

Title: The Python's Lunch: geometric obstructions to decoding Hawking radiation

Speakers: Hrant Gharibyan

Series: Quantum Fields and Strings

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Abstract: Harlow and Hayden [arXiv:1301.4504] argued that distilling information out of Hawking radiation is computationally hard despite the fact that the quantum state of the black hole and its radiation is relatively un-complex. I will trace this computational difficulty to a geometric obstruction in the Einstein-Rosen bridge connecting the black hole and its radiation. Inspired by tensor network models, I will present a conjecture that relates the computational hardness of distilling information to geometric features of the wormhole - specifically to the exponential of the difference in generalized entropies between the two non-minimal quantum extremal surfaces that constitute the obstruction. Due to its shape, this obstruction was dubbed "Python's Lunch", in analogy to the reptile's postprandial bulge.

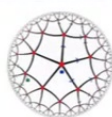


Python's Lunch: geometric obstructions to decoding Hawking radiation



Adam Brown, **Hrant Gharibyan**, Geoff Penington, Leonard Susskind
arXiv: 1912.00228

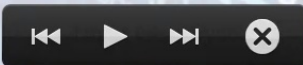
Caltech



It from Qubit
Simons Collaboration on
Quantum Fields, Gravity and Information

Hrant Gharibyan
IQIM Caltech
May 21, 2020 – IFQ Seminar

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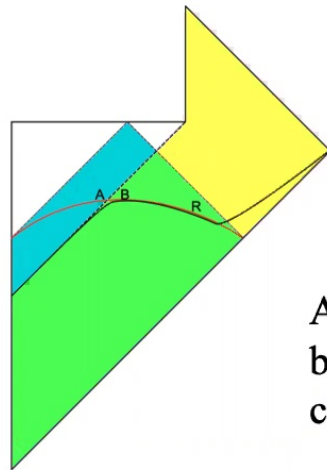
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Harlow and Hayden (2013)



Daniel Harlow, Patrick Hayden,

“*Quantum Computation vs. Firewalls*”; *arXiv:1301.4504*



Decoding the information that fell into black hole by only action on radiation is hard.

$$\text{Complexity} \sim e^S$$

Argument relies on the mixing assumption of black hole and radiation as well as complexity class reduction.

[Harlow-Hayden 2013; Aaronson 2014; Kim, Tang, Preskill et. al 2020]

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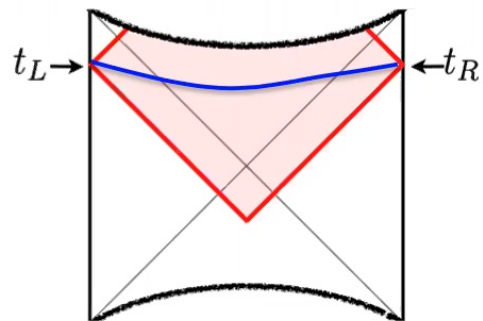
1

Susskind, Brown, and et. al (2014)



A. Brown, D. Roberts, L. Susskind, B. Swingle, Y. Zhao
“Complexity Equals Action”; *arXiv: 1509.07876*

D. Stanford, L. Susskind,
“Complexity and Shock Wave Geometries”; *arXiv: 1406.2678*



$$|\psi(t_L, t_R)\rangle$$

State Complexity = Volume of ER Bridge

State Complexity = Action of WDW Patch

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Apparent Contradiction

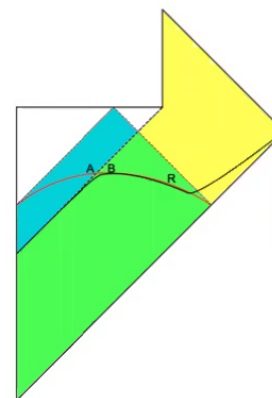


For evaporating black hole volume/action is polynomial and those complexity is polynomial.

poly(S)

Harlow and Hayden suggested it is exponentially hard to decode the radiation.

exp(S)



Where is this contradiction coming from?

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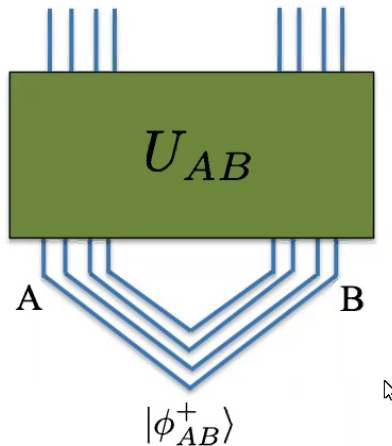
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Restricted vs Unrestricted Complexity



We are talking about two different notions of complexity

----- unrestricted vs restricted -----



Unrestricted complexity

$$U_{AB} = g_1 g_2 \cdots g_C$$

Restricted complexity

$$V_A = g_1 g_2 \cdots g_{C_A}$$

$$V_A |\phi_{AB}^+\rangle \approx U_{AB} |\phi_{AB}^+\rangle$$

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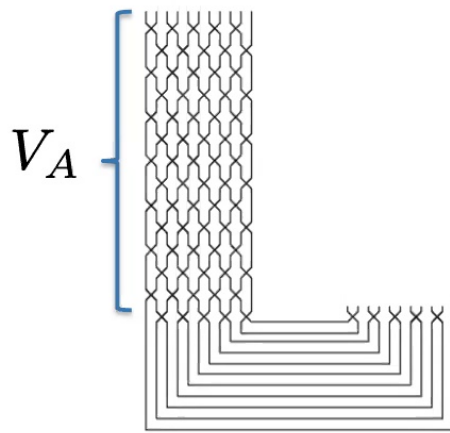


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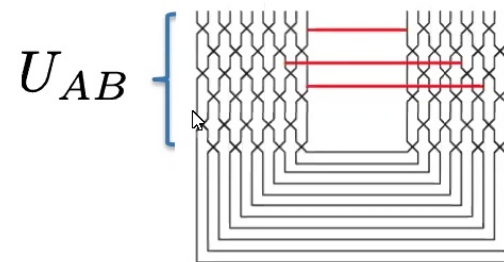
Restricted vs Unrestricted Complexity



Restricted Complexity
(Harlow-Haden)



Unrestricted Complexity
(Volume/Action)



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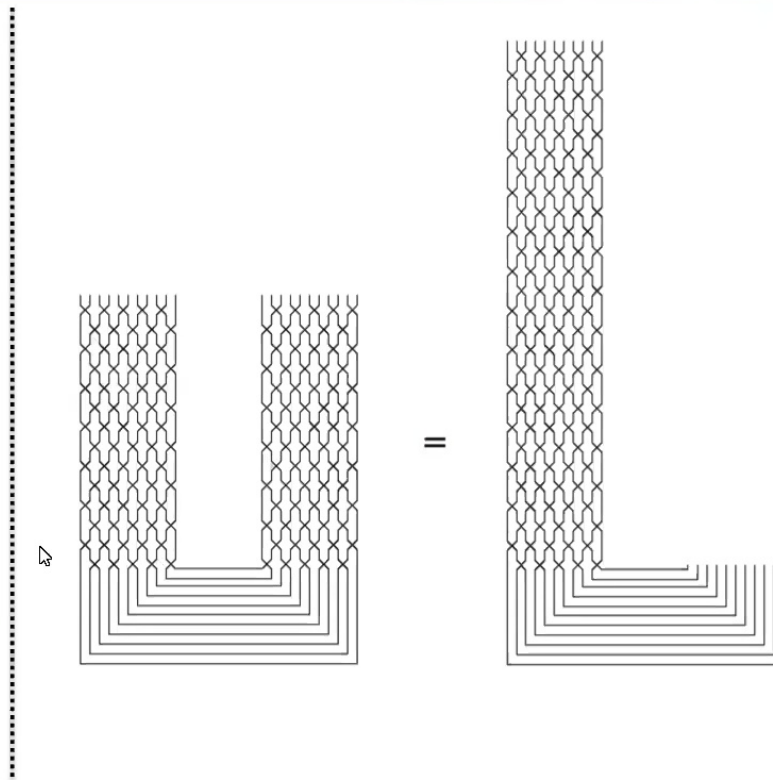
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When are restricted and unrestricted complexities very different?



Time evolution of the
thermofield double.

Restricted Complexity
=
Unrestricted Complexity



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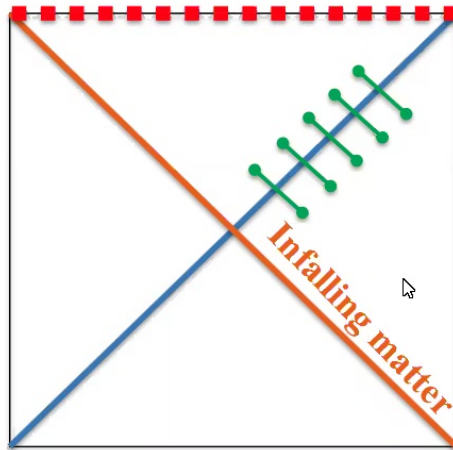


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When are restricted and unrestricted complexities very different?



What about **evaporating black hole**?



Radiation and black hole modes are **coupled!**

A bit after **Page time**,
volume/action is polynomial in S .

Restricted complexity is **exponential**.

**What the difference between
semi-classical gravity thermofield double
and evaporating black hole?**

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When are restricted and unrestricted complexities very different?



Python's lunch

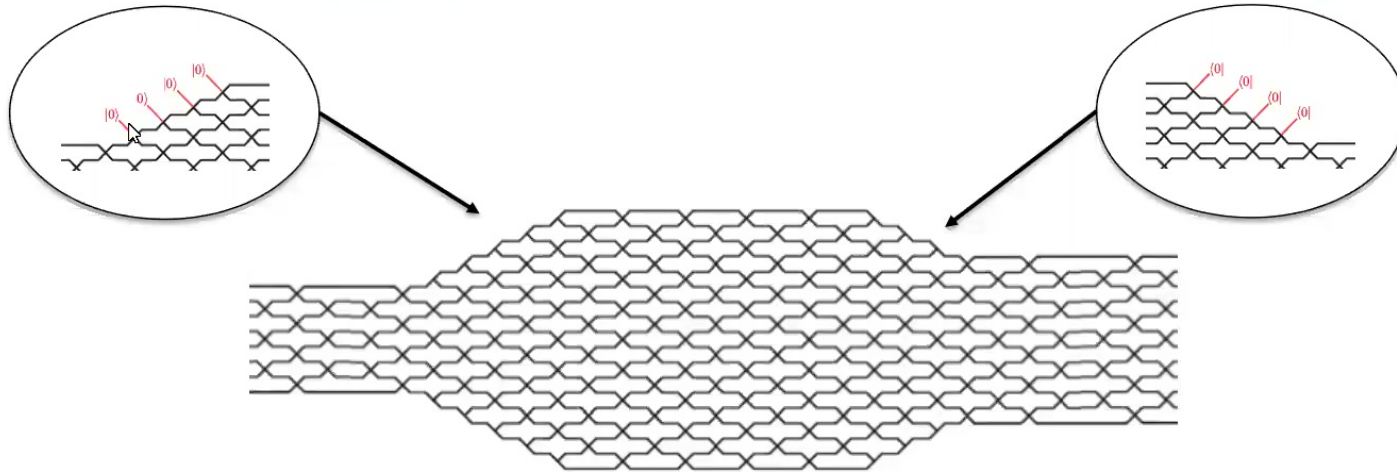


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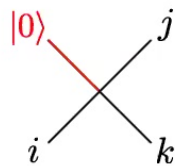
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The Python's Lunch in Tensor Network



Tensor network is built off **unitary gates** and has **isometries** in endpoints.

Isometry:

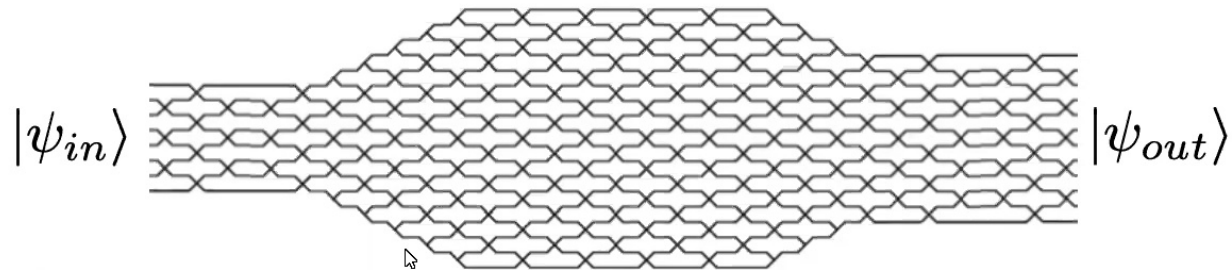


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The Python's Lunch in Tensor Network



$$|\psi_{out}\rangle \propto \langle 0|^{m_R} U_{TN} |\psi_{in}\rangle |0\rangle^{m_L}$$

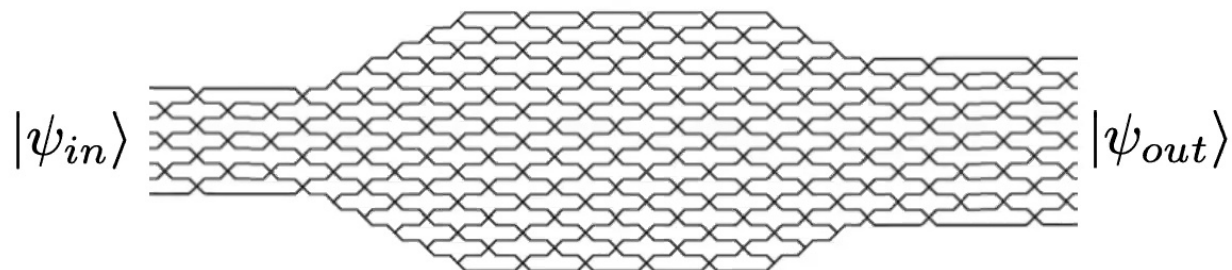
**Ancillary
Input Qubits**

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The Python's Lunch in Tensor Network



$$|\psi_{out}\rangle \propto \langle 0|^{m_R} U_{TN} |\psi_{in}\rangle |0\rangle^{m_L}$$

Post-selection

**Polynomial
Complexity
Unitary**

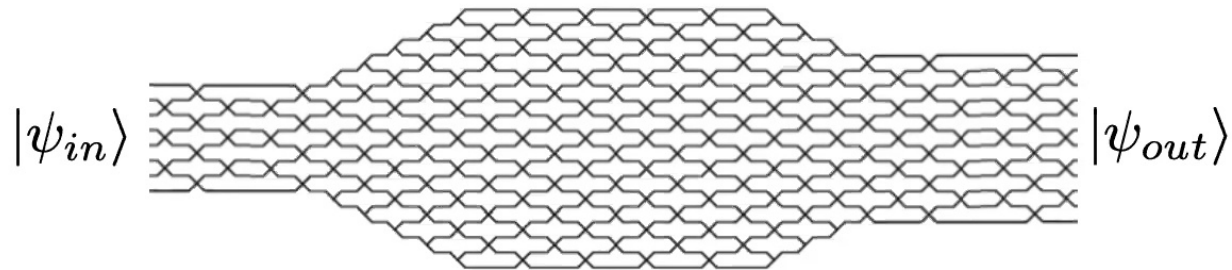
**Ancillary
Input Qubits**

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The Python's Lunch: NO POST-SELECTION



$$|\psi_{out}\rangle|0\rangle^{m_R} = U_{PL}|\psi_{in}\rangle|0\rangle^{m_L}$$

Unitary

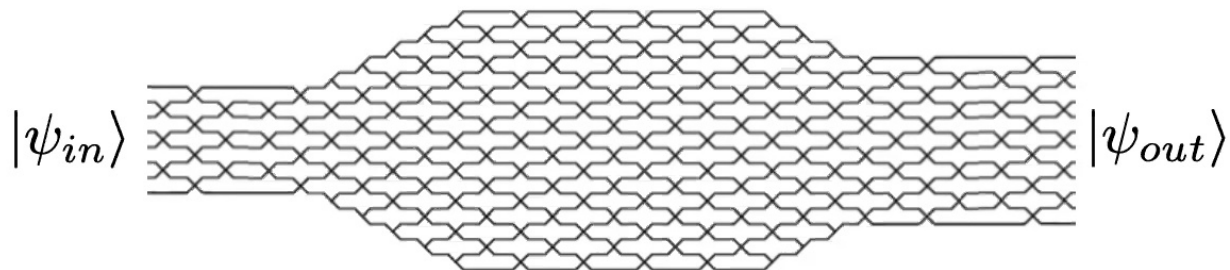
**Ancillary
Input Qubits**

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The Python's Lunch: NO POST-SELECTION



$$|\psi_{out}\rangle|0\rangle^{m_R} = U_{PL}|\psi_{in}\rangle|0\rangle^{m_L}$$

How complex is U_{PL} ?

