

Effective theory approach to multi-field inflation

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SNU-KAIST-KASI-IBS Joint Club Meeting
Institute for Basic Science, Daejeon, Korea
13rd March, 2014

Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Formulation of perturbations
- 3 Reduction to single field theory
- 4 Footprints of multi-field effects
- 5 Conclusions

Why inflation?

Hot big bang

- Horizon problem
- Flatness problem
- Monopole problem
- Initial perturbations

Inflation

- Single causal patch
- Locally flat
- Diluted away
- Quantum fluctuations

- 1 Initial conditions for hot big bang
- 2 A certain amount of expansion is required:

Number of e -folds : $N = \log \left(\frac{a_e}{a_i} \right) \sim 60$ is necessary

- 3 Consistent with most recent observations
- 4 Typically driven by inflaton with a specific potential $V(\phi)$

Why multi-field inflation?

- Theoretical challenges: building models from particle physics
 - ① No inflaton in SM: BSM (Bezrukov & Shaposhnikov 2008: Higgs = inflaton?)
 - ② Many scalar fields
 - ③ Many inflaton candidates
- Observational opportunities: new data ahead
 - ① Both particle physics (LHC) and cosmology (a lot)
 - ② Constraining / detecting new cosmological signatures ↔ constraining high energy physics
 - ③ All in next 10 - 15 years

We have both theoretical and observational motivations

Why EFT for multi-field inflation?

- $E_{\text{inflation}} (\sim 10^{15} \text{ GeV?}) \gg E_{\text{LHC}} = 14 \text{ TeV}$
- Are various corrections important? No idea
- Control over our ignorance: universality of **EFT**

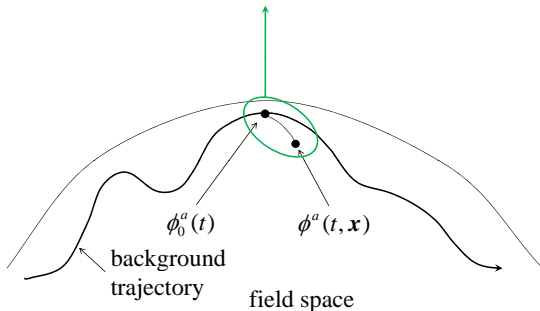
For multi-field inflation... (single-field EFT: Burgess, Lee & Trott 2009)

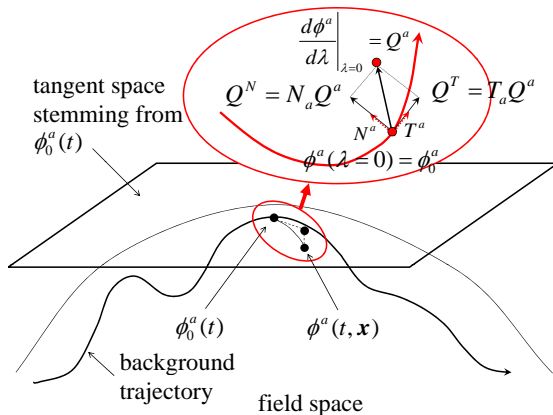
- Trajectory along the lightest direction
- If the trajectory is...
 - ① straight: identical to single field case by field redefinition
 - ② curved: 1 more d.o.f. and different from single field case
- **Effects of heavy physics** are there

Can we apply EFT to find **universal features** of “heavy” physics?

Decomposing perturbation

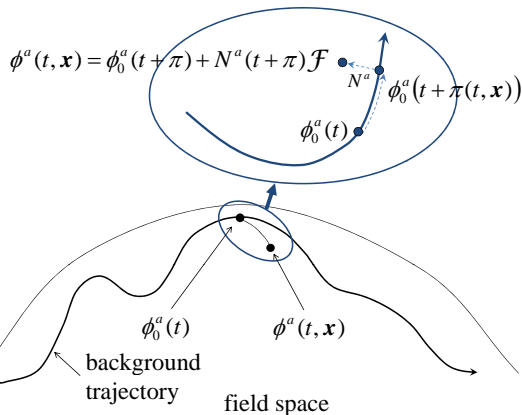
How to describe **departure**
from homogeneous background?





1 Tangent / perp to the BG trajectory: Traditional approach

(Gong & Tanaka 2011)



- ① **Tangent / perp** to the BG trajectory: **Traditional approach**
(Gong & Tanaka 2011)
- ② **Along / perp** to the BG trajectory: **Symmetry of the action**

(Achucarro et al. 2012a)

Family of background solutions

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{m_{\text{Pl}}^2}{2} R + \mathcal{L}^{(M)}(\phi^a, \partial_\mu \phi^a) \right]$$

→ **invariant** under $x^\mu \rightarrow x^\mu + \xi^\mu$ for constant ξ^μ

Given a set of BG solutions $\phi_0^a(t)$ and $a(t)$, a family of solutions

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_0^{a'}(t) &= \phi_0^a(t + \Delta\mathcal{T}) \\ a'(t) &= a(t + \Delta\mathcal{T}) + \Delta\mathcal{R}\end{aligned}$$

