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Bouncing Cosmological Solutions in Scalar-Tensor Gravity

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P A S C O S

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Scalar-Tensor non-minimal Coupling

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left(\frac{1}{2\kappa} f(\Phi) R + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \Phi \partial^\mu \Phi - U(\Phi) \right)$$
$$\kappa = 8\pi G$$
$$U(\Phi) = U_0 + \frac{m^2}{2} \Phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} \Phi^4 + \frac{\nu}{6} \Phi^6$$

Effective (field-dependent) Newton constant: $G_{eff}(\Phi) = G / f(\Phi)$

Typical example: non-minimal coupling function:

$f(\Phi) = 1 - \xi \kappa \Phi^2$. $\xi = 1/6$ - conformal coupling.

signature = (+, -, -, -, -)

Inspiration: 3 papers by
Boisseau, Giacomini, Polarski & Starobinsky
(2015-2016)

General Field Equations:

$$\nabla_\mu \nabla^\mu \Phi + U'(\Phi) - \frac{R}{2\kappa} f'(\Phi) = 0$$

$$f(\Phi)G_{\mu\nu} + \kappa T_{\mu\nu}^{(min)} + \nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu f(\Phi) - g_{\mu\nu} \nabla_\rho \nabla^\rho f(\Phi) = 0$$

Einstein tensor

$$T_{\mu\nu}^{(min)} = \partial_\mu \Phi \partial_\nu \Phi - \left(\frac{1}{2} \partial_\rho \Phi \partial^\rho \Phi - U(\Phi) \right) g_{\mu\nu}$$

Tracing Einstein equations:

$$f(\Phi)R = 4\kappa U(\Phi) - (\kappa + 3f''(\Phi)) \partial_\mu \Phi \partial^\mu \Phi - 3f'(\Phi) \nabla_\mu \nabla^\mu \Phi$$

gives:

$$(2\kappa f(\Phi) + 3f'(\Phi)^2) \nabla_\mu \nabla^\mu \Phi + 2\kappa f(\Phi)U'(\Phi) - f'(\Phi) \underbrace{\left(4\kappa U(\Phi) - (\kappa + 3f''(\Phi)) \partial_\mu \Phi \partial^\mu \Phi \right)}_{\text{"effective force" } U'_{eff}(\Phi)} = 0$$

Cosmology: equations for $a(t), \Phi(t)$

$$ds^2 = dt^2 - a^2(t) \left(\frac{dr^2}{1-kr^2} + r^2 d\Omega_2^2 \right) ; \quad \text{Hubble function } H = \dot{a}/a$$

$$\left(1 + \frac{3f'(\Phi)^2}{2\kappa f(\Phi)}\right) \left(\ddot{\Phi} + \frac{3\dot{a}}{a}\dot{\Phi} \right) + \frac{f'(\Phi)(\kappa + 3f''(\Phi))}{2\kappa f(\Phi)}\dot{\Phi}^2 - \frac{2f'(\Phi)U(\Phi)}{f(\Phi)} + U'(\Phi) = 0$$

$$\left(2 + \frac{3f'(\Phi)^2}{\kappa f(\Phi)}\right) \frac{\ddot{a}}{a} + \left(1 + \frac{3f'(\Phi)^2}{\kappa f(\Phi)}\right) \frac{\dot{a}^2 + k}{a^2} - \frac{\dot{a}}{a} \frac{f'(\Phi)}{f(\Phi)} \dot{\Phi} + \frac{\kappa + 2f''(\Phi)}{2f(\Phi)} \dot{\Phi}^2 - \frac{f'(\Phi)U'(\Phi)}{f(\Phi)} - \frac{\kappa U(\Phi)}{f(\Phi)} = 0$$

1st order constraint:

$$\frac{\dot{a}^2 + k}{a^2} + \frac{\dot{a}}{a} \frac{f'(\Phi)}{f(\Phi)} \dot{\Phi} - \frac{\kappa}{3f(\Phi)} \left(\frac{\dot{\Phi}^2}{2} + U(\Phi) \right) = 0$$

Space curvature k is determined by energy density at a given time

Effective potential:

$$U'_{eff}(\Phi) = \frac{f(\Phi)U'(\Phi) - 2f'(\Phi)U(\Phi)}{f(\Phi) + 3f'(\Phi)^2/(2\kappa)}$$

for $f(\Phi) = 1 - \xi\kappa\Phi^2$:

$$U'_{eff}(\Phi) = \frac{(1 - \xi\kappa\Phi^2)U'(\Phi) + 4\xi\kappa\Phi U(\Phi)}{1 - \kappa\xi(1 - 6\xi)\Phi^2}$$

and for a polynomial potential $U(\Phi) = U_0 + \frac{m^2}{2}\Phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4}\Phi^4 + \frac{\nu}{6}\Phi^6$:

$$\begin{aligned} U_{eff}(\Phi) &= \frac{\nu}{18(1 - 6\xi)}\Phi^6 - \frac{\nu(1 - 9\xi)}{6\kappa\xi(1 - 6\xi)^2}\Phi^4 - \left(\frac{\nu(1 - 9\xi)}{3(\kappa\xi)^2(1 - 6\xi)^3} + \frac{\lambda + \kappa\xi m^2}{2\kappa\xi(1 - 6\xi)} \right)\Phi^2 - \\ &\quad \left(\frac{\nu(1 - 9\xi)}{3(\kappa\xi)^3(1 - 6\xi)^4} + \frac{\lambda}{2(\kappa\xi)^2(1 - 6\xi)^2} + \frac{(1 - 3\xi)m^2}{\kappa\xi(1 - 6\xi)^2} + \frac{2U_0}{1 - 6\xi} \right) \log(1 - \kappa\xi(1 - 6\xi)\Phi^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\xi = 1/6 \Rightarrow U_{eff}(\Phi) = \left(\frac{m^2}{2} + \frac{\kappa U_0}{3} \right) \Phi^2 + \frac{1}{4} \left(\lambda + \frac{\kappa m^2}{6} \right) \Phi^4 + \frac{\nu}{6} \Phi^6 - \frac{\kappa\nu}{144} \Phi^8$$

Use rescaled (dimensionless) quantities: $\sqrt{\xi\kappa}\Phi \rightarrow \Phi$, $\sqrt{\xi\kappa U_0}x^\mu \rightarrow x^\mu$ and similarly for m , λ etc...

