

# Black Holes

where Quantum Mechanics and  
General Relativity clash

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with

Nick Warner, Emil Martinec, Jan deBoer, Micha Berkooz, Simon Ross, Gianguido Dall'Agata, Stefano Giusto, Rodolfo Russo, Guillaume Bossard, Masaki Shigemori, Monica Guică, Nikolay Bobev, Bert Vercnocke, Andrea Puhm, David Turton, **Stefanos Katmadas, Johan Blåbäck, Pierre Heidmann**

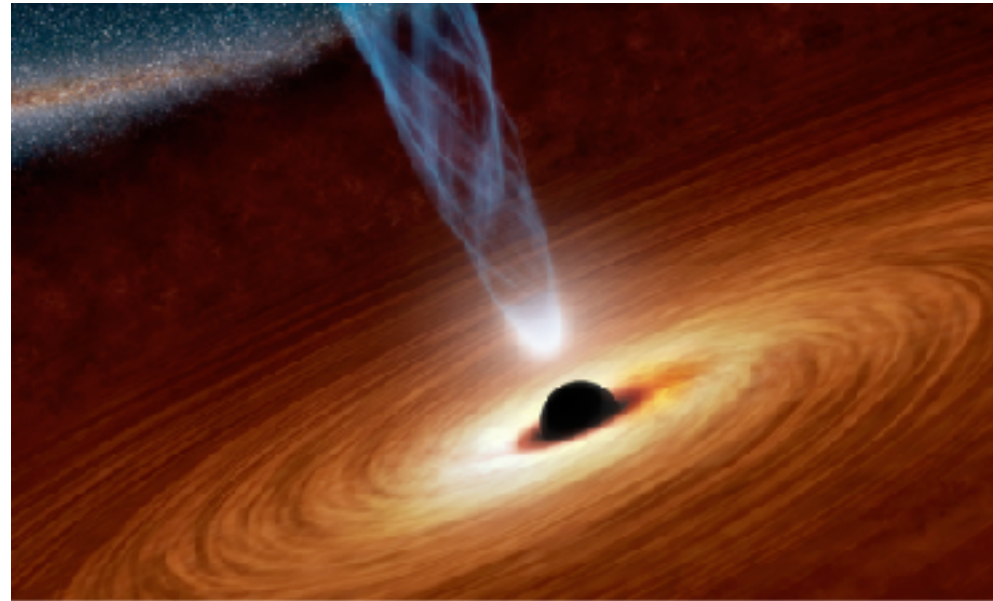


John  
Templeton  
Foundation

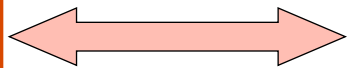


# Why Black Holes

- They exist in nature
  - Binary Systems  
 $M \sim 1 - 30 M_{\odot}$
  - Centers of galaxies  
 $M \sim 1\,000\,000\,000 M_{\odot}$
- They emit gravitational waves



Quantum  
Mechanics



General  
Relativity

Great Conflict

# General relativity

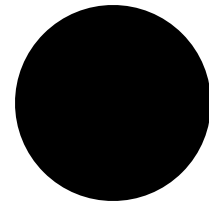
- BH produced by gravitational collapse
- They have **central singularity** and a **horizon**
- Everything, **including light** that crosses the horizon cannot come out
- Black holes have **no memory** of the the objects that formed them

# General Relativity

Information thrown into black hole is lost !!!

The **only characteristics** of black hole are:

