

Non-minimally Assisted Inflation : A General Analysis

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in collaboration with

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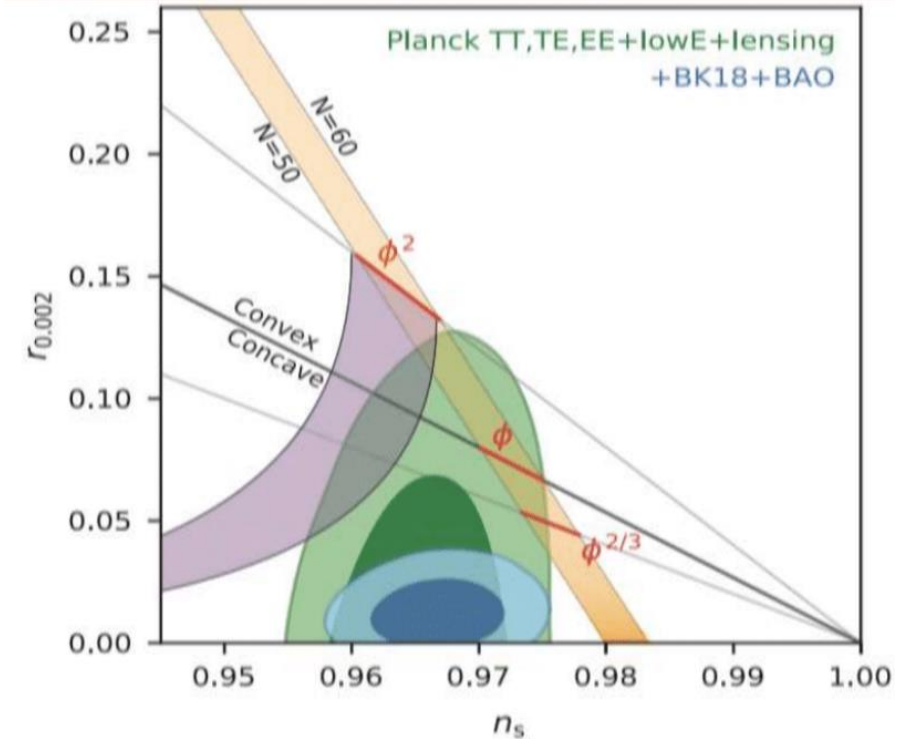
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Contents

- Motivations of Our Work
- Setup and Methodologies
- Model-independent Analysis
- Model-dependent Analysis
 - Loop inflation (example for Class I)
 - Power-law inflation (example for Class II)
 - Hybrid inflation (example for Class II)
- Conclusions

Invalidity of Single-Field Inflation

- The latest observational constraints jointly analyzed by the Planck and BICEP/Keck (BK) array have come out. → Experimental bounds regarding scalar spectral index n_s and tensor-to-scalar ratio r became more stringent. ($0.958 \leq n_s \leq 0.975$, $r \leq 0.036$ for 2σ bound)
- Consequently, a plethora of single-field inflationary models that had been viable before latest results have been ruled out.
 - Power-law chaotic inflation $V(\phi) \sim \phi^p$
 - Power-law exponential inflation $V(\phi) \sim \exp(-\lambda\phi)$
 - Hybrid Inflation $V(\phi) = 1 + (\phi/\mu)^2$
 - else..



Y. Akrami et al. (2020)
P. A. R. Ade et al. (2021)

Our Idea

- To solve aforementioned problems that single-field inflationary scenario has, we aim to modify that scenario. There are lots of mechanisms to do that.
 - Introduction of non-minimal coupling of the inflaton field to gravity sector [F. L. Bezrukov \(2008\)](#)
 - Modification of inflaton kinetic term [S. Ferrara \(2013\)](#)
- In this work, we took different approach. We planned to add another scalar field named ***assistant field***, denoted by s , to build multi-field inflationary Lagrangian.

Our Idea

- The most general Lagrangian containing original inflaton ϕ and newly introduced field s would be written as follows :

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{1}{2} M_{Pl}^2 R - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - V(\phi) \right]$$
$$\rightarrow S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{1}{2} M_{Pl}^2 f(s) R - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu s \partial_\nu s - V(s) - V(\phi) \right]$$

- Non-minimal coupling with gravity f can be generally expressed with respect to ϕ and s field.

The Assistant Field

- We assume that newly introduced field s is assistant field. It is defined as a field where the energy density of that field is extremely small comparing with the original inflaton field ϕ . In other words,

$$|\rho_s| \ll \rho_\phi$$

- However, not all multi-field inflationary scenario satisfy this condition. Several assumptions between two fields are necessary.

Assumptions

- Assumption #1 : $V_J(\phi)$ is negligible comparing with $V_J(s)$.

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{1}{2} M_{Pl}^2 f(s) R - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu s \partial_\nu s - V_J(s) - V_J(\phi) \right]$$

$$\rightarrow S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{1}{2} M_{Pl}^2 f(s) R - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu s \partial_\nu s - V_J(\phi) \right]$$

Total energy
density

Slow-roll assumption

$$\rho = T^{00} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \dot{s}^2 + V_J(\phi) + V_J(s) - 3 \frac{df}{ds} H \dot{s} \simeq \underbrace{V_J(\phi)}_{\rho_\phi} + \underbrace{V_J(s) - 3 \frac{df}{ds} H \dot{s}}_{\rho_s}$$

First assumption naturally leads to a massless assistant field.

Assumptions

- Assumption #2 : During inflation, the amplitude of s field is also negligible comparing with Planckian mass.

- Taylor Series expansion of non-minimal coupling function $f(s)$

$$f(s) = 1 + \xi_2 \left(\frac{s}{M_P} \right)^2 + \xi_4 \left(\frac{s}{M_P} \right)^4 + \dots$$

results in a multi-field inflationary scenario with *minimal* coupling such that it contains effective mass term of assistant field inside an action.

$$\frac{1}{2} M_{Pl}^2 f(s) R = \frac{1}{2} M_{Pl}^2 R + \frac{1}{2} M_{Pl}^2 \xi_2 \left(\frac{s}{M_{Pl}} \right)^2 R + \dots$$

$$m_s^2 = -M_{Pl}^2 \xi_2 \frac{R}{M_{Pl}^2} = -\xi_2 R \simeq -\xi_2 (12H^2)$$

Assumptions

- Assumption #2 : During inflation, the amplitude of s field is also negligible comparing with Planckian mass.
- Calculation of ratio of an energy density of assistant field $\rho_s \approx \frac{1}{2}m_s^2 s^2$ to an energy density of inflaton field $\rho_\phi \approx V_J(\phi)$ naturally

$$\frac{|\rho_s|}{\rho_\phi} \approx \frac{6\xi_2 H^2 s^2}{V_J(\phi)} \simeq \frac{2\xi_2 \frac{s^2}{M_{Pl}^2}}{\left(1 + \xi_2 \frac{s^2}{M_{Pl}^2}\right)^2}$$

if

$$\xi_2 \frac{s^2}{M_{Pl}^2} \ll 1$$

More on Assumption #2

- Thanks to the second assumption, higher order terms of non-minimal coupling term beyond the first order can be safely negligible.

$$f(s) \simeq 1 + \xi_2 \left(\frac{s}{M_P} \right)^2$$

- Consequently, our action becomes

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{1}{2} M_{Pl}^2 \left(1 + \xi_2 \left(\frac{s}{M_{Pl}} \right)^2 \right) R - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu s \partial_\nu s - V_J(\phi) \right]$$

- One advantage of using second approximation is to express general mathematical form of non-minimal coupling by using only one parameter : ξ_2 .

