Exact Path Integral for 3D Quantum Gravity

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Phys. Rev. Lett. 115, 161304 (2015):arXiv:1504.05991

with A. Tanaka, and S. Terashima.

Quantum Matter, Spacetime and Information, YKIS 2016, Kyoto

Can we calculate Quantum Gravity partition function?

$$Z_{gravity} = \int \mathcal{D}g_{\mu\nu} e^{-S_{gravity}}$$

Yes or No.

"Directly in the Bulk"

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Yes or No.

In this talk, we try to calculate pure quantum gravity partition function directly in 3D (2+1) bulk,

$$Z_{gravity} = \int \mathcal{D}g_{\mu\nu} e^{-S_{gravity}}$$

$$S_{gravity} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_N} \int d^3x \sqrt{g} \left(R - 2\Lambda\right)$$

Why 3D pure Gravity?

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Why 3D pure Gravity?

$$S_{gravity} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_N} \int d^3x \sqrt{g} \left(R - 2\Lambda\right)$$

- Simplest!
- No gravitons
- Still black holes (Banados-Teitelboim-Zanelli or *BTZ BH* in short) exist, so interesting enough!

Why 3D pure Gravity?

$$S_{gravity} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_N} \int d^3x \sqrt{g} \left(R - 2\Lambda\right)$$

- No string theory compactification (i.e., stringy derivation) to obtain pure 3D gravity
- This makes it difficult to construct concrete holographic setting for pure gravity

Why 3D pure Gravity?

(Banados-Teitelboim-Zanelli '92)

• BTZ BH sol'ns in pure gravity ($8G_N = 1$ unit)

$$ds^{2} = -f(r)dt^{2} + f^{-1}(r)dr^{2} + r^{2}(J(r)dt + d\phi)^{2}$$
$$f(r) = -M + \frac{r^{2}}{\ell^{2}} + \frac{J^{2}}{4r^{2}} \qquad J(r) = -\frac{J}{2r^{2}}$$

• In order to have horizons; we need

$$M \ge 0 \qquad \left(r_H = \pm \ell \sqrt{M} \frac{\sqrt{1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \frac{J^2}{\ell^2 M^2}}}}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$$
$$M \ge \frac{J}{\ell}$$

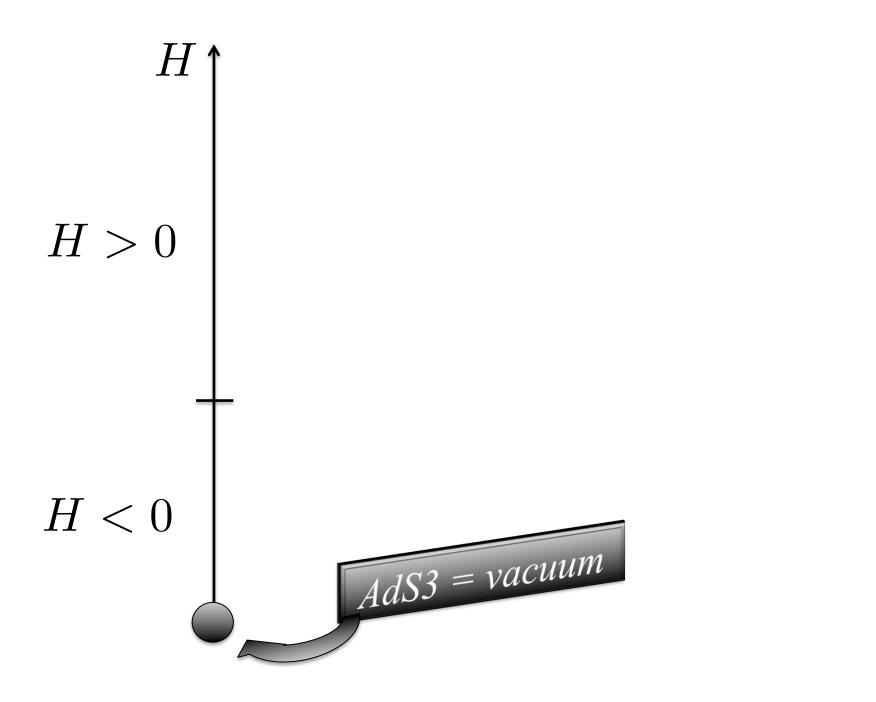
Why 3D pure Gravity?

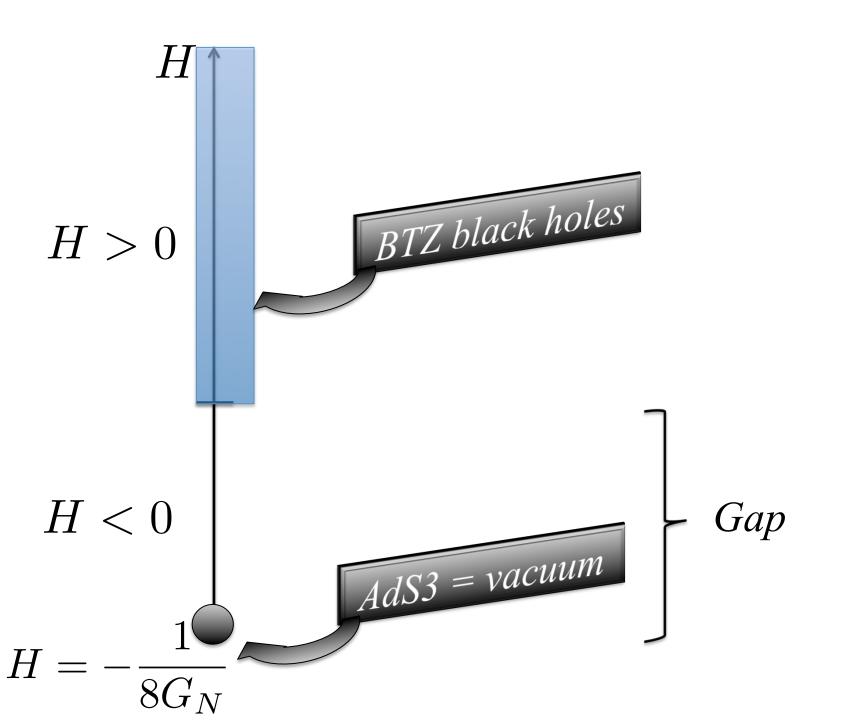
(Banados-Teitelboim-Zanelli '92)

