

Title: Ekpyrotic Perturbations & a Holographic Big Bang

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Abstract: TBA

# Ekpyrotic Perturbations and A Holographic Big Bang

- An alternative to inflation
- Scale-invariant curvature perturbations
- Non-perturbative bounce in M theory
- "Scale invariance from Scale Invariance"

# Ekpyrotic Perturbations and A Holographic Big Bang

- An alternative to inflation
- Scale-invariant curvature perturbations
- Non-perturbative bounce in M theory
- "Scale invariance from Scale Invariance"

work with:

- Jean-Luc Lehnars,  
Paul McFadden,  
Paul Steinhardt.

- Ben Craps,  
Thomas Hertog.



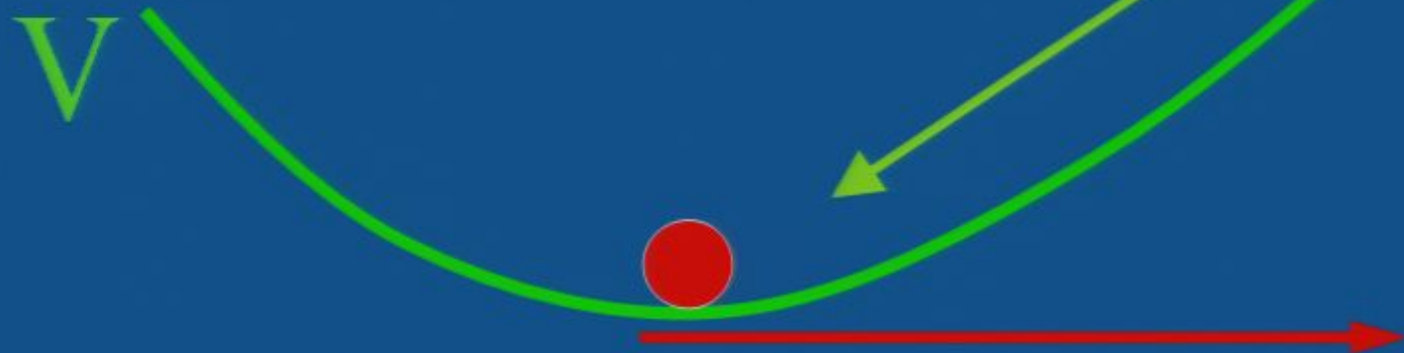
So far, observations are consistent with a spatially flat Universe, and the simplest possible perturbations:

- Gaussian
- Linear, growing mode
- Adiabatic
- Scalar
- Scale-Invariant

-as predicted by simple inflationary models,

**BUT ...**

# Inflation



- Assumes start in a super-dense,  $P=-\rho$  state: why?
- Cosmic singularity unresolved
- Requires fine tuned potentials  $\lambda < 10^{-10}$

$$\rho_{DE} \sim 10^{-100} \rho_{INF}$$

- Strange empty future
- Measure problem: canonical measure, with

Inflation's most specific signature  
- primordial tensor modes -  
has not yet been seen

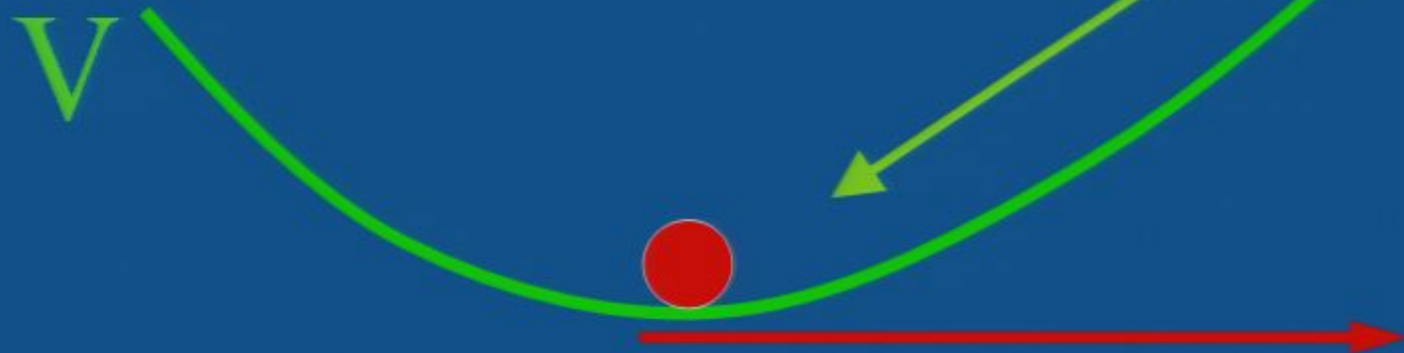


## Motivations for a radical alternative

1. The dark energy puzzle: what is its role?
2. The idea that today's universe is in a dynamical, metastable state
3. String and M theory **must** deal with the singularity: since all we see traces back to it, it is surely crucial to determining the physical selection of states.
4. Either time began at the singularity, or it didn't. Lets consider both options.



# Inflation



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random ICs  $\leadsto P(N) \sim e^{-3N}$

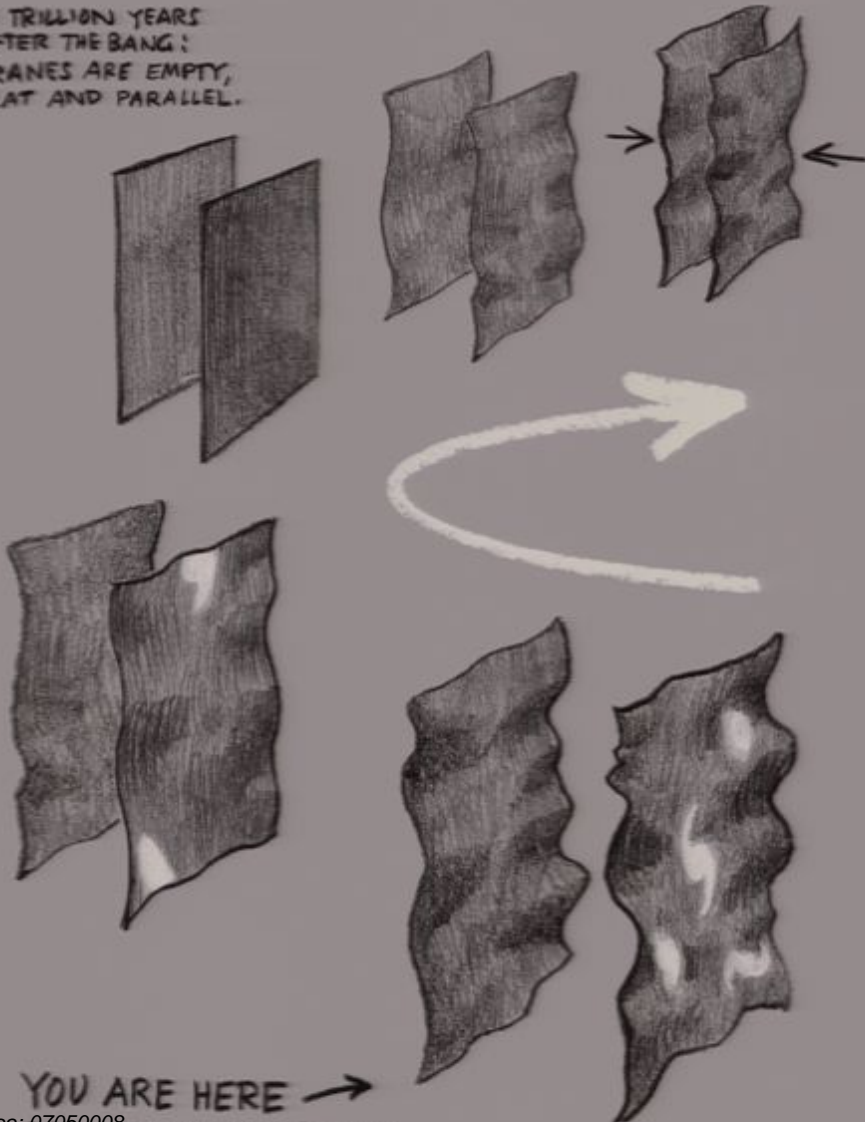
Gibbons+NT 2006

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# "THE CYCLIC UNIVERSE"

A TRILLION YEARS  
AFTER THE BANG:  
BRANES ARE EMPTY,  
FLAT AND PARALLEL.

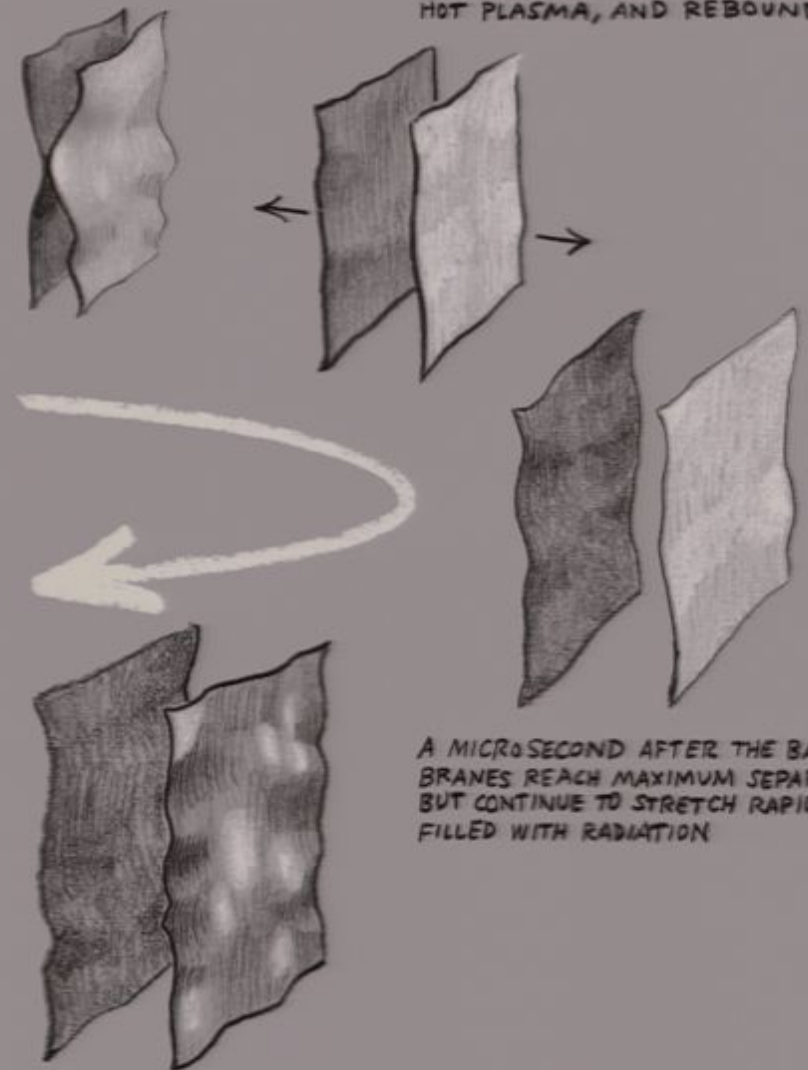
INTER-BRANE FORCE DRAWS  
BRANES TOGETHER, AMPLIFYING  
QUANTUM WRINKLES.



YOU ARE HERE →  
DARK ENERGY TAKES OVER,  
DRIVING ACCELERATED EXPANSION  
THAT BEGINS TO SPREAD OUT

TWO BRANES ENGAGE IN AN ENDLESS  
CYCLE OF COLLISION, REBOUND, STRETCHING,  
AND COLLISION ONCE AGAIN

WRINKLED BRANES COLLIDE,  
CREATE SLIGHTLY NON-UNIFORM  
HOT PLASMA, AND REBOUND.



A MICROSECOND AFTER THE BANG:  
BRANES REACH MAXIMUM SEPARATION  
BUT CONTINUE TO STRETCH RAPIDLY,  
FILLED WITH RADIATION

RADIATION DILUTES AWAY.  
MATTER DOMINATES AND CLUSTERS  
AROUND NON-UNIFORMITIES TO  
FORM GALAXIES AND STARS.



# Ekpyrotic perturbations

Khoury,  
Ovrut,  
Steinhardt,  
NT 2001

e.g.  $V = -V_0 e^{-c\phi}$    $\phi$  (radion)



Scale symm:  $x^\mu \rightarrow e^\lambda x^\mu$ ,  
 $\phi \rightarrow \phi + 2\lambda/c, \bar{h} \rightarrow e^{2\lambda} \bar{h}$

Scaling-solution:  $\dot{\phi} \sim t^{-1}$

$|kt| \ll 1$  Time delay mode:  $\delta\phi \sim \dot{\phi} \sim t^{-1}$

Scaling symmetry  $\rightarrow \langle \delta\phi^2 \rangle \sim \bar{h} t^{-2} \int d^3k/k^3$

cf Massless scalar in de Sitter;  
scaling background soln  $ds^2 = (-dt^2 + dx^2)/(Ht)^2$

scale symmetry  $x^\mu \rightarrow \lambda x^\mu$

shift mode  $\phi \rightarrow \phi + c, c$  constant

Hence,  $\langle \delta\phi^2 \rangle \sim \bar{h} H^2 \int d^3k/k^3$



$$\delta \ddot{\phi} = +\frac{2}{t^2} \delta \varphi - k^2 \delta \varphi$$



$$\delta \Phi = -V_{\phi\phi} \delta \phi$$

$$\delta \ddot{\phi} =$$



$$\Box \delta \phi = -V_{,\phi} \delta \phi$$

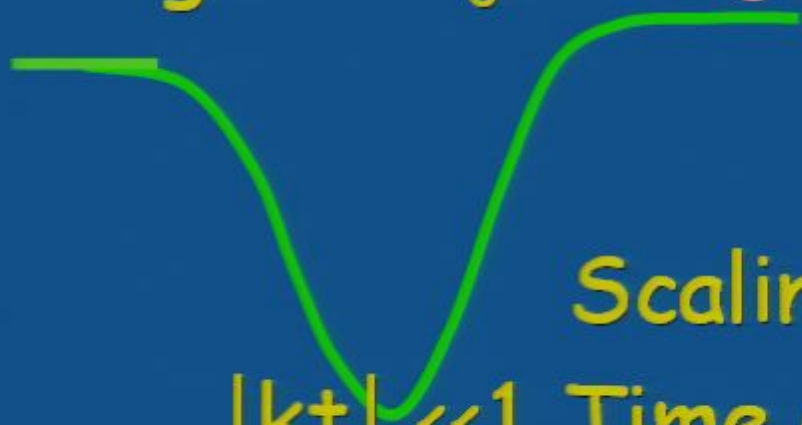
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# Now include gravity

$$ds^2 = -dt^2(1 + 2\Phi) + a^2(t)d\mathbf{x}^2(1 - 2\Phi)$$

Long  $\lambda$ ,

$$\delta t = \frac{\alpha_1(\mathbf{x})}{a} - \frac{\alpha_2(\mathbf{x})}{a} \int^t dt' a(t'), \quad \delta x^i = (1 + \alpha_2(\mathbf{x})) x^i$$

Quasi-gauge modes

$$\Phi = \alpha_1(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\dot{a}}{a^2} + \alpha_2(\mathbf{x}) \left( 1 - \frac{\dot{a}}{a^2} \int^t dt' a(t') \right)$$

Local time delay

Local dilatation:  
“Curvature pertn.  $\mathcal{R}$ ”

Expanding U

Decaying

Growing

Contracting U

Growing

Decaying



# How can a local time delay match on to a local spatial dilation?

Creminelli et al, Lyth, Huang...

## A. 5d effects near bounce (warping of 5<sup>th</sup> dimension):

Tolley et al., Battefeld et al., McFadden et al.

