

A Holographic Triptych at Large N

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2309.06469, 2312.08909 + to appear





"The Garden of Earthly Delights" Hieronymus Bosch (circa 1490)

The large N team



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Sunjin Choi (Seoul)



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Motivation

Supersymmetric localization allows for the exact calculation of physical observables in supersymmetric QFTs.

Apply this tool to SCFTs with holographic duals in string and M-theory.

$$Z_{\text{CFT}}[J] = Z_{\text{string/M}}[\phi].$$

Focus on subleading terms in the large N expansion to learn about quantum corrections to the supergravity approximation.

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Why?

- Explore precision holography.
- New handle on AdS vacua of string and M-theory with non-trivial fluxes.
- Learn about quantum corrections to black hole thermodynamics.

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This talk

Recent progress on these topics for 3d SCFTs with AdS₄ duals in type IIA string theory and M-theory.

ABJM partition functions

[Aharony,Bergman,Jafferis,Maldacena]; [Kapustin,Willet,Yaakov]; [Hama,Hosomichi,Lee];
[Drukker,Mariño,Putrov]; [Mariño,Putrov]; [Fuji,Hirano,Moriyama]; [Herzog,Klebanov,Pufu,Tesileanu];
[Benini,Zaffaroni]; [Closset,Kim]; [Benini,Hristov,Zaffaroni]; [Liu,Pando Zayas,Rathee,Zhao]; [NPB,Hong,Reys];
[Nosaka]; [Hatsuda]; [Hristov]; [Chester,Kalloor,Sharon]; [Bhattacharya²,Minwalla,Raju]; [Kim]; [Choi,Hwang,Kim];
[Choi,Hwang]; [Nian,Pando Zayas]; [NPB,Choi,Hong,Reys]; [NPB,De Smet,Hong,Reys,Zhang]

ABJM and holography

The ABJM theory: $U(N)_k \times U(N)_{-k}$ 3d CS-matter theory with two pairs of bi-fundamental chirals $(A_{1,2}, B_{1,2})$ and superpotential

$$\mathcal{W} = \text{Tr}(A_1 B_1 A_2 B_2 - A_1 B_2 A_2 B_1).$$

For $k > 2$ it has $\mathcal{N} = 6$ supersymmetry and $SU(4)_R \times U(1)_b$ global symmetry. Describes N M2-branes on $\mathbb{C}^4/\mathbb{Z}_k$.

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- In the limit of fixed k and large N , the ABJM theory is dual to the M-theory background $\text{AdS}_4 \times S^7/\mathbb{Z}_k$

$$(L/\ell_P)^6 \sim k N.$$

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$$(L/\ell_{\text{P}})^6 \sim k N.$$

- At large k and fixed 't Hooft coupling $\lambda = N/k$ the theory is dual to type IIA string theory on $\text{AdS}_4 \times \mathbb{CP}^3$

$$k g_{\text{st}} = L/\ell_{\text{s}} \sim \lambda^{1/4}.$$

Perturbative type IIA string theory at large k and small g_{st} , i.e. fixed λ and large N .

ABJM on S^3 - An Airy Tale

The path integral on a squashed S^3 with real mass deformation can be computed by supersymmetric localization and reduces to a matrix model. At large N and fixed k one finds

$$Z_{S^3}(N, k, m_a, b) = e^{\mathcal{A}(k, m_a, b)} C^{-\frac{1}{3}} \text{Ai}[C^{-\frac{1}{3}}(N - B)] + \mathcal{O}(e^{-\sqrt{N}}),$$

with

$$C = \frac{2}{\pi^2 k} \frac{(b + b^{-1})^{-4}}{\prod_{a=1}^4 \Delta_a}, \quad B = \frac{k}{24} - \frac{1}{12k} \sum_{a=1}^4 \frac{1}{\Delta_a} + \frac{1 - \frac{1}{4} \sum_a \Delta_a^2}{3k(b + b^{-1})^2 \prod_{a=1}^4 \Delta_a},$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1 &= \frac{1}{2} - i \frac{m_1 + m_2 + m_3}{b + b^{-1}}, & \Delta_2 &= \frac{1}{2} - i \frac{m_1 - m_2 - m_3}{b + b^{-1}}, \\ \Delta_3 &= \frac{1}{2} + i \frac{m_1 + m_2 - m_3}{b + b^{-1}}, & \Delta_4 &= \frac{1}{2} + i \frac{m_1 - m_2 + m_3}{b + b^{-1}}. \end{aligned}$$

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The large N expansion takes the explicit form

$$-\log Z_{S^3} = \frac{2}{3\sqrt{C}} N^{\frac{3}{2}} - \frac{B}{\sqrt{C}} N^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{4} \log N - \mathcal{A} + \frac{1}{4} \log \frac{32}{k} + \mathcal{O}(N^{-\frac{1}{2}}).$$

The Triptych: The pieces in red above!

