

# General bounds on KK masses

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based on [2104.12773](#) with G.B. De Luca,

[2109.11560](#), [2212.02511](#), [2306.05456](#), & WiP

with De Luca (physics, Stanford),

N. De Ponti (math, Bicocca), A. Mondino (math, Oxford)

São Paulo, Holography@25, June 2023

# Introduction

KK spectrum: one of the most important pieces of data associated to a compactification

In holography:

- Checks of operator/state correspondence
- Relevant for scale separation

[Kim, Romans, Van Nieuwenhuizen '85;  
Fabbri, Fré, Gualtieri, Termonia '99;  
Ceresole, Dall'Agata, D'Auria, Ferrara '99...]

Exactly known vacua:  $m_{\text{KK}} \sim \frac{1}{\text{diam}} \sim \frac{1}{r_{\text{AdS}}} \sim \sqrt{|\Lambda|}$  ‘no scale separation’

But in CFT: generically, no susy protection  $\Rightarrow$  many heavy operators?

[Polchinski, Silverstein '09]

# This talk: several mathematical bounds on the masses of **spin-two** fields...

- valid for many gravity compactifications (not just string/M-theory)
- often also in presence of singularities (D-branes, O-planes...)
- in terms of both ‘size’ and ‘shape’

We will not solve the problem of scale separation, but constrain it in several ways.

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We will not solve the problem of scale separation, but constrain it in several ways.

For example:

- $m_k^2 < 600k^2 \max\{m_1^2, |\Lambda| + \sigma^2\}$        $\sigma = \sqrt{D-2} \sup |dA|$
- $m_k^2 \leq (|\Lambda| + (D-1)\sigma^2) + \gamma \frac{k^2}{\text{diam}^2}$       ↙ max. distance among  
any two points
- $m_k^2 \geq \frac{C}{k^6} h_k^2$       ↙ Cheeger constants:  
quantify ‘small necks’

# Plan

- Mathematical background

Curvature, warping, and the weighted Raychaudhuri equation

- Overview of bounds

in terms of Planck mass; Cheeger constant; diameter

- Examples and applications

scale separation; gravity localization

# Mathematical background

- Spin-two masses: eigenvalues of weighted Laplacian

$$\Delta_{\textcolor{red}{f}} \psi \equiv -e^{-\textcolor{red}{f}} \nabla^m (e^{\textcolor{red}{f}} \nabla_m \psi)$$

[Csaki, Erlich, Hollowood,  
Shirman'oo; Bachas, Estes '11]

$$f = (D - 2)A$$
$$ds_D^2 = e^{2A} (ds_d^2 + ds_n^2)$$

↑  
warping

↑ total dimension

Mass operators for other fields:  
not universal, only known in some cases.

e.g. Freund–Rubin: [Duff, Nilsson, Pope '86]

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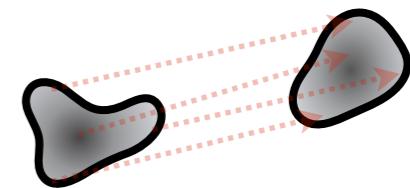
- Presence of warping invalidates old theorems  
on ‘usual’ Laplace–Beltrami

long history: [Lichnerowicz '58, Cheeger '70,  
Cheng '75, Li, Yau '80, Buser '82...]

- Natural in the setup of metric measure spaces:  
integration measure = not just  $\sqrt{g}$  but  $e^{\textcolor{red}{f}} \sqrt{g}$

- Many ideas from recent progress in field of ‘Optimal transport’: best way to transport mass distributions

[Monge 1781, Kantorovich 1940...]  
review: [Villani '08]



- Consider a distribution of particles moving geodesically  $\rho(x)$  such that  $\int_M \sqrt{g}\rho = 1$