- the mass
- the angular momentum
- the charge

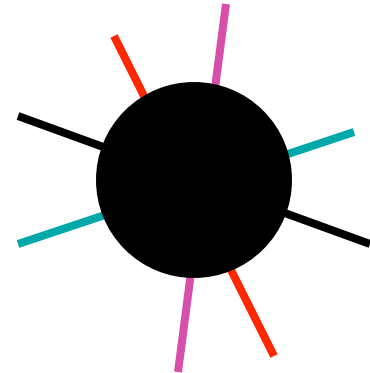


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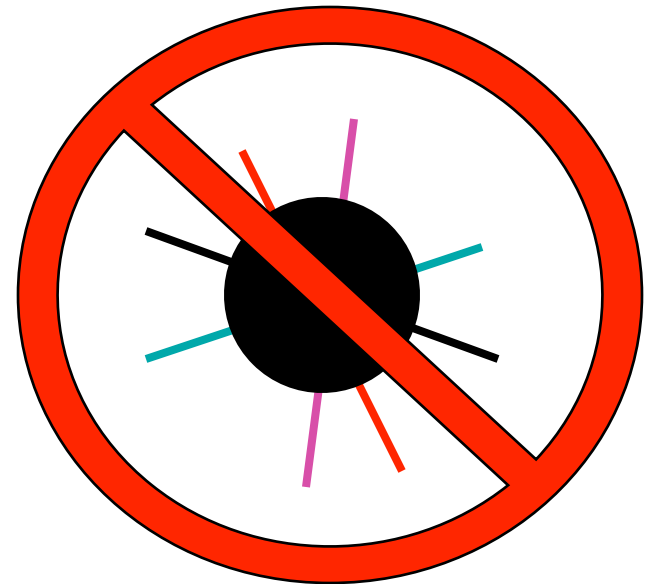
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J.A. Wheeler:

Black holes have no hair

(găurile negre nu au păr ?)



# General Relativity

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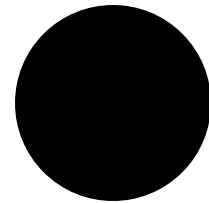
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Impossible to distinguish between black holes formed by the collapse of

