# Boundary conditions and ground states for a scalar field theory on BTZ spacetime

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Quantum fields, scattering and spacetime horizons: mathematical challenges

Les Houches - 25/05/2018

Dipartimento di Fisica – Università di Pavia



### Outline of the Talk

- AdS and BTZ: Geometric Data
- Scalar Fields and Boundary Conditions in AdS
- Scalar Fields and Boundary Conditions in BTZ
- A glimpse on an existence theorem for fundamental solutions



#### Brute Force Approach:

- C.D. and H. Ferreira Phys. Rev. D 94 (2016) no.12, 125016,
- F. Bussola, C. D., H. R. C. Ferreira and I. Khavkine, Phys. Rev. D 96 (2017) no.10, 105016,
- C.D., H. Ferreira, Benito A. Juárez-Aubry, Phys. Rev. D 97 (2018) no.8, 085022
- C. D., H. Ferreira and A. Marta, arXiv:1805.03135 [hep-th].

Algebraic version:

- Marco Benini, C. D., A. Schenkel, arXiv:1712.06686 [math-ph], to appear on Ann. Henri Poinc.
- C.D., H. Ferraira, Rev. Math. Phys. 30 (2018) 0004

Existence and uniqueness of fundamental solutions (funct. anal. aspects)

• C.D., Nicolò Drago, arXiv:1804.03434 [math-ph]





# AdS & BTZ - Reasons

We consider the problem of the quantization of a massive scalar field on  $AdS_{d+1}/BTZ$ . Why?

•  $AdS_{d+1}$  is a (d+1)-dimensional, maximally symmetric solution of the Einstein's equations with *negative* cosmological constant.

**2**  $AdS_{d+1}$  and BTZ are **not** globally hyperbolic

- 3 AdS<sub>d+1</sub> and BTZ possess a conformal boundary,
- Excellent prototypes to understand (A)QFT in presence of boundaries

Goal: Understand the interplay between boundary conditions and quantization

First step: Construct the fundamental solutions for  $\Box - m_0^2 - \xi R$ 



#### Motivations

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Motivations



### AdS - Geometry and the Poincaré chart

 $\textit{AdS}_{d+1}$  can be realized as the locus in  $\mathbb{R}^{d+2}$  with metric

$$ds^2 = -dX_0^2 - dX_1^2 + \sum_{i=2}^{d+1} dX_i^2,$$

with

$$-X_0^2 - X_1^2 + \sum_{i=2}^{d+1} X_i^2 = -\ell^2, \qquad \ell^2 \doteq -rac{d(d-1)}{\Lambda}$$

The Poincaré chart is

$$egin{aligned} X_0 &= \ell \left( rac{1+z^2}{2z} + rac{-t^2+\delta^{ij}x_i\,x_j}{2z} 
ight) \,, \ X_1 &= rac{\ell}{z}t\,, \ X_i &= rac{\ell}{z}x_i\,, \quad i=2,...,d, \ X_{d+1} &= \ell \left( rac{1-z^2}{2z} - rac{-t^2+\delta^{ij}x_i\,x_j}{2z} 
ight) \,. \end{aligned}$$



#### The Poincaré patch

In the Poincaré chart,  $PAdS_{d+1}$ , the metric reads

$$ds^{2} = rac{\ell^{2}}{z^{2}}[-dt^{2} + dz^{2} + \delta^{ij}dx_{i}dx_{j}], \quad i, j = 1, ..., d-1$$

#### where z > 0. Observe that

• PAdS<sub>d+1</sub> is conformally related to the upper half plane  $(\mathring{\mathbb{H}}^{d+1}, \eta)$  with conformal factor  $\Omega = \frac{z}{\ell}$ .

2 The chordal distance  $\sigma$  in  $PAdS_{d+1}$  is  $(\ell = 1)$ 

$$\cosh(\sqrt{2\sigma}) = 1 + \sigma_{\mathbb{R}^{d+2}}, \quad \sigma_{\mathbb{R}^{d+2}}(x, x') \doteq \frac{1}{2}g^{AB}(X_A - X'_A)(X_B - X'_B),$$

where  $\sigma^{AB} = diag(-1, -1, 1, -1) A B = 0 d + 1$ 

The hyperplane z= 0 in  $\mathbb{R}^{d+1}$  is the conformal boundary of  $\mathrm{PAdS}_{d+1}$ .



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where  $g^{AB} = diag(-1, -1, 1..., 1)$ , A, B = 0, ..., d + 1.

The hyperplane z = 0 in  $\mathbb{R}^{d+1}$  is the conformal boundary of  $PAdS_{d+1}$ .





