

# LOCALITY AND SYMMETRY FOR $T\bar{T}$ AND GRAVITY

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(CERN)

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Based on work with Monica Guica, Per Kraus, Richard Myers, Stephen Ebert, Eliot Hijano,  
Konstantinos Roumpedakis, Ioannis Tsiaris, Seolhwa Kim

# Introduction

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$$S = \frac{k_B c^3}{\hbar G} \frac{A}{4}$$

Entropy not extensive!

E.g. black holes:

[Bekenstein '73, Hawking '74]

$$T = \frac{\hbar c^3}{G k_B} \frac{1}{8\pi M}$$

- First law:  $c^2 dM = T dS$
- Second law:  $\Delta S_{\text{tot}} \geq 0$

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- String theory: asymptotic observables
  - S-matrix elements
  - AdS/CFT

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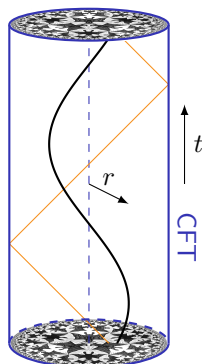
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  - **AdS/CFT**

[M. C. Escher, "Circle Limit IV"]



*"AdS is a test tube"*

$$ds^2 = \frac{-dt^2 + d\rho^2 + \sin^2 \rho d\Omega^2}{\cos^2 \rho}$$

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# Introduction — holography

## Anti-de Sitter space

- $d + 1$  (or more) dimensions

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[Gubser–Klebanov–Polyakov '98, Witten '98]

$$\int \mathcal{D}g_{\mu\nu} \mathcal{D}\Phi e^{-I[\gamma_{\alpha\beta}, \alpha]} \quad \xleftrightarrow{\text{GKP/W}} \quad e^{-W[J]} = \int \mathcal{D}\varphi e^{-I_{\text{CFT}} + J \cdot \mathcal{O}}$$

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fixed boundary value  $\alpha$   $\leftrightarrow$  source  $J$

$$\beta \propto \pi_0^{(r)} = \frac{\delta I_{\text{OS}}}{\delta \alpha} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \frac{\delta W}{\delta J} = \langle \mathcal{O} \rangle_J$$

# Introduction — strategy

## Beyond asymptotic observables?

- Simplify: **fewer dimensions**
  - gravitons need 3 spatial dimensions to propagate  
~> no bulk degrees of freedom
  - successful in 1+1d:  
JT gravity  $\leftrightarrow$  matrix integrals



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- New techniques:  **$T\bar{T}$  operator**
  - *irrelevant* but *solvable* flow from QFT
  - unconventional UV but constrained by lots of symmetries
  - “somewhat gravitational”
  - **move CFT into the bulk?**



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~> **Boundary gravitons on finite surfaces**



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# Outline

From  $T\bar{T}$  to finite-volume holography

Symmetries

From finite-volume AdS to  $T\bar{T}$

Flat space boundary modes: S-matrix & soft theorems



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# The $T\bar{T}$ deformation

$T\bar{T}$  operator in 2d field theory

[Zamolodchikov '04]

- define  $\mathcal{O}_{T\bar{T}}(x) \equiv \lim_{y \rightarrow x} \epsilon^{\alpha\beta} \epsilon^{\gamma\delta} T_{\alpha\gamma}(y) T_{\beta\delta}(x)$ , up to derivatives
- expectation value factorizes:  $\langle n | \mathcal{O}_{T\bar{T}} | n \rangle = \frac{E_n}{L} \frac{\partial E_n}{\partial L} + \frac{p_n^2}{L^2}$

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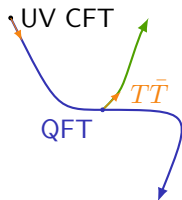
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$T\bar{T}$  deformation

[Smirnov–Zamolodchikov '16, Cavaglià et al. '16]

- **Irrelevant** deformation  
 $\frac{dI^{[\lambda]}}{d\lambda} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^2x \det T^{[\lambda]}$
- “**Solvable**”: S-matrix, energy spectrum, partition function, ...



$$\text{e.g. } \partial_\lambda E_n = -\frac{1}{2} \int dy \langle n | \mathcal{O}_{T\bar{T}}^{[\lambda]} | n \rangle = E_n \partial_L E_n + \frac{p_n^2}{L}$$

