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# **(In)Stabilities and Complementarity in AdS/CFT**

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Based on works with J.L.F Barbon

Based on work with R. Auzzi, S. Elitzur and  
S.B. Gudnason

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- J. Orgera, J. Polchinski,; D. Harlow
- J. Maldacena

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- Introduction
- Bulk
- AdS set up
- Boundary
- Complementarity
- Butterflies

# **INTRODUCTION**

# Dualities

- Geometry
- Topology
- Number of dimensions, small and large
- (non-)Commutativity
- Singularity structure
- Associativity



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- Singularities express a breakdown of our knowledge/approximations
- In general-covariantly invariant theories, singularities can hide behind horizons
- Finite black hole entropy can be reconstructed from the outside
- Can infinite entropy of a crunch be reconstructed as well?

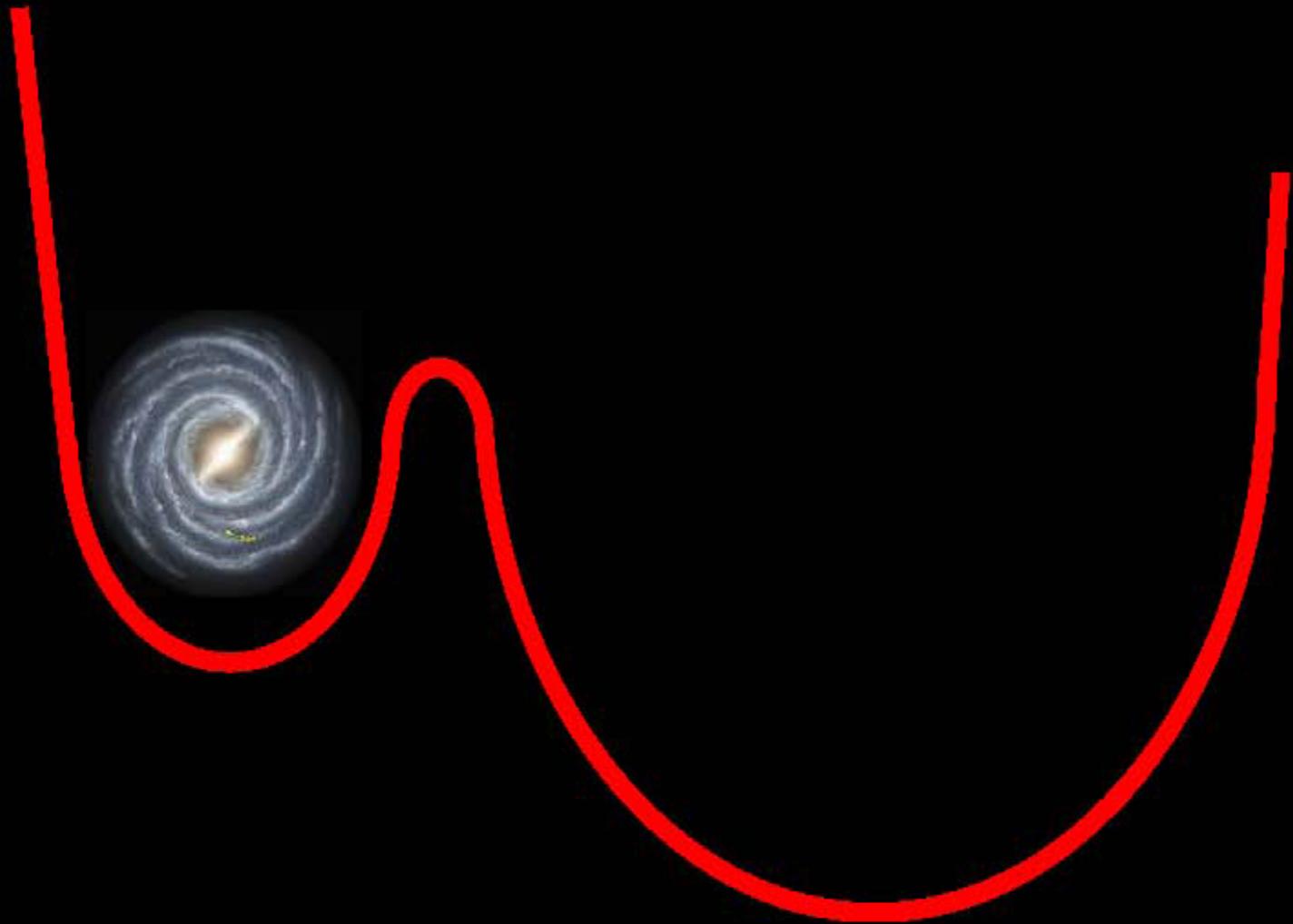
# **ADS SET UP**



Photograph by Jim Brandenburg

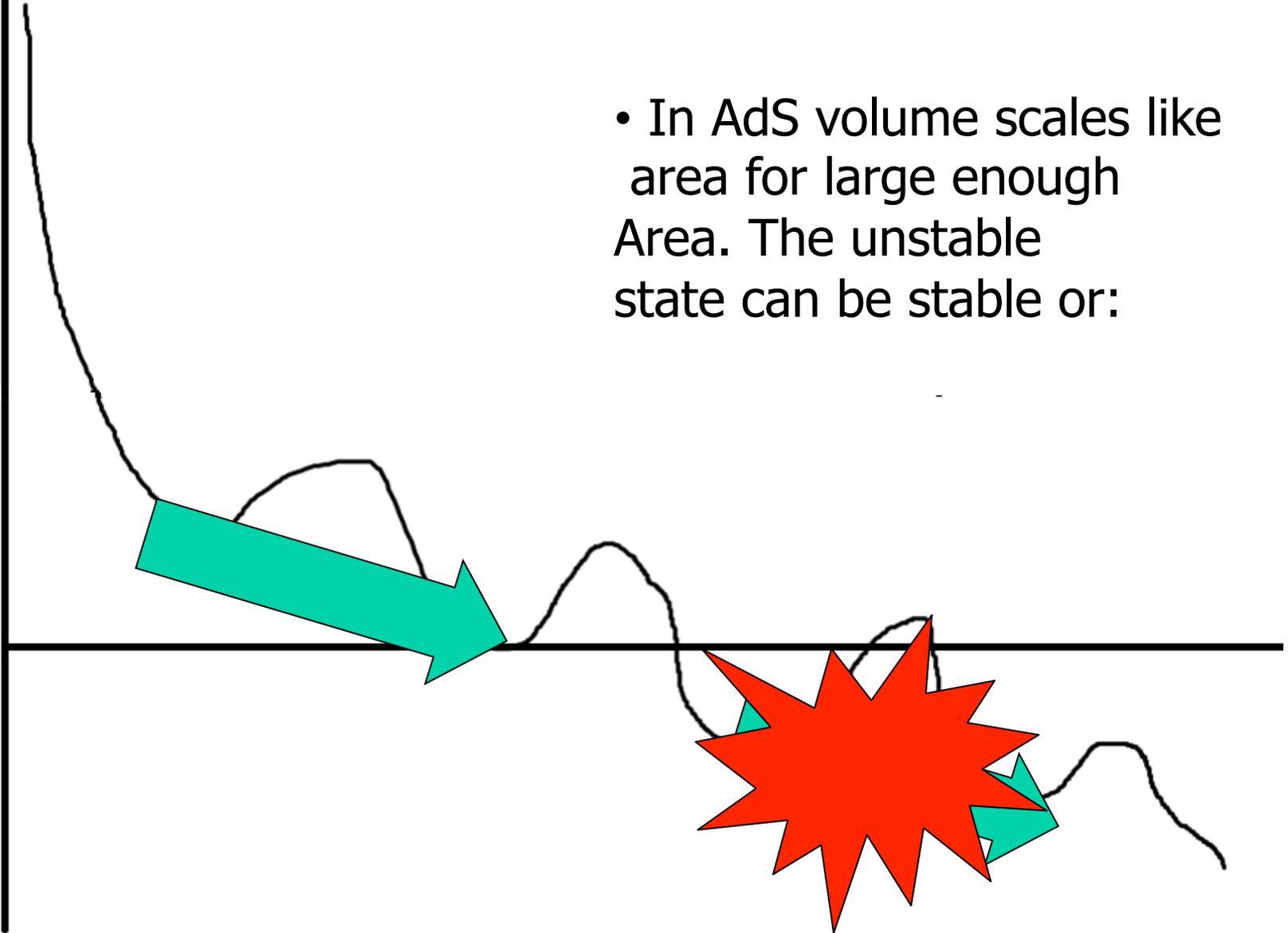
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In AdS what you see is not what you get

- In AdS volume scales like area for large enough Area. The unstable state can be stable or:



$$ds_{\text{FRW}}^2 = -dt^2 + G(t)ds_{\mathbf{H}^d}^2$$

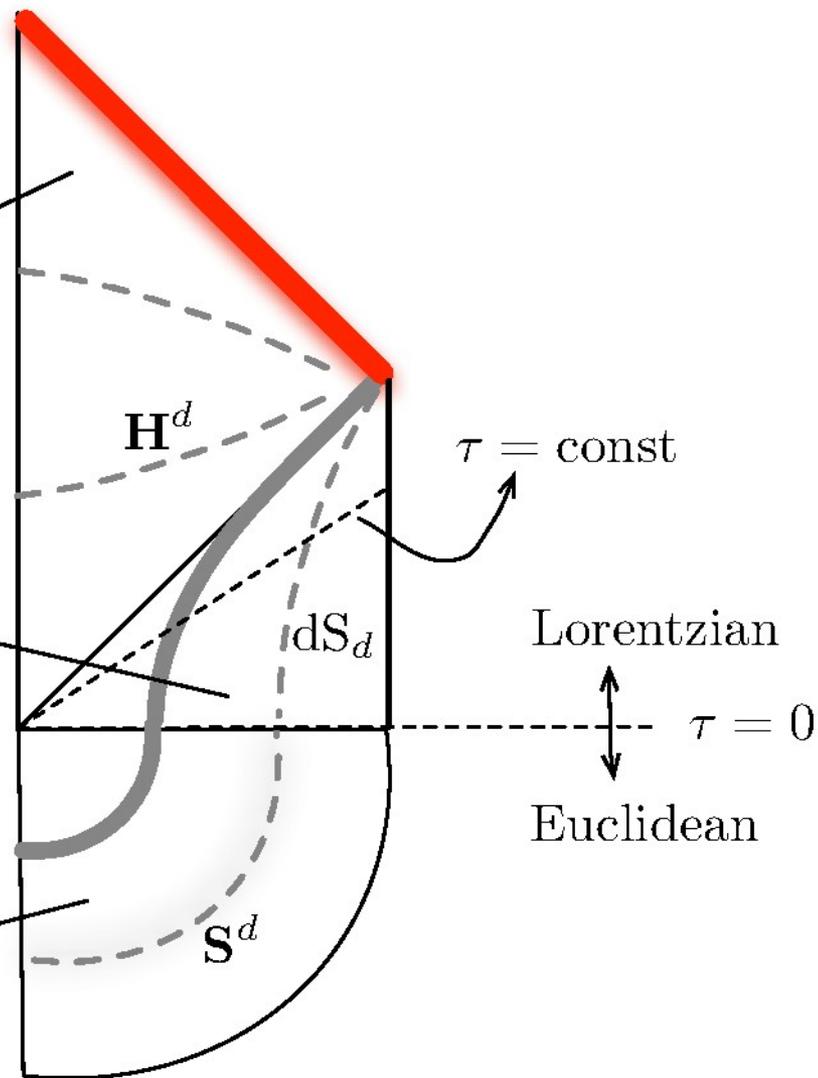
FRW  
patch

$$ds_{\text{Bubble}}^2 = d\rho^2 + F(\rho)ds_{\text{dS}_d}^2$$

bubble  
patch

$$ds_{\text{Ball}}^2 = d\rho^2 + F(\rho)ds_{\mathbf{S}^d}^2$$

ball  
patch



We shall refer to ‘AdS-crunches’ as a particular class of FRW cosmologies with  $O(d, 1)$ -invariant spatial sections (i.e.  $d$ -hyperboloids  $\mathbf{H}^d$ ),

