

# Unitarity, information, black holes and fuzzballs

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based on

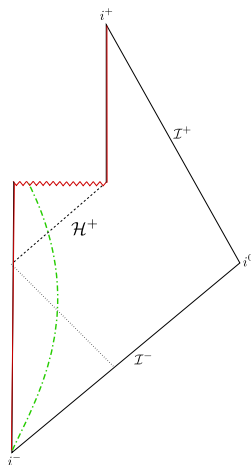
1210.6996 with S. G. Avery, B. C. Chowdhury

1208.2026 with B. C. Chowdhury

1208.3468 and 1109.5180 with I. Bena and B. Vercnocke

Vienna Central European Seminar 2012

# Information paradox versus infall problem



Semiclassical gravity:

A black hole forms by gravitational collapse and evaporates via Hawking pair production.

Bob is collecting the radiation quanta at infinity.

**Information paradox:**

*When and how does the information come out?*

Alice is traveling towards the black hole to jump in.

**Infall problem:**

*Is Alice burning or fuzzing?*

Note: Answers to information and infall question are in tension.

# A stop-gap: black hole complementarity [Susskind, Thorlacius, Uglum]

*Motivation:* Reconciliation of unitary evaporation and free infall.

*Idea:* Experience of asymptotic and infalling observer are different.

## Postulates:

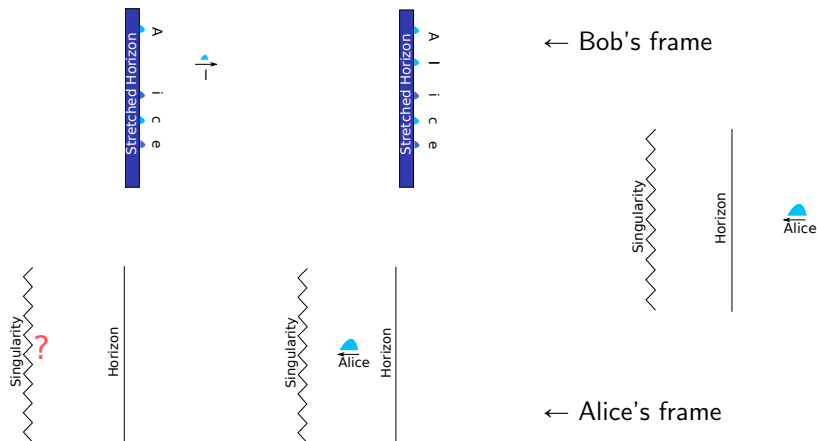
- 1 Black hole evolution via unitary S-matrix for *outside observer*.
- 2 Semi-classical physics valid outside stretched horizon.
- 3 To distant observer black hole appears as a *membrane*.
- 4 An *infalling observer falls freely* through horizon of large black hole.

*Note:*

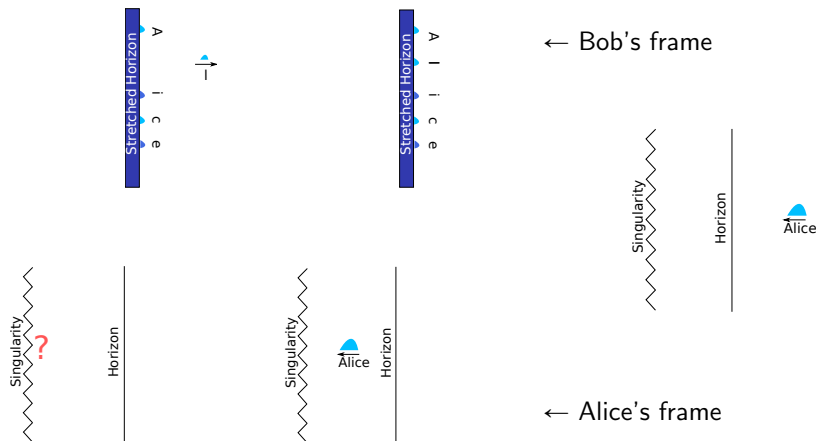
Tension between postulates 1 and 4.

There is *no mechanism* for the membrane!

# A stop-gap: black hole complementarity [Susskind, Thorlacius, Uglum]



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BHC has recently been argued to be inconsistent.

