

Black Hole Collapse in CFT

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Iberian Strings
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BH Collapse in CFT



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[arXiv: 1603.04856 & to appear]



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Fidelity Decay vs. Unitarity (featuring: the Iberians)



Adolfo del Campo (UMass)



Javi Molina-Vilaplana (Cartagena)



Laura Garcia-Alvarez & QUTIS

[arXiv: 1607.08560 & 1701.XXYYZ]



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“introduction”

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

black holes are **thermodynamic** systems

their entropy is proportional to the **area** of the event horizon



information loss paradox:

a BH formed from a pure state will evolve into a **mixed** state (of Hawking radiation)

holography:

a theory of quantum gravity should have **information** ~ **area**

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General Plan

AdS/CFT relates gravity (often in AdS) to **unitary** field theory (often CFT)

Lots of progress **gravity** → **CFT** (my favorite: AdS/CMT)

Less known about **CFT** → **(quantum) gravity**

→ despite developments in CFT, CMT:

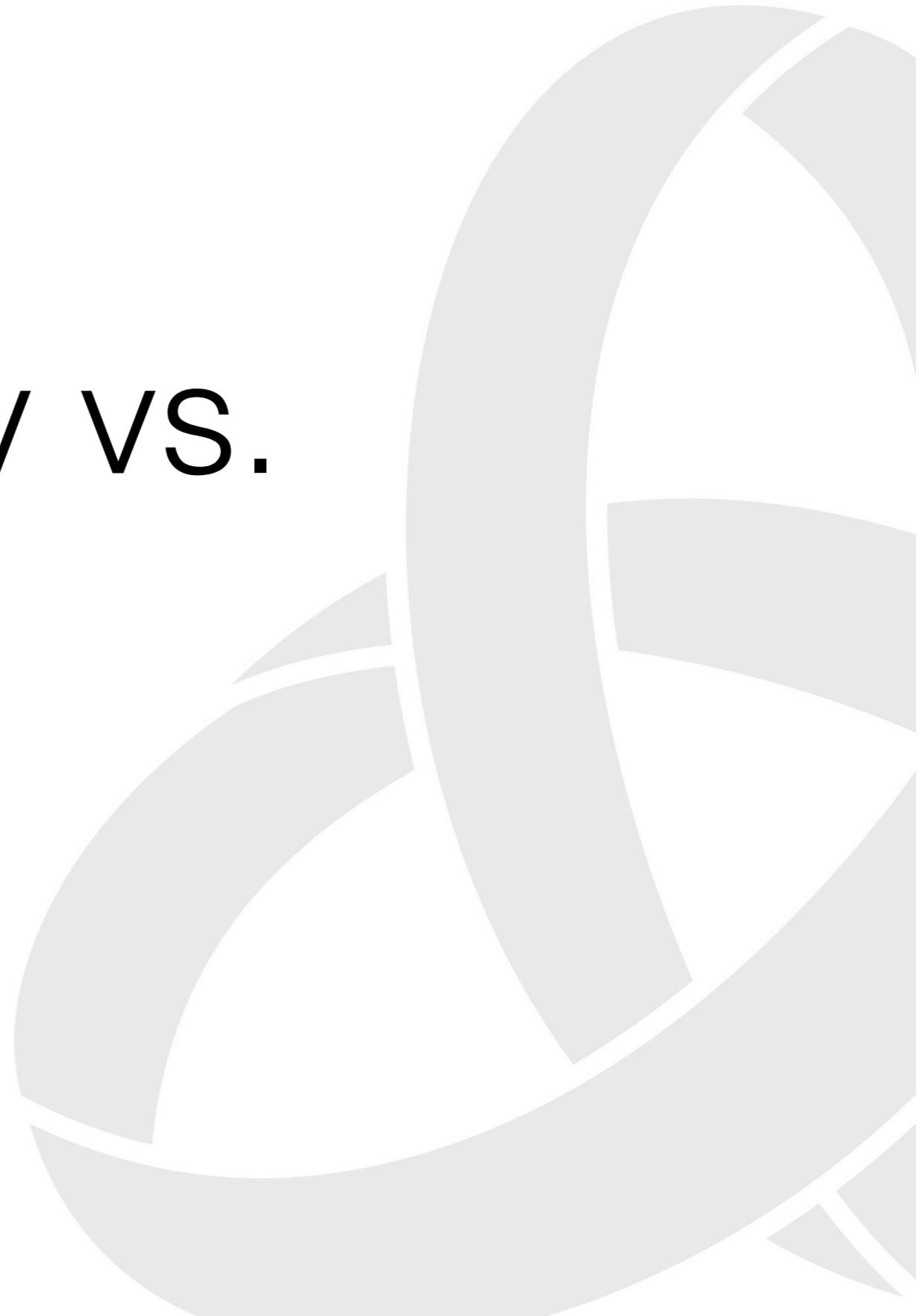
- time evolution and spread of entanglement
- **thermalization** of closed quantum systems (e.g. via eigenstates)
- non-perturbative methods (e.g. bootstrap)

Thermalization → BH formation (& evaporation)

Outline

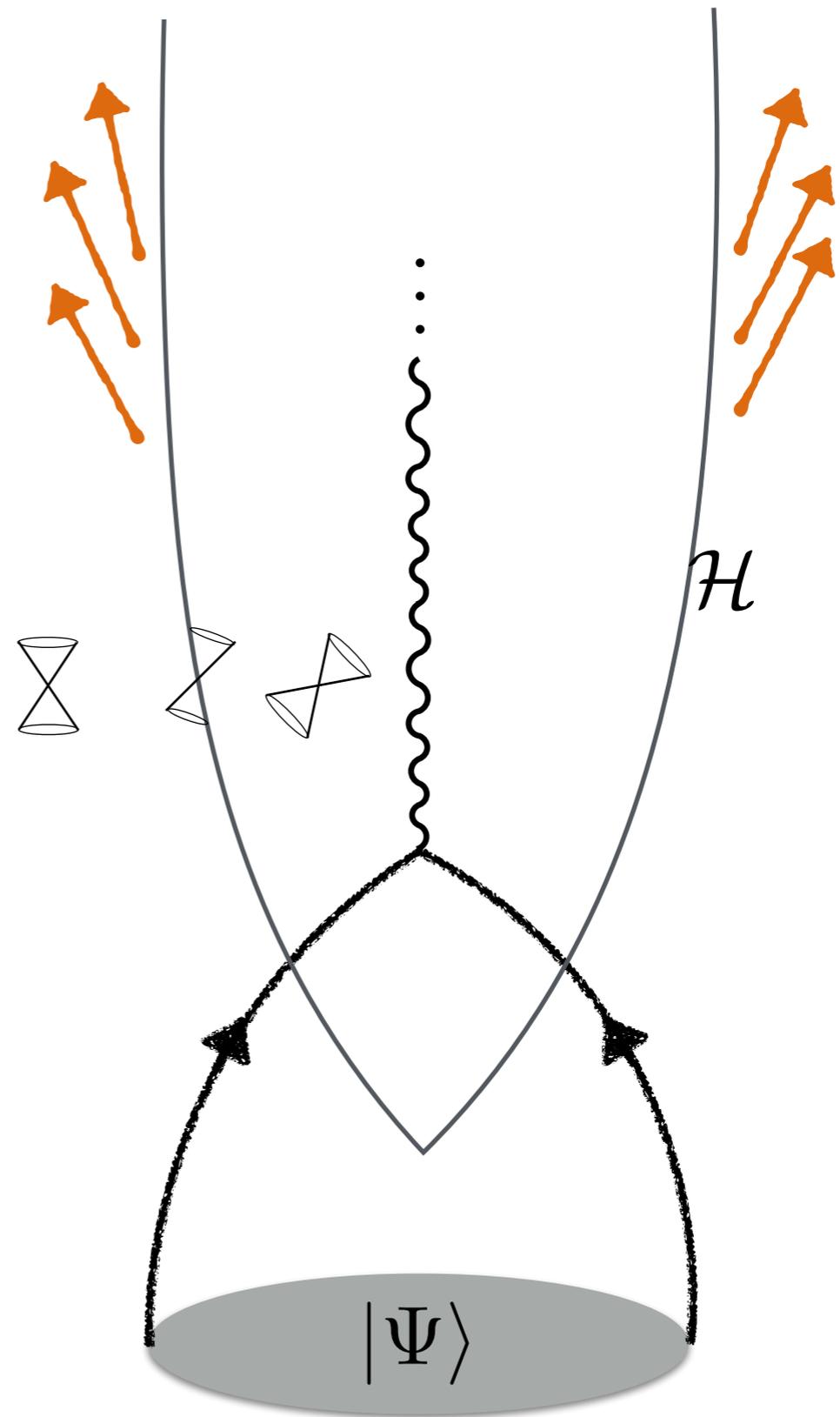
1. Introduction
2. Part I: Unitarity vs. Gravity
3. Part II: The anti-information paradox
4. Conclusions