“effectively”: $U_0 = 1$, $\kappa = 1/\xi$...

$$U_{eff}(\bar{\Phi}) = \left(\frac{\bar{m}^2}{2} + 2 \right) \bar{\Phi}^2 + \frac{1}{4} (\bar{\lambda} + \bar{m}^2) \bar{\Phi}^4 + \frac{\bar{\nu}}{6} \bar{\Phi}^6 - \frac{\bar{\nu}}{24} \bar{\Phi}^8$$

Field Equations for Conformal Coupling:

$$f(\Phi) = 1 - \xi \kappa \Phi^2, \quad \xi = 1/6 \quad \text{Flat FLRW}$$

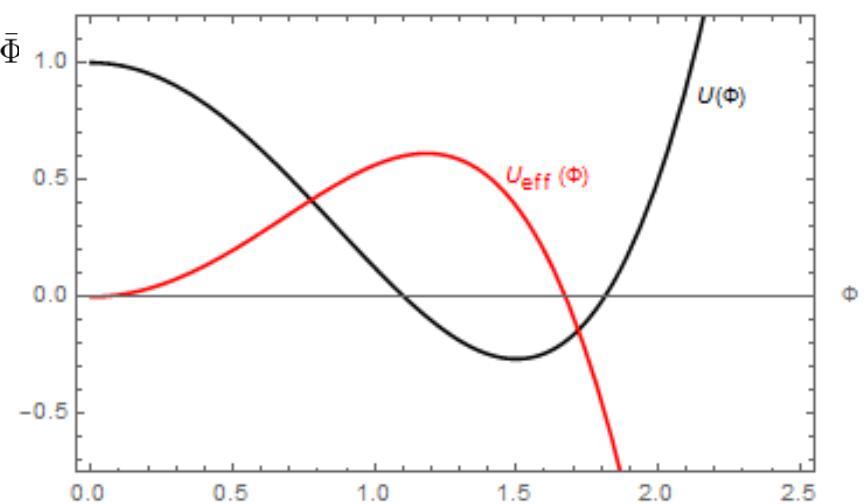
$$\ddot{\bar{\Phi}} + \frac{3\dot{a}\dot{\bar{\Phi}}}{a} + (\bar{m}^2 + 4)\bar{\Phi} + (\bar{\lambda} + \bar{m}^2)\bar{\Phi}^3 + \bar{\nu}\bar{\Phi}^5 - \frac{\bar{\nu}}{3}\bar{\Phi}^7 = 0$$

$$(1 - \bar{\Phi}^2) \frac{\dot{a}^2}{a^2} - 2\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\bar{\Phi}\dot{\bar{\Phi}} = 2 \left(\frac{\dot{\bar{\Phi}}^2}{2} + 1 + \frac{\bar{m}^2}{2}\bar{\Phi}^2 + \frac{\bar{\lambda}}{4}\bar{\Phi}^4 + \frac{\bar{\nu}}{6}\bar{\Phi}^6 \right)$$

Central tool: the effective potential:

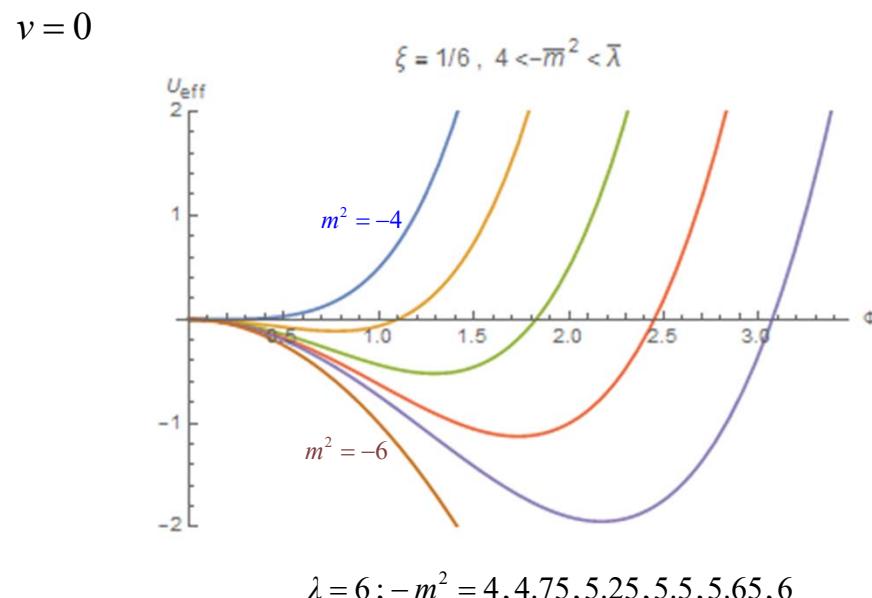
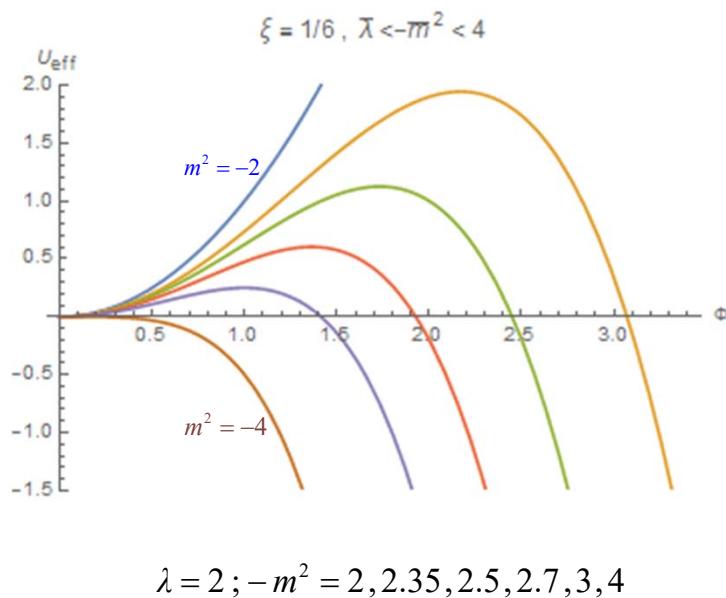
$$\bar{U}_{eff}(\bar{\Phi}) = \left(\frac{\bar{m}^2}{2} + 2 \right) \bar{\Phi}^2 + \frac{1}{4} (\bar{\lambda} + \bar{m}^2) \bar{\Phi}^4 + \frac{\bar{\nu}}{6} \bar{\Phi}^6 - \frac{\bar{\nu}}{24} \bar{\Phi}^8$$

