

# Ghost Free & Singularity Free Theories of Gravity

**Anupam Mazumdar**

**Lancaster University**

**Warren Siegel, Tirthabir Biswas**

**Alex Koshelev, Sergei Vernov, Erik Gerwick, Tomi Koivisto**

**Aindriu Conroy, Spyridon Talaganis, Ali Teimouri, James Edholm**

**Phys. Rev. Lett. (2012), JCAP (2012, 2011), JCAP (2006)**

**Class.Quant. Grav. (2013), Phys. Rev. D (2014), 1412.3467 (Class. Quant. Grav. 2014),**

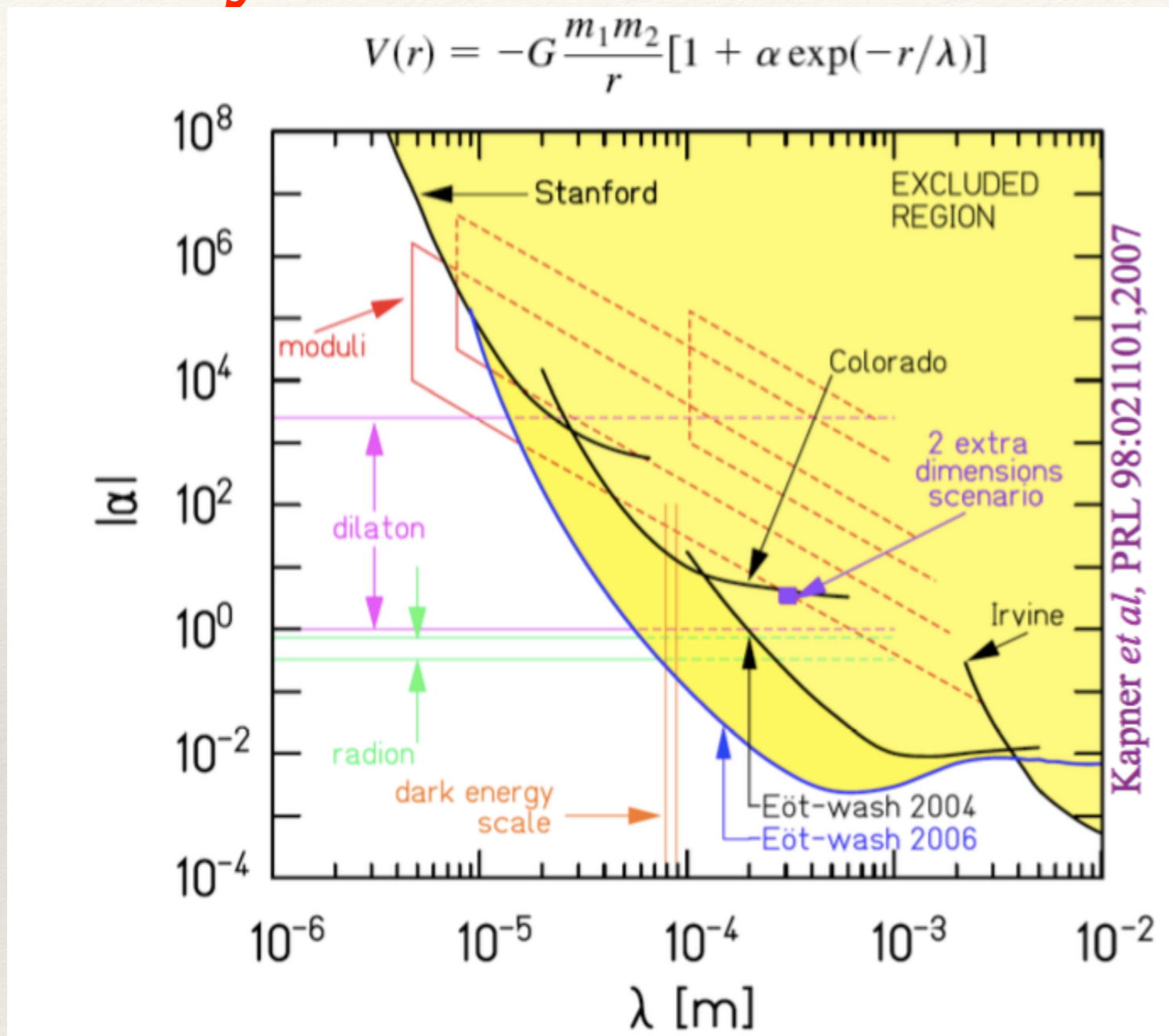
**1503.05568 (Phys. Rev. Lett. 2015), 1509.01247 (Phys. Rev. D, 2015), 1602.08475,**

**1603.03440, 1604.01989**

**Einstein's GR is well behaved in IR, but UV is Pathetic;**

**Aim is to address the UV aspects of Gravity**

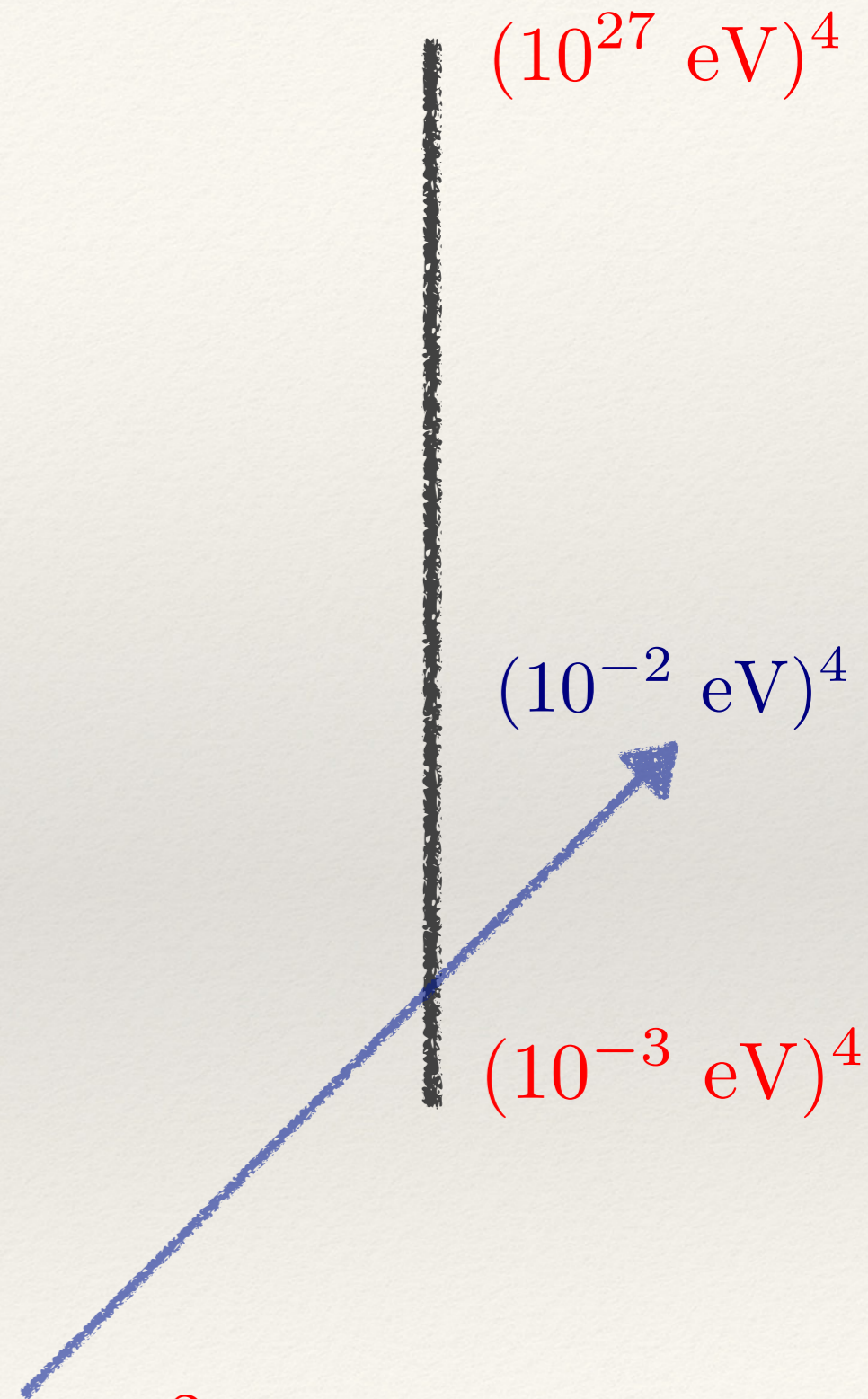
# Energy Ladder : Very Little do we know about Gravity



No departure from Newtonian Gravity  
up to

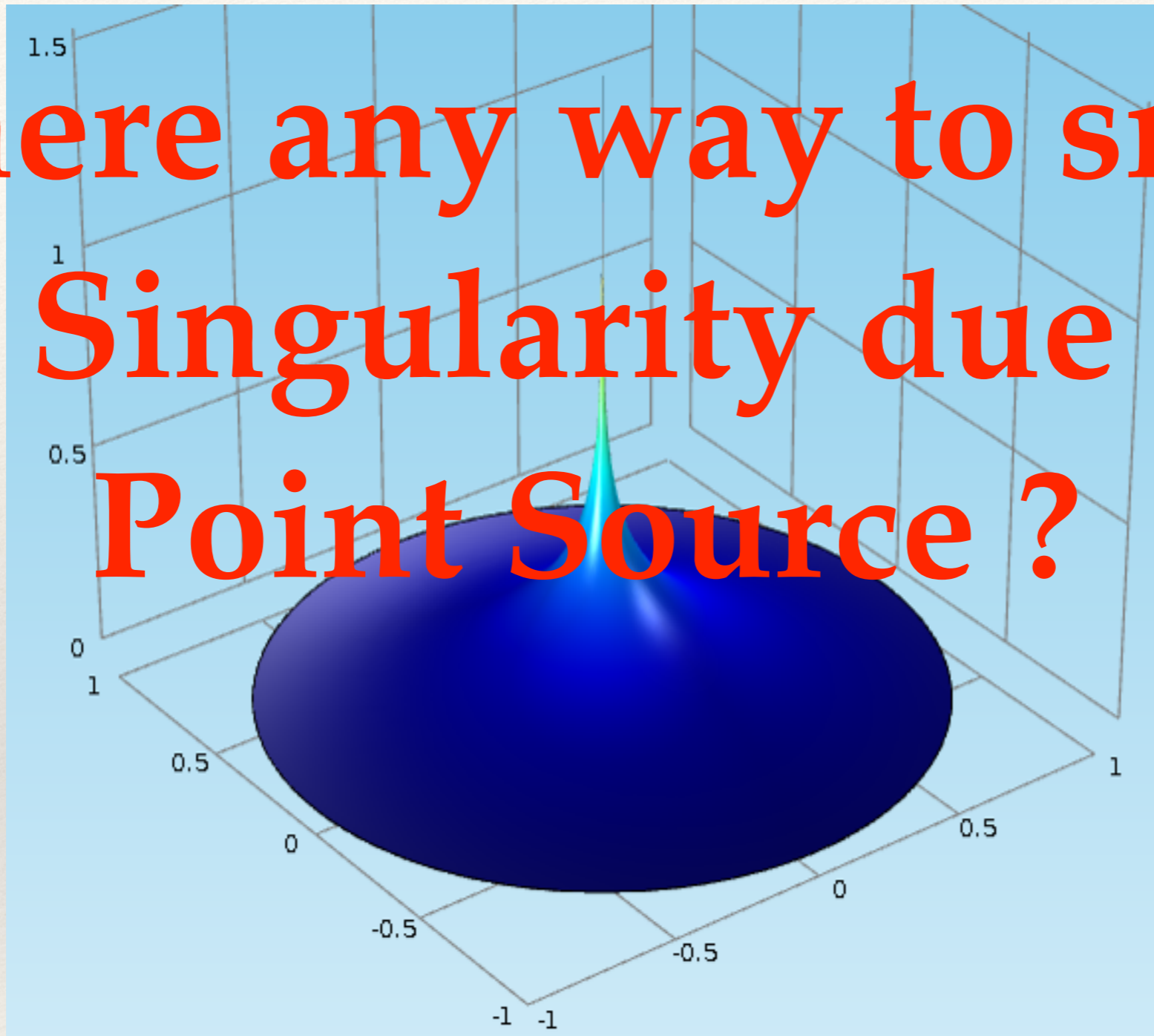
$$10^{-5} \text{ m} \sim 100 \text{ (eV)}^{-1}$$

