

Higher Spin de Sitter Holography

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Motivation

From the combination of the fundamental constants, G , c , and h it is possible to form a new fundamental unit of length $L_{min} = 7 \times 10^{-28} \text{cm}$. It seems to be inevitable that this length must play some role in any complete interpretation of gravitation. [...] In recent years great progress has been made in knowledge of the excessively minute; but until we can appreciate details of structure down to the quadrillionth or quintillionth of a centimetre, the most sublime of all the forces of Nature remains outside the purview of the theories of physics. (Eddington 1918, 36)

[Dean Rickles, *Pourparlers for Amalgamation ...*]

de Sitter is mysterious

We will not say much more about de Sitter space in this course. A big reason for this is that we don't have any UV-complete theory of gravity in de Sitter, like we do in anti-de Sitter. We also have no clear answer to the question 'What is the de Sitter entropy?' (Does it count the microstates of something?) Since we live in de Sitter, this seems like a very important question.

[Tom Hartman, *Lectures on Quantum Gravity, 2015*]

Motivation

String Theory:

- No classical dS solutions [Maldacena-Nuñez,de Wit et al]
- Quantum dS solutions [Kachru-Kalosh-Linde-Trivedi]
- Landscape [Bousso-Polchinski,Susskind,Douglas]

The Great Wall:

- No classical dS = no semiclassical control [Dine-Seiberg]
- No complete theory = no predictions (e.g. [FD-Douglas '04]
distribution susy breaking scale: $d\mathcal{N} \sim F^5 dF \Rightarrow ?$)
- dS-CFT? [Strominger,Witten,Maldacena]
Examples? [Silverstein,Anninos-Hartman-Strominger]
Consensus: troubling [Susskind-Kleban et al]

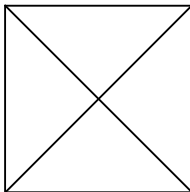
dS-CFT

From AdS to dS:

- Continuation $L \rightarrow iL$, $z \rightarrow i\eta$:

$$ds_{\text{AdS}}^2 = \frac{L^2}{z^2}(dz^2 + dx^2) \quad \rightarrow \quad ds_{\text{dS}}^2 = \frac{L^2}{\eta^2}(-d\eta^2 + dx^2).$$

- Boundary = future infinity $\eta = -\frac{1}{L}e^{-t/L} = 0$.



- $\lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0} \phi(\eta, x) \sim \eta^\Delta \alpha(x) + \eta^{d-\Delta} \beta(x)$

dS-CFT

Quantization:

- $\lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0} \phi(\eta, x) \sim \eta^\Delta \alpha(x) + \eta^{d-\Delta} \beta(x)$
- $[\hat{\alpha}(x), \hat{\beta}(y)] \sim i \delta^d(x - y)$.
- Dirichlet/Neumann future boundary states: $\hat{\alpha}|D\rangle = 0$, $\hat{\beta}|N\rangle = 0$.
- dS-CFT [Strominger]:

$$\langle D | \hat{\beta}_1 \cdots \hat{\beta}_n | 0 \rangle = \langle \mathcal{O}_1 \cdots \mathcal{O}_n \rangle_{\text{CFT}_D}, \quad \langle N | \hat{\alpha}_1 \cdots \hat{\alpha}_n | 0 \rangle = \langle \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_1 \cdots \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_n \rangle_{\text{CFT}_N}$$

- dS-CFT 2.0 [Maldacena]:

$$\Psi_{\text{HH}_D}[\alpha] = \langle \alpha | 0 \rangle = \langle D | e^{i \int \alpha \hat{\beta}} | 0 \rangle = \langle e^{i \int \alpha \mathcal{O}} \rangle_{\text{CFT}_D} = Z_{\text{CFT}_D}[\alpha]$$

Note $\hat{\alpha}|\alpha\rangle = \alpha|\alpha\rangle$. Analogous $\Psi_{\text{HH}_N}[\beta] = \text{Fourier transform } \Psi_{\text{HH}_D}[\alpha]$.

