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Symmetric Orbifolds, thermal universality and stringy von Neumann algebras

Monday 3 February 2025 10:15 (1 hour)

Symmetric orbifolds are 2d CFTs with universal properties in the large N limit, mimicking many desired properties of holographic CFTs. In particular, the thermal partition function is universal and agrees with that of 3D gravity. I will present some new results for the universality of symmetric orbifolds: the thermal correlation functions at large N agree with those on the BTZ background. Along the way, I will also discuss other results for correlation functions in heavy states which, even though they never dominate the canonical ensemble, still display universality. I will then interpret these results in terms of von Neumann algebras, in a context where the bulk dual is known to be a tensionless string in AdS_3 .

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