

Title: Complexity, Holography & Quantum Field Theory

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Abstract: I will describe some recent work studying proposals for computational complexity in holographic theories and in quantum field theories. In particular, I will discuss some interesting properties of the new gravitational observables and of complexity in the boundary theory.



# Complexity, Holography & Quantum Field Theory

with Dean Carmi, Horacio Casini, Shira Chapman, Robert Jefferson, Luis Lehner,  
Hugo Marrochio, Eric Poisson, Pratik Rath, Joan Simon, Rafael Sorkin & Sotaro Sugishita

# Disneyland



## **Complexity:**

- computational complexity: how difficult is it to implement a task? eg, how difficult is it to prepare a particular state?

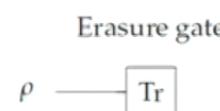
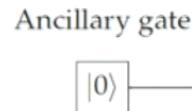
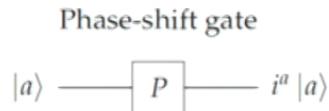
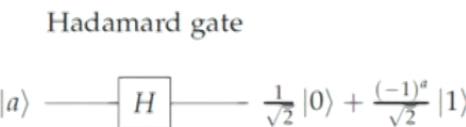
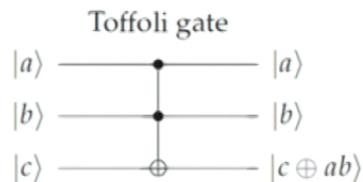
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- quantum circuit model:

$$|\psi\rangle = U |\psi_0\rangle$$

unitary operator  
built from set of  
simple gates

simple reference state  
eg,  $|00000\cdots 0\rangle$



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- **complexity** = minimum number of gates required to prepare the desired target state (ie, need to find optimal circuit)
- does the answer depend on the choices?? **YES!!**

# Disneyland

Holography

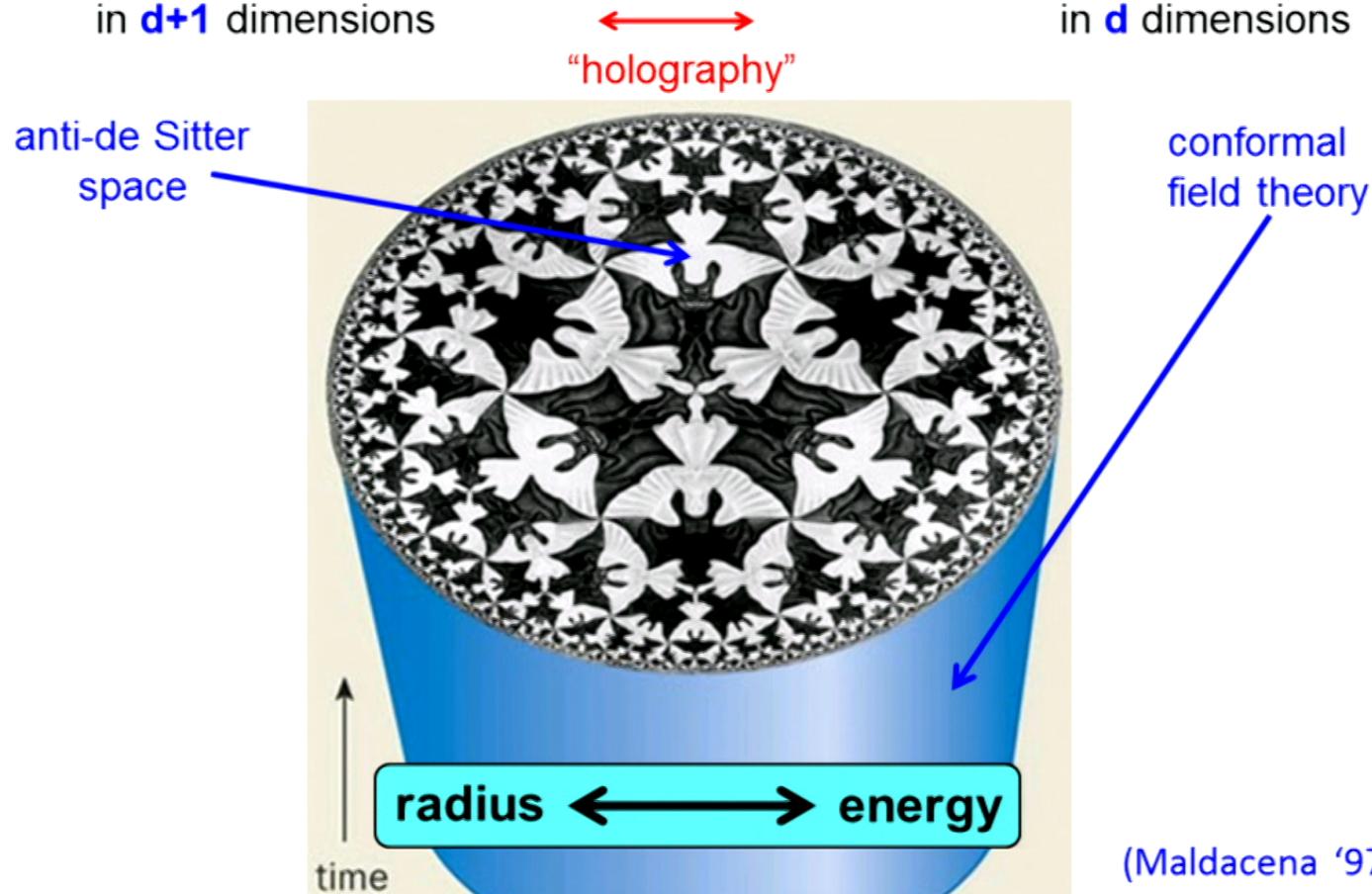
Complexity



## Holography: AdS/CFT correspondence

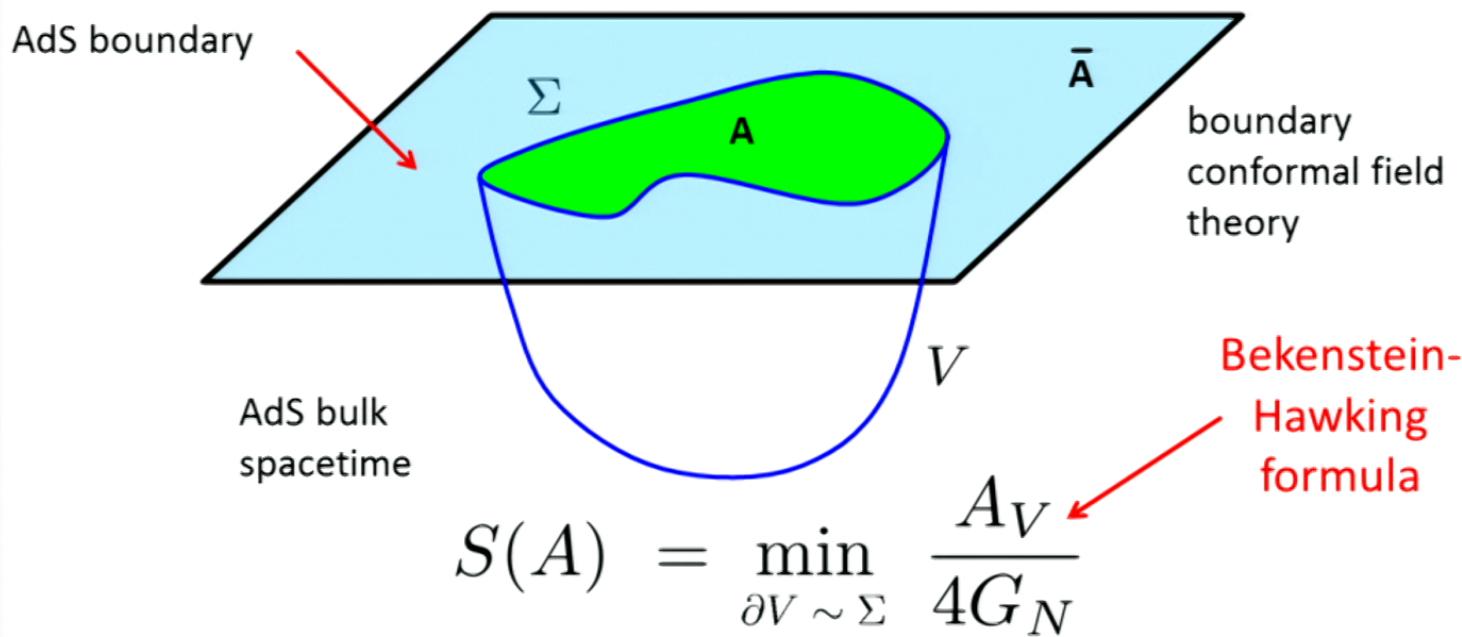
Bulk: gravity with negative  $\Lambda$   
in **d+1** dimensions

Boundary: quantum field theory  
without intrinsic scales  
in **d** dimensions



(Ryu & Takayanagi '06)

## Holographic Entanglement Entropy:

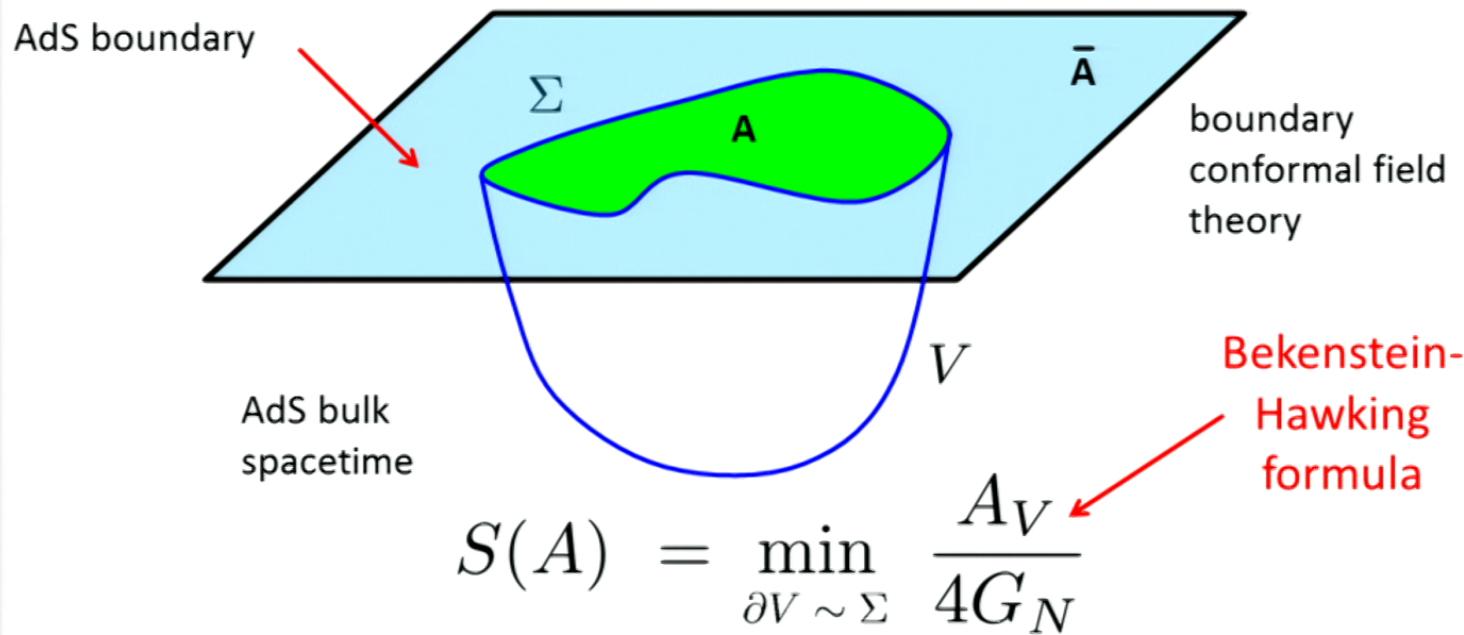


- holographic EE is a fruitful forum for bulk-boundary dialogue:

**Spacetime Geometry = Entanglement**

(Ryu & Takayanagi '06)

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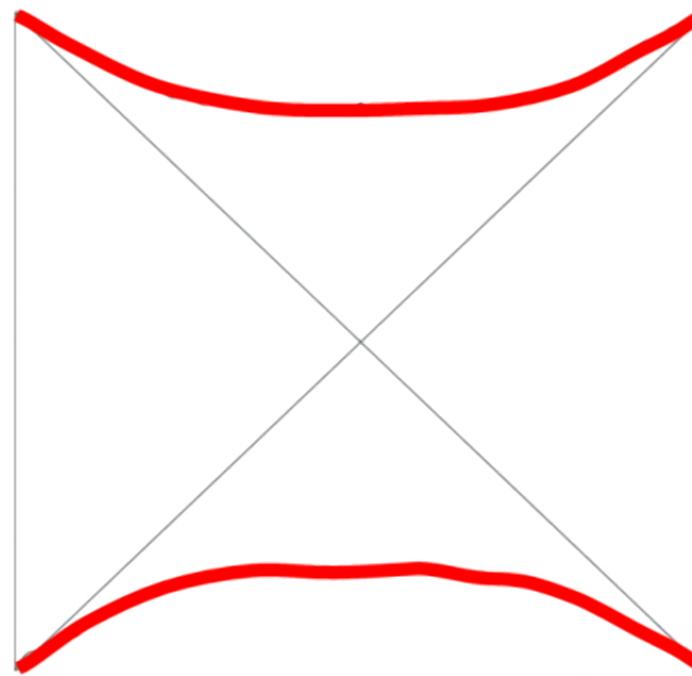


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**Susskind: Entanglement<sup>Entropy</sup> is not enough!**

## *Entropy* Susskind: Entanglement is not enough!

- “to understand the rich geometric structures that exist behind the horizon and which are predicted by general relativity.”



$$ds^2 = - \left( \frac{r^2}{L^2} + 1 - \frac{\mu}{r^{d-2}} \right) dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{\frac{r^2}{L^2} + 1 - \frac{\mu}{r^{d-2}}} + r^2 d\Omega_{d-1}^2$$

