

# White and Dark smokes in cosmology

Sean Carroll, Caltech



>> decision made!



>> still thinking

## White smokes: what we know about cosmology.

- Hot Big Bang
- Large-scale homogeneity
- Friedmann equation (early on)
- Perturbations are primordial
- Dark matter exists
- Universe is accelerating
- Baryon asymmetry is real



## Dark smokes: what we don't know about cosmology.

- What is the dark matter?
- Why is the universe accelerating?
- Why is there a baryon asymmetry?
- Did inflation happen?
- How did inflation happen?
- Galaxy formation, magnetic fields...



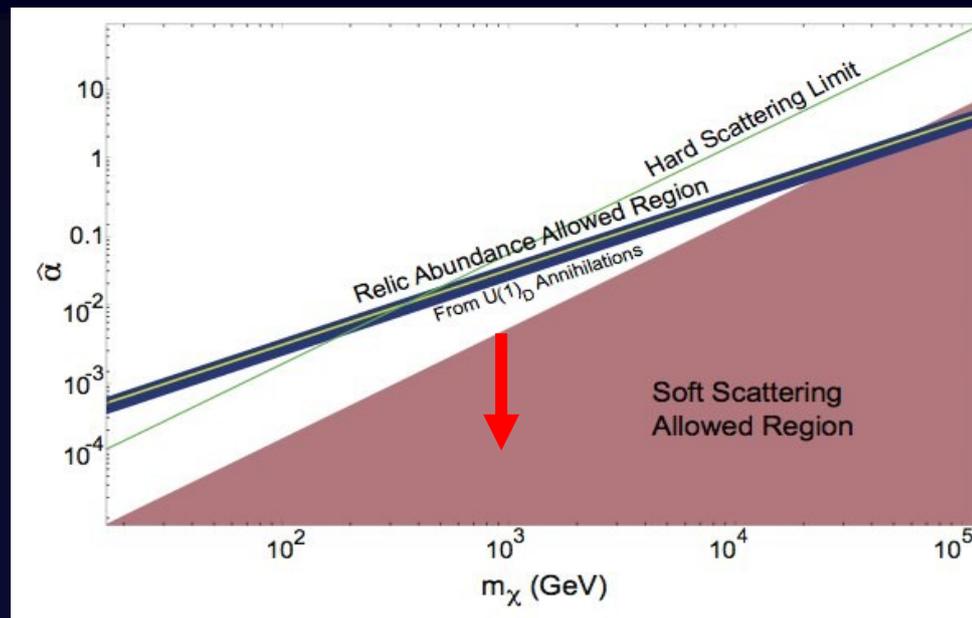
Really dark smokes:  
questions we are reluctant to even ask.



# Is there dark chemistry?

First, can there be dark electromagnetism?

Remarkably, yes: unbroken  $U(1)_{\text{dark}}$  is consistent with galaxy structure for reasonable parameters.



[Ackerman, Buckley, Carroll & Kamionkowski 2008]

However: probably doomed by magnetic instabilities.

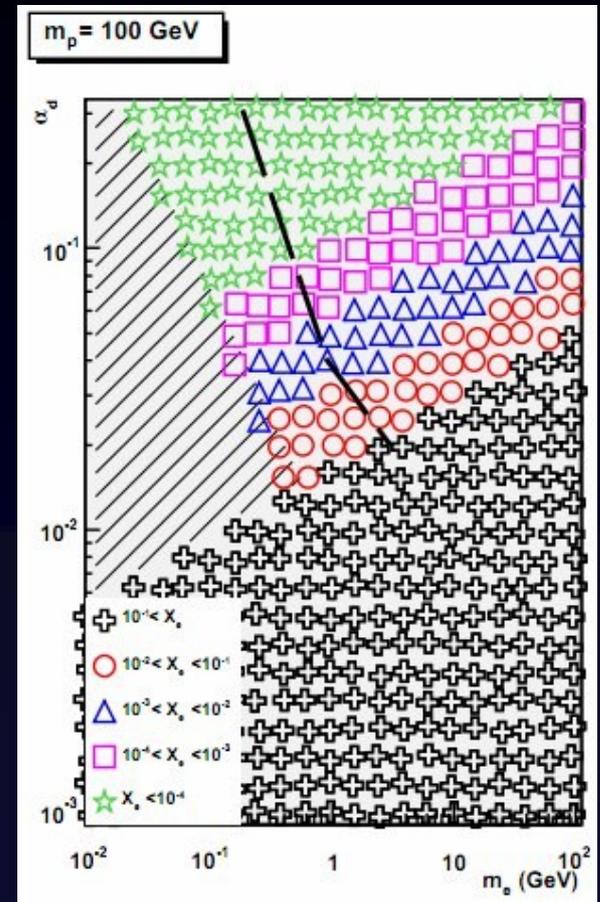
Solution: **dark atoms.**

Posit an asymmetry in the dark sector (connected to baryons?), with dark protons and dark electrons.

