

Inflation Basics

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Original Motivations (c. 1980)

1. Why is Universe so flat?

Today, $\Omega_{tot} = 1 \pm 0.02$
from CMB

1980: $\Omega_{tot} \simeq 0.3$ (more or less)

Either way, at BBN,

$$\Omega_{tot} \approx 1 \pm 10^{-16},$$

and fine tuning even worse earlier.

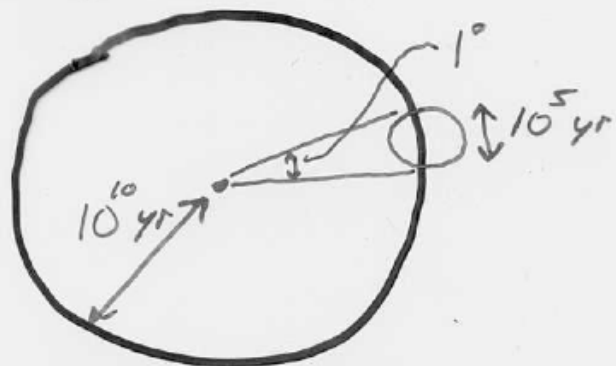
Why?

$$H^2 = \frac{8\pi G \rho_m}{3} + \frac{8\pi G \rho_{vac}}{3} - \frac{K}{a^2}$$

\uparrow
 $\propto \frac{1}{a^3}$

Note: Inflation does not (generically)
explain why $\Omega_m \sim \Omega_{vac}$ today.

2. Why is the Universe so smooth?



$\sim 40,000$ causally-disconnected regions
of early U have same T to $\sim 10^5$.

Also, at BBN,

${}^4\text{He}$, D , ${}^7\text{Li}$
 $=$ nonlinear functions of P_b

\Rightarrow Would get different abundances
if \exists small-scale fluctuations

Fluctuations must be small in early
 U on all scales.

\Rightarrow perturbations \exists , but are
small and nearly scale-invariant

3. Monopole (unwanted relic) problem:

$$\text{GUTs} \Rightarrow 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$$

magnetic monopoles

"Kibble mechanism"

$$\Rightarrow \sim 1 \text{ per horizon @}$$
$$T \sim 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$$

$$H(t_{\text{GUT}}) \sim \frac{M_{\text{GUT}}^2}{m_{\text{pl}}} \quad \rho_{\text{GUT}} \sim \frac{M_{\text{GUT}}}{(H_{\text{GUT}}^{-1})^3}$$
$$\sim \frac{M_{\text{GUT}}^7}{m_{\text{pl}}^3}$$

$$\rho(\text{today}) \sim \frac{\rho_{\text{GUT}}}{(1+z_{\text{GUT}})^3}$$
$$\sim \frac{M_{\text{GUT}}^7}{m_{\text{pl}}^3} \left(\frac{T_{\text{CMB}}}{T_{\text{GUT}}} \right)^3 \sim \frac{M_{\text{GUT}}^4 T_{\text{CMB}}^3}{m_{\text{pl}}^3}$$
$$\sim \frac{(10^{16})^4 (10^{-12})^3}{(10^{19})^3} \sim 10^{-21} \text{ GeV}^4$$
$$\sim 10^{15} \text{ eV}^4 \gg \rho_{\text{crit}} \sim 10^{-11} \text{ eV}^4$$

Inflation: Basic Idea

As Universe expands, the Hubble length H^{-1} increases. During inflation,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left[\frac{H^{-1}}{a} \right] < 0,$$

comoving Hubble length decreases with time, and objects/info/curvature exit horizon leaving (classically) smooth, empty Universe.

$$H = \frac{\dot{a}}{a} \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \left[\frac{H^{-1}}{a} \right] = \frac{d}{dt} \left[\frac{1}{\dot{a}} \right] = -\frac{\ddot{a}}{\dot{a}^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \ddot{a} > 0 \quad \text{for inflation}$$

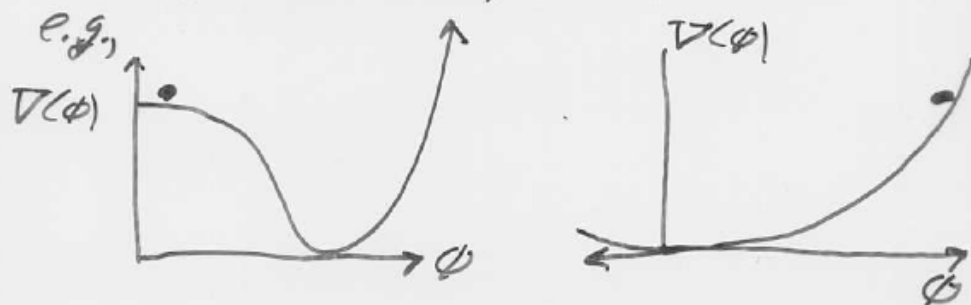
$$2^{\text{nd}} \text{ Friedmann eqn: } \frac{\ddot{a}}{a} = -\frac{4\pi G}{3}(\rho + 3p)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{need } w = \frac{p}{\rho} < -\frac{1}{3}$$

(\sim dark energy)

Basic Mechanism

Postulate scalar field $\phi(\vec{x}, t)$
with potential-energy density $V(\phi)$:



If field homogeneous (why?), then

energy density: $\rho = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 + V(\phi)$

pressure: $p = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 - V(\phi)$,

so if $\dot{\phi}^2 < 2V(\phi) \Rightarrow$ inflation.

For flat $V(\phi)$, $\dot{\phi}^2 \propto a^{-6}$, $V(\phi) \propto a^0$,

so solution \rightarrow inflation if $V(\phi)$

sufficiently flat.

Equations of motion:

$$H^2 = \left(\frac{\dot{\phi}}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{8\pi}{3m_{pl}^2} \left[\frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 + V(\phi) \right]$$

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} = -\frac{dV}{d\phi}$$

$$\text{(i.e., } \square\phi = -\frac{dV}{d\phi} \text{ in } ds^2 = dt^2 - a^2(t) d\vec{x}^2)$$

Slow-roll approximation:

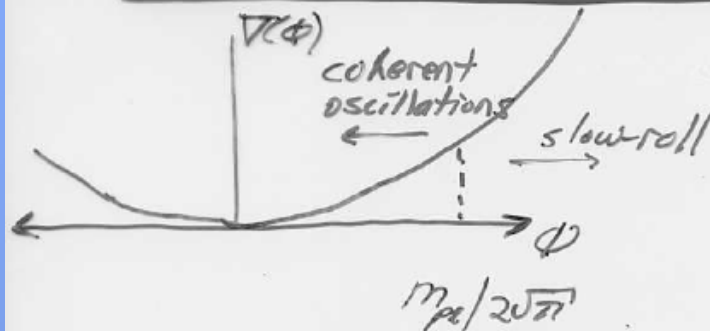
$$H^2 \simeq \frac{8\pi V}{3m_{pl}^2} \quad 3H\dot{\phi} \simeq -V'(\phi)$$

$$\text{if } \epsilon(\phi) \equiv \frac{m_{pl}^2}{16\pi} \left(\frac{V'}{V} \right)^2 \ll 1$$

$$\eta(\phi) \equiv \left| \frac{m_{pl}^2}{8\pi} \frac{V''}{V} \right| \ll 1$$

(and require ϕ sufficiently small at onset).

Simple Example: Chaotic Inflation



$$V(\phi) = \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 \quad \frac{V'}{V} = \frac{2}{\phi} \quad \frac{V''}{V} = \frac{1}{2\phi^2}$$

slow-roll: ($\epsilon \lesssim 1$) for $\phi \gtrsim \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} m_{pl}$

and $\eta \lesssim 1$ for $\phi \gtrsim \frac{m_{pl}}{4\sqrt{3}}$

For $\phi \lesssim \frac{m_{pl}}{2\sqrt{3}}$, field oscillates coherently:

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + m^2\phi = 0$$

when $H \ll m$, $\phi(t) \propto e^{\pm i m t - \frac{3}{2} H t}$,

$$\text{so } \rho(t) \propto \langle \phi^2 \rangle \propto e^{-3 H t}$$

i.e., gas of zero-momentum ϕ particles

Reheating: ϕ particles decay to SM particles which make up primordial plasma

More generally,

$$\ddot{a} = \dot{H} + H^2 \text{ must be } > 0.$$

Always true for $\dot{H} \geq 0$.

If $\dot{H} < 0$, require $-\frac{\dot{H}}{H^2} < 1$, but

$$-\frac{\dot{H}}{H^2} \approx \frac{m_{pl}^2}{16\pi} \left(\frac{V'}{V} \right)^2 = \epsilon.$$

\therefore Slow-roll ($\epsilon \ll 1$) guarantees inflation.

Some Exact Solutions:

Power-law inflation:

$$V(\phi) = V_0 \exp\left(-\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \frac{\phi}{m_{pl}}\right) \quad a = a_0 t^p$$

$$\frac{\phi}{m_{pl}} = \sqrt{2p} \ln\left(\sqrt{\frac{V_0}{p(3p-1)}} \frac{t}{m_{pl}}\right)$$

$$p > 1 \Rightarrow \text{inflation} \quad \epsilon = \frac{n}{2} = \frac{1}{p}$$

Intermediate inflation:

$$a(t) \propto \exp(A t^f) \quad 0 < f < 1 \quad A > 0$$

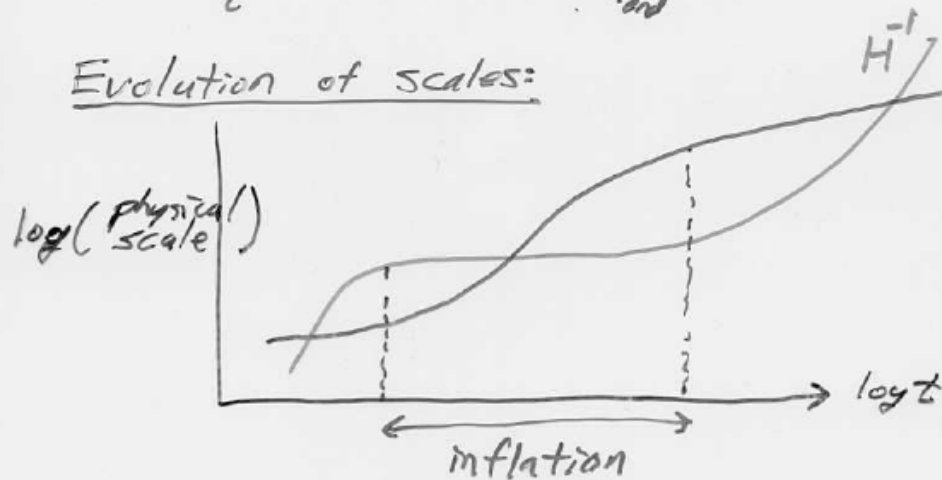
$$V(\phi) \propto \left(\frac{\phi}{m_{pl}}\right)^{-\beta} \left(1 - \frac{\beta^2}{6} \frac{m_{pl}^2}{\phi^2}\right)$$

$$\beta = 4\left(\frac{1}{f} - 1\right)$$

Duration of Inflation:

$$N(t) \equiv \ln \frac{a(t_{\text{end}})}{a(t)} = \left(\begin{array}{l} \# \text{ e-folding} \\ \text{between } t \text{ and} \\ \text{end of inflation} \end{array} \right)$$
$$= \int_t^{t_{\text{end}}} H dt \simeq \frac{1}{m_{\text{Pl}}^2} \int_{\phi_{\text{end}}}^{\phi} \frac{\nabla^2}{V'} d\phi$$

Evolution of scales:



biggest co-moving scales exit horizon
first during inflation, and last
during matter/radiation domination

$$\frac{k_{phys}}{a_0 H_0} = \frac{a_k H_k}{a_0 H_0}$$

$$= \frac{a_k}{a_{end}} \frac{a_{end}}{a_{reh}} \frac{a_{reh}}{a_{eg}} \frac{a_{eg}}{a_0} \frac{H_k}{H_0}$$

so

$$N(k) = 62 - \ln \frac{k_{phys}}{a_0 H_0} - \ln \frac{10^{16} \text{ GeV}}{V_k^{1/4}}$$

$$+ \ln \frac{V_k^{1/4}}{V_{end}^{1/4}} - \frac{1}{3} \ln \frac{V_{end}^{1/4}}{\rho_{reh}^{1/4}}$$

\Rightarrow require ~ 62 e-foldings
of inflation to explain current
smooth horizon.

Hamilton-Jacobi Formalism:

replace $t \rightarrow \phi$

$$\Rightarrow [H'(\phi)]^2 - \frac{12\pi}{m_{pl}^2} H^2(\phi) = \frac{-4\pi}{m_{pl}^2} V(\phi)$$

is exact

- Generates exact solutions
- Can make conditions for inflation (ϵ_H, η_H) precise
- Can show that if $H_0(\phi)$ is inflating solution, then another solution $H(\phi) = H_0(\phi) + \delta H(\phi)$ will have δH decay exponentially; i.e., perturbations decay during inflation.

Density Perturbations

Free scalar field: \leftarrow in Minkowski space

$$L = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3x [\dot{\phi}^2 - (\nabla\phi)^2 - m^2\phi^2]$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\vec{k}} [|\dot{\phi}_{\vec{k}}|^2 - E_{\vec{k}}^2 |\phi_{\vec{k}}|^2]$$

with $E_{\vec{k}}^2 = \vec{k}^2 + m^2$

Quantization:

$$\phi_{\vec{k}} = u_{\vec{k}}(t) q_{\vec{k}} + u_{-\vec{k}}^*(t) q_{-\vec{k}}^+$$

$$u_{\vec{k}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2E_{\vec{k}}}} e^{-iE_{\vec{k}}t}$$

and $[q_{\vec{k}}, q_{\vec{k}'}^+] = \delta_{\vec{k}\vec{k}'} \quad [q_{\vec{k}}, q_{\vec{k}'}] = 0$

i.e., each \vec{k} mode is independent SHO.

