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# Vacuum Polarization of a Quantized Scalar Field in the Thermal State on the Short Throat Wormhole Background

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## Article

# Vacuum Polarization of a Quantized Scalar Field in the Thermal State on the Short Throat Wormhole Background

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**Abstract:** Vacuum polarization of a scalar field on the short throat wormhole background is investigated. The scalar field is assumed to be massless, having an arbitrary coupling to the scalar curvature of spacetime. In addition, it is supposed that the field is in a thermal state with an arbitrary temperature.

**Keywords:** vacuum polarization; scalar field; thermal state; wormhole

## 1. Introduction

Two important quantities in the study of quantum effects in strong gravitational fields are  $\langle \phi^2 \rangle$  and  $\langle T_\mu^\nu \rangle$  where  $\phi$  is a quantized field and  $T_\mu^\nu$  is the stress tensor for this field. These quantities provide us with information about spontaneous symmetry breaking, particle production, and vacuum-polarization effects. In addition,  $\langle T_\mu^\nu \rangle$  is the source of the backreaction effect of the quantized fields on the geometry of spacetime. This effect is described using the semi-classical theory of gravity

$$G_\nu^\mu = 8\pi \langle T_\nu^\mu \rangle. \quad (1)$$

It should be noted that vacuum fluctuations of quantum fields were considered as matter, providing the existence of wormholes in [1–4].

The main problem of the semi-classical theory of gravity is that the contribution of the quantized gravitational field is not taken into account. A popular solution to this problem is the limit of a large number of matter fields. In this limit, it is assumed that the number of matter fields present is so large that the graviton contribution is negligible. Another problem of this theory is that the effects of vacuum polarization are generally determined by the topological and geometric properties of spacetime as a whole and the choice of the quantum state in which the vacuum expectation values are calculated. This means that calculating the functional dependence  $\langle T_\nu^\mu \rangle$  on the metric tensor, which must be determined from Equation (1), is extremely difficult. Such calculations  $\langle T_{\mu\nu} \rangle$  and  $\langle \phi^2 \rangle$  have been made only in a highly symmetrical spacetime for conformally invariant fields and Equation (1) has been solved by [5–9].

Usually, numerical calculations  $\langle \phi^2 \rangle$  and  $\langle T_\nu^\mu \rangle$  are extremely difficult [10–17]. In some cases,  $\langle \phi^2 \rangle$  and  $\langle T_{\mu\nu} \rangle$  are determined by the local properties of spacetime. In these cases, it is possible to approximate the functional dependence of  $\langle \phi^2 \rangle$  and  $\langle T_{\mu\nu} \rangle$  on the metric tensor. One of the most well-known examples of such a situation is the case of a very massive field. In this case, the field mass  $m$  is much greater than  $1/l$ , where  $l$  is the characteristic curvature scale of the background geometry

$$\frac{1}{ml} \ll 1, \quad (2)$$

and  $\langle \phi^2 \rangle$  can be expanded in terms of the powers of  $ml$  [18–24].



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We emphasize that the only parameter of the length dimension in the problem (1) is the Planck length of the  $l_{Pl}$ . This means that the characteristic scale  $l$  of the curvature of the spacetime can differ from  $l_{Pl}$  only if there is a large dimensionless parameter. As an example of such a parameter, we can consider the number of fields whose polarization is a source of spacetime curvature (Here and below, it is assumed, of course, that the characteristic scale of change of the background gravitational field is sufficiently greater than  $l_{Pl}$ , so that the very notion of a classical spacetime still has some meaning.). In the case of a massive field, the existence of an additional parameter,  $1/ml$ , does not increase the characteristic curvature scale  $l$ , which corresponds to the solution of Equation (1) (The characteristic scale of components  $G_{\nu}^{\mu}$  on the left-hand side of Equation (1) is  $1/l^2$  and, on the right-hand side, is  $l_{Pl}^2/(m^2 l^6)$ ). For massless quantized fields, this parameter can be the field coupling constants with spacetime curvature [4]. Another possibility of introducing an additional parameter into the problem (1) is to consider the non-zero temperature of the quantum state for a quantum field. It is known (see, e.g., [25]) that, in the high temperature limit (when  $T \gg 1/l$ ,  $T$  is the thermal state temperature),  $\langle \phi^2 \rangle$ , for such a thermal state, is proportional to  $T^2$ .