Benefits:

- atoms are neutral, no instabilities
- inelastic DM
- affects (helps?) small-scale structure

Let your imagination roam.



[Kaplan, Krnjaic,  
Rehermann & Wells 2009]

## What is dark energy likely to be?

Bayes:

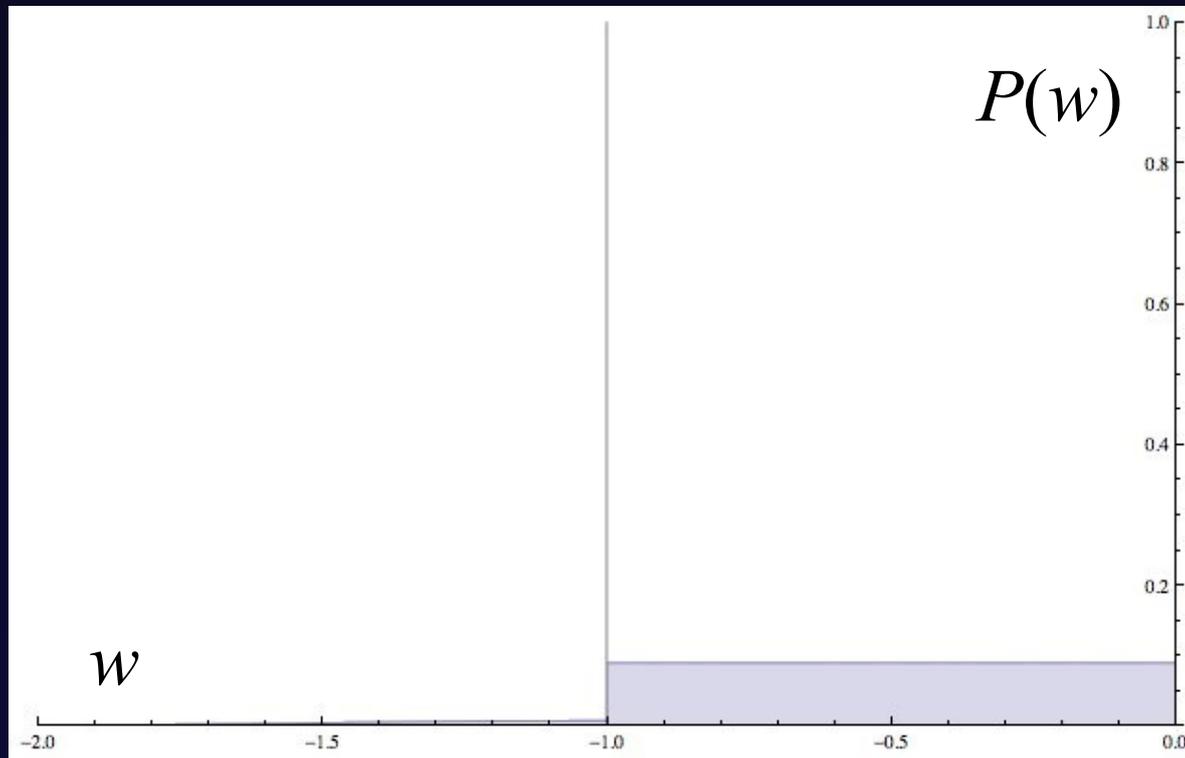
$$P(T_i|D) = \frac{P(D|T_i)P(T_i)}{\sum_j P(D|T_j)P(T_j)}$$

To be honest about whether the data favor a certain value of (for example)  $w$ , we need to specify the prior probability  $P(w)$ .

Also, to be honest about how much money we should spend measuring it.

One person's guess:

$$P(w) = \begin{cases} 0, & w \geq 0 \\ 0.09, & -1 < w < 0 \\ 0.9\delta(w + 1), & w = -1 \\ 0.01 \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-2(w+1)^2}, & w < -1 \end{cases}$$

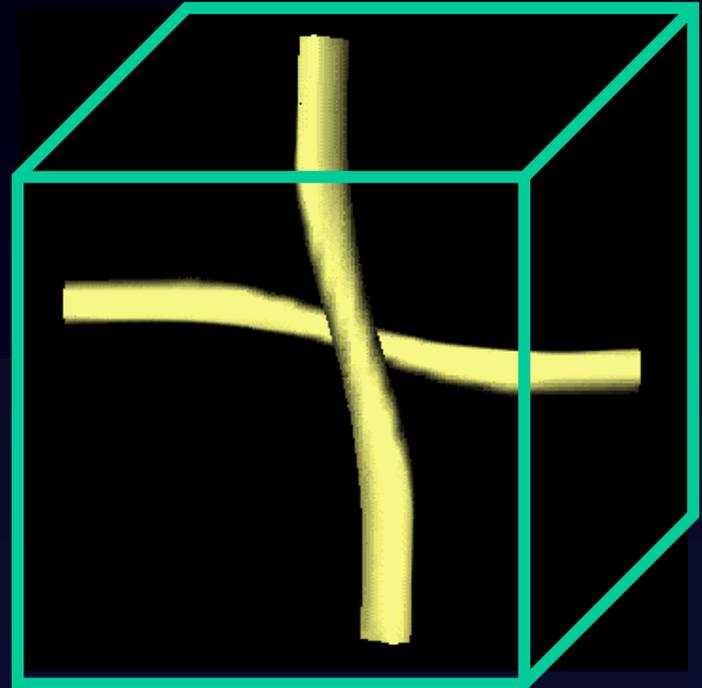


# Why four dimensions?

Brandenberger & Vafa, 1989:  
decompactify three  
spatial dimensions via  
string intersections