[Almheiri, Marolf, Polchinski, Sully]

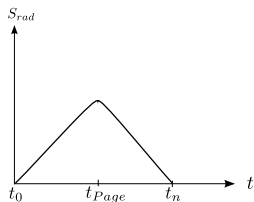
# Unitary evaporation

[Page]

If the **black hole** in a **typical pure state** and **assume unitary evaporation**:

**typical:** each small subsystem is almost maximally entangled with the remaining (larger) subsystem.

**pure:**  $S_{rad} = \text{Tr}_{BH} |\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi|$ .



As long as radiation smaller part  $S_{rad}$  grows.

When black hole is smaller part  $S_{rad}$  falls.

For *purity* of final state:  $S_{rad}(t_n) = 0!$

**Figure:** *Unitary evaporation.*

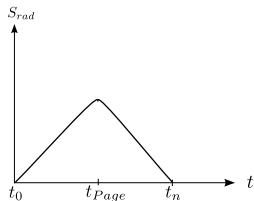
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**Figure:** *Unitary evaporation.*

A black hole does not behave like that!

[Mathur]

# Hawking radiation

[Mathur]

(ss) **Strong subadditivity:**

$$S_{AB} + S_{BC} \geq S_B + S_{ABC}$$

If evaporation via Hawking-pair production:

BC maximally entangled:  $S_{BC} = 0$

$$\rightarrow S_{AB} \geq S_B + S_A$$

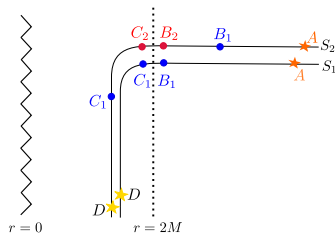
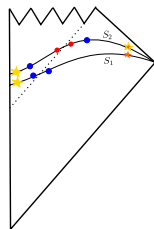


Figure: Hawking pair creation.



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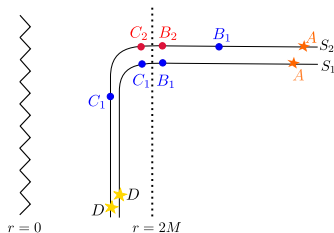
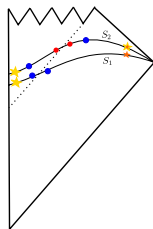


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A and B are not correlated!

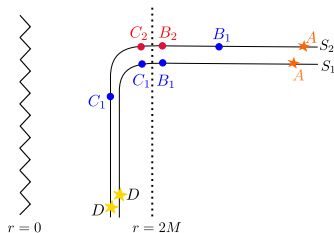
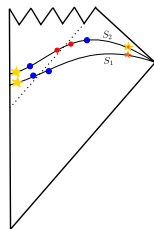


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Entropy of radiation via Hawking pair creation never decreases!

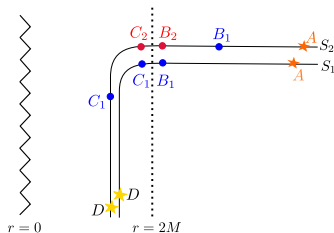
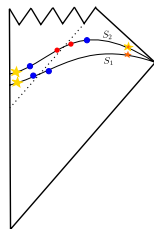
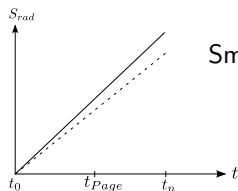


Figure: Hawking pair creation.

# The need for large corrections

[Mathur; Avery]



Small corrections cannot bend the entropy curve!

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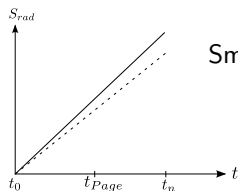
Large corrections to Unruh vacuum needed!

There cannot be an information free horizon!

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Figure: Black hole evaporation.

Mathur's conjecture or the 'fuzzball' proposal:

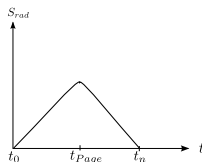
Quantum gravity effects at the scale of the horizon!

Microstates of black hole are **singularity-free** and **horizonless** solutions of quantum gravity.

# The firewall argument

[Almheiri, Marolf, Polchinski, Sully]

**Argument** entirely in the **infalling observer's frame** → challenges BHC!

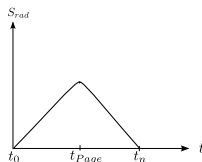


- ① To ensure *purity* of the final radiation state:  $S_{AB} < S_A$  after Page time. This implies  $S_{BC} \neq 0$  no later than  $t_{\text{Page}}$ .
- ② An **infalling observer** encounters a blue-shifted ( $E \gg T_H$ ) quantum  $B$  in her frame and **burns at the horizon**.