$$ds_{\text{FRW}}^2 = -dt^2 + G(t) ds_{\mathbf{H}^d}^2 .$$

backgrounds in terms of the Euclidean versions with  $O(d + 1)$  isometries. Let us consider the metric

$$ds_{\text{Ball}}^2 = d\rho^2 + F(\rho) d\Omega_d^2 ,$$

satisfying the field Equations with an  $O(d + 1)$ -symmetric matter distribution  $\varphi(\rho)$ . We term it ‘the ball’ on account of its  $O(d + 1)$  symmetry, even if it may be non-compact in general. Smoothness at the center of the ball requires  $F(\rho) \approx \rho^2$  and  $\varphi(\rho) \approx \varphi_0 + \frac{1}{2}\varphi_0''\rho^2$  as  $\rho \rightarrow 0$ .

Writing  $d\Omega_d^2 = d\theta^2 + \cos^2(\theta) d\Omega_{d-1}^2$ , we generate a Lorentz-signature metric with  $O(d, 1)$  symmetry by the analytic continuation  $\theta = i\tau$ . We call this metric ‘the bubble’:

$$ds_{\text{Bubble}}^2 = d\rho^2 + F(\rho) (-d\tau^2 + \cosh^2(\tau) d\Omega_{d-1}^2) = d\rho^2 + F(\rho) ds_{\text{dS}_d}^2 ,$$

where the group  $O(d, 1)$  acts on global de Sitter sections  $dS_d$ . By construction, the matter fields are de Sitter-invariant functions  $\varphi(\rho)$ , so all features of the metric and matter fields expand like a de Sitter space-time, i.e. we have a generalized notion of an ‘expanding bubble’. This bubble background is time-symmetric around  $\tau = 0$ , where it can be formally matched to the Euclidean  $O(d + 1)$ -invariant ‘ball’. Therefore, we may interpret this construction as a time-symmetric cosmology with bang and crunch, or as a crunching cosmology that evolves from a particular initial condition obtained from some quantum-cosmological tunneling event, *a la* Hartle–Hawking [10].

At  $\rho=0$  the  $dS_d$  sections become null and they may be further extended as the nearly null  $\mathbf{H}^d$  sections of the FRW patch. By mimicking the pure AdS case, we can achieve this matching by the coordinate redefinition  $\rho = it$  and  $y = \tau + i\pi/2$ :

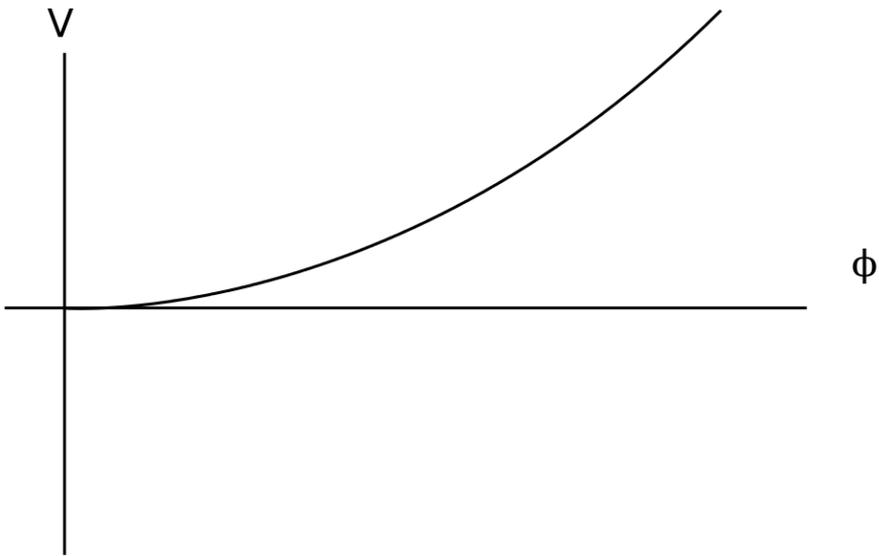
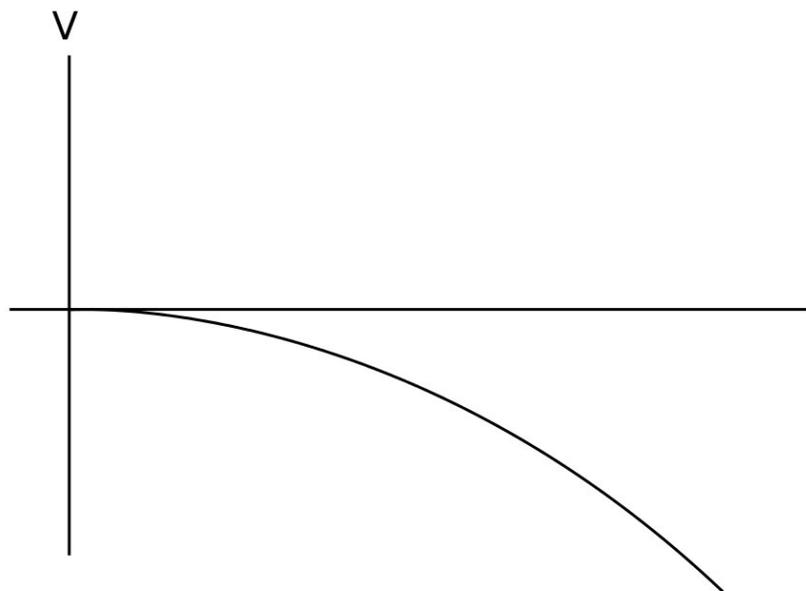
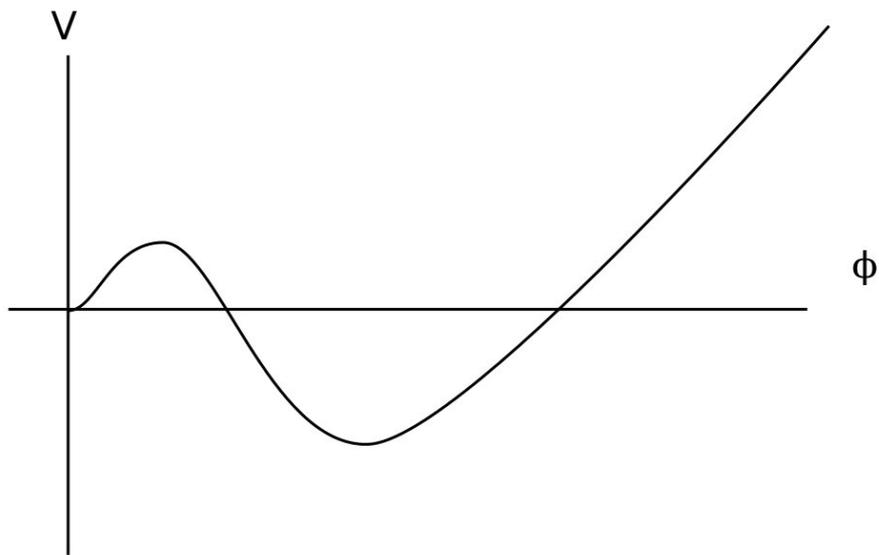
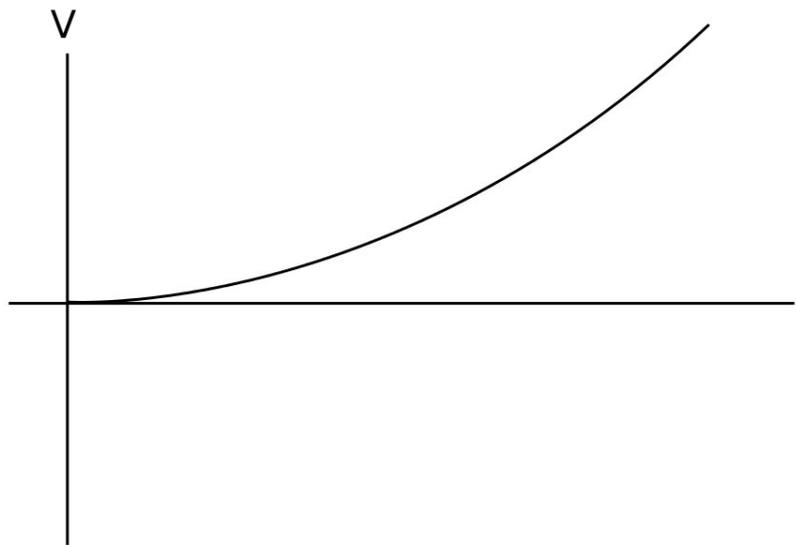
$$ds_{\text{FRW}}^2 = -dt^2 + G(t) (dy^2 + \sinh^2(y) d\Omega_{d-1}^2) = -dt^2 + G(t) ds_{\mathbf{H}^d}^2 ,$$

where the smooth matching requires  $G(t) \approx t^2 \approx -F(it)$  near  $t = 0$ . For the rest of the fields,  $\varphi(\rho)$  continues to a  $O(1, d)$ -invariant function  $\varphi(t)$  with small  $t$  behavior  $\varphi(t) \approx \varphi_0 - \frac{1}{2}\varphi_0'' t^2$ . Hence, the result is a FRW model with negative spatial curvature (2.1), which eventually crunches barring fine-tuning.

