

Cosmological Signatures of Neutrino Seesaw Mechanism

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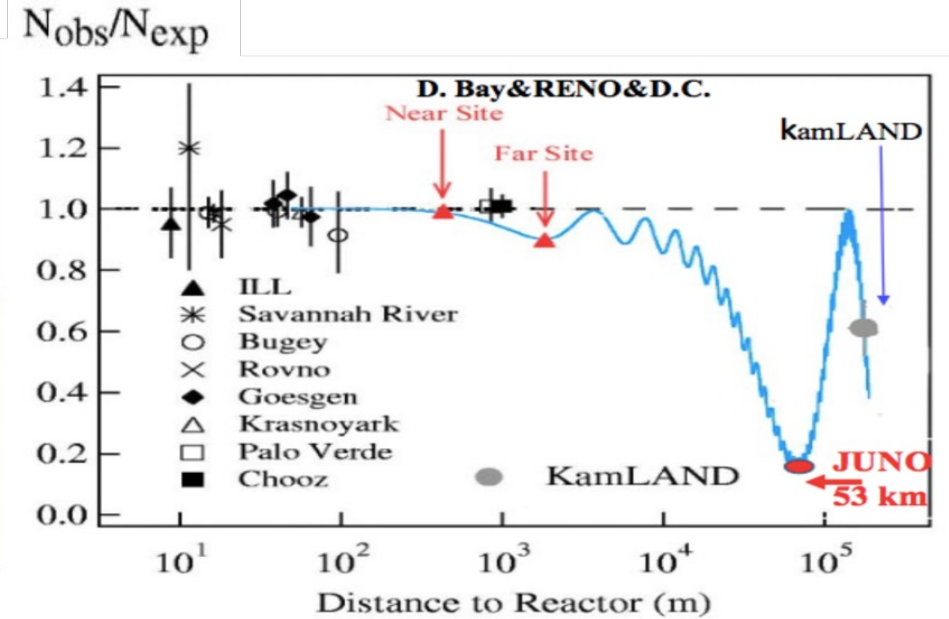
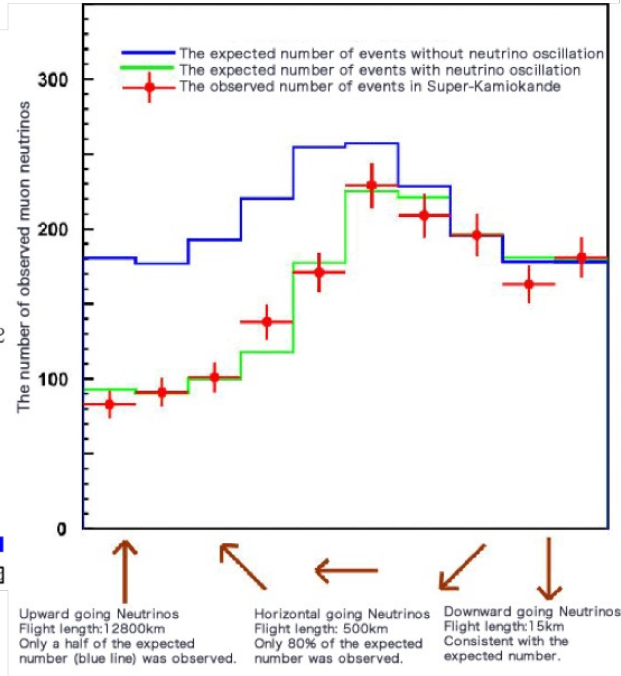
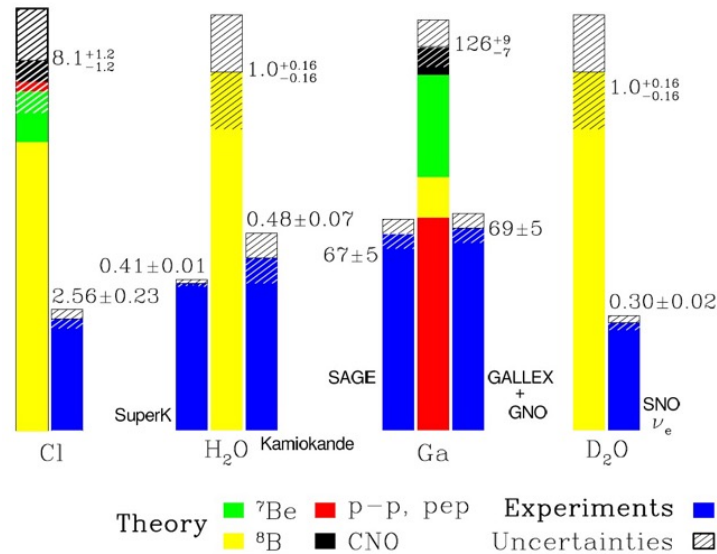
With Hongjian He, Linghao Song, Jintao You, arXiv: 2412.21045, 2412.16033

30th Mini-workshop on the frontier of LHC

2025.5.24

Neutrino masses

Neutrino oscillation indicates massive neutrinos



Solar Neutrino oscillations

$$\theta_{12}$$

$$\Delta m_{21}^2 \simeq 7.42 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$$

Atmospheric Neutrino Oscillations

$$\theta_{23}$$

$$|\Delta m_{13}^2| \approx |\Delta m_{23}^2| \simeq 2.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$$

