



DEPARTMENT OF
PHYSICS



MARYLAND CENTER
for Fundamental Physics

Cosmological Phase Transition of Composite Higgs Confinement

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In collaboration with Kaustubh Agashe, Peizhi Du, Soubhik Kumar

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based on *JHEP* 05(2020)086 [arXiv 1910.06238]

and *JHEP* 02(2021)051 [arXiv 2010.04083].

Introduction

- Composite Higgs models are well motivated as they can generate the large hierarchies observed.
- Higgs can be a confined composite state of strong dynamics at or above the TeV scale.
- Early universe 1st order phase transitions (PT):
 - *Stochastic gravitational wave background from the PT can be observed.*
 - *PT affects baryon and dark matter genesis.*
- Confinement-deconfinement PT
- *Strongly coupled, non-perturbative!*

How to analyze the confinement PT?

Composite Higgs models: nearly conformal, large N

Holography (5D)

- 4D strong coupling \rightarrow weakly coupled 5D Gravity ($G_N^{5D} \sim \frac{1}{N^2}$)
- PT dynamics in 5D EFT control [Agashe, Du, M.E., Kumar, Sundrum 2020](#)

Spontaneous confinement (4D)

- Deconfined theory approximately scale invariant
- Confinement breaks scale invariance, but spontaneously
- Corresponding pNGB is dilaton
- Dynamics of dilaton dominates the PT in some regime

Spontaneous Confinement- Dilaton EFT

$$\mathcal{L}(\Lambda_{UV}) = \mathcal{L}_{CFT} + \frac{1}{\Lambda_{UV}^\epsilon} \mathcal{O}$$

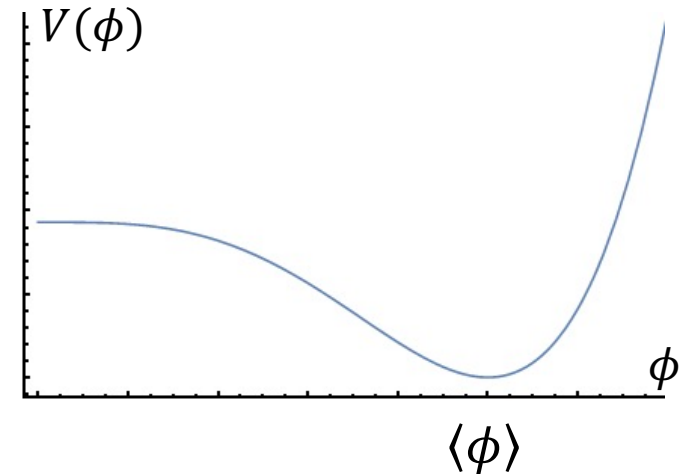
Deform the CFT
 $[O] = 4 + \epsilon$

Dilaton Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{dilaton} = \frac{N^2}{16\pi^2} \left((\partial\phi)^2 - \lambda\phi^4 \left(1 - \omega \left(\frac{\phi}{\Lambda_{UV}} \right)^\epsilon \right) \right)$$

- ϵ parameterizes **explicit breaking** of scale invariance and sets the hierarchy

$$\ln \frac{M_{Pl}}{\text{TeV}} \sim \ln \frac{\Lambda_{UV}}{\langle\phi\rangle} \sim \frac{1}{\epsilon} \sim 30$$



Bubble nucleation rate

- Probability of bubble nucleation per unit 4-volume:

$$\Gamma \sim T^4 e^{-S_{\text{bounce}}}$$

- PT completes if $\Gamma \gtrsim H^4$ $\left(H \sim \frac{T_C^2}{M_{Pl}}\right)$

$$S_{\text{bounce}} \lesssim 4 \ln \frac{M_{Pl}}{T_C} \approx 140$$

- For T close to T_C (thin-wall):

$$S_{\text{bounce}} \gtrsim 40 \frac{N^2}{(\lambda\epsilon)^{3/4}}$$

- Action enhanced by large N and small ϵ
- PT does not complete near T_C

Creminelli, Nicolis & Rattazzi 2002

Beyond the minimal model

- *Is it possible to have a prompt/faster phase transition?*
- In the minimal model the parameter ϵ that is setting the hierarchy (and hence H) suppresses the rate:

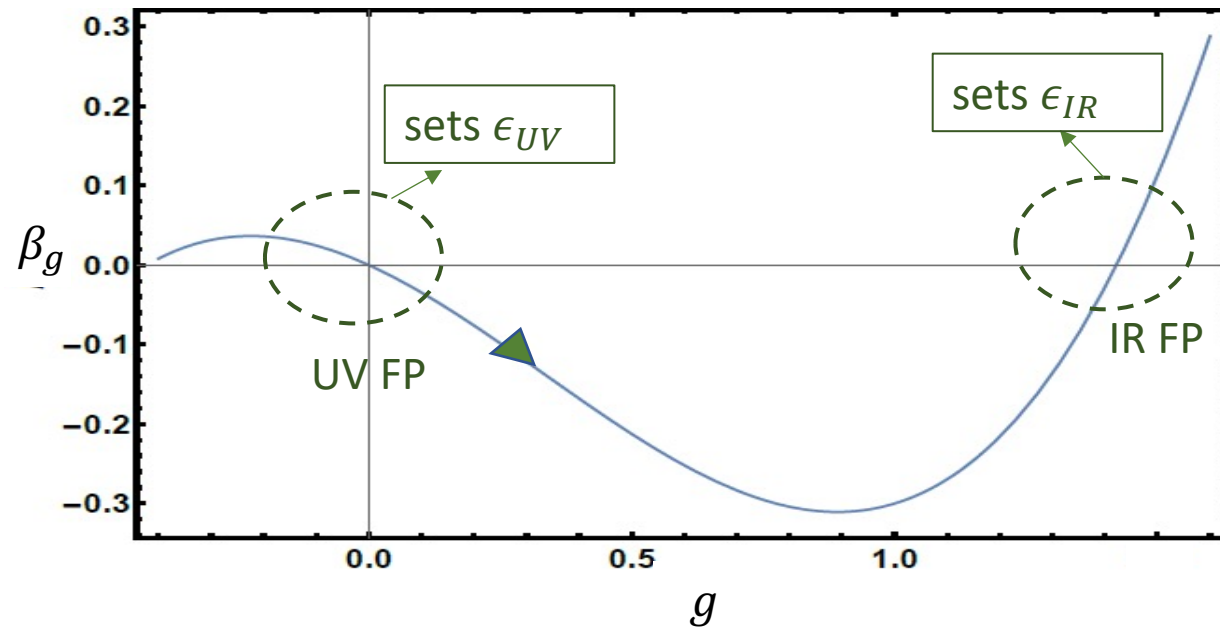
$$S_{\text{bounce}} \sim 40 \frac{N^2}{\epsilon^{3/4}} > 4 \ln \frac{M_{Pl}}{\text{TeV}} \sim \frac{4}{\epsilon}$$

- Have a small ϵ in the UV, which becomes (effectively) larger in the IR?

$$S_{\text{bounce}} \sim 40 \frac{N^2}{\epsilon_{IR}^{3/4}} \stackrel{?}{<} 4 \ln \frac{M_{Pl}}{\text{TeV}} \sim \frac{4}{\epsilon_{UV}}$$

Separate fixed points- Faster PT

- RGE with UV and IR fixed points
- ϵ_{UV} and ϵ_{IR} are the anomalous dimensions corresponding to the UV and the IR fixed points.
- Holographic dual: Self-interacting Goldberger-Wise



Agashe, Du, M.E., Kumar, Sundrum 2019

Nucleation rate enhanced if ϵ_{IR} not too small.

