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Lecture III & IV

SUMMER SCHOOL IN HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS AND COSMOLOGY

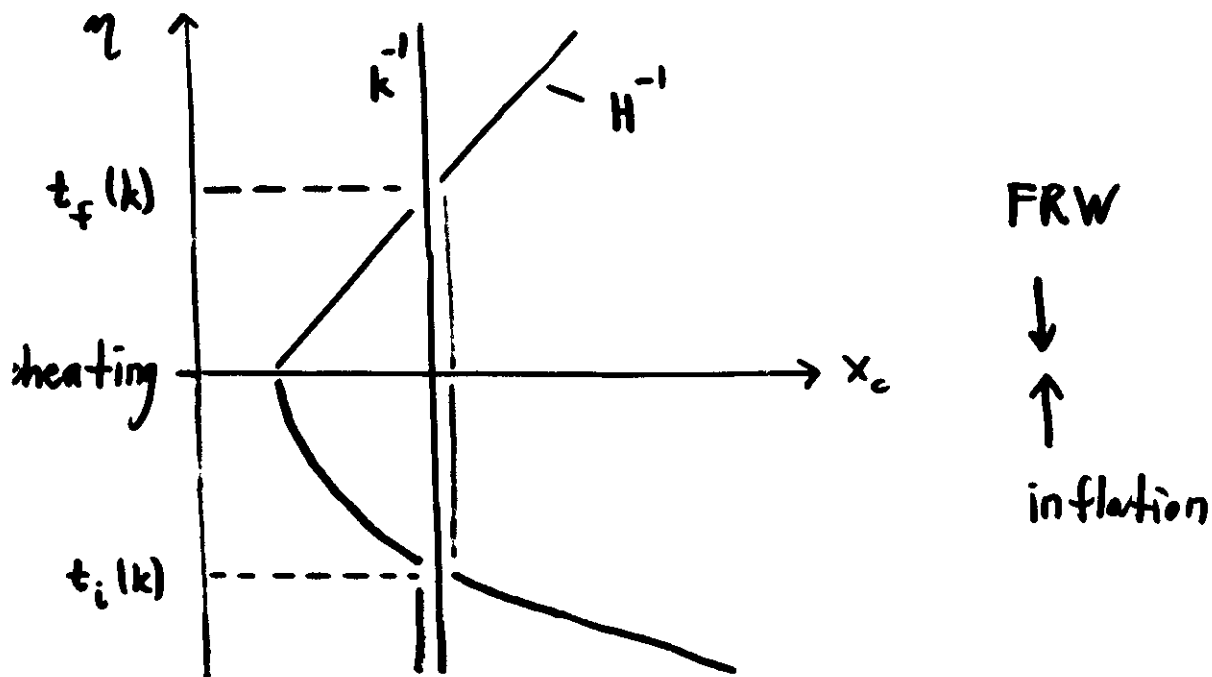
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INFLATION AND THEORY OF COSMOLOGICAL PERTURBATIONS

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Please note: These are preliminary notes intended for internal distribution only.

Issues :

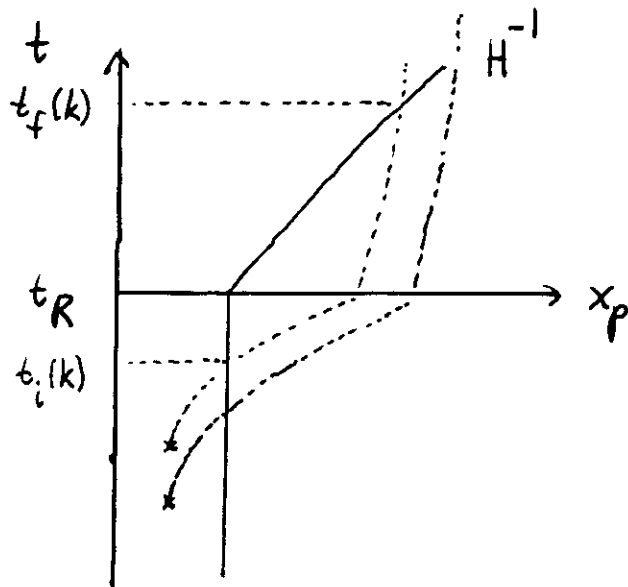


k wave number of fluctuation

H^{-1} Hubble radius

1. classical evolution of perturbation
2. quantum generation " "
3. quantum $\rightarrow$ classical transition

First Prediction from Inflation :



$$\frac{\delta M}{M}(k, t_i(k)) = \text{const}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\delta M}{M}(k, t_f(k)) = \text{const}'$$

scale invariant (Harrison-Zel'dovich) spectrum

$$\Leftrightarrow \underline{P(k) \sim k} \quad (\text{primordial spectrum})$$

2. Basics of Structure Formation

3.1 Gravitational instability

3.2 Newtonian theory

valid when $\lambda \ll t$, $\rho \ll \bar{\rho}$

$$* \quad \dot{\bar{\rho}} + \nabla \cdot (\bar{\rho} \underline{v}) = 0 \quad \text{continuity}$$

$$\dot{\underline{v}} + (\underline{v} \cdot \nabla) \underline{v} = -\nabla \phi - \frac{1}{\bar{\rho}} \nabla p \quad \text{Euler}$$

$$\nabla^2 \phi = 4\pi G \bar{\rho} \quad \text{Poisson}$$

ϕ : Newtonian gravitational potential!

