

# Phases of Holographic Interfaces

Costas Bachas (ENS, Paris)

Workshop on *Quantum Gravity, Holography and Quantum Information*

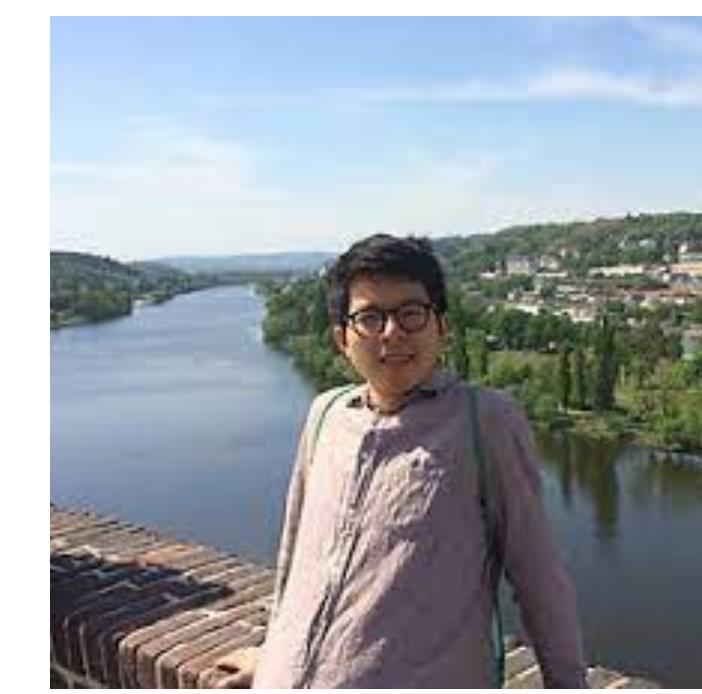
LMU, March 17-19



*Based on* 2101.12529 w. Vassilis Papadopoulos



*See also* 2006.11333 w. Shira Chapman, Dongsheng Ge, Giuseppe Policastro



# 1. INTRODUCTION

Domain walls between AdS vacua are ubiquitous:

- String landscape; gravity localization; de Sitter embedding . . .
- Holographic duals to conformal interfaces
- Models of unitary black-hole evaporation

*Transparent (permeable) conditions for Hawking radiation*

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Most (back-reacting) domain walls are **thick**. But since the original work of **Coleman & De Lucia** a frequently-used approximation is that of thin walls.

The minimal action

$$I_{\text{gr}} = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{S}_1} d^3x \sqrt{g_1} \left( R_1 + \frac{2}{\ell_1^2} \right) - \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{S}_2} d^3x \sqrt{g_2} \left( R_2 + \frac{2}{\ell_2^2} \right) \\ + \lambda \int_{\mathbb{W}} d^2s \sqrt{\hat{g}_w} + \text{GHY terms} + \text{ct.}$$

depends on 3 dimensionless parameters

$$\ell_1, \ell_2, \lambda$$

(with  $8\pi G = 1$  )

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Work in **2+1 dimensions** where calculations are analytically tractable

cf Simidzija & Van Raamsdonk '20

Expect that qualitative conclusions extend to higher dims

Restrict below to **static walls** (equilibrium states): surprisingly rich

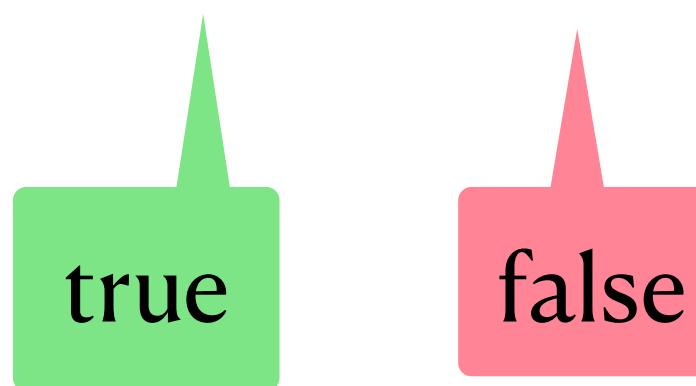
Time dependence, and/or walls hidden behind horizons: very interesting but not for today

e.g. Balasubramanian et al '20

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Take  $\ell_1 \leq \ell_2$ . A simple calculation shows that static domain walls exist for

CB '02



$$\frac{1}{\ell_1} - \frac{1}{\ell_2} < \lambda < \frac{1}{\ell_1} + \frac{1}{\ell_2}$$
$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{\ell_1} - \frac{1}{\ell_2}}_{\lambda_{\min}} < \lambda < \underbrace{\frac{1}{\ell_1} + \frac{1}{\ell_2}}_{\lambda_{\max}}$$

False vacuum unstable  
to bubble nucleation

Domain wall inflates

Vilenkin '81  
Ipser, Sikivie '83  
Karch, Randall '01

BPS values for flat walls

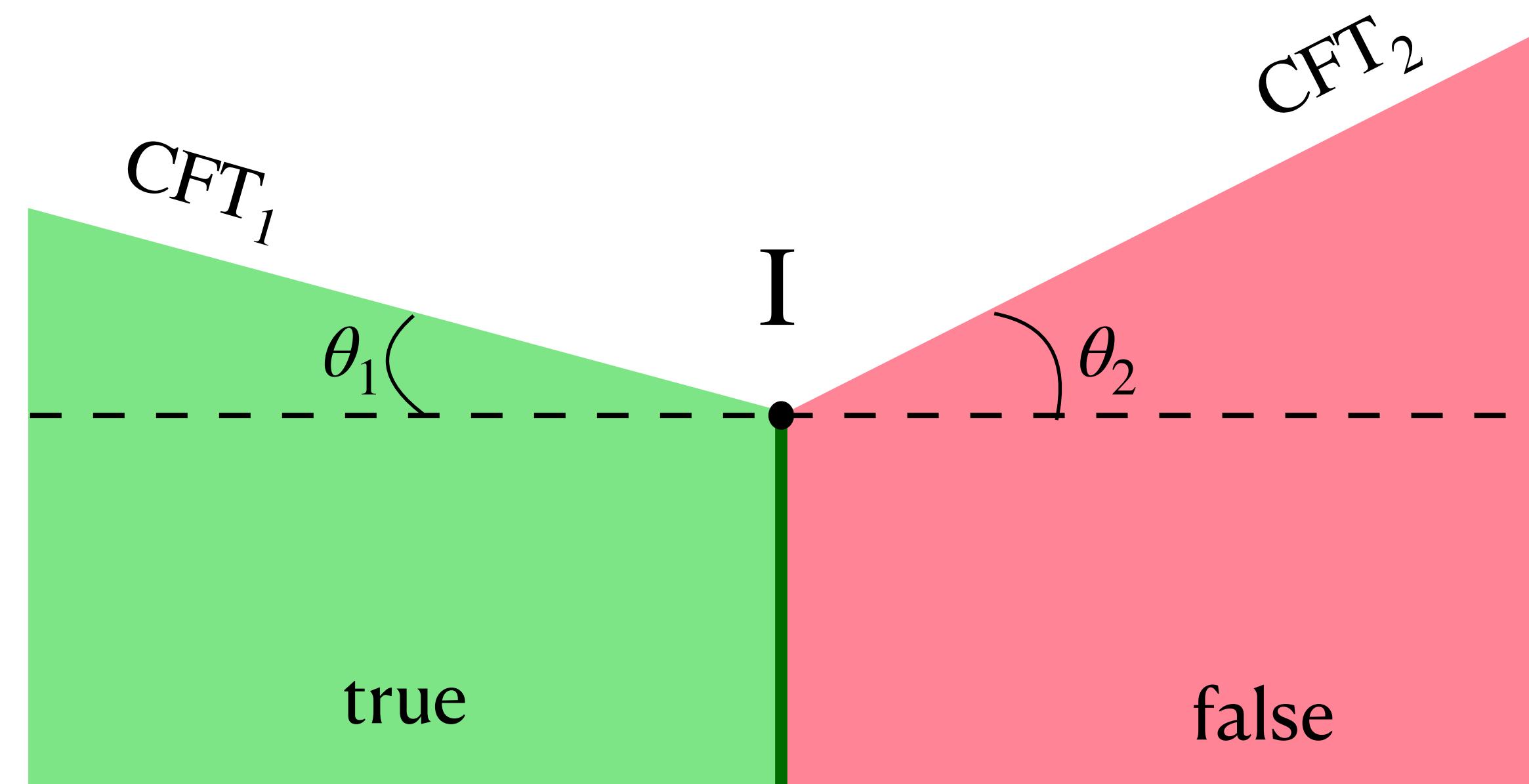
Cvetic, Griffies, Rey '92  
Cardoso, Dall'Agata, Lust '02  
Ceresole *et al* '06

## 2. INTERFACE CFT

In static solutions the wall hits the AdS boundary at the location of a conformal interface.

Karch, Randall '01

CB, de Boer, Dijkgraaf, Ooguri '02



$$\cos \theta_j = \frac{\ell_j}{\ell_w}$$

$$\tan \theta_1 + \tan \theta_2 = \lambda \ell_w$$

## 2. INTERFACE CFT

*Holographic dictionary:*

$$c_j = 12\pi \ell_j$$

Brown, Henneaux '86

**Entropy**

$$\log g_I = 2\pi\ell_1\ell_2 \left[ \lambda_{\max} \tanh^{-1}\left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda_{\max}}\right) - \lambda_{\min} \tanh^{-1}\left(\frac{\lambda_{\min}}{\lambda}\right) \right]$$

Simidzija, Van Raamsdonk '20

Azeyanagi, Karch, Takayanagi,  
Thompson '07

**Energy  
transport**

$$\mathcal{T}_{1 \rightarrow 2} = \frac{\lambda_{\max} + \lambda_{\min}}{\lambda_{\max} + \lambda}, \quad \mathcal{T}_{2 \rightarrow 1} = \frac{\lambda_{\max} - \lambda_{\min}}{\lambda_{\max} + \lambda}$$

CB, Chapman, Ge, Policastro '20

## 2. INTERFACE CFT

For  $\lambda \in [\lambda_{\min}, \lambda_{\max}]$

$$\log g_I \in [-\infty, \infty]$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{1 \rightarrow 2} \in \left[ 1, \frac{\lambda_{\max} + \lambda_{\min}}{2\lambda_{\max}} \right]$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{2 \rightarrow 1} \in \left[ \frac{\lambda_{\max} - \lambda_{\min}}{\lambda_{\max} + \lambda_{\min}}, \frac{\lambda_{\max} - \lambda_{\min}}{2\lambda_{\max}} \right]$$

**BCFT** limit:

cf Takayanagi '11

$$c_1 \sim \ell_1 \rightarrow 0 \implies \begin{cases} \mathcal{T}_{1 \rightarrow 2} \rightarrow 1 \\ \mathcal{T}_{2 \rightarrow 1} \rightarrow 0 \end{cases}$$

## 2. INTERFACE CFT

- ◆ For general interfaces, the *entropy* and *energy transport* coefficient are independent parameters

Ex. Topological interfaces have  $\mathcal{T}_{1 \rightarrow 2} = \mathcal{T}_{2 \rightarrow 1} = 1$  but arbitrary  $\log g_I$

In the **minimal thin-brane model** they both depend on the unique parameter  $\lambda$

