

Born-Infeldizing gravity



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**In collaboration with:
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outline

- **Born-Infeld & Born-Infeld inspired gravity.**
- **Generalised Born-Infeld inspired gravity. Minimal extension.**
- **Perfect fluid and cosmological solutions.**
- **Dust inflation.**

Born-Infeld electromagnetism

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{Maxwell}} = -\frac{1}{4} \int d^4x F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$$

Principle of finiteness



$$\frac{1}{2} m^2 \int dt v^2 \rightarrow mc^2 \int dt \left(1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}} \right)$$



M. Born and L. Infeld.
Proc. Roy. Soc. Lond.
A144 .(1934)

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{BIE}} = -\lambda^4 \int d^4x \left[\sqrt{-\det(\eta_{\mu\nu} + \lambda^{-2} F_{\mu\nu})} - 1 \right]$$

For small electromagnetic fields it recovers Maxwell's theory:

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{BIE}}(F_{\mu\nu} \ll \lambda^2) \simeq \mathcal{S}_{\text{Maxwell}}$$

For large electromagnetic fields it differs so that it regularizes the self-energy of point-like charged particles.

Born-Infeld inspired gravity

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{DG}} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det (ag_{\mu\nu} + bR_{\mu\nu} + cX_{\mu\nu})}$$

S. Deser and G. Gibbons,
CQG15 (1998)

- $X_{\mu\nu}$ = Higher order curvature terms to be tuned to avoid ghosts
- $X_{\mu\nu}$ contains terms of quadratic and higher orders in $R_{\mu\nu}$
- There is a large freedom in the choice of $X_{\mu\nu}$ and no clear immediate criterion.

Born-Infeld inspired gravity

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{Ed}} = \lambda^4 \int d^4x \sqrt{\det R_{(\mu\nu)}(\Gamma)}$$

Determinantal actions for gravity were considered by Eddington (1924) as a purely affine theory.

Couplings to matter: The metric enters as an auxiliary field that can then be integrated out.

M. Ferraris and J. Kijowski,
Letters in Mathematical
Physics, 5 127-135, (1981)

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{BIP}} = \lambda^4 \int d^4x \left[\sqrt{-\det(g_{\mu\nu} + \lambda^{-2}R_{\mu\nu}(\Gamma))} - \sqrt{-\det(g_{\mu\nu})} \right]$$

D. N. Vollick, PRD
69 (2004) 064030.

In the Palatini formulation the ghost can be avoided without further corrections

Extended Born-Infeld gravity

We can rewrite the action as

$$\mathcal{S} = \lambda^4 \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det(g_{\mu\nu} + \lambda^{-2}R_{\mu\nu})} = \lambda^4 \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \det \sqrt{\delta^\mu_\nu + \lambda^{-2}g^{\mu\alpha}R_{\alpha\nu}}$$



$$\mathcal{S} = \lambda^4 \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \det \sqrt{\hat{g}^{-1} \hat{q}}$$

$$q_{\alpha\nu} \equiv g_{\alpha\nu} + \lambda^{-2}R_{\alpha\nu}(\Gamma)$$

This reminds of the massive gravity potential:

$$\mathcal{S}_{MG} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \sum_{n=0}^4 \frac{\beta_n}{n!(4-n)!} e_n(\sqrt{g^{-1}f})$$

C. de Rham, G. Gabadaze,
A.J.Tolley, PRL106 (2011)

S.F. Hassan, R.A. Rosen
JHEP1107 (2011)

↓
elementary symmetric polynomials

Extended Born-Infeld gravity

...and so, a natural generalization of BI inspired gravity is

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JCAP 11 (2014) 004

$$\mathcal{S} = \tilde{\lambda}^4 \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \sum_{n=0}^4 \beta_n e_n(\hat{M})$$

$$\hat{M} \equiv \sqrt{1 + \lambda^{-2} \hat{g}^{-1} \hat{R}(\Gamma)}$$

$$e_0(\hat{M}) = 1,$$

$$e_1(\hat{M}) = [\hat{M}],$$

$$e_2(\hat{M}) = \frac{1}{2!} \left([\hat{M}]^2 - [\hat{M}^2] \right),$$

$$e_3(\hat{M}) = \frac{1}{3!} \left([\hat{M}]^3 - 3[\hat{M}][\hat{M}^2] + 2[\hat{M}^3] \right),$$

$$e_4(\hat{M}) = \frac{1}{4!} \left([\hat{M}]^4 - 6[\hat{M}]^2[\hat{M}^2] + 8[\hat{M}][\hat{M}^3] + 3[\hat{M}^2]^2 - 6[\hat{M}^4] \right).$$

with matter minimally coupled.

Low curvature limit

$$\mathcal{S} \simeq \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[\tilde{\lambda}^4 (\beta_0 + 4\beta_1 + 6\beta_2 + 4\beta_3 + \beta_4) + \frac{\tilde{\lambda}^4}{2\lambda^2} (\beta_1 + 3\beta_2 + 3\beta_3 + \beta_4) g^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu}(\Gamma) \right]$$

Cosmological constant

Newton's constant

Minimal Born-Infeld extension

$$S_{\min} = \lambda^2 M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \text{Tr} \left[\sqrt{\mathbb{1} + \lambda^{-2} \hat{g}^{-1} \hat{R}} - \mathbb{1} \right]$$

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$$\hat{M} \equiv \sqrt{\mathbb{1} + \lambda^{-2} \hat{g}^{-1} \hat{R}(\Gamma)}$$

Metric field equations

$$(M^{-1})^\alpha_{(\mu} R_{\nu)\alpha} - \text{Tr}(\hat{M} - \mathbb{1}) \lambda^2 g_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} T_{\mu\nu}$$



$$\hat{R} = \lambda^2 \hat{g} (\hat{M}^2 - \mathbb{1})$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left[\hat{g} (\hat{M} - \hat{M}^{-1}) + (\hat{M} - \hat{M}^{-1})^T \hat{g} \right] - \text{Tr}(\hat{M} - \mathbb{1}) \hat{g} = \frac{1}{\lambda^2 M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \hat{T}$$

This equation allows to express M^α_β as a function of the matter content and the metric tensor.

Minimal Born-Infeld extension

$$\mathcal{S}_{\min} = \lambda^2 M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \text{Tr} \left[\sqrt{\mathbb{1} + \lambda^{-2} \hat{g}^{-1} \hat{R}} - \mathbb{1} \right]$$

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$$\hat{M} \equiv \sqrt{\mathbb{1} + \lambda^{-2} \hat{g}^{-1} \hat{R}(\Gamma)}$$

Connection field equations

$$\nabla_\lambda \left(\sqrt{-g} W^{\beta\nu} \right) - \delta_\lambda^\nu \nabla_\rho \left(\sqrt{-g} W^{\beta\rho} \right) + 2\sqrt{-g} \left(\mathcal{T}_{\lambda\kappa}^\kappa W^{\beta\nu} - \delta_\lambda^\nu \mathcal{T}_{\rho\kappa}^\kappa W^{\beta\rho} + \mathcal{T}_{\lambda\rho}^\nu W^{\beta\rho} \right) = 0$$

$$\hat{W} = \hat{M}^{-1}$$

We will consider solutions without torsion $\mathcal{T}^\alpha_{\mu\nu} = 0$



$$\nabla_\lambda \left(\sqrt{-g} g^{\rho[\nu} W^{\beta]}_{\rho} \right) = 0 \implies \Gamma = \Gamma(\tilde{g}) \quad \tilde{g}^{\mu\nu} = \sqrt{\det \hat{M}} g^{\alpha\mu} (\hat{M}^{-1})^\nu_{\alpha}$$

$\nabla_\lambda \left(\sqrt{-g} g^{\rho[\nu} W^{\beta]}_{\rho} \right) = 0 \implies$ We set torsion to zero a posteriori. This is a consistency equation for this Ansatz.

