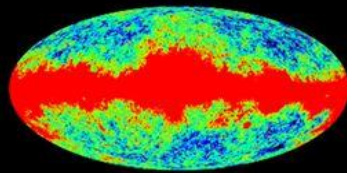


# Effectively Fielding Inflation



*Large fields,  
open systems  
and inflation*



*Cliff Burgess*

# Why EFTs?

- *Decoupling*: short-distance physics is largely irrelevant for long-distance physics
- EFTs concisely express what is important at long distances



*Patron Saint of All Things  
Natural*

# Why EFTs?

- *Decoupling*: short-distance physics is *largely* irrelevant for long-distance physics
  - EFTs concisely express what is important at long distances
  - *Cosmology likes the unnatural!*  
(what UV completions hate)



*Patron Saint of All Things  
Natural*

# Naturalness?

- *Naturalness is so 20<sup>th</sup> century...*
- LHC, inflation, ....
- Cosmological constant



*What if there were a solution? Supersymmetric extra dimensions still seems to work (review: 1309.4133)*

# Outline

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- Large fields and tensor perturbations
  - Trigonometric, exponential and power-law potentials  
(1306.3512 and 1404.6236)  
*w Cicoli, Quevedo & Williams*

# Outline

---

- Large fields and tensor perturbations
  - Trigonometric, exponential and power-law potentials (*1306.3512 and 1404.6236*)  
*w Cicoli, Quevedo & Williams*
- Open EFTs and EFTs w/o effective lagrangians
  - Decoherence, stochastic inflation and the EFT outside the horizon (*1406.xxxx and 1407.xxyy*)  
*w Holman, Tasinato & Williams*



Part I

# LARGE FIELD EFTS



*Large fields in EFT*

*Exponential potentials*

*If you absolutely must have  $\phi^2$  inflation*

**LARGE FIELD EFTS**



# Large Fields in EFT

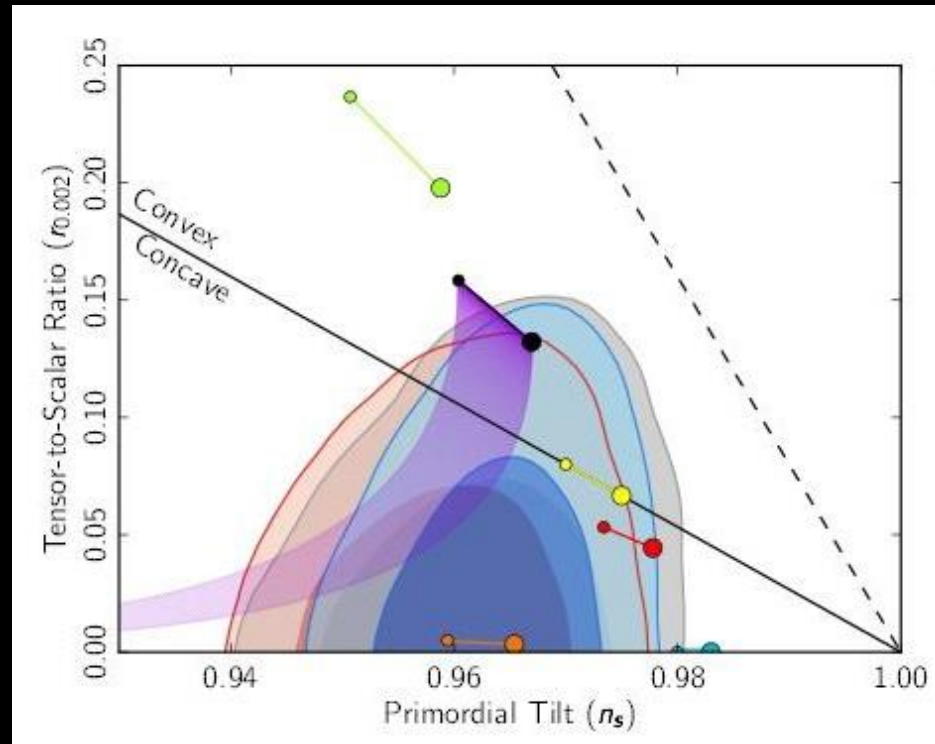
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- Why large fields?