Vacuum Fluctuations:

$$\langle 0 | |\phi_{\vec{k}}|^2 | 0 \rangle \equiv \langle |\phi_{\vec{k}}|^2 \rangle = |u_{\vec{k}}|^2 = \frac{1}{2E_{\vec{k}}}$$

Power spectrum: $P_{\phi}(k) = \frac{k^3}{2\pi^2} |u_{\vec{k}}|^2$

$$= \frac{k^3}{4\pi^2 E_{\vec{k}}}$$

Amplitudes $\phi_{\vec{k}}$ have Gaussian wave fns in vacuum

Inflaton perturbations:

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + \nabla^2\phi + \frac{dV}{d\phi} = 0$$

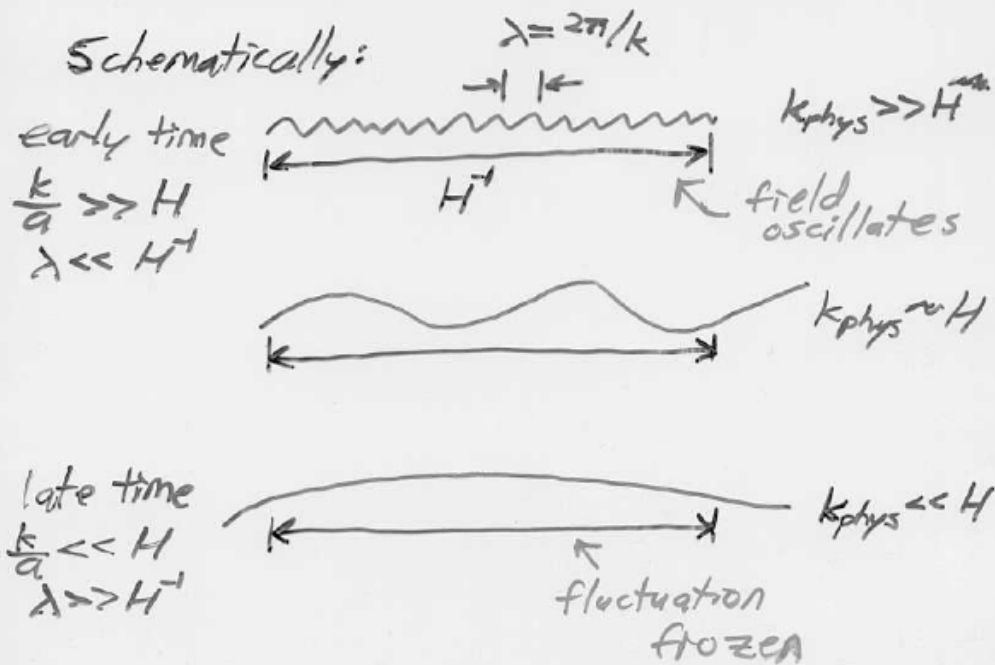
Let $\phi(\vec{x}, t) = \phi(t) + \delta\phi(\vec{x}, t)$. Then

$$(\ddot{\delta\phi})_{\vec{k}} + 3H(\dot{\delta\phi})_{\vec{k}} + \left(\frac{k}{a}\right)^2 \delta\phi_{\vec{k}} + \frac{1}{2}m^2 \delta\phi_{\vec{k}} = 0$$

where $m^2 = V''$ and $(\delta\phi) \ll \phi$

I.e., to lowest order in $\delta\phi$, each \vec{k} mode evolves independently

Schematically:



slow-roll: $\eta \propto \frac{V''}{V} \ll 1 \Rightarrow m^2 \ll H^2$, so

$$(\delta\ddot{\phi}_k) + 3H(\delta\dot{\phi}_k) + (k/a)^2 \delta\phi_k = 0,$$

or, writing $\delta\phi_k = w_k(t) a_k + w_k^*(t) a_k^\dagger$,

$$\ddot{w}_k + 3H\dot{w}_k + (k/a)^2 w_k = 0$$

which, for $H = \text{const}$, has soln:

$$w_k(t) = L^{-3/2} \frac{H}{(2k)^{3/2}} \left(i + \frac{k}{aH}\right) e^{ik/aH}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{early}}{=} \left(\frac{1}{aL}\right)^{3/2} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2E_k}} e^{-iE_k t} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{flat-} \\ \text{space} \\ \text{result} \end{array}$$

(with $E_k = k/a$),

which has, at early times, $\langle |\delta\phi_k|^2 \rangle = |w_k|^2$.

At time t_* shortly after horizon exit,

$$\langle |\delta\phi_k|^2 \rangle = \frac{H^2(t_*)}{2L^3 k^2},$$

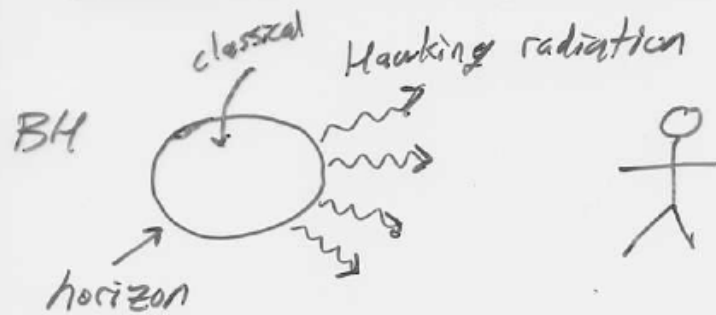
and classical spectrum of frozen ϕ

fluctuations emerges with power spectrum,

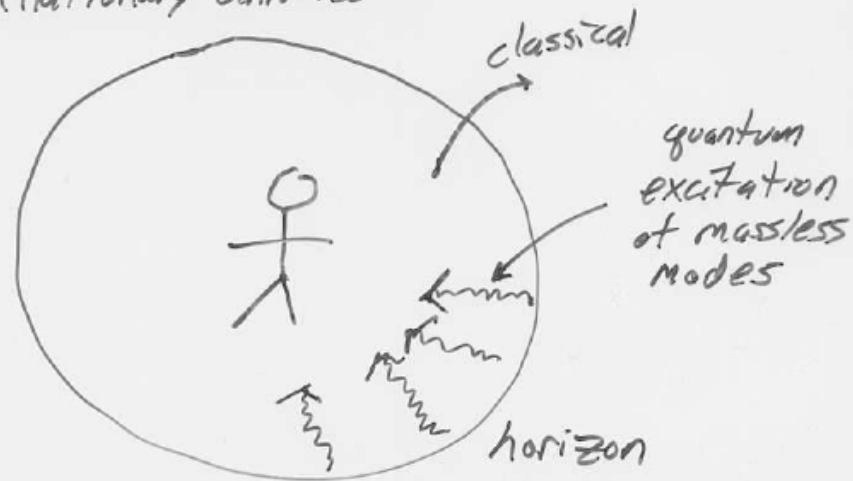
and
Gaussian!

$$P_\phi(k, t_*) = \left(\frac{H}{2\pi}\right)^2 \Big|_{k=aH}$$

Black-hole analogy



Inflationary Universe



Evolution of perturbations from horizon exit to horizon re-entry to today is fully classical, but requires some nasty G.R. Result for power spectrum of curvature \mathcal{R}^* (total density) is

$$P_{\mathcal{R}}(k) = \frac{8}{3\pi^2} \frac{V}{m_{pl}^2 \epsilon} \propto \frac{V^3}{V'^2}$$

with V, ϵ evaluated at $k=aH$

$$\text{COBE: } [P_{\mathcal{R}}(k)]^{1/2} \simeq 5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ at } k=a_0 H_0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{V^{3/2} 16\sqrt{2} a^{3/2}}{V' m_{pl}^2} = 5.2 \times 10^{-4}$$

(assuming no GW contribution).

$$\text{or } \frac{V^{1/4}}{\epsilon^{1/4}} = 6.6 \times 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$$

$$\Rightarrow V^{1/4} \lesssim 6 \times 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$$

* $\mathcal{R} \rightarrow \Phi = \text{Newtonian potential}$
on subhorizon scales

The (scalar or density-perturbation)
spectral index.

Matter power spectrum $P(k) \propto k^{n_s}$
related to Φ through Poisson,

$$\nabla^2 \Phi = 4\pi G \bar{\rho} \delta \quad \delta \equiv \frac{\delta \rho}{\bar{\rho}}$$

$$\text{So } P_R \propto k^{n_s-4}$$

$$\Rightarrow n_s - 4 \equiv \frac{d \ln P_R}{d \ln k}$$

$$\text{Using } d \ln k = \frac{dk}{k} = \frac{H dq}{H a} = \frac{dq}{a} = \frac{\dot{a}}{a} dt = H dt$$

$$\text{and } dt = -(3H/\nabla^2) d\phi$$

$$\frac{d}{d \ln k} = \frac{-m_{pl}^2}{8\pi} \frac{\nabla^2}{\nabla} \frac{d}{d\phi}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{n_s = 1 - 6\epsilon + 2\eta}$$

$$\text{WMAP: } n_s = 0.99 \pm 0.04$$

$$n_s \begin{cases} > 1 & \text{"blue" spectrum} \\ = 1 & \text{Peebles-Harrison-Zeldovich} \\ < 1 & \end{cases}$$

"Running" of the spectral index

$$\frac{dn}{d\ln k} = -16\epsilon\eta + 24\epsilon^2 + 2\xi^2 + 40\tau$$

$$\xi^2 \equiv \frac{m_{\text{pl}}^4}{64\pi^2} \frac{V' V'''}{V^3}$$

Adiabatic vs. Isocurvature:

If $\phi = \text{inflaton}$, and $\delta\phi \rightarrow \delta\rho$, then
decay of inflaton is same everywhere,

$$\text{so } \delta x \equiv \delta\rho_x/\rho_x = \delta\rho/\rho$$

for $x = \text{baryons, DM, } \nu\text{'s, } \chi\text{'s}$
i.e., no "entropy" perturbations
 \Rightarrow adiabatic

Isocurvature: Suppose DM comes
from decay of non-inflaton χ
(a "spectator") that attains E_{ex}
fluctuations $\delta\chi$ during inflation.

Then may have $\frac{\delta\rho_b}{\rho_b} \neq \frac{\delta\rho_\chi}{\rho_\chi} \neq \frac{\delta\rho_{\text{DM}}}{\rho_{\text{DM}}}$

Gravitational Waves:

Tensor perturbations h_{ij} to metric,

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + a^2(t) d\vec{x}^2 + 2a^2 h_{ij} dx^i dx^j$$

satisfy KG eqn:

$$\ddot{h}_{ij} + 3H\dot{h}_{ij} + (k/a)^2 h_{ij} = 0$$

i.e., propagating massless modes = gravitons.

Get excited QM during inflation.

2 Polarization states (+, x) get

power spectra,

$$P_+(k) = P_x(k) = \frac{1}{2} P_{GW}(k) \propto \left(\frac{H}{2\pi}\right)^2.$$

Multiplicative coeff obtained by expanding

Einstein-Hilbert action,

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int \sqrt{-g} R d^4x$$

to quadratic order in h_+ , h_x . Result:

$$\Rightarrow P_{GW}(k) = \frac{m_{Pl}^2}{4\pi} \left(\frac{H}{2\pi}\right)^2 \Big|_{k=qH}$$

primordial!!

GW spectral index:

$$n_{\text{grav}} = \frac{d \ln P_{\text{GW}}(k)}{d \ln k} = -2 \in$$

Processed spectrum:

For $\epsilon=0$, all h same as enter horizon. Then, h decays by

$$P_{\text{GW}} \propto \frac{1}{a^4} \propto \dot{h}^2 \propto (k/a)^2 h^2$$

$\Rightarrow h \propto \dot{a}(t)$ after horizon crossing.

For modes $k > k_{\text{eq}}$ that enter horizon during RD, $aH \propto \dot{a}$, so $a \propto k^{-1}$ at horizon crossing, and so

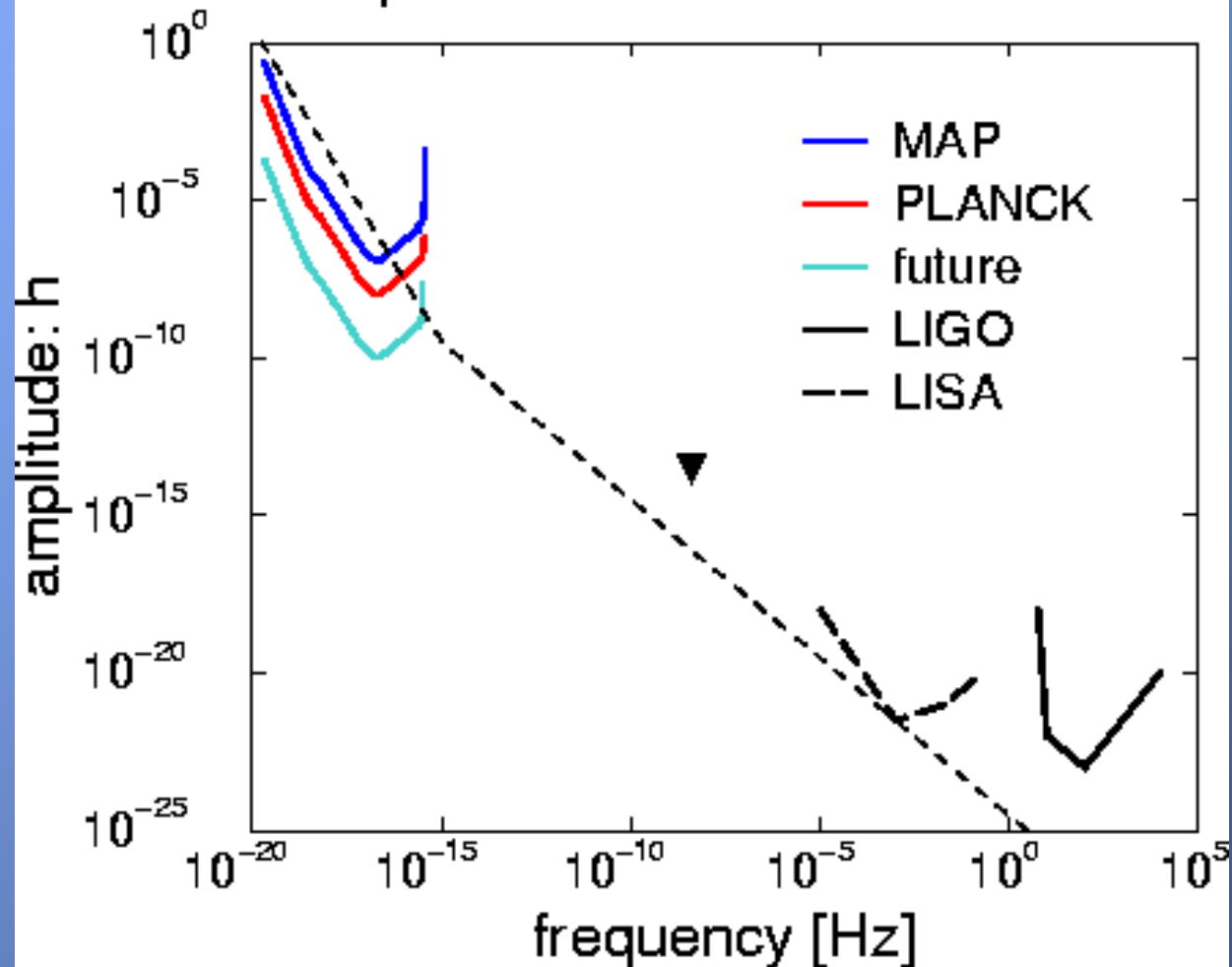
$$h_k \propto k^{-1} \text{ today for } k > k_{\text{eq}}.$$

(similar arguments for $k < k_{\text{eq}}$ leading to steeper low- k spectrum).

