

Title: Singular gauges and dS invariance of the graviton vacuum

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Abstract: There has been a long-running discussion as to whether free gravitons on dS have a dS-invariant state. On the one hand, de Sitter invariant states are clearly singular in gauges favored by cosmologists; e.g. transverse traceless synchronous gauge associated with the $k=0$ slicing of dS. However, Higuchi has constructed a dS-invariant state using a different gauge. We resolve this tension by showing that the above gauge is in fact singular on global de Sitter space. This observation may prove useful in understanding the physics of calculations indicating large IR effects involving gravity in dS.



*Singular gauges and dS
invariance of the
graviton vacuum*

Donald Marolf, UCSB
10/27/2010



Work in progress with
Ian Morrison

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The IR stability of de Sitter: results at all orders

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- Shows that such correlators decay at large separation as one would naively expect.
- Extends our previous results to all orders in perturbation theory.
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This talk: Gravitons!

Longstanding issue: The graviton propagator in dS is "large" in the IR.

Emphasized by: Starobinsky, Woodard, Antoniadis and Mottola, ...Giddings, ...

Classic example:

Consider TT synchronous gauge in $k=0$ slicing.

$$D = 3+1 \quad \langle 0|h_{ab}(x)h_{cd}(y)|0\rangle = \sum_s \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi k)^3} H^2(1+k^2\lambda^2)\epsilon_{ab}^s\epsilon_{cd}^s$$

Diverges!

Also, growth of graviton "variance" at late times in various gauges.



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E.g. Starobinsky, Woodard, Antoniadis and Mottola ... Giddings...

What is the *physics* of this phenomenon?

Might it be a gauge artifact, either entirely or in part?

Subtle question:

Weyl tensor correlators are well-defined, fall off at large separation and are dS invariant.

But is there more to the physics than this?

What happens at higher orders in perturbation theory? How to compute observables there?

With flat-potential scalars (inflation), leads to measurable tensor power spectrum.



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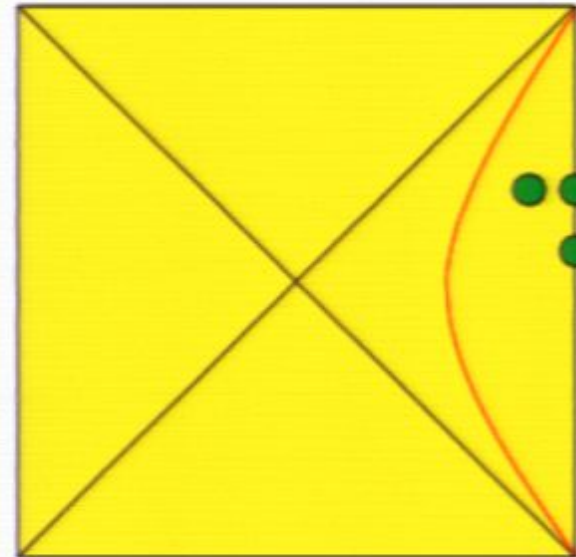
De Sitter invariance?

One probe of these issues is dS invariance.

A sharp gauge-invariant question.

In a dS-invariant vacuum, gauge-invariant correlators within the static patch must be invariant under t -translations. Cannot grow with time.

E.g., variance with small smearing, any n -point function at small separations.



dS invariance would constrain, but would not preclude, large IR effects. Can still grow with *separation*.