## *Entropy* Susskind: Entanglement<sup>is not enough!</sup>

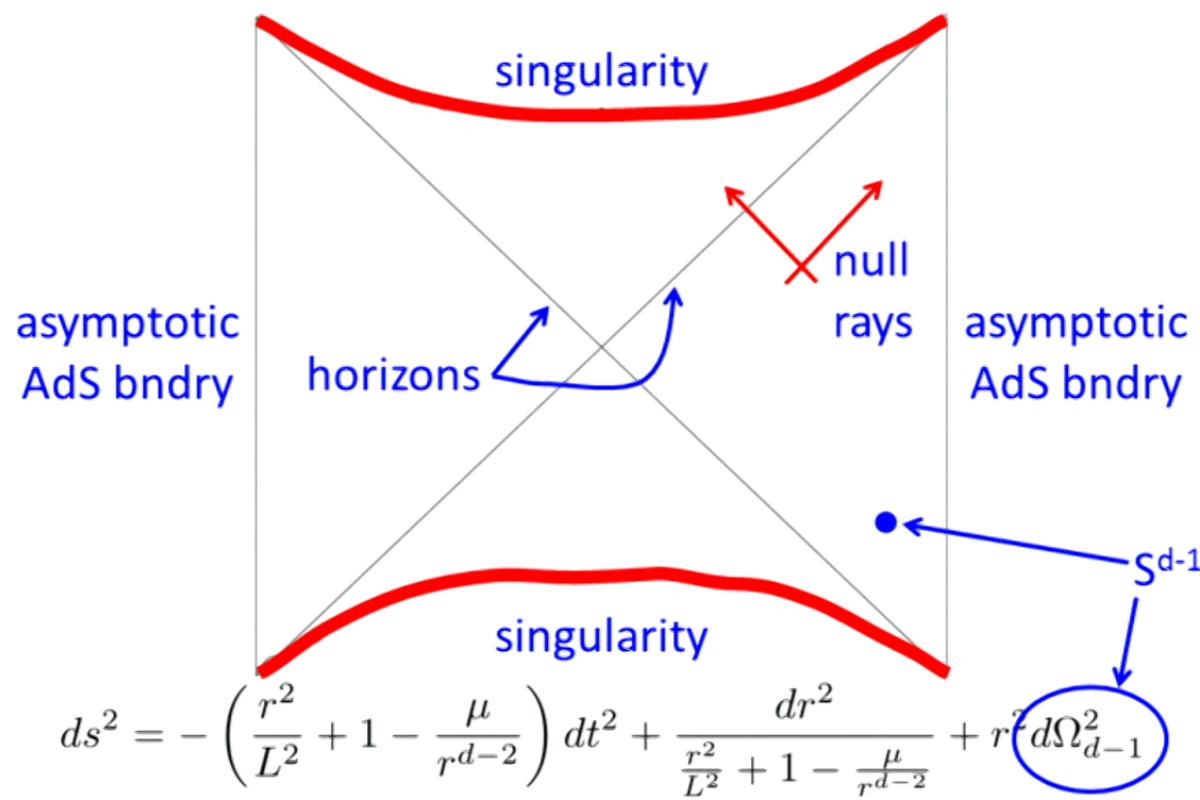
- “to understand the rich geometric structures that exist behind the horizon and which are predicted by general relativity.”



(Interstellar: black holes go to Hollywood)

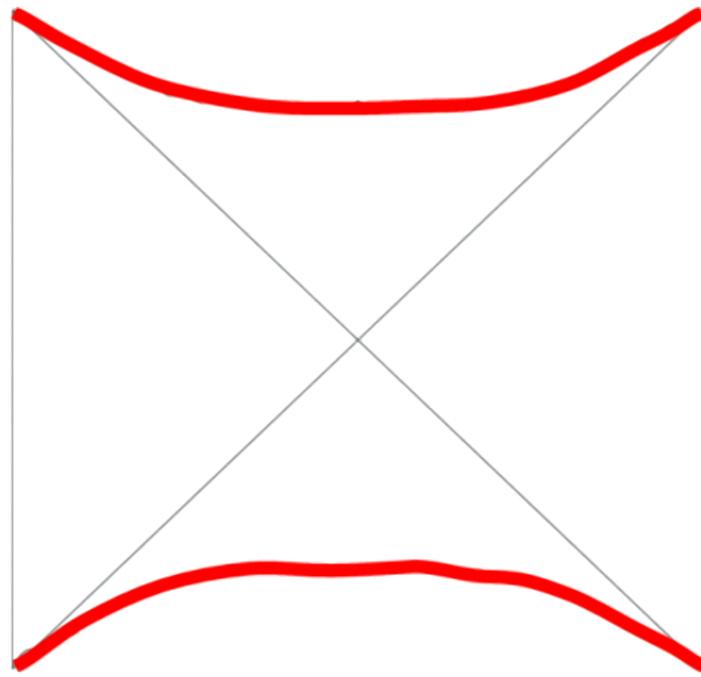
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- pure state:  $S_{EE} = 0$

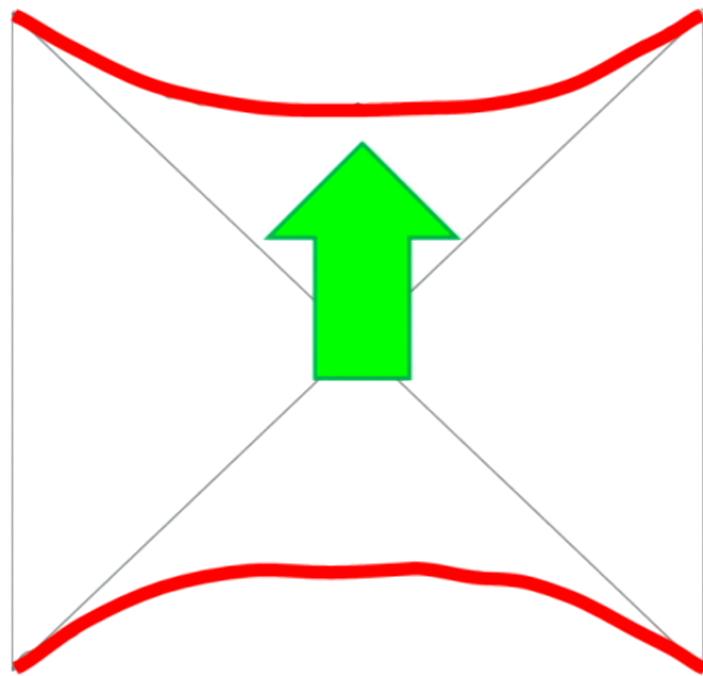
$$\rho_R = \text{Tr}_L |\text{TFD}\rangle \langle \text{TFD}|$$

$$\simeq \sum_{\alpha} e^{-E_{\alpha}/T} |E_{\alpha}\rangle_R \langle E_{\alpha}|_R$$

- mixed state:  $S_{EE} = {}^A_H/4G$

## Susskind: Entanglement <sup>Entropy</sup> is not enough!

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Hawking temperature

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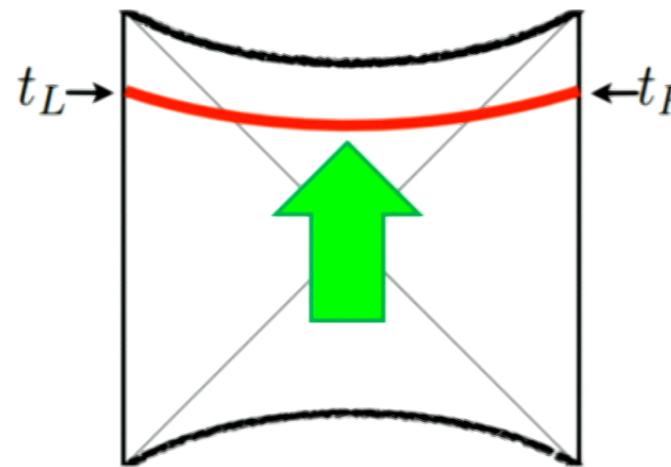
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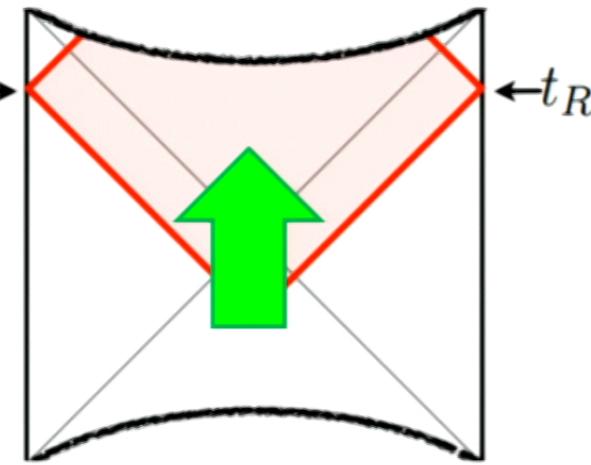
Bekenstein-Hawking entropy

## A Tale of Two Dualities: Holographic Complexity

Complexity = Volume



Complexity = Action



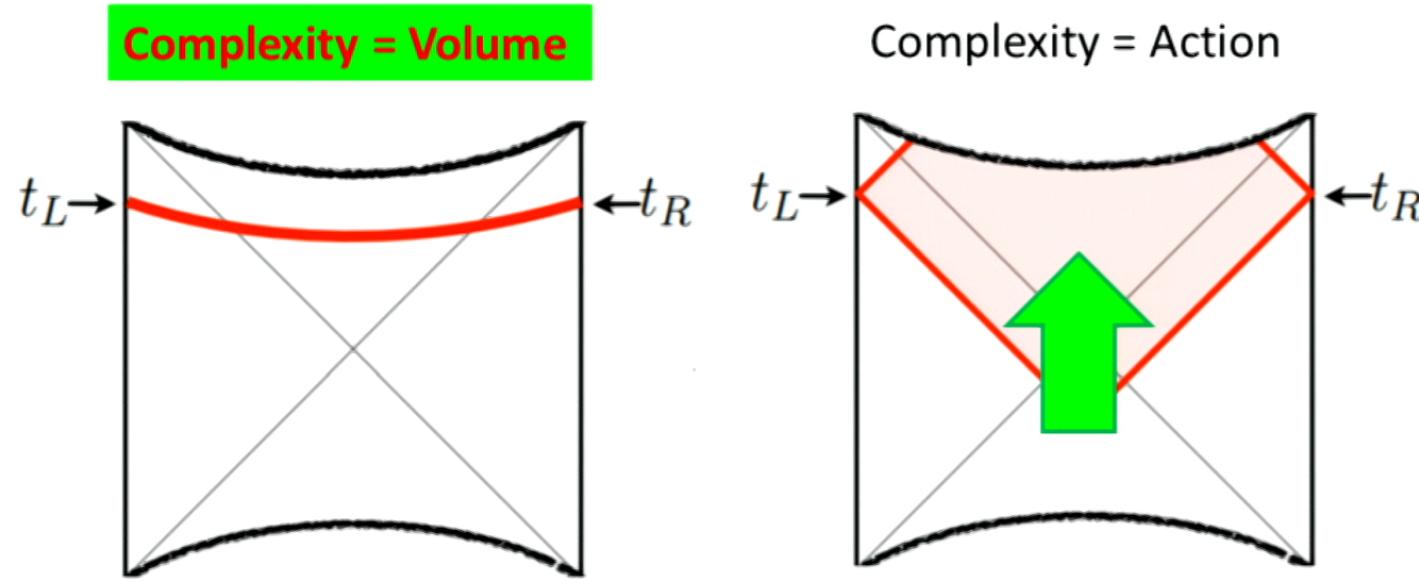
$$\mathcal{C}_V(\Sigma) = \max_{\Sigma=\partial\mathcal{B}} \left[ \frac{\mathcal{V}(\mathcal{B})}{G_N \ell} \right]$$

$$\mathcal{C}_A(\Sigma) = \frac{I_{\text{WDW}}}{\pi \hbar}$$

- both of these gravitational “observables” probe the black hole interior (at arbitrarily late times)

(Brown, Roberts, Swingle, Stanford, **Susskind & Zhao**)

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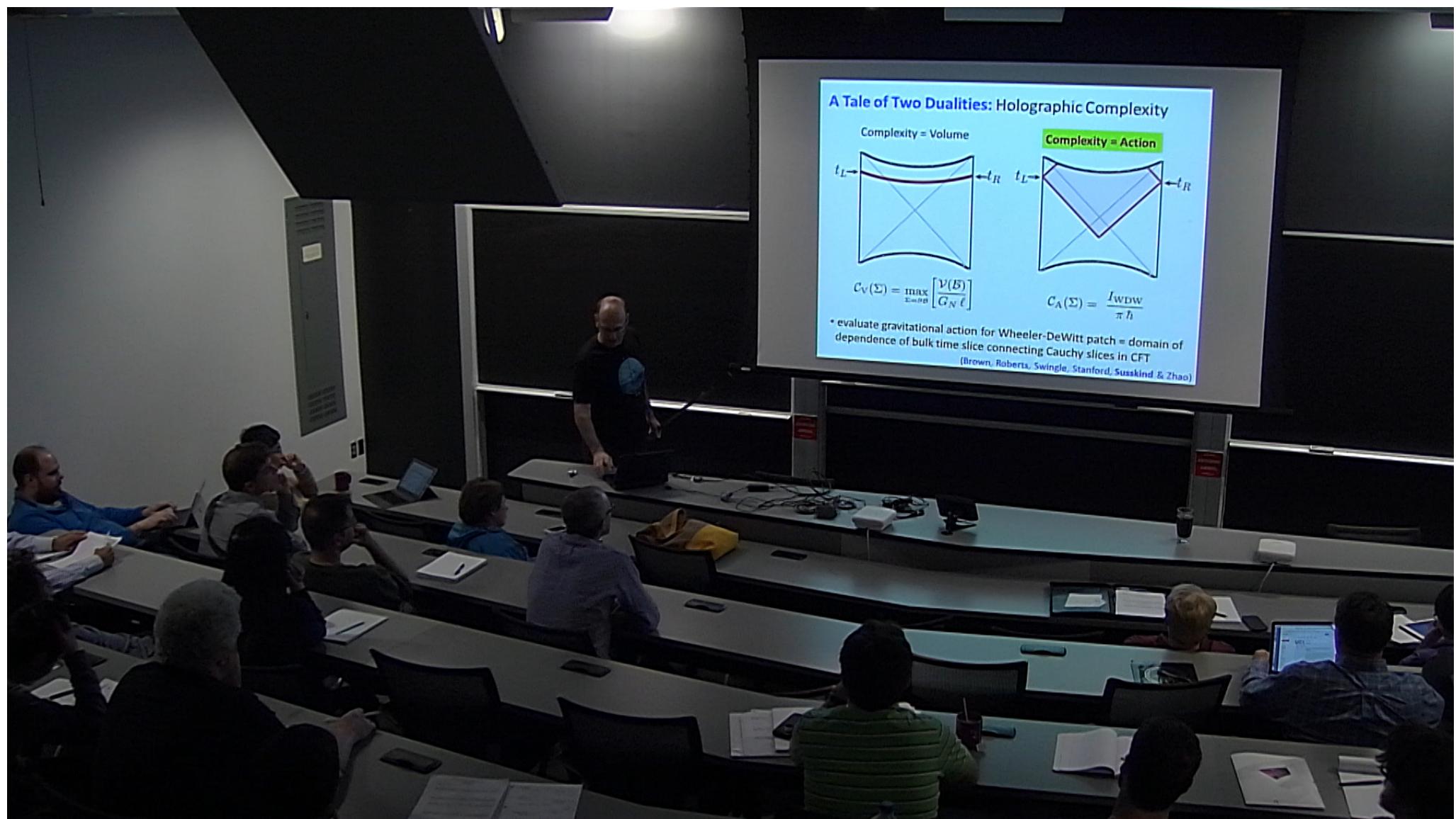


