Title: Black hole microstate cosmology

Speakers: Mark Van Raamsdonk

Series: Quantum Fields and Strings

Date: September 17, 2019 - 2:30 PM

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Abstract: In this talk we study a special class of high-energy states in holographic CFTs defined via Euclidean evolution from conformal boundary states. We argue that these are dual to black hole microstates with a geometrical behind-the-horizon region. We study the time-dependent physics of this behind-the-horizon region, whose ETW boundary geometry takes the form of a closed FRW spacetime. We show that in many cases, this behind-the-horizon physics can be probed directly by looking at the time dependence of entanglement entropy for sufficiently large spatial CFT subsystems. A fascinating possibility is that for certain states, we might have gravity localized to the ETW brane as in the Randall-Sundrum II scenario for cosmology. In this case, the effective description of physics beyond the horizon could be a big bang/big crunch cosmology of the same dimensionality as the CFT. In this case, the d-dimensional CFT describing the black hole microstate would give a precise, microscopic description of the d-dimensional cosmological physics.

Black Hole Microstate Cosmology

Mark Van Raamsdonk, UBC

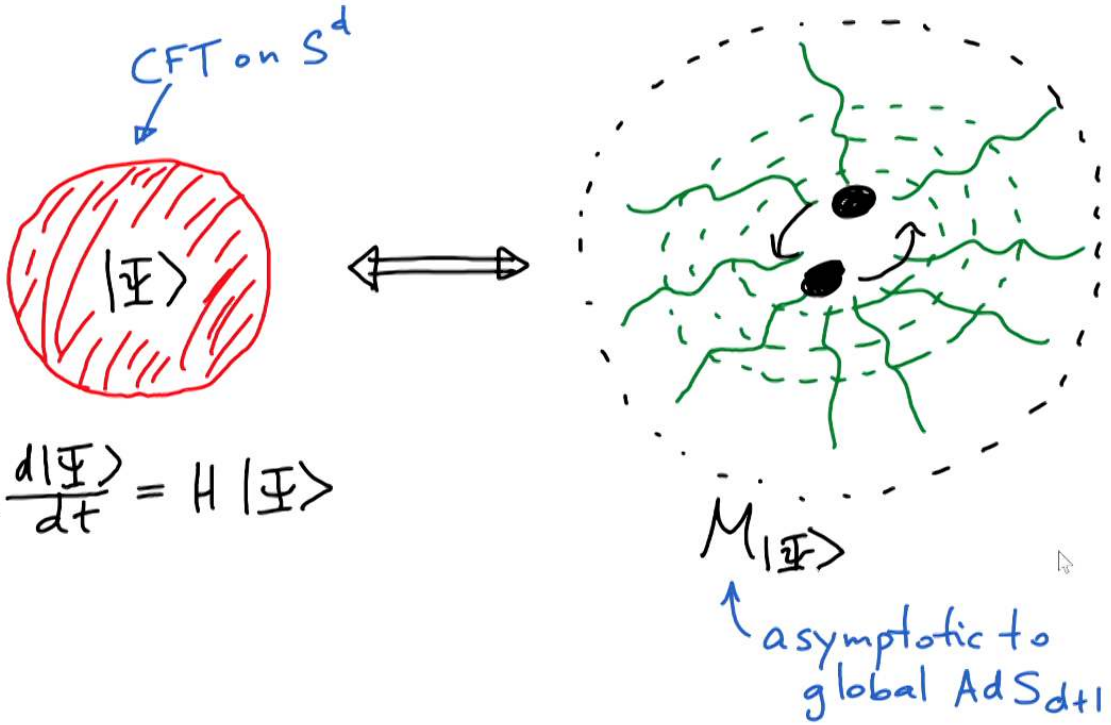
based on: 1810.10601 with S. Cooper, M. Rozali, B. Swingle
C. Waddell, D. Wakeham

Big questions for quantum gravity:

- physics of black holes
- big bang / cosmology (incl. dark energy)

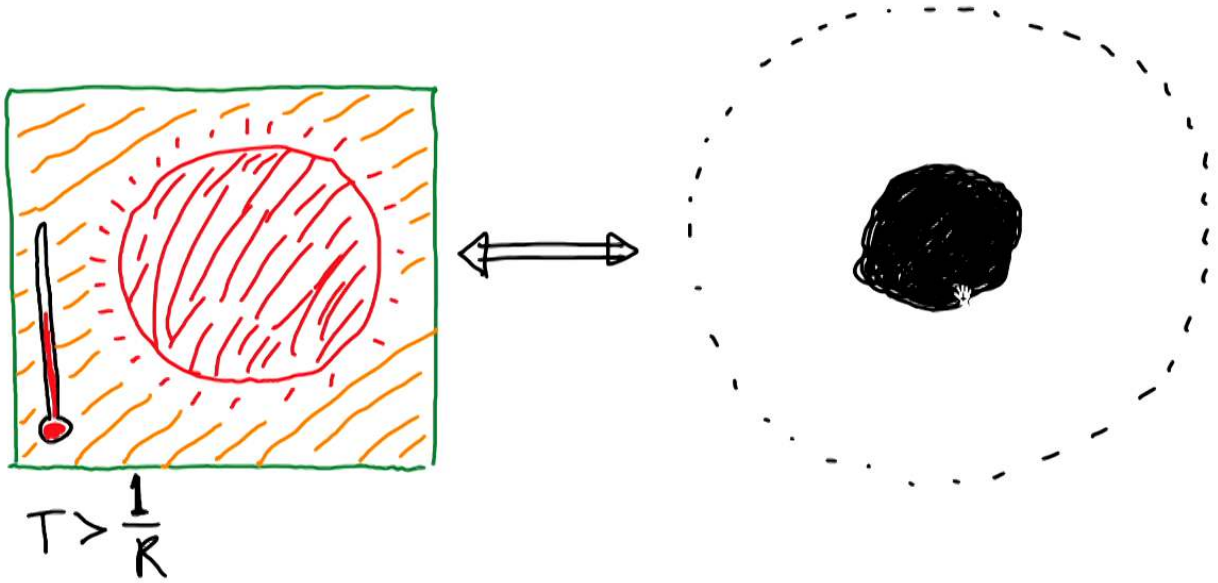
Use AdS/CFT correspondence as a fundamental definition

THE AdS/CFT correspondence



$$i\hbar \frac{d|\Psi\rangle}{dt} = H|\Psi\rangle$$

Black holes in AdS/CFT



Thermal state of CFT $\Longleftrightarrow$ Black hole in AdS

Witten

Black holes in AdS/CFT: what is the physics behind the horizon?

