

# On the propagation across the big bounce in an open quantum FRW cosmology

Corfu 2022: workshop on noncommutative and generalized geometry  
in string theory, gauge theory and related physical models

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# OUTLINE

**1. THE BACKGROUND GEOMETRY**

**2. CLASSICAL ANALYSIS OF THE FRW GEOMETRY: NULL AND TIMELIKE GEODESICS**

**3. QUANTUM ANALYSIS OF THE FRW GEOMETRY: SCALAR FIELD PROPAGATOR**

**4. CONCLUDING REMARKS**

# THE BACKGROUND GEOMETRY (1)

- Framework: Ishibashi, Kawai, Kitazawa, Tsuchiya (IKKT) **matrix theory**.
- The background spacetime  $\mathcal{M}^{3,1}$  can be described semi-classically as a projection of the **fuzzy four-dimensional hyperboloid**, which is obtained from five matrices  $X^a$  ( $a = 0, \dots, 4$ ) interpreted as quantizations of five embedding functions  $x^a$

$$x^a : H^4 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{4,1}$$

**Convenient parametrization of the four-dimensional hyperboloid**

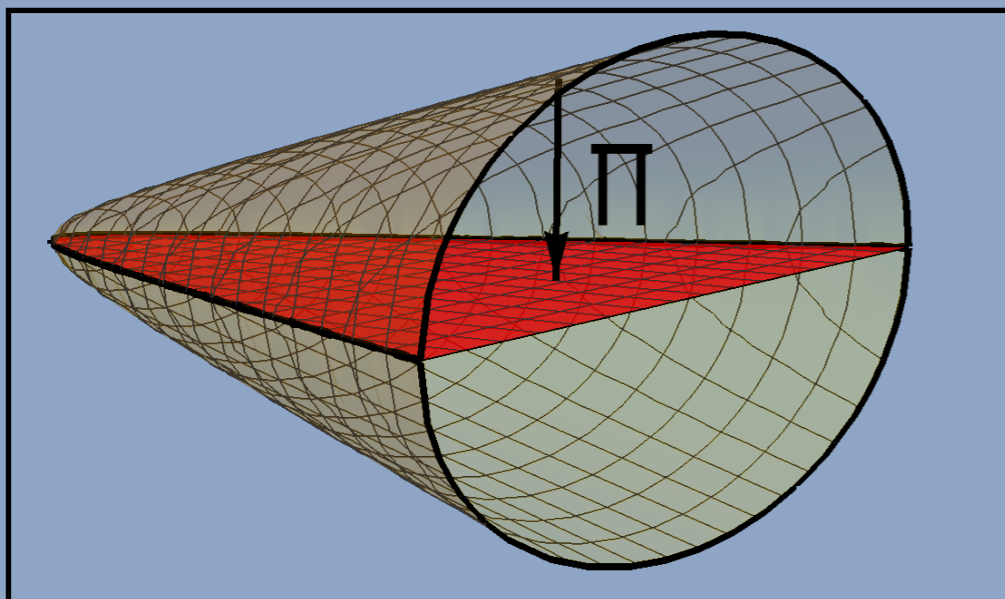
$$\begin{bmatrix} x^0 \\ x^1 \\ x^2 \\ x^3 \\ x^4 \end{bmatrix} = R \left[ \cosh(\eta) \begin{pmatrix} \cosh(\chi) \\ \sinh(\chi) \sin(\theta) \cos(\varphi) \\ \sinh(\chi) \sin(\theta) \sin(\varphi) \\ \sinh(\chi) \cos(\theta) \\ \sinh(\eta) \end{pmatrix} \right],$$

$$\eta, \chi \in \mathbb{R}$$

# THE BACKGROUND GEOMETRY (2)

- The **projection** along the  $x^4$  axis leads to a **two-sheeted** cover of the region  $x_\mu x^\mu \leq R^2$ , ( $\mu = 0, \dots, 3$ ).
- **Parametrization of  $\mathcal{M}^{3,1}$**

$$\begin{pmatrix} x^0 \\ x^1 \\ x^2 \\ x^3 \end{pmatrix} = R \cosh(\eta) \begin{pmatrix} \cosh(\chi) \\ \sinh(\chi) \sin(\theta) \cos(\varphi) \\ \sinh(\chi) \sin(\theta) \sin(\varphi) \\ \sinh(\chi) \cos(\theta) \end{pmatrix}.$$



