

OBSERVABLE GRAVITATIONAL WAVES FROM HIGGS INFLATION IN SUGRA

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BASED ON:

- C.P., *Phys. Rev. D* **92**, no. 12, 121305(R) (2015) [arXiv:1511.01456].
- C.P., *J. Cosmol. Astropart. Phys.* **16**, no. 10, 037 (2016) [arXiv:1606.09607].

OUTLINE

HIGGS INFLATION IN SUGRA

GENERAL FRAMEWORK
INFLATING WITH A SUPERHEAVY HIGGS

INFLATION ANALYSIS

INFLATIONARY OBSERVABLES
PERTURBATIVE UNITARITY

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FITTING THE DATA
INFLATION AND GRAND UNIFICATION

CONCLUSIONS

EPS CONFERENCE ON HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS
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SUGRA (I.E. SUPERGRAVITY) POTENTIAL

- THE GENERAL EINSTEIN FRAME ACTION FOR THE SCALAR FIELDS z^α PLUS GRAVITY IN FOUR DIMENSIONAL, $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SUGRA IS:

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-\widehat{g}} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \widehat{\mathcal{R}} + K_{\alpha\bar{\beta}} \widehat{g}^{\mu\nu} D_\mu z^\alpha D_\nu z^{\bar{\beta}} - \widehat{V} \right) \quad \text{WHERE WE USE UNITS WITH } m_{\text{P}}=1.$$

ALSO K IS THE **KÄHLER POTENTIAL** WITH $K_{\alpha\bar{\beta}} = \frac{\partial^2 K}{\partial z^\alpha \partial \bar{z}^{\bar{\beta}}} > 0$ AND $K^{\bar{\beta}\alpha} K_{\alpha\bar{\gamma}} = \delta^{\bar{\beta}\gamma}$; $D_\mu z^\alpha = \partial_\mu z^\alpha + ig A_\mu^a T_a^\alpha z^\beta$, WHERE A_μ^a IS THE VECTOR GAUGE FIELDS AND T_a ARE THE GENERATORS OF THE GAUGE TRANSFORMATIONS OF z^α ; FINALLY, $\widehat{V} = \widehat{V}_F + \widehat{V}_D$ WITH $\widehat{V}_F = e^K (K^{\alpha\bar{\beta}} F_\alpha F_{\bar{\beta}}^* - 3|W|^2)$ WITH W THE **SUPERPOTENTIAL** AND $F_\alpha = W_{,\alpha} + K_{,\alpha} W$; $\widehat{V}_D = \frac{1}{2} g^2 D_a^2$ WITH $D_a = z_\alpha (T_a)_\beta^\alpha K_{,\bar{\beta}}$.

- WE CONCENTRATE ON **HIGGS INFLATION (HI)** DRIVEN BY \widehat{V}_F SINCE WE CAN EASILY ASSURE $\widehat{V}_D = 0$ DURING HI.

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- **THE η PROBLEM.** COEFFICIENTS OF ORDER UNITY IN K MAY SPOIL THE FLATNESS OF V_F DUE TO THE FACTOR e^K . THIS CAN BE EVADED IF WE IMPOSE A **SHIFT SYMMETRY** SO THAT $K = K(\Phi - \Phi^*) = K(\text{Im}(\Phi))$ AND THE INFLATON BE $\phi = \sqrt{2} \text{Re}(\Phi)$.

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- COMPLEMENTARILY, FROM MODELS OF **NON-MINIMAL CHAOTIC INFLATION (nMI)** IN SUGRA WE KNOW THAT \widehat{V}_F IS SUFFICIENTLY FLAT, IF WE ADOPT $K = -N \ln(1 + c_{\mathcal{R}}(\Phi^n + \Phi^{*n})) + \dots$ AND TUNE $N > 0$ AND n WITH THE EXPONENT m OF Φ IN $W = \lambda S \Phi^m$. E.G.,

$$\text{IF WE SELECT } W = \lambda S \Phi^2 \text{ AND } K = -2 \ln(1 + 2c_{\mathcal{R}}(\Phi^2 + \Phi^{*2})) - (\Phi - \Phi^*)^2/2 + |S|^2$$

$$\text{WE OBTAIN } \widehat{V}_F = e^K K^{SS^*} |W_{,S}|^2 = \lambda^4 \phi^4 / 4(1 + c_{\mathcal{R}} \phi^2)^2 \sim \text{const FOR } c_{\mathcal{R}} \gg 1.$$

HOW WE CAN APPLY THESE GENERAL IDEAS TO HI?