or,  $M \sim 10^{-2} \text{ eV}$



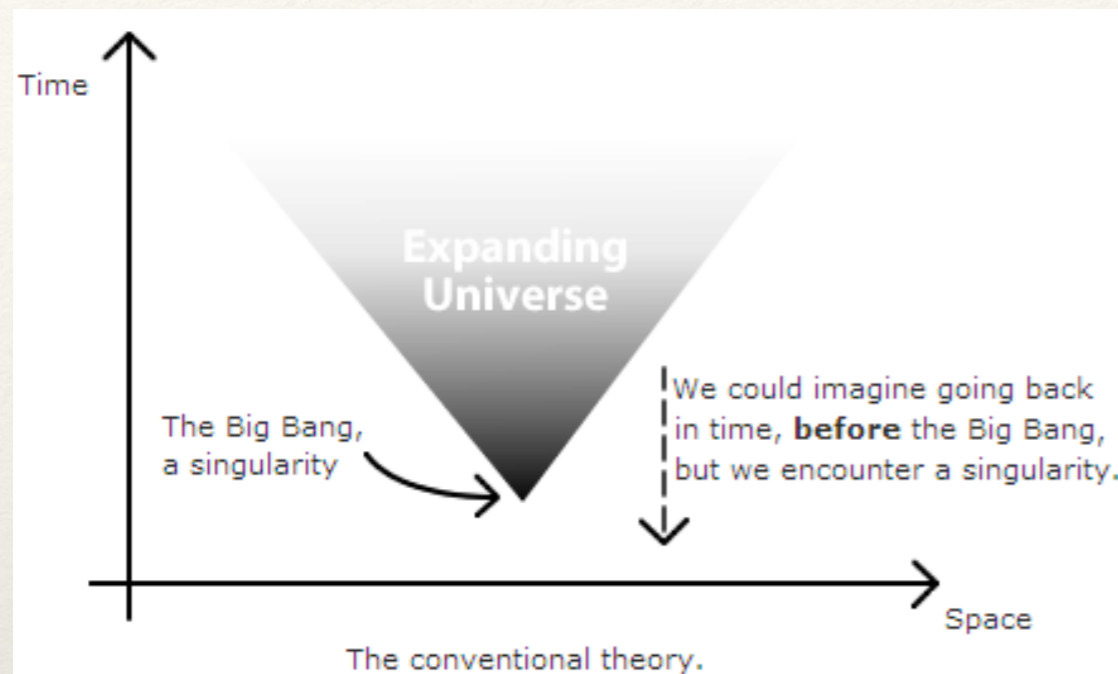
# Einstein Gravity

Is there any way to smear  
the Singularity due to a  
Point Source ?



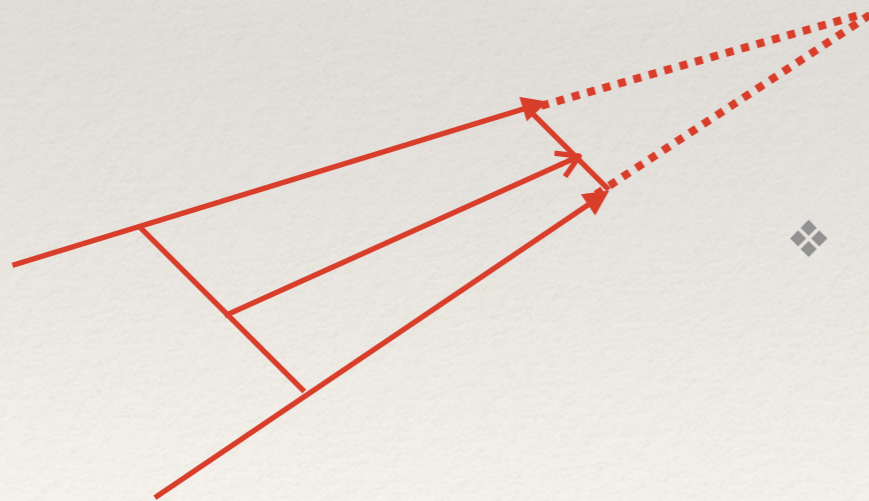
$$ds^2 = \left( 1 - \frac{2Gm}{r} \right) dt^2 - \frac{dr^2}{\left( 1 - \frac{2Gm}{r} \right)}$$

# Cosmological Singularity



Big Bang Singularity,

Space Time have an edge

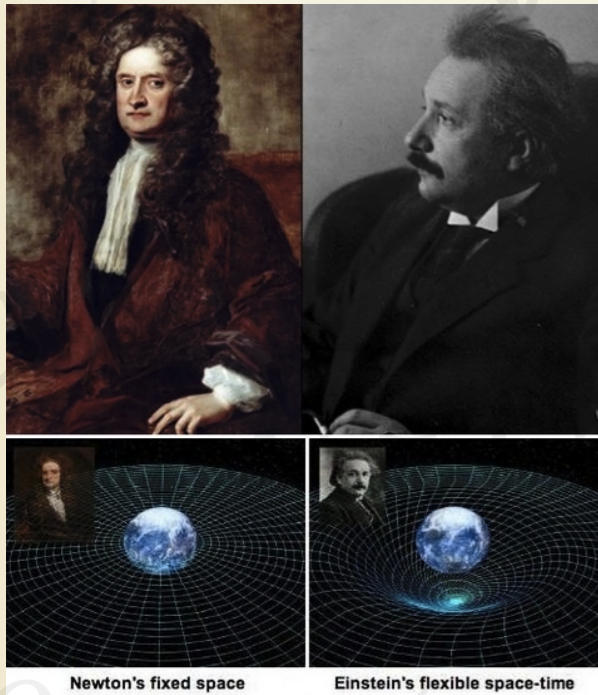


$$\rho + p \geq 0$$

- ❖ A singularity would always imply focusing of geodesics, but **focusing alone cannot imply a singularity**

**“Inflation does not solve the singularity problem”**

# UV Modification of Gravity



**UV is Pathological,**

**IR Part is Safe**

$$S = \int \sqrt{-g} d^4x \left( \frac{R}{16\pi G} + \dots \right)$$

**Gravity requires modification at small distances  
and at early times**

**While keeping the General Covariance**

**Motivated from String Field**

**Theory, analogous to**

**Born-Infeld**

**theory of E & M**

$$S = \int \sqrt{-g} d^4x \left( \frac{R}{16\pi G} \right)$$



# Three New Results

~ **Consistent theory of Gravity around Constant Curvature**

**Backgrounds**

~ **Criteria for resolving Cosmological Singularity**

~ **Divergence structures in 1 and 2-loops in a scalar Toy**

**model**

**Without SUSY and SUGRA : SUSY is broken for a generic time dependent scenarios**



# **Consistent Covariant Quadratic** **Theories of Gravity with Stable** **Constant Curvature Backgrounds**

**“Perturbative Unitarity”**

**“Ghost Free”**

**“Tachyon Free”**

**“Correct degrees of freedom in  
Graviton Propagator”**

**Spin-2**

**&**

**Spin-0**

**components  
of a  
Graviton  
Propagator**

# 4th Derivative Gravity & Power Counting renormalizability

$$I = \int d^4x \sqrt{g} \left[ \lambda_0 + k R + a R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{3} (b + a) R^2 \right]$$

$$D \propto \frac{1}{k^4 + Ak^2} = \frac{1}{A} \left( \frac{1}{k^2} - \frac{1}{k^2 + A} \right)$$

**Massive Spin-0 & Massive Spin-2 ( Ghost ) Stelle (1977)**

Utiyama, De Witt (1961), Stelle (1977)

## Modification of Einstein's GR

Modification  
of Graviton  
Propagator

Extra propagating  
degree of freedom

**Challenge: to get rid of the extra dof**



# Ghosts

**Higher Order Derivative Theory Generically Carry Ghosts ( -ve Residue ) with real “m” ( No-Tachyon )**

$$S = \int d^4x \phi \square (\square + m^2) \phi \Rightarrow \square (\square + m^2) \phi = 0$$

$$\Delta(p^2) = \frac{1}{p^2(p^2+m^2)} \sim \frac{1}{p^2} - \frac{1}{(p^2+m^2)} \quad \text{Propagator with first order poles}$$

**Ghosts cannot be cured order by order, finite terms in perturbative expansion will always lead to Ghosts !!**

$$\square e^{-\square} \phi = 0$$

**No extra states other than the original dof.**

Moffat (1991), Tomboulis (1997), Tseytlin (1997), Siegel (2003), Biswas, Grisaru, Siegel (2004), Biswas, Mazumdar, Siegel (2006)

# Higher order construction of Gravity

$$S = S_E + S_q$$

$$S_q = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} [R \dots \mathcal{O} \dots R \dots + R \dots \mathcal{O} \dots R \dots \mathcal{O} \dots R \dots + R \dots \mathcal{O} \dots R \dots \mathcal{O} \dots R \dots \mathcal{O} \dots R \dots + \dots]$$

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu} \quad R \sim \mathcal{O}(h)$$

$$S_q = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} R_{\mu_1 \nu_1 \lambda_1 \sigma_1} \mathcal{O}_{\mu_2 \nu_2 \lambda_2 \sigma_2}^{\mu_1 \nu_1 \lambda_1 \sigma_1} R^{\mu_2 \nu_2 \lambda_2 \sigma_2}$$

**Covariant derivatives**

**Unknown Infinite  
Functions of Derivatives**

# Redundancies & Form Factors

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_q = & \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} [RF_1(\square)R + RF_2(\square)\nabla_\mu\nabla_\nu R^{\mu\nu} + R_{\mu\nu}F_3(\square)R^{\mu\nu} + R_\mu^\nu F_4(\square)\nabla_\nu\nabla_\lambda R^{\mu\lambda} \\
 & + R^{\lambda\sigma}F_5(\square)\nabla_\mu\nabla_\sigma\nabla_\nu\nabla_\lambda R^{\mu\nu} + RF_6(\square)\nabla_\mu\nabla_\nu\nabla_\lambda\nabla_\sigma R^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} + R_{\mu\lambda}F_7(\square)\nabla_\nu\nabla_\sigma R^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \\
 & + R_\lambda^\rho F_8(\square)\nabla_\mu\nabla_\sigma\nabla_\nu\nabla_\rho R^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} + R^{\mu_1\nu_1}F_9(\square)\nabla_{\mu_1}\nabla_{\nu_1}\nabla_\mu\nabla_\nu\nabla_\lambda\nabla_\sigma R^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \\
 & + R_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}F_{10}(\square)R^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} + R_{\mu\nu\lambda}^\rho F_{11}(\square)\nabla_\rho\nabla_\sigma R^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} + R_{\mu\rho_1\nu\sigma_1}F_{12}(\square)\nabla^{\rho_1}\nabla^{\sigma_1}\nabla_\rho\nabla_\sigma R^{\mu\rho\nu\sigma} \\
 & + R_\mu^{\nu_1\rho_1\sigma_1}F_{13}(\square)\nabla_{\rho_1}\nabla_{\sigma_1}\nabla_{\nu_1}\nabla_\nu\nabla_\rho\nabla_\sigma R^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} + R^{\mu_1\nu_1\rho_1\sigma_1}F_{14}(\square)\nabla_{\rho_1}\nabla_{\sigma_1}\nabla_{\nu_1}\nabla_{\mu_1}\nabla_\mu\nabla_\nu\nabla_\rho\nabla_\sigma R^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} [R + R\mathcal{F}_1(\square)R + R_{\mu\nu}\mathcal{F}_2(\square)R^{\mu\nu} + R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}\mathcal{F}_3(\square)R^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}]$$

