Revising Schwinger pair production in a constant Electric field in de-Sitter Theoretical Cosmology Working Group Meeting- Stockholm

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Ongoing work with M. Bastero Gil, P. B. Ferraz, L. Ubaldi, R. Vega Morales

Soon on 2412.XXXXX

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Spontaneous particle creation

- The Schwinger effect has for long time been known Fritz, Sauter (1931); W. Heisenberg, H. Euler (1936); J. Schwinger (1951)
 - Pairs of charged particles and anti-particle created by background \vec{E}
 - Strong Electric fields are required
 - Effects are exponentially suppressed by the mass



• It can happen for constant \vec{E} , but requires time dependent vector potential \vec{A}

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Spontaneous particle creation

• A similar effect can happen in Curved backgrounds

L. Parker (1966); S. W. Hawking (1975)

- Particle production from vacuum under time dependent gravitational field
- Effects are already important in cosmology
 - LSS might be seeded by accelerated expansion during inflation

Cosmological Schwinger effect, J. Martin 0704.3540



Sloan Digital Sky Survey, in Saraswati supercluster. Credit: IUCAA

- Besides cosmic structure, **magnetic fields** observed in the Universe might also have a cosmological origin
 - Proper conditions for **pair production** might have existed during inflation
- Exact setting to combine the two examples for particle production

- Besides cosmic structure, **magnetic fields** observed in the Universe might also have a cosmological origin
 - Proper conditions for **pair production** might have existed during inflation
- Exact setting to combine the two examples for particle production
- Concrete applications for:
 - Inflationary Magnetogenesis
 - Generate the **observed magnetic fields** present in voids our Universe
 - Generation of Dark Sectors
 - Candidates for non-thermal dark matter

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During inflation (Φ), in practice, this could be realized with

$$\begin{split} S &= -\int d^4 x \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \Phi \partial^\mu \Phi + V(\Phi) + \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{\alpha}{4f} \Phi F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} + \mathcal{L}_{ch}(\chi, A_\nu) \right], \\ \ddot{A}_{\pm} &+ (H + \sigma) \dot{A} \pm + \left(\frac{k^2}{a^2} \mp \frac{\alpha}{f} \dot{\Phi} \frac{k}{a} \right) A_{\pm} = 0 \\ \dot{\rho}_{\chi} &+ 4H \rho_{\chi} = \sigma \langle E^2 \rangle \qquad \qquad \sigma = \frac{J_{\chi}}{E} \end{split}$$

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• No analytical solutions, difficult to test if (renormalization) results make sense

Forget about inflation

- Fix a de-Sitter background
- Constant electric field \vec{E} (along z direction)

Scalar QED in de-Sitter

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left\{ -g^{\mu\nu} \left(\partial_\mu - ieA_\mu \right) \phi^* \left(\partial_\nu + ieA_\nu \right) \phi - \left(m_\phi^2 + \xi R \right) \phi^* \phi - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \right\},$$

• Set a constant a electric field

$$m{A}_{\mu}=rac{m{E}}{m{H}^{2} au}\delta_{\mu}^{z}, \qquad m{F}_{\mu
u}m{F}^{\mu
u}=-2m{E}^{2}$$

• After canonically normalizing the scalar field ϕ e.o.m. for $q \equiv a\phi$

$$q_k''+\omega_k^2 q_k=0,$$

• Analytical solution with Whittaker functions

$$q_k = rac{\mathrm{e}^{-\pi\lambda r/2}}{\sqrt{2k}} W_{i\lambda r,\mu}(2ik au)$$

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Scalar QED in de-Sitter

• *A*_{*ν*} e.o.m.

$$abla^{
u} \mathcal{F}_{\mu
u} = J^{\phi}_{\mu} \quad ext{with} \quad J^{\phi}_{\mu} = rac{ie}{2} \left\{ \phi^{\dagger} \left(\partial_{\mu} + ieA_{\mu} \right) \phi - \phi \left(\partial_{\mu} - ieA_{\mu} \right) \phi^{\dagger}
ight\} + ext{ h.c. }.$$

