

Title: Complexity and Holographic Fluctuations

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Abstract: 

I discuss, from a quantum information perspective, recent proposals of Maldacena, Ryu, Takayanagi, van Raamsdonk, Swingle, and Susskind that spacetime is an emergent property of the quantum entanglement of an associated boundary quantum system. I review the idea that the informational principle of minimal complexity determines a dual holographic bulk spacetime from a minimal quantum circuit  $U$  preparing a given boundary state from a trivial reference state. I describe how this idea may be extended to determine the relationship between the *fluctuations* of the bulk holographic geometry and the fluctuations of the boundary low-energy subspace. In this way we obtain, for every quantum system, an Einstein-like equation of motion for what might be interpreted as a bulk gravity theory dual to the boundary system. If time permits I will comment on the link to Brownian quantum circuits and tensor networks.



# Bulk Fluctuations from Minimal Complexity

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Based on: arXiv:1605.07768 [W. C, T. J. Osborne] & work in progress with Hrant Gharibyan

## Maximizing the usefulness of the principle of minimal complexity



- The main motivation of this work is to discuss, from a QI perspective, recent proposals that spacetime is an *emergent* property of quantum entanglement.
- A proposal has been put forward to determine a dual holographic bulk spacetime from the informational principle of minimal complexity (PMC).
- The main ingredient of this proposal is a minimal quantum circuit  $U$  preparing a given boundary state from a trivial reference state.
- The powerfulness of (PMC) allows to determine the relationship between the *fluctuations* of the bulk geometry and the fluctuations of the boundary low-energy subspace.
- For every quantum system, one obtains an Einstein-like equation of motion for what might be interpreted a bulk gravity theory dual to the boundary system.

## Discussed Proposals



- Found in recent works and talks of Raamsdonk, Swingle, Susskind, Brown, Roberts, Stanford..
- Core idea explored: the pattern of entanglement of a (boundary) state  $|\psi\rangle$  of a collection of d.o.f (qubits) determines the bulk holographic spacetime via (PMC).
- A precise approach to associating a bulk geometry, *as a topological space*, with a quantum system comprised of a discrete collection of d.o.f.
- Introducing an action, building on the (PMC), to model fluctuations of the bulk holographic spacetime.



## Outline

- ☞ **1** Prerequisite Material and Preliminary Machinery
  
- 2** Bulk Topology and Geometry from Geodesics in  $SU(\mathcal{H})$ 
  - Bulk Holographic Geometry from Thermal Correlations
  - Bulk Holographic Geometry from Causal Sets
  
- 3** Bulk Fluctuations from (PMC) and Action
  - Structure of Bulk Fluctuations
  - Links to Brownian Bridges
  
- 4** Boundary Perturbations and Jacobi Fields
  - Examples
  - Application
  
- 5** Conclusion and Outlook

## Prerequisite Material and Preliminary Machinery

- Consider two different systems, namely the *bulk*  $\mathcal{M}$  and the *boundary*  $\partial\mathcal{M}$ .
- The boundary system (BS)  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  is taken to be a quantum system comprised of  $n$  distinguishable subsystems. Ex:

$$n \text{ qubits}, \quad \mathcal{H} = \otimes_{j=1}^n \mathbb{C}^2, \quad (1)$$

$$\text{qudits/H.O.}, \quad \mathcal{H} = \otimes_{j=1}^n L^2(\mathbb{R}) \quad (2)$$

- The bulk system is a “*classical system*”, taken to be a topological space

$$(X, \mathcal{T}), \quad X \cong \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \times \mathbb{R}^+. \quad (3)$$

- The point set  $X$  corresponds to a partially discretized *holographic spacetime* with discrete boundary “spatial” coordinates and holographic direction  $r \in \mathbb{R}^+$ .
- The (BS) captures *all* of the *relevant* low-energy d.o.f of some *boundary Hamiltonian*  $H \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ .
- Example: if  $H \geq 0$  is *gapped* with unique ground state then there is *one* relevant low-energy d.o.f., namely  $|\Omega\rangle$ , hence  $\mathcal{H} \cong \mathbb{C}$ .
- $H$  are taken to be *local* w.r.t some finite simple graph  $G \equiv (V, E)$  :

$$V = \text{vertex set}, \quad E = \text{edge set} \quad (4)$$

representing respectively the  $n$  subsystems and interactions:

$$H = \sum_{j \sim k} h_{j,k} \quad (5)$$

## Prerequisite Material and Preliminary Machinery

- States of the boundary  $\mathcal{H}$  may be specified in terms of a trivial reference basis: the *computational basis*.
- For our quantum spin system this is just the product basis

$$|x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n\rangle, \quad x_j \in \{0, 1\}, \quad j = 1, 2, \cdots, n. \quad (6)$$

- The boundary Hamiltonian determines a second basis via the unitary  $U$  diagonalizing  $H$ , i.e.,

$$U^\dagger H U = D, \quad D \text{ diagonal}, \quad U \in SU(\mathcal{H}) \cong SU(2^n). \quad (7)$$

- Even if  $H$  is rather simple, e.g.,  $G$  is a line graph, that  $U$  can be extremely difficult to determine in general ([Osborne, 2012](#), [Aharonov et al., 2013](#)).
- The unitary  $U$  diagonalizing  $H$  is central: Its entangling structure determines an associated dual holographic bulk spacetime  $\mathcal{M}$ .
- This is done by studying the [quantum information complexity](#) of  $U$  counting the number of nontrivial quantum gates required to synthesis  $U$ .
- A powerful method to precisely capture the complexity of unitary  $U \in SU(\mathcal{H})$  was introduced by [Nielsen](#) and coauthors.