(1) GR

(2) Weyl Gravity

(3) F(R) Gravity

(4) Gauss-Bonnet Gravity

(5) Ghost free Gravity

**UV completion of Starobinsky Inflation  
up to quadratic in curvature**

Biswas, Mazumdar, Siegel, 2006,

Chialva, Mazumdar, 2013,

Koshelev, Modesto, Rachwal, Starobinsky, 2016

# Linearised Equations of Motion around Minkowski

$$= \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ R + R\mathcal{F}_1(\square)R + R_{\mu\nu}\mathcal{F}_2(\square)R^{\mu\nu} + R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}\mathcal{F}_3(\square)R^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \right]$$

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}$$

$$S_q = - \int d^4x \left[ \frac{1}{2} h_{\mu\nu} a(\square) \square h^{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu}^{\sigma} b(\square) \partial_{\sigma} \partial_{\nu} h^{\mu\nu} \quad (3) \right. \\ \left. + hc(\square) \partial_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} h^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} hd(\square) \square h + h^{\lambda\sigma} \frac{f(\square)}{\square} \partial_{\sigma} \partial_{\lambda} \partial_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} h^{\mu\nu} \right]$$

$$a(\square) = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}_2(\square) \square - 2\mathcal{F}_3(\square) \square$$

$$b(\square) = -1 + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}_2(\square) \square + 2\mathcal{F}_3(\square) \square$$

$$c(\square) = 1 + 2\mathcal{F}_1(\square) \square + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}_2(\square) \square$$

$$d(\square) = -1 - 2\mathcal{F}_1(\square) \square - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}_2(\square) \square$$

$$f(\square) = -2\mathcal{F}_1(\square) \square - \mathcal{F}_2(\square) \square - 2\mathcal{F}_3(\square) \square.$$

$$R_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_{[\lambda} \partial_{\nu} h_{\mu\sigma]} - \partial_{[\lambda} \partial_{\mu} h_{\nu\sigma]})$$

$$R_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_{\sigma} \partial_{(\nu} h_{\mu)}^{\sigma} - \partial_{\nu} \partial_{\mu} h - \square h_{\mu\nu})$$

$$R = \partial_{\nu} \partial_{\mu} h^{\mu\nu} - \square h$$

$$a + b = 0$$

$$c + d = 0$$

$$b + c + f = 0$$

Similar analysis has been derived for dS and AdS

# Graviton Propagator around Minkowski

$$a(\square)\square h_{\mu\nu} + b(\square)\partial_\sigma\partial_{(\nu}h_{\mu)}^\sigma + c(\square)(\eta_{\mu\nu}\partial_\rho\partial_\sigma h^{\rho\sigma} + \partial_\mu\partial_\nu h) \\ + \eta_{\mu\nu}d(\square)\square h + \frac{1}{4}f(\square)\square^{-1}\partial_\sigma\partial_\lambda\partial_\mu\partial_\nu h^{\lambda\sigma} = -\kappa\tau_{\mu\nu}$$

$$-\kappa\tau\nabla_\mu\tau_\nu^\mu = 0 = (c + d)\square\partial_\nu h + (a + b)\square h_{\nu,\mu}^\mu + (b + c + f)h_{,\alpha\beta\nu}^{\alpha\beta}$$

**Bianchi Identity**

$$a + b = 0$$

$$c + d = 0$$

$$b + c + f = 0$$

$$\Pi_{\mu\nu}^{-1\lambda\sigma} h_{\lambda\sigma} = \kappa\tau_{\mu\nu} \quad h = h^{TT} + h^L + h^T$$

$$\Pi = \frac{P^2}{ak^2} + \frac{P_s^0}{(a - 3c)k^2}$$

# Spin projection operators

Let us introduce

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{P}^2 &= \frac{1}{2}(\theta_{\mu\rho}\theta_{\nu\sigma} + \theta_{\mu\sigma}\theta_{\nu\rho}) - \frac{1}{3}\theta_{\mu\nu}\theta_{\rho\sigma}, \\
 \mathcal{P}^1 &= \frac{1}{2}(\theta_{\mu\rho}\omega_{\nu\sigma} + \theta_{\mu\sigma}\omega_{\nu\rho} + \theta_{\nu\rho}\omega_{\mu\sigma} + \theta_{\nu\sigma}\omega_{\mu\rho}), \\
 \mathcal{P}_s^0 &= \frac{1}{3}\theta_{\mu\nu}\theta_{\rho\sigma}, \quad \mathcal{P}_w^0 = \omega_{\mu\nu}\omega_{\rho\sigma}, \\
 \mathcal{P}_{sw}^0 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\theta_{\mu\nu}\omega_{\rho\sigma}, \quad \mathcal{P}_{ws}^0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\omega_{\mu\nu}\theta_{\rho\sigma},
 \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

where the transversal and longitudinal projectors in the momentum space are respectively

$$\theta_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} - \frac{k_\mu k_\nu}{k^2}, \quad \omega_{\mu\nu} = \frac{k_\mu k_\nu}{k^2}.$$

Note that the operators  $\mathcal{P}^i$  are in fact 4-rank tensors,  $\mathcal{P}_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}^i$ , but we have suppressed the index notation here.

Out of the six operators four of them,  $\{\mathcal{P}^2, \mathcal{P}^1, \mathcal{P}_s^0, \mathcal{P}_w^0\}$ , form a complete set of projection operators:

$$\mathcal{P}_a^i \mathcal{P}_b^j = \delta^{ij} \delta_{ab} \mathcal{P}_a^i \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{P}^2 + \mathcal{P}^1 + \mathcal{P}_s^0 + \mathcal{P}_w^0 = 1, \tag{17}$$

$$\mathcal{P}_{ij}^0 \mathcal{P}_k^0 = \delta_{jk} \mathcal{P}_{ij}^0, \quad \mathcal{P}_{ij}^0 \mathcal{P}_{kl}^0 = \delta_{il} \delta_{jk} \mathcal{P}_k^0, \quad \mathcal{P}_k^0 \mathcal{P}_{ij}^0 = \delta_{ik} \mathcal{P}_{ij}^0,$$

**Ph.D. Thesis by K. J. Barnes, 1963**

**R. J. Rivers (1963)**

**P. Van Nieuwenhuizen,**

**Nucl.Phys. B60 (1973), 478.**

For the above action, see:

**Biswas, Koivisto, Mazumdar**

**1302.0532**

# Tree level Graviton Propagator

$$\Pi = \frac{P^2}{ak^2} + \frac{P_s^0}{(a - 3c)k^2}$$

**No new propagating degree of freedom  
other than the massless Graviton**

$$a(\square) = c(\square) \Rightarrow 2\mathcal{F}_1(\square) + \mathcal{F}_2(\square) + 2\mathcal{F}_3(\square) = 0$$

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{R}{2} + R\mathcal{F}_1(\square)R - \frac{1}{2}R^{\mu\nu}\mathcal{F}_2(\square)R_{\mu\nu} \right]$$

Without loss of generality either  $\mathcal{F}_1$ , or  $\mathcal{F}_2$ , or  $\mathcal{F}_3 = 0$

# Well known Higher Derivative limits

$$a(\square) = 1 - \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{F}_2(\square)\square - 2\mathcal{F}_3(\square)\square$$

$$b(\square) = -1 + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{F}_2(\square)\square + 2\mathcal{F}_3(\square)\square$$

$$c(\square) = 1 + 2\mathcal{F}_1(\square)\square + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{F}_2(\square)\square$$

$$d(\square) = -1 - 2\mathcal{F}_1(\square)\square - \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{F}_2(\square)\square$$

$$f(\square) = -2\mathcal{F}_1(\square)\square - \mathcal{F}_2(\square)\square - 2\mathcal{F}_3(\square)\square.$$

## (3) GB Gravity:

$$\mathcal{L} = R + \alpha(\square)G,$$

$$a = c = -b = -d = 1$$

$$\Pi = \Pi_{GR}$$

## (1) GR:

$$a(0) = c(0) = -b(0) = -d(0) = 1$$

$$\lim_{k^2 \rightarrow 0} \Pi = (\mathcal{P}^2/k^2) - (\mathcal{P}_s^0/2k^2) \equiv \Pi_{GR}$$

## (2) F(R) Gravity:

$$\mathcal{L}(R) = \mathcal{L}(0) + \mathcal{L}'(0)R + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}''(0)R^2 + \dots$$

$$a = -b = 1, \quad c = -d = 1 - \mathcal{L}''(0)\square$$

$$\Pi = \frac{\mathcal{P}^2}{k^2} - \frac{\mathcal{P}_s^0}{2k^2(1 + 3\mathcal{L}''(0)k^2)} \quad \Pi = \Pi_{GR} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\mathcal{P}_s^0}{k^2 + m^2}, \quad m^2 = \frac{1}{3\mathcal{L}''(0)}$$

## (4) Weyl Gravity:

$$\mathcal{L} = R - \frac{1}{m^2}C^2 \quad C^2 = R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} - 2R_{\mu\nu}R^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{3}R^2$$

$$a = -b = 1 - (k/m)^2$$

$$c = -d = 1 - (k/m)^2/3 \text{ and } f = -2(k/m)^2/3$$

$$\Pi = \frac{\mathcal{P}^2}{k^2(1 - (k/m)^2)} - \frac{\mathcal{P}_s^0}{2k^2} = \Pi_{GR} - \frac{\mathcal{P}^2}{k^2 + m^2}$$



# Complete Field Equations

Ghost-free gravity

## 2.3. The Complete Field Equations

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left( \frac{R}{2} + R\mathcal{F}_1(\square)R + R^{\mu\nu}\mathcal{F}_2(\square)R_{\mu\nu} + C^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}\mathcal{F}_3(\square)C_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \right)$$