ABJM on S^3 - An Airy tale

This can be rewritten *à la 't Hooft* into a type IIA string expansion ($\lambda = N/k$)

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The genus g type IIA free energies can be computed systematically (up to $e^{-\sqrt{\lambda}}$ corrections) and read (for $m_a = 0$ and $b = 1$)

$$F_0(\lambda) = \frac{4\pi^3 \sqrt{2}}{3} \hat{\lambda}^{\frac{3}{2}} + \frac{\zeta(3)}{2},$$

$$F_1(\lambda) = \frac{\pi}{3\sqrt{2}} \hat{\lambda}^{\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{1}{4} \log \hat{\lambda} + \frac{1}{6} \log \lambda + \frac{1}{12} \log \frac{\pi^2}{32} + 2\zeta'(-1) - \frac{1}{2} \log 2,$$

$$F_2(\lambda) = \frac{5 \hat{\lambda}^{-\frac{3}{2}}}{96\pi^3 \sqrt{2}} - \frac{\hat{\lambda}^{-1}}{48\pi^2} + \frac{\hat{\lambda}^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{144\pi \sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{360},$$

$$F_3(\lambda) = \frac{5 \hat{\lambda}^{-3}}{512\pi^6} - \frac{5 \hat{\lambda}^{-\frac{5}{2}}}{768\pi^5 \sqrt{2}} + \frac{\hat{\lambda}^{-2}}{1152\pi^4} - \frac{\hat{\lambda}^{-\frac{3}{2}}}{10368\pi^3 \sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{22680},$$

where

$$\hat{\lambda} = \lambda - \frac{1}{24}.$$

Derive this from type IIA string theory?

The topologically twisted index

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Using supersymmetric localization the path integral can be reduced to a matrix integral and computed at large N and fixed k . The free energy is:

$$F_{S^1 \times \Sigma_{\mathfrak{g}}} = \frac{\pi \sqrt{2k \Delta_1 \Delta_2 \Delta_3 \Delta_4}}{3} \sum_{a=1}^4 \frac{\mathfrak{n}_a}{\Delta_a} \left(\hat{N}_{\Delta}^{\frac{3}{2}} - \frac{\mathfrak{c}_a}{k} \hat{N}_{\Delta}^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) + \frac{1-\mathfrak{g}}{2} \log \hat{N}_{\Delta} - \hat{f}_0(k, \Delta, \mathfrak{n}) + \mathcal{O}(e^{-\sqrt{N}}),$$

where $\sum_{a=1}^4 \Delta_a = 2$, $\sum_{a=1}^4 \mathfrak{n}_a = 2(1-\mathfrak{g})$, and

$$\hat{N}_{\Delta} \equiv N - \frac{k}{24} + \frac{1}{12k} \sum_{a=1}^4 \frac{1}{\Delta_a}, \quad \mathfrak{c}_a = \frac{\prod_{b \neq a} (\Delta_a + \Delta_b)}{8 \Delta_1 \Delta_2 \Delta_3 \Delta_4} \sum_{b \neq a} \Delta_b.$$

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$$\hat{N}_\Delta \equiv N - \frac{k}{24} + \frac{1}{12k} \sum_{a=1}^4 \frac{1}{\Delta_a}, \quad c_a = \frac{\prod_{b \neq a} (\Delta_a + \Delta_b)}{8 \Delta_1 \Delta_2 \Delta_3 \Delta_4} \sum_{b \neq a} \Delta_b.$$

The holographic dual is given by (Euclidean) supersymmetric static Reissner-Nordström BHs in AdS_4 . The TTI computes the entropy of these BHs.

The superconformal index

The superconformal index (SCI), or $S^1 \times_\omega S^2$ partition function, counts $\frac{1}{16}$ -BPS operators in 3d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SCFTs. It can be computed by supersymmetric localization.

