

Lower-dimensional holography

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Outline

Motivation

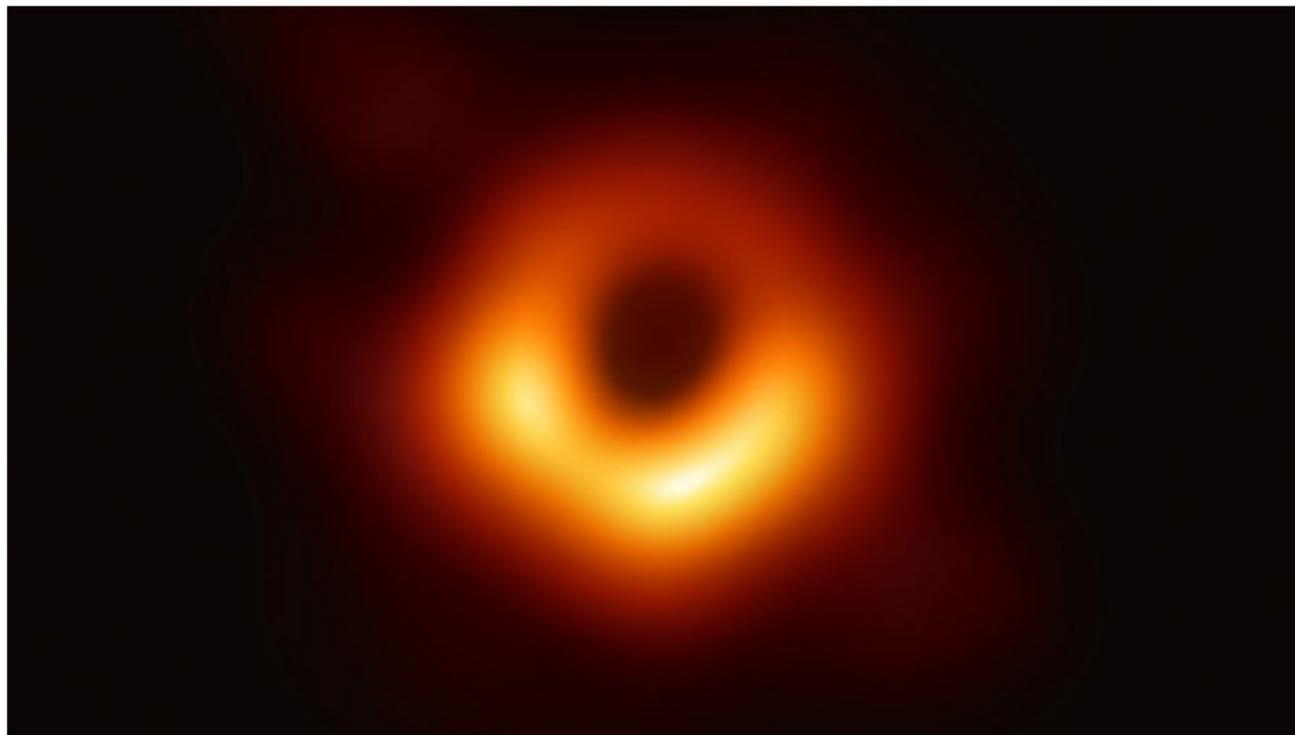
Gravity in three dimensions

Near horizon soft hair

Gravity in two dimensions

Flat space holography and complex SYK

Black holes hide key secrets to Nature



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Some open issues in gravity

- ▶ IR (classical gravity)

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 - ▶ soft physics
 - ▶ near horizon symmetries

Take-away slogan

Equivalence principle needs modification

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 - ▶ **black hole** microstates

Take-away homework

Find 'hydrogen-atom' of quantum gravity

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 - ▶ AdS/CFT and applications
 - ▶ precision holography
 - ▶ generality of holography

Take-away question(s)

(When) is quantum gravity in $D + 1$ dimensions equivalent to (which) quantum field theory in D dimensions?

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- ▶ all issues above can be addressed in lower dimensions
- ▶ lower dimensions technically simpler
- ▶ hope to resolve conceptual problems

Gravity in various dimensions

Riemann-tensor $\frac{D^2(D^2-1)}{12}$ components in D dimensions:

- ▶ 11D: 1210 (1144 Weyl and 66 Ricci)
- ▶ 10D: 825 (770 Weyl and 55 Ricci)
- ▶ 5D: 50 (35 Weyl and 15 Ricci)
- ▶ 4D: 20 (10 Weyl and 10 Ricci)

Caveat: just counting tensor components can be misleading as measure of complexity

Example: large D limit actually simple for some problems ([Emparan et al.](#))