Part I: Unitarity vs. Gravity

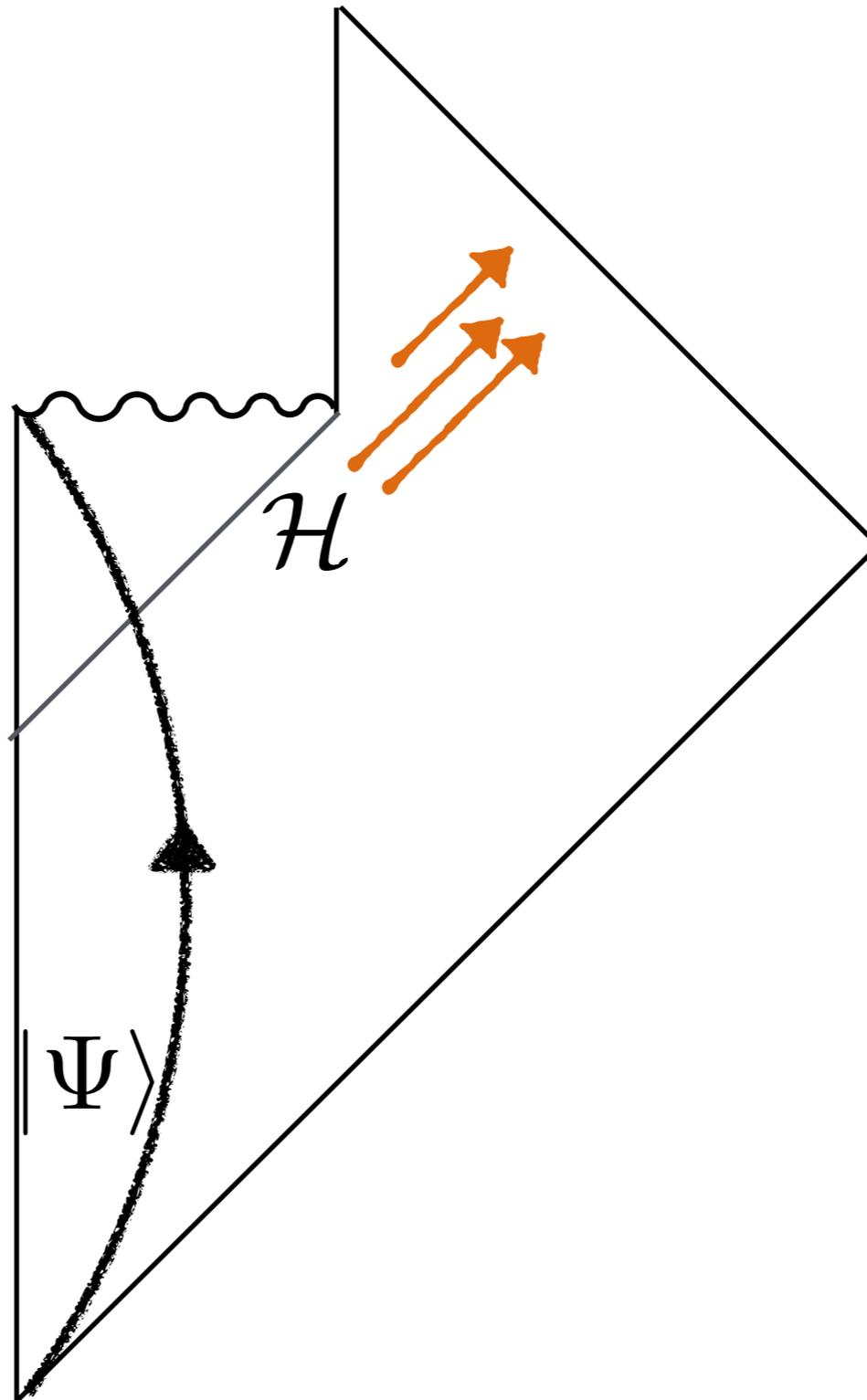


“the trouble with black holes”

- outgoing **Hawking radiation** is thermal $\rho_{\text{Gibbs}}(T_H)$
- a **horizon** \mathcal{H} cloaks the singularity
- initial pure state $|\Psi\rangle$ of matter collapses inwards

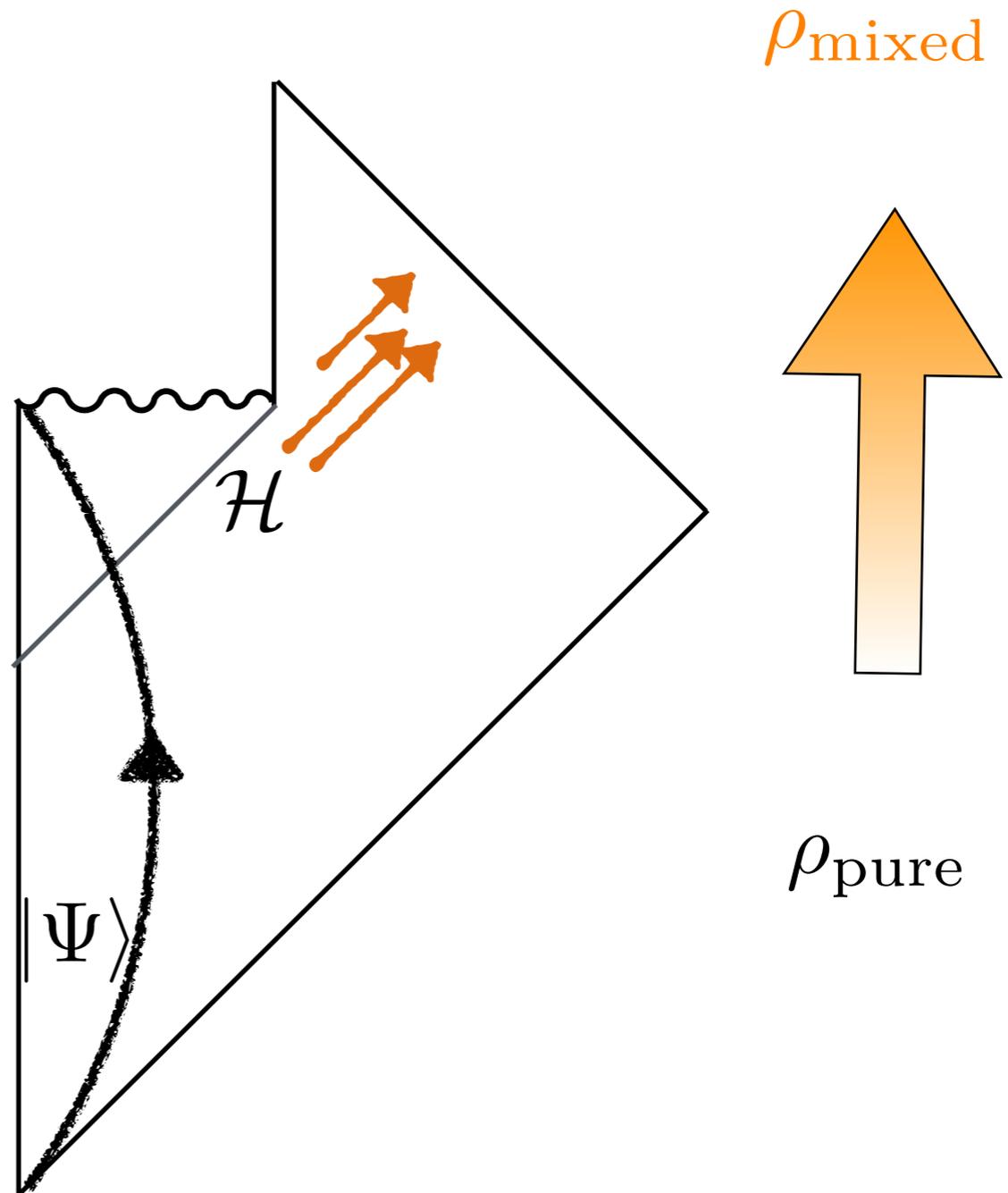


black holes evaporate



The Paradox

- gravity as an EFT implies pure to **mixed** evolution
 - fundamentally incompatible with a unitary S-matrix
1. quantum gravity is non-unitary
 2. gravity EFT makes no sense
 3. (subtle) corrections to Hawking result



Holography:

quantum gravity = quantum field theory

hence AdS/CFT only allows for options 2 & 3.

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the anti-information loss paradox:

how does an obviously unitary theory lose information?

The Plan

(of a first-principles calculation in holographic CFT)

1. define an initial state in CFT which forms a black hole
2. understand time evolution in strong-coupling regime
3. diagnose signs of information loss & recovery
4. translate this into a consistent picture of bulk quantum gravity

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(of a first-principles calculation in holographic CFT)

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→ “quantum quench”
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4. translate this into a consistent picture of bulk quantum gravity
 - wouldn't that be nice?

