

Cosmological correlators in slow-roll violating inflation

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Work with Jun'ichi Yokoyama

References:

- Phys. Rev. Lett 132, 221003 (2024) [2211.03395]
- Phys. Rev. D 109, 103541 (2024) [2303.00341]
- JCAP 10 (2024) 036 [2405.12145]
- Springer textbook on PBH (invited chapter) [2405.12149]

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Canonical inflation

The most minimal model of inflation.

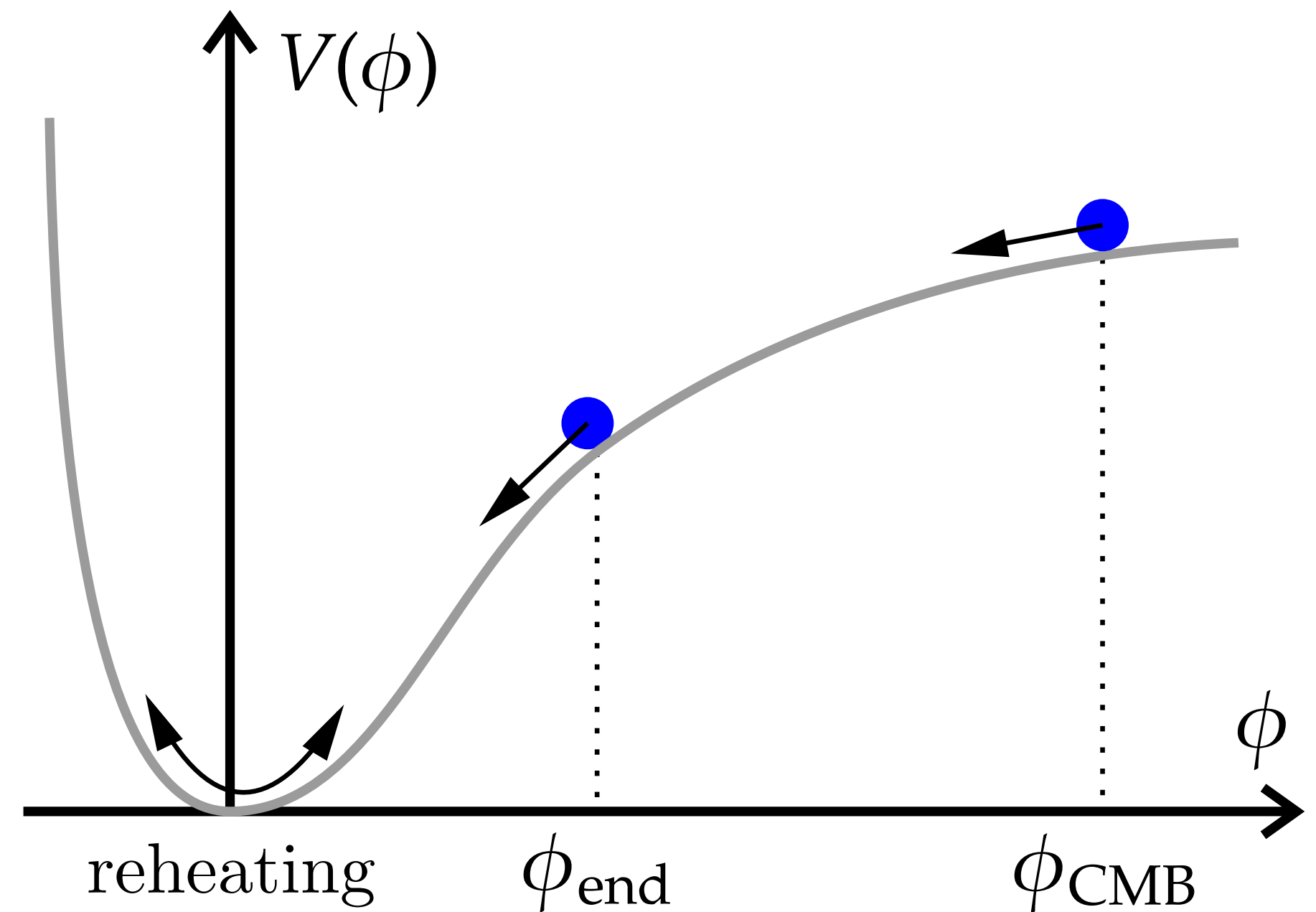
$$\text{Action: } S = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[M_{\text{P}}^2 R - (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 - 2V(\phi) \right].$$

$$\text{Background: } ds^2 = -dt^2 + a^2(t) d\mathbf{x}^2 = a^2(\tau)(-d\tau^2 + d\mathbf{x}^2).$$

Equation of motion:

$$\text{Friedmann equation: } \dot{H} = -\frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{2M_{\text{P}}^2} \text{ and } H^2 = \frac{1}{3M_{\text{P}}^2} \left(\frac{1}{2}\dot{\phi}^2 + V(\phi) \right).$$

$$\text{Klein-Gordon equation: } \ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + \frac{dV}{d\phi} = 0.$$



Slow-roll inflation

SR approximation: $\left| \frac{\ddot{\phi}}{\dot{\phi}H} \right| \ll 1$ and $\epsilon \equiv -\frac{\dot{H}}{H^2} = \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{2M_{\text{P}}^2 H^2} \ll 1$.

Performing SR approximation, the equations of motion become

$$H^2 \approx \frac{V(\phi)}{3M_{\text{P}}^2} \approx \text{const} \quad \text{and} \quad \dot{\phi} \approx -\frac{V_{,\phi}}{3HM_{\text{P}}} \longrightarrow \epsilon \approx \frac{M_{\text{P}}^2}{2} \left(\frac{V_{,\phi}}{V} \right)^2.$$

Solution: $a(t) \simeq -\frac{1}{Ht} \propto e^{Ht}$ (quasi-dS), with domain of conformal time $\tau < 0$.

Slow-roll inflation

More systematically, define n -th SR parameter: $\epsilon_{n+1} = \frac{\dot{\epsilon}_n}{\epsilon_n H}$ and $\epsilon_1 = -\frac{\dot{H}}{H^2}$.

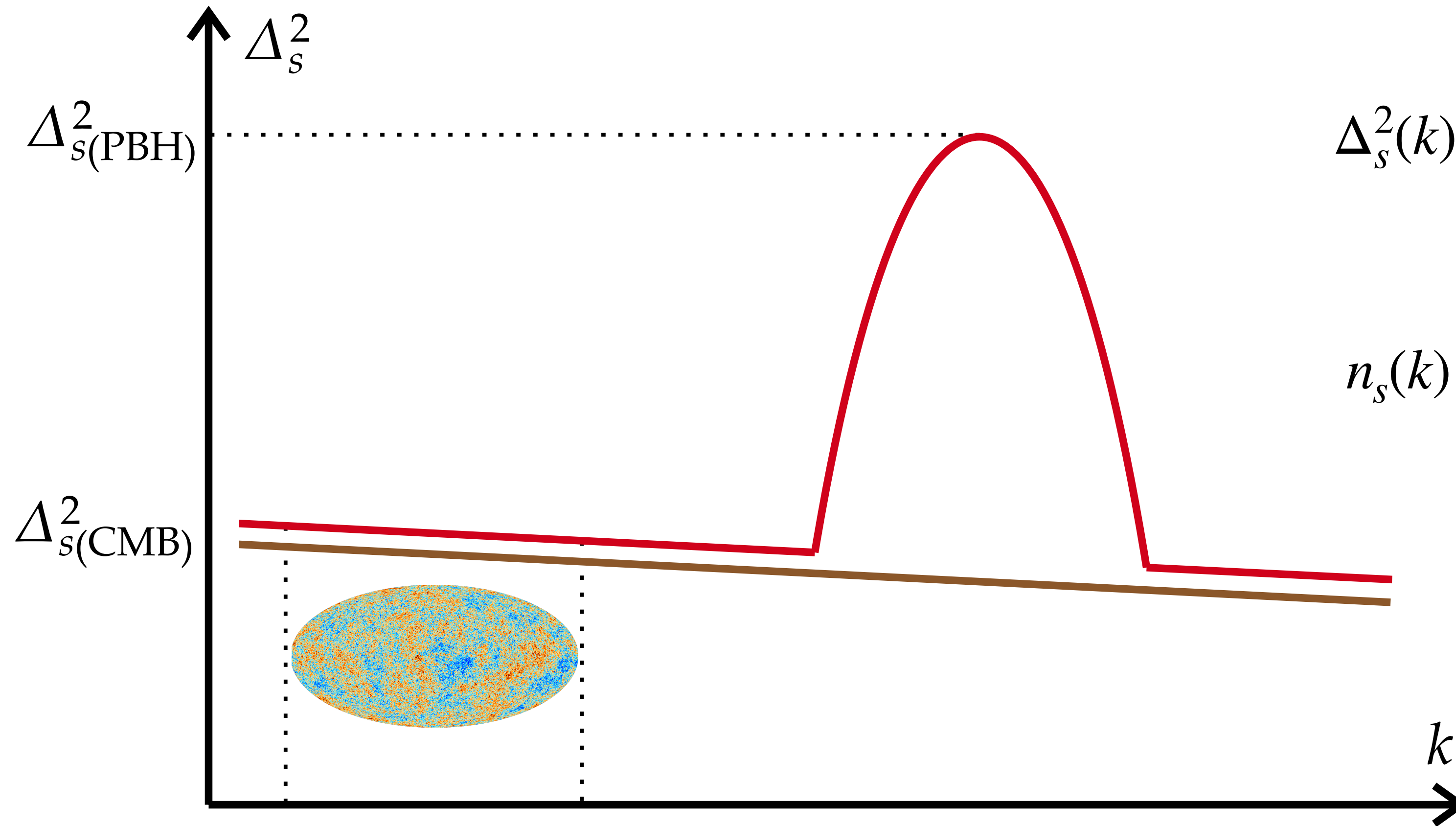
Substituting equation of motions:

$$\epsilon_1 = \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{2M_{\text{P}}^2 H^2}, \quad \epsilon_2 = 2\epsilon_1 + 2\frac{\ddot{\phi}}{\dot{\phi}H}, \dots$$

SR approximation: $|\epsilon_n| \ll 1$.

SR approximation implies quasi-dS, however converse statement is not true.

Power spectrum



$$\Delta_s^2(k) = \left[\frac{H^2(\tau)}{8\pi^2 M_{\text{P}}^2 \epsilon_1(\tau)} \right]_{\tau=-1/k}$$

$$n_s(k) - 1 = \frac{d \log \Delta_s^2}{d \log k} \sim \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$$

Decrease $\epsilon_1(\tau)$ at late time to amplify the power spectrum on small scales. How to achieve that?

Violation of SR approximation

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + \frac{dV}{d\phi} = 0$$

SR approximation: $3H\dot{\phi} + \frac{dV}{d\phi} \approx 0$

$$\epsilon_1 = \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{2M_{\text{P}}^2 H^2} \approx \frac{M_{\text{P}}^2}{2} \left(\frac{V_{,\phi}}{V} \right)^2 \ll 1$$

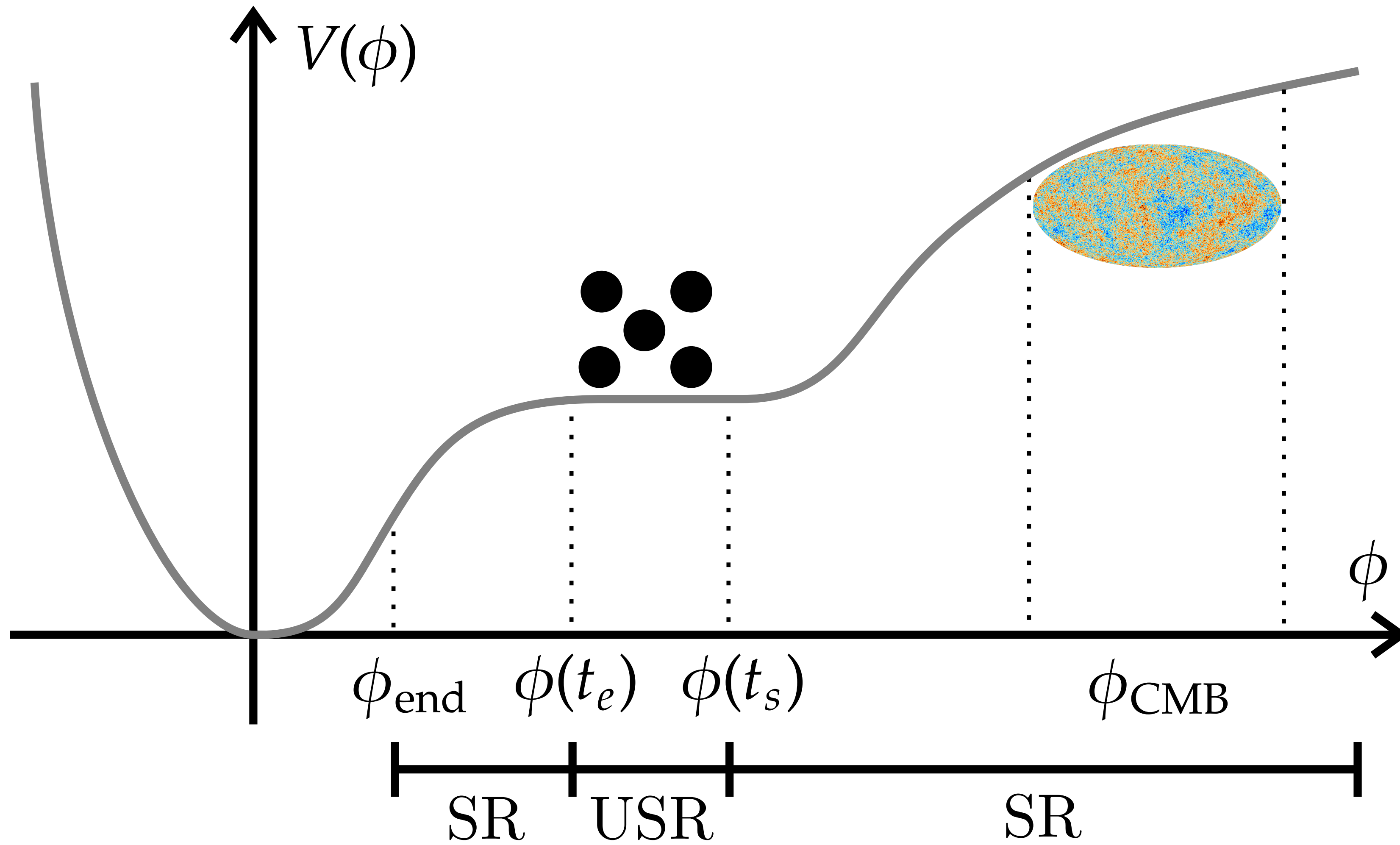
$$\epsilon_2 = 2\epsilon_1 + 2\frac{\ddot{\phi}}{\dot{\phi}H} \ll 1$$

