

# Introduction to Flat Space Holography

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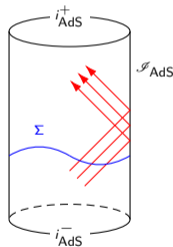
28th of June 2023

# Motivations

- Holographic principle:

*Gravity in a given spacetime region can be encoded on a lower-dimensional boundary of that region.*

- Explicit realization: AdS/CFT correspondence



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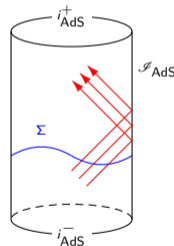
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- Interesting observations:

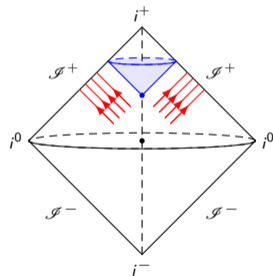
- 1 Asymptotic symmetries of AdS = conformal symmetries at the boundary  
 $\implies$  Powerful constraints implied for the dual theory.
- 2 Closed gravitational system (“Gravity in a box”)  
 $\implies$  Gravitational charges are conserved.



- How general is the holographic principle? Does it extend to asymptotically flat spacetimes?

*Flat space holography program*

(see e.g. [Susskind '99] [Polchinski '99] [Giddings '00] [de Boer-Solodukhin '03] [Arcioni-Dappiaggi '03] [Mann-Marolf '06] for early attempts).

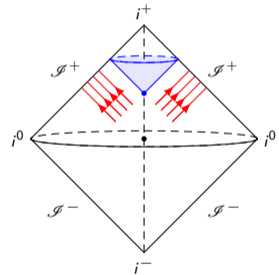


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  - ① Model for a large range of phenomena (from collider physics to astrophysics below the cosmological scale).
  - ② Realistic model for the observation of gravitational waves.



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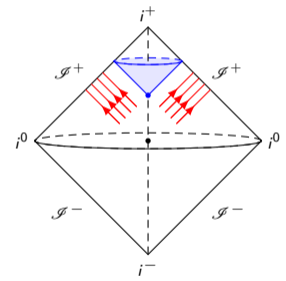
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- Asymptotic symmetries: Bondi-van der Burg-Metzner-Sachs (BMS) group.

[Bondi-van der Burg-Metzner '62] [Sachs '62]

⇒ Broadly studied in the literature  
(see e.g. [Newman-Unti '62] [Penrose '65] [Geroch '77] [Ashtekar-Streubel '81] [Barnich-Troessaert '10] [Strominger '13])

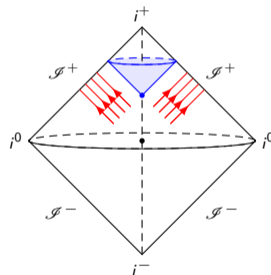


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- Important obstructions to flat space holography:
  - 1 Null nature of  $\mathcal{I}^+$  and  $\mathcal{I}^-$ .
  - 2 Radiation leaking through the conformal boundary.  
⇒ Open gravitational system.  
⇒ The BMS charges are not conserved.



# Holographic nature of null infinity

How to construct the holographic dual of asymptotically flat spacetime? (bottom-up approach)

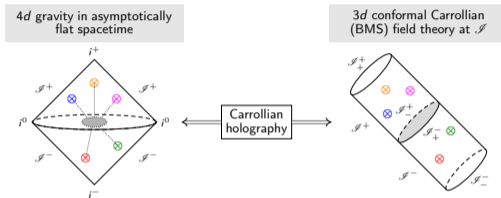
- Two distinct but complementary visions of  $\mathcal{I}^+$ :

Picture 1: Carrollian holography	Picture 2: Celestial holography
$\mathcal{I}^+$ is seen as a boundary along which there is an evolution with respect to $u$	$\mathcal{I}^+$ is seen as a portion of Cauchy hypersurface pushed to infinity
Describe the dynamics of the system	Describe the state of the system
Flux-balance laws	Scattering problem between $\mathcal{I}^-$ and $\mathcal{I}^+$
Suggests a 4d bulk / 3d boundary <i>Carrollian holography</i>	Suggests a 4d bulk / 2d boundary <i>celestial holography</i>
Dual: 3d BMS field theory	Dual: 2d Celestial CFT



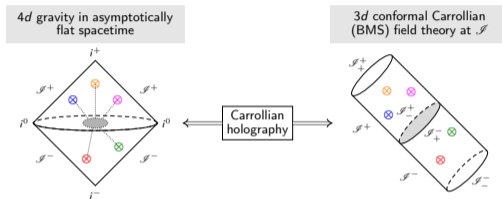
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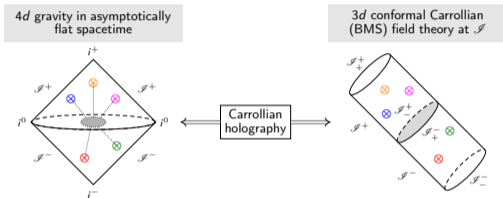
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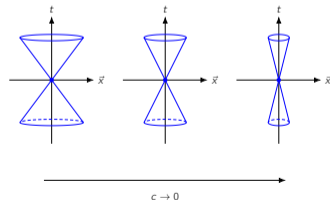
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 $\implies$  Dual theory: Carrollian CFT in 3d.

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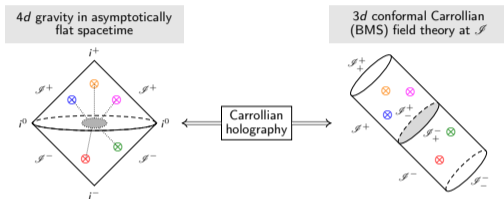


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 $\Rightarrow$  Carrollian physics naturally induced at  $\mathcal{I}$ .