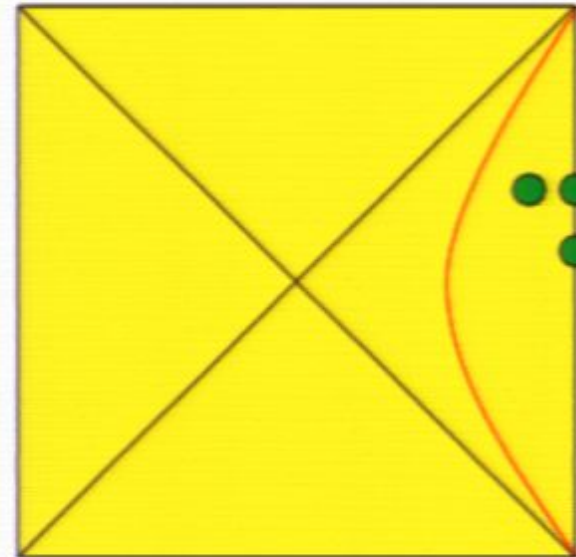


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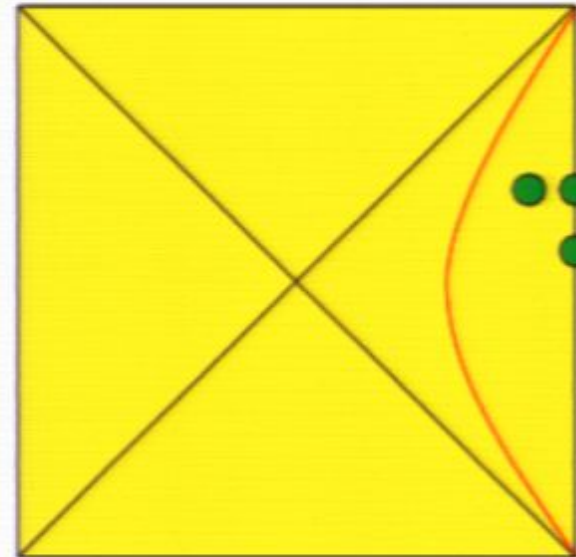
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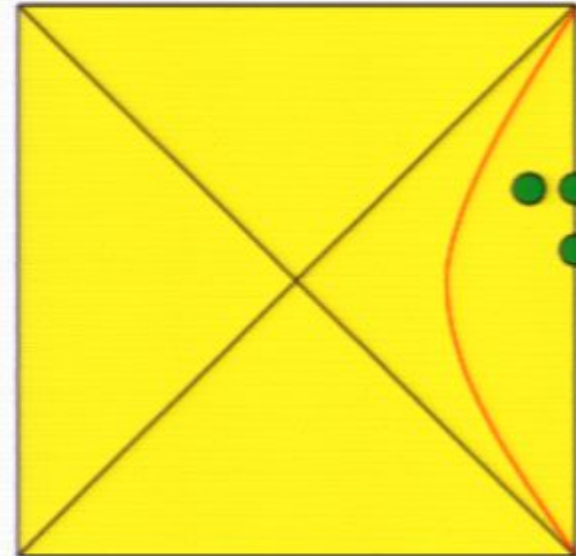
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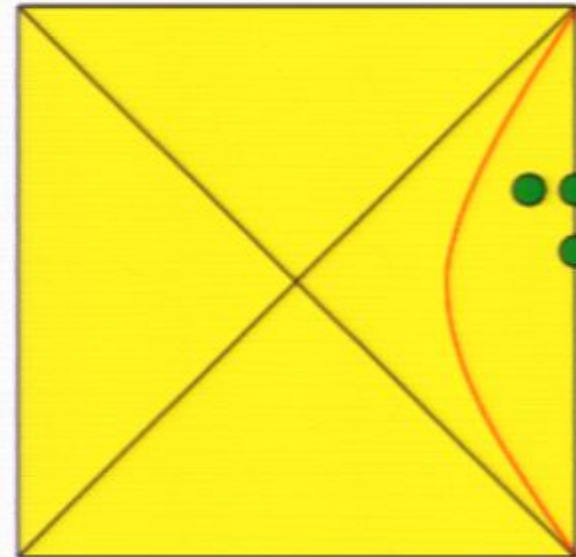
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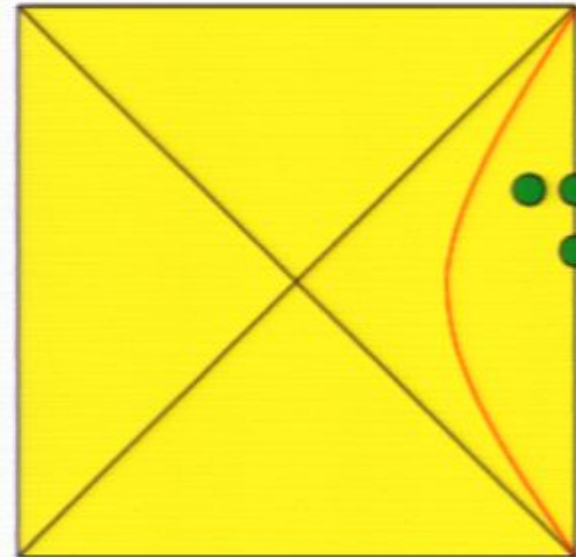
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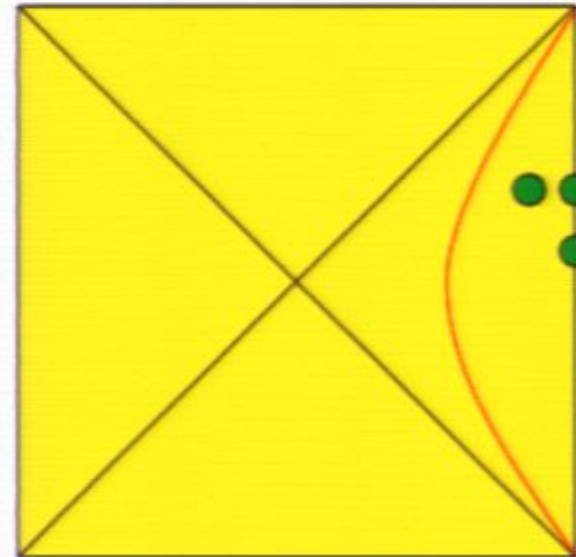
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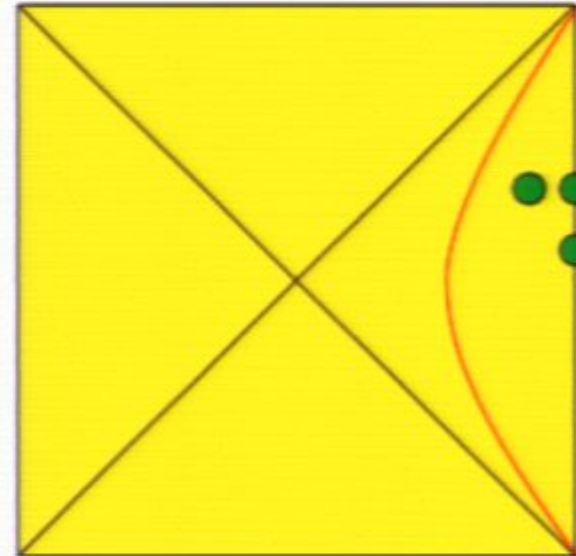
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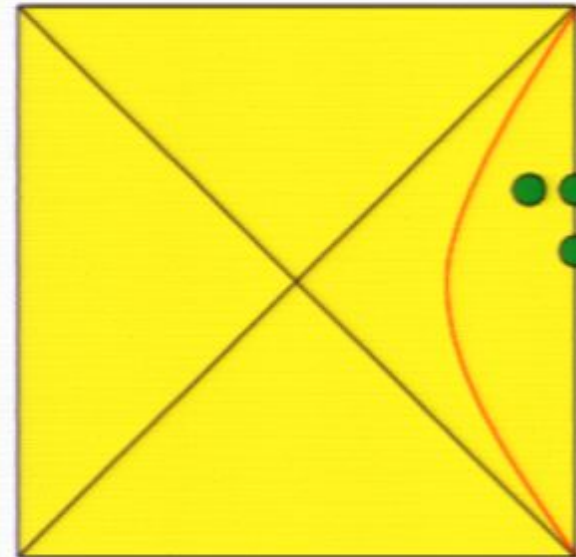
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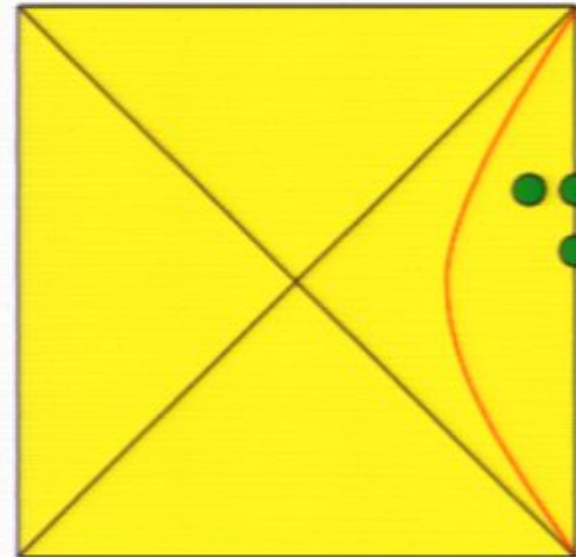
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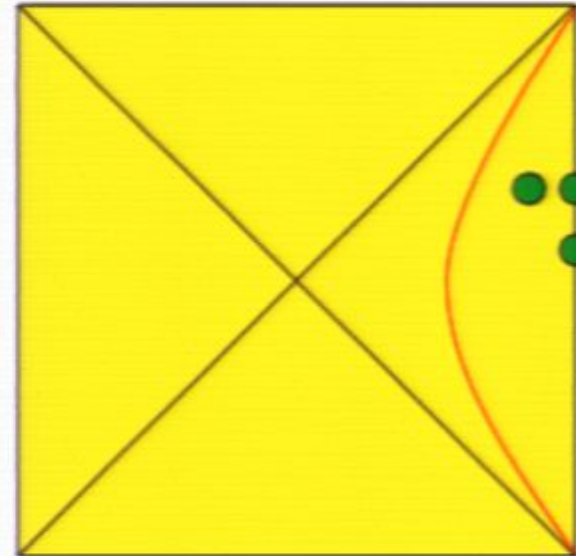
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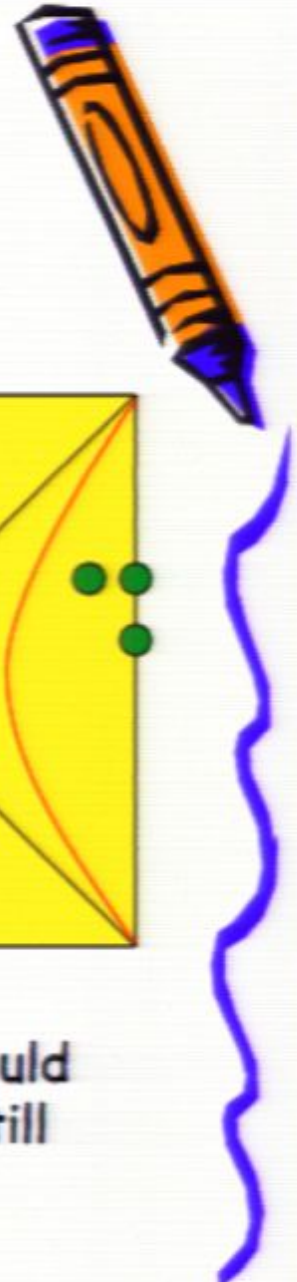
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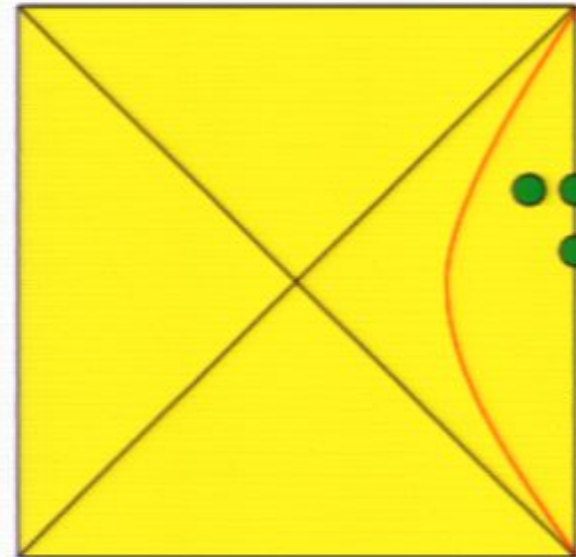
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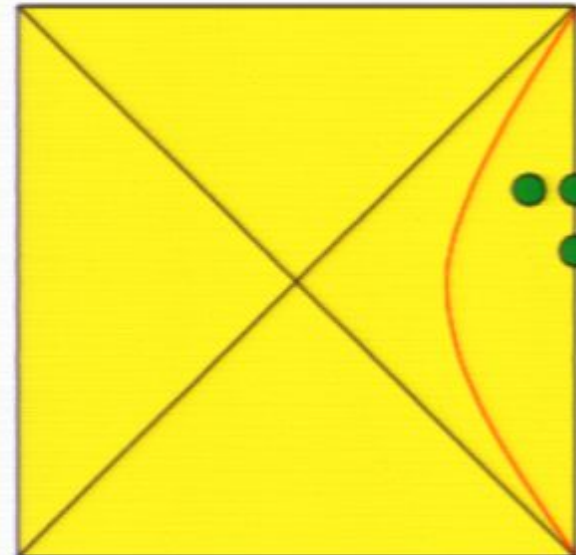
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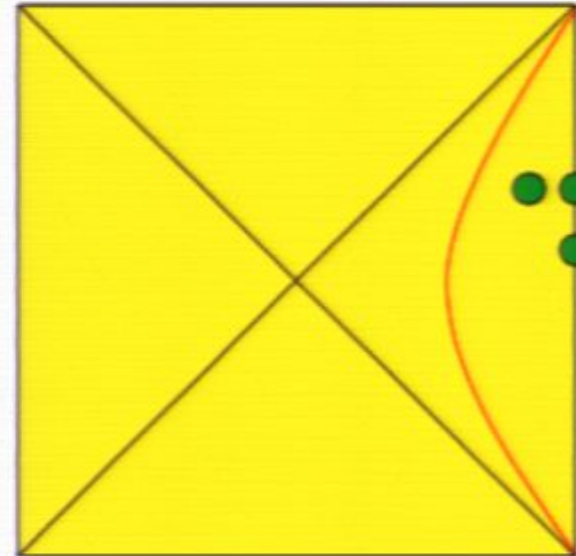
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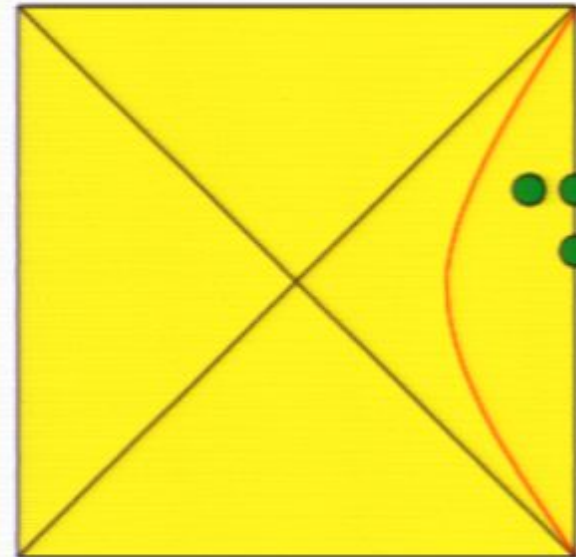
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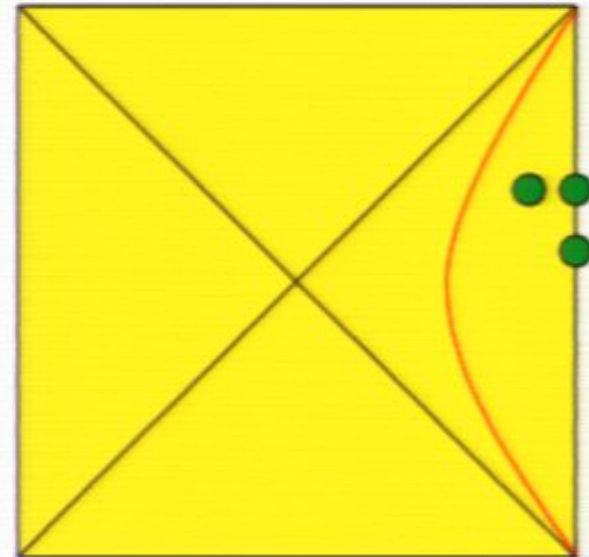
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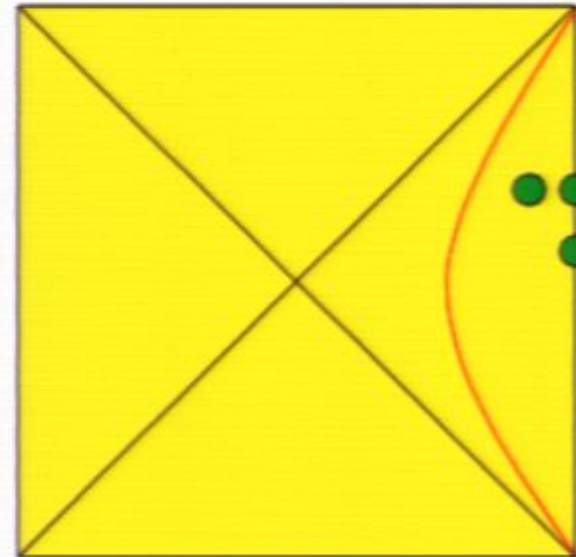
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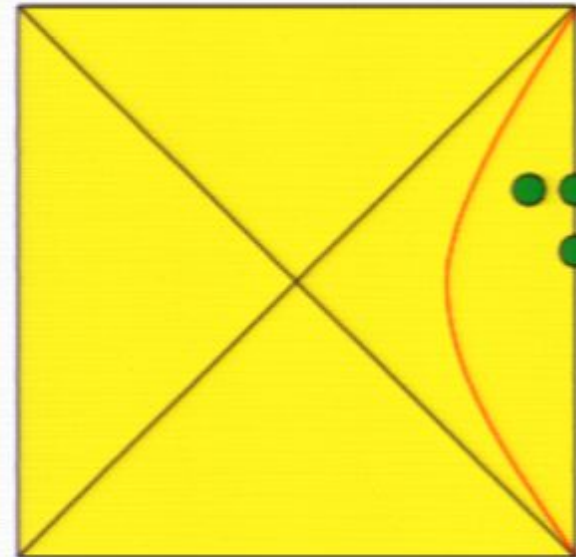
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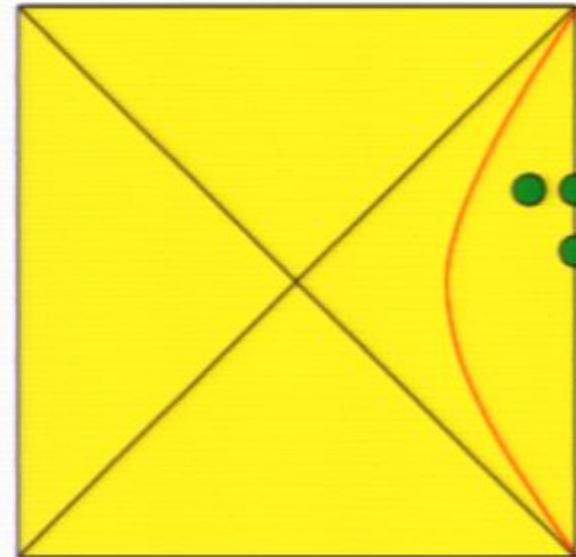
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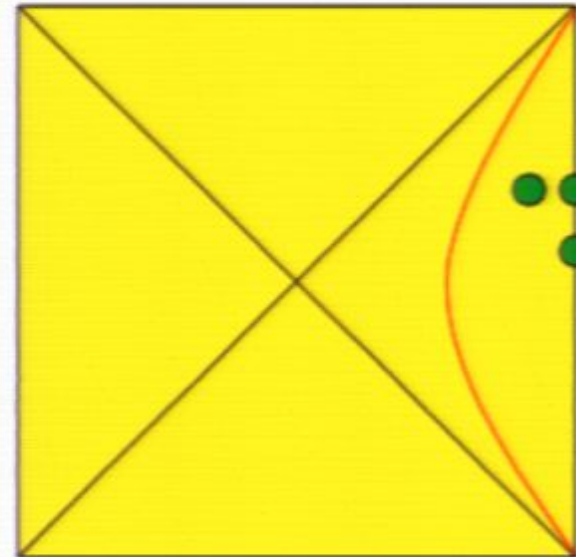