USR condition: $\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} = 0 \longrightarrow \dot{\phi} \propto a^{-3}$

$$\epsilon_1 = \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{2M_{\text{P}}^2 H^2} \propto a^{-6} \ll 1$$

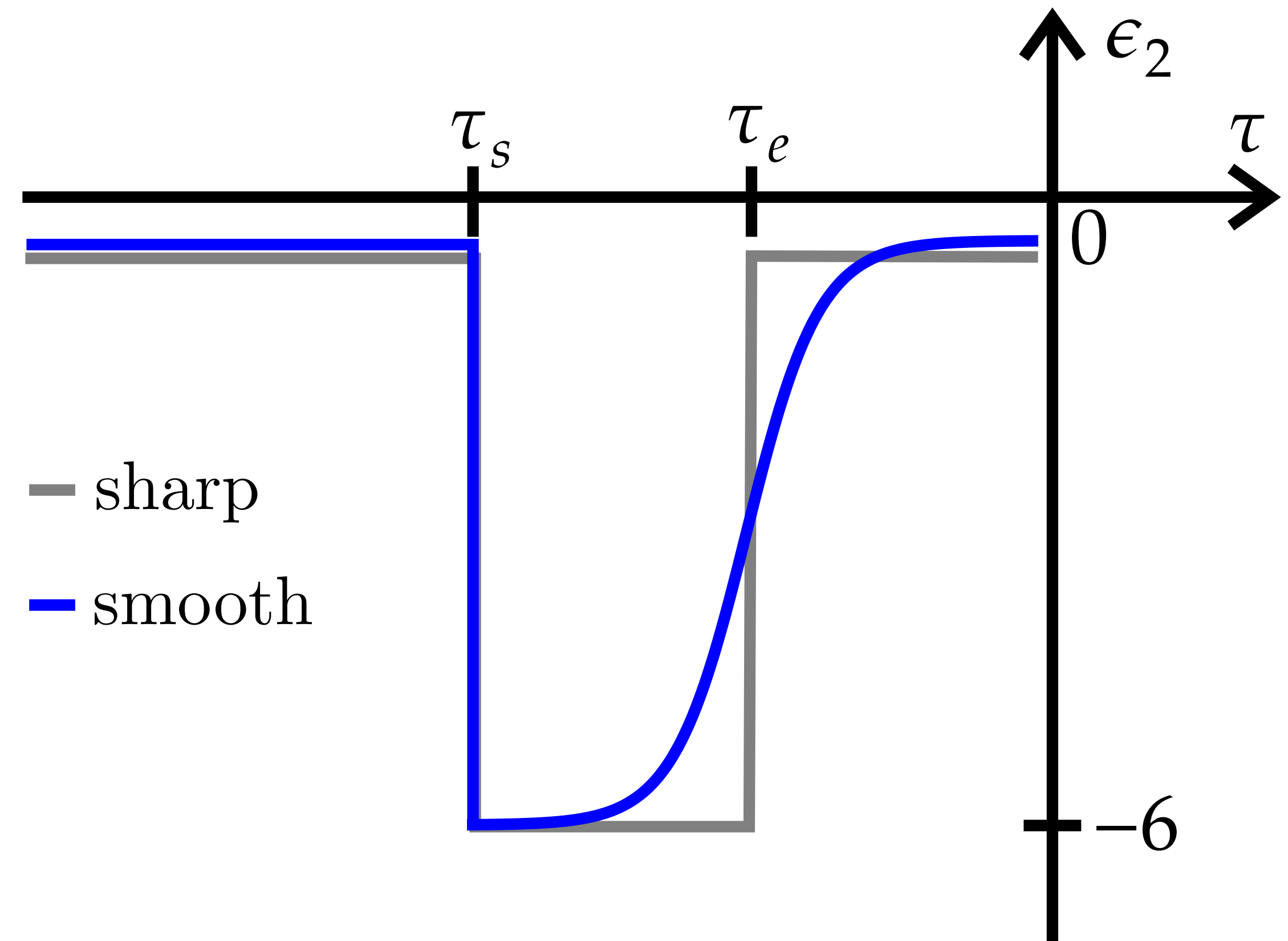
$$\epsilon_2 = 2\epsilon_1 + 2\frac{\ddot{\phi}}{\dot{\phi}H} \simeq -6$$

Potential of the inflaton



Evolution of the second SR parameter

- Sharp: step function at both $\tau = \tau_s$ and $\tau = \tau_e$.
- Smooth: continuous function at $\tau > \tau_s$.



Cosmological perturbations

Small perturbations:

- Inflaton: $\phi(\mathbf{x}, t) = \bar{\phi}(t) + \delta\phi(\mathbf{x}, t)$
- Spacetime: $ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu}dx^\mu dx^\nu = -N^2 dt^2 + \gamma_{ij}(dx^i + N^i dt)(dx^j + N^j dt)$

Gauge fixing condition:

- Comoving: $\delta\phi = 0$ and $\gamma_{ij} = a^2 e^{2\zeta} \delta_{ij}$
- Flat-slicing: $\delta\phi \neq 0$ and $\gamma_{ij} = a^2 \delta_{ij}$

(Non-linear) gauge transformation: $\zeta = \zeta_n + \frac{1}{4}\epsilon_2 \zeta_n^2 + \frac{1}{H} \dot{\zeta}_n \zeta_n + \mathcal{O}(\zeta_n^3)$, $\zeta_n = -\frac{\delta\phi}{M_{\text{P}}\sqrt{2\epsilon_1}}$

Compute correlation function of ζ_n , then obtain correlation function of ζ .

Second-order action

Second-order action: $S^{(2)} = M_{\text{P}}^2 \int dt d^3x \epsilon_1 a^3 \left[\dot{\zeta}^2 - \frac{1}{a^2} (\partial_i \zeta)^2 \right]$

Mukhanov-Sasaki (MS) variable: $v = z\zeta M_{\text{P}}$, $z = a\sqrt{2\epsilon_1}$

$$S^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2} \int d\tau d^3x \left[(v')^2 - (\partial_i v)^2 + \frac{z''}{z} v^2 \right]$$

Equation of motion: $v_k'' + \left(k^2 - \frac{z''}{z} \right) v_k = 0$, $\frac{z''}{z} = (aH)^2 \left(2 - \epsilon_1 + \frac{3}{2}\epsilon_2 - \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_1\epsilon_2 + \frac{1}{4}\epsilon_2^2 + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_2\epsilon_3 \right)$

- SR ($\epsilon_1, |\epsilon_2|, |\epsilon_3| \ll 1$)

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

- USR ($\epsilon_1, |\epsilon_3| \ll 1$, $\epsilon_2 = -6$)

Curvature perturbation

Pure USR inflation ($V(\phi) = \text{constant}$) corresponds to $\mathcal{A}_k = 1$ and $\mathcal{B}_k = 0$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \zeta_k(\tau) = \frac{iH}{2M_{\text{P}}\sqrt{k^3\epsilon_1(\tau)}} \longrightarrow \Delta_s^2(k \rightarrow 0, \tau) = \frac{H^2}{8\pi^2 M_{\text{P}}^2 \epsilon_1(\tau)} \propto a^3(\tau)$$

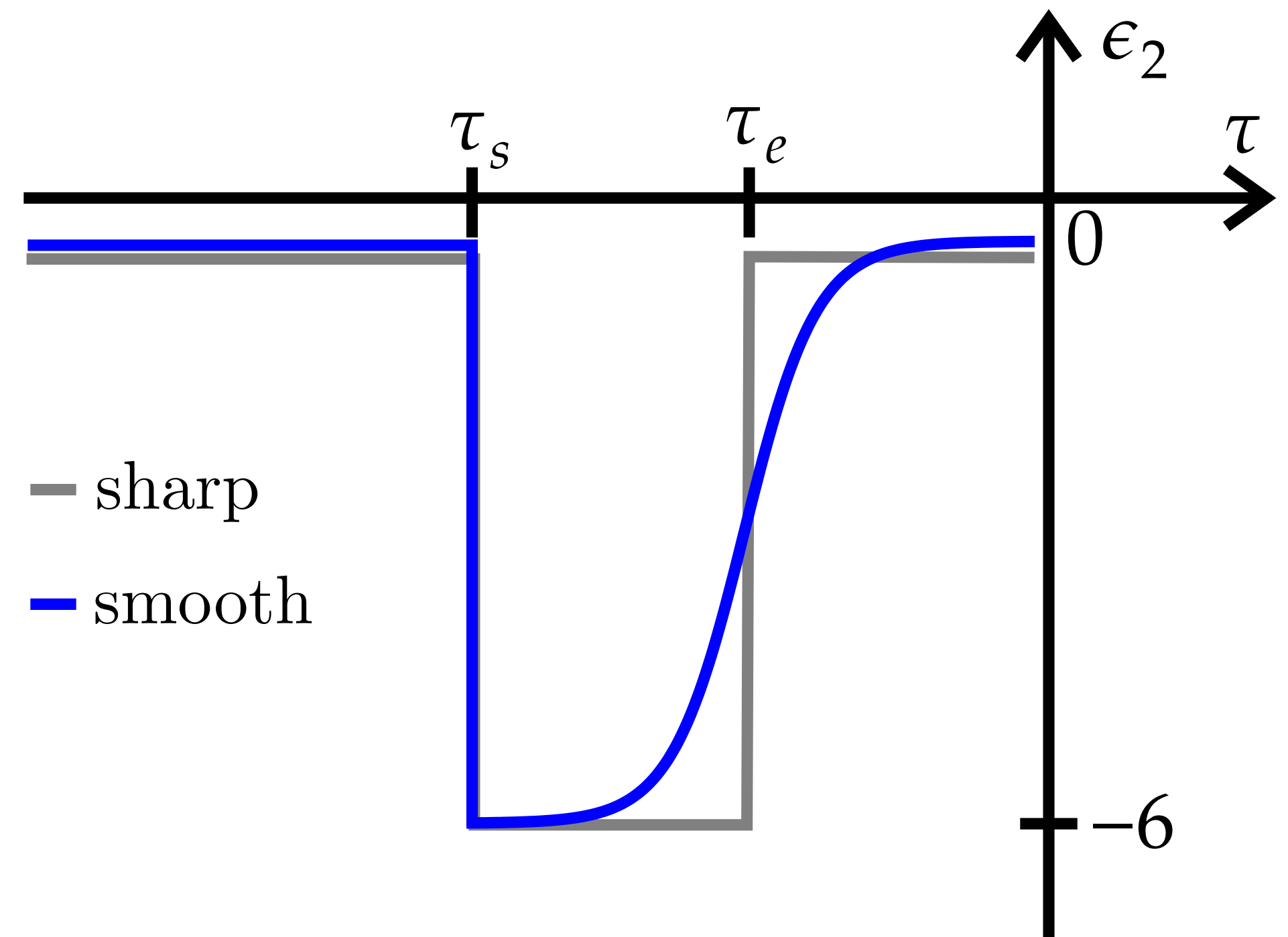
Superhorizon evolution of scale-invariant perturbation even at tree-level.

Transition makes initial condition of the USR period deviates from Bunch-Davies.

$$\zeta_k(\tau) = \frac{iH}{2M_{\text{P}}\sqrt{k^3\epsilon_1(\tau)}} \left[\mathcal{A}_k e^{-ik\tau}(1 + ik\tau) - \mathcal{B}_k e^{ik\tau}(1 - ik\tau) \right]$$

Coefficients \mathcal{A}_k and \mathcal{B}_k are obtained by requiring continuity of $\zeta_k(\tau)$ and $\zeta_k'(\tau)$ at the transition.