• Consider J=0 for simplicity.

$$ds^{2} = -(-M + \frac{r^{2}}{\ell^{2}})dt^{2} + \frac{dr^{2}}{(-M + \frac{r^{2}}{\ell^{2}})} + r^{2}d^{2}\phi$$

- BH exsits only $M \ge 0$
- If we set M = -1, then it becomes AdS_3 (no horizon, no sing., homogeneous, isotropic)
- AdS₃ vacuum is separated from the continuous black hole spectrum by a mass gap.





"Directly in the Bulk"

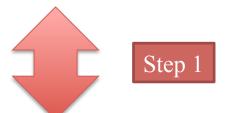
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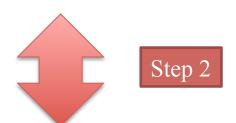
Our strategy

(NI – Tanaka - Terashima '15)

• 3D pure gravity (in the bulk)



• 3D Chern-Simons theory (in the bulk)



• 3D super-Chern-Simons theory (in the bulk)

Our strategy

(NI – Tanaka - Terashima '15)

- 3D super-Chern-Simons theory (in the bulk)
- Exact calculation is possible by localization (with mild assumptions)
- The result for c = 24 is;

$$Z_{gravity} = J(q)J(\bar{q})$$

• This agrees with the extremal CFT partition function (Frenkel, Lepowsky, Meurman), predicted by Witten for 3D pure gravity

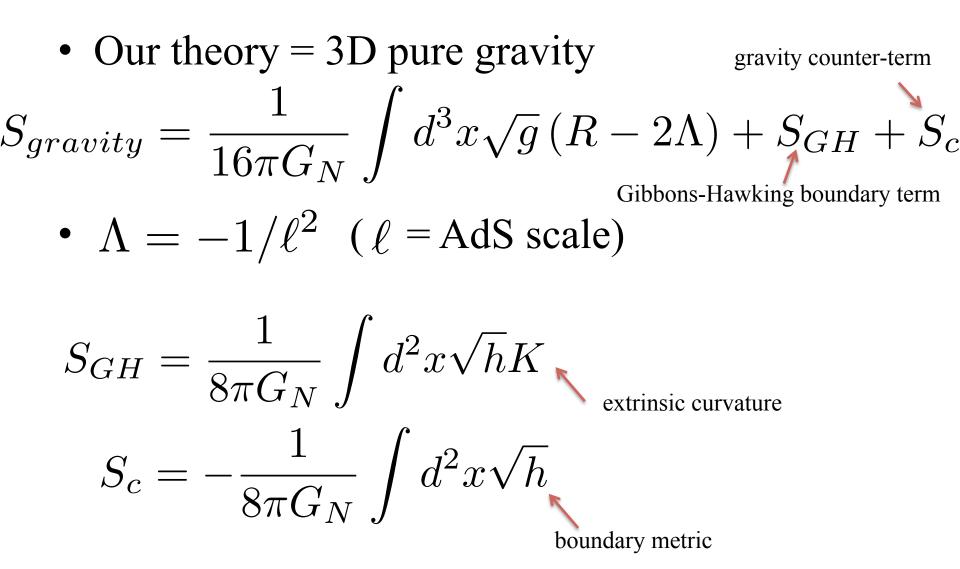
Plan of my talk:

- Introduction
- Quick 3D pure gravity overview
- Witten's proposal
- Our strategy in detail
- Localization and Exact results
- Discussions of "boundary fermions"

3D pure gravity overview

• Our theory = 3D pure gravity gravity counter-term $S_{gravity} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_N} \int d^3x \sqrt{g} \left(R - 2\Lambda\right) + S_{GH} + S_c$ Gibbons-Hawking boundary term

3D pure gravity overview



3D pure gravity 4 3D Chern-Simons

(Achucarro-Townsend '88, Witten '88)

• defining SL(2, C) gauge fields as;

$$\left(\omega_{\mu}^{a} + \frac{i}{\ell}e_{\mu}^{a}\right)\frac{i}{2}\sigma_{a}dx^{\mu} = A, \left(\omega_{\mu}^{a} - \frac{i}{\ell}e_{\mu}^{a}\right)\frac{i}{2}\sigma_{a}dx^{\mu} = \bar{A}$$
Pauli matrix

3D pure gravity 4 3D Chern-Simons

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Pauli matrix

• One can show, by defining $k \equiv \ell/4G_N$

$$S_{gravity} = \frac{ik}{4\pi} S_{CS}[A] - \frac{ik}{4\pi} S_{CS}[\bar{A}] \equiv S_{gauge}$$

where
$$S_{CS}[A] = \int_{M} \operatorname{Tr}\left(AdA + \frac{2}{3}A^{3}\right)$$

3D pure gravity 4 3D Chern-Simons

(Achucarro-Townsend '88, Witten '88)

• Since action is decomposed into *holomorphic* part and *anti-holomorphic* part, regarding A and \overline{A} are independent variables;

$$S_{gravity} = \frac{ik}{4\pi} S_{CS}[A] - \frac{ik}{4\pi} S_{CS}[\bar{A}] \equiv S_{gauge}$$

