

# Entropy constraints on effective field theory

KEK-PH2022 Dec 01, 2022

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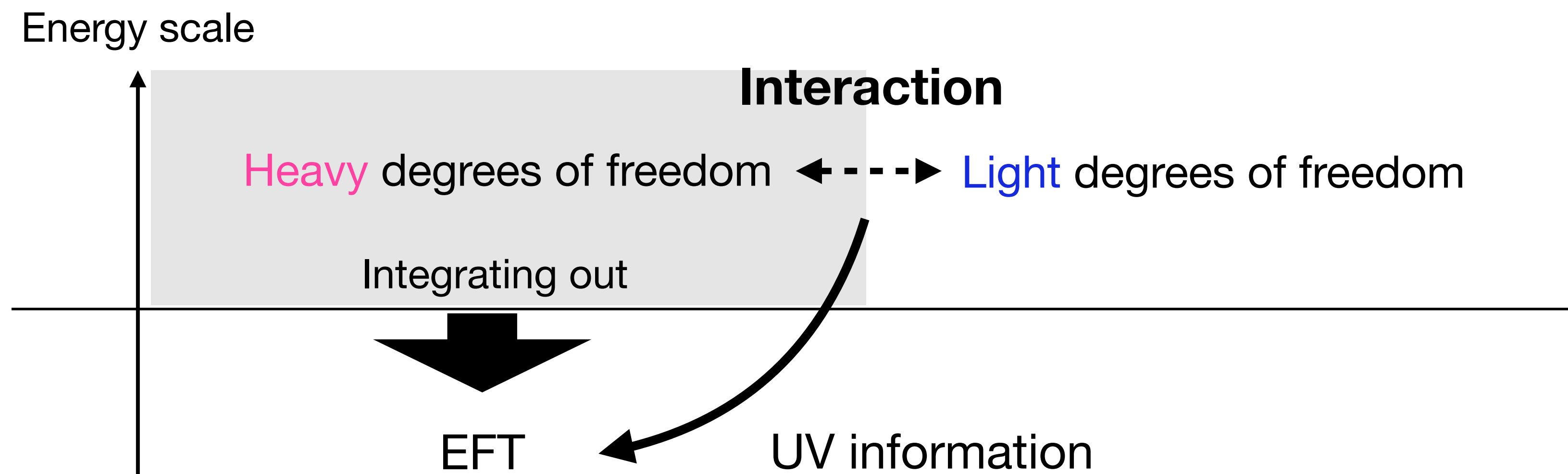
Based on [arXiv:2201.00931](https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.00931) with **Qing-Hong Cao** (Peking University)

[arXiv:2211.08065](https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.08065) with **Qing-Hong Cao** (Peking University), and **Naoto Kan** (Osaka University)

# Introduction

# Introduction

- Effective Field Theory (EFT):
  - EFT is generated by integrating out dynamical degrees of freedom
  - Information on UV theory is transferred through **interaction b/w heavy and light degrees of freedom**



Differences between theories with and without interaction characterize UV information

$\Rightarrow$  **Relative entropy** characterizes their difference

# Relative entropy

$$\ast \text{Tr}[\tilde{\rho}] = \text{Tr}[\rho] = 1, \quad \tilde{\rho} = \tilde{\rho}^\dagger, \quad \rho = \rho^\dagger$$

- Definition of **relative entropy** b/w two probability distribution functions  $\tilde{\rho}$  and  $\rho$

$$S(\tilde{\rho} || \rho) \equiv \text{Tr} [\tilde{\rho} \ln \tilde{\rho} - \tilde{\rho} \ln \rho]$$

