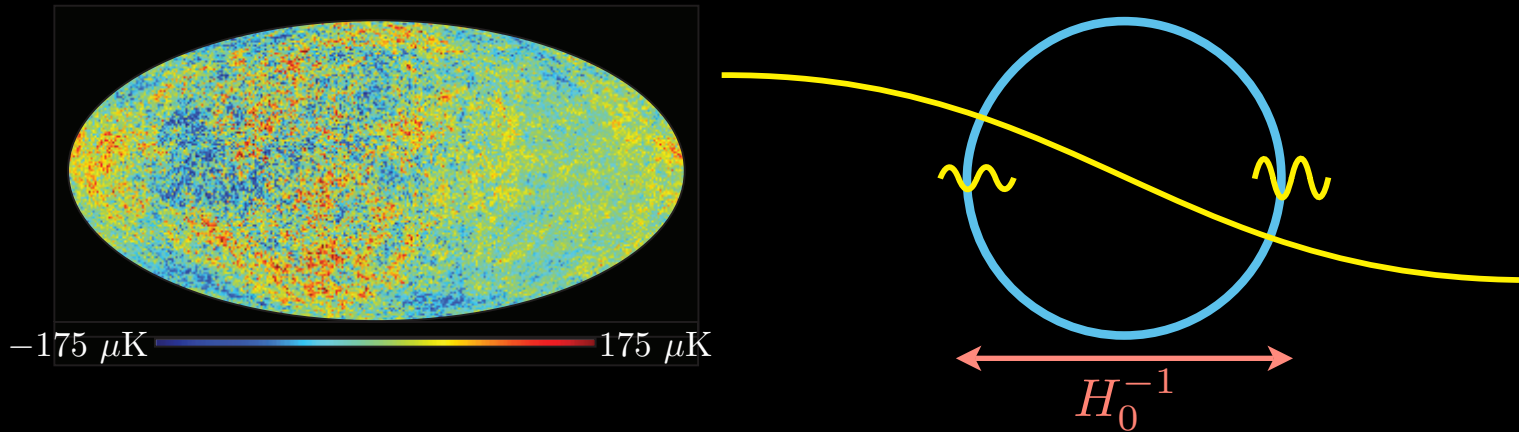


Structure Beyond the Horizon: Inflationary Origins of the Cosmic Power Asymmetry



Adrienne Erickcek
California Institute of Technology

In collaboration with Sean Carroll and Marc Kamionkowski

"A Hemispherical Power Asymmetry from Inflation" Phys. Rev. D in press [arXiv:0806.0377]

*"Superhorizon Perturbations and the CMB" Phys. Rev. D **78** 083012 (2008) [arXiv:0808.1570]*

Outline

I. Power Asymmetry from Superhorizon Structure

- What power asymmetry?
- How can we make one?

II. Superhorizon Perturbations and the CMB

- If there were superhorizon structures, how would we know?
- Bad news...

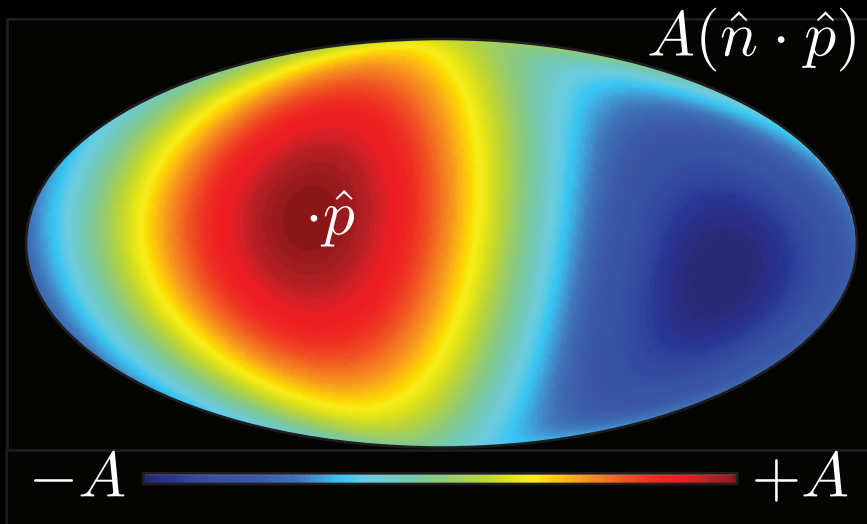
III. The Curvaton Alternative

- What went wrong, and how do we fix it?
- What's a curvaton anyway?

IV. A Power Asymmetry from the Curvaton

- How can we make a power asymmetry?
- Does it work?
- How do we test it?

A Hemispherical Power Asymmetry



$$\mathbf{T}(\hat{n}) = s(\hat{n}) [1 + A(\hat{n} \cdot \hat{p})]$$

CMB
Temperature

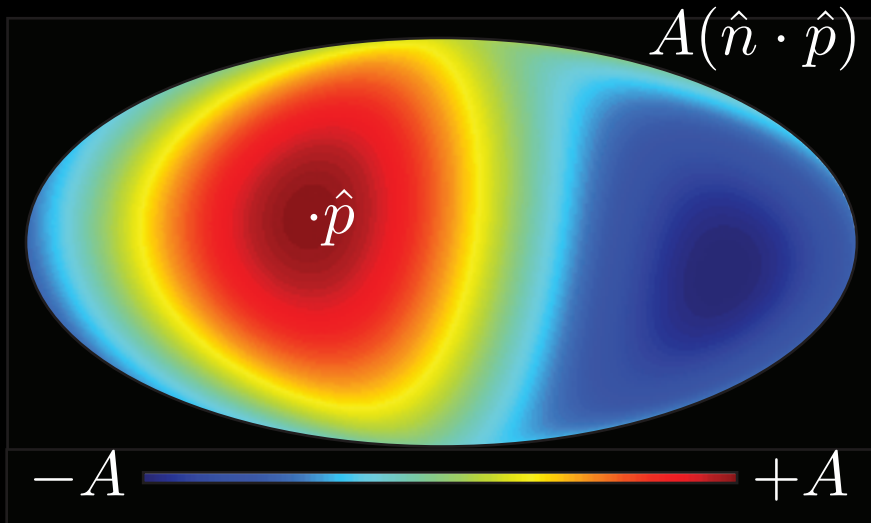
↑
Gaussian field
with isotropic power

↑
Modulation
Amplitude

↑
“North” pole
of asymmetry

Simulated maps courtesy of H. K. Eriksen

A Hemispherical Power Asymmetry



$$\mathbf{T}(\hat{n}) = s(\hat{n}) [1 + A(\hat{n} \cdot \hat{p})]$$

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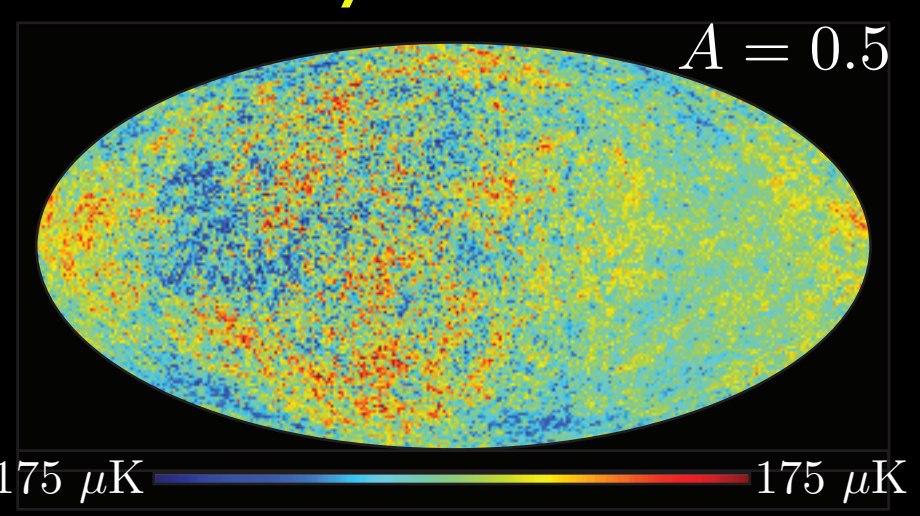
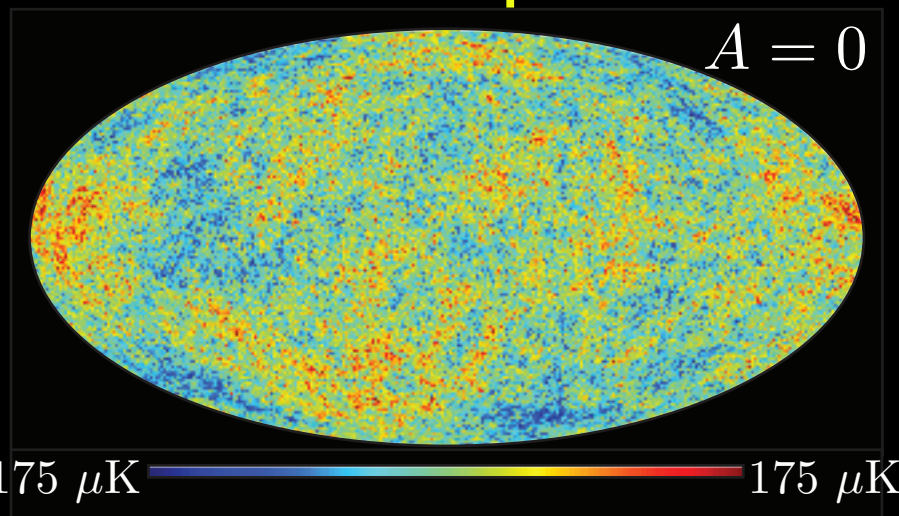
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*“North” pole
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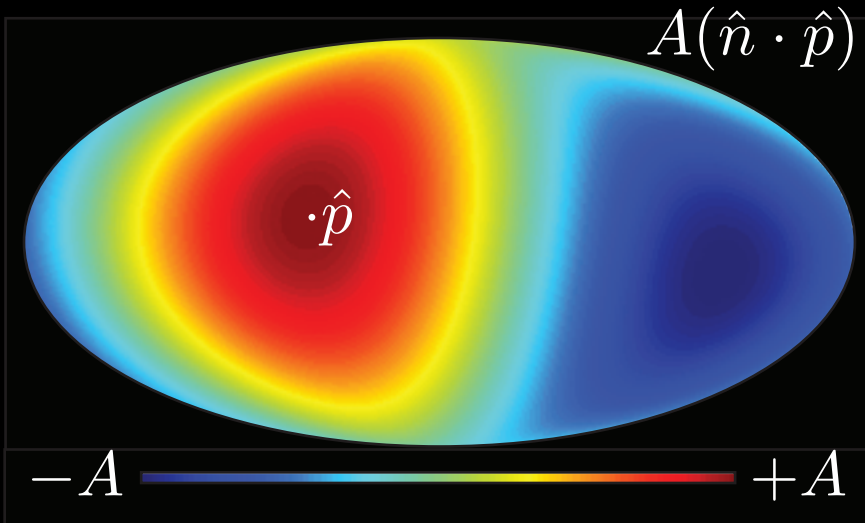
Isotropic

Asymmetric



Simulated maps courtesy of H. K. Eriksen

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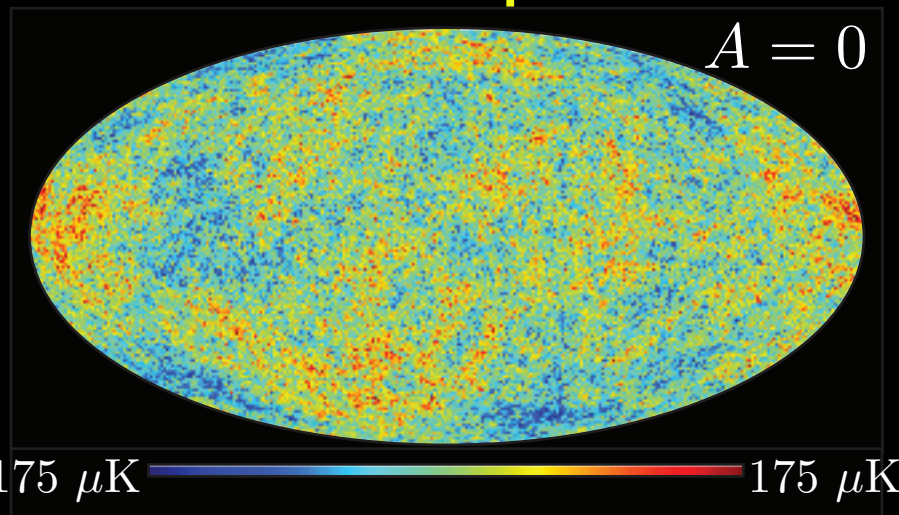
*CMB
Temperature*

\uparrow
*Gaussian field
with isotropic power*

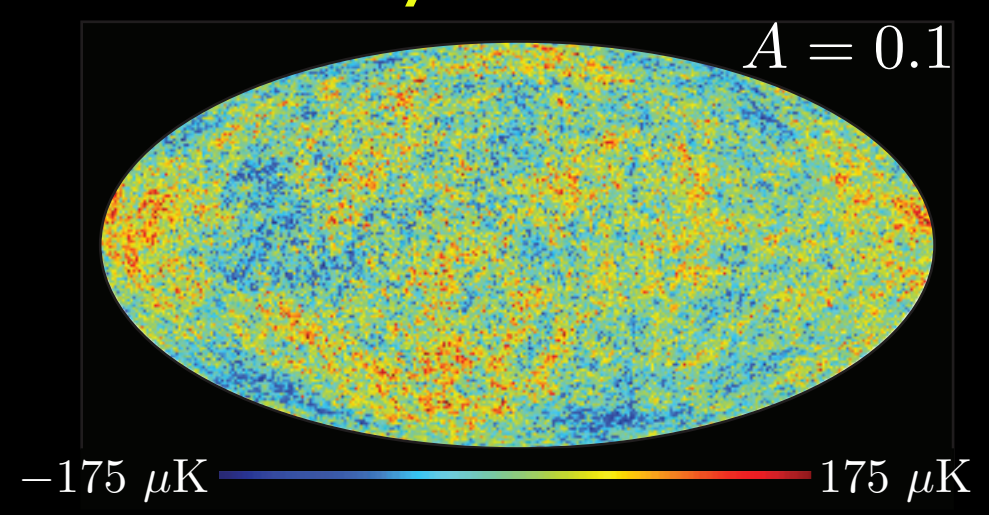
*Modulation
Amplitude*

\uparrow
*“North” pole
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Isotropic



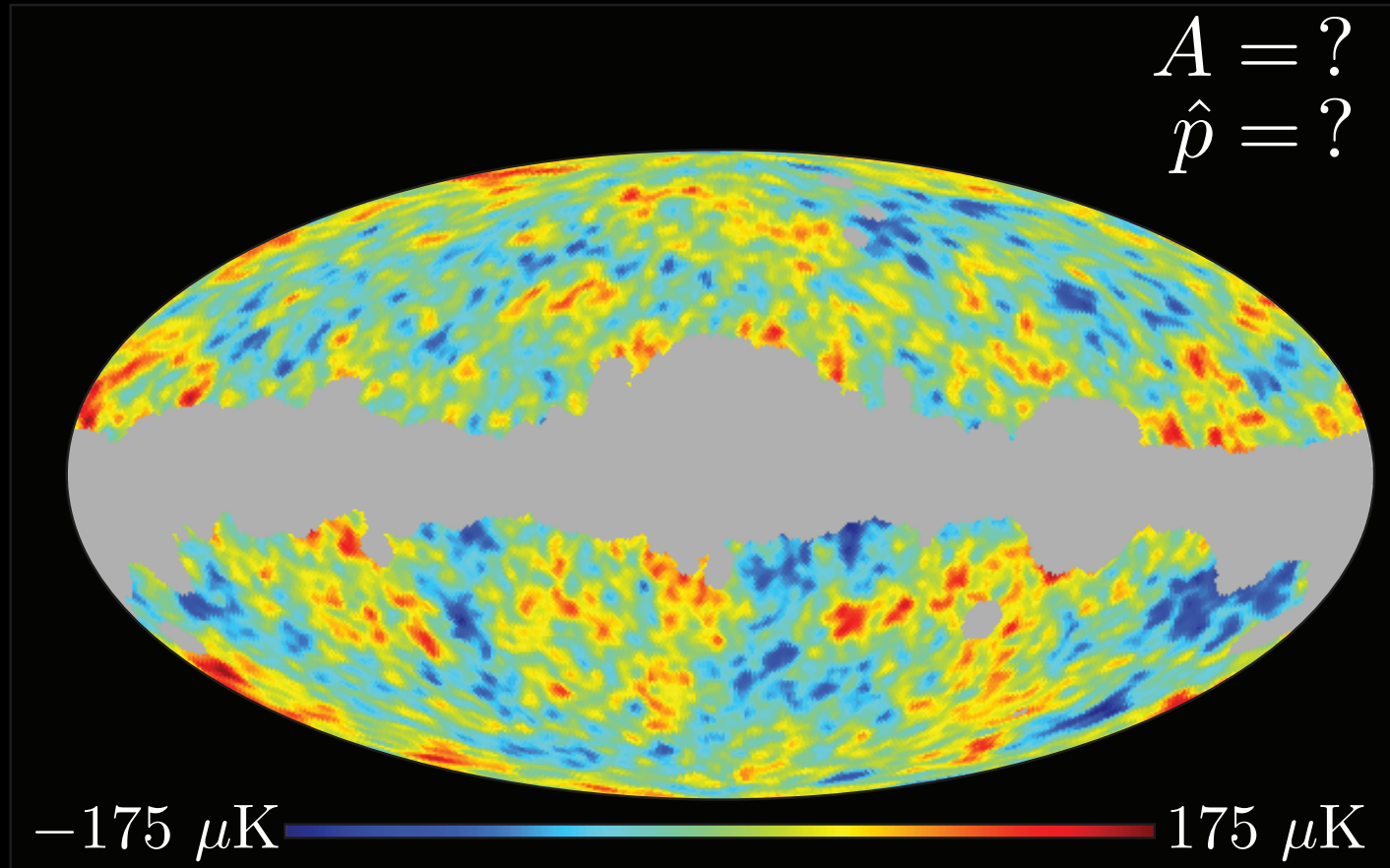
Asymmetric



Simulated maps courtesy of H. K. Eriksen

A Power Asymmetry?

Isotropic or Asymmetric?



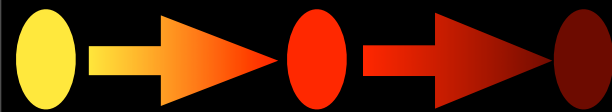
WMAP First Year Low-Resolution Map

Image from Eriksen, et al. astro-ph/0307507

An Asymmetric Universe!

