

# Brane Inflation: Observational Signatures and Non-Gaussianities

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# Collaborators

- Reheating in D-brane inflation:

D.Chialva, GS, B. Underwood

- Non-Gaussianities in CMB:

X.Chen, M. Huang, S. Kachru, GS

- DBI Inflation in Warped Throats:

S.Kecskemeti, J.Maiden, GS, B.Underwood

## Two popular themes in String Phenomenology:

- Construct realistic particle physics models:

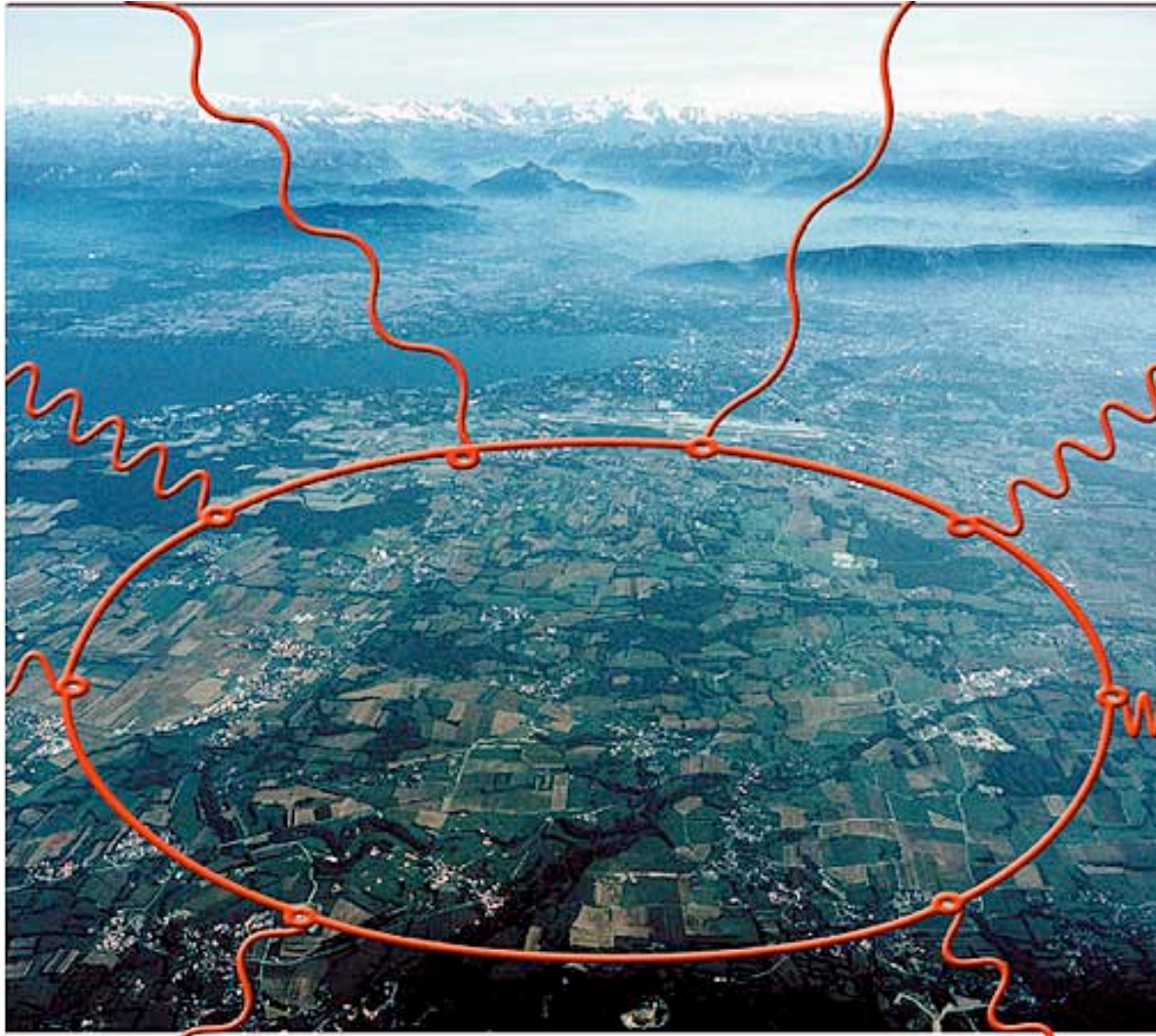
Not enough (realistic) vacua

- Landscape (statistics, wave function, swampland, ...):

Too many vacua.

**String theory: great scenario generator!**

SUSY, brane world, ...

