Soft Heisenberg Hair

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Two simple punchlines

1. Heisenberg algebra

 $[X_n, P_m] = i \,\delta_{n,m}$

fundamental not only in quantum mechanics but also in near horizon physics of gravity theories

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2. Black hole microstates identified as specific "soft hair" descendants at least in three spacetime dimensions

based on work (2016-2019) with

- Hamid Afshar, Shahin Sheikh-Jabbari, Zahra Mirzaiyan [IPM Teheran]
- Martin Ammon [U. Jena]
- Stephane Detournay, Wout Merbis, Stefan Prohazka, Max Riegler [ULB]
- Hernán González [AIU Santiago]
- Philip Hacker, Raphaela Wutte, Céline Zwikel [TU Wien]
- Alfredo Perez, David Tempo, Ricardo Troncoso [CECs Valdivia]
- Hossein Yavartanoo [ITP Beijing]

Outline

Boundary charges

Near horizon boundary conditions

Soft Heisenberg hair and black hole entropy

Generalizations and perspective

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- Gauge or gravity theories in presence of (asymptotic) boundaries: asymptotic symmetries

Definition of asymptotic symmetries

All boundary condition preserving gauge transformations (bcpgt's) modulo trivial gauge transformations

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- Choice of boundary conditions determines asymptotic symmetries

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Impose some bc's at (asymptotic or actual) boundary:

$$\lim_{r \to r_b} g_{\mu\nu}(r, x^i) = \bar{g}_{\mu\nu}(r_b, x^i) + \delta g_{\mu\nu}(r_b, x^i)$$

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typically, Killing vectors can be expanded radially

 $\xi^{\mu}(r_b, x^i) = \xi^{\mu}_{(0)}(r_b, x^i) + \text{subleading terms}$

 $\xi^{\mu}_{(0)}(r_b,\,x^i)$: generates asymptotic symmetries subleading terms: generate trivial diffeos

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Definition of asymptotic symmetry algebra

Lie bracket quotient algebra of asymptotic Killing vectors modulo trivial diffeos

Consider class of 2d metrics, partially gauge-fixed

$$g_{rr}(r, u) = 0$$

$$g_{ur}(r, u) = -1$$

$$g_{uu}(r, u) = \delta g(u)r + \mathcal{O}(1)$$

expanded for large \boldsymbol{r}

Note: Ricci scalar tends to zero for large \boldsymbol{r}

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$$\boldsymbol{\xi} = \boldsymbol{\epsilon}(u)\partial_u + \left(\boldsymbol{\eta}(u) - \boldsymbol{\epsilon}'(u)r\right)\partial_r$$

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asymptotic symmetry algebra ("BMS₂"):

$$\left[\xi(\epsilon_1, \eta_1), \, \xi(\epsilon_2, \eta_2)\right]_{\text{Lie}} = \xi\left(\epsilon_1\epsilon_2' - \epsilon_2\epsilon_1', \, (\epsilon_1\eta_2 - \epsilon_2\eta_1)'\right)$$

Lie bracket algebra of asymptotic Killing vectors is infinite dimensional here

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• in Fourier-modes $L_n := \xi(\epsilon = ie^{inu}, \eta = 0), J_n := \xi(\epsilon = 0, \eta = ie^{inu})$:

 $[L_n, L_m]_{\text{Lie}} = (n-m) L_{n+m} \qquad [J_n, J_m]_{\text{Lie}} = 0 \qquad [L_n, J_m]_{\text{Lie}} = -(n+m) J_{n+m}$

Witt algebra (spin-2) with current-type algebra (spin-0)

Consider class of 2d metrics

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 dropping partial gauge-fixing does not change asymptotic symmetries instead, switches on trivial diffeos

God made the bulk; surfaces were invented by the devil — Wolfgang Pauli

changing boundary conditions can change physical spectrum

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changing boundary conditions can change physical spectrum simple example: quantum mechanics of free particle on half-line x > 0

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$$-\frac{\mathrm{d}^2}{\mathrm{d}x^2}\psi(x) = E\psi(x)$$

look for (normalizable) bound state solutions, E < 0

- Dirichlet bc's: no bound states
- Neumann bc's: no bound states

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- Neumann bc's: no bound states
- Robin bc's

$$(\psi + \alpha \psi')\big|_{x=0^+} = 0 \qquad \alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

lead to one bound state

$$\psi(x)\big|_{x\geq 0} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\alpha}} e^{-x/\alpha}$$

with energy $E=-1/\alpha^2,$ localized exponentially near x=0

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- changing boundary conditions can change physical spectrum
- to distinguish asymptotic symmetries from trivial gauge trafos: either use Noether's second theorem and covariant phase space analysis or perform Hamiltonian analysis in presence of boundaries