Comparison with Our Previous Work

- Previously, we first studied non-minimal assisted inflationary scenario, in the case of chaotic inflation, where the potential form is given as follows :

$$V(\phi) = \lambda_{\phi} M_{Pl}^4 \left(\frac{\phi}{M_{Pl}} \right)^n$$

Sang Chul Hyun, Jinsu Kim, Seong Chan Park, Tomo Takahashi (2022)

- We can study other general single-field inflation models other than chaotic one. Extension beyond chaotic inflation is the main motivation of this work.

Weyl Transformation

- Converting Jordan-frame action into Einstein-frame one,

$$S_J = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{1}{2} M_{Pl}^2 f(s) R - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu s \partial_\nu s - V(\phi) \right]$$

$$\downarrow \begin{aligned} g_{E,\mu\nu} &= f(s) g_{\mu\nu}, \quad f(s) = 1 + \xi_2 (s/M_{Pl})^2 \\ R &= f(s) [R_E - 6 g^{E,\mu\nu} \nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \ln \sqrt{f(s)} \\ &\quad - 6 g^{E,\mu\nu} \nabla_\mu \ln \sqrt{f(s)} \nabla_\nu \ln \sqrt{f(s)}] \end{aligned}$$

$$S_E = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g_E} \left[\frac{M_{Pl}^2}{2} R_E - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{K}_1 g_E^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{K}_2 g_E^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu s \partial_\nu s - V_E(\phi, s) \right]$$

$$V_E(\phi, s) = \frac{V(\phi)}{f(s)^2} = \frac{V(\phi)}{(1 + \xi_2 s^2 / M_{Pl}^2)^2} \quad \mathcal{K}_1 \equiv \frac{1}{f(s)}, \quad \mathcal{K}_2 \equiv \frac{f(s) + 6\xi_2^2 (s/M_{Pl})^2}{f(s)^2}$$

Einstein-frame potential

Canonical Field

- Introducing another scalar field σ to canonically normalize kinetic term of assistant field,

$$\begin{aligned} S_E &= \int d^4x \sqrt{-g_E} \left[\frac{M_{Pl}^2}{2} R_E - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{K}_1 g_E^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{K}_2 g_E^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu s \partial_\nu s - V_E(\phi, s) \right] \\ &= \int d^4x \sqrt{-g_E} \left[\frac{M_{Pl}^2}{2} R_E - \frac{1}{2f(s)} (\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\sigma)^2 - V_E(\phi, \sigma(s)) \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$V_E(\phi, s) = \frac{V(\phi)}{f(s)^2} = \frac{V(\phi)}{(1 + \xi_2 s^2 / M_{Pl}^2)^2} \quad \left(\frac{\partial\sigma}{\partial s} \right)^2 = \mathcal{K}_2 = \frac{f(s) + 6\xi_2^2 (s/M_{Pl})^2}{f(s)^2}$$

Einstein-frame potential

Slow-roll analysis & δN formalism

- We transformed action in Jordan frame to Einstein frame and earned approximated equation of motions by using slow-roll assumption.

Slow-roll assumption : $\{\epsilon^i, |\eta^{ij}|, \epsilon^b\} \ll 1$

$$\epsilon^\sigma \equiv \frac{M_{Pl}^2}{2} \left(\frac{V_{,\sigma}}{V} \right)^2, \epsilon^\phi \equiv \frac{M_{Pl}^2}{2} \left(\frac{V_{,\phi}}{V} e^{-b} \right)^2, \eta^{\sigma\sigma} \equiv M_{Pl}^2 \frac{V_{,\sigma\sigma}}{V},$$
$$\eta^{\phi\phi} \equiv M_{Pl}^2 \frac{V_{,\phi\phi}}{V} e^{-2b}, \eta^{\phi\sigma} \equiv M_{Pl}^2 \frac{V_{,\phi\sigma}}{V} e^{-b}, \epsilon^b \equiv 8M_{Pl}^2 b_{,\sigma}^2$$

- We calculated three CMB observables : spectral index n_s , tensor-to-scalar ratio r and local-type nonlinearity parameter $f_{NL}^{(local)}$ to match with latest constraints. We used δN formalism to calculate these and plotted them numerically.

• *A. A. Starobinsky, PLB117, 175. (1982),*
• *D. S. Salopek, J. R. Bond, PRD42, 3936 (1990),*
• *M. Sasaki and E. D. Stewart, PTP 95, 71. (1996)*

$$G_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2b(s)} \end{pmatrix}, b(s) \equiv \frac{1}{2} \ln \mathcal{K}_1 = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{1}{1 + \xi_m s^m / M_{Pl}^m} \right)$$

Cosmological observables

Expressions for the cosmological observables in the δN formalism ($N_{,i} \equiv \frac{\partial N}{\partial \varphi^i}$ ($\varphi^i = \{\sigma, \phi\}$))

- ❖ Curvature power spectrum : $\mathcal{P}_\zeta = \left(\frac{H}{2\pi} \right)^2 G^{ij} N_{,i} N_{,j}$
- ❖ Scalar Spectral Index : $n_s = 1 + 2 \frac{\dot{H}}{H^2} - 2 \frac{1 + N_{,k} \left(\frac{M_{Pl}^6}{3} R^{kmnl} V_{,m} V_{,n} / V^2 - M_{Pl}^4 V^{;kl} / V \right) N_{,l}}{G^{ij} N_{,i} N_{,j} M_{Pl}^2}$
- ❖ Tensor-to-Scalar Ratio : $r = \frac{8}{M_{Pl}^2 G^{ij} N_{,i} N_{,j}}$
- ❖ Local-type nonlinearity parameter : $f_{NL}^{local} = -\frac{5}{6} \frac{G^{ij} G^{mn} N_{,i} N_{,m} N_{,jn}}{(G^{kl} N_{,k} N_{,l})^2}$

- We set the number of e-folds from horizon crossing point(\star) to end-of-inflation point(e) to be equal to 60 . ($N = \int_{\star}^e H dt = 60$)

J. Kim, Y. Kim and S. C. Park, CQG31, 135004 (2014)

Model Independent Analysis

- Class I : End of inflation via slow-roll violations

- Chaotic Inflation : $V(\phi) = \lambda_\phi M_{Pl}^4 \left(\frac{\phi}{M_{Pl}} \right)^n$

- Loop Inflation : $V_J(\phi) = \Lambda^4 (1 + \alpha \log \phi)$

- Class II : End of inflation via a separate sector

- Power-law Inflation : $V_J(\phi) = \Lambda^4 \exp(-\lambda\phi)$ 

- Hybrid Inflation : $V_J(\phi) = \Lambda^4 \left[1 + \left(\frac{\phi}{\mu} \right)^2 \right]$

Slow-roll Parameters

$$\epsilon^{(0)} \equiv \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{V_{J,\phi}}{V_J} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{2} \lambda^2$$
$$\eta^{(0)} \equiv \frac{V_{J,\phi\phi}}{V_J} = \lambda^2$$

Remark on Hybrid Inflation

The original scalar potential for the hybrid inflation model is given as follows :