Unitary

**Ancillary
Input Qubits**

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What's the complexity of removing post-selection / final state projection?



We can measure the qubits and hope to get the right answers.
Probability of the right answer is $1/2^m$ and expected complexity

$$C \propto 2^{m_R} \cdot C_{TN}$$

It is not a fixed unitary and complexity can be improved.

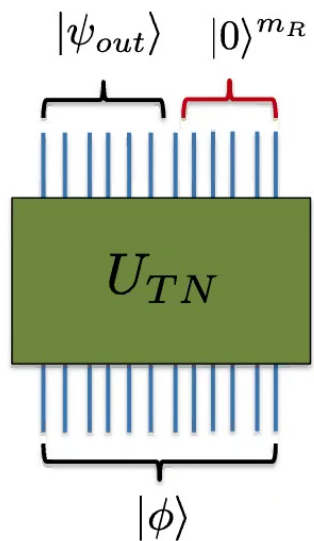
We can do a generalized **Grover-like search**.

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Grover-like search: state dependent



$$U_\phi = 2|\phi\rangle\langle\phi| - I$$

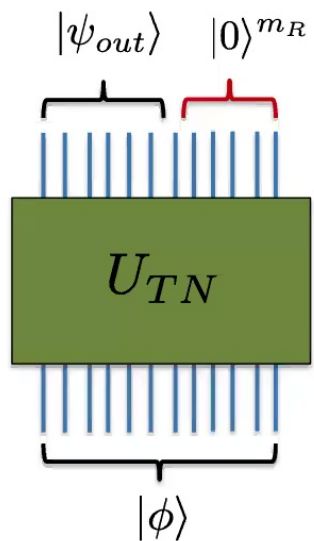
$$V = U_{TN}(2|0\rangle\langle 0|^{m_R} - I)U_{TN}^\dagger$$

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Grover-like search: state dependent



$$U_\phi = 2|\phi\rangle\langle\phi| - I$$

$$V = U_{TN}(2|0\rangle\langle 0|^{m_R} - I)U_{TN}^\dagger$$

Repeat sequence: $U_\phi V$

$$l = \sqrt{2^{m_R}} \sim \text{times}$$

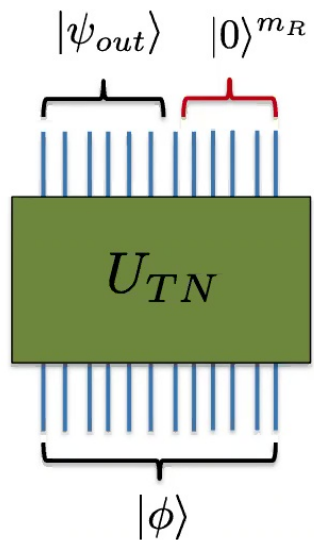
[Kitaev - Yoshida 2017]

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Grover-like search: state dependent



$$U_\phi = 2|\phi\rangle\langle\phi| - I$$

$$V = U_{TN}(2|0\rangle\langle 0|^{m_R} - I)U_{TN}^\dagger$$

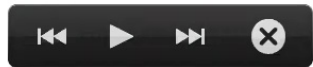
Repeat sequence: $U_\phi V$

$$l = \sqrt{2^{m_R}} \sim \text{times}$$

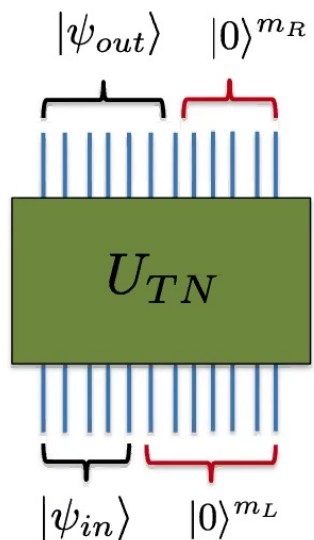
$$U_{PL} = U_{TN} [U_\phi V]^l$$

[Kitaev - Yoshida 2017]

This algorithm depends on the state $|\phi\rangle$



Grover-like search: state independent



$$U = 2|0\rangle\langle 0|^{m_L} - I$$

$$V = U_{TN}(2|0\rangle\langle 0|^{m_R} - I)U_{TN}^\dagger$$

$$U_{PL} = U_{TN} [UV]^l$$

$$\mathcal{C}(U_{PL}) \propto \sqrt{2^{m_R}} \cdot \mathcal{C}_{TN}$$

[Berry et. al 2015, Gilyen et. al 2017]

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Is Grover search the optimal strategy?



In special cases, for a specific unitary there might be an algorithm that can do better than Grover-like search.

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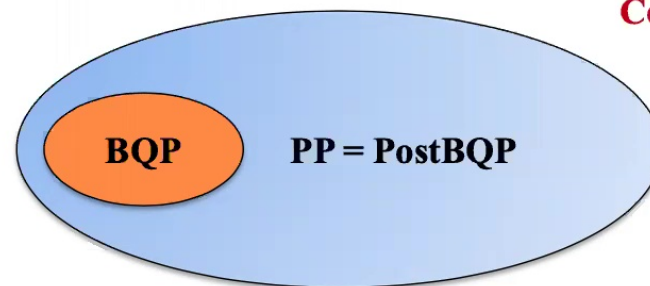
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Is Grover search the optimal strategy?