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- 2 An **infalling observer** encounters a blue-shifted ( $E \gg T_H$ ) quantum  $B$  in her frame and **burns at the horizon**.

1 → **Growing consensus** on answer to information question:

Quantum gravity effects at the scale of the horizon!

This supports the fuzzball proposal!

2 → **Controversial opinions** on answer to infall question...

# Conditions for unitarity: beyond purity

[Avery, Chowdhury, AP]

Focus so far on *purity* of the final radiation state:  $S_{BC} \neq 0$  after  $t_{\text{Page}}$ .  
This is *necessary but not sufficient!*

For unitarity:

- 1 Purity: Pure states evolve into pure state.
- 2 Linearity: The map between initial and final states is linear.
- 3 Preservation of norm: Evolution of states preserves norm.
- 4 Invertibility: The map of initial state to the radiation is invertible.



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**Claim:** Unitarity requires  $S_{BC} \neq 0$  at every step  
of the evaporation process for typical states!

Work under assumptions a) fixed dimension of physical Hilbert space  
and b) initial black hole state is not special.

# The 'moving bit' model I

Simple unitary model of evaporation: moving qubits  $D$  from  $x$  to  $y$ .

Evolution of basis vectors:

$$|\psi_0\rangle = |D_n^x\rangle \otimes \cdots \otimes |D_1^x\rangle = \bigotimes_{j=n}^1 |D_j^x\rangle,$$

$$|\psi_i\rangle = \prod_{j=i}^1 \mathcal{U}_j |\psi_0\rangle = \bigotimes_{j=n}^{i+1} |D_j^x\rangle \otimes \bigotimes_{k=i}^1 |D_k^y\rangle \quad i \geq 1,$$

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Where is the *BC pair*?

[Avery]:

- introduce auxiliary variables at each step
- trace over them to get back physical Hilbert space

# The 'moving bit' model II

Evaporation via auxiliary qubits:

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$$|\psi_1\rangle = \bigotimes_{j=n}^2 |D_j^x\rangle \otimes |d_1^x\rangle \otimes |c_1^x\rangle \otimes |B_1^y\rangle,$$

$$|\psi_i\rangle = \bigotimes_{j=n}^{i+1} |D_j^x\rangle \otimes \bigotimes_{k=i}^1 (|d_k^x\rangle \otimes |c_k^x\rangle) \otimes \bigotimes_{m=1}^i |B_m^y\rangle,$$

$$|\psi_n\rangle = \bigotimes_{j=n}^1 (|d_j^x\rangle \otimes |c_j^x\rangle) \otimes \bigotimes_{m=1}^n |B_m^y\rangle.$$

To match the moving bit model:  $B_i^y = D_i^y$ .

Unitarity demands the auxiliary states to be in fiducial form:

$$|d_1^x\rangle \otimes |c_1^x\rangle = |\phi\rangle \otimes |\phi\rangle \quad \forall i.$$

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 |\psi_i\rangle &= \bigotimes_{j=n}^{i+1} |D_j^x\rangle \otimes \bigotimes_{k=2i}^1 |\phi\rangle \otimes \bigotimes_{m=1}^i |B_m^y\rangle, \\
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This model is a rewriting of the 'moving bit' model: manifestly unitary.

# The 'moving bit' model: What does it teach us?

Physical lesson:

- Information leaves the system at every step.
- For the above basis vectors:  $S_{B_i c_i} = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{For a **typical state**: } S_{B_i c_i} &= S_{B_i} && (c_i \text{ is fiducial}) \\
 &= S_{D_i} && (\text{moving bits}) \\
 &\neq 0 && \text{at every step!}
 \end{aligned}$$

For a non-typical state: even though  $S_{B_i c_i} = 0$  possible, the  $B_i c_i$  system not in a predetermined state independent of the initial state.

Technical lesson:

- The new quanta  $B$  leaving the system must carry information of the old quanta  $D$ , **to avoid quantum cloning** the  $d_i$  must be bleached.
- **Unitarity** also **requires** the auxiliary quanta  $c_i$  to be bleached.

# Hawking evaporation via qubit models

**[AMPS]:** may have  $S_{BC} = 0$  until  $t_{\text{Page}}$ , must have  $S_{BC} \neq 0$  after  $t_{\text{Page}}$ .

Initial black hole state:  $|\hat{q}_1 \cdots \hat{q}_n\rangle$ .

