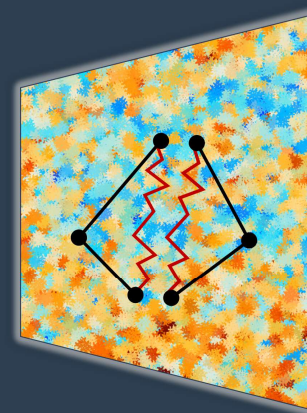
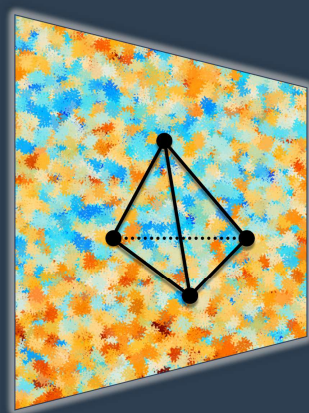


# A Match Made in Heaven:

## *Linking Observables in Inflationary Cosmology*

Yuhang Zhu (IBS, CTPU-CGA)

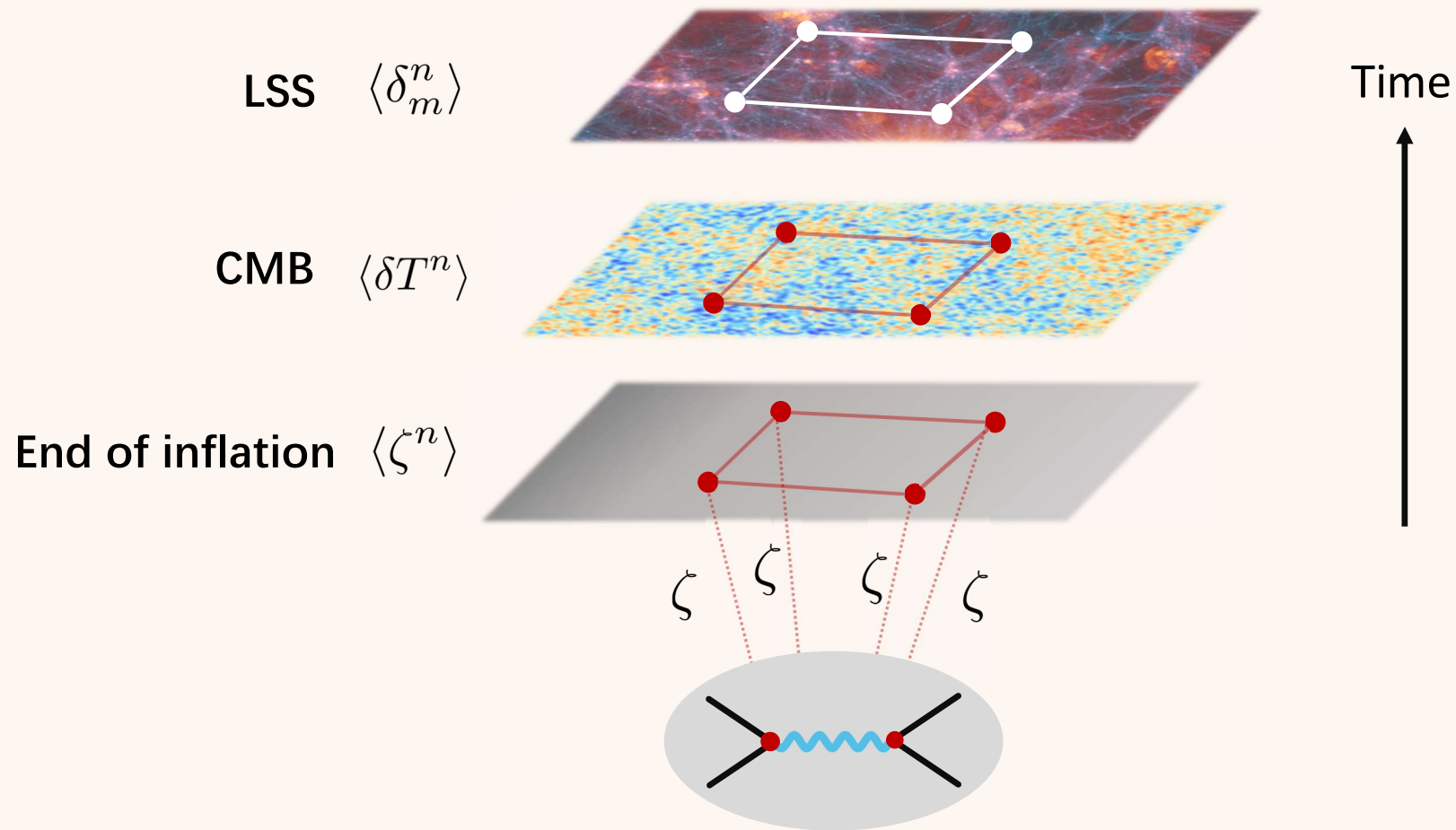
@Prague| 07 April 2025



In collaboration with: David Stefanyszyn and Xi Tong

Based on:  
2504.XXXX  
2406.00099  
2309.07769

# Cosmological correlators

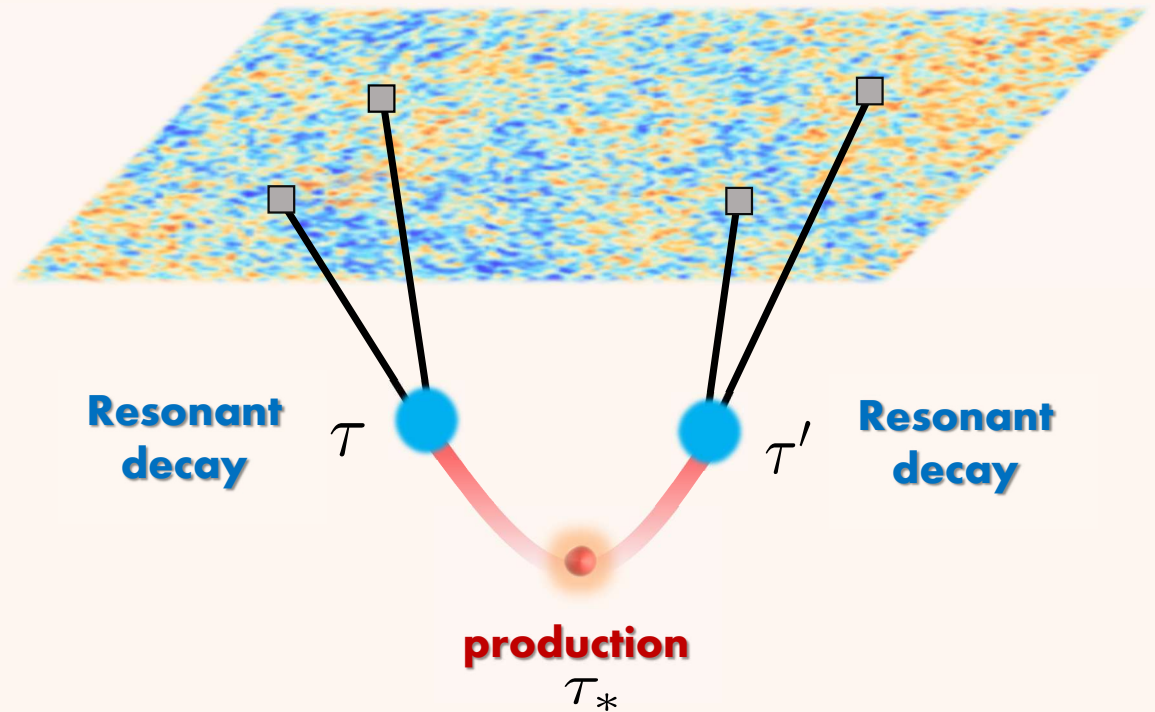
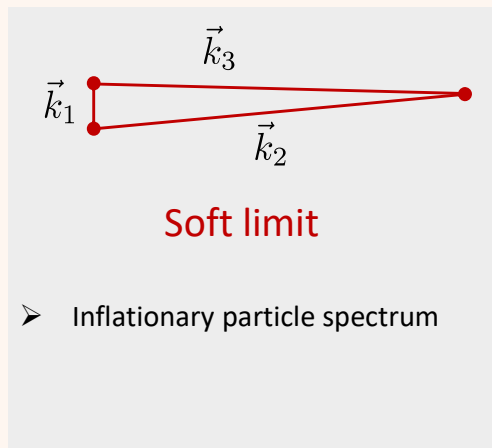


# *Inflation as the Cosmological Collider*





# Inflation as the Cosmological Collider (CC)

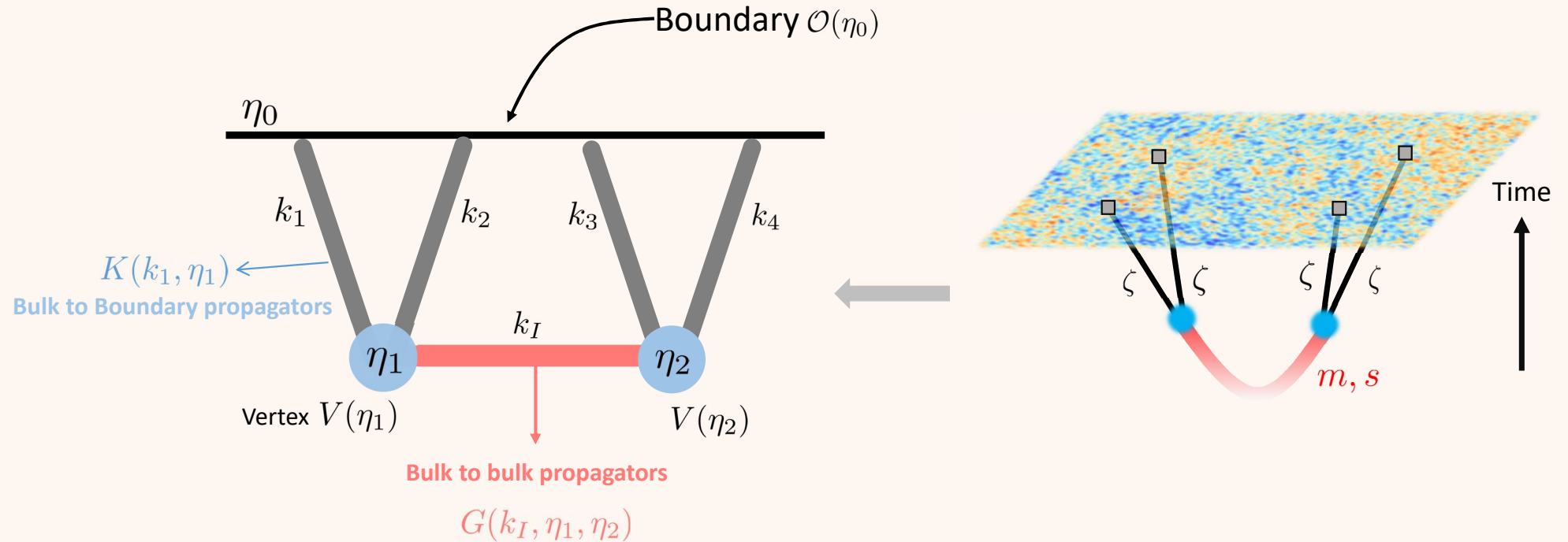


$$S \sim \mathcal{A}(\lambda, m) e^{-\pi\mu} \left(\frac{k_3}{k_1}\right)^{1/2} \sin \left[ \underset{\substack{\downarrow \\ \text{mass}}}{\mu} \log \left(\frac{k_3}{k_1}\right) + \vartheta \right] \underset{\substack{\downarrow \\ \text{spin}}}{P_s}(\cos \theta)$$