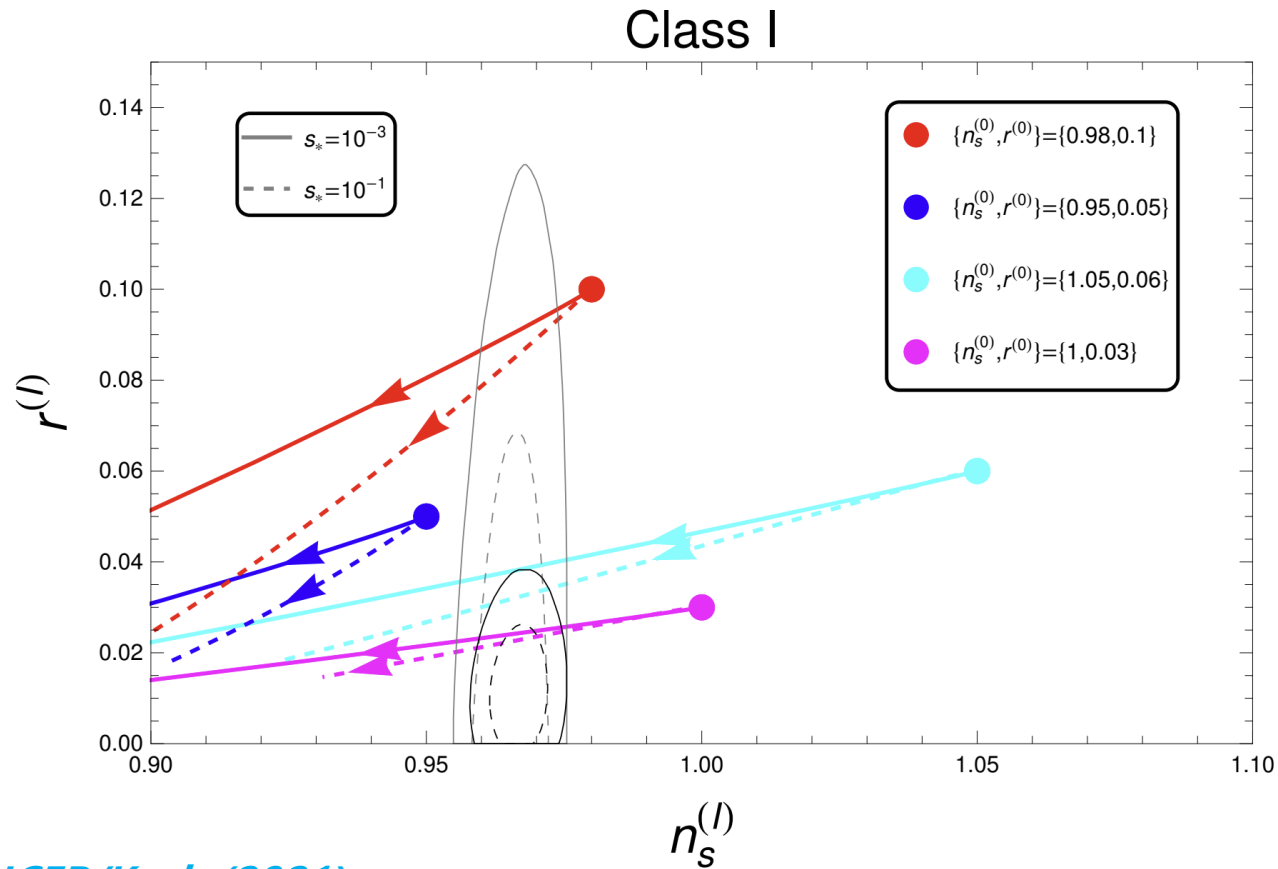
$$V_J(\phi, s) = \frac{1}{2}m^2\phi^2 + \frac{\lambda'}{4}(s^2 - \Delta^2)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2}\phi^2 s^2$$

Since we assumed that s field is extremely small ($\xi_2(s/M_{\text{Pl}})^2 \rightarrow 0$), the inflationary trajectory mainly goes through the valley ($s = 0$) of the potential. Hence, it can be effectively described during inflation by

$$V_J(\phi) = \Lambda^4 \left[1 + \left(\frac{\phi}{\mu} \right)^2 \right] \quad \Lambda \equiv (\lambda'/4)^{1/4} \Delta, \mu \equiv \sqrt{\lambda'/2} \Delta^2 / m$$

Model Independent Analysis

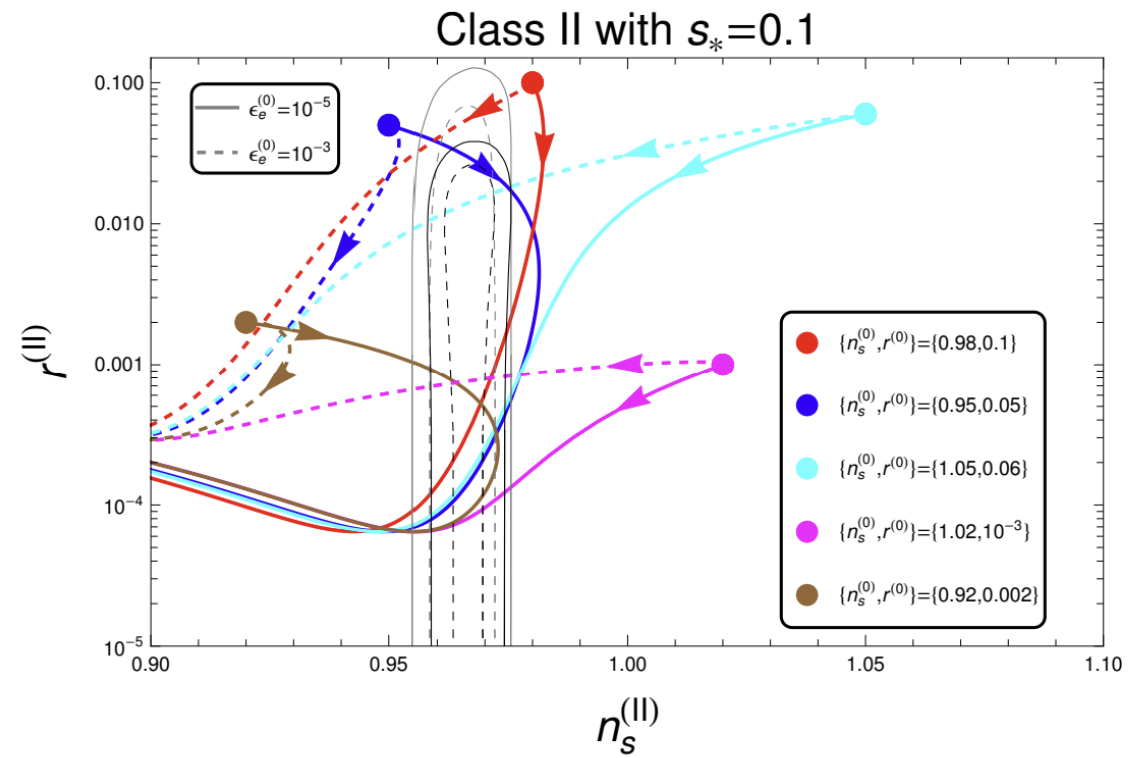
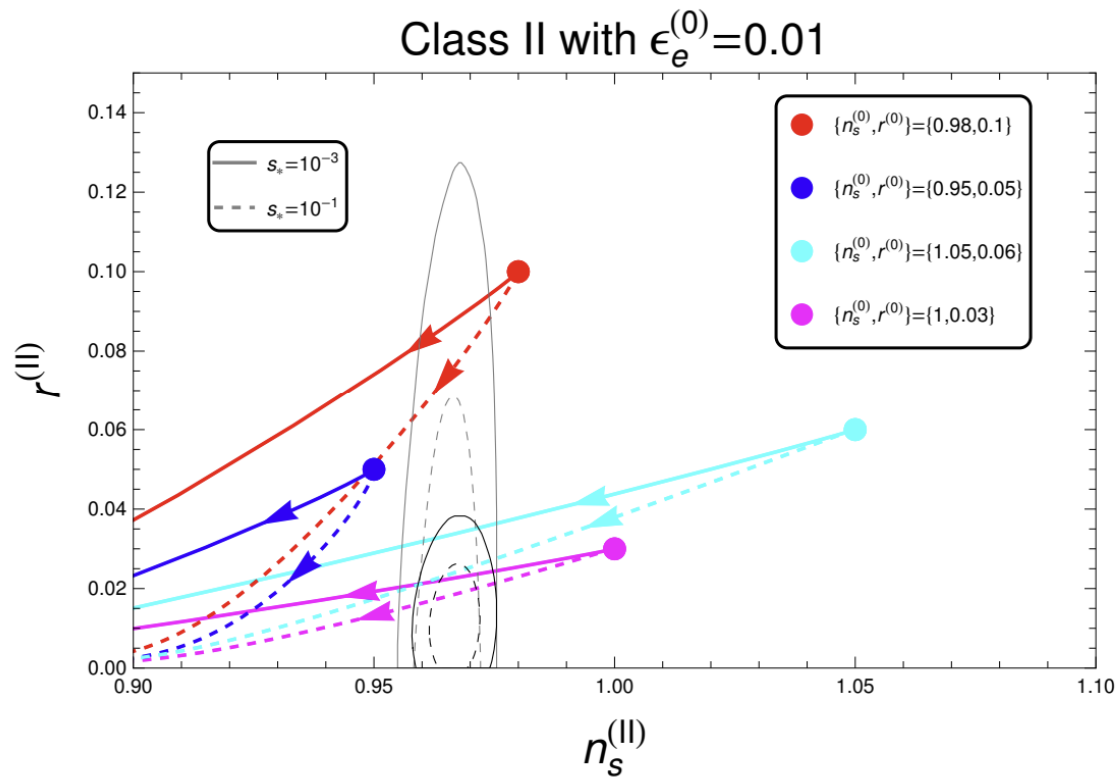
Class I : End of inflation via slow-roll violations