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## Geometric Complexity à la Nielsen

- For certain specific metrics on the tangent space at  $U$

$$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_U : T_U SU(\mathcal{H}) \times T_U SU(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad (8)$$

the *geodesic length*  $C(U) \equiv d(I, U)$  as an appropriate measure, where

$$d(I, U) \equiv \inf_{\gamma} \int \sqrt{\langle K(r), K(r) \rangle} dr, \quad (9)$$

- Via integration of Schrödinger eq. one has

$$\partial_r \gamma(r) = -iK(r)\gamma(r), \quad \text{that } \gamma(0) = I, \quad \gamma(R) = U, \quad R \in \mathbb{R}^+. \quad (10)$$

- All the metrics are taken to be right-invariant:  $T_I SU(\mathcal{H}) \sim T_U SU(\mathcal{H})$ , i.e.,  $iK \rightarrow -iKU$  where  $-iK \in \mathfrak{su}(\mathcal{H})$ .
- One particular family of metrics plays a key role, namely

$$\langle A, B \rangle_p \equiv \frac{1}{\dim(2^n)} \text{tr} \left( D_p^{\otimes n}(A^\dagger) D_p^{\otimes n}(B) \right). \quad (11)$$

where

$$D_p(X) = (1-p)\text{tr}(X)\frac{I}{2} + pX, \quad \text{with } p \in \mathbb{R}^+. \quad (12)$$

- For  $p = 1$  this reduces to  $\langle A, B \rangle \equiv \frac{1}{\dim(\mathcal{H})} \text{tr}(A^\dagger B)$ .

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## Euler-Arnol'd Equation

- As  $p \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $d(I, U)$  admits the pleasing operational interpretation as the minimal number of quantum gates required to (approximately) implement  $U$  as a QC.
- The vector field  $-iK(r)$  associated with the geodesic flow  $\gamma(r)$  satisfies the *Euler-Arnol'd equation*

$$-\frac{dK(r)}{dr} = B_p(-K(r), -iK(r)), \quad (13)$$

where  $B_p(\cdot, \cdot)$  determined by  $\langle [X, Y], Z \rangle_p \equiv \langle B(Z, Y), X \rangle_p, \forall X, Y, Z \in \mathfrak{su}(\mathcal{H})$ .

- Special case:  $p = 1$  and when  $U$  is sufficiently close to  $I$ , i.e.,  $I$  and  $U$  are not *conjugate points* of  $SU(\mathcal{H})$ , then

$$\gamma(r) \equiv e^{-iKr}, \quad (14)$$

where  $K \equiv i \log(U) = \text{const.}$ .

- **Nielsen's complexity measure**: a central tool to determine holographic space  $\mathcal{M}$  from a *state*  $|\psi\rangle$  of  $\partial\mathcal{M}$ .
- The idea/recipe:

- (i) Take as input  $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ .
- (ii) Find the unitary  $U$  of **minimal complexity**  $C(U)$  which prepares  $|\psi\rangle$  from the trivial initial state  $|00 \dots 0\rangle$ , i.e.,

$$U|00 \dots 0\rangle = |\psi\rangle. \quad (15)$$

- (iii) Now, assuming that the infimum may be *achieved* by the geodesic  $\gamma(r)$  with  $-iK(r)$ :

$$U \equiv \mathcal{T} e^{-i \int_0^R K(r) dr}, \quad (16)$$



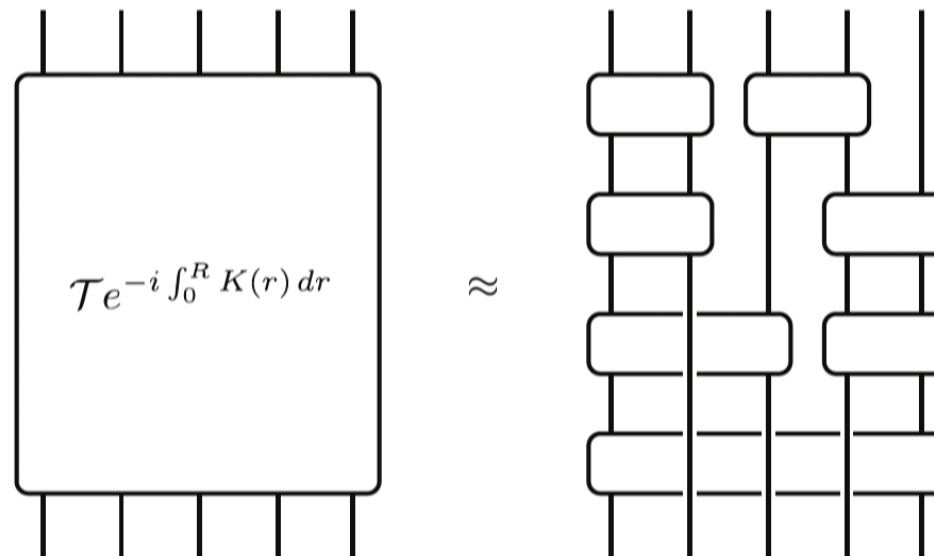
## Quantum Circuit $V \approx U$

This may be approximated by discretization: find a *quantum circuit*

⚡

$$V \equiv V_T V_{T-1} \cdots V_1, \quad V_j, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, T, \quad (17)$$

are 1 or 2-qubit *quantum gates* such that  $V \approx U$ :