Entropy:  $S = -\int_M \sqrt{g}\rho \log \rho$

using Raychaudhuri eq.:  $\partial_t^2 S = -\int_M \sqrt{g}\rho(\nabla_m U_n \nabla^m U^n + \textcolor{red}{R}_{mn} U^m U^n)$

velocity field  
↓

$$R_{mn} \geq 0 \Rightarrow \partial_t^2 S \leq 0$$

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- Weighted ‘Tsallis entropy’: homogeneous (rather than extensive)  $\left[ \sim \log \text{R\'enyi entropy} \right]$

[Havrda, Charvat ’67;  
Patil, Taillie ’82; Tsallis ’88]

$$S_{N,f} \equiv N \left( 1 - \int_M \sqrt{g} e^f \rho^{\frac{N-1}{N}} \right)$$

$$\partial_t^2 S_{N,f} \leq - \int_M \sqrt{g} e^f \rho^{\frac{N-1}{N}} \left( R_{mn} - \nabla_m \nabla_n f + \frac{1}{n-N} \nabla_m f \nabla_n f \right) U^m U^n$$

[McCann ’19; Mondino, Suhr ’19;  
De Luca, De Ponti, Mondino, AT ’22]

$$R_{mn}^{N,f}$$

“Bakry–Émery curvature”

[Bakry, Émery ’85]

$N$  ‘effective dimension’:

played  $\sim$  role of rank of  $\nabla_m U_n$

[De Luca, AT '20]

similar ideas in  
[Gautason, Schillo,  
Van Riet, Williams '15]

- Consider a **higher-dimensional gravity**  $m_D^{D-2} \int d^D x \sqrt{-g_D} R_D + \text{matter}$

and a compactification  $ds_D^2 = e^{2A} (ds_d^2 + ds_n^2)$

max.  
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symmetric

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$$\text{EoM: } R_{MN} = \frac{1}{2}m_D^{2-D} \left( T_{MN} - \frac{1}{D-2} g_{MN} T \right) \equiv \hat{T}_{MN}$$

internal:

$$R_{mn} + (D-2)(-\nabla_m \nabla_n A + \partial_m A \partial_n A) = ((D-2)|dA|^2 + \nabla^2 A)g_{mn} + \hat{T}_{mn}$$

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$$\Lambda - \frac{1}{d}\hat{T}_{(d)} \quad \text{external}$$


---

$$= \Lambda g_{mn} + (\hat{T}_{mn} - \frac{1}{d}g_{mn}\hat{T}_{(d)}) \geq \Lambda g_{mn}$$


---

**non-negative**

- for all bulk fields in type II and  $d = 11$  sugra

[“Reduced Energy Condition”]

- potentials
- for brane sources

[De Luca, AT '20]

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||

$$R_{mn}^{N,f}$$

BE curvature

$$f = (D-2)A$$

$$N = 2 - d < 0$$

but still OK

$\Lambda - \frac{1}{d}\hat{T}_{(d)}$  external

||

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["Reduced  
Energy  
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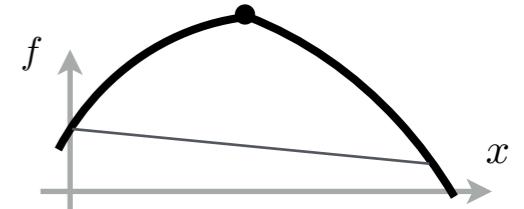
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- Inspiration: functions of one variable

$$f'' \leq 0$$

generalize to  
**non-smooth** functions:

concavity

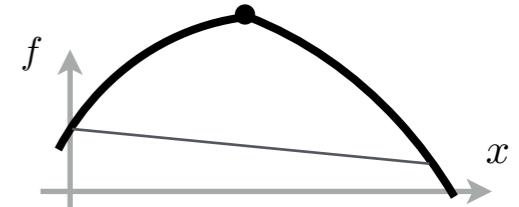


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$$R_{mn}^{N,f} \geq 0 \Rightarrow \partial_t^2 S_{N,f} \leq 0$$

generalize to  
**non-smooth spaces**:

concavity of  $S_{N,f}$

this leads to the ‘Riemann-Curvature-Dimension’ [RCD] condition

[Sturm ’06; Lott, Villani ’07;  
Ambrosio, Gigli, Savaré ’14]

