

Introduction

*Quartic
Gradient Flow*

*Numerical
results*

Summary

Quartic Gradient Flow

Ryusuke Jinno (RESCEU, UTokyo)

w/ Muzi Hong

Higgs as a Probe of New Physics @Osaka Univ., June 5-9, 2023



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SADDLE POINTS IN QFT

➤ Saddle points sometimes appear in QFT

Euclidean bounce

- Saddle point of the Euclidean action
- Determines the tunneling rate of a metastable vacuum

Sphaleron

- Saddle point of the energy in the electroweak theory
- Determines the rate of B+L violating interactions

SADDLE POINTS IN QFT

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Euclidean bounce

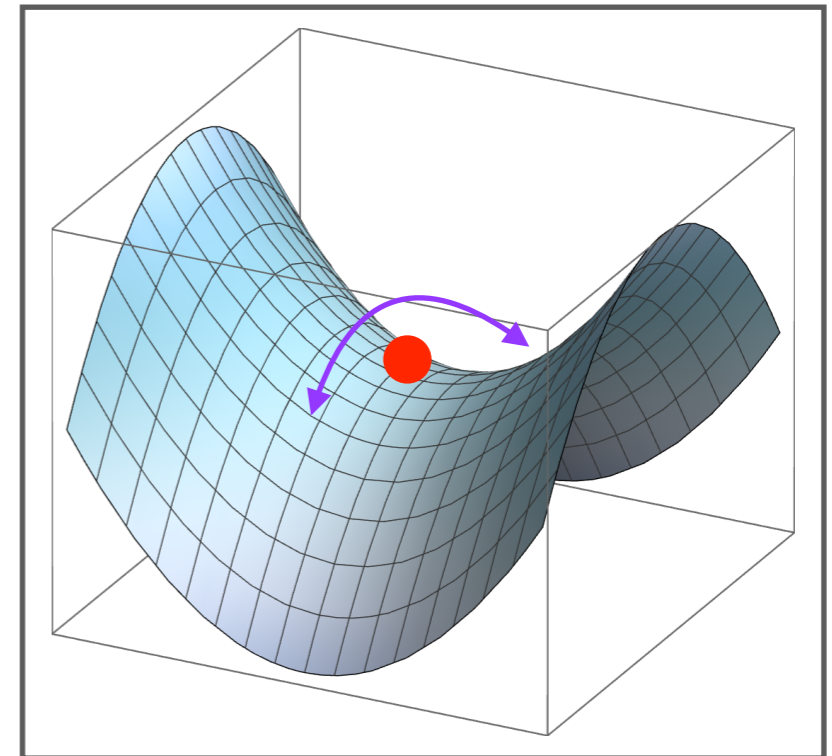
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action, energy, etc.

field config. space



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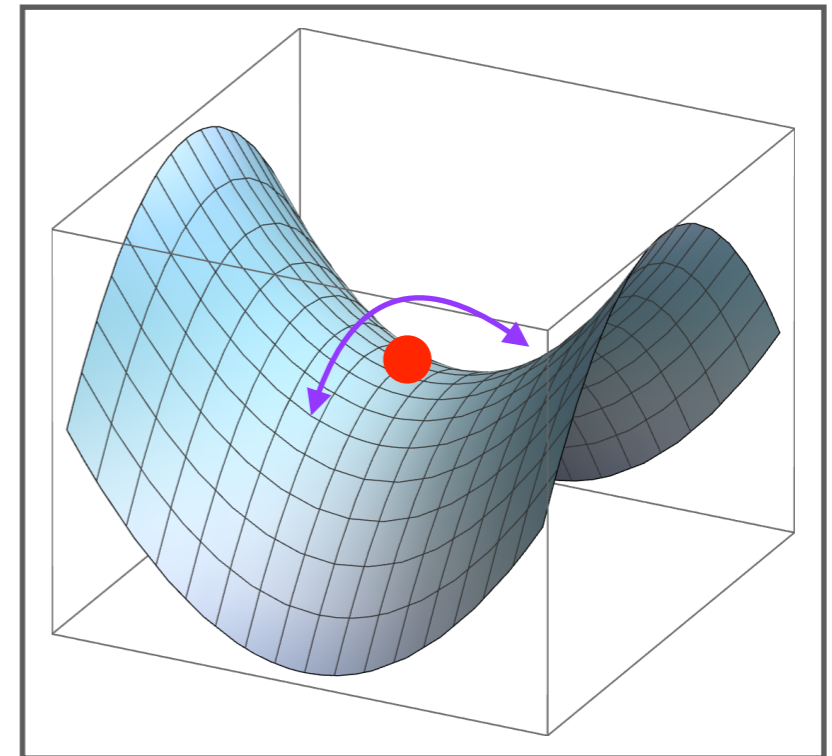
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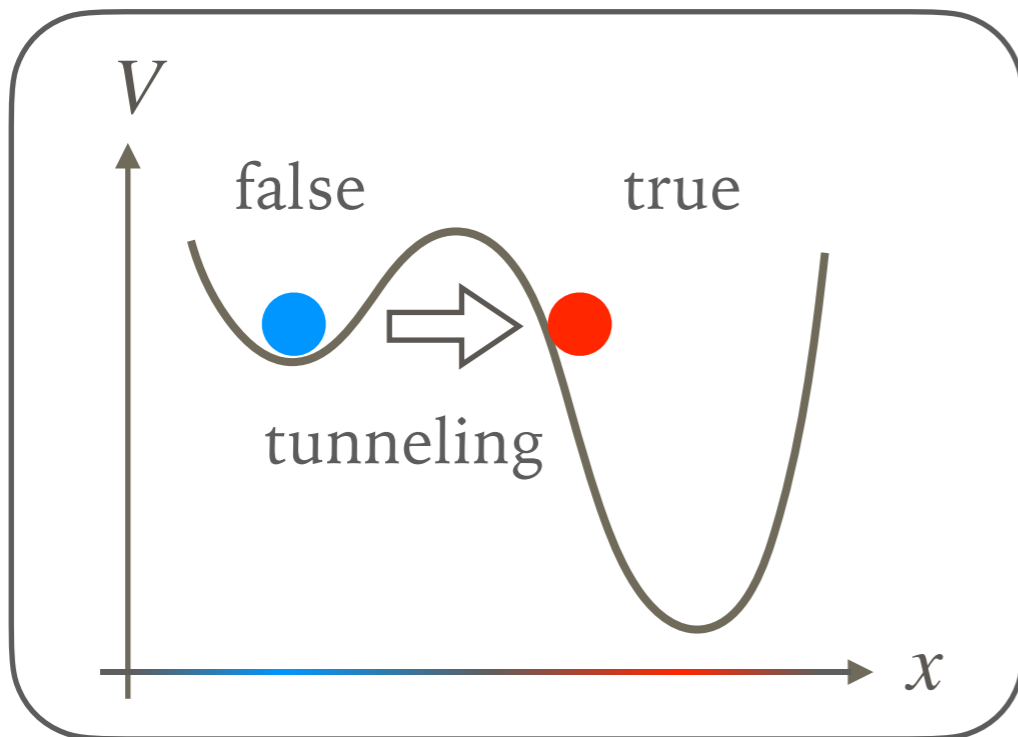
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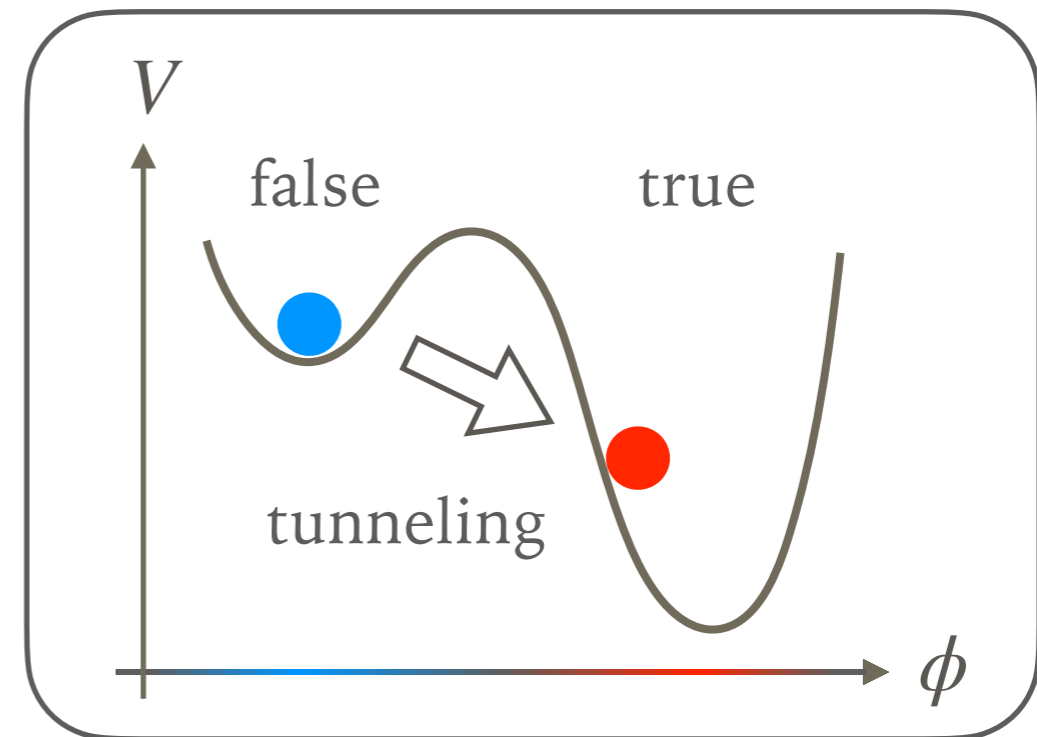
TUNNELING IN QUANTUM MECHANICS AND QFT

