Strong Mixing At the Cosmological Collider

Arthur Poisson 2ndr year PhD student Sébastien Renaux-Petel Supervisor

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Outline

• What is the cosmological collider?

• What is the strong mixing regime?

• How can we study it?

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Which Observable in Cosmology?

• We observe the primordial density fluctuations.



- We predict their distribution $\mathbb{P}(\delta \rho_k)$
- The physics we want = encoded in the higher point correlators:

The Non-Gaussianities.

Energy Scales

• Inflationary physics = Very High energy scales.



- **PLANCK** constraints: $H \lesssim 10^{14} \text{GeV}$
- Energy Conservation: we cannot produce on-shell particles heavier than 10⁴GeV at the LHC.
- High-energy theories: often rely on the existence of very massive particles.

Idea: Use Inflation as a Cosmological Collider

Spontaneous Particle Production

- Expansion = time dependent background: No energy conservation.
- Massive particles are spontaneously produced!



No σ Particles

• Initially, $|\Psi\rangle$ and $|\Omega\rangle$ coincide and they are driven away from each other by the expanding background.

Spontaneous Particle Production

- Expansion = time dependent background: No energy conservation.
- Massive particles are **spontaneously** produced!
- Produced massive particles can decay into density fluctuations.



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Exchange Process in Inflation

- End of Inflation = Initial Condition for Large Scale Structures.
- Different process in the bulk leads to different correlations.



Cosmological Collider Signal

Exchange of massive particles leads to oscillating behavior in the lacksquaresqueezed limit:

$$\langle \delta \rho^{k_1} \delta \rho^{k_2} \delta \rho^{k_3} \rangle \sim \left(\frac{k_3}{k_2}\right)^{1/2} e^{-\pi m/H} \cos(m/H \log(k_3/k_1) + \varphi)$$



Figure from Werth, Pinol, Renaux-Petel, 2312.06559 Using $Cosmo\mathcal{F}low^{TM}$

• Physically: property of massive field propagation if $m \gg H$:

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

$$\implies \sigma \sim (k\tau)^{\frac{3}{2} \pm \Delta}, \Delta = \sqrt{\frac{9}{4} - \frac{m^2}{H^2}}$$

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- Inflation = scalar inflaton field + metric field.



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primordial $\delta \rho$ by Poisson equation

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• We can ignore the coupling with the tensor modes at the Leading order.

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$$\mathscr{L} = a^3 \left(\frac{\dot{\pi}^2}{2} + \frac{\dot{\sigma}^2}{2} - \frac{c_s^2}{2} \frac{(\nabla \pi)^2}{2a^2} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{(\nabla \sigma)^2}{2a^2} - \frac{m^2}{2} \sigma^2 + \rho \dot{\pi} \sigma - \frac{1}{2\Lambda a^2} (\nabla \pi)^2 \sigma \right)$$

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Cubic Coupling



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Mixing Term

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- Strong Mixing: $\rho \gg H$, -- is giving a strong contribution.
- We cannot rely on the simpler diagrams!



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Python Package for Cosmological Correlators

 \rightarrow Include mixing in the free Hamiltonian



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Python Package for Cosmological Correlators

• It's solving fully coupled linear equations of motion: could it be done analytically?

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Effective Field Theory

• At low energy, any two-field system can be approximated by a single-field effective theory.



Figure from Arkani-Hamed and al. 1811.00024

Canonical Transformation

• We use the EFT to parametrize a field redefinition.

$$\begin{cases} X_1 = \pi_{\rm EFT} + \delta \pi \\ X_2 = \sigma - \sigma_{\rm EFT} \end{cases}$$

- Canonical Transformation: this should capture particle production.
- These variables allow one to know the interaction picture fields perturbatively:

$$\begin{cases} X_1 = X_1^{\text{Free}} + \delta X_1 \\ X_2 = X_2^{\text{Free}} + \delta X_2 \end{cases}$$



• Small *c_s*: consider the leading order in time derivative expansion:

Classical EOM approximate solution

$$\sigma_{\rm EFT} \approx \frac{\rho}{k^2/a^2 + m_{\rm eff}^2} p_{\pi}$$



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$$X_{1} = \pi - \frac{\rho}{k^{2}/a^{2} + m_{\text{eff}}^{2}} p_{\sigma}$$

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$$P_{1} = p_{\pi}$$

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$$\langle X_1^n(t \to t_{\text{end}}) \rangle \to \langle \pi^n(t_{\text{end}}) \rangle$$

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We just found a way to perturbatively solve the full quadratic EOM!

• However, the mixing contribution is treated non-perturbatively.

Cubic Interaction

• Original Hamiltonian:

$$\mathcal{H}_{I} \supset -(2\pi)^{3} \delta^{(3)} \left(\sum \mathbf{k}_{i}\right) \frac{a}{2\Lambda} \mathbf{k}_{1} \cdot \mathbf{k}_{2} \pi^{k_{1}} \pi^{k_{2}} \sigma^{k_{3}}$$

• New Hamiltonian $\supset 6$ interactions:



Perturbativity: 3 Points functions

• Perturbative knowledge of 2 points \implies 3 points by Wick Theorem:



- Generic extension of the EFT techniques.
- Work in progress!

Conclusion



• Strong Mixing regime to be understood analytically:

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \rho \gg 1$$

• Interaction picture fields can be approached using new variables motivated by an EFT description:

