

# Scale dependent non-Gaussianity

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30 min**

# So far data is consistent with Gaussianity

So why is this field so popular? [Komatsu et al; Decadel review, '09](#)

1. Observations are sensitive to non-Gaussianity, so constraints are tight
2. Non-detection already constrains classes of models
3. Constraints are expected to tighten significantly with Planck - **topical**
4. LSS constraints are competitive and promising  
**lots of talks here!**
5. In the next two years we could move **from no detection to a very high significance detection**
6. So how much can we learn, and what should we look for with Planck and beyond?

# Some scale dependence is expected

- Analogous to the power spectrum,  $f_{NL}$  (local) should have a mild scale dependence
- Observational and theoretical interest
- Breaks degeneracy between early universe models
  - As well as the trispectrum
- Predictions should come first
  - Avoid posterior detections

# Questions?

- **How large is the scale dependence?**
  - How to calculate given a model?
- **How does it arise?**
  - Multiple fields
  - Self interactions
- **Are observations sensitive to it?**
- **What can we learn from it?**
- **Technical:**
  - What shape does it have?
  - How to generalise local ansatz?
  - How many new parameters?



# The primordial curvature perturbation $\zeta$

$$\zeta = \frac{5}{3}\Phi = -\frac{H}{\dot{\phi}}\delta\phi = -\frac{H}{\dot{\rho}}\delta\rho \text{ relates to the inflaton fluctuations}$$

For adiabatic perturbations it is conserved on super horizon scales

$$\zeta \rightarrow \frac{\Delta T}{T} \text{ relates to the temperature perturbations on the CMB}$$

## Minimal local ansatz of non-Gaussianity

- Simplest and reasonably well motivated

$$\zeta(\mathbf{x}) = \zeta_G(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{3}{5}f_{NL}\zeta_G^2(\mathbf{x})$$

- $f_{NL}$  is an amplitude, one number
- Useful description, but not exact

# General definition of $f_{NL}$

- Power spectrum  $\langle \zeta_{k_1} \zeta_{k_2} \rangle = P_\zeta(k)(2\pi)^3 \delta^3(k_1 + k_2)$

- **Bispectrum**

$$\langle \zeta_{k_1} \zeta_{k_2} \zeta_{k_3} \rangle = B_\zeta(k_1, k_2, k_3)(2\pi)^3 \delta^3(k_1 + k_2 + k_3)$$

$$\frac{6}{5} f_{NL}(k_1, k_2, k_3) \equiv \frac{B_\zeta(k_1, k_2, k_3)}{P_\zeta(k_1)P_\zeta(k_2) + 2 \text{ perms}}$$

- Function of 3 wavenumbers
  - side lengths of a triangle
- Usually reduced to an amplitude times scale-independent shape function
- Why scale-independent?

# Definition of scale dependent $f_{NL}$

For the equilateral triangle (one  $k$ )

$$n_{f_{NL}} \equiv \frac{\partial \log |f_{NL}|}{\partial \log k}$$

- In general  $f_{NL}$  trivariate function, so definition needs care
- However  $n_{f_{NL}}$  is independent of the shape **provided one scales the triangle preserving the shape**
  - Hence the above is a useful definition of a **new observable** Byrnes, Nurmi, Tasinato and Wands, '09
  - Not much change if the shape and size of triangle are changed together

# Observable parameters, bispectrum and trispectrum

We define 3 non-linearity parameters

$$B_{\zeta}(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3) = \frac{6}{5}f_{NL} \left[ P_{\zeta}(k_1)P_{\zeta}(k_2) + P_{\zeta}(k_2)P_{\zeta}(k_3) + P_{\zeta}(k_3)P_{\zeta}(k_1) \right]$$

$$T_{\zeta}(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4) = \tau_{NL} \left[ P_{\zeta}(|\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_3|)P_{\zeta}(k_3)P_{\zeta}(k_4) + (11 \text{ perms}) \right] \\ + \frac{54}{25}g_{NL} \left[ P_{\zeta}(k_2)P_{\zeta}(k_3)P_{\zeta}(k_4) + (3 \text{ perms}) \right]$$

