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# Valery Rubakov and quantum cosmology: origin of the Universe

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# Plan

**Schroedinger equation vs Wheeler-DeWitt equation(s)**

**No-boundary (Hartle-Hawking) vs tunneling wavefunction**

**Cosmological initial conditions:** microcanonical density matrix of the Universe

**CFT driven cosmology:** quasi-thermal cosmological instantons and UV bounded range of  $\Lambda$

**New type of hill-top inflation,**  $\alpha \rightarrow V(\phi)$  – selection of inflaton potential  $V(\phi)$  maxima

**Mechanism of hill-top potential:** origin of non-minimal Higgs inflation and  $R^2$  gravity

**Conformal higher spin fields (CHS):** solution of hierarchy problem; justification of semiclassical expansion

**Thermally corrected CMB spectrum:** temperature of the CMB temperature – cool Universe

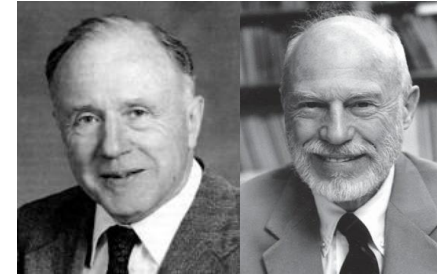
# Schroedinger equation vs Wheeler-DeWitt equation(s)



$$i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\Psi(t)\rangle = \hat{H} |\Psi(t)\rangle \iff \hat{H}_\mu |\Psi\rangle = 0$$

$$\hat{H}_\mu = \hat{H}_\perp(\mathbf{x}), \hat{H}_i(\mathbf{x})$$

Hamiltonian and momentum quantum Dirac constraints, **NO TIME!**



Semiclassical gravity factor

$$\hat{H}_\mu = \hat{H}_\mu^{grav} + \hat{H}_\mu^{matter}, \quad |\Psi\rangle = \Psi[g_{ij}, \phi] = e^{iS[g_{ij}]} \Psi_{matter}[g_{ij}, \phi]$$

Quantum matter wave function in external gravitational field

$$||\Psi(t)\rangle\rangle = \Psi_{matter}[g_{ij}(t), \phi]$$

Solution of classical vacuum Einstein eqs. with ADM lapse and shift  $N^\perp(t), N^i(t)$

$$\hat{H}_\mu |\Psi\rangle = 0 \Rightarrow i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} ||\Psi(t)\rangle\rangle = \hat{H}_{matter} ||\Psi(t)\rangle\rangle + \text{graviton loops}$$

$$\hat{H}_{matter} = \int d^3x (N^\perp \hat{H}_\perp^{matter} + N^i \hat{H}_i^{matter})$$

**WDW equation is the "most useless" equation in theoretical physics?**

V.G. Lapchinsky and V.A. Rubakov,  
Acta Phys. Polon. B10 (1979) 1041-1048

# No-boundary (Hartle-Hawking) vs tunneling wavefunction

## Hyperbolic nature of the Wheeler-DeWitt equation

$$\Psi_{\pm}(\varphi, \Phi(\mathbf{x})) = \exp\left(\mp \frac{1}{2} S_E(\varphi)\right) \Psi_{matter}(\varphi, \Phi(\mathbf{x}))$$

inflaton

other fields

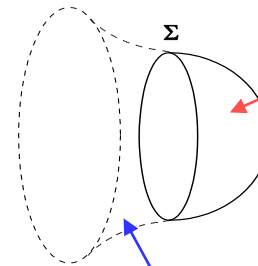
Euclidean action of quasi-de Sitter instanton with the effective  $\Lambda$  (slow roll):

$$\Lambda \simeq \frac{V(\varphi)}{M_{\text{P}}^2}$$

**FRW**  $ds^2 = N^2 d\tau^2 + a^2 d\Omega_{(3)}^2$

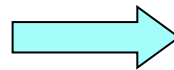
$$a_0(\tau) = \frac{1}{H} \sin(H\tau), \quad H = \sqrt{\frac{\Lambda}{3}}$$

$$S_E(\varphi) \simeq -\frac{24\pi^2 M_{\text{P}}^4}{V(\varphi)} < 0$$



Euclidean spacetime

no tunneling, really:  
"birth from nothing"



Analytic continuation – Lorentzian signature dS geometry:

$$\tau = \pi/2H + it$$

$$a_L(t) = \frac{1}{H} \cosh(Ht)$$

## Hartle-Hawking no-boundary wavefunction

$$\Psi_{HH} \sim \exp(-S_E) = \exp\left(12\pi^2 \frac{M_P^4}{V(\varphi)}\right) \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\frac{V(\varphi)}{M_P^2} = \Lambda_{eff} \rightarrow 0$$

