

Cosmology in the Presence of Unparticles

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- Unparticles
- The equation of state - hand-waving arguments
- Freeze-out and thaw-in
- BBN constraints
- Summary

Based on a work being done with J. Wudka.

Unparticles

H. Georgi, PRL **98**, 221601 (2007)

$$\underbrace{\text{SM} \quad \otimes \quad \text{CFT}(\mathcal{BZ})}$$



$$\frac{\mathcal{O}_{\text{SM}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{BZ}}}{M_{\mathcal{U}}^k}$$

$\mathcal{BZ} : SU(3), \quad n_f \text{ fermions, IR fixed point for } 8 \lesssim n_f \lesssim 16$



Dimensional transmutation in the BZ sector – unparticles emerge for $\mu \lesssim \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}$



$$c_{\mathcal{U}} \frac{\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}^{d_{\mathcal{BZ}} - d_{\mathcal{U}}}}{M_{\mathcal{U}}^k} \mathcal{O}_{\text{SM}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}} \quad \text{for} \quad k = d_{\text{SM}} + d_{\mathcal{BZ}} - 4, \quad \text{scale invariance} \rightarrow \text{unparticles}$$

$$\langle 0 | \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}}(x) \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}}(0) | 0 \rangle = \int \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-ipx} \rho_{\mathcal{U}}(p^2)$$

- Scaling:

$$\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}}(x) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}'_{\mathcal{U}}(x') = s^{-d_{\mathcal{U}}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}}(x) \quad \text{for} \quad x \rightarrow x' = sx$$

- The spectral density:

$$\rho_{\mathcal{U}}(p^2) = \int d^4 x e^{ipx} \langle 0 | \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}}(x) \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}}(0) | 0 \rangle \quad \Rightarrow \quad \rho_{\mathcal{U}}(p^2) = A_{d_{\mathcal{U}}} \theta(p^0) \theta(p^2) (p^2)^{d_{\mathcal{U}}-2}$$

- The phase space:

$$d\Phi_{\mathcal{U}}(p_{\mathcal{U}}) = A_{d_{\mathcal{U}}} \theta(p^0) \theta(p_{\mathcal{U}}^2) (p_{\mathcal{U}}^2)^{d_{\mathcal{U}}-2} \frac{d^4 p_{\mathcal{U}}}{(2\pi)^4} \quad \text{with} \quad A_{d_{\mathcal{U}}} = \frac{16\pi^{5/2}}{(2\pi)^{2d_{\mathcal{U}}}} \frac{\Gamma(d_{\mathcal{U}} + \frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(d_{\mathcal{U}} - 1) \Gamma(2d_{\mathcal{U}})}$$

- Unparticles behave as a collection of $d_{\mathcal{U}}$ massless particles $\Rightarrow$ continuous spectrum in $t \rightarrow u \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}}$.

The equation of state - hand-waving arguments

The trace anomaly of the energy momentum tensor for a gauge theory with massless fermions:

$$\theta_{\mu}^{\mu} = \frac{\beta}{2g} N [F_a^{\mu\nu} F_{a\mu\nu}] \quad (1)$$

where β denotes the beta function and N stands for the normal product.

Non-trivial IR fixed point at $g = g_{\star}$, so in the IR we assume

$$\beta = \gamma(g - g_{\star}), \quad \gamma > 0$$

in which case the running coupling reads

$$g(\mu) = g_{\star} + c\mu^{\gamma}; \quad \beta[g(\mu)] = \gamma c\mu^{\gamma}$$

where c is an integration constant and μ is the renormalization scale.

