

JT gravity - a review

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Introduction: 2d dilaton gravity models

JT classical gravity

Classical solution

Schwarzian quantum mechanics

JT quantum gravity: disk amplitudes

Partition function

Boundary correlators and its gravitational physics

JT quantum gravity: higher topology

Gravitational amplitudes

JT gravity as a matrix integral

Some recent developments

Generalities of 2d gravity

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We need different coupling to matter: dilaton gravity

$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^2x \sqrt{-g} (\Phi R + V(\Phi)) + S_{bdy} + S_{matter}$

Φ is dilaton field

Jackiw-Teitelboim gravity

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Motivation:

- ▶ Dimensional reduction (s-wave) of 3d pure $\Lambda < 0$ gravity
- ▶ Appears as near-horizon theory of near-extremal higher-dimensional black holes
- ▶ Describes low-energy sector of all (known) SYK-like models
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Geometry fixed as AdS_2 : $ds^2 = \frac{-dF^2 + dZ^2}{Z^2}$, $Z \geq 0$

Poincaré patch (frame) of AdS_2 , boundary at $Z = 0$

Important frames in AdS_2 (1)

Lightcone coordinates $U = F + Z$ and $V = F - Z$

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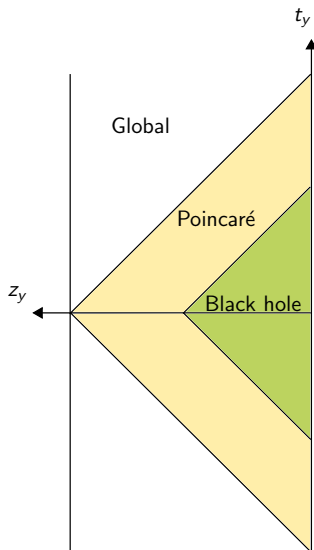
Using radial coordinate $r \sim \coth\frac{2\pi}{\beta}(u-v)$:

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

is black hole solution with ADM mass $E \sim r_h^2$, and Hawking temperature $T \sim r_h \rightarrow$ first law $T \sim \sqrt{E}$

Important frames in AdS_2 (2)

Penrose diagram



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Path-integrate out Φ :

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- ▶ **asymptotic Poincaré:** $Z(t) = \epsilon F'(t)$, $\epsilon = \text{UV regulator}$
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 Φ blows up at boundary \rightarrow needs fixing just like the metric
Cannot compare spacetimes with different asymptotics

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Using $\sqrt{-\gamma} = 1/\epsilon$, $K = 1 + \epsilon^2 \{F, t\} + \dots$

$$\Rightarrow S = -C \int dt \{F, t\}, \quad C = \frac{a}{16\pi G}, \quad \{F, t\} = \frac{F'''}{F'} - \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{F''}{F'} \right)^2$$

Almheiri-Polchinski '15, Jensen '16, Maldacena-Stanford-Yang '16, Engelsöy-TM-Verlinde '16

$F(t) =$ **time reparametrization** in terms of proper time t

Schwarzian equation of motion and coupling to matter

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(CFT for simplicity):

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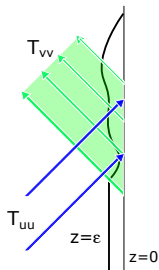
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Total energy is changed by injection and extraction from holographic boundary

Wiggly boundary curve ($F(t), Z(t) = \epsilon F'(t)$)

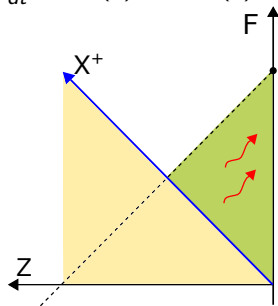


Application: Semi-classical evaporation

Consider an infalling matter pulse in Poincaré frame
 $T_{vv}(t) = E_0\delta(t)$, matter (= 2d CFT) quantum effects included

Engelsöy-TM-Verlinde '16

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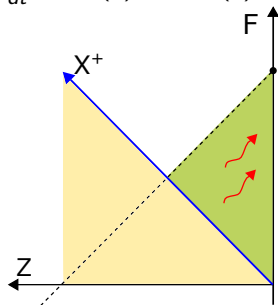