Perfect fluid solutions

$$T^\mu{}_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} -\rho & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & p\mathbb{1}_{3\times 3} \end{pmatrix}$$

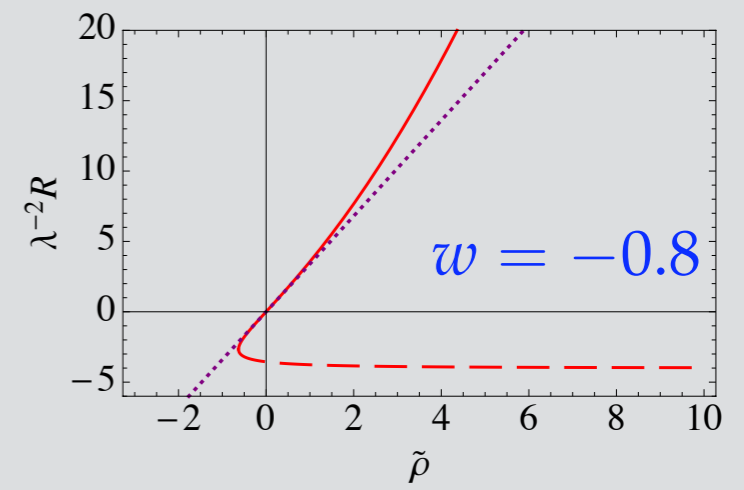
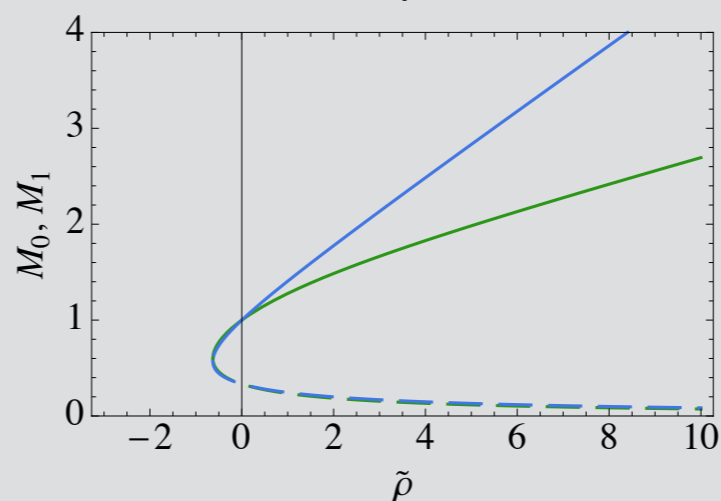
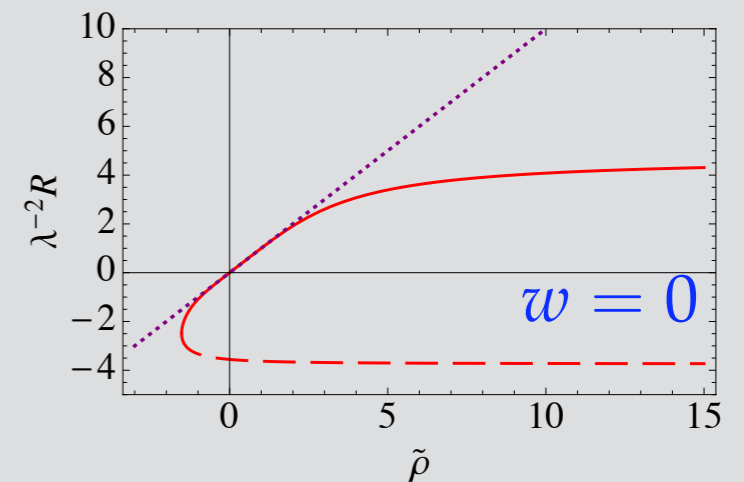
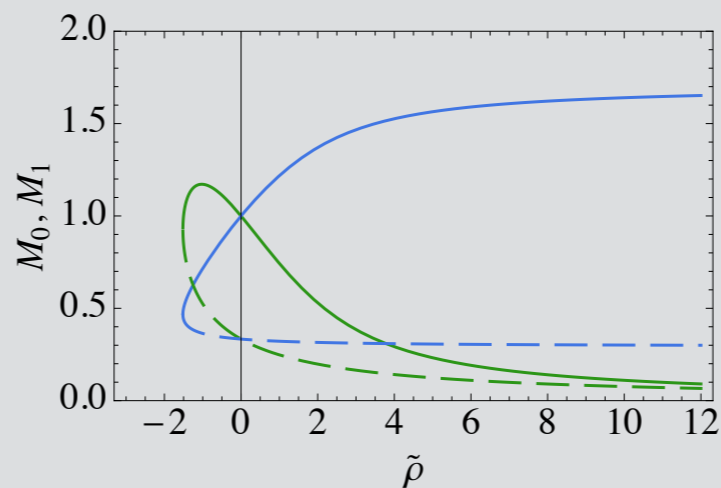
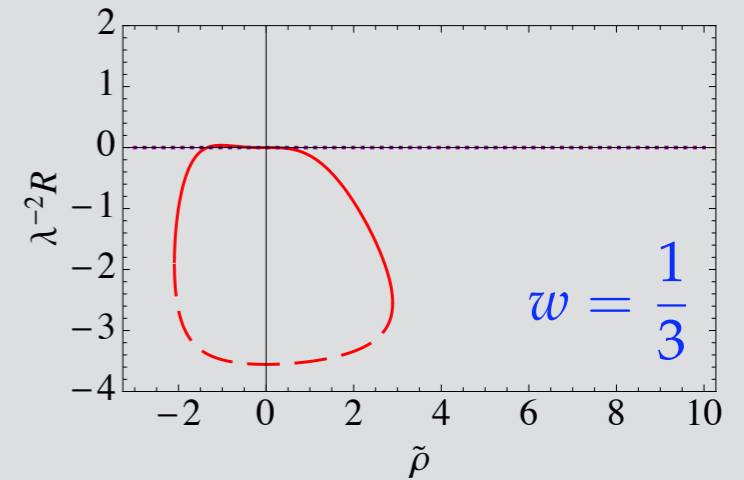
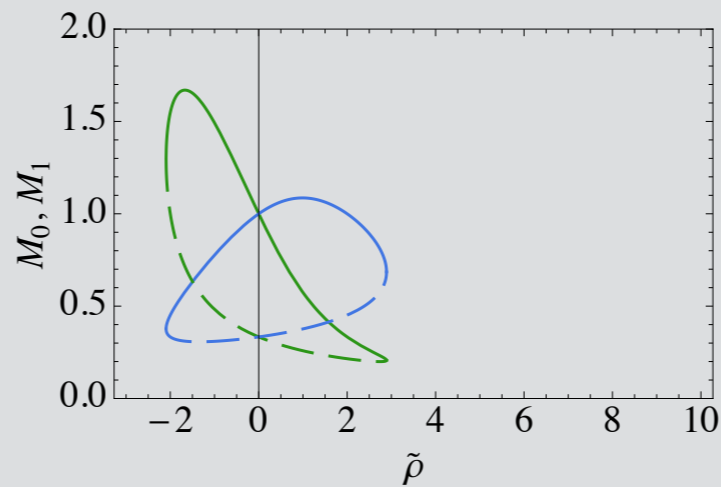
$$M^\mu{}_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} M_0 & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & M_1\mathbb{1}_{3\times 3} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{M_0} + 3M_1 = 4 + \tilde{\rho}$$

$$M_0 + 2M_1 + \frac{1}{M_1} = 4 - \tilde{\rho}$$

Metric
field
equations

In general we find 3 branches of solutions, but only two of them are physical. Out of those two, only one is continuously connected with GR.