Important: $h_k \propto \sqrt{V}$

Gravitational Wave Detectors

Space-Based and Terrestrial



Non-Gaussianity:

(e.g., Allen,
Grinstein, Wise
1987)

Lowest order in $\delta\phi$: k modes
uncorrelated and Gaussian distributed,
and $(\delta\rho/\rho)$ and h uncorrelated.

Higher order: cubic terms in $V(\phi)$
and nonlinearities in Einstein
action induce non-Gaussianity
to lowest order, in form of
non-zero 3-pt function.

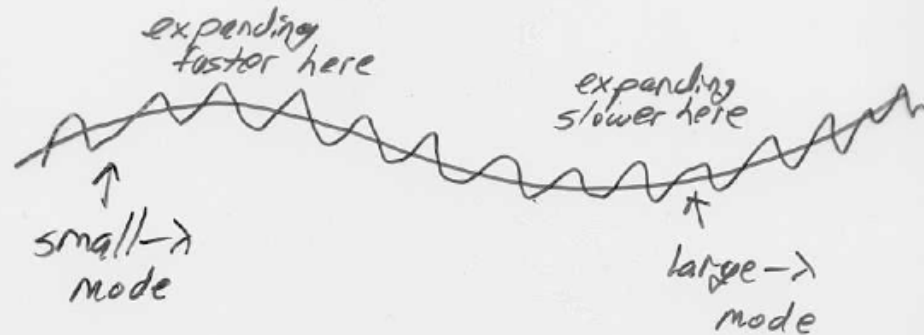
Roughly, the bispectrum amplitude is

$$\frac{\langle \delta^3 \rangle}{\langle \delta^2 \rangle^2} \propto \epsilon.$$

(e.g., Wang, MK
2000)

Non-Gaussianity also in h , and
will get $\langle \delta h h \rangle \neq 0$ $\langle \delta \delta h \rangle \neq 0$
(e.g., Maldacena 2002)

Why $\frac{\langle \delta^3 \rangle}{\langle \delta^2 \rangle^2} \propto \epsilon :$



If $\epsilon=0$, fluctuations are scale-invariant, so small- λ modes in overdense regions have same amplitude as those in underdense regions.

Summary of Inflationary Observables

- ① Density-perturbation amplitude

$$\frac{\delta\rho}{\rho} \propto \frac{V^{3/2}}{V'}$$

- ② Spectral index for $\delta\rho/\rho$:

$$n_s = 1 - 6\epsilon + 2\eta$$

$$\epsilon \propto \left(\frac{V'}{V}\right)^2 \quad \eta \propto \frac{V''}{V'}$$

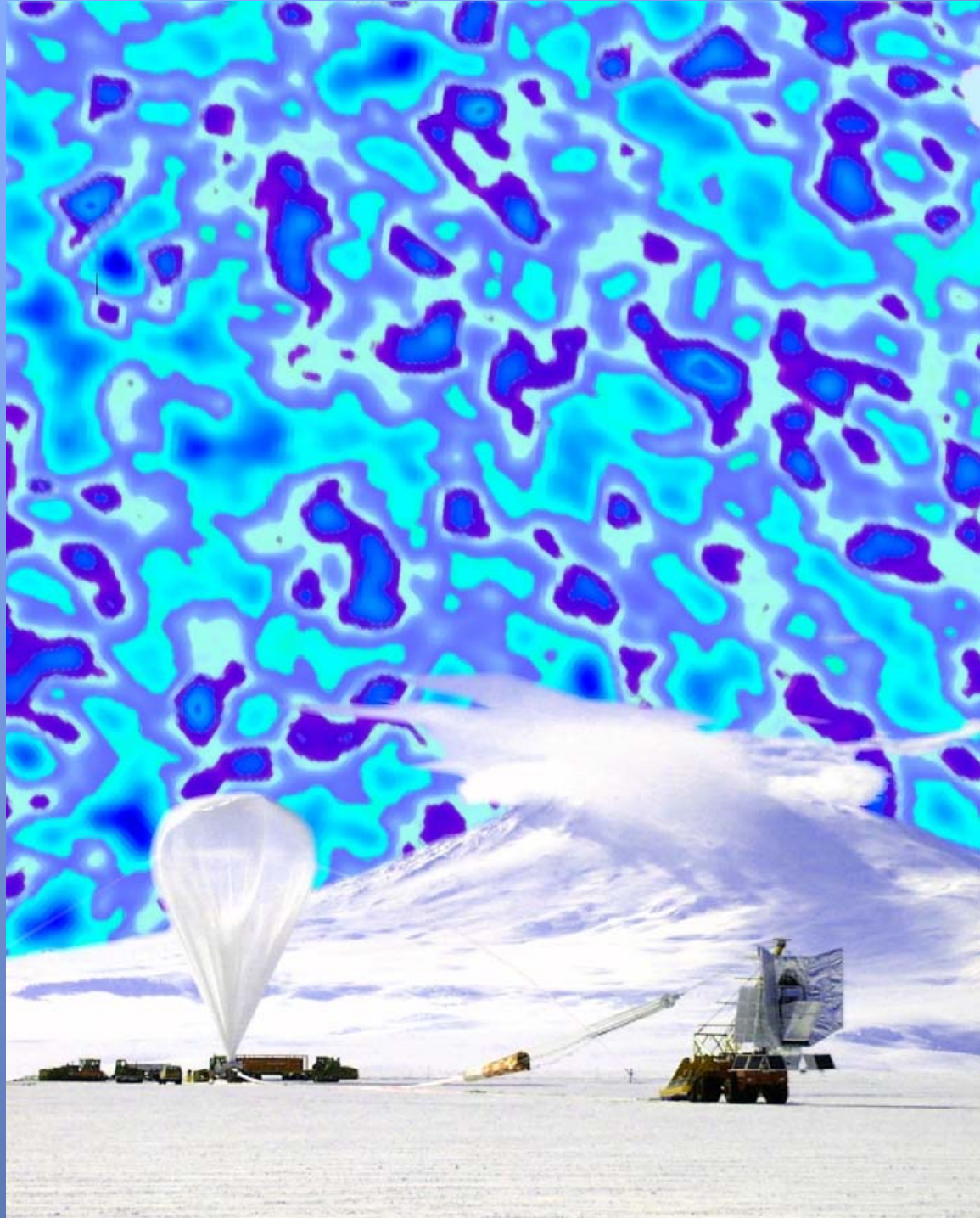
- ③ Running of spectral index
(higher order in $\frac{d}{d\phi}$ of $V(\phi)$)

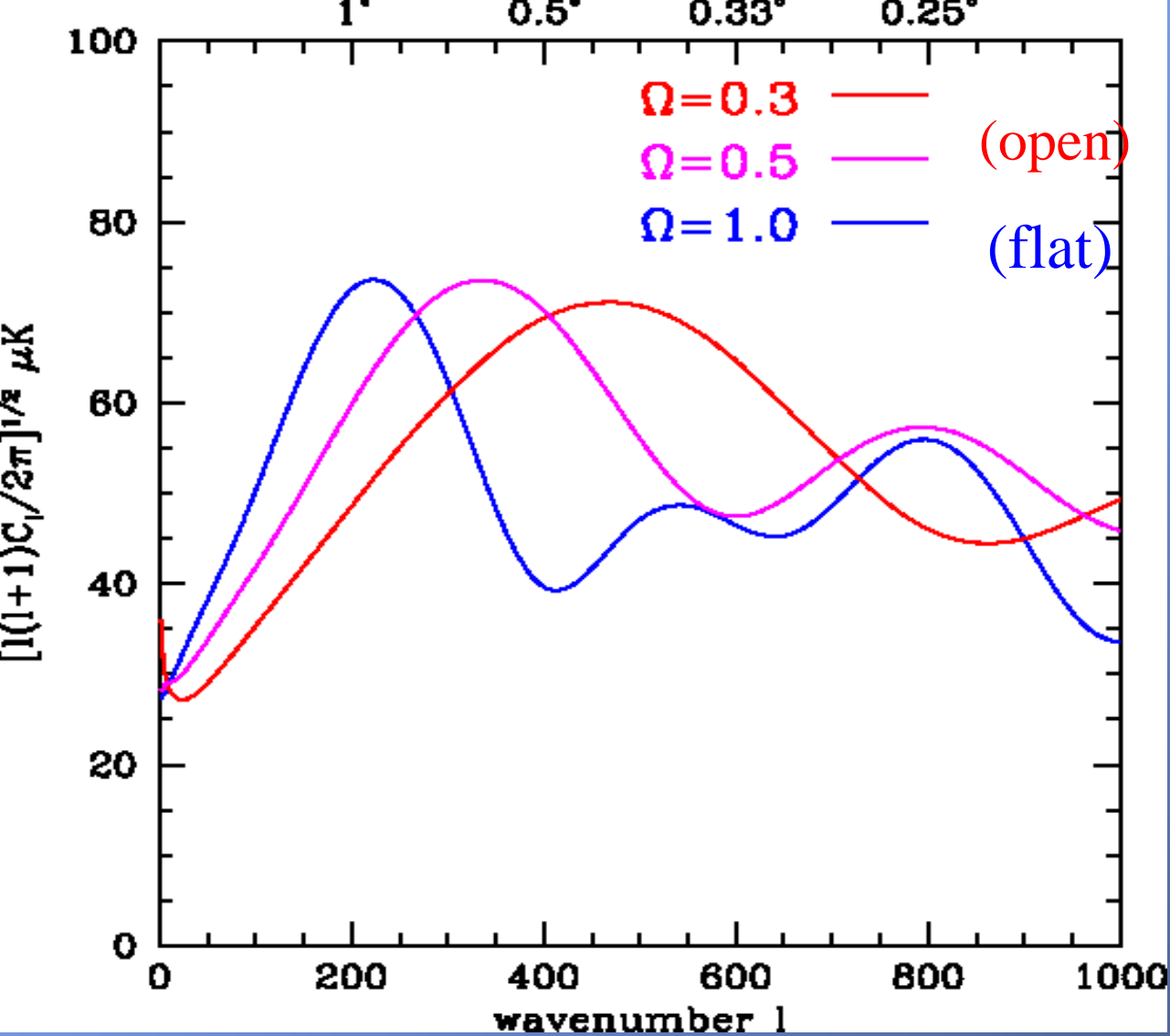
- ④ GW amplitude $\propto V$

- ⑤ GW spectral index $n_{\text{grav}} \propto \epsilon$

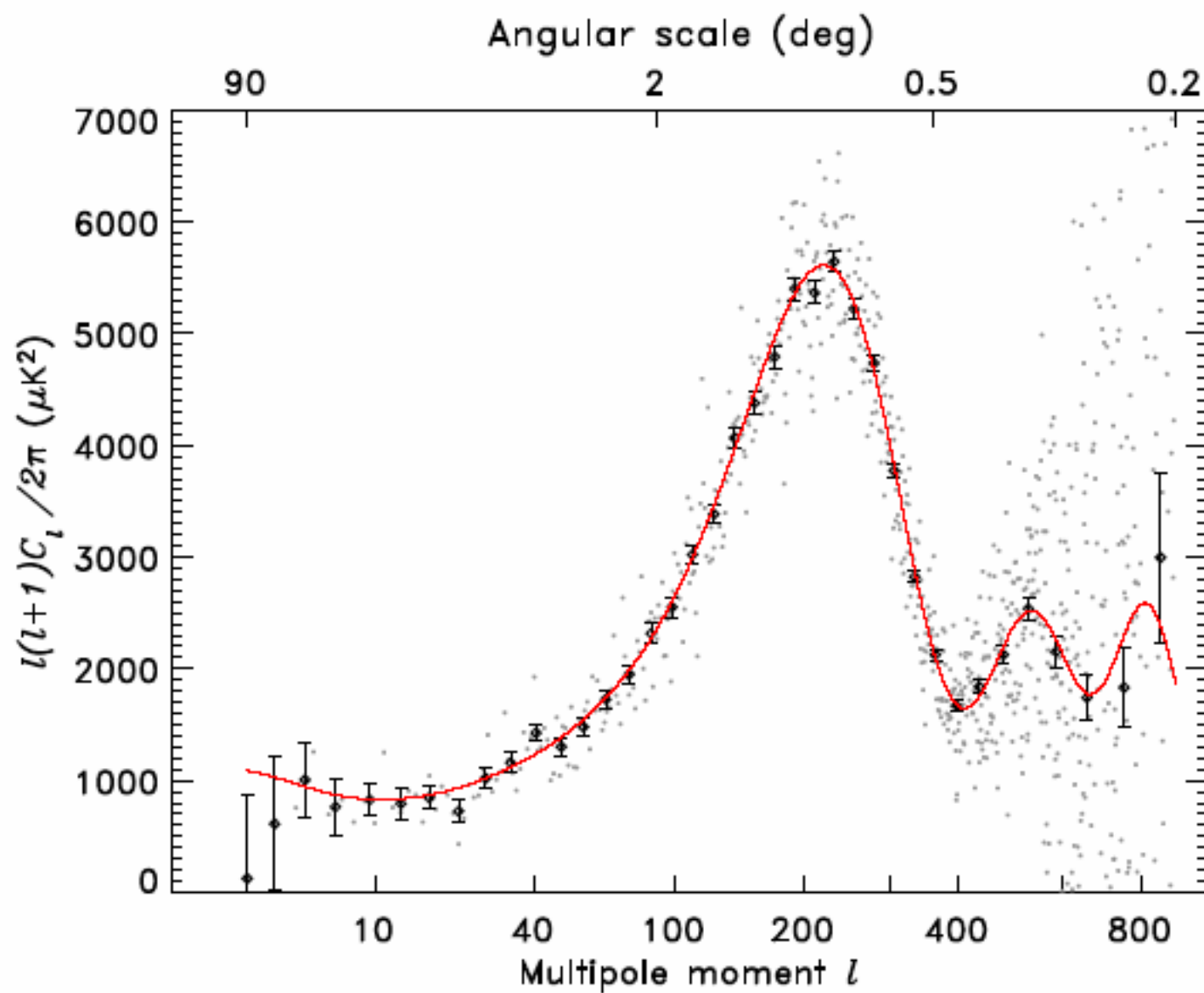
- ⑥ Non-gaussianity:

$$\text{Bispectrum} \propto \epsilon$$





CMB determination
of the geometry
(MK, Spergel,
and Sugiyama, 1994)



Where did large scale structure (e.g., galaxies, clusters, larger-scale clustering) come from?

explosions

Late-time phase transitions

Cosmic strings

Superconducting cosmic strings

textures

Global monopoles

Soft phase transitions

Isocurvature CDM perturbations

Seed models

Primordial adiabatic perturbations

Isocurvature baryon perturbations

Rolling scalar fields

Loitering universe

Where did large-scale structure (e.g., galaxies, clusters, larger-scale clustering) come from?