Sharp transition

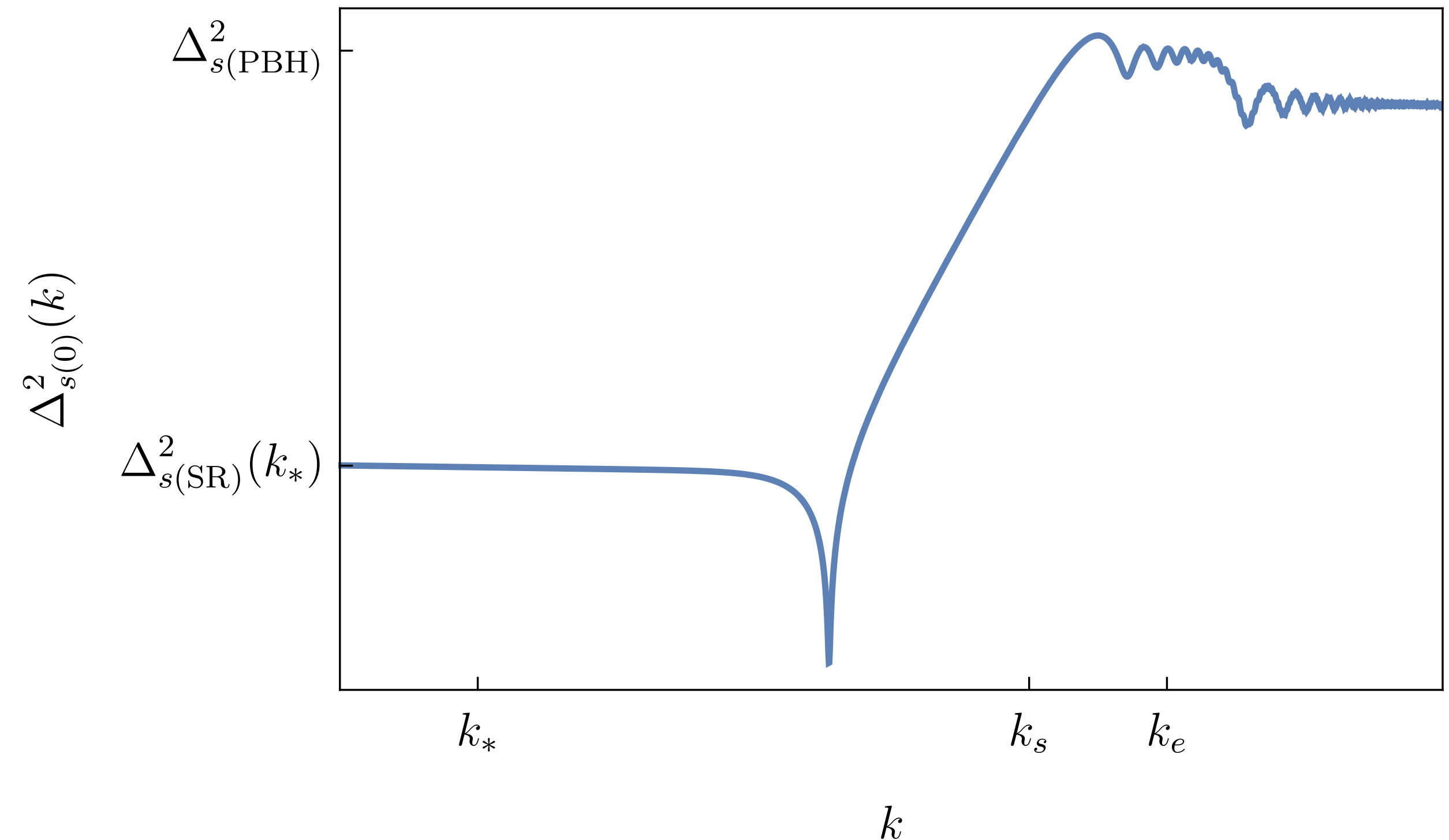


Two-point functions

Power spectrum at the end of inflation: $\Delta_{s(0)}^2(k) = \frac{k^3}{2\pi^2} |\zeta_k(\tau \rightarrow 0)|^2$.

Large scale: $\Delta_{s(\text{SR})}^2(k) \equiv \Delta_{s(0)}^2(k \ll k_s) = \frac{H^2}{8\pi^2 M_{\text{P}}^2 \epsilon_1(\tau_s)}$.

Small scale: $\Delta_{s(\text{PBH})}^2 \approx \Delta_{s(\text{SR})}^2(k_s) \left(\frac{k_e}{k_s}\right)^6$.



Cubic self-interaction

Derivative of the potential: $V_n \equiv \frac{d^n V}{d\phi^n}$

$$\text{Cubic action: } S_{\delta\phi}^{(3)} = -\frac{1}{6} \int dt d^3x a^3 V_3 \delta\phi^3 = -\frac{1}{6} M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d\tau d^3x (a^2 \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2)' \zeta_n^3$$

As an alternative, performing IBP on the cubic action:

$$S_{\delta\phi}^{(3)} = -\frac{1}{6} M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d\tau d^3x (a^2 \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2)' \zeta_n^3 = \frac{1}{2} M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d\tau d^3x a^2 \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2' \zeta_n' \zeta_n^2,$$

that is justified because $(f(\tau)\zeta_n^3)'$ does not contribute to correlation of ζ_n .

No subtlety for computing tree-level bispectrum (1st order perturbation), but we have to be careful when computing tree-level trispectrum and one-loop power spectrum (2nd order perturbation).

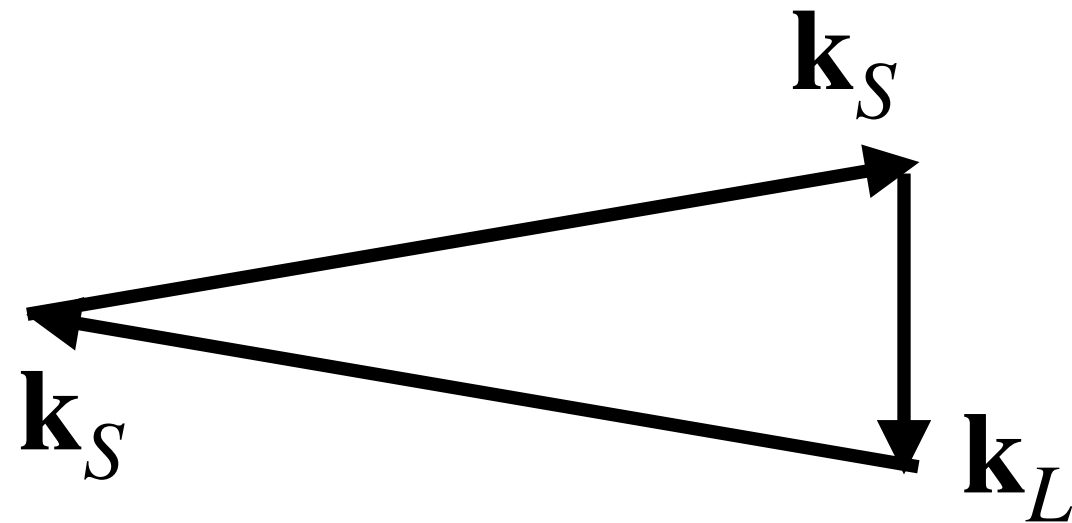
Three-point functions

In-in formalism: $\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle = 2 \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} d\tau_1 \operatorname{Im} \left\langle \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau) H_{\text{int}}(\tau_1) \right\rangle$ with $\mathcal{O}(\tau) = \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1}(\tau) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2}(\tau) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_3}(\tau)$.

Bispectrum: $\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1}(\tau) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2}(\tau) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_3}(\tau) \rangle = (2\pi)^3 \delta(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3) \langle\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1}(\tau) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2}(\tau) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_3}(\tau) \rangle\rangle$.

Maldacena's theorem on squeezed limit of the bispectrum:

$$\lim_{k_L \rightarrow 0} \langle\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_L}(\tau) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_S}(\tau) \zeta_{-\mathbf{k}_S}(\tau) \rangle\rangle = - (n_s(k_S, \tau) - 1) |\zeta_{k_S}(\tau)|^2 |\zeta_{k_L}(\tau)|^2, \quad n_s(k, \tau) - 1 = \frac{d \log \Delta_s^2(k, \tau)}{d \log k}.$$



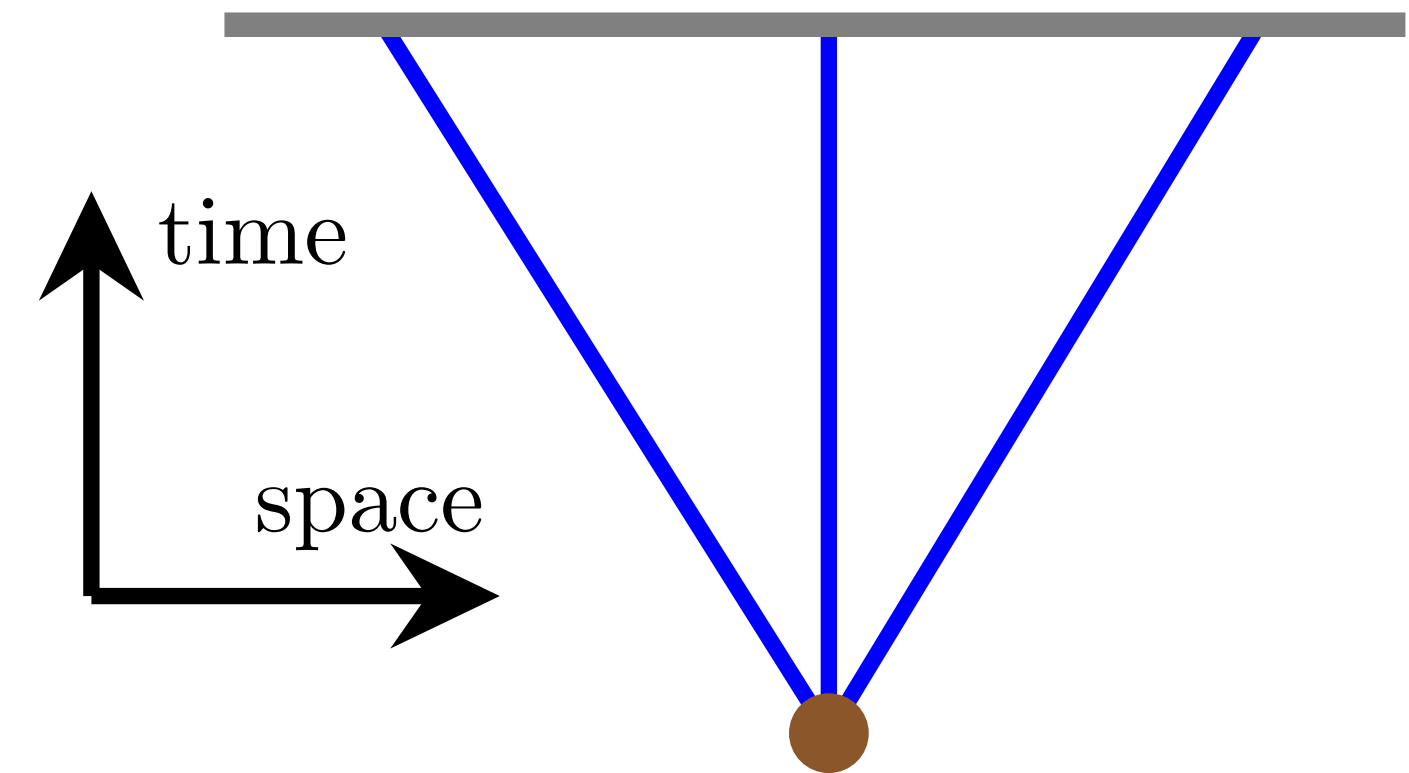
Bispectrum

Leading interaction: $H_{\delta\phi}^{(3)} = -\frac{1}{2}M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d^3x \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2' a^2 \zeta_n' \zeta_n^2$

Time integral: $\int_{-\infty}^0 d\tau \epsilon_2'(\tau) f(\tau) = \Delta\epsilon_2 [f(\tau_e) - f(\tau_s)]$

Bispectrum:

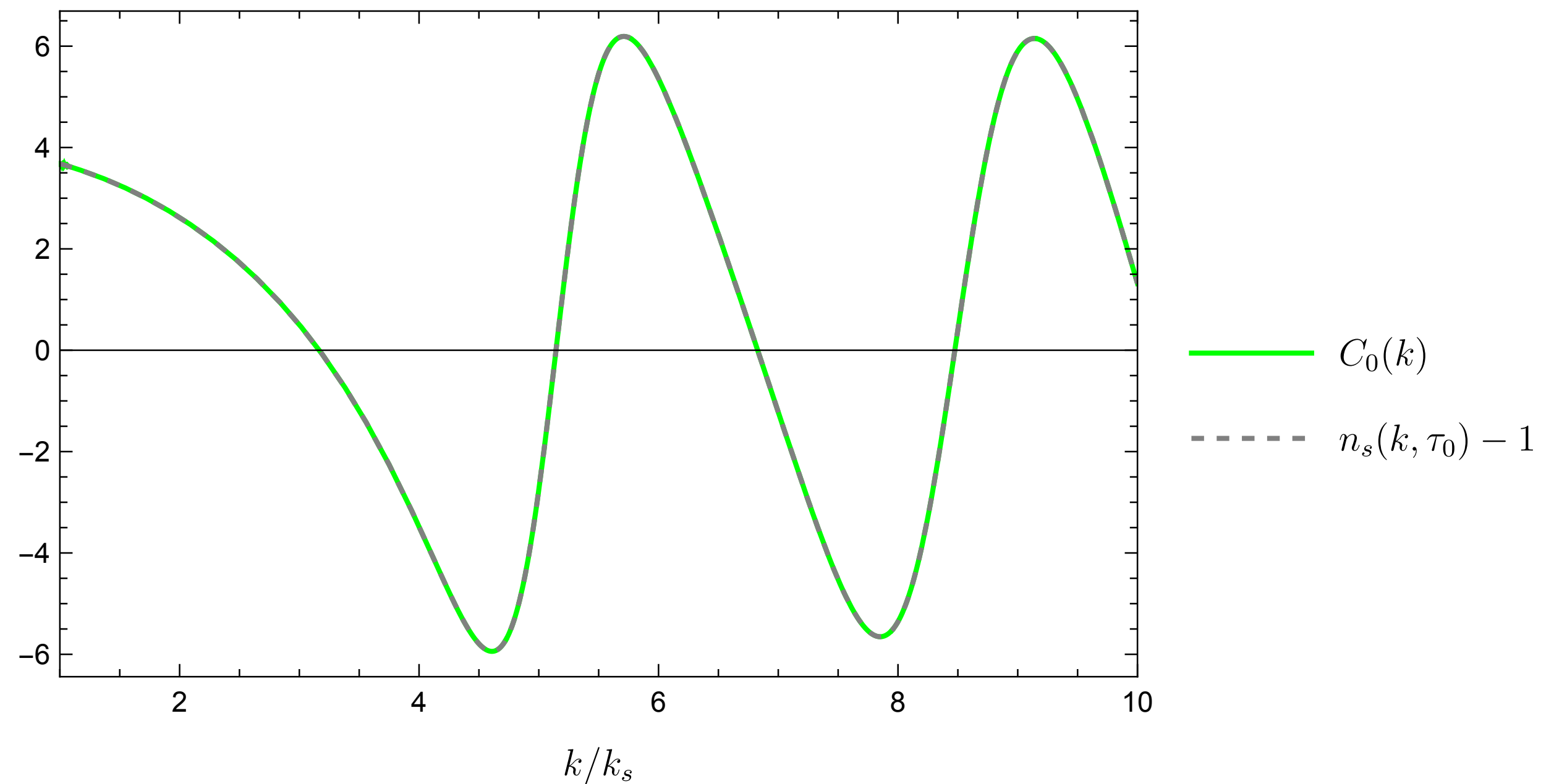
$$\langle\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1}(\tau_0) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2}(\tau_0) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_3}(\tau_0) \rangle\rangle = -2M_{\text{P}}^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\tau_0} d\tau \epsilon_1(\tau) \epsilon_2'(\tau) a^2(\tau) \text{Im} \left[\zeta_{k_1}(\tau_0) \zeta_{k_2}(\tau_0) \zeta_{k_3}(\tau_0) \zeta_{k_1}^*(\tau) \zeta_{k_2}^*(\tau) \zeta_{k_3}'^*(\tau) \right] + \text{perm.}$$