**Pre-bounce:**  $\eta < 0$

**Big bounce:**  $\eta = 0$

**Post-bounce:**  $\eta > 0$

Projection  $\Pi$  from  $H^4$  to  $\mathcal{M}^{3,1}$

# THE BACKGROUND GEOMETRY (3)

- The **background** solution  $T^\mu$  of the matrix model leads to the following **kinetic term**, valid for any field  $\Phi$

$$S[\Phi] = - \text{Tr}[T^\mu, \Phi][T_\mu, \Phi]$$

Using the **semiclassical** relation  $[T^\mu, \cdot] \sim i\{t^\mu, \cdot\}$ , this can be written in the standard form

$$S[\Phi] = - \text{Tr}[T^\mu, \Phi][T_\mu, \Phi] \sim \int d^4x \sqrt{|G|} G^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \Phi \partial_\nu \Phi$$

# THE BACKGROUND GEOMETRY (4)

- $SO(3,1)$ -invariant FRW metric

$$\begin{aligned} ds_G^2 &= G_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = -R^2 |\sinh(\eta)|^3 d\eta^2 + R^2 |\sinh(\eta)| \cosh^2(\eta) d\Sigma^2 \\ &= -dt^2 + a^2(t) d\Sigma^2. \end{aligned}$$

where

$$d\Sigma^2 = d\chi^2 + \sinh^2 \chi (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2),$$

