

String Pheno '23

# Life-time of Metastable Vacuum in String Theory and Trans-Planckian Censorship Conjecture

Based on arXiv:2305.00781 [hep-th]

Sohei Tsukahara

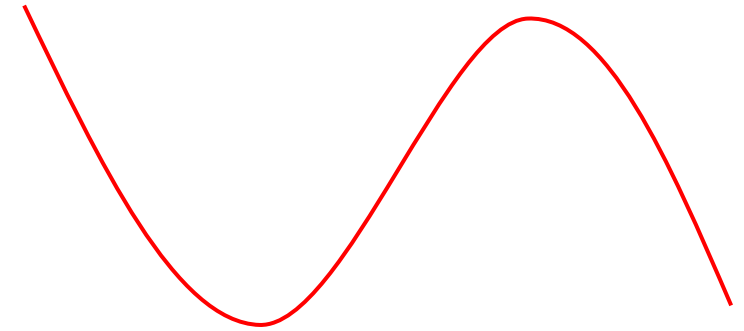
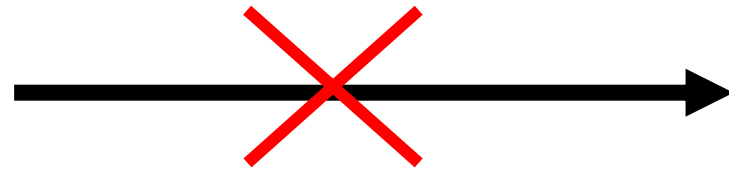
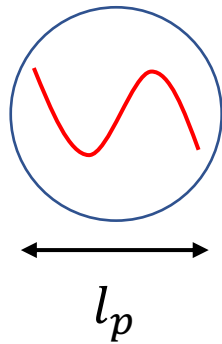
(Department of Physics, Kyushu University, Japan)



九州大学  
KYUSHU UNIVERSITY

# Trans-Planckian censorship conjecture and metastable vacua

- TCC forbids enlargement of sub-Planckian fluctuation to classical one during inflation. [Vafa et al., JHEP 09 123 (2020)]



- It gives strong constraints on lifetimes of **metastable** de-Sitter vacua.

[Bedroya et al., arXiv:2008.07555[hep-th]]

$$\tau < \frac{1}{H} \log \frac{M_{pl}}{H}$$

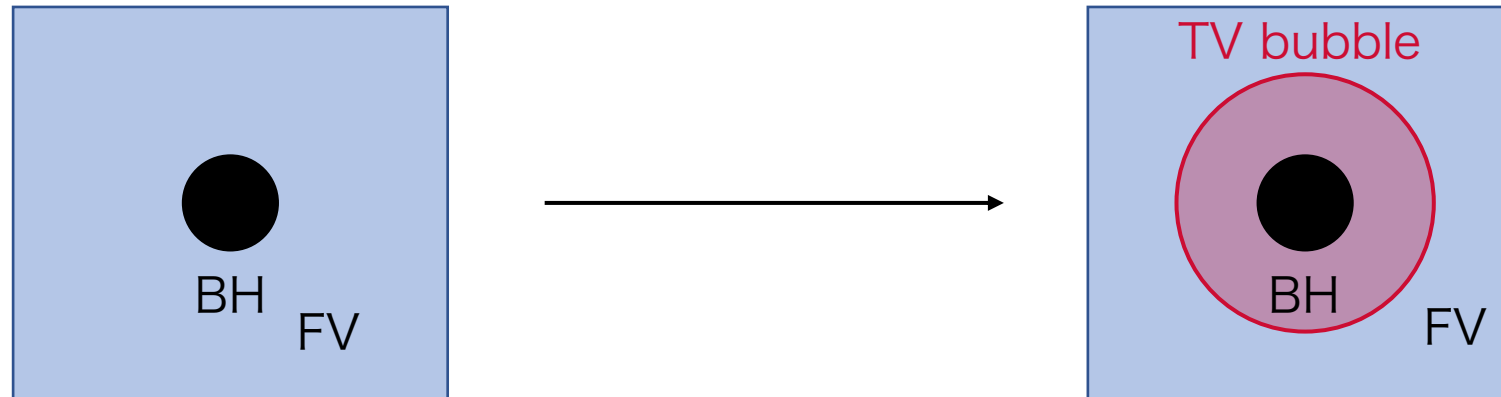
TCC condition

- In GUT and gravitational theory, monopoles and black holes are well known for acting as catalysts to enhance the instability of the vacuum.

[P. J. Steinhardt, Nucl. Phys. B 190, 583-616 (1981); Phys. Rev. D 24, 842 (1981)]

[Y. Hosotani, Phys. Rev. D 27, 789 (1983)] [U. A. Yajnik, Phys. Rev. D 34, 1237-1240 (1986)]

e.g. Black hole catalysis [R. Gregory, I. G. Moss and B. Withers, JHEP 03, 081 (2014)]



- Can metastable vacua with impurities circumvent swampland??

# Brane setup

- D5 and antiD5-branes wrapped to conifolds form a metastable state.

[F. Cachazo et al., Nucl. Phys. B 603, 3-41 (2001); C. Vafa, J. Math. Phys. 42, 2798-2817 (2001); M. Aganagic et al., Nucl. Phys. B 789, 382-412 (2008)]

- D3-branes which are wrapped to the internal space dissolve into D5-brane and become magnetic flux.  $\longrightarrow$  Catalyst!

