

Holographic description of boundary and interface CFTs

Michael Gutperle (UCLA)

Outline

- Introduction
- Six dimensional supergravity
- Half BPS solutions
- Holographic Interface CFTs
- Generalized solutions: Holographic Boundary CFTs
- Discussion

Introduction

based on the following two papers:

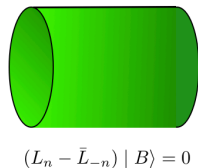
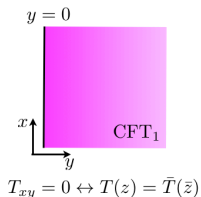
1107.1722 M. Chiodaroli, E. D'Hoker, Y. Guo and M.G.

1111.6912 M. Chiodaroli, E. D'Hoker and M.G.

and work in progress together with M. Chiodaroli and E. D'Hoker.

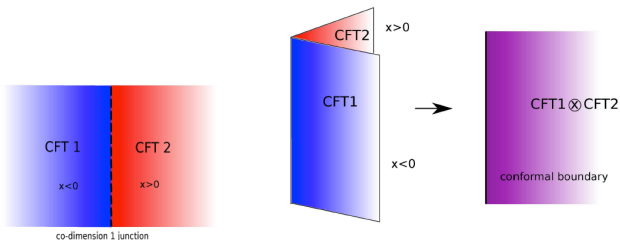
2 dim Boundary CFT

- A boundary CFT is a CFT living in a space with boundary (i.e. the half plane)
- boundary conditions preserve a single copy of the *Virasoro* \otimes *Virasoro* conformal symmetry of the CFT in the bulk.
- Modular transformation maps half plane to semi-infinite cylinder. Boundary conditions are imposed by boundary state.
- Applications: Open string vacua, D-branes, condensed matter and stat-mech etc.



2 dim Interface CFT

- A conformal interface is a junction between two CFTs preserving part of the conformal symmetry.
- Gluing conditions need to be scale invariant. In 2d continuity of T_{xy} across the interface is sufficient.



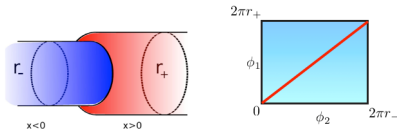
- The folding trick relates interface CFT to boundary CFT: conformal boundary conditions in tensor product $CFT_1 \otimes CFT_2$. *Affleck and Ludwig; Bachas, de Boer, Dijkgraaf and Ooguri*

Toy model of Interface CFT

- A simple toy model is given by a compact boson $\phi \sim \phi + 2\pi$ with a jump in the coupling/tension

$$S = 2r_-^2 \int_{x<0} dx dy \partial_a \phi \partial^a \phi + 2r_+^2 \int_{x>0} dx dy \partial_a \phi \partial^a \phi$$

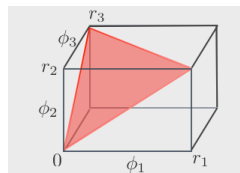
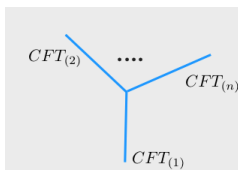
- After rescaling the boson has a jump in the radius $\phi \sim \phi + 2\pi r_{\pm}$
- After folding two bosons ϕ_1, ϕ_2 different radii conformal boundary conditions correspond to a diagonal D1 brane in a 2 torus spanned by ϕ_1, ϕ_2 with radius r_{\pm} .



- Calculate g-factor $g = \langle 0 | B \rangle$ or boundary entropy $S_{bd} = \ln g$ of the interface

Junctions of CFTs (or strings)

- Interfaces between 2 CFTs can be generalized to junctions of 3 or more CFTs, for example a star graph.
- conformal boundary conditions: $\sum_i T_{xy}^{(i)} = 0$.
- Example: n bosons ϕ_i with radius r_i on half spaces, joined at interface.
- conformal boundary conditions: p dim D brane in n -torus g -factors calculated in BCFT.
- Reminiscent of (p, q) -string junctions.
- Boundary entropy can be calculated as before.