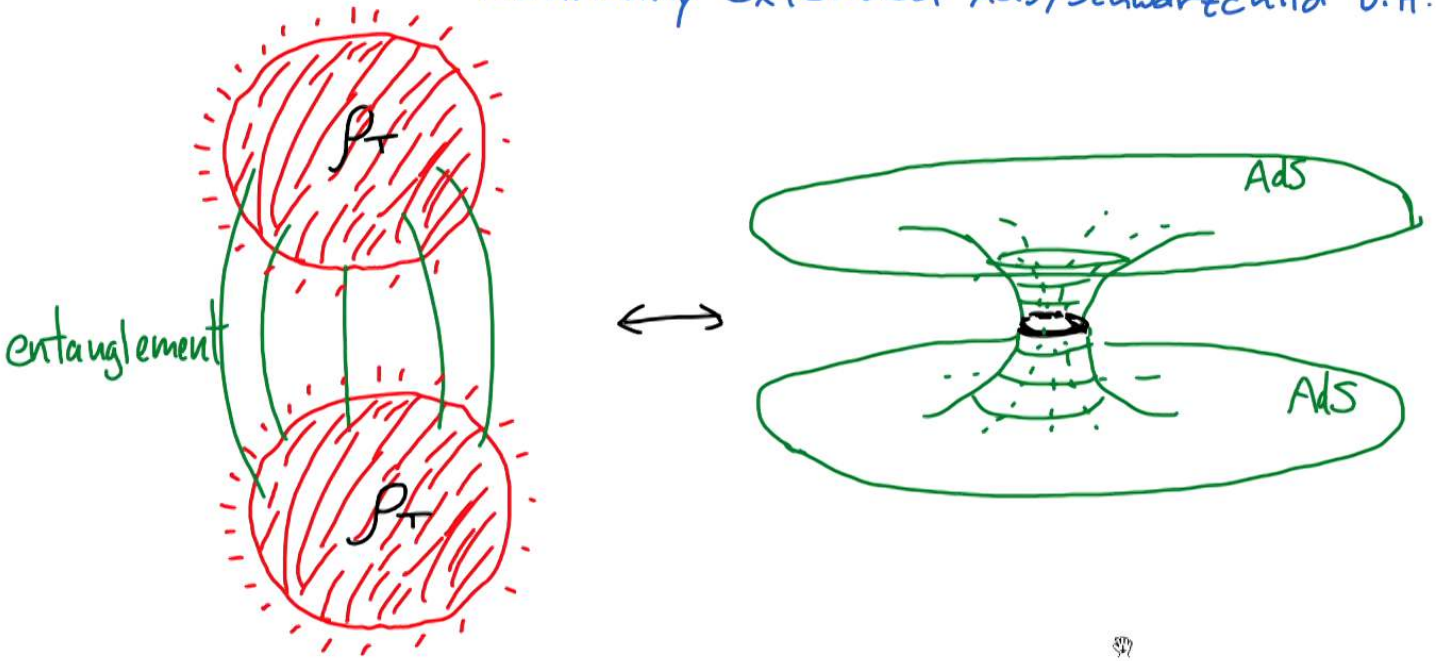
Thermal state
= mixed state of CFT

subsystem of larger system (CFT + heat bath)

OR

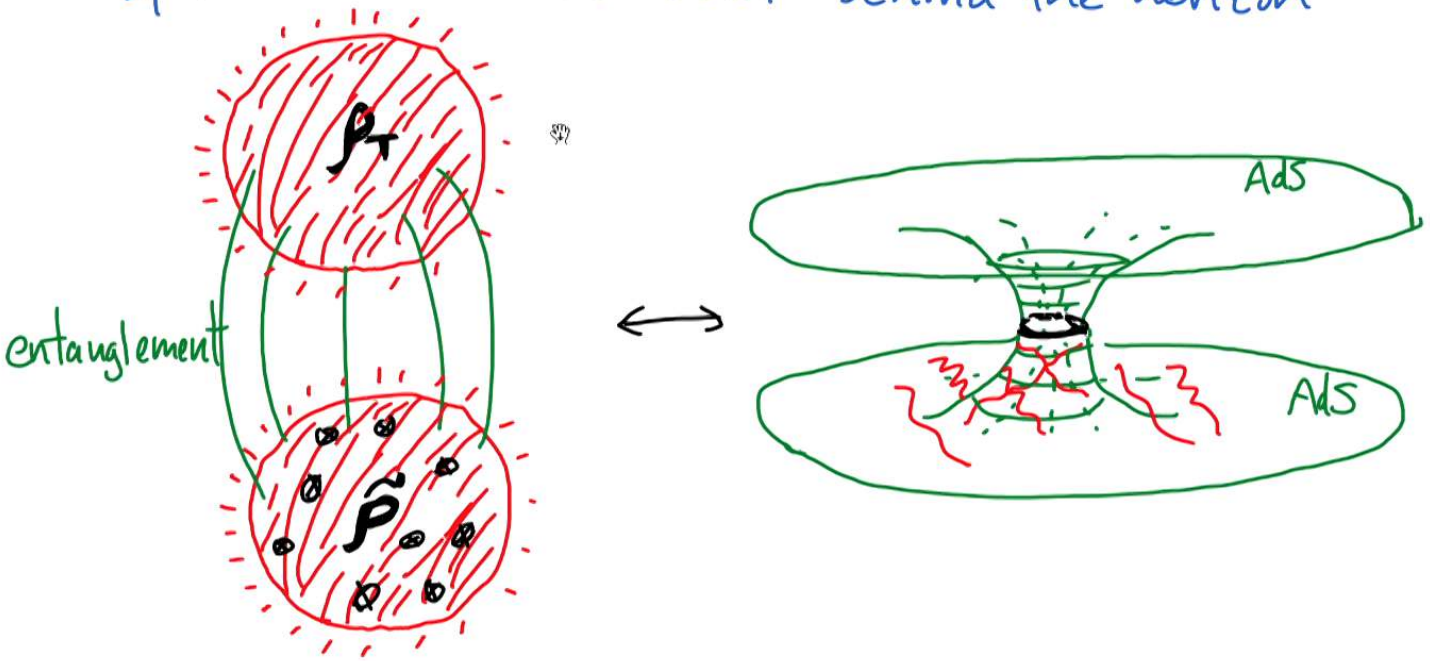
ensemble of pure states "black hole microstates"

Maldacena: "Thermofield double" purification corresponds to maximally extended AdS/Schwarzchild B.H.



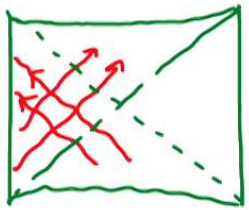
$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_i e^{-\beta E_i/2} |E_i\rangle \otimes |E_i\rangle$$

But other purifications correspond to extended spacetimes with "stuff" behind the horizon

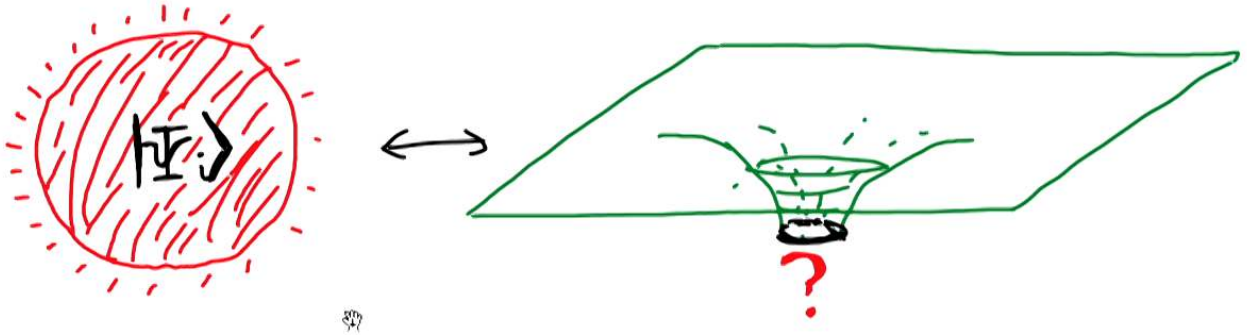


$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_i e^{-\beta E_i/2} |E_i\rangle \otimes (U|E_i\rangle)$$

unitary



What about black hole microstates?



$|\Psi_i\rangle \in \rho_T$

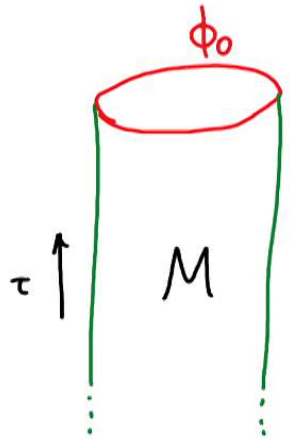
significant controversy e.g. firewall debate 2013+

We will describe a class of CFT excited states whose behind-the-horizon geometries can be understood explicitly.