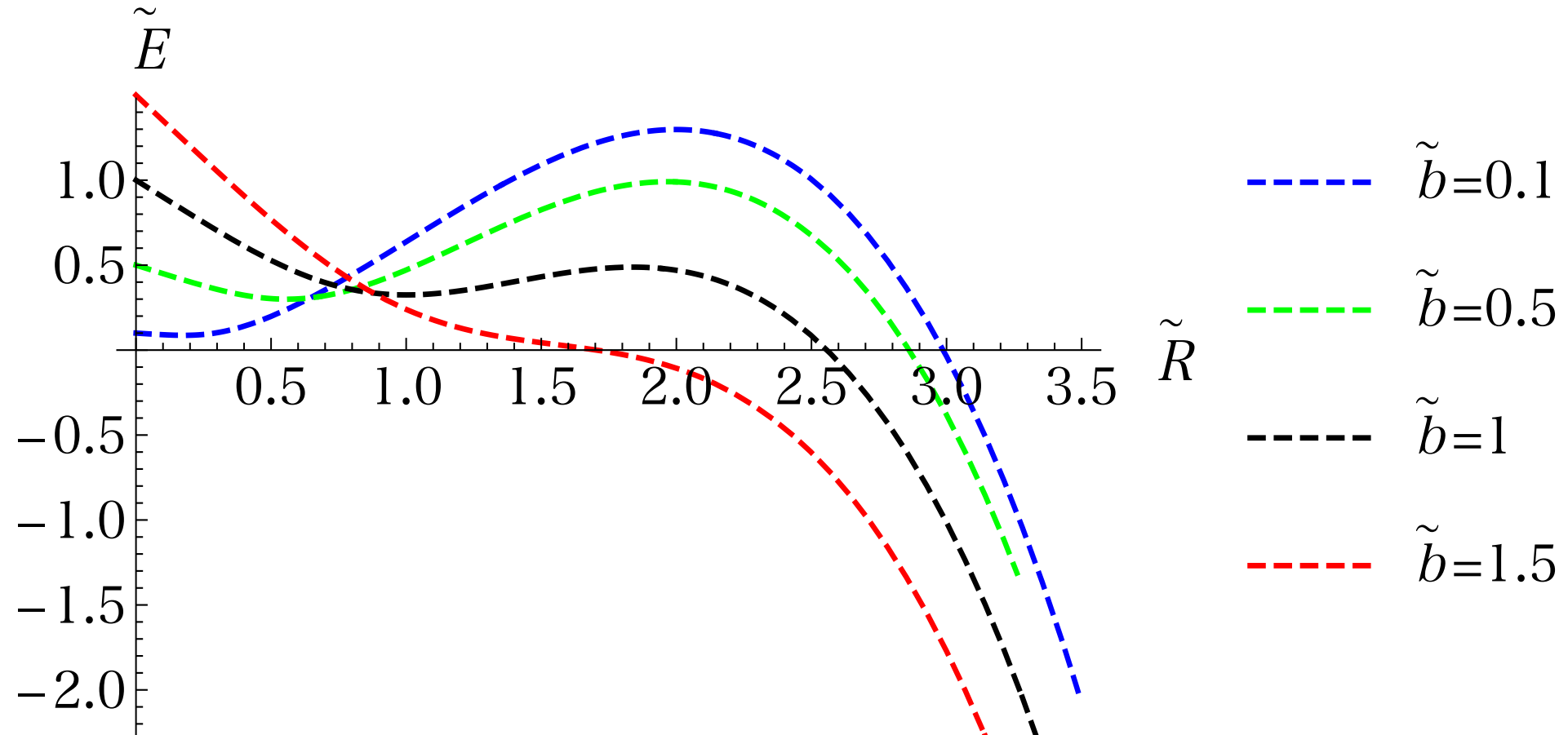
[A. Kasai et al., Phys. Rev. D 91, no.12, 126002 (2015)]

Table 1. brane configuration

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
D5/antiD5	○	○	○	○	△	△	△	×	×	×
DWD5	○	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	×	×
D3	○	×	×	×	△	△	△	△	×	×

$$L_{\text{total}} = -T_{\text{DW}} 4\pi \sqrt{(R^4 + b^2) (1 - \dot{R}^2)} + 2T_{D5} r b \left[ 4\pi R \times {}_2F_1 \left( -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{5}{4}, -\frac{R^4}{b^2} \right) \right]$$

$$T_{\text{DW}} = T_{D5} \left[ 2\pi^2 L^2 \int_0^\pi d\psi_I \frac{2}{\pi} \sqrt{\sin^4 \psi_I + \left( \frac{b_{\text{NS}}}{L^2} \right)^2} \right]$$



- Comparing the critical lifetime with the TCC condition, we obtained a specific restriction on the string scale.
- We derived a specific expression of the determinant factor for our noncanonical system. In this work, we determined the 1-loop pre-factor and found a behavior different from canonical theories.
- Unfortunately, 1-loop analysis breaks down when the potential barrier completely vanished. We used variation perturbation method instead and obtain a finite lifetime.