Seery & Lidsey '06; Byrnes, Sasaki & Wands '06

Note that  $\tau_{NL}$  and  $g_{NL}$  both appear at leading order in the trispectrum  
The coefficients have a different  $k$  dependence,  $P_{\zeta} \propto k^{-3}$

Constraints  $|f_{NL}| \lesssim 100$ ,  $|\tau_{NL}| \lesssim 10^5$ ,  $|g_{NL}| \lesssim 10^6$

WMAP7; Desjacques & Seljak '09; Smidt et al '10 a

Planck forecasts  $|f_{NL}| \lesssim 10$ ,  $|\tau_{NL}| \lesssim 10^3$ ,  $|g_{NL}| \lesssim 10^5$

Smidt et al '10 b



# Simple extension of local fNL

- The multivariate local model

$$\zeta(x) = \zeta_{G,\phi}(x) + \zeta_{G,\chi}(x) + f_\chi \zeta_{G,\chi}^2(x) + g_\chi \zeta_{G,\chi}^3(x)$$

phi is the Gaussian inflaton field,

chi generates non-Gaussianity (uncorrelated to phi)

applies to mixed inflaton and curvaton/modulated reheating scenarios, provided  $f_\chi$  is a constant

- Two-component hybrid inflation CB, Choi, Hall '08

Bispectrum has the usual local shape – not changed

$$P_\zeta(k) = P_{\zeta_\phi}(k) + P_{\zeta_\chi}(k), \quad P_\zeta \propto k^{n-4}, \quad P_{\zeta_\chi} \propto k^{n_\chi-4}$$

$$f_{NL}(k) = \frac{5}{3} \frac{B_{\zeta_\chi}}{3P_\zeta^2} = \frac{5}{3} \frac{P_{\zeta_\chi}(k)^2}{P_\zeta(k)^2} f_\chi \propto \left( \frac{k}{k_p} \right)^{2(n_\chi - n)}$$

- **So a scale dependence of  $f_{NL}$  is simple and natural**
- Trispectrum  $n_{\tau_{NL}} = n_{g_{NL}} = \frac{3}{2} n_{f_{NL}} = 3(n_\chi - n)$

# Mixed inflaton-curvaton scenario

- The inflaton  $\phi$  has Gaussian perturbations, the curvaton field  $\chi$  (quadratic  $V$ ) is non-Gaussian  
assume a small field model of inflation  $\epsilon \ll \eta_{\phi\phi}$

$$n - 1 = 2(1 - w_\chi)\eta_{\phi\phi}$$

$$f_{NL}(k) = w_\chi^2(k)f_\chi$$

$$n_{f_{NL}} = 2(n_\chi - n) = -4(1 - w_\chi)\eta_{\phi\phi}$$

where  $w_\chi(k) = P_{\zeta_\chi}(k)/P_\zeta(k)$

- **New consistency relation**  $n_{f_{NL}} = -2(n - 1) \simeq 0.1$

- **Trispectrum**  $\tau_{NL} = \left(\frac{6}{5}f_{NL}\right)^2 \frac{1}{w_\chi} \quad n_{\tau_{NL}} = -3(n - 1)$

# Observational prospects

- Planck could reach a tight constraint
- Predicted to reach  $\Delta n_{f_{NL}} = 0.1$  for  $f_{NL} = 50$
- CMBPol has double this sensitivity
- LSS maybe best?
  - Ask Giannantonio, Huterer, Porciani, Shandera ...
- Error bar is inversely proportional to the fiducial value of  $f_{NL}$
- So its possible that Planck will provide the first detection of non-Gaussianity, and simultaneously detect its scale dependence!