Most probable **at the minimum**  
of inflaton potential  $\alpha_{eff} \rightarrow 0$   
**-- insufficient** amount of inflation

## Tunneling wavefunction

$$\Psi_T \sim \exp(+S_E)$$

Cosmology debate:  
no-boundary vs tunneling

**Questionable status of both states within unitarity approach to quantum gravity**

# Microcanonical density matrix of the Universe

$$\hat{\rho} = \sum_{\text{all } |\Psi\rangle} w_{\Psi} |\Psi\rangle \langle \Psi|, \quad w_{\Psi} = 1$$

sum over "everything" that satisfies  
the Wheeler-DeWitt equation  $\hat{H}_{\mu} |\Psi\rangle = 0$

Projector onto the subspace  
of quantum gravitational  
constraints

A.O.B., Phys. Rev. Lett.  
99, 071301 (2007)

$$\hat{H}_{\mu} \equiv \underbrace{\hat{H}_{\perp \mathbf{x}}, \hat{H}_{i \mathbf{x}}}$$

local operators of the  
Wheeler-DeWitt equations

$$\hat{\rho} = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{\mu} \delta(\hat{H}_{\mu}), \quad Z = \text{Tr} \prod_{\mu} \delta(\hat{H}_{\mu})$$

$$\mu = (\perp \mathbf{x}, i \mathbf{x})$$

## Motivation:

A simplest analogy in unconstrained system with a conserved Hamiltonian  $\hat{H}$  Is the microcanonical density matrix with a fixed energy  $E$

$$\hat{\rho} \sim \delta(\hat{H} - E)$$

Spatially closed cosmology does not have freely specifiable constants of motion. The only conserved quantities are the Hamiltonian and momentum constraints  $H_\mu$ , all having a particular value --- zero

An ultimate equipartition in the full set of states of the theory --- “Sum over Everything”. Creation of the Universe from *Everything* is conceptually more appealing than creation from *Nothing*, because the democracy of the microcanonical equipartition better fits the principle of Occam razor, preferring to drop redundant assumptions, than the selection of a concrete state.

**Matrix element of the cosmological density matrix**

Faddeev-Popov path integral measure

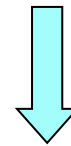
$$\rho(\varphi_+, \varphi_-) = \frac{1}{Z} \int D[g_{\mu\nu}, \Phi] e^{iS[g_{\mu\nu}, \Phi]} \Big|_{g_{ij}(t_{\pm})=g_{ij}^{\pm}, \Phi(t_{\pm})=\Phi_{\pm}}$$

$\uparrow$   
**Lorentzian**  
 $\downarrow$

$\varphi_{\pm} = (g_{ij}^{\pm}, \Phi_{\pm})$

$$Z = \int d\varphi \rho(\varphi_+, \varphi_-) \Big|_{\varphi_{\pm}=\varphi} = \int_{\text{periodic}} D[g_{\mu\nu}, \Phi] e^{iS[g_{\mu\nu}, \Phi]} \quad \text{Partition function}$$