**matter**

**antimatter**

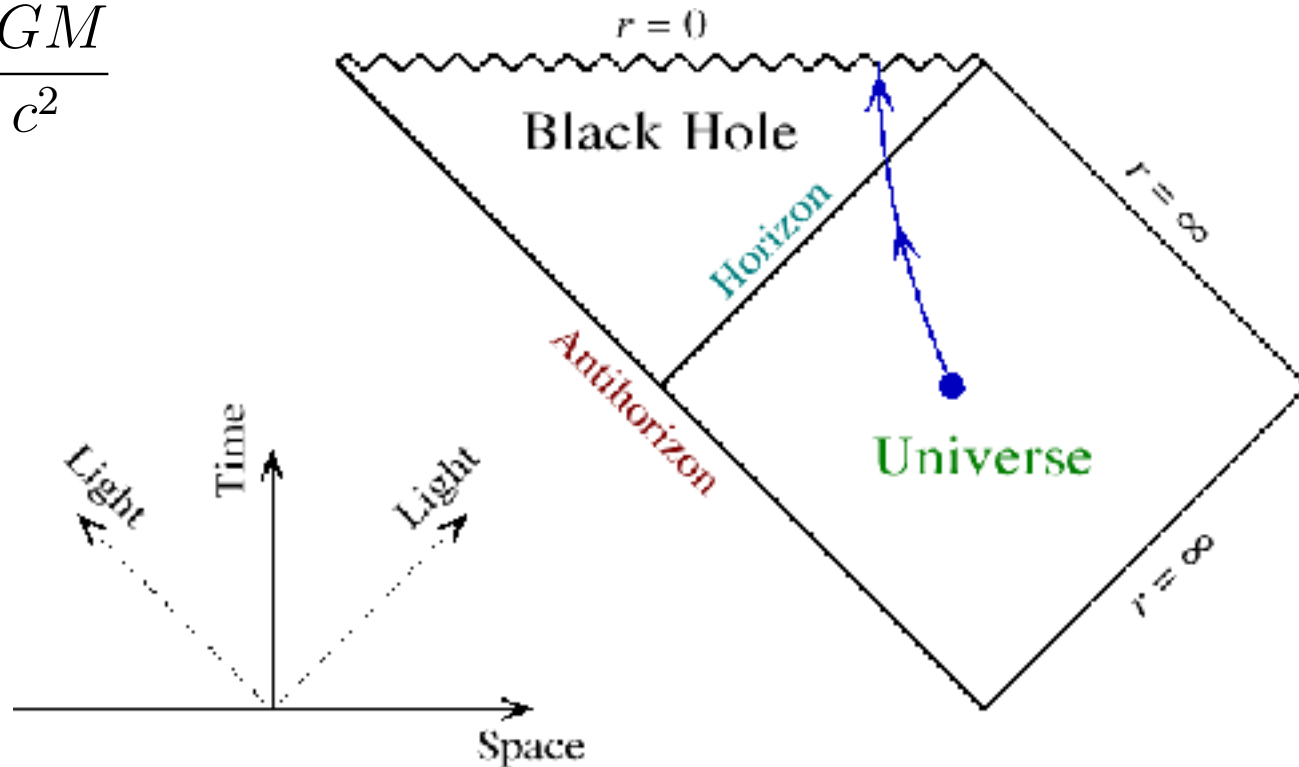
**elephants**

**birocrăți din birouri**

# The Schwarzschild Black Hole

$$ds^2 = - \left( 1 - \frac{r_s}{r} \right) dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{1 - \frac{r_s}{r}} + r^2 d\theta^2 + r^2 \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2$$

$$r_s = \frac{2GM}{c^2}$$





# Quantum Mechanics:

Physics determined by wave function:  $\Psi$

$$\Psi(t) = e^{-i\hat{H}t} \Psi(0)$$

$\hat{H} = \text{Hermitian} \Rightarrow$

Evolution of  $\Psi$  is unitary:

Information is never lost !

# Quantum Mechanics:

Bekenstein, Hawking:

We can associate to black hole an **entropy** and a **temperature**:

$$S_{BH} = \frac{A}{4l_P^2} \quad l_P = \sqrt{G\hbar/c^3} = 1.6 \times 10^{-35} \text{ m}$$

$$T_{BH} = 6.17 \times 10^{-8} \left( \frac{M_{sun}}{M_{BH}} \right) K$$

$$S \sim 10^{77} \quad M_{\odot} \text{ black hole}$$

$$S \sim 10^{90} \quad \text{Center of Milky Way black hole}$$

**Black holes are thermodynamic objects !!!**


$$1) \quad dE = T dS + \Omega dJ + V dQ$$

$$2) \quad \Delta S > 0$$

# The root of the **information paradox**

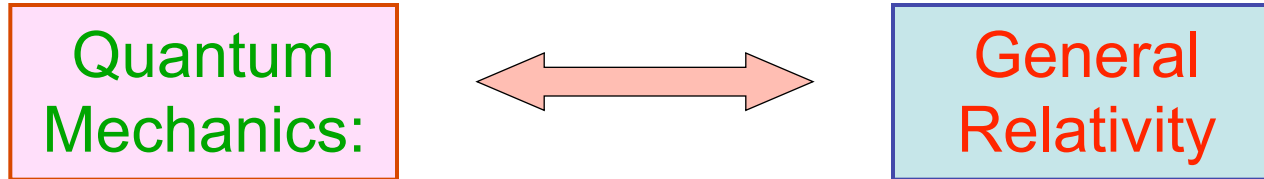
Schwarzschild black hole with  $S \sim \mathbf{10^{90}}$

Quantum Mechanics:  $\Rightarrow e^{\mathbf{10^{90}}} = e^{\mathbf{100000000 \dots 00000}}$  states

General Relativity   $\Rightarrow$  1 big fat state

Biggest **unexplained number** of physics

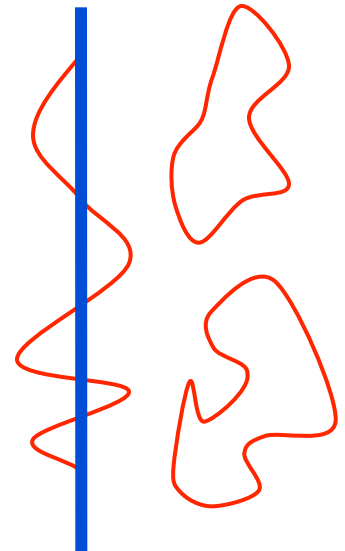
# Black Holes



**QUESTIONS:** Where is their black hole states ?  
How do they look ?

## Quantum Gravity / String Theory

- 10 dimensions
- **Strings**, membranes (D-branes)
- Build *lots and lots* of black holes putting together **D-branes**