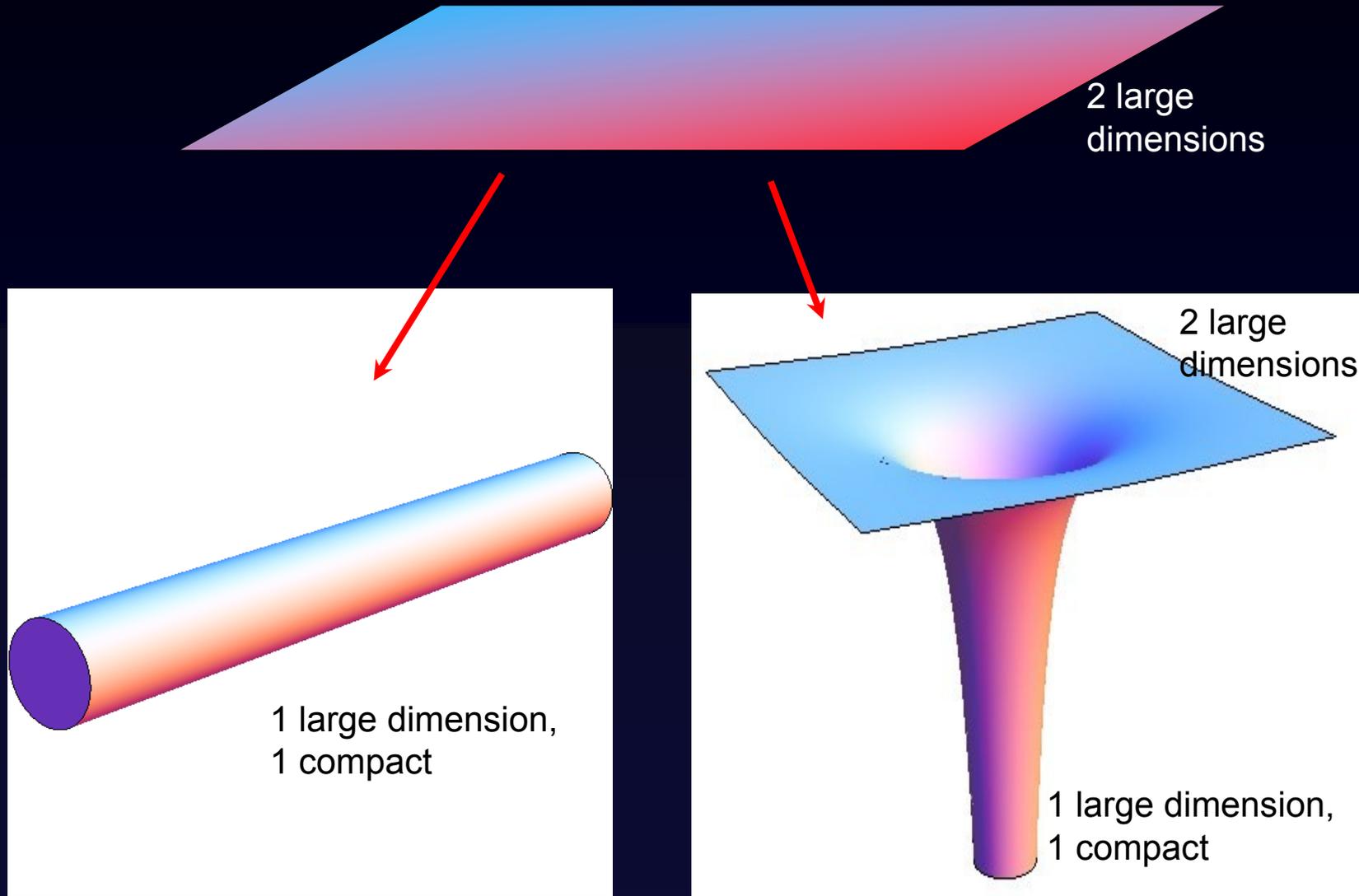
Issues:

- branes
- non-torus geometries
- why did everything start compact?



