

Stability of form inflation

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Why forms?

- **To test the robustness of scalar**
is it the only natural possibility?
scalars have not been detected yet
- **Forms exist in fundamental theories**
string theory
nonsymmetric gravity
- **Possibility to generate anisotropy**
present anomalies in CMB
Planck could detect small anisotropy

Outline

- The question: can single-field inflation be generalised to forms?
- Furthermore: are the resulting models stable (shear, perturbations, ghosts)?
- We will:
 - 0) Introduce the action
 - 1) Discuss vector & 2form: **anisotropic inflation**
 - 2) Discuss 3form & 4form: **new isotropic inflation**
 - 3) Summarise and look out

Stability in flat space

- Parity and Lorentz-invariant, quadratic

$$\mathcal{L}_f = -\frac{1}{4}a(\partial A)^2 - \frac{1}{2}b(\partial \cdot A)^2 - \frac{1}{4}m^2 A^2, \quad (1)$$

- Ghost or nonlocality unless $a(a+b)=0$

van Nieuwenhuizen, Nucl. Phys. B69, 478 (1973)

- If $a=-b$: Maxwell recovered
- If $a=0$: Dual theory

Stability in curved space

- General curvature couplings:

$$\mathcal{L}_c = -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-g} \left(\xi R A^2 - c R_{\mu\nu} A^{\mu\alpha} A_{\alpha}{}^{\nu} - R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} A^{\mu\nu} A^{\alpha\beta} \right)$$

- FRW stability: $c=d$
- Schwarzschild solutions : $d=0$
- ...we're left with a coupling to R

The models

- Thus we consider the case

$$S = \int d^d x \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{1}{2\kappa^2} R - \frac{1}{2(n+1)!} F^2 - \frac{1}{2} (m^2 + \xi R) A^2 \right]$$

- Notations: $F = (n+1) \mathcal{A} \partial A$

$$\begin{aligned} F_{M_1 \dots M_{n+1}}(A) &\equiv F_{M_{n+1}} \\ &\equiv (n+1) \partial_{[M_1} A_{M_2 \dots M_{n+1}]} \end{aligned}$$

- EOM: $\nabla \cdot F = n! (2V' + \xi R) A$

Stückelberg form: $A = B + \frac{1}{M} \mathcal{A} \partial \Sigma$

- We get the Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2(n+1)!} F^2(B) - \frac{1}{2} M^2 \left(B + \frac{1}{M} \mathcal{A} \partial \Sigma \right)^2$$

- Gauge invariance restored, $\Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma + \Delta$,
for an $(n-1)$ form Δ : $B \rightarrow B - \frac{1}{M} \mathcal{A} \partial \Delta$

- We can choose a gauge where

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2(n+1)!} F^2(B) - \frac{1}{2} M^2 B^2 - \frac{1}{2} \text{sgn}(M^2) (\mathcal{A} \partial \Sigma)^2.$$

- Thus: eff. mass negative \rightarrow **a $(n-1)$ -ghost!**

Vector field cosmology

Ford: Phys.Rev.D40:967 (1989)

FRW symmetry problematic:

- A spatial vector not compatible
- Time-like field trivial

Proposed solutions:

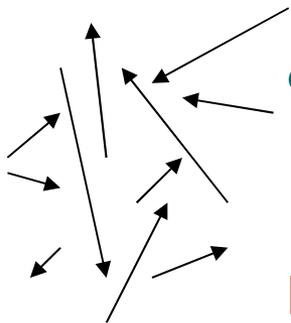
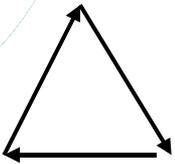
- Introduce a “triad” of three spatial
(stability?)

Armendariz-Picon: JCAP 0407:007 (2004)

- Introduce a large number of random fields
(tractability?)

