

# *Holographic Correlators for all $\Lambda$*

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based on work in collaboration with [Charlotte Sleight!](#)



Funded by European Union

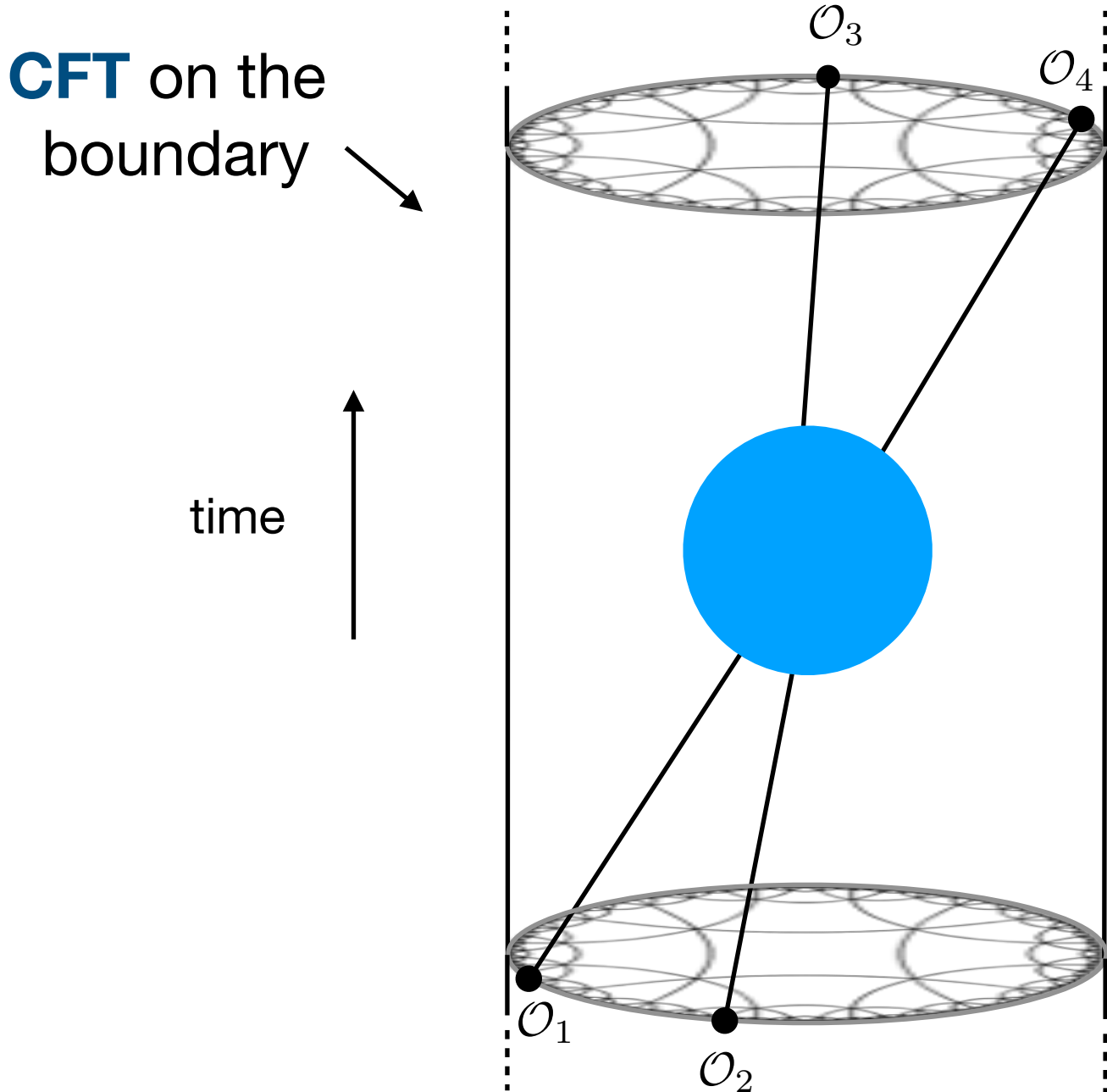


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# AdS-CFT

Quantum Gravity in anti-de Sitter space = (non-gravitational) Conformal Field Theory in Minkowski space

## Observables ?!



## Correlation functions

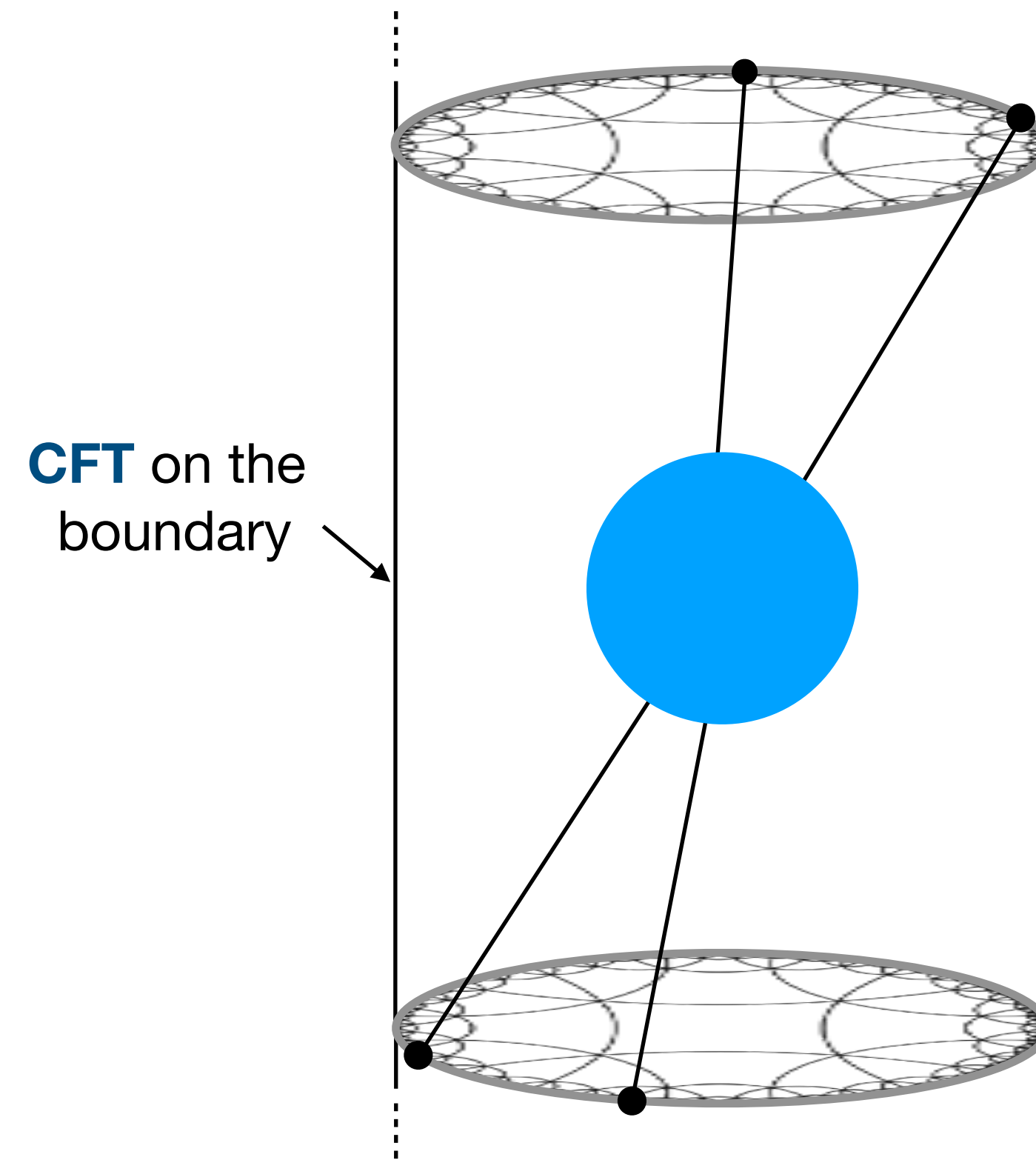
Constrained non-perturbatively by the Conformal Bootstrap:

- Conformal symmetry
- Unitarity
- Associative operator algebra (crossing symmetry)

$$(\mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{O}_2) \mathcal{O}_3 = \mathcal{O}_1 (\mathcal{O}_2 \mathcal{O}_3)$$

# AdS-CFT

In Anti de Sitter space we can write down the fundamental axioms of Gravity!

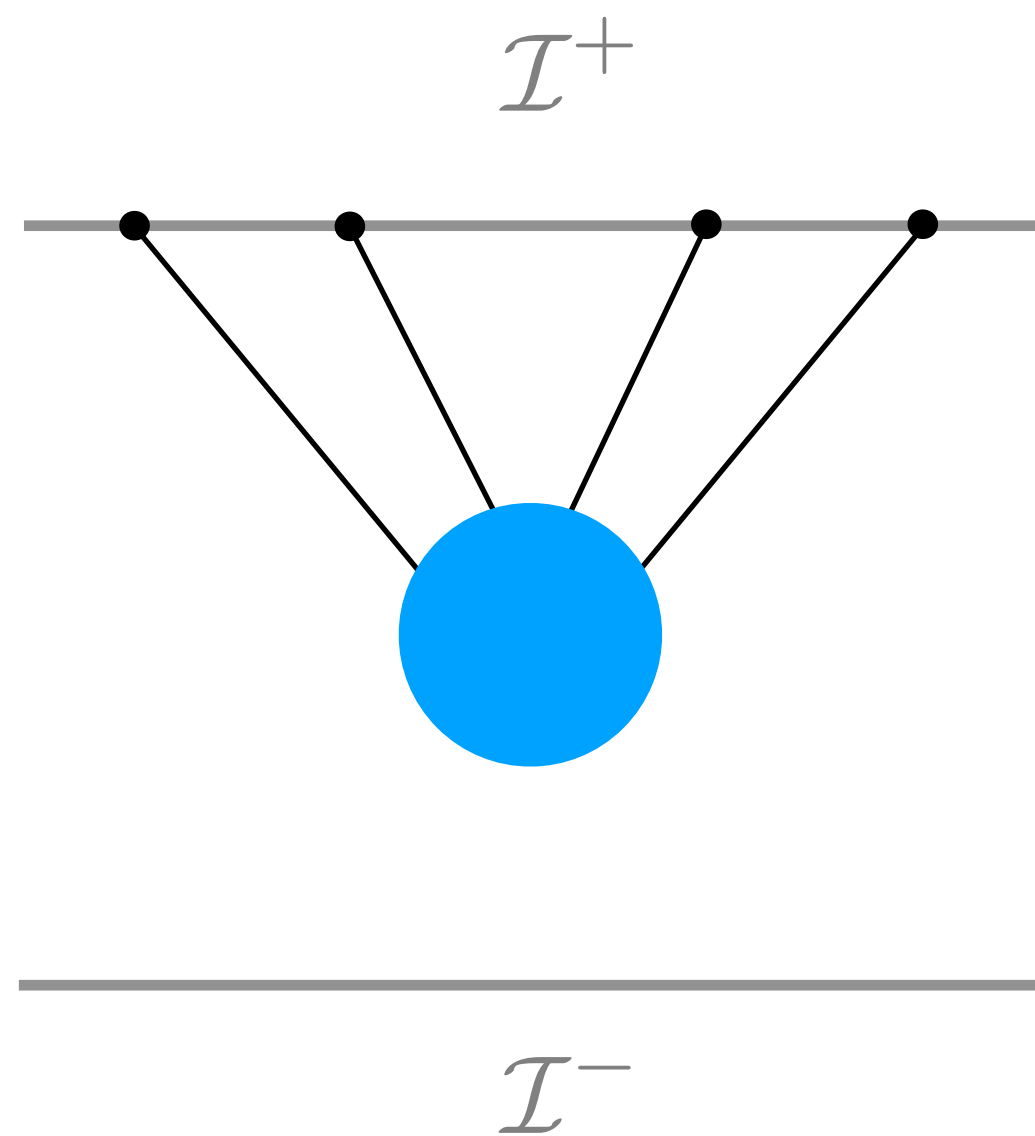


Can we extend this understanding to our own universe?

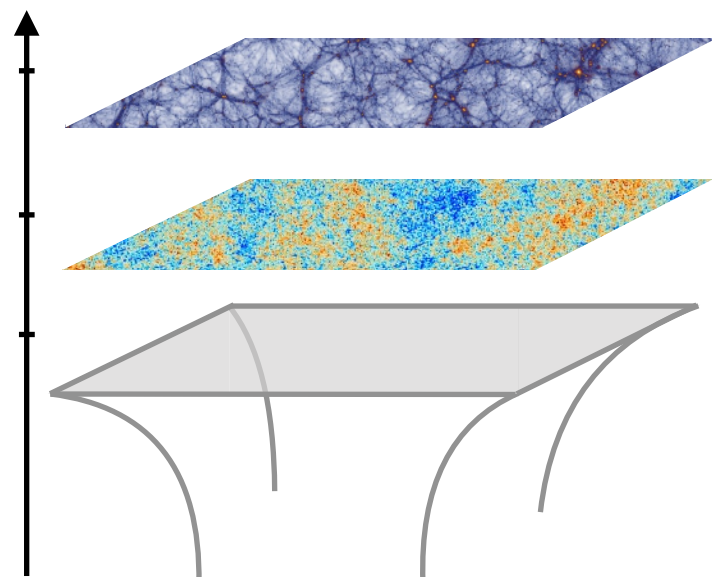
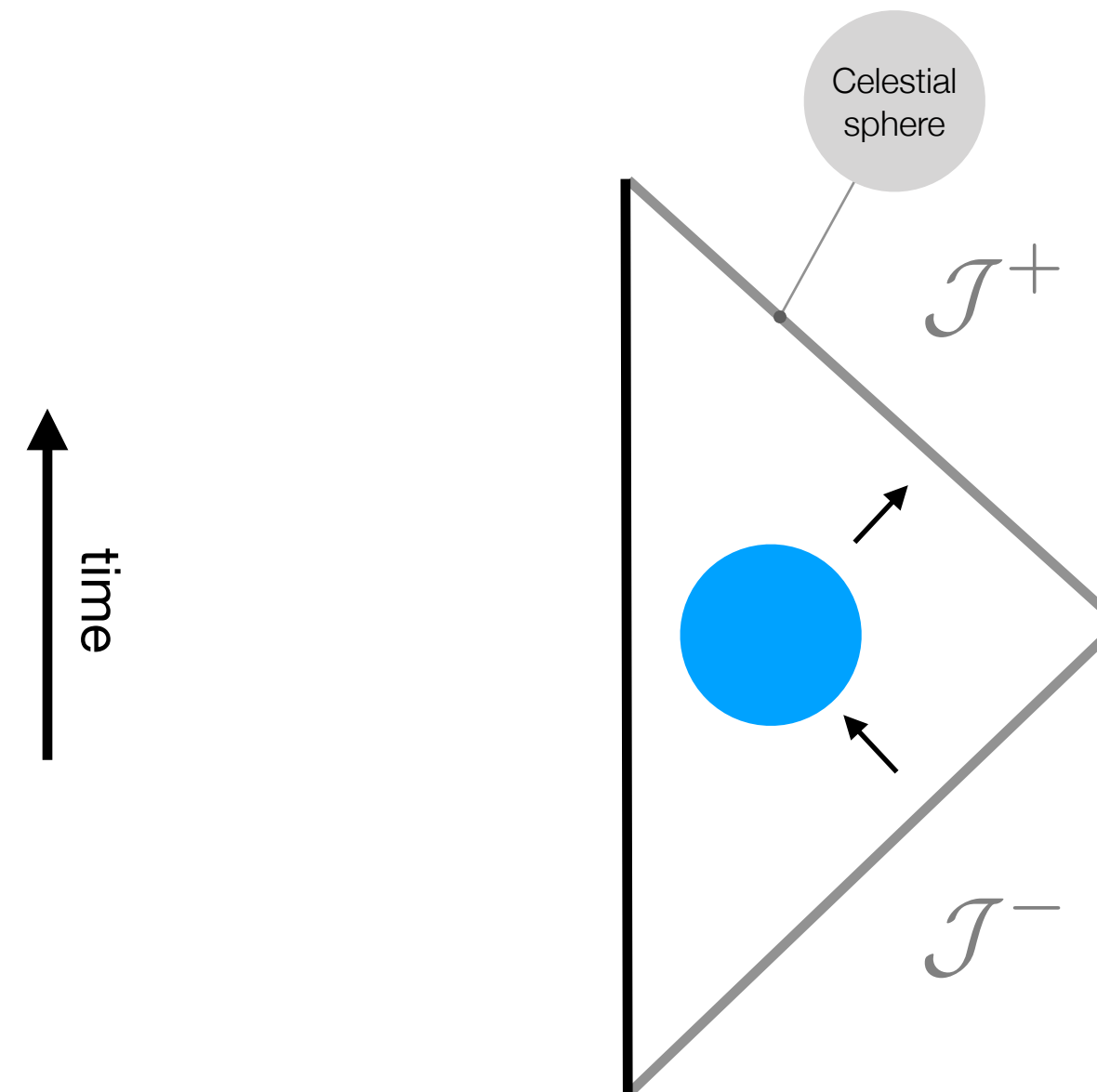
# Holography for all $\Lambda$ s?