Evolution:  $\mathcal{I}_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\hat{0}_{n+i}\rangle|0_i\rangle + |\hat{1}_{n+i}\rangle|1_i\rangle) \otimes \hat{I}$  for  $i \leq \frac{n}{2}$ .

$$\mathcal{I}_i = |\hat{00}\rangle_{\text{pair}} \otimes |\hat{0}\rangle\langle\hat{0}|_{\frac{n}{2}+i+1} + |\hat{01}\rangle_{\text{pair}} \otimes |\hat{0}\rangle\langle\hat{1}|_{\frac{n}{2}+i+1} \quad \text{for } i > \frac{n}{2},$$

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Final radiation state **pure** but **information of the original state never came out!** This evaporation process is thus **non-unitary!**

# Fuzzballs: resolution to the information 'paradox'

**Black hole evaporation** via Hawking radiation is **non-unitary!**

To preserve unitarity:

- **Information** of the original state to come **out in every step**.
- **Large corrections** to Unruh vacuum at horizon needed!

# Fuzzballs: resolution to the information 'paradox'

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To preserve unitarity:

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↔ **exist in string theory:**

string/brane configuration which have an effective size  $\sim$  horizon radius

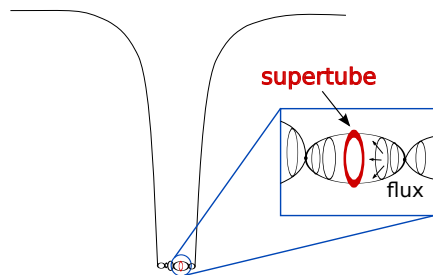
**Fuzzballs provide a mechanism for structure at the horizon scale** unlike black hole complementarity which gives no mechanism for the membrane!

Black hole is a coarse-grained description of the true microstates which are *singularity-free* and *horizon-less* solutions of quantum gravity.

**Fuzzball evaporation** via emission from its surface is **unitary!**

# Fuzzballs: an explicit construction

[Bena, AP, Vercocke]



**Figure:** Near-extremal black hole microstates from supertubes in deep throat region of backgrounds with charge dissolved in flux.

Configurations of different size:

- structure  $l_{\text{Planck}}$  away from the horizon  $\rightarrow$  realization of firewalls in string theory?
- structure much further away from the horizon.

Regardless, all of these near-extremal microstates differ from the classical black hole solution at the scale of the horizon.

Our construction puts flesh and branes on the fuzzball proposal!

# Falling into typical fuzzballs: an approximation

Use AdS/CFT but expect lesson to hold more generally.

Approximate a typical state by a thermal state:

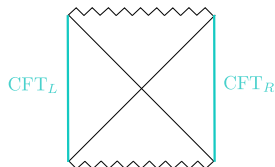
$$\langle \psi | \hat{O} | \psi \rangle \approx \text{Tr}(\rho \hat{O}) = \frac{1}{\sum_i e^{-\frac{E_i}{T_H}}} \sum_k e^{-\frac{E_k}{T_H}} \langle E_k | \hat{O} | E_k \rangle.$$

Purify the density matrix:

$$|\Psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sum_i e^{-\frac{E_i}{T_H}}}} \sum_k e^{-\frac{E_k}{2T_H}} |E_k\rangle_L \otimes |E_k\rangle_R,$$

Such **entangled CFT** states are dual to eternal **AdS black hole**:

[Maldacena]



**Figure:** Penrose diagram of the extended AdS Schwarzschild black hole.



# Black holes from fuzzballs

AdS/CFT: CFT state dual to (asymptotically) gravitational solution

Entanglement of CFT states  $\rightarrow$  entanglement of gravitational solutions:  
[Van Raamsdonk]

$$\text{CFT} \quad |\Psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sum_i e^{-\frac{E_i}{T_H}}}} \sum_k e^{-\frac{E_k}{2T_H}} |E_k\rangle_L \otimes |E_k\rangle_R,$$

$$\text{Bulk} \quad |G\rangle_{\text{eternal}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sum_i e^{-\frac{E_i}{T_H}}}} \sum_k e^{-\frac{E_k}{2T_H}} |g_k\rangle_L \otimes |g_k\rangle_R.$$

What are the  $|g\rangle$ 's?

$$\sum_k e^{-\frac{E_k}{2kT}} \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of } |g_k\rangle_L \\ \otimes \\ \text{Diagram of } |g_k\rangle_R \end{array} \right) = \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of extended AdS Schwarzschild black hole} \end{array}$$

The diagram shows a sum over k of a tensor product of two states,  $|g_k\rangle_L$  and  $|g_k\rangle_R$ . Each state is represented by a blue-outlined shape with a wavy, irregular boundary, resembling a fuzzball. The two shapes are connected by a small circle with a cross inside, representing the tensor product. This sum is equated to a single diagram of an extended AdS Schwarzschild black hole, which is a square with a wavy boundary and a diagonal cross.