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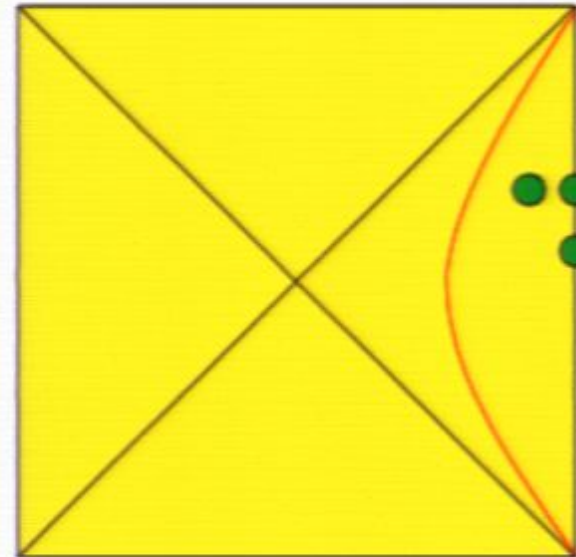
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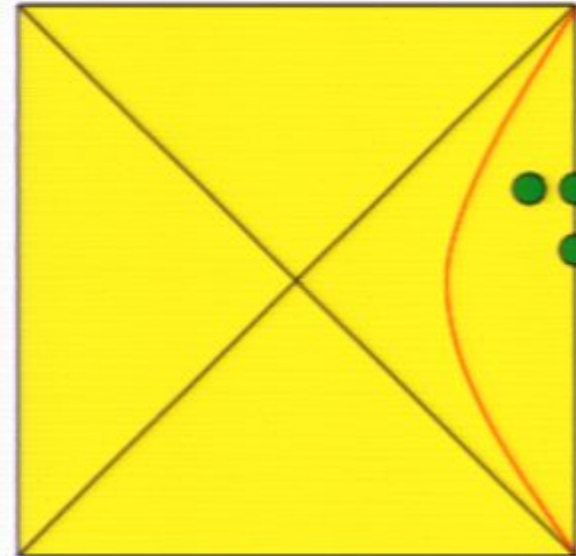
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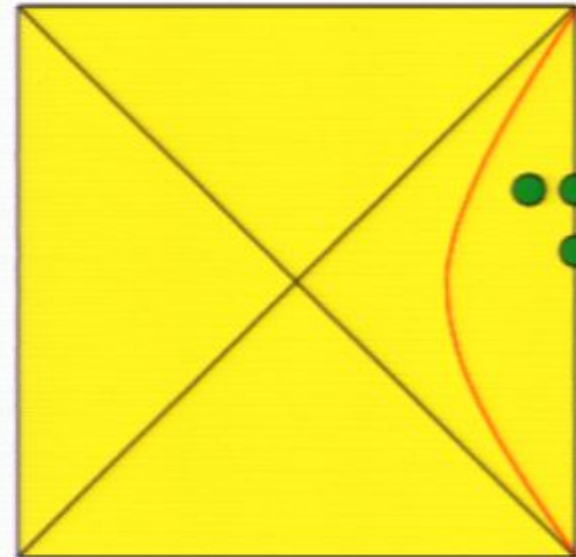
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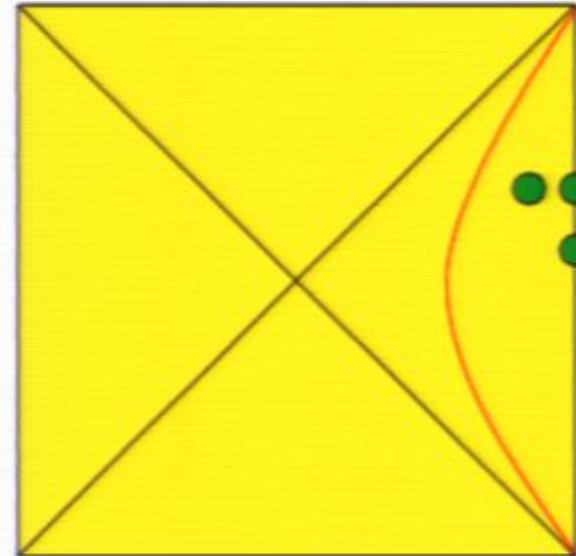
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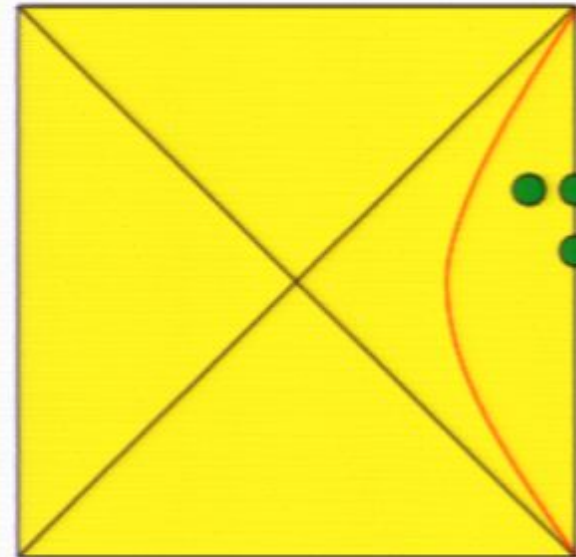
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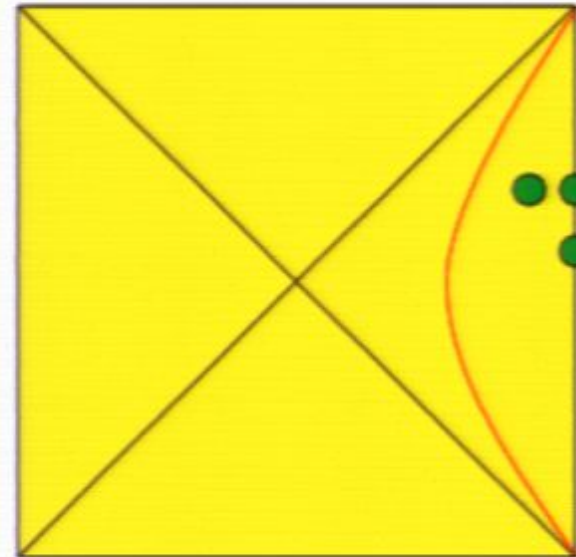
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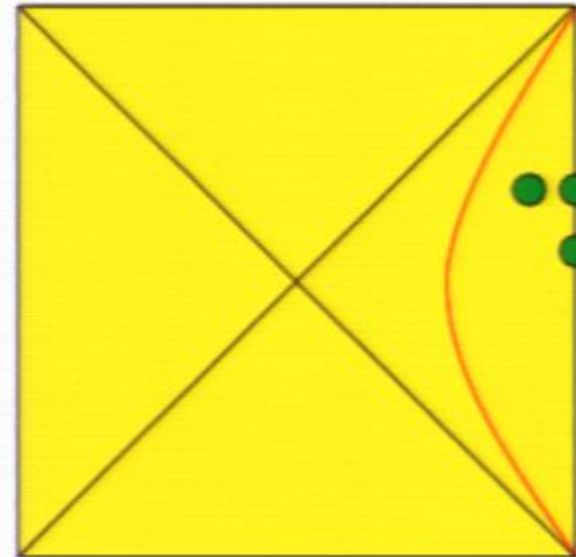
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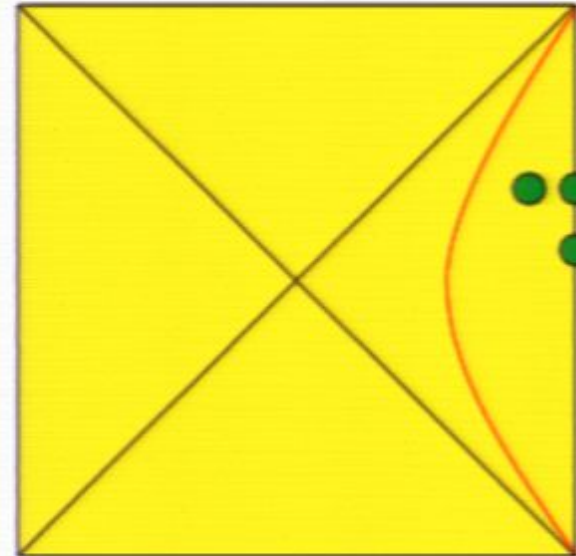
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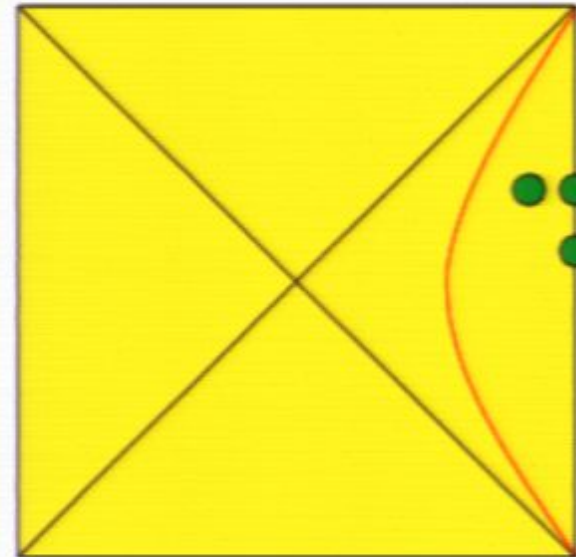
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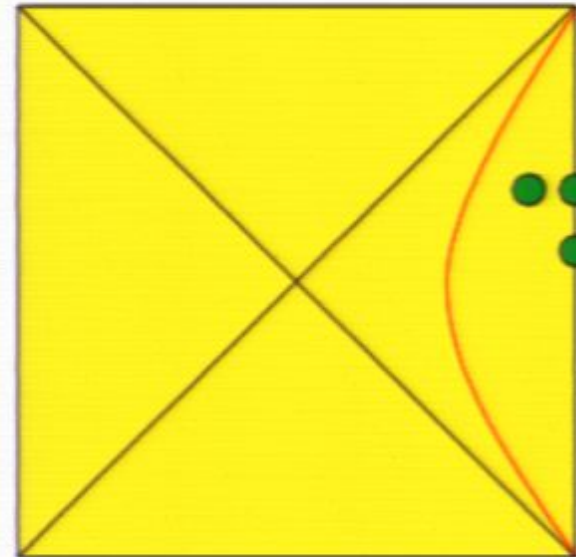
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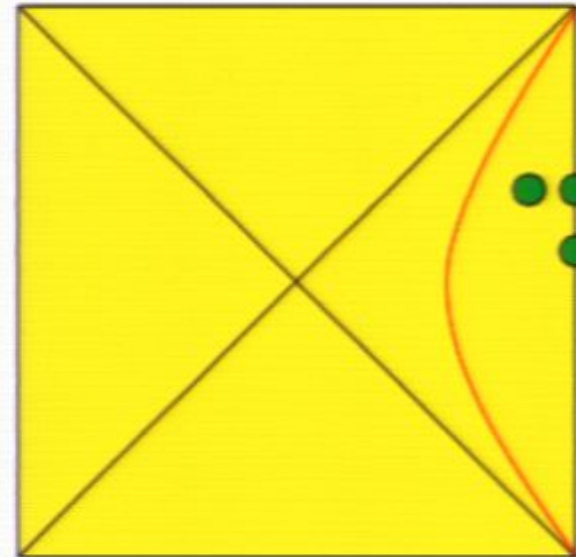
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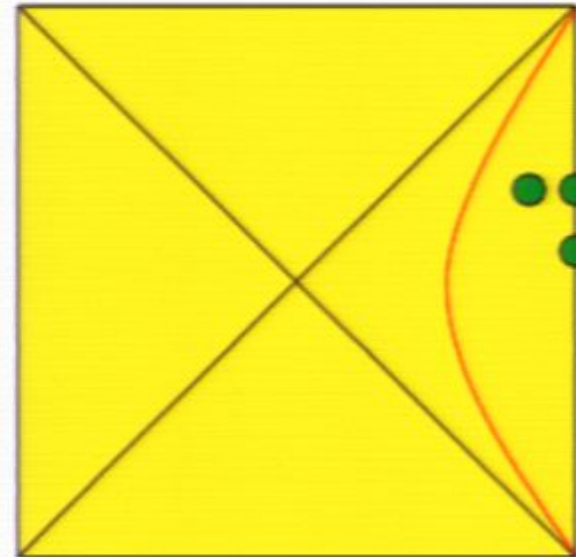
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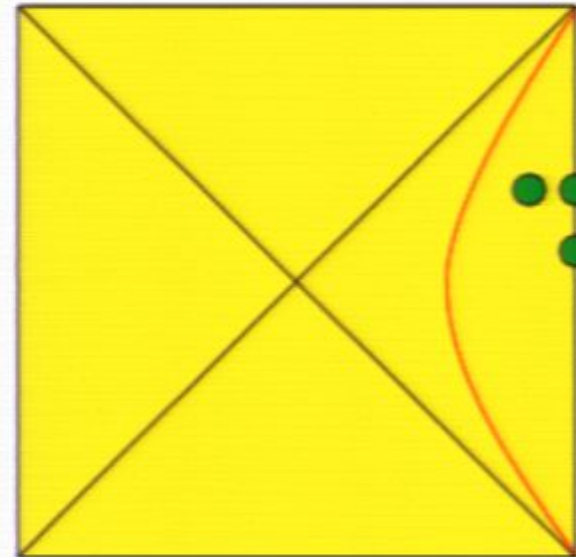
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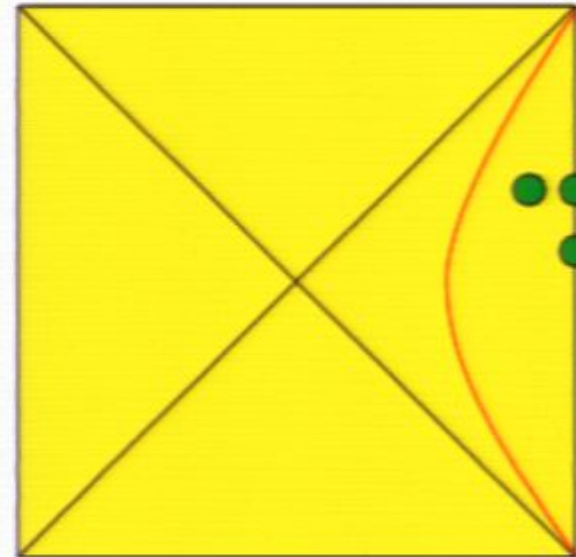
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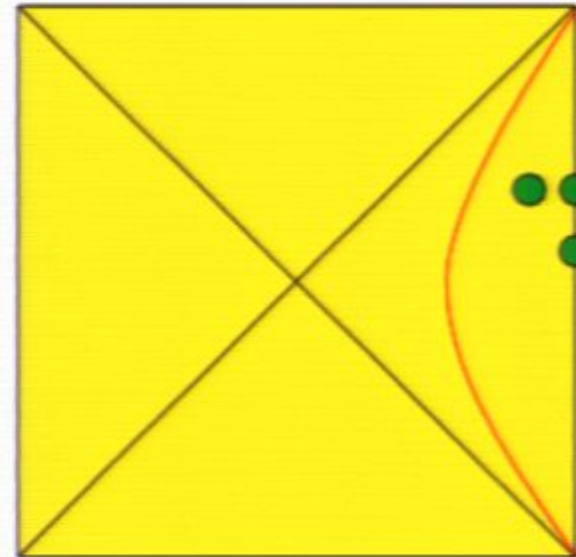
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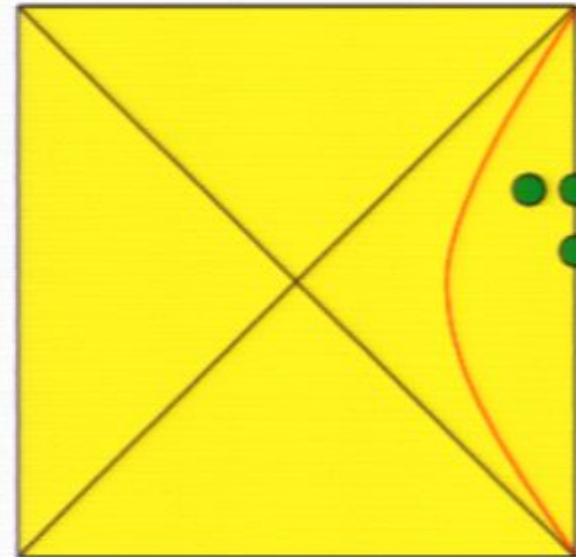
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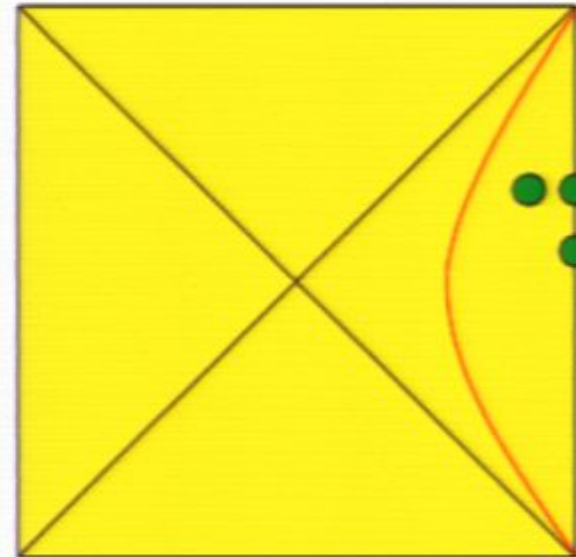
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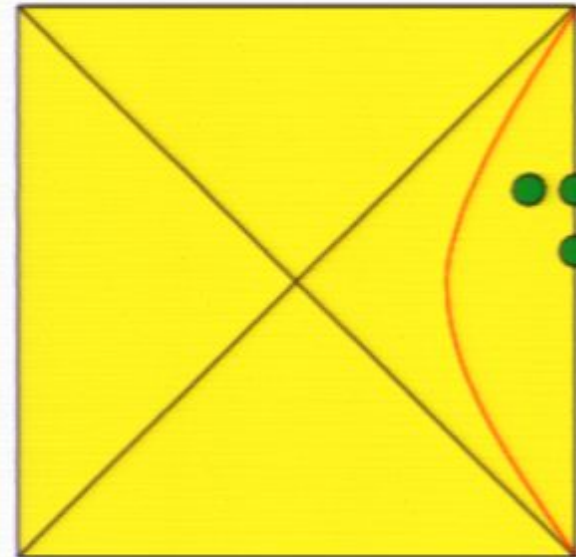
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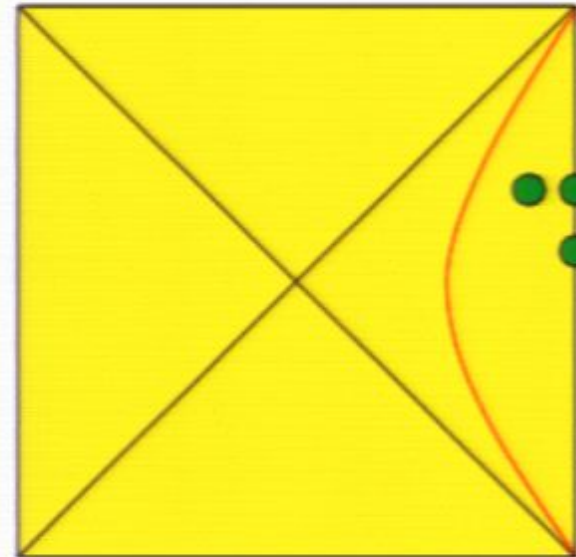
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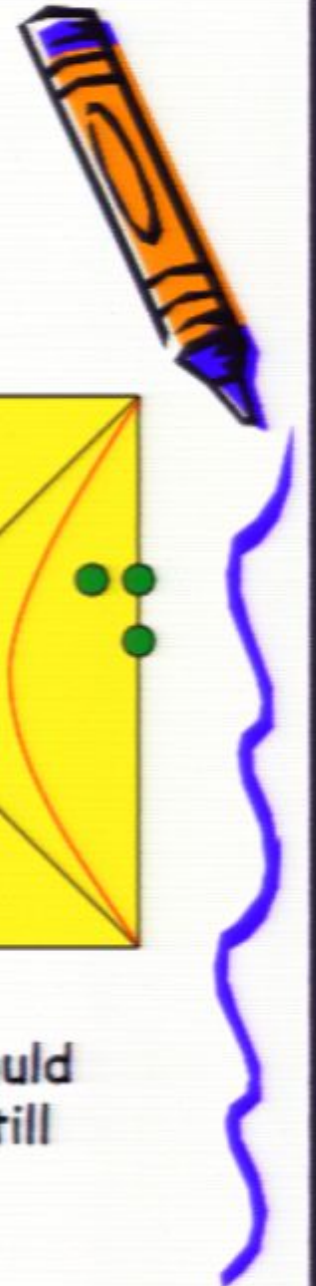