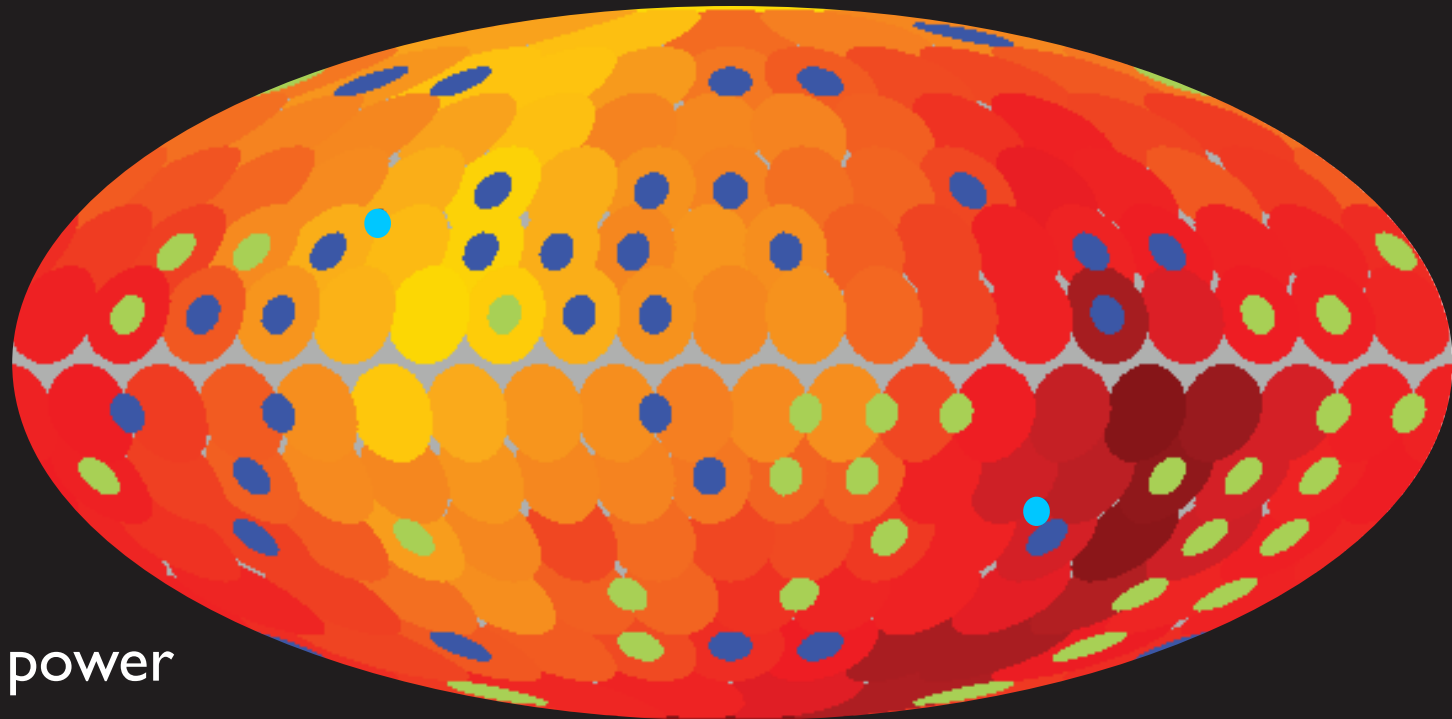
There is a power asymmetry on large angular scales in the WMAP 1st year data. Eriksen, Hansen, Banday, Gorski, Lilje 2004

$$\ell \stackrel{\uparrow}{=} 5 - 40$$



Low to high ratio of power in hemisphere centered on disk to power in opposite hemisphere

- more power
- less power

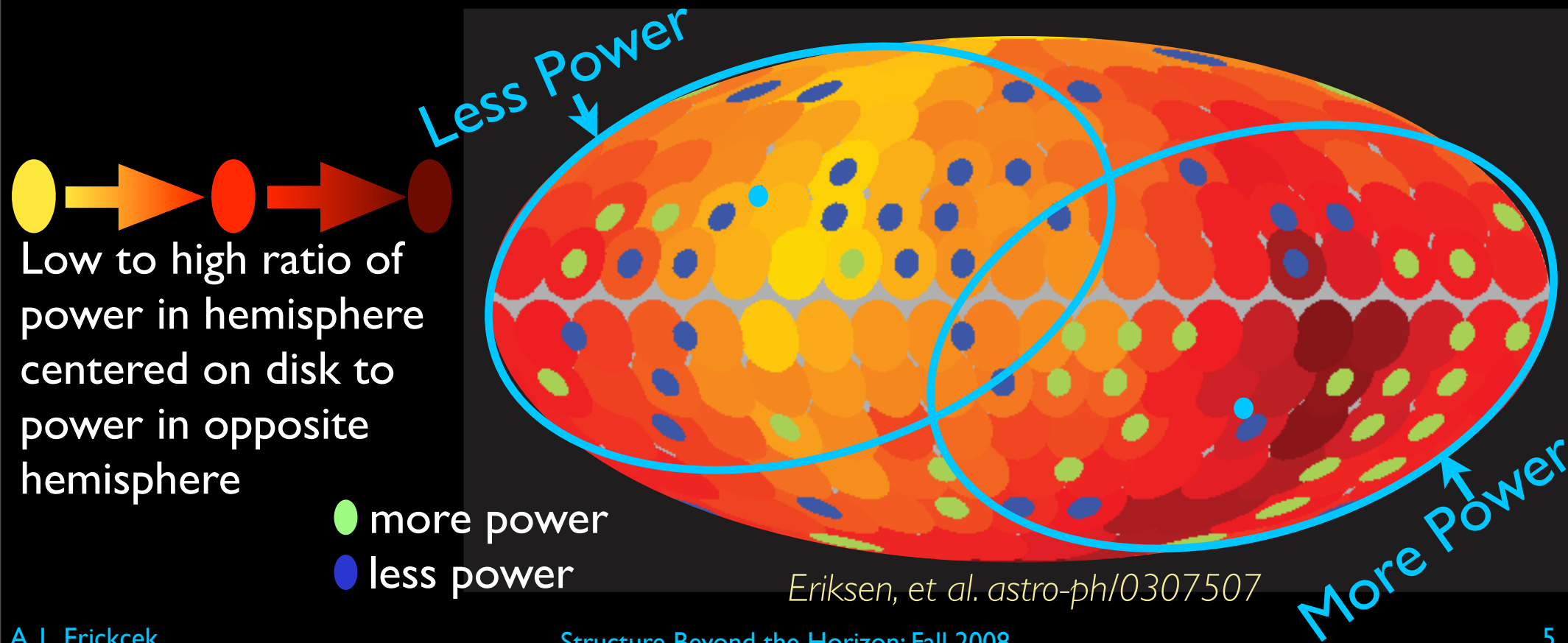


Eriksen, et al. astro-ph/0307507

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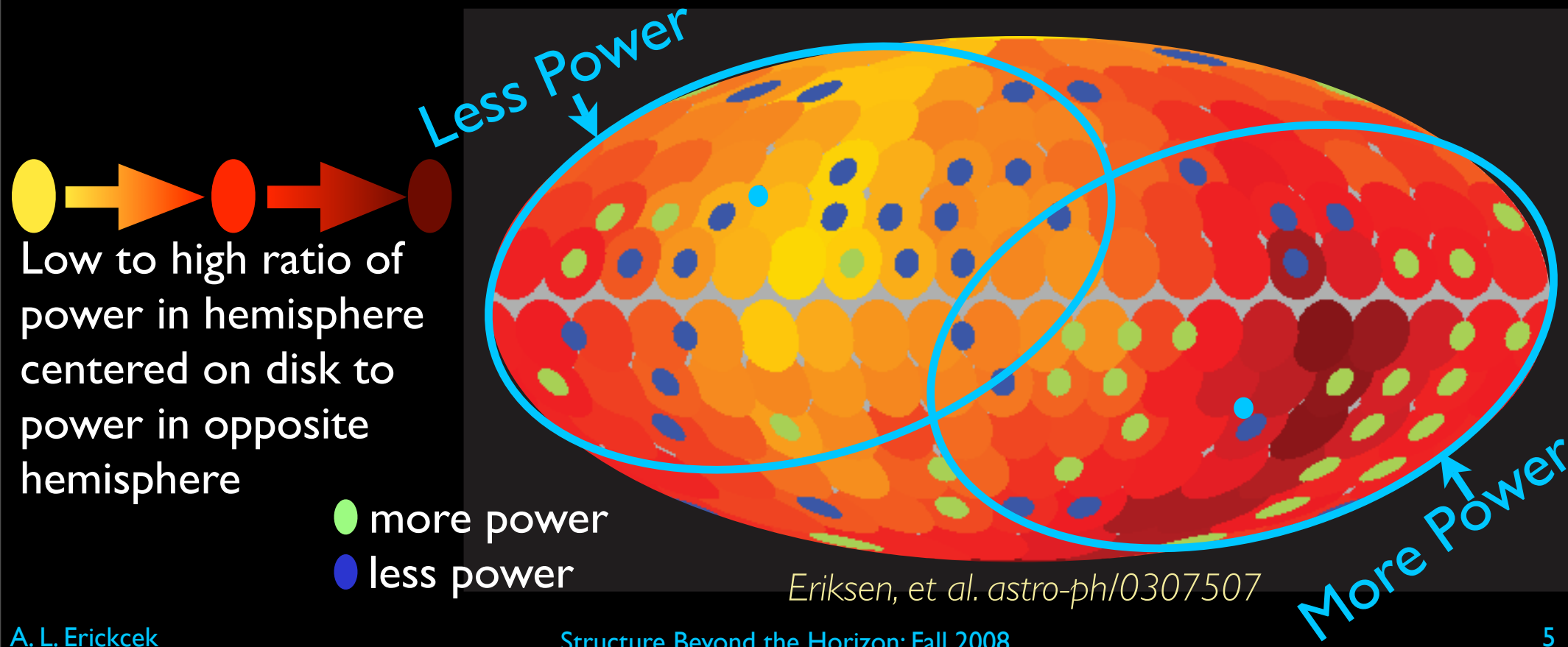
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An Asymmetric Universe!

There is a power asymmetry on large angular scales in the WMAP 1st year data. Eriksen, Hansen, Banday, Gorski, Lilje 2004

- Power asymmetry is maximized when the “equatorial” plane is tilted with respect to the Galactic plane: “north” pole at $(\ell, b) = (237^\circ, -10^\circ)$.
- Only 0.7% of simulated symmetric maps contain this much asymmetry.



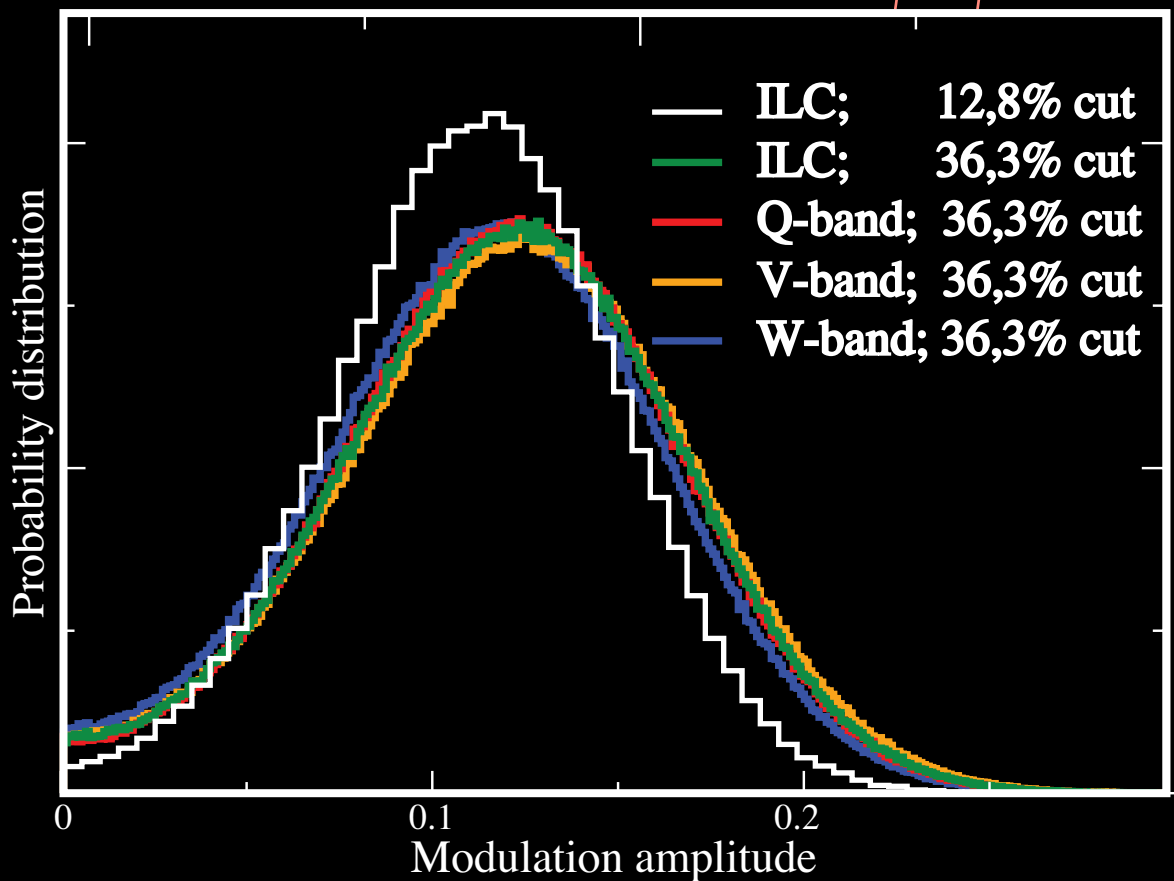
An Asymmetric Universe!

Eriksen, Banday, Gorski,
Hansen, Lilje 2007

The asymmetry persists in the WMAP3 data.

$$\mathbf{T}(\hat{n}) = s(\hat{n}) [1 + A(\hat{n} \cdot \hat{p})] + \mathbf{N}(\hat{n})$$

$\mathbf{T}(\hat{n})$: Observed CMB Temperature
 $s(\hat{n})$: Gaussian field with isotropic power
 $A(\hat{n} \cdot \hat{p})$: Modulation Amplitude
 $\mathbf{N}(\hat{n})$: Noise
 \hat{p} : "North" pole of asymmetry



Bayesian analysis: $A \simeq 0.12$
 "north" pole: $(\ell, b) \simeq (210^\circ, -27^\circ)$

The probability of measuring this amplitude or larger given an isotropic field is 0.01.

Eriksen, et al. astro-ph/070108

An Asymmetric Universe!

Eriksen, Banday, Gorski,
Hansen, Lilje 2007

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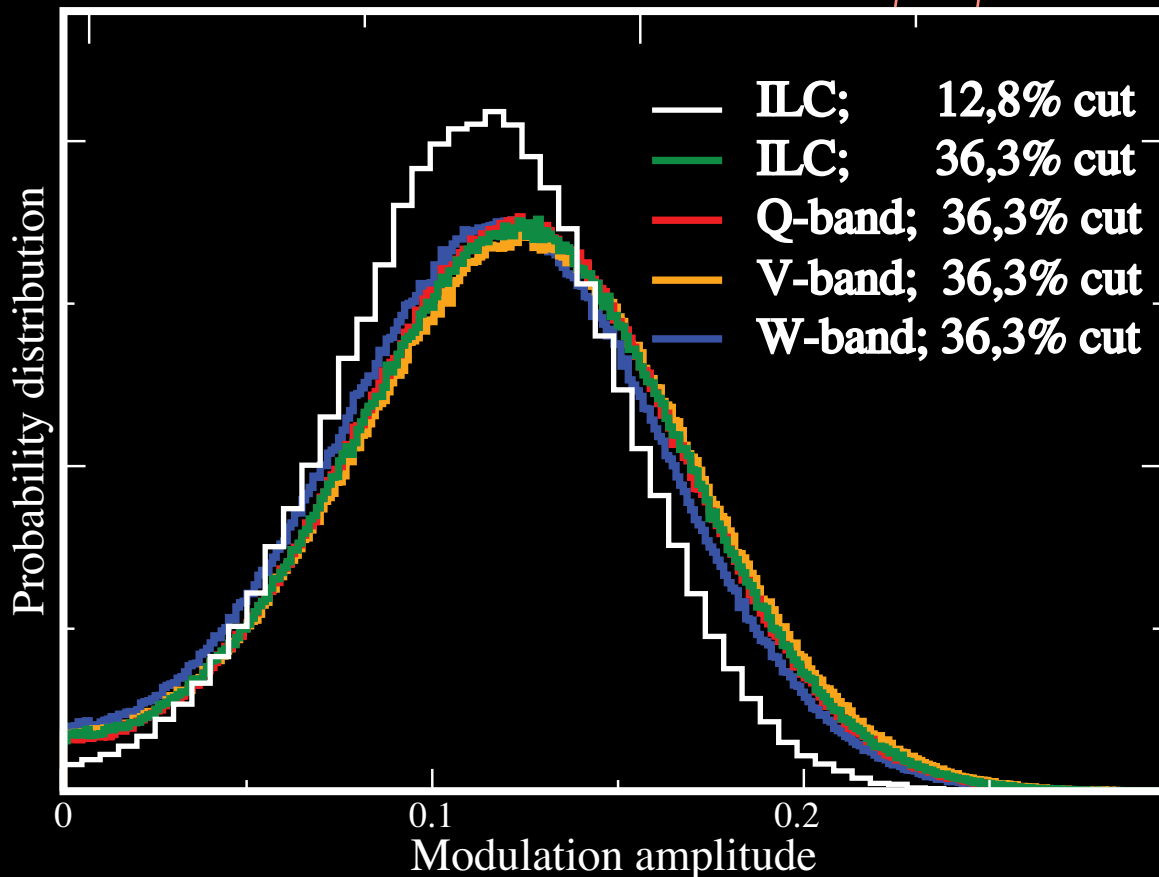
Observed CMB Temperature

Gaussian field with isotropic power

Modulation Amplitude

“North” pole of asymmetry

Noise



The asymmetry is difficult to explain with foregrounds:

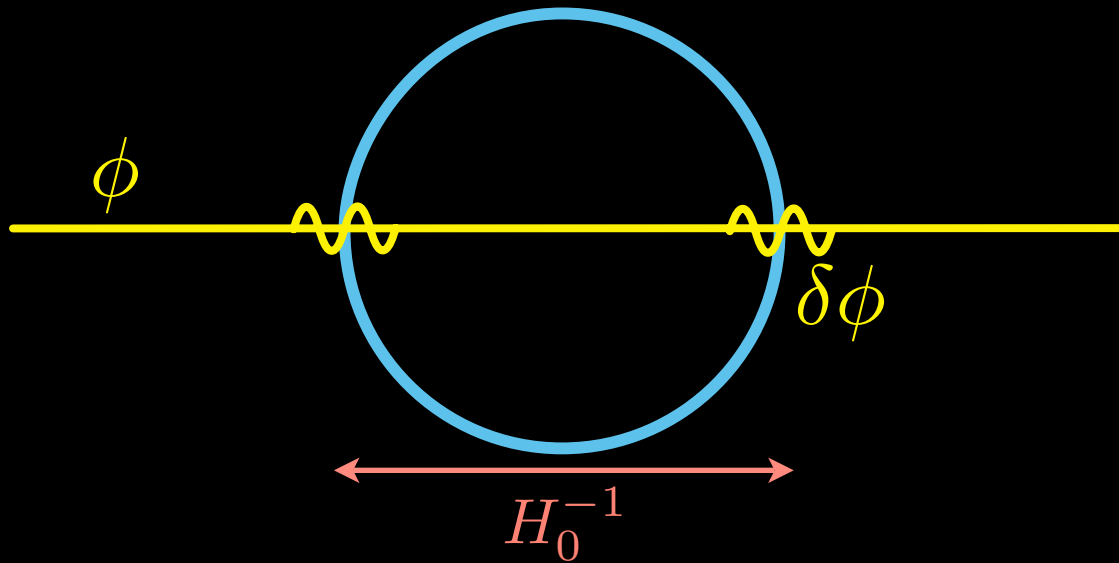
- present in all colors
- not aligned with the Galaxy

The asymmetry is difficult to explain with systematics:

- also detected by COBE
- Hansen, et al. 2004, Eriksen, et al. 2004

Eriksen, et al. astro-ph/070108

Asymmetry from a “Supermode”



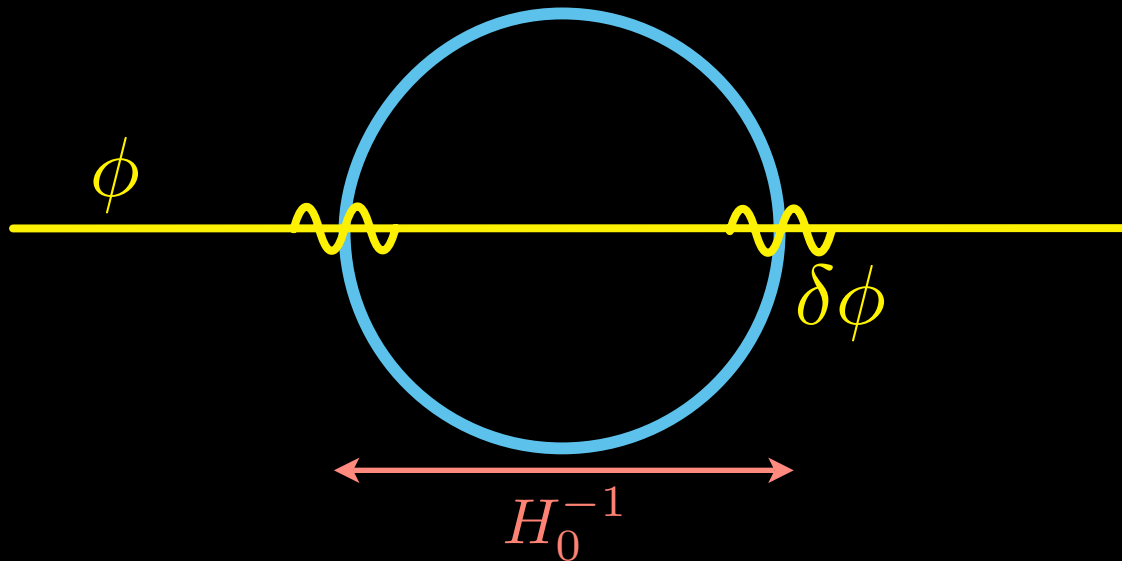
The amplitude of quantum fluctuations depends on the **background value of the inflaton field**.

$$P_{\Psi} = \frac{2}{9k^3} \left[\frac{H(\phi)^2}{\dot{\phi}} \right]^2 \Big|_{k=aH}$$

Power Spectrum of Potential Fluctuations

$$ds^2 = -(1 + 2\Psi)dt^2 + a^2(t)\delta_{ij}(1 - 2\Psi)dx^i dx^j$$

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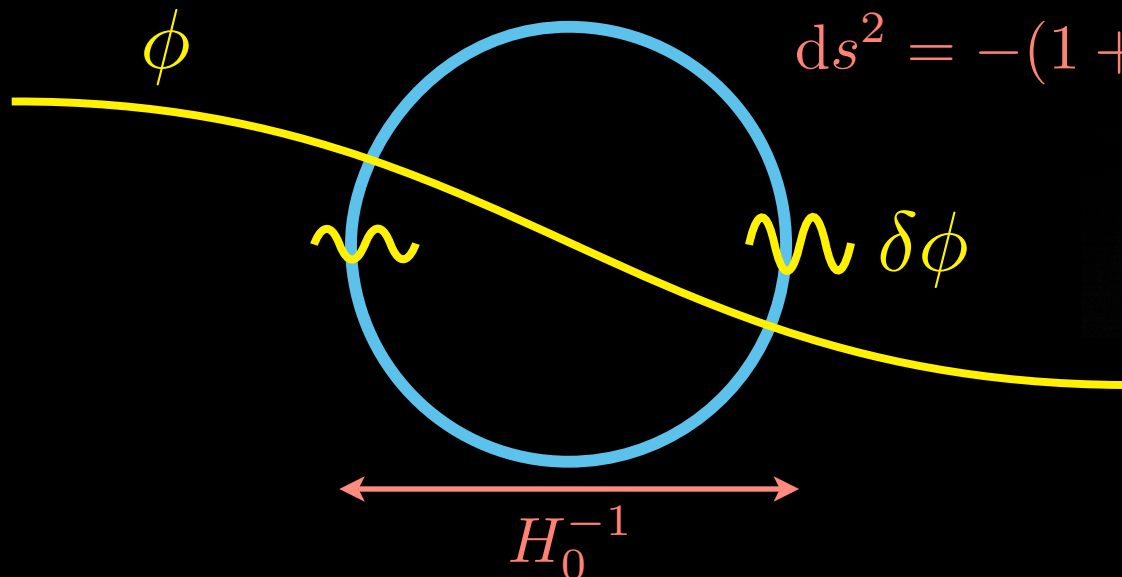


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Power Spectrum of Potential Fluctuations

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Create asymmetry by adding a large-amplitude superhorizon fluctuation: a “supermode.”