- Tunneling in quantum mechanics & quantum field theory

Quantum mechanics



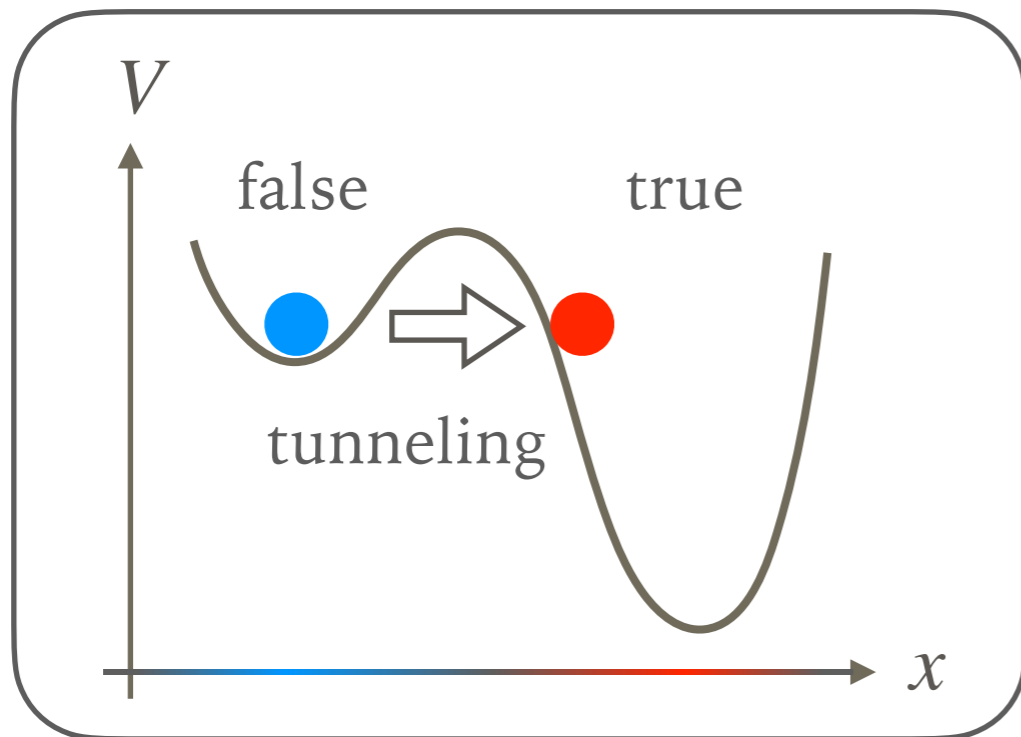
QFT



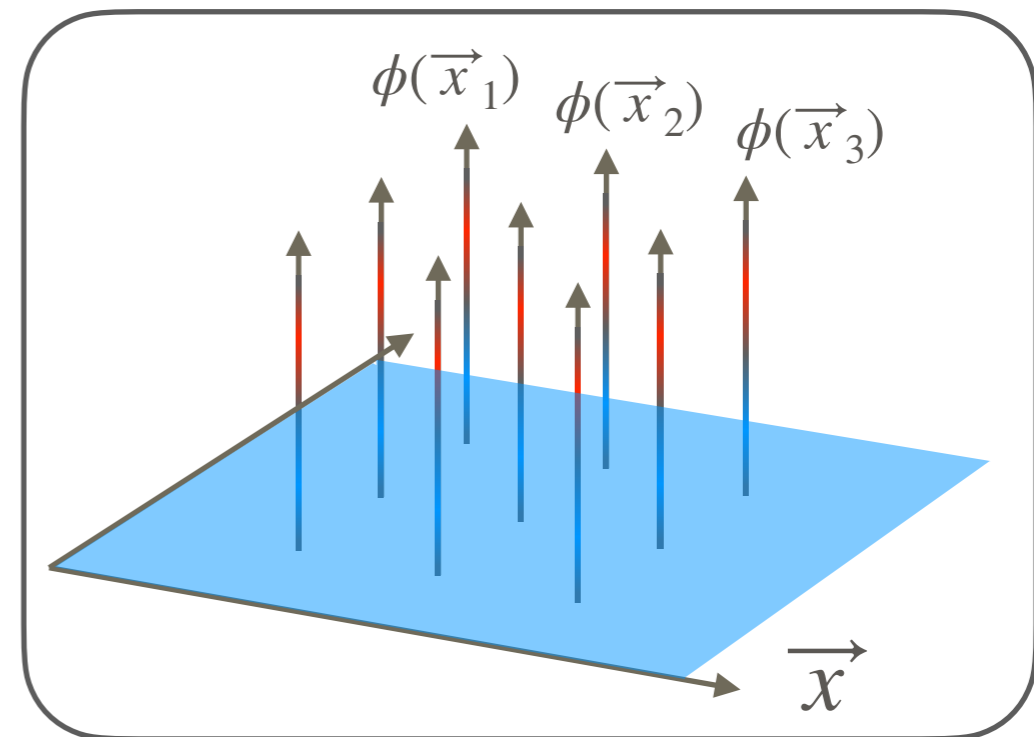
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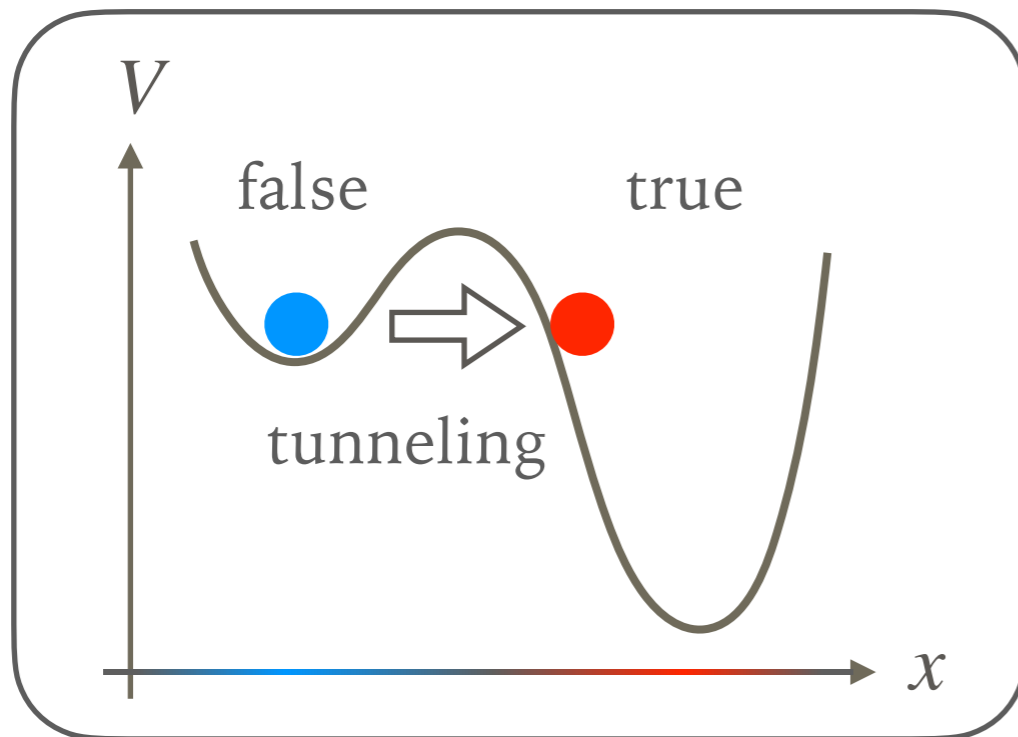