**Absence of periodic Lorentzian histories and rotation of integration contours over fields and time**

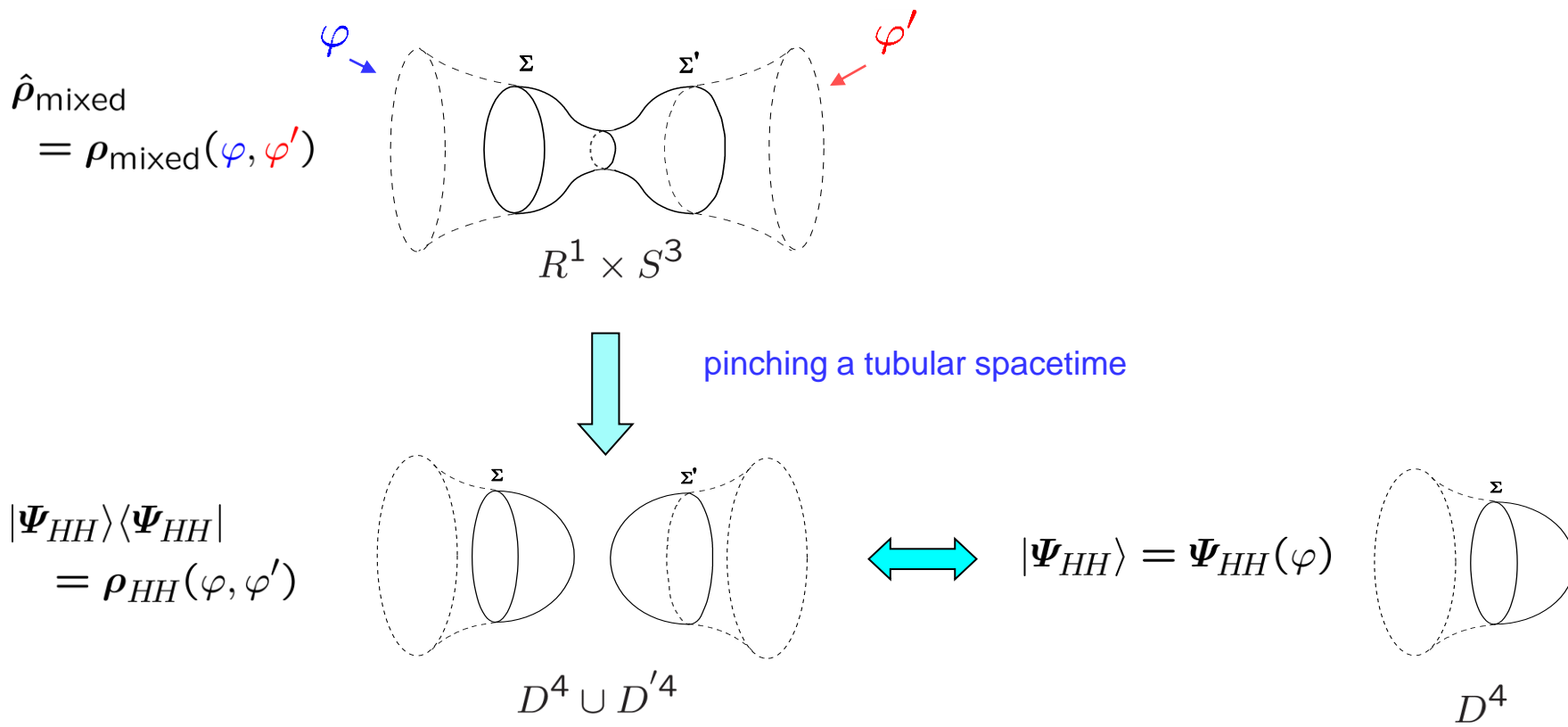


**Euclidean path integral and its saddle points**

$$Z = \int_{\text{periodic}} D[g_{\mu\nu}, \Phi] e^{-S[g_{\mu\nu}, \Phi]}$$

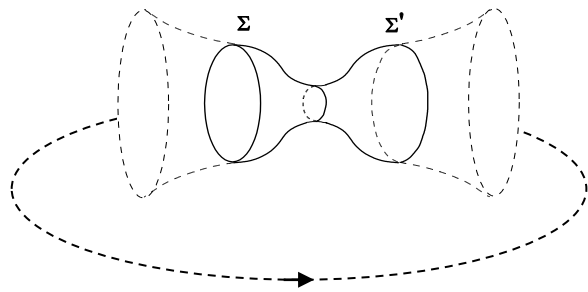


# Hartle-Hawking state as a vacuum member of the microcanonical ensemble:

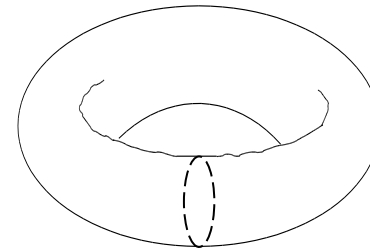
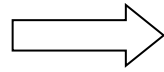


density matrix representation of a pure Hartle-Hawking state

## Transition to statistical sums



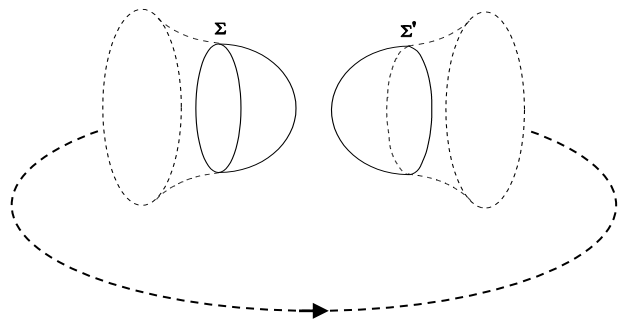
$$R^1 \times S^3$$



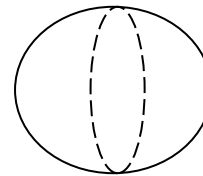
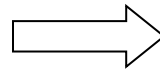
$$\Sigma = \Sigma'$$