Janus solution

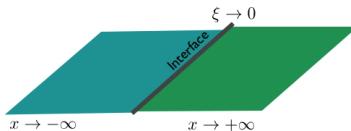
- The Janus solution is a simple example of a holographic realization of an interface CFT. Consider $d+1$ dim AdS gravity and massless scalar (dilaton)
- AdS_d slicing of AdS_{d+1} preserves $SO(2, d-1)$ of the $SO(2, d)$ conformal symmetry.

$$ds^2 = dx^2 + f(x)ds_{\text{AdS}_d}^2, \quad \Phi = \Phi(x)$$

- AdS vacuum: $f(x) = \cosh^2 x$, $\Phi(x) = \Phi_0$. Janus solution: As $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$ $\Phi \rightarrow \Phi_{\pm}$
- asymptotic form of metric as $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$ (AdS_d in Poincare coord, $\xi \in [0, \infty]$).

$$ds^2 = dx^2 + \frac{e^{2|x|}}{\xi^2} \left(d\xi^2 - dt^2 - d\vec{y}_{d-2}^2 \right) + o(1)$$

- Three boundary components: $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$ (two d -dim half spaces), $\xi \rightarrow 0$ (a $d-1$ dimensional interface).
- Dilaton is dual to coupling constant of CFT. Interface CFT with jumping coupling.



Janus solution

- For AdS_3 It is possible to relate the boundary entropy to entanglement entropy
Cardy

$$S_A = \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{L}{\epsilon} + \log g_B$$

- Holographic calculation of entanglement entropy Ruy and Takayanagi
- When embedded into supergravity Janus solution breaks all super symmetries (Since $\delta\lambda \neq 0$ for all ϵ).

Goals

- Can the Janus solution be generalized to preserve supersymmetries ?
- Can one find holographic duals of junctions of CFTs ?
- Can one find holographic duals of boundary CFTs ?

Six dimensional Type 4B supergravity

We consider the so called (0,4) or type 4B supergravity in 6 dimensions. (Townsend; Romans). It has the following properties:

- It has 16 chiral supersymmetries
- It can be obtained by compactifying type IIB on $K3$.
- The scalar fields parameterize the coset $SO(5,21)/SO(5) \times SO(21)$.
- The field content is given by

| Field | $g_{\mu\nu}$ | $B_{\mu\nu}^I$ | $B_{\mu\nu}^R$ | V^i_R | ψ_μ^α | $\chi^{r\alpha}$ |
|--------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|-------------------|------------------|
| SO(5) | 1 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| SO(21) | 1 | 1 | 21 | 21 | 1 | 21 |

- The supersymmetry transformations are given by

$$\delta\psi_\mu^\alpha = D_\mu\epsilon^\alpha - \frac{1}{4}H_{\mu\nu\rho}^I\gamma^{\nu\rho}(\Gamma^I)^\alpha_\beta\epsilon^\beta$$

$$\delta\chi^{R\alpha} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\gamma^\mu P_\mu^{IR}(\Gamma^I)^\alpha_\beta\epsilon^\beta + \frac{1}{12}\gamma^{\mu\nu\rho}H_{\mu\nu\rho}^R\epsilon^\alpha$$

Probe branes in $AdS_3 \times S^3$

- Vacua: 6 dim Minkowski and $AdS_3 \times S_3$ supported by self-dual 3 form $H^i = *H^i$.
- $AdS_3 \times S_3$ is the near horizon limit of self-dual string solution in 6 dimensions.
- From 10 dim point of view: D5/D1 bound state wrapped on K3.
- AdS vacuum preserves 16 super symmetries. Half BPS probe branes preserve 8. κ -symmetry can be used to find all of these:

| probe brane | AdS_3 | S_3 | K3 |
|-------------|---------|-------|-------|
| D1 | AdS_2 | · | · |
| D3 | AdS_2 | S_2 | · |
| D5 | AdS_2 | · | K3 |
| D7 | AdS_2 | S_2 | K3 |
| D3 | AdS_2 | · | C_2 |