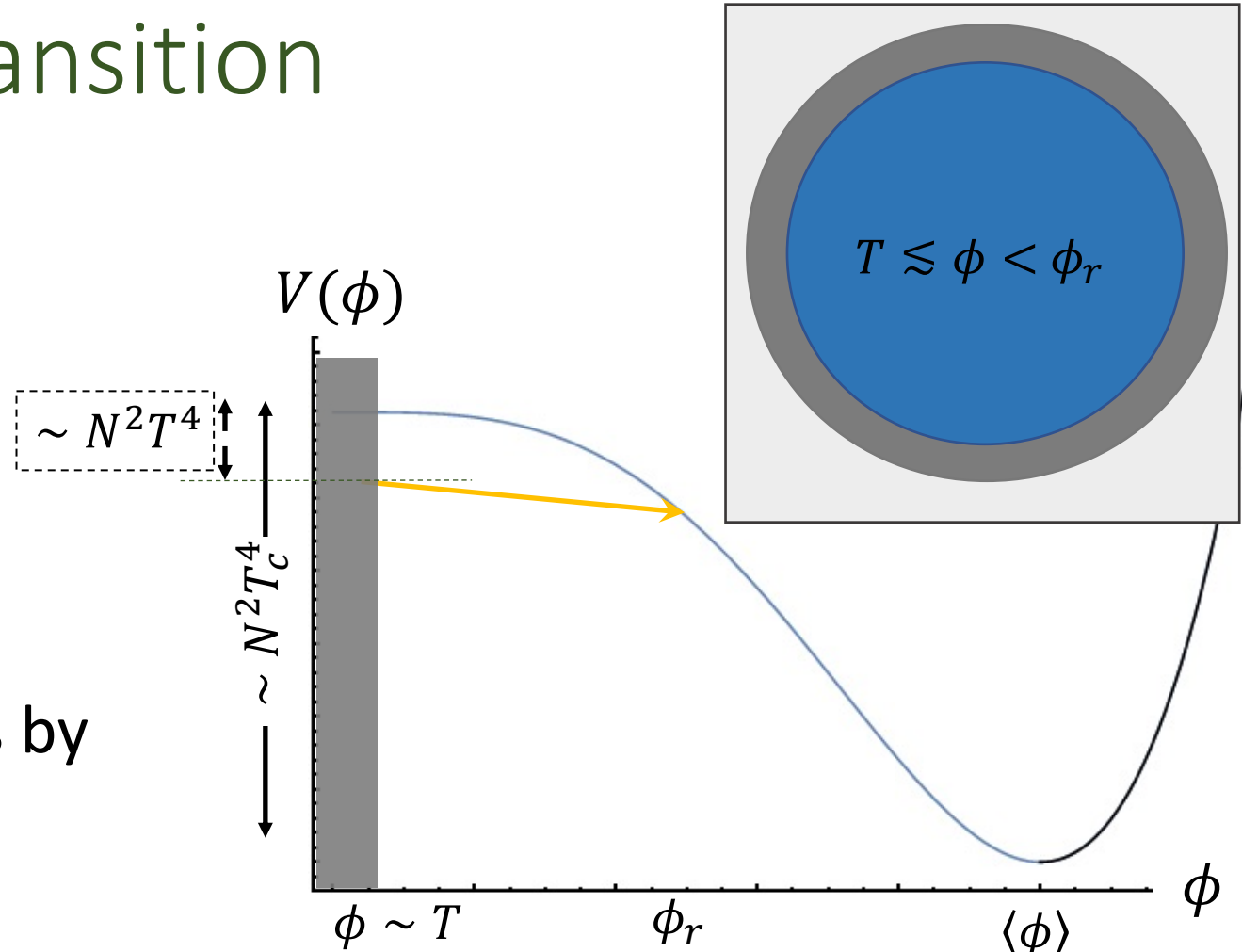
Supercooled phase transition

- For small T/T_C :

$$\left(\ln \frac{T_C}{T} \gtrsim \frac{1}{\epsilon_{IR}}\right) \quad S_{\text{bounce}} \sim \frac{N^2}{\frac{3}{\lambda^4}}$$

No enhancement by small ϵ_{IR}

- A period of inflation: dilution of baryon and DM number densities by a factor of $\sim \left(\frac{T}{T_C}\right)^3$
- Larger $\epsilon_{IR} \rightarrow$ less supercooling.

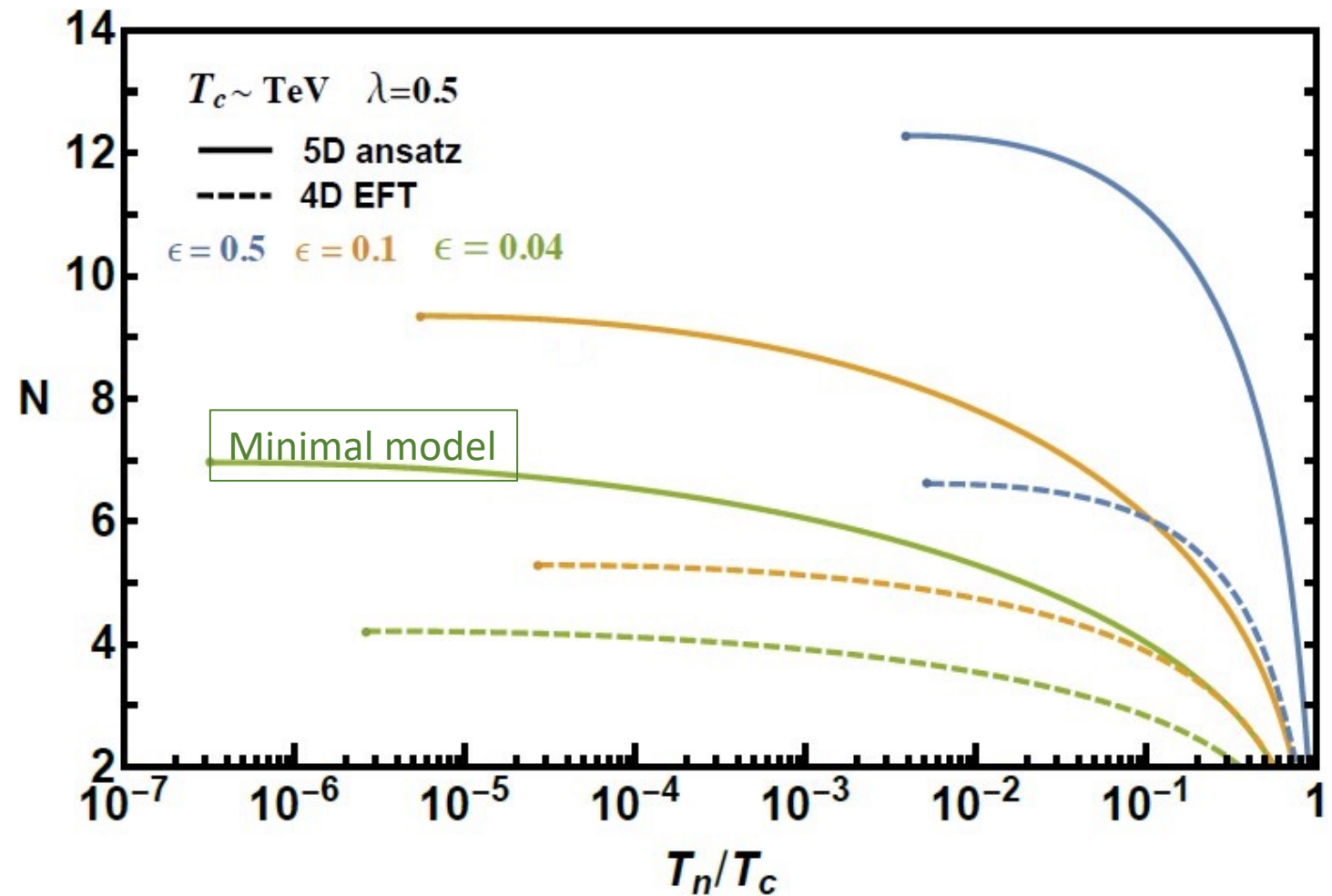


Randall & Servant 2006
Konstandin & Servant 2011

Results

Larger ϵ_{IR} :

- ✓ Less supercooling
- ✓ Less dilution of preexisting matter
- ✓ Larger N allowed to complete the PT



Summary

- Confinement PT of composite Higgs models can be studied using **holography** (RS) and/or in the scenario of **spontaneous confinement** .
- **Slow PT** in the **minimal model**, leading to empty universe or large supercooling and dilution of (dark) matter.
- **Two fixed point model**: Separate **critical exponents** controlling the hierarchies (ϵ_{UV}) and PT dynamics (ϵ_{IR})
- PT can complete **without large supercooling**, compatible with preexisting baryon asymmetry, and within theoretical control.
- **Gravitational wave** signal and **dilaton mass** sensitive to critical exponents.

Thank you!

Extra Slides

Gravitational waves

- Strength and the frequency of gravitational waves from PT depend on a parameter β .

- $1/\beta$ is the duration of the PT:
$$\frac{\beta}{H} = -\frac{T}{\Gamma} \frac{d\Gamma}{dT} \Big|_{T_n}$$

Turner, Weinberg & Widrow 1992
Kosowsky & Turner 1992
Kosowsky, Turner & Watkins 1992

For composite Higgs models:

- S_b independent of T in the supercooled limit (result of 4D scale invariance):

$$\frac{\beta}{H} \approx -4 + 3 \epsilon_{IR} \left(\frac{T_n}{\lambda^{\frac{1}{4}} \langle \phi \rangle} \right)^{\epsilon_{IR}} \ln \left(\frac{M_P}{T_C} \right)$$

Agashe, Du, M.E., Kumar,
Sundrum 2019

- Small β_{GW} , for small ϵ_{IR}
- Strong GW signal

Konstandin & Servant 2011

How to analyze the confinement PT?

