JOINT TUFTS/MIT COSMOLOGY SEMINAR

Primordial Stochastic Gravitational-Wave Background from a Sharp Small Scale Feature in Multi-field Inflation.

Sonia Paban Harvard

Inflation is among the cosmological sources of SGWB. Single-field slow-roll inflation, without features, predicts an Ω_{GW} that is almost constant in frequency and whose magnitude is well below the sensitivity level of future detectors. However, single-field models with periods of ultra-slow rolling or rapid-turning multi-field models of inflation can source detectable gravitational waves to second order in perturbation theory. For example, a brief, rapid turn in field space is a departure from single-field behavior and sources both a feature in \mathcal{P}_{ζ} (at shorter scales than observed by CMB and LSS) and the Stochastic Gravitational-Wave Background (SGWB). We will present evidence that the shape of this SGWB signal is mostly independent of the number of dynamical fields and has an enhanced amplitude sourced by the large isocurvature transient, opening a new window of detectable parameter space with small adiabatic enhancement.

Tuesday, October 1, 2024, 2:30 pm Cosman Seminar Room Center for Theoretical Physics Building 6C, Room 6C-442 Massachusetts Institute of Technology