## 1. Introduction and Summary

## 2. 1-loop analysis

- Comment on zeromode
- Functional determinant

## 3. Reduction to cubic oscillator and comparison to TCC

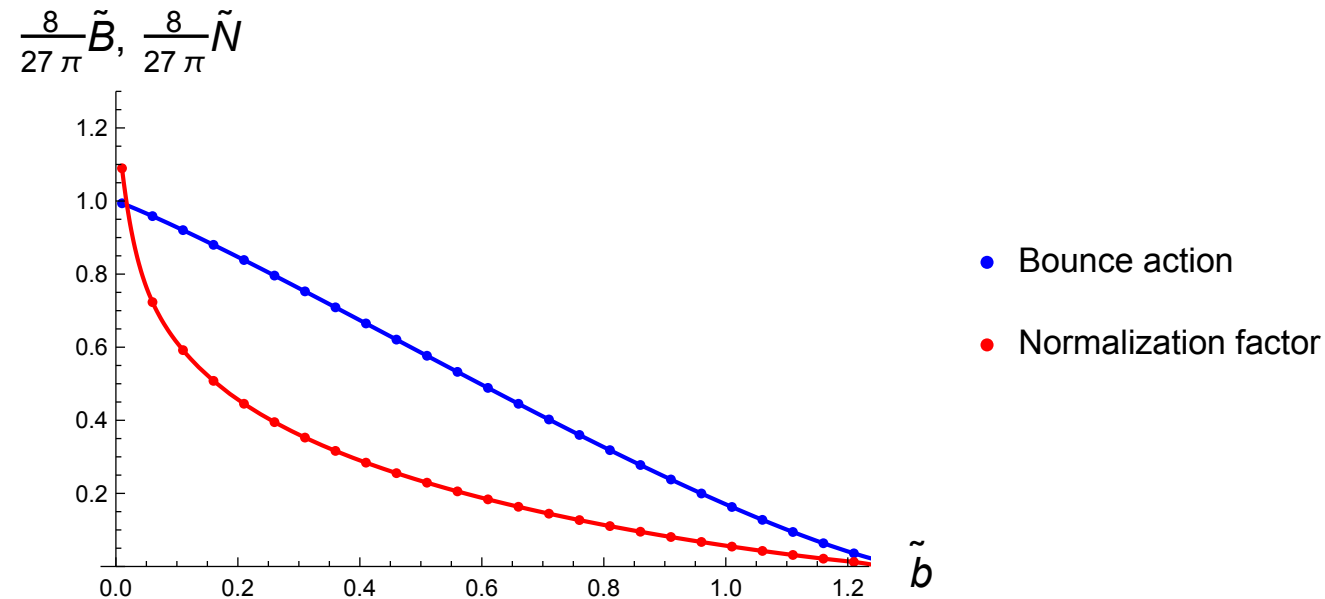
# 1-loop analysis

- To get decay rate (lifetime), we must calculate bounce action, zero mode normalization constant and functional determinant.

[S. R. Coleman, Phys. Rev. D 15, 2929-2936 (1977) [erratum: Phys. Rev. D 16, 1248 (1977)]]

$$\Gamma = \sqrt{\frac{N_b}{2\pi\hbar}} \left| \frac{\det' S''[\bar{x}_b]}{\det S''[\bar{x}_{\text{triv}}]} \right|^{-1/2} e^{-B/\hbar} = \sqrt{\frac{B}{2\pi\hbar}} \left| \frac{\det' S''[\bar{x}_b]}{\det S''[\bar{x}_{\text{triv}}]} \right|^{-1/2} e^{-B/\hbar}$$

- We must note that  $N_b$  doesn't correspond to  $B$  in noncanonical theories.





$$S''[x] = -\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial \dot{x}^2} \frac{d}{dt} \right) + \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial x^2} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial x \partial \dot{x}} = -\frac{d}{dt} \left( \cancel{P[x]} \frac{d}{dt} \right) + Q[x]$$

canonical  $\longrightarrow$   $m$

- Functional determinant = infinite products of eigenvalues  $\prod'_n \lambda_n$ .
- One can treat the UV divergence via **zeta function regularization**.

$$\det' S''[x] = \exp(-\zeta'(s=0; S'')) \quad \zeta(s; S'') = \sum_n \frac{1}{\lambda_n^s}$$

- The regularization procedure is well known for canonical case.  
How about non-canonical case?

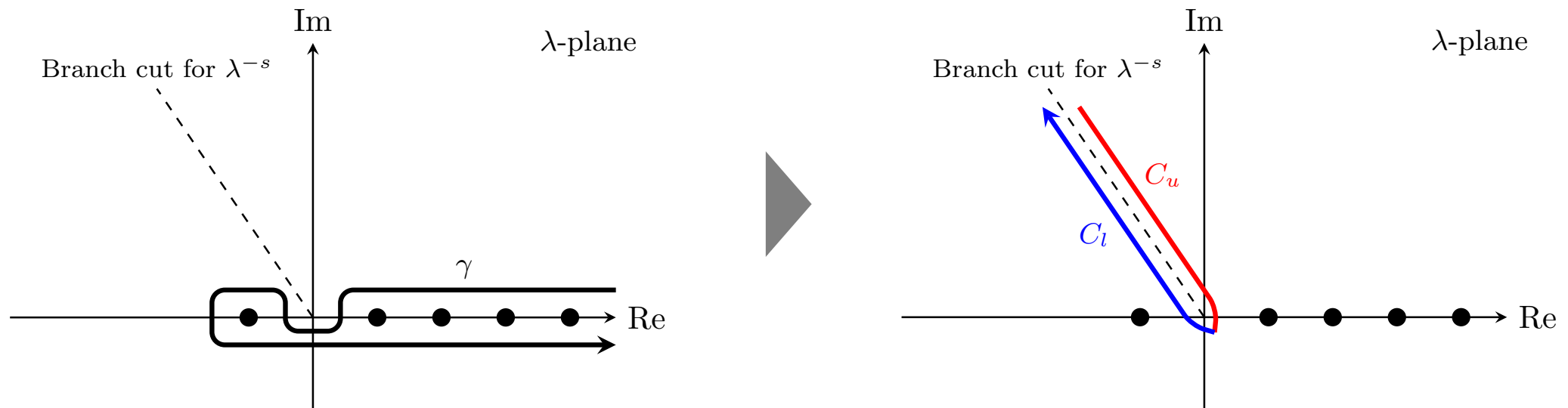
↑  
**need some developments !!**

# Contour deformation method

- Spectral zeta function can be written by a contour integration of the meromorphic function which has simple poles at eigenvalues.