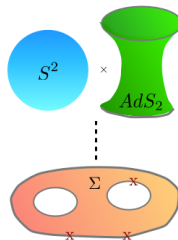
Ansatz

Half BPS solutions dual to interface or junction CFTs

- Janus ansatz: AdS_2 slicing of AdS_3 .
- Global super algebra of vacuum $PSU(1,1|2) \times PSU(1,1|2)$ reduced to $PSU(1,1|2)$. Isometries reduced from $SO(2,2) \times SO(4)$ to $SO(2,1) \times SO(3)$.
- Ansatz: $AdS_2 \times S_2$ fibration over 2dim Riemann surface Σ

$$ds^2 = f_1^2 ds_{AdS_2}^2 + f_2^2 ds_{S^2}^2 + \rho^2(dx^2 + dy^2)$$

- Σ has boundary where $vol(S_2) \rightarrow 0$. Scale factor of AdS_2 diverges at isolated points at boundary $\partial\Sigma$.



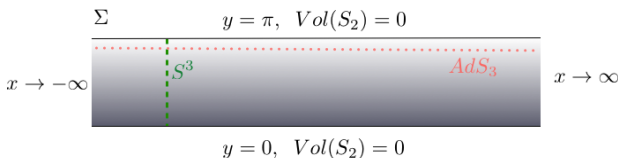
Ansatz

- For $AdS_3 \times S^3$ vacuum Σ is the strip, $\Sigma = \{x + iy, x \in \mathbb{R}, y \in [0, \pi]\}$
- metric is given by

$$ds^2 = f_1^2 ds_{AdS_2}^2 + f_2^2 ds_{S^2}^2 + \rho^2(dx^2 + dy^2)$$

with

$$f_1^2 = \cosh^2 x, \quad f_2^2 = \sin^2(y), \quad \rho^2 = 1$$



Ansatz

Ansatz for other bosonic fields which depend on coordinates of Σ and respect the $AdS_2 \times S_2 \times \Sigma$ fibration.

- Anti-symmetric tensor 2 form potentials

$$B^A = \Psi^A \omega_{AdS_2} + \Phi^A \omega_{S^2}, \quad A = 1, 2, \dots, 26$$

- The scalar fields take values in the coset space $SO(5, m)/(SO(5) \times SO(m))$ via a frame field V

$$\eta = \begin{pmatrix} I_5 & \\ & -I_{21} \end{pmatrix}, \quad V = V^{(i,r)}{}_A = \begin{pmatrix} V_I^i & V_R^i \\ V_I^r & V_R^r \end{pmatrix}$$

- $A = (I, R)$ labels the fundamental representation of $SO(5, m)$. (i, r) label the fundamental representation of $SO(5) \times SO(m)$, with $I, i = 1, \dots, 5$ and $R, r = 6, \dots, m + 5$.
- The coset representative satisfy

$$\eta = V^t \eta V$$

Solving the BPS equations

General strategy for solving the BPS equation (Details can be found in [arXiv:1107.1722](https://arxiv.org/abs/1107.1722)).
Find nontrivial solution of

$$\delta\chi^{R\alpha} = 0, \quad \delta\psi_{\mu}^{\alpha} = 0$$

For some infinitesimal susy transformation parameter ϵ^{α} .

- Bosonic fields which respect $AdS_2 \times S_2 \times \Sigma$ fibration
- Expand susy parameter ϵ in terms of a basis of Killing spinors on AdS_2 and S_2 .
- Reduced BPS equations: Algebraic projector equations and diff. equations on Σ .
- Projection conditions can be solved by choosing a $SO(5) \times SO(21)$ gauge. Sets some scalars and AST to zero.
- Differential equation equation can be solved in terms of harmonic function H .
- Solve Bianchi identities in terms of meromorphic function λ^A .
- Check that equations of motion are satisfied.