# Bulk Topology and Geometry from Geodesics in $SU(\mathcal{H})$

⌘

- Let  $\gamma$  be a path connecting  $I$  to  $U$  in  $SU(\mathcal{H})$

$$\gamma \equiv \mathcal{T}e^{-i \int_0^R K(r) dr}, \quad K(r) \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \quad (19)$$

- How can one interpret the matrix  $K(r)$ ?

- The matrix  $K(r)$  may be regarded as a time-dependent Hamiltonian acting on  $\partial\mathcal{M}$  :

$$K(r) = \sum_{I \subset \{1, 2, \dots, n\}} k_I(r), \quad (20)$$

- $k_I(r)$  is an operator acting nontrivially only on subsystems in the subset  $I$ .
  - For the considered metrics, all possible subsets  $I$  can appear, and there are exponentially many interaction terms.
  - $K(r)$  is generically a strongly interacting quantum spin system.
- Goal: associate a topological space to  $K(r)$  for each *instantaneous holographic time slice*  $r \in [0, R]$ .
  - How to do this?

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## Many Operationally Meaningful Ways



- It depends on the physical questions one asks!
- Approach I
  - To interpret  $K(r)$  as a *free-particle Hamiltonian* for some possibly very complicated configuration space  $\mathcal{X}$ .
  - Building  $\mathcal{X}$  by matching the dispersion relation of the localized excitations of  $K(r)$  to that of free-particle Hamiltonian on  $\mathcal{X}$ .
- Approach II
  - To study the response of high temperature states  $\rho_\beta(r)$ , with  $\beta$  small to localized perturbations  $A$  and  $B$  at different sites:
  - At zero inverse temperature  $\beta = 0$  all perturbations on different sites will be completely uncorrelated.
  - However, when  $\beta$  is small there are residual correlations between **nearby** sites allowing us to say when two sites are **close**.
  - While somewhat indirect, this approach has the considerable upside that it immediately leads to a positive-definite metric.

## Many Operationally Meaningful Ways



### ■ Approach III

- Studying the propagation of a localized perturbation  $A$  at some site  $j$  according to the Schrödinger time evolution determined by  $K(\tau)$ .
- And *assuming* a **Lieb-Robinson** type bound on the dynamics of  $K(\tau)$

$$\| [A(\tau), B] \| \leq C e^{v|\tau| - d(j,k)} \|A\| \|B\|. \quad (21)$$

- Such a bound can be used to infer a *pseudo-Riemannian* type structure via a *causality relation* on the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\} \times \mathbb{R}^+$ .
- Such a relation can, in turn, be quantified in terms of a *causal set* leading to an embedding in a Lorentz manifold.

### ■ Another approach...

- Approaches II and III maybe regarded as a Wick-rotated "Euclidean approach" and "Lorentzian approach", respectively to the problem of building bulk holographic spacetimes.

## Bulk Holographic Geometry from Thermal Correlations



- A quantum system of  $n$  quantum spins  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  with Hamiltonian  $K(r)$  is brought into thermal equilibrium at  $\beta$ .
- The state of the system is described by the Gibbs ensemble

$$\rho_\beta = \frac{e^{-\beta K(r)}}{\text{tr}(e^{-\beta K(r)})} \quad (22)$$

- Consider the effect of a small perturbation  $A \in \mathfrak{su}(\mathcal{H})$  localized at site  $j$  and  $B$  at site  $k$ .
- The resulting system state is

$$\rho_\beta(r) + \epsilon X \approx \frac{e^{-\beta K(r) + i\epsilon A}}{\text{tr}(e^{-\beta K(r)})}, \quad \rho_\beta(r) + \epsilon Y \approx \frac{e^{-\beta K(r) + i\epsilon B}}{\text{tr}(e^{-\beta K(r)})}. \quad (23)$$

- How *distinguishable* is the perturbed state  $\rho_\beta(r) + \epsilon X$  from the state  $\rho_\beta(r) + \epsilon Y$ ?
- $A$  at site  $j$  is *close*, or *adjacent*, to  $B$  local to site  $k$  if the states  $\rho_\beta(r) + \epsilon X$  and  $\rho_\beta(r) + \epsilon Y$  are *not completely distinguishable*.

