

# NEARLY DE SITTER GRAVITY

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arXiv:1905.03780 (Cotler, KJ, Maloney)

see also arXiv:1904.01911 (Maldacena, Turiaci, Yang)

Non-Perturbative Methods in Quantum Field Theory

ICTP Trieste, 3 September 2019



# DE SITTER HOLOGRAPHY?

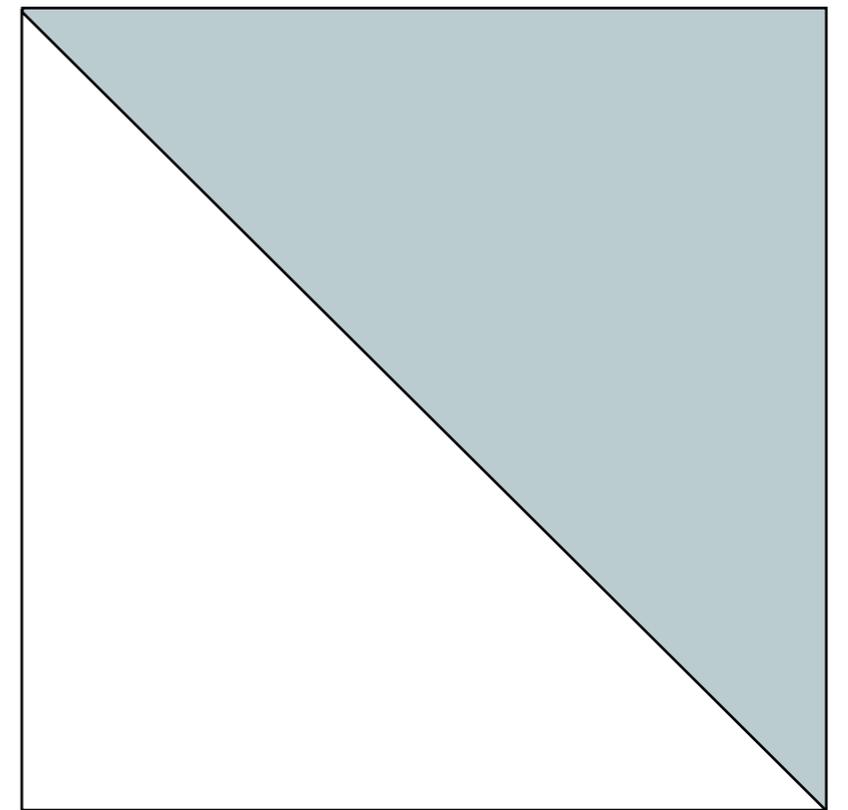
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By now we have a fairly good understanding of AdS holography: defined by a dual CFT.

$\mathcal{J}^+$

What about de Sitter?

"dS/CFT": a non-unitary CFT dual to an inflating patch.

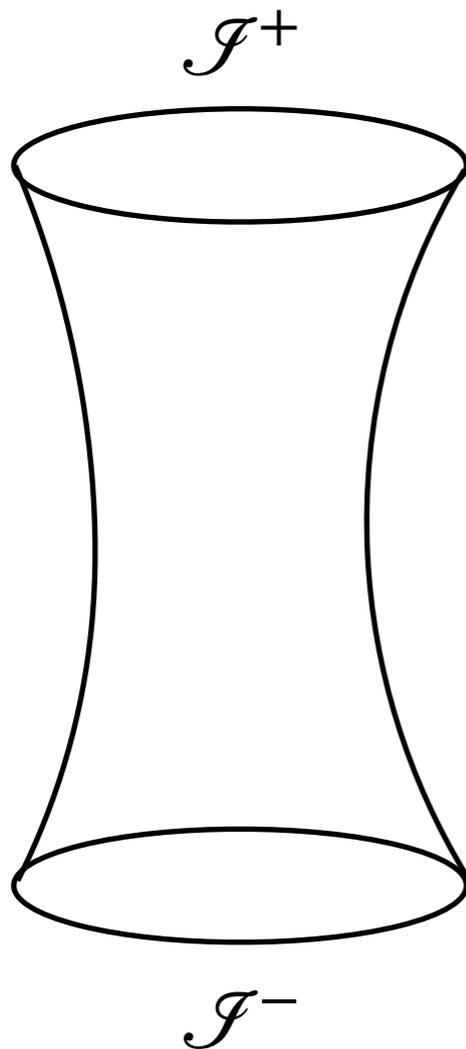


But basic observables of dS are transition amplitudes between infinite past and future ("metaobservables"). Is there a dual "CFT" which computes them?

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But basic observables of dS are transition amplitudes between infinite past and future ("metaobservables"). Is there a dual "CFT" which computes them?



$$= \langle g^+ | \mathcal{U} | g^- \rangle \stackrel{?}{=} \int [d\xi^+] [d\xi^-] e^{-S_{\text{CFT}}[\xi^+, \xi^-]}$$

## Immediate problem:

There are nonzero correlations between  $\mathcal{I}^+$  and  $\mathcal{I}^-$  without local interactions which couple the boundaries.

# JACKIW-TEITELBOIM GRAVITY

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Enter "JT" gravity, a toy model for 2d quantum gravity.

AdS version: [KJ] [Maldacena, Stanford, Yang] [Engelsöy, Mertens, Verlinde]

$$S_{\text{JT}} = -S_0\chi - \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^2x \sqrt{g} \varphi \left( R + \frac{2}{L^2} \right)$$

Usual Euler term

familiar from worldsheet  
string theory.

"Dilaton"

No bulk dof; however there is a  
boundary reparameterization mode.  
Loops can sometimes be summed to  
all orders in  $G$ . [Stanford, Witten]

# JACKIW-TEITELBOIM GRAVITY

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$$S_{\text{JT}} = S_0 \chi + \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^2x \sqrt{-g} \varphi \left( R - \frac{2}{L^2} \right)$$

There is also a version with positive cosmological constant.

“Nearly dS<sub>2</sub>” solutions: 
$$\begin{cases} ds^2 = -dt^2 + \cosh^2\left(\frac{t}{L}\right) dx^2 \\ \varphi = \frac{\sinh t}{\ell} \end{cases}$$

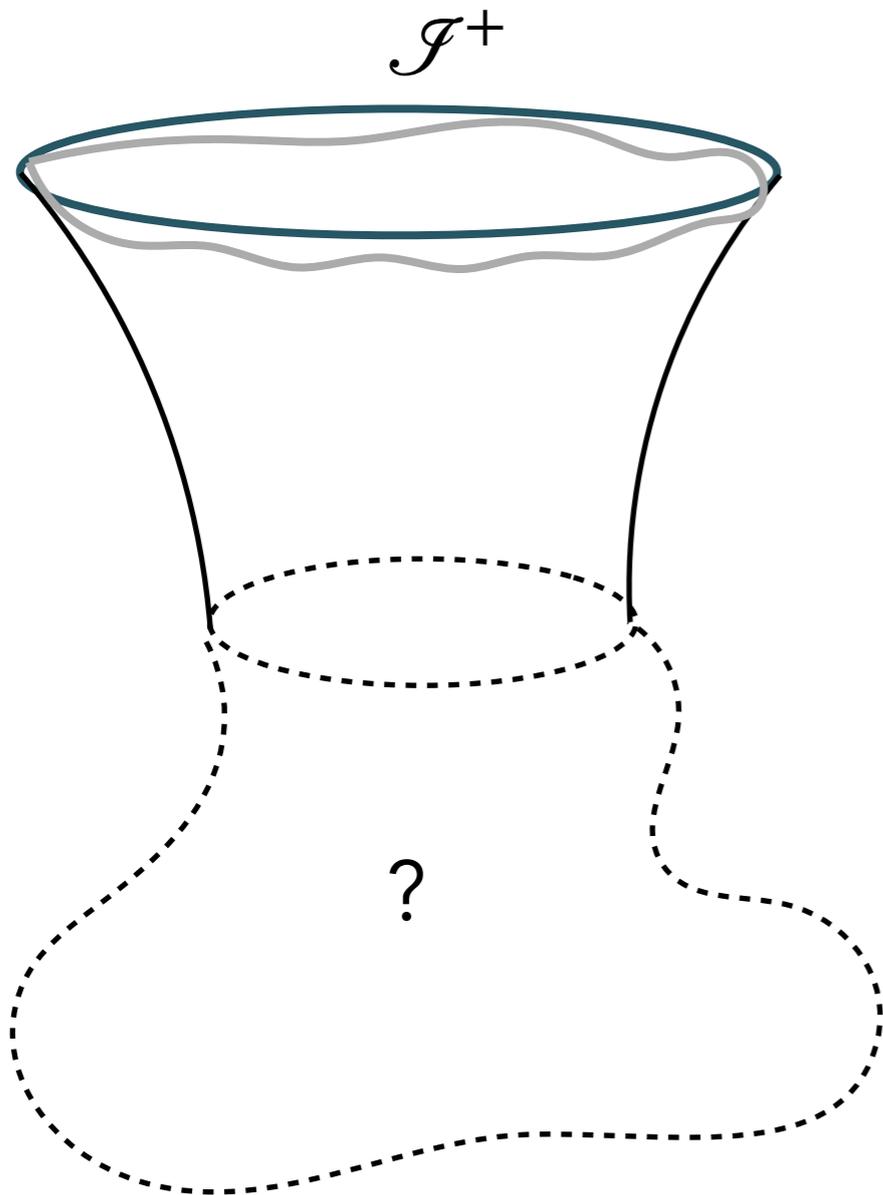
Gives us a theoretical laboratory to study dS quantum gravity.