Composite Higgs models: nearly conformal, large N

Holography (5D)

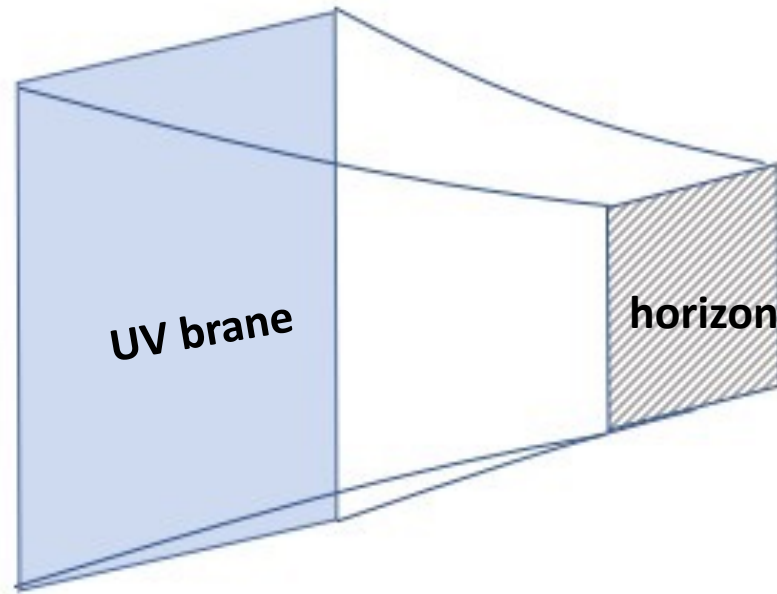
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- PT dynamics in 5D EFT control

Spontaneous confinement (4D)

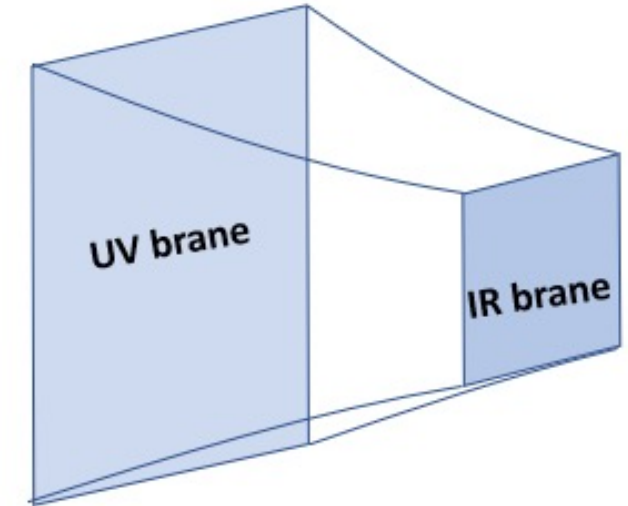
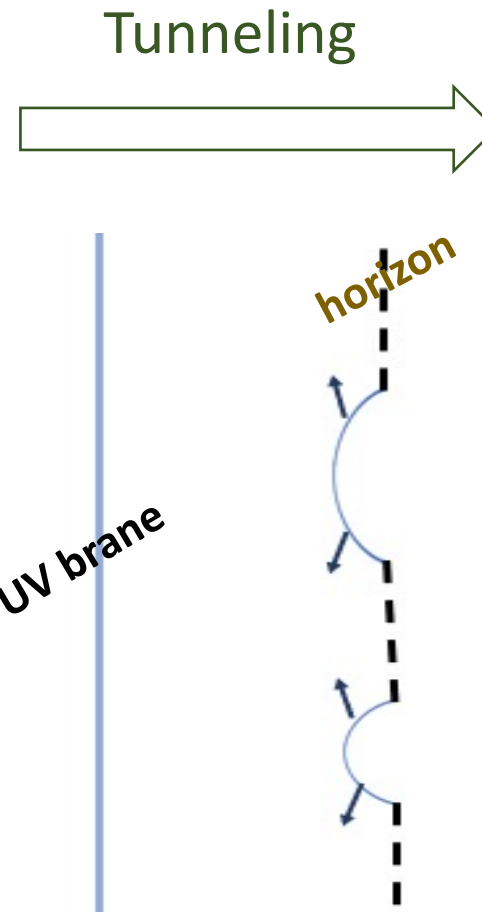
- Deconfined theory approximately scale invariant
- Confinement breaks scale invariance, but spontaneously
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- Dynamics of dilaton dominates the PT in some regime

Holography

Black-brane phase \rightarrow RS1



IR brane emerges from the horizon



(Non-perturbative)
Tunneling rate:

$$\Gamma \sim e^{-1/G_N^{(5D)}} \sim e^{-N^2}$$

Outline

- PT in the minimal model
 - (Slow, resulting in empty universe or large supercooling and dilution)
- Faster transition rate? A two fixed point model
- Phenomenology
- Summary

How to analyze the confinement PT?

Composite Higgs models: nearly conformal, large N

Holography (5D)

- Gravity weakly coupled
- PT dynamics in 5D EFT control [Agashe, Du, M.E., Kumar, Sundrum 2020](#)

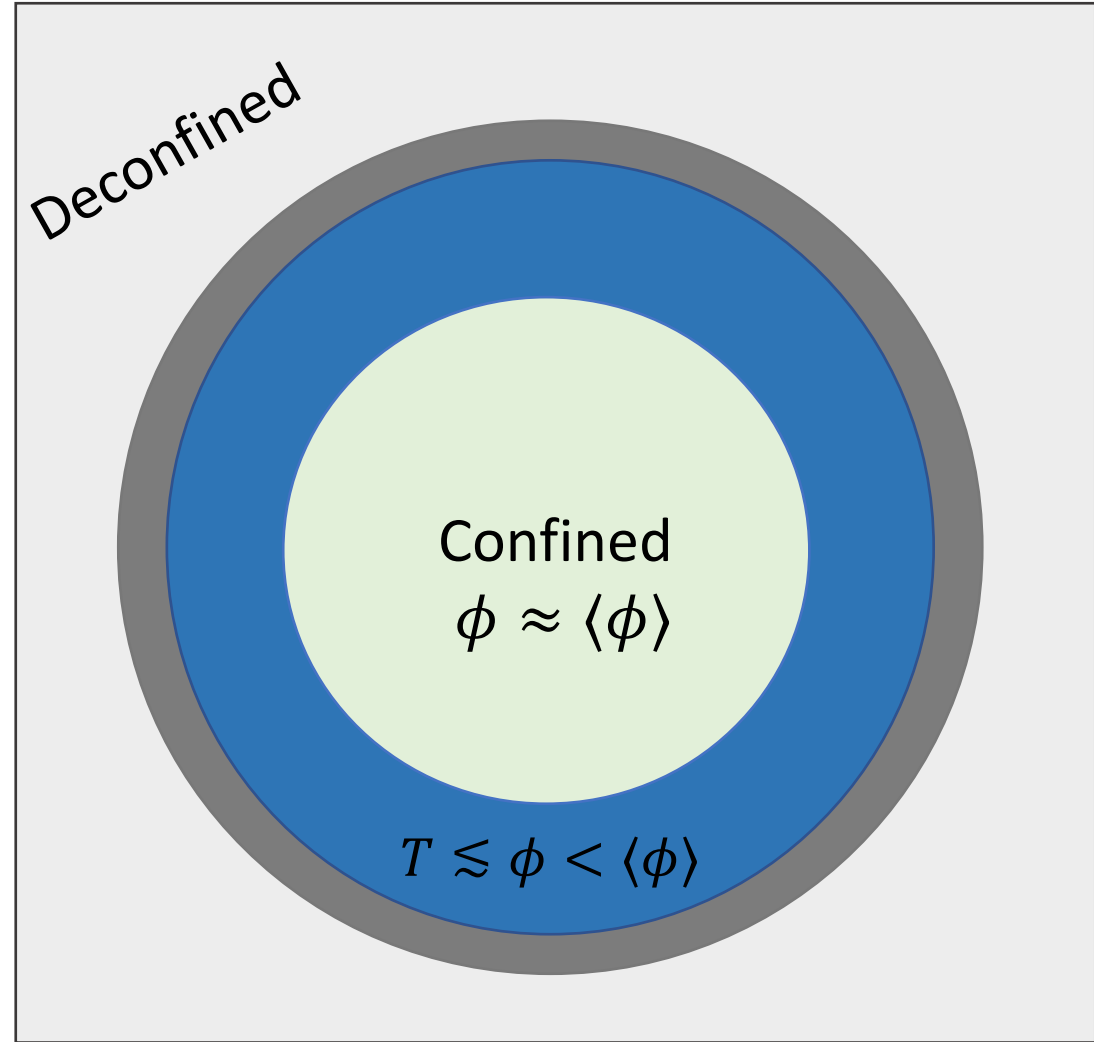
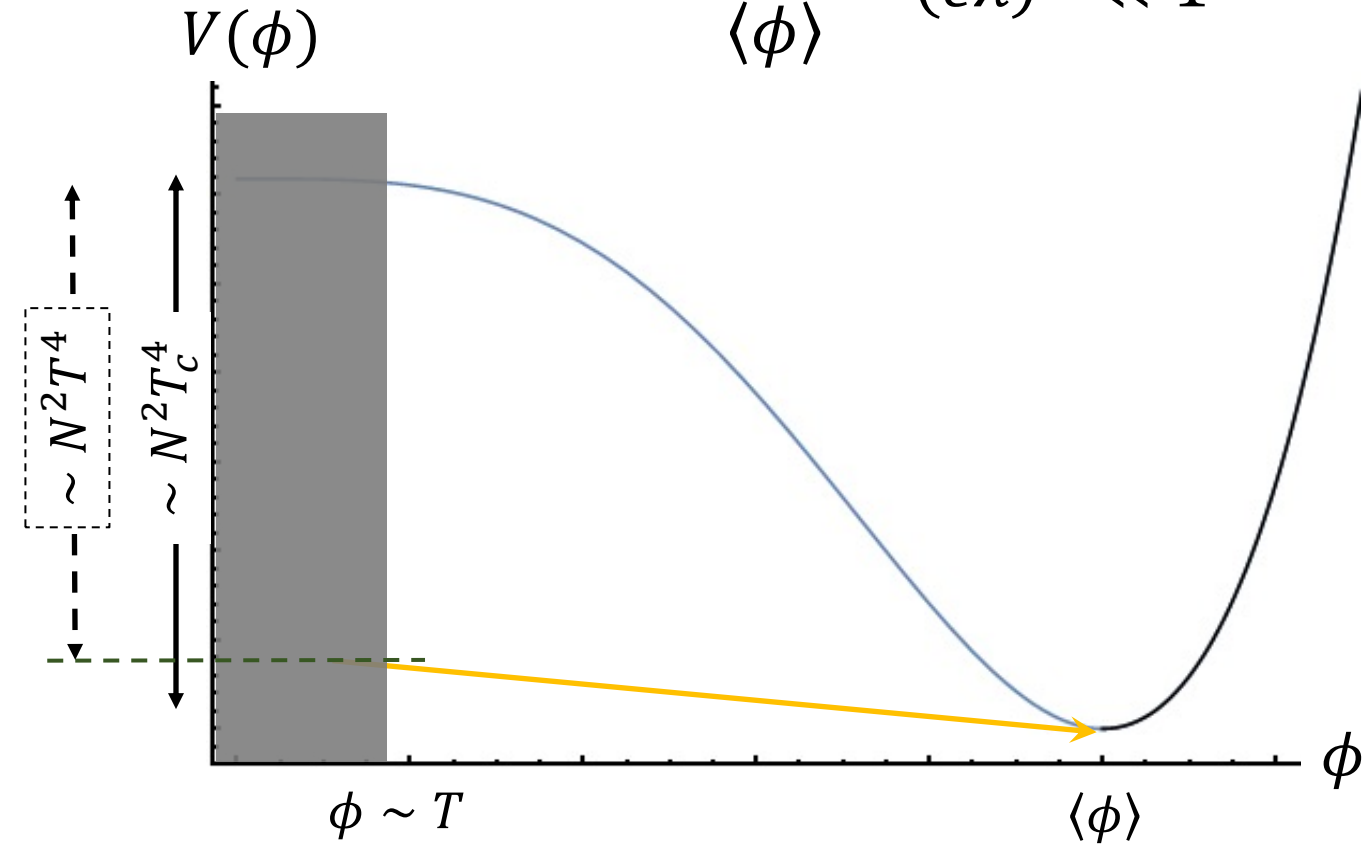
Spontaneous confinement (4D)