Following from this we find the equation of motion for the full action  $S$  in (1) to be a combination of  $S_0$ ,  $S_1$ ,  $S_2$  and  $S_3$  above

$$\begin{aligned} P^{\alpha\beta} &= G^{\alpha\beta} + 4G^{\alpha\beta}\mathcal{F}_1(\square)R + g^{\alpha\beta}R\mathcal{F}_1(\square)R - 4(\nabla^\alpha\nabla^\beta - g^{\alpha\beta}\square)\mathcal{F}_1(\square)R \\ &\quad - 2\Omega_1^{\alpha\beta} + g^{\alpha\beta}(\Omega_{1\sigma}^\sigma + \bar{\Omega}_1) + 4R_\mu^\alpha\mathcal{F}_2(\square)R^{\mu\beta} \\ &\quad - g^{\alpha\beta}R_\nu^\mu\mathcal{F}_2(\square)R_\mu^\nu - 4\nabla_\mu\nabla^\beta(\mathcal{F}_2(\square)R^{\mu\alpha}) + 2\square(\mathcal{F}_2(\square)R^{\alpha\beta}) \\ &\quad + 2g^{\alpha\beta}\nabla_\mu\nabla_\nu(\mathcal{F}_2(\square)R^{\mu\nu}) - 2\Omega_2^{\alpha\beta} + g^{\alpha\beta}(\Omega_{2\sigma}^\sigma + \bar{\Omega}_2) - 4\Delta_2^{\alpha\beta} \\ &\quad - g^{\alpha\beta}C^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}\mathcal{F}_3(\square)C_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} + 4C_{\mu\nu\sigma}^\alpha\mathcal{F}_3(\square)C^{\beta\mu\nu\sigma} \\ &\quad - 4(R_{\mu\nu} + 2\nabla_\mu\nabla_\nu)(\mathcal{F}_3(\square)C^{\beta\mu\nu\alpha}) - 2\Omega_3^{\alpha\beta} + g^{\alpha\beta}(\Omega_{3\gamma}^\gamma + \bar{\Omega}_3) - 8\Delta_3^{\alpha\beta} \\ &= T^{\alpha\beta}, \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

where  $T^{\alpha\beta}$  is the stress energy tensor for the matter components in the universe and we have defined the following symmetric tensors:

$$\Omega_1^{\alpha\beta} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_{1n} \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} \nabla^\alpha R^{(l)} \nabla^\beta R^{(n-l-1)}, \quad \bar{\Omega}_1 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_{1n} \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} R^{(l)} R^{(n-l)}, \quad (53)$$

$$\Omega_2^{\alpha\beta} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_{2n} \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} R_\nu^{\mu;\alpha(l)} R_\mu^{\nu;\beta(n-l-1)}, \quad \bar{\Omega}_2 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_{2n} \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} R_\nu^{\mu(l)} R_\mu^{\nu(n-l)}, \quad (54)$$

$$\Delta_2^{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_{2n} \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} [R_\sigma^{\nu(l)} R^{(\beta|\sigma|\alpha)(n-l-1)} - R_\sigma^{\nu;\alpha(l)} R^{\beta\sigma(n-l-1)}]_{;\nu}, \quad (55)$$

$$\Omega_3^{\alpha\beta} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_{3n} \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} C_{\nu\lambda\sigma}^{\mu;\alpha(l)} C_\mu^{\nu\lambda\sigma;\beta(n-l-1)}, \quad \bar{\Omega}_3 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_{3n} \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} C_{\nu\lambda\sigma}^{\mu(l)} C_\mu^{\nu\lambda\sigma(n-l)}, \quad (56)$$

$$\Delta_3^{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_{3n} \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} [C_{\sigma\mu}^{\lambda\nu(l)} C_\lambda^{(\beta|\sigma\mu|\alpha)(n-l-1)} - C_{\sigma\mu}^{\lambda\nu;\alpha(l)} C_\lambda^{\beta\sigma\mu(n-l-1)}]_{;\nu}. \quad (57)$$

The trace equation is often particularly useful and below we provide it for the general action (1):

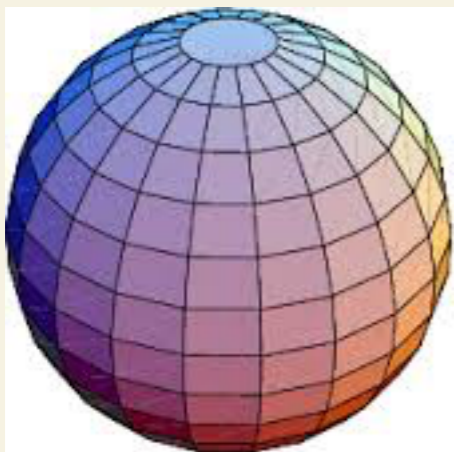
$$\begin{aligned} P &= -R + 12\square\mathcal{F}_1(\square)R + 2\square(\mathcal{F}_2(\square)R) + 4\nabla_\mu\nabla_\nu(\mathcal{F}_2(\square)R^{\mu\nu}) \\ &\quad + 2(\Omega_{1\sigma}^\sigma + 2\bar{\Omega}_1) + 2(\Omega_{2\sigma}^\sigma + 2\bar{\Omega}_2) + 2(\Omega_{3\sigma}^\sigma + 2\bar{\Omega}_3) - 4\Delta_{2\sigma}^\sigma - 8\Delta_{3\sigma}^\sigma \\ &= T \equiv g_{\alpha\beta}T^{\alpha\beta}. \end{aligned} \quad (58)$$

It is worth noting that we have checked special cases of our result against previous work in sixth order gravity given in [24] and found them to be equivalent at least to the cubic order (see Appendix C for details).

$$R^{(m)} \equiv \square^m R$$



# Gravitational Entropy



$$ds^2 = -f(r)dt^2 + f(r)^{-1}dr^2 + r^2d\Omega^2$$

$$S_W = -8\pi \oint_{r=r_H, t=\text{const}} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial R_{rttr}} \right) q(r) d\Omega^2$$

Wald (1990, 1993), Iyer, Wald (1993)

$$S_W = \frac{Area}{4G} \left[ 1 + \alpha (2\mathcal{F}_1 + \mathcal{F}_2 + \underbrace{2\mathcal{F}_3}_0) R \right]$$

**Holography is an IR effect**

**Higher order corrections yield zero entropy**  
**“Ground State of Gravity”**

# Consistent theories of Gravity around dS and AdS backgrounds

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \mathcal{P}_0 + \sum_i \mathcal{P}_i \prod_I (\hat{\mathcal{O}}_{iI} \mathcal{Q}_{iI}) \right]$$

Most generic action - “Parity Invariant” and “Torsion Free”

$$R = \bar{R} = \text{const}, \quad R_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\bar{R}}{4} \bar{g}_{\mu\nu}, \quad R^\rho_{\mu\sigma\nu} = \frac{\bar{R}}{12} (\delta^\rho_\sigma \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} - \delta^\rho_\nu \bar{g}_{\mu\sigma})$$

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{M_P^2}{2} R - \Lambda + \frac{\lambda}{2} (R \mathcal{F}_1(\square) R + S_{\mu\nu} \mathcal{F}_2(\square) S^{\mu\nu} + C_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \mathcal{F}_3(\square) C^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}) \right]$$

$$h_{\mu\nu} = h^\perp_{\mu\nu} + \bar{\nabla}_\mu A^\perp_\nu + \bar{\nabla}_\nu A^\perp_\mu + (\bar{\nabla}_\mu \bar{\nabla}_\nu - \frac{1}{4} \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} \bar{\square}) B + \frac{1}{4} \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} h$$

For pure EH action, see D’Hoker, Freedman, Mathur, Matusis, Rastelli (hep-th/9902042)

Full generalisation, see: Biswas, Koshelev, Mazumdar, 1602.08475

# Quadratic order Action for spin-2 and spin-0 components

$$S_2 \equiv \frac{1}{2} \int dx^4 \sqrt{-\bar{g}} \widetilde{h}^{\perp\mu\nu} \left( \bar{\square} - \frac{\bar{R}}{6} \right) \left\{ 1 + \frac{2}{M_p^2} \lambda c_{1,0} \bar{R} + \frac{\lambda}{M_p^2} \left[ \left( \bar{\square} - \frac{\bar{R}}{6} \right) \mathcal{F}_2(\bar{\square}) + 2 \left( \bar{\square} - \frac{\bar{R}}{3} \right) \mathcal{F}_3 \left( \bar{\square} + \frac{\bar{R}}{3} \right) \right] \right\} \widetilde{h}^{\perp}_{\mu\nu}$$

$$S_0 \equiv -\frac{1}{2} \int dx^4 \sqrt{-\bar{g}} \widetilde{\phi} \left( \bar{\square} + \frac{\bar{R}}{3} \right) \left\{ 1 + \frac{2}{M_p^2} \lambda c_{1,0} \bar{R} - \frac{\lambda}{M_p^2} \left[ 2(3\bar{\square} + \bar{R}) \mathcal{F}_1(\bar{\square}) + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\square} \mathcal{F}_2 \left( \bar{\square} + \frac{2}{3} \bar{R} \right) \right] \right\} \widetilde{\phi}$$

Minkowski limit matches with  
our earlier propagator

$$\Pi_2 = \frac{i}{p^2 \left\{ 1 - \frac{2p^2}{M_p^2} [\mathcal{F}_2(-p^2) + 2\mathcal{F}_3(-p^2)] \right\}},$$

$$\Pi_0 = \frac{-i}{p^2 \left\{ 1 + \frac{2p^2}{M_p^2} [6\mathcal{F}_1(-p^2) + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{F}_2(-p^2)] \right\}}$$

$$\widetilde{h}^{\perp}_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} M_p h^{\perp}_{\mu\nu}, \quad \widetilde{\phi} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{32}} M_p \phi$$

**Biswas, Koshelev, Mazumdar**  
**1602.08475**

**80th B'Day Celeb. of Carl Brans**

# Most generic Ghost Free Graviton Propagator in dS/AdS

$$\mathcal{T}(\bar{R}, \bar{\square}) \equiv 1 + \frac{4\bar{R}}{M_p^2} c_{1,0} + \frac{2}{M_p^2} \left[ \left( \bar{\square} - \frac{\bar{R}}{6} \right) \mathcal{F}_2(\bar{\square}) + 2 \left( \bar{\square} - \frac{\bar{R}}{3} \right) \mathcal{F}_3 \left( \bar{\square} + \frac{\bar{R}}{3} \right) \right]$$

$$\mathcal{S}(\bar{R}, \bar{\square}) \equiv 1 + \frac{4\bar{R}}{M_p^2} c_{1,0} - \frac{2}{M_p^2} \left[ 2(3\bar{\square} + \bar{R}) \mathcal{F}_1(\bar{\square}) + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\square} \mathcal{F}_2 \left( \bar{\square} + \frac{2}{3} \bar{R} \right) \right]$$

$$\mathcal{T}(\bar{R}, \bar{\square}) \equiv e^{\tau(\bar{\square})},$$

$$\mathcal{S}(\bar{R}, \bar{\square}) \equiv \left( 1 - \frac{\bar{\square}}{m^2} \right)^\epsilon e^{\sigma(\bar{\square})}$$

$\epsilon = 0$ , No scalar propagating d.o.f.

# Background Independent Action of Quadratic Action of Gravity

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{R}{2} + \alpha_0 (R, R_{\mu\nu}) + \alpha_1 (R, R_{\mu\nu}) R \mathcal{F}_1(\square) R + \alpha_2 (R, R_{\mu\nu}) R_{\mu\nu} \mathcal{F}_2(\square) R^{\mu\nu} + \alpha_3 (R, R_{\mu\nu}) C_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \mathcal{F}_3 C^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \right]$$

Proof is due

# Newtonian Limit

$$\Pi = \frac{P^2}{ak^2} + \frac{P_s^0}{(a - 3c)k^2} \quad a(\square) = c(\square) = e^{-\square/M^2}$$