From the thermal average of (1) choosing the renormalization scale $\mu = T$ and using $\langle \theta_{\mu}^{\mu} \rangle = \rho_{\mathcal{U}} - 3p_{\mathcal{U}}$, we get

$$\rho_{\mathcal{U}} - 3p_{\mathcal{U}} = \frac{\beta}{2g_{\star}} \langle N [F_a^{\mu\nu} F_{a\mu\nu}] \rangle = AT^{4+\gamma}$$

$$\rho_{\mathcal{U}} - 3p_{\mathcal{U}} = AT^{4+\gamma}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\rho_{\mathcal{U}} = \sigma T^4 + A \left(1 + \frac{3}{\gamma}\right) T^{4+\gamma} \quad \text{and} \quad p_{\mathcal{U}} = \sigma \frac{T^4}{3} + \frac{A}{\gamma} T^{4+\gamma}$$

where σ is an integration constant.

$\Downarrow$

$$p_{\mathcal{U}} = \frac{1}{3}\rho_{\mathcal{U}} \left(1 - B\rho_{\mathcal{U}}^{\gamma/4}\right) \quad \text{for} \quad B \equiv \frac{A}{\sigma^{1+\gamma/4}}$$

One can expect that $A \propto \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}^{-\gamma}$, therefore we obtain

$$\rho_{\text{NP}} = \frac{\pi^2}{30} T^4 \times \begin{cases} g_{\text{IR}} + f \left(\frac{T}{\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}}\right)^{\gamma} & \text{for } T \ll \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}} \\ g_{\mathcal{BZ}} & \text{for } T \gg \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}} \end{cases}$$

where $g_{\mathcal{BZ}} = 2(n_c^2 - 1 + \frac{7}{8}n_c n_f)$ for $SU(n_c)$ with n_f flavours in the $\mathcal{BZ}$ sector.

- From the continuity at $T = \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}$, the constant f could be determined: $f = g_{\mathcal{BZ}} - g_{\text{IR}}$.
- We will assume $g_{\mathcal{BZ}} \sim g_{\text{IR}}$.

$$\rho_{\text{NP}} = \frac{\pi^2}{30} T^4 \times \begin{cases} g_{\text{IR}} + f \left(\frac{T}{\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}} \right)^\gamma & \text{for } T \ll \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}} \\ g_{\mathcal{BZ}} & \text{for } T \gg \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}} \end{cases}$$

Deconstruction (Stephanov'07):

$$\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}} \rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} F_n \varphi_n \quad \text{with} \quad m_n^2 = \Delta^2 n$$

The above result fits the following guess for the effective number of degrees of freedom:

$$g_{\mathcal{U}}(T) \propto \frac{\int_0^{T^2} dM^2 \rho(M^2) \theta(\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}^2 - M^2)}{\int_0^{\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}^2} dM^2 \rho(M^2)}$$

where $\rho(M^2) \propto (M^2)^{(d_{\mathcal{U}}-2)}$. Then

$$g_{\mathcal{U}}(T) \propto \left(\frac{T}{\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}} \right)^{2(d_{\mathcal{U}}-1)}$$

$\implies$ In the presence of just one unparticle operator one can argue that $\gamma = 2(d_{\mathcal{U}} - 1)$.

Freeze-out and thaw-in

- ♣ *Brief history of the Universe in the presence of unparticles (no mass-gap).*
- $T \gg M_{\mathcal{U}}$: the $\mathcal{BZ}$ sector in form of massless particles (no unparticles yet), thermal equilibrium with the SM is maintained (assumption), so $T = T_{\mathcal{BZ}} = T_{\text{SM}}$
- $T \lesssim M_{\mathcal{U}}$:
 - The $\mathcal{BZ}$ sector starts to decouple, as the average energy is no longer sufficient to create mediators.
 - However, the thermal equilibrium may still be maintained ($T = T_{\mathcal{BZ}} = T_{\text{SM}}$) depending on the strength of effective couplings between the SM and the extra sector (which at higher temperature, $T \gtrsim \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}$, is made of the $\mathcal{BZ}$ matter, while below $\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}$ of unparticles).