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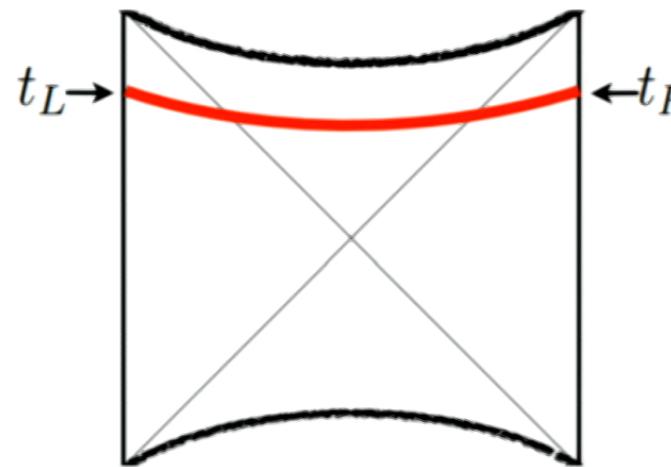
- evaluate proper volume of extremal codimension-one surface connecting Cauchy surfaces in boundary theory

(Brown, Roberts, Swingle, Stanford, **Susskind & Zhao**)

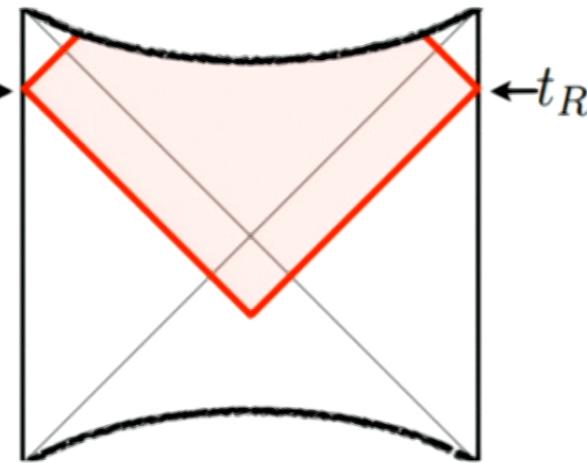


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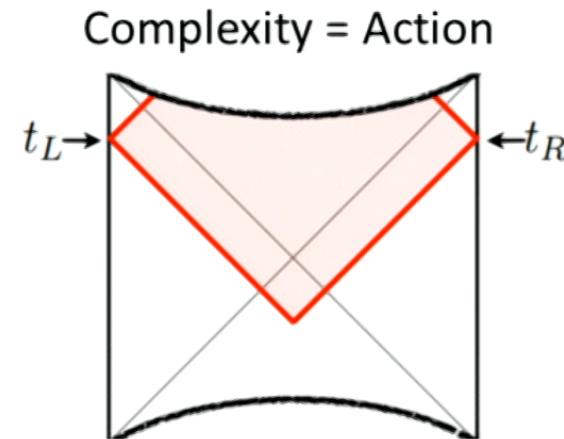
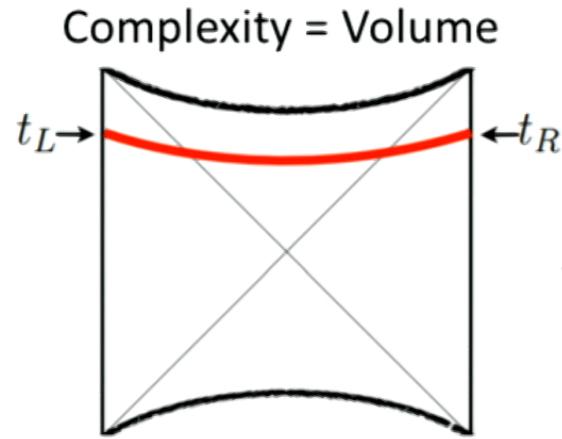


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- evaluate gravitational action for Wheeler-DeWitt patch = domain of dependence of bulk time slice connecting Cauchy slices in CFT  
(Brown, Roberts, Swingle, Stanford, Susskind & Zhao)

## A Tale of Two Dualities: Holographic Complexity



**WHY COMPLEXITY??**

- connection of complexity=volume to AdS/MERA

- linear growth (at late times)

( $d$  = boundary dimension)

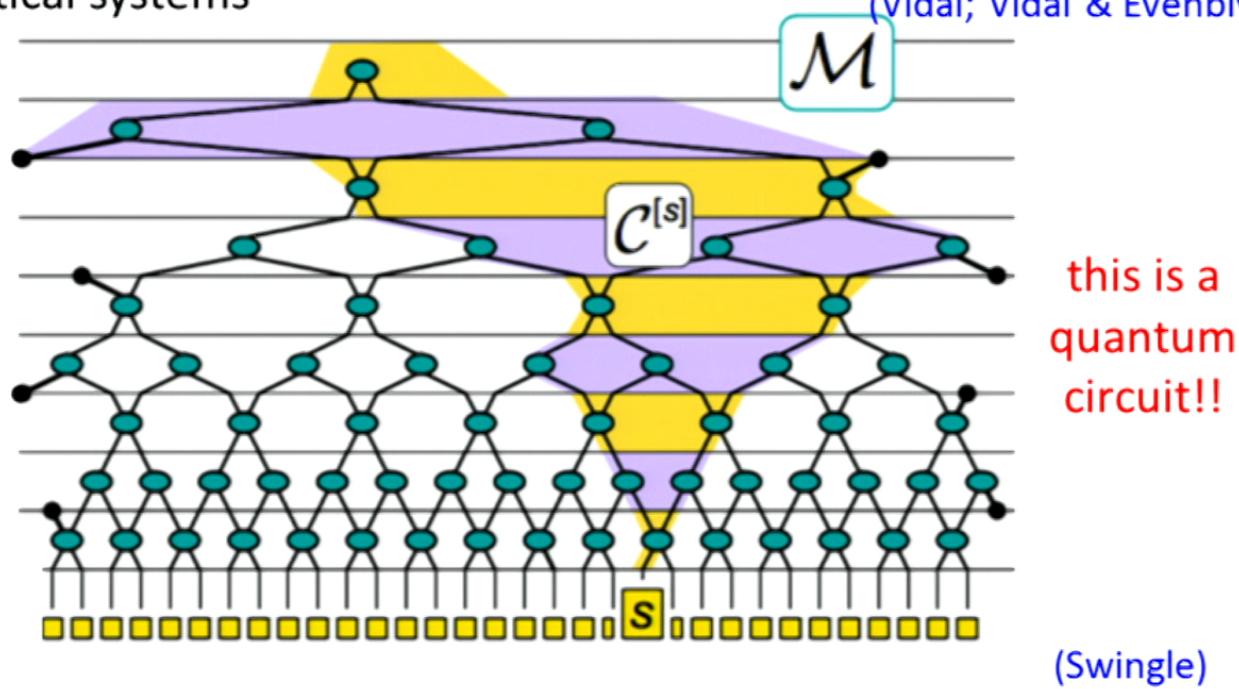
$$\frac{d\mathcal{C}_V}{dt} \Big|_{t \rightarrow \infty} = \frac{8\pi}{d-1} M \quad (\text{planar}) \qquad \frac{d\mathcal{C}_A}{dt} \Big|_{t \rightarrow \infty} = \frac{2M}{\pi}$$

- “switchback” effect (out of time-order correlators)

## AdS/MERA:

- MERA (Multi-scale Entanglement Renormalization Ansatz) provides efficient tensor network representation of ground-state wave-function in d=2 critical systems

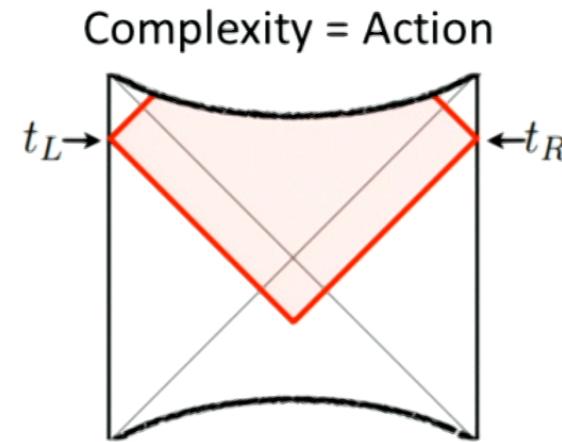
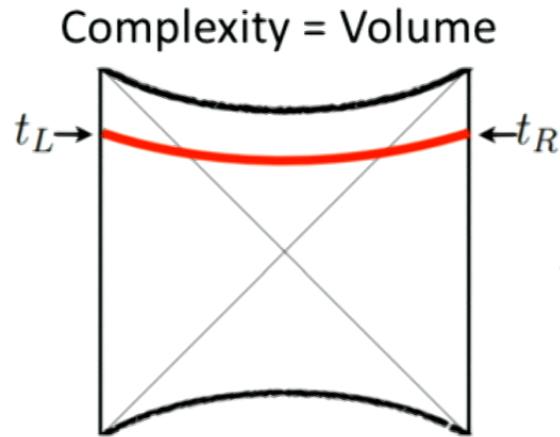
(Vidal; Vidal & Evenbly)



(Swingle)

- has been argued that MERA gives a discrete representation of a time slice in AdS space!

## A Tale of Two Dualities: Holographic Complexity



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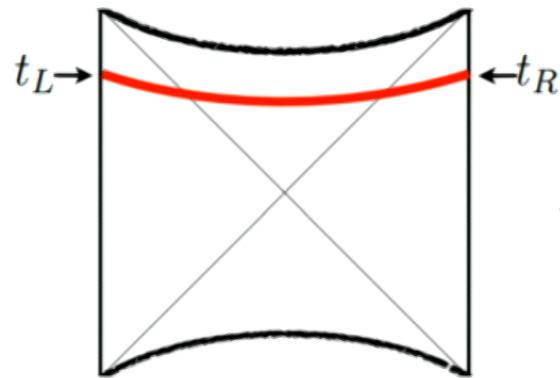
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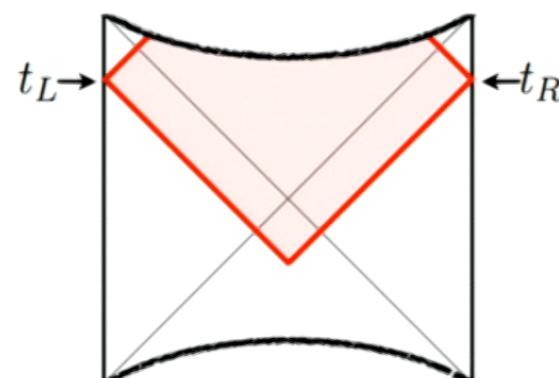
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- new gravitational observables: what are properties/features?
- linear growth (at late times)

( $d$  = boundary dimension)

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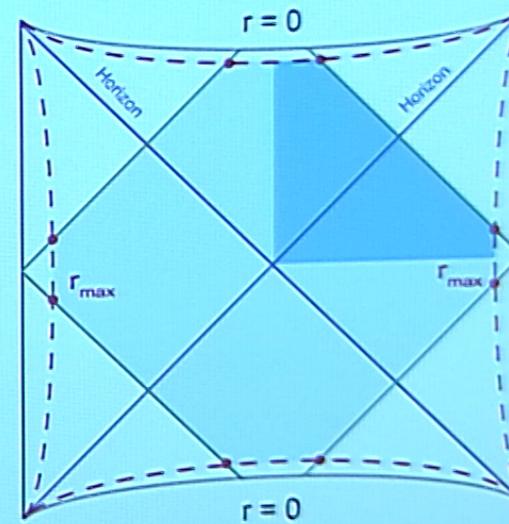
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## Complexity of Formation:

$$|\text{TFD}\rangle = Z^{-1/2} \sum_{\alpha} e^{-E_{\alpha}/(2T)} |E_{\alpha}\rangle_L |E_{\alpha}\rangle_R$$

- additional complexity involved in forming thermofield double state compared to preparing two copies of vacuum state? (Brown et al)

$$\Delta C = C(|\text{TFD}\rangle) - C(|0\rangle \otimes |0\rangle)$$



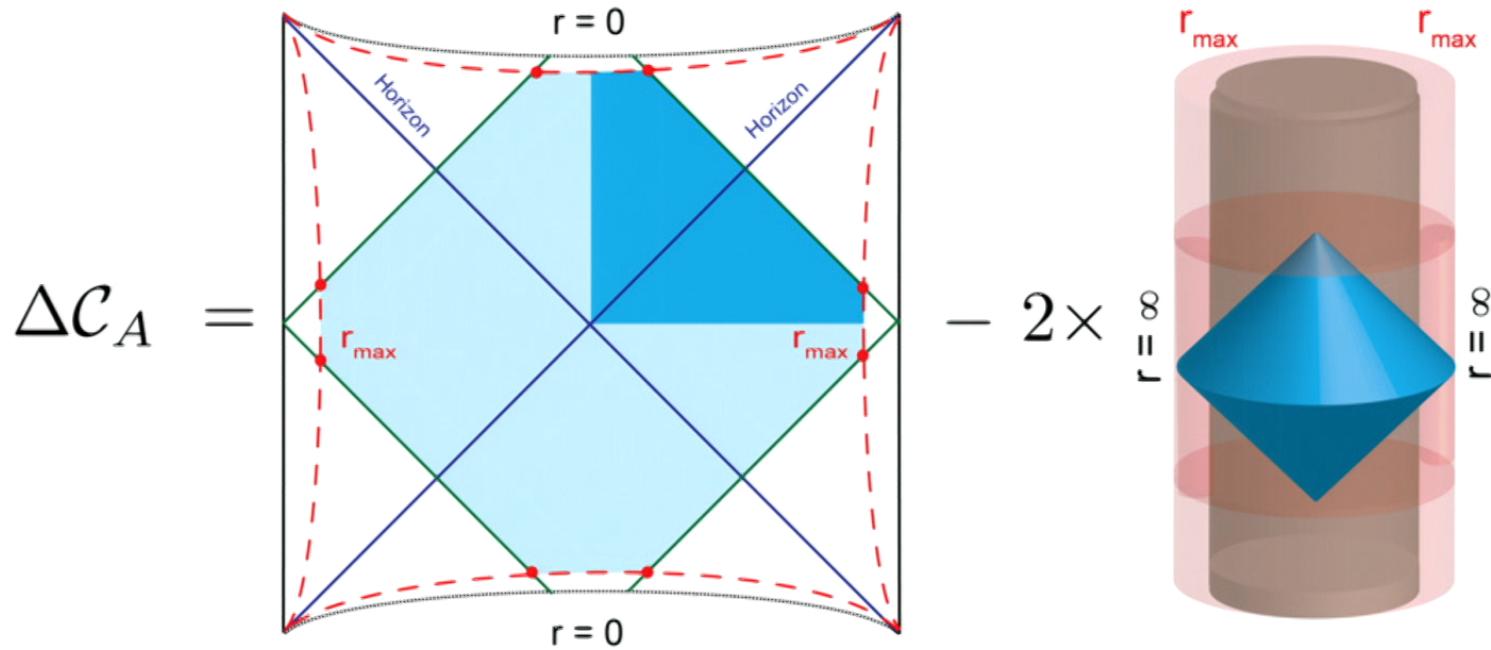
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thermal/ent. entropy      curvature corrections