Some references:

- covariant phase space: Lee, Wald '90, Iyer, Wald '94 and Barnich, Brandt '02
- review: see Compère, Fiorucci '18 and refs. therein
- canonical analysis: Arnowitt, Deser, Misner '59, Regge, Teitelboim '74 and Brown, Henneaux '86
- review: see Bañados, Reyes '16 and refs. therein

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- ▶ in Hamiltonian language: gauge generator $G[\epsilon]$ varies as

$$\delta G[\epsilon] = \int_{\Sigma} (\text{bulk term}) \epsilon \, \delta \Phi - \int_{\partial \Sigma} (\text{boundary term}) \epsilon \, \delta \Phi$$

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Trivial gauge transformations generated by some ϵ with $Q[\epsilon]=0$
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$$\delta_{\epsilon_1}Q[\epsilon_2] = \{Q[\epsilon_1], \, Q[\epsilon_2]\} = Q[\epsilon_1 \circ \epsilon_2] + Z[\epsilon_1, \, \epsilon_2]$$

Z: possible central extension of asymptotic symmetry algebra

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Poisson (or Dirac) bracket algebra of canonical boundary charges

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► physical phase space falls into representations of asymptotic symmetry algebra ⇒ useful e.g. for holography

abelian Chern–Simons action (on cylinder)

$$I[A] = \frac{k}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R} \times \Sigma} A \wedge \mathrm{d}A$$

Note: topological QFT with no local physical degrees of freedom

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$$Q[\epsilon] = \frac{k}{2\pi} \oint_{\partial \Sigma} \epsilon \, A$$

choice of bc's

$$\lim_{r \to \infty} A = \mathcal{J}(\varphi) \, \mathrm{d}\varphi + \mu \, \mathrm{d}t$$

preserved by $\epsilon=\eta(\varphi)+{\rm subleading}$

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Fourier modes $J_n \sim \oint \mathcal{J}e^{in\varphi}$ yield $u(1)_k$ current algebra, $i\{J_n, J_m\} = \frac{k}{2} n \, \delta_{n+m, 0}$

see e.g. Halperin '82, Witten '89, or Balachandran, Chandar, Momen '94

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define vacuum

$$J_n|0
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descendants of vacuum are examples of edge states

$$|\text{edge}(\{n_i\})\rangle = \prod_{\{n_i>0\}} J_{-n_i}|0\rangle$$

e.g.

$$|\text{edge}(\{1,1,42\})\rangle = J_{-1}^2 J_{-42}|0\rangle$$

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► theories with no local physical degrees of freedom can have edge states! ⇒ perhaps cleanest example of holography

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Soft Heisenberg hair and black hole entropy

Generalizations and perspective



Motivations:



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Want to ask conditional questions "given a black hole, what are the probabilities for some scattering process"



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- Want to understand Bekenstein-Hawking entropy

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$$S_{\rm BH} = \frac{A}{4G} + \mathcal{O}(\ln(A/G))$$

- 1. Why only semi-classical input for entropy?
- 2. What are microstates?
- 3. Semi-classical construction of microstates?
- 4. Does counting of microstates reproduce $S_{\rm BH}$?

Postulates of near horizon boundary conditions:

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1. Rindler approximation

 $\mathrm{d}s^2 = -\kappa^2 r^2 \, \mathrm{d}t^2 + \mathrm{d}r^2 + \Omega_{ab}(t, \, x^c) \, \mathrm{d}x^a \, \mathrm{d}x^b + \dots$

 $r \rightarrow 0$: Rindler horizon κ : surface gravity Ω_{ab} : metric transversal to horizon ...: terms of higher order in r or rotation terms

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- 2. Surface gravity is state-independent

 $\delta\kappa = 0$

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3. Metric transversal to horizon is state-dependent

$$\delta\Omega_{ab} = \mathcal{O}(1)$$

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1. Rindler approximation

 $\mathrm{d}s^2 = -\kappa^2 r^2 \, \mathrm{d}t^2 + \mathrm{d}r^2 + \Omega_{ab}(t, \, x^c) \, \mathrm{d}x^a \, \mathrm{d}x^b + \dots$

- $r \rightarrow 0$: Rindler horizon κ : surface gravity Ω_{ab} : metric transversal to horizon ...: terms of higher order in r or rotation terms
- 2. Surface gravity is state-independent