- relative entropy is **non-negative**

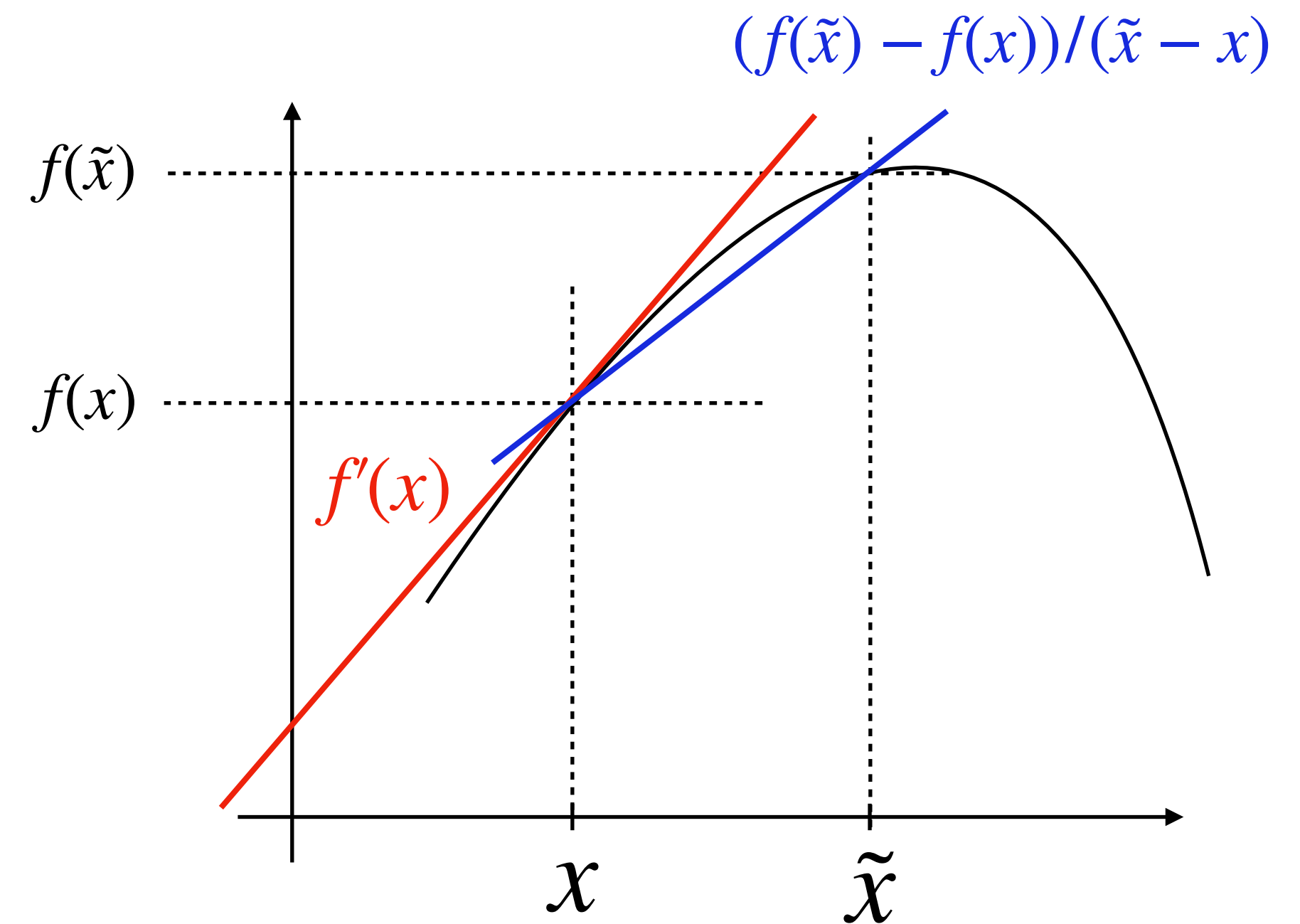
A proof:

$$f(x): \text{ a convex function} \Rightarrow \text{Tr}[f(\tilde{\rho}) - f(\rho) - (\tilde{\rho} - \rho)f'(\rho)] \leq 0$$

$$\Downarrow f(x) \rightarrow x \ln x \text{ (convex function)}$$

$$S(\tilde{\rho} || \rho) \geq 0$$

$\ast$  equality holds if and only if  $\tilde{\rho} = \rho$



Definition of convex function:  $\frac{f(\tilde{x}) - f(x)}{\tilde{x} - x} \leq f'(x)$

Relative entropy characterizes difference between two probability distributions

# Our idea

- Relative entropy characterizes **difference between two probability distributions**

$$S(\rho_A || \rho_B) \equiv \text{Tr} [\rho_A \ln \rho_A - \rho_A \ln \rho_B] \geq 0$$

✱ equality holds if and only if  $\rho_A = \rho_B$

- Relative entropy provides **quantitative difference between two things** defined by probability distribution functions

Ex.



