# CAUCHY SLICE HOLOGRAPHY IN A CLOSED UNIVERSE

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Based on: 2204.00591 (w/ Rifath Khan and Aron Wall) 2212.03219

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# OUTLINE

- **1** QUANTUM COSMOLOGY
- 2 The Deformation
- **3** Some Comments
- 4 PATH INTEGRAL CONTOUR

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**5** Concluding Remarks

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- 2 The Deformation
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## CANONICAL QUANTIZATION

Diffeomorphism invariance  $\implies$  constraints:

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 $\mathcal{H}(x)\Psi[g] = 0$  invariance under time diffeo  $\mathcal{D}^{a}(x)\Psi[g] = 0$  invariance under spatial diffeo

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Algebra of constraints closes on physical space:

$$[\mathcal{H}(x),\mathcal{H}(y)] = i\mathcal{D}^{\mathsf{a}}(x)\partial_{\mathsf{a}}^{(x)}\delta(x-y) - (x\leftrightarrow y)$$

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 $\Psi$  lives on a closed spatial slice  $\Sigma$ .

## NO-BOUNDARY PROPOSAL

HH, Vilenkin, etc  $\longrightarrow$  gravitational path integral

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How do we see the contour problem appear holographically?

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## QUESTIONS

Is there a holographic description of canonical quantization?

Can we recover known solutions in quantum cosmology?

How do we see the contour problem appear holographically?

What are some of the implications of such a definition of quantum gravity?

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#### BASIC IDEA



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Weyl "invariance" is recovered in the large volume limit.

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The Deformation

### BASIC IDEA



Weyl "invariance" is recovered in the large volume limit. From now on  $\Sigma$  will be closed.

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## Two Field Theory Branches

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$$\Psi[g] = A_{+}Z_{+}[g] + A_{-}Z_{-}[g] =: Z[g]$$

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are CFT partition functions deformed by a  $T^2$ -deformation. ( $\mu$  is the deformation scale)

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are CFT partition functions deformed by a  $T^2$ -deformation. ( $\mu$  is the deformation scale) They both live on the SAME spatial slice! The one on which the state  $\Psi$  is defined.

## Quantum Gravity = RG Flow

We are used to thinking of QG as being dual to a CFT.

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The Deformation

# Quantum Gravity = RG Flow

We are used to thinking of QG as being dual to a CFT. But instead we should think of it as:

Key message

QG is dual to an RG flow line!



#### DEFORMATION OPERATOR

Given a constraint system  $(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{D}^a)$ , the RG flow line is uniquely fixed:

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 $O_{\pm}(\lambda)$  is quadratic in the stress-tensor ( $T^2$  operator)  $\implies$  irrelevant.

So recover CFT behaviour in the IR limit  $\iff$  large volume limit of quantum gravity.

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### BOUNDARY INFORMATION



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# UNIQUE QG STATE

#### HOLOGRAPHIC CONJECTURE

Given a dual field theory Z[g], there is a UNIQUE quantum gravity state on a closed slice.

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Given a dual field theory Z[g], there is a UNIQUE quantum gravity state on a closed slice.

If we want to include matter, we should just turn on more sources on the field theory:

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If we want to include matter, we should just turn on more sources on the field theory:

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But there is still only one state satisfying the full Hamiltonian constraint.

# UNIQUE QG STATE

Weyl factor corresponds to a timelike direction in the  $\infty\mathchar`-dimensional configuration space.$ 

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 mean?

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 mean?

Should it not be the case that there is a single holographic dual to a given quantum gravity theory?
# Spontaneous CPT Breaking

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#### PHASE TRANSITION

$$Z_{\mathsf{UV}}[g] \longrightarrow e^{i arphi} Z_+[g] + e^{-i arphi} Z_-[g]$$
 in the IR limit

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# Spontaneous CPT Breaking

#### Bulk picture suggests this is exactly what happens:



related by time reversal

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#### TRANSITION AMPLITUDE

The gravitational path integral gives a transition amplitude between two "metric eigenstates":

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$$\langle g_1 | g_2 
angle_{\mathsf{dyn}} := \sum_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\{\mathbf{g} \in \mathcal{C}: |\mathbf{g}|_{\Sigma_1} = g_1, \mathbf{g}|_{\Sigma_2} = g_2\}/\sim} \mathcal{D}[\mathbf{g}] | e^{+iI[\mathbf{g}]}$$

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where we sum over a class of geometries: C.

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Different  $C \implies$  different QG theory!

How is this encoded in Z[g]?

#### NO-BOUNDARY STATE

The no-boundary state is of the form:

$$\Psi[g] = \langle g | \mathsf{b.c.} 
angle_{\mathsf{dyn}}$$

for a boundary condition  $|{\rm b.c.}\rangle=|\emptyset\rangle,$  representing a spatial slice of zero volume.

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Thus it should use the same class  $\mathcal{C}$  we used to define the QG theory we are working with.

CAUCHY SLICE HOLOGRAPHY IN A CLOSED UNIVERSE

Path Integral Contour

#### NO-BOUNDARY STATE - MINISUPERSPACE

 $\mathcal{C} = \mathsf{lapse \ contour}$ 



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PATH INTEGRAL CONTOUR

# CONTOUR - SUPERPOSITION CORRESPONDENCE

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## CONTOUR - SUPERPOSITION CORRESPONDENCE

Minisuperspace identifications:

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{C}_{1} \leftrightarrow \Psi_{\text{HH}} &= \frac{Z_{+} + Z_{-}}{2} \\ \mathcal{C}_{2} \leftrightarrow \Psi_{\overline{\text{HH}}} &= \frac{Z_{+} - Z_{-}}{2i} \\ \mathcal{C}_{3} \leftrightarrow \Psi_{\text{HH}} - \Psi_{\overline{\text{HH}}} &= \frac{1+i}{2}Z_{+} + \frac{1-i}{2}Z_{-} \end{split}$$

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The class of histories C is in correspondence with the superposition of branches  $Z_{\pm}$ .

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This is in agreement with a given dual partition function, Z[g], providing a definition of a given QG theory.

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- Branch superposition fixes lapse contour in the bulk.
- Branching can be understood as coming from the spontaneous breaking of CPT of the UV field theory.
- Holography suggests unique state of the Universe.

# Some Questions

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- how do we write a holographic description for a subregion of the Universe? (like the one accessible to an observer...)

#### Thank you for listening!
## Pure Gravity in 2+1 dimensions

We take  $\Sigma \cong S^2$ .



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$$O_{\pm}(\lambda) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Sigma} \left\{ -\frac{c_{\pm}}{24\pi} \sqrt{g}R + \frac{24\pi}{c_{\pm}} \lambda \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}} : \left( \Pi_{ab} \Pi^{ab} - \Pi^2 \right) : \right\}$$
$$CT_{\pm}[g] = \frac{c_{\pm}}{12\pi\mu} \int_{\Sigma} \sqrt{g}$$

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where  $\Pi^{ab} = -i \frac{\delta}{\delta g_{ab}}$ .

# Toy Model

Take only one d.o.f.:  $g_{ab} = a^2 \Omega_{ab} = q \Omega_{ab}$ .

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Take two particular superpositions:

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## FAMILIAR SOLUTIONS



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