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Focus of this talk

Bubble Nucleation

$$\frac{T_c}{\langle \phi \rangle} \sim (\epsilon \lambda)^{\frac{1}{4}} \ll 1$$



The (de)confinement PT

- Critical Temperature: $\frac{T_c}{\langle\phi\rangle} \sim (\epsilon\lambda)^{\frac{1}{4}} \ll 1$

Justifies dilaton EFT

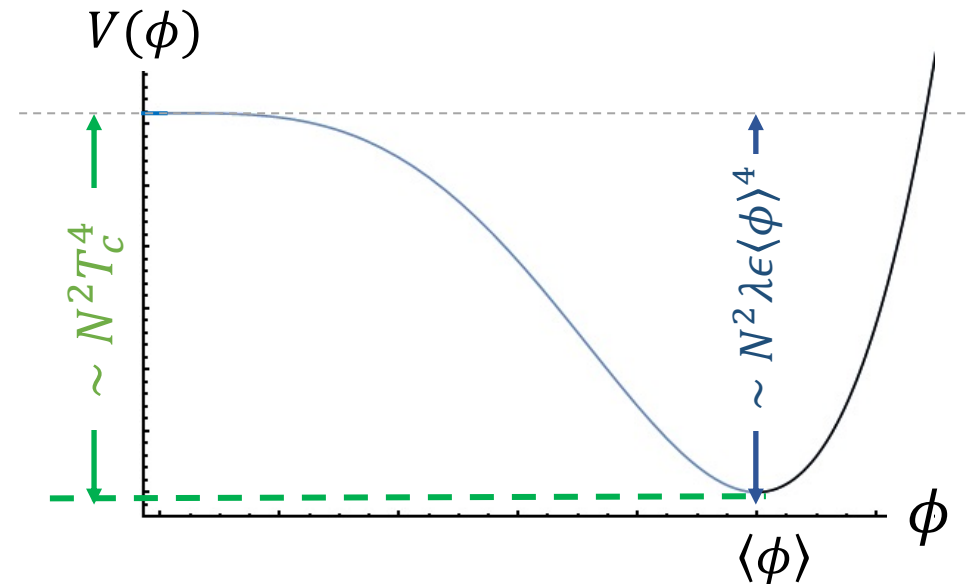
- Typical composites not excited

$$m_{\text{comp}} \sim \langle\phi\rangle \gg T$$

- PT is first order, for small ϵ or λ .

1st order \Rightarrow bubble nucleation

$$F_{\text{deconfined}} - V(0) \sim -N^2 T^4$$



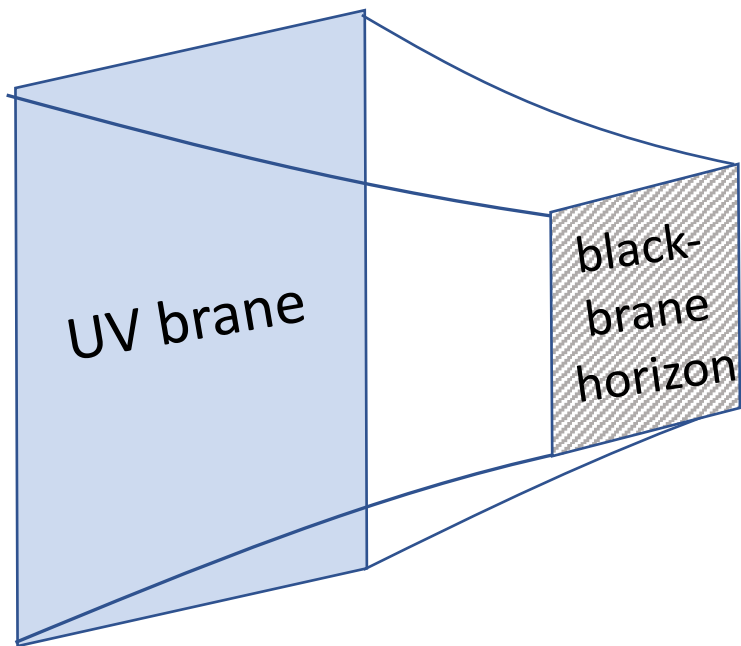
Creminelli, Nicolis & Rattazzi 2002

Holographic dual

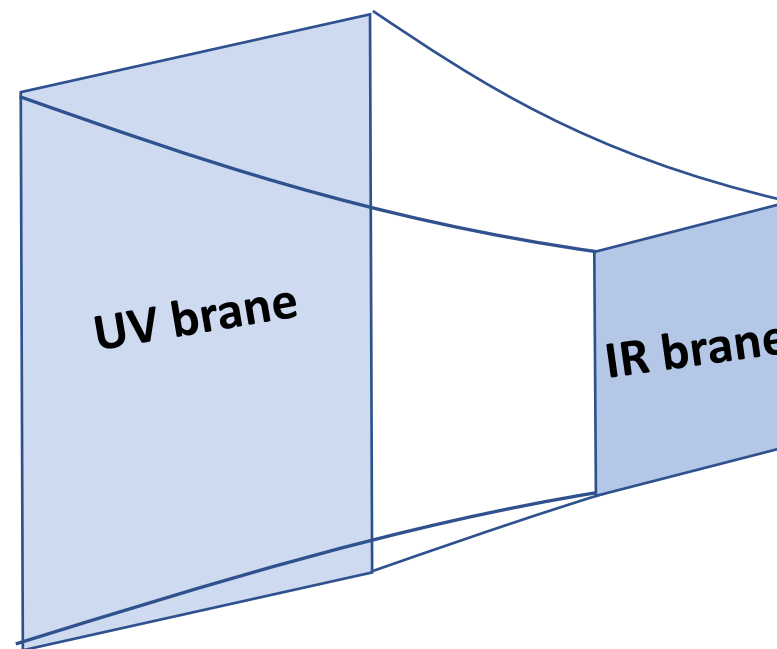
Creminelli, Nicolis & Rattazzi 2002

Black-brane phase \rightarrow RS1

Control parameter: large N , $\frac{N^2}{16\pi^2} = \left(\frac{M_5}{k}\right)^3$