* application to an expanding Universe

$$\underline{r} = a \underline{x}$$

$$\underline{v} = \dot{a} \underline{x} + a \underline{\dot{x}} \quad \underline{u} \equiv \underline{\dot{x}}$$

expansion $\uparrow$ peculiar velocity

* linearization ansatz

$$\bar{\rho}(\underline{x}, t) = \bar{\rho}(t) (1 + \delta(\underline{x}, t)) \quad \delta \equiv \frac{\delta \bar{\rho}}{\bar{\rho}}$$

gives*:

$$\dot{\bar{\rho}} + \nabla \cdot \underline{u} = 0$$

$$\dot{\underline{u}} + 2 \frac{\dot{a}}{a} \underline{u} = -a^{-2} (\nabla \delta p + c_s^2 \nabla \delta) \quad c_s^2 \equiv \frac{dp}{d\rho}$$

$$\nabla^2 \delta \phi = 4\pi G \bar{\rho} a^2 \delta$$

* for adiabatic perturbations

* Combination

$$\ddot{\delta} + 2H\dot{\delta} - 4\pi G\bar{\rho}\delta - \frac{c_s^2}{a^2}\nabla^2\delta = 0$$

Fourier transformation

$$\delta(\underline{x}) = (2\pi)^{-3/2} V^{-1/2} \int d^3k e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}} \delta_{\vec{k}}$$

$$\ddot{\delta}_{\vec{k}} + 2H\dot{\delta}_{\vec{k}} + \left(\frac{c_s^2 k^2}{a^2} - 4\pi G\bar{\rho} \right) \delta_{\vec{k}} = 0$$

N.B. In linear perturbation theory all Fourier modes evolve independently!

A first look at equation:

$$\lambda_J = \frac{2\pi}{k_J} \quad k_J^2 = \left(\frac{k}{a} \right)^2 = \frac{4\pi G\bar{\rho}}{c_s^2} \quad \text{Jeans length}$$

physical

$$\lambda > \lambda_J \rightarrow \text{growth}$$

$$\lambda < \lambda_J \rightarrow \text{damped oscillation}$$

Some solutions ($t > t_{eq}$):

$$\lambda \gg \lambda_J: \quad \ddot{\delta}_{\vec{k}} + \frac{4}{3t}\dot{\delta}_{\vec{k}} - \frac{2}{3t^2}\delta_{\vec{k}} = 0$$

$$\delta_{\vec{k}}(t) = c_1 t^{2/3} + c_2 t^{-1} \quad \text{i.e. } \underline{\delta_{\vec{k}} \sim a}$$

$$\lambda \ll \lambda_J : \ddot{\delta}_k + 2H\dot{\delta}_k + c_s^2 \left(\frac{k}{a}\right)^2 \delta_k = 0$$

$$\delta_k(t) \sim a^{-1/2}(t) \exp\left\{\pm i c_s k \int dt' a(t')^{-1}\right\}$$

Application: $\hookrightarrow$

Matter perturbations in a smooth relativistic background ($t < t_{eq}$):

$$\ddot{\delta}_k + 2H\dot{\delta}_k - 4\pi G \bar{\rho}_m \delta_k = 0 \quad \text{if } c_s = 0$$

$$\left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{8\pi G}{3} (\bar{\rho}_m + \bar{\rho}_r)$$

negligible for $t \ll t_{eq} \Rightarrow \delta_k \sim \text{cst}$

$$\eta = \bar{\rho}_m / \bar{\rho}_r$$

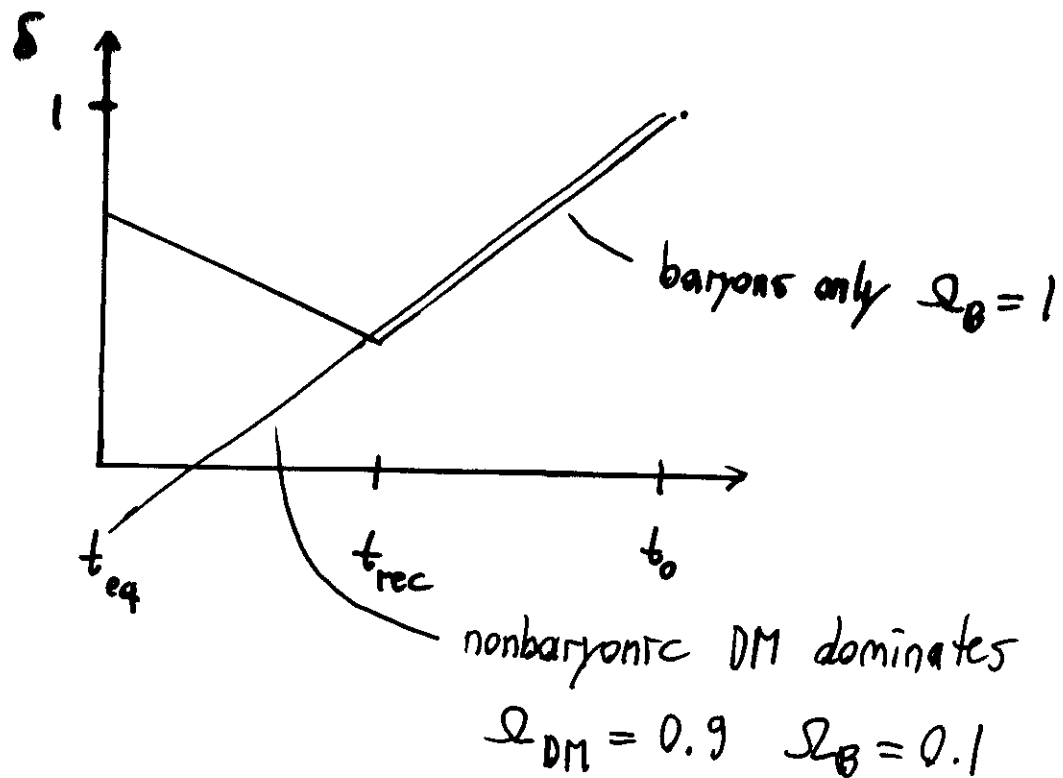
$$\frac{d^2}{d\eta^2} \delta_k + \frac{2+3\eta}{2\eta(1+\eta)} \frac{d}{d\eta} \delta_k = \frac{3}{2\eta(1+\eta)} \delta_k$$