Golovnev, Mukhanov & Vanchurin: JCAP 0806 (2008)

But generation of anisotropy was among our original motivation



Vector field: Background

- **In Bianchi I universe, a vector must be aligned along a spatial axis!**
- **So, consider axisymmetry with shear σ :**

$$\begin{aligned} ds^2 &= -dt^2 + e^{2\alpha(t)} \left[e^{-4\sigma(t)} dx^2 + e^{2\sigma(t)} (dy^2 + dz^2) \right] \\ &= -dt^2 + a^2(t) dx^2 + b^2(t) (dy^2 + dz^2) \end{aligned}$$

- **The EOM for the comoving field $X=A/a$ is**

$$\ddot{X} + 3H\dot{X} + \left[2V' + (1 + 6\xi)(\dot{H} + 2H^2) - 2H\dot{\sigma} - 2\ddot{\sigma} - (4 - 6\xi)\dot{\sigma}^2 \right] X = 0$$

- **For slow roll one needs conformal coupling**

Golovnev, Mukhanov & Vanchurin JCAP 0806 (2008)

- **More general couplings:**

TK & D. Mota: JCAP 0806 (2008)

TK & D.Mota: JCAP

0808 (2008)

Vector field: perturbations

- Consider $A=(\alpha_0, \alpha_i)$ in Minkowski

$$S = \int d^4x \left\{ \frac{1}{2} [|\alpha'_i|^2 - (k^2 + M^2) |\alpha_i|^2] + \frac{1}{2} [k^2 |\alpha'_0|^2 - k^2 (\alpha'^* \alpha_0 + c.c.) - M^2 k^2 |\alpha|^2 + (k^2 + M^2) |\alpha_0|^2] \right\}$$

- Solve α_0 and plug back:

$$S = \int d^4x \frac{k^2 M^2}{2} \left[\frac{|\alpha'|^2}{k^2 + M^2} - |\alpha|^2 \right]$$

- If $M^2 < 0$, α becomes a ghost
and now indeed $M^2 = -R/6 + m^2 \sim -H^2$
- The ghost is confirmed by full computation
Himmetoglu, Contaldi & Peloso arXiv:0812.1231
- We already learned it with Stückelberg!

Other vector models: remarks

- **Several cases exist in the literature studying inflation with “vector impurity”**

e.g.: Kanno, Kimura, Soda, [Yokoyama](#) JCAP 0808:034,2008.

- **Our arguments apply to these models as such though the vector isn't dominating**

- **The fixed-norm case**

$$L = -\alpha_1 (\nabla A)^2 - \alpha_2 F^2 - \alpha_3 (\nabla \cdot A)^2 + \lambda (A^2 - m^2)$$

Ackerman, Carroll and Wise Phys.Rev.D75:083502,2007

has a similar instability of the longitudinal vector mode

Two-form: background

$$\begin{aligned} ds^2 &= -dt^2 + e^{2\alpha(t)} \left[e^{-4\sigma(t)} dx^2 + e^{2\sigma(t)} (dy^2 + dz^2) \right] \\ &= -dt^2 + a^2(t) dx^2 + b^2(t) (dy^2 + dz^2) \end{aligned}$$

- **Symmetry allows only $A=Xdy\wedge dz/b$. Then**

$$\ddot{X} + 3H\dot{X} + 2 \left[2V'(A^2) + (1 + 6\xi)\dot{H} + (1 + 12\xi)H^2 - \dot{\sigma}H + \ddot{\sigma} - 2(1 - 3\xi)\dot{\sigma}^2 \right] X = 0.$$

- **Thus, slow roll requires conformal/2 coupling**
- **Now effective mass contributions remain due to, in addition to shear, $-\epsilon H^2$**
- **At the level of action:**
 $M^2 = -R/12 + m^2 \sim -H^2/2$,
Stückelberg says we expect a vector ghost

2-form: perturbations

- Go to Minkowski and decompose with transverse potentials

$$\begin{aligned} A_{0i} &= \partial_i E + E_i \\ A_{ij} &= \epsilon_{ijk}(\partial^k B + B^k) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \int d^4x \left[\frac{1}{2} B'_i B'^i + \frac{1}{2} \partial_i B' \partial^i B' - \frac{1}{2} \Delta B \Delta B + \frac{1}{2} \partial_i E_j \partial^i E^j - B^{i'} \epsilon_{ijk} \partial^k E^j \right] \\ &+ \int d^4x \left[-\frac{1}{2} M^2 B_i B^i + \frac{1}{2} M^2 E_i E^i - \frac{1}{2} M^2 \partial_i B \partial^i B + \frac{1}{2} M^2 \partial_i E \partial^i E \right] \end{aligned}$$

- with further decomposition we can write the constraints as

$$B^i = \sum_{a=1,2} i B^a e_a^i$$

$$\begin{aligned} E &= 0 \\ (M^2 + k^2) E_a &= \pm \mathcal{M}_a^b k B_b \end{aligned} \quad \mathcal{M}_a^b = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Plugging back into action yields the result...