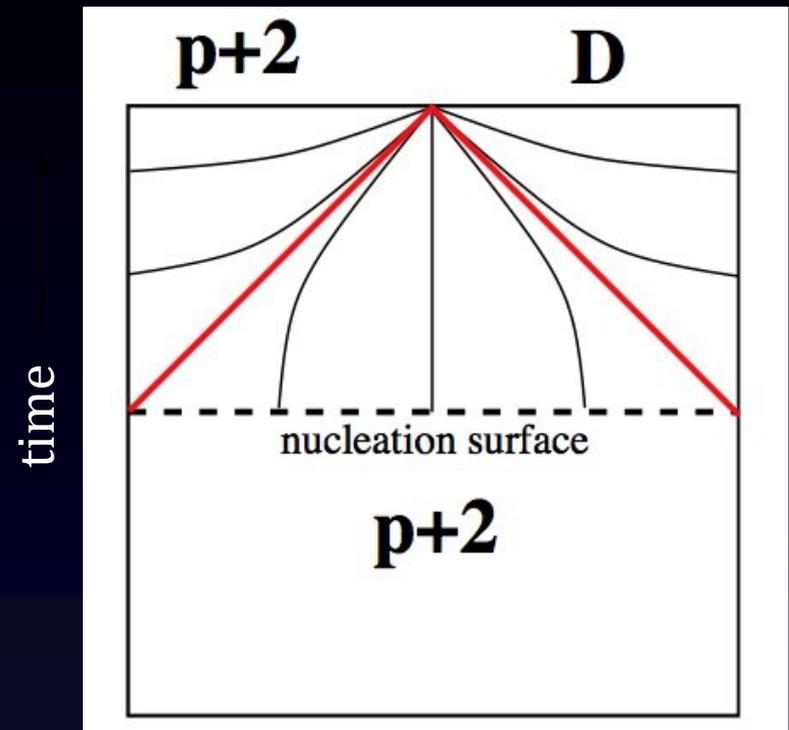
Alternatively:

start with large dimensions, and **spontaneously compactify**.



Interesting result:  
 spontaneous compactification  
 happens automatically  
 via quantum transitions  
 as long as you have:

- de Sitter background
- an electromagnetic field
- at least 6 dimensions to start.



$$S = \int d^n x \left( R - \Lambda_n - \frac{1}{4} F_{ab} F^{ab} \right)$$

## Can we calculate in a multiverse?

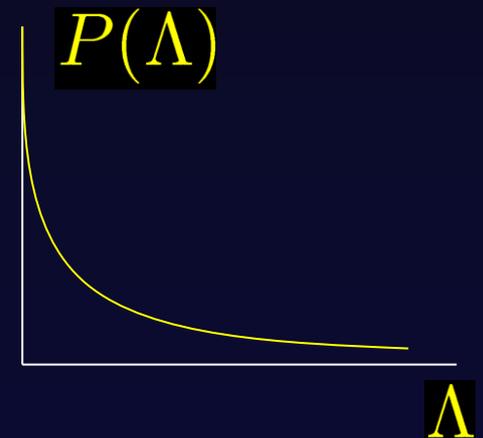
Weinberg: successful anthropic prediction for the cosmological constant, assuming a flat probability distribution near  $\Lambda = 0$ .

Reasonable alternative: weight different vacua by the number of states,  $\sim e^S$ .

de Sitter:  $S_{dS} \sim 1/\Lambda \sim M_{Pl}^4/\rho_\Lambda$

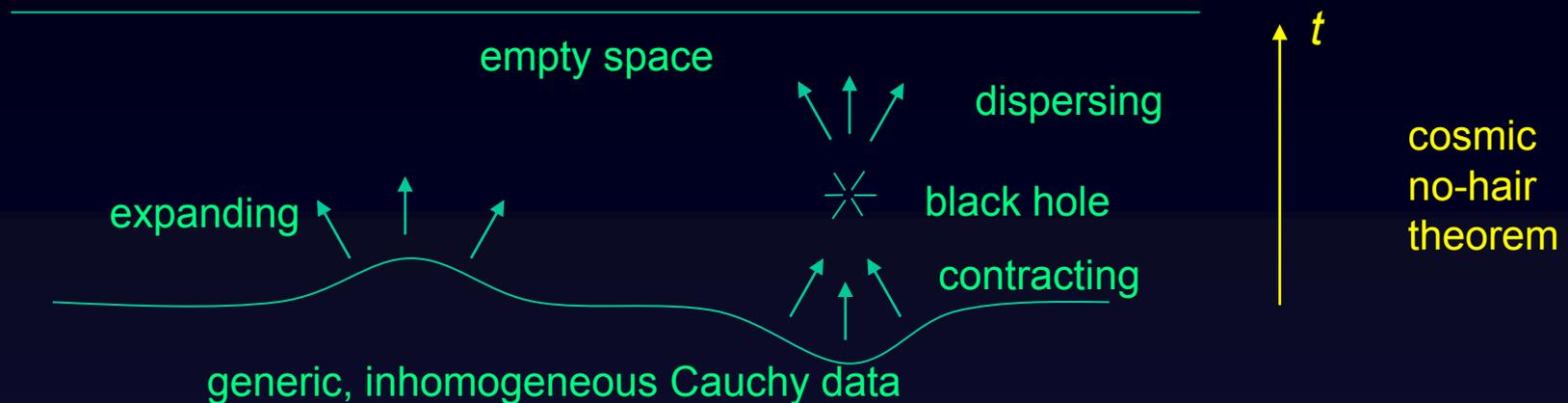
Therefore:  $P(\Lambda) \sim e^{1/\Lambda}$

Prediction:  $\Lambda = 0$  to incredible accuracy.