Most obvious case for bounce solutions: $U_{eff}(\Phi)$ has a maximum. If $\nu = 0$, Condition: $-4 < \bar{m}^2 < -\bar{\lambda}$

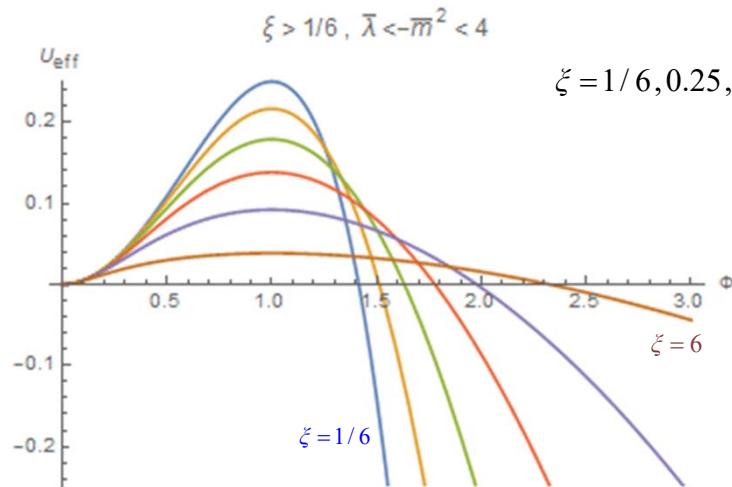


Effective potential $\xi=1/6$

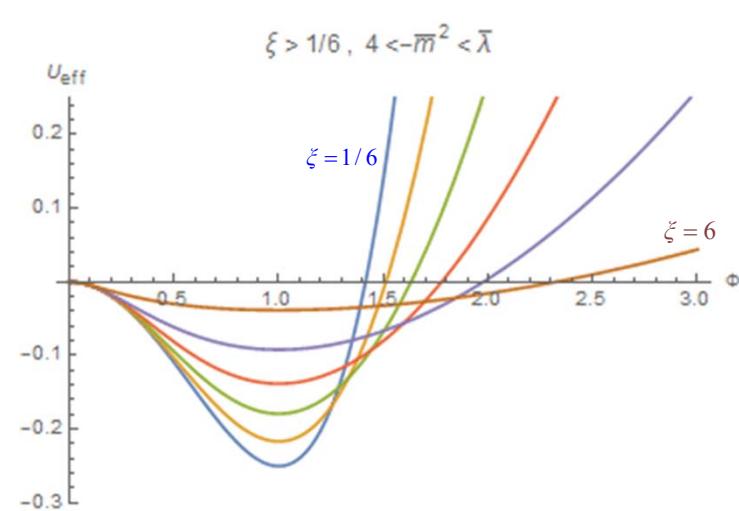
$U_{\text{eff}}(\Phi)$ may have 4 types of behavior: monotonically increasing/decreasing, or having one maximum or one minimum. Up to reflection symmetry.



Effective potential $\xi > 1/6$:



$$m^2 = -3; \lambda = 2$$

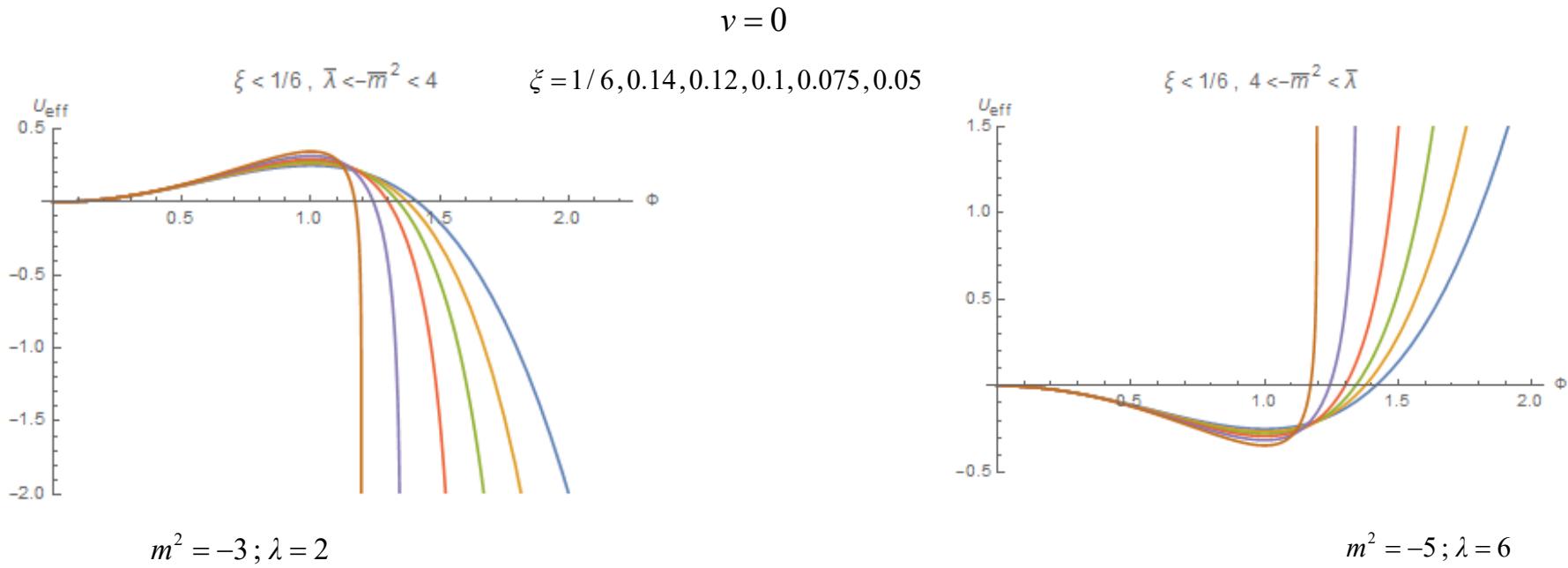


Note common position (ξ -independent) of extremal points in dimensionless formulation