- ◆ Transport coefficients satisfy bound coming from (A)ANEC

Meineri, Penedones, Rousset '19

Stricter than the (Euclidean) Reflection-positivity bound

Billo, Gonçalves, Lauria, Meineri '16

## 2. INTERFACE CFT

The minimal model captures the universal operators of **ICFT**:

$$T_{ab}^{(1)}, \ T_{ab}^{(2)} \text{ & displacement}$$

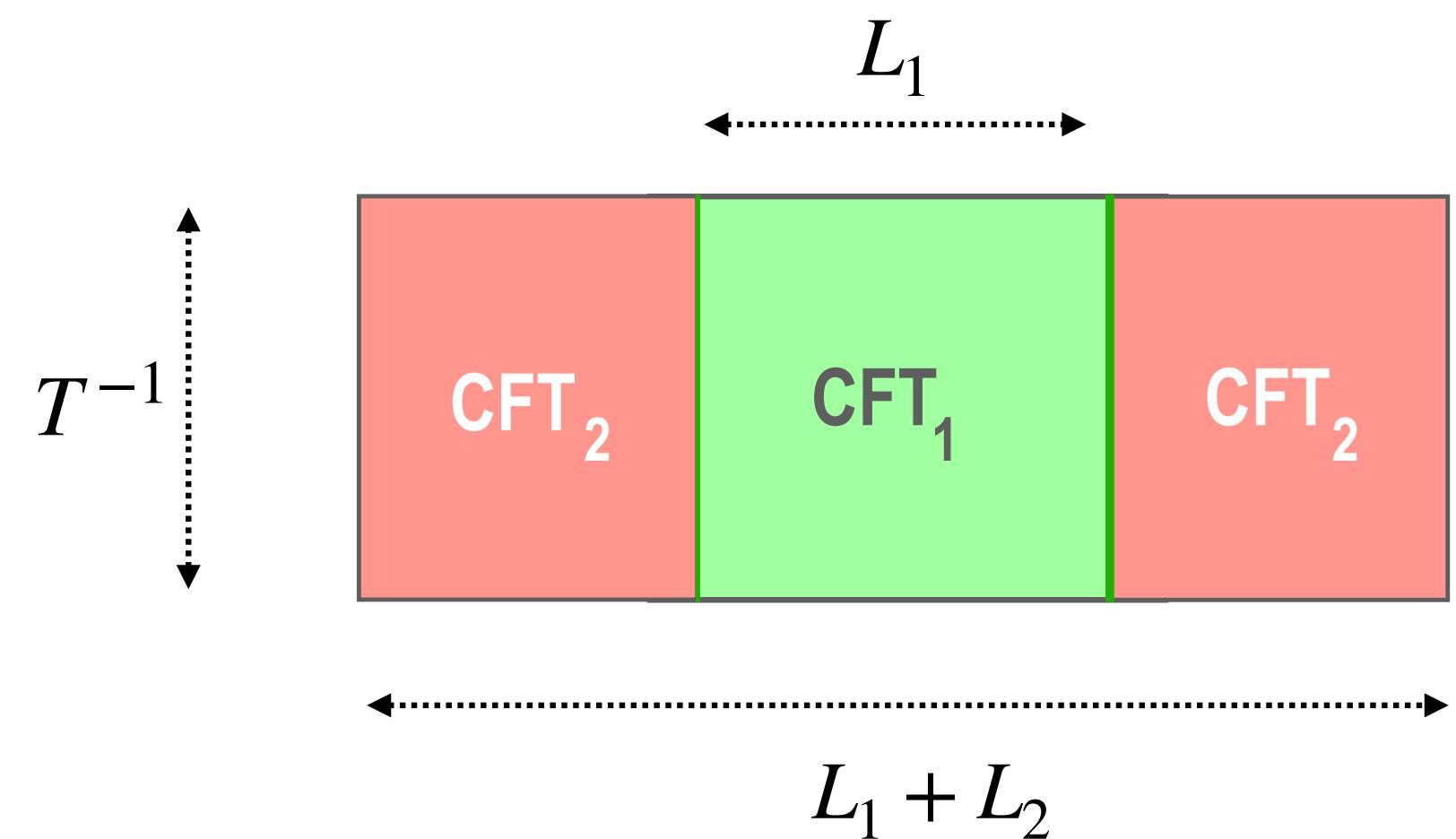
After folding, it has a second spin-2 primary  $\implies \neq \text{BCFT}$

Quella, Runkel, Watts '06

**Similar to pure Einstein gravity for homogeneous CFT**

### 3. FINITE TEMPERATURE & VOLUME

We now place the ICFT on a torus:



This introduces two new dimensionless parameters:

$$\tau_1 := TL_1 , \quad \tau_2 := TL_2 \quad \text{or} \quad \gamma := \frac{L_1}{L_2} = \frac{\tau_1}{\tau_2}$$

Bnry, or  
Thermodynamic

### 3. FINITE TEMPERATURE & VOLUME

The gravity bulk consists of two spacetime slices, glued along the thin domain wall.

The metric of each slice has the universal static BTZ form

$$ds^2 = \frac{\ell^2 dr^2}{r^2 - M\ell^2} - (r^2 - M\ell^2) dt^2 + r^2 dx^2$$

If  $x \sim x + L$  then:  $\begin{cases} M = -(2\pi/L)^2 & \text{thermal AdS} \\ M = (2\pi T)^2 & \text{non-rotating BH} \end{cases}$

*Energy density:*  $\frac{E}{L} = \frac{1}{2}M\ell$

*Entropy density:*  $\frac{S}{L} = \begin{cases} 0 \\ \sqrt{M}\ell/4G \end{cases}$

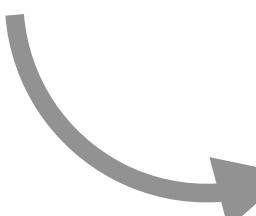
### 3. FINITE TEMPERATURE & VOLUME

The homogeneous CFT undergoes a **Hawking-Page** transition at  $\tau := LT = 1$

$$F_{\text{BTZ}} - F_{\text{TAdS}} = -2\pi^2 \ell \left( LT^2 - \frac{1}{L} \right)$$

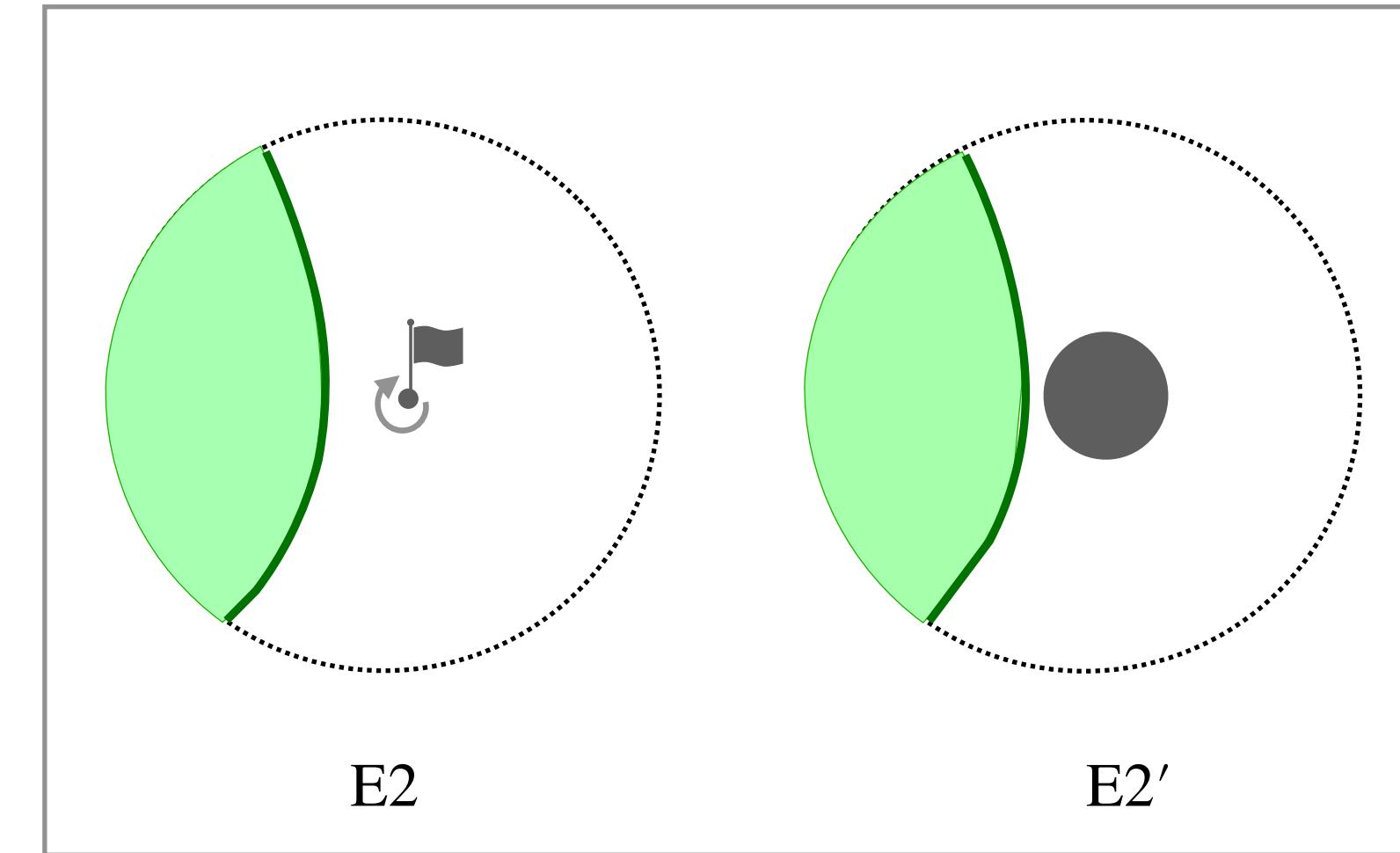
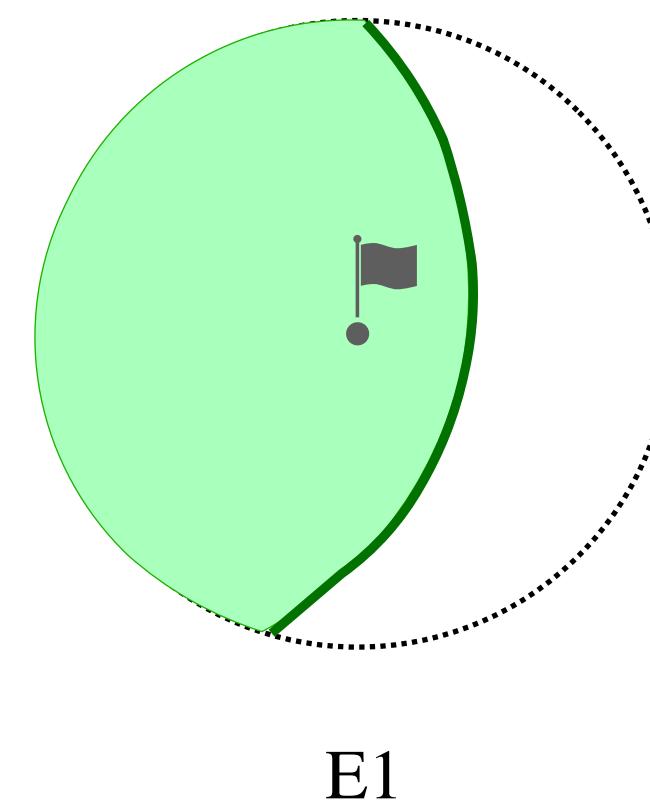
We will study the phase diagram in the  $(\tau_1, \tau_2)$  plane