cosmic  
scale factor

$$|a(\eta)| = R \cosh(\eta) |\sinh(\eta)|^{1/2},$$

$$dt = R |\sinh(\eta)|^{3/2} d\eta.$$

# CLASSICAL ANALYSIS (1)

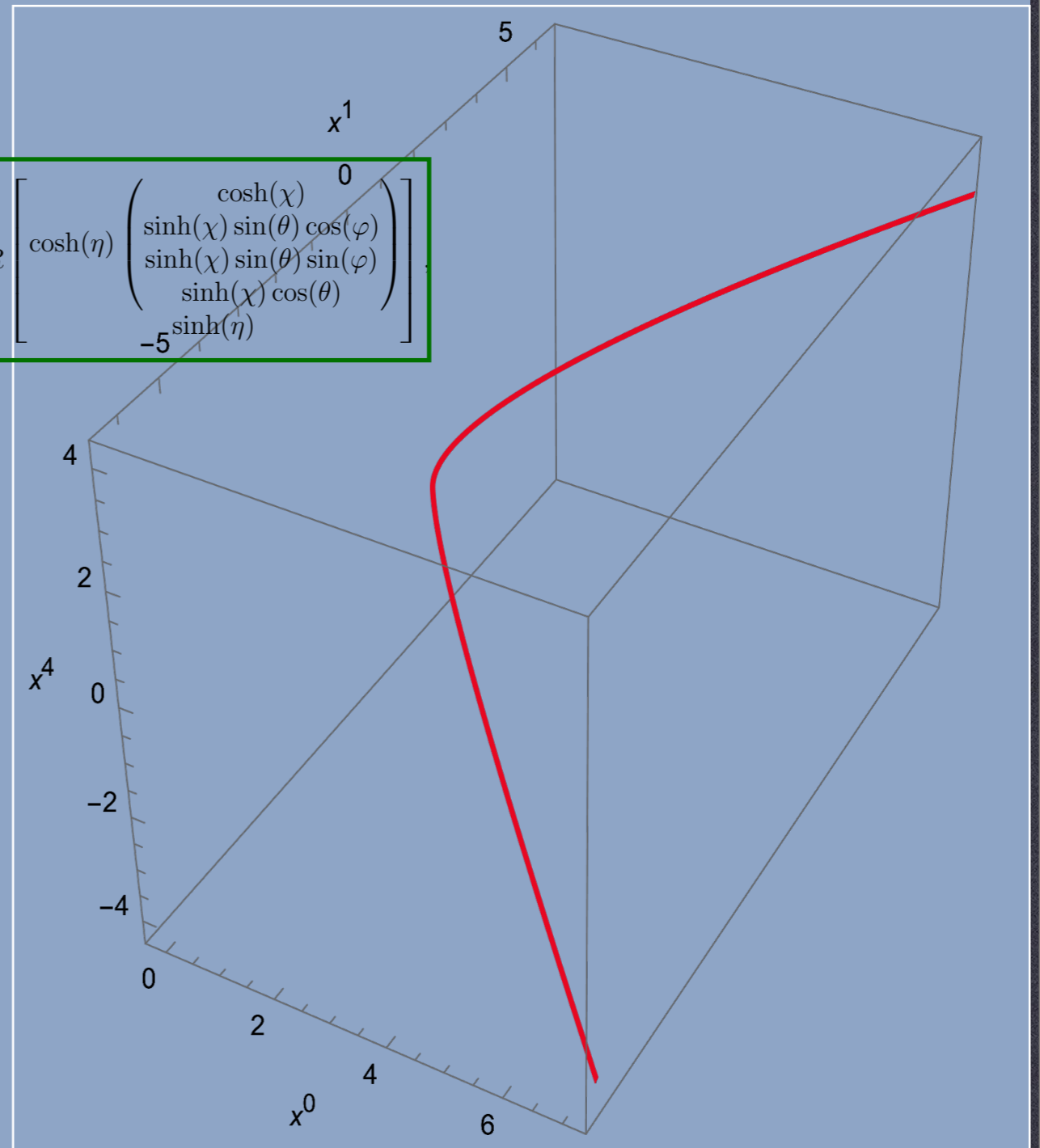
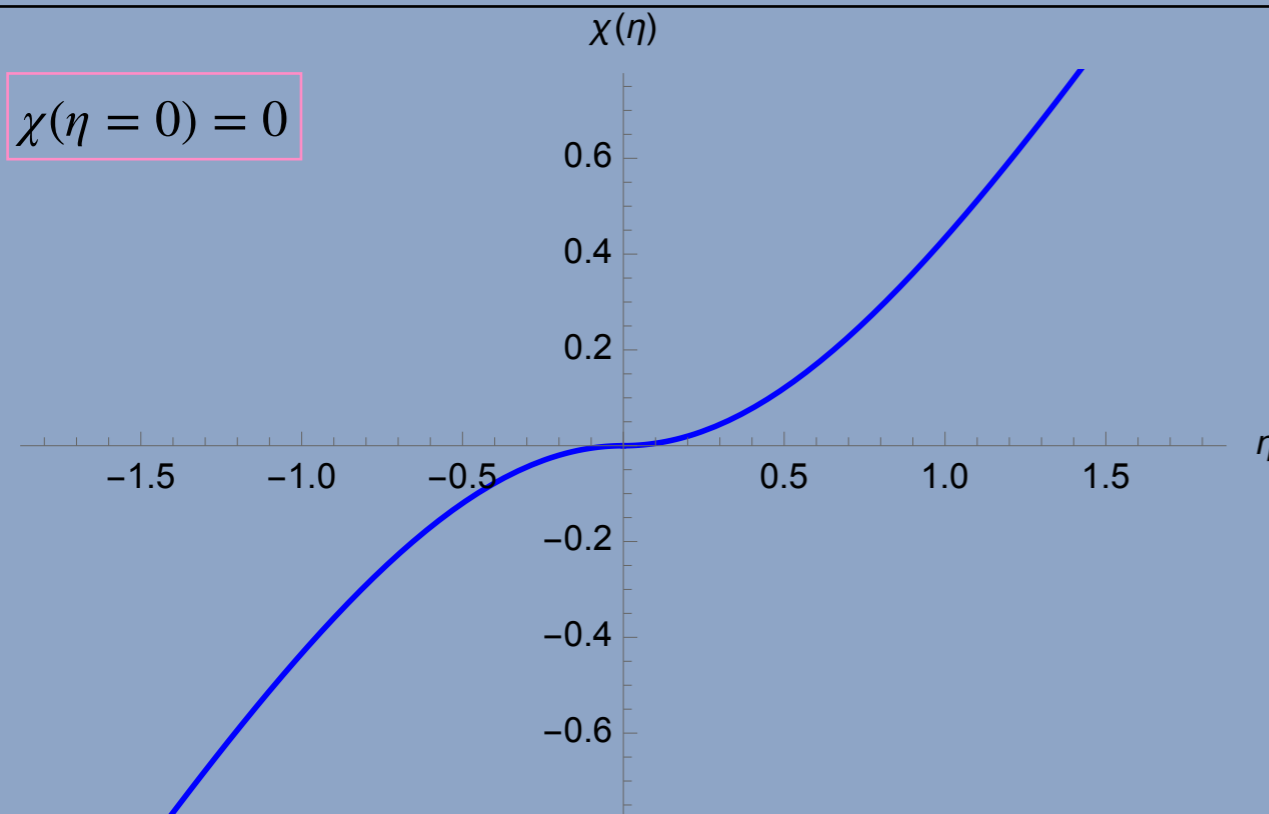
- **Null** and **timelike** geodesics of the FRW geometry having  $\theta, \varphi$  constant.

$$\frac{d\chi}{d\eta} = |\tanh \eta|,$$

**Null geodesics**

$$\chi(\eta) = \begin{cases} \log(\cosh \eta), & \eta \geq 0, \\ -\log(\cosh \eta), & \eta < 0. \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x^0 \\ x^1 \\ x^2 \\ x^3 \\ x^4 \end{bmatrix} = R \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \cosh(\chi) \begin{pmatrix} \cosh(\chi) \\ \sinh(\chi) \sin(\theta) \cos(\varphi) \\ \sinh(\chi) \sin(\theta) \sin(\varphi) \\ \sinh(\chi) \cos(\theta) \end{pmatrix} \\ -5 \sinh(\eta) \end{bmatrix}$$