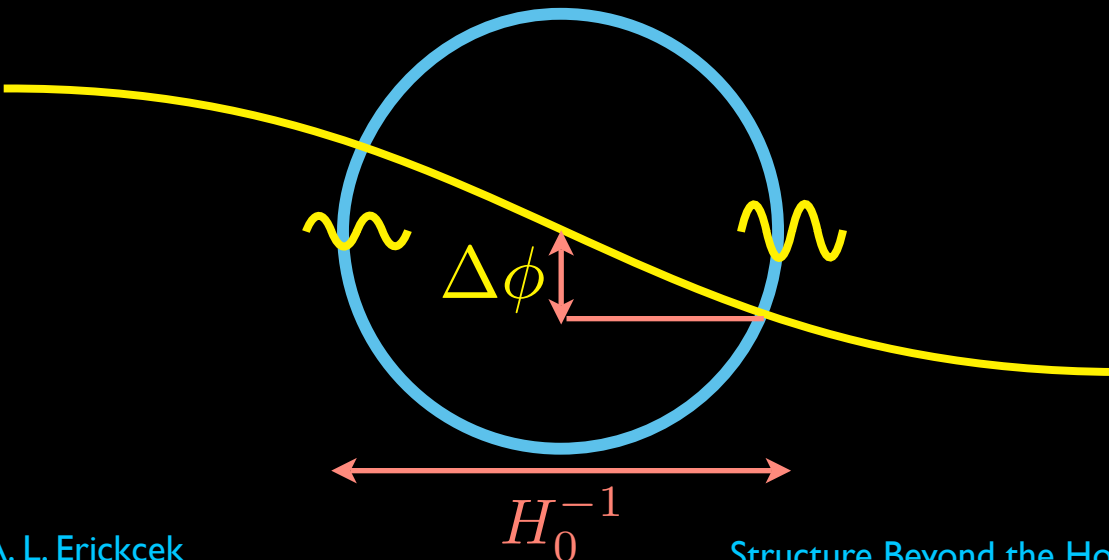
Asymmetry from a “Supermode”

A modulation amplitude $A \simeq 0.12 \implies \frac{\Delta P_\Psi(k)}{P_\Psi(k)_{360^\circ}} \simeq \pm 0.20$

Generating this much asymmetry requires a **BIG** supermode.

- Perturbations with **different wavelengths** are very **weakly coupled**.
- The fluctuation power is not very sensitive to $\phi \iff n_s \simeq 1$.

$$\frac{\Delta P_\Psi}{P_\Psi} = -2\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{\epsilon}}(1 - n_s)\frac{\Delta\phi}{m_{\text{Pl}}}$$



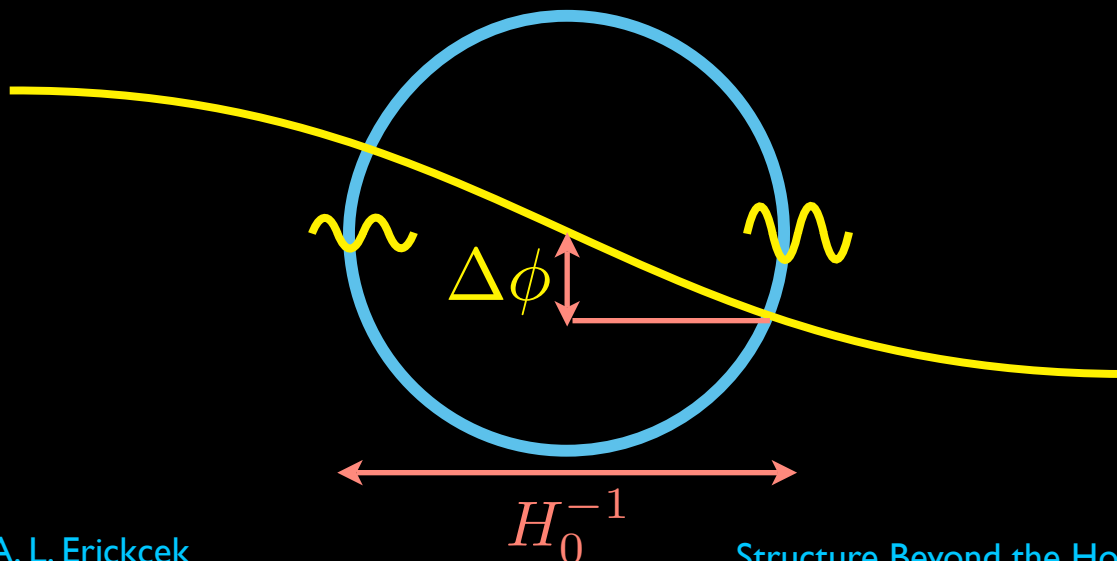
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$$\Delta \phi \implies \Delta \Psi \implies \Delta T$$

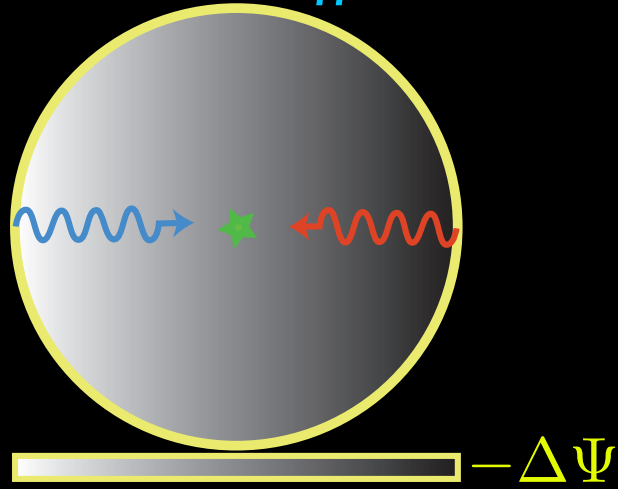
Surely the resulting temperature dipole would be far too large?

Part II

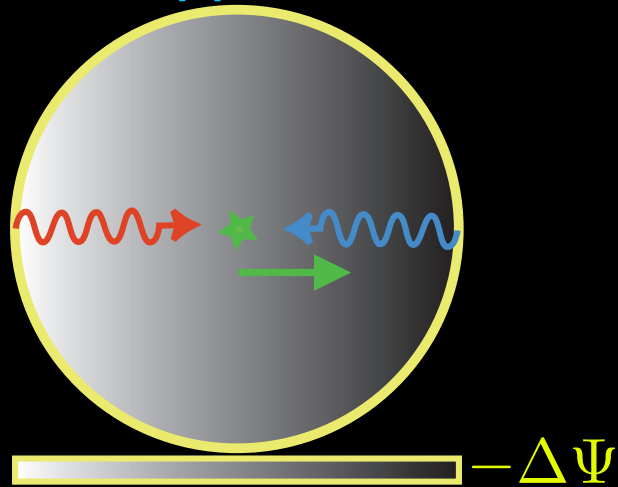
Superhorizon Perturbations and the Cosmic Microwave Background

The Dipole Sometimes Cancels...

The SW Effect



The Doppler Effect

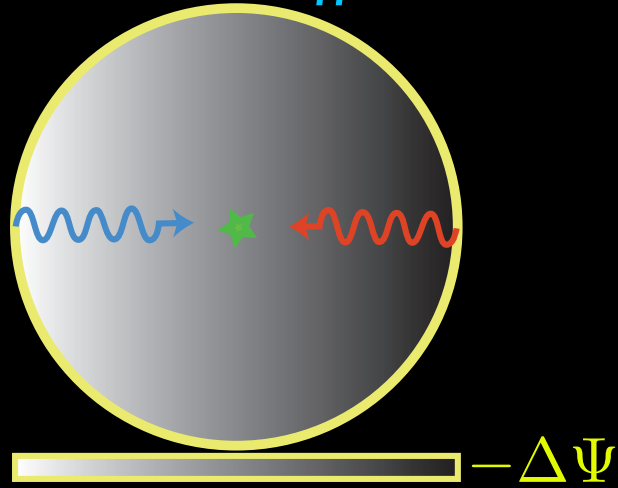


In an **Einstein - deSitter** Universe, a superhorizon perturbation induces **no CMB dipole**. *Grishchuk, Zel'dovich 1978*

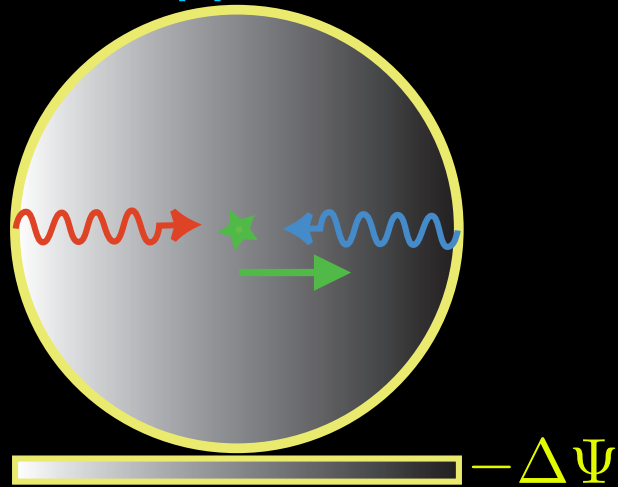
- A superhorizon mode: $\Psi(\vec{x}) \simeq \Psi_{\text{SM}} [\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}]$
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The Dipole Sometimes Cancels...

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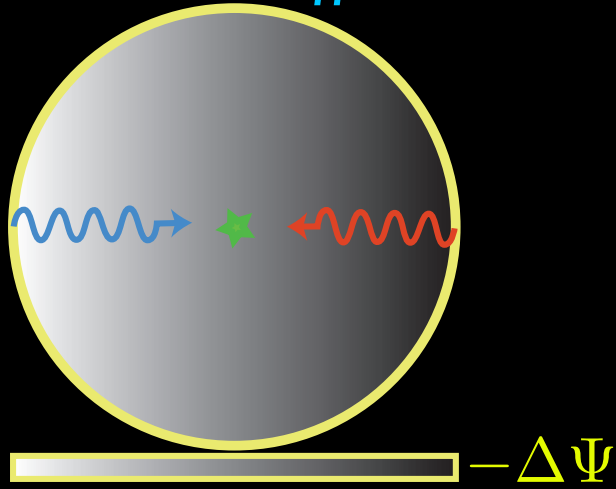
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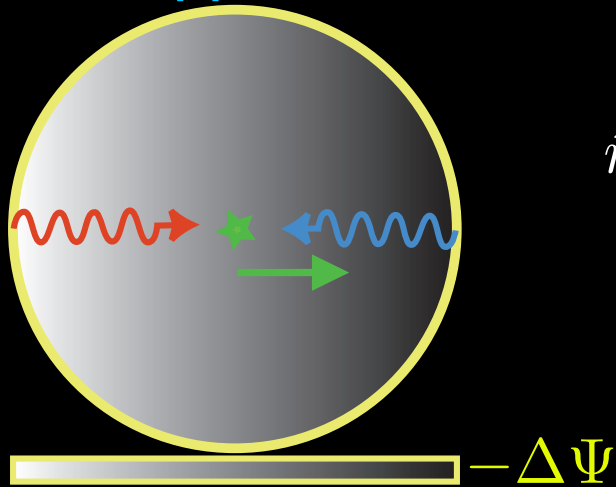
$$\frac{\Delta T}{T} = \hat{n} \cdot [\vec{v}(t_0, \vec{0}) - \vec{v}(t_{\text{dec}}, \vec{x}_{\text{dec}})]$$

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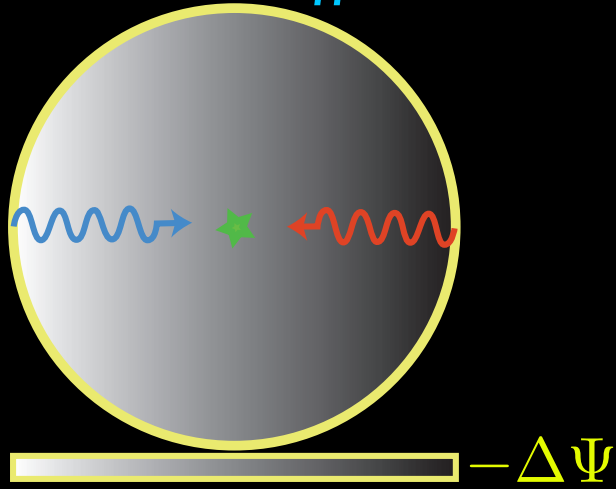
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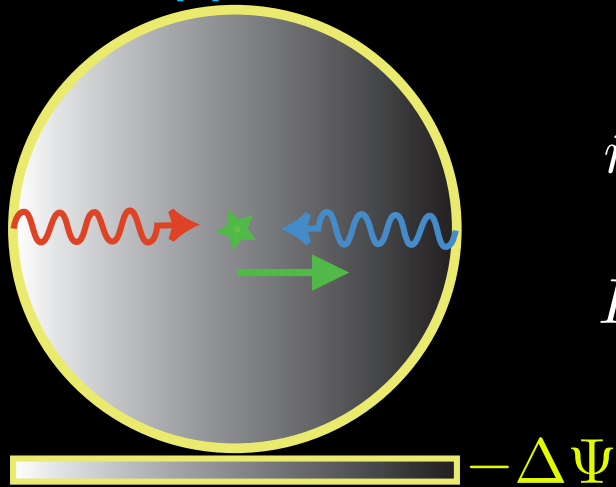
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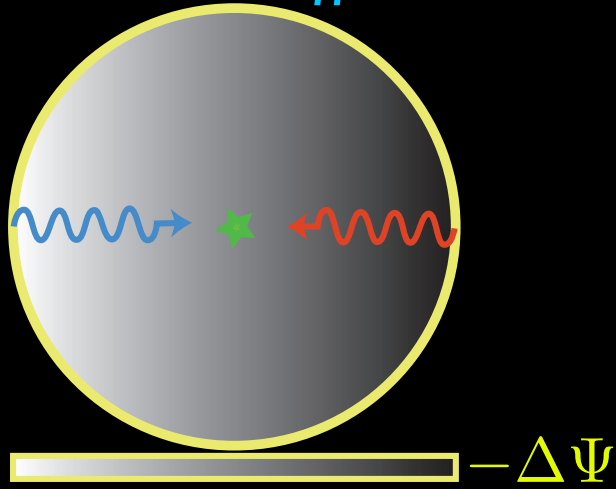
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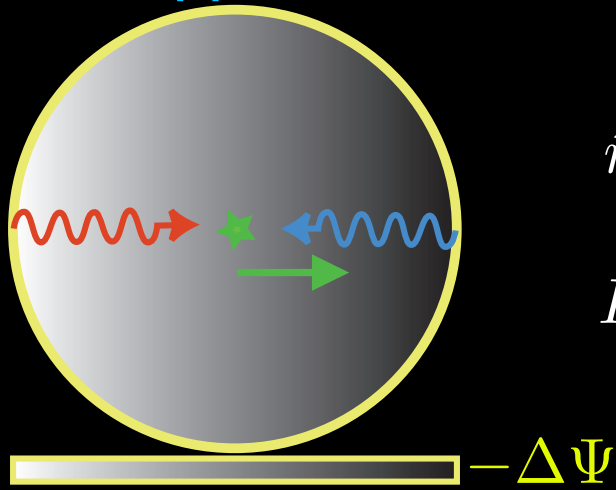
$$H_0 x_{\text{dec}} = 2 \left[1 - \sqrt{a(t_{\text{dec}})} \right]$$

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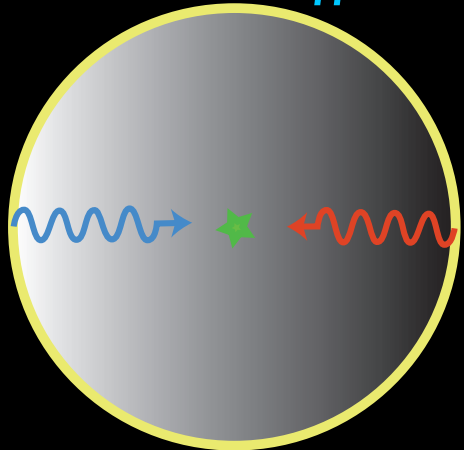
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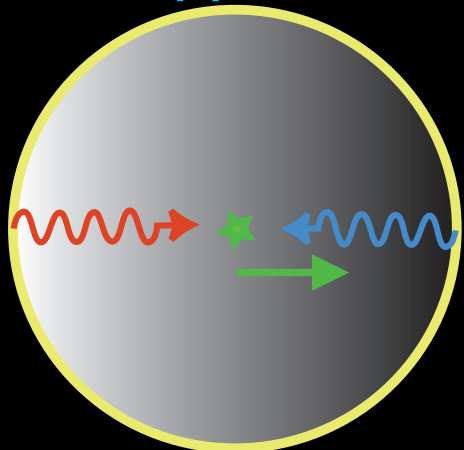
$$\frac{\Delta T}{T} = \frac{-(2/3) \left[1 - \sqrt{a(t_{\text{dec}})} \right]}{2 \left[1 - \sqrt{a(t_{\text{dec}})} \right]} \Psi_{\text{SM}} [\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}_{\text{dec}}]$$

The Dipole Sometimes Cancels...