Reactor Neutrino Oscillations

$$\theta_{13}$$

Seesaw mechanism

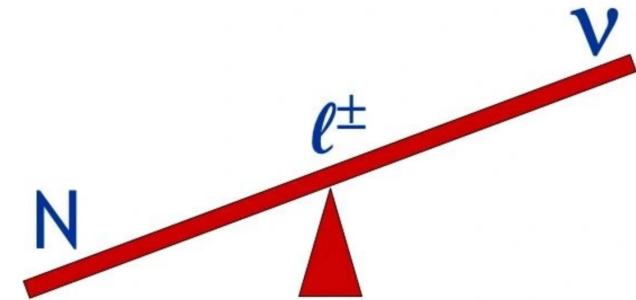
Origin of neutrino masses: seesaw mechanism

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + y_\nu \tilde{H} \bar{L} N_R - \frac{1}{2} M_R \bar{N}_R^c N_R + h.c.$$

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D \\ m_D^T & M_R \end{pmatrix}$$

$$m_\nu \sim \frac{m_D^2}{M_R} = \frac{y_\nu^2 \langle h \rangle^2}{2M_R}$$

P. Minkowski ; T. Yanagida; S. L. Glashow;
M. Gell-Mann, P. Ramond and R. Slansky



- Natural prediction of small neutrino masses
- Explaining the baryon asymmetry of the universe: leptogenesis

Baryogenesis Without Grand Unification, Fukugita and Yanagida, 1986'

Seesaw mechanism

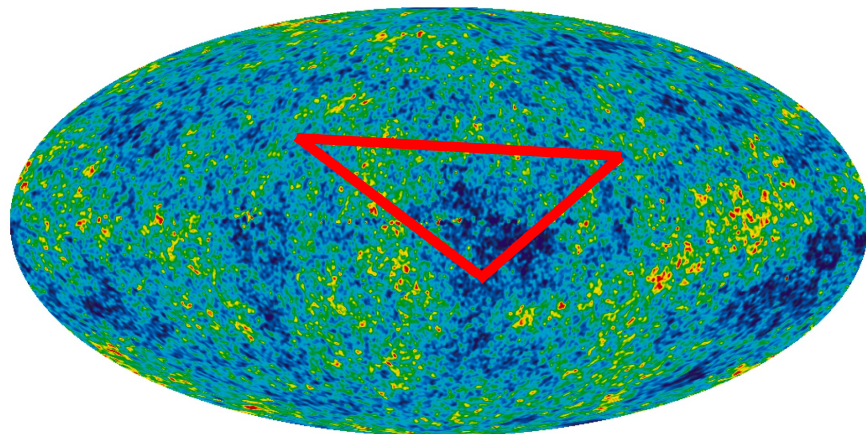
$$m_\nu \sim \frac{m_D^2}{M_R} = \frac{y_\nu^2 \langle h \rangle^2}{2M_R}$$

If the Yukawa coupling is $O(1)$ (as predicted by the GUT), the seesaw scale M_R should be around 10^{13-14} GeV, which is much beyond the reach of particle experiments.

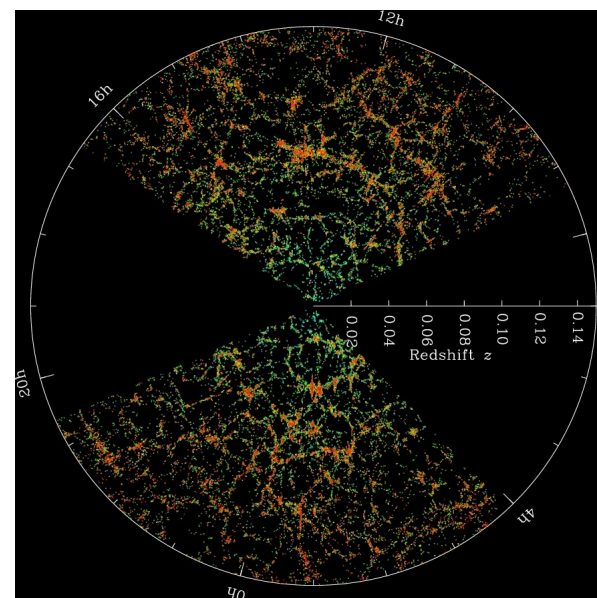
How to test such high scale seesaw?

Fluctuations at CMB and LSS

宇宙早期的量子扰动



$$\frac{\delta T}{T} \sim 10^{-5}$$



我们可以计算其中的两点关联函数，三点关联函数(非高斯)来检验是否有右手中微子的信号

Seesaw mechanism

Consequence of the seesaw mechanism

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2} \bar{\psi}_L \mathbf{M}_\nu \psi_R + \text{h.c.}, \quad \mathbf{M}_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{y_\nu h}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{y_\nu h}{\sqrt{2}} & M \end{pmatrix}$$

$$m_\nu \simeq -\frac{y_\nu^2 h^2}{2M}, \quad M_N \simeq M + \frac{y_\nu^2 h^2}{2M}$$