$$\mu = \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{m^2}{H^2} - \frac{9}{4}} & s = 0 \\ \sqrt{\frac{m^2}{H^2} - \left(s - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2} & s \neq 0 \end{cases}$$



# Analytical Calculation of cosmological correlators



$$\langle \zeta_{k_1} \zeta_{k_2} \zeta_{k_3} \zeta_{k_4} \rangle' = \int d\eta_1 \int d\eta_2 V(\eta_1) V(\eta_2) G(k_I, \eta_1, \eta_2) K(k_1, \eta_1) K(k_2, \eta_1) K(k_3, \eta_2) K(k_4, \eta_2)$$

**Too difficult to solve analytically!**

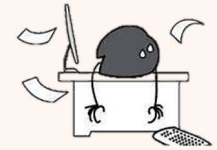
(1) Nested Time integral

(2) Mode functions are complicate

$$G \sim \theta(\eta_1 - \eta_2) v_k(\eta_1) v_k^*(\eta_2) + \theta(\eta_2 - \eta_1) v_k^*(\eta_1) v_k(\eta_2)$$

$$v_k \sim H_{i\mu} \text{ or } W_{i\kappa, i\mu}$$

**BUT**, the calculation of cosmological correlators is really **HARD!**



### Exact

- Sometimes, too complicated
- **Hard** to understand all information

.....

