Soft Heisenberg Hair

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Two simple punchlines

1. Heisenberg algebra

 $[X_n, P_m] = i \,\delta_{n,m}$

fundamental not only in quantum mechanics but also in near horizon physics of gravity theories

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2. Black hole microstates identified as specific "soft hair" descendants at least in three spacetime dimensions

based on work (2016-2018) with

- Hamid Afshar, Shahin Sheikh-Jabbari, Zahra Mirzaiyan [IPM Teheran]
- Martin Ammon [U. Jena]
- Stephane Detournay, Wout Merbis, Stefan Prohazka, Max Riegler [ULB]
- Hernan Gonzalez, Philip Hacker, Raphaela Wutte, Céline Zwikel [TU Wien]
- Alfredo Perez, David Tempo, Ricardo Troncoso [CECS Valdivia]
- Hossein Yavartanoo [ITP Beijing]

Outline

Introduction to asymptotic symmetries

Near horizon soft hair

Consequences for black hole entropy

Generalizations and conclusions



Continuous



- Discrete
- Global

ContinuousLocal



- Discrete
- Global
- Internal



Continuous Local Spacetime ct v = cα $\alpha = \tan^{-1}$ x

- Discrete
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ContinuousLocalSpacetime

Main interest of this talk: asymptotic symmetries!

Definition of asymptotic symmetries

All boundary condition preserving gauge transformations (bcpgt's) modulo trivial gauge transformations

Let us break this down for electrodynamics (abelian connection A):

Definition of asymptotic symmetries

All boundary condition preserving gauge transformations modulo trivial gauge transformations

Let us break this down for electrodynamics (abelian connection *A*): ► Gauge transformations generated by *\epsilon*

 $A \to A + \mathrm{d}\epsilon$

Definition of asymptotic symmetries

All boundary condition preserving gauge transformations modulo trivial gauge transformations

Let us break this down for electrodynamics (abelian connection A):

- Gauge transformations generated by ϵ
- Boundary condition

For instance

$$A|_{r\to\infty} = \mathcal{O}(1)$$

where r = radial coordinate; asymptotic boundary: $r \rightarrow \infty$

Definition of asymptotic symmetries

All boundary condition preserving gauge transformations modulo trivial gauge transformations

Let us break this down for electrodynamics (abelian connection A):

- Gauge transformations generated by ϵ
- Boundary condition
- Boundary condition preserving gauge transformations

All gauge transformations generated by some ϵ that preserve the boundary conditions, e.g.

 $\epsilon = \epsilon(t,\theta,\varphi) + \mathcal{O}(1/r) \text{ as } r \to \infty$

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What is the precise meaning of sufficiently fast?

Field theories with gauge symmetries lead to constraints G[\epsilon]
Example: Gauss constraint in electrodynamics

$$G[\epsilon] = -\int_{\Sigma} \mathrm{d}^3 x \,\epsilon(x) \,\partial_i E^i(x)$$

 Field theories with gauge symmetries lead to constraints G[\epsilon]
Constraints in general not functionally differentiable (i.e., their variation leads to total derivative terms)

$$\delta G[\epsilon] =$$
volume term $-\delta Q[\epsilon]$

Example:

$$\delta G[\epsilon] = \int_{\Sigma} d^3 x \left(\partial_i \epsilon(x) \right) \delta E^i(x) - \oint_{\partial \Sigma} d^2 x_i \, \epsilon(x) \, \delta E^i(x)$$

= volume term - $\oint_{\partial \Sigma} d^2 x_i \, \epsilon(x) \, \delta E^i(x)$

- Field theories with gauge symmetries lead to constraints $G[\epsilon]$
- Constraints in general not functionally differentiable (i.e., their variation leads to total derivative terms)

 $\delta G[\epsilon] = \text{volume term} - \delta Q[\epsilon]$

• Improved generator $\Gamma[\epsilon]$ is functionally differentiable $\delta\Gamma[\epsilon] = \delta G[\epsilon] + \delta Q[\epsilon] =$ volume term

Example:

 $\delta Q[\epsilon] = \oint_{\partial \Sigma} \mathrm{d}^2 x_i \, \epsilon(x) \, \delta E^i(x)$

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• Integrate $\delta Q[\epsilon]$ in field space to obtain canonical boundary charges

$$\delta Q[\epsilon] \quad \Rightarrow \quad Q[\epsilon]$$

Example:

$$Q[\epsilon] = \oint_{\partial \Sigma} \mathrm{d}^2 x_i \, \epsilon(x) \, E^i(x)$$