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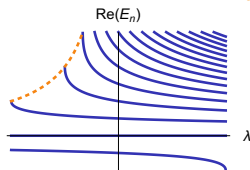
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- “Solvable”: S-matrix, energy spectrum, partition function, ...
- For CFTs: KdV charges remain conserved



[McGough–Mezei–Verlinde '16]

$$E_n = \frac{1}{2\lambda} \left( 1 - \sqrt{1 - 4\lambda E_n^{[0]} + 4\lambda^2 P_n^2} \right), \quad P_n = P_n^{[0]}$$

# $T\bar{T}$ & gravity

$T\bar{T} \sim$  2d gravity:

$$Z_\lambda[f] = \int \mathcal{D}e e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \int d^2x \epsilon^{\alpha\beta} \epsilon_{ab} (f_\alpha^a - e_\alpha^a)(f_\beta^b - e_\beta^b)} Z_0[e]$$

- ✓ metric path integral; ✗ kinetic term; ✗  $\Sigma$  topologies
- Classical solution:  $\phi^{[\lambda]}(x) = \phi^{[0]}(y(x))$   
with  $dy^\alpha = (\delta_\beta^\alpha - \lambda \hat{T}_\beta^\alpha) dx^\beta$

[Conti, Negro, Tateo '18]

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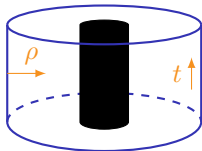
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**Holography:** AdS<sub>3</sub>

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BTZ geometries

$$ds^2 = -f dt^2 + dr^2/f + r^2 d\varphi^2, \quad f = r^2 - M + J^2/r^2$$



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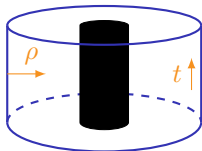
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$$[w = \phi + t, \bar{w} = \phi - t]$$

$$ds^2 = \frac{d\rho^2}{4\rho^2} + \frac{1}{\rho} [dw + \frac{\rho}{2}(M - J)d\bar{w}] [d\bar{w} + \frac{\rho}{2}(M + J)dw]$$



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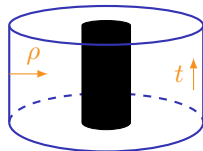
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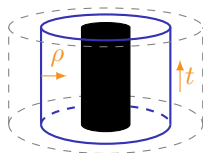
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Energy within cylinder:

$$E = \frac{c}{6\rho_c} \left( 1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{12}{c} \rho_c M + \frac{36}{c^2} \rho_c^2 J^2} \right)$$

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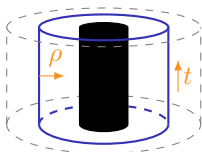
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**Does  $T\bar{T}$ -deforming a holographic CFT “move it into the bulk”?**

# $T\bar{T}$ : a double-trace deformation

## Holographic CFT

[Gubser–Klebanov–Polyakov '98,

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- Recall: holographic dictionary

$$e^{-I_{\text{os}}[g_{\alpha\beta}, \phi_0]} \xleftrightarrow{\text{GKP/W}} e^{-W[J]} = \int \mathcal{D}\phi e^{-I_{\text{CFT}} + J \cdot \mathcal{O}}$$

boundary value  $\phi_0$   $\leftrightarrow$  source  $J$

$$\pi_0 = \frac{\delta I_{\text{os}}}{\delta \phi_0} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \frac{\delta W}{\delta J} = \langle \mathcal{O} \rangle_J$$

- Add a (relevant) double-trace operator:

[Witten '01; Sever et al. '01]

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Similar for  $T\bar{T}$ :

now  $\phi_0 \rightarrow \gamma_{\alpha\beta}$  and  $\pi_0 \rightarrow \hat{T}_{\alpha\beta} \equiv T_{\alpha\beta} - T \gamma_{\alpha\beta}$

$$\partial_\lambda W[J] = \frac{1}{2} \int \sqrt{\gamma} \langle \mathcal{O}_{T\bar{T}} \rangle \quad \delta W = \frac{1}{2} \int \sqrt{\gamma} \langle T_{\alpha\beta} \rangle \delta \gamma^{\alpha\beta}$$

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[Witten '01; Sever et al. '01]

$$\begin{aligned}
 e^{-W_\lambda[J]} &= \int \mathcal{D}\phi e^{-I_{\text{CFT}} + N^2 \int J \cdot \mathcal{O} + \frac{\lambda}{2} \mathcal{O}^2} \\
 &= \int \mathcal{D}\sigma e^{-W_0[\sigma] - \frac{N^2}{2\lambda} \int (\sigma - J)^2} \stackrel{N \gg 1}{\approx} e^{-W_0[J + \lambda \langle \mathcal{O} \rangle] - \frac{\lambda N^2}{2} \int \langle \mathcal{O} \rangle^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

