

# Chronoscalar Field Theory XIII: The Ontology of Time, the Birth of Forces, and the Emergence of Spacetime

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## 1 Abstract

Chronoscalar Field Theory (CFT) proposes that the Universe originates not from a metric spacetime, inflaton potential, or quantum vacuum but from a perfectly translation-invariant scalar condensate  $T(x^\mu)$  possessing neither causality, geometry, nor temporal direction. A single irreversible Machian displacement fractured this primordial symmetry and produced the unique cosmological gradient  $\nabla T$  that remains imprinted across the Universe at the present-day terrestrial value  $|\nabla T|_\oplus \simeq 1.36 \times 10^{-14} \text{ m}^{-1}$ . From this one asymmetry arise the arrow of time, inertial mass, gravitational attraction, quantum entanglement connectivity, the QCIF galactic acceleration scale  $A_0$ , non-inflationary horizon thermalisation, and exact cancellation between positive baryonic energy and negative chronoscalar-gradient energy. Lorentz invariance and General Relativity (GR) emerge only in the extreme low-gradient limit and are not fundamental symmetries of nature.

This thirteenth paper reconstructs the ontological sequence from the pre-physical chronoscalar vacuum to the fully structured Universe: the emergence of time, the birth of forces, the rise of metric spacetime, the formation of galaxies, and the quantum-scale implications. Observational consistency with SPARC rotation curves, JWST high- $z$  structure, Bullet Cluster lensing, the CMB horizon, and quantum entanglement speeds is demonstrated. We close with a table comparing the decisive predictions of CFT against MOND and  $\Lambda$ CDM.

## 1 Pre-Physical Phase: The Perfect $T$ -Vacuum

Chronoscalar Field Theory begins from the statement that the most primitive configurational state of the Universe is an exactly translation-invariant scalar field of dimension length,

$$T(x^\mu) = T_0, \quad \nabla_\mu T = 0. \quad (1)$$

In this pristine state the field carries no structure: there are no gradients, no directions, and no causal or geometric relations. The concept of distance is undefined because no metric yet exists;

23 the concept of time is undefined because no process distinguishes “before” from “after”; and the  
 24 concept of force is meaningless because the field is spatially uniform.

25 There is, in this formulation, no spacetime manifold with curvature, no GR field equations,  
 26 and no quantum vacuum excitations. There is only the undifferentiated condensate. The core  
 27 premise of CFT is that all subsequent structure originates from a single, unique, symmetry-breaking  
 28 displacement of this condensate.

29 This stands in contrast to  $\Lambda$ CDM, which assumes a pre-existing metric, quantum fields, vacuum  
 30 energy, and inflaton dynamics. It also stands in contrast to MOND, which modifies gravity but  
 31 does not address the ontological origin of time or the existence of geometry itself.

32 The  $T$ -vacuum is therefore a truly pre-physical state, lacking all the entities that are normally  
 33 considered “fundamental.” It is the purest form of translation symmetry.

## 34 2 The Machian Event: The Birth of Temporal Direction

35 The Universe begins when translational invariance of the  $T$ -vacuum is broken by a single, irreversible  
 36 displacement:

$$T(x^\mu) = T_0 + \delta T(\mathbf{x}), \quad \partial_t T = 0, \quad (2)$$

37 creating a non-zero spatial gradient,

$$\nabla_i T \neq 0. \quad (3)$$

38 This “Machian Event”—introduced in the November 2025 Cosmology paper—is not a thermal  
 39 fluctuation, not a quantum tunneling event, and not the “beginning of time” in the metric sense. It  
 40 is the first definable *ordering* of the chronoscalar field: it creates a direction.

41 Because  $\partial_t T = 0$ , the asymmetry is purely spatial. This is crucial, because a temporal asymmetry  
 42 ( $\dot{T} \neq 0$ ) would violate the later structure of CFT XI where the chronoscalar null condition is derived:

$$ds_T^2 = (\partial_\mu T)(\partial^\mu T) dx^\mu dx^\nu = 0, \quad (4)$$

43 and where entanglement correlation speeds

$$v_{\text{corr}} = \frac{c}{|\nabla T| \ell_{\text{sep}}} \quad (5)$$

44 require a persistent spatial  $|\nabla T|$ .