#### The BTZ black hole

It is a stationary, axi-symmetric (2+1)-dimensional solution of Einstein's equations with  $\Lambda = -\ell^{-2} < 0$  with line element

$$ds^2 = -N^2 dt^2 + rac{dr^2}{N^2} + r^2 (darphi + N^arphi dt)^2,$$

with

$$N^2 = -M + rac{r^2}{\ell^2} + rac{J^2}{4r^2}, \quad N^{\varphi} = -rac{J}{2r^2}.$$

**1** BTZ is topologically  $\mathbb{R} \times I \times \mathbb{S}^1$ , with  $I \subset (0, \infty)$ 

It possesses an inner and an outer horizons at

$$r_{\pm}^2 = rac{\ell^2}{2} \left( M \pm \sqrt{M^2 - rac{J^2}{\ell^2}} 
ight), \quad |J| \leq M \ell$$

3 It possesses a timelike Killing field  $(r > r_+)$ 

$$\chi = \partial_t + \Omega_{\mathcal{H}} \partial_{\varphi}, \quad \Omega_{\mathcal{H}} = \frac{r_-}{\ell r_+}.$$



#### From AdS<sub>3</sub> to BTZ

The BTZ black hole is locally isometric to AdS<sub>3</sub>.

The universal cover of AdS<sub>3</sub> can be covered with three patches:

Region i) 
$$\begin{cases} X_0 = \sqrt{\alpha(r)} \cosh(r_+ \varphi - r_- t), & X_1 = \sqrt{\alpha(r) - 1} \sinh(r_+ t - r_- \varphi) \\ X_2 = \sqrt{\alpha(r)} \sinh(r_+ \varphi - r_- t), & X_3 = \sqrt{\alpha(r) - 1} \cosh(r_+ t - r_- \varphi) \end{cases}$$

for  $r \geq r_+$  while, for  $r_- \leq r \leq r_+$ 

Region ii) 
$$\begin{cases} X_0 = \sqrt{\alpha(r)} \cosh(r_+ \varphi - r_- t), & X_1 = -\sqrt{\alpha(r) - 1} \sinh(r_+ t - r_- \varphi) \\ X_2 = \sqrt{\alpha(r)} \sinh(r_+ \varphi - r_- t), & X_3 = -\sqrt{\alpha(r) - 1} \cosh(r_+ t - r_- \varphi) \end{cases}$$

where  $\alpha(r) \doteq \frac{r^2 - r^2 -}{r_+^2 - r_-^2}$ ,  $\varphi \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

BTZ  $\iff \varphi \simeq \varphi + 2\pi$ 



### Klein-Gordon field in $PAdS_{d+1}$

Consider  $\phi : \operatorname{PAdS}_{d+1} \to \mathbb{R}$ 

 $P\phi = (\Box_{\mathrm{PAdS}} - m_0^2 - \xi R)\phi = 0 \quad \xi \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and } R = -d(d+1)$ 

• Conformal rescaling  $\longrightarrow \Phi \doteq \Omega^{\frac{1-d}{2}}\phi : \mathring{\mathbb{H}}^{d+1} \to \mathbb{R}$  obeys

$$P_\eta \Phi \doteq \left(\Box_\eta - \frac{m^2}{z^2}\right) \Phi = 0, \quad m^2 = m_0^2 + \left(\xi - \frac{d-1}{4d}R\right).$$

- $P_{\eta}$  includes a **potential singular at** z = 0.
- $P_{\eta}$  is **not** normally hyperbolic.
- Constructing solutions requires **boundary conditions** at *z* = 0.

Does  $P_\eta$  admit fundamental solutions?



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#### **Brute Force construction**

We start with a mode decomposition:

• Let  $\underline{x} = (t, x_1, ..., x_{d-1})$  and  $\underline{k} = (\omega, k_1, ..., k_{d-1})$ . Then

$$\Phi(\underline{x},z) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{d^d \underline{k}}{(2\pi)^{\frac{d}{2}}} e^{i\underline{k}\cdot\underline{x}} \widehat{\Phi}_{\underline{k}}(z)$$

yields 
$$(\lambda \doteq \omega^2 - \sum_{i=1}^{d-1} k_i^2)$$
  
 $P_\eta \Phi = 0 \iff L \widehat{\Phi}_{\underline{k}} = \left( -\frac{d^2}{dz^2} + \frac{m^2}{z^2} - \lambda \right) \widehat{\Phi}_{\underline{k}} = 0.$ 

This is a singular Sturm-Liouville equation on  $(0,\infty)$ .



#### The Endpoint Classification - I

The most general solution of  $L\widehat{\Phi}_{\underline{k}} = \lambda \widehat{\Phi}_{\underline{k}}$  is for  $\lambda > 0$   $\widehat{\Phi}_{\underline{k}}(z) = a(\underline{k})\sqrt{z}J_{\nu}(\sqrt{\lambda}z) + b(\underline{k})\sqrt{z}Y_{\nu}(\sqrt{\lambda}z),$ where  $\nu = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{1+4m^2} \ge 0..., m^2 \in [-\frac{1}{4},\infty)$ , the BF bound.

Which boundary conditions are allowed? How do we implement them?