The SW Effect



The Doppler Effect

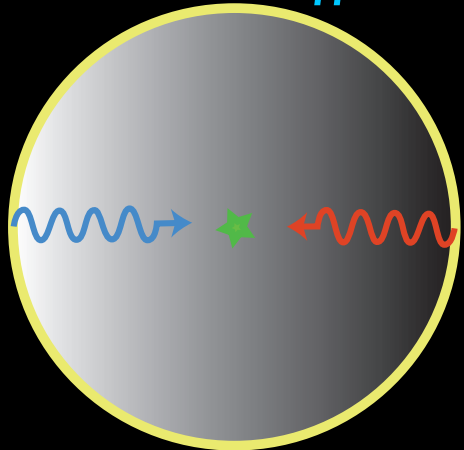


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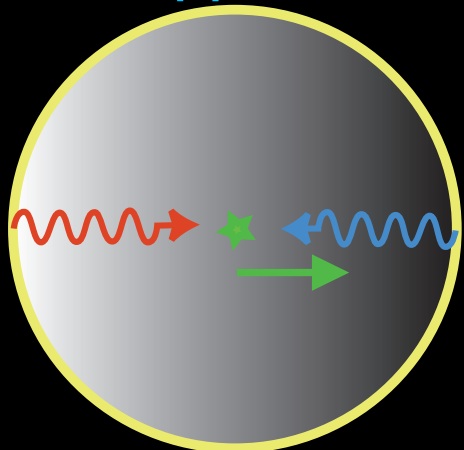
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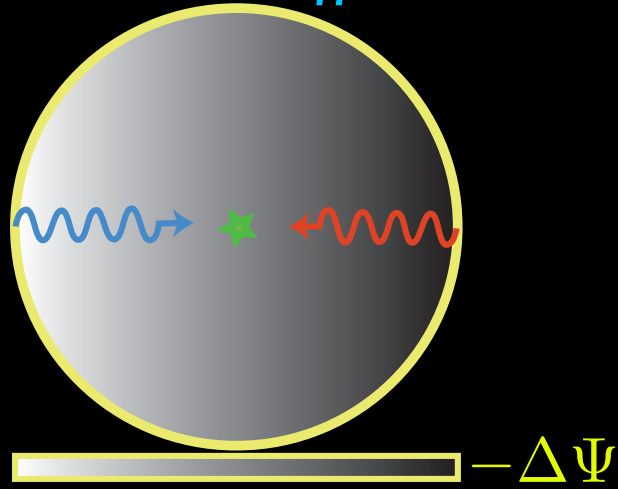


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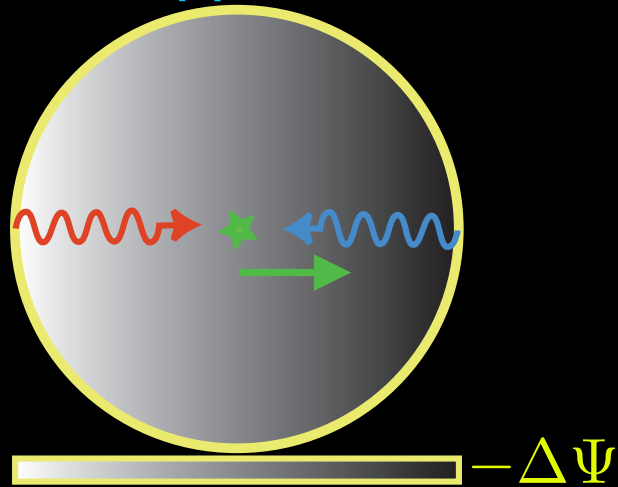
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The SW Effect



The Doppler Effect



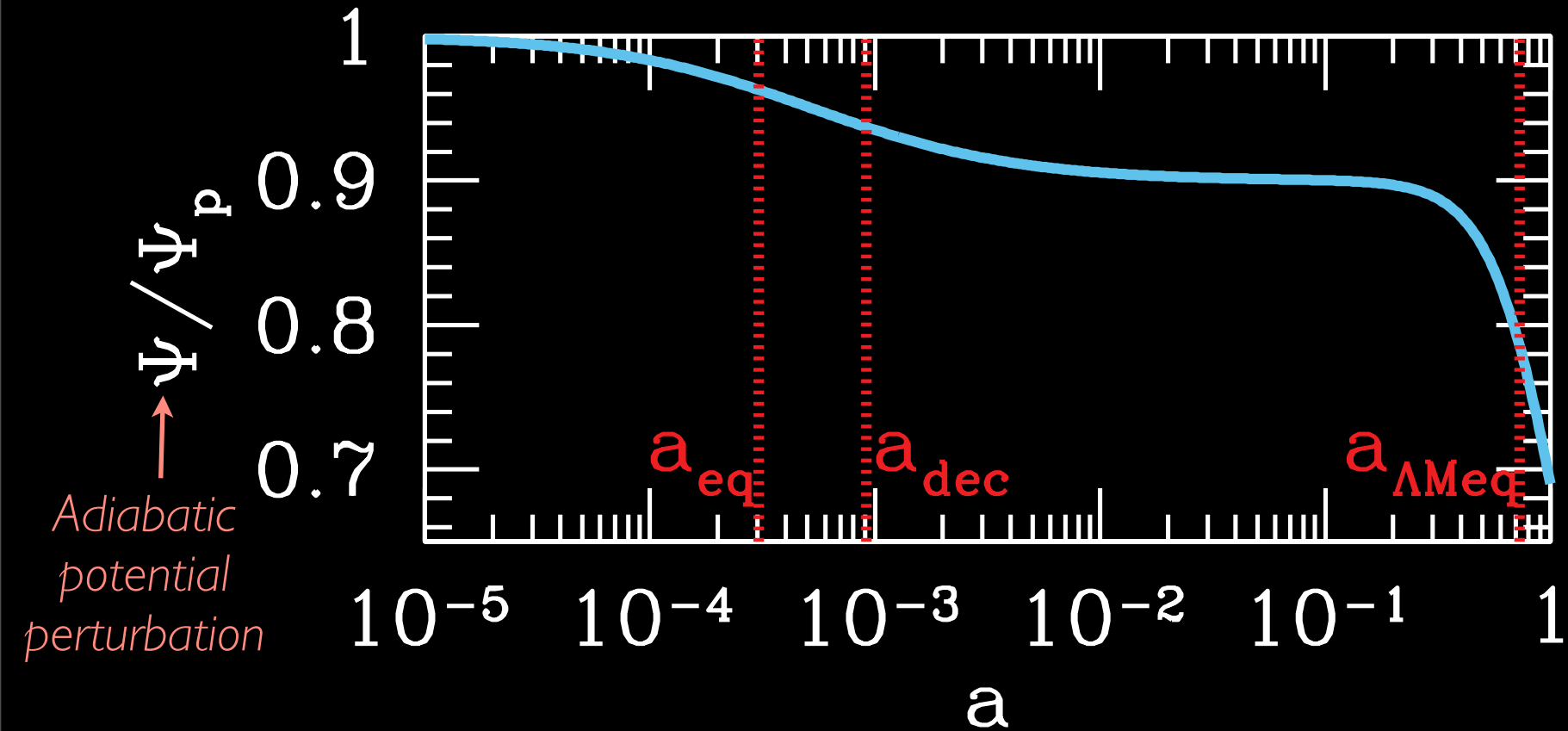
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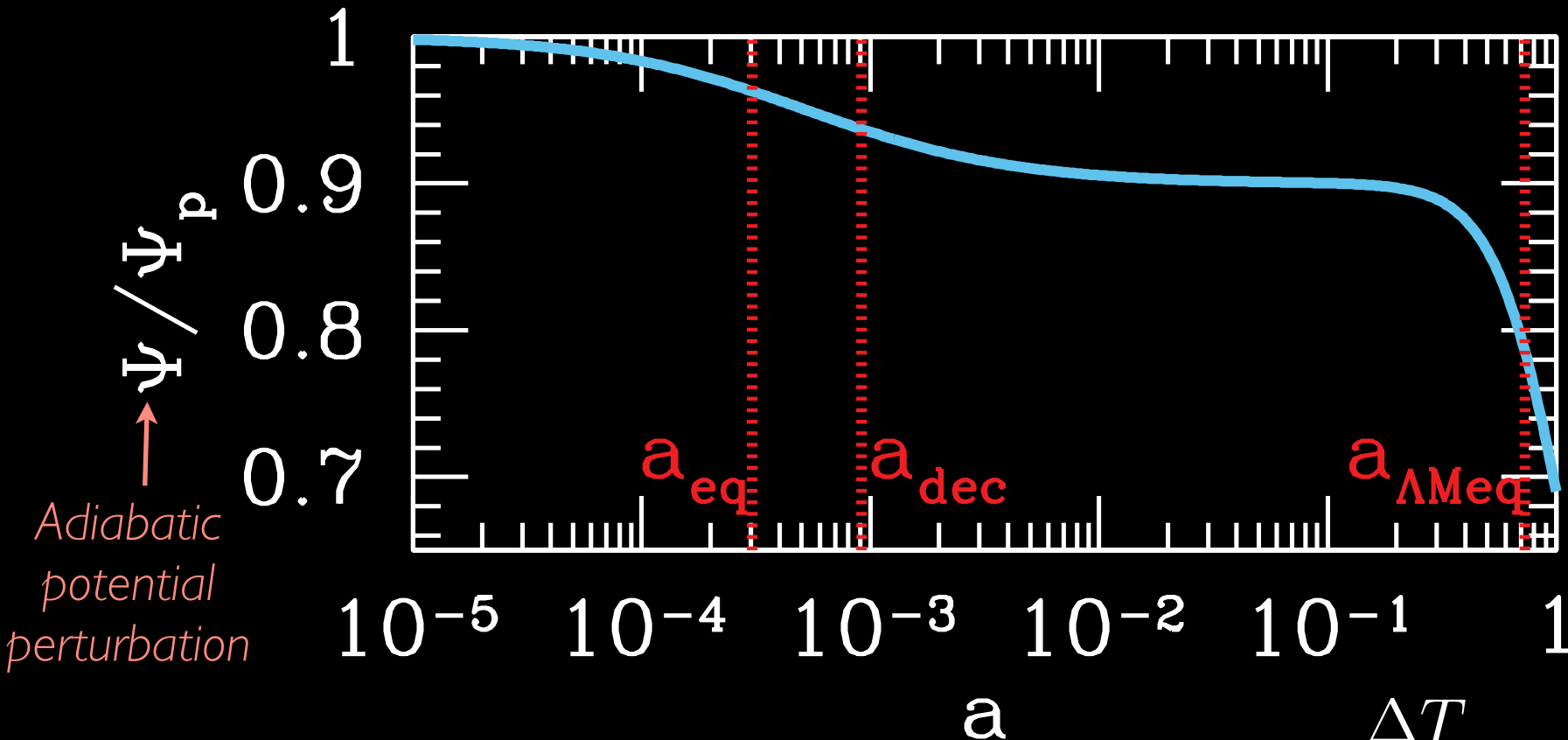
Well that's cute.

But the situation is much more complicated in a Universe like ours!

The Evolving Potential in Λ CDM



The Evolving Potential in Λ CDM



- Radiation at decoupling **increases SW effect**: $\frac{\Delta T}{T} = 0.4\Psi$
- Λ increases x_{dec} and **reduces the Doppler dipole**.
- Evolution of Ψ leads to **ISW effect** that will partially cancel the SW anisotropy:
$$\frac{\Delta T}{T} = 2 \int_{t_{\text{dec}}}^{t_0} \frac{d\Psi}{dt} [t, \vec{x}(t)] dt$$

The Dipole Cancels!

Adiabatic superhorizon
perturbation:

$$\Psi(\vec{x}) = \Psi_{\text{SM}} \left[\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} \right]$$

$kH_0^{-1} \ll 1$

Temperature
anisotropy:

$$\frac{\Delta T}{T}(\hat{n}) = \delta_1 \Psi_{\text{SM}} \left[\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}_{\text{dec}} \right]$$

*includes SW, Doppler and ISW
anisotropies*

The Dipole Cancels!

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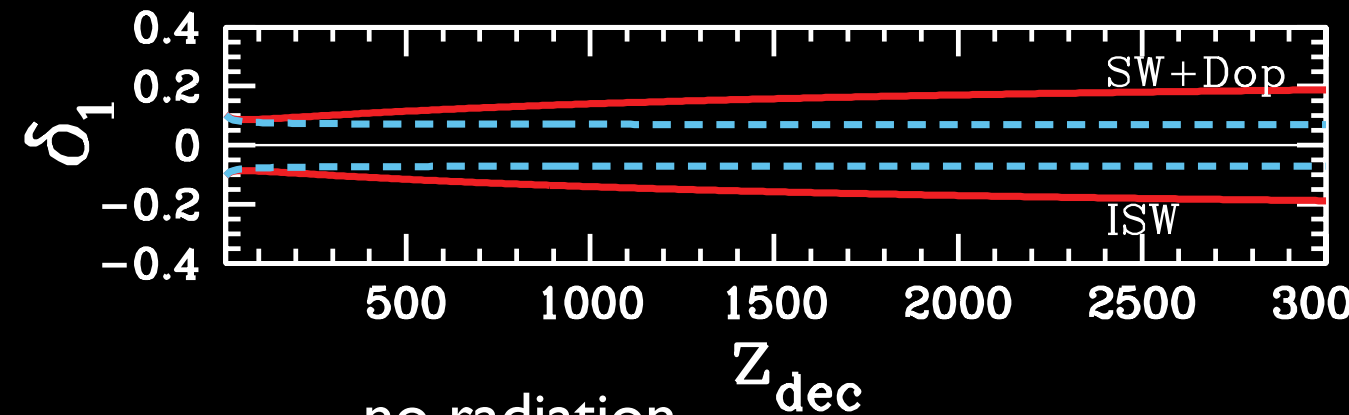
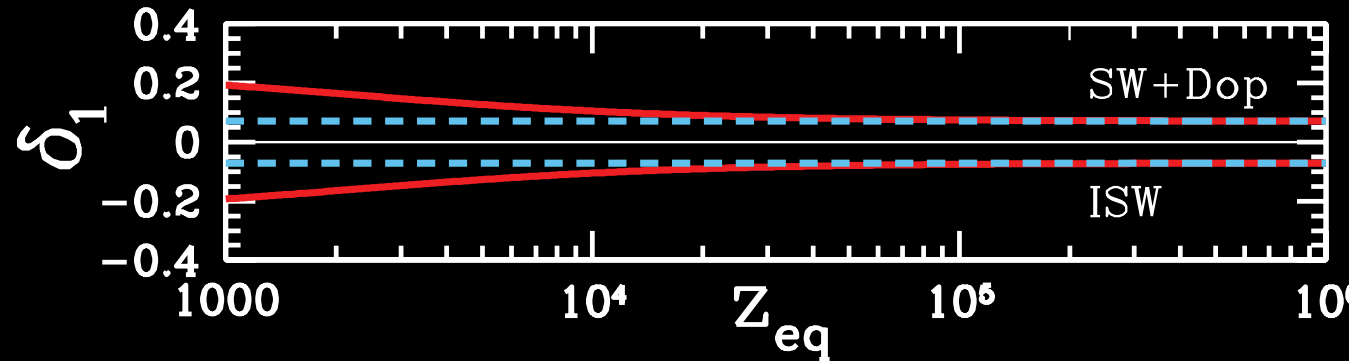
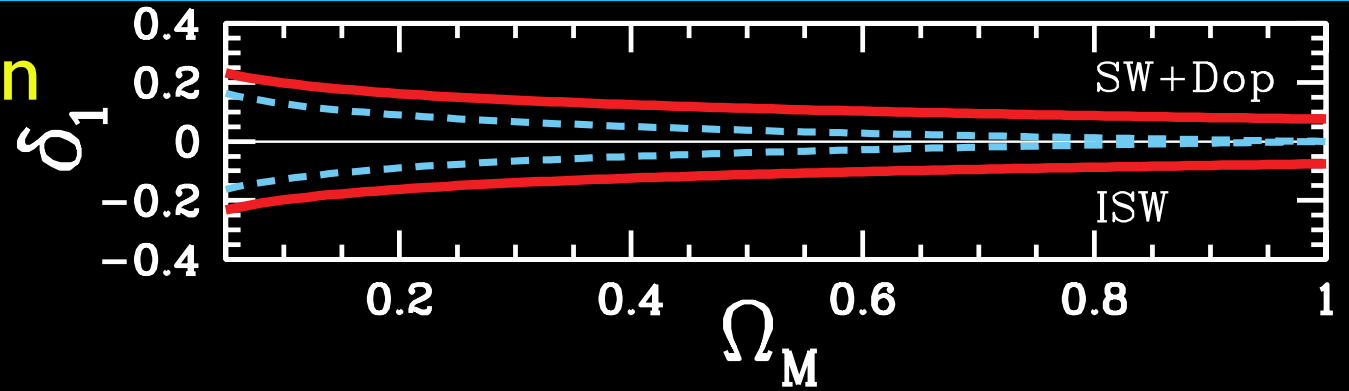
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includes SW, Doppler and ISW anisotropies



--- no radiation
 — includes radiation

The Dipole Cancels!

Adiabatic superhorizon perturbation:

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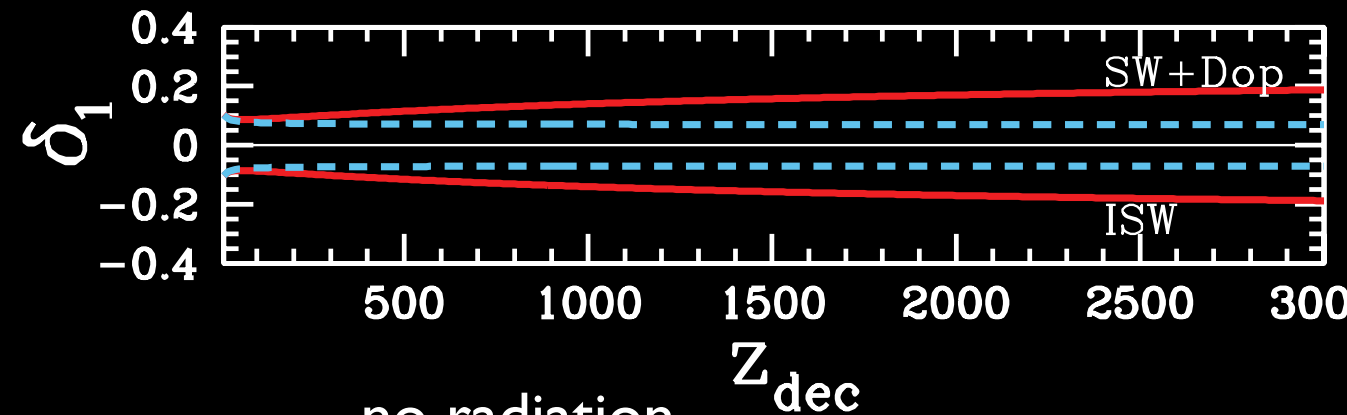
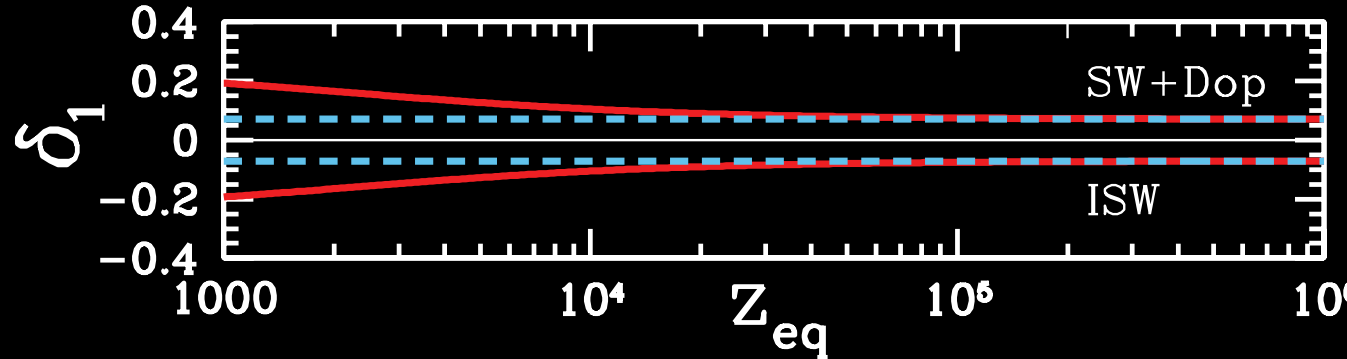
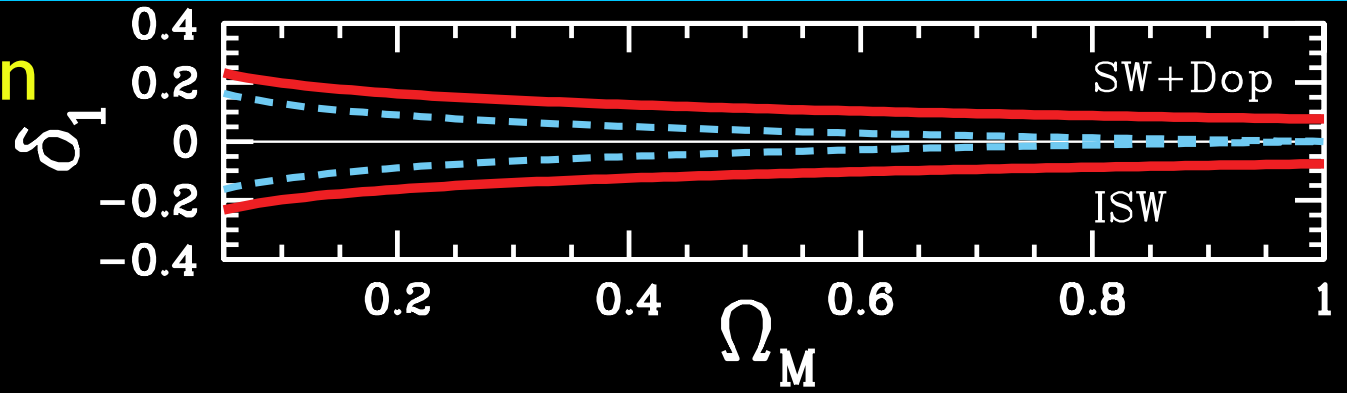
$kH_0^{-1} \ll 1$

Temperature anisotropy:

$$\frac{\Delta T}{T}(\hat{n}) = \delta_1 \Psi_{\text{SM}} \left[\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}_{\text{dec}} \right]$$

includes SW, Doppler and ISW anisotropies

The dipole cancels for all flat Λ CDM universes, even if radiation is included.



--- no radiation
 — includes radiation

Matter and radiation aren't special...

The $\mathcal{O}(kx_{\text{dec}})$ terms in ΔT for adiabatic perturbations **cancel** in flat universes that contain

- matter
- radiation
- cosmological constant

What if there's **something else**?

Matter and radiation aren't special...

The $\mathcal{O}(kx_{\text{dec}})$ terms in ΔT for adiabatic perturbations **cancel** in flat universes that contain

- matter
- radiation
- cosmological constant

What if there's **something else?**

$$H^2(a) = H_0^2$$

$$\left[\frac{\Omega_X}{a^{3(1+w)}} + \Omega_\Lambda \right]$$

exotic fluid
 $w \geq 1/3$
dominates early universe



cosmological constant



Matter and radiation aren't special...

The $\mathcal{O}(kx_{\text{dec}})$ terms in ΔT for adiabatic perturbations **cancel** in flat universes that contain

- matter
- radiation
- cosmological constant

exotic fluid
 $w \geq 1/3$
dominates early universe

What if there's **something else?**

$$H^2(a) = H_0^2 \left[\frac{\Omega_X}{a^{3(1+w)}} + \Omega_\Lambda \right]$$

The dipole terms still cancel for adiabatic perturbations!

cosmological constant

Is there a **physical reason for dipole cancellation** in flat universes with superhorizon adiabatic perturbations?