# Why is there anything else in the universe?

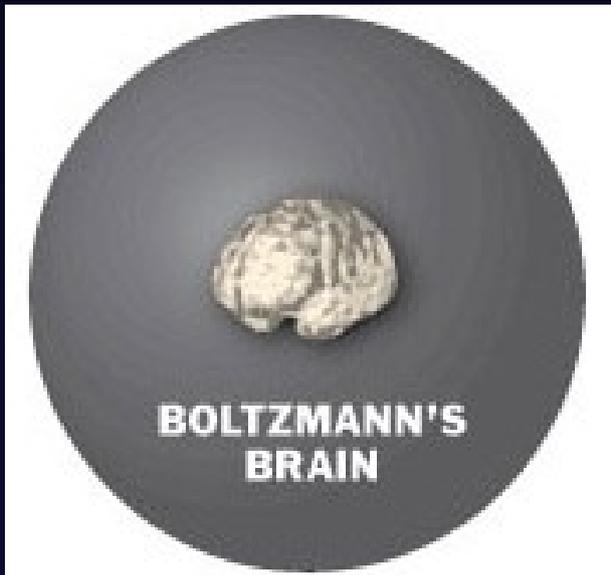
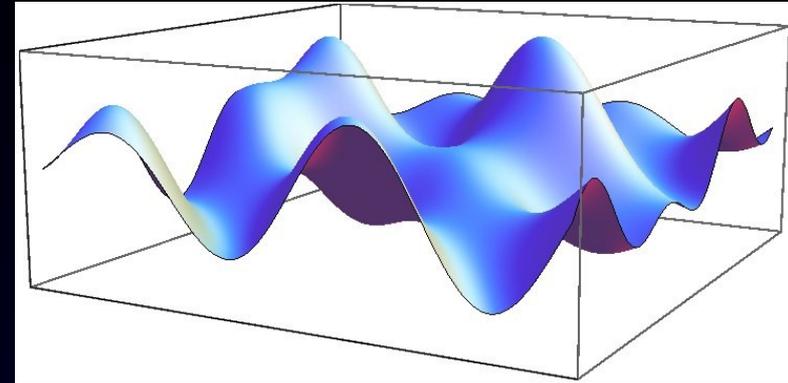
Ask yourself: what should the universe look like?



A “natural” (high entropy) state for the universe is empty space. de Sitter/Minkowski with a small cosmological constant.

Why don't we live in empty space?

de Sitter space has  
a nonzero temperature,  
 $T_{\text{dS}} = (E_{\text{vac}})^2/E_{\text{Planck}}$ , about  
 $10^{-30}$  K for our universe.



[Dyson, Kleban & Susskind;  
Albrecht & Sorbo]

A nonzero temperature implies  
thermal fluctuations. Every  
allowed configuration of matter  
eventually appears.

That includes planets, galaxies,  
and people.

Recurrence time:  $10^{10^{120}}$  years.

# History of our universe

$t \sim 10^{10}$  years

$t \sim 10^{100}$  years  
(black holes evaporate)

$t \sim 10^{10^{120}}$  years  
(recurrence time)