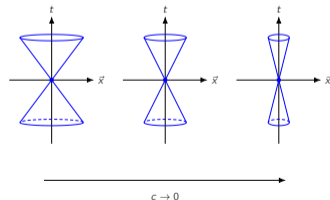
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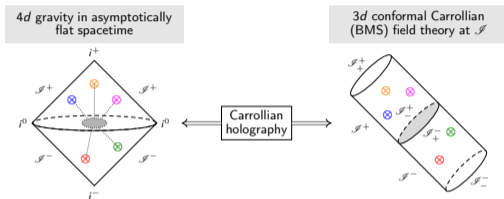
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- Carrollian holography follows a similar pattern than AdS/CFT correspondence: 4d bulk / 3d boundary duality.  
 $\implies$  Naturally arises from a flat limit procedure ( $\Lambda \rightarrow 0$ ).  
 $\implies$  The flat limit in the bulk induces a Carrollian limit at the boundary.

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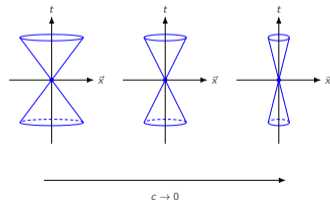


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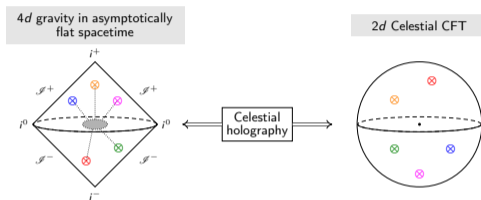


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- Pros:** Link with AdS/CFT, **Cons:** Few is known about quantum Carrollian CFTs.

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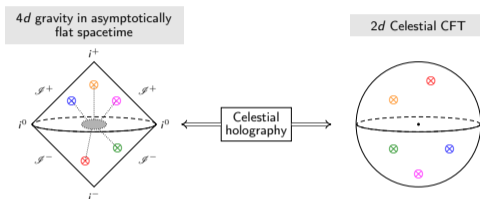


- $\mathcal{S}$ -matrix elements in the bulk  $\iff$  Correlation functions in a 2d CFT

[de Boer-Solodukhin '03] [Pasterski-Shao-Strominger '17] [Strominger '18] [Donnay-Puhm-Strominger '19] [Fotopoulos-Taylor '19]

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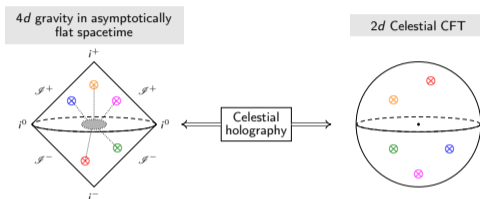
$$\langle \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_1, J_1}(z_1, \bar{z}_1) \dots \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_N, J_N}(z_N, \bar{z}_N) \rangle = \left( \prod_{i=1}^N \int_0^{+\infty} d\omega_i \omega_i^{\Delta_i - 1} \right) \mathcal{A}(\{\omega_i\}, \{z_i\}, \{\bar{z}_i\})$$

where the CCFT operators  $\mathcal{O}_{\Delta_i, J_i}(z_i, \bar{z}_i)$  are characterized by conformal dimension  $\Delta_i$  and spin  $J_i$ .

- Conformal symmetries in CCFT induced by Lorentz transformations in the bulk:  $\text{Conf}(S^2) \simeq \text{Lorentz}$ .

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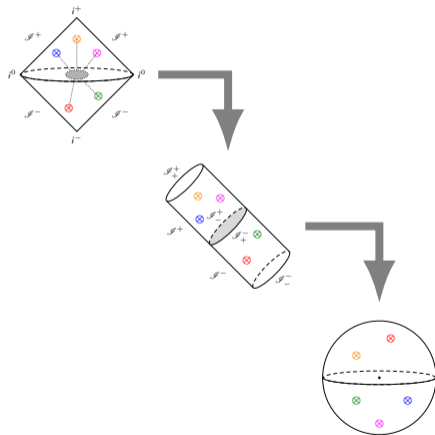
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- Conformal symmetries in CCFT induced by Lorentz transformations in the bulk:  $\text{Conf}(S^2) \simeq \text{Lorentz}$ .
- **Pros:** 2d CFT techniques available, **Cons:** Link with AdS/CFT? Where is time?



# Objectives

- **From the bulk...**  
Gravity in 4d asymptotically flat spacetime



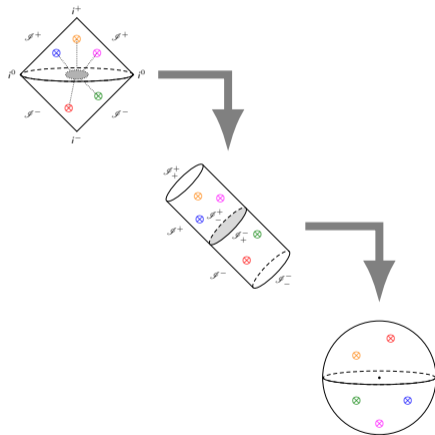
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Carrollian holography



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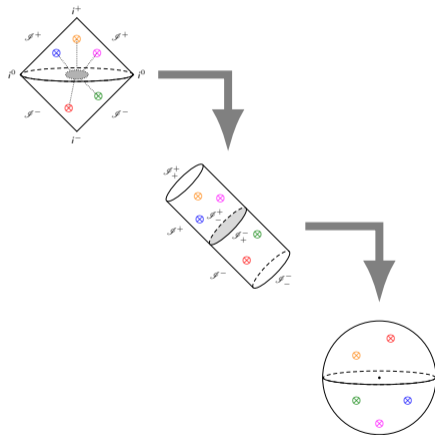
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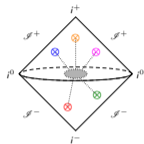
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- **...to the celestial sphere.**