In this work, we investigate the quantized scalar field in the wormhole spacetime with an infinitely short throat. It is assumed that the field is massless, has an arbitrary coupling to the scalar curvature of spacetime, and is in the thermal state with the arbitrary temperature. We calculate  $\langle \phi^2 \rangle$  using the point-splitting method and demonstrate that the result has correct asymptotics at high temperature and at  $T = 0$ .

The units  $\hbar = c = G = k_B = 1$  are used throughout the paper.

## 2. Non-Renormalized Expression $\langle \phi^2 \rangle$

The metric of a static spherically symmetric wormhole spacetime with an infinitely short throat, analytically extended into Euclidean space, has the form

$$ds^2 = d\tau^2 + d\rho^2 + (|\rho| + a)^2(d\theta^2 + \sin^2\theta d\varphi^2), \quad (3)$$

where  $\tau$  is the Euclidean time ( $\tau = -it$  and  $t$  is the coordinate corresponding to the time-like Killing vector, which always exists in static spacetime).

The vacuum expectation value of an operator  $\langle \phi^2 \rangle$  quantized scalar field  $\phi$  can be calculated using the method of point splitting [26,27] from the Euclidean Green's function  $G_E(x; \tilde{x})$  as follows

$$\langle \phi^2(x, \tilde{x}) \rangle_{unren} = G_E(x, \tilde{x}), \quad (4)$$

where  $G_E(x, \tilde{x})$  obeys the equation

$$[\square_x - \xi R(x)]G_E(x, \tilde{x}) = -\frac{\delta^4(x, \tilde{x})}{\sqrt{|g(x)|}}, \quad (5)$$

$\square_x = g^{\mu\nu}(x)\nabla_\mu\nabla_\nu$  is calculated for the metric (3),  $\xi$  is a scalar field coupling to the curvature  $R$ . In spacetime (3), one finds that  $\delta^4(x, \tilde{x})/\sqrt{|g(x)|}$  can be written as  $\delta(\tau - \tilde{\tau})\delta(r, \tilde{r})\delta(\Omega, \tilde{\Omega})/r^2$  ( $d\Omega^2 = d\theta^2 + \sin^2\theta d\varphi^2$ ). The delta function  $\delta(\Omega, \tilde{\Omega})$  can be expanded in terms of Legendre polynomials  $P_l$  with the result that

$$\delta(\Omega, \tilde{\Omega}) = \sum_{l,m} Y_{lm}(\Omega)Y_{lm}^*(\tilde{\Omega}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1)P_l(\cos\gamma), \quad (6)$$

where  $\cos\gamma \equiv \cos\theta\cos\tilde{\theta} + \sin\theta\sin\tilde{\theta}\cos(\phi - \tilde{\phi})$ .

In this paper, it is assumed that the field is in a thermal state at temperature  $T$ , determined with respect to a time-like Killing vector. In this case, the Green's function is periodic by  $\tau - \tilde{\tau}$  with a period  $\frac{1}{T}$ . In this case,  $\delta(\tau - \tilde{\tau})$  has the form

$$\delta(\tau - \tilde{\tau}) = T \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{in2\pi T(\tau - \tilde{\tau})}. \quad (7)$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} G_E(x; \tilde{x}) &= \frac{T}{4\pi} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{in2\pi T(\tau - \tilde{\tau})} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1) P_l(\cos \gamma) g_{nl}(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) \\ &= \frac{T}{4\pi} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1) P_l(\cos \gamma) g_{0l}(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) \\ &\quad + \frac{T}{2\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \cos[2\pi n T(\tau - \tilde{\tau})] \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1) P_l(\cos \gamma) g_{nl}(\rho, \tilde{\rho}), \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