$$\delta_k \sim 1 + \frac{3}{2}\eta \quad \text{growing mode}$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta_k \sim \text{cst} \quad t < t_{eq}$$

structure formation begins at t_{eq}

Application :



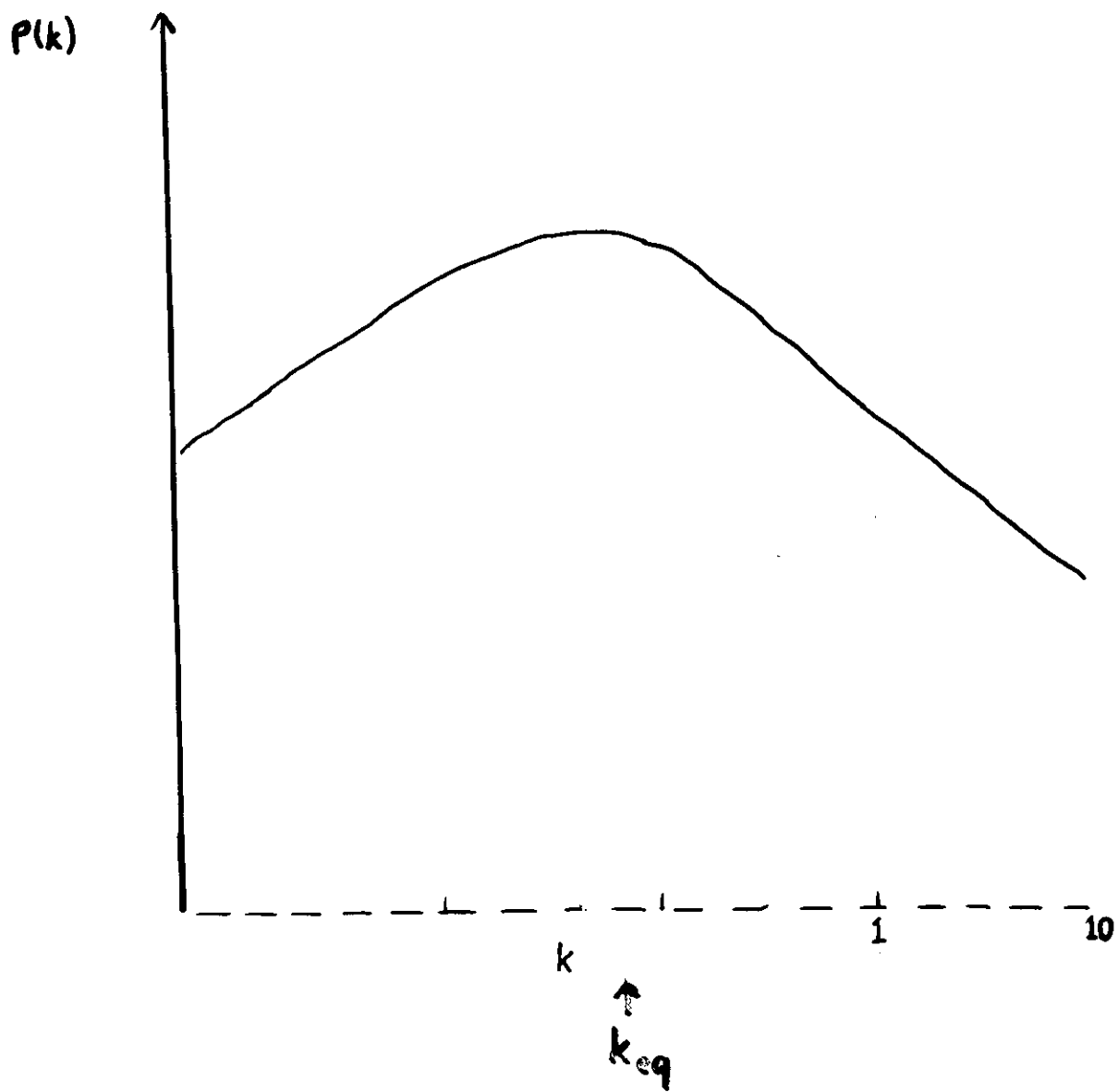
$$\delta(t_{eq})|_B = \left(\frac{a(t_{rec})}{a(t_{eq})} \right)^{3/2} \delta(t_{eq})|_{DM}$$

Fact : $\frac{\delta T}{T} \simeq \frac{1}{3} \delta(t_{eq})$

$\Lambda CDM \rightarrow \frac{\delta T}{T} \sim 10^{-3}$ prediction

$DM \rightarrow \frac{\delta T}{T} \sim 10^{-5}$ "

DATA $\Rightarrow$ nonbaryonic DM !