Non perturbative definition of the theory.

There are several possible QFT duals on the boundary

**BOUNDARY**

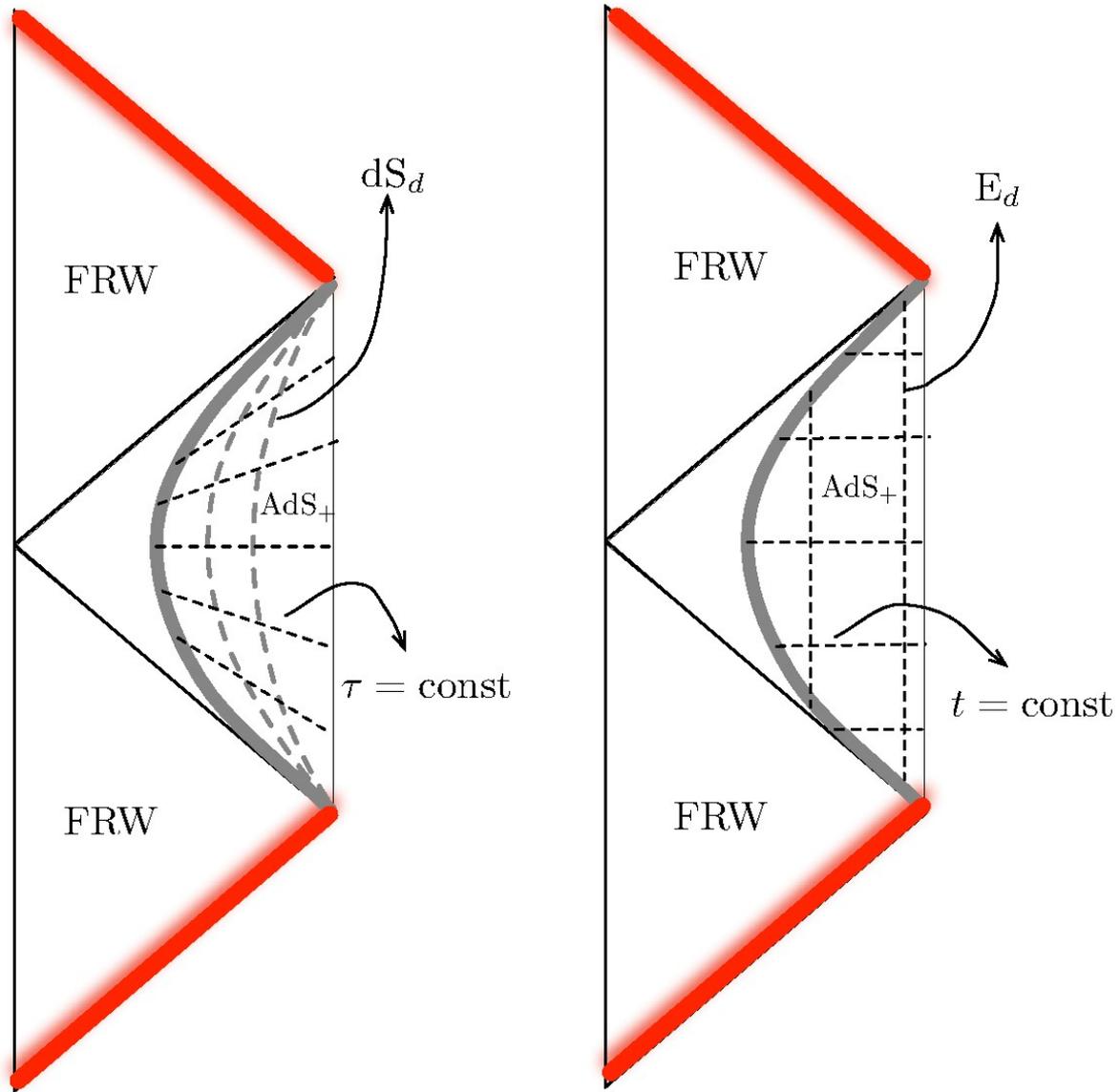


- If the boundary theory is well defined so is the crunch in the bulk.
- For the bulk crunch example above the boundary theory is well defined. Possible to describe a crunch.
- It is well defined on a world volume which is dS but there is no gravitational coupling.
- To see the crunch change coordinates on the boundary.

$$ds_{\text{E}}^2 = -dt^2 + d\Omega_{d-1}^2,$$

$$ds_{\text{dS}}^2 = \Omega^2(t) ds_{\text{E}}^2, \quad \Omega(t) = \cosh(\tau) = \frac{1}{\cos(t)},$$

$$t = \int \Omega^{-1}(\tau) d\tau = 2 \tan^{-1} [\tanh(\tau/2)].$$



## In the dS frame:

- The World Volume expands(consider a slow expansion relative to other scales).
- Time extends from  $-\infty$  to  $\infty$
- The couplings in the Lagrangian are time INDEPENDENT

## In the E frame:

- The world volume is static when it exists.
- Time has a finite extension.
- The relevant couplings in the Lagrangian are time dependent and explode at the end of time. The marginal operators remain time independent.

A simple classical model:  $O(N)$  on de Sitter

$$S_{\text{dS}}[\vec{\phi}] = - \int_{\text{dS}_4} \left( \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \vec{\phi} \cdot \partial^\mu \vec{\phi} + \frac{\vec{\phi}^2}{R^2} + \lambda (\vec{\phi}^2)^2 + \varepsilon M^2 \vec{\phi}^2 \right)$$

$MR \gg 1 \longrightarrow$  Phases are clear-cut

$\varepsilon > 0$        $UV_{O(N)} \xrightarrow{\text{RG flow}} IR_{\text{gap}}$

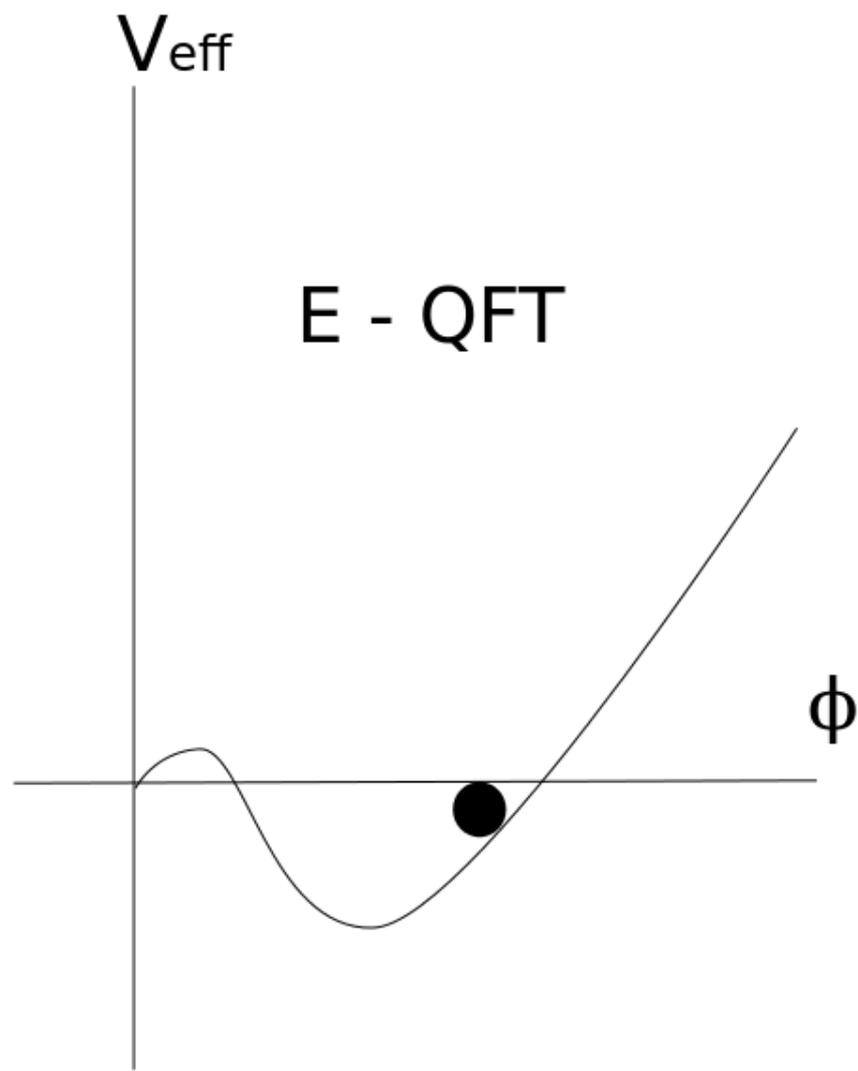
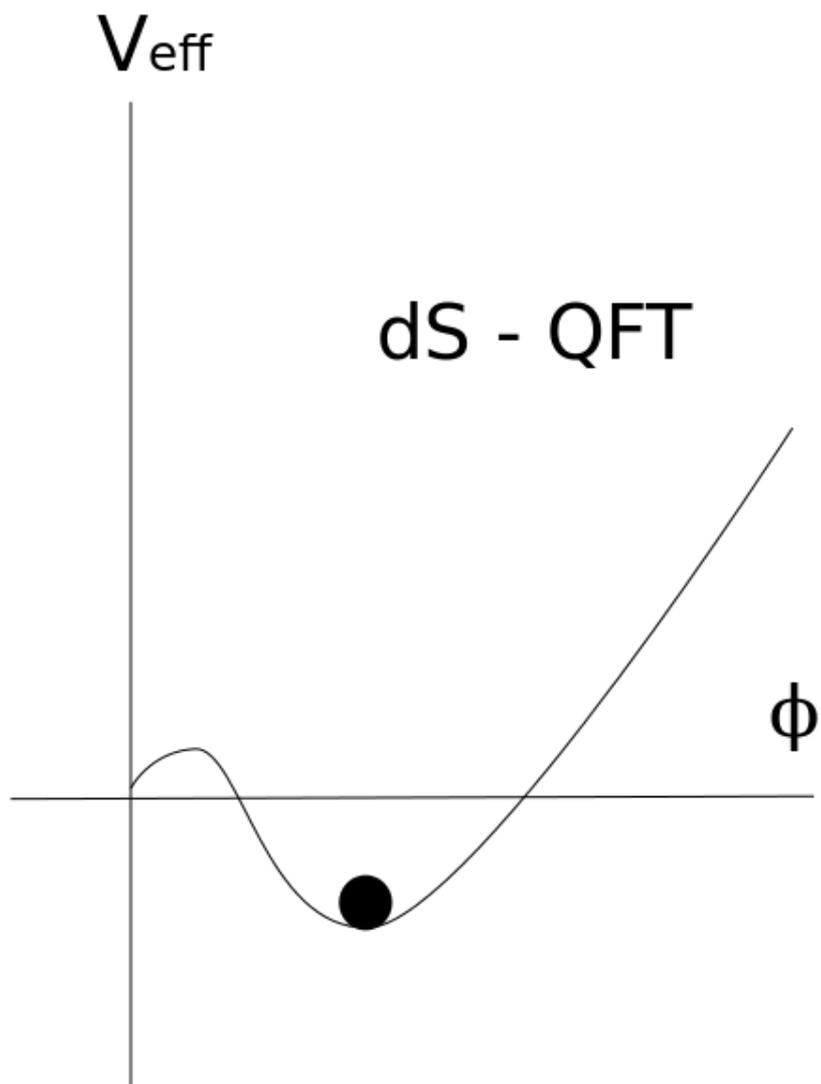
$\varepsilon < 0$        $UV_{O(N)} \xrightarrow{\text{RG flow}} IR_{O(N-1)}$