## Bulk Holographic Geometry from Thermal Correlations

- Does this notion correspond to a topological/geometrical conception of closeness?
- Near the infinite-temperature fixed point  $\rho \propto I$ , all the correlations are disordered by thermal fluctuations.
- The effects of a local perturbation are delocalized only in a small surrounding region determined by the high-temperature correlation length depending on  $\beta$ .
- If  $\rho_\beta(r) + \epsilon X$  and  $\rho_\beta(r) + \epsilon Y$  are independent fluctuations (uncorrelated),  $A$  is far from  $B$ .
- This region, in turn, determines the desired adjacency for the site  $j$  and  $k$ , which supplies us with a metric quantity.
- Distinguishability, as measured by the relative entropy  $S(\cdot||\cdot)$ , of  $\rho_\beta(r) + \epsilon X$  and  $\rho_\beta(r) + \epsilon Y$  is quantified to  $O(\epsilon)$  by

$$\langle A, B \rangle_{\rho_\beta(r)} \equiv -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} F(x, y)|_{x=y=0}, \quad (24)$$

$$F(x, y) = -\frac{1}{\beta} \log \left( \text{tr} \left( e^{-\beta K(r) + ixA + iyB} \right) \right) \quad (25)$$

is the *free energy* ( [Bény & Osborne, 2015](#)).

- This idea has also been exploited in various incarnations ([Ryu & Takayanagi 2012](#); [Qi 2013](#)).



## Bulk Holographic Geometry from Thermal Correlations

- Rather fortuitously, the  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\rho_{\beta}(r)}$  is a positive definite *inner product* on the space of local operators.
- Additionally, it is equal to the following two-point thermal correlation function

$$\langle A, B \rangle_{\rho_{\beta}(r)} \equiv \frac{1}{\beta} \int_0^{\beta} \text{tr} \left( \rho_{\beta}(r) e^{uK(r)} B e^{-uK(r)} A \right) du. \quad (26)$$

It will determine an adjacency relation between the sites.

- When  $\beta$  is infinitesimal the two-point thermal correlation function is given

$$\langle A, B \rangle_{\rho_{\beta}(r)} \approx \frac{1}{2^n} \text{tr}(AB) - \frac{\beta}{2^{n+1}} \text{tr} (A\{K(r), B\}) + O(\beta^2). \quad (27)$$

- However, the high-temperature two-point correlation functions are exponentially decaying for  $\beta$  small (Hastings 2006; Kliesch et al. 2014):

$$|\langle A, B \rangle_{\rho_{\beta}(r)}| \lesssim e^{\frac{-d(j,k)}{\xi(\beta)}} \|A\| \|B\|, \quad (28)$$

- Generically, the high temperature correlation length tends to zero like  $\xi(\beta) \propto \beta$  as  $\beta \rightarrow 0$ .



## Bulk Holographic Geometry from Thermal Correlations

- Thus, if  $\langle A, B \rangle_{\rho_{\beta}(r)}$  is nonzero for  $\beta$  infinitesimal when  $j \neq k$  this means that  $d(j, k)$  must be arbitrarily small, i.e.,  $j$  and  $k$  are *adjacent*.
- Our task is thus to extract a distance measure or metric,  $d(j, k)$  from  $\langle A, B \rangle_{\rho_{\beta}(r)}$ .
- How to do this?
  - One direct way is simply to take a log

$$d(j, k) \stackrel{!}{\equiv} \sup_{A, B} -\beta \log \frac{|\langle A, B \rangle_{\rho_{\beta}(r)}|}{\|A\| \|B\|}, \quad j \neq k, \quad (29)$$

being similar to (Qi 2013).

- It is not clear if  $d(j, k)$  so defined satisfies the triangle inequality

$$d(j, l) \leq d(j, k) + d(k, l). \quad (30)$$

- A way around this is use  $d(j, k)$  *only* to define an *adjacency relation* between pair of spins  $(j, k)$ .
- Then use the adjacency relation to build a metric. What does this mean?
- First set up the [adjacency matrix](#)

$$A_{j, k} = \sup_{A, B} -\beta \log \frac{|\langle A, B \rangle_{\rho_{\beta}(r)}|}{\|A\| \|B\|}, \quad j \neq k. \quad (31)$$

# Bulk Holographic Geometry from Thermal Correlations

- $A_{j,k}$  defines a weighted graph structure  $G(V, E)$  on the vertex set

$$V = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}. \quad (32)$$

- For any pair of points  $j$  and  $k$  in  $G$ , the distance between  $j$  and  $k$  is defined as the length of the shortest path

$$p = (e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m), \quad \text{and } e_l = (x_l, y_l) \quad (33)$$

are edges, between  $j$  and  $k$ .

- This is guaranteed to obey the triangle inequality. Thus the metric is defined as

$$d(j, k) = \inf \left\{ \sum_{x,y \in p} A_{(x,y)} \mid p \text{ is a path from } j \text{ to } k \right\} \quad (34)$$

- This is difficult to compute in general.

## ■ Computable approximation

- If the term

$$\text{tr}(A\{K(r), B\}) \lesssim e^{-\frac{1}{\beta}}, \quad (35)$$

for all  $A$  and  $B$  in  $\langle A, B \rangle_{\rho_\beta(r)}$  expanded to first order, then  $j$  and  $k$  are not adjacent.

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# Bulk Holographic Geometry from Thermal Correlations

## ■ Computable approximation

- if, however, there are local operators  $A$  at  $j$  and  $B$  at  $k$  such that for  $\beta$  infinitesimal

$$\langle A, B \rangle_{\rho_{\beta}(r)} \gg e^{-\frac{1}{\beta}}, \quad (36)$$

then  $j$  and  $k$  are adjacent.