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- ▶ 3D: 6 (Ricci)
- ▶ 2D: 1 (Ricci scalar)
- ▶ 1D: 0 (space or time but not both \Rightarrow no lightcones)

Apply as mantra the slogan “as simple as possible, but not simpler”

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- ▶ No Einstein gravity

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- ▶ 3D: lowest dimension exhibiting **BHs** and gravitons
- ▶ Simplest gravitational theories with **BHs** and gravitons in 3D
- ▶ Lowest dimension for Einstein gravity (**BHs** but no gravitons)

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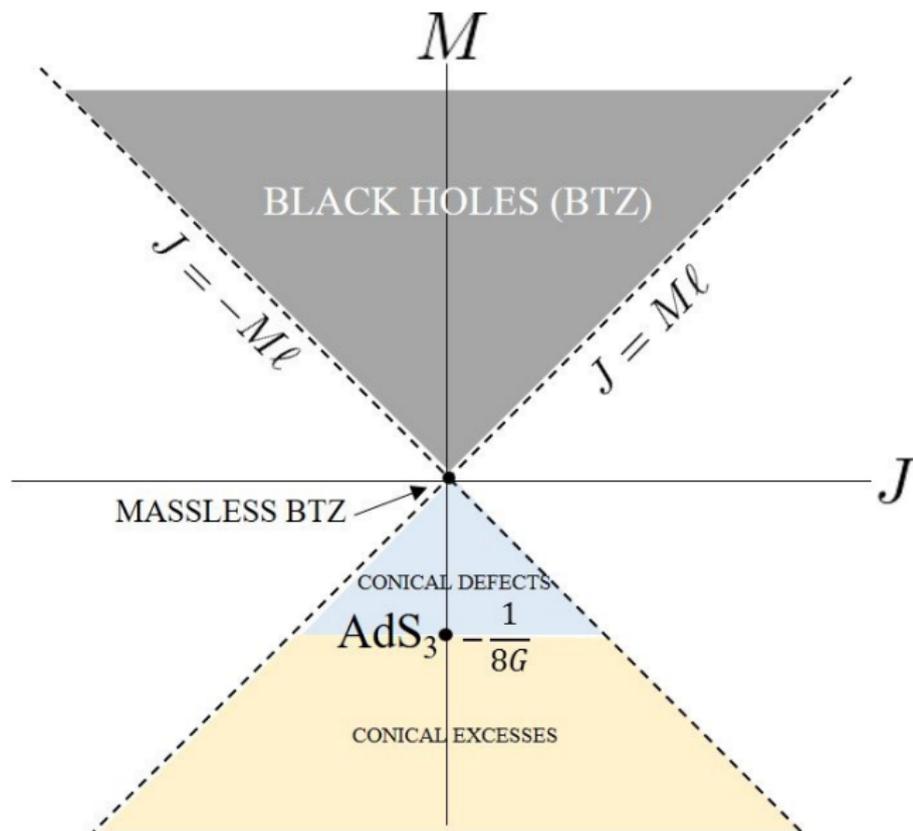
Near horizon soft hair

Gravity in two dimensions

Flat space holography and complex SYK

Spectrum of BTZ **black holes** and related physical states

Could this **black hole** be the 'hydrogen atom' for quantum gravity?



Choice of theory

► Choice of bulk action

Pick Einstein–Hilbert action with negative cc ($\Lambda = -1/\ell^2$)

$$I_{\text{EH}}[g] = -\frac{1}{16\pi G} \int_{\mathcal{M}} d^3x \sqrt{-g} \left(R + \frac{2}{\ell^2} \right)$$

Usually choose also topology of \mathcal{M} , e.g. cylinder

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t : time, $\varphi \sim \varphi + 2\pi$: angular coordinate, r : radial coordinate

$r \rightarrow \infty$: asymptotic region

$r \rightarrow r_+ \geq r_-$: **black hole** horizon

$r \rightarrow r_- \geq 0$: inner horizon

$r_+ \rightarrow r_- > 0$: extremal BTZ

$r_- \rightarrow 0$: non-rotating BTZ

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- Bekenstein–Hawking entropy

$$S_{\text{BH}} = \frac{A}{4G} = \frac{\pi r_+}{2G}$$

Hawking–Unruh temperature: $T = (r_+^2 - r_-^2)/(2\pi r_+ \ell^2)$

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Crucial to define theory — yields spectrum of ‘edge states’

Pick whatever suits best to describe relevant physics

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- ▶ Goal: understand microscopic structure of BTZ black holes
- ▶ Tool: near horizon symmetries and edge states
- ▶ Task: recall first in general how edge states emerge