 $\delta\kappa=0$

3. Metric transversal to horizon is state-dependent

$$\delta\Omega_{ab} = \mathcal{O}(1)$$

4. Remaining terms fixed by consistency of canonical boundary charges

Black holes can be deformed into black flowers Afshar et al. 16

Horizon can get excited by area preserving shear-deformations



Simplification in 3d:

$$\mathrm{d}s^{2} = \left[-\kappa^{2}r^{2} \mathrm{d}t^{2} + \mathrm{d}r^{2} + \gamma^{2}(\varphi) \mathrm{d}\varphi^{2} + 2\kappa\omega(\varphi)r^{2} \mathrm{d}t \mathrm{d}\varphi\right] \left(1 + \mathcal{O}(r^{2})\right)$$

▶ Map from round S^1 to Fourier-excited S^1 : diffeo $\gamma(\varphi) d\varphi = d\tilde{\varphi}$

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 Map from round S¹ to Fourier-excited S¹: diffeo γ(φ) dφ = dφ̃
 Trivial or non-trivial? Answer provided by boundary charges!

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Map from round S¹ to Fourier-excited S¹: diffeo γ(φ) dφ = dφ̃
 Non-trivial diffeo!

Canonical analysis yields

$$Q^{\pm}[\epsilon^{\pm}] \sim \oint \mathrm{d}\varphi \, \epsilon^{\pm}(\varphi) \left(\gamma(\varphi) \pm \omega(\varphi)\right)$$

where ϵ^{\pm} are functions appearing in asymptotic Killing vectors charge conservation follows from on-shell relations $\partial_t \gamma = 0 = \partial_t \omega$ explains last word in title: γ and ω are hair of black hole

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► Near horizon symmetry algebra Fourier modes $\mathcal{J}_n^{\pm} = Q^{\pm}[\epsilon^{\pm} = e^{in\varphi}]$ $[\mathcal{J}_n^{\pm}, \mathcal{J}_m^{\pm}] = \frac{1}{2} n \, \delta_{n+m, \, 0}$

Two u(1) current algebras! Afshar et al. 16

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Isomorphic to Heisenberg algebras plus center

$$[X_n, P_m] = i \,\delta_{n,m} \qquad [P_0, X_n] = 0 = [X_0, P_n]$$

 $P_0 = \mathcal{J}_0^+ + \mathcal{J}_0^-$, $X_n = \mathcal{J}_n^+ - \mathcal{J}_{-n}^-$, $P_n = 2i/n(\mathcal{J}_{-n}^+ + \mathcal{J}_n^-)$ for $n \neq 0$

Unique features of near horizon boundary conditions

1. All states allowed by bc's have same temperature

By contrast: asymptotically AdS or flat space bc's allow for black hole states at different masses and hence different temperatures

Unique features of near horizon boundary conditions

- 1. All states allowed by bc's have same temperature
- All states allowed by bc's are regular (in particular, they have no conical singularities at the horizon in the Euclidean formulation)

By contrast: for given temperature not all states in theories with asymptotically AdS or flat space bc's are free from conical singularities; usually a unique black hole state is picked

Unique features of near horizon boundary conditions

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- 3. There is a non-trivial reducibility parameter (= Killing vector)

By contrast: for any other known (non-trivial) bc's there is no vector field that is Killing for all geometries allowed by bc's
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- 4. Technical feature: in Chern-Simons formulation of 3d gravity simple expressions in diagonal gauge

$$A^{\pm} = b^{\pm 1} (d + a^{\pm}) b^{\pm 1}$$
$$a^{\pm} = L_0 \left(\left(\gamma(\varphi) \pm \omega(\varphi) \right) d\varphi + \kappa dt \right)$$
$$b = \exp \left[\left(L_+ - L_- \right) r/2 \right]$$

 L_{\pm} are $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ raising/lowering generators L_0 is $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ Cartan subalgebra generator

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5. Leads to soft Heisenberg hair (see next slides!)

Outline

Boundary charges

Near horizon boundary conditions

Soft Heisenberg hair and black hole entropy

Generalizations and perspective

Black flower excitations = hair of black holes Algebraically, excitations from descendants

$$|\text{black flower}\rangle \sim \prod_{n_i^{\pm} > 0} \mathcal{J}_{-n_i^{+}}^{+} \mathcal{J}_{-n_i^{-}}^{-} |\text{black hole}\rangle$$

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commutes with all generators \mathcal{J}_n^\pm

 * units defined by specifying κ

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 Obeys simple near horizon first law

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with Hawking–Unruh-temperature

$$T = \frac{\kappa}{2\pi}$$

 δ refers to any variation of phase space variables allowed by the boundary conditions

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Can we understand entropy law microscopically?