Planck (2020), Planck + BICEP/Keck (2021)

Model Independent Analysis

Class II : End of inflation via a separate sector



Planck (2020), Planck + BICEP/Keck (2021)

Model Dependent Analysis

- Class I : End of inflation via slow-roll violations

- Chaotic Inflation : $V(\phi) = \lambda_\phi M_{Pl}^4 \left(\frac{\phi}{M_{Pl}} \right)^n$

[Sang Chul Hyun, Jinsu Kim, Seong Chan Park, Tomo Takahashi \(2022\)](#)

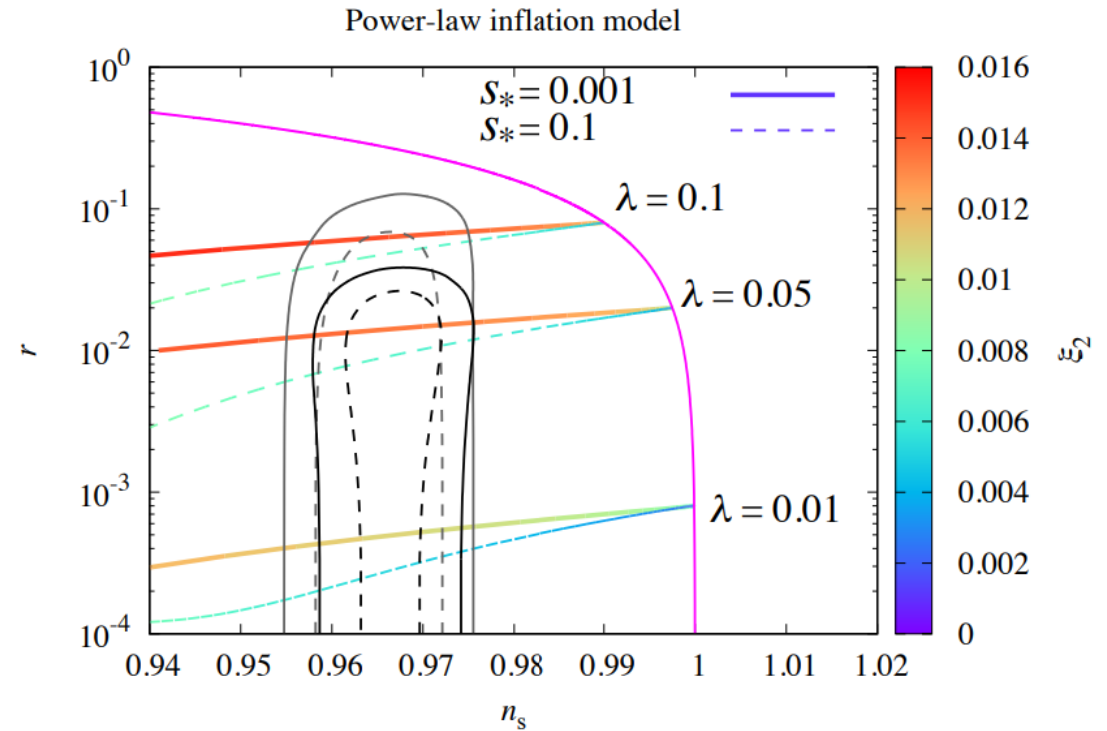
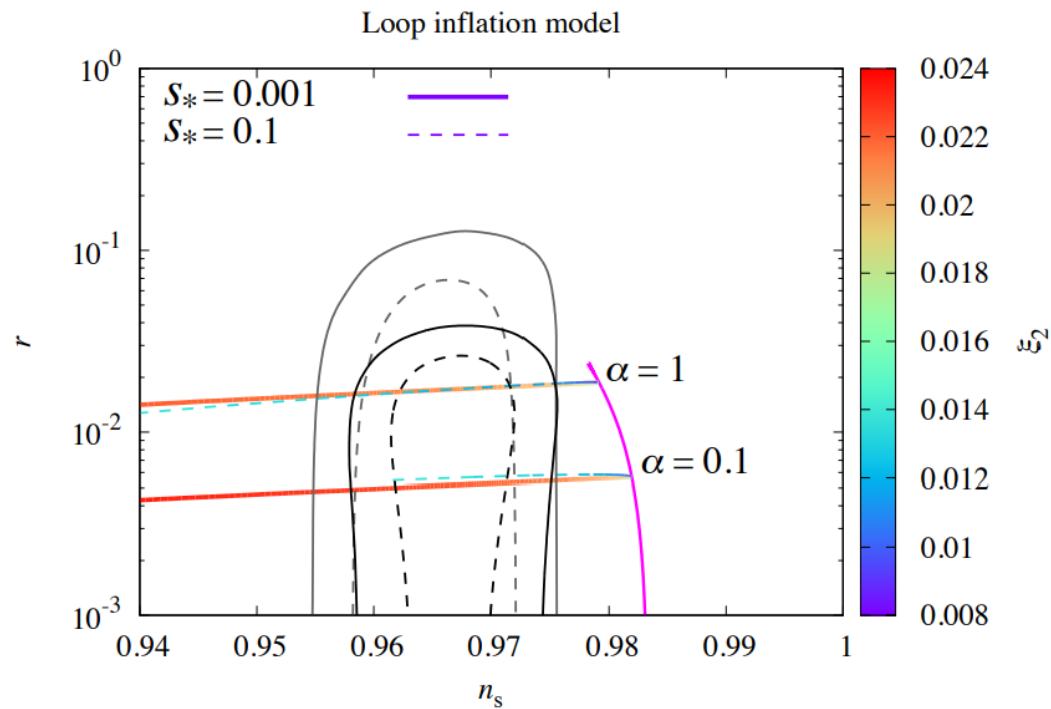
- Loop Inflation : $V_J(\phi) = \Lambda^4(1 + \alpha \log \phi)$