- special synchronous gauge: metric is **FRW** + $\mathcal{O}(k^2 H_0^{-2})$
Hirata and Seljak 2005
- galaxies have no peculiar velocity in synchronous gauge
- **no $\mathcal{O}(kx_{\text{dec}})$ temperature anisotropies**

Beyond the Dipole

A single superhorizon mode: $\Psi(\vec{x}, t) = \Psi_{\text{SM}}(t) \sin[\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} + \varpi]$

$$kH_0^{-1} \ll 1$$

phase of our location

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distance to last scattering surface

phase of our location

Temperature anisotropy: Expansion in powers of $\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}_d$

$$\frac{\Delta T}{T}(\hat{n}) = \Psi_{\text{SM}} \left[(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}_d) \delta_1 \cos \varpi - (\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}_d)^2 \delta_2 \frac{\sin \varpi}{2} - (\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}_d)^3 \delta_3 \frac{\cos \varpi}{6} \right]$$

Observed CMB
Temperature

Dipole

Quadrupole

Octupole

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Multipole moments: $\frac{\Delta T}{T}(\hat{n}) = \sum_{\ell, m} a_{\ell m} Y_{\ell m}(\hat{n}) \leftarrow \hat{k} = \hat{z}$

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$$a_{10} = -\sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{3}} (kx_d)^3 \delta_3 \frac{\cos \varpi}{10} \Psi_{\text{SM}}(t_d)$$

- residual dipole moment
- comparable to octupole moment
- less restrictive constraint due to our proper motion

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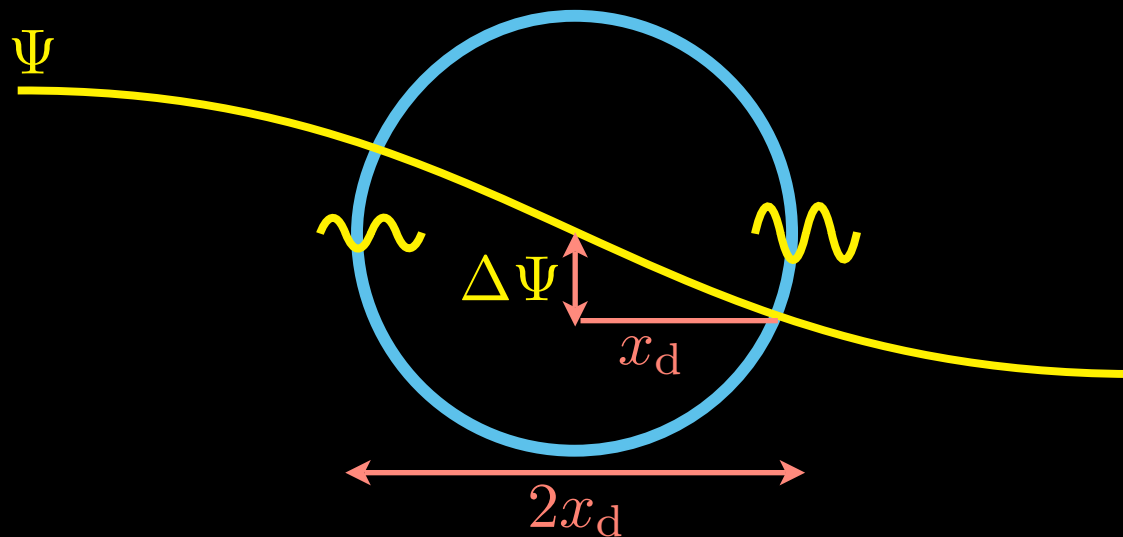
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The Quadrupole Constraint

Supermode: $\Psi(\vec{x}, t) = \Psi_{\text{SM}}(t) \sin[\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} + \varpi]$ ← *phase of our location*

Recall the motivation: $\Delta\phi \implies$ **power asymmetry**

$$\Delta\phi \implies \Delta\Psi \implies \Delta T$$



$$\Delta\Psi \simeq (kx_d) \Psi_{\text{SM}} |\cos \varpi|$$

distance to last scattering surface

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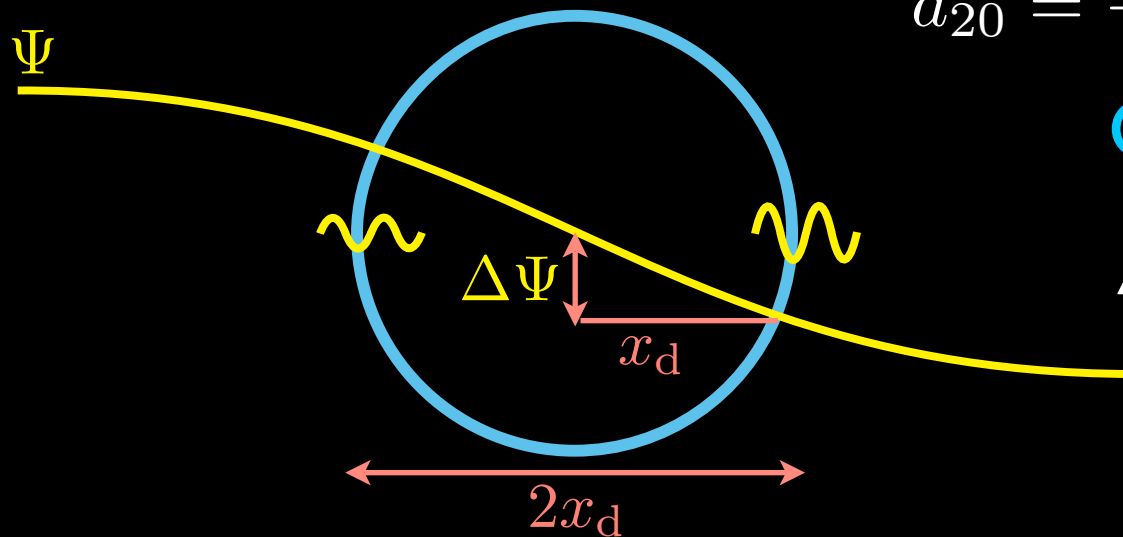
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Quadrupole Constraint:

$$\Delta\Psi(kx_d) |\tan \varpi| \lesssim 5.8 Q$$

maximum allowed $|a_{20}|$

$$Q \lesssim 3\sqrt{C_2} \simeq 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$$



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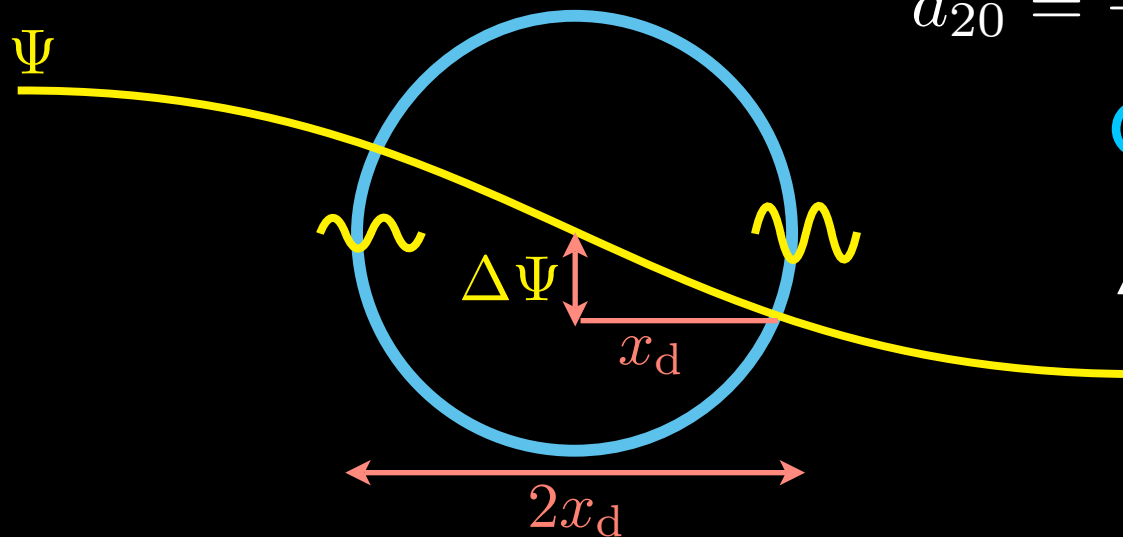
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Quadrupole vanishes if $\varpi = 0$.



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distance to last scattering surface

The Octupole Constraint

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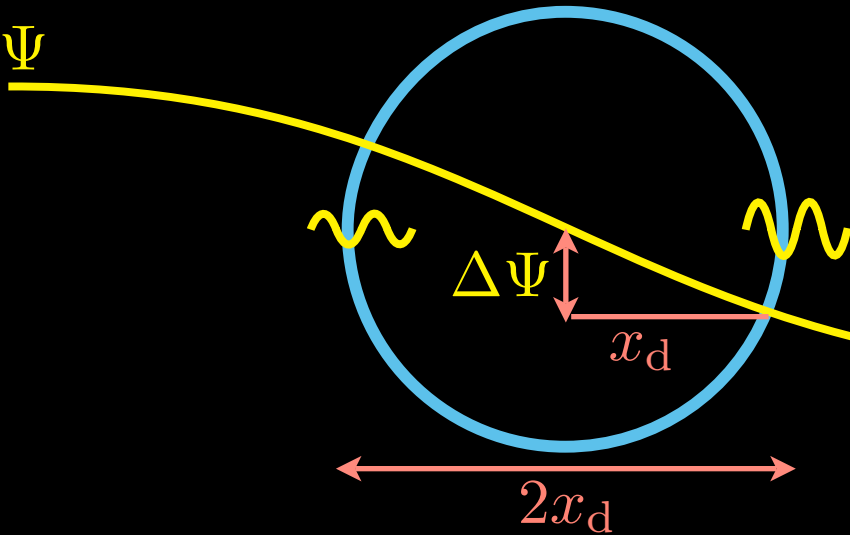
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$$\Delta\Psi (kx_d)^2 \lesssim 32\mathcal{O} \leftarrow |a_{30}|$$

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distance to last scattering surface

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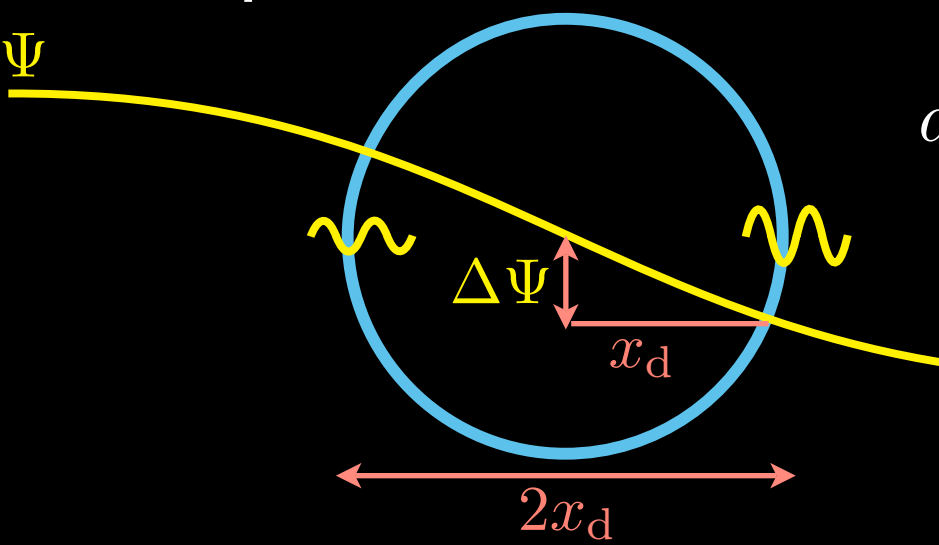
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\uparrow
distance to last scattering surface

Constraint is phase-independent.

Evade constraint by decreasing kx_d ?

Not if we want **linearity beyond horizon!**

$$|\Psi| < 1 \implies \Delta\Psi \lesssim kx_d$$

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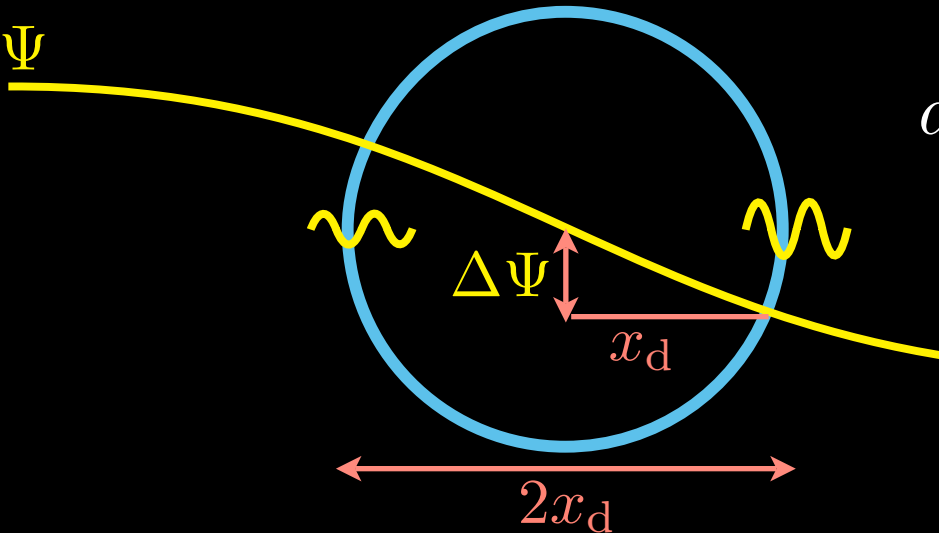
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$$\Delta\Psi \lesssim [32\mathcal{O}]^{1/3} = 0.095$$

Recall: $\frac{\Delta P_\Psi}{P_\Psi} \propto \Delta\phi \propto \Delta\Psi$

$$\frac{\Delta P_\Psi}{P_\Psi} \lesssim 0.01$$



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distance to last scattering surface

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$$C_{\ell=3} \lesssim 3\sqrt{C_3} \simeq 2.7 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$\Psi \lesssim [32\mathcal{O}]^{1/3} = 0.095$$

$$\text{Result: } \frac{\Delta P_{\Psi}}{P_{\Psi}} \propto \Delta\phi \propto \Delta\Psi$$

Observed: $\frac{\Delta P_{\Psi}}{P_{\Psi}} \simeq 0.2$

Way too big!

$$\frac{\Delta P_{\Psi}}{P_{\Psi}} \lesssim 0.01$$

Part III

The Curvaton Alternative

Mollerach 1990; Linde, Mukhanov 1997; Lyth, Wands 2002; Moroi, Takahashi 2001; and others...

The Curvaton to the Rescue!

The problem with the inflaton model is two-fold:

- The fluctuation power is only **weakly dependent** on the background value.
 - ▶ $\Delta P \propto (1 - n_s)\Delta\phi$
 - ▶ A small power asymmetry requires a large fluctuation in ϕ .
- The **inflaton dominates the energy density** of the universe, so a “supermode” in the inflaton field generates a **huge potential perturbation**.
 - ▶ CMB octupole places upper bound on $\Delta\Psi$.
 - ▶ $\Delta P \propto \Delta\phi \propto \Delta\Psi$ with no wiggle room.

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The **solution**: the primordial fluctuations could be generated by a **subdominant scalar field**, the curvaton.

- The fluctuation power depends strongly on the background curvaton value.
- The CMB constraints on $\Delta\Psi$ do not directly constrain ΔP . There is a new free parameter: the fraction of energy in the curvaton.

The Curvaton during Inflation

- The **inflaton** still dominates the energy density and **drives inflation**.
- The **curvaton** (σ) is a **subdominant light scalar field** during inflation.

$$V(\sigma) = \frac{1}{2}m_\sigma^2\sigma^2 \quad \text{with } m_\sigma \ll H_{\text{inf}}(\phi) \quad \text{and } \rho_\sigma \ll \rho_\phi$$

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- There are **quantum fluctuations** in both the inflaton and curvaton.

$$(\delta\phi)_{\text{rms}} = (\delta\sigma)_{\text{rms}} = \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{2\pi} \ll \bar{\sigma} \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{homogeneous} \\ \text{background value} \end{array}$$

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- Outside the horizon, $\delta\sigma$ and $\bar{\sigma}$ obey the same equation of motion:

$$\ddot{\bar{\sigma}} + 3H\dot{\bar{\sigma}} + V'(\bar{\sigma}) = 0$$

$$\delta\ddot{\sigma} + 3H\delta\dot{\sigma} + \left[\frac{k^2}{a^2} + V''(\bar{\sigma}) \right] \delta\sigma = 0$$

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For superhorizon perturbations, $\frac{\delta\sigma}{\bar{\sigma}}$ is conserved both during and after inflation.

$$\delta\ddot{\sigma} + 3H\delta\dot{\sigma} + \left[\cancel{\frac{k^2}{a^2}} + V''(\bar{\sigma}) \right] \delta\sigma = 0$$

$m_\sigma^2 \delta\sigma$

The Curvaton after Inflation

The curvaton equation of motion: $\ddot{\sigma} + 3H\dot{\sigma} + m_\sigma^2\sigma^2 = 0$

- As long as $m_\sigma \ll H$, the curvaton is frozen: $\dot{\sigma} = 0$
- When $m_\sigma \simeq H$, the curvaton **oscillates**: $\langle \dot{\sigma}^2 \rangle = \langle m_\sigma^2 \sigma^2 \rangle$

$$p = \frac{1}{2}\dot{\sigma}^2 - \frac{1}{2}m_\sigma^2\sigma^2 \implies \langle p \rangle = 0$$

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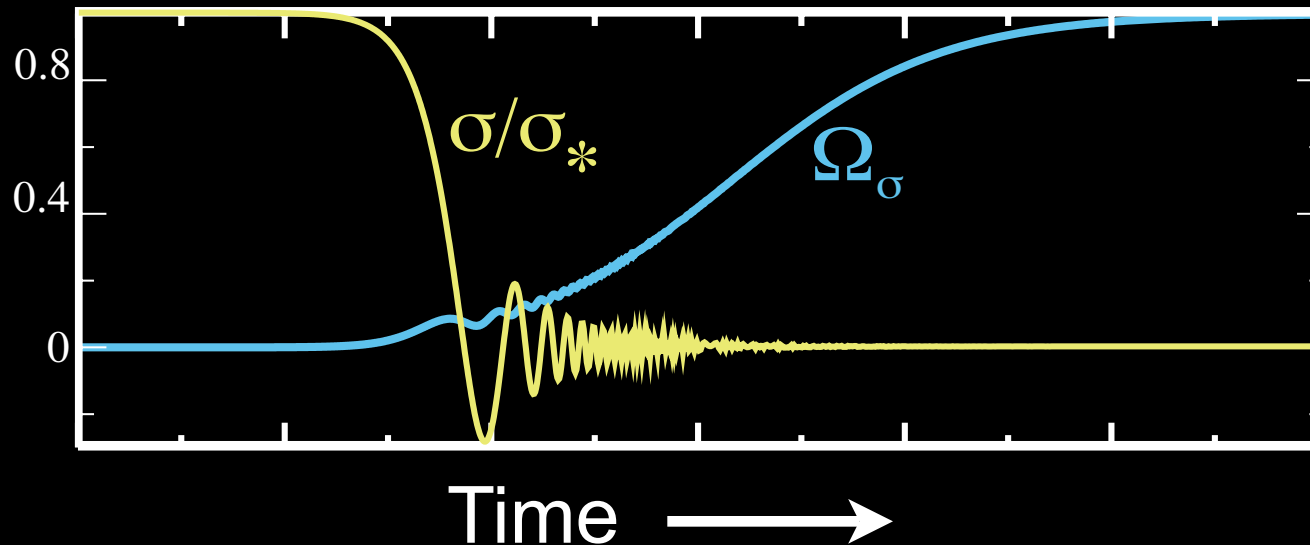
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$$p = \frac{1}{2}\dot{\sigma}^2 - \frac{1}{2}m_\sigma^2\sigma^2 \implies \langle p \rangle = 0$$

While the curvaton oscillates, it **behaves as matter**: $\rho_\sigma \propto a^{-3}$

Meanwhile, $\rho_r \propto a^{-4}$ so ρ_σ/ρ_r increases.



Langlois and Vernizzi, PRD 70 063522 (2004).

Growth of a Curvature Perturbation

Curvature perturbation: $\zeta = -\Psi - H \frac{\delta\rho}{\dot{\rho}}$

Superhorizon ζ is **not conserved** due to curvaton isocurvature fluctuation, but $\zeta_i = -\Psi - H \frac{\delta\rho_i}{\dot{\rho}_i}$ is constant.

$$\zeta = \frac{4\rho_r\zeta_r + 3\rho_\sigma\zeta_\sigma}{4\rho_r + 3\rho_\sigma}$$

As ρ_σ/ρ_r increases, ζ evolves.

