Nonlinear Dynamics of Cosmological Scalar Fields





+ Kaloian Lozanov, P. Mocz, T. Smith

+ earlier collaborators (Easther, Poulin +)





Nonlinear Dynamics of Cosmological Scalar Fields

theoretical/numerical results

- I. instability in oscillating fields
- 2. formation of solitons
- 3. eq. of state

obs. implications

I. gravitational waves

2. structure formation

3. expansion history







why study nonlinear dynamics cosmological (scalar) fields ?

why scalar fields

- inflation & end of inflation (reheating)
- Higgs dynamics
- dark matter (axions / fuzzy dm)
- late & early dark energy

why nonlinear?

- linearity is *not* the norm
- provides many, scale-dependent predictions for observations

* sometimes necessary, sometimes easiest thing to start with when we don't know better

result I: instability in oscillating fields

oscillating, cosmologically relevant, (almost) homogeneous scalar fields are unstable to spatial perturbations

> Khlopov, Malomed, Zeldovich (1985) Johnson & Kamionkowski (2009)

* there are timescales associated with the instability, typically the longest is Hubble time scale

why are dynamics of oscillating cosmological fields nonlinear?

- gravity
 - fields cluster, Hubble time scales



self-interactions

- fields can cluster/become inhomogeneous
- (can be) much faster than Hubble (due to self-resonance)

Review 1410.3808

Kofman, Linde, Starobinsky (1994) *for this short talk, I will ignore interactions with other fields, which can also be important

why are dynamics of oscillating cosmological fields nonlinear?

• gravity

- fields cluster, Hubble time scales

self-interactions

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$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{m_{\rm pl}^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial \phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right] + U(\phi, \phi_i)$$





why are dynamics of cosmological fields nonlinear?

• gravity

- fields cluster, Hubble time scales

self-interactions

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* potentials relevant for inflation (alpha-attractors, Andrei's talk), and for early DE (Mark's talk earlier)

result 2: oscillon formation (solitons)



Earlier papers on oscillons eg.: Bogolubovsky & Makhanakov 1970s, Gleiser, Copeland Mueller (1990s)















soliton formation in oscillating fields



MA, Easther, Finkel, Flaugher & Hertzberg (2011) 1106.3335













result 3: "equation-of-state"

the spatially averaged equation-of-state of fields

- (n = 1) quadratic minima w = 0
- (n>1) non-quadratic minima w=1/3 (after sufficient time)



result 3: equation-of-state



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eq. of state





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implications: gravitational waves



limits adapted from Lasky et. al (2015) caveat* early universe g-waves amplitude depend on assumptions of expansion history

implications

g-waves from nonlinear dynamics of early dark energy (Hubble tension)



MA, Lozanov & Smith (in progress)

Smith, Poulin & MA 1908.06995

structure formation with with baryons ("late" universe)

Mocz, Fialkov et. al (2019)

implications



implications

PBH formation from solitons?

Gravitational potential

 10^{-1}

 10^{-7}

-10 -5

0

 $\Phi \times 10^4$

5

10

Oscillons

 $\Delta N = 1.0$

 $L = 81 \, m^{-1}$

Time

$$\Phi \lesssim \text{few} \times 10^{-3}$$
Not easy to form PHBs
from individual solitons from self resonance
However accidental over-densities in solitons
more likely to form PBHs (Cotner et. al
2018/19)
$$\int_{-1}^{10^{-1}} \int_{-1}^{10^{-1}} \int_{-1}$$

Lozanov & MA (2019) 1902.06736

quantitative? gravitational clustering of solitons

implications



MA & Mocz (2019)

implications

eq. of state & CMB observables



MA & Lozanov 2017 [1608.01213, 1710.06851]

also see: Kamionkowski & Munoz (2014)

* non-quadratic minimum

reduction in uncertainty



Lozanov & MA (2017) [1608.01213, 1710.06851] *all other fields are assumed to be light and massless.

* non-quadratic minimum

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- 3 theoretical/numerical results
 1 instability in oscillating fields
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 3 eq. of state



3 obs. implications
3 obs. implications
9 gravitational waves
2 structure formation
3 expansion history







extra slides: one slide summaries



Helfer, Lim, Garcia & MA (2018)

gravitational waves from "ultra-compact" soliton collision





Nonlinear Dynamics of Higgs in the Early Universe

MA, J. Fan, K. Lozanov & M. Reece (2018)

time \longrightarrow $V(\phi, h)$ modulus : ϕ $\dot{\phi}_0$ $\operatorname{Higgs}:h$ $\frac{1}{2}m_{\phi}^{2}\phi^{2} + \frac{M^{2}}{f}\left(\phi - \phi_{0}\right)\left(h^{\dagger}h - \frac{v^{2}}{2}\right) + \lambda(h^{\dagger}h)^{2}$ $\frac{M^4}{2\lambda f^2 m_\phi^2}$ $\rightarrow 1 \Leftrightarrow rapid fragmentation$ fine tuning $\Leftrightarrow \frac{\phi_0}{f} \ll 1$ non-trivial eq. of state stochastic gravitational waves 10^{-8} 0.3 b = 1 $N_{\rm mod} = 0$ LIGO O5 $= p_{\rm tot}/\rho_{\rm tot}$ b = 0.25 10^{-10} $\Omega_{\rm gw,0}$ 10^{-12} Э b = 0.01 $N_{\rm mod} =$ 0.0 10^{-14} 50100 1502002500 10^{5} 10^{6} 10^{4} 10 100 1000 1 $m_{\phi}t$ f_0/Hz