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It is useful to consider the Cardy-like limit $\omega \rightarrow 0$. The SCI can then be analyzed with similar tools as the TTI.

For the ABJM theory at fixed k and large N we find the following ω^{-1} and ω^0 results (for $\Delta_a = 1/2$)

$$\begin{aligned} \log Z_{S^1 \times_\omega S^2}(N, k, \omega) &= -\frac{\pi\sqrt{2k}}{3} \left[\left(\frac{1}{2\omega} + 1 \right) \left(N - \frac{k}{24} + \frac{2}{3k} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} - \frac{3}{k} \left(N - \frac{k}{24} + \frac{2}{3k} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right] \\ &\quad - \frac{2}{\omega} \hat{g}_0(k) - \frac{1}{2} \log \left(N - \frac{k}{24} + \frac{2}{3k} \right) + \hat{f}_0(k) + \mathcal{O}(e^{-\sqrt{N}}) + \mathcal{O}(\omega). \end{aligned}$$

This index captures the entropy of supersymmetric AdS_4 Kerr-Newman black holes.

Higher-derivative corrections

[Lauria, Van Proeyen]; [Bergshoeff, de Roo, de Wit]; [Butter, de Wit, Kuzenko, Lodato]; [Myers];
[Camanho, Edelstein, Maldacena, Zhiboedov]; [NPB, Charles, Hristov, Reys]

Higher-derivative supergravity

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Employ conformal supergravity to show that the leading 4-der correction is

$$\mathcal{L}_{4\partial} = -(16\pi G_N)^{-1} \left[R + 6L^{-2} - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \right] + (c_1 - c_2) \mathcal{L}_{W^2} + c_2 \mathcal{L}_{GB}.$$

Two undetermined constants c_1 and c_2 . They should encode information about the 8-der terms in 11d and the internal manifold X^7 .

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The regularized on-shell action is related to the “free energy” in the dual QFT. For **all** 2-der solutions (including non-susy ones) one finds

$$I_{4\partial} = \left[1 + \frac{64\pi G_N}{L^2} (c_2 - c_1) \right] \frac{\pi L^2}{2G_N} \mathcal{F} + 32\pi^2 c_1 \chi.$$

$\mathcal{F} = \frac{2G_N}{\pi L^2} (I_{2\partial} + I_{2\partial}^{\text{CT}})$: regularized on-shell action of the 2-der theory.

$\chi = \frac{1}{32\pi^2} (I_{\text{GB}} + I_{\text{GB}}^{\text{CT}})$: Euler characteristic of the 4-manifold.

Upshot: $I_{4\partial}$ can be computed explicitly for all known 2-der solutions of 4d minimal gauged supergravity.

M2-branes at large N

General arguments about HD terms in holography combined with the 2-der structure of 11d supergravity imply the following large N behavior

$$\frac{L^2}{2G_N} = A N^{\frac{3}{2}} + a N^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad c_1 = v_1 \frac{N^{\frac{1}{2}}}{32\pi}, \quad c_2 = v_2 \frac{N^{\frac{1}{2}}}{32\pi}.$$

With this at hand the 4-der on-shell action becomes

$$I_{4\partial} = \pi \mathcal{F} \left[A N^{\frac{3}{2}} + (a + v_2) N^{\frac{1}{2}} \right] - \pi (\mathcal{F} - \chi) v_1 N^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

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Idea: Fix the unknown constants ($A, a + v_2, v_1$) by using supersymmetric localization results for C_T and the round S^3 free energy.

This allows us to fix $I_{4\partial}$ to order $N^{\frac{1}{2}}$ for ABJM!

$$A = \frac{\sqrt{2k}}{3}, \quad a + v_2 = -\frac{k^2 + 8}{24\sqrt{2k}}, \quad v_1 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2k}}.$$

Consistency checks using the $N^{\frac{1}{2}}$ terms in the TTI, SCI, and squashed S^3 partition functions. Non-trivial predictions for other partition functions!