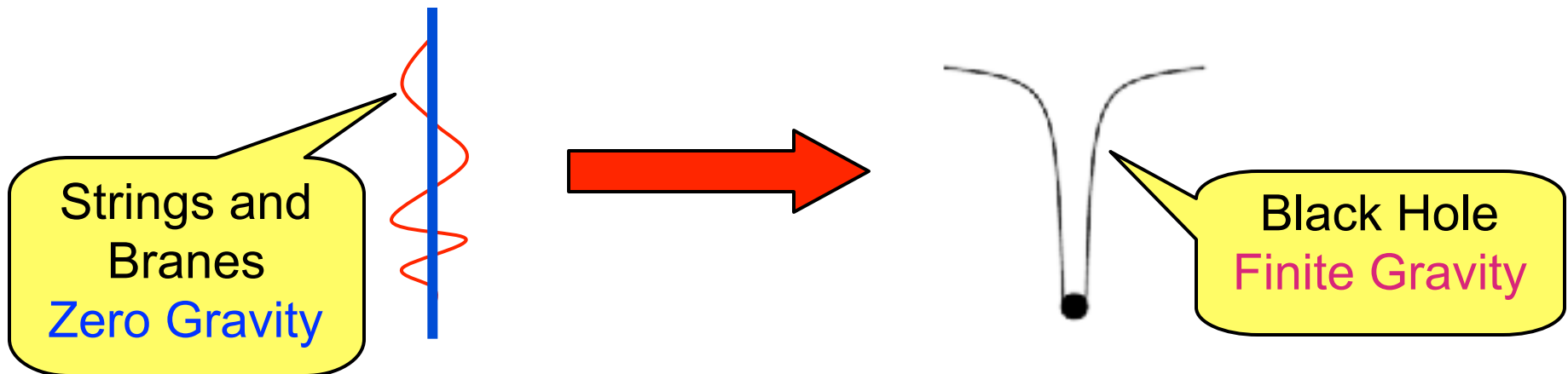


# WHERE ARE THE STATES ? HOW DO THEY LOOK ?

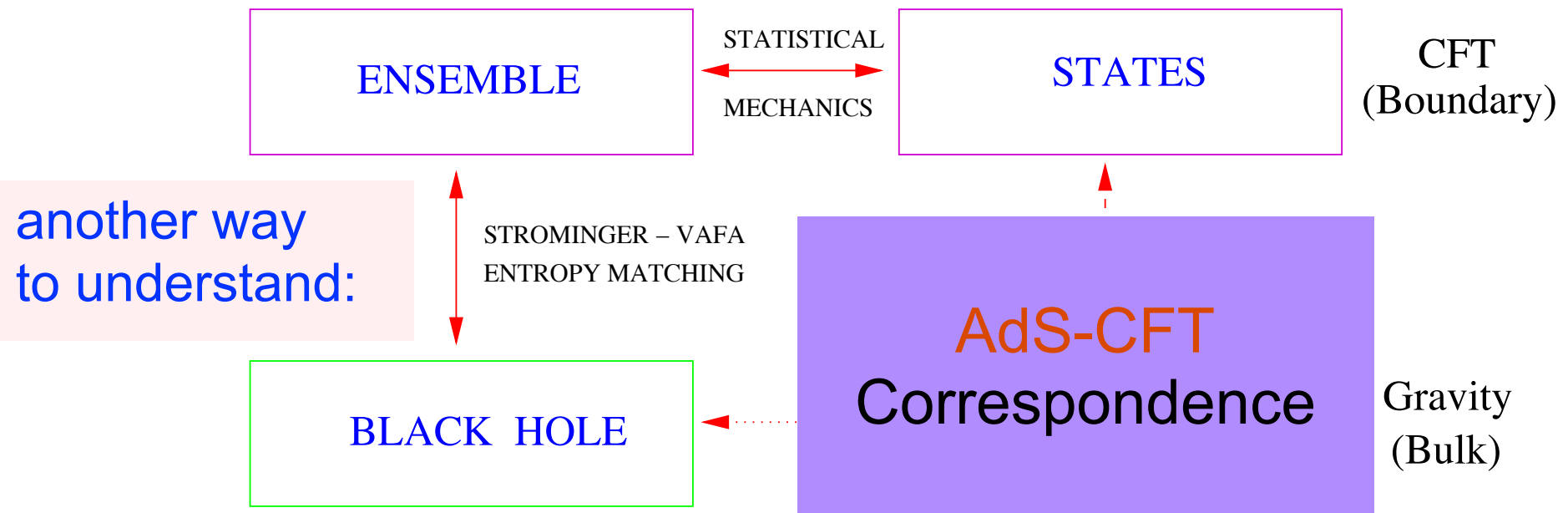
- Simpler question:
  - Count black hole states in any other way ?