(motivated by Kourkoulou & Maldacena SYK discussion)

CFT states from path integrals:

vacuum state wavefunction for CFT on S^d:

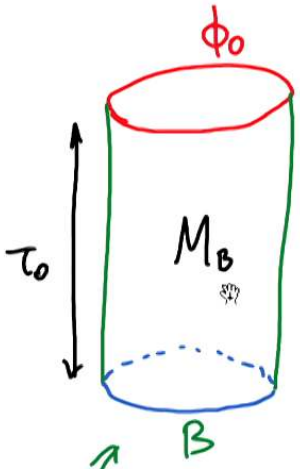


$$\Psi_{vac}[\phi_0] = \int_M^{\phi(\tau=0)=\phi_0} [d\phi]\, e^{-S_{Euc}}$$

from: $|vac\rangle \sim \lim_{\beta\to\infty} e^{-\beta H} |\Psi_0\rangle$

Black hole microstates from "boundary states":

(Maldacena, Kourkoulou)



$$\Psi_{B,\tau_0}[\phi_0] = \int_{M_B}^{\phi(\tau=0)=\phi_0} [d\phi]\, e^{-S_{EUC}}$$

$$|\Psi\rangle = e^{-\tau_0 H}|B\rangle$$

↑ "boundary state"

add boundary with some boundary condition for CFT

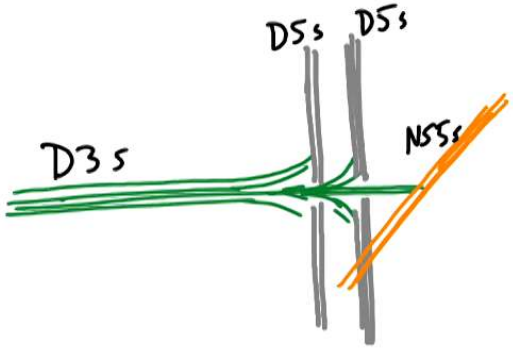
INTERLUDE: CFTs with boundary and their gravity duals

Given a CFT, have various consistent boundary conditions

eg: Neumann/Dirichlet for free scalar

Some preserve scale/conformal invariance

$SO(d,2) \to SO(d-1,2)$

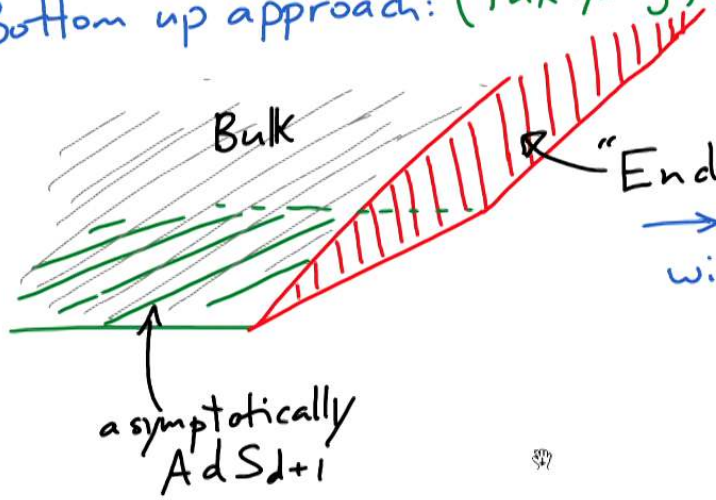


e.g. $\frac{1}{2}$ susy b.c.'s for $N=4$ SYM

Gaiotto Witten

Gravity duals of BCFTs:

① Bottom up approach: (Takayanagi; Karch Randall)



→ model via boundary action with tension, couplings to bulk fields

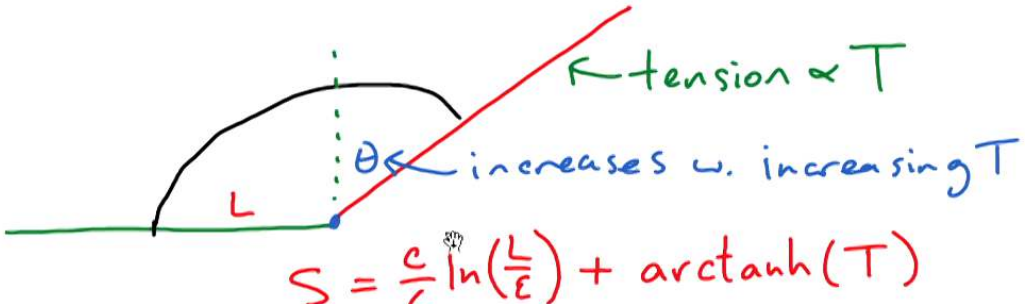
* we will use this *

② Top down approach: full 10D solutions

- no explicit brane

e.g. Aharony et. al. solutions dual to $\mathcal{N}=4$ w. $\frac{1}{2}$ susy b.c.'s

Brane tension vs boundary entropy



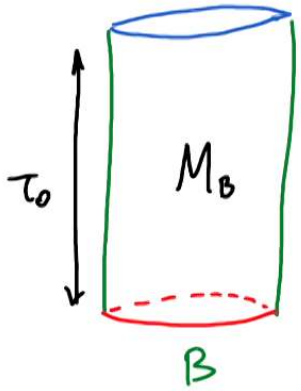
$$S = \frac{c}{6}\ln\left(\frac{L}{\varepsilon}\right) + \operatorname{arctanh}(T)$$

$$S = \frac{c}{6}\ln\left(\frac{L}{\varepsilon}\right) + \ln(g)$$

↖ measure of # of boundary d.o.f.

* Currently exploring which values of T are possible in w. holographic theories by computing boundary entropy for susy cases with explicit dual solutions — Chris Waddell

Back to our CFT states



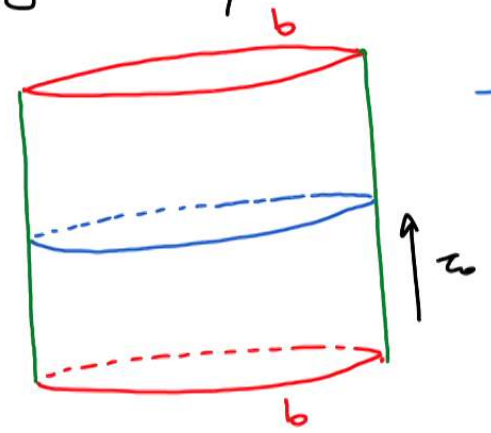
$$\Psi_{B,\tau_0}[\phi_\cdot] = \int_{M_B}^{\phi(\tau=0)=\phi_0} [d\phi]\, e^{-S_{EUC}}$$

* Defines excited state for CFT on S^{d-1} *

* CFT boundary appears only in Euclidean past *

What is the dual geometry?

Follow AdS/CFT recipe to find dual black hole geometry:



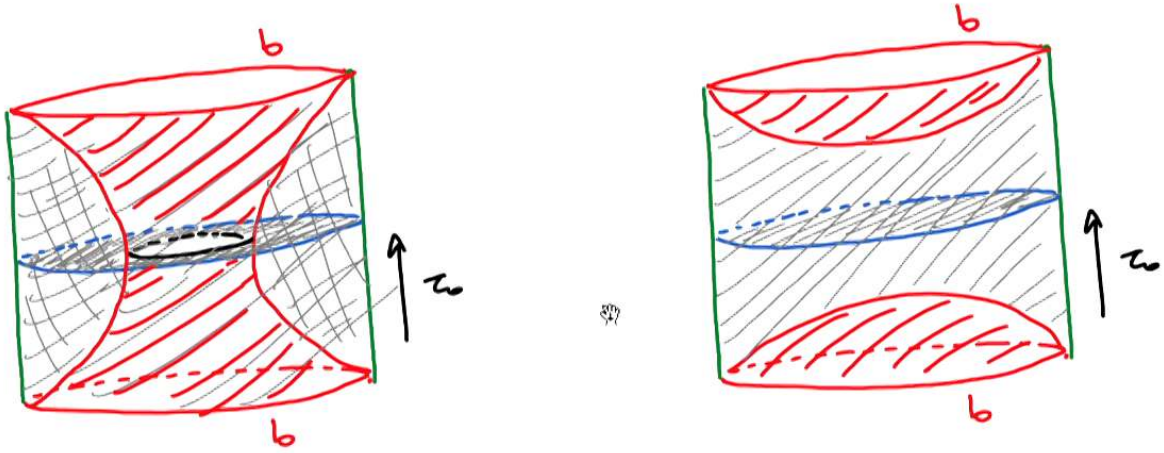
→ CFT path integral on this space used to compute observables e.g.

$$\langle \Psi_{b,\tau_0} | \mathcal{O}_1 \dots \mathcal{O}_n | \Psi_{b,\tau_0} \rangle$$

Dual gravity calculation: First find Euclidean asympt. AdS spacetime with this boundary geometry.