Bispectrum

Squeezed limit: $\langle\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1}(\tau_0) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2}(\tau_0) \zeta_{-\mathbf{k}_2}(\tau_0) \rangle\rangle = -C_0(k_2) |\zeta_{k_1}(\tau_0)|^2 |\zeta_{k_2}(\tau_0)|^2,$

$$C_0(k) = 4M_{\text{P}}^2 \Delta \epsilon_2 \text{Im} \left\{ \frac{\zeta_k^2(\tau_0)}{|\zeta_k(\tau_0)|^2} \left[\epsilon_1(\tau_e) a^2(\tau_e) \zeta_k^*(\tau_e) \zeta_k'^*(\tau_e) - \epsilon_1(\tau_s) a^2(\tau_s) \zeta_k^*(\tau_s) \zeta_k'^*(\tau_s) \right] \right\}.$$



One-loop correction

One-loop correction generated by cubic-order action is computed using in-in perturbation theory:

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle = \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{(0,2)}^\dagger + \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{(1,1)} + \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{(0,2)},$$

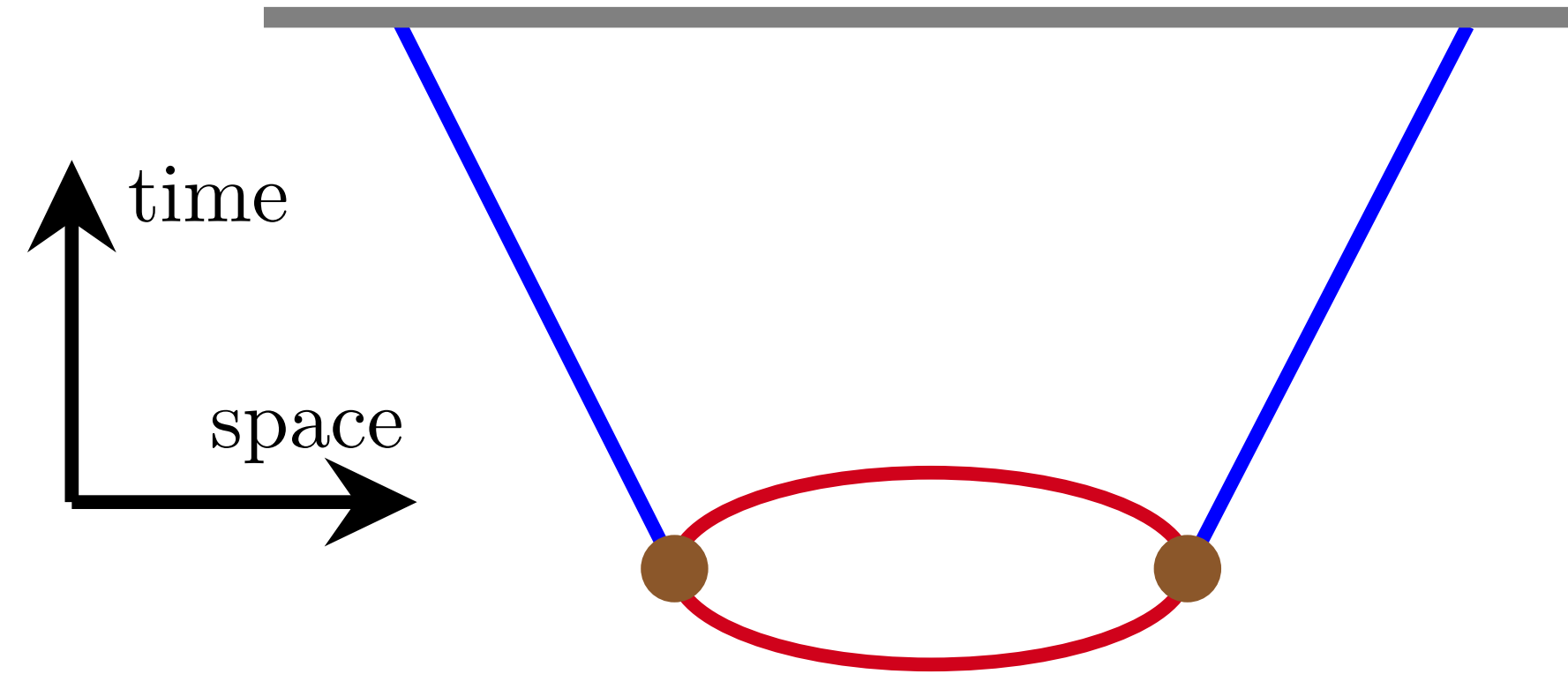
$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{(1,1)} = \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} d\tau_1 \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} d\tau_2 \left\langle H_{\text{int}}(\tau_1) \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau) H_{\text{int}}(\tau_2) \right\rangle,$$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{(0,2)} = - \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} d\tau_1 \int_{-\infty}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \left\langle \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau) H_{\text{int}}(\tau_1) H_{\text{int}}(\tau_2) \right\rangle.$$

Operator: $\mathcal{O}(\tau_0) = \zeta_{\mathbf{p}}(\tau_0) \zeta_{-\mathbf{p}}(\tau_0)$ where $\tau_0 \rightarrow 0$

Leading interaction: $H_{\delta\phi}^{(3)} = -\frac{1}{2} M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d^3x \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2' a^2 \zeta_n' \zeta_n^2$

One-loop correction



One-loop correction to general scale p :

$$\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{p}}(\tau_0) \zeta_{-\mathbf{p}}(\tau_0) \rangle_{(1)} = \frac{1}{4} M_{\text{P}}^4 \epsilon_1^2(\tau_e) a^4(\tau_e) (\Delta \epsilon_2)^2 \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} |\zeta_{|\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{p}|}(\tau_e)|^2 f(p, k; \tau_e),$$

$$f(p, k; \tau_e) = 8 |\zeta_k(\tau_e)|^2 \text{Im}[\zeta_p(\tau_0) \zeta_p'^*(\tau_e)]^2 + 32 |\zeta_k'(\tau_e)|^2 \text{Im}[\zeta_p(\tau_0) \zeta_p^*(\tau_e)]^2$$

$$+ 32 \text{Im}[\zeta_p(\tau_0) \zeta_p^*(\tau_e)] \text{Im}[\zeta_p(\tau_0) \zeta_p'^*(\tau_e)] \text{Re}[\zeta_k'^*(\tau_e) \zeta_k(\tau_e)] + 16 |\zeta_p(\tau_0)|^2 \text{Im}[\zeta_p(\tau_e) \zeta_p'^*(\tau_e)] \text{Im}[\zeta_k(\tau_0) \zeta_k'^*(\tau_e)].$$

One-loop correction

For large loop momentum $k \gg p$:

$$\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{p}}(\tau_0) \zeta_{-\mathbf{p}}(\tau_0) \rangle_{(1)} = \frac{1}{4} M_{\text{P}}^4 \epsilon_1^2(\tau_e) a^4(\tau_e) (\Delta\epsilon_2)^2 |\zeta_p(\tau_0)|^2 \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} 16 \left[|\zeta_k|^2 \text{Im}(\zeta'_p \zeta_p^*) \text{Im}(\zeta'_k \zeta_k^*) \right]_{\tau=\tau_e}.$$

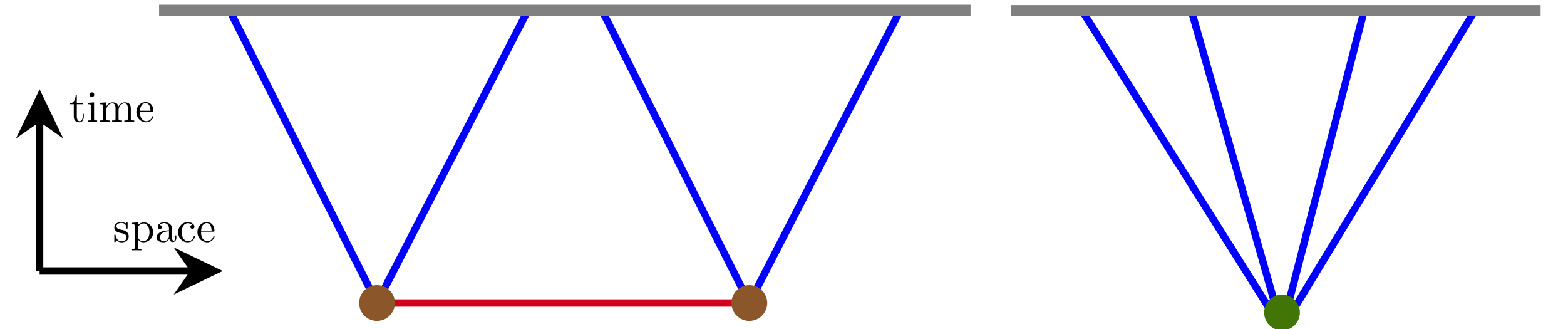
Substituting $[\text{Im}(\zeta'_k \zeta_k^*)]_{\tau=\tau_e} = -\frac{1}{4M_{\text{P}}^2 \epsilon_1(\tau_e) a^2(\tau_e)}$, we obtain

$$\Delta_{s(1)}^2(p, \tau_0) = \frac{1}{4} (\Delta\epsilon_2)^2 \Delta_{s(0)}^2(p, \tau_0) \int \frac{dk}{k} \Delta_{s(0)}^2(k, \tau_e).$$

$$\Delta_{s(\text{PBH})}^2 \ll \frac{1}{(\Delta\epsilon_2)^2}$$

Scale-invariant one-loop correction? Note the importance of decaying mode, even at late time for long-wavelength mode ζ_p .

Trispectrum



Total contributions to the trispectrum:

- Exchange diagram with two $H_{\delta\phi}^{(3)}$ vertices
 - s -channel: $s = |\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2|$
 - t -channel: $t = |\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_3|$
 - u -channel: $u = |\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_4|$
- Contact diagram with $H_{\delta\phi}^{(4)}$ vertex

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle^{(3)} = \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{(0,2)}^\dagger + \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{(1,1)} + \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{(0,2)},$$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{(1,1)} = \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} d\tau_1 \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} d\tau_2 \left\langle H^{(3)}(\tau_1) \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau) H^{(3)}(\tau_2) \right\rangle,$$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{(0,2)} = - \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} d\tau_1 \int_{-\infty}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \left\langle \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau) H^{(3)}(\tau_1) H^{(3)}(\tau_2) \right\rangle.$$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle^{(4)} = 2 \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} d\tau_1 \operatorname{Im} \left\langle \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau) H^{(4)}(\tau_1) \right\rangle$$

Quartic self-interaction

$$\text{Cubic action: } S_{\delta\phi}^{(3)} = -\frac{1}{6} \int dt d^3x a^3 V_3 \delta\phi^3 = -\frac{1}{6} M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d\tau d^3x (a^2 \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2')' \zeta_n^3$$

$$\text{Cubic Hamiltonian: } H_{\delta\phi}^{(3)} = \frac{1}{6} M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d^3x (a^2 \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2')' \zeta_n^3$$

$$\text{Quartic action: } S_{\delta\phi}^{(4)} = -\frac{1}{24} \int dt d^3x a^3 V_4 \delta\phi^4 = -\frac{1}{24} \int dt d^3x (z M_{\text{P}})^3 \frac{\dot{V}_3}{H} \zeta_n^4$$

$$\text{Quartic Hamiltonian: } H_{\delta\phi}^{(4)} = -\frac{1}{24} M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d^3x \left[\frac{1}{aH} (\epsilon_1 a^2 \epsilon_2')'' - \left(4 + \frac{3}{2} \epsilon_2 \right) (\epsilon_1 a^2 \epsilon_2')' \right] \zeta_n^4$$

Seems easy and no problem!

Quartic-induced Hamiltonian

For the alternative cubic action: $S_{\delta\phi}^{(3)} = \frac{1}{2} M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d\tau d^3x a^2 \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2' \zeta_n' \zeta_n^2$

Quartic-induced Hamiltonian: $H_{\delta\phi}^{(4\text{I})} = \frac{1}{16} M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d^3x a^2 \epsilon_1 (\epsilon_2')^2 \zeta_n^4$

In case ϵ_2' is modelled as a Dirac-delta function of time, this $H^{(4\text{I})}$ generates trispectrum (and one-loop power spectrum) proportional to Dirac-delta function of time (or inversely proportional to the duration of transition).