Celestial holography



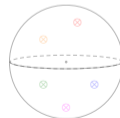
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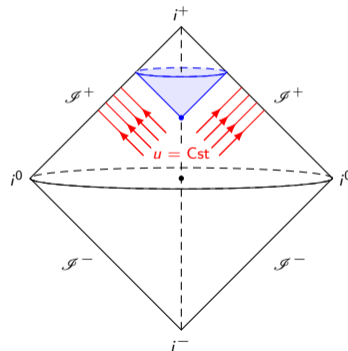


## Solution space of 4d asymptotically flat spacetimes

- Asymptotically flat metric in Bondi coordinates to study  $\mathcal{I}^+$ :  $(u, r, x^A)$   
 where  $x^A = (z, \bar{z})$  [Bondi-van der Burg-Metzner '62] [Sachs '62]:

$$\begin{aligned}
 ds^2 = & \left( \frac{2M}{r} + \mathcal{O}(r^{-2}) \right) du^2 - 2 \left( 1 + \mathcal{O}(r^{-2}) \right) dudr \\
 & + \left( r^2 \check{q}_{AB} + r C_{AB} + \mathcal{O}(r^0) \right) dx^A dx^B \\
 & + \left( \frac{1}{2} \partial_B C_A^B + \frac{2}{3r} (N_A + \frac{1}{4} C_A^B \partial_C C_B^C) + \mathcal{O}(r^{-2}) \right) dudx^A.
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- Flat boundary metric:  $\check{q}_{AB} dx^A dx^B = 2dzd\bar{z}$ .
- Minkowski metric:  $ds_{\text{Mink}}^2 = -2dudr + 2r^2 dzd\bar{z}$ .

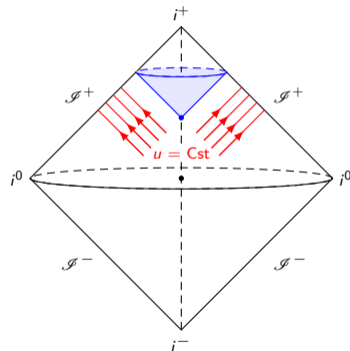


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- Subleading corrections in  $r$  with respect to Minkowski metric are obtained by solving the Einstein equations. They involve functions of  $(u, x^A)$ :
  - 1  $C_{AB}$  : asymptotic shear,
  - 2  $N_{AB} = \partial_u C_{AB}$  : Bondi news (outgoing radiation),
  - 3  $M$  : mass aspect,
  - 4  $N_A$  : angular momentum aspect.
- Similar analysis at  $\mathcal{I}^-$  in advanced Bondi coordinates  $(v, r, x^A)$ .



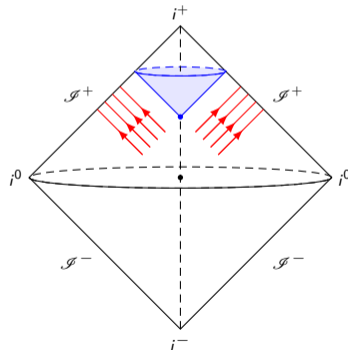
- Time evolution/constraint equations on the mass and angular momentum aspects

$$\partial_u M = -\frac{1}{8} N_{AB} N^{AB} + \frac{1}{4} \partial_A \partial_B N^{AB},$$

$$\partial_u N_A = \partial_A M + \frac{1}{16} \partial_A (N_{BC} C^{BC}) - \frac{1}{4} N^{BC} \partial_A C_{BC} - \frac{1}{4} \partial_B (C^{BC} N_{AC} - N^{BC} C_{AC})$$

$$- \frac{1}{4} \partial_B \partial^B \partial^C C_{AC} + \frac{1}{4} \partial_B \partial_A \partial_C C^{BC},$$

with  $N_{AB} = \partial_u C_{AB}$  the Bondi news tensor.



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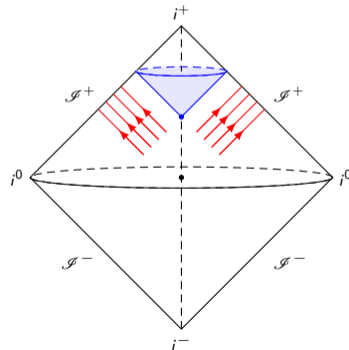
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- Bondi mass loss formula [Trautman '58] [Bondi-van der Burg-Metzner '62]:

$$\partial_u \left[ \int_{S_\infty^2} d^2 z M \right] = -\frac{1}{8} \int_{S_\infty^2} d^2 z N_{AB} N^{AB} \leq 0.$$

- ⇒ The mass decreases in time due to the emission of gravitational waves.
- ⇒ The analysis at  $\mathcal{I}^+$  provides some information on the dynamics of the system.





## Asymptotic symmetries

- Asymptotic symmetries = diffeomorphisms preserving Bondi gauge & asymptotic flatness, with non-trivial action at  $\mathcal{I}^+$ .

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow +\infty} (g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu) = ds_{\text{Mink}}^2$$

- Restriction at  $\mathcal{I}^+$  of the asymptotic symmetries:

$$\xi|_{\mathcal{I}^+} = \bar{\xi}(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Y}, \bar{\mathcal{Y}}) = \left[ \mathcal{T} + \frac{u}{2}(\partial\mathcal{Y} + \bar{\partial}\bar{\mathcal{Y}}) \right] \partial_u + \mathcal{Y}\partial + \bar{\mathcal{Y}}\bar{\partial}$$

where

- $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{T}(z, \bar{z})$  is the supertranslation parameter;
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- Commutation relations:

$$[\bar{\xi}(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{Y}_1, \bar{\mathcal{Y}}_1), \bar{\xi}(\mathcal{T}_2, \mathcal{Y}_2, \bar{\mathcal{Y}}_2)] = \bar{\xi}(\mathcal{T}_{12}, \mathcal{Y}_{12}, \bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{12}),$$

with

$$\mathcal{T}_{12} = \mathcal{Y}_1 \partial \mathcal{T}_2 - \frac{1}{2} \partial \mathcal{Y}_1 \mathcal{T}_2 - (1 \leftrightarrow 2) + \text{c.c.}, \quad \mathcal{Y}_{12} = \mathcal{Y}_1 \partial \mathcal{Y}_2 - (1 \leftrightarrow 2), \quad \bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{12} = \bar{\mathcal{Y}}_1 \bar{\partial} \bar{\mathcal{Y}}_2 - (1 \leftrightarrow 2)$$

where c.c. stands for complex conjugate terms  $\implies \mathfrak{bms}_4 \simeq \text{Lorentz} \ltimes \text{supertranslations}$ .