## B. Additional light dofs in 4dET driven unstable:

Flurry of  
papers 2007

Lehners, McFadden, Steinhardt, NT  
Creminelli, Senatore  
Buchbinder, Khoury, Ovrut  
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Assume two scalar fields,  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ ,  
with independent, negative, steeply  
flattening potentials



relative  
pertn

$$\frac{\delta\phi_1}{\dot{\phi}_1} - \frac{\delta\phi_2}{\dot{\phi}_2}$$

scale-invariant on  
long wavelengths

but this converts easily to  $R$

General result:

$$\dot{\mathcal{R}} = -\frac{H}{\dot{H}} g_{IJ}(\phi) \frac{D^2 \phi^I}{Dt^2} s^J + \frac{H}{\dot{H}} \frac{k^2 \Psi}{a^2}$$

where the entropy perturbation is

$$s^I = \delta\phi^I - \frac{\dot{\phi}^I g_{JK}(\phi) \dot{\phi}^J \delta\phi^K}{g_{LM}(\phi) \dot{\phi}^L \dot{\phi}^M}$$

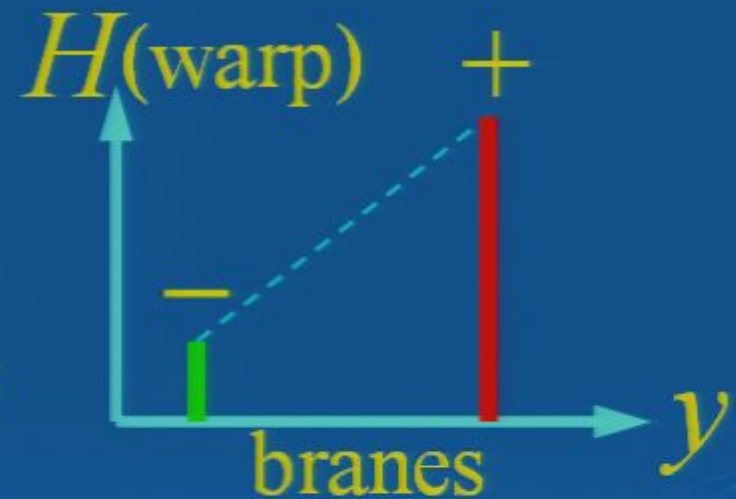
# Heterotic M Theory

$$\int_5 \left( \frac{1}{2} R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - C e^{-2\phi} \right) - \sum_i \mu_i \int_4 e^{-\phi}$$

Two moduli:

radion and  $V_{CY} = e^\phi$

Both can pick up scale-invariant perts pre-bang  $\rightarrow$  entropy perts



Before and after boundary brane collision,  
minus brane hits zero of  $H$  and bounces back.  
This bounce converts entropy to curvature!



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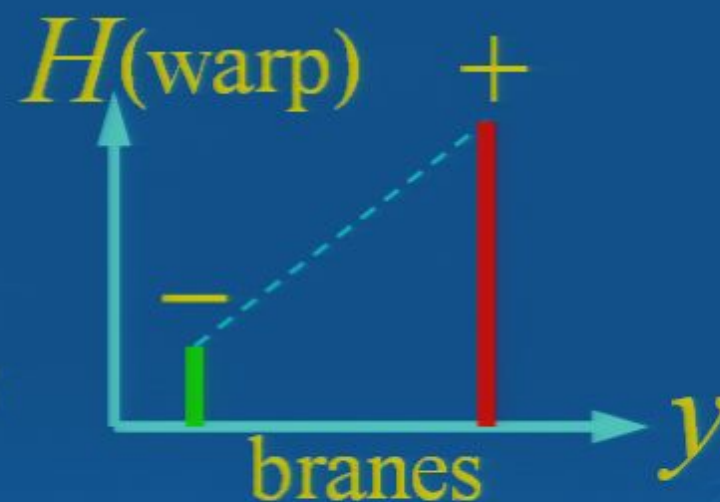
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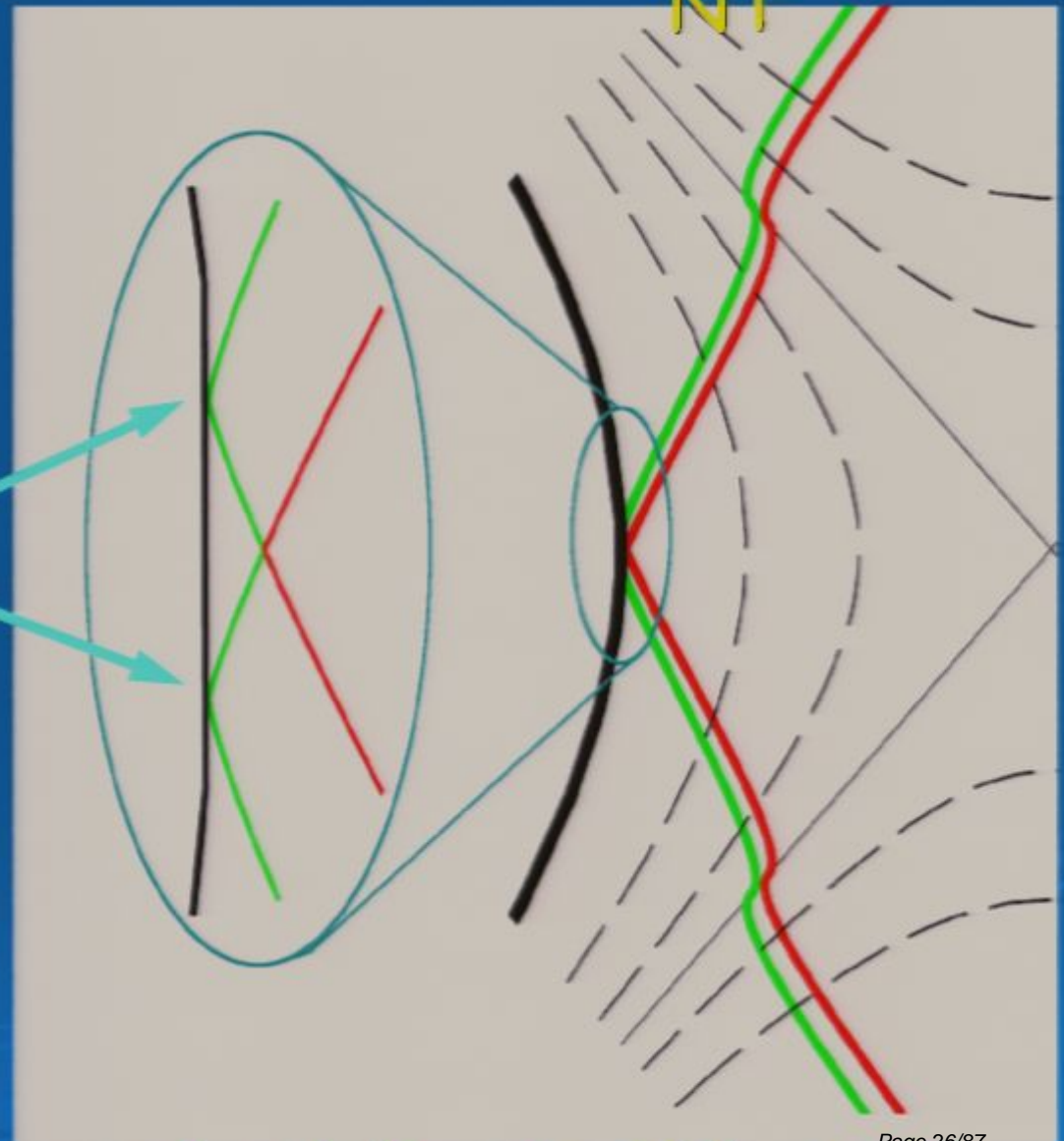


# 5d solution

Lehners  
McFadden  
NT

Trajectory  
tangential to  
singularity

-described by a  
hard boundary  
( $\phi_2=0$ ) in the 4d  
effective theory



embedding in 5d static

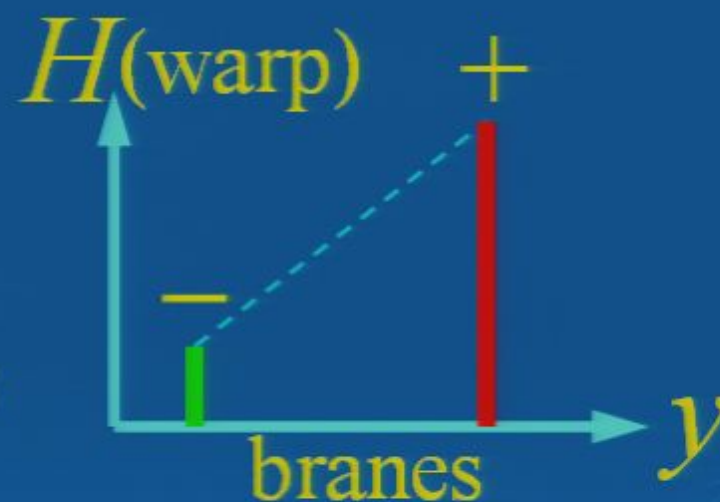
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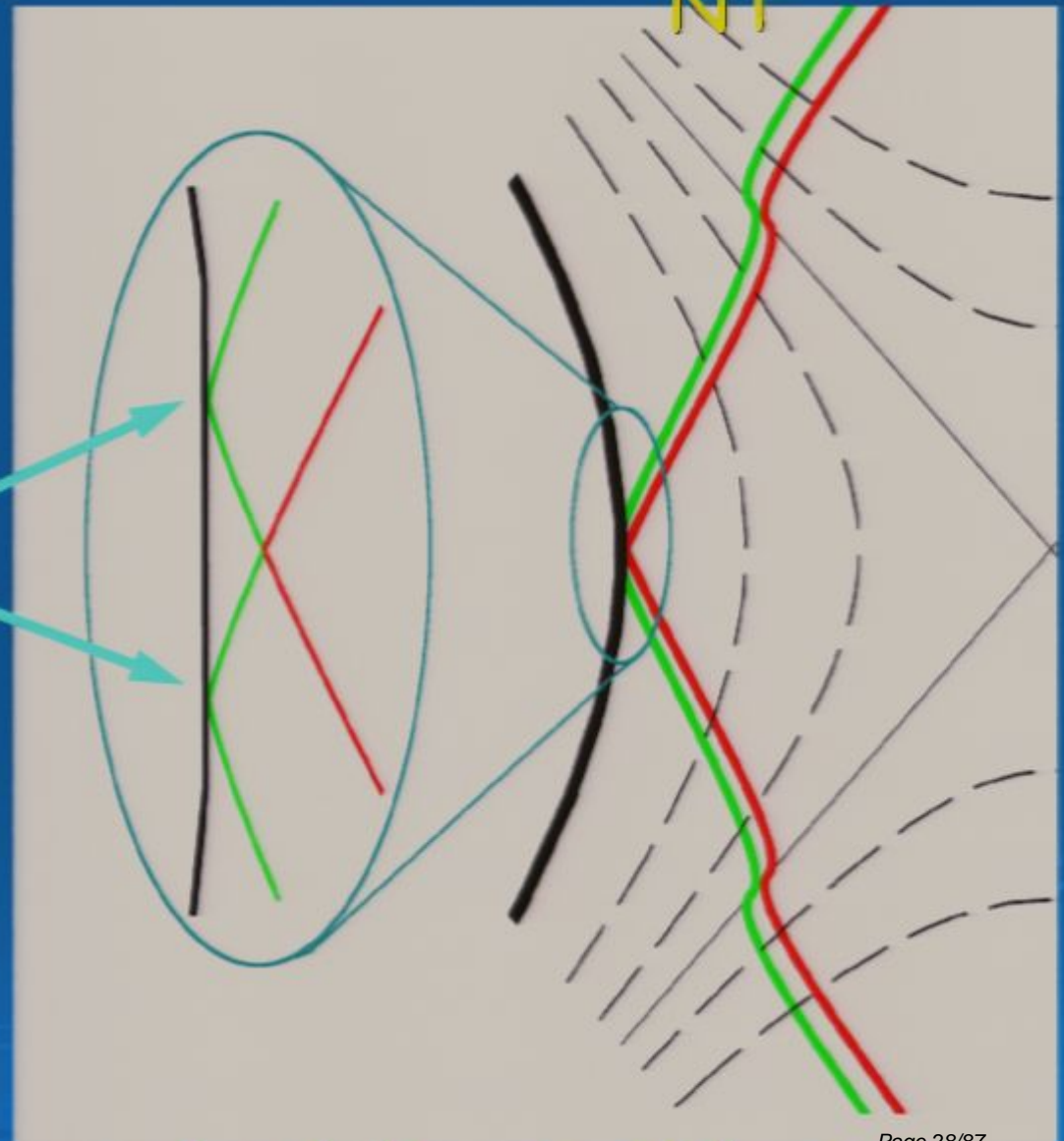