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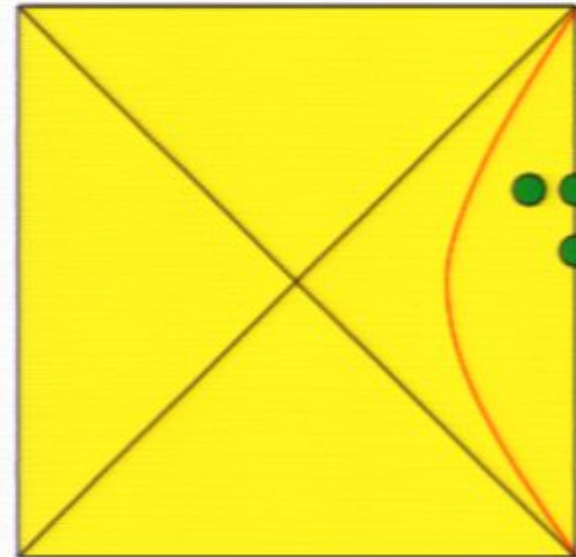
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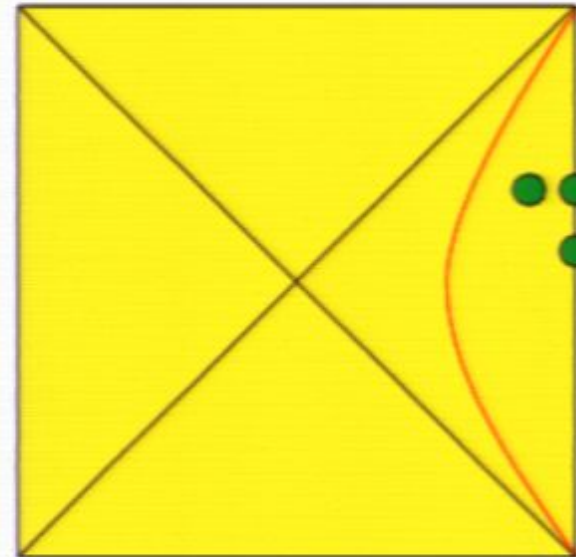
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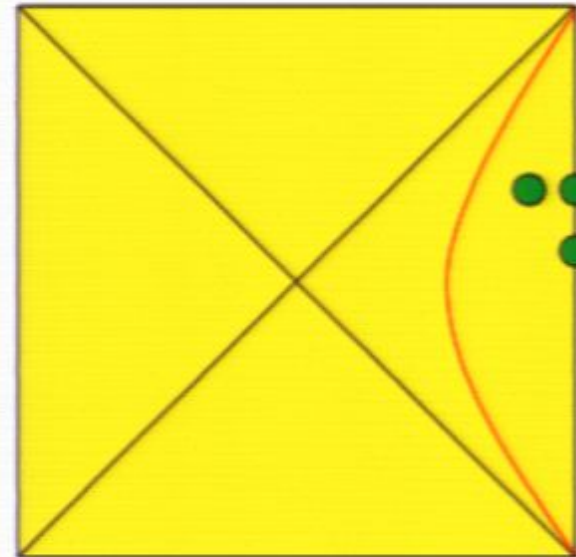
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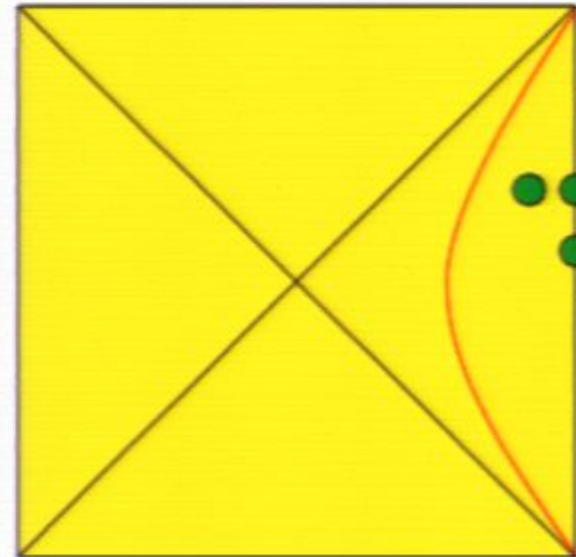
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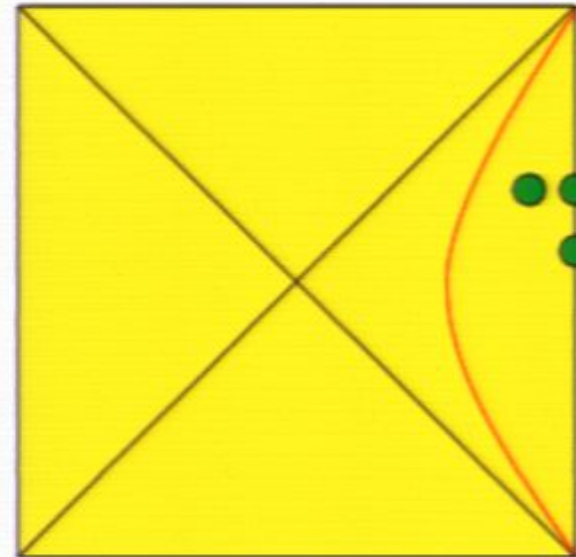
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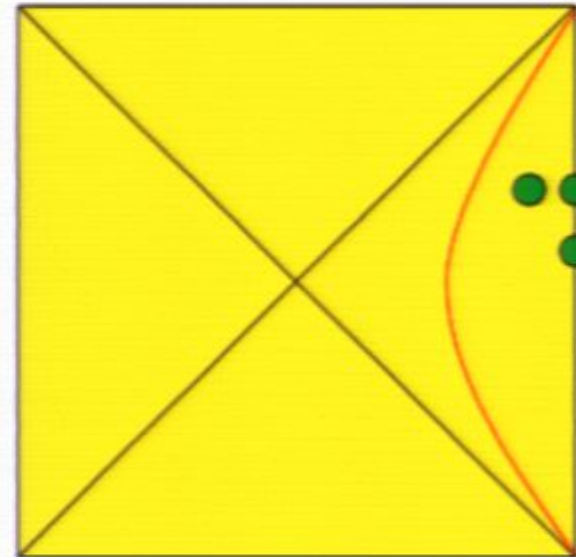
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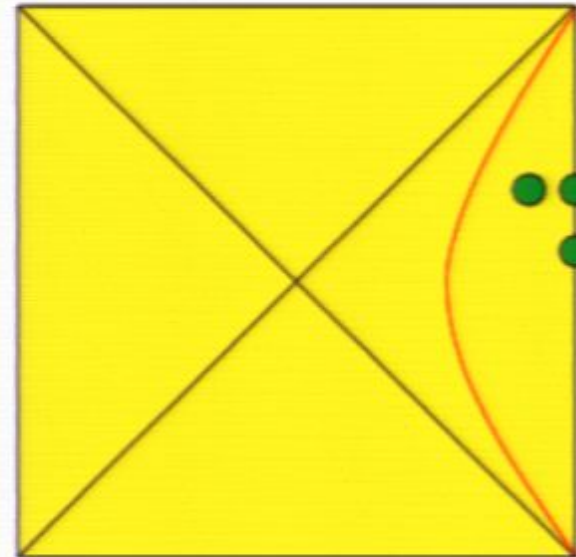
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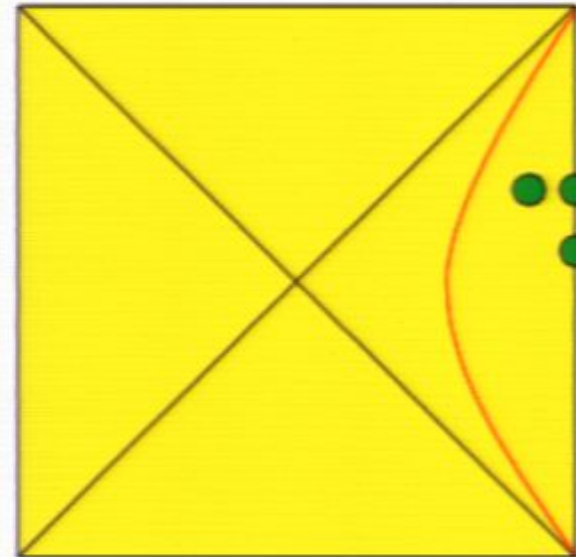
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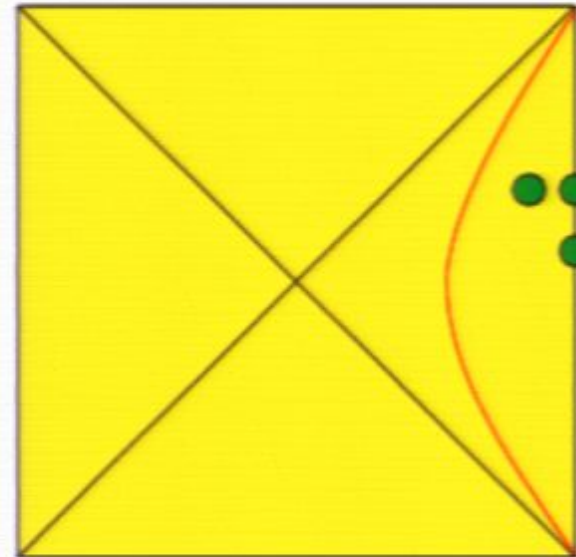
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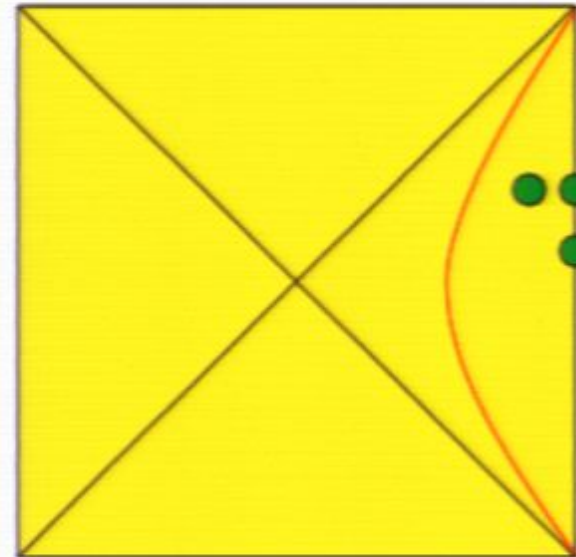
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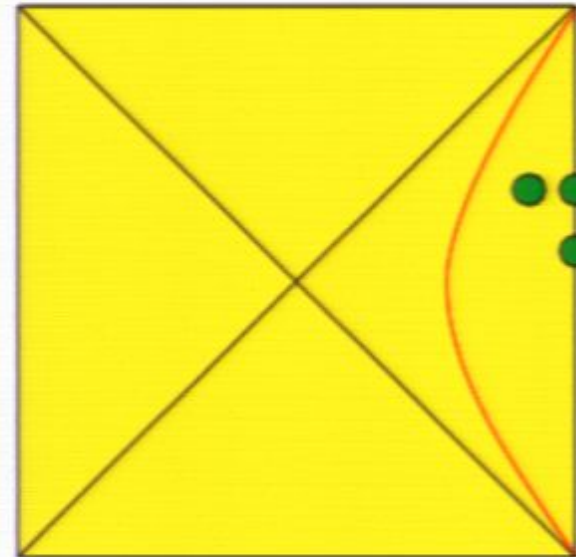
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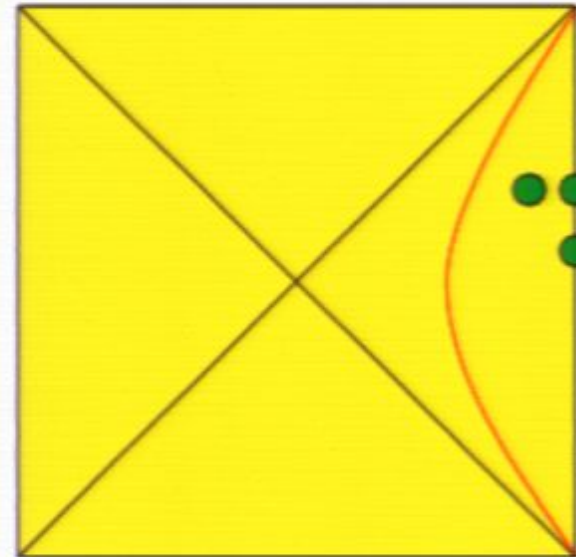
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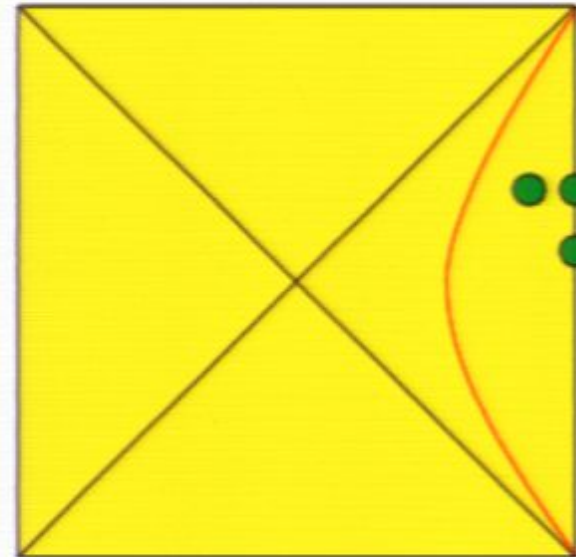
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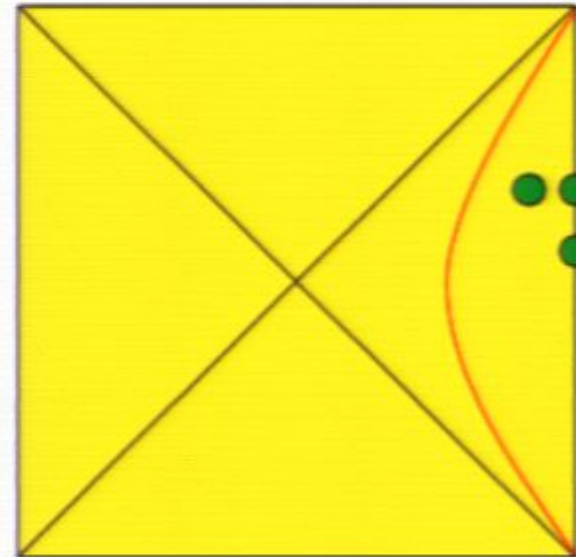
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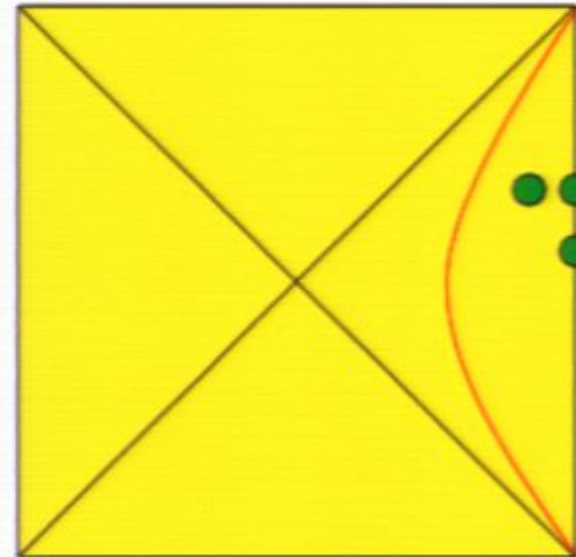
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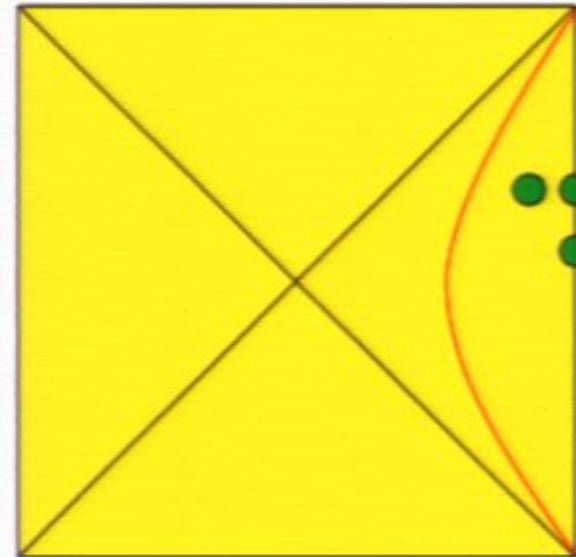
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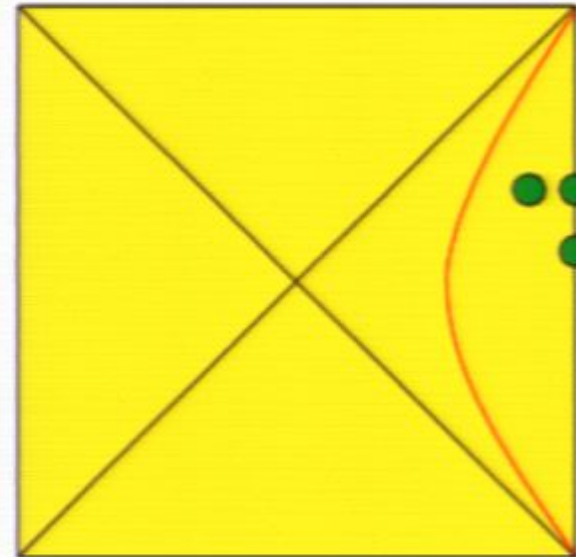
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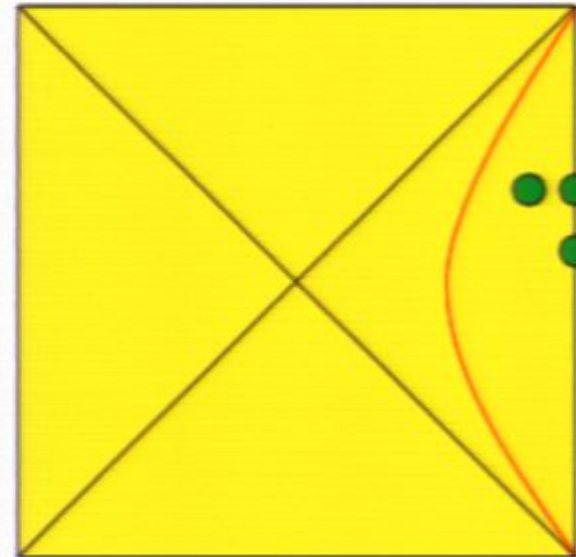
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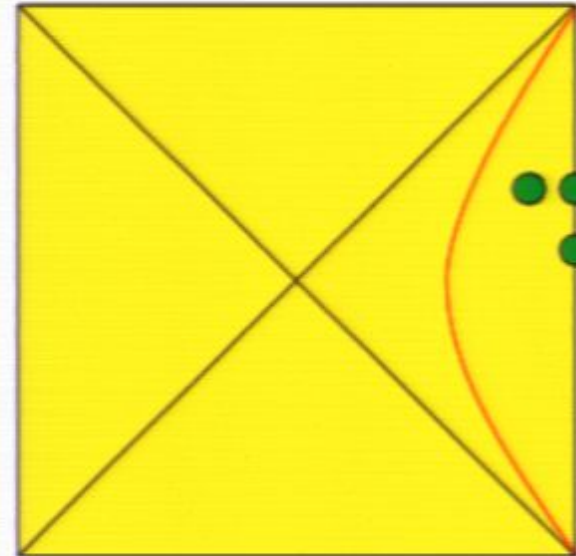