( $d$  = boundary dimension)

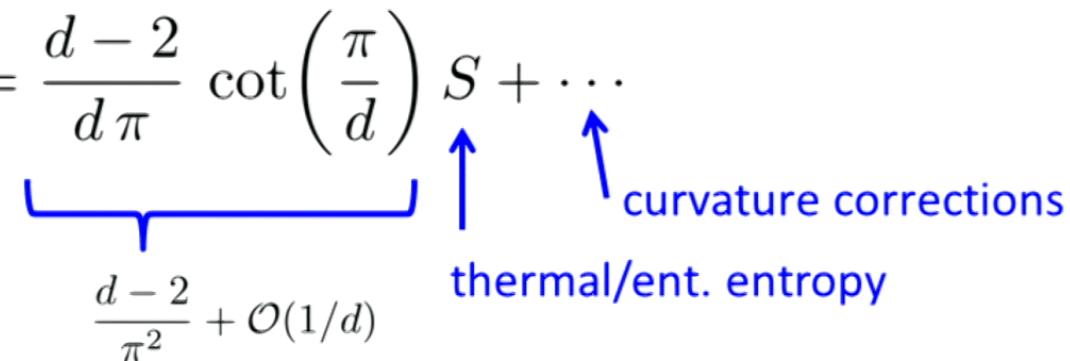
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$$\frac{d-2}{\pi^2} + \mathcal{O}(1/d)$$

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The term  $\frac{d-2}{\pi^2} + \mathcal{O}(1/d)$  is bracketed under the first term, and the term  $S$  is bracketed under the second term. Two blue arrows point from the text labels to their corresponding terms: one arrow points to the bracket under  $\frac{d-2}{\pi^2} + \mathcal{O}(1/d)$  with the label "thermal/ent. entropy", and another arrow points to the bracket under  $S$  with the label "curvature corrections".

$$\frac{d-2}{\pi^2} + \mathcal{O}(1/d) \quad \text{thermal/ent. entropy}$$
$$S \quad \text{curvature corrections}$$

$$\Delta\mathcal{C}_V = 4\sqrt{\pi} \frac{(d-2) \Gamma(1 + \frac{1}{d})}{(d-1) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{d})} S + \dots$$

( $d$  = boundary dimension)

$$4 + \mathcal{O}(1/d)$$

## Compare?

$$R_{\text{form}} = \frac{\Delta \mathcal{C}_A}{\Delta \mathcal{C}_V} = \frac{d-1}{4\pi^{3/2}} \frac{\Gamma(1 - \frac{1}{d})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{d})} \simeq \frac{d}{4\pi^2}$$

$$R_{\text{rate}} = \frac{d\mathcal{C}_A/dt}{d\mathcal{C}_V/dt} = \frac{d-1}{4\pi^2} \simeq \frac{d}{4\pi^2}$$

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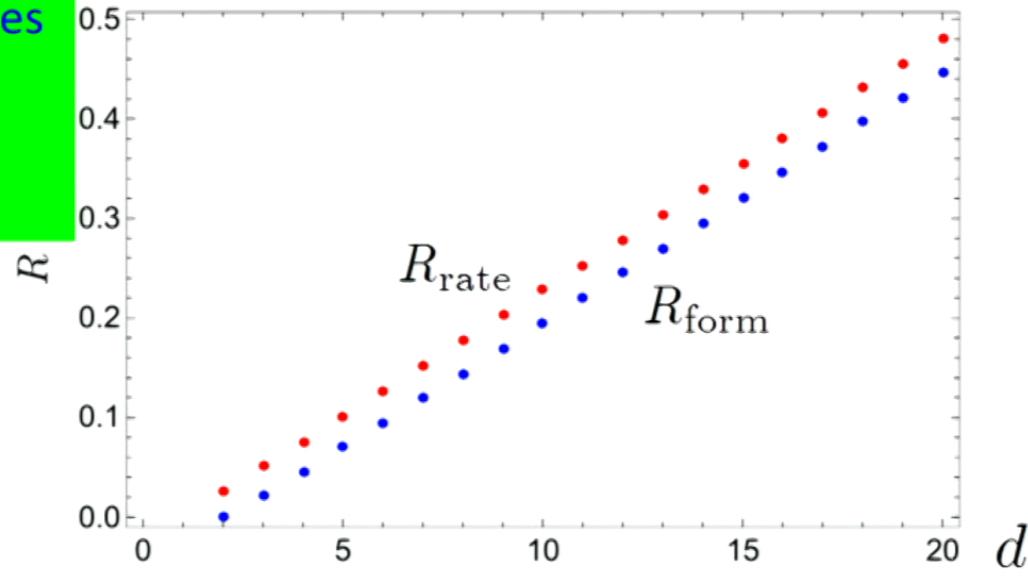
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$$R_{\text{rate}} - R_{\text{form}} = \frac{\log 2}{2\pi^2} + \mathcal{O}(1/d)$$

reinforce consistency  
of C=V and C=A dualities  
up to differences in  
microscopic rules,  
eg, gate set

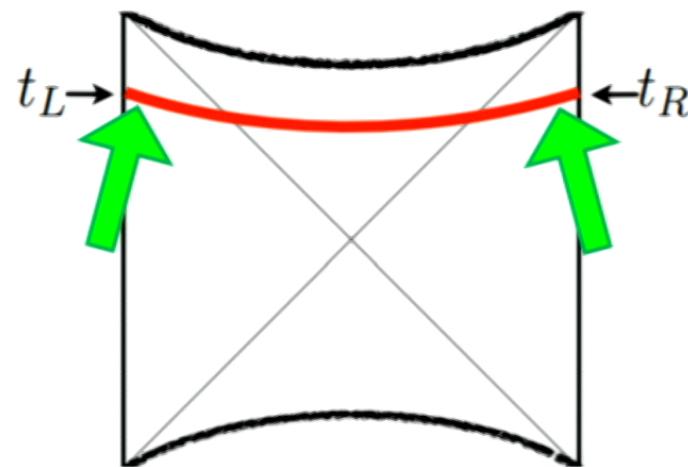
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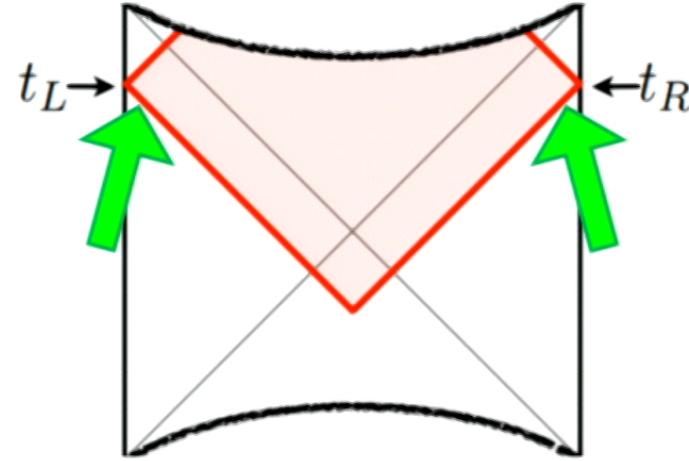
# Holographic Complexity:

Dean Carmi, RCM & Pratik Rath

Complexity = Volume



Complexity = Action



- UV divergences naturally associated with establishing correlations or entanglement down to arbitrarily small length scales
- regulate volume/action with the introduction of UV regulator surface at large radius ( $r_{max} = L^2/\delta$ ), as usual

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$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{C}_V(\Sigma) = & \frac{8\pi^{\frac{d+2}{2}}\Gamma(d/2)}{\Gamma(d+2)} C_T \int_{\Sigma} d^{d-1} \sigma \sqrt{h} \left[ \frac{1}{\delta^{d-1}} \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{(d-1)}{2(d-2)(d-3)\delta^{d-3}} \left( \mathcal{R}_a^a - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{R} - \frac{(d-2)^2}{(d-1)^2} K^2 \right) + \dots \right]\end{aligned}$$

- UV divergences appear as local integrals of geometric invariants (as with holographic entanglement entropy)

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- UV divergences naturally associated with establishing correlations down to arbitrarily small length scales
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$$\mathcal{C}_V(\Sigma) = \frac{1}{\delta^{d-1}} \int_{\Sigma} d^{d-1}\sigma \sqrt{h} v_0(\mathcal{R}, K)$$

$$\mathcal{C}_A(\Sigma) = \frac{1}{\delta^{d-1}} \int_{\Sigma} d^{d-1}\sigma \sqrt{h} \left[ v_1(\mathcal{R}, K) + \underbrace{\log\left(\frac{L}{\alpha\delta}\right)}_{\text{from boundary terms in action}} v_2(\mathcal{R}, K) \right]$$

with

$$v_k(\mathcal{R}, K) = \sum_{n=0}^{\lfloor \frac{d-1}{2} \rfloor} \sum_i c_{i,n}^{[k]}(d) \delta^{2n} [\mathcal{R}, K]_i^{2n}$$

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## Holographic Complexity:

- UV divergences appear as local integrals of geometric invariants (as with holographic entanglement entropy)
- $\alpha = L/\ell$  with establishing correlations
- removes AdS scale
- $\ell \sim V^{1/(d-1)}$ : complexity is superextensive
- $\ell \sim \delta$ : IR contributions depend on UV cutoff, eg,  $d\mathcal{C}_A/dt$
- $\ell = \ell_0$ : complexity depends on new (unphysical) scale

$$K) \left[ v_1(\mathcal{R}, K) + \log \left( \frac{L}{\alpha \delta} \right) v_2(\mathcal{R}, K) \right]$$

AdS scale  
normalization  
 $k \cdot \hat{t} = \pm \alpha$

$$\sum_i c_{i,n}^{[k]}(d) \delta^{2n} [\mathcal{R}, K]_i^{2n}$$

from boundary terms in action

$n=0$

- UV divergences appear as local integrals of geometric invariants (as with holographic entanglement entropy)

## Holographic Complexity:

- UV cutoff:  $\alpha = L/\ell$
- renormalization group:
  - eliminates AdS scale
  - $\ell \sim V^{1/(d-1)}$ : complexity is superextensive
  - $\ell \sim \delta$ : IR contributions depend on UV cutoff, eg,  $d\mathcal{C}_A/dt$
  - $\ell = \ell_0$ : complexity depends on new (unphysical) scale

$\mathcal{C}_V$

$\mathcal{C}_A$

$n=0$

with  
is  
duct  
al

$K)$

normalization

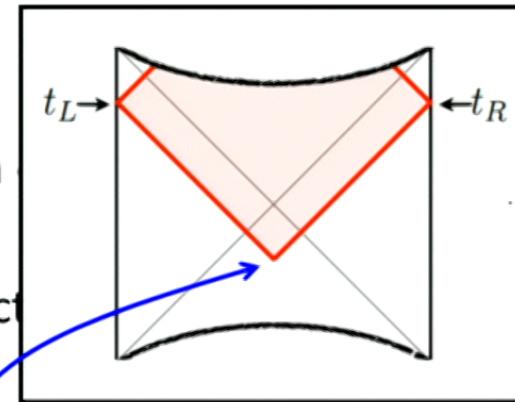
$$\mathbf{k} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{t}} = \pm \alpha$$

$$[ \mathcal{L}, K) + \log \left( \frac{L}{\alpha \delta} \right) v_2(\mathcal{R}, K) ]$$

AdS scale  
from boundary terms in action

$$\sum_i c_{i,n}^{[k]}(d) \delta^{2n} [\mathcal{R}, K]_i^{2n}$$

- UV divergences appear as local integrals of geometric invariants (as with holographic entanglement entropy)



## Questions?

- What is “holographic complexity”?
  - QFT/path integral description of “complexity” in boundary CFT?
  - what is boundary dual of these gravitational observables?
- is there a privileged role for (states on) null Cauchy surfaces?
  - provide distinguished reference states?
- is there a “renormalized holographic complexity”?
  - what's it good for?; (EE vs mutual information versions of F)
- ambiguities? ambiguities? ambiguities?
  - connections between ambiguities in gravity and boundary?
- more boundary terms: higher codim. intersections; “complex” joint contributions; boundary “counterterms”
- why is complexity of formation positive?
- $\mathcal{C}_A$  contribution of spacetime singularity?     • subregion complexity?

## Questions?

- What is “holographic complexity”?
  - QFT/path integral description of “complexity” in boundary CFT?
  - what is boundary dual of these gravitational observables?
  
- is there a notion of complexity in quantum field theory?
  - provides a way to measure the complexity of states?
- is there a notion of complexity in classical field theory?
  - what is the complexity of a classical solution?
- ambiguities? ambiguities? ambiguities?
  - connections between ambiguities in gravity and boundary?
- more boundary terms: higher codim. intersections; “complex” joint contributions; boundary “counterterms”
- why is complexity of formation positive?
- $\mathcal{C}_A$  contribution of spacetime singularity?     • subregion complexity?