“unitarity constraints”

Unitarity vs Thermalization

(constraints on long-time correlations from unitarity)

Correlations in a closed quantum system, e.g.

$$G(t) = \text{tr} \rho \mathcal{O}(t) \mathcal{O}(0)$$

Time average over a large time T **cannot vanish** by unitarity

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \overline{|G(t)|^2} \neq 0$$

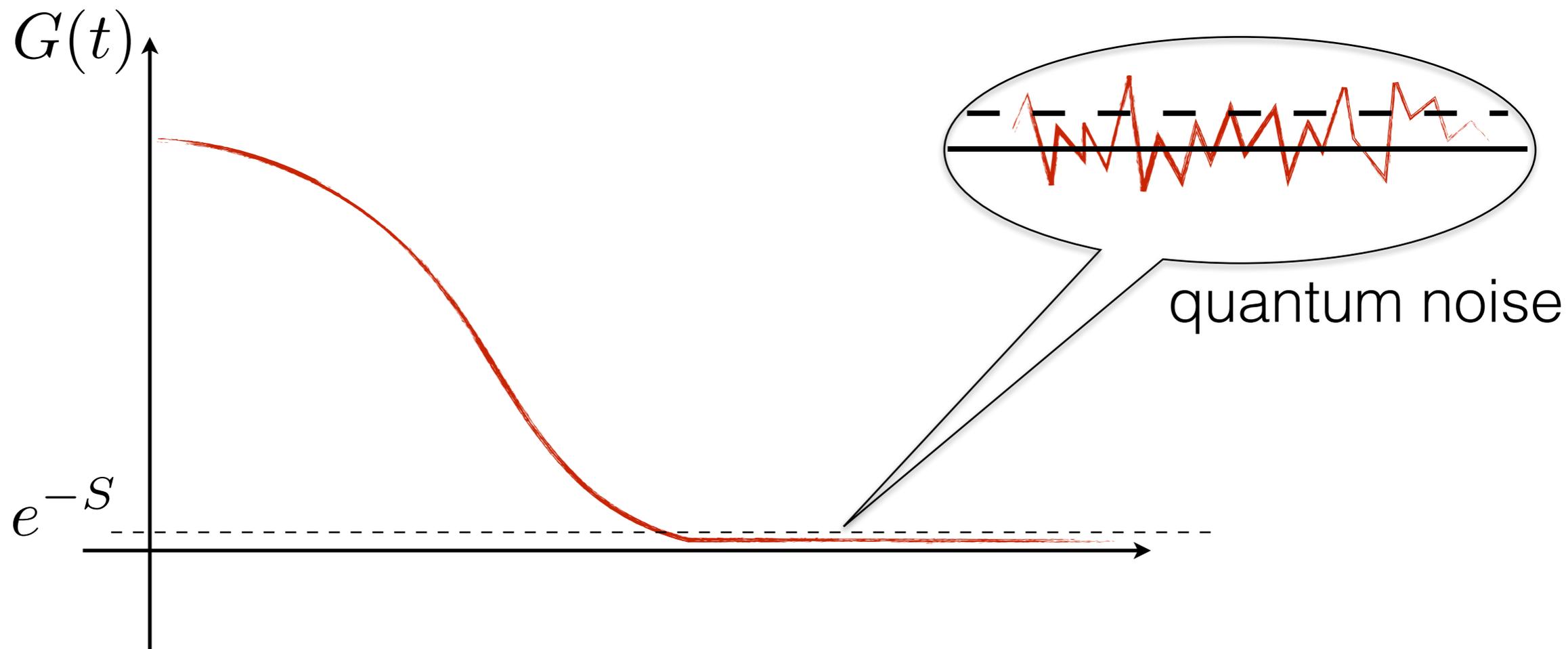
Need to assume spectrum is generic (no specific ordering principle)

- fails for integrable theories
- connection with ETH

Unitarity vs Thermalization

(constraints on long-time correlations from unitarity)

$$\rho = e^{-\beta H}$$



see also [\[Barbon & Rabonivici\]](#)

Spectral Probes

(to appear with del Campo and Molina-Vilaplana)

Essence of 2-point function: dephasing at late times

$$G(t) = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{i,j} e^{-\beta E_i - it(E_i - E_j)} |O_{ij}|^2$$

Conveniently captured in spectral form factor

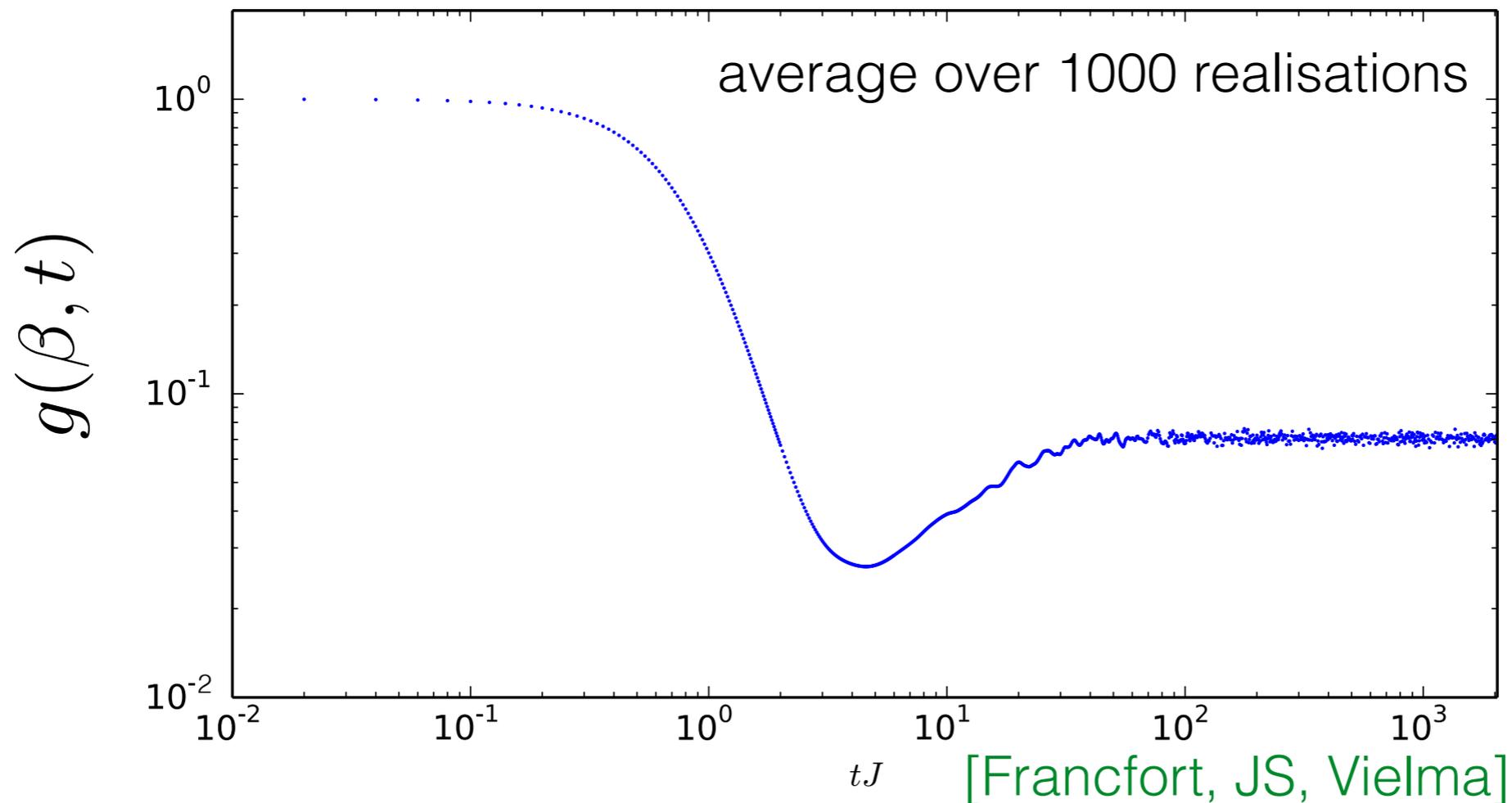
$$g(\beta, t) = \frac{1}{Z^2} |Z(\beta + it)|^2$$

Well-studied object in random matrix theory

Recently re-surfaced in context of SYK [Cotler et al.]
& 2D CFT [Dyer & Gur-Ari]

An Illustration (Dirac SYK)

also see [Cotler et al.]



initial decay (\sim information loss), then “dip, ramp & plateau”

can we characterise these properties more generally?