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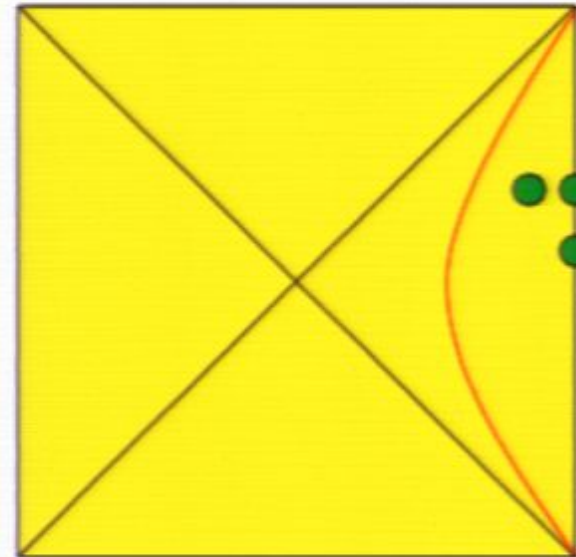
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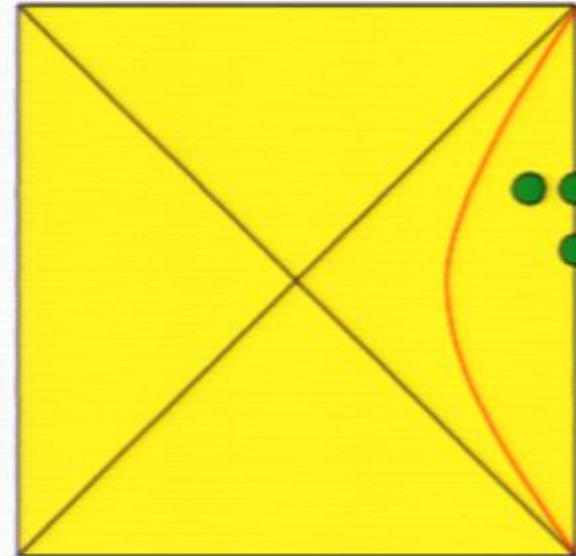
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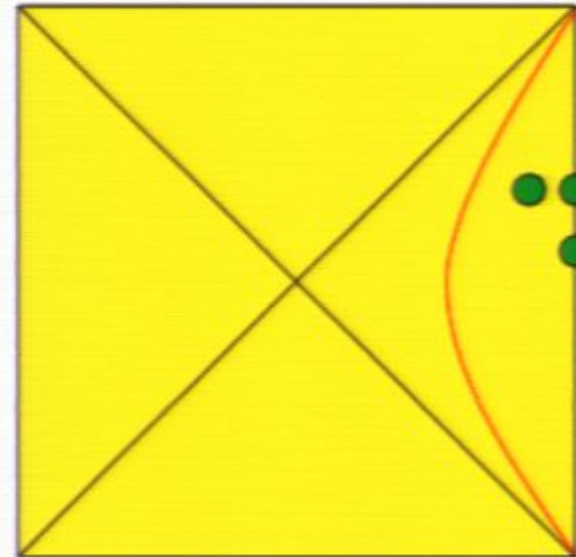
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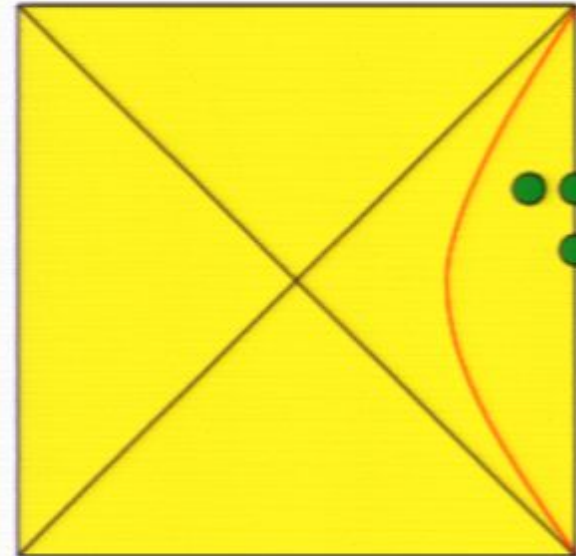
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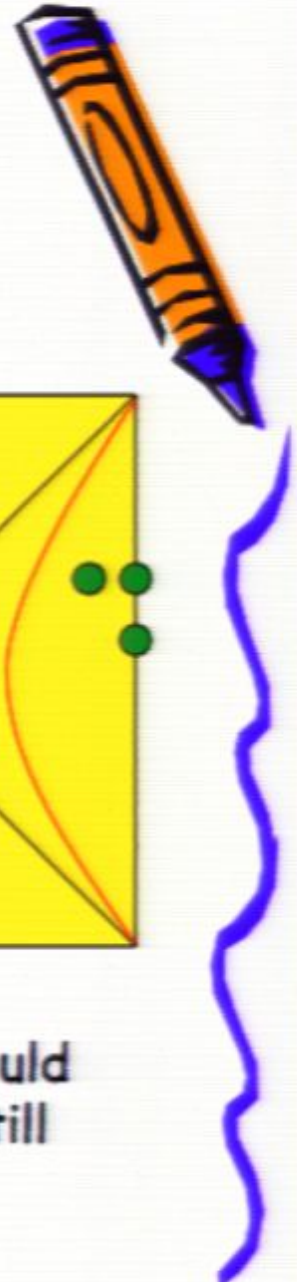
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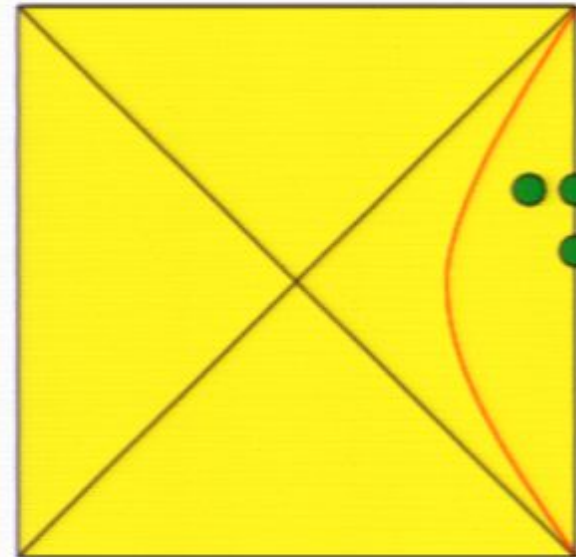
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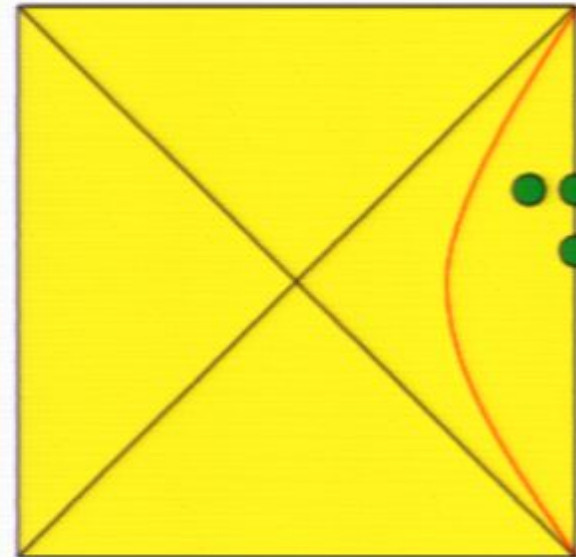
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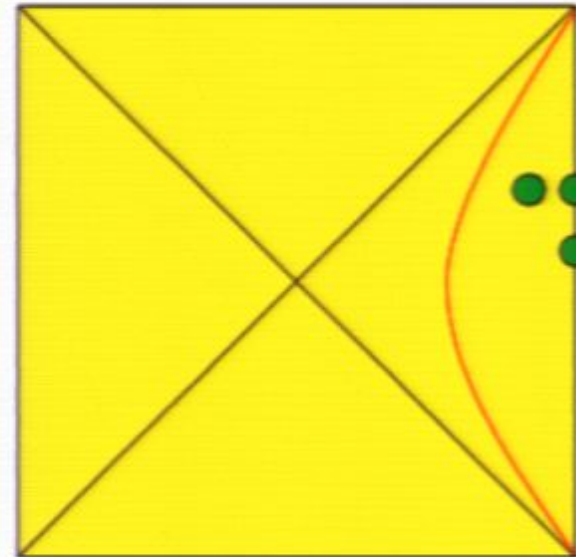
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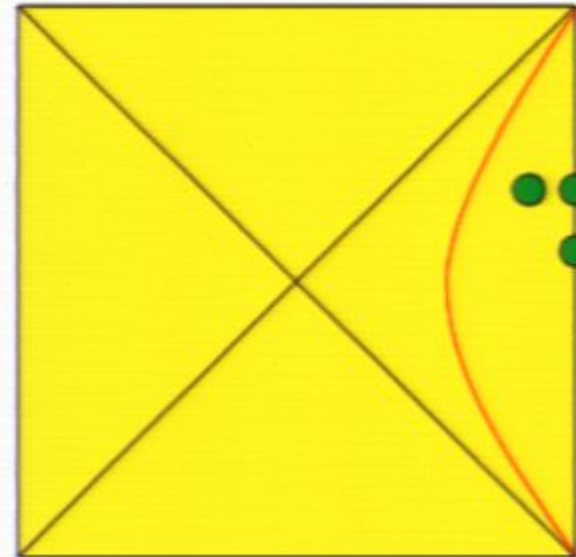
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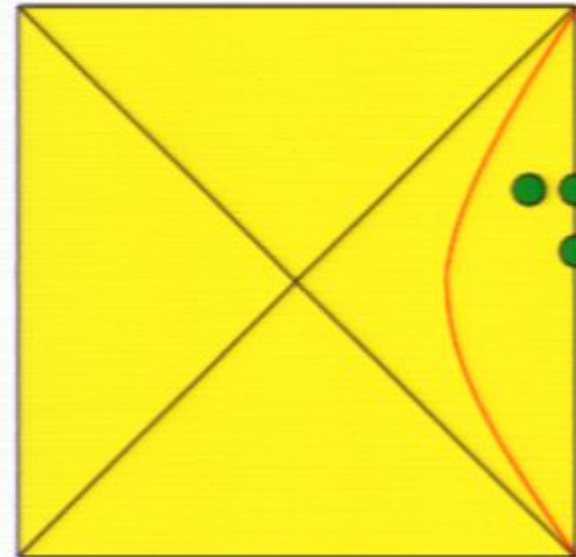
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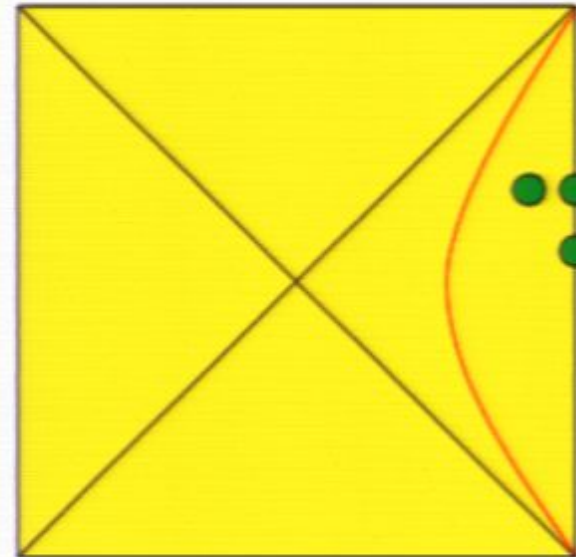
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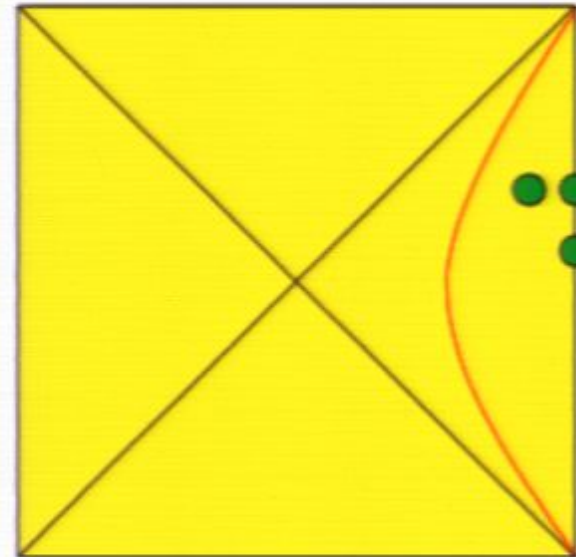
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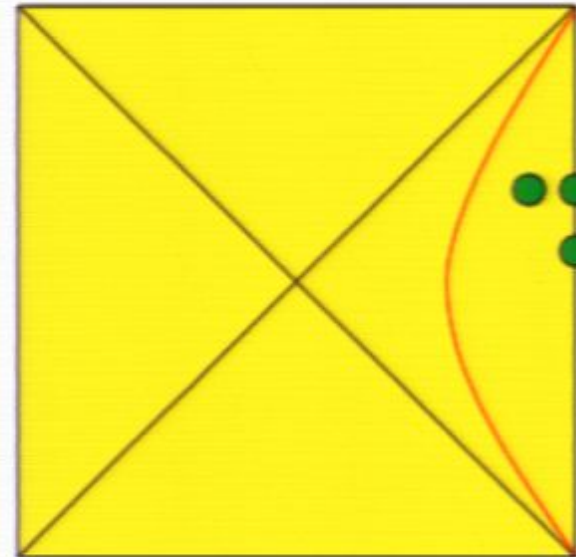
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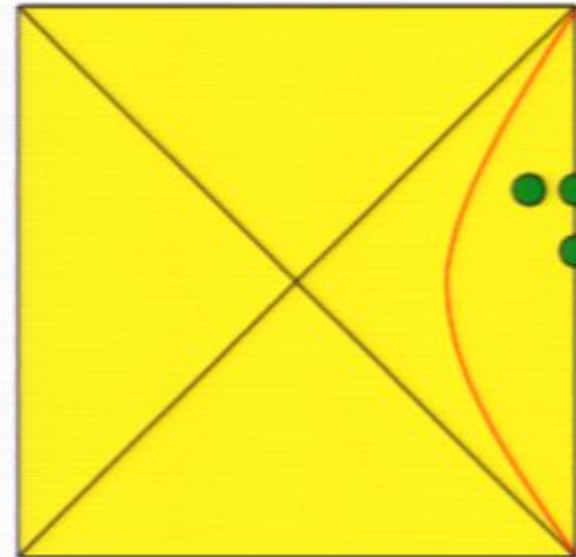
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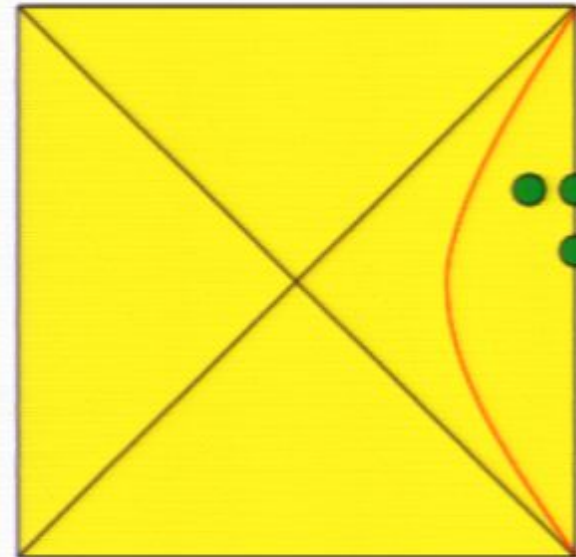
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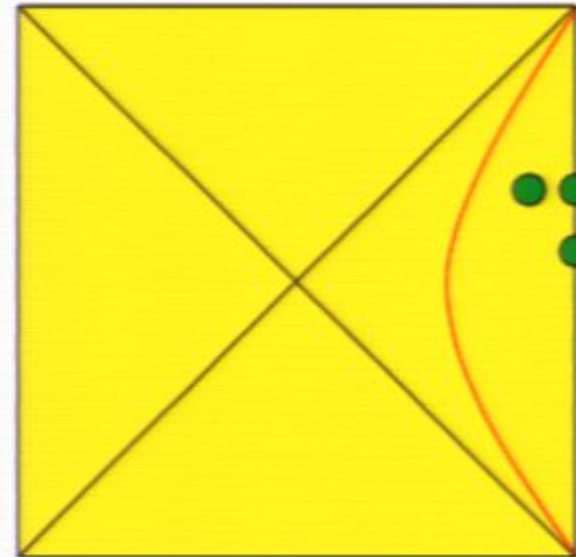
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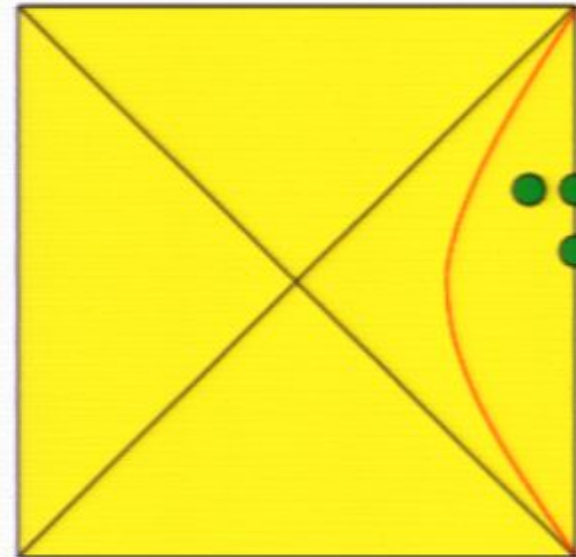
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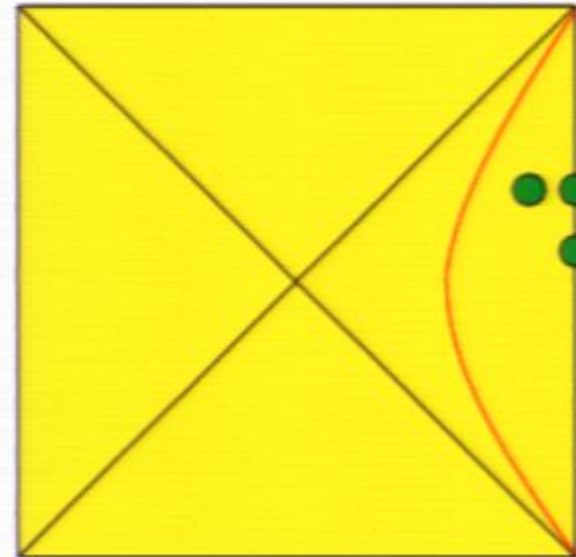
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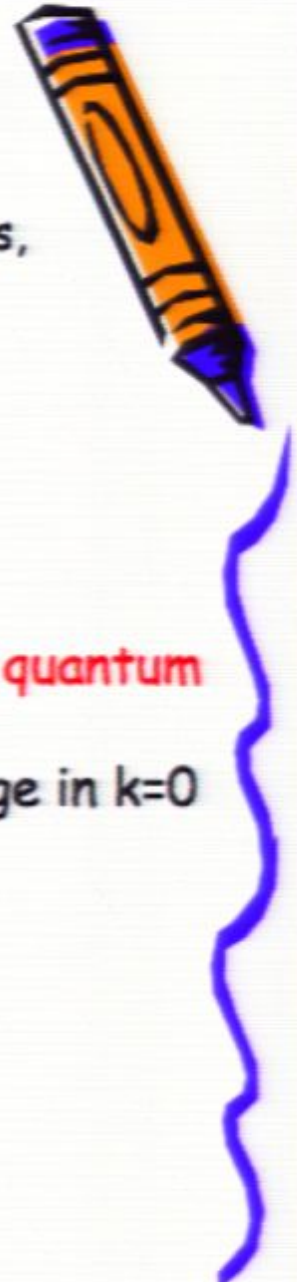
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Might $k=0$ TTS gauge be singular on global dS?