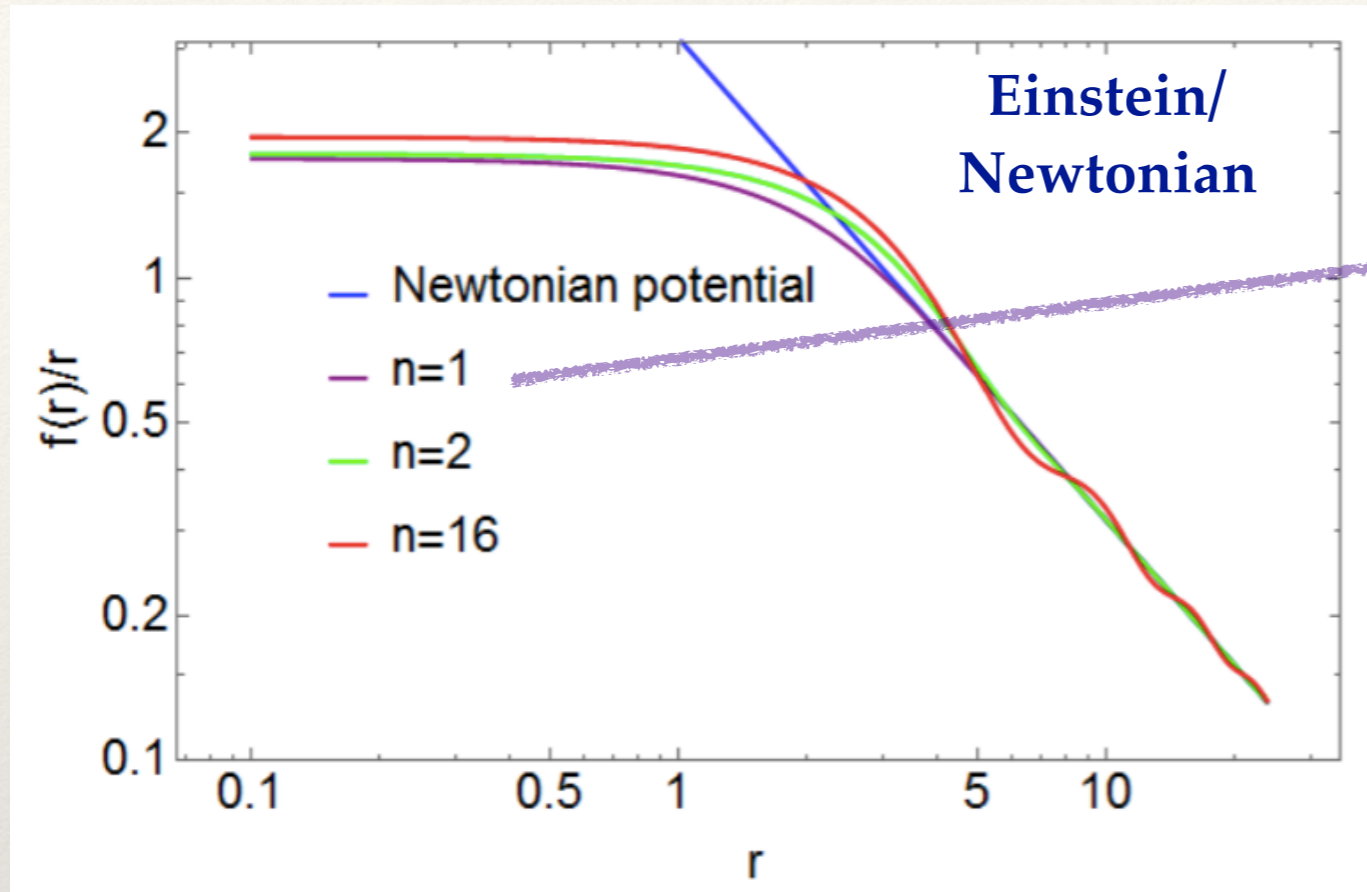
$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{R}{2} + R \left[ \frac{e^{-\frac{\square}{M^2}} - 1}{\square} \right] R - 2R_{\mu\nu} \left[ \frac{e^{-\frac{\square}{M^2}} - 1}{\square} \right] R^{\mu\nu} \right]$$

$$ds^2 = -(1 - 2\Phi)dt^2 + (1 + 2\Psi)dr^2$$

$$\Phi = \Psi = \frac{Gm}{r} \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{rM}{2} \right)$$



# Resolution of Singularity at short distances

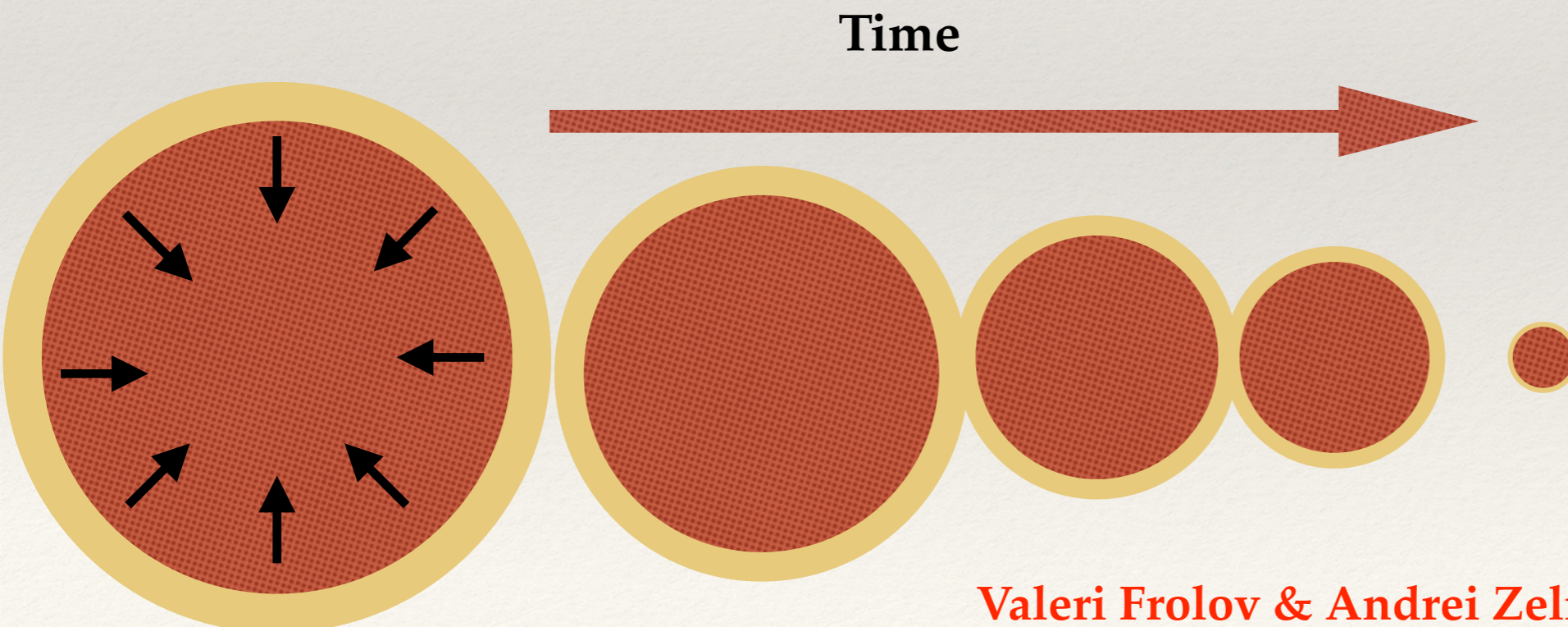


$$\Phi(r) = \Psi(r) = \frac{Gm}{r} \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{rM}{2} \right)$$

$$mM \ll M_p^2 \implies m \ll M_p$$

Current Bound :  $M > 0.01 \text{ eV}$

Edholm, Koshelev, Mazumdar (2016)



A lump of matter  
without horizon  
and without  
singularity

Valeri Frolov & Andrei Zelnikov (2015)

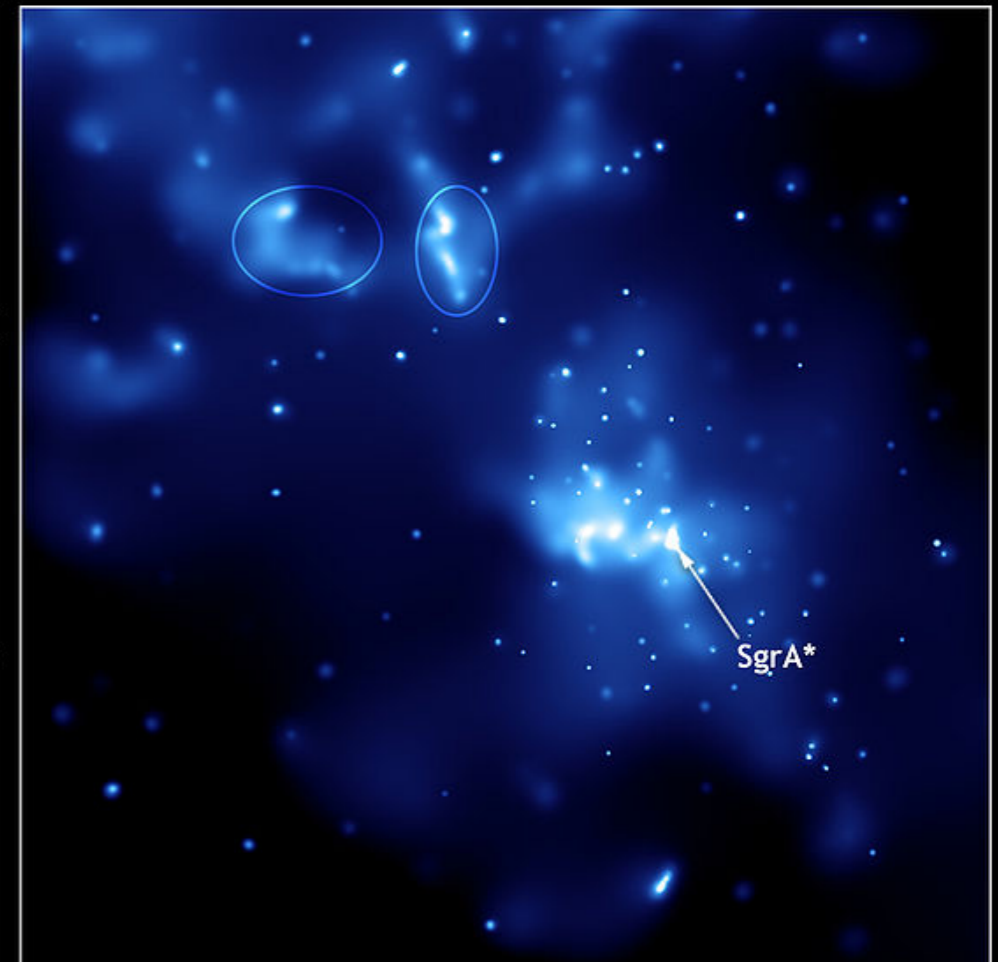
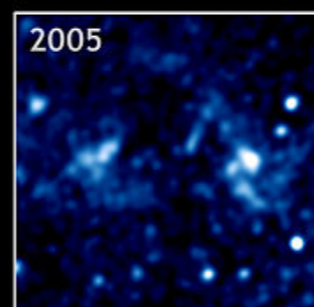
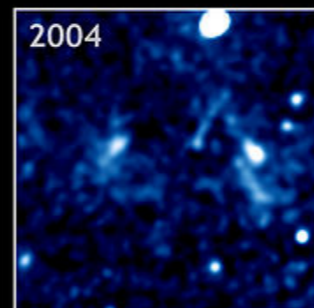
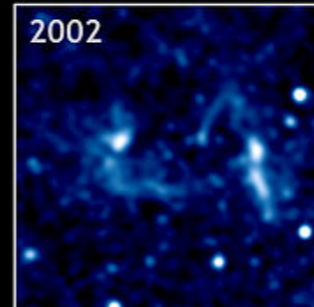
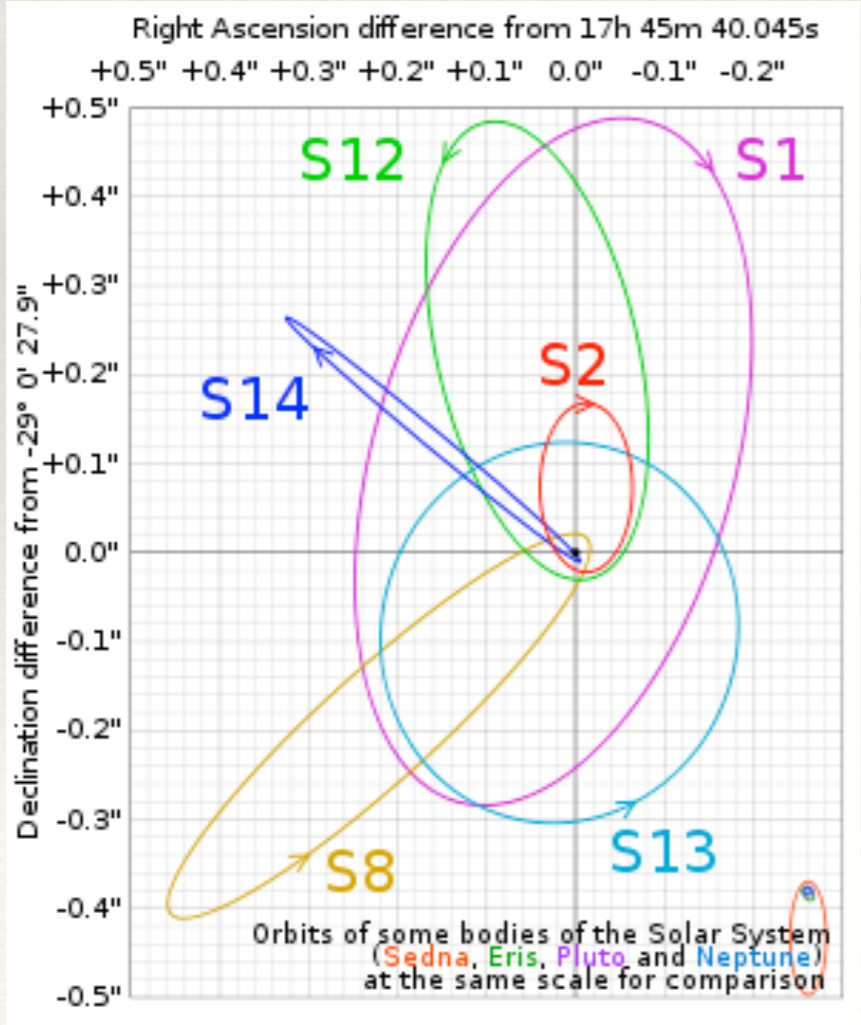
# Puffy Horizon

