

# Cosmology of multiscale spacetimes

*based on*  
arXiv:1307.6382

Gianluca Calcagni

Instituto de Estructura de la Materia (IEM) – CSIC



September 26th, 2013

# 01/27– Dimensional flow in quantum gravity

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- **Noncommutative geometry** [[Connes 2006; Benedetti 2008; Alesci & Arzano 2012](#)]; • **CDT** [[Ambjørn, Jurkiewicz & Loll 2005; Benedetti & Henson 2009](#)];
- **Spin foams** [[Modesto \(et al.\) 2008–10](#)]; • **AS** [[Lauscher & Reuter 2005; Reuter & Saueressig 2011; G.C. et al. 2013](#)]; • **HL gravity** [[Hořava 2008,2009](#)].

## 02/27– Field theory on multiscale spacetimes

- Formalism describing this and other features of QG theories with an **alternative toolbox** from multifractal geometry, transport and probability theory, complex systems. (Exceptions in ordinary HEP are the **rule**.)

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- Various works in 2009-2013 (also with M. Arzano, A. Eichhorn, J. Magueijo, G. Nardelli, D. Oriti, D. Rodríguez, F. Saueressig, M. Scalisi).

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- ➌ Work out dynamics with usual variational principle and techniques.
- ➍ **Differs** from **ST theories** ( $v$  is not a Lorentzian scalar field) and **unimodular gravity** (metric structure is fully dynamical).

# 04/27– Measures

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- Action measure  $d\varrho(x) = d^Dx v(x) = d^Dq(x)$ . **General factorizable measures:**

$$v(\ell_n, x) = \prod_{\mu=0}^{D-1} v_\mu(\ell_n, x^\mu), \quad v_\mu(\ell_n, x^\mu) \geq 0.$$

## 05/27– Example 1: Fractional measure

Represents random fractals.

$$\mathbf{d}\varrho_\alpha(x) = \mathbf{d}^D x v_\alpha(x) = \mathbf{d}^D x \prod_\mu \frac{|x^\mu|^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)}$$

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“Geometric” coordinates:

$$q^\mu := \varrho_\alpha(x^\mu) = \frac{\operatorname{sgn}(x^\mu)|x^\mu|^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{d}\varrho_\alpha = \mathbf{d}^D q$$

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Scaling property:

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Same result obtained via self-similarity theorem or via operational definition as the scaling of the volume of a  $D$ -ball of radius  $R$ :  $\mathcal{V}^{(D)}(R) = \int_{D\text{-ball}} d\varrho_\alpha(x) \propto R^{D\alpha}$ .

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Scale-dependent Hausdorff dimension. Simplest (but not toy) model, two terms (binomial measure):

$$I_D = I_D^{\alpha_1} + \ell_*^{D(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)} I_D^{\alpha_2}, \quad [I_D] = -D\alpha_1, \quad \frac{1}{2} \leq \alpha_1 < \alpha_2 \leq 1.$$

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$$\mathcal{V}^{(D)}(R) = \ell_*^{D\alpha_1} \left[ \Omega_{D,\alpha_1} \left( \frac{R}{\ell_*} \right)^{D\alpha_1} + \Omega_{D,\alpha_2} \left( \frac{R}{\ell_*} \right)^{D\alpha_2} \right].$$

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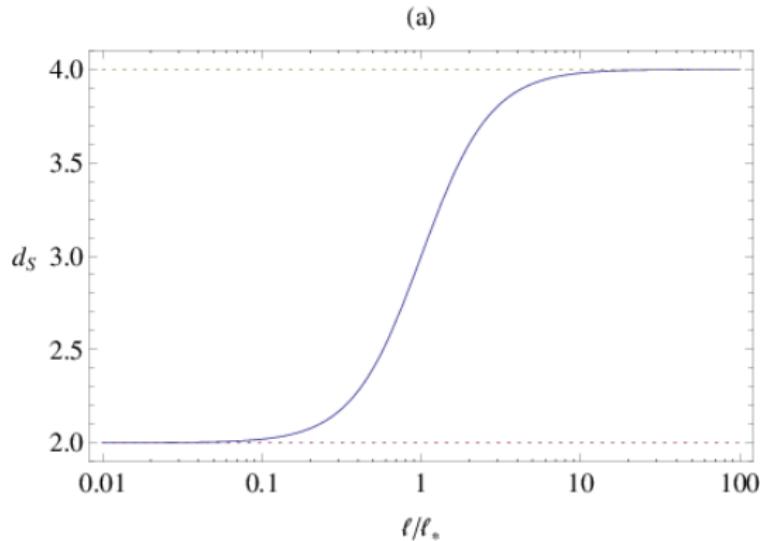
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$$R \ll \ell_* : \quad \mathcal{V}^{(D)} \sim R^{D\alpha_1}$$