3. Relativistic theory $\lambda > t, p \sim \rho$ (classical)

Basic idea:

$$G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}$$

$$g_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}^{(0)} + h_{\mu\nu}$$

$$T_{\mu\nu} = T_{\mu\nu}^{(0)} + \delta T_{\mu\nu}$$

$(g_{\mu\nu}^{(0)}, T_{\mu\nu}^{(0)})$ homog.
FRW solution

linearization $\downarrow$

$$\delta G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G \delta T_{\mu\nu}$$

Problem of gauge $\rightarrow$ gauge invariant approach
 $\hookrightarrow$

step 1: general scalar metric perturbation

$$\delta g_{\mu\nu} = a^2 \begin{pmatrix} 2\phi & -B_{,i} \\ -B_{,i} & 2(\psi\delta_{ij} + E_{,ij}) \end{pmatrix}$$

step 2: consider small coord. trsf. preserving scalar character of $\delta g_{\mu\nu}$

$$x'^{\mu} = x^{\mu} + \xi^{\mu} \quad \xi^0, \xi^i = \xi_{,i}$$

step 3: find induced trsf. of ϕ, ψ, B, E
find gauge invariant combinations

$$\Phi = \phi + a^{-1} [(B - E')a]'$$

$$\Psi = \psi - \frac{a'}{a} (B - E')$$

step 4: derive EOM for Φ & Ψ
 easiest in gauge $E=B=0$

step 5: for scalar field matter: $\delta T_i^j = \delta_i^j (\dots)$

single gauge invariant $\Phi = \bar{\Psi}$
 variable contains all information
 about linear gravitational perturbations

for $\lambda \gg t$:

$$\dot{\xi} = 0 \quad \xi = \frac{2}{3} \frac{H^{-1} \dot{\Phi} + \Phi}{1+w} + \bar{\Phi} \quad w = \frac{p}{\rho}$$

EOM can be written as a conservation law!

$\Phi = \text{cst}$ except during phase transitions

$$\downarrow$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\Phi}{1+w} = \text{cst}}$$

$$\Phi(t_H) \simeq \frac{\delta \rho}{\rho}(t_H)$$

$\nwarrow$ time of Hubble radius crossing

4. Quantum Theory of Relativistic Pert.

.) quantum generation of fluctuations during inflation:

idea: quantum vacuum fluctuations $\rightarrow$ classical perturb.

semiclassical analysis $\rightarrow$ no fluctuations!

$$G_{\mu\nu} = \underbrace{\langle \psi | T_{\mu\nu} | \psi \rangle}_{\text{homogeneous}}$$

quantum analysis $\rightarrow$ fluctuations

Given: ϕ scalar quantum field

$|\psi\rangle$ vacuum state

Prescription: $\phi_{cl}(\underline{x}, t) = \phi_0(t) + \delta\phi(\underline{x}, t)$

$$\delta T_{\mu\nu}^{cl} = \delta T_{\mu\nu}(\phi_{cl})$$

$$\delta\phi(\underline{x}, t) = \int d^3k \, \tilde{\phi}(\underline{k}, t) e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}}$$

$\uparrow$
harmonic oscillator

$$|\delta\tilde{\phi}(\underline{k})|^2 = \langle \psi | |\tilde{\phi}(\underline{k})|^2 | \psi \rangle$$

$$\phi_0(t)^2 = \langle \psi | \phi(\underline{x})^2 | \psi \rangle$$

use vacuum state wave functional for $|\psi\rangle$

$$\psi[\tilde{\phi}(\underline{k}), t] = N \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{a}{2\pi} \right)^3 \int d^3k \, \omega(\underline{k}, t) |\tilde{\phi}(\underline{k})|^2 \right\}$$

$$\downarrow \quad \omega(\underline{k}, t) H(\underline{k}) = H$$

$$a) \quad \delta\tilde{\phi}(\underline{k}, t) = (2\pi)^{3/2} a^{-3/2} \omega(\underline{k}, t)^{-1/2} \sim (2\pi)^{3/2} k^{-3/2} H$$

$\uparrow t = t_i(\underline{k})$

$$c) \quad y_0(t) \approx (2\pi)^{-1} H^{3/2} t^{1/2} \quad \text{after UV \& IR renormalization}$$

$$\text{Combination: } \delta p(k, t_i(k)) = \dot{y}_0 \delta \dot{y}_0 + V'(y_0) \delta y_0 \\ \sim k^{-3/2} H^4$$

$$\frac{\delta M}{M}(k, t_i(k)) \sim \mathcal{O}(1) \frac{H^4}{\rho} \sim 10^{-20}$$

more precisely using slow rolling approx.

$$\frac{\delta M}{M}(k, t_i(k)) \sim \frac{V'(y(t_i(k))) \delta y}{\rho} \sim \frac{H \dot{y}_0 \delta y}{\rho}$$

$$\ddot{y}_0 + 3H\dot{y}_0 = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial y}$$

Classical evolution:

$$\frac{\delta p}{\rho}(k, t_f(k)) = \frac{1+w(t_f)}{1+w(t_i)} \frac{\delta p}{\rho}(k, t_i(k)) \\ \frac{\dot{y}_0^2}{\rho} \quad \frac{4/3}{\dot{y}_0^2/\rho} \quad \frac{\dot{y}_0^2}{\rho}$$

$$\frac{\delta M}{M}(k, t_f(k)) \sim \mathcal{O}(1) \frac{H \delta y}{\dot{y}_0}$$

6) Improved Analysis

Ref: R.B., H. Feldman & V. Mukhanov

Phys. Rep. 215, 203 (92)

- Consistent quantization of linearized metric & matter perturbations in a classical background
- Reduction to gauge invariant variables
- Action becomes action of a single scalar field (free) with time dependent mass
- Canonical quantization
- Mode functions obey classical equations discussed before
- time dependence of mass
 - $\Leftrightarrow$ particle production
 - $\Leftrightarrow$ growth of perturbations
- allows a unified treatment of generation and evolution of fluctuations in inflationary cosmology

