YITP long-term workshop

#### Gravity and Cosmology 2018

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# **Seeing stochastic inflation**

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Institute of Cosmology and Gravitation, University of Portsmouth work with

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## Three applications of stochastic inflation

1. Primordial density perturbations can be sensitive to **Planck scale physics** 

Assasdullahi, Firouzjahi, Noorbala, Vennin & Wands (2016)

 Stochastic approach gives full probability distribution function for density perturbations needed, e.g., for primordial black hole abundance

Pattison, Assadullahi, Vennin & Wands (2017)

3. Bayesian model comparison sensitive to stochastic distribution of multiple fields

Torrado, Byrnes, Hardwick, Vennin & Wands (2017)

## Inflation = origin of super-Hubble structure $\delta \ddot{\rho} + 3H\delta \dot{\rho} + (c_s / \lambda)^2 \delta \rho = 0$

Characteristic timescales for density waves with fixed comoving wavelength

- small-scales = late times,  $\lambda / c_s < H^{-1}$ , under-damped oscillator
- large-scales = early times ,  $\lambda / c_s > H^{-1}$ , "frozen-in"



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initial vacuum state on sub-Hubble scales

## vacuum fluctuations



$$\delta\ddot{\varphi} + 3H\delta\dot{\varphi} + \frac{k^2}{a^2}\delta\varphi = 0$$

- *sub-Hubble/underdamped zero-point oscillations:*
- super-Hubble/overdamped perturbations in squeezed state:

$$\left\langle \delta \phi^2 \right\rangle_{k=aH} \approx \frac{4\pi k^3 \left| \delta \phi_k^2 \right|}{\left(2\pi\right)^3} = \left(\frac{H}{2\pi}\right)^2$$

sub-Hubble vacuum fluctuations are constantly crossing the Hubble scale (k=aH) into the coarse-grained super-Hubble field

## $\delta N$ formalism for primordial density perturbations



Starobinsky `85;

Sasaki & Stewart '96;

Lyth & Rodriguez '05

*after inflation*: curvature perturbation  $\zeta$  on uniform-density hypersurface



during inflation: field perturbations  $\phi(x,t_i)$  on initial spatially-flat hypersurface

on super-Hubble scales, evolve as "separate universes" (neglect spatial gradients):

$$\zeta = N(\phi_{initial}) - \overline{N} \approx \sum_{I} \frac{\partial N}{\partial \phi_{I}} \delta \phi_{I}$$

#### **Seeing vacuum fluctuations**

Planck collaboration 2015



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# **Stochastic inflation**

• Quantum fluctuations swept up to super-Hubble scales give stochastic kick,  $\xi(N)$ , to coarse-grained (k<aH) field

$$\frac{d\varphi}{dN} = -\frac{V'}{3H^2} + \frac{H}{2\pi}\xi(N)$$

• Number of e-folds to the end of inflation,  $\mathcal{N}$ , from a given field value,  $\varphi$ , becomes a stochastic variable



**Stochastic N** Vennin & Starobinsky (2015)  

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial N} + \frac{V'}{3H^2} = \frac{H}{2\pi} \xi \longleftrightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial N} P(\phi, N) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \left[ \frac{V'}{3H^2} P(\phi, N) \right] + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \left[ \frac{H^2}{8\pi^2} P(\phi, N) \right]$$

$$= -\mathcal{L}_{FP} \cdot P(\phi, N)$$
Fokker-Planck equation

First Passage Time: Louis Bachelier, 1900

 $\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{FP}}^{\dagger} \cdot \langle \mathcal{N} \rangle \left( \phi_* \right) = 1$ 

$$\left< \mathcal{N} \right>'' v - \left< \mathcal{N} \right>' rac{v'}{v} = -1$$
 where  $v = V/(24\pi^2 M_{
m Pl}^4)$ 

$$\langle \mathcal{N} \rangle = \int_{\phi_{\text{end}}}^{\phi_*} \frac{\mathrm{d}x}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \int_x^{\bar{\phi}} \frac{\mathrm{d}y}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \frac{1}{v(y)} \exp\left[\frac{1}{v(y)} - \frac{1}{v(x)}\right]$$





• integration domain covers the entire field space

Saddle Point Approximation

## Infinite inflation and number of fields (D)



• integration domain covers the entire field space

• what if  $r_+ \to \infty$ ?  $v(r) \propto r^p \longrightarrow \langle \mathcal{N} \rangle = \infty$  if  $p \leq D$ 