Post CMB:

gravitational infall from nearly
scale-invariant spectrum of
primordial adiabatic
perturbations

GEOMETRY

SMOOTHNESS

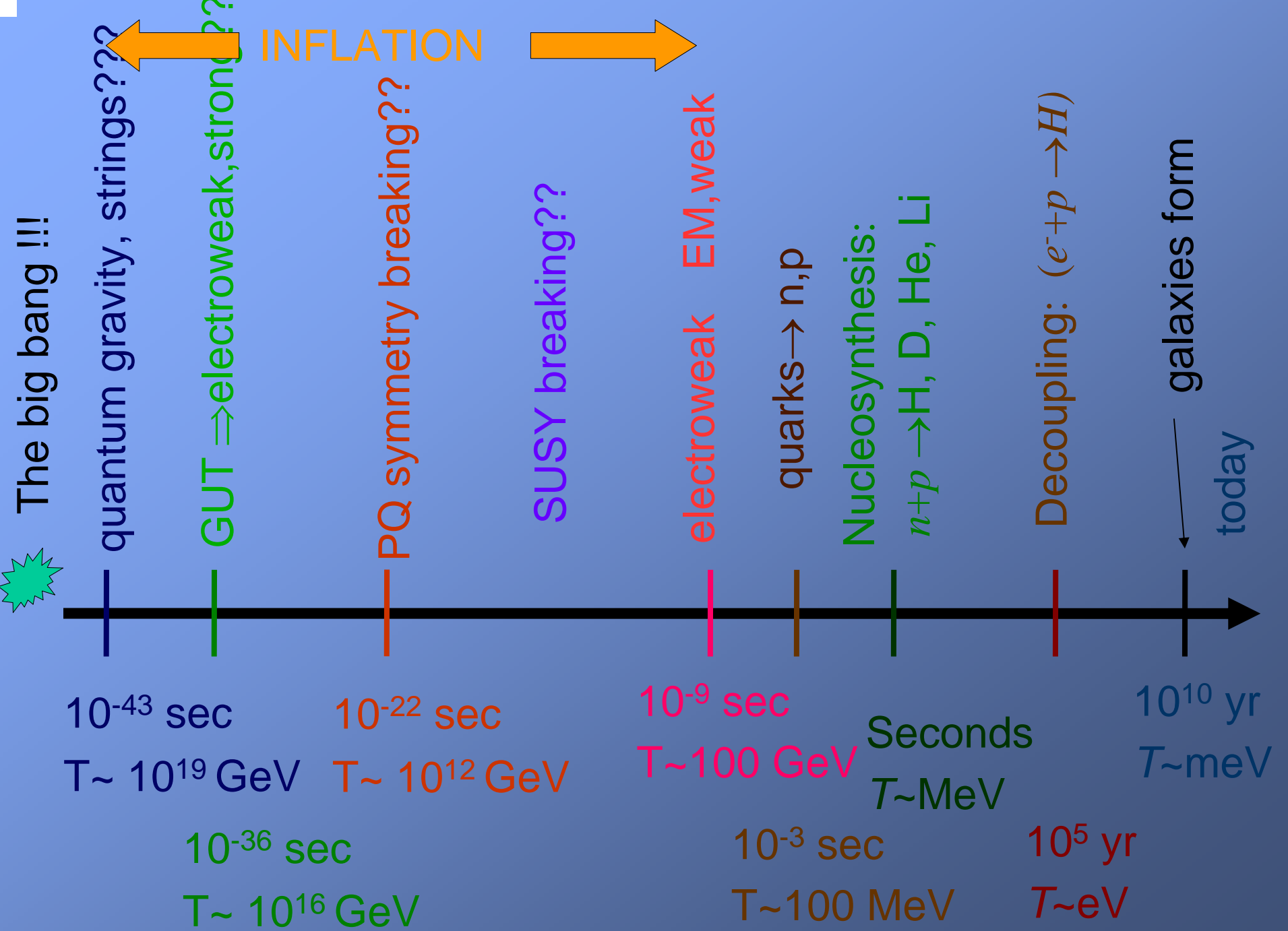
STRUCTURE
FORMATION

INFLATION



```
graph TD; A[GEOMETRY] --> D[INFLATION]; B[SMOOTHNESS] --> D; C[STRUCTURE FORMATION] --> D;
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WHAT
NEXT???



GEOMETRY

SMOOTHNESS

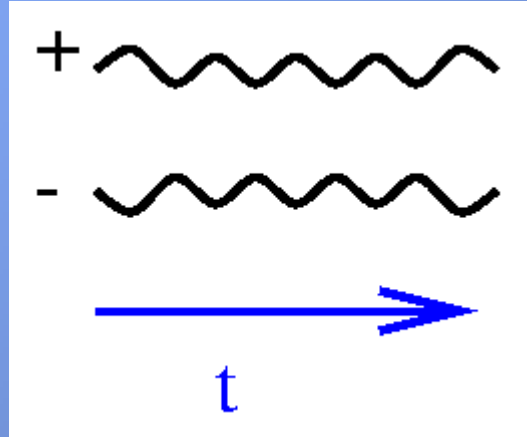
STRUCTURE
FORMATION

INFLATION

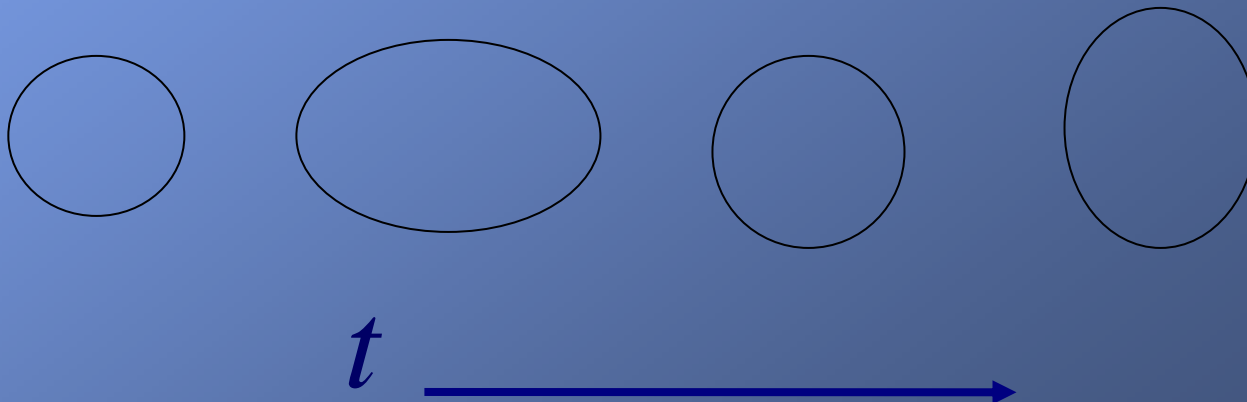
What is
 E_{infl} ?

STOCHASTIC GRAVITATIONAL WAVE
BACKGROUND with amplitude $\propto E_{infl}^2$

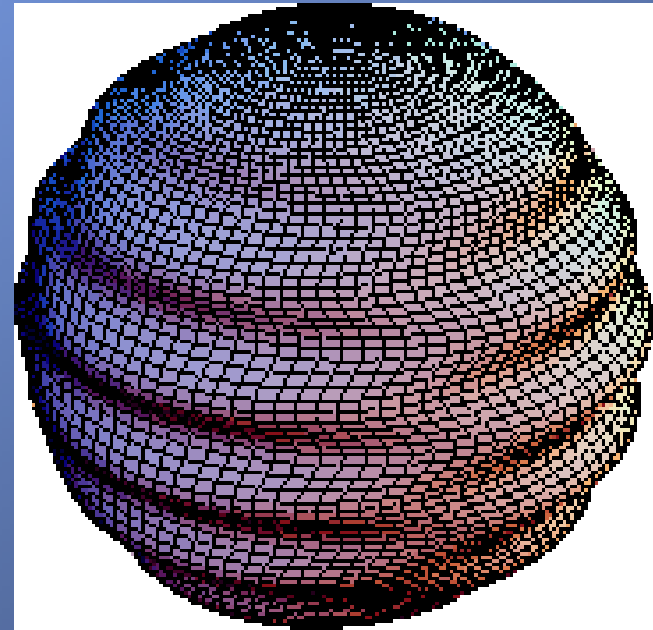
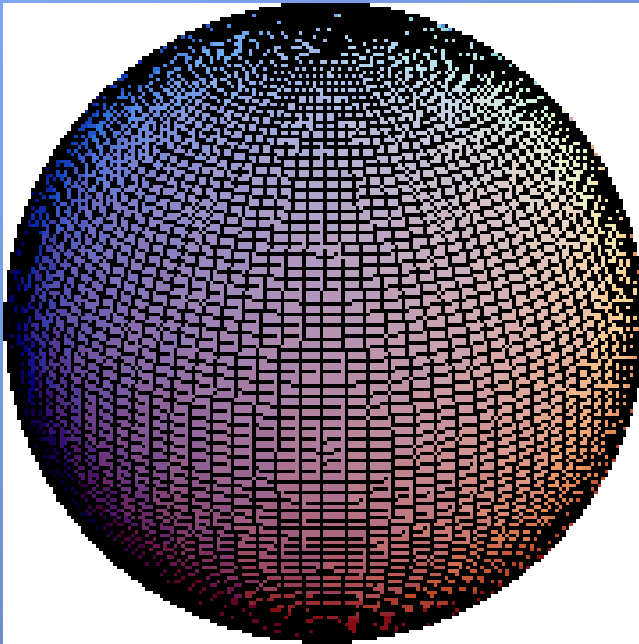
Detection of electromagnetic wave:
look for oscillations of test charges



Detection of gravitational wave:
look for quadrupole oscillations of a ring of test masses

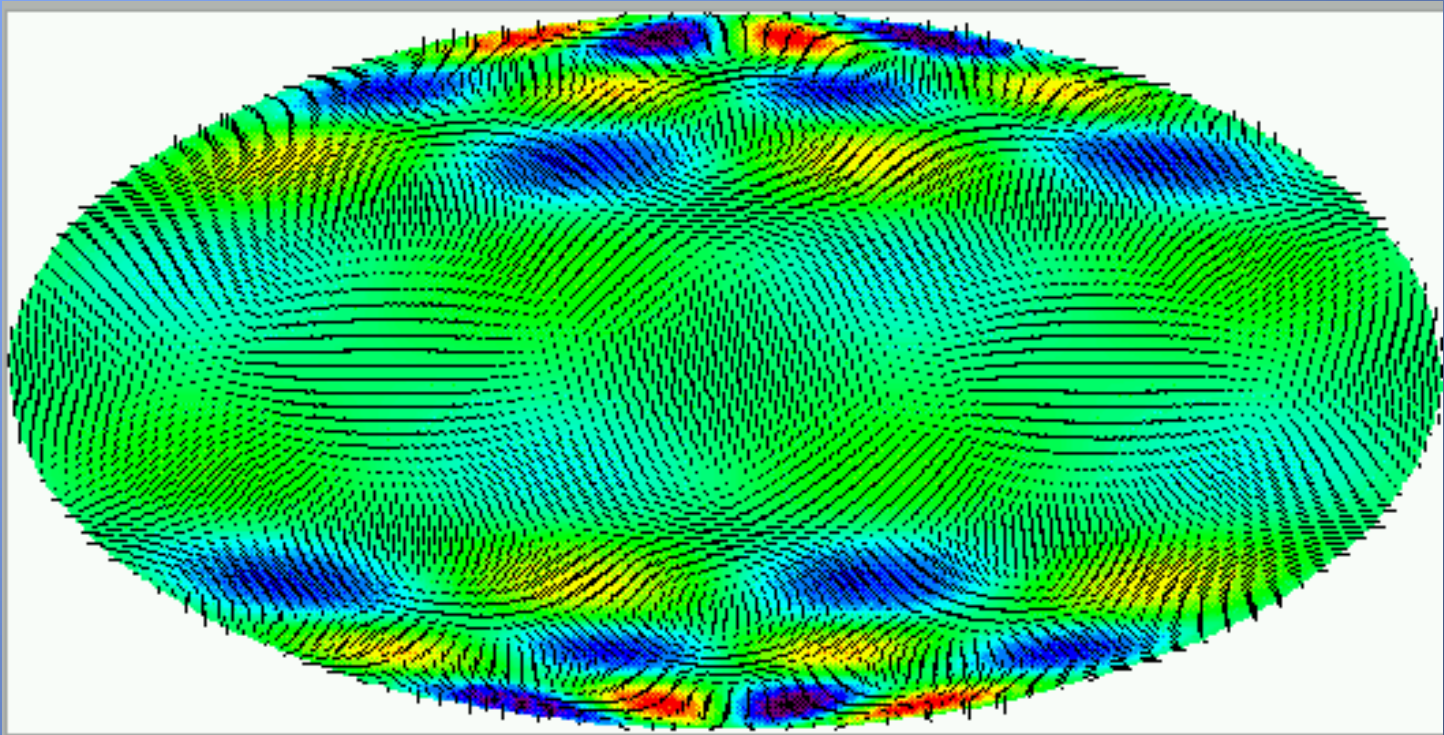


Detection of ultra-long-wavelength GWs from inflation: use plasma at CMB surface of last scatter as sphere of test masses.

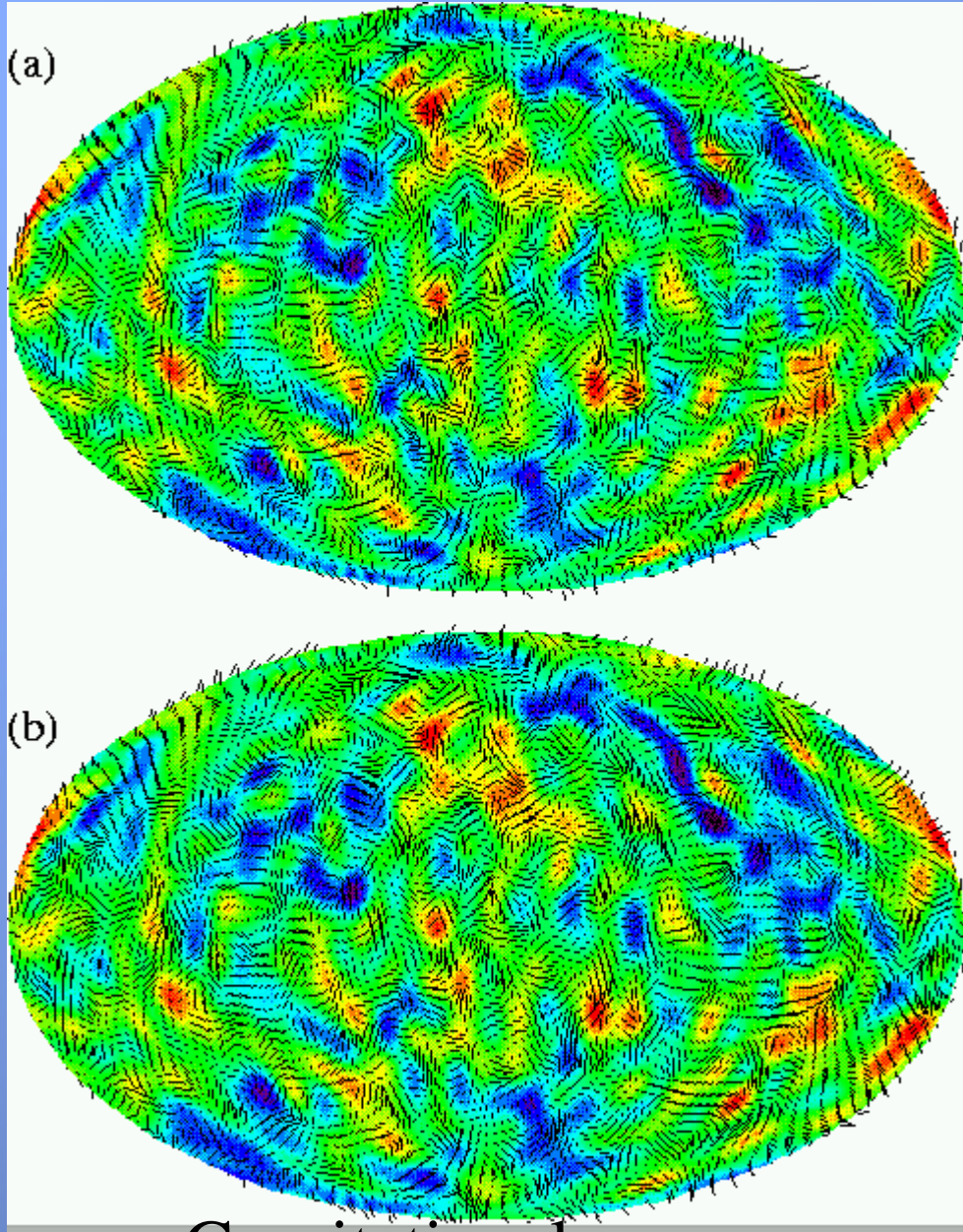


Temperature pattern produced by one
gravitational wave oriented in \mathbf{z} direction

z
↑



Density perturbations



Inflation predicts
stochastic background
of GWs

Density perts and GWs
can produce identical
temperature patterns

Can be distinguished
by the polarization!!

Gravitational waves

Detection of gravitational waves with CMB polarization

Temperature map: $T(\hat{n})$