Analysis easier in terms of “force”:

$$\bar{U}'_{\text{eff}}(\bar{\Phi}) = \frac{(\bar{m}^2 + 4)\bar{\Phi} + (\bar{\lambda} + \bar{m}^2)\bar{\Phi}^3 + \bar{\nu}\bar{\Phi}^5 - \frac{1}{3}\bar{\nu}\bar{\Phi}^7}{1 - (1 - 6\xi)\bar{\Phi}^2}$$

Effective potential $0 < \xi < 1/6$: field bounded $\Phi^2 < 1/(1-6\xi)$



Note ξ -independence of extremal points

$$\bar{U}'_{\text{eff}}(\bar{\Phi}) = \frac{(\bar{m}^2 + 4) \bar{\Phi} + (\bar{\lambda} + \bar{m}^2) \bar{\Phi}^3 + \bar{\nu} \bar{\Phi}^5 - \frac{1}{3} \bar{\nu} \bar{\Phi}^7}{1 - (1 - 6\xi) \bar{\Phi}^2}$$



Back to $\xi=1/6$: Asymptotic Behavior / Critical points

$$\ddot{\bar{\Phi}} + \frac{3\dot{a}}{a}\dot{\bar{\Phi}} + (\bar{m}^2 + 4)\bar{\Phi} + (\bar{\lambda} + \bar{m}^2)\bar{\Phi}^3 + \bar{\nu}\bar{\Phi}^5 - \frac{\bar{\nu}}{3}\bar{\Phi}^7 = 0$$

$$(1 - \bar{\Phi}^2) \frac{\dot{a}^2}{a^2} - 2\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\bar{\Phi}\dot{\bar{\Phi}} = 2 \left(\frac{\dot{\bar{\Phi}}^2}{2} + 1 + \frac{\bar{m}^2}{2}\bar{\Phi}^2 + \frac{\bar{\lambda}}{4}\bar{\Phi}^4 + \frac{\bar{\nu}}{6}\bar{\Phi}^6 \right)$$

$$\bar{\Phi}(t) \rightarrow 0 \quad , \quad \bar{H}^2(t) \rightarrow \bar{H}_0^2 = 2$$

$$\bar{\Phi}(t) \rightarrow \bar{\Phi}_* = \sqrt{-\frac{\bar{m}^2 + 4}{\bar{m}^2 + \bar{\lambda}}} \quad , \quad \bar{H}^2(t) \rightarrow \bar{H}_*^2 = \frac{4\bar{\lambda} - \bar{m}^4}{2(\bar{\lambda} + \bar{m}^2)}$$

Bounce Solutions: $\dot{a}(0) = 0 = H(0)$, $\dot{H}(0) > 0$

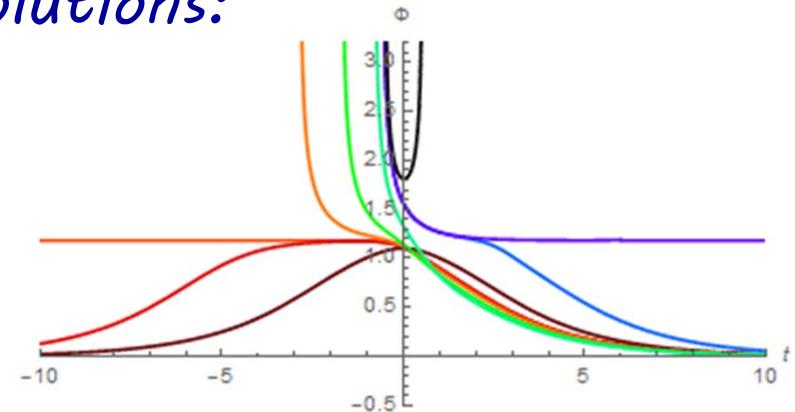
bounce point: $t=0$

Flat FLRW $f(\Phi) = 1 - \xi \kappa \Phi^2$, $\xi = 1/6$ (“conformal”)

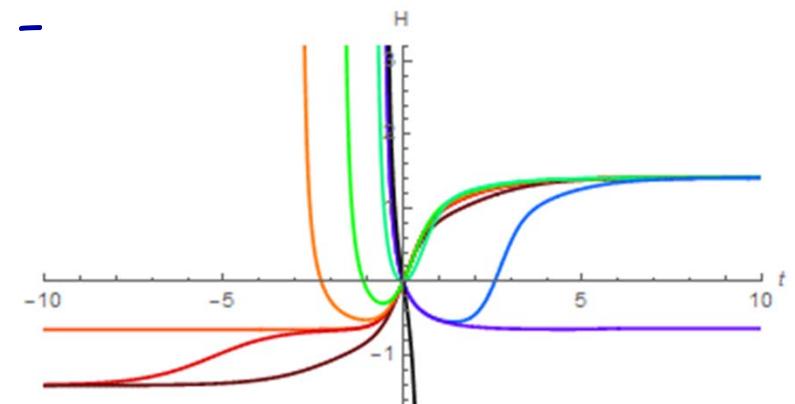
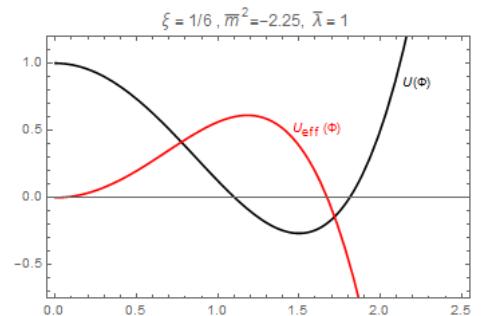
Typically, 2 kinds of bounce solutions:

- full bounce
- partial bounce

Other solutions (BB, BB+BC...) exist as well



Solutions characterized by $\Phi(0)$ which takes values in a continuous interval - no need for fine tuning



Bounce Solutions: $\dot{a}(0) = 0 = H(0)$, $\dot{H}(0) > 0$

bounce point: $t=0$

Flat FLRW $f(\Phi) = 1 - \xi \kappa \Phi^2$, $\xi = 1/6$ (“conformal”)

Parameter Space: (λ, m^2) plane;

insist on:

- $\lambda > 0$
- $m^2 < 0$

$U(\Phi)$ bounded from below
 $U(\Phi) < 0$ at bounce point by constraint eq.