## Contour deformation method

[K. Kirsten et al., (2003); K. Kirsten et al., (2004)]



$$\zeta(s; L_{A,B}) = e^{is(\pi-\psi)} \frac{\sin(\pi s)}{\pi} \int_0^\infty dt t^{-s} \frac{d}{dt} \ln (F_{A,B}(te^{i\psi}) t^{-m_0} e^{-im_0\psi})$$

$$\frac{1}{2} < s < 1$$

# Analytic continued spectral $\zeta$ function

- The asymptotic expansion of characteristic func. at large  $\lambda$  is order  $\sqrt{\lambda}$ .
- We can perform analytic continuation by subtracting  $N$  terms and add them back. [F. Gesztesy and K. Kirsten, (2019); G. Fucci et al., (2021)]

$$\zeta'(0; L_{A,B}) = i\pi n - \ln \left( 2c \left| \frac{F_{m_0}}{\Gamma_{k_0}} \right| \right)$$

$n$  : number of negative modes       $F_{m_0}$  : 1st order coefficient of small  $\lambda$  expansion

$$\det' S''[R_b] = - |F_{m_0}| = \frac{N_b}{P_{\min} \dot{R}_b(-\beta/2) \dot{\chi}(-\beta/2)} \cdot \frac{\chi(\beta/2) - \chi(-\beta/2)}{\dot{R}_b(-\beta/2)}$$

- We need to extract a scattering mode which diverge at  $\beta \rightarrow \infty$ .

[M.Marino, "Instanton and Large N" (2015);ST, (2023)]

$$\frac{\chi(\beta/2) - \chi(-\beta/2)}{\dot{R}_b(-\beta/2)} \propto \exp \left[ \sqrt{\frac{Q_{\min}}{P_{\min}}} \beta \right]$$

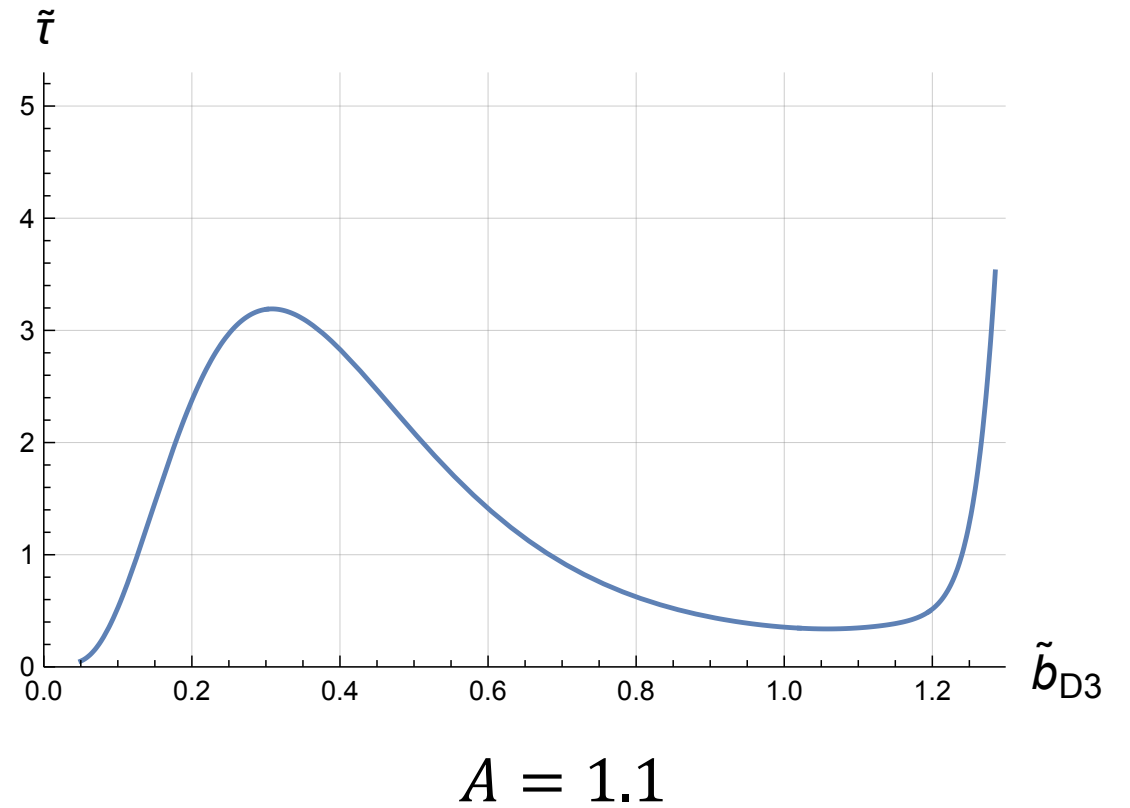
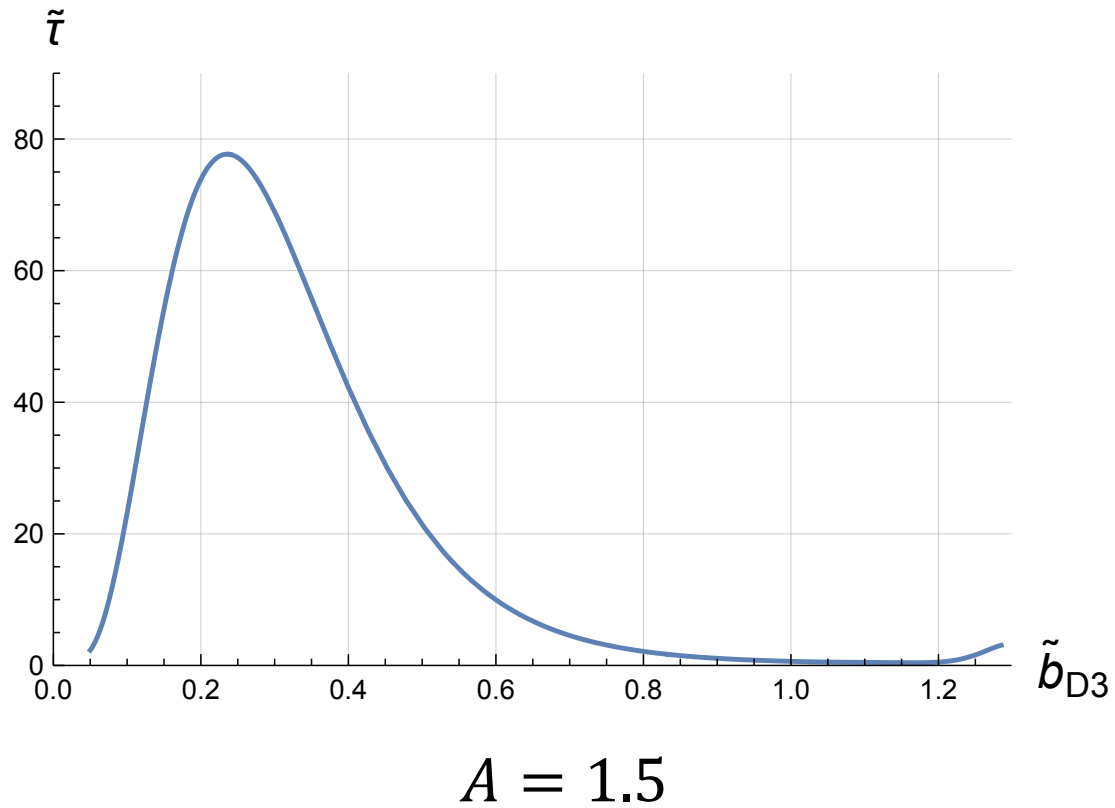
- The scattering mode can be regularized by reference determinant.

