



**Inflation**

**Isocurvature  
perturbations**

**Implications**

**Conclusions**

# PROBING THE EARLY UNIVERSE WITH ISOCURVATURE PERTURBATIONS

Tommi Tenkanen  
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Talk based on  
PRL 123, 061302 (2019)  
1905.01214

# Inflation

**Scalar  
fields in  
de Sitter**

# Scalar fields in de Sitter space

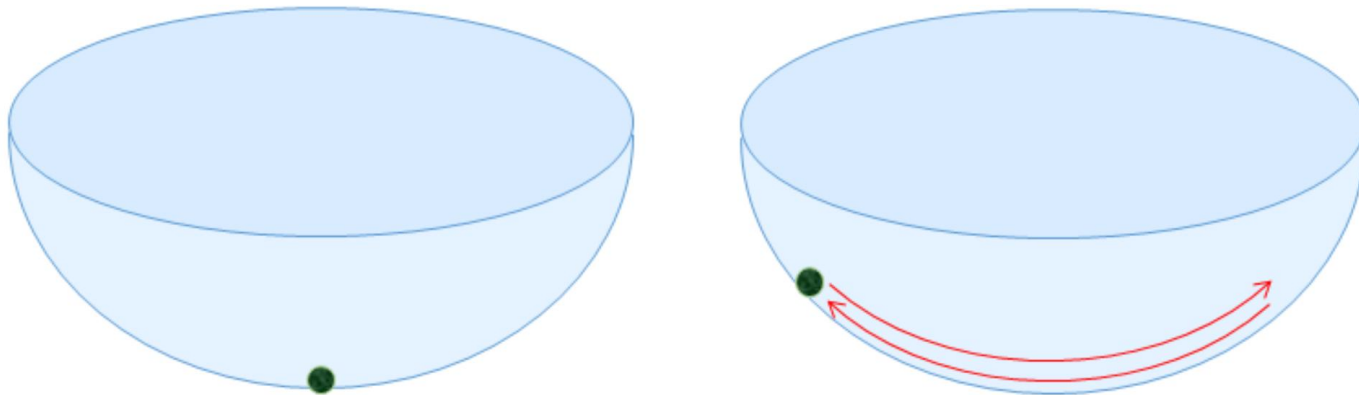
- Assume standard cosmology (inflation, reheating, hot Big Bang as usual)
- Assume there is a scalar field with the Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial^\mu \chi \partial_\mu \chi - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \chi^2$$