2form: perturbations

- **The action for perturbations is:**

$$S = \int d^4x \left\{ \frac{k^2}{2} [|B'|^2 - (k^2 + M^2) |B|^2] + \frac{M^2}{2} \left[\frac{|B_i'|^2}{k^2 + M^2} - |B_i|^2 \right] \right\}$$

- **There is a well behaved scalar part**
- **There is also a vector ghost when $M^2 < 0$**
- **We conclude that massive 1- or 2-forms cannot support inflation**

Three-form

- **Symmetry allows only FRW and**

$$A = e^{3\alpha(t)} X(t) dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$$

- **The EOM becomes**

$$\ddot{X} + 3H\dot{X} + 3 \left[4V'(A^2) + 24\xi H^2 + (1 + 12\xi) \dot{H} \right] X = 0$$

- **Coupling nothing but introduces large mass**

-> set $\xi = 0$

- **Promote the mass term into $V(x^2)$**

This time S. only requires $V > 0$ for stability

Three-form

$$A = e^{3\alpha(t)} X(t) dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$$

- X is not equivalent to scalar, but

$$\rho_X = \frac{1}{2} (\dot{X} + 3HX)^2 + V(X),$$

$$p_X = -\frac{1}{2} (\dot{X} + 3HX)^2 + V'(X)X - V.$$

- Always $\rho = + \text{kinetic} + \text{potential}$
- If V is constant $p = - \text{kinetic} - \text{potential}$
- If V is mass term $p = - \text{kinetic} + \text{potential}$

$$\frac{6\ddot{a}}{a} = (\dot{X} + 3HX)^2 + 2V - 3V'(X)X > 0$$

- It seems a minimally coupled 3-form inflates easily
- Phantom inflation occurs whenever $V'(A^2) < 0$

Four-form

- The only possibility: $A = X(t) dt \wedge dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$
the kinetic term is trivial. Call $A^2 = \varphi$

- Algebraic EOM: $V'(\varphi) = \xi R/2$

- Plugging back gives an $f(R)$ theory:

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\kappa^2} - \xi \varphi(R) \right) R - V(\varphi(R)) \right]$$

- If V is quadratic, this just the R^2 inflation

Starobinsky, *Phys. Lett.* **B91**, 99 (1980)

Dual

$$(*A)_{M_{n+1}\dots M_d} = \frac{1}{n!} \epsilon_{M_d} A^{M_n}$$

- Maps A into the orthogonal subspace of $(d-n)$ -forms
- The field strength transforms as

$$\delta F = (-1)^{(d-n)d} \nabla \cdot (*A)$$

yielding the only stable kinetic term for 2form in flat space

- The resulting theory is not equivalent since ksi

$$S = \int d^d x \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{1}{2\kappa^2} R - \frac{1}{2(n+1)!} (\nabla \cdot (*A))^2 - \frac{1}{2} (m^2 + \xi R) (*A)^2 \right]$$

- EOM: $\nabla \nabla \cdot (*A) = 2(n+1)! \left(V' - \frac{1}{2} \xi R \right) (*A)$

Reformulation

- So one may write the dual as a $(d-n-1)$ -index generalisation of a massive scalar

$$L = -\frac{(n+1)!}{2} m^2 \phi^2 - V(A^2([\nabla \phi]^2)) - \frac{1}{2} \xi R A^2([\nabla \phi]^2)$$

A

Φ

$n=d-1$

Mass term



Canonical kinetic

Quintessence

Nonquadratic potential



Noncanonical kinetic

K-essence

Dual kinetic



Mass term

Chaotic inf.