$$R \gg \ell_* : \quad \mathcal{V}^{(D)} \sim \tilde{R}^{D\alpha_2}, \quad \tilde{R} = R \ell_*^{-1 + \alpha_1/\alpha_2}$$

## 07/27– Example 2: Multifractional measure



## 08/27 – Example 3: Log-oscillating measure

$$\varrho_\alpha(x) \rightarrow \varrho_{\alpha,\omega} = c_+ |x|^{\alpha+i\omega} + c_- |x|^{\alpha-i\omega}, \quad \omega \geq 0.$$

## 08/27– Example 3: Log-oscillating measure

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Summing over  $\alpha, \omega$  and imposing  $S$  to be real,

$$S = \int d\varrho(x) \mathcal{L}, \quad d\varrho(x) = \prod_\mu \left[ \sum_n g_n \sum_\omega d\varrho_{\alpha_n, \omega}(x^\mu) \right]$$

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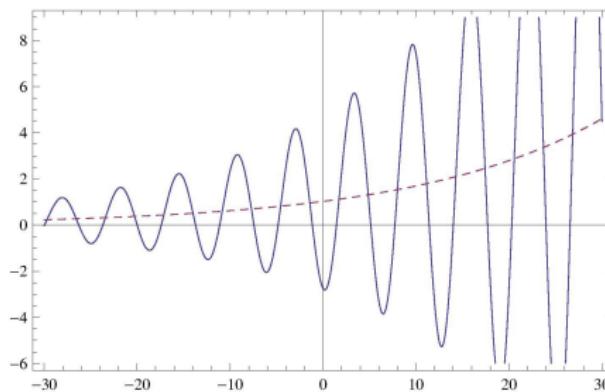
where

$$\varrho_{\alpha,\omega}(x) = \frac{x^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \left[ 1 + A_{\alpha,\omega} \cos \left( \omega \ln \frac{|x|}{\ell_\infty} \right) + B_{\alpha,\omega} \sin \left( \omega \ln \frac{|x|}{\ell_\infty} \right) \right]$$

$A_{\alpha,\omega}$  and  $B_{\alpha,\omega} \in \mathbb{R}$ . Form of measure also dictated by fractal geometry arguments.

## 08/27– Example 3: Log-oscillating measure

Represents deterministic (multi)fractals.



09/27-

## Example 3: Discrete scale invariance

Oscillatory part of  $\varrho$  **log-periodic** under the transformation

$$\ln \frac{|x|}{\ell_\infty} \rightarrow \ln \frac{|x|}{\ell_\infty} + \frac{2\pi n}{\omega}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

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**DSIs** appear in **chaotic** systems [Sornette 1998].

## 10/27 – Example: scalar field

$$S = \int d^Dx v(x) \left[ -\frac{1}{2}\phi \mathcal{K} \phi - V(\phi) \right].$$

The symmetries of  $\mathcal{L}$  determine the Laplace–Beltrami operator  $\mathcal{K}$

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- Ordinary Laplacian:  $\mathcal{K} = \partial_\mu \partial^\mu$ . Difficult QM and QFT because  $\mathcal{K}^\dagger = \check{\mathcal{D}}^2 := \frac{1}{v} \partial_\mu \partial^\mu [v \cdot]$ .