- Assume the field is not the inflaton but a **spectator field**

# Scalar fields in de Sitter space

- If the field was light ( $m < H$ ), it acquired fluctuations during inflation



# Scalar fields in de Sitter space

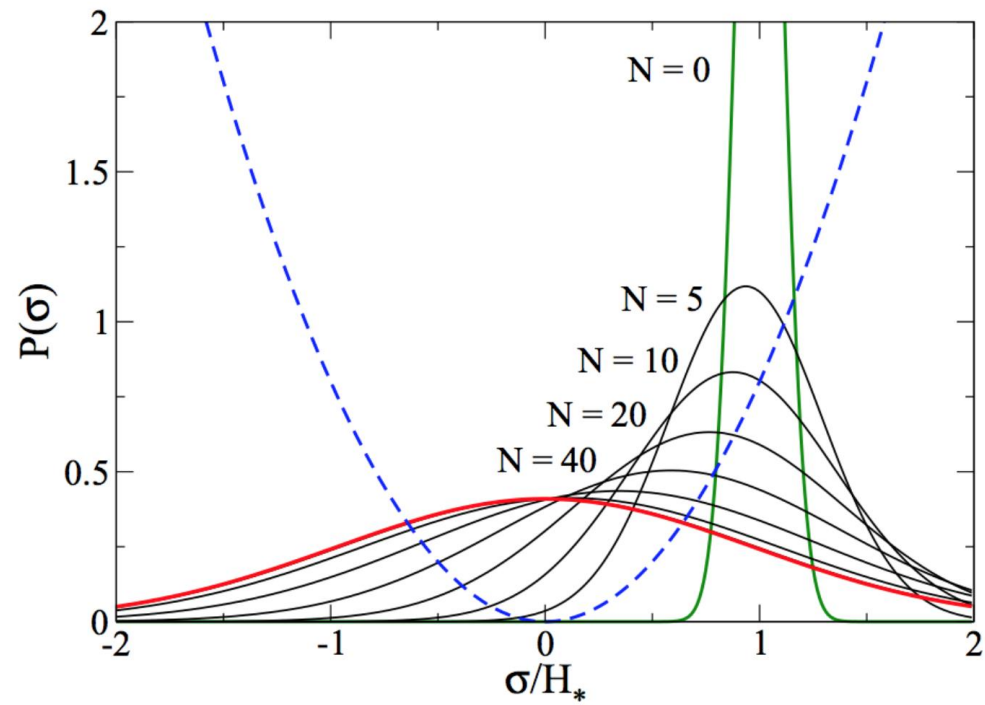


Figure from Enqvist et al. (1205.5446)

# Scalar fields in de Sitter space

- Using the stochastic approach\* it can be shown that the distribution of field values is\*\*

$$P(\chi) = N \exp\left(-\frac{8\pi^2}{3H^4}V(\chi)\right)$$

- Typical displacement:  $\langle \chi^2 \rangle \sim \frac{H^4}{m^2}$

\*) Starobinsky & Yokoyama (9407016),  
see also Markkanen, Rajantie, Stopyra, TT (1904.11917)

\*\*\*) Relaxation time-scale:  $N \sim H^2/m^2$

# Evolution after inflation

- At the end of inflation, there was a non-zero condensate of the scalar field
- The field had the energy density

$$\rho_{\chi}^{\text{end}}(x) = \frac{1}{2}m^2\chi_{\text{end}}^2(x)$$

Note that this is a position-dependent quantity

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$$\rho_{\chi}^{\text{end}}(x) = \frac{1}{2}m^2\chi_{\text{end}}^2(x)$$

**This is a generic initial condition for non-thermal DM models with scalar fields**



# Evolution after inflation

- Soon, the field started to oscillate about its minimum with

$$\rho_\chi(a) \propto a^{-3}$$

- If the field did not decay, the present abundance is

$$\frac{\Omega_\chi h^2}{0.12} = 3.5 \times 10^{17} g_*^{-1/4} (H_{\text{osc}}) \left( \frac{\chi_{\text{end}}}{M_{\text{P}}} \right)^2 \sqrt{\frac{m}{\text{GeV}}}$$

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$$\rho_\chi(a) \propto a^{-3}$$

## The simplest possible dark matter model

$$\frac{\Omega_\chi h^2}{0.12} = 3.5 \times 10^{17} g_*^{-1/4} (H_{\text{osc}}) \left( \frac{\chi_{\text{end}}}{M_{\text{P}}} \right)^2 \sqrt{\frac{m}{\text{GeV}}}$$

# Evolution after inflation

- If the field did decay into stable particles, their present abundance is

$$\frac{\Omega_\psi h^2}{0.12} = 1.2 \times 10^9 g_*^{-1/4} (H_{\text{osc}}) \left( \frac{m}{\Gamma_\chi} \right)^{3/8} \left( \frac{\chi_{\text{end}}}{M_{\text{P}}} \right)^{3/2} \left( \frac{m_\psi}{\text{GeV}} \right)$$

- Other sources (such as freeze-in) can contribute to the final DM abundance, too



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# Isocurvature perturbations

Observational  
consequences

# Dark matter perturbations

- It was noted that the DM energy density is a position-dependent quantity

$$\rho_{\chi}^{\text{end}}(x) = \frac{1}{2}m^2\chi_{\text{end}}^2(x)$$

**Do the perturbations overlap with those in radiation?**

(Are the DM perturbations **adiabatic** or **isocurvature**?)