We glue two slices together. Each slice has one of the following topologies



### 3. FINITE TEMPERATURE & VOLUME

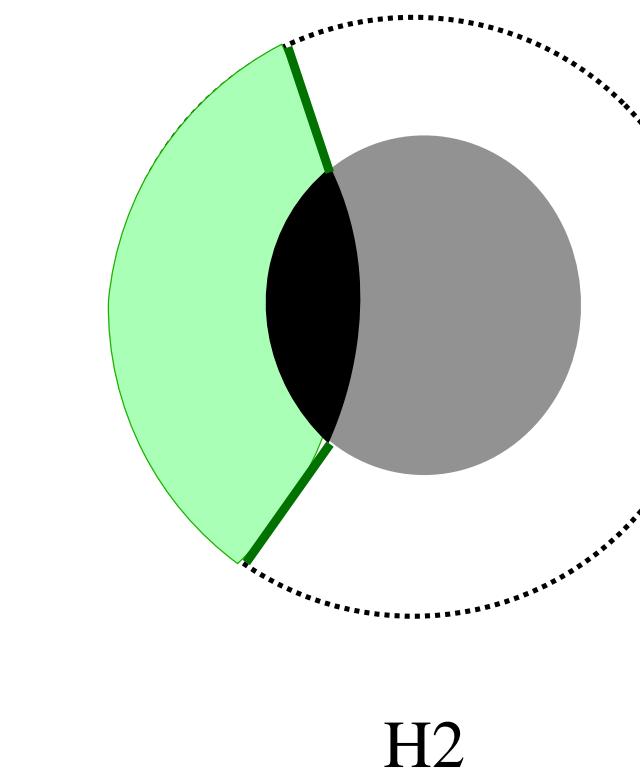
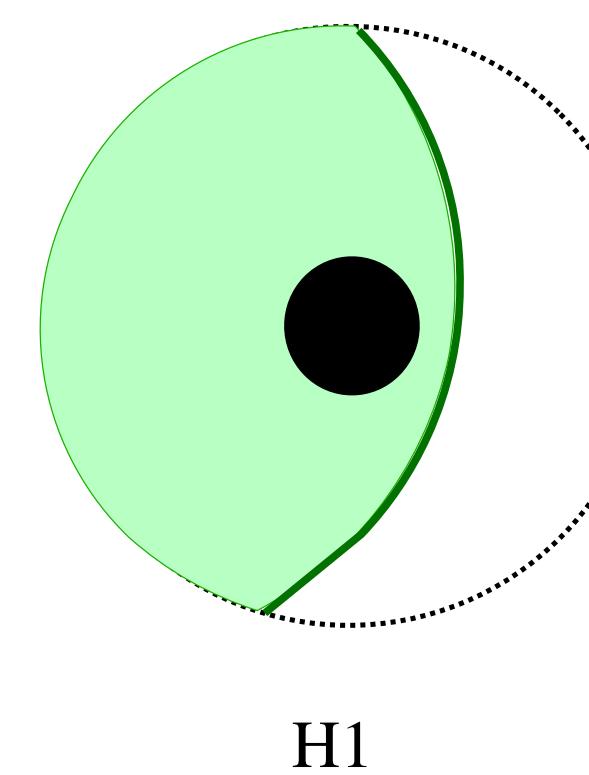
*Empty*



$$M \in (-\infty, \infty)$$

$$x \sim x + \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{-M}} \quad \text{for } E1$$

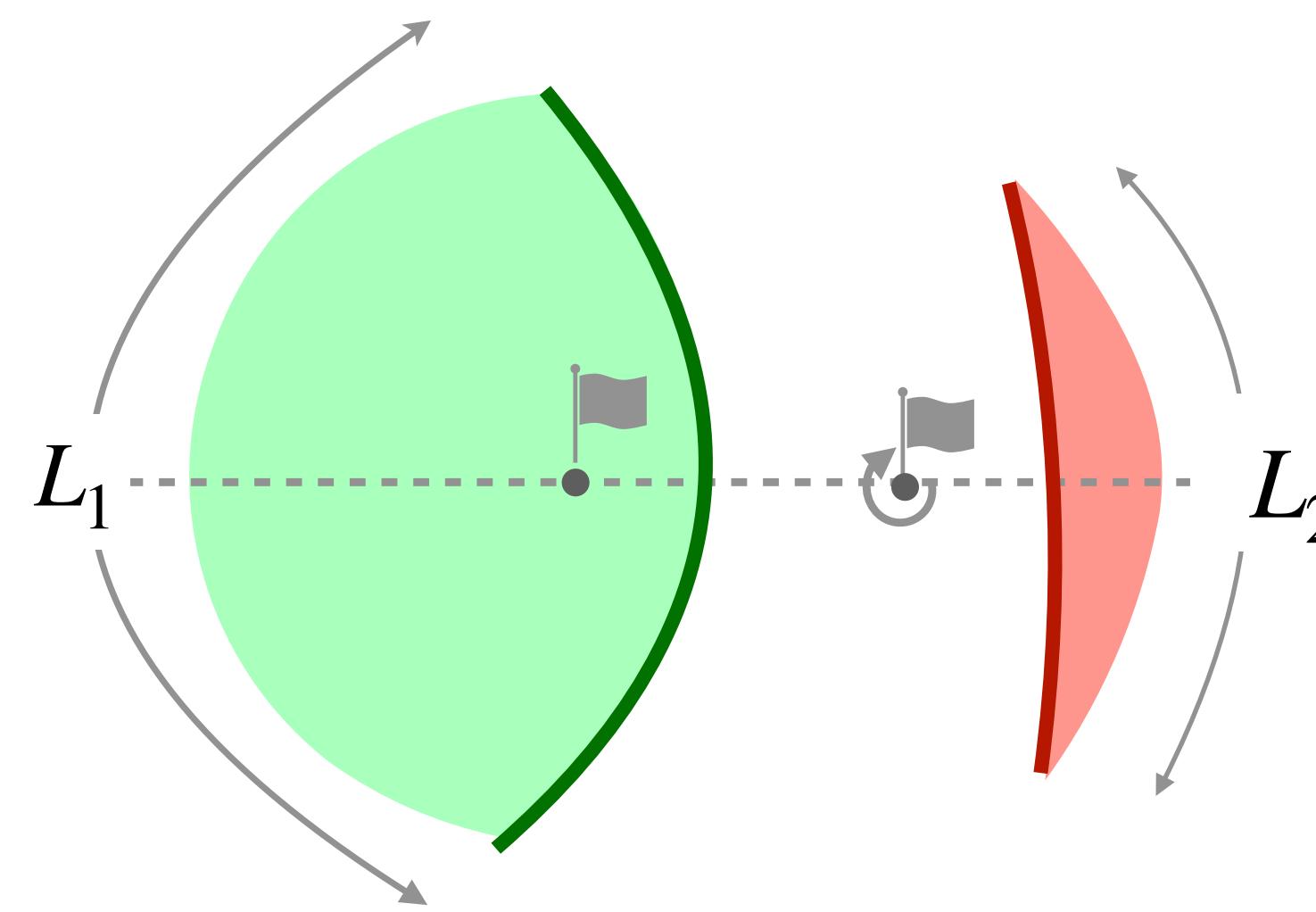
*Horizon*



$$M = (2\pi T)^2$$

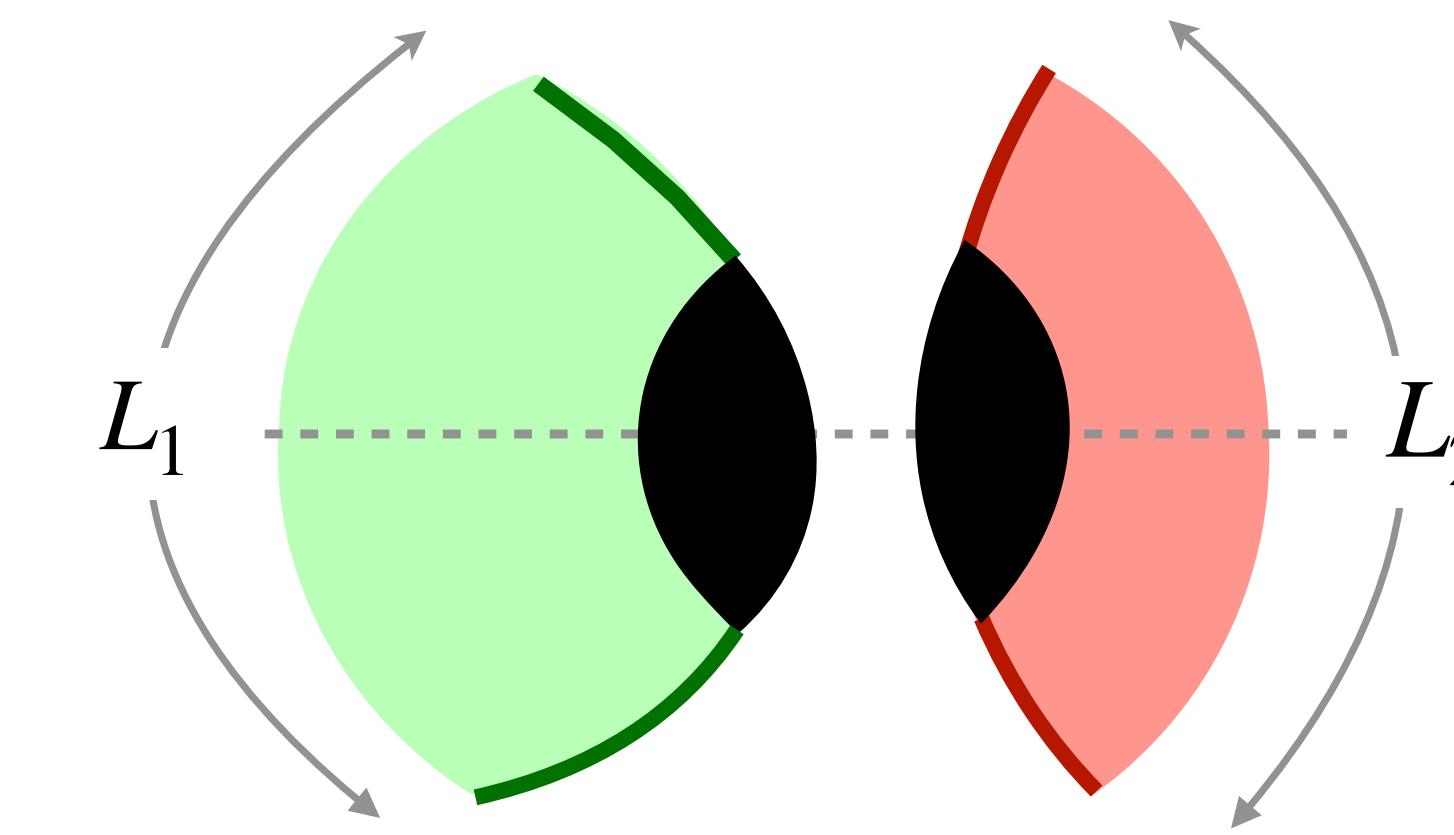
### 3. FINITE TEMPERATURE & VOLUME

Examples of complete space time:



[E1,E2]

cold



[H2,H2]

hot

## 4. SOLVING THE EQUATIONS

Embedding of static wall in each coordinate slice:  $r_j(\sigma), x_j(\sigma)$

3 equations:

Continuity of metric  $[\hat{g}_{ab}] = 0$

Israel matching  $[\text{tr}K] = -2\lambda$

Parametrize with blue-shift factor:  $|\sigma| = r_1^2 - M_1 \ell_1^2 = r_2^2 - M_2 \ell_2^2$

Induced metric on domain wall:  $d\hat{s}^2 = -|\sigma| dt^2 + g(\sigma) d\sigma^2$

## 4. SOLVING THE EQUATIONS

solution is algebraic:

$$(\sigma \geq \sigma_+ \geq 0 > \sigma_-)$$

$$\frac{x'_1}{\ell_1} = -\frac{\sigma(\lambda^2 + \lambda_0^2) + M_1 - M_2}{2(\sigma + M_1 \ell_1^2) \sqrt{A\sigma(\sigma - \sigma_+)(\sigma - \sigma_-)}}$$

$$\frac{x'_2}{\ell_2} = -\frac{\sigma(\lambda^2 - \lambda_0^2) + M_2 - M_1}{2(\sigma + M_2 \ell_2^2) \sqrt{A\sigma(\sigma - \sigma_+)(\sigma - \sigma_-)}}$$