SELECTING CONVENIENTLY THE SUPERPOTENTIAL AND KÄHLER POTENTIALS

- WE USE 3 SUPERFIELDS $z^1 = \Phi$, $z^2 = \bar{\Phi}$, **CHARGED** UNDER A LOCAL SYMMETRY, E.G. $U(1)_{B-L}$, AND $z^3 = S$ ("**STABILIZER**" FIELD).
- **SUPERPOTENTIAL** $W = \lambda S (\bar{\Phi}\Phi - M^2/4)$
- W IS UNIQUELY DETERMINED USING $U(1)_{B-L}$ AND AN R SYMMETRY AND LEADS TO A **GRAND UNIFIED THEORY (GUT)** PHASE TRANSITION

CHARGE ASSIGNMENTS

SUPERFIELDS:	S	Φ	$\bar{\Phi}$
$U(1)_R$	1	0	0
$U(1)_{B-L}$	0	1	-1

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SINCE IN THE SUSY LIMIT, AFTER HI, WE GET $V_{\text{HI}} \sim \lambda^2 |\Phi\bar{\Phi} - M^2/4|^2 + \lambda^2 |S|^2 (|\Phi|^2 + |\bar{\Phi}|^2) + \text{D-terms}$.

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- **POSSIBLE KÄHLER POTENTIALS – SOFTLY BROKEN SHIFT SYMMETRY FOR HIGGS FIELDS**
- THE SHIFT SYMMETRY CAN BE FORMULATED BY **THE FUNCTIONS** $F_{\pm} = |\Phi \pm \bar{\Phi}^*|^2$ WITH COEFFICIENTS c_+ AND c_- , $c_+ \leq c_-$.
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$$K_1 = -N \ln(1 + c_+ F_+ + F_{1S} (|S|^2)) + c_- F_- , \quad K_2 = -N \ln(1 + c_+ F_+) + c_- F_- + F_{2S} (|S|^2),$$

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- THE **FREE PARAMETERS**, FOR FIXED n , ARE $r_{\pm} = c_+/c_-$ AND λ/c_- (NOT c_+ , c_- AND λ) SINCE IF WE PERFORM THE RESCALINGS

$$\Phi \rightarrow \Phi/\sqrt{c_-}, \quad \bar{\Phi} \rightarrow \bar{\Phi}/\sqrt{c_-}, \quad \text{AND} \quad S \rightarrow S, \quad \text{WE SEE THAT } W \text{ DEPENDS ON } \lambda/c_- \text{ AND } K \text{ ON } r_{\pm}.$$

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- IF WE USE THE PARAMETRIZATION $\Phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \phi e^{i\theta} \cos \theta_\Phi$ AND $\bar{\Phi} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \phi e^{i\bar{\theta}} \sin \theta_\Phi$ WITH $0 \leq \theta_\Phi \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ AND $S = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(s + i\bar{s})$

WE CAN SHOW THAT **A D-FLAT DIRECTION** IS $\theta = \bar{\theta} = s = \bar{s} = 0$ AND $\theta_\Phi = \pi/4$ (: I)



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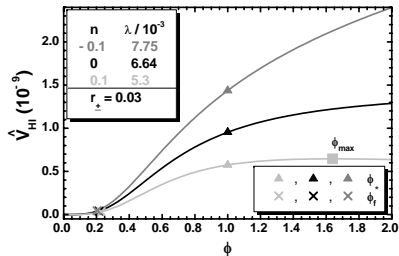
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PLAYING THE ROLE OF A **NON-MINIMAL COUPLING TO GRAVITY**. ALSO,

$$n = \begin{cases} (N-3)/2 \\ N/2 - 1 \end{cases} \quad \text{AND } K^{SS^*} = \begin{cases} f_{\mathcal{R}} \\ 1 \end{cases} \quad \text{FOR } \begin{cases} K = K_1 \\ K = K_{2,3} \end{cases}$$

