Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement

Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305

School of Physics and Astronomy, Sun Yat-sen University

Holographic applications, Beijing, July 17th, 2025

Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 1/27

Outline

Background

- Motivations for Networks
- NCFT vs BCFT

Description Main Results

- Gravity Dual of Networks
- Holographic Entanglement Entropy
- Holographic Shortest Path Problem

Summary and Outlook

Outline

Background

- Motivations for Networks
- NCFT vs BCFT

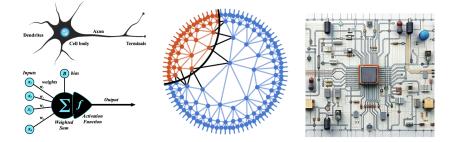
Deain Results

- Gravity Dual of Networks
- Holographic Entanglement Entropy
- Holographic Shortest Path Problem

Summary and Outlook

Everything in the universe is interconnected (gravity/entanglement). Networks offer a strong framework for studying these connections.

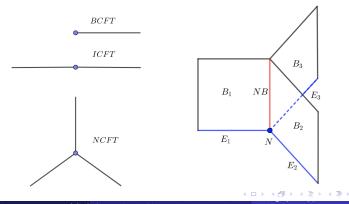
- Neural networks are driving revolution in artificial intelligence.
- Tensor networks offer insights into entanglement and gravity.
- Circuits etal naturally exhibit network structures.



Motivations for Networks

We aim to study the CFT in networks(NCFT) and its gravity dual.

- NCFT can describe electron motion in nanoscale circuits.
- NCFT is a multi-branch generalization of BCFT and ICFT.
- AdS/NCFT is a natural realization of parallel universe.



Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 5/2

Background

- Motivations for Networks
- NCFT vs BCFT

Deain Results

- Gravity Dual of Networks
- Holographic Entanglement Entropy
- Holographic Shortest Path Problem

Summary and Outlook

NCFT vs BCFT

NCFT is the multi-branch generalization of BCFT.

- The symmetry group is reduced from O(d + 1, 1) to O(d, 1) for both BCFT and NCFT.
- Boundary conditions for CFT

$$\mathsf{BCFT}: \ J_n|_{\mathsf{bdy}} = 0, \tag{1}$$

NCFT:
$$\sum_{m} \int_{n}^{(m)} |_{\text{node}} = 0, \qquad (2)$$

Boundary conditions for AdS/BCFT

$$\mathsf{AdS}/\mathsf{BCFT}: \ \left(\mathsf{K}_{ij}-\mathsf{Kh}_{ij}\right)|_{\mathsf{EOW \ brane}}=-\mathit{Th}_{ij}, \tag{3}$$

Junction conditions for AdS/NCFT

AdS/NCFT:
$$\sum_{m} {\binom{m}{K}}_{ij} - {\binom{m}{K}} h_{ij} \Big|_{\text{Net-brane}} = -Th_{ij}, \qquad (4)$$

Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 7/27

Summary of main results

- We prove the junction condition on Net-brane leads to energy conservation on network node.
- We find the spectrum of KK modes on Net-brane is a combination of the spectra from the AdS/BCFT with NBC and DBC/CBC.
- We obtain the general form of two-point functions of NCFT.

$$\langle O(x)O(x')\rangle = \begin{cases} \frac{F_{I}(v_{I})}{|x - x'|^{2\Delta}}, & \text{same edge,} \\ \frac{F_{II}(v_{II})}{|x - x'|^{2\Delta}}, & \text{mixed edge,} \end{cases}$$
(5)

• We propose the rules to calculate holographic entanglement entropy and define a positive network entropy.

$$S_{\rm Net} = S_{\rm NCFT} - S_{\rm BCFT} \ge 0. \tag{6}$$

• Shortest path problem is dual to seeking the shortest geodesic in bulk.