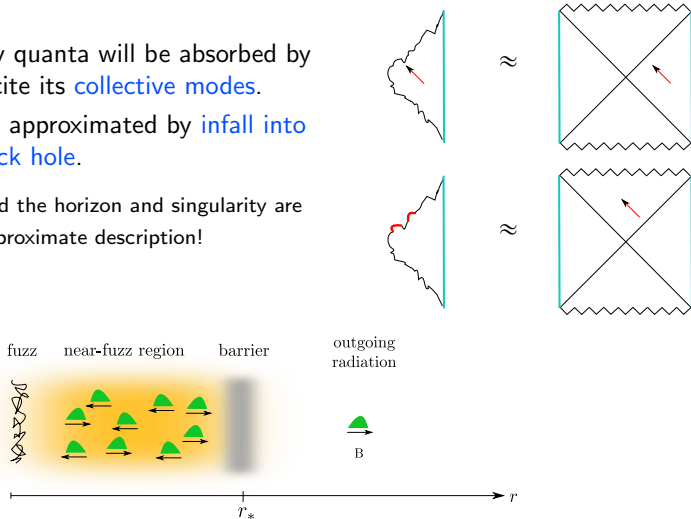
**Figure:** The extended AdS Schwarzschild black hole can be understood as the sum over entangled fuzzball solutions  $|g_k\rangle_L$  and  $|g_k\rangle_R$ .

# Alice fuzzes but may not even know it!

Infalling high-energy quanta will be absorbed by the fuzzball and excite its **collective modes**.

This process can be approximated by **infall into the eternal AdS black hole**.

Note: Spacetime behind the horizon and singularity are a short-lived  $t \sim M$  approximate description!



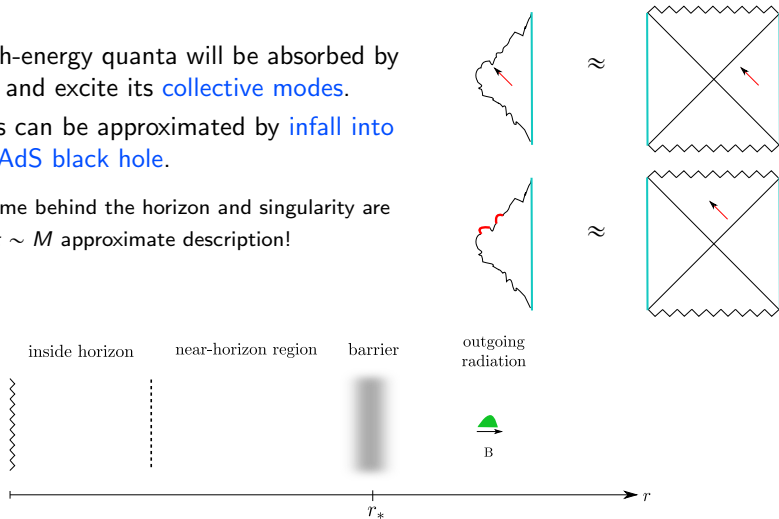
**Figure:** Inside of potential barrier of fuzzball  $\approx$  black hole in Hartle-Hawking state.

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**Figure:** Inside of potential barrier of fuzzball  $\approx$  black hole in Hartle-Hawking state.

# Conclusions

**Information ‘paradox’:** *When and how does the information come out?*

- Unitary evaporation requires **information** of the original state to come **out in every step** of the evolution → traditional **black hole horizon inconsistent with unitarity at every step**.
- No information ‘paradox’ for fuzzballs! Can explicitly **construct near-extremal microstates** with structure at the horizon scale.

**Infall ‘problem’:** *Is Alice burning of fuzzing?*

- Fuzzball complementarity: **fine-grained** operators experience the details of the fuzzball **microstate** and **coarse-grained** operators experience the **black hole**.
- **Energy-scale dependence:** Infalling high-energy  $E \gg kT_H$  observers experience free fall while low-energy  $E \sim kT_H$  observers do not.