# Large Fields in EFT

Planck 2013

- W



$$P_S(k) = A_S k^{n_s - 1} \quad r = \frac{A_T}{A_S}$$

# Large Fields in EFT

*Liddle & Lyth 1992*

- W

*$n_s$  and  $r$  predicted in single-field slow roll  
inflation:  $V(\phi)$*

$$\epsilon = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{M_p V'}{V} \right)^2 \quad \eta = \frac{M_p^2 V''}{V}$$

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

$$r = 16\epsilon$$

# Large Fields in EFT

*Liddle & Lyth 1992*

- W

$n_s$  and  $r$

*Usually large  $r$  corresponds to large excursions in field space*

$$\Delta\phi > M_p (r/4\pi)^{1/2} \quad (\text{Lyth})$$

$\epsilon =$

*Can evade this, but  
**SHOULD EMBRACE IT!***

$$r = 16 \epsilon$$

# Large Fields in EFT

- **W** *Q*: Need large fields be inconsistent with decoupling (as expressed eg by effective field theory techniques) and control of calculations?

*A: Not in principle: EFT and decoupling rely on low energy, and not small fields.*

*SUSY flat directions provide existence proof  
Require asymptotic form for  $V(\varphi)$*

# Large Fields in EFT

- W

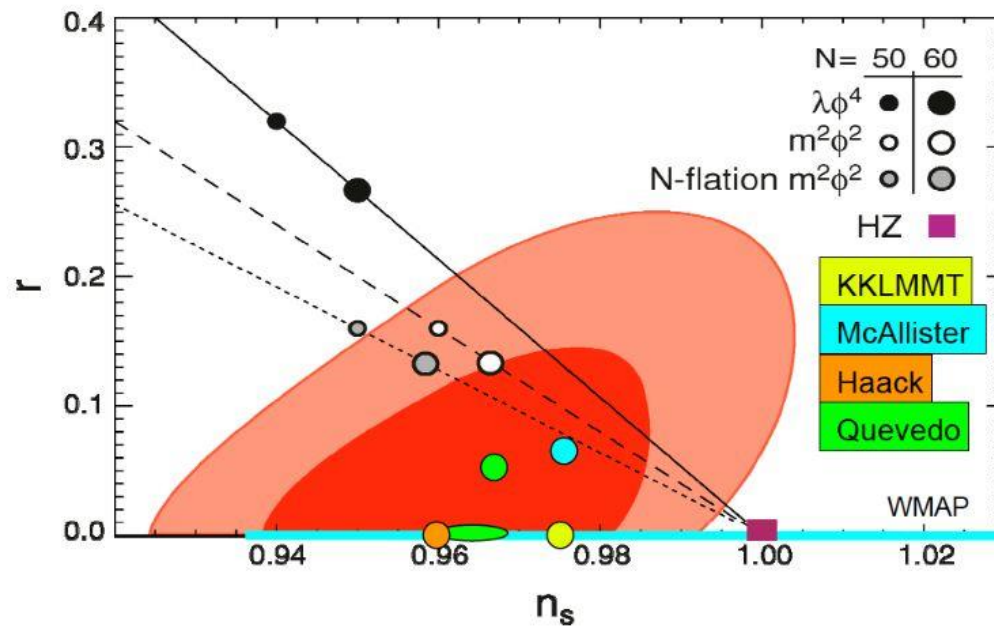
*BUT Large field inflation is often NOT what you get from UV completions (not a theorem...)*