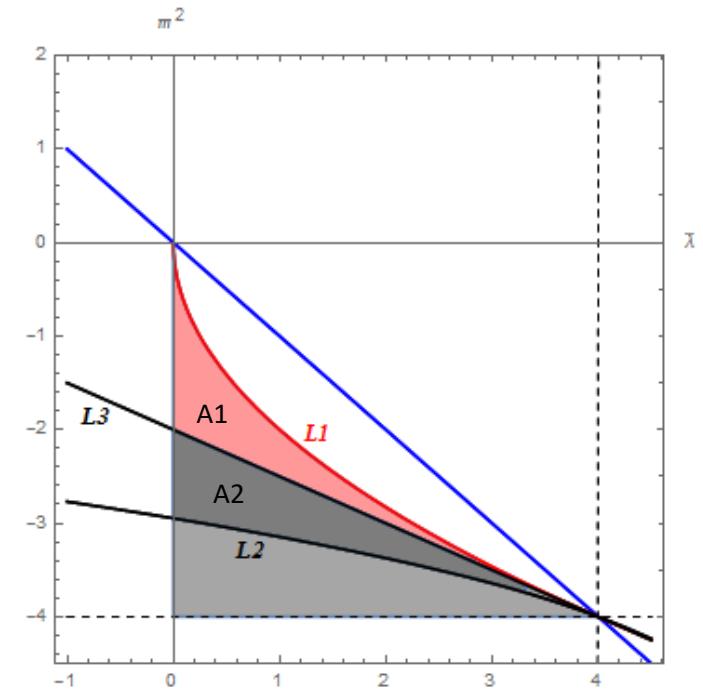
Region A: full and partial bounces exist between lines $L1$ and $L2$.

$$L1: \bar{\lambda} = \bar{m}^4/4$$

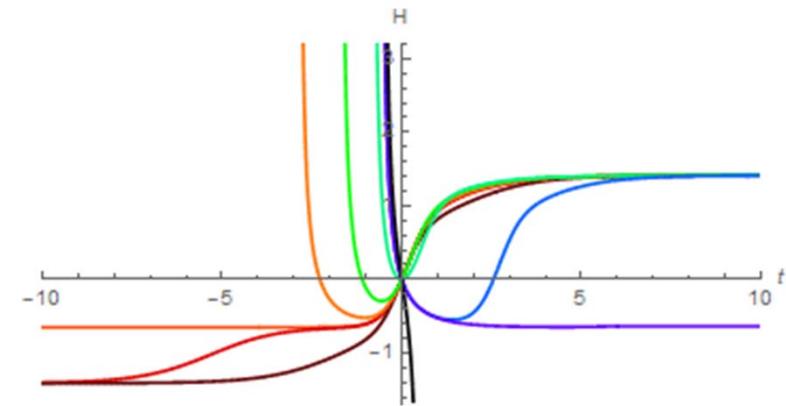
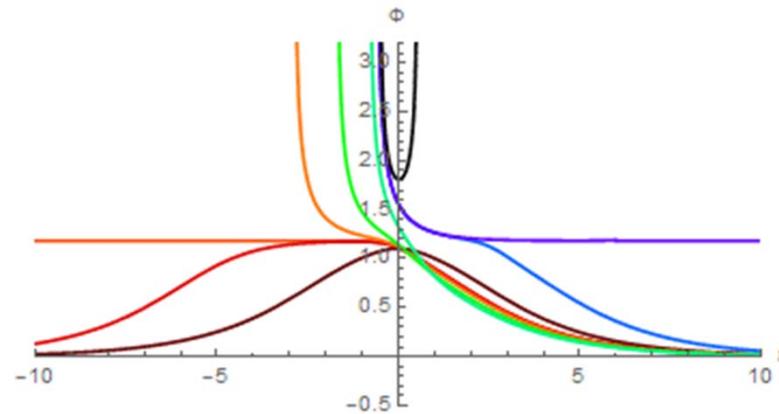
$$L2: \bar{m}^2 = -4 + 0.42(4 - \bar{\lambda})^{2/3}$$

$$L3: \bar{m}^2 = -2 - \bar{\lambda}/2$$

- $U_{eff}(\Phi)$ has a maximum: $\bar{\Phi}_* = \sqrt{-\frac{\bar{m}^2 + 4}{\bar{m}^2 + \bar{\lambda}}}$
- constraint equation gives additional condition: $0 < \bar{\lambda} < \bar{m}^4/4$ - line $L1$.
- no future singularities only above line $L2$.

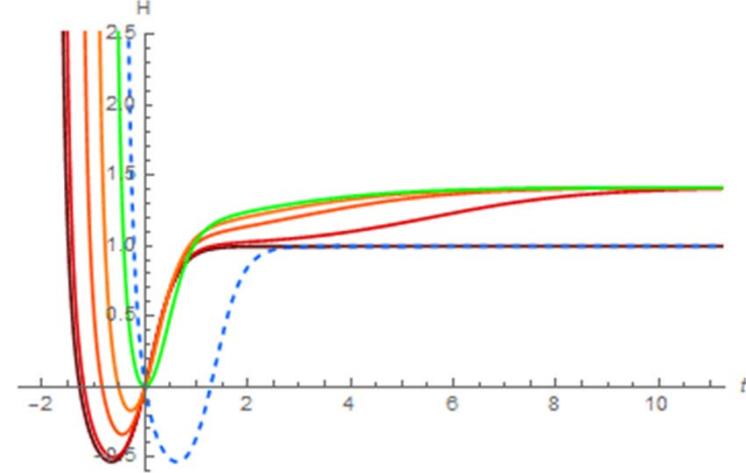
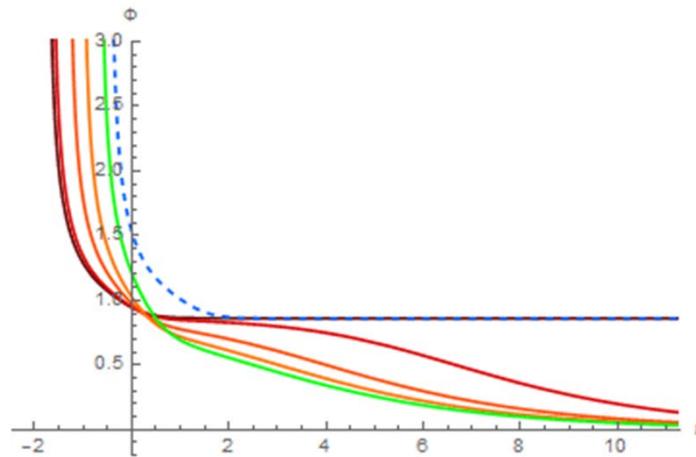