# Stochastic $\delta N$

Vennin, Assadullahi, Firouzjahi, Noorbala & Wands (2016)

D>2 requires UV regularisation (boundary) at  $v_+ \sim M_{\rm Pl}$ 

![](_page_14_Figure_3.jpeg)

# Stochastic $\delta N$

Vennin, Assadullahi, Firouzjahi, Noorbala & Wands (2016)

D>2 requires UV regularisation (boundary) at  $v_+ \sim M_{\rm Pl}$ 

![](_page_15_Figure_3.jpeg)

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## **Primordial black holes from inflation**

• primordial density perturbations when modes re-enter Hubble-scale after inflation  $\frac{\delta \rho}{\rho}\Big|_{h=\sigma H} \sim \zeta$ 

 rare fluctuations exceeding critical value, ζ > ζ<sub>c</sub> ~1, collapse to form black holes

![](_page_17_Figure_3.jpeg)

## **Classical vs quantum inflation**

Classical slow-roll inflates universe

$$N = \int H \, dt = \int \frac{H}{\dot{\varphi}} \, d\varphi$$

Quantum field fluctuations lead to primordial metric perturbations

![](_page_18_Figure_4.jpeg)

# **Classical vs quantum inflation**

Classical slow-roll inflates universe

$$N = \int H \, dt = \int \frac{H}{\dot{\varphi}} \, d\varphi$$

Quantum field fluctuations lead to primordial metric perturbations

![](_page_19_Figure_4.jpeg)

## Plateau at end of inflation Pattison et al (2017)

• large deviations from classical  $\delta N$  when quantum diffusion dominates over classical drift near end of inflation:  $\phi < \phi_{end} + \Delta \phi_{well}$ 

![](_page_20_Figure_2.jpeg)

## **Full PDF for δ***N* Pattison et al (2017)

- number of e-folds is a stochastic variable,  $\mathcal{N}(\phi)$   $\zeta = \mathcal{N} \langle \mathcal{N} \rangle$
- define characteristic function (includes all the moments)  $\chi_{\mathcal{N}}(t,\varphi) = \langle e^{it\mathcal{N}(\varphi)} \rangle = \int e^{it\mathcal{N}(\varphi)} P(\mathcal{N},\varphi) \, d\mathcal{N}$
- obeys differential equation

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\phi^2} - \frac{v'}{v^2}\frac{\partial}{\partial\phi} + \frac{it}{vM_{\rm Pl}^2}\right)\chi_{\mathcal{N}}(t,\phi) = 0$$

• inverse Fourier transform gives full probability distribution  $P(\mathcal{N},\varphi) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-it\mathcal{N}} \chi_{\mathcal{N}}(t,\varphi) dt$ 

## Plateau at end of inflation Pattison et al (2017)

 large deviations from classical δN when quantum diffusion dominates over classical drift -> non-Gaussian probability distribution

![](_page_22_Figure_2.jpeg)

## Plateau at end of inflation Pattison et al (2017)

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

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# what is the origin of primordial density perturbations?

see also multi-field inflation, modulated reheating, inhomogeneous end of inflation... curvaton

adiabatic field perturbations

along background trajectory

 $\zeta \sim R_{\chi} \left( \frac{\delta \chi}{\gamma} + \dots \right)$ 

Inflaton

# Inflaton models + curvaton field, $\chi$

Curvaton scenarios with quadratic potential  $V(\phi, \chi) = U(\phi) + m_{\chi}^2 \chi^2 / 2$ 

![](_page_26_Figure_2.jpeg)

more reheating parameters:  $\Gamma_{\phi} \rightarrow \Gamma_{\phi}, \ \Gamma_{\chi}, \ m_{\chi}, \ \chi_{\rm end}$ 

primordial perturbations directly dependent on reheating (not just through the expansion N<sub>\*</sub>)

# large-field inflaton (LFI) plus quadratic curvaton, $\chi$

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

Vennin, Koyama and Wands (2015)

# **Bayesian Approach**

#### to model comparison

Bayesian evidence: Integral of the likelihood over parameter prior

![](_page_28_Figure_3.jpeg)

$$\mathcal{E}\left(\mathcal{M}
ight) = \mathcal{L}_{\max} \ rac{\Delta \mathcal{L}}{\Delta \pi}$$

Compromise between quality of fit and simplicity

 $\ln (B_{ij}) > 5$ 

 $\ln (B_{ij}) > 1$ 

In (B<sub>ij</sub>) > 2.5

Bayes factor = ratio of evidence

$$B_{ij} = E(M_i) / E(M_j)$$

#### Jeffreys scale

- Strong evidence
- Moderate evidence
- Weak evidence
  - Inconclusive In (B<sub>ii</sub>) < 1