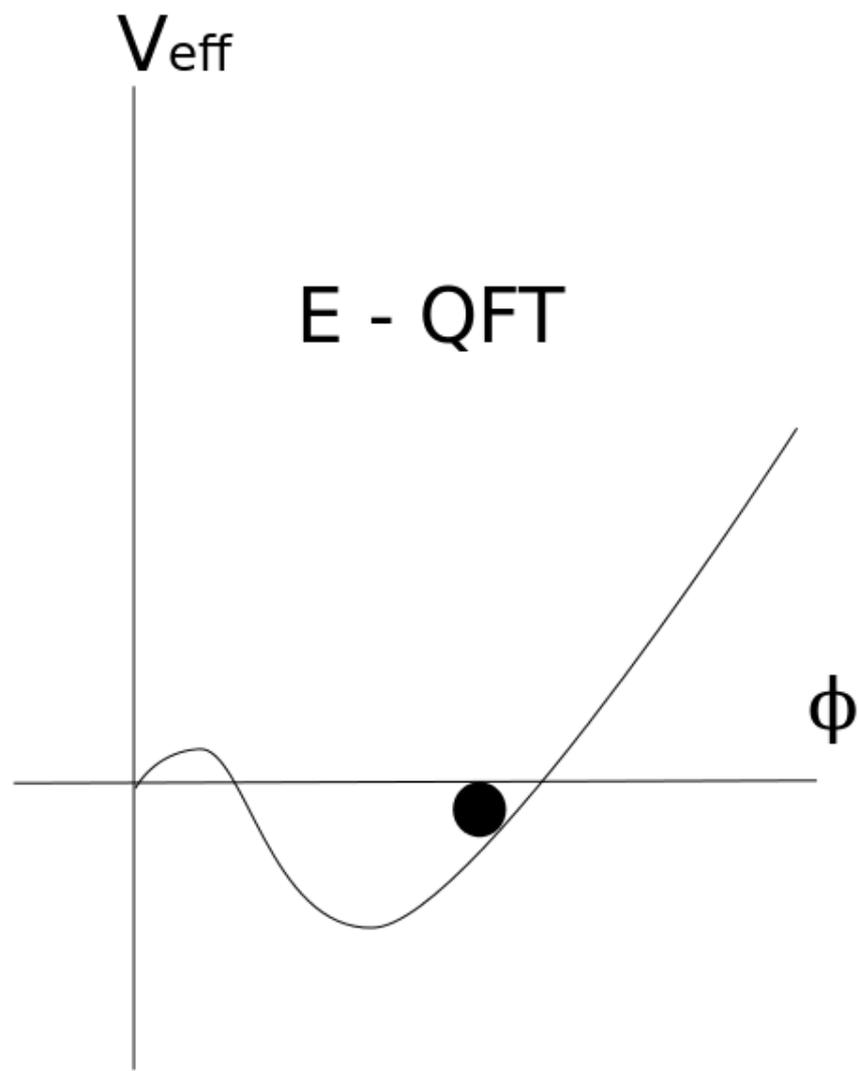
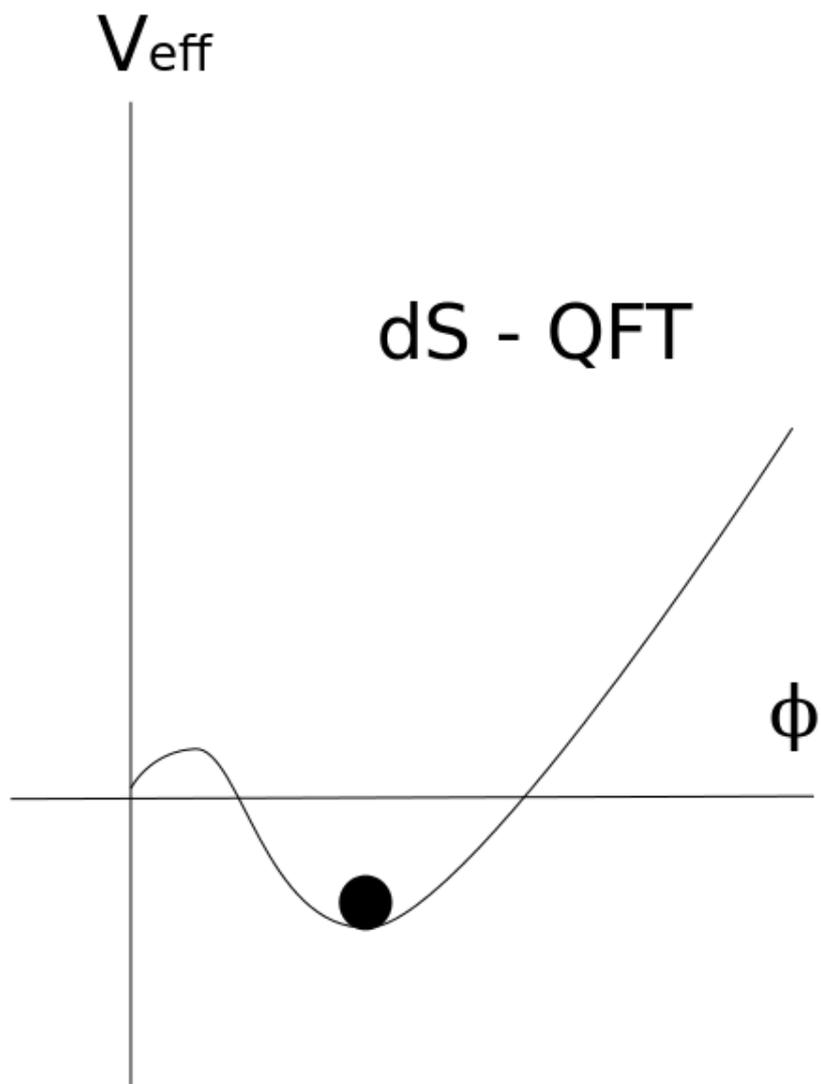
Over at the E-frame...

$$S_{\mathbf{E}}[\vec{\phi}] = - \int_{\mathbf{E}_4} \left( \frac{1}{2} \partial_{\mu} \vec{\phi} \cdot \partial^{\mu} \vec{\phi} + \frac{\vec{\phi}^2}{2R^2} + \lambda (\vec{\phi}^2)^2 + \varepsilon \Omega(t)^2 M^2 \vec{\phi}^2 \right)$$

Mass term blows to  $\varepsilon \infty$   
in finite time

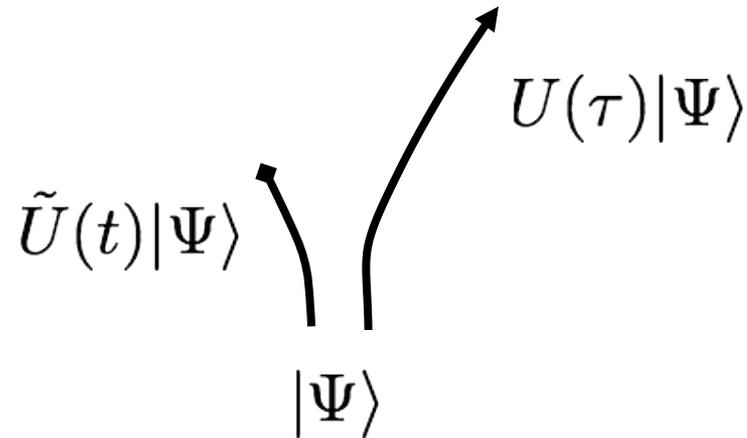
$$\int_{\text{dS}_4} \mathcal{L}_{\vec{\phi}} = - \int_{\text{dS}_4} \left( \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \vec{\phi} \cdot \partial^\mu \vec{\phi} + \vec{\phi}^2 + g_4 (\vec{\phi}^2)^2 + g_2 \Lambda^2 \vec{\phi}^2 \right) ,$$





- A crunch can be described by a regular QFT on dS or by evolving with a state by a Hamiltonian which is well defined for a finite time range and then ceases to exist.
- The two Hamiltonians do NOT commute.

One can build quantum mechanical models with two non-commuting Hamiltonians

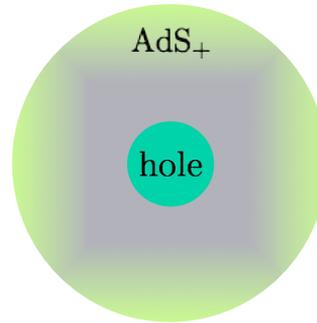


t-evolution crunches and  $\tau$ -evolution is eternal

but they are complementary as both time evolution operators are related by a unitary canonical map

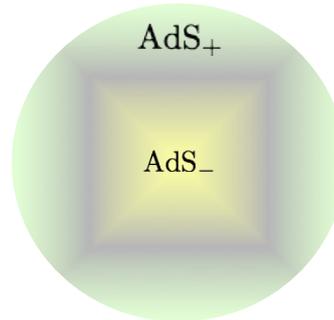
# Bulk analogs

$$MR \gg 1$$
$$\varepsilon > 0$$



bubble of nothing  
Continues to dS gap  
and E-decoupling

$$MR \gg 1$$
$$\varepsilon < 0$$



Domain wall flow  
Continues to dS condensate  
and E-crunch

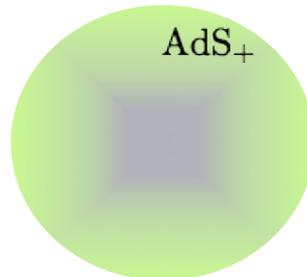
What about  $MR \ll 1$  ?