- FOR $n > 0$, \widehat{V}_{HI} DEVELOPS A LOCAL **MAXIMUM**

$$\widehat{V}_{\text{HI}}(\phi_{\text{max}}) = \frac{\lambda^2 n^{2n}}{16 c_+^2 (1+n)^{2(1+n)}} \quad \text{AT } \phi_{\text{max}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{c_+ n}}$$



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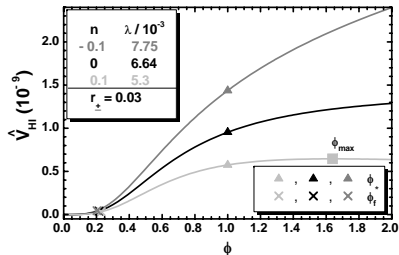
- THE EF **CANONICALLY NORMALIZED FIELDS**, WHICH ARE DENOTED BY HAT, CAN BE OBTAINED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\frac{d\widehat{\phi}}{d\phi} = J = \sqrt{\kappa_+}, \quad \widehat{\theta}_+ = \frac{J\phi\theta_+}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad \widehat{\theta}_- = \sqrt{\frac{\kappa_-}{2}}\phi\theta_-, \quad \widehat{\theta}_\Phi = \phi\sqrt{\kappa_-} \left(\theta_\Phi - \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \quad \text{AND } (\widehat{s}, \widehat{\bar{s}}) = \sqrt{K_{SS^*}}(s, \bar{s}).$$

WHERE $\theta_\pm = (\theta \pm \bar{\theta})/\sqrt{2}$, $\kappa_+ = c_- (1 + N r_\pm (c_+ \phi^2 - 1)/f_R^2) \simeq c_-$ AND $\kappa_- = c_- (1 - N r_\pm / f_R) > 0 \Rightarrow r_\pm < 1/N$.

- WE CAN CHECK THE **STABILITY** OF THE INFLATIONARY TRAJECTORY IN EQ. (I) W.R.T THE FLUCTUATIONS OF THE VARIOUS FIELDS, I.E.

$$\left. \frac{\partial V}{\partial \chi^\alpha} \right|_{\text{Eq. (I)}} = 0 \quad \text{AND } \widehat{m}_{\chi^\alpha}^2 > 0 \quad \text{WHERE } \widehat{m}_{\chi^\alpha}^2 = \text{EgV}[\widehat{M}_{\alpha\beta}^2] \quad \text{WITH } \widehat{M}_{\alpha\beta}^2 = \left. \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \chi^\alpha \partial \chi^\beta} \right|_{\text{Eq. (I)}} \quad \text{AND } \chi^\alpha = \theta_-, \theta_+, \theta_\Phi, s, \bar{s}.$$



STABILITY AND RADIATIVE CORRECTIONS

THE MASS SPECTRUM ALONG THE INFLATIONARY TRAJECTORY

FIELDS	EINGESTATES	MASSES SQUARED			
			$K = K_1$	$K = K_2$	$K = K_3$
2 REAL SCALARS	$\widehat{\theta}_+$	$\widehat{m}_{\theta_+}^2$	$6\widehat{H}_{\text{HI}}^2$		$6(1 - 1/N_S)\widehat{H}_{\text{HI}}^2$
	$\widehat{\theta}_\Phi$	$\widehat{m}_{\theta_\Phi}^2$	$M_{BL}^2 + 6\widehat{H}_{\text{HI}}^2$		$M_{BL}^2 + 6(1 - 1/N_S)\widehat{H}_{\text{HI}}^2$
1 COMPLEX SCALAR	$\widehat{s}, \widehat{\bar{s}}$	\widehat{m}_s^2	$6c_+ \phi^2 \widehat{H}_{\text{HI}}^2 / N$	$6\widehat{H}_{\text{HI}}^2 / N_S$	
1 GAUGE BOSON	A_{BL}	M_{BL}^2	$g^2 c_- (1 - Nr_{\pm} / f_R) \phi^2$		
4 WEYL SPINORS	$\widehat{\psi}_{\pm}$	$\widehat{m}_{\psi_{\pm}}^2$	$6(c_+(N-3)\phi^2 - 2)^2 \widehat{H}_{\text{HI}}^2 / c_- \phi^2 f_R^2$	$6(c_+(N-2)\phi^2 - 2)^2 \widehat{H}_{\text{HI}}^2 / c_- \phi^2 f_R^2$	
	$\lambda_{BL}, \widehat{\psi}_{\Phi-}$	M_{BL}^2	$g^2 c_- (1 - Nr_{\pm} / f_R) \phi^2$		