Let's denote by T_f the decoupling temperature at which

$$\Gamma(SM \leftrightarrow NP) \simeq H$$

where H is the Hubble parameter

$$H^2 = \frac{8\pi}{3M_{Pl}^2} \rho_{\text{tot}}(T) \quad \text{for} \quad \rho_{\text{tot}} = \rho_{\text{SM}} + \rho_{\text{NP}}$$

There are 2 interesting cases:

- $M_{\mathcal{U}} > T_f > \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}$:
 - T_f is determined by the condition

$$\Gamma(SM \leftrightarrow \mathcal{BZ}) \simeq H$$

- For $T > T_f$ the SM and the $\mathcal{BZ}$ sectors evolve in thermal equilibrium, but even for $T < T_f$ their temperatures remain equal ($T = T_{\mathcal{BZ}} = T_{\text{SM}}$) since $\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}} > v$.

- $\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}} > T_f$:
 - Till $T = \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}$ the SM and unparticles still have the same temperature.
 - For $\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}} \gtrsim T \gtrsim T_f$ still the equilibrium is maintained (assumption, in general this depends on $d_{\mathcal{U}}$). The decoupling temperature T_f must be now determined by

$$\Gamma(SM \leftrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}}) \simeq H$$

- Till $T \sim v$ temperatures of SM and unparticles remain equal, at $T \sim v$ they split.

$\implies$ The unparticle cosmic background should be there.

♣ *The Banks-Zaks phase.*

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{BZ}} = \frac{1}{M_{\mathcal{U}}} (\phi^\dagger \phi) (\bar{q}_{\mathcal{BZ}} q_{\mathcal{BZ}})$$

Then

$$\Gamma_{\mathcal{BZ}} \propto \frac{T^3}{M_{\mathcal{U}}^2} \quad \text{and} \quad H \propto \frac{T^2}{M_{Pl}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{decoupling for} \quad T \lesssim T_{f-\mathcal{BZ}}$$

♣ *The unparticle phase.*

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{U}} = c_{\mathcal{U}} \frac{\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}^{d_{\mathcal{BZ}} - d_{\mathcal{U}}}}{M_{\mathcal{U}}^k} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}} \mathcal{O}_{\text{SM}} \quad \text{for} \quad k = d_{\text{SM}} + d_{\mathcal{BZ}} - 4$$

The most relevant operators for scalar unparticles are

$$\mathcal{L}_s = c_{\mathcal{U}}^{(s)} \frac{\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}^{1-d_{\mathcal{U}}}}{M_{\mathcal{U}}} (\phi^\dagger \phi) \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}}, \quad \mathcal{L}_f = c_{\mathcal{U}}^{(f)} \frac{\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}^{3-d_{\mathcal{U}}}}{M_{\mathcal{U}}^3} (\bar{\ell} \phi e) \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}}, \quad \mathcal{L}_v = c_{\mathcal{U}}^{(v)} \frac{\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}^{3-d_{\mathcal{U}}}}{M_{\mathcal{U}}^3} (B_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}) \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_s \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Gamma_{\mathcal{U}} \propto \frac{\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}^3}{M_{\mathcal{U}}^2} \left(\frac{T}{\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}} \right)^{2d_{\mathcal{U}}-3} \quad \text{and} \quad H \propto \frac{T^2}{M_{Pl}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad T_{f-\mathcal{U}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma_{\mathcal{U}}}{H} \propto T^{2d_{\mathcal{U}}-5} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{cases} d_{\mathcal{U}} > \frac{5}{2} & \text{decoupling for } T < T_{f-\mathcal{U}} & \text{freeze-out} \\ d_{\mathcal{U}} < \frac{5}{2} & \text{decoupling for } T > T_{f-\mathcal{U}} & \text{thaw-in} \end{cases}$$