**Gravity side:** now **fix**  $\phi_0 + \lambda \pi_0$  and send  $I \rightarrow I + \int_{\partial \mathcal{M}} \lambda \pi_0^2 / 2$

Similar for  $T\bar{T}$ :

now  $\phi_0 \rightarrow \gamma_{\alpha\beta}$  and  $\pi_0 \rightarrow \hat{T}_{\alpha\beta} \equiv T_{\alpha\beta} - T \gamma_{\alpha\beta}$

$$\partial_\lambda W[J] = \frac{1}{2} \int \sqrt{\gamma} \langle \mathcal{O}_{T\bar{T}} \rangle \quad \delta W = \frac{1}{2} \int \sqrt{\gamma} \langle T_{\alpha\beta} \rangle \delta \gamma^{\alpha\beta}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow \quad \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{[\lambda]} &= \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{[0]} - 2\lambda \hat{T}_{\alpha\beta}^{[0]} + \lambda^2 \hat{T}_{\alpha\gamma}^{[0]} \hat{T}^{[0]\gamma}_{\beta} \\
 \hat{T}_{\alpha\beta}^{[\lambda]} &= \hat{T}_{\alpha\beta}^{[0]} - \lambda \hat{T}_{\alpha\gamma}^{[0]} \hat{T}^{[0]\gamma}_{\beta}
 \end{aligned}$$

## $T\bar{T}$ : a double-trace deformation

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{[\lambda]} &= \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{[0]} - 2\lambda\hat{T}_{\alpha\beta}^{[0]} + \lambda^2\hat{T}_{\alpha\gamma}^{[0]}\hat{T}^{[0]\gamma}_{\beta} \\ \hat{T}_{\alpha\beta}^{[\lambda]} &= \hat{T}_{\alpha\beta}^{[0]} - \lambda\hat{T}_{\alpha\gamma}^{[0]}\hat{T}^{[0]\gamma}_{\beta}\end{aligned}$$

### Mixed boundary conditions

$$ds_{\text{CFT}}^2 = \left( \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)} - \frac{\lambda}{2G}\gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)} + \frac{\lambda^2}{4G^2}(\gamma_{(2)}^2)_{\alpha\beta} \right) dx^\alpha dx^\beta$$

- Pure gravity:  $ds_{\text{CFT}}^2$  is the induced metric at  $\rho = \rho_c \equiv -\lambda/2G$   
(Recall  $ds^2 = \frac{d\rho^2}{4\rho^2} + \frac{1}{\rho}(\gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)} + \rho\gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)} + \rho^2\gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{(4)})dx^\alpha dx^\beta$ )
- With matter: Einstein equations change, mixed boundary conditions at infinity no longer coincide with induced metric at finite radius
- Imaginary energies: e.g. black hole larger than  $\rho_c$   
More generally: coordinate transformation between undeformed and deformed metric becomes complex.

# Outline

From  $T\bar{T}$  to finite-volume holography

## Symmetries

From finite-volume AdS to  $T\bar{T}$

Flat space boundary modes: S-matrix & soft theorems



## Symmetries from holography

CFT symmetries  $\leftrightarrow$  AdS asymptotic (large gauge) symmetries

$$0 = \delta_\lambda I_{\text{os}}[A_\alpha^{(0)}] = \int d^d x \Pi^\alpha \underbrace{\delta_\lambda A_\alpha^{(0)}}_{\partial_\alpha \lambda} = - \int d^d x \lambda \partial_\alpha \Pi^\alpha$$

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**Undeformed AdS<sub>3</sub>:**

[Brown, Henneaux '86]

- Asymptotic Killing vectors  $\mathcal{L}_\xi \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{[\lambda]} = 0$ :  $\xi^w = f(w)$  and  $\xi^{\bar{w}} = \bar{f}(\bar{w})$
- Associated charges  $Q_f \propto \int_{\partial\Sigma} T_{tw} f(w) = \sum_n L_n e^{inw}$   
 $i\{L_m, L_n\} = (m-n)L_{m+n} + \frac{c}{12}m^3\delta_{m+n}$

**Virasoro<sup>2</sup> with  $c = 3\ell/2G$**

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[Guica, Monten '19; Georgescu, Guica '23]