where  $g_{nl}(\rho, \tilde{\rho})$  satisfies the equation

$$\begin{aligned} &\left\{ \frac{d^2}{d\rho^2} + \frac{2}{(|\rho| + a)} \frac{d(|\rho| + a)}{d\rho} \frac{d}{d\rho} - \left[ (2\pi n T)^2 + \frac{l(l+1)}{(|\rho| + a)^2} + \xi R \right] \right\} g_{nl}(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) \\ &= -\frac{\delta(\rho, \tilde{\rho})}{(|\rho| + a)^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

### 2.1. $n \neq 0$ Contribution

The  $g_{nl}(\rho, \tilde{\rho})$  for  $\rho > \tilde{\rho}$ ,  $n \neq 0$  is provided by the expression (compare with article [28])

$$\begin{aligned} g_{nl}(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) &= \frac{K_\nu(k(a+\rho)) I_\nu(k(a+\tilde{\rho}))}{\sqrt{(a+\rho)(a+\tilde{\rho})}} \\ &\quad - \frac{(8\xi - 1) I_\nu(x) K_\nu(x) + x (I'_\nu(x) K_\nu(x) + I_\nu(x) K'_\nu(x))}{(8\xi - 1) K_\nu^2(x) + 2x K'_\nu(x) K_\nu(x)} \\ &\quad \times \frac{K_\nu(k(a+\rho)) K_\nu(k(a+\tilde{\rho}))}{\sqrt{(a+\rho)(a+\tilde{\rho})}}, \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

where  $k = 2\pi n T$ ,  $x = \rho/a$ .

Let us represent  $g_{nl}(\rho, \tilde{\rho})$  ( $n \neq 0$ ) as follows

$$g_{nl}(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) = g_{nl}^M(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) + g_{nl}^I(\rho, \tilde{\rho}), \quad (11)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} g_{nl}^M(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) &= \frac{K_\nu(k(a+\rho)) I_\nu(k(a+\tilde{\rho}))}{\sqrt{(a+\rho)(a+\tilde{\rho})}}, \\ g_{nl}^I(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) &= -\frac{(8\xi - 1) I_\nu(x) K_\nu(x) + x (I'_\nu(x) K_\nu(x) + I_\nu(x) K'_\nu(x))}{(8\xi - 1) K_\nu^2(x) + 2x K'_\nu(x) K_\nu(x)} \\ &\quad \times \frac{K_\nu(k(a+\rho)) K_\nu(k(a+\tilde{\rho}))}{\sqrt{(a+\rho)(a+\tilde{\rho})}}. \end{aligned}$$

## 2.2. $n = 0$ Contribution

The solution of Equation (9) for  $n = 0, \rho > \tilde{\rho}$  has the form

$$g_{0l}(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) = g_{0l}^M(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) + g_{0l}^I(\rho, \tilde{\rho}), \quad (12)$$

where

$$g_{0l}^M(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) = \frac{(\rho + a)^{-(l+1)}(\tilde{\rho} + a)^l}{2l + 1},$$

$$g_{0l}^I(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) = -\frac{a^{2l+1}(1 - 8\xi)(\rho + a)^{-l-1}(\tilde{\rho} + a)^{-l-1}}{2(2l + 1)(l - 4\xi + 1)}.$$

## 2.3. General Expression

Hereafter, we will consider  $\theta = \tilde{\theta}$ ,  $\varphi = \tilde{\varphi}$ . In this case,  $\cos(\gamma) = 1$  and  $P_l(1) = 1$ . Then, (8) will adopt the form

$$G_E(x; \tilde{x}) = \frac{T}{4\pi} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l + 1) g_{0l}(\rho, \tilde{\rho})$$

$$+ \frac{T}{2\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \cos[2\pi n T(\tau - \tilde{\tau})] \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l + 1) g_{nl}(\rho, \tilde{\rho}). \quad (13)$$