- $\forall \alpha, \widehat{m}_{\chi^\alpha}^2 > 0$. ESPECIALLY $\widehat{m}_s^2 > \widehat{H}_{\text{HI}}^2 \Leftrightarrow 0 < N < 6$ FOR $K = K_1$ AND $0 < N_S < 6$ FOR $K = K_{2,3}$;
- $\forall \alpha, \widehat{m}_{\chi^\alpha}^2 > \widehat{H}_{\text{HI}}^2$ AND SO ANY INFLATIONARY **PERTURBATIONS** OF THE FIELDS OTHER THAN THE INFLATON ARE SAFELY **ELIMINATED**;
- $M_{BL} \neq 0$ SIGNALS THE FACT THAT $U(1)_{B-L}$ IS **BROKEN** DURING NON-MHI;
- THE ONE-LOOP **RADIATIVE CORRECTIONS** $\delta \widehat{V}_{\text{HI}}$ LA COLEMAN-WEINBERG TO \widehat{V}_{HI} HAVE THE FORM:

$$\delta \widehat{V}_{\text{HI}} = \frac{1}{64\pi^2} \left(\widehat{m}_{\theta_+}^4 \ln \frac{\widehat{m}_{\theta_+}^2}{\Lambda^2} + 2\widehat{m}_s^4 \ln \frac{\widehat{m}_s^2}{\Lambda^2} - 4\widehat{m}_{\psi_{\pm}}^4 \ln \frac{\widehat{m}_{\psi_{\pm}}^2}{\Lambda^2} \right) \quad \text{WHERE}$$

- $M_{BL}^2 > m_P^2$ AND $\widehat{m}_{\theta_\Phi}^2 > m_P^2$ ARE NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT;
- $\Lambda \simeq (1 - 5) \cdot 10^{14}$ IS A RENORMALIZATION GROUP MASS SCALE DETERMINED BY REQUIRING $\Delta \widehat{V}_{\text{HI}}(\phi_*) = 0$ OR $\Delta \widehat{V}_{\text{HI}}(\phi_f) = 0$. AS A CONSEQUENCE, $\Delta \widehat{V}_{\text{HI}}$ HAS **NO SIGNIFICANT EFFECT** ON THE RESULTS.

APPROXIMATING THE INFLATIONARY DYNAMICS

- THE **SLOW-ROLL PARAMETERS** ARE DETERMINED USING THE STANDARD FORMULAE EMPLOYING THE CANONICALLY NORMALIZED $\widehat{\phi}$:

$$\widehat{\epsilon} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\widehat{V}_{\text{HI}, \widehat{\phi}}}{\widehat{V}_{\text{HI}}} \right)^2 \simeq \frac{8(1 - nc_+ \phi^2)^2}{c - \phi^2 f_{\mathcal{R}}^2} \quad \text{AND} \quad \widehat{\eta} = \frac{\widehat{V}_{\text{HI}, \widehat{\phi}\widehat{\phi}}}{\widehat{V}_{\text{HI}}} = 4 \frac{3 - (3 + 9n)c_+ \phi^2 + n(1 + 4n)c_+^2 \phi^4}{c - \phi^2 f_{\mathcal{R}}^2} .$$

