

Soft Heisenberg Hair

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SIZE COMPARISON:
THE M87 BLACK HOLE
AND
OUR SOLAR SYSTEM

EHT BLACK HOLE IMAGE
SOURCE: NSF



xkcd 2135

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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but also in near horizon physics of gravity theories

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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Physics with boundaries

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Definition of asymptotic symmetries

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

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- ▶ Gauge or gravity theories in presence of (asymptotic) boundaries: asymptotic symmetries
- ▶ Choice of boundary conditions determines asymptotic symmetries

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Asymptotic symmetries in gravity

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

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- ▶ typically, Killing vectors can be expanded radially

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

$\xi_{(0)}^\mu(r_b, x^i)$: 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

Simple example (based on unpublished notes with Salzer)
Asymptotic Rindler₂ spacetimes (in Eddington–Finkelstein gauge)

- ▶ 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 r

Note: Ricci scalar tends to zero for large r

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$$\xi = \epsilon(u)\partial_u + (\eta(u) - \epsilon'(u)r)\partial_r$$

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- ▶ asymptotic symmetry algebra (“BMS₂”):

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

Lie bracket algebra of asymptotic Killing vectors is infinite dimensional here

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

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

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

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Asymptotic Rindler₂ spacetimes (asymptotically in Eddington–Finkelstein gauge)

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

Canonical boundary charges

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

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time-independent Schrödinger equation:

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

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

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

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- ▶ Robin bc's

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

lead to one bound state

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

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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- ▶ changing boundary conditions can change physical spectrum
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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 $Q[\epsilon] = 0$

Canonical realization of asymptotic symmetries

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- ▶ on constraint surface $\Gamma[\epsilon] = Q[\epsilon]$, hence

$$\delta_{\epsilon_1} Q[\epsilon_2] = \{Q[\epsilon_1], Q[\epsilon_2]\} = Q[\epsilon_1 \circ \epsilon_2] + Z[\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2]$$

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- ▶ physical phase space falls into representations of asymptotic symmetry algebra \Rightarrow useful e.g. for holography

Simple example: abelian Chern–Simons

- ▶ abelian Chern–Simons action (on cylinder)

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

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

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} A = \mathcal{J}(\varphi) d\varphi + \mu dt$$

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

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

Edge states

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

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- ▶ back to abelian Chern–Simons example:
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$$J_n |0\rangle = 0 \quad \forall n \geq 0$$

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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! \Rightarrow perhaps cleanest example of holography

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Near horizon boundary conditions

Soft Heisenberg hair and black hole entropy

Generalizations and perspective

Motivation for near horizon boundary conditions

Old idea by Strominger '97 and Carlip '98

Main idea

Impose existence of non-extremal horizon
as boundary condition on state space

Motivations:

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Motivations:

- ▶ Want to ask conditional questions “given a black hole, what are the probabilities for some scattering process”

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Impose existence of non-extremal horizon as boundary condition on state space

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- ▶ Want to ask conditional questions “given a black hole, what are the probabilities for some scattering process”
- ▶ Want to understand Bekenstein–Hawking entropy

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

Motivation for near horizon boundary conditions

Old idea by Strominger '97 and Carlip '98

Main idea

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Explicit form of near horizon boundary conditions

See [Donnay, Giribet, Gonzalez, Pino '15](#) and [Afshar et al '16](#)

Postulates of near horizon boundary conditions:

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Postulates of near horizon boundary conditions:

1. Rindler approximation

$$ds^2 = -\kappa^2 r^2 dt^2 + dr^2 + \Omega_{ab}(t, x^c) dx^a dx^b + \dots$$

$r \rightarrow 0$: Rindler horizon

κ : surface gravity

Ω_{ab} : metric transversal to horizon

\dots : terms of higher order in r or rotation terms

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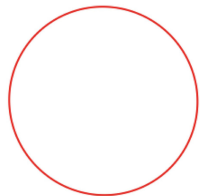
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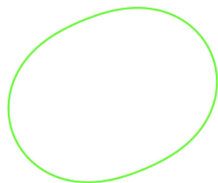
4. Remaining terms fixed by consistency of canonical boundary charges

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

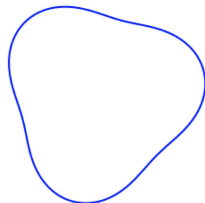
Horizon can get excited by area preserving shear-deformations



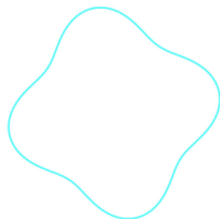
$k = 1$



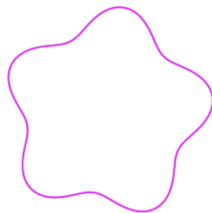
$k = 2$



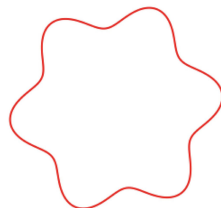
$k = 3$



$k = 4$



$k = 5$



$k = 6$

Near horizon symmetries = “asymptotic symmetries” for near horizon bc’s
Restrict for the time being to AdS_3 black holes (BTZ)

Simplification in 3d:

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

► 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 S^1 to Fourier-excited S^1 : diffeo $\gamma(\varphi) d\varphi = d\tilde{\varphi}$
- ▶ Trivial or non-trivial?
Answer provided by boundary charges!