Parametrizing perturbations (3 scalar d.o.f.) as

$$\begin{aligned}\phi^a(t, \mathbf{x}) &= \phi_0^a(t + \pi) + N^a(t + \pi) \mathcal{F} \\ \gamma_{ij} &= a^2(t + \pi) e^{2\mathcal{R}} \delta_{ij}\end{aligned}$$

Non-trivial solutions: $\pi = \text{constant}$, $\mathcal{R} = \text{constant}$, $\mathcal{F} = 0$ (Cheung et al. 2008)

Gauge transformation of π and \mathcal{R}

Single field case for clarity: at linear order

$$\begin{aligned}\phi &= \phi_0 + \delta\phi & \leftrightarrow & \delta\phi = \dot{\phi}_0 \pi & \xrightarrow{\hat{t}=t+\xi^0} & \widehat{\delta\phi} = \dot{\phi}_0 (\pi - \xi^0) \\ \gamma_{ij} &= \alpha^2 (1 + 2\varphi) \delta_{ij} & \leftrightarrow & \varphi = H\pi + \mathcal{R} & \xrightarrow{\hat{t}=t+\xi^0} & \widehat{\varphi} = H(\pi - \xi^0) + \mathcal{R}\end{aligned}$$

$\widehat{\pi} = \pi - \xi^0$: π = Goldstone boson associated with $t \rightarrow \hat{t} = t + \xi^0$

- ① Comoving gauge: $\widehat{\delta\phi} = 0 \rightarrow \varphi_{\delta\phi} = \mathcal{R}$
 - \mathcal{R} is gauge invariant
 - $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}$ shares the same properties as the original \mathcal{R}
- ② Flat gauge: $\gamma_{ij} = \alpha^2(t) \delta_{ij} \rightarrow \widehat{\pi} = -\mathcal{R}/H$
 - $\widehat{\pi}$ does not share the same properties as the original π
 - Not original π in both cases

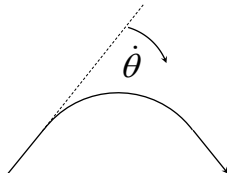
Comoving gauge is privileged!

Effective single field theory: recipe

- 1 Write the action in terms of \mathcal{R} (along traj) and \mathcal{F} (off traj)
- 2 Integrate out \mathcal{F} : $e^{S_{\text{eff}}[\mathcal{R}]} = \int [D\mathcal{F}] e^{S[\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{F}]}$
 $\left[= \text{equiv to plugging linear sol: } (-\square + M_{\text{eff}}^2) \mathcal{F} = -2\dot{\theta}(\dot{\phi}_0/H)\dot{\mathcal{R}} \right]$
- 3 Effective single field action $S_{\text{eff}}[\mathcal{R}]$
- 4 ☺

Effects of heavy physics in “**speed of sound**”

$$c_s^{-2} \equiv 1 + \frac{4\dot{\theta}^2}{M_{\text{eff}}^2} \quad (\dot{\theta} : \text{angular velocity of traj})$$



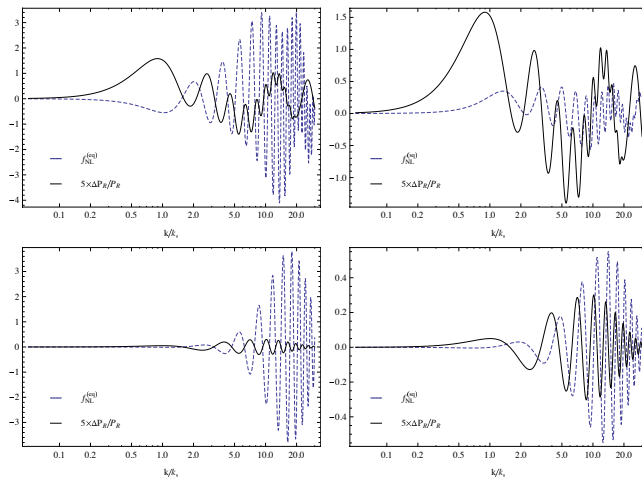
Single field theory with non-trivial c_s^2 : Footprint of heavy physics

(Achucarro et al. 2012a)

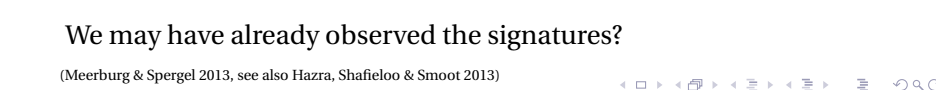
\mathcal{F} borrows kinetic energy of $\mathcal{R} \rightarrow$ propagation speed c_s reduced

Questions of the same type are answered

Correlation of correlation functions



(Achúcarro et al. 2013)



Conclusions

- ① Prescription of perturbations
 - Goldstone language : Time translational symmetry
 - Constant solution : Constrained derivative structure
 - Comoving gauge is privileged
- ② Effective single field theory
 - Integrating out the heavy isocurvature modes
 - Identical to plugging the full solution of the isocurvature modes
 - Single field theory with **non-trivial** c_s^2
- ③ Phenomenology of multi-field system
 - Highly non-trivial features in the correlation functions
 - Oscillations in the power spectrum
 - Bispectrum: Local + equilateral, scale dependence...