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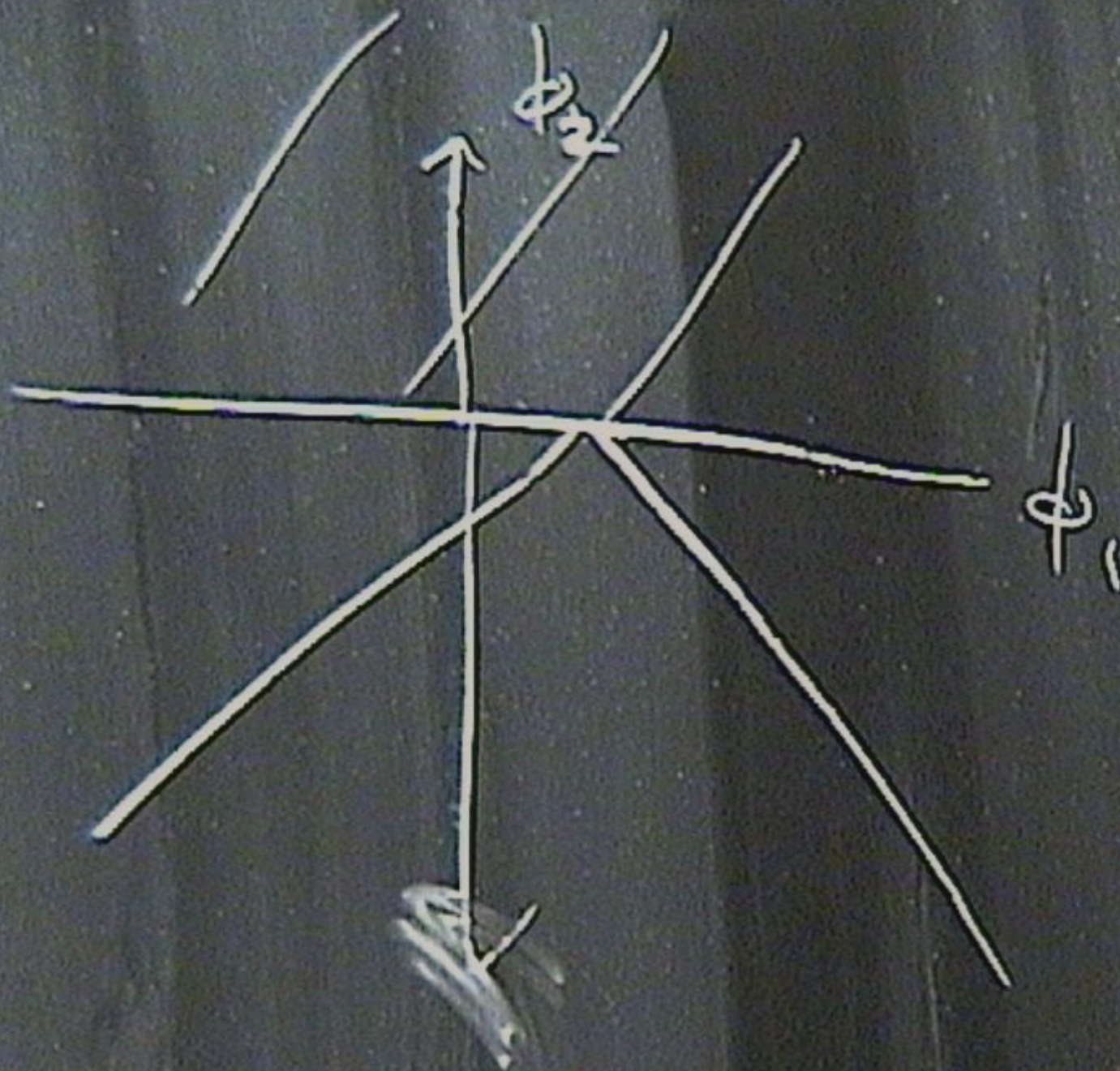
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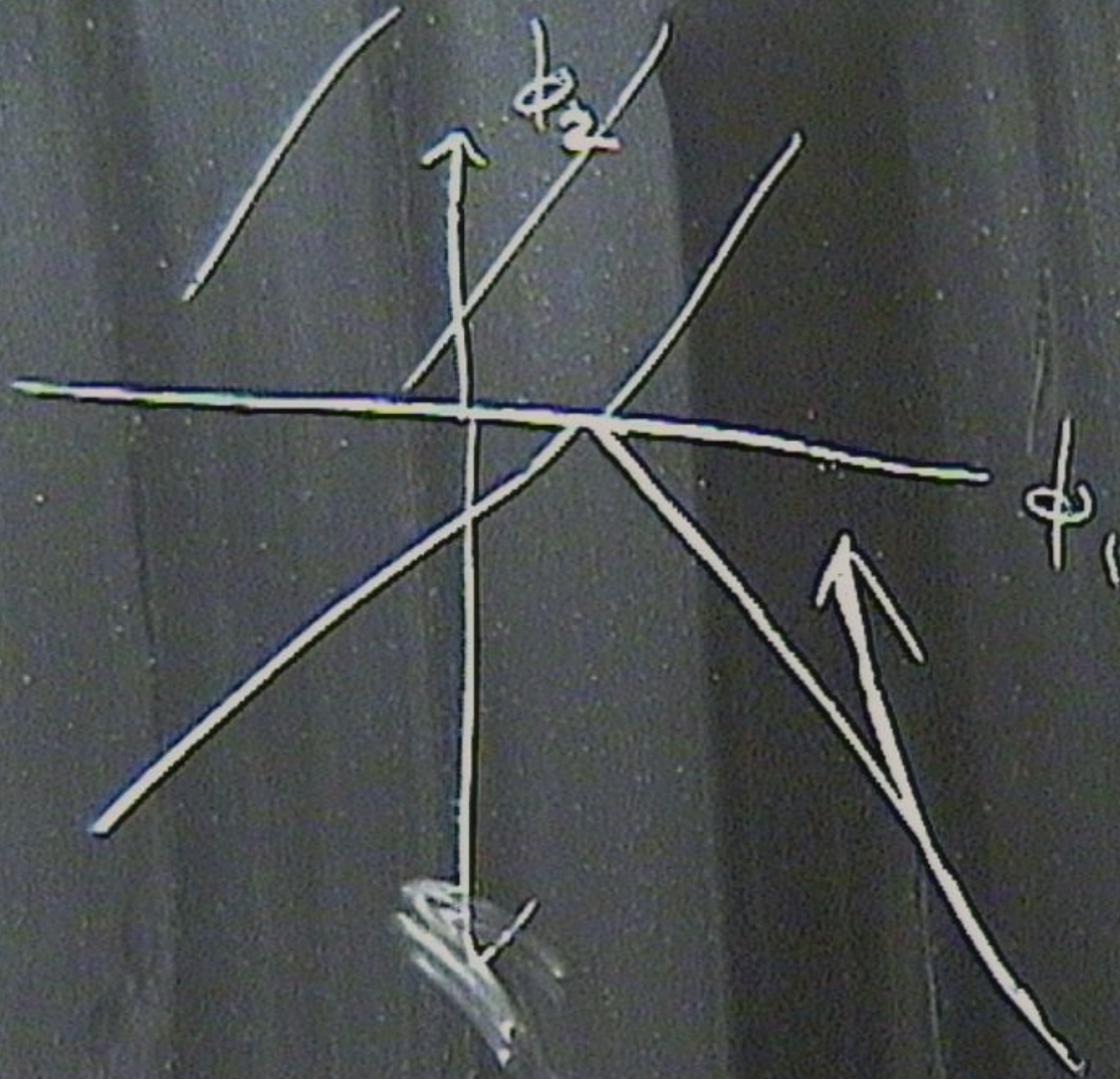


$k^2 \delta \phi$





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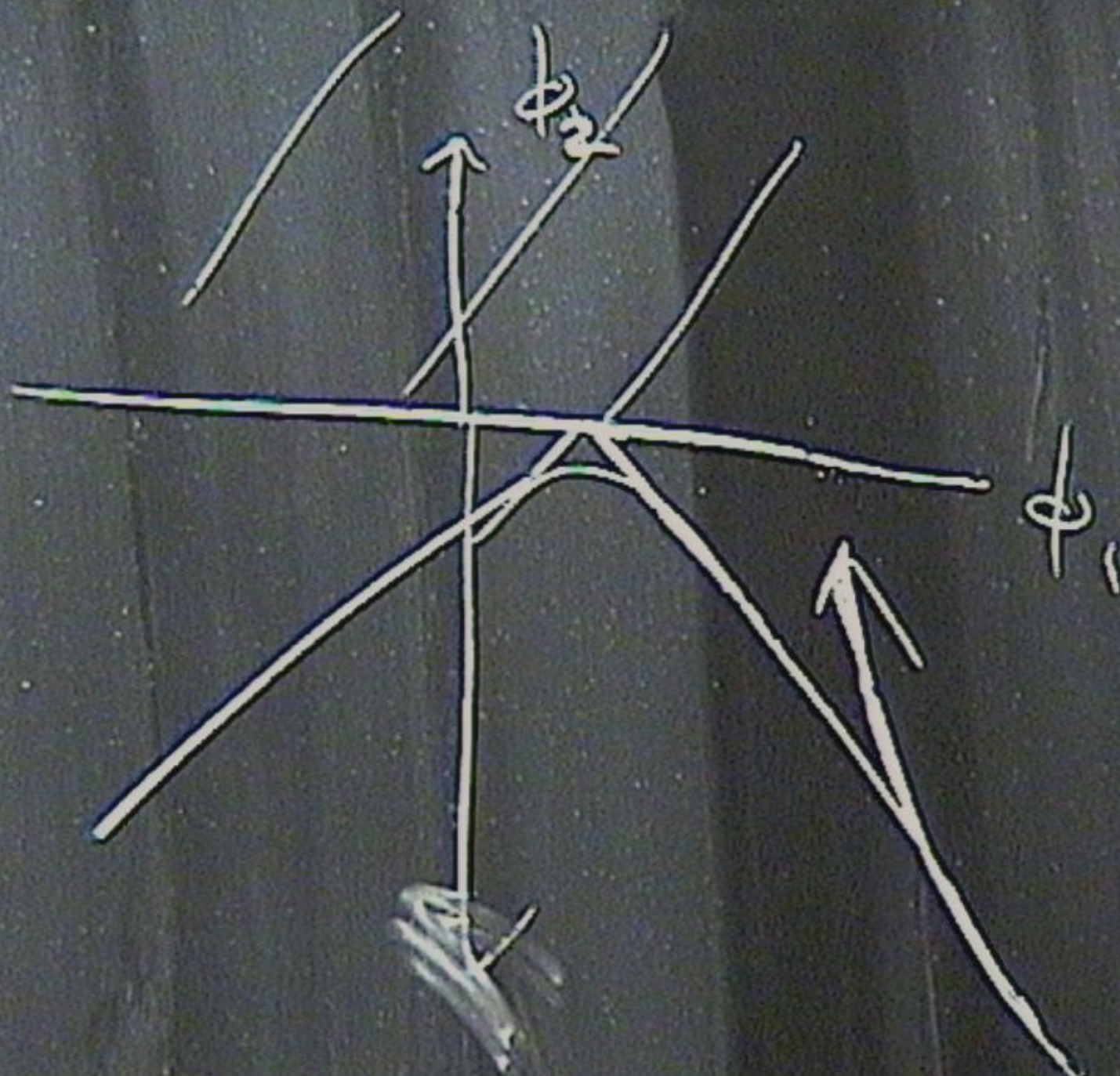


$$\int \phi_2^2 \dot{\chi}^2$$


---



$$-k^2 \delta \phi$$



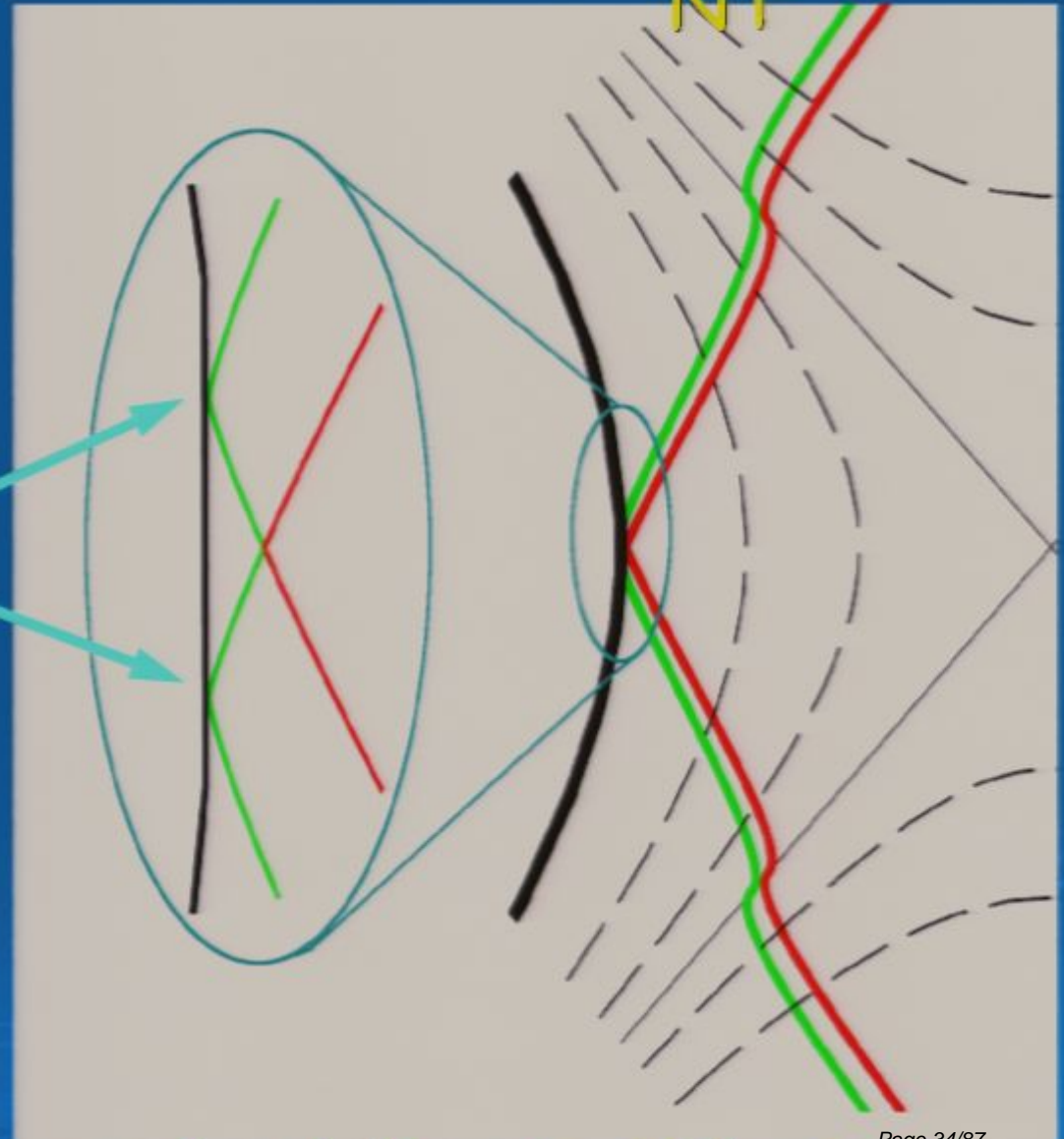


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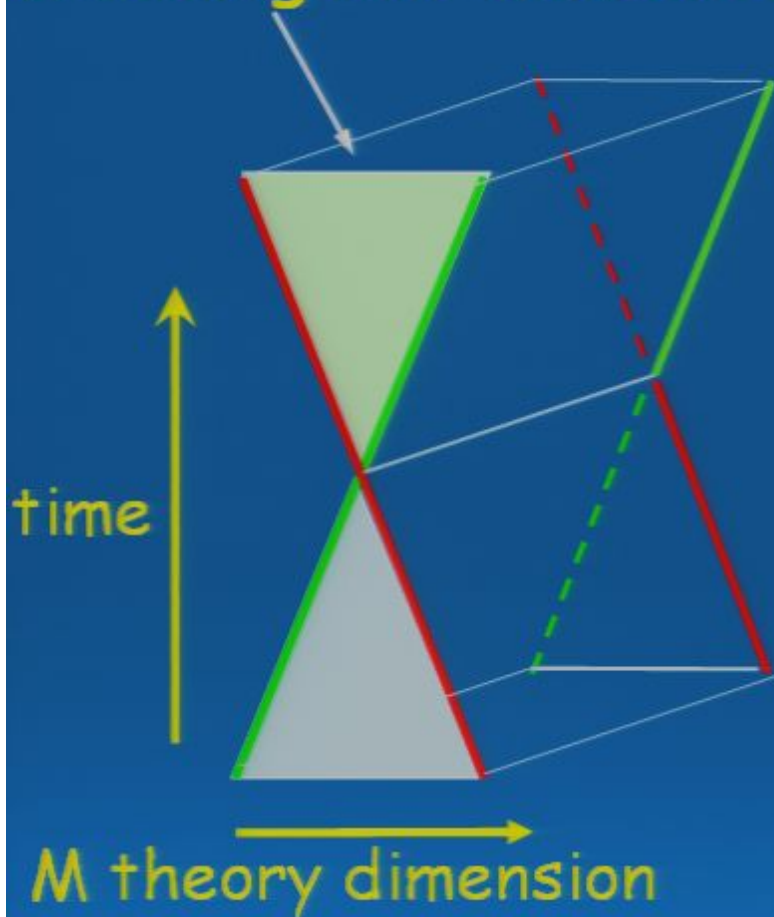
# M-theory model for the bang

Perry, Steinhardt & NT, 2004

Berman & Perry, 2006

Niz+NT 2007

Winding M2 branes=Strings:



No blue-shift for winding membranes:  
describe perturbative string states  
including gravity