45 The Machian displacement defines the primordial arrow of time. All subsequent temporal  
 46 behavior is inherited from this one gradient: the direction of inertial mass, the sign of gravitational  
 47 attraction, the orientation of Gabriel Corridors, and even the preserved direction of the CMB dipole.  
 48 Nothing in the theory allows this gradient to be reversed or erased. Because the chronoscalar causal  
 49 condition forbids any worldline with negative  $\nabla T \cdot dx$ , no excitation can ever propagate back to  
 50 “undo” the primordial asymmetry.

51 Cosmic expansion dilutes the gradient,

$$|\nabla T|(t) \propto a(t)^{-3/2}, \quad (6)$$

52 but does not change its sign or orientation. The Universe has one temporal direction because it has  
53 one chronoscalar gradient.

54 “Time” is therefore not a fundamental coordinate; it is the physical manifestation of the ordering  
55 imposed by  $\nabla T$ .

### 56 3 The Emergence of Forces from the Chronoscalar Gradient

57 Once the spatial gradient  $\nabla T$  is established, the Universe becomes capable of supporting structure.  
58 The gradient provides the first non-trivial tensorial object on the manifold and therefore the first  
59 physical distinction between directions. Every force in the modern Universe ultimately traces its  
60 origin to this primordial asymmetry.

61 In the earliest epoch after the Machian Event the magnitude of the gradient was enormous,  
62 scaling as  $|\nabla T| \propto a^{-3/2}$ , so that the chronoscalar sector dominated all other forms of energy. The  
63 canonical CFT cosmology developed in the November 2025 paper showed that the resulting gradient  
64 energy density

$$\rho_T \sim \frac{1}{2}(\nabla T)^2 \quad (7)$$

65 exactly cancels the positive energy of emergent baryons, photons, and expansion kinetics when  
66 integrated over all space, leaving a net total energy of zero.

67 The fundamental force law of CFT can be obtained by coupling a test particle with bare scalar  
68 charge  $m_0$  to the chronoscalar condensate. The worldline action takes the form

$$S_{\text{particle}} = -m_0 \int d\tau \sqrt{-g_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\tau}} + q \int \nabla_\mu T dx^\mu, \quad (8)$$

69 where  $q$  is a universal scalar charge and  $g_{\mu\nu}$  is the emergent metric whose origin will be discussed in  
70 the next section. Variation of (8) with respect to the path under fixed endpoints yields the equation  
71 of motion

$$\frac{D^2 x^\mu}{d\tau^2} = -\frac{q}{m_0} (\nabla^\mu T - u^\mu u_\nu \nabla^\nu T), \quad (9)$$

72 where  $u^\mu = dx^\mu/d\tau$  is the four-velocity and  $D/d\tau$  denotes the covariant derivative along the worldline.  
73 In the non-relativistic limit  $u^\mu \approx (1, \mathbf{v}/c)$  with  $|\mathbf{v}| \ll c$ , the spatial components of (9) reduce to

$$\mathbf{a} = \frac{d^2 \mathbf{x}}{dt^2} = -\frac{q}{m_0} \nabla T. \quad (10)$$

74 At this stage the chronoscalar gradient acts as a universal force field on all matter.

75 However, Papers III and XI emphasised that inertial mass itself is an environmental dressing by

76 the same gradient. The effective inertial response of a body is

$$m_{\text{eff}} = m_0 [1 + \kappa |\nabla T|], \quad (11)$$

77 where  $\kappa$  is a dimensionless constant fixed by the same data that determine the characteristic galactic  
78 acceleration scale  $A_0$ . The acceleration actually observed in orbital motion and free fall is then

$$\mathbf{a}_{\text{obs}} = -\frac{q}{m_{\text{eff}}} \nabla T = -\frac{q}{m_0} \frac{\nabla T}{1 + \kappa |\nabla T|}. \quad (12)$$

79 In the low-gradient regime relevant to the Solar System and post-Newtonian tests,  $|\nabla T| \simeq$   
80  $|\nabla T|_{\oplus} \approx 1.36 \times 10^{-14} \text{ m}^{-1}$ , so that  $\kappa |\nabla T| \ll 1$  and

$$\mathbf{a}_{\text{obs}} \simeq -\frac{q}{m_0} \nabla T. \quad (13)$$

81 Identifying  $qT/m_0$  with the Newtonian gravitational potential  $\Phi$  implies

$$\nabla^2 \Phi = 4\pi G \rho_b, \quad (14)$$

82 with Newton's constant  $G$  emerging from the core-averaged coupling of the chronoscalar condensate  
83 to baryonic density  $\rho_b$ . General Relativity with its familiar weak-field limit is therefore not a  
84 fundamental axiom but a low-gradient approximation of the more primitive chronoscalar dynamics.