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

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

$\xi_{(0)}^\mu(r_b, x^i)$: generates asymptotic symmetries/changes physical state

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

Canonical boundary charges

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time-independent Schrödinger equation:

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

- ▶ Dirichlet 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 (“edge 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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- ▶ to distinguish asymptotic symmetries from trivial gauge trafos: perform Hamiltonian analysis in presence of boundaries
- ▶ in Hamiltonian language: gauge generator $G[\epsilon]$ varies as

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

not functionally differentiable in general (Σ : constant time slice)

Φ : shorthand for phase space variables

ϵ : smearing function/parameter of gauge trafos

δ : arbitrary field variation

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Trivial gauge transformations generated by some ϵ with $Q[\epsilon] = 0$

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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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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_{BH} ?

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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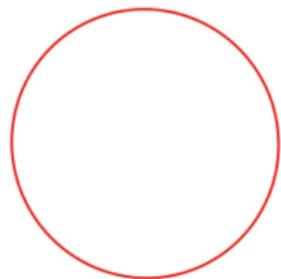
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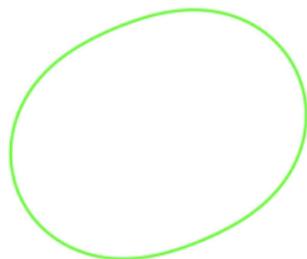
4. Remaining terms fixed by consistency of canonical boundary charges

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

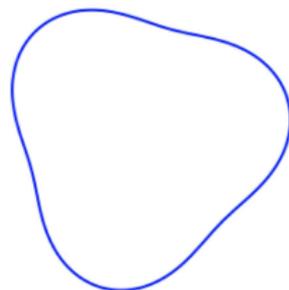
Horizon can get excited by area preserving shear-deformations



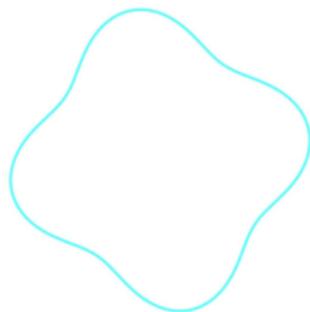
$k = 1$



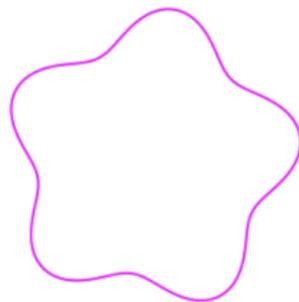
$k = 2$



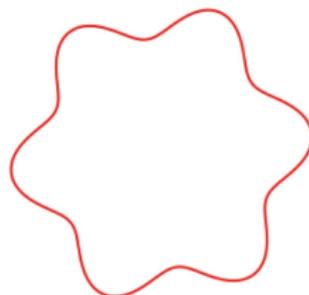
$k = 3$



$k = 4$



$k = 5$



$k = 6$

Near horizon symmetries = “asymptotic symmetries” for near horizon bc's
Restrict for the time being to AdS₃ black holes (BTZ)

Simplification in 3d:

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

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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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- ▶ 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 $\partial_t \gamma = 0 = \partial_t \omega$

hairy black holes: 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

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

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

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

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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!)

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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Express entropy in terms of near horizon charges:

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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

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_{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

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

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

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Semi-classical BTZ black hole microstates as near horizon descendants of vacuum

Highest weight vacuum $|0\rangle$

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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 $c = 3\ell/(2G)$ 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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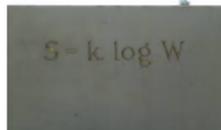
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$$S = \ln p\left(\frac{c}{2} (M + J)\right) + \ln p\left(\frac{c}{2} (M - J)\right)$$



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

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- ▶ 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**

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

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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works in any dimension, for any local geometry, for any reasonable theory (with metric) and for any type of non-extremal horizon
- ▶ Soft Heisenberg hair
works for Einstein gravity, higher derivative gravity and higher spin gravity in three dimensions and Einstein gravity in higher dimensions
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might work more generally, but so far only checked BTZ black hole; needed Bohr-type rules to succeed

Outline

Motivation

Gravity in three dimensions

Near horizon soft hair

Gravity in two dimensions

Flat space holography and complex SYK

What about non-AdS holography?

Key question

(When) is quantum gravity in $D + 1$ dimensions equivalent to (which) quantum field theory in D dimensions?

