

# Inflationary non-Gaussianities in the most general second-order scalar-tensor theories

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# Introduction

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- Epoch: after QG and GUT (scale ?)
- New physics: usually scalar field (?)
- Or new gravity: 1st model Starobinsky model

# General scalar-tensor theory

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{1}{2} M_P^2 R + P(\phi, X) - G_3(\phi, X) \square \phi + \mathcal{L}_4 + \mathcal{L}_5 \right]$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_5 = & G_5(\phi, X) G_{\mu\nu} (\nabla^\mu \nabla^\nu \phi) - \frac{1}{6} G_{5,X} [(\square \phi)^3 \\ & - 3(\square \phi) (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \phi) (\nabla^\mu \nabla^\nu \phi) \\ & + 2(\nabla^\mu \nabla_\alpha \phi) (\nabla^\alpha \nabla_\beta \phi) (\nabla^\beta \nabla_\mu \phi)]. \quad X \equiv -\frac{1}{2}(\partial \phi)^2 \end{aligned}$$

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0 &= 3M_P^2 H^2 F + P + 6H G_{4,\phi} \dot{\phi} + (G_{3,\phi} - 12H^2 G_{4,X} + 9H^2 G_{5,\phi} - P_{,X}) \dot{\phi}^2 \\
&\quad + (6G_{4,\phi X} - 3G_{3,X} - 5G_{5,X}H^2) H \dot{\phi}^3 + 3(G_{5,\phi X} - 2G_{4,XX}) H^2 \dot{\phi}^4 - H^3 G_{5,XX} \dot{\phi}^5, \\
0 &= 2[(G_{5,\phi} - 2G_{4,X}) \dot{\phi}^2 - HG_{5,X} \dot{\phi}^3 + FM_P^2] \dot{H} + 3M_P^2 H^2 F + P + 4HG_{4,\phi} \dot{\phi} \\
&\quad + [2G_{4,\phi} + 4H(G_{5,\phi} - G_{4,X}) \dot{\phi} + (2G_{4,\phi X} - G_{3,X} - 3H^2 G_{5,X}) \dot{\phi}^2 + 2H(G_{5,\phi X} - 2G_{4,XX}) \dot{\phi}^3 \\
&\quad + (2G_{4,\phi\phi} + 3H^2 G_{5,\phi} - G_{3,\phi} - 6H^2 G_{4,X}) \dot{\phi}^2 + 2H(G_{5,\phi\phi} - G_{5,X}H^2 - 2G_{4,\phi X}) \dot{\phi}^3 \\
&\quad - H^2 G_{5,\phi X} \dot{\phi}^4].
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&\quad + [2G_{4,\phi} + 4H(G_{5,\phi} - G_{4,X}) \dot{\phi} + (2G_{4,\phi X} - G_{3,X} - 3H^2 G_{5,X}) \dot{\phi}^2 + 2H(G_{5,\phi X} - 2G_{4,XX}) \dot{\phi}^3 \\
&\quad + (2G_{4,\phi\phi} + 3H^2 G_{5,\phi} - G_{3,\phi} - 6H^2 G_{4,X}) \dot{\phi}^2 + 2H(G_{5,\phi\phi} - G_{5,X}H^2 - 2G_{4,\phi X}) \dot{\phi}^3 \\
&\quad - H^2 G_{5,\phi X} \dot{\phi}^4].
\end{aligned}$$

- $F = 1 + 2G_4/M_P^2$ , and  $\dot{\phi}E_3 = \dot{E}_1 + 3H(E_1 + E_2) = 0$ .

- Removing  $P$  from  $E_2$  by  $E_1$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (1 - 4\delta_{G4X} - 2\delta_{G5X} + 2\delta_{G5\phi})\epsilon &= \delta_{PX} + 3\delta_{G3X} - 2\delta_{G3\phi} + 6\delta_{G4X} - \delta_{G4\phi} - 6\delta_{G5\phi} + 3\delta_{G5X} \\
 &\quad + 12\delta_{G4XX} + 2\delta_{G5XX} - 10\delta_{G4\phi X} + 2\delta_{G4\phi\phi} \\
 &\quad - 8\delta_{G5\phi X} + 2\delta_{G5\phi\phi} - \delta_\phi(\delta_{G3X} + 4\delta_{G4X} - \delta_{G4\phi} + 8\delta_{G4XX} \\
 &\quad + 3\delta_{G5X} - 4\delta_{G5\phi} + 2\delta_{G5XX} - 2\delta_{G4\phi X} - 4\delta_{G5\phi X}),
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- Slow-roll parameters