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- Algebra

$$i\{L_m, L_n\} = \frac{m-n}{R_u} (L_{m+n} + \#L_m L_n) + \frac{c}{12R_u^2} m^3 \delta_{m+n}$$

Expected to be valid up to  $\hbar^1$  in field theory

# Symmetries in the field theory

**Classically**

**Semi-classically**

**Quantum** (work in progress)

# Symmetries in the field theory

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- Symmetries:  $0 \stackrel{?}{=} \delta I = \int d^2x f'(u)(T_{ww}\partial_{\bar{w}}u + T_{w\bar{w}}\partial_wu)$   
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[Guica, Monten, Tsiaras '23]

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## Quantum (work in progress)

- Operator ordering & renormalization ambiguities ?
- Expect commuting KdV charges

[Le Floch, Mezei '19]

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- Operator ordering & renormalization ambiguities ?
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- Expect the following structure

[Le Floch, Mezei '19]

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{undeformed: } I_s^{(0)} & \xrightarrow{e^{i\hat{\chi}} \bullet e^{-i\hat{\chi}}} & \text{flowed charge } \tilde{I}_s (|n\rangle) \\ \frac{\bullet}{(1+2\lambda I_1)^s} \downarrow & & \downarrow \frac{\bullet}{(1+2\lambda I_1)^s} \\ \text{“fake” charge } \hat{I}_s (\langle I_s \rangle) & \xrightarrow{e^{i\hat{\chi}} \bullet e^{-i\hat{\chi}}} & \text{true charge } I_s (\langle I_s \rangle \ \& \ |n\rangle) \end{array}$$

# Outline

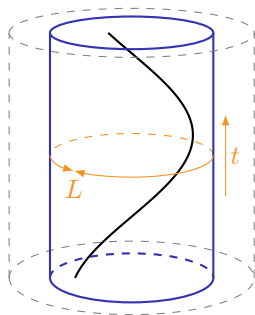
From  $T\bar{T}$  to finite-volume holography

Symmetries

From finite-volume AdS to  $T\bar{T}$

Flat space boundary modes: S-matrix & soft theorems

# Setup



## $\times$ AdS<sub>3</sub>

- pure 3d gravity,  
fixed topology  $\mathbb{R} \times \text{Disk}$
- fixe boundary geometry  
at finite red-shift,  
“fluctuating” bulk metric
- goal:
  - sensible?
  - observables & algebra
  - energy spectrum
  - correlation functions
- how is  $T\bar{T}$  deformation realized?

# Phase space & observables

[Peierls '52, Bergmann–Schiller '53, Soriau '70, Crnković–Witten '87,  
Marolf '92, Iyer–Lee–Wald–Zoupas '90s, ...]

## Covariant phase space:

1. Phase space  $\mathcal{P} = \{\text{solutions to equations of motion}$   
& boundary conditions}
  - no need to choose equal-time slice & momenta
  - $(\phi, \pi)$  are just labels



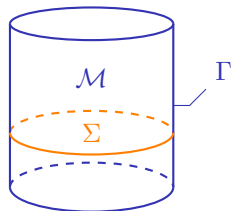
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from  $\delta S = \int_{\mathcal{M}} E_a \delta\phi^a + \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} (\Theta + \delta\ell)$



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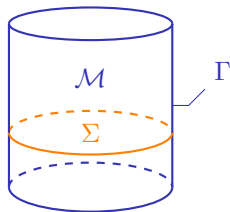
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- require  $\delta S|_{\Gamma} = 0$
- independent of Cauchy surface  $\Sigma$
- zero modes of  $\int_{\Sigma} \delta\Theta$ :  
gauge symmetries  $\rightsquigarrow$  mod out



# Phase space & observables

## Asymptotically AdS<sub>3</sub> solutions

[Bañados '92]

$$ds^2 = \frac{d\rho^2}{4\rho^2} + \frac{1}{\rho}(dw + \rho\bar{\mathcal{L}}(\bar{w})d\bar{w})(d\bar{w} + \rho\mathcal{L}(w)dw)$$

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∞ AdS<sub>3</sub> solutions with finite cylinder boundary

$$ds^2 = \frac{d\rho^2}{4\rho^2} + \frac{[(1-\rho\rho_c\mathcal{L}\bar{\mathcal{L}})dw + (\rho-\rho_c)\bar{\mathcal{L}}d\bar{w}][(1-\rho\rho_c\mathcal{L}\bar{\mathcal{L}})d\bar{w} + (\rho-\rho_c)\mathcal{L}dw]}{\rho(1-\rho_c^2\mathcal{L}\bar{\mathcal{L}})^2}$$