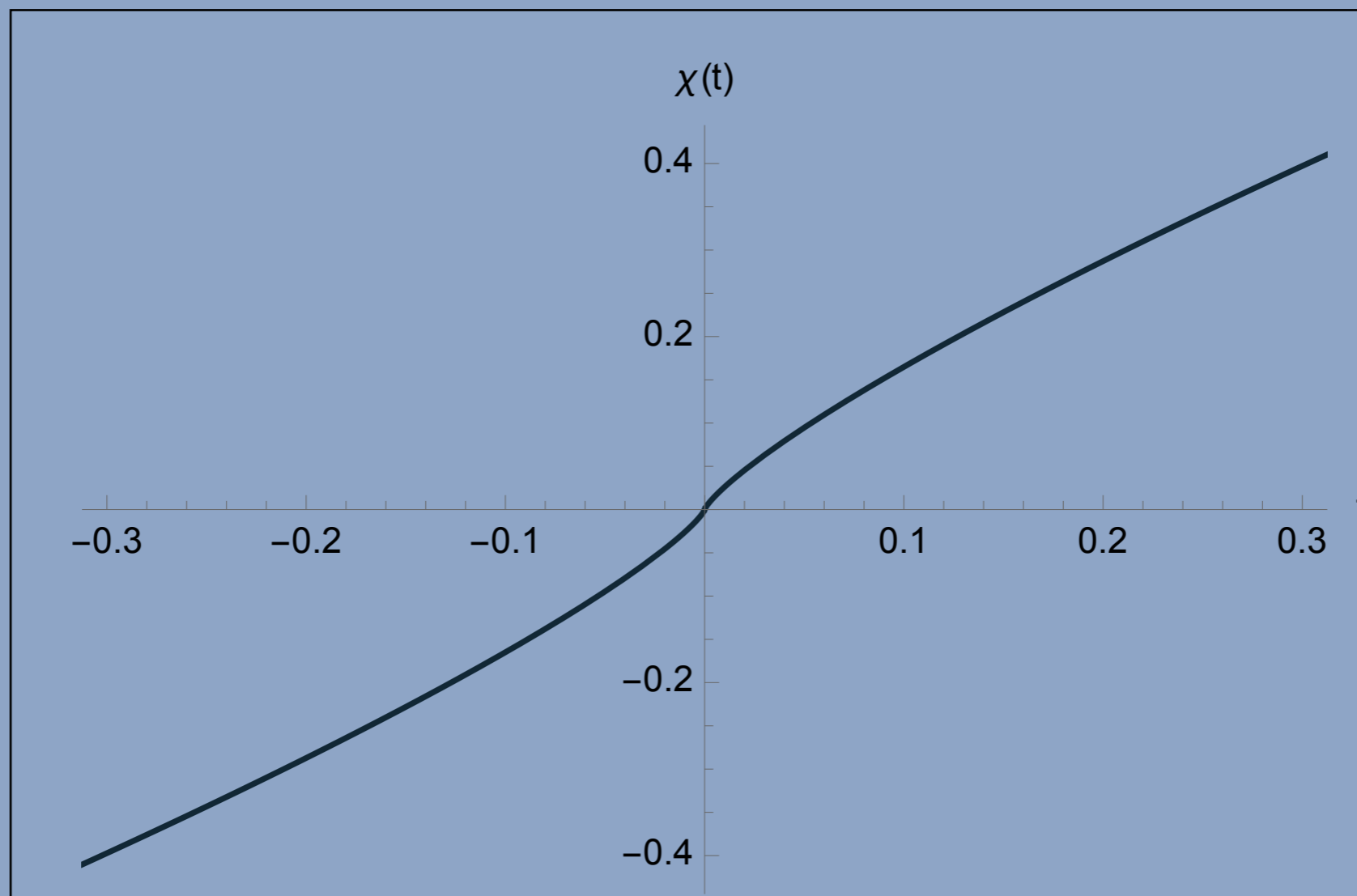


# CLASSICAL ANALYSIS (2)

**Early-time** ( $t \rightarrow t_0$ ) solution  $\chi(t)$  for **null** geodesics

$$\chi(t) \underset{t \rightarrow t_0}{\sim} \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{5}{2R} \right)^{4/5} (t - t_0)^{4/5}, & t \geq t_0, \\ -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{5}{2R} \right)^{4/5} (t - t_0)^{4/5}, & t < t_0, \end{cases}$$