**What does “complexity” mean in  
a quantum field theory?**

# Disneyland

Holography



Complexity



# Disneyland

Holography

Quantum Field Theory

Complexity



## Quantum Field Theory:

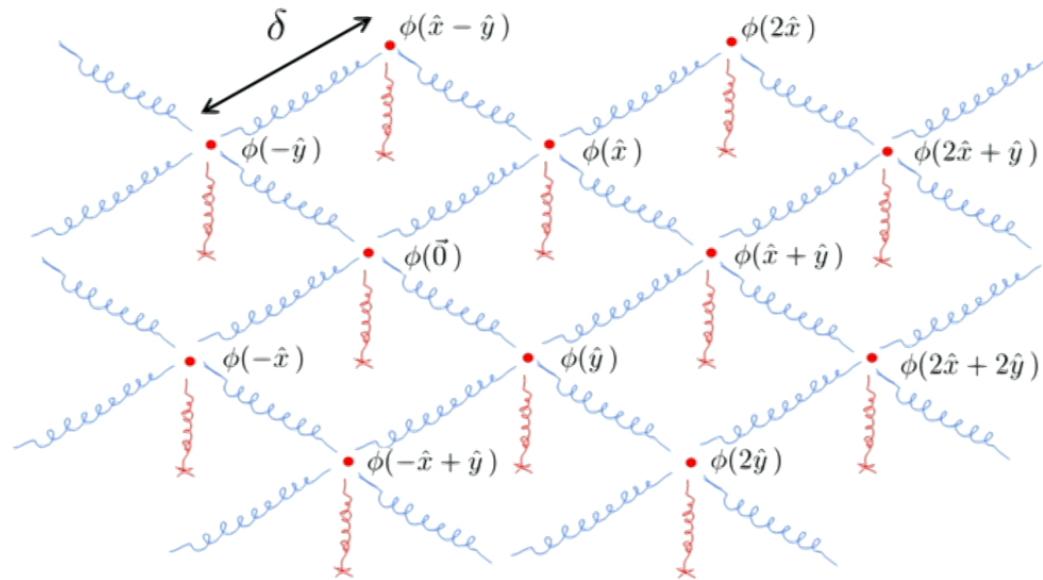
- scalar field theory (in d spacetime dimensions)

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \int d^{d-1}x \left[ \pi(x)^2 + \vec{\nabla}\phi(x)^2 + U(\phi(x)) \right]$$

## Quantum Field Theory:

- **free** scalar field theory (in d spacetime dimensions)

$$\begin{aligned}
 H &= \frac{1}{2} \int d^{d-1}x \left[ \pi(x)^2 + \vec{\nabla}\phi(x)^2 + m^2\phi(x)^2 \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\vec{n}} \left[ \frac{p(\vec{n})^2}{\delta^{d-1}} + \delta^{d-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{\delta^2} \sum_i [\phi(\vec{n}) - \phi(\vec{n} - \hat{x}_i)]^2 + m^2\phi(\vec{n})^2 \right\} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$



## Quantum Field Theory:

- an infinite family of coupled harmonic oscillators

$$\begin{aligned}
 H &= \frac{1}{2} \int d^{d-1}x \left[ \pi(x)^2 + \vec{\nabla}\phi(x)^2 + m^2\phi(x)^2 \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\vec{n}} \left[ \frac{P(\vec{n})^2}{M} + M \left\{ \Omega^2 \sum_i [X(\vec{n}) - X(\vec{n} - \hat{x}_i)]^2 + \omega^2 X(\vec{n})^2 \right\} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

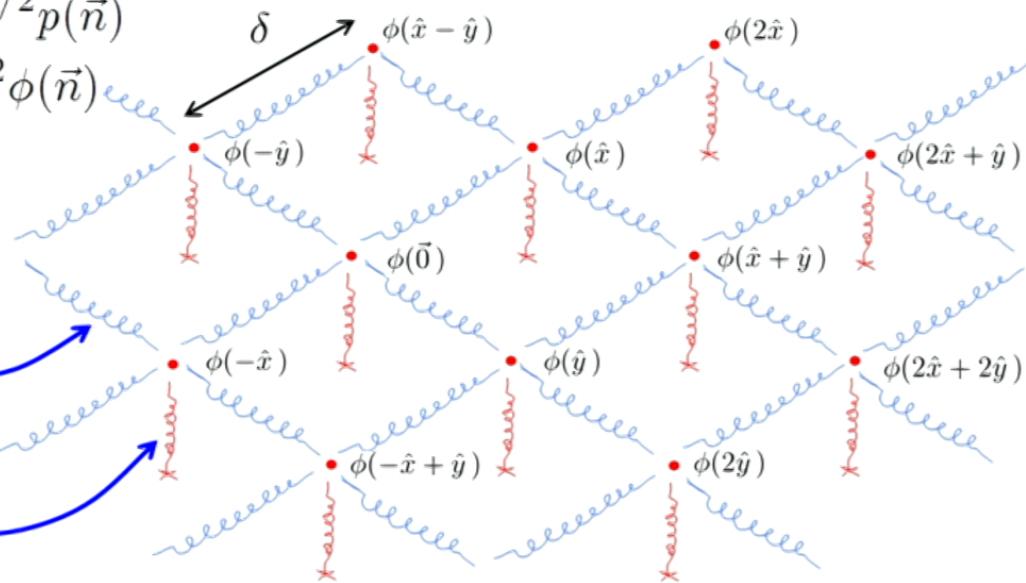
$$P(\vec{n}) = \delta^{-d/2} p(\vec{n})$$

$$X(\vec{n}) = \delta^{d/2} \phi(\vec{n})$$

$$M = 1/\delta$$

$$\Omega^2 = 1/\delta^2$$

$$\omega^2 = m^2$$

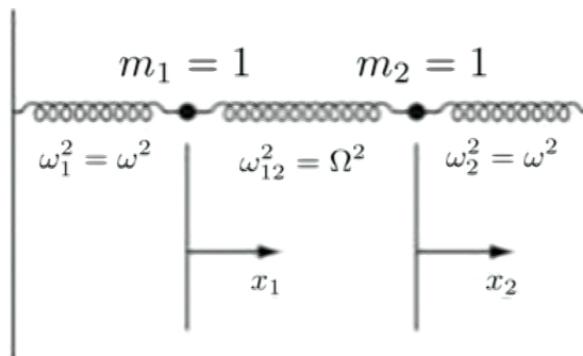


- QFT  $\longrightarrow$  two coupled harmonic oscillators

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \left[ p_1^2 + p_2^2 + \omega^2 (x_1^2 + x_2^2) + \Omega^2 (x_1 - x_2)^2 \right] \quad (M = 1)$$



start with  
“Mad Hatter’s  
Tea Party”

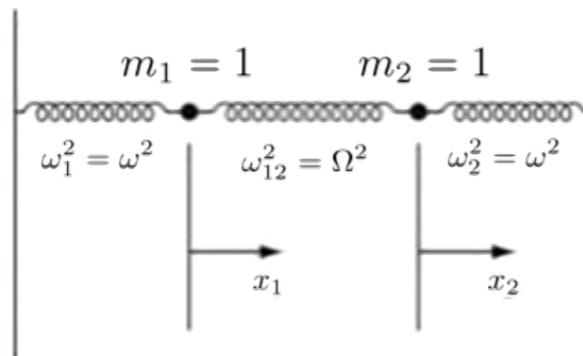


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 &= \frac{1}{2} [p_+^2 + \omega_+^2 x_+^2 + p_-^2 + \omega_-^2 x_-^2] \quad \text{with } x_{\pm} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (x_1 \pm x_2), \\
 &\qquad\qquad\qquad \omega_+^2 = \omega^2, \quad \omega_- = \omega^2 + 2\Omega^2
 \end{aligned}$$



find normal modes; problem reduces to two independent SHO's



- QFT → two coupled harmonic oscillators

$$\begin{aligned}
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- ground-state wave-function:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Psi_0(x_+, x_-) &= \Psi_0(x_+) \Psi_0(x_-) = \frac{(\omega_+ \omega_-)^{1/4}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (\omega_+ x_+^2 + \omega_- x_-^2) \right] \\
 \Psi_0(x_1, x_2) &= \frac{(\omega_+ \omega_-)^{1/4}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{4} (\omega_+ (x_1 + x_2)^2 + \omega_- (x_1 - x_2)^2) \right] \\
 &= \frac{(\omega_+ \omega_-)^{1/4}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \omega_1 x_1^2 - \frac{1}{2} \omega_2 x_2^2 - \beta x_1 x_2 \right] \\
 \text{with } \omega_1 &= \omega_2 = \frac{\omega_+ + \omega_-}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta = \frac{\omega_+ - \omega_-}{2} < 0
 \end{aligned}$$

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 H &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ p_1^2 + p_2^2 + \omega^2 (x_1^2 + x_2^2) + \Omega^2 (x_1 - x_2)^2 \right] \quad (M = 1) \\
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$$\Psi_0(x_1, x_2) = \frac{(\omega_+ \omega_-)^{1/4}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{4} (\omega_+ (x_1 + x_2)^2 + \omega_- (x_1 - x_2)^2) \right]$$

**Target State!!**

$$= \frac{(\omega_+ \omega_-)^{1/4}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \omega_1 x_1^2 - \frac{1}{2} \omega_2 x_2^2 - \beta x_1 x_2 \right]$$

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**Target state:**  $\psi_T(x_1, x_2) \simeq \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \omega_1 x_1^2 - \frac{1}{2} \omega_2 x_2^2 - \beta x_1 x_2 \right]$

**Reference state:** ??????

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- factorized Gaussian:  $(\omega_0 x_i + i p_i) \psi_R(x_i) = 0$

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**Gates/Unitaries:** ??????

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**Gates/Unitaries:**

- natural operators:  $x_1, x_2, p_1, p_2$   $[x_i, p_j] = i \delta_{ij}$

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infinitesimal parameter  $\epsilon \ll 1$

c-numbers

**Target state:**  $\psi_T(x_1, x_2) \simeq \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\omega_1 x_1^2 - \frac{1}{2}\omega_2 x_2^2 - \beta x_1 x_2\right]$

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$Q_{0i} = \exp[i\epsilon x_0 p_i]$  “shift  $x_i$  by  $\epsilon x_0$ ”

$Q_{i0} = \exp[i\epsilon x_i p_0]$  “shift  $p_i$  by  $\epsilon p_0$ ”  
(multiply by small plane wave component)

**Target state:**  $\psi_T(x_1, x_2) \simeq \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\omega_1 x_1^2 - \frac{1}{2}\omega_2 x_2^2 - \beta x_1 x_2\right]$

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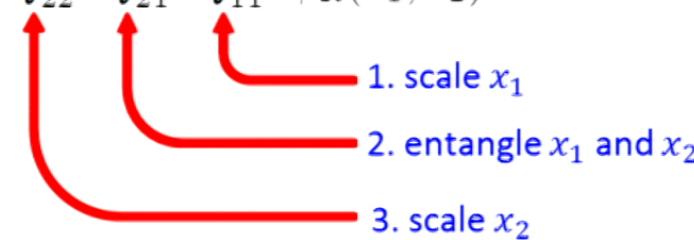
$Q_{ij} = \exp[i\epsilon x_i p_j]$  ( $i \neq j$ ) “shift  $x_j$  by  $\epsilon x_i$ ” (entangling)

$Q_{ii} = \exp\left[i\frac{\epsilon}{2}(x_i p_i + p_i x_i)\right] = e^{\epsilon/2} \exp[i\epsilon x_i p_i]$  “rescale  $x_i$  to  $e^\epsilon x_i$ ” (scaling)

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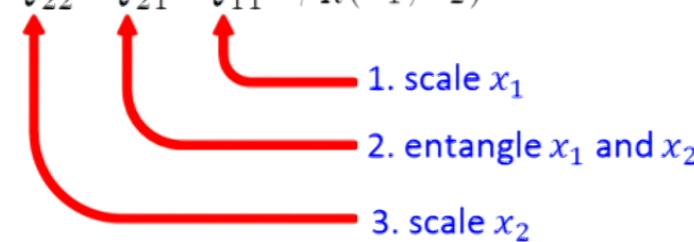
- one path/circuit:  $\psi_T(x_1, x_2) = Q_{22}^{\alpha_3} Q_{21}^{\alpha_2} Q_{11}^{\alpha_1} \psi_R(x_1, x_2)$



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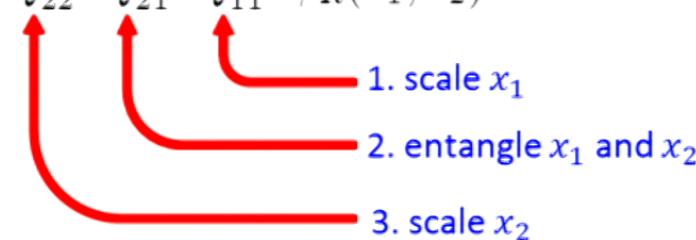
“circuit depth”:  $\mathcal{D}_1 = |\alpha_1| + |\alpha_2| + |\alpha_3|$

$$= \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \log \left[ \frac{\omega_1 \omega_2 - \beta^2}{\omega_0^2} \right] + \frac{|\beta|}{\epsilon} \sqrt{\frac{\omega_0}{\omega_1}} (\omega_1 \omega_2 - \beta^2)^{-1/2}$$

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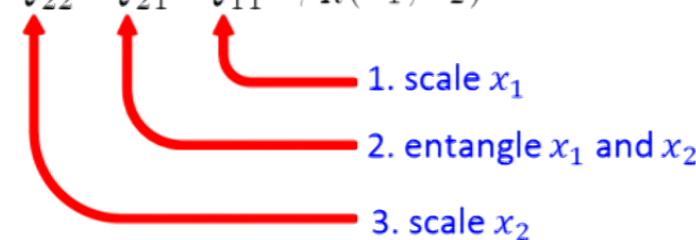
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**How do we find optimal circuit??**

**Target state:**  $\psi_T(x_1, x_2) \simeq \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \omega_1 x_1^2 - \frac{1}{2} \omega_2 x_2^2 - \beta x_1 x_2 \right]$

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$$\begin{aligned}\text{"circuit depth": } \mathcal{D}_1 &= |\alpha_1| + |\alpha_2| + |\alpha_3| \\ &= \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \log \left[ \frac{\omega_1 \omega_2 - \beta^2}{\omega_0^2} \right] + \frac{|\beta|}{\epsilon} \sqrt{\frac{\omega_0}{\omega_1}} (\omega_1 \omega_2 - \beta^2)^{-1/2}\end{aligned}$$

## How do we find optimal circuit??

- follow approach of **Mike Nielsen** (eg, Hamiltonian control theory)

Nielsen [arXiv:0502070]; Nielsen et al [arXiv:0603161]; Nielsen & Dowling [arXiv:0701004]

“What is the minimal size quantum circuit required to exactly implement a specified n-qubit unitary operation,  $U$ , without the use of ancilla qubits?”