General local solution

The general local solution of the BPS equations is given by harmonic and meromorphic functions

- A real positive harmonic function H on Σ
- meromorphic functions λ^A , $A = 1, 2, \dots, 26$
- Projection conditions set $\lambda^3 = \lambda^4 = \lambda^5 = 0$
- The meromorphic functions satisfy constraints on Σ

$$\lambda \cdot \lambda = (\lambda^1)^2 + \dots + (\lambda^5)^2 - (\lambda^6)^2 - \dots - (\lambda^{26})^2 = 2, \quad \bar{\lambda} \cdot \lambda \geq 2$$

- All bosonic fields can be expressed in terms of H, λ^A . Metric factors:

$$f_1^4 = H^2 \frac{\bar{\lambda} \cdot \lambda + 2}{\bar{\lambda} \cdot \lambda - 2}$$

$$f_2^4 = H^2 \frac{\bar{\lambda} \cdot \lambda - 2}{\bar{\lambda} \cdot \lambda + 2}$$

$$\rho^4 = \frac{|\partial_w H|^4}{16H^2} (\bar{\lambda} \cdot \lambda + 2)(\bar{\lambda} \cdot \lambda - 2)$$

General local solution

- Scalar coset in gauge fixed form: $i, I = 1, 2, r, R = 6, 7, \dots, 26$.

$$V = \begin{pmatrix} V^i_I & 0 & V^i_R \\ 0 & I_3 & 0 \\ V^r_I & 0 & V^r_R \end{pmatrix}$$

- The combinations $V_{I,R}^\pm = V_{I,R}^1 \pm iV_{I,R}^2$ can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} V^+_{-A} &= X(\bar{\lambda}_A - |X|^2\lambda_A)/(1 - |X|^4) \\ V^-_{-A} &= \bar{X}(\lambda_A - |X|^2\bar{\lambda}_A)/(1 - |X|^4) \end{aligned}$$

where $|X|^2 + 1/|X|^2 = \bar{\lambda} \cdot \lambda$.

- AST potential $B^3 = B^4 = B^5 = 0$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi^A &= -\sqrt{2} \frac{H \operatorname{Re}(\lambda^A)}{\bar{\lambda} \cdot \lambda + 2} + \tilde{\Phi}^A & \tilde{\Phi}^A &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \int^w \partial_w H \lambda^A + \text{c.c.} \\ \Psi^A &= -\sqrt{2} \frac{H \operatorname{Im}(\lambda^A)}{\bar{\lambda} \cdot \lambda - 2} + \tilde{\Psi}^A & \tilde{\Psi}^A &= \frac{i}{2\sqrt{2}} \int^w \partial_w H \lambda^A + \text{c.c.} \end{aligned}$$

Regularity conditions

The local solution solves BPS equations, Bianchi identities and equations of motion. However the metric and other fields are regular only if the following **regularity conditions** are satisfied:

- In the interior of Σ we have $H > 0$ and $\bar{\lambda} \cdot \lambda > 2$;
- On the boundary $\partial\Sigma$ of Σ we have $H = 0$ and $Im(\lambda^A) = 0$, except at isolated points;
- The one-forms $\lambda^A \partial_w H$ are holomorphic and nowhere vanishing in the interior of Σ , forcing the poles of λ^A to coincide with the zeros of $\partial_w H$;
- The functions λ^A are holomorphic near $\partial\Sigma$, thereby allowing for poles in $\lambda^A \partial_w H$ on $\partial\Sigma$ only at those points where $\partial_w H$ has a pole.