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Definition of asymptotic symmetry algebra

Quotient algebra of all bcpgt's modulo trivial gauge transformations

Brown & Henneaux '86



► Impose AdS₃ fall-off on metric

$$d\rho^{2} + (e^{2\rho} \eta_{\mu\nu} + t_{\mu\nu} + \mathcal{O}(e^{-2\rho})) dx^{\mu} dx^{\nu}$$

AdS₃ Penrose diagram (Wikipedia)

Note: set AdS-radius to unity

Brown & Henneaux '86



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Determine bcpgt's

$$\mathcal{L}_{\xi}g_{\mu\nu} = \delta t_{\mu\nu} + \mathcal{O}(e^{-2\rho})$$

In lightcone gauge:

$$\xi^{\pm} = \epsilon^{\pm}(x^{\pm}) + \mathcal{O}(e^{-2\rho})$$

 ϵ^{\pm} : asymptotic symmetries $\mathcal{O}(e^{-2\rho})$: trivial gauge symm.

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Determine boundary charges

$$Q^{\pm}[\epsilon^{\pm}] \propto \oint \mathrm{d}\varphi \, \epsilon^{\pm} \, t_{\pm\pm}$$

Introduce Fourier modes:

$$L_n^{\pm} = Q^{\pm}[e^{inx^{\pm}}]$$

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Asymptotic symmetry algebra

$$L_n^{\pm}, L_m^{\pm}] = (n-m) L_{n+m}^{\pm} + \frac{1}{4G} n^3 \delta_{n+m,0}$$

Brown & Henneaux '86



Asymptotic symmetry algebra $[L_n^{\pm}, L_m^{\pm}] = (n - m) L_{n+m}^{\pm} + \frac{1}{4G} n^3 \delta_{n+m,0}$ consists of two Virasoro algebras with central charge

 $c=\frac{3}{2G}$

(for Einstein gravity)

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Conformal algebra in 2d

(

Physical Hilbert space falls into representations of two copies of Virasoro = physical Hilbert space of some $CFT_2!$

Brown & Henneaux '86



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- Conformal algebra in 2d
- Precursor of AdS/CFT!
- Generalizable to other theories

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- or to other asymptotic backgrounds

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- Conformal algebra in 2d
- Precursor of AdS/CFT!
- Generalizable to other theories
- or to other asymptotic backgrounds
- or when relevant boundary is not asymptotic

Motivation for near horizon boundary conditions Old idea by Carlip



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Want to ask conditional questions "given a black hole, what are the probabilities for some scattering process" Motivation for near horizon boundary conditions Old idea by Carlip



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- Want to understand Bekenstein–Hawking entropy

$$S_{\rm BH} = \frac{A}{4G} + \mathcal{O}(\ln(A/G))$$
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 $\mathrm{d}s^2 = -\kappa^2 \rho^2 \,\mathrm{d}t^2 + \mathrm{d}\rho^2 + \Omega_{ab}(t, \, x^c) \,\mathrm{d}x^a \,\mathrm{d}x^b + \dots$

 $\rho \rightarrow 0$: Rindler horizon κ : surface gravity Ω_{ab} : metric transversal to horizon ...: terms of higher order in ρ or rotation terms

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 $\delta\kappa = 0$

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4. Remaining terms fixed by consistency of canonical boundary charges

Black holes can be deformed into black flowers Afshar et al. 16

Horizon can get excited by area preserving shear-deformations



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Near horizon soft hair

Simplification in 3d:

$$\mathrm{d}s^{2} = \left[-\frac{\kappa^{2}\rho^{2}}{\kappa^{2}} \,\mathrm{d}t^{2} + \mathrm{d}\rho^{2} + \gamma^{2}(\varphi) \,\mathrm{d}\varphi^{2} + 2\kappa\,\omega(\varphi)\,\rho^{2} \,\mathrm{d}t\,\mathrm{d}\varphi \right] \left(1 + \mathcal{O}(\rho^{2}) \right)$$

▶ Map from round S^1 to Fourier-excited S^1 : diffeo $\gamma(\varphi) d\varphi = d\tilde{\varphi}$

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 Map from round S¹ to Fourier-excited S¹: diffeo γ(φ) dφ = dφ̃
 Trivial or non-trivial? Answer provided by boundary charges!