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

$$Q^\pm[\epsilon^\pm] \sim \oint d\varphi \epsilon^\pm(\varphi) (\gamma(\varphi) \pm \omega(\varphi))$$

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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$$[\mathcal{J}_n^\pm, \mathcal{J}_m^\pm] = \frac{1}{2} n \delta_{n+m, 0}$$

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

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- ▶ Isomorphic to Heisenberg algebras plus center

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

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

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
2. 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

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

$$A^\pm = b^{\mp 1} (d + a^\pm) b^{\pm 1}$$

$$a^\pm = L_0 \left((\gamma(\varphi) \pm \omega(\varphi)) d\varphi + \kappa dt \right)$$

$$b = \exp \left[(L_+ - L_-) r/2 \right]$$

L_\pm are $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ raising/lowering generators

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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

Soft Heisenberg hair for BTZ

- ▶ 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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- ▶ Near horizon Hamiltonian = boundary charge associated with unit time-translations*

$$H = Q[\partial_t] = \kappa P_0$$

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

* units defined by specifying κ

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Call it “soft Heisenberg hair”

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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?

Semi-classical microstates?

Given our soft Heisenberg hair, attack now entropy questions

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4. Does counting of microstates reproduce S_{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

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

Fluff proposal (with Afshar, Sheikh-Jabbari '16 and also with Yavartanoo '17)
Semi-classical BTZ black hole microstates as near horizon descendants of vacuum

Highest weight vacuum $|0\rangle$

$$\mathcal{J}_n^\pm |0\rangle = 0 \quad \forall n \geq 0$$

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$$|\mathcal{B}(\{n_i^\pm\})\rangle = \prod_{\{n_i^\pm > 0\}} (\mathcal{J}_{-n_i^+}^+ \cdot \mathcal{J}_{-n_i^-}^-) |0\rangle$$

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
- ▶ quantization of conical deficit angles in integers over c
- ▶ black hole/particle correspondence

(black hole = gas of coherent states of particles on AdS_3)

Check of fluff proposal

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

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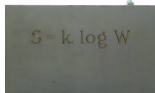
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- ▶ to get entropy use Boltzmann's formula

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



(we set $k = 1$ and $W = p$)

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- ▶ combinatorial problem: how many ways to decompose large positive integer $\frac{c}{2} (M \pm J)$ into sum of positive integers
- ▶ solved by **Hardy, Ramanujan 1918**

$$p(N)|_{N \gg 1} \sim \frac{1}{4N\sqrt{3}} \exp(2\pi \sqrt{N/6})$$

- ▶ to get entropy use Boltzmann's formula

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

- ▶ leading order yields **Cardy formula** and hence the **BH entropy**

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

Check of fluff proposal

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

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

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 ($d \geq 3$)

Einstein gravity with vanishing cosmological constant ($d \geq 3$)

higher spin gravity ($d = 3$, principal embedding of $sl(2)$)

various massive gravity theories ($d = 3$)

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* for instance, for Schwarzschild

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

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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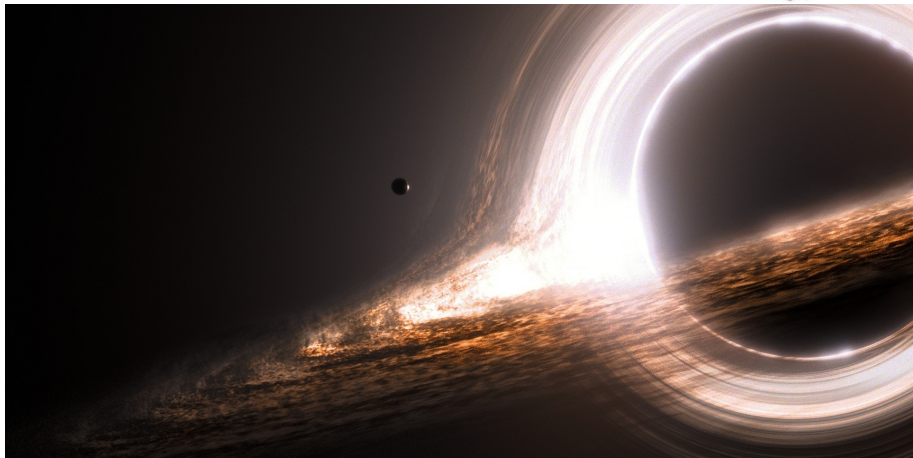
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Thanks for your attention!



Bonus slide I

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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!

Bonus slide II

Map to asymptotic variables

- ▶ Usual asymptotic AdS_3 connection with chemical potential μ :

$$\hat{A} = \hat{b}^{-1} (d + \hat{\mathbf{a}}) \hat{b} \quad \hat{\mathbf{a}}_\varphi = L_+ - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L} L_-$$

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

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Some fluffy details

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$$\mathcal{J}_{c(n+\nu)} \sim \mathcal{W}_n^\nu$$

Note twisted periodicity conditions

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

where $\mathcal{W}^\nu := \exp[-2 \int J]$ with $J_0 = i\nu/2$

$[W_n^\nu, W_m^{-\nu'}] \sim c(n + \nu) \delta_{n+m,0} \delta_{\nu,\nu'}$ suggests relation above

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

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$$\sum_p \mathcal{J}_{nc-p} \mathcal{J}_p \sim \sum_p J_{n-p} J_p + inc J_n$$

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Justification 2: gives nice result