# Large Fields in EFT

- W

*J. Polchinski ICHEP 08 summary talk*

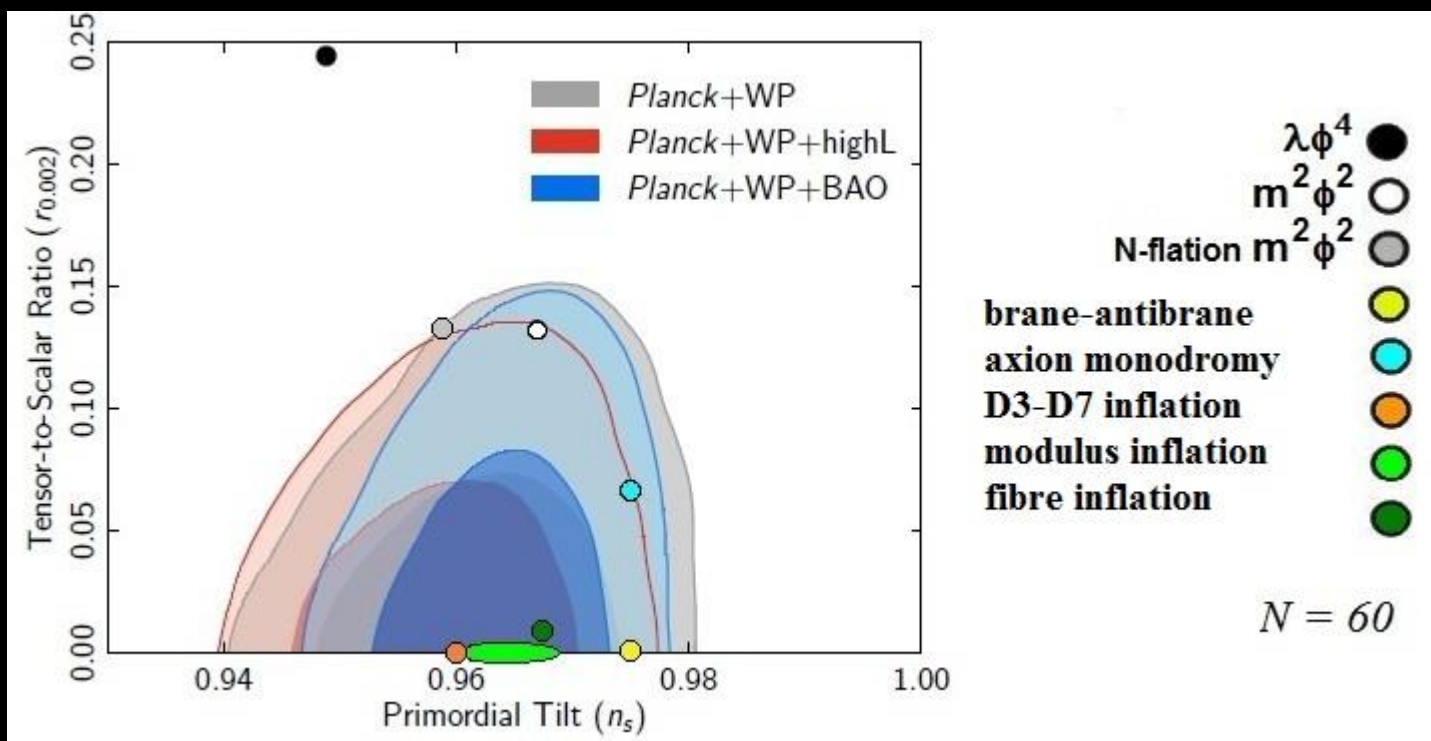
34<sup>th</sup> International Conference on High Energy Physics, Philadelphia, 2008