### Approximation

- Sometimes, too naïve
- **Hard** to include all information

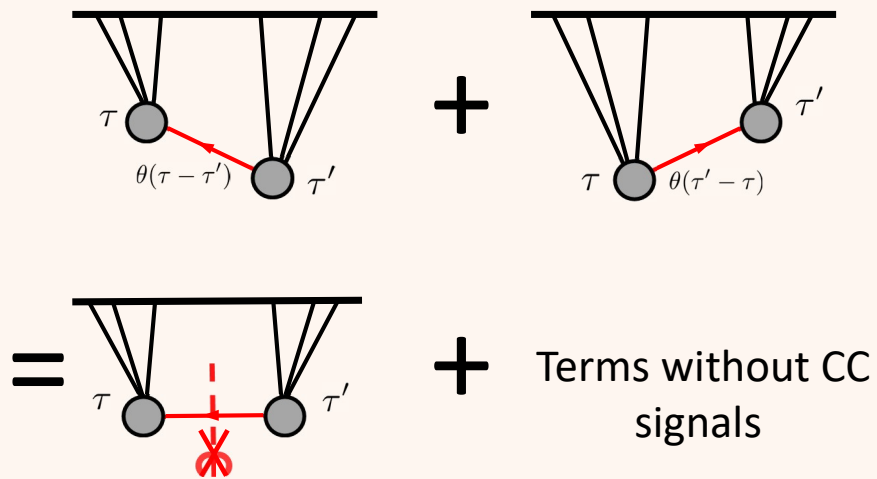
.....

**Trade-off**

## Recent Progress: Approximation Method

### Cosmological collider cutting rule

Tong, Wang and YHZ [2112.03448]

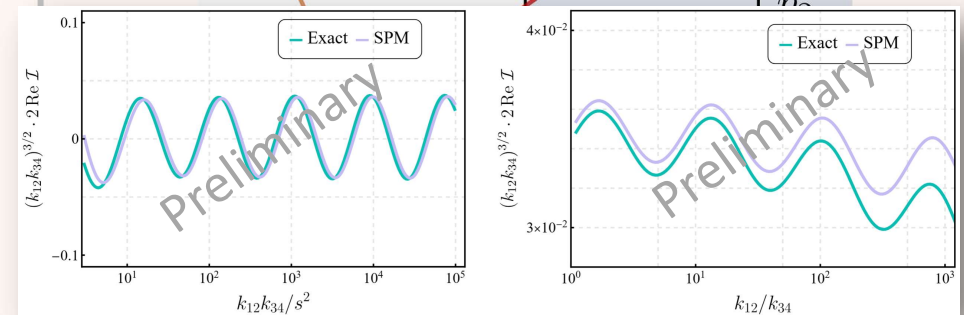


Efficient way to extract CC signals

### WKB + Saddle point method

Renaux-Petel, Tong, Werth, YHZ [2506.XXXX]

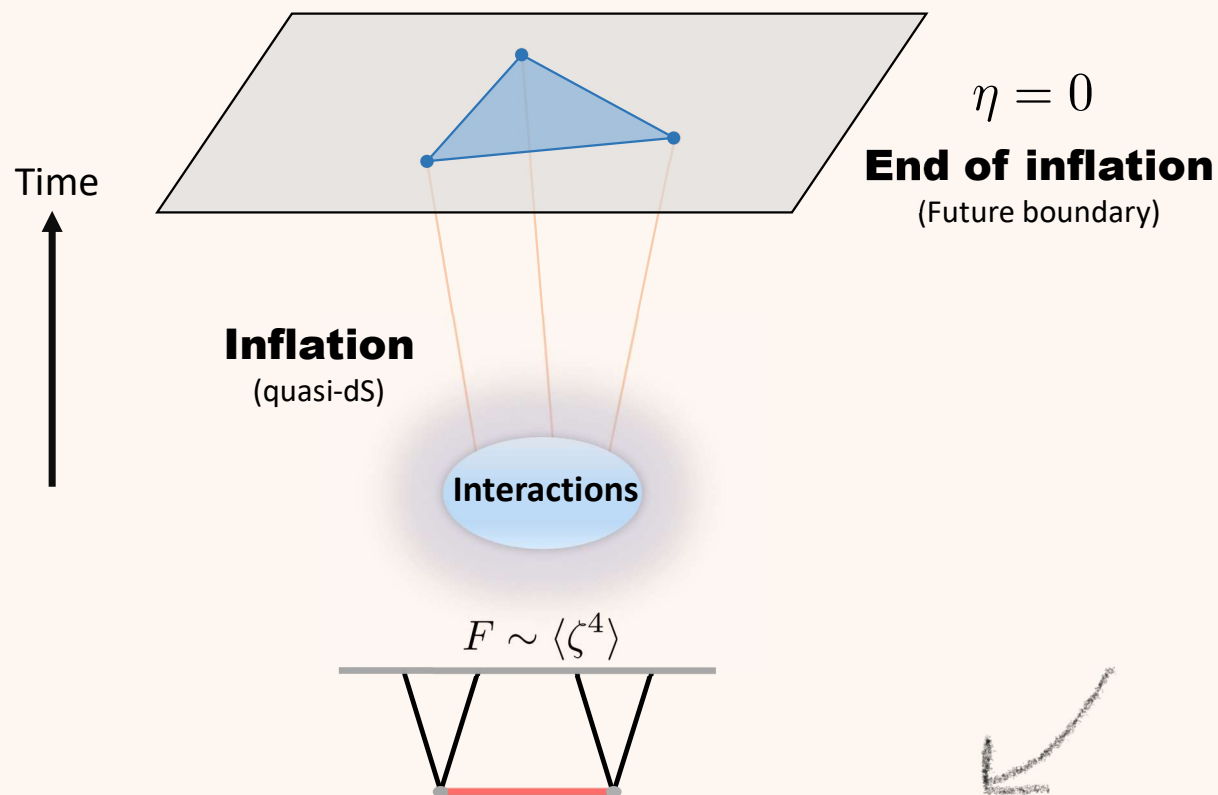
$$\left[ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \eta^2} + w^2(s, \eta) \right] \sigma(s, \eta) = 0$$



