

Title: Conformal invariance and the multiverse

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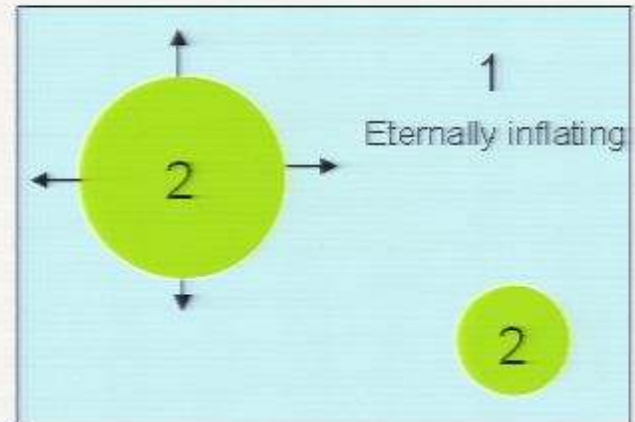
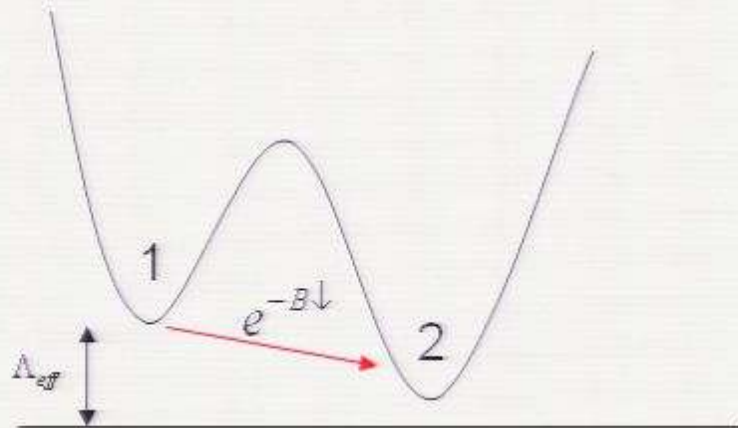
Abstract: TBA

# Conformal invariance and the multiverse



Jaume Garriga,  
(U. Barcelona)

# Metastable dS vacua

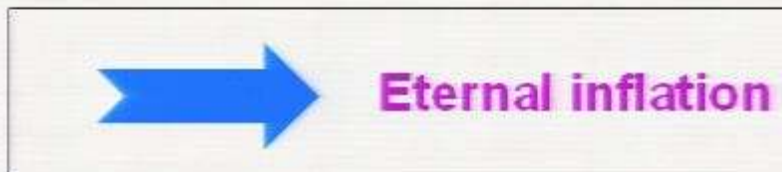


$\lambda \equiv$  dimensionless decay rate  $\sim e^{-B} \ll 1$

$$\frac{dV_1}{dt} = 3HV_1 - \lambda HV_1$$

$$V_1 = C e^{(3 - \lambda) Ht}$$

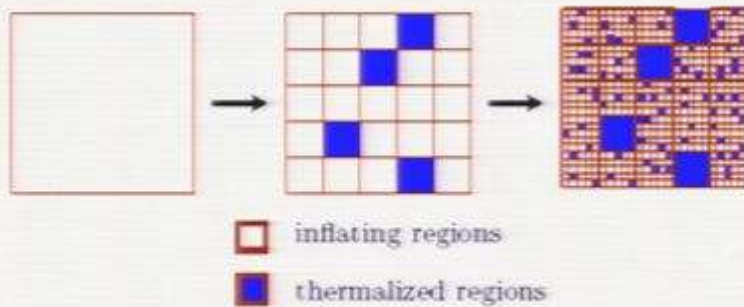
Average volume grows unbounded for  $\lambda \ll 1$ ,



*Finite probability that transition is never complete*

# The eternally inflating fractal

(Vilenkin 87,  
Winitzki 02,05)



**Sierpinsky carpet**

$b \equiv e^3$  branching factor

$p \equiv e^{-\lambda}$  survival prob.

$N \equiv Ht$  number of steps

$$\langle V_1 \rangle = H^{-3} (bp)^N \text{ grows for } bp > 1$$

$X \equiv$  **Probability that a Hubble sized region contains eternal points**

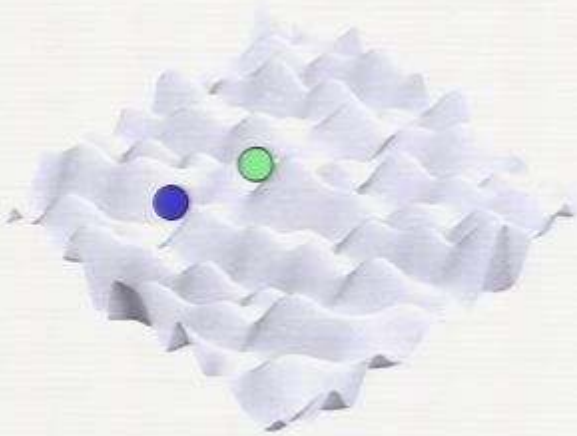
$$X = 1 - (1 - Xp)^b$$

For  $bp < 1$  (ie.  $\lambda < 3$ ) only trivial solution  $X = 0$ ,  
but for  $bp > 1$ , nontrivial solution  $0 < X \leq 1$ .

$E =$  **Set of eternal points (non-empty with finite probability for  $\lambda < 3$ )**