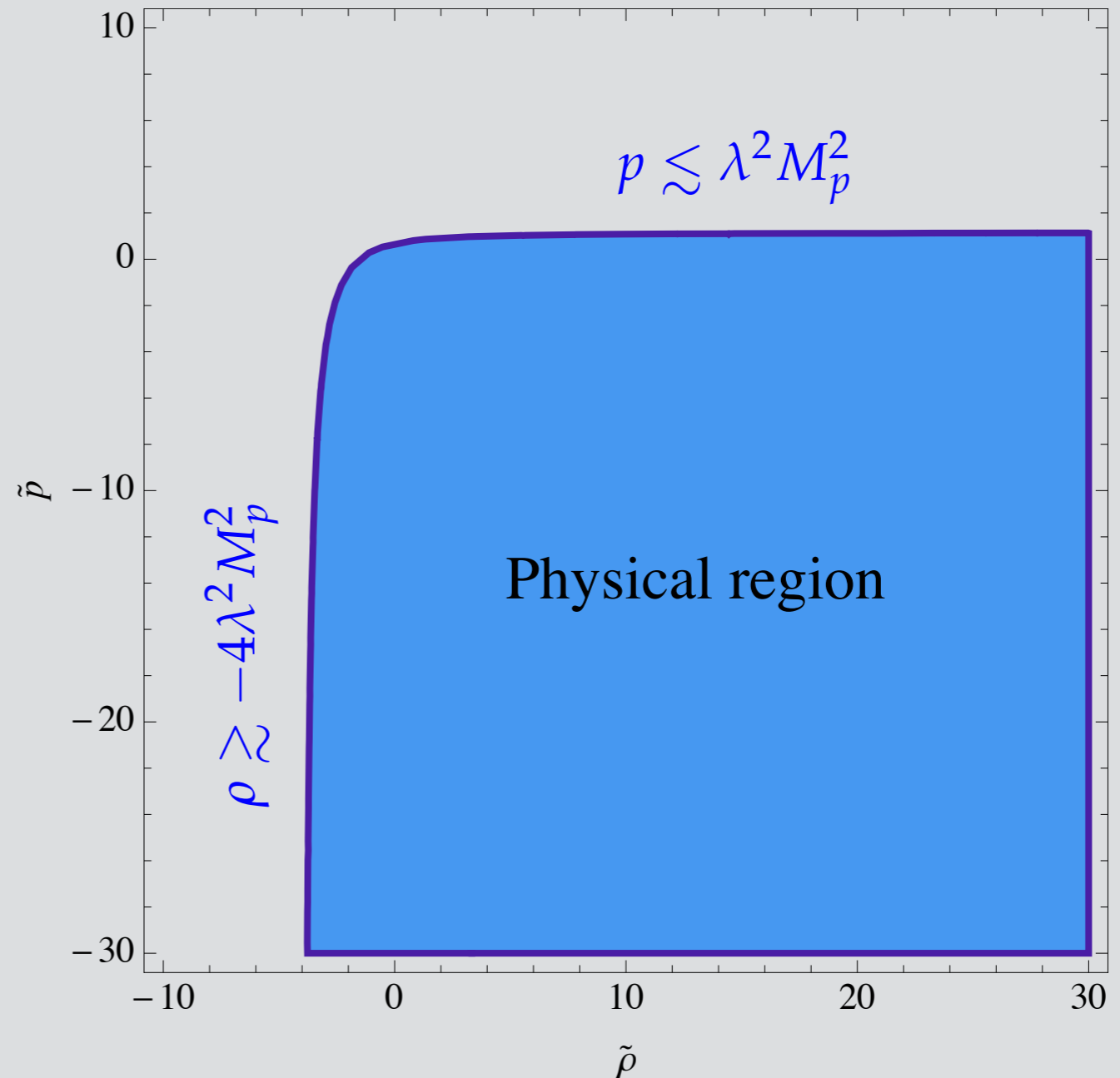
Perfect fluid solutions

$$T^\mu{}_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} -\rho & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & p\mathbb{1}_{3\times 3} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M^\mu{}_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} M_0 & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & M_1\mathbb{1}_{3\times 3} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{M_0} + 3M_1 &= 4 + \tilde{\rho} \\ M_0 + 2M_1 + \frac{1}{M_1} &= 4 - \tilde{\rho} \end{aligned} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Metric} \\ \text{field} \\ \text{equations} \end{array}$$

In general we find 3 branches of solutions, but only two of them are physical. Out of those two, only one is continuously connected with GR.



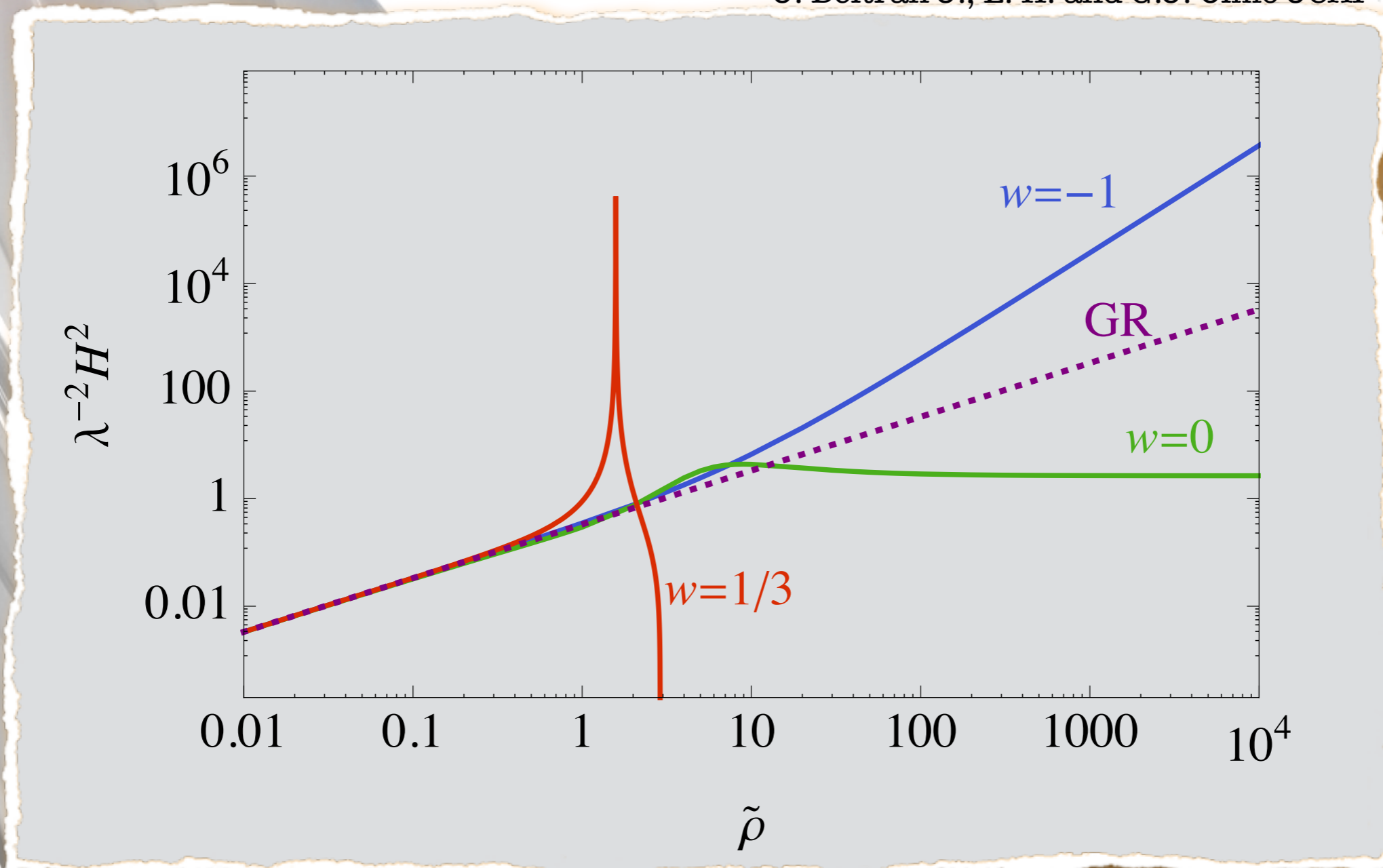
Cosmological solutions

$$\bar{H}^2 = \frac{1}{3} \frac{M_0^2 + \frac{3}{2}(\bar{P} + \bar{\rho})M_0 - 1}{\left\{ 1 - \frac{M_0}{4[(4+\bar{\rho})M_0-1]} \frac{d\bar{\rho}}{dN} \left[1 + (4+\bar{\rho}) \left(\frac{\partial \ln M_0}{\partial \bar{\rho}} + c_s^2 \frac{\partial \ln M_0}{\partial \bar{P}} \right) \right] \right\}^2}$$