In terms of Lagrangian parameters &  
 $\mu = M_2/M_1$

with

$$\sigma_{\pm} = \frac{-B \pm (B^2 - AC)^{1/2}}{A};$$

$$A = (\lambda_{\max}^2 - \lambda^2)(\lambda^2 - \lambda_{\min}^2)$$

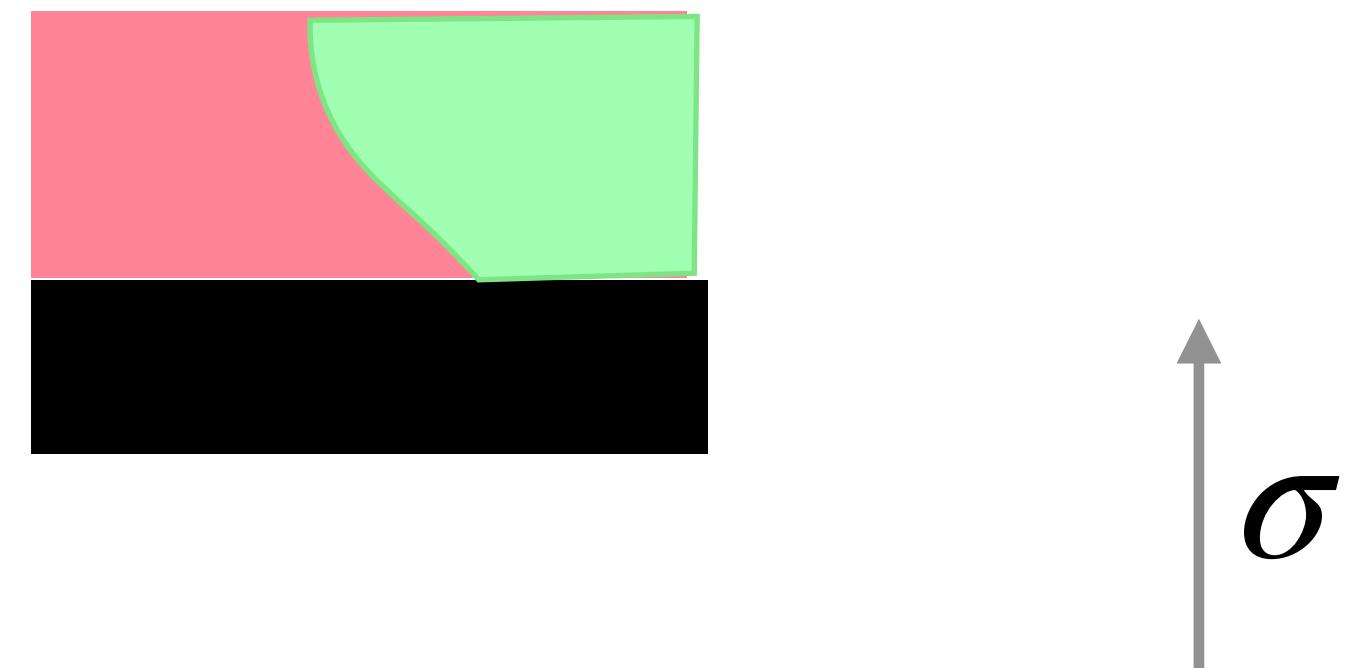
$$B = \lambda^2(M_1 + M_2) - \lambda_0^2(M_1 - M_2)$$

$$C = -(M_1 - M_2)^2$$

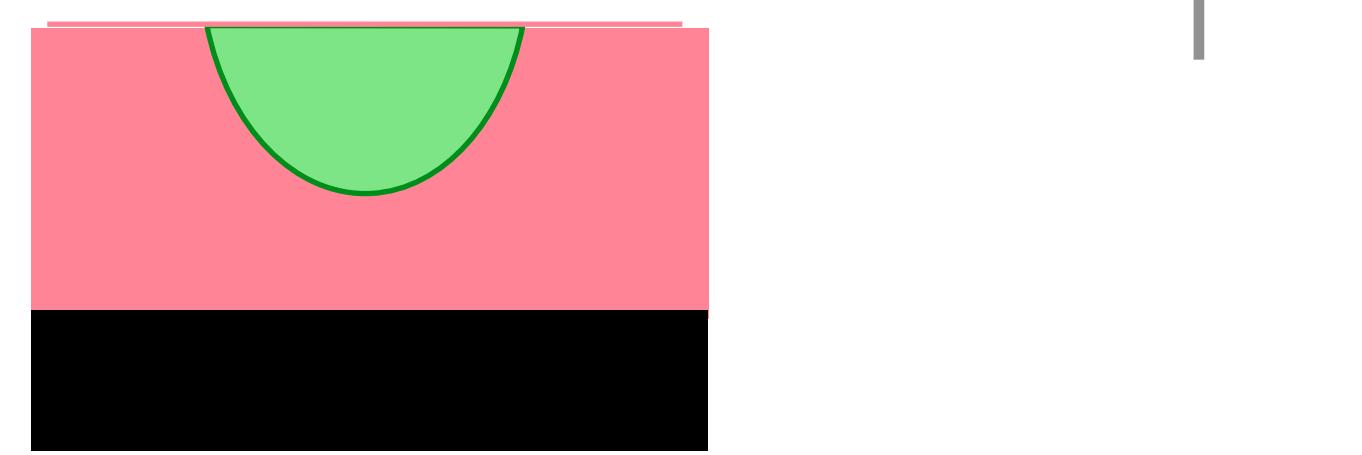
## 4. SOLVING THE EQUATIONS

Two possibilities:

$$\sigma_+ = 0 \quad \text{wall enters the horizon}$$



$$\sigma_+ > 0 \quad \text{wall turning point}$$



$$\text{sign}\left(x'_j\Big|_{\sigma \approx \sigma_+}\right) = \begin{cases} + & \text{for E2, E2'} \\ - & \text{for E1, H1} \end{cases}$$

*centerless*

*center*

## 4. SOLVING THE EQUATIONS

$$L_j = 2 \int_{\sigma_+}^{\infty} d\sigma x'_j \quad \text{for E2, E2'}$$

Boundary conditions:

$$L_j = \text{Per}(x_j) + 2 \int_{\sigma_+}^{\infty} d\sigma x'_j \quad \text{for E1, H1}$$

$$L_j = \Delta x_j \Big|_{\text{Hor}} + 2 \int_{\sigma_+}^{\infty} d\sigma x'_j \quad \text{for H2}$$

*elliptic of 3rd kind,  
evaluated numerically*

Assume no wall intersections; wall junctions are an interesting extension

## 4. SOLVING THE EQUATIONS

**Thermodynamic dictionary:**

$T$  : Temperature

$L_j$  : Volumes

$\frac{1}{2}\ell_j M_j$  : Energy densities

$\left. \frac{r_j^H}{4G} \Delta x_j \right|_{\text{Hor}}$  : Entropies

Boundary conditions = pair of coupled equations of state  
that should be inverted in terms of canonical variables

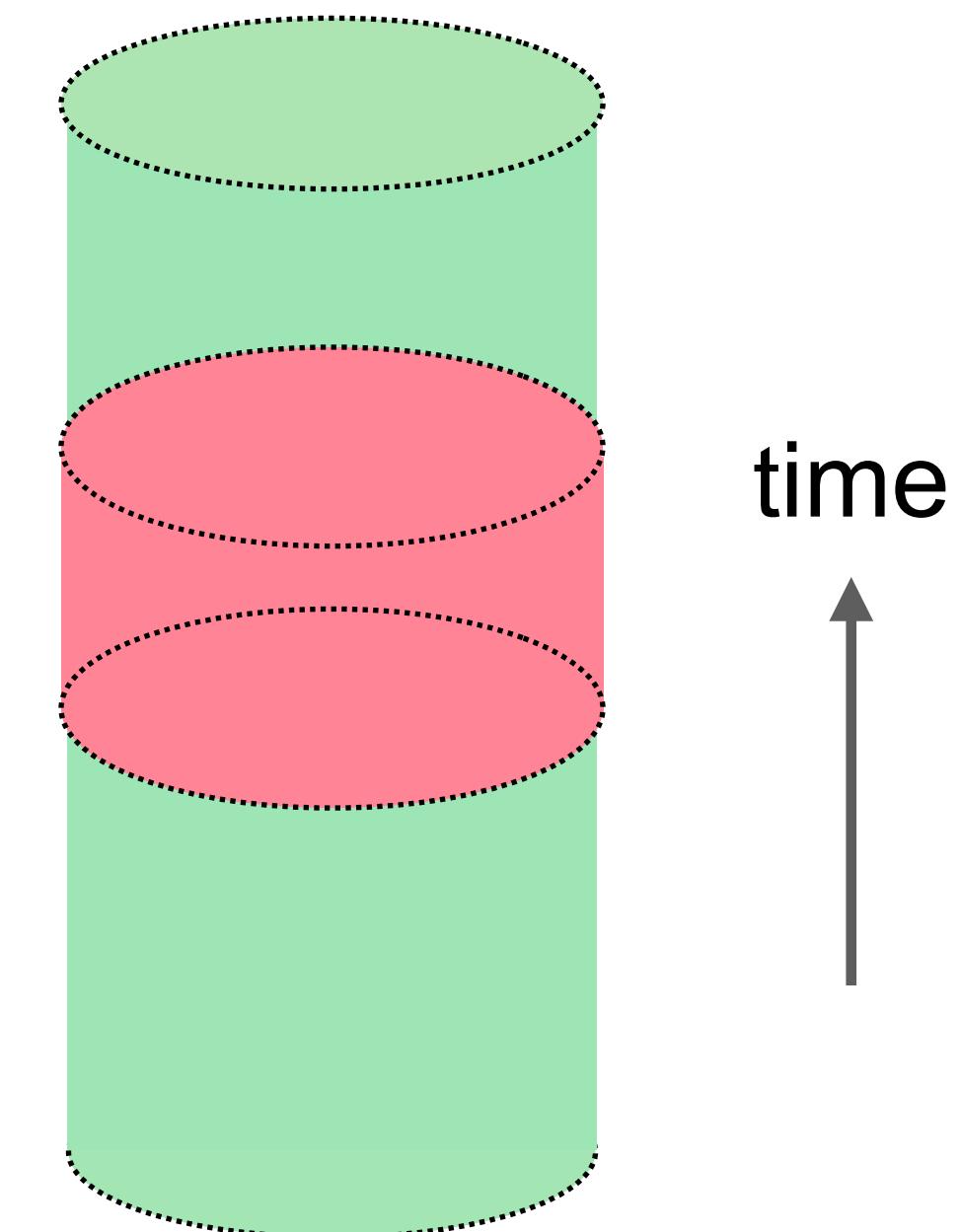
## 5. HAMILTONIAN QUENCHES

Closely-related to

Simidzija & Van Raamsdonk

'Holo-ween' 2006.13943

*'prepare CFT<sub>2</sub> states that mimic CFT<sub>1</sub> geometry'*



NB: double Wick rotation (special to 2+1 dims); in Euclidean  $L_1 \sim \infty$

## 6. PHASES & TRANSITIONS

By studying  $\text{sign}(x'_j \Big|_{\sigma \approx \sigma_+})$  we can rule out the following slice pairs:



2 black holes [H1, H1]

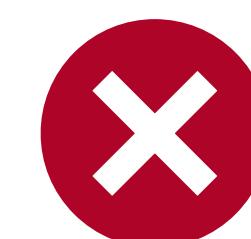
*merger unavoidable*



Centerless spacetimes [E2 or E2', E2 or E2']