Dual geometry (using bottom-up approach)

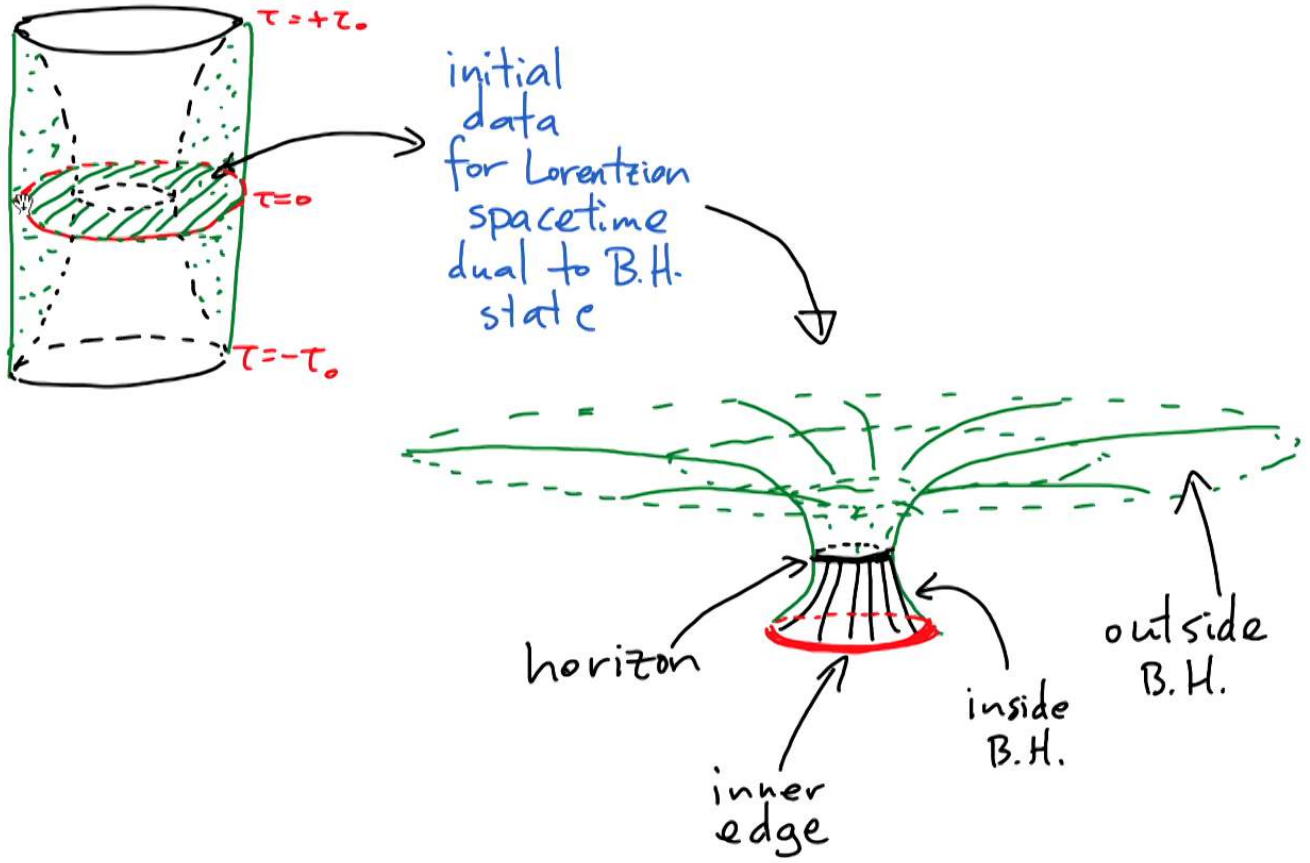
2 possible topologies:

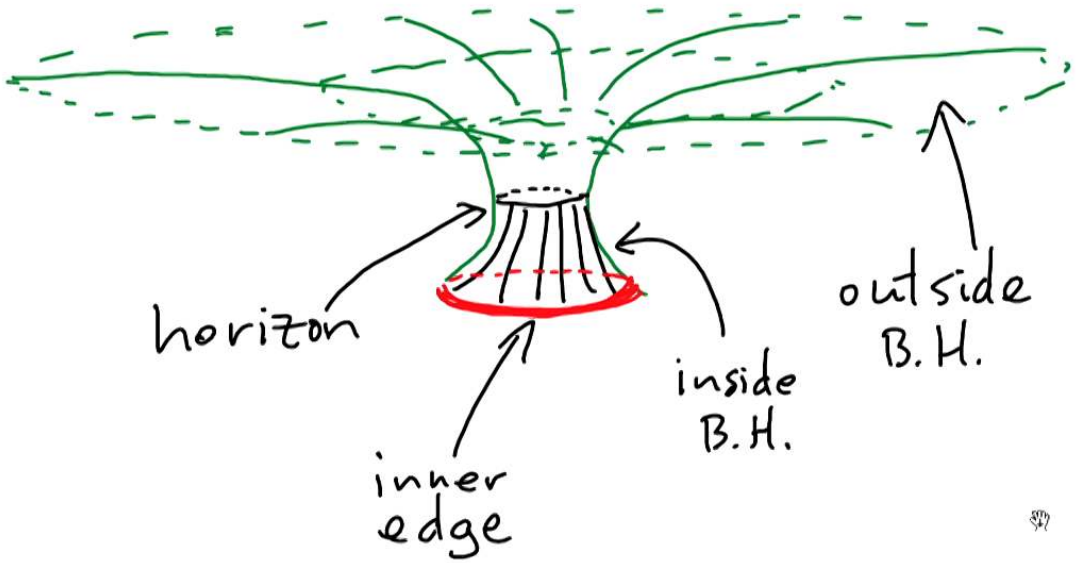


this has lower action for small τ_0

- black hole phase

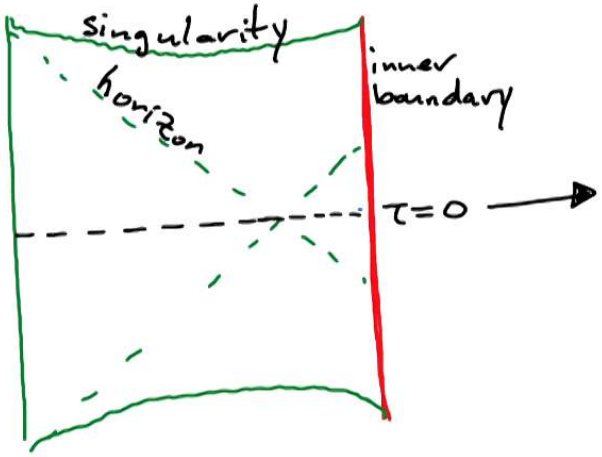
Dual Lorentzian spacetime: (for ETW brane tension $T > 0$)



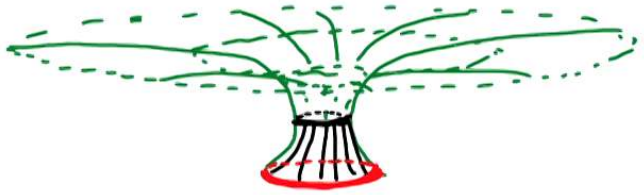


detailed properties of this inner boundary depend on boundary condition chosen to define state.

