Higgs, Flavor and Beyond

DESY THEORY WORKSHOP

HELMHOLTZ

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Cosmic birefringence mediated by dark U(1)

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A kinetic coupling between photon and dark photon, a massless U(1) gauge boson in the dark sector, transfers the birefringence of dark photon to the observed cosmic birefringence. Regardless of the origin of the dark birefringence, the amplitude and unique frequency-dependence of the cosmic birefringence depends on the kinetic coupling constant and the temperature of dark photon. To explain the reported tantalizing 3.6σ hint of cosmic birefringence, the dark photon temperature must exceed $0.84\$ whose contribution to $\Delta N_{\rm eff}$ might be within reach of the CMB Stage-4.

Summary

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