$\mapsto \rho_A$



$\mapsto \rho_B$

$$S(\text{tree} || \text{palm}) > 0$$

$$S(\text{tree} || \text{tree}) = 0$$

**What about relative entropy b/w theories with and without interaction?**

$\Rightarrow$  We have to define probability distribution for each theory.

# Probability distributions of theories

- We define probability distributions of theory described by Euclidean action  $I$  as follows:

Probability distribution function:  $P[\phi, \Phi] = e^{-I[\phi, \Phi]} / Z$

Partition function:  $Z = \int d[\phi] d[\Phi] e^{-I[\phi, \Phi]}$

where  $I$ : Euclidean action,  $\phi$ : light fields,  $\Phi$ : heavy fields

- Relative entropy between **two theories**

$$S(P_A || P_B) \equiv \int d[\phi] d[\Phi] (P_A \ln P_A - P_A \ln P_B) \geq 0$$

where  $P_A = e^{-I_A} / Z_A$ ,  $P_B = e^{-I_B} / Z_B$

# Definition of two theories

No interaction b/w  $\phi$  and  $\Phi$

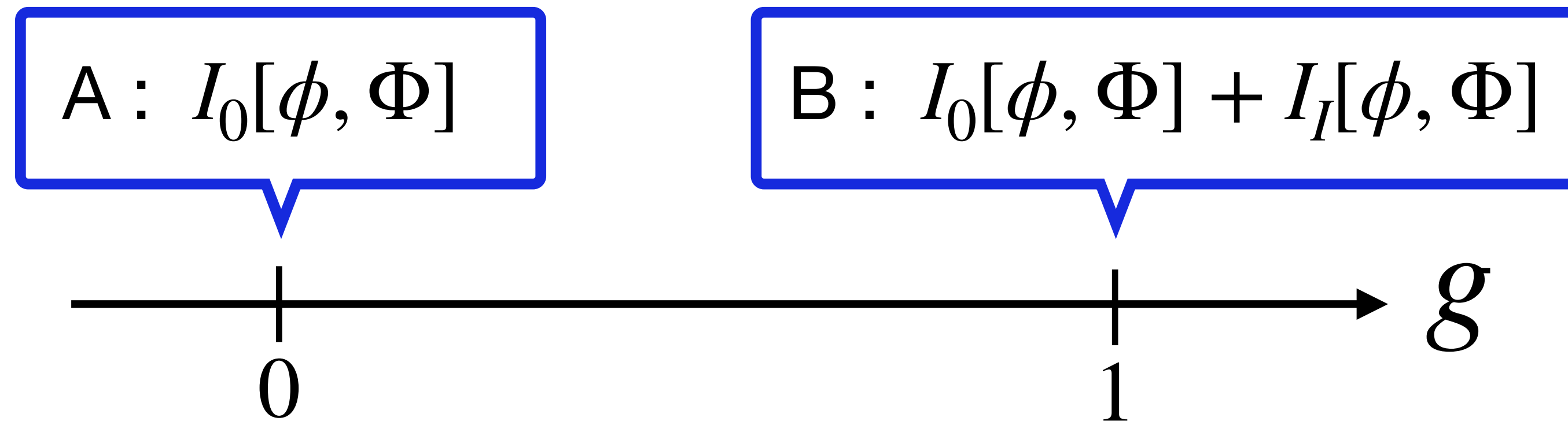
Interaction b/w  $\phi$  and  $\Phi$

- We consider theories described by

$$I_0[\phi, \Phi] + I_I[\phi, \Phi]$$

※  $\Phi$ : heavy fields,  $\phi$ : light fields

- We define  $I_0[\phi, \Phi] + g \cdot I_I[\phi, \Phi]$  by introducing parameter  $g$