- Class II : End of inflation via a separate sector

- Power-law Inflation : $V_J(\phi) = \Lambda^4 \exp(-\lambda\phi)$

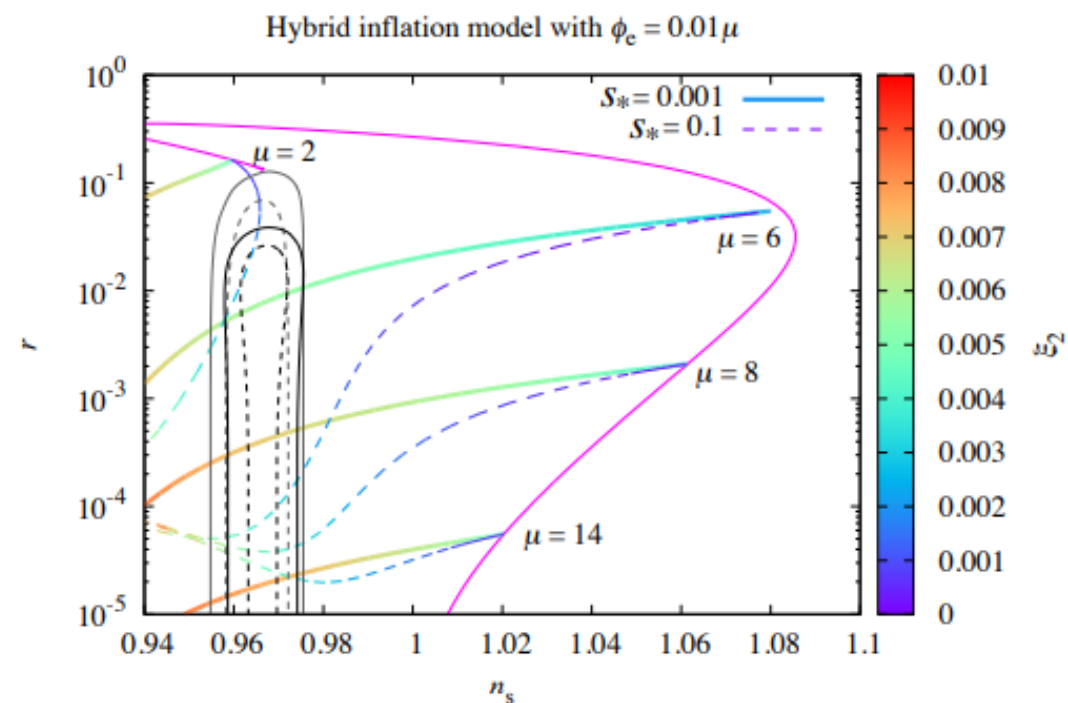
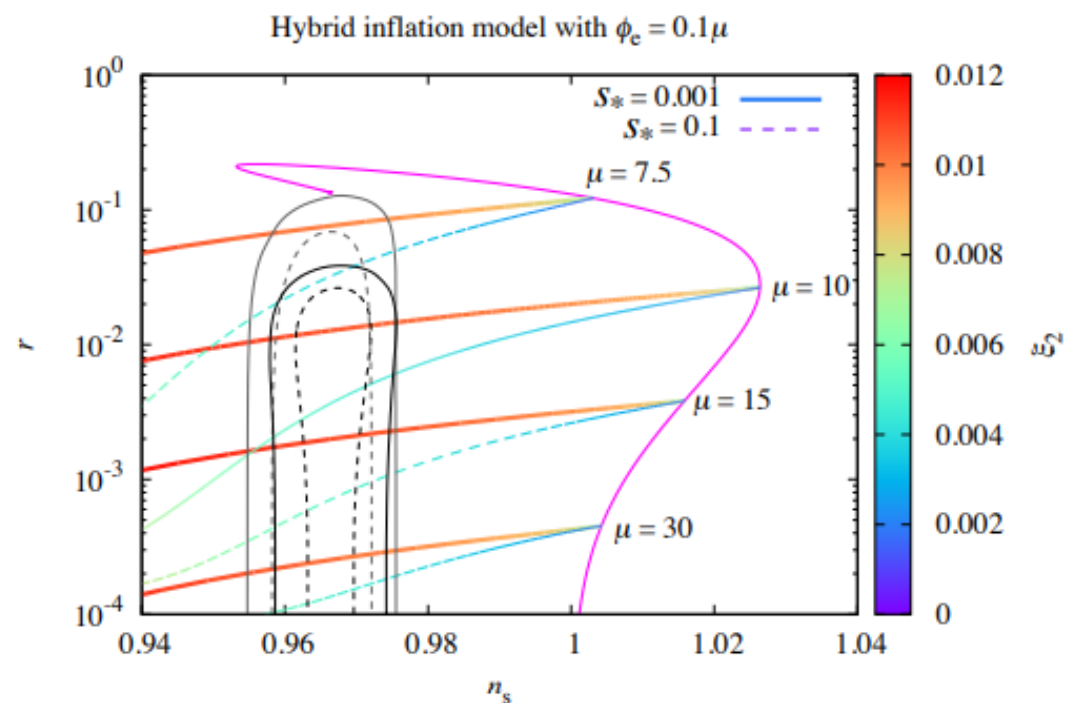
- Hybrid Inflation : $V_J(\phi) = \Lambda^4 \left[1 + \left(\frac{\phi}{\mu} \right)^2 \right]$

Loop Inflation / Power-law Inflation



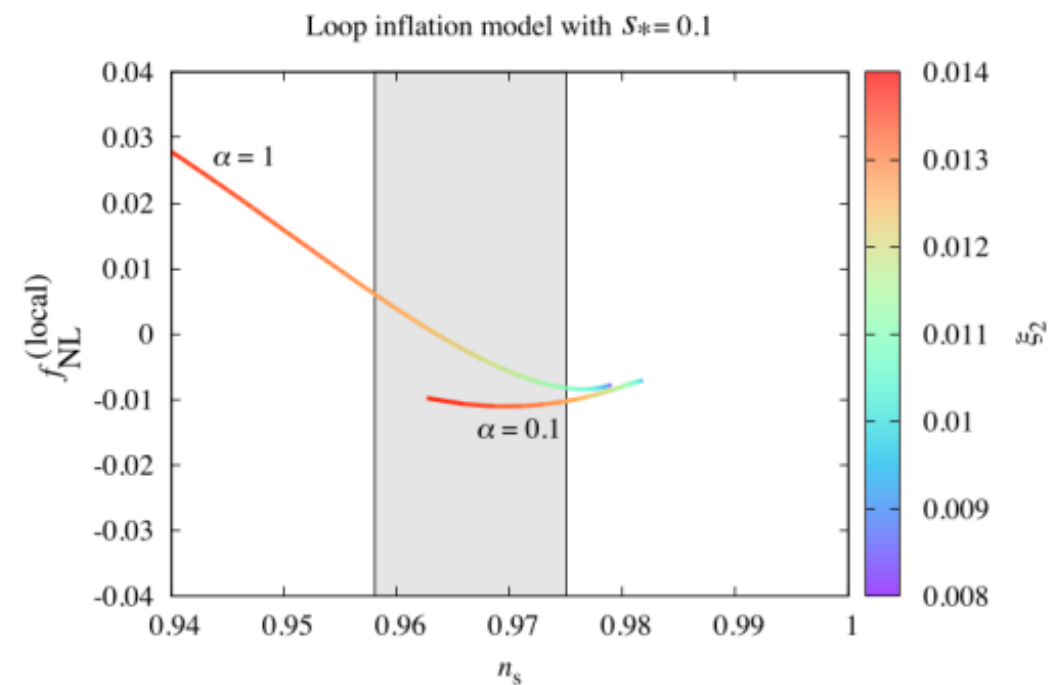
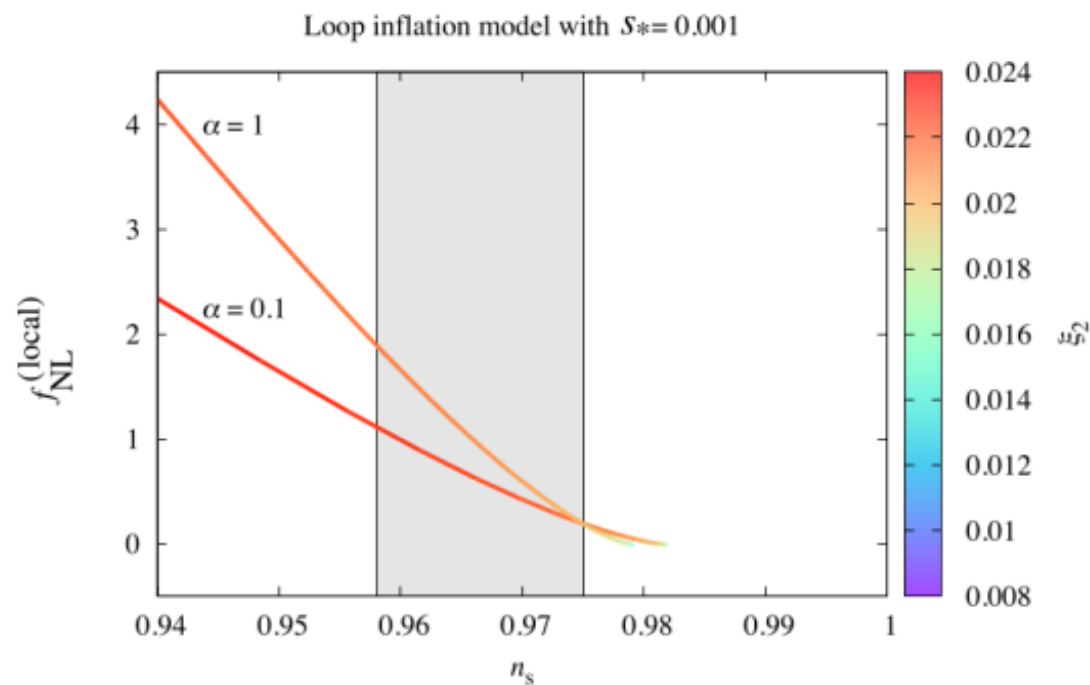
Planck (2020), Planck + BICEP/Keck (2021)