Polarization Map: $\vec{P}(\hat{n}) = \vec{\nabla} A + \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}$

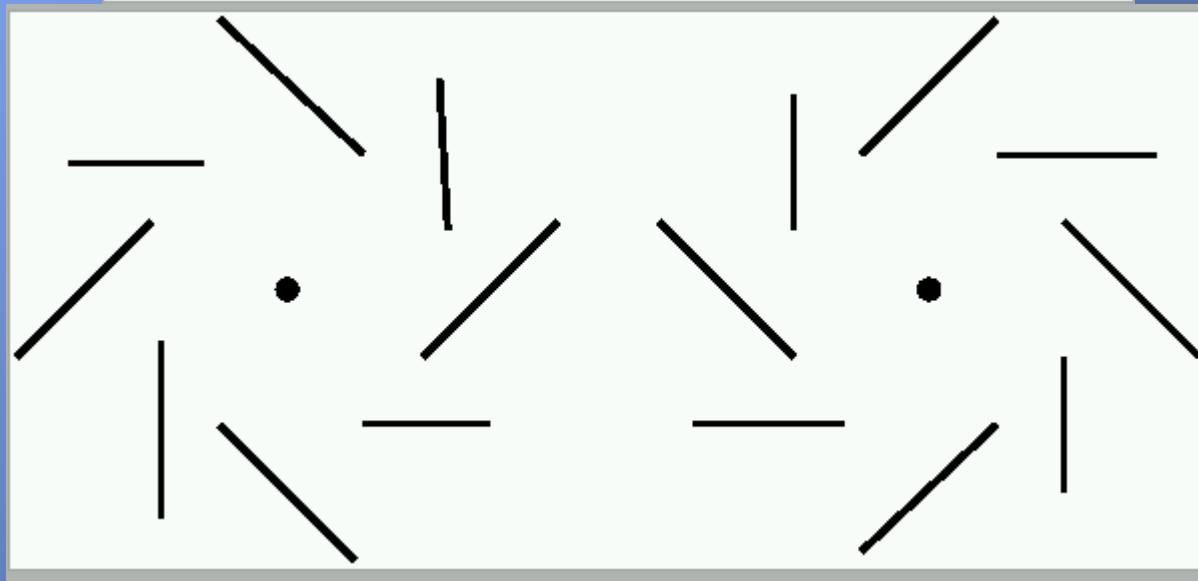
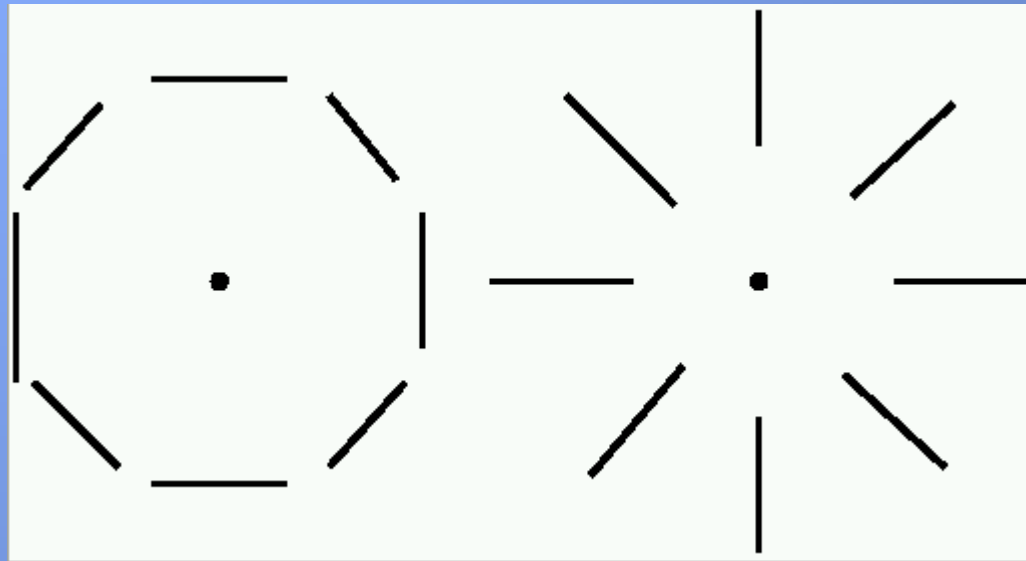
Density perturbations have no handedness”
so they *cannot* produce a polarization with a curl

Gravitational waves do have a handedness, so they
can (and do) produce a curl



Model-independent probe of gravitational waves!

“Curl-free” polarization patterns



“curl” patterns

Recall, GW amplitude is $\propto E_{\text{infl}}^2$

GWs $\Rightarrow \Delta T$

And from COBE, $E_{\text{infl}} < 3 \times 10^{16}$ GeV

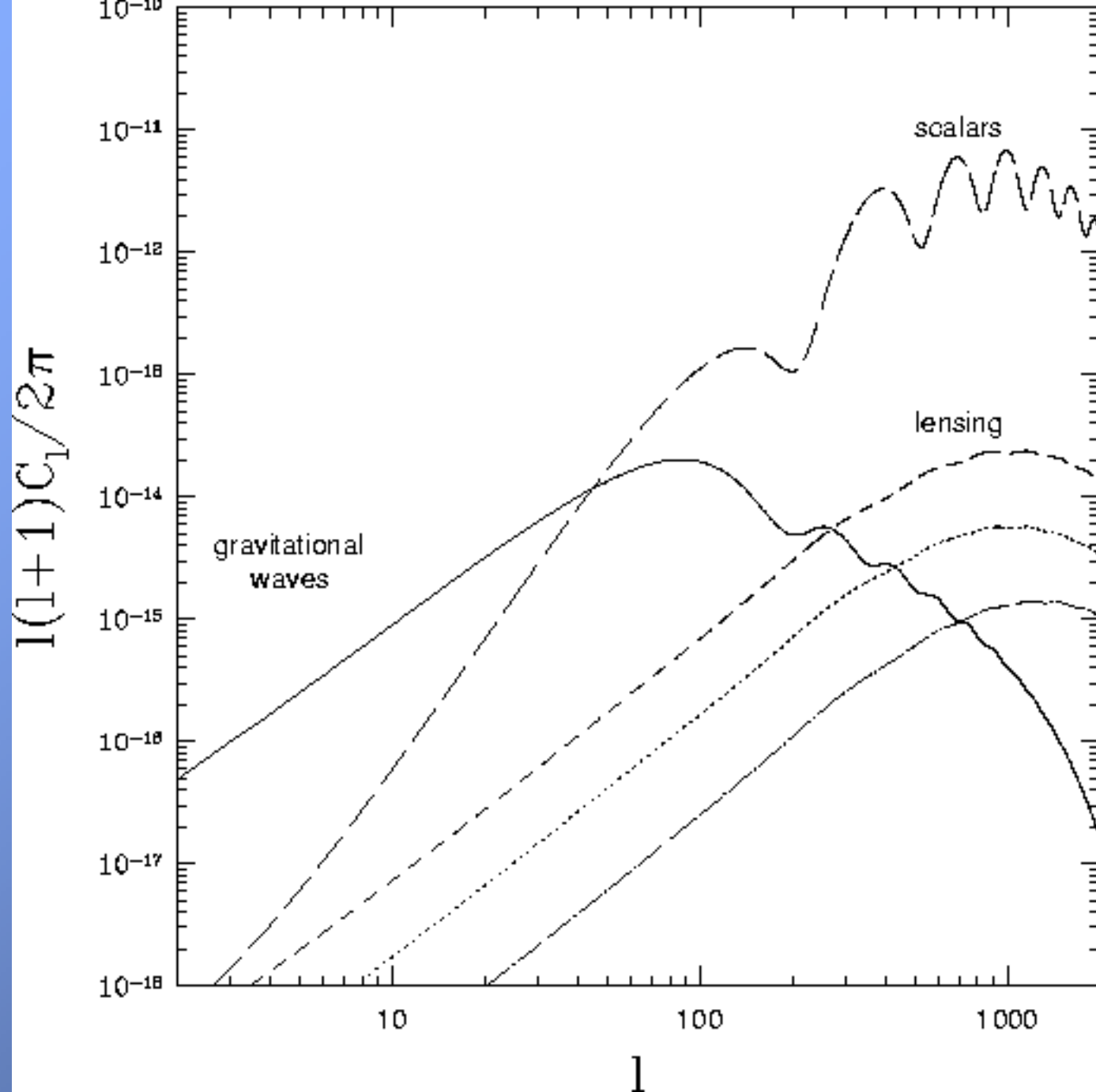
GWs \Rightarrow unique polarization pattern. Is it detectable?

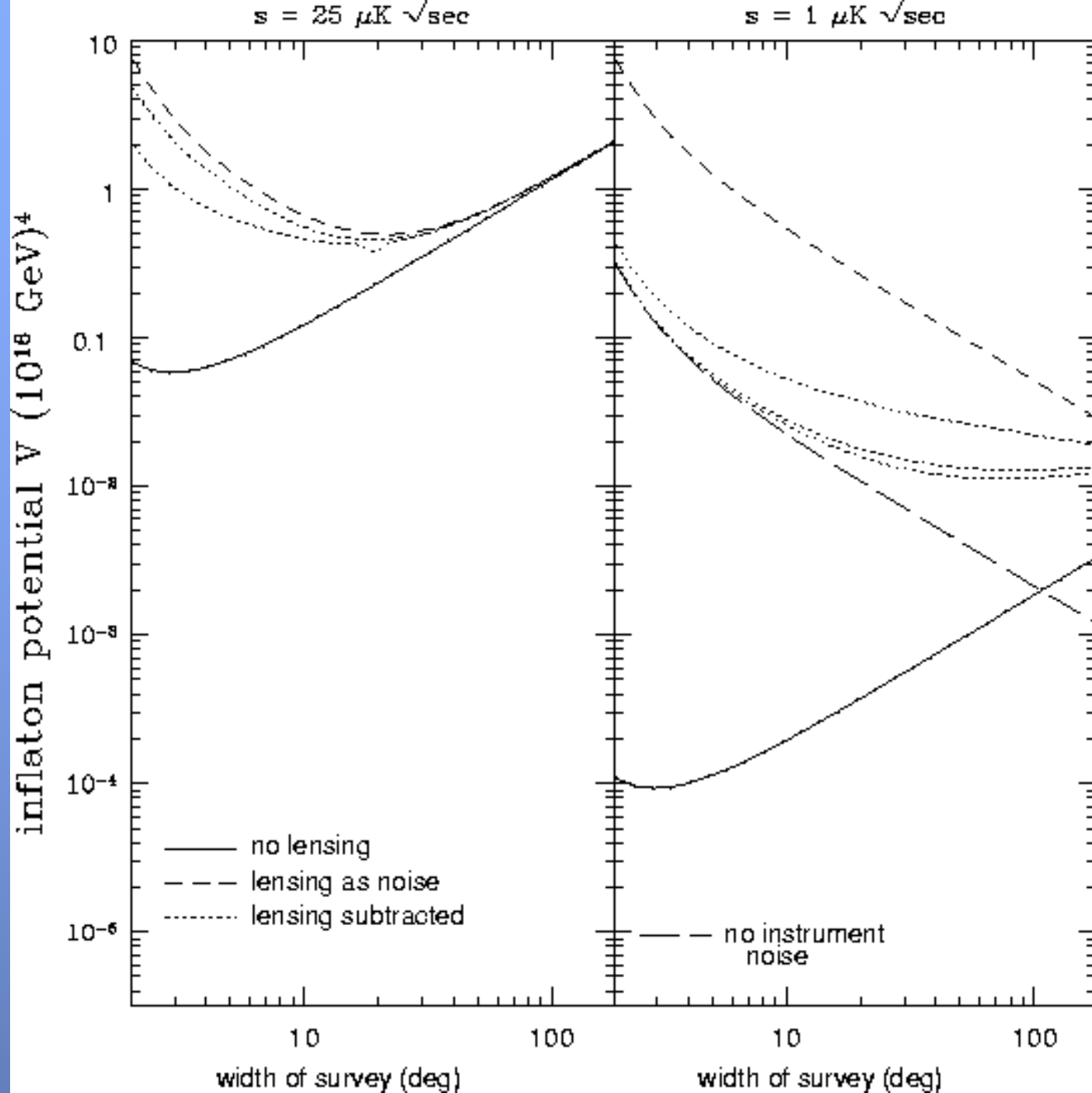
If $E \ll 10^{15}$ GeV (e.g., if inflation from PQSB),
then polarization far too small to ever be detected.

But, if $E \sim 10^{15-16}$ GeV (i.e., if inflation has
something to do with GUTs), then polarization
signal is conceivably detectable by Planck
or realistic post-Planck experiment!!!

(Kesden, Cooray, MK 2002;
Knox, Song 2002)

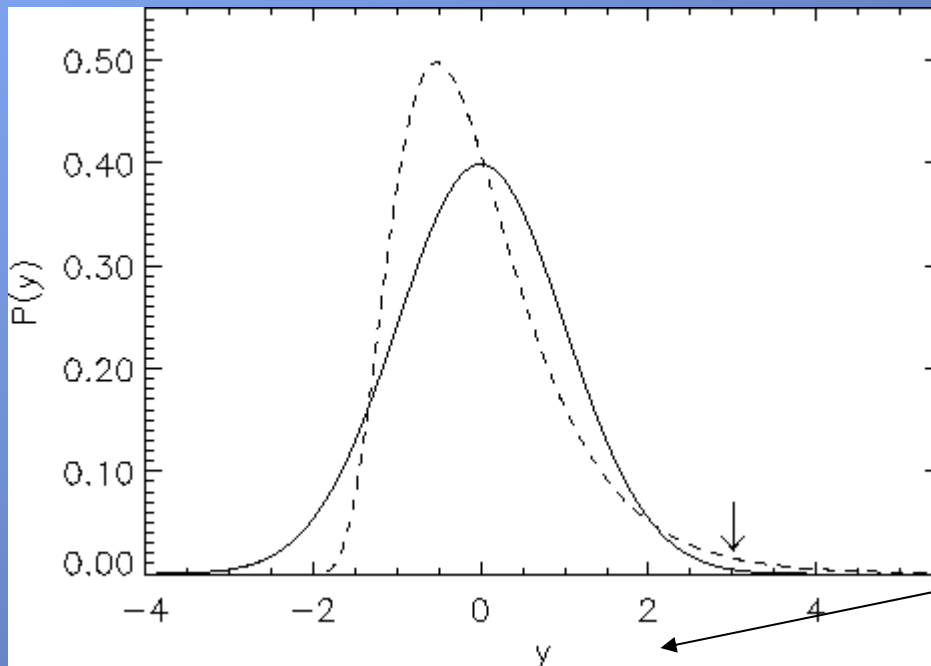
To go beyond Planck, will require
high resolution temperature and
polarization maps to disentangle
cosmic shear contribution to curl
component from that due to
inflationary gravitational waves.





What Else??

Inflation predicts distribution of primordial density perturbations is Gaussian (e.g., Wang & MK, 2000).