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- Weighted Laplacian:  $\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{D}^2 := \frac{1}{\sqrt{v}} \partial_\mu \partial^\mu [\sqrt{v} \cdot] = \mathcal{K}^\dagger$ . Dual to previous model (share the *same* diffusion equation). Not a fractal ( $d_W \neq 2d_H/d_S$ ).

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- $q$ -Laplacian:  

$$\mathcal{K} = \square_q := \eta^{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial}{\partial q^\mu(x^\mu)} \frac{\partial}{\partial q^\nu(x^\nu)} = \eta^{\mu\nu} \frac{1}{v_\mu} \partial_\mu \left[ \frac{1}{v_\nu} \partial_\nu \cdot \right] = \mathcal{K}^\dagger.$$
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- Multifractional Laplacian:  

$$\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{K}_* := \eta^{\mu\nu} \left[ \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu^\gamma \partial_\nu^\gamma + \infty \bar{\partial}_\mu^\gamma \infty \bar{\partial}_\nu^\gamma) \cdot \right] = \mathcal{K}_*^\dagger.$$

## 12/27 – Scales hierarchy

- *Boundary-effect regime* ( $\ell \sim \ell_\infty$ ).  $|x|/\ell_\infty \sim 1$ ,  $\varrho(x) \sim \ln|x|$ , natural relation with  $\kappa$ -Minkowski noncommutative spacetimes ( $\ell_\infty = \ell_{\text{Pl}}$ ).
- *Oscillatory transient regime* ( $\ell_\omega = \lambda_\omega \ell_\infty < \ell \ll \ell_*$ ). Notion of dim. and vol. ambiguous unless averaged. **DSI**.
- *Multifractional regime* ( $\ell_\omega \ll \ell \lesssim \ell_*$ ). Mesoscopic scales, average of the measure:  
 $\varrho_\alpha(x) := \langle \varrho_{\alpha,\omega}(x) \rangle \propto |x|^\alpha$ ,  $d\varrho(x) \sim \sum_\alpha g_\alpha d\varrho_\alpha(x)$ . Dimensional flow. **Continuous symmetries (affinities) emerge.**
- *Classical regime* ( $\ell \gg \ell_*$ ). Ordinary Poincaré-invariant field theory on Minkowski spacetime recovered,  
 $\varrho(x) \sim \varrho_1(x) = x$ . Dim. of spacetime is  $d_H = d_S = 4 - \epsilon$ .

## 13/27 – Status

	$\square, \square^\dagger$	$\mathcal{D}^2$	$\square_q$	$\mathcal{K}_*$
Momentum transform	X?	✓	✓	?
Relativistic mechanics	✓	✓	✓	?
Perturbative field theory	✓?	✓	✓?	✓?
Symmetries and dynamics of scalar (Q)FT	?	✓	✓	?
Scalar QFT propagator	?	✓	✓?	✓?
Electrodynamics	?	✓	✓	?
Perturbative renormalizability	?	X	X	✓?
Avoids Collins <i>et al.</i>	?	✓	✓	?
Phenomenology (obs. constraints)	?	✓	?	?
Gravity	✓	?	?	?
Cosmology	✓?	✓	✓	?

## 14/27 – Characteristic landmarks

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- Only theory with  $q$  derivatives: What expected in a “covariant” description of a fractal: nontrivial geometric and **differential** structure at all points. Vielbeins move the measure “hole” around and maintain the anomalous scaling properties.
- Should be able to describe a sensible cosmology in an economic way: **bounce** and **alternatives to inflation**, big-bang and  $\Lambda$  problems **reinterpreted**.

## 15/27 – Action: Will o' the WIST

$$\beta \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho[g] := \tfrac{1}{2} g^{\rho\sigma} (\beta \mathcal{D}_\mu g_{\nu\sigma} + \beta \mathcal{D}_\nu g_{\mu\sigma} - \beta \mathcal{D}_\sigma g_{\mu\nu}), \quad \beta \mathcal{D} = v^{-\beta} \partial[v^\beta \cdot]$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{\mu\sigma\nu}^\rho := \partial_\sigma \beta \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho - \partial_\nu \beta \Gamma_{\mu\sigma}^\rho + {}^\beta \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\tau {}^\beta \Gamma_{\sigma\tau}^\rho - {}^\beta \Gamma_{\mu\sigma}^\tau {}^\beta \Gamma_{\nu\tau}^\rho$$