$$\frac{\det' [S''[\tilde{R}_b]]}{\det [S''[\tilde{R}_{\min}]]} = -\frac{N_b}{2(\tilde{R}_{\max} - \tilde{R}_{\min})^2} \frac{P_{\min}^{1/2}}{Q_{\min}^{3/2}} \exp \left[ -2\sqrt{\frac{Q_{\min}}{P_{\min}}} \int_{\tilde{R}_{\min}}^{\tilde{R}_{\max}} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{(\dot{\tilde{R}}_b)^2}} - \sqrt{\frac{P_{\min}}{Q_{\min}}} \frac{1}{\tilde{R} - \tilde{R}_{\min}} \right\} d\tilde{R}_b \right]$$

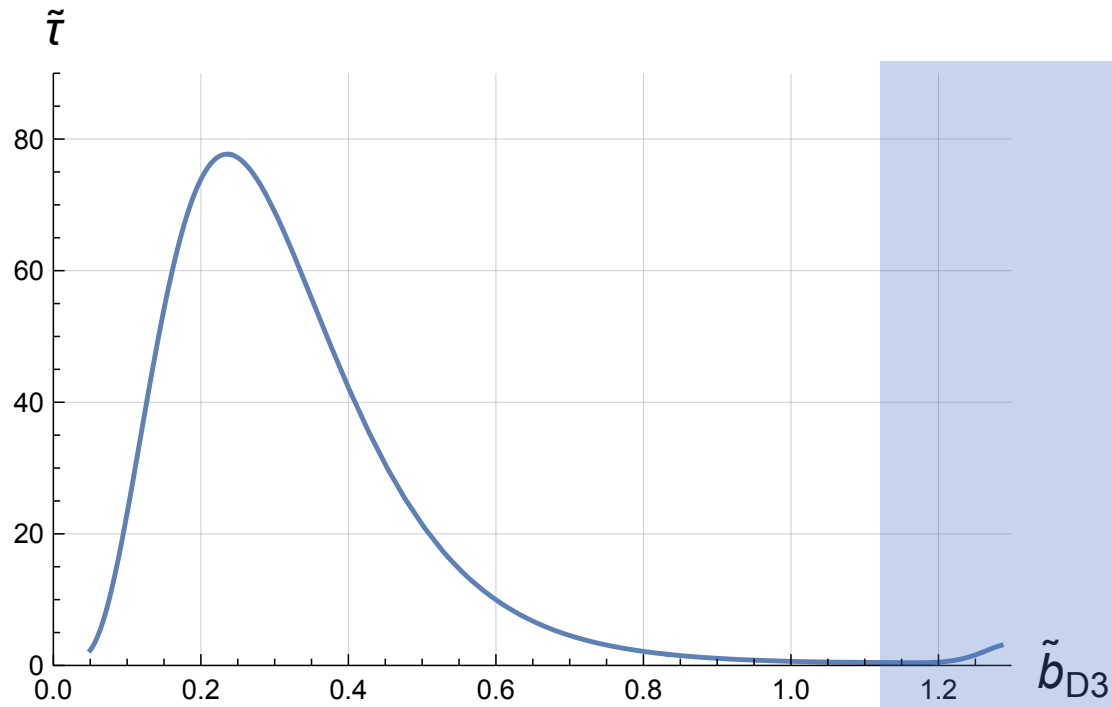
- We get a complete 1-loop result of the lifetime.