$$ds^2 = -N(t)^2 dt^2 + a(t)^2 \delta_{ij} dx^i dx^j$$

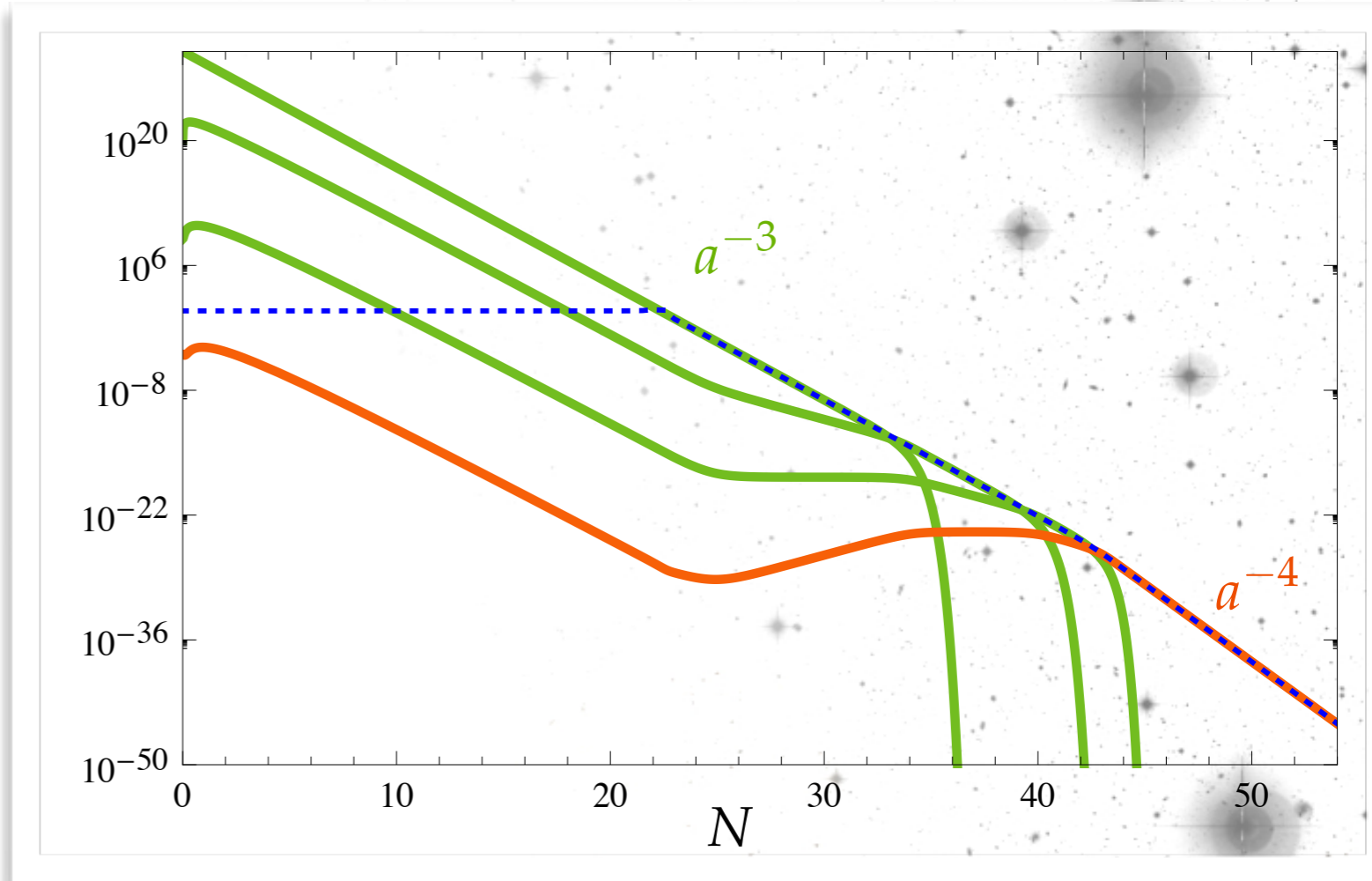
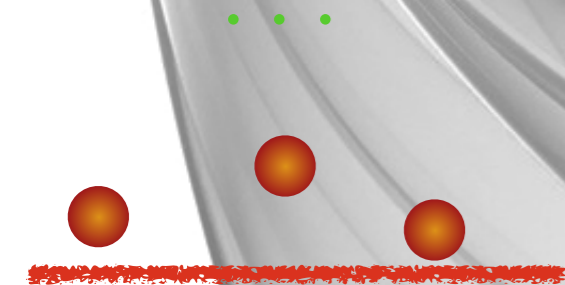
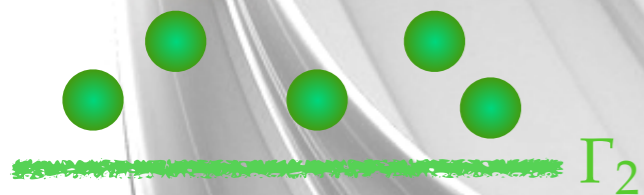
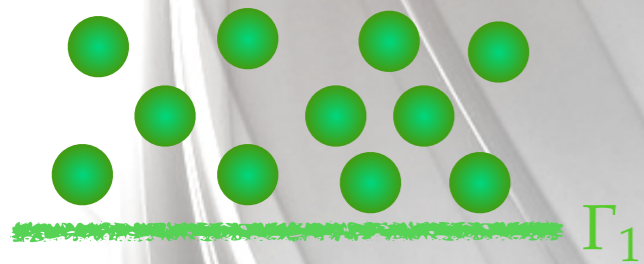
$$d\tilde{s}^2 = -N^2 (M_0 M_1^{-3})^{1/2} dt^2 + \frac{a(t)^2}{\sqrt{M_0 M_1}} \delta_{ij} dx^i dx^j$$