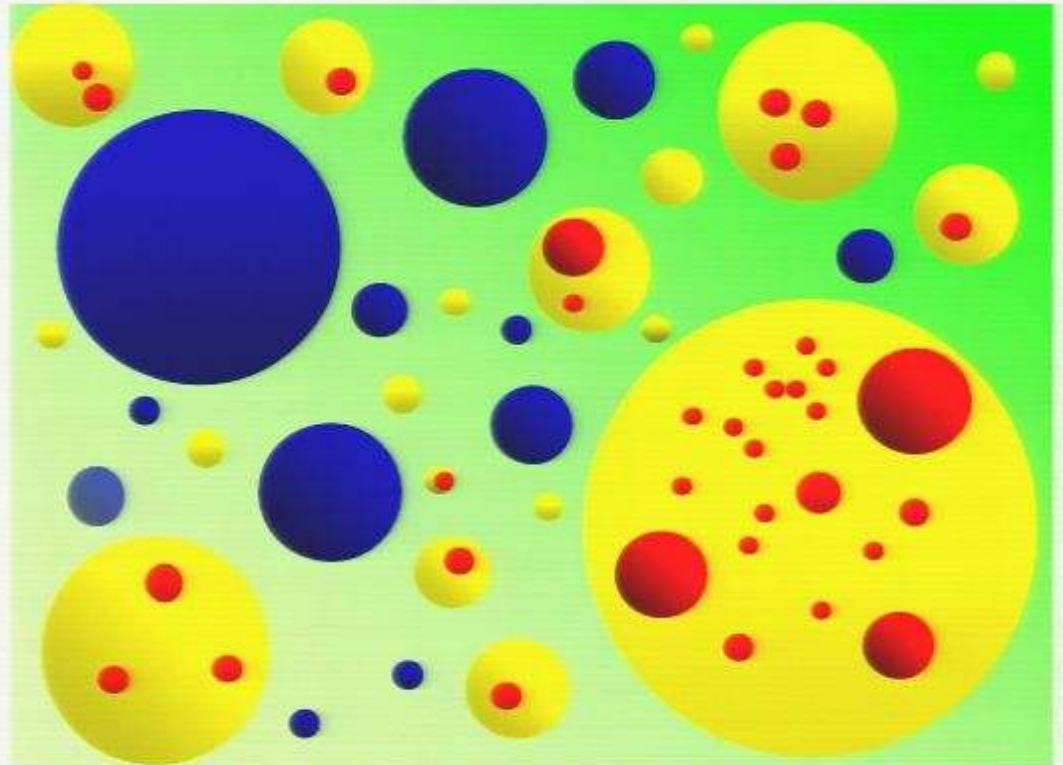
$$\dim E = 3 - \lambda$$

# Eternally inflating multiverse



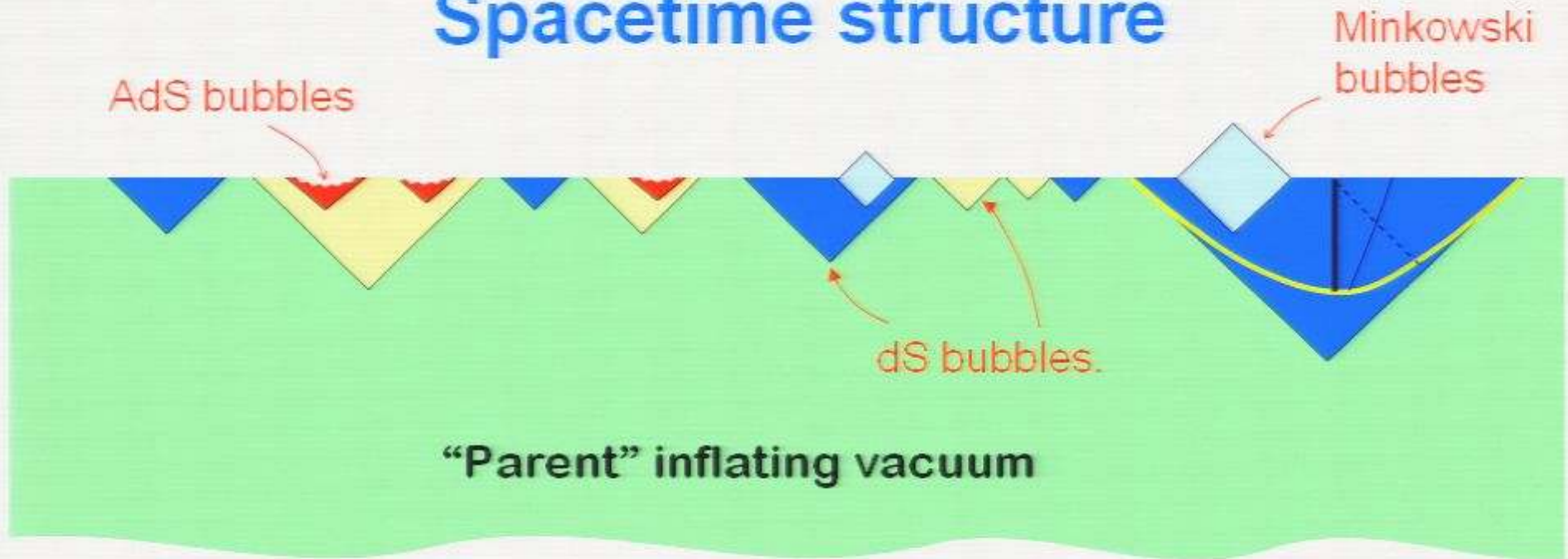
Field space  
(Landscape of vacua)

$$N_{vac} \sim 10^{500}$$



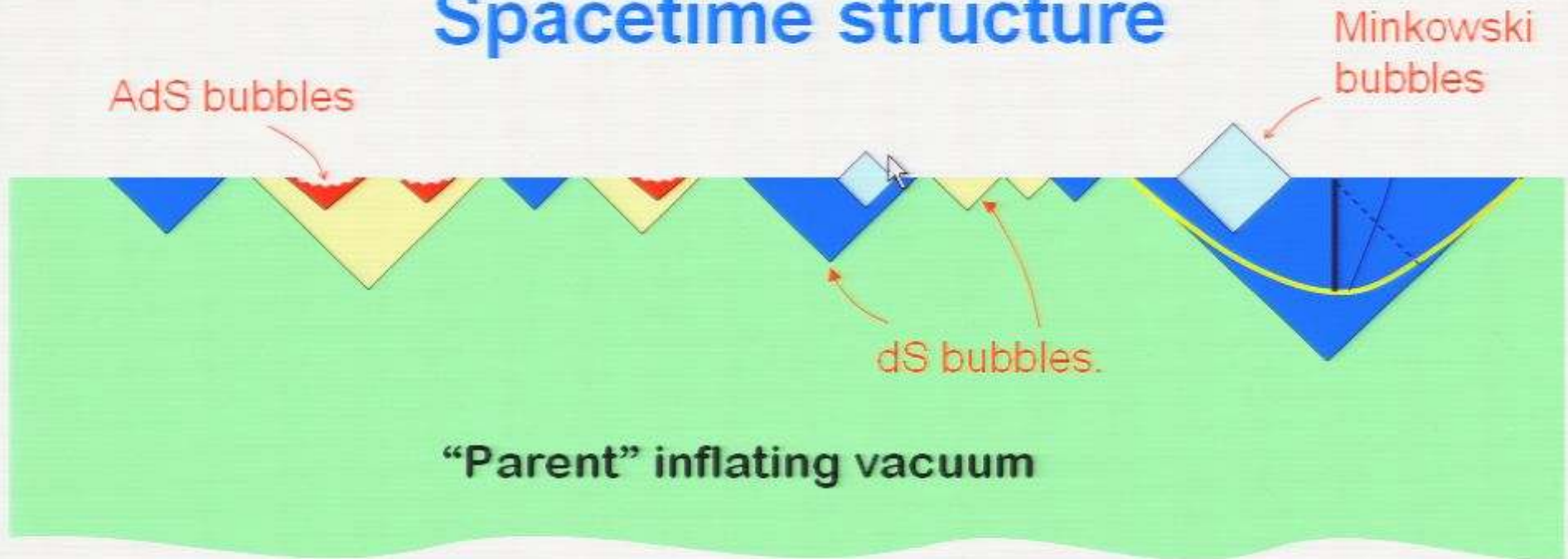
Physical space

# Spacetime structure



- Bubbles nucleate and expand at nearly the speed of light.
- dS (Inflating)
- AdS
- Minkowski } (Terminal bubbles)