But how do we tell if primordial perturbations were Gaussian??

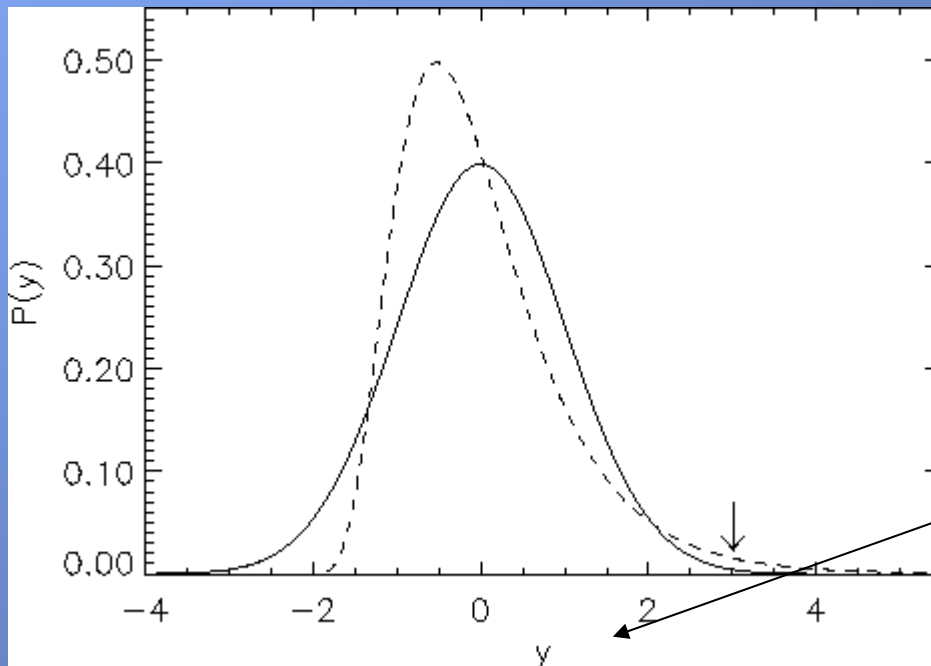
$$\delta/\sigma$$

How do we tell if primordial perturbations were Gaussian??

(1) With the CMB:

Advantage: see primordial perturbation directly

Disadvantage: perturbations are small



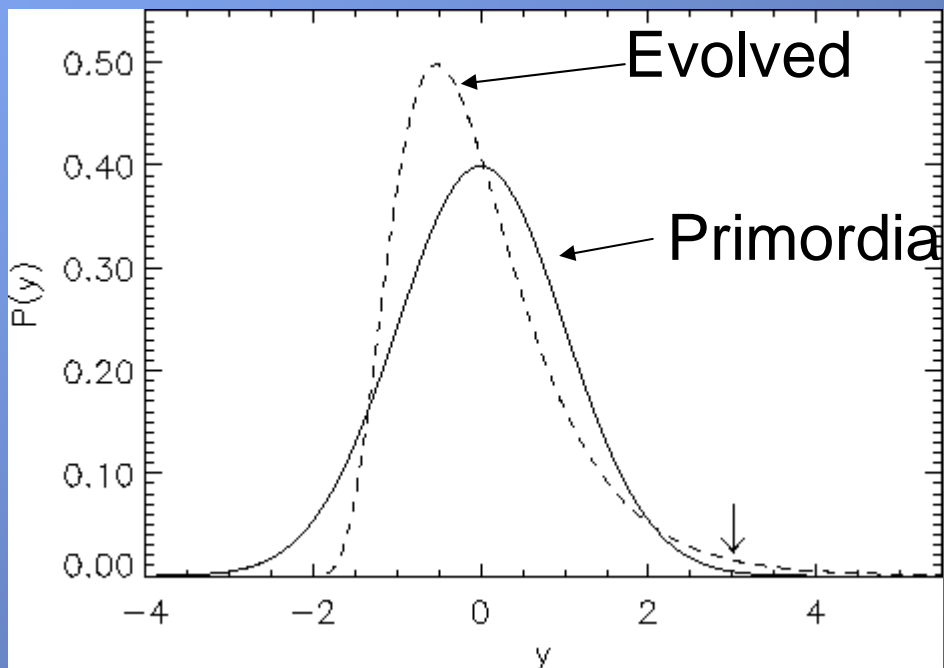
$\Delta T/T$

How do we tell if primordial perturbations were Gaussian??

(2) With galaxy surveys:

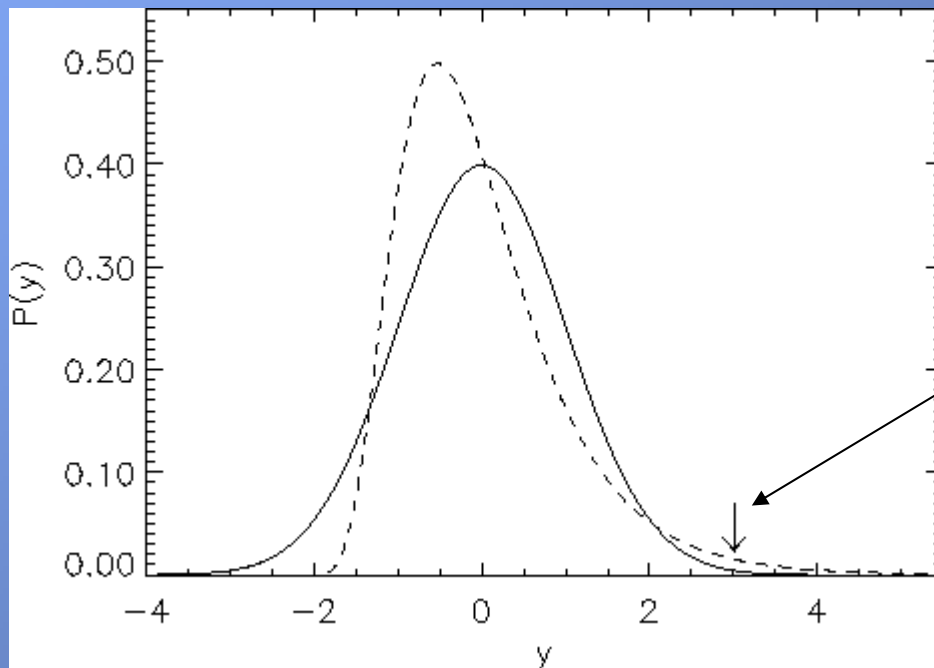
Advantage: perturbations are bigger

Disadvantage: gravitational infall induces non-Gaussianity (as may biasing)



How do we tell if primordial perturbations were Gaussian??

(3) With abundances of clusters (e.g., Robinson, Gawiser & Silk 2000) **or high redshift galaxies** (e.g., Matarrese, Verde & Jimenez 2000):

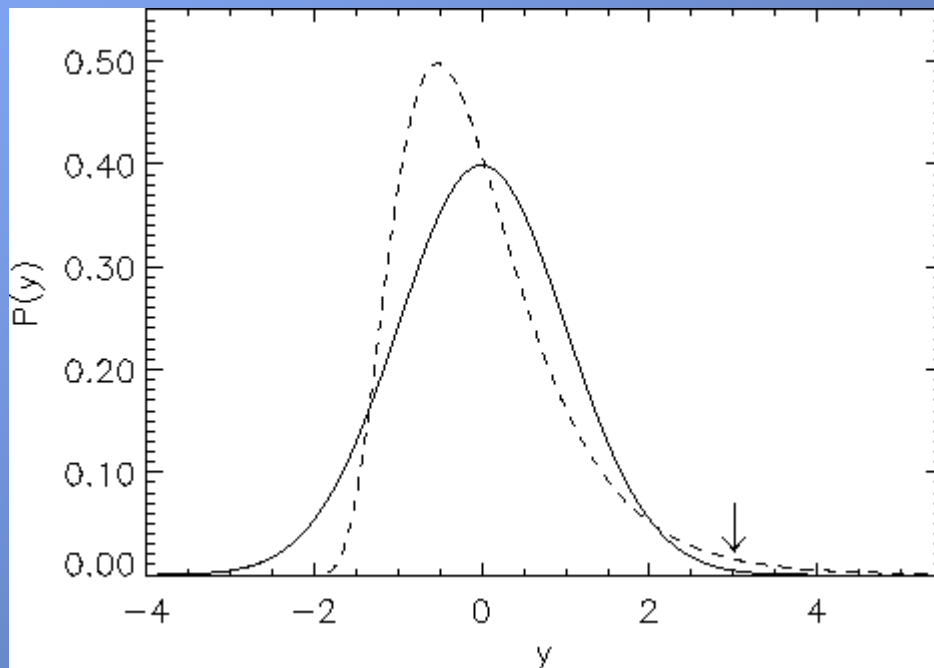


Rare objects
form here

How do we tell if primordial perturbations were Gaussian??

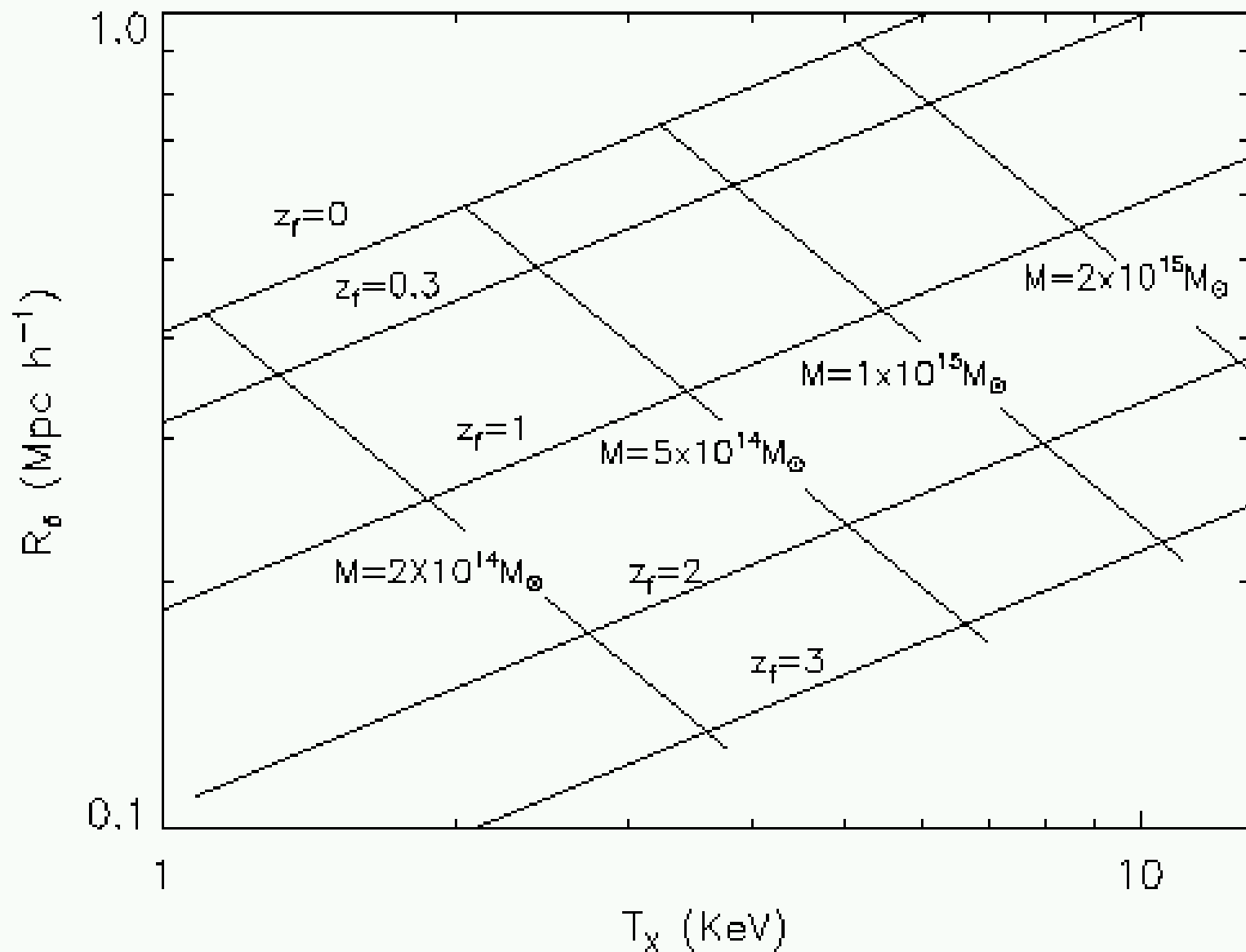
(4) With distribution of cluster sizes

(Verde, MK, Mohr & Benson, MNRAS, 2001):

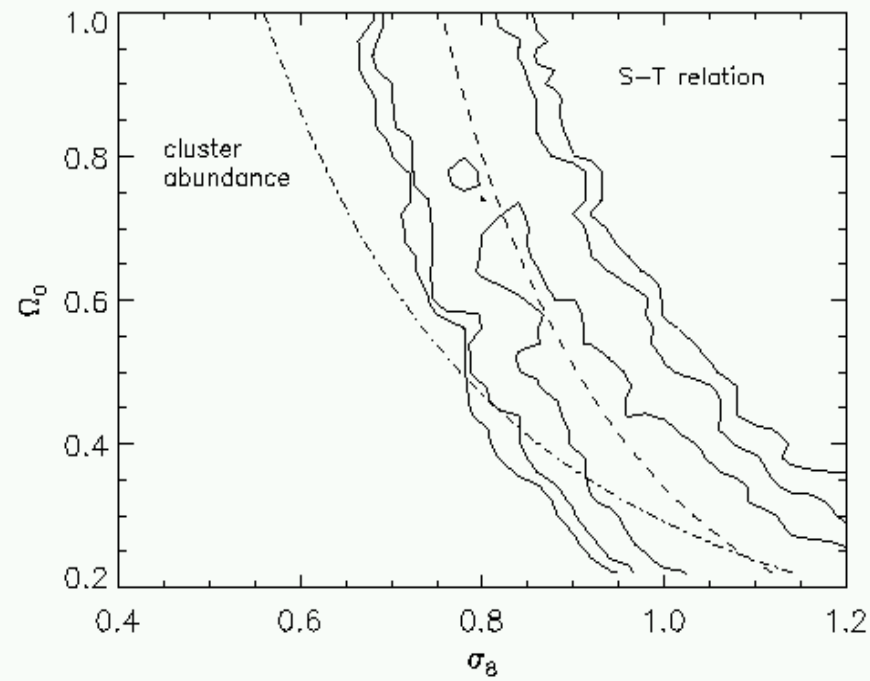
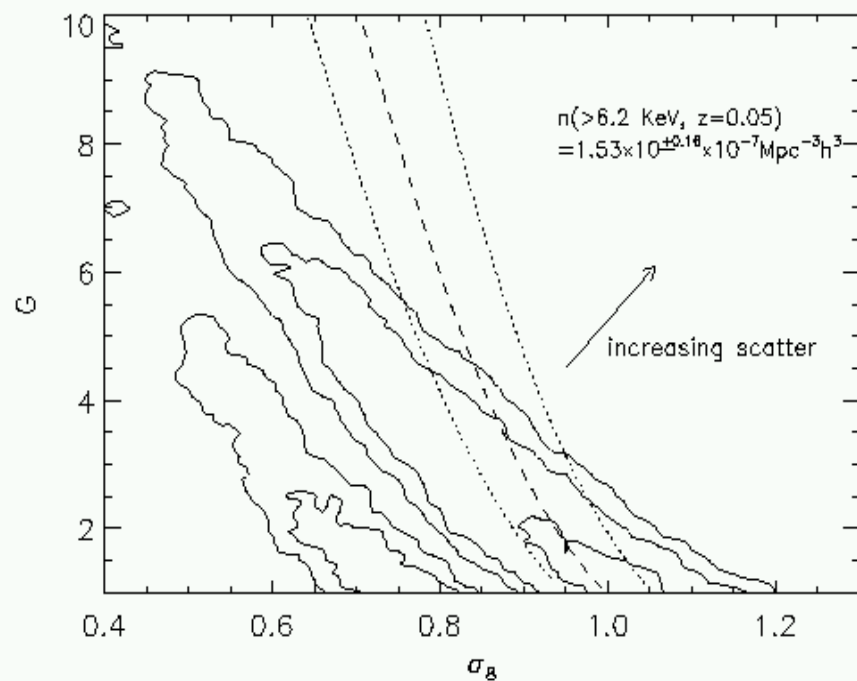
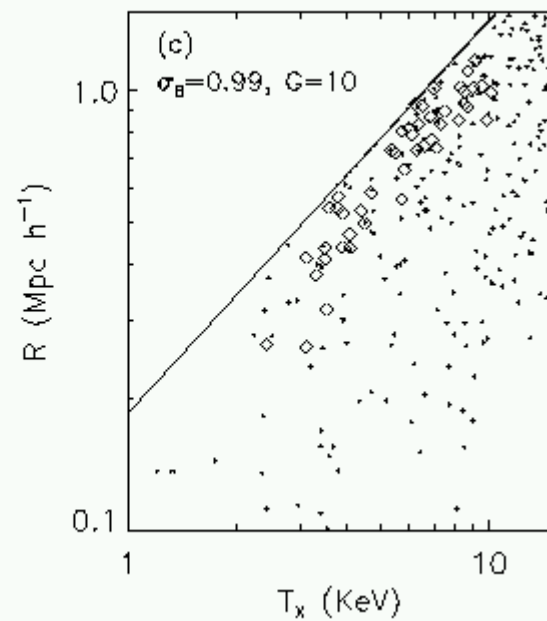
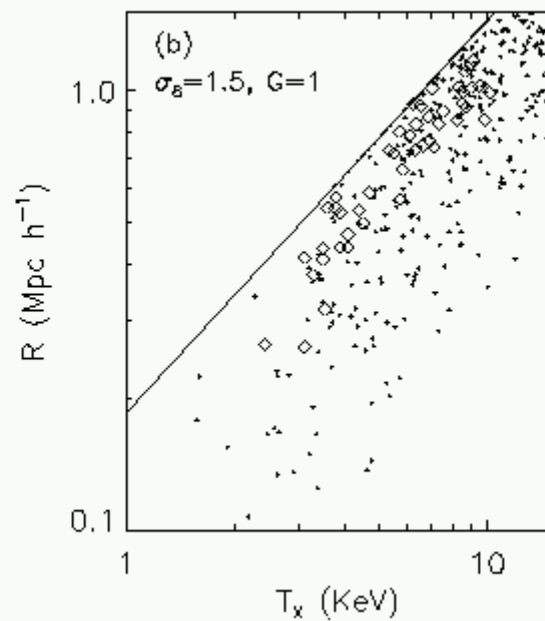
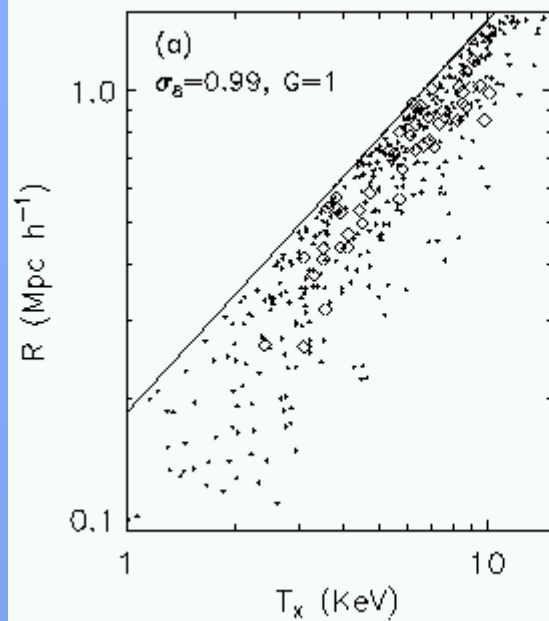


Broader distribution of $>3\sigma$ peaks leads to broader formation redshift distribution and thus to broader size distribution

Cluster size



Cluster temperature