Background

- Motivations for Networks
- NCFT vs BCFT

2 Main Results

• Gravity Dual of Networks

- Holographic Entanglement Entropy
- Holographic Shortest Path Problem

Summary and Outlook

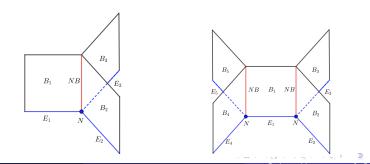
Geometry and Junction Condition

Action

$$I = \sum_{m}^{p} \int_{B_{m}} d^{d+1} x \sqrt{|g|} (R - 2\Lambda) + 2 \int_{NB} d^{d} y \sqrt{|h|} (-T + \sum_{m}^{p} {m \choose K}),$$

Junction condition

$$\delta I|_{NB} = \int_{NB} d^d y \sqrt{|h|} \Big[Th_{ij} + \sum_m {\binom{m}{K}}_{ij} - {\binom{m}{K}}_{hj} \Big] \delta h^{ij} = 0.$$



Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 10/27

Energy Conservation at Node I

Junction condition on Net-brane leads to energy conservation at node.

Codazzi's equation

$$D^i(K_{ij}-Kh_{ij})=rac{1}{2}R_{nj}=rac{1}{4}T_{nj}^{ ext{matter}}=0$$

(7)

• Conserved stress tensors on edge E and Net-brane NB

$$D^{i}(K_{ij} - Kh_{ij})|_{E_{m}} = 0,$$

 $\sum_{m} D^{i} (\overset{(m)}{K}_{ij} - \overset{(m)}{K}_{hij})|_{NB} = 0.$

Analog Maxwell's theory: ∇ · D = 0 → D_{2n} = D_{1n}
We expect

$$\sum_{m} \binom{(m)}{(K_{E}} \frac{(m)}{an} - \frac{(m)}{K_{E}} h_{an})|_{N} = \sum_{m} \binom{(m)}{(K_{NB}} \frac{(m)}{na} - \frac{(m)}{K_{NB}} h_{na})|_{N} = -Th_{na}|_{N} = 0$$

Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 11/27

Energy Conservation at Node II

Junction condition on Net-brane leads to energy conservation at node.

Problem I: no exact Killing vector, no exact conserved current

$$J^{i} = (K^{ij} - Kh^{ij})\xi_{j}$$
(8)

• Problem II: $K^{ij} - Kh^{ij}|_E$ is not the NCFT stress tensor

Solution I: local Killing vector is sufficient

$$\xi_j = O(y), \quad \nabla_{(i}\xi_{j)} = 0 + O(y)$$
 (9)

• Solution II: $K^{ij} - Kh^{ij}|_E$ include information of NCFT stress tensor

$$K_{na} \sim -\frac{\epsilon^{d-2}}{2} T_{na}^{\mathsf{CFT}}.$$
 (10)

• We prove

$$\sum_{m} {\binom{m}{T}}_{na}^{CFT}|_{N} = 0.$$
 (11)

Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 12/27

Typical solutions

By gluing Poincaré AdS/ black holes, we get gravity duals of general networks.

Poincaré AdS

$$ds^{2} = \frac{dz^{2} - dt^{2} + d\frac{(m)_{2}}{x} + \delta_{ab}dy^{a}dy^{b}}{z^{2}}, \quad NB: \overset{(m)}{x} = -\sinh(\rho)z$$

Poincaré AdS is not the vacuum solution for general network.Black hole

$$ds^{2} = \frac{\frac{dz^{2}}{f(z)} - f(z)dt^{2} + d^{(m)_{2}}_{x} + \delta_{ab}dy^{a}dy^{b}}{z^{2}}, \quad NB: \overset{(m)}{x} = 0$$

Black string

$$ds^{2} = d^{\binom{m}{2}} + \cosh^{2} \binom{m}{r} \frac{\frac{dw^{2}}{h(w)} - h(w)dt^{2} + \delta_{ab}dy^{a}dy^{b}}{w^{2}}, \quad NB : \binom{m}{r} = \rho$$

Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 13/27

Perturbative solution I: conservation law at node

• Perturbative Poincaré AdS

$$ds^{2} = \frac{dz^{2} - dt^{2} + d\overset{(m)}{x}^{2} + \frac{2}{d}f_{m}(z, \overset{(m)}{x})dtd\overset{(m)}{x} + \delta_{ab}dy^{a}dy^{b}}{z^{2}}, \quad (12)$$

Solution

$$f_m(z, \overset{(m)}{x}) = X_m(\overset{(m)}{x}) + c_m z^d,$$
$$\overset{(m)}{T}_{xt}^{\mathsf{CFT}} = c_m$$

Junction condition

$$\cosh(\rho)\sum_m c_m = 0.$$

• Conservation of energy flux at node

$$\sum_{m} {\binom{m}{T}}_{xt}^{\mathsf{CFT}}|_{N} = \sum_{m} c_{m} = 0.$$

Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 14/27

Perturbative solution II: gravitational KK modes

Gravitational KK modes combines those of AdS/BCFT with NBC and DBC, corresponding to isolated and transparent modes.