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# Attractor behaviour of volume distribution:

Fraction of volume  $V_i(t)$  in inflating vacuum of type

Scale factor gauge  $t = \log a$

$$\frac{dV_i}{dt} = 3V_i + M_{ij}V_j$$

*rate equation*

$$M_{ij} = \underbrace{\lambda_{ij}}_{\text{Gained from other vacua}} - \underbrace{\delta_{ij} \sum_r \lambda_{ri}}_{\text{Lost to other vacua}}$$

$$\lambda_{ij} = \frac{4\pi}{3} H_j^{-4} \Gamma_{ij}$$

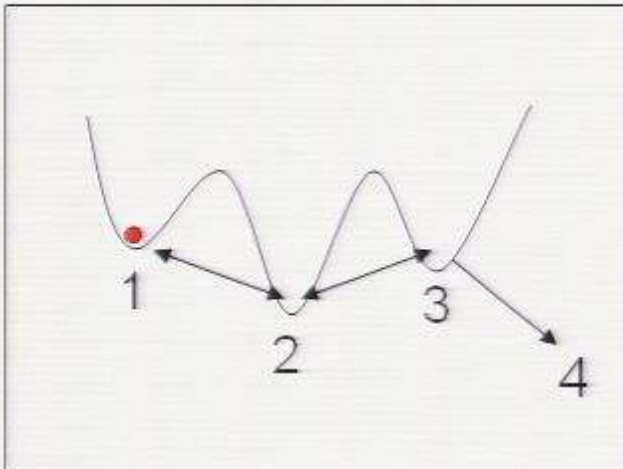
From bubbles of type "i" in vacuum "j".

To each irreducible "landscape" there corresponds a unique attractor volume distribution.

$$V_i(t) \rightarrow V_i^{(0)} e^{(3-q)t} \quad 0 < q \ll 1$$

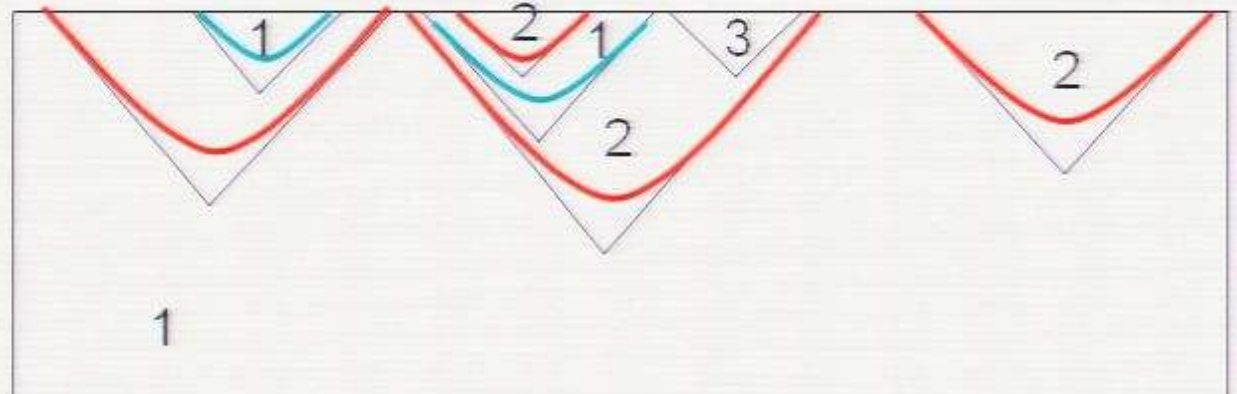
In this sense, initial conditions do not play a role.

THEORY



*J.G., Schwartz-Perlov,  
Vilenkin & Winitzki (2005)*

(Self-similar fractal)

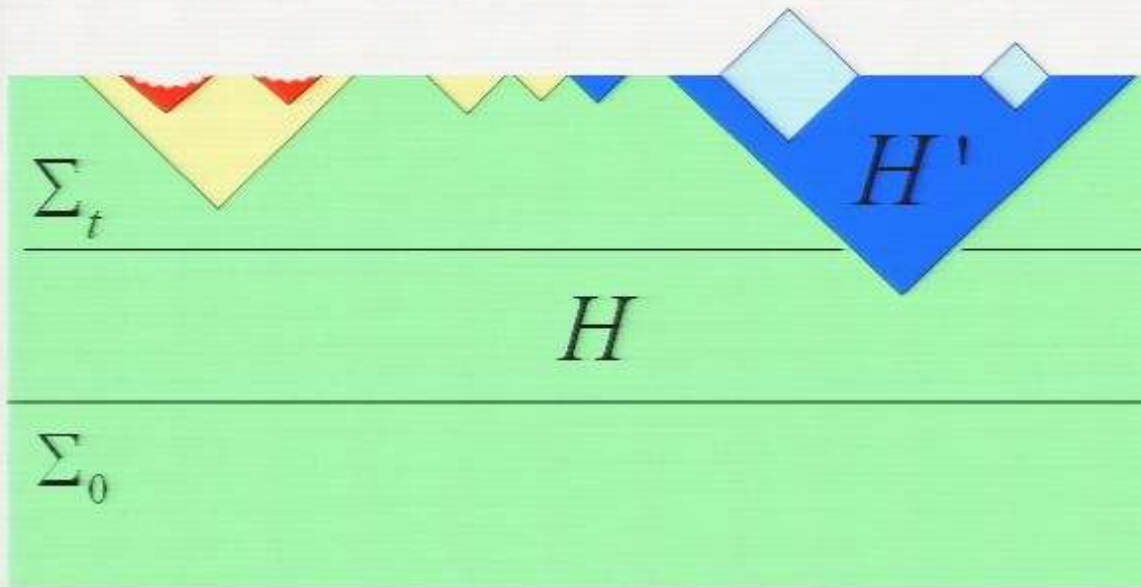


# Proposal:

*The dynamics of the multiverse admits a holographic description in terms of a CFT at the future boundary.*

(With Alex Vilenkin )

