

# Small Field Polynomial Inflation

Yong Xu

based on 2104.03977 with Manuel Drees

*Sep.8 CoCo 2021*



# Outline

1. Why polynomial model?
2. Predictions?

## Why Small Field Polynomial Model?

- Monomial:  $V(\phi) \sim \phi^n$ , tensor-to-scalar ratio

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- Reasonable to insist on renormalizability (especially  $\phi$  in UV complete theory)
- $V(\phi)$ : most general renormalizable inflaton potential



# Polynomial Inflation Analysis

- Potential  $V(\phi) = \cancel{c} + d\phi^4 + c\phi^3 + b\phi^2 + e\phi$ .  
The term  $\cancel{c}$  is annotated with a red arrow and the word "negligible".  
The term  $e\phi$  is annotated with a blue arrow and the phrase "shifted away".

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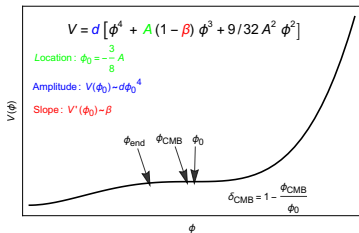
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3.  $d$ :  $\leftrightarrow$  Amplitude (power spectrum)

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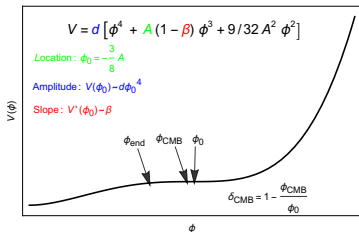


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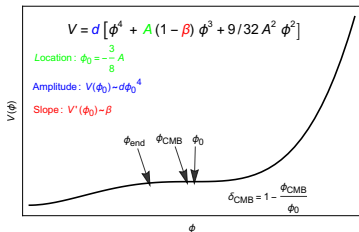
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$$\delta: \phi = \phi_0(1 - \delta) \Rightarrow \delta_{\text{CMB}} =$$

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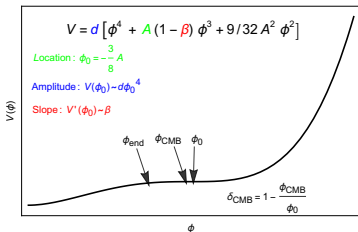
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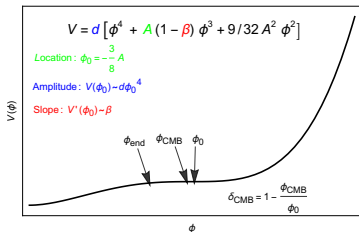
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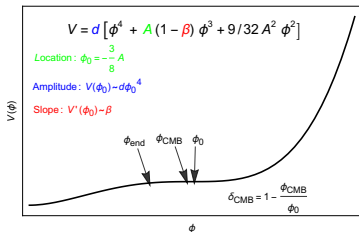
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- $\alpha \simeq -\frac{576(2\beta + \delta^2)}{\phi_0^4}$
- $\mathcal{P}_\zeta \simeq \frac{d\phi_0^6}{5184\pi^2(\delta^2 + 2\beta)^2}$

- $n_s = 0.9649$ ,  $N_{\text{CMB}} = 65$ ,  
 $\mathcal{P}_\zeta = 2.1 \cdot 10^{-9} \Rightarrow$  fix:

$$\delta_{\text{CMB}} = 7.31 \times 10^{-4} \phi_0^2$$

$$\beta = 9.73 \times 10^{-7} \phi_0^4$$

$$d = 6.61 \times 10^{-16} \phi_0^2$$

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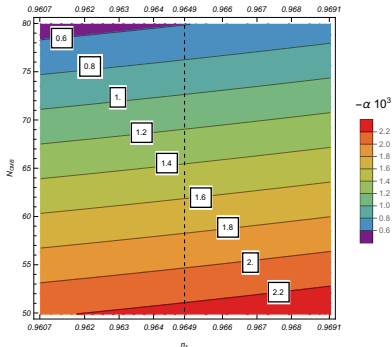
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 Inflationary scale:  
 $H_{\text{inf}} = \sqrt{\frac{V(\phi_0)}{3}} \simeq 8.6 \cdot 10^{-9} \phi_0^3$



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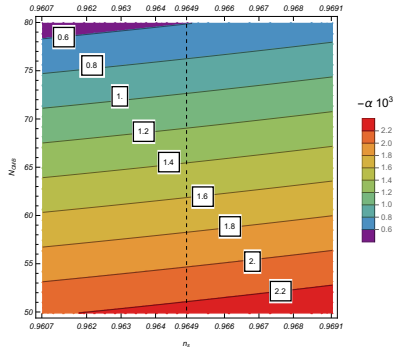
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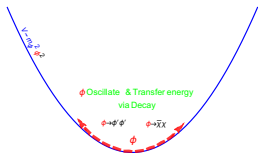
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- Question: What's the lower bound for  $\phi_0$ ?

