

Time without a Hamiltonian, the curious case of supersymmetric extremal black holes.

Kyoto Symposium
September 2022

Juan Maldacena

Institute for Advanced Study

Collaborators



Henry Lin



Liza Rozenberg



Jieru Shan

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.00407>

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.00408>



Useful discussions with Joaquin Turiaci and Vladimir Narovlansky

I was asked to give an extended
introduction.

So we will first review some general
ideas

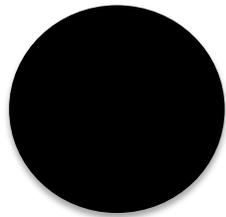
Black holes

- We think that black holes, as seen from the outside, can be described as quantum systems.

“Central dogma”

A black hole as a quantum system

- A black hole seen from the outside can be described as a quantum system with S degrees of freedom (qubits). $S = \text{Area}/4$
($l_p = 1$)
- It evolves according to unitary evolution, as seen from outside.



=



The Geometry of the simplest black hole solution

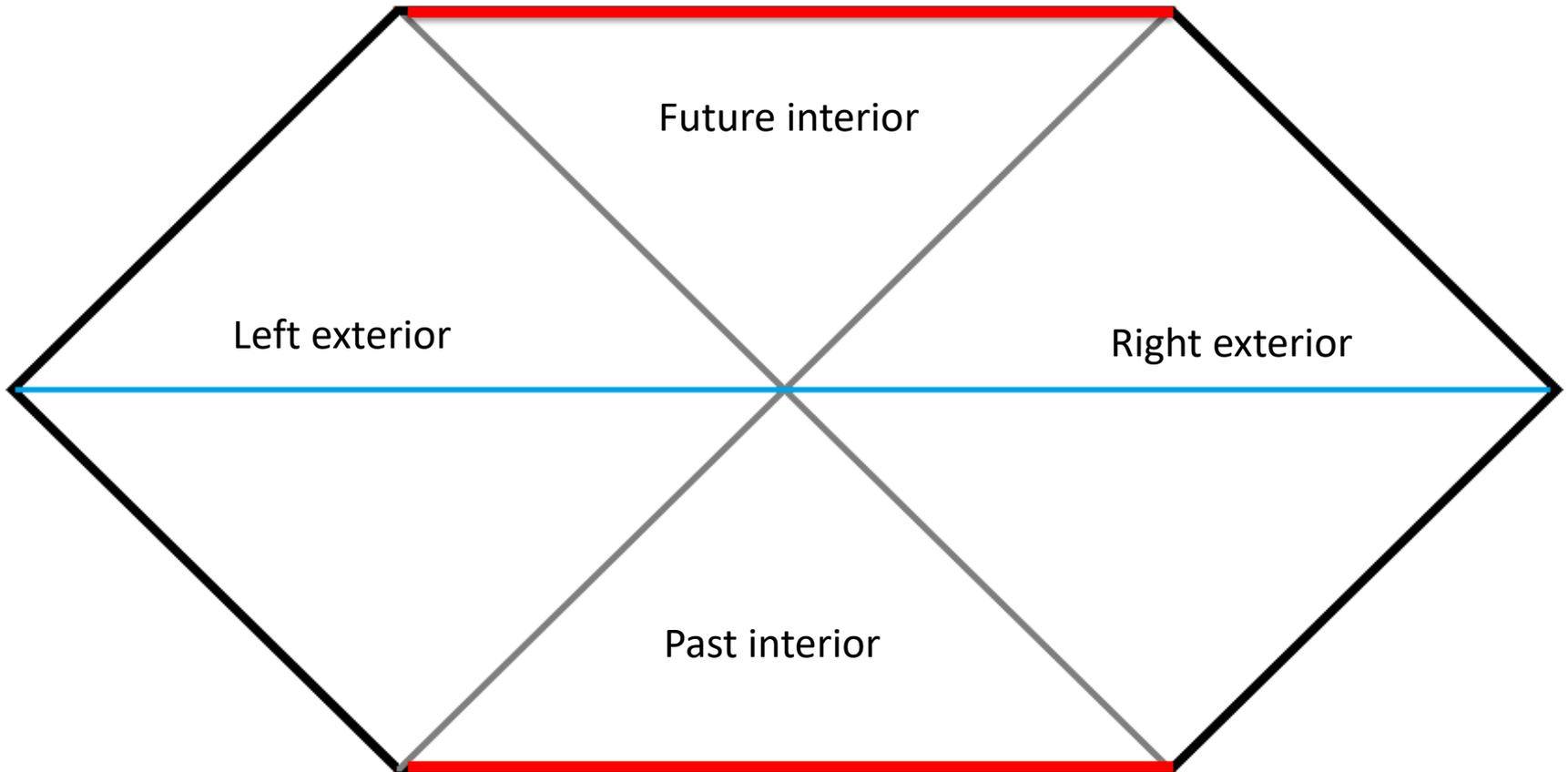
Singularity

Future interior

Left exterior

Right exterior

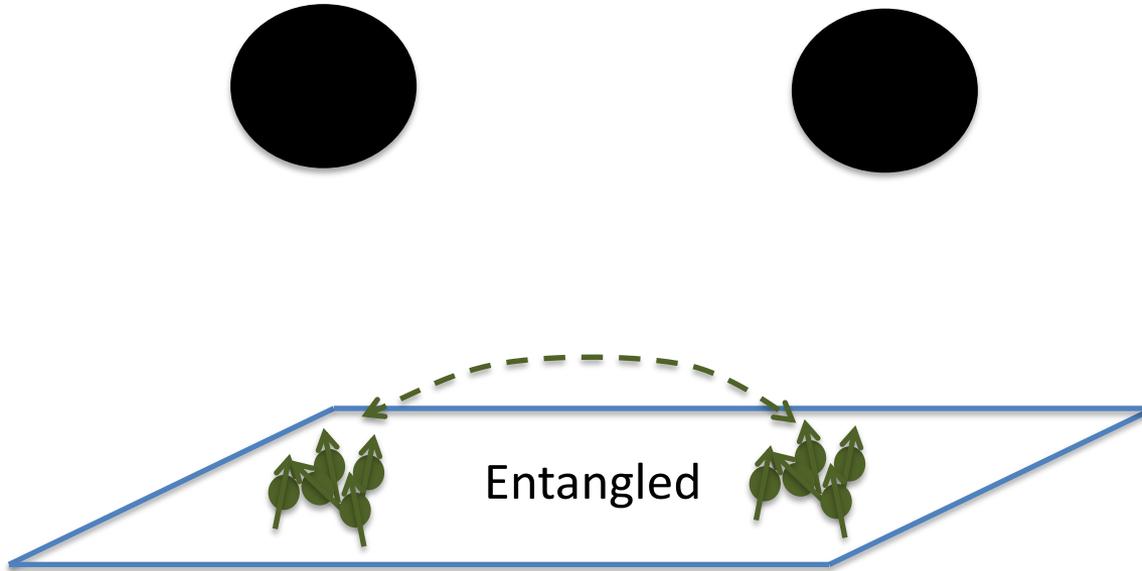
Past interior



This solution contains two black holes

How should we interpret it?

Replace each black hole by a quantum
system



In a particular entangled state

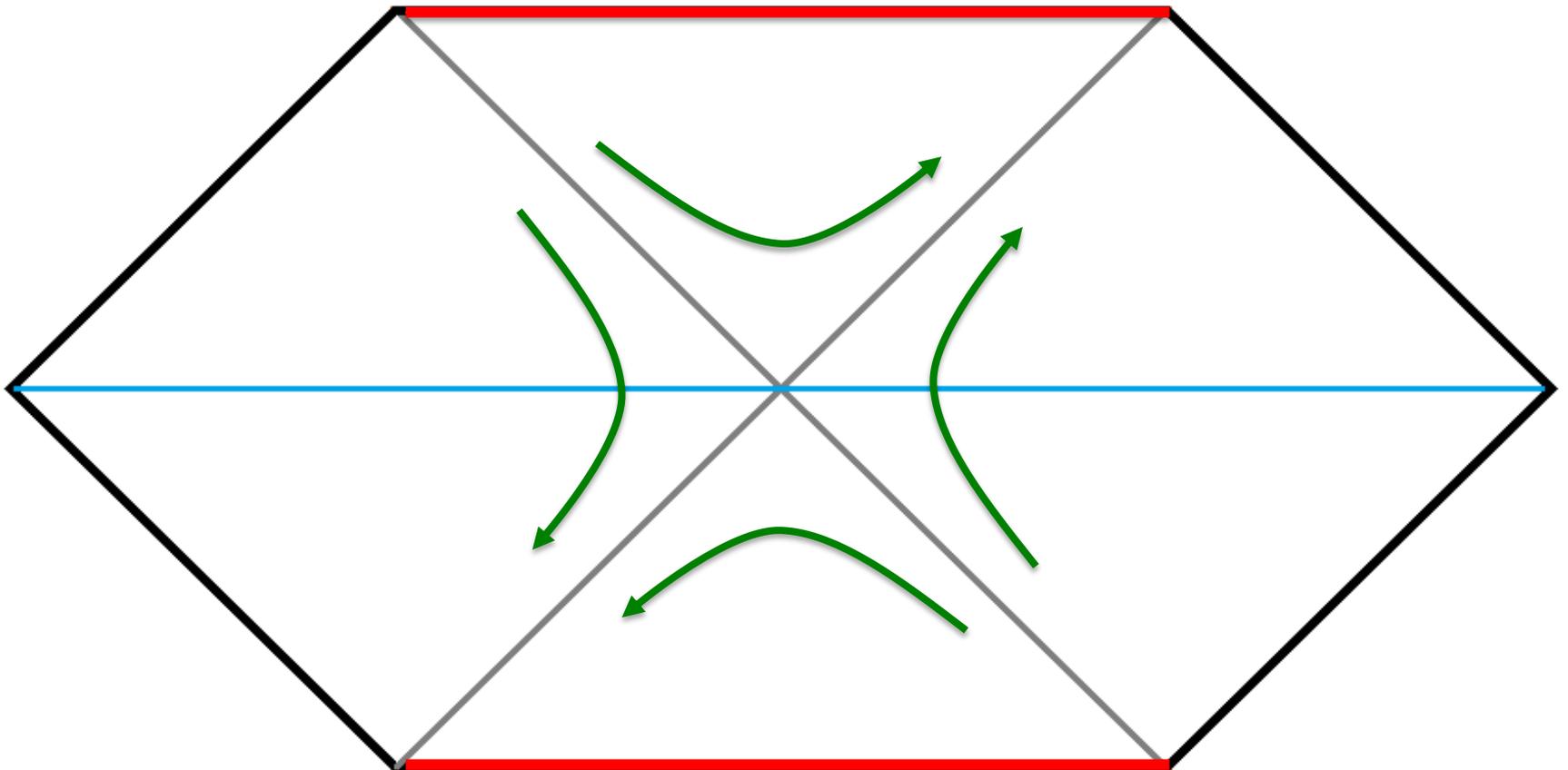
W. Israel
JM
JM, Susskind

ER = EPR

$$|TFD\rangle = \sum_n e^{-\beta E_n/2} |\bar{E}_n\rangle_L |E_n\rangle_R \quad (\text{state at } t=0)$$