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Degrees of freedom:  $\mathcal{L}(w, \bar{w})$  and  $\bar{\mathcal{L}}(w, \bar{w}) \sim$  boundary modes

# Phase space & observables

(Pre)-symplectic form for GR

[Crnković–Witten '87]

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{8\pi G} \int d\Sigma_\alpha \sqrt{g} \delta_{\rho\sigma}^{\alpha\mu} [\delta\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho \wedge (\delta g^{\sigma\nu} + \frac{1}{2}g^{\sigma\nu} \delta \ln g)]$$

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## Infinitesimal diffeomorphisms

- spacetime vectors  $\xi$

$\rightsquigarrow$  phase space vectors  $V_\xi \equiv \int_{\mathcal{M}} \mathcal{L}_\xi g_{\mu\nu} \frac{\delta}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}}$



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- boundary stress tensor generates large diffs ( $\xi|_{\partial\Sigma} \neq 0$ )
- bulk diffs are gauge transformations ( $\xi|_{\partial\Sigma} = 0$ )

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- bulk diffs** are gauge transformations ( $\xi|_{\partial\Sigma} = 0$ )
- preserve boundary metric at  $\rho = \rho_c$ :

$$\partial_t \xi^w = \partial_\phi \xi^w + \frac{2\rho_c \bar{\mathcal{L}} \partial_\phi (\xi^w + \xi^{\bar{w}})}{(1-\rho_c \mathcal{L})(1-\rho_c \bar{\mathcal{L}})}, \quad -\partial_t \xi^{\bar{w}} = \partial_\phi \xi^{\bar{w}} + \frac{2\rho_c \mathcal{L} \partial_\phi (\xi^w + \xi^{\bar{w}})}{(1-\rho_c \mathcal{L})(1-\rho_c \bar{\mathcal{L}})}$$

Again state-dependent through  $(\mathcal{L}, \bar{\mathcal{L}})$

# Canonical quantization

## Asymptotically AdS<sub>3</sub>:

[Brown–Henneaux '86]

boundary gravitons  $\leftrightarrow$  boundary reparameterizations

- Global AdS:  $T_{ww} = -\frac{c}{24} = -\frac{\ell}{16G}$
- Finite boundary diffeomorphism:  $\phi \rightarrow F(\phi) + \bar{F}(\phi)$ :

$$T_{ww} = -\frac{c}{12} \left( \frac{F'^2}{2} + \frac{F'''}{F'} - \frac{3}{2} \frac{F''^2}{F'^2} \right)$$

- Using  $\{Q[\epsilon_1], Q[\epsilon_2]\} = \delta_{\epsilon_1} Q[\epsilon_2]$ , extract

[Alekseev–Shatashvili '89]

$$\Omega = \frac{c}{48\pi} \int d\phi \left( \frac{\delta F' \wedge \delta F''}{F'^2} - \delta F \wedge \delta F' \right) + \text{c.c.}$$

- Action  $S = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^2x \left( \frac{c}{24} \left[ \frac{\dot{F}''}{F'} + F \dot{F}' \right] - T_{ww} \right) + \text{c.c.}$
- Quantize the “coadjoint orbit”

[Kirillov–Kostant '72]

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✗ AdS<sub>3</sub>: finite boundary preserving diffs (BPDs) ?

$\rightsquigarrow$  perturbation theory

& Chern–Simons formulation of 3d gravity

▶ details

▶ details

# Canonical quantization

**Result:**

$$S = \frac{1}{32\pi G} \int dt dy \left[ f' \partial_{\bar{w}} f + \bar{f}' \partial_w \bar{f} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{\rho_c}{2} f'^2 \bar{f}'^2 \left( 1 + \frac{\rho_c}{4} (f'^2 + \bar{f}'^2) \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + \frac{\rho_c^2}{16} (f'^4 + 3f'^2 \bar{f}'^2 + \bar{f}'^4) + \dots \right) \right]$$

# Canonical quantization

**Result:**

$$S \stackrel{?}{=} \frac{1}{8\pi G} \int dt dy \left[ \frac{1}{4} (f' \dot{f} + \bar{f}' \dot{\bar{f}}) + \frac{1}{\rho_c} \left( 1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{\rho_c}{2} (f'^2 + \bar{f}'^2) + \frac{\rho_c^2}{16} (f'^2 - \bar{f}'^2)^2} \right) \right]$$