This is the slightly massive UV CFT on a finite box

Detailed dynamics should depend on quantum effects after large-N summation

In Bulk, we get linearized scalar flows which crunch for either sign of  $\epsilon$

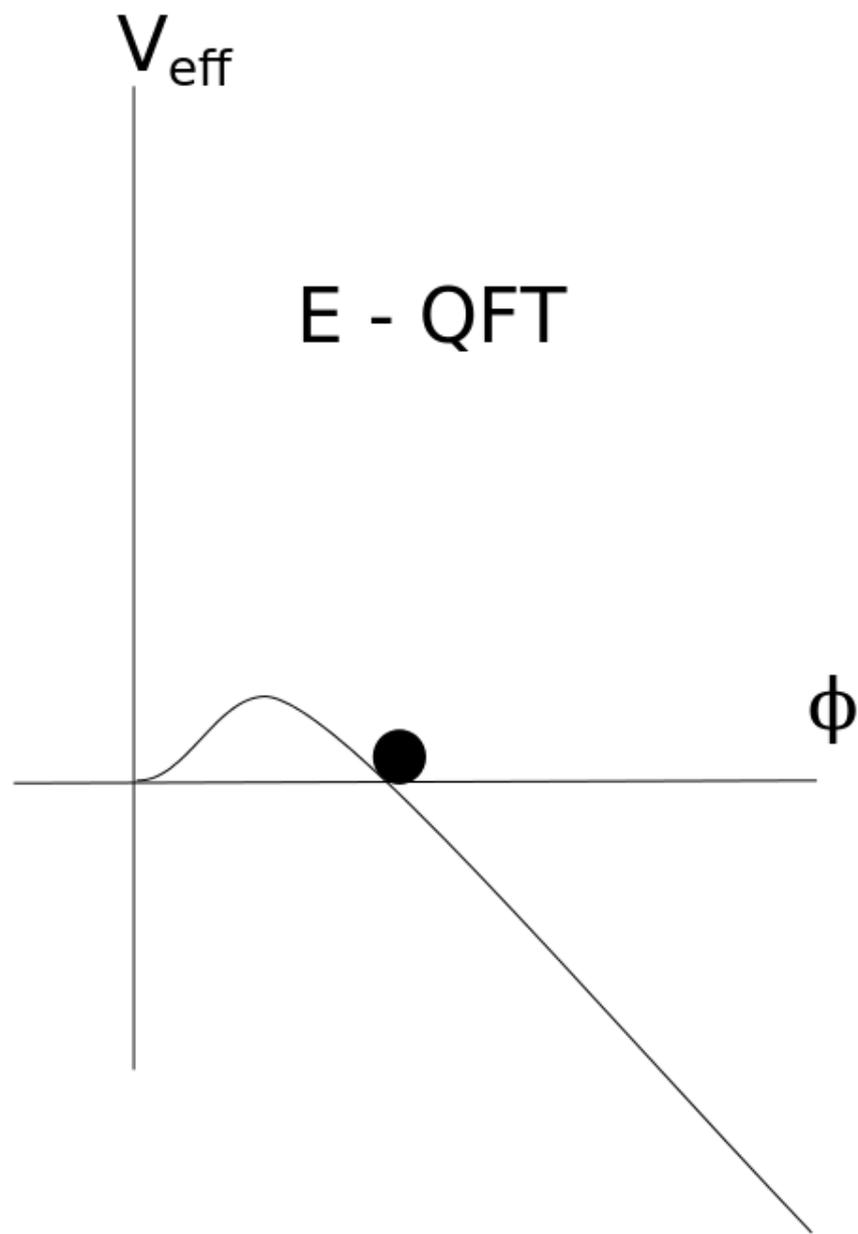
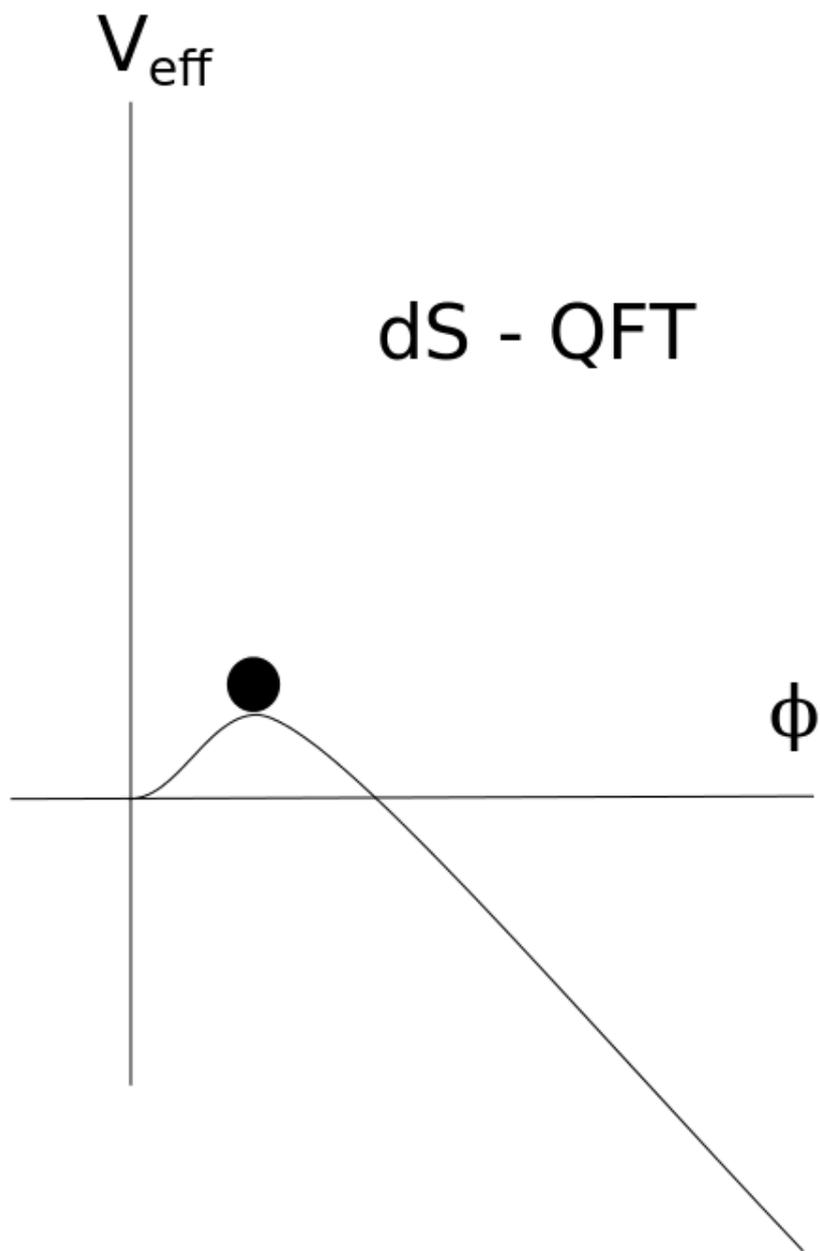
(Maldacena)

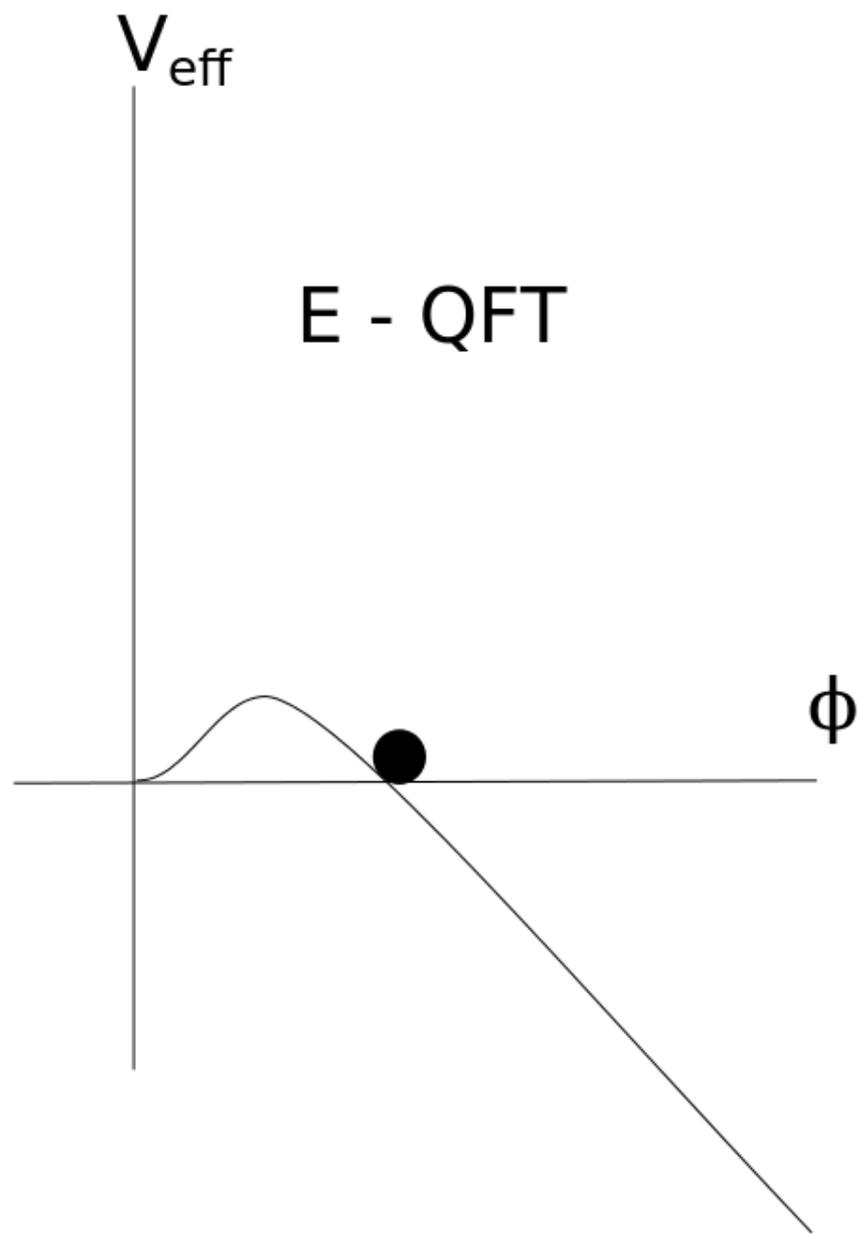
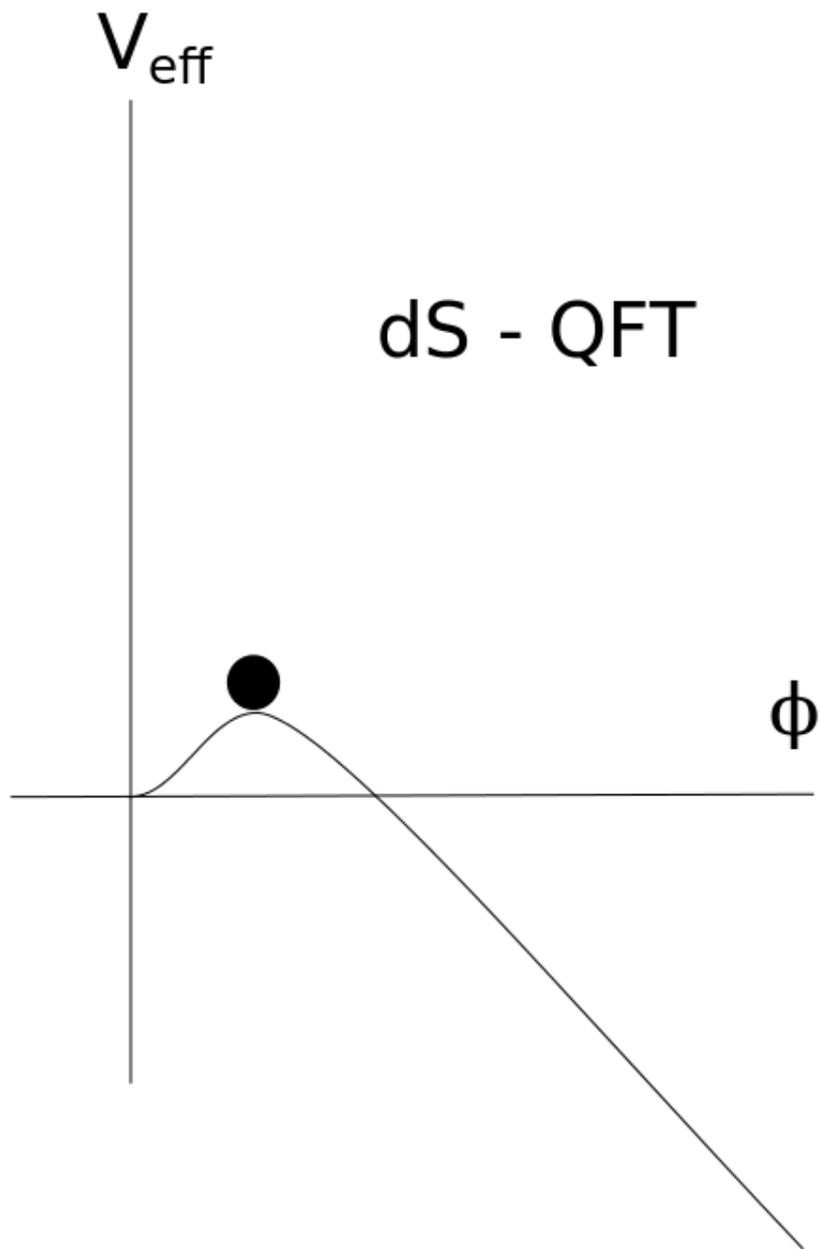