- 3 steps:
1. Action for perturbations
 2. Quantization
 3. Computation of expectation values

Evaluation

$$V(\varphi) = \lambda \varphi^4$$

slow rolling

$$3H\dot{\varphi} = -V'(\varphi) = -4\lambda\varphi^3$$

$$\varphi(t_i(k)) \sim m_{pl}$$

$$\frac{\delta M}{M}(k, t_i(k)) \sim \frac{H^2}{\dot{\varphi}} \sim \frac{H^3}{\lambda \varphi^3} \sim \frac{\lambda^{3/2} \varphi^6 m_{pl}^{-3}}{\lambda \varphi^3} \sim \lambda^{1/2} 10^2$$

$$\frac{\delta M}{M}(k, t_i(k)) \stackrel{!}{=} O(1) 10^{-4}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda \leq 10^{-12}$$

fluctuation problem for inflationary cosmology

Conclusions

1. Inflation gives a theory of structure formation based on fundamental physics
origin: quantum fluctuations during inflation
2. Relativistic analysis crucial for inflationary cosmology
gravitational amplification of fluctuations on scales $>$ Hubble radius
3. Predictions :
 - * scale invariant spectrum of adiabatic, Gaussian, random phase fluctuations $P(k)$
 - * scale invariant spectrum of CMB anisotropies $\frac{\delta T}{T}$
 - * amplitudes of $P(k)$ & $\frac{\delta T}{T}$ related
4. Amplitude of $P(k)$?? Fluctuation problem
5. Confrontation with observations
→ need nonbaryonic dark matter
6. Cornerstone: theory of cosmological perturbations

- * reheating problem
- * fluctuation problem
- * super-Planck scale physics problem
- * cosmological constant problem
- * singularity problem

reheating problem: new parametric resonance mechanism
 many interesting theoretical issues, e.g.
 back reaction
 effects of noise

fluctuation problem: $\frac{\delta T}{T} \sim 10^{-5} \Rightarrow \lambda < 10^{-12}$

more fine tuning problem from standard hot big bang physics
 making matter
 • super-Planck T ?
 • more precise measurement of fluctuations.

singularity problem: the pre-inflationary phase

more explicit at much below
 Planck scale
 singularity - no fluctuations.

c) Fluctuation problem

observ. $\frac{\delta M}{M}(k, t_H(k)) \sim 10^{-4}$

inflation: $\frac{\delta M}{M}(k, t_i(k)) \approx \frac{V' \delta \phi}{\rho}$

$$\frac{\delta M}{M}(k, t_H(k)) \approx \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{\rho}{\dot{\phi}^2}\right)} \frac{\delta M}{M}(k, t_i(k))$$

theory of cosmol. perturbations

(see e.g. V. Mukhanov, H. Feldman & R.B. 1992)

$$\frac{\delta M}{M}(k, t_H(k)) \approx \frac{\rho}{\dot{\phi}^2} \frac{V' \delta \phi}{\rho}$$

$$V(\phi) = \lambda \phi^4$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\delta M}{M}(k, t_H(k)) \sim 10^2 \lambda^{1/2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda \leq 10^{-10} !!$$

solution (?): asymptotic freedom during inflation

(R.B., V. Mukhanov & A. Sornborger 1993)

2. Problems of Inflationary Cosmology

cosmological constant
fluctuation problem
reheating

a) Cosmological constant

$$\min_{\varphi} V(\varphi) \rightarrow \Lambda_{\text{eff}} \quad (p = -\rho)$$

$$\text{observations: } \Lambda_{\text{eff}} \leq \rho_c$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\Lambda_{\text{eff}}}{M_{\text{pl}}^4} \leq 10^{-122} !$$

need: alternative realizations of inflation
without scalar fields

i) higher derivative gravity inflation (A. Starobinsky 1980)

ii) condensates (R. Ball & A. Motheson 1992
L. Parker & Y. Zhang 1993
R.B. & A. Zhitnitsky 1996)

Inflation from Condensates

R.B. & A. Zhitnitsky (36)

Idea: condensate $\langle \phi \rangle$

$$\langle \phi \rangle = 0 \quad t_i > t$$

$$\langle \phi \rangle \neq 0 \quad t_i < t$$

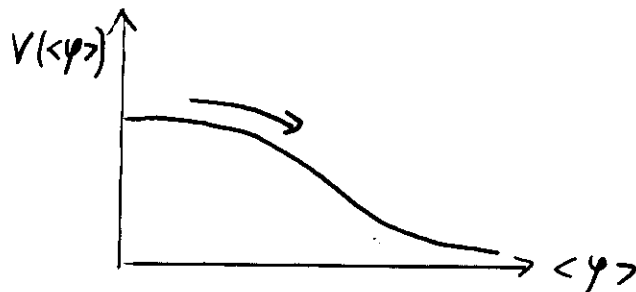
$$\langle H \rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n n! a_n \langle \phi \rangle^n$$

Ass: Borel summable

$$\langle H \rangle = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{f(t) dt}{t(t m_p + \langle \phi \rangle)} e^{-1/t} \equiv V_{\text{eff}}(\langle \phi \rangle)$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{n!} \int_0^{\infty} dt f(t) t^{-n-2} e^{-1/t}$$

Ass: IR cutoff $\langle \phi \rangle \rightarrow \langle \phi \rangle / \epsilon$



$\psi(t)$
 $\epsilon(t)$ } 2 field dynamics

Results: inflation (slow rolling o.k.)

graceful exit

$$V_{\text{eff}}(\psi) \rightarrow 0$$

graceful exit & $V_{\text{eff}}(\psi) \rightarrow 0$ linked !!