• **Divergent expectation value**. With a cut off momentum ζ

$$\left\langle J_{z}^{\phi}\right\rangle = aH\frac{e^{2}E}{4\pi^{2}}\lim_{\zeta\to\infty} \left[\frac{2}{3}\left(\frac{\zeta}{aH}\right)^{2} + \frac{1}{3}\ln\frac{2\zeta}{aH} - \frac{25}{36} + \frac{\mu^{2}}{3} + \frac{\lambda^{2}}{15} + F_{\phi}(\lambda,\mu)\right].$$

$$\lambda = \frac{\theta E}{H^2}, \qquad \mu^2 = \frac{9}{4} - \frac{m_{\xi}}{H^2} - \lambda^2 \quad \text{and} \quad m_{\xi}^2 = m_{\phi}^2 + 12\,\xi H^2,$$

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Image: A matrix

Scalar QED in de-Sitter

• The **renormalized** current has been found, with different prescriptions, to be

$$\langle J_z \rangle_{\rm ren} = aH \frac{e^2 E}{4\pi^2} \left[\frac{1}{6} \ln \frac{m_{\xi}^2}{H^2} - \frac{2\lambda^2}{15} + F_{\phi}(\lambda, \mu) \right].$$

 $\lambda = \frac{eE}{H^2}, \qquad \mu^2 = \frac{9}{4} - \frac{m_{\xi}^2}{H^2} - \lambda^2 \quad \text{and} \quad m_{\xi}^2 = m_{\phi}^2 + 12\,\xi H^2.$

- Adiabatic Subtraction (AS)
- Point Splitting (PS)
- Pauli Villars (PV)
- Similar expressions for **fermions**
 - Adiabatic Subtraction

T. Kobayashi, N. Afshordi 2014

T. Hayashinaka, J. Yokoyama 2016

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M. Banyeres, G. Domenèch, J. Garriga 2018

T. Hayashinaka, T. Fujita, J. Yokoyama 2016

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State of the art



- Schwinger effect with **classical** \vec{E}
 - A_{μ} not quantized
 - Only charged particles (ϕ/ψ) are quantized
 - No photon loops $\rightarrow \phi/\psi$ propagator not corrected at loop level
 - No running for ϕ/ψ and $m_{\phi/\psi}$
 - Running of *e* charge \iff A_{μ} (from Ward Identity)

- Schwinger effect with **classical** \vec{E}
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 - No running for ϕ/ψ and $m_{\phi/\psi}$
 - Running of *e* charge \iff A_{μ} (from Ward Identity)
 - Need to introduce only one counter-term in Lagrangian

$${\cal L} = - {1 \over 4} ({\it F}_{\mu
u})^2 - {1 \over 4} \delta_3 ({\it F}_{\mu
u})^2 - e {\it A}_\mu {\it J}^\mu + ... ~,$$

And the corrected equations of motion will be

$$(\delta_3 + 1) \nabla^{
u} F_{\mu
u} = \langle J_{\mu} \rangle.$$

• For a constant electric field in de-Sitter the left hand side gives,

$$(\delta_3+1)\nabla^{\nu}F_{\mu\nu}=(\delta_3+1)(-2aHE\delta_{\nu}^z).$$

• From this we define the **renormalized current**

$$abla^{
u} F_{\mu
u} = \langle J_{\mu}
angle_{ ext{ren}} \ \langle J_{\mu}
angle_{ ext{ren}} = \langle J_{\mu}
angle - (-2aHE\delta^{z}_{
u})\delta_{3} \ .$$

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$$\nabla^{\nu} F_{\mu\nu} = \langle J_{\mu} \rangle_{\text{ren}} \langle J_{\mu} \rangle_{\text{ren}} = \langle J_{\mu} \rangle - (-2aHE\delta_{\nu}^{z})\delta_{3} \,.$$

To get physical renormalized current we want on-shell counter-term! not MS

$$\Pi(p^2 = m_A^2) = 0 \ o \ \delta_3 = -e^2 \Pi_2(m_A^2)$$

• With classical A_{μ} , Π_2 fully defined by



• Standard literature result is obtained with by treating Π_2 as in Minkowski

$$\delta_3 = -e^2 \Pi_2 (p^2 = 0) \ o \ \delta_3^{PV} = - rac{e^2}{48 \pi^2} \ln rac{\Lambda^2}{m^2}$$

- This results in $\ln m/H$ term that creates **negative conductivies** when $m \ll H$
- But does this condition actually hold for our setting?