Sefusatti, Ligouri, Yadav, Jackson, Pajer; '09

# Single-field scale dependence I

- Models where any single field generates the perturbations
  - Not assumed to be the inflaton
- $f_{\text{NL}}$  can be scale dependent
- Arises from the non-linearity of the field evolution just after horizon exit
- Only exception is a free test field (quadratic potential)
  - has a linear equation of motion
- **The assumption that  $f_{\text{NL}}$  is scale independent is only valid in the simplest toy models!**
- Example is the simplest curvaton scenario
- Including the inflaton field fluctuations or self interactions will generate a scale dependence

# Single field II

- In models with large non-Gaussianity the single field is isocurvature during inflation

$$n_{f_{NL}} \sim \frac{\sqrt{r_T} V'''}{f_{NL} 3H^2} \quad r_T = \frac{P_T}{P_\zeta}$$

$$\tau_{NL} = \left( \frac{6}{5} f_{NL} \right)^2 \Rightarrow n_{\tau_{NL}} = 2n_{f_{NL}}$$

$$n_{g_{NL}} \sim \frac{r_T V''''}{g_{NL} 3H^2} \sim \frac{\mathcal{P}_\zeta^{-1}}{g_{NL}} V''''$$

- Model dependent size, could be large
- Neither spectral index nor its running probe higher derivatives of the isocurvature's field potential
- Only way to probe self-interactions?

# Interacting curvaton scenario I

$$V(\chi) = \frac{1}{2}m^2\chi^2 + \lambda m^4 \left(\frac{\chi}{m}\right)^p$$

Strength of self interaction (at horizon exit, \*)

$$s = 2\lambda \left(\frac{\chi_*}{m}\right)^{p-2}$$

In the limit of  $s=0$  recover scale invariance

Energy density of curvaton at time of decay

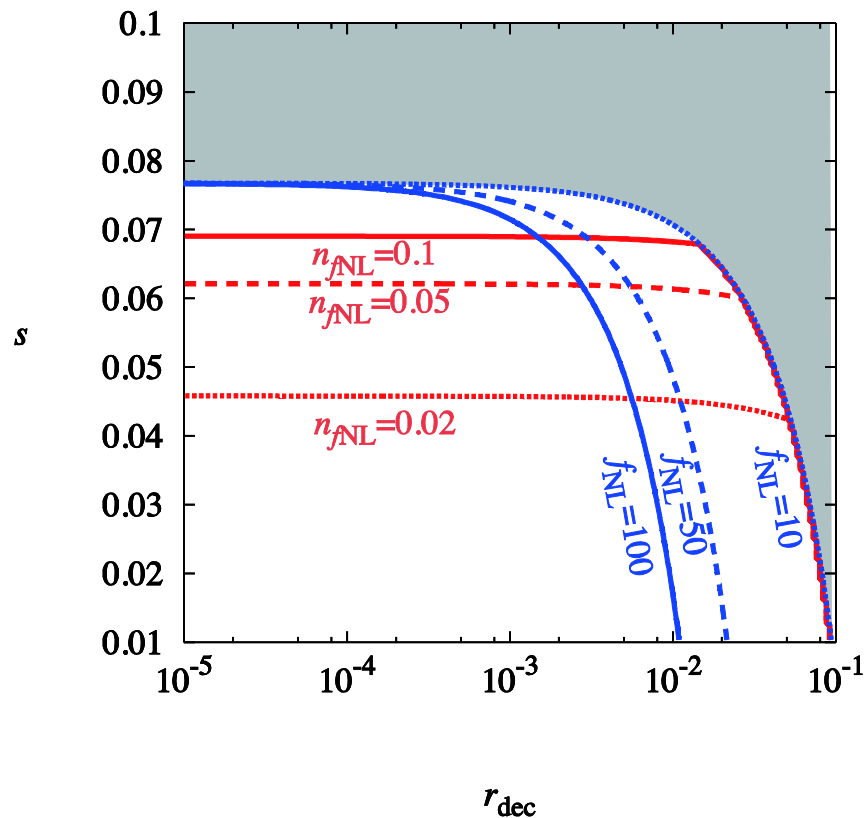
$$r_{dec} \equiv \frac{\rho_\chi}{4\rho_{rad} + 3\rho_\chi} \quad f_{NL} \sim \frac{1}{r_{dec}}$$

