Entanglement Tsunami

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Based on

HL and Josephine Suh, 1305.7244, PRL 112, 011601 (2014) HL and Josephine Suh, 1311.1200, PRD 89, 066012 (2014) HL, Mezei, Suh, unpublished, Casini, unpublished Casini, Hubeny, HL, Maxfield, Mezei, Suh, to appear

See also

Hyungwon Kim and Huse arXiv:1306.4306

Hartman and Maldacena arXiv:1303.1080

Shenker and Stanford arXiv: 1306.0622, 1312.3296

Hubeny and Maxfield arXiv: 1312.6887

Entanglement generation



$$\psi(t = 0) = \psi_A \otimes \psi_B$$
$$\psi(t) = e^{-iHt}\psi(0)$$
$$H = H_A + H_B + H_{AB}$$

How fast can entanglement be generated?

In most physical systems: Local Hamiltonian

$$H_{AB} = H_{CD}$$
 δ : UV cutoff

Small incremental entangling conjecture/ theorem



 $\frac{dS_A}{dt} \le c||H||\log d,$

 $H = H_A + H_B + H_{CD}$

S_A : entanglement entropy of A

Dur, Vidal et al, Bravyi, Kitaev Bennett et al, Van Acoleyen, Marien, Verstraete

$$d = \min(d_C, d_D)$$

 d_C : dimension of Hilbert space of C



For more general quantum systems, e.g. a QFT

$$\frac{dS_A}{dt} < ???$$

In this talks we will describe some hints.

A simple setup: global quenches

- Start with a QFT in the ground state.
- 2. At t=0 in a very short time interval inject a uniform energy density
 - initial state homogeneous, isotropic, entanglement properties as vacuum



3. The system evolves to (thermal) equilibrium

Also a question of interest for thermalization.

$\Delta S_A(t) = S_A(t) - S_A(t=0)$ $\Delta S_A(0) = 0$

In equilibrium, system behaves macroscopically as a thermal state, with entanglement entropy disguised as thermal entropy:

$$\Delta S_A^{
m eq} = s_{
m eq} V_A$$
 V_A: volume of region A

 s_{eq} : equilibrium entropy density

Essentially all d.o.f. inside A becomes long ranged entangled with those outside A.



equilibrium

almost all d.o.f. long range entangled

essentially no long range entanglement

Previous results in (1+1)-d CFTs



Special techniques in one spatial dimension do not apply to higher dimensions:

• Equilibration processes: complicated nonequilibrium many-body dynamics, generally out of theoretical control.

• Entanglement entropy is notoriously difficult to calculate even for simple regions in the vacuum of a free theory, not to mention for general regions in interacting theories far from equilibrium.



String theory to the rescue!

Earlier work:

Hubeny, Rangamani, Takayanagi: arXiv:0705.0016

Abajo-Arrastia, Aparicio and Lopez, arXiv:1006.4090

Albash and Johnson, arXiv:1008.3027

Balasubramanian, Bernamonti, de Boer, Copland, Craps, Keski-Vakkuri, Muller, Schafer, Shigemori, Staessens arXiv:1012.4753, arXiv:1103.2683

Aparicio and Lopez, arXiv:1109.3571

Caceres and A. Kundu, arXiv:1205.2354

Holographic description of quench



quench: thin shell collapse to form a black hole.

Holographic Entanglement entropy

Ryu, Takayanagi Hubeny, Rangamani, Takayanagi





R: characteristic size of the region

Interested in long-distance physics: $R
ightarrow \infty$

Gravity description

Each extremal surface can also be specified by the location of (and boundary conditions at) the tip.

R

Large size and critical extremal surfaces



In general a rather complicated problem to determine time evolution of extremal surfaces

Critical extremal surfaces determine large R, large time behavior



Linear growth

For $R \gg t \gg 1/T$

See also Hartman, Maldacena

$$\Delta S_A(t) = v_E \, s_{\rm eq} \, A_{\Sigma} t + \cdots$$

 $s_{
m eq}$: Equilibrium entropy density

independent of shape, holographic theories under consideration, the nature of equilibrium state, also likely thermalization processes

v_E: dimensionless number characterizing final eq state.