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No outgoing matter in initial state:

$$T_{uu}(t) = -\frac{c}{24\pi} \{F, t\}$$

→ conformal anomaly of the 2d CFT

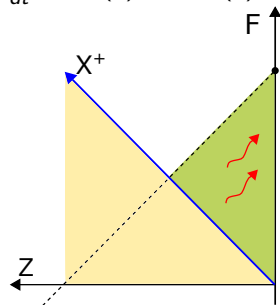
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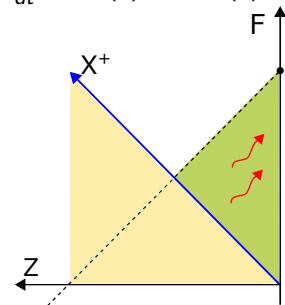
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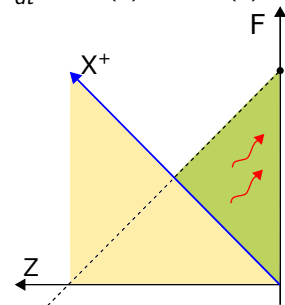
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$$\text{where } A = \frac{c}{24\pi C}, \quad \alpha = \frac{24\pi}{c} \sqrt{2CE_0}$$

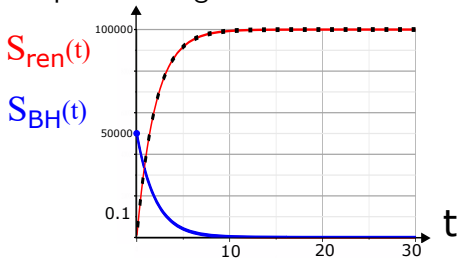
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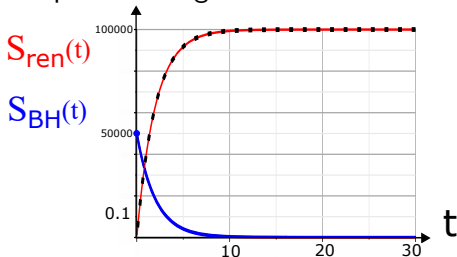
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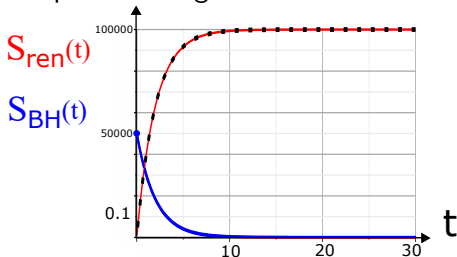
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We need to take this seriously [Almheiri-Engelhardt-Marolf-Maxfield '19](#), [Penington '19](#)

\rightarrow Jump in minimal quantum extremal (RT) surface

(Requires non-perturbative (in G_N) knowledge)

\Rightarrow Island rule (see L arus Thorlacius talk on Friday!)

Next: Transfer to Euclidean thermal theory and obtain boundary correlation functions of JT gravity / Schwarzian QM:

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_{h_1} \mathcal{O}_{h_2} \dots \rangle_\beta = \frac{1}{Z} \int_{\mathcal{M}} [Df] \mathcal{O}_{h_1} \mathcal{O}_{h_2} \dots e^{C \int_0^\beta d\tau \{F, \tau\}}$$

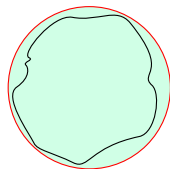
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$f(\tau)$ is reparametrization of S^1 :



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Application to partition function: [Kitaev '15](#), [Maldacena-Stanford-Yang '16](#), ...

$$Z_{\text{tree+1-loop}} = (\det \mathcal{O})^{-1/2} e^{-S_{\text{on-shell}}} \sim \left(\frac{2\pi^2 C}{\beta} \right)^{3/2} e^{\frac{2\pi^2 C}{\beta}}$$

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$$Z_{\text{tree}+1\text{-loop}} = (\det \mathcal{O})^{-1/2} e^{-S_{\text{on-shell}}} \sim \left(\frac{2\pi^2 C}{\beta} \right)^{3/2} e^{\frac{2\pi^2 C}{\beta}}$$