{One can also **reformulate the Einstein equations in this language**}

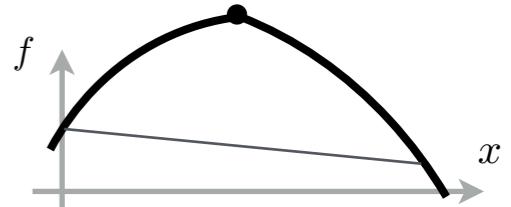
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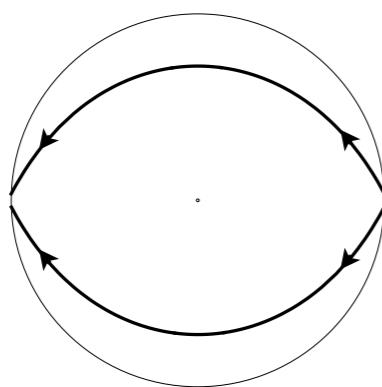
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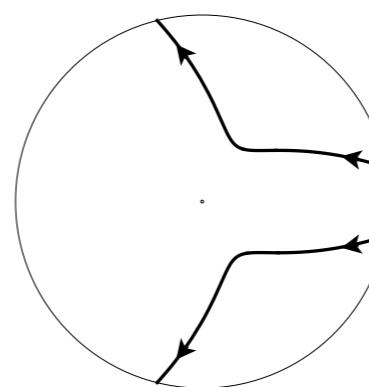
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[McCann ’19; Mondino, Suhr ’19;  
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- Theorem: spaces with D-branes are RCD.



intuitively, they **attract** particles.



... while this fails for **O-planes**, which repel

[De Luca, De Ponti,  
Mondino, AT ’22]

# Overview of bounds

[De Luca, AT '20;  
De Luca, De Ponti,  
Mondino, AT '21,'22]

Rather than showing all bounds in detail, a summary. Definitions:

- 4d Planck mass  $M_4^2 \sim M_D^{D-2} \int_M \sqrt{g} e^{(D-2)A}$  [if unwarped: int. volume]
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- **diameter**: max. distance between any two points in  $M$
- **Cheeger constant**  $h_1$ : small when space has small ‘neck’  
$$h_1 = \min_B \frac{\text{vol}_A(\partial B)}{\text{vol}_A(B)}$$
 ‘min. of perimeter,  
area



$$\text{vol}_A(B) \equiv \int_B \sqrt{g} e^{(D-2)A}$$

	4d Planck mass	Cheeger	diameter
upper bound	$m_k$ [smooth; warp.]	$m_1$ [D-branes; warp.] $\frac{m_k}{m_1^2}$ [O-planes]	$m_k$ [smooth; warp.]
lower bound		$m_k$ [O-planes]	$m_1$ [D-branes]

- $\{\text{smooth}\} \subset \{\text{D-branes}\} \subset \{\text{O-planes}\}$ 

spaces with            spaces with  
D-brane sing.        also O-plane sing.