- Above line $L3$ (region A1): full bounces and partial bounces:



$$m^2 = -2.25, \lambda = 1; \Phi(0) = 1.104, 1.114, 1.11437, 1.120, 1.145, 1.330, 1.560, 1.56025, 1.810$$

- Below line $L3$ (region A2): only partial bounces:

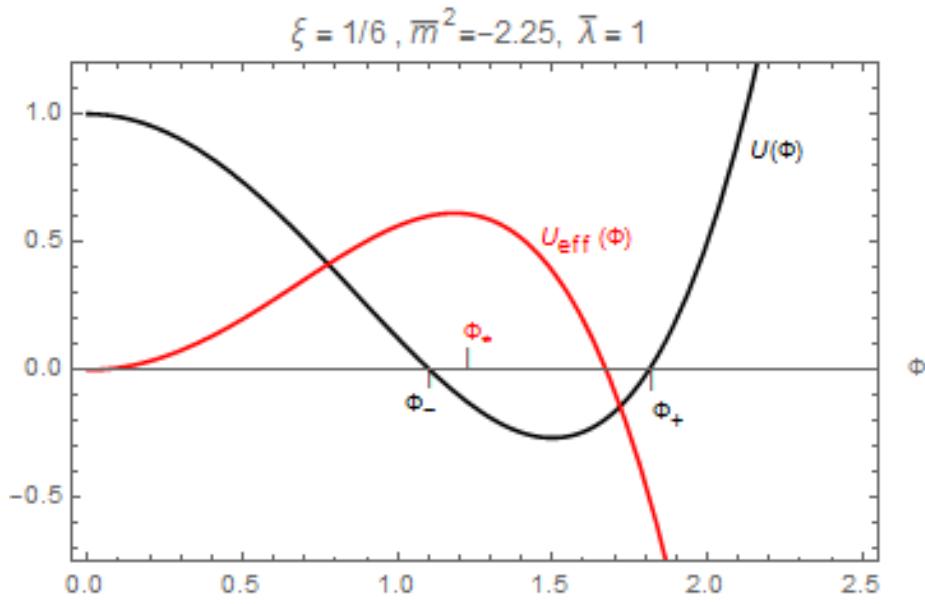


$$m^2 = -2.7225, \lambda = 1; \Phi(0) = 0.94672, 0.9500, 0.9750, 1.025, 1.210, 1.53142$$

More insight from the constraint equation

For conformal coupling + $k=0$: $(1-\bar{\Phi}^2)H^2 - 2H\bar{\Phi}\dot{\bar{\Phi}} - \dot{\bar{\Phi}}^2 - 2U(\bar{\Phi}) = 0$

Taken at the bounce point ($H=0$): $U(\Phi(0)) < 0 \Rightarrow \bar{\Phi}_- < \bar{\Phi}(0) < \bar{\Phi}_+$



$$\bar{\Phi}_{\pm}^2 = -\frac{\bar{m}^2}{\bar{\lambda}} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{\bar{m}^2}{\bar{\lambda}}\right)^2 - \frac{4}{\bar{\lambda}}}$$

Recall: $\bar{\Phi}_* = \sqrt{-\frac{\bar{m}^2 + 4}{\bar{m}^2 + \bar{\lambda}}}$

Two options exist:

$\bar{\Phi}_- < \bar{\Phi}_* < \bar{\Phi}_+ : \text{Region A1 (upper)}$

$\bar{\Phi}_* < \bar{\Phi}_- < \bar{\Phi}_+ : \text{Region A2 (lower)}$

line L3 separates between the two options/regions

The Full Bounce Solutions Obtained Here are Unstable

all of them cross the point $\bar{\Phi}=1$ beyond which the effective gravitational constant becomes negative.

Starobinsky (1981), Futamase&Maeda (1989), Futamase et al (1989), Caputa et al (2013):

Deviations from isotropy or homogeneity diverge as the effective gravitational constant changes sign.

$\xi > 0$ Bounce Solutions – Flat FLRW

$$f(\Phi) = 1 - \xi \kappa \Phi^2$$

Effect of $\xi \neq 1/6$ is quite weak on the field equations, especially for $\xi > 1/6$

$$\ddot{\bar{\Phi}} + \frac{3\dot{a}\dot{\bar{\Phi}}}{a} - \frac{(1 - 6\xi)\bar{\Phi}}{1 - (1 - 6\xi)\bar{\Phi}^2}\dot{\bar{\Phi}}^2 + \frac{(\bar{m}^2 + 4)\bar{\Phi} + (\bar{\lambda} + \bar{m}^2)\bar{\Phi}^3 + \bar{\nu}\bar{\Phi}^5 - \frac{1}{3}\bar{\nu}\bar{\Phi}^7}{1 - (1 - 6\xi)\bar{\Phi}^2} = 0$$
$$(1 - \bar{\Phi}^2)\frac{\dot{a}^2}{a^2} - 2\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\bar{\Phi}\dot{\bar{\Phi}} = \frac{1}{3\xi} \left(\frac{\dot{\bar{\Phi}}^2}{2} + 1 + \frac{\bar{m}^2}{2}\bar{\Phi}^2 + \frac{\bar{\lambda}}{4}\bar{\Phi}^4 + \frac{\bar{\nu}}{6}\bar{\Phi}^6 \right)$$