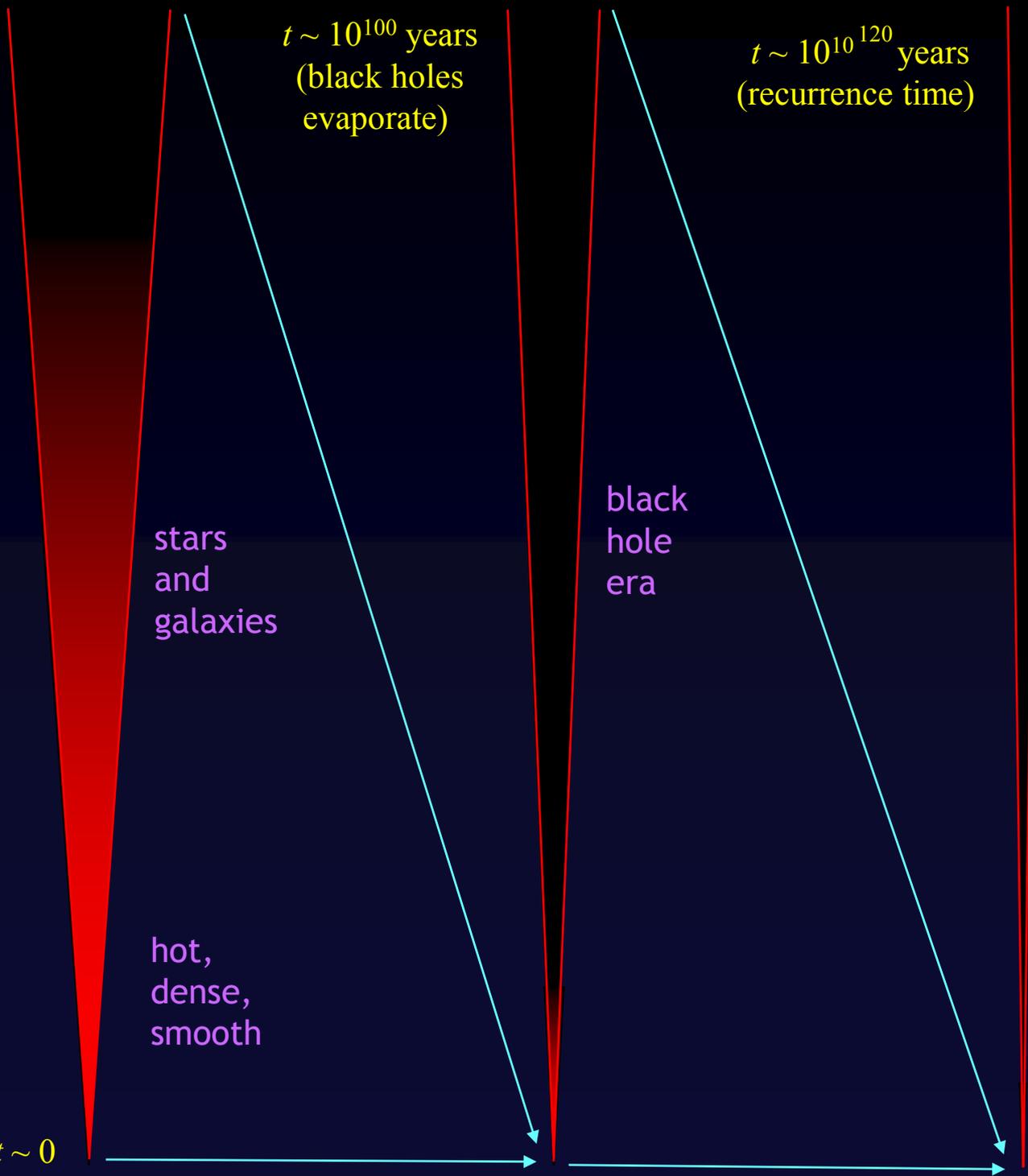
$t \sim 0$

stars and galaxies

hot, dense, smooth

black hole era

empty de Sitter space

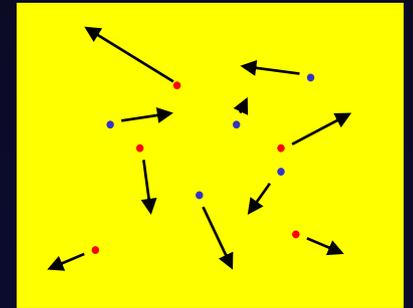


# Why do we live in the aftermath of a low-entropy Big Bang?

We don't have a general formula for entropy, but we do understand some special cases.

Thermal gas  
(early universe):