- [warp.]: bound contains  $\sigma \equiv \sup_M \sqrt{D-2} |dA|$

# Scale separation

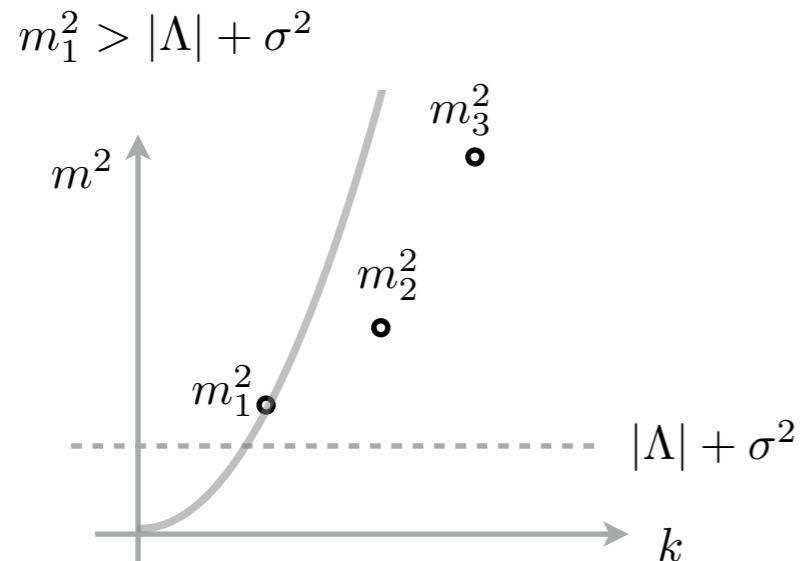
- combining several bounds:

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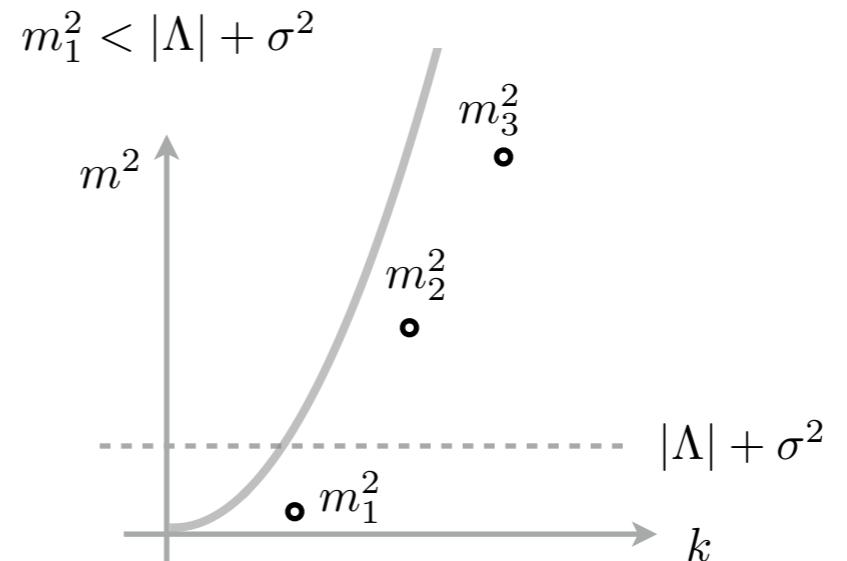
total dimension

$$D = d + n$$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{D - 2} \sup |dA|$$



higher masses constrained by  $m_1^2$



higher masses constrained by  $|\Lambda| + \sigma^2$

- a version of scale separation: second, third mass etc. can't be **arbitrarily heavy**
- first case in agreement with the **Spin-2 conjecture**;  
in second case, counterexamples

[Klaewer, Lüst, Palti '18]

[de Rham, Heisenberg, Tolley '18]

[Bachas '19]

- how about the first mass?

$$m_k^2 \leq \max \left\{ (D-2)\sigma^2, \frac{1}{n-1}(|\Lambda| + \sigma^2) \right\} + \beta(k m_D^{D-2} m_d^{2-d})^{2/n}$$

[ $M_n$  smooth]

[Planck masses]

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$$\{\alpha, \beta, \gamma \sim 10^4\}$$

[De Luca, AT '21]

using [Hassannezhad '12]

but this **doesn't** exclude scale separation:

e.g.  $\text{AdS}_4 \times S^7/\mathbb{Z}_p \rightarrow$  large second term

$$p \rightarrow \infty$$

[Gautason, Schillo, Van Riet, Williams '15]

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- this issue is eliminated working with the **diameter**:

[De Luca, AT '21] using [Setti '98]

$$m_k^2 \leq (|\Lambda| + (D-1)\sigma^2) + \gamma \frac{k^2}{\text{diam}^2}$$

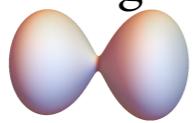
for sphere quotients:

[Greenwald '00,

Gorodski, Lange, Lytchak, Mendes '19,  
Collins, Jafferis, Vafa, Xu, Yau '22]

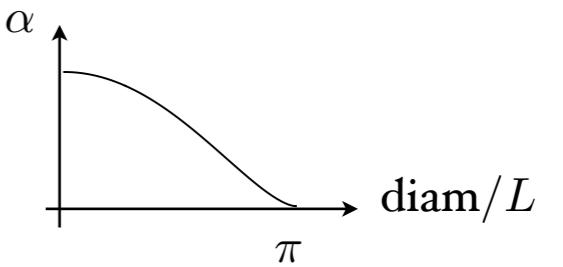
but now problem is ‘nonlocal’: how large is diam?

- lower bounds can be useful for establishing scale separation in a given solution.

Cheeger   $\frac{h_1^2}{4} \leq m_1^2$   
 [even with O-planes]

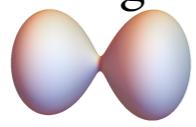
$$\alpha \left( \frac{\text{diam}}{L_{\text{AdS}}} \right) \frac{1}{\text{diam}^2} \leq m_1^2$$

[even with D-branes]



[De Luca, De Ponti, Mondino, AT '21, '22];  
 diam. bound inspired by [Calderon '19]

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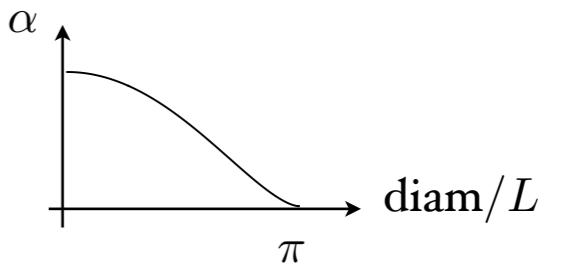
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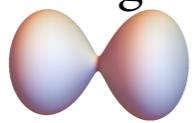
- $\text{AdS}_4 \times \text{CY}$ : estimate of Cheeger on 10d solution confirms

$$[\int F_4 \sim N]$$

$$m_1 \geq \frac{h_1}{2} \sim N^{-1/4} \gg \sqrt{|\Lambda|} \sim N^{-3/4}$$

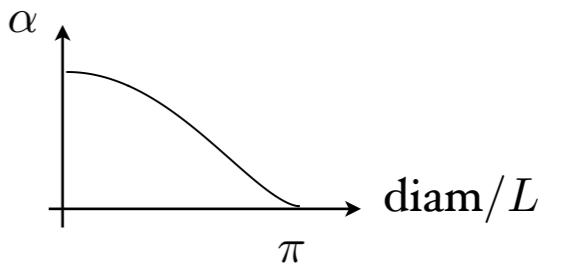
[DeWolfe, Giryavets, Kachru, Taylor '05]  
 [Acharya, Benini, Valandro '06;  
 Junghans '20; Marchesano, Palti, Quirant, AT '20]

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- A potentially simpler example: M-theory lift smooth  $\text{AdS}_4 \times (\text{weak } G_2)_7$  ?

$$F_4 \sim N \text{vol}_{\text{AdS}_4}$$

$$m_1 \geq \frac{c}{\text{diam}} \sim N^{-11/48} \gg \sqrt{|\Lambda|} \sim N^{-7/24}$$

[Cribiori, Junghans, Van Hemelryck,  
 Van Riet, Wrase '19]

- Another way to obtain scale separation: Casimir energy

[De Luca, De Ponti, Mondino, AT '22]

$$\langle T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{Cas}} \rangle = \frac{\ell_P}{R_7^{11}} g_{\mu\nu} \quad \langle T_{mn}^{\text{Cas}} \rangle = -\frac{4}{7} \frac{\ell_P}{R_7^{11}} g_{mn}$$