Perturbative metric

$$ds^{2} = dr^{2} + \cosh^{2}(r) \left(\bar{h}_{ij}^{(0)}(y) + \epsilon \overset{(m)}{H}(r) \bar{h}_{ij}^{(1)}(y) \right) dy^{i} dy^{j}$$

EOM on Net-brane

$$(\overline{\Box} + 2 - M^2) \,\overline{h}_{ij}^{(1)}(y) = 0,$$

$$\cosh^2(r) \overset{(m)}{H}''(r) + d\sinh(r)\cosh(r) \overset{(m)}{H}'(r) + M^2 \overset{(m)}{H}(r) = 0,$$

Solutions of KK modes

Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 15/27

Perturbative solution II: gravitational KK modes

• Junction condition and continuity condition

$$\sum_{m=1}^{p} \overset{(m)}{H}'(\rho) = 0 \rightarrow \sum_{m=1}^{p} \overset{(m)}{c} H'(\rho) = 0,$$

$$\overset{(i)}{H}(\rho) = \overset{(j)}{H}(\rho) \rightarrow \overset{(i)}{c} H(\rho) = \overset{(j)}{c} H(\rho).$$

• One class of modes obeying Neumann boundary condition

NBC:
$$H'(\rho) = 0, \ c = c^{(j)},$$
 (13)

NBC corresponds to isolated mode $\begin{pmatrix} m \\ J_n \end{pmatrix}_N = 0$

• (p-1) classes of modes satisfying Dirichlet boundary condition

DBC:
$$H(\rho) = 0, \sum_{m=1}^{\rho} {m \choose c} = 0.$$
 (14)

DBC corresponds to transparent mode $\begin{bmatrix} m \\ J_n \end{bmatrix}_N \neq 0_{a}$

Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 16/27

Background

- Motivations for Networks
- NCFT vs BCFT

2 Main Results

- Gravity Dual of Networks
- Holographic Entanglement Entropy
- Holographic Shortest Path Problem

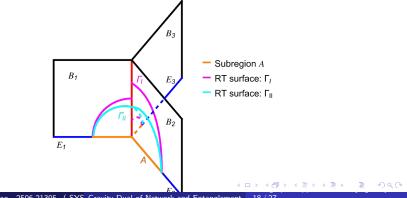
Summary and Outlook

Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 17/27

Proposal of HEE

While proposal I leads to smaller HEE, proposal II is the correct one.

- Disconnected proposal I: inspired by AdS/BCFT, RT surfaces are perpendicular to Net-brane
- Connected proposal II: RT surfaces must be interconnected through the same intersection on Net-brane

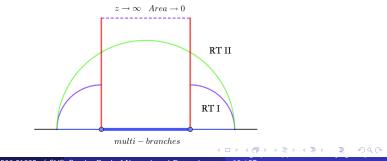


Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 18/27

Why connected RT surface?

RT surfaces intersect at the same point on Net-brane for connected subsystems within the network

- Naturally, connected subsystem corresponds to connected RT surface.
- Both proposal I and proposal II obeys strong subadditivity of entanglement entropy.
- Only proposal II agrees with monotonicity of entanglement entropy when increasing numbers or lengths of internal edges.

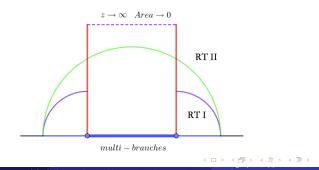


Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 19/27

Monotonicity of entanglement entropy I

EE increases with numbers of internal edges.

- Label network with p internal edges by Net(p), the HEE by S(p)
- Remove one internal edge while keeping invariant the RT surfaces of other edges, S(p) > S₀(p - 1)
- RT surfaces change between Net(p) and Net(p-1), $S_0(p-1) > S(p-1)$.