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Dust inflation

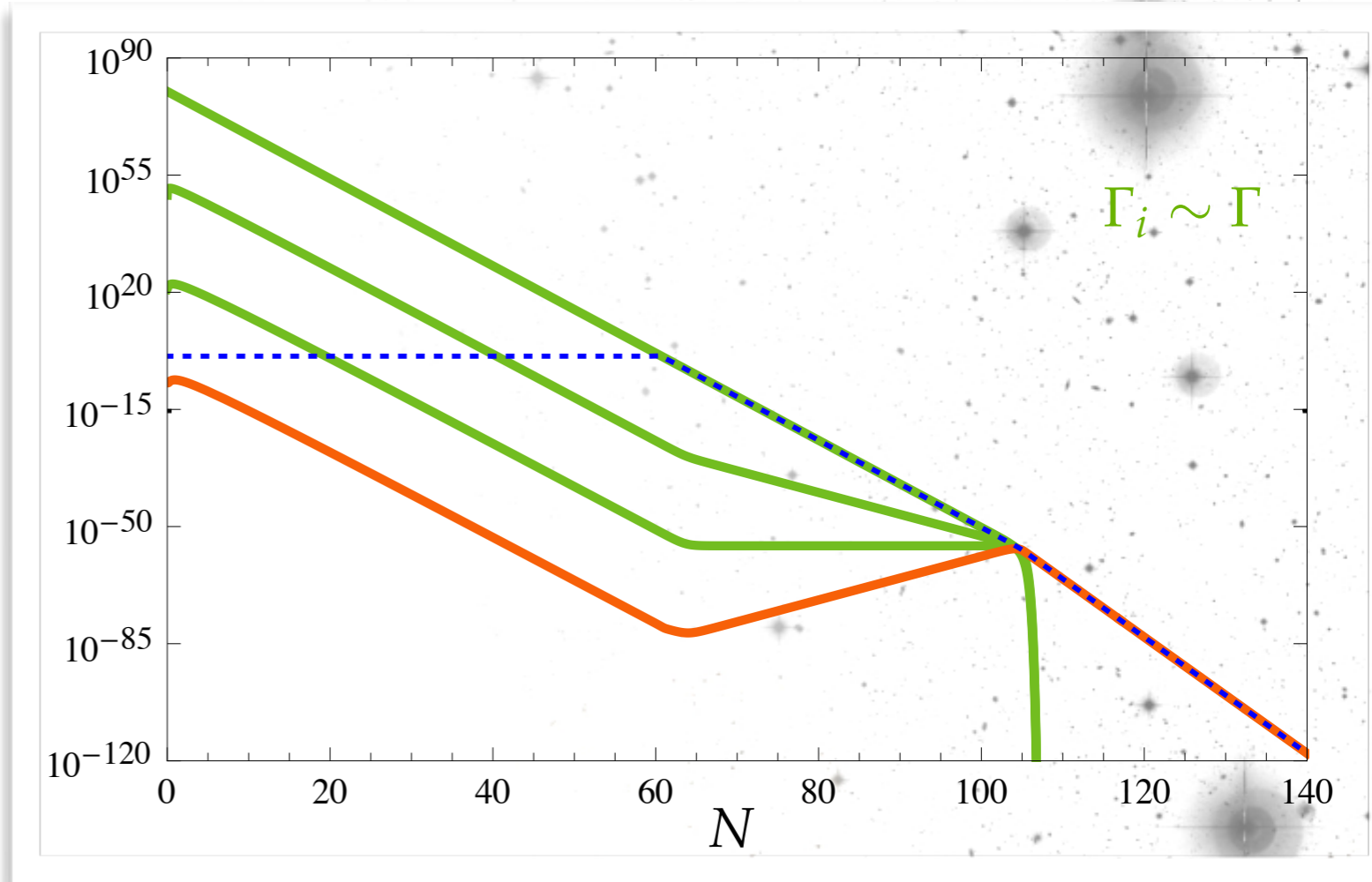
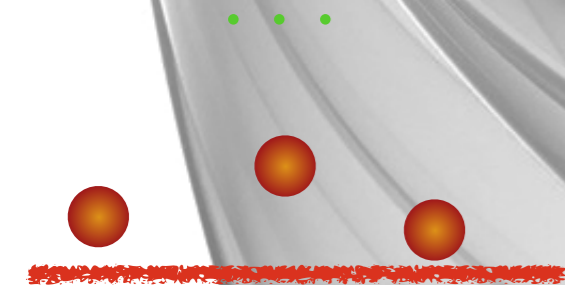
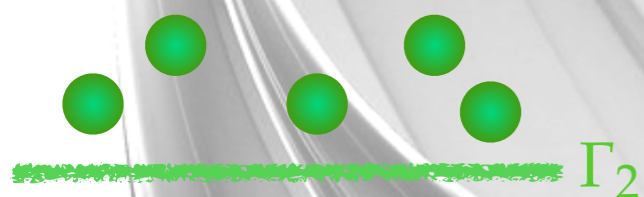
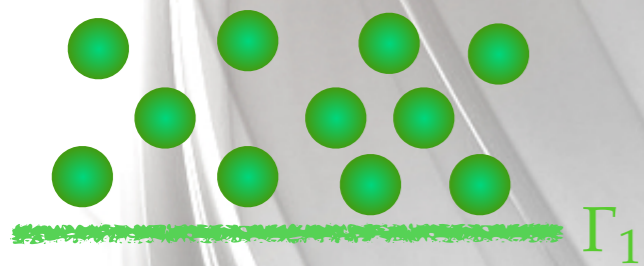
$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\rho}_1 + 3H\rho_1 &= -\Gamma_1\rho_1 \\ \dot{\rho}_2 + 3H\rho_2 &= \Gamma_1\rho_1 - \Gamma_2\rho_2 \\ &\dots \\ \dot{\rho}_r + 4H\rho_r &= \Gamma_n\rho_n \end{aligned}$$



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Dust inflation

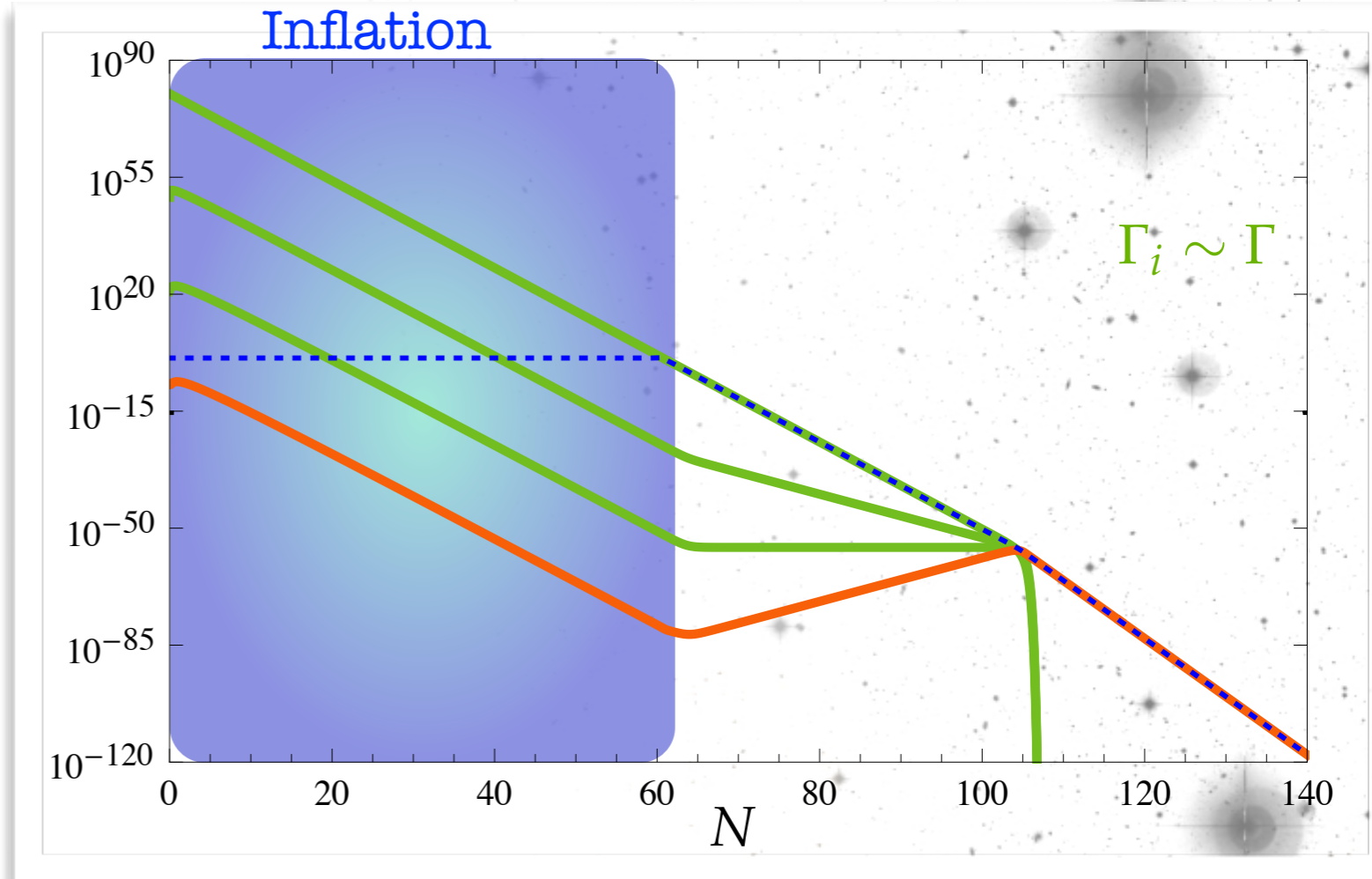
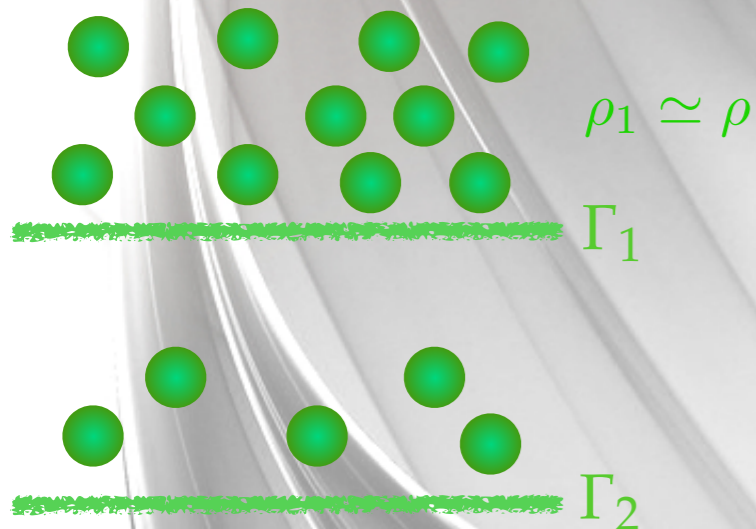
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Dust inflation