Challenges for dS-CFT

Unconventional, (very) nonunitary CFT:

- $\langle \mathcal{O}\mathcal{O} \rangle = \partial\bar{\partial} \log \Psi_{\text{HH}}|_0 < 0 \Rightarrow$ CFT inner product not > 0 .
- Central charge $C_{\text{AdS}_{d+1}} \sim \frac{L^{d-1}}{G} \rightarrow C_{\text{dS}_{d+1}} \sim i^{d-1} \frac{L^{d-1}}{G}$ not > 0 .
- Scalar mass $m_{\text{AdS}}^2 = \frac{\Delta(\Delta-d)}{L^2} \rightarrow m_{\text{dS}}^2 = -\frac{\Delta(\Delta-d)}{L^2}$.
 \Rightarrow Usual abundance of large Δ operators like $\text{Tr } X^n$ would lead to abundance of tachyons + heavy particles have complex Δ :
$$\Delta = \frac{d}{2} \pm i\sqrt{(mL)^2 - \left(\frac{d}{2}\right)^2}.$$

Note:

- Not inconsistent: Euclidean CFT.
- \sim CFT analog no-go dS brane constructions.
- Examples? \rightsquigarrow Bootstrap? What replaces unitarity constraint?

Challenges for dS-CFT

Objections raised by [(Dyson/Goheer)-Kleban-Susskind] point to trouble for dS-CFT as a complete theory:

- Boltzman brains.
- Eternal dS does not appear to exist in string theory. Connected to entire landscape, ultimately decays into zero or negative cc vacua.
- Tension between features of dS representation theory and finiteness of dS horizon entropy.

Challenges for dS-CFT

Bulk quantum mechanics?

- Time is emergent. Bulk Hilbert space \neq CFT state space. Bulk Hamiltonian \neq CFT Hamiltonian.
- Different CFTs (D/N) for $\hat{\beta}$ and $\hat{\alpha}$ correlators. What about mixed $\hat{\alpha}\hat{\beta}$ correlators? Unified in one QFT? **Commutator problem:**

$$\langle \hat{\alpha}(x) \hat{\beta}(y) \rangle = i \delta^d(x - y) = -\langle \hat{\beta}(y) \hat{\alpha}(x) \rangle$$

\rightsquigarrow Different operator orderings in Euclidean QFT?? **X**

- CFT supposedly gives “wave function” $\Psi[\varphi] = \langle \phi|0 \rangle$ but:
 - Computing $\langle 0|\cdots|0 \rangle$ correlators requires integrating over φ .
 - Probabilities? Measure? Phase space? Wave function of *what*?
 - Bulk dynamics?

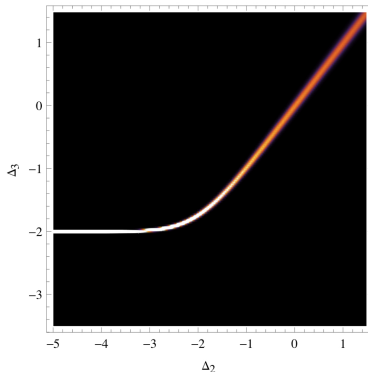
[ArkaniHamed-Maldacena]

Aside: Cosmic Clustering

Free massless scalar (or metric) in dS:

- 1 Effective stochastic time evolution: branched diffusion [Starobinsky].
- 2 Wave function $\Psi[\varphi] \sim e^{-\int d^d k k^d \phi_k \phi_{-k}}$

(1) can be cleanly detected in (2) by computing a “phylogenetic” triple overlap distribution introduced in study of spin glasses [Anninos-FD]



Goal of this work

We want to find an **exact and complete** model for dS holography.

Interesting and useful things can be said at approximate level, e.g. by analytic continuation from AdS-CFT

[Skenderis-McFadden-Bzowski,Hartle-Hertog-Hawking,...].

But we want complete, non-perturbative formulation. In exchange we will drop requirement of phenomenological realism.