$$S^1 \times S^3$$

thermal  
instantons



$$D^4 \cup D'^4$$



$$\Sigma = \Sigma'$$

$$S^4$$

Hartle-Hawking  
(vacuum) instanton

# Inflationary model driven by the trace anomaly of Weyl invariant fields --- CFT driven cosmology

$$S[g_{\mu\nu}, \Phi] = -\frac{M_P^2}{2} \int d^4x g^{1/2} (R - 2\Lambda) + S_{CFT}[g_{\mu\nu}, \Phi] \quad \Lambda \text{ -- primordial cosmological constant}$$



**Omission of graviton loops**

$$S_{\text{eff}}[g_{\mu\nu}] = -\frac{M_P^2}{2} \int d^4x g^{1/2} (R - 2\Lambda) + \Gamma_{CFT}[g_{\mu\nu}],$$

$$e^{-\Gamma_{CFT}[g_{\mu\nu}]} = \int D\Phi e^{-S_{CFT}[g_{\mu\nu}, \Phi]}$$

Recovery of  $\Gamma_{CFT}$  from the conformal anomaly on a static Einstein Universe (anomaly, Casimir energy and free energy contributions)

$$g_{\mu\nu} \frac{\delta \Gamma_{CFT}}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} = \frac{1}{64\pi^2} g^{1/2} \left( \beta E + \alpha \square R + \gamma C_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}^2 \right)$$

Gauss-Bonnet term
Weyl

$$\beta = \sum_s \beta_s N_s, \quad N_s \text{ -- \# of spin } s \text{ fields,} \quad \beta_s \text{ -- spin-dependent coefficients}$$

$\beta$  -- critically important parameter (overall coefficient of Gauss-Bonnet term in conformal anomaly)

Minisuperspace (FRW) ansatz  
for the saddle point

Effective Friedmann equation for  
saddle points of the path integral:

$$\frac{1}{a^2} - \frac{\dot{a}^2}{a^2} = \frac{\varepsilon}{3M_{\pm}^2(\varepsilon)},$$

$$M_{\pm}^2(\varepsilon) = \frac{M_P^2}{2} \left( 1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \frac{\beta}{6\pi^2 M_P^4} \varepsilon} \right),$$

$$\varepsilon = M_P^2 \Lambda + \frac{1}{2\pi^2 a^4} \sum_{\omega} \frac{\omega}{e^{\eta\omega} - 1},$$

$$\eta = \int_{S^1} \frac{d\tau N}{a}$$

$$g_{\mu\nu} dx^{\mu} dx^{\nu} = N^2(\tau) d\tau^2 + a^2(\tau) d^2\Omega^{(3)}$$
$$S_{\text{eff}}[g_{\mu\nu}] = S_{\text{eff}}[a, N]$$

$$\frac{\delta S_{\text{eff}}[a, N]}{\delta N(\tau)} = 0$$

Friedmann equation

Effective Planck mass

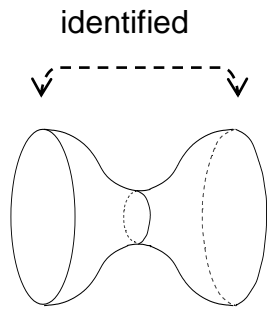
Energy density =  $\varepsilon$  + radiation of CFT particles --  
sum over field oscillators with frequencies !  
(eigenvalues of Laplacian on  $S^3$ )

Inverse temperature in units of conformal  
time period on  $S^1$



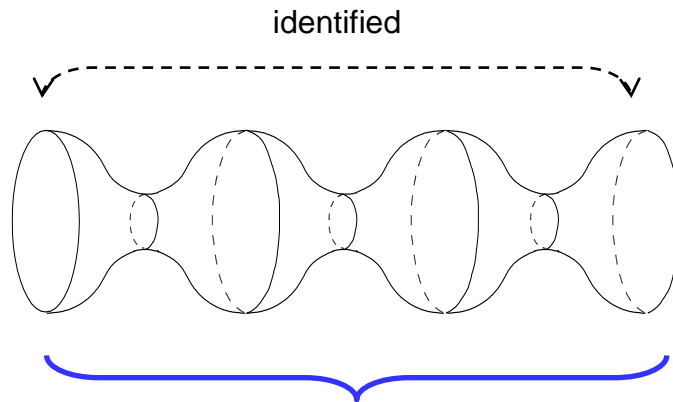
**Existence of the quasi-thermal stage preceding the inflation**

Saddle point solutions --- set of periodic (thermal) garland-type instantons with oscillating scale factor (  $S^1 \times S^3$  ) and the vacuum Hartle-Hawking instantons (  $S^4$  )

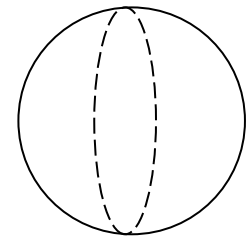


1- fold,  $k=1$

, ....