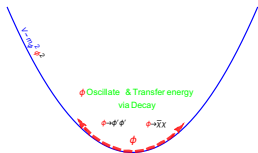
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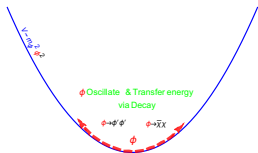
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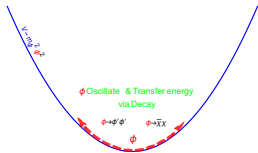
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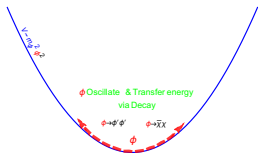
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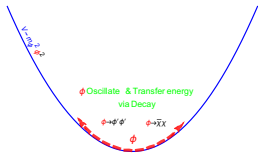
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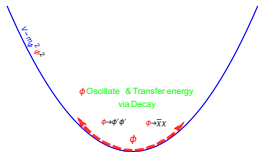
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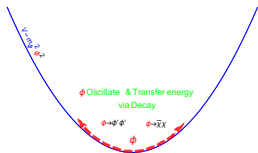
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2. Though  $m_{\phi'}^2 \sim g\phi \Rightarrow$  tachyonic resonance, still ok here, due to (sizeable) self-coupling  $\lambda\phi'^4$  ( $\Rightarrow$  back-reaction  $m_{\phi'}^2 \sim \lambda\langle\phi'^2\rangle$ ); Pauli blocking for  $\chi \Rightarrow$  Preheating not efficient here

- Question: What are the upper bounds for the couplings?  $\Rightarrow$  Radiative stability

# Radiative Stability $\Rightarrow$ Upper Bound

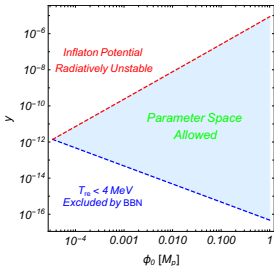
- Require:

$\Delta V_{1\text{-loop}}(\phi_0) \ll V(\phi_0)$ ;  $\Delta V'(\phi_0) \ll V'(\phi_0)$ ;  $\Delta V''(\phi_0) \ll V''(\phi_0)$ , with

$$\Delta V_{1\text{-loop}} = \frac{1}{64\pi^2} \sum_{\psi=\phi', \chi} (-1)^{2s_\psi} g_\psi \tilde{m}_\psi(\phi)^4 \left( \ln \left( \frac{\tilde{m}_\psi(\phi)^2}{Q_0^2} \right) - \frac{3}{2} \right)$$

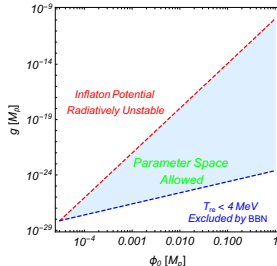
- Upper bounds for  $y$   
(coupling  $y\phi\bar{\chi}\chi$ ):

$$\left| \frac{y^4 - 3y^4 \ln(y^2)}{4\pi^2} \right| < 16d\beta$$



- Upper bounds for  $g$   
(coupling  $g\phi|\phi'|^2$ ):

$$\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2} \left| \ln \left( \frac{g}{\phi_0} \right) - 1 \right| < 8d\beta\phi_0^2$$



- Radiative Stability + Reheating  $\Rightarrow$  Lower bound  $\phi_0 > 3 \cdot 10^{-5} M_p$

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- A simple polynomial model fits data very well:

$$V \equiv d \left[ \phi^4 + A(1 - \beta)\phi^3 + \frac{9}{32}A^2\phi^2 \right]$$

with  $A = -8/3\phi_0$ ;  $\beta = 9.73 \times 10^{-7} \phi_0^4/M_p^4$ ;  $d = 6.61 \times 10^{-16} \phi_0^2/M_p^2$ .

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1.  $r \simeq 7.1 \cdot 10^{-9} \phi_0^6/M_p^6$  😞

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- Implications:

1.  $m_\phi \simeq 5.1 \times 10^{-8} \phi_0^2/M_p \Rightarrow$  as light as  $\mathcal{O}(100)$  GeV (EW scale);  
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Thank you for your attention!