General pattern is similar: most of classifications of solutions carries over to $\xi > 1/6$ case: $\bar{\Phi}_$, $\bar{\Phi}_+$, $\bar{\Phi}_-$ stay the same.*

However, there are some new features:

Asymptotic Behavior / Critical points

$$\ddot{\bar{\Phi}} + \frac{3\dot{a}\dot{\bar{\Phi}}}{a} - \frac{(1-6\xi)\bar{\Phi}}{1-(1-6\xi)\bar{\Phi}^2}\dot{\bar{\Phi}}^2 + \frac{(\bar{m}^2+4)\bar{\Phi} + (\bar{\lambda}+\bar{m}^2)\bar{\Phi}^3 + \bar{\nu}\bar{\Phi}^5 - \frac{1}{3}\bar{\nu}\bar{\Phi}^7}{1-(1-6\xi)\bar{\Phi}^2} = 0$$

$$(1-\bar{\Phi}^2) \frac{\dot{a}^2}{a^2} - 2\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\bar{\Phi}\dot{\bar{\Phi}} = \frac{1}{3\xi} \left(\frac{\dot{\bar{\Phi}}^2}{2} + 1 + \frac{\bar{m}^2}{2}\bar{\Phi}^2 + \frac{\bar{\lambda}}{4}\bar{\Phi}^4 + \frac{\bar{\nu}}{6}\bar{\Phi}^6 \right)$$

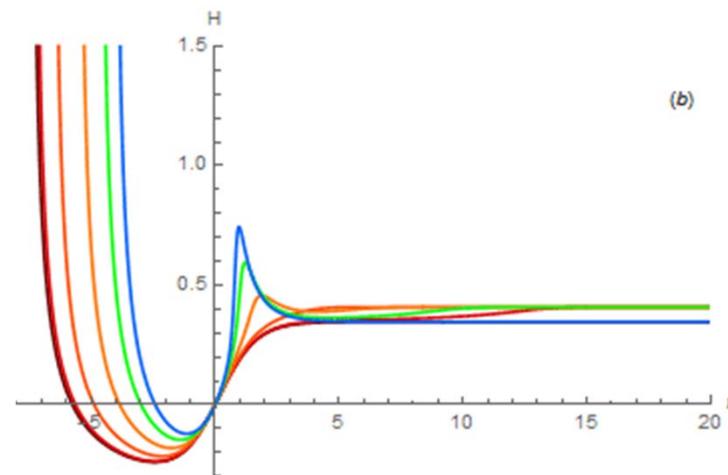
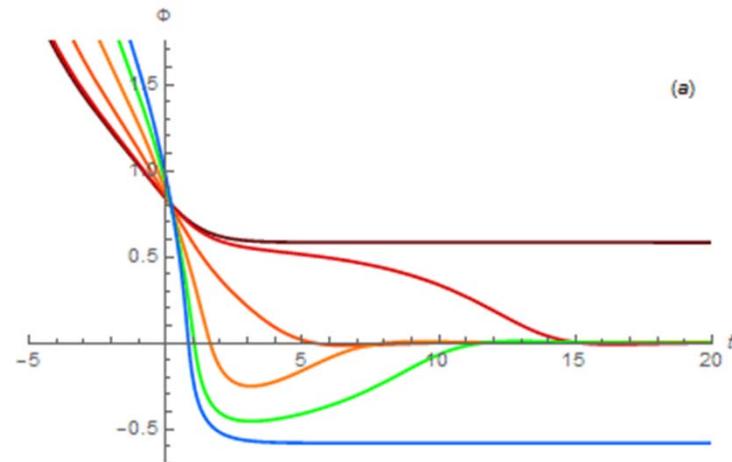
$$\bar{\Phi}(t) \rightarrow 0 , \quad \bar{H}^2(t) \rightarrow \bar{H}_0^2 = \frac{1}{3\xi}$$

$$\bar{\Phi}(t) \rightarrow \bar{\Phi}_* = \sqrt{-\frac{\bar{m}^2+4}{\bar{m}^2+\bar{\lambda}}} , \quad \bar{H}^2(t) \rightarrow \bar{H}_*^2 = \frac{4\bar{\lambda}-\bar{m}^4}{12\xi(\bar{\lambda}+\bar{m}^2)}$$

Note ξ - dependence of asymptotic H

Bounce Solutions – Flat FLRW $f(\Phi) = 1 - \xi \kappa \Phi^2$

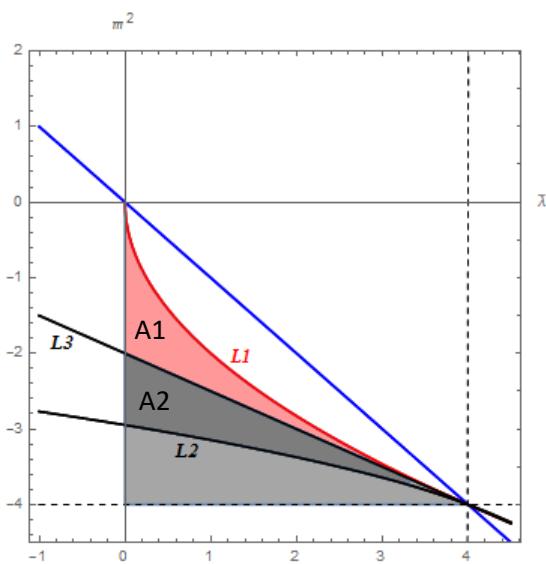
$$\xi = 2$$



$$m^2 = -3.24, \lambda = 1; \Phi(0) = 0.83888, 0.840, 0.850, 0.877, 0.921, 0.96956$$

All solutions have $\Phi(0) < 1$ - stable in the future.
However, no solution to the past instabilities,
or those of the full bounce.