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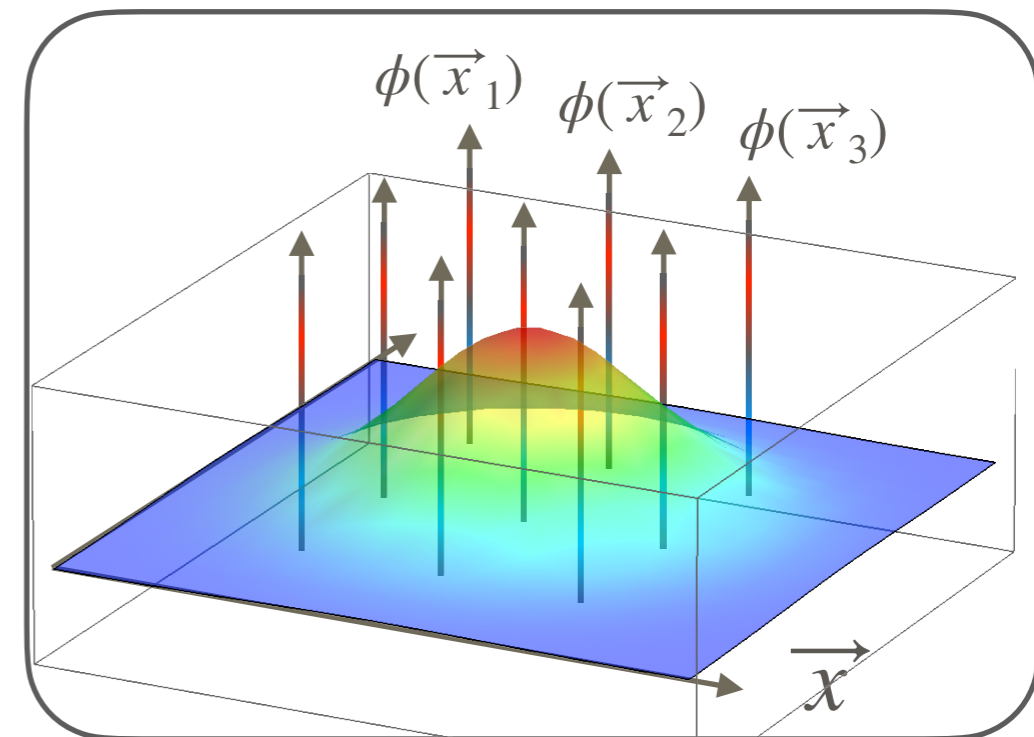
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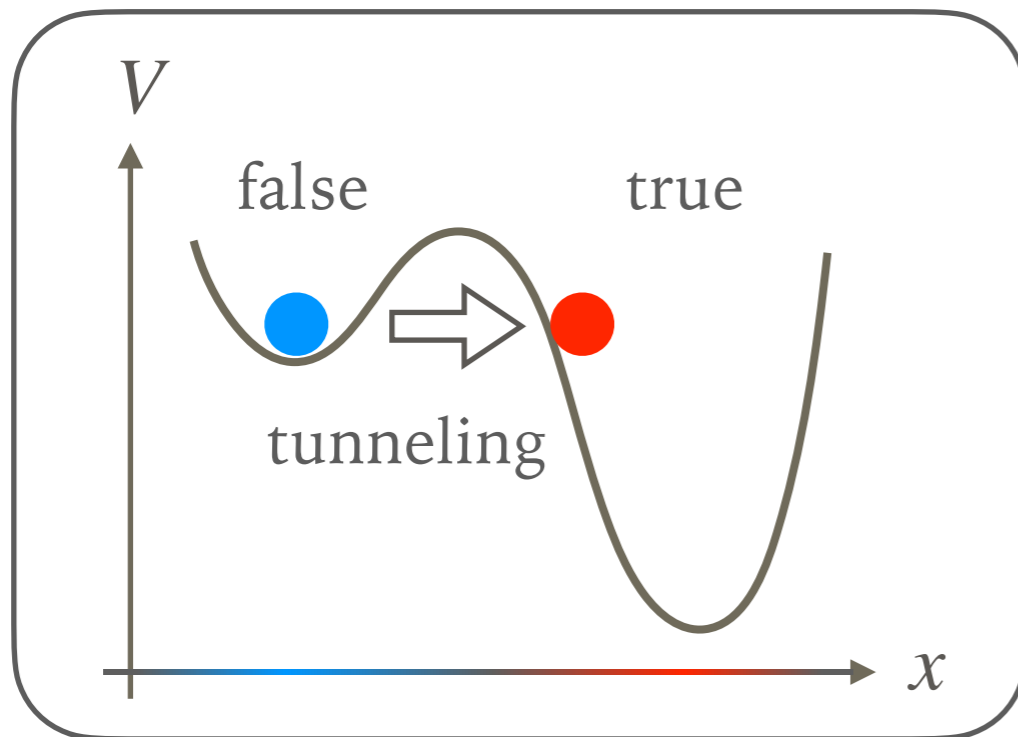


tunneling (nucleation)

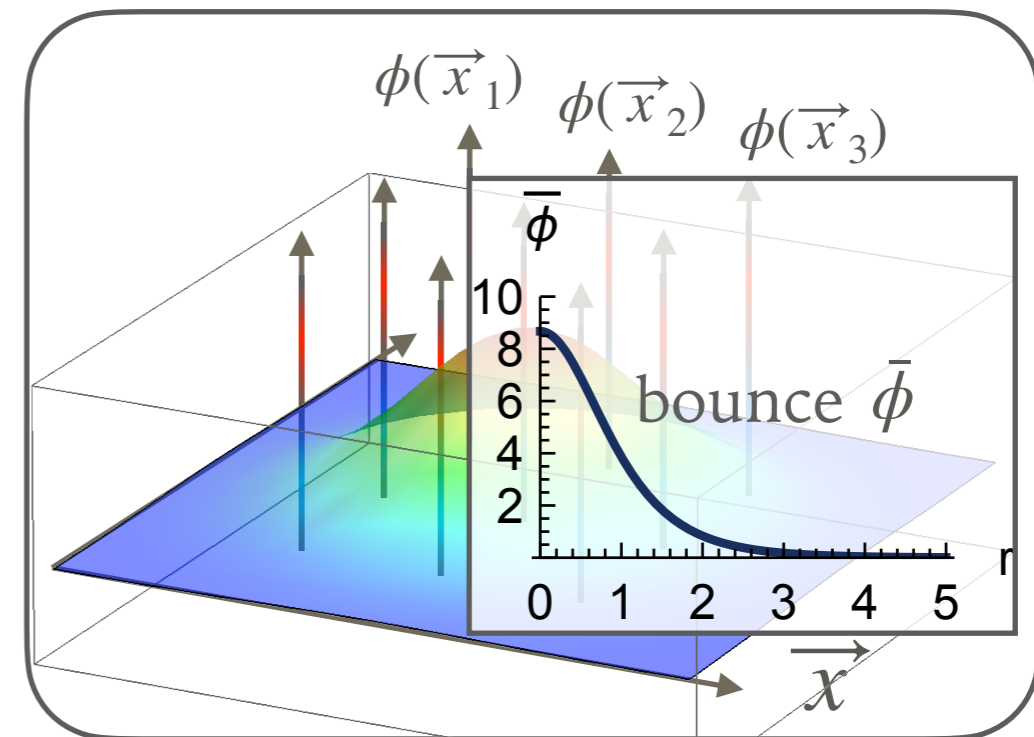
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QFT