**Big Bounce:  $t = t_0$**



$t_0 = 0$

**Big Bounce:  $t = 0$**   
 $\chi(t = 0) = 0$



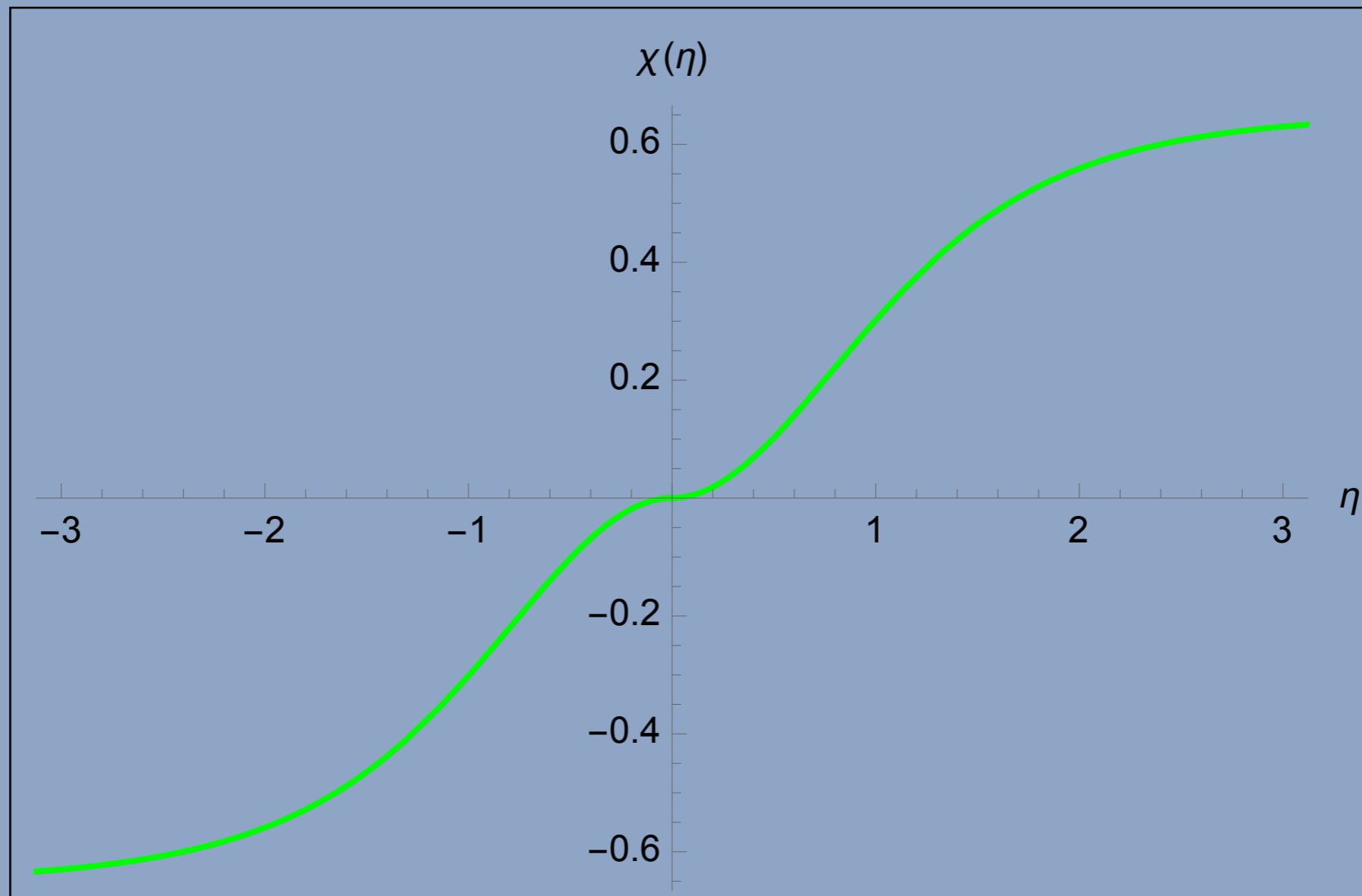
# CLASSICAL ANALYSIS (3)

