Asymptotic Fragility,  $T\bar{T}$  deformation and Flat Space Holography

with Victor Gorbenko and Mehrdad Mirbabayi arxiv:1706.xxxx Expanded and accurate version of the title

Integrable Asymptotic Fragility,  $T\overline{T}$  deformation, Flat Space Limit of Near  $AdS_2$  Holography and QCD Strings

Main takeaway message:

$$IAF = T\bar{T} = \lim_{L \to \infty} NAdS_2$$

and provide an integrable approximation to the QCD string

### Integrable Asymptotic Fragility

SD, Gorbenko, Mirbabayi 1305.6939



$$p_i * p_j = \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} p_i^{\alpha} p_j^{\beta}$$

### "Holographic" Form of the Dressing Factor

$$e^{i\ell^2/4\sum_{i< j}p_i*p_j} = \int \mathcal{D}X^{\alpha}e^{iS_{CS}[X^{\alpha}] + \sum_i p_{i\alpha}X^{\alpha}}$$

Chern-Simons boundary quantum mechanics

$$S_{CS} = \ell^{-2} \oint d\tau \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} X^{\alpha} \partial_{\tau} X^{\beta}$$

### $T\bar{T}$ deformation

Smirnov, Zamolodchikov, 1608.05499 Cavaglia, Negro, Szecsenyi, Tateo, 1608.05534

Deformation of *any* 2D QFT by an irrelevant operator

$$T\bar{T} \equiv \frac{1}{2} \left( T_{\alpha\beta} T^{\alpha\beta} - T_{\alpha}^{\alpha2} \right)$$

is solvable: the deformed finite volume spectrum satisfies

$$\partial_t E_t(n, P, R) = E_t(n, P, R) \partial_R E_t(n, PR) + \frac{P(R)^2}{R}$$

R - circle size P - spatial momentum

t – deformation parameter

# NAdS<sub>2</sub> Holography

• consider *any* 2D QFT in a rigid  $AdS_2$  (=Poincare disc)

Jensen, 1605.06098 Maldacena, Stanford, Yang, 1606.06098 Engelsoy, Mertens, Verlinde, 1606.03438



- calculate generating functional  $Z_0[\lambda_{\mathcal{O}_a}(\tau)]$ for boundary conformal correlators
- introduce dynamical (Jackiw—Teitelboim) gravity

$$S = \int \sqrt{-g} \left( \phi(R + \frac{2}{L^2}) - \Lambda + \mathcal{L}_m(g, \psi) \right)$$

# Dressed generating functional

$$Z_{JT}[\lambda_{\mathcal{O}_a}(\tau)] = \int \mathcal{D}\tau e^{\Lambda L^2 \int du Sch(\tau(u))} Z[\lambda_{\mathcal{O}_a}(\tau(u))]$$

Schwarzian boundary quantum mechanics

$$Sch(\tau(u)) = \frac{\partial_u^3 \tau}{\partial_u \tau} - \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{\partial_u^2 \tau}{\partial_u \tau}\right)^2$$
$$\mathcal{O}_4(\tau_4)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{5}(\tau_{5})$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{6}(\tau_{6})$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{3}(\tau_{3})$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{1}(\tau_{1})$$

Main takeaway message:

$$IAF = T\bar{T} = \lim_{L \to \infty} NAdS_2$$

Solves (flat space) Jackiw —Teitelboim gravity

$$S = \int \sqrt{-g} \left( \phi R - \Lambda + \mathcal{L}_m(g, \psi) \right)$$

with

$$\frac{1}{\ell^2} = -\frac{\Lambda}{2} = t$$

### $IAF = T\bar{T}$

Obvious to anybody who knows both constructions

- True for CFT's and integrable QFT's, where one can calculate finite volume spectrum with TBA
- First and simplest example: one starts with 24 free massless bosons and ends up getting a critical bosonic string *SD, Flauger, Gorbenko, 1205.6805*

$$e^{i2\delta(s)} = e^{is/4\ell^2}$$
  $\longrightarrow$   $E = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi^2(N-\tilde{N})^2}{R^2} + \frac{R^2}{\ell^4} + \frac{4\pi}{\ell^2}(N+\tilde{N}-2)}$ 