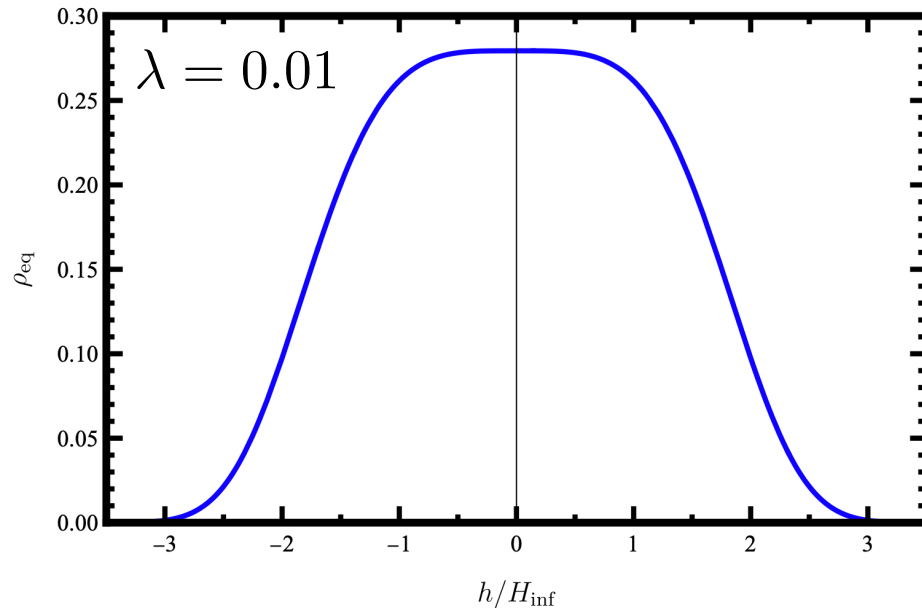
- Light neutrino gets a mass
- Heavy neutrino mass are get lifted (h dependence)

What happens to h in the early universe?

Higgs during inflation

Alexei A. Starobinsky, Jun'ichi Yokoyama,
Phys.Rev.D 50 (1994) 6357-6368

- During inflation(de-Sitter universe), Higgs gets quantum fluctuations
- Different part of universe Higgs field takes different value(as large as 10^{13} GeV)



$$\rho_{\text{eq}}(h) = \frac{2\lambda^{1/4}}{\Gamma(1/4)} \left(\frac{2\pi^2}{3}\right)^{1/4} \exp\left(\frac{-2\pi^2\lambda h^4}{3H_{\text{inf}}^4}\right)$$

$$\bar{h} = \sqrt{\langle h^2 \rangle} = \left[\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dh h^2 \rho_{\text{eq}}(h) \right]^{1/2} \simeq 0.363 \left(\frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{\lambda^{1/4}} \right)$$

The right-handed neutrino mass is different in different patch of the universe
it may trigger the density fluctuation in CMB or large scale structure

A minimal model

Minimal model incorporates inflation and seesaw

$$\Delta\mathcal{L} = \sqrt{-g} \left[-\frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi - V(\phi) + \bar{N}_R i \not{\partial} N_R + \frac{1}{\Lambda} \partial_\mu \phi \bar{N}_R \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 N_R \right. \\ \left. + \left(-\frac{1}{2} M \bar{N}_R^c N_R - y_\nu \bar{L}_L \tilde{H} N_R + \text{H.c.} \right) \right]$$

- $V(\phi)$ is the potential for inflation is unknown but denominated by the mass term after inflation
- Derivative coupling to keep the flatness of the inflaton potential(shift-symmetry)
- After inflation, inflaton oscillates at the bottom of the potential until decays into heavy neutrinos ($m_\phi > 2 m_N$). The heavy neutrinos quickly decay into SM particles and reheat the universe.

Higgs modulated reheating

Considering decay rate of the inflaton is h dependent

$$\Gamma \simeq \frac{m_\phi M^2}{4\pi\Lambda^2} \left[1 + \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{y_\nu h}{M} \right)^2 \right]$$

Gia Dvali, Andrei Gruzinov, Matias Zaldarriaga,
Phys.Rev. D69 (2004) 023505

- Different patches of the universe reheat differently
- Perturbation is $\delta N = N - \langle N \rangle$, different universe has different e-fold N (from the end of inflation to the time after reheating completed)

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_h(t > t_{\text{reh}}, \mathbf{x}) &= \delta N(\mathbf{x}) = N(\mathbf{x}) - \langle N(\mathbf{x}) \rangle \\ &= -\frac{1}{6} \left[\ln(\Gamma_{\text{reh}}) - \langle \ln(\Gamma_{\text{reh}}) \rangle \right] \end{aligned}$$