GOAL: QUANTUM COSMOLOGY DONE RIGHT

# NO-BOUNDARY WAVEFUNCTION

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Consider the "disk" partition function:  $Z_{\text{HH}} \approx \langle \beta | \mathcal{U} | \emptyset \rangle$



Boundary conditions:

Smoothly caps off in the past

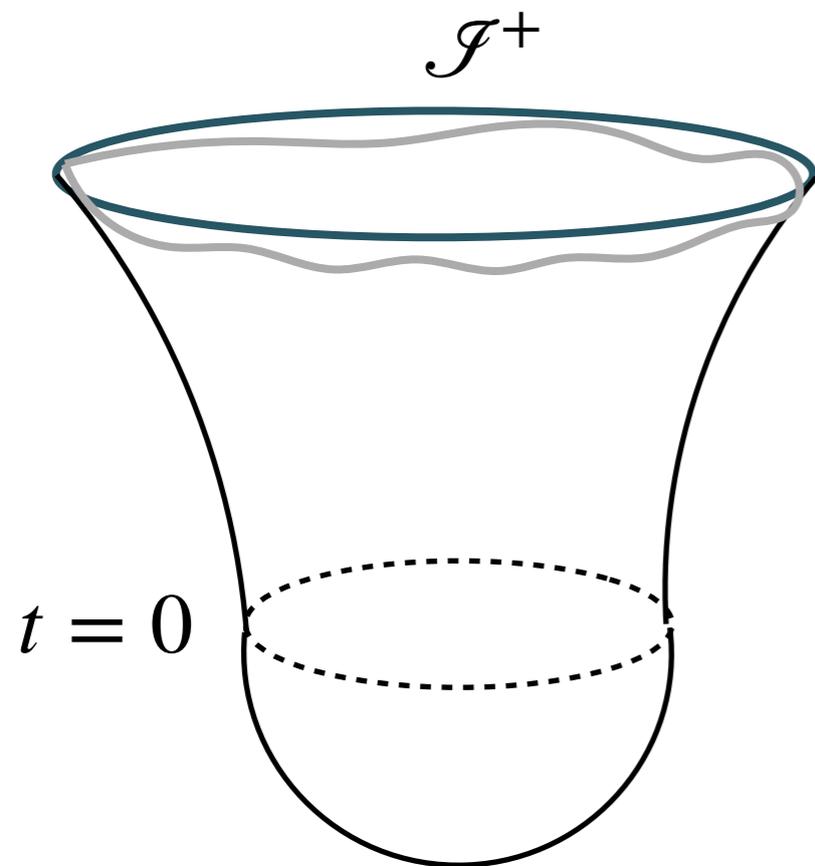
Near  $\mathcal{I}^+$  we have a cutoff slice  $\varepsilon$ ,

$$\begin{cases} dS^2 \approx \frac{dx^2}{\varepsilon^2}, & x \sim x + \beta, \\ \varphi \approx \frac{1}{J\varepsilon}, \end{cases}$$

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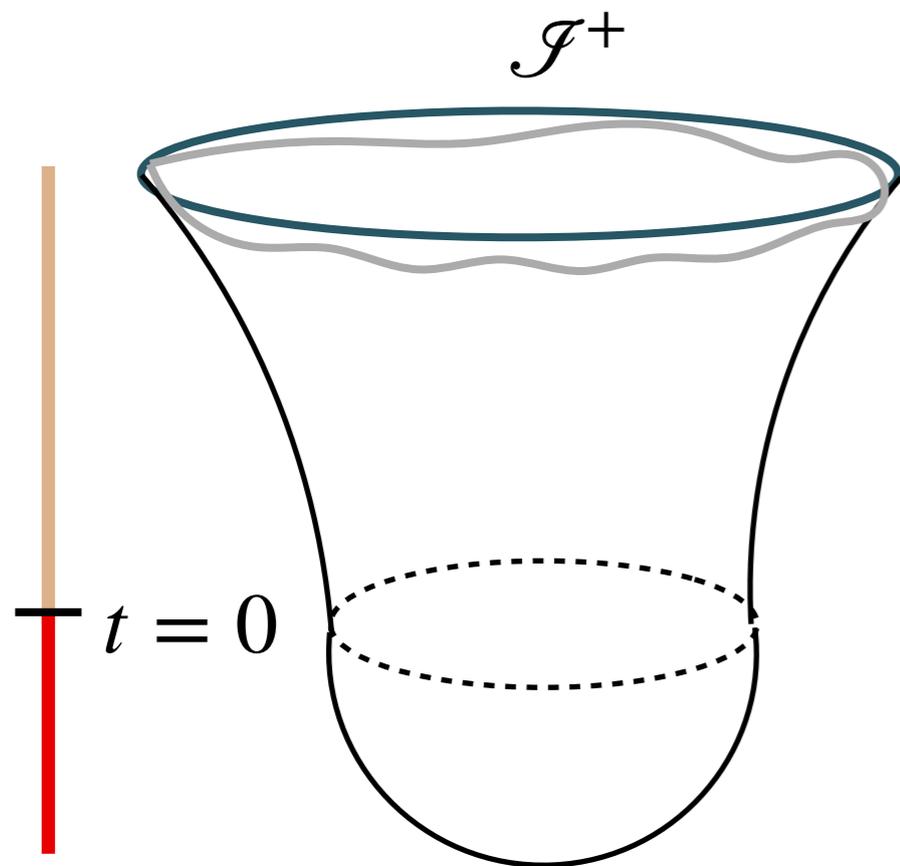
Classical solution is complex:

$$t \geq 0 : \begin{cases} ds^2 = -dt^2 + \cosh^2 t d\theta^2, \\ \varphi = \frac{2\pi}{\beta J} \sinh t, \end{cases}$$

$$\tau \in [0, \pi/2] : \begin{cases} ds^2 = d\tau^2 + \cos^2 \tau d\theta^2, \\ \varphi = -\frac{2\pi i}{\beta J} \sin \tau, \end{cases}$$

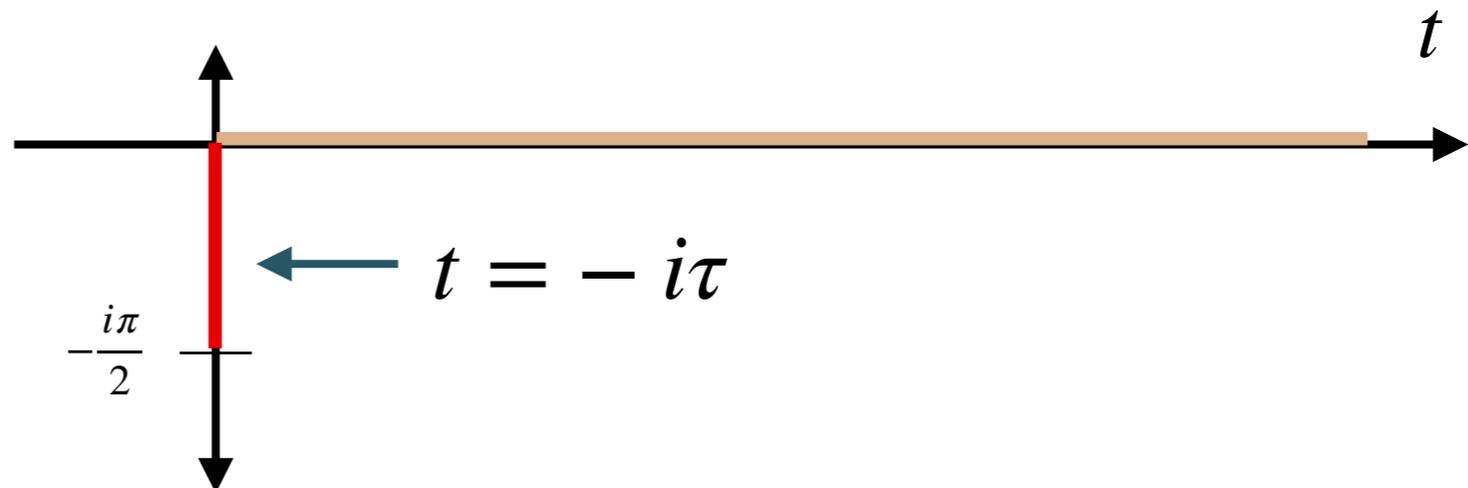
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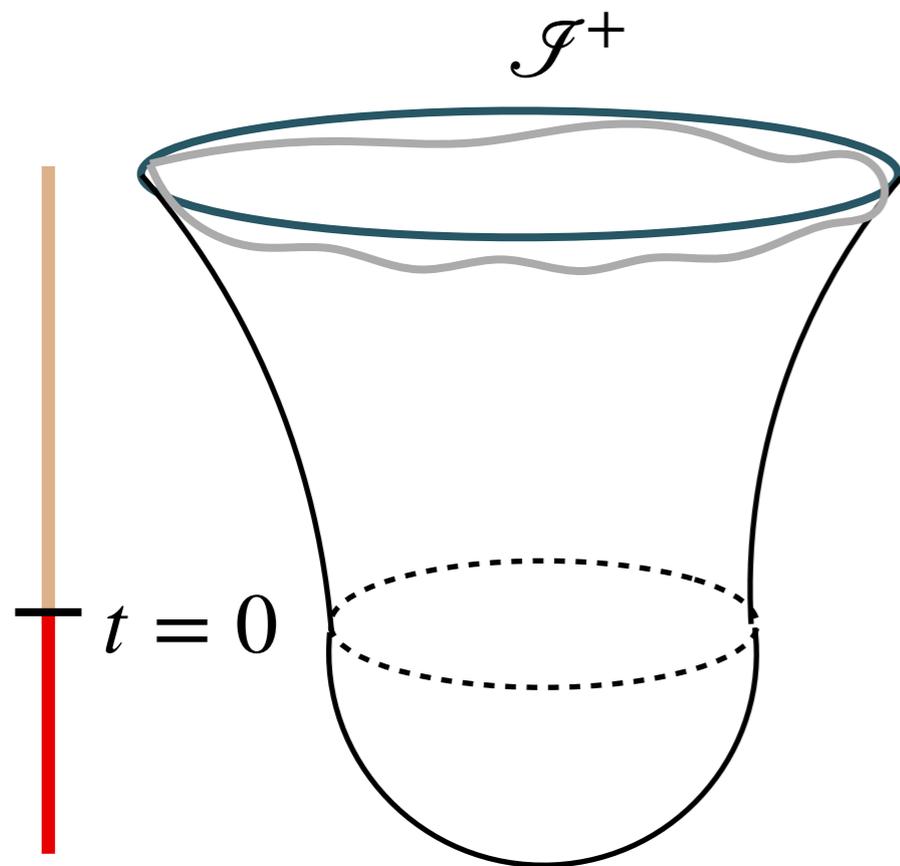
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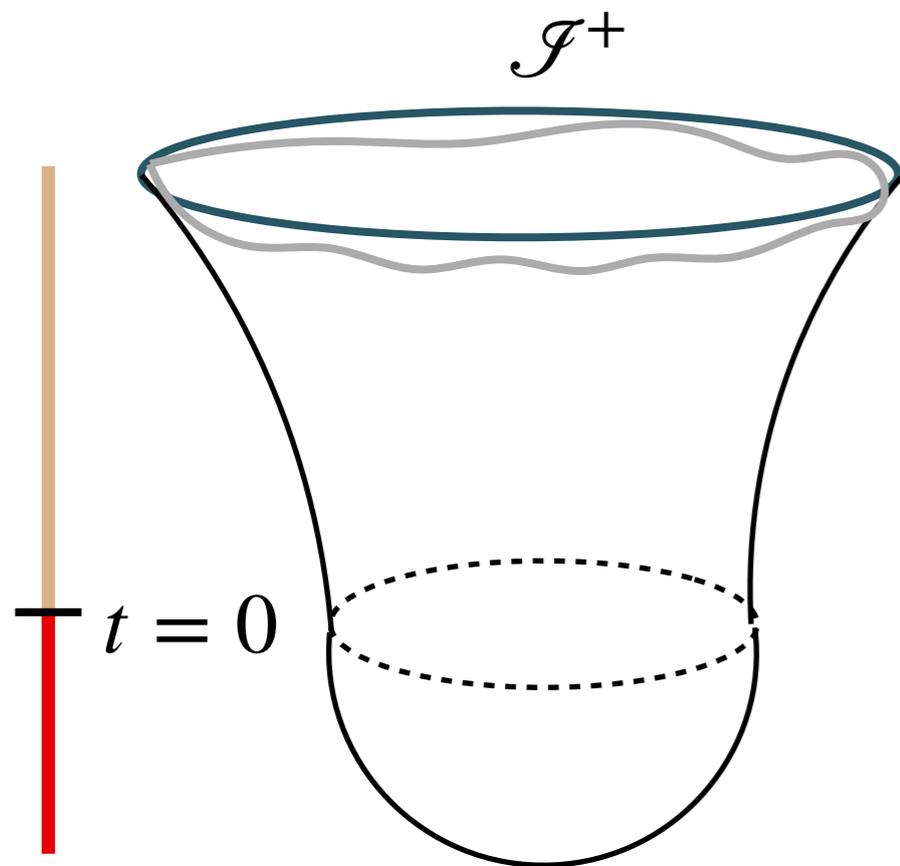
Consider the "disk" partition function:  $Z_{\text{HH}} \approx \langle \beta | \mathcal{U} | \emptyset \rangle$