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- THE **NUMBER OF e -FOLDINGS** THAT $k_\star = 0.05$ Mpc EXPERIENCES DURING HI IS CALCULATED TO BE

$$\widehat{N}_\star = \int_{\widehat{\phi}_f}^{\widehat{\phi}_\star} d\widehat{\phi} \frac{\widehat{V}_{\text{HI}}}{\widehat{V}_{\text{HI},\widehat{\phi}}} \simeq \begin{cases} ((1 + c_+\phi_\star^2)^2 - 1)/16r_\pm & \text{FOR } n = 0 \\ -(nc_+\phi_\star^2 + (1 + n) \ln(1 - nc_+\phi_\star^2))/8n^2 r_\pm & \text{FOR } n \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

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- THERE IS A **LOWER BOUND ON c_-** , ABOVE WHICH $\phi_\star < 1$ – AND SO TERMS $(\bar{\Phi}\Phi)^l$ WITH $l > 1$ ARE HARMLESS. E.G.,

$$\text{FOR } n = 0, \quad \phi_\star \leq 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad c_- \geq (f_{n\star} - 1)/r_\pm \simeq 100, \quad \text{WITH } f_{n\star} = (1 + 16r_\pm \widehat{N}_\star)^{1/2} \quad \text{AND } \widehat{N}_\star \simeq 58.$$

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- THE POWER SPECTRUM NORMALIZATION IMPLIES A **DEPENDENCE OF λ ON c_-** FOR EVERY r_\pm

$$\sqrt{A_s} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}\pi} \frac{\widehat{V}_{\text{HI}}(\widehat{\phi}_\star)^{3/2}}{|\widehat{V}_{\text{HI},\widehat{\phi}}(\widehat{\phi}_\star)|} = \frac{\lambda\sqrt{c_-}}{32\sqrt{3}\pi} \frac{\phi_\star^3 f_{\mathcal{R}}(\phi_\star)^{-n}}{1 - nc_+\phi_\star^2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda = 32\sqrt{3A_s\pi} c_- r_\pm^{3/2} f_{n\star}^n \frac{n(1 - f_{n\star}) + 1}{(f_{n\star} - 1)^{3/2}}.$$

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- A CLEAR **DEPENDENCE OF THE OBSERVABLES** (SPECTRAL INDEX n_s AND TENSOR-TO-SCALAR RATIO, r) ON r_\pm AND n ARISES, I.E.,

$$n_s = 1 - 6\widehat{\epsilon}_\star + 2\widehat{\eta}_\star \simeq 1 - 4n^2 r_\pm - 2n \frac{r_\pm^{1/2}}{\widehat{N}_\star^{1/2}} - \frac{3 - 2n}{2\widehat{N}_\star} - \frac{3 - n}{8(\widehat{N}_\star^3 r_\pm)^{1/2}}, \quad r = 16\widehat{\epsilon}_\star \simeq -\frac{8n}{\widehat{N}_\star} + \frac{3 + 2n}{6\widehat{N}_\star^2 r_\pm} + \frac{6 - n}{3(\widehat{N}_\star^3 r_\pm)^{1/2}} + \frac{8n^2 r_\pm^{1/2}}{\widehat{N}_\star^{1/2}},$$

WITH NEGLIGIBLE n_s RUNNING, α_s . THE VARIABLES WITH SUBSCRIPT \star ARE EVALUATED AT $\widehat{\phi} = \widehat{\phi}_\star$.

ULTRAVIOLET (UV) CUT-OFF SCALE (Λ_{UV})

- THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OUR INFLATIONARY MODEL WITH $\phi \leq 1$ REQUIRES **RELATIVELY LARGE c_- 's**. THEREFORE, WE HAVE TO CHECK IF THE RESULTING EFFECTIVE THEORY RESPECTS PERTURBATIVE UNITARITY UP TO $m_p = 1$, ANALYZING THE SMALL-FIELD BEHAVIOR² OF THE THEORY. I.E., WE EXPAND ABOUT $\langle \phi \rangle = 0$ THE ACTION S ALONG THE INFLATIONARY PATH