The diagram features a central, thick, black, irregular ring with a porous, 'puffy' texture. This ring is surrounded by several concentric, thin, grey circles that are slightly offset from each other, creating a layered effect. The text 'Remnant of Non-locality' is centered within the black ring.

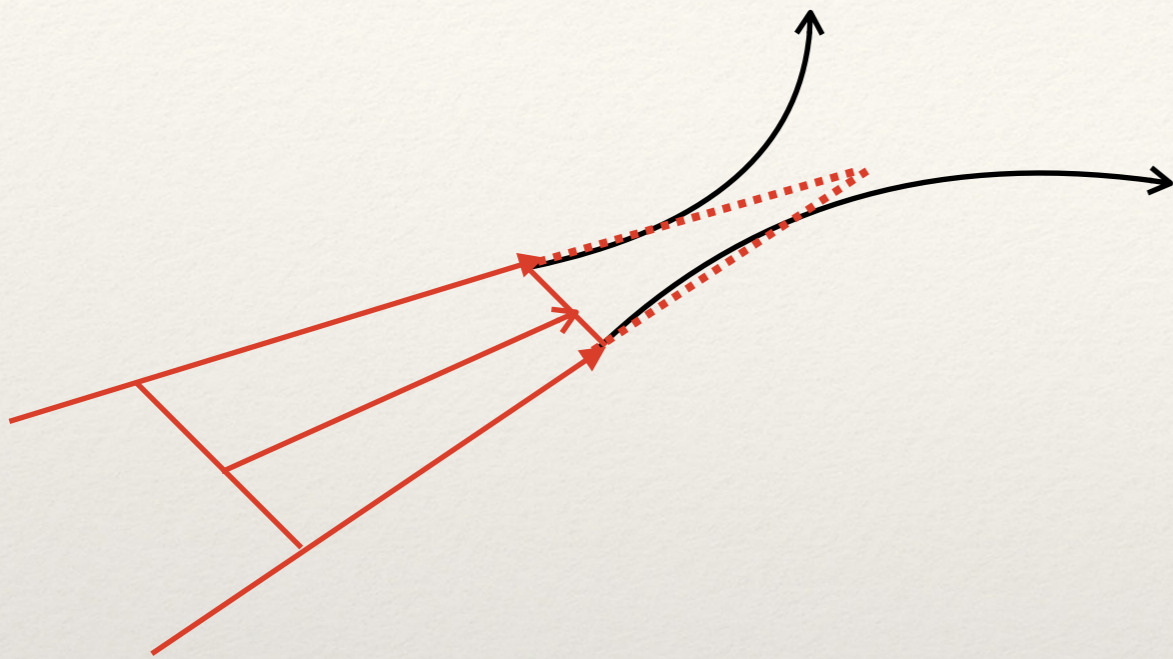
Remnant of Non-locality



# Event Horizon Telescope



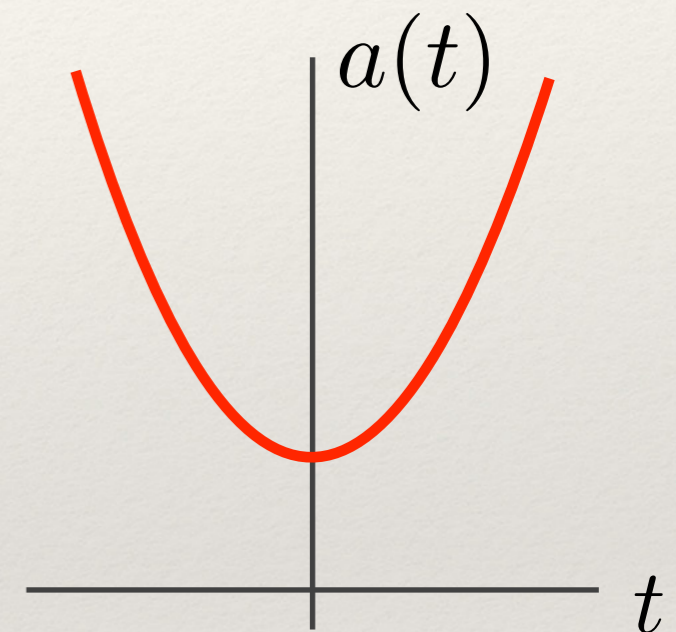
# Non-Singular Bouncing Solutions: UV completion of Starobinsky Inflation



**Linear Solution**

$h \sim \text{diag}(0, A \sin \lambda t, A \sin \lambda t, A \sin \lambda t)$  with  $A \ll 1$

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{R}{2} + R \left[ \frac{e^{\frac{-\square}{M^2}} - 1}{\square} \right] R + \Lambda \right]$$



**Non-Linear Solution**

$$a(t) = \cosh \left( \sqrt{\frac{r_1}{2}} t \right)$$

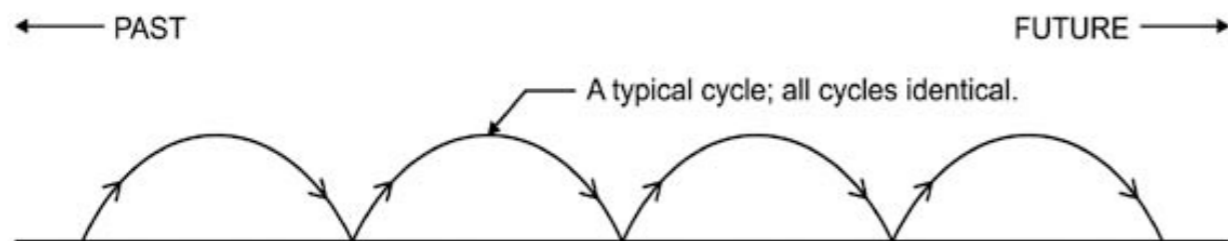


Fig 02

Biswas, Mazumdar, Siegel, JCAP (2006)

Biswas, Gerwick, Koivisto, Mazumdar,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. (gr-qc/1110.5249)

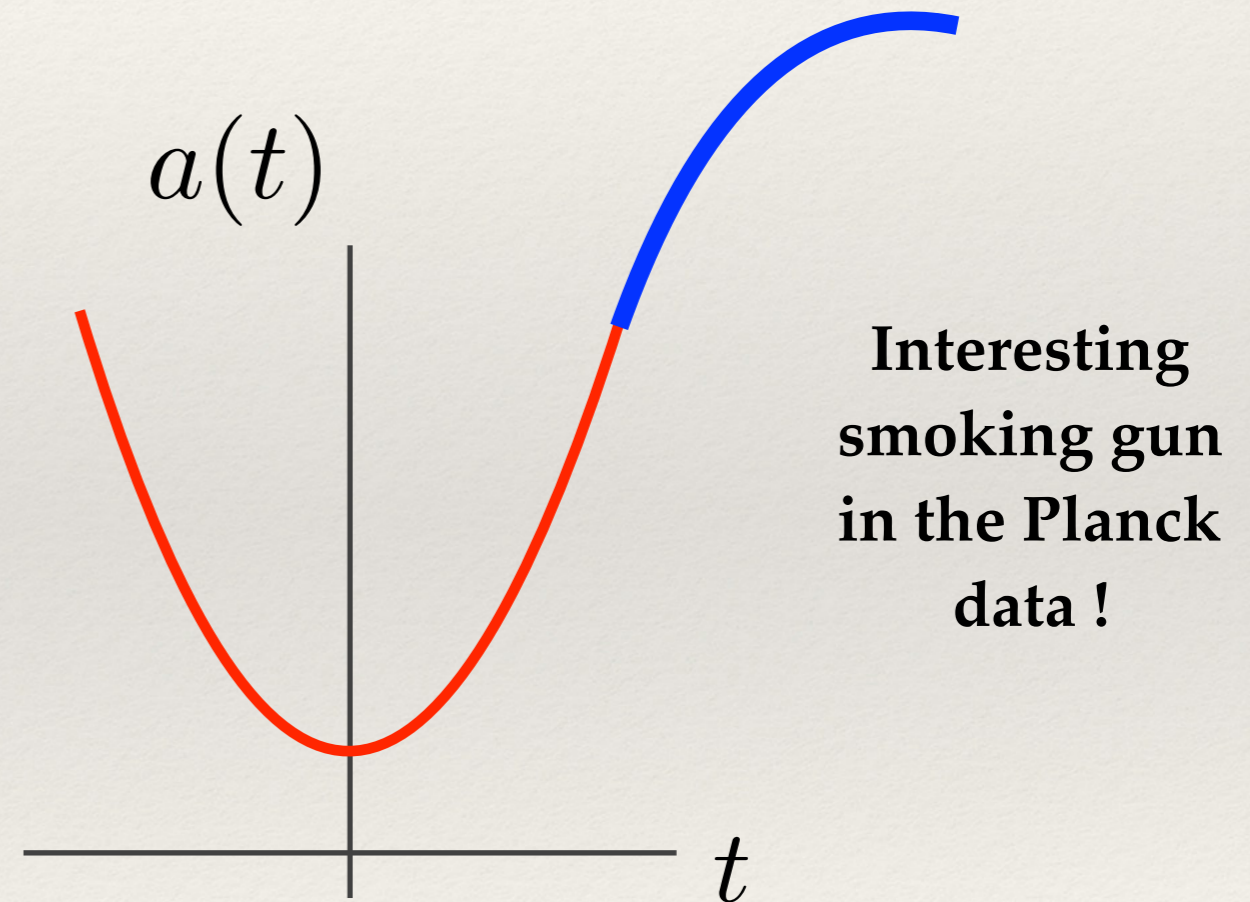
# Nonlocal Gravity & Cosmological Singularity

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{R}{2} + R \left[ \frac{e^{\frac{-\square}{M^2}} - 1}{\square} \right] R + \Lambda \right]$$

$$a(t) = a_0 \cosh \left( \sqrt{\frac{\Lambda}{6M_{pl}^2}} t \right)$$

**Cosmological  
Constant at Bounce**

$$M \sim \Lambda^{1/4}$$



Biswas, AM, PRD (2014)

“Einstein Gravity Does Not Permit Such Solution”