Hybrid Inflation



Planck (2020), Planck + BICEP/Keck (2021)

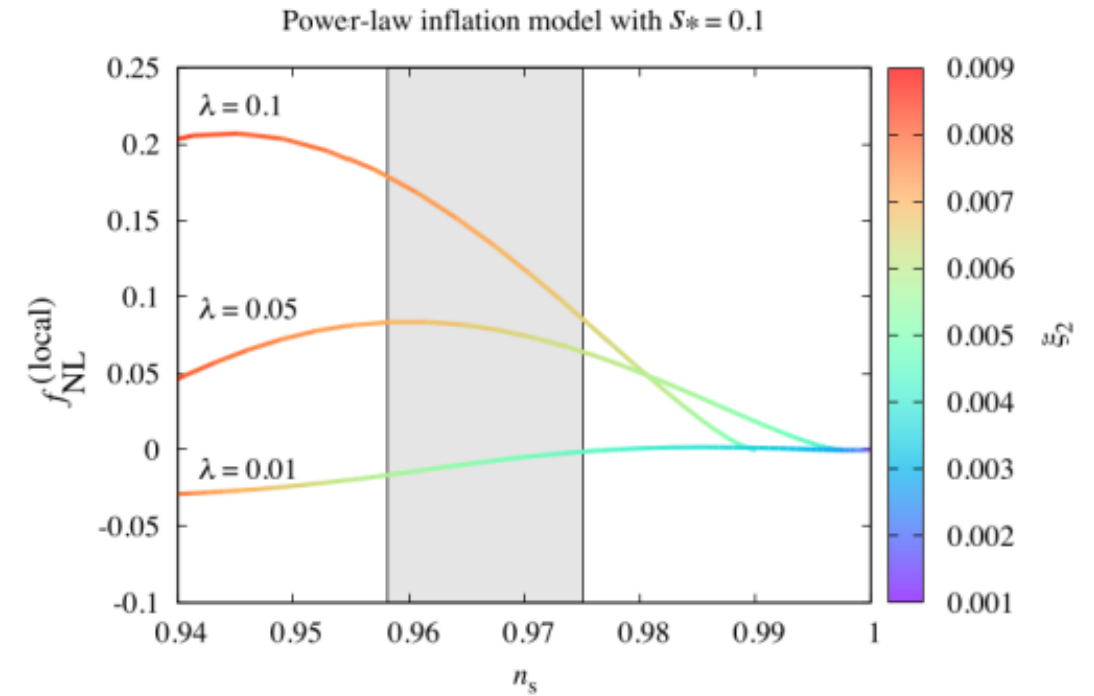
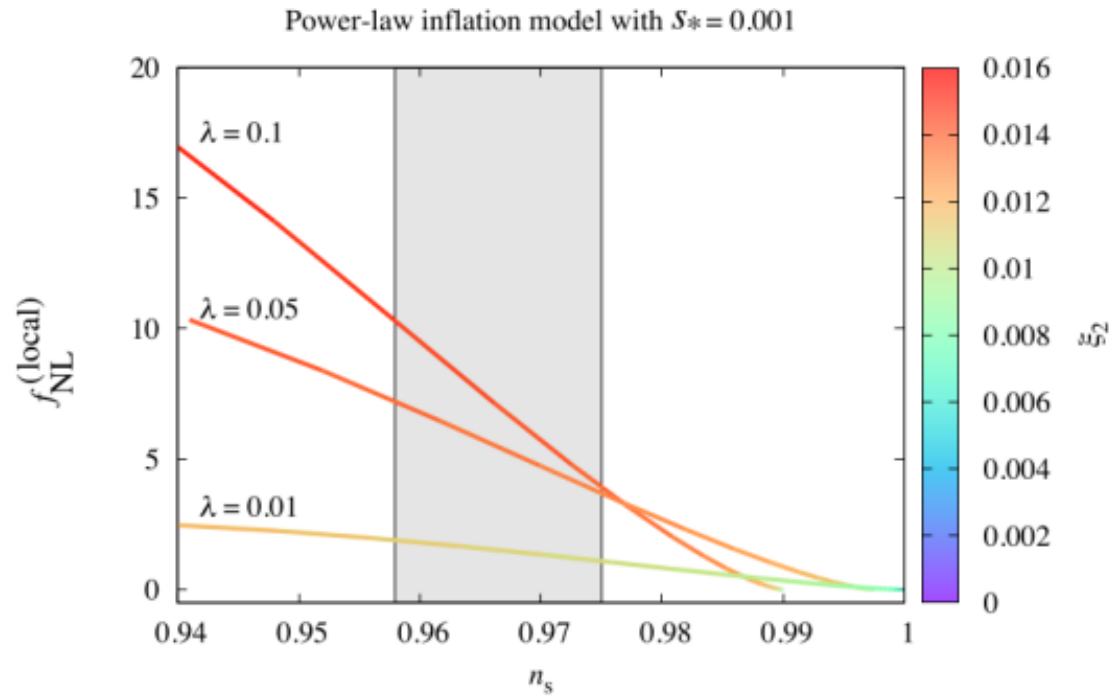
Loop Inflation



Planck (2020), Planck + BICEP/Keck (2021)