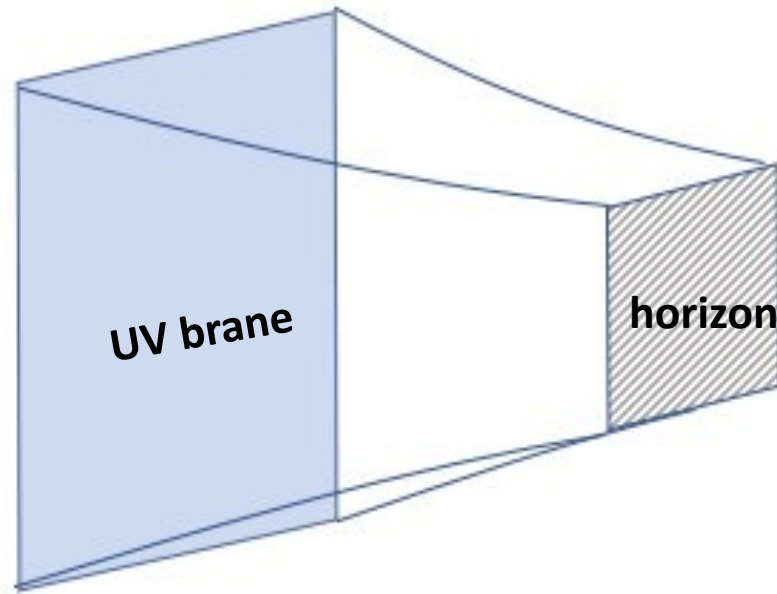
Dual of the deconfined phase



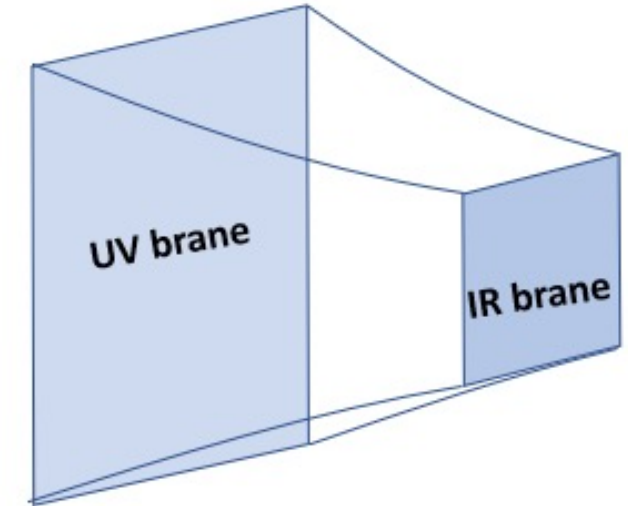
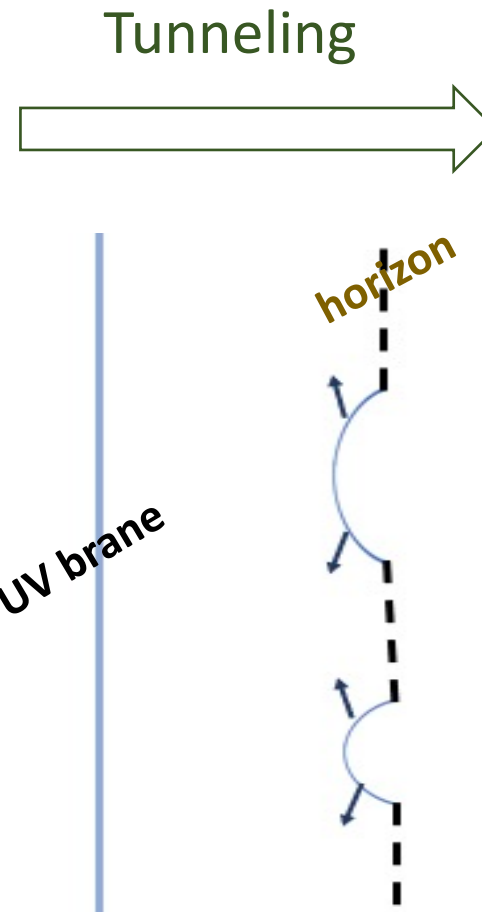
Dual of the confined phase

Holography

Black-brane phase \rightarrow RS1



IR brane emerges from the horizon



(Non-perturbative)
Tunneling rate:

$$\Gamma \sim e^{-1/G_N^{(5D)}} \sim e^{-N^2}$$

Spontaneous Confinement- Dilaton EFT

A large N CFT:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{CFT}$$

Dilaton Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{dilaton} = \frac{N^2}{16\pi^2} \left((\partial\phi)^2 - \lambda\phi^4 \right)$$

- Large N and small $\lambda \lesssim 1$
- Spontaneous confinement, $\langle\phi\rangle \neq 0$, not stable

Review of RS-I

- Planck/weak hierarchy is related to the position of the IR brane:

$$\frac{\text{TeV}}{M_{Pl}} \sim e^{-kX_5}$$

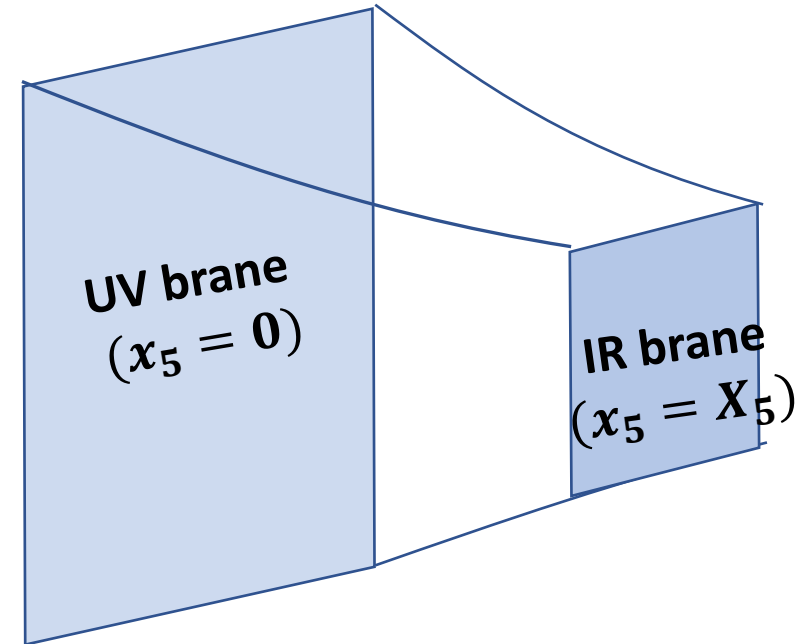
- IR brane stabilized using a bulk scalar (Goldberger-Wise) field

$$V_{GW}(\Phi) = \frac{1}{2} m^2 \Phi^2$$

- Generate a potential for the radion, $\varphi = k e^{-kX_5}$, the field corresponding to the position of the IR brane.

- Hierarchy controlled mainly by $\epsilon \approx \frac{m^2}{4k^2}$: $\ln \frac{M_{Pl}}{\text{TeV}} \sim \frac{1}{\epsilon}$