*No traversable wormholes  
In Holo-ween*

*No escape from wall*



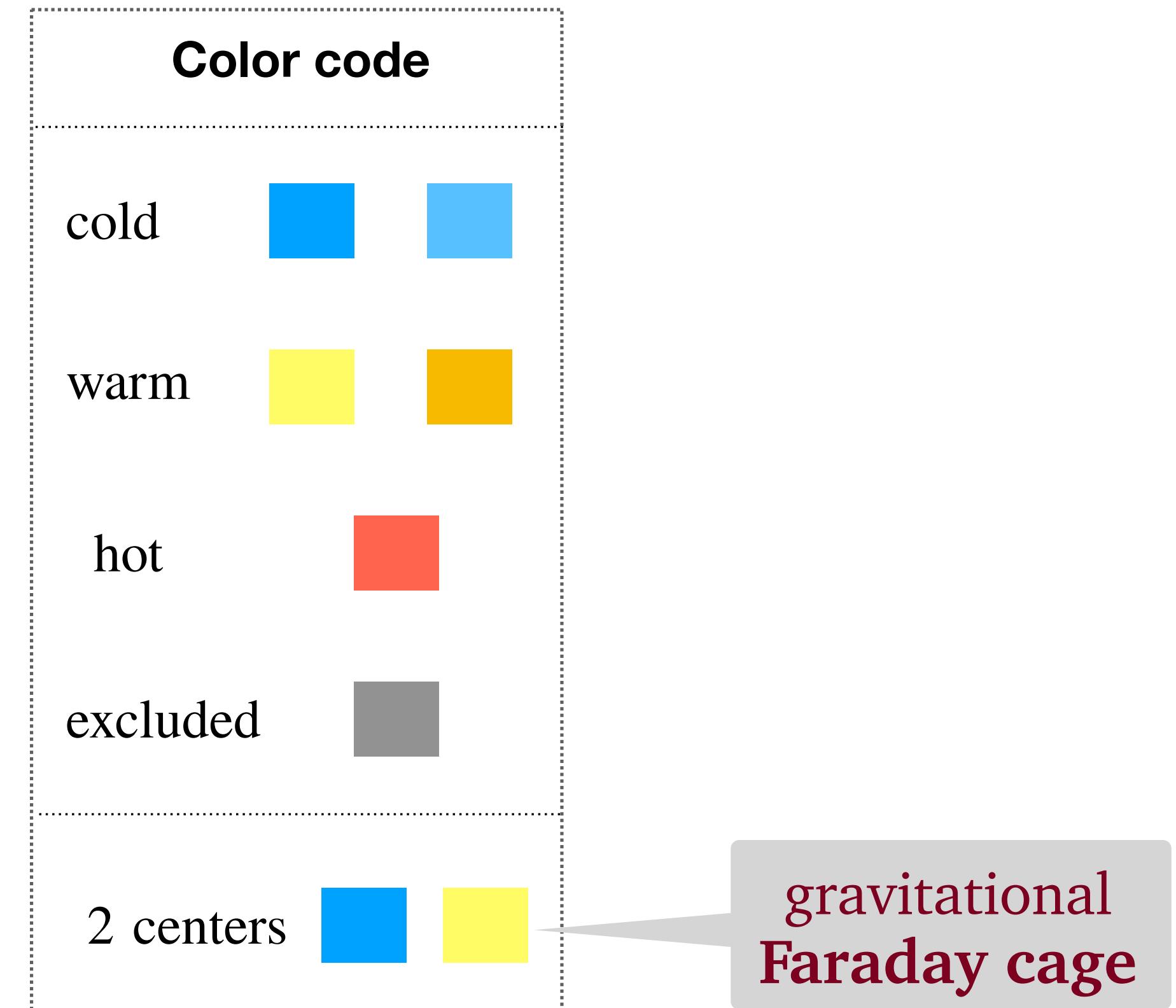
+ ve vacuum energy [E1 or E2, E2']

*Casimir thms*

Kenneth, Klich; CB '06

## 6. PHASES & TRANSITIONS

Possible phases:

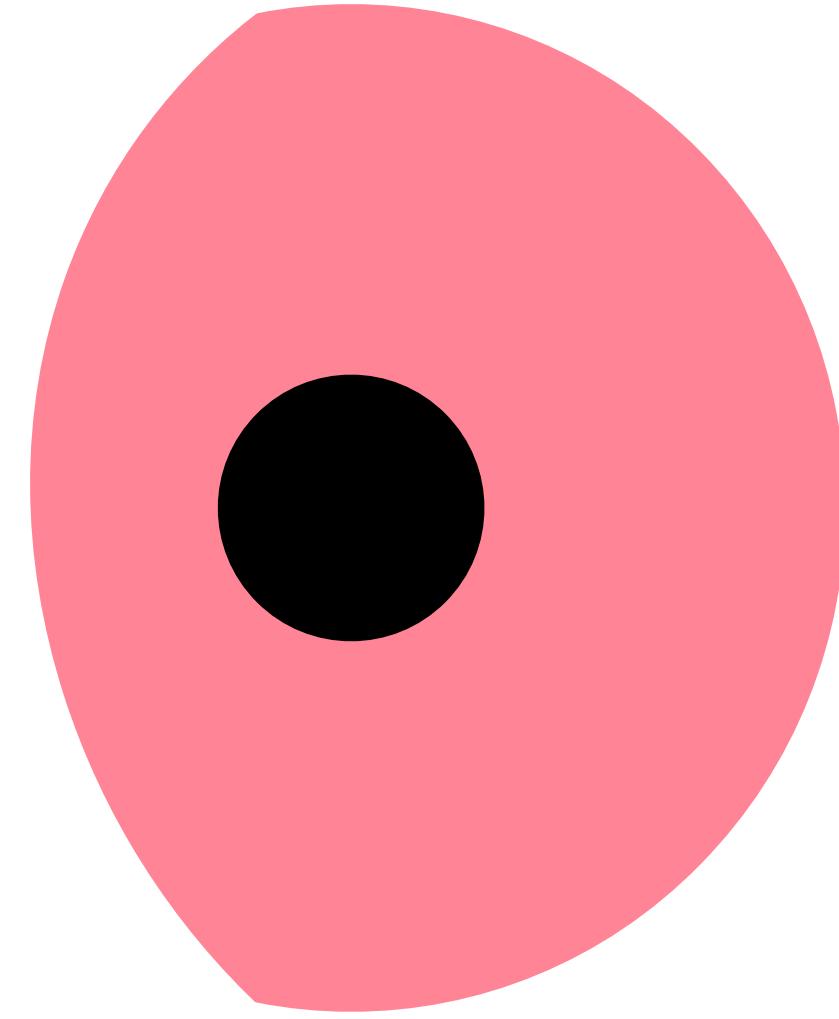
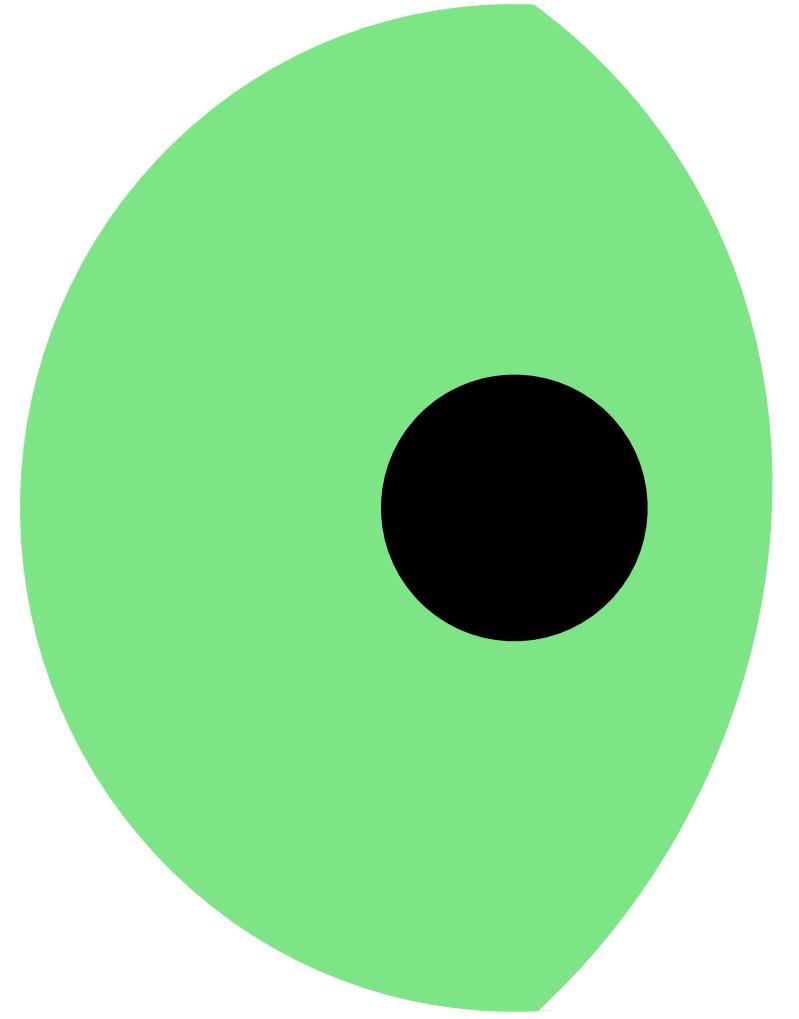


NB: no warm phase in BCFT limit, End-of-the-World branes cannot avoid the BH

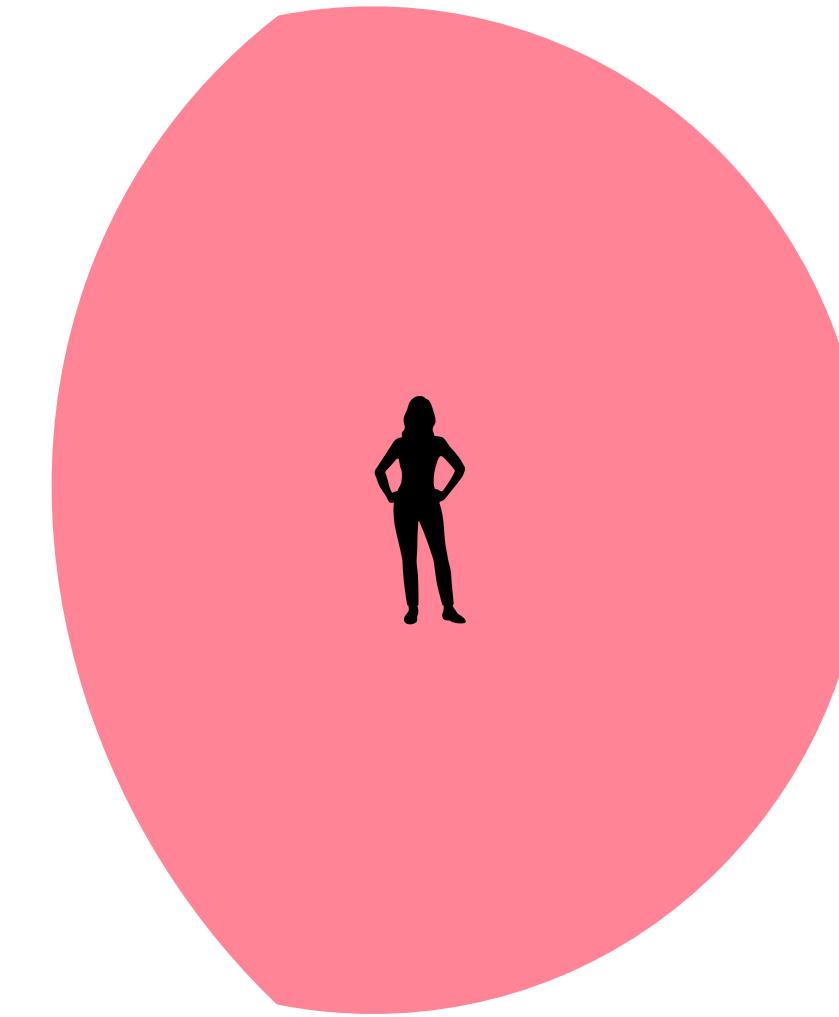
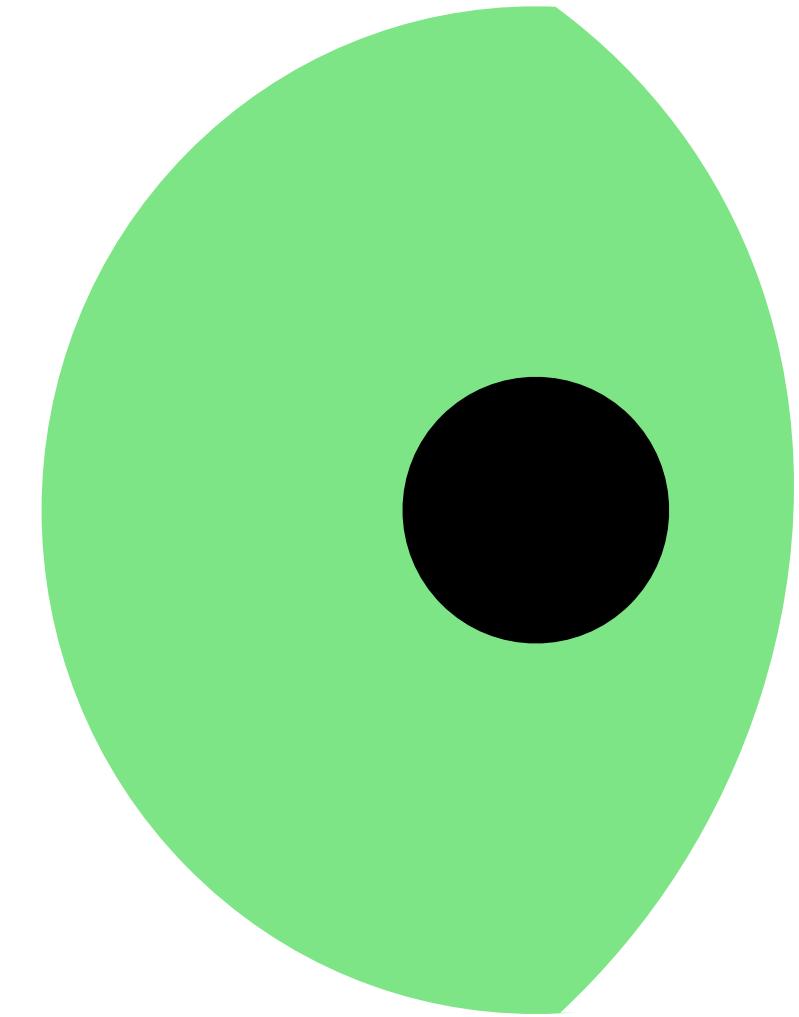
## 6. PHASES & TRANSITIONS