In special cases, for a specific unitary there might be an algorithm that can do better than Grover-like search.

However, for generic, **scrambling tensor network** U_{TN} polynomial algorithm is extremely unlikely to exist.



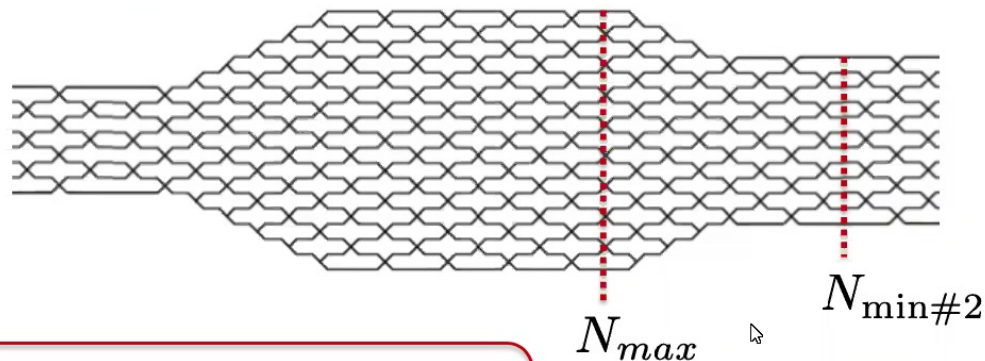
Complexity class collapse!

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Conjecture: restricted complexity in tensor network



Minimax: minimal of all maximal cuts for all the possible slicing.

Largest minimal cut

The restricted complexity of scrambling tensor network is

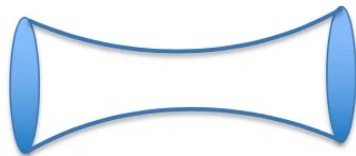
$$C_R \propto C_{TN} \cdot \exp \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(N_{max} - N_{min\#2} \right) \right]$$



Conjecture: restricted complexity in gravity

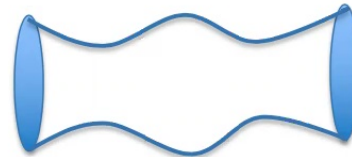


**Small (polynomial)
restricted complexity**



**Time evolved
thermo field double (TFD)**

**Large (exponential)
restricted complexity**



Python's lunch geometry

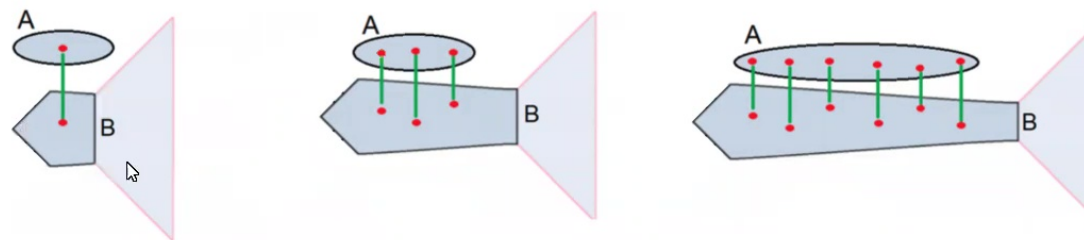
Evaporating Black Hole



Python's lunch in Evaporating Black Hole



Naïve picture of evaporation process



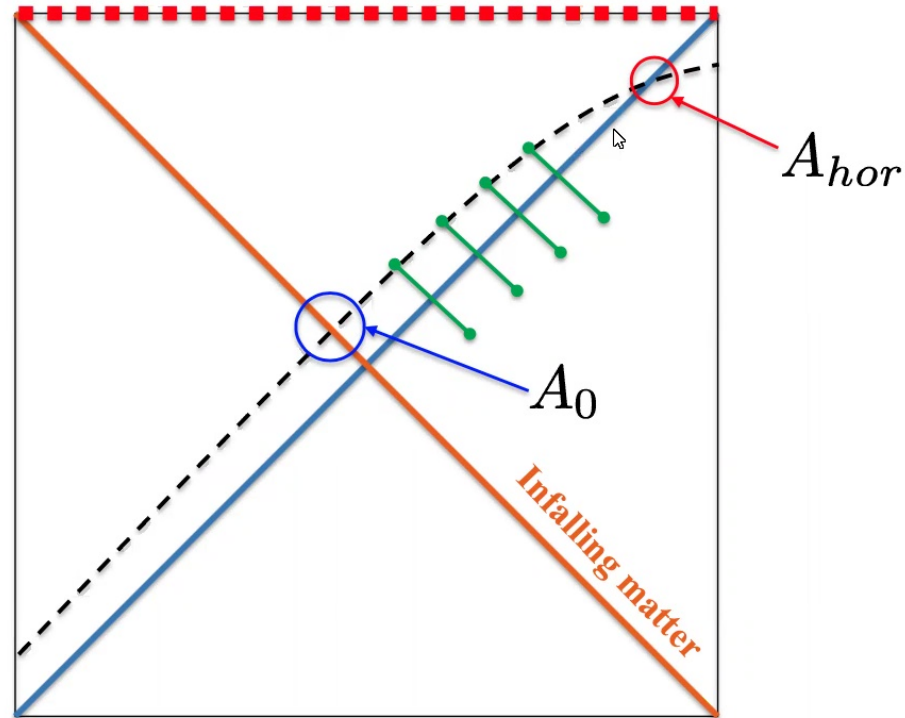
A is the radiation modes. **B** is the remaining black hole, some nice Cauchy slice going into the horizon.