We consider relative entropy  $S(P_A || P_B)$

※  $(\Phi, \phi)$  of A is the same as that of B

# Relative entropy between two theories

$$S(P_A || P_B) = \int d[\phi]d[\Phi] [P_A \ln P_A - P_A \ln P_B] \left\{ P_A = e^{-I_0[\phi, \Phi]}/Z_0 \quad P_B = e^{-(I_0[\phi, \Phi] + gI_I[\phi, \Phi])}/Z_g \right.$$

$$= W_0 - W_g + g \left( \frac{\partial W_g}{\partial g} \right)_{g=0} \geq 0$$

$$\left\{ \text{Effective actions: } W_g = -\ln Z_g, \quad W_0 = -\ln Z_0 \right.$$

$S(P_A || P_B)$  yields constraints on the Euclidean effective actions

even in quantum mechanical system

$$S(P_A || P_B) \rightarrow \text{tr} [P_A \ln P_A - P_A \ln P_B] \left\{ P_A \rightarrow e^{-H_0}/Z_0 \quad P_B \rightarrow e^{-(H_0 + gH_I)}/Z_g \right.$$

$$= W_0 - W_g + g \left( \frac{\partial W_g}{\partial g} \right)_{g=0} \geq 0$$

$$\left\{ W_g = -\ln Z_g, \quad W_0 = -\ln Z_0 \right.$$



**Bottom-up approach**

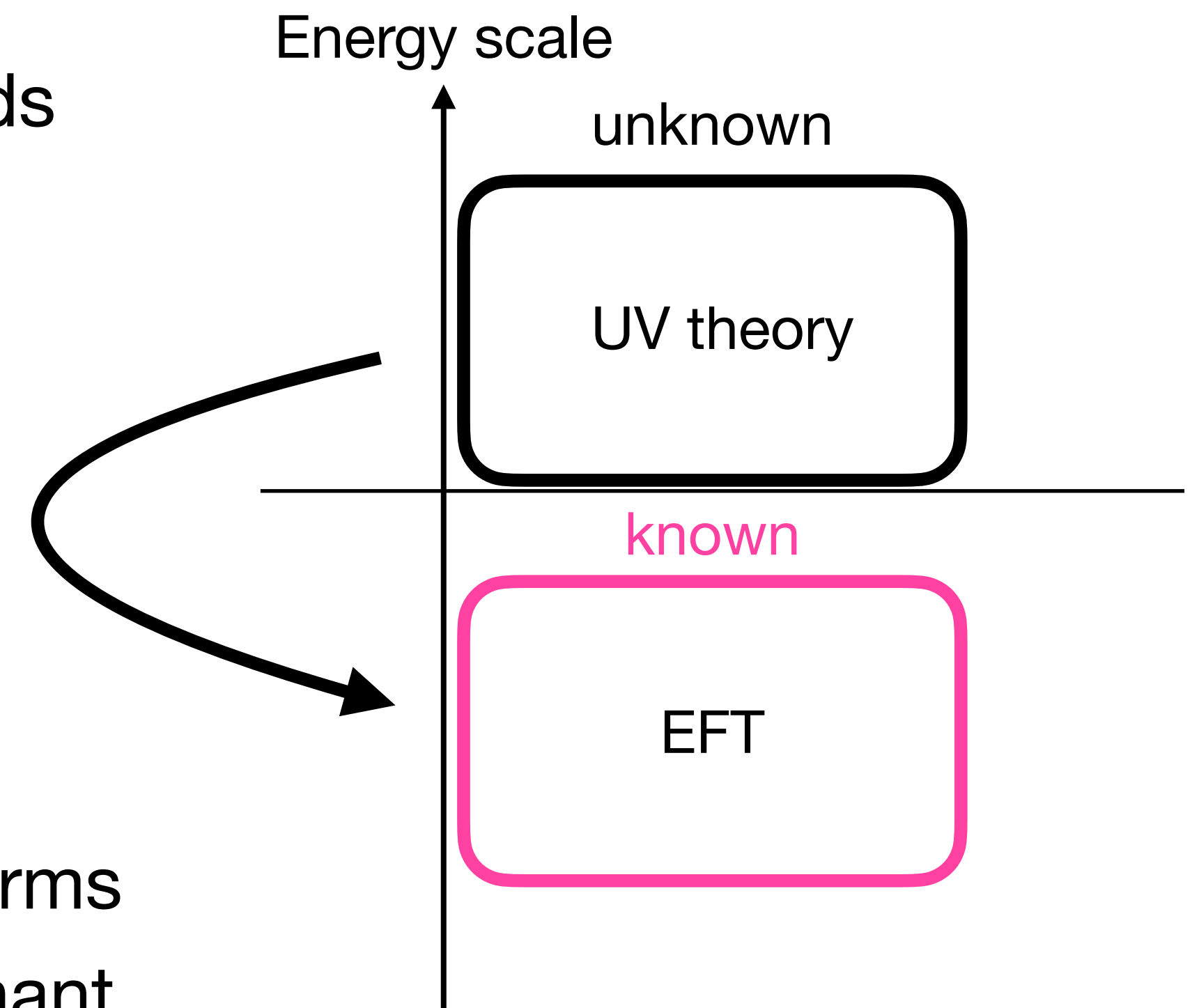
# Bottom-up approach

- **Assumptions:**

- EFT is generated through interaction b/w **heavy** and **light** fields

$$I_I[\phi, \Phi] = \int (d^4x)_E \mathcal{O}[\Phi] \otimes J[\phi] = \text{heavy} \text{ : } \bullet \text{ : light}$$

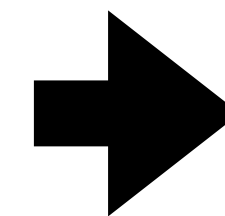
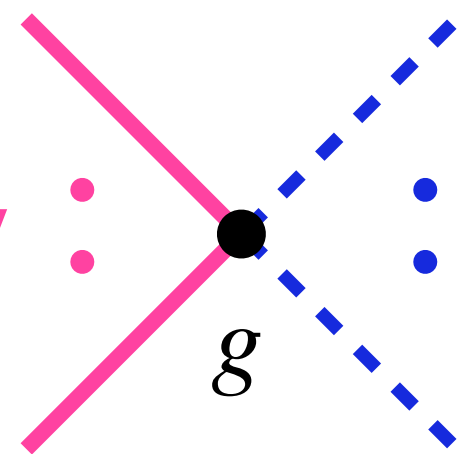
where we assume  $J[\phi]$  does not involve higher-derivative terms  
\* it would be subdominant



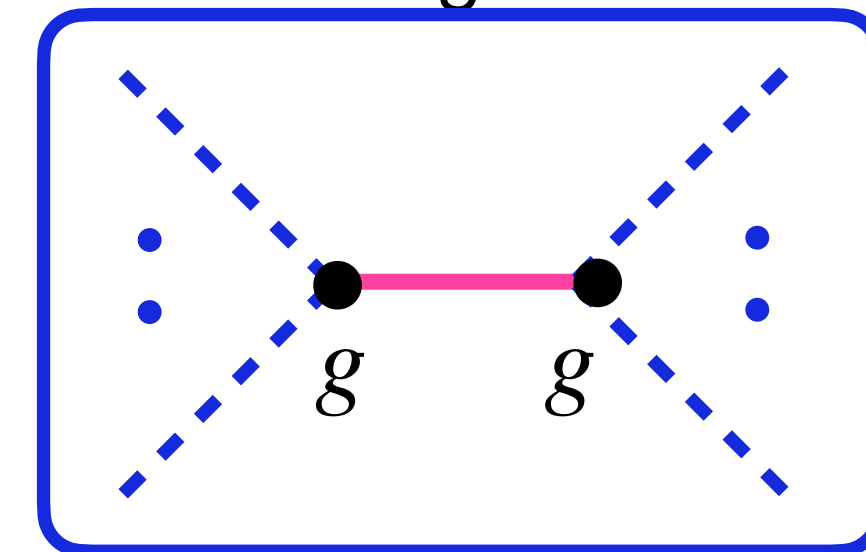
What is the consequence of the non-negativity of relative entropy in the bottom-up approach?