# Dark matter isocurvature

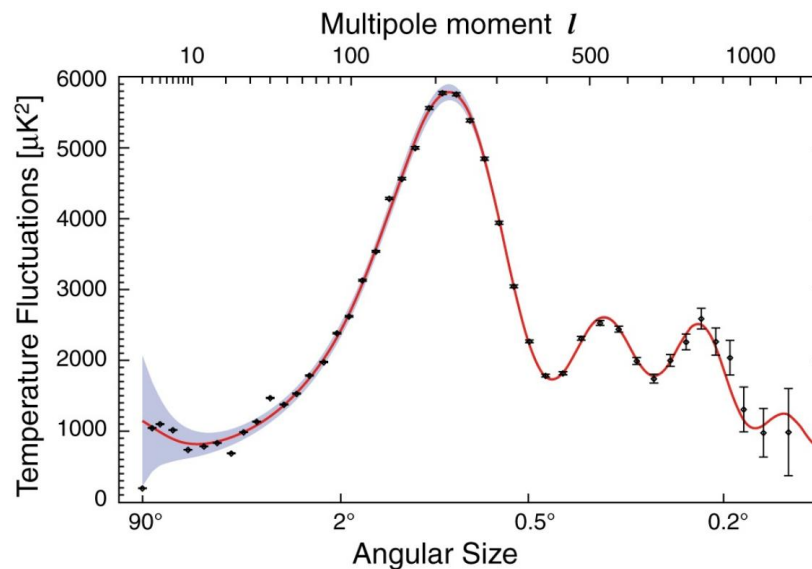
- Isocurvature between CDM and radiation is

$$S \equiv \frac{\delta\rho_c}{\rho_c} - \frac{3}{4} \frac{\delta\rho_\gamma}{\rho_\gamma}$$

- This quantity describes how much the CDM perturbations differ from those in radiation

# DM isocurvature vs. observations

- Non-observation of DM isocurvature places stringent constraints on this type of scenarios





# DM isocurvature spectrum

- The CMB constraints require

$$\mathcal{P}_S(k_*) \lesssim 0.04 \mathcal{P}_\zeta(k_*)$$

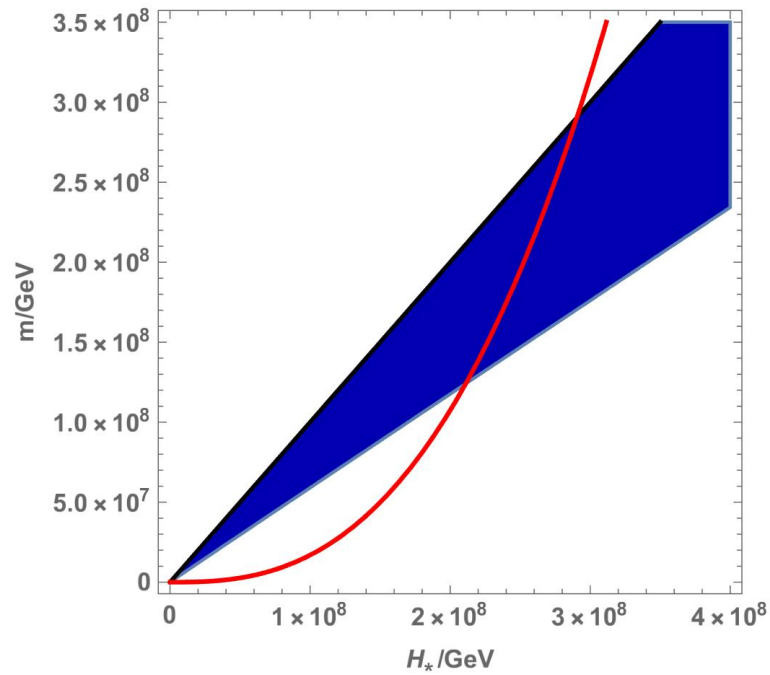
- The spectator field generates a spectrum

$$\mathcal{P}_S(k_*) = \mathcal{A}_{\text{iso}} \left( \frac{k}{k_*} \right)^{n_{\text{iso}} - 1}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{iso}} = 4(n_{\text{iso}} - 1)e^{-2N(k_*)(n_{\text{iso}} - 1)} \quad n_{\text{iso}} - 1 = \frac{2m^2}{3H^2}$$

