

# FORMATION OF SINGULARITIES FOR YANG-MILLS EQUATIONS

- MOTIVATION (YANG-MILLS EQS.  
AS A TOY-MODEL FOR EINSTEIN EQS.)

- SETUP: YM EQUATIONS IN  
 $d+1$  DIMENSIONS ; CAUCHY PROBLEM

- FORMATION OF SINGULARITIES  
IN  $d=5$  (joint work with Z. TABOR)

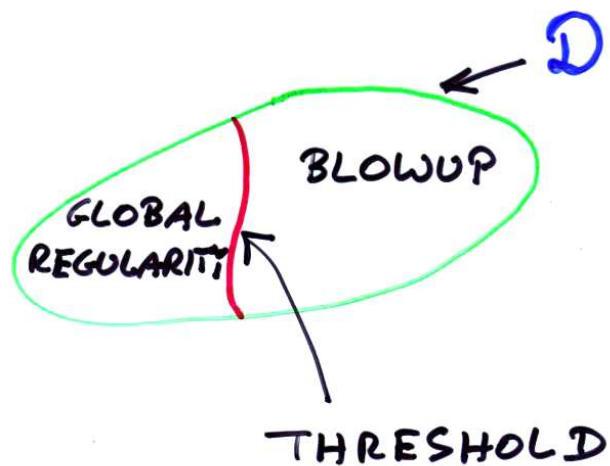
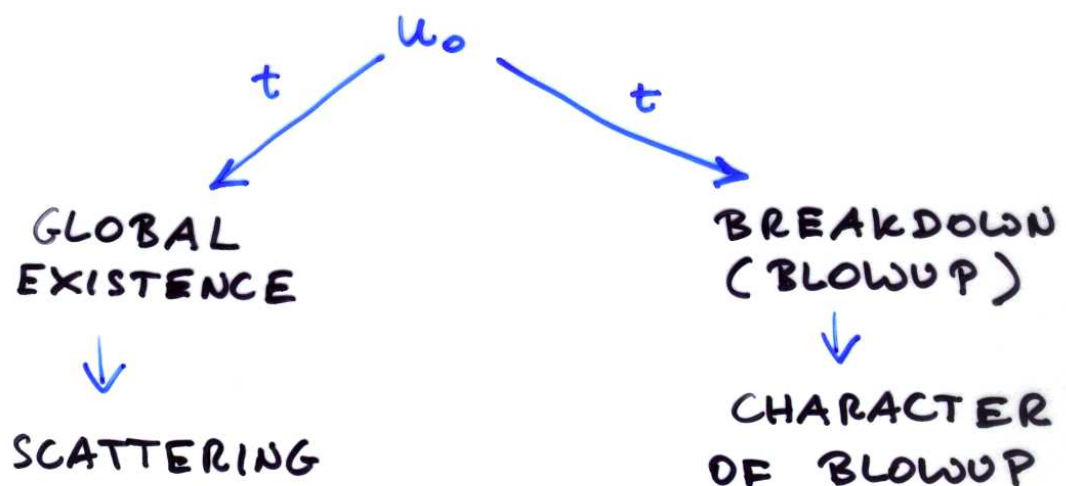
- ANALYTIC UNDERSTANDING OF  
NUMERICS , CONJECTURES

FORMATION OF SINGULARITIES  
IN  $d=4$  , RATE OF BLOWUP  
(joint work with Z. TABOR, M. SIGAL,  
YU. OVCHINNIKOV)

$$u_t = A(u)$$

$$u(0) = u_0 \in \mathcal{D}$$

$$u_0 \xrightarrow{t} ?$$



## REGULARITY AND SCALING

$$u(x, t) \rightarrow u_\lambda(x, t) = \lambda^{-a} u\left(\frac{x}{\lambda}, \frac{t}{\lambda^b}\right)$$

$$E(u_\lambda) = \lambda^\beta E(u)$$

$$\beta < 0$$

SUBCRITICAL  
(expect global regularity)

$$\beta > 0$$

SUPERCRITICAL  
(expect singularities)

$$\beta = 0$$

CRITICAL

$$\beta_{YM} = d - 4$$

$$\beta_{\text{Einstein}} = d - 2$$

YANG-MILLS IN  $d = 5$  IS THE  
RIGHT TOY-MODEL FOR THE  
EINSTEIN EQUATIONS IN THE  
PHYSICAL DIMENSION

## YANG-MILLS IN $d+1$ DIMENSIONS

$A_\alpha: \mathbb{R}^{d+1} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  Lie algebra of a Lie group  $G$

$$F_{\alpha\beta} = \partial_\alpha A_\beta - \partial_\beta A_\alpha + [A_\alpha, A_\beta]$$

$$S = \frac{1}{e^2} \int \text{Tr}(F_{\alpha\beta} F^{\alpha\beta}) d^d x dt$$

$$\partial_\alpha F^{\alpha\beta} + [A_\alpha, F^{\alpha\beta}] = 0$$

$$A_\alpha \rightarrow U^{-1} A_\alpha U + U^{-1} \partial_\alpha U \quad U \in G$$