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &= -\frac{\dot{H}}{H^2}, & \delta_\phi &= \frac{\ddot{\phi}}{H\dot{\phi}}, & \delta_{PX} &= \frac{P_{,X}X}{M_P^2 H^2 F}, & \delta_{G3X} &= \frac{G_{3,X}\dot{\phi}X}{M_P^2 HF}, & \delta_{G3\phi} &= \frac{G_{3,\phi}X}{M_P^2 H^2 F}, & \delta_{G4X} &= \frac{G_{4,X}X}{M_P^2 F}, \\ \delta_{G4\phi} &= \frac{G_{4,\phi}\dot{\phi}}{M_P^2 HF}, & \delta_{G4\phi X} &= \frac{G_{4,\phi X}\dot{\phi}X}{M_P^2 HF}, & \delta_{G4\phi\phi} &= \frac{G_{4,\phi\phi}X}{M_P^2 H^2 F}, & \delta_{G4XX} &= \frac{G_{4,XX}X^2}{M_P^2 F}, & \delta_{G5\phi} &= \frac{G_{5,\phi}X}{M_P^2 F}, \\ \delta_{G5X} &= \frac{G_{5,X}H\dot{\phi}X}{M_P^2 F}, & \delta_{G5XX} &= \frac{G_{5,XX}H\dot{\phi}X^2}{M_P^2 F} & \delta_{G5\phi X} &= \frac{G_{5,\phi X}X^2}{M_P^2 F}, & \delta_{G5\phi\phi} &= \frac{G_{5,\phi\phi}\dot{\phi}X}{M_P^2 HF}. \end{aligned}$$

- Perturbation theory / Uniform field gauge

$$ds^2 = -[(1+\alpha)^2 - a(t)^{-2} e^{-2\mathcal{R}} (\partial\psi)^2] dt^2 + 2\partial_i\psi dt dx^i + a(t)^2 e^{2\mathcal{R}} dx^2,$$

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- Action at second order

$$S_2 = \int dt d^3x a^3 \left[ -3w_1 \dot{\mathcal{R}}^2 + \frac{1}{a^2} (2w_1 \dot{\mathcal{R}} - w_2 \alpha) \partial^2 \psi - \frac{2w_1}{a^2} \alpha \partial^2 \mathcal{R} + 3w_2 \alpha \dot{\mathcal{R}} + \frac{1}{3} w_3 \alpha^2 + \frac{w_4}{a^2} (\partial \mathcal{R})^2 \right],$$

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$$\begin{aligned} w_1 &= M_P^2 F - 4XG_{4,X} - 2HX\dot{\phi}G_{5,X} + 2XG_{5,\phi}, \\ w_2 &= 2M_P^2 HF - 2X\dot{\phi}G_{3,X} - 16H(XG_{4,X} + X^2 G_{4,XX}) + 2\dot{\phi}(G_{4,\phi} + 2XG_{4,\phi X}) \\ &\quad - 2H^2\dot{\phi}(5XG_{5,X} + 2X^2 G_{5,XX}) + 4HX(3G_{5,\phi} + 2XG_{5,\phi X}), \\ w_3 &= -9M_{\text{pl}}^2 H^2 F + 3(XP_{,X} + 2X^2 P_{,XX}) + 18H\dot{\phi}(2XG_{3,X} + X^2 G_{3,XX}) - 6X(G_{3,\phi} + XG_{3,\phi X}) \\ &\quad + 18H^2(7XG_{4,X} + 16X^2 G_{4,XX} + 4X^3 G_{4,XXX}) - 18H\dot{\phi}(G_{4,\phi} + 5XG_{4,\phi X} + 2X^2 G_{4,\phi XX}) \\ &\quad + 6H^3\dot{\phi}(15XG_{5,X} + 13X^2 G_{5,XX} + 2X^3 G_{5,XXX}) - 18H^2 X(6G_{5,\phi} + 9XG_{5,\phi X} + 2X^2 G_{5,\phi XX}), \\ w_4 &= M_P^2 F - 2XG_{5,\phi} - 2XG_{5,X}\ddot{\phi}. \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} Q &= \frac{w_1(4w_1w_3 + 9w_2^2)}{3w_2^2}, \\ c_s^2 &= \frac{3(2w_1^2w_2H - w_2^2w_4 + 4w_1\dot{w}_1w_2 - 2w_1^2\dot{w}_2)}{w_1(4w_1w_3 + 9w_2^2)}. \end{aligned}$$