Stanford and Witten demonstrated that Schwarzian partition function is **one-loop exact** [Stanford-Witten '17](#)

$$Z(\beta) = \left(\frac{2\pi C}{\beta} \right)^{3/2} \exp \left(\frac{2\pi^2 C}{\beta} \right) \sim \int_0^{+\infty} dE \sinh \left(2\pi \sqrt{2CE} \right) e^{-\beta E}$$

$$\text{Density of states } \rho(E) = \sinh \left(2\pi \sqrt{2CE} \right)$$

Disk partition function

How to compute with this action? $S = -C \int d\tau \left\{ \tan \frac{\pi}{\beta} f(\tau), \tau \right\}$

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$$\implies T \sim \sqrt{E}$$

→ matches semi-classical JT black hole first law, saddle approximation invalid at small E

Boundary bilocal operator

Take massive scalar field in bulk, asymptotic expansion
(AdS₂/CFT₁):

$$\phi(Z, F) \rightarrow Z^{1-h} \tilde{\phi}_b(F) = \epsilon^{1-h} F'^{1-h} \tilde{\phi}_b(F(\tau)) = \epsilon^{1-h} \phi_b(\tau)$$

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Generating functional:

$$\begin{aligned} I &\sim \int dF_1 \int dF_2 \frac{1}{(F_1 - F_2)^{2h}} \tilde{\phi}_b(F_1) \tilde{\phi}_b(F_2) \\ &= \int d\tau_1 \int d\tau_2 \frac{F'(\tau_1)^h F'(\tau_2)^h}{(F(\tau_1) - F(\tau_2))^{2h}} \phi_b(\tau_1) \phi_b(\tau_2) \end{aligned}$$

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Other origins of this operator:

- ▶ Boundary-anchored Wilson line in 1st order SL(2, ℝ) gauge formulation of JT gravity [Blommaert-TM-Verschelde '18](#), [Iliesiu-Pufu-Verlinde-Wang '19](#)

Approaches to JT disk boundary correlators: an overview

Several approaches to obtain JT disk amplitudes exist:

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- ▶ 1d Liouville [Bagrets-Altland-Kamenev '16, '17](#)
- ▶ 2d Liouville CFT between ZZ-branes [TM-Turiaci-Verlinde '17, TM '18](#)
- ▶ 2d BF bulk [Blommaert-TM-Verschelde '18, Iliesiu-Pufu-Verlinde-Wang '19](#)
Using first-order formulation of JT gravity in terms of an $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ BF gauge theory
- ▶ Particle in infinite B-field in AdS_2 [Yang '18, Kitaev-Suh '18, Suh '20](#)
- ▶ Liouville gravity / minimal string [TM-Turiaci '19, '20, TM '20](#)

Real-time two-point function

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Real-time two-point function } G_h(t) &= \langle \mathcal{O}_h(t, 0) \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{Z(\beta)} \int d\mu(E_1) d\mu(E_2) e^{it(E_1 - E_2) - \beta E_2} \frac{\Gamma(h \pm i\sqrt{2CE_1} \pm i\sqrt{2CE_2})}{\Gamma(2h)} \\ \text{with } d\mu(E) &= dE \sinh 2\pi\sqrt{2CE} \end{aligned}$$

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Behavior full quantum expression:

Always decaying, where late-time behavior of correlator gets strong QG fluctuations (power-law decay $\sim 1/t^3$ instead of exponential decay)

Application: Complexity = volume conjecture

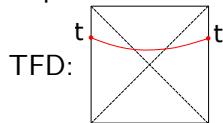
Complexity \mathcal{C} of boundary theory at time t

= volume of extremal (maximal) surface anchored at the boundary at points at time t Susskind '14 . . .