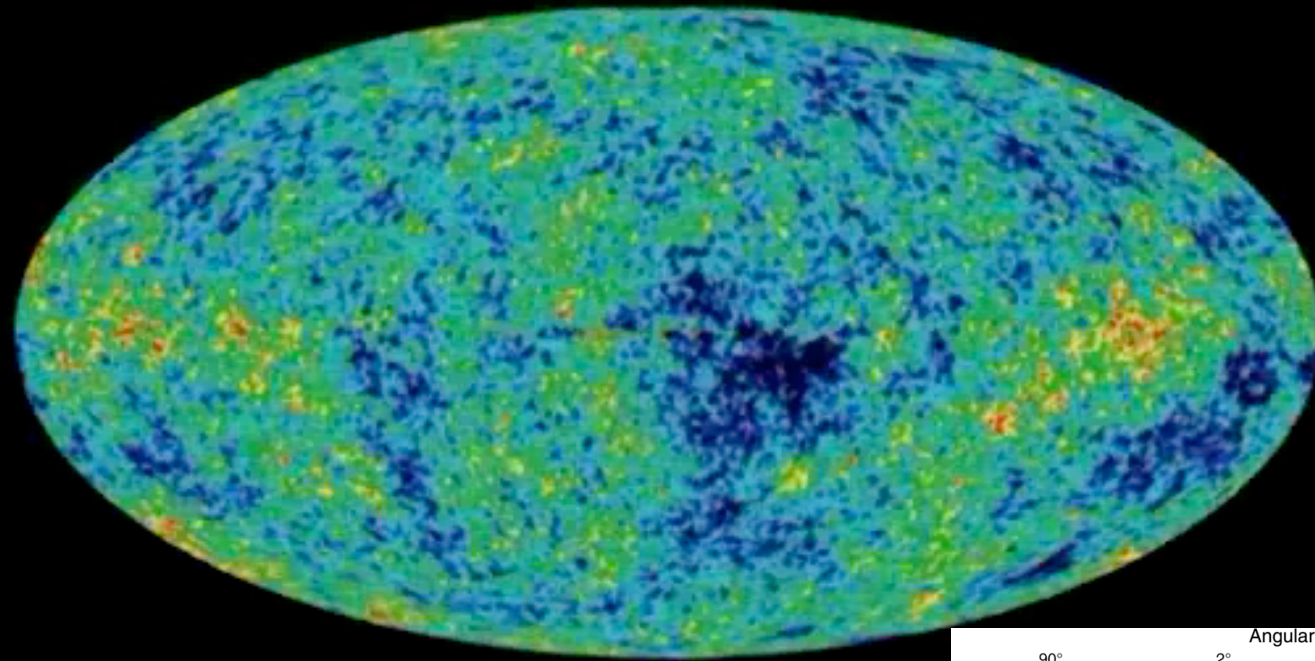


... in the year 1BC

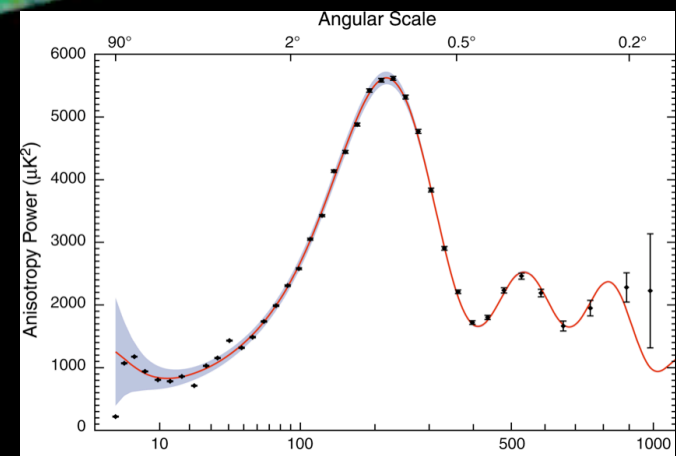
... in the year 1B

... in the year 1BLHC

# WMAP3



Strong and growing evidence  
for inflation





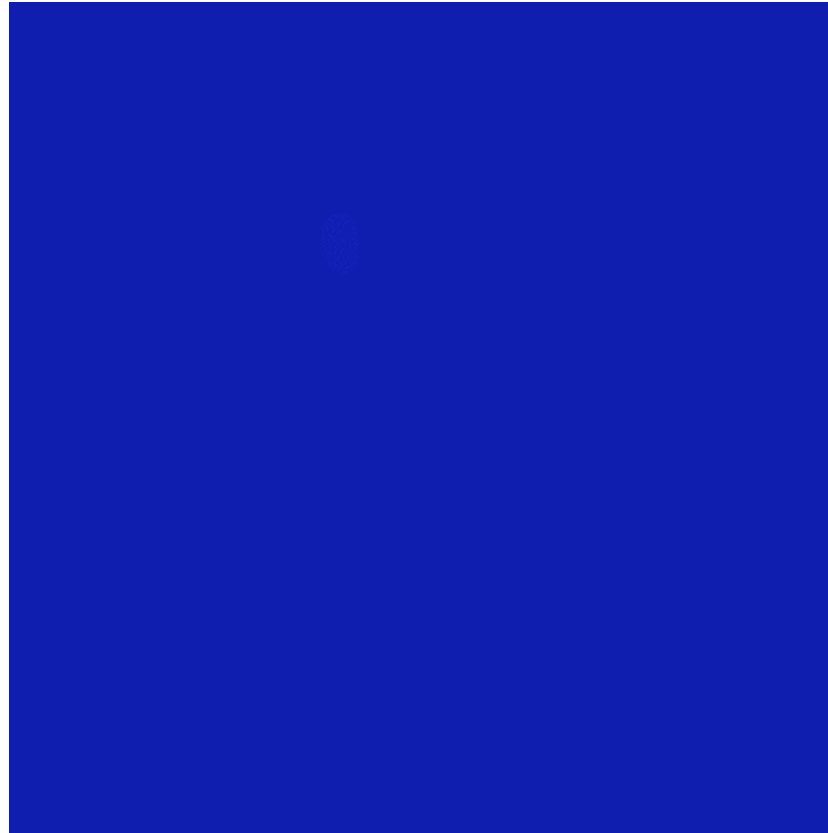
# Goals and Motivation

- Construct & study well motivated inflationary scenarios (incorporate SM, reheating, ...)
- Look for distinctive observational signatures
- Building realistic models

Many interesting possibilities  
with branes and fluxes

# Brane Inflation

Dvali and Tye



Animation by A. Miller

$D\bar{D}$  Inflation

[Burgess, Majumdar, Nolte, Quevedo, Rajesh, Zhang]; [Dvali, Shafi, Solganik],  
[Kachru, Kallosh, Linde, Maldacena, McAllister, Trivedi] and many others.

# Brane Inflation

- Is this scenario viable/robust?

e.g., number of e-folds, reheating, ...

- Observational signatures/constraints?

e.g., cosmic strings (Tye's talk), non-Gaussianities, ...

- Model building?

constraints on compactification geometry?

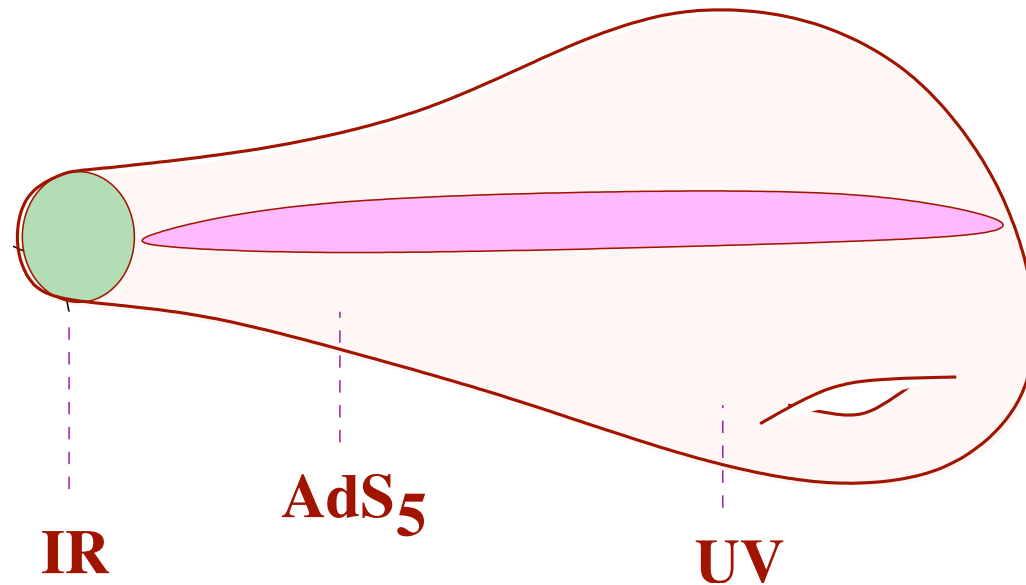
# Warped Throats

Hierarchies from fluxes

Giddings, Kachru, Polchinski

...

$S^3$  size  $e^{-\frac{K}{Mg_s}}$   
↕  
Strong dynamics scale

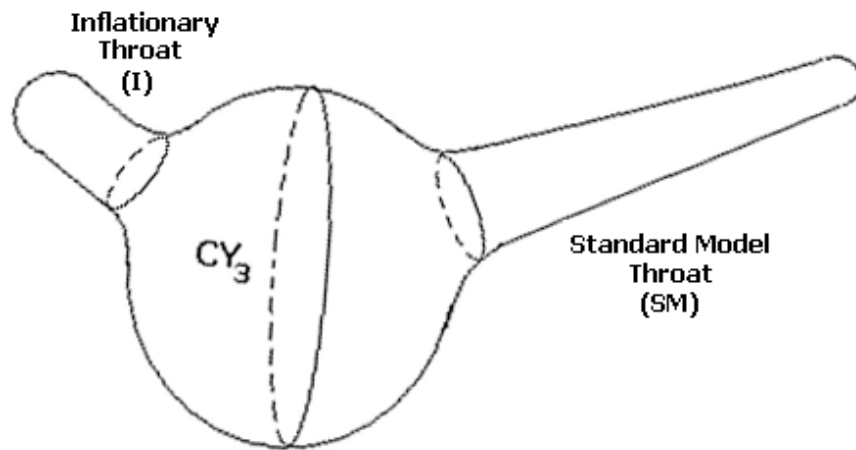


e.g., Klebanov, Strassler

“warped deformed conifold”

# Warped Reheating

## Reheating by DD annihilation



Shiu, Tye, Wasserman

Barnaby, Burgess, Cline

Kofman and Yi

Chialva, Shiu, Underwood

Frey, Mazumdar, Myers

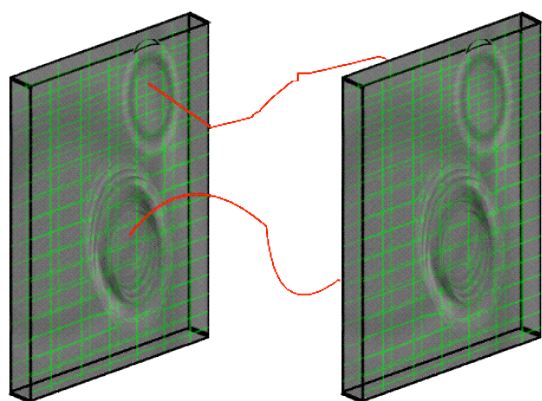
Chen and Tye

Langfelder

...