• Then partition function "naturally" factorizes:

$$Z = Z_{hol} \times Z_{anti-hol}$$

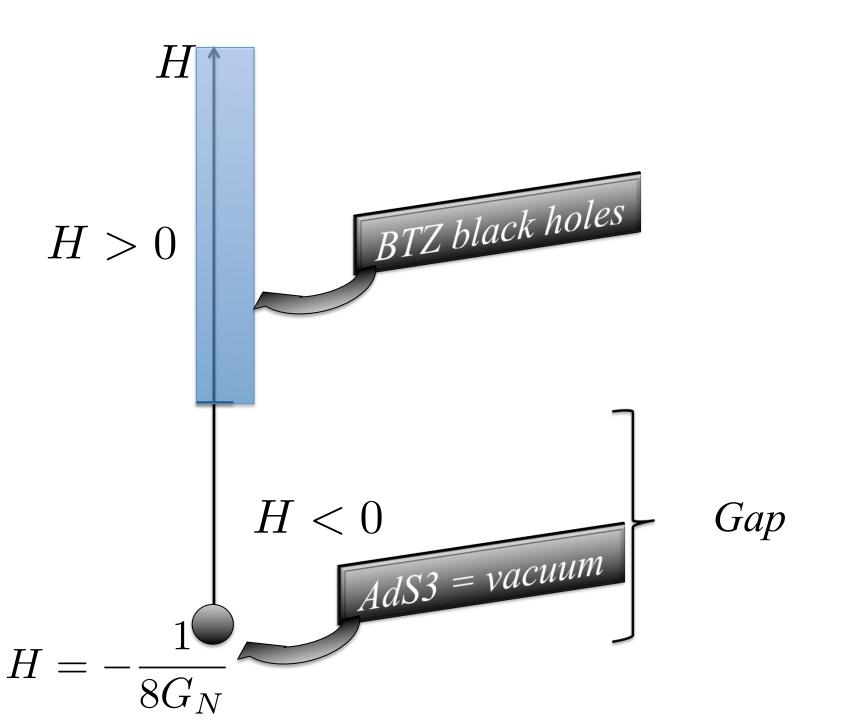


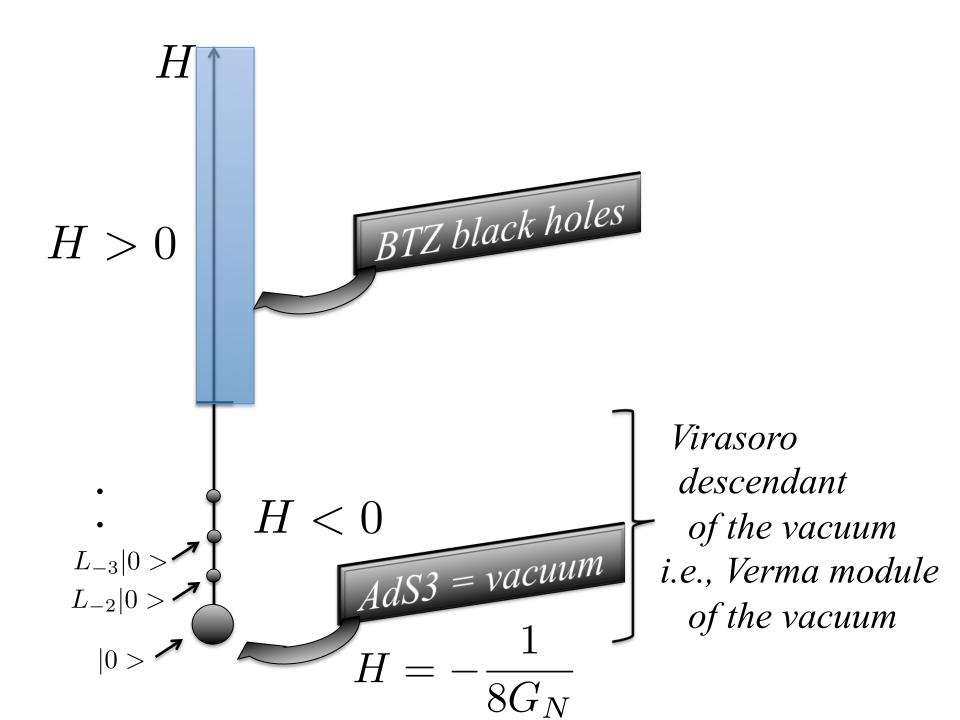
3D pure gravity 4 3D Chern-Simons

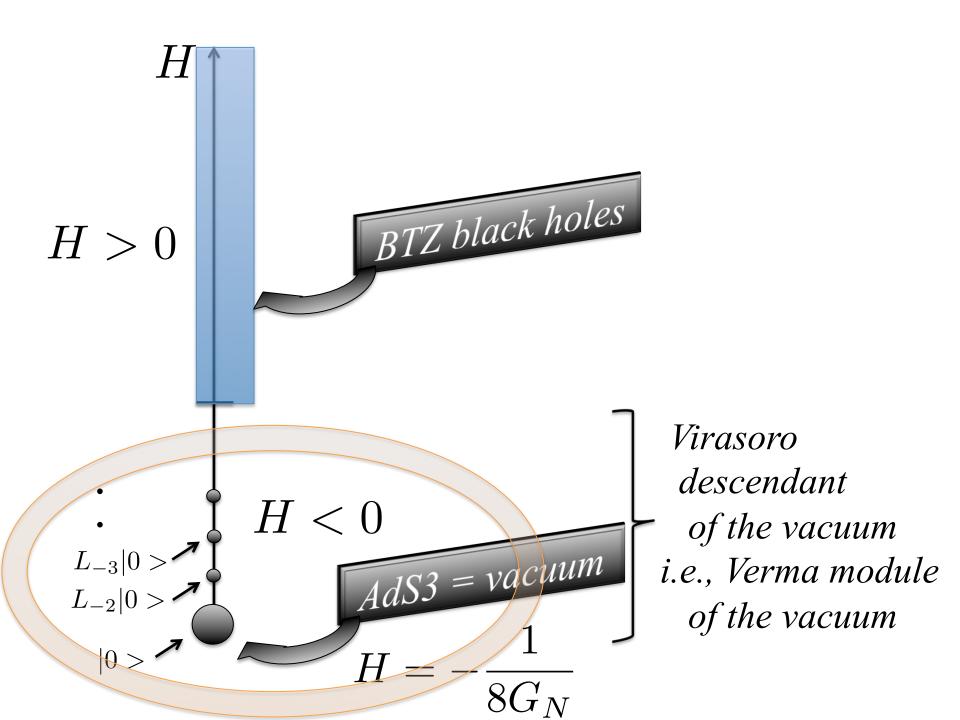
- <u>A few more comments:</u>
- Asym AdS₃ allows deformation of the metric; which is represented by the Virasoro algebra;
- Its central charge is obtained as (Brown Henneaux '86) $c = \frac{3\ell}{2G_N} = 6k$
- Using this, Cardy formula gives BTZ BH entropy in the large c limit (Strominger '97)