The maximally symmetric cousins of AdS

$\Lambda > 0$  de Sitter

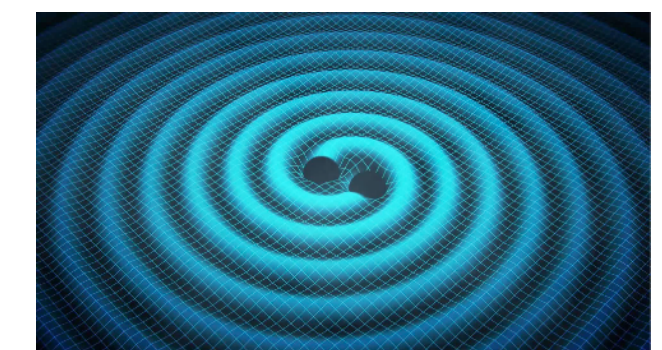


$\Lambda = 0$  Minkowski



- Cosmological scales
- Primordial inflation

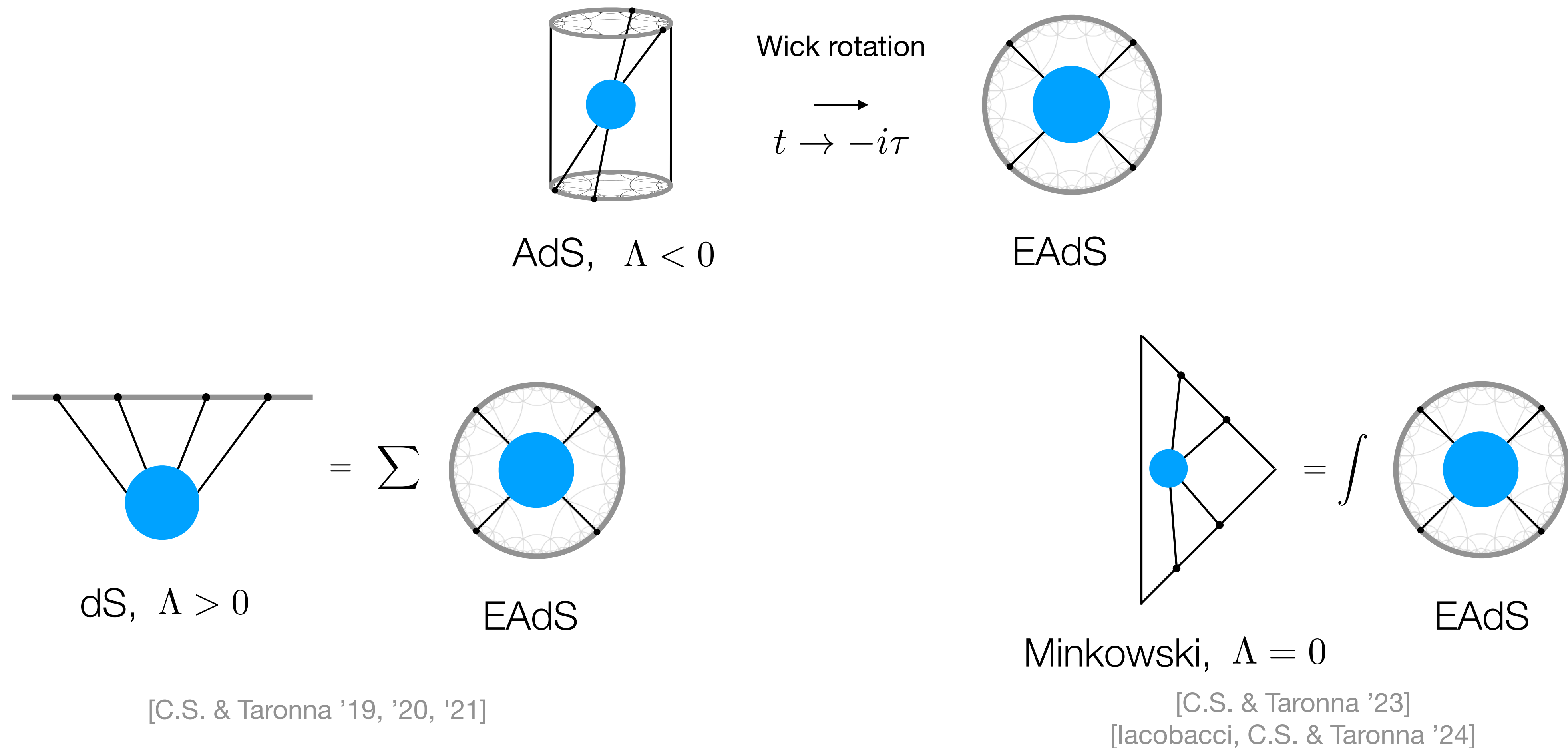
- intermediate scales



# Holography for all $\Lambda$ s?

[Sleight, Taronna]

**The strategy:** connect dS and Minkowski boundary observables to those in AdS-CFT



dS and Celestial correlators therefore have a similar analytic structure to their EAdS counterparts!  
On a practical level, can use such identities to import techniques and understanding from AdS.

# Outline

I.  $\Lambda < 0$

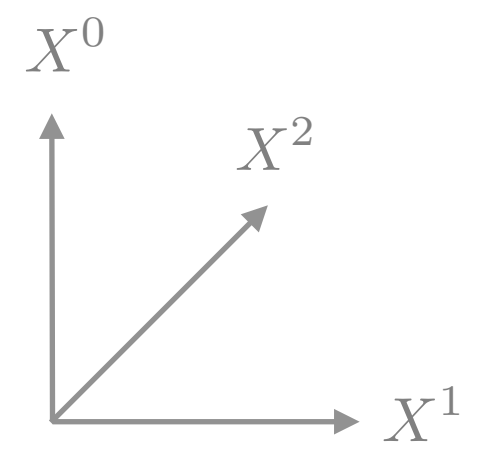
II.  $\Lambda > 0$

(III.  $\Lambda = 0$ )

IV. Some applications.

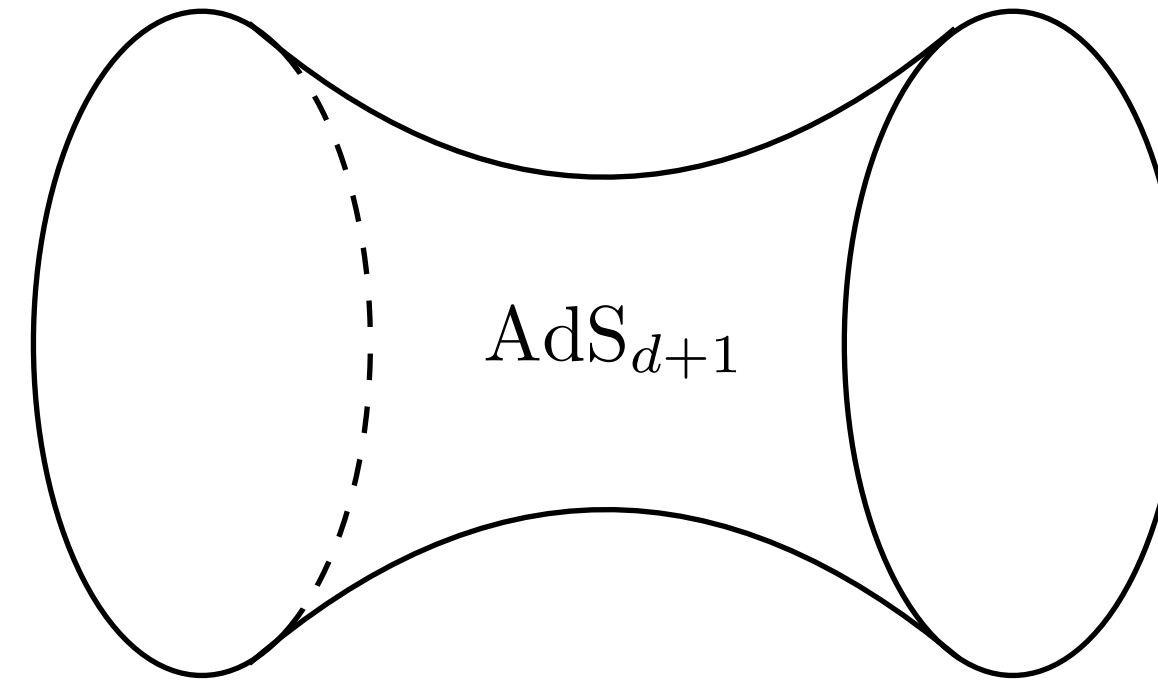
$$\Lambda < 0$$

# Anti-de Sitter space-time



$\text{AdS}_{d+1} \subset \mathbb{R}^{d,2}$  :

$$-(X^0)^2 - (X^{d+1})^2 + \sum_{i=1}^d (X^i)^2 = -R_{\text{AdS}}^2$$

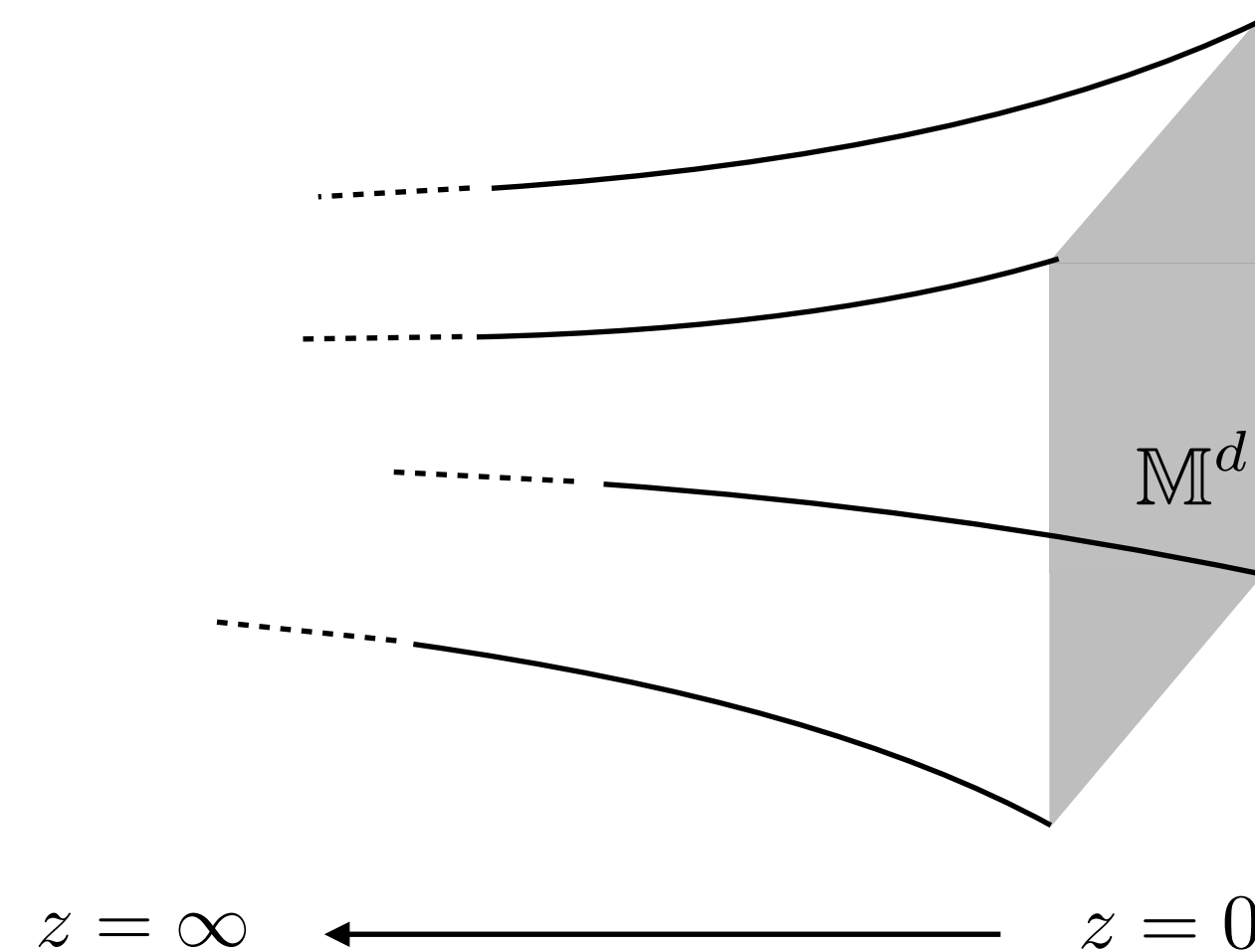


It is manifest that

Isometry group:  $SO(d, 2) =$  conformal group in  $\mathbb{M}^d$

Poincaré coordinates:

$$ds^2 = R_{\text{AdS}}^2 \frac{dz^2 + \eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu}{z^2}$$