$$S_{\text{JT}} = S_0 \chi + \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^2x \sqrt{-g} \varphi (R - 2) + \frac{1}{8\pi G} \int d\theta \sqrt{h} \varphi (K - 1)$$

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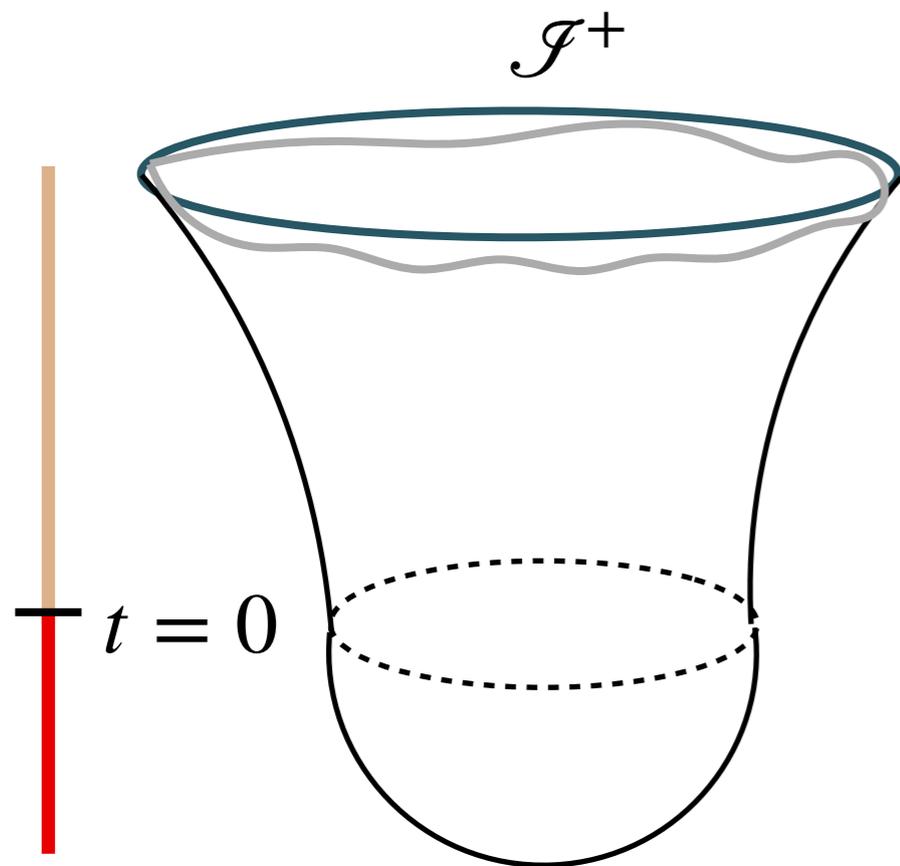


$$S_{\text{JT}} = S_0 + \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^2x \sqrt{-g} \varphi (R - 2) - iS_0 + \frac{1}{8\pi G} \int d\theta \sqrt{h} \varphi (K - 1)$$

# NO-BOUNDARY WAVEFUNCTION

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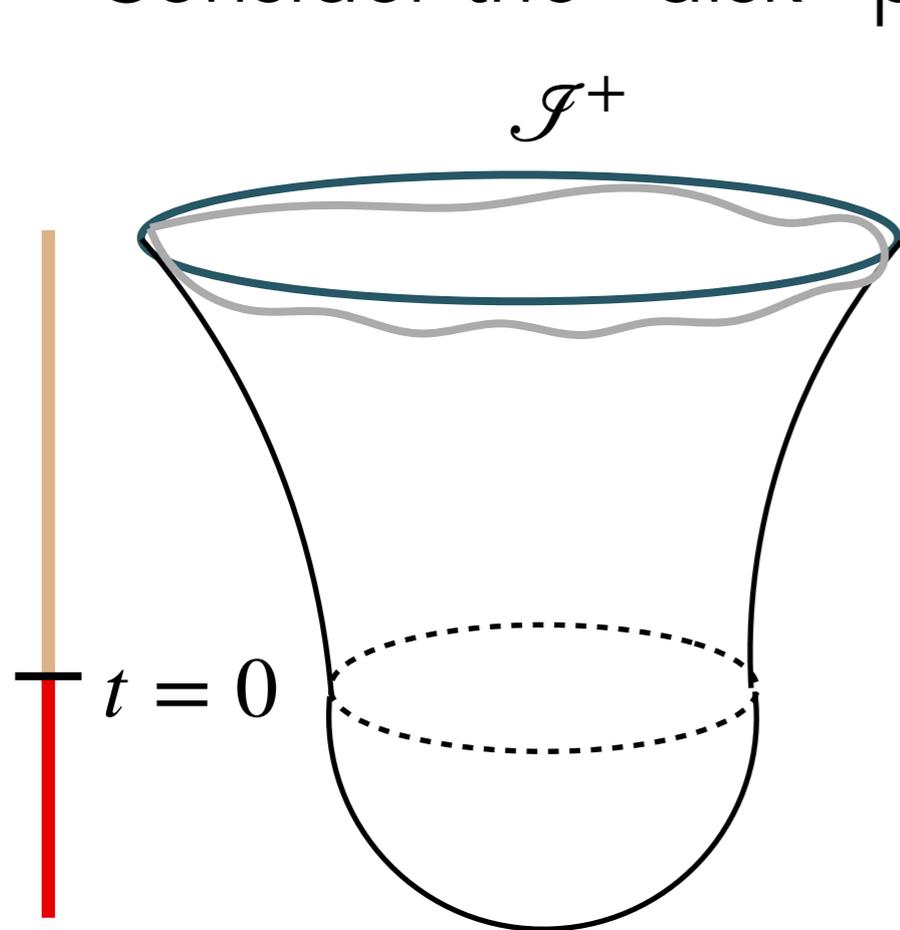
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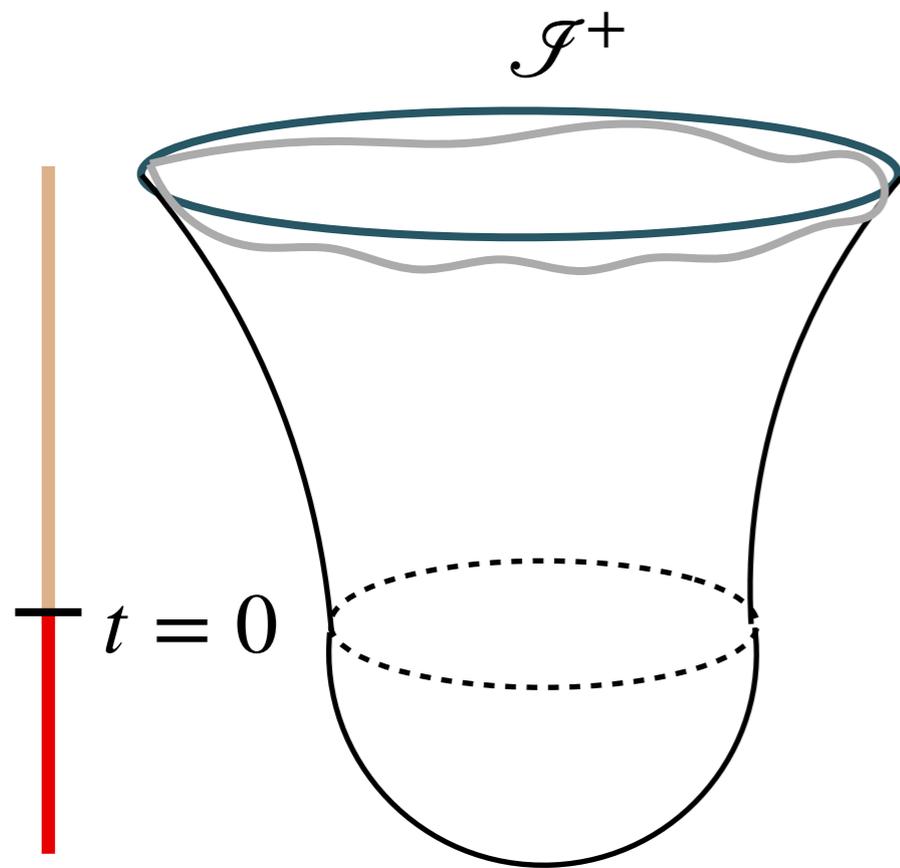
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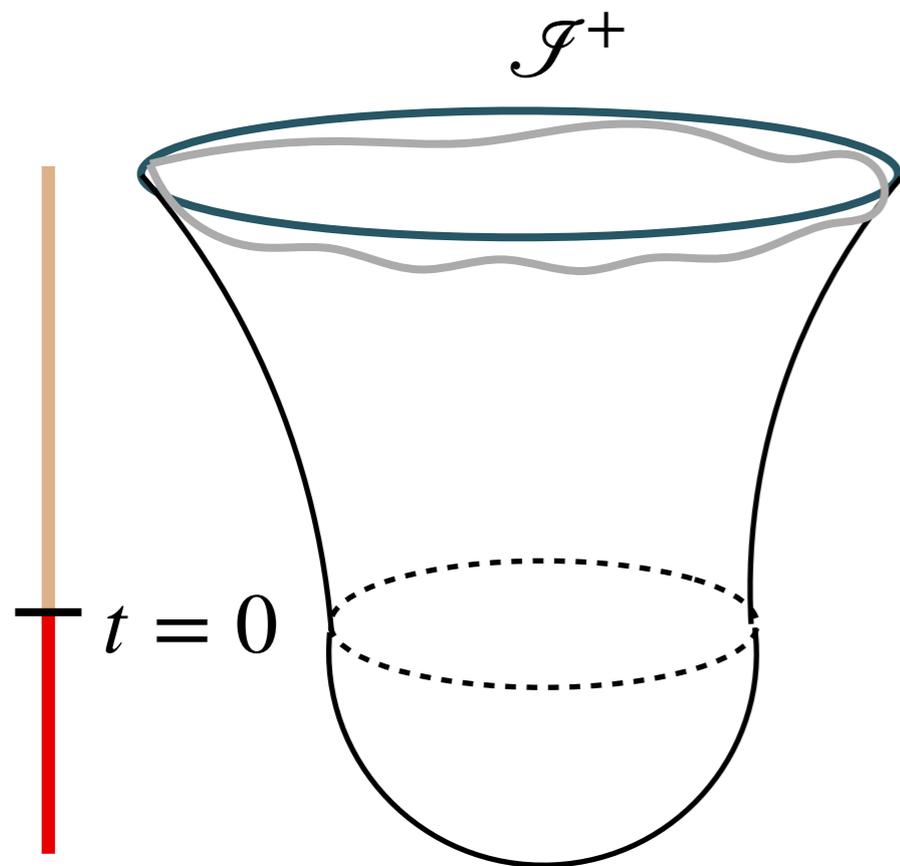