Critical extremal surface for linear growth



The critical extremal surface runs along a constant radial slice inside the horizon $ds^{2} = \frac{L^{2}}{z^{2}} \left(-hdt^{2} + \frac{1}{f}dz^{2} + d\vec{x}^{2} \right)$ $z_{m}: \text{ minimum of } \frac{h(z)}{z^{2D}}$

D: # of spatial dimensions

 $v_E = (z_h/z_m)^D \sqrt{-h(z_m)}$ z_h : horizon size

Determined by equilibrium state

Entanglement Tsunami

 $\Delta S_A(t) = v_E s_{\text{eq}} A_{\Sigma} t = s_{\text{eq}} (V_A - V_{A-v_E t})$



suggests a picture of tsunami wave of entanglement, with a sharp wave front.

d.o.f. in the region covered by the wave is now entangled with those outside A

natural with evolution from a local Hamiltonian

Tsunami velocity

$$\Delta S_A(t) = v_E \, s_{\rm eq} \, A_{\Sigma} t + \cdots$$

Neutral system (AdS Schwarzschild):

$$v_E^{(S)} = \frac{(\eta - 1)^{\frac{1}{2}(\eta - 1)}}{\eta^{\frac{1}{2}\eta}} = \begin{cases} 1 & D = 1\\ \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2^{\frac{4}{3}}} = 0.687 & D = 2\\ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3^{\frac{3}{4}}} = 0.620 & D = 3\\ \frac{1}{2} & D = \infty \end{cases}$$
$$\eta \equiv \frac{2D}{D + 1}$$

Turning on chemical potential reduces v_E .

Upper bound on v_E?

 v_E should be constrained by causality.

In all gravity examples: $v_E = (z_h/z_m)^D \sqrt{-h(z_m)}$

$$v_E \le v_E^{(S)} = \frac{(\eta - 1)^{\frac{1}{2}(\eta - 1)}}{\eta^{\frac{1}{2}\eta}} \quad \eta \equiv \frac{2D}{D + 1}$$

Null energy condition important

Comparing with free particle streaming



Assume:

- At t=0, there is a uniform density of "photons" with only local entanglement correlations.
- Entanglement spreads when photons propagate.

Leading to shape independent linear growth,

$$\Delta S_{\Sigma}(t) = v_E s_{\rm eq} A_{\Sigma} t + \cdots$$

For D=1:

In strongly coupled systems, entanglement tsunami propagates faster than those from free particles traveling at speed of light !

$$D \to \infty: v_E^{(S)} \to \frac{1}{2}, v_{\text{streaming}} \to \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi(D+1)}} \to 0$$

Bound on entanglement growth?

For any non-equilibrium processes:

$$\Re_A(t) \equiv \frac{1}{s_{\rm eq} A_{\Sigma}} \frac{dS_A}{dt}$$

dimensionless, can be compared among region A of different shapes, sizes, and systems of different number of d.o.f.

Indications from gravity: after local equilibration (t >>1/T)

$$\Re_A(t) \le v_E^{(S)}$$

Comparing with small incremental entangling conjecture/theorem:

 $\frac{dS_A}{dt} \le v_E^{(S)} s_{\rm eq} A$ $\frac{dS_A}{dt} \le c ||H| |\log d, \qquad d = \min(d_C, d_D)$



Future directions

• More examples:

Both holographic and field theoretical

- More physical intuition on $v_E^{(S)}$
- Direct probe of entanglement tsunami
- Continuum limit of small incremental theorem
- Implications for black hole physics

Thank You

Entanglement in the vacuum



Long ranged entangled d.o.f. are measure zero.

Entanglement in equilibrium state

The system behaves macroscopically as a thermal state, with entanglement entropy disguised as thermal entropy:

$$S_A^{\text{long,eq}} = s_{\text{eq}} V_A$$

 s_{eq} : equilibrium entropy density

V_A: volume of region A

Essentially all d.o.f. inside A becomes long ranged entangled with those outside A.