[Bondi-van der Burg-Metzner '62] [Sachs '62]

$\implies$  Infinite-dimensional enhancement of Poincaré with “supertranslations”.

- Extended BMS:  $\mathfrak{bms}_4^{\text{ext}} = (\text{Witt} \oplus \text{Witt}) \ltimes \text{supertranslations}^*$  [Barnich-Troessaert '10]

## BMS surface charges

- At a cut  $\mathcal{S}_u \equiv \{u = \text{constant}\}$  of  $\mathcal{I}^+$ , one can construct “surface charges” associated with BMS symmetries using covariant phase space methods [\[Wald-Zoupas '99\]](#) [\[Barnich-Troessaert '10\]](#).

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- BMS charges:*

[Compère-Fiorucci-Ruzziconi '18] [Campiglia-Peraza '20] [Donnay-Ruzziconi '21] [Freidel-Pranzetti '21]

$$\bar{H}_\xi[g] = \frac{1}{8\pi G} \int_{S_u} d^2z [2\mathcal{T}\mathcal{M} + \mathcal{Y}\bar{\mathcal{N}} + \bar{\mathcal{Y}}\mathcal{N}]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M} = M + \frac{1}{8}(C_{zz}N^{zz} + C_{\bar{z}\bar{z}}N^{\bar{z}\bar{z}}), \quad \mathcal{N} = N_{\bar{z}} - u\bar{\partial}\mathcal{M} + \frac{1}{4}C_{\bar{z}\bar{z}}\bar{\partial}C^{\bar{z}\bar{z}} + \frac{3}{16}\bar{\partial}(C_{zz}C^{zz}) \\ + \frac{u}{4}\bar{\partial}\left[\left(\partial^2 - \frac{1}{2}N_{zz}\right)C_{\bar{z}}^z - \left(\bar{\partial}^2 - \frac{1}{2}N_{\bar{z}\bar{z}}\right)C_z^{\bar{z}}\right]. \end{aligned}$$

- Remark:  $\mathcal{M} = -\text{Re}\Psi_2^0$ ,  $\mathcal{N} = -\Psi_1^0 + u\bar{\partial}\Psi_2^0$  [Newman-Penrose '62] [Newman-Unti '62] [see Cynthia's talk].
- Consistency with the action of symmetries: (i) conserved when  $N_{AB} = 0$ , (ii) generate canonically the transformations on the radiative phase space, (iii) form a representation of BMS algebra at  $\mathcal{I}_\pm^+$ .

## BMS surface charges

- At a cut  $S_u \equiv \{u = \text{constant}\}$  of  $\mathcal{I}^+$ , one can construct “surface charges” associated with BMS symmetries using covariant phase space methods [Wald-Zoupas '99] [Barnich-Troessaert '10].

- BMS charges:*

[Compère-Fiorucci-Ruzziconi '18] [Campiglia-Peraza '20] [Donnay-Ruzziconi '21] [Freidel-Pranzetti '21]

$$\bar{H}_\xi[g] = \frac{1}{8\pi G} \int_{S_u} d^2z [2\mathcal{T}\mathcal{M} + \mathcal{Y}\bar{\mathcal{N}} + \bar{\mathcal{Y}}\mathcal{N}]$$

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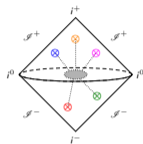
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- Consistency with the action of symmetries: (i) conserved when  $N_{AB} = 0$ , (ii) generate canonically the transformations on the radiative phase space, (iii) form a representation of BMS algebra at  $\mathcal{I}_\pm^+$ .
- BMS flux-balance laws (e.g. Bondi mass loss formula):

$$\boxed{\frac{d}{du}\bar{H}_\xi[g] = \mathcal{F}_\xi[g] \neq 0, \quad \mathcal{F}_\xi[g]\Big|_{N_{AB}=0} = 0.}$$

⇒ Important role in gravitational wave physics.

How to describe the BMS flux-blance laws from a Carrollian holography perspective?

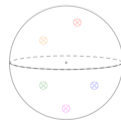
From the bulk...



...to null infinity...



...to the celestial sphere.



## Conformal Carroll $\simeq$ BMS

- Carrollian structure on  $\mathcal{I}^+$  with coordinates  $x^a = (u, z, \bar{z})$  [Geroch '77]:

$$(q_{ab}, n^c) \quad \text{with} \quad q_{ab}n^b = 0.$$

- Consistently with the Bondi metric,  $q_{ab}dx^a dx^b = 0du^2 + 2dzd\bar{z}$  and  $n^a \partial_a = \partial_u$ .
- Conformal Carrollian symmetries are generated by vector fields  $\bar{\xi} = \bar{\xi}^a \partial_a$  on  $\mathcal{I}^+$  satisfying

$$\mathcal{L}_{\bar{\xi}} q_{ab} = 2\alpha q_{ab}, \quad \mathcal{L}_{\bar{\xi}} n^a = -\alpha n^a,$$

with  $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}(\partial\mathcal{Y} + \bar{\partial}\bar{\mathcal{Y}})$ .

- Solution:

$$\bar{\xi} = \left[ \mathcal{T} + \frac{u}{2}(\partial\mathcal{Y} + \bar{\partial}\bar{\mathcal{Y}}) \right] \partial_u + \mathcal{Y}\partial + \bar{\mathcal{Y}}\bar{\partial}.$$

- $\implies$  Coincides with the restriction on  $\mathcal{I}^+$  of the bulk BMS asymptotic Killing vectors.
- $\implies$  The standard Lie bracket of these vector fields reproduces the  $\mathfrak{bms}_4$  algebra.