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-\widehat{g}} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \widehat{\mathcal{R}} + \frac{1}{2} J^2 \phi^2 - \widehat{V}_{\text{H10}} + \dots \right).$$

- IN PARTICULAR, WE FIND $\langle J \rangle$ AS FOLLOWS

$$J^2 = \left(\frac{d\widehat{\phi}}{d\phi} \right)^2 = \kappa_+ = \frac{f_{\mathcal{K}}}{f_{\mathcal{R}}} + \frac{Nc_+(c_+\phi^2 - 1)}{f_{\mathcal{R}}^2} \Rightarrow \langle J \rangle \simeq c_- \neq 1, \text{ WHERE } f_{\mathcal{K}} = c_- f_{\mathcal{R}} \text{ AND } \langle f_{\mathcal{R}} \rangle \simeq 1.$$

I.E., THE FIRST TERM INCLUDES THE **A NON-CANONICAL KINETIC MIXING** WHEREAS THE SECOND ONE IS DUE TO THE NON-MINIMAL COUPLING $f_{\mathcal{R}}$. FOR THIS REASON, WE CALL THIS MODEL **KINETICALLY MODIFIED NON-MINIMAL HI**.

²J.L.F. Barbon and J.R. Espinosa (2009); C.P. Burgess, H.M. Lee, and M. Trott (2010); A. Kehagias, A.M. Dizgah, and A. Riotto (2013)

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- FOR $r_{\pm} \leq 1$, WE OBTAIN $\Lambda_{UV} = m_p$ SINCE THE EXPANSIONS AROUND $\langle \phi \rangle = 0$ ARE JUST r_{\pm} DEPENDENT:

$$J^2 \dot{\phi}^2 \simeq \left(1 + 3Nr_{\pm}^2 \widehat{\phi}^2 - 5Nr_{\pm}^3 \widehat{\phi}^4 + \dots \right) \dot{\phi}^2 \quad \text{AND} \quad \widehat{V}_{HI} \simeq \frac{\lambda^2 \widehat{\phi}^4}{16c_-^2} \left(1 - 2(1+n)r_{\pm} \widehat{\phi}^2 + (3+5n)r_{\pm}^2 \widehat{\phi}^4 - \dots \right).$$

CONSEQUENTLY, **NO PROBLEM** WITH THE PERTURBATIVE UNITARITY EMERGES FOR $r_{\pm} \leq 1$, EVEN IF c_+ AND c_- ARE LARGE.

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CONSEQUENTLY, **NO PROBLEM** WITH THE PERTURBATIVE UNITARITY EMERGES FOR $r_{\pm} \leq 1$, EVEN IF c_+ AND c_- ARE LARGE.

- THIS HAS TO BE CONTRASTED WITH THE SITUATION IN **STANDARD NON-MINIMAL HI** WHICH IS DEFINED FOR

$$f_K = 1 \quad \text{AND} \quad f_R = 1 + c_R \phi^2 \quad \text{LEADING TO} \quad \langle J \rangle = 1.$$

THIS RESULTS TO $\Lambda_{UV} = m_p / c_R \ll m_p$ FOR $c_R > 1$ SINCE THE EXPANSIONS ABOUT $\langle \phi \rangle \simeq 0$ ARE c_R DEPENDENT, I.E.,

$$J^2 \dot{\phi}^2 = \left(1 - c_R \widehat{\phi}^2 + 6c_R^2 \widehat{\phi}^4 + c_R^3 \widehat{\phi}^6 + \dots \right) \dot{\phi}^2 \quad \text{AND} \quad \widehat{V}_{HI} = \frac{\lambda^2 \widehat{\phi}^4}{2} \left(1 - 2c_R \widehat{\phi}^2 + 3c_R^2 \widehat{\phi}^4 - 4c_R^3 \widehat{\phi}^6 + \dots \right).$$

WHERE THE TERM WHICH YIELDS THE SMALLEST DENOMINATOR FOR $c_R > 1$ IS **$6c_R^2 \widehat{\phi}^2$** .