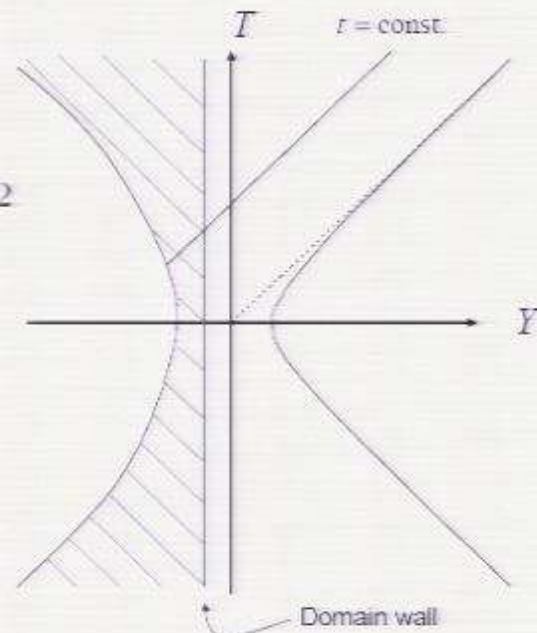
# Simple model: dS bubbles separated by thin walls



- Nested bubbles plus linearized fluctuations.
- Inflating part of spacetime can be foliated by flat surfaces. (They are very close to constant- $a$  surfaces.)

$t = \ln a$  – scale factor time

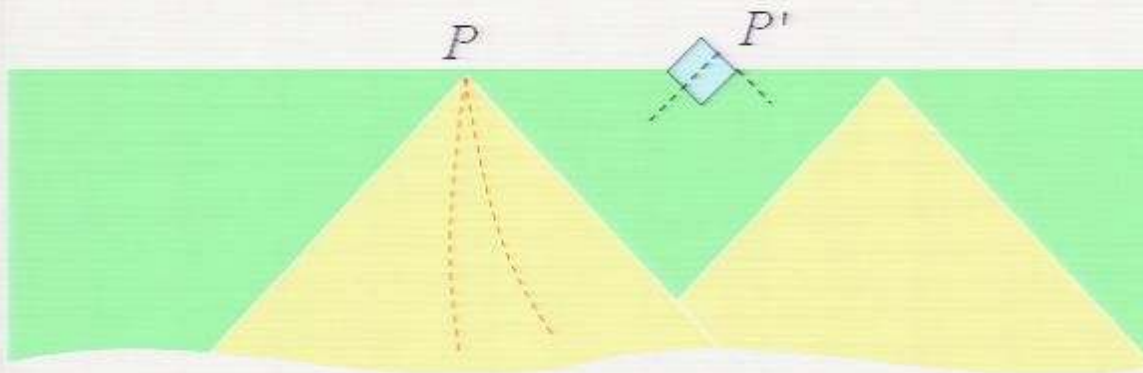
$$X^2 + (Y - Y_0)^2 - T^2 = H'^{-2}$$



$$X^2 + Y^2 - T^2 = H^{-2}$$

$$ds^2 = -H^{-2} dt^2 + e^{2t} dx^2$$

# Formal definition of the future boundary



What is a “point”  $P$  at the future boundary?

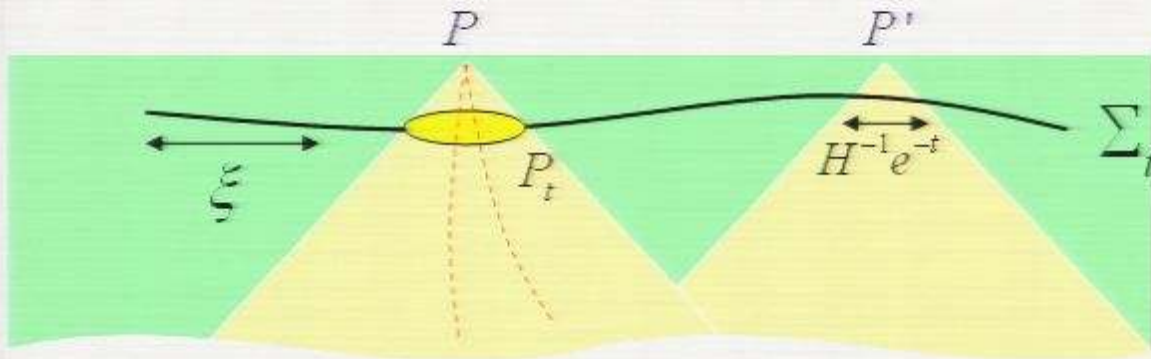
It is the past of an inextendible timelike curve.

*Hawking & Ellis (1973)*

Curves having the same past define the same point  $P$

Points in the eternal set  $\mathcal{E}$  are the “endpoints” of eternally inflating curves.

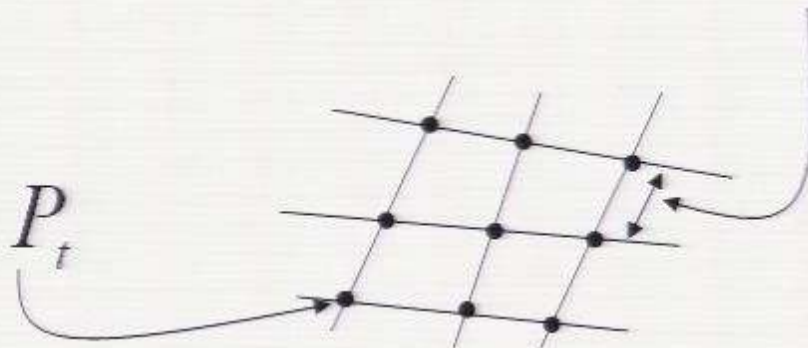
# The auxiliary surface $\Sigma_t$ and the discrete boundary theory



Each point  $P \in \mathcal{E}$  is represented on  $\Sigma_t$  as a “blob”  $P_t$  of co-moving size  $H^{-1}e^{-t}$ .