$e$  - coupling constant

$$[e^2] = M^{-1} L^{d-4} \quad (c=1)$$

$$[e^2]_{d=5} = M^{-1} L = [G]_{d=3}$$

## Yang-Mills equations

$$\partial_\alpha F^{\alpha\beta} + [A_\alpha, F^{\alpha\beta}] = 0$$

are scale invariant:

If  $x \rightarrow x/\lambda$ , then  $A_\alpha(x) \rightarrow \tilde{A}_\alpha(x) = \lambda^{-1} A_\alpha(x/\lambda)$

The energy

$$E(A) = \int_{R^d} \text{Tr} (F_{0i}^2 + F_{ij}^2)$$

scales as

$$E(\tilde{A}) = \lambda^{d-4} E(A)$$

Classification:

$d \leq 3$  subcritical (expect global regularity)

$d = 4$  critical (?)

$d \geq 5$  supercritical (expect singularities)



## Known facts:

$d = 3$  : Global existence for smooth initial data (Eardley and Moncrief, 1982); strengthened to finite-energy initial data (Klainerman and Machedon, 1995).

$d = 4$  : Local well-posedness for small initial data in  $H^s$ ,  $s > 1$  (Klainerman and Tataru, 1999)

$d \geq 5$  : Existence of self-similar solutions in  $d = 5, 7, 9$  (Cazenave, Shatah, Tahvildar-Zadeh, 1998).

Assume  $G = SO(d)$  so  $\mathfrak{g} = so(d)$

$A_\alpha$  —  $d \times d$  skew-symmetric matrices

Spherically-symmetric ansatz

$(i, j = 1, \dots, d, \alpha = 0, 1, \dots, d)$

$$A_\alpha^{ij}(x) = (\delta_\alpha^i x^j - \delta_\alpha^j x^i) \frac{1 - w(t, r)}{r^2}$$

Then the Cauchy problem reduces to

$$w_{tt} = \Delta_{(d-2)} w + \frac{d-2}{r^2} w(1 - w^2),$$

$$w(0, r) = f(r), \quad w_t(0, r) = g(r).$$

Boundary condition at the center

$$w(t, 0) = 1 + O(r^2) \quad \text{as } r \rightarrow 0.$$

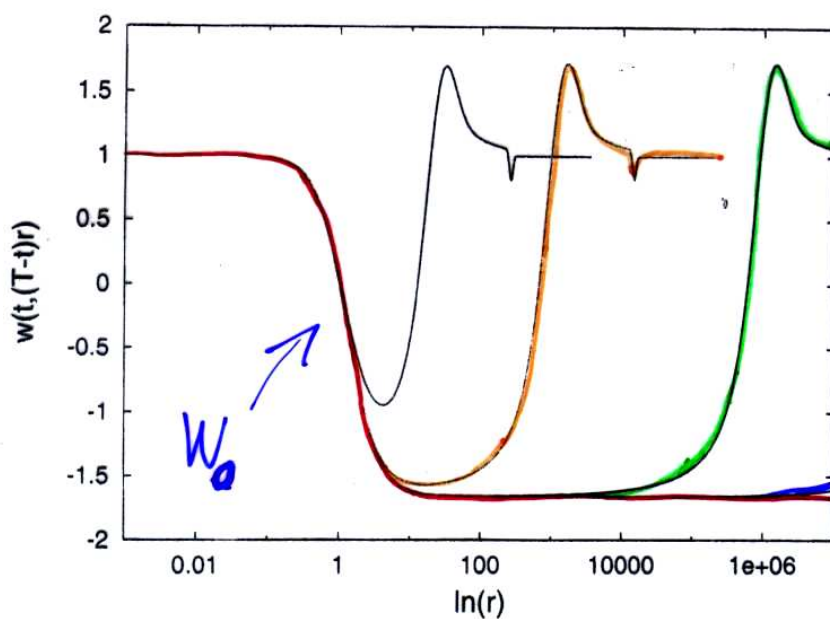
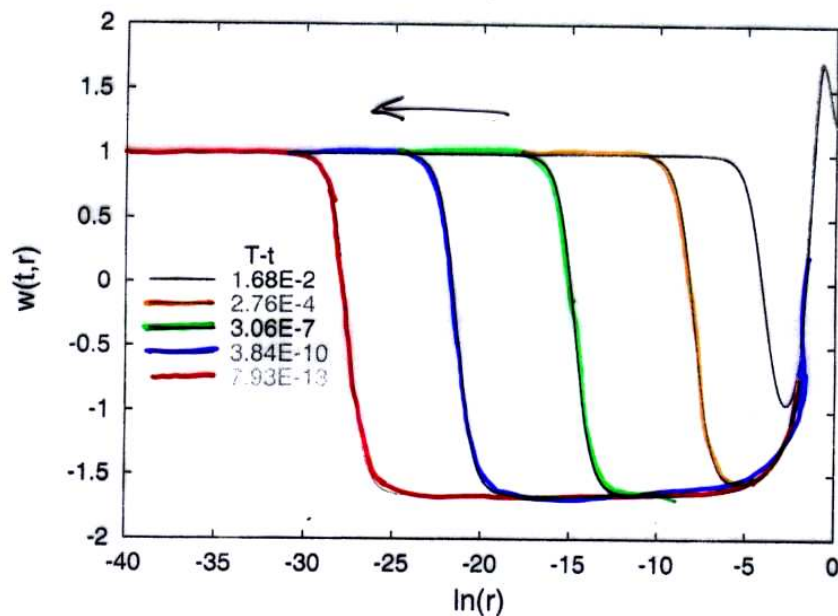
Typical initial data (time-symmetric or ingoing)

$$w(0, r) = 1 - A r^2 \exp[-\sigma(r - R)^2]$$

with adjustable amplitude  $A$ .