• Observe that  $\sqrt{z} J_{\nu}(\sqrt{\lambda}z) \propto_{z \to 0} z^{\nu + \frac{1}{2}}$  and  $\sqrt{z} Y_{\nu}(\sqrt{\lambda}z) \propto_{z \to 0} z^{-\nu + \frac{1}{2}}$ 

Not obvious how to impose standard (Robin) boundary conditions at z = 0!

Singular Sturm-Liouville theory is the answer



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### The Endpoint Classification - II

Allowed boundary conditions depend on the solutions near the endpoints:

**Endpoint** z = 0: For an operator  $L_V \doteq -\frac{d^2}{dz^2} + V(z)$  we call z = 0

(i) regular (R) if  $\exists z_0 \in (0,\infty)$  such that  $V(z) \in L^1(0,z_0)$ ,

- (ii) *limit circle (LC)* if  $\exists z_0$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  such that all elements in the kernel of the operator  $L_V \lambda$  lie in  $L^2(0, z_0)$ ,
- (iii) *limit point (LP)* if it is neither (R) nor (LC).

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(a) singular if  $z \to \infty$ ,

(b) *limit circle* (LC) if  $\exists \lambda \in C$  and  $z_0 \in (0, \infty)$  such that all elements in the kernel of the operator  $L_V - \lambda$  lie in  $L^2(z_0, \infty)$ ,

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**Endpoint**  $z \neq 0$ : For an operator  $L_V \doteq -\frac{d^2}{dz^2} + V(z)$  we call the endpoint

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#### Goal: Implement boundary conditions for non regular endpoints

et  $L_V \doteq -\frac{d^2}{dz} + V(z)$ 

Choose Φ<sub>1</sub>(z) the principal solution at z = 0, i.e. the unique one (up to scalar multiples)

$$\lim_{z\to 0} \frac{\Phi_1(z)}{\Phi(z)} = 0 \quad \forall \Phi(z) \mid L_V \Phi = \lambda \Phi, \ \lambda \in \mathbb{C}.$$

- 2 Pick a second  $L^2$ -solution  $\Phi_2(z)$ , linearly indep. from  $\Phi_1$  (non unique)
- 3 Observe that, up to a scalar multiple, if  $(L_V \lambda)\Phi = 0$ ,  $\exists \alpha \in [0, \pi)$  such that

 $\Phi(z) = \cos \alpha \, \Phi_1(z) + \sin \alpha \, \Phi_2(z),$ 

and that, for a regular endpoint at z = 0,

 $\cos \alpha \, \Phi(0) + \sin \alpha \, \Phi'(0) = 0 \iff \cos \alpha W_z[\Phi, \Phi_1] + \sin \alpha W_z[\Phi, \Phi_2] = 0$ where  $W_z[\Phi, \Phi_i] = \Phi(z)\Phi'_i(z) - \Phi'(z)\Phi_i(z)$  is the Wronskian.



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Key Observations: If we consider solutions which are  $L^2(0, z_0), z_0 \in (0, \infty)$ 

- $\Phi_1(z)$  always exists while  $\Phi_2(z)$  can be found if z = 0 is R or LC
- The identity with the Wronskian is always meaningful and we call

α = 0 (generalized) Dirichlet boundary condition,
 α = π/2 (generalized) Neumann boundary condition,
 α ∈ (0, π), α ≠ π/2 (generalized) Robin boundary condition



#### **Boundary Conditions - III**

Recall that we consider  $L = -\frac{d^2}{dz^2} + \frac{m^2}{z^2}$  and  $\lambda = q^2 \doteq \omega^2 - \sum_{i=1}^{d-1} k_i^2$ .

The fundamental pair of solutions  $(\widehat{\Phi}_{\underline{k}}^1, \widehat{\Phi}_{\underline{k}}^2)$  is

$ u = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{1+4m^2} $	Classification of $z = 0$	Boundary condition at $z = 0$
$\nu = \frac{1}{2}$	Regular (R)	$cot(lpha)\widehat{\Phi}_{\underline{k}}(0)+\widehat{\Phi}_{\underline{k}}'(0)=0$
$ u \in [0,1),   u  eq rac{1}{2}$	Limit-circle (LC)	$-\cot(\alpha) W_{z} [\widehat{\Phi}_{\underline{k}}, \widehat{\Phi}_{\underline{k}}^{1}] + W_{z} [\widehat{\Phi}_{\underline{k}}, \widehat{\Phi}_{\underline{k}}^{2}] = 0$
$ u\in [1,\infty)$	Limit-point (LP)	Not required



#### Ground States - Mode Expansion I

Goal: Kill two birds with one stone

We construct directly the two-point function of a ground state • Let  $\omega_{2,\mathbb{H}} \doteq (zz')^{\frac{1-d}{2}} \omega_2 \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathring{\mathbb{H}}^{d+1} \times \mathring{\mathbb{H}}^{d+1})$ . It holds  $(P_\eta \otimes \mathbb{I})G_{\mathbb{H}} = (\mathbb{I} \otimes P_\eta)G_{\mathbb{H}} = 0.$ 

