) < 100 \ln(kl)$$

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So what? So things run.

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- ◆ Loops tends to give a large blue running.

$$n_{NG} = \frac{1}{f_{NL}} \frac{df_{NL}}{d \ln k} \simeq \frac{1}{\ln(kL)} \quad \sim 0.2$$

$L \sim 1/H_0$  and  $k$  CMB

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# Explicit Example

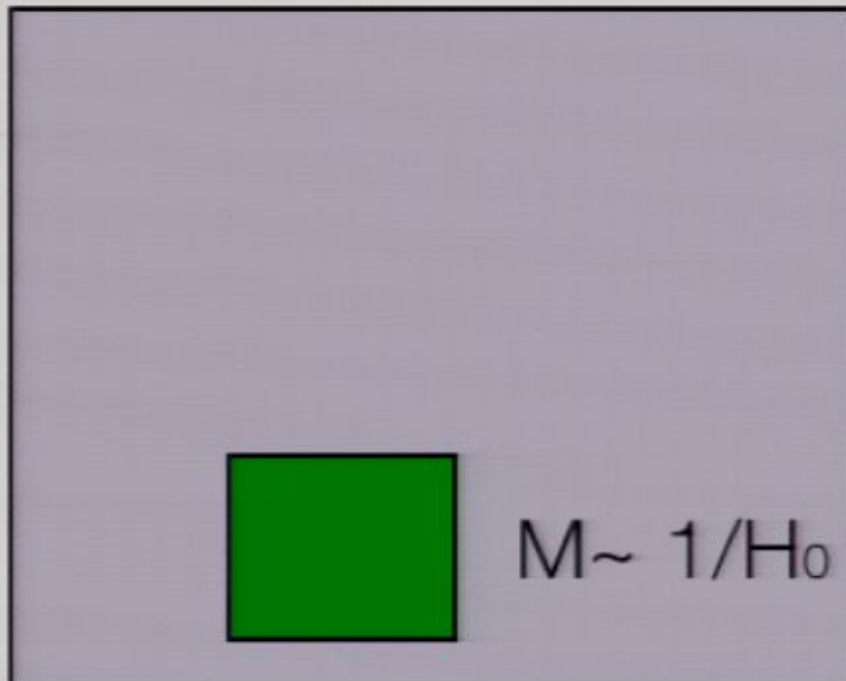
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- ◆ In Hybrid inflation observations.

$$\delta\phi = \phi(\vec{x}, t) - \phi(t)$$

Bartolo, Matarrese, Pietri  
Riotto & Seery/  
Enqvist, Nurmi, Podolski  
Rigopoulos



2 procedures that gives  
the same answer

- ◆ Measure the real zero mode on  $L$   
and do loop up to  $L$
- ◆ or measure the zero mode on  $M$   
( $\sim 1/H_0$ ) do loops up to  $M$ , average  
over all position of  $M$  into  $L$



Assuming no tilt, loop integral has two poles

$$\int d^3 \vec{k}' \frac{1}{|\vec{k} - \vec{k}'|^3 k'^3} \sim \ln(kL)$$

And converge rapidly for  $k' > k$ . It is UV finite. (good since this formalism is not valid inside the horizon)

- ◆ The series can truncate and in general each coefficient could be completely independent of each other. If the higher order terms are not there (or much smaller) one can consistently have large 1-loop coefficient while neglecting 2-loops and higher