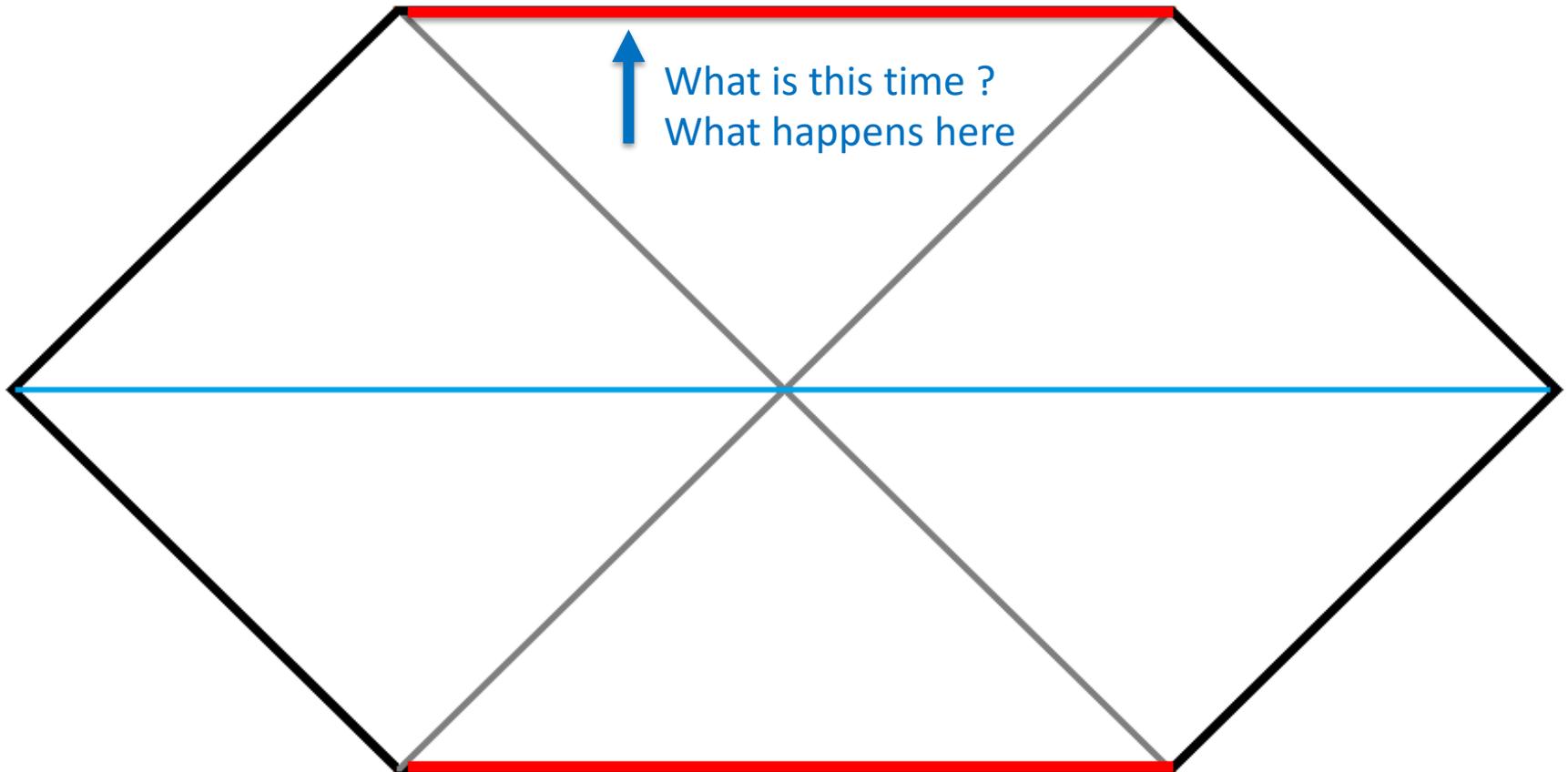
$$H_R - H_L$$

Acts as a boost at the middle



The most interesting question

Singularity



We will not answer this question...

We will try to analyze somewhat
“simpler” problems...

As usual in physics, we will study
problems with more symmetry

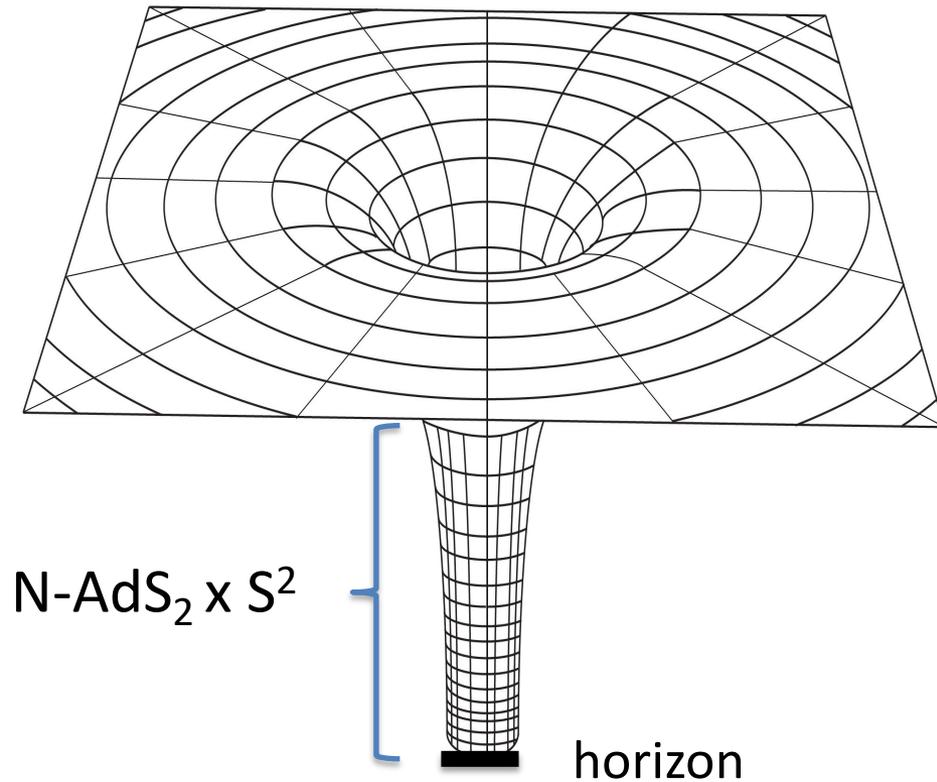
We will focus on near extremal black
holes

and explain why they have more
symmetry

Near extremal charged black holes

$$M \geq Q$$

$$M \sim Q$$



Focus on low energies

The quantum mechanical dual is a nearly critical system with a scaling (and conformal) symmetry

Approximate $SL(2,R)$ symmetry = time translations + time rescalings + one more.

AdS₂ region

=

nearly critical QM system

N-AdS₂/NCFT₁ correspondence

The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev model is an example of a quantum system with a nearly critical low energy regime

The SYK model

N Majorana fermions

$$\{\psi_i, \psi_j\} = \delta_{ij}$$

Sachdev Ye Kitaev
Georges, Parcollet

$$H = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_4} J_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} \psi_{i_1} \psi_{i_2} \psi_{i_3} \psi_{i_4}$$

Random couplings, gaussian distribution.

$$\langle J_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4}^2 \rangle = J^2 / N^3$$

To leading order \rightarrow treat J_{ijkl} as an additional field

J = dimensionful coupling. We will be interested in the strong coupling region

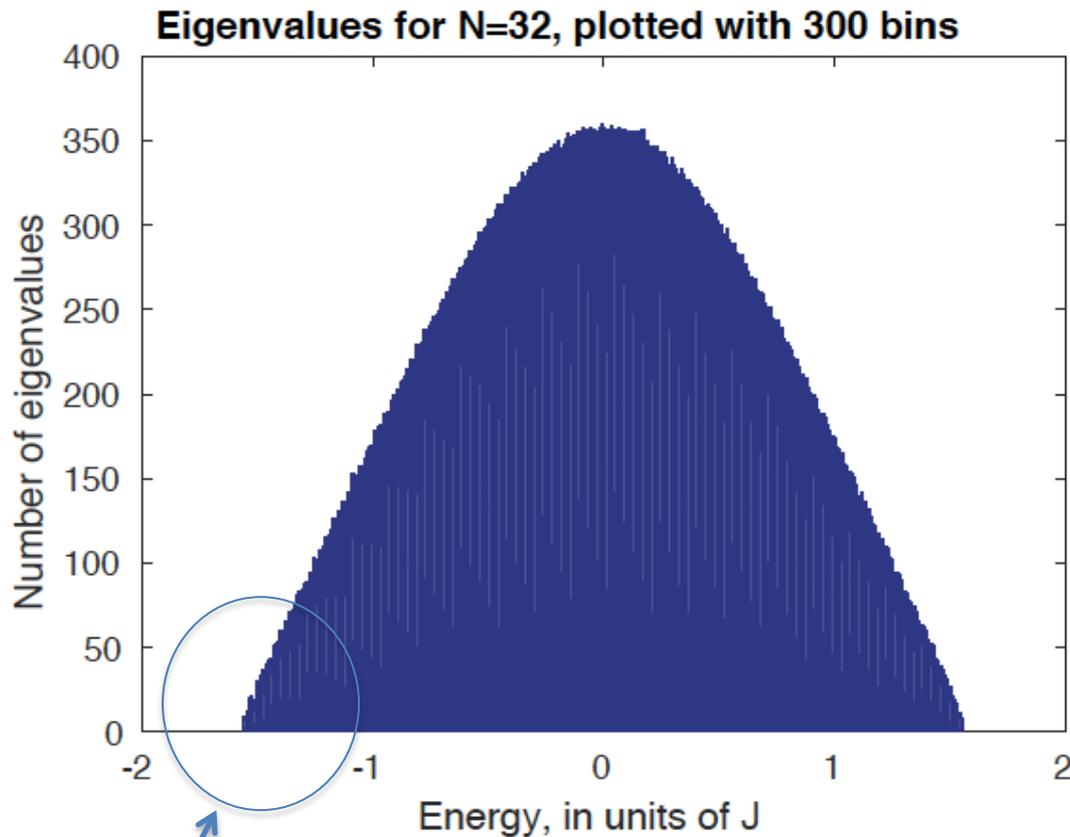
$$1 \ll \beta J, \quad \tau J \ll N$$

Low, but not too low, energies.

It is nearly scale invariant in this regime.

Spectrum

D. Stanford



$$\dim_H = 2^{\frac{N}{2}}$$

Number of random couplings $\propto N^4 \ll 2^N$

(specific, but random J's)

Exponentially large number of states contributes to the low energy region we consider

- We can perform the large N summation of diagrams. \rightarrow gives a scale invariant theory at low energies.
- $1/N$ corrections \rightarrow there is a low action mode that becomes important at low energies. It can be exactly quantized. “Time superfluid mode” (Schwarzian action). Breaks the conformal symmetry.