Randall & Sundrum 1999

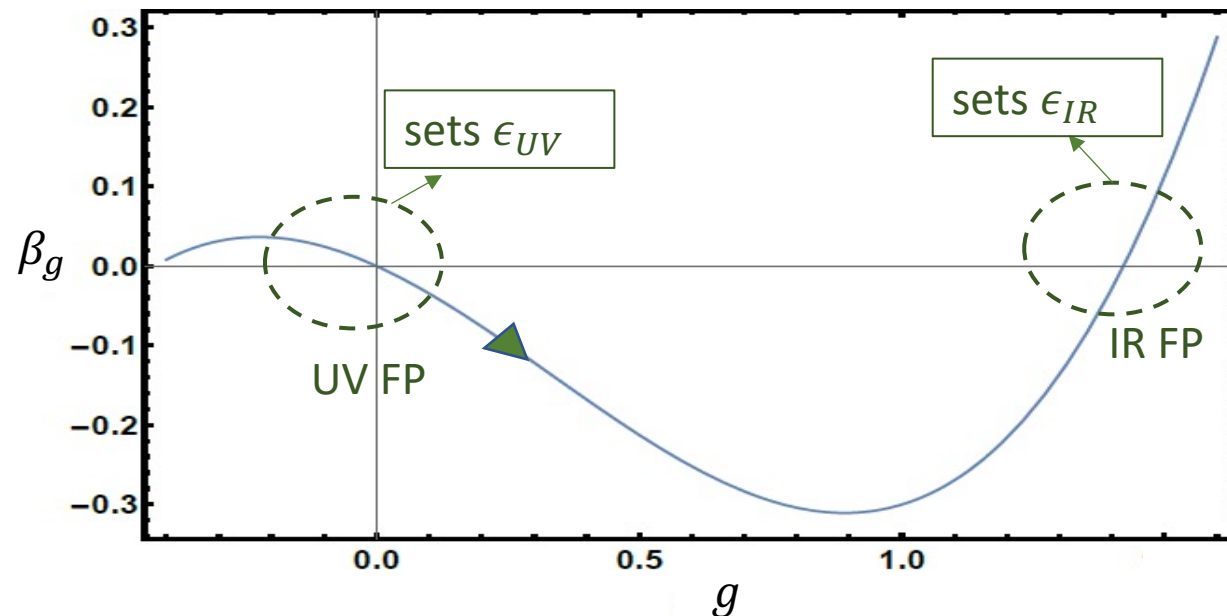


Goldberger & Wise 1999

Separate fixed points- Faster PT

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- ϵ_{UV} and ϵ_{IR} are the anomalous dimensions corresponding to the UV and the IR fixed points.
- Holographic dual: Self-interacting Goldberger-Wise

Agashe, Du, M.E., Kumar, Sundrum 2019



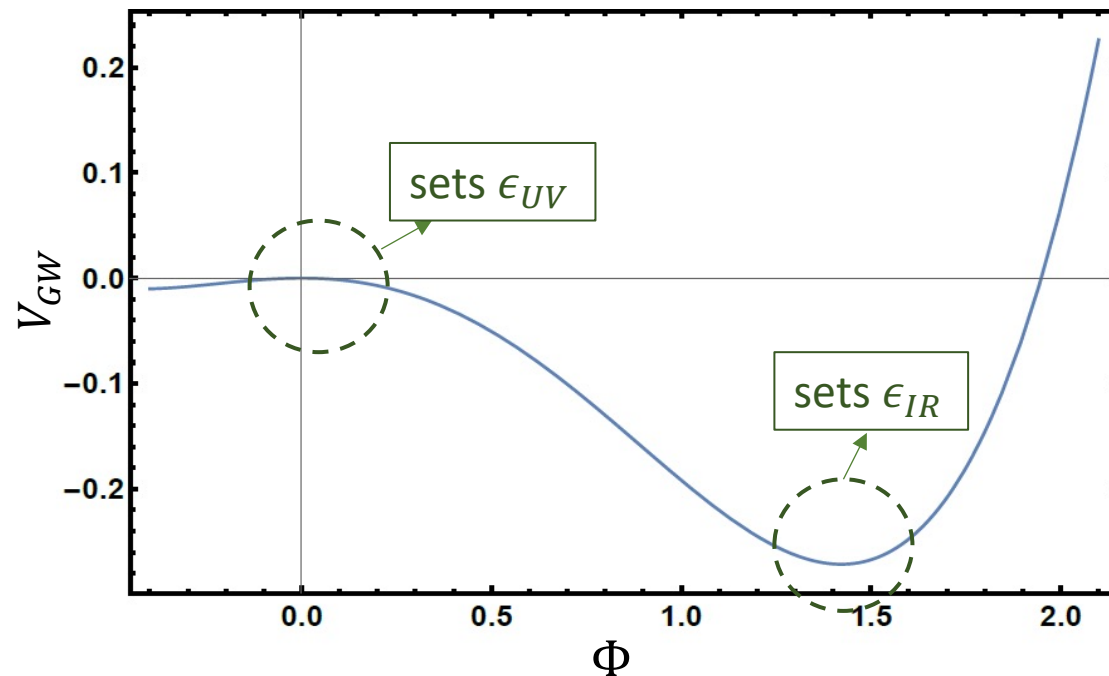
Beyond the minimal model

Agashe, Du, M.E., Kumar, Sundrum 2019

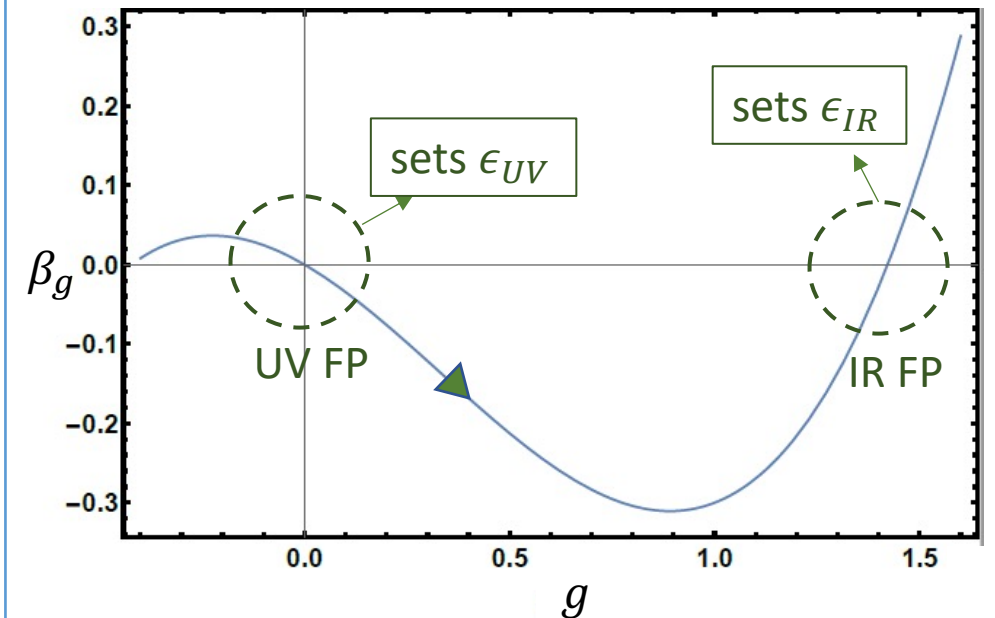
- Goldberger-Wise field with self-interactions:

$$V_{GW}(\Phi) = \frac{1}{2} m^2 \Phi^2 + \frac{1}{3!} \eta \Phi^3 + \frac{1}{4!} \kappa \Phi^4$$

- Effective mass: $m_{eff}^2 \sim V_{GW}''(\Phi)$



- RGE with UV and IR fixed points
- ϵ_{UV} and ϵ_{IR} are the anomalous dimensions corresponding to the UV and the IR fixed points.



Questions to answer about the PT

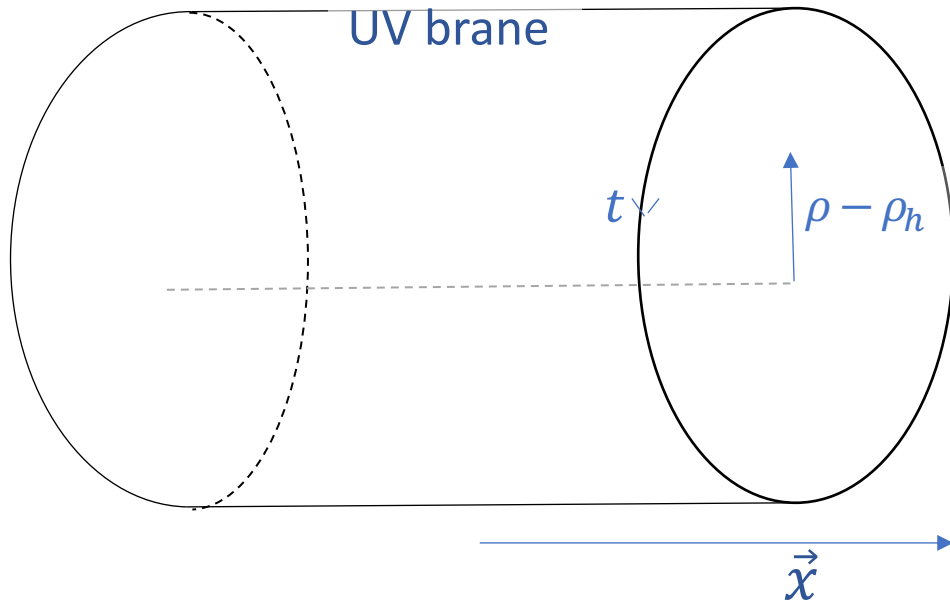
- Is it 1st order, 2nd order, cross over?
- What is the critical/transition temperature?

PT Dynamics

- What is the rate of bubble nucleation?
- Does the PT complete? If yes, at what temperature? Is it prompt or supercooled?
- How do the bubbles/bounce solutions look like?
- What are the features of the gravitational waves generated by the PT?