# Interacting curvaton scenario II

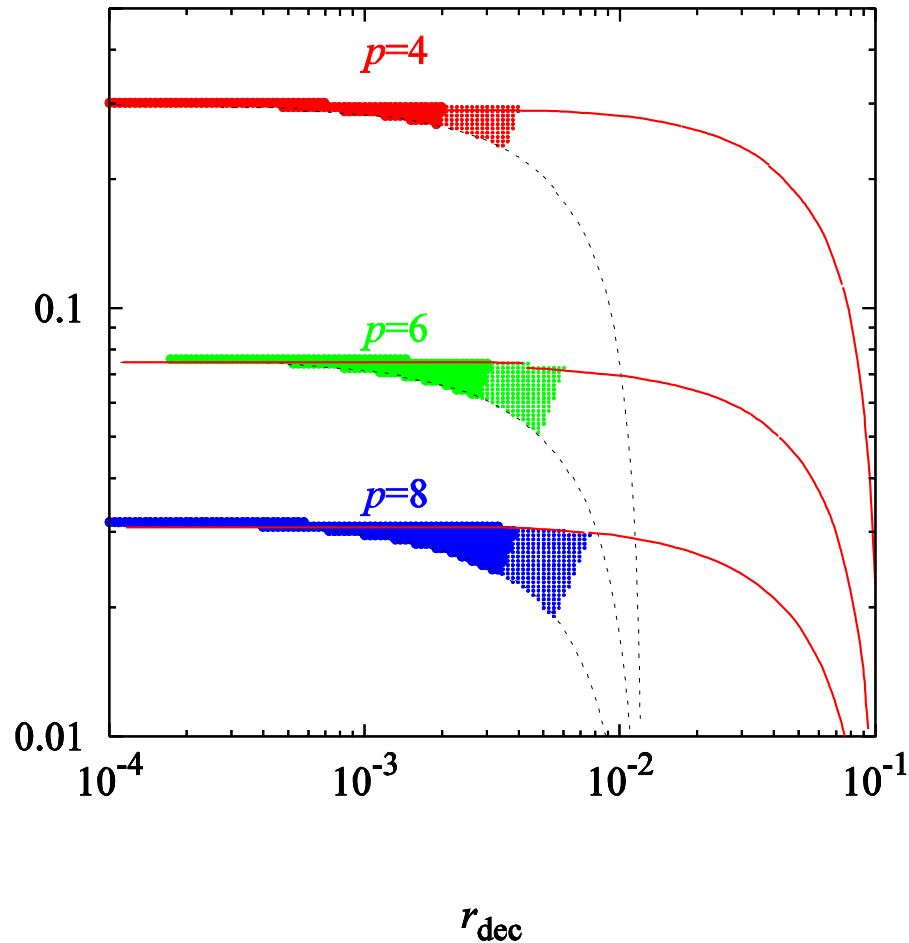
$$p = 6 \quad \eta_{\chi\chi} = 0.005$$

$f_{NL} < 10$  is shaded

$n_{f_{NL}} > 0.1$  is possible even for small  $s$



# Interacting curvaton scenario III testable region



shaded regions are  
testable with CMBPol  
at 1 and 2 -  $\sigma$

top redline  $f_{NL}=10$   
lower dashed line  $f_{NL} = 100$



# Interacting curvaton scenario IV

## Summary

- Knowledge of  $f_{NL}$ ,  $n_{f_{NL}}$ ,  $g_{NL}$  would give us information on the curvaton parameters  $m$ ,  $p$ ,  $s$
- Even a small self interaction significantly changes the model predictions
  - Makes all of the non-linearity parameters scale dependent
- The curvaton is required to have a quadratic minimum
  - Models which could have a pure self interaction potential (eg modulated reheating) may have larger scale dependence

# Easy to calculate

Scale dependence of non-Gaussianity parameters depends only on derivatives of  $N$  ( $\delta N$  formalism) and slow-roll parameters evaluated at Hubble-exit



# Conclusions

- Non-Gaussianity is an important and topical way of constraining the many models of inflation
  - It is not given by just one amplitude
  - Should include a scale-dependence
    - New observable
    - Easy to calculate in many models
  - Can arise due to:
    - a) Multiple field effects
    - b) Self interactions of the fields
  - The scale dependence could be large
- 
- CB, Nurmi, Tasinato & Wands; 0911.2780 [astro-ph.CO]
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# Loop corrections?