- Restriction to hamiltonians  $K(r)$  comprised of only one- and two-particle interaction terms  $k_{j,k}(r)$  (case when  $p \rightarrow \infty$ ).
- Then to the first order in  $\beta$  this is equivalent to asking if there are traceless  $A$  at  $j$  and  $B$  at  $k$  such that

$$\text{tr}(A\{K(r), B\}) \neq 0, \quad (37)$$

namely,  $j$  is adjacent to  $k$  if the two-particle interaction term  $k_{j,k}(r)$  in  $K(r)$  is nonzero.

- Physically this is equivalent to:  $j$  and  $k$  are adjacent if at time  $r$  an (infinitesimal) quantum gate was applied coupling  $j$  and  $k$ .
- When  $K$  is comprised of three-particle or higher interactions, one needs to go to higher orders in  $\beta$  to determine the adjacency.
- Taking the product of the metric topology determined by  $d(\cdot, \cdot)$  for each  $r$  provides the desired bulk topological space  $\mathcal{M}$ .

# Bulk Holographic Geometry from Thermal Correlations

## ■ Computable approximation

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namely,  $j$  is adjacent to  $k$  if the two-particle interaction term  $k_{j,k}(r)$  in  $K(r)$  is nonzero.

- Physically this is equivalent to:  $j$  and  $k$  are adjacent if at time  $r$  an (infinitesimal) quantum gate was applied coupling  $j$  and  $k$ .
- When  $K$  is comprised of three-particle or higher interactions, one needs to go to higher orders in  $\beta$  to determine the adjacency.
- Taking the product of the metric topology determined by  $d(\cdot, \cdot)$  for each  $r$  provides the desired bulk topological space  $\mathcal{M}$ .

## Bulk Holographic Geometry from Causal Sets



- The metric topology space does not capture an important aspect of quantum circuits comprised of local gates, namely, their *causal structure*.
- In every quantum circuit there is a kind of “light cone” of information propagation.
- A qubit  $j$  is said to be in the *past* of qubit  $k$  if there is a sequence of quantum gates in the circuit connecting  $j$  to  $k$ .
- Because the geodesics  $\gamma$  in  $SU(\mathcal{H})$  obtained via (PMC) are generated by essentially local gates we should actually rather associate some kind of discretized *pseudo-Riemannian* manifold to the bulk holographic spacetime.
- In other words, it is rather more natural to think of  $\mathcal{M}$  as a de Sitter-type (Bény 2013, Czech et al. 2015).
- One should regard the previous approach as the Wick-rotated Euclidean version of this approach.

## Bulk Fluctuations from (PMC) and Action

- The energy functional determining the geodesic  $\gamma$  is

$$E(\gamma) \equiv \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \langle \dot{\gamma}, \dot{\gamma} \rangle_{\gamma} dt \quad (46)$$

- This quantity is minimised precisely on geodesic  $\gamma$  achieving  $d(I, U)$ .
- A fluctuation

$$\gamma' = \gamma + d\gamma \quad (47)$$

should therefore be a path in  $SU(\mathcal{H})$  having a near-minimal energy.

- Perturbation  $\gamma$  of  $\gamma'$  can also be interpreted as *fluctuations* in the bulk geometry.
- Imagine the paths  $\gamma$  arise from a *quantum system*, It is natural to introduce

$$\mathcal{Z}_B \equiv \int D\gamma e^{-\beta E(\gamma)} \quad (48)$$

to model the fluctuations.

- Fluctuations  $\gamma'$  are determined by the Gibbs distribution.
- $\mathcal{Z}_B$  can be understood as that for a string with target space  $SU(\mathcal{H})$  with fixed endpoints at  $I$  and  $U$ .



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## What is the structure of a fluctuation?



- The energy  $E(\gamma)$  is only sensitive to the presence of *quantum gates* between pairs of spins.
- It is not sensitive to *which* spins  $j$  and  $k$  the gate is applied to.
- The structure of near-minimal fluctuations of a geodesic are equal to  $\gamma(t) \forall t$  except at one instant  $t = t_\omega$ .
- At  $t_\omega$  a unitary gate  $V_{j,k}$  is applied to an arbitrary pair  $(j, k)$  followed immediately by  $V_{j,k}^\dagger$ .
- Such a geodesic corresponds to

*Bulk holographic spacetime = minimal one except with a "wormhole" at  $t_\omega$*

- Such a wormhole immediately *evaporates*.
- The fluctuating bulk geometry determined by  $\mathcal{Z}_B$  is comprised of spacetimes where wormholes are fluctuating in and out of existence between all pairs  $(j, k)$  of points.