Entropy

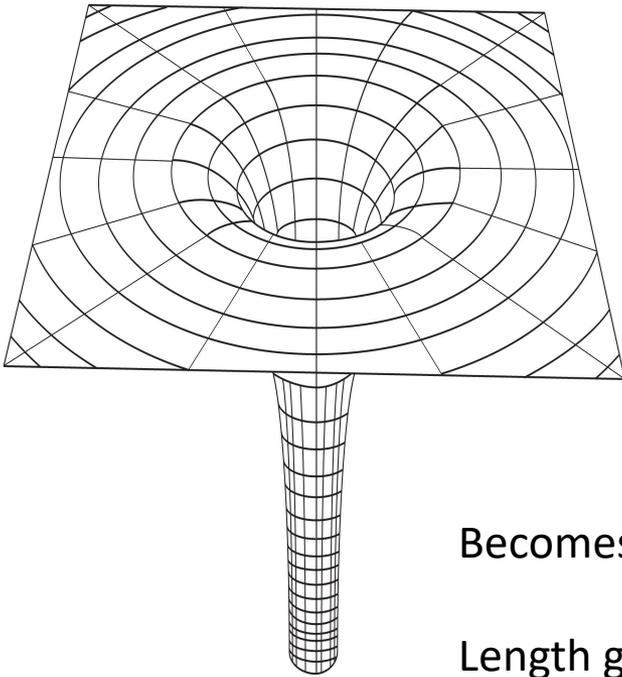
Large N. Constant plus linear in T correction

$$S = \underbrace{N s_0 + \frac{N T}{J}}_{\text{Conformal invariant}} + \underbrace{\frac{3}{2} \log \left(\frac{T}{J} \right)}_{\text{1/N correction. All orders } \rightarrow \text{ makes the density of states become small at low energies}}$$

Conformal
invariant

1/N correction. All orders \rightarrow
makes the density of states
become small at low energies

Connection to Nearly AdS₂ gravity



Gravity action:

$$\log Z = -I = S_0 + T \text{ (constant)}$$

Becomes constant at low energy.

Length grows as $1/T$ (proper length goes as: $-\log T$)

Very different geometries are having almost the same action \rightarrow

There is a low action mode. \rightarrow Same as the "time superfluid mode"

What is the connection between AdS_2
and SYK ?

SYK model



Low energies



Conformal invariant part + reparametrizations

Near extremal black holes



Nearly AdS₂ gravity



QFT on AdS₂ + boundary dynamics



Not the same

same

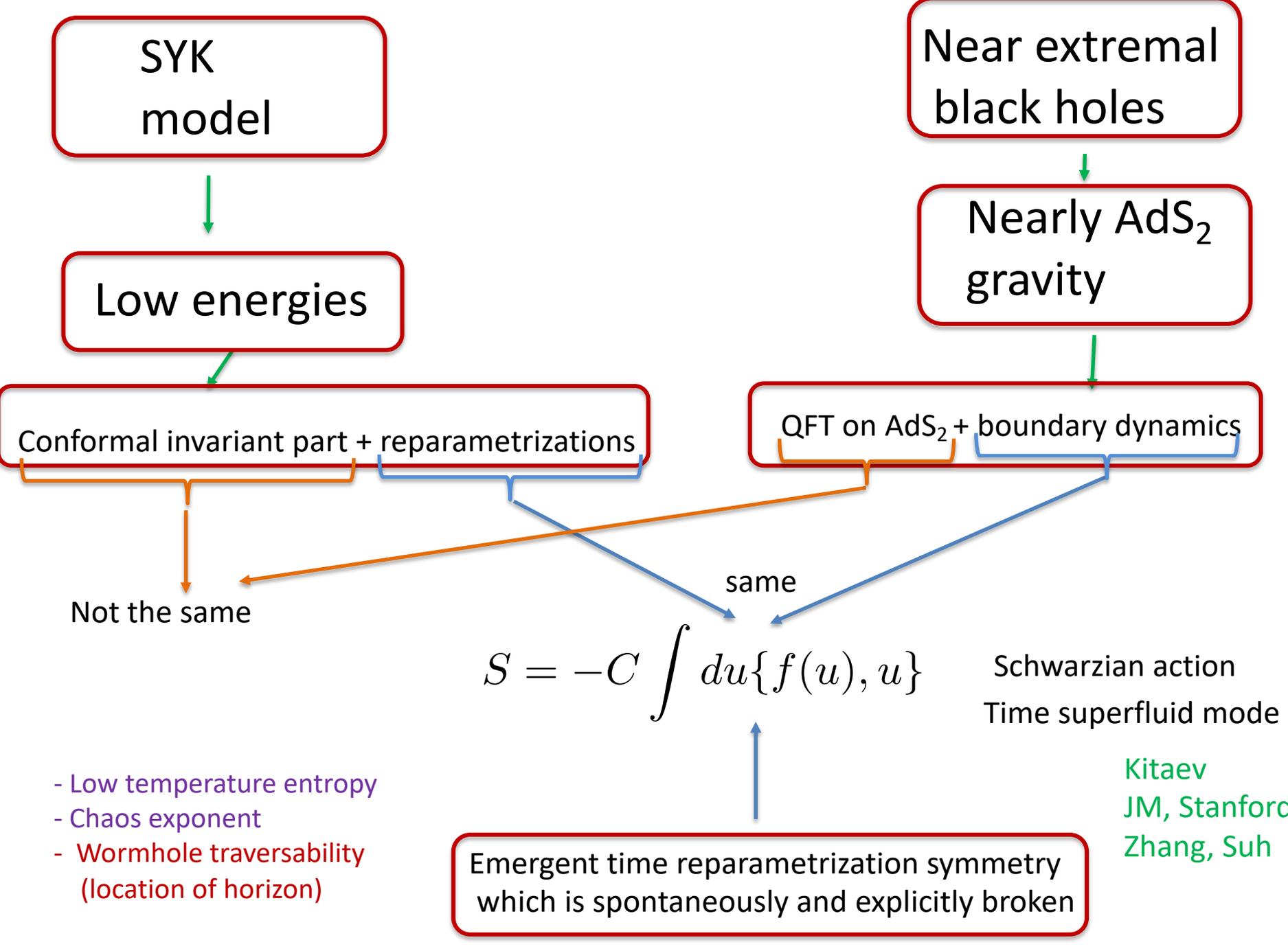
$$S = -C \int du \{ f(u), u \}$$

Schwarzian action
Time superfluid mode

- Low temperature entropy
- Chaos exponent
- Wormhole traversability (location of horizon)

Kitaev
JM, Stanford
Zhang, Suh

Emergent time reparametrization symmetry which is spontaneously and explicitly broken



Yet one more simplification..

Supersymmetric black holes

- Supersymmetry: symmetry relating bosons and fermions \rightarrow simplifies some computations.
- Black holes in supergravity theory
- Black holes with $M=Q$ preserve some supersymmetries.
- Large number of exactly degenerate states giving rise to the extremal entropy of the black hole.

There is a supersymmetric SYK model

(we will discuss it later)

We will review results for the partition
function

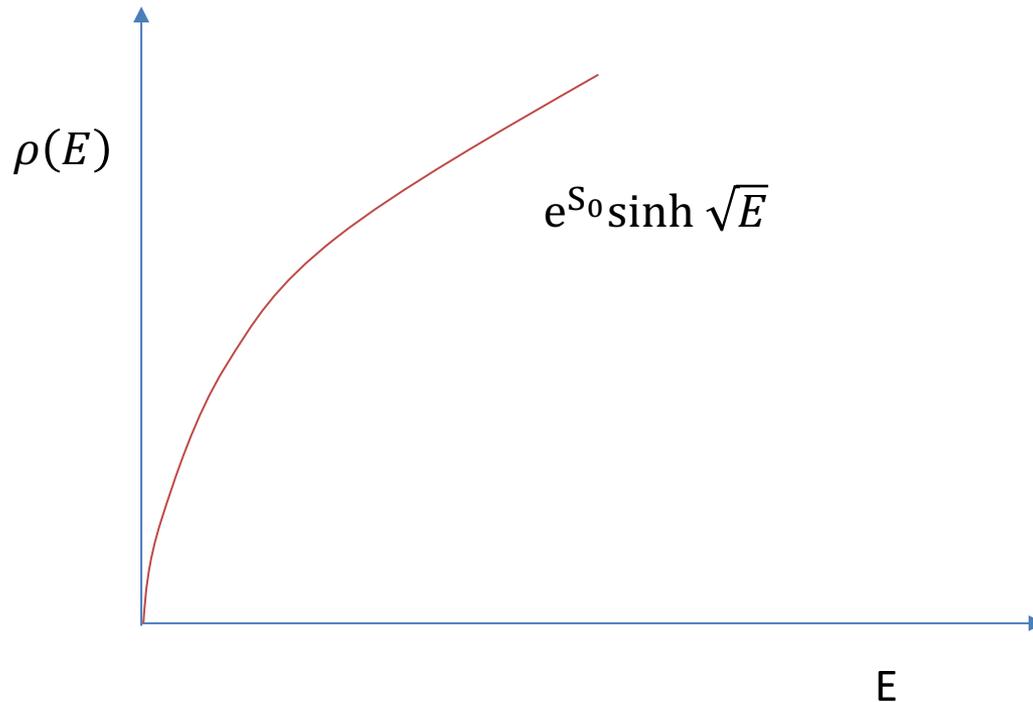
Results for the thermodynamics
including the quantum corrections due
to the boundary gravitons

=

the quantum mechanics of the time-
superfluid mode.