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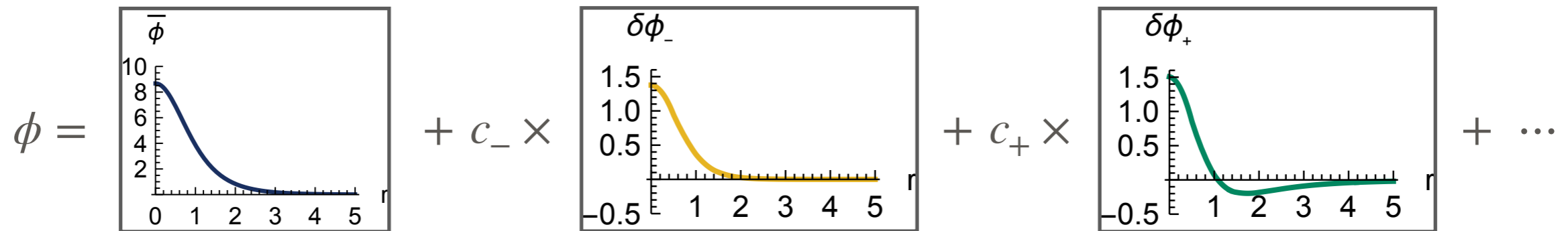
BOUNCE IS A SADDLE POINT OF THE EUCLIDEAN ACTION

[Coleman '77]

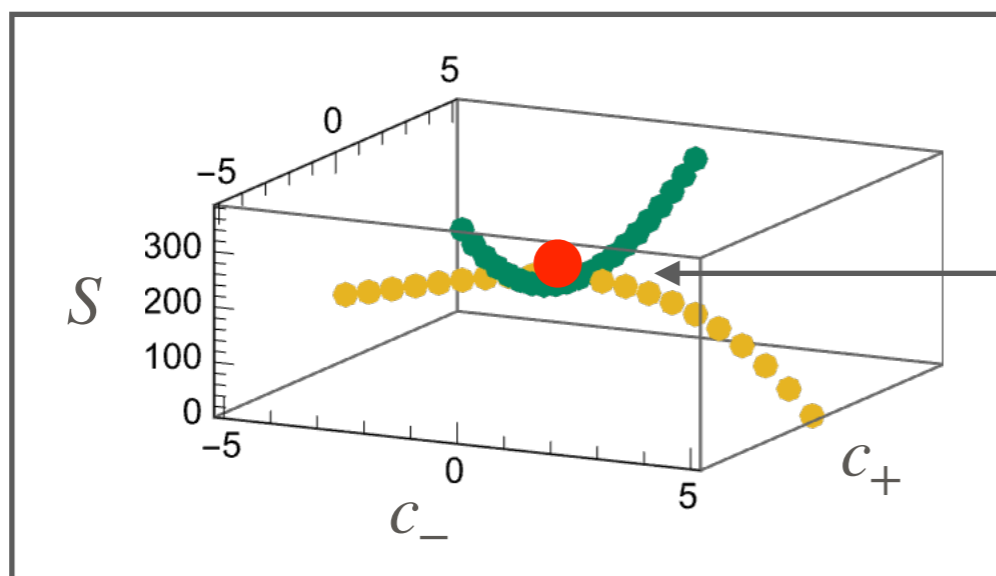
[Callan, Coleman '77]

► Saddle point – what does it mean?

- When ϕ is perturbed around $\bar{\phi}$ as



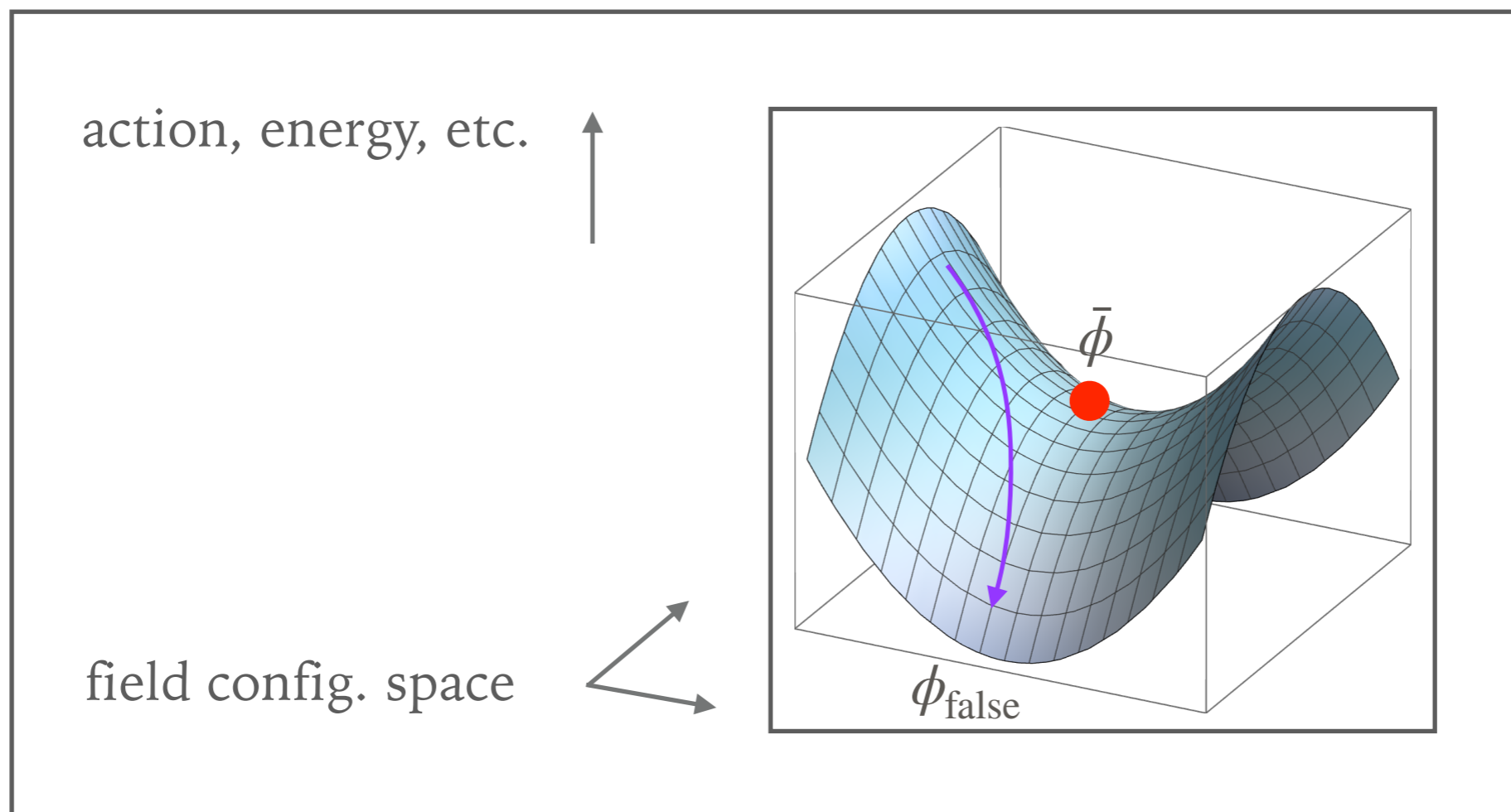
Euclidean action $S = \int d^4x \left[\frac{1}{2} (\partial_E \phi)^2 + V(\phi) \right] = 2\pi^2 \int dr r^3 \left[\frac{1}{2} (\partial_r \phi)^2 + V(\phi) \right]$ behaves as



bounce $\partial_r^2 \phi + \frac{3}{r} \partial_r \phi - V'(\phi) = 0$

DIFFICULTY ABOUT THE BOUNCE

- Difficulty in calculating the bounce and other saddle points in general
 - If you naively minimize the Euclidean action, you'll get $\phi = \phi_{\text{false}}$ (trivial sol.)