2 Consider the Fourier transform along  $\mathbb{R}^d \ni \underline{x}$ . Integral kernel:

$$\omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}(x,x') = \lim_{\epsilon \to 0^+} \int \frac{d\omega}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{i\omega(t-t'-i\epsilon)} \int dk \left(\frac{k}{r}\right)^{\frac{d-3}{2}} J_{\frac{d-3}{2}}(kr) \widehat{\omega}_{2,\underline{k}}(z,z').$$

with

$$(L\otimes \mathbb{I})\widehat{\omega}_{2,\underline{k}} = (\mathbb{I}\otimes L)\widehat{\omega}_{2,\underline{k}} = \lambda\widehat{\omega}_{2,\underline{k}}, \quad L = -rac{d^2}{dz^2} + rac{m^2}{z^2}$$



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$$(L\otimes \mathbb{I})\widehat{\omega}_{2,\underline{k}} = (\mathbb{I}\otimes L)\widehat{\omega}_{2,\underline{k}} = \lambda\widehat{\omega}_{2,\underline{k}}, \quad L = -\frac{d^2}{dz^2} + \frac{m^2}{z^2}.$$



#### The case with $\nu \geq 1$

In order to construct  $\widehat{\omega}_{2,\underline{k}}$ , we need that  $iG(x,x') \doteq \omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}(x,x') - \omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}(x',x)$ ,

$$G(x,x')|_{t=t'}=0, \quad \partial_t G(x,x')=-\partial_{t'} G(x,x')|_{t=t'}=\delta(x,x').$$

• Finding  $\hat{\omega}_{2,\underline{k}}$  is a problem of eigenfunction expansion of the  $\delta$ -distribution (*cf.* Titchmarsh 1962)

•  $\widehat{\omega}_{2,\underline{k}}$  is not unique and it depends on the boundary conditions.

For  $\nu \geq 1$  the choice is **unique** – Fourier-Bessel expansion

$$\widehat{\omega}_{2,\underline{k}} = \sqrt{zz'} \int_0^\infty dq \, q J_
u(qz) J_
u(qz'), \quad q^2 = \omega^2 - \sum_{i=1}^{d-1} k_i^2.$$

The outcome is:

$$\lim_{\epsilon \to 0^+} \sqrt{2zz'} \int_{0}^{\infty} dq \, q \, \frac{\sin(\sqrt{k^2 + q^2}(t - t' - i\epsilon))}{\sqrt{\pi(k^2 + q^2)}} \int_{0}^{\infty} dk \left(\frac{k}{r}\right)^{\frac{d-3}{2}} J_{\frac{d-3}{2}}(kr) J_{\nu}(qz) J_{\nu}(qz').$$



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Boundary Conditions 17 / 36

# The case with $\nu \in (0,1)$

In this regime, Robin-like boundary conditions can be imposed

• There exists two known regimes:  $c = \cot \alpha \ge 0$  and  $c = \cot \alpha < 0$ 

$$\delta(z-z') = \sqrt{zz'} \int_{0}^{\infty} dq \, q \, \frac{[cJ_{\nu}(qz) - q^{2\nu}J_{-\nu}(qz)][cJ_{\nu}(qz') - q^{2\nu}J_{-\nu}(qz')]}{c^2 - 2cq^{2\nu}\cos(\pi\nu) + q^{4\nu}}, \quad c \le 0$$

or

$$\delta(z-z') = \sqrt{zz'} \int_{0}^{\infty} dq \, q \, \frac{[cJ_{\nu}(qz) - q^{2\nu}J_{-\nu}(qz)][cJ_{\nu}(qz') - q^{2\nu}J_{-\nu}(qz')]}{c^2 - 2cq^{2\nu}\cos(\pi\nu) + q^{4\nu}} + \\ + 2\sqrt{zz'}c^{\frac{1}{\nu}}\frac{\sin(\pi\nu)}{\pi\nu}K_{\nu}(c^{\frac{1}{2\nu}}z)K_{\nu}(c^{\frac{1}{2\nu}}z'), \quad c > 0$$

For certain Robin boundary conditions, there are bound states!



### Ground States - Mode Expansion II

What have we learned?

- We can construct Green operators for all values of  $m^2$  and for all *Robin* boundary conditions, when existent
- In certain regimes there are bound states (bad for quantization)
- The result is consistent with the work of Wald & Ishibashi (CMP 2003)



### Ground States - Mode Expansion II

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What is missing?