## Brownian Motions on $SU(\mathcal{H})$

- The path integral  $\mathcal{Z}_B$  is remarkably simple; it is quadratic in  $-iK(r)$ .
- $D\gamma e^{-\beta E(\gamma)}$  may hence be understood as a Brownian measure on paths in  $SU(\mathcal{H})$  generated by 2-local tangent vectors (Lashkari et al. 2011).
- In the  $p \rightarrow \infty$  limit each path  $\gamma(t)$  solves (SDE)

$$d\gamma(t) \propto i \sum_{j \neq k}^n \sum_{\alpha_k=0}^3 \sigma_j^{\alpha_j} \otimes \sigma_k^{\alpha_k} \gamma(t) dB_{\alpha_j \alpha_k}(t) - \frac{1}{2} \gamma(t) dt. \quad (49)$$

- What makes  $\mathcal{Z}_B$  nontrivial is the constraint that the endpoints of the path are exactly  $I$  and  $U$ , turning  $\mathcal{Z}_B$  into integral over Brownian Bridges (Lévy et al. 2015).
- Bulk fluctuations are interpreted as a very complicated random variable  $g \equiv g(U)$  which depends in a rather nonlinear way on the realization  $U$  of the Brownian bridge.
- **Comment:** The proposal of  $\mathcal{Z}_B$  essentially promotes the CA argument to a definition:  
The action  $E(\gamma)$  is directly related to the complexity  $d(I, U)$  in exactly the same way the energy of a geodesic is related to the geodesic length in Riemannian geometry, i.e., the minima of both quantities coincide.

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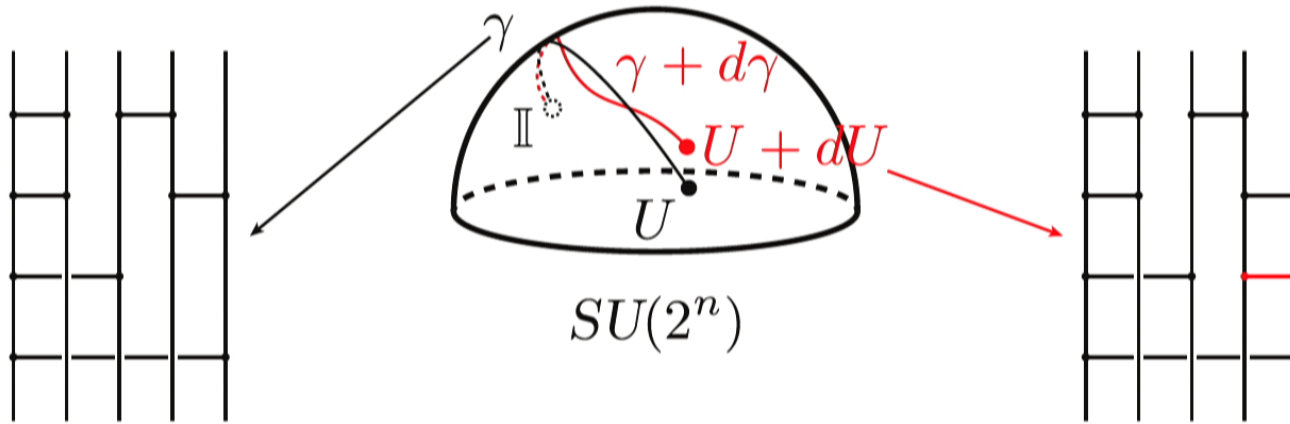
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## Boundary Perturbations and Jacobi Fields

- The (PMC) already determines an EOM constraining the structure of the induced bulk fluctuations.
- This equation could be understood as a kind of generalized Einstein equation.



- Model the perturbation of the unitary  $U$ , i.e., study perturbed unitaries:

$$U' = U + dU \quad (50)$$

- Two natural sources:

(i) Arising from the presence of *local external fields*,  $J$

$$H(s, J) = H + s \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{\alpha=1}^3 J_{\alpha}^j \sigma_j^{\alpha}, \quad (51)$$

## Jacobi Equation

- A shift in  $\gamma(r)$  corresponds to a shift

$$\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M} + d\mathcal{M}, \quad (57)$$

in the holographic space.

- Capturing the structure of the bulk holographic spacetime with a (metric) topology, we observe a shift in the topology  $\mathcal{T}$  on the point set  $X$ .
- The first order shift  $\partial_s \gamma(r, s)$  in  $\gamma(r)$  satisfies the *Jacobi equation*

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_r^2 Y = & B_p(\partial_r Y + [X, Y], X) + B_p(X, \partial_r Y + [X, Y]) - [B_p(X, X), Y] + \\ & + [X, \partial_r Y], \end{aligned} \quad (58)$$

$X \equiv (\partial_r \gamma) \gamma^{-1}$  and  $Y \equiv (\partial_s \gamma) \gamma^{-1}$ .

- The Jacobi equation may be naturally regarded as a kind of “Einstein equation” constraining the dynamics of the bulk geometrical fluctuations.
- The vector field  $Y$  capturing the bulk geometrical fluctuation  $d\mathcal{M}$  is directly a function of the external boundary field  $J_\alpha^j$ .
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## Solvable Examples

- For arbitrary local  $H$ , It is very hard to say anything nontrivial about the structure of  $U(J)$ , and hence  $Y$ .
- Our general conclusions concerning the properties of the fluctuation field  $Y$  are consequently limited.
- Example I: The boundary system is trivial (noninteracting), i.e.,

$$H = \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_j^z. \quad (59)$$

- In this case  $C_p(U) = 0$  for all  $p$ .
- The holographic time direction collapses to a point set.
- The associated holographic geometry is also trivial, corresponding to a set of  $n$  completely disconnected bulk universes.
- The fluctuations are also structureless as all different pairs of sites  $j \neq k$  fluctuate independently.
- This corresponds to spontaneous creation and annihilation of wormholes between all pairs of sites.