AHS ghost models

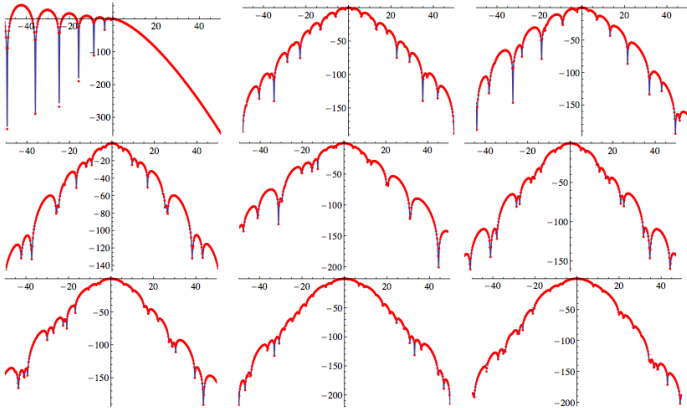
- Higher spin AdS₄ - $U(N)$ vector model correspondence [Klebanov-Polyakov, Giombi-Yin] → higher spin dS₄ - $U(N)$ vector model correspondence [Anninos-Hartman-Strominger]. Instead of bosonic scalars, **fermionic** scalars.
- Free model in 3d:

$$S = \int d^3x |\partial V^A|^2 \quad (U(N) \text{ singlet sector}).$$

One single trace scalar primary $\mathcal{O} = :V^A \bar{V}^A:$, with $\Delta = 1$.

- Dual to Vasiliev dS₄ containing massless spin s particles for all $s = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. Scalar of $m^2 = \frac{2}{l^2}$, Neumann future boundary state.
- $m^2 > 0$ ✓, $C = -N$ ✓, $\langle \mathcal{O}\mathcal{O} \rangle < 0$ ✓
- $\Rightarrow \Psi_{\text{HH}}[\beta, \dots] = \det(-\partial^2 + \beta + \dots)^N$.

Minisuperspace wave functions



$y = \log \Psi[\beta]$ plotted as function of x for $\beta(\omega_3) = x Y_\ell^m(\omega_3)$, $\ell = 0, \dots, 8$, spherical harmonics on S^3 . (Only) the $\ell = 0$ mode leads to a divergent wave function.

[Anninos-FD-Harlow, Anninos-FD-Konstantinidis-Shaghoulian]

Other studies: [Banerjee-Belin-Hellerman-LepageJutier-Maloney-Radicevic-Shenker] (divergence with topology), [Hertog-Conti/Van der Woerd] (fluctuations).

Degrees of freedom

- Wave function is function... of *what*?
- Must use correct set of degrees of freedom, measure, etc before drawing conclusions about wave function divergences:
 - $\psi(r) = \frac{e^{-r}}{r}$ diverges on \mathbb{R} but converges on \mathbb{R}^2 .
 - Gauge invariance
 - Other redundancies (holography!)

- Most general free $U(N)$ invariant Lagrangian:

$$S = \int d^3x |\partial V^A|^2 + \int d^3x d^3y B(x, y) V^A(x) \bar{V}^A(y).$$

$B(x, y)$ bilocal collective field [Jevicki, Das-Jevicki]; can be expanded in primary fields coupling to sources.

- Note mismatch d.o.f. “sources” $B(x, y)$ and “fields” $V^A(x)$.

Toy model illustration

Toy model: Complex bosonic rectangular matrices V_x^A , $A = 1, \dots, N$, $x = 1, \dots, K$, coupling to hermitian matrix source B_{xy} :

$$\Psi(B) = \int dV e^{-\text{Tr}(V\bar{V}) + i\text{Tr}(VB\bar{V})} = \det(1 + iB)^{-N}$$
$$\int dB |\Psi(B)|^2 = \int dB \det(1 + B^2)^{-N}.$$

Under $B \rightarrow \lambda B$ with $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$:

$$dB \propto \lambda^{K^2}, \quad \det(1 + B^2)^{-N} \propto \lambda^{-2NK}.$$

$\Rightarrow \Psi(B)$ normalizable iff $K < 2N$, i.e. source B d.o.f. $<$ field V d.o.f.