Please let me know if this analysis is in the literature.

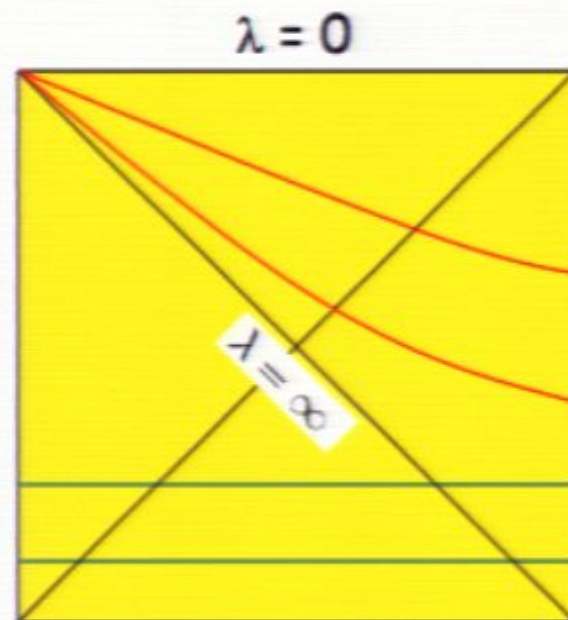
Given a general perturbation \bar{h}_{ab} on global dS, can we find $h_{ab} = \bar{h}_{ab} + \nabla_a \xi_b + \nabla_b \xi_a$ satisfying