This gives a representation of  $\mathcal{E}$  with position dependent resolution  $l_c \sim H^{-1}(x)e^{-t}$

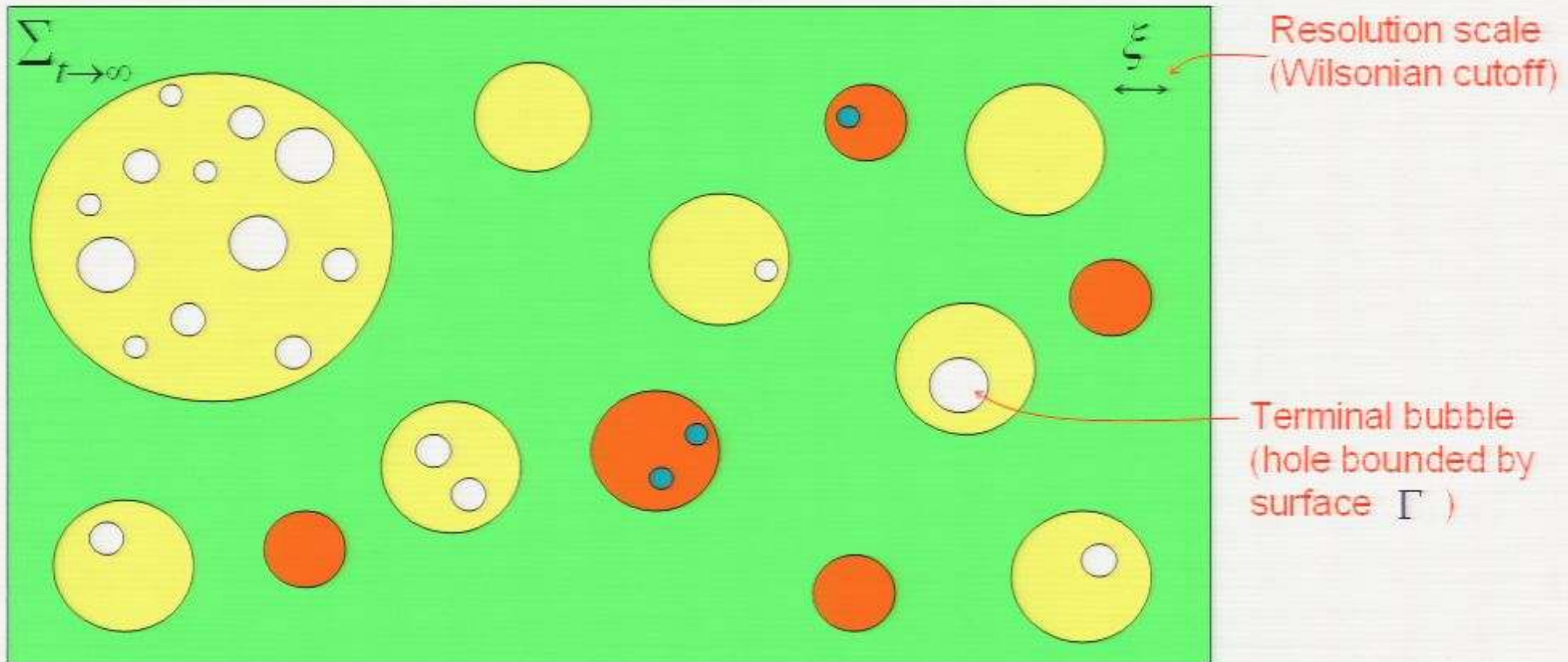
$\Sigma_t$  is a “fishnet” of “points”  $P_t$



Each point carries  $N_{bulk} \sim S_{GH} \sim H^{-2}(x)$  degrees of freedom (discrete theory)

Continuum description on scales larger than a Wilsonian cut-off  $\xi \gg \max[l_c(x)]$

# Representation of the eternal set $\mathcal{E}$ at finite resolution $\xi$



- Each bubble becomes a fractal “sponge” in the limit  $\xi \rightarrow 0$ .
- Terminal bubbles correspond to holes (with 2D CFTs on their boundaries).
- Bubbles correspond to boundary surfaces in the 3D theory on  $\mathcal{E}$ .

# Statement of the duality:

similar to: Maldacena (2002)  
Larsen, McNees (2003)

$$\Psi[\bar{\varphi}(\bar{x})] = \int_{\Sigma_0}^{\Sigma_{t \rightarrow \infty}} D\varphi e^{iS_{bulk}[\varphi]} = e^{iW_{CFT}[\bar{\varphi}]}$$

Wave function of the universe

Effective action for the boundary theory with 'sources'  $\bar{\varphi}(\bar{x})$ .

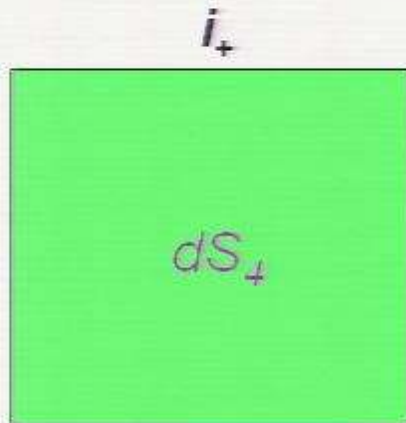
For any fixed Wilsonian cutoff  $\xi$  the continuum limit is achieved as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

Short-distance physics at 'late time' surface  $\Sigma_{t \rightarrow \infty}$  should not depend on the initial state on  $\Sigma_0$

# dS/CFT correspondence

Strominger (2001)

Is the 4D theory describing an asymptotically de Sitter space equivalent to a 3D Euclidean CFT at future infinity  $i_+$ ?



$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + H^{-2} \cosh^2(Ht) d\Omega_3^2$$

Future infinity is  $S_3 : t \rightarrow \infty$ .

Some potential problems:

1- Scaling dimensions are complex for bulk fields with

$$m^2 > \left(\frac{d}{2}\right)^2 H^2 \quad (\text{these fields oscillate in time})$$

2- In String Theory, dS space is metastable, so there is no such thing as asymptotically dS space.

# The wave function and conformal invariance

$$\Psi[\bar{\varphi}] = e^{iW_{CFT}[\bar{\varphi}]}$$

- Linearized tensor modes in de Sitter
- Linearized bubble fluctuations

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Gaussian wave functional

$$\Psi[h] = e^{iW[h]} \quad \boxed{W = \int d^d \mathbf{k} \left( \frac{a^{d-1}}{2} \frac{v_{\mathbf{k}}'}{v_{\mathbf{k}}} |h_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 + i \ln v_{\mathbf{k}} \right)}$$

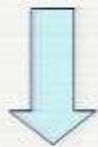
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Choice of vacuum (for  $m=0$ )

$$v_{\mathbf{k}}(\eta) = \frac{\pi^{1/2}}{2} a^{-d/2} H_{d/2}^{(1)}(k\eta)$$

Bunch-Davies



( $d+1=5$ )

$$W[\bar{h}(\mathbf{x})] = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4 \mathbf{k} \left( \frac{-k^2 a^2}{2H} + \frac{k^4}{8H^3} [\ln(k^2/H^2 a^2) + \boxed{i\pi} + 2\gamma] + O(a^{-2}) \right) |h_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 + \dots$$

$$|\Psi|^2 \propto \exp \left[ - \int d^4\mathbf{k} \left( \frac{\pi}{8H^3} k^4 \right) |h_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 \right]$$

$$\langle h_{\mathbf{k}}^* h_{\mathbf{k}'} \rangle = (8H^3 / \pi k^4) \delta(\mathbf{k}' - \mathbf{k})$$

Imaginary part of  $W$  determines the amplitude of cosmological perturbations.