Non-Supersymmetric

Bagrets, Altland, Kamenev
Stanford, Witten
Kitaev, Suh
Mertens Turiaci Verlinde



$$S = N s_0 + \frac{NT}{J} + \frac{3}{2} \log \left(\frac{T}{J} \right)$$

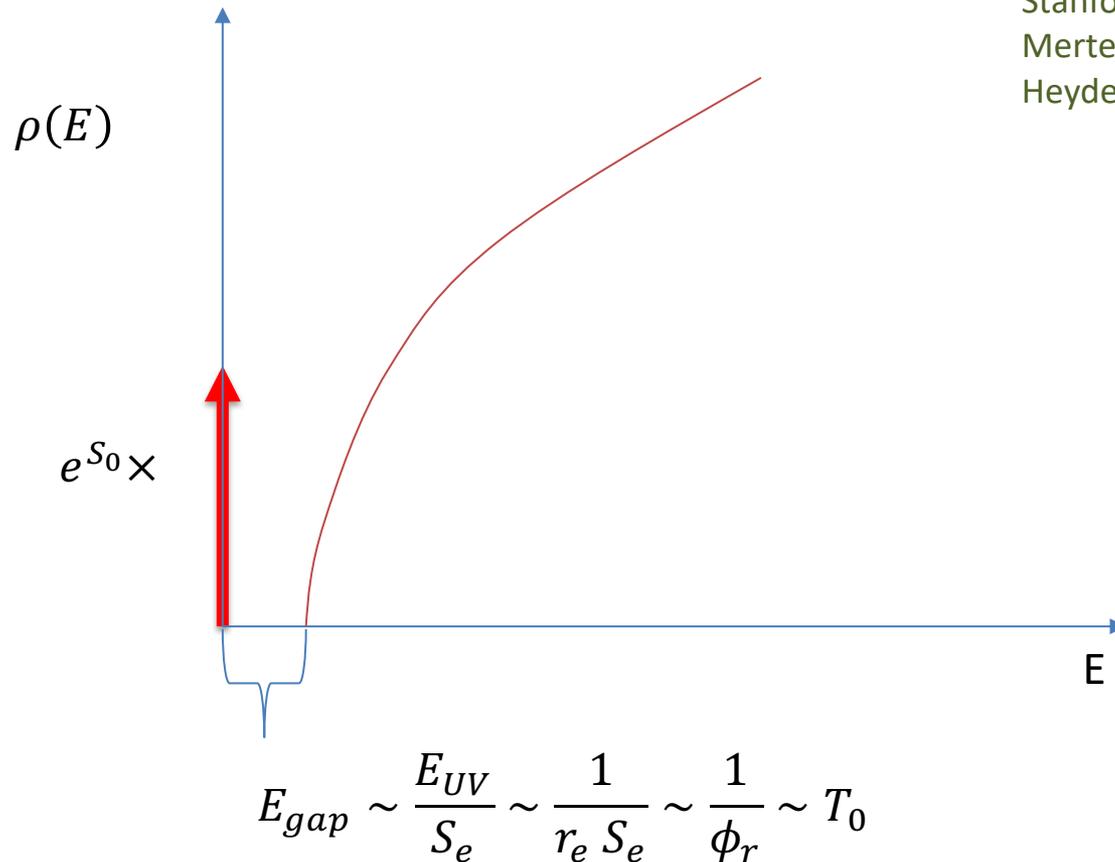
Entropy goes to zero at low energies.

Low energy limit with supersymmetry

- Time superfluid mode + fermionic partners.
- Different quantum properties at low energies.

$\mathcal{N}=2, 4$ supersymmetry

Stanford, Witten
Mertens Turiaci Verlinde
Heydeman, Iliesiu, Turiaci, Zhao



$$S = -\phi_r \int du \{t(u), u\} + \text{partners}$$

What happens in the gravity solution at very low energies?

- Energies \ll gap \rightarrow only ground states survive.
- 3rd Law is not obeyed \rightarrow due to extra symmetry.
- Large degeneracy.
- Frozen system?

First a comment

Their entropies match beautifully with
index computations...

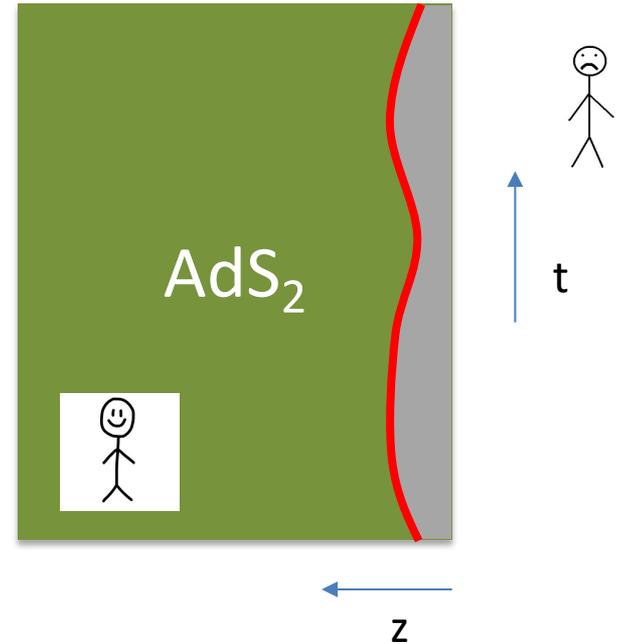
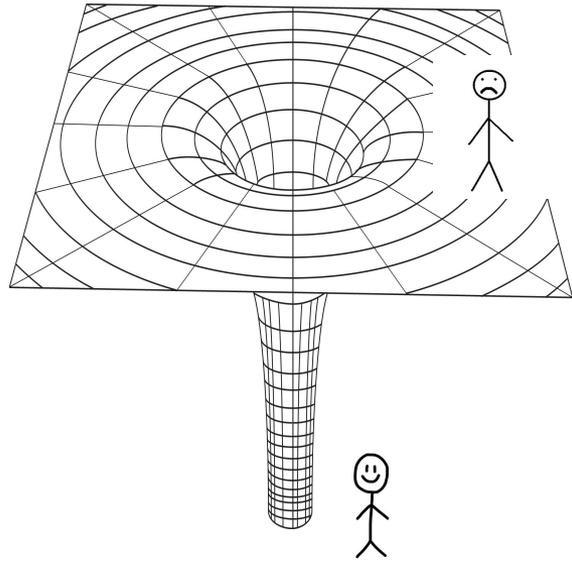
Strominger-Vafa, 1996.

...

Dabholkar, Gomis, Murthy
Iliesiu, Murthy, Turiaci

A closer look at gravity when we take
the low energy limit

The low energy limit



- The quantum fluctuations affect the length of the throat.
- These fluctuations blur the physics for the observer looking from outside.
- But the inside observer seems happy, living in a large spacetime.

What more could we say?

There are many questions that remain

There is more to a black hole than its
entropy!

What about the details of is AdS_2 near horizon geometry?

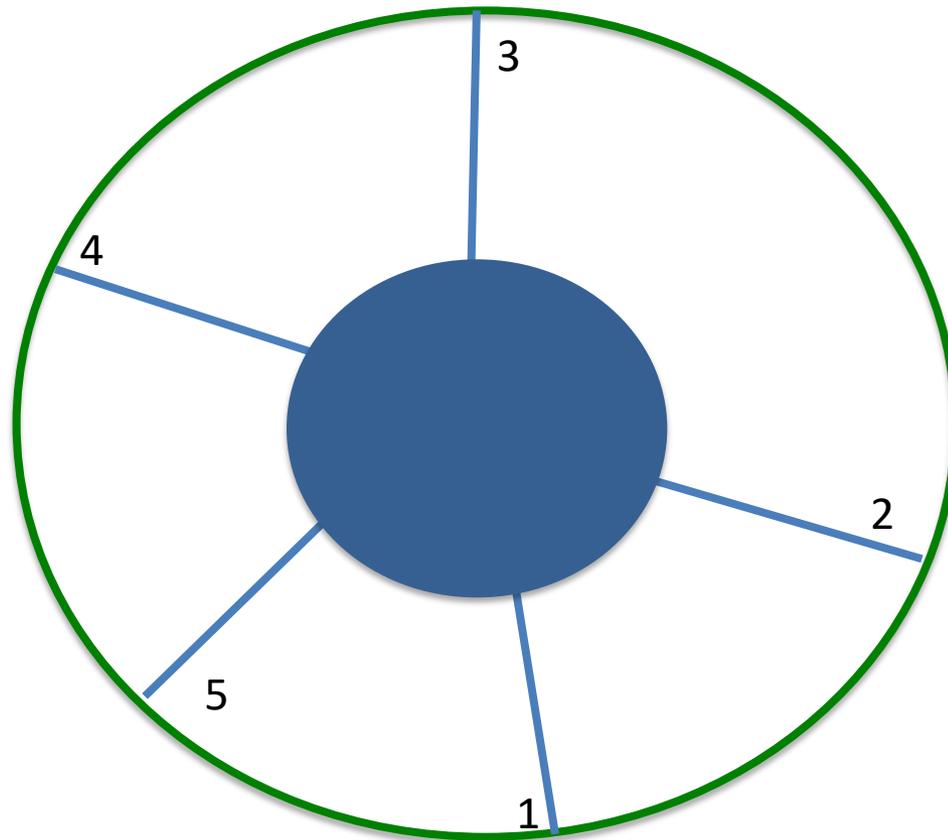
Is there an $\text{AdS}_2/\text{CFT}_1$?

There is more information in this AdS_2
theory:

Its correlation functions

Our main technical results involve
computing some of them.

There are many previous results
computing AdS correlators in AdS_D ,
 $D > 2$



Witten diagrams

But, in two dimensions the situation is a bit harder. And it has been understood only within the last few years.

The new feature is that there is a gravitational mode that becomes strongly coupled at low energies. Even for large N (or large Q).

The boundary mode dynamics

- To understand it, it is important to understand the asymptotic symmetries of AdS_2
- $\text{SL}(2) \rightarrow$ full time reparametrizations $f(\tau)$
- These symmetries are spontaneously broken.
- They are also explicitly broken by the boundary conditions

$$I = -\phi_r \int dt \{f(t), t\} \qquad \{f, t\} = \frac{f'''}{f'} - \frac{3}{2} \frac{f''^2}{f'^2}$$

- Governs the boundary mode dynamics.

The boundary mode dynamics with SUSY

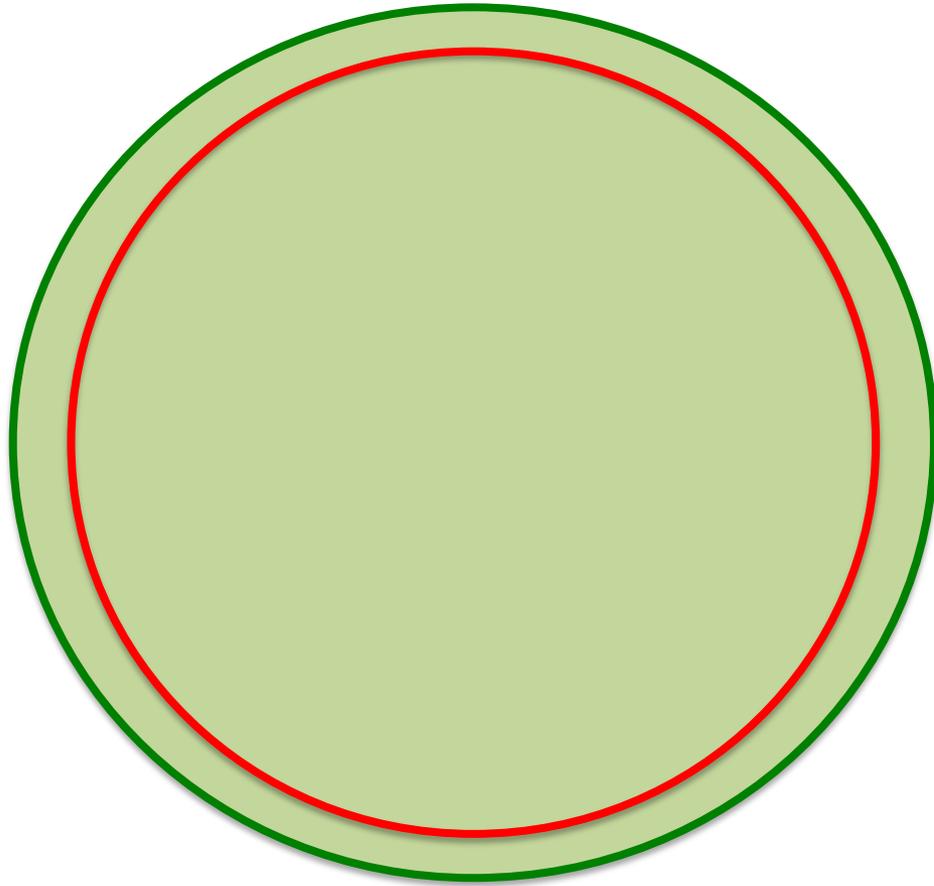
- $O\text{Sp}(2|2) \rightarrow$ full time super-reparametrizations.

$$I = -\phi_r \int dt \{f(t), t\} + \text{partners}$$

- At very long times \rightarrow the symmetries are restored!
- The extremely low energy theory has $H=0$, and is topological, no time dependence.
- Restoration of the symmetry by quantum effects.