# Hawking-Penrose Singularity Theorems & Raychaudhuri Equation

$$\frac{d\theta}{d\tau} + \frac{1}{2}\theta^2 \leq -R_{\mu\nu}k^\mu k^\nu \quad \theta = \nabla_\mu k^\mu$$

$$R_{\mu\nu}k^\mu k^\nu = \kappa T_{\mu\nu}k^\mu k^\nu \quad \text{General Relativity}$$

$$R_{\mu\nu}k^\mu k^\nu \geq 0, \quad \frac{d\theta}{d\tau} + \frac{1}{2}\theta^2 \leq 0$$

$$= \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ R + R\mathcal{F}_1(\square)R + R_{\mu\nu}\mathcal{F}_2(\square)R^{\mu\nu} + R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}\mathcal{F}_3(\square)R^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \right]$$

$$R_{\mu\nu}^{(L)}k^\mu k^\nu = \frac{1}{a(\bar{\square})} \left[ \kappa T_{\mu\nu}k^\mu k^\nu - \frac{(k^0)^2}{2} f(\bar{\square})\square R^{(L)} \right]$$

**Defocusing:**  $R_{\mu\nu}^L k^\mu k^\nu \leq 0$

# 3 Criteria for Defocusing Null Congruences without Ghosts & Tachyons

$$\frac{f(\bar{\square})\square}{a(\bar{\square})}R^{(L)} > 0 \Rightarrow \frac{a(\bar{\square}) - c(\bar{\square})}{a(\bar{\square})}R^{(L)} > 0$$

$$c(\bar{\square}) = \frac{a(\bar{\square})}{3} [1 + 2(1 - \alpha M_P^{-2}\square)\tilde{a}(\bar{\square})]$$

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} [M_P^2 R + R\mathcal{F}_1(\bar{\square})R]$$

$$\Pi = \frac{P^2}{ak^2} + \frac{P_s^0}{(a-3c)k^2}$$

**Massless Graviton  
for : a=c**

## (1) Infinite Derivatives

Locality leads to Starobinsky Model, which requires Tachyonic massive Spin-0 states to resolve singularity, but it cannot give Inflation !

## (2) Massless Spin-2,

## (3) Non-Tachyonic Massive Spin-0

$$\Pi(-k^2) = \frac{1}{a(-k^2)} \left[ \frac{\mathcal{P}^2}{k^2} - \frac{1}{2\tilde{a}(-k^2)} \left( \frac{\mathcal{P}_s^0}{k^2} - \frac{\mathcal{P}_s^0}{k^2 + m^2} \right) \right]$$

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} [M_p^2 R + cR^2]$$

$$\Pi_{R^2} = \Pi_{GR} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\mathcal{P}_s^0}{k^2 + m^2}$$

# Quantum aspects

- **Superficial degree of divergence goes as**

$E = V - I$ . Use Topological relation :  $L = 1 + I - V$

$$E = 1 - L \quad E < 0, \text{ for } L > 1$$

- **At 1-loop, the theory requires counter term, the 1-loop, 2 point function yields  $\Lambda^4$  divergence**
- **At 2-loops, the theory does not give rise to additional divergences, the UV behaviour becomes finite, at large external momentum, where dressed propagators gives rise to more suppression than the vertex factors**



# Toy model based on Symmetries

GR e.o.m :  $g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \Omega g_{\mu\nu}$

**Around Minkowski space the e.o.m are invariant under:**

$$h_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow (1 + \epsilon)h_{\mu\nu} + \epsilon\eta_{\mu\nu}$$

**Construct a scalar field theory with infinite derivatives whose e.o.m are invariant under**

$$\phi \rightarrow (1 + \epsilon)\phi + \epsilon$$

$$S_{free} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x (\phi \square a(\square) \phi) \quad a(\square) = e^{-\square/M^2}$$

$$S_{int} = \frac{1}{M_p} \int d^4x \left( \frac{1}{4} \phi \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi + \frac{1}{4} \phi \square \phi a(\square) \phi - \frac{1}{4} \phi \partial_\mu \phi a(\square) \partial^\mu \phi \right)$$

$$\Pi(k^2) = -\frac{i}{k^2 e^{\bar{k}^2}}$$

# Towards understanding the ultraviolet behavior of quantum loops in infinite-derivative theories of gravity

Spyridon Talaganis<sup>a</sup>, Tirthabir Biswas<sup>b</sup> and Anupam Mazumdar<sup>a, c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> *Consortium for Fundamental Physics, Physics Department, Lancaster University, Lancaster, LA1 4YB, UK*

<sup>b</sup> *Department of Physics, Loyola University, 6363 St. Charles Avenue, Box 92, New Orleans, LA 70118, USA*

<sup>c</sup> *Département de Physique Théorique, Université de Genève, 24, Quai E Ansermet, 1211 Genève 4, Switzerland*

## Abstract

In this paper we will consider quantum aspects of a non-local, infinite derivative scalar field theory - a *toy model* depiction of a covariant infinite derivative, non-local extension of Einstein's general relativity which has previously been shown to be free from ghosts around the Minkowski background. The graviton propagator in this theory gets an exponential suppression making it *asymptotically free*, thus providing strong prospects of resolving various classical and quantum divergences. In particular, we will find that at 1-loop, the 2-point function is still divergent, but once this amplitude is renormalized by adding appropriate counter terms, the ultraviolet (UV) behavior of all other 1-loop diagrams as well as the 2-loop, 2-point function remains well under control. We will go on to discuss how one may be able to generalize our computations and arguments to arbitrary loops.

# Ultra High Energy Scatterings of Gravitons

## High-Energy Scatterings in Infinite-Derivative Field Theory and Ghost-Free Gravity

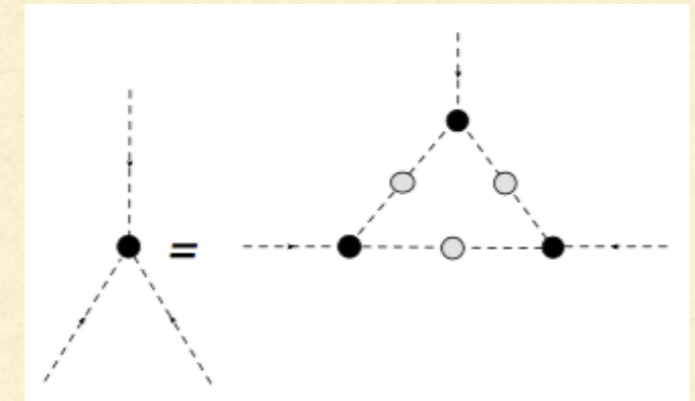
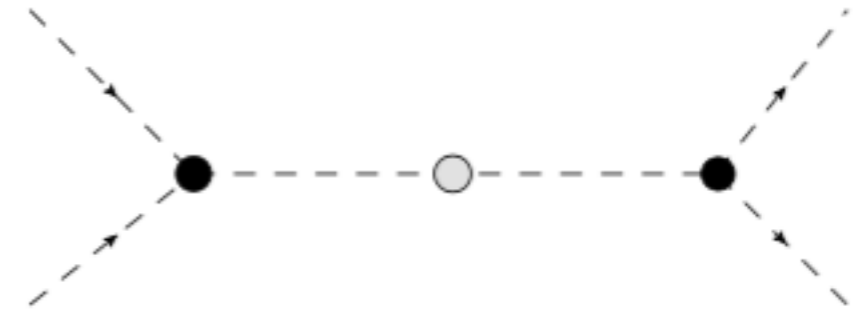
Spyridon Talaganis and Anupam Mazumdar

Consortium for Fundamental Physics, Lancaster University, LA1 4YB

March 14, 2016

### Abstract

In this paper, we will consider scattering diagrams in the context of infinite-derivative theories. First, we examine a finite-order higher-derivative scalar field theory and find that we cannot eliminate the external momentum divergences of scattering diagrams in the regime of large external momenta. Then, we employ an infinite-derivative scalar toy model and obtain that the external momentum dependence of scattering diagrams is convergent as the external momenta become very large. In order to eliminate the external momentum divergences, one has to dress the bare vertices of the scattering diagrams by considering renormalised propagator and vertex loop corrections to the bare vertices. Finally, we investigate scattering diagrams in the context of a scalar toy model which is inspired by a *ghost-free* and *singularity-free* infinite-derivative theory of gravity, where we conclude that infinite derivatives can eliminate the external momentum divergences of scattering diagrams and make the scattering diagrams convergent in the ultraviolet.



$$\text{---} \circ \text{---} = \text{---} + \text{---} \bullet \text{---} + \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \bullet \text{---} + \dots$$

# Conclusions

- **We have constructed a Ghost Free & Singularity Free Theory of Gravity around Constant Curvature Backgrounds.**
- **Studying singularity theorems, Hawking radiation, Non-Singular Bouncing Cosmology , ....., many interesting problems can be studied in this framework.**
- **Holography is not a property of UV, becomes part of an IR effect.**
- **Quantum computations also show that Infinite Derivative Gravity can ameliorate UV behaviour.**
- **Ultra-High energy graviton scatterings do not blow up.**

**All these consequences have ramifications for  
Inflation & Quantum aspects of Gravity**

# Extra Slides

# Does Higgs Play a Role During Inflation with Einstein Gravity ?

$$S \sim \int \sqrt{g} d^4x \left[ R + \xi R H^2 + \dots \right]$$

$$\xi \sim \mathcal{O}(10^3 - 10^4)$$

$$S \sim \int \sqrt{g} d^4x \left[ R + \alpha_1 R^2 + \alpha_2 R^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu} + \alpha_3 R^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} R_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \right]$$

**Higgs is Lost in the Myriad of Gravitational Terms !!!!**

**SM Higgs or 750 GeV Scalar at best plays a role of a Curvaton, but not as an Inflaton**

# Big Bounce & Cosmological Constant

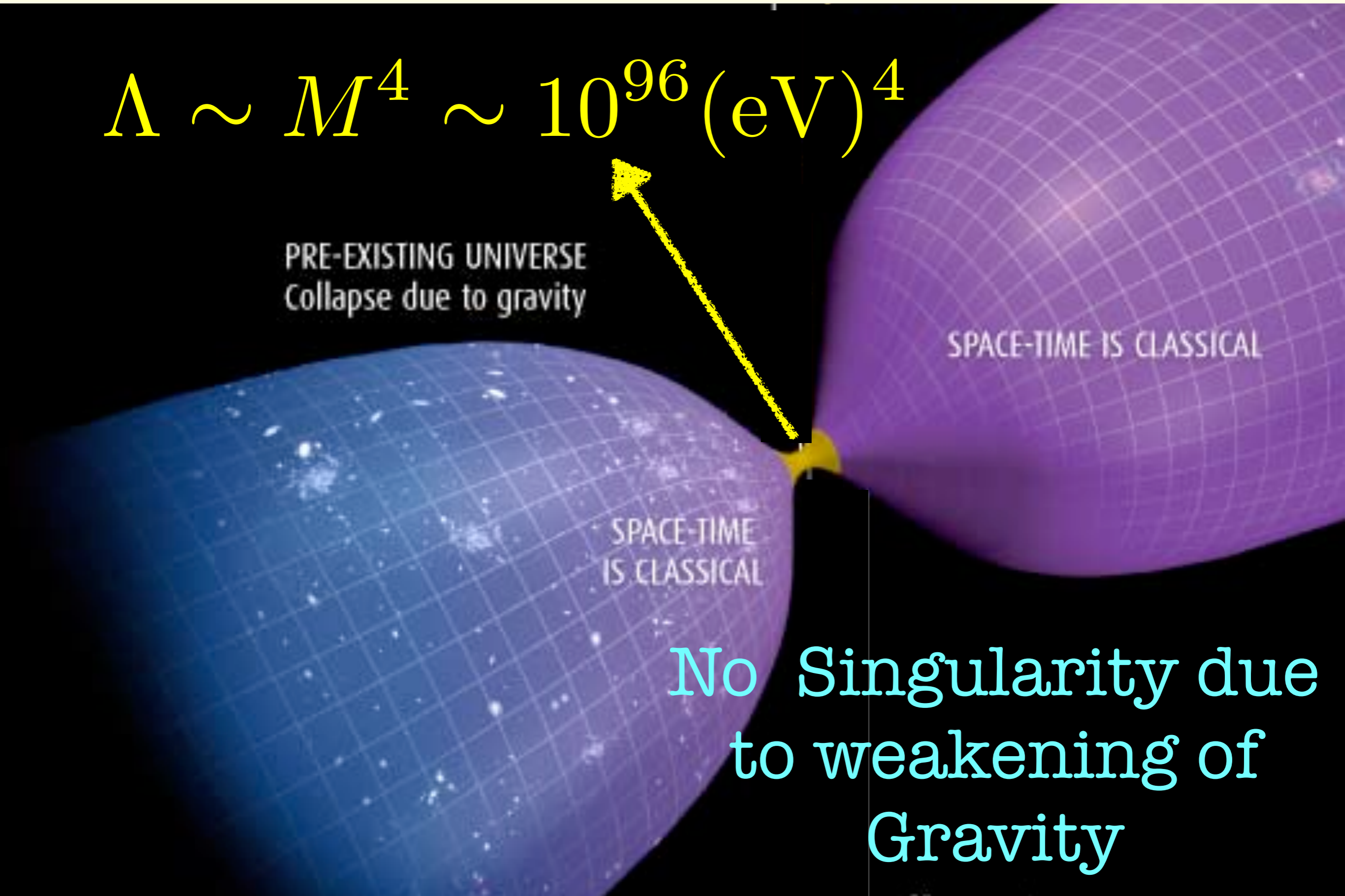
$$\Lambda \sim M^4 \sim 10^{96} (\text{eV})^4$$