**Timelike geodesics of a non-comoving observer (constant  $\theta, \varphi$ )**

$$\frac{d\chi(\eta)}{d\eta} = \frac{|\tanh \eta|}{\sqrt{1 + a^2(\eta)/\Pi^2}}.$$

$\Pi$ : conserved momentum

$$\begin{aligned} \chi(\eta = 0) &= 0 \\ \Pi &= 1 \end{aligned}$$



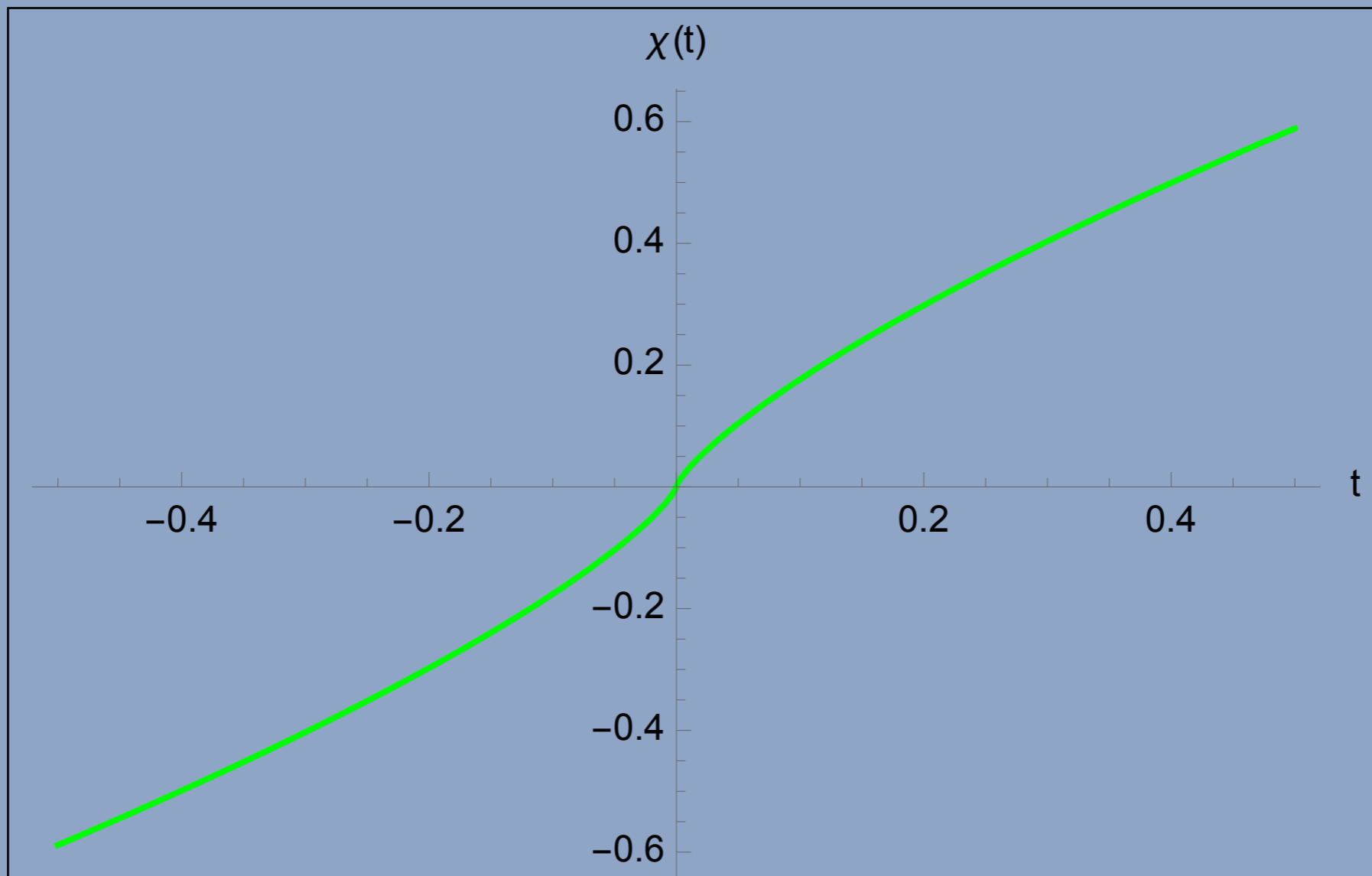
# CLASSICAL ANALYSIS (4)

## Early-time timelike geodesics

$$\chi(t) \stackrel{t \rightarrow 0}{\sim} \begin{cases} \frac{5}{3} \left[ 2 - 2\sqrt{1 + t^{2/5}} + t^{2/5}\sqrt{1 + t^{2/5}} \right], & t \geq 0, \\ -\frac{5}{3} \left[ 2 - 2\sqrt{1 + t^{2/5}} + t^{2/5}\sqrt{1 + t^{2/5}} \right], & t < 0. \end{cases}$$

Big Bounce:  $t = 0$

$$\chi(t = 0) = 0 \\ \Pi = 1$$



# QUANTUM ANALYSIS (1)

- **Propagator of a scalar field  $\phi$  having mass  $m$  on the background FRW geometry**

**Matrix d'Alembertian  $\square$  governing the propagation of  $\phi$**

$$\square = [T^\mu, [T_\mu, \cdot]] \sim -\{t^\mu, \{t_\mu, \cdot\}\},$$

semi-classical limit

$$\square\phi = \frac{1}{R^2} \left[ 3 \tanh(\eta) \partial_\eta + \partial_\eta^2 - \tanh^2 \eta \left( \frac{2}{\tanh \chi} \partial_\chi + \partial_\chi^2 \right) - \frac{\tanh^2 \eta}{\sinh^2 \chi} \left( \frac{1}{\tan \theta} \partial_\theta + \partial_\theta^2 + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \partial_\varphi^2 \right) \right] \phi.$$