# Three-point function

- Look for

$$\langle \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{k}_1)\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{k}_2)\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{k}_3) \rangle = -i \int_{\tau_i}^{\tau_f} d\tau a \langle 0 | [\mathcal{R}(\tau_f, \mathbf{k}_1)\mathcal{R}(\tau_f, \mathbf{k}_2)\mathcal{R}(\tau_f, \mathbf{k}_3), \mathcal{H}_{\text{int}}(\tau)] | 0 \rangle ,$$

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- 3rd order action

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_3 = & \int dt d^3x a^3 \{ a_1 \alpha^3 + \alpha^2 (a_2 \mathcal{R} + a_3 \dot{\mathcal{R}} + a_4 \partial^2 \mathcal{R}/a^2 + a_5 \partial^2 \psi/a^2) \\
 & + \alpha [a_6 \partial_i \mathcal{R} \partial_i \psi/a^2 + a_7 \dot{\mathcal{R}} \mathcal{R} + a_8 \dot{\mathcal{R}} \partial^2 \mathcal{R}/a^2 + a_9 (\partial_i \partial_j \psi \partial_i \partial_j \psi - \partial^2 \psi \partial^2 \psi)/a^4 \\
 & + a_{10} (\partial_i \partial_j \psi \partial_i \partial_j \mathcal{R} - \partial^2 \psi \partial^2 \mathcal{R})/a^4 + a_{11} \mathcal{R} \partial^2 \psi/a^2 + a_{12} \dot{\mathcal{R}} \partial^2 \psi/a^2 + a_{13} \mathcal{R} \partial^2 \mathcal{R}/a^2 \\
 & + a_{14} (\partial \mathcal{R})^2/a^2 + a_{15} \dot{\mathcal{R}}^2] \\
 & + b_1 \dot{\mathcal{R}}^3 + b_2 \mathcal{R} (\partial \mathcal{R})^2/a^2 + b_3 \dot{\mathcal{R}}^2 \mathcal{R} + c_1 \dot{\mathcal{R}} \partial_i \mathcal{R} \partial_i \psi/a^2 + c_2 \dot{\mathcal{R}}^2 \partial^2 \psi/a^2 + c_3 \dot{\mathcal{R}} \mathcal{R} \partial^2 \psi/a^2 \\
 & + (d_1 \dot{\mathcal{R}} + d_2 \mathcal{R}) (\partial_i \partial_j \psi \partial_i \partial_j \psi - \partial^2 \psi \partial^2 \psi)/a^4 + d_3 \partial_i \mathcal{R} \partial_i \psi \partial^2 \psi/a^4 \} ,
 \end{aligned}$$

## Reducing the action

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$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &\equiv \left( A_1 + A_3 \frac{Q}{w_1} - A_5 \frac{Q^2}{w_1^2} \right) \dot{\mathcal{R}}^3 + \left( A_4 - A_6 \frac{Q^2}{w_1^2} \right) \mathcal{R} \dot{\mathcal{R}}^2 + A_9 \frac{Q}{w_1^2} \dot{\mathcal{R}} \partial_i \mathcal{R} \partial_i \mathcal{X} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{w_1^2} \left( A_5 \dot{\mathcal{R}} + A_6 \mathcal{R} \right) (\partial_i \partial_j \mathcal{X}) (\partial_i \partial_j \mathcal{X}) , \\ f_2 &\equiv \left( A_2 - A_3 L_1 + A_5 \frac{2L_1 Q}{w_1} - A_7 \frac{Q}{w_1} \right) \dot{\mathcal{R}}^2 \partial^2 \mathcal{R} + A_6 \frac{2L_1 Q}{w_1} \mathcal{R} \dot{\mathcal{R}} \partial^2 \mathcal{R} + A_8 \mathcal{R} (\partial \mathcal{R})^2 - A_9 \frac{L_1 Q}{w_1} \dot{\mathcal{R}} (\partial \mathcal{R})^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{A_7 - 2A_5 L_1}{w_1} \dot{\mathcal{R}} (\partial_i \partial_j \mathcal{R}) (\partial_i \partial_j \mathcal{X}) - \frac{2A_6 L_1}{w_1} \mathcal{R} (\partial_i \partial_j \mathcal{R}) (\partial_i \partial_j \mathcal{X}) - \frac{A_9 L_1}{w_1} \partial^2 \mathcal{R} \partial_i \mathcal{R} \partial_i \mathcal{X} , \\ f_3 &\equiv \left( A_5 L_1^2 - A_7 L_1 \right) \dot{\mathcal{R}} [(\partial_i \partial_j \mathcal{R}) (\partial_i \partial_j \mathcal{R}) - (\partial^2 \mathcal{R})^2] + A_6 L_1^2 \mathcal{R} [(\partial_i \partial_j \mathcal{R}) (\partial_i \partial_j \mathcal{R}) - (\partial^2 \mathcal{R})^2] \\ &\quad + A_9 L_1^2 (\partial \mathcal{R})^2 \partial^2 \mathcal{R} . \end{aligned}$$