Small scalar flow  
small large-N dS condensate  
E-frame still crunches

- An unstable marginal operator on the boundary is related to a Coleman de Luccia bubble in the bulk.

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}[\phi] = -\frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{d-2}{8(d-1)} \mathcal{R}_d \phi^2 - \lambda \phi^{\frac{2d}{d-2}} + \mathcal{O}\left(\phi^{\frac{2(d-4)}{d-2}}, \partial^4\right) .$$

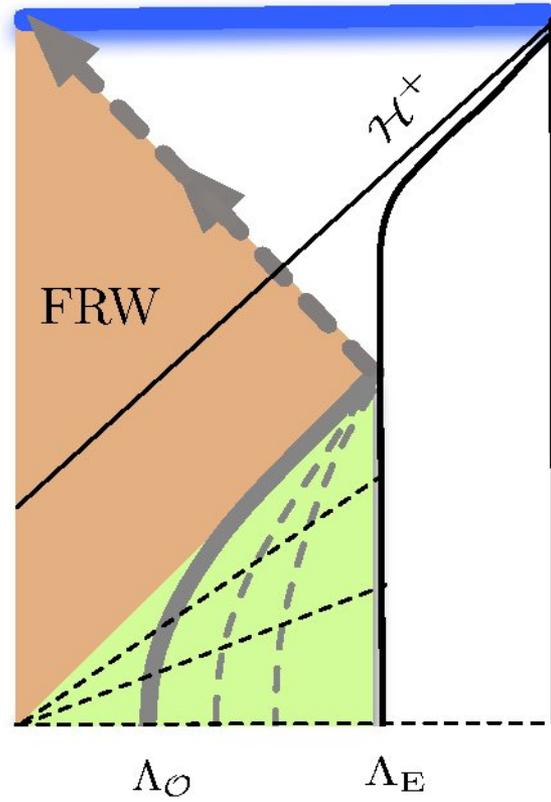




- As seen on the boundary this crunch situation involves a flow to infinity at a finite time and need not be healed in the bulk.

**BULK**

# **COMPLEMENTARITY**



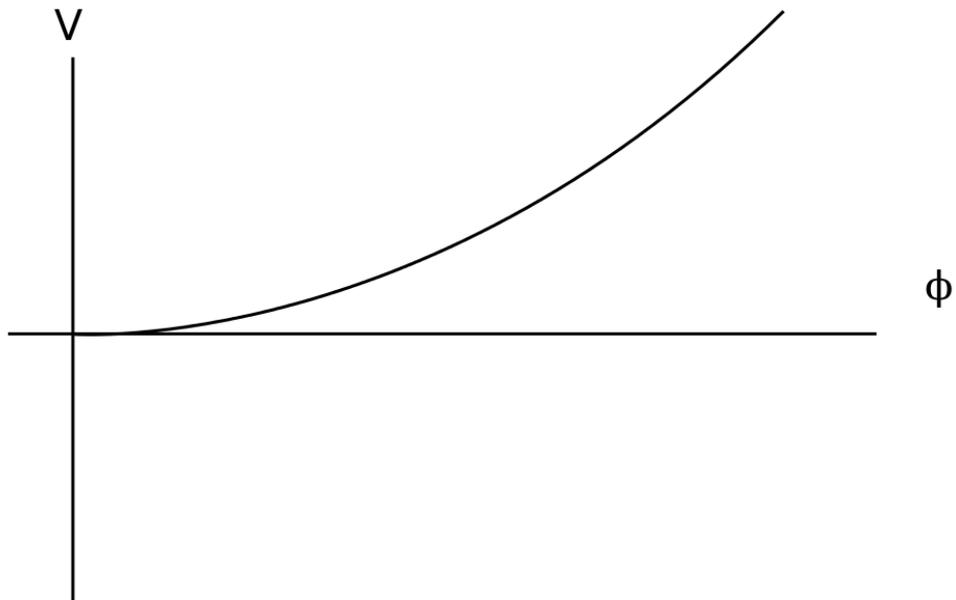
# BUTTERFLIES



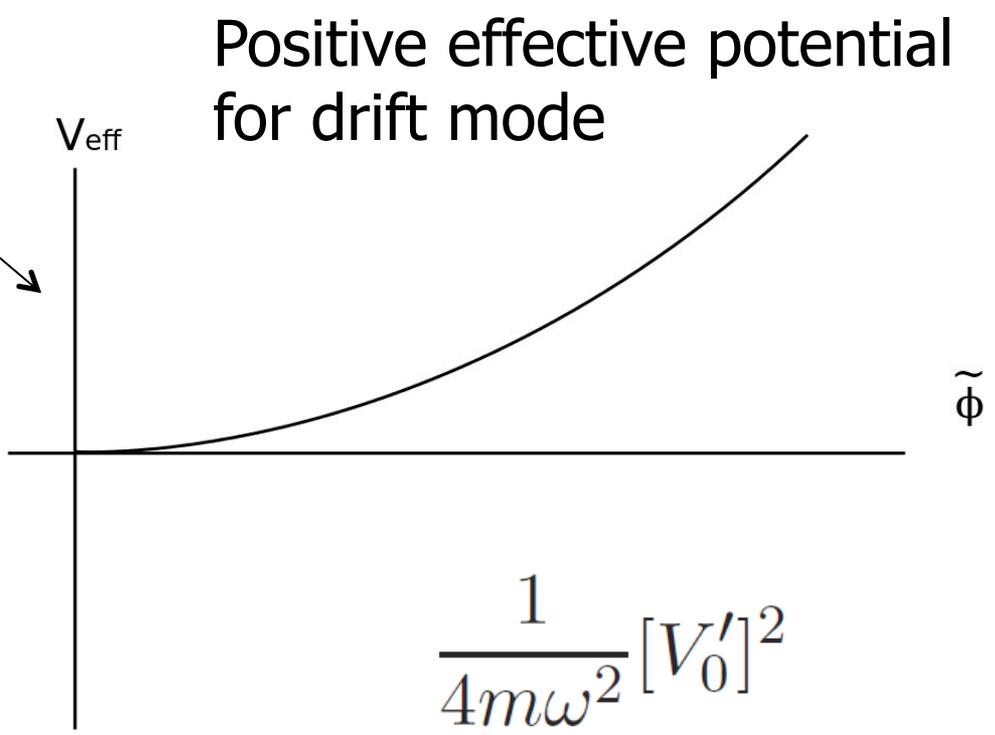
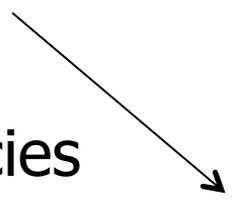
Time dependent butterfly-like boundary potential

$$V(\phi, t) = \frac{\lambda}{4} \cos(\omega t) \phi^4 ,$$

- Stable?
- What is the dual theory in the bulk?