Strominger and Vafa (1996)

+ 2000 other articles



- Count **quantum states** at zero gravity
- Entropy matches black hole **classical horizon area** !!!
- *2 absolutely different calculations*  
(Cardy Formula vs. classical area)
- **Amazing success**
  - **Modular forms, hypergeometric, other beasts**
  - Unmatched in other theories of gravity

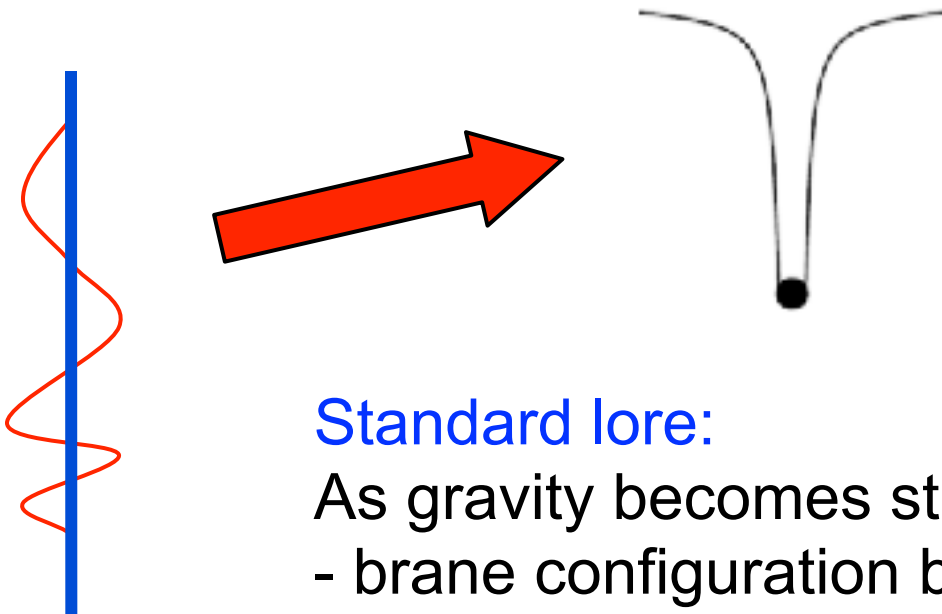


Strominger and Vafa (1996):

*Black Hole Microstates at **Zero Gravity*** (branes + strings)

**Correctly match B.H. entropy !!!**

One Particular Microstate at **Finite Gravity**:



**Standard lore:**

As gravity becomes stronger,

- brane configuration becomes smaller
- horizon develops and engulfs it
- recover standard black hole