Let us represent  $G_E(x; \tilde{x})$  as

$$G_E(x; \tilde{x}) = G_{E0}(x; \tilde{x}) + G_{En}(x; \tilde{x}), \quad (14)$$

where  $G_{E0}(x; \tilde{x})$  is the first term in (13), and  $G_{En}(x; \tilde{x})$  is the last term in (13). Let us also represent each of these terms as

$$G_{E0}(x; \tilde{x}) = G_{E0}^M(x; \tilde{x}) + G_{E0}^I(x; \tilde{x}), \quad n = 0,$$

$$G_{En}(x; \tilde{x}) = G_{En}^M(x; \tilde{x}) + G_{En}^I(x; \tilde{x}), \quad n \neq 0, \quad (15)$$

and definitions of  $G_{E0}^M(x; \tilde{x})$ ,  $G_{E0}^I(x; \tilde{x})$ ,  $G_{En}^M(x; \tilde{x})$  and  $G_{En}^I(x; \tilde{x})$  are provided below. Let us define

$$G_{En}^M(\tau, \rho; \tilde{\tau}, \tilde{\rho}) \equiv \frac{T}{2\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \cos[2\pi n T(\tau - \tilde{\tau})] \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l + 1) g_{nl}^M(\rho, \tilde{\rho}). \quad (16)$$

Using the summation theorem for Bessel functions [29] and having performed the summation by  $n$  in (16), we will obtain

$$G_{En}^M(\rho; \tilde{\rho}) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2(\rho - \tilde{\rho})^2} - \frac{T}{4\pi(\rho - \tilde{\rho})} + \frac{T^2}{12} - \frac{T^4\pi^2(\rho - \tilde{\rho})^2}{180} + O((\rho - \tilde{\rho})^3) \quad (17)$$

for  $\tau - \tilde{\tau} = 0$ . Then, the definition  $G_{En}^I(\tau, \rho; \tilde{\tau}, \tilde{\rho})$  has the form

$$G_{En}^I(\tau, \rho; \tilde{\tau}, \tilde{\rho}) = -\frac{T}{2\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \cos[2\pi n T(\tau - \tilde{\tau})] \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l + 1) g_{nl}^I(\rho, \tilde{\rho})$$

$$= -\frac{T}{2\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \cos[2\pi n T(\tau - \tilde{\tau})] \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l + 1) \frac{K_\nu(k(a + \rho))K_\nu(k(a + \tilde{\rho}))}{\sqrt{(a + \rho)(a + \tilde{\rho})}}$$

$$\times \frac{(8\xi - 1)I_\nu(ka)K_\nu(ka) + ka(I'_\nu(ka)K_\nu(ka) + I_\nu(ka)K'_\nu(ka))}{(8\xi - 1)K_\nu^2(ka) + 2kaK'_\nu(ka)K_\nu(ka)} \quad (18)$$

Consequently,

$$G_{En}(\tau, \rho; \tilde{\tau}, \tilde{\rho}) = G_{En}^M(\rho; \tilde{\rho}) + G_{En}^I(\tau, \rho; \tilde{\tau}, \tilde{\rho}) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2(\rho - \tilde{\rho})^2} - \frac{T}{4\pi(\rho - \tilde{\rho})} + \frac{T^2}{12} - \frac{T^4\pi^2(\rho - \tilde{\rho})^2}{180} - \frac{T}{2\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \cos[2\pi nT(\tau - \tilde{\tau})] \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1) \frac{K_\nu(k(a+\rho))K_\nu(k(a+\tilde{\rho}))}{\sqrt{(a+\rho)(a+\tilde{\rho})}} \times \frac{(8\zeta-1)I_\nu(ka)K_\nu(ka) + ka(I'_\nu(ka)K_\nu(ka) + I_\nu(ka)K'_\nu(ka))}{(8\zeta-1)K_\nu^2(ka) + 2kaK'_\nu(ka)K_\nu(ka)} + O((\rho - \tilde{\rho})^3). \quad (19)$$