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Length of vectors changes under parallel transport:

$$\nabla_\sigma g_{\mu\nu} = W_\sigma g_{\mu\nu}, \quad W_\mu = \partial_\mu \Phi, \quad \Phi := \ln v^\beta.$$

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$$\begin{aligned} S &:= \frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int d^D x v \sqrt{-g} [\mathcal{R} - \omega \mathcal{D}_\mu v \mathcal{D}_\nu v - U(v)] + S_m \\ &= \frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int d^D x e^{\frac{1}{\beta}\Phi} \sqrt{-g} \left( \mathcal{R} - \frac{9\omega}{4\beta^2} e^{\frac{2}{\beta}\Phi} \partial_\mu \Phi \partial^\mu \Phi - U \right) + S_m . \end{aligned}$$

16/27 –  $D = 4$  Einstein and Friedmann equations

Einstein frame:  $\bar{g}_{\mu\nu} = e^{\Phi} g_{\mu\nu}$ .  $\Omega = (9\omega/4)e^{2\Phi} - 3/2$ .

$$\kappa^2 \bar{T}_{\mu\nu} = \bar{R}_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} (\bar{R} - e^{-\Phi} U) - \Omega \left( \partial_\mu \Phi \partial_\nu \Phi + \frac{1}{2} \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} \partial_\sigma \Phi \bar{\partial}^\sigma \Phi \right)$$

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## Cosmology:

$$H^2 = \frac{\kappa^2}{3} \bar{\rho} + \frac{\Omega}{2} \frac{\dot{v}^2}{v^2} + \frac{U(v)}{6v} - \frac{\kappa}{a^2},$$

$$2\dot{H} - \frac{2\kappa}{a^2} + \kappa^2(\bar{\rho} + \bar{P}) = -\Omega \frac{\dot{v}^2}{v^2}.$$

17/27 – Flat vacuum solution ( $\rho = P = K = 0 = \omega$ )

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Scale factor (always superacceleration)

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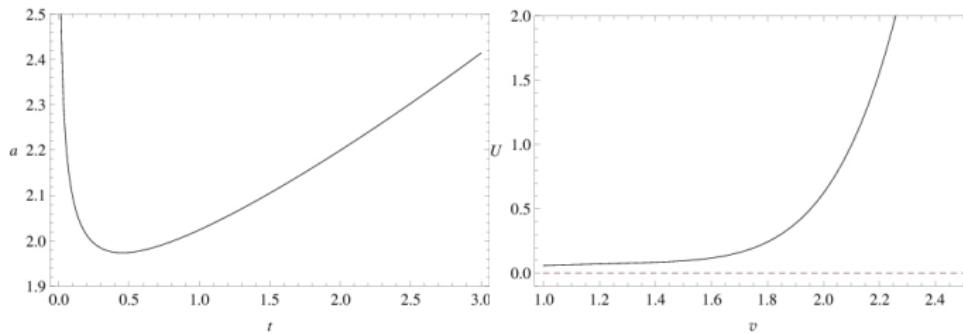
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Scale factor ([always superacceleration](#))

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## Minimum of the ‘potential’ $U$ at late times

$$U_{\min} = U(v=1) = 6H_0^2.$$

17/27 – Flat vacuum solution ( $\rho = P = K = 0 = \omega$ )

## 18/27 – Frames and fractals

- **Inertial frames** clearly interpreted: Multiscale frames map a curvilinear coordinate system to the Cartesian one *with the same measure structure*.

$$e_\mu^J := \frac{v(x^J)}{v(x'^\mu)} \bar{e}_\mu^J = \frac{v(x^J)}{v(x'^\mu)} \frac{\partial x^J}{\partial x'^\mu} = \frac{\partial q^J}{\partial q'^\mu}.$$

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- Line element and metric:

$$\mathrm{d}s^2 := g_{\mu\nu} \mathrm{d}q^\mu \otimes \mathrm{d}q^\nu, \quad g_{\mu\nu} := \eta_{IJ} e_\mu^I e_\nu^J \not\propto \bar{g}_{\mu\nu}.$$

## 18/27 – Frames and fractals

- **Inertial frames** clearly interpreted: Multiscale frames map a curvilinear coordinate system to the Cartesian one *with the same measure structure*.