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In the very early universe, the **curvaton decays** into radiation. Ω_σ

- decay at $\Gamma \simeq H$
- residual curvature perturbation:

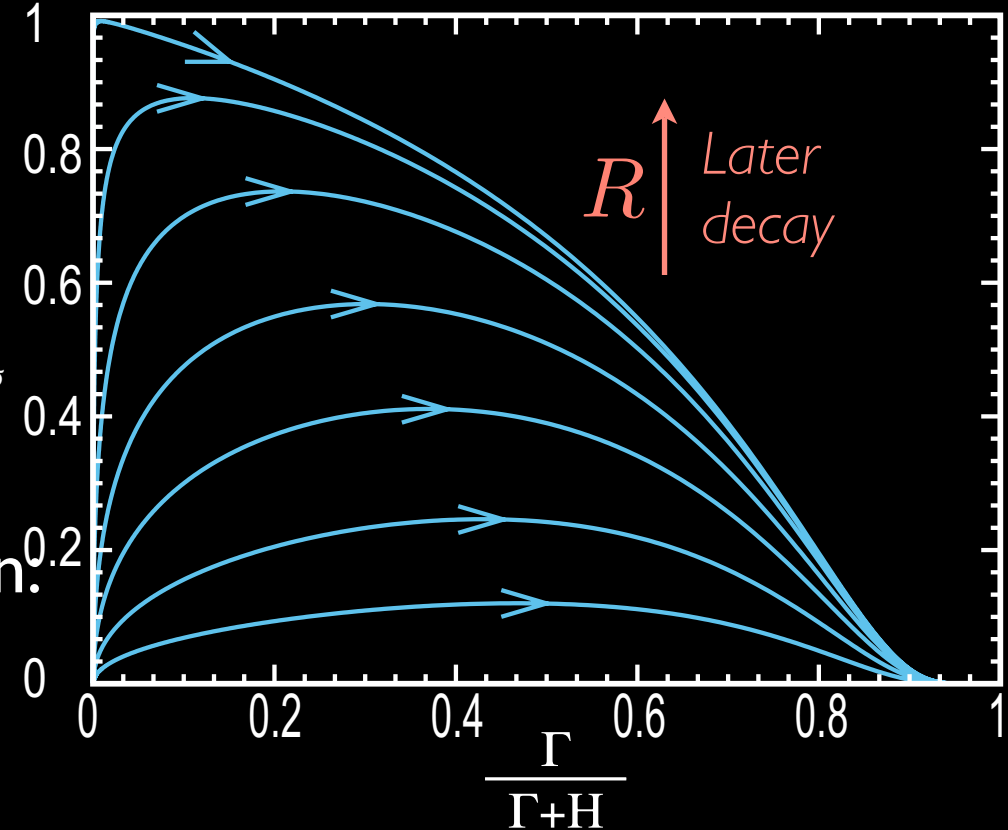
$$\zeta = R\zeta_\sigma$$

curvature
perturbation
from curvaton

new parameter

$$R \simeq \frac{3}{4} \frac{\rho_\sigma}{\rho_r} \Big|_{\Gamma=H}$$

$R \ll 1$



Malik, Wands and Ungarelli.
PRD 67 063516 (2003)

Power Spectrum from the Curvaton

Fluctuations in the curvaton field become **curvature perturbations**.

$$\zeta = R\zeta_\sigma = \frac{R}{3} \frac{\delta\rho_\sigma}{\rho_\sigma} \quad \text{where} \quad R \simeq \frac{3}{4} \frac{\rho_\sigma}{\rho_r} \Big|_{\Gamma=H} \quad \text{and} \quad R \ll 1$$

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Curvaton energy: $\rho_\sigma = \frac{1}{2} m_\sigma^2 \sigma^2 \implies \frac{\delta\rho_\sigma}{\rho_\sigma} = 2 \left(\frac{\delta\sigma}{\bar{\sigma}} \right) + \left(\frac{\delta\sigma}{\bar{\sigma}} \right)^2$

Quantum fluctuations: $(\delta\sigma)_{\text{rms}} = \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{2\pi} \ll \bar{\sigma}$

conserved outside horizon

During matter domination, $\Psi = -\frac{3}{5}\zeta$.

potential perturbation at decoupling

$$P_{\Psi,\sigma} \propto R^2 \left(\frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{\bar{\sigma}_*} \right)^2$$

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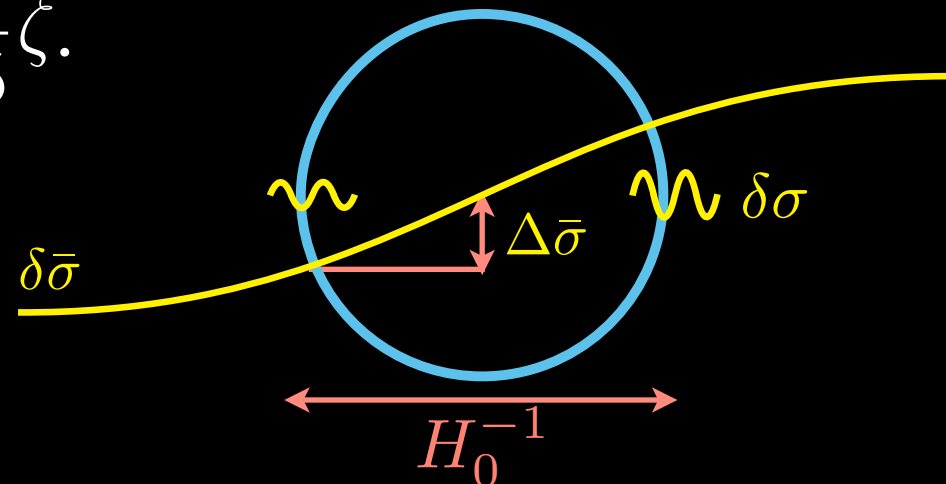
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$$P_{\Psi,\sigma} \propto (\bar{\sigma}_*)^4 \left(\frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{\bar{\sigma}_*} \right)^2$$



Power *Asymmetry* from the Curvaton

Fluctuations in the curvaton field become **curvature perturbations**.

$$\zeta = R\zeta_\sigma = \frac{R}{3} \frac{\delta\rho_\sigma}{\rho_\sigma} \quad \text{where} \quad R \simeq \frac{3}{4} \frac{\rho_\sigma}{\rho_r} \Big|_{\Gamma=H} \quad \text{and} \quad R \ll 1$$

curvature perturbation from curvaton *evaluated just prior to curvaton decay* *keep the curvaton subdominant*

Curvaton energy: $\rho_\sigma = \frac{1}{2} m_\sigma^2 \sigma^2 \implies \frac{\delta\rho_\sigma}{\rho_\sigma} = 2 \left(\frac{\delta\sigma}{\bar{\sigma}} \right) + \left(\frac{\delta\sigma}{\bar{\sigma}} \right)^2$

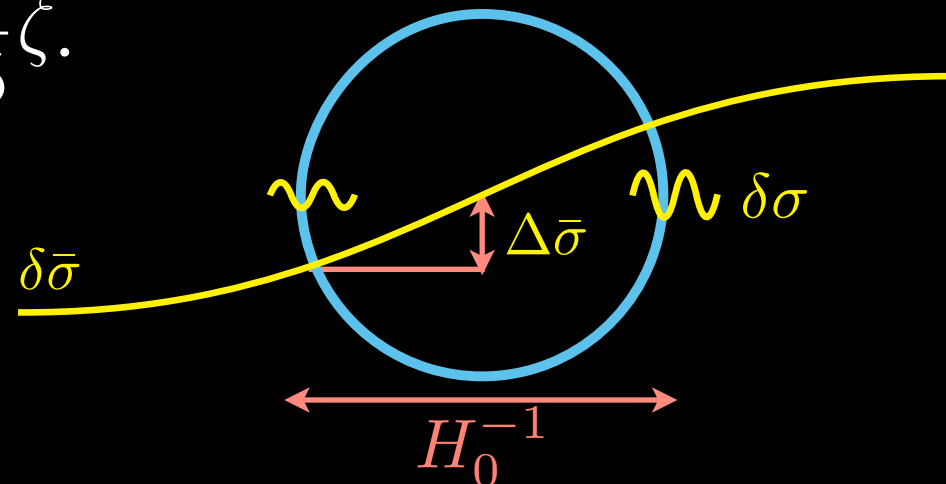
Quantum fluctuations: $(\delta\sigma)_{\text{rms}} = \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{2\pi} \ll \bar{\sigma}$

conserved outside horizon

During matter domination, $\Psi = -\frac{3}{5}\zeta$.

potential perturbation at decoupling

$$\frac{\Delta P_{\Psi,\sigma}}{P_{\Psi,\sigma}} = 2 \frac{\Delta\bar{\sigma}}{\bar{\sigma}}$$



Part IV

**A Power Asymmetry
from the Curvaton**

Curvaton Supermodes in the CMB

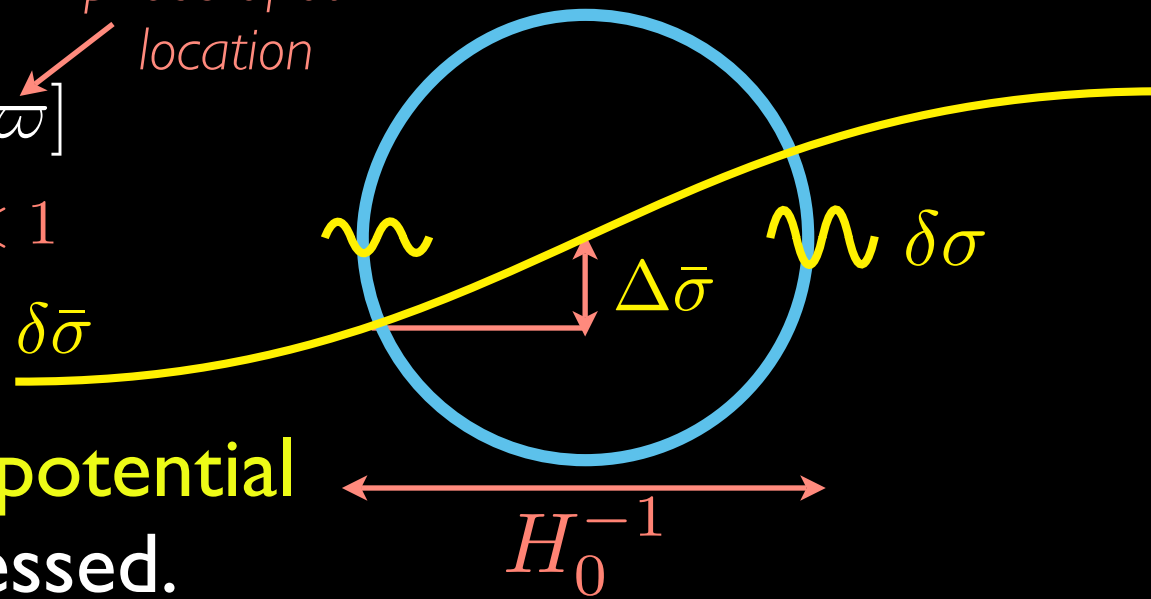
Curvaton supermode:

$$\delta\bar{\sigma}(\vec{x}, t) = \bar{\sigma}_{\text{SM}}(t) \sin[\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} + \varpi]$$

$$kH_0^{-1} \ll 1$$

phase of our location

The curvaton supermode generates a **superhorizon potential fluctuation**, but it is suppressed.



$$R \simeq \frac{3\rho_\sigma}{4\rho} \text{ just prior to decay}$$

$$\Psi = -\frac{R}{5} \left[2 \left(\frac{\delta\bar{\sigma}}{\bar{\sigma}} \right) + \left(\frac{\delta\bar{\sigma}}{\bar{\sigma}} \right)^2 \right] \leftarrow \frac{\delta\rho_\sigma}{\rho}$$

The potential perturbation is not sinusoidal!

Curvaton Supermodes in the CMB

Curvaton supermode:

$$\delta\bar{\sigma}(\vec{x}, t) = \bar{\sigma}_{\text{SM}}(t) \sin[\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} + \varpi]$$

$kH_0^{-1} \ll 1$

Temperature anisotropy:

$$\frac{\Delta T}{T}(\hat{n}) = \frac{2R}{5} \frac{\bar{\sigma}_{\text{SM}}}{\bar{\sigma}} \left[\underbrace{(\vec{k} \cdot x_{\text{d}})^2}_{\text{Quadrupole}} \delta_2 \frac{F_2(\varpi)}{2} + \underbrace{(\vec{k} \cdot x_{\text{d}})^3}_{\text{Octupole}} \delta_3 \frac{F_3(\varpi)}{6} \right]$$

$$F_2(\varpi) = \sin \varpi - \left(\frac{\bar{\sigma}_{\text{SM}}}{\bar{\sigma}} \right) \cos 2\varpi$$

$$F_3(\varpi) = \cos \varpi + 2 \left(\frac{\bar{\sigma}_{\text{SM}}}{\bar{\sigma}} \right) \sin 2\varpi$$

- The CMB quadrupole and octupole have complicated ϖ dependencies.
- There is no phase that eliminates the quadrupole for all values of $\bar{\sigma}_{\text{SM}}$.

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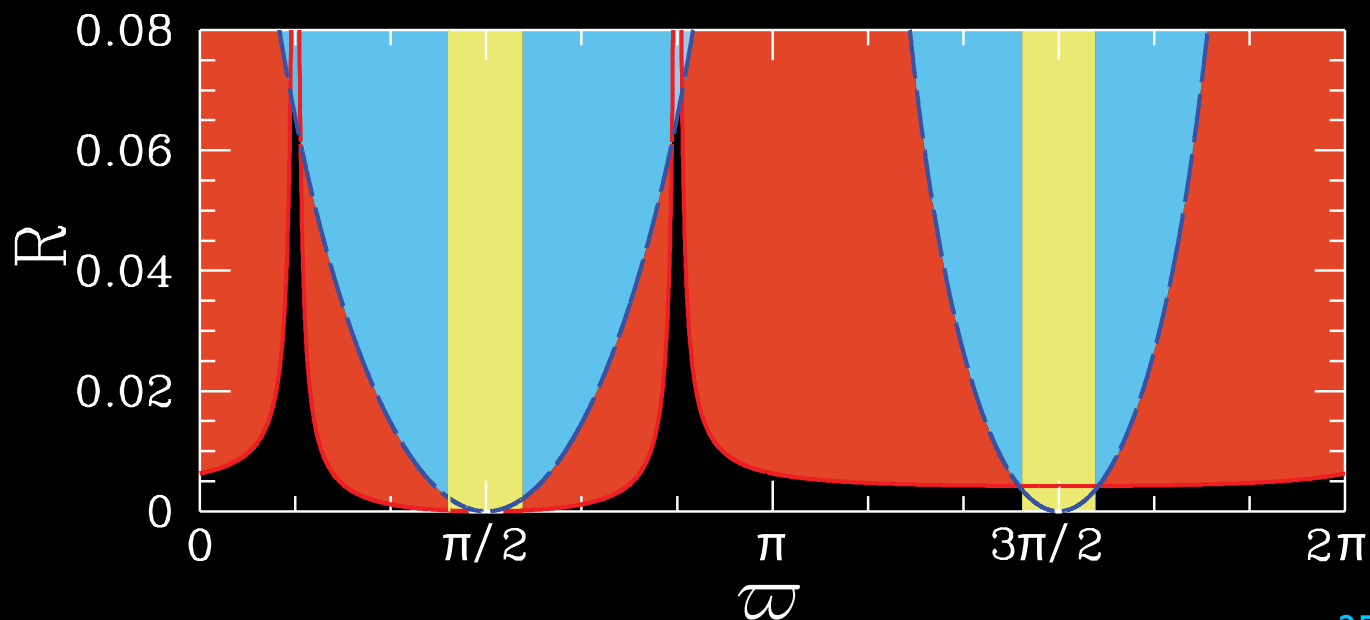
Excluded by Quadrupole

Excluded by Octupole

Not superhorizon

$$\bar{\sigma}_{\text{SM}} = \bar{\sigma}$$

$$\Delta\bar{\sigma}/\bar{\sigma} = 0.2$$



Curvaton Supermodes in the CMB

The CMB **quadrupole** implies an upper bound:

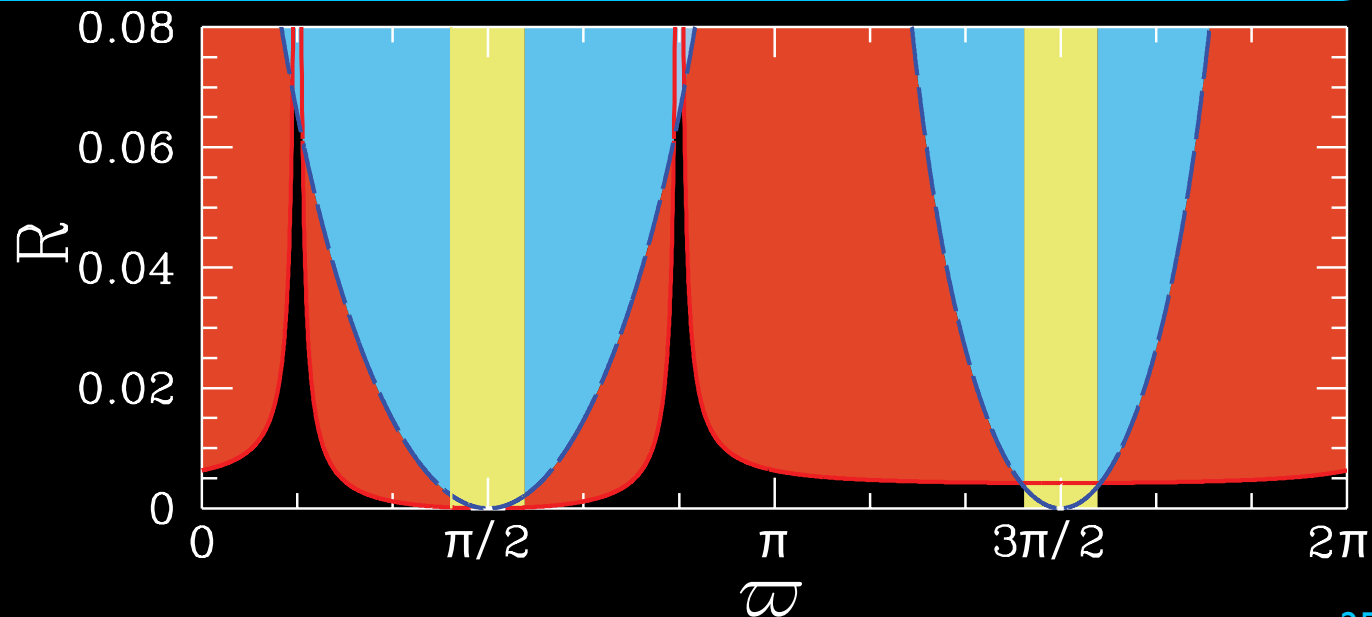
$$R \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\Delta \bar{\sigma}}{\bar{\sigma}} \\ \frac{\Delta P_{\Psi}}{P_{\Psi}} \end{pmatrix}^2 \lesssim \frac{5}{2} (5.8Q) \quad \text{for } \varpi = 0$$

Most other phases give similar bounds.

Excluded by Quadrupole
Excluded by Octupole
Not superhorizon

$$\bar{\sigma}_{\text{SM}} = \bar{\sigma}$$

$$\Delta \bar{\sigma} / \bar{\sigma} = 0.2$$



Perturbation Mixture

Both the curvaton and the inflaton may contribute to P_Ψ .

$$\epsilon \equiv \frac{m_{\text{Pl}}^2}{16\pi} \left[\frac{V'(\phi)}{V(\phi)} \right]^2 \quad (\delta\phi)_{\text{rms}} = (\delta\sigma)_{\text{rms}} = \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{2\pi}$$

quantum fluctuations

$$P_{\Psi,\phi} = \left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 \frac{8\pi}{9\epsilon} \left(\frac{H_{\text{inf}}^2}{k^3 m_{\text{Pl}}^2} \right) \quad P_{\Psi,\sigma} = \left(\frac{2R}{5} \right)^2 \frac{H_{\text{inf}}^2}{2k^3 \bar{\sigma}^2}$$

$$R \simeq \frac{3}{4} \frac{\rho_\sigma}{\rho_r} \Big|_{\Gamma=H}$$

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Define a new parameter: $\xi \equiv \frac{P_{\Psi,\sigma}}{P_{\Psi,\sigma} + P_{\Psi,\phi}}$

$$\xi = \frac{\tilde{\epsilon}}{\tilde{\epsilon} + 1} \quad \tilde{\epsilon} \equiv \frac{1}{9\pi} \left(\frac{m_{\text{Pl}}}{\bar{\sigma}} \right)^2 R^2 \epsilon$$

$$\bar{\sigma} \ll m_{\text{Pl}} \implies \xi \simeq 1$$

$$\bar{\sigma} \lesssim m_{\text{Pl}} \implies \xi \ll 1$$

Perturbation Mixture

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Tensor-Scalar Ratio:

$$r = 16\epsilon(1 - \xi)$$

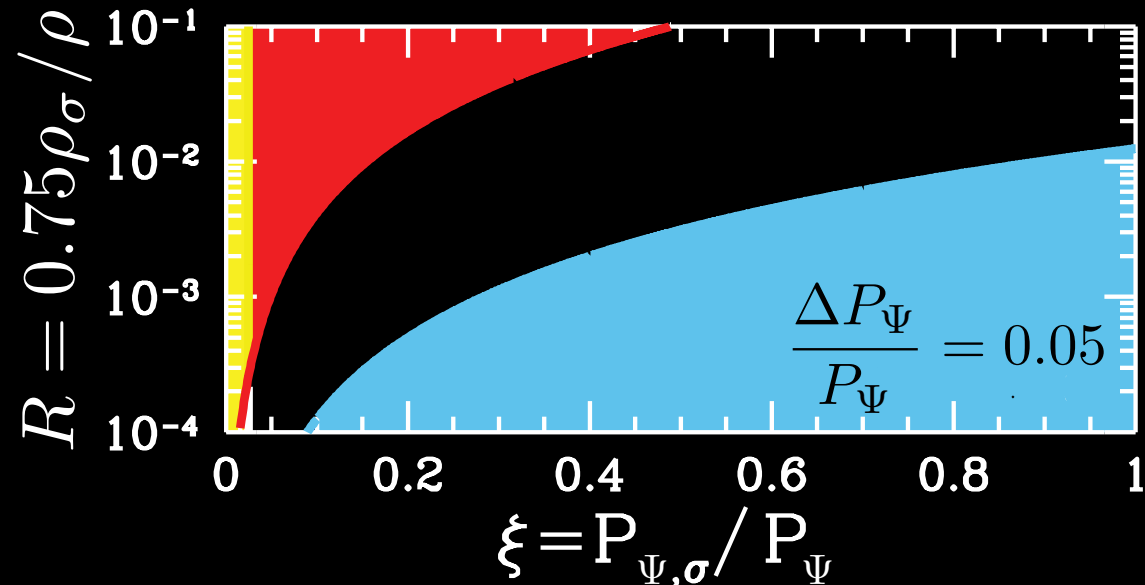
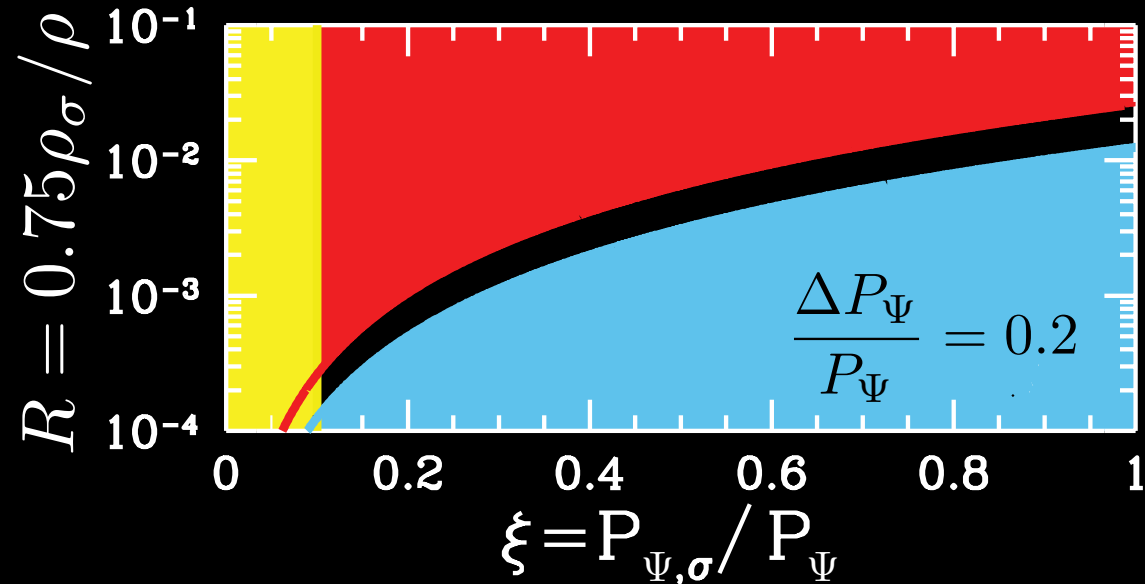
Constraining the Curvaton Model