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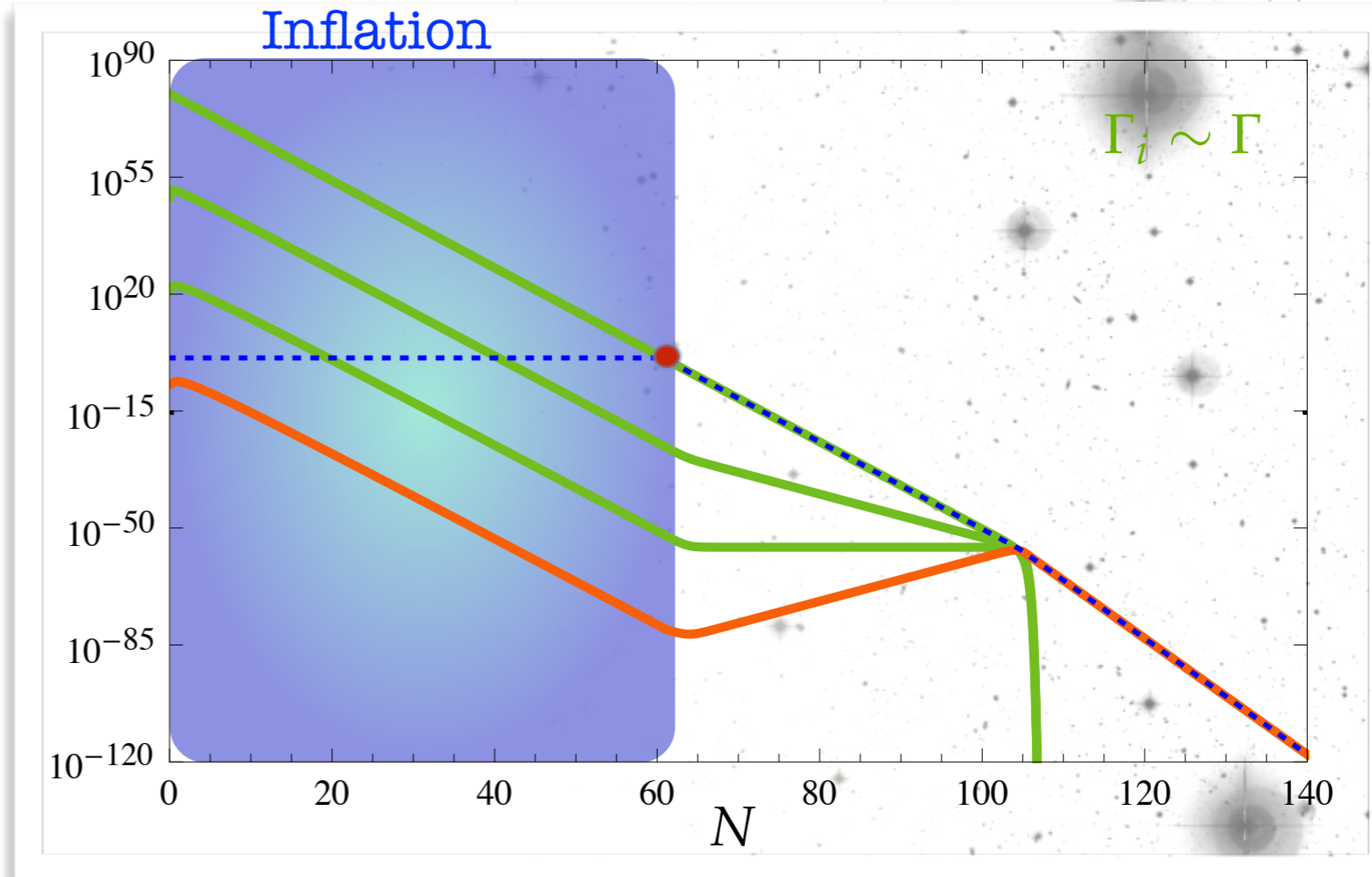
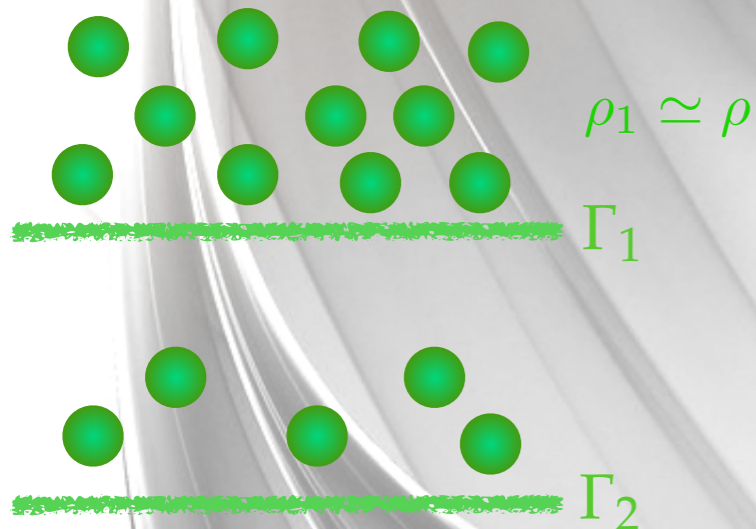
quasi de Sitter phase

$$\bar{H} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{3} + \frac{8\sqrt{3} - 3\sqrt{6}}{\bar{\rho}}} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\bar{\rho}^2}\right) \quad \bar{H} = \frac{H}{\lambda} \quad \bar{\rho} = \frac{\rho}{\lambda^2 M_{\text{Pl}}^2}$$

$$\epsilon_1 \equiv -\frac{d \log H}{dN} = -\frac{9(4\sqrt{2} - 3)}{2\bar{\rho}} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\bar{\rho}^2}\right) \quad \text{Blue spectrum}$$

Dust inflation

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\rho}_1 + 3H\rho_1 &= -\Gamma_1\rho_1 \\ \dot{\rho}_2 + 3H\rho_2 &= \Gamma_1\rho_1 - \Gamma_2\rho_2 \\ &\dots \\ \dot{\rho}_r + 4H\rho_r &= \Gamma_n\rho_n \end{aligned}$$