**Single horizon:**

*(matter thrown into system cannot form two BHs in separate traps)*



**Gravitational Faraday cage:**

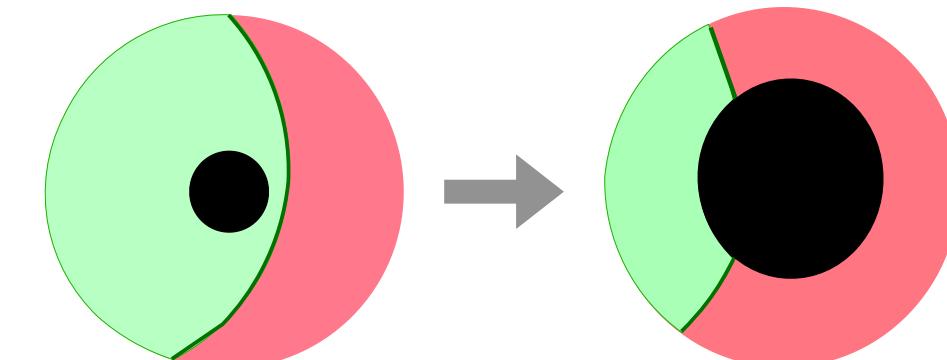


## 6. PHASES & TRANSITIONS

Phase transitions:

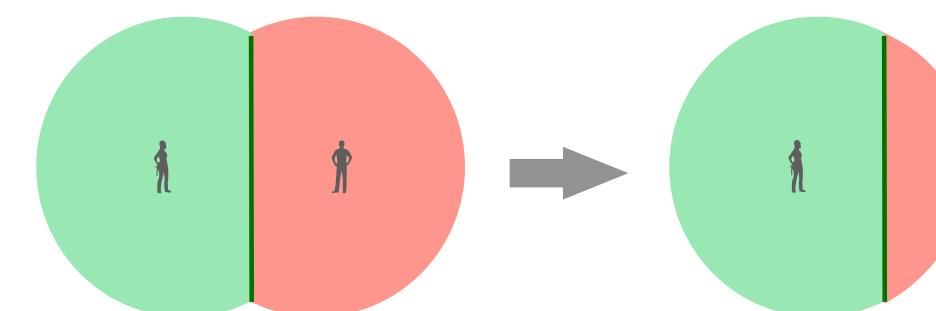
-- **Hawking-Page** (*formation of BH*) : 1rst order

-- **Warm-to-hot** (*wall enters horizon*) : 1rst order



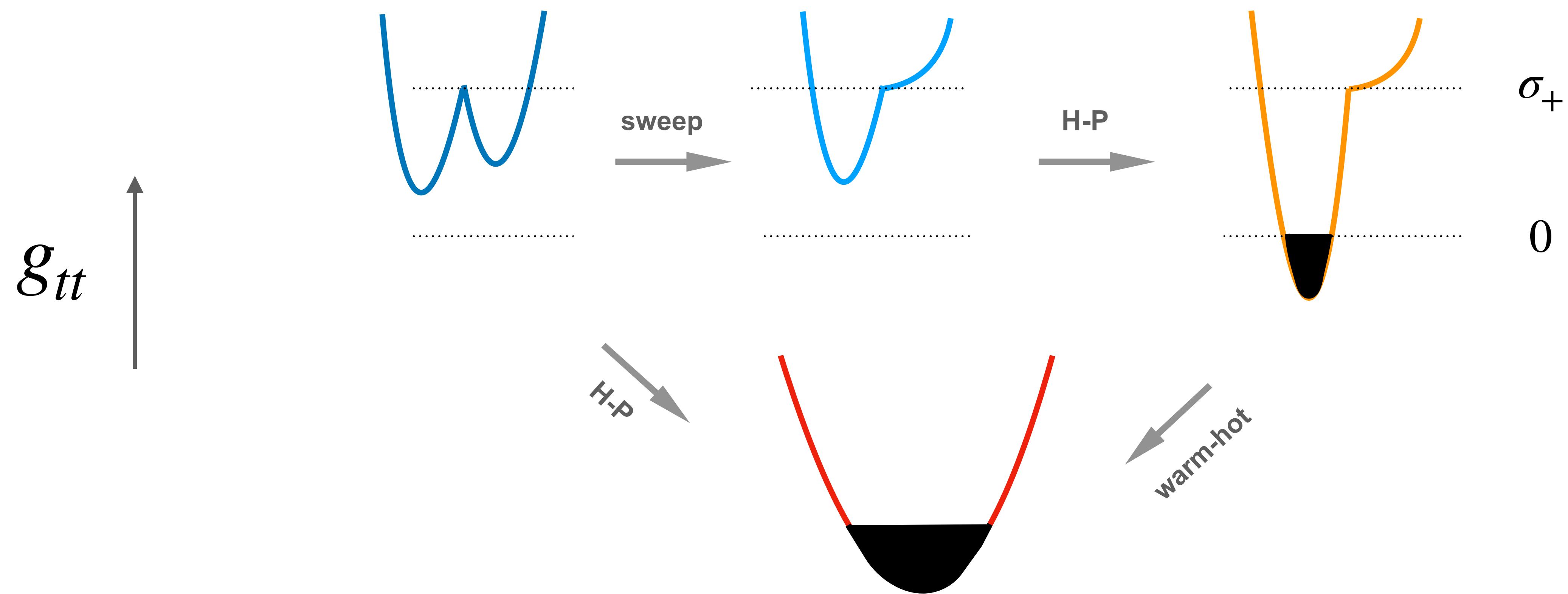
*cannot be lowered continuously*

-- **Sweeping** (*restpoint of inertial observer*) : continuous



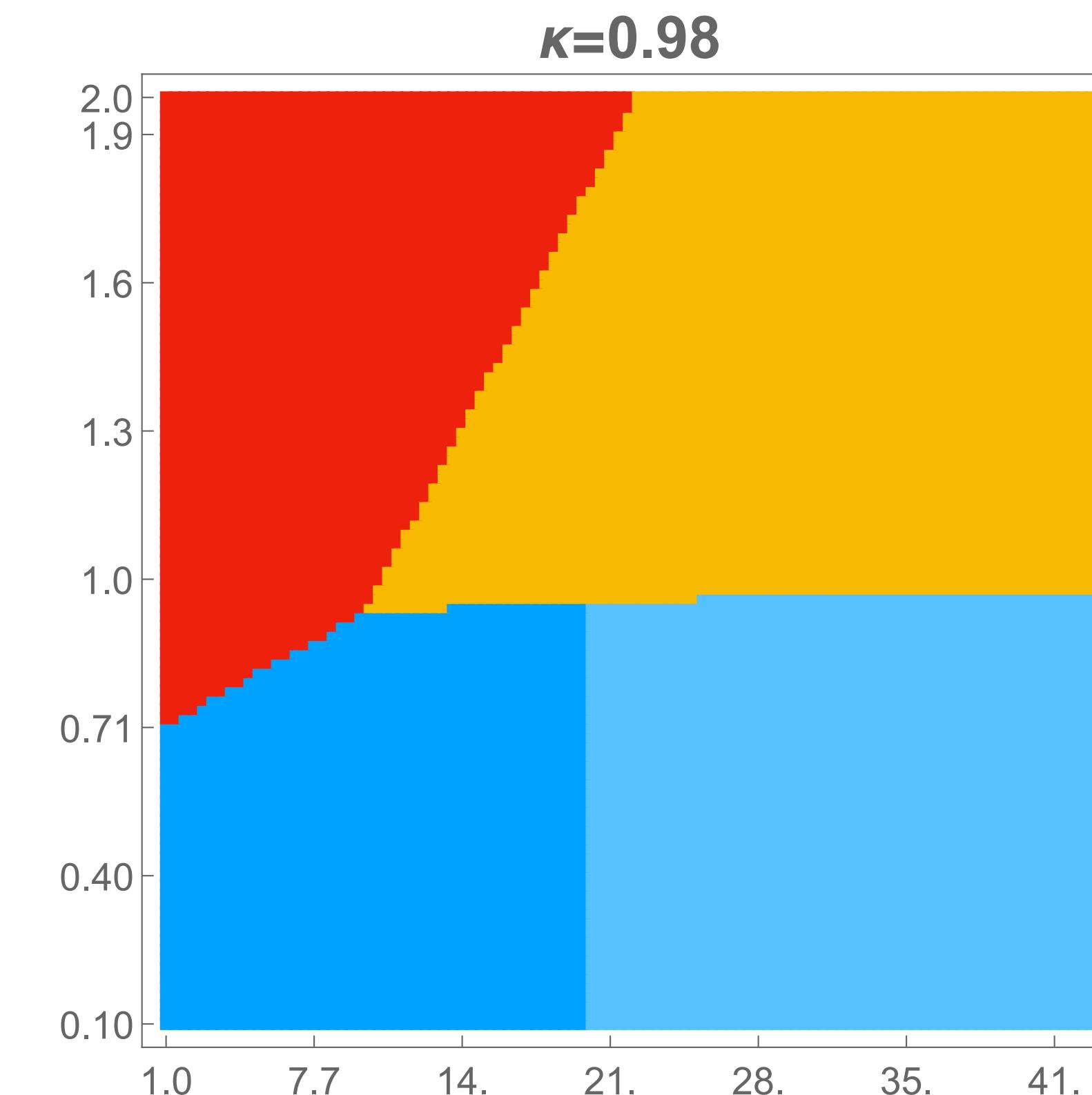
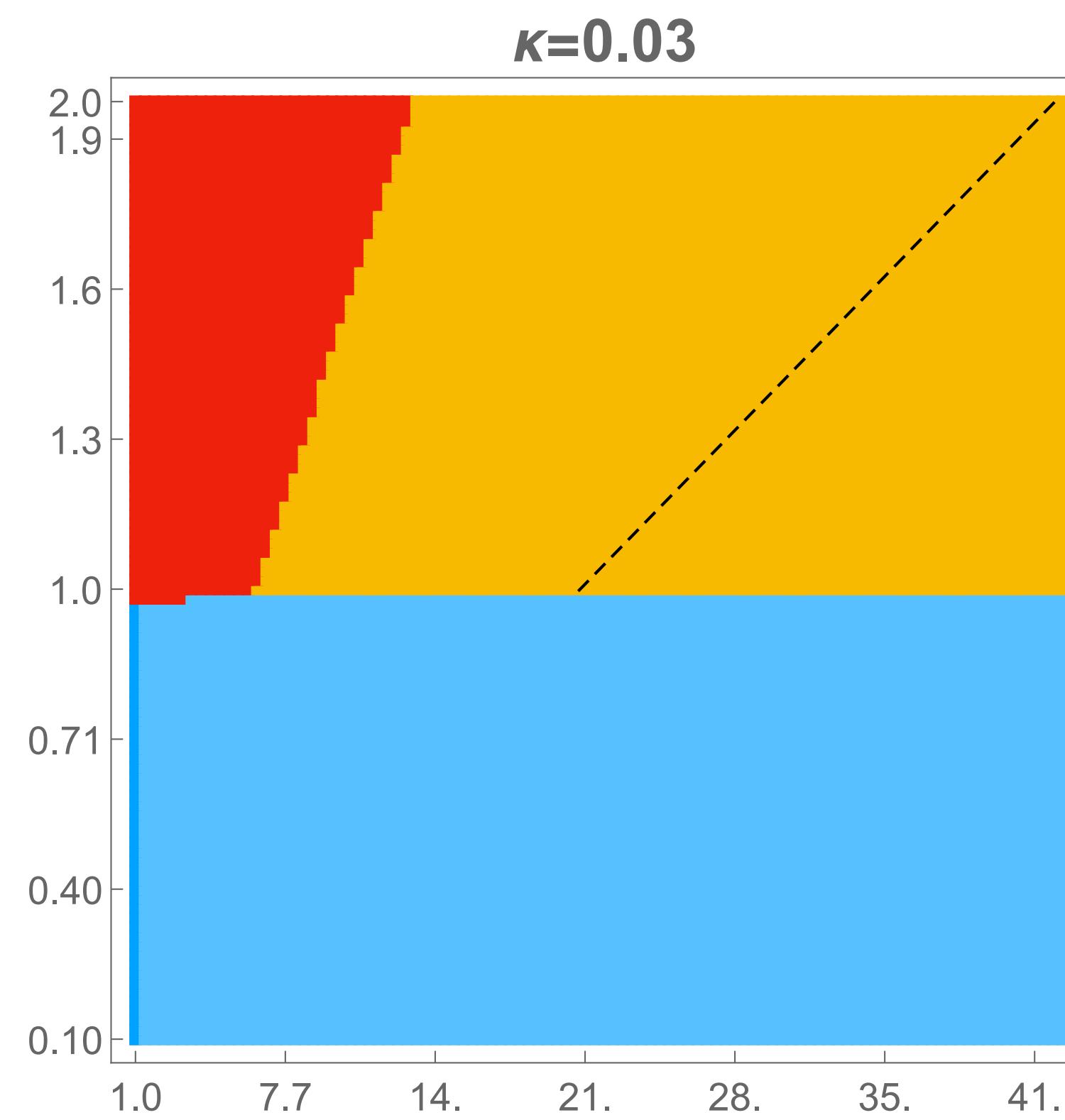
## 6. PHASES & TRANSITIONS