- Isomorphism:  $\mathfrak{bms}_4 \simeq$  Conformal Carroll algebra. [Duval-Gibbons-Horvathy '14]

## Carrollian CFT

- Consider a 3d Carrollian CFT (theory exhibiting conformal Carroll/BMS symmetries).  
 $\implies$  Putative holographic dual in Carrollian holography.

Coordinates:  $x^a = (u, x^A)$ ,  $x^A = (z, \bar{z})$ . Carrollian structure:  $ds^2 = 0 du^2 + 2dzd\bar{z}$  and  $n^a \partial_a = \partial_u$ .

- Noether currents:

$$j_{\bar{\xi}}^a = C^a_b \bar{\xi}^b, \quad C^a_b = \begin{bmatrix} C^u_u & C^u_B \\ C^A_u & C^A_B \end{bmatrix}.$$

$\implies C^a_b$ : Carrollian stress tensor;  $C^u_u, C^u_B, C^A_u, C^A_B$ : Carrollian momenta.

[Ciambelli-Marteau-Petkou-Petropoulos-Siampos '18] [de Boer, Hartong, Obers, Sybesma, Vandoren '18] [Ciambelli-Marteau '18] [Donnay-Marteau '19]  
 [Chandrasekaran-Flanagan-Shehzad-Speranza '21] [Freidel-Pranzetti '21] [Donnay-Herfray-Fiorucci-Ruzziconi '22]



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- Ward identities:  $\partial_a \langle j_{\xi}^a(x) \rangle = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Carrollian translations} & : \quad \partial_b & \implies & \partial_a \langle C^a_b \rangle = 0, \\ \text{Carrollian rotation} & : \quad -z\partial + \bar{z}\bar{\partial} & \implies & \langle C^z_z \rangle - \langle C^{\bar{z}}_{\bar{z}} \rangle = 0, \\ \text{Carrollian boosts} & : \quad \bar{x}^A \partial_u & \implies & \langle C^A_u \rangle = 0, \\ \text{Carrollian dilatation} & : \quad x^a \partial_a & \implies & \langle C^a_a \rangle = 0, \end{aligned}$$

- Global conformal Carrollian symmetries ( $\simeq$  4d Poincaré symmetries) are enough to constrain  $C^a_b$ .  
 $\implies$  No further constraints coming from supertranslations and superrotations.

## Holographic correspondence

- Correspondence between boundary Carrollian momenta and bulk gravitational data at  $\mathcal{I}^+$  [Donnay-Herfray-Fiorucci-Ruzziconi '22]:

$$\langle C^u{}_u \rangle = \frac{\mathcal{M}}{4\pi G}, \quad \langle C^A{}_B \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \delta^A{}_B \langle C^u{}_u \rangle = 0,$$

$$\langle C^u{}_A \rangle = \frac{1}{8\pi G} (\mathcal{N}_A + u \partial_A \mathcal{M}), \quad \mathcal{N}_A = (\bar{\mathcal{N}}, \mathcal{N}).$$

- Fixed by requiring compatibility between boundary Noether currents and bulk gravitational charges:

$$\bar{H}_\xi[g] = \int_{S_u} d^2z \langle C^u{}_a \rangle \bar{\xi}^a \stackrel{!}{=} \frac{1}{8\pi G} \int_{S_u} d^2z [2\mathcal{T}\mathcal{M} + \mathcal{Y}\bar{\mathcal{N}} + \bar{\mathcal{Y}}\mathcal{N}]$$

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- Similar to the AdS/CFT dictionary where the holographic stress-energy tensor of the CFT is identified with some subleading order in the expansion of the bulk metric. [Balasubramanian-Kraus '99] [de Haro-Solodukhin-Skenderis '01]

$$ds^2 = \frac{\ell^2}{\rho^2} d\rho^2 + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \left( g_{ab}^{(0)} + \rho^2 g_{ab}^{(2)} + \rho^3 g_{ab}^{(3)} + \mathcal{O}(\rho^4) \right) dx^a dx^b, \quad \langle T_{ab} \rangle = \frac{3}{16\pi G \ell} g_{ab}^{(3)}$$

## Sourced Carrollian CFT

- **Problem:** assuming  $\partial_a j_{\xi}^a = 0$ , the BMS charges are conserved!  
⇒ This is in contradiction with the flux-balance laws!

$$\frac{d}{du} \bar{H}_{\xi}[g] = \mathcal{F}_{\xi}[g] \neq 0, \quad \mathcal{F}_{\xi}[g] \Big|_{N_{AB}=0} = 0.$$

- **Solution:** couple the Carrollian CFT with external sources  $\sigma(x)$  at the boundary!  
⇒ Generically breaks the Noetherian symmetries.  
⇒ The Carrollian currents are no longer conserved:

$$\partial_a j_K^a(x) = F_K(x), \quad F_K(x) \Big|_{\sigma=0} = 0.$$

- External sources identified with the Bondi news:  $\sigma_{AB} \sim N_{AB}$ .  
⇒ The sourced Ward identities reproduce the BMS flux-balance laws [Donnay-Fiorucci-Herfray-Ruzziconi '22].

In presence of radiation, the dual theory is a sourced Carrollian CFT

## Comparison between AdS and flat

- Comparison between AdS/CFT and Carrollian holography:

AdS	Flat
Timelike boundary	Null boundary $\mathcal{I}^\pm$
Fefferman-Graham gauge	Bondi gauge
Conformal symmetries $\bar{\zeta}^a$	BMS symmetries $\bar{\xi}^a$
Relativistic stress tensor $T^a_b$	Carrollian stress tensor $C^a_b$
Conserved charges: $\bar{H}_\xi = \int_{S^2} \langle T^t_a \rangle \bar{\zeta}^a, \quad \frac{d}{dt} \bar{H}_\xi = 0$	Flux-balance laws: $\bar{H}_\xi = \int_{S^2} \langle C^u_a \rangle \bar{\xi}^a, \quad \frac{d}{du} \bar{H}_\xi = \mathcal{F}_\xi$
Closed system	Open system
Dual: 3d CFT	Dual: 3d sourced Carrollian CFT

- **Remark:** for non-radiative asymptotically flat spacetime, no external source is needed.