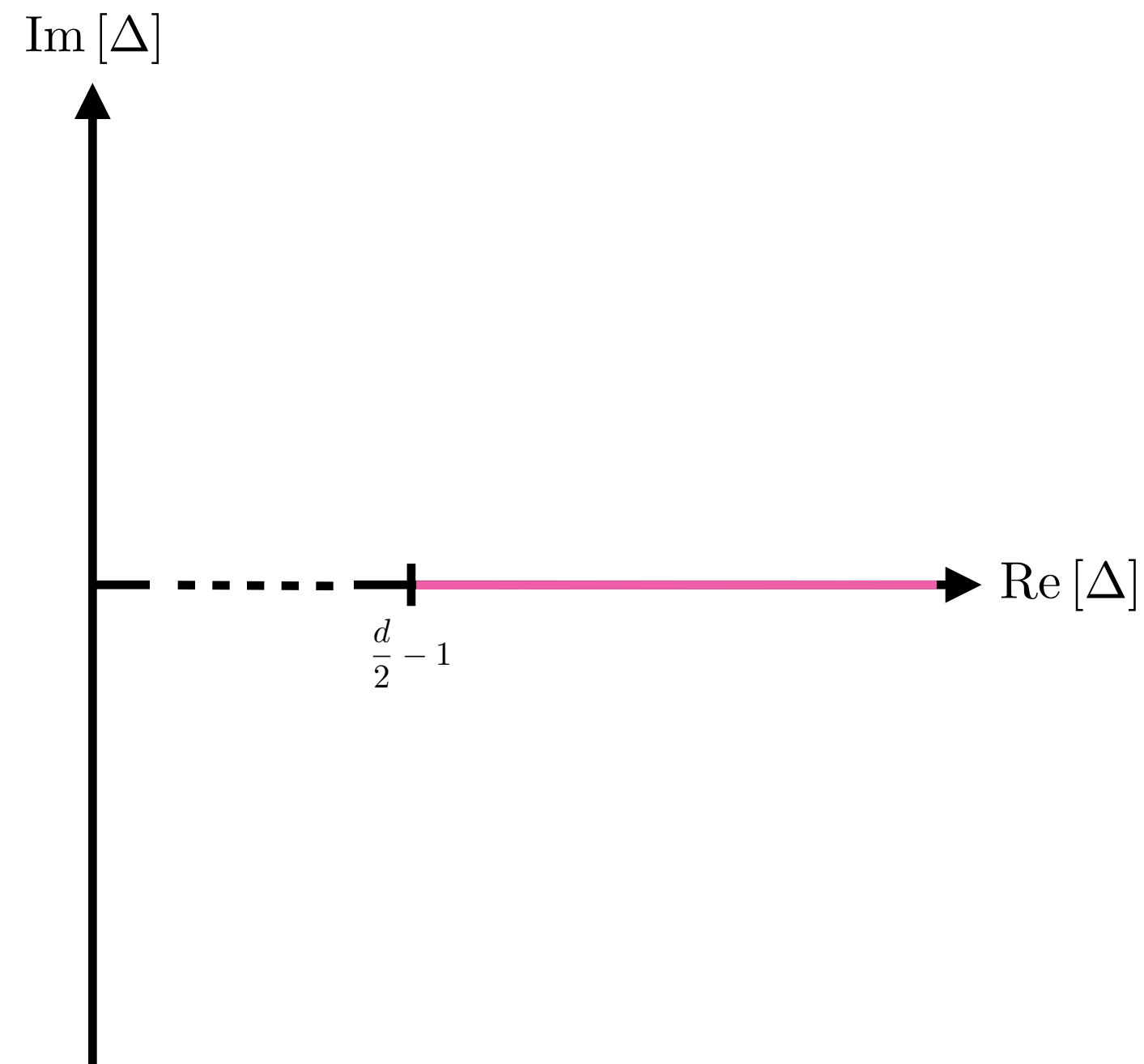


# Particles in AdS

Particles in  $\text{AdS}_{d+1}$   $\longleftrightarrow$  unitary irreducible representations of  $SO(d, 2)$

Labelled by a scaling dimension  $\Delta$  and spin  $J$ . **Unitarity** constrains  $\Delta$ :

E.g. Spin  $J=0$  representations



Notes:

- $\Delta \in \mathbb{R}$
- Bounded from below  $\Delta \geq \frac{d}{2} - 1$

# Particles in AdS

Particles in  $\text{AdS}_{d+1}$   $\longleftrightarrow$  unitary irreducible representations of  $SO(d, 2)$

Labelled by a scaling dimension  $\Delta$  and spin  $J$ . Can be realised by fields in  $\text{AdS}_{d+1}$ :

E.g. Spin  $J=0$  representations

Quadratic Casimir equation

$$\langle \mathcal{C}_2 \rangle = \Delta (\Delta - d)$$

$$(\nabla^2 - m^2) \varphi = 0 \quad \leftrightarrow \quad (\mathcal{C}_2 - \langle \mathcal{C}_2 \rangle) \varphi = 0$$

$$m^2 R_{\text{AdS}}^2 = \Delta (\Delta - d)$$

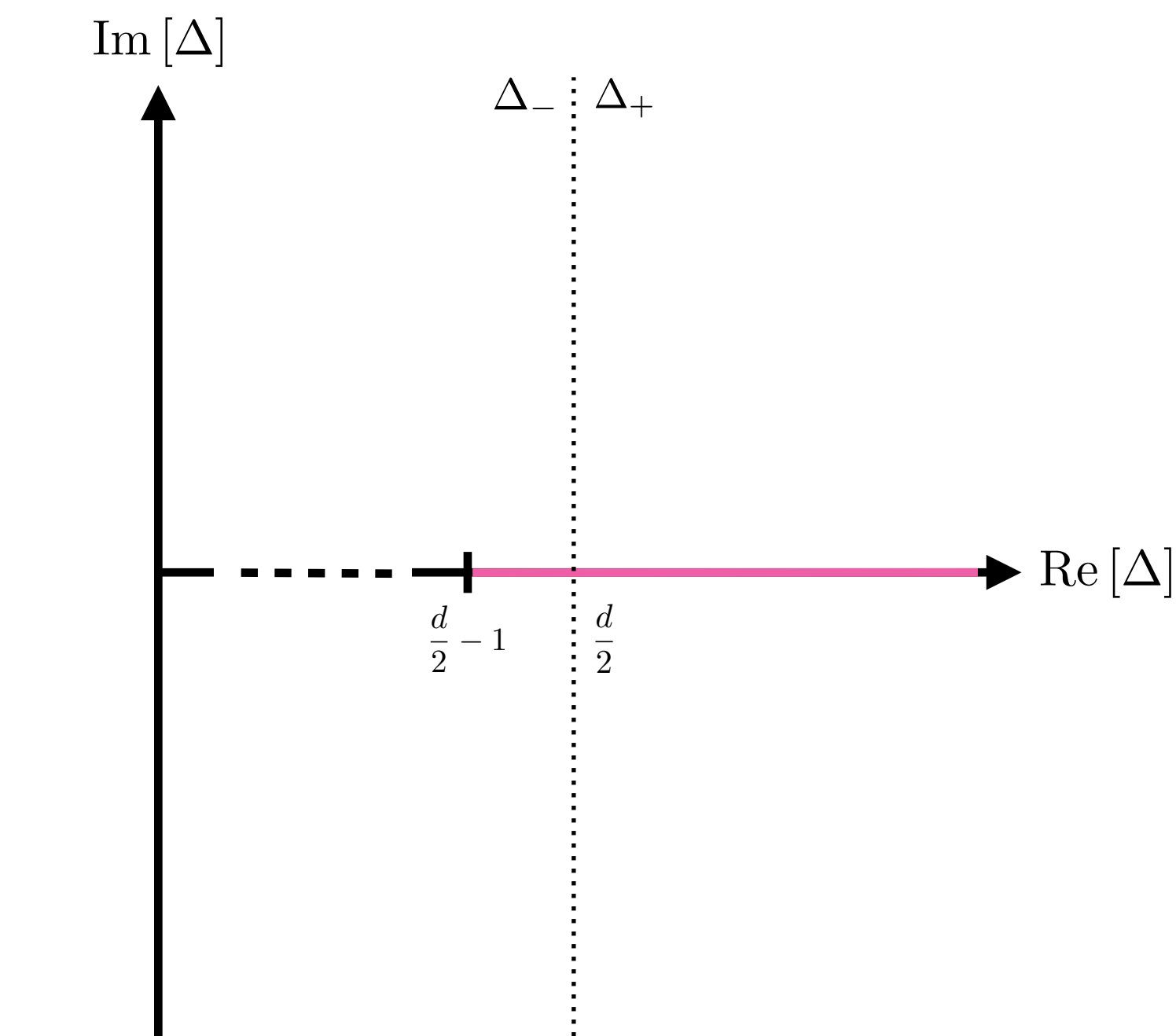
Boundary behaviour ( $\Delta_- = d - \Delta_+$ ):

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \varphi(z, x) = O_{\Delta_+}(x) z^{\Delta_+} + O_{\Delta_-}(x) z^{\Delta_-}$$

Dirichlet  
boundary condition

Neuman  
boundary condition

N.B.  $\Delta_-$  may be ruled out by unitarity



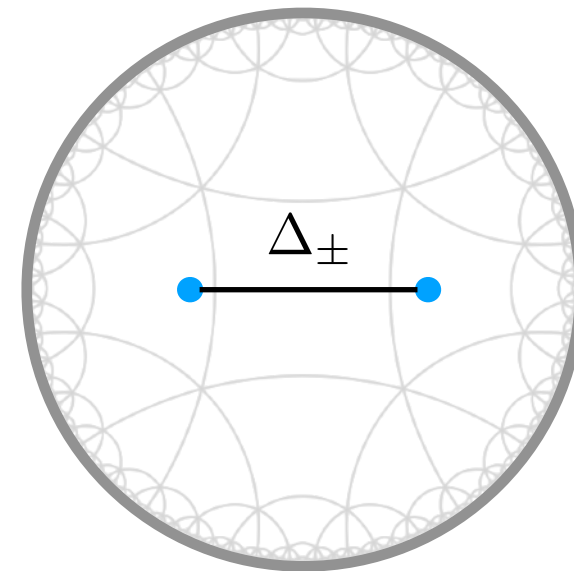
$O_{\Delta_{\pm}}(x)$  transform as primary fields with scaling dimension  $\Delta_{\pm}$  in Minkowski  $\text{CFT}_d$

# AdS boundary correlators

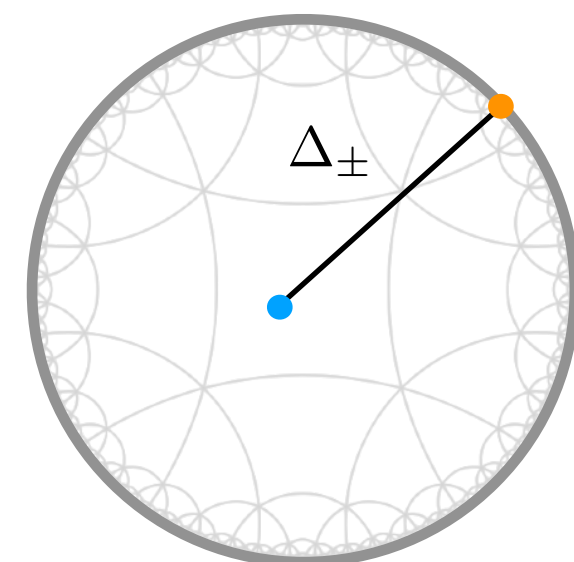
$$\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} z^{-(\Delta_1 + \dots + \Delta_n)} \langle \varphi_1(x_1, z) \dots \varphi_n(x_n, z) \rangle \stackrel{!}{=} \langle \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_1}(x_1) \dots \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_n}(x_n) \rangle$$

## Feynman rules:

Bulk-to-bulk propagator,  $\Delta_{\pm}$  boundary condition:



Bulk-to-boundary propagator,  $\Delta_{\pm}$  boundary condition:

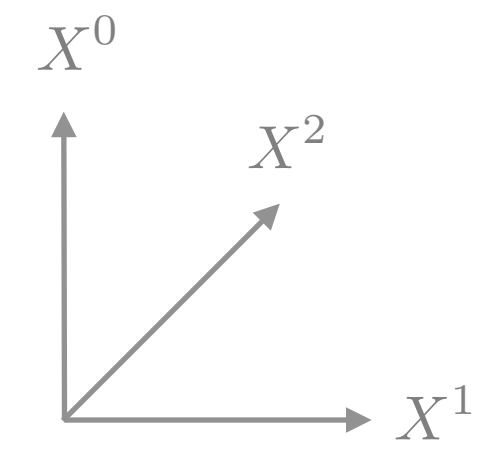
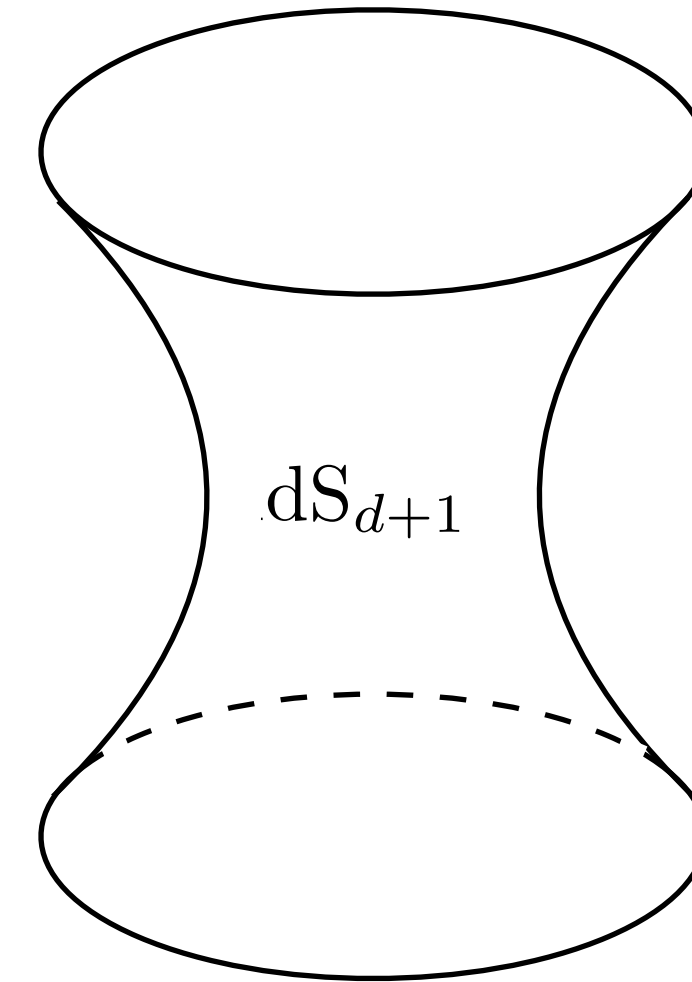


$$\Lambda > 0$$

# de Sitter space-time

$dS_{d+1} \subset \mathbb{M}^{d+2}$  :