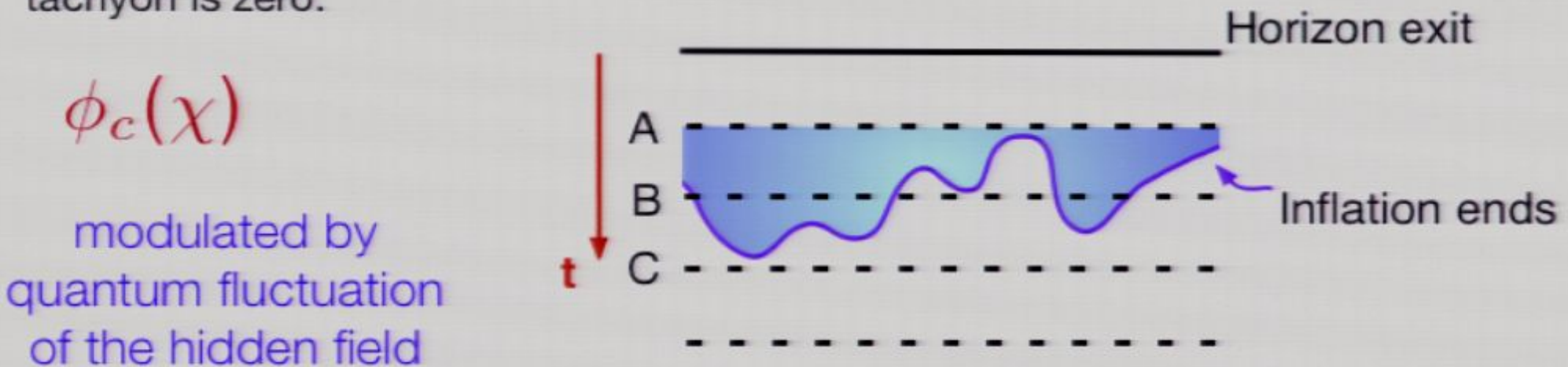
$$\zeta = \alpha \delta\phi + \beta \delta\phi^2 + \kappa \delta\phi^3 + \dots$$

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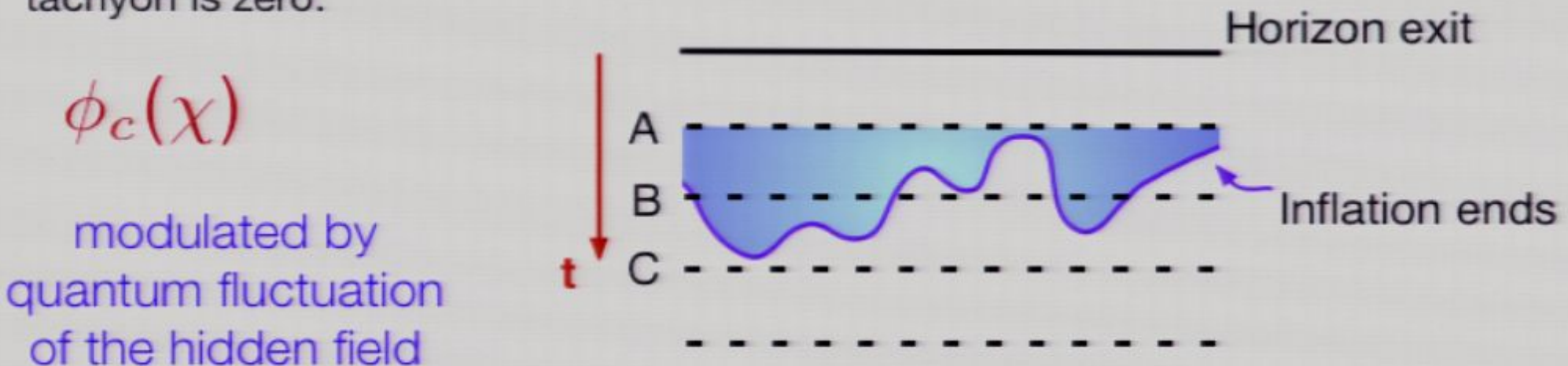