Witten's proposal

(Witten '06)







• Since

$$H_{vacuum} = -\frac{1}{8G_N} = -\frac{c}{12\ell} = -\frac{1}{\ell} \left(\frac{c}{24} + \frac{c}{24}\right)$$

• If the dual CFT exists, and assuming holomorphic factorization,

$$Z_{gravity} = Z_{hol}(q) \times Z_{anti-hol}(\bar{q})$$

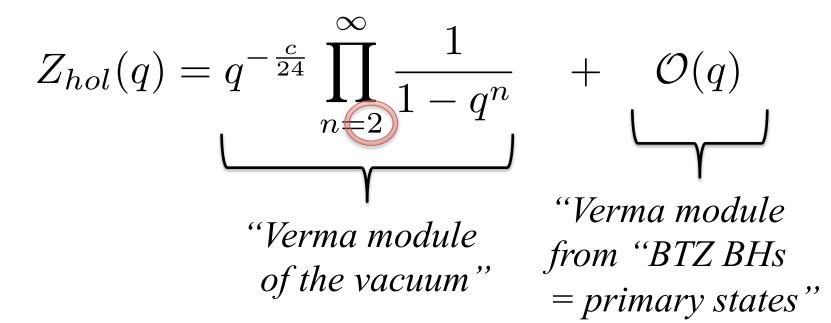
• Then with $q \equiv e^{2\pi i \tau}$

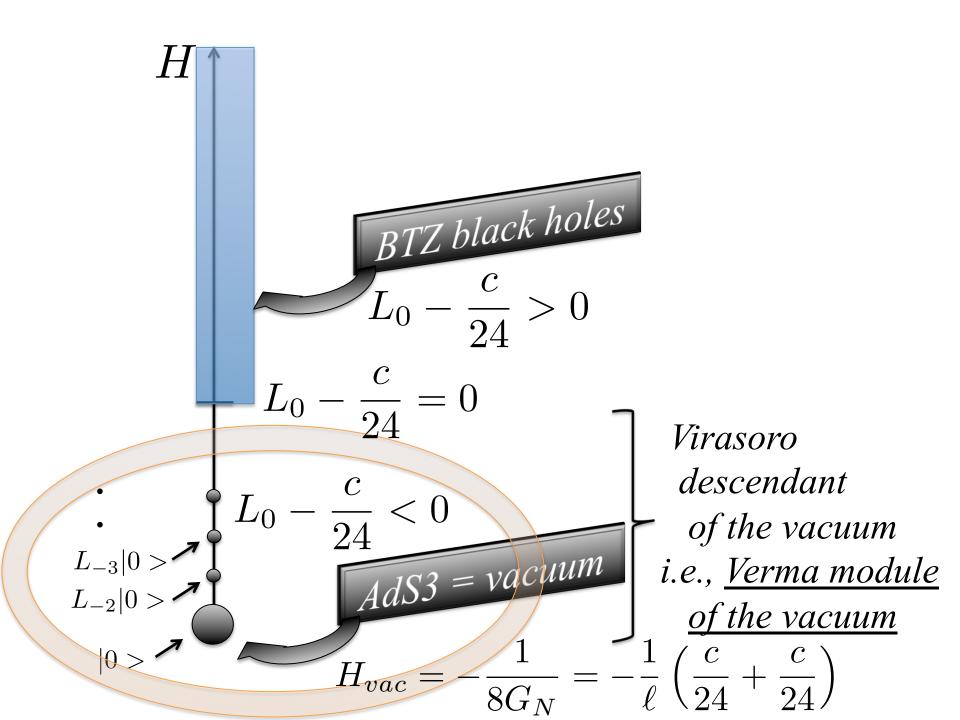
$$(H_{hol} = L_0 - \frac{c}{24})$$

• Its holomorphic partition function

$$Z_{hol} = Tr\left(q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}}\right)$$

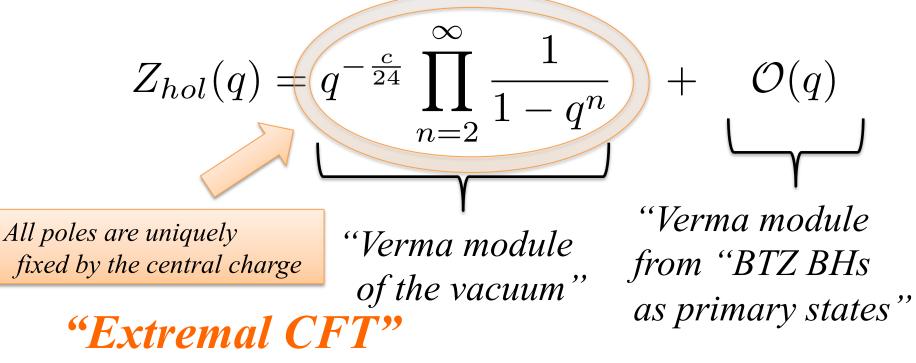
should have the following forms:





• CS quantization:
$$\frac{c}{24} = \frac{k}{4} = \frac{\ell}{16G_N} \in Z$$

holomorphic partition fn contains poles;



• For c = 24 case, we have

$$Z_{hol} = Tr\left(q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}}\right) = \frac{1}{q} + 0 + \mathcal{O}(q)$$

• With the modular invariance, we have J(q),

$$Z_{hol} = J(q) = j(q) - 744$$

$$= q^{-1} + 196884q + 21493760q^2 + \dots$$

$$q = e^{2\pi i \tau} \qquad \tau \to \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}$$

• Similarly, for c = 48,

$$Z_{hol} = J(q)^2 - 393767$$

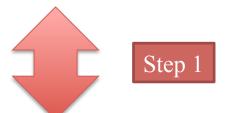
= $q^{-2} + 1 + 42987520q + 40491909396q^2 + \cdots$

 For c=24 case, J(q) function as a partition function is constructed by Frenkel, Lepowsky, and Meurman ('84, '86) We would like to calculate the bulk quantum pure gravity partition function and "re-derive" these results (under mild assumptions)

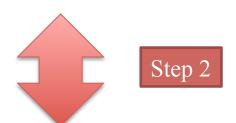
Our strategy

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3D pure gravity 4 3D Chern-Simons

(Achucarro-Townsend '88, Witten '88)

• In step 1, we have; SL(2, C) CS theory;

$$S_{gravity} = \frac{ik}{4\pi} S_{CS}[A] - \frac{ik}{4\pi} S_{CS}[\bar{A}] \equiv S_{gauge}$$

$$k \equiv \ell/4G_N \qquad \left(\omega^a_\mu + \frac{i}{\ell}e^a_\mu\right)\frac{i}{2}\sigma_a dx^\mu = A\,,$$

$$S_{CS}[A] = \int_M \operatorname{Tr}\left(AdA + \frac{2}{3}A^3\right)$$



We supersymmetrize CS theory

(NI – Tanaka - Terashima '15)

• By introducing <u>auxiliary fields</u> to construct $3D \mathcal{N} = 2$ vector multiplet,

$$V = (A, \sigma, D, \overline{\lambda}, \lambda)$$

• we supersymmetrize the Chern-Simons action

$$S_{SCS}[V] = S_{CS}[A] + \int d^3x \sqrt{g} \operatorname{Tr}\left(-\bar{\lambda}\lambda + 2D\sigma\right).$$

• Note that additional fermions and bosons are only <u>auxiliary fields</u>



We supersymmetrize CS theory

(NI – Tanaka - Terashima '15)

• Therefore we expect

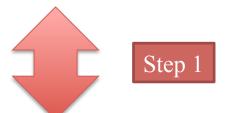
$$\int \mathcal{D}A \, e^{-S_{CS}[A]} \approx \int \mathcal{D}V \, e^{-S_{SCS}[V]}$$

to holds.

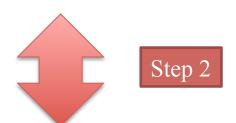
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In step 1, we have discussed action equivalence, i.e., classical equivalence. But we have not discussed the path-integral measure yet.

Let's discuss it, since we are doing quantum theory rather than classical theory

We need to define the measure for quantum gravity in terms of the Chern-Simons theory, such that gravity path-integral can be calculated in terms of the Chern-Simons theory path-integral.

The Chern-Simons theory lives on three-dimensional Euclidian space which we call 'M'. Since the Chern-Simons theory is topological, it depends on only the topology of *M* and the boundary metric of M

Since we solve the quantum gravity in asym AdS b.c., and asym Euclidean AdS is parametrized by the torus, with its complex moduli τ , M should have a boundary torus with moduli τ . Note that in gravity, radial rescaling changes the size of torus, so the size of torus cannot be a parameter for the boundary.

Note that different space-time topology in gravity side should be mapped into different topology for M in the Chern-Simons side. And in the gauge theory, one regards the Chern-Simons theory on different topology M as a *different* theory.

So for the correspondence to work, we decompose the metric path-integral into each "sector" distinguished by the topology of M, and then we *need to* sum over different topology for M, where all of them should have a boundary torus with τ .

Furthermore, in the CS theory, boundary conditions related by the modular transformation for τ , are regarded as giving different theory.

Therefore we need to sum over different b.c. for the CS theory, where all of the b.c. with complex structure τ are related by the modular transformation.

All of these gives sequence of transformation as

$$Z_{gravity} = \int \mathcal{D}g_{\mu\nu} e^{-S_{gravity}} \to \sum \int \mathcal{D}g_{\mu\nu}^{sector} e^{-S_{gravity}} \\ \to \left(\sum \int \mathcal{D}A e^{-\frac{ik}{4\pi}S_{CS}[A]}\right) \left(\sum \int \mathcal{D}\bar{A} e^{+\frac{ik}{4\pi}S_{CS}[\bar{A}]}\right) \\ \to \left(\sum \int \mathcal{D}V e^{-\frac{ik}{4\pi}S_{SCS}[V]}\right) \left(\sum \int \mathcal{D}\bar{V} e^{+\frac{ik}{4\pi}S_{SCS}[\bar{V}]}\right)$$

 $= Z_{hol} \times Z_{anti-hol}$

where,
$$Z_{hol} = \sum \int \mathcal{D}V e^{-\frac{ik}{4\pi}S_{SCS}[V]}$$

Furthermore, we need to evaluate

 $\sum_{N \text{ or } k \text{ or } interval} \int_M \mathcal{D} V e^{-\frac{ik}{4\pi} S_{SCS}[V]}$ $Z_{hol} =$ all topology having the boundary torus w./ τ and its modular transformation

How can we calculate this quantity?