# Tree-level UV theory

$$I_I[\phi, \Phi] = \int (d^4x)_E \mathcal{O}[\Phi] \otimes J[\phi] = \text{heavy} \vdots \quad \text{light} \vdots$$



Second or higher order of  $g$



※ Linear terms of heavy field can be removed by field redefinition

- Ex. Single mass less field theory with shift symmetry

Effective action:

$$W_g[\tilde{\phi}] = \int (d^4x)_E \left( -\frac{1}{2}(1 + a_2^{\text{tree}})(\partial_\mu \tilde{\phi}' \partial^\mu \tilde{\phi}') - \frac{c_2^{\text{tree}}}{M^4}(\partial_\mu \tilde{\phi}' \partial^\mu \tilde{\phi}')^2 \right) \quad \text{where } a_2^{\text{tree}}, c_2^{\text{tree}} : \text{second or higher order of } g$$

$$= \int (d^4x)_E \left( -\frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \tilde{\phi} \partial^\mu \tilde{\phi}) - \frac{c_2^{\text{tree}}}{M^4}(1 + a_2^{\text{tree}})^{-2}(\partial_\mu \tilde{\phi} \partial^\mu \tilde{\phi})^2 \right) \quad \text{where } \tilde{\phi} = (1 + a_2^{\text{tree}})^{1/2} \cdot \tilde{\phi}', \partial \tilde{\phi} = \text{const.}$$

※ To remove dim-6 terms

- Relative entropy

$$S(P_0 || P_g) = W_0[\tilde{\phi}] - W_g[\tilde{\phi}] + g \left( \partial W_g / \partial g \right)_{g=0} = \frac{c_2^{\text{tree}}}{M^4} (1 + a_2^{\text{tree}})^{-2} \int (d^4x)_E (\partial_\mu \tilde{\phi} \partial^\mu \tilde{\phi})^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow c_2^{\text{tree}} \geq 0$$

Relative entropy constrains Wilson coefficient of dim-8 operator



# Class of theories

- Reason why bounds on higher-derivative terms arise:  $\int (d^4x)_E \left( -\frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu\phi\partial^\mu\phi) - \frac{c}{M^4}(\partial_\mu\phi\partial^\mu\phi)^2 \right)$

$\Rightarrow$  corrections to **non-higher derivative term** can be removed by field redefinition

Ex.

$$\phi \rightarrow \phi + \delta\phi, \quad A_\mu^a \rightarrow A_\mu^a + \delta A_\mu^a, \quad g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow g_{\mu\nu} + \delta g_{\mu\nu}$$

SMEFT SU(N) gauge bosonic operators

$$\int d^4x \left( -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{a,\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^4} \sum_i c_i \mathcal{O}_i \right)$$

Einstein-Maxwell theory with higher-derivative terms

$$\int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{\alpha_1}{4M_{\text{Pl}}^4} (F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu})^2 + \frac{\alpha_2}{4M_{\text{Pl}}^4} (F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu})^2 + \frac{\alpha_3}{2M_{\text{Pl}}^2} F_{\mu\nu} F_{\rho\sigma} R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \right]$$

Relative entropy yields constraints on the above higher-derivative terms in the bottom-up approach.

$\Rightarrow$  The same procedures as a single massless field with shift symmetry work well

# Entropy constraints on SMEFT gauge bosonic operators

- Non-negativity of relative entropy:

$$S(P_0 || P_g) = W_0 - W_g + g \cdot (\partial W_g / \partial g)_{g=0} = \int d^4x \frac{1}{\Lambda^4} \sum_i c_i \mathcal{O}_i \geq 0$$

- Classical solution of  $\partial^\mu F_{\mu\nu}^a + g f^{abc} A^{\mu,b} F_{\mu\nu}^c = 0$ :  $A_\mu^a = u_1^a \epsilon_{1\mu} w_1 + u_2^a \epsilon_{2\mu} w_2$  with  $f^{abc} u_1^a u_2^b = 0$ ,  $\partial_\mu w_1 = l_\mu$ , and  $\partial_\mu w_2 = k_\mu$