## Example II

- Trivial example I and Boundary Fluctuation : a pair  $(j, k)$  of boundary spins is spontaneously entangled

$$H \rightarrow V_{j,k}^\dagger H V_{j,k} \quad (60)$$

- $V_{j,k}$  is a near-identity operation entangling spins  $j$  and  $k$ . For example, take

$$V_{j,k} = e^{-i\epsilon\sigma_j^x\sigma_k^x}. \quad (61)$$

Thus  $H$  fluctuates to

$$H' \equiv H + i\epsilon \left( \sigma_j^y \sigma_k^x + \sigma_j^x \sigma_k^y \right) \quad (62)$$

- By construction the unitary  $U'$  diagonalising  $H'$  is simply

$$U' = V_{j,k} = I - i\epsilon\sigma_j^x\sigma_k^x. \quad (63)$$

- The new geodesic  $\gamma'$  connecting  $I$  to  $U'$

$$\gamma'(r) \equiv e^{-ir\sigma_j^x\sigma_k^x}. \quad (64)$$

- **Causal structure of bulk fluctuations**: sites  $j$  and  $k$  become causally connected while the remaining sites remain causally disconnected.

## Example III



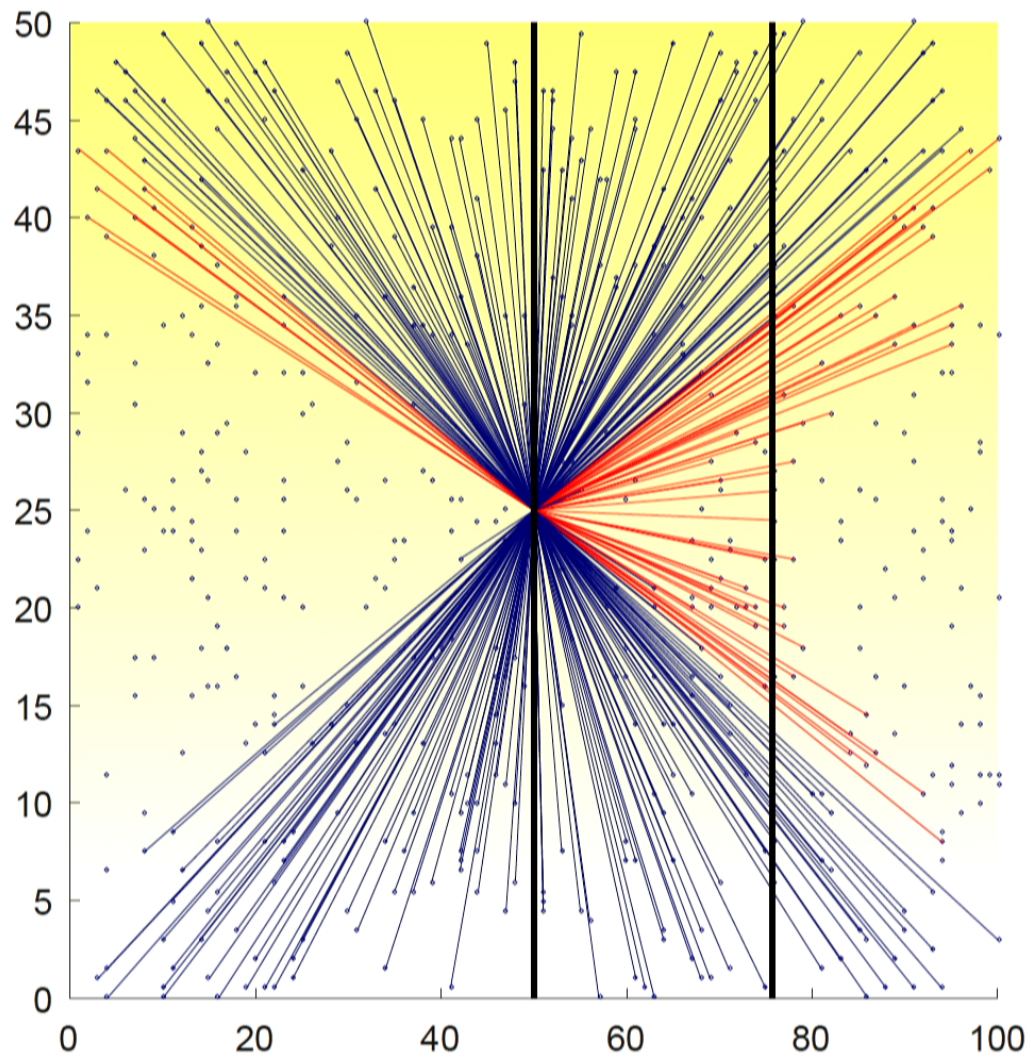
- Consider unitaries of the form:  $U = e^{i\tau L}$  with  $L \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  a local generator.
- Dynamics of *quenched systems*:
  - The hamiltonian of the boundary quantum system is suddenly changed from some initial  $H$  to a new hamiltonian  $L$ .
  - It has been argued that such dynamics are dual to Einstein-Rosen bridges supported by localised shock waves (Roberts, Stanford & Susskind 2015).
  - Solving the Euler-Arnol'd equation, as long as  $I$  and  $U$  are not conjugate points, one finds

$$\gamma(r) \equiv e^{irL}, \quad r \in [0, \tau], \quad \text{and} \quad -iK(r) = L = \text{Const.} \quad (65)$$