Localization

• One can show that

$$Z[t] = \int_{M} \mathcal{D}V e^{-\frac{ik}{4\pi}S_{SCS}[V] + tS_{SYM}}$$

is actually t - independent since S_{SYM} is Q-exact

$$S_{SYM} = \int_{M} \operatorname{Tr} \left(\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} D_{\mu} \sigma D^{\mu} \sigma + \frac{1}{2} (D + \frac{\sigma}{l})^{2} + \frac{i}{4} \bar{\lambda} \gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} \lambda + \frac{i}{4} \lambda \gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} \bar{\lambda} + \frac{i}{2} \bar{\lambda} [\sigma, \lambda] - \frac{1}{4l} \bar{\lambda} \lambda \right)$$

Localization

- Setting $t \to \infty$, <u>only $S_{SYM} = 0$ configuration is</u> <u>expected to contribute</u> to the path-integral for V $Z[t] = \int_M \mathcal{D}V e^{-\frac{ik}{4\pi}S_{SCS}[V] + tS_{SYM}}$
- Then <u>if only $F_{\mu\nu} = 0$ contributes</u>, by writing this in terms of the metric, we use that this eq is nothing but **the Einstein equation!** (Witten '88)

So we have,

$$Z_{hol} = \sum_{\substack{\text{-all topology having the} \\ \text{boundary torus w.}/ \tau \text{ and} \\ \text{its modular transformation}}} \int_{M} \mathcal{D}V e^{-\frac{ik}{4\pi}S_{SCS}[V]}$$

Only solutions of Einstein eqs contributes, and it is known that all of the solutions of the Einstein eq in 3D have solid torus topology

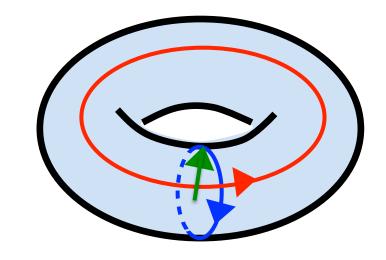
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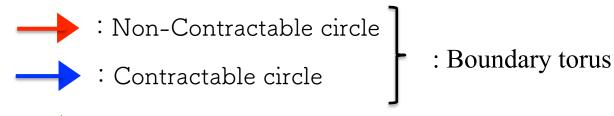
$$Z_{hol} = \sum_{\substack{\text{solid torus only having the} \\ \text{boundary torus w.}/ \tau \text{ and} \\ \text{its modular transformation}}} \int_{M} \mathcal{D}V e^{-\frac{ik}{4\pi}S_{SCS}[V]}$$

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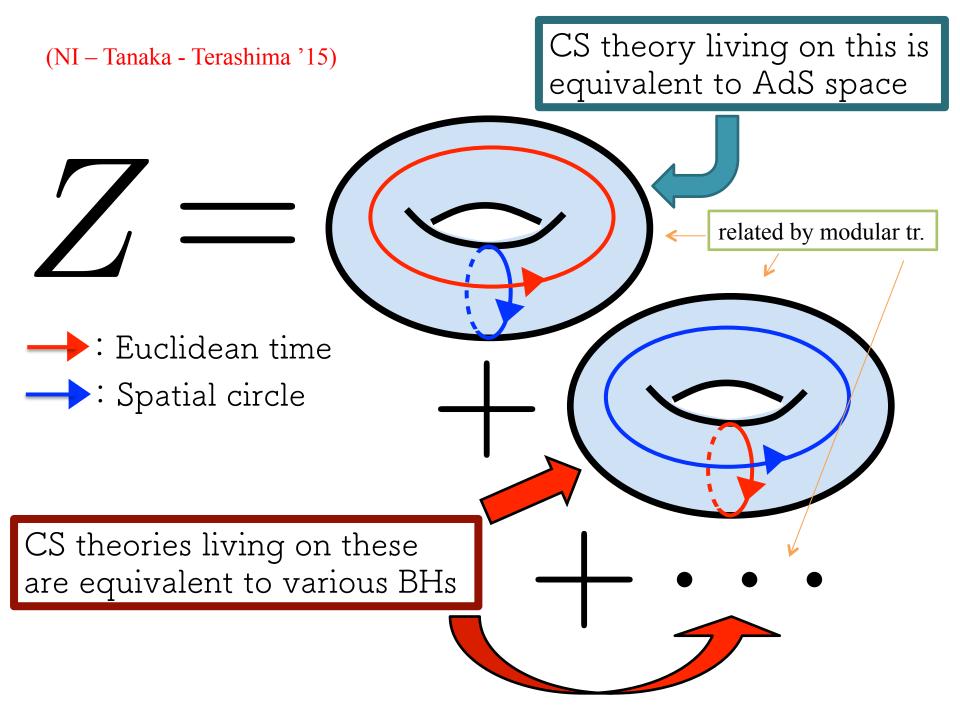
(Dijkgraaf-Maldacena-Moore-Verlinde '00, Maloney-Witten '07, Manschot-Moore '07)

Solid torus





: radial direction (emergent direction)



Using localization technique

- Asym AdS = Dirichlet b.c.
- Metric maps => gauge boson *A*
- SUSY Dirichlet b.c. at the boundary torus is given by;

(Sugishita - Terashima '13)

$$A_{\varphi} \to a_{\varphi} , \quad A_{t_E} \to a_{t_E} ,$$

$$\sigma \to 0 , \quad \lambda \to e^{-i(\varphi - t_E)} \gamma^{\theta} \bar{\lambda}$$

Using localization technique

• The classical contribution & the one-loop determinant gives exact (non-perturbative) answer:

(Sugishita - Terashima '13)

$$Z_{(c,d)} = \int_{b.c.} DV e^{-\frac{ik}{4\pi}S_{SCS}[V] + tS_{SYM}} = Z_{classical} \times Z_{one-loop}$$

$$Z_{classical} = e^{ik\pi Tr(a_{\varphi}a_{t_{E}})} \qquad \text{Zeta-function regularization} \\ Z_{one-loop} = \prod_{m \in Z} \left(m - \alpha(a_{\varphi}) \right) \stackrel{\checkmark}{=} e^{i\pi\alpha(a_{\varphi})} - e^{-i\pi\alpha(a_{\varphi})},$$