Some details :

a) single field analysis ($\epsilon(t) = 1$)

slow rolling conditions :

$$V' m_{pl} \ll \sqrt{48\pi} V \quad (1)$$
$$V'' \ll 24\pi \frac{V}{m_{pl}^2}$$

are satisfied $\forall y$

$\Rightarrow$ graceful exit problem : • inflation never ends
(although H decreases)

& cosmol. const. problem : • $V(y)$ never reaches 0

b) double field analysis (ϵ dynamic)

slow rolling condition (1) becomes

$$\dot{\epsilon}^2 m_{pl}^2 + \dot{y}^2 \ll 2V(y) \quad (3)$$

$\epsilon(t)$: IR cutoff in Planck units

ansatz: $\epsilon(t) = \epsilon(0) [1 - a(Ht)^p]$

$$\epsilon(0) = \frac{H(0)}{m_{pl}}, \quad a \ll 1, \quad p \text{ integer}$$

$$a^{\frac{1}{p}} Ht < 1 \rightarrow (3) \text{ satisfied}$$

$$a^{\frac{1}{p}} Ht > 1 \rightarrow (3) \text{ breaks down}$$

$\Rightarrow$ graceful exit & $V(y) \rightarrow 0$

1. Motivation

a) Cosmology

Fluctuation problem

e.g. $V(\phi) = \lambda \phi^4$

$$\frac{\delta T}{T} \sim 10^{-5} \Rightarrow \lambda \leq 10^{-12}$$

Needed: New realization of inflation based on
fundamental principle
(instead of ad hoc small numbers)

b) General Relativity

Singularity problem

- big bang

- black hole

→ internal inconsistency

practical problems (Cauchy)

Needed: nonsingular theory of gravity

Penrose - Hawking theorems :

Einstein action
+ weak energy condition } $\rightarrow$ geodesic incompleteness

Approaches :

- change matter x
- change gravity

Justification :

high curvature $\rightarrow$ Einstein action breaks down

- see e.g. :
- QFT in curved space-time
 - perturbative QG
 - unified theories

2. Idea

Classical analysis

Q : Is there a class of effective actions for gravity which give nonsingular theory predict inflation ?

This work :

1. Construct effective action for gravity in which all solutions with sufficient symmetry are nonsingular.
2. Theory is a higher derivative gravity modification of Einstein theory.
3. It is obtained in analogy with a well established construction in SR.

Important : Theory is asymptotically free !

↑
New principle

P.S. Classical analysis self consistent

Aim: Construct a theory such that

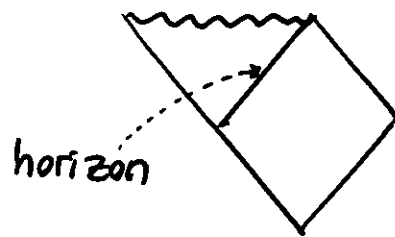
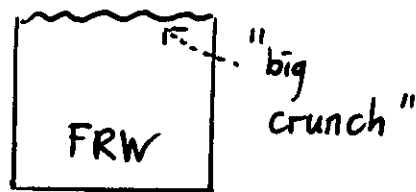
$$g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow g_{\mu\nu}^{DS} \quad \text{as} \quad R \rightarrow R_{pl}$$

Consequences:

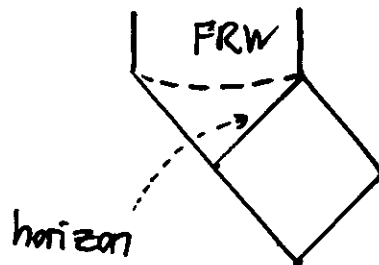
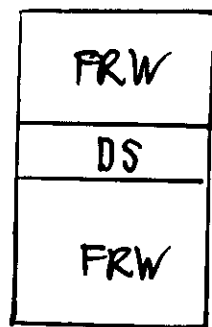
for a collapsing universe

for a black hole

old
theory



new
theory



3. Analogy

V. Mukhanov & R.B. (92)

Point particle motion in SR

old theory: $S = \int dt \frac{1}{2} \dot{x}^2$

$\dot{x}$ unbounded

new theory: $\dot{x}$ bounded

$$S = \int dt \left[\frac{1}{2} \dot{x}^2 + \varphi \dot{x}^2 - V(\varphi) \right]$$

$$\frac{\delta}{\delta \varphi} : \dot{x}^2 = \frac{\partial V}{\partial \varphi}$$

v bounded $\Rightarrow V(\varphi) \sim \varphi$ for $|\varphi| \rightarrow \infty$

Newtonian limit $\Rightarrow V(\varphi) \sim \varphi^2$ for $|\varphi| \rightarrow 0$

Ex: $V(\varphi) = \frac{2\varphi^2}{1+2\varphi}$

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \int dt \sqrt{1 - \dot{x}^2}$$

↑
action for point particle motion in SR

4. Construction of Nonsingular Cosmologies

V. Mukhanov & R.B. (92)

R.B., V. Mukhanov

& A. Sornborger
(93)

Step 1: Find theory with limited R

old theory: $S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} R$

new theory: $S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} [R + \gamma R + V(\gamma)]$

$V(\gamma)$: as before

$\Rightarrow$ theory with limited R

but: this is insufficient !!