#### From $G_{\mathbb{H}}$ to a ground state $\omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}$

From the form of  $G_{\mathbb{H}}$  we can construct

$$\begin{split} \omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}(x,x') &= \lim_{\epsilon \to 0^+} \int_0^\infty \frac{d\omega}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{i\omega(t-t'-i\epsilon)} \int_0^\infty dk \left(\frac{k}{r}\right)^{\frac{d-3}{2}} J_{\frac{d-3}{2}}(kr) \widehat{\omega}_{2,\underline{k}}(z,z') = \\ &= \lim_{\epsilon \to 0^+} \int_0^\infty dq \, q \frac{e^{i(\sqrt{k^2+q^2}(t-t'-i\epsilon))}}{\sqrt{2\pi(k^2+q^2)}} \int_0^\infty dk \left(\frac{k}{r}\right)^{\frac{d-3}{2}} J_{\frac{d-3}{2}}(kr) \widehat{\omega}_{2,\underline{k}}(z,z'). \end{split}$$

One can prove that

2)  $(P_{+} \otimes \mathbb{I})_{ub} = (\mathbb{I} \otimes P_{+})_{ub} = 0$  and ub = (f, f) > 0 for all  $f \in C_{+}^{\infty}(\mathbb{H}^{d+1})$ 

 $\bigcirc \omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}$  is maximally symmetric.

 $\omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}$  is the ground state



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One can prove that

 $\ \ \textbf{(} P_\eta \otimes \mathbb{I}\textbf{)} \omega_{2,\mathbb{H}} = (\mathbb{I} \otimes P_\eta) \omega_{2,\mathbb{H}} = \textbf{0} \text{ and } \omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}(f,f) \geq \textbf{0} \text{ for all } f \in C_0^\infty(\mathring{\mathbb{H}}^{d+1}),$ 

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### Explicit expression for $\omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}$ - I

We can write  $\omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}$  in terms of special functions:

• Call 
$$u(x, x') = \cosh^2\left(\frac{\sqrt{2\sigma(x, x')}}{2}\right)$$
. Then  $u = 1 + \frac{\sigma_{\mathbb{M}}(x, x')}{2zz'}$  where  $\sigma_{\mathbb{M}}$  is the Minkowski geodesic distance

geodesic distance

#### **Proposition** [First Case]

Let  $\nu > 1$  and let

$$\omega_{2}^{D}(x,x') = \lim_{\epsilon \to 0} u_{\epsilon}^{-\frac{d}{2}-\nu} \frac{F(\frac{d}{2}+\nu,\frac{1}{2}+\nu,1+2\nu;u_{\epsilon}^{-1})}{\Gamma(1+2\nu)}$$

The integral kernel of the ground state reads:

$$\omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}(x,x') = \mathcal{N}(\nu,d)\omega_2^D(x,x'),$$

where  $\mathcal{N}(\nu, d)$  is a normalization constant.



### Explicit expression for $\omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}$ - II

#### Proposition [Second Case]

Let  $\nu\in(0,1),$  for every  $\alpha\in[0,\frac{\pi}{2}]$  there exists a ground state built out of  $\omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}^{(\alpha)}$  and

$$\omega_{2}^{D}(x,x') = \lim_{\epsilon \to 0} u_{\epsilon}^{-\frac{d}{2}-\nu} \frac{F(\frac{d}{2}+\nu,\frac{1}{2}+\nu,1+2\nu;u_{\epsilon}^{-1})}{\Gamma(1+2\nu)}$$
$$\omega_{2}^{N}(x,x') = \lim_{\epsilon \to 0} u_{\epsilon}^{-\frac{d}{2}+\nu} \frac{F(\frac{d}{2}-\nu,\frac{1}{2}-\nu,1-2\nu;u_{\epsilon}^{-1})}{\Gamma(1-2\nu)}$$

Notice that

• There is **no ground state** neither for Robin boundary conditions with  $\alpha \in (\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi)$  nor for  $\nu = 0$  due to the *bound states*, though a causal propagator exists.



# Singular Structure of $\omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}^{(\alpha)}$ – Global Form

#### Theorem

Let  $\omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}^{(\alpha)}$  be the ground state for a generic, admissible boundary condition. Then

$$WF(\omega_{2,\mathbb{H}}^{(\alpha)}) = \{(x, k_x, x', k_{x'}) \in T^*(\mathbb{\dot{H}}^{d+1})^{x_2} \setminus \{0\} \mid (x_{\pm}, k_{x_{\pm}}) \sim (x', k_{x'}), \ k_x \triangleright 0\}$$

where  $\sim$  entails that  $x_{\pm} = (\underline{x}, \pm z)$  and  $x' = (\underline{x}', z')$  are connected by a lightlike geodesic  $\gamma$  in  $\mathbb{M}^{d+1}$ , while  $k_{x\pm} = (k_{\underline{x}}, \pm k_z)$  is parallel transported along  $\gamma$  to  $k_{x'}$ .

Observe that:

- As expected, singularities are reflected at the boundary.
- In every globally hyperbolic subregion of  $PAdS_{d+1}$  or, equivalently, of  $\mathbb{H}^{d+1}$ , the *WF* is of Hadamard type.