Bispectrum

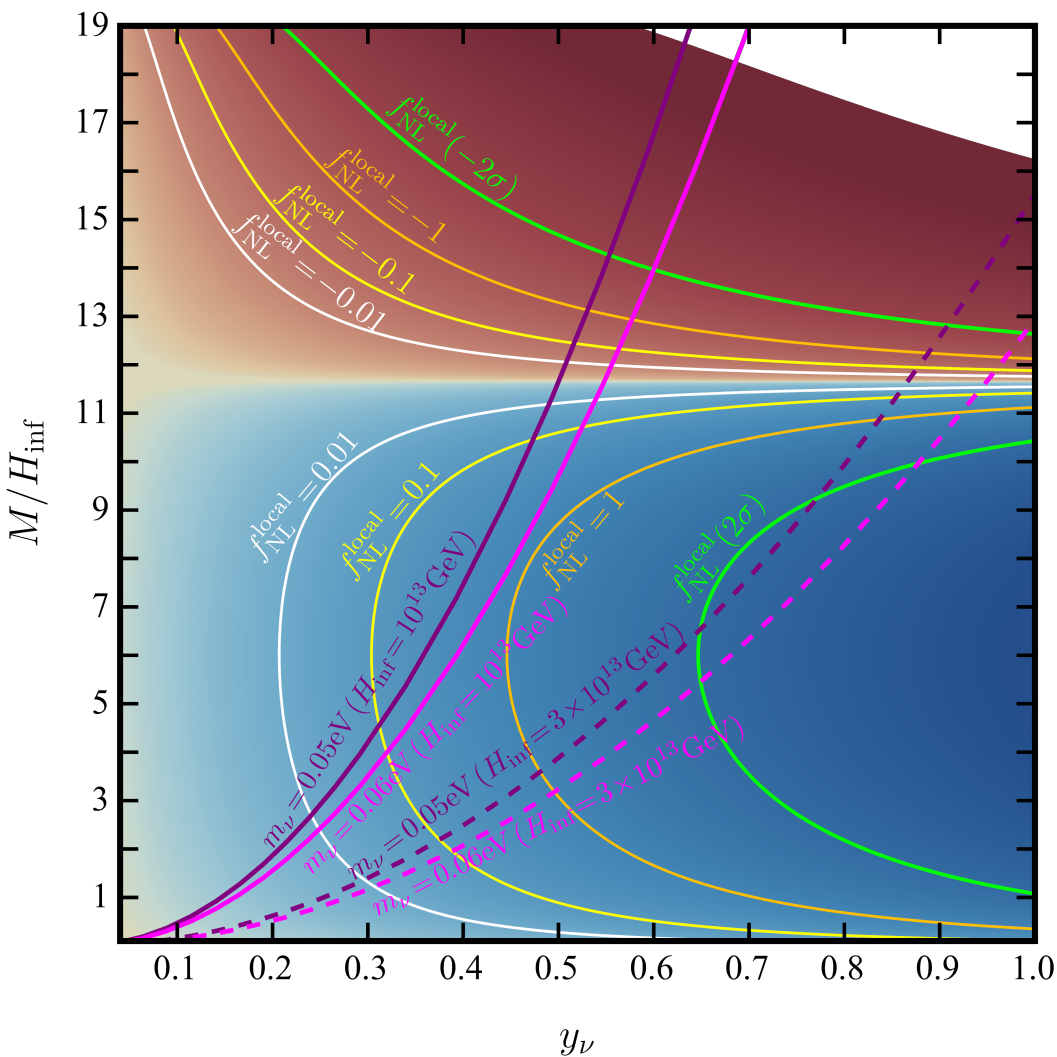
Taylor expansion of the curvature perturbation

$$\zeta_h(\mathbf{x}) = -\frac{1}{6} \left[\frac{\Gamma'_0}{\Gamma_0} \delta h_{\text{inf}}(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{\Gamma_0 \Gamma''_0 - \Gamma'_0 \Gamma'_0}{2\Gamma_0^2} \delta h_{\text{inf}}^2(\mathbf{x}) \right] \equiv z_1 \delta h_{\text{inf}}(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} z_2 \delta h_{\text{inf}}^2(\mathbf{x})$$

Considering the three point correlation function

$$\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1} \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2} \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_3} \rangle_h = z_1^3 \langle \delta h_{\mathbf{k}_1} \delta h_{\mathbf{k}_2} \delta h_{\mathbf{k}_3} \rangle + z_1^2 z_2 \langle \delta h^4 \rangle_{\text{2nd}}(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3)$$

Local type non-gaussianity



Parameters	$\mathcal{P}_\zeta$	N_e	H_{inf}	m_ϕ	Λ	λ
Values	2.1×10^{-9}	60	$(1, 3) \times 10^{13} \text{ GeV}$	$40 H_{\text{inf}}$	$60 H_{\text{inf}}$	0.01

- Colored curves indicating future searches
- Parameter space with Yukawa O(1) could be probed by future observations
- The contribution from self-interaction and non-linear term are both important
- Interplaying with neutrino experiments(JUNO, DUNE for neutrino ordering)

Summary

- **A minimal model incorporates inflation and seesaw**
- **Non-Gaussianity induced by seesaw could be probed in near future CMB or large-scale structure observations**

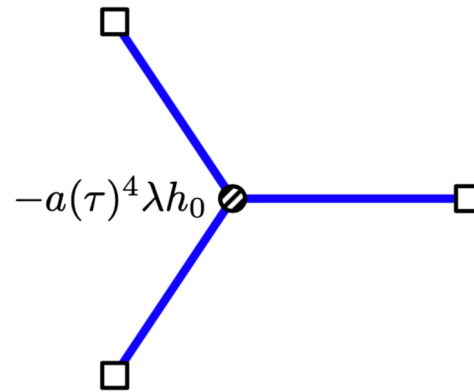


Thanks!