- Accommodate different hierarchies.
- Cosmic strings spatially separated from SM branes: not susceptible to breakage.
- Reheating via tunneling is efficient, can avoid overproduction of gravitational waves.

# A Cartoon of Reheating

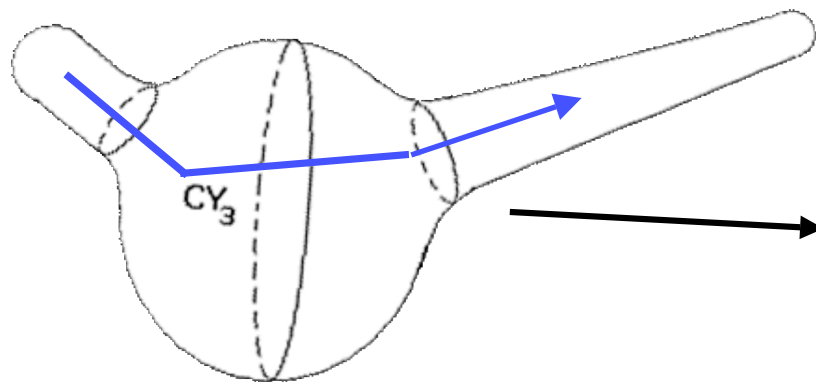
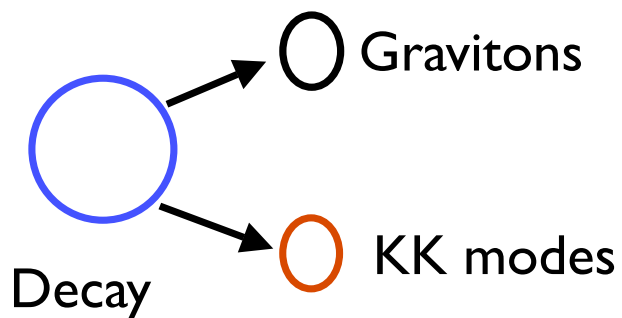


Annihilation

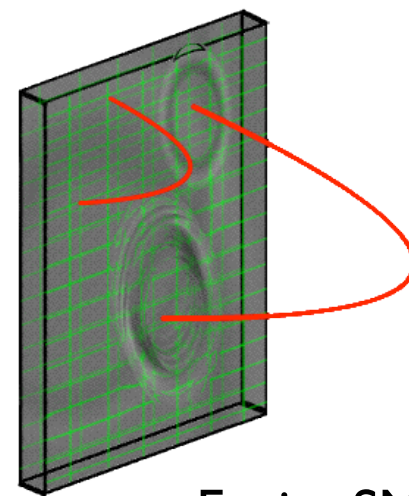
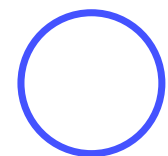


Massive Closed Strings

Sen; Lambert, Liu, Maldacena; ..

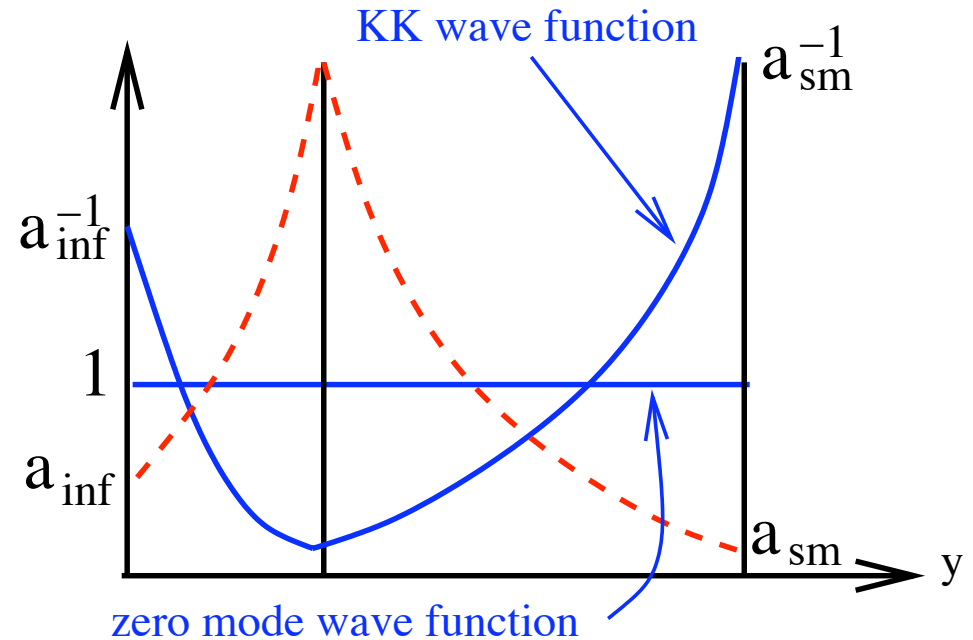
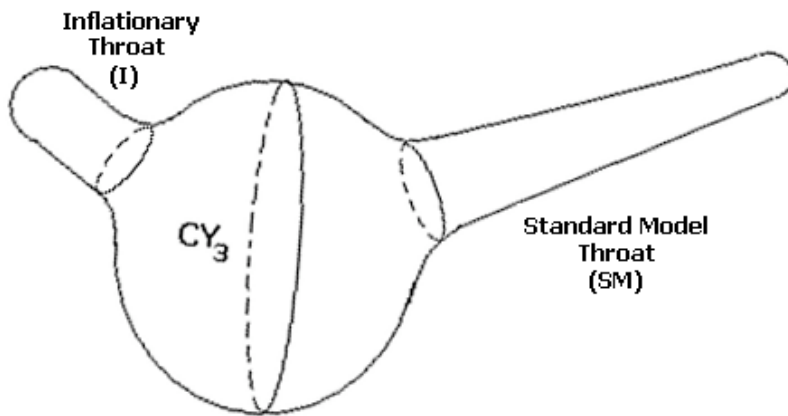


Tunneling



Excite SM

# Warped Reheating



c.f. Dimopoulos, Kachru, Kaloper, Lawrence, Silverstein

- Production rate, interaction cross sections among KK modes enhanced relative to gravitons.
- For moderate warping of inflationary throat, KK preferably tunnel rather than decay to gravitons.

# Is brane inflation robust?

Helps flatten the potential

Casual speed limit



Slow-roll

e.g., KKLMMT, ...