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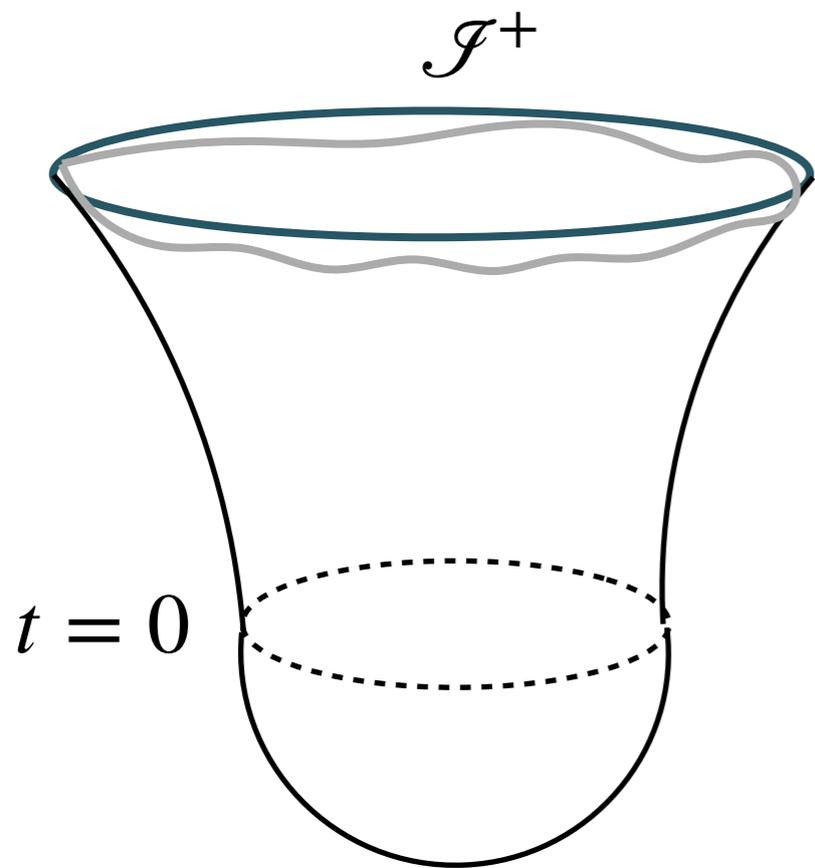


$$S_{\text{JT}} = -iS_0 + \frac{1}{8\pi G} \int d\theta \sqrt{h} \varphi(K - 1)$$

gives Schwarzian action

# NO-BOUNDARY WAVEFUNCTION

Consider the "disk" partition function:  $Z_{\text{HH}} \approx \langle \beta | \mathcal{U} | \emptyset \rangle$



$$Z_{\text{HH}} = e^{S_0} \int [Df] e^{iS[f]}$$

$$S[f] = \frac{1}{4G\beta J} \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \left( \{f(\theta), \theta\} + \frac{1}{2} f'(\theta)^2 \right)$$

$$\{f(\theta), \theta\} = \frac{f'''(\theta)}{f'(\theta)} - \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{f''(\theta)}{f'(\theta)} \right)^2 = \text{Schwarzian derivative}$$

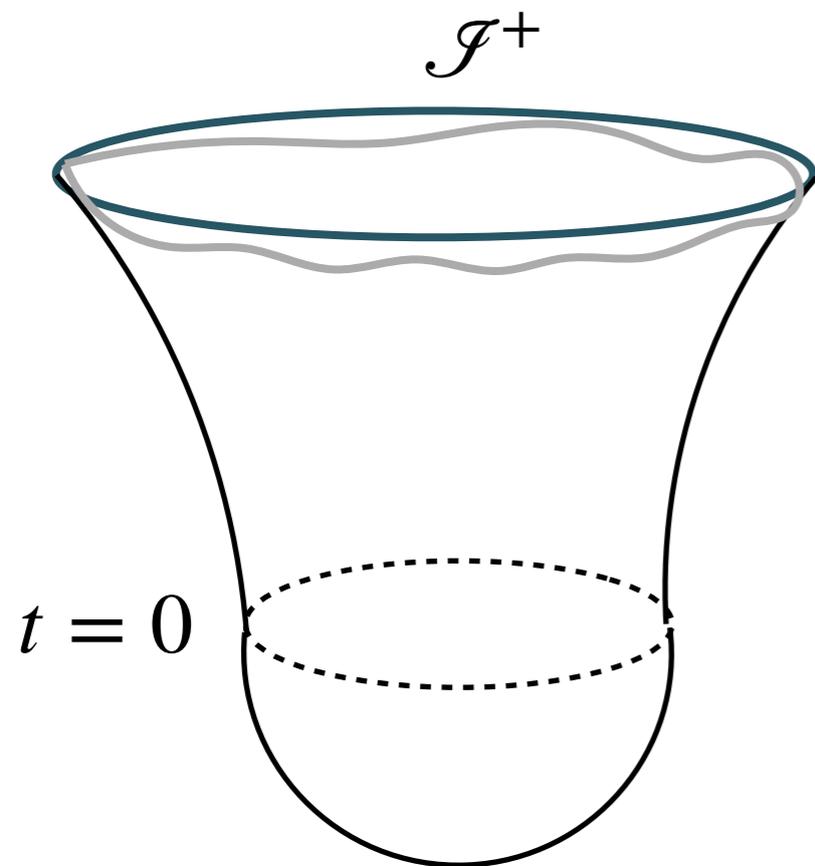
$$f(\theta + 2\pi) = f(\theta) + 2\pi$$

n.b.

$$\tan\left(\frac{f}{2}\right) \sim \frac{a \tan\left(\frac{f}{2}\right) + b}{c \tan\left(\frac{f}{2}\right) + d}, \quad ad - bc = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad f \in \text{Diff}(S^1)/PSL(2; \mathbb{R})$$

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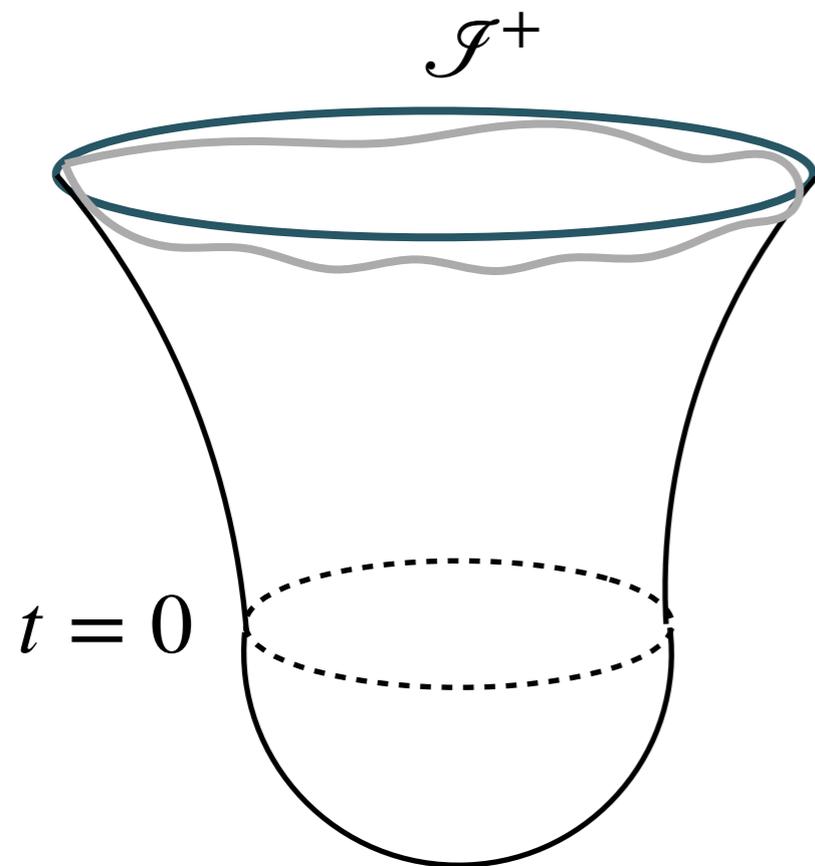
$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}(-2i\beta J)^{3/2}} e^{S_0 + \frac{\pi i}{4G\beta J}}$$

exact to all orders in  $G$ !