But there is also the non-local part

$$\text{Re}[W] = \frac{H^{-3}}{16} \int d^4\mathbf{k} k^4 \ln(k^2/\mu^2) |h_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 + \text{analytic.}$$

$$\langle T(k) T^*(k') \rangle \sim c k^4 \ln k^2$$

Expected form in a CFT

# 1- Linearized tensor modes in de Sitter

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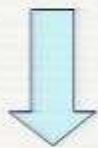
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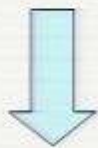
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In general, the coefficient of the logarithmically divergent term is the trace anomaly

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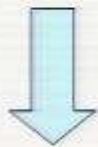
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**Numerology:** At maximum resolution, when the Wilsonian cutoff is comparable to the “fishnet” spacing

$$\xi \sim l_c \sim H^{-1}(x) e^{-t}$$

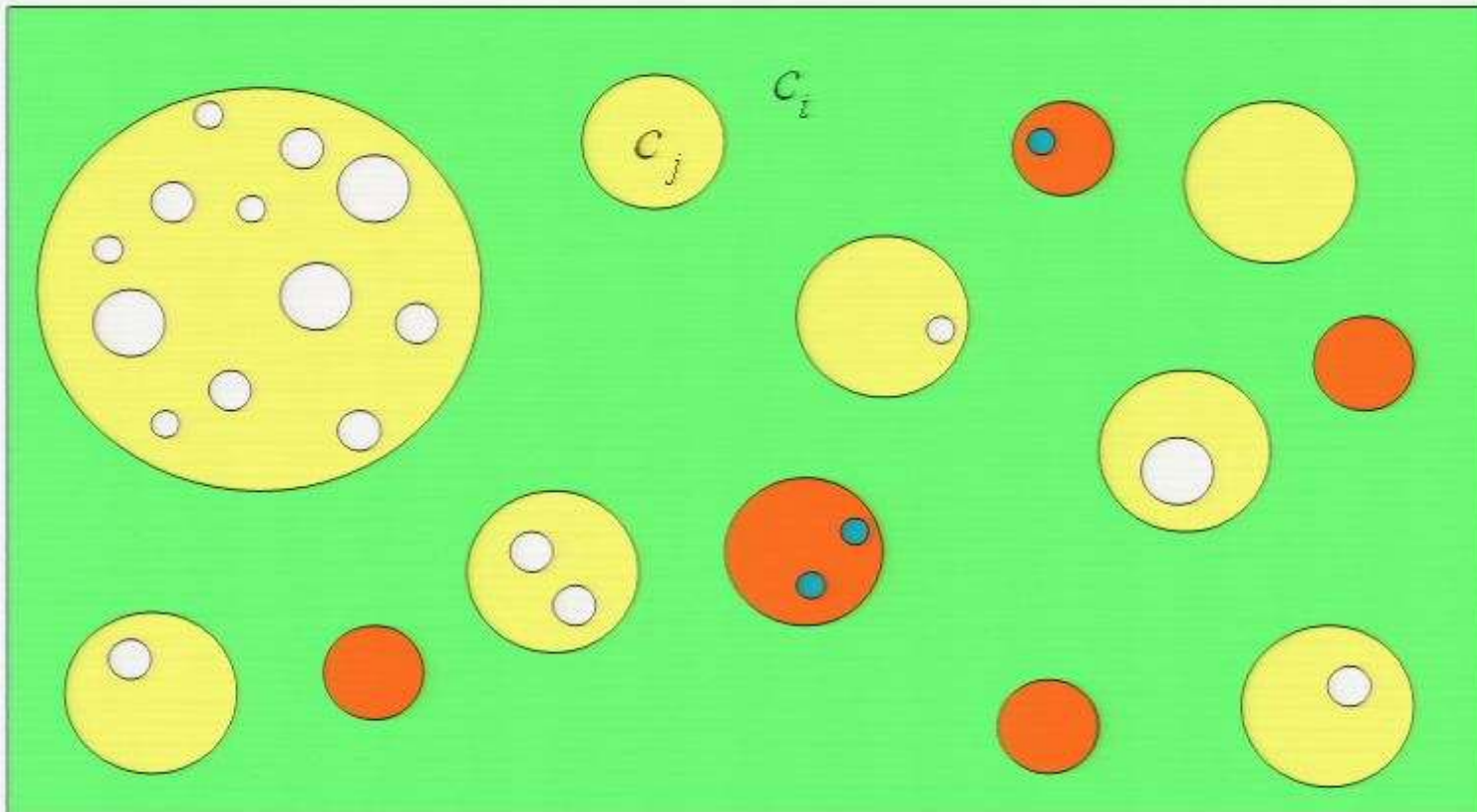
there should be as many degrees of freedom per fishnet point as the number of CFT fields in the boundary.

$$N_{\text{boundary}} \sim c \sim H^{-2}$$

This is in agreement with the bulk estimate:

$$N_{\text{bulk}} \sim S_{\text{area}} \sim H^{-2}$$

## 2- Linearized bubble fluctuations



- The boundary effective action should depend on the shape of the surfaces which separate regions with different central charge.

(d+1=4)

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$$\xi \sim l_c \sim H^{-1}(x) e^{-t}$$