DBI

Silverstein, Tong;  
Alishahiha, Silverstein, Tong



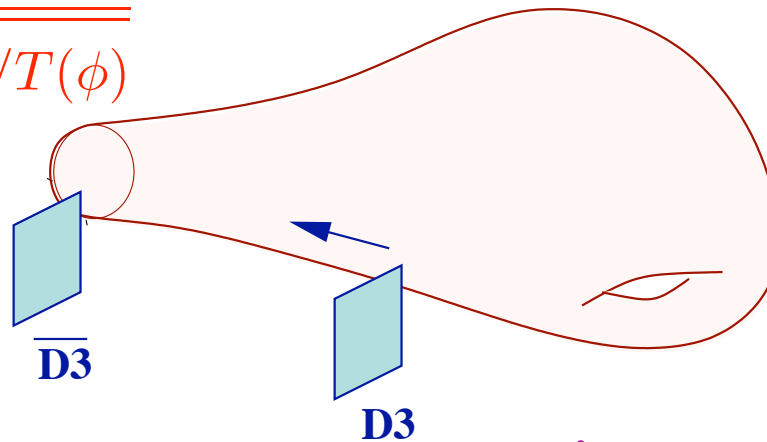
- Derivative terms sum to a DBI action:

$$S = - \int d^4x a^3(t) \left[ T(\phi) \sqrt{1 - \dot{\phi}^2 / T(\phi)} + V(\phi) - T(\phi) \right]$$

$$T(\phi) = T_3 h^4(\phi)$$

- Casual speed limit:  $\dot{\phi}^2 \leq T(\phi)$  **warp factor**

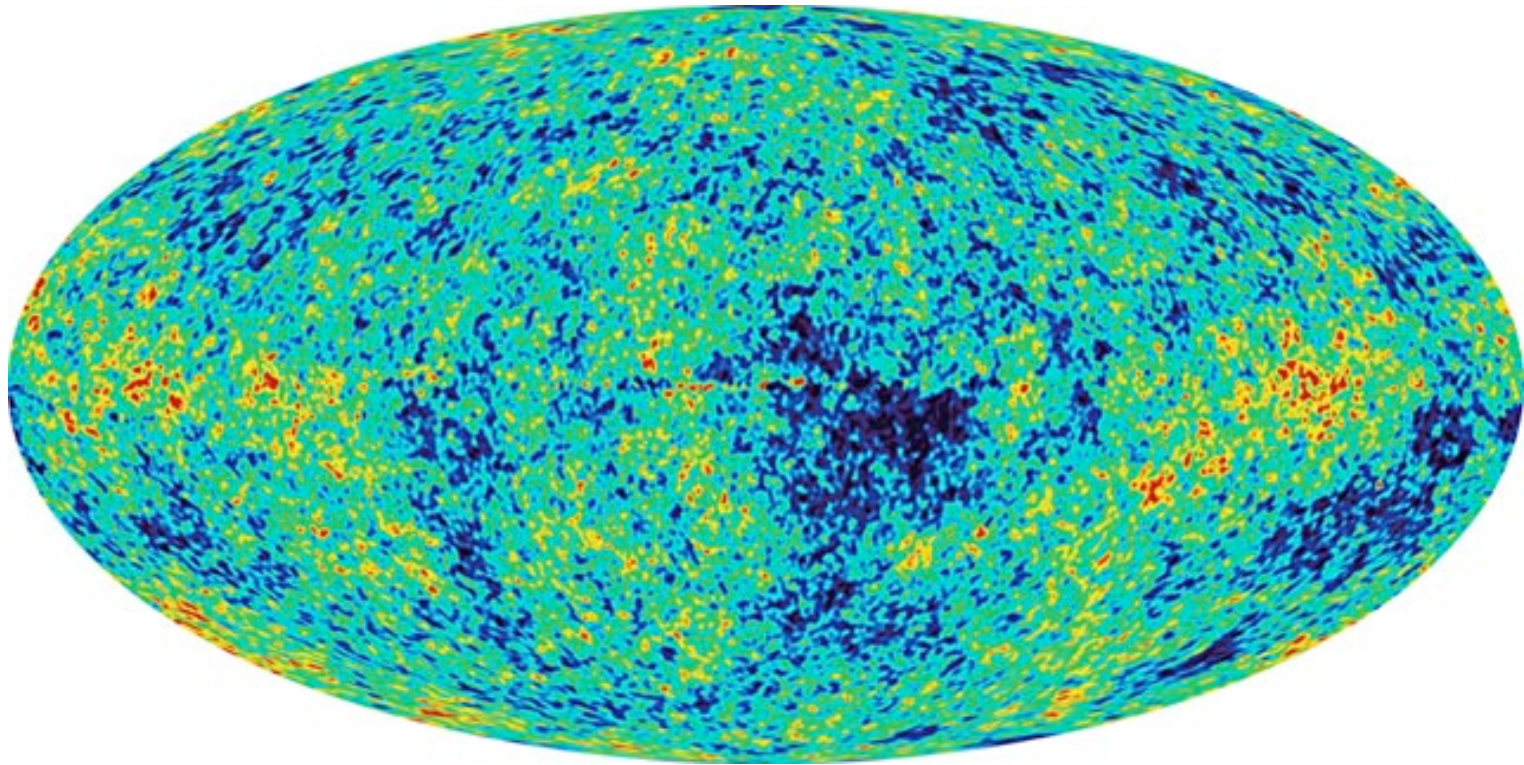
$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \dot{\phi}^2 / T(\phi)}}$$



Relativistic even when  $\dot{\phi}$  is small.

- Slow-roll + DBI : inflation is robust **Shandera & Tye**

# Non-Gaussianities



# Non-Gaussianities

- **Power spectrum:**  $\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1} \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2} \rangle \sim \delta^3(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2) \frac{P_{\zeta}^k}{k_1^3}$

- **Bi-spectrum** contain much richer info:

$$\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1} \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2} \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_3} \rangle = (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3) F(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3)$$

size  $\sim f_{NL}$  and shape.

- Slow-roll: full functional form derived in [Maldacena 02](#)  
[Acquaviva et al 02](#)

$$f_{NL} \sim \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$$

- DBI inflation for  $\gamma \gg 1$  : [Alishahiha, Silverstein, Tong](#)  
[Chen](#)

$$f_{NL} \sim 0.32\gamma^2$$

[Chen, Huang, Kachru, GS](#)

# Non-Gaussianities

- For a general single field Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}(\phi, X) \quad \text{where} \quad X = \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}\partial^\mu\phi\partial^\nu\phi$$

- Bi-spectrum depends on **5 parameters**: [Chen, Huang, Kachru, GS]

$$c_s^2 = \frac{\mathcal{L}_{,X}}{\mathcal{L}_{,X} + 2X\mathcal{L}_{,XX}} \equiv \frac{1}{\gamma^2} \text{ for DBI} \quad \lambda/\Sigma = \frac{X^2\mathcal{L}_{,XX} + \frac{2}{3}X^3\mathcal{L}_{,XXX}}{X\mathcal{L}_{,X} + 2X^2\mathcal{L}_{,XX}}$$

and slow variation parameters:

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &= -\frac{\dot{H}}{H^2} \\ \eta &= \frac{\dot{\epsilon}}{\epsilon H}, \\ s &= \frac{\dot{c}_s}{c_s H}. \end{aligned}$$