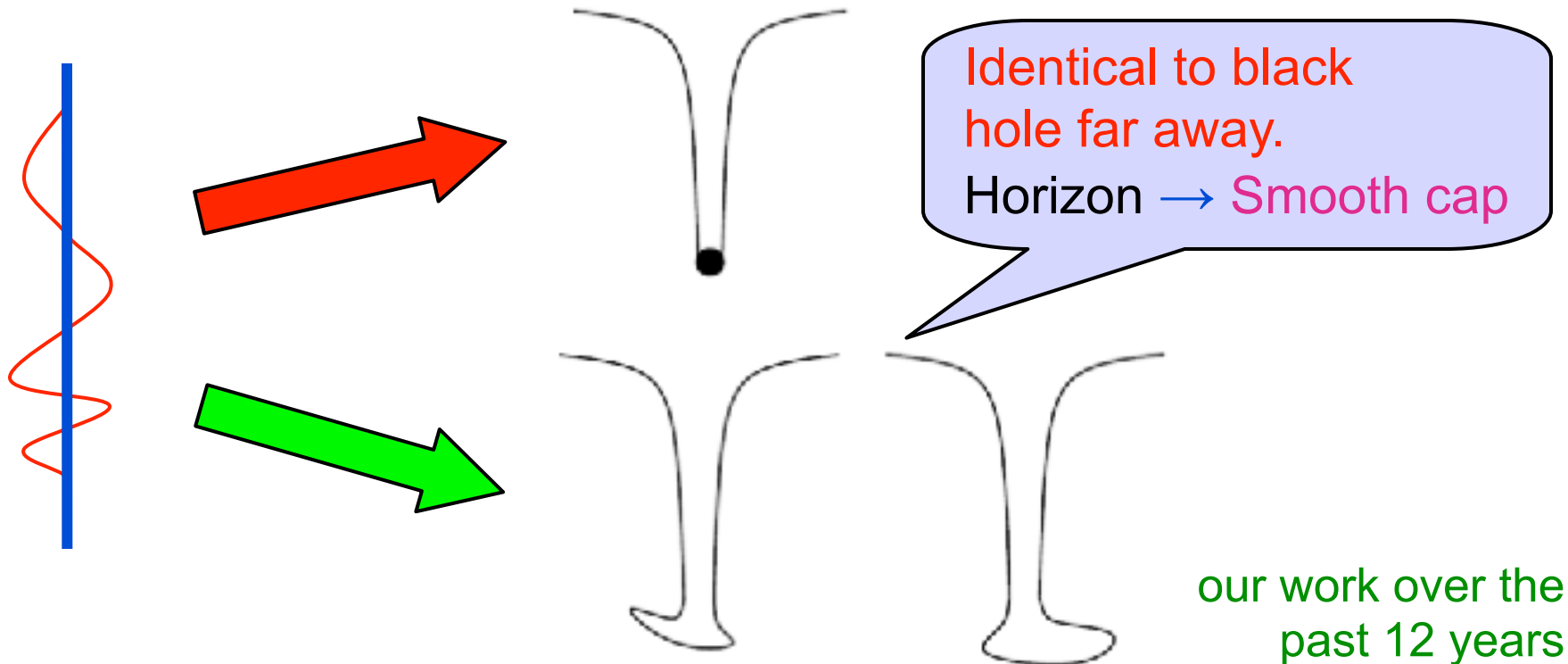
Susskind  
Horowitz, Polchinski  
Damour, Veneziano

Strominger and Vafa (1996):

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Correctly match B.H. entropy !!!

One Particular Microstate at **Finite Gravity**:



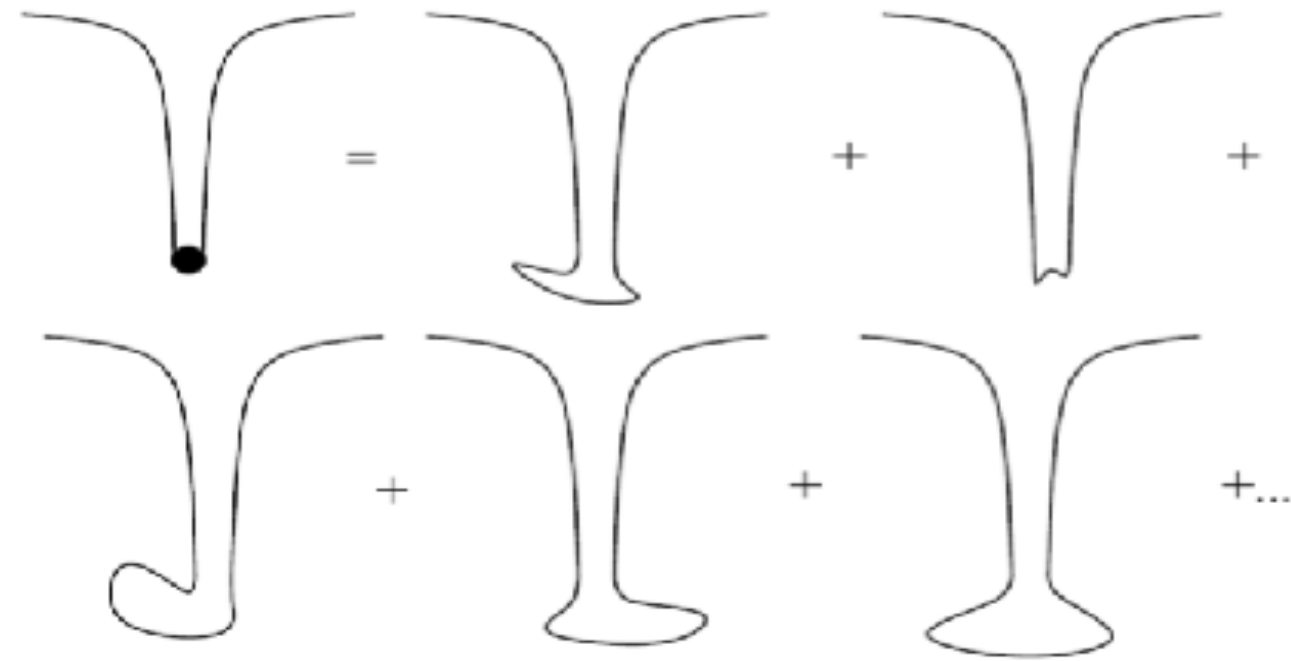


**BIG QUESTION:** Are *all* black hole microstates becoming geometries with no horizon ?

?

Black hole = ensemble of horizonless microstates

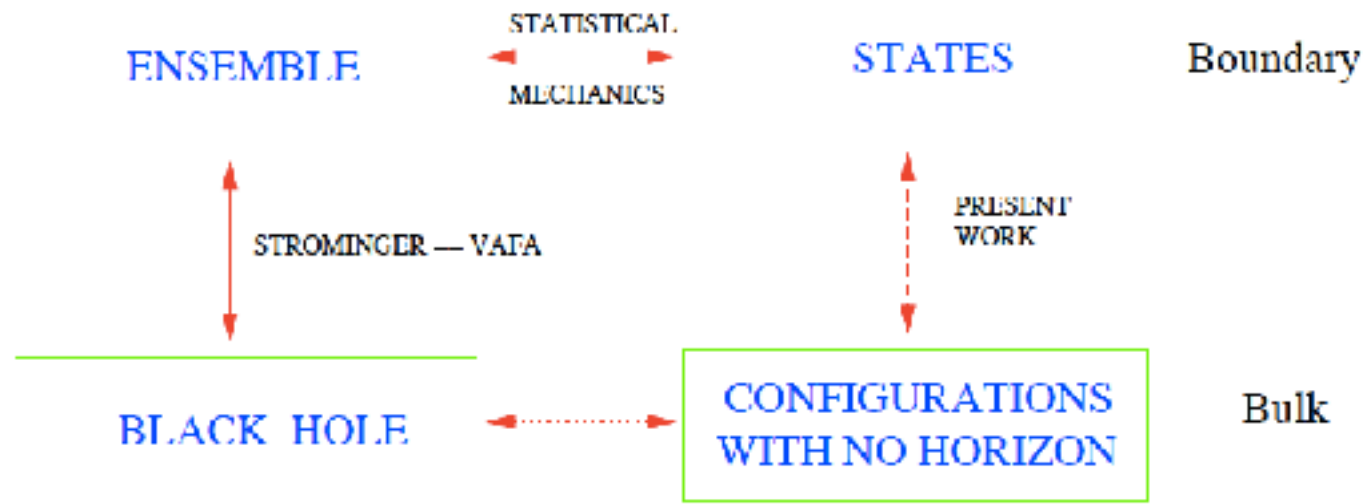
Fuzzball Proposal  
(Mathur & friends)



# Other formulations:

e.g. Bena, Warner, 2007

- Thermodynamics (EFT) breaks down at horizon. New low-mass d.o.f. kick in.
- No spacetime inside black holes. Quantum superposition of microstate geometries.



Not some hand-waving idea - provable by rigorous calculations in String Theory

# Analogy with ideal gas

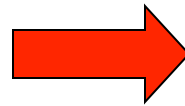
## Thermodynamics

(Air = ideal gas)

$$P V = n R T$$

$$dE = T dS + P dV$$

Useful for  
meteorology



## Statistical Physics

(Air -- molecules)

$e^S$  microstates

typical

atypical

Brownian Motion  
Bose-Einstein condensation

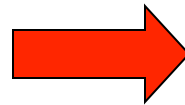
# Analogy with ideal gas

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## Statistical Physics

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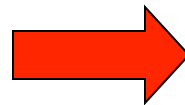
$e^S$  microstates

typical

atypical

## Thermodynamics

Black Hole Solution



## Statistical Physics

Microstate geometries

Long distance physics

Gravitational lensing

Physics at horizon

Information loss

Gravity waves ?