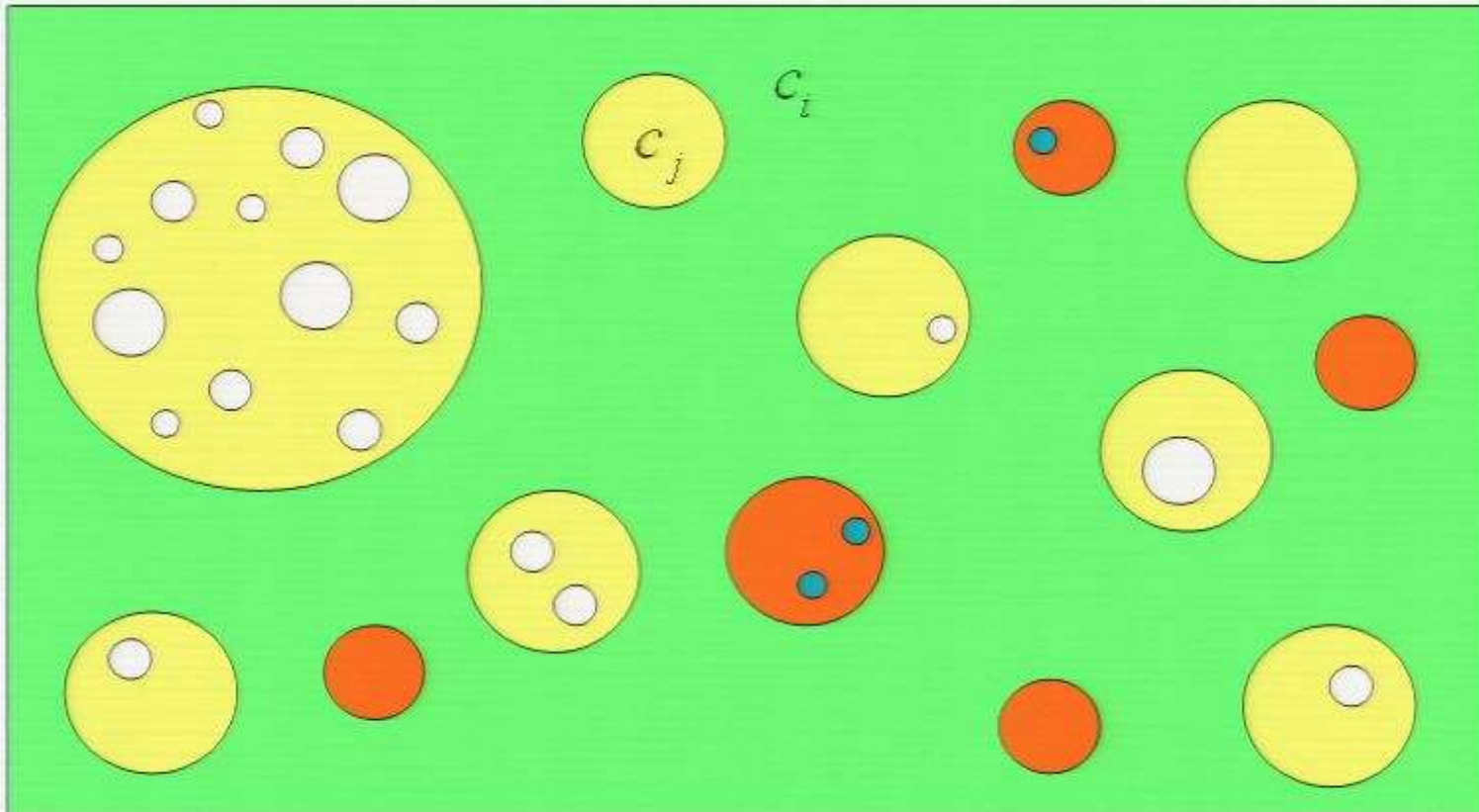
there should be as many degrees of freedom per fishnet point as the number of CFT fields in the boundary.

$$N_{\text{boundary}} \sim c \sim H^{-2}$$

This is in agreement with the bulk estimate:

$$N_{\text{bulk}} \sim S_{\text{grav}} \sim H^{-2}$$

## 2- Linearized bubble fluctuations



- The boundary effective action should depend on the shape of the surfaces which separate regions with different central charge.

## Bubble fluctuations

Restrict attention to the case where gravity of the bubble is unimportant

$$TR_0 \ll 1, \quad (\Delta\rho_V)R_0^2 \ll 1.$$

↑  
Bubble wall tension

$$R_0^2 \approx \frac{(p+1)^2 T^2}{(p+1)^2 H^2 T^2 + (\Delta\rho_V)^2}.$$

↑  
Intrinsic curvature radius of the worldsheet of bubble wall (which is a  $p+1$  dS space)

$$\delta x^\mu = T^{-1/2} \boxed{\phi} n^\mu. \quad \text{Normal displacement of the worldsheet}$$

$\phi$  - Canonical world-sheet scalar field with a tachyonic mass

$$m_\phi^2 = -(p+1)R_0^{-2}.$$

$$ds_w^2 = \tilde{a}^2 (-d\tilde{\eta}^2 + d\Omega_p^2).$$

**Unperturbed w.s. metric**

$$\tilde{a} = R_0 / \cos \tilde{\eta},$$

**Bubble radius**

$$\phi = \sum_{LM} \phi_{LM} Y_{LM}(\Omega),$$

**Worksheet normal displacement**

$$\Psi[\phi] = e^{iW[\phi]}$$

**Gaussian wave function**

$$W = \sum_{LM} \left( \frac{\tilde{a}^{d-1}}{2} \frac{v'_L}{v_L} |\phi_{LM}|^2 + i \ln v_L \right).$$

**Bunch-Davies vacuum**

$$v_L = A_L (\cos \tilde{\eta})^{p/2} \left( P_{L-1+p/2}^\nu(\sin \tilde{\eta}) + \frac{2i}{\pi} Q_{L-1+p/2}^\nu(\sin \tilde{\eta}) \right)$$

$p=2$

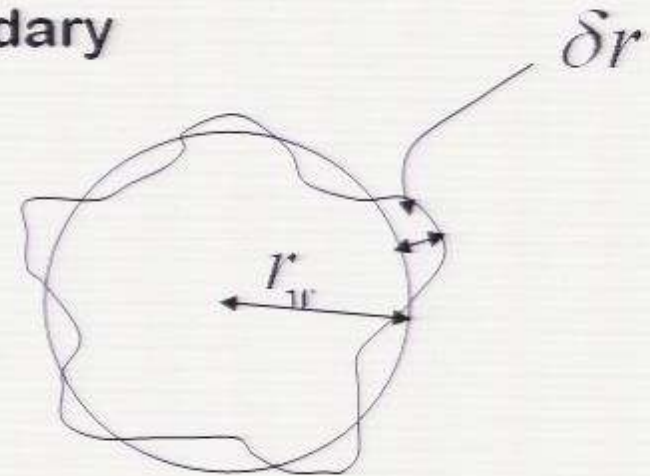
$$W = \sum_{LM} \left( \frac{\tilde{a}^2}{2R_0} + \frac{R_0 \Delta}{4} + \frac{R_0^3 \Delta (\Delta + 2)}{16 \tilde{a}^2} \left[ \ln \left( \frac{R_0^2}{4\tilde{a}^2} \right) + 2 \left( \psi(L) + \frac{1}{L} \right) + i\pi + 2\gamma \right] \right) |\phi_{LM}|^2.$$

$\downarrow$   
 $0 \quad (a \rightarrow \infty)$

**Relative displacement at the future boundary**

$$\delta \equiv \frac{\delta r}{r_w} = \frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{T^{-1/2} \phi}{\tilde{a}(t)}.$$

$\gamma \sim 1/(R_0 H)$       **Lorentz factor**



$$W[\bar{\delta}] = \frac{TR_0}{H^2} \sum_{LM} \frac{\Delta(\Delta + 2)}{16} \left[ \ln \left( \frac{R_0^2}{4\tilde{a}^2} \right) + 2 \left( \psi(L) + \frac{1}{L} \right) + i\pi + 2\gamma \right] |\delta_{LM}|^2 + \dots$$