Parameter Space: (λ, m^2) plane

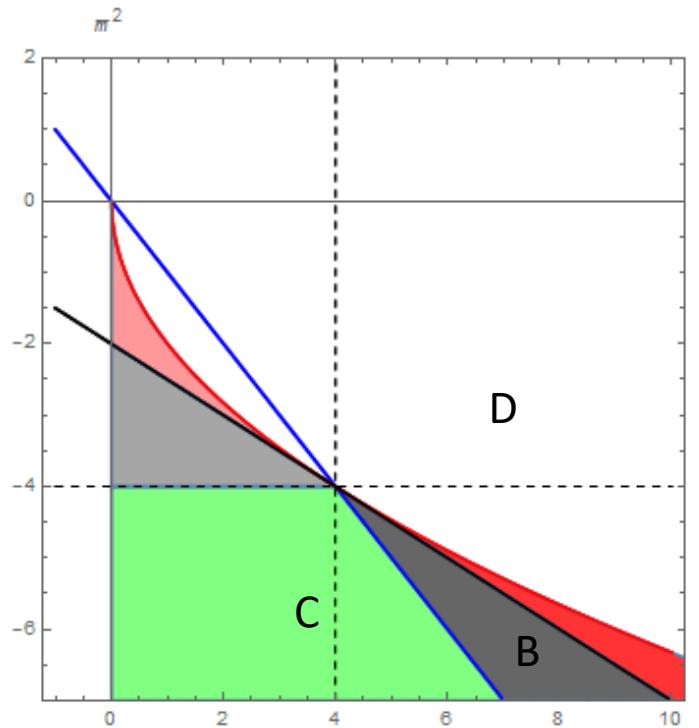


$$L1: \bar{\lambda} = \bar{m}^4/4$$

$$L2: \bar{m}^2 = -4 + 0.42(4 - \bar{\lambda})^{2/3}$$

$$L3: \bar{m}^2 = -2 - \bar{\lambda}/2$$

*Bounce solutions in regions B,C
exist above a minimal ξ ,
but fine tuning required.
No bounce solutions in region D.*



A: maximum to U_{eff}

B: minimum to U_{eff}

C: U_{eff} decreases monotonically

D: U_{eff} increases monotonically

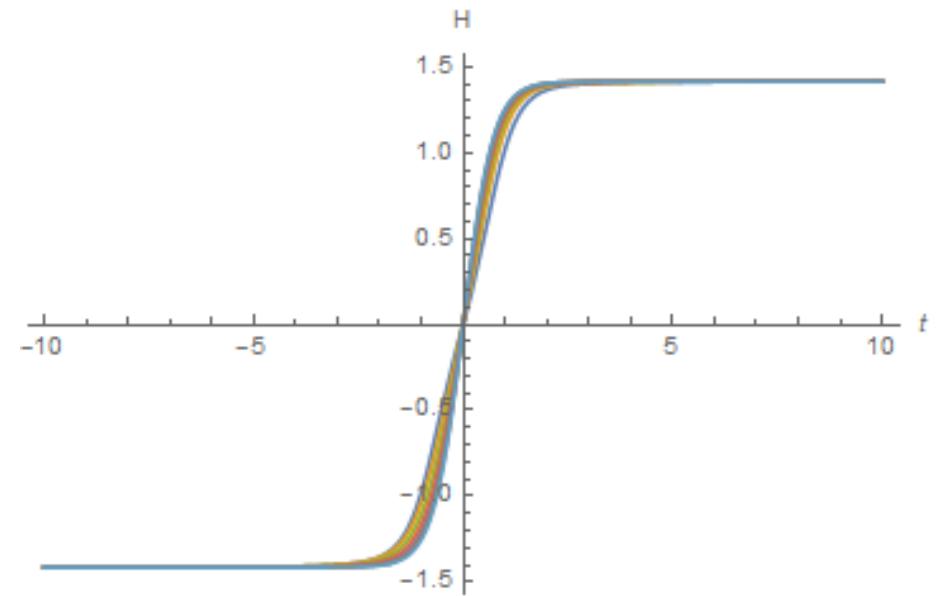
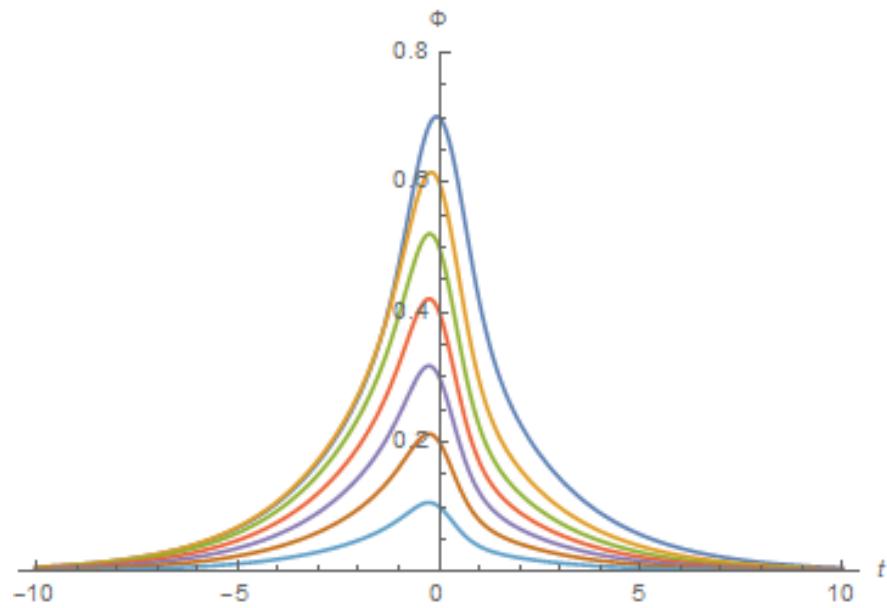
$$k>0 \text{ Bounce Solutions } f(\Phi) = 1 - \xi \kappa \Phi^2$$

- Effective potential stays the same – independent of k
- Full bounce solutions of the “old” kind exist

HOWEVER,

- Exists a new kind of full bounce solutions without suffering from the negative gravitational constant problem. Space curvature k should be large enough.

$k>0$ Bounce Solutions



$$\xi = 1/6, m^2 = -2.25, \lambda = 1, k = 2; \Phi(0) = 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7$$



Thank you for your attention