$$\tau = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{(\tilde{R}_{\max} - \tilde{R}_{\min})} \frac{P_{\min}^{1/4}}{Q_{\min}^{3/4}} \exp \left[ -\sqrt{\frac{Q_{\min}}{P_{\min}}} \int_{\tilde{R}_{\min}}^{\tilde{R}_{\max}} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{(\dot{\tilde{R}}_b)^2}} - \sqrt{\frac{P_{\min}}{Q_{\min}}} \frac{1}{\tilde{R} - \tilde{R}_{\min}} \right\} d\tilde{R}_b \right] e^B .$$

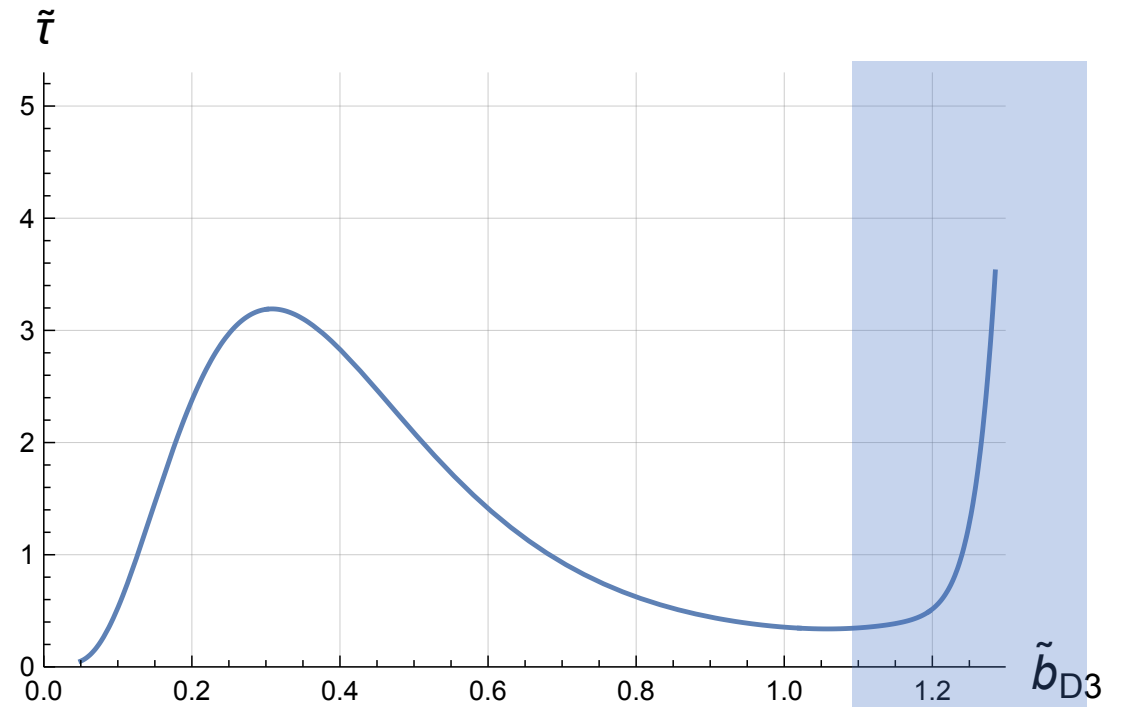
# Numerical calculation (lifetime)



# Numerical calculation (lifetime)



$A = 1.5$



$A = 1.1$

- For nearly flat potential, we can expand our DBI Lagrangian and approximate by the anharmonic oscillator.

$$L_E \simeq A \left[ \sqrt{\tilde{R}_v^4 + \tilde{b}_{\text{crit}}^2} \frac{\dot{\tilde{y}}^2}{2} - \alpha(\tilde{R}_v, \tilde{b}_{\text{crit}}) \tilde{y} - \beta(\tilde{R}_v, \tilde{b}_{\text{crit}}) \tilde{y}^3 + V(\tilde{R}_v, \tilde{b}_{\text{crit}}) \right]$$

