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Entropy functions for supersymmetric AdS Black Holes

We consider supersymmetric $AdS_3 \times Y_7$ solutions of type IIB and

 $AdS_2 \times Y_9$ solutions of D=11 supergravity. These can arise as the

near horizon limit of black strings in AdS_5 and and black holes in AdS_4 spacetimes, respectively.

We explain how novel extremisation techniques enable one to compute physical observables

without explicitly solving Einstein equations. This allows one to identify infinite new classes of AdS_3/d=2 SCFT pairs, as well obtain a microstate counting interpretation for infinite classes of supersymmetric black holes in AdS_4.

A sub-class of examples correspond to branes wrapping certain two-dimensional orbifolds known as spindles and this

has opened up a new direction in AdS/CFT with novel connections to accelerating black holes.

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