BLOWUP IN  $d=5$

$$|w_{rr}(t,0)| \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } t \rightarrow T$$



$$\frac{\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)}{\frac{5}{2}}$$

$$\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) \frac{5}{2} x$$

## Self-similar solutions in $d = 5$ .

Assuming

$$w(t, r) = W(\eta), \quad \eta = \frac{r}{T-t},$$

we get an ODE singular BVP

$$W'' + \frac{2}{\eta} W' + \frac{3}{\eta^2(1-\eta^2)} W(1-W^2) = 0.$$

$$W(0) = \pm 1 \quad \text{and} \quad W(1) = 0.$$

**Theorem 1.** *There exists a countable family of smooth self-similar solutions  $W_n$  satisfying the above BVP. The index  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  denotes the number of zeros of  $W_n(\eta)$  on the interval  $0 < \eta < 1$ . Moreover, the solution  $W_n$  has exactly  $n$  unstable modes.*

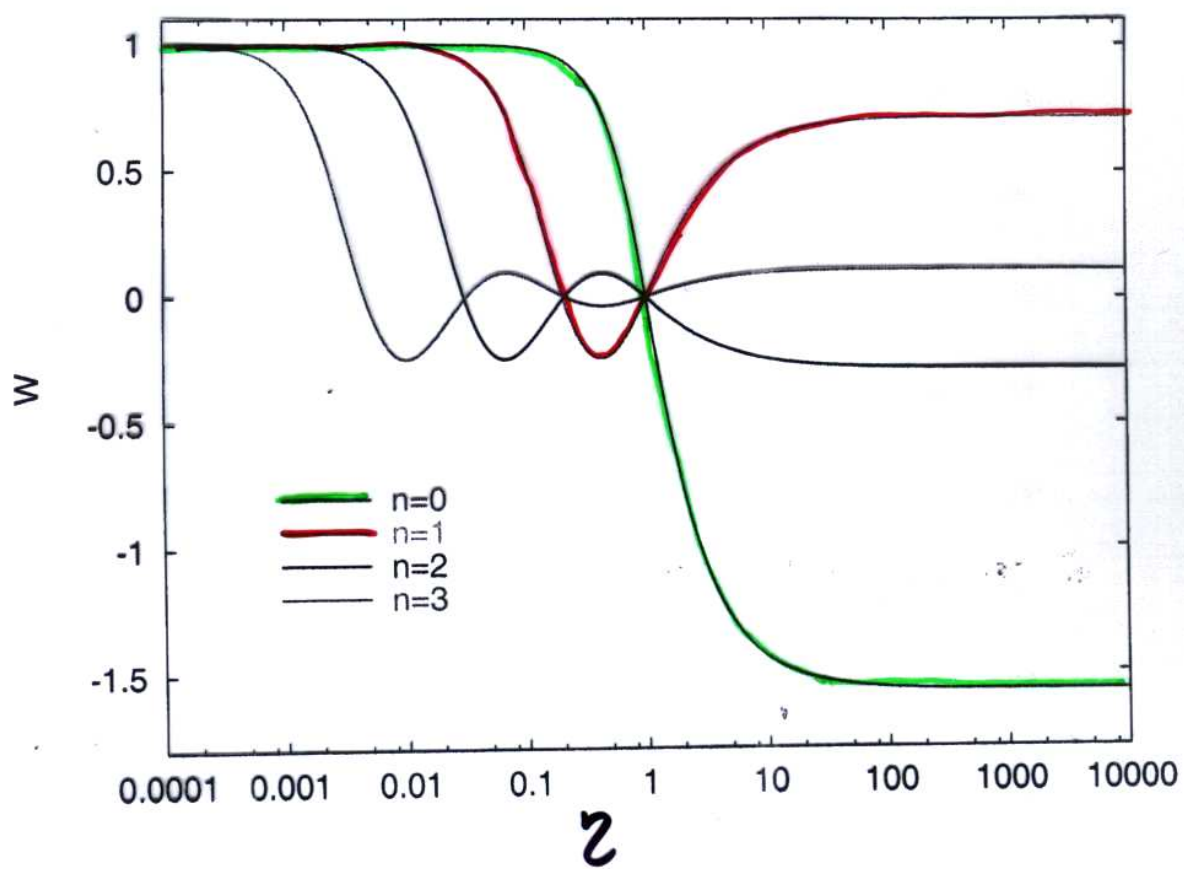
Proof of existence by a shooting technique.