⇒ Similar to AdS/CFT through  $\Lambda \rightarrow 0$ .

⇒ Explains the success in 3d gravity

(entropy matching, entanglement entropy, effective action, correlation functions, Carroll anomaly ...).

[Barnich-Gomberoff-Gonzalez '12] [Barnich '12] [Bagchi-Detournay-Fareghbal-Simon '13] [Bagchi-Fareghbal '12] [Detournay-Grumiller-Scholler-Simon '14]

[Bagchi-Basu-Grumiller-Riegler '15] [Hartong '16] [Bagchi-Grumiller-Merbis '16] [Campoleoni-Ciambelli-Delfante-Marteau-Petropoulos-Ruzziiconi '22]

## Massless scattering in flat space

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Can we encode the bulk  $\mathcal{S}$ -matrix into boundary Carrollian CFT correlators?

- Consider a spin- $s$  ( $s = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ) massless field in flat space:

$$\phi_I^{(s)}(X) = \frac{K_{\alpha}^{(s)}}{16\pi^3} \sum_{\alpha=\pm} \int \omega d\omega d^2w \left[ a_{\alpha}^{(s)}(\omega, w, \bar{w}) \varepsilon_I^{*\alpha}(w, \bar{w}) e^{i\omega q^{\mu} X_{\mu}} + a_{\alpha}^{(s)}(\omega, w, \bar{w})^{\dagger} \varepsilon_I^{\alpha}(w, \bar{w}) e^{-i\omega q^{\mu} X_{\mu}} \right]$$

with  $I = (\mu_1 \mu_2 \dots \mu_s)$  and

$$p^{\mu}(\omega, w, \bar{w}) = \omega q^{\mu}(w, \bar{w}), \quad q^{\mu}(w, \bar{w}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( 1 + w\bar{w}, w + \bar{w}, -i(w - \bar{w}), 1 - w\bar{w} \right),$$

$$\varepsilon_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s}^{\pm}(\vec{q}) = \varepsilon_{\mu_1}^{\pm}(\vec{q}) \varepsilon_{\mu_2}^{\pm}(\vec{q}) \dots \varepsilon_{\mu_s}^{\pm}(\vec{q}), \quad \varepsilon_{\mu}^{+}(\vec{q}) = \partial_w q_{\mu} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (-\bar{w}, 1, -i, -\bar{w}), \quad \varepsilon_{\mu}^{-}(\vec{q}) = [\varepsilon_{\mu}^{+}(\vec{q})]^*.$$

## Amplitudes in position space

- Taking  $r \rightarrow \infty$  (stationary phase approximation), we find the boundary values:

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\phi}_{z\dots z}^{(s)}(u, z, \bar{z})^{\text{out}} &= \lim_{r \rightarrow +\infty} \left( r^{1-s} \phi_{z\dots z}^{(s)\text{out}}(u, r, z, \bar{z}) \right) \\ &= -\frac{iK^{(s)}}{8\pi^2} \int_0^{+\infty} d\omega \left[ a_+^{(s)\text{out}}(\omega, z, \bar{z}) e^{-i\omega u} - a_-^{(s)\text{out}}(\omega, z, \bar{z})^\dagger e^{i\omega u} \right] \quad \text{at } \mathcal{I}^+, \\ \bar{\phi}_{z\dots z}^{(s)}(v, z, \bar{z})^{\text{in}} &= -\frac{iK^{(s)}}{8\pi^2} \int_0^{+\infty} d\omega \left[ a_+^{(s)\text{in}}(\omega, z, \bar{z}) e^{-i\omega v} - a_-^{(s)\text{in}}(\omega, z, \bar{z})^\dagger e^{i\omega v} \right] \quad \text{at } \mathcal{I}^-.\end{aligned}$$

$\implies$  Insertions for a massless scattering between  $\mathcal{I}^-$  (in) and  $\mathcal{I}^+$  (out).



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- Scattering amplitudes in position space:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle 0 | \bar{\phi}_{I_1}^{(s)}(x_1)^{\text{out}} \dots \bar{\phi}_{I_n}^{(s)}(x_n)^{\text{out}} \bar{\phi}_{I_{n+1}}^{(s)}(x_{n+1})^{\text{in}\dagger} \dots \bar{\phi}_{I_N}^{(s)}(x_N)^{\text{in}\dagger} | 0 \rangle \\ = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^N} \prod_{k=1}^n \int_0^{+\infty} d\omega_k e^{-i\omega_k u_k} \prod_{\ell=n+1}^N \int_0^{+\infty} d\omega_\ell e^{i\omega_\ell v_\ell} \mathcal{A}_N(\{\omega_i\}, \{z_i\}, \{\bar{z}_i\}).\end{aligned}$$

where  $x_i^{\text{out/in}} = (u_i/v_i, z_i, \bar{z}_i)$ .

## Holographic identification

- Conformal Carrollian primary field:

$$\delta_{\xi} \sigma_{(k, \bar{k})} = \left[ \left( \mathcal{T} + \frac{u}{2} (\partial \mathcal{Y} + \bar{\partial} \bar{\mathcal{Y}}) \right) \partial_u + \mathcal{Y} \partial + \bar{\mathcal{Y}} \bar{\partial} + k \partial \mathcal{Y} + \bar{k} \bar{\partial} \bar{\mathcal{Y}} \right] \sigma_{(k, \bar{k})}, \quad (k, \bar{k}): \text{Carrollian weights.}$$

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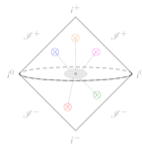
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- Consistent with the Ward identities of the 3d Carrollian CFT.