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Define  $\phi \propto f + \bar{f}$  and  $\Pi \propto f' - \bar{f}'$ :

# Canonical quantization

**Result:**

$$\begin{aligned} S &\stackrel{?}{=} \int d^2x \left[ i\Pi\dot{\phi} + \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( 1 - \sqrt{1 - \lambda(\phi'^2 + \Pi^2)} + \lambda^2\phi'^2\Pi^2 \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\lambda} \int d^2x \left( 1 - \sqrt{-\det(\partial_a X^\mu \partial_b X_\mu)} \right) \end{aligned}$$

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$$T_{\alpha\beta} = \eta_{\alpha\beta} \mathcal{L} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial^\alpha \phi)} \partial_\beta \phi + (\partial_\alpha \partial_\beta + \eta_{\alpha\beta} \partial^2) Y$$

$$Y = \frac{\sqrt{c}}{\sqrt{12\pi}} \phi + \frac{\lambda c}{24} (\partial\phi)^2 + \frac{\pi\lambda^2 c}{48} (\partial\phi)^4 + \frac{\lambda^2 \sqrt{\pi c^3}}{48\sqrt{3}} \partial_\alpha \phi \partial_\beta \phi \partial^\alpha \partial^\beta \phi + \dots$$

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**$T\bar{T}$ -deformed boundary graviton**



# Outline

From  $T\bar{T}$  to finite-volume holography

Symmetries

From finite-volume AdS to  $T\bar{T}$

Flat space boundary modes: S-matrix & soft theorems

# Flat space S-matrix vs. AdS correlators

## Gravity in asymptotically flat space: **S-matrix**

LSZ reduction formula

$$S_{p_a, p_b} \sim \int e^{ip_i x_i} \langle 0 | \mathcal{T} \phi(x_i) | 0 \rangle$$

- bulk correlators
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## Gravity in AdS: boundary correlation functions

Extrapolate dictionary BDHM

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(x_i) \rangle = \lim_{r_i \rightarrow \infty} r_i^\Delta \langle \phi(r_i, x_i) \rangle$$

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Differentiate dictionary GKP/W

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AFS prescription [Aref'eva, Faddeev, Slavnov]

$$\langle \varphi_- | \hat{S} | \varphi_+ \rangle = \int \mathcal{D}\phi e^{iI[\phi, \varphi]}$$

- boundary data:  $\varphi_{\pm}$
- natural language for IR

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Consider  $S[\varphi] \equiv \langle \varphi_- | \hat{S} | \varphi_+ \rangle$

[Arefeva, Feddeev, Slavnov '74]

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$$\hat{\phi}_{\pm} |\varphi\rangle = \varphi_{\pm} |\varphi\rangle, \quad \hat{\phi}(t, \vec{x}) \equiv \int \frac{d^3\vec{p}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{2\omega_p} \left( \underbrace{a_{\vec{p}} e^{ipx}}_{\hat{\phi}_+} + \underbrace{a_{\vec{p}}^\dagger e^{-ipx}}_{\hat{\phi}_-} \right)$$

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- Claim:  $S[\varphi]$  generates S-matrix elements

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Intuition: cf. QM  $|\alpha\rangle = e^{\alpha a^{\dagger}} |0\rangle \Rightarrow \partial_{\alpha} \langle \psi | \alpha \rangle = \langle \psi | a^{\dagger} | \alpha \rangle$



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- Path integral version

$$S[\varphi] = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\phi_+(-T)=\varphi_+(-T)}^{\phi_-(T)=\varphi_-(T)} \mathcal{D}\phi e^{iI[\phi, \varphi]}$$

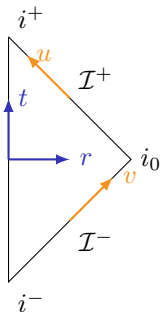
with boundary terms  $(\varphi_-^*, \phi_+)_{t_f} - (\varphi_+^*, \phi_-)_{t_i}$  so that  $\delta I = 0$

# Soft photon theorem

## Massless scalar + QED

$$I = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x (A^\mu \nabla^2 A_\mu + \phi^* D^2 \phi + D^2 \phi^* \phi) + I_{\text{ct}} + I_{\text{ghost}} + I_{\text{bdy}}$$

$$I_{\text{bdy}} \supset (\mathcal{A}_-^{\mu*}, A_\mu)_{t_f} + (\varphi_-^*, \phi)_{t_f} + (\varphi_-, \phi^*)_{t_f}$$