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- ▶ Map from round S^1 to Fourier-excited S^1 : diffeo $\gamma(\varphi) d\varphi = d\tilde{\varphi}$ ▶ Non-trivial diffeo!
- Canonical analysis yields

$$Q^{\pm}[\epsilon^{\pm}] \sim \oint \mathrm{d}\varphi \, \epsilon^{\pm}(\varphi) \left(\gamma(\varphi) \pm \omega(\varphi)\right)$$

where ϵ^\pm are functions appearing in asymptotic Killing vectors

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Two u(1) current algebras! Afshar et al. 16

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Isomorphic to Heisenberg algebras plus center

$$[X_n, P_m] = i \,\delta_{n,m} \qquad [P_0, X_n] = 0 = [X_0, P_n]$$

 $P_0 = \mathcal{J}_0^+ + \mathcal{J}_0^-$, $X_n = \mathcal{J}_n^+ - \mathcal{J}_{-n}^-$, $P_n = 2i/n(\mathcal{J}_{-n}^+ + \mathcal{J}_n^-)$ for $n \neq 0$

 Black flower excitations = hair of black holes Algebraically, excitations from descendants

$$|\text{black flower}\rangle \sim \prod_{n_i^{\pm} > 0} \mathcal{J}_{-n_i^{+}}^{+} \mathcal{J}_{-n_i^{-}}^{-} |\text{black hole}\rangle$$

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- Near horizon Hamiltonian

$$H = Q[\partial_t] = \kappa P_0$$

commutes with all generators \mathcal{J}_n^\pm

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Black flower excitations = soft hair in sense of Hawking, Perry and Strominger '16 Call it "soft Heisenberg hair"

Express entropy in terms of near horizon charges:

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Entropy = parity inv. combination of near horizon charge zero modes Note: entropy is observer independent, so can be calculated for asymptotic or near horizon observer and results must agree

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Entropy = parity inv. combination of near horizon charge zero modes
 Obeys simple near horizon first law

$$\delta S = rac{2\pi}{\kappa} \, \deltaig(\kappa P_0ig) \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad T \, \delta S = \delta H$$

with Hawking–Unruh-temperature

$$T = \frac{\kappa}{2\pi}$$

 δ refers to any variation of phase space variables allowed by the boundary conditions

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Can we understand entropy law microscopically?

Given our soft Heisenberg hair, attack now entropy questions

- 1. Why only semi-classical input for entropy?
- 2. What are microstates?
- 3. Semi-classical construction of microstates?
- 4. Does counting of microstates reproduce $S_{\rm BH}$?

Regarding 1. and 3.: may expect decoupling of scales so that description of microstates does not need info about UV completion, but rather only some semi-classical "Bohr-like" input

Evidence for this: universality of BH entropy for large black holes

$$S_{\rm BH} = \frac{A}{4G} + \dots$$

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Possible obstacles:

TMI: no upper bound on soft hair excitations

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- TLI Mirbabayi, Porrati '16; Bousso, Porrati '17; Donnelly, Giddings '17: for asymptotic observer no information from soft hair states

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- 2. What are microstates?
- 3. Semi-classical construction of microstates?
- 4. Does counting of microstates reproduce $S_{\rm BH}$?

Assume it is possible to construct microstates for large black holes semi-classically using soft-hair excitations

- TMI: no upper bound on soft hair excitations
- possible resolution: cut-off on soft hair spectrum!
- TLI Mirbabayi, Porrati '16; Bousso, Porrati '17; Donnelly, Giddings '17: for asymptotic observer no information from soft hair states
- possible resolution: do not consider asymptotic but near horizon observer (i.e., employ near horizon bc's and symmetry algebra)

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angle

$$\mathcal{J}_n^{\pm}|0\rangle = 0 \quad \forall n \ge 0$$

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subject to spectral constraint depending on black hole mass ${\cal M}$ and angular momentum ${\cal J}$

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derived from Bohr-type quantization conditions

- ▶ quantization of central charge c = 3/(2G) in integers
- \blacktriangleright quantization of conical deficit angles in integers over c
- black hole/particle correspondence (black hole = gas of coherent states of particles on AdS₃)

Check of fluff proposal

Microstates for BTZ black hole with mass M and angular momentum J:

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(we set k = 1 and W = p)



Consequences for black hole entropy

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leading order yields Cardy formula and hence the BH entropy

$$S = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{c}{6}(M+J)} + 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{c}{6}(M-J)} = 2\pi P_0 = \frac{A}{4G} + \dots$$

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leading + subleading order yields BH entropy plus log corrections

$$S = \frac{A}{4G} - 2\ln\left(A/(4G)\right) + \dots$$

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may work more generally, but so far only checked BTZ black hole; extremal black holes?

Take-away messages:

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- Microstate construction for Kerr?

Thanks for your attention!