'Freund–Rubin'  $\text{AdS}_4 \times T^7$ :

$$F_4 \sim N \text{vol}_{\text{AdS}_4}$$

inspired by  
 [De Luca, Silverstein, Torroba '21]  
 [Arkani-Hamed, Dubovsky,  
 Nicolis, Villadoro '07]

$$m_1 \geqslant \frac{c}{\text{diam}} \sim N^{-2/3} \gg \sqrt{|\Lambda|} \sim N^{-11/3}$$

$m_1 \sim |\Lambda|^{1/11}$  much slower than conjectural bound  $|\Lambda|^{1/4}$

[Rudelius '21, Castellano, Herráez, Ibáñez '21]

# Gravity localization

- Similar bounds also apply when  $\int_M \sqrt{g} e^{(D-2)A} = \infty$   
    → no massless graviton:  $m_0 \neq 0$

(could be evaded if  $\exists L^2$  harmonic function: but this never happens)

[De Luca, De Ponti,  
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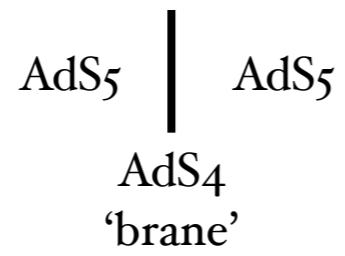
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[De Luca, De Ponti, Mondino, AT '23]

- maybe one can still obtain 4d gravitational potential in some regime?

5d model:

[Karch, Randall '00]



$$V \sim GM_1M_2 \left( \frac{1}{R} + \frac{L_5^2}{L_4 R^2} + \dots \right)$$

$\Rightarrow$  4d behavior for  $R \gg L_5^2/L_4$

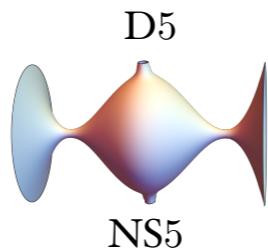
relies on:

- $m_1 \ll \sqrt{|\Lambda|} \ll m_2$
- wave-functions for  $m_{k>1}$  small near brane

- string theory realizations?

- hol. duals of defects  
in  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  super-YM

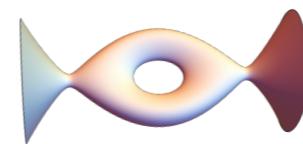
$S^2 \times S^2$  fibred on



[Bachas, Lavdas '17, '18] based on  
[D'Hoker, Estes, Gutperle '07]  
[Assel, Bachas, Estes, Gomis '11]

- MN-type solutions over  
 $\infty$ -volume Riemann surfaces

top. spheres  
fibred on

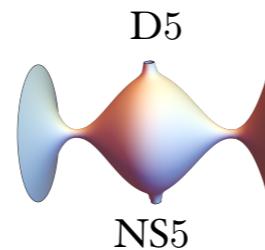


[Maldacena, Nuñez '00...]

- string theory realizations?

- hol. duals of defects in  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  super-YM

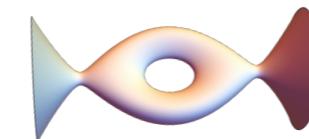
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- MN-type solutions over  $\infty$ -volume Riemann surfaces

top. spheres  
fibred on



[Maldacena, Nuñez '00...]

- a version of the scale separation problem:

⇒ ‘localization’ only up to cosmological scale?

$$m_0 \ll \sqrt{|\Lambda|} \ll m_1$$

easy

problematic, because:

$$m_k^2 < 150k^2 \max\left\{m_0^2, |\Lambda| + \sigma^2\right\}$$

- wave-function suppression might help, but hard to assess with our methods.

# Conclusions

- No math evidence against scale separation; not even without sources
- Nontrivial relations among different masses; ‘bootstrap’ flavor
- We should improve by removing warping.  
requires advance in theory of optimal transport with ‘negative’ dimensions
- Bounds in terms of diameter, Cheeger constant:  
useful to estimate masses without computations
- Optimal transport approach to curvature in terms of entropy:  
might be of deeper significance