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- This results in $\ln m/H$ term that creates **negative conductivies** when $m \ll H$
- But does this condition actually hold for our setting?

$$S = -\int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \, rac{1}{4} F^{\mu
u} F_{\mu
u} \ o \ g^{lpha
u} g^{eta\sigma}
abla_{lpha} F_{
u\sigma} = 0 \, .$$

Taking $A_{\mu} = \frac{E}{H^2 \tau} \delta_{\mu}^z$, in e.o.m. we find

$$g^{lpha
u}g^{eta\sigma}
abla_{lpha}F_{
u\sigma}=-2a^{-4}rac{E}{ au^{3}H^{2}}\delta_{i}^{z}
eq 0$$

• Just a kinetic term is not compatible with constant \vec{E} in de-Sitter

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Introduce an effective mass in Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{S}=-\int d^4x\sqrt{-g}\,\left(rac{1}{4}\mathcal{F}^{\mu
u}\mathcal{F}_{\mu
u}+rac{1}{2}m_A^2\mathcal{A}_\mu\mathcal{A}^\mu
ight)\,.$$

e.o.m. gives

$$-a^{-4}2\frac{E}{\tau^{3}H^{2}}\delta_{i}^{z}-m_{A}^{2}a^{-2}\frac{E}{\tau H^{2}}\delta_{i}^{z}=0 \quad \rightarrow \quad m_{A}^{2}=-2H^{2}.$$

- Get effective tachyonic mass
- Interpreted as effective source that ensures that \vec{E} is not diluted with expansion
- Consistency with constant electric field background implies

$$\Pi(p^2 = m_A^2) = 0 \ \rightarrow \ \delta_3 = -e^2 \Pi_2(p^2 = -2H^2)$$

Computing δ_3 as in Minkowski with the external momentum fixed by $p^2 = m_A^2 = -2H^2$



- Corrected $\ln m/H$ factor \rightarrow Currents in the massless limit become **finite**
- But for fermions and conformal scalars ($\xi = 1/6$), when $eE \ll H^2$ they are negative

Computing δ_3 as in Minkowski with the external momentum fixed by $p^2 = m_A^2 = -2H^2$



- Corrected $\ln m/H$ factor \rightarrow Currents in the massless limit become **finite**
- But for fermions and conformal scalars ($\xi = 1/6$), when $eE \ll H^2$ they are negative
- Most likely Minkowski treatment of propagators in the loop is not accurate
- It does not capture correctly IR effects
- We try an approximation as exact de-Sitter does not seem doable (to us)

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Correction to propagator: scalar fields

• In QFT, for any spin s, dispersion relations come from the Klein-Gordon equation

$$(\Box + m^2)\phi_s = 0 \implies \omega_p^2 = |\mathbf{p}|^2 + m^2,$$

• In de-Sitter ($R = 12H^2$), and for a scalar field

$$(\Box+m^2+\xi R)\phi=(\Box+m^2_\xi)\phi=0,$$

• In a FLRW background

$$\ddot{\phi} + rac{
abla^2}{a^2}\phi + 3H\dot{\phi} + m_{\xi}^2\phi = 0,$$

• We neglect the friction term while keeping the constant ξR contribution to the mass

 \Box is taken to flat space limit and

$$\langle 0|T\{\phi(0)ar{\phi}(x)\}|0
angle = \int rac{d^4p}{(2\pi)^4} rac{1}{p^2 - m_\xi^2 + iarepsilon} e^{ipx}.$$

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Correction to propagator: What about fermions?