Good way to understand physics



## Recent Progress: Exact Method



Conformal Ward identities :

$$\left[ u^2(1-u^2)\partial_u^2 - 2u^3\partial_u + \mu^2 + \frac{1}{4} \right] F = g^2 \frac{uv}{u+v}$$



Boundary conditions = **fix the correlators**

## dS Bootstrap

Arkani-Hamed, Baumann, Lee, Pimentel 2018

Baumann, Duaso Pueyo, Joyce, Lee, Pimentel 2019 2020

.....

**dS Symmetry :**  $ds^2 = \frac{-d\eta^2 + d\mathbf{x}^2}{H\eta^2}$

Translation:  $P_i = \partial_i$

Rotation:  $J_{ij} = x_i \partial_j - x_j \partial_i$

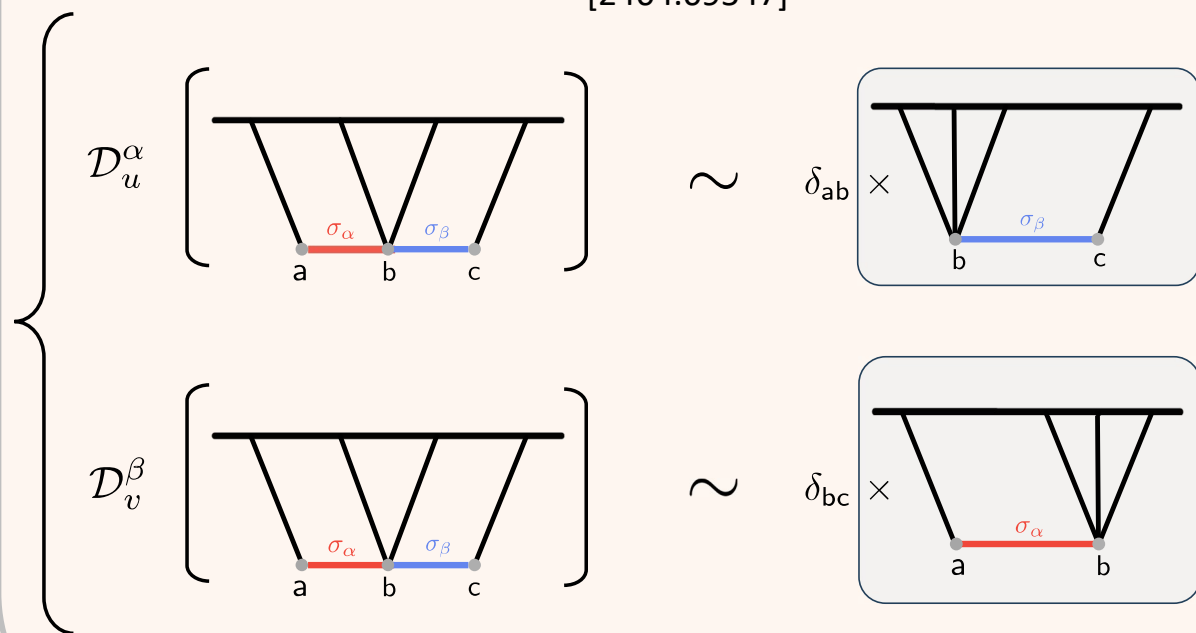
Dilation:  $D = -\eta \partial_\eta - x_i \partial_i$

dS boosts:  $K_i = 2x_i \eta \partial_\eta + (2x^j x_i + (\eta^2 - x^2) \delta_i^j) \partial_j$

## Recent Progress: Exact Method

### Double Massive Exchange

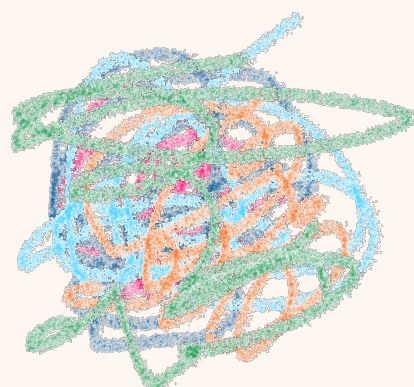

Aoki, Pinol, Sano, Yamaguchi and YHZ  
[2404.09547]