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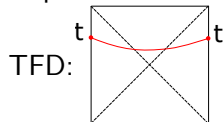
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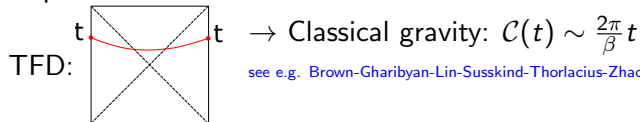
→ Classical gravity: $\mathcal{C}(t) \sim \frac{2\pi}{\beta} t$

see e.g. Brown-Gharibyan-Lin-Susskind-Thorlacius-Zhao '18 for the JT case

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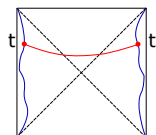
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Apply to JT quantum gravity: Yang '18



Geometry fixed to AdS_2 : (renormalized) geodesic

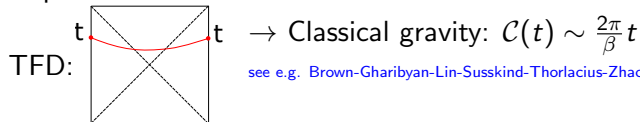
length of wormhole = $\ln \frac{(F(t_1) - F(t_2))^2}{F'(t_1)F'(t_2)}$

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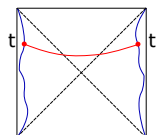
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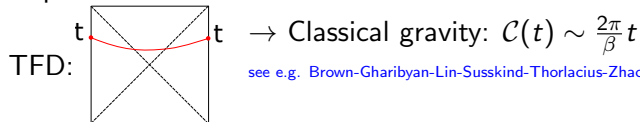
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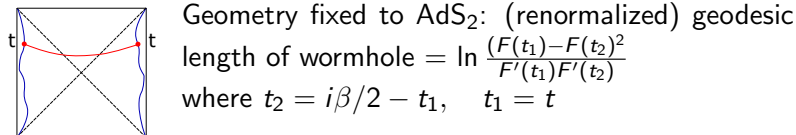
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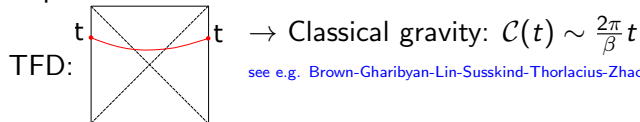
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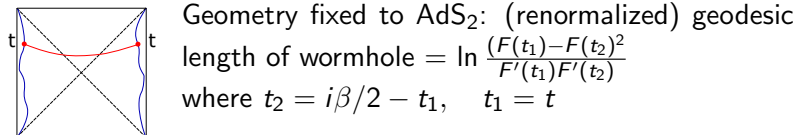
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Q: Complexity plateau? Higher topology / random matrices?

OTOC four-point correlator

Schwarzian out-of-time ordered (OTOC) 4-point function:

$$\langle V_1 W_3 V_2 W_4 \rangle = \langle \mathcal{O}_h(t_1, t_2) \mathcal{O}_h(t_3, t_4) \rangle_{\text{OTO}}$$

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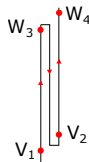
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Gravitational semi-classical interpretation: OTOC $\langle V_1 W_3 V_2 W_4 \rangle$ in boundary theory captures gravitational shockwave behavior [Shenker-Stanford '15](#)

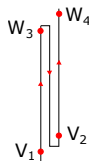


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Large C limit of complete OTOC with light h , gives full Dray-'t Hooft eikonal shockwave expressions [Lam-TM-Turiaci-Verlinde '18](#)

Multiboundary amplitudes (1)

Path integral (in Euclidean signature):

$$\int \frac{[\mathcal{D}g_{\mu\nu}]}{\text{Vol}(\text{Diff})} [\mathcal{D}\Phi] e^{-S_{\text{JT}} - S_{\text{bdy}}} = \int \frac{[\mathcal{D}g_{\mu\nu}]}{\text{Vol}(\text{Diff})} \delta(R - \Lambda) e^{-S_{\text{bdy}}}$$

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- ▶ **Manifold with holographic boundary:** non-trivial boundary dynamics, described by **Schwarzian action**
- ▶ **Manifold with only geodesic boundaries** ($K = 0, S_{\text{bdy}} = 0$): remaining path integral $\int_{R=\Lambda} \frac{1}{\text{Vol}(\text{Diff})} [\mathcal{D}g_{\mu\nu}] \times 1$ is computing volume integral of all inequivalent metrics one can put on a 2d manifold with given $R = \Lambda$ and geodesic boundaries
→ Mathematicians call this the **volume of moduli space of Riemann surfaces** = Weil-Petersson volume