## Reducing the action — 2

- Finally  $S_3 = \int dt \mathcal{L}_3$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}_3 = & \int d^3x \left\{ a^3 C_1 M_P^2 \mathcal{R} \dot{\mathcal{R}}^2 + a C_2 M_P^2 \mathcal{R} (\partial \mathcal{R})^2 + a^3 C_3 M_P \dot{\mathcal{R}}^3 + a^3 C_4 \dot{\mathcal{R}} (\partial_i \mathcal{R})(\partial_i \mathcal{X}) \right. \\
& + a^3 (C_5/M_P^2) \partial^2 \mathcal{R} (\partial \mathcal{X})^2 + a C_6 \dot{\mathcal{R}}^2 \partial^2 \mathcal{R} + C_7 \left[ \partial^2 \mathcal{R} (\partial \mathcal{R})^2 - \mathcal{R} \partial_i \partial_j (\partial_i \mathcal{R})(\partial_j \mathcal{R}) \right] / a \\
& \left. + a (C_8/M_P) \left[ \partial^2 \mathcal{R} \partial_i \mathcal{R} \partial_i \mathcal{X} - \mathcal{R} \partial_i \partial_j (\partial_i \mathcal{R})(\partial_j \mathcal{X}) \right] + \mathcal{F}_1 \frac{\delta \mathcal{L}_2}{\delta \mathcal{R}} \Big|_1 \right\},
\end{aligned}$$

# Three-point function

- Looking for

$$\langle \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{k}_1)\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{k}_2)\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{k}_3) \rangle = -i \int_{\tau_i}^{\tau_f} d\tau a \langle 0 | [\mathcal{R}(\tau_f, \mathbf{k}_1)\mathcal{R}(\tau_f, \mathbf{k}_2)\mathcal{R}(\tau_f, \mathbf{k}_3), \mathcal{H}_{\text{int}}(\tau)] | 0 \rangle ,$$

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$$\langle \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{k}_1)\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{k}_2)\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{k}_3) \rangle = (2\pi)^3 \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3) (\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{R}})^2 B_{\mathcal{R}}(k_1, k_2, k_3) ,$$