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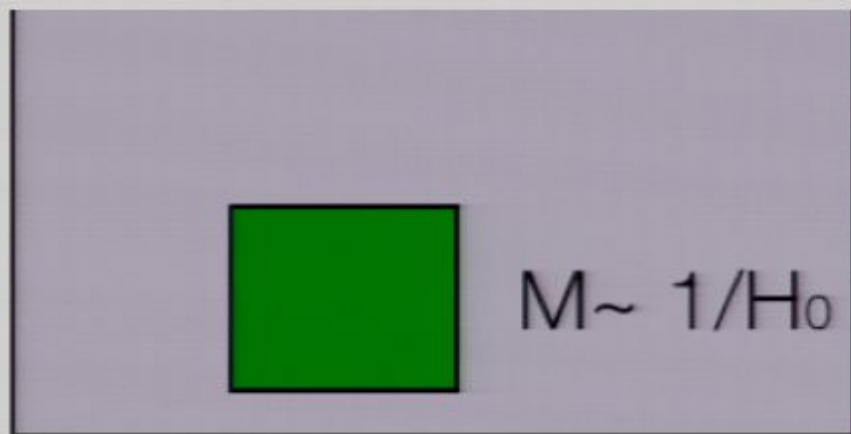
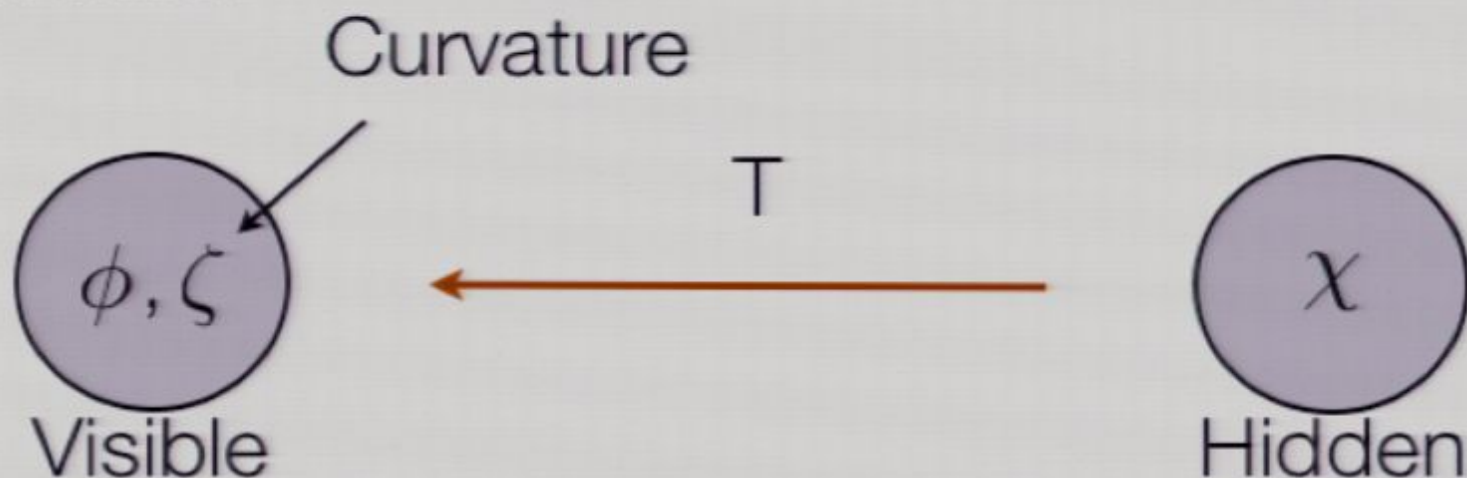


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- ◆ In spite of additional complexities of in-in formalism, one can estimate their size in the usual effective field theory way.
- ◆ In some cases, inflation clearly stops before reaching the strong coupling regime but for small sound speed, the backreaction appear to be under control.
- ◆ We can have large loop-like ( $\delta N$  loops) effects dominating the bispectrum. The main phenomenological signature is a large positive running of NG.

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- ◆ Link between the two kinds of loops calculations, in-in and delta N, need a better understanding. Claim is that delta N is a resummation of large time log in in-in. Large effect here is just like having large log

- ◆ Model has some flaws must have a very flat potential for things at the end of inflation to be important enough.

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- ◆ Can we get  $n_s \sim 0.96$ ? D-term with cosmic strings might give a better fit?

Battye, Garbrecht, Moss  
Bevis, Hindmarsh, Kunz, Urestilla

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