Bispectrum

First term is from Higgs self-coupling

$$z_1^3 \langle \delta h_{\mathbf{k}_1} \delta h_{\mathbf{k}_2} \delta h_{\mathbf{k}_3} \rangle$$



Calculated by in-in formalism/Schwinger-Keldysh formalism

Steven Weinberg, Phys.Rev.D 72 (2005) 043514, Phys.Rev.D 74 (2006) 023508

Xingang Chen, Yi Wang, Zhong-Zhi Xianyu, JCAP 1712 (2017) 006

Bispectrum

$$\langle \delta h_{\mathbf{k}_1} \delta h_{\mathbf{k}_2} \delta h_{\mathbf{k}_3} \rangle' = 12\lambda \bar{h} \text{Im} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\tau_f} a^4 \prod_{i=1}^3 G_+(\mathbf{k}_i, \tau) d\tau \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Im} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\tau_f} a^4 \prod_{i=1}^3 G_+(\mathbf{k}_i, \tau) d\tau \right) \\ &= \text{Im} \int_{-\infty}^{\tau_f} \frac{d\tau}{(H\tau)^4} \cdot \frac{H^6}{8k_1^3 k_2^3 k_3^3} \left(\prod_{i=1}^3 (1 - ik_i \tau) \right) e^{i(k_1 + k_2 + k_3)\tau} \\ &= \frac{H^2}{24k_1^3 k_2^3 k_3^3} \cdot \left\{ (k_1^3 + k_2^3 + k_3^3) [\log(k_t |\tau_f|) + \gamma - \frac{4}{3}] + k_1 k_2 k_3 - \sum_{a \neq b} k_a^2 k_b \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$N_e = \log\left(\frac{a_{\text{end}}}{a_k}\right) = \log\left(-\frac{1}{H\tau_f} \frac{k_t}{H}\right) = -\log(k_t |\tau_f|) \sim 60$$

Bispectrum

Second term is from non-linear evolution of the Higgs

$$\begin{aligned} & z_1^2 z_2 \langle \delta h^4 \rangle_{2\text{nd}}(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} z_1^2 z_2 \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{k}_0}{(2\pi)^3} \langle \delta h(\mathbf{k}_1) \delta h(\mathbf{k}_2) \delta h(\mathbf{k}_0) \delta h(\mathbf{k}_3 - \mathbf{k}_0) \rangle + 2 \text{ perm} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} z_1^2 z_2 \left[\int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{k}_0}{(2\pi)^3} \langle \delta h(\mathbf{k}_1) \delta h(\mathbf{k}_0) \rangle \langle \delta h(\mathbf{k}_2) \delta h(\mathbf{k}_3 - \mathbf{k}_0) \rangle + (\mathbf{k}_1 \leftrightarrow \mathbf{k}_2) \right] + 2 \text{ perm} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} z_1^2 z_2 \left[\int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{k}_0}{(2\pi)^3} (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_0) \frac{H^2}{2k_1^3} \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3 - \mathbf{k}_0) \frac{H^2}{2k_2^3} + (\mathbf{k}_1 \leftrightarrow \mathbf{k}_2) \right] + 2 \text{ perm} \\ &= (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3) z_1^2 z_2 \left(\frac{H^2}{2k_1^3} \cdot \frac{H^2}{2k_2^3} + 2 \text{ perm} \right) . \end{aligned}$$

Local type non-gaussianity

The local type non-gaussianity which is defined by Bardeen Potential $\Phi \equiv \frac{3}{5}\zeta$

$$\langle \Phi_{\mathbf{k}_1} \Phi_{\mathbf{k}_2} \Phi_{\mathbf{k}_3} \rangle'_{\text{local}} = 2A^2 f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{local}} \left\{ \frac{1}{k_1^3 k_2^3} + \frac{1}{k_2^3 k_3^3} + \frac{1}{k_3^3 k_1^3} \right\}$$

In the limit $k_1 \sim k_2 \gg k_3$, we find

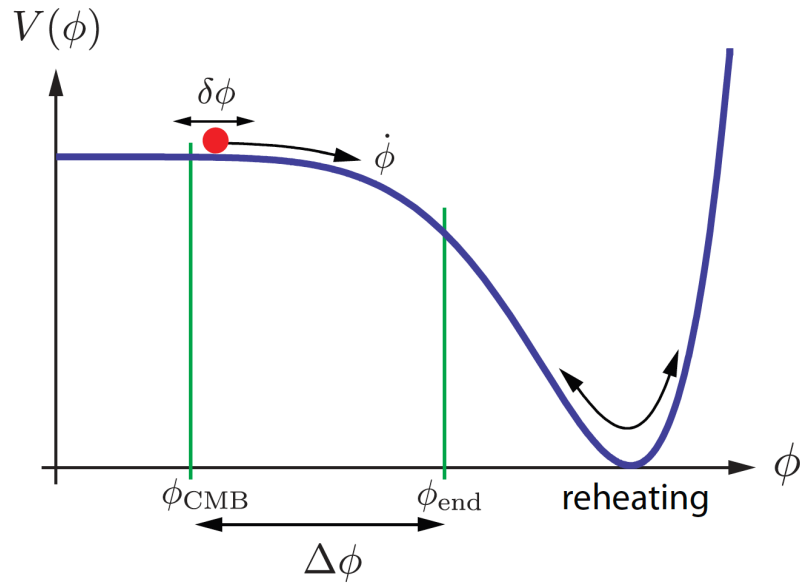
$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{local}} \sim -\frac{10}{3} \frac{z_1^3 H^3}{(2\pi)^4 \mathcal{P}_\zeta^2} \cdot \left(\frac{\lambda \bar{h}}{2H} N_e - \frac{H \cdot z_2}{4z_1} \right)$$

$$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{local}} = -0.9 \pm 5.1 \quad (68\% \text{ C.L., Planck 2018})$$