Not clear how to normalize  $|\beta\rangle$  or  $|\emptyset\rangle$ ,  
but we do see relative suppression to nucleate  
at large  $\beta$ , i.e. large universes.

# NO-BOUNDARY WAVEFUNCTION

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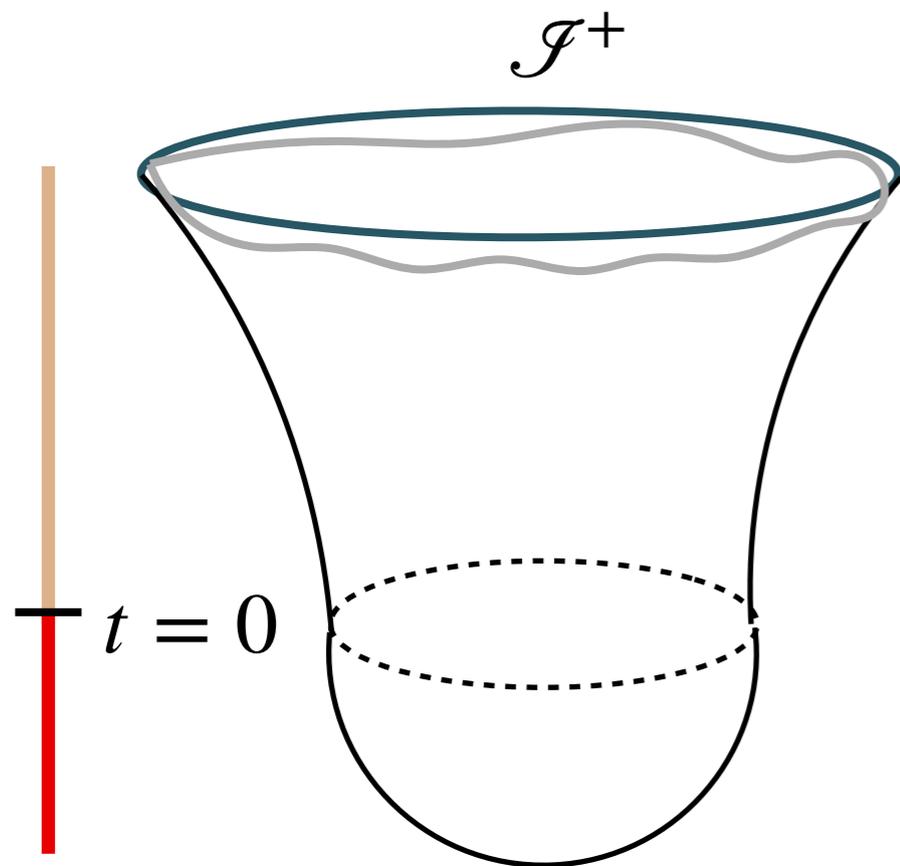
$$\begin{aligned} Z_{\text{HH}} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}(-2i\beta J)^{3/2}} e^{S_0 + \frac{\pi i}{4G\beta J}} \\ &= Z_{\text{disc}}(-i\beta J) \end{aligned}$$

continuation of Euclidean  $\text{AdS}_2$  result!



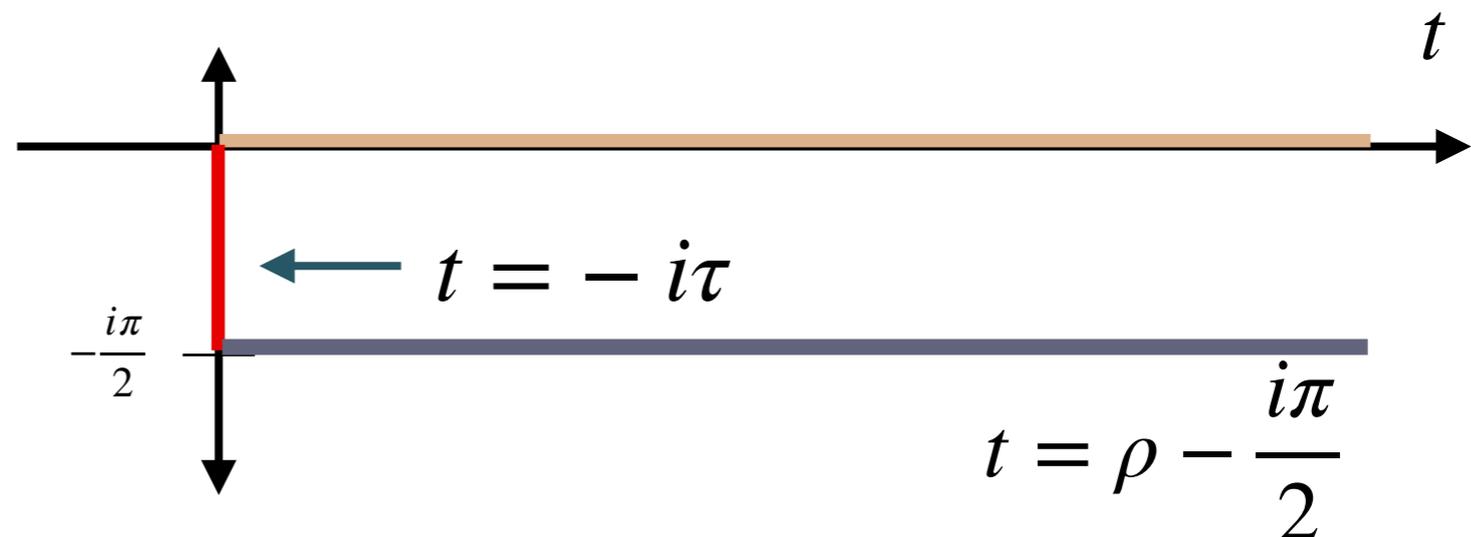
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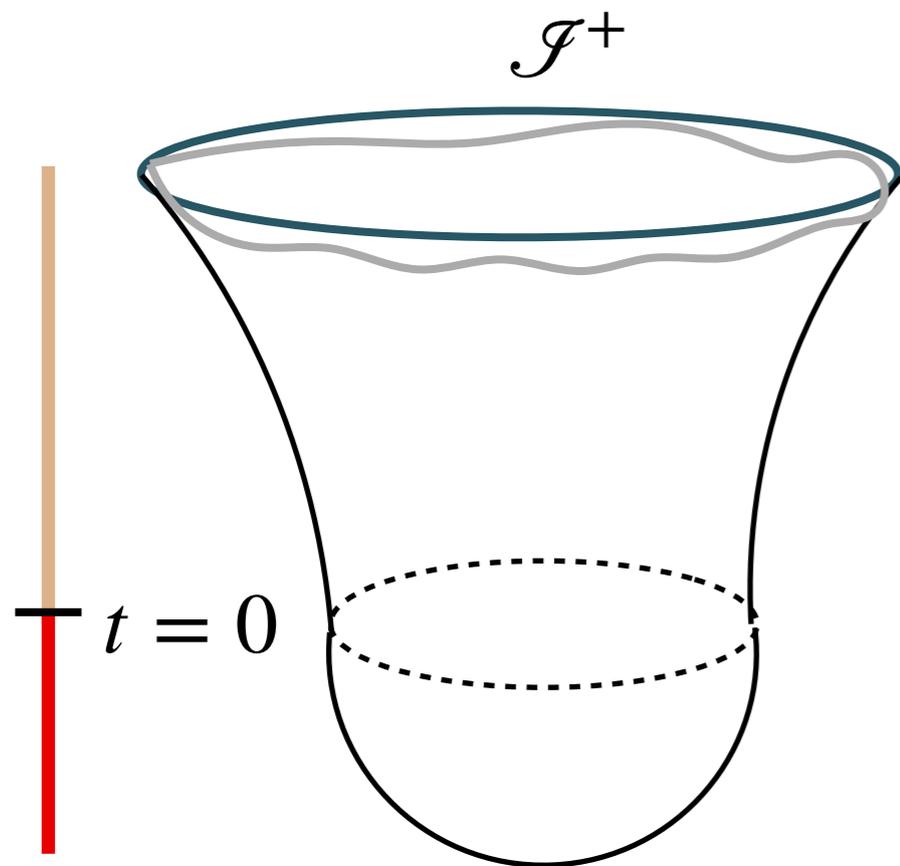
Classical solution is complex:

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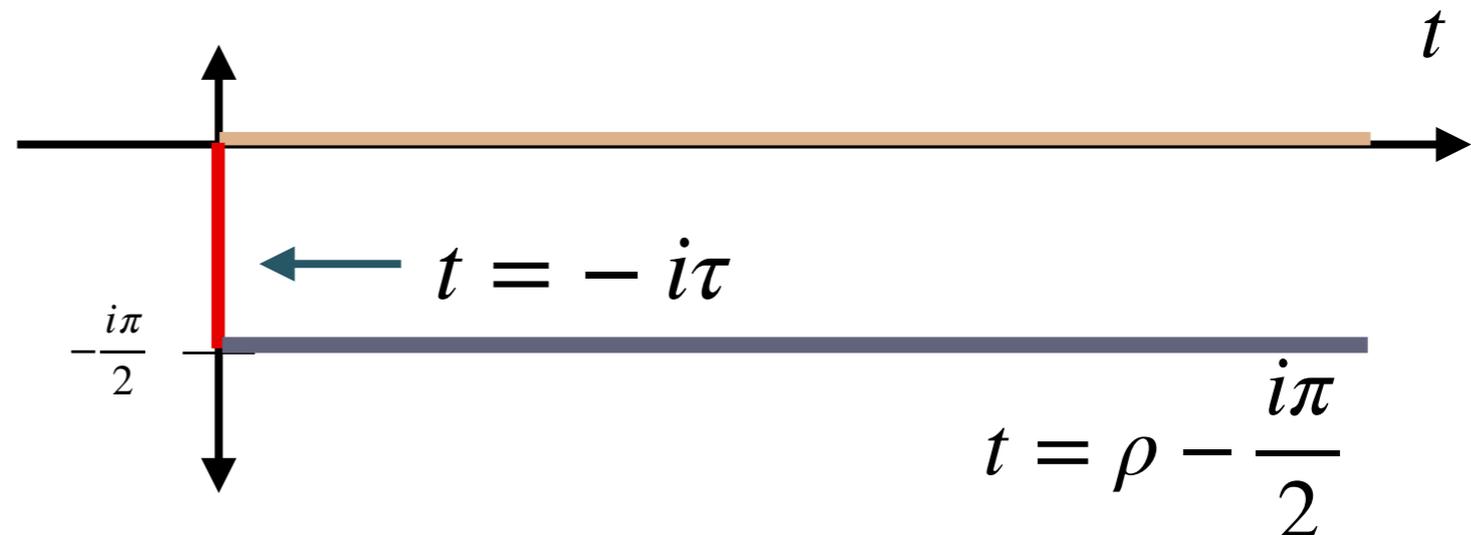
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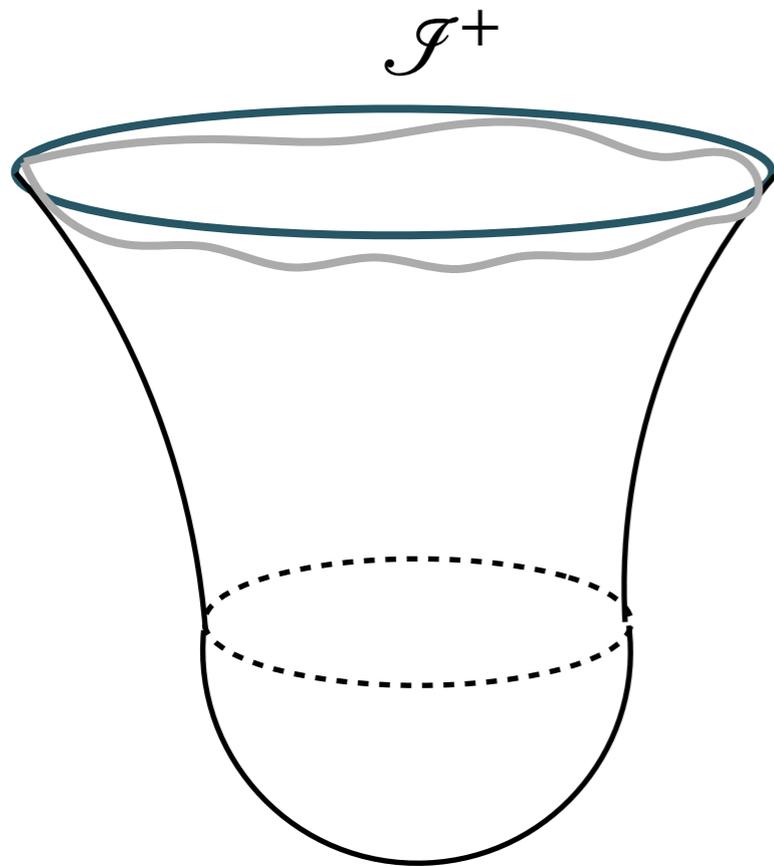
Classical solution is complex:

$$\begin{cases} ds^2 = - (d\rho^2 + \sinh^2 \rho d\theta^2) , \\ \varphi = -\frac{2\pi i}{\beta J} \cosh \rho , \end{cases}$$



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Hyperbolic disc in  $(-, -)$  signature.



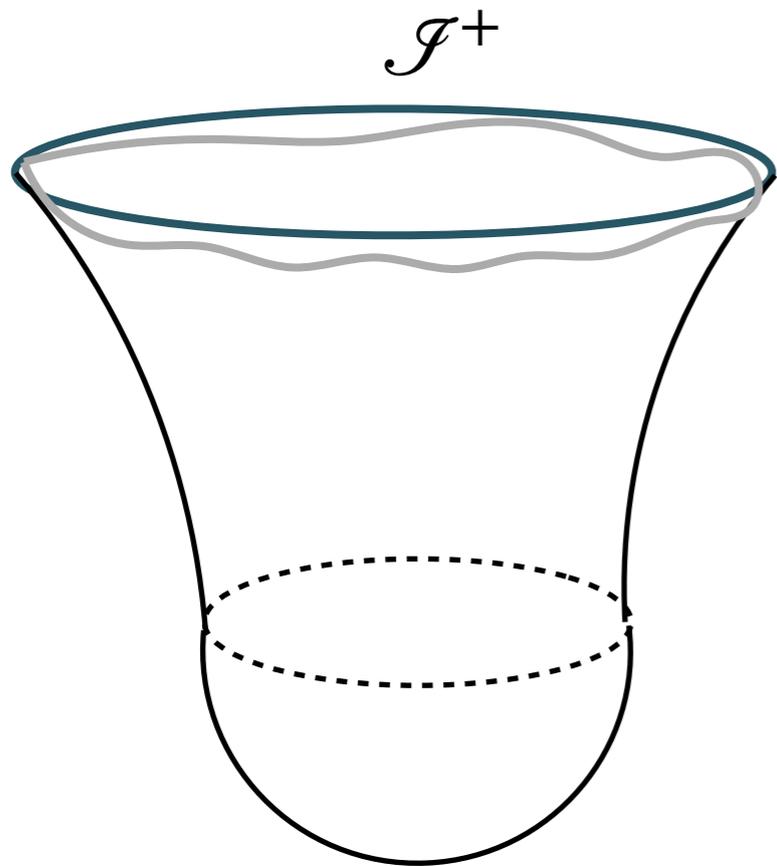
Continuation from dS to EAdS

[Maldacena, '10]

# NO-BOUNDARY WAVEFUNCTION

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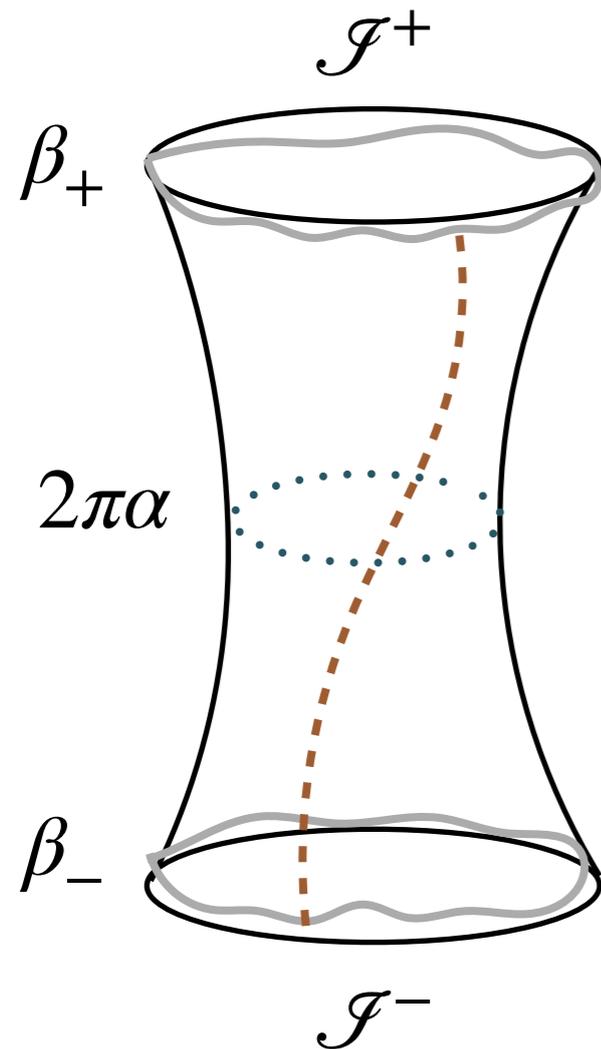


$$Z_{\text{HH}} = \int_0^\infty dE \rho(E) e^{i\beta E} \sim \text{tr}(e^{i\beta H})$$

$$\rho(E) = \frac{e^{S_0} \sqrt{G}}{2\pi^{3/2} J} \sinh \left( \sqrt{\frac{\pi E}{GJ}} \right)$$

# GLOBAL NEARLY DS<sub>2</sub>

Now the annulus partition function:  $Z_{\text{global}} \approx \langle \beta_+ | \mathcal{U} | \beta_- \rangle$



Classical solutions (for  $\beta_+ = \beta_- = \beta$ ):