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$$ds^2 := g_{\mu\nu} dq^\mu \otimes dq^\nu, \quad g_{\mu\nu} := \eta_{IJ} e_\mu^I e_\nu^J \not\propto \bar{g}_{\mu\nu}.$$

- Gravity and cosmology easy to work out via  $x \rightarrow q(x)$  mapping.

## 19/27 – Action and Einstein equations

$${}^q\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho := \frac{1}{2}g^{\rho\sigma} \left( \frac{1}{v_\mu} \partial_\mu g_{\nu\sigma} + \frac{1}{v_\nu} \partial_\nu g_{\mu\sigma} - \frac{1}{v_\sigma} \partial_\sigma g_{\mu\nu} \right) ,$$

$${}^qR_{\mu\sigma\nu}^\rho := \frac{1}{v_\sigma} \partial_\sigma {}^q\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho - \frac{1}{v_\nu} \partial_\nu {}^q\Gamma_{\mu\sigma}^\rho + {}^q\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\tau {}^q\Gamma_{\sigma\tau}^\rho - {}^q\Gamma_{\mu\sigma}^\tau {}^q\Gamma_{\nu\tau}^\rho ,$$

Action:

$$S = \frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int d^Dx v \sqrt{-g} ({}^qR - 2\Lambda) + S_m ,$$

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Einstein equations:

$${}^qR_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}({}^qR - 2\Lambda) = \kappa^2 {}^qT_{\mu\nu}.$$

## 20/27 – Cosmology

$$\frac{H^2}{v^2} = \frac{\kappa^2}{3} \rho + \frac{\Lambda}{3} - \frac{\kappa}{a^2},$$
$$\dot{\rho} + 3H(\rho + P) = 0.$$

Ordinary slow-roll approximation unnecessary.

## 20/27 – Cosmology

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Ordinary slow-roll approximation unnecessary.  
Geometric time coordinate

$$q(t) = \int^t dt' v(t') .$$

## 21/27 – “Power-law” solutions

$$\rho = \rho_0 a^{-\frac{2}{p}}, \quad a(t) = \left[ \frac{q(t)}{t_*} \right]^p, \quad p := \frac{2}{(D-1)(1+w)},$$

Hubble parameter

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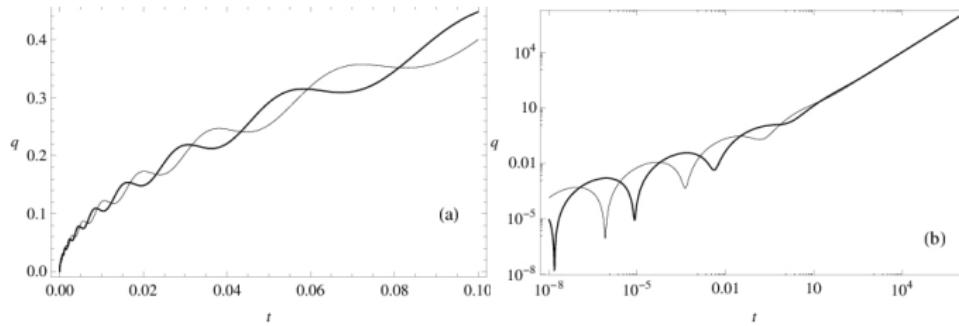
$$H = p \frac{\dot{q}(t)}{q(t)} = p \frac{v(t)}{q(t)}.$$

From now on choose **log-oscillating measure**

$$q(t) = t + t_* \left( \frac{t}{t_*} \right)^\alpha F_\omega(\ln t),$$

$$F_\omega(\ln t) = 1 + A \cos \left[ \omega \ln \left( \frac{t}{t_{\text{Pl}}} \right) \right] + B \sin \left[ \omega \ln \left( \frac{t}{t_{\text{Pl}}} \right) \right].$$

## 22/27 – Geometric coordinate



$H = 0$  at peaks and troughs, log-oscillations end after some time.