- Provides reason d'être for IAF and rigorous definition for  $T\bar{T}$
- Should be possible to derive *E*'s from the JT partition function in a generic case (*work in progress*)

### $T\bar{T}$ from linearized JT gravity Minkowski vacuum

$$g_{\alpha\beta} = \eta_{\alpha\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \qquad \phi = -\frac{\Lambda}{4}\eta_{\alpha\beta}\sigma^{\alpha}\sigma^{\beta} = \frac{\Lambda}{2}\sigma^{+}\sigma^{-}$$

**Quadratic action** 

$$S_{JT}^{(2)} = \int \varphi \left( \partial_{+}^{2} h_{--} + \partial_{-}^{2} h_{++} - 2\partial_{+} \partial_{-} h_{+-} \right) + \frac{\Lambda}{4} (h_{++} h_{--} - 2h_{+-}^{2}) \\ + \frac{\Lambda}{4} \left( \sigma^{+} h_{++} (2\partial_{-} h_{+-} - \partial_{+} h_{--}) + \sigma^{-} h_{--} (2\partial_{+} h_{+-} - \partial_{-} h_{++}) \right) \\ + \frac{1}{2} h_{++} T_{--} + \frac{1}{2} h_{--} T_{++} + h_{+-} T_{+-} .$$

Solution

$$h_{\alpha\beta} = -\frac{2}{\Lambda} (T_{\alpha\beta} - \eta_{\alpha\beta} T_{\gamma}^{\gamma}) \qquad \qquad \partial_{+}\phi = \frac{1}{2} (\sigma^{+} T_{++} - \sigma^{-} T_{+-}) \\ \partial_{-}\phi = \frac{1}{2} (\sigma^{+} T_{--} - \sigma^{+} T_{+-})$$

Plug back into action

$$S_{T\bar{T}} = -\frac{1}{2\Lambda} \int (T_{\alpha\beta}T^{\alpha\beta} - T_{\gamma}^{\gamma2})$$

Heuristics of IAF=JT  
$$S = \int \sqrt{-g} \left( \phi R - \Lambda + \mathcal{L}_m(g, \psi) \right)$$

JT dilaton is a Lagrange multiplier, which forces metric to be flat, hence we can write

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}X^{a} \mathcal{D}\psi e^{i\int d^{2}\sigma \sqrt{-g_{f}} \left(-\Lambda + \mathcal{L}_{m}(\psi, g_{f})\right)}$$
  
with  
$$g_{f\alpha\beta} = \partial_{\alpha}X^{a} \partial_{\beta}X^{b} \delta_{ab}$$
  
gives

$$(-\Lambda \int d^2 \sigma \sqrt{-g_f} = -\frac{\Lambda}{2} \oint d\tau \epsilon_{ab} X^a \partial_\tau X^b$$

Chern-Simons boundary quantum mechanics

# Proof of IAF=JT

Minkowski vacuum

$$g_{\alpha\beta} = \eta_{\alpha\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \qquad \phi = -\frac{\Lambda}{4}\eta_{\alpha\beta}\sigma^{\alpha}\sigma^{\beta} = \frac{\Lambda}{2}\sigma^{+}\sigma^{-}$$

Appears inhomogeneous. Why do we expect Poincare invariant *S*-matrix in the first place?

Conformal gauge

$$g_{\alpha\beta} = e^{2\Omega}\eta_{\alpha\beta}$$

JT action

$$S_{JT} = \int d\sigma^+ d\sigma^- \left(4\phi\partial_+\partial_-\Omega - \Lambda e^{2\Omega}\right)$$

is invariant under

$$\sigma^{\pm} \to \sigma^{\pm} + a^{\pm} \qquad \phi \to \phi - \frac{\Lambda}{2}(a^+\sigma^- + a^-\sigma^+)$$

which is the symmetry of the vacuum as well

Dynamical coordinates of JT gravity

$$X^{\pm} = 2 \frac{\partial_{\mp} \phi}{\Lambda} \equiv \sigma^{\pm} + Y^{\pm}$$