$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathcal{I}_{+++}(r_1, r_3) \\
 &= \sum_{a,b=\pm} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \pi^2 e^{\pi(a\mu_\alpha + b\mu_\beta)} \operatorname{csch}(2\pi a\mu_\alpha) \operatorname{csch}(2\pi b\mu_\beta) \left(\frac{r_1}{2} + \frac{r_3}{2} - 1\right)^3 r_1^{-\frac{1}{2}+m+i\mu_\alpha} r_3^{-\frac{1}{2}+ib\mu_\beta} \\
 & \quad \times \Gamma \left[ \begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2} + m + ia\mu_\alpha \\ 1 + m, 1 + m + 2ia\mu_\alpha \end{matrix} \right] {}_2F_1 \left[ \begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2} + ib\mu_\beta, 2 + m + ia\mu_\alpha + ib\mu_\beta \\ 1 + 2ib\mu_\beta \end{matrix} \middle| r_3 \right] \\
 & + \left\{ \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{\pi^2}{2} [\operatorname{csch}(\pi\mu_\alpha) - \operatorname{sech}(\pi\mu_\alpha)] \operatorname{sech}(\pi\mu_\beta) \left(\frac{r_1}{2} + \frac{r_3}{2} - 1\right)^3 r_1^{-\frac{1}{2}+m-i\mu_\alpha} \right. \\
 & \quad \times \Gamma \left[ \begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2} + m - i\mu_\alpha \\ 1 + m, 1 + m - 2i\mu_\alpha \end{matrix} \right] {}_3F_2 \left[ \begin{matrix} 1, 1, \frac{5}{2} + m - i\mu_\alpha \\ \frac{3}{2} - i\mu_\beta, \frac{3}{2} + i\mu_\beta \end{matrix} \middle| r_3 \right] + (\mu_\alpha \rightarrow -\mu_\alpha) \Big\} \\
 & + \left\{ \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{\pi^2}{2} [\operatorname{csch}(\pi\mu_\beta) - \operatorname{sech}(\pi\mu_\beta)] \operatorname{sech}(\pi\mu_\alpha) \left(\frac{r_1}{2} + \frac{r_3}{2} - 1\right)^3 r_1^m r_3^{-\frac{1}{2}-i\mu_\beta} \right. \\
 & \quad \times \Gamma \left[ \begin{matrix} m + 1 \\ \frac{3}{2} + m - i\mu_\alpha, \frac{3}{2} + m + i\mu_\alpha \end{matrix} \right] {}_2F_1 \left[ \begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2} - i\mu_\beta, \frac{5}{2} + m - i\mu_\beta \\ 1 - 2i\mu_\beta \end{matrix} \middle| r_3 \right] + (\mu_\beta \rightarrow -\mu_\beta) \Big\} \\
 & + \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \pi^2 \operatorname{sech}(\pi\mu_\beta) \operatorname{sech}(\pi\mu_\alpha) \left(\frac{r_1}{2} + \frac{r_3}{2} - 1\right)^3 r_1^m \\
 & \quad \times \Gamma \left[ \begin{matrix} 1 + m \\ \frac{3}{2} + m - i\mu_\alpha, \frac{3}{2} + m + i\mu_\alpha \end{matrix} \right] {}_3F_2 \left[ \begin{matrix} 1, 1, 3 + m \\ \frac{3}{2} - i\mu_\beta, \frac{3}{2} + i\mu_\beta \end{matrix} \middle| r_3 \right],
 \end{aligned}$$

It becomes incredibly difficult  
to make further progress...

Without knowing the analytical results,  
can we still find something useful?


$$= f \left( \text{scribble} \right)$$




### Maldacena's consistency relation

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \zeta_{\vec{k}_1} \zeta_{\vec{k}_2} \zeta_{\vec{k}_3} \rangle &\sim - \langle \zeta_{\vec{k}_1} \zeta_{-\vec{k}_1} \rangle k \frac{d}{dk} \langle \zeta_{\vec{k}_2} \zeta_{\vec{k}_3} \rangle = \\ &= - n_s \langle \zeta_{\vec{k}_2} \zeta_{\vec{k}_3} \rangle \langle \zeta_{\vec{k}_1} \zeta_{-\vec{k}_1} \rangle, \quad k_1 \ll k_2, k_3\end{aligned}$$

(Maldacena, 2002)

### Suyama-Yamaguchi Inequality

$$\tau_{\text{NL}} \geq \left( \frac{6}{5} f_{\text{NL}} \right)^2,$$

(Suyama, Yamaguchi 2007)

### Unitarity Cutting Rule

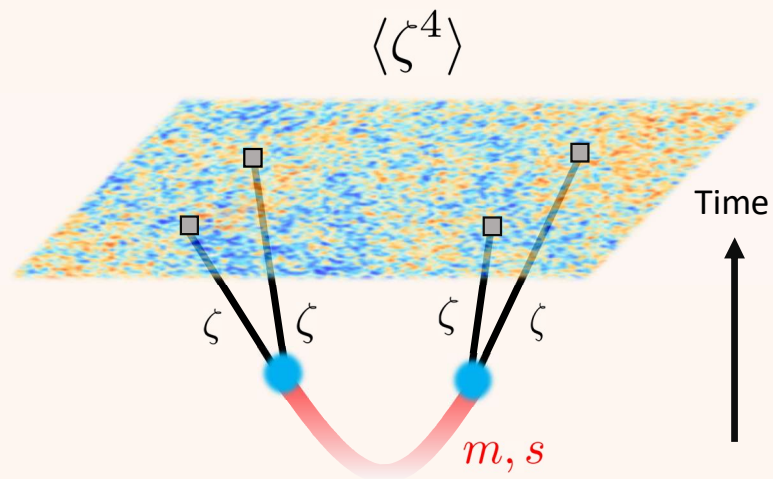
$$\begin{aligned}\psi'_4(k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4, s, t, u) + [\psi'_4(-k_1, -k_2, -k_3, -k_4, s, t, u)]^* = \\ P_\sigma(s) \left[ \psi_3'^{\phi\phi\sigma}(k_1, k_2, s) - \psi_3'^{\phi\phi\sigma}(k_1, k_2, -s) \right] \left[ \psi_3'^{\phi\phi\sigma}(k_3, k_4, s) - \psi_3'^{\phi\phi\sigma}(k_3, k_4, -s) \right]\end{aligned}$$

(Goodhew, Jazayeri, Pajer 2020 )

Directly testable ?