2σ bound for $f_{NL}^{(local)}$: $-11.1 < f_{NL}^{(local)} < 9.3$

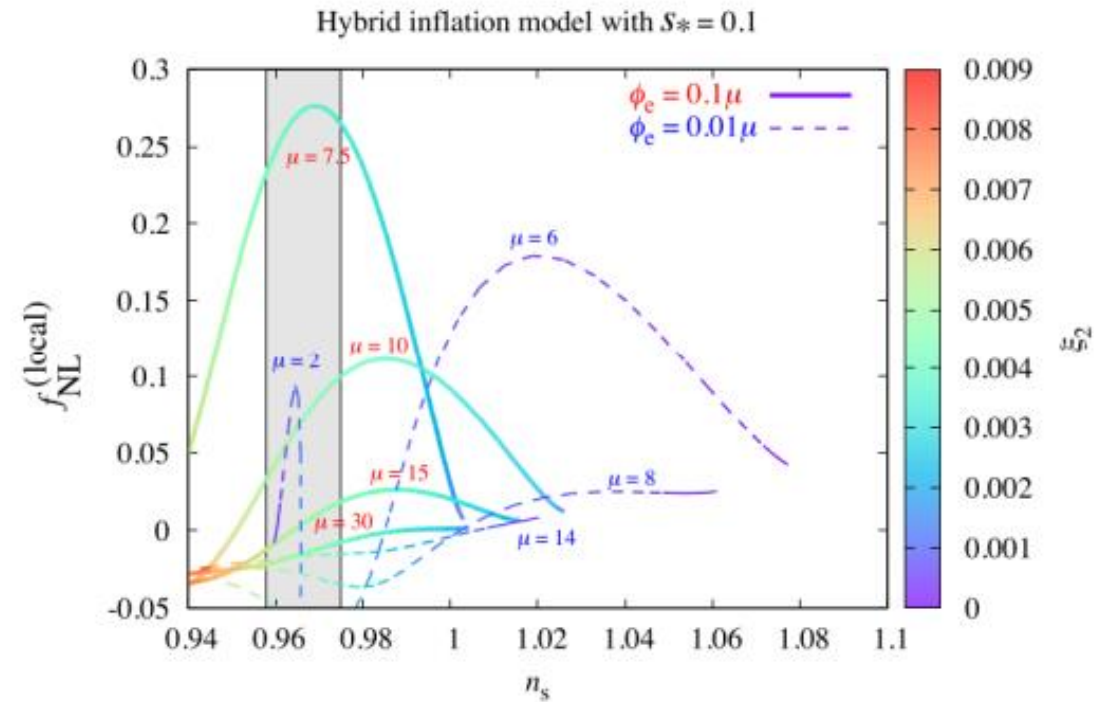
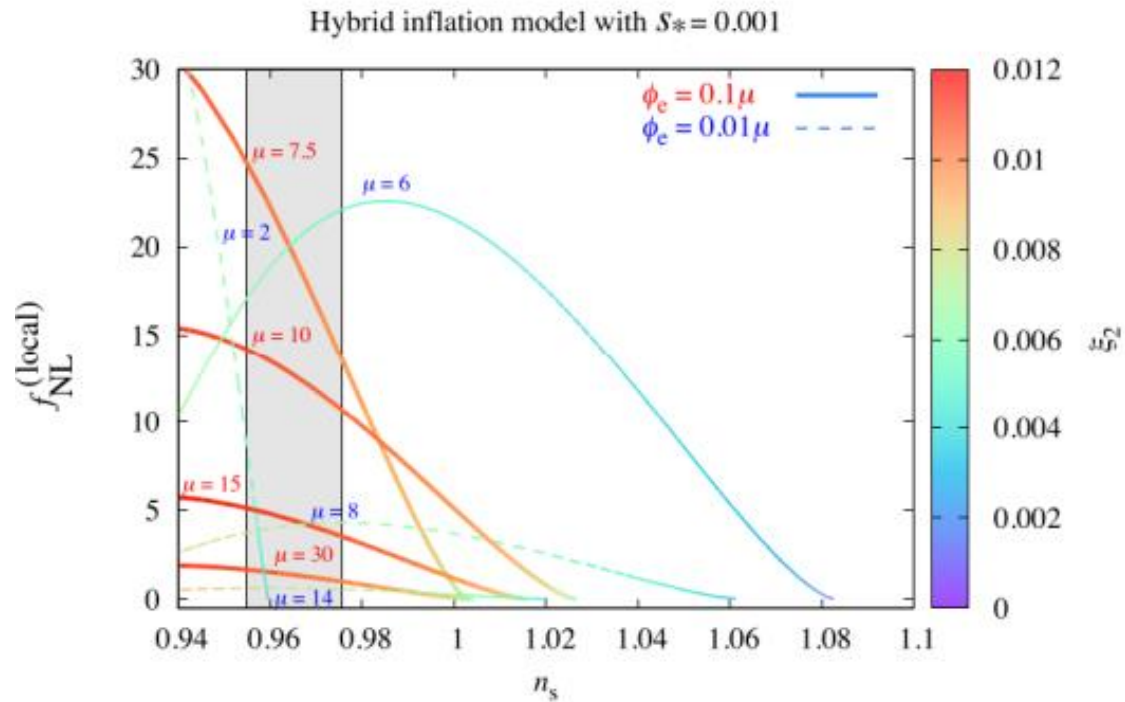
Power-law Inflation



Planck (2020), Planck + BICEP/Keck (2021)

2σ bound for $f_{NL}^{(local)}$: $-11.1 < f_{NL}^{(local)} < 9.3$

Hybrid Inflation



Planck (2020), Planck + BICEP/Keck (2021)

2σ bound for $f_{\text{NL}}^{(\text{local})}$: $-11.1 < f_{\text{NL}}^{(\text{local})} < 9.3$

Conclusions

- As a way to rescue single-field inflationary scenario, we added additional scalar field to build multi-field inflationary Lagrangian.
- Newly introduced field is assumed to satisfy assistant field, whose energy density is extremely small comparing with energy density of inflaton.
- For Class I, both tensor to scalar ratio and the scalar spectral index decreases as the size of non-minimal coupling increases, reviving many single-field models which were previously ruled out.
- For Class II, a small $\epsilon_e^{(0)}$ value may bring a small scalar spectral index into the observationally favored region.
- Not all single-field models can be revived with the help of the assistant field, like a model which predicts a small n_s , and so on.

Thank you!

Backup : Running of Scalar Spectral Index

In a general multi-field inflationary scenario, the running of scalar spectral index is calculated by applying δN formalism.

· [Gong, J. O. \(2015\)](#)

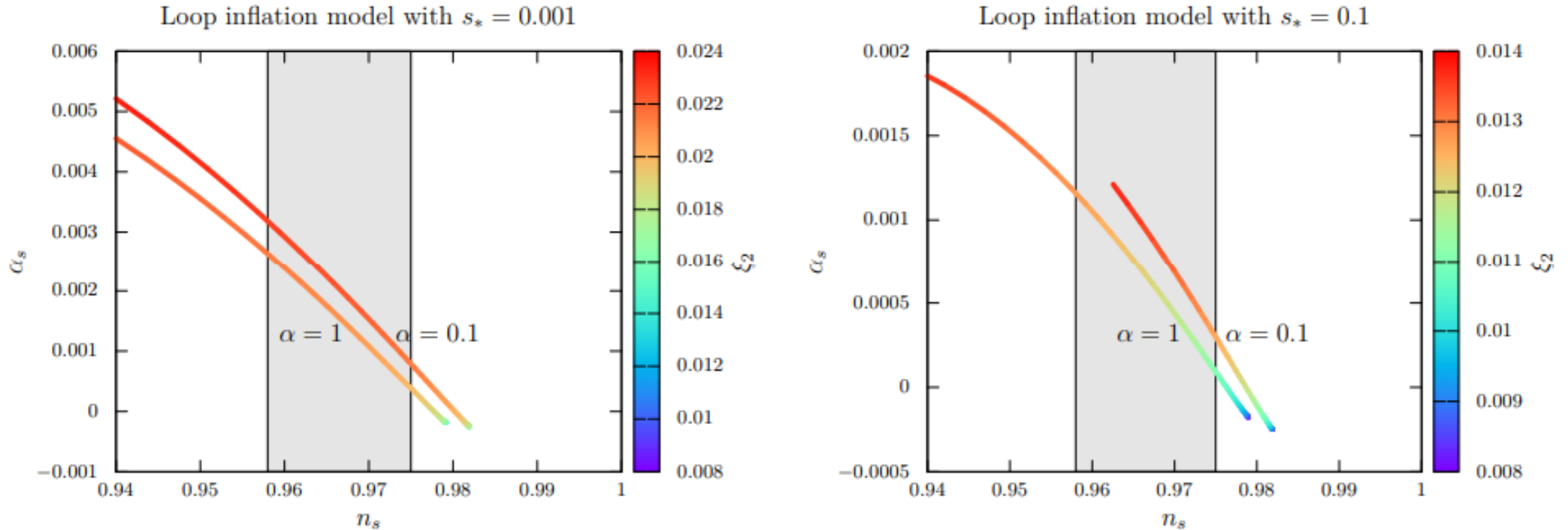
$$\alpha_s \equiv \frac{dn_s}{d \ln k} \simeq 4\epsilon^2 - 2\frac{\dot{\epsilon}}{H} + 2\frac{N_{,i}N_{,j}}{G^{mn}N_{,m}N_{,n}} \left(4\epsilon w^{ij} + 2w^i{}_k w^{jk} - w^{ij}{}_{;k} \frac{\dot{\varphi}_0^k}{H} \right) - (n_s - 1)^2$$