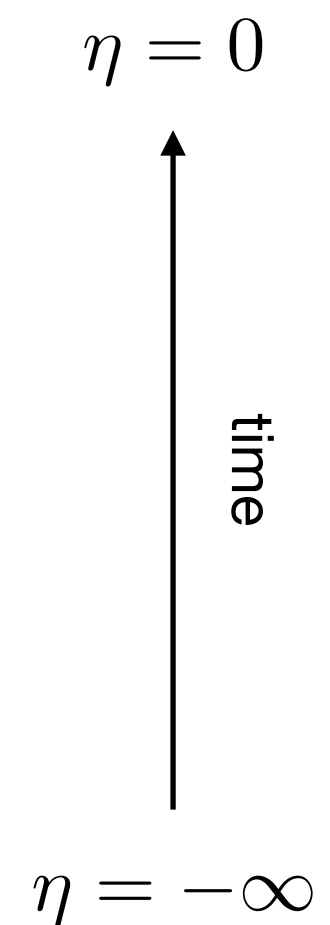
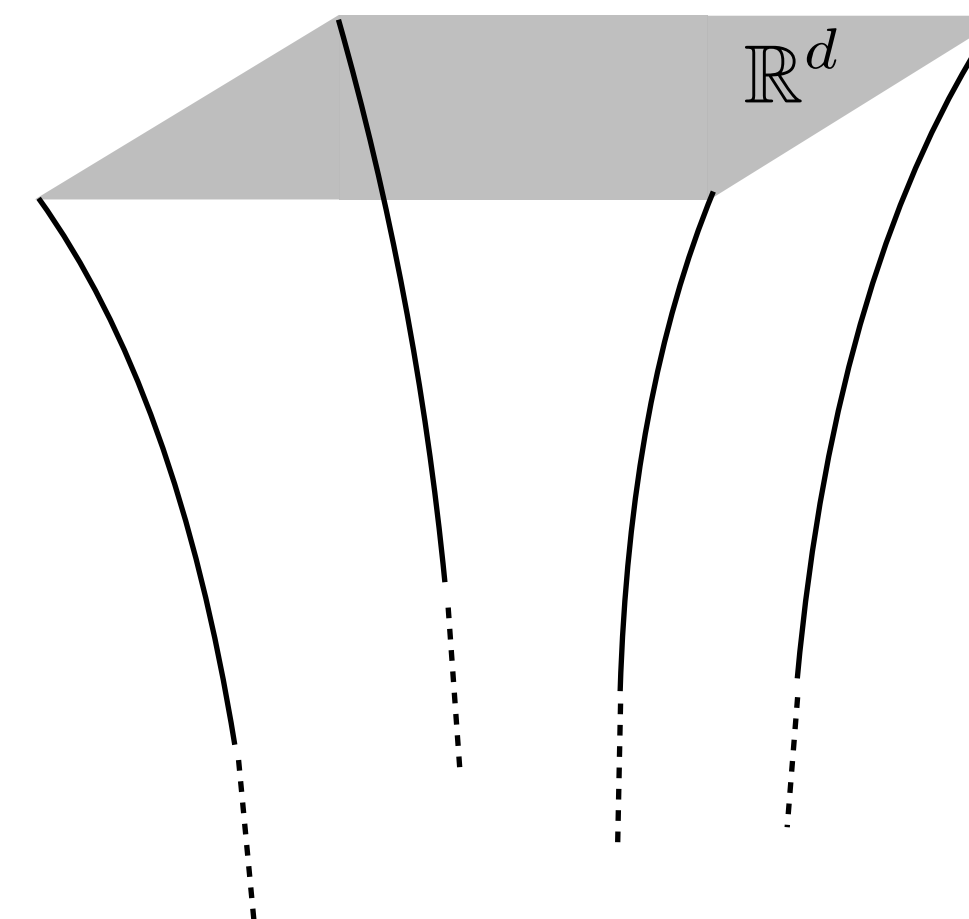
$$-(X^0)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{d+1} (X^i)^2 = R_{\text{dS}}^2$$



Isometry group:  $SO(d+1, 1) =$  conformal group in  $\mathbb{R}^d$

Poincaré coordinates:

$$ds^2 = R_{\text{dS}}^2 \frac{-d\eta^2 + d\mathbf{x}^2}{\eta^2}$$

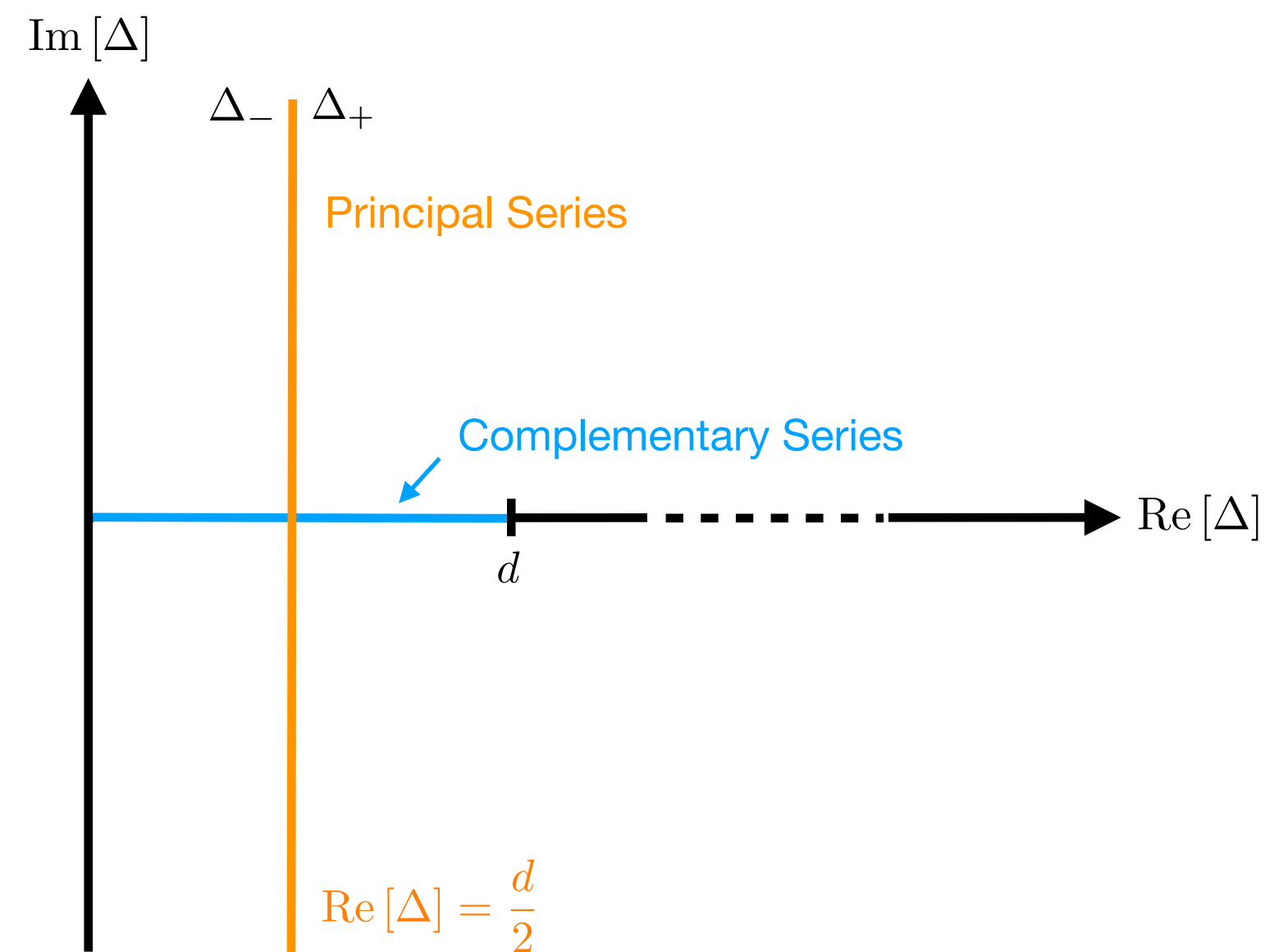


# Particles in dS

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Labelled by a scaling dimension  $\Delta$  and spin  $J$ . Unitarity constrains  $\Delta$ :

E.g. Spin  $J=0$  representations



Notes:

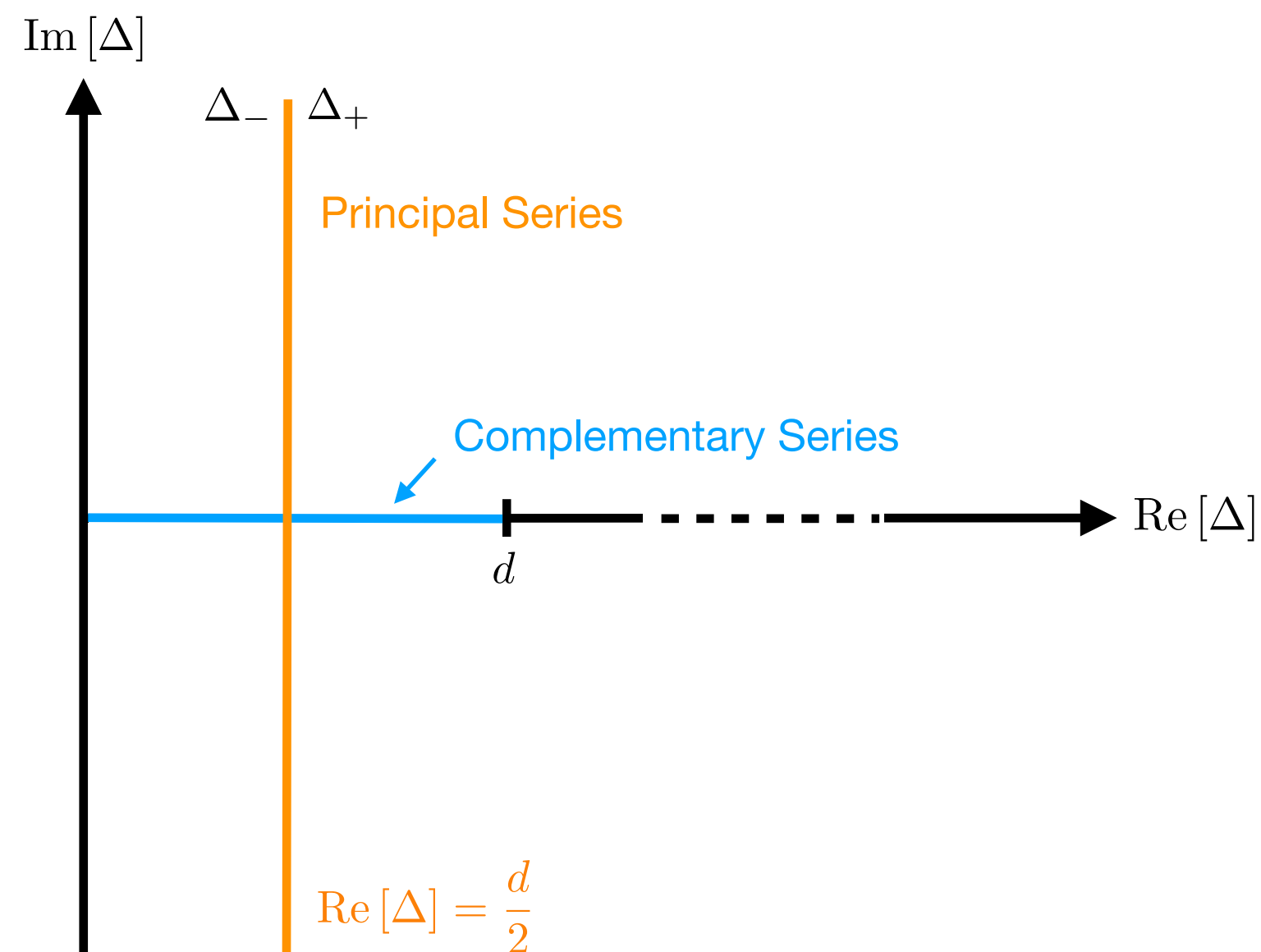
- Both  $\Delta_+$  and  $\Delta_-$  are unitary
- $\Delta$  can be complex (Principal Series)

# Particles in dS

Particles in  $dS_{d+1}$   $\longleftrightarrow$  unitary irreducible representations of  $SO(d+1, 1)$

Labelled by a scaling dimension  $\Delta$  and spin  $J$ . Can be realised by fields in  $dS_{d+1}$ .

E.g. Spin  $J=0$  representations



Quadratic Casimir equation

$$\langle \mathcal{C}_2 \rangle = \Delta(d - \Delta)$$

$$(\nabla^2 - m^2) \varphi = 0 \quad \leftrightarrow \quad (\mathcal{C}_2 - \langle \mathcal{C}_2 \rangle) \varphi = 0$$

$$m^2 R_{dS}^2 = \Delta(d - \Delta)$$

Boundary behaviour:

$$\lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0} \varphi(\eta, x) = O_{\Delta_+}(\mathbf{x}) \eta^{\Delta_+} + O_{\Delta_-}(\mathbf{x}) \eta^{\Delta_-}$$

Determined by the initial state

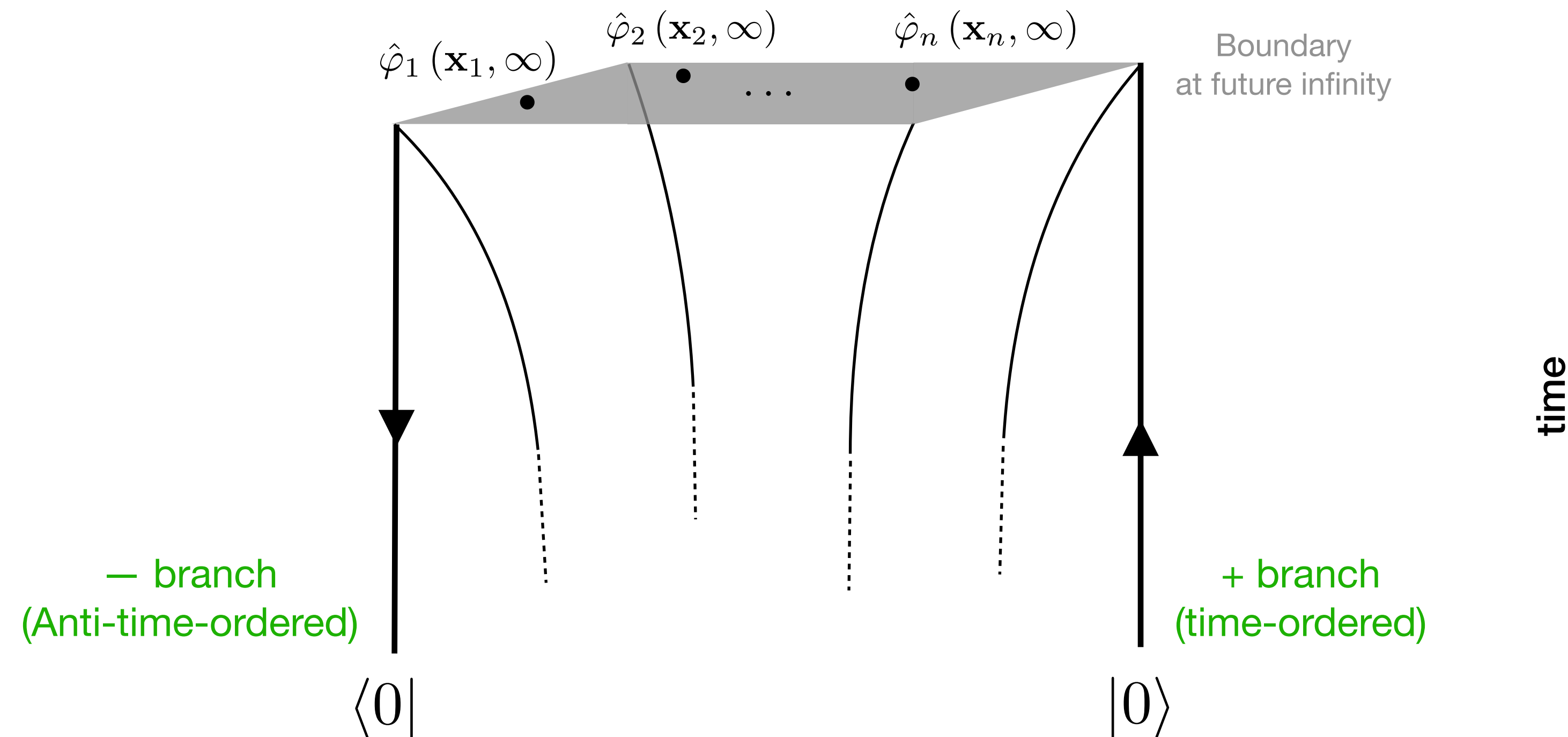
$O_{\Delta_{\pm}}(\mathbf{x})$  transform as primary fields with scaling dimension  $\Delta_{\pm}$  in Euclidean  $CFT_d$

# dS Boundary Correlators

in-in formalism

[Maldacena '02, Weinberg '05]

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \langle 0 | \hat{\varphi}_1(\mathbf{x}_1, \tau) \dots \hat{\varphi}_n(\mathbf{x}_n, \tau) | 0 \rangle$$



Take  $| 0 \rangle$  to be the de Sitter vacuum which reduces to the Minkowski vacuum at early times.