Summary

- **A minimal model incorporates inflation and seesaw**
- **Non-Gaussianity induced by seesaw could be probed in near future CMB or large-scale structure observations**

Slow-roll Inflation



$$\epsilon_v(\phi) \equiv \frac{M_{\text{pl}}^2}{2} \left(\frac{V_{,\phi}}{V} \right)^2$$

$$\eta_v(\phi) \equiv M_{\text{pl}}^2 \frac{V_{,\phi\phi}}{V}$$

$$\Delta_s^2(k) \approx \frac{1}{24\pi^2} \frac{V}{M_{\text{pl}}^4} \frac{1}{\epsilon_v} \Big|_{k=aH}$$

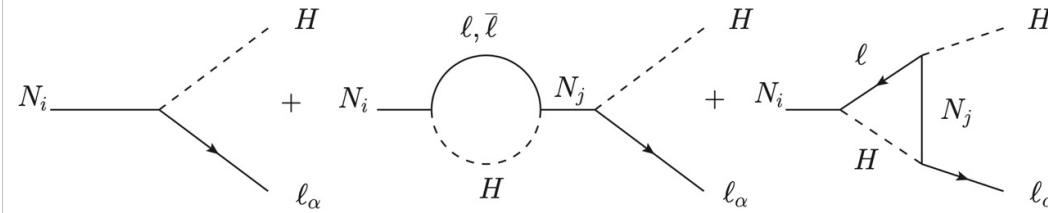
$$\Delta_t^2(k) \approx \frac{2}{3\pi^2} \frac{V}{M_{\text{pl}}^4} \Big|_{k=aH}$$

$$r \equiv \frac{\Delta_t^2}{\Delta_s^2} = 16\epsilon_v$$

Leptogenesis

Baryogenesis Without Grand Unification, Fukugita and Yanagida, 1986'

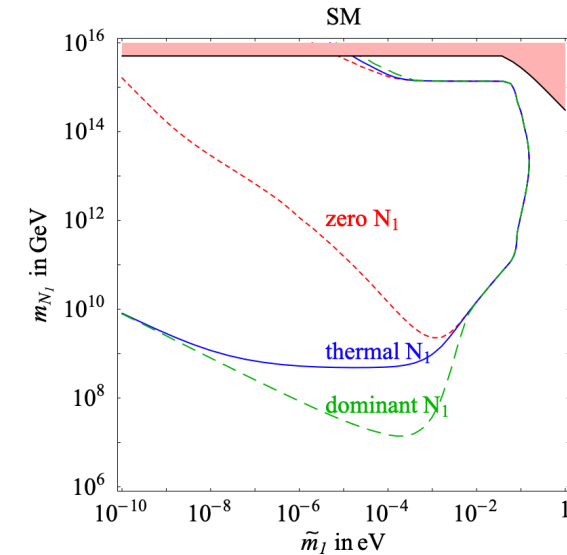
$$\mathcal{L}_I = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + i\overline{N_{Ri}}\not{\partial}N_{Ri} - \left(\frac{1}{2}M_i\overline{N_{Ri}^c}N_{Ri} + \epsilon_{ab}Y_{\alpha i}\overline{N_{Ri}}\ell_{\alpha}^aH^b + h.c. \right)$$



$$\epsilon_{i\alpha} = \frac{\gamma(N_i \rightarrow \ell_{\alpha}H) - \gamma(N_i \rightarrow \bar{\ell}_{\alpha}H^*)}{\sum_{\alpha} \gamma(N_i \rightarrow \ell_{\alpha}H) + \gamma(N_i \rightarrow \bar{\ell}_{\alpha}H^*)}$$

$$n_B = \frac{28}{79}(\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{L})_i$$

G.F. Giudice, et al,
Nucl.Phys.B 685 (2004) 89-149



Mass of the right-handed neutrino should heavier than 10^7 GeV

S-K formalism

$$Q(\tau) \equiv \varphi^{A_1}(\tau, \mathbf{x}_1) \cdots \varphi^{A_N}(\tau, \mathbf{x}_N)$$

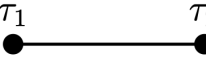
$$\langle Q(\tau) \rangle = \langle \Omega | \bar{F}(\tau, \tau_0) Q_I(\tau) F(\tau, \tau_0) | \Omega \rangle$$

$$F(\tau, \tau_0) = \text{T exp} \left(-i \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau} d\tau_1 H_I(\tau_1) \right),$$

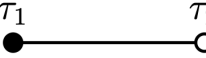
$$\bar{F}(\tau, \tau_0) = \bar{\text{T}} \exp \left(i \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau} d\tau_1 H_I(\tau_1) \right),$$