Fidelity Decay

(a new perspective on spectral form factor)

Prepare the system in the “thermofield double” state on $\mathcal{H}^{\otimes 2}$

$$|\psi(\beta)\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}} \sum_n e^{-\frac{\beta}{2} E_n} |n\rangle \otimes |n\rangle$$

Consider time evolution, $U(t,0)$, with respect to

$$H = H_s \otimes \mathbf{1}$$

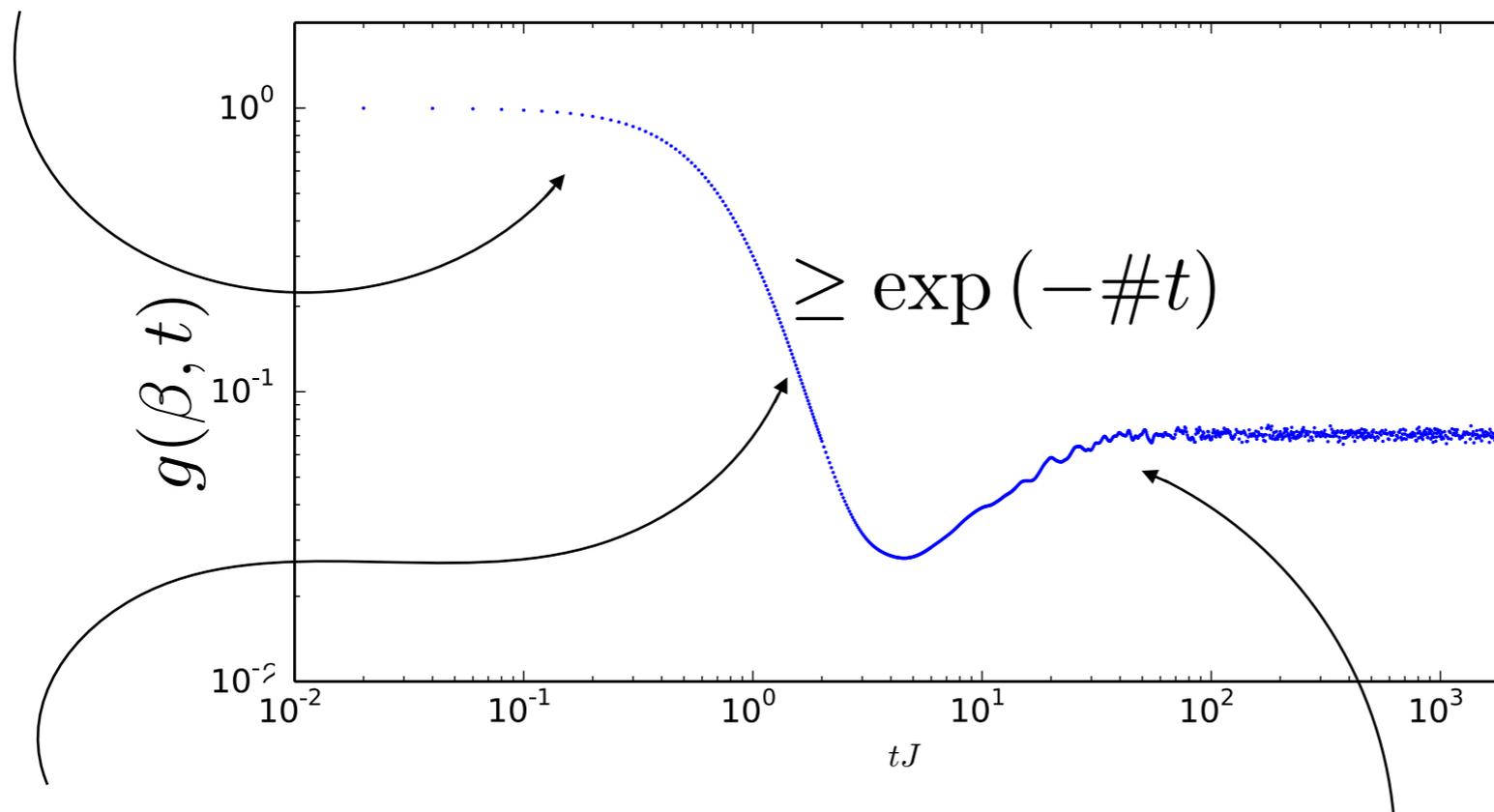
We can re-express the spectral form factor as the overlap

$$\mathcal{F}(t) = |\langle \psi(\beta) | U(t, 0) | \psi(\beta), 0 \rangle|^2$$

⇒ Unitarity constraints on behaviour of “fidelity” $\mathcal{F}(t)$ (e.g QSL)

Selected Results [del Campo, Molina-Vilaplana, JS]

1. Initial Gaussian decay governed by “Zeno Time” $\tau_Z = \langle \Delta E \rangle_\beta$



2. Intermediate decay slower than exponential

e.g. SYK & RMT $\sim 1/t^3$

3. Very late time: non-commuting limits & information loss

c.f. rest of talk!

Upshot

QFT correlations probe **information loss**

Unitarity demands non-trivial **late-time** behaviour $\mathcal{O}(e^{-S})$
(assume finite-size system)

Fidelity of thermofield double state allows to map bounds on spectral form factor to **QSL**

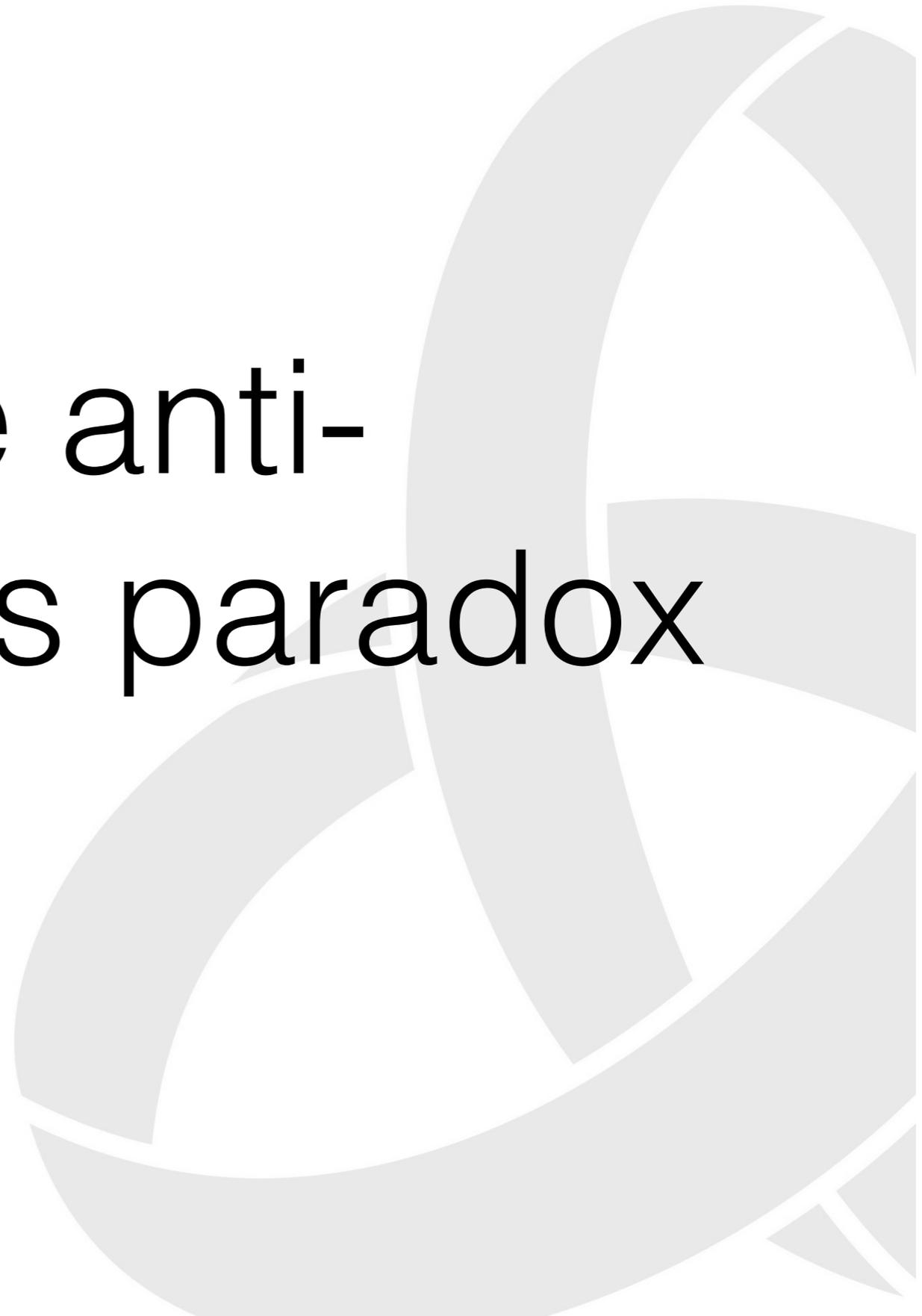
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Part II: the anti- information loss paradox



Looking for the Right Place

0D matrix models(IOP,...): connection to geometry?

2D black hole (CGHS): solvable but very different

SYK/2D black hole: Einstein dual,... ?

3D story shares salient features of 4D (and higher)

in fact central to micro-state counting success (D1-D5)

the trouble: no local degrees of freedom (Achucarro & Townsend):

$$S_{3D} = S_{CS}[A] - S_{CS}[\bar{A}]$$

other side of the coin: CFT₂ puts powerful tools at our disposal

also see [Fitzpatrick, Kaplan,...]