(NI – Tanaka - Terashima '15)

• For the non-rotating BTZ black hole, b.c. from the metric gives:

$$a_{\varphi} = \frac{1}{2i\beta}\sigma_3 = \frac{1}{2\tau}\sigma_3, \quad a_{t_E} = \frac{1}{2}\sigma_3$$

• With this, *Z* is

$$Z_{(c=1,d=0)} = e^{\frac{1}{4}(k+2)\frac{2\pi i}{\tau}} - e^{\frac{1}{4}(k-2)\frac{2\pi i}{\tau}}$$

(NI – Tanaka - Terashima '15)

• Non-rotating BTZ is related to the thermal AdS with by the modular transf. with c=1, d=0,

$$\tau \to \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}$$

• For all generic case are then given by

$$Z_{(c,d)} = e^{-2\pi i \frac{1}{4}(k+2)\frac{a\tau+b}{c\tau+d}} - e^{-2\pi i \frac{1}{4}(k-2)\frac{a\tau+b}{c\tau+d}}$$





related by modular tr.

CS theories living on these are equivalent to various BHs

🔶 : Euclidean time

Spatial circle

(NI – Tanaka - Terashima '15)

- sum over (c, d): there is a good way to perform such summation with appropriate regularization, called the "Rademacher sum"
- Taking such regularization we obtain:

(NI – Tanaka - Terashima '15)

• The resultant holomorphic partition function:

$$Z_{hol}[q] \equiv Z_{(0,1)}(\tau) + \sum_{\substack{c>0, \\ (c,d)=1}} \left(Z_{c,d}(\tau) - Z_{c,d}(\infty) \right)$$
$$= R^{(-k_{eff}/4)}(q) - R^{(-k_{eff}/4+1)}(q),$$

• where

$$q \equiv e^{2\pi i \tau} \qquad k_{eff} \equiv k+2$$

$$c = 6k_{eff}$$
 Quantum shift

(NI – Tanaka - Terashima '15)

• And $R^{(m)}(q)$ is given by:

$$R^{(m)}(q) \equiv e^{2\pi i m \tau} + \sum_{\substack{c > 0, \\ (c,d)=1}} \left(e^{2\pi i m \frac{a\tau+b}{c\tau+d}} - e^{2\pi i m \frac{a}{c}} \right)$$
$$= q^m + (\text{const.}) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c(m,n)q^n$$
$$c(m,n) \equiv \sum_{\substack{c > 0, \\ (c,d)=1, \\ d \bmod c}} e^{2\pi i (m \frac{a}{c} + n \frac{d}{c})} \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{2\pi}{c}\right)^{2\nu+2}}{\nu! (\nu+1)!} (-m)^{\nu+1} n^{\nu}$$

(NI – Tanaka - Terashima '15)

• For c = 24 ($c = 6k_{eff}$), we obtain

$$Z_{hol}(q) = R^{(m=-1)}(q) - R^{(m=0)}(q)$$

$$= J(q) + \text{const.}$$

• Except for the *const*. term which we can choose to be any value we want by regularization, we obtain *J(q)* function!

Summary:

(NI – Tanaka - Terashima '15)

• Exact calculation is possible by localization technique, and the results for c = 24 is;

$$Z_{gravity} = J(q)J(\bar{q})$$

- This agrees with the extremal CFT partition function of Frenkel, Lepowsky, and Meurman, predicted by Witten for 3D pure gravity!
- Furthermore, localization gives "justification" of semi-classical approximation

Boundary fermions discussions

Boundary fermion

(NI – Honda - Tanaka - Terashima '15)

• Dirichlet b.c. (for AdS₃) and SUSY yields b.c. for fermion as

$$\lambda \Big|_{\rm bdry} = e^{-i(\varphi - t_E)} \sigma^3 \bar{\lambda} \Big|_{\rm bdry},$$

• This b.c. is incompatible with the gaugino "mass term" in

$$S_{SCS}[V] = S_{CS}[A] + \int d^3x \sqrt{g} \operatorname{Tr}\left(-\bar{\lambda}\lambda + 2D\sigma\right).$$

Boundary fermion

(NI – Honda - Tanaka - Terashima '15)

- This means that SCS's mass term for gaugino vanishes at the boundary and therefore <u>there</u> are "boundary localized fermions".
- We "guessed" its contribution to partition function as;

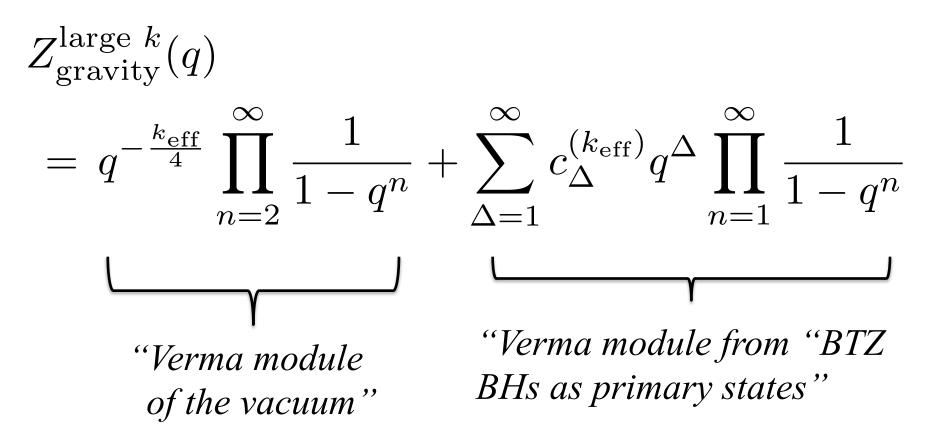
$$Z_{\text{B-fermion}}(q) = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1-q^n)$$