Review of Nearly-AdS₂ gravity (Euclidean) correlators

Euclidean black hole



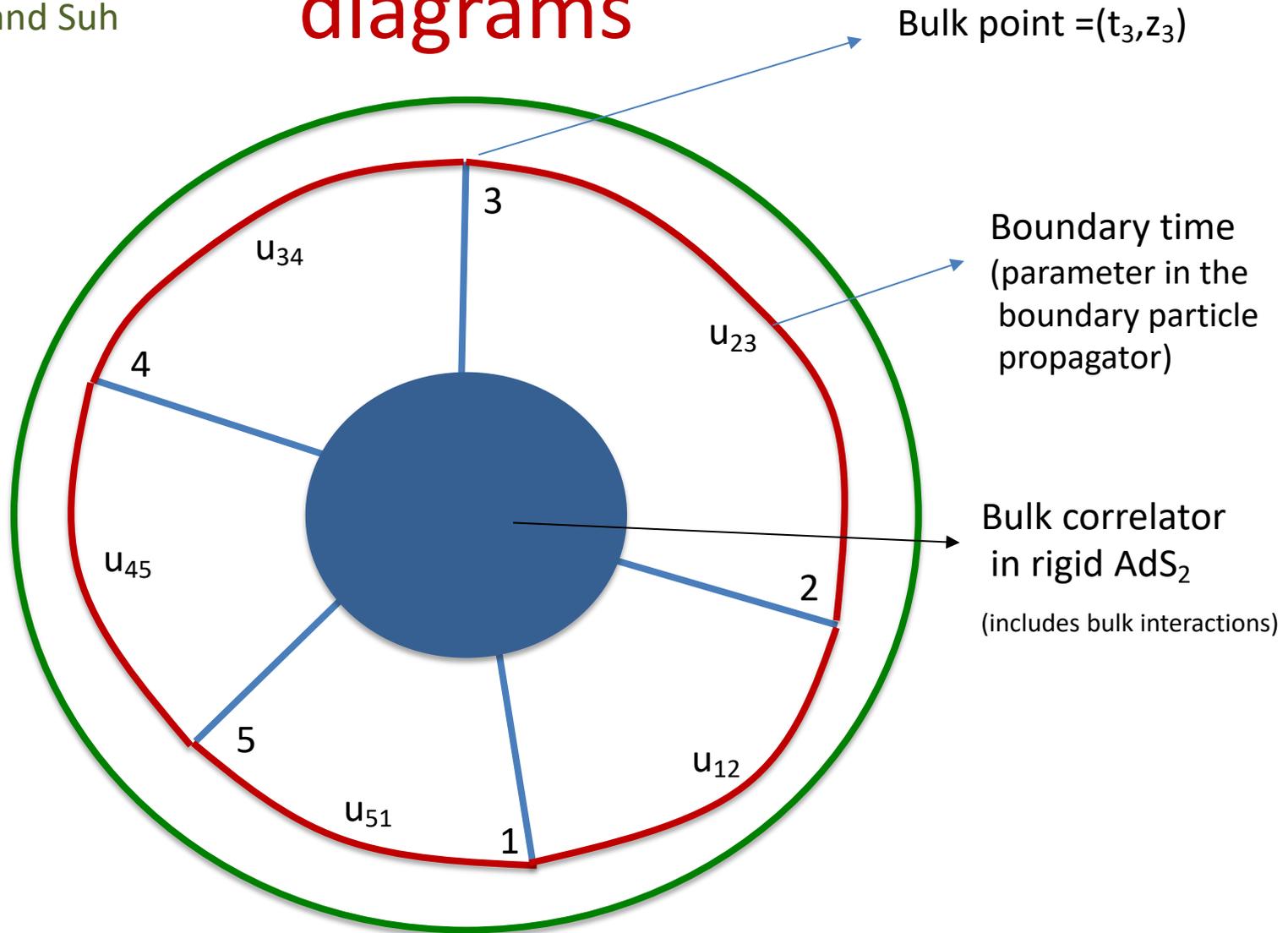
Boundary = circle of length β

Nearly AdS₂ gravity

- Matter fields moving in a rigid AdS₂ spacetime.
- The boundary becomes dynamical and behaves as a particle moving in AdS₂
- The quantum mechanics of this boundary particle can be exactly solved. Z. Yang, Kitaev and Suh
- It behaves as a non-relativistic particle moving in AdS₂ with an “electric field”.

Quantum gravity from Witten-like diagrams

Z. Yang, Kitaev and Suh

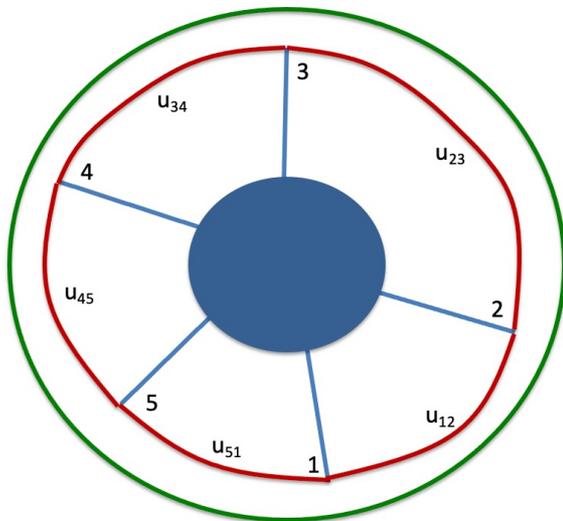


$$\langle O(u_1) \cdots O(u_n) \rangle = (\text{Boundary Particle})(\text{Correlator in AdS}_2)$$

$$\langle O(u_1) \cdots O(u_n) \rangle = \int \frac{\prod_i dx_i dz_i / z_i^2}{\text{Vol}(SL(2))} P(\vec{x}_i, \vec{x}_{i+1}; u_{i,i+1}) \underbrace{\prod_i z_i^{\Delta_i} \langle O(x_1) \cdots O(x_n) \rangle}_{\text{QFT in AdS}_2 \text{ correlators}}$$

QFT in AdS₂ correlators
They simplify because we are near the boundary

Boundary particle propagator.
(We will review later how they are computed)



The N=2 case

- We have a similar expression.
- At low energies, or $u_{ij} \gg \beta_0$
- The propagator becomes independent of u .
- Only the zero energy states contribute.
- The correlator becomes topological.

$$\langle O(u_1) \cdots O(u_n) \rangle = \int \frac{\prod_i dx_i dz_i d^2\theta_i / z_i}{\text{Vol}(SU(1,1|1))} P_0(\vec{x}_i, \vec{x}_{i+1}) \prod_i z_i^{\Delta_i} \langle O(x_1, \theta_1, \bar{\theta}_1) \cdots O(x_n, \theta_n, \bar{\theta}_n) \rangle$$

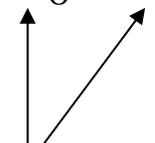
Independent of the u_i . Depends on the order.

$$\langle O(u_1) \cdots O(u_n) \rangle = \text{number} = F(\Delta_i, g_i)$$

How can we have a theory with no Hamiltonian?

- The structure is in the form of the observables (simple operators).
- Ground states + some simple operators.
- We have looked at Euclidean correlators, but in the bulk we can also have a bulk Lorentzian continuation.

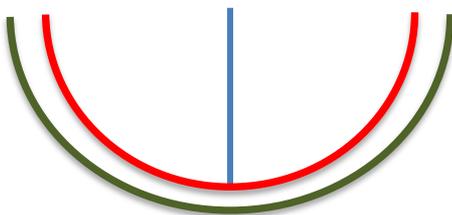
Infrared operators

$$\hat{O} = P_0 O P_0 \sim \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} e^{-uH} O e^{-uH}$$


O is not BPS.
But \hat{O} is BPS.

Projector on to the microstates.

O's are simple in the UV theory. But \hat{O} is complicated due to the projector P_0 , which depends on the flow and characterizes how the ground states are embedded in the full Hilbert space.



= bulk picture

The two point function in the N=2 susy theory

- We can compute the two point function using a variety of methods.

- The chord diagram technique in N=2 SYK.

Berkooz, Brukner, Narovlansky, Raz

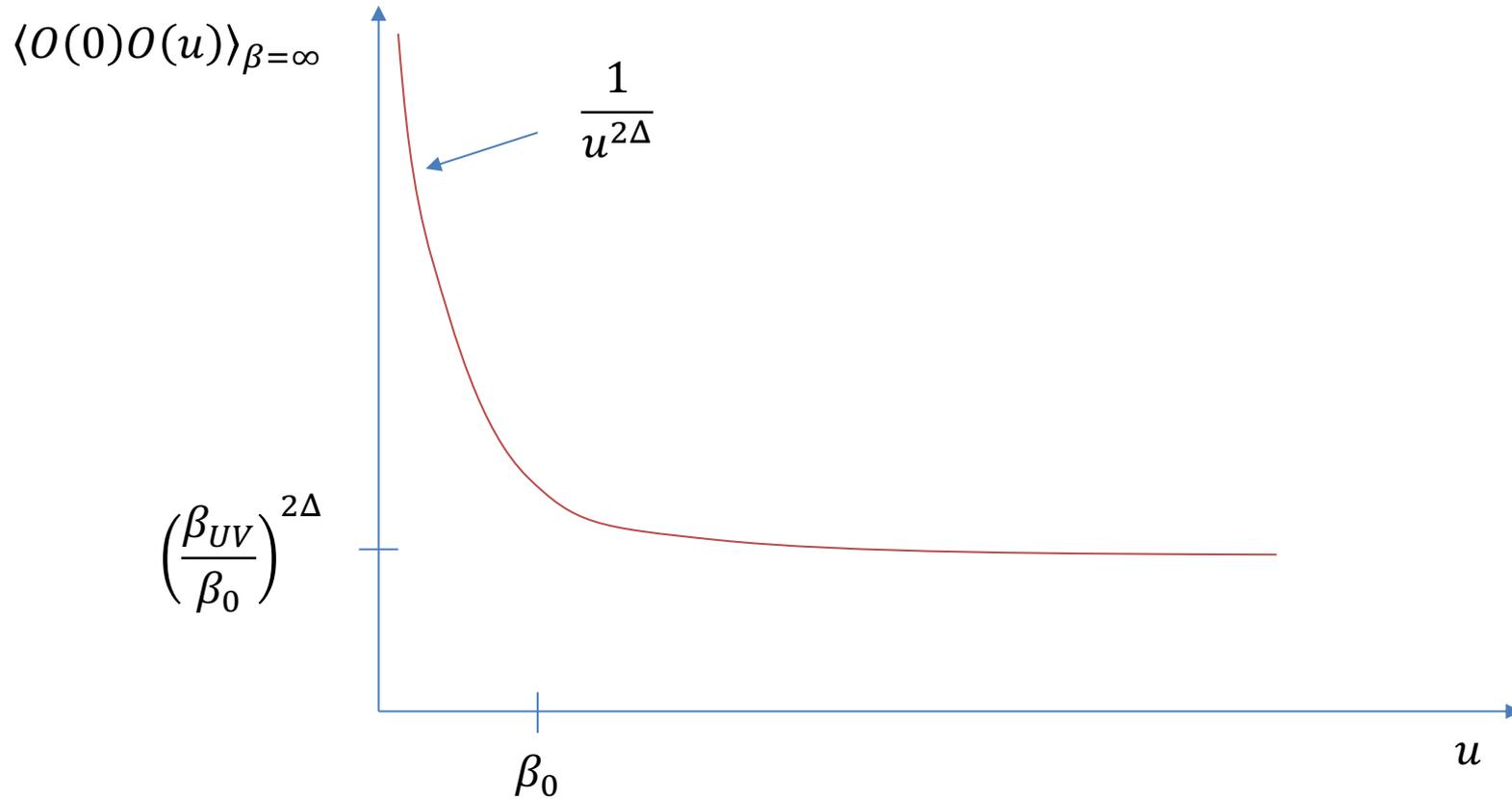
- The super-Liouville approach.

