

Abstract Submitted  
for the APR08 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

**Primordial Non-Gaussianity (fNL) in WMAP data** AMIT YADAV, BENJAMIN WANDEL, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign — We present evidence for the detection of primordial non-Gaussianity of the local type ( $f_{NL}$ ), using the temperature information of the Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) from the WMAP 3-year data. We employ the bispectrum estimator of non-Gaussianity described in Yadav et al. 2007 which allows us to analyze the entirety of the WMAP data without an arbitrary cut-off in angular scale. Using the combined information from WMAP's two main science channels up to  $\ell_{max} = 750$  and the conservative Kp0 foreground mask we find  $26.9 < \mathbf{f}_{NL} < \mathbf{146.7}$  at 95% C.L., with a central value of  $f_{NL} = 86.8$ . This corresponds to a rejection of  $f_{NL} = 0$  at more than 99.5% significance. We find that this detection is robust to variations in  $\ell_{max}$ , frequency and masks. We conclude that the WMAP 3-year data disfavors single field slow-roll inflation.

Amit Yadav  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Date submitted: 11 Jan 2008

Electronic form version 1.4