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Python's lunch in Evaporating Black Hole

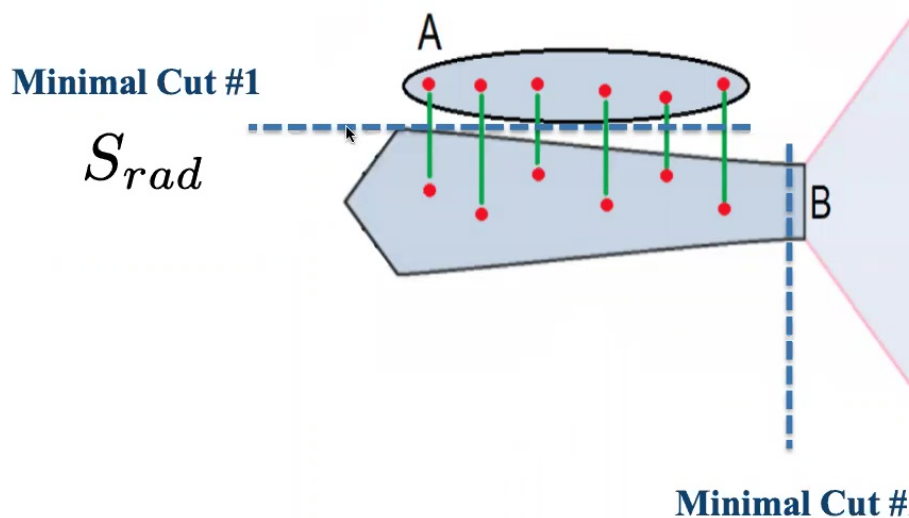


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Python's Lunch in Evaporating Black Hole



Page time

$$S_{rad} = \frac{A_{hor}}{4\hbar G}$$

What about the maximal cut?

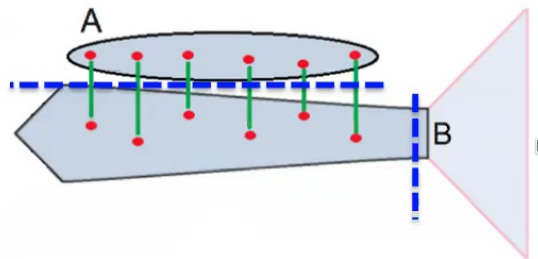
$$\frac{A_{hor}}{4\hbar G}$$

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Covariant definition of python's lunch



Both **minimal cuts** are quantum extremal surfaces (extremize the generalized entropy).
[Engelhardt, Wall 2014]

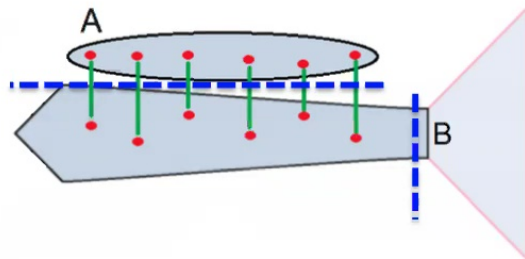
Maximin prescription: find the surfaces with smallest and second smallest generalized entropy then maximize over choice of Cauchy surfaces.
[Wall 2012, AEPU 2019]

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Covariant definition of python's lunch



Both **minimal cuts** are quantum extremal surfaces (extremize the generalized entropy).
[Engelhardt, Wall 2014]

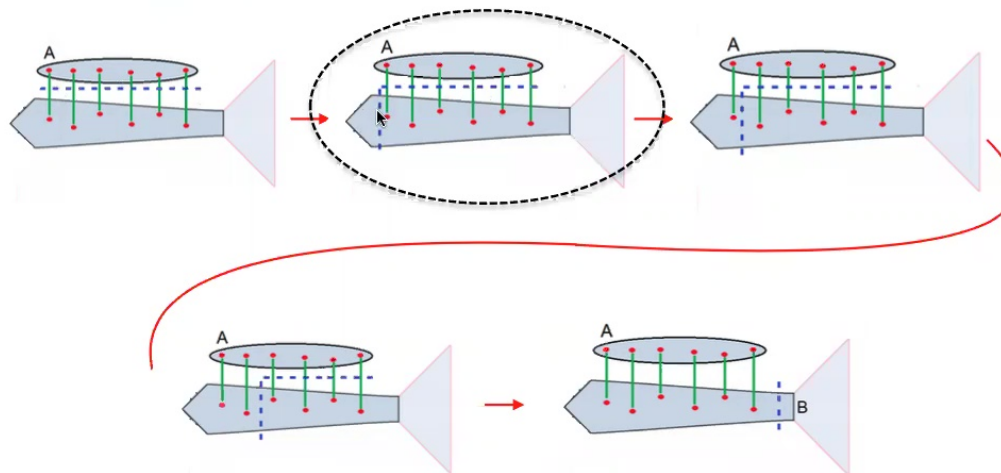
Maximin prescription: find the surfaces with smallest and second smallest generalized entropy then maximize over choice of Cauchy surfaces.
[Wall 2012, AEPU 2019]

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Python's lunch search for maximal cut



Before half time, we will be to **forward slicing**. The maximal generalized entropy.