# QUANTUM ANALYSIS (2)

**Action** for the field  $\phi$  (in the **semi-classical limit**)

$$S_\varepsilon [\phi] = \int \Omega \phi^*(x) (-\square - m^2 + i\varepsilon) \phi(x),$$

$$\varepsilon > 0$$

where

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{|\sinh(\eta)|} d^4x = \cosh^3(\eta) d\eta \sinh^2(\chi) d\chi \sin(\theta) d\theta d\varphi$$

$\Omega$ : **SO(4,1)-invariant**  
volume form

# QUANTUM ANALYSIS (3)

## Eigenfunctions of the d'Alembertian operator

$$\square\phi = \lambda\phi,$$

## Separation ansatz

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(\eta, \chi, \theta, \varphi) &= \tilde{\phi}(\eta, \chi)Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi), \\ \tilde{\phi}(\eta, \chi) &= f(\eta)g(\chi),\end{aligned}$$

$Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi)$  : spherical harmonics  
degree  $l$ , order  $m$

The functions  $f(\eta)$ ,  $g(\chi)$  satisfy the following **ordinary** differential equations

$$\begin{aligned}(\partial_\eta^2 + 3 \tanh(\eta)\partial_\eta - \beta \tanh^2 \eta - \lambda R^2) f(\eta) &= 0, \\ \left(\partial_\chi^2 + \frac{2}{\tanh \chi}\partial_\chi - \frac{l(l+1)}{\sinh^2 \chi} - \beta\right) g(\chi) &= 0,\end{aligned}$$

$$\beta \in \mathbb{R}$$

# QUANTUM ANALYSIS (4)

**Eigenmodes of d'Alembertian operator** ( $q \in \mathbb{R}, s > 0, \chi > 0$ )

$$Y_{l,m}^{s_{\pm},q}(\eta, \chi, \theta, \varphi) := \frac{1}{\sqrt{\cosh^3 \eta \sinh \chi}} P_{\nu}^{\pm is}(\tanh \eta) Q_l^{iq}(\coth \chi) Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi),$$

$P_{\nu}^{\pm is}(\tanh \eta)$  : **Legendre** functions  
of **first kind** ( $\tanh(\eta) \in (-1, 1)$ ).  
 $\pm is$  : order,  $\nu$  : degree

$$\nu = \frac{1}{2} \left( 2\sqrt{1 + \beta} - 1 \right) = -\frac{1}{2} + i|q|,$$

$$s = \sqrt{-\left(\frac{9}{4} + \beta + \lambda R^2\right)} > 0.$$

$Q_l^{iq}(\coth \chi)$  : **Legendre** functions of  
**second kind** ( $\coth \chi \in (1, +\infty)$ ).  
 $iq$  : order,  $l$  : degree

$$q = \pm \sqrt{-(1 + \beta)}$$

$$\beta < -1$$

**Eigenvalue:**  $\lambda = (q^2 - s^2 - 5/4)R^{-2}$

# QUANTUM ANALYSIS (5)

Consider the following “flat” regime (FR)

$$\text{FR: } \chi < 1, \quad q \gg l$$

In FR we have

$$\text{Re} \left[ \frac{Q_l^{iq}(\coth \chi)}{\sinh \chi} \frac{q^l}{e^{-\pi q} \Gamma(iq + l + 1)} \right] \underset{q \gg l}{\overset{\chi < 1}{\sim}} j_l(q\chi)$$

$$\text{Im} \left[ \frac{Q_l^{iq}(\coth \chi)}{\sinh \chi} \frac{q^l}{e^{-\pi q} \Gamma(iq + l + 1)} \right] \underset{\sim}{\overset{\chi < 1}{\sim}} 0$$

$\Gamma(x)$  : Euler  
gamma function

$j_l(q\chi)$  : spherical  
Bessel functions



$$\Upsilon_{l,m}^{s\pm,q}(\eta, \chi, \theta, \varphi) \underset{\text{FR}}{\overset{\eta \rightarrow +\infty}{\sim}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\cosh^3 \eta}} \frac{e^{-\pi q} j_l(q\chi) \Gamma(iq + l + 1)}{q^l} \frac{e^{\pm i\eta s}}{\Gamma(1 \mp is)} Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi).$$

$$\Upsilon_{l,m}^{s\pm,q}(\eta, \chi, \theta, \varphi) \underset{\text{FR}}{\overset{\eta \rightarrow 0}{\sim}} \frac{\sqrt{\pi} 2^{\pm is} e^{\pm i\eta s}}{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4} - \frac{iq}{2} \mp \frac{is}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4} + \frac{iq}{2} \mp \frac{is}{2}\right)} \frac{e^{-\pi q} j_l(q\chi) \Gamma(iq + l + 1)}{q^l} Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi).$$