High frequencies  
of oscillation



# Free Field theory

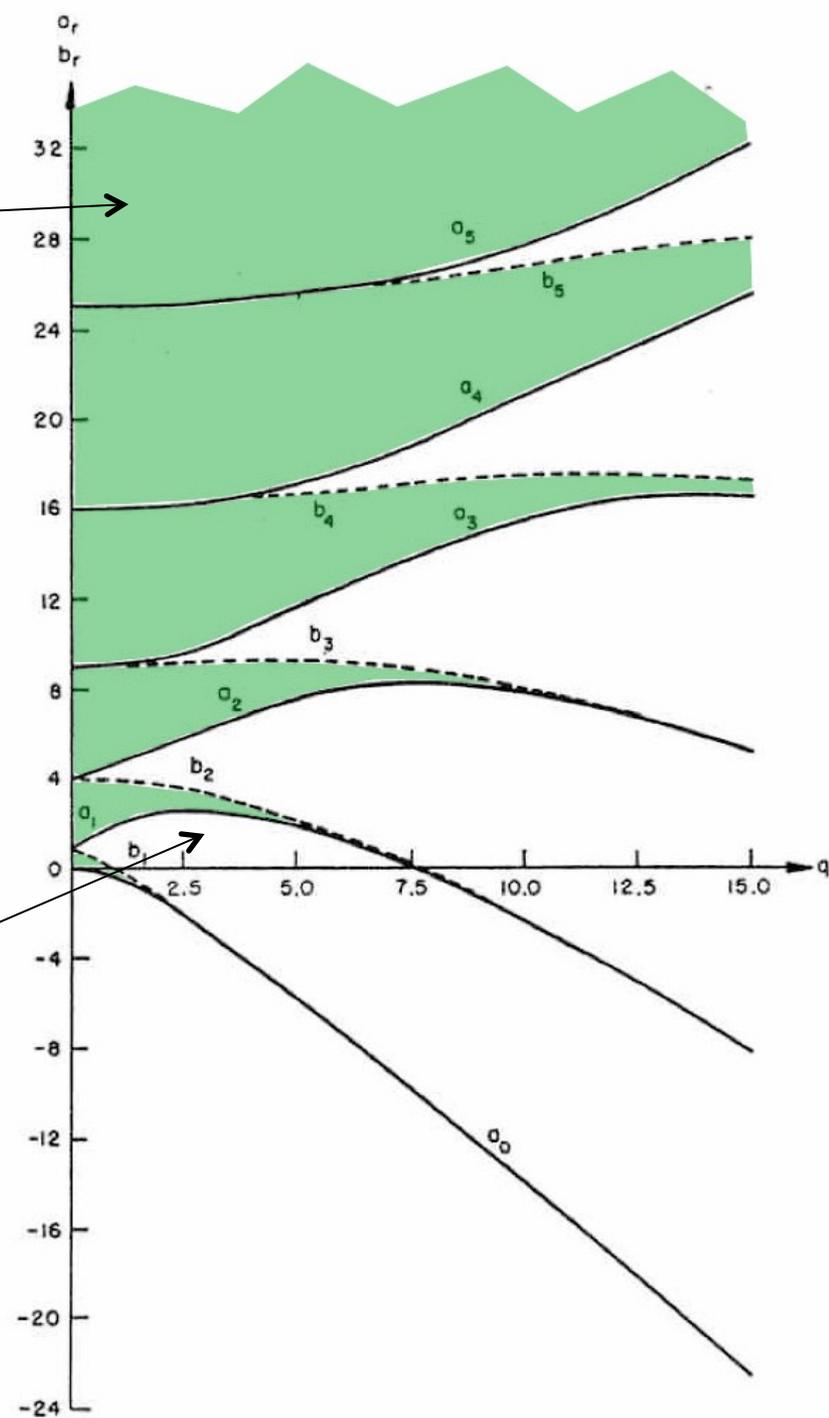
Stability zones

Mathieu equation

$$\ddot{\phi} + [a - 2q \cos(2\tau)] \phi = 0,$$

Instability zones

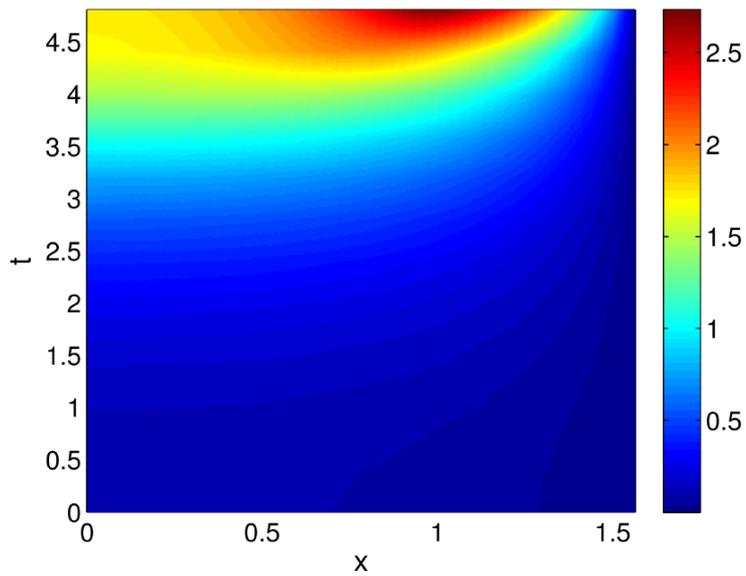
$$a \equiv \frac{4\vec{k}^2}{\omega^2}, \quad q \equiv \frac{2m^2}{\omega^2}.$$



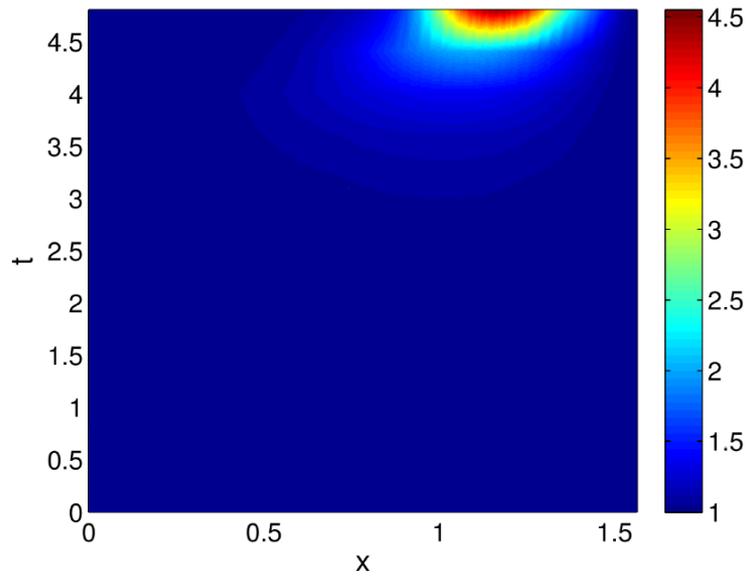
- For  $a < 2q$  instabilities are cured
- For  $a > 2q$  resonances may appear
- For compactified world volume resonances can be avoided (number theory results)
- What about interacting boundary field theory?
  - It should thermalize
- Go to the bulk

# Expectations

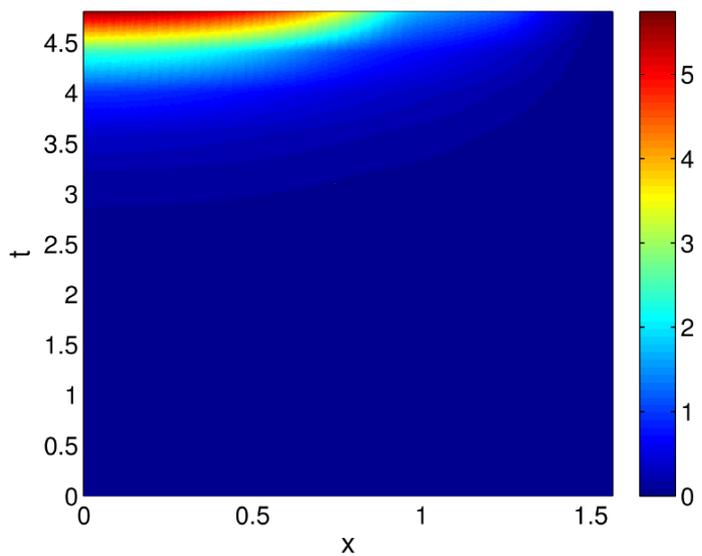
- When the boundary theory is unstable, the bulk would crunch?
- When the boundary theory is stabilized, then the bulk is healed?
- An interacting boundary theory can thermalize and produce a black hole in the bulk?
- Using AdS/CFT dictionary and numerical analysis