$k$ - folded garland,  $k=1,2,3,\dots$



$S^4$

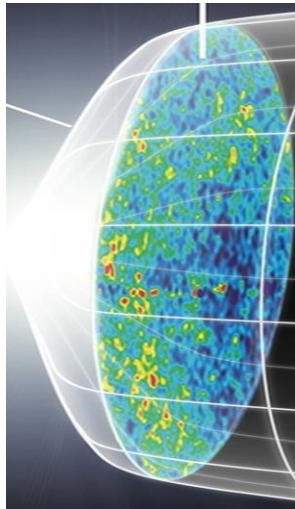
does not contribute: ruled out by **infinite positive** Euclidean action (effect of conformal anomaly)

**UV bounded** cosmological constant range:

$$\Lambda_{min} < \Lambda < \Lambda_{max} = \frac{12\pi^2}{\beta} M_P^2$$

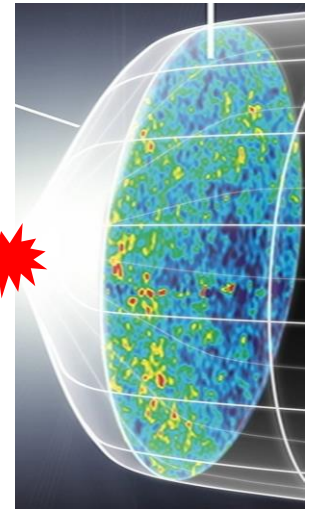
# Initial thermal state with the primordial temperature $T_{prim}$ of matter

## Standard inflation scenario versus Density matrix scenario



Inflation, hot  
big-bang  
→ relic radiation

Vacuum,  
absolute zero  
temperature



Inflation,  $T_{prim} \rightarrow 0$ ,  
hot big-bang  
→ relic radiation

Thermal state,  
primordial  
temperature  $T_{prim}$

# “SOME LIKE IT HOT” (SLIH) scenario



Known inflation paradigm retracted the BB concept by replacing it with the initial vacuum state.

“SOME LIKE IT HOT” (SLIH) scenario recovers a new incarnation of Hot Big Bang -- it incorporates effectively thermal state at the onset of the cosmological evolution.

So how does SLIH scenario matches with inflation?

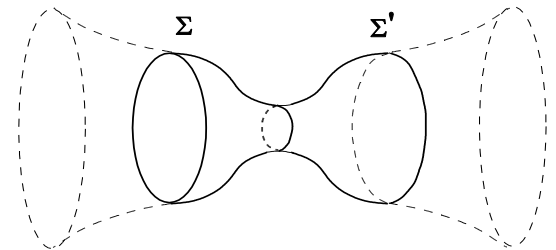
# SLIH inflation

1) Generalization to  $\Lambda$  as a composite operator – inflaton potential in “slow roll” regime

$$\Lambda \rightarrow \frac{\rho_\phi}{M_P^2}, \quad \rho_\phi = V(\phi) - \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{2} \simeq V(\phi)$$

2) Lorentzian Universe with initial conditions set by the instanton. Analytic continuation of the instanton solutions:

$$\tau = \tau_* + it, \quad a_L(t) = a(\tau_* + it)$$

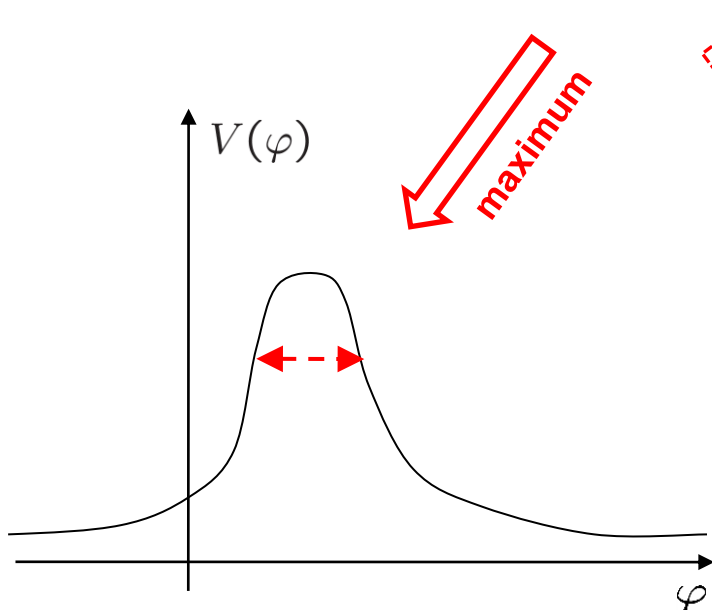


3) Expansion and quick dilution of primordial radiation, decay of a composite  $\Lambda$ , exit from inflation and particle creation of conformally **non-invariant** matter and its thermalization

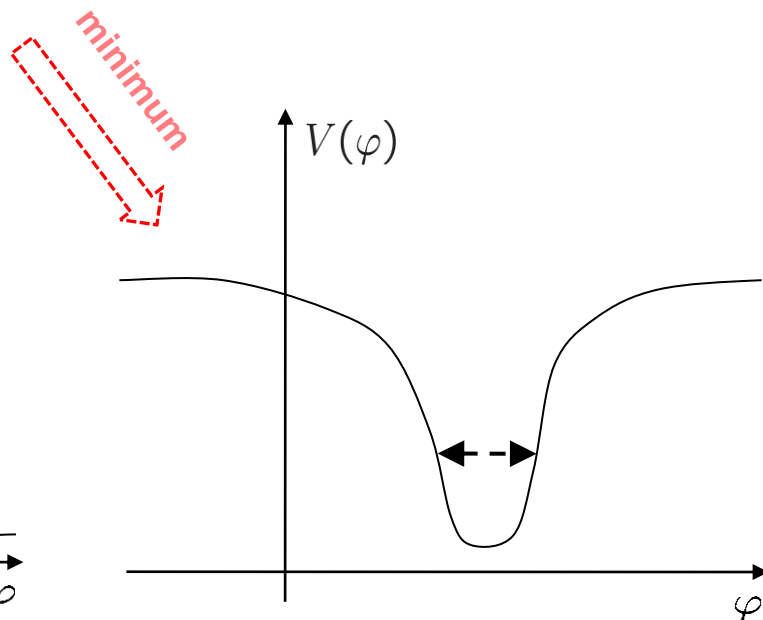


# Selection of inflaton potential *maxima* as initial conditions for inflation

**Critical feature:**  $\frac{d}{d\tau} a^3 \dot{\phi} = a^3 \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} \Rightarrow \oint d\tau a^3 \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} \approx 0$  **Potential extremum "inside" instanton**