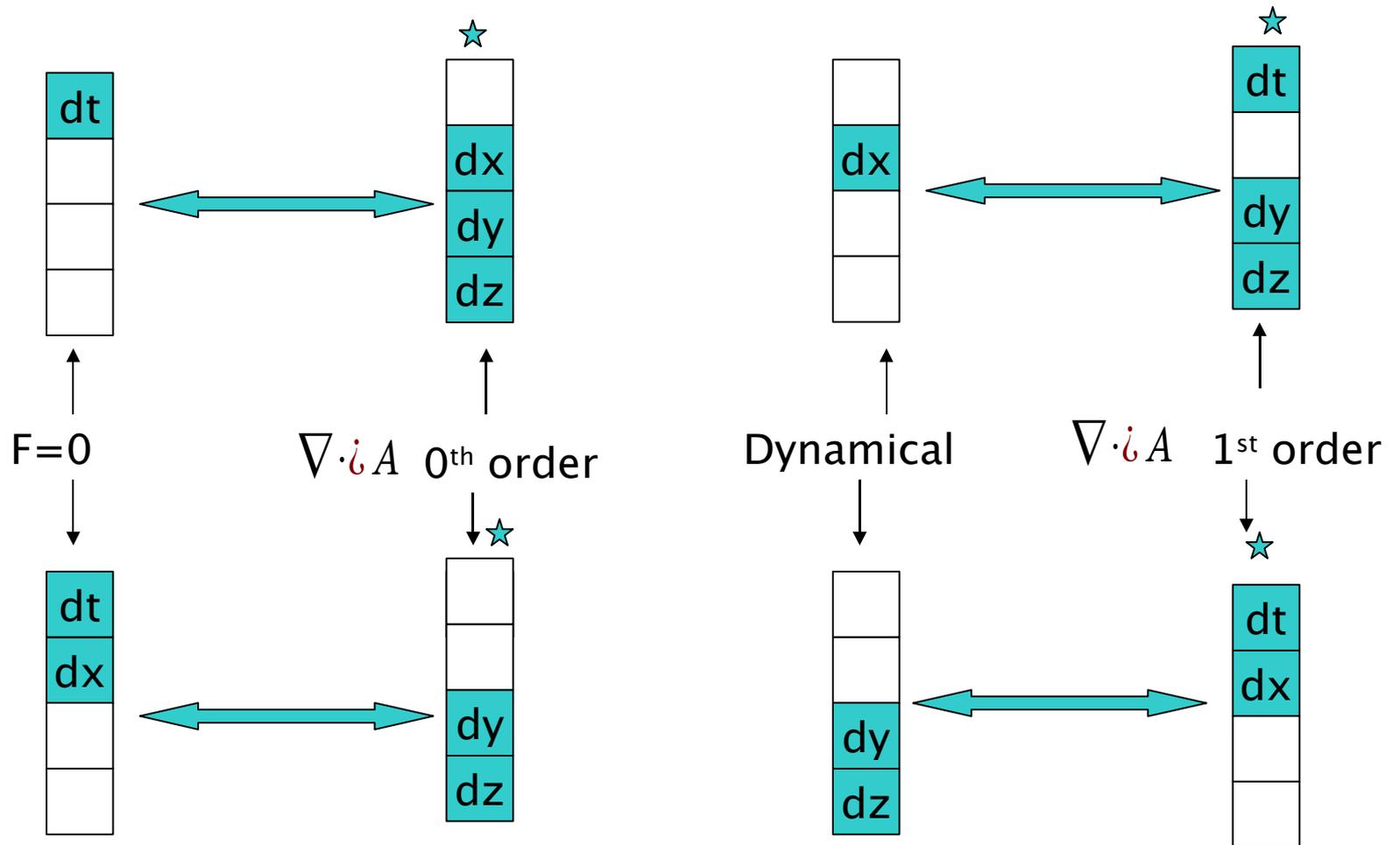
Nonquadratic dual kinetic



General potential

General scalar potential

Forms in axisymmetric B(I)



form	#dof	shear	coupling	comments
0	1	0	0	A scalar field
*0=4	1	0	0	1 st order EOM
1	4	$\sim X^2$	-1/6	Scalar ghost appears
*1=3	4	0	0	1 st order EOM
2	6	$\sim X^2$	-1/12	Vector ghost appears
*2=2	6	Not 0	0	1 st order EOM
3	4	0	0	Isotropic inflation
*3=1	4	0	0	Equivalent to scalar
4	1	0	not zero	Metric f(R) gravity
*4=0	1	0	not zero	Equivalent

Outlook

- **To find stable models supporting anisotropy**
 - Go to nonquadratic theories
 - Consider scalar inflaton + forms
- **To see if the new isotropic inflations are viable**
 - Check stability of perturbations
 - Compute the fluctuation spectrum
- **Other applications**
 - Origin of 4 large dimensions
 - Dark energy