Weak coupling at singularity

Classical evolution of string is  
regular across  $t=0$

Calculable  $T_{\text{HBB}}$  due to string creation

**BUT:** what about KK modes  
i.e. nonpert string states?



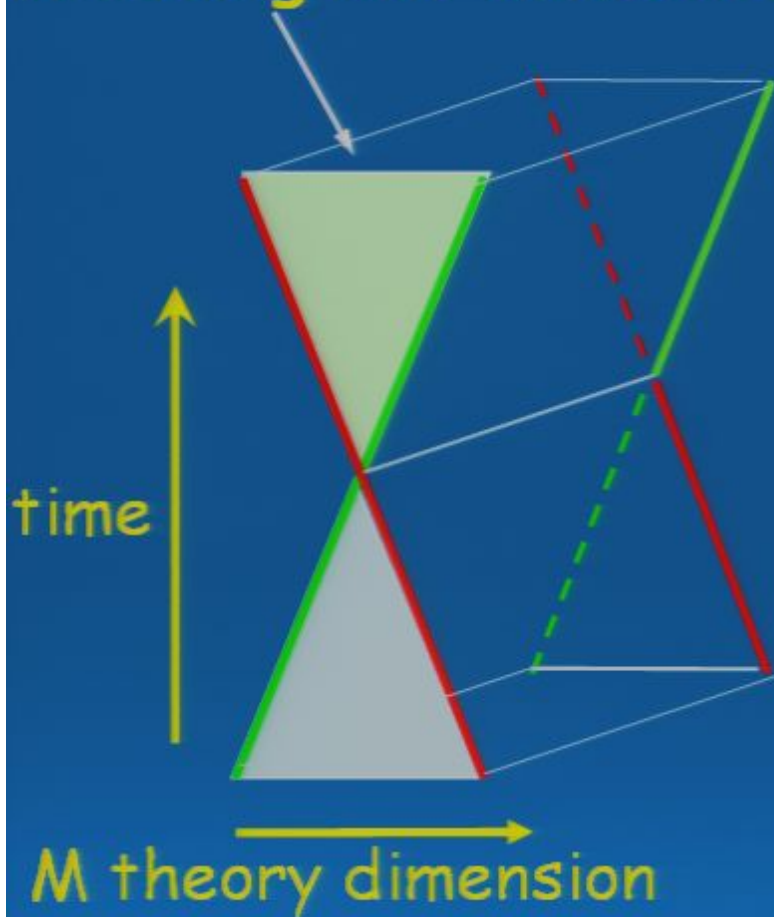
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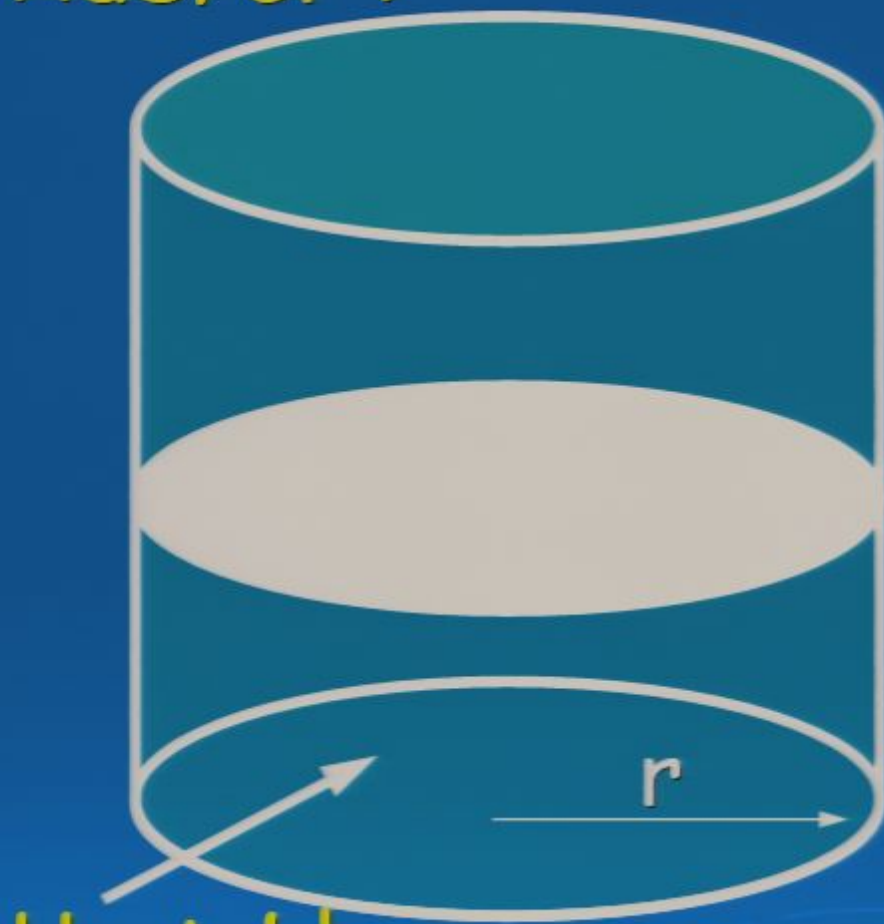
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# A Holographic Big Bang

AdS/CFT



Unstable  
5d bulk

IIB SUGRA on  $S^5 \times \text{AdS}^5$   
includes  $m^2 = -4$  BF scalar

$$\phi \sim \alpha r^{-2} \ln r + \beta r^{-2}$$

SUSY  $\rightarrow \alpha = 0$  no dynamics

If  $\alpha = \alpha(\beta) \rightarrow$  dynamics

Bulk collapses to a  
finite-time singularity

Hertog+Horowitz

Deformed CFT on  $R \times S^3$

Also unstable:



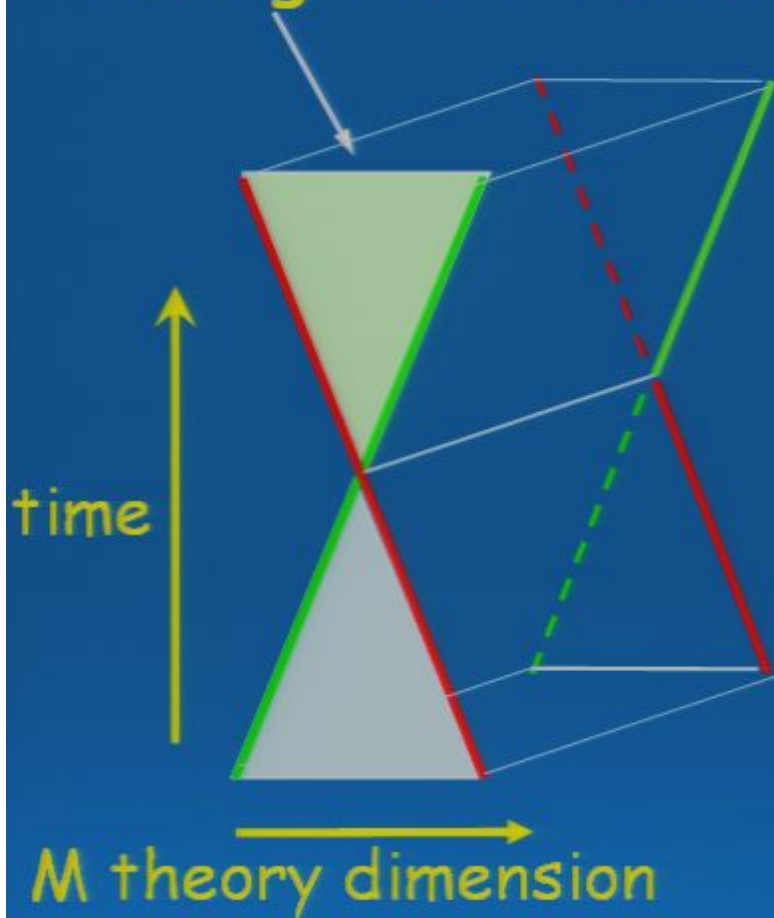
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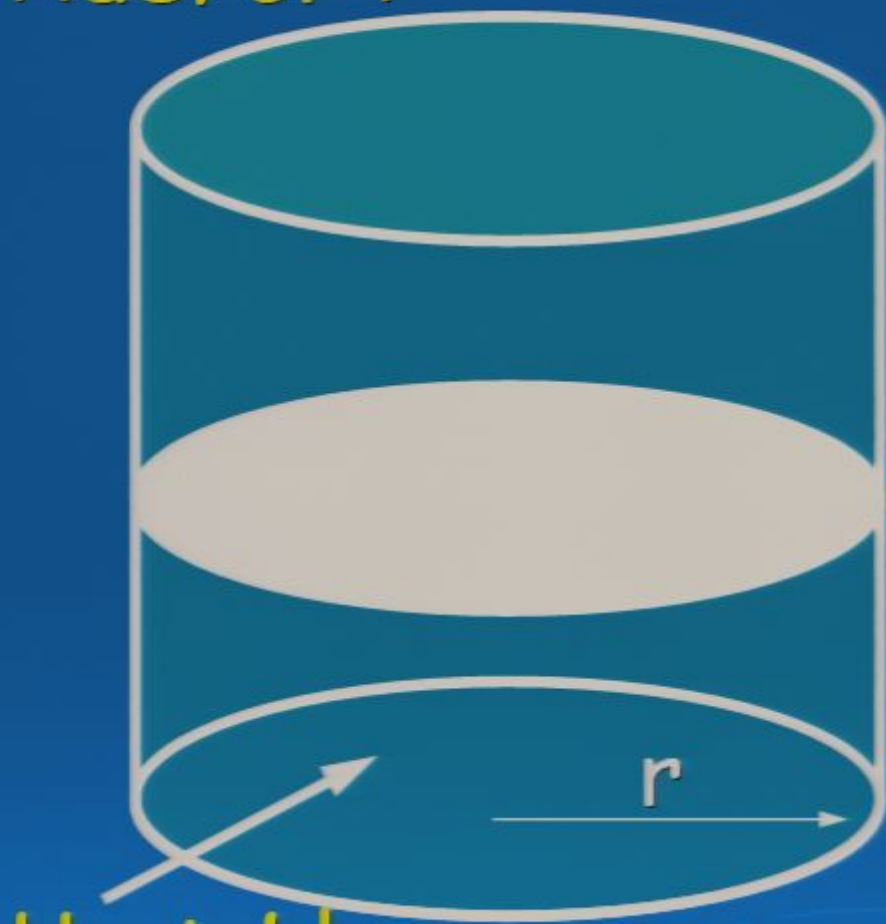
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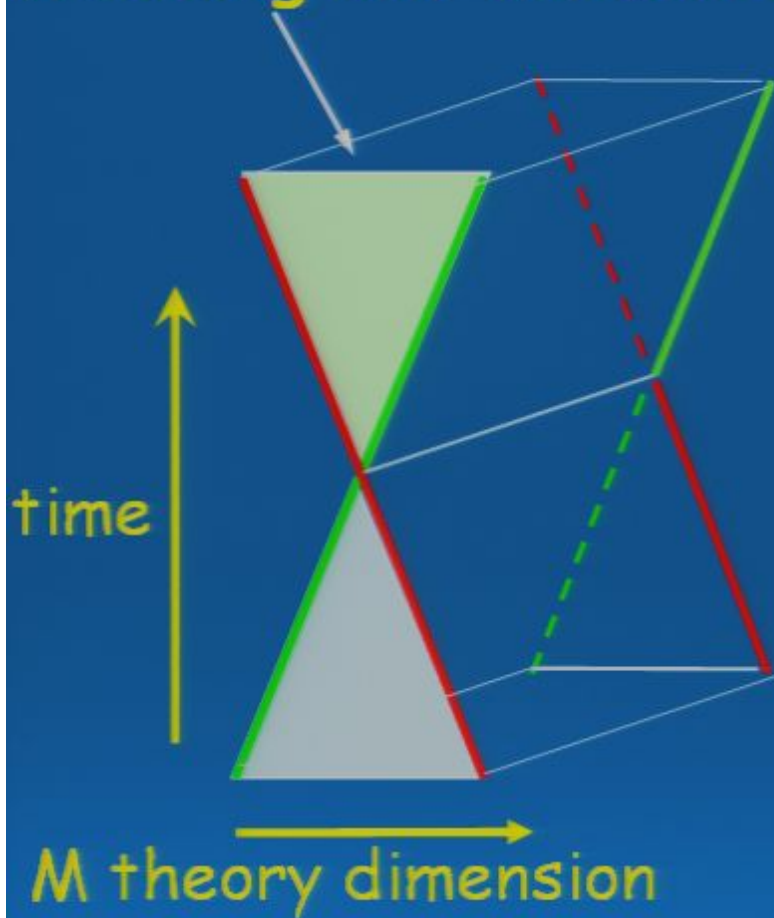
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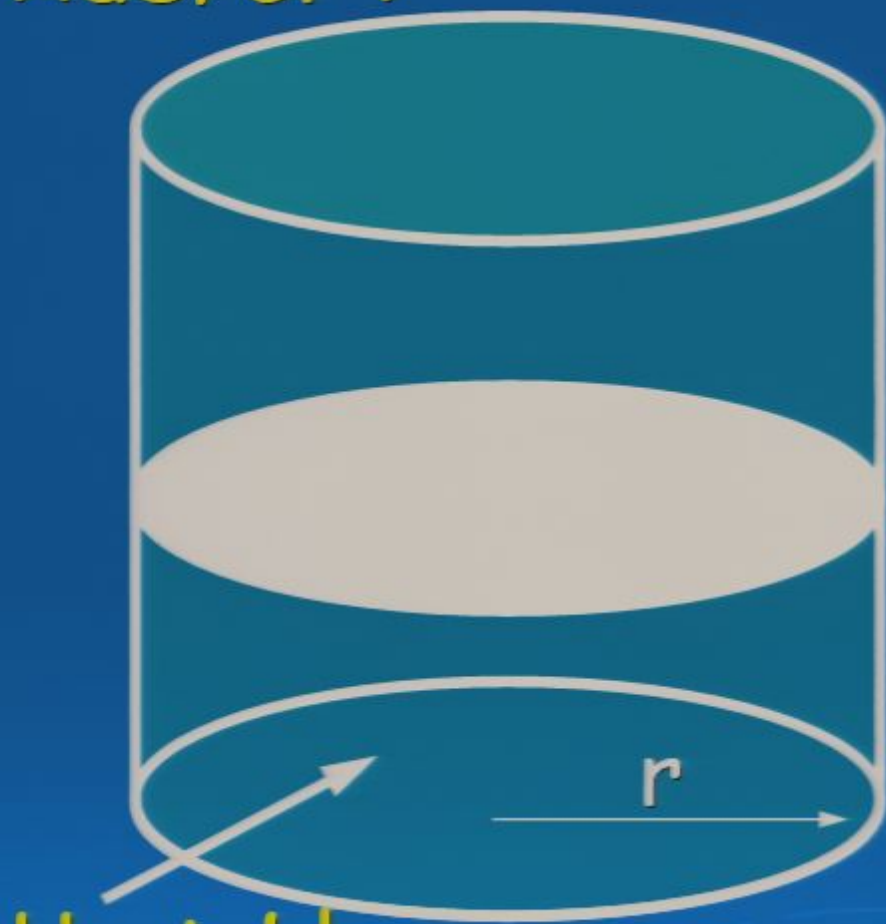
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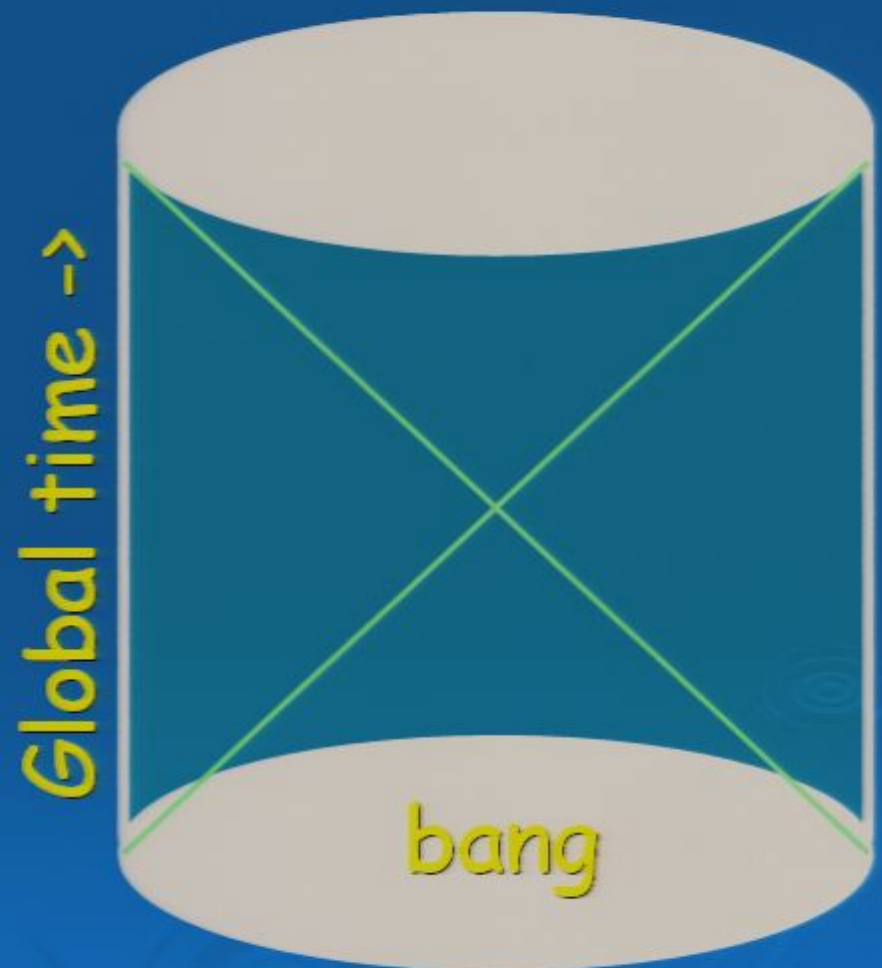
$\alpha = \lambda \beta$  corresponds  
deformation  $-\lambda \phi^4$  of  
CFT  $\rightarrow$  instability

$$(\phi^2 = \text{Tr}(\phi_1^2 - \phi_2^2))$$

$\lambda$  is asymptotically free

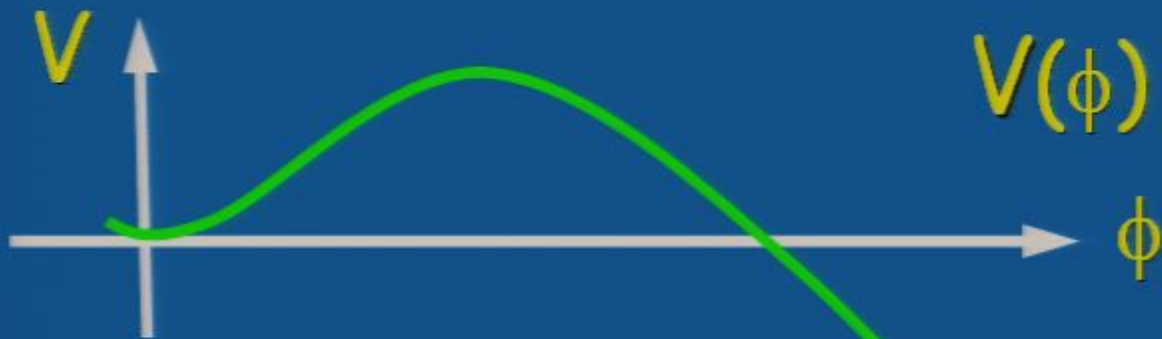
$$V(\phi) = -\frac{16 \pi^2 \phi^4}{3 \ln(\phi/M)}$$

large  $N \rightarrow \beta$  fn is 1-loop  
exact,  $V$  under good  
perturbative control