Proof of instability using the zero mode.

$$w_{rr}(0, t) = \frac{1}{(T-t)^2} W''(0) \quad \textcircled{9}$$

~~0~~

Self-similar solutions in  $d = 5$ .



$$W_0(\eta) = \frac{1 - \eta^2}{1 + \frac{3}{5}\eta^2}$$

## CONJECTURE (ON BLOWUP IN $d=5$ )

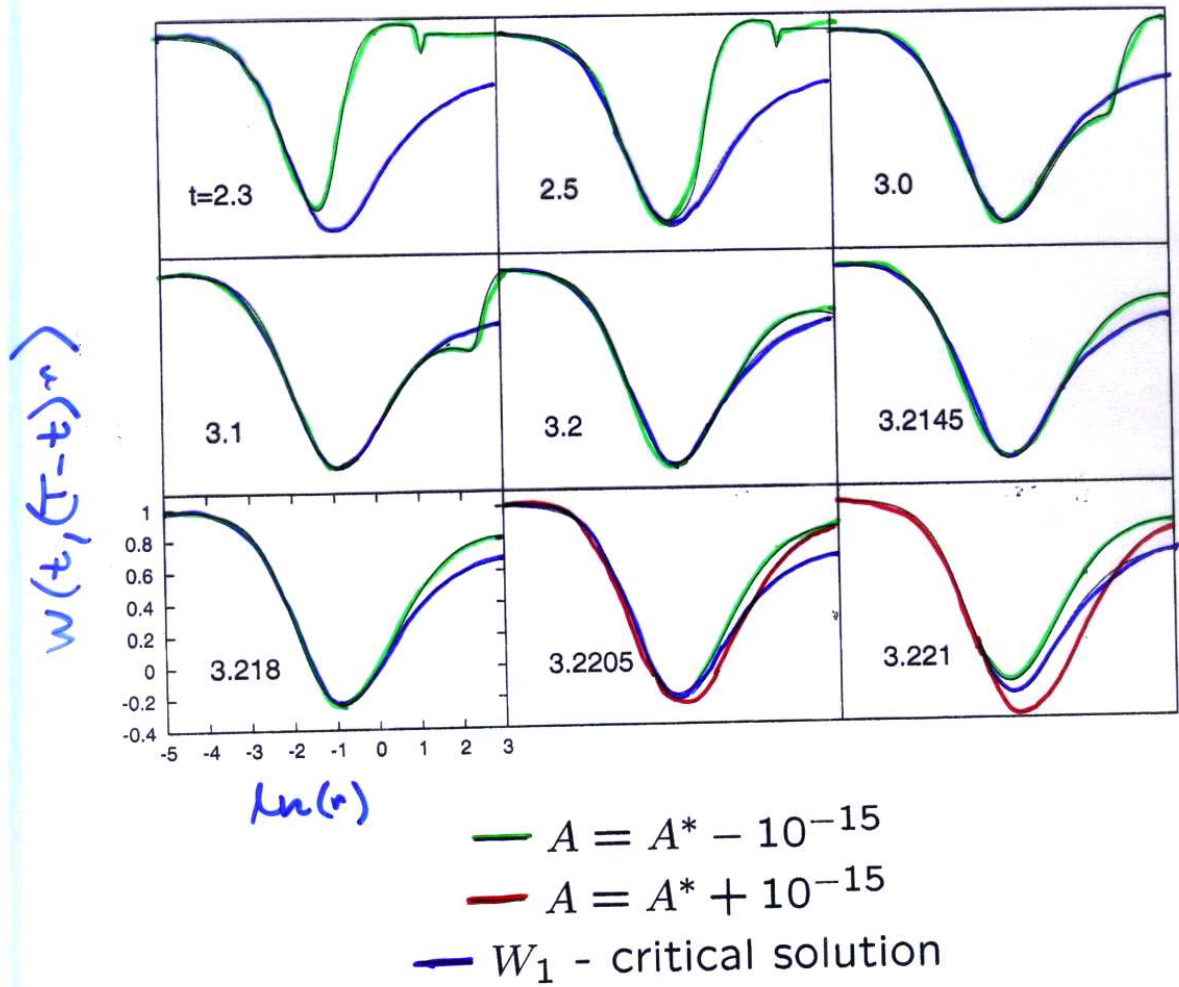
SOLUTIONS WITH SUFFICIENTLY LARGE INITIAL DATA DO BLOW UP IN FINITE TIME IN THE SENSE THAT  $w_{rr}(t,0)$  DIVERGES AS  $t \nearrow T$  FOR SOME  $T > 0$ . THE ASYMPTOTIC PROFILE OF BLOWUP IS GIVEN BY THE STABLE SELF-SIMILAR SOLUTION :

$$\lim_{t \nearrow T} w(t, (T-t)r) = W_0(r)$$

PROOF : ?