# Effective action for the deformations of the separation surface in the boundary theory

We just saw that bulk calculation leads to:

$$W[\bar{\delta}] = \frac{TR_0}{H^2} \sum_{LM} \frac{\Delta(\Delta+2)}{16} \left[ \ln \left( \frac{R_0^2}{4\tilde{a}^2} \right) + 2 \left( \psi(L) + \frac{1}{L} \right) + i\pi + 2\gamma \right] |\delta_{LM}|^2 + \dots$$

**For**  $L \gg 1$       $W \sim d \int d^2k \, k^4 \log(k^2 / \mu^2)$       $d \sim \frac{TR_0}{H^2} \ll c$

What do we expect from the CFT side?      $W_{CFT} \sim a_{d/2} \ln \mu^2 + \dots$

$$a_{3/2} = \int d\Sigma_2 \left[ d_1 \left( K_{ab}K^{ab} - \frac{1}{2}K^2 \right) + d_2 \hat{R} \right] \propto \int d\Omega \, \delta\Delta(\Delta+2)\delta.$$



$p=2$

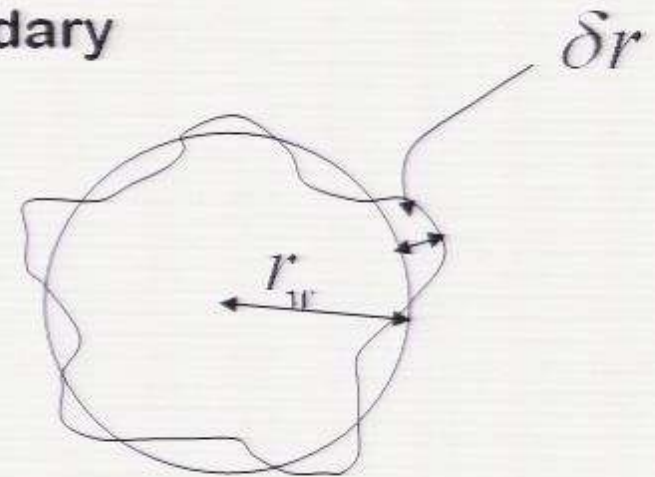
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# Conformal invariance of the boundary theory

- $\langle TT \rangle$  correlator has the form expected in a CFT.
- Distribution of nested bubbles is invariant under the Euclidean conformal group in the UV (as Alex just showed)
- Correlator of bubble fluctuations also has the form expected in CFT.

$$ds_w^2 = \tilde{a}^2 (-d\tilde{\eta}^2 + d\Omega_p^2).$$

**Unperturbed w.s. metric**

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(d+1=4)

$$W[\bar{h}(\mathbf{x})] = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3\mathbf{k} \left( \frac{-k^2 a}{H} + \boxed{i \frac{k^3}{H^2}} + O(a^{-1}) \right) |h_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 + \dots,$$

Non-analytic part

$$c \sim H^{-2} \quad \text{Number of fields in the CFT}$$

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there should be as many degrees of freedom per fishnet point as the number of CFT fields in the boundary.

$$N_{\text{boundary}} \sim c \sim H^{-2}$$

This is in agreement with the bulk estimate:

$$N_{\text{bulk}} \sim S_{\text{min}} \sim H^{-2}$$

For a weakly coupled CFT (Vilkovisky et al.)

$$W[g_{ij}] = \int d^4x \sqrt{g} [c_1 R \ln(\square/\mu^2) R + c_2 R_{ij} \ln(\square/\mu^2) R^{ij} + c_3 R_{ijkl} \ln(\square/\mu^2) R^{ijkl}] + \text{analytic.}$$

In general, the coefficient of the logarithmically divergent term is the trace anomaly

$$a_2 \sim \int d^4x \sqrt{g} [c_1 R^2 + c_2 R_{ij} R^{ij} + c_3 R_{ijkl} R^{ijkl}].$$

$$\boxed{W_{ren} \sim a_{d/2} \ln \mu^2 + \dots} \sim c \int d^4\mathbf{k} k^4 \ln(k^2/\mu^2) |h_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 + \text{analytic.}$$

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$$|\Psi|^2 \propto \exp \left[ - \int d^4 \mathbf{k} \left( \frac{\pi}{8H^3} k^4 \right) |h_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 \right]$$

$$\langle h_{\mathbf{k}}^* h_{\mathbf{k}'} \rangle = (8H^3 / \pi k^4) \delta(\mathbf{k}' - \mathbf{k})$$

Imaginary part of  $W$  determines the amplitude of cosmological perturbations.

But there is also the non-local part

$$\text{Re}[W] = \frac{H^{-3}}{16} \int d^4 \mathbf{k} k^4 \ln(k^2 / \mu^2) |h_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 + \text{analytic.}$$

$$\langle T(k) T^*(k') \rangle \sim c k^4 \ln k^2$$

Expected form in a CFT

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Expected form in a CFT

# 1- Linearized tensor modes in de Sitter

$$ds^2 = a^2(\eta)[-d\eta^2 + d\mathbf{x}^2], \quad a(\eta) = -1/H\eta$$

Gaussian wave functional

$$\Psi[h] = e^{iW[h]} \quad \boxed{W = \int d^d \mathbf{k} \left( \frac{a^{d-1}}{2} \frac{v_{\mathbf{k}}'}{v_{\mathbf{k}}} |h_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 + i \ln v_{\mathbf{k}} \right)}$$

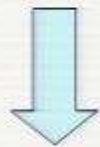
$$h(\mathbf{x}) = \int d^d \mathbf{k} \frac{e^{i\mathbf{k}\mathbf{x}}}{(2\pi)^{d/2}} h_{\mathbf{k}},$$

$$v_{\mathbf{k}}^* v_{\mathbf{k}}' - v_{\mathbf{k}} v_{\mathbf{k}}'^* = i a^{1-d}$$

Choice of vacuum (for  $m=0$ )

$$v_{\mathbf{k}}(\eta) = \frac{\pi^{1/2}}{2} a^{-d/2} H_{d/2}^{(1)}(k\eta)$$

Bunch-Davies



( $d+1=5$ )

$$W[\bar{h}(\mathbf{x})] = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4 \mathbf{k} \left( \frac{-k^2 a^2}{2H} + \frac{k^4}{8H^3} [\ln(k^2/H^2 a^2) + \boxed{i\pi} + 2\gamma] + O(a^{-2}) \right) |h_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 + \dots$$

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# Summary

- The dynamics of the multiverse may be encoded in its future boundary, in terms of a theory which is conformal in the UV.
- The measure can be obtained by imposing a UV cutoff in the boundary theory (closely related to the scale factor cutoff).
- The measure may perhaps be formulated even if there is no dual theory, based on the property of conformal invariance of the wave function.