How do we tell if primordial perturbations were Gaussian??

How do these different avenues compare

For just about any nonGaussianity with long range correlations (e.g., from topological defects or funny inflation), CMB > LSS (Verde, Wang, Heavens & MK, 2000).

Cluster and high z abundances do better at probing nonGaussianity from topological defects than CMB/LSS, while CMB remains best probe of that from funny inflation (Verde, Jimenez, Matarrese & MK, MNRAS 2001).

Inflation: What Else?

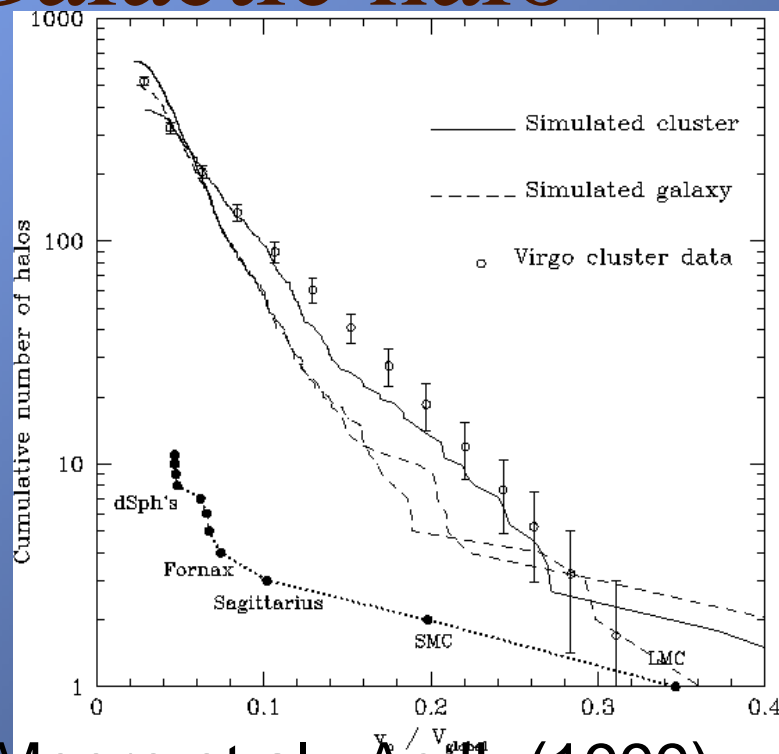
Clumpiness in the Galactic halo



cluster

galactic
halo

→ 300 kpc



Moore et al., ApJL (1999)
also Klypin et al, 2000
Kaufmann, White,
Guiderdoni, 1993

Why are there so many more dwarfs predicted than observed?

- „Are there but gas has been blown out? **probably not**
- „Even if gas has been blown out and baryons remain dark, is difficult to see how disk could have formed in strongly fluctuating potential of such a clumpy halo.

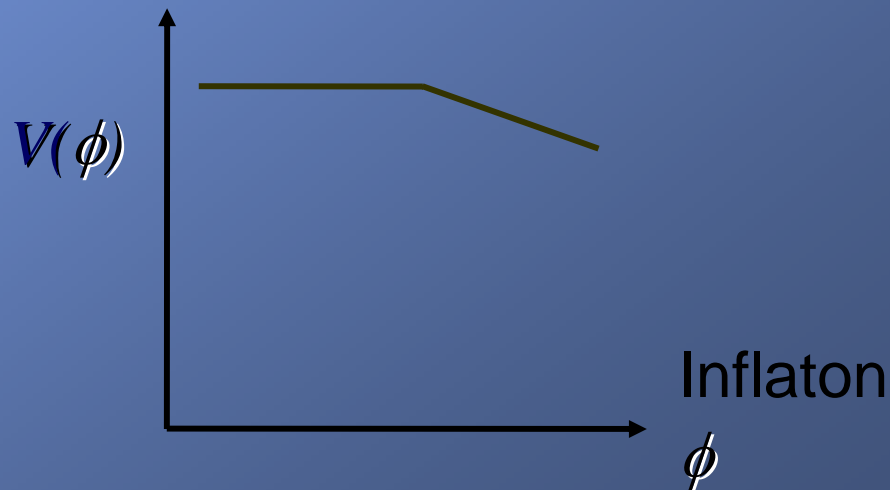
Possible resolutions:

- „Self-interacting dark matter (Spergel&Steinhardt 1999)
 -requires very unusual particles (elastic-scattering cross sections more than 10^{10} annihilation cross sections!)**
- „Very low-mass scalars or generalized dark matter (e.g., Sahni&Wang 1999)
- „Power suppression on small scales from hot dark matter
 - ...probably suppresses power on slightly larger scales too much for Lyman-alpha forest**