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- If you naively minimize the Euclidean action, you'll get $\phi = \phi_{\text{false}}$ (trivial sol.)

➤ A more mathematical description of the difficulty

- Suppose the configuration is close to the bounce $\phi = \bar{\phi} + \delta\phi$

- Expand the action around the bounce: $S[\phi] \simeq S[\bar{\phi}] + \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \delta\phi \mathcal{M}[\bar{\phi}] \delta\phi$

$$\text{w/ the operator } \mathcal{M}[\bar{\phi}] = \left. \frac{\delta^2 S}{\delta\phi\delta\phi} \right|_{\phi=\bar{\phi}} = -\partial_r^2 - \frac{3}{r}\partial_r + V''(\bar{\phi})$$

- The operator $\mathcal{M}[\bar{\phi}]$ has one **negative eigenvalue** [Callan & Coleman '77]



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GRADIENT FLOW

► What's gradient flow?

- Euler-Lagrange eq. is transformed into a diffusive form with **fictitious time t**

$$\partial_r^2 \phi + \dots = \cancel{0} \partial_t \phi$$

- If $\partial_t \phi \rightarrow 0$ for $t \rightarrow \infty$, the resulting configuration satisfies the original equation

GRADIENT FLOW

➤ However, for saddle-points, naive gradient flow does not work

- To understand this, decompose fluctuations around the bounce

$$\phi(t, r) = \bar{\phi}(r) + \delta\phi(t, r) = \bar{\phi}(r) + \sum_n c_n(t) \delta\phi_n(r)$$

$\delta\phi_n$: n-th eigenfunction of $\mathcal{M}[\bar{\phi}]$ with eigenvalue λ_n

- Naive gradient flow $\partial_t \phi = \partial_r^2 \phi + \frac{3}{r} \partial_r \phi - V'(\phi)$ behaves as

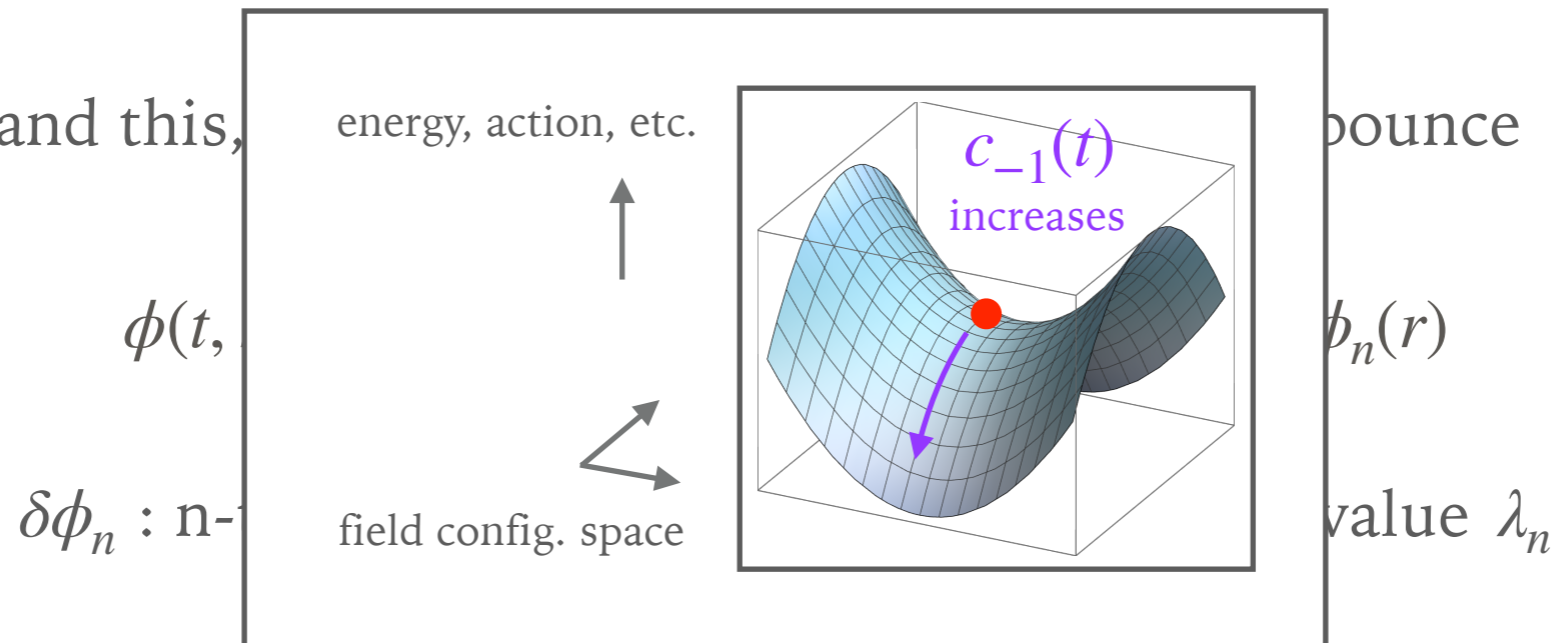
$$\sum_n \partial_t c_n(t) \delta\phi_n(r) = - \sum_n \lambda_n c_n(t) \delta\phi_n(r) \quad \rightarrow \quad \boxed{\partial_t c_n(t) = - \lambda_n c_n(t)}$$

- Due to the negative eigenvalue (call it $\lambda_{-1} < 0$), $c_{-1}(t)$ does **not** converge to zero

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- Naive gradient flow $\partial_t \phi = \partial_r^2 \phi + \frac{3}{r} \partial_r \phi - V'(\phi)$ behaves as

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QUARTIC GRADIENT FLOW

- We consider a variant of gradient flow

$$\partial_t \phi + \mathcal{M} \left[\frac{\delta S}{\delta \phi} \right] = 0 \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{M} = \frac{\delta^2 S}{\delta \phi \delta \phi}$$

meaning $\partial_t \phi + \left(-\partial_r^2 - \frac{3}{r} \partial_r + V''(\phi) \right) \left(-\partial_r^2 \phi - \frac{3}{r} \partial_r \phi + V'(\phi) \right) = 0$

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- Intuitive explanation on how it works

- Again, decompose the fluctuation around the bounce $\phi(t, r) = \bar{\phi}(r) + \sum_n c_n(t) \delta\phi_n(r)$

- Previously, the naive gradient flow failed because $\frac{\delta S}{\delta \phi} \sim \sum_n \lambda_n c_n(t) \delta\phi_n(r)$

but now the corresponding term behaves $\mathcal{M} \left[\frac{\delta S}{\delta \phi} \right] \sim \sum_n \lambda_n^2 c_n(t) \delta\phi_n(r)$