## Inflaton models plus weakly-coupled scalar field, $\chi$

Vennin, Koyama and Wands (2015)

![](_page_29_Figure_2.jpeg)

## Inflaton models plus weakly-coupled scalar field, $\chi$

Vennin, Koyama and Wands (2015)

![](_page_30_Figure_2.jpeg)

## evidence depends on theory priors

- Stochastic evolution can predict statistical distribution of curvaton field value during inflation
- Weakly-coupled curvaton does not reach the stationary distribution during large-field inflation
- Curvaton variance grows with the duration of inflation

![](_page_31_Figure_4.jpeg)

# **Observing the duration of inflation**

Torrado, Byrnes, Hardwick, Vennin & Wands (2017)

- Curvaton variance grows with duration of inflation
- Observational data can be used to infer likelihood ("observe") the duration of inflation in the curvaton scenario...

![](_page_32_Figure_4.jpeg)

# stochastic inflation has observational implications

- (not just our place in the eternally inflating multiverse and all that...)
- Density perturbations beyond the perturbative approach
  - $\bigcirc$  Stochastic  $\delta N$  formalism
    - Enqvist et al (2008); Fujita et al (2013, 2014); Vennin & Starobinsky (2015)
  - Infinite inflation requires UV cut-off
    - Assadullahi, Firouzjahi, Noorbala, Vennin & Wands, arXiv:1604.04502
  - Quantum diffusion and PBHs from inflation
    - Pattison, Vennin, Assasdullahi & Wands, arXiv:1707.00537
- Probability distributions for field values in inflation
  - O The stochastic spectator
    - Hardwick, Vennin, Byrnes, Torrado & Wands, arXiv:1701.06473
  - Theoretical priors for Bayesian model comparison
    - Torrado, Byrnes, Hardwick, Vennin & Wands, arXiv:1712.05364

## best wishes to Sasaki-san!

![](_page_34_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Picture_1.jpeg)

- phase-space evolution (animation c/o Vincent Vennin)
- *small-scale/underdamped zero-point oscillations:*

 $\delta \phi_k \approx \frac{e^{-ik\eta}}{\sqrt{2k}}$ 

• *large-scale/overdamped perturbations in squeezed state:* 

$$\left\langle \delta \phi^2 \right\rangle_{k=aH} \approx \frac{4\pi k^3 \left| \delta \phi_k^2 \right|}{\left(2\pi\right)^3} = \left(\frac{H}{2\pi}\right)^2$$

## **Primordial black holes from inflation**

e.g., Carr, Kohri, Sendouda & Yokoyama (2009)

•  $\beta(M)$  = mass fraction

![](_page_36_Figure_3.jpeg)

## summary

- Stochastic δN needed to calculate primordial density perturbations beyond perturbative approach
- We constructed full probability distribution function
   solve for characteristic function, then Fourier transform
   calculated abundance of primordial black holes produced in simple plateau models
   e.g., running-mass model of inflation
- Primordial Black Hole bounds require N < 1 in quantum diffusion regime

# further work:

### alternative PBH models

 transient non-slow-roll backgrounds, e.g., inflection point inflation (e.g., Garcia-Bellido & Ruiz, Germani & Prokopec, Motohashi & Hu 2017)

### explore nature of non-Gaussianity beyond leading order (classical) δN

- O corrections to tail of distribution even close to classical limit?
- understand consistency of non-Gaussian pdf with absence of correlation between large and small physical scales in single-clock inflation (e.g., Pajer, Schmidt & Zaldarriaga 2013)

### Large-Field Exploration & Number of Fields

![](_page_39_Figure_1.jpeg)

• integration domain covers the entire field space

• what if  $r_+ \to \infty$ ?  $v(r) \propto r^p \longrightarrow \langle \mathcal{N} \rangle = \infty$  if  $p \leq D$  $p_+ > 0$  if D > 2