From the Dirac equation

$$(i\underline{\gamma}^{\mu}
abla_{\mu}+m_{f})(i\underline{\gamma}^{\mu}
abla_{\mu}-m_{f})\psi=0$$

 $\left(\Box+m_{f}^{2}+rac{1}{4}R
ight)\psi=\left(\Box+ar{m}_{f}^{2}
ight)\psi=0$

- Take same approximation by treating the kinematics as in Minkowski $\Box \simeq \partial^2$,
- Keep correction to the mass $ar{m}_f^2 = m_f^2 + 3 H^2$

$$\langle 0|T\{\psi(0)ar{\psi}(x)\}|0
angle = \int rac{d^4p}{(2\pi)^4}rac{i(p\!\!\!/+ar{m}_f)}{p^2-ar{m}_f^2+iarepsilon}e^{ipx}.$$

Finally δ_3

Taking the previously stated modifications :

- Vector field external momentum fixed to ensure constant electric field in de-Sitter
- R corrected masses to improve IR behavior

We calculate δ_3 and regularize divergent diagrams



• We have used Pauli-Villars regularization to regularize both δ_3 and $\langle J_{\mu}
angle$

Renormalized currents with PV

• Introduce non-dynamical auxiliary fields to cancel divergences

For the **regularized** current we need 3 extra fields

$$\langle J_z \rangle_{\mathrm{reg}} = \lim_{\Lambda \to \infty} \sum_{i=0}^3 (-1)^i \langle J_z \rangle_i = aH \frac{e^2 E}{4\pi^2} \lim_{\Lambda \to \infty} \left[\frac{1}{6} \ln \frac{\Lambda^2}{H^2} - \frac{2\lambda^2}{15} + F_{\phi}(\lambda, \mu, r) \right].$$

• $\ln \Lambda / H$ divergence to be reabsorbed with renormalization of the charge

$$\langle J_{\mu}
angle_{\it reg} = (\delta_3 + 1)\,
abla^
u {\it F}_{\mu
u}$$

$$abla^{
u} \mathcal{F}_{\mu
u} = \langle J_{\mu}
angle_{ren} = \langle J_{\mu}
angle_{reg}^{PV} - (-2aHE\delta_{
u}^{\ z})\delta_3^{PV}$$

Renormalized currents with PV

With

$$\delta_{3} = \left(\frac{e}{12\pi}\right)^{2} \left(3\ln\left(\frac{m^{2}}{\Lambda^{2}}\right) - 12\left(\frac{m}{H}\right)^{2} + 6\left(2\left(\frac{m}{H}\right)^{2} + 1\right)^{3/2} \operatorname{coth}^{-1}\left(\sqrt{2\left(\frac{m}{H}\right)^{2} + 1}\right) - 8\right)$$

• We find the **renormalized** current to be

$$\left\langle J_{z}^{\phi} \right\rangle_{\rm ren}^{PV} = aH \frac{e^{2}E}{4\pi^{2}} \left[\frac{1}{3} \ln \frac{m}{H} - \frac{4}{9} - \frac{2}{3} \left(\frac{m}{H} \right)^{2} - \frac{2\lambda^{2}}{15} + \frac{\left(1 + 2\left(\frac{m}{H} \right)^{2} \right)^{3/2}}{3} \coth^{-1} \left(\sqrt{2\left(\frac{m}{H} \right)^{2} + 1} \right) + F_{\phi} \right]$$

• As we will see, log m/H will "cancel out" when m o 0 and $\left< J_Z^\phi \right>_{
m ren}$ is always positive

Renormalized Conductivities (PV) Fermions vs Scalars



- Removed the infrared divergences (In m/H) that lead to negative conductivities
- Corrected negative conductivities

Renormalized Conductivities (PV) Fermions vs Scalars



- Removed the infrared divergences (In m/H) that lead to negative conductivities
- Corrected conformal conductivities

Conclusion & Outlook

- We have revised Schwinger pair production for constant E in de-Sitter
- We were able to address and clarify literature's negative conductivities in H > m case
 - Unphysical result comes from wrong physical conditions
 - Minkowski propagators are inadequate for IR behavior

- Next steps
 - Submit paper
 - Application for the generation of Dark Sectors during inflation
 - Study Gravitational wave spectrum in Dark matter compatible scenarios

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Renormalizing currents with AS

• The subtraction is done **mode by mode** removing the expectation evaluated in the adiabatic approx

WKB expansion
$$q_{k}(\tau) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2W_{k}(\tau)}} \exp\left\{-i\int^{\tau} d\tilde{\tau} W_{k}(\tilde{\tau})\right\}$$