PRE-EXISTING UNIVERSE  
Collapse due to gravity

SPACE-TIME IS CLASSICAL

SPACE-TIME  
IS CLASSICAL

No Singularity due  
to weakening of  
Gravity



# Gravitational Entropy for (A) dS

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G_D} \int d^D x \sqrt{-g} \left[ R - 2\Lambda + \alpha \left( R\mathcal{F}_1 R + R_{\mu\nu}\mathcal{F}_2 R^{\mu\nu} + R_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}\mathcal{F}_3 R^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \right) \right]$$

$$\Lambda = \pm \frac{(D-1)(D-2)}{2\ell^2}$$

$$ds^2 = -f(r)dt^2 + f(r)^{-1}dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega^2$$

$$f(r) = \left( 1 \mp \frac{r}{\ell^2} \right)$$

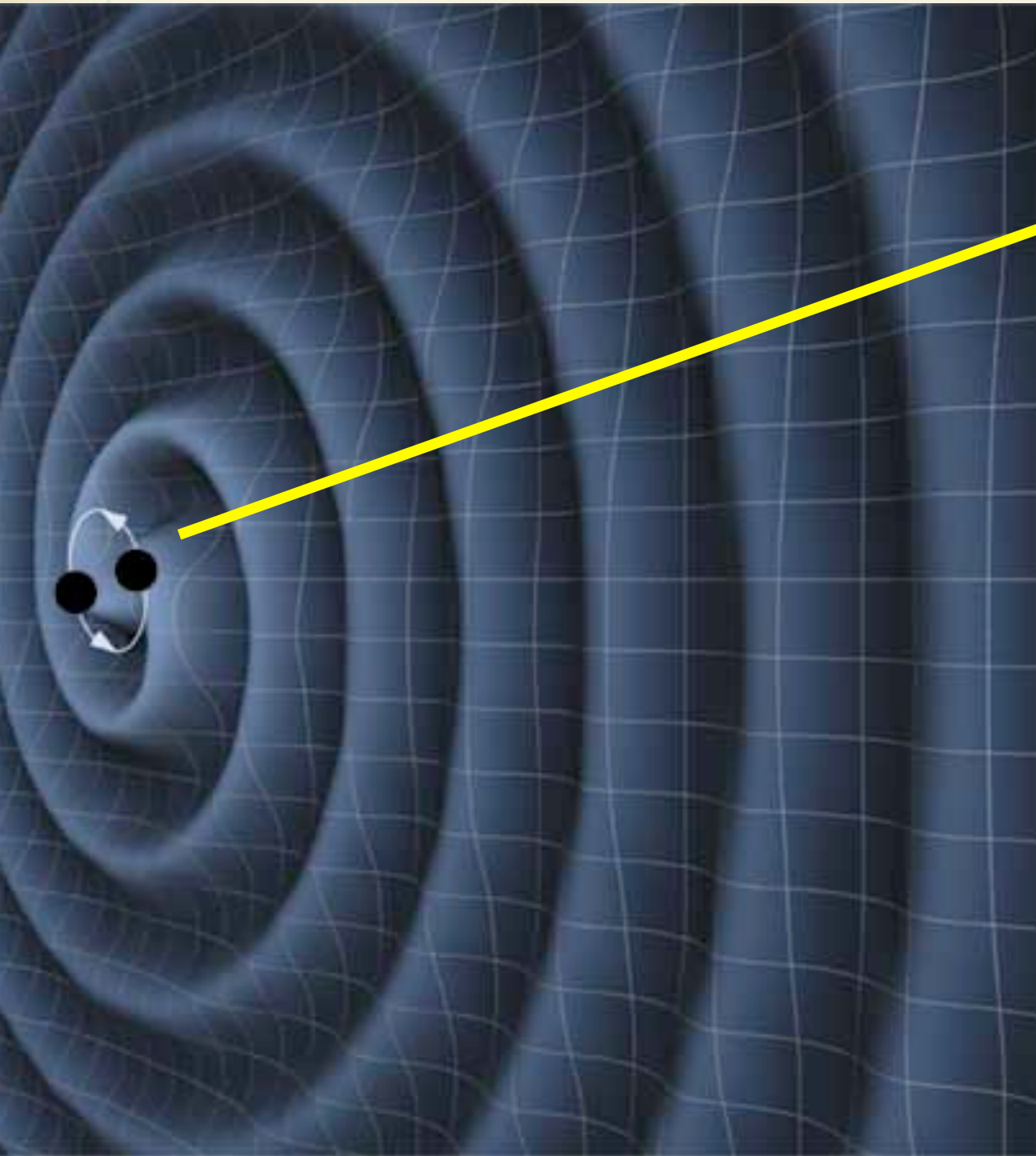
$$S_W^{(A)dS} = \frac{A_H^{(A)dS}}{4G_D} \left( 1 \pm \frac{2\alpha}{\ell^2} (f_{1_0} D(D-1) + f_{2_0} (D-1) + 2f_{3_0}) \right)$$

For  $+$   $\alpha$ , dS entropy can be 0

**This has important consequences for a non-singular cosmology**



# Gravitational Waves



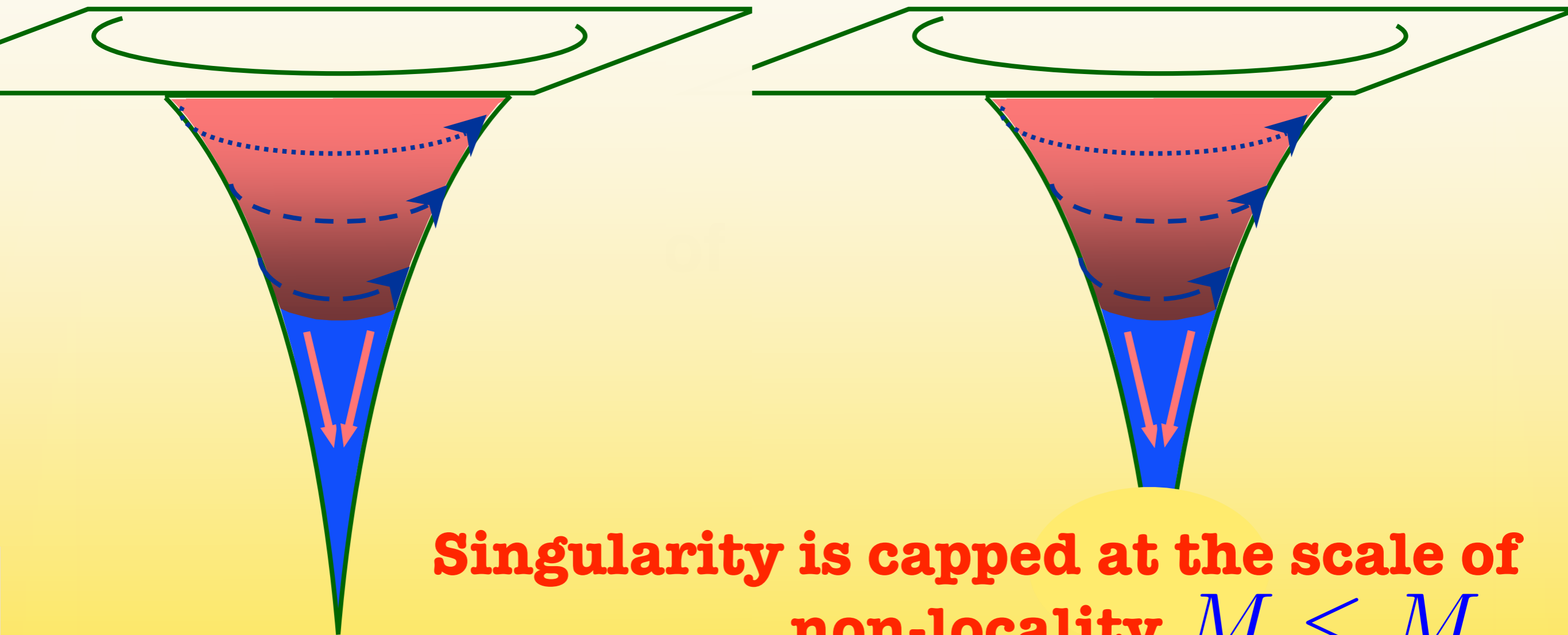
$$\bar{h}_{jk} \approx G \frac{\omega^2 (ML^2)}{r}$$

Large  $r$   
limit

$$\bar{h}_{jk} \approx G \frac{\omega^2 (ML^2)}{r} \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{r M_P}{2} \right)$$

$r \implies 0$ , **No Singularity**

# Where would you expect the modifications?



**Singularity is capped at the scale of non-locality  $M \leq M_p$**

# Remnants of stringy Gravity

$M_p$

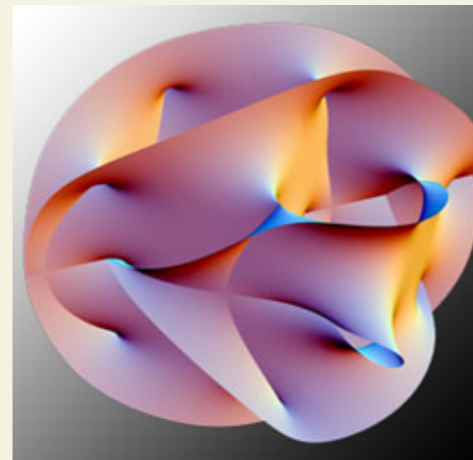
$$\mathcal{L}^{10d} \sim R + R^4 + \dots \quad \kappa^2 = g_s^2 (\alpha')^4$$

Perturbative string theory has  $\alpha'$  &  $g_s$  corrections

For all orders : String field theory

$m_W$

$m_s$



$m_{KK}$

$$\mathcal{L}^{4d} \sim R + \sum_i c_i R \left( \frac{\square}{m_{kk}} \right)^i R + \dots$$

1 – loop in  $g_s$  all orders in  $\alpha'$

**Loop quantum gravity**  
**or**  
**Dynamical Triangulation approach**



**Wilson loops**



**Non-local objects**

**It would be interesting to establish the connection**