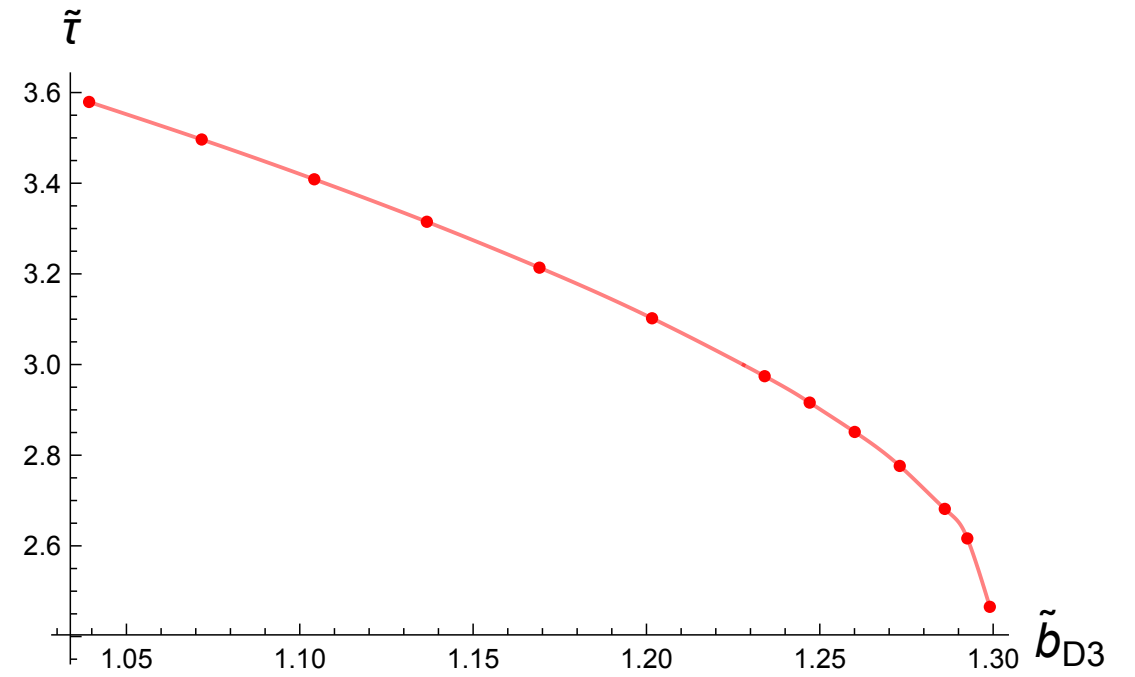
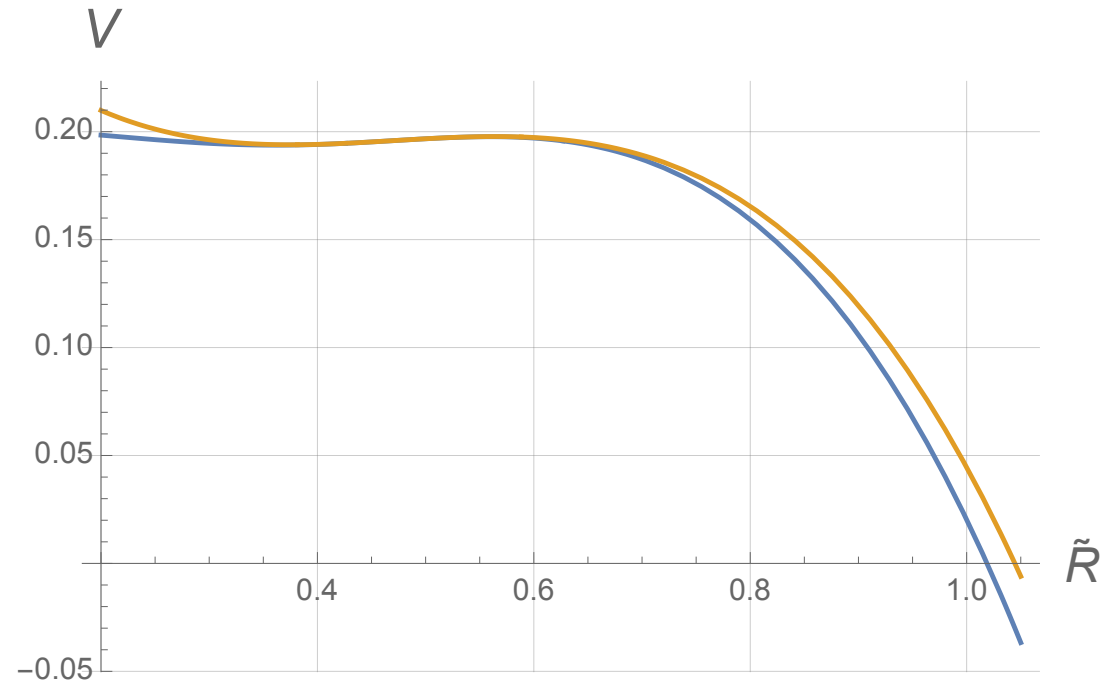
- For the cubic oscillator, the decay rate for low potential barriers is well investigated by variational perturbation method.

[H.Kleinert and I. Mustapic, *Int.J.Mod.Phys.A* 11 (1996) 4383-4400]

$$L_{KM} = \frac{m}{2} \dot{x}^2 + \frac{m\omega^2}{2} x^2 - \lambda x^3$$

►  $\Gamma = -2\text{Im } E_0 \simeq 2 \times 0.448 \left( \frac{\lambda^2}{m^3} \right)^{1/5} \left( 1 - 0.186 \left( \frac{m^2 \omega^5}{\lambda^2} \right)^{2/5} \right)$