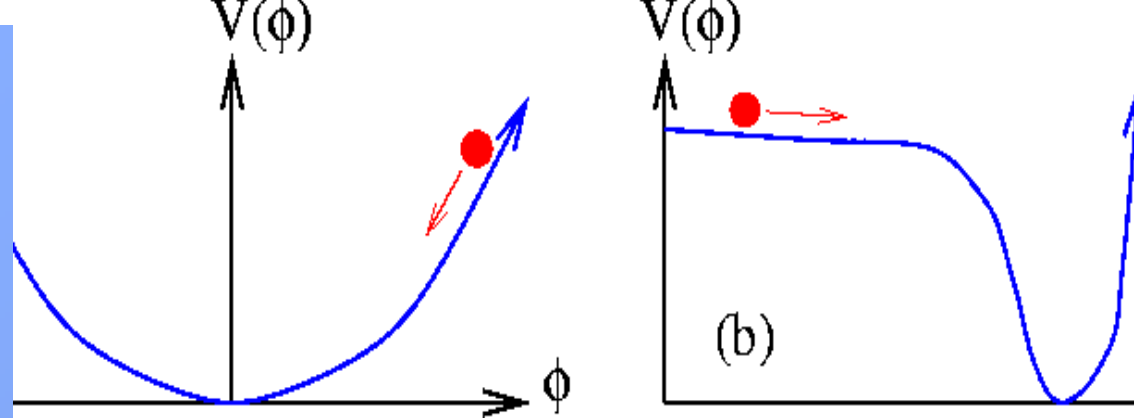
Another possible resolution: Power suppression on small scales from inflation with broken scale invariance

MK&Liddle, PRL 84, 4525 (2000)

In inflation, amplitude of density perturbation on some comoving scale is proportional to $V^{3/2}/V''$, where V is the inflaton-potential height, and V'' its derivative with respect to the inflaton. Thus, a break in the slope of the inflaton potential could yield a suppression of power on small scales



Inflaton potential



Power spectrum

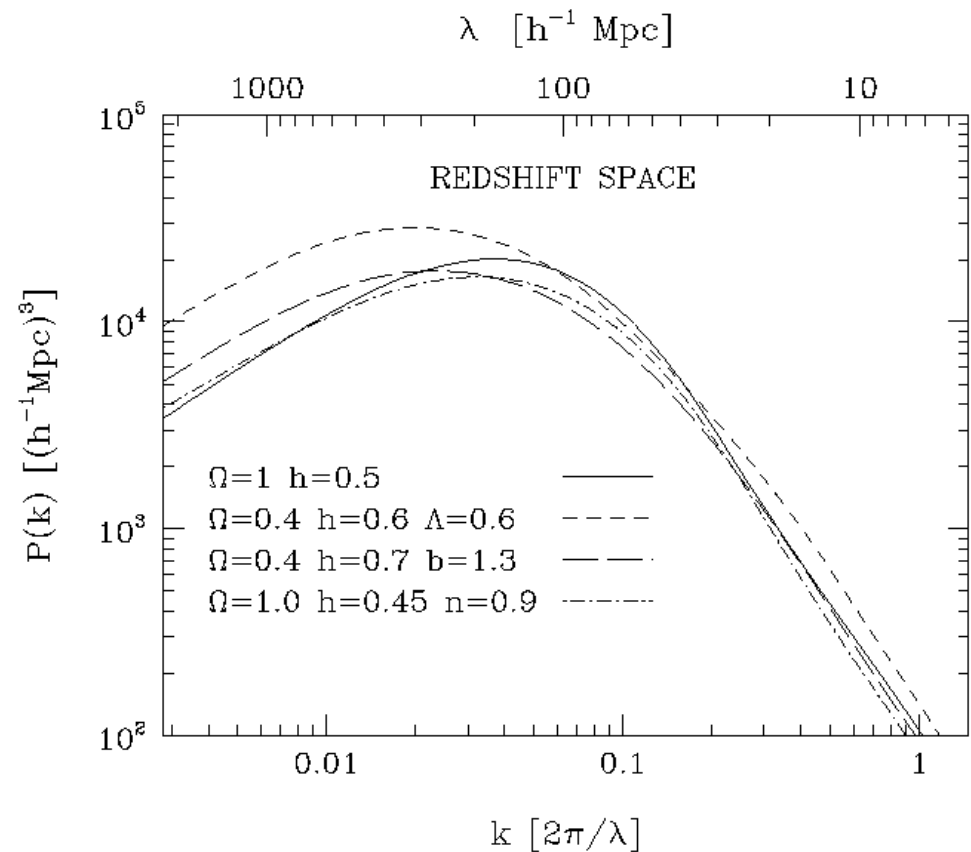
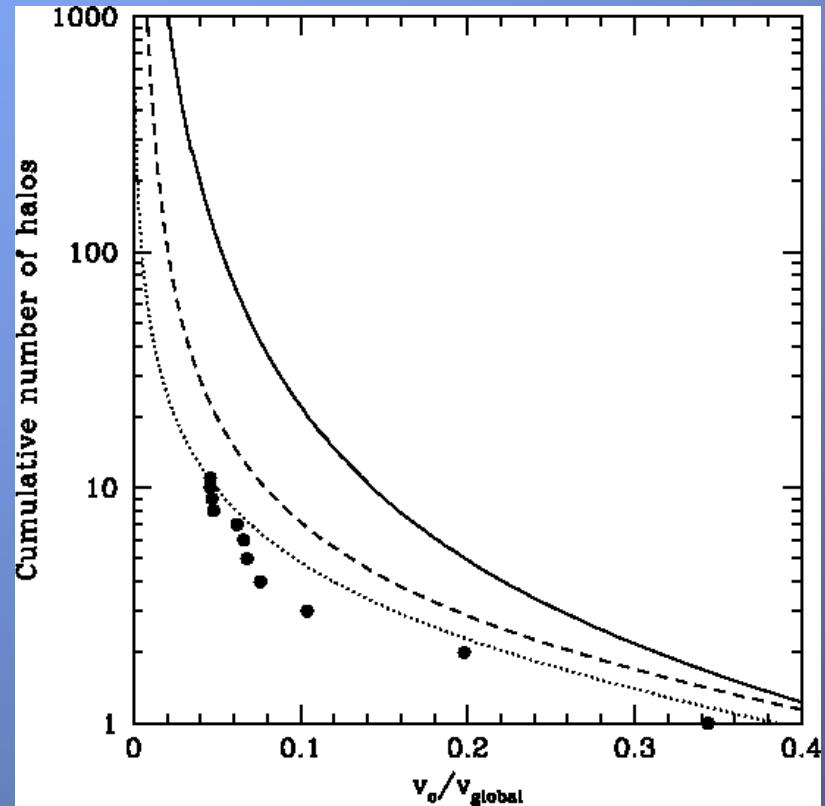
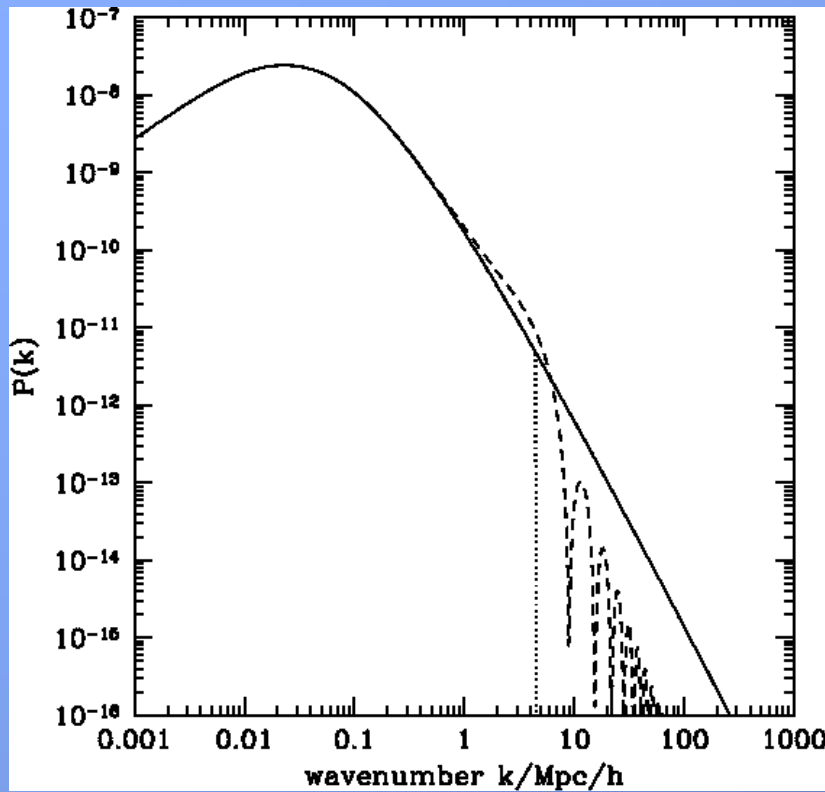


Fig. 2a.— Non-linear redshift-space power spectra for a variety of COBE-normalized CDM models.



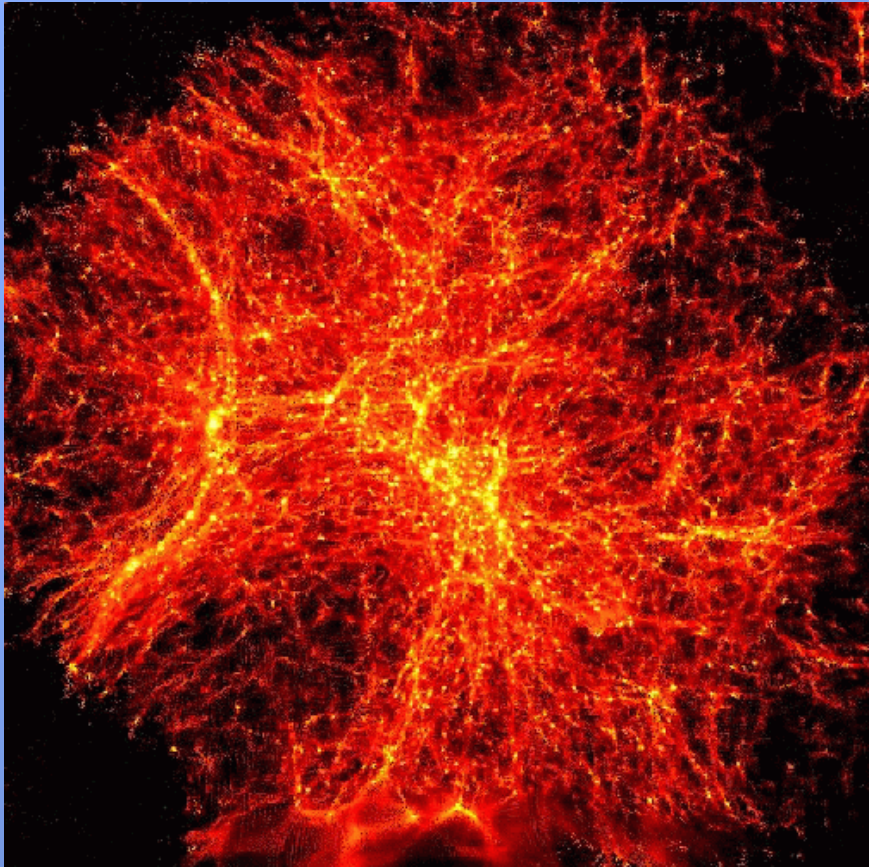
..... ad hoc

----- BSI

"Satisfies Lyman-alpha
forest constraints

"May also help reduce core
densities

Moore et al show preservation
of sub-clumps from turnaround
to present, so can use extended
Press-Schechter to estimate
abundances

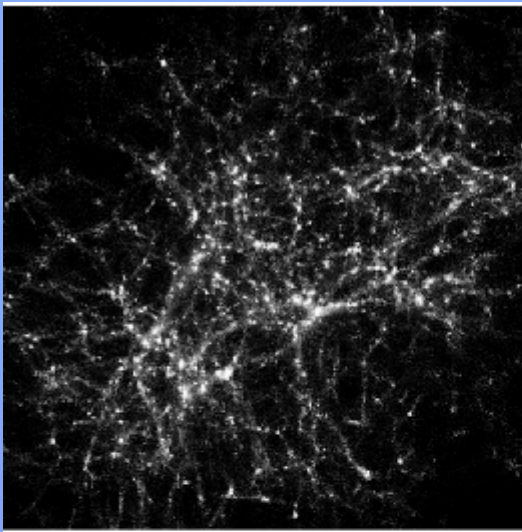


Turnaround

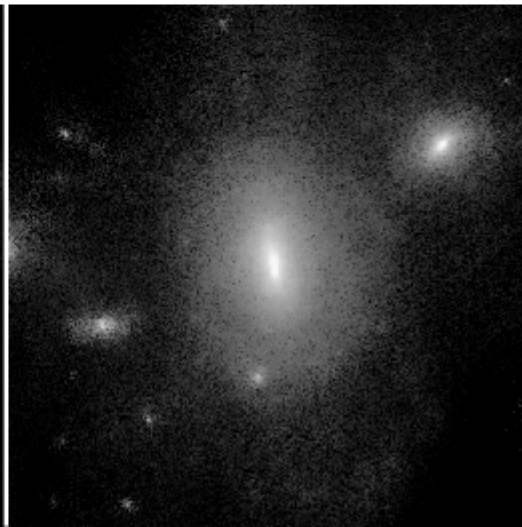
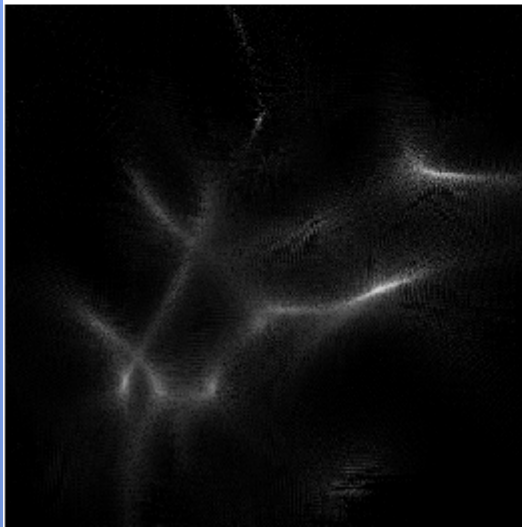
Moore et al, 1999



Today



Standard
CDM



Power
suppressed
on small scales

Turnaround

Today

One more time...

CMB suggests we're on the right track with inflation.

Further tests possible with CMB polarization,
large scale structure, and properties and
abundances of extragalactic objects