S-K formalism

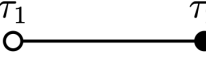
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} G_{++}(\mathbf{k}; \tau_1, \tau_2) \equiv G_{>}(\mathbf{k}; \tau_1, \tau_2) \theta(\tau_1 - \tau_2) + G_{<}(\mathbf{k}; \tau_1, \tau_2) \theta(\tau_2 - \tau_1) \\ G_{+-}(\mathbf{k}; \tau_1, \tau_2) \equiv G_{<}(\mathbf{k}; \tau_1, \tau_2) \\ G_{-+}(\mathbf{k}; \tau_1, \tau_2) \equiv G_{>}(\mathbf{k}; \tau_1, \tau_2) \\ G_{--}(\mathbf{k}; \tau_1, \tau_2) \equiv G_{<}(\mathbf{k}; \tau_1, \tau_2) \theta(\tau_1 - \tau_2) + G_{>}(\mathbf{k}; \tau_1, \tau_2) \theta(\tau_2 - \tau_1) \end{array} \right.$$

τ_1

 τ_2

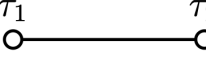
 $= G_{++}(k; \tau_1, \tau_2)$

τ_1

 τ_2

 $= G_{+-}(k; \tau_1, \tau_2)$

τ_1

 τ_2

 $= G_{-+}(k; \tau_1, \tau_2)$

τ_1

 τ_2

 $= G_{--}(k; \tau_1, \tau_2)$

$$G_{>}(k; \tau_1, \tau_2) \equiv u(\tau_1, k) u^*(\tau_2, k)$$

$$G_{<}(k; \tau_1, \tau_2) \equiv u^*(\tau_1, k) u(\tau_2, k)$$

$$\square u_{\mathbf{k}} = \ddot{u}_{\mathbf{k}} + 3H\dot{u}_{\mathbf{k}} + \frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{a^2(t)} u_{\mathbf{k}} = 0$$

$$u_{\mathbf{k}}(\tau) = \frac{H}{\sqrt{2k^3}} [1 + ik\tau] e^{-ik\tau}$$

$$\tau \quad \bullet \text{---} \square = G_{+}(k; \tau) \equiv G_{++}(k; \tau, \tau_f)$$

$$\tau \quad \circ \text{---} \square = G_{-}(k; \tau) \equiv G_{-+}(k; \tau, \tau_f)$$

S-K formalism

Bulk-to-Boundary propagator

$$G_{\pm}(\mathbf{k}, \tau) \equiv G_{\pm+}(\mathbf{k}; \tau, \tau_f)$$

$$\tau \bullet \text{---} \square = G_{+}(\mathbf{k}, \tau)$$

$$\tau \circ \text{---} \square = G_{-}(\mathbf{k}, \tau)$$

$$\tau \otimes \text{---} \square = G_{+}(\mathbf{k}, \tau) + G_{-}(\mathbf{k}, \tau)$$

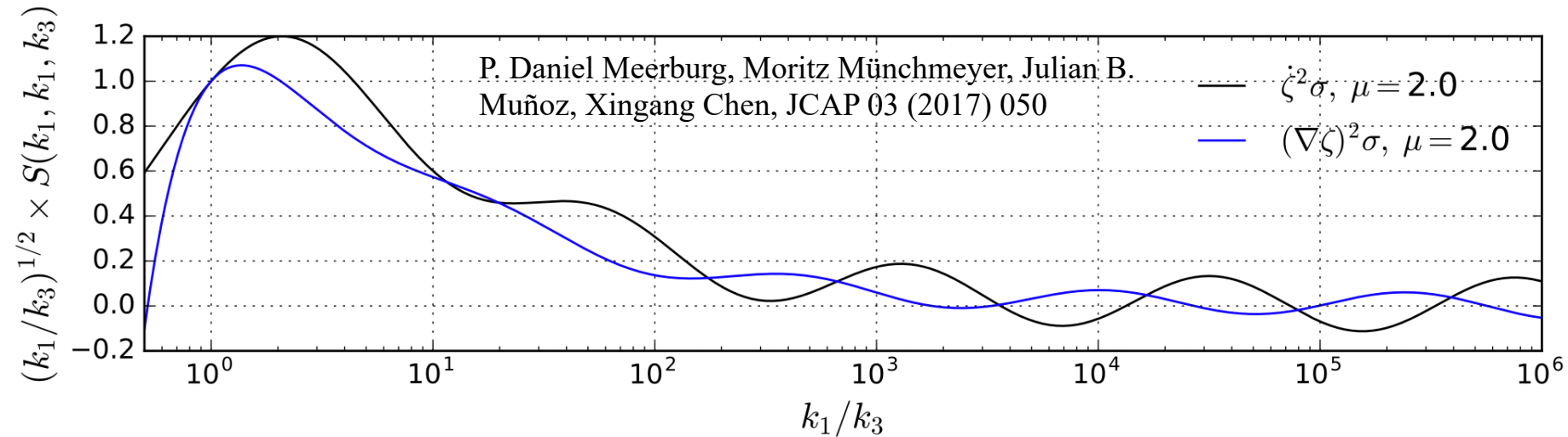
$$G_{+}(\mathbf{k}, \tau) = \frac{H^2}{2k^3} [1 - ik(\tau - \tau_f) + k^2 \tau \tau_f] e^{ik(\tau - \tau_f)} \quad G_{-}(\mathbf{k}, \tau) \simeq \frac{H^2}{2k^3} [1 + ik\tau] e^{-ik\tau}$$
$$\simeq \frac{H^2}{2k^3} [1 - ik\tau] e^{ik\tau}$$