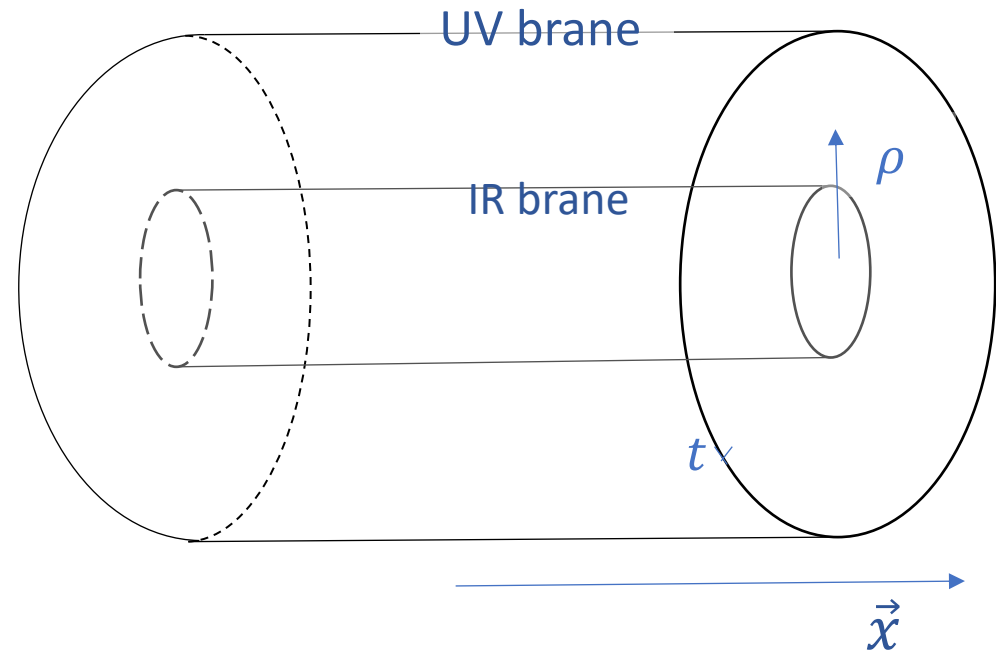
The 5D bounce

AdS-Schwarzschild



$$ds^2 = \left(\rho^2 - \frac{\rho_h^4}{\rho^2} \right) dt^2 + \frac{d\rho^2}{\left(\rho^2 - \frac{\rho_h^4}{\rho^2} \right)} + \rho^2 \sum_i dx_i^2$$

RS 1

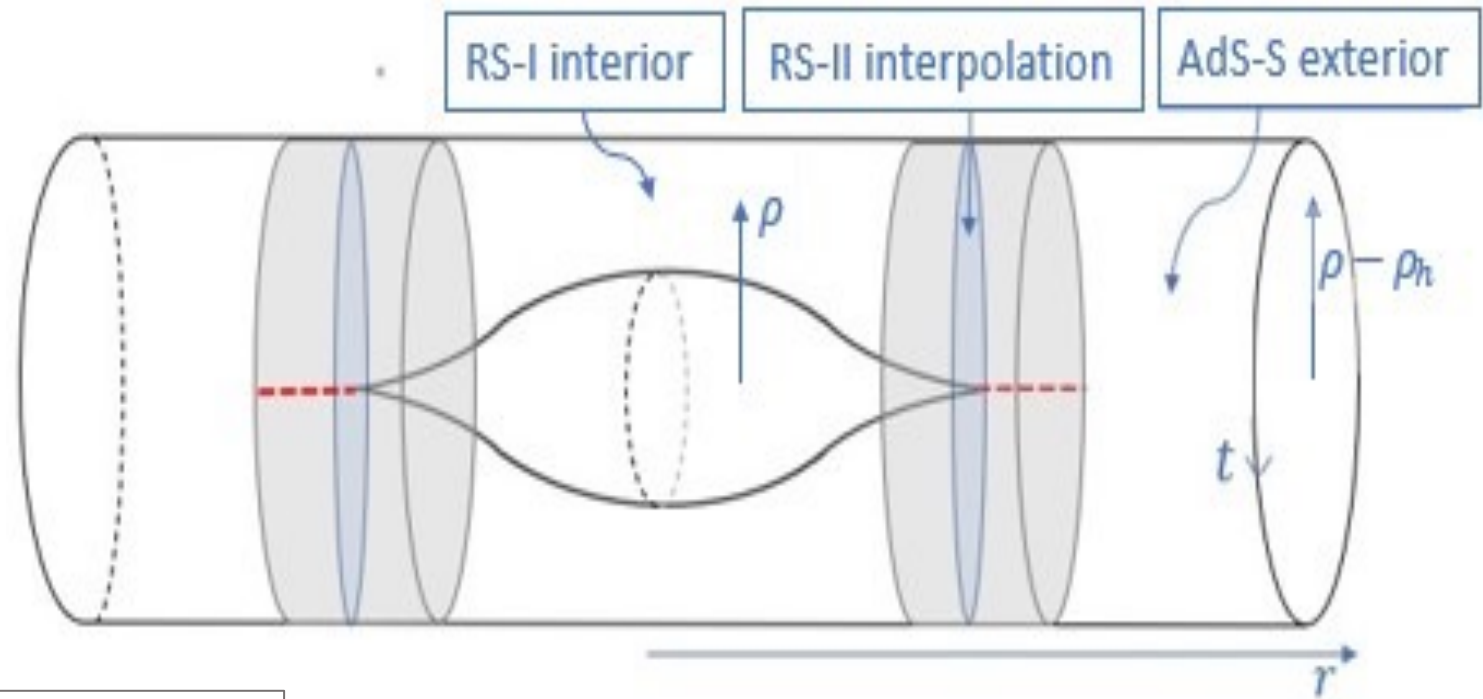


$$ds^2 = \rho^2 dt^2 + \frac{d\rho^2}{\rho^2} + \rho^2 \sum_i dx_i^2$$

$(\rho_{IR} < \rho < \rho_{UV})$

The 5D bounce

- Connect the two phases through their common RS-II limits?



$$\text{AdS-S: } ds^2 = \left(\rho^2 - \frac{\rho_h^4}{\rho^2} \right) dt^2 + \frac{d\rho^2}{\left(\rho^2 - \frac{\rho_h^4}{\rho^2} \right)} + \rho^2 \sum_i dx_i^2$$

$$\text{RS1: } ds^2 = \rho^2 dt^2 + \frac{d\rho^2}{\rho^2} + \rho^2 \sum_i dx_i^2$$

$$(\rho_{IR} < \rho < \rho_{UV})$$

$$\text{RS2 limit: } ds^2 = \rho^2 dt^2 + \frac{d\rho^2}{\rho^2} + \rho^2 \sum_i dx_i^2$$

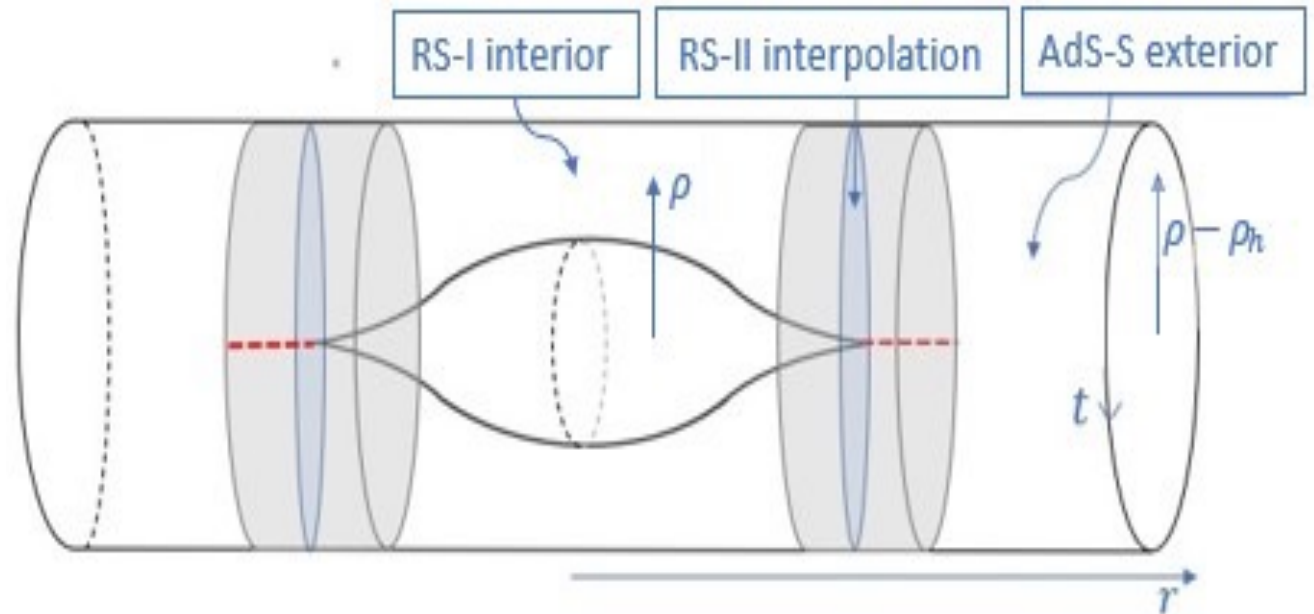
$$(\rho < \rho_{UV})$$

Creminelli, Nicolis & Rattazzi 2002

The 5D bounce

- Connect the two phases through their common RS-II limits?