$\implies$  The low-point correlation functions are completely fixed by the conformal Carrollian symmetries.

$\implies$  The source sector is controlled by an electric Carrollian CFT. [Bagchi-Banerjee-Basu-Dutta '22]

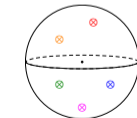
From the bulk...



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# Celestial holography

- Scattering of massless particles:

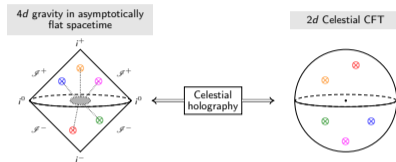
[de Boer-Solodukhin '03] [Pasterski-Shao-Strominger '17] [Pasterski-Shao '17]

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_1, J_1}(z_1, \bar{z}_1) \cdots \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_N, J_N}(z_N, \bar{z}_N) \rangle$$

$$= \left( \prod_{i=1}^N \int_0^{+\infty} d\omega_i \omega_i^{\Delta_i - 1} \right) \mathcal{A}_N(\{\omega_i\}, \{z_i\}, \{\bar{z}_i\})$$

where the CCFT operators  $\mathcal{O}_{\Delta_i, J_i}(z_i, \bar{z}_i)$  are characterized by conformal dimension  $\Delta_i$  and spin  $J_i$ .

- Change of basis: plane waves (energy eigenstates)  $\implies$  conformal primary wave functions (boost eigenstates).



# Celestial holography

- Scattering of massless particles:

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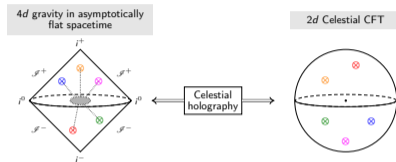
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- Change of basis: plane waves (energy eigenstates)  $\implies$  conformal primary wave functions (boost eigenstates).
- Transformation under BMS symmetries:

$$\delta_{\xi} \mathcal{O}_{(\Delta, J)}^{\text{out/in}}(z, \bar{z}) = \mp i \mathcal{T}(z, \bar{z}) \mathcal{O}_{(\Delta+1, J)}^{\text{out/in}}(z, \bar{z}) + (\mathcal{Y} \partial_z + \bar{\mathcal{Y}} \bar{\partial} + h \partial_{\mathcal{Y}} + \bar{h} \bar{\partial}_{\bar{\mathcal{Y}}}) \mathcal{O}_{(\Delta, J)}^{\text{out/in}}(z, \bar{z})$$

where  $h = \frac{\Delta+J}{2}$  and  $\bar{h} = \frac{\Delta-J}{2}$ .

$\implies$  Makes the conformal properties of the scattering manifest.





## Celestial encoding of soft theorems and collinear limits

- Soft (graviton) theorems for amplitudes ( $\omega \rightarrow 0$ ):

$$\mathcal{A}_{N+1}(\omega q; p_1; \dots; p_N) = \left( \frac{1}{\omega} S^{(0)} + S^{(1)} \right) \mathcal{A}_N(p_1; \dots; p_N) + \mathcal{O}(\omega)$$

where  $S^{(0)}$ : leading soft factor [Weinberg '65],  $S^{(1)}$ : subleading soft factor [Cachazo-Strominger '14].

- Equivalent to BMS Ward identities for the scattering  $[\bar{H}_{\xi}, \mathcal{S}] = 0$ . [Strominger '13] [He-Lysov-Mitra-Strominger '14] [Kapec-Lysov-Pasterski-Strominger '14]
- After Mellin transform, become Ward identities in the celestial CFT: [Kapec-Mitra-Raclariu-Strominger '17] [Donnay-Puhm-Strominger '18]

$$\left\langle P(z, \bar{z}) \prod_{i=1}^N \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_i, J_i}(z_i, \bar{z}_i) \right\rangle + \sum_{q=1}^N \frac{1}{z - z_q} \left\langle \dots \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_q+1, J_q}(z_q, \bar{z}_q) \dots \right\rangle = 0 \quad (\text{leading soft theorem}) \quad P(z, \bar{z}) : \left( \frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\left\langle T(z) \prod_{i=1}^N \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_i, J_i}(z_i, \bar{z}_i) \right\rangle + \sum_{q=1}^N \left[ \frac{\partial_q}{z - z_q} + \frac{h_q}{(z - z_q)^2} \right] \left\langle \prod_{i=1}^N \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_i, J_i}(z_i, \bar{z}_i) \right\rangle = 0 \quad (\text{subleading soft theorem}) \quad T(z) : (2, 0)$$

where  $h_q = \frac{1}{2}(\Delta_q + J_q)$ .

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- Collinear limit of amplitudes ( $p_i \approx \alpha P$ ,  $p_j \approx (1 - \alpha)P$ ): [Bern-Del Duca-Schmidt '98] [Bern-Dixon-Perelstein-Rozowsky '99]

$$\mathcal{A}_{N+1}(\dots p_i, p_j \dots) \approx \text{Split}(p_i, p_j) \mathcal{A}_N(\dots P \dots)$$

where, for instance,  $\text{Split}_{+2,+2}^{+2}(p_i, p_j) = -\frac{\kappa}{2\alpha(1-\alpha)} \frac{[ij]}{\langle ij \rangle}$ .

- Gives the OPEs in the celestial CFT: [Pate-Raclariu-Strominger-Yuan '19] [Fotopoulos-Stieberger-Taylor-Zhu '19]

$$\mathcal{O}_{\Delta_i,+2}(z_i, \bar{z}_i) \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_j,+2}(z_j, \bar{z}_j) \sim -\frac{\kappa}{2} \frac{\bar{z}_{ij}}{z_{ij}} B(\Delta_i - 1, \Delta_j - 1) \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_i+\Delta_j,+2}(z_j, \bar{z}_j) \quad (\kappa = \sqrt{32\pi G})$$

## A few facts about celestial CFT...

- Not only BMS symmetries, but a far bigger symmetry algebra  $w_{1+\infty}$ .
  - ⇒ Extracted from the OPE structure in the celestial CFT [see Walker's talk].
  - ⇒ Might lead to important constraints on the scattering in flat space.
  - ⇒ Infinite tower of soft theorems.