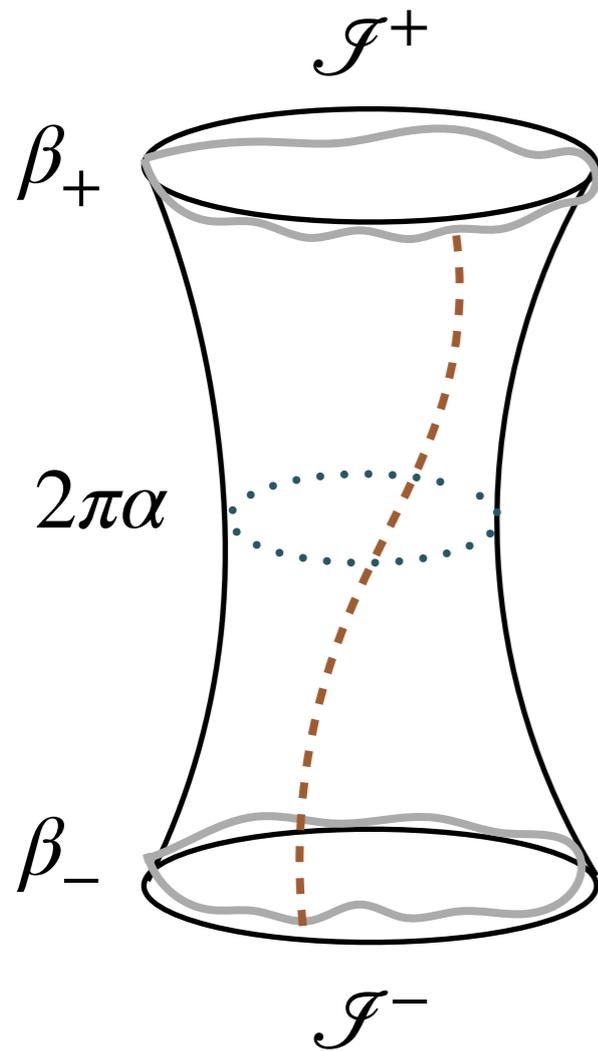
$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + \alpha^2 \cosh^2 t d\Psi^2,$$

$$\varphi = \frac{2\pi\alpha}{\beta J} \sinh t$$

$$\Psi = \theta + \gamma\Theta(t)$$

# GLOBAL NEARLY DS<sub>2</sub>

Now the annulus partition function:  $Z_{\text{global}} \approx \langle \beta_+ | \mathcal{U} | \beta_- \rangle$



$$Z_{\text{global}} = - \int_0^\alpha \frac{d\alpha \alpha}{2G} \int_0^{2\pi} d\gamma \int [Df_+] [Df_-] e^{iS[f_+, f_-]}$$

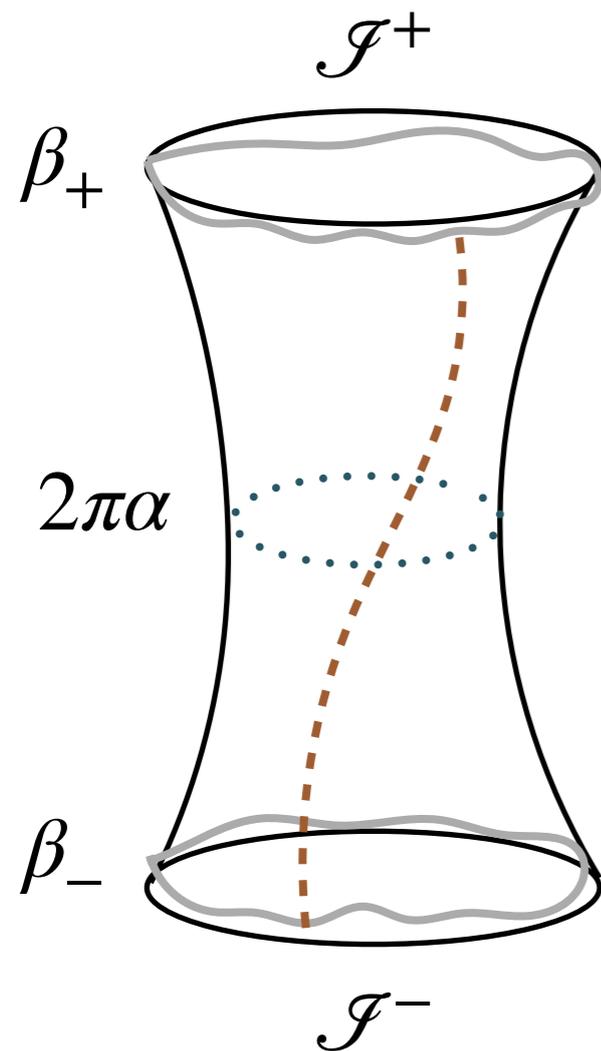
$$S[f_+, f_-] = \frac{1}{4G\beta_+ J} \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \left( \{f_+(\theta), \theta\} + \frac{\alpha^2}{2} f_+'(\theta)^2 \right) - (+ \rightarrow -)$$

$$Z_{\text{global}} = - 2\pi \int_0^\infty \frac{d\alpha \alpha}{2G} Z_T(\beta_+ J, \alpha) Z_T^*(\beta_- J, \alpha)$$

$$Z_T(\beta J, \alpha) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} (-2i\beta J)^{1/2}} e^{\frac{\pi\alpha^2}{4G\beta J}}$$

# GLOBAL NEARLY DS<sub>2</sub>

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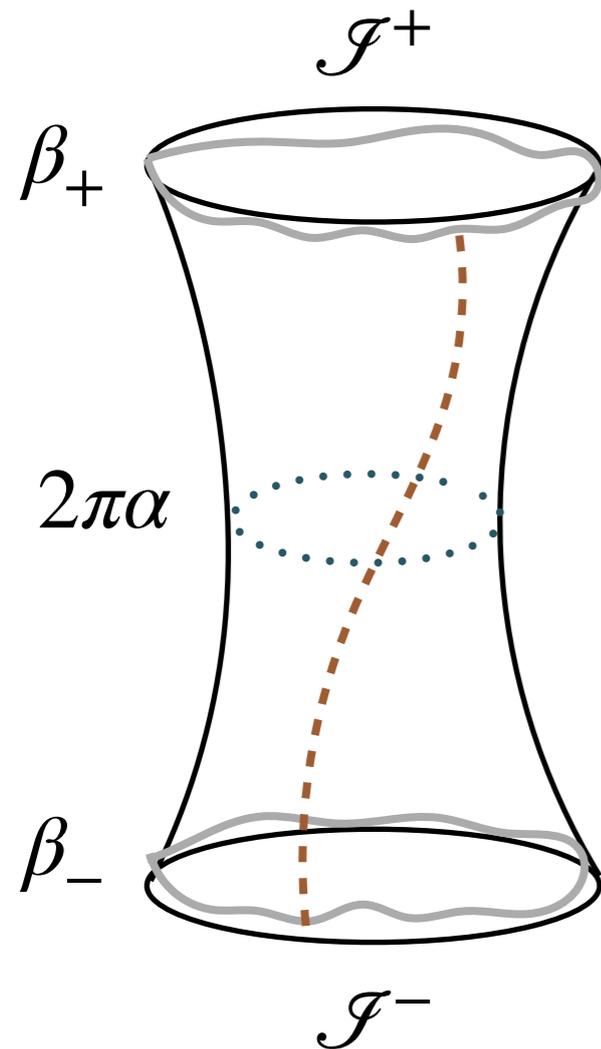
$$= \frac{i \sqrt{\beta_+ \beta_-}}{2\pi \beta_+ - \beta_-}$$

Again exact to all orders in  $G$ .

Can interpret as propagator for the universe.

# GLOBAL NEARLY DS<sub>2</sub>

Now the annulus partition function:  $Z_{\text{global}} \approx \langle \beta_+ | \mathcal{U} | \beta_- \rangle$



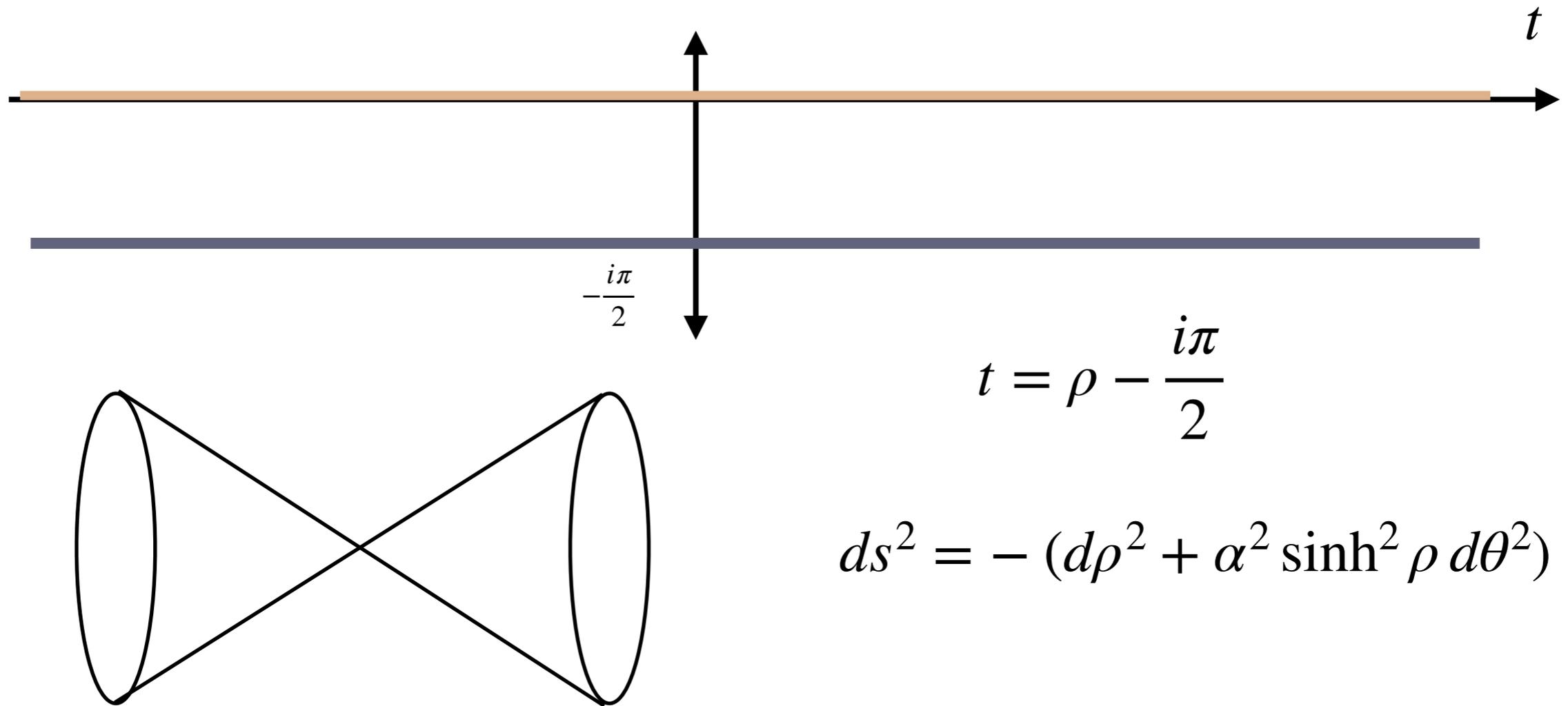
$$Z_{\text{global}} = \frac{i \sqrt{\beta_+ \beta_-}}{2\pi \beta_+ - \beta_-}$$

$$= Z_{0,2}(\beta_1 J \rightarrow -i\beta_+ J, \beta_2 J \rightarrow i\beta_- J)$$

Continuation of annulus  $Z$  of EAdS<sub>2</sub>  
 [Saad, Shenker, Stanford]

# GLOBAL NEARLY DS<sub>2</sub>

$$ds^2 = - dt^2 + \alpha^2 \cosh^2 t d\theta^2$$



# TOPOLOGICAL GAUGE THEORY

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Another way of thinking about it:

JT gravity in dS is equivalent to a  $PSL(2; \mathbb{R})$   $BF$  theory.