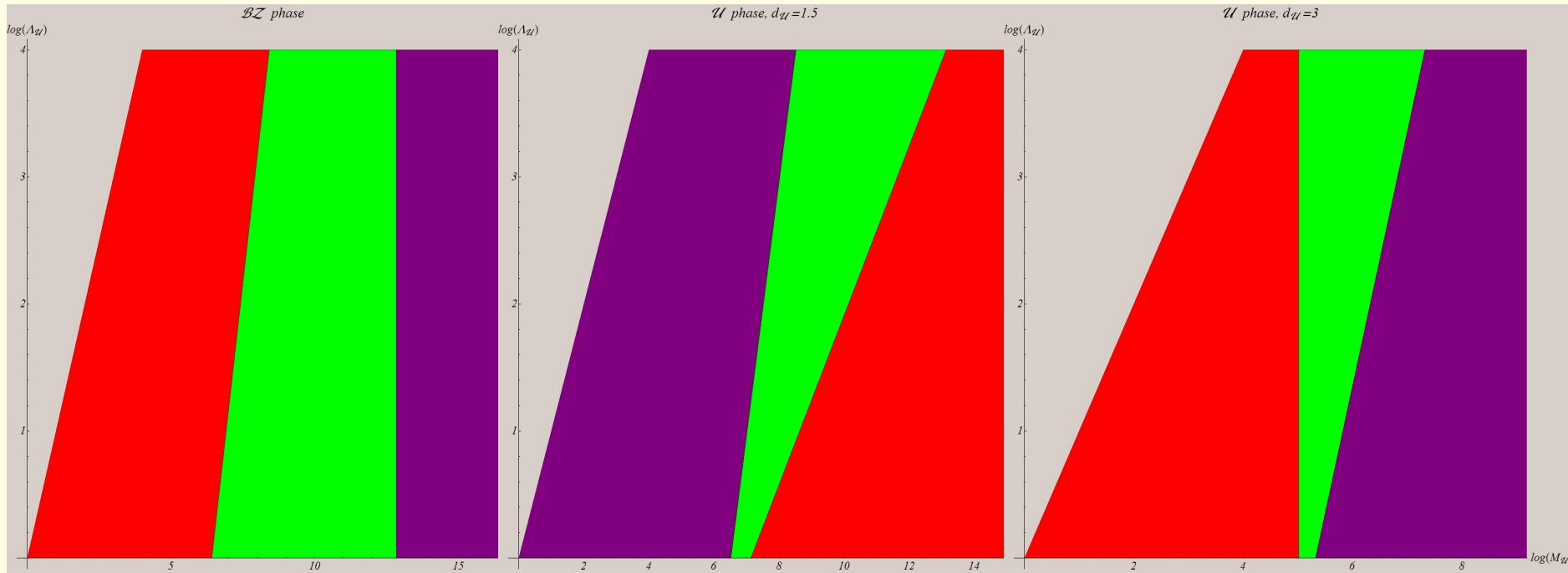


Figure 1: Regions of $(M_{\mathcal{U}}, \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}})$ for decoupling in $\mathcal{BZ}$ phase.

Figure 2: Regions of $(M_{\mathcal{U}}, \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}})$ for decoupling in $\mathcal{U}$ phase for $d_{\mathcal{U}} = \frac{3}{2}$.

Figure 3: Regions of $(M_{\mathcal{U}}, \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}})$ for decoupling in $\mathcal{U}$ phase for $d_{\mathcal{U}} = 3$.

	$\mathcal{BZ}$ - phase	$\mathcal{U}$ - phase
red	$T_{f-\mathcal{BZ}} < \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}$	$T_{f-\mathcal{U}} < v$
green	$\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}} < T_{f-\mathcal{BZ}} < M_{\mathcal{U}}$	$v < T_{f-\mathcal{U}} < \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}$
purple	$T_{f-\mathcal{BZ}} > M_{\mathcal{U}}$	$T_{f-\mathcal{U}} > \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}$

BBN constraints

$$\text{Big-Bang Nucleosynthesis} \implies \left. \frac{\Delta \rho_{\text{rad}}}{\rho_{\text{tot}}} \right|_{T=T_{\text{BBN}}} < 7\% \text{ (95\% CL)}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\left. \frac{\Delta \rho_{\mathcal{U}}}{\rho_{\text{tot}}} \right|_{T=T_{\text{BBN}}} < 7\%$$

Assume $\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}} > T_{\text{f-}\mathcal{U}} > v = 246 \text{ GeV}$.