## Shape of Non-Gaussianities

$$F(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3) = (2\pi)^4 (P_k^\zeta)^2 \frac{1}{\prod_i k_i^3} \times (\mathcal{A}_\lambda + \mathcal{A}_c + \mathcal{A}_\epsilon + \mathcal{A}_\eta + \mathcal{A}_s)$$

where

$$\mathcal{A}_\lambda = \left( \frac{1}{c_s^2} - 1 - \frac{2\lambda}{\Sigma} \right) \frac{3k_1^2 k_2^2 k_3^2}{2K^3},$$

$$\mathcal{A}_c = \left( \frac{1}{c_s^2} - 1 \right) \left( -\frac{1}{K} \sum_{i>j} k_i^2 k_j^2 + \frac{1}{2K^2} \sum_{i \neq j} k_i^2 k_j^3 + \frac{1}{8} \sum_i k_i^3 \right),$$

$$\mathcal{A}_\epsilon = \frac{\epsilon}{c_s^2} \left( -\frac{1}{8} \sum_i k_i^3 + \frac{1}{8} \sum_{i \neq j} k_i k_j^2 + \frac{1}{K} \sum_{i>j} k_i^2 k_j^2 \right),$$

$$\mathcal{A}_\eta = \frac{\eta}{c_s^2} \left( \frac{1}{8} \sum_i k_i^3 \right),$$

$$\mathcal{A}_s = \frac{s}{c_s^2} \left( -\frac{1}{4} \sum_i k_i^3 - \frac{1}{K} \sum_{i>j} k_i^2 k_j^2 + \frac{1}{2K^2} \sum_{i \neq j} k_i^2 k_j^3 \right).$$

and  $K = k_1 + k_2 + k_3$ ,  $\Sigma = X P_{,X} + 2X^2 P_{,XX}$ ,  $\lambda = X^2 P_{,XX} + \frac{2}{3} X^3 P_{,XXX}$ .

## Correction Terms

- Solution to the quadratic part of the action:

$$u_k(y) \rightarrow -\frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2\sqrt{2}} \frac{H}{\sqrt{\epsilon c_s}} \frac{1}{k^{3/2}} \left(1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{s}{2}\right) e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}(\epsilon + \frac{s}{2})} y^{3/2} H_{\frac{3}{2} + \epsilon + \frac{s}{2} + \frac{s}{2}}^{(1)}((1 + \epsilon + s)y)$$

where  $y \equiv \frac{c_s k}{aH}$

- Slowly-varying parameters  $H$ ,  $c_s$ ,  $\lambda$  and  $\epsilon$

$$\begin{aligned} f(\tau) &\approx f(\tau_K) \\ &\rightarrow f(\tau_K) - \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \frac{1}{H_K} \ln \frac{\tau}{\tau_K} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2 f) \end{aligned}$$

- The scale factor

$$\begin{aligned} a &\approx -\frac{1}{H_K \tau} \\ &\rightarrow -\frac{1}{H_K \tau} - \frac{\epsilon}{H_K \tau} + \frac{\epsilon}{H_K \tau} \ln(\tau/\tau_K) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2) \end{aligned}$$

## Final Results

$$F(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3) = (2\pi)^4 (\tilde{P}_K^\zeta)^2 \frac{1}{\prod_i k_i^3} \times (\mathcal{A}_\lambda + \mathcal{A}_c + \mathcal{A}_o + \mathcal{A}_\epsilon + \mathcal{A}_\eta + \mathcal{A}_s)$$

$$\mathcal{A}_\lambda = \left( \frac{1}{c_s^2} - 1 - \frac{\lambda}{\Sigma} [2 - (3 - 2c_1)l] \right)_K \frac{3k_1^2 k_2^2 k_3^2}{2K^3},$$

$$\mathcal{A}_c = \left( \frac{1}{c_s^2} - 1 \right)_K \left( -\frac{1}{K} \sum_{i>j} k_i^2 k_j^2 + \frac{1}{2K^2} \sum_{i \neq j} k_i^2 k_j^3 + \frac{1}{8} \sum_i k_i^3 \right),$$

$$\mathcal{A}_o = \left( \frac{1}{c_s^2} - 1 - \frac{2\lambda}{\Sigma} \right)_K (\epsilon F_{\lambda\epsilon} + \eta F_{\lambda\eta} + s F_{\lambda s})$$

$$+ \left( \frac{1}{c_s^2} - 1 \right)_K (\epsilon F_{c\epsilon} + \eta F_{c\eta} + s F_{cs}),$$

$$\mathcal{A}_\epsilon = \epsilon \left( -\frac{1}{8} \sum_i k_i^3 + \frac{1}{8} \sum_{i \neq j} k_i k_j^2 + \frac{1}{K} \sum_{i>j} k_i^2 k_j^2 \right),$$

$$\mathcal{A}_\eta = \eta \left( \frac{1}{8} \sum_i k_i^3 \right),$$

$$\mathcal{A}_s = s F_s.$$

# Experimental Bound

- WMAP ansatz for the primordial non-Gaussianities

$$\zeta(x) = \zeta_g(x) - \frac{3}{5}f_{NL}(\zeta_g(x)^2 - \langle \zeta_g^2(x) \rangle)$$

here  $\zeta_g(x)$  is purely Gaussian with vanishing three point functions.

- The size of non-Gaussianities is measured by the parameter  $f_{NL}$  in the above ansatz. Current experimental bound (from WMAP3) is

$$-54 < f_{NL} < 114 \quad \text{at 95\% C.L.}$$

Future experiments can eventually reach the sensitivity of  $f_{NL} \lesssim 20$  (WMAP) and  $f_{NL} \lesssim 5$  (PLANCK).

- However, the experimental bound depends on the **shape** of  $F(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3)$ .

Creminelli, Nicolis, Senatore, Tegmark, and Zaldarriaga

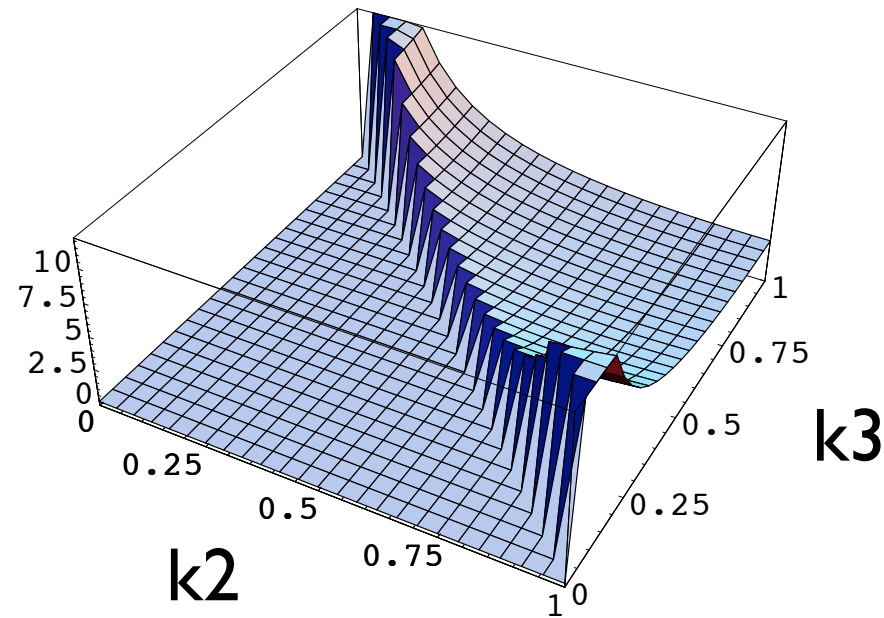


- Due to the symmetry and scaling property of  $F(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3)$ , all info about the shape can be viewed by plotting [Babich, Creminelli, Zaldarriaga]

$$F(1, k_2, k_3) k_2^2 k_3^2$$

- For the WMAP ansatz:

$$F(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3) \sim f_{NL} \left( P_k^\zeta \right)^2 \frac{k_1^3 + k_2^3 + k_3^3}{k_1^3 k_2^3 k_3^3}$$