- So, the coefficients behave

$$\partial_t c_n(t) = -\lambda_n^2 c_n(t)$$

$c_n(t)$ decreases for all n



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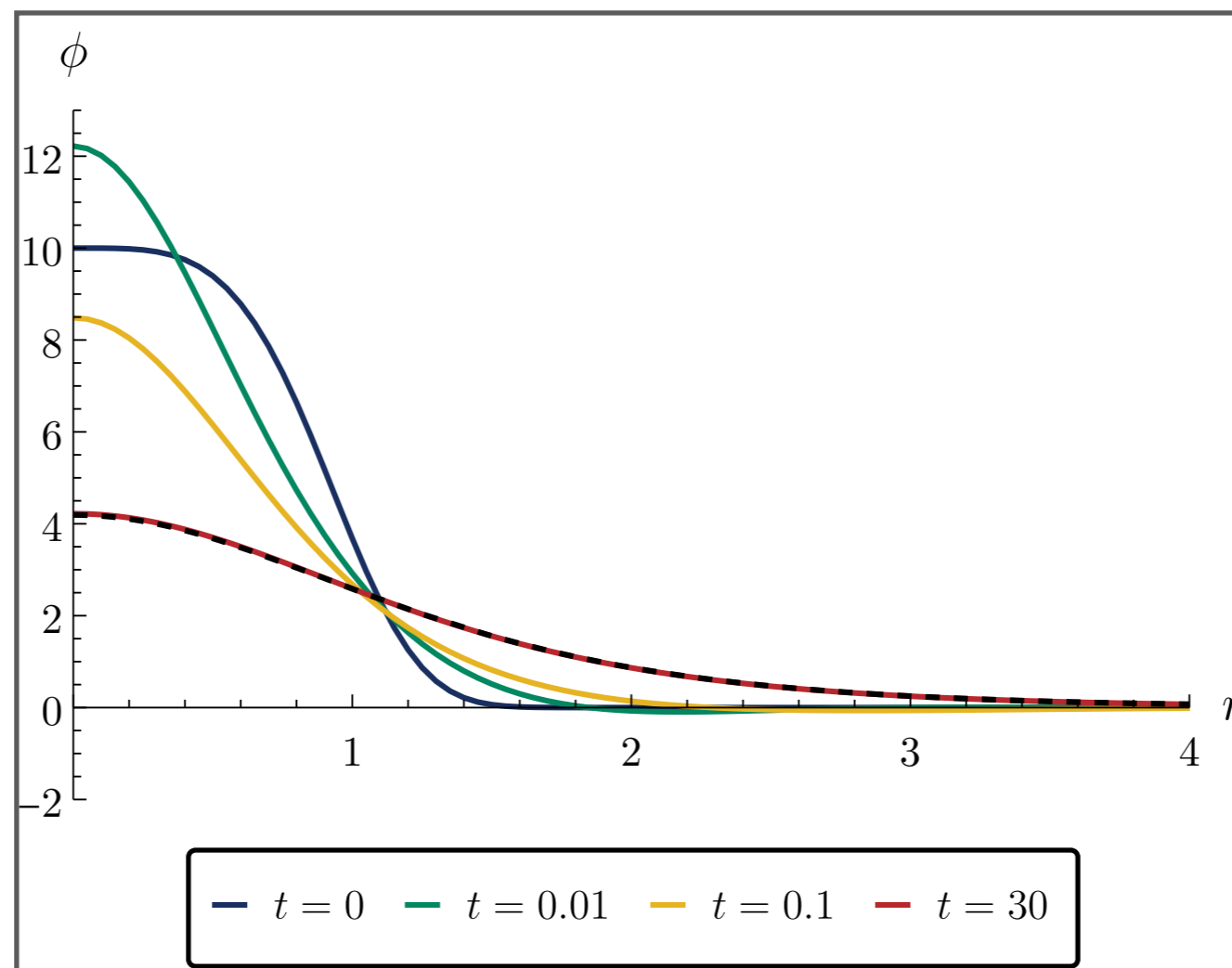
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NUMERICAL RESULTS

► Example 1: $V(\phi) = \frac{\phi^2}{2} - \frac{\phi^3}{3}$

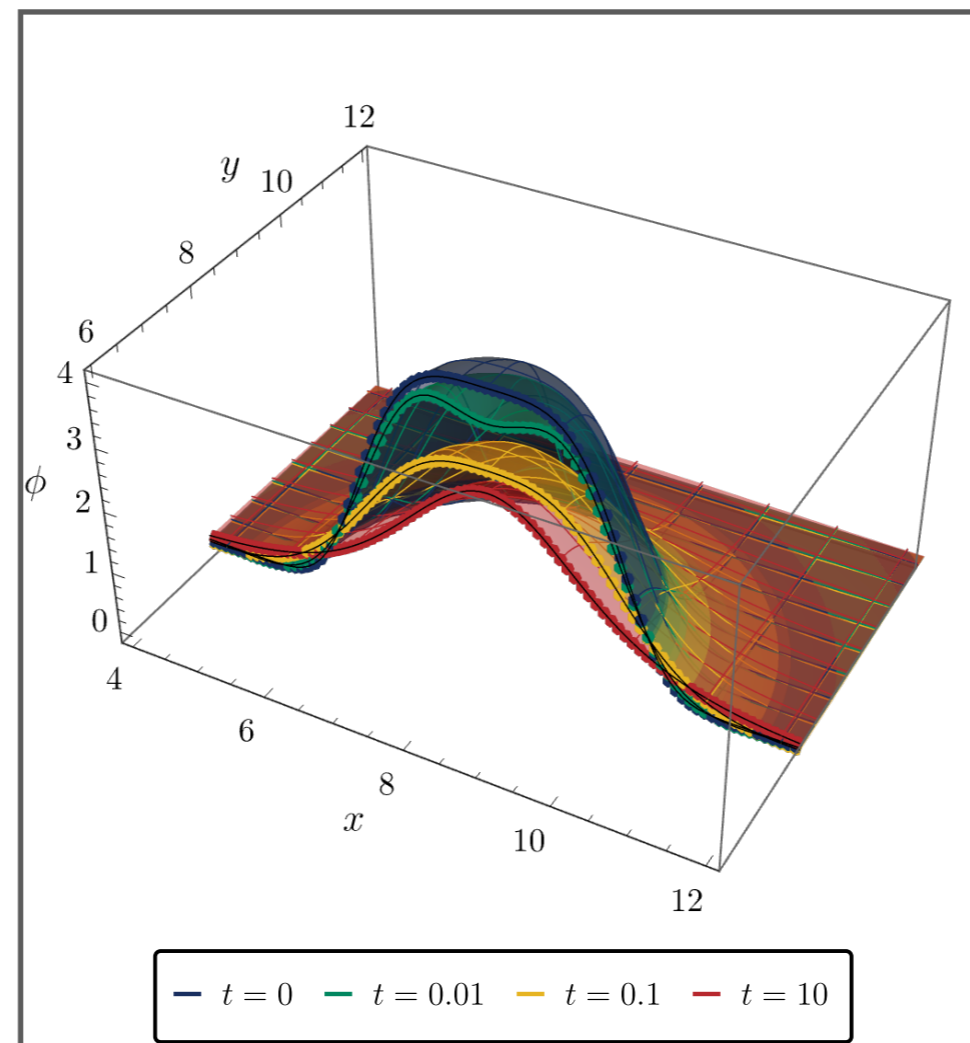
- We first assume spherical symmetry, $S = \int 2\pi^2 r^3 dr \left[\frac{1}{2}(\partial_r \phi)^2 + V(\phi) \right]$