- Requirements:
1. all curvature invariants bounded
 2. geodesically complete



Limiting Curvature Hypothesis
(Markov & Mukhanov)

1. bound one curvature invariant (e.g. R)
explicitly

2. ensure that when $R \nearrow R_{\max}$

$$g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow g_{\mu\nu}^{\text{DS}}$$

metric of De Sitter space

$\Uparrow$ maximally symmetric, nonsingular

Step 2: Implement limiting curvature hypothesis

Idea: a) Find curvature invariant $I_2(g_{\mu\nu})$ such that

$$I_2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow g_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}^{DS}$$

b) Make sure that as $R \rightarrow R_{\max}$ we have

$$I_2 \rightarrow 0$$

(and thus: $g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow g_{\mu\nu}^{DS}$)

using Lagrange multiplier construction

Difficulty: Find I_2 which works in all cases

$\Downarrow$

restrict attention to cases of special symmetry

$$I_2 = (4R_{\mu\nu}R^{\mu\nu} - R^2 + C^2)^{1/2}$$

$$I_2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow g_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}^{DS} \quad \text{holds for:}$$

homogeneous & isotropic metrics (i.e. cosmology)

spherically symmetric metrics (i.e. black holes)

homog. & anisotropic

Specific Model:

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[R + \varphi_1 R - (\varphi_2 + \sqrt{3} \varphi_1) T_2^{1/2} + V_1(\varphi_1) + V_2(\varphi_2) \right]$$

$$V_1(\varphi_1) = 12 H_0^2 \frac{\varphi_1^2}{1 + \varphi_1^2} \left(1 - \frac{\ln(1 + \varphi_1)}{1 + \varphi_1} \right)$$

$$V_2(\varphi_2) = -\sqrt{12} H_0^2 \frac{\varphi_2^2}{1 + \varphi_2^2}$$

applied to flat collapsing Universe

$$ds^2 = dt^2 - a(t)^2 (dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2)$$

↓

Variational EOM:

$$H = \frac{\dot{a}}{a}$$

$$\text{E1)} \quad H^2 = \frac{1}{12} V_1' \Rightarrow H(\varphi_1)$$

$$\text{E2)} \quad \dot{H} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{12}} V_2'$$

$$\text{E3)} \quad 3(1 - 2\varphi_1) H^2 + \frac{1}{2} (V_1 + V_2) = \sqrt{3} H (\dot{\varphi}_2 + 3H\varphi_2)$$

method of solution:

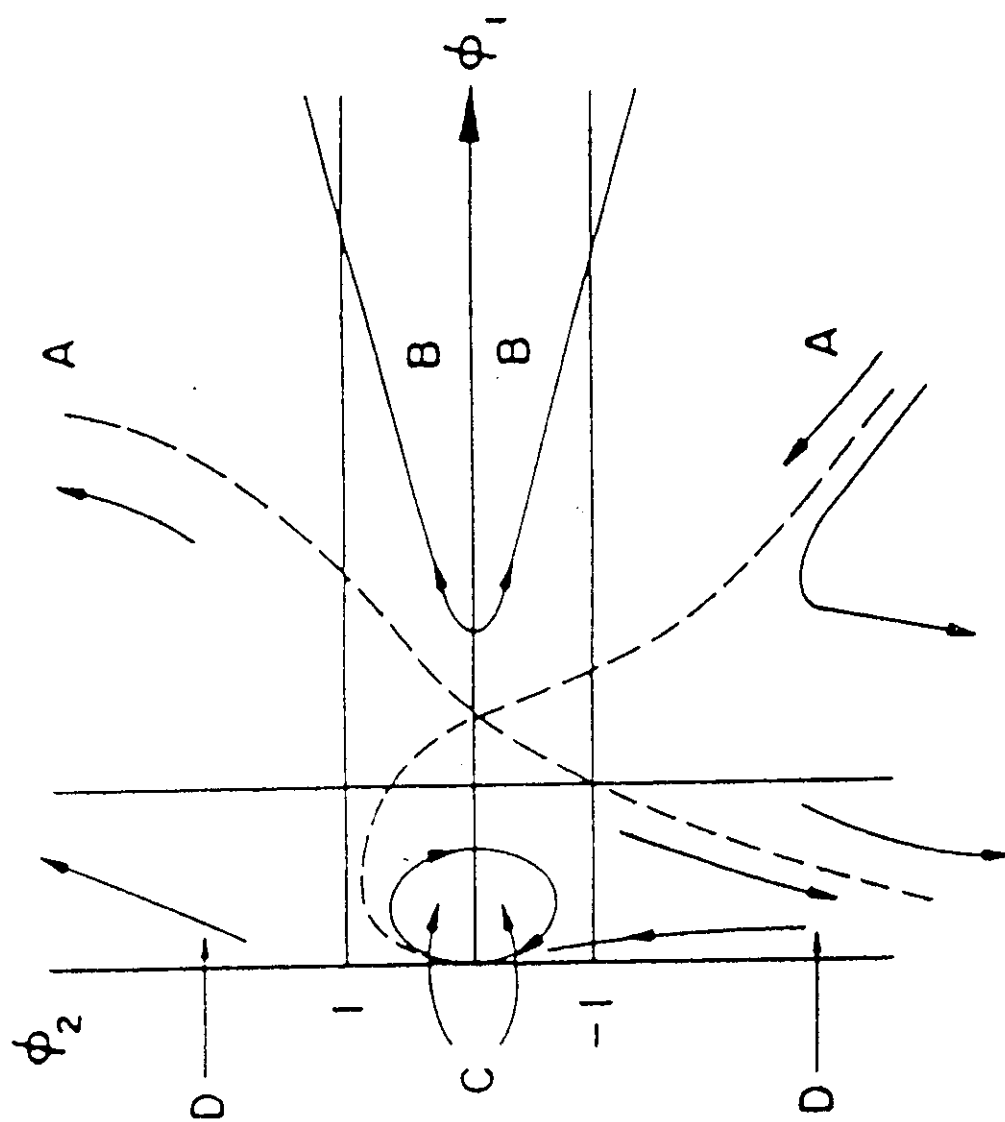
$$(E1) \& (E2) \Rightarrow \dot{\varphi}_1 = \dots \quad (E4)$$