- Running / Physical Scale AS with an arbitrary adiabatic expansion scale \bar{m} A. Ferreiro, S. Monin, J. Navarro Salas, F. Torrenti 2018, 2022, 2023
- Value of \bar{m} has to be set to obtain the **appropriate adiabatic vacuum** evolution

$$\left\langle J_{z}^{\phi}\right\rangle_{\mathrm{reg}}^{AS} = \left\langle J_{z}^{\phi}\right\rangle - \left\langle J_{z}^{\phi}\right\rangle^{(2)} = aH\frac{e^{2}E}{4\pi^{2}}\left[\frac{1}{3}\ln\frac{\bar{m}}{H} - \frac{2\lambda^{2}}{15} + F_{\phi}(\lambda,\mu,r)\right]$$

• If m > H $\bar{m} = m$; • If m < H $\bar{m} = H$

- Applying DR, in the Whitaker function we have a scaleless argument and integral gives zero
- Expanding the argument for a large energy-like quantity,

$$e_k = \sqrt{k^2 + a^2 x^2}$$

Isolates the divergent pieces and introduce an artificial IR regulator.

A. V. Lysenko, O. O. Sobol, E. V. Gorbar, A. I. Momot, and S. I. Vilchinskii 2020, 2023

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• We just **regularize the asymptotic piece** $\left\langle J_{z}^{\phi}
ight
angle ^{e_{k}}$ with DR

Renormalizing currents with DR

• We obtain a different regularization (minimal ?)

$$\left\langle J_{z}^{\phi} \right\rangle_{\mathrm{reg}}^{DR} = \left\langle J_{z}^{\phi} \right\rangle - \left\langle J_{z}^{\phi} \right\rangle^{e_{k}} + \left\langle J_{z}^{\phi} \right\rangle_{reg}^{e_{k}}$$

$$\left\langle J_{z}^{\phi} \right\rangle_{\text{ren}}^{DR} = \left\langle J_{z}^{\phi} \right\rangle_{\text{reg}}^{DR} - \left(-2aHE\delta_{\nu}^{z}\right)\delta_{3}^{DR}$$

$$= aH\frac{e^{2}E}{4\pi^{2}} \left[\frac{1}{3} \ln \frac{2m}{H} - \frac{7}{18} - \left(\frac{m}{H}\right)^{2} - \frac{4\lambda^{2}}{15} + \frac{\left(1 + 2\left(\frac{m}{H}\right)^{2}\right)^{3/2}}{3} \operatorname{coth}^{-1}\left(\sqrt{2\left(\frac{m}{H}\right)^{2} + 1}\right) + F_{\phi} \right]$$

Renormalized Conductivities PV vs AS

• Successfully removed the infrared divergences (In m/H) that lead to negative conductivities



Renormalized Conductivities PV vs DR

• Successfully **removed the infrared divergences** ($\ln m/H$) that lead to negative conductivities



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Conclusion & Outlook

- We have revised PV, AS and DR renormalization in the literature
- We were able to address and clarify literature's negative conductivities in H > m case
 - Unphysical result comes from wrong physical conditions
 - Minkowski propagators are inadequate for IR behavior
- With both PV and AS we have always recovered physically sensible results
 - Currents show small deviations
 - In PV we seem to have a better knowledge on the physical system.
 - With the the physical scale AS criteria to determine the scale \bar{m} seems more unsatisfactory.

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Next steps

- Submit paper
- Apply this into generation of Dark Sectors during inflation
- Check Gravitational wave spectrum in Dark matter compatible scenarios

Backup

Revising PV

- An arbitrary number of additional auxiliary fields are introduced to cancel divergences
- The mass of these extra fields will then be sent to infinity, making them non-dynamical

Introduce **3** fields
$$\sum_{i=0}^{3} (-1)^{i} = 0$$
 and $\sum_{i=0}^{3} (-1)^{i} m_{i}^{2} = 0$,
 $m_{0} = m$, $m_{2}^{2} = 4\Lambda^{2} - m^{2}$ and $m_{1}^{2} = m_{3}^{2} = 2\Lambda^{2}$, $\Lambda \to \infty$

The **regularized** current
$$\langle J_z \rangle_{\text{reg}} = \lim_{\Lambda \to \infty} \sum_{i=0}^3 (-1)^i \langle J_z \rangle_i.$$