Alternatively: Keep in integral form, integrate out B :

$$\int dB |\Psi(B)|^2 \propto \int dV dV' \prod_{ij} \delta((V\bar{V})_{ij} - (V'\bar{V}')_{ij})$$

If $K > 2N$: product of redundant δ -functions.

Degrees of freedom

Extrapolation to original $U(N)$ model with UV cutoff $\rightsquigarrow K$ spatial cells.

$\Rightarrow 2NK$ vector V d.o.f., K^2 source d.o.f.

Continuum limit: $K \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow$ sources vastly redundant.

Even after gauge fixing: 2 d.o.f. per spatial cell for each spin $s \geq 1$, infinite tower of spins.

In addition: $\partial^2 V = 0$, V fermionic \rightsquigarrow further reduction V d.o.f.

Conclusion: Asymmetric parametrization fields/sources inadequate.

Question: Can we do better? Parametrize source as vector bilinears too, part of single dual QFT? Maybe, but recall commutator problem...

Idea: Berezin coherent states \rightsquigarrow convergent integrals over sources.

Berezin coherent states

[Berezin, Das²-Jevicki-Ye]: Quantum mechanics of $U(N)$ vector models = Kähler quantization of dual “source” phase space, generalizing spin N Bloch sphere.

Standard radial quantization $U(N)$ fermionic vector model via mode expansion:

$$\{a_p^A, (a_q^B)^\dagger\} = \delta_p^A \delta_q^B, \quad \{b_p^A, (b_q^B)^\dagger\} = \delta_p^A \delta_q^B,$$

where $A, B = 1, \dots, N$ and $p, q = 1, \dots, S$ (\sim angular momentum modes $\rightsquigarrow S \sim$ number of points on **codim-1** sphere)

Berezin coherent (or squeezed) states:

$$|\bar{Z}\rangle \equiv e^{\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \bar{Z}_{pq} b_p^\dagger a_q^\dagger} |0\rangle, \quad (Z|\bar{W}) = \det(1 + \frac{1}{N} ZW^\dagger)^N.$$

So for normalized states $|Z\rangle \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{\langle Z|\bar{Z}\rangle}} |Z\rangle$, and for $N \rightarrow \infty$:

$$|\langle Z|\bar{W}\rangle|^2 \approx e^{-\text{Tr}|Z-W|^2}.$$

Berezin coherent states

Complex sources Z_{pq} parametrize **compact** Kähler phase space with Kähler potential $\mathcal{K} = \log \det(1 + \frac{1}{N} ZZ^\dagger)$,

$$ds^2 = \text{Tr}[(1 + \frac{1}{N} ZZ^\dagger)^{-1} dZ]^2.$$

Decomposition of unity: We have $\int dZ \sqrt{G} |\bar{Z}\rangle\langle Z| \propto \mathbf{1}$, i.e.

$$\int dZ \det(1 + \frac{1}{N} Z^\dagger Z)^{-2S} |\bar{Z}\rangle\langle Z| \propto \mathbf{1}.$$

$N \rightarrow \infty$ fixed $Z, S \rightsquigarrow$ standard oscillator coherent states.

D.o.f. sources match vectors:

- **compact** phase space (diag. Z : (2-sphere)^S)
- data on **codim-1** sphere position space \rightsquigarrow **holographic**

CFT state space

Noted before: ghost $U(N)$ model inner product *not* > 0 .

2-point function $\langle \mathcal{O}(x)\mathcal{O}(y) \rangle = \frac{c_{\mathcal{O}}}{|x-y|^{2\Delta}}$, $c_{\mathcal{O}} < 0$. Radial quantization:
 $\mathcal{O}(x)^\dagger = x^{-2\Delta} \mathcal{O}(\frac{x}{x^2})^*$. Norm primary state $\langle \mathcal{O}(0)^\dagger | \mathcal{O}(0) \rangle = c_{\mathcal{O}} < 0$.