Regularity conditions

The constraint and regularity conditions involving $\lambda \cdot \lambda$ are conveniently solved by a light cone parameterization singling out the $A = 2$ and $A = 6$ direction. L^A are a new set of meromorphic functions

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda^A &= \frac{\sqrt{2}L^A}{L^6} \\ \lambda^2 &= \frac{1}{L^6} \left(\frac{1}{2} - L^1L^1 + L^RL^S\delta_{RS} \right) \\ \lambda^6 &= \frac{1}{L^6} \left(-\frac{1}{2} - L^1L^1 + L^RL^S\delta_{RS} \right)\end{aligned}$$

where $A = 1, 7, 8, \dots, 26$, and $R, S = 6, 7, 8, \dots, 26$. The regularity condition $Im(\lambda^A) = 0$ on $\partial\Sigma$ implies

$$Im(L^A) = 0, \quad \text{for } w \in \partial\Sigma$$

Regular Solution on the half plane

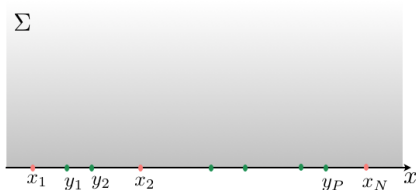
The simplest choice of Σ is the upper half plane where $\partial\Sigma$ is the real line

- Conditions on harmonic function H : N simple poles on the real line

$$H(w, \bar{w}) = \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{i c_n}{w - x_n} - \frac{i c_n}{\bar{w} - x_n} \right)$$

- L^A satisfying boundary conditions can be given by a sum of P auxiliary poles on the real line

$$L^A(w) = l_\infty^A + \sum_{p=1}^P \frac{l_p^A}{w - y_p}$$



Regular Solution on the half plane

- For regular solutions, avoiding curvature singularities requires L^6 and $\partial_w H$ to have common zeros. Therefore, we take L^6 to have the form,

$$L^6(w) = i l_\infty^6 \frac{\prod_n^N (w - x_n)^2}{\prod_p^P (w - y_p)} \partial_w H(w)$$

- To avoid an auxiliary pole or an extra zero at infinity, we need the number of auxiliary poles to be related to the number of physical poles

$$P_{disk} = 2N - 2$$

- Regularity of the λ^A at the auxiliary poles implies

$$l_p^1 = \sqrt{\sum_R l_p^R l_p^R}$$

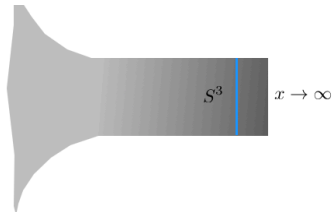
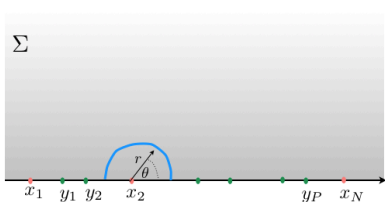
Regular Solution on the half plane

- Near a pole of H , the metric takes an asymptotic $AdS_3 \times S^3$ form: $w = x_n + re^{i\theta}$ with $r \rightarrow 0$ asymptotics.

$$ds^2 \sim \sqrt{2\mu_n \cdot \mu_n} \left(\frac{dr^2}{r^2} + \frac{2c_n^2}{\mu_n \cdot \mu_n} \frac{1}{r^2} ds_{AdS_2}^2 + d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta ds_{S^2}^2 \right) + o(r^2)$$

- The μ^A are directly related to the conserved charges on the asymptotic S^3

$$Q_n^A \equiv \oint_{S^3} dB^A = i\sqrt{2}\pi \int_{x_n} \lambda^A \partial_w H + \text{c.c.} = 2\sqrt{2}\pi^2 \mu_n^A$$



Holographic interface solutions

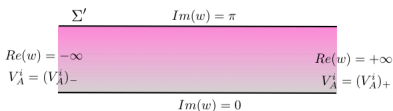
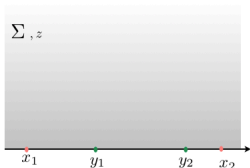
- N=2 is minimal because of charge conservation, also P=2

$$H(w, \bar{w}) = \left(\frac{ic_1}{w - x_1} + \frac{ic_2}{w - x_2} \right) + c.c., \quad L^A(w) = l_\infty^A + \frac{l_1^A}{w - y_1} + \frac{l_2^A}{w - y_2}$$