**Nielsen approach:**

- work with a smooth function on a smooth space (rather than discrete)

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$$\psi_T(x_1, x_2) = U \psi_R(x_1, x_2) \quad \text{with} \quad U = \mathcal{P} \exp \left[ \int_0^1 ds Y^I(s) \mathcal{O}_I \right]$$

where  $\mathcal{O}_{11} = \frac{i}{2} (x_1 p_1 + p_1 x_1)$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_{12} = i x_1 p_2$ ,

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*right-to-left* on/off

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$\mathcal{O}_{22} = \frac{i}{2} (x_2 p_2 + p_2 x_2)$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_{21} = i x_2 p_1$

- consider trajectories:

$$U(s) = \mathcal{P} \exp \left[ \int_0^s d\tilde{s} Y^I(\tilde{s}) M_I \right] \quad \text{where} \quad U(s=0) = 1, \quad U(s=1) = U_{fin}$$

*velocity:  $Y^I(s) = \text{Tr} [\partial_s U(s) U^{-1}(s) M_I]$*

“What is the minimal size quantum circuit required to exactly implement a specified n-qubit unitary operation,  $U$ , without the use of ancilla qubits?”

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velocity:  $Y^I(s) = \text{Tr} [\partial_s U(s) U^{-1}(s) M_I]$

- analogy with motion of a particle determined by minimizing an action

$$\text{minimizing the action: } \mathcal{D} = \int_0^1 ds \sum_I |Y^I(s)|$$

→ extremal path  $U(s)$  is geodesic in a Finsler geometry

“What is the minimal size quantum circuit required to exactly implement a specified n-qubit unitary operation,  $U$ , without the use of ancilla qubits?”

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- analogy with motion of a particle determined by minimizing an action

minimizing the action:  $\mathcal{D} = \int_0^1 ds \sqrt{\sum_{IJ} \delta_{IJ} Y^I(s) Y^J(s)}$

$[F_1 \rightarrow F_2]$

→ extremal path  $U(s)$  is geodesic in a Riemannian geometry

**Nielsen approach:** to find optimal circuit

$$\psi_T(x_1, x_2) = U(s=1) \psi_R(x_1, x_2) \quad \text{with} \quad U(s) = \mathcal{P} \exp \left[ \int_0^s d\tilde{s} \, Y^I(\tilde{s}) \mathcal{O}_I \right]$$

where  $\mathcal{O}_{11} = \frac{i}{2} (x_1 p_1 + p_1 x_1)$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_{12} = i x_1 p_2$ ,

$$\mathcal{O}_{22} = \frac{i}{2} (x_2 p_2 + p_2 x_2)$$
,  $\mathcal{O}_{21} = i x_2 p_1$

- find the “geodesic” minimizing the “action”:

$$\mathcal{D} = \int_0^1 ds \left[ (Y^{11}(s))^2 + (Y^{22}(s))^2 + (Y^{21}(s))^2 + (Y^{12}(s))^2 \right]^{1/2}$$

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where  $\mathcal{O}_{11} = \frac{i}{2} (x_1 p_1 + p_1 x_1)$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_{12} = i x_1 p_2$ ,

$$\mathcal{O}_{22} = \frac{i}{2} (x_2 p_2 + p_2 x_2)$$
,  $\mathcal{O}_{21} = i x_2 p_1$

- find the “geodesic” minimizing the “action”:

$$\mathcal{D} = \int_0^1 ds \left[ (Y^{11}(s))^2 + (Y^{22}(s))^2 + (Y^{21}(s))^2 + (Y^{12}(s))^2 \right]^{1/2}$$

- defining  $Y^I(s) = \text{Tr} [\partial_s U(s) U^{-1}(s) M_I]$  still seems relatively difficult?

### Alternative picture:

- at this stage thinking of Gaussian states, so consider space of states as **space of (positive) quadratic forms**

$$\psi \simeq \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}x_i A_{ij} x_j\right] \quad \longrightarrow \quad A_T = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_1 & \beta \\ \beta & \omega_2 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$A_R = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_0 & 0 \\ 0 & \omega_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- unitary gates:  $Q_{ij} = \exp[\epsilon \mathcal{O}_{ij}]$  with  $\mathcal{O}_{ij} = i x_i p_j + \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ij}$

$$\longrightarrow Q_{ij} = \exp[\epsilon M_{ij}] \quad \text{with} \quad [M_{ij}]_{ab} = \delta_{ia} \delta_{jb}$$

eg,  $M_{11} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

where  $A' = Q_{ij} A Q_{ij}^T$

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### Alternative picture:

- what would the optimal circuit look like?

$$A_T = U(1) A_R U^T(1) \quad \text{with} \quad U(s) = \mathcal{P} \exp \left[ \int_0^s d\tilde{s} Y^I(\tilde{s}) M_I \right]$$

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- we want to minimize:  $\mathcal{D} = \int_0^1 ds \sum_{ij} \left[ (Y^{ij}(s))^2 \right]^{1/2}$
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- finding geodesics for some right invariant metric on  $\text{GL}(2, \mathbb{R})$

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(simplify with  $\omega_0 = 1$ )

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**Geometry:**  $GL(2, R) = SL(2, R) \times R$

- consider:  $\tilde{U} \in GL(2, R)$

$$\tilde{U} = \begin{bmatrix} x_0 - x_3 & x_2 - x_1 \\ x_2 + x_1 & x_0 + x_3 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \det \tilde{U} = e^{2y} = x_0^2 + x_1^2 - x_2^2 - x_3^2$$

**Lorentzian AdS<sub>3</sub>**

- choose coordinates:  $U \in GL(2, R) = SL(2, R) \times R$

$$U = e^y \begin{bmatrix} \cos \tau \cosh \rho - \sin \theta \sinh \rho & -\sin \tau \cosh \rho + \cos \theta \sinh \rho \\ \sin \tau \cosh \rho + \cos \theta \sinh \rho & \cos \tau \cosh \rho + \sin \theta \sinh \rho \end{bmatrix}$$

- metric: consider a trajectory  $y(s), \rho(s), \tau(s), \theta(s)$  and line-element is given by  $\delta_{IJ} Y^I Y^J \times ds^2$  with  $Y^I(s) = \text{Tr} [\partial_s U(s) U^{-1}(s) M_I]$

$$ds^2 = 2dy^2 + 2d\rho^2 + 2\cosh(2\rho) \cosh^2 \rho d\tau^2 + 2\cosh(2\rho) \sinh^2 \rho d\theta^2 - 8 \sinh^2 \rho \cosh^2 \rho d\theta d\tau$$

(This is **not** AdS<sub>3</sub>; AdS<sub>3</sub> metric requires replacing  $\delta_{IJ}$  by Minkowski metric)

- metric:

$$ds^2 = 2dy^2 + 2d\rho^2 + 2\cosh(2\rho) \cosh^2 \rho d\tau^2 + 2\cosh(2\rho) \sinh^2 \rho d\theta^2 - 8\sinh^2 \rho \cosh^2 \rho d\theta d\tau$$

- circuits: trajectories in  $GL(2, \mathbb{R})$

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$$A_T = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_1 & -|\beta| \\ -|\beta| & \omega_1 \end{bmatrix} = U(1) U^T(1)$$

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minimize in family of geodesics  $\xrightarrow{\quad} \theta_1 - \tau_1$  is not fixed!

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$$\theta_1 + \tau_1 = \pi$$

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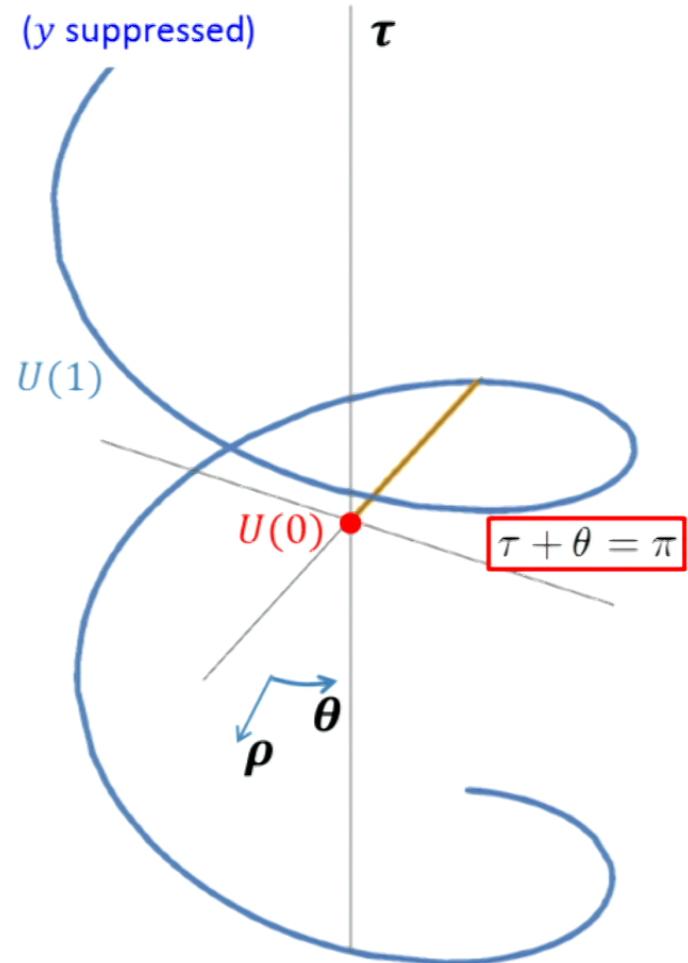
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→

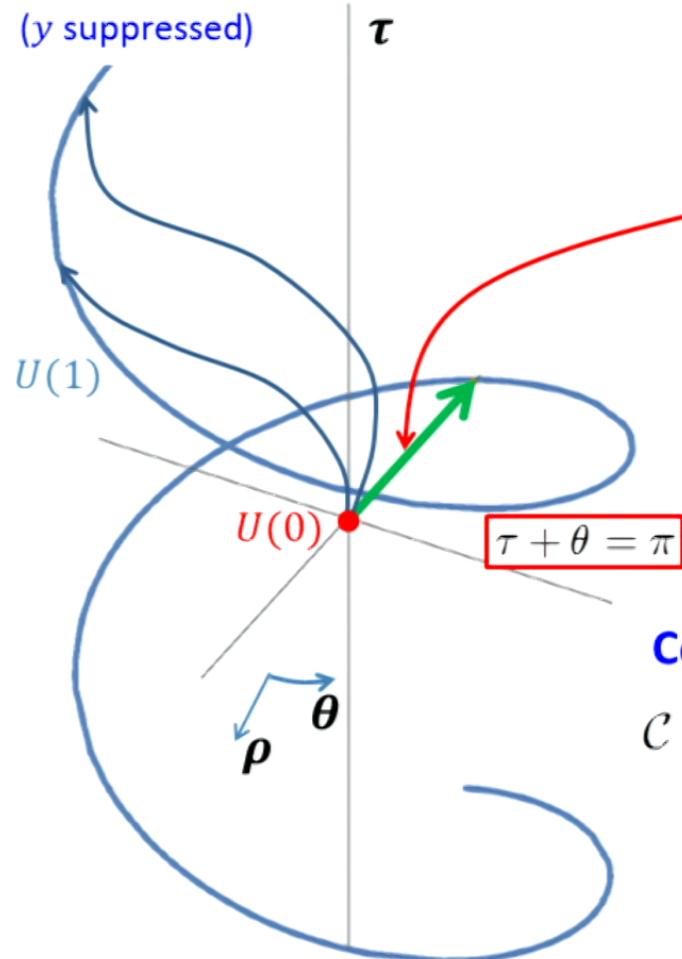
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minimal geodesic:

$$\begin{aligned}\tau(s) &= 0, \quad \theta(s) = \pi, \\ y(s) &= y_1 s, \quad \rho(s) = \rho_1 s\end{aligned}$$

$$U(s) = \mathcal{P} \exp \left[ \begin{bmatrix} y_1 & -\rho_1 \\ -\rho_1 & y_1 \end{bmatrix} s \right]$$

Complexity:

$$\begin{aligned}C &= D_{min} = \sqrt{2\rho_1^2 + 2y_1^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\log^2 \left( \frac{\omega_+}{2} \right) + \log^2 \left( \frac{\omega_-}{2} \right)} \\ \text{with } \omega_+^2 &= \omega^2, \quad \omega_-^2 = \omega^2 + 2\Omega^2\end{aligned}$$

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## What else?

- examine normal circuit in normal mode basis

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{x} = R x &\quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \begin{bmatrix} x_- \\ x_+ \end{bmatrix} = R \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{with} \quad R = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \longrightarrow \tilde{A}_T &= R A_T R^\dagger = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_- & 0 \\ 0 & \omega_+ \end{bmatrix}, \quad \tilde{A}_R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \longrightarrow \tilde{U}(s) &= R U(s) R^\dagger = \mathcal{P} \exp \left[ \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \log \omega_- & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} \log \omega_+ \end{bmatrix} s \right] \end{aligned}$$

- in normal mode basis, minimal circuit simply scales up diagonal entries

$$U(s) = \mathcal{P} \exp [M_{--} (y_1 + \rho_1) s + M_{++} (y_1 - \rho_1) s]$$

with  $M_{\pm\pm} = \frac{1}{2} (M_{11} + M_{22} \pm M_{12} \pm M_{21})$

- minimal circuit expressed with two **commuting** n.m. generators

$\longrightarrow$  normal mode subspace is flat!

$$ds^2 = \underline{2dy^2 + 2d\rho^2} + 2 \cosh(2\rho) \cosh^2 \rho d\tau^2 + 2 \cosh(2\rho) \sinh^2 \rho d\theta^2 - 8 \sinh^2 \rho \cosh^2 \rho d\theta d\tau$$

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move on to  
“Dumbo, the Flying Elephant”

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- **problem!?!?**  $\mathcal{C} \sim N^{\frac{d-1}{2}} = \left[ \frac{V}{\delta^{d-1}} \right]^{1/2}$  compare  $\mathcal{C}_{holo} \sim \frac{V}{\delta^{d-1}}$

$$\rightarrow \text{change the normalization: } \mathcal{D} = N^{\frac{d-1}{2}} \int_0^1 ds \sqrt{\sum_{IJ} \delta_{IJ} Y^I(s) Y^J(s)}$$

(Brown & Susskind)

$$\rightarrow \text{each gate carries cost of } \left[ \frac{V}{\delta^{d-1}} \right]^{1/2} + \dots$$

(problematic to compare complexities if  $V$  or  $\delta$  change??)