DISPERSAL  $A^*$  BLOWUP  $A$

Critical behaviour



## INTERMEDIATE ASYMPTOTICS :

$$W(t, r) \approx W_1(z) + c(A)(T-t)^{-\alpha} v_1(z) + \text{DECAYING MODES}$$

$v_1$  — UNSTABLE EIGENMODE WITH POSITIVE EIGENVALUE  $\alpha$

$$c(A^*) = 0$$

$$c(A)(T-t^*)^{-\alpha} \sim O(1) \Rightarrow (T-t^*) \sim |A-A^*|^{1/\alpha}$$

↳ time of departure from  $W_1$

SCALING LAW FOR marginally SUBCRITICAL DATA :

$$\max \{ \text{energy density}(t, 0) \} \sim (A^* - A)^{-4/\alpha}$$

# CRITICAL PHENOMENA IN GRAVITATIONAL COLLAPSE



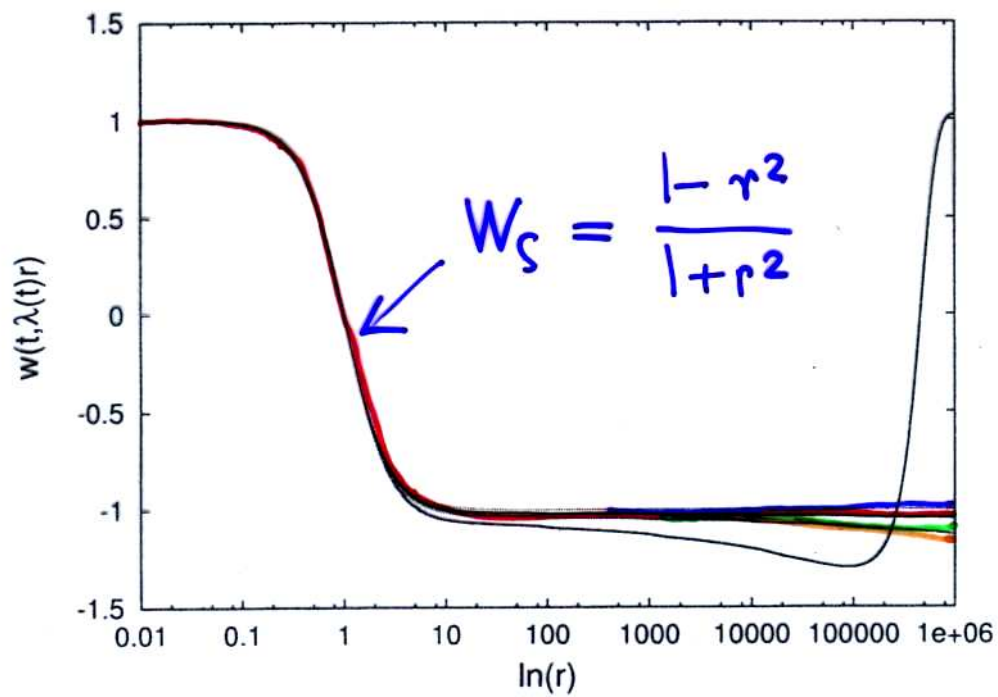
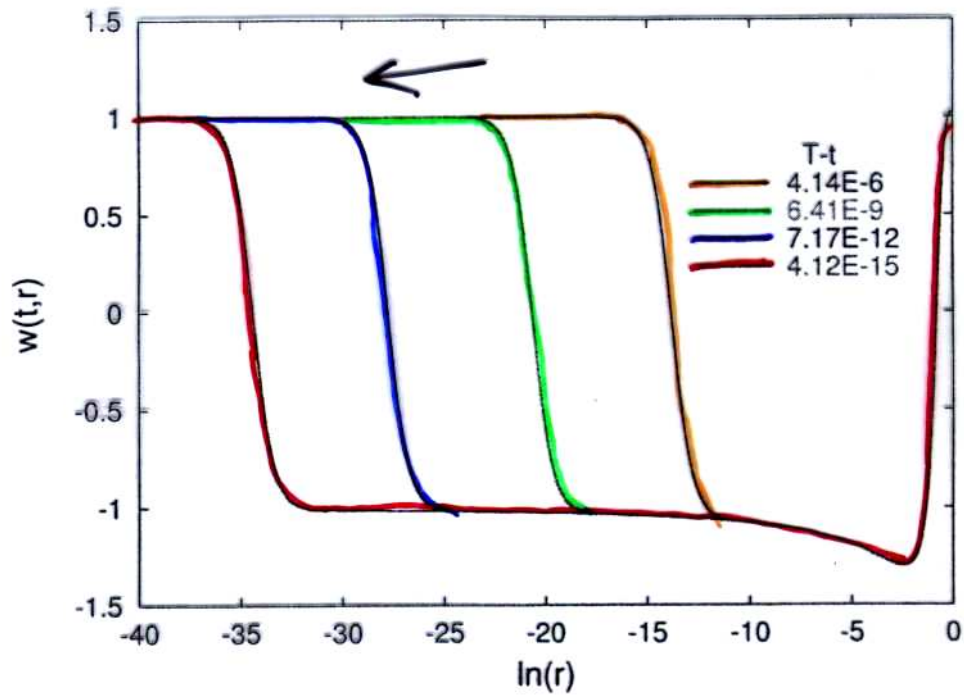
- UNIVERSALITY
- SELF-SIMILARITY (CRITICAL SOLUTION)
- SCALING