# The simplest DM model vs. observations

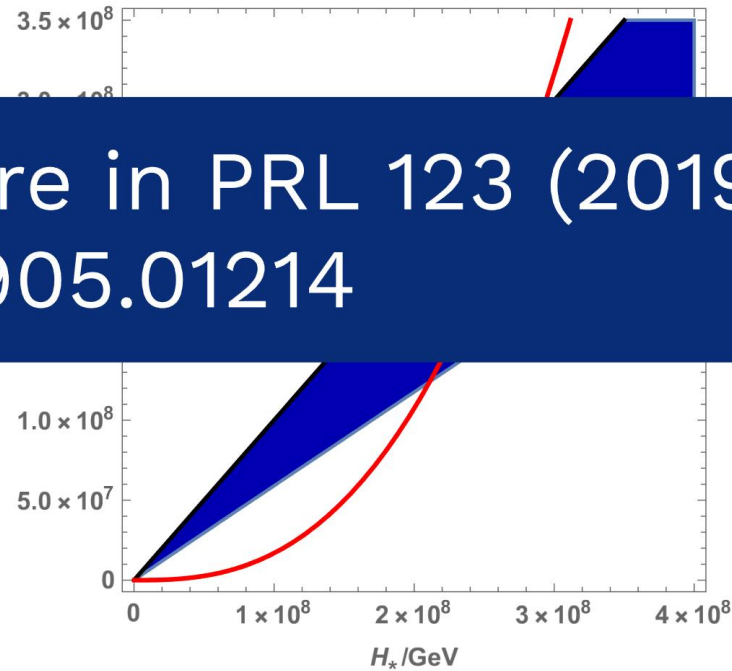
- The constraints can be evaded



# The simplest DM model vs. observations

- The constraints can be evaded

See more in PRL 123 (2019) 061302  
arXiv: 1905.01214





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# Implications

**Structure  
formation**

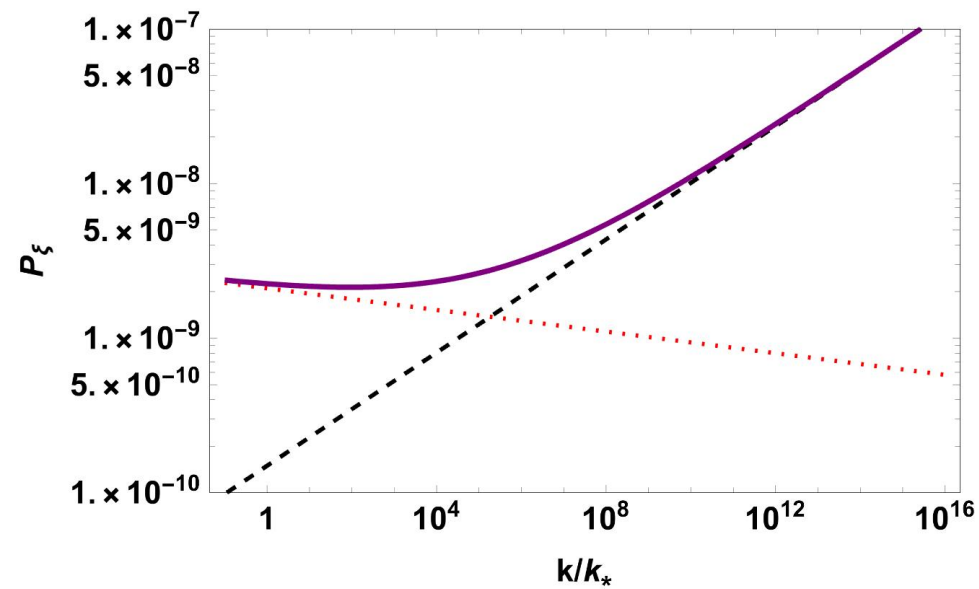