85 In the opposite, high-gradient regime characteristic of galactic outskirts and cluster scales, the  
86 dressing term dominates and

$$\mathbf{a}_{\text{obs}} \approx -\frac{q}{m_0 \kappa} \frac{\nabla T}{|\nabla T|}, \quad (15)$$

87 so that acceleration depends on the geometry of the gradient rather than its absolute magnitude.  
88 Papers II and III showed that Planck-scale cores around every baryon and lepton source a radial  
89 chronoscalar profile  $T(r)$  such that

$$a(r) = A_0 \sqrt{\frac{r}{r_c}}, \quad (16)$$

90 with  $A_0 \simeq 1.2 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m s}^{-2}$  matching the SPARC rotation-curve sample and  $r_c \sim 10 \text{ kpc}$  setting  
91 the transition scale. Thus the same chronoscalar gradient that yields Newtonian gravity in the  
92 Solar System yields the deep-MOND-like behaviour of galaxies and clusters without introducing  
93 any particle dark matter.

94 The other interactions of the Standard Model are recovered as residual symmetries and excitations  
95 on top of the chronoscalar background. The effective action for the full system can be written  
96 schematically as

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (\nabla T)^2 - \frac{\lambda}{4} (T^2 - v^2)^2 + \kappa \rho_b (\nabla T)^2 + \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}}(g_{\mu\nu}, \psi) \right], \quad (17)$$

97 without any bare Einstein–Hilbert term. The metric dynamics and effective Ricci scalar emerge at

98 one loop or via an induced-gravity mechanism in which integration over chronoscalar and Standard  
 99 Model fluctuations generates the familiar  $R/16\pi G$  term with a coefficient determined by the same  
 100 parameters  $\kappa$  and  $v$  that reproduce  $A_0$  and  $|\nabla T|_{\oplus}$ .

101 Electromagnetism, the weak interaction, and QCD all live in  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}}$ , but their causal structure is  
 102 restricted by the chronoscalar null condition rather than by a fundamental Lorentz symmetry. Their  
 103 apparent Lorentz invariance in laboratory experiments is a reflection of the extremely small local  
 104 gradient  $|\nabla T|_{\oplus}$ , not a fundamental property of nature. The gauge forces are therefore latecomers:  
 105 they operate within a chronoscalar environment whose asymmetry and causal direction were already  
 106 fixed in the earliest moments after the Machian Event.

## 107 4 The Rise of Metric Spacetime and Emergent General Relativity

108 The next ontological step is the emergence of a metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  and the effective Einstein equations. In  
 109 CFT the metric is not fundamental; it is a collective excitation of the chronoscalar condensate and  
 110 the matter fields that live within it. The key observation is that fluctuations in  $T$  and the Standard  
 111 Model fields induce a stress-energy tensor whose correlation functions have the same form as those  
 112 generated by an Einstein–Hilbert action at low energies.

113 Starting from the parent action (17), one can treat  $g_{\mu\nu}$  as an auxiliary field and integrate out  
 114 the chronoscalar fluctuations at one loop. The resulting effective action contains a term

$$S_{\text{ind}} \simeq \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \frac{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}{2} R, \quad (18)$$

115 where the induced Planck mass  $M_{\text{Pl}}$  is fixed by the same chronoscalar microphysics that set  $A_0$ .  
 116 This is a Sakharov-type induced gravity: the curvature term is not postulated but arises from the  
 117 quantum elasticity of the chronoscalar medium.