#### The BTZ Scenario

### What about **BTZ**?

Consider  $\phi: BTZ \to \mathbb{R}$ 

$$P\phi = (\Box_{BTZ} - m_0^2 - \xi R)\phi = 0$$

Since  $\partial_t, \partial_{\varphi}$  are Killing fields

$$\phi(t,r,arphi) = rac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \int \limits_{\mathbb{R}} d\omega \ e^{-i\omega t + ikarphi} \Psi_{\omega k}(r)$$

where the remaining unknown satisfies

$$L\Psi_{\omega k}(z) = rac{d}{dz}\left(zrac{d\Psi_{\omega k}}{dz}
ight) + q(z)\Psi_{\omega k}(z) = 0,$$

being  $z=rac{r^2-r_+^2}{r^2-r_-^2}\in(0,1)$  and setting  $\mu^2=m_0^2\ell^2-6\xi$ 

$$q(z) = \frac{1}{4(1-z)} \left[ \frac{\ell^2 (\omega \ell r_+ - k r_-)^2}{(r_+^2 - r_-^2)z} - \frac{\ell^2 (\omega \ell r_- - k r_+)^2}{(r_+^2 - r_-^2)} - \frac{\mu^2}{1-z} \right],$$

Boundary Conditions



The BTZ Scenario

#### The solutions

Using Froebenius method one can construct two linearly independent solutions  $(\mu^2 
eq (n-1)^2 - 1, \ n \in \mathbb{N})$ 

$$\begin{cases} \Psi_1(z) = z^{\gamma} (1-z)^{\beta} F(a, b, a+b-c; 1-z) \\ \Psi_2(z) = z^{\gamma} (1-z)^{1-\beta} F(c-a, c-b, c-a-b+1; 1-z) \end{cases}$$

where

$$\gamma = -i \frac{\ell^2 r_+(\omega - k\Omega_{\mathcal{H}})}{2(r_+^2 - r_-^2)} \text{ and } \beta = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \sqrt{1 + \mu^2} \right),$$

and

$$\begin{cases} a = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \sqrt{1 + \mu^2} - i\ell \frac{\ell(\omega - k\Omega_{\mathcal{H}})}{r_+ - r_-} + i\ell \frac{k}{r_+} \right) \\ b = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \sqrt{1 + \mu^2} - i\ell \frac{\ell(\omega - k\Omega_{\mathcal{H}})}{r_+ + r_-} + i\ell \frac{k}{r_+} \right) \\ c = 1 - i \frac{\ell^2 r_+ (\omega - k\Omega_{\mathcal{H}})}{r_+^2 - r_-^2} \end{cases}$$



# **Endpoint Classification**

We need to control the square integrability of the solutions at

z = 0 (horizon) and z = 1 (conformal infinity)

#### • z = 0 is always Limit-point

• z = 1 can be either **Limit-point** or **Limit-circle** 

$\mu^2 = m_0^2 \ell^2 - 6\xi$	Classification of $z = 1$	Boundary condition at $z=1$
$\mu^2\in (-1,0),$	Limit-circle (LC)	$\cot(lpha) W_{z} [\Psi_{\omega k}, \Psi_{1}] + W_{z} [\Psi_{\omega k}, \Psi_{2}] = 0$
$\mu^2 \geq 0$	Limit-point (LP)	Not required



#### The BTZ Scenario

## Construction of the ground state - I

Having under control the boundary conditions we can

construct the ground state for the KG field

Differences from PAdS:

- we need to consider positive frequencies with respect to  $\partial_t + \Omega_H \partial_{\varphi}$ , *i.e.*  $\tilde{\omega} = \omega - \Omega_H k$
- we are no longer dealing with an eigenvalue problem but with a *quadratic operator pencil*

Repeating the same procedure as in  $PAdS_{d+1}$  we obtain 3 cases

()  $\mu^2 \ge 0$ , no boundary condition required:

$$\omega_{2}(x,x') = \lim_{\epsilon \to 0^{+}} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{ik(\varphi - \varphi')} \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{d\widetilde{\omega}}{(2\pi)^{2}} e^{i\widetilde{\omega}(t - t' - i\epsilon)} \left(\frac{A}{B} - \frac{\bar{A}}{\bar{B}}\right) C\Psi_{1}(z)\Psi_{1}(z')$$
  
with  $A = \frac{\Gamma(c-1)\Gamma(c-a-b)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)}$ ,  $B = \frac{\Gamma(c-1)\Gamma(a+b-c)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}$  and  $C = \frac{\ell^{4}}{4(r_{+}^{2} - r_{-}^{2})\sqrt{1+\mu^{2}}}$ .