# Testability

- Dark matter isocurvature affects the curvature perturbation

$$\zeta = \zeta_{\text{inf}} + \frac{1}{3}S$$

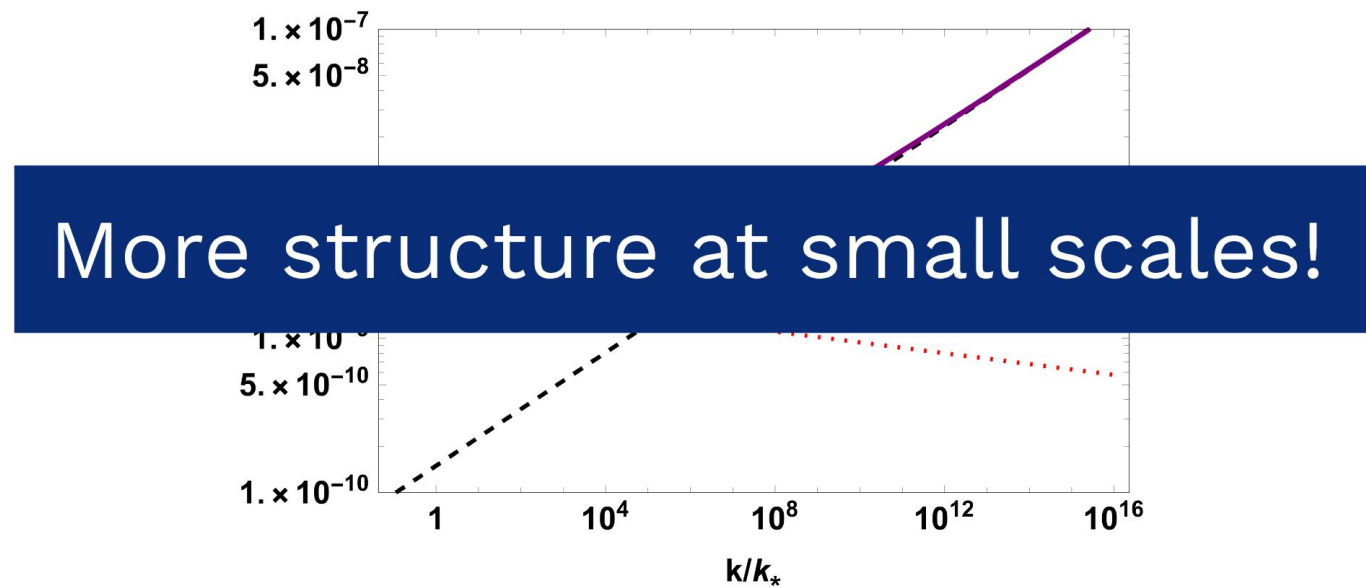
# Testability

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# Testability

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# Matter power spectrum

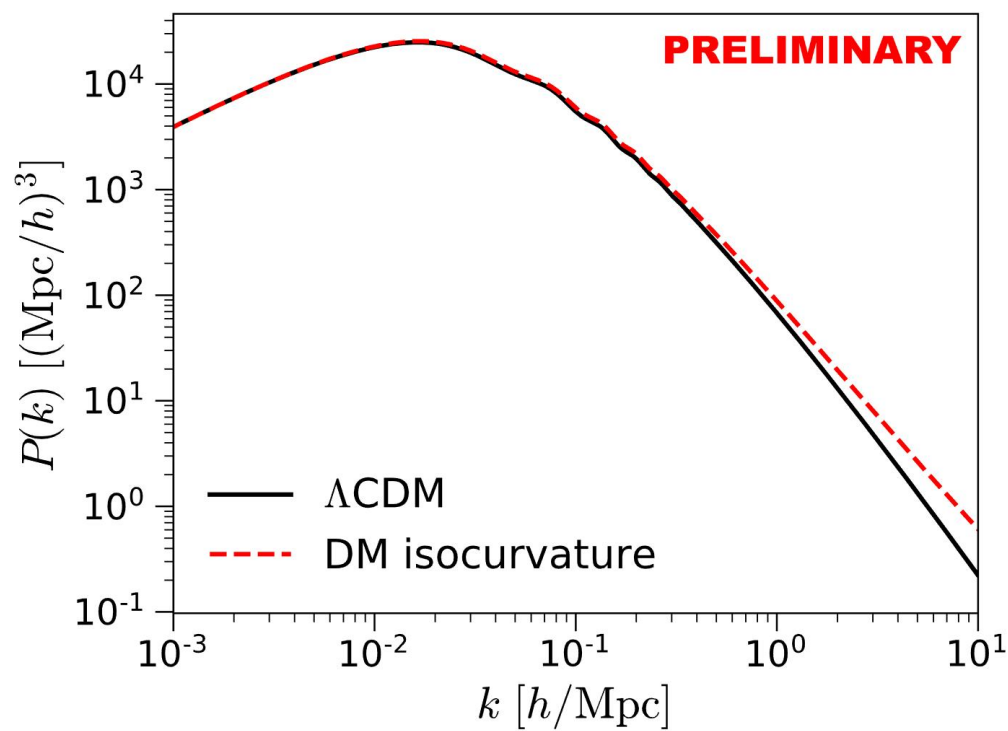


Figure by K. Boddy