- Half plane can be mapped to the strip visa $z = e^w$.
- Conserved charge Q^A is charge carried by self dual string in 6 dim. Central charge of dual CFT $c \sim Q_n \cdot Q_n$
- as $Re(w) \rightarrow \pm\infty$ scalars approach $V_A^I \rightarrow (V_A^I)_\pm$

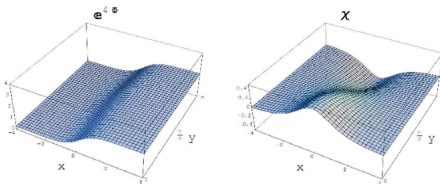
(a) Subset of scalars are "fixed" whose limit $Re(w) \rightarrow \pm\infty$ is determined by the charge vector Q^A (attractor mechanism), i.e $(V_A^I)_+ = (V_A^I)_-$

(b) The other scalars are "free" and can jump as $Re(w) \rightarrow \pm\infty$, i.e $(V_A^I)_+ \neq (V_A^I)_-$



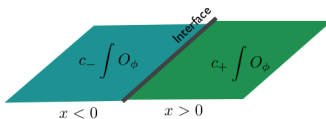
Holographic interface solutions

- Consider the truncation to only two scalars ("dilaton" and "axion")



- "dilaton" ϕ is dual to dimension $(h, \bar{h}) = (1, 1)$ operator O_ϕ deformation of the dual CFT by source which jump across the interface

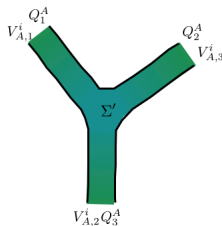
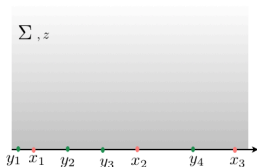
$$S_{CFT} \rightarrow S_{CFT} + c_+ \int_{x < 0} dx dy O_\phi + c_- \int_{x > 0} dx dy O_\phi$$



- Exact match of holographic and CFT boundary entropy. [Chiodaroli, Hung, M.G. arXiv:1005.4433.](#)

Holographic junction solutions

- A solution where H has N poles has N asymptotic AdS regions, corresponding to N half spaces in the dual CFT
- Each asymptotic AdS space is characterized by the charge Q^A and the value of the free (i.e. non attracted) scalars



- Exact match between parameters of solution (x_i, y_j, c_i, l_k^A etc.) and charges Q_k^A and values of free scalars V_k^{iR} for each asymptotic AdS region
- Each asymptotic AdS region dual to a CFT defined by the near horizon limit of a self dual string with charge Q^A , deformed by operator source dual to unattracted scalars.

Holographic junction solutions

- Holographic dual: Junction of N CFTs (defined by charge Q) living on half-spaces glued together at a one dimensional interface. (See figure for the case $N=3$).
- Near Horizon limit of a half-BPS junction of N self dual strings in six dimensions.

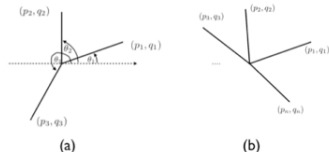
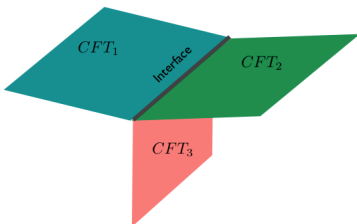


Figure 2: (a) Three string junction (b) multi-string junction

Generalized solutions

- Since the charge Q^A is conserved, it seems impossible to have a solution with a single pole in H
- Such a solution would only have one asymptotic AdS region, i.e would be dual to a CFT living on a single half space: Boundary CFT

Question

Can one find holographic duals of boundary CFTs in our class of solutions ?