※  $l_\mu, k_\mu$ : constant vectors

- $U(1)_Y$ :  $c_1^{B^4} \geq 0$ ,  $c_2^{B^4} \geq 0$ ,  $4c_1^{B^4} c_2^{B^4} \geq (\tilde{c}_1^{B^4})^2$ ,
- $SU(2)_L$ :  $c_1^{W^4} + c_3^{W^4} \geq 0$ ,  $c_2^{W^4} + c_4^{W^4} \geq 0$ ,  $4(c_1^{W^4} + c_3^{W^4})(c_2^{W^4} + c_4^{W^4}) \geq (\tilde{c}_1^{W^4} + \tilde{c}_2^{W^4})^2$ ,
- $SU(3)_C$ :  $2c_1^{G^4} + c_3^{G^4} \geq 0$ ,  $3c_2^{G^4} + 2c_5^{G^4} \geq 0$ ,  $3c_2^{G^4} + 3c_4^{G^4} + c_6^{G^4} \geq 0$ ,  $3c_4^{G^4} + 2c_6^{G^4} \geq 0$ ,  
 $4(3c_1^{G^4} + 3c_3^{G^4} + c_5^{G^4})(3c_2^{G^4} + 3c_4^{G^4} + c_6^{G^4}) \geq (3\tilde{c}_1^{G^4} + 3\tilde{c}_2^{G^4} + \tilde{c}_3^{G^4})^2$   
 $4(3c_3^{G^4} + 2c_5^{G^4})(3c_4^{G^4} + 2c_6^{G^4}) \geq (3\tilde{c}_2^{G^4} + 2\tilde{c}_3^{G^4})^2$

These bounds are consistent with positivity bounds from unitarity and causality

# Entropy constraints on Einstein-Maxwell theory

- Non-negativity of relative entropy:

$$S(P_0 || P_g) = \int (d^4x)_E \sqrt{g} \left( \frac{\alpha_1}{4M_{\text{Pl}}^4} (F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu})^2 + \frac{\alpha_2}{4M_{\text{Pl}}^4} (F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu})^2 + \frac{\alpha_3}{2M_{\text{Pl}}^2} F_{\mu\nu} F_{\rho\sigma} R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \right) \geq 0$$

- For charged BH background field, thermodynamic relations yield

$$(\Delta M_{\text{ext}})_Q \propto -S(P_0 || P_g) \leq 0 \quad \text{where } Q \text{ is U(1) charge of BH}$$

Extremal BH mass shift at fixed charge by higher derivative terms

Shift by higher-derivative terms

charge-to-mass ratio of extremal BH:  $\frac{Q}{M_{\text{ext}}/\sqrt{2}M_{\text{Pl}}} = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{Q}{(M_{\text{ext}} + (\Delta M_{\text{ext}})_Q)/\sqrt{2}M_{\text{Pl}}} \geq 1$

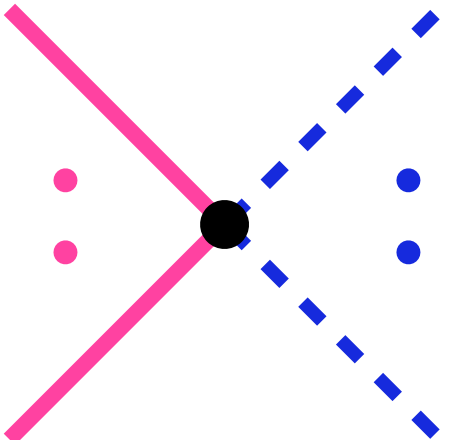
Extremal BH can behave as a state with charge-to-mass ratio larger than one

$\Rightarrow$  Mild Weak Gravity Conjecture

✧ This argument is based on a field theory approach and may not apply to theories with stringy particles.

# Summary

- Differences between theories with and without interaction characterize UV information
- We quantified their differences by relative entropy
- In the bottom-up approach, i.e.,

$$I_I[\phi, \Phi] = \int (d^4x)_E \mathcal{O}[\Phi] \otimes J[\phi] = \text{heavy} \text{ : } \bullet \text{ : light}$$


where we assume  $J[\phi]$  does not involve higher-derivative terms

we found that the non-negativity of relative entropy constrains EFTs, e.g.,

SMEFT SU(N) gauge bosonic operators

Einstein-Maxwell theory with higher-derivative terms

- Relative entropy provides a new approach to constraining EFTs.