NUMERICAL RESULTS

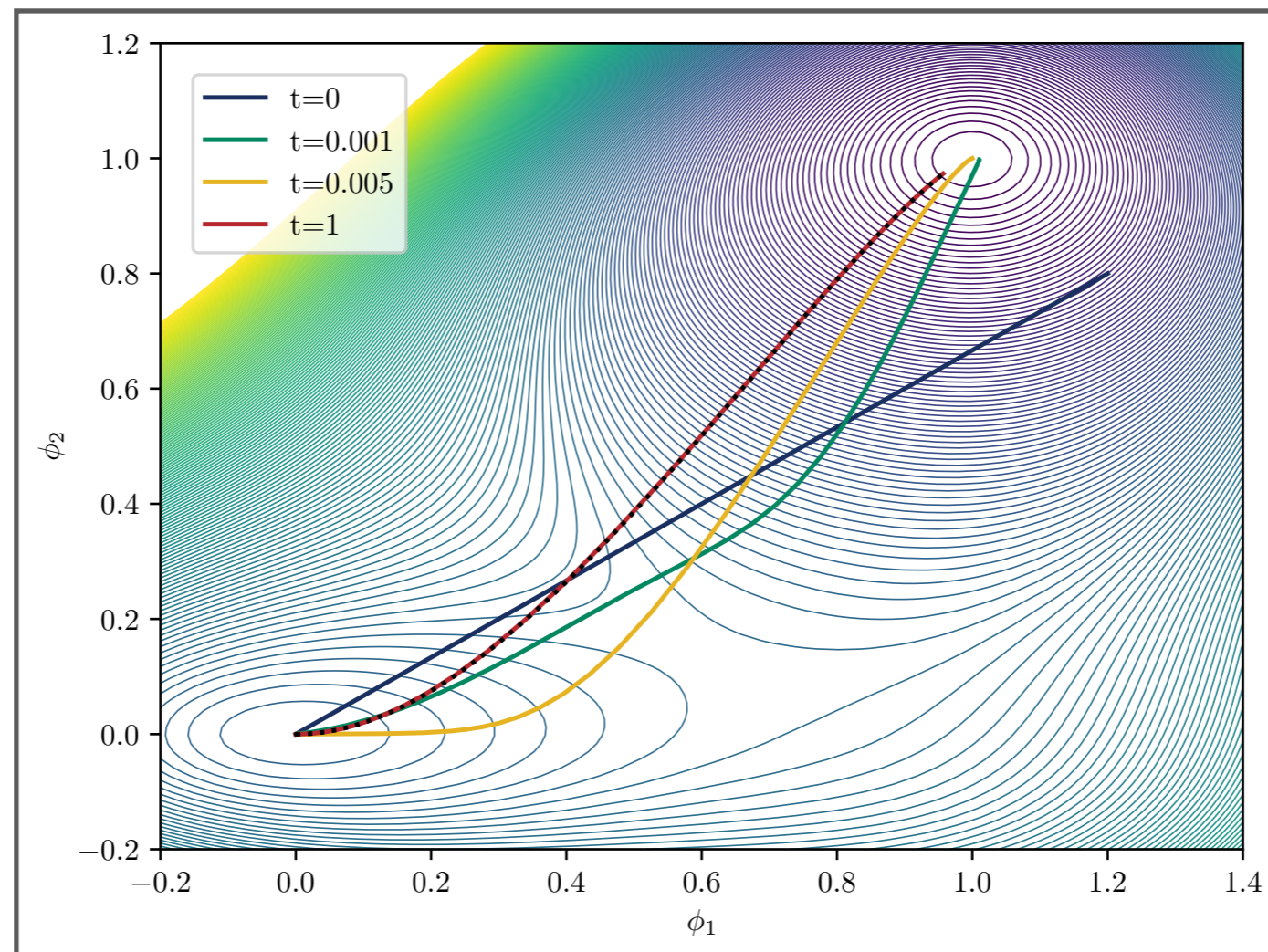
► Example 1: $V(\phi) = \frac{\phi^2}{2} - \frac{\phi^3}{3}$

- We can also play without spherical symmetry, $S = \int dx dy \left[\frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 + V(\phi) \right]$



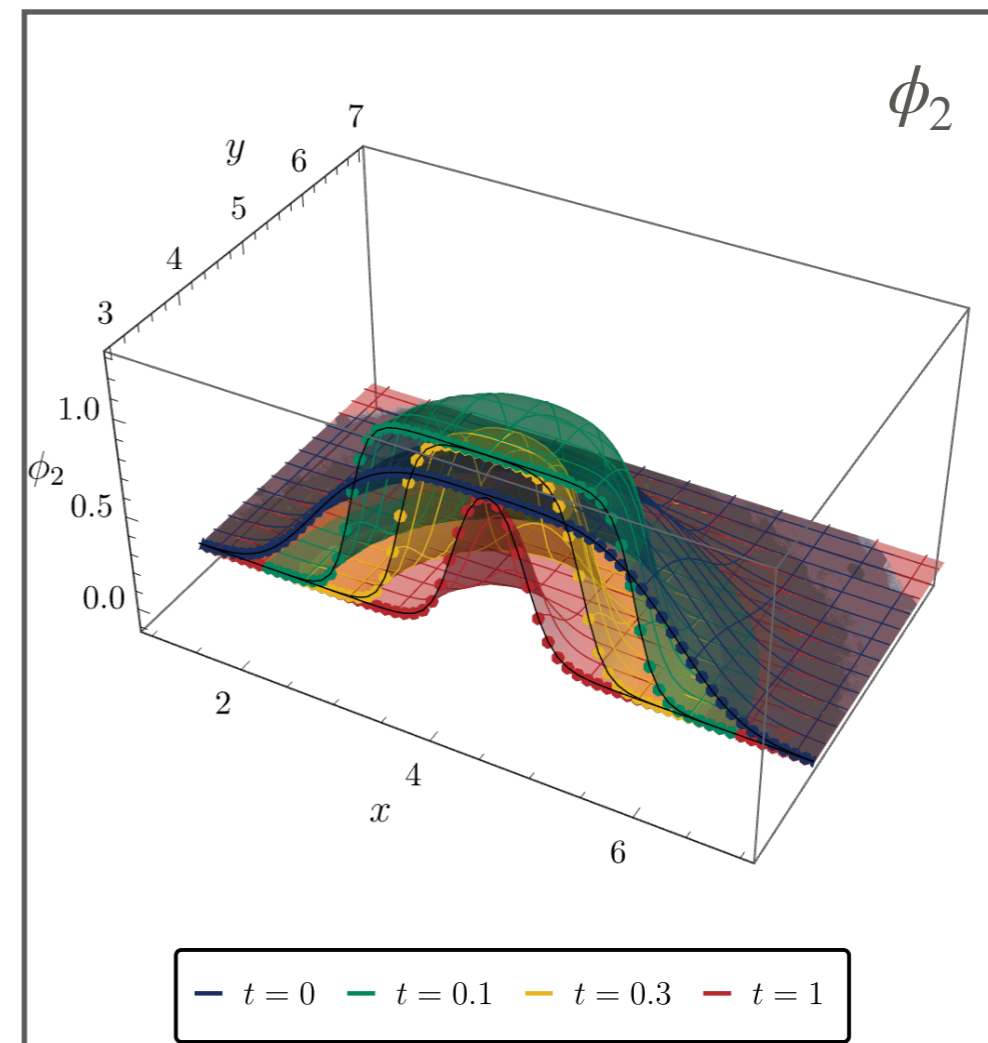
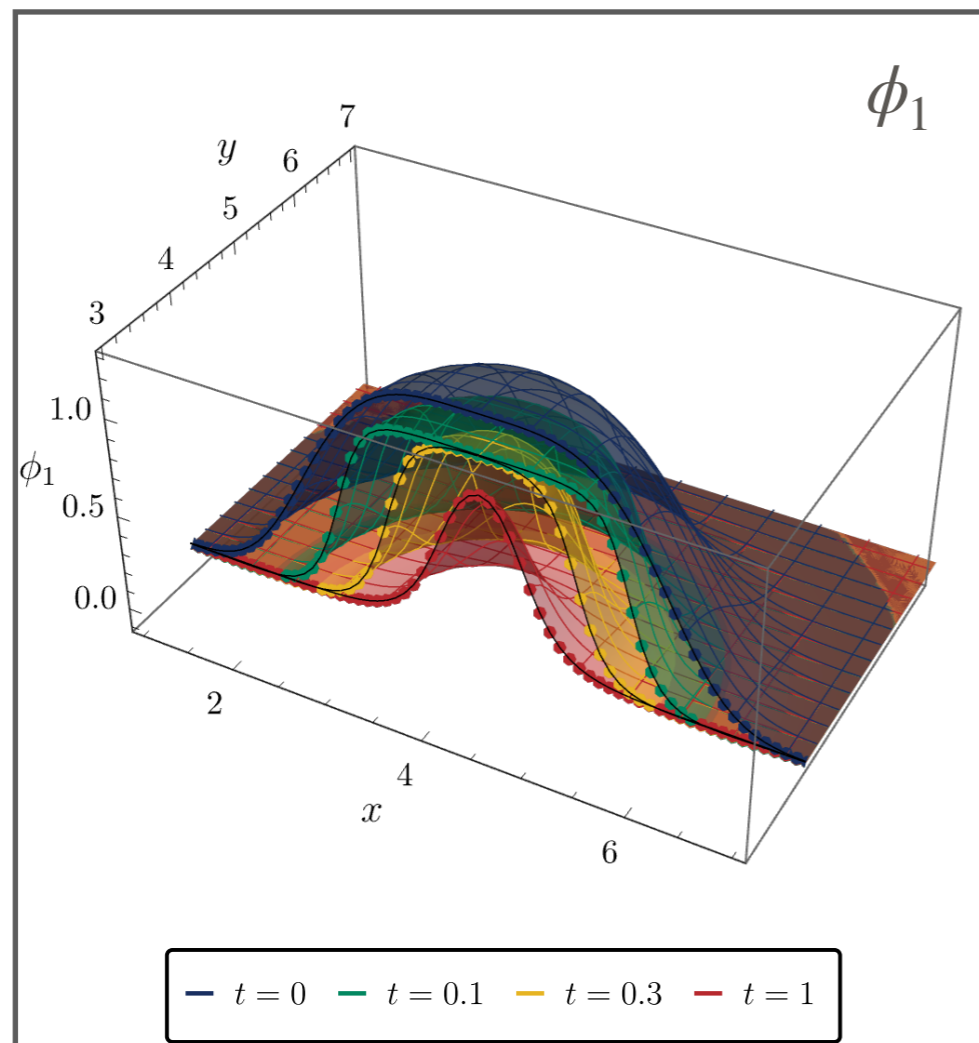
NUMERICAL RESULTS