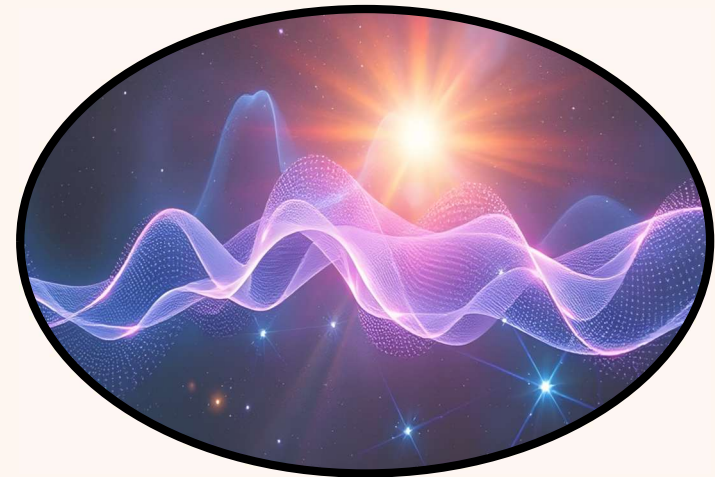
(in principle)

## Cosmological Correlators



From

## Wavefunction of Universe



$$f(B_n) = 0\Psi$$

Expand the wavefunction in powers  
of the field fluctuations:

Wavefunction coefficients

$$\Psi[\varphi] = \exp \left[ + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \int_{\{\mathbf{k}\}} \psi_n(\mathbf{k}_1, \dots, \mathbf{k}_n) \varphi(\mathbf{k}_1) \cdots \varphi(\mathbf{k}_n) (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\mathbf{k}_1 + \cdots + \mathbf{k}_n) \right]$$

**Parametrization**




- “Wavefunction of the universe”:

$$\Psi[\varphi] = \langle \varphi | U(\eta_0, -\infty) | \text{BD} \rangle = \int_{\text{BD}}^{\Phi(\eta_0)=\varphi} \mathcal{D}\Phi e^{iS[\Phi]}$$

- Correlators from the Born rule:

$$B_n \equiv \langle \varphi(\mathbf{k}_1) \cdots \varphi(\mathbf{k}_n) \rangle = \frac{\int \mathcal{D}\varphi \left| \Psi[\varphi] \right|^2 \varphi(\mathbf{k}_1) \cdots \varphi(\mathbf{k}_n)}{\int \mathcal{D}\varphi \left| \Psi[\varphi] \right|^2}$$

“Cross section”



$$\begin{aligned} \rho_n(\{\mathbf{k}\}) &= \psi_n(\{\mathbf{k}\}) + \psi_n^*(\{-\mathbf{k}\}) \\ \text{“Scattering Amplitude”} \end{aligned}$$

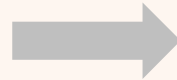


- **Correlators** from the Born rule:

$$B_n \equiv \langle \varphi(\mathbf{k}_1) \cdots \varphi(\mathbf{k}_n) \rangle = \frac{\int \mathcal{D}\varphi |\Psi[\varphi]|^2 \varphi(\mathbf{k}_1) \cdots \varphi(\mathbf{k}_n)}{\int \mathcal{D}\varphi |\Psi[\varphi]|^2}$$

$$\Psi[\varphi] = \exp \left[ + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \int_{\{\mathbf{k}\}} \psi_n(\mathbf{k}_1, \dots, \mathbf{k}_n) \varphi(\mathbf{k}_1) \cdots \varphi(\mathbf{k}_n) \right]$$

$$\rho_n(\{\mathbf{k}\}) = \psi_n(\{\mathbf{k}\}) + \psi_n^*(\{-\mathbf{k}\})$$



Dictionary between  $\rho$  and  $B$

$$B_2 = -\frac{1}{\rho_2},$$

$$B_3 = -\frac{1}{\rho_2^3} \rho_3,$$

$$B_4 = \frac{1}{\rho_2^4} \left[ \rho_4 - \left( \rho_3 \frac{1}{\rho_2} \rho_3 + 2 \text{ perms} \right) \right],$$

$$B_5 = -\frac{1}{\rho_2^5} \left[ \rho_5 - \left( \rho_4 \frac{1}{\rho_2} \rho_3 + 9 \text{ perms} \right) + \left( \rho_3 \frac{1}{\rho_2} \rho_3 \frac{1}{\rho_2} \rho_3 + 14 \text{ perms} \right) \right]$$

General relation:

$$B_n = \frac{1}{(-\rho_2)^n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-3} (-1)^k \left( k\text{-cuts} \right)_\rho$$

$$\left( k\text{-cuts} \right)_\rho \equiv \sum_{n-k \geq n_1 \cdots n_{k+1} \geq 3} \left[ \rho_{n_1} \frac{1}{\rho_2} \rho_{n_2} \cdots \rho_{n_k} \frac{1}{\rho_2} \rho_{n_{k+1}} + (\pi_{n_1 \cdots n_{k+1}} - 1)\text{-perms} \right].$$

# Dictionary between $\rho$ and $B$

$$B_2 = -\frac{1}{\rho_2},$$

$$B_3 = -\frac{1}{\rho_2^3} \rho_3,$$

$$B_4 = \frac{1}{\rho_2^4} \left[ \rho_4 - \left( \rho_3 \frac{1}{\rho_2} \rho_3 + 2 \text{ perms} \right) \right],$$

$$B_5 = -\frac{1}{\rho_2^5} \left[ \rho_5 - \left( \rho_4 \frac{1}{\rho_2} \rho_3 + 9 \text{ perms} \right) + \left( \rho_3 \frac{1}{\rho_2} \rho_3 \frac{1}{\rho_2} \rho_3 + 14 \text{ perms} \right) \right]$$

# Dictionary between $\rho$ and $B$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} &= - \frac{1}{\text{---} \bigcirc \text{---}} \\ \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} &= - \frac{\text{---} \bigcirc \text{---}}{(\text{---} \bigcirc \text{---})^3}, \\ \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} &= \frac{\text{---} \bigcirc \text{---}}{(\text{---} \bigcirc \text{---})^4} - 3 \frac{\text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---}}{(\text{---} \bigcirc \text{---})^5}. \end{aligned}$$

diagrammatic notations:

$$B_n \equiv \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---}, \quad \rho_n \equiv \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---}$$

# Duality Relation

$$B = f(\rho)$$

$$\text{red circle} = - \frac{1}{\text{blue circle}}$$

$$\text{red circle with 3 lines} = - \frac{\text{blue circle with 3 lines}}{(\text{blue circle})^3},$$

$$\text{red circle with 4 lines} = \frac{\text{blue circle with 4 lines}}{(\text{blue circle})^4} - 3 \frac{\text{blue circle with 2 lines}}{(\text{blue circle})^2}$$

Inverse it!