# QUANTUM ANALYSIS (6)

- **Late-time** ( $\eta \rightarrow +\infty$ ) local propagator in position space

$$\langle \phi(x)\phi^*(x') \rangle \underset{\text{FR}}{\sim}^{\eta \rightarrow +\infty} \langle \phi(x)\phi^*(x') \rangle_{\text{L}}^{\eta \rightarrow +\infty, \text{FR}} + \langle \phi(x)\phi^*(x') \rangle_{\text{SL}}^{\eta \rightarrow +\infty, \text{FR}},$$

“L”: leading

“SL”: subleading

## Leading contribution

$$\langle \phi(x)\phi^*(x') \rangle_{\text{L}}^{\eta \rightarrow +\infty, \text{FR}} = \frac{4R^2}{\pi^2} \sum_{l,m} \frac{Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi) [Y_l^m(\theta', \varphi')]^*}{\sqrt{(\cosh^3 \eta) (\cosh^3 \eta')}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} ds e^{is(\eta - \eta')} \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{dq q^2 j_l(qx) j_l(qx')}{\left( s^2 - q^2 + \frac{5}{4} m^2 R^2 + i\epsilon \right)},$$

This resembles the standard **Feynman** propagator on a flat Minkowski space recalling that

$$e^{i\vec{q} \cdot \vec{x}} = 4\pi \sum_{l,m} i^l j_l(qr) Y_l^m(\hat{q}) [Y_l^m(\hat{x})]^*,$$

Rayleigh equation

$$q = |\vec{q}|, r = |\vec{x}|, \hat{x} = \vec{x}/r, \hat{q} = \vec{q}/q$$

$$\int d^3q \frac{e^{i\vec{q} \cdot (\vec{x} - \vec{x}')}}{s^2 - q^2 - M^2} = (4\pi)^2 \sum_{l,m} [Y_l^m(\hat{x})]^* Y_l^m(\hat{x}') \int_0^{+\infty} dq \frac{q^2}{s^2 - q^2 - M^2} j_l(qr) j_l(qr').$$



# QUANTUM ANALYSIS (7)

## Subleading contribution to the late-time propagator

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle \phi(x)\phi^*(x') \rangle_{\text{SL}}^{\eta \rightarrow +\infty, \text{FR}} &= \frac{4R^2}{\pi^4} \sum_{l,m} \frac{Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi) [Y_l^m(\theta', \varphi')]^*}{\sqrt{(\cosh^3 \eta) (\cosh^3 \eta')}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} ds e^{is(\eta + \eta')} \\
 &\times \int_0^{+\infty} dq \frac{j_l(q\chi) j_l(q\chi') q^2 s \cosh(\pi q) \sinh(\pi s)}{\left( s^2 - q^2 + \frac{5}{4} - m^2 R^2 + i\epsilon \right)} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2} - iq - is\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2} + iq - is\right) \Gamma^2(is).
 \end{aligned}$$

# QUANTUM ANALYSIS (8)

- **Local propagator in position space near the big bounce**  
( $\eta, \eta' \rightarrow 0$ )

$$\langle \phi(x) \phi^*(x') \rangle_{\text{FR}}^{\eta, \eta' \rightarrow 0} 4R^2 \sum_{l,m} Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi) [Y_l^m(\theta', \varphi')]^* \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} ds \int_0^{+\infty} dq \frac{q^2 j_l(q\chi) j_l(q\chi') e^{is(\eta-\eta')}}{\left( s^2 - q^2 + \frac{5}{4} - m^2 R^2 + i\varepsilon \right)} \times \frac{-is}{[\cosh(\pi q) - i \sinh(\pi s)]} \frac{1}{\left| \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4} + \frac{iq}{2} + \frac{is}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4} + \frac{iq}{2} - \frac{is}{2}\right) \right|^2}.$$

The early-time propagator:

- **bounded** and **well-defined** ;
- Standard **correlation** between points  $x, x'$  lying on the **same** sheet of  $\mathcal{M}^{3,1}$ ;
- **Propagation** between points located on **opposite** sheets of  $\mathcal{M}^{3,1}$  near the big bounce.

# CONCLUDING REMARKS (1)

- **Classical analysis** of FRW geometry: general-relativity tools; investigation of null and timelike geodesics;
- **Quantum analysis** of FRW geometry: quantum-field-theory techniques; evaluation of the scalar field propagator.
- **Future perspectives** and **open problems**:
  1. Our analysis is restricted to **non-interacting test particles**. For a physical particle near the big bounce, there would be infinitely strong interactions with the infinite matter density;
  2. Investigation of the **correlation** between **pre-big bounce** and **post-big bounce** eras;
  3. Propagation of **fermions**

## CONCLUDING REMARKS (2)

Further details can be found in

**Emmanuele Battista and Harold C. Steinacker,**  
***“On the propagation across the big bounce  
in an open quantum FLRW cosmology”*,**  
***arXiv: 2207.01295 [gr-qc] (2022).***