$$M_{BH} \sim (P - p^*)^\delta$$

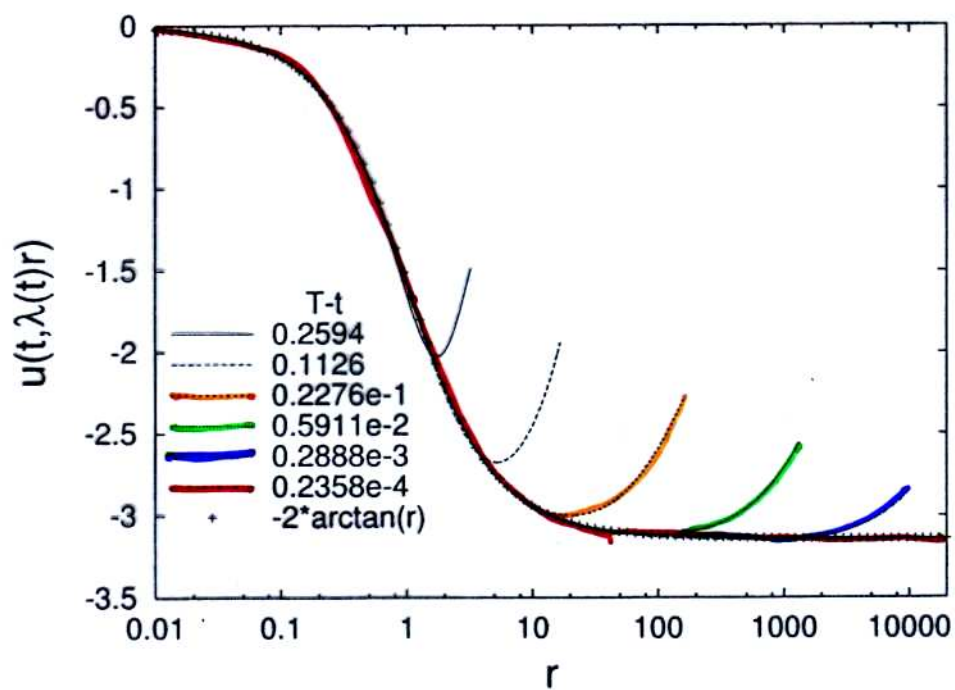
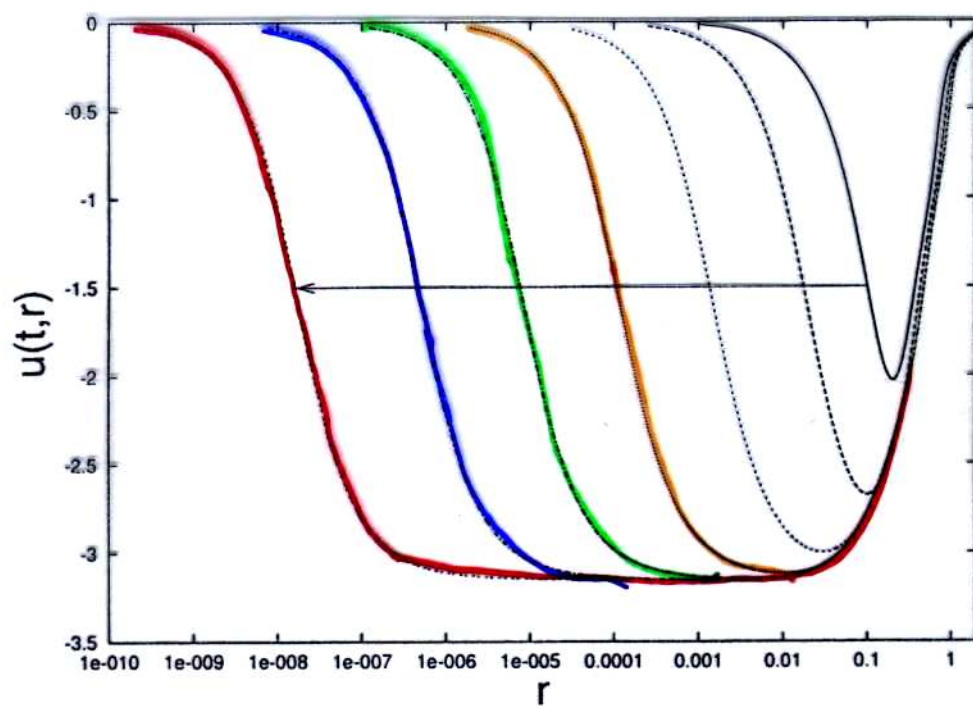
LESSON: CRITICAL PHENOMENA AT THE THRESHOLD FOR SINGULARITY FORMATION, ORIGINALLY FOUND FOR EINSTEIN'S EQUATIONS, SEEM TO BE ROBUST FEATURES OF SUPERCRITICAL PDES.

ADVANTAGE: BETTER ANALYTIC INSIGHT — PROOF OF EXISTENCE OF A CRITICAL SOLUTION AND ITS SINGLE-MODE INSTABILITY.