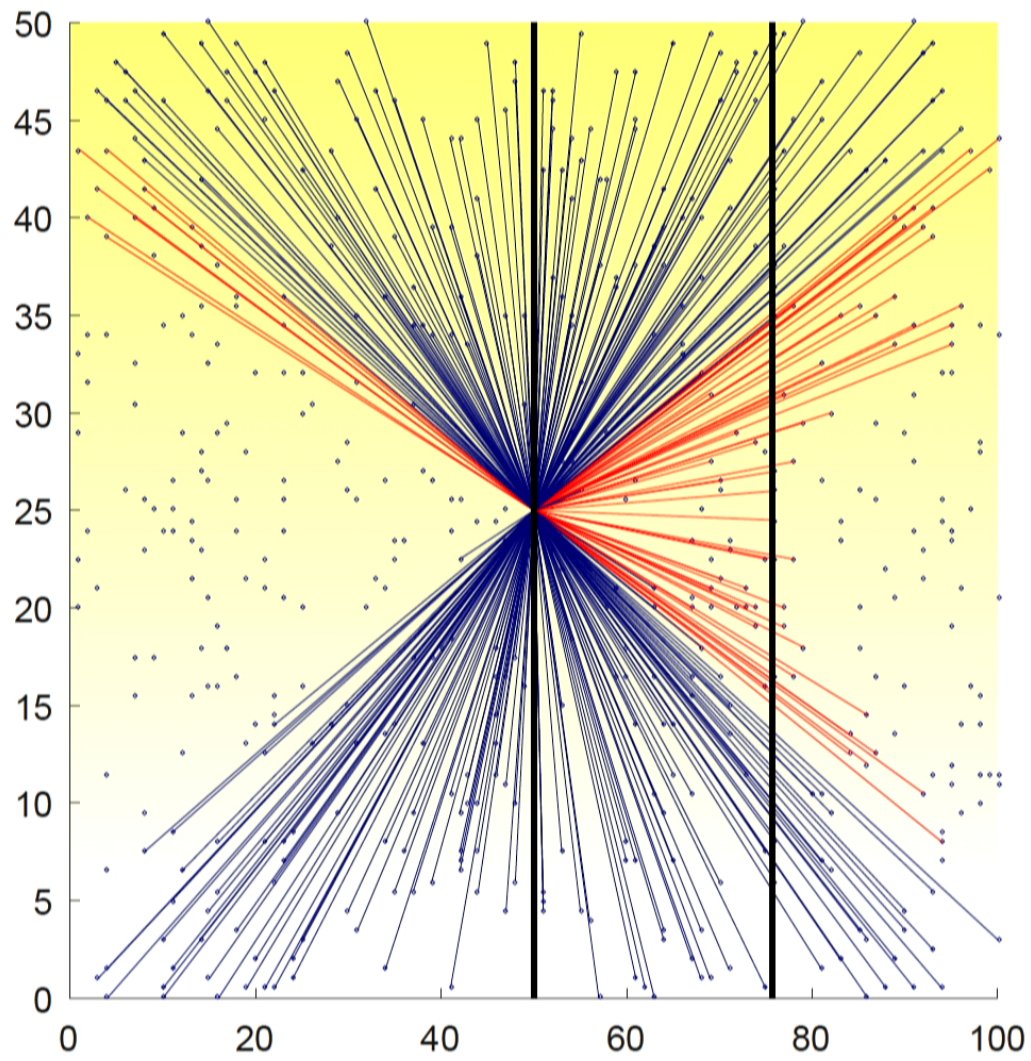
- Consider now a fluctuation of the form  $U' = e^{isM}U$  with  $M$  local to a pair  $(j, k)$  of sites.
- This represents a nonlocal entangled pair of particles fluctuating into existence at sites  $j$  and  $k$  just after the quench.
- One can completely solve the Jacobi equation to yield the (constant) vector field  $Y$ :

$$-iY(r) = \int_0^\infty \frac{I}{U + uI} M \frac{U}{U + uI} du \quad (66)$$

W



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## Conclusion and Outlook

### Outlook:



- The (PMC) is strongly reminiscent of the principle of least action (PLA): indeed, we promoted it per definition to a (PLA) to obtain a model for the bulk holographic spacetime fluctuations.
- It is an intriguing question whether there is a deeper connection between the (PMC) and Kolmogorov complexity (Soklakov, 2002), and similarly, between fluctuations and Solomonoff induction.
- Questions
  - Should we give in to temptation and interpret the partition function as a quantum gravity theory?
  - Does this theory enjoy any kind of diffeomorphism invariance?
  - As it is a theory of strings in ridiculously high-dimensional space ( $SU(\mathcal{H})$ ), can it be related to string theory proper, or is this a mirage?
- It is vitally important to study the continuum limit following (Osborne & Milsted, 2016). The resulting bulk spacetime for CFTs should converge to AdS.
- Tensor networks should emerge as (almost) geodesics. Perfect tensor and random tensor models & EHM of Qi are most natural candidates.
- Looking deeper at more examples including, more general lattice models and models of black holes, shockwaves, and beyond.

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