$$S_{max}^{(gen)} = S_{rad} + \frac{A_0}{4\hbar G}$$

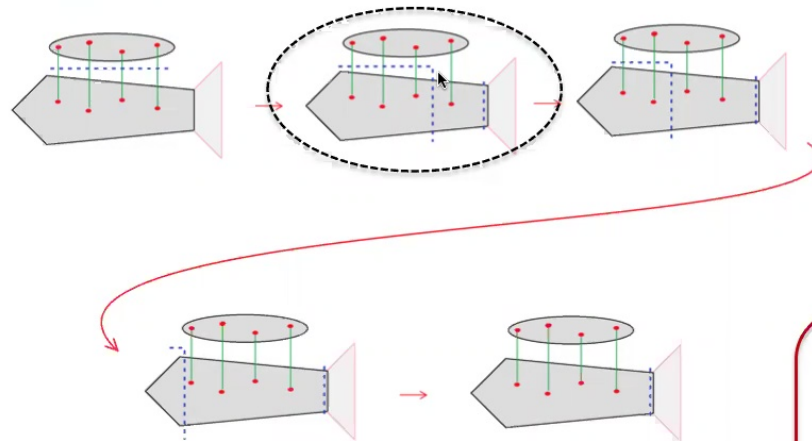
Minimax: find minimal of maximums of all slices.

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Python's lunch search for maximal cut



Half time

$$A_{hor} = \frac{A_0}{2}$$

After half time, we will perform **reverse slicing**.

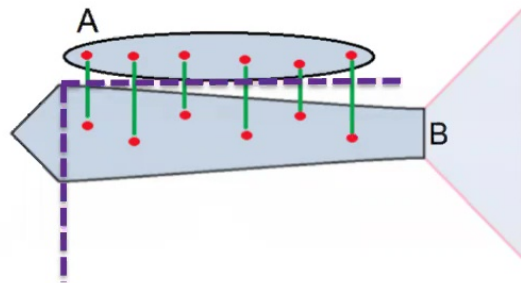
$$S_{max}^{(gen)} = S_{rad} + 2 \frac{A_{hor}}{4\hbar G}$$

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Covariant definition of python's lunch



Minimax: maximal cut for each Cauchy slice
find the minimum of the all maximal cuts
for all possible slicing methods. Analogous
to the tensor network story.

Maximinimax: maximize again over all Cauchy surfaces, giving non-minimal
quantum extremal surface.

We find this cuts explicitly for **JT gravity plus non-interacting fermions** and verify the picture from the nice Cauchy slice.

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Conjecture: restricted complexity for evaporating black hole



The restricted complexity of evaporating black hole is

$$C_R \propto C_{TN} \cdot \exp \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(S_{max}^{(gen)} - S_{min}^{(gen)} \right) \right]$$

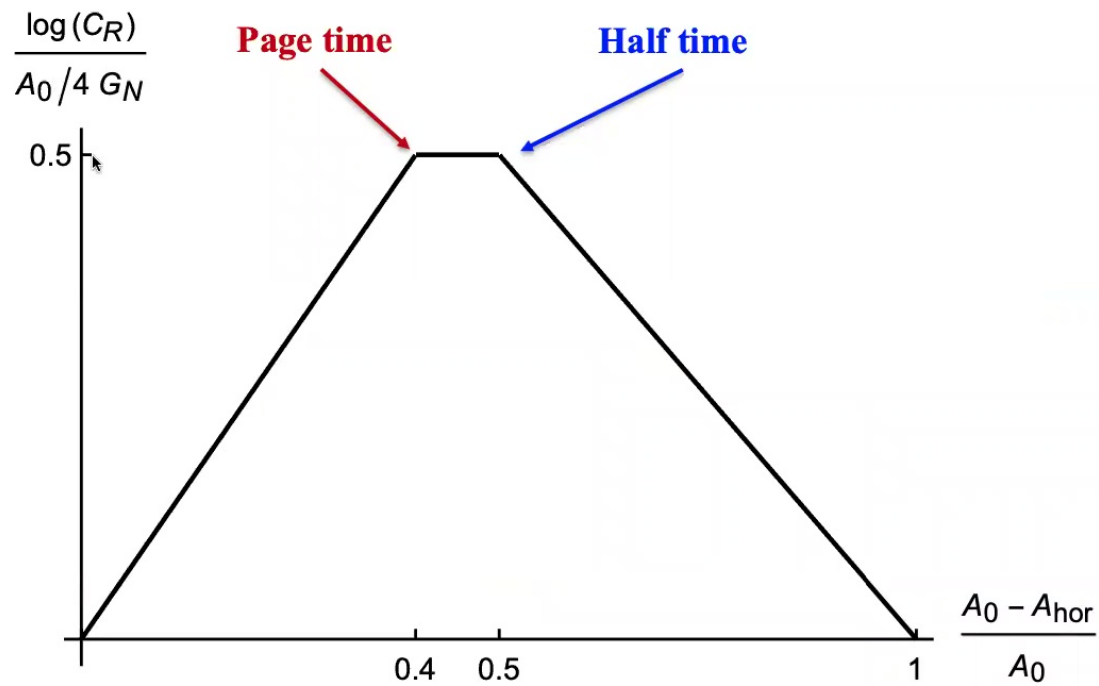
Volume/Action
(unrestricted complexity)