Boundary Conditions

The BTZ Scenario



### Construction of the ground state - II

$$2 \quad -1 < \mu^2 < 0, \ \alpha \in (0, \alpha_*) \ \text{and} \ \alpha_* = \arctan\left(\frac{\left\lceil (2\beta - 1) \left| \Gamma(1 - \beta + i\frac{\ell_K}{r_+}) \right|^2}{\left\lceil (1 - 2\beta) \left| \Gamma(\beta + i\frac{\ell_K}{r_+}) \right|^2}\right) \right)$$

$$\omega_{2}(x, x') = \lim_{\epsilon \to 0^{+}} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{ik(\varphi - \varphi')} \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{d\widetilde{\omega}}{(2\pi)^{2}} e^{i\widetilde{\omega}(t - t' - i\epsilon)} \left( \frac{A\overline{B} - \overline{A}B}{|\cos \alpha B - \sin \alpha A|^{2}} \right) C\Psi_{1}(z)\Psi_{1}(z')$$

3)  $-1 < \mu^2 < 0$ ,  $\alpha \in (\alpha_*, \pi)$  bound states  $\implies$  no ground state.

• The ground states are *locally* of Hadamard form.



#### Towards an existence theorem - I

Goal: Can we formulate an existence and "uniqueness" theorem?

Consider a standard static spacetime  $N = \mathbb{R} \times M$  with a timelike boundary:

(1) (N, h) and  $(\partial N, \iota^* h)$  are Lorentzian manifolds with  $\partial N = \mathbb{R} \times \partial M$ 

$$h = -\beta dt^2 + g \quad \beta \in C^{\infty}(M; (0, \infty))$$

(M, g) is a Riemannian manifold with boundary and of bounded geometry [Schick '01 & Amman, Große, Schneider '16]

• there exists  $(\widehat{M}, \widehat{g})$  such that dim  $\widehat{M} = \dim M$  and

$$M \subset \widehat{M} \quad \widehat{g}|_M = g$$

•  $(\widehat{M}, \widehat{g})$  is of bounded geometry, *i.e.*,

$$r_{inj}(\widehat{M}) > 0, \quad \| 
abla^k \widehat{R} \|_{L^{\infty}(\widehat{M})} < \infty \ \forall k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\},$$

•  $(\partial M, \iota_M^* \widehat{g})$  is of bounded geometry.



#### Towards an existence theorem - II

Let (M,g) be a manifold with boundary and of bounded geometry

- () consider a geodesic atlas (  $U_{\beta}^{geo}, \kappa_{\beta}^{geo}$  ),  $\beta \in J$ , J being an index set
- 2 consider { h<sup>geo</sup><sub>β∈J</sub> a partition of unity subordinated to the geodesic atlas and let H<sup>s,geo</sup>( M̂) be the set of u ∈ D'( M̂)

$$\|u\|_{H^{2,geo}(\widehat{M})}^{2} = \sum_{\beta \in J} \|(h_{\beta}^{geo}u)| \circ \kappa_{\beta}^{geo}\|_{H^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{m})}^{2} < \infty$$

**3**  $H^{s,geo}(\widehat{M})$  is isomorphic to  $W^s(\widehat{M})$  the completion of

$$\mathcal{E}^{s}(\widehat{M}) = \{ f \in \mathcal{E}(\widehat{M}) \mid f, \nabla f ... \nabla^{s} f \in L^{2}(\widehat{M}) \} \quad \|f\|^{2} = \sum_{i=0}^{s} \|\nabla^{i} f\|_{L^{2}(\widehat{M})}$$

**Theorem (Große & Schneider '13)** Let (M, g) be a manifold with boundary and of bounded geometry and let  $H^{s}(M) = \{[u] \mid u \in H^{s}(\widehat{M}) \text{ and } u \sim u' \text{ iff } (u - u')|_{M} = 0\}$ There exists a continuous surjective map  $\Gamma : H^{s}(M) \to H^{s-\frac{1}{2}}(\partial M).$ 

30 / 36



#### The main problem

Let (N, h) be a standard static spacetime with timelike boundary and

 $\Phi: N \to \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\Box_h \Phi = 0$ ,

Assume (for simplicity) *h* to be *ultrastatic*, *i.e.*  $\beta = 1$ .

Question: Which are the fundamental solutions for  $\Box_h$ ?

We look for 
$$G \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathring{N} \times \mathring{N})$$
,  $\mathring{N} = N \setminus \partial N$   
$$\begin{cases} (\Box_h \otimes \mathbb{I})G = (\mathbb{I} \otimes \Box_h)G = 0\\ G|_{t=t'} = 0 \text{ and } \partial_t G = -\partial_{t'}G = \delta_M \end{cases}$$

Since  $\Box_h = -\partial_t^2 + \Delta_g$ ,

Answer: Characterize the self-adjoint extensions of  $\Delta_g$ 



### **Boundary Triples**

Let  $S : D(S) \subset H \rightarrow H$  be a closed symmetric operator.

#### Definition

A boundary triple for  $S^*$  is a triple  $(h, \gamma_0, \gamma_1)$  where  $\gamma_i : D(S^*) \to h$ ,

$$(S^*f,f')_{\mathsf{H}}-(f,S^*f')_{\mathsf{H}}=(\gamma_1f,\gamma_0f')_{\mathsf{h}}-(\gamma_0f,\gamma_1f')_{\mathsf{h}},$$

and the map  $\gamma: D(S^*) \to \mathsf{h} \times \mathsf{h}$ ,  $f \mapsto \gamma(f) = (\gamma_0(f), \gamma_1(f))$  is surjective.