# Large Fields in EFT

• W

*String models like small  $r$*

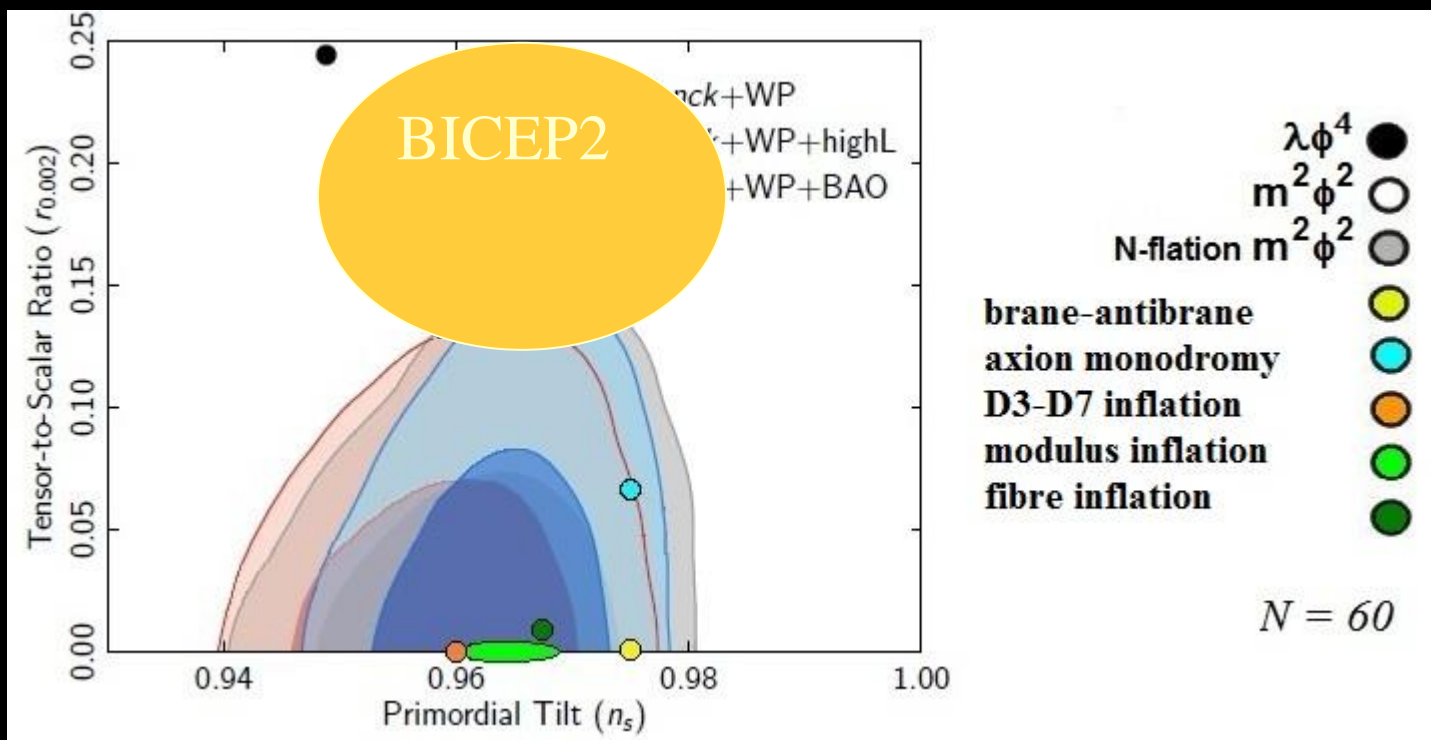




# Large Fields in EFT

- W

*String models like small  $r$*



# Large Fields in EFT

---

- Why large fields?
- What not to do: *expand in powers of  $\phi$* 
  - *Need approximation that works at large fields*

# Large Fields in EFT

*Freese, Friedman & Olinto 1990*

- W For example: *pseudo-Goldstone bosons*  
*Perturb around symmetry limit:*

$$L_{kin} = g_{ab}(\varphi) \partial \varphi^a \partial \varphi^b$$

- W 
$$V(\varphi) = V_0$$

- 

*Once symmetry breaks find, eg:*

$$V = V_0 + V_1 \cos(\varphi/f)$$

# Large Fields in EFT

*CB, Cicoli, Quevdo & Williams*

- W For example: *pseudo-Goldstone bosons*

- W Or if symmetry is non-compact:  $\Phi = e^\varphi \rightarrow \gamma\Phi$

- W

- $$V = V_0 + V_1 \exp(-\varphi/f) + \dots$$



# Large Fields in EFT

BMQRZ th/0111025

*Exponential potentials: progress on the  $\eta$  problem*

$$V(\varphi) = V_0(1 - e^{-k\varphi} + \dots)$$

*so*

$$\epsilon = e^{-2k\varphi} \quad \text{and} \quad \eta = e^{-k\varphi}$$

*so slow roll is same as large field*

# Large Fields in EFT

BMQRZ th/0111025

Cicoli, CB & Quevedo 0808.0691

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*since  $\epsilon \sim \eta^2$  get prediction  $r \sim (n_s - 1)^2$*

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*since  $\epsilon \sim \eta^2$  get prediction  $r \sim (n_s - 1)^2$*

*can adjust  $k$  to vary  $r$  but hard to get  $r > 0.11$*



# Large Fields in EFT

BMQRZ th/0111025

Conlon & Quevedo th/0509012

Cicoli, CB & Quevedo 0808.0691

*Exponential potentials arise generically when modulus like extra-dimensional size,  $r$ , is the inflaton (though can also be more complicated):*

$$\begin{aligned} V(\varphi) &= V_0 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{r^p} + \dots \right) \\ &= V_0 \left( 1 - e^{-k \varphi} + \dots \right) \end{aligned}$$

*since  $L = M^2 \frac{(\partial r)^2}{r^2}$  implies  $\frac{r}{\ell} = e^{\varphi/M}$*

# Large Fields in EFT

---

- Why large fields?
- What not to do: *expand in powers of  $\phi$* 
  - *Need approximation that works at large fields*
- If you absolutely *must* have  $\phi^2$  inflation...