# Lifetime calculation based on VPM

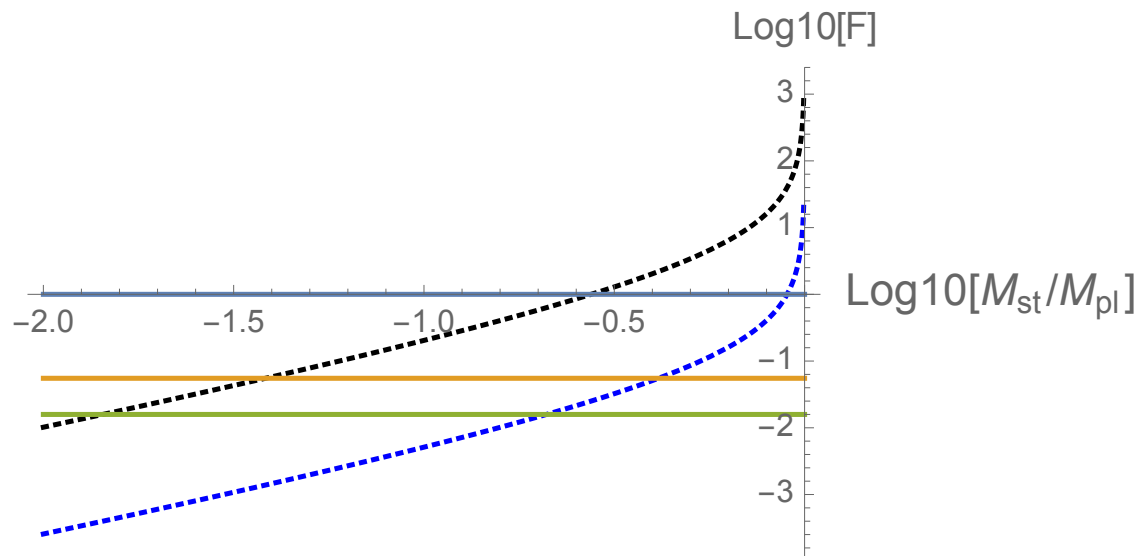




# Comparison to TCC bound

- We compare the critical lifetime for completely flat potential to TCC.
- All parameters are rewritten by string scale  $M_{st}$ , Planck scale  $M_{pl}$  and string coupling constant  $g_s$ .

$$\tau_{\text{crit}} \simeq \frac{1}{2 \times 0.448} \frac{T_{DW}}{2T_{D5}r} A^{1/5} \left( \frac{\beta(\tilde{R}_v, \tilde{b}_{\text{crit}})}{(\tilde{R}_v^4 + \tilde{b}_{\text{crit}}^2)^{3/2}} \right)^{-1/5} \simeq 2.46 A^{1/5} \frac{T_{DW}}{2T_{D5}r} \leq \frac{1}{H_I} \log \frac{M_{\text{pl}}}{H_I}$$



$$\log F \leq \frac{9}{5} \log g_s$$

$$F = \frac{2.46}{2} \left( \frac{4\pi}{n^8} \right)^{1/5} \left( \frac{M_{\text{st}}}{M_{\text{pl}}} \right) \left( \log \frac{M_{\text{st}}}{M_{\text{pl}}} \right)^{-1}$$

Thank you!

BACKUP

# Discrepancy between bounce action and normalization constant

$$\text{EoM} : \partial_s \left( \sqrt{\frac{\tilde{R}^4 + \tilde{b}^2}{1 + \dot{\tilde{R}}^2}} - \tilde{b} \tilde{R}_2 F_1 \left( -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{5}{4}; -\frac{\tilde{R}^4}{\tilde{b}^2} \right) \right) = 0$$

$$\tilde{B} = \tilde{S}_b - \tilde{S}_{\text{sub}} \longleftarrow \text{Difference between the instanton action and the background.}$$

$$= 2 \int_{\tilde{R}_{\min}}^{\tilde{R}_{\max}} d\tilde{R}_b \sqrt{\tilde{R}_b^4 + \tilde{b}^2 - \left[ C + \tilde{b} \tilde{R}_b {}_2F_1 \left( -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{5}{4}, -\frac{\tilde{R}_b^4}{\tilde{b}^2} \right) \right]^2}$$

$$\tilde{N}_b = \int ds \left( \frac{d\tilde{R}_b}{ds} \right)^2 \longleftarrow \text{Normalization constant of the zero mode.}$$

$$= 2 \int_{\tilde{R}_{\min}}^{\tilde{R}_{\max}} \frac{d\tilde{R}_b}{C + \tilde{b} \tilde{R}_b {}_2F_1 \left( -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{5}{4}, -\frac{\tilde{R}_b^4}{\tilde{b}^2} \right)} \times \sqrt{\tilde{R}_b^4 + \tilde{b}^2 - \left[ C + \tilde{b} \tilde{R}_b {}_2F_1 \left( -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{5}{4}, -\frac{\tilde{R}_b^4}{\tilde{b}^2} \right) \right]^2}$$

$$\left[ -\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + V(x) \right] \psi_n(x) = \lambda_n \psi_n(x) , \quad M \begin{pmatrix} \psi_n(0) \\ \psi'_n(0) \end{pmatrix} + N \begin{pmatrix} \psi_n(L) \\ \psi'_n(L) \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\psi_0^1(0) = 1 , \quad \psi_0^{1'}(0) = 0 ,$$

$$\psi_0^2(0) = 0 , \quad \psi_0^{2'}(0) = 1 .$$

- $M$  and  $N$  are  $2 \times 2$  matrices, which determine boundary conditions.
- $\psi_0^i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) are independent solutions for zero mode equations.

$$\blacktriangleright \det \left[ -\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + V(x) \right] = \det \left[ M + N \begin{pmatrix} \psi_0^1(L) & \psi_0^2(L) \\ \psi_0^{1'}(L) & \psi_0^{2'}(L) \end{pmatrix} \right]$$