The curvaton and inflaton both contribute to $P_\Psi(k)$:

$$\xi \equiv \frac{P_{\Psi,\sigma}}{P_\Psi} \quad \text{fractional power from curvaton}$$

$$\frac{\Delta P_\Psi}{P_\Psi} = 2\xi \frac{\Delta \bar{\sigma}}{\bar{\sigma}} \quad \text{power asymmetry}$$

$$\frac{\Delta \bar{\sigma}}{\bar{\sigma}} \lesssim 1 \implies \xi \gtrsim \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Delta P_\Psi}{P_\Psi}$$



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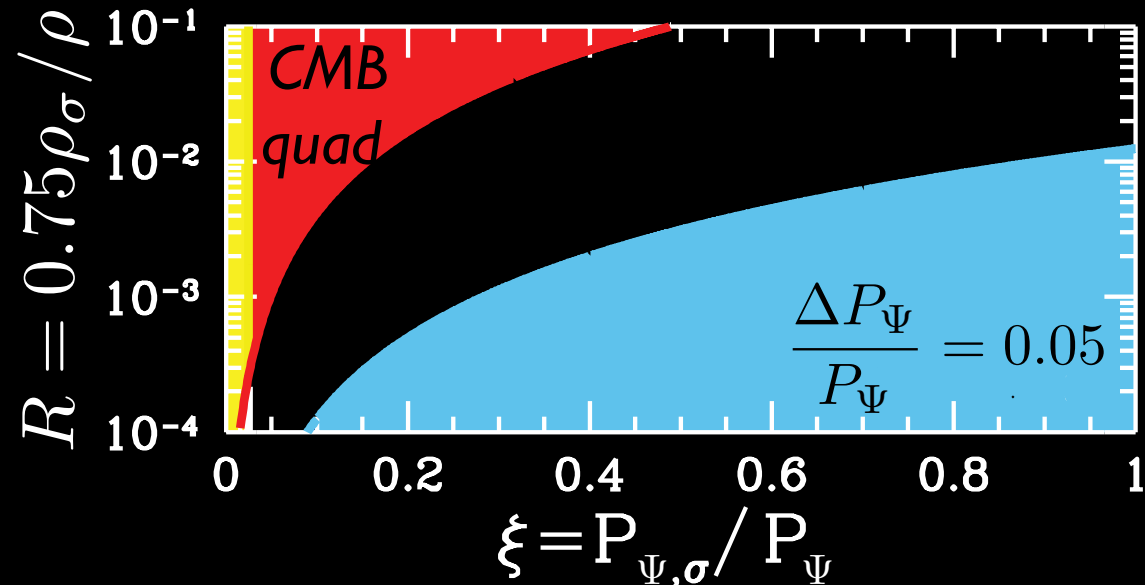
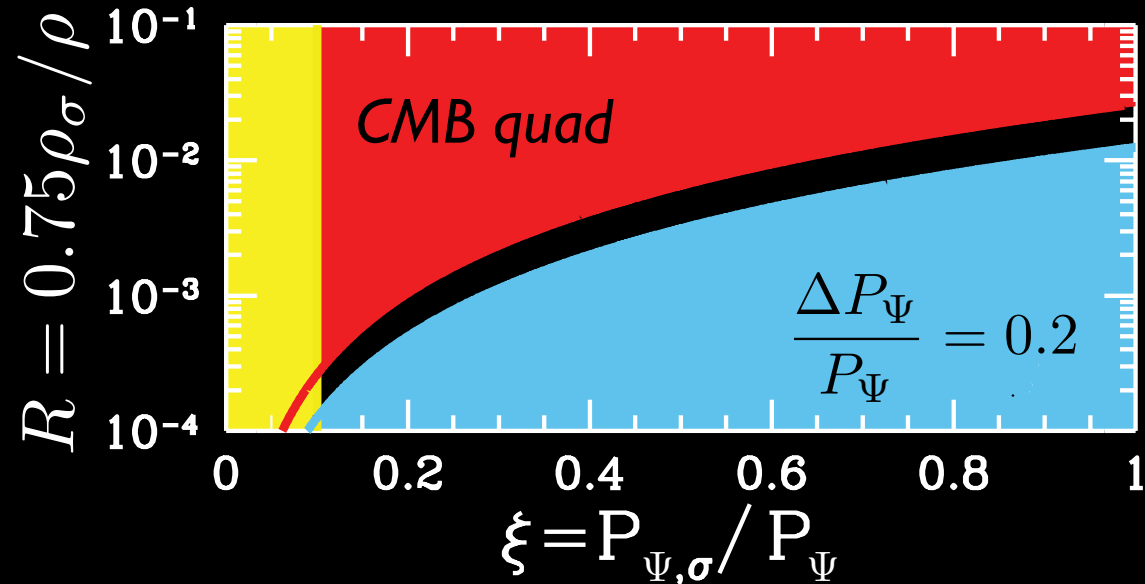
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CMB Quadrupole:

$$R \left(\frac{\Delta \bar{\sigma}}{\bar{\sigma}} \right)^2 \simeq \frac{5}{2} (5.8Q)$$

$$R \lesssim 58Q \xi^2 \left(\frac{\Delta P_\Psi}{P_\Psi} \right)^{-2}$$



Constraining the Curvaton Model

Non-Gaussianity Constraints

$$\Psi = -\frac{R}{5} \left[2 \left(\frac{\delta\sigma}{\bar{\sigma}} \right) + \left(\frac{\delta\sigma}{\bar{\sigma}} \right)^2 \right]$$

\uparrow potential fluctuation \uparrow Gaussian fluctuation \uparrow Gaussian fluctuation squared

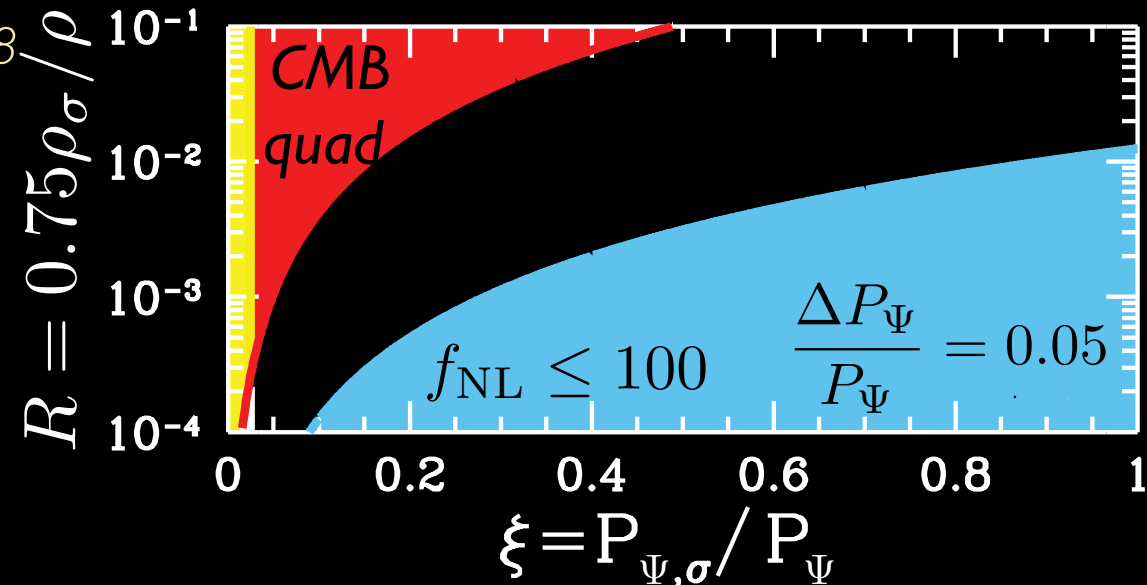
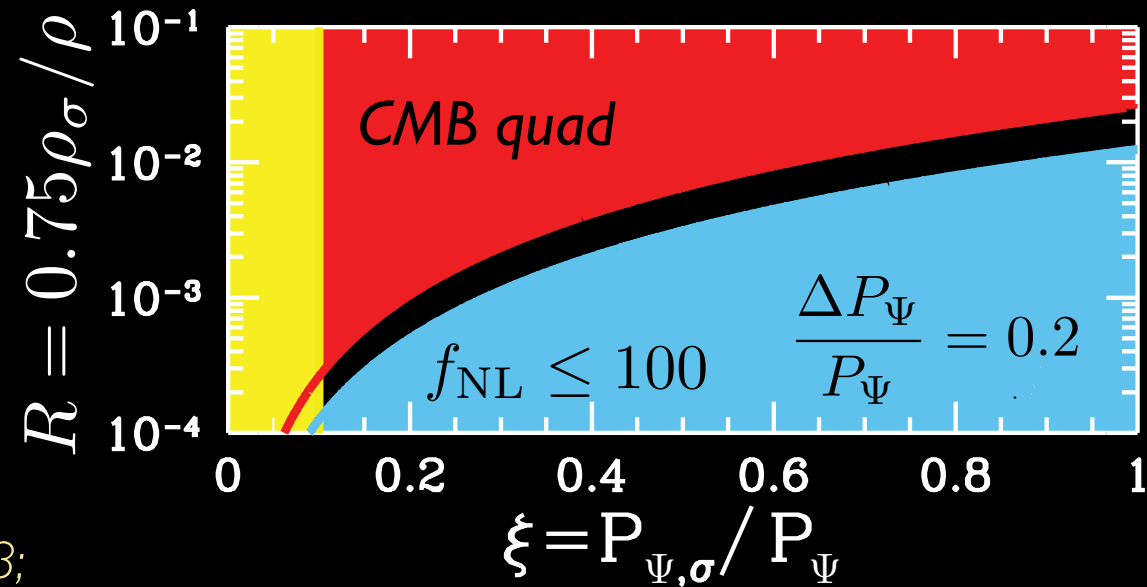
$$f_{\text{NL}} \simeq \frac{5\xi^2}{4R}$$

Lyth, Ungarelli, Wands 2003;
 Ichikawa, Suyama,
 Takahashi, Yamaguchi 2008

Upperbound from WMAP:

$$f_{\text{NL}} \lesssim 100$$

Komatsu et al. 2008
 Yadav, Wandelt 2008

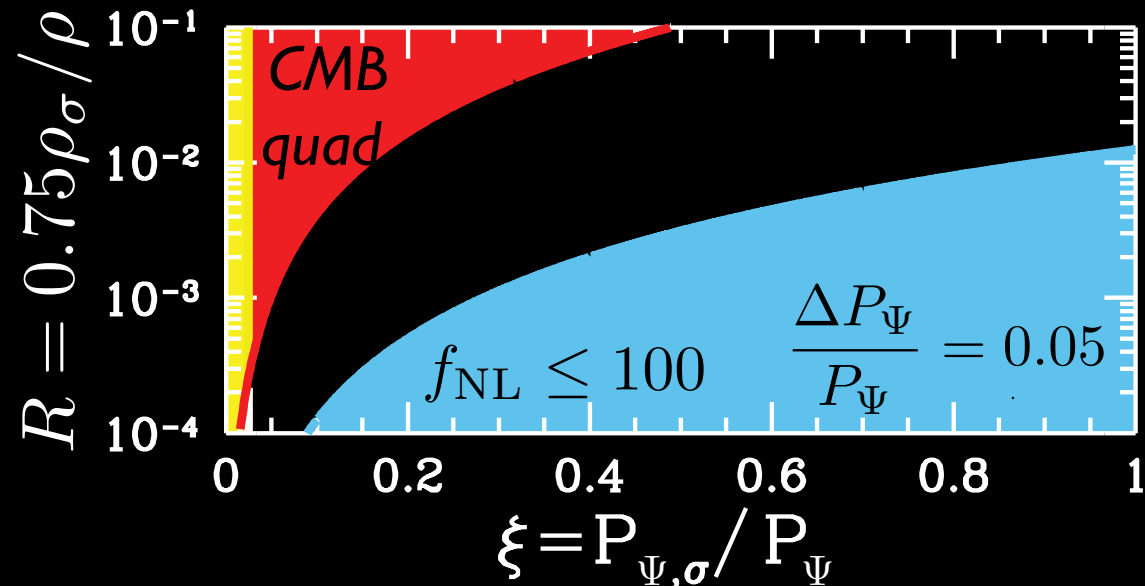
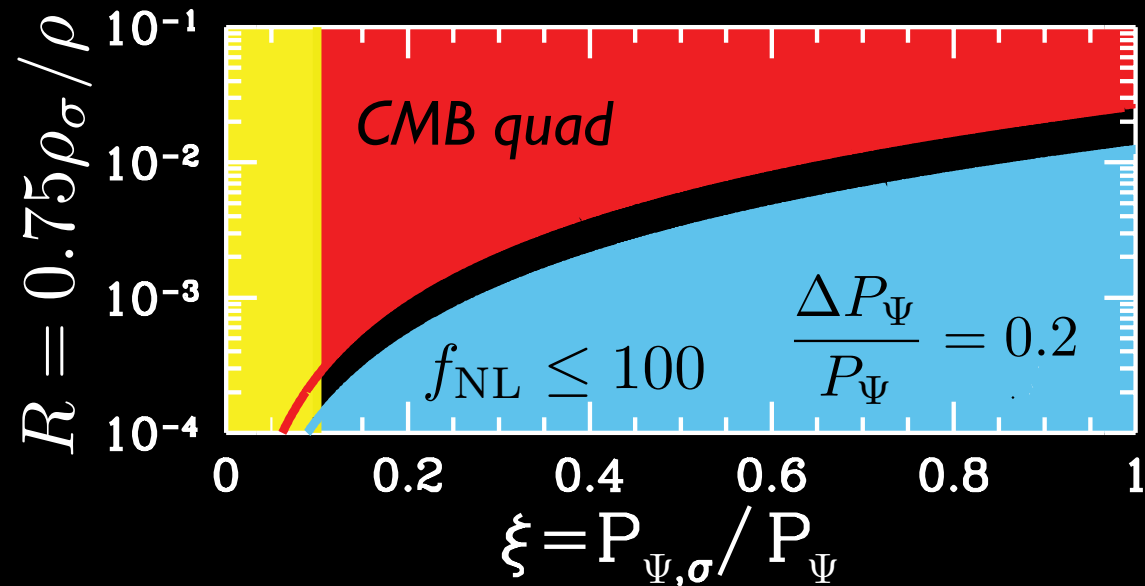


Constraining the Curvaton Model

The Allowed Region

$$\frac{5}{4 f_{\text{NL,max}}} \lesssim \frac{R}{\xi^2} \lesssim \frac{58 Q}{(\Delta P_{\Psi}/P_{\Psi})^2}$$

Non-Gaussianity \uparrow *Allowed window* *CMB Quadrupole*

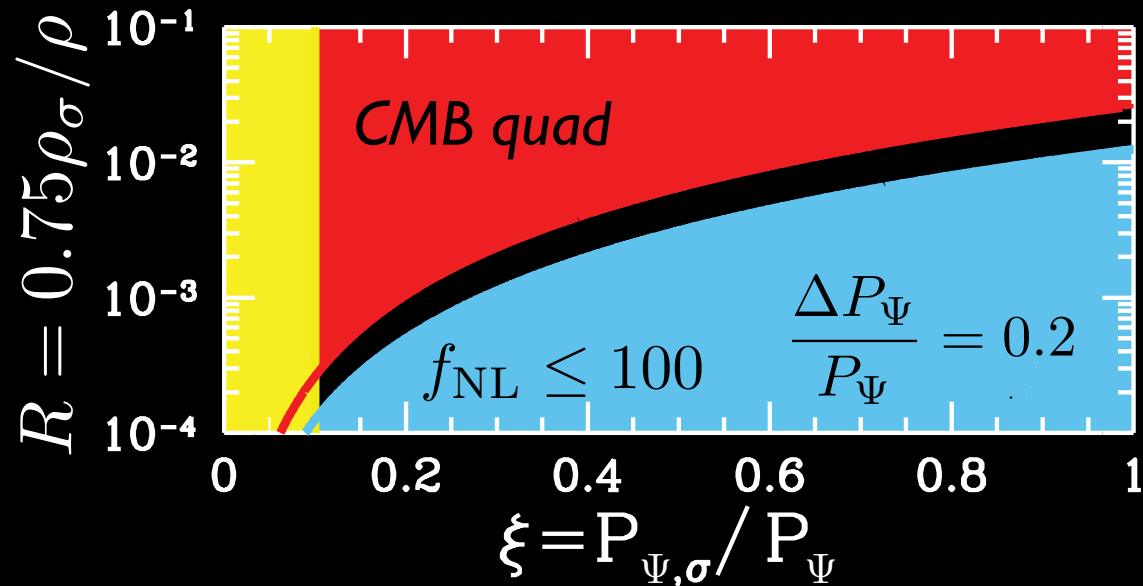


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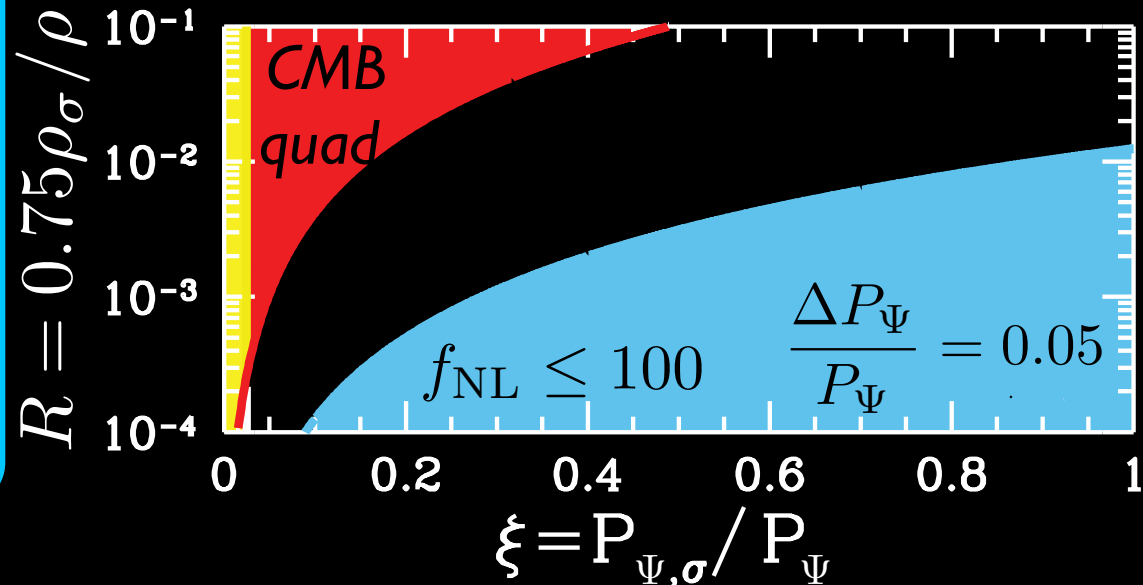
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Non-Gaussianity \uparrow *CMB Quadrupole*
Allowed window



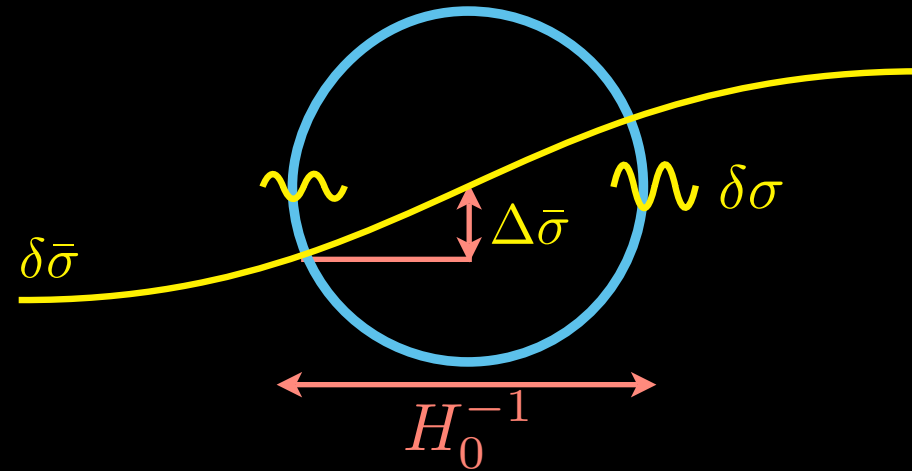
The Dealbreaker

The window for $\frac{\Delta P_{\Psi}}{P_{\Psi}} = 0.2$
 disappears if $f_{\text{NL,max}} \lesssim 50$



Origins of the Supermode

Could the supermode be a
quantum fluctuation?