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla^a h_{ab} &= 0, h_a^a = 0 \\ h_{00} &= h_{0i} = 0\end{aligned}$$

in $k=0$ coordinates for smooth ξ_b ?

$$ds^2 = \frac{\ell^2}{\lambda^2} (-d\lambda^2 + dx^2)$$

I will assume no problems with TT and just study S (for $k=0$).



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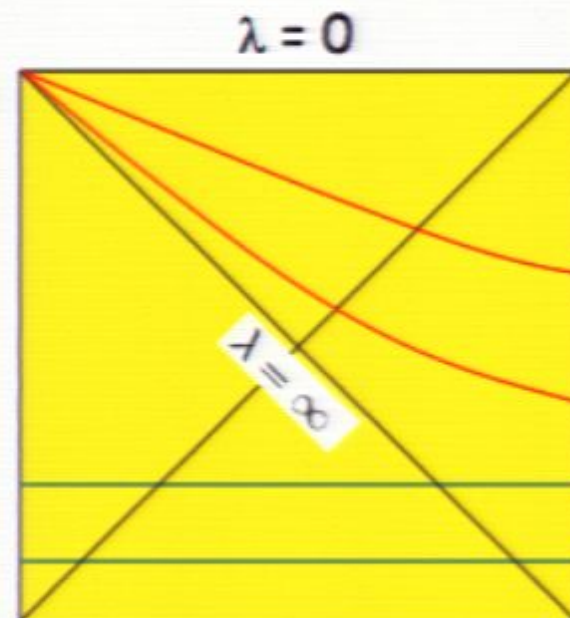
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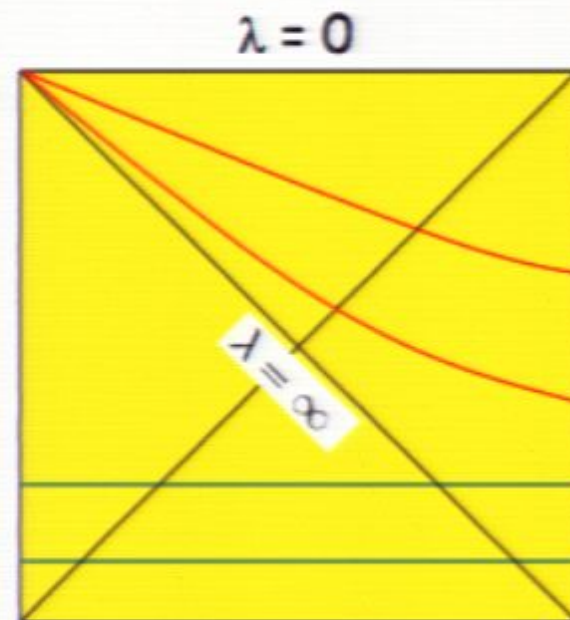
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This talk: Assume no problems with TT and just study S (for $k=0$).

Residual gauge transformations satisfy

$$0 = \nabla^a \nabla_a \xi_b + (d-1)\ell^2 \xi_b$$



Might $k=0$ TT gauge be singular on global dS?