Blueshift along axis of reflection symmetry:



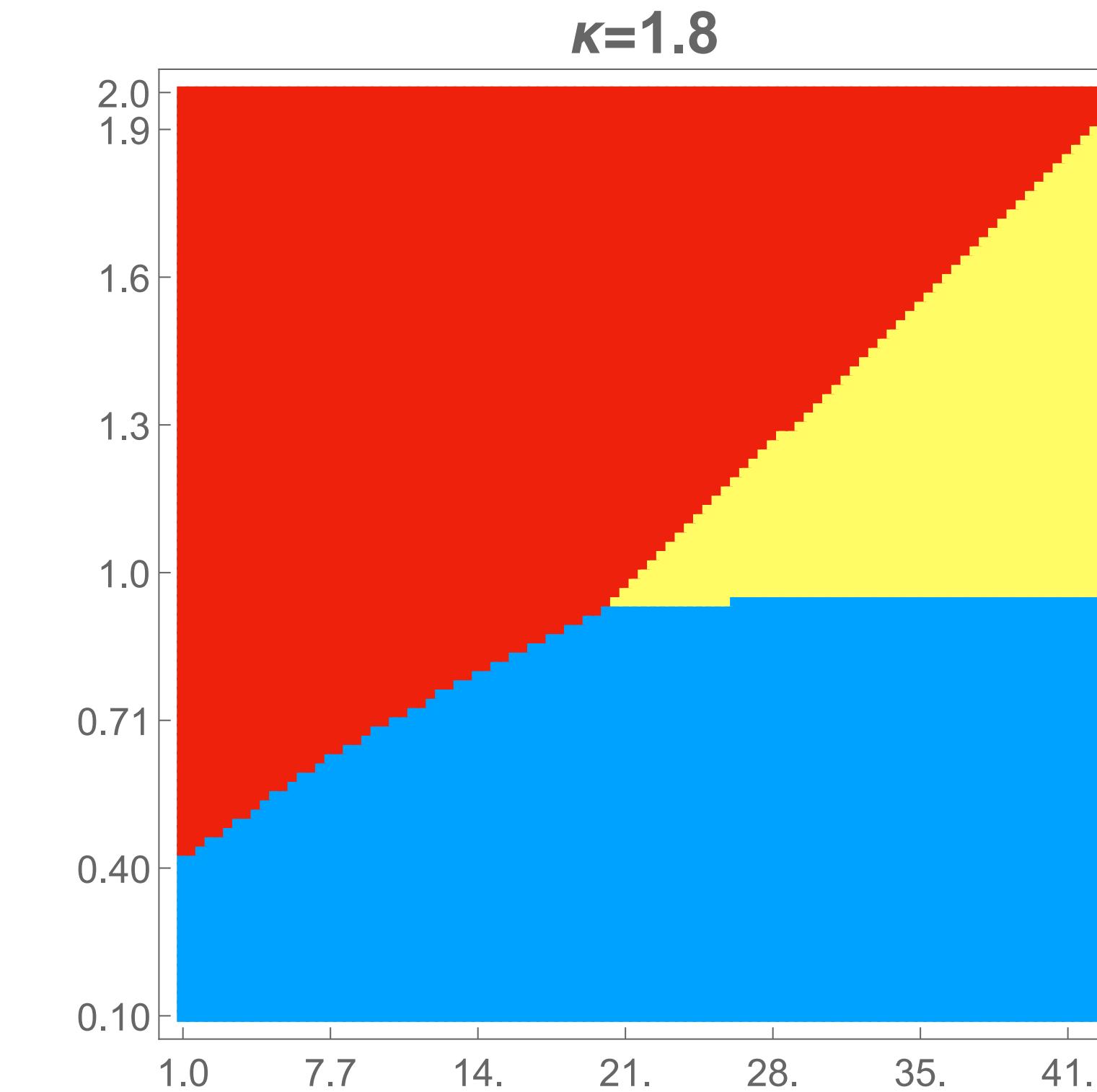
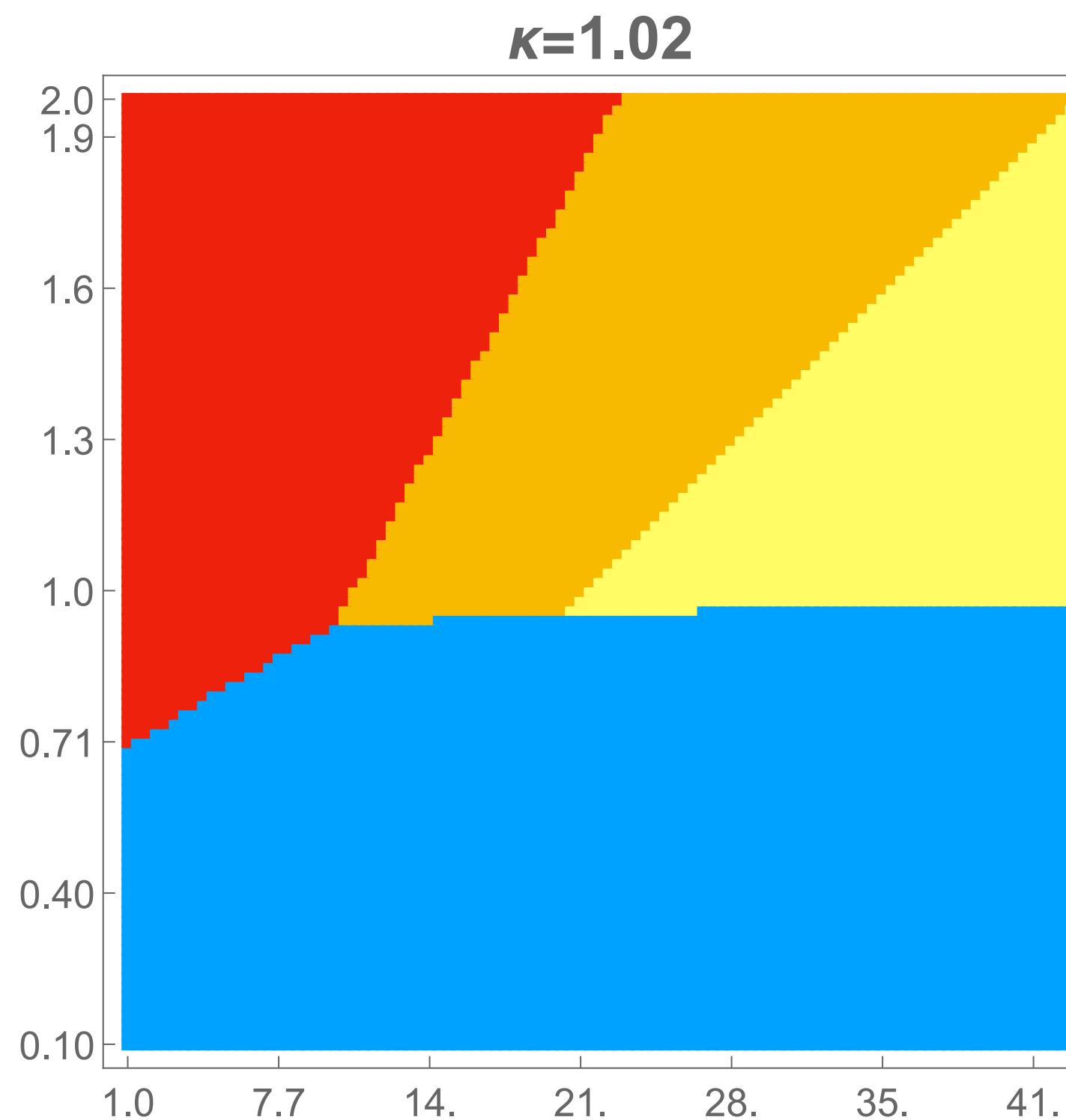
## 6. PHASES & TRANSITIONS

Phase diagrams for  $\ell_1 = \ell_2$   
 $\kappa = \lambda \ell_1 \in (0,2)$



$\longrightarrow L_1/L_2$

## 6. PHASES & TRANSITIONS



Heavier walls fall more readily into horizon, but protect better inertial observers

