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国台学术报告 NAOC COLLOQUIUM

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Time: Wednesday 2:30 PM, Sep. 23 **Location: A601 NAOC**

Inflationary Cosmology: Progress and Problems

Prof. Robert Brandenberger

McGill University, Canada



Prof. Robert H. Brandenberger, (born 1956) is a theoretical cosmologist and a professor of physics at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. He completed his undergraduate degree at ETH Zurich, in Switzerland, and went on to receive his Ph.D. from Harvard University. He was a postdoctoral researcher under Stephen Hawking at Cambridge University. He also did postdoctoral work at the Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of California, Santa Barbara. Professor Brandenberger joined the faculty of Brown University in 1987

and then in 2004, he joined McGill University where he is a Canada Research Chair (Tier 1) holder. He is also an affiliate member of the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics. His research centers on topics in early universe cosmology. Robert Brandenberger developed the theory of string gas cosmology, with colleague Cumrun Vafa. This theory is an alternative to inflationary cosmology.

Abstract

The inflationary scenario has become the paradigm of early universe cosmology. It is the first model within which it has been possible to connect physics of the very early universe with current cosmological observations. I will review the inflationary scenario and discuss its successes and problems. I will also mention attempts to construct alternatives to inflation.

All are welcome! Tea, coffee, biscuits will be served at 2:15 PM.