3D Gravity + Matter

→ add matter: get local dof. BUT need new tools

focus on a universal sector, by defining a $1/c$ expansion:

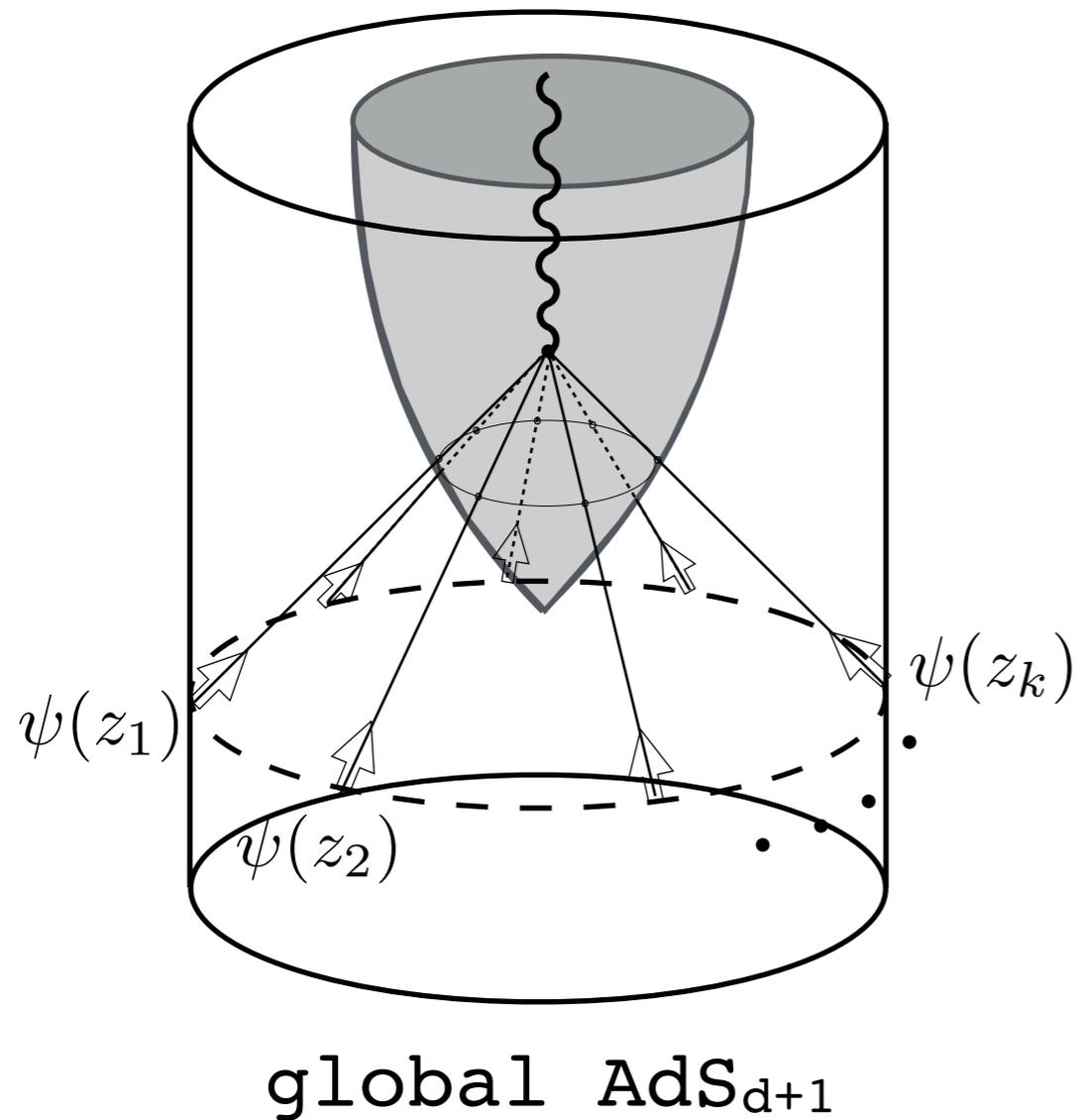
→ any microscopic theory in this class defines some 3D quantum gravity theory (sparse spectrum)

*3D gravity + matter non-trivial, but solvable
→ ideal place to study BH puzzles!*

From bulk point of view this is $1/G_N$ expansion

CFT_2 gives a non-perturbative definition of quantum gravity.

The Black Hole in the Tin Can



Throw in a shell of n dust particles

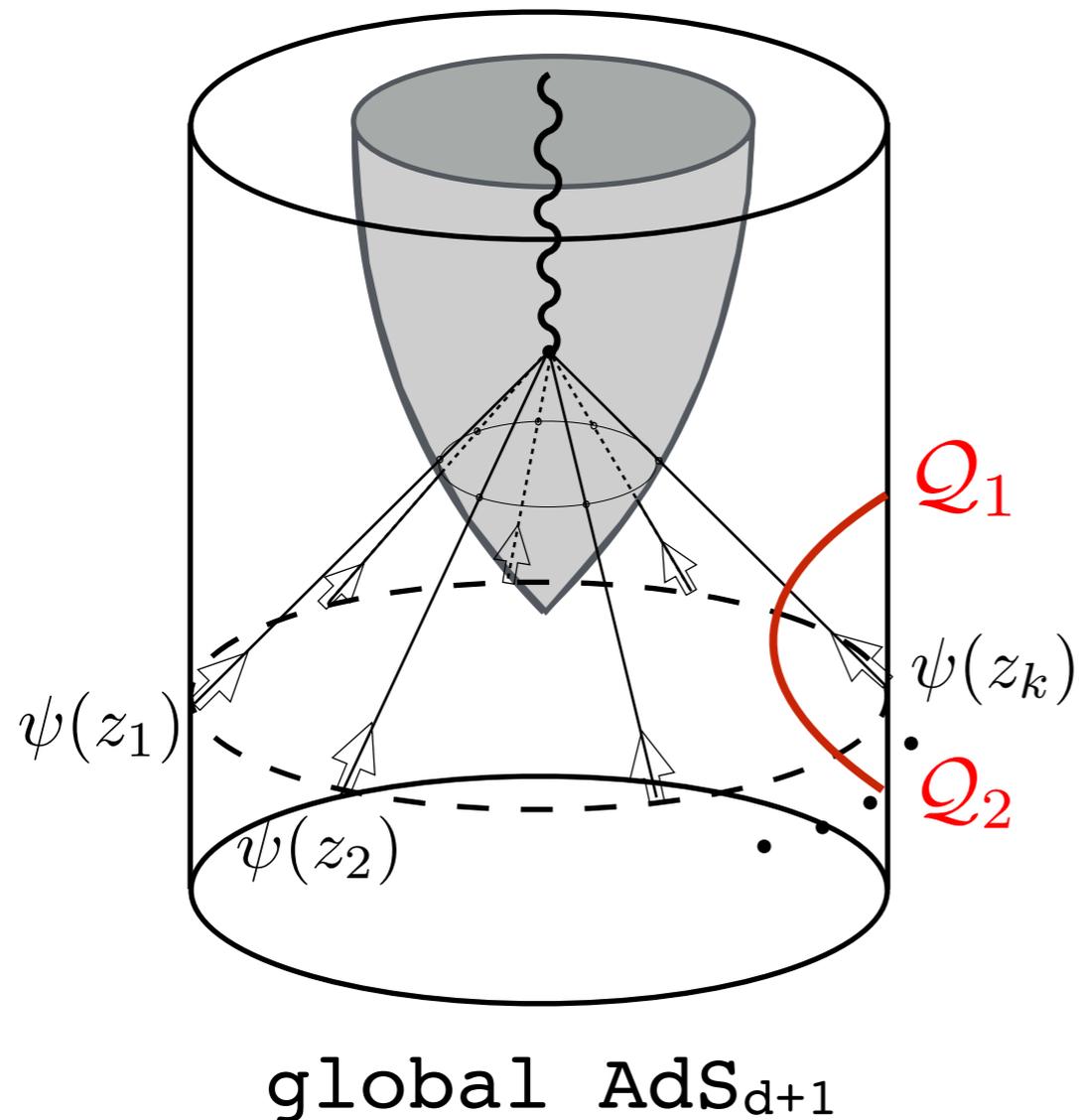
smooth limit: $n \rightarrow \infty$

BH collapse: Vaidya metric

Use light operators \mathcal{Q} to probe geometry as function of t

remark: certain quantities such as entanglement entropy are sensitive to **behind horizon physics** (away from equilibrium)