Cosmological collider signals

Bispectrum $\langle \zeta^3 \rangle \equiv (2\pi)^3 \delta_D(\mathbf{k}_{123}) \frac{A^2}{(k_1 k_2 k_3)^2} S(k_1, k_2, k_3) \quad P_\zeta(k) = A/k^3$

Massive particle coupling to the inflaton could induce

$$S_{\text{squeezed}} \propto \left(\frac{k_{\text{long}}}{k_{\text{short}}} \right)^{1/2 \pm i\mu} \quad \mu = \sqrt{\frac{m^2}{H^2} - \frac{9}{4}}$$



Slow-roll Inflation

标量扰动

$$\Delta_s^2(k) \approx \frac{1}{24\pi^2} \frac{V}{M_{\text{pl}}^4} \frac{1}{\epsilon_v} \bigg|_{k=aH}$$

$$\epsilon_v(\phi) \equiv \frac{M_{\text{pl}}^2}{2} \left(\frac{V_{,\phi}}{V} \right)^2 \quad \eta_v(\phi) \equiv M_{\text{pl}}^2 \frac{V_{,\phi\phi}}{V}$$

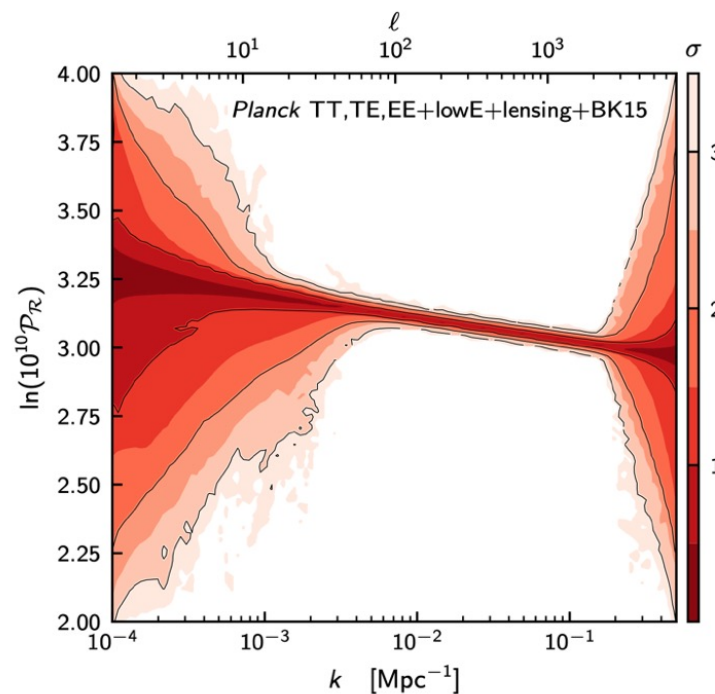
$$n_s - 1 \equiv \frac{d \ln \Delta_s^2}{d \ln k} = 2\eta_v - 6\epsilon_v$$

$$n_s \simeq 0.965 \quad \mathbf{n_s=1 \text{ scale invariant}}$$

张量扰动

$$\Delta_t^2(k) \approx \frac{2}{3\pi^2} \frac{V}{M_{\text{pl}}^4} \bigg|_{k=aH}$$

$$r \equiv \frac{\Delta_t^2}{\Delta_s^2} = 16\epsilon_v$$



Higgs modulated reheating

$$\zeta_h = -\frac{1}{6} [\ln(\Gamma_{\text{reh}}) - \langle \ln(\Gamma_{\text{reh}}) \rangle]$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{reh}} = \Gamma(h(t_{\text{reh}}))$$

$$h(t_{\text{reh}}) = h(h_{\text{inf}}, t_{\text{reh}})$$

$$h(t) = A \left(\frac{h_{\text{inf}}}{\lambda} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} t^{-\frac{2}{3}} \cos \left(\lambda^{\frac{1}{6}} h_{\text{inf}}^{\frac{1}{3}} \omega t^{\frac{1}{3}} + \theta \right)$$

n-point correlation function of zeta changes into n-point correlation function of hinf

Higgs modulated reheating

Equation of state: $\dot{\rho} + 3H(1 + \omega)\rho = 0$

From matter-dominated universe to radiation dominated universe

$$N(\mathbf{x}) = -\frac{1}{3} \ln \frac{\rho_{\text{reh}}(h(\mathbf{x}))}{\rho_{\text{inf}}} - \frac{1}{4} \ln \frac{\rho_f}{\rho_{\text{reh}}(h(\mathbf{x}))}$$

Reheating occurs $H_{\text{reh}} = \Gamma_{\text{reh}} \quad 3H^2 M_p^2 = \rho$

Curvature perturbation in terms of the decay rate

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_h(t > t_{\text{reh}}, \mathbf{x}) &= \delta N(\mathbf{x}) = N(\mathbf{x}) - \langle N(\mathbf{x}) \rangle \\ &= -\frac{1}{6} [\ln(\Gamma_{\text{reh}}) - \langle \ln(\Gamma_{\text{reh}}) \rangle] \end{aligned}$$