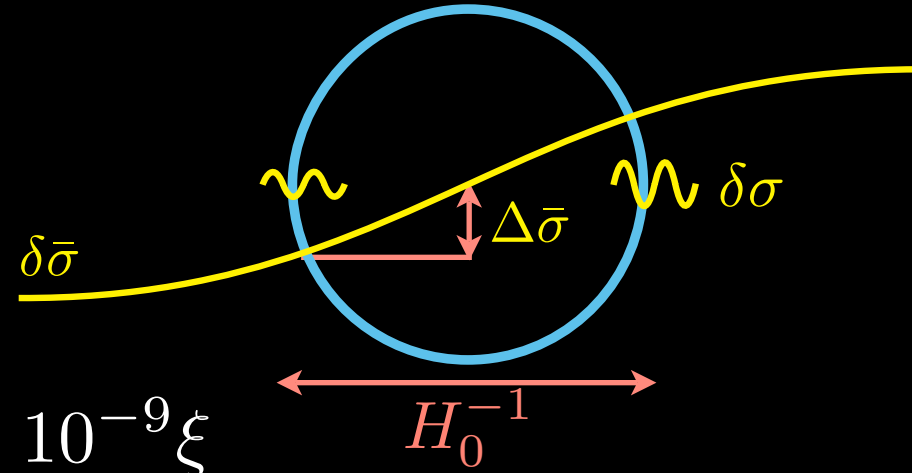
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Power spectrum from curvaton

$$P_{\Psi, \sigma} = \left(\frac{2R}{5}\right)^2 \left\langle \left(\frac{\delta\sigma}{\bar{\sigma}}\right)^2 \right\rangle = \xi P_{\Psi} \simeq 10^{-9} \xi$$

Observed power spectrum



Origins of the Supermode

Could the supermode be a **quantum fluctuation**?

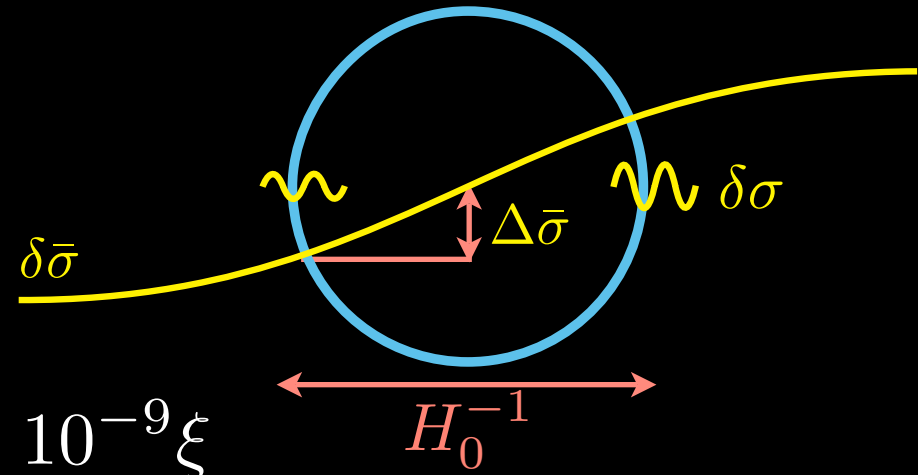
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$$\frac{\bar{\sigma}}{\Delta\bar{\sigma}} \left(\frac{\delta\sigma}{\bar{\sigma}}\right)_{\text{rms}} = \frac{2\xi}{\Delta P_{\Psi}/P_{\Psi}} \left(8 \times 10^{-5} \frac{\xi^{1/2}}{R}\right) \lesssim \frac{1}{5}$$

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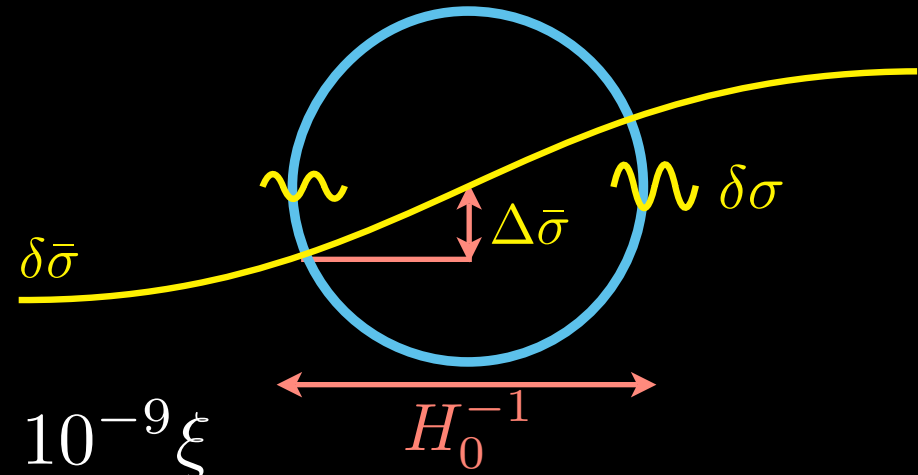
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$$\bar{\sigma}_{\text{SM}} > \Delta\bar{\sigma} > 5(\delta\sigma)_{\text{rms}}$$



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The supermode would be at least a 5-sigma fluctuation: that's highly improbable!

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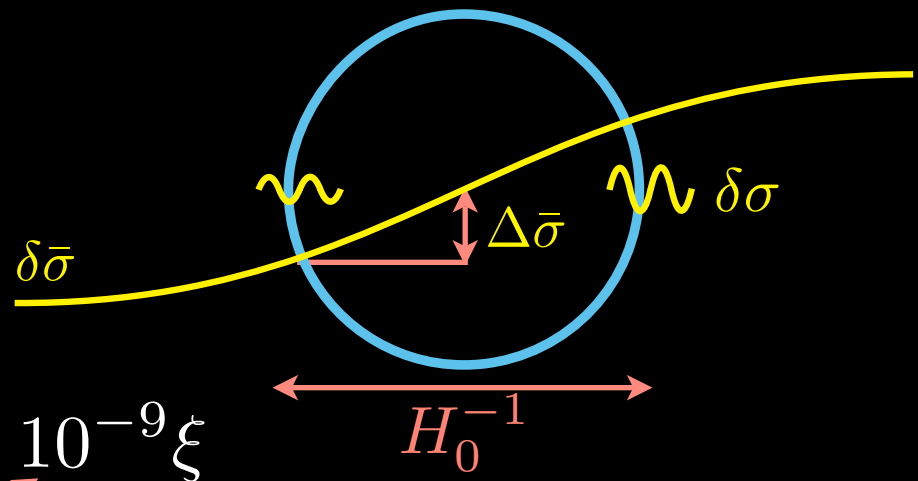
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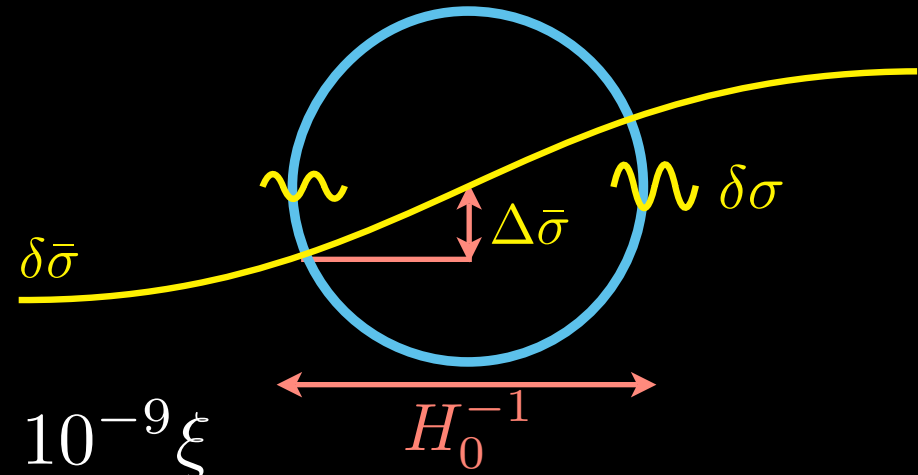


Signature of “curvaton web?”
Linde and Mukhanov, 2006

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Origins of the Supermode

Could the supermode be a quantum fluctuation?



A **pre-inflationary remnant?**

observed power spectrum $\xi P_\Psi \simeq 10^{-9} \xi$

Signature of **“curvaton web?”**
Linde and Mukhanov, 2006

$\frac{\bar{\sigma}}{\Delta \bar{\sigma}} \left(\frac{\sigma}{\bar{\sigma}} \right)_{\text{rms}} \frac{\Delta P_\Psi / P_\Psi}{\sigma \times 10^{-7}}$

$\bar{\sigma}_{\text{SM}} > \Delta \bar{\sigma} > 5 \sigma_{\text{SM}}$

The supermode would be at least a 5-sigma fluctuation: that's highly improbable!

A Scale-Dependent Asymmetry?

There are indications that **only large scales are asymmetric**.

- Asymmetry detected for $\ell = 5 - 40$.

- Some analyses see reduced asymmetry for $\ell \gtrsim 100$.

Donoghue and Donoghue 2005; Lew 2008.

How could the asymmetry disappear at small scales?

Only the perturbations from the curvaton are asymmetric; the **inflaton perturbations are still statistically isotropic**.

Introduce scale dependence through $\xi \equiv \frac{P_{\Psi,\sigma}}{P_{\Psi,\sigma} + P_{\Psi,\phi}}$.

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$$\xi = \frac{\tilde{\epsilon}}{\tilde{\epsilon} + 1} \quad \tilde{\epsilon} \equiv \frac{1}{9\pi} \left(\frac{m_{\text{Pl}}}{\bar{\sigma}} \right)^2 R^2 \epsilon$$

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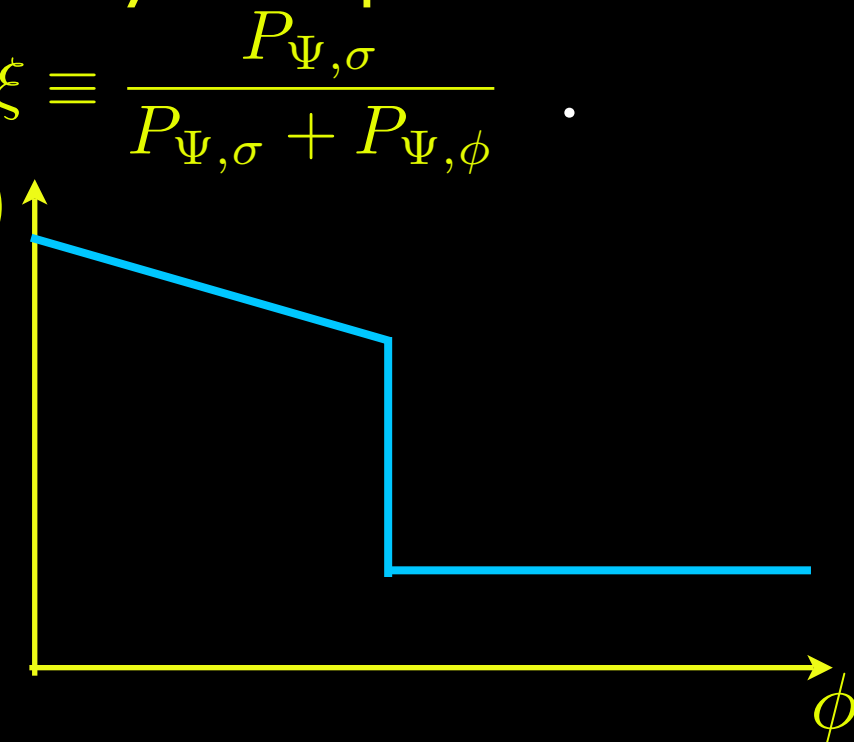
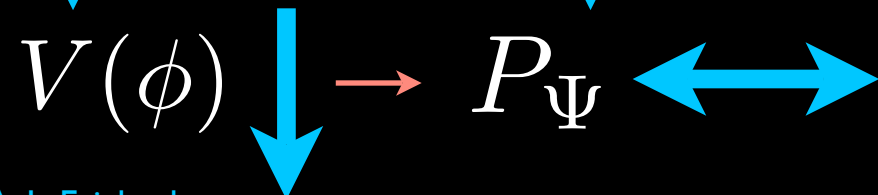
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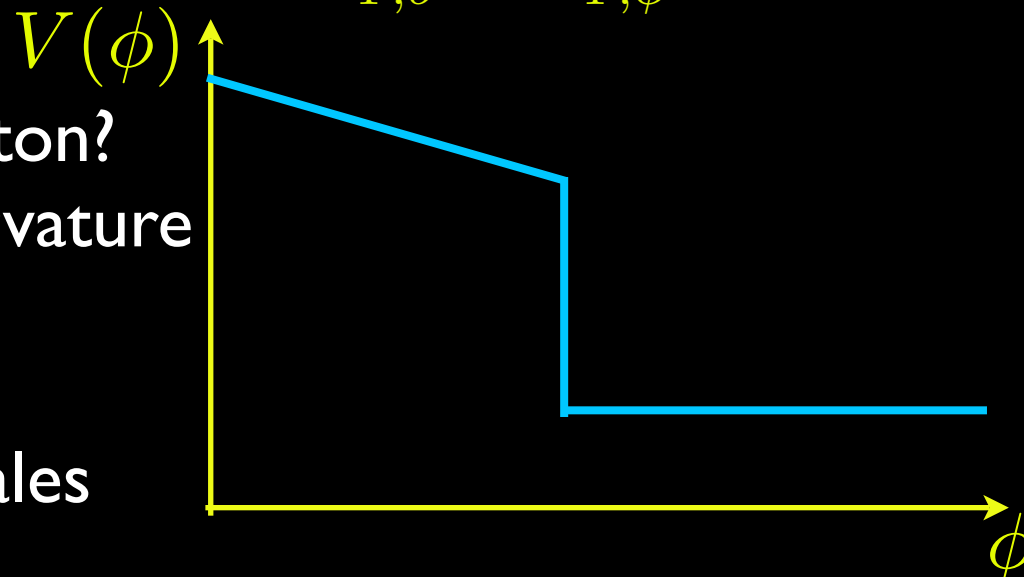
*Donoghue and Donoghue 2005;
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- A feature in $V(\phi)$ *Gordon 2007*
- **Isocurvature** modes from curvaton?
 - ▶ curvaton can produce isocurvature perturbations
 - ▶ isocurvature perturbations contribute more on large scales



Work in progress....

Summary: How to Generate the Power Asymmetry

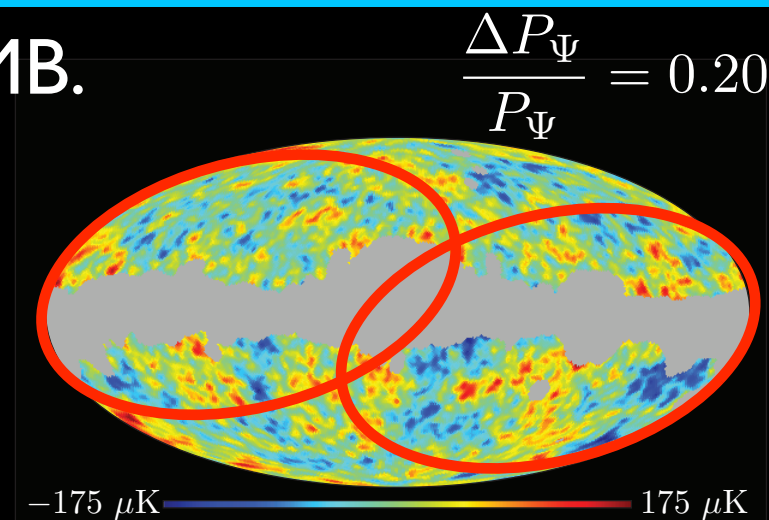
There is a **power asymmetry** in the CMB.

- present at the **99%** confidence level
- detected on **large scales**

Hansen, Banday, Gorski, 2004

Eriksen, Hansen, Banday, Gorski, Lilje 2004

Eriksen, Banday, Gorski, Hansen, Lilje 2007



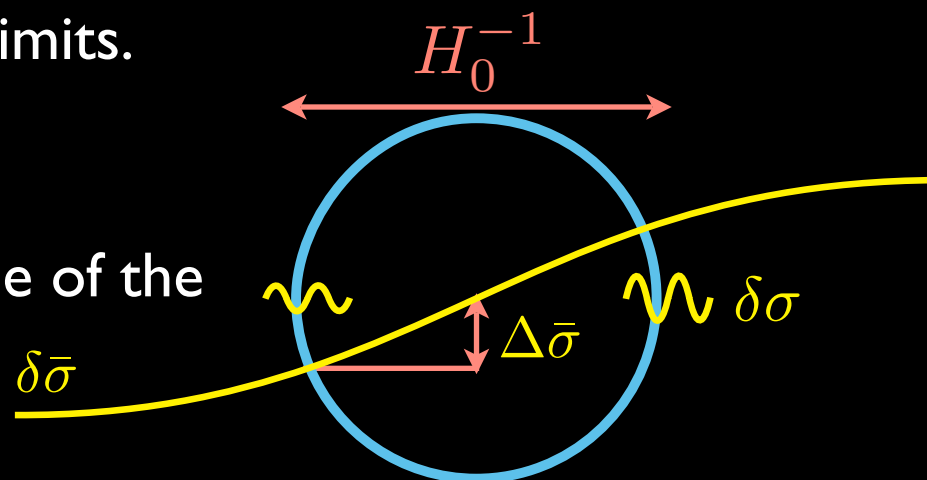
A **superhorizon perturbation** during inflation generates a power asymmetry.

- also generates large-scale CMB temperature perturbations
- no dipole; quadrupole and octupole set limits.

Erickcek, Carroll, Kamionkowski arXiv:0808.1570

- an inflaton perturbation is ruled out
- a curvaton perturbation is a viable source of the **observed asymmetry**

Erickcek, Kamionkowski, Carroll arXiv:0806.0377



Summary: How to Generate the Power Asymmetry

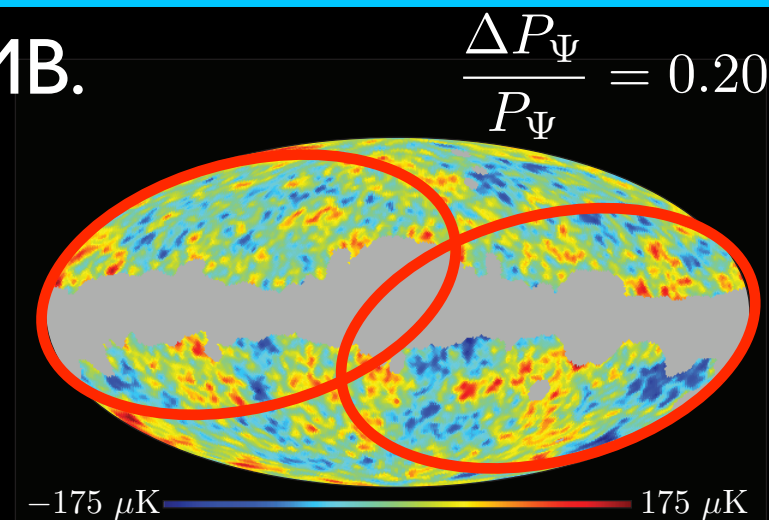
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Features of the Curvaton-Generated Power Asymmetry

- the superhorizon curvaton perturbation is **not a quantum fluctuation**
- the produced asymmetry is **scale-invariant**, but it is possible to modify that
- **suppressed tensor-scalar ratio**: $r \propto (1 - \xi)$
- **high non-Gaussianity**: $f_{\text{NL}} \gtrsim 50$