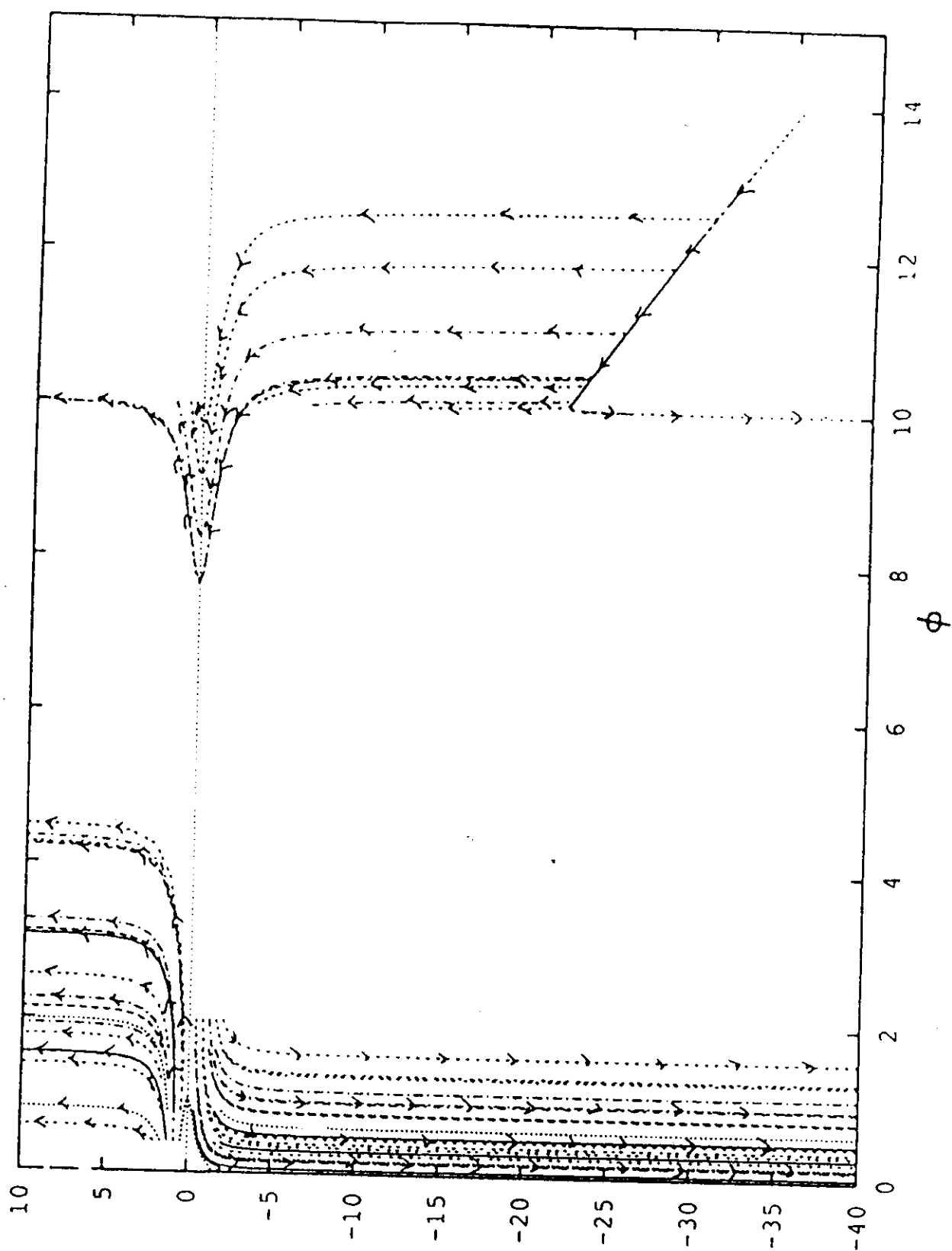
$$E3 \Rightarrow \dot{\varphi}_2 = \dots \quad (E5)$$

$$(E4) \& (E5) \Rightarrow \frac{d\varphi_2}{d\varphi_1} = \dots$$

methods:

- analytical phase plane analysis
- numerical





Conclusions

It is possible to have nonsingular cosmologies by modifying gravity

Approach 1: higher derivative gravity actions
based on limiting curvature construction

- * nonsingular
- * geodesically complete
- * evolution starts with inflation
- * asymptotic freedom during inflation²
 $\rightarrow$ small perturbations

Approach 2: superstring cosmology
duality $\rightarrow$ nonsingular

Conclusions

1. Inflationary Universe is an attractive scenario
 - solves some problems of standard cosmology
 - leads to a predictive theory of structure formation
2. Important unsolved problems of principle remain
 - fluctuation problem
 - cosmological constant problem
3. No convincing realization of inflation
 - connection with modern particle physics & field theory?
4. New theory of reheating
 - based on parametric resonance
 - leads to high T_R
 - new dark matter candidate