$$\rho = f(B)$$

$$\text{blue circle} = - \frac{1}{\text{red circle}} \quad \rho_2 = - \frac{1}{B_2},$$

$$\text{blue circle with 3 lines} = \frac{\text{red circle with 3 lines}}{(\text{red circle})^3}, \quad \rho_3 = \frac{1}{B_2^3} B_3$$

$$\text{blue circle with 4 lines} = \frac{\text{red circle with 4 lines}}{(\text{red circle})^4} - 3 \frac{\text{red circle with 2 lines}}{(\text{red circle})^2}$$

**Hidden symmetry**

$$g : \begin{pmatrix} \rho_n \\ B_n \end{pmatrix} \mapsto (-i)^n \begin{pmatrix} B_n \\ \rho_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$g^4 = 1, \quad g \in \mathbb{Z}_4$$



$$\rho = f(B)$$

$$\text{blue circle with 2 lines} = - \frac{1}{\text{red circle with 2 lines}}$$

$$\text{blue circle with 3 lines} = \frac{\text{red circle with 3 lines}}{(\text{red circle with 2 lines})^3},$$

$$\text{blue circle with 4 lines} = \frac{\text{red circle with 4 lines}}{(\text{red circle with 2 lines})^4} - 3 \frac{\text{two red circles with 2 lines each}}{(\text{red circle with 2 lines})^5}.$$

## Parity

*Two facts about parity-odd (scalar) correlators*

➤ It is purely imaginary

➤ At least 4-pts correlators

$$\rho_n = \frac{1}{B_2^n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-3} (-1)^k \left( k\text{-cuts} \right)_B$$

**Symmetry**

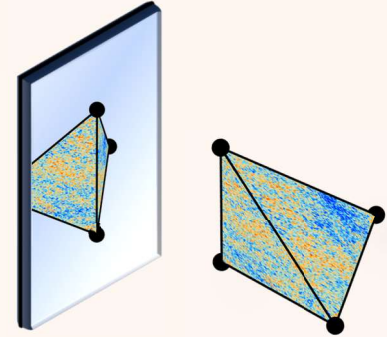
**Fundamental Laws**

$$\rho_n^{\text{PO}}(\{\mathbf{k}\}) = 0$$

# Reality Theorem

**Theorem 4.1. ( $\psi_n$ -reality)** *The tree-level wavefunction coefficient of massless scalar fields is purely real, i.e.  $\text{Im } \psi_n = 0$ , in theories containing an arbitrary number of fields of any light mass, spin, coupling, sound speed and chemical potential, under the assumption of locality, unitarity, scale invariance, IR convergence and a Bunch-Davies vacuum.*

Stefanyszyn ,Tong, Y.Z., [2309.07769]



- Unitarity & locality
- BD vacuum
- Tree level
- Scale invariance
- IR convergence



$$\text{Im } \psi = 0$$



$$\rho_n(\{\mathbf{k}\}) = \psi_n(\{\mathbf{k}\}) + \psi_n^*(\{-\mathbf{k}\})$$

**For the parity-odd case:**

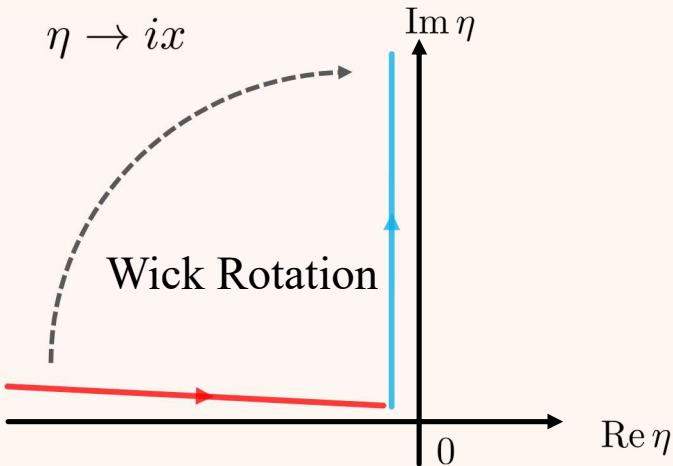
$$\rho_n^{\text{PO}}(\{\mathbf{k}\}) = \psi_n(\{\mathbf{k}\}) - \psi_n^*(\{\mathbf{k}\})$$

$$\rho_n^{\text{PO}}(\{\mathbf{k}\}) = 0$$

# Reality Theorem

$$\psi_n = \int_{-\infty(1-i\epsilon)}^0 \left[ \prod_{v=1}^V d\eta_v i\lambda_v D_v \right] \left[ \prod_{e=1}^n K_e \right] \left[ \prod_{e'=1}^I G_{e'} \right]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_N = \lambda a^{1-2m-n} \epsilon^{(3)} \partial_i^{3+2m} \partial_\eta^n \zeta^M \sigma^{N-M}$$



Bulk to boundary propagators:  
(massless fields)

BD vacuum

$$K \sim (1 - ik\eta)e^{ik\eta} \qquad (1 + kx)e^{-kx} \in \mathbb{R}$$

Vertex:

Scale invariant + Unitarity

$$D \sim \epsilon^{(3)} \eta^{n+2m-1} (ik)^{3+2m} \partial_\eta^n \longrightarrow i^{n+2m-1} i^{3+2m} i^n \in \mathbb{R}$$

Bulk to bulk propagators:

$$G(k, ix_1, ix_2) \in \mathbb{R}$$

# CCF

$$\rho = f(B)$$

$$0 = \frac{\text{Diagram 1}}{(\text{Diagram 2})^4} - 3 \frac{\text{Diagram 3}}{(\text{Diagram 4})^5}$$

The diagram equation shows a large red '0' equal to the difference of two fractions. The first fraction has a numerator diagram (a red circle with four external lines) and a denominator diagram (a red circle with two external lines) raised to the power of 4. The second fraction has a numerator diagram (two red circles connected by a horizontal line, each with two external lines) and a denominator diagram (a red circle with two external lines) raised to the power of 5. The entire equation is enclosed in a rounded rectangle.

$$\left( \text{Diagram 1} \right)_{\text{tree}}^{\text{PO}} = 3 \left( \text{Diagram 2} \cdot \frac{1}{\text{Diagram 3}} \cdot \text{Diagram 4} \right)_{\text{tree}}^{\text{PO}}$$

The diagram equation shows a red circle with four external lines (Diagram 1) with a subscript 'tree' and a superscript 'PO' equal to 3 times a product of three diagrams (Diagram 2, Diagram 3, and Diagram 4) with a subscript 'tree' and a superscript 'PO'. Diagram 2 is a red circle with two external lines and a green dot. Diagram 3 is a red circle with two external lines. Diagram 4 is a red circle with two external lines and a green dot. The entire equation is enclosed in a rounded rectangle.