Very large and dangerous contribution!

However, this $H^{(4\text{I})}$ must be added to the quartic Hamiltonian from quartic action $H_{\delta\phi}^{(4)}$.

Total quartic Hamiltonian

$$\text{Quartic Hamiltonian: } H_{\delta\phi}^{(4)} = -\frac{1}{24}M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d^3x \left[\frac{1}{aH} (\epsilon_1 a^2 \epsilon_2')'' - \left(4 + \frac{3}{2}\epsilon_2\right) (\epsilon_1 a^2 \epsilon_2')' \right] \zeta_n^4$$

$$\text{Quartic-induced Hamiltonian: } H^{(4\text{I})} = \frac{1}{16}M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d^3x a^2 \epsilon_1 (\epsilon_2')^2 \zeta_n^4$$

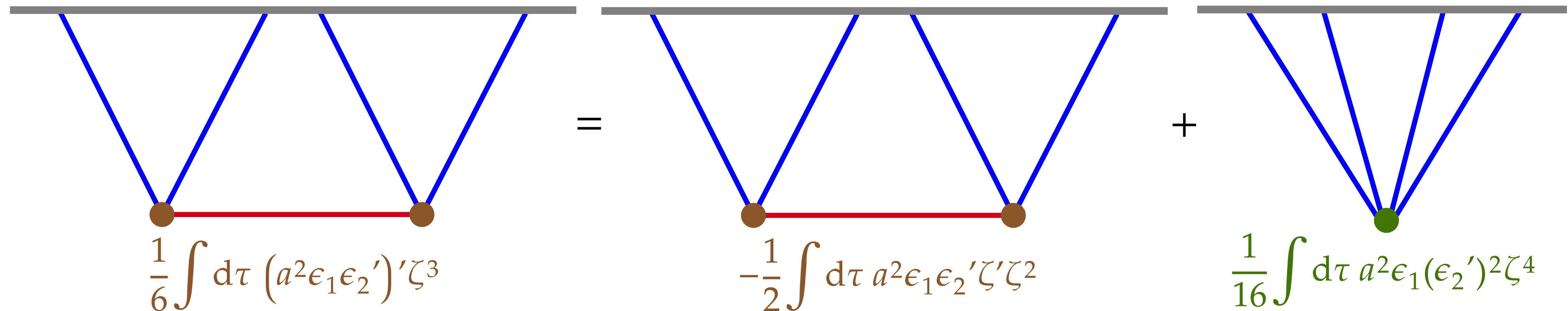
$$\text{Total: } H^{(4)} = H_{\delta\phi}^{(4)} + H_{\delta\phi}^{(4\text{I})} = -\frac{1}{24}M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d^3x \left\{ \frac{1}{aH} (\epsilon_1 a^2 \epsilon_2')'' - \left[\left(4 + \frac{3}{2}\epsilon_2\right) (\epsilon_1 a^2 \epsilon_2')' \right]' \right\} \zeta_n^4.$$

The total quartic Hamiltonian is not proportional to $(\epsilon_2')^2$!

Total quartic Hamiltonian

If we start from $H_{\delta\phi}^{(3)} = \frac{1}{6}M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d^3x (a^2\epsilon_1\epsilon_2')' \zeta_n^3$, substitute it to the second-order perturbation theory (and perform IBP) yields the quartic-induced Hamiltonian.

Take care of the total time derivative when performing IBP.



The diagram illustrates the decomposition of a quartic interaction term into three parts. Each part consists of a horizontal grey line at the top representing a background field, with four blue lines extending downwards to a vertex. The first vertex is a brown dot with two brown dots on the horizontal line below it, connected by a red line. The second vertex is a brown dot with two brown dots on the horizontal line below it, connected by a red line. The third vertex is a green dot with two green dots on the horizontal line below it, connected by a red line.

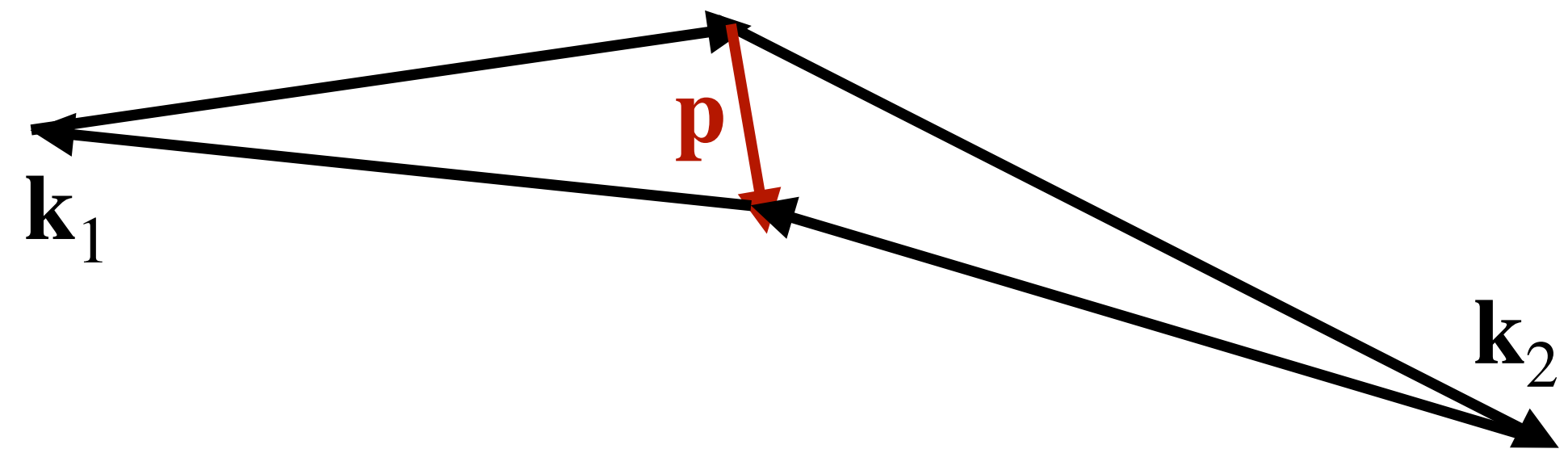
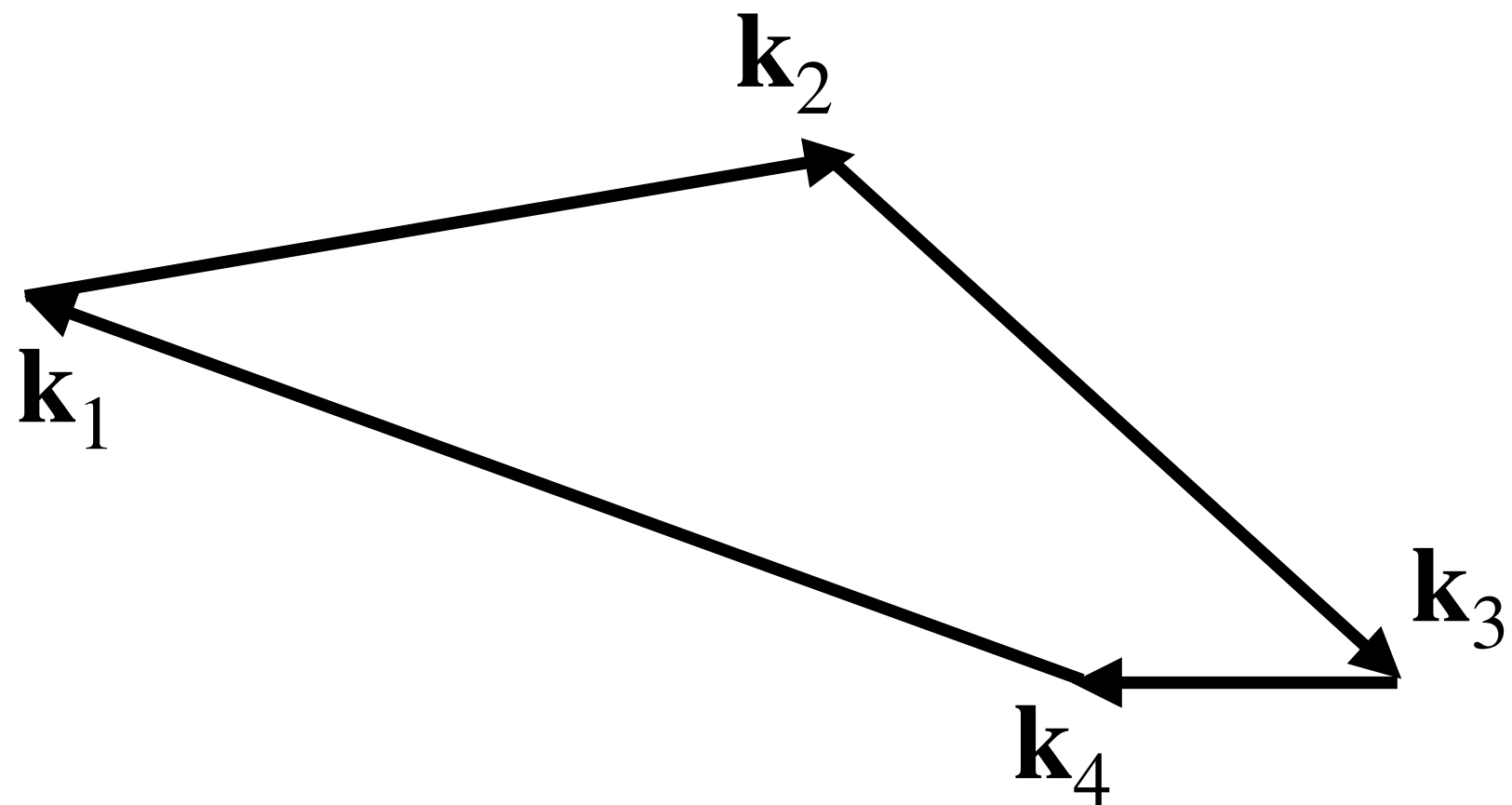
$$\frac{1}{6} \int d\tau (a^2\epsilon_1\epsilon_2')' \zeta^3 = -\frac{1}{2} \int d\tau a^2\epsilon_1\epsilon_2' \zeta' \zeta^2 + \frac{1}{16} \int d\tau a^2\epsilon_1(\epsilon_2')^2 \zeta^4$$

Trispectrum

Explicit form of trispectrum is too long, but it satisfies Maldacena's theorem.

$$\text{Squeezed: } \lim_{k_4 \rightarrow 0} \frac{-1}{|\zeta_{k_4}(\tau)|^2} \langle\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1}(\tau) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2}(\tau) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_3}(\tau) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_4}(\tau) \rangle\rangle = \left(6 + \sum_{n=1}^3 k_n \frac{\partial}{\partial k_n} \right) \langle\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1}(\tau) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2}(\tau) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_3}(\tau) \rangle\rangle.$$

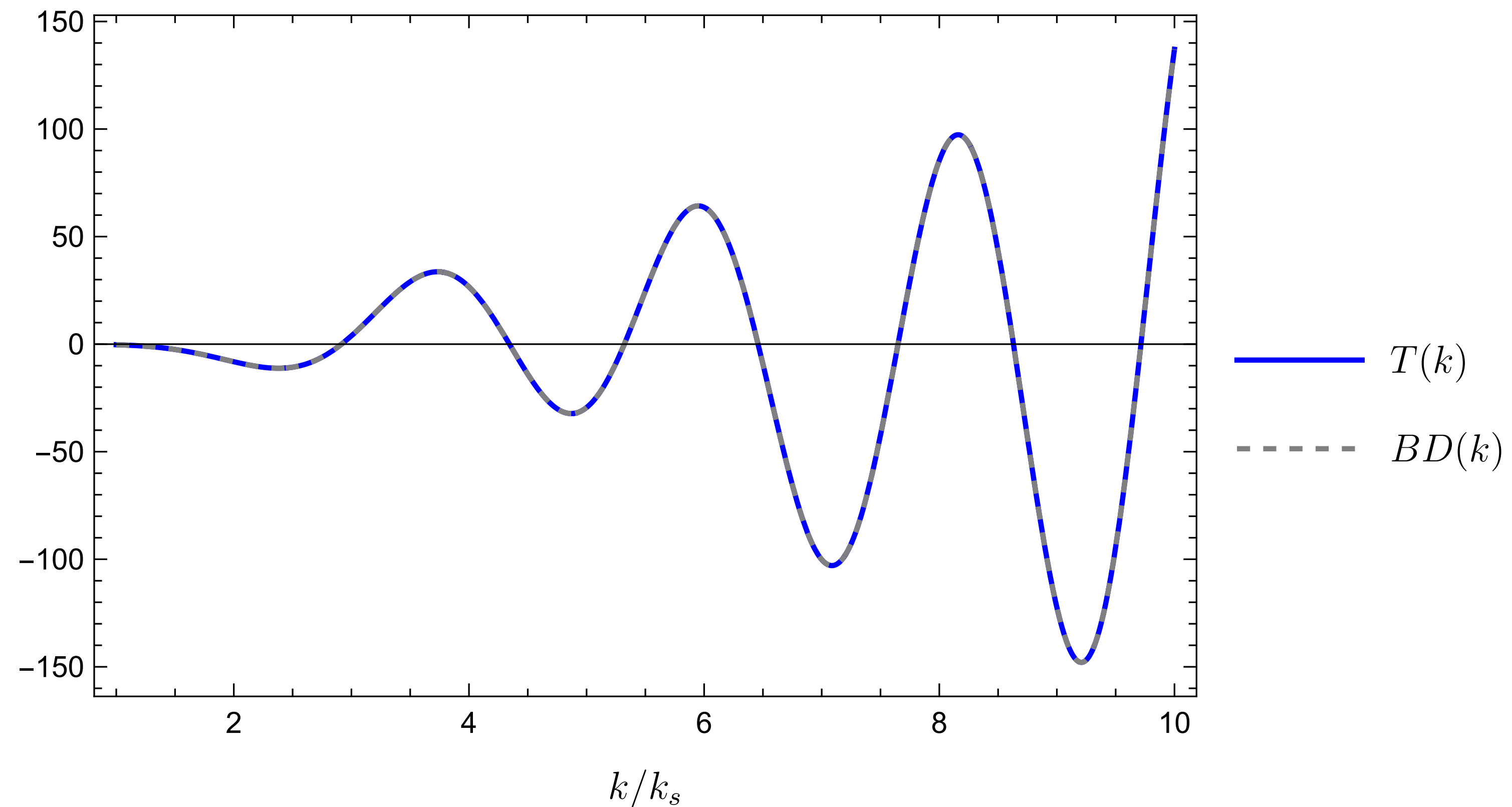
$$\text{Collapsed: } \lim_{p \rightarrow 0} \frac{-1}{|\zeta_{k_4}(\tau)|^2} \langle\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1}(\tau) \zeta_{\mathbf{p}-\mathbf{k}_1}(\tau) \zeta_{-\mathbf{k}_2}(\tau) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2-\mathbf{p}}(\tau) \rangle\rangle = (n_s(k_1, \tau) - 1)(n_s(k_2, \tau) - 1) |\zeta_{k_1}(\tau)|^2 |\zeta_{k_2}(\tau)|^2.$$