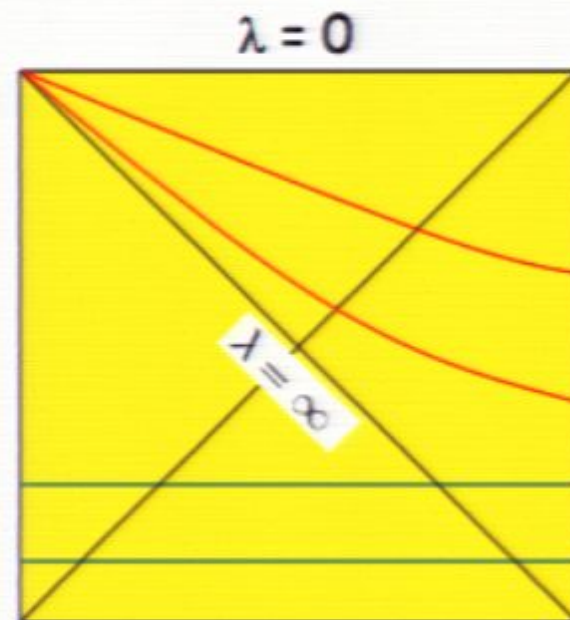
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in $k=0$ coordinates for smooth ξ_b ?

$$ds^2 = \frac{\ell^2}{\lambda^2} (-d\lambda^2 + dx^2)$$



This talk: Assume no problems with TT and just study S (for $k=0$).

Residual gauge transformations satisfy

$$0 = \nabla^a \nabla_a \xi_b + (d-1)\ell^2 \xi_b$$



Might $k=0$ TTS gauge be singular on global dS?

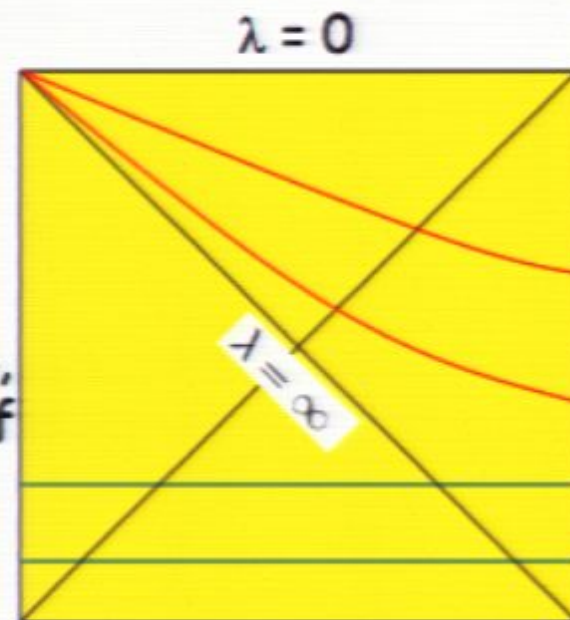
So assume \bar{h}_{ab} is TT.

Use residual gauge trans to impose

$$h_{00} = h_{0i} = 0, \dot{h}_{00} = \dot{h}_{0i} = 0 \text{ for some } \lambda$$

Elliptic PDE for $\xi_a, \dot{\xi}_a$.

Not hard to check that one may solve for $\xi_0, \dot{\xi}_0, \dot{\xi}_i$, algebraically in terms of derivatives of ξ_i and sources. No obstructions.



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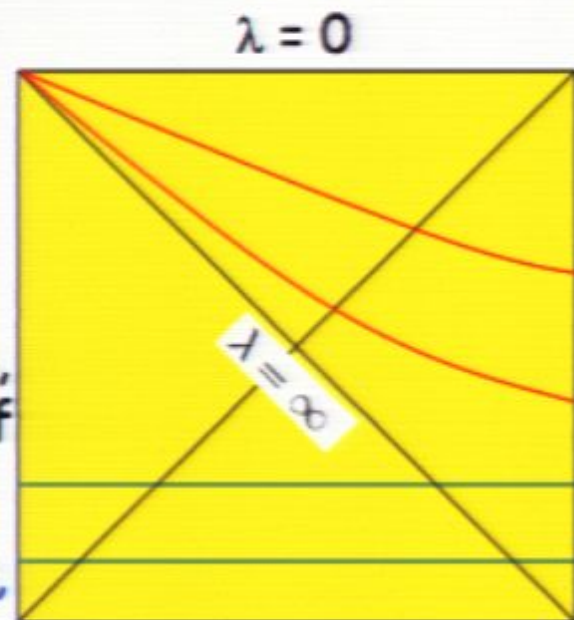
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By Euclidean and scaling symmetries, remaining elliptic PDE for ξ_i must be of the form

$$s_i = \partial_k \partial^k \xi_i + A \partial_i \partial^k \xi_k + \frac{B}{\lambda^2} \xi_i$$

where $s_i = \alpha h_{0i} + \beta \partial_i h_{00} + \gamma \frac{h_{0i}}{\lambda}$



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$$s_i = \partial_k \partial^k \xi_i + A \partial_i \partial^k \xi_k + \frac{B}{\lambda^2} \xi_i$$

where $s_i = \alpha \dot{h}_{0i} + \beta \partial_i h_{00} + \gamma \frac{h_{0i}}{\lambda}$

Calculations give:

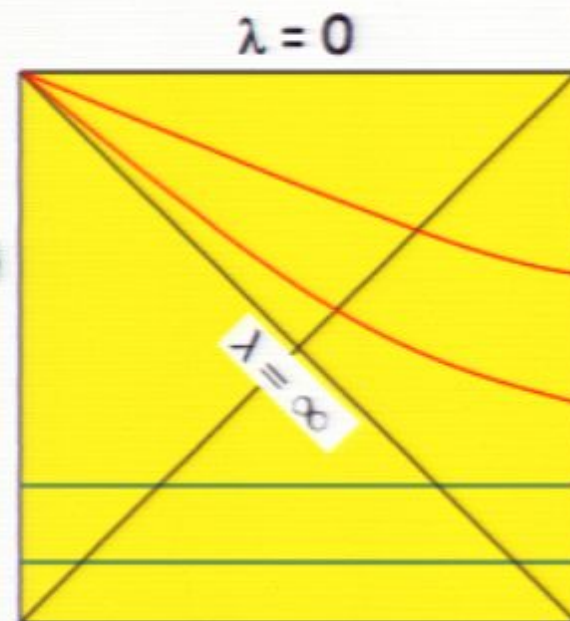
$$A = (d-3)/(d-1), \quad B = 0, \quad \alpha = -1, \quad \beta = 1/(d-1), \quad \gamma = (d-2)$$

$A > -1 \Rightarrow$ operator L is elliptic

$$\partial_k \partial^k + \frac{B}{\lambda^2} > L > (A+1) \partial_k \partial^k + \frac{B}{\lambda^2}$$

$B = 0 \Rightarrow$ operator L is *massless!*

$\Rightarrow G \sim r^{-(d-3)}$; i.e., $1/r$ for $d=4$.



Measure is $d^{d-1}x$, so solutions exist only if $s_i \sim r^{-p}$ for $p > 2$.

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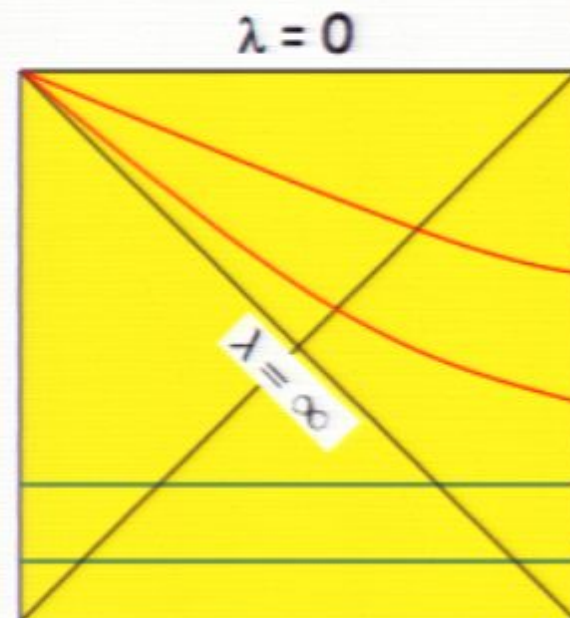
$$s_i = -\dot{h}_{0i} + \frac{1}{d-1} \partial_i h_{00} + (d-2) \frac{h_{0i}}{\lambda}$$

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On global dS, any smooth solution is allowed. So choose a TT synchronous mode in *global* coordinates and convert to $k=0$; $(\theta, \tau)_{\text{global}} \rightarrow (r, \lambda)_{k=0}$

$$h_{\tau\tau} = h_{\tau\theta} = 0, \text{ but } h_{\theta\theta} = h(\text{angles}) f(\tau)$$

With $f \sim e^{-2\tau/\ell}$



Might $k=0$ TT gauge be singular on global dS?

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At fixed λ , large r find

$$e^{-2\tau/\ell} \sim r^2/2\ell,$$

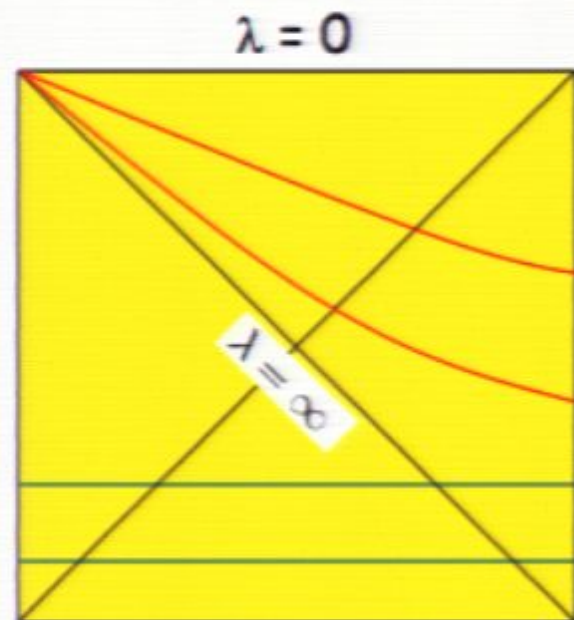
$$\theta \sim \pi - \frac{2\ell}{r} \left(1 + \frac{\lambda^2 - \ell^2}{r^2} + \dots \right)$$

$$h_{00} = \left(\frac{\partial\theta}{\partial\lambda} \right)^2 h_{\theta\theta} \sim \frac{\ell^2 \lambda^2 r^4}{r^6 \ell^2 \lambda^2} \sim \frac{1}{r^2}$$

$$h_{0i} \sim h_{0r} = \left(\frac{\partial\theta}{\partial\lambda} \right) \left(\frac{\partial\theta}{\partial r} \right) h_{\theta\theta} \sim \frac{1}{\lambda r}$$

$$\longrightarrow s_i \sim 1/\lambda^2 r$$

No solution!



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$$s_i = \partial_k \partial^k \xi_i + \frac{d-1}{d-3} \partial_i \partial^k \xi_k \quad s_i = -\dot{h}_{0i} + \frac{1}{d-1} \partial_i h_{00} + (d-2) \frac{h_{0i}}{\lambda}$$

- Generically, $s_i \sim 1/\lambda^2 r$, falls off too slowly.
- Note: no such problem w/ synchronous gauge on torus. Zero mode of s_i vanishes due to transversality.
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Might $k=0$ TTS gauge be singular on global dS?

$$s_i = -\dot{h}_{0i} + \frac{1}{d-1} \partial_i h_{00} + (d-2) \frac{h_{0i}}{\lambda}$$

Solutions exist only if $s_i \sim r^{-3}$.

On global dS, any smooth solution is allowed. So choose a TT synchronous mode in *global* coordinates and convert to $k=0$: $(\theta, \tau)_{\text{global}} \rightarrow (r, \lambda)_{k=0}$

$$h_{\tau\tau} = h_{\tau\theta} = 0, \text{ but } h_{\theta\theta} = h(\text{angles}) f(\tau)$$

$$\text{With } f \sim e^{-2\tau/\ell}$$

At fixed λ , large r find

$$e^{-2\tau/\ell} \sim r^2/2\ell,$$

$$\theta \sim \pi - \frac{2\ell}{r} \left(1 + \frac{\lambda^2 - \ell^2}{r^2} + \dots \right)$$

$$h_{00} = \left(\frac{\partial\theta}{\partial\lambda} \right)^2 h_{\theta\theta} \sim \frac{\ell^2 \lambda^2 r^4}{r^6 \ell^2 \lambda^2} \sim \frac{1}{r^2}$$

$$h_{0i} \sim h_{0r} = \left(\frac{\partial\theta}{\partial\lambda} \right) \left(\frac{\partial\theta}{\partial r} \right) h_{\theta\theta} \sim \frac{1}{\lambda r}$$

$$\longrightarrow s_i \sim 1/\lambda^2 r$$

No solution!