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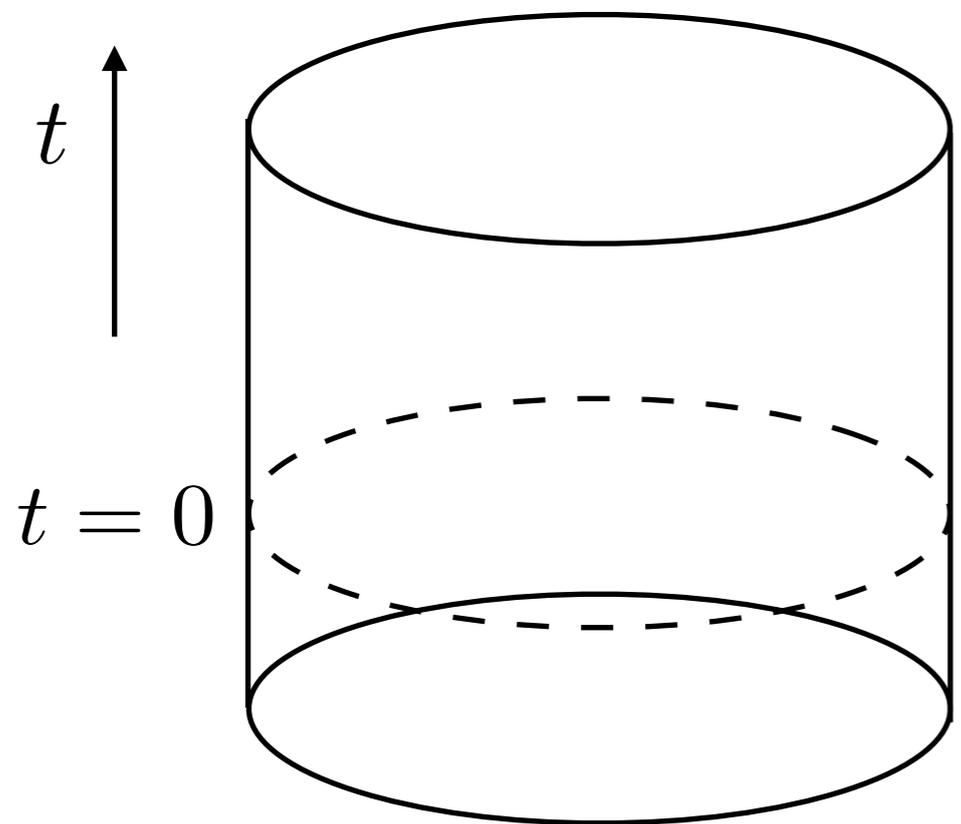
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“à la recherche de l’information perdue”

Translating to the CFT

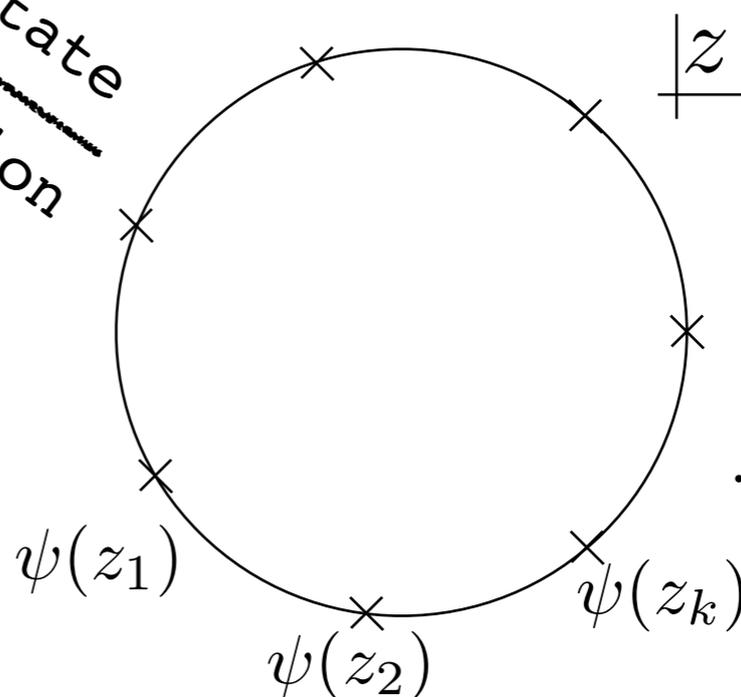


start in excited state at $t=0$:

prepare by Euclidean path integral
 → regulator σ

prepare state
 for t -evolution

$$|\mathcal{V}\rangle = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \prod_{k=1}^n \psi(e_k, \bar{e}_k) |0\rangle$$



Interrogating the CFT

Start probing the physics via $2n + p$ correlations

$$G(1, 2, \dots, p) = \langle \mathcal{V} | Q_1, \dots, Q_p | \mathcal{V} \rangle$$

we want to approach smooth, semi-classical gravity

$$c \rightarrow \infty$$

$$n \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\sigma \rightarrow 0$$

$$E \sim nh_\psi/\sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(c)$$

infinite-point correlations in strongly-coupled CFT!

Benefits of 2D CFT

in the semi-classical limit (large c), get sum of exponentials

$$G(1, 2, \dots, p) = \sum_{\text{blocks}} a_k e^{-\frac{c}{6} f_k^{(n)}(1, 2, \dots, p)}$$

correlator approximated by largest term, the identity block

“it from **id**”

*the dominant contribution comes from the identity Virasoro block, that is the unit operator **id** and all its descendants $T, \partial T, T^2, T\partial T, \dots$, (multi-graviton exchange in bulk)*

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subleading corrections exponentially suppressed in $e^{-c} \sim e^{-1/G}$

still need to calculate the semi-classical block:

**CONFORMAL SCALAR FIELD ON THE HYPERELLIPTIC CURVE
AND CRITICAL ASHKIN-TELLER MULTIPOINT
CORRELATION FUNCTIONS**

A.I.B. ZAMOLODCHIKOV

Scientific Council of "Cybernetics", Academy of Sciences, USSR

Received 3 December 1986

A multipoint conformal block of Ramond states of the two-dimensional free scalar field is calculated. This function is related to the free energy of the scalar field on the hyperelliptic Riemann surface under a particular choice of boundary conditions. Being compactified on the

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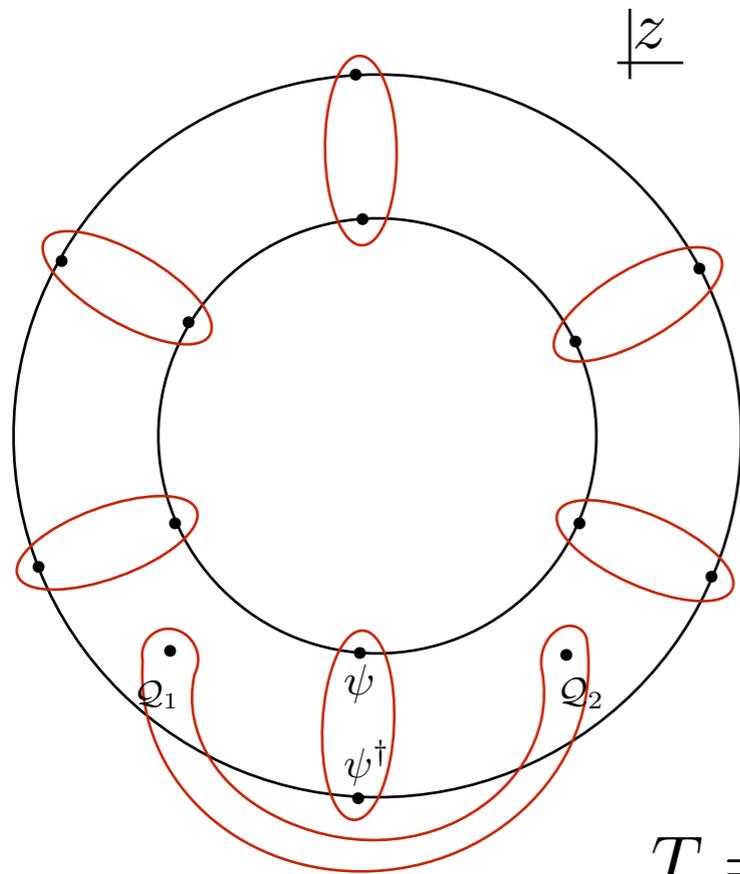
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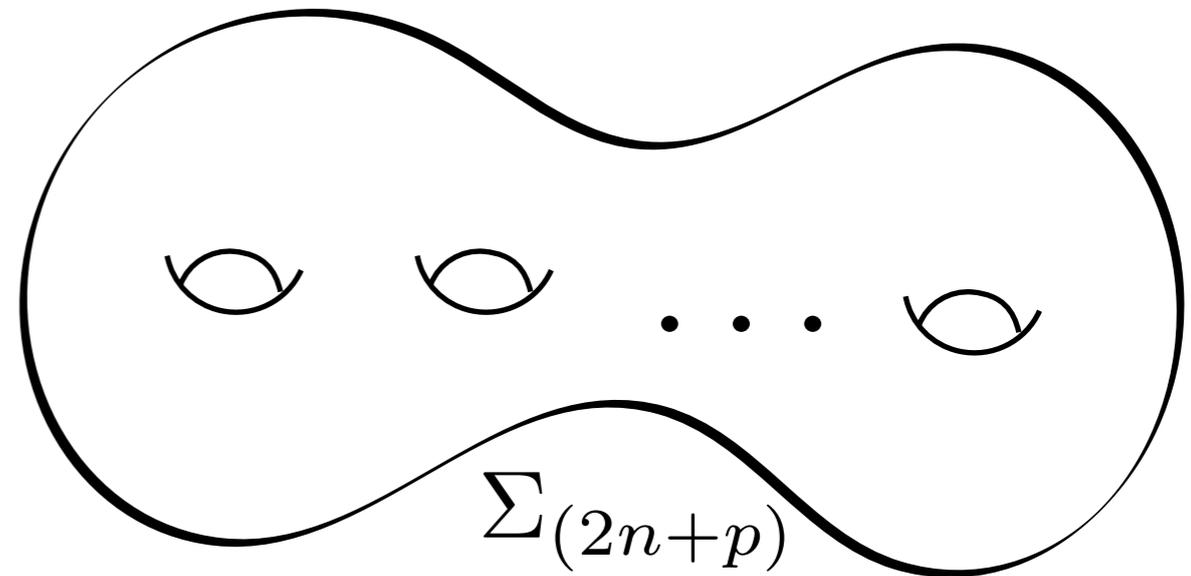
USSR: fighting hyper-intelligent Robot overlords with CFT?