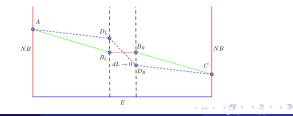
Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 20/27

Monotonicity of entanglement entropy II

EE increases with the length of internal edges.

- Focus on Poincaré AdS, increase edge length by $dL \rightarrow 0$, we get Area $(D_L D_R) > Area<math>(D_L B_L \cup D_R B_R)$
- Near the local regions of $D_L B_L$ and $D_R B_R$, we have Area $(AD_L \cup D_L B_L) > Area(AB_L)$, Area $(CD_R \cup D_R B_R) > Area(CB_R)$
- Finally, we have at the linear order of dL
 ightarrow 0

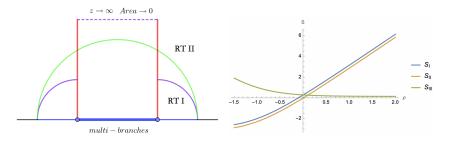
 $Area(AD_L \cup D_L D_R \cup D_R C) > Area(AB_L \cup B_R C).$



Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 21/27

We propose several natural definitions of network entropy.

- Proposal I: $S_{\rm I} = S_{\rm NCFT} S_{\rm CFT}$, obeying g-theorem $S_{\rm I}|_{\rm IR} \leq S_{\rm I}|_{\rm UV}$
- Proposal II: $S_{II} = S(\rho) S(0)$, obeying g-theorem $S_{II}|_{IR} \le S_{II}|_{UV}$
- Proposal III: $S_{\text{III}} = S_{\text{NCFT}} S_{\text{BCFT}} > 0$, entanglement excluding isolated modes from BCFT.



Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 22/27

Background

- Motivations for Networks
- NCFT vs BCFT

2 Main Results

- Gravity Dual of Networks
- Holographic Entanglement Entropy
- Holographic Shortest Path Problem

Summary and Outlook

Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 23/27

Shortest path problem I

The shortest path problem seeks to determine shortest path between two points within networks. equivalent to finding the shortest distance in bulk.

• Bulk: multi-Euclidean AdS₂ glued by tensionless Net-branes

$$d^{(m)_2}_s = \frac{dz^2 + d^{(m)_2}_x}{z^2}, \ 0 \le \overset{(m)}{x} \le L_m,$$

• Every loop-free path from A to B is dual to a single AdS₂

$$L_{AB} = 2 \log(\frac{l_{AB}}{\epsilon})$$

Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 24/27

Shortest path problem II

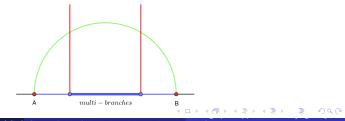
The shortest path problem is equivalent to calculating the holographic two-point correlators of massive operators.

• Every loop-free path from A to B is dual to a single AdS₂

$$L_{AB} = 2\log(\frac{I_{AB}}{\epsilon})$$

• Two-point function of operators dual to massive particles is determined by the proper distance in bulk

$$\langle O(A)O(B)\rangle \sim e^{-ML_{AB}},$$
 (15)



Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 25/27

Summary and Outlook

Summary:

- We define NCFT (network CFT) and propose its gravity dual.
- Junction condition in bulk leads to energy conservation on node.
- KK modes on Net-brane combines that of AdS/BCFT with NBC and DBC.
- We propose rules to calculate HEE in AdS/NCFT and define a positive network entropy.
- We discuss the holographic dual of shortest-path problems.

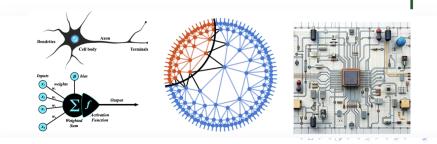
Outlook:

- Multi-branches of braneworld, holographic circuit/chip/Al?
- EE for free NCFT
- Phase transitions of HEE in AdS/NCFT
- New insight into famous network problem?



Thanks!

Welcome to new world of holographic network!



Yu Guo, Rong-Xin Miao, 2506.21305 (SYS Gravity Dual of Network and Entanglement 27/27