Multiboundary amplitudes (2)

In order to analyze higher topology, we augment the action by the **Einstein-Hilbert** action:

$$S = -\frac{S_0}{2\pi} \left[\frac{1}{2} \int R + \oint K \right] + S_{JT}$$

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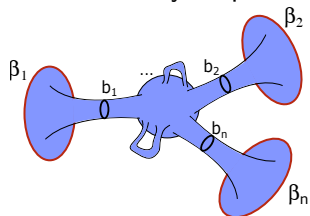
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Motivation:

Comes from zero'th order term in near-extremal near-horizon expansion of higher dim. black holes where S_0 is the extremal entropy

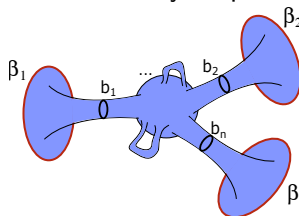
Multiboundary amplitudes (3)

Multiboundary amplitudes [Saad-Shenker-Stanford '19](#):


$$= e^{\chi S_0} \int_0^\infty \prod_{i=1}^n db_i b_i Z_{\text{JT}}(\beta_i, b_i) V_{g,n}(\mathbf{b})$$

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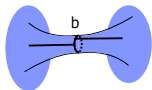
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Ingredients:

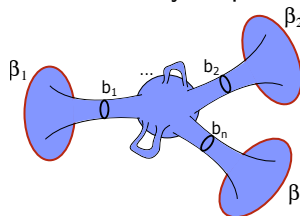
- ▶ Single-trumpet $Z_{JT}(\beta, b) \sim \beta^{-1/2} e^{-\frac{1}{4\beta} b^2}$
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Gluing tubes with twist: $0 \dots b$



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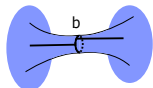
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- ▶ Weil-Petersson (WP) volume $V_{g,n}(\mathbf{b}) \equiv V_{g,n}(b_1 \dots b_n)$
volume of moduli space of Riemann surfaces of genus g with
 n geodesic boundaries of length b_i
multivariate polynomials in b_i^2

JT gravity as a matrix integral

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Saad-Shenker-Stanford '19 : JT gravity is a matrix integral!

Macroscopic loop operator: $Z(\beta) = \text{Tre}^{-\beta H} = \sum_n e^{-\beta E_n}$

Multi-loop correlator $\langle Z(\beta_1) \dots Z(\beta_n) \rangle$ in matrix integral with above $\rho_0(E)$, identifiable as multi-boundary amplitude in gravity,

$$\langle \dots \rangle = \int dH \dots \exp(-\text{Tr}V(H))$$

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Mirzakhani '07:

Weil-Petersson volumes satisfy recursion relations

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Holographic interpretation:

→ Boundary Hamiltonian \equiv random matrix H

→ Ensemble-averaged holography (cfr. SYK has some averaging)

Application: Maldacena's version of the information paradox in AdS/CFT

Boundary two-point function in thermal AdS/CFT decays exponentially at late times due to bulk quasinormal modes:

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Spectral form factor: [Cotler et al. '16](#), [Saad-Shenker-Stanford '18](#)

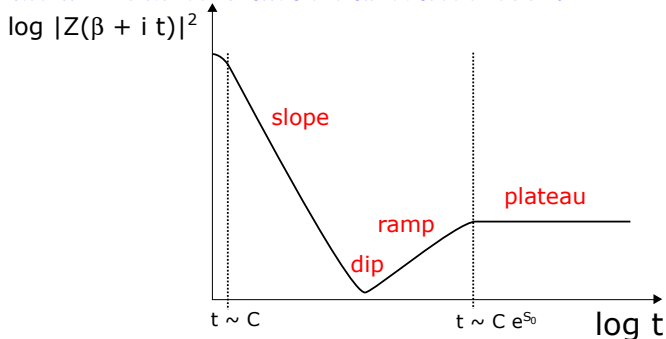
$$|Z(\beta + it)|^2 = \sum_{n,m} e^{-\beta(E_n + E_m)} e^{it(E_m - E_n)}$$