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$$ds^2 = \underline{d(y + \rho)^2 + d(y - \rho)^2} + \dots \quad (\text{penalty factors!})$$

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$$\longrightarrow \text{action is origin of sq.-root: } \mathcal{D} = \int_0^1 ds \sqrt{\sum_{IJ} \delta_{IJ} Y^I(s) Y^J(s)}$$

- bad action/cost function; need a better choice [ discard  $F_2$  &  $F_q$  ]

$$\mathcal{D} = \int_0^1 ds \sum |Y^I(s)| \quad \mathcal{D} = \int_0^1 ds \sum p_I |Y^I(s)| \quad [F_1 \& F_p]$$

$$\mathcal{D} = \int_0^1 ds \sum (Y^I(s))^2 \quad \mathcal{D} = \int_0^1 ds \sum p_I (Y^I(s))^2 \quad [LF_2 \& LF_{2p}]$$

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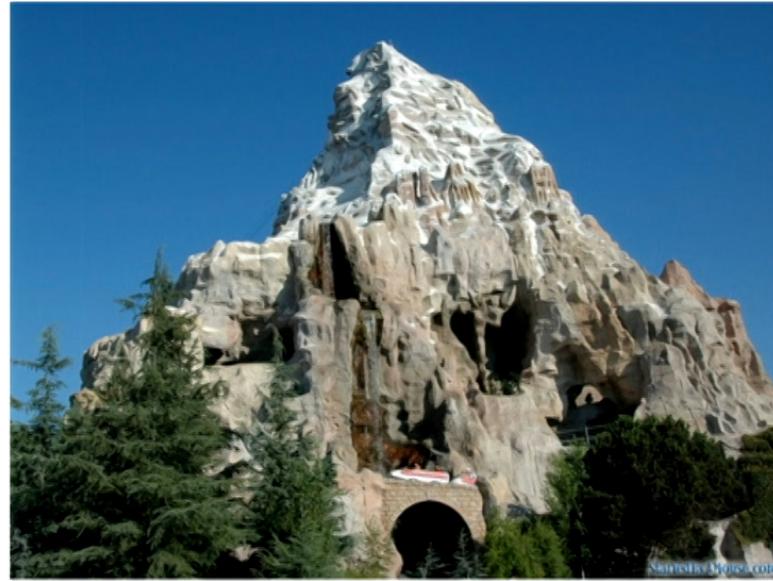
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- **there be log's here!!**  $C \sim \log(\omega_0/m)$  !!

And now for the main event . . .

- examine lattice of  $N$  oscillators  $\longrightarrow$  restore  $\Omega = 1/\delta$  &  $\omega = m$



And now for  
“Matterhorn Bobsleds”

And now for the main event . . .

- examine lattice of  $N$  oscillators  $\rightarrow$  restore  $\Omega = 1/\delta$  &  $\omega = m$

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{C} = \mathcal{D}_{min} = \frac{1}{2^\alpha} \sum |\log(\omega_{\vec{k}}/\omega_0)|^\alpha$$

where for  $(d - 1)$ -dimensional (periodic) square lattice:

$$\omega_k^2 = m^2 + \frac{4}{\delta^2} \sum_i \sin^2 \frac{\pi k_i}{N}, \quad k_i = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$$

- dominated by UV modes, ie,  $k_i \sim N/2$
- need to choose  $\omega_0$

1)  $\omega_0 = \Lambda$  (IR) with  $1/\delta \gg \Lambda$   $\rightarrow \mathcal{C} \sim N^{d-1} \log^\alpha \left( \frac{1}{\Lambda \delta} \right) + \dots$

• choose  $\alpha = 1$ :  $\mathcal{C} \sim \# \frac{V}{\delta^{d-1}} \log \left( \frac{1}{\Lambda \delta} \right) + \# \frac{V}{\delta^{d-1}} + \dots d\mathcal{C}_A/dt$

2)  $\omega_0 = \beta/\delta$  (UV)  $\rightarrow \mathcal{C} \sim \# \frac{V}{\delta^{d-1}} + \# \frac{m^2 V}{\delta^{d-3}} \dots$  ( $\alpha$  unconstrained)

useful probe of  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$ ?

And now for the main event ...

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where for  $(d - 1)$ -dimensional (periodic) square lattice:

- reference state introduces scale  $\omega_0$
- $\omega_0 \sim 1/R$ : complexity is superextensive
- $\omega_0 \sim 1/\delta$ : IR contributions depend on UV cutoff
- $\omega_0 = \omega_0$ : complexity depends on new (unphysical) scale

$$\frac{\omega_0}{\sqrt{V}} e^{\sum_i k_i}, \quad k_i = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$$

$$\begin{aligned} & N/2 \quad \bullet \text{need to choose } \omega_0 \\ \rightarrow \mathcal{C} \sim & N^{d-1} \log^\alpha \left( \frac{1}{\Lambda \delta} \right) + \dots \\ & \log \left( \frac{1}{\Lambda \delta} \right) + \# \frac{V}{\delta^{d-1}} + \dots \quad d\mathcal{C}_A/dt \\ & \frac{V}{\delta^{d-1}} + \# \frac{m^2 V}{\delta^{d-3}} \dots (\alpha \text{ unconstrained}) \end{aligned}$$

be of  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$ ?

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$\alpha = L/\ell$

- eliminates AdS scale 
- $\ell \sim V^{1/(d-1)}$ : complexity is superextensive
- $\ell \sim \delta$ : IR contributions depend on UV cutoff, eg,
- $\ell = \ell_0$ : complexity depends on new (unphysical) scale

# Disneyland



## Optimized circuit versus cMERA?

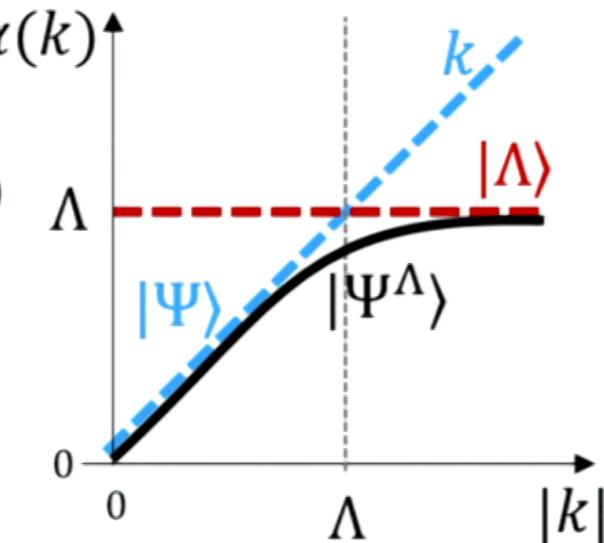
- optimized circuit/path was restricted to normal mode subspace

→ by design, cMERA lies within normal mode subspace ✓

- recall Guifre's plots of  $\alpha(\mathbf{k})$ :

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→  $a^\Lambda(k) |\Psi^\Lambda\rangle = 0$

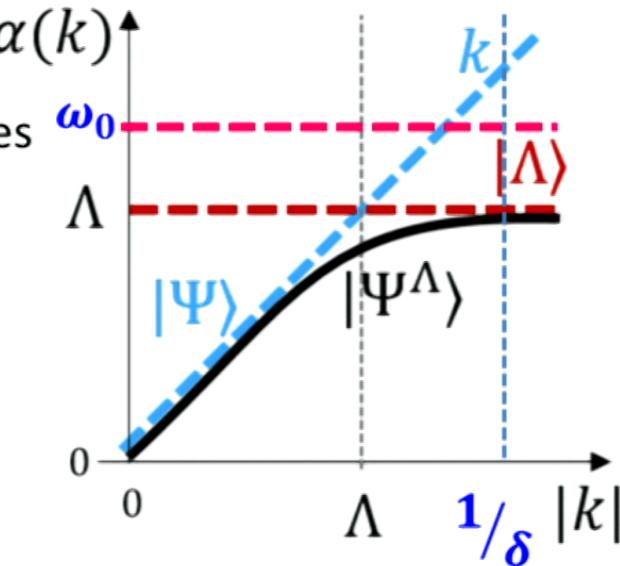


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a difference of perspective:

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- cMERA has single scale for “UV cutoff” and reference scale  $\Lambda$   
 (“UV cutoff”= entanglement cutoff)

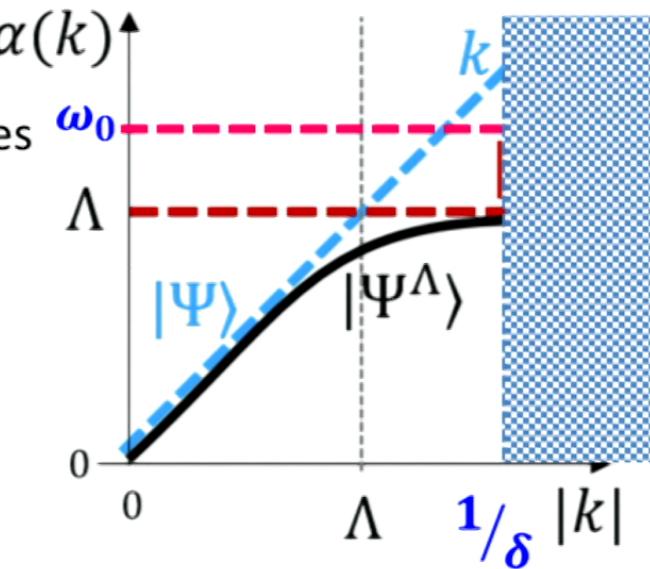


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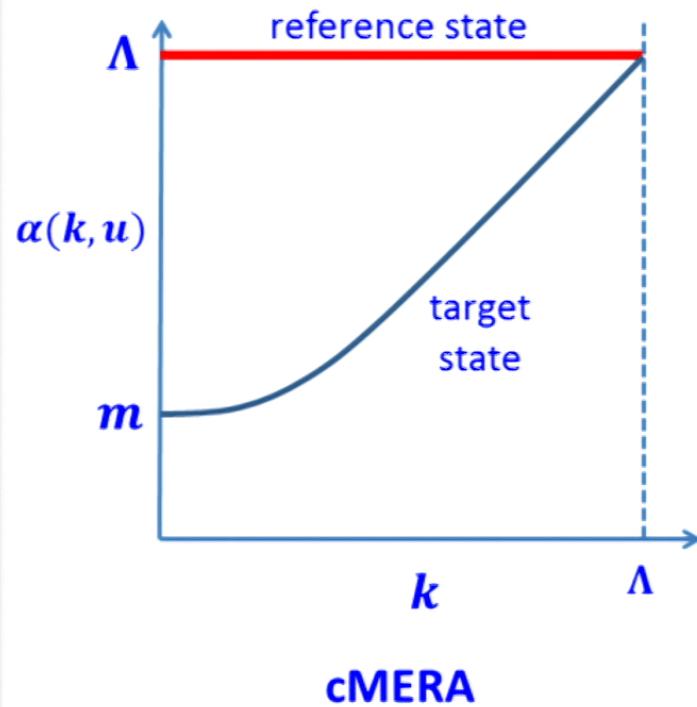
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## Optimized circuit versus cMERA?

