

Primordial gravitational waves from excited states

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How the stochastic gravitational wave background offers one to probe inflation on small scales has been a subject of active research in recent years. However, most studies focus on one specific aspect: the often called scalar induced gravitational-waves, generated after inflation from large primordial density fluctuations. Yet, the phenomenon that generates these large density fluctuations also generates in general gravitational waves during inflation. I will characterize the corresponding stochastic gravitational wave background in this talk, focusing on the signatures of dynamically generated scalar excited states.

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