

## Nonminimally Assisted Inflation: A General Analysis

The effects of a scalar field, known as the “assistant field,” which nonminimally couples to gravity, on single-field inflationary models are studied. The analysis provides analytical expressions for inflationary observables such as the spectral index ( $n_s$ ), the tensor-to-scalar ratio ( $r$ ), and the local-type nonlinearity parameter ( $f_{(local)}^{NL}$ ). The presence of the assistant field leads to a lowering of  $n_s$  and  $r$  in most of the parameter space, compared to the original predictions. In some cases,  $n_s$  may increase due to the assistant field. This revives compatibility between ruled-out single-field models and the latest observations by Planck-BICEP/Keck. The results are demonstrated using three example models: loop inflation, power-law inflation, and hybrid inflation.

### Secondary category for the parallel session (optional)

**Primary author:** HYUN, Sang Chul (Yonsei HEP-COSMO)

**Co-authors:** KIM, Jinsu (KIAS); PARK, Seong Chan (Yonsei University)

**Presenter:** HYUN, Sang Chul (Yonsei HEP-COSMO)

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