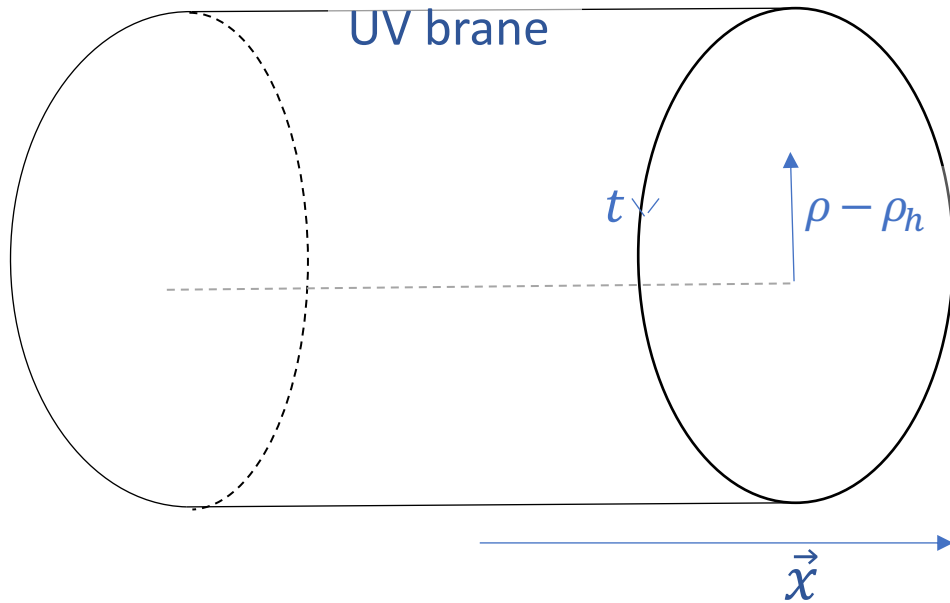
Not fully in 5D EFT control



Creminelli, Nicolis & Rattazzi 2002

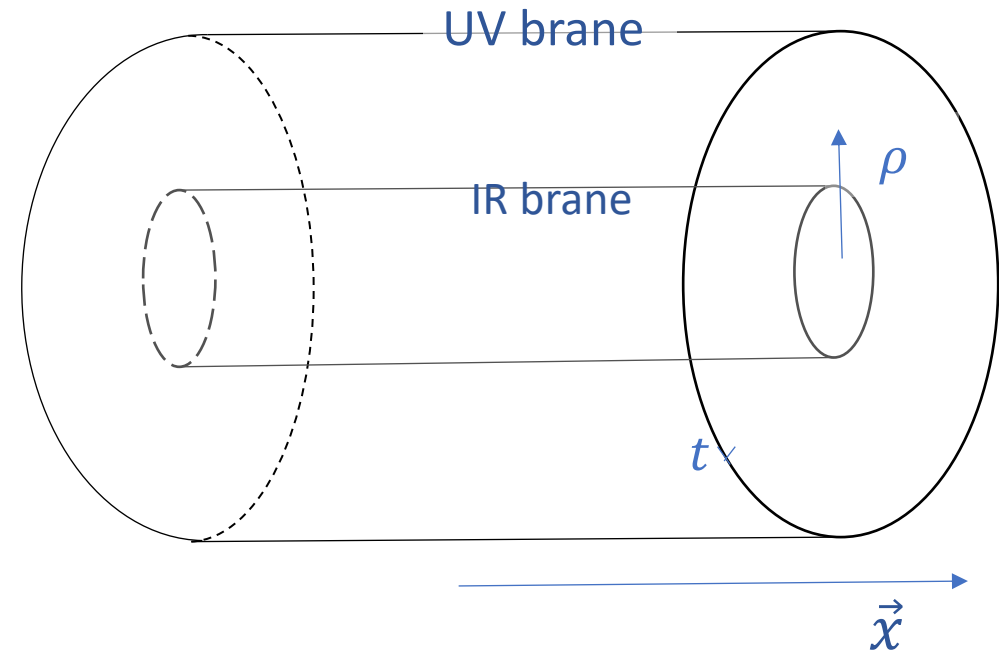
Is there a smooth bounce configuration?

AdS-Schwarzschild



$$ds^2 = \left(\rho^2 - \frac{\rho_h^4}{\rho^2} \right) dt^2 + \frac{d\rho^2}{\left(\rho^2 - \frac{\rho_h^4}{\rho^2} \right)} + \rho^2 \sum_i dx_i^2$$

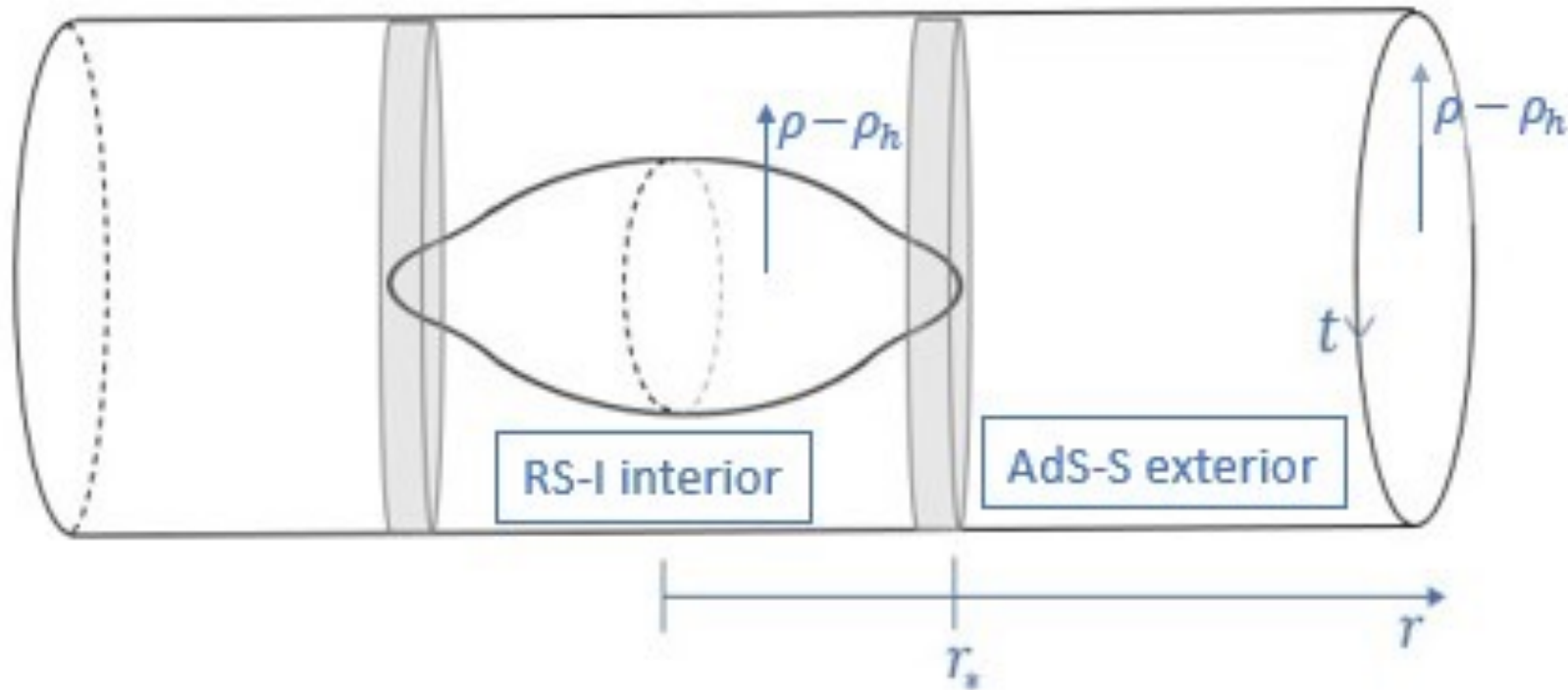
RS 1



$$ds^2 = \rho^2 dt^2 + \frac{d\rho^2}{\rho^2} + \rho^2 \sum_i dx_i^2$$

$(\rho_{IR} < \rho < \rho_{UV})$

The 5D bounce- smoothness



- ✓ IR-brane can be smoothly sealed at the horizon
- ✓ Smooth, finite curvature, and can be described in 5D EFT

Agashe, Du, M.E., Kumar, Sundrum 2020