Log corrections

[Kundera]; [Fradkin, Tseytlin]; [Gibbons, Nicolai]; [Camporesi, Higuchi]; [Vassilevich]; [Sen];
[Bhattacharyya, Grassi, Mariño, Sen]; [Liu, Pando Zayas, Rathee, Zhao]; [Pando Zayas, Xin]; [Hristov, Reys];
[David, Godet, Liu, Pando Zayas]; [NPB, David, Hong, Reys, Zhang]

Log corrections

There are log corrections to the BH entropy

$$S_{\text{BH}} = \frac{\text{Area}}{4G_{\text{N}}} + s_0 \log \frac{\text{Area}}{G_{\text{N}}} + \dots$$

Ashoke Sen: s_0 can be computed via 1-loop contributions of all “light” fields in the BH background. Agreement with microscopic string theory calculations for BPS black holes. “IR window into UV physics!”

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Here: Log corrections in AdS_4 , i.e. $\log \frac{L^2}{G_N} \sim \log N$.

$$F_{S^3}(b, \Delta) = f_{\frac{3}{2}}(b, \Delta)N^{\frac{3}{2}} + f_{\frac{1}{2}}(b, \Delta)N^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{4} \log N + \dots$$

$$F_{S^1 \times \Sigma_g}(\mathbf{n}, \Delta) = g_{\frac{3}{2}}(\mathbf{n}, \Delta)N^{\frac{3}{2}} + g_{\frac{1}{2}}(\mathbf{n}, \Delta)N^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1-g}{2} \log N + \dots$$

$$F_{S^1 \times_{\omega} S^2}(\omega, \Delta) = h_{\frac{3}{2}}(\omega, \Delta)N^{\frac{3}{2}} + h_{\frac{1}{2}}(\omega, \Delta)N^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{2} \log N + \dots$$

The coefficient of $\log N$ does NOT depend on continuous parameters!

Heat kernel in 4d

Study the log term in the (Euclidean) path integral of GR+EFT in AdS₄ with cutoff scale Λ

$$-\log Z_{\text{GR+EFT}} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_{\text{N}}} S_{\text{cl}}(\phi) + \mathcal{C} \log L\Lambda + \dots$$

All fields ϕ with $\text{mass}_\phi < \Lambda$ contribute to \mathcal{C} . Use the heat kernel method to compute \mathcal{C} .

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Input: The kinetic operator \mathcal{Q}_ϕ and the number of zero modes

$$\mathcal{C} = \sum_{\phi} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} a_4(x, \mathcal{Q}_\phi) + \mathcal{C}_{\text{ZM}}.$$

The Seeley-de Witt coefficient $a_4(x, \mathcal{Q}_\phi)$ depends on the background fields

$$16\pi^2 a_4(x, \mathcal{Q}_\phi) = a_E E_4 + c W^2 + b_1 R^2 + b_2 R F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}.$$

Possible (tedious) to calculate $a_4(x, \mathcal{Q}_\phi)$ for massive fields of spin ≤ 2 .

Subtlety: It is in general hard to compute \mathcal{C}_{ZM} . Rigorous results only for AdS₄ and AdS₂ \times Σ_g .

KK supergravity

“Log-Bootstrap”: Study various 4d supergravity backgrounds and impose that \mathcal{C} does not depend on continuous parameters. Leads to the strong constraint

$$c^{\text{tot}} = b_1^{\text{tot}} = b_2^{\text{tot}} = 0$$

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Top-down: 11d sugra on S^7 . The resulting 4d $\mathcal{N} = 8$ gauged sugra is not a standard EFT, it has infinitely many fields!

Organize the KK modes into $\mathcal{N} = 8$ multiplets and compute the SdW coefficients. At each KK level n one has $c(n) = b_1(n) = 0$.

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For the total a_E coefficient one finds the divergent sum

$$a_E = \frac{1}{72} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1)(n+2)(n+3)^2(n+4)(n+5).$$

Unclear how to regulate this sum. If we postulate $a_E = 1/3$ then we find

$$\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{M}) = \frac{1}{4} \chi(\mathcal{M}).$$

Perfect agreement with all susy localization results in the ABJM theory!

The unbearable lightness of the KK scale

Assumption: The UV completion of GR+EFT in AdS_4 is holographic, i.e. there is a dual sequence of 3d CFTs with a suitable large N limit.

Consider such a GR+EFT with **finitely** many fields and a cutoff Λ such that $L\Lambda \sim N^\alpha$ with $\alpha > 0$ (or $L\Lambda \sim \lambda^\beta$ for a marginal coupling λ).

