

# Non-perturbative decay of non-Abelian hair

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*based on*

PAC and Tomás Ortín, JHEP 1712 (2017) 091, arXiv: 1710.05052

Geometry, Duality and Strings  
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- 2 Interpolating solution
- 3 Construction of the Euclidean Instanton
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- Framework: continuation of Pedro's and Tomas' talks: black holes in Heterotic string with  $\alpha'$  corrections
- Let us remember the entropy and mass of black holes at order  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha')$

PAC, Meessen, Ortin, Ramirez

$$S = 2\pi\sqrt{N_{S5}N_{F1}N_W}(1 + 8/N_{S5})$$
$$M = \frac{R_z^2}{\ell_s^2 g_s^2} N_{S5} + \frac{R_z}{\ell_s^2} N_{F1} + \frac{1}{R_z} N_W (1 + 16/N_{S5})$$

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This solution contains

$N_{S5}$  solitonic 5-branes

$N_{F1}$  fundamental strings

$N_W$  units of momentum

$N_{G5} = \mathbf{1}$  gauge 5-brane

- The gauge 5-brane is important because it cancels part of the  $\alpha'$  corrections
- But there is an obvious reason why this black hole might be unstable

What if we remove the gauge 5-brane?

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Even better: if we exchange the gauge 5-brane by 8 S5 branes

$$N'_{G5} = 0, \quad N'_{S5} = N_{S5} + 8$$

the mass and charges remain unchanged, but the entropy increases

$$M' = M, \quad Q' = Q, \quad S' = S + 8\pi \sqrt{\frac{N_{F1} N_W}{N_{S5}}}$$

- The purely Abelian solution is thermodynamically preferred
- Spontaneous decay  $|A|^2 \sim e^{\Delta S} ???$
- Not so easy: our solution is protected by **supersymmetry and topology**
- **But non-perturbative decay is still possible**

# Interpolating solution

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# Interpolating solution

Let us consider the following solution of Heterotic String Effective action at  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha')$ :

Interpolating solution  $\text{AdS}_3 \times S_3 \times T^4 \rightarrow \text{AdS}'_3 \times S'_3 \times T^4$

$$ds^2 = \frac{2\rho^2}{Q_-} dudv - \frac{Q_+}{Q_-} du^2 - R^2(\rho) \left( \frac{d\rho^2}{\rho^2} + d\Omega_{(3)}^2 \right) - dy^i dy^i,$$

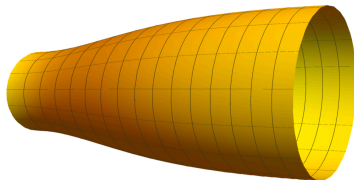
$$e^{2\phi} = e^{2\phi_\infty} \frac{R^2(\rho)}{Q_-}, \quad A^A = -\frac{\rho^2}{\kappa^2 + \rho^2} v_L^A,$$

$$B = -\frac{\rho^2}{Q_-} dv \wedge du - \frac{Q_0}{4} \cos\theta d\psi \wedge d\varphi,$$

where  $R^2(\rho)$  is the function

$$R^2(\rho) = Q_0 + 8\alpha' \frac{\rho^2(\rho^2 + 2\kappa^2)}{(\kappa^2 + \rho^2)^2}$$

$$R^2(0) = Q_0, \quad R^2(\infty) = Q_0 + 8\alpha'$$



# Interpolating solution

**Each  $\text{AdS}_3 \times S_3 \times T^4$  factor represents the near-horizon geometry of a black hole**

- At  $\rho = 0$ :  $R(0)^2 = Q_0$       $A_0^A = 0$

Near-horizon of black hole with

$$Q_0 = \alpha' N_{S5}, \quad Q_- = \alpha' g_s^2 N_{F1}, \quad Q_+ = \frac{g_s^2 \alpha'^2}{R_z^2} N_W$$

- At infinity:  $R(\infty)^2 = Q_0 + 8\alpha'$       $A_\infty^A = -v_L^A = \text{pure gauge}$

We must gauge-transform  $A_\infty^A \rightarrow A_\infty^{A'} = 0$ . After this gauge transformation, the 2-form  $B$  takes the form

$$B \rightarrow B' = -\frac{\rho^2}{Q_-} dv \wedge du - \frac{Q_0 + 8\alpha'}{4} \cos \theta d\psi \wedge d\varphi,$$

**8 S5-branes have been generated at infinity  $N'_{S5} = N_{S5} + 8$**

# Interpolating solution

- $\rho = 0$  is the near-horizon of a black hole with  $N_{S5}$  S5 branes
- $\rho \rightarrow \infty$  is the near-horizon of a black hole with  $N_{S5} + 8$  S5 branes

**This solution represents the decay of a gauge 5-brane into 8 S5 branes**

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**Problem: the solution is Lorentzian**

We would need an **Euclidean version** of the solution, *i.e.* we need to **Wick-rotate it**.