[Strominger '21] [Guevara-Himwich-Pate-Strominger '21] [Adamo-Mason-Sharma '21] [Freidel-Pranzetti-Raclariu '21] [Compère-Oliveri-Seraj '22]

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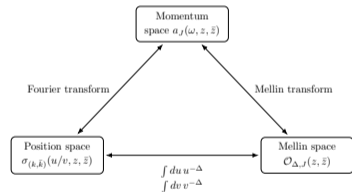
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- The central charge vanishes. [Fotopoulos-Stieberger-Taylor-Zhu '19] [Donnay-Ruzziconi '21] [Banerjee-Pasterski '22]
  - ⇒ The celestial CFT is a logarithmic CFT. [Grumiller-Fiorucci-Ruzziconi '23]

## Relation between Carrollian and celestial CFT

How to relate Carrollian and celestial holography?



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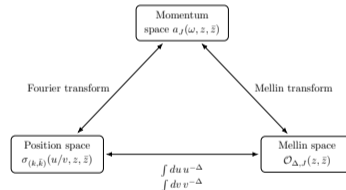
- Relation between (quasi) conformal Carrollian primary operators and CCFT operators [Donnay-Fiorucci-Herfray-Ruzziconi '22]:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_i, J_i}^{out}(z_i, \bar{z}_i) &= i^{\Delta_i} \Gamma[\Delta_i] \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} du_i u_i^{-\Delta_i} \sigma_{(k_i, \bar{k}_i)}^{out}(u_i, z_i, \bar{z}_i), \\ \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_j, J_j}^{in}(z_j, \bar{z}_j) &= i^{\Delta_j} \Gamma[\Delta_j] \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dv_j v_j^{-\Delta_j} \sigma_{(k_j, \bar{k}_j)}^{in}(v_j, z_j, \bar{z}_j). \end{aligned} \right\} \text{(Fourier + Mellin transforms)}$$

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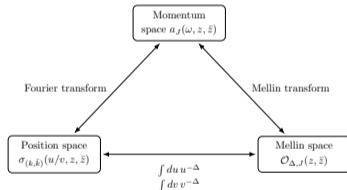
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- Correlation functions  $(N = m + n)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\langle \prod_{i=1}^m \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_i, J_i}^{out}(z_i, \bar{z}_i) \prod_{j=1}^n \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_j, J_j}^{in}(z_j, \bar{z}_j) \right\rangle \\ &= \left( \prod_{i=1}^m i^{\Delta_i} \Gamma[\Delta_i] \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} du_i u_i^{-\Delta_i} \right) \left( \prod_{j=1}^n i^{\Delta_j} \Gamma[\Delta_j] \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dv_j v_j^{-\Delta_j} \right) \underbrace{\langle \sigma_{(k_1, \bar{k}_1)}^{out}(x_1) \dots \sigma_{(k_m, \bar{k}_m)}^{out}(x_m) \rangle}_{\text{Insertions at } \mathcal{S}^+} \underbrace{\langle \sigma_{(k_1, \bar{k}_1)}^{in}(x_1) \dots \sigma_{(k_n, \bar{k}_n)}^{in}(x_n) \rangle}_{\text{Insertions at } \mathcal{S}^-}. \end{aligned}$$



- Ward identities in the sourced Carrollian CFT (encoding the BMS flux balance laws) are mapped on the celestial CFT Ward identities (encoding the leading and subleading soft theorems). [Donnay-Fiorucci-Herfray-Ruzziiconi '22]



## Summary and Perspectives

- Flat space holography different from AdS holography, partially due to the null nature of the boundary.
- Two complementary approaches to flat space holography:

Carrollian holography  $\iff$  Celestial holography

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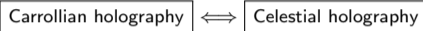
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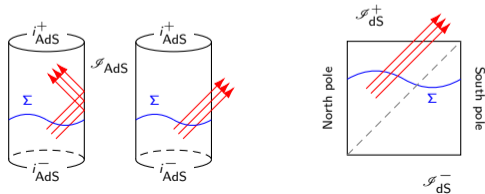
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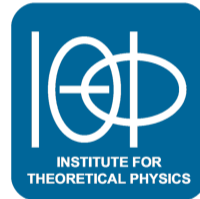


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- What can we learn about gravity and scattering amplitudes in flat spacetime?
- Relation with (A)dS/CFT correspondence?
  - ⇒ In the bulk, the flat limit works provided one starts with leaky boundary conditions. [Compère-Fiorucci-Ruzziconi '19] [Fiorucci-Ruzziconi '21]
  - ⇒ Obtain the Carrollian CFT in the ultra-relativistic limit of the CFT?



**Thank you!**



## Antipodal gluing

- Where does the Carrollian CFT live?
- Glue  $\mathcal{I}^+$  and  $\mathcal{I}^-$  by identifying antipodally  $\mathcal{I}_-^+$  with  $\mathcal{I}_+^-$ :

$$\hat{\mathcal{I}} = \mathcal{I}^- \sqcup \mathcal{I}^+$$

[Donnay-Fiorucci-Herfray-Ruzziconi '22]

- Intrinsically, the gluing surface  $\Sigma_0$  is distinguished by a vanishing  $n^a$ .
  - Carrollian momenta and symmetry generators smoothly defined on  $\hat{\mathcal{I}}$ .
- ⇒ Geometric implementation of the antipodal matching.  
 [Strominger '13] [Troessaert '17] [Henneaux-Troessaert '18] [Prabhu '19]  
 [Capone-Nguyen-Parisini '22]