So is JT in Euclidean AdS!

For the annulus partition function of  $BF$  one integrates over Wilson loops around the circle.

Integral over  $\alpha$  = integral over elliptic monodromies of  $PSL(2; \mathbb{R})$ .

# HIGHER TOPOLOGIES

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This viewpoint is ideally situated to tackle more complicated topologies, and so the genus expansion of JT dS gravity.

There are no non-singular Lorentzian  $R=2$  geometries beyond the annulus. However we can *define* the gravity on more complicated topologies by integrating over smooth, flat gauge configurations. After some work (assuming a conjecture [Do '11]), the genus expansion coefficients are the continuation from those recently obtained for Euclidean AdS.

# MATRIX INTEGRAL INTERPRETATION

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Let us return to the question of de Sitter *holography*.

What dual structure can compute the various amplitudes?

[Saad, Shenker, Stanford] recently showed that the genus expansion of EAdS JT gravity coincides with the genus expansion of an appropriate double scaled one Hermitian-matrix integral

$$Z_{\text{MM}} = \int dH \exp(-L \text{tr}(V(H)))$$

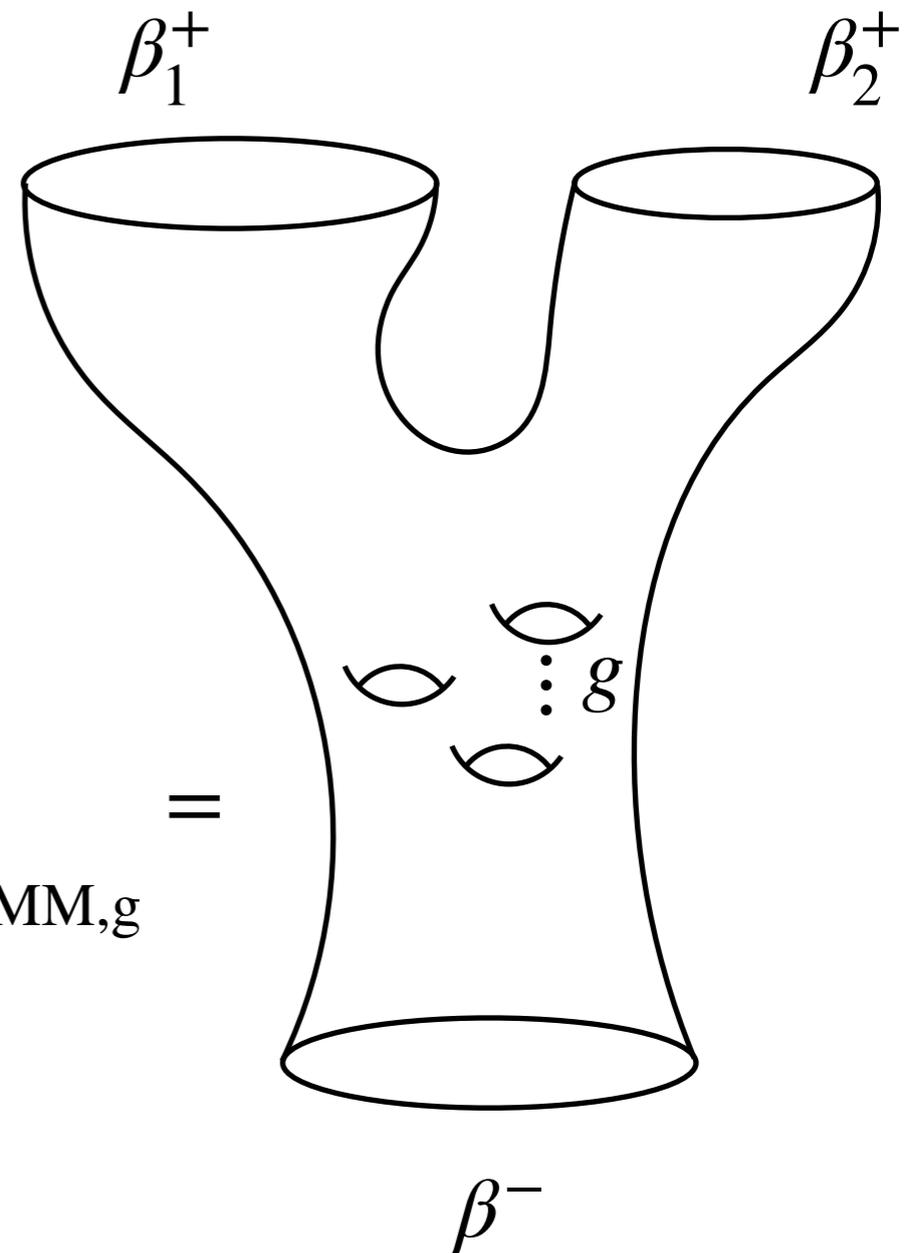
(whose leading density of states coincides with that of the Schwarzian theory).

# MATRIX INTEGRAL INTERPRETATION

Our result implies that the genus expansion of JT dS gravity is encoded in the *same* ensemble.

An example of the dictionary:

$$\left\langle \text{tr} \left( e^{i\beta_1^+ H} \right) \text{tr} \left( e^{i\beta_2^+ H} \right) \text{tr} \left( e^{-i\beta^- H} \right) \right\rangle_{\text{conn,MM,g}} =$$



# BECAUSE THERE ARE RESURGICISTS HERE

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The genus expansion is asymptotic, breaking down when

$$g = \beta JG \sim \exp\left(\frac{2S_0}{3}\right).$$

The non-perturbative completion is non-unique.

A basic example of a non-perturbative effect is that the exact density of states is non-perturbatively small below the cut.

# UNITARITY?

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Is time evolution in this toy model unitary? [Cotler, KJ, unpublished]

# UNITARITY?

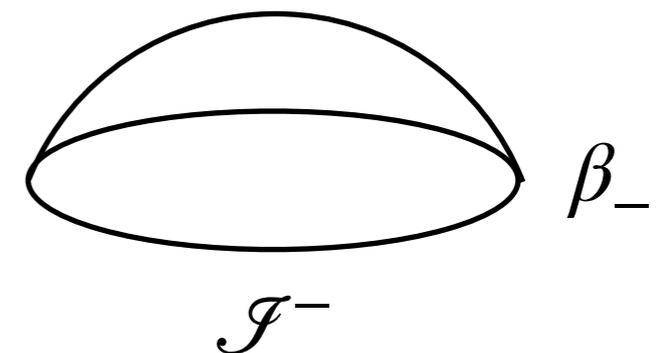
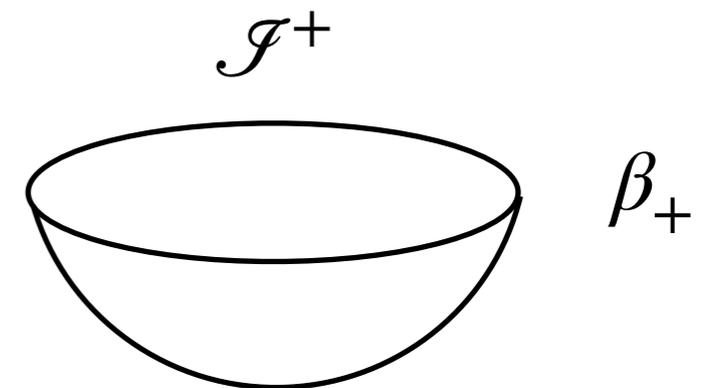
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Is time evolution in this toy model unitary? [Cotler, KJ, unpublished]

Naively no:

The dominant process  
is the creation/annihilation of  
baby universes, e.g.

(enhanced by  $\sim e^{2S_0}$  relative to annulus)



# UNITARITY?

---

Then  $\langle \beta_1 | \mathcal{U}^\dagger \mathcal{U} | \beta_2 \rangle \approx \langle \beta_1 | \mathcal{U}^\dagger | \emptyset \rangle \langle \emptyset | \mathcal{U} | \beta_2 \rangle$  is completely uncorrelated between  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$ .

## However:

Need to account for normalization of  $|\emptyset\rangle$ !

Depends on  $Z_{\text{sphere}} \sim e^{2S_0}$ .

If we can discard  $|\emptyset\rangle^*$ , then the “propagator” we found from annulus is consistent with approximate unitary evolution at large  $e^{S_0}$ , with a measure on  $|\beta\rangle$  of the form  $\frac{d\beta}{\beta}$ .

$$Z_{\text{global}} = \frac{i}{2\pi} \frac{\sqrt{\beta_+ \beta_-}}{\beta_+ - \beta_-}$$

\*I know of no principled reason to do this.

# CONCLUSIONS

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1. JT gravity as a toy model for quantum cosmology.
2. Partition functions related by continuation from Euclidean AdS JT gravity.
3. By virtue of [Saad, Shenker, Stanford], genus expansion of dS JT coincides with that of a double-scaled matrix integral.
4. Approximate bulk unitarity..? [WIP]

THANK YOU!