As in Mertens, Turiaci, Verlinde

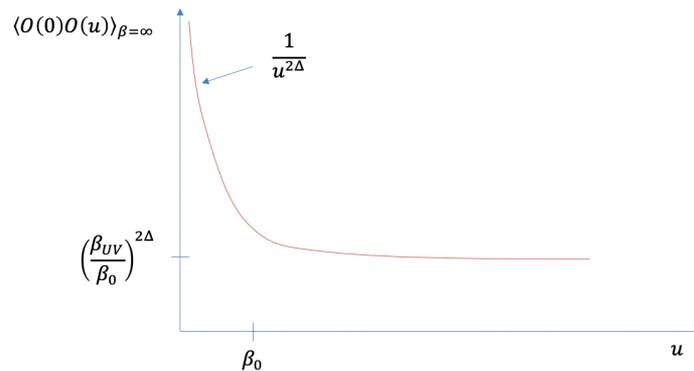
- Using the boundary propagators.

We first discuss some qualitative features of the answer

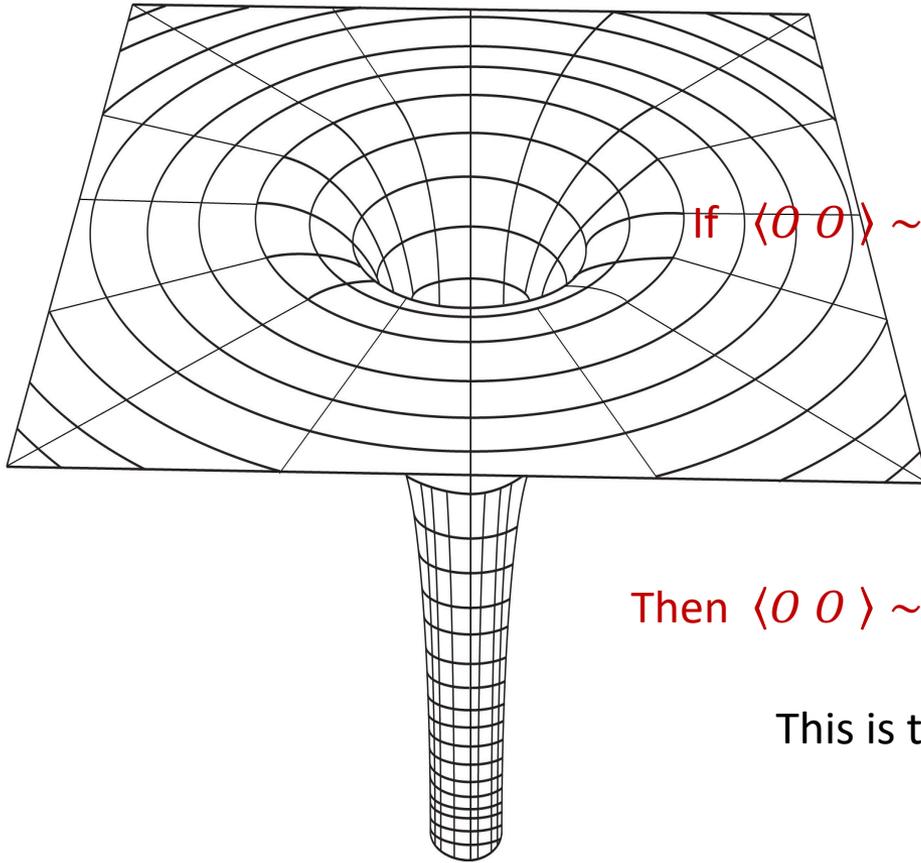
The two point function at zero temperature



$$\beta_{UV} \sim r_e \sim \frac{1}{J}$$



- It connects the shorter distance limit to the long distance, exactly AdS_2 regime.
- It is non-zero.
- This non-zero value has a power law suppression (power of the entropy) relative to its natural UV value.



If $\langle O O \rangle \sim 1$

Operator normalized so that its two point function is one in the region outside the black hole.

$$\text{Then } \langle O O \rangle \sim \left(\frac{r_e}{\beta_0} \right)^{2\Delta} \sim \frac{1}{s_e^{2\Delta}}$$

This is the value at very long times.

Typical values of matrix elements

The two point function is telling us information about the average value of the matrix elements of the operator in a microstate

Raju, Shrivastava

$$\langle OO \rangle_{IR} = e^{-S_0} \text{Tr}[\hat{O}\hat{O}] = e^{-S_0} \sum_{ij} |O_{ij}|^2$$

Typical values of eigenvalues

We could diagonalize the (Hermitian) operator O , $O_{\alpha,\beta} \sim o_\alpha \delta_{\alpha,\beta}$

$$\langle OO \rangle_{IR} = e^{-S_0} \text{Tr}[\hat{O}\hat{O}] = e^{-S_0} \sum_{\alpha} o_{\alpha}^2$$

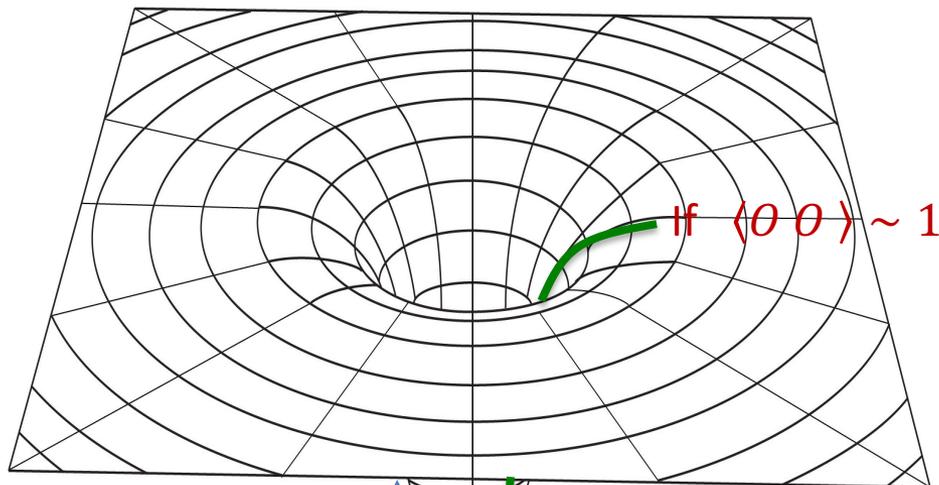
The two point function is giving us size of the typical eigenvalues of the operator.

This is the typical value of O in the basis that diagonalizes O .

This is larger than the typical value of the one point function of O on a random quantum states

$$\int d\psi [\langle \psi | O | \psi \rangle]^2 = e^{-S_0} \langle OO \rangle$$

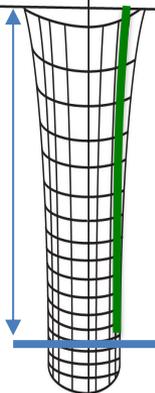
This gives an interesting implication for where the geometry can start differing for various microstates in this basis



Universal factor coming from the propagation of the particle in AdS_2

$$\frac{r_e}{\beta_0} \sim \frac{1}{S_e}$$

The geometry is the usual one at least up to this point



$$\text{Then } \langle O O \rangle \sim \left(\frac{r_e}{\beta_0} \right)^{2\Delta} \sim \frac{1}{S_e^{2\Delta}}$$

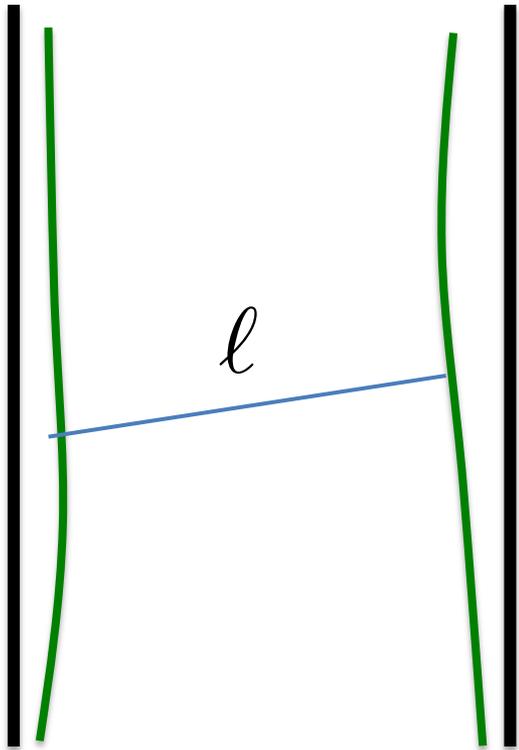
The geometry might be different from this point forwards for the different microstates in this basis where we diagonalize O .

This gives us a constraint on what we should expect for individual microstates.

Another implication...

Some details on the computation of the two point function using the Liouville method

Mertens, Turiaci, Verlinde



Basic variable of the two sided problem:
the distance.

This is a gauge invariant coordinate for the wormhole.
Kuchar

It turns out that its action is a Liouville like action

$$\int du [\dot{l}^2 + e^{-l}]$$

Harlow-Jafferis, Lin

With supersymmetry \rightarrow Super Liouville theory.

Naively we would try to consider an N=2 superLiouville theory. However, we need an N=4 one because we have 2 SUSYs on the left and 2 SUSYs on the right.

Some more details on the computation of the 2pt function

- With the super-Liouville method.
- N=2 Superliouville theory in 2d \rightarrow N=2 Schwarzian in 1d.
- Liouville quantum mechanics.