Field equations

$$\begin{split} \partial_+ Y^- &= -\frac{T_{++}}{\Lambda} \ , \\ \partial_- Y^+ &= -\frac{T_{--}}{\Lambda} \ , \\ \partial_+ Y^+ &= \partial_- Y^- = \frac{T_{+-}}{\Lambda} \end{split}$$

Matter is unperturbed in  $\sigma$ - coordinates

#### Let's focus on the asymptotic in-region



 $\mathcal{P}_{<}^{\alpha}(p_{i}) \ (\mathcal{P}_{>}^{\alpha}(p_{i}))$  are *operators* which add up momenta of all particles with smaller (larger) rapidities

**Before gravity** 

$$\psi = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dp}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2E}} \left( a_{in}^{\dagger}(p) e^{-ip_{\alpha}\sigma^{\alpha}} + h.c. \right)$$

After gravity

$$A_{in}^{\dagger}(p) = a_{in}^{\dagger}(p)e^{ip_{\alpha}Y^{\alpha}(p)} = a_{in}^{\dagger}(p)e^{-i(p+Y^{-}(p)+p^{-}Y^{+}(p))}$$

$$[A_{in}^{\dagger}(p), A_{in}^{\dagger}(p')] = 0$$

Dressed in-states

$$|\{p_i\}, in\rangle_{dressed} = \prod_{i=1}^{n_{in}} A_{in}^{\dagger}(p_i)|0\rangle = e^{-\frac{i}{2\Lambda}\sum_{i< j} p_i * p_j} |\{p_i\}, in\rangle$$

Dressed *out*-states

$$\{q_i\}, out\rangle_{dressed} = \prod_{i=1}^{n_{out}} A_{out}^{\dagger}(q_i)|0\rangle = e^{\frac{i}{2\Lambda}\sum_{i< j} q_i * q_j}|\{q_i\}, out\rangle$$

Dressed S-matrix

$$\hat{S} \equiv dressed \langle out, \{q_i\} | \{p_i\}, in \rangle_{dressed} = e^{-\frac{i}{2\Lambda} \sum_{i < j} p_i * p_j}$$

Q.E.D.

The same result can be obtained by taking the flat space limit of the Schwarzian dressing. However, it needs to be modified to reproduce the correct (and unitary) *S*-matrix,

$$S_b = \frac{\Lambda L^2}{2} \left( e^{\frac{\boldsymbol{R} - \boldsymbol{R}_0}{\boldsymbol{L}}} + e^{-\frac{\boldsymbol{R} - \boldsymbol{R}_0}{\boldsymbol{L}}} S_{Sch} \right)$$

*R* is an overall *dynamical* total length of the boundary. This action appears non-local (cf Euclidean wormholes?). However, it becomes local in the static gauge,

$$S_b = \Lambda L^2 \oint du \left( \cosh \frac{r - R_0}{L} - \frac{1}{2} e^{\frac{R_0 - r}{L}} r'^2 \right)$$

#### A link to QCD strings

*SD, Gorbenko, 1511.01908 SD, Hernandez-Chifflet, 1611.09796* 

An integrable theory of a single massless boson with

$$e^{i2\delta(s)} = e^{is/4\ell^2}$$

is invariant under 3D Poincare group and provides a promising zeroth order approximation for confining strings in 3D Yang-Mills. A 4D generalization exists as well.

JT gravity have good chances to provide a useful analogue of the Polyakov formalism for these non-critical strings.

$$S_{3D} = \int \sqrt{-g} \left( \phi R + 2\ell_s^{-2} - \frac{1}{2} (\partial X)^2 \right)$$

### **Future Directions**

- Calculate JT partition function
- In very similar setups people discussed black holes, wormholes, baby universes and other beasts. It is not clear at the moment whether it is a matter of interpretation, small modifications are needed or drastically different setup is needed.
- Relation to QCD strings gives us a number of solid well posed questions and experimental data. Lattice simulations of large N gluodynamics provide a nonperturbative definition of a non-integrable gravitational theory!