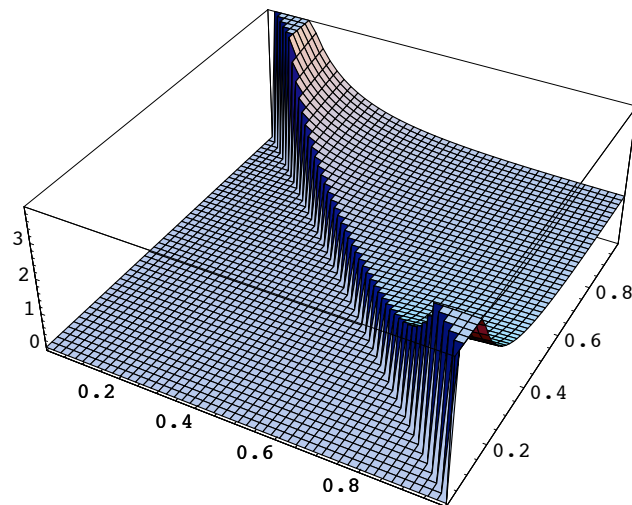
# Slow Roll Shapes

The relevant shapes are  $F(k_1, k_2, k_3) \sim \frac{1}{\prod_i k_i^3} \mathcal{A}(k_1, k_2, k_3)$  where

$$\mathcal{A}_\epsilon = \frac{\epsilon}{c_s^2} \left( -\frac{1}{8} \sum_i k_i^3 + \frac{1}{8} \sum_{i \neq j} k_i k_j^2 + \frac{1}{K} \sum_{i > j} k_i^2 k_j^2 \right),$$

$$\mathcal{A}_\eta = \frac{\eta}{c_s^2} \left( \frac{1}{8} \sum_i k_i^3 \right)$$

$$\mathcal{A}_s = \frac{s}{c_s^2} \left( -\frac{1}{4} \sum_i k_i^3 - \frac{1}{K} \sum_{i > j} k_i^2 k_j^2 + \frac{1}{2K^2} \sum_{i \neq j} k_i^2 k_j^3 \right).$$



# Consistency Condition

Maldacena

- In the "squeeze triangle limit": one momentum mode is much smaller than the other two:

$$k_3 \ll k_1, k_2 \quad \mathbf{k}_1 \sim -\mathbf{k}_2$$

- During inflation, the comoving Hubble scale decreases with time. The long wavelength mode  $k_3$  crosses the horizon much earlier than the other two modes  $k_1, k_2$ .
- After horizon crossing, the long wavelength mode  $k_3$  acts as background whose effect is to introduce a time variation at which  $k_{1,2}$  cross the horizon.

$$\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1} \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2} \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_3} \rangle \sim \langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_3} \zeta_{-\mathbf{k}_3} \rangle \frac{d}{d \ln k_1} \langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1} \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2} \rangle \sim (n_s - 1) \frac{1}{k_1^3} \frac{1}{k_3^3}$$

# DBI Shape

- Non-Gaussianities are generically quite large

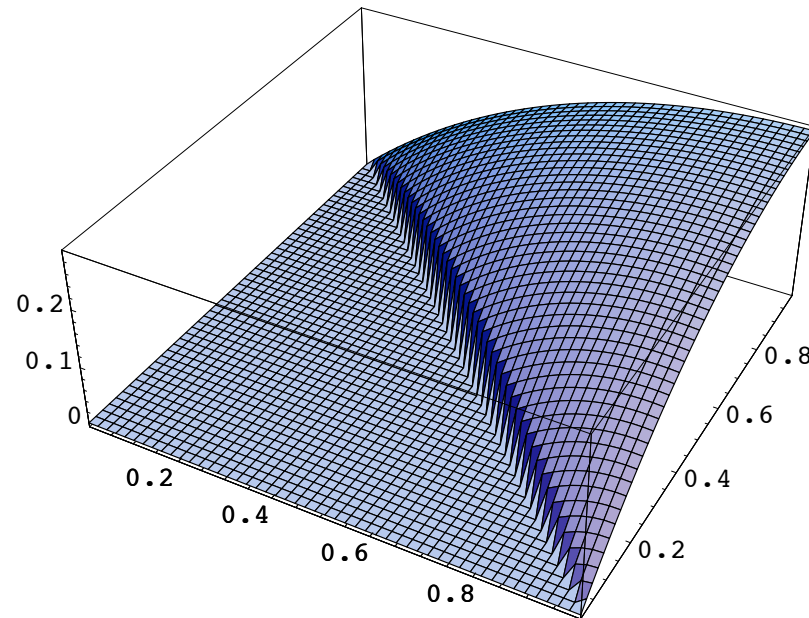
$$f_{NL} \sim \frac{1}{c_s^2} \sim \gamma^2$$

- The shape of non-Gaussianities vanishes in the squeeze triangle limit  $k_3 \ll k_1, k_2$ , as required by Maldacena's consistency relation:

$$F(k_1, k_2, k_3) k_1^3 k_3^3 \sim n_s - 1$$

This contradicts that the non-Gaussianities are large, unless the shape vanishes in the squeeze limit.

- The shape of non-Gaussianities for DBI inflation



$$|f_{NL}| \leq 300$$

- Peak at the equilateral triangle limit and vanishes in the squeeze limit.
- If non-Gaussianities of this shape is measured, gives interesting constraint on  $m^2\phi^2$  term and in turn 4-cycles of CY.

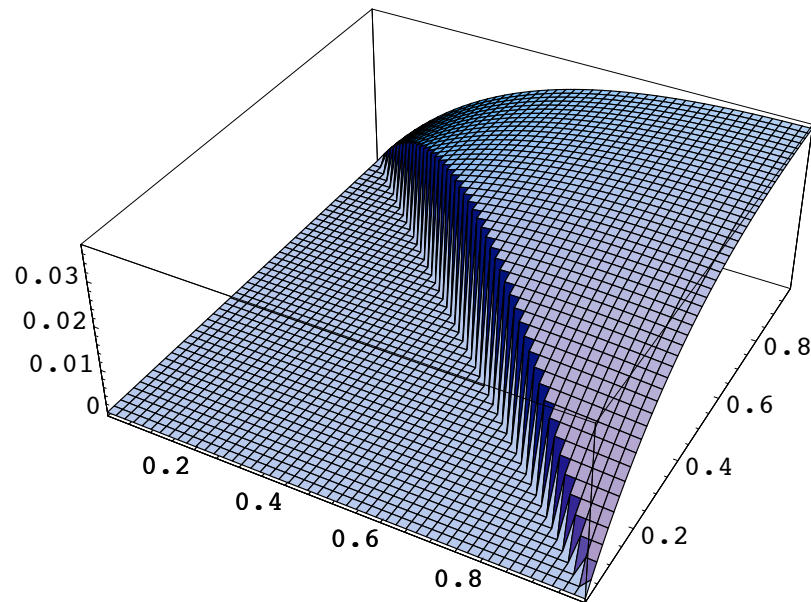
[Baumann, Dymarsky, Klebanov, Maldacena, McAllister, and Murugan]

Also: [Berg, Haack, Kors]

# More Shapes

Not realized in D-brane inflation. Similar to the DBI inflation but with an opposite sign.