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TESTING AGAINST OBSERVATIONS

- THE **COMBINED BICEP2/Keck Array and Planck RESULTS**³ ALTHOUGH DO NOT EXCLUDE INFLATIONARY MODELS WITH NEGLIGIBLE r 's, THEY **SEEM TO FAVOR** THOSE WITH r 's OF ORDER 0.01 SINCE

$$r = 0.028_{-0.025}^{+0.026} \Rightarrow 0.003 \lesssim r \lesssim 0.054 \text{ AT 68\% C.L. AND } r \leq 0.07 \text{ AT 95\% C.L.}$$

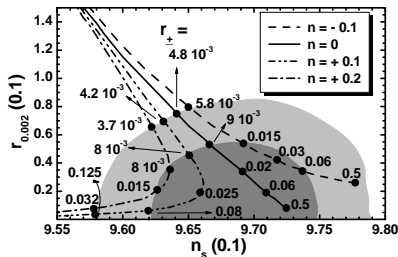
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- ENFORCING $\hat{N}_* \approx 58$ AND $\sqrt{A_s} = 4.627 \cdot 10^{-5}$, WE OBTAIN THE ALLOWED CURVES [REGION] IN THE $n_s - r_{0.002}$ [$n - r_{\pm}$] PLANE:



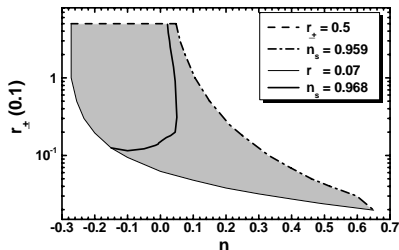
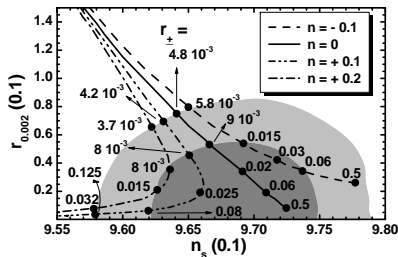
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- FOR $n > 0$ [$n < 0$] THE CURVES MOVE TO THE LEFT [RIGHT] OF THE CURVE OBTAINED FOR $n = 0$. THEREFORE THE $1-\sigma$ OBSERVATIONALLY FAVORED RANGE **CAN BE COVERED** FOR QUITE NATURAL r_{\pm} 's — E.G. $0.0029 \lesssim r_{\pm} \lesssim 0.5$ FOR $K = K_2$ OR K_3 .
- POSITIVITY** OF K_- PROVIDES AN **UPPER BOUND** ON r_{\pm} WHICH IS TRANSLATED TO A **LOWER BOUND** ON r .

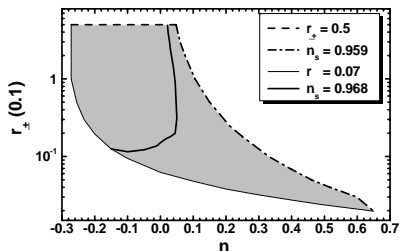
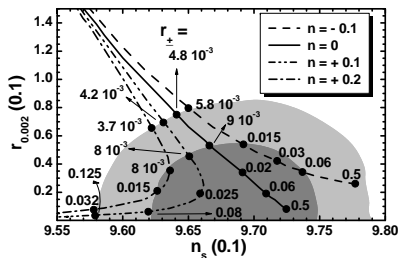
³ Planck Collaboration (2015); BICEP2/Keck Array and Planck Collaborations (2015)

TESTING AGAINST OBSERVATIONS

- THE **COMBINED BICEP2/Keck Array and Planck RESULTS**³ ALTHOUGH DO NOT EXCLUDE INFLATIONARY MODELS WITH NEGLIGIBLE r 's, THEY **SEEM TO FAVOR** THOSE WITH r 's OF ORDER 0.01 SINCE

$$r = 0.028^{+0.026}_{-0.025} \Rightarrow 0.003 \lesssim r \lesssim 0.054 \text{ AT } 68\% \text{ C.L. AND } r \leq 0.07 \text{ AT } 95\% \text{ C.L.}$$