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$$B_{\mathcal{R}}(k_1, k_2, k_3) = \frac{(2\pi)^4}{\prod_{i=1}^3 k_i^3} \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{R}} .$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{R}} = & \frac{M_P^2}{Q} \left\{ \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{2}{K} \sum_{i>j} k_i^2 k_j^2 - \frac{1}{K^2} \sum_{i \neq j} k_i^2 k_j^3 \right) \mathcal{C}_1 + \frac{1}{4c_s^2} \left( \frac{1}{2} \sum_i k_i^3 + \frac{2}{K} \sum_{i>j} k_i^2 k_j^2 - \frac{1}{K^2} \sum_{i \neq j} k_i^2 k_j^3 \right) \mathcal{C}_2 \right. \\
& + \frac{3}{2} \frac{H}{M_P} \frac{(k_1 k_2 k_3)^2}{K^3} \mathcal{C}_3 + \frac{1}{8} \frac{Q}{M_P^2} \left( \sum_i k_i^3 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} k_i k_j^2 - \frac{2}{K^2} \sum_{i \neq j} k_i^2 k_j^3 \right) \mathcal{C}_4 \\
& + \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{Q}{M_P^2} \right)^2 \frac{1}{K^2} \left[ \sum_i k_i^5 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} k_i k_j^4 - \frac{3}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} k_i^2 k_j^3 - k_1 k_2 k_3 \sum_{i>j} k_i k_j \right] \mathcal{C}_5 \\
& + \frac{3}{c_s^2} \left( \frac{H}{M_P} \right)^2 \frac{(k_1 k_2 k_3)^2}{K^3} \mathcal{C}_6 \\
& + \frac{1}{2c_s^4} \left( \frac{H}{M_P} \right)^2 \frac{1}{K} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{K^2} \sum_{i>j} k_i k_j + \frac{3k_1 k_2 k_3}{K^3} \right) \left[ \frac{3}{4} \sum_i k_i^4 - \frac{3}{2} \sum_{i>j} k_i^2 k_j^2 \right] \mathcal{C}_7 \\
& \left. + \frac{1}{8c_s^2} \frac{H}{M_P} \frac{Q}{M_P^2} \frac{1}{K^2} \left[ \frac{3}{2} k_1 k_2 k_3 \sum_i k_i^2 - \frac{5}{2} k_1 k_2 k_3 K^2 - 6 \sum_{i \neq j} k_i^2 k_j^3 - \sum_i k_i^5 + \frac{7}{2} K \sum_i k_i^4 \right] \mathcal{C}_8 \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

# Observable

- Parameter  $f_{\text{NL}}$

$$f_{\text{NL}} = \frac{10}{3} \frac{\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{R}}}{\sum_{i=1}^3 k_i^3}.$$

# Observable

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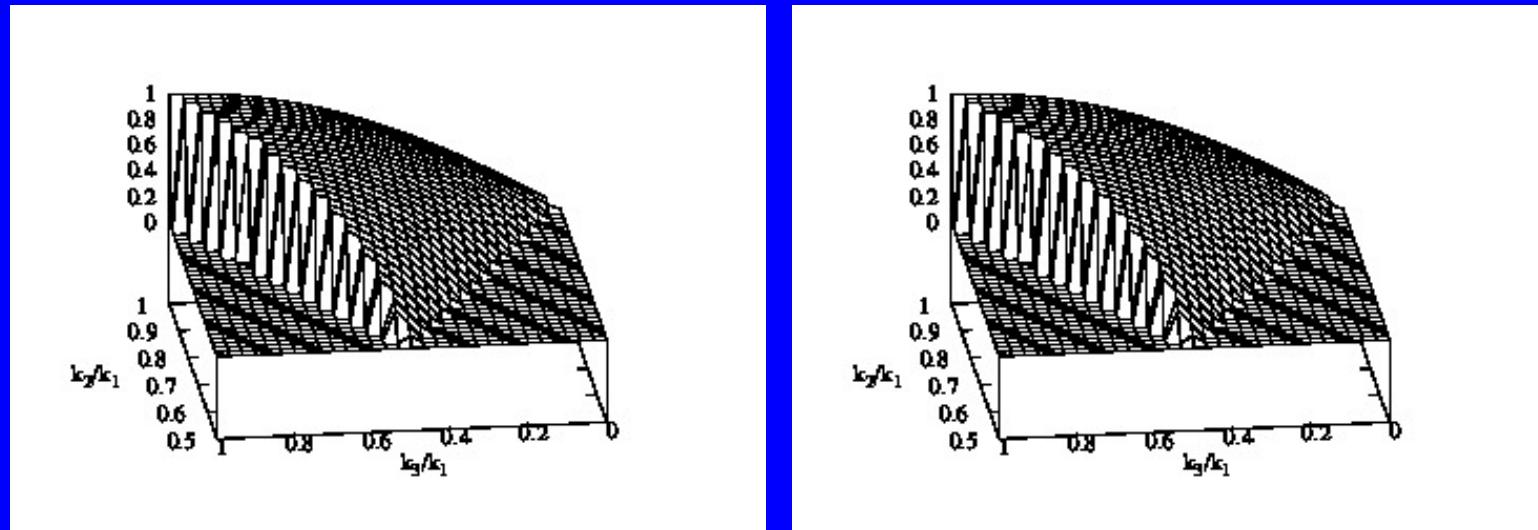
$$f_{\text{NL}} = \frac{10}{3} \frac{\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{R}}}{\sum_{i=1}^3 k_i^3}.$$