## **Classical Limit**

$$\mathcal{P}_{\zeta}\left(\phi_{*}\right) = 2\left\{\int_{\phi_{*}}^{\bar{\phi}} \frac{\mathrm{d}x}{M_{\mathrm{Pl}}} \frac{1}{v\left(x\right)} \exp\left[\frac{1}{v\left(x\right)} - \frac{1}{v\left(\phi_{*}\right)}\right]\right\}^{-1} \times \int_{\phi_{*}}^{\bar{\phi}} \frac{\mathrm{d}x}{M_{\mathrm{Pl}}} \left\{\int_{x}^{\bar{\phi}} \frac{\mathrm{d}y}{M_{\mathrm{Pl}}} \frac{1}{v\left(y\right)} \exp\left[\frac{1}{v\left(y\right)} - \frac{1}{v\left(x\right)}\right]\right\}^{2} \exp\left[\frac{1}{v\left(x\right)} - \frac{1}{v\left(\phi_{*}\right)}\right]$$
Saddle Point Approximation
$$\left|2v - \frac{v''v^{2}}{v'^{2}}\right| \ll 1$$

$$\mathcal{P}_{\zeta}\left(\phi_{*}\right) \simeq \frac{2}{M_{\mathrm{Pl}}^{2}} \frac{v^{3}\left(\phi_{*}\right)}{v'^{2}\left(\phi_{*}\right)} \left[1 + 5v\left(\phi_{*}\right) - 4\frac{v^{2}\left(\phi_{*}\right)v''\left(\phi_{*}\right)}{v'^{2}\left(\phi_{*}\right)} + \cdots\right]$$
Classical result

# Stochastic $\delta N$

D>2 requires UV regularisation (boundary) at some  $v_+$ 

![](_page_41_Figure_2.jpeg)

## Large-field inflation Pattison et al (2017)

large deviations from classical δN close to Planck energies

-> non-Gaussian probability distribution

![](_page_42_Figure_3.jpeg)

## Stochastic $\delta N$

• number of e-folds is a stochastic variable,  $\mathcal{N}(\phi)$ 

$$\zeta = \mathcal{N} - \langle \mathcal{N} \rangle$$

moments obey an iterative relation (Vennin & Starobinsky 2015)

$$f_n \equiv \langle \mathcal{N}^n \rangle$$
  

$$\Rightarrow f_n'' - \frac{v'}{v^2} f_n' = -\frac{n}{v M_P^2} f_{n-1}$$

…but PBHs require full probability distribution function

## non-linearity parameter for quadratic curvaton

Sasaki, Valiviita & Wands (2006) see also Malik & Lvth (2006)

![](_page_44_Figure_2.jpeg)

## curvaton scenario:

Linde & Mukhanov 1997; Enqvist & Sloth, Lyth & Wands, Moroi & Takahashi 2001

#### curvaton $\chi$ = weakly-coupled, late-decaying scalar field

- light field (m<H) during inflation acquires an almost scale-invariant,</li>
   Gaussian distribution of field fluctuations on large scales
- quadratic energy density for free field,  $\rho_{\chi} = m^2 \chi^2/2$
- spectrum of initially isocurvature density perturbations

$$\zeta_{\chi} \approx \frac{1}{3} \frac{\delta \rho_{\chi}}{\rho_{\chi}} \approx \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{2\chi \delta \chi + \delta \chi^2}{\chi^2} \right)$$

- **transferred to radiation when curvaton decays** after inflation with some **efficiency**,  $\theta < R_{\chi} < 1$ , where  $R_{\chi} \approx \Omega_{\chi,decay}$  $\zeta = R_{\chi}\zeta_{\chi} \approx \frac{R_{\chi}}{3} \left(2\frac{\delta\chi}{\chi} + \frac{\delta\chi^2}{\chi^2}\right)$ 

$$= \zeta_G + \frac{3}{4R_{\chi}} \zeta_G^2 \implies f_{NL} = \frac{5}{4R_{\chi}}$$

 $V(\boldsymbol{\chi})$ 

χ

![](_page_46_Figure_0.jpeg)

## Inflaton model predictions and Observations

![](_page_47_Figure_1.jpeg)

## LFI+curvaton vs Higgs inflation

![](_page_48_Figure_1.jpeg)

FIG. 2: Marginal posterior distributions over the key observables from inflation for plateau-like inflation (blue, darker) and quartic inflation (orange, clearer) with a spectator field. In the quartic case, the posterior fraction below the lower (upper) dotted line has more than 90% (50%) of primordial density perturbations generated by the curvaton field. Post-2020 CMB experiments would likely distinguish between or rule out both scenarios in terms of  $n_{\rm s}$  and r. In combination with LSS data, the typical value of  $f_{\rm NL} = -5/4$  associated with the curvaton scenario could also be distinguished in the future from  $f_{\rm NL} \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{-2})$  in the inflaton scenario.