# Blowup in $d = 4$



## Blowup for 2 + 1 wave maps



## CONJECTURE (ON BLOWUP IN $d=4$ )

LARGE ENERGY SOLUTIONS DO  
BLOW UP IN FINITE TIME.

THE ASYMPTOTIC PROFILE OF BLOWUP  
IS GIVEN BY THE STATIC SOLUTION

$$\lim_{t \nearrow T} w(t, \lambda(t)r) = W_S(r) = \frac{1-r^2}{1+r^2}$$

WHERE  $\lambda(t) \searrow 0$  AS  $t \nearrow T$ .

- WHAT IS THE RATE OF BLOWUP?

$$\lambda(t) = ?$$

- WHAT IS THE THRESHOLD OF BLOWUP?

# GENERAL STRATEGY FOR SHOWING ASYMPTOTIC STABILITY OF SOLITONS:

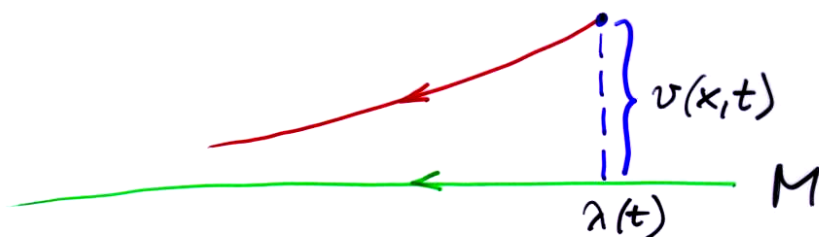
$$u_t = A(u), \quad A(u_s) = 0$$

↑  
STATIC SOLUTION

$$M = \{u_s(x, \vec{\lambda}) \mid \vec{\lambda} \in \Lambda\}$$

↑  
MANIFOLD  
OF STATIC SOLUTIONS  
(MODULI SPACE)

↑  
PARAMETERS  
OF A GROUP  
OF SYMMETRY  
(COLLECTIVE  
COORDINATES)



$$u(x,t) = u_s(x, \vec{\lambda}(t)) + v(x,t)$$

↘ "DISTANCE"  
FROM M

$$v_t + \frac{\partial u_s}{\partial \vec{\lambda}} \frac{d\vec{\lambda}}{dt} = Lv + F(v, \vec{\lambda})$$

↘ ZERO MODES

$$L = A'(u_s)$$

INTRODUCE  $P$  = PROJECTION OPERATOR  
ON  $M$ , SO  $Pv = 0$

THEN

$$v_t = Lv + P^\perp F(v, \vec{\lambda})$$

$$\frac{d\vec{\lambda}}{dt} = S(v, \vec{\lambda})$$

$$W(t, \eta) = W_S(\eta) + v(t, \eta) \quad \eta = r/\lambda(t).$$

$$\lambda^2 \ddot{v} - 2\eta \dot{\lambda} \lambda \dot{v}' + Lv + N(v) = \lambda \ddot{\lambda} \eta W_S' - \dot{\lambda}^2 (\eta^2 W_S'' + 2\eta W_S')$$

where

$$L = -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \eta^2} - \frac{1}{\eta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} - \frac{2(1 - 3W_S^2)}{\eta^2},$$