Trispectrum

$T(k)$ = soft limit of trispectrum evaluated at equilateral shape

$BD(k)$ = running of bispectrum evaluated at equilateral shape



Trispectrum

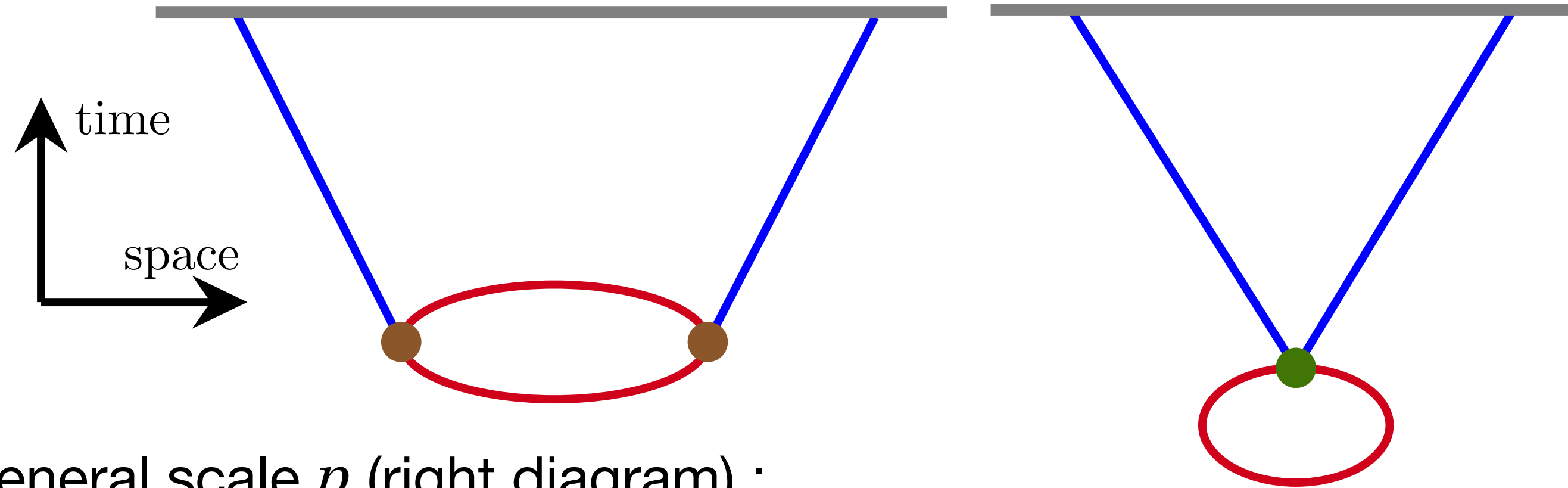
Second-order perturbation:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle = & \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} d\tau_1 \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} d\tau_2 \left\langle H^{(3)}(\tau_1) \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau) H^{(3)}(\tau_2) \right\rangle - 2\text{Re} \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} d\tau_1 \int_{-\infty}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \left\langle \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau) H^{(3)}(\tau_1) H^{(3)}(\tau_2) \right\rangle \\ & + 2 \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} d\tau_1 \text{Im} \left\langle \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau) H^{(4)}(\tau_1) \right\rangle \end{aligned}$$

- Trispectrum: $\hat{\mathcal{O}} = \zeta^4$
- Bare one-loop power spectrum: $\hat{\mathcal{O}} = \zeta^2$

If one claims set of $H^{(3)}$ and $H^{(4)}$ that are consistent for one-loop power spectrum, one should be able to show that the set generate consistent trispectrum.

One-loop correction



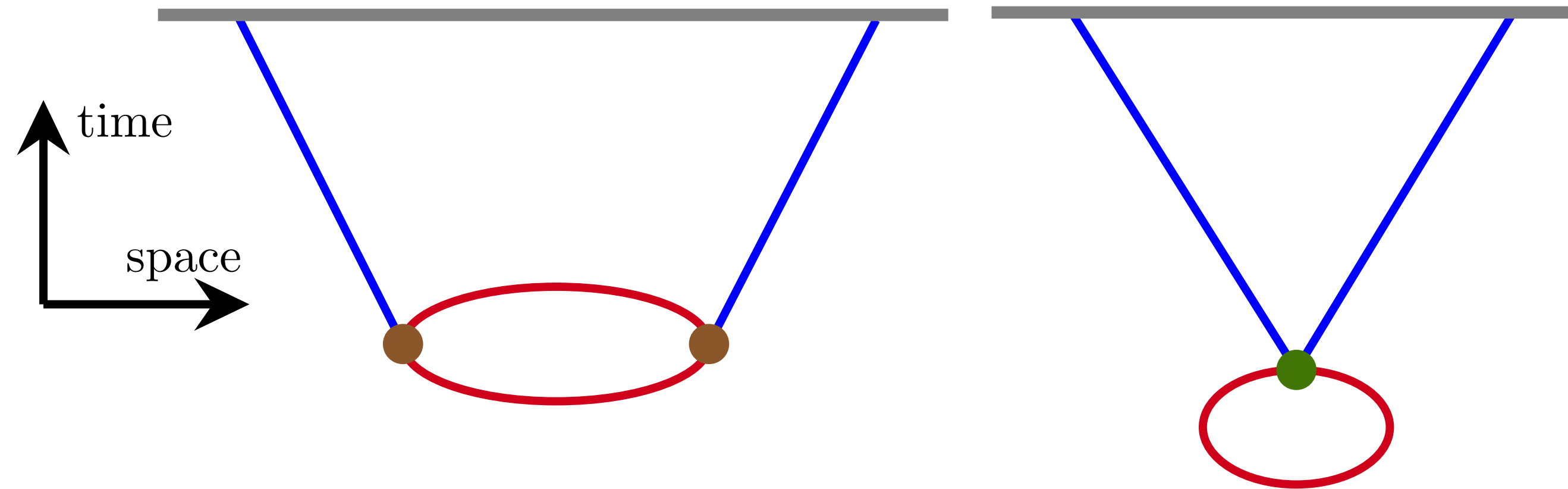
One-loop correction to general scale p (right diagram) :

$$\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{p}}(\tau_0) \zeta_{-\mathbf{p}}(\tau_0) \rangle_{(1)} = -M_{\text{P}}^2 \epsilon_1(\tau_e) a^2(\tau_e) (\Delta \epsilon_2) \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} f(p, k; \tau_e),$$

$$f(p, k; \tau_e) = \text{Im}[\zeta_p^2(\tau_0) \zeta_p^*(\tau_e) \zeta_p'^*(\tau_e)] \left(-\frac{1}{2} \Delta \epsilon_2 |\zeta_k(\tau_e)|^2 + \frac{8}{k_e} \text{Re}[\zeta_k(\tau_e) \zeta_k'^*(\tau_e)] \right) + \frac{2}{k_e} \text{Im}[\zeta_p^2(\tau_0) \zeta_p'^*{}^2(\tau_e)] |\zeta_k(\tau_e)|^2$$

$$+ \text{Im}[\zeta_p^2(\tau_0) \zeta_p'^*{}^2(\tau_e)] \left(\frac{2}{k_e} |\zeta_k'(\tau_e)|^2 - \frac{1}{2} \Delta \epsilon_2 \text{Re}[\zeta_k(\tau_e) \zeta_k'^*(\tau_e)] - 2 \frac{p^2 + k^2}{k_e} |\zeta_k(\tau_e)|^2 \right).$$

One-loop correction

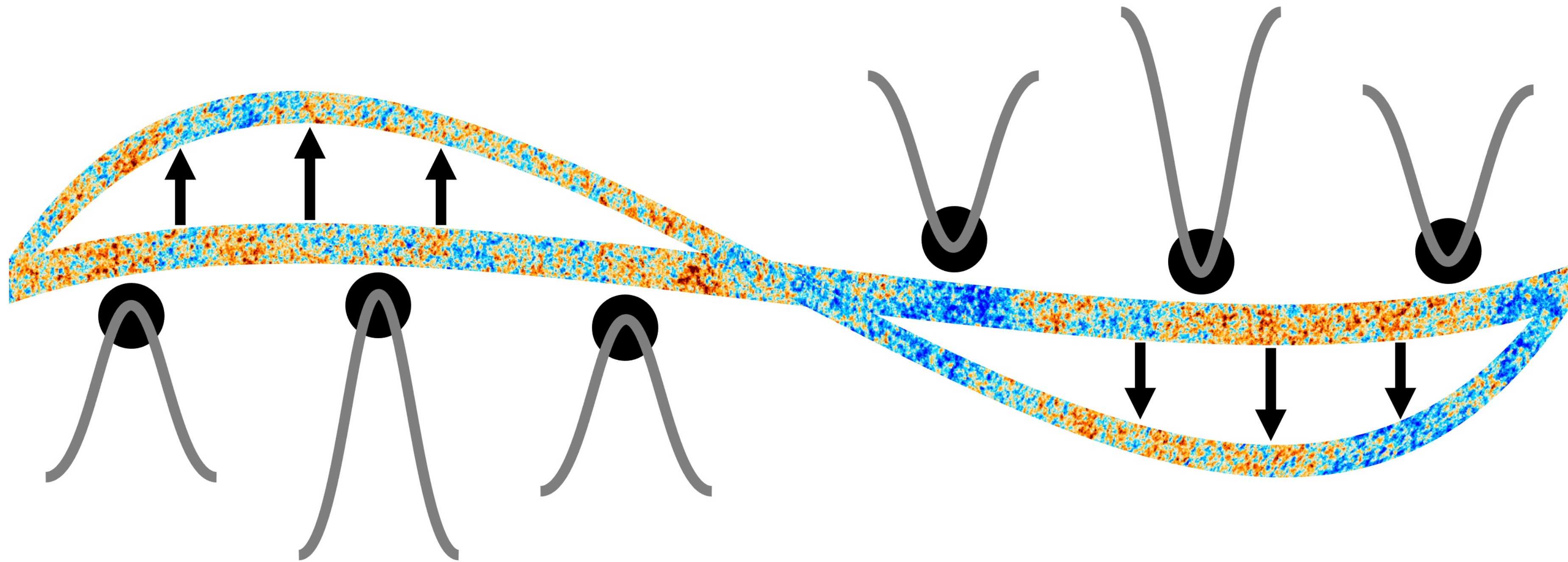


For large loop momentum $k \gg p$ and summing with contribution from cubic Hamiltonian:

$$\Delta_{s(1)}^2(p, \tau_0) = \Delta_{s(0)}^2(p, \tau_0) \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \left\{ \Delta\epsilon_2 \left(\frac{3}{8} \Delta\epsilon_2 - \frac{k^2}{3k_e^2} \right) |\zeta_k(\tau_e)|^2 - \Delta\epsilon_2 \left(2 + \frac{\Delta\epsilon_2}{12} \right) \text{Re} \left[\zeta_k(\tau_e) \zeta_k'^*(\tau_e) \right] - \frac{\Delta\epsilon_2}{3k_e^2} |\zeta_k'(\tau_e)|^2 \right\}$$