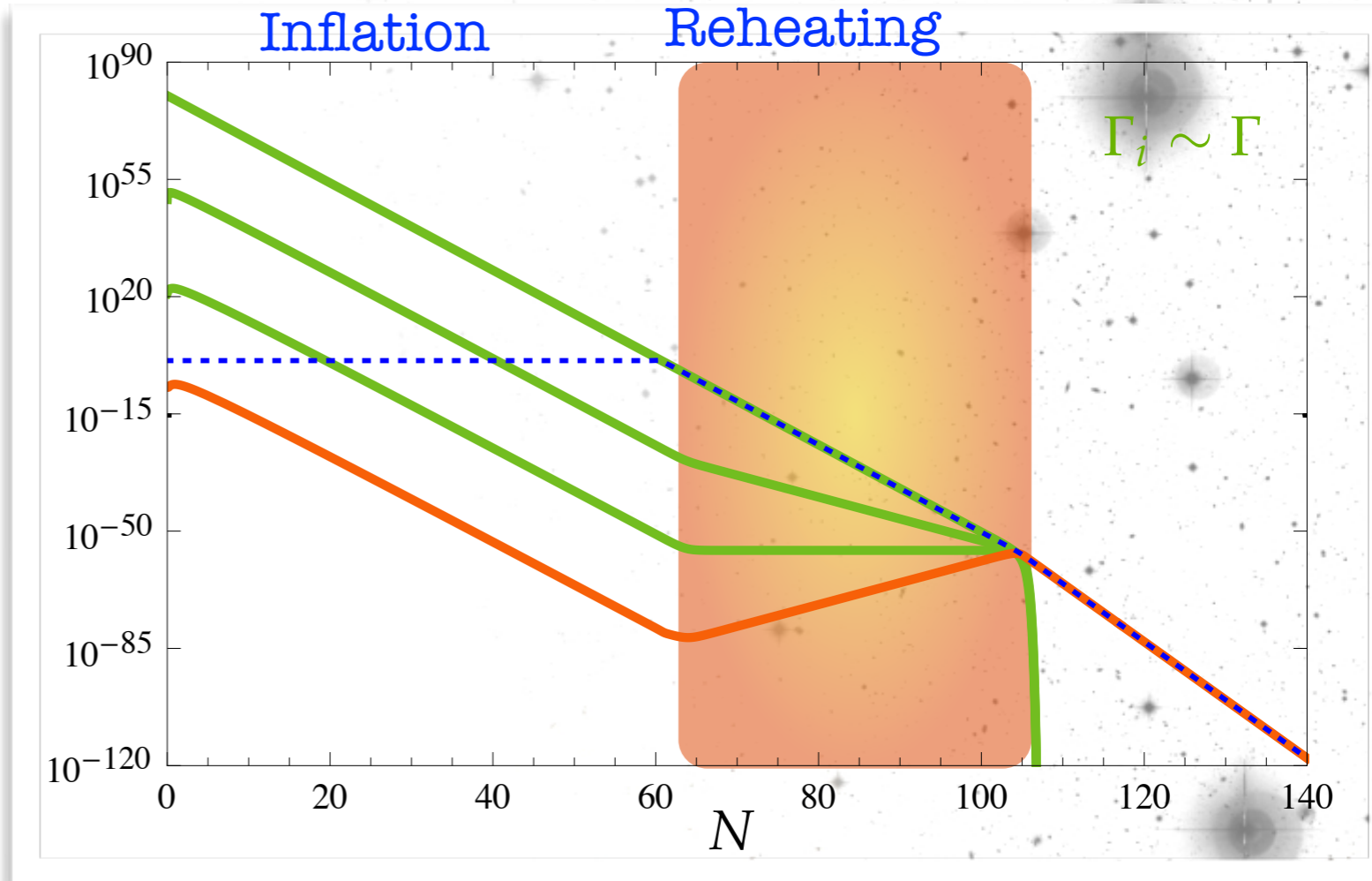
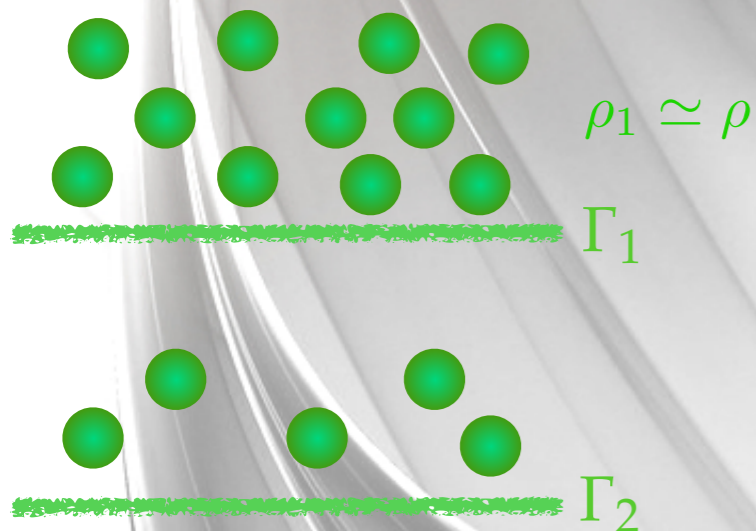


Duration of inflation

- Inflation ends when we exit the Born-Infeld regime
- The duration of inflation depends on all Γ_i and λ
- During inflation $\Gamma_i \ll H$
- There is an upper bound for the duration of inflation due $p_r \lesssim \lambda^2 M_{\text{Pl}}^2$

Dust inflation

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\rho}_1 + 3H\rho_1 &= -\Gamma_1\rho_1 \\ \dot{\rho}_2 + 3H\rho_2 &= \Gamma_1\rho_1 - \Gamma_2\rho_2 \\ &\dots \\ \dot{\rho}_r + 4H\rho_r &= \Gamma_n\rho_n \end{aligned}$$