Late-time low mean $\sim Z(2\beta) \neq 0$

Spectral form factor in RMT - late time behavior (1)

Typical form of spectral form factor in (averaged) chaotic systems

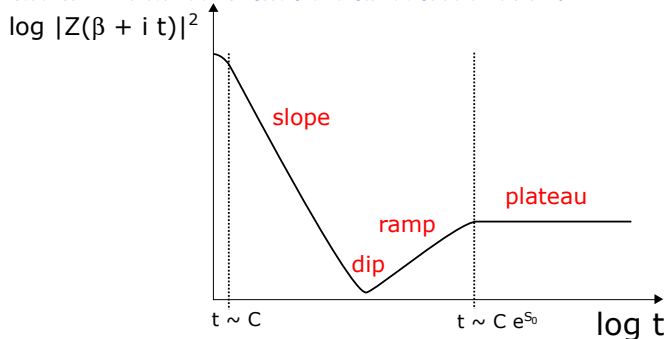
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JT gravity has such late-time behavior for its spectral form factor

→ easily proved using matrix description

→ has gravitational interpretation in terms of higher topology

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Pair density correlator in GUE ($e^{S_0} \gg 1$): [see textbooks e.g. Mehta](#)

$\langle \rho(E)\rho(E') \rangle \sim$

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Factorized term dominates as $\sim e^{2S_0}$ ($\rho_0(E) \sim e^{S_0} \sinh 2\pi\sqrt{E}$)
However, at very late times $t \sim e^{S_0}$, one has $E - E' \sim e^{-S_0}$ and this can compensate the suppression and give important effects!

Spectral form factor in JT - late time behavior (1)

Now we can understand the late-time behavior of the spectral form factor in JT gravity [Saad-Shenker-Stanford '19](#)

- ▶ **Slope:** Factorized contribution $\rho_0(E)\rho_0(E')$:

$$Z(\beta + it) = e^{S_0} \left(\frac{\pi}{\beta + it} \right)^{3/2} e^{\pi^2/(\beta + it)} \rightarrow |Z(\beta + it)|^2 \sim \frac{e^{2S_0}}{t^3}$$

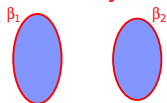
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Geometry: Matches with disconnected disk geometries



Late-time decay of Schwarzian regime

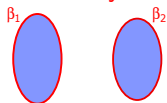
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→ Fourier transform $\int dx \frac{1}{x^2} e^{itx} \sim t\theta(t)$
→ Linear growth in time

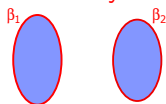
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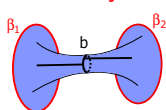
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Geometry: Matches with double trumpet



$$\int_0^{+\infty} db b \left(\frac{1}{\beta_1^{1/2}} e^{-\frac{c}{2\beta_1} b^2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{\beta_2^{1/2}} e^{-\frac{c}{2\beta_2} b^2} \right) \\ \sim \frac{\sqrt{\beta_1 \beta_2}}{\beta_1 + \beta_2} \text{ where } \beta_1 = \beta + it \text{ and } \beta_2 = \beta - it$$

Spectral form factor in JT - late time behavior (2)

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Reinstating $\langle n | \mathcal{O} | m \rangle =$ study boundary two-point function

Leads to similar picture [Blommaert-TM-Verschelde '19](#), [Saad '19](#)

Generalizations

Deformation of JT gravity Maxfield-Turiaci '20, Witten '20

$$V(\Phi) = 2\Phi + \sum_i \epsilon_i e^{-\alpha_i \Phi}, \quad \pi < \alpha_i < 2\pi$$

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- ▶ textbook holography has fixed Hamiltonian:
 $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM dual to $AdS_5 \times S^5$ type IIB → fixed Hamiltonian
(no ensemble averaging) → no connected topologies ?

Summary

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