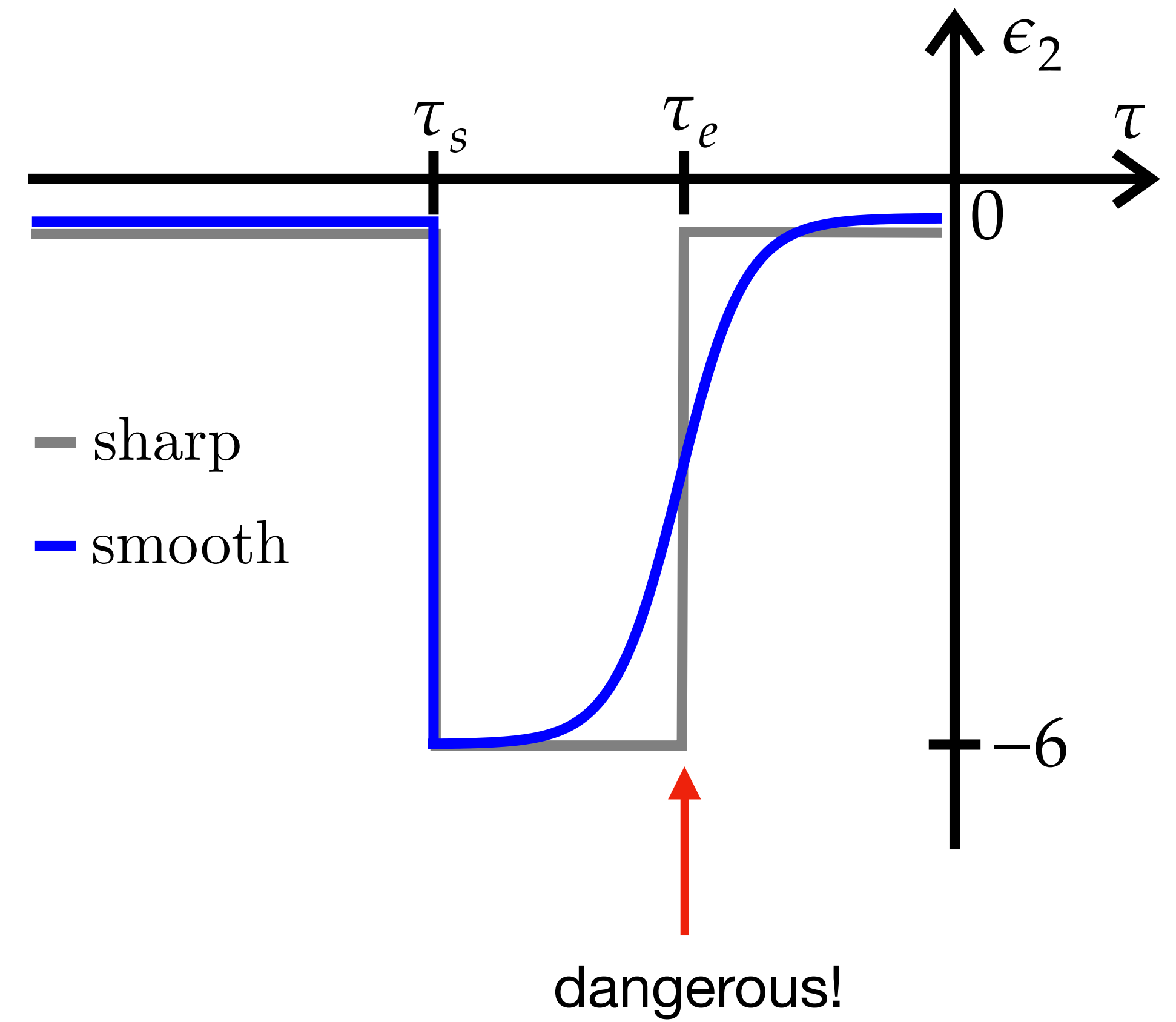
$$\Delta_{s(1)}^2(p, \tau_0) = - \left(13.8 + 13.5 \log \frac{k_e}{k_s} \right) \Delta_{s(\text{PBH})}^2 \Delta_{s(0)}^2(p, \tau_0)$$

Physical picture



At the transition, small-scale perturbations coherently kick the large-scale perturbation

Smooth transition



Wands duality

$$\frac{z''}{z} = (aH)^2 \left(2 - \epsilon_1 + \frac{3}{2}\epsilon_2 - \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_1\epsilon_2 + \frac{1}{4}\epsilon_2^2 + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_2\epsilon_3 \right)$$

Almost constant $\epsilon_2 \longrightarrow |\epsilon_3| \ll 1$

$$\frac{z''}{z} \simeq \frac{2}{\tau^2}$$

SR: $\epsilon_1, |\epsilon_2| \ll 1$

USR: $\epsilon_1 \ll 1, \epsilon_2 \simeq -6$

Dynamical $\epsilon_2 \longrightarrow |\epsilon_3| \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$

$$\frac{z''}{z} \simeq \frac{2}{\tau^2}$$

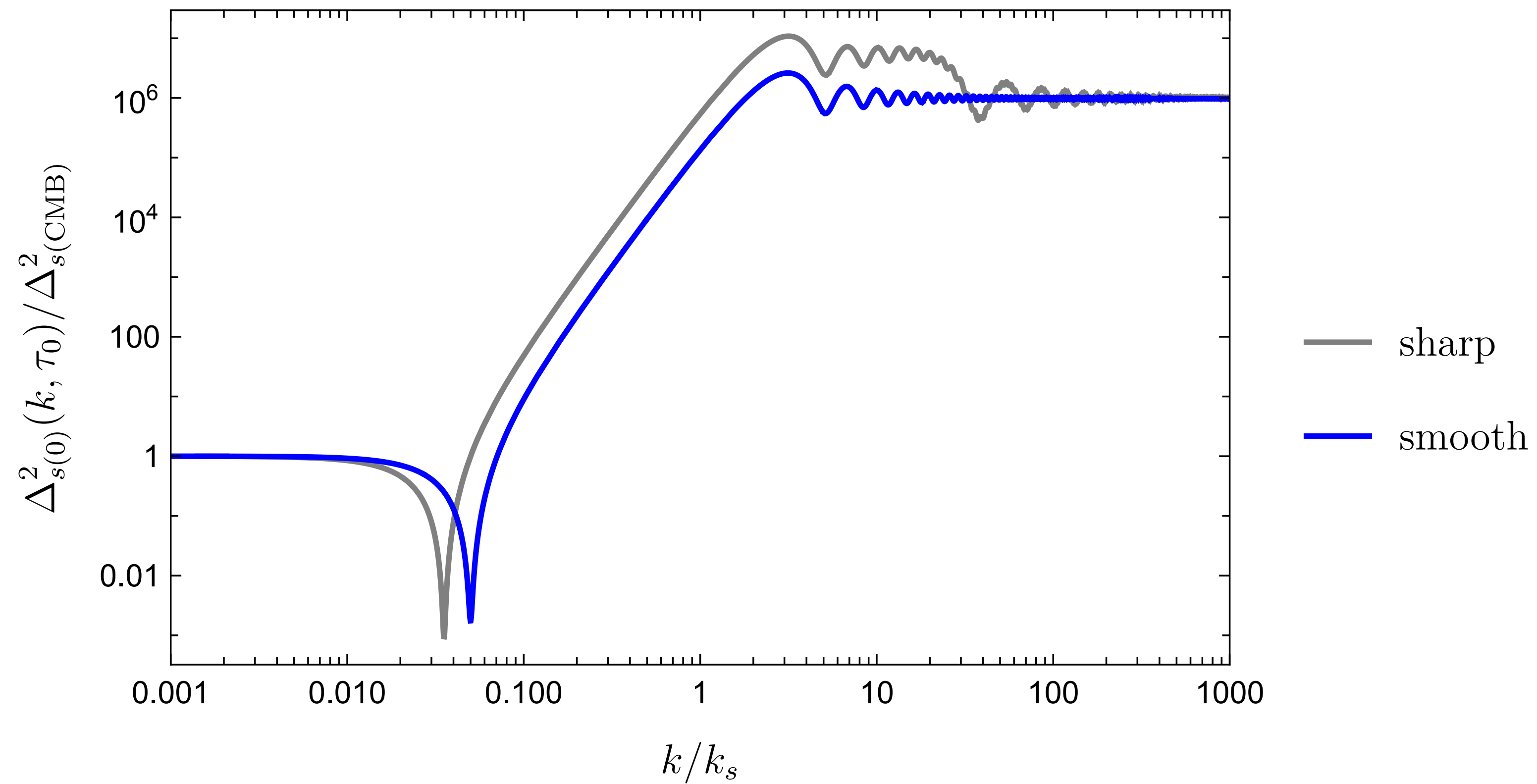
SR: $\epsilon_1, |\epsilon_2| \ll 1$

USR: $\epsilon_1 \ll 1, \epsilon_2 \simeq -6$

Transition: $\frac{3}{2}\epsilon_2 + \frac{1}{4}\epsilon_2^2 + \frac{\dot{\epsilon}_2}{2H} \simeq 0$

Two-point functions

Comparing power spectrum:



More on Wands duality

Differential equation: $\frac{3}{2}\epsilon_2 + \frac{1}{4}\epsilon_2^2 + \frac{\dot{\epsilon}_2}{2H} = \text{constant}$.

Taking time derivative: $0 = 2\epsilon_2' + \epsilon_2'\epsilon_2 - \epsilon_2''\tau$.

Prove that $\epsilon_1(\tau)a^2(\tau)\epsilon_2'(\tau) = \text{constant}$:

$$(\epsilon_1 a^2 \epsilon_2')' = \epsilon_1 a^3 H (2\epsilon_2' + \epsilon_2 \epsilon_2' - \epsilon_2'' \tau) = 0.$$

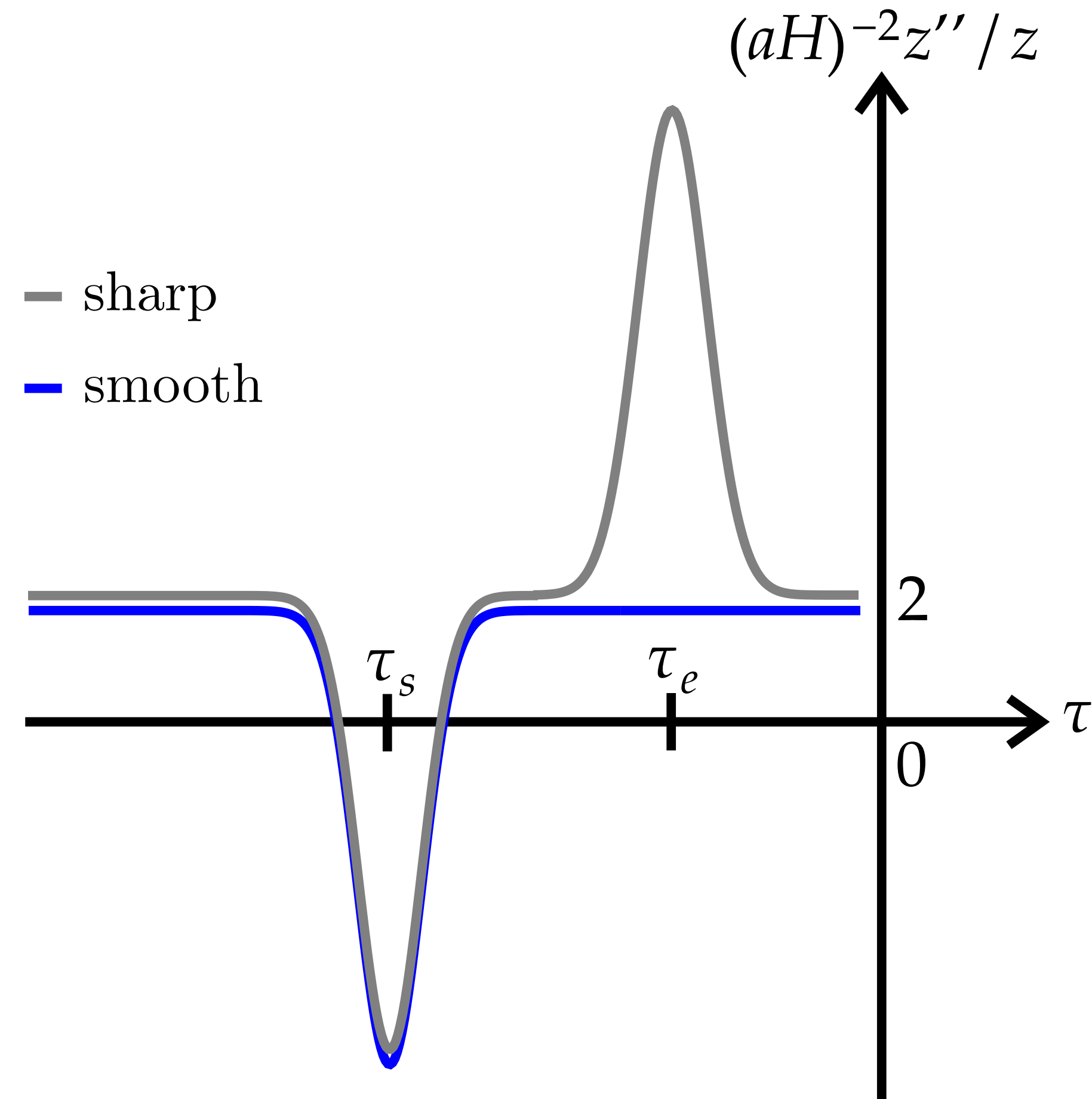
Therefore in this setup: $H_{\delta\phi}^{(3)} = \frac{1}{6} M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d^3x (a^2 \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2')' \zeta_n^3 = 0$

$$H_{\delta\phi}^{(4)} = -\frac{1}{24} M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d^3x \left[\frac{1}{aH} (\epsilon_1 a^2 \epsilon_2')'' - \left(4 + \frac{3}{2} \epsilon_2 \right) (\epsilon_1 a^2 \epsilon_2')' \right] \zeta_n^4 = 0$$

Bigger picture

Deviation from Wands duality condition generates higher-order correction to the correlation functions.

Possible guidance for bootstrap?



Direct approach

As an introduction, consider bispectrum in pure USR.

$$\text{Field redefinition: } \zeta = \zeta_n + \frac{1}{4}\epsilon_2\zeta_n^2 + \frac{1}{H}\dot{\zeta}_n\zeta_n$$

Bispectrum of ζ_n is 0, so the whole contributions come from the field redefinition terms.