Given our soft Heisenberg hair, attack now entropy questions

- 1. Why only semi-classical input for entropy?
- 2. What are microstates?
- 3. Semi-classical construction of microstates?
- 4. Does counting of microstates reproduce $S_{\rm BH}$?

Regarding 1. and 3.: may expect decoupling of scales so that description of microstates does not need info about UV completion, but rather only some semi-classical "Bohr-like" input

Evidence for this: universality of BH entropy for large black holes

$$S_{\rm BH} = \frac{A}{4G} + \dots$$

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Possible obstacles:

TMI: no upper bound on soft hair excitations

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- possible resolution: do not consider asymptotic but near horizon observer (i.e., employ near horizon bc's and symmetry algebra)

Highest weight vacuum |0
angle

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subject to spectral constraint depending on black hole mass M and angular momentum J (measured by asymptotic observer)

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derived from Bohr-type quantization conditions

- ▶ quantization of central charge c = 3/(2G) in integers
- \blacktriangleright quantization of conical deficit angles in integers over c
- black hole/particle correspondence (black hole = gas of coherent states of particles on AdS₃)

Microstates for BTZ black hole with mass M and angular momentum J:

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to get entropy use Boltzmann's formula

$$S = \ln p\left(\frac{c}{2}\left(M+J\right)\right) + \ln p\left(\frac{c}{2}\left(M-J\right)\right)$$







(we set k = 1 and W = p)

Soft Heisenberg hair and black hole entropy

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leading order yields Cardy formula and hence the BH entropy

$$S = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{c}{6}(M+J)} + 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{c}{6}(M-J)} = 2\pi P_0 = \frac{A}{4G} + \dots$$

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leading + subleading order yields BH entropy plus log corrections

$$S = \frac{A}{4G} - 2\ln\left(A/(4G)\right) + \dots$$

Outline

Boundary charges

Near horizon boundary conditions

Soft Heisenberg hair and black hole entropy

Generalizations and perspective

Generalizations

Near horizon boundary conditions
Near horizon boundary conditions works in any dimension, for any local geometry, for any reasonable theory* (with metric) and for any type of non-extremal horizon

* theories checked so far: Einstein gravity with negative cosmological constant $(d \ge 3)$ Einstein gravity with vanishing cosmological constant $(d \ge 3)$ higher spin gravity (d = 3, principal embedding of <math>sl(2))various massive gravity theories (d = 3)

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- Soft Heisenberg hair

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 * for instance, for Schwarzschild

$$\{Q_{lm}, P_{l'm'}\} = \frac{1}{8\pi G} \,\delta_{ll'} \,\delta_{mm'} \qquad l > 0 \qquad \{P_{00}, \bullet\} = 0$$

 Q_{lm} : spherical harmonics of area preserving shear deformations P_{lm} : spherical harmonics of near horizon supertranslations Entropy given by $S=2\pi\,P_{00}$

Kerr has additional generators: area preserving twist deformations

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Semi-classical microstates (fluff)

might work more generally, but so far only checked BTZ black hole; needed Bohr-type rules to succeed

Take-away messages:

Near horizon boundary conditions useful for black hole description

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- Near horizon boundary conditions useful for black hole description
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$$S = 2\pi P_0$$

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Thanks for your attention!





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thus, Lie-bracket replaced by modified Lie-bracket

$$[\xi_1, \, \xi_2]_{\text{mod}} = [\xi_1, \, \xi_2]_{\text{Lie}} + \delta_{\xi_2} \xi_1 - \delta_{\xi_1} \xi_2$$

main difference to DGGP, where ξ is state-independent!

• Usual asymptotic AdS_3 connection with chemical potential μ :

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Usual asymptotic AdS₃ connection with chemical potential µ: = b̂⁻¹(d+â)b̂ â_φ = L₊ - ½ L L_− b̂ = e^{ρL₀} â_t = µL₊ - µ'L₀ + (½ µ" - ½ Lµ) L_−
Gauge trafo â = g⁻¹ (d+a) g with g = exp (xL₊) · exp (-½ JL_−) where ∂_vx - κx = µ and x' - Jx = 1

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Virasoro w. Brown–Henneaux central charge $\delta \mathcal{L} = 2\mathcal{L}\varepsilon' + \mathcal{L}'\varepsilon - \varepsilon'''$

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Note twisted periodicity conditions

$$\mathcal{W}^{\nu}(\varphi + 2\pi) = e^{-2\pi\nu i} \mathcal{W}^{\nu}(\varphi)$$

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Maldacena, Maoz '00; Lunin, Maldacena, Maoz '02

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