We can denote (see (12))

$$G_{E0}^M(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) \equiv \frac{T}{4\pi} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1) g_{0l}^M(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) = \frac{T}{4\pi} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (\rho+a)^{-(l+1)} (\tilde{\rho}+a)^l = \frac{T}{4\pi(\rho - \tilde{\rho})}, \quad (20)$$

$$G_{E0}^I(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) \equiv \frac{T}{4\pi} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1) g_{0l}^I(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) = -\frac{T}{8\pi} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{a^{2l+1}(1-8\zeta)(\rho+a)^{-l-1}(\tilde{\rho}+a)^{-l-1}}{(l-4\zeta+1)}. \quad (21)$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} G_E^M(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) &= G_{E0}^M(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) + G_{En}^M(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi^2(\rho - \tilde{\rho})^2} + \frac{T^2}{12} - \frac{T^4\pi^2(\rho - \tilde{\rho})^2}{180} + O((\rho - \tilde{\rho})^3), \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

$$\begin{aligned} G_E^I(\tau, \rho, \tilde{\tau}, \tilde{\rho}) &= G_{E0}^I(\rho, \tilde{\rho}) + G_{En}^I(\tau, \rho, \tilde{\tau}, \tilde{\rho}) \\ &= -\frac{T}{8\pi} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{a^{2l+1}(1-8\zeta)(\rho+a)^{-l-1}(\tilde{\rho}+a)^{-l-1}}{(l-4\zeta+1)} \\ &\quad - \frac{T}{2\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \cos[2\pi nT(\tau - \tilde{\tau})] \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1) \frac{K_\nu(k(a+\rho))K_\nu(k(a+\tilde{\rho}))}{\sqrt{(a+\rho)(a+\tilde{\rho})}} \\ &\quad \times \frac{(8\zeta-1)I_\nu(ka)K_\nu(ka) + ka(I'_\nu(ka)K_\nu(ka) + I_\nu(ka)K'_\nu(ka))}{(8\zeta-1)K_\nu^2(ka) + 2kaK'_\nu(ka)K_\nu(ka)}. \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

Finally,

$$G_E(\tau, \rho, \tilde{\tau}, \tilde{\rho}) = G_E^I(\tau, \rho, \tilde{\tau}, \tilde{\rho}) + G_E^M(\rho, \tilde{\rho}). \quad (24)$$

Then, the expression (8) can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned}
G_E(\tau, \rho; \tau, \tilde{\rho}) = & \frac{1}{4\pi^2(\rho - \tilde{\rho})^2} + \frac{T^2}{12} - \frac{T^4\pi^2(\rho - \tilde{\rho})^2}{180} \\
& - \frac{T}{8\pi} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{a^{2l+1}(1-8\xi)(\rho+a)^{-l-1}(\tilde{\rho}+a)^{-l-1}}{(l-4\xi+1)} \\
& - \frac{T}{2\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \cos[2\pi nT(\tau - \tilde{\tau})] \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1) \\
& \times \frac{(8\xi-1)I_\nu(ka)K_\nu(ka) + ka(I'_\nu(ka)K_\nu(ka) + I_\nu(ka)K'_\nu(ka))}{(8\xi-1)K_\nu^2(ka) + 2kaK'_\nu(ka)K_\nu(ka)} \\
& \times \frac{K_\nu(k(a+\rho))K_\nu(k(a+\tilde{\rho}))}{\sqrt{(a+\rho)(a+\tilde{\rho})}} + O((\rho - \tilde{\rho})^3). \quad (25)
\end{aligned}$$

We can notice that  $G_E^M(\rho, \tilde{\rho})$  coincides with the corresponding Green function of Minkowski spacetime.

