Bulk Spacetime Encoding via Boundary Ambiguities arXiv:2506.12890

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Holographic applications: from Quantum Realms to the Big Bang

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2 Bulk metric reconstruction by pole-skipping points

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Bulk metric reconstruction

- Reconstruct the bulk spacetime from boundary QFT data.
- Spacetime emerges from entanglement—reconstruct the bulk geometry from boundary entanglement entropy.

[S. Ryu and T. Takayanagi, (2006)]; M. V. Raamsdonk, (2010); J. Maldacena and L. Susskind, (2013)]

[S. Bilson, (2011); B. Czech, X. Dong, and J. Sully, (2014); S. R. Roy and D. Sarkar, (2018)]

- Employing machine learning techniques to explore the emergence of bulk spacetime [K. Hashimoto, et al., (2018); X. Dong and L. Zhou, (2018)]
- The bulk spacetime can be reconstructed from special boundary locations, known as "pole-skipping points", where the boundary Green's function becomes ambiguous;
- The reconstruction is fully analytical and only involves solving a set of linear equations.

Pole-skipping points



Figure: heatmaps showing the values of $\log |\mathcal{G}(\text{Im}\omega, \mu)|$ with $\mu = k^2$.

• At pole-skipping points, the Green's function takes the form 0/0.

[M. Blake, H. Lee, and H. Liu, (2018); S. Grozdanov, K. Schalm, and V. Scopelliti, (2018); M. Blake, et al. (2018)]

• In theories with perturbation modes of spin *l*, pole-skipping points occur at complex Matsubara frequencies $\omega_n = i(l-n)2\pi T$.

[D. Wang and Z.-Y. Wang, (2022); S. Ning, D. Wang, and Z.-Y. Wang, (2023)]

• The EOM of bulk perturbations exhibits two linearly independent ingoing solutions; The $(\omega_n, \mu_{n,q})$ can be determined from the 'near-horizon analysis'.

[M. Blake, et al. (2018); M. Blake, R. A. Davison, and D. Vegh, (2020)]

For a given *n*, different μ_{n,q} with q ∈ {1,...,n}, correspond to the roots of a degree-*n* polynomial equation.

- Assuming a probe massless scalar field $\phi(r)$ obeys the Klein-Gordon equation: $\nabla^2 \phi(r) = 0$.
- Its fourier mode φ admits: $\varphi(r) = (r-1)^{\alpha} \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \varphi_n (r-1)^n$. By substituting this into the Klein-Gordon equation and expanding up to order *n* at complex Matsubara frequency $\omega_n = -in2\pi T$, one obtains an $n \times n$ matrix $\mathcal{M}^{(n)}(\boldsymbol{\mu})$.
- The determinant of this matrix, Det(M⁽ⁿ⁾(μ)) = 0, leads to a degree-n polynomial equation in μ:

$$V_{n,n}\mu^n + V_{n,n-1}\mu^{n-1} + \dots + V_{n,1}\mu + V_{n,0} = 0,$$
(1)

• The specific form of $V_{n,m}$ depends on the details of the theory.

Flipping Near-Horizon Analysis

Background spacetime

A static planar symmetric black hole metric in EF coordinate: $ds^{2} = -g_{vv}(r)dv^{2} + g_{vr}(r)dvdr + r^{2}d\vec{x}^{2}, \text{ with } g_{vv}(r) = g_{vv_{1}}(r-1) + g_{vv_{2}}(r-1)^{2} + \dots$ $g_{vr}(r) = g_{vr_{0}} + g_{vr_{1}}(r-1) + g_{vr_{2}}(r-1)^{2} + \dots$

- To apply our reconstruction method, we swap the roles of (g_{vvn}, g_{vrn-1}) and (ω_n, μ_{n,q}), treating the latter as input and the former as unknowns.
- In Eq. (1), V_{n,m} dependent on g_{vvn} and g_{vrn-1}, while μ assumes n values μ_{n,q}.
- Instead of treating *n* individual pole-skipping points separately, it is more intuitive to exploit the *S_n* symmetry in Eq. 1 and work with the related elementary symmetric polynomials, e.g.,

$$E_1(\mu) \equiv \mu_{1,1}, \quad E_2(\mu) \equiv \mu_{2,1} + \mu_{2,2} \\ E_2(\mu^2) \equiv \mu_{2,1}\mu_{2,2}, \quad E_3(\mu^2) \equiv \mu_{3,1}\mu_{3,2} + \mu_{3,2}\mu_{3,3} + \mu_{3,3}\mu_{3,1}$$

Reconstruction of g_{vv_n} and $g_{vr_{n-1}}$

• Those elementary symmetric polynomials links to the g_{vv_n} and $g_{vr_{n-1}}$ by Vieta formula:

 $E_n(\mu^m) - \frac{v_{n,n-m}}{v_{n,n}} = 0$ where we define $v_{n,m} = (-1)^{n-m} V_{n,m}$

• For
$$n = 1$$
, combining $E_1(\mu) + \frac{dg_{vv_1}}{2g_{vr_0}^2} = 0$ and $i\frac{\omega_1}{2\pi} = \frac{g_{vv_1}}{4\pi g_{vr_0}}$ yielding:
 $g_{vv_1} = \frac{2d\omega_1^2}{E_1(\mu)}, \quad g_{vr_0} = -\frac{id\omega_1}{E_1(\mu)}.$ (2)

• For n = 2, after substituting the solution at n = 1, the two equations $E_2(\mu^1) = \frac{v_{2,1}}{v_{2,2}}$ and $E_2(\mu^2) = \frac{v_{2,0}}{v_{2,2}}$ solves for g_{vv_2} and g_{vr_1}

$$g_{vv_2} = \frac{d^2 \omega_1^2 E_2(\mu^2)}{4E_1(\mu)^3} + \frac{2d^2 \omega_1^2}{E_1(\mu)} - \frac{d^2 \omega_1^2 E_2(\mu)}{E_1(\mu)^2} + \frac{3d \omega_1^2}{E_1(\mu)},$$

$$g_{vr_1} = \frac{id^2 \omega_1 E_2(\mu)}{2E_1(\mu)^2} - \frac{id^2 \omega_1}{E_1(\mu)} - \frac{id^2 \omega_1 E_2(\mu^2)}{4E_1(\mu)^3} - \frac{id\omega_1}{E_1(\mu)}.$$
(3)

Reconstruction of $g_{vr_{n-1}}$ and g_{vv_n}

• For n > 2, there are n equations but only two variables: g_{vv_n} and $g_{vr_{n-1}}$ to solve.

Unique solutions

Only $E_n(\mu^{n-1}) - \frac{v_{n,1}}{v_{n,n}} = 0$ and $E_n(\mu^n) - \frac{v_{n,0}}{v_{n,n}} = 0$ are linear in terms of g_{vv_n} and $g_{vr_{n-1}}$.

- By computing g_{vv_n} and $g_{vr_{n-1}}$ to sufficiently large n, one can approximate the metric functions $g_{vv}(r)$ and $g_{vr}(r)$ with arbitrary accuracy within the convergence radius, determined by the nearest singularities in the complexified r-plane.
- The reconstruction can be generalized to the massive Klein-Gordon equation and extended to reconstruct metrics with Lifshitz scaling and hyperscaling violation.

μ -polynomial constraints at n = 3, 4

How about the rest n − 2 equations: E_n(µ^m) − <sup>v_{n,n-m}/_{v_{n,n}} = 0 with m being 1 to n − 2?
</sup>

• For
$$n = 3$$
, $E_3(\mu) - \frac{v_{3,2}}{v_{3,3}} = 0$ takes the form:

$$P_4(\mu) \equiv E_4(\mu) - 10E_2(\mu) + 16E_1(\mu) = 0$$

$$P_4(\mu^2) \equiv E_4(\mu^2) - 6E_3(\mu^2) + 14E_2(\mu^2) - 9E_2(\mu)^2 + 40E_2(\mu)E_1(\mu)$$
(4)

$$- 46E_1(\mu)^2 = 0$$

μ-polynomial constraints at arbitrary *n*

In master equation of the form (∇² + V(r))Φ(r) = 0, for arbitrary n, the following n − 2 redundant equations:

[H. Kodama and A. Ishibashi, (2003); H. Kodama and A. Ishibashi, (2004)]

$$E_n(\mu^m) - \frac{v_{n,n-m}}{v_{n,n}} = 0, \quad \text{for } m = 1, 2, \dots, n-2.$$

 $\downarrow P_n(\mu^m) = 0, \quad \text{for } m = 1, 2, \dots, n-2.$

- i.e. a set of n 2 universal polynomial constraints on pole-skipping μ alone, free of any other quantities.
- For each n > 2, these μ-polynomial constraints reduce the number of independent μ_{n,q} from n to 2, consistent with the number of the bulk variables g_{vvn} and g_{vrn-1}.

Precondition for μ **-polynomial constraints**

Det $(\mathcal{M}^{(n)}(\boldsymbol{\mu})) = 0$ derived from $(\nabla^2 + V(r))\Phi(r) = 0$ is a degree-*n* polynomial in μ , taking the form of Eq. (1).

Some comments



Figure: 2n - 1 pole-skipping points \rightarrow bulk metric (with KG equation) \rightarrow Green's function (numerically)

Thank you!