$$S_{\text{therm}} = \left( \frac{\rho + p}{T} \right) V \sim N \sim 10^{88}$$

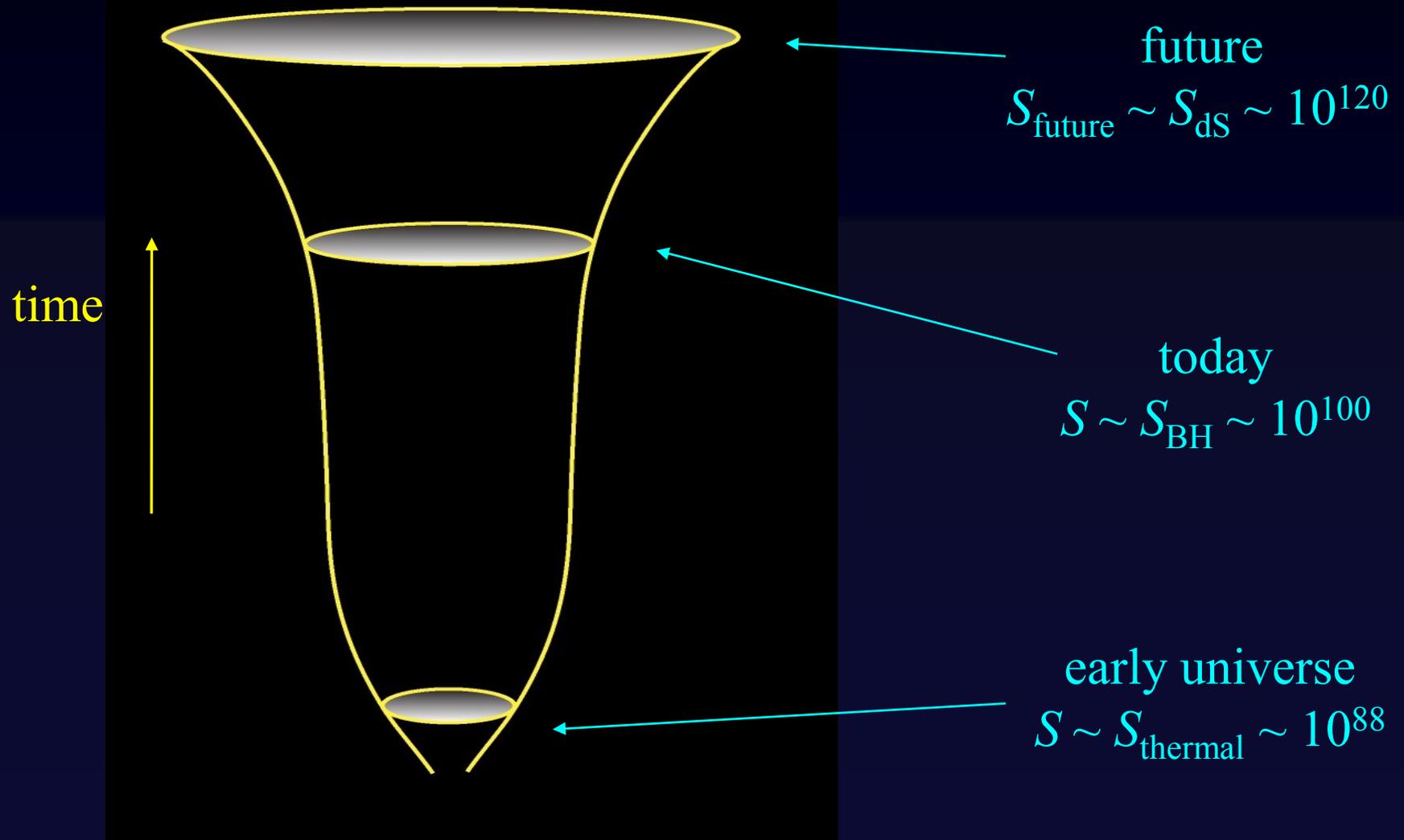


Black holes  
(today):

$$S_{\text{BH}} = \frac{A}{4G} \sim 10^{90} \left( \frac{M_{\text{BH}}}{10^6 M_{\odot}} \right)^2 \sim 10^{100}$$

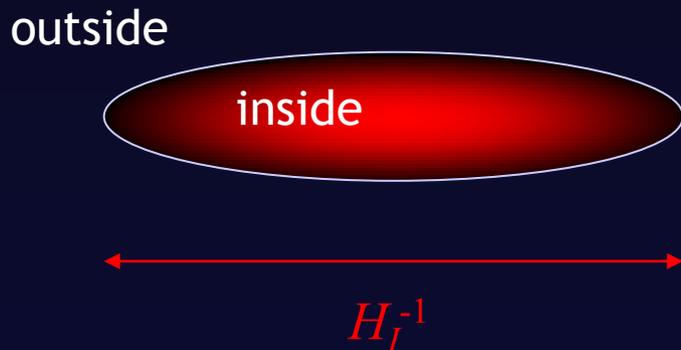


The current universe is very low entropy;  
the early universe was even lower.



Inflation does not explain why entropy was originally low.

Inflation tries to make the state of the early universe seem natural, by invoking a tiny proto-inflationary patch dominated by false vacuum energy at a very high scale. Almost all modes were exactly in their ground states.



But that's a lower-entropy (more finely-tuned) initial condition than conventional Big-Bang cosmology. Assumes the answer, doesn't provide it.

$$S_{\text{inflation}} \sim (M_P/E_I)^3 \sim 10^{12} \ll 10^{88} !$$

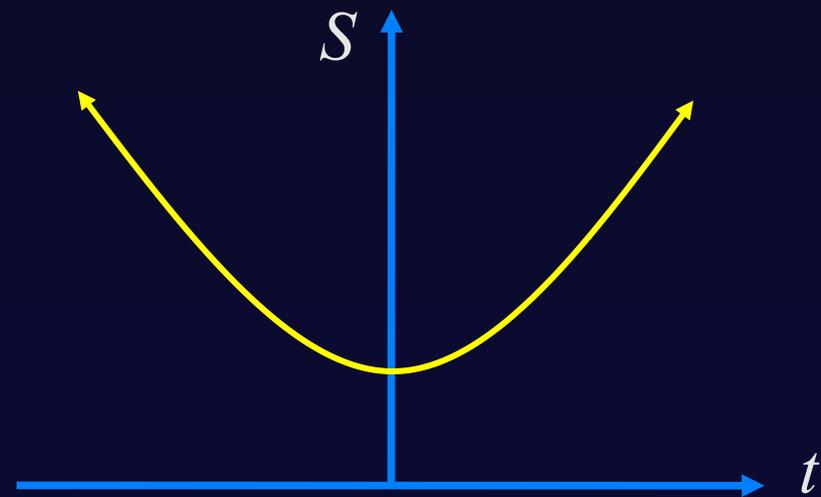
The goal is to construct “Sagan-like” cosmology:

if  $S_n(t + \Delta t) > S_n(t)$ ,

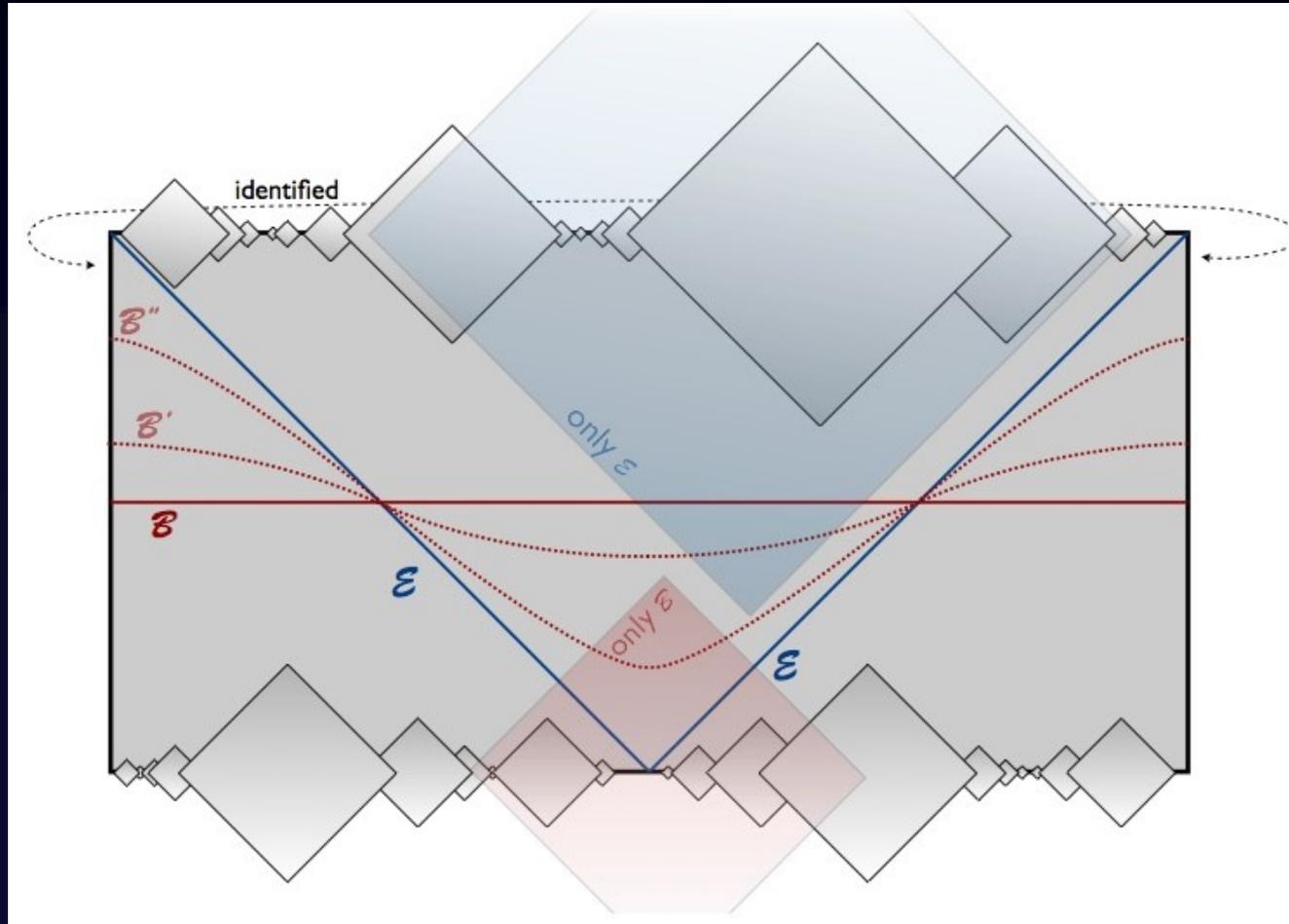
then  $S_n(t) > S_n(t - \Delta t)$  with high probability.

That is: if entropy is increasing, it’s probably been increasing for a while.

Trick to avoiding Boltzmann-brain fluctuations:  
unbounded entropy toward past and future.



The multiverse might be time-symmetric on the largest scales: entropy increasing toward both the past and the future.



[Carroll & Chen;  
Aguirre & Gratton; Page;  
Hartle and Hertog]

I Don't know if you Exist

But I Do! I do not Agree  
with your Article and I Do not  
Believe that "MOMBO — JOMBO" if  
you do... well! it's Disturbing

Thought But I know How  
to Deal with it! I will Not  
let the world Disper Under  
My Nose But if you Do I can't  
say I'm sorry!

Sincerely  
A Ten year old who knows a little more

than SOME Peep!

George Wing

ps. some peopl Have  
a lot in the Man time

Always  
some  
skeptics.