### 3. Renormalization $\langle \phi^2 \rangle$ and the Result

In this article, the point-splitting method is used for the regularization of  $\langle \phi^2(x, \tilde{x}) \rangle$ . The renormalization procedure consists of subtracting  $G_{DS}$  from  $G_E(x^i, \tilde{x}^i)$  counterterm [27], which is equal to

$$G_{DS} = \frac{1}{4\pi^2(\rho - \tilde{\rho})^2} \quad (26)$$

in space (3) for  $x^i - \tilde{x}^i = \delta_\rho^i(\rho - \tilde{\rho})$ , and then letting  $\tilde{\rho} \rightarrow \rho$ . All the divergences of  $G_E$  coincide with the divergences of  $G_E^M$ . Therefore, we will introduce

$$G_{E-ren}^M = \lim_{\tilde{\rho} \rightarrow \rho} (G_E^M - G_{DS}). \quad (27)$$

Then, in the domain  $\rho > 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
a^2 \langle \phi^2 \rangle_{ren} = & a^2(G_E - G_{DS}) = a^2 \lim_{\tilde{\rho} \rightarrow \rho} (G_{E-ren}^M + G_E^I) = \frac{a^2 T^2}{12} + a^2 \lim_{\tilde{\rho} \rightarrow \rho} G_E^I \\
= & \frac{\tau^2}{48\pi^2} - \frac{\tau}{16\pi^2} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{(1-8\xi)}{(l-4\xi+1)(x+1)^{2l+2}} - \frac{\tau}{2\pi^2(x+1)} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left(l + \frac{1}{2}\right) \\
& \times \frac{(8\xi-1)I_\nu(\tau n)K_\nu(\tau n) + \tau n(I'_\nu(\tau n)K_\nu(\tau n) + I_\nu(\tau n)K'_\nu(\tau n))}{(8\xi-1)K_\nu^2(\tau n) + 2\tau nK'_\nu(\tau n)K_\nu(\tau n)} \\
& \times \left[K_\nu(\tau n(x+1))\right]^2, \quad x = \rho/a, \quad \tau = 2\pi Ta. \quad (28)
\end{aligned}$$

In the limit  $\rho \rightarrow \infty$

$$\langle \phi^2 \rangle_{ren} \simeq \frac{T^2}{12} + \frac{Ta(\xi - 1/8)}{4\pi(\xi - 1/4)\rho^2}. \quad (29)$$

For  $T = 0$ ,

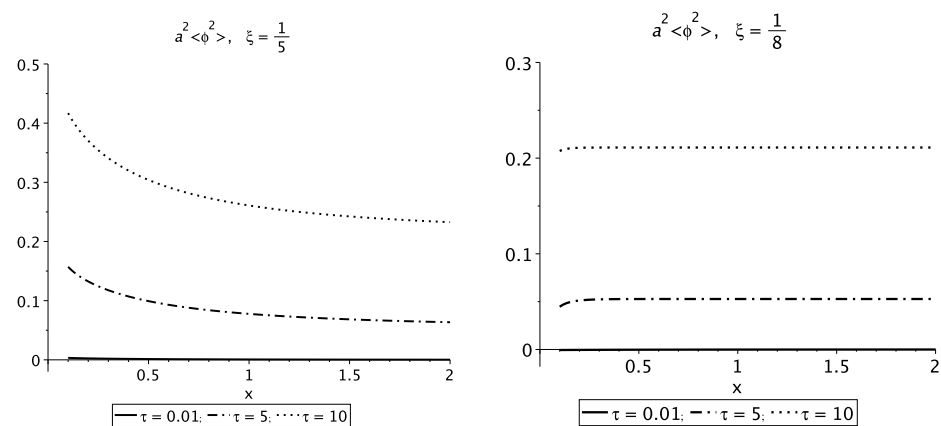
$$a^2 \langle \phi^2 \rangle_{ren} = -\frac{1}{2\pi^2(1+x)} \int_0^\infty dy \sum_{l=0}^\infty \nu \frac{(8\xi - 1)I_\nu(y)K_\nu(y) + y(I'_\nu(y)K_\nu(y) + I_\nu(y)K'_\nu(y))}{(8\xi - 1)K_\nu^2(y) + 2yK'_\nu(y)K_\nu(y)} \times [K_\nu(y(1+x))]^2, \quad x = \rho/a, \quad \nu = l + 1/2 \quad (30)$$