At the end of inflation $\dot{\zeta}_k(\tau_0) = 3H\zeta_k(\tau_0)$, so we have

$$\langle\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1}(\tau)\zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2}(\tau)\zeta_{\mathbf{k}_3}(\tau) \rangle\rangle = 2 \left(\frac{1}{4}\epsilon_2 + 3 \right) \left[|\zeta_{k_1}(\tau_0)|^2 |\zeta_{k_2}(\tau_0)|^2 + |\zeta_{k_1}(\tau_0)|^2 |\zeta_{k_3}(\tau_0)|^2 + |\zeta_{k_2}(\tau_0)|^2 |\zeta_{k_3}(\tau_0)|^2 \right]$$

Direct approach

As an alternative, we can start from cubic action of ζ (rather than ζ_n):

$$S^{(3)}[\zeta] = M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d\tau d^3x \left[\frac{1}{2} a^2 \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2' \zeta' \zeta^2 - \left(\frac{1}{2} a^2 \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2 \zeta' \zeta^2 + \frac{a}{H} (\zeta')^2 \zeta \right) \right]$$

Bispectrum generated by the first total time derivative term:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1}(\tau_0) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2}(\tau_0) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_3}(\tau_0) \rangle\rangle &= 2M_{\text{P}}^2 \text{Im} \int_{-\infty}^{\tau_0} d\tau \left\{ \epsilon_1(\tau) \epsilon_2(\tau) a^2(\tau) \left[\zeta_{k_1}(\tau) \zeta_{k_2}(\tau) \zeta_{k_3}(\tau) \zeta_{k_1}^*(\tau) \zeta_{k_2}^*(\tau) \zeta_{k_3}'^*(\tau) + \text{perm} \right] \right\}' \\ &= 2M_{\text{P}}^2 \epsilon_1(\tau_0) \epsilon_2(\tau_0) a^2(\tau_0) \left\{ |\zeta_{k_1}(\tau_0)|^2 |\zeta_{k_2}(\tau_0)|^2 \text{Im} \left[\zeta_{k_3}(\tau_0) \zeta_{k_3}'^*(\tau_0) \right] + \text{perm} \right\} \\ &= 2 \frac{\epsilon_2}{4} \left\{ |\zeta_{k_1}(\tau_0)|^2 |\zeta_{k_2}(\tau_0)|^2 + \text{perm} \right\} \text{ (same as field redefinition approach)} \end{aligned}$$

Direct approach

However, there is a subtlety at second-order perturbation theory.

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle^{(3)} = \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{(0,2)}^\dagger + \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{(1,1)} + \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{(0,2)}$$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{(1,1)} = \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} d\tau_1 \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} d\tau_2 \left\langle H^{(3)}(\tau_1) \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau) H^{(3)}(\tau_2) \right\rangle$$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{(0,2)} = - \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} d\tau_1 \int_{-\infty}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \left\langle \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau) H^{(3)}(\tau_1) H^{(3)}(\tau_2) \right\rangle$$

$$H^{(3)} = \int d^3x [\mathcal{B}^{(3)}(\zeta, \zeta')]'$$

Due to **time-ordered integral**, even total time derivative Hamiltonian induces correlation evaluated at the bulk.

Warm up

Consider $\mathcal{B}(\mathbf{x}, \tau) = c(\tau)\zeta^3(\mathbf{x}, \tau)$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle^{(3)} = - \int d^3x d^3y \int_{\tau_s}^{\tau_0} d\tau_1 \operatorname{Re} \left\langle \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau_0) [\mathcal{B}'(\zeta(\mathbf{x}, \tau_1)), \mathcal{B}(\zeta(\mathbf{y}, \tau_1))] \right\rangle$$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle^{(3)} = \int d^3x \int_{\tau_s}^{\tau_0} d\tau_1 \operatorname{Re} \left\langle \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau_0) \frac{9ic^2(\tau)}{2M_{\text{P}}^2 a^2 \epsilon_1(\tau)} \zeta^4(\mathbf{x}, \tau) \right\rangle$$

$$\text{Quartic-induced: } \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle^{(4\text{I})} = 2 \int_{\tau_s}^{\tau_0} d\tau_1 \operatorname{Im} \left\langle \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau) H^{(4\text{I})}(\tau_1) \right\rangle = \int d^3x \int_{\tau_s}^{\tau_0} d\tau_1 \operatorname{Im} \left\langle \hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau_0) \frac{9ic^2(\tau)}{2M_{\text{P}}^2 a^2 \epsilon_1(\tau)} \zeta^4(\mathbf{x}, \tau) \right\rangle$$

$$\text{Total: } \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle^{(3)} + \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle^{(4\text{I})} = 0$$

Warm up

Contribution of cubic total time derivative interaction at second-order perturbation mimics contribution of bulk quartic interaction at first-order perturbation.

For $\mathcal{B} \propto \zeta^3$, such contribution is cancelled by quartic-induced Hamiltonian.

How about $\mathcal{B} \propto \zeta' \zeta^2$ and $\mathcal{B} \propto (\zeta')^2 \zeta$? Will it generate contributions that cannot be captured by field redefinition (at second-order)? To know the answer, we must know the whole quartic interaction of ζ (not ζ_n).

This subtlety comes from time-ordered integral at second-order perturbation. It means that it is not only about one-loop power spectrum $\mathcal{O} = \zeta^2$, but also tree-level trispectrum $\mathcal{O} = \zeta^4$.

Quartic total time derivative interactions are evaluated at first-order perturbation, so their contribution will be evaluated at the end of inflation (and we should not worry about them).

Warm up

$$\text{Cubic action: } S^{(3)}[\zeta] = M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d\tau d^3x \left[\frac{1}{2} a^2 \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2' \zeta' \zeta^2 - \left(\frac{1}{2} a^2 \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2 \zeta' \zeta^2 + \frac{a}{H} (\zeta')^2 \zeta \right) \right]$$

To compute bispectrum at intermediate time (USR), field redefinition (or total time derivative terms) become important.

$$\lim_{k_L \rightarrow 0} \langle\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_L}(\tau) \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_S}(\tau) \zeta_{-\mathbf{k}_S}(\tau) \rangle\rangle = - (n_s(k_S, \tau) - 1) |\zeta_{k_S}(\tau)|^2 |\zeta_{k_L}(\tau)|^2$$

Claimed in J. Fumagalli (2305.19263, 2408.08296), Y. Tada, T. Terada, and J. Tokuda (2308.04732), R. Kawaguchi, S. Tsujikawa, and Y. Tamada (2407.19742)

$$\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{p}}(\tau_0) \zeta_{-\mathbf{p}}(\tau_0) \rangle^{(3)} \propto \int_{k_{\text{IR}}}^{k_{\text{UV}}} dk \frac{d\Delta_{s(0)}^2(k, \tau_e)}{dk} \longrightarrow 0$$

Direct approach

$$\text{Cubic action: } S^{(3)}[\zeta] = S_{\delta\phi}^{(3)}[\zeta] + S_{\mathcal{B}}^{(3)}[\zeta] + S_{\text{EoM}}^{(3)}[\zeta]$$

$$S_{\delta\phi}^{(3)}[\zeta] = M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d\tau d^3x \frac{1}{2} a^2 \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2' \zeta' \zeta^2$$

$$S_{\mathcal{B}}^{(3)}[\zeta] = M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d\tau d^3x \left(\frac{1}{2} a^2 \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2 \zeta' \zeta^2 + \frac{a}{H} (\zeta')^2 \zeta \right)'$$

$$S_{\text{EoM}}^{(3)}[\zeta] = M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d\tau d^3x 2 \left(\frac{1}{4} \epsilon_2 \zeta^2 + \frac{1}{aH} \zeta' \zeta \right) [(\epsilon_1 a^2 \zeta')' - \epsilon_1 a^2 \partial^2 \zeta]$$

$$\text{Field redefinition/gauge transformation: } S^{(2)}[\zeta] + S^{(3)}[\zeta] = S^{(2)}[\zeta_n] + S_{\delta\phi}^{(3)}[\zeta_n]$$

The differences between cubic action of ζ and ζ_n are total time derivative terms.

Direct approach

Quartic action: $S^{(4)}[\zeta] = S_{\delta\phi}^{(4)}[\zeta] + S_g^{(4)}[\zeta]$

$$S_{\delta\phi}^{(4)}[\zeta] = \frac{1}{24} M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d\tau d^3x \left[\frac{1}{aH} (\epsilon_1 \epsilon_2' a^2)'' - \left(4 + \frac{3}{2} \epsilon_2 \right) (\epsilon_1 \epsilon_2' a^2)' \right] \zeta^4$$

$$S_g^{(4)}[\zeta] = M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d\tau d^3x \left[-\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2' a^2 (f' \zeta^2 + 2f \zeta' \zeta) + \epsilon_1 a^2 (f')^2 - \epsilon_1 a^2 (\partial f)^2 \right], \quad f = \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_2 \zeta^2 + \frac{1}{aH} \zeta' \zeta$$

Field redefinition/gauge transformation: $S^{(2)}[\zeta] + S^{(3)}[\zeta] + S^{(4)}[\zeta] = S^{(2)}[\zeta_n] + S_{\delta\phi}^{(3)}[\zeta_n] + S_{\delta\phi}^{(4)}[\zeta_n]$

The differences between cubic action of ζ and ζ_n are (not only) total time derivative terms.

Direct approach

Cubic Hamiltonian: $H^{(3)} = H_{\delta\phi}^{(3)} + H_{\mathcal{B}}^{(3)} + H_{\text{EoM}}^{(3)}$, $H_{\mathcal{B}}^{(3)} = B' = \int d^3x \mathcal{B}'$

Substitute to second-order perturbation: $\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle^{(3)} = \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{\delta\phi}^{(3)} + \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{\mathcal{B}}^{(3)}$

Claim: $\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau) \rangle_{\mathcal{B}}^{(3)}$ effectively behaves as quartic contribution

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle_{\mathcal{B}}^{(3)} = 2\text{Im} \int_{-\infty}^{\tau_0} d\tau \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) H_{\text{ef}}^{(4)}(\tau) \rangle,$$

$$H_{\text{ef}}^{(4)}(\tau) = -i \left[H_{\delta\phi}^{(3)}(\tau) + \frac{1}{2} B'(\tau) + \frac{1}{2} H_{\text{EoM}}^{(3)}(\tau), B(\tau) \right]$$

Direct approach

Expanding $S^{(3)}[\zeta]$ (without doing IBP) yields

$$S^{(3)}[\zeta] = M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d\tau d^3x \left[-\frac{1}{H} \epsilon_1 a (\zeta')^3 + 3\epsilon_1 a^2 (\zeta')^2 \zeta - \frac{2}{H} \epsilon_1 a \zeta' \zeta \partial^2 \zeta - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2 a^2 \zeta^2 \partial^2 \zeta \right]$$

Quartic-induced Hamiltonian

$$H^{(4\text{I})} = M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d^3x \left[\frac{9}{4H^2} \epsilon_1 (\zeta')^4 - \frac{9}{H} \epsilon_1 a (\zeta')^3 \zeta + \frac{3}{H^2} \epsilon_1 (\zeta')^2 \zeta \partial^2 \zeta + 9\epsilon_1 a^2 (\zeta')^2 \zeta^2 - \frac{6}{H} \epsilon_1 a \zeta' \zeta^2 \partial^2 \zeta + \frac{1}{H^2} \epsilon_1 \zeta^2 (\partial^2 \zeta)^2 \right]$$

Direct approach

$$\text{Total: } \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle = \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle_{\delta\phi}^{(3)} + \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle_{\mathcal{B}}^{(3)} + \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle^{(4I)} + \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle_{\delta\phi}^{(4)} + \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle_{\mathfrak{g}}^{(4)}$$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle = \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle_{\delta\phi}^{(3)} + 2 \int_{-\infty}^{\tau_0} d\tau \text{Im} \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \left[H_{\text{ef}}^{(4)}(\tau) + H^{(4I)}(\tau) + H_{\mathfrak{g}}^{(4)}(\tau) + H_{\delta\phi}^{(4)}(\tau) \right] \rangle$$

$$\text{Claim (very technical details): } H_{\text{ef}}^{(4)} + H^{(4I)} + H_{\mathfrak{g}}^{(4)} = H_{\delta\phi}^{(4)}$$

Therefore $\langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle = \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle_{\delta\phi}^{(3)} + \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle_{\delta\phi}^{(4I)} + \langle \mathcal{O}(\tau_0) \rangle_{\delta\phi}^{(4)}$, consistent with field redefinition approach.

Cubic total time derivative interactions do not give contribution evaluated in the bulk, even at second-order perturbation.

No advantage of using direct approach, it just give us extra complication that can be extremely simplified by field redefinition/gauge transformation.

EFT of inflation

Substituting $\zeta = -H\pi + H\dot{\pi}\pi + \mathcal{O}(\pi^3)$ to $S^{(2)}[\zeta] + S^{(3)}[\zeta] + S^{(4)}[\zeta]$, we obtain

$$S^{(3)}[\pi] = M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d\tau d^3x H^3 \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2 a^2 \left[\pi(\pi')^2 - \pi(\partial\pi)^2 \right]$$

$$S^{(4)}[\pi] = \frac{1}{2} M_{\text{P}}^2 \int d\tau d^3x H^4 \epsilon_1 a^2 \left(\epsilon_2^2 + \frac{\epsilon_2'}{aH} \right) \left[(\pi')^2 \pi^2 - \pi^2 (\partial\pi)^2 \right]$$

Reproduces EFT of inflation by Firouzjahi (2303.12025, 2311.04080, 2403.03841)

Conclusion

- Precision cosmology for inflation model with large fluctuations has just begun!
- We have presented cubic and quartic self-interactions that yields consistent correlation function at second-order perturbation theory: bispectrum, trispectrum, and one-loop power spectrum.
- We have clarified two different approaches on computing correlation function at second-order perturbation: field redefinition/gauge transformation and direct computation from action of ζ . Cubic total time derivative interactions do not give contribution evaluated in the bulk.
- This is important to go further. After we know consistent interactions, we can proceed to compute one-loop power spectrum at small scale to make prediction for the whole spectrum.