$$\mathcal{A}_\lambda = \left( \frac{1}{c_s^2} - 1 - \frac{2\lambda}{\Sigma} \right) \frac{3k_1^2 k_2^2 k_3^2}{2(k_1 + k_2 + k_3)^3}$$



# Confronting Data

$$\frac{\ddot{a}}{a} = H^2(1 - \epsilon_D)$$

$$\epsilon_D \equiv \frac{2M_p^2}{\gamma} \left( \frac{H'(\phi)}{H(\phi)} \right)^2$$

$$r = \frac{16\epsilon_D}{\gamma}$$

$$\eta_D \equiv \frac{2M_p^2}{\gamma} \left( \frac{H''(\phi)}{H(\phi)} \right)$$

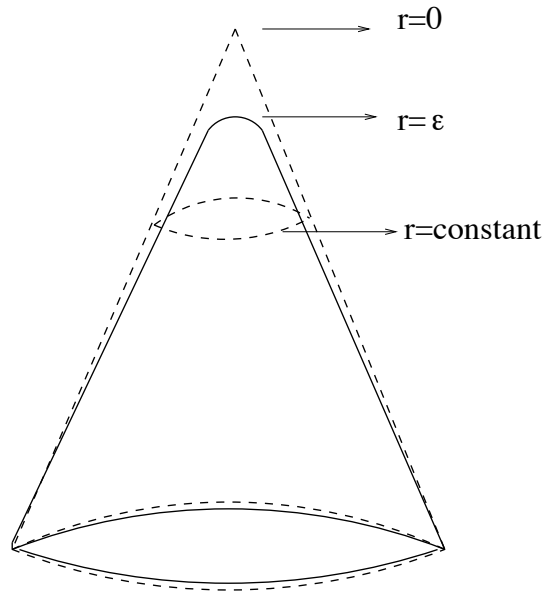
$$f_{NL} \leq 0.3\gamma^2$$

$$\kappa_D \equiv \frac{2M_p^2}{\gamma} \left( \frac{H' \gamma'}{H \gamma} \right)$$

$$n_s - 1 \simeq (1 + \epsilon_D + \kappa_D)(-4\epsilon_D + 2\eta_D - 2\kappa_D)$$

**If  $r$  saturates the observational bound,  
non-Gaussianity is small.**

# Warped Deformed Conifold



$$\sum_{i=1}^4 z_i^2 = \varepsilon^2$$

$$ds_{10}^2 = h^{-1/2}(\tau) dx_n dx_n + h^{1/2}(\tau) ds_6^2$$

$$ds_6^2 = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon^{4/3} K(\tau) \left[ \frac{1}{3K^3(\tau)} (d\tau^2 + (g^5)^2) + \cosh^2\left(\frac{\tau}{2}\right) [(g^3)^2 + (g^4)^2] + \sinh^2\left(\frac{\tau}{2}\right) [(g^1)^2 + (g^2)^2] \right],$$

$$h(\tau) = \alpha \frac{2^{2/3}}{4} I(\tau) = (g_s M \alpha')^2 2^{2/3} \varepsilon^{-8/3} I(\tau),$$

$$I(\tau) \equiv \int_{\tau}^{\infty} dx \frac{x \coth x - 1}{\sinh^2 x} (\sinh(2x) - 2x)^{1/3}.$$

where

$$K(\tau) = \frac{(\sinh(2\tau) - 2\tau)^{1/3}}{2^{1/3} \sinh \tau}.$$



# DBI ultra-relativistic region

$$f_{NL} \simeq \left(\frac{m}{M_p}\right)^2 \left(\frac{M_p}{m_s h_A}\right)^4 \simeq 10^{-12} \frac{1}{(G\mu_s)^2}$$

$$\frac{m_s}{M_p} > 10^{-2} \quad N_A \sim 10^{14}$$

$$\frac{m}{M_p} \simeq 10^{-6} \quad h_A \sim 10^{-1} - 10^{-2}$$

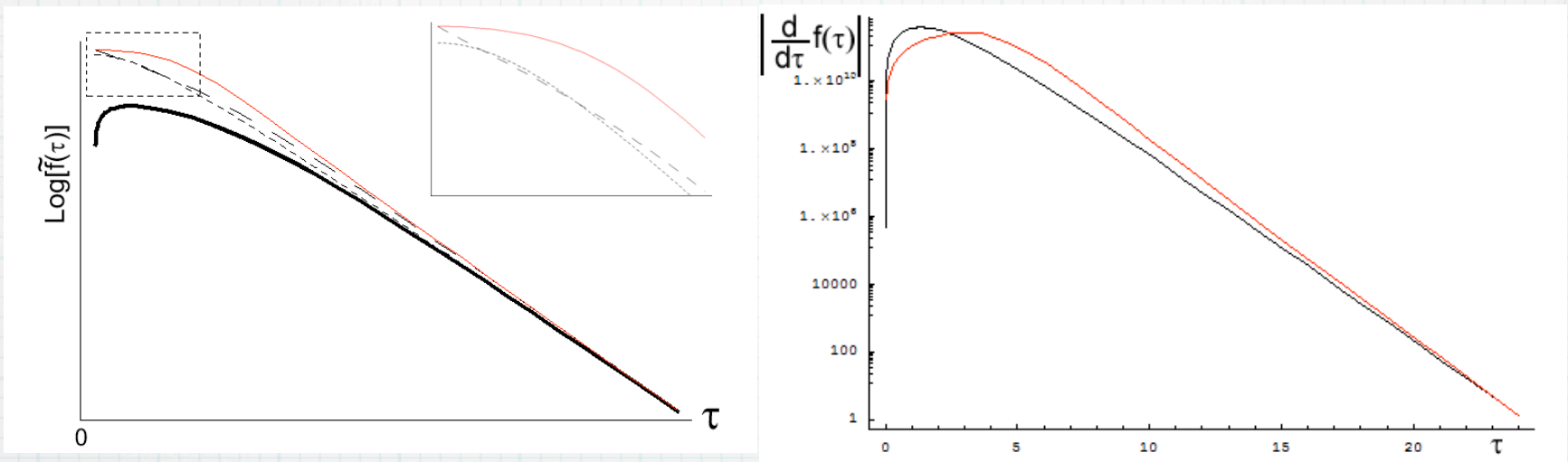
To fit a KS-like throat inside the bulk :  $\frac{m_s}{M_p} \sim 10^{-12}$

M. Alishahiha, E. Silverstein and D. Tong, hep-th/0404084  
S. Keckemeter, J. Maiden, G. Shiu, B. Underwood, hep-th/0605189

**Need a long narrow throat :**

- other warped throats?
- $Z_p$ -orbifold the KS-like throat?