AdS-cap

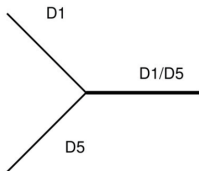
- The charge vector Q_i^A determines the central charge of the dual CFT

$$c_i = \frac{3 Q_i \cdot Q_i}{16\pi^2 G_N}$$

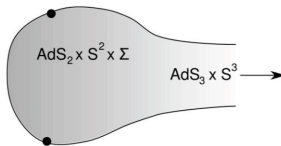
- charge conservation implies

$$\sum_i Q_i^A = 0 \quad (1)$$

- we can consider charges for $Q \cdot Q = 0$. These leads to a singular solution (since $c = 0$ this implies $R_{AdS} = 0$) and call it "AdS-cap".
- Albeit singular some calculations like the holographic boundary entropy still make sense, giving a realization of a BCFT.
- $Q \cdot Q = 0$ means that we do not have a self dual string but a pure D1 or D5 brane.



(a)



(b)

Higher genus solutions

- It's natural to consider a Riemann surface with more than one boundary. The simplest case is the annulus or cylinder.

$$\Sigma = \left\{ w \in \mathbf{C}, 0 \leq \operatorname{Re}(w) < 1, 0 \leq \operatorname{Im}(w) \leq \frac{t}{2} \right\}, \quad w \sim w + 1 \quad (2)$$

- The harmonic and meromorphic functions can be constructed using

$$\zeta_0(w) \equiv \frac{\partial_w \theta_1(w|it)}{\theta_1(w|it)} + \frac{2\pi w}{t}$$

- Important ζ_0 has non vanishing monodromy around cylinder

$$\zeta_0(w + 1) = \zeta_0(w) + \frac{2\pi}{t}$$

Higher genus solutions

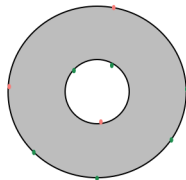
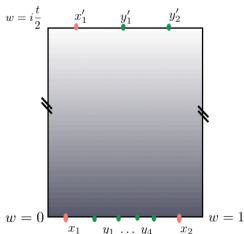
- H and L^A are given by

$$H = -2 \operatorname{Im} \sum_{n=1}^N c_n \zeta_0(w - x_n) - 2 \operatorname{Im} \sum_{n'=1}^{N'} c'_{n'} \zeta_0(w' + x'_{n'})$$

$$L^A = L_\infty^A + \sum_{p=1}^P l_p^A \zeta_0(w - y_p) + \sum_{p'=1}^{P'} l_{p'}^A \zeta_0(w' + y'_{p'})$$

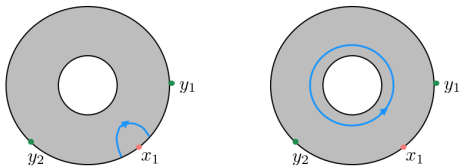
- Here $w' = \frac{it}{2} - w$ and hence x_p, y_p are the location of poles on one boundary and $x'_{p'}, y'_{p'}$ on the other boundary.
- Boundary and regularity conditions can be solved using the properties of ζ_0 .
Regular is

$$P = 2N, \quad P' = 2N'$$



Higher genus solutions

- Holographic BCFT with only one asymptotic region $N = 1, P = 2$ and $N' = 0, P' = 0$.



- What happens to conservation of charge $Q_n^A \equiv \oint_{C \times S^2} dB^A$?. Nontrivial cycle on annulus.
- Monodromy of ζ_0 leads to nontrivial monodromy of scalars as $w \rightarrow w + 1$. Compare monodromy of axion around a D7 brane.
- Conjecture: Such solutions correspond to the near horizon limit of a self dual string ending on a D7 brane wrapped on K3.

Discussion

- Calculation of observables like the entanglement entropy is (relatively) easy
- Calculation of correlation function (bulk/boundary in CFT)
- Generalization of solution to Σ with an arbitrary number of boundaries and handles is straightforward.
- Is it possible to have solutions with no asymptotic AdS regions ? (Cf Bachas talk last week).
- Do these solution correspond to string networks ?