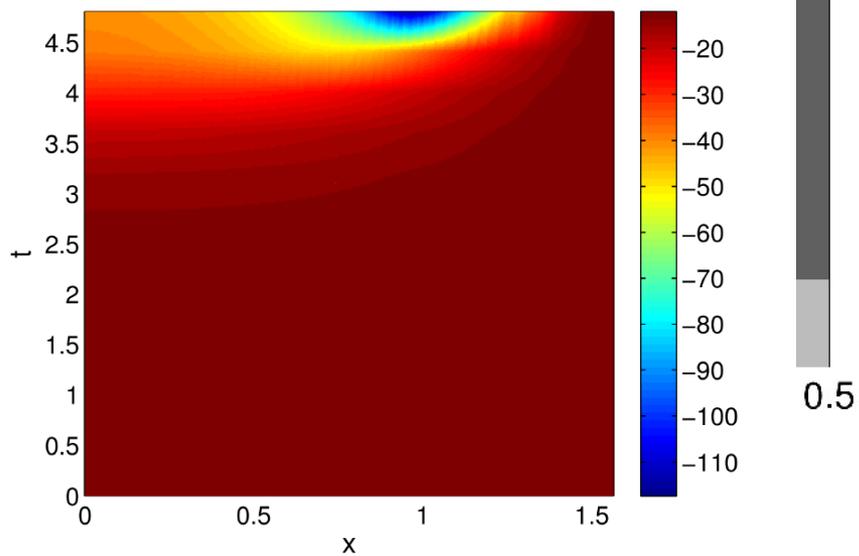
(a)  $\phi(x, t)$



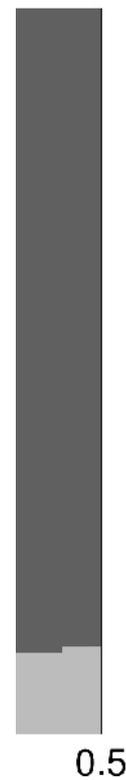
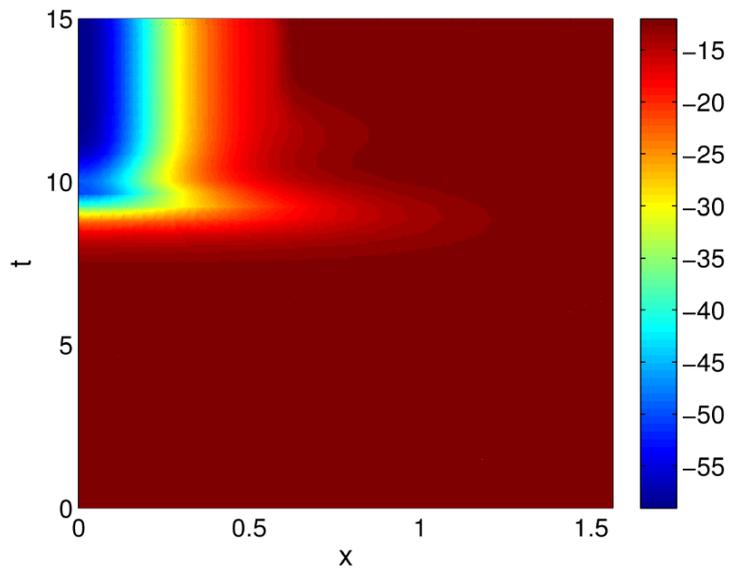
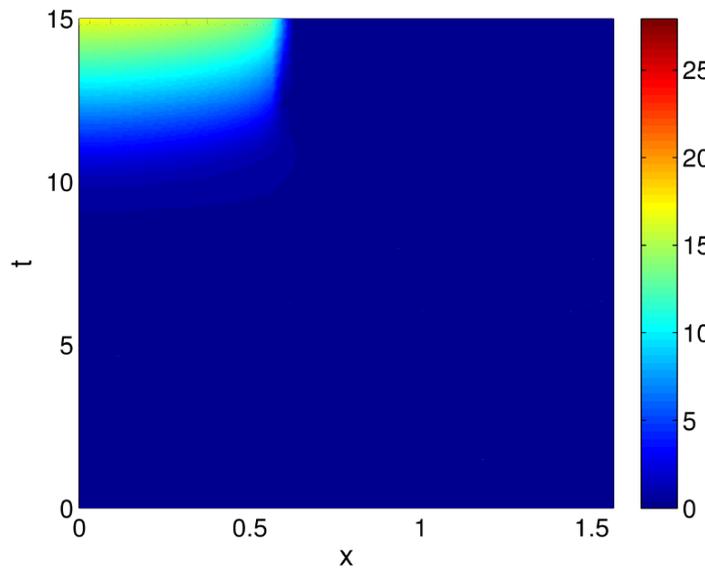
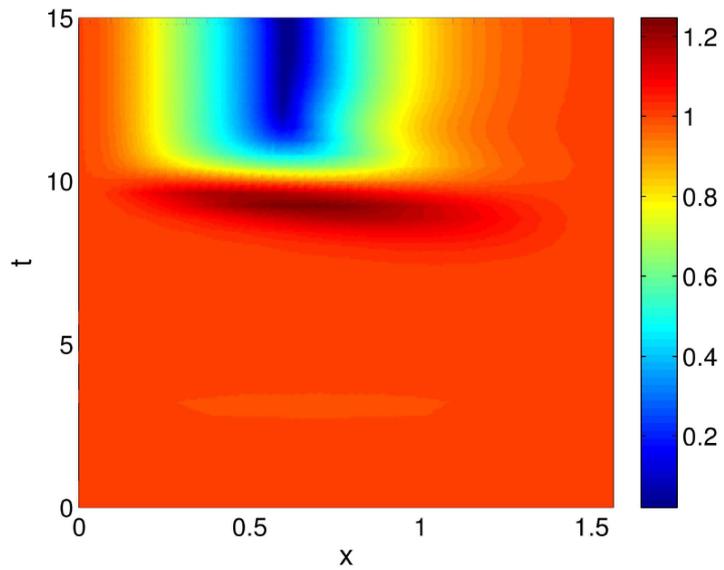
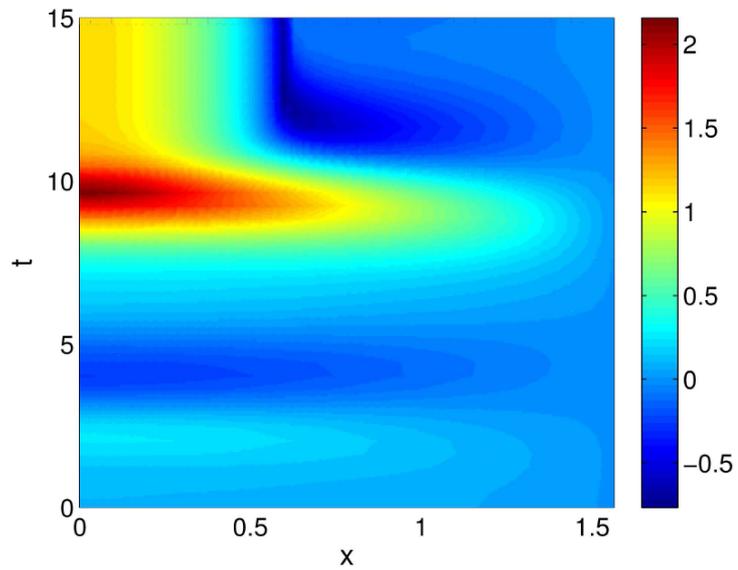
(b)  $A(x, t)$

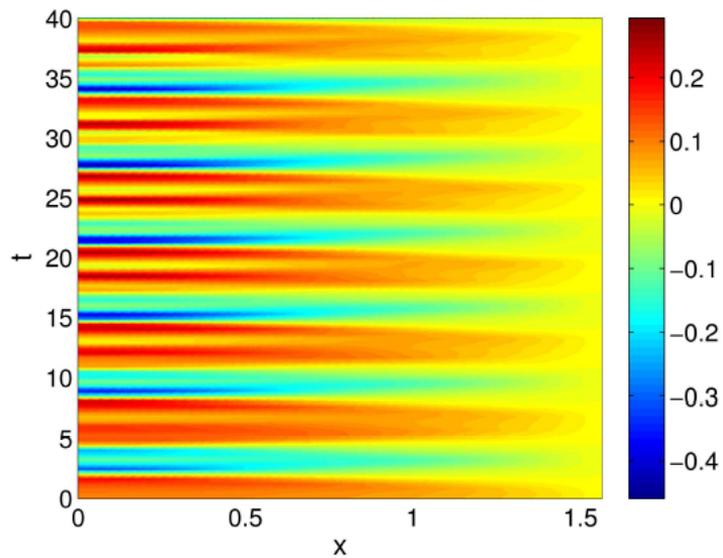


(c)  $\delta(x, t)$

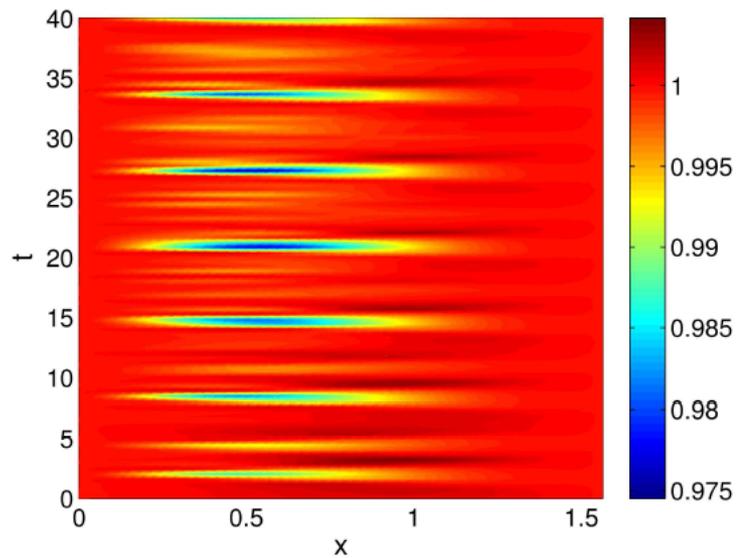


(d) scalar curvature  $R(x, t)$

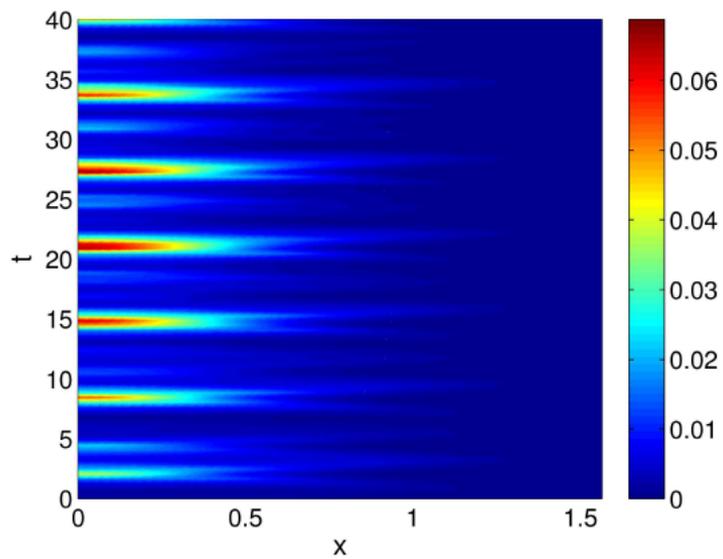




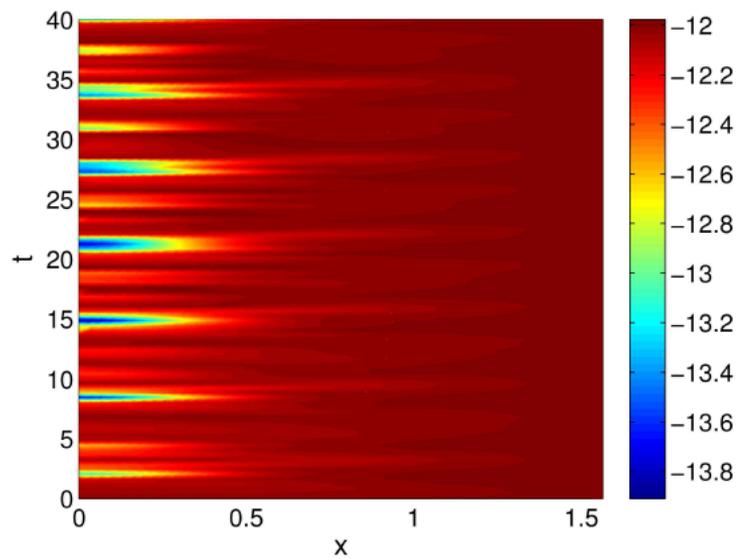
(a)  $\phi(x, t)$



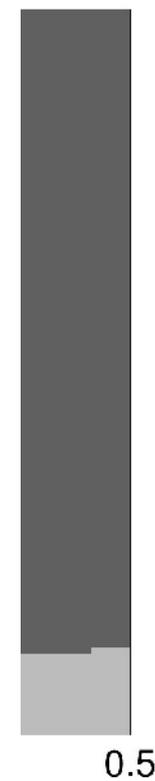
(b)  $A(x, t)$



(c)  $\delta(x, t)$



(d) scalar curvature  $R(x, t)$



# Conclusions

- Crunches can be described by complementary non commuting Hamiltonians. With or without drama.
- Time dependent boundary Hamiltonians can heal crunch singularities.