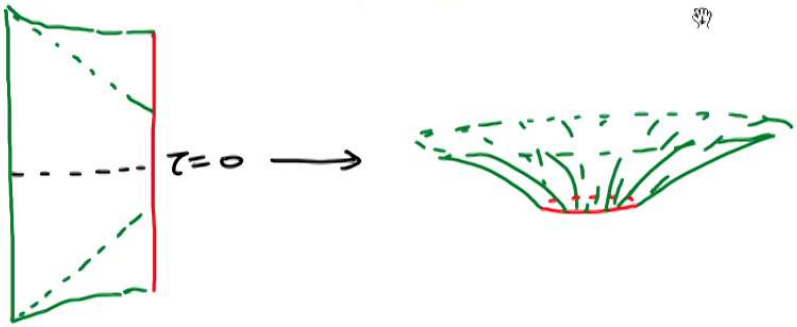
Spacetime picture:



T > 0 case:

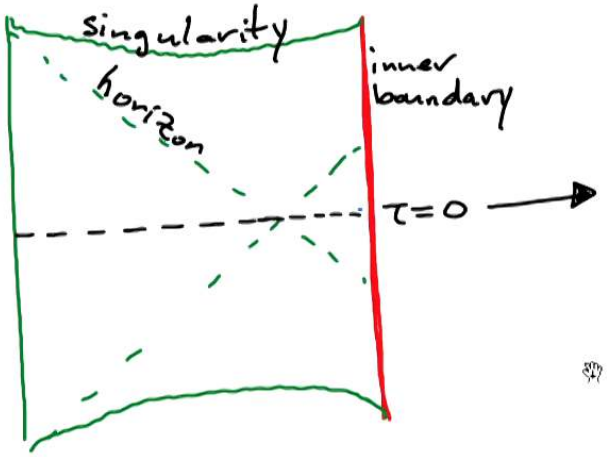


T < 0 case:

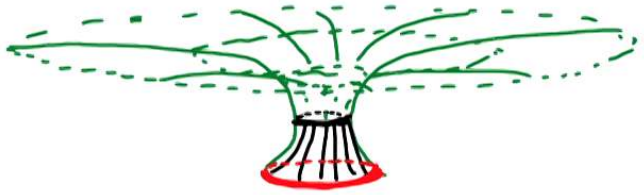


How can we probe behind the horizon via the CFT state?

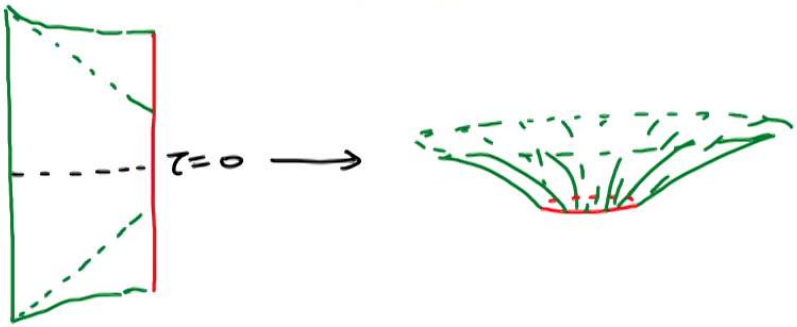
Spacetime picture:



T > 0 case:



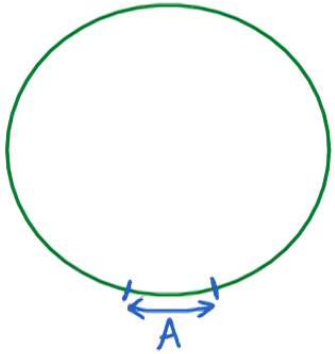
T < 0 case:

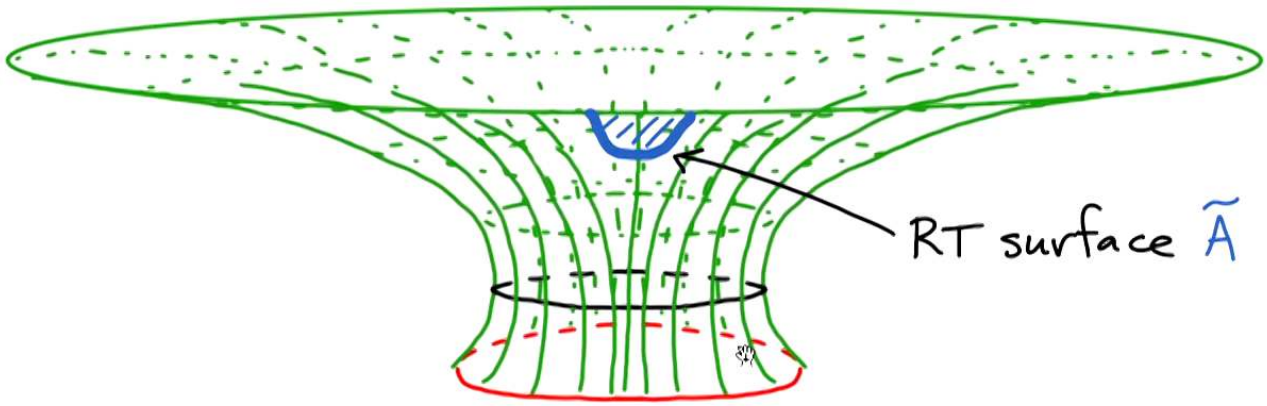


How can we probe behind the horizon via the CFT state?

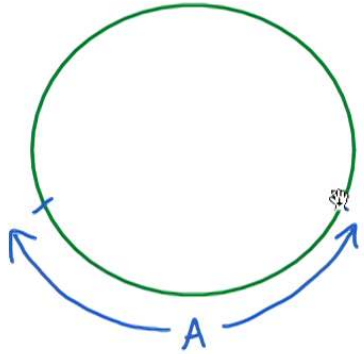
Entanglement entropy!

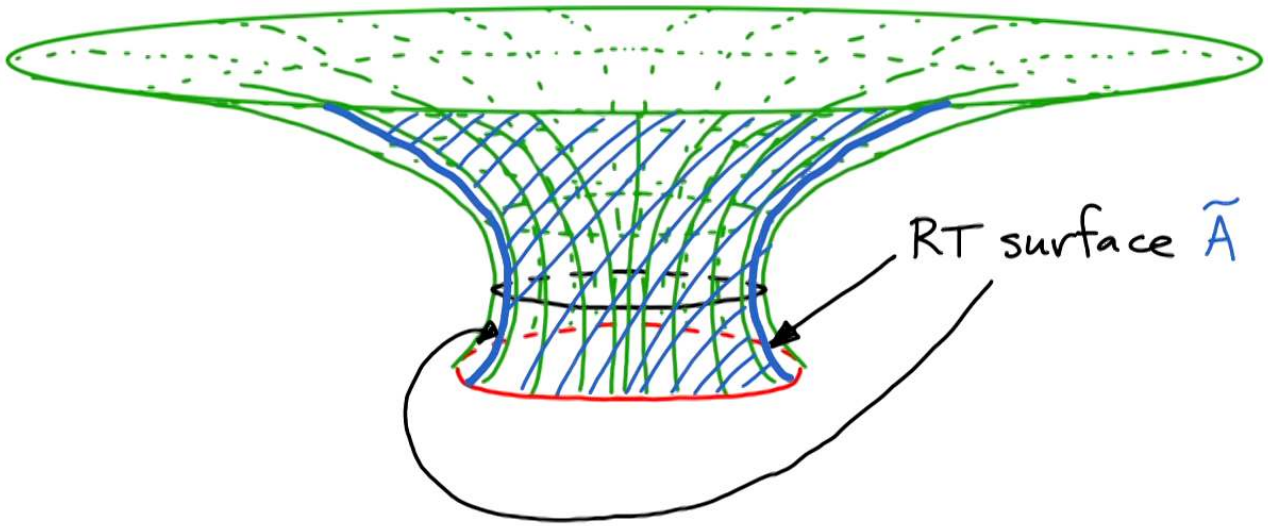
$t=0$ entanglement entropy:



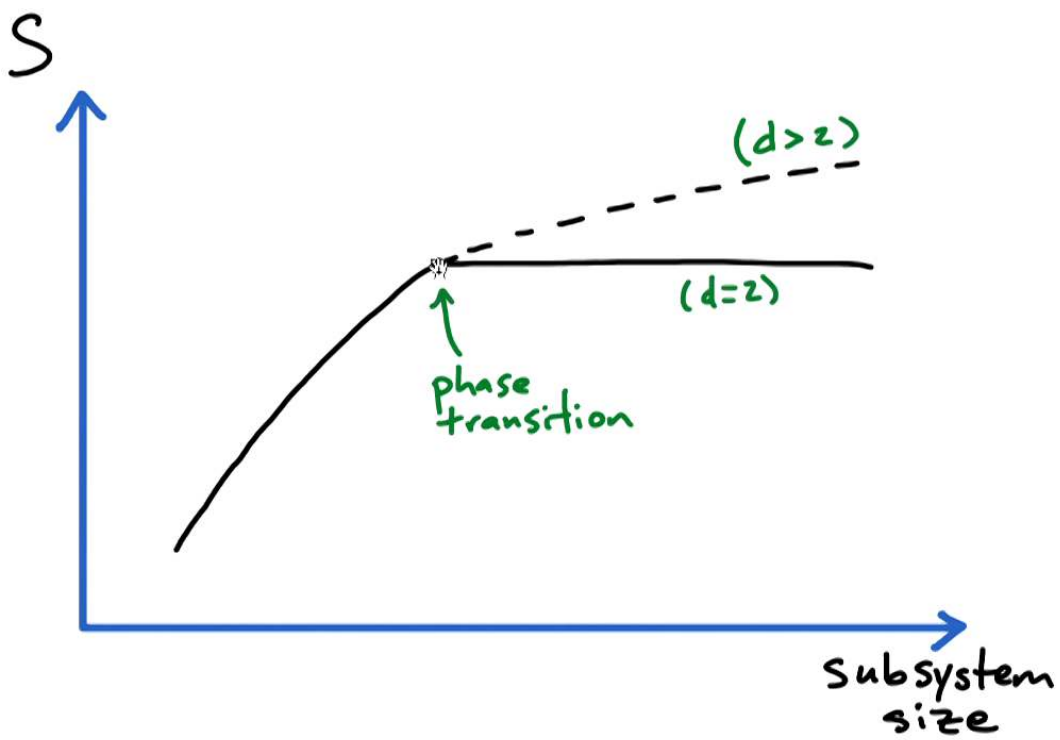


$t=0$ entanglement entropy:

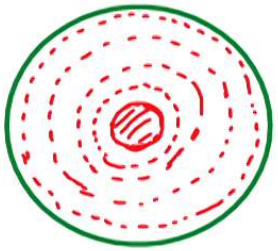


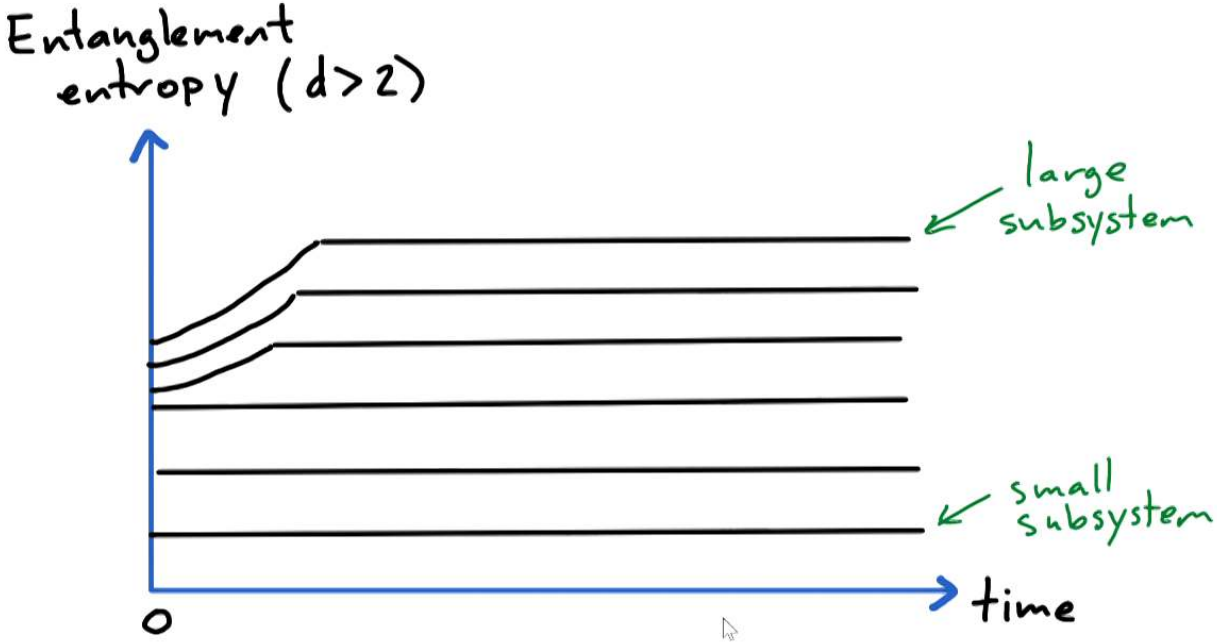


$t = 0$ entanglement entropy

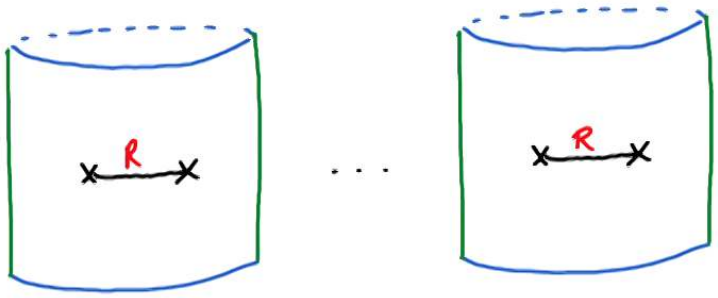


Time-dependent entanglement entropies:



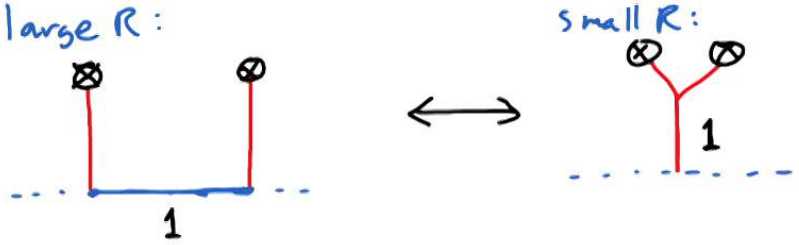


Direct CFT calculation: $S = \lim_{n \to 1} \frac{1}{1-n} \frac{Z_n}{Z_1^n}$



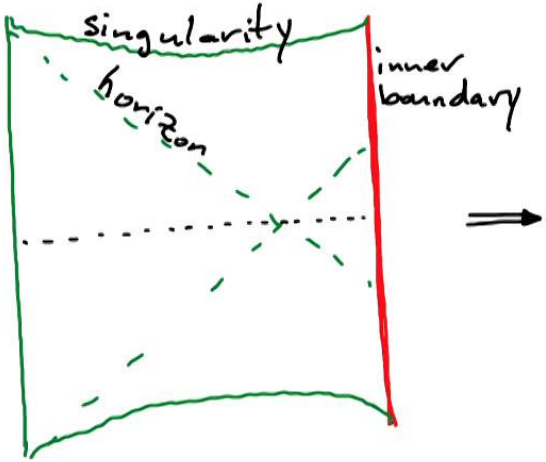
$= Z_n$

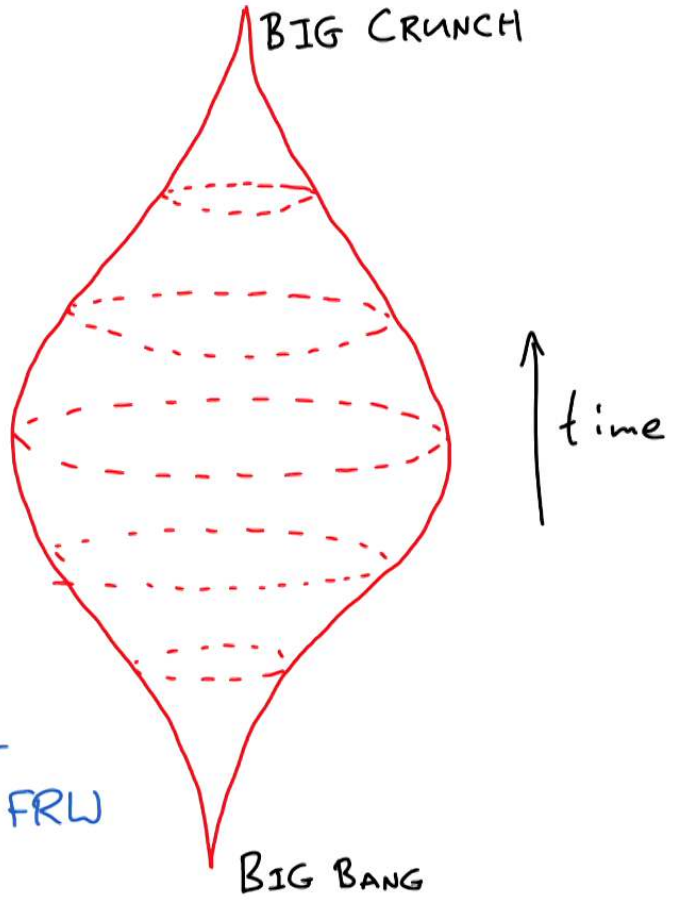
Transition + detailed results reproduced by assuming identity block dominance in some channel



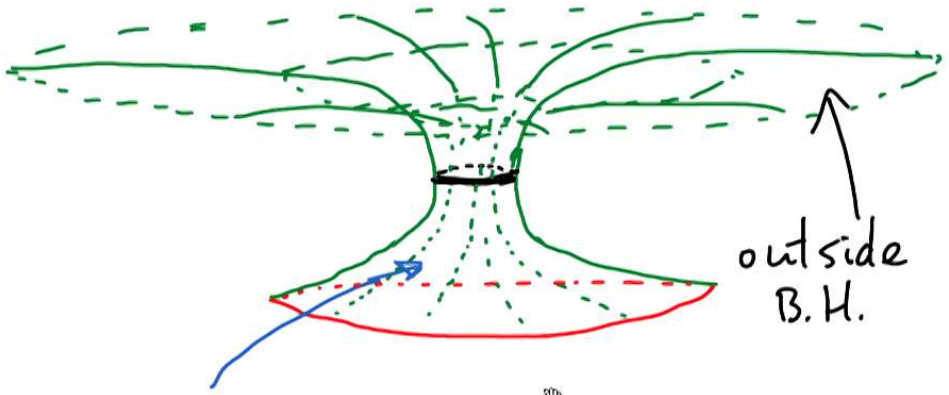
David Wakeham, MVR in progress

A connection to cosmology?

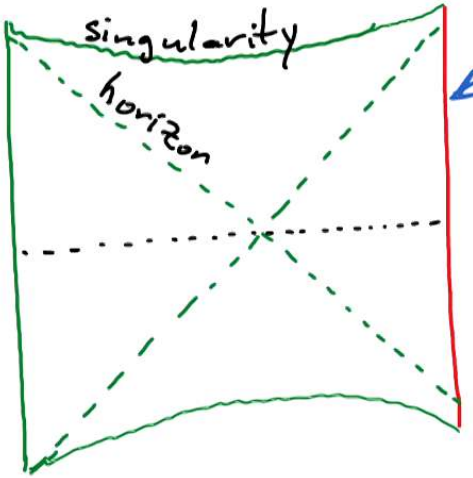




- spacetime geometry of inner boundary looks like closed FRW cosmology



If inner region is large enough, gravity can "localize" on the inner boundary.

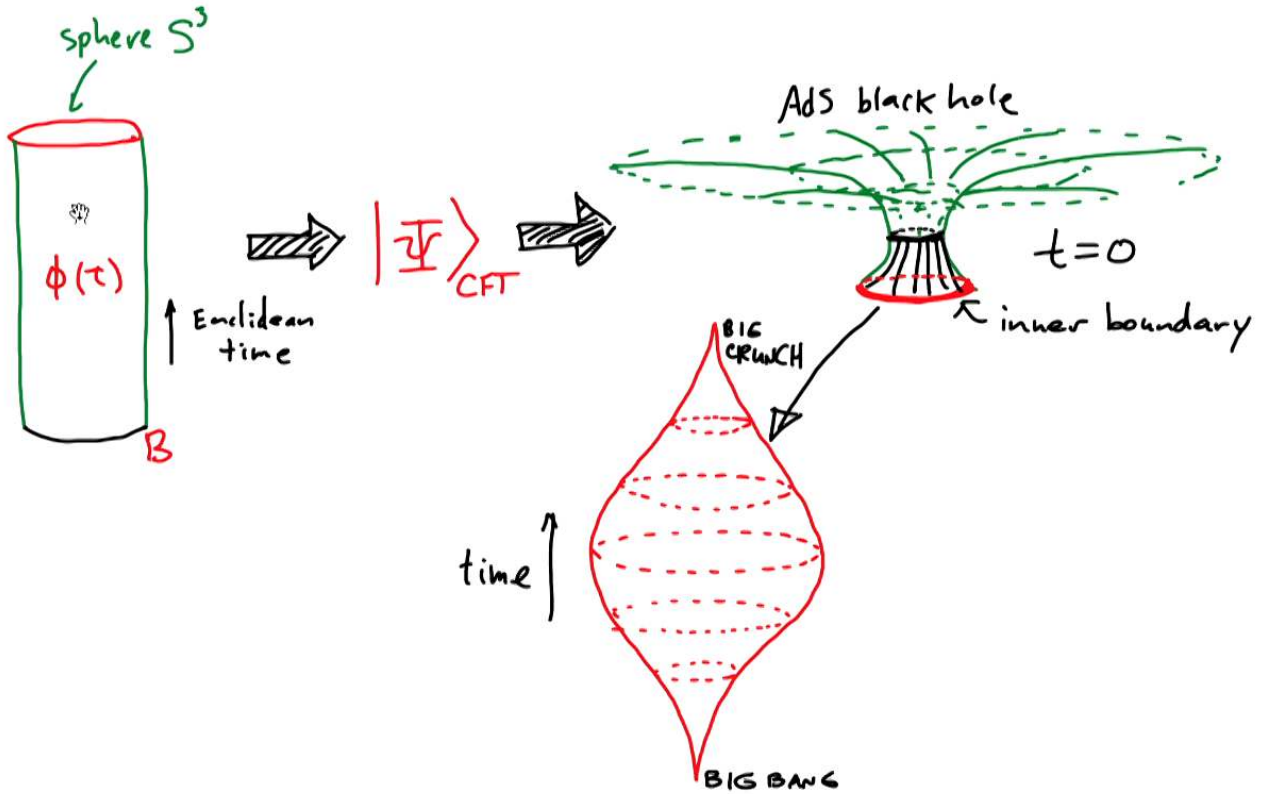


← "UV brane"