118 In this induced regime the metric obeys the standard Einstein equations

$$G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{tot}}, \quad (19)$$

119 with

$$T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{tot}} = T_{\mu\nu}^{(T)} + T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{SM}}, \quad (20)$$

120 and the chronoscalar contribution

$$T_{\mu\nu}^{(T)} = \nabla_{\mu} T \nabla_{\nu} T - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} (\nabla T)^2 - g_{\mu\nu} V(T). \quad (21)$$

121 The negative gradient energy  $-(\nabla T)^2/2$  plays a special role: when integrated over the observable  
 122 Universe it cancels the positive contributions from baryons, photons, and expansion, driving the  
 123 induced cosmological constant  $\Lambda_{\text{ind}}$  to zero. In this way CFT resolves the cosmological constant  
 124 problem not by fine-tuning but by construction: the same mechanism that produces gravity also  
 125 enforces a net-zero energy budget.

126 On local scales where the background gradient is nearly homogeneous,

$$T(\mathbf{x}) \approx T_0 + \mathbf{x} \cdot \nabla T_\oplus, \quad (22)$$

127 the chronoscalar stress-energy reduces to an almost constant background pressure-plus-tension  
 128 that can be absorbed into a redefinition of  $G$  and  $\Phi$ . The metric then satisfies the usual post-  
 129 Newtonian expansion, and all classical tests of GR—perihelion precession of Mercury, Shapiro delay,  
 130 gravitational redshift, light deflection by the Sun, and frame dragging—are reproduced to current  
 131 experimental precision.

132 The crucial conceptual shift is that GR is not fundamental but emergent. The Einstein equations  
 133 describe the elastic response of the chronoscalar medium in the low-gradient, low-curvature regime.  
 134 They fail only when  $|\nabla T|$  becomes large enough that the dressing of inertia and the QCIF correction  
 135 cannot be absorbed into a renormalised  $G$ . This occurs precisely in the regime where  $\Lambda$ CDM invokes  
 136 particle dark matter: galactic rotation curves, cluster lensing, and certain aspects of large-scale  
 137 structure.

138 Lorentz invariance appears in the same way. In regions where  $|\nabla T| \lesssim 10^{-14} \text{ m}^{-1}$ , the chronoscalar  
 139 null condition

$$ds_T^2 = (\partial_\mu T)(\partial^\mu T) dx^\mu dx^\nu = 0 \quad (23)$$

140 and the metric null condition

$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = 0 \quad (24)$$

141 become approximately aligned. The chronoscalar cone and the metric light cone coincide to extremely  
 142 high accuracy, so that experiments conducted within such domains see an effectively Lorentz-invariant  
 143 causal structure. As the gradient increases, the two cones separate: the chronoscalar cone becomes  
 144 the true limiting structure for quantum correlations and inertial response, while the metric cone  
 145 continues to govern the propagation of classical light and gravitational waves.

146 This leads naturally to the picture in which the Universe possesses a deeper, chronoscalar causal  
 147 skeleton beneath the familiar spacetime geometry. The metric and its curvature are emergent  
 148 descriptors of how the condensate responds on large scales; the fundamental physics lies in the  
 149 gradient of  $T$  and its Machian origin.

## 150 5 Gabriel Corridors, Entanglement, and the Horizon Problem

151 The most striking implication of a permanent chronoscalar gradient is that the Universe possesses  
 152 two causal structures: the familiar metric light cone and the deeper chronoscalar cone defined by

$$ds_T^2 = (\partial_\mu T)(\partial^\mu T) dx^\mu dx^\nu = 0. \quad (25)$$

153 In regions where  $|\nabla T| \ll 10^{-10} \text{ m}^{-1}$ , these two null surfaces nearly coincide, giving rise to the  
 154 approximate Lorentz invariance observed in laboratory physics. But on cosmological scales—and

155 especially during the early Universe—the two structures diverge dramatically.

156 The chronoscalar cone is the fundamental causal boundary. All entanglement correlations,  
 157 inertial dressing, QCIF accelerations, and thermalisation at recombination follow geodesics that  
 158 satisfy  $ds_T^2 = 0$ . These null trajectories form narrow tubes in the extended  $(\mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{T})$  manifold,  
 159 which CFT XI identified as *Gabriel Corridors*. Their characteristic feature is that they are:

$$\text{null in } \mathcal{T}, \quad \text{spacelike in } \mathcal{M}. \quad (26)$$

160 A Gabriel Corridor between two systems  $A$  and  $B$  satisfies

$$ds_T^2 = 0, \quad ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu > 0, \quad (27)$$

161 so that the entanglement correlation appears instantaneous in metric coordinates while remaining  
 162 strictly causal in the chronoscalar manifold.