- ENFORCING $\widehat{N}_* \approx 58$ AND $\sqrt{A_s} = 4.627 \cdot 10^{-5}$, WE OBTAIN THE ALLOWED CURVES [REGION] IN THE $n_s - r_{0.002}$ [$n - r_{\pm}$] PLANE:



- FOR $n > 0$ [$n < 0$] THE CURVES MOVE TO THE LEFT [RIGHT] OF THE CURVE OBTAINED FOR $n = 0$. THEREFORE THE $1-\sigma$ OBSERVATIONALLY FAVORED RANGE **CAN BE COVERED** FOR QUITE NATURAL r_{\pm} 's – E.G. $0.0029 \lesssim r_{\pm} \lesssim 0.5$ FOR $K = K_2$ OR K_3 .
- POSITIVITY** OF κ_- PROVIDES AN **UPPER BOUND** ON r_{\pm} WHICH IS TRANSLATED TO A **LOWER BOUND** ON r .
- FIXING $n_s = 0.968$ AND LET n VARY WE FIND THE **ALLOWED RANGES** OF THE PARAMETERS AND THE REQUIRED (MILD) **TUNING**:

$$-1.21 \lesssim n/0.1 \lesssim 0.215, \quad 0.12 \lesssim r_{\pm}/0.1 \lesssim 5, \quad 0.4 \lesssim r/0.01 \lesssim 7 \text{ AND } \Delta_{\max*} = (\phi_{\max} - \phi_*)/\phi_{\max} \gtrsim 0.4.$$

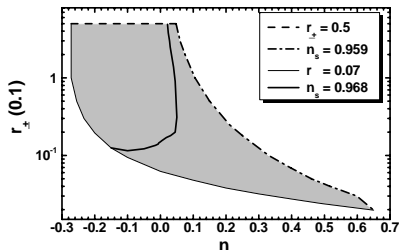
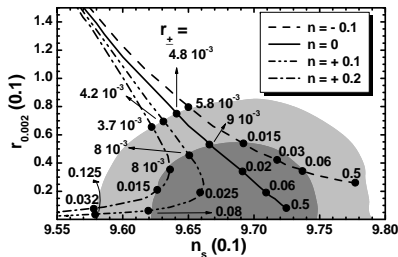
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- **SPECIAL CASES:** $(n, r_{\pm}) = (0, 0.015) \Rightarrow (n_s, r) = (0.968, 0.043)$ AND $(n, r_{\pm}) = (0.042, 0.025) \Rightarrow (n_s, r) = (0.968, 0.028)$.

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INFLATON MASS AND GRAND UNIFIED THEORY (GUT) SCALE

- THE INFLATIONARY OBSERVABLES ARE NOT AFFECTED BY M , PROVIDED THAT $M \ll m_{\text{p}}$.

⁴<https://indico.cern.ch/event/432527/contributions/2267274>

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$$\sqrt{c_-(1 - Nr_{\pm}/\langle f_{\text{R}} \rangle)} g M = M_{\text{GUT}} \Rightarrow M \simeq M_{\text{GUT}}/g \sqrt{c_-(1 - Nr_{\pm})} \sim 10^{15} \text{ GeV} \quad \text{WITH } g \simeq 0.7 \text{ (GUT GAUGE COUPLING).}$$

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- THIS SETTING CAN BE ELEGANTLY IMPLEMENTED, EMPLOYING A **SEMILOGARITHMIC KÄHLER POTENTIAL** WHICH INCLUDES ONLY QUADRATIC TERMS AND THE REAL FUNCTIONS F_{\pm} . ON THE ONE HAND, F_- RESPECTS A PRINCIPAL **SHIFT-SYMMETRY**, REMAINS INVISIBLE IN \widehat{V}_{HI} AND DOMINATES J WHILE, ON THE OTHER, F_+ CAN BE REGARDED AS A **SOFT VIOLATION** OF THE SHIFT SYMMETRY.

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- INFLATIONARY SOLUTIONS CAN BE ATTAINED EVEN WITH **SUBPLANCKIAN** INFLATON VALUES AND WITHOUT CAUSING ANY PROBLEM WITH THE PERTURBATIVE UNITARITY.

THANK YOU!

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