the result is the same as the result of [28]. Due to the symmetry of the problem, the result is also valid in the domain  $\rho < 0$ .

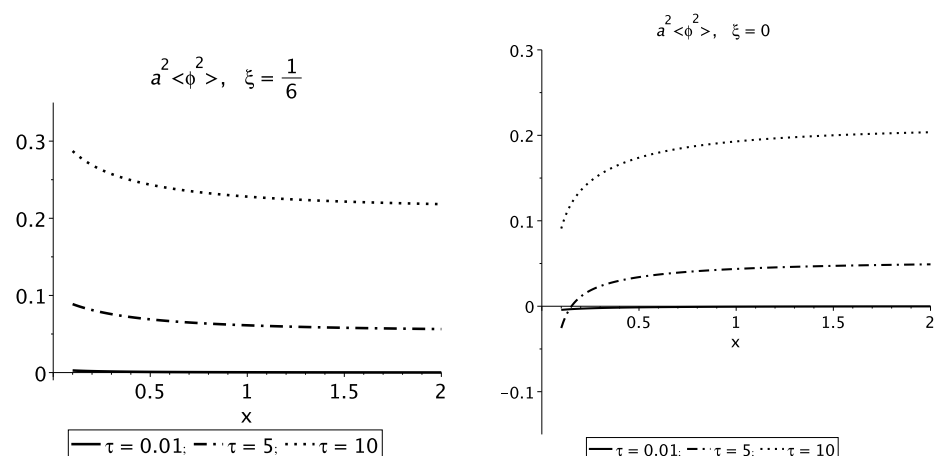
#### 4. Conclusions

We have calculated  $\langle \phi^2 \rangle_{ren}$  of a quantized scalar field in the spacetime of a wormhole with an infinitely short throat. It was assumed that the field has an arbitrary coupling  $\xi$  to the scalar curvature  $R$  of spacetime, is massless, and is in a thermal quantum state with an arbitrary temperature  $T$ .

$\langle \phi^2 \rangle_{ren}$  was computed for various values of the constants  $\xi$  and  $\tau = 2\pi Ta$ . The results of these calculations are shown in Figures 1 and 2.  $\langle \phi^2 \rangle_{ren}$  diverges at  $a=0$ . The reason for this behavior of  $\langle \phi^2 \rangle_{ren}$  is that the wormhole model (3) under consideration does not effectively describe the geometry of spacetime in the vicinity of the wormhole throat. In a wormhole with a smooth throat, there is no such divergence, at least for  $T = 0$  [28].



**Figure 1.** Plot of functions (28) for different values of  $\xi = 1/5, 1/8$  and  $\tau = 2\pi Ta = 0.01, 5, 10$  vs.  $x = \rho/a$ .



**Figure 2.** Plot of functions (28) for different values of  $\xi = 1/6, 0$  and  $\tau = 2\pi Ta = 0.01, 5, 10$  vs.  $x = \rho/a$ .



In the high temperature limit ( $T \gg 1/a$ ), the result

$$\langle \phi^2 \rangle_{ren} \simeq \frac{T^2}{12} \quad (31)$$

coincides with the previously known one (see, e.g., [30]). In the limit of  $T = 0$ , the result (30) coincides with the result of [28]. In the limit  $\rho \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\langle \phi^2 \rangle_{ren}$  tends to be the constant value (31) determined by the quantum state temperature  $T$ .

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