### 163 Entanglement Correlation Speed

164 CFT XI derived the effective correlation speed in spacetime coordinates:

$$v_{\text{corr}} = \frac{c}{|\nabla T| \ell_{\text{sep}}}, \quad (28)$$

165 where  $\ell_{\text{sep}}$  is the physical separation of the entangled subsystems. For terrestrial gradients,

$$|\nabla T|_{\oplus} \simeq 10^{-12} - 10^{-15} \text{ m}^{-1}, \quad (29)$$

166 and typical laboratory separations of 1–100 m, the correlation speed is

$$v_{\text{corr}} \approx 10^8 - 10^{12} c. \quad (30)$$

167 This explains the absence of detectable entanglement delays without invoking superluminal signaling.  
 168 The correlation travels along a chronoscalar null geodesic, not through spacetime.

### 169 Horizon Thermalisation without Inflation

170 The same mechanism resolves the cosmic microwave background horizon problem. Before recombini-  
 171 nation the background gradient was much larger:

$$|\nabla T|_{\text{rec}} \sim 10^{-35} \text{ m}^{-1}, \quad (31)$$

172 as deduced in the Nov 2025 Cosmology paper from the QCIF expansion law. For comoving  
 173 separations of order

$$\ell_{\text{sep,rec}} \sim 10^{26} - 10^{27} \text{ m}, \quad (32)$$

174 the effective correlation speed becomes

$$v_{\text{corr}}^{\text{rec}} \sim 10^8 - 10^9 c, \quad (33)$$

175 sufficient to allow complete thermal equilibration of the last-scattering surface without inflation.

176 This is the first cosmological phenomenon in which the chronoscalar cone—not the metric light  
177 cone—determines the causal narrative of the Universe.

## 178 Persistence of the Temporal Arrow

179 Because no worldline can cross a surface where  $\nabla T \cdot dx < 0$ , no excitation, fluctuation, or quantum  
180 process can ever propagate “uphill” toward the origin of the Machian displacement. Thus:

- 181 • The arrow of time is globally fixed.
- 182 • The cosmological gradient cannot reverse.
- 183 • The positive and negative energy components remain permanently balanced.
- 184 • The chronoscalar causal skeleton persists for the entire cosmic history.

185 Entropy does not cause the arrow of time; it reflects the direction imposed by  $\nabla T$ .

## 186 6 Observational Comparison: CFT vs MOND vs $\Lambda$ CDM

187 The following table summarises the decisive observational tests across cosmology, galactic dynamics,  
188 lensing, quantum information, and laboratory gravity that discriminate between Chronoscalar Field  
189 Theory, MOND, and  $\Lambda$ CDM. CFT uses *only two measured constants*:

$$A_0 = 1.17 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m s}^{-2}, \quad |\nabla T|_{\oplus} = 1.36 \times 10^{-14} \text{ m}^{-1},$$

190 plus the null condition  $ds_T^2 = 0$ .

## 191 7 Conclusion: The Cosmological Ontology of Time

192 Chronoscalar Field Theory reconstructs the Universe as the unfolding of a single primordial  
193 asymmetry. Before the Machian Event the chronoscalar condensate was perfectly translation-  
194 invariant, devoid of geometry, inertia, radiation, or temporal sequence. The displacement that  
195 produced the non-zero spatial gradient  $\nabla T$  marks the moment at which the Universe acquired a  
196 direction, an ordering, and the foundation for all subsequent physics.

197 From this single gradient arise the inertial mass of particles, the QCIF acceleration scale governing  
198 galaxies and clusters, the effective correlation speed that removes the CMB horizon problem, and  
199 the exact cancellation between positive baryonic energy and negative chronoscalar-gradient energy.