In such case, the transition probability amplitude could be estimated as

$$\mathcal{Z} \sim e^{-S_E}$$

The rest of the talk will be devoted to find such Wick rotation

# Construction of the Euclidean Instanton

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# Construction of the Euclidean Instanton

Wick rotation of generic spacetimes is a far from trivial problem. e.g. [Visser](#)

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Wick rotation of extremal solutions either doesn't exist — there are too few parameters— or it doesn't give the right result.

**It is convenient to work with the non-extremal solution and afterwards take the extremal limit**

# Construction of the Euclidean Instanton

## Problem 1: dyonic 2-form

$$B = -\frac{\rho^2}{Q_-} dv \wedge du - \frac{Q_0}{4} \cos \theta d\psi \wedge d\varphi,$$

- $Q_- \rightarrow iQ_-?$  It does not work

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- We get an auxiliary theory with a 2-form and a 6-form, with corresponding field strengths  $H'$  and  $\tilde{H}$
- Any solution of this action satisfying the constraint  $H \wedge \tilde{H} = 0$  is a solution of the original Heterotic Supergravity with

$$H = H' + e^{2\phi} \star \tilde{H}.$$

# Construction of the Euclidean Instanton

Expressed in these variables, the solution reads

$$ds^2 = \frac{2\rho^2}{Q_-} dudv - \frac{Q_+}{Q_-} du^2 - R^2(\rho) \left( \frac{d\rho^2}{\rho^2} + d\Omega_{(3)}^2 \right) - dy^i dy^i,$$

$$e^{2\phi} = e^{2\phi_\infty} \frac{R^2(\rho)}{Q_-},$$

$$B' = -\frac{Q_0}{4} \cos\theta d\psi \wedge d\varphi,$$

$$\tilde{B} = -\frac{e^{-2\phi_\infty} Q_-}{4} \cos\theta d\psi \wedge d\varphi \wedge dy^6 \wedge dy^7 \wedge dy^8 \wedge dy^9,$$

$$A^A = -\frac{\rho^2}{\kappa^2 + \rho^2} v_L^A.$$

All the forms are now magnetic and unaffected by Wick rotation.

**We only need to care about the metric**



## Problem 2: Wick-rotation of the metric

After the change of variables  $v = (t - x)/\sqrt{2}$ ,  $u = (t + x)/\sqrt{2}$  we get

$$ds^2 = \frac{1}{Q_-} \left[ \left( \rho^2 - \frac{Q_+}{2} \right) dt^2 - Q_+ dt dx - \left( \rho^2 + \frac{Q_+}{2} \right) dx^2 \right] \\ - R^2(\rho) \left( \frac{d\rho^2}{\rho^2} + d\Omega_{(3)}^2 \right) - dy^i dy^i$$

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- When  $Q_+ \neq 0$  there is no way to Wick-rotate this metric
- The problem is related to extremality: we have too few parameters
- Idea: deform the metric by adding a non-extremality parameter

# Construction of the Euclidean Instanton

## Non-Extremal Off-Shell (NEOS) deformation

$$ds_{\text{NEOS}}^2 = \frac{1}{Q_-} \left[ \left( (\rho + \rho_0)^2 - \frac{Q_+}{2} \right) dt^2 - a dt dx - \left( (\rho + \rho_0)^2 + \frac{Q_+}{2} \right) dx^2 \right] \\ - R^2(\rho) \left[ \frac{(\rho + \rho_0)^2 d\rho^2}{(\rho + \rho_0)^4 - \rho_0^4} + d\Omega_{(3)}^2 \right] - dy^i dy^i, \text{ where } \rho_0^2 \equiv \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{Q_+^2 - a^2}$$

It is not a solution of the equations of motion, but it fulfills a series of properties

- Continuous deformation of the solution (for  $a = Q_+$  we recover our original solution)
- It is non-extremal  $T_H = \beta^{-1} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{(Q_+^2 - a^2)^{1/2}}{Q_0 Q_-}}$
- Interpolates between two same  $\text{AdS}_3 \times S_3 \times T^4$  geometries as the original metric
- For arbitrary  $a$  the NEOS metric can be Wick-rotated into a Euclidean metric by performing  $t = -i\tau$ ,  $a = i\aleph$

