Thermodynamics of AdS₃ gravity: extremal CFTs vs. semi-classical gravity

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AdS_3 pure gravity

Asymptotic symmetry is Virasoro sym. with central charge

(Brown-Henneaux 1986)

$$c_L = c_R = \frac{3\ell}{2G}$$

In terms of AdS/CFT, quantum gravity is boundary CFT.

⇒ Find the CFT!



Witten (2007)

• Assumption: holomorphic factorization

$$c_L = c_R = \frac{3\ell}{2G}$$

• Witten's conjecture (2007) :

quantum theory of AdS_3 pure gravity is extremal CFTs with c = 24k (k = 1,2,3,...) and it's anti-holomorphic pair

Note 1:
$$\frac{\ell}{G} = 16k$$
 is quantized. For each k, one CFT possibly exists.

Note 2: $\lceil | arge k \rfloor \sim \lceil small G \rfloor$ (semi-classical) $\lceil | arge k \rfloor \sim \lceil | arge c \rfloor$ (thermodynamic limit)

This has nice microscopic description for BTZ entropy!



$$S = \pi \left(\frac{\ell}{2G}\right)^{1/2} \left(\sqrt{M\ell - J} + \sqrt{M\ell + J}\right) = 4\pi\sqrt{k} \left(\sqrt{L_0} + \sqrt{\bar{L}_0}\right)$$

$$M\ell = L_0 + \bar{L}_0, \quad J = L_0 - \bar{L}_0, \quad c = \frac{3\ell}{2G} = 24k$$

• In extremal CFTs, for large k



Appendix: Extremal CFT

For c=24k, extremal CFT is a CFT whose lowest dimension of nontrivial primary is k+1 (its maximum).

For c=24k, it is known that the lowest dimension of nontrivial primary is equal to or less than k+1.



Appendix2: Extremal CFT

Note 2: the partition function is uniquely determined!

$$Z = \operatorname{Tr} \left[e^{-\beta(H+i\Omega_E J)} \right] \begin{pmatrix} q = e^{2\pi i\tau}, & \tau = \frac{\beta}{2\pi} \left(\Omega_E + \frac{i}{\ell} \right) \\ H = M = \frac{L_0 + \bar{L}_0}{\ell} \\ J = L_0 - \bar{L}_0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \tau \text{ is moduli of the boundary torus}$$
$$= \left| q^{-k} \left[\prod_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1-q^n} + \mathcal{O}(q^{k+1}) \right] \right|^2$$
Ground state and its Virasoro descendants (these determine the pole structure at $q=0$.) Contributions from primaries $(L_0 \ge 1)$

Mathematical fact: holomorphic & modular inv. \Rightarrow " $Z(\tau)$ is a polynomial of *J*-function"

 $J = 1728j(\tau) - 744 = q^{-1} + 196884q + \mathcal{O}(q^2)$

Klein's j-invariant Determine the polynomial of J to have the same pole structure with Z, then the partition function is uniquely determined.

This work

- investigates thermodynamic quantities obtained from extremal CFT partition functions Z_k for several k.
- \rightarrow We find usual Hawking-Page transition (AdS₃ \leftrightarrow BTZ)
- For rapidly rotating spacetime, we also find several new phases which do not appear in the usual Hawking-Page transition. This is consistent with the phase diagram obtained by Maloney-Witten 2007.
- compare these (quantum) results with those of semi-classical gravity.





Given k, the partition function is computable!

For example: k = 10

$$Z_{10} = |J^{10} - 1968839J^8 - 214937599J^7 + 1348071256190J^6 + 253704014739574J^5 - 361538450036076764J^4 - 82414308102793025330J^3 + 30123373072315438416085J^2 + 6219705565173520637592236J - 264390492553551717748100292|^2$$



For large k, the transition (at $T_{\rm HP}$) becomes sharp! The sharp transition appears in the semi-classical limit. One can see that quantum theory for AdS₃ gravity might be a sequence of extremal CFTs.

Rotating case

For small k, one finds smooth transition between AdS₃ and BTZ in many parameter region, as non-rotating case. However, at some points, singular behavior appears.

For example : $k=1, \ \Omega_E \ell = 0.237527 \cdots$



This singular transition appears at $T_{\rm HP}$

The transition appears even for small k, that is, not in the thermodynamic limit.



Zeroes of Z_1

At the zeroes of the partition function, the free energy diverges.

$$F_1 = -T \ln Z_1$$

The zeroes (shown as \bullet in the right figure) are on the unit circle $|\tau| = 1$, which corresponds to the Hawking-Page critical temperature.

$$|\tau| = 1 \quad \checkmark \quad T_{\rm HP} = \frac{\sqrt{1 + \Omega_E^2 \ell^2}}{2\pi \ell}$$



Spin up

• At $\Omega_E \ell \simeq 0.790295$ (for the case of k=1)



These two critical temperatures are different from $T_{\rm HP}$

Zeroes of Z_1 again (k=1 case) S and T transformations $\tau \rightarrow \tau + 1, \quad \tau \rightarrow -\frac{1}{\tau}$ and their combinations move zeroes to other points which are not on the circle $|\tau|=1$.

⇒ The transition occurs at $T \neq T_{HP}$

> The appearance of new phase might be a prediction from 3-dim. Quantum gravity (extremal CFT).

-1/2

1

1/2

0

Semi-classical limit $(k \rightarrow \infty)$

- For large k, the # of zeroes of Z_k increases and the zeroes condense into the red line.
- \Rightarrow phase boundary

The condensation of zeroes has been proved by Maloney and Witten (2007).



Inconsistent with the semi-classical result!



Phase diagrams are different !

Discussion (summary)

• There is an inconsistency in the semi-classical limt ($k \rightarrow \infty$). Possibility 1: unknown classical solution that corresponds to the new phase? Possibility 2: Witten conjecture might get some correction at least for large k: the quantum theory for pure AdS₃ gravity might not be the sequence of extremal CFTs.

- conformal bootstrap: for k ≥ 20, non exisistence of extremal CFTs!
 Bae, Lee, Lee 2016
- The new phase at k=1 (the FLM model does exist) might be a new prediction from quantum gravity.

In order to obtain semi-classical phase diagram, it seems that modular invariance has to be broken in large k limit. Is it correct? How? (It also seems to be consistent with Honda-lizuka-Tanaka-Terashima 2015)