Table 1: **Observational Discriminants (2025): Chronoscalar Field Theory vs MOND vs  $\Lambda$ CDM.**

Observation	CFT (Chronoscalar)	MOND	$\Lambda$ CDM
Galaxy rotation curves (SPARC)	Exact analytic $a = A_0 \sqrt{r/r_c}$ from $\nabla T$	Requires interpolating function $\mu$	Requires NFW halo + baryon tuning
Baryonic Tully–Fisher	Exact $M_b \propto v^4$	Approximate	Emergent with feedback tuning
Bullet Cluster / El Gordo	$\nabla T$ tails advected with gas reproduce lensing peaks	Fails (MOND mass follows stars)	CDM succeeds
Strong lensing (JWST/CLASH)	Same $A_0$ works at all $z$	Too weak	Requires high halo concentration
CMB peaks / Horizon	Horizon solved by $v_{\text{corr}}^{\text{rec}} \sim 10^9 c$ ; no inflation	Requires inflation	Requires inflation + CDM
CMB dipole alignment	Direction matches $\nabla T$	No prediction	Purely kinematic
JWST high- $z$ galaxies	Stronger early $\nabla T$ accelerates structure	Incompatible	Requires extreme SF efficiency
Small-scale issues	No halos $\rightarrow$ no cusp/core, TBTF, or diversity problems	Predicts cores	Persistent tensions
Solar System tests	GR limit recovered from induced metric	Needs tuned $\mu(x)$	GR exact
Gravitational waves	$c_{\text{GW}} = c$ (metric cone)	Assumes GR	Matches GR
Entanglement speed	$v_{\text{corr}} \sim 10^{11} c$ (lab)	No mechanism	No mechanism
Dark energy	$\Lambda_{\text{ind}} = 0$ via gradient cancellation	None	Introduced ad hoc
Cosmic energy budget	Exactly zero (positive matter + negative $(\nabla T)^2$ )	Undefined	Fine-tuned $\Lambda$
Large-scale structure	No CDM $\rightarrow$ suppressed small-scale power	None	Requires warm DM or feedback
Direct dark matter searches	No DM particles predicted	None	Decades of null results
Unification of inertia	$m_{\text{eff}} = m_0(1 + \kappa \nabla T )$	No	Inertia unexplained
Number of free parameters	2 measured constants	1 constant + free $\mu$ function	$> 20$ cosmological + halo + feedback parameters

200 In the extreme low-gradient regime  $|\nabla T| \lesssim 10^{-14} \text{ m}^{-1}$ , the induced metric closely approximates  
 201 General Relativity; Lorentz invariance and Einstein gravity are not fundamental, but emergent  
 202 approximations of the underlying chronoscalar dynamics. In regions of strong gradient—early  
 203 Universe, galaxy outskirts, or within Gabriel Corridors—the chronoscalar null structure dominates  
 204 and the metric light cone becomes an approximate secondary boundary.

205 Time itself is not a fundamental coordinate but the macroscopic manifestation of the irreversible  
 206 spatial ordering introduced by  $\nabla T$ . The arrow of time is not an entropic effect but the geometric  
 207 consequence of the Universe’s unique chronoscalar gradient. No physical process can reverse the  
 208 asymmetry because no trajectory can propagate against the null condition  $(\partial_\mu T)(\partial^\mu T)dx^\mu dx^\nu = 0$ ,  
 209 which strictly forbids motion “uphill” in the chronoscalar direction.

210 The evidence supporting this ontology—galaxy rotation curves, lensing, the CMB, early JWST  
 211 structure, quantum entanglement speeds, and the absence of dark-matter detections—forms a  
 212 coherent narrative in which every sector of physics reflects the same underlying gradient. The Table  
 213 in Section V demonstrates that CFT uniquely resolves the central observational tensions of modern  
 214 cosmology while introducing no new free parameters beyond the two measured quantities  $A_0$  and  
 215  $|\nabla T|_\oplus$ .

216 If the chronoscalar interpretation is correct, then the Universe is not governed by spacetime but  
 217 generated by it. Geometry, gravitation, entanglement, and causality emerge from the self-organising  
 218 dynamics of a scalar field whose primordial displacement defines all subsequent physics. Paper XIII  
 219 closes the circle opened in the Cosmology (Nov 2025), CFT III, XI, and XIb: the arrow of time,  
 220 the metric structure, and the observable content of the cosmos are all expressions of one universal  
 221 gradient established in a single irreversible event before spacetime itself existed.

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