Mertens, Turiaci, Verlinde

$$S = \int du \left[\frac{1}{4} \dot{\ell}^2 + \dot{a}^2 + \bar{\psi}_{\pm} \dot{\psi}_{\pm} + e^{-\ell/2 - ia} \psi_+ \psi_- + e^{-\ell/2 + ia} \bar{\psi}_+ \bar{\psi}_- + e^{-\ell} \right]$$

- Find eigenfunctions.
- Build the Hartle-Hawking state (use input from the disk partition function)
- Compute $\langle e^{-\Delta \ell} \rangle$, or $\langle e^{-\Delta(\ell + 2 i a)} \rangle$

The full answer is a bit long...

$$\text{Tr}[e^{-uH} O e^{-u'H} O] = \langle \psi | e^{-\Delta \ell} | \psi \rangle =$$

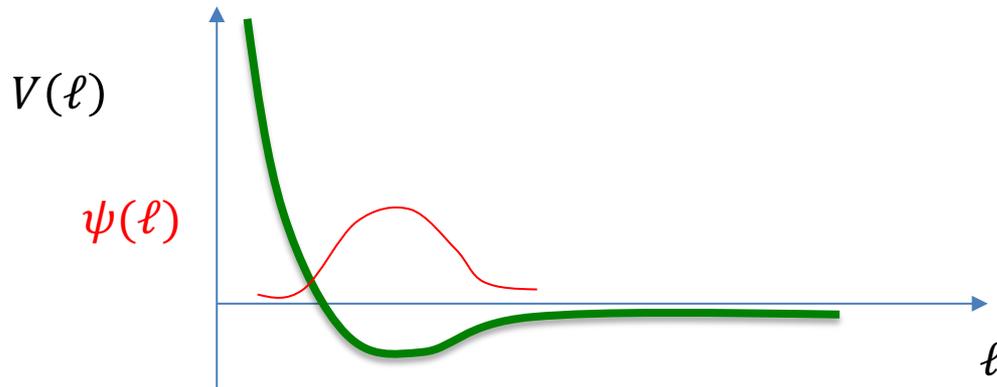
$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_r e^{-\frac{(r-1)^2}{4}(u+u')} \frac{2^{2+2\Delta}}{\pi^2 \hat{q}^2 \Gamma(2\Delta)} \int_0^\infty ds \int_0^\infty ds' e^{-4s^2 u - 4s'^2 u'} \\
&\times \frac{s \sinh(2\pi s)}{E} \frac{s' \sinh(2\pi s')}{E'} 2 (E + E' + 4\Delta^2) \Gamma(\Delta \pm is \pm is') \\
&+ 2 \sum_r e^{-\frac{(r-1)^2}{4}u - \frac{(r-3)^2}{4}u'} \frac{2^{4+2\Delta}}{\pi^2 \hat{q}^2 \Gamma(2\Delta)} \int_0^\infty ds \int_0^\infty ds' e^{-4s^2 u - 4s'^2 u'} \\
&\times \frac{s \sinh(2\pi s)}{\left(4s^2 + \frac{(r-1)^2}{4}\right)} \frac{s' \sinh(2\pi s')}{\left(4s'^2 + \frac{(r-3)^2}{4}\right)} \Gamma\left(\Delta + \frac{1}{2} \pm is \pm is'\right) \\
&+ 2 \sum_{|r|<1} e^{-\frac{(r-1)^2}{4}u} \frac{2^{2\Delta}}{\pi \hat{q}^2 \Gamma(2\Delta)} \cos\left(\frac{\pi r}{2}\right) \int_0^\infty ds e^{-4s^2 u} \\
&\times \frac{s \sinh(2\pi s)}{\left(4s^2 + \frac{(r-1)^2}{4}\right)} \left(4s^2 + \frac{(r-1)^2}{4} + 2\Delta(r + 2\Delta - 1)\right) \Gamma\left(\Delta \pm \frac{(r-1)}{4} \pm is\right) \\
&+ 2 \sum_{|r|<1} e^{-\frac{(r+1)^2}{4}u'} \frac{2^{2+2\Delta}}{\pi \hat{q}^2 \Gamma(2\Delta)} \cos\left(\frac{\pi r}{2}\right) \int_0^\infty ds e^{-4s^2 u'} \frac{s \sinh(2\pi s)}{\left(4s^2 + \frac{(r+1)^2}{4}\right)} \Gamma\left(\Delta + \frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{(r-1)}{4} \pm is\right)
\end{aligned}$$

$$+ \sum_{|r|<1} \frac{2^{2\Delta} \Delta}{\hat{q}^2} \cos\left(\frac{\pi r}{2}\right)^2 \frac{\Gamma(\Delta)^2 \Gamma\left(\Delta + \frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{r}{2}\right)}{\Gamma(2\Delta)}$$

$$S = \int du \left[\frac{1}{4} \dot{\ell}^2 + \dot{a}^2 + \bar{\psi}_{\pm} \dot{\psi}_{\pm} + e^{-\ell/2 - ia} \psi_+ \psi_- + e^{-\ell/2 + ia} \bar{\psi}_+ \bar{\psi}_- + e^{-\ell} \right]$$

$$S = \int du \left[\frac{1}{4} \dot{\ell}^2 - e^{-\ell/2} + e^{-\ell} \right]$$

There is a zero energy normalizable ground state



For this state the length of the wormhole is bounded, and time independent.

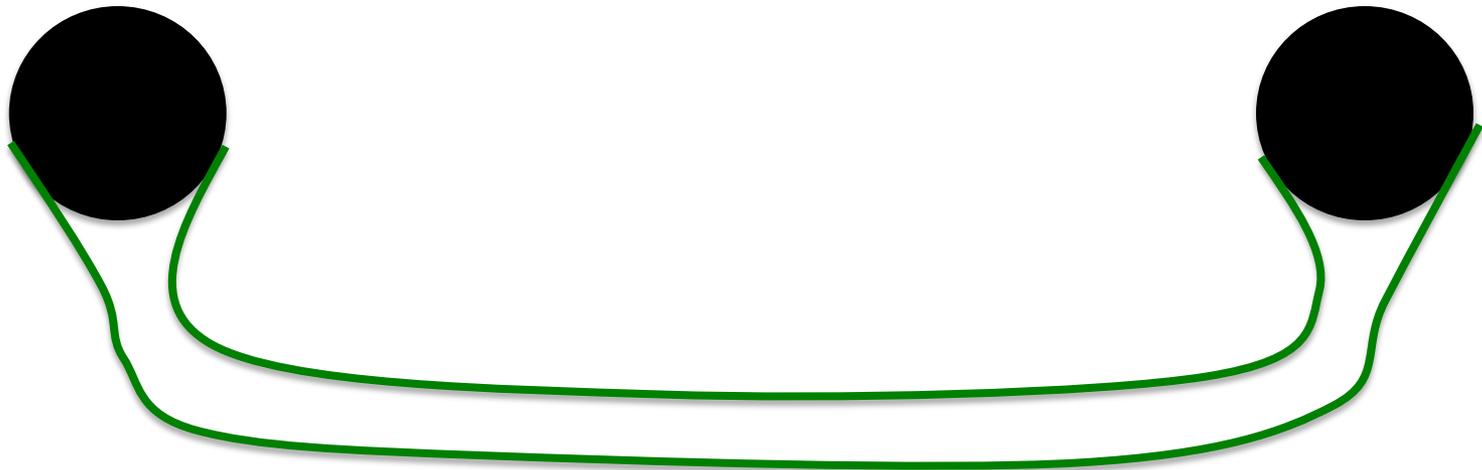
This is different from the naïve classical picture of an infinitely long throat, or

$$ds^2 = -r^2 dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{r^2}$$

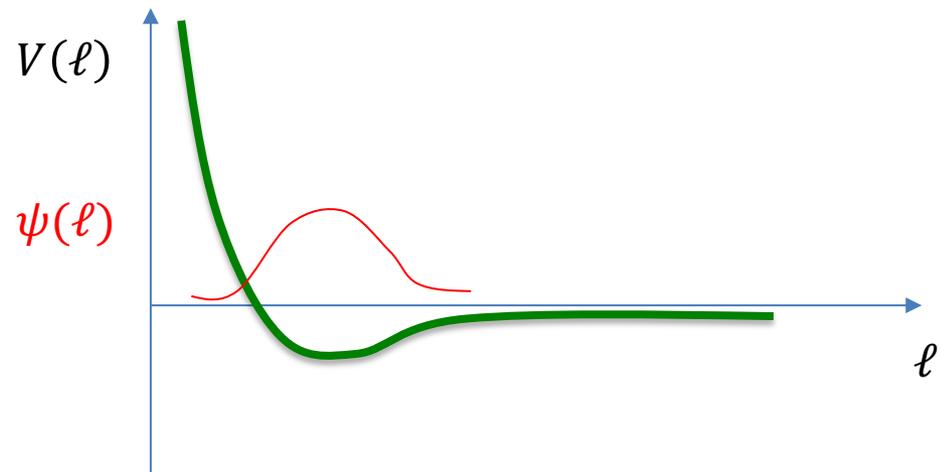
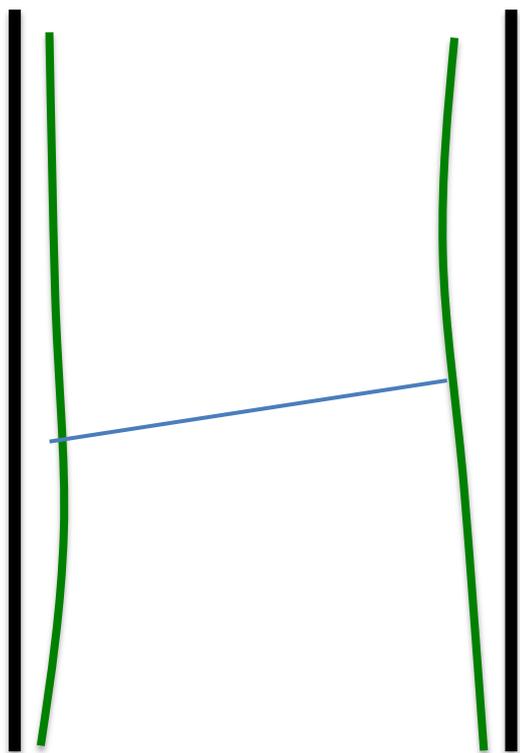
Let us emphasize the last point by
asking:

Are there supersymmetric wormhole configurations?

SUSY ER= EPR ?



From the previous comments → Yes!



Now we turn to the boundary particle propagator

We need it to construct more general correlators

The boundary particle formalism

- Boundary = Particle moving in AdS_2

The propagator, no SUSY

- Use group theory to construct it.
- $\text{AdS}_2 = \text{SL}(2)/\text{U}(1)$
- Somewhat similar to the problem of wavefunctions of particles in a magnetic field on S^2 , which are related to matrix elements of $\text{SU}(2)$ group elements.