# Matter power spectrum

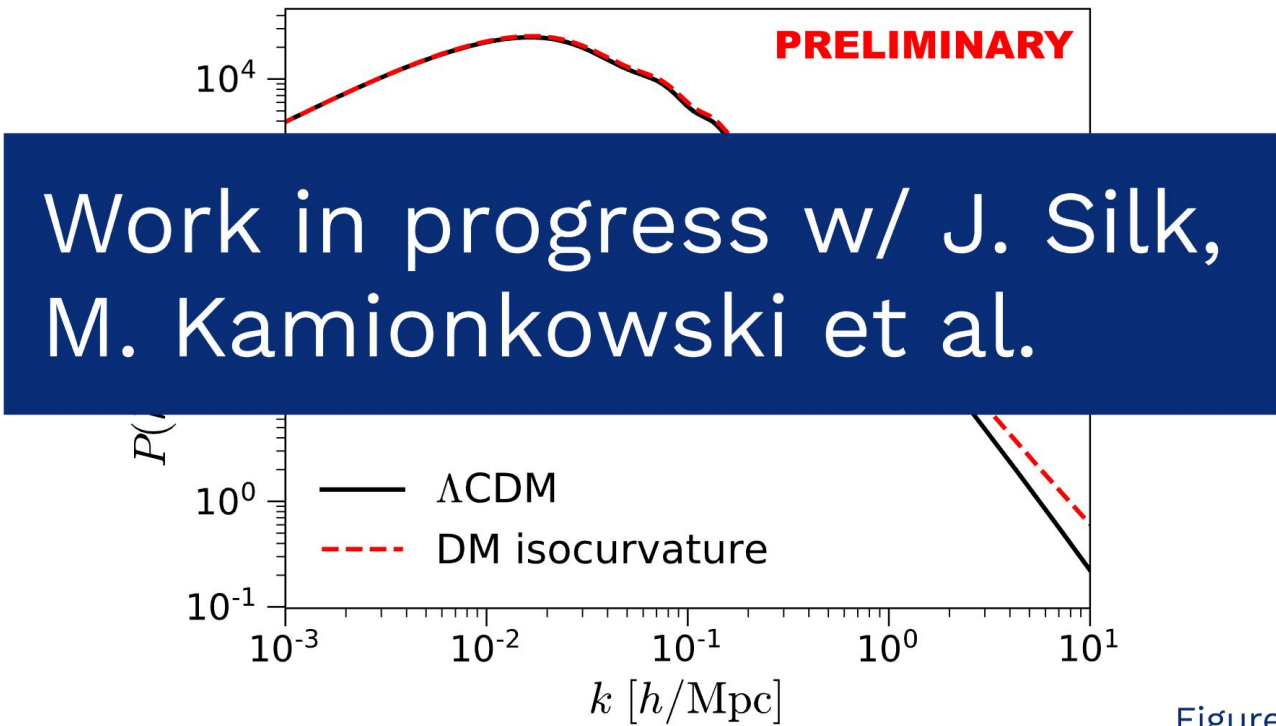


Figure by K. Boddy



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## Conclusions

- Inflation provides generic initial conditions for scalar fields
- Such scalars can constitute all DM
- The scenario can be tested with observations of the large scale structure



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