$$N(v) = \frac{6W_S}{\eta^2} v^2 + \frac{2}{\eta^2} v^3.$$

Orthogonal projection gives

$$Lv = -\dot{\lambda}^2 (\eta^2 W_S'' + 2\eta W_S'),$$

so

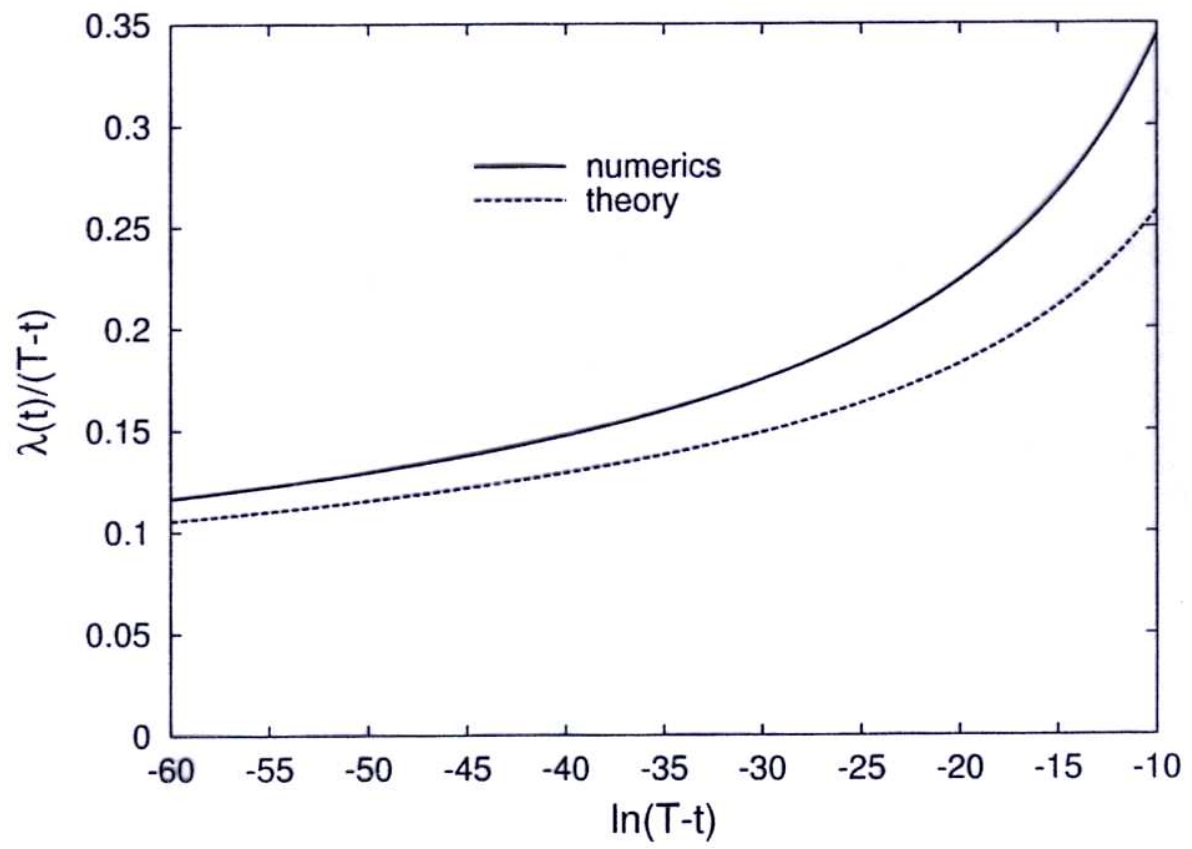
$$v \sim \dot{\lambda}^2.$$

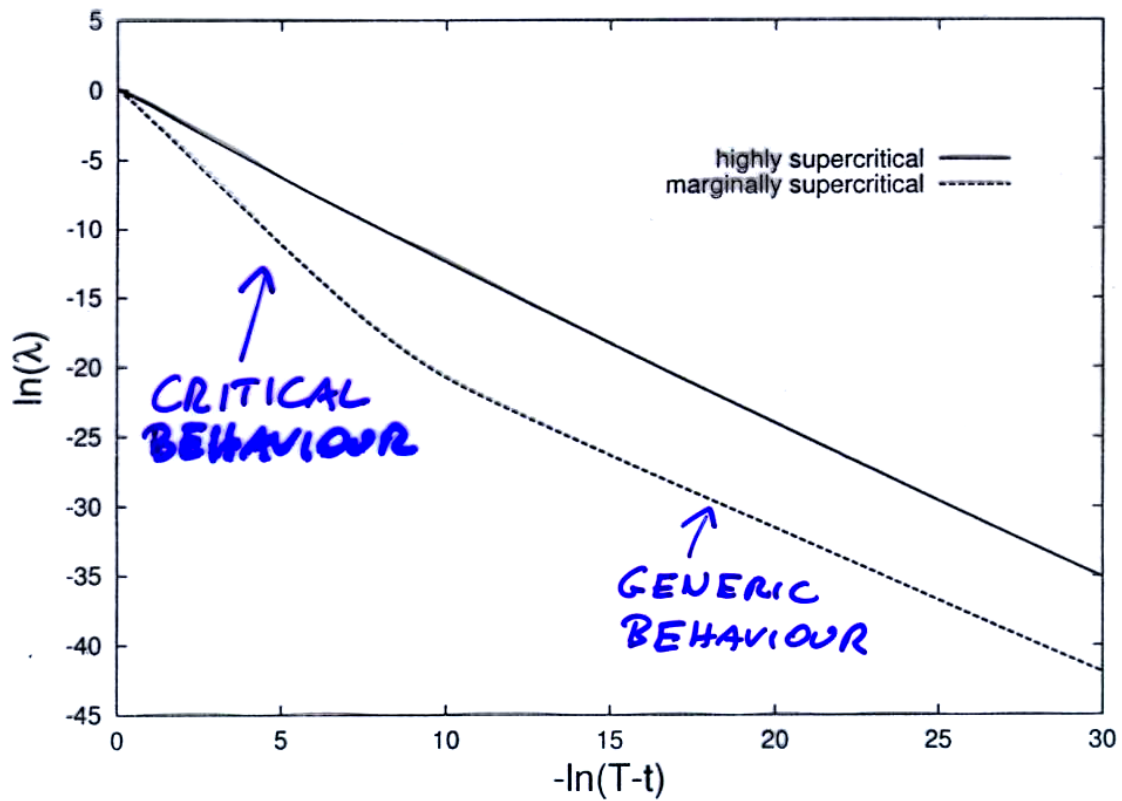
Projecting onto the zero mode we get

$$\lambda \ddot{\lambda} = \frac{3}{4} \dot{\lambda}^4.$$

The leading order solution for  $t \rightarrow T$

$$\lambda(t) \sim \sqrt[3]{\frac{2}{3} \frac{T-t}{-\ln(T-t)}}$$





THERE IS NO CRITICAL  
SOLUTION IS THE CRITICAL  
DIMENSION!