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If \mathcal{C}_{\log} does **not** depend on continuous parameters (mass, squashing, angular velocity) then the SdW coefficients of the 4d bulk theory are constrained

$$c^{\text{tot}} = b_1^{\text{tot}} = b_2^{\text{tot}} = 0 .$$

This is a strong constraint for the UV consistency of EFTs in AdS_4 !
Obeyed for many AdS_4 vacua in IIA, IIB, and 11d supergravity.

A new tool to delineate the landscape of scale separated AdS_4 vacua?

Non-perturbative corrections

[Gautason,Puletti,van Muiden]; [Beccaria,Giombi,Tseytlin]; [NPB,Hong,Reys];

[NPB,Gautason,Hong,Puletti,Reys,van Muiden]

Non-perturbative effects

Consider the IIA limit, i.e. fixed $\lambda = N/k$ with both N and k large.

For S^3 the leading non-perturbative correction to the free energy is

$$F_{\text{np}}^{\text{CFT}} = \frac{k^2}{4\pi^2} e^{-2\pi\sqrt{2\lambda}} + \dots$$

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For a probe Euclidean string in the RN black hole dual to the TTI we find

$$F_{\text{np}}^{\text{bulk}} = \mathcal{B} k^2 \lambda e^{-2\pi\sqrt{2\lambda}} + \dots$$

Subtle to fix the numerical factor \mathcal{B} . [\[work in progress\]](#)

Black holes and thermal observables

[Witten]; [Horowitz,Myers]; [NPB,Charles,Hristov,Reys]; [NPB,Hong,Reys];

[Iliesiu,Koloğlu,Mahajan,Perlmutter,Simmons-Duffin]; [Luo,Wang]; [Benjamin,Lee,Ooguri,Simmons-Duffin]

BHs and thermal observables

Using the results above we can compute the leading corrections to the entropy of **any** large asymptotically $\text{AdS}_4 \times S^7/\mathbb{Z}_k$ black hole.

Example: AdS_4 -Schwarzschild black hole

$$S_{\text{Sch}}^{\text{ABJM}} = \frac{2\pi r_+^2}{L^2} \frac{\sqrt{2k}}{3} \left(N^{\frac{3}{2}} + \frac{16 - k^2}{16k} N^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) + \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{2k}} N^{\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{1}{2} \log N + \dots$$

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Consider a 3d CFT on $S_\beta^1 \times \mathbb{R}^2$. The vev of the stress-energy tensor and the thermal free energy are

$$\langle \mathcal{T}^{00} \rangle = \frac{2}{3} \frac{b_{\mathcal{T}}}{\beta^3}, \quad F_{S_\beta^1 \times \mathbb{R}^2} = \frac{f_{\mathcal{T}}}{\beta^3}, \quad 3f_{\mathcal{T}} = b_{\mathcal{T}}.$$

To compute $f_{\mathcal{T}}$ in the bulk use the “ AdS_4 soliton”. For the ABJM theory we find

$$b_{\mathcal{T}} = -\frac{8\pi^2 \sqrt{2k}}{27} N^{\frac{3}{2}} + \frac{\pi^2 (k^2 - 16)}{27\sqrt{2k}} N^{\frac{1}{2}} + 0 \times \log N + \dots$$

Somewhat surprisingly to this order at large N $b_{\mathcal{T}} = -\frac{\pi^3}{72} C_{\mathcal{T}}!$

Summary

- Exact results for the large N partition function of the ABJM theory on S^3 , $S^1 \times \Sigma_g$, and $S^1 \times_{\omega} S^2$.
- Discussed how some of these results can be reproduced by supergravity and string/M-theory via AdS/CFT.
- All order microscopic prediction for the entropy of the supersymmetric AdS₄ Reissner-Nordström and Kerr-Newman black holes.
- New constraints on gravity + EFT in AdS₄?
- Application of these results to non-supersymmetric black hole thermodynamics and CFT thermal observables.

Outlook

Results I did not discuss

- All order large N supersymmetric partition functions for other 3d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ holographic SCFTs arising from M2- and D2-branes.
- Similar higher-derivative and logarithmic correction results for the holographically dual AdS_4 backgrounds in string/M-theory.
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Some open questions

- Analytic derivation of the TTI, SCI, and deformed S^3 results/conjectures?
- Supersymmetric localization in 4d/11d supergravity?
- Derivation from (and lessons for) type IIA string theory and M-theory?
- OSV-type conjecture for AdS black holes?
- Application of the “unbearable lightness” constraint to candidate scale separated AdS_4 vacua?