Mode expansion V^A gives creation/annihilation operator algebra

$$\{a_p^A, (a_q^B)^\dagger\} = \delta_p^A \delta_q^B, \quad \{b_p^A, (b_q^B)^\dagger\} = -\delta_p^A \delta_q^B,$$

with $p = (\ell, m)$ angular momentum quantum numbers. (sign)

\Rightarrow CFT “state” space \mathbb{Z}_2 graded with positive/negative norm for even/odd b -number.

Bulk interpretation? Evidently *not* global particle states.

[Anninos, Ng-Strominger, Jafferis-Lupsasca-Lysov-Ng]:

CFT states \leftrightarrow bulk quasinormal modes.

[Note: Berezin construction modified: $(Z|\bar{Z}) = \det(1 - \frac{1}{N}ZZ^\dagger)^N$.]

Bulk reconstruction from CFT

Question: CFT to bulk operator map \sim [Hamilton-Kabat-Lifschytz-Lowe]?
(dS: [Sharkar-Xiao])

Approach: AdS group theoretic construction of
[Verlinde, Miyaji-Numasawa-Shiba-Takayanagi-Watanabe, Nakayama-Ooguri]

Results: E.g. planar: Most general formula consistent with symmetries:

$$\phi(\eta, x) \sim \sum_{\pm} \eta^{d-\Delta} \int dx' ((x-x')^2 - \eta^2 \mp i\epsilon)^{\Delta-d} \mathcal{O}_{\pm}(x'),$$

\mathcal{O}_{\pm} primaries of dim Δ . Has both η^{Δ} , $\eta^{d-\Delta}$ falloffs.

Bulk QM $\Leftrightarrow [\mathcal{O}_+(x), \mathcal{O}_-(y)] \sim (x-y)^{-2\Delta} \rightsquigarrow$ commutator problem.

* Lor. AdS-CFT: inherited from pos./neg. freq. modes in CFT

$$\mathcal{O}_{\pm}(k) \sim \Theta(-k^2)\Theta(\pm k^0)\mathcal{O}(k)$$

* dS-CFT? No time in boundary \rightsquigarrow \times CFT knows nothing of bulk QM?

Bulk reconstruction from CFT

Not so fast: **In static patch dS** i.e.

$$ds^2 = -(1 - r^2)dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{1 - r^2} + r^2 d\Omega^2$$

CFT operator mode expansion in radial/cylinder quantization

$$\hat{\mathcal{O}}(\tau, \Omega) = \sum_{\ell m} \sum_{\kappa} \hat{\mathcal{O}}_{\ell m}^{\kappa} e^{\kappa\tau} Y_{\ell}^m(\Omega),$$

does map (with suitable variant of integration prescription) to:

$$\hat{\phi}(t, r, \Omega) = \sum_{\ell m} \sum_{\kappa_n = \pm(\Delta + \ell + 2n)} \hat{\mathcal{O}}_{\ell m}^{\kappa_n} e^{-\kappa_n t} \psi_{\ell}^n(r) Y_{\ell}^m(\Omega)$$

= static patch **quasinormal mode expansion!**

Moreover with $(\mathcal{O}_{\ell m}^{\kappa})^{\dagger} = (-)^m \mathcal{O}_{\ell, -m}^{-\kappa}$:

$$[\hat{\mathcal{O}}_{\ell m}^{\kappa}, (\hat{\mathcal{O}}_{\ell m}^{\kappa})^{\dagger}] \sim \pm \delta_{\ell\ell'} \delta_{mm'} \delta_{\kappa\kappa'} + O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right)$$

$N \rightarrow \infty \rightsquigarrow$ QM \sim QNM quantization of [Strominger et al].

Conclusions

Way ahead: putting these pieces of the puzzle together

But I'm out of time.

Thank you!