# Unstable CFT

Conformal  
coupling



Finite  $V_3$ :  
need wavefn  
for backgrd

$$V(\phi) \sim + R_{\text{AdS}}^{-2} \phi^2 - \lambda \phi^4$$

Take  $M \ll R_{\text{AdS}}^{-1}$   
→ weak coupling

$\Psi(\phi)$

Self-adjoint  
extension



# Key Points

- \* No gravity in CFT
- \* Finite time singularity  $\rightarrow$  Ultralocality  
Quantum mechanics  $\rightarrow$  natural resolution of singularity via "self-adjoint extension"
- \* Asymptotic freedom
- \* Finite  $V_3 \leadsto$  entire background becomes quantum around singularity
- \* CFT is (nearly) scale invariant  $\rightarrow$   
Automatically get scale-invariant pertns

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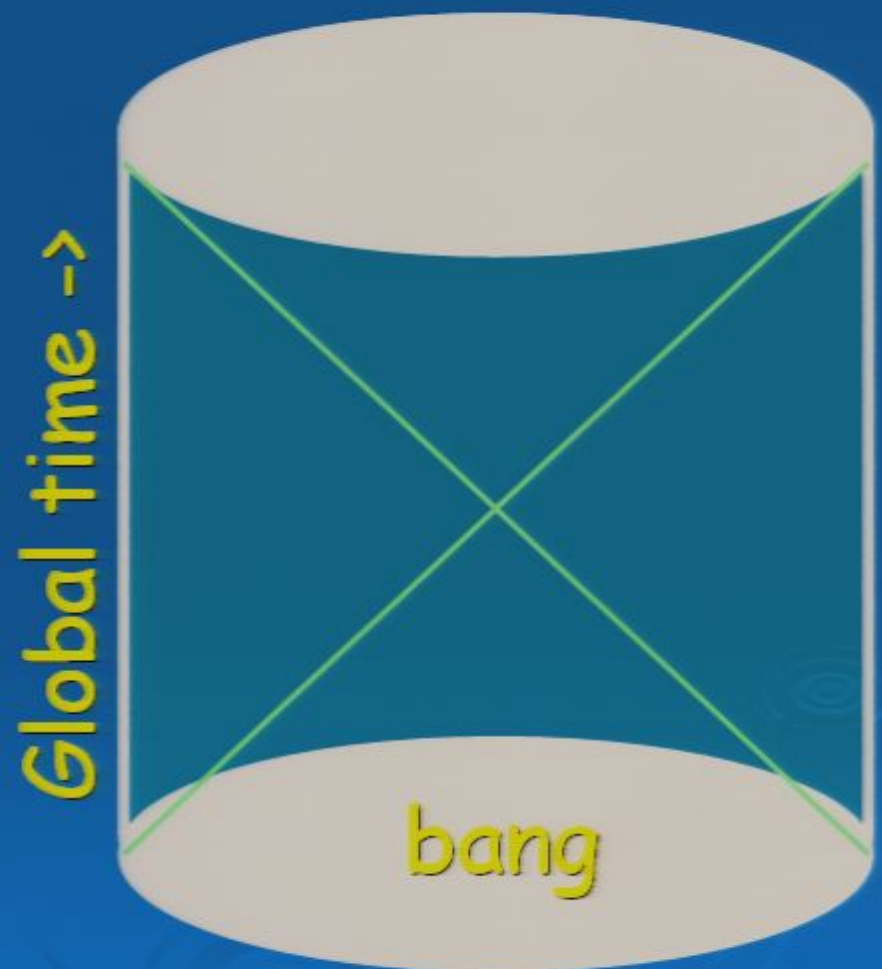
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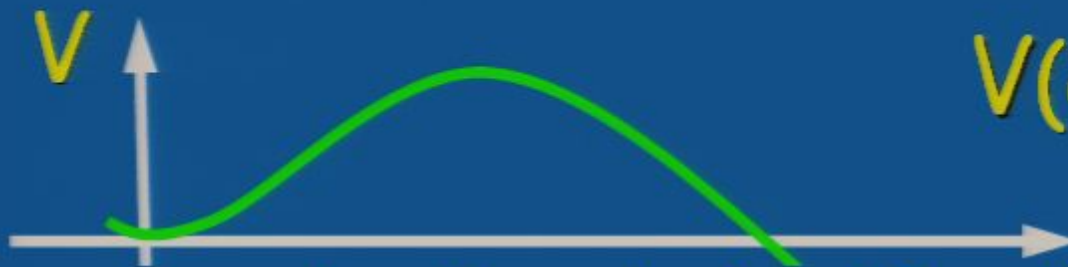
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Take  $M \ll R_{\text{AdS}}^{-1}$

singularity via "self-adjoint extension"

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Automatically get scale-invariant pertns



# 1. Ultralocality

$$\partial^2 \phi = -\lambda \phi^3 + \frac{1}{6} R \phi$$

zero E bg soln:

$$\phi = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\lambda}} \frac{1}{t - t_s}$$

subdom near sing

Gen soln:  $-d\tau^2 + h_{ij} dx_s^i dx_s^j,$

$$t = t_s(x_s)$$

$$n^\mu \tau$$

$$\begin{aligned} h_{ij} &= h_{ij}^{(0)} + 2K_{ij}\tau + K_{ik}h_{(0)}^{kl}K_{lj}\tau^2 \\ h_{ij}^{(0)} &\equiv \delta_{ij} - \partial_i t_s \partial_j t_s, \quad K_{ij} \equiv \gamma \partial_i \partial_j t_s. \end{aligned}$$

Expand in

$$\tau \nabla_s$$

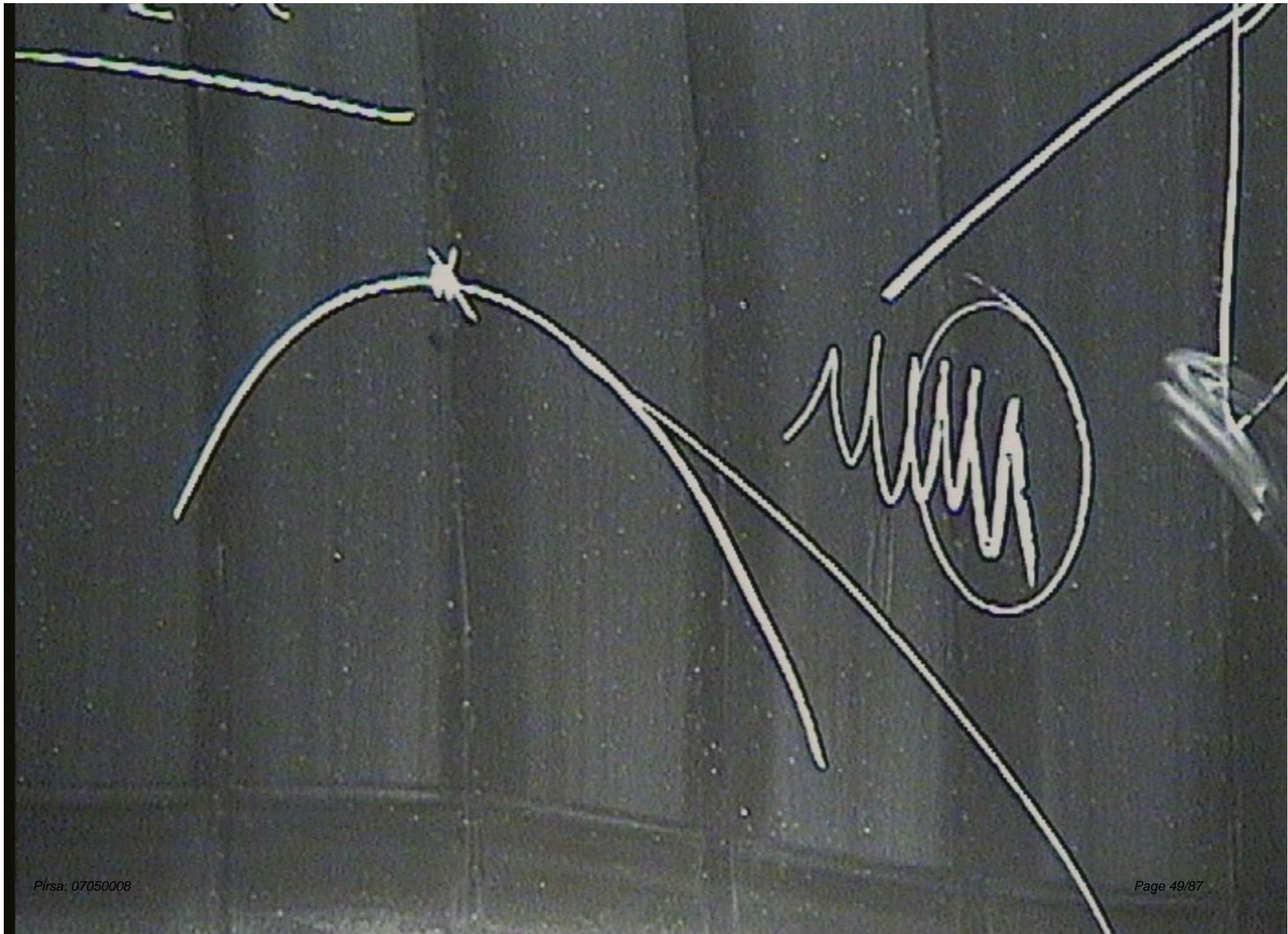
Define

$$\chi = \phi^{-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \chi &= \left(\frac{\lambda}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \tau + \frac{1}{6} K_1 \tau^2 + \frac{1}{18} (K_1^2 - 3K_2) \tau^3 \right. \\ &+ \frac{1}{4} \left( K_3 - \frac{13}{18} K_2 K_1 + \frac{7}{54} K_1^3 - \frac{1}{6} \nabla K_1 \right) \tau^4 \\ &+ \ln \tau \left( \frac{1}{5} \left( -7K_4 + \frac{29}{3} K_1 K_3 + \frac{11}{3} K_2^2 - \frac{67}{9} K_1^2 K_2 + \frac{34}{27} K_1^4 - \frac{1}{18} (\partial K_1)^2 \right) \right. \\ &\left. \left. + \frac{2}{9} K_1 \nabla K_1 - \frac{1}{6} \nabla K_2 \right) \tau^5 + C_6 \tau^6 + \dots \right) + \rho(x_s) \tau^5 + D_6 \tau^6 + \dots, \end{aligned}$$

2 arbitrary functions:  $t=t_s(x_s), \rho(x_s)$







# Interpretation in linearized theory

$$\delta\chi(t, \mathbf{x}) = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda}{2}} \left( -t_s(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{6} t^2 \nabla^2 t_s - \frac{1}{24} t^4 (\nabla^4 t_s) + \dots + \rho(\mathbf{x}_s) t^5 + \dots \right)$$

Time  
delay

$$\delta\phi / \dot{\phi}$$

Hamiltonian  
density

$$\delta\mathcal{H} = \dot{\phi} \delta\dot{\phi} + V_{,\phi} \delta\phi = \partial_t \left( \frac{\delta\phi}{\dot{\phi}} \right) \dot{\phi}^2$$

As gradients become unimportant,  
different spatial points decouple → QM

Self-adjoint extension matches local time  
delay and energy density across singularity

# 1. Ultralocality

$$\partial^2 \phi = -\lambda \phi^3 + \frac{1}{6} R \phi$$

zero E bg soln:

$$\phi = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\lambda}} \frac{1}{t - t_s}$$

subdom near sing

Gen soln:  $-d\tau^2 + h_{ij} dx_s^i dx_s^j,$

$$t = t_s(x_s)$$

$$n^\mu \tau$$

$$\begin{aligned} h_{ij} &= h_{ij}^{(0)} + 2K_{ij}\tau + K_{ik}h_{(0)}^{kl}K_{lj}\tau^2 \\ h_{ij}^{(0)} &\equiv \delta_{ij} - \partial_i t_s \partial_j t_s, \quad K_{ij} \equiv \gamma \partial_i \partial_j t_s. \end{aligned}$$

Expand in

$$\tau \nabla_s$$

Define

$$\chi = \phi^{-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \chi &= \left(\frac{\lambda}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \tau + \frac{1}{6} K_1 \tau^2 + \frac{1}{18} (K_1^2 - 3K_2) \tau^3 \right. \\ &+ \frac{1}{4} \left( K_3 - \frac{13}{18} K_2 K_1 + \frac{7}{54} K_1^3 - \frac{1}{6} \nabla K_1 \right) \tau^4 \\ &+ \ln \tau \left( \frac{1}{5} \left( -7K_4 + \frac{29}{3} K_1 K_3 + \frac{11}{3} K_2^2 - \frac{67}{9} K_1^2 K_2 + \frac{34}{27} K_1^4 - \frac{1}{18} (\partial K_1)^2 \right) \right. \\ &\left. \left. + \frac{2}{9} K_1 \nabla K_1 - \frac{1}{6} \nabla K_2 \right) \tau^5 + C_6 \tau^6 + \dots \right) + \rho(x_s) \tau^5 + D_6 \tau^6 + \dots, \end{aligned}$$

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$$\delta \phi = -V_{\phi\phi} \delta \phi$$

$$\delta \ddot{\phi} = +\frac{2}{t^2} \delta \phi$$

$$\int \frac{1}{2} \dot{\chi}^2$$

$$\delta \ddot{\chi} = \frac{4}{t^2} \delta \dot{\chi} - k^2 \delta \chi$$





$$\delta \ddot{x} = \frac{4}{t^2} \delta \dot{x} - k^2 \delta x$$

$\delta x \sim \text{const on } t^5$

1. Linear terms in  $t_s$  and  $\rho$  completely regular (even/odd in  $t$ ) : match unambiguously across  $t=0$
2. Nonlinear parts are then completely determined



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## 2. WKB, SA extension

$$p_\phi \sim \sqrt{2(E-V)} \sim \lambda^{1/2} \phi^2 V_3$$

WKB condn  $p_\phi^{-2} dp_\phi / d\phi \sim \lambda \phi^{-3} V_3 \rightarrow 0$ , large  $\phi$

Self-Adjoint extension:

Reed+Simon 70's

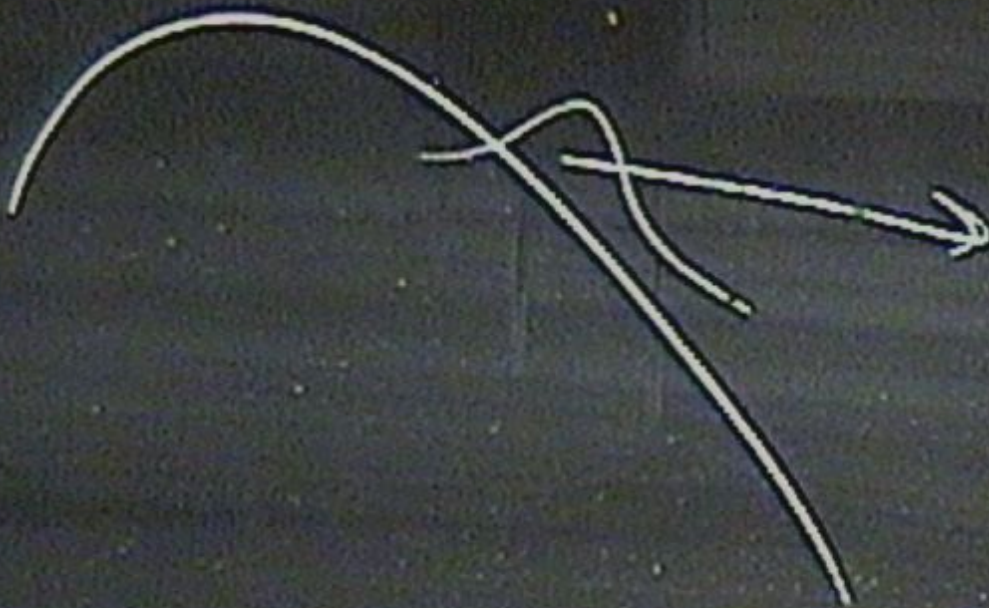
$$\Psi \sim e^{-iET} p_\phi^{-1/2} \left( e^{i \int_\phi^{\phi} p_\phi d\phi} + e^{i\theta} e^{-i \int_\phi^{\phi} p_\phi d\phi} \right)$$

$$p_\phi \sim \phi^2 \rightarrow |\Psi|^2 \sim \phi^{-2} \text{ normalisable}$$

Halve Hilbert space  $\rightarrow$  unitary evolution,  
no probability lost at infinity



$$V = -\lambda \phi^4$$





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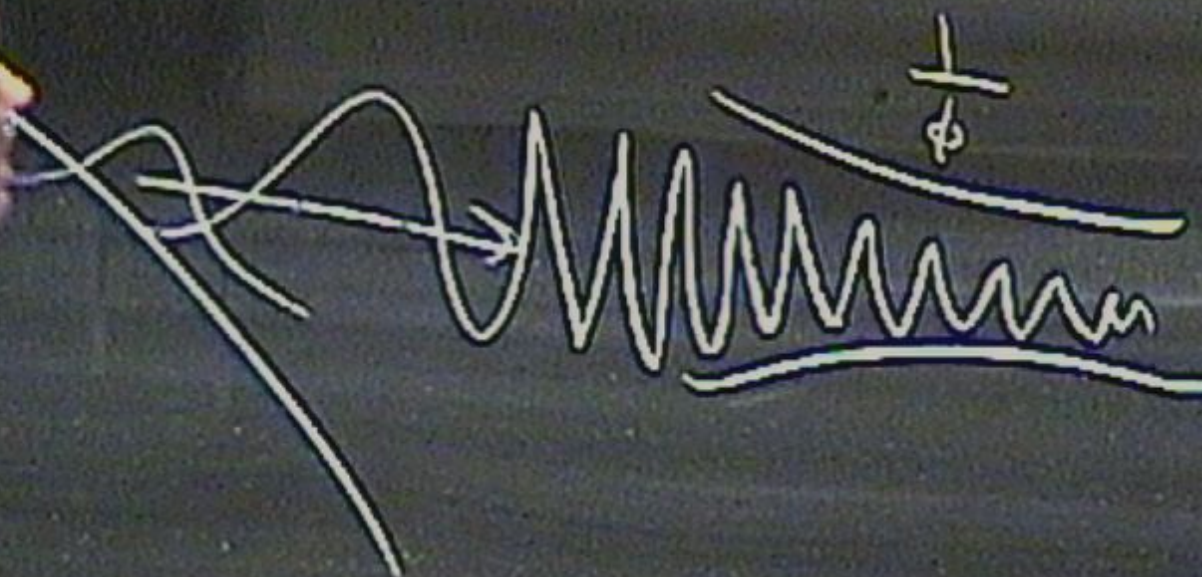
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# Large $\phi$ at small time

Wavefunction may be calculated using complex classical solutions

$$p + 2i\phi |^2 = p_0 + 2i\phi_0 |^2$$

$$\Psi \sim (e^{iS_1} + e^{i\theta} e^{iS_2})$$

$$\sim e^{-(\phi^2/2 |^2)}$$

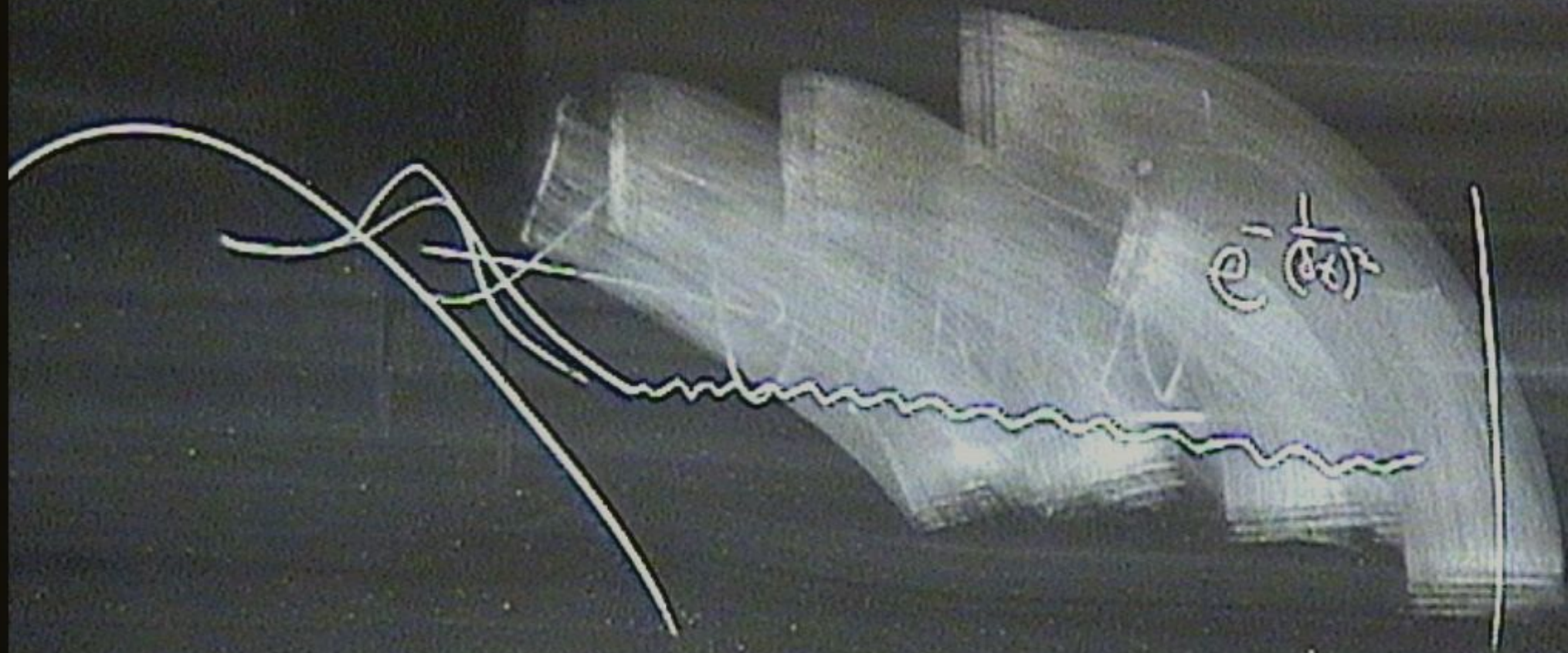
$$\phi < \lambda/\delta \dagger$$

$$\sim e^{-(1/1^2 \lambda \delta \dagger^2)} \phi^{-1} \cos(\phi^3 + \theta) \quad \phi > \lambda^{1/2}/\delta \dagger$$

$\langle \phi \rangle$  is infinite  $\rightarrow$  classical bg never exists!



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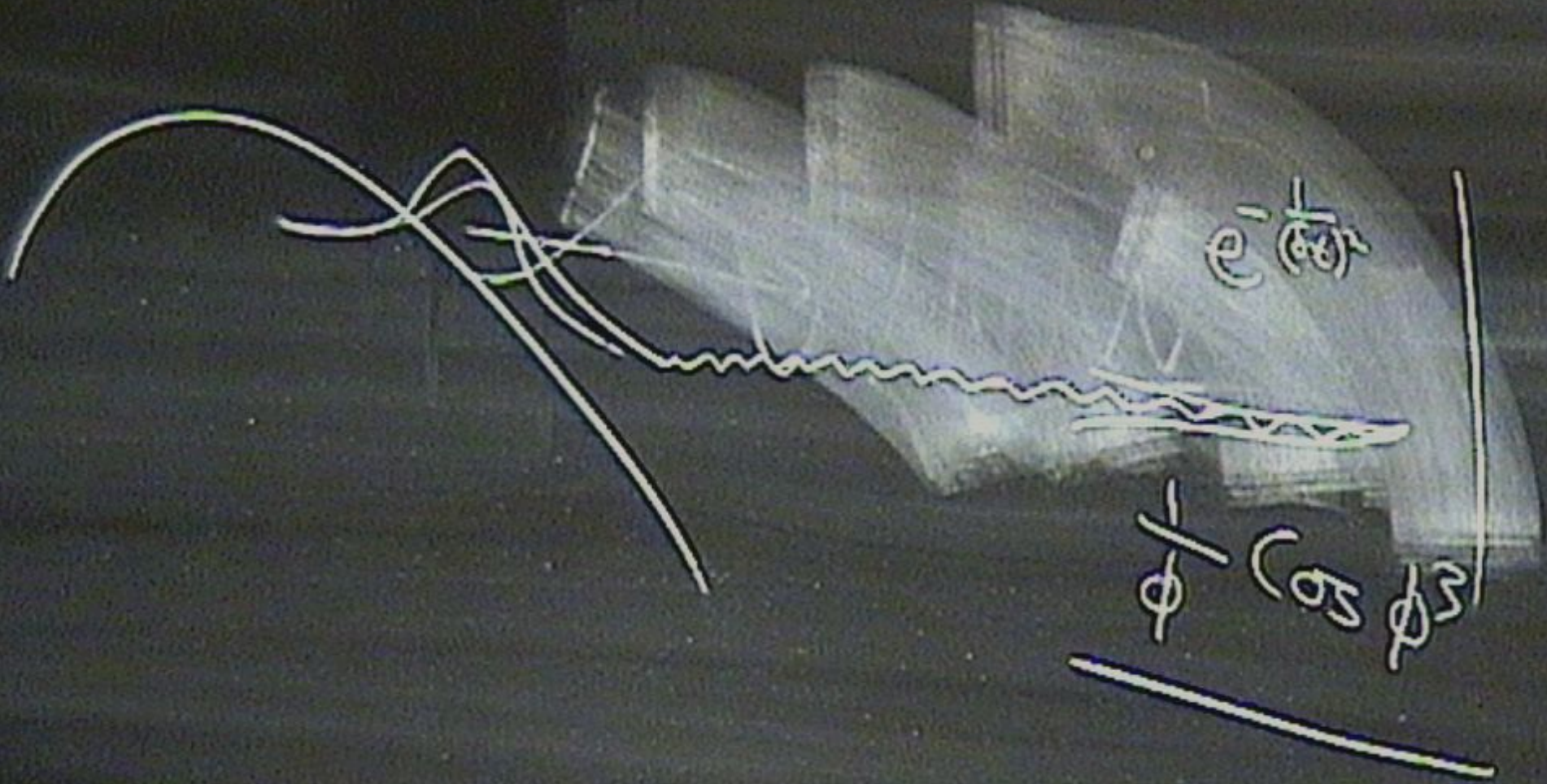
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doesn't exist,

$e^{-i\phi}$



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$\langle \phi \rangle = \int d\phi \frac{1}{\phi^2 \cos^2 \phi} \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{\phi} \cos \phi}}{\phi}$

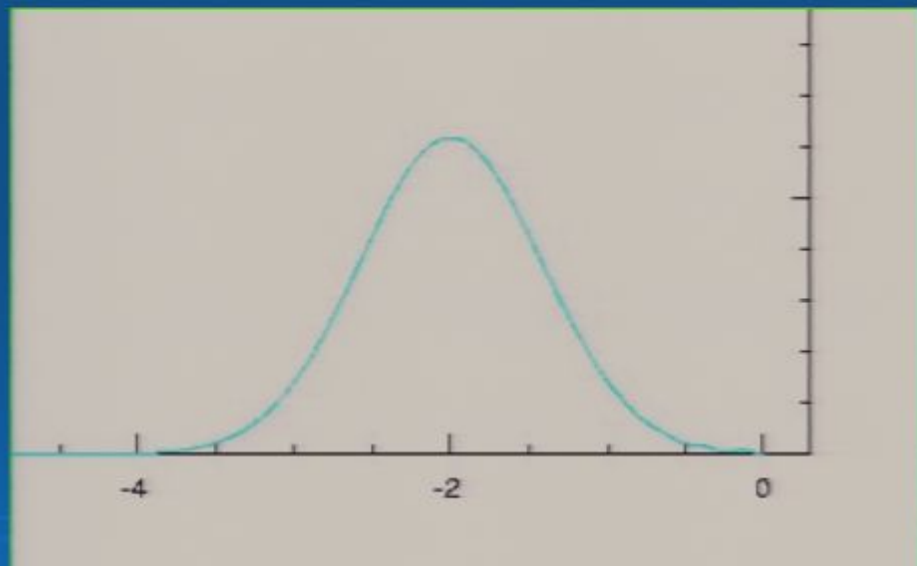
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But for an initially localized wavepacket,  
large  $\phi$  tail unimportant except near  
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What happens at the singularity?