# Red or blue tilt in DBI ?



$$h^4(\phi) \simeq \frac{(\phi^2 + b)^2}{\lambda}$$

**Red tilt**

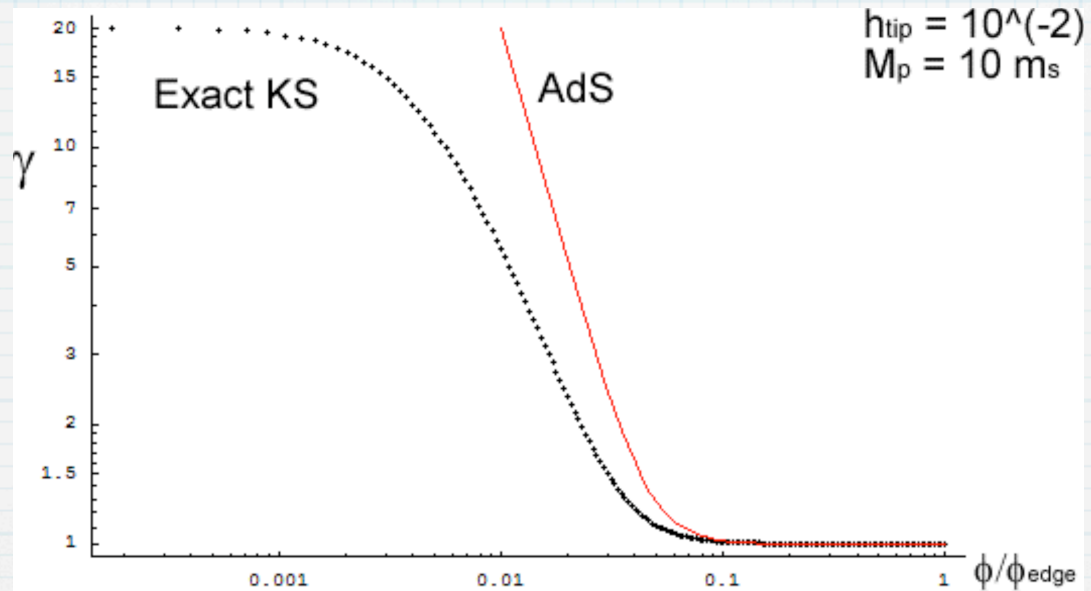
KS throat ?

$$h^4(\phi) \simeq \frac{\phi^4}{\lambda}$$

cut off at  $\phi_A$

**A small blue tilt**

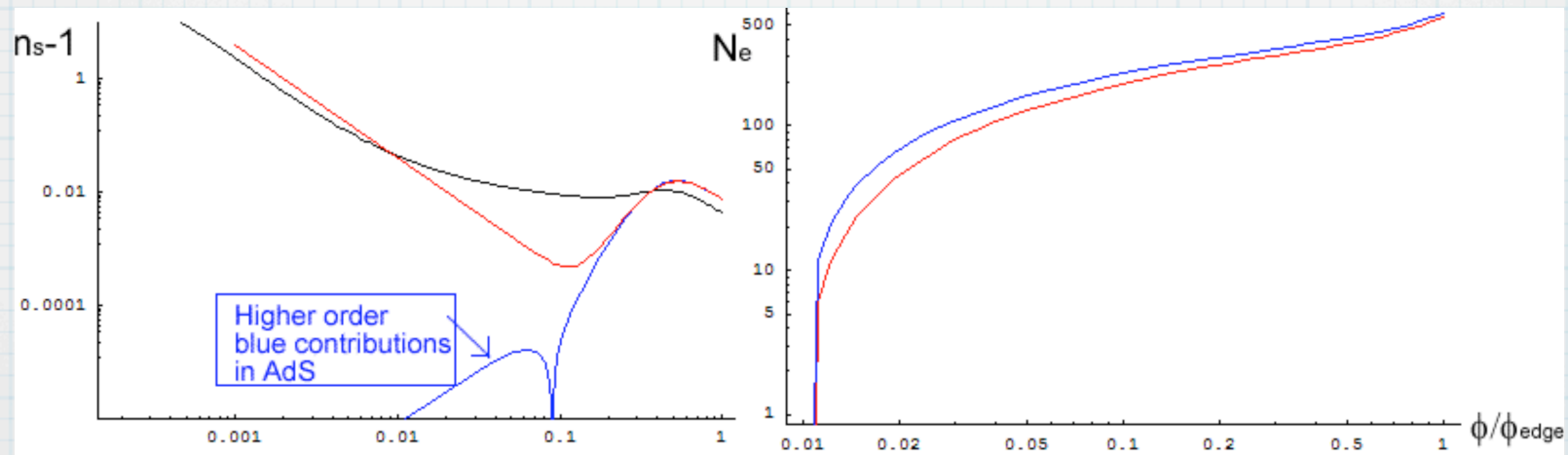
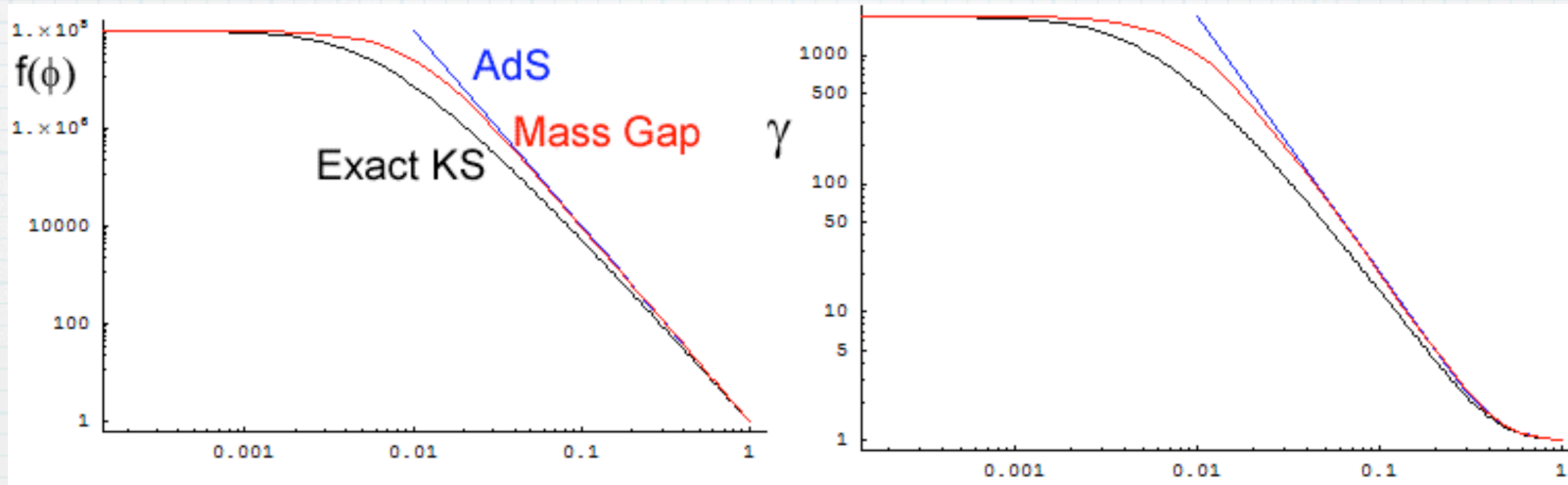
# Red or blue tilt in DBI ?



$$n_s - 1 = \frac{2M_p^2}{\gamma} \left[ -4 \left( \frac{H'}{H} \right)^2 + 2 \frac{H''}{H} + 2 \frac{H'}{H} \left| \frac{\gamma'}{\gamma} \right| \right]$$

red (small) blue

# Tip from the Sky ?



Bret Underwood

# Red or blue tilt in DBI-KS ?

$$n_s - 1 = \frac{2M_P^2}{\gamma} \left[ -4 \left( \frac{H'}{H} \right)^2 + 2 \frac{H''}{H} + 2 \frac{H'}{H} \left| \frac{\gamma'}{\gamma} \right| \right]$$

red

blue

For example, if  $h_{tip} \geq 10^{-2}$  and  $M_s \sim 10^{-2} M_P$

red tilt dominates for KS throat

# Summary

- **Brane inflation is robust:** number of e-foldings, reheating, ...
- **Interesting signatures:** can lead to large tensor-scalar ratio  $r$ , or large non-Gaussianities, cosmic strings ...
- **Data probe warped geometry.**

[c.f. talks of Giddings, Hebecker]

**Large influx of data from Cosmology + LHC !**