Randall-Sundrum II Cosmology

Talking: Mark

Punch line: Certain high-energy states of a CFT on S^3 may provide a microscopic description of big bang cosmology



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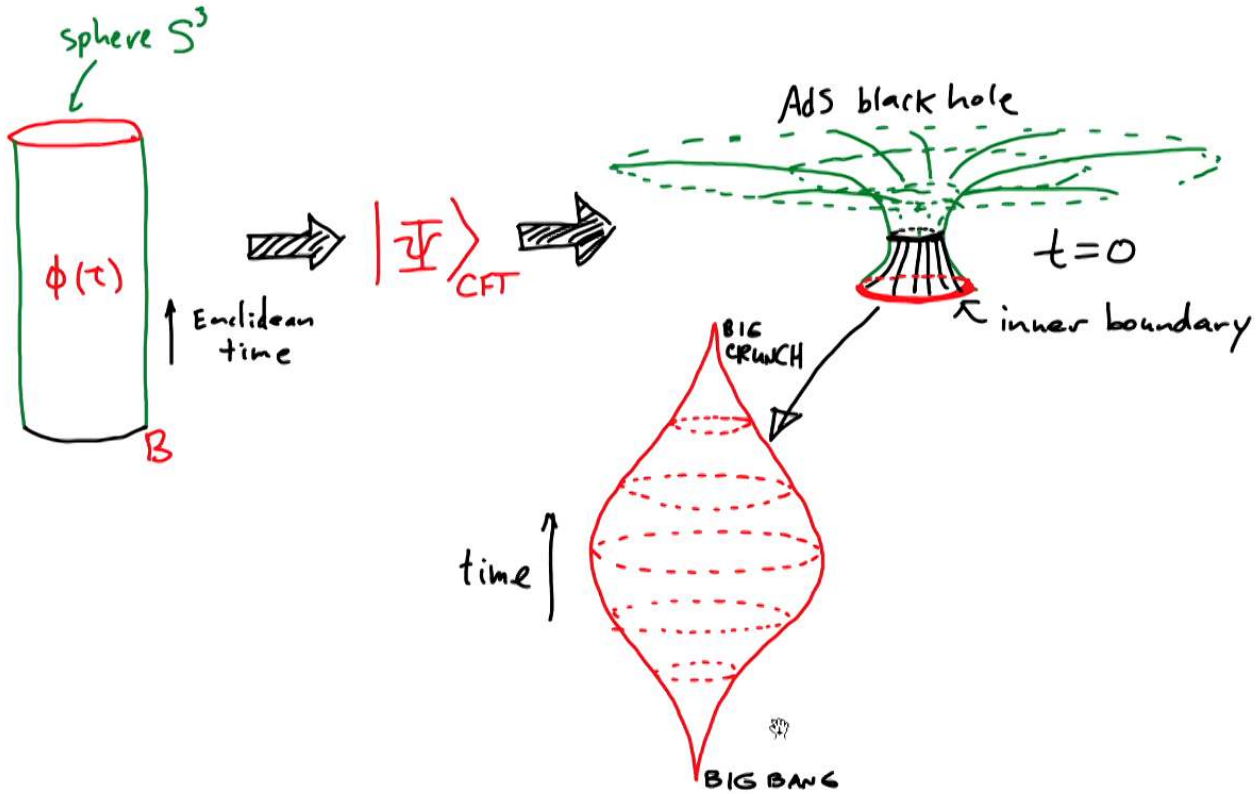
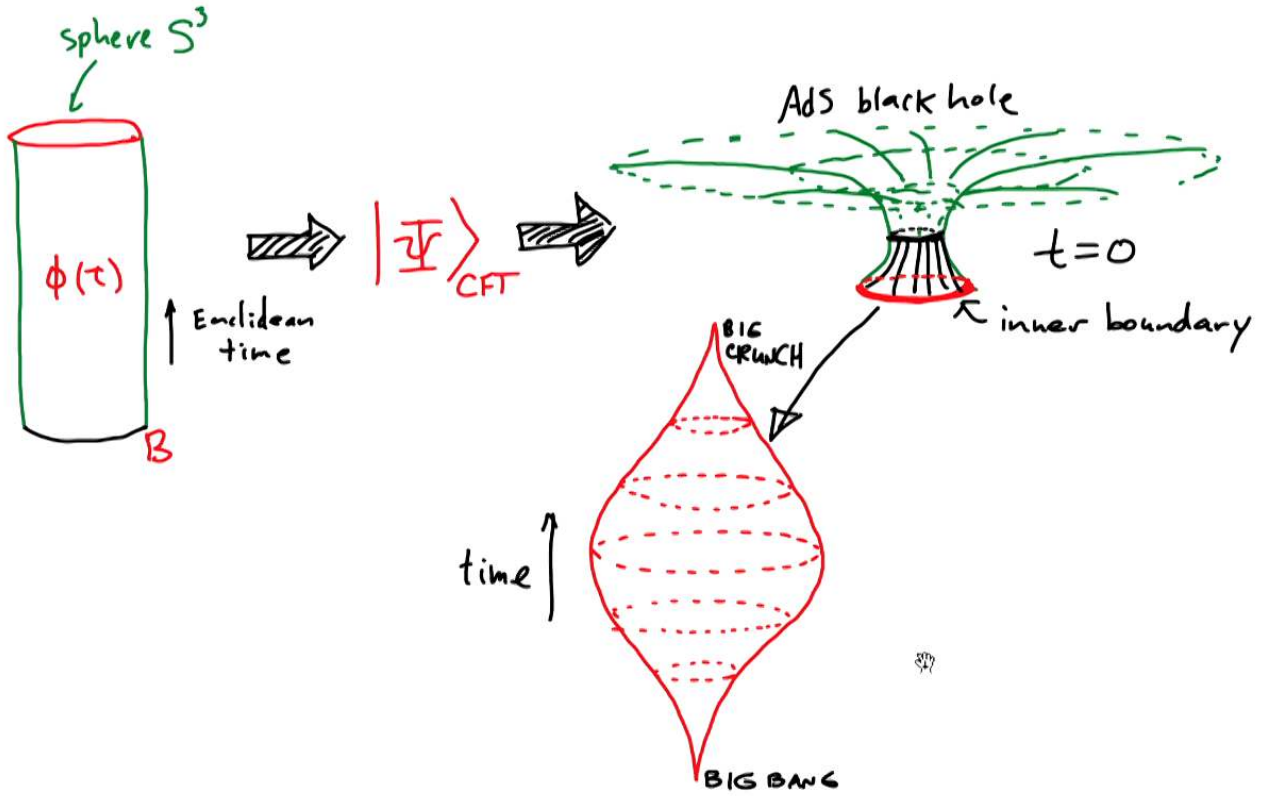


Punch line: Certain high-energy states of a CFT on S^3 may provide a microscopic description of big bang cosmology



Very interesting even if can't be made realistic

* currently no complete quantum gravity theory for cosmological spacetimes*

Key question: how is the detailed cosmological physics encoded in the CFT?

- need to understand description of local behind-the-horizon operators (hard!)