

Princeton Center for Theoretical Science

The Princeton Center for Theoretical Science is dedicated to exploring the frontiers of theory in the natural sciences. Its purpose is to promote interaction among theorists and seed new directions in research, especially in areas cutting across traditional disciplinary boundaries.

The Center is home to a corps of Center Postdoctoral Fellows, chosen from nominations made by senior theoretical scientists around the world. A group of senior Faculty Fellows, chosen from science and engineering departments across the campus, are responsible for guiding the Center. Center activities include focused topical programs chosen from proposals by Princeton faculty across the natural sciences. The Center is located on the fourth floor of Jadwin Hall, in the heart of the campus "science neighborhood". The Center hopes to become the focus for innovation and cross-fertilization in theoretical natural science at Princeton.

Faculty Fellows:

Paul Steinhardt, Director
Igor Klebanov, Associate Director
Ravindra Bhatt
William Bialek
Curtis Callan
Roberto Car
David Spergel
Salvatore Torquato

Center Postdoctoral Fellows:

Dmitry Abanin 2008-2011
Bogdan Andrei Bernevig 2006-2009
Thomas Klose 2007-2010
Jean-Luc Lehners 2007-2010
M. Lisa Manning 2008-2011
Meera Parish 2006-2009
Matthew Reece 2008-2011
Antonello Scardicchio 2006-2009
Branson Stephens 2007-2010
Aleksandra Walczak 2007-2010

To find out more about Center Postdoctoral Fellowships and Programs see:

<http://pcts.princeton.edu/pcts>



The Big Bang and Beyond Program

Microsymposium on Branes, Strings & Inflation

October 2-8, 2008

Organizers:

Nima Arkani-Hamed (IAS), Igor Klebanov, Jean-Luc Lehners,
David Spergel, Paul Steinhardt,
Matt Strassler (Rutgers), and Herman Verlinde

Co-sponsored by The D. E. Shaw Group

Branes, Strings & Inflation Micro Symposium

Thursday, October 2, 2008
PCTS

4:00 pm **Physics Tea in Room 218, Faculty Lounge,
Jadwin Hall**

4:30 pm Joint Physics/PCTS Colloquium
Room A-10, Jadwin Hall

“String Theory and Inflationary Cosmology”
Shamit Kachru, Stanford University

Friday, October 3, 2008
PCTS

9:30 am Coffee

10:00 am Welcome

10:10 am “String Inflation: Is it Helping?”
Cliff Burgess, McMaster, Perimeter Institute

11:30 am “Monodromy and the CMB”
Eva Silverstein, Stanford University

12:50 – 2:15 pm **Lunch**

2:15 pm “Reheating after string theory inflation”
Lev Kofman, Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics

3:35 pm “Observational tests of brane inflation”
Rachel Bean, Cornell University

5:00 pm **Light Supper**

Branes, Strings & Inflation Micro Symposium

Group Meetings
(Tentative Schedule)

Monday, October 6, 2008
2:00 – 4:00 pm
PCTS

2:00 “Holographic Systematics of D-brane Inflation”
Liam McAllister (Cornell)

2:30 Discussion: Cosmologist’s vs. String Theorist’s Views of Inflation
Juan Maldacena (IAS), **V. (Slava) Mukhanov** (*Munich*)

Wednesday, October 8, 2008
12:30 – 3:00 pm
PCTS

12:30 **Lunch**
12:45 **Talks including**

“Topology from Cosmology”
Vijay Balasubramanian, University of Pennsylvania

“Scale-dependent Non-gaussianity”
Sarah Shandera, Columbia University

“Inflation, Dark Energy and Extra Dimensions”
Paul Steinhardt, Princeton University

Check <http://pcts.princeton.edu/pcts/calendar.html>
for program updates and other Center activities