(Bunch Davies vacuum)



# dS Boundary Correlators

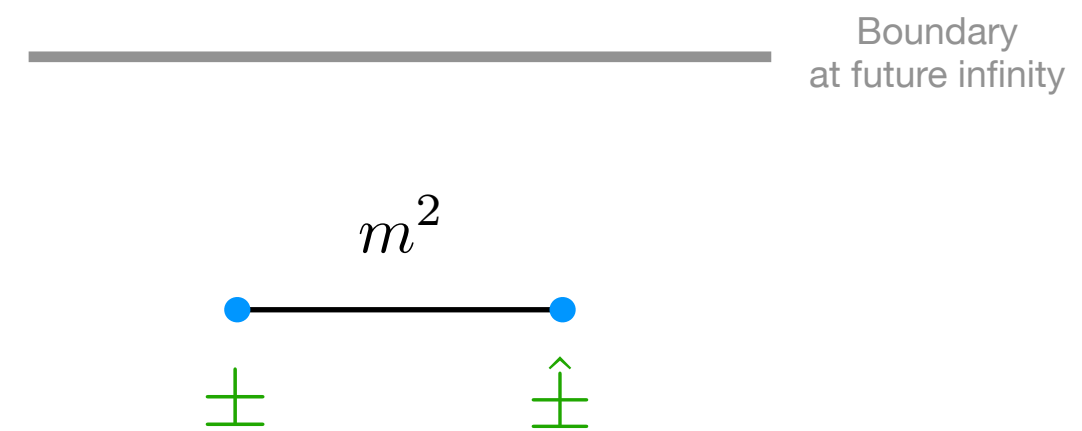
in-in formalism

[Maldacena '02, Weinberg '05]

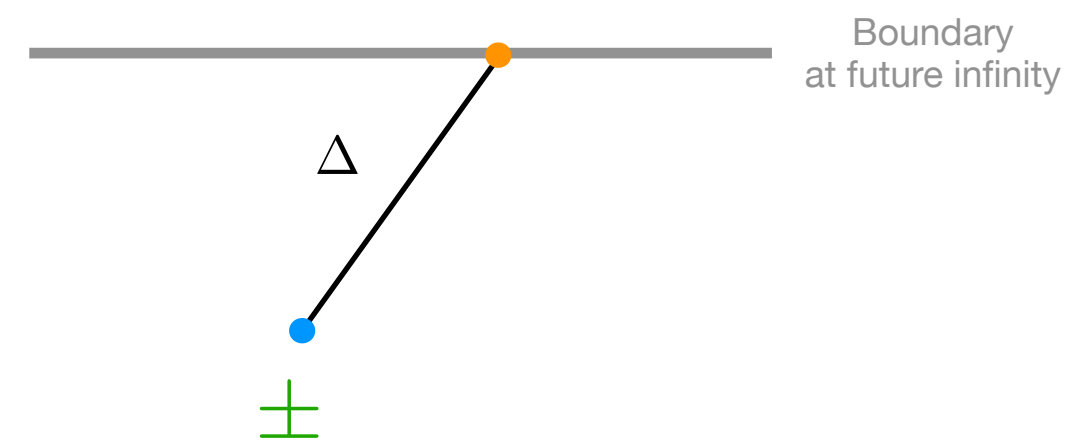
$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \langle 0 | \hat{\varphi}_1(\mathbf{x}_1, \tau) \dots \hat{\varphi}_n(\mathbf{x}_n, \tau) | 0 \rangle$$

**Feynman rules:**

$\pm$  bulk-to- $\hat{\pm}$  bulk propagator:

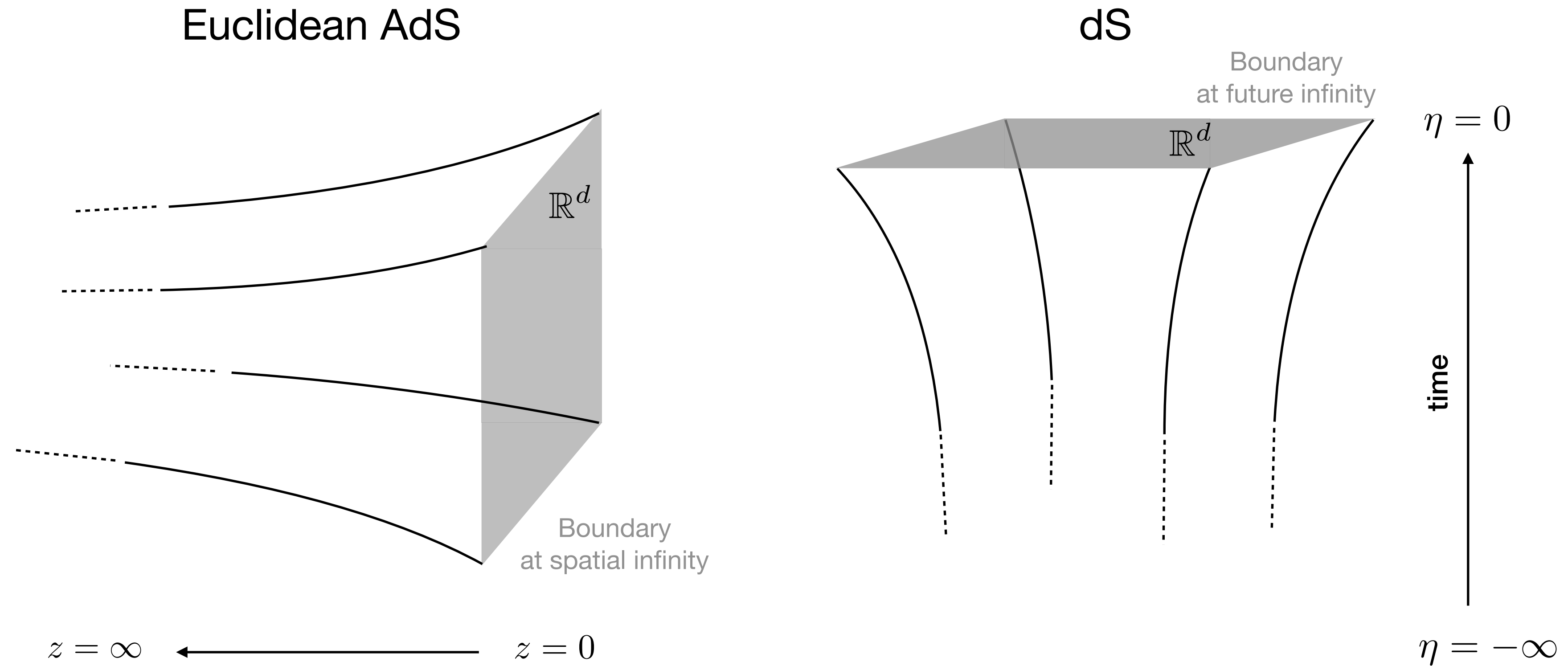


$\pm$  bulk-to-boundary propagator:

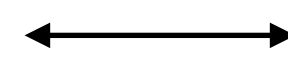


Sum contributions from each **branch** ( $\pm$ ) of the time (in-in) contour!

# From dS to Euclidean AdS



$$ds^2 = R_{\text{AdS}}^2 \frac{dz^2 + d\mathbf{x}^2}{z^2}$$



$$ds^2 = R_{\text{dS}}^2 \frac{-d\eta^2 + d\mathbf{x}^2}{\eta^2}$$

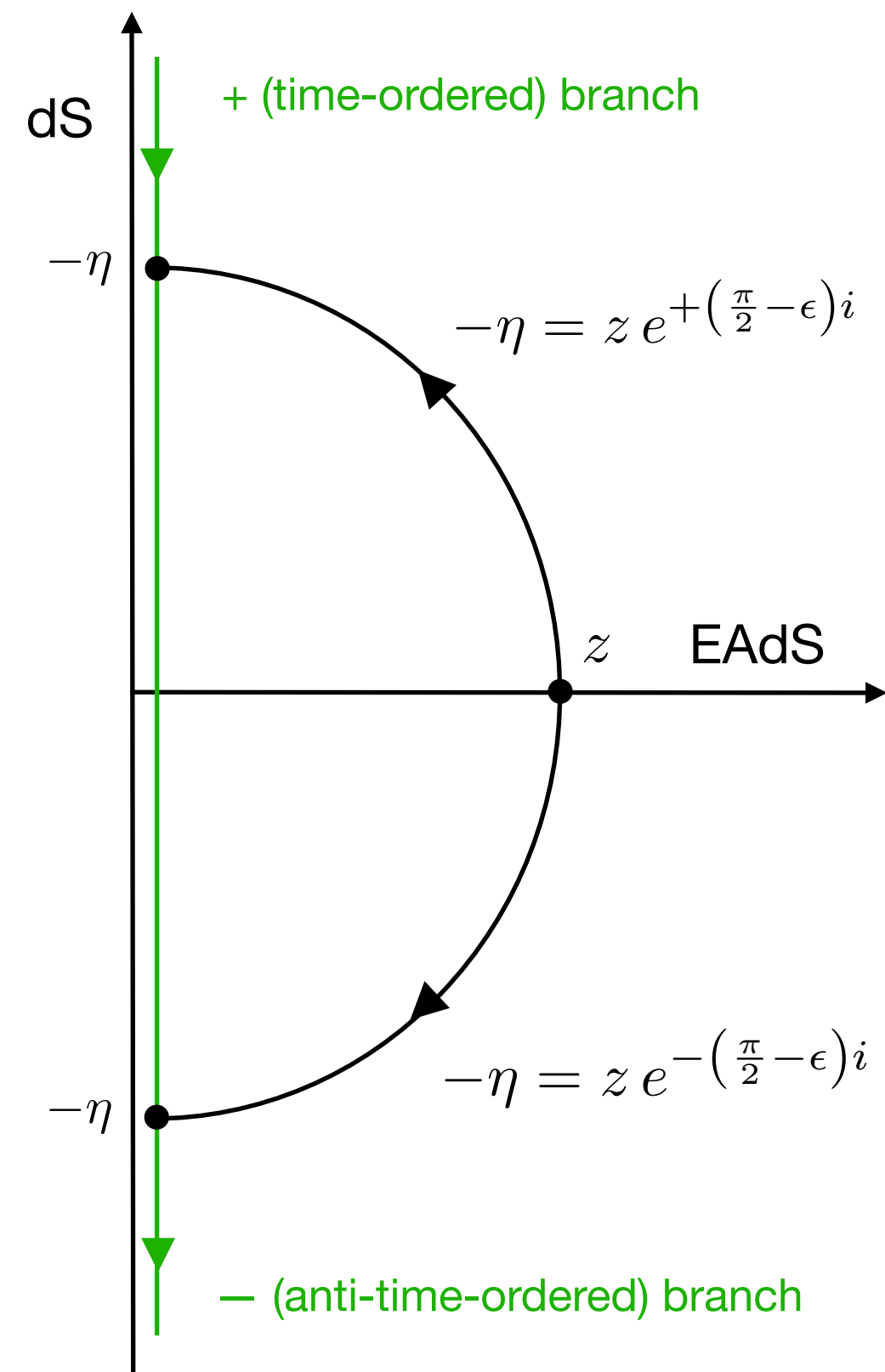
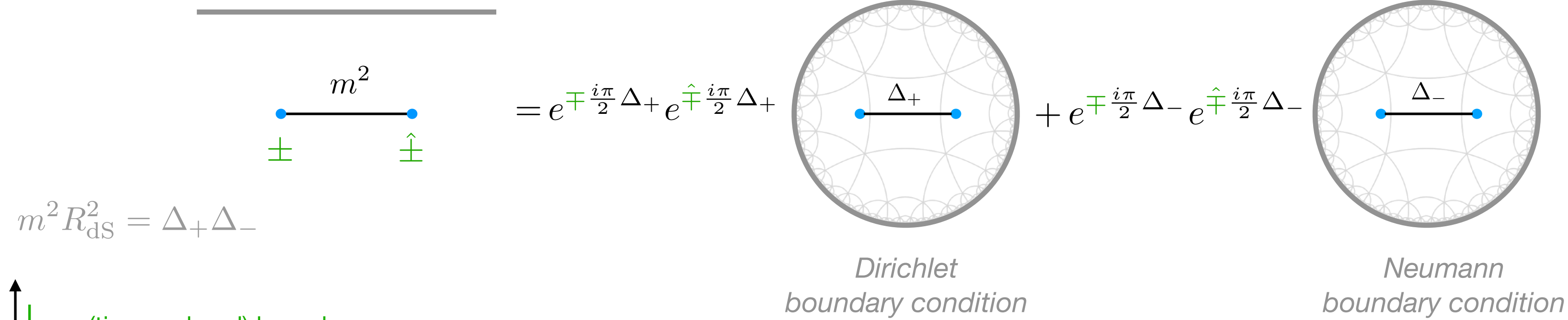
EAdS and dS are identified under:

$$R_{\text{AdS}} = \pm i R_{\text{dS}} \quad z = \pm i (-\eta)$$

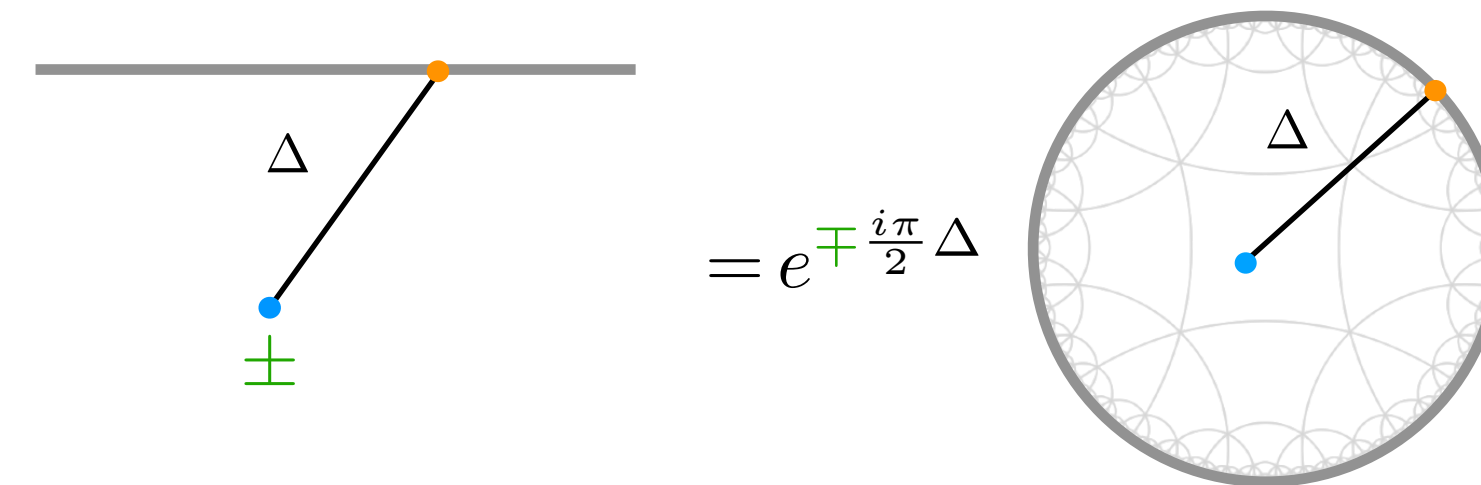
# From dS to Euclidean AdS

$\pm$  bulk-to- $\hat{\pm}$  bulk propagator:

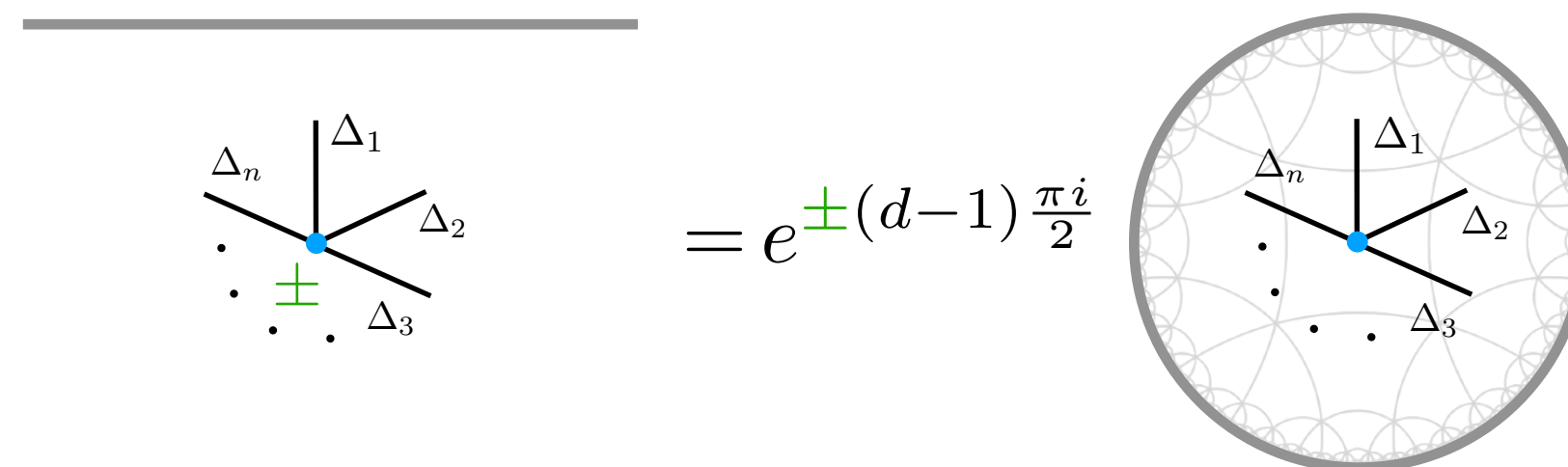
[C.S. and M. Taronna '19, '20, '21]



$\pm$  bulk-to-boundary propagator:



$\pm$  bulk integrals:



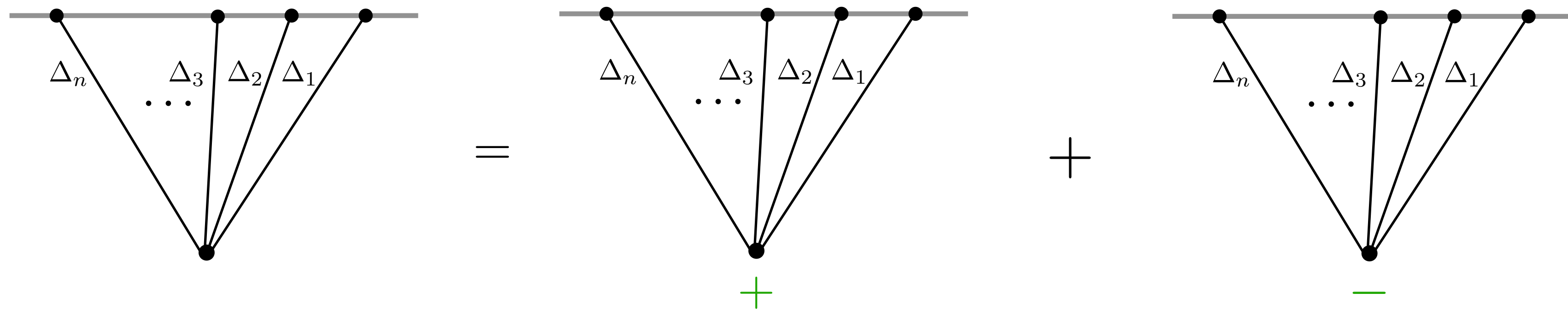
# From dS to Euclidean AdS

## Examples.

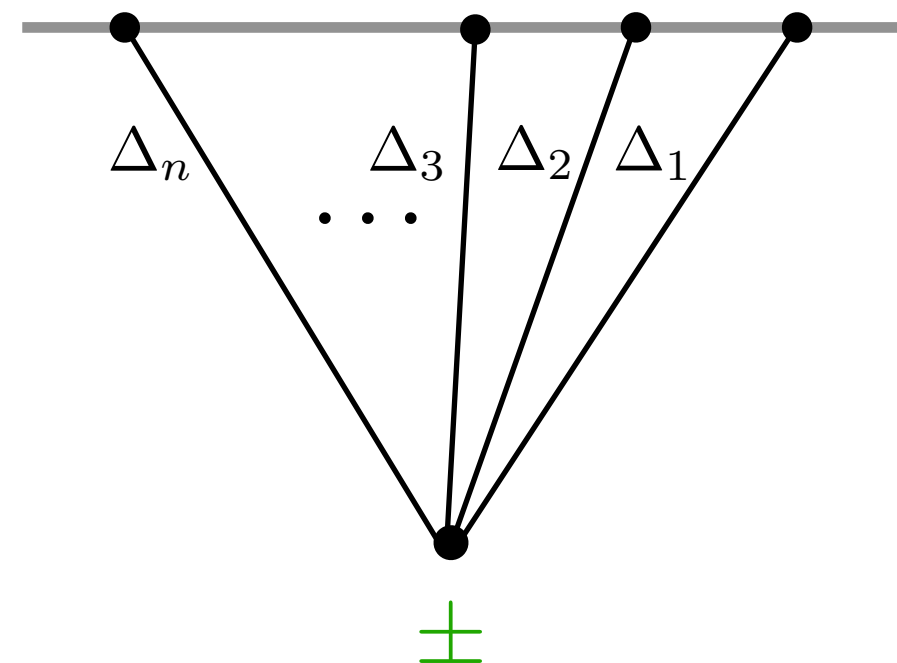
[C.S. and M. Taronna '19]

Non-derivative vertex of scalars fields  $\mathcal{V}(X) = g\phi_1(X) \dots \phi_n(X)$

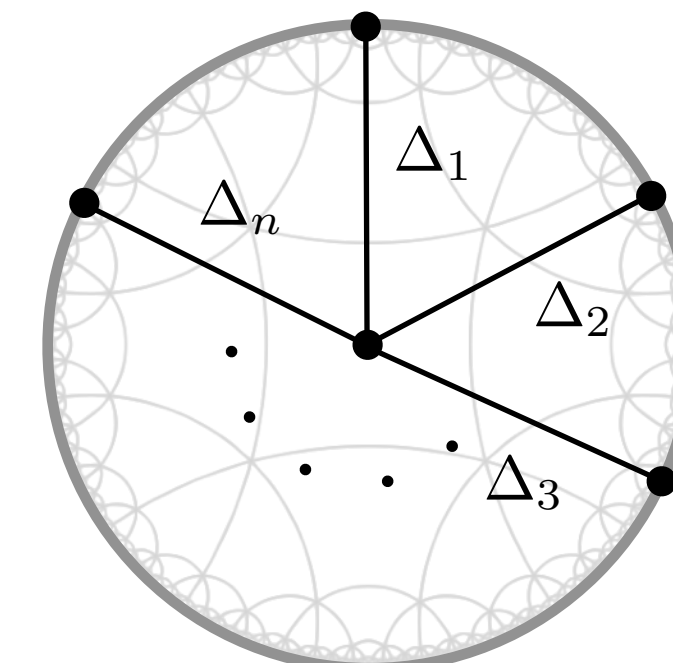
Contact diagram:



Where



$$= e^{\pm \frac{i\pi}{2} (d-1)} \prod_{j=1}^n e^{\mp \frac{i\pi}{2} \Delta_j}$$



Same contact diagram in EAdS

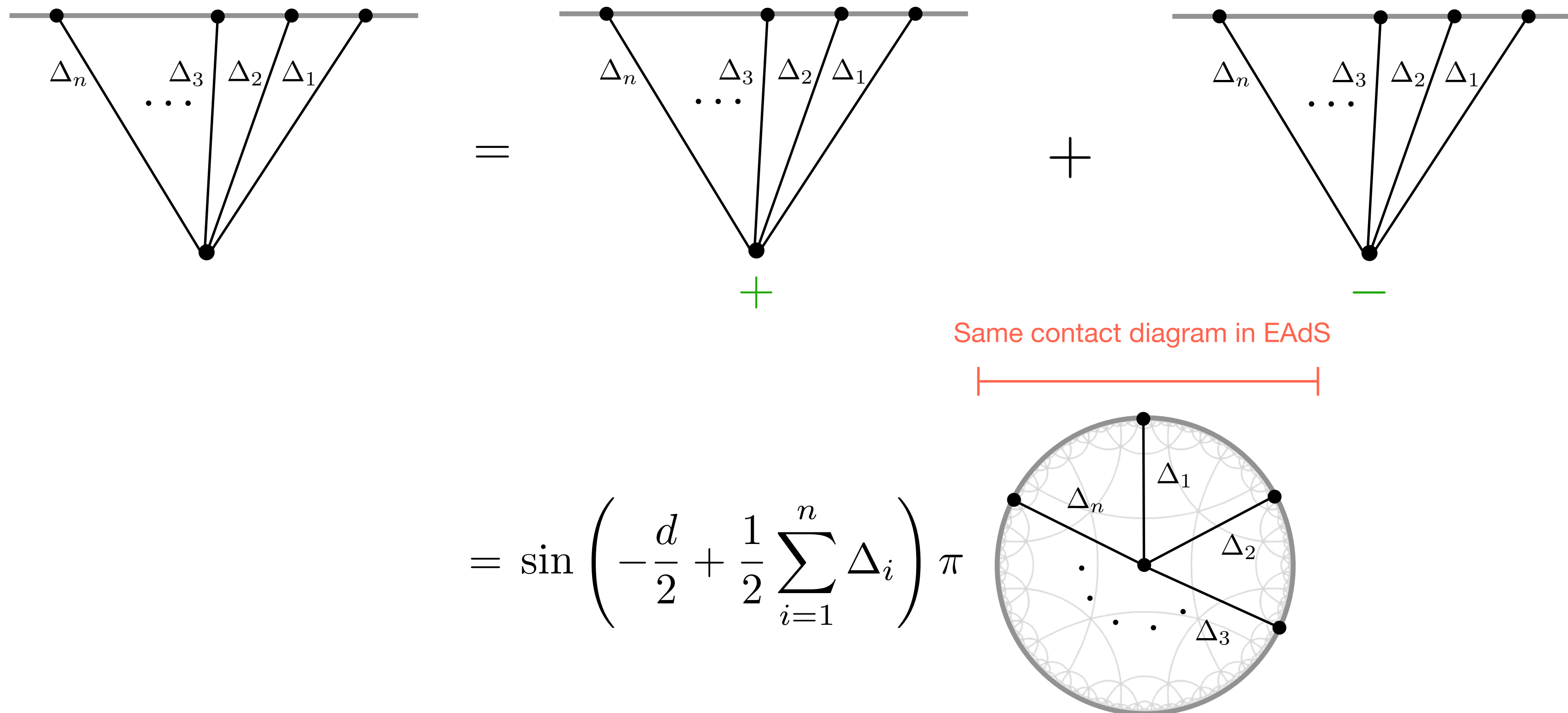
# From dS to Euclidean AdS

## Examples.

[C.S. and M. Taronna '19]

Non-derivative vertex of scalars fields  $\mathcal{V}(X) = g\phi_1(X) \dots \phi_n(X)$

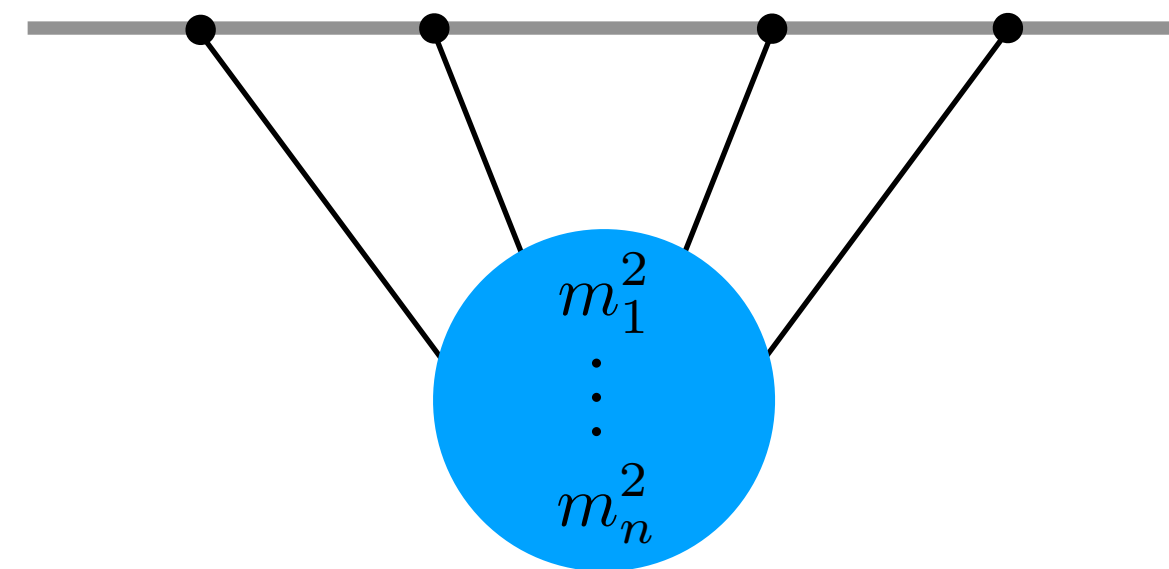
Contact diagram:



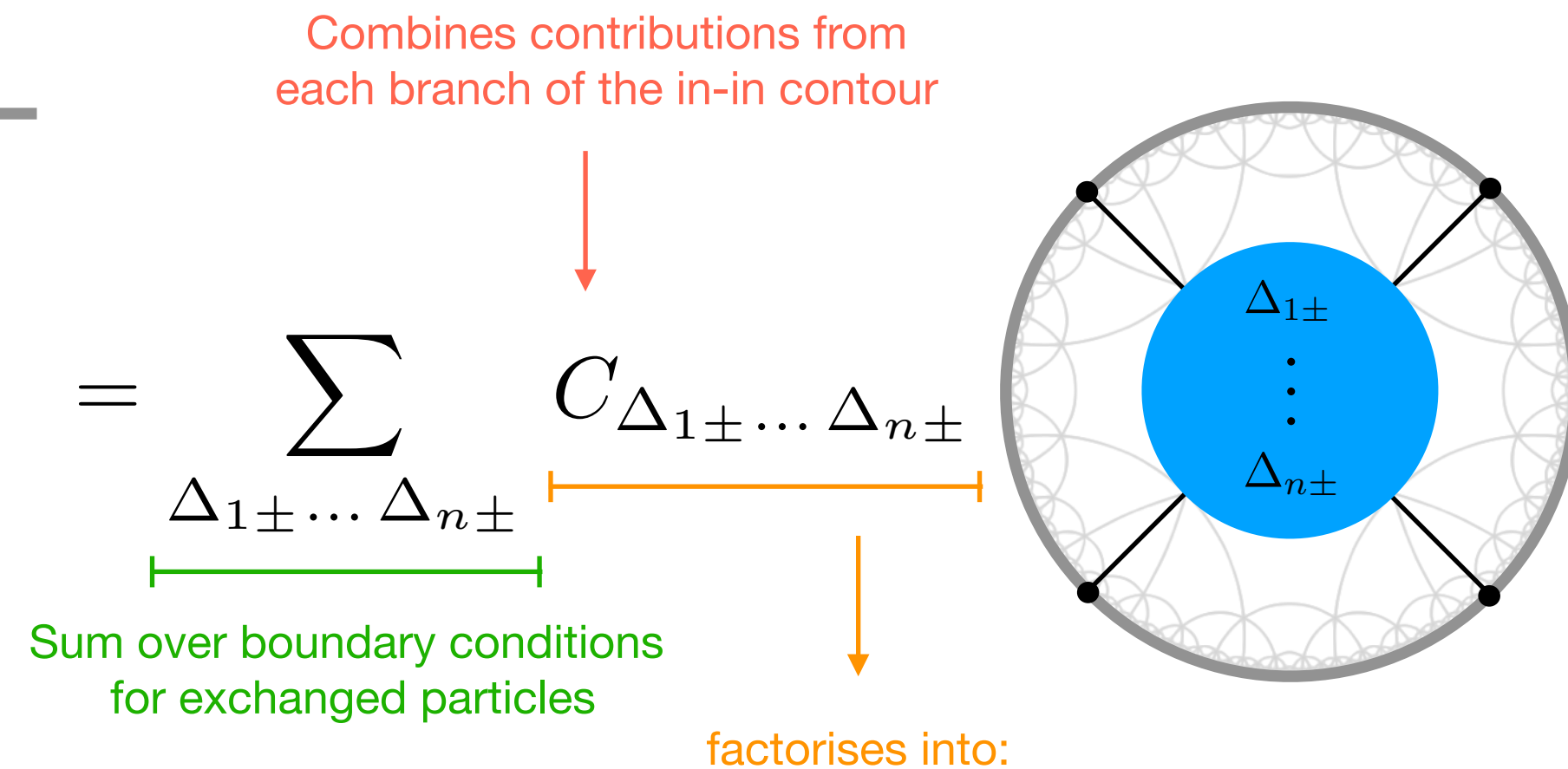
# From dS to EAdS, and back

dS boundary correlators are perturbatively recast as Witten diagrams in EAdS:

e.g. four-points



Process with  $M$  vertices



$$C_1^{\text{contact}} \times \dots \times C_M^{\text{contact}}$$

## Notes:

- Contributions from both  $\Delta_{\pm}$  modes, which is not always possible in AdS
- $\Delta_{i\pm} \in$  Unitary Irreducible Representation of **dS** isometry

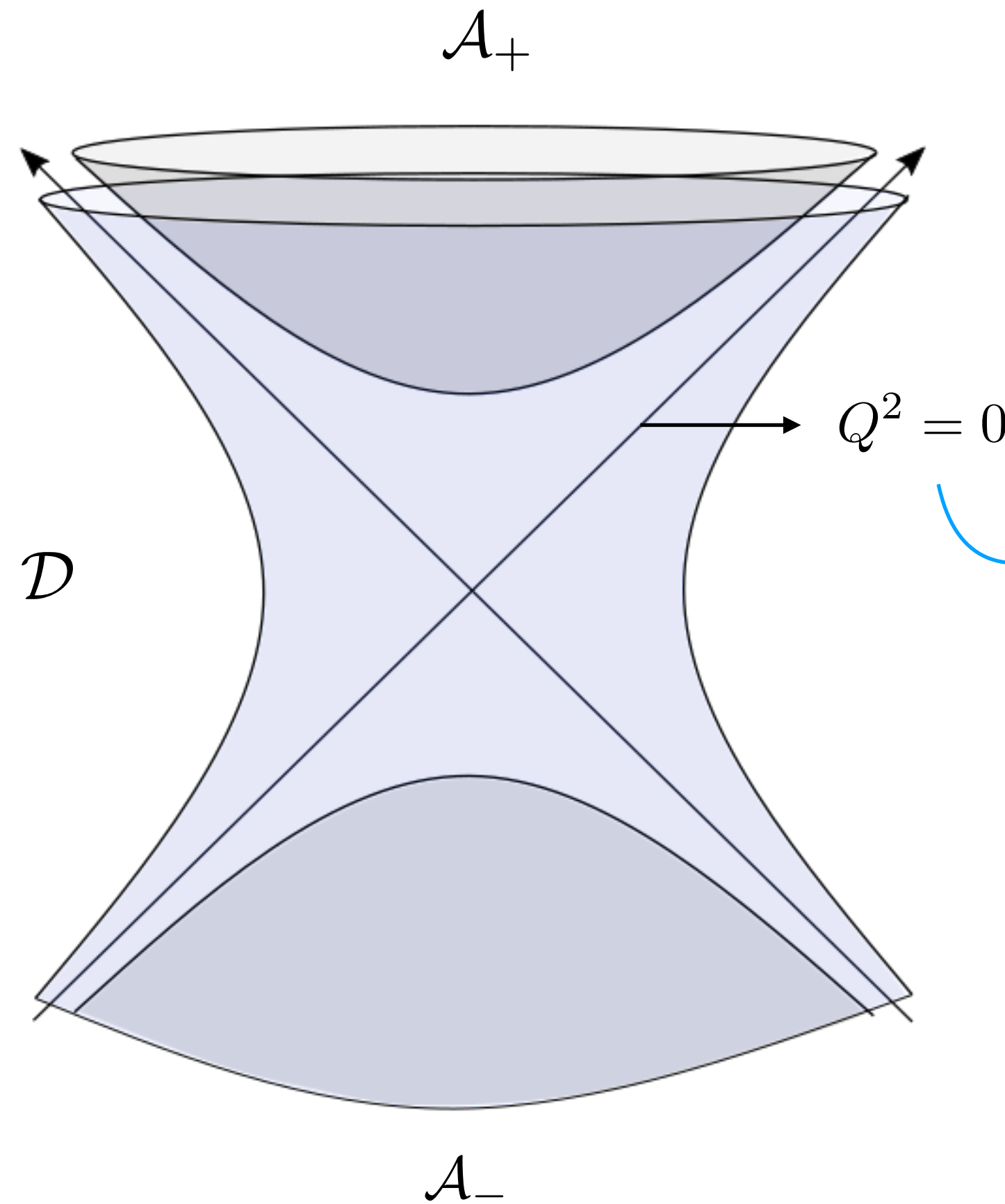
Can use to import techniques and results from AdS to dS!

$$\Lambda = 0$$

# Hyperbolic slicing of Minkowski space

[de Boer and Solodukhin '03]

( $d+2$ )-dimensional Minkowski space  $\mathbb{M}^{d+2}$ , coordinates  $X^A$ ,  $A = 0, \dots, d+1$



$$\mathcal{A}_{\pm} : X^2 = -t^2 \quad (\text{EAdS}_{d+1}, \text{radius } t)$$

$$\mathcal{D} : X^2 = R^2 \quad (\text{dS}_{d+1}, \text{radius } R)$$

Conformal boundary:

$$Q^2 = 0, \quad Q \equiv \lambda Q, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

Introduce projective coordinates:

$$\xi_i = Q^i / Q^0, \quad i = 1, \dots, d+1$$

$$\xi_1^2 + \dots + \xi_{d+1}^2 = 1 \quad \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{d-dimensional} \\ \text{Celestial sphere} \end{array} \right]$$

$SO(d+1, 1)$  acts on the celestial sphere as the Euclidean conformal group!



# Minkowski boundary correlators

[C.S. and M. Taronna '23]

Radial **Mellin transform** of Minkowski correlators implements a radial reduction onto the hyperbolic slicing:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{Diagram: A grey circle containing } n \text{ points } Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_n \text{ with operators } \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_1}(Q_1), \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_2}(Q_2), \dots, \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_n}(Q_n). \\
 & = \prod_i \lim_{\hat{X}_i \rightarrow Q_i} \int_0^\infty \frac{dt_i}{t_i} t_i^{\Delta_i} \left\langle \phi_1(t_1 \hat{X}_1) \dots \phi_n(t_n \hat{X}_n) \right\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

Hyperbolic coordinate ↓  
Mellin transform    radial coordinate ↑

**Celestial correlators** then arise in the boundary limit  $\hat{X}_i \rightarrow Q_i$  !

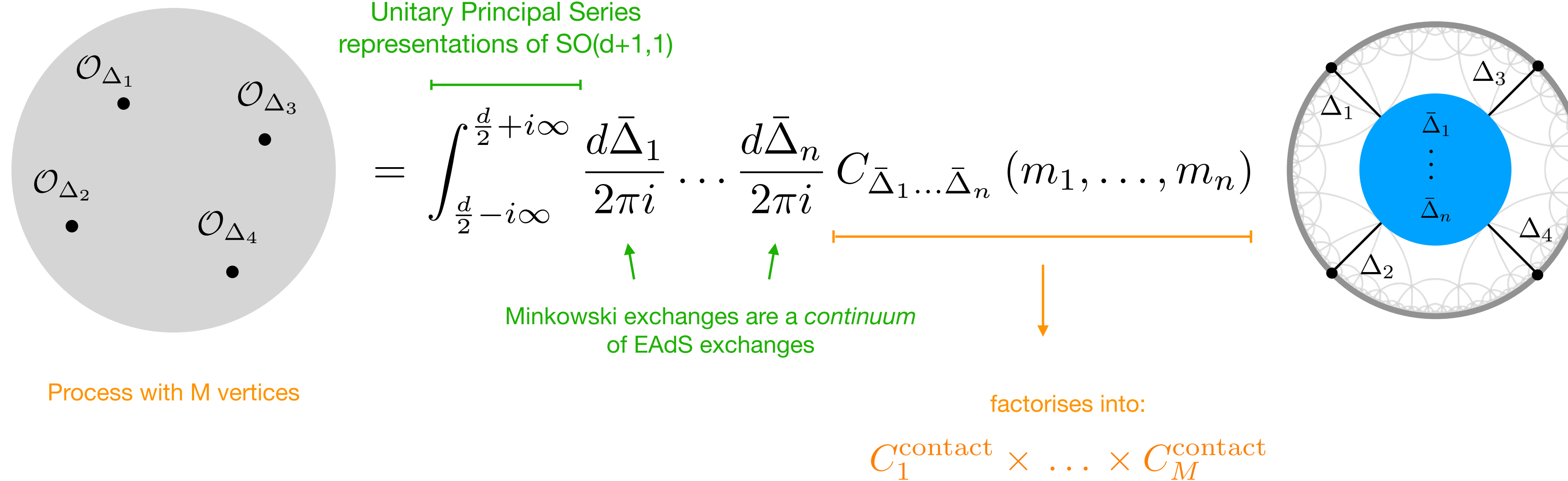
**Radial Mellin Transform** for both massless and massive particles in Minkowski

**S-matrix** is what we measure in experiments but **AdS/CFT** puts **bulk correlators** at the center

# From the Celestial Sphere to EAdS

[C.S. and M. Taronna '23; L. Iacobacci, C.S. and M. Taronna '24]

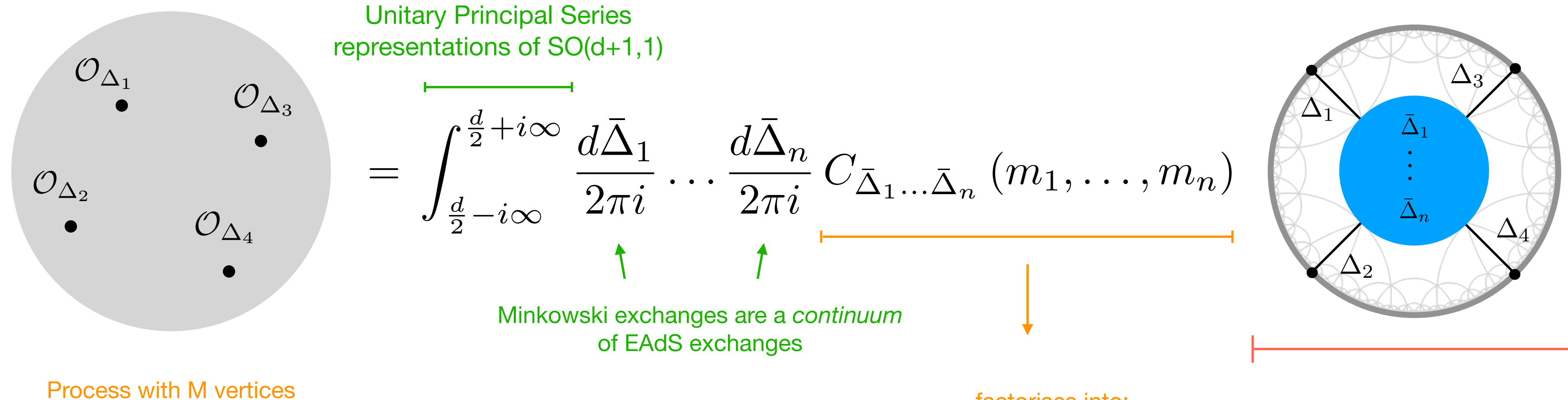
In general, for exchanges of particles of mass  $m_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$



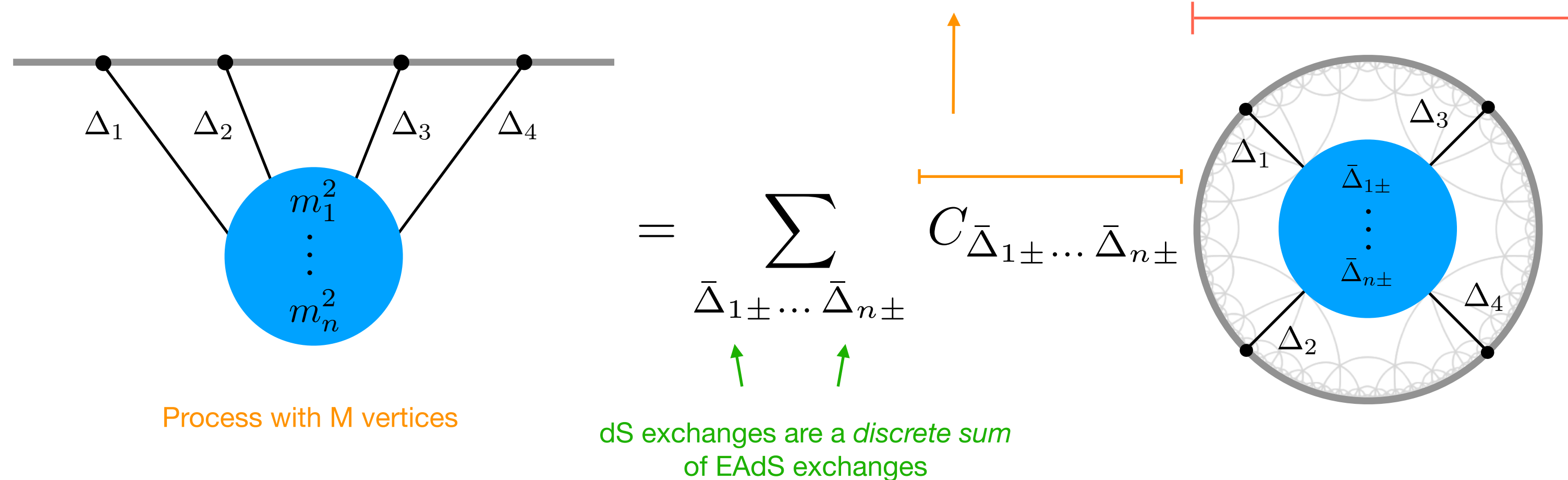
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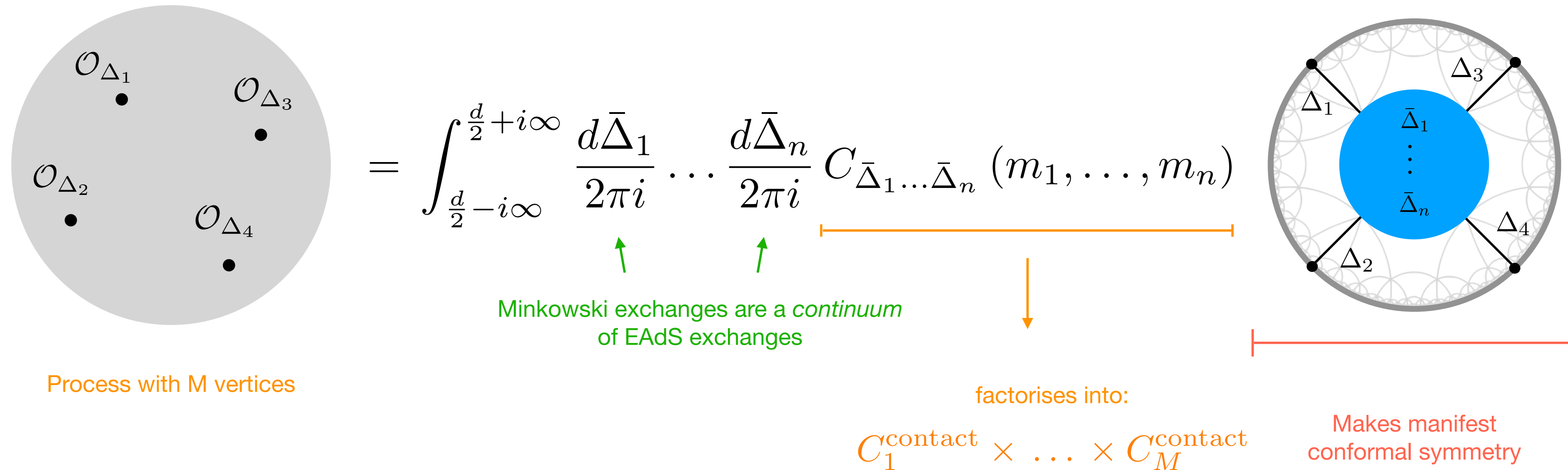
Compare with de Sitter:



# From the Celestial Sphere to EAdS

[C.S. and M. Taronna '23; L. Iacobacci, C.S. and M. Taronna '24]

In general, for exchanges of particles of mass  $m_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$



Comments:

- Relation to definition [Pasterski, Shao, Strominger '17] of celestial correlators as scattering amplitudes in a conformal basis?

[Pasterski, Shao, Strominger '17] = LSZ ([Sleight, Taronna '23]) ?

- Celestial correlators defined as an extrapolation of bulk Minkowski correlators give a definition of celestial correlators for theories without an S-matrix.

What lessons can we draw from Minkowski CFT?

Some applications.

# Perturbative OPE data

Perturbative OPE data on the boundary of dS and Minkowski space from EAdS

E.g. Composite operators on the boundary

[C.S. and M. Taronna '20]

$$[OO]_{n,\ell} \sim \mathcal{O} (\partial^2)^n \partial_{i_1} \dots \partial_{i_\ell} \mathcal{O} + \dots \quad \text{scaling dimension: } \Delta_{n,\ell} = \underbrace{2\Delta + 2n + \ell}_{\text{Free theory}} + \underbrace{\gamma_{n,\ell}}_{\text{anomalous dimension}}$$

- $\gamma_{n,\ell}$  induced by bulk  $\phi^4$  contact diagram in dS:

$$= \sin\left(-\frac{d}{2} + 2\Delta\right) \pi \times (\text{EAdS}) \gamma_{n,\ell}^{\phi^4}$$

- $\gamma_{n,\ell}$  induced by an exchange diagram in dS:

$$= \sin\left(\frac{-d + 2\Delta + \Delta_+}{2}\right) \pi \sin\left(\frac{-d + 2\Delta + \Delta_+}{2}\right) \pi \times (\text{EAdS}) \gamma_{n,\ell}^{\phi^3 \text{ exch } \Delta_+} + (\Delta_+ \rightarrow \Delta_-)$$

$$\longrightarrow \gamma_{n,\ell}^{\phi^3 \text{ exch}} = \sin\left(\frac{-d + 2\Delta + \Delta_+}{2}\right) \pi \sin\left(\frac{-d + 2\Delta + \Delta_+}{2}\right) \pi \times (\text{EAdS}) \gamma_{n,\ell}^{\phi^3 \text{ exch } \Delta_+} + (\Delta_+ \rightarrow \Delta_-)$$

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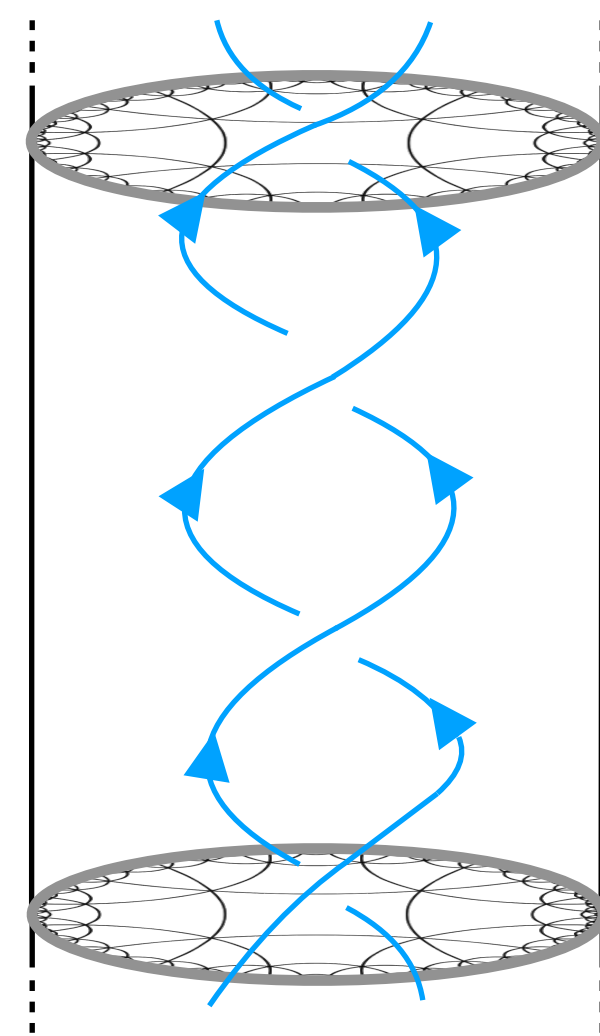
E.g. Composite operators on the boundary

$$[\mathcal{O}\mathcal{O}]_{n,\ell} \sim \mathcal{O} (\partial^2)^n \partial_{i_1} \dots \partial_{i_\ell} \mathcal{O} + \dots$$

scaling dimension:  $\Delta_{n,\ell} = 2\Delta + 2n + \ell + \gamma_{n,\ell}$



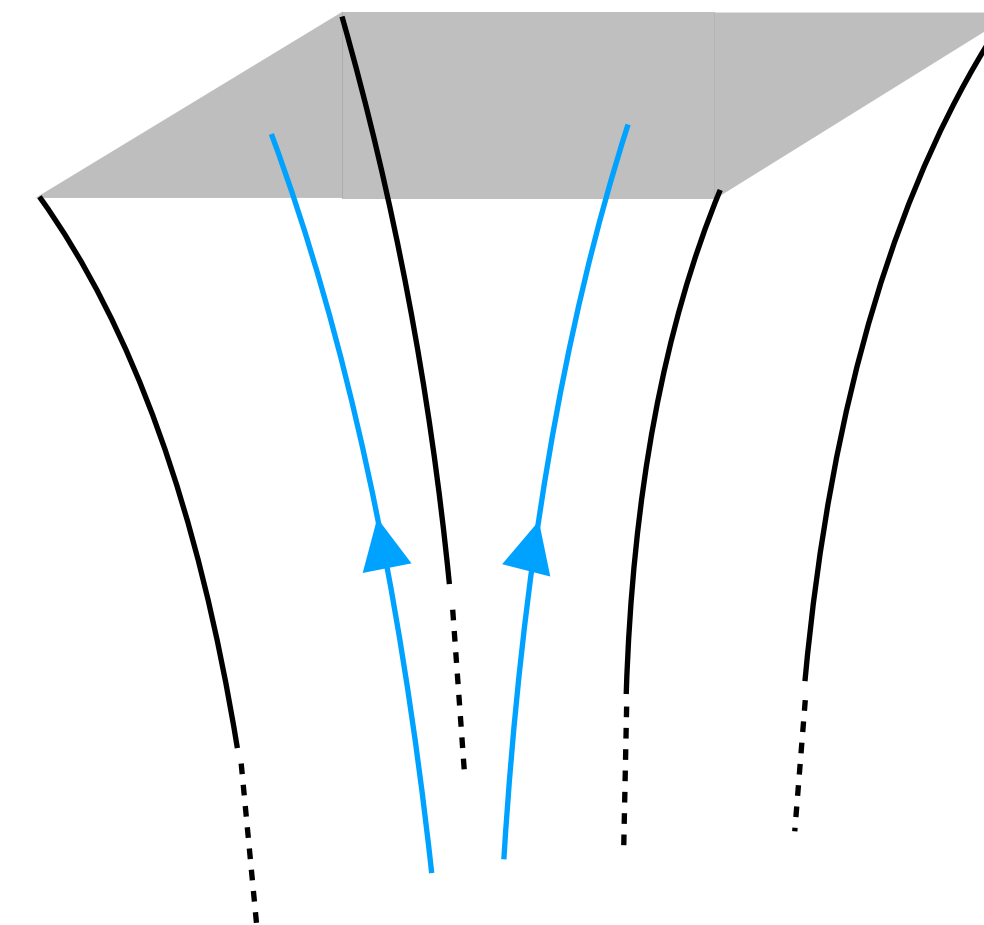
**AdS**



$\Delta_{n,\ell}$  is unitary

→ stable particle (bound state)

**dS**



vs.

$\Delta_{n,\ell}$  is (generally) non-unitary

→ resonance

# Conformal Partial Wave Expansion

[Sleight, Taronna '20] [Hogervorst, Penedones, Vaziri '21] [di Pietro, Komatsu, Gorbenko '21]

Perturbative dS and celestial correlators have a similar analytic structure to those in AdS.

→ Like in AdS they admit a conformal partial wave expansion

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{x}_1) \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{x}_2) \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{x}_3) \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{x}_4) \rangle = \sum_{J=0}^{\infty} \int_{\frac{d}{2}-i\infty}^{\frac{d}{2}+i\infty} \frac{d\Delta}{2\pi i} \rho_J(\Delta) \underbrace{\mathcal{F}_{\Delta,J}(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_3, \mathbf{x}_4)}_{\text{Conformal Partial Wave}}$$

Spectral density, meromorphic in  $\Delta$

↓

The spectral function has to be positive as prescribed by  $SO(d+1,1)$  Unitarity (This is EAdS, not AdS, unitarity)

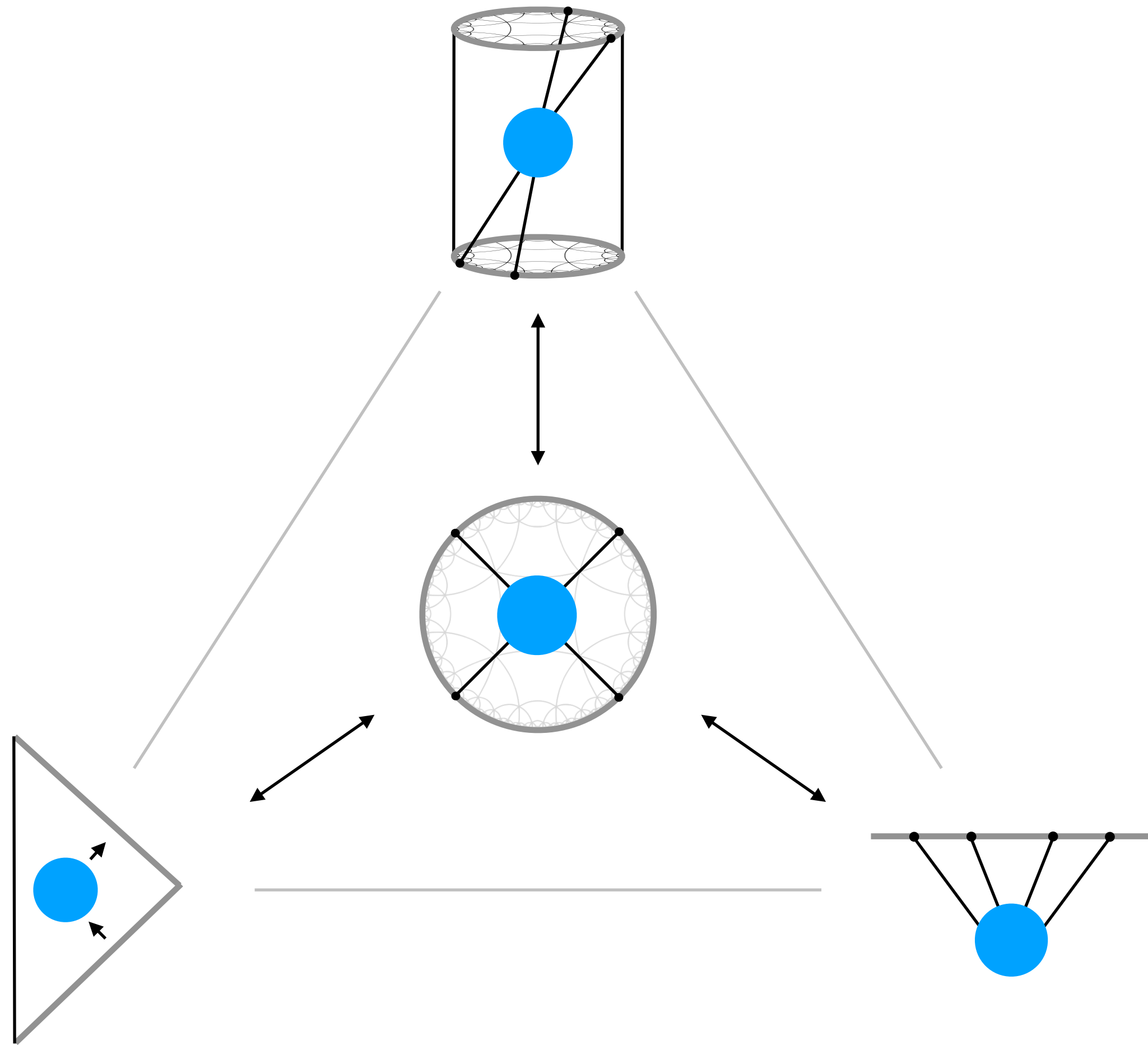
Unitarity:  $\rho_J(\Delta) \geq 0$  + crossing → Bootstrap for Euclidean CFTs?

Cf. Lorentzian CFT:

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{x}_1) \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{x}_2) \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{x}_3) \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{x}_4) \rangle = \sum_{\Delta, J}^{\infty} C_{\Delta, J}^2 \underbrace{G_{\Delta, J}(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_3, \mathbf{x}_4)}_{\text{Conformal Block}}$$

Unitarity:  $C_{\Delta, J}^2 \geq 0$  + crossing → Conformal Bootstrap





*Thank you.*