The Monodromy Method

each contraction of operators in the plane defines a **cycle**



defines

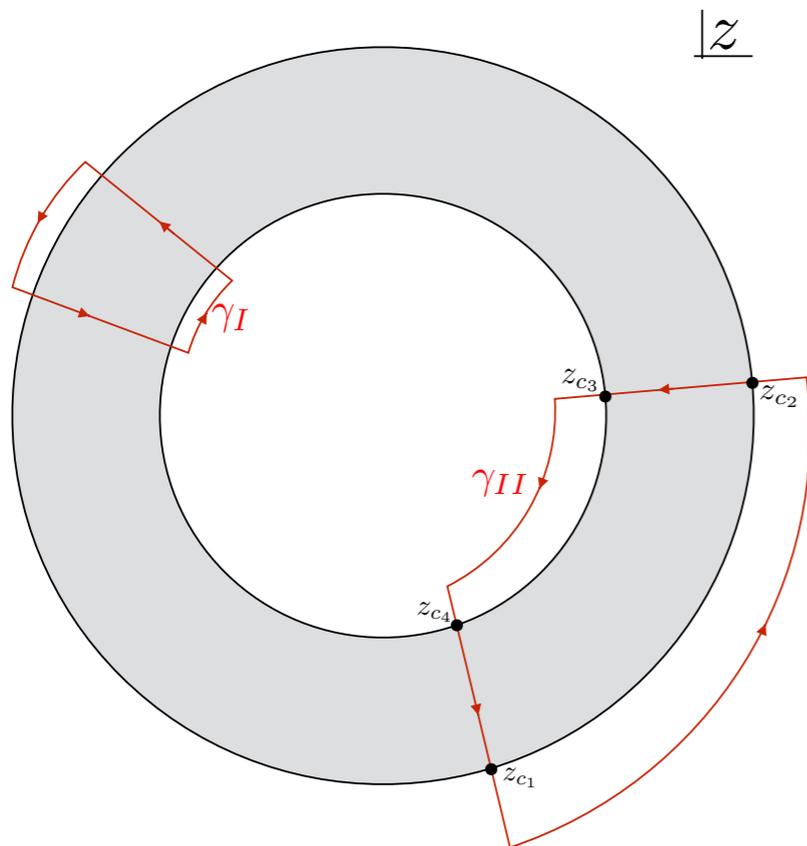


$$T = \sum_{k=1}^{2n+p} \left[\frac{6h/c}{(z - z_k)^2} + \frac{c_k}{z - z_k} \right]$$

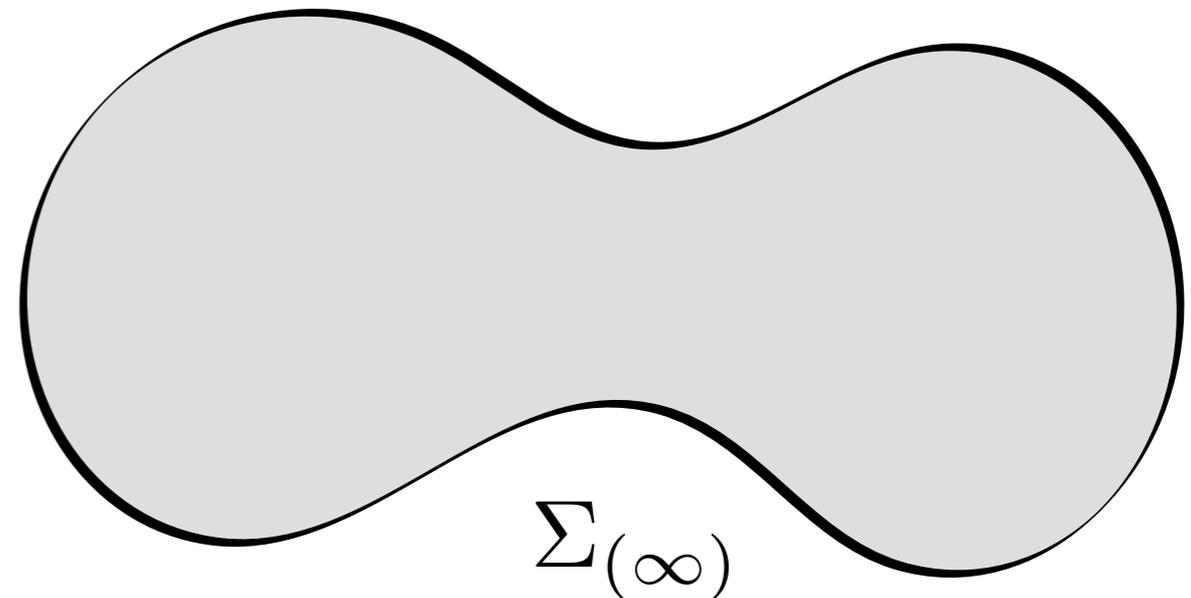
fix monodromies of $y''(z) + Ty(z) = 0 \xrightarrow{c_k} f_k^{(n)}(1, 2, \dots, p)$

Taking the smooth Limit

generally a hard problem, big simplification occurs for $n \rightarrow \infty$



defines



stress tensor \mapsto distribution on $\Sigma_{(\infty)}$

continuum monodromy method

$$f_0^\infty(1, 2, \dots, p)$$



3D semi-classical gravity

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{geo}}(1, 2, \dots, p)$$

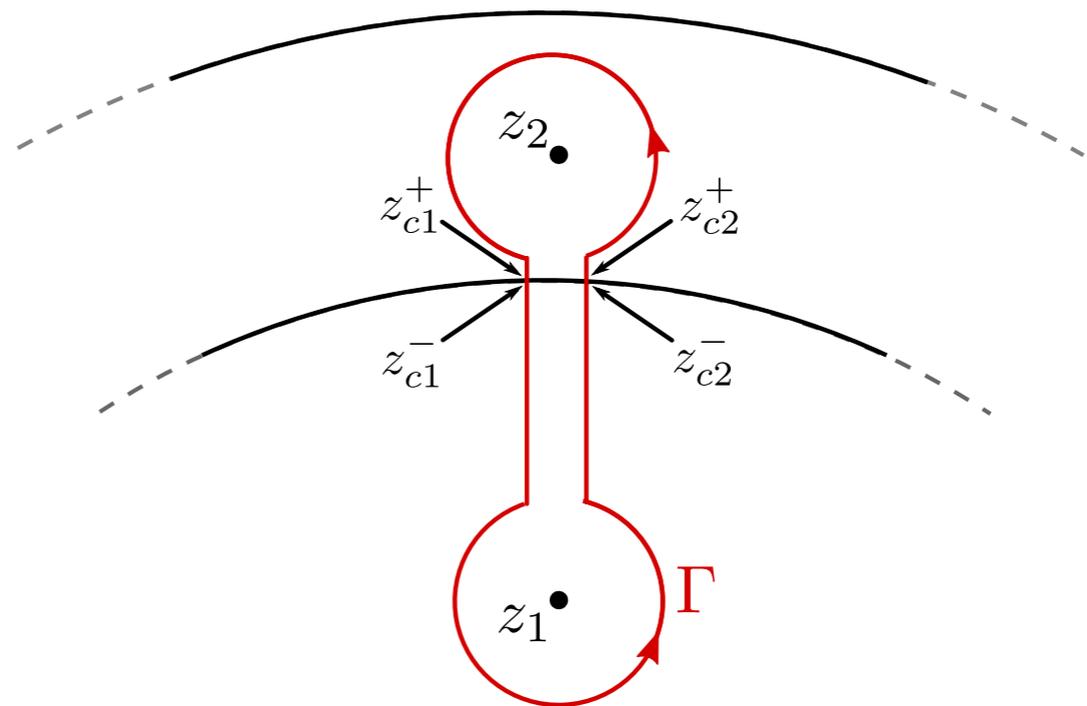
Two-point Autocorrelation

let us now return to the black hole and compute

$$G(t) = \text{tr} \rho \mathcal{O}(t) \mathcal{O}(0)$$

in the collapse state $|\mathcal{V}\rangle$

$$G(1, 2) =$$



can be done **analytically**:

$$G(t_1, t_2) = \left(\frac{1}{\pi T} \cos \left(\frac{t_1}{2} \right) \sinh (\pi T t_2) - 2 \sin \left(\frac{t_1}{2} \right) \cosh (\pi T t_2) \right)^{-2\Delta_{\mathcal{O}}}$$

Physical Consequences

not (yet) known from gravity (but matches known limits)
 \implies CFT prediction for 3D gravity