Duration of reheating

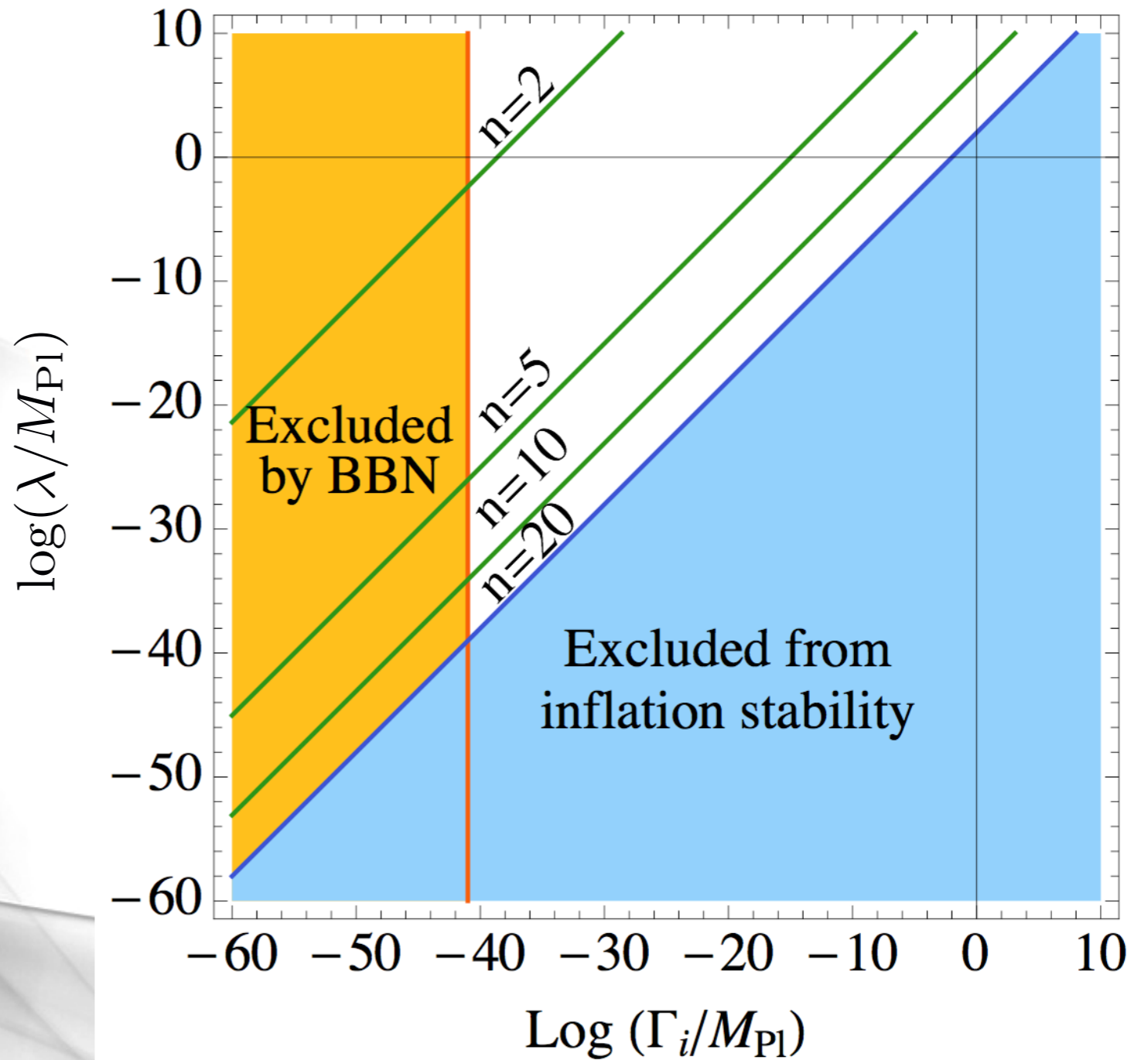
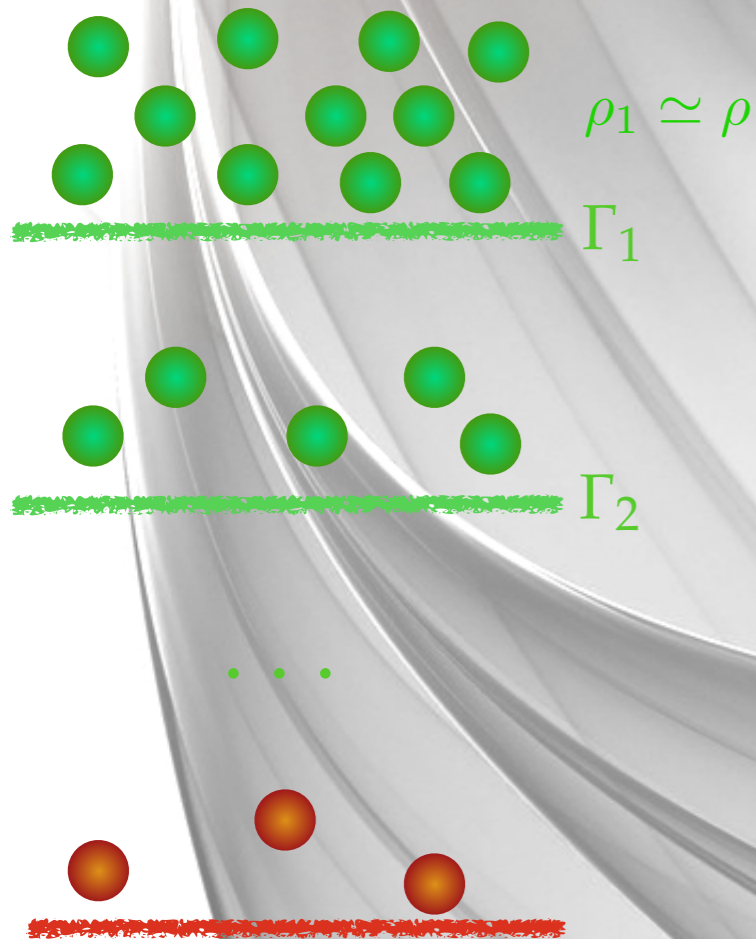
- The end of reheating is set by the smallest decay rate

$$\min(\Gamma_i) \simeq 3H$$

- Reheating must end before BBN

Dust inflation

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\rho}_1 + 3H\rho_1 &= -\Gamma_1\rho_1 \\ \dot{\rho}_2 + 3H\rho_2 &= \Gamma_1\rho_1 - \Gamma_2\rho_2 \\ &\dots \\ \dot{\rho}_r + 4H\rho_r &= \Gamma_n\rho_n\end{aligned}$$



Tensor perturbations

$$\delta g_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \vec{0} \\ \vec{0} & a^2 h_{ij} \end{pmatrix} \quad \delta T^\mu{}_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \vec{0} \\ \vec{0} & \Pi^i{}_j \end{pmatrix}$$

All matrices commute at first order in tensor perturbations.

Metric field equations

$$\frac{1}{2} \left[(\hat{M} - \hat{M}^{-1}) + \hat{g}^{-1} (\hat{M} - \hat{M}^{-1})^T \hat{g} \right] - \text{Tr}(\hat{M} - \mathbb{1}) \mathbb{1} = \frac{1}{\lambda^2 M_p^2} \hat{T} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \delta M^i{}_j = \frac{1}{\lambda^2 M_p^2} \frac{1}{1 + M_1^{-2}} \Pi^i{}_j$$

Auxiliary metric

$$\tilde{g}^{\mu\nu} = \sqrt{\det \hat{M}} g^{\alpha\mu} (\hat{M}^{-1})^\nu{}_\alpha \quad \Rightarrow \quad h^i{}_j = \tilde{h}^i{}_j - \frac{1}{\lambda^2 M_p^2} \frac{1}{M_1 + M_1^{-1}} \Pi^i{}_j$$

$\delta M^i{}_j$ vanishes and both metric perturbations coincide in the absence of anisotropic stresses.

An analogous result was found for the original Born-Infeld gravity theory in [C. Escamilla-Rivera, M. Banados, P. G. Ferreira, PRD85 \(2012\)](#)

It is actually true for any theory of the form

$$S \sim \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} F(\hat{g}^{-1}, \hat{R})$$

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Tensor perturbations

$$\delta g_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \vec{0} \\ \vec{0} & a^2 h_{ij} \end{pmatrix} \quad \delta T^\mu{}_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \vec{0} \\ \vec{0} & \Pi^i{}_j \end{pmatrix}$$

All matrices commute at first order in tensor perturbations.

$$(M^{-1})^\alpha{}_{(\mu} R_{\nu)\alpha} - \text{Tr}(\hat{M} - \mathbb{1}) \lambda^2 g_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} T_{\mu\nu} \Rightarrow \delta R^i{}_j(\tilde{g}) = \frac{\sqrt{M_0 M_1^3}}{M_p^2} \Pi^i{}_j$$

Same equation as in GR with a modified Newton's constant.

$$\ddot{\tilde{h}}_{ij} + \left(3\tilde{H}(t) - \frac{\dot{\tilde{n}}(t)}{\tilde{n}(t)} \right) \dot{\tilde{h}}_{ij} - \frac{\tilde{n}(t)^2}{\tilde{a}(t)^2} \nabla^2 \tilde{h}_{ij} = 2 \frac{\sqrt{M_0 M_1^3}}{M_p^2} \Pi_{ij} \Rightarrow \tilde{h}_{ij}'' - \left(\nabla^2 + \frac{\tilde{a}''}{\tilde{a}} \right) \tilde{h}_{ij} = 0$$

$$\tilde{n} = 1$$

$$\Pi^i{}_j = 0$$

$$\tilde{h}_{ij} = \tilde{a} \tilde{h}_{ij}$$

The tensor perturbations see the auxiliary metric. In the quasi de Sitter regime, we have

$$\tilde{H}^2 = \frac{1}{16} H^2 \simeq \frac{1}{16} H_I^2 n^2(t) \simeq \frac{1}{16} H_I^2 \tilde{n}^2(t) \sqrt{\frac{\rho_{\text{m,ini}}}{(20 - 14\sqrt{2}) \lambda^2 M_p^2}} \left(\frac{\tilde{a}}{\tilde{a}_{\text{ini}}} \right)^{-6} \rightarrow w_{\text{eff}} = 1$$

No generation of tensor perturbations!

$$a = a_{\text{ini}} \left(\frac{\tilde{a}}{\tilde{a}_{\text{ini}}} \right)^4 \quad \frac{\tilde{n}^2}{n^2} \simeq \sqrt{\frac{(20 - 14\sqrt{2}) \lambda^2 M_p^2}{\rho}} \quad \frac{\tilde{a}^2}{a^2} \simeq \sqrt{\frac{(2 - \sqrt{2}) \rho}{\lambda^2 M_p^2}}$$

prospects

- Bouncing cosmologies.
- Gravitational collapse. Black hole singularity.
- Scalar perturbations. Presence of instabilities.
- Role of torsion. Further explore the general action and possible extensions.
- ...