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Would like concrete model for flat space holography

Selected list of models (see review [hep-th/0604049](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/0604049) with Meyer)

Black holes in (A)dS₂, asymptotically flat or arbitrary spaces (Wheeler property)

Model	$U(X)$	$V(X)$
1. Schwarzschild (1916)	$-\frac{1}{2X}$	$-\lambda^2$
2. Jackiw-Teitelboim (1984)	0	ΛX
3. Witten Black Hole (1991)	$-\frac{1}{X}$	$-2b^2 X$
4. CGHS (1992)	0	-2Λ
5. (A)dS ₂ ground state (1994)	$-\frac{a}{X}$	BX
6. Rindler ground state (1996)	$-\frac{a}{X}$	BX^a
7. Black Hole attractor (2003)	0	BX^{-1}
8. Spherically reduced gravity ($N > 3$)	$-\frac{N-3}{(N-2)X}$	$-\lambda^2 X^{(N-4)/(N-2)}$
9. All above: ab -family (1997)	$-\frac{a}{X}$	BX^{a+b}
10. Liouville gravity	a	$be^{\alpha X}$
11. Reissner-Nordström (1916)	$-\frac{1}{2X}$	$-\lambda^2 + \frac{Q^2}{X}$
12. Schwarzschild-(A)dS	$-\frac{1}{2X}$	$-\lambda^2 - \ell X$
13. Katanaev-Volovich (1986)	α	$\beta X^2 - \Lambda$
14. BTZ/Achucarro-Ortiz (1993)	0	$\frac{Q^2}{X} - \frac{J}{4X^3} - \Lambda X$
15. KK reduced CS (2003)	0	$\frac{1}{2} X(c - X^2)$
16. KK red. conf. flat (2006)	$-\frac{1}{2} \tanh(X/2)$	$A \sinh X$
17. 2D type 0A string Black Hole	$-\frac{1}{X}$	$-2b^2 X + \frac{b^2 q^2}{8\pi}$
18. exact string Black Hole (2005)	lengthy	lengthy

Choice of theory (review: see [hep-th/0204253](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/0204253))

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Dilaton gravity in two dimensions ($X = \text{dilaton}$):

$$I[X, g_{\mu\nu}] = \frac{1}{16\pi G_2} \int_{\mathcal{M}} d^2x \sqrt{|g|} [XR - U(X)(\nabla X)^2 - 2V(X)]$$

- kinetic potential $U(X)$ and dilaton potential $V(X)$
- constant dilaton and linear dilaton solutions
- all solutions known in closed form globally for all choices of potentials
- gauge theoretic reformulation as (deformed) BF-theory with non-linear gauge symmetries ([Ikeda '93](#); [Schaller, Strobl '94](#))
- simple choice (Jackiw–Teitelboim):

$$U(X) = 0 \qquad V(X) = \Lambda X$$

► Choice of bulk action

JT model:

$$I_{\text{JT}}[X, g_{\mu\nu}] = \frac{1}{16\pi G_2} \int_{\mathcal{M}} d^2x \sqrt{|g|} [XR - 2\Lambda X]$$

Leads to (A)dS₂ solutions

$$R = 2\Lambda$$

(classically) equivalent to sl(2) BF theory

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► Flat space choice of bulk action

CGHS model

$$I_{\text{CGHS}}[X, g_{\mu\nu}] = \frac{1}{16\pi G_2} \int_{\mathcal{M}} d^2x \sqrt{|g|} [XR - 2\Lambda X]$$

Leads to flat solutions

$$R = 0$$

Flat space holography proposal: [Afshar](#), [González](#), [DG](#), [Vassilevich '19](#)

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- ▶ effective action at large N and large J : Schwarzian action

$$\Gamma[h] \sim -\frac{N}{J} \int_0^\beta d\tau \left[\dot{h}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \{h; \tau\} \right] \quad \{h; \tau\} = \frac{\ddot{h}}{\dot{h}} - \frac{3}{2} \frac{\ddot{h}^2}{\dot{h}^3}$$

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- ▶ Schwarzian action also follows from JT gravity

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$$\Gamma[h, g] = \kappa \int_0^\beta d\tau \left(\dot{h}^2 - \dot{g} \left(\frac{2\pi i}{\beta} \dot{h} + \frac{\ddot{h}}{\dot{h}} \right) + \ddot{g} \right)$$

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$$[L_n, L_m] = (n - m) L_{n+m}$$

$$[L_n, J_m] = -m J_{n+m} - i\kappa (n^2 - n) \delta_{n+m, 0}$$

$$[J_n, J_m] = 0$$

and the two-dimensional Maxwell symmetries (L_1, L_0, J_{-1}, J_0)

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Concrete model for flat space holography

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- ▶ Numerous open questions in gravity and holography
- ▶ Many can be addressed in lower dimensions
- ▶ If you are stuck in higher D try $D = 3$ or $D = 2$