# Construction of the Euclidean Instanton

We use this metric in order to compute the Euclidean action

- For arbitrary  $a$  we Wick rotate the metric  $t = -i\tau$ ,  $a = i\aleph$
- We compute the Euclidean action (with GHY term + counterterms) as a function of  $\aleph$ ,  $S_E(\aleph)$

$$S_E(\aleph) = \frac{\pi R_z \sqrt{Q_0 Q_+ Q_-}}{2l_s^4} \frac{\Delta(\aleph)}{\rho_0^2}, \text{ where } \Delta(\aleph) \text{ is an analytic function}$$

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- We remove Wick rotation  $\aleph = -ia$  and take the extremal limit  $a \rightarrow Q_+$

$$\lim_{a \rightarrow Q_+} \frac{\Delta(-ia)}{\rho_0^2} = g_s^2 \log \left( 1 + \frac{8\alpha'}{Q_0} \right) \approx \frac{8\alpha' g_s^2}{Q_0}$$



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In terms of the stringy charges, we get

$$S_E = 4\pi \sqrt{\frac{N_{F1} N_W}{N_{S5}}}$$

# Construction of the Euclidean Instanton

Therefore, the transition probability amplitude is

$$|\mathcal{A}|^2 \sim e^{-8\pi\sqrt{\frac{N_{F1}N_W}{N_{S5}}}}$$

This result coincides with  $e^{-\Delta S}$ , where  $\Delta S$  is the change of Black hole entropy in the process:

$$\Delta S = 8\pi\sqrt{\frac{N_{F1}N_W}{N_{S5}}}$$

- Note the change in the sign wrt statistical mechanics prediction  $\sim e^{\Delta S}$ .  
**Topology suppresses the decay.**
- Validity of ST background requires  $N_W \gg N_{F1} \gg N_{S5}$ : the gauge 5-brane is long lived
- The decay rate increases when  $N_{S5}$  is larger. **S5-branes are hungry for gauge 5-branes.**

# Conclusions

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- We argued that non-Abelian hair in  $\alpha'$ -corrected black holes might be unstable
- We found a tunneling process by which the non-Abelian hair could decay
- We introduced a new method to Wick-rotate Lorentzian metrics: the NEOS deformation. Using this method we computed the Euclidean action of the tunneling process
- On general circumstances the tunneling amplitude is tiny and the non-Abelian hair is long-lived

**Thank you for your attention**

Heterotic supergravity

$$S = \frac{g_s^2}{16\pi G_N^{(10)}} \int d^{10}x \sqrt{|g|} e^{-2\phi} \left[ R - 4(\partial\phi)^2 + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3!} H^2 - \alpha' F^A F^A \right]$$

Dual action

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{S} = & \frac{g_s^2}{16\pi G_N^{(10)}} \int d^{10}x \sqrt{|g|} \left\{ e^{-2\phi} \left[ R - 4(\partial\phi)^2 + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3!} H^2 - \alpha' F^A F^A \right] \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{e^{2\phi}}{2 \cdot 7!} \tilde{H}^2 - \frac{\alpha'}{2 \cdot 6! \sqrt{|g|}} \epsilon^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_6 \alpha \beta \gamma \delta} \tilde{B}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_6} F^A_{\alpha \beta} F^A_{\gamma \delta} \right\} \\ & H \wedge \tilde{H} = 0, \quad H_{\text{Het.}} = H + e^{2\phi} \star \tilde{H}. \end{aligned}$$

Euclidean action + boundary terms

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_E = & \frac{g_s^2}{16\pi G_N^{(10)}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} d^{10}x \sqrt{|g_E|} \left\{ e^{-2\phi} \left[ R - 4(\partial\phi)^2 + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3!} H^2 + \alpha' F^A F^A \right] \right. \\
 & \left. + \frac{e^{2\phi}}{2 \cdot 7!} \tilde{H}^2 + \alpha' \frac{\epsilon^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_6 \alpha \beta \gamma \delta}}{2 \cdot 6! \sqrt{|g_E|}} \tilde{B}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_6} F^A_{\alpha\beta} F^A_{\gamma\delta} \right\} \\
 & + \frac{g_s^2}{8\pi G_N^{(10)}} \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} d^9x \sqrt{|h_E|} \left[ -\frac{e^{2\phi}}{2 \cdot 6!} n^\mu (\tilde{H} \cdot \tilde{B})_\mu - e^{-2\phi} (K - K_0) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$