#### Theorem (Grubb '68 & Malamud '92)

Let S be as above and let  $\mathcal{N}_{\pm} = \ker(S^* \pm i\mathbb{I})$ . If  $\dim \mathcal{N}_{+} = \dim \mathcal{N}_{-}$ , then a boundary triple  $(h, \gamma_0, \gamma_1)$  exists. Then, to any self-adjoint operator  $\Theta : D(\Theta) \rightarrow h$ , it corresponds a self-adjoint extension of S:

$$S_{\Theta} = S^*|_{\ker(\gamma_1 - \Theta \gamma_0)}$$

Every self-adjoint extension of S is of this form.



# Application to $\Delta_g$

Let (M,g) be a Riemannian manifold with boundary and of bounded geometry and Let  $\Delta_g$  be the Laplace-Beltrami operator (uniformly elliptic) with

$$D_{max}(\Delta_g^*) = \{f \in L^2(M) \mid \Delta_g f \in L^2(M)\} \simeq H^2(M).$$

**Theorem (Grubb '68)** Let  $\Gamma_0 \equiv \Gamma : H^2(M) \rightarrow H^{\frac{3}{2}}(M)$  be the Lions trace and let  $\Gamma_1 = -\Gamma \nabla_n : H^2(M) \rightarrow H^{\frac{1}{2}}(M)$ . Then

 $(L^2(\partial M), \gamma_0, \gamma_1)$ 

is a boundary triple for  $\Delta_g^*$  if  $\gamma_0=\iota_+\Gamma_0$  and  $\gamma_1=j_+\Gamma_1$  where

 $\iota_+: H^{\frac{3}{2}}(\partial M) \to L^2(\partial M) \quad and \quad j_+: H^{\frac{1}{2}}(\partial M) \to L^2(\partial M).$ 



# The propagator(s) for $\Box_h$ - I

Assume that

- (N, h) is a static Lorentzian spacetime with timelike boundary
- (2)  $(L^2(\partial M), \gamma_0, \gamma_1)$  is the boundary triple associated to  $\Delta_g^*$
- **③**  $\Theta$  is a densely defined self-adjoint operator on  $L^2(\partial M)$  such that  $\Delta_{\Theta} \doteq \Delta_g^*|_{D(\Delta_{\Theta})}$ , where  $D(\Delta_{\Theta}) \doteq \ker(\gamma_1 \Theta\gamma_0)$ .
- ( ) the spectrum of  $\Delta_{\Theta}$  is bounded from below



## The propagator(s) for $\Box_h$ - II

#### Theorem (C.D. & Nicoló Drago)

The advanced and retarded fundamental solutions for  $\Box_h$  are completely determined in terms of the bidistributions  $\mathcal{G}_\Theta^- = \theta(t-t')\mathcal{G}_\Theta$  and  $\mathcal{G}_\Theta^+ = -\theta(t'-t)\mathcal{G}_\Theta$ , where  $\mathcal{G}_\Theta \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathring{N} \times \mathring{N})$  is such that, for all  $f \in \mathcal{D}(\mathring{N})$ 

$$\mathcal{G}_{\Theta}(f_1, f_2) \doteq \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} dt dt' \left( f_1(t) \left| A_{\Theta}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sin \left[ A_{\Theta}^{\frac{1}{2}}(t-t') \right] f_2(t') \right),$$

where  $f(t) \in H^2(M)$  denotes the evaluation of f, regarded as an element of  $C_c^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}, H^{\infty}(M))$  and  $A_{\Theta}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sin \left[A_{\Theta}^{\frac{1}{2}}(t-t')\right]$  is defined exploiting the functional calculus for  $A_{\Theta}$ . Moreover it holds that

 $\mathsf{G}_{\Theta}^{\pm} \colon \mathcal{D}(\mathring{N}) \to C^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}, H^{\infty}_{\Theta}(M)),$ 

where  $H^{\infty}_{\Theta}(M) \doteq \bigcap_{k \ge 0} D(\Delta^{k}_{\Theta})$ . In particular,

$$\gamma_1(\mathsf{G}_\Theta^\pm f) = \Theta \gamma_0(\mathsf{G}_\Theta^\pm f) \qquad \forall f \in C_0^\infty(\mathring{N}).$$



Conclusions

### And now?

#### Outlook

- We have constructed the causal propagator and the ground state for any massive scalar field in  $PAdS_{d+1}$  and in BTZ with arbitrary Robin-type boundary conditions,
- We have developed a general framework to discuss the existence of the fundamental solutions

#### To do

- Better understand the role of bound states,
- Apply our procedure to asymptotically AdS (static) spacetimes,
- Extend our procedure to boundary conditions dependent on the spectral parameter.



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