# Large Fields in EFT

When large fields are small:

- W

*Large  $r$  requires  $\varphi > M_p$*

- W

- 

*Taylor expansion requires  $\varphi < f$*

$$V(\varphi/f) \approx V_0 + V_1\varphi^2 + \dots$$

- If

*These can be consistent if:  $f > M_p$*

# Large Fields in EFT

## Summary:

- **W** *Large fields need not be inconsistent with low-energies, but must understand the large-field limit*
- **W**
  - *Generically get trigonometric or exponential potentials, though others are possible (even  $\phi^2$ )*
- **If** *Large  $r$  likely to be a great slayer of models, if true.*



Part I

# **EFTS W/O EFF LAGRANGIANS**



*Open EFTs*

*Effective theory outside the horizon*

**EFTS W/O EFF LAGRANGIANS**

# EFTs w/o Effective Lagrangians

---

- Open EFTs

# EFTs w/o Effective Lagrangians

- Usually EFTs rely on simplicity when  $E < M$  to summarize high-energy effects for low-energy observables in terms of an effective Lagrangian.

$$e^{iS_{eff}(\varphi)} = \int D\psi e^{iS(\varphi, \psi)}$$

*$S_{eff}$  is simple when expanded in  $\partial/M$*



# EFTs w/o Effective Lagrangians

- Open systems, even when degrees of freedom may be integrated out.

*eg: particle moving through a medium*



*courtesy Scientific American*

# EFTs w/o Effective Lagrangians

- Open systems, even when degrees of freedom may be integrated out.

*eg: particle moving through a medium*



*$L_{eff}$  need not exist since  
in general pure states can  
evolve to mixed due to  
ability to exchange info*

*courtesy Scientific American*

# EFTs w/o Effective Lagrangians

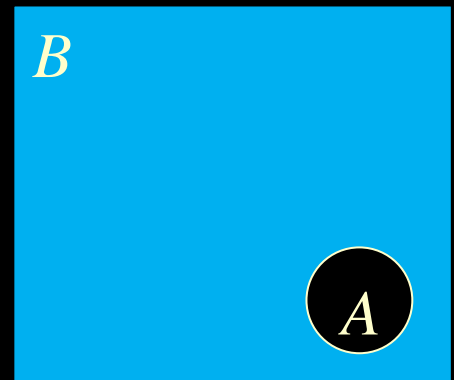
- On EFT nonetheless can exist: *ie things can simplify given a hierarchy of scales.*

Divide system into small observed subsystem,  $A$ , in presence of a large environment,  $B$ :

$$H = H_A + H_B + V$$

then simplifications can arise when

$$t_c \ll t_p$$



Where  $t_c$  is the correlation time of  $V$  in  $B$  and  $t_p$  is the time beyond which perturbation in  $V$  fails.

# EFTs w/o Effective Lagrangians

- On For such a system evolution over times  $t \gg t_p$  can be computed by computing a coarse-grained evolution:

$$(d\rho_A/dt)_{cg} = \frac{1}{\Delta t} \text{Tr}_B[U(\Delta t)\rho U^*(\Delta t)]$$

for  $t_c \ll \Delta t \ll t_p$  and integrating.

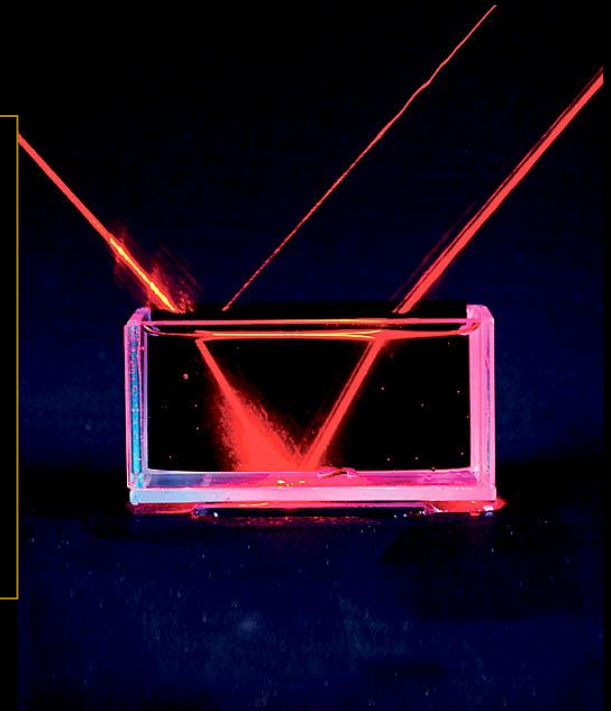
*for  $A \ll B$  in this limit this is a Markov process*

# EFTs w/o Effective Lagrangians

- One can compute such a system evolution over times  $t \gg t_p$  can be computed by computing a coarse-grained evolution:

This is what allows calculation of light propagation over distances for which scattering from atoms is 100% likely

*for  $A \ll B$  in this limit this*



[www.osa-opn.org](http://www.osa-opn.org)

# EFTs w/o Effective Lagrangians

---

- Open EFTs
- Effective theory outside the horizon

# EFTs w/o Effective Lagrangians

CB, Holman, Tasinato & Williams

- Open

*Q: What is the effective theory outside the Hubble scale during inflation?*

*Claim: this is described by an Open EFT*

- Effective

*System A: extra-Hubble modes:  $\frac{k}{a} \ll H$*

*System B: intra-Hubble modes:  $\frac{k}{a} > H$*

*Correlation time:  $t_c \approx H^{-1}$*

# EFTs w/o Effective Lagrangians|

CB, Holman, Tasinato & Williams

*Calculation of off-diagonal matrix elements of  $\rho_A$ :*

- O

suppose 
$$V = \int A^i B_i d^3x$$

and 
$$\langle \delta B_i(x) \delta B_j(y) \rangle = U_{ij}(x) \delta(x - y)$$

- Ef

also extra-Hubble squeezing of modes implies

$$A^i(\Phi, \Pi)|\varphi\rangle \rightarrow A^i(\Phi, 0)|\varphi\rangle = \alpha^i(\varphi)|\varphi\rangle$$

so  $A^i$  is always diagonal in field eigenbasis



# EFTs w/o Effective Lagrangians|

CB, Holman, Tasinato & Williams

*Calculation of off-diagonal matrix elements of  $\rho_A$ :*

- O

then can integrate equation for  $\rho_A$  in field basis:

- Ef

$$\langle \varphi | \rho_A | \tilde{\varphi} \rangle = \langle \varphi | \rho_{A0} | \tilde{\varphi} \rangle e^{-\Gamma}$$

$$\text{where } \Gamma = \int d^3x dt [\alpha^i - \tilde{\alpha}^i][\alpha^j - \tilde{\alpha}^j] U_{ij}$$

implies off-diagonal elements *decohere* as with variance narrowing on Hubble times:  $\sigma^{-2} \propto a^3$

# EFTs w/o Effective Lagrangians|

CB, Holman, Tasinato & Williams

- **O** *What of the diagonal matrix elements of  $\rho_A$ ?*  
For these  $\Gamma = 0$  and so the probabilities are governed by initial quantum state.

$$P[\varphi] = \langle \varphi | \rho_A | \varphi \rangle = |\Psi(\varphi)|^2$$

- **Ef** Schrodinger evolution plus tracing of sub-Hubble modes implies P satisfies  $\frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = N \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial \varphi^2}$  with N as in *Starobinsky's stochastic inflation*

# EFTs w/o Effective Lagrangians

## Summary:

- **O** *Open systems provide a **new type of EFT** where simplicity of scale hierarchy is not captured by an effective lagrangian*
- **Ef** *Appropriate for EFT outside inflationary Hubble scale, and provides **derivation of Starobinsky's stochastic inflation** as well as the **rapid decoherence** of primordial quantum fluctuations.*

# *Summary*

# Summary

---

- Inflation with large fields
  - Requires understanding of large-field regime
  - Pseudo-Goldstone bosons lead to trig, exponential potentials (and even power laws sometimes)
  - $r$  larger than 0.1 a challenge for many models

# Summary

---

- Inflation with large fields
  - Requires understanding of large-field regime
  - Pseudo-Goldstone bosons lead to trig, exponential potentials (and even power laws sometimes)
  - $r$  larger than 0.1 a challenge for many models
- Inflation and Open EFTs
  - EFT for open systems, without eff lagrangian
  - Gives extra-Hubble EFT: decoherence + Starobinsky
  - New domains of validity of EFT approximation



*Fin*

# The CC message:

---

- The cosmological constant problem is telling us that there must be two micron-sized dimensions (plus possibly more smaller ones)



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---

- The cosmological constant problem is telling us that there must be two micron-sized dimensions (plus possibly more smaller ones)
- These dimensions must be supersymmetric (but need *NOT* require the MSSM)



*“...when you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth.”*

*A. Conan Doyle*

# The CC message:

---

- The cosmological constant problem is telling us that there must be two micron-sized dimensions (plus possibly more smaller ones)
- These dimensions must be supersymmetric (but need *NOT* require the MSSM)
- *More generally: back-reaction for higher codimension objects is a very promising, but largely unexplored area*