The correlation function decays without bound at large time

$$G(t_1, t_2) \sim \exp\left(-\frac{2\pi\Delta^2 t}{\beta}\right)$$

Manifestly in conflict with unitarity: **CFT loses information!**

Can also compute entanglement entropy of interval A

$$S(A) \rightarrow S_{\text{Gibbs}}(A; T) \longrightarrow \rho(A) = \rho_{\text{Gibbs}}(A; T)$$

Restoring Unitarity

This is the anti-information paradox: what happened to unitarity?

$$|G(t)| = \left| \sum_{n,k} e^{i(E_n - E_k)t} \Psi_n^*(\mathcal{V}) \langle n | \mathcal{Q} | k \rangle \langle k | \mathcal{Q} | \mathcal{V} \rangle \right| \neq 0$$

→ correlations **cannot become arbitrarily small** in $|\mathcal{V}\rangle$

Neglected contributions exponentially suppressed at $t=0$ (must be present due to crossing symmetry)

$$\sum_{k \neq \text{vac}} a_k e^{-\frac{c}{6} f_k^\infty(1,2,\dots,p)} \sim e^{-S}$$

restore unitary at large time → non-perturbative effects in $1/G_N$

Conclusions

time-dependent **3D quantum gravity** with matter in $1/c$ expansion
'it from id' → ideal arena to think about quantum BHs

unitarity constraints on 2-point functions, spectral form factor, ... can be mapped to **fidelity decay** and quantum speed limits (QSL)
→ bounds on scrambling exponent?

CFT correlation functions seemingly **violate unitarity** (naïve).
non-perturbative corrections in c restore unitarity

on gravity side these correspond to **non-perturbative effects** in G_N .
geometric interpretation? bulk interpretation?

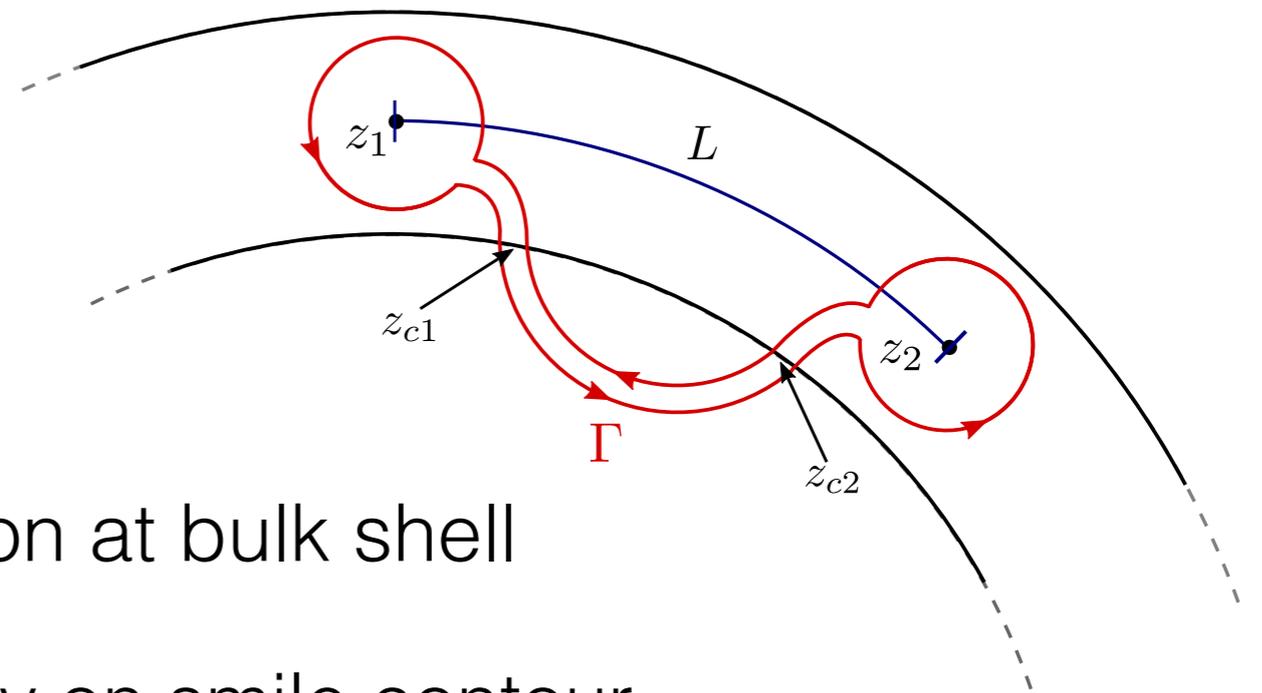
are the corrections **universal**? make a black hole that **evaporates**, ...

thank you!

entanglement entropy

Q-type operators \rightarrow twist insertions: $G_q(t) = \langle \mathcal{V} | \sigma_q(t, \ell_1) \tilde{\sigma}_q(t, \ell_2) | \mathcal{V} \rangle$

$$S(A) = \lim_{q \rightarrow 1} \frac{1}{1 - q} G_q(t)$$



crossing points z_{c1} & z_{c2} \leftrightarrow refraction at bulk shell

it from id \rightarrow require trivial monodromy on smile contour

write $z_1 = e^{i\theta_1}$, $z_2 = e^{i(\theta_1 + L)}$ & continue to Lorentzian time $\theta_1 = t$

maximize $S(A)$ over crossing points \rightarrow parametric equation for $S(t)$

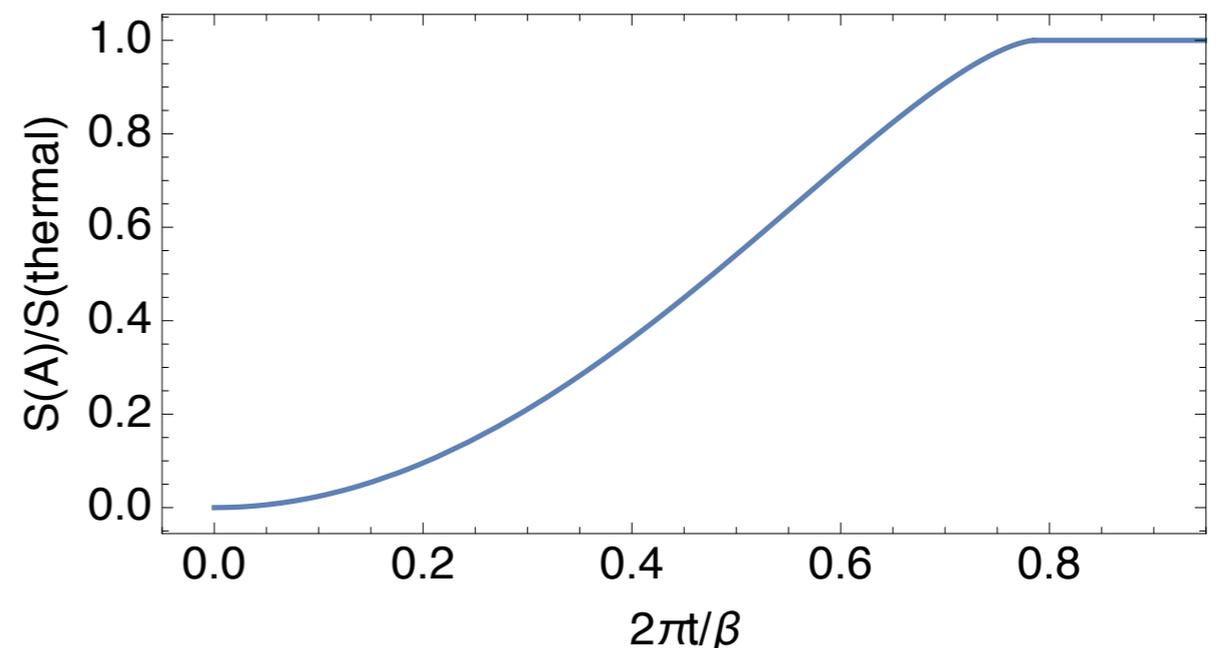
entanglement entropy

Implicit formula for growth of entanglement entropy:

$$t = \frac{\beta}{2\pi} \cosh^{-1} \left\{ \cosh(2\pi T q) + 2\pi T \tan\left(\frac{L}{2} - q\right) \sinh(2\pi T q) \right\}$$
$$S_{EE} = \frac{c}{3} \log \left\{ \frac{\sin\left(\frac{L}{2} - q\right) \cosh(2\pi T q) + \frac{1}{2\pi T} \left[1 + \frac{1}{2} \{1 + 4\pi^2 T^2\} \tan^2\left(\frac{L}{2} - q\right)\right] \cos\left(\frac{L}{2} - q\right) \sinh(2\pi T q)}{\epsilon_{UV}/2} \right\}$$

matches **exactly** global AdS₃ Vaidya:

- thermal at late time
- EE growth = change of channel
- sees **beyond horizon**



CFT calculation shows that purity of state is preserved: $S(A) = S(A^c)$

alternative picture: IN-IN computation

2.) evolve in Lorentzian time until Q-operator insertion point(s)

1.) prepare initial state by Euclidean evolution for time σ

3,4.) evolve back in Lorentzian time, then Euclidean time to form conjugate