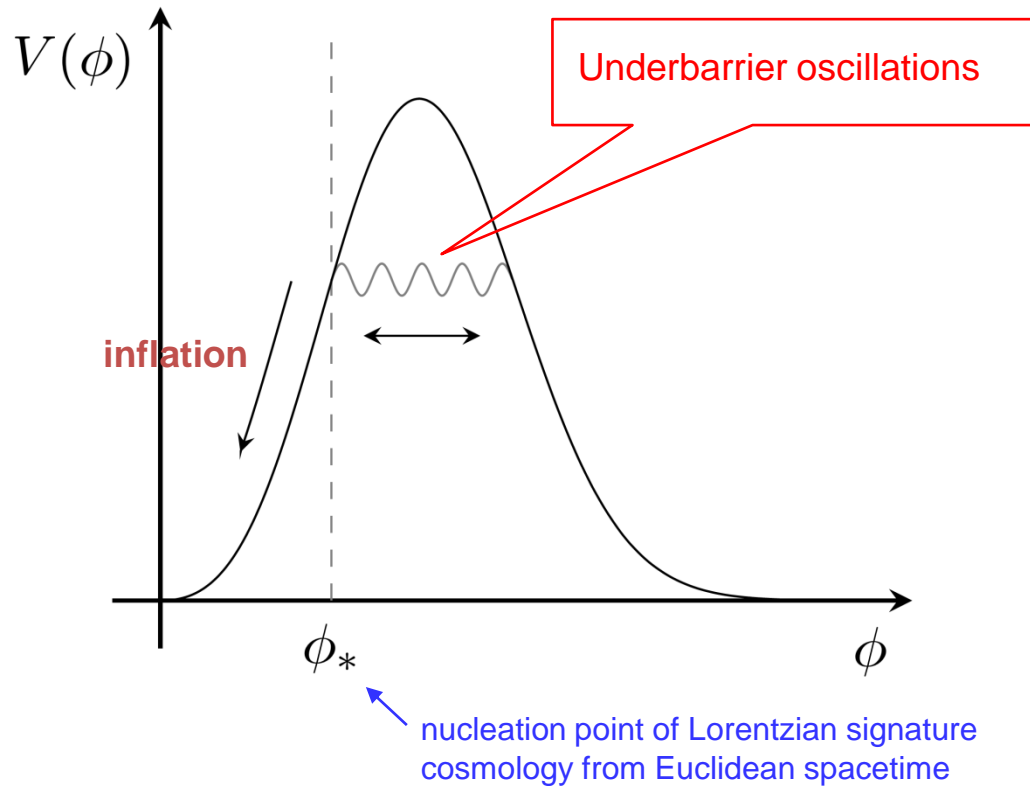


classically forbidden  
(underbarrier)  
oscillation



classically allowed (overbarrier)  
oscillation --- ruled out because of  
*underbarrier* oscillations of scale  
factor

## Hill-top inflation



Approximation of two coupled oscillators → slow roll parameters typical of Higgs and  $R^2$  inflation:

$$P_\zeta(k) = 2.2 \times 10^{-9} \left( \frac{k}{k_0} \right)^{n_s - 1}, \quad k_0 = 0.05 \text{ Mpc}^{-1}, \quad n_s = 0.965 \pm 0.005$$

$$n_s = 1 - 6\epsilon + 2\eta, \quad \epsilon = \frac{1}{2} \left( M_P \frac{V'}{V_*} \right)^2, \quad \eta = M_P^2 \frac{V''}{V_*}$$

$$\epsilon \sim \eta^2 \ll |\eta|, \quad \eta < 0$$

# Mechanism of hill-top potential: origin of non-minimal Higgs inflation and $R^2$ gravity

Higgs field  $H$  non-minimally coupled to curvature:

$$\varphi^2 \equiv H^\dagger H$$

$$S_{EH+SM}[g_{\mu\nu}, H, \dots] = \int d^4x g^{1/2} \left( \frac{\lambda\varphi^4}{4} - \frac{M_P^2 + \xi\varphi^2}{2} R + \frac{1}{2} (\nabla\varphi)^2 + \dots \right)$$

Starobinsky model of  $R^2$  gravity:

$$S_\xi^{\text{Star}}[g_{\mu\nu}, \varphi] = \int d^4x g^{1/2} \left\{ -\frac{M_P^2}{2} R - \frac{\xi}{4} R^2 \right\}$$



$$S_\xi^{\text{Star}}[g_{\mu\nu}, \varphi] = \int d^4x g^{1/2} \left\{ -\frac{M_P^2}{2} \left( 1 + \xi \frac{\varphi^2}{M_P^2} \right) R + \frac{\xi\varphi^4}{4} \right\}$$

B.Spokoiny 1986, A.Kamenshchik & A.B 1991,  
Bezrukov, Shaposhnikov 2008  
A.Kamenshchik, A.Starobinsky & A.B 2008

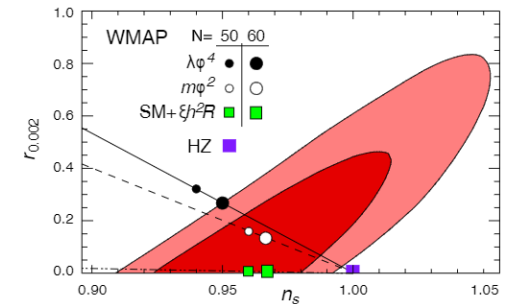


Fig. 2. The allowed WMAP region for inflationary parameters ( $r$ ,  $n_s$ ). The green boxes are our predictions supposing 50 and 60  $e$ -foldings of inflation. Black and white dots are predictions of usual chaotic inflation with  $\lambda\phi^4$  and  $m^2\phi^2$  potentials, HZ is the Harrison-Zeldovich spectrum.

$\xi \sim 10^4 \gg 1 \Rightarrow$  **Higgs inflation with**

$$\frac{\Delta T}{T} \sim 10^{-5}, \quad n_s \simeq 0.96, \quad r \simeq 0.003$$

$$M_{\text{Higgs}} \simeq 126 \text{ GeV}$$

**Mechanism of hill-top inflaton potential– quantization in the **Jordan** frame and transition to Einstein frame:**

Not in Einstein frame,  
no shift symmetry,  
IR instability and  
breakdown of grad.  
expansion!