- $d_{\mathcal{U}}^{(s)} > \frac{5}{2}$ decoupling for $T < T_{\text{f-}\mathcal{U}}$

$$\rho_{\mathcal{U}} = \frac{\pi^2}{30} g_{\text{IR}} T^4 \underbrace{\left(\frac{g_{\gamma}}{g_{\text{SM}}} \frac{g_{\nu} + g_{\gamma e}}{g_{\gamma e}} \right)^{4/3}}_{1.2 \cdot 10^{-2}} \quad \text{and} \quad \rho_{\text{SM}} = \frac{\pi^2}{30} g_{\gamma\nu} T^4$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\left. \frac{\Delta \rho_{\mathcal{U}}}{\rho_{\text{tot}}} \right|_{T=T_{\text{BBN}}} < 7\% \implies g_{\text{IR}} \lesssim 20$$

To be compared with e.g. $g_{\mathcal{BZ}} = 2(n_c^2 - 1 + \frac{7}{8}n_c n_f)$, for $n_c = 3$ and $n_f = 10$, $g_{\mathcal{BZ}} \simeq 60$.

- $d_{\mathcal{U}}^{(s)} < \frac{5}{2}$ decoupling for $T > T_{f-\mathcal{U}}$
 An operator responsible for keeping the equilibrium down (below $T \sim m_H$ where $\mathcal{L}_s$ becomes irrelevant) to T_{BBN} is needed:

$$\mathcal{L}_v = c_{\mathcal{U}}^{(v)} \frac{\Lambda^{3-d_{\mathcal{U}}}}{M_{\mathcal{U}}^3} (B_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}) \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}} \quad \text{with} \quad d_{\mathcal{U}}^{(v)} < \frac{1}{2}$$

- Note that $\mathcal{L}_v$ could be generated radiatively through $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{U}} - H$ mixing (from $\mathcal{L}_s$). Assuming the equilibrium down to the BBN temperature $T_{\text{BBN}} \sim 0.1$ MeV we obtain

$$\rho_{\mathcal{U}} = \frac{\pi^2}{30} g_{\text{IR}} T^4 \quad \text{and} \quad \rho_{\text{SM}} = \frac{\pi^2}{30} g_{\gamma\nu} T^4$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\left. \frac{\Delta\rho_{\mathcal{U}}}{\rho_{\text{tot}}} \right|_{T=T_{\text{BBN}}} < 7\% \quad \Longrightarrow \quad g_{\text{IR}} \lesssim 0.2$$

Summary

- Rough arguments for the equation of state for unparticles: $p_{\mathcal{U}} = \frac{1}{3}\rho_{\mathcal{U}} \left[1 - B\rho_{\mathcal{U}}^{\delta/4} \right]$
- Rough arguments for the energy density for unparticles "derived":

$$\rho_{\text{NP}} = \frac{\pi^2}{30} T^4 \times \begin{cases} \left[g_{\text{IR}} + (g_{\mathcal{BZ}} - g_{\text{IR}}) \left(\frac{T}{\Lambda_{\mathcal{U}}} \right)^{\delta} \right] & \text{for } T \ll \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}} \\ g_{\mathcal{BZ}} & \text{for } T \gg \Lambda_{\mathcal{U}} \end{cases}$$

- Unparticles in equilibrium: freeze-out and thaw-in.
- BNN bounds on the number of degrees of freedom for unparticles.

Things to be done:

- Formal (more) derivation of the equation of state.
- Formal (more) derivation of the Boltzmann equation.
- Cosmological consequences of the mass-gap.