evaluated at the horizon crossing, denoted by the subscript *, where

$$w_{ij} = w_{(i;j)} + \frac{1}{3}R_{m(ij)n} \frac{\dot{\varphi}_0^m \dot{\varphi}_0^n}{H^2}, u_i = -\frac{V_{,i}}{3H^2}$$

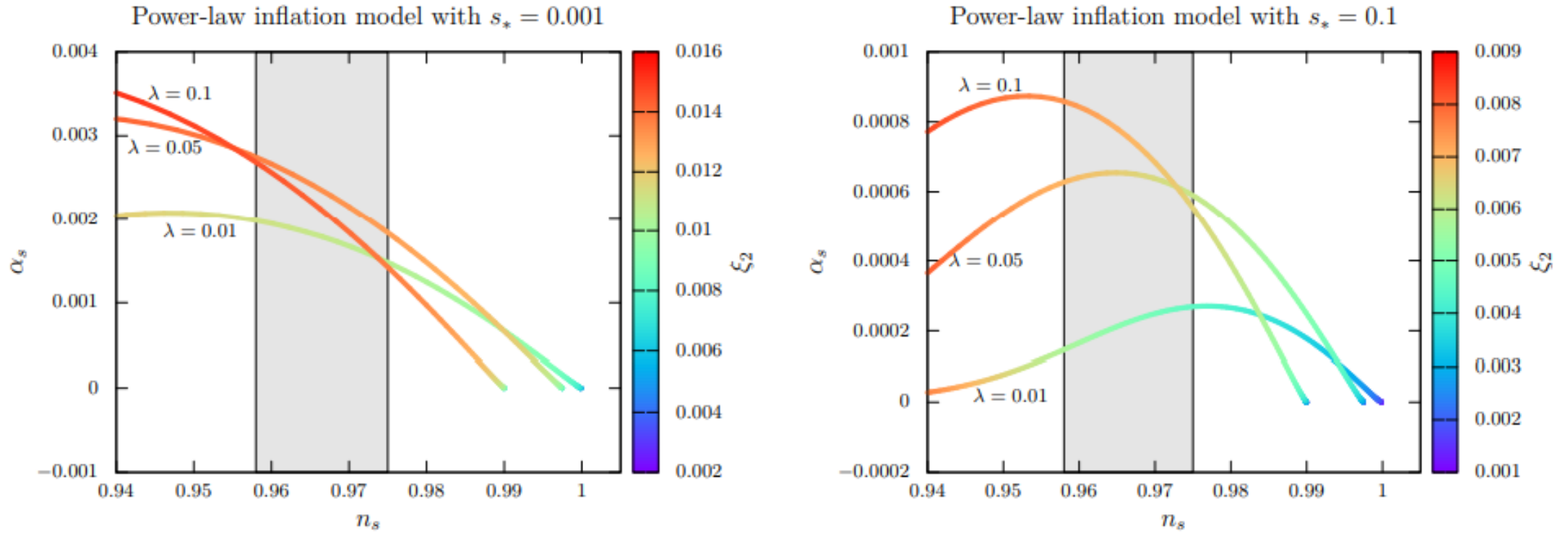
Constraints : $0.001 \leq \alpha_s \leq 0.025$ (Planck TT+lowE+lensing, 1σ bound)
 $-0.008 \leq \alpha_s \leq 0.012$ (Planck TT,TE,EE+lowE+lensing, 1σ bound)

Backup : Running of Scalar Spectral Index



Constraints : $0.001 \leq \alpha_s \leq 0.025$ (Planck TT+lowE+lensing, 1σ bound)
 $-0.008 \leq \alpha_s \leq 0.012$ (Planck TT,TE,EE+lowE+lensing, 1σ bound)

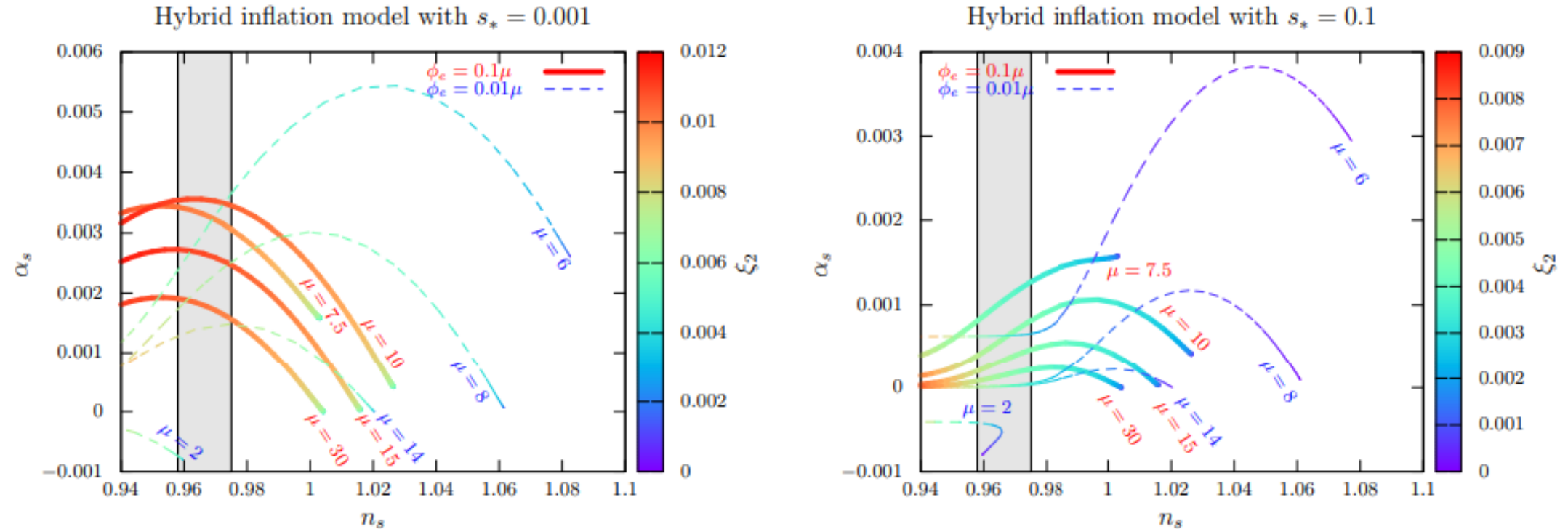
Backup : Running of Scalar Spectral Index



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Backup : Running of Scalar Spectral Index



Constraints :

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Backup : Field Trajectories