non-minimal coupling

$$\Gamma[g_{\mu\nu}, \varphi] = \int d^4x g^{1/2} \left( V(\varphi) - U(\varphi) R(g_{\mu\nu}) + \frac{1}{2} G(\varphi) (\nabla\varphi)^2 + \dots \right)$$

$$V_{\text{loop}}(\varphi) \sim \varphi^4 \ln \frac{\varphi^2}{\mu^2}, \quad U_{\text{loop}}(\varphi) \sim \varphi^2 \ln \frac{\varphi^2}{\mu^2},$$

$$G_{\text{loop}}(\varphi) \sim \ln \frac{\varphi^2}{\mu^2}$$

**Transition to the Einstein frame:**

$$V(\varphi) \rightarrow V_{EF}(\phi) = \frac{M_P^4}{4} \frac{V(\varphi)}{U^2(\varphi)} \sim \frac{\cancel{\ln \frac{\varphi}{\mu}}}{\ln^2 \frac{\varphi}{\mu}} \sim \frac{1}{\ln \frac{\varphi}{\mu}} \rightarrow 0, \quad \varphi \rightarrow \infty$$

Any  $l$ -th loop order: 
$$\frac{\ln^l \frac{\varphi}{\mu}}{\ln^{2l} \frac{\varphi}{\mu}} \sim \frac{1}{\ln^l \frac{\varphi}{\mu}} \rightarrow 0, \quad \varphi \rightarrow \infty$$

**Resummation by RG confirms this.**

# Justification of semiclassical expansion and hierarchy problem

Starobinsky  $R^2$ -model and non-minimal Higgs inflation model at  $V(\phi) \gg \Lambda_{max}$

$$10^{-11} M_P^4 \simeq V_{inflation} \sim \Lambda_{max} = \frac{12\pi^2}{\beta} M_P^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \beta \simeq 10^{13}$$

Impossible in Standard model with low spins  $s=0, 1/2, 1$  and  $N_s \gg 100$

$$\beta = \frac{1}{180} (N_0 + 11N_{1/2} + 62N_1)$$

## Hidden sector of conformal higher spin (CHS) fields

$$S_{CHS}^{(s)} = \int d^4x \left( h^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s} \square^s h_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s} + \dots \right), \quad \beta_s \sim s^6$$

Giombi, Klebanov, Pufu, Safdi, and Tarnopolsky 2013; Tseytlin 2013 arXiv:1309.0785

$$\beta = \sum_{s=1}^S \beta_s \simeq S^7$$

$$N = \sum_{s=1}^S N_s \sim S^3 \text{ – total number of polarizations (species)}$$

1/N-expansion and effective field theory below the gravitational cutoff  $\Lambda_{grav} = \frac{M_P}{\sqrt{N}}$

$$\Lambda_{max} \sim \frac{M_P}{\sqrt{\beta}} \sim \frac{M_P}{S^3} \ll \Lambda_{grav} = \frac{M_P}{\sqrt{N}} \sim \frac{M_P}{S^{3/2}}$$

## Thermal corrections to primordial power spectrum

$$n_s(k) = n_s^{\text{vac}}(k) + \Delta n_s^{\text{thermal}}(k) \quad \text{additional red tilt of the CMB spectrum}$$

This number of hidden sector fields gives a red tilted thermal correction to CMB spectral index in the **third (potentially observable) decimal order**:

$$\Delta n_s^{\text{thermal}} \sim -0.001$$

A.B, arXiv:1308.4451  
JCAP 1310 (2013) 059

Microcanonical state of CFT driven cosmology scenario works **only** for closed Universe with  $k=+1$

99% C.L. evidence for positive spatial curvature ( $k=+1$ ) of the closed Universe with  $\Omega_k' -0.04$  --- Hubble tension discordances

E. Di Valentino, A. Melchiorri and J. Silk, Nature Astron. 4, 196 (2019);  
W. Handley, Phys. Rev. D 103 (2021) L041301, arXiv:1908.09139

# Conclusions

**Cosmological initial conditions:** microcanonical density matrix of the Universe

**CFT driven cosmology:** suppression of no-boundary instantons; quasi-thermal stage preceding inflation and UV bounded range of its energy scale

**New type of hill-top inflation,**  $\alpha \rightarrow V(\phi)$  – selection of inflaton potential  $V(\phi)$  maxima

**Mechanism of hill-top potential:** origin of non-minimal Higgs inflation and  $R^2$  gravity

**Conformal higher spin fields (CHS):** solution of hierarchy problem -- origin of the Universe is the subplanckian phenomenon; justification of semiclassical expansion and  $1/N$ -expansion

**Thermally corrected CMB spectrum:** observable signature of the primordial thermal epoch