Correlator-to-correlator  
factorisation (CCF)

# The First Example

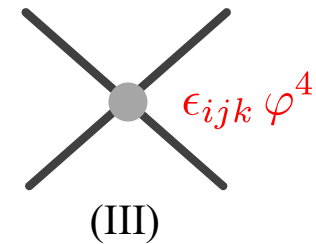
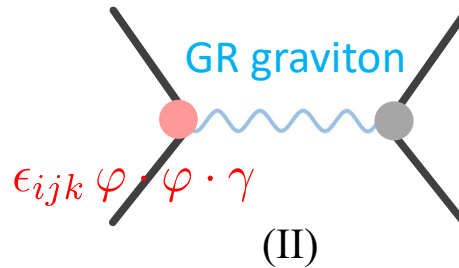
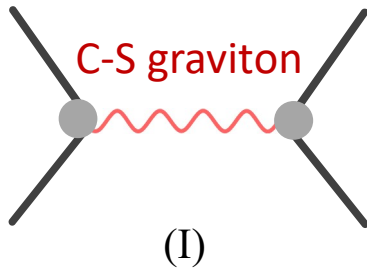
Chern-Simons gravity:

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi + V(\phi) + \frac{M_{\text{pl}}^2}{2} R - \frac{\phi}{4f} R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \tilde{R}^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \right]$$

$$\phi = \phi_0 + \varphi$$

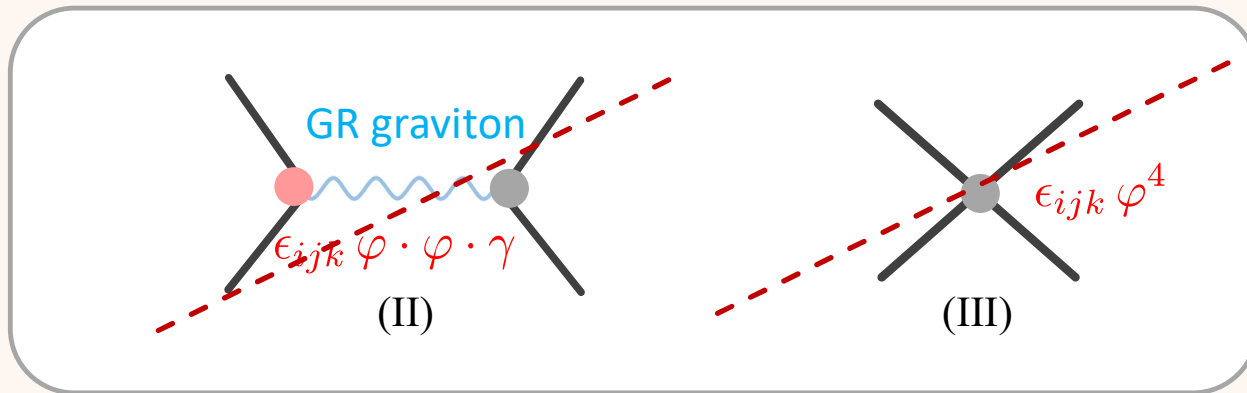
Parity violation

Three possible contributions of PO trispectrum:





# The First Example



## No-go theorem:

Parity odd is absent at *tree level*, under the assumption:

- (1) All massless dS mode functions ✓
- (2) BD vacuum ✓
- (3) IR convergence ?

Diagram (II) shows a graviton exchange between two vertices, similar to the one in the first diagram, but with a red circle on the left and a grey circle on the right. A blue wavy line connects them. A red dashed line passes through the vertices.

One possible IR divergent coupling

$$a(\eta) \epsilon_{ijk} \partial_i \varphi \partial_m \partial_j \varphi \gamma_{km}$$

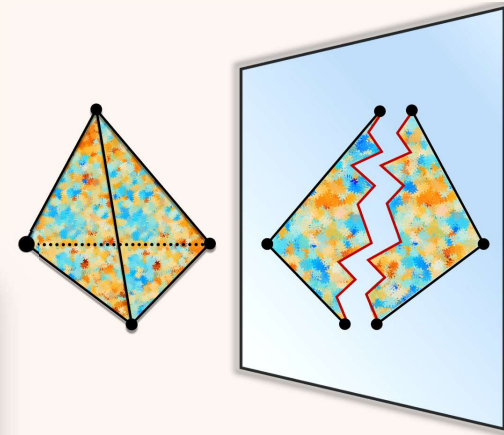
$$\int_{\infty}^{\eta_0} d\eta \frac{1}{\eta} \times \mathcal{O}(1)$$

NO such term in CS Gravity

# Summary

## CCF Factorisation

$$\left( \text{diagram} \right)^{\text{PO}} = \left( \text{diagram}_1 \cdot \frac{1}{\text{diagram}_2} \cdot \text{diagram}_3 \right)^{\text{PO}}$$



## CS-gravity example

$$B_{\varphi\varphi\varphi\varphi}^{\text{PO}} = -i \frac{\pi\kappa H^7}{16M_{\text{pl}}^2} \frac{[\hat{\mathbf{k}}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{k}}_3 - (\hat{\mathbf{k}}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{s}})(\hat{\mathbf{k}}_3 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{s}})]}{(k_1 k_2 k_3 k_4)^2} \frac{\hat{\mathbf{s}} \cdot (\hat{\mathbf{k}}_2 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{k}}_4)}{s^3 E_L^2 E_R^2} \\ \times (E_L^3 - E_L e_2 - e_3) (E_R^3 - E_R \tilde{e}_2 - \tilde{e}_3)$$