• And we define $Z_{hol}(q) = Z_{\text{gravity}}^{\text{large } k}(q)$ $\overline{Z_{\text{B-fermion}}(q)} \equiv Z_{\text{gravity}}^{\text{large } k}(q)$

"bulk pure gravity" partition function

(NI – Honda - Tanaka - Terashima '15)

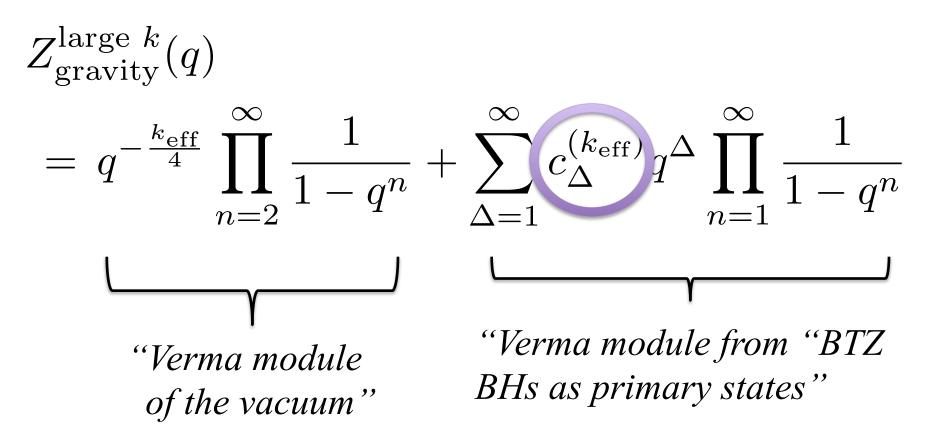
• We can show that;



"bulk pure gravity" partition function

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"bulk pure gravity" partition function

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• With

$$c_{\Delta}^{(k_{\rm eff})} = c\left(-\frac{k_{\rm eff}}{4}, \Delta\right) - c\left(-\frac{k_{\rm eff}}{4} + 1, \Delta\right)$$

• This is always <u>positive intergers: satisfying Cardy</u> <u>formula:</u>

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} \log c_{\Delta}^{(k_{eff})} = 2\pi \sqrt{k_{eff}\Delta} = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{c_Q\Delta}{6}}$$

$$c_{\Delta=1}^{(4)} = 196884, \quad c_{\Delta=2}^{(4)} = 21493760,$$

$$\begin{split} c^{(8)}_{\Delta=1} &= 42790636, \quad c^{(8)}_{\Delta=2} = 40470415636, \\ c^{(12)}_{\Delta=1} &= 2549912390, \quad c^{(12)}_{\Delta=2} = 12715577990892, \end{split}$$

Summary 1:

(NI – Tanaka - Terashima '15)

• Exact calculation is possible by localization technique, and the results for c = 24 is;

$$Z_{gravity} = J(q)J(\bar{q})$$

- This agrees with the extremal CFT partition function of Frenkel, Lepowsky, and Meurman, predicted by Witten for 3D pure gravity.
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Summary 2:

(NI – Tanaka - Terashima '15)

• The resultant partition function for the holomorphic part is

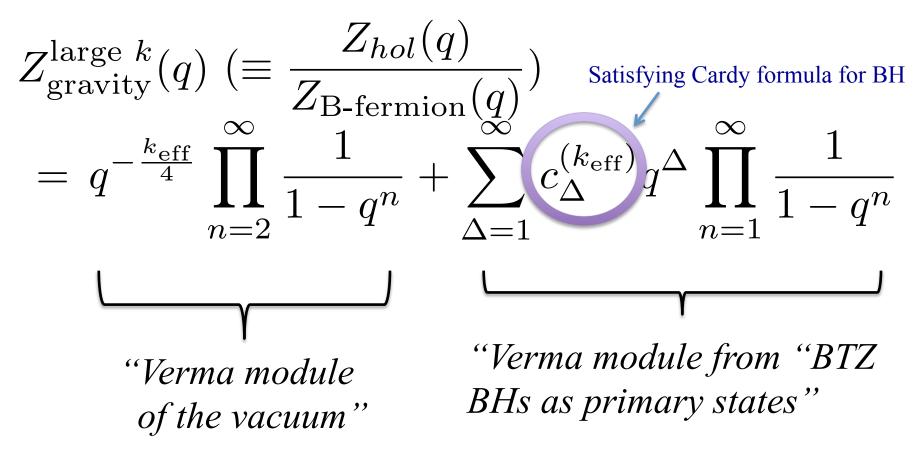
$$Z_{hol}[q] = R^{(-k_{eff}/4)}(q) - R^{(-k_{eff}/4+1)}(q),$$

$$R^{(m)}(q) = q^{m} + (\text{const.}) + \sum_{\substack{n=1\\n=1}}^{\infty} c(m,n)q^{n}$$
$$c(m,n) \equiv \sum_{\substack{c>0,\\(c,d)=1,\\d \bmod c}} e^{2\pi i (m\frac{a}{c}+n\frac{d}{c})} \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{2\pi}{c}\right)^{2\nu+2}}{\nu!(\nu+1)!} (-m)^{\nu+1} n^{\nu}$$

Summary 3:

(NI – Honda - Tanaka - Terashima '15)

• Taking into account "boundary fermions"



Summary 4:

(NI – Honda - Tanaka - Terashima '15)

- All of these results can be generalized to higher spin gravity theory w/ *SL(N,C)*:
- There, instead of Virasoro algebra, we have a good expression for the partition function in terms of characters for the vacuum and primaries in 2D unitary CFT with W_N symmetry.
- Again exhibiting Cardy formula in the large central charge limit.