The boundary super-particle formalism

- Boundary = Particle moving in AdS_2
- Symmetries:
 - Full symmetry under the $\text{SU}(1,1|1) = \text{OSp}(2|2)$ supergroup. This is a gauge symmetry.
 - $\text{N}=2$ worldline supersymmetry (Poincare)
 - Physical $\text{U}(1)$ R symmetry.

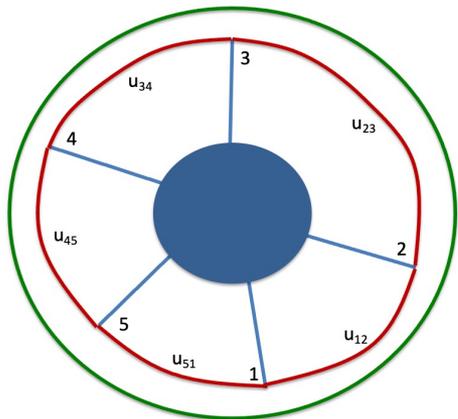
($\text{N}=1$ case: Fan, Mertens)

The answer is simpler in the
 $u \rightarrow \text{infinity}$ limit

Propagator for zero energy states

- $Q_1 P_0 = \overline{Q_1} P_0 = 0 \rightarrow H_1 P_0 = 0$
- This propagator will enable us to compute any correlator in AdS_2 at zero energy.

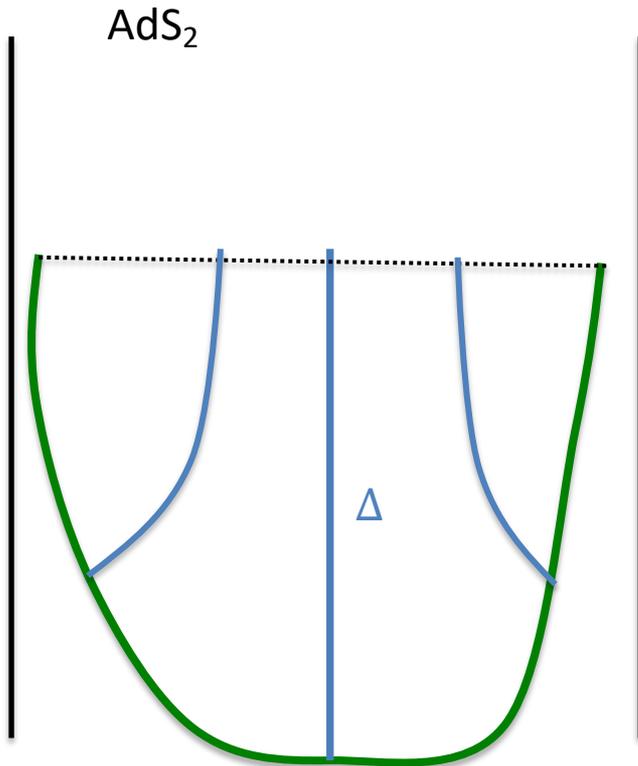
$$P_0 = \theta(x_{12}) \frac{(z_1 z_2)^{1/4}}{\sqrt{x_{12}}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\sqrt{z_1} + \sqrt{z_2})^2}{x_{12}}\right) (+\text{fermions})$$



$$\langle O_1 \cdots O_n \rangle \sim e^{-S_0} \text{Tr} \left[\hat{O}_1 \cdots \hat{O}_n \right]$$

We checked that it does obey the composition law.

Filling the inside



The distance increases, but remains finite.

We could insert many particles.

The distance depends only on the total dimension.

The entanglement entropy between the two sides decreases.

$$S = S_0 - (\text{finite})$$

Type II_1 algebra.

Similarities with dS: $H=0$, type II_1 in the semiclassical limit.

Chaos in operators

Saad, Shenker, Stanford

- Since $H=0$, no chaos from energy levels.
- One can argue that the IR operators, $\hat{O}=\text{POP}$, are random matrices, with some evidence for eigenvalue repulsion.
- \rightarrow Chaos in operators, or their eigenvalues.

See also: Jafferis, Kolchmeyer,
Mukhametzhanov, Sonner.

We can compare the super-Schwarzian answers against those of the $\mathcal{N}=2$ SYK model

$\mathcal{N}=2$ SYK model

Fu, Gaiotto, Sachdev, JM

- Similar to the SYK model.
- N complex fermions ψ^i
- Supercharge involves a product of three fermions with random couplings.
- $Q = \sum_{ijk} \psi^i \psi^j \psi^k$
- $H = \{Q, Q^\dagger\}$

$\mathcal{N}=2$ SYK model

- We can compute the number of ground states analytically and numerically. Fu, Gaiotto, Sachdev, JM
- Now, we can compute correlators.
- They indeed go to constants at long times, both for R-charged operators such as ψ^i as well as for neutral operators such as $\psi^{i\dagger}\psi^j$

Numerical computation of the energy gap

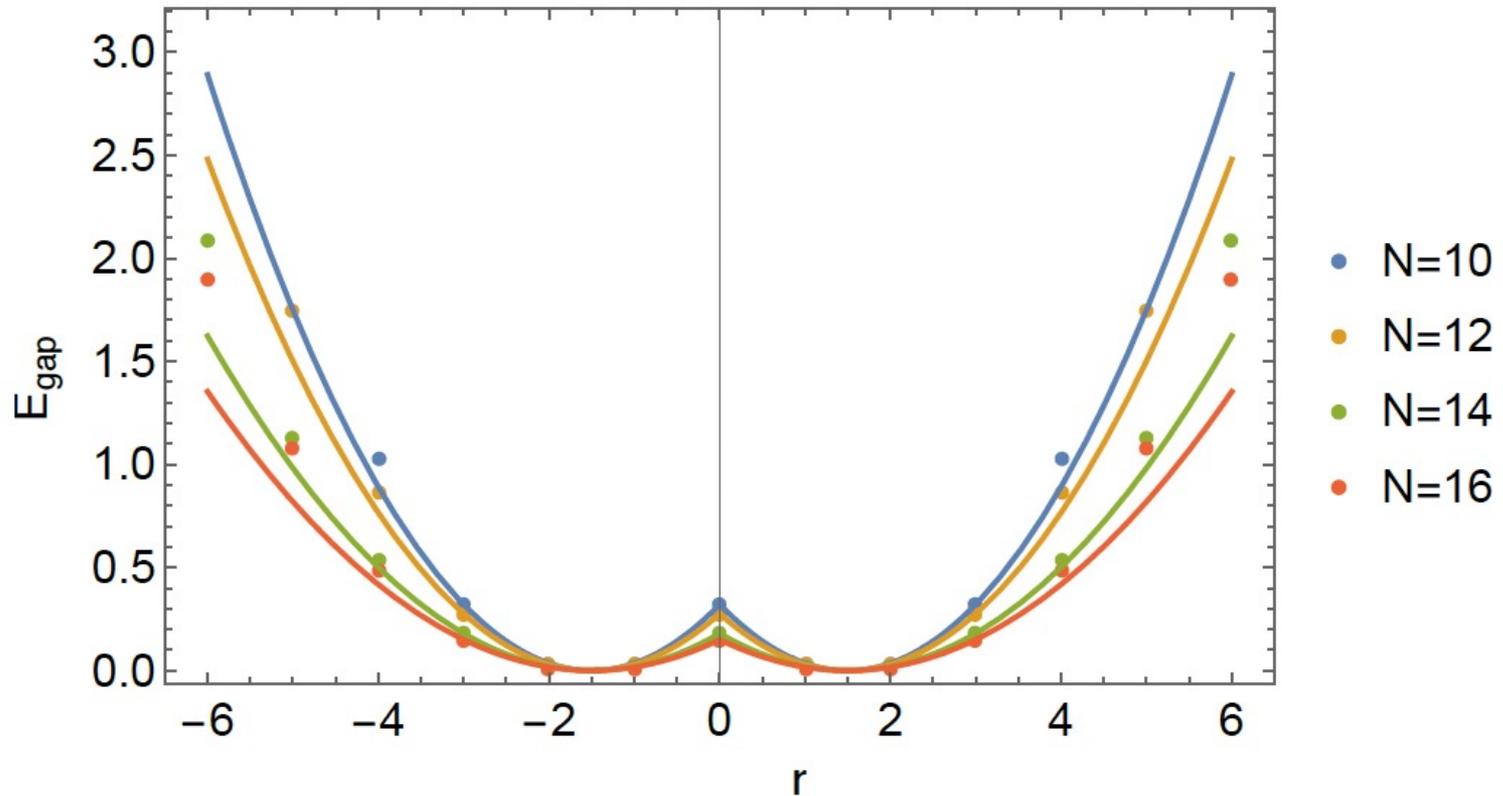


Figure 1: Gap as a function of R -charge for various values of N .

$$E_{\text{gap}} \propto \frac{1}{\phi_r} \left(\frac{|r|}{3} - \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 \propto \frac{J}{N} \left(\frac{|r|}{3} - \frac{1}{2} \right)^2$$

Constant two point function at long Euclidean times

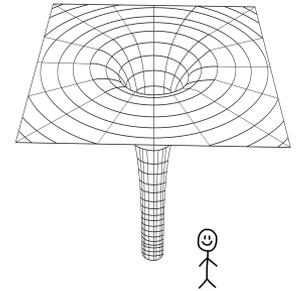
Operator	R -charge	Schwarzian prediction	Numerical answer ($N=16$)
ψ_i	0	0.103	0.110 ± 0.005
	$-1/3$	0.103	0.110 ± 0.005
$\psi_i\psi_j$	$-1/3$	0.0213	0.024 ± 0.003
$\bar{\psi}_i\psi_j$	$-1/3$	0.0243	0.027 ± 0.001
	0	0.0754	0.079 ± 0.001
	$+1/3$	0.0243	0.027 ± 0.001

Conclusions

- $\text{AdS}_2/\text{TFT}_1$
- There is a bulk time but no boundary time. $H=0$.
- There are other interesting observables for SUSY AdS_2 : the correlators.
- We computed the two point function.
- We computed the zero energy propagator \rightarrow any correlator.
- These put constraints on how different various microstates can be.
- Good match to numerical SYK answers.

Future

- What is bulk time in this limit ?
- Can we get a gravity picture for the microstates?



Extra slides

N=2 Propagator

Propagator:

- $P(1,2; u_{12}, \kappa_1, \overline{\kappa_1}, \kappa_2, \overline{\kappa_2}) = \langle 1 | e^{\kappa_1 Q + \overline{\kappa_1} \overline{Q}} e^{u_{12} H} e^{\kappa_2 Q + \overline{\kappa_2} \overline{Q}} | 2 \rangle$
 $= e^{i q (\gamma_+^1 - \gamma_+^2 + \varphi(1,2))} F(\text{invariants}, u_{12}, \kappa_1, \overline{\kappa_1}, \kappa_2, \overline{\kappa_2})$
- $i \partial_u P = H_1 P$
- $i D_{\kappa_1} P = Q_1 P, \quad i \overline{D}_{\overline{\kappa_1}} P = \overline{Q_1} P$
- Q_1 is a Grassman odd differential operator. It is invariant under the left symmetries. We had to guess its form.