Probing primordial features with the SGWB

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Take-home message

Primordial features invaluable probe of early universe

Oscillations in primordial \longrightarrow Oscillations in frequency profile of $\Omega_{GW}(f)$ Precious probe of inflation on small scales



Inflation: a period of accelerated expansion before the radiation era that solves the problems of the Hot Big bang model



Observational progress



Observational progress



Observational progress



Density fluctuations:

Superhorizon - adiabatic almost scale-invariant - Gaussian

Simplest fit to data: single-field slow-roll inflation

Physics of inflation?

No-one believes single-field slow-roll models are more than toy models

- decoupled from the rest of physics



Looking for new physics

- Single-field slow-roll: at best emergent approximate description
- Cosmologists seek deviations to it in motivated manner



Inflation on small scales?





$$\Omega_{\rm GW}(k) = \int \int T(u, v) \mathcal{P}_{\zeta}(ku) \mathcal{P}_{\zeta}(kv) \quad \sim 10^{-5} \, \mathcal{P}_{\zeta}^2$$





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$$\log\left(\frac{f}{10^{-3}\text{Hz}}\right) \simeq \log\left(\frac{k}{10^{12}\text{Mpc}^{-1}}\right) \simeq N_{\text{after CMB}} - 30$$

GW observatories probe inflation on small scales



Primordial features











SGWB signature of sharp features



An explicit example



and its SGWB signature



Feature template

Detectability

Oscillations resolvable by LISA T=3 years

see also Braglia et al 2012.05821

Reconstruction of spectral shape with LISA Caprini et al, LISA CosWG

1906.09244

A wiggly signal can be reconstructed (without particular motivation there)

Theoretical consistency

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