- With extreme parameter values, the bispectrum can be large through a “loop” correction

$$\zeta = \zeta_\phi + \zeta_\chi^2$$

Boubekeur & Lyth; '05  
Suyama & Takahashi; '08

- Applying a sharp IR cut-off  $L$

$$f_{NL} = f_{NL}^{\text{loop}} \sim \frac{P_{\zeta_\chi}^3(k)}{P_\zeta^2(k)} \ln(kL)$$

- If we take  $L \sim 1/H$

$$n_{f_{NL}} \sim 1/\ln(kL) \sim 0.2$$

Kumar, Leblond & Rajaraman; '09

- Some controversy if this is physical or artifact of the cut off

# Non-Gaussianity during slow-roll

- Possible to generate a large non-Gaussianity during slow-roll inflation (with canonical kinetic terms)
- Requires trajectory sensitive to Hubble exit value of the (subdominant) isocurvature field
- Requires curved trajectory during inflation, this breaks the conservation of zeta

Gordon et al '00

- $f_{\text{NL}}$  generated on super-horizon scales (in common with nearly all local models)
- Difference from all other local models is that here the non-Gaussianity is generated during inflation

General conditions: CB, Choi & Hall '08 a)

Without slow roll (exact solution): CB & Tasinato '09

# Two-component hybrid inflation

$$W = W_0 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} \eta_{\varphi\varphi} \frac{\varphi^2}{M_P^2} + \frac{1}{2} \eta_{\chi\chi} \frac{\chi^2}{M_P^2} \right)$$

If we choose initial conditions to maximise  $f_{NL}$  then

$$f_{NL} = \frac{5}{24} \eta_{\chi\chi} e^{2N(\eta_{\varphi\varphi} - \eta_{\chi\chi})}, \quad n_\zeta - 1 = \eta_{\varphi\varphi} + \eta_{\chi\chi}$$

$N$  is the number of e-foldings from horizon crossing till the end of inflation; Scales which exit earlier are more non-Gaussian

$$n_{f_{NL}} \equiv \frac{\partial \log |f_{NL}|}{\partial \log k} = -2(\eta_{\varphi\varphi} - \eta_{\chi\chi})$$

$\eta_{\varphi\varphi}$	$\eta_{\chi\chi}$	$\varphi_*$	$\chi_*$	$f_{NL}$	$n_{f_{NL}}$	$n_\zeta - 1$	r
0.04	-0.04	1	$6.8 \times 10^{-5}$	-123	-0.16	0	0.006
0.08	0.01	1	0.0018	9.27	-0.14	0.09	0.026
-0.01	-0.09	1	$3 \times 10^{-6}$	-132	-0.276	-0.04	0.0007

First to calculate scale dependence: Byrnes, Choi & Hall '08 b)

# Inflaton field

- Can find analytic results using the slow-roll approximation
- Neglecting the non-Gaussianity of the fields at horizon exit, i.e. taking only the local part

$$\frac{6}{5}f_{NL} = \frac{N''}{N'^2} = 2\epsilon - \eta$$

$$n_{f_{NL}} = \frac{6\epsilon\eta - 8\epsilon^2 - \xi^2}{\eta - 2\epsilon}$$

Can see how this arises from the second-order field evolution

$$\delta_2\phi(t_i) = \delta_2(\phi_*) + \frac{H(t_i - t_*)}{\sqrt{2\epsilon}}(8\epsilon^2 - 6\epsilon\eta + \xi^2)\delta_1^2\phi$$