- Equilater configuration  $k_1 = k_2 = k_3 = k, K = 3k$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\text{NL}} &= \frac{40}{9} \frac{M_P^2}{Q} \left[ \frac{1}{12} \mathcal{C}_1 + \frac{17}{96c_s^2} \mathcal{C}_2 + \frac{1}{72} \frac{H}{M_P} \mathcal{C}_3 - \frac{1}{24} \frac{Q}{M_P^2} \mathcal{C}_4 - \frac{1}{24} \left( \frac{Q}{M_P^2} \right)^2 \mathcal{C}_5 + \frac{1}{36c_s^2} \left( \frac{H}{M_P} \right)^2 \mathcal{C}_6 \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{13}{96c_s^4} \left( \frac{H}{M_P} \right)^2 \mathcal{C}_7 - \frac{17}{192c_s^2} \frac{H}{M_P} \frac{Q}{M_P^2} \mathcal{C}_8 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

# Shape

- Maximum on the equilateral configuration



# Slow-roll approximation

- Assuming slow roll

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 f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{equil}} = & \frac{85}{324} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{c_s^2} \right) - \frac{10}{81} \frac{\lambda}{\Sigma} + \frac{55}{36} \frac{\epsilon_s}{c_s^2} + \frac{5}{12} \frac{\eta_s}{c_s^2} - \frac{85}{54} \frac{s}{c_s^2} + \left( \frac{20}{81} \frac{1 + \lambda_{3X}}{\epsilon_s} + \frac{65}{162 c_s^2 \epsilon_s} \right) \delta_{G3X} \\
 & + \left( \frac{80}{81} \frac{3 + 2\lambda_{4X}}{\epsilon_s} + \frac{65}{27 c_s^2 \epsilon_s} \right) \delta_{G4XX} + \left( \frac{20}{81 \epsilon_s} + \frac{65}{162 c_s^2 \epsilon_s} \right) \delta_{G5X} \\
 & + \left( \frac{20}{81} \frac{5 + 2\lambda_{5X}}{\epsilon_s} + \frac{65}{162 c_s^2 \epsilon_s} \right) \delta_{G5XX}.
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$$\lambda_{3X} \equiv \frac{X G_{3,XX}}{G_{3,X}}, \quad \lambda_{4X} \equiv \frac{X G_{4,XXX}}{G_{4,XX}}, \quad \lambda_{5X} \equiv \frac{X G_{5,XXX}}{G_{5,XX}}.$$

# Examples

- k-inflation,  $\epsilon = P_{,X}X/(3M_P^2 H^2)$ ,  $\lambda_{PX} = X P_{,XX}/P_{,X}$ ,  $c_s^2 = 1/(1 + 2\lambda_{PX})$ ,  $\lambda_{PXX} = X^2 P_{,XXX}/P_{,X}$

$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{equil}} \simeq \frac{5}{324} \left(1 - \frac{1}{c_s^2}\right) (17 + 4c_s^2) - \frac{20}{243} \frac{\lambda_{PXX}}{1 + 2\lambda_{PX}} + \frac{55}{36} \frac{\epsilon_s}{c_s^2} + \frac{5}{12} \frac{\eta_s}{c_s^2} - \frac{85}{54} \frac{s}{c_s^2}.$$

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- Standard inflation,  $P = X + V(\phi)$ ,  $\lambda_{PX} = 0 = \lambda_{PXX}$ ,  $c_s^2 = 1$ ,  $f_{\text{NL}} = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$ .

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- **k-inflation +  $G_i$**  ( $i = 3, 4, 5$ ):  $(P = -X + X^2/(2M^4), G_3 = \mu X^2/M^4, G_4 = \mu X^2/M^7, G_5 = \mu X^2/M^{10})$

$$G_3 : f_{\text{NL}} \simeq 4.62r^{-2/3}, G_4 : f_{\text{NL}} \simeq 1.28r^{-2/3}, G_5 : f_{\text{NL}} \simeq 0.17r^{-2/3}.$$

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- Ph.D. scholarships for students: contact me!