Example: free  
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Gaussian wavepacket  
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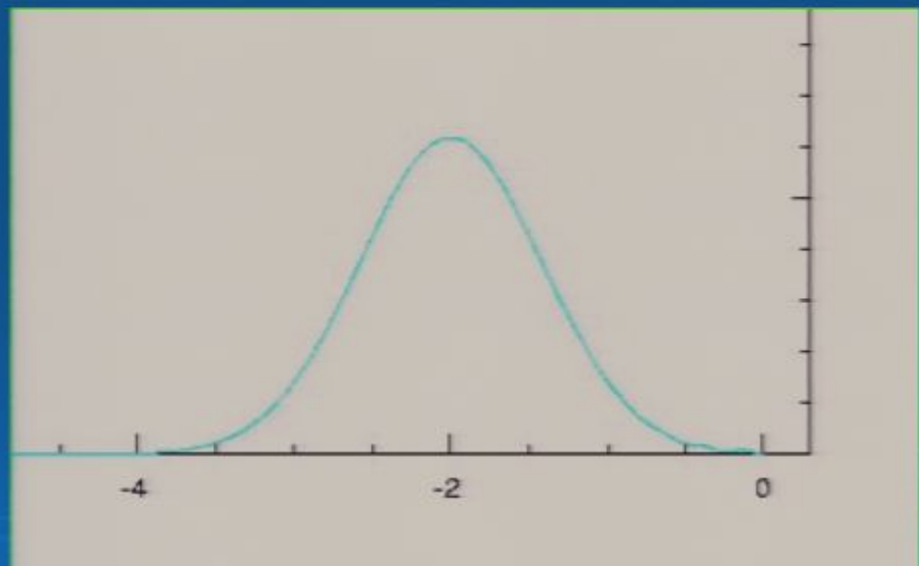


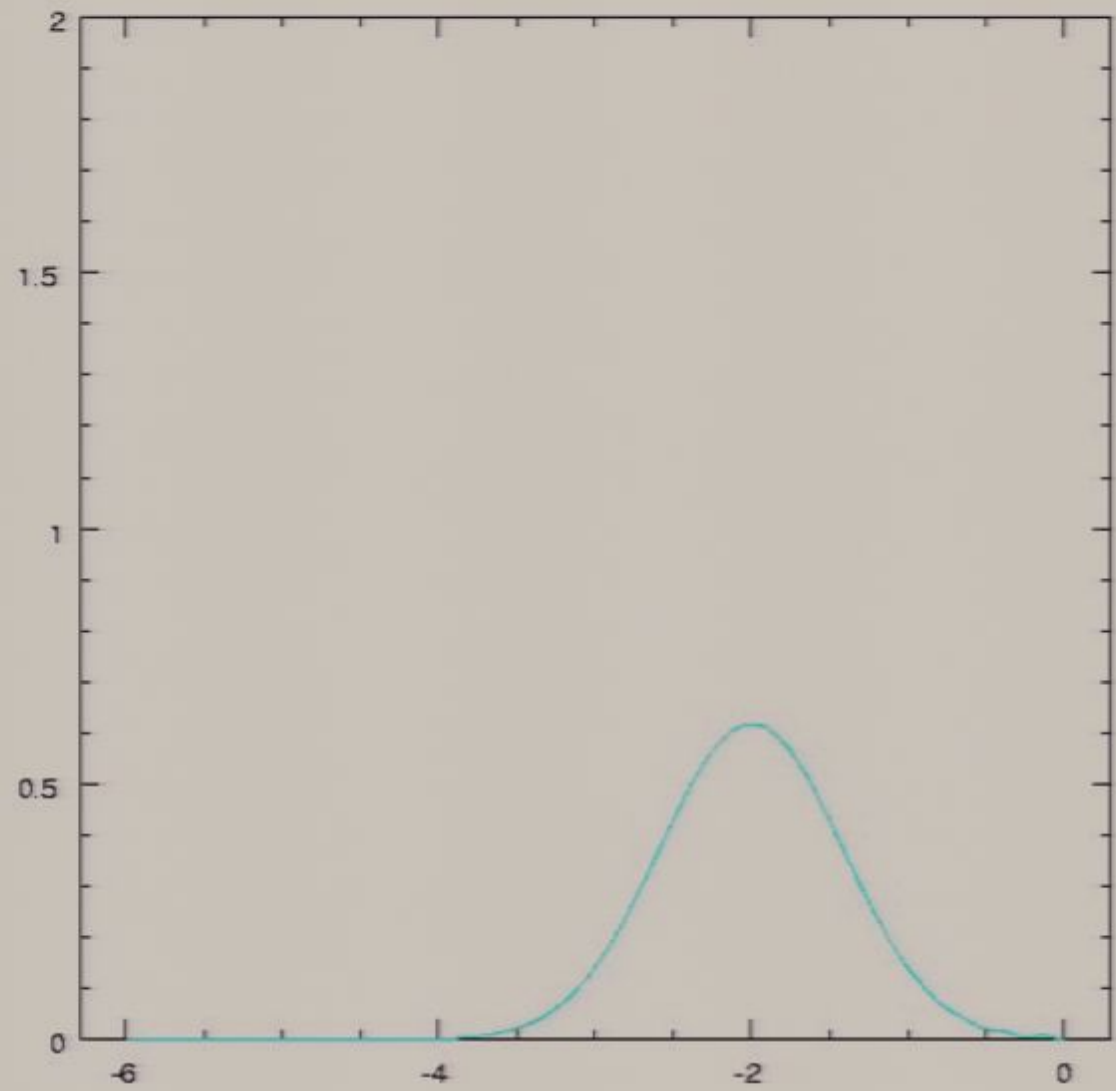


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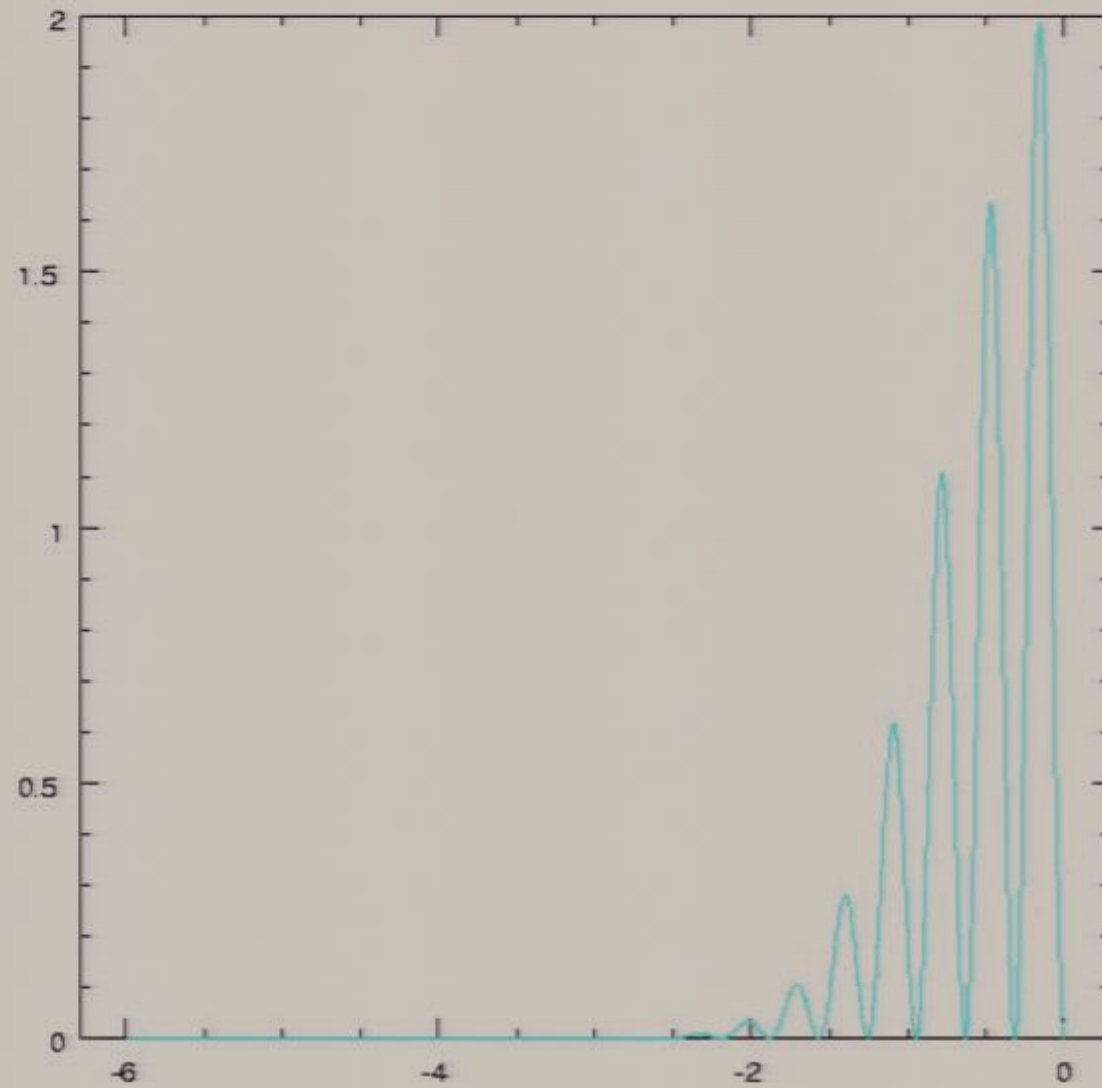
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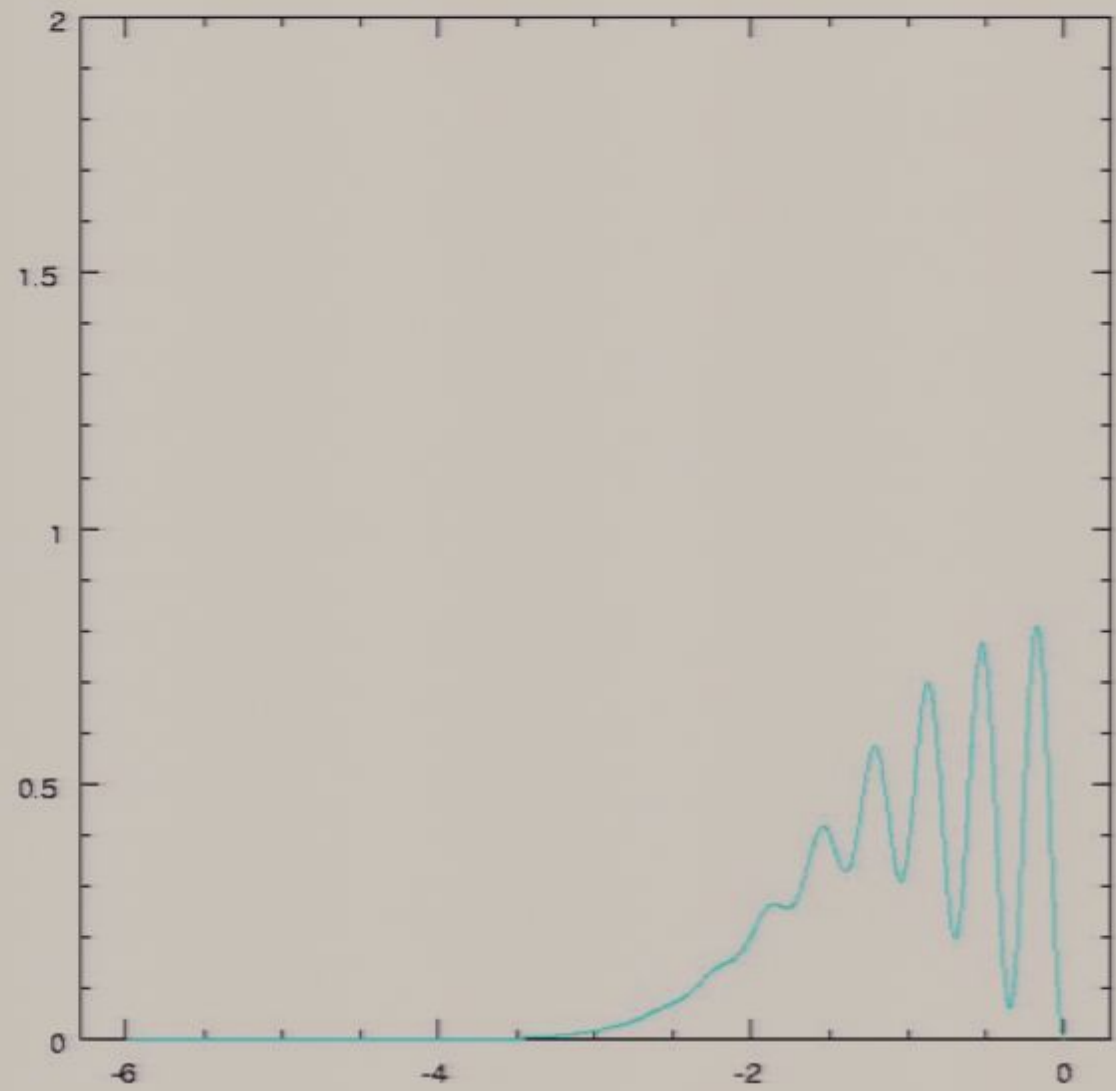
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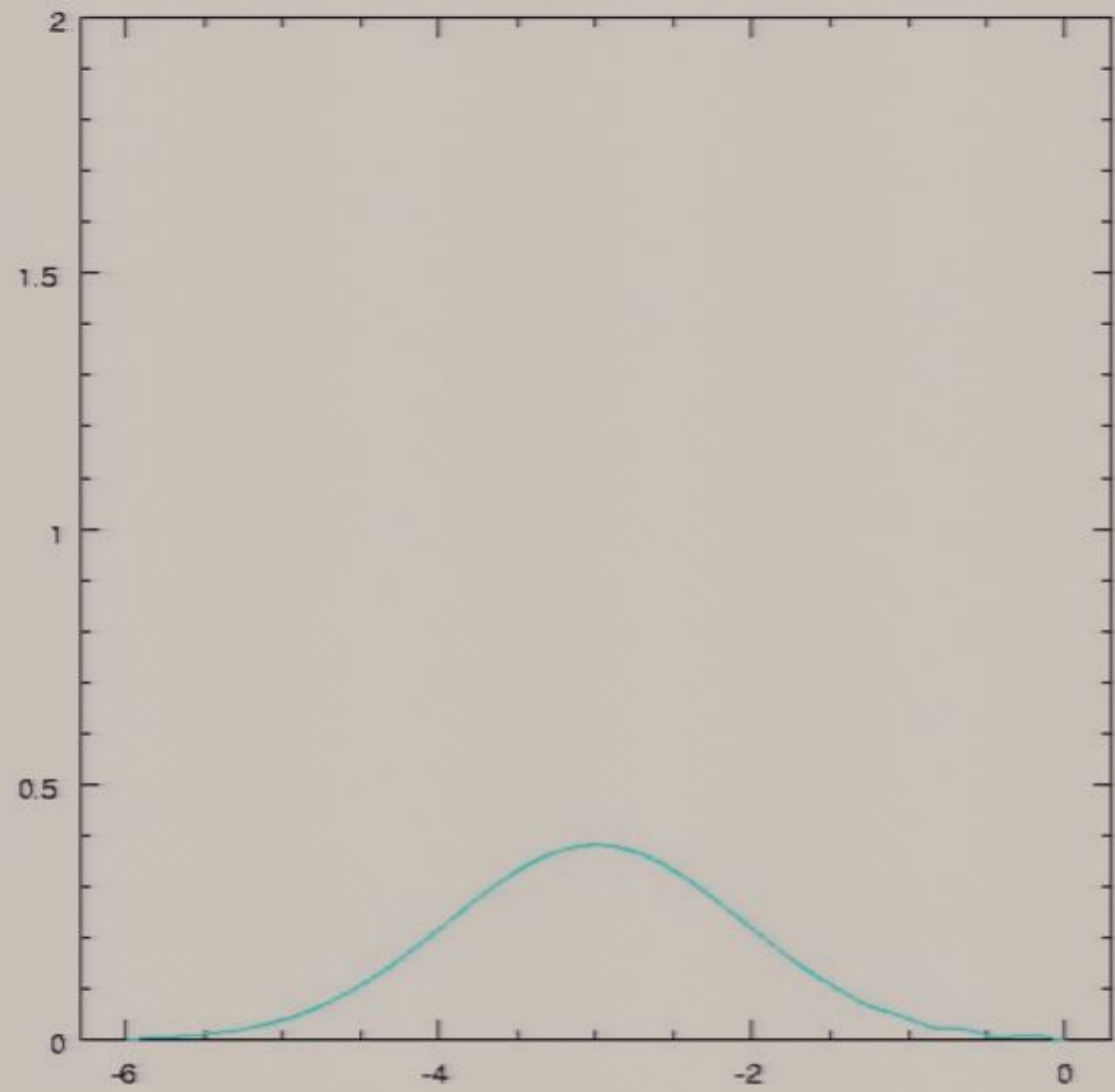