Maximinimax prescription

Maximin prescription



Restricted complexity for evaporating black hole



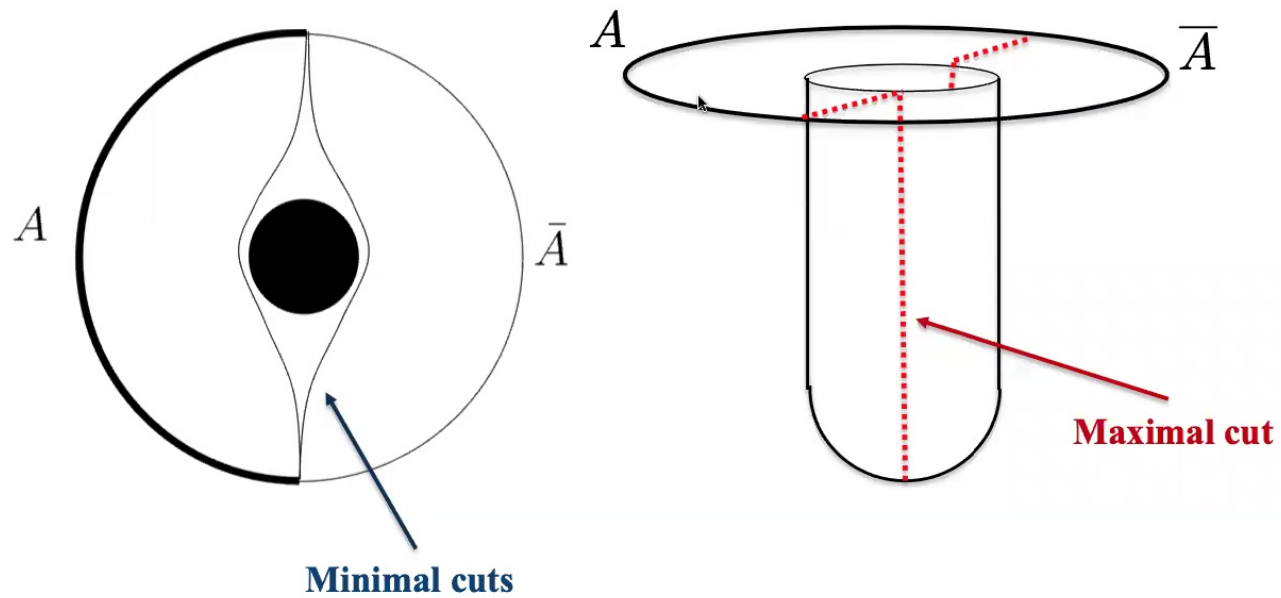
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Python's lunch in pure state black hole

Arant Gharibyan

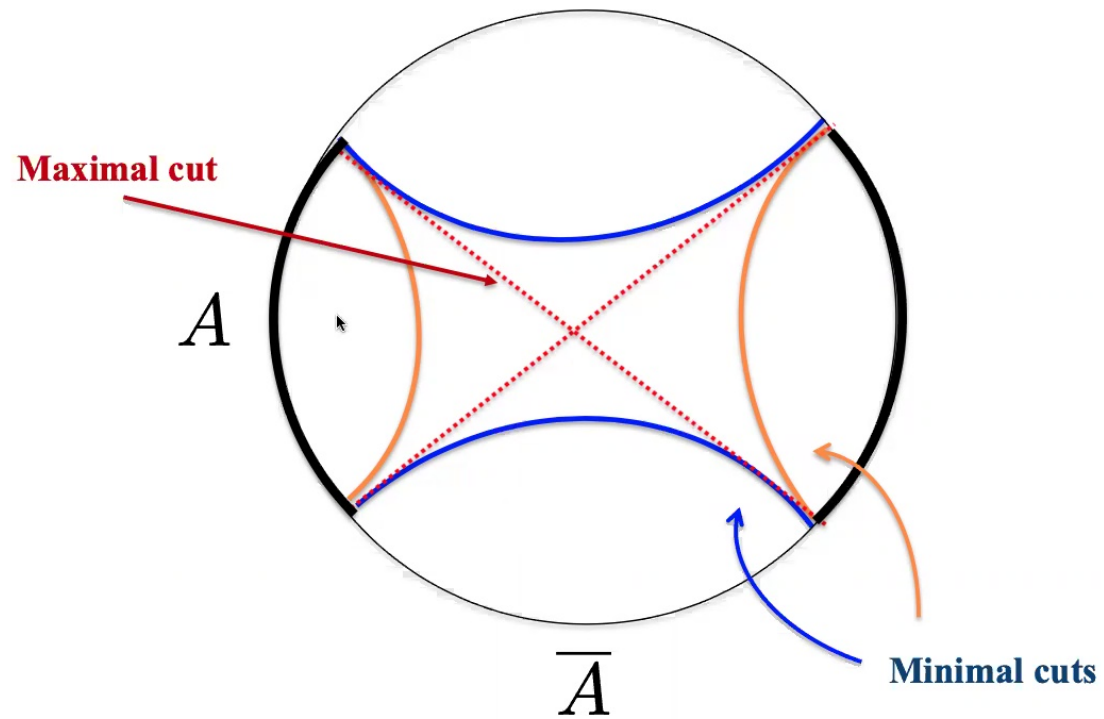


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Python's lunch without black holes – empty AdS



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Final remarks



Summary: The restricted complexity of python's lunch is

$$C_R \propto C_{TN} \cdot \exp \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(S_{max}^{(gen)} - S_{min}^{(gen)} \right) \right]$$

Future directions

- Study other examples when python's lunches and non-minimal quantum extremal surfaces appear; pure state black holes and empty AdS.
 - What does this imply about reconstruction of operators in the python's lunch?
 - Relationship of python's lunch to complexity of holographic dictionary and quantum extended Church-Turing thesis and.
- Understand the connection between python's lunch, Petz map and Island formula.

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