## 23/27 – e-folds and cycles

Fully **analytic** properties.

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Slope of an expanding/contracting phase:

$$\delta_{\uparrow} \approx p \left( \alpha + \frac{\omega}{\pi} \ln \frac{1+A}{1-A} \right) > p , \quad \delta_{\downarrow} \approx p \left( \alpha - \frac{\omega}{\pi} \ln \frac{1+A}{1-A} \right) .$$

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Average slope of the trend of minima (or maxima):

$$\delta_{\uparrow\downarrow} = \frac{\ln(a_{m+1}/a_m)}{\ln(t_{m+1}/t_m)} = \mathcal{N}_{\uparrow\downarrow} \frac{\omega}{2\pi} \approx p\alpha.$$

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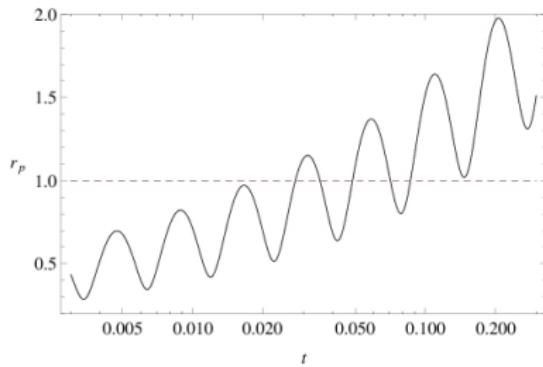
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Net number of e-foldings per cycle:

$$\mathcal{N}_{\uparrow\downarrow} := \ln \frac{a_{m+1}}{a_m} = (\delta_{\uparrow} + \delta_{\downarrow}) \frac{\pi}{\omega} \approx \frac{2\pi\alpha p}{\omega}.$$

24/27 – Alternative to inflation? ( $0 < p < 1$ )

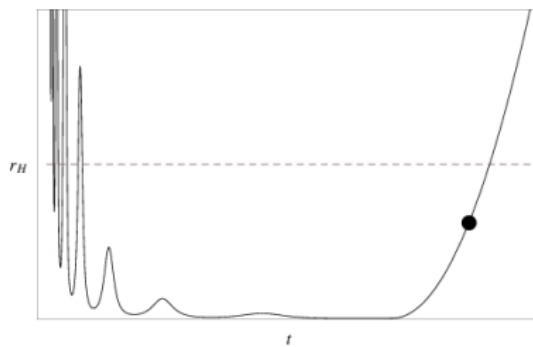
Horizon problem solved without invoking acceleration-inducing matter: particle horizon **shrinks** because of geometry!



Flatness problem not solved, unfortunately.

25/27 – Cyclic mild inflation ( $p \gtrsim 1$ )

Horizon and flatness problem solved if **mildly** inflating matter is added.



## 26/27 – Inflationary spectrum, big bang

Scalar power spectrum:

$$P_s \sim \mathcal{A} \left( \frac{k}{k_*} \right)^{n_{\text{eff}} - 1} [F_\omega(\ln k)]^{1-n_s}, \quad n_{\text{eff}} - 1 = \alpha(n_s - 1).$$

Scale invariance without slow-roll approximation and  
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Scale invariance without slow-roll approximation and  
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Big bang removed by a homogeneous contribution to the  
measure (integration constant):

$$q(t) \rightarrow t_{\text{bb}} + q(t).$$

## 27/27 – Discussion

- Assuming the integro-differential structure of spacetime behaves as a **multifractal** leads to novel scenarios in particle physics and cosmology.
- Analytic cosmological solutions to be studies (stability, cosmic evolution with matter and radiation, etc.).
- Intriguing features purely **generated by geometry** (big bounces, acceleration without inflaton, alternative to inflation, mild inflation, cyclic cosmology).
- **Power spectra at hand!**

## 27/27 – Discussion

 $\varepsilon v \chi \alpha \rho \iota \sigma \tau \omega$  (thank you)!