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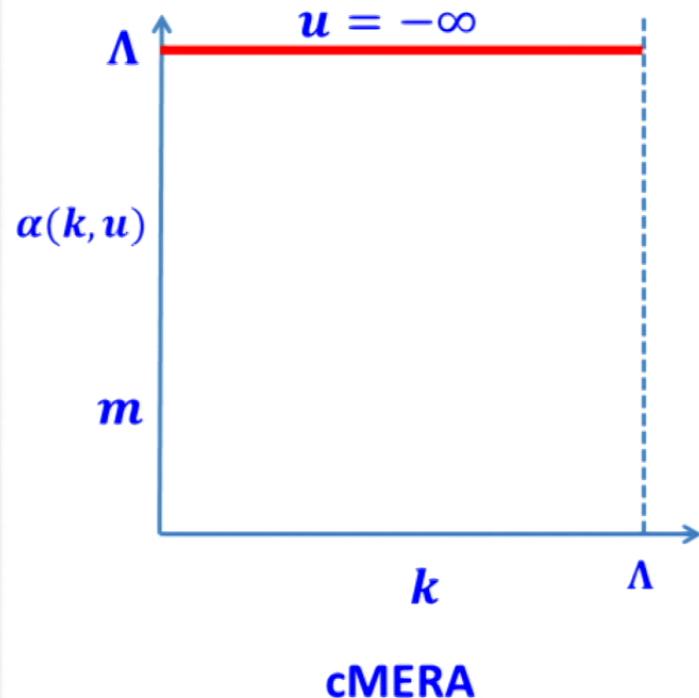
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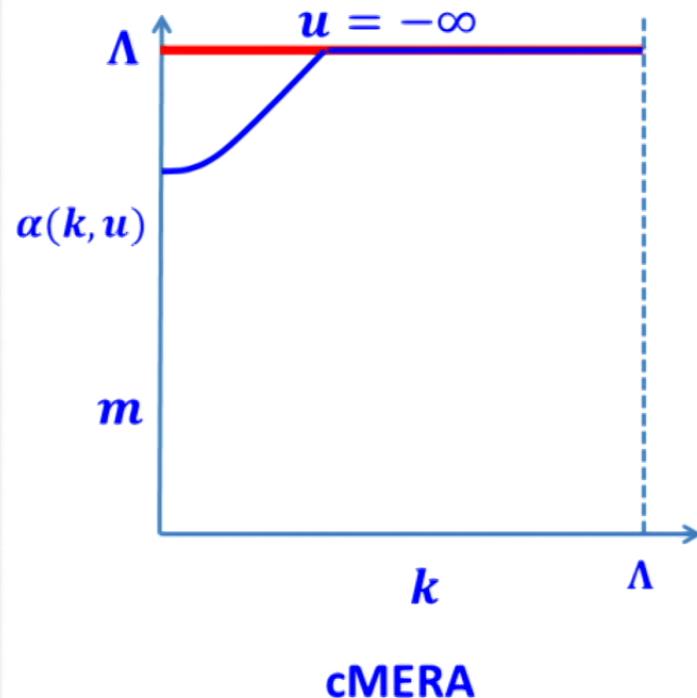
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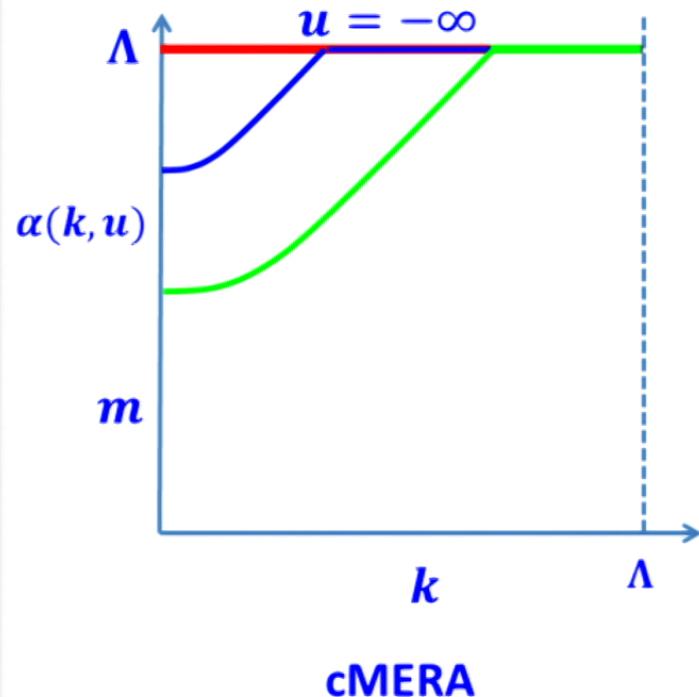
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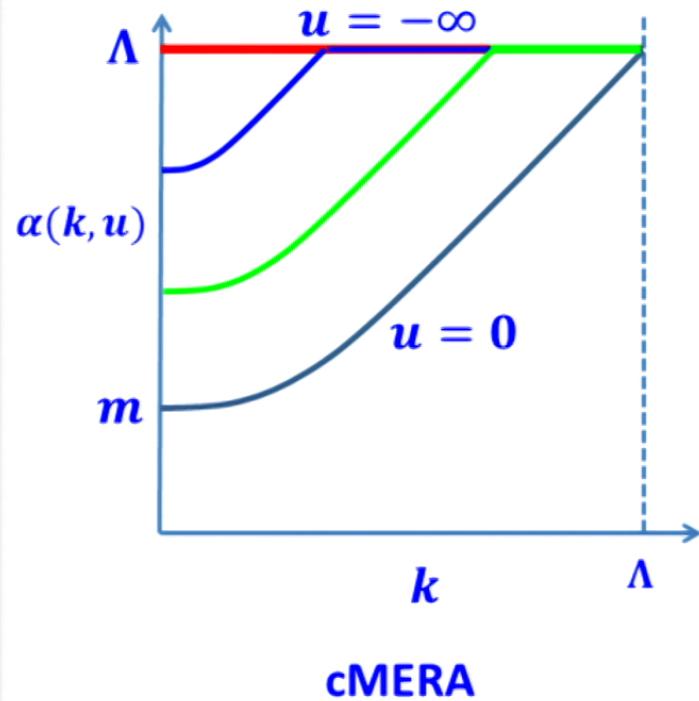
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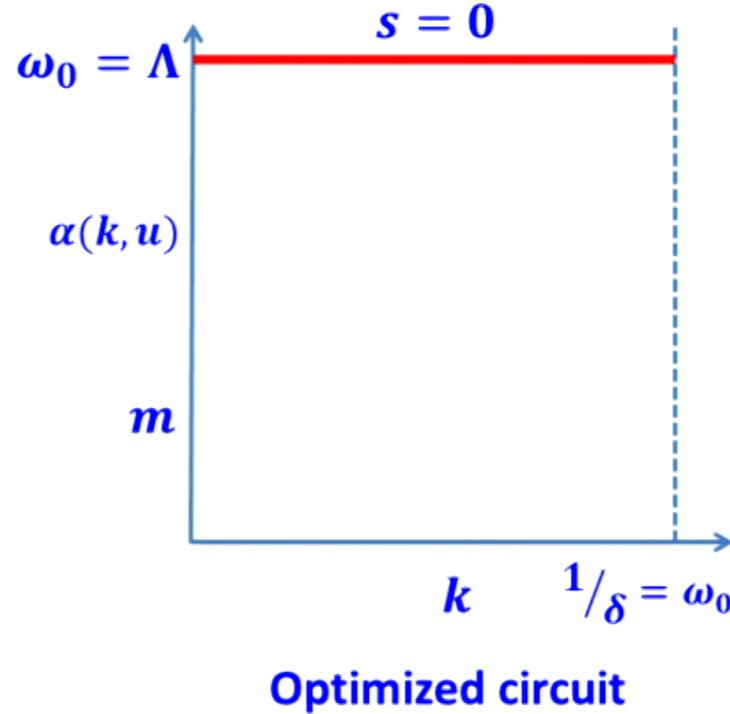
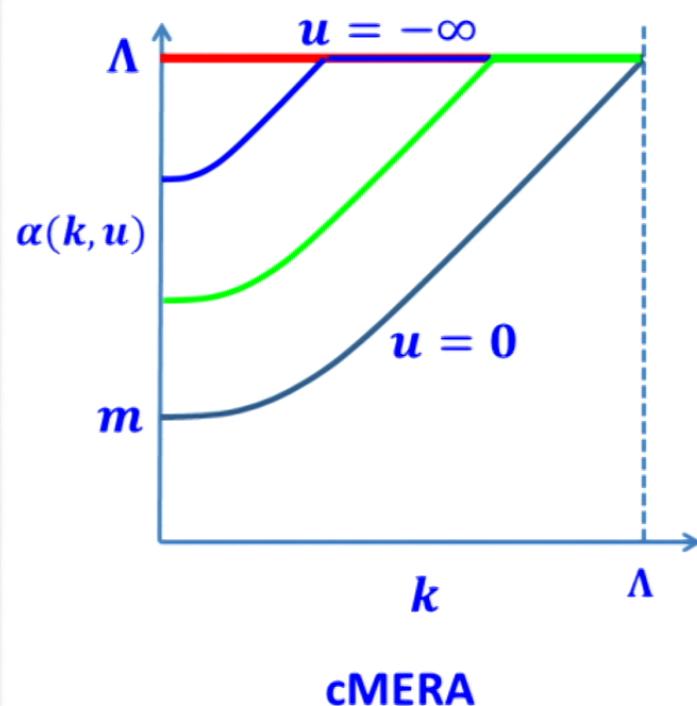
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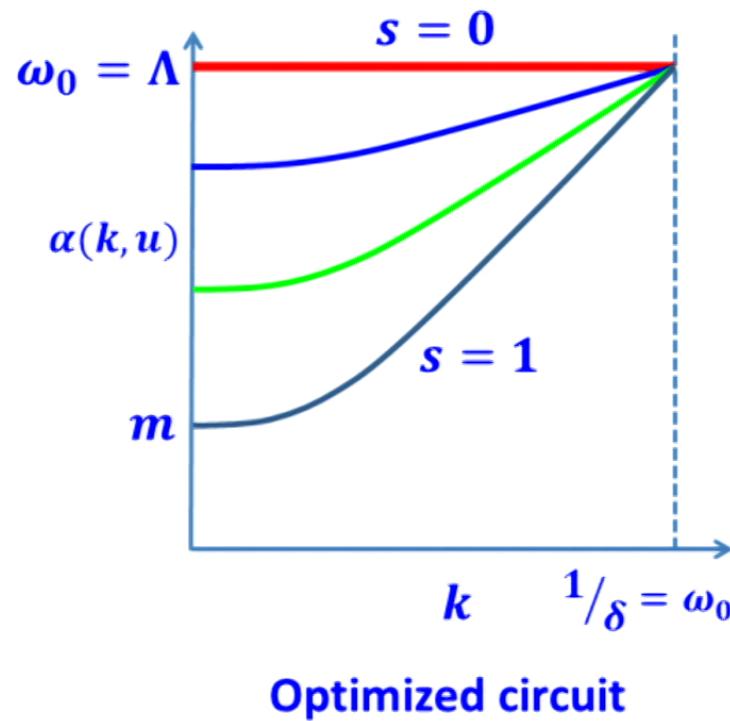
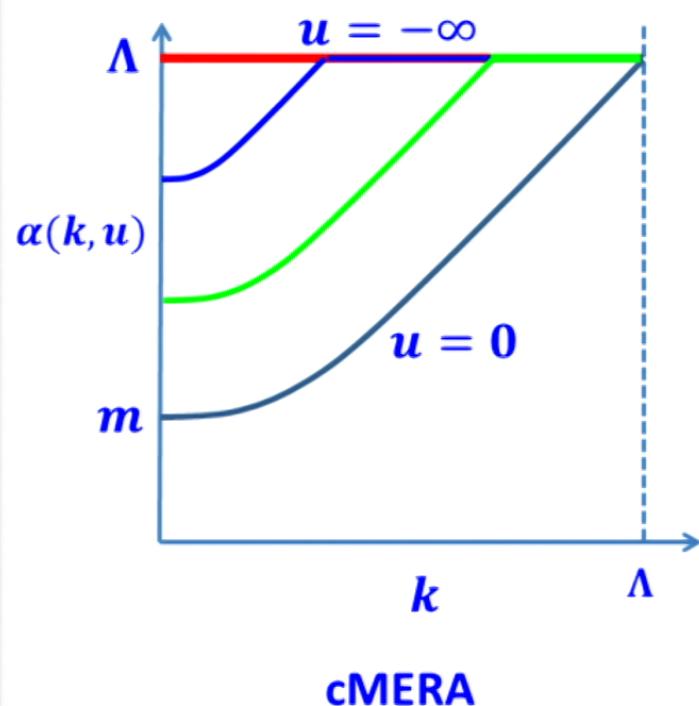
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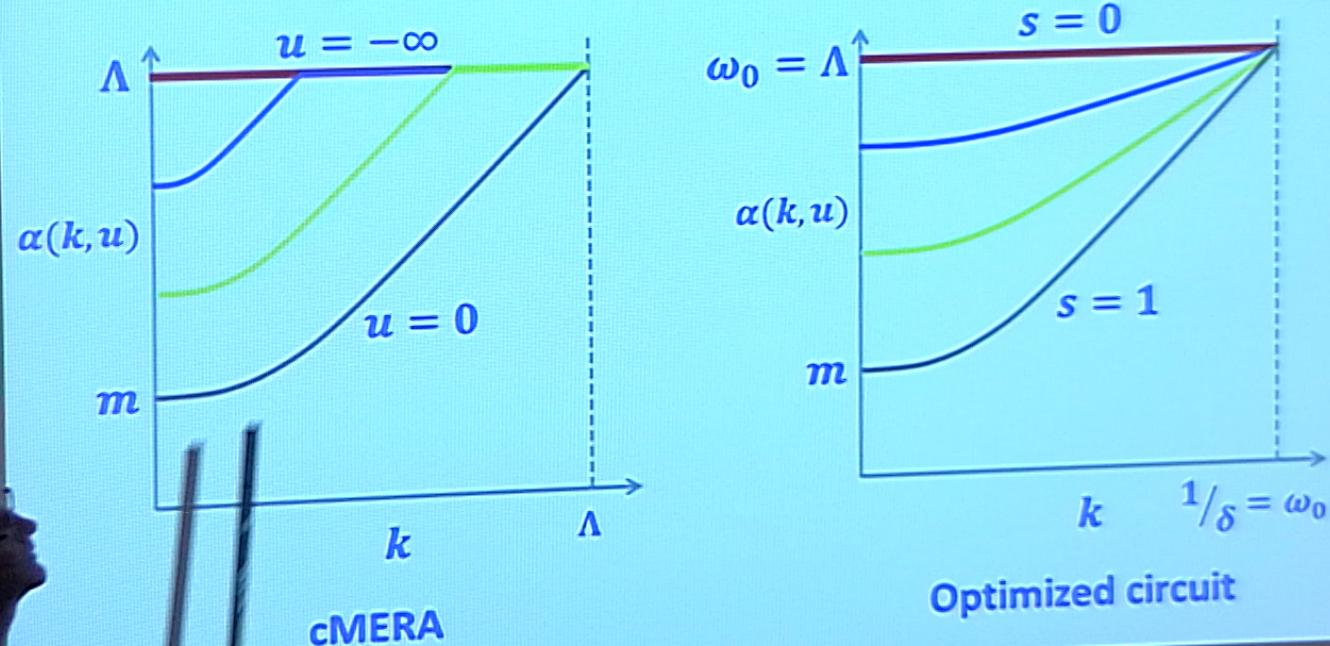
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## Optimized circuit versus cMERA?

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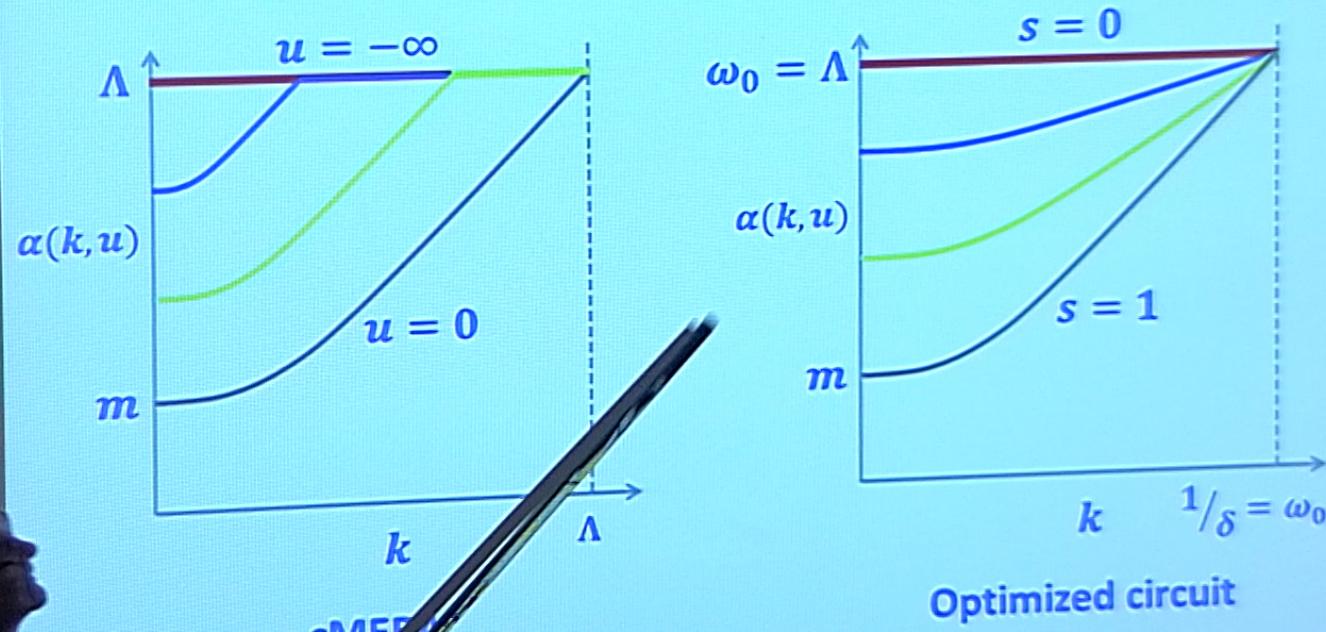
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Manhattan metric\* or taxicab distance:

- all routes have same cost as long as we don't retrace steps

- \*no metric! in Finsler geometry, even diagonal distance is same

→ with these cost functions, optimized circuit & cMERA offer equal complexities (as would many other circuits)

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  - with these cost functions, optimized circuit & cMERA offer equal complexities (as would many other circuits)
- there is room to add new physical principles to discussion:
  - entanglement evolution?
  - renormalization group flow?
  - parade route??
  - expanding universe model??
  - .....

# Disneyland



**Still lots to explore!**

$$U = \exp \left\{ i \int \underbrace{K(u)}_{\# (q^+ q^- - \dots)} du \right\}$$