- Example 2: $V(\phi_1, \phi_2) = (\phi_1^2 + 5\phi_2^2)[5(\phi_1 - 1)^2 + (\phi_2 - 1)^2] + 80 \left(\frac{\phi_2^4}{4} - \frac{\phi_2^3}{3} \right)$
- With spherical symmetry $S = \int 2\pi^2 r^3 dr \left[\frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi_1)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi_2)^2 + V(\phi) \right]$



NUMERICAL RESULTS

- Example 2: $V(\phi_1, \phi_2) = (\phi_1^2 + 5\phi_2^2)[5(\phi_1 - 1)^2 + (\phi_2 - 1)^2] + 80 \left(\frac{\phi_2^4}{4} - \frac{\phi_2^3}{3} \right)$
- Without spherical symmetry $S = \int dx dy \left[\frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi_1)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi_2)^2 + V(\phi) \right]$



DISCUSSION

► Various methods have been proposed for the bounce calculation

- Squared EOM [Moreno, Quiros, Seco '98, John '98]

Saddle points become local minima for the new action $S' = \int d^4x \left(\frac{\delta S}{\delta \phi} \right)^2$

- Gradient flow [Moroi, Chigusa, Shoji '19] see also [Sato '19, Hamada, Kikuchi '20]

To avoid flowing to $\phi = 0$, add a new term $\partial_t \phi + \frac{\delta S}{\delta \phi} - \beta \left\langle \frac{\delta S}{\delta \phi} \middle| g \right\rangle g = 0$

- Many others:

dilatational maximization [Claudson, Hall, Hinchliffe '83]

perturbative method [Akula, Balazs, White '16, Athron et al. '19]

improved action [Kusenko '95, +Langacker, Segre '96, Dasgupta '96]

multiple shooting [Masoumi, Olum, Shlaer '16]

backstep [Cline, Espinosa, Moore, Riotto '98, Cline, Moore, Servant '99]

tunneling potential [Espinosa '18]

improved potential [Konstandin, Huber '06, Park '10]

polygon approximation [Guada, Maiezza, Nemevsek '18]

path deformation [Wainwright '11]

machine learning [Jinno '18, Piscopo, Spanowski, Waite '19]

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- Quartic Gradient Flow can be understood as "gradient flow for the squared-EOM action"

$$\partial_t \phi + \frac{\delta S'}{\delta \phi} = \partial_t \phi + \frac{\delta^2 S}{\delta \phi \delta \phi} \frac{\delta S}{\delta \phi} = 0$$



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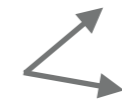
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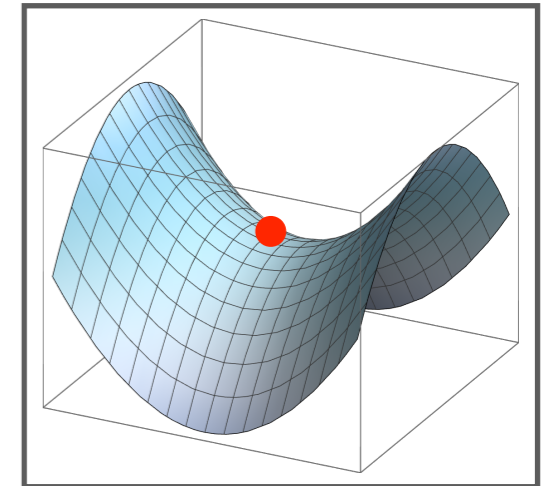
SUMMARY

- Saddle points often appear in QFT
 - Euclidean bounce
 - Sphalerons

energy, action, etc.



field config. space



- We propose a gradient-flow-like method to calculate such configurations

$$\partial_t \phi + \mathcal{M} \left[\frac{\delta S}{\delta \phi} \right] = 0$$

$$\text{with } \mathcal{M} = \frac{\delta^2 S}{\delta \phi \delta \phi}$$

- In this method, deviation from the saddle converges to zero

$$\partial_t c_n(t) = -\lambda_n^2 c_n(t)$$

$$\text{with } \phi(t, r) = \bar{\phi}(r) + \sum_n c_n(t) \delta \phi_n(r)$$

Backup

CALCULATION OF TUNNELING RATE À LA COLEMAN

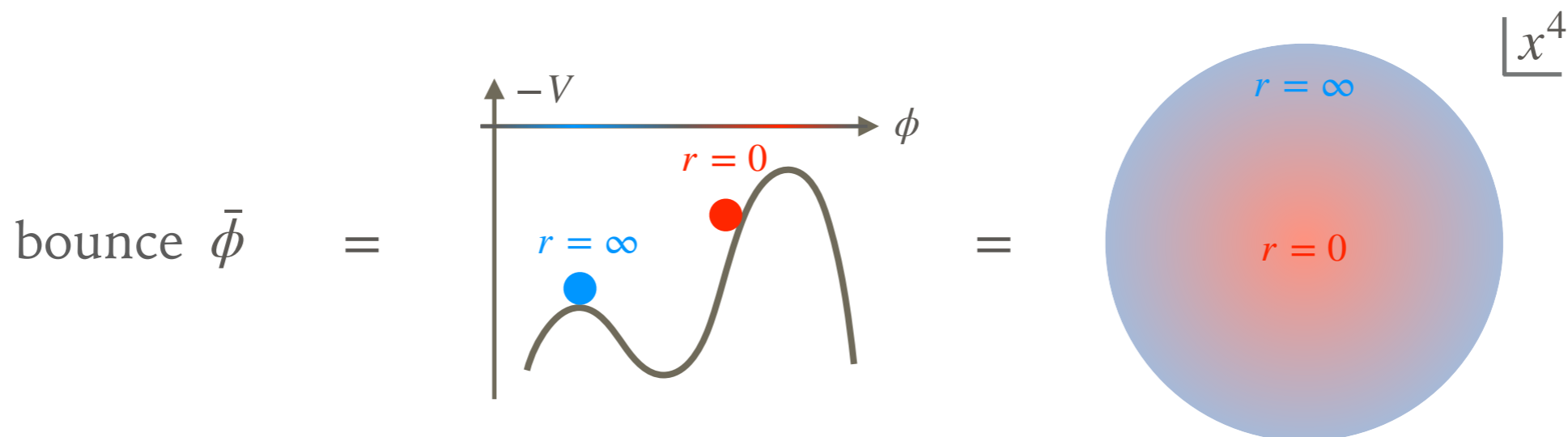
[Coleman '77]
[Callan, Coleman '77]

- Tunneling rate is estimated from the Euclidean partition function

$$Z = \langle \phi_{\text{false}} | e^{-HT} | \phi_{\text{false}} \rangle \simeq \int_{\phi(t_i)=\phi_{\text{false}}}^{\phi(t_f)=\phi_{\text{false}}} \mathcal{D}\phi e^{-S[\phi]}$$

w/ Euclidean action $S = \int d^4x \left[\frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 + V(\phi) \right]$

- The path integral is evaluated with the saddle point $\bar{\phi}$, called "bounce"



CALCULATION OF TUNNELING RATE À LA COLEMAN

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$$Z \sim \text{---} + \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} + \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} + \dots = \exp [\bigcirc]$$

$$\bigcirc = K \cdot VT \cdot e^{-S[\bar{\phi}]} : \text{contribution from one-bounce}$$