## 7. ICFT & 2 PUZZLES

Hawking-Page  $\longleftrightarrow$  Deconfinement transition

Witten '98

Aharony *et al* '05; Keller '11

Warm phase: coexistence of confined with deconfined CFT

CFT order parameter for **warm-to-hot** transition = Polyakov loop

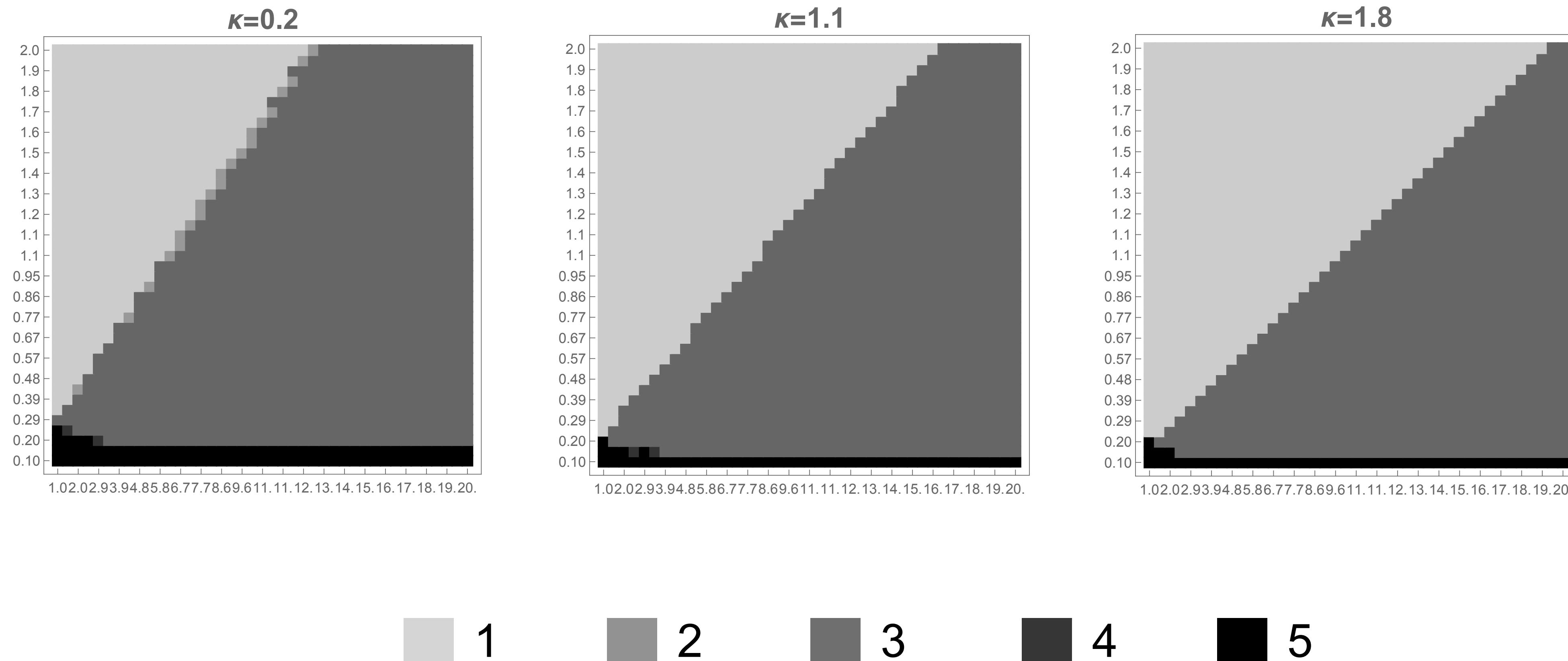
but what about gravity with thick walls ?

ICFT interpretation of **sweeping** transition ?

Entanglement of state? RT wedges ? *in progress*

## 8. UNSTABLE BHs & EXOTIC FUSION

Several black-hole solutions (some with -ve specific heat) can coexist:

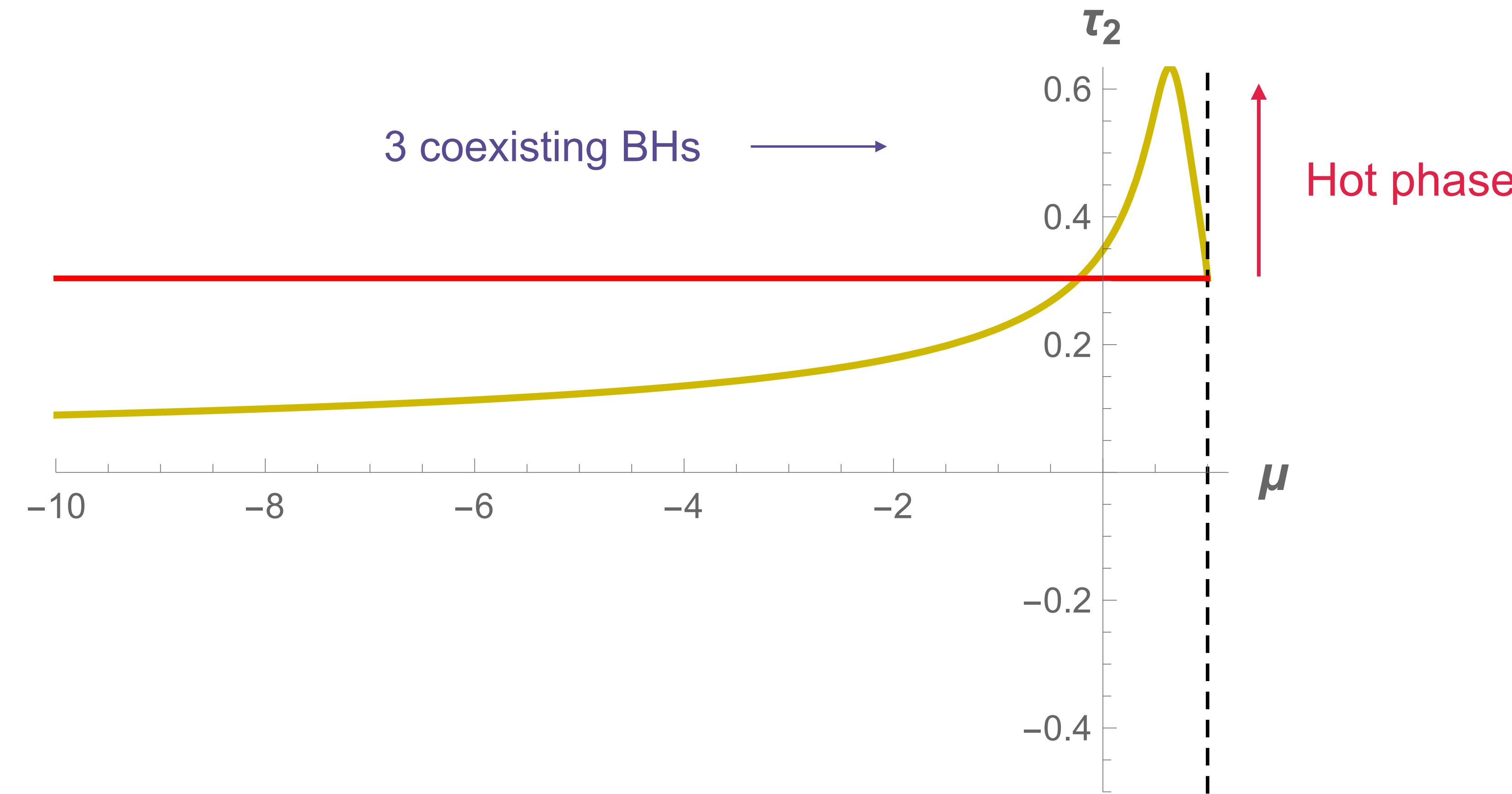


*cf generalized JT gravity, Witten '20*

## 8. UNSTABLE BHs & EXOTIC FUSION

Yellow curve:  $\tau_2(\mu)$  for [H1,E2] or [H1,E2'] solutions

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_2 &\equiv TL_2 \\ \mu &\equiv M_2/(2\pi T)^2\end{aligned}$$



## 8. UNSTABLE BHs & EXOTIC FUSION

A surprise: in the limit  $L_j \rightarrow 0$  the space of  $\text{CFT}_j$  shrinks to a point

In free-field calculations, the fusion

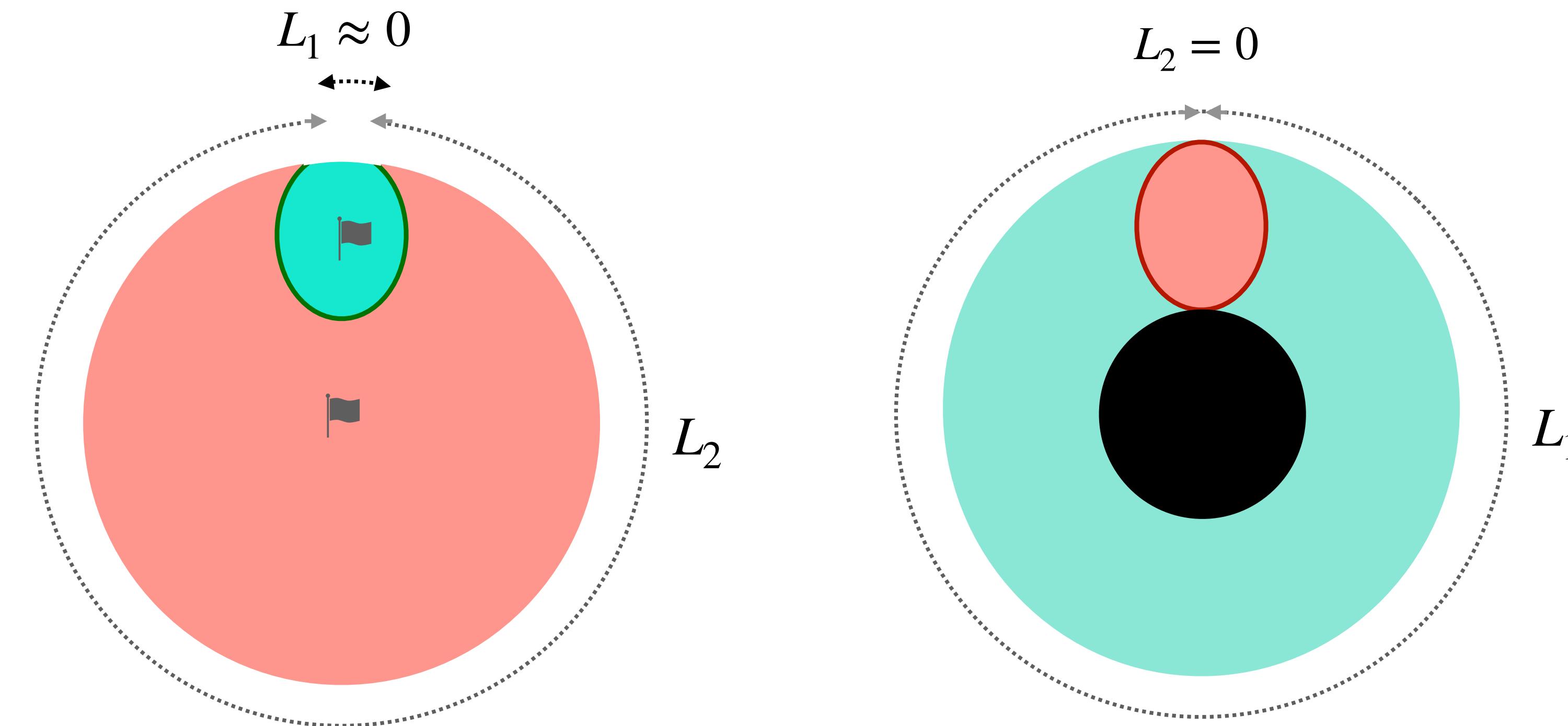
$$\text{Interface} \otimes \text{Anti interface} = 1 \oplus e^{-\# / TL_j} \dots$$

CB, Brunner '07

Accordingly the corresponding slice should shrink away with  $M_j \rightarrow -\infty$

But  $\exists$  region in  $(\ell_j, \lambda)$  parameter space where this expectation fails !

## 8. UNSTABLE BHs & EXOTIC FUSION



Suspended bubbles: asymptotically-free fusion ?

## 9. CONCLUSION

Rich phase diagram of Holographic Interfaces, resulting from competing forces :

***wall repulsion of particles, wall tension, attraction of AdS trap and BH***

- 3 kinds of phase transition: {
  - HP and wall-entering-horizon **1rst order**
  - sweeping **continuous**
- Unstable Black Holes which evaporate/emigrate ?
- Exotic phenomena (*fusion; wormholes*)

## 9. CONCLUSION

? What survives in **top/down** thick-wall models ?

*Hard because  
no AdS fibers*

? Entanglement RT wedges ?

? Extension to **out-of-equilibrium** states ?

? Decay of unstable BHs ?

**Thank you**