 $\left\langle J_z^{\phi} \right\rangle_{\text{reg}} = aH \frac{e^2 E}{4\pi^2} \lim_{\Lambda \to \infty} \left[\frac{1}{6} \ln \frac{\Lambda^2}{H^2} - \frac{2\lambda^2}{15} + F_{\phi}(\lambda, \mu, r) \right]$

• In Λ/H divergence to be reabsorbed with renormalization of the charge

$$(\delta_3 + 1) \nabla^{\nu} F_{\mu\nu} = \langle J_{\mu} \rangle_{reg}$$

 $\langle J_{\mu} \rangle_{ren} = \nabla^{\nu} F_{\mu\nu} = \langle J_{\mu} \rangle_{reg} - (-2aHE\delta_{\nu}^{\ z})\delta_3$

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Revising AS

- In a **time-dependent background** the **vacuum** of the theory is generally **evolving** making the concept of "vacuum contribution" ambiguous
- The subtraction is done **mode by mode** removing the expectation evaluated in the adiabatic approx

WKB expansion
$$q_{k}(\tau) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2W_{k}(\tau)}} \exp\left\{-i\int^{\tau} d\tilde{\tau} W_{k}(\tilde{\tau})\right\}$$
$$\left\langle J_{z}^{\phi} \right\rangle = -\frac{2e}{(2\pi)^{3}a^{2}} \int d^{3}k \left(k_{z} + eA_{z}\right) \frac{1}{2W_{k}}$$

Inserting the mode function *q* in the e.o.m.

$$W_k^2 = \omega_k^2 + \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{W'_k}{W_k}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{W''_k}{W_k}$$

Expanded at the n^{th} order

$$W_{k} = W_{k}^{(0)} + W_{k}^{(1)} + W_{k}^{(2)} + \dots$$

Running / Physical Scale AS

• Take $\Omega_k^{\bar{m}}$ with **arbitrary adiabatic expansion scale** \bar{m} (opposed to automatically set $\bar{m} = m$) A. Ferreiro, S. Monin, J. Navarro Salas, F. Torrenti 2018, 2022, 2023

$$\Omega_{k}^{\bar{m}^{2}} = (k_{z} + eA_{z})^{2} + k_{x}^{2} + k_{y}^{2} + a^{2}\bar{m}^{2} = \omega_{k}^{2} + a^{2}(\bar{m}^{2} - m^{2}) + \frac{a''}{a}$$

And set $W_{k}^{2}{}^{(0)} = \Omega_{k}^{\bar{m}^{2}}$

Find second order W_k^2 with e.o.m.

$$W_{k}^{2\,(2)} = \Omega_{k}^{\bar{m}^{2}} - a^{2}(\bar{m}^{2} - m^{2}) - \frac{a''}{a} + \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{\Omega_{k}^{\bar{m}'}}{\Omega_{k}^{\bar{m}}}\right)^{2} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Omega_{k}^{\bar{m}''}}{\Omega_{k}^{\bar{m}}}$$

$$\left\langle J_{z}^{\phi}\right\rangle^{(2)} = \lim_{\zeta \to \infty} \frac{eaH^{3}}{(2\pi)^{2}} \left[\frac{2\lambda}{3} \left(\frac{\zeta}{aH} \right)^{2} - \frac{2\lambda^{3}}{15} - \frac{\lambda}{3} \left(\frac{m}{H} \right)^{2} + \frac{\lambda}{3} \ln\left(\frac{2\zeta}{a\bar{m}} \right) + \frac{\lambda}{18} \right]$$

And the renormalized current is given by

$$\left\langle J_{z}^{\phi}\right\rangle_{\rm ren}^{AS} = \left\langle J_{z}^{\phi}\right\rangle - \left\langle J_{z}^{\phi}\right\rangle^{(2)} = aH\frac{e^{2}E}{4\pi^{2}} \left[\frac{1}{3}\ln\frac{\bar{m}}{H} - \frac{2\lambda^{2}}{15} + F_{\phi}(\lambda,\mu,r)\right]$$
(Similar to Banyeres et al)

• Value of \bar{m} has to be set to obtain the **appropriate adiabatic vacuum** evolution