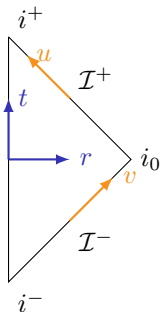
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- data on  $\mathcal{I}^\pm$ :  $r \rightarrow \infty$  at fixed  $u(v) = t \pm r$ ,  
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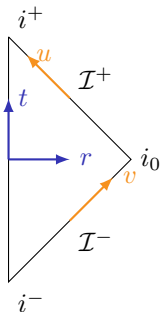
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- **Large gauge transformations**  $\lambda_0(z, \bar{z})$ : invariant

$$S[\varphi, \mathcal{A}_\mu] \stackrel{\checkmark}{=} S[e^{iq\lambda_0} \varphi, \mathcal{A}_\mu + \partial_\mu \lambda_0]$$



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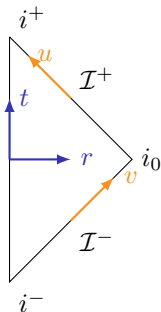
- **Infrared modes** of the photon

$$\partial_z N \equiv A_z(u = \infty) - A_z(U = -\infty)$$

$$\partial_z \tilde{\lambda} \equiv A_z(u = \infty) + A_z(U = -\infty)$$

are “canonical conjugates”:

$$[\partial_w N(w, \bar{w}), \tilde{\lambda}(z, \bar{z})] = \frac{i}{4\pi} \frac{1}{w - z}$$



# Soft photon theorem

## Massless scalar + QED

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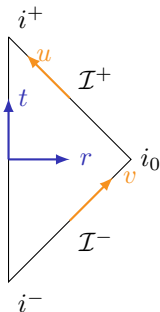
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- **Infrared modes** of the photon are “canonical conjugates”:

$$[\partial_w N(w, \bar{w}), e^{iq\tilde{\lambda}(z, \bar{z})}] = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{q}{w - z} e^{-iq\tilde{\lambda}(z, \bar{z})}$$



# Soft photon theorem

## Massless scalar + QED

$$I = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x (A^\mu \nabla^2 A_\mu + \phi^* D^2 \phi + D^2 \phi^* \phi) + I_{\text{ct}} + I_{\text{ghost}} + I_{\text{bdy}}$$

$$I_{\text{bdy}} \supset (\mathcal{A}_-^{\mu*}, A_\mu)_{t_f} + (\varphi_-^*, \phi)_{t_f} + (\varphi_-, \phi^*)_{t_f}$$

- data on  $\mathcal{I}^\pm$ :  $r \rightarrow \infty$  at fixed  $u(v) = t \pm r$ ,  
 $S^2$  metric  $ds^2 = dz d\bar{z}/(1+z\bar{z})^2$
- **Large gauge transformations**  $\lambda_0(z, \bar{z})$ : invariant

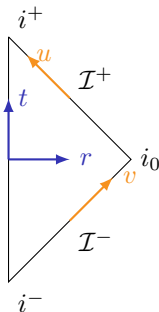
$$S[\varphi, \mathcal{A}_\mu] \stackrel{\checkmark}{=} S[e^{iq\lambda_0} \varphi, \mathcal{A}_\mu + \partial_\mu \lambda_0]$$

- **Infrared modes** of the photon are “canonical conjugates”:

$$[\partial_w N(w, \bar{w}), e^{iq\tilde{\lambda}(z, \bar{z})}] = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{q}{w - z} e^{-iq\tilde{\lambda}(z, \bar{z})}$$

- Combine:

$$\langle \text{out} | [\partial_z N, \hat{S}] | \text{in} \rangle = \left( \sum_{k \text{ in}} \frac{q_k}{z - z_k} - \sum_{k \text{ out}} \frac{q_k}{z - z_k} \right) \langle \text{out} | \hat{S} | \text{in} \rangle$$



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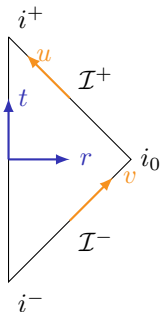
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- Combine:

$$\langle \text{out} | [\partial_z N, \hat{S}] | \text{in} \rangle = \lim_{\omega_\gamma \rightarrow 0} \sum_{k \text{ in} \rightarrow k \text{ out}} \frac{\omega_\gamma q_k \vec{p}_k \cdot \epsilon^+}{p_k \cdot p_\gamma} \langle \text{out} | \hat{S} | \text{in} \rangle$$





