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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

### Inflation and Quantum Gravity in a Born-Oppenheimer Context

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#### Abstract

A general equation, describing the lowest order corrections coming from quantum gravitational effects to the spectrum of cosmological scalar fluctuations is obtained. These corrections are explicitly estimated for the case of a de Sitter evolution.

*Keywords:* quantum cosmology, inflation, cosmological perturbations *PACS:* 98.70.Vc, 04.60.Bc, 04.60.Ds, 98.80.Qc

#### 1. Introduction

The effects of quantum gravity are supposed to be very small since they are suppressed by the huge value of the Planck mass. They can become essential in the presence of a strong gravitational field or in the very early universe undergoing an inflationary expansion (see e.g. [1]). In this letter we would like to study the possible influence of quantum gravitational effects on the spectrum of cosmological fluctuations produced during inflation. Such fluctuations are imprinted in the cosmic microwave background radiation which is one of the main sources of information on the very early universe (see e.g. [2]).

The Born-Oppenheimer (BO) approach [3] has been extensively applied to composite systems such as molecules, which involve two mass, or time, scales.

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