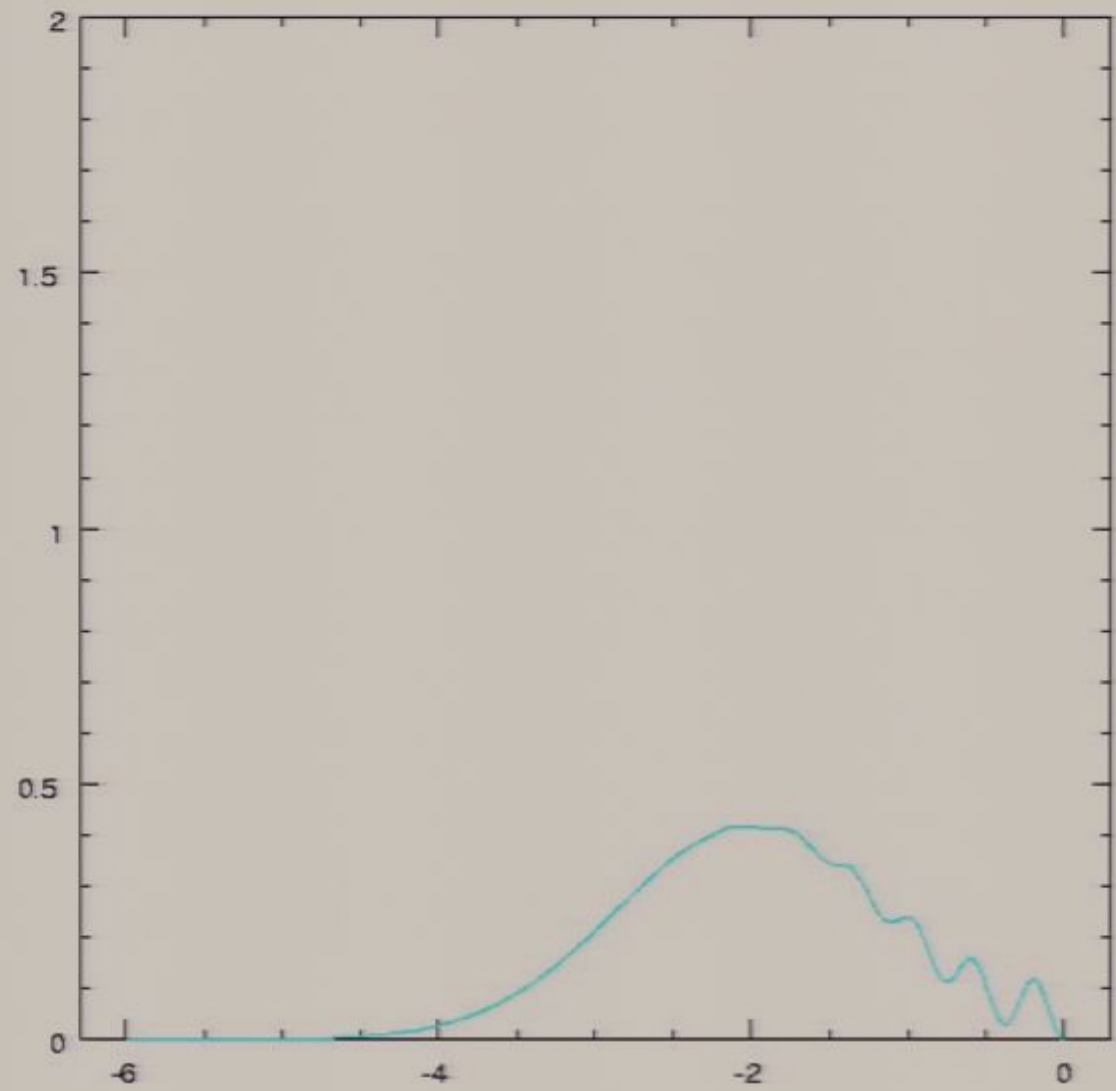














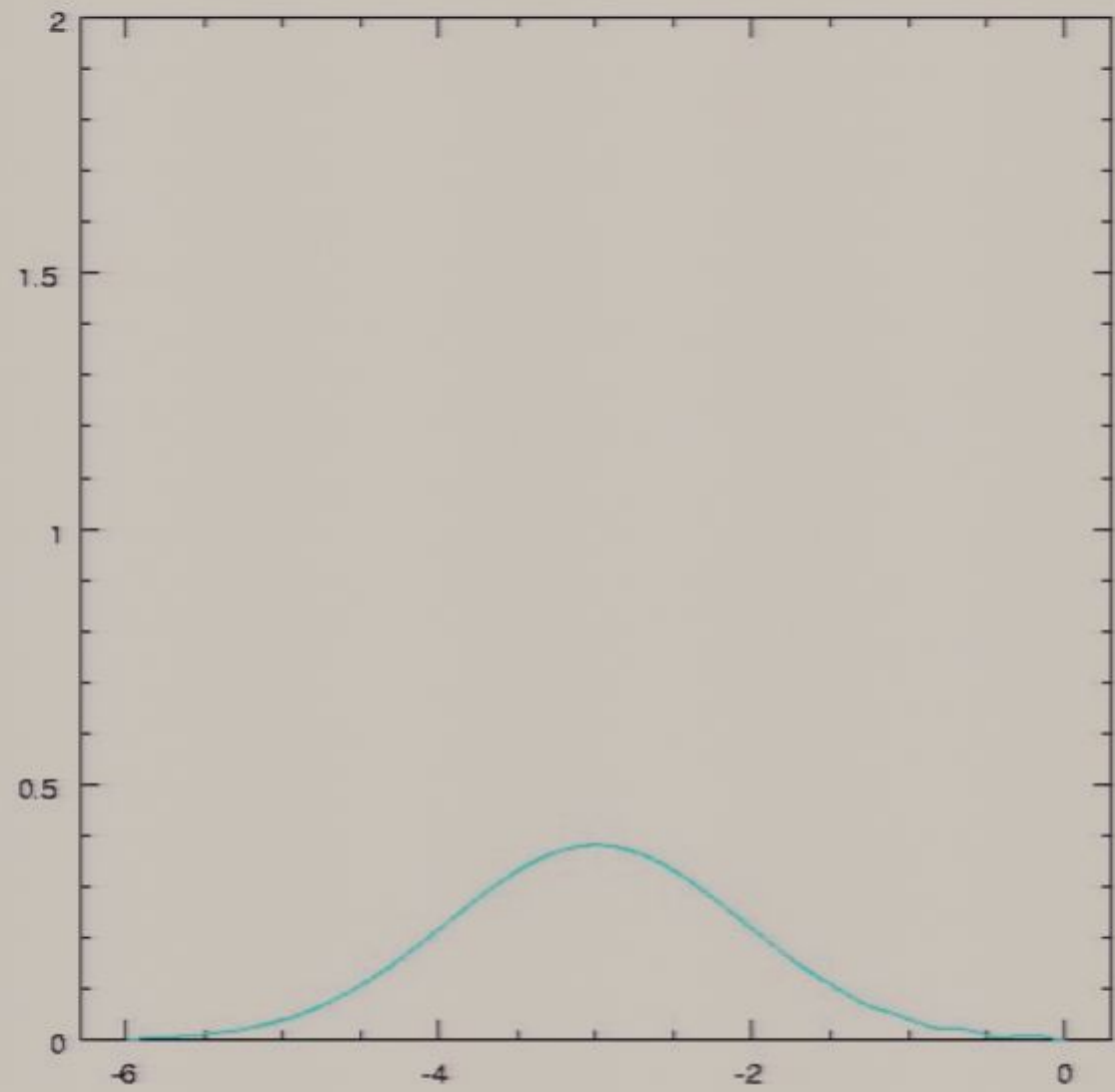
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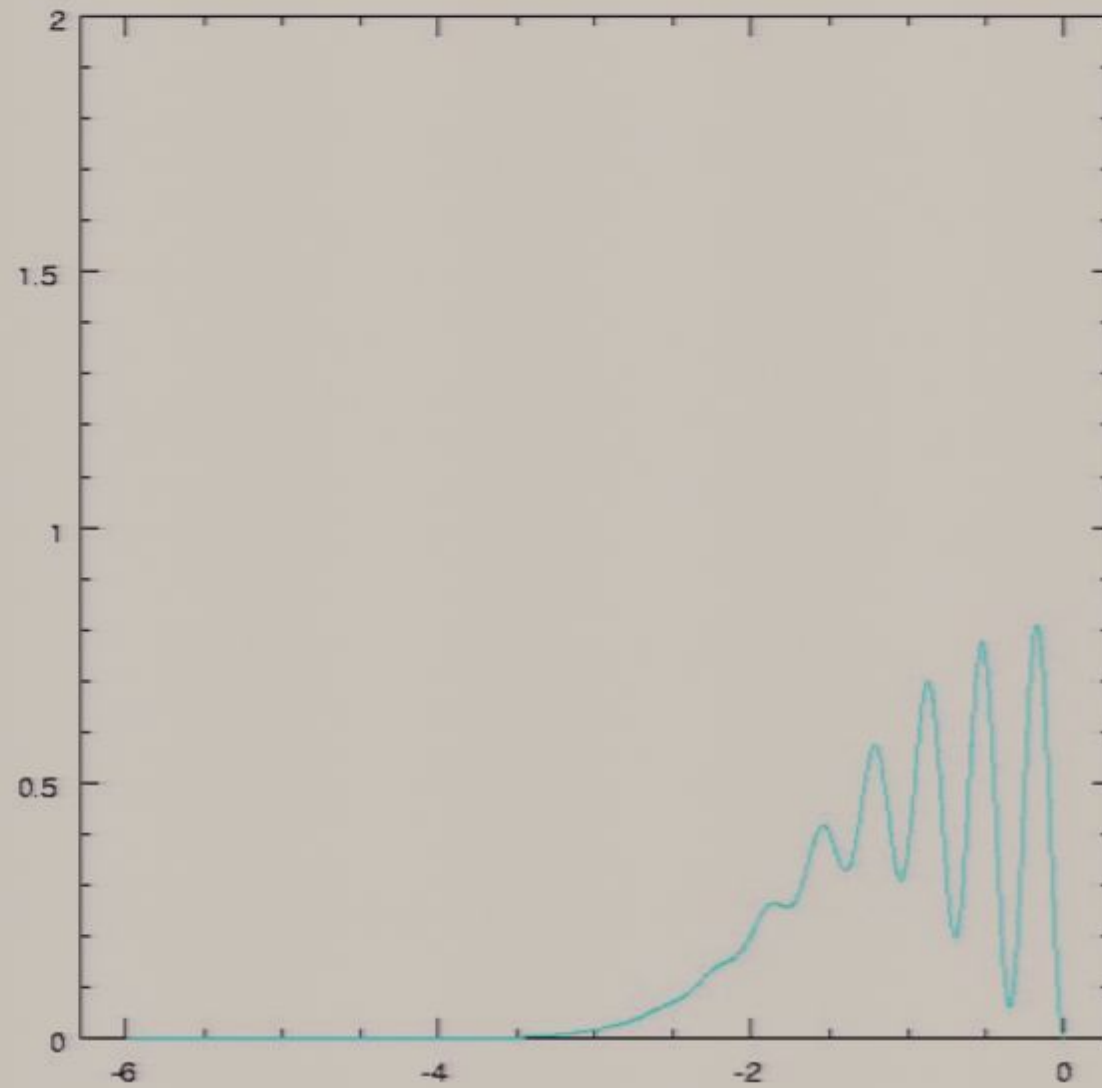
Let  $\chi = \langle \chi \rangle + \delta \chi \rightarrow \delta \ddot{\chi} - 4 \frac{\langle \dot{\chi} \rangle}{\langle \chi \rangle} \delta \chi = -k^2 \delta \chi$

But  $\langle \chi \rangle$  finite for all  $t$  (QM reflection)

$\rightarrow$  particle creation in  $\delta \chi$  is exponentially suppressed in UV, i.e. for  $k > \delta t_s^{-1} \sim \lambda^{-1/2} R_{\text{AdS}}^{-1}$







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# Initial Conditions

$$\phi \sim \lambda^{1/2} R_{\text{AdS}}^{-1} \quad \text{zero energy start}$$
$$t_s \sim R_{\text{AdS}}$$

QM spreading: e.g. free particle

$$\delta\phi^2 \sim \ell^2 + (\delta p/m)^2 t^2 \sim \ell^2 + (\hbar/m\ell)^2 t^2$$

Minimise for given  $t$ :  $\ell^2 \sim \hbar/mt$

In our case, minimal spread achieved by

$$\delta\phi \sim R_{\text{AdS}} : \text{time delay } \delta t_s \sim \lambda^{1/2} R_{\text{AdS}}$$

Away from sing<sup>y</sup>,  $\phi = \phi_c + \delta\phi$  is reasonable

$$\mathcal{S} \approx \int d^4x \left( -\frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 + \lambda\phi^4 \right)$$

$$\lambda = \frac{16\pi^2}{3\ln(\phi/M)} \equiv \frac{\lambda_0}{l}$$

Zero Energy soln  
(attractor)

$$\phi = \frac{l^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\sqrt{2\lambda_0}} \frac{1}{(-t)} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2l} - \frac{1}{4l^2} \dots \right)$$

Pertns

$$\ddot{\delta\phi} = \frac{6}{t^2} \left( 1 + \frac{5}{12l} - \frac{2}{3l^2} \dots \right) \delta\phi - k^2 \delta\phi.$$

Evolve incoming modes until they become ultralocal ('frozen'), then match across singularity using QM SA extension



### 3. Mode Mixing, Particle Creation

At leading order in log, no mode mixing and no particle creation. But at next order,...

#### Mode Evolution

$$\delta\phi^{(1)} = l^{\frac{1}{2}} f^{(1)}(kt) + l^{-\frac{1}{2}} g^{(1)}(kt) + \dots,$$

$$\delta\phi^{(2)} = l^{-\frac{1}{2}} f^{(2)}(kt) + l^{-\frac{3}{2}} g^{(2)}(kt) + \dots,$$

$$f^{(1)} = \cos kt \left( 1 - \frac{3}{(kt)^2} \right) - 3 \frac{\sin kt}{kt},$$

$$f^{(2)} = \sin kt \left( 1 - \frac{3}{(kt)^2} \right) + 3 \frac{\cos kt}{kt}$$

Evolve incoming pos freq mode, match across  $t=0$ , compute Bog. coefft

$$\beta \approx -i \frac{\pi}{\ln(k/\sqrt{\lambda}M)}$$

# Particle Production

Density of  
created particles

$$\rho_c = \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^3} k |\beta|^2$$

$$\sim R_{AdS}^{-4}$$

A small perturbation on  
 $V$  where UV cutoff kicks in

$$V_m \sim -\lambda^{-3} R_{AdS}^{-4}$$

$\rightarrow \phi$  returns close to its original value

After  $N$  bounces

$$V(\phi_{min}) = -N R_{AdS}^{-4}$$

This falls to the point  
where QFT fails, after

$$N \sim \lambda_m^{-3}$$

bounces



# Scale-Invariant Perturbations

"improved"

$T_{\mu\nu}$

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle &\equiv \langle 0, \text{in} | \mathcal{O} | 0, \text{in} \rangle - \langle 0, \text{out} | \mathcal{O} | 0, \text{out} \rangle \\ \langle \delta T_{00}(r, t) \delta T_{00}(0, t) \rangle &\sim \frac{1}{\ln^2(1/Mr)} \frac{1}{t^2 r^6} \\ \langle \delta T_{0i}(r, t) \delta T_{0i}(0, t) \rangle &\sim \frac{1}{\ln^2(1/Mr)} \left( \frac{1}{t^2 r^6} + \frac{1}{t^4 r^4} \right) \\ \langle \delta \bar{T}_{ij}(r, t) \delta \bar{T}_{ij}(0, t) \rangle &\sim \frac{1}{\ln^2(1/Mr)} \frac{1}{t^6 r^2}\end{aligned}$$

i.e.

$$\left\langle \frac{\delta \rho(r, t)}{P + \rho} \frac{\delta \rho(0, t)}{P + \rho} \right\rangle \sim \frac{1}{\ln^2(1/Mr) \ln(1/Mt)} f(r/t)$$

These will determine bulk correlators and hence cosmological perturbations

Amplitude  $\sim \lambda^3$  naturally small

Tilt: red, from running of  $\lambda$

Gaussian (NG  $\sim \lambda$ )

Scalar, Adiabatic



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- Finite density of radiation produced
- GLASS perturbations without tuning

In progress:

- Translation of perturbations into bulk
- Model with 4d bulk, 3d CFT
- Glue onto positive dark energy phase to get realistic cyclic model

# Summary

- \* The cyclic model is (an attempt at) a more complete cosmological model than inflation, incorporating dark energy, dealing with singularity
- \* Possible to generate realistic curvature perturbations before the bang, even within 4dET
- \* Main phenomenological difference: inflation  $\rightarrow$  scale-invariant tensors