# Conclusions and outlook

## Conclusions

- Locality in gravity?
- $T\bar{T}$ : irrelevant but solvable deformation
  - $\rightsquigarrow$  finite-size gravitational systems in less than 3 dimensions
  - preserves  $\infty$  symmetries, non-local corrections
- boundary modes of gauge theories ( $\supset$  gravity)  $\rightsquigarrow$  e.g. soft theorems

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## Future directions

- full QFT  $T\bar{T}$  symmetries?
- well-defined (unique) correlation functions?
- non-perturbative effects: imaginary energies?
- $\Lambda > 0$ ?
- gravitational & subleading soft theorems
- IR finite S-matrix à la Faddeev–Kulish?



## Extra slides

# Geometric perturbation theory

◀ back

∞ **AdS<sub>3</sub>** BPD perturbation theory: start from empty AdS

$$\tilde{\phi} = \phi + \frac{\alpha}{2}[C(\phi) + D(\phi)] + \dots ,$$

$$\tilde{t} = t + \frac{i}{2}[C(\phi) - D(\phi)] + \dots ,$$

$$\tilde{\rho} = \rho + \dots$$

$$[\alpha = \sqrt{1 + \rho_c}]$$

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- Higher powers: “...” contain time dependence:  
fix by requiring  $ds^2|_{\rho_c} = ds'^2|_{\rho'=\rho_c}$
- Simplify with field redefinitions at higher orders





# Chern–Simons formulation

◀ back

## First order formulation

[Achúcarro–Townsend '86, Witten '88]

- Frame field  $e^a \equiv e_\mu^a dx^\mu$  and spin connection  $\omega^a = \omega_\mu^a dx^\mu$   
with  $g_{\mu\nu} = e_\mu^a \eta_{ab} e_\nu^b$

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with  $g_{\mu\nu} = e_\mu^a \eta_{ab} e_\nu^b$
- Form  $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$  gauge connections:  
 $[J_a, J_b] = \epsilon_{abc} J^c$  and  $\text{Tr}(J_a J_b) = \eta_{ab}/2$

$$A = (\omega^a + e^a) J_a \qquad \bar{A} = (\omega^a - e^a) J_a$$





# Chern–Simons formulation

◀ back

## Phase space

- $A_0$  and  $\bar{A}_0$  appear as Lagrange multipliers  $\rightsquigarrow \tilde{\mathcal{F}} = \tilde{\bar{\mathcal{F}}} = 0$
- solution:  $\tilde{\mathcal{F}} = g^{-1} \tilde{d}g$  and  $\tilde{\bar{\mathcal{F}}} = \bar{g}^{-1} \tilde{d}\bar{g}$
- Gauss parameterization:

$$g = e^{FL_1} \left( \frac{\beta}{\sqrt{\rho}} \right)^{2L_0} e^{\Psi L_{-1}} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{g} = e^{\bar{F}L_1} \left( \frac{\bar{\beta}}{\sqrt{\rho}} \right)^{2L_0} e^{\bar{\Psi}L_{-1}}$$

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- Choose radial gauge near boundary  $\bar{A}^0 = -A^0 = \frac{d\rho}{2\rho}$   
 $\rightsquigarrow$  eliminate  $\Psi, \bar{\Psi}$



# Chern–Simons formulation — Perturbation theory

◀ back

**Perturbation theory:** Solve boundary conditions perturbatively

$$\beta = 1 + f + f_2 + \mathcal{O}(f^3), \quad F' = 1 - (f + \frac{\rho_c}{2} \bar{f}'') + \mathcal{O}(f^2, \bar{f}^2)$$

$$\bar{\beta} = 1 + \bar{f} + \bar{f}_2 + \mathcal{O}(\bar{f}^3), \quad \bar{F}' = 1 - (\bar{f} + \frac{\rho_c}{2} f'') + \mathcal{O}(f^2, \bar{f}^2)$$



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Choice of  $f_n, \bar{f}_n$  in terms of  $f, \bar{f}$ :

- only lowest order kinetic term in action
- only first derivatives of  $f, \bar{f}$  in action
- up to  $n$  derivatives in  $f_n, \bar{f}_n$ : nonlocality?