# Word of caution

- To replace classical BH by BH-sized object
  - Gravastar
  - Infinite density firewall hovering above horizon
  - Gas of wormholes
  - Bose-Einstein condensate of gravitons
  - LQG configuration
  - Quark-star, boson-star ...

satisfy 3 very stringent tests:

1. Same growth with  $G_N = g_s^2$  !!!

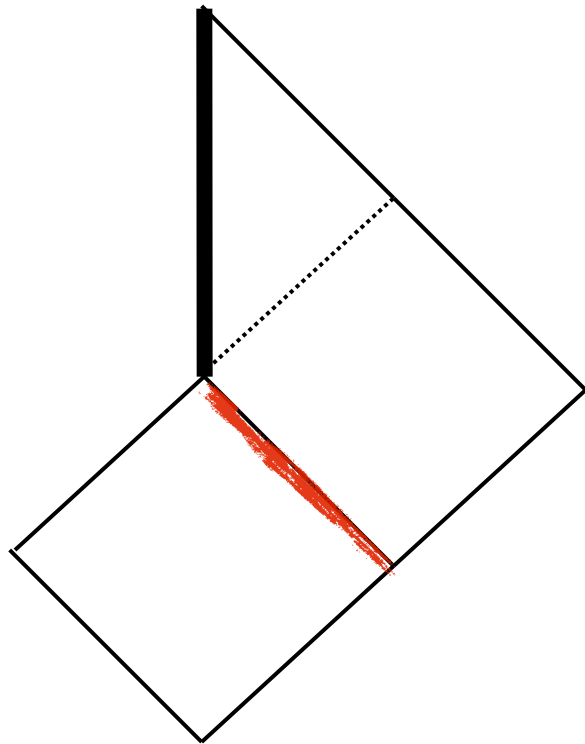
Horowitz

- BH size grows with  $G_N$
- Size of objects in other theories becomes smaller

- BH microstate geometries pass this test
- Highly nontrivial mechanism:
- D-branes = solitons, tension  $\sim 1/g_s \rightarrow$  lighter as  $G_N$  increases

## 2. Mechanism not to fall into BH

Very difficult !!!



GR Dogma:

**Thou shalt not put anything  
at the horizon !!!**

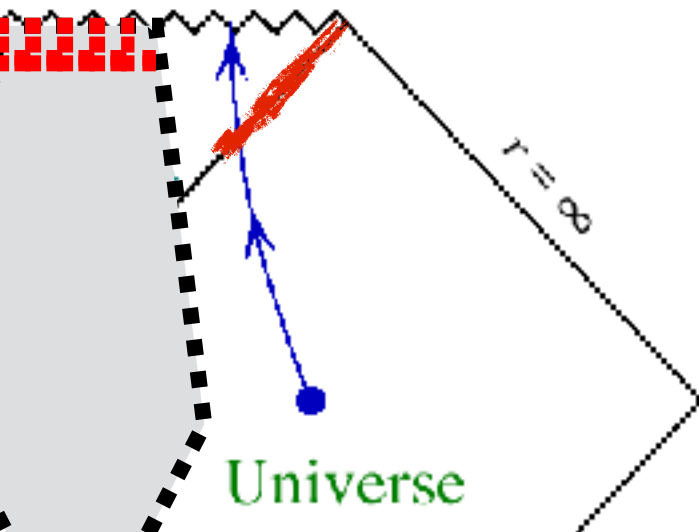
- Null  $\rightarrow$  speed of light.
- If massive:  $\infty$  boost  $\rightarrow$   $\infty$  energy
- If massless: dilutes with time
- Nothing can live there !  
(or carry degrees of freedom)
- No membrane, no spins
- No (fire)wall

**Must have a support mechanism !**

Otherwise b.s.

### 3. Avoid forming a horizon

- Collapsing shell forms horizon Oppenheimer and Snyder (1939)
- If curvature is low, no reason not to trust classical GR
- By the time shell becomes **curved-enough for quantum effects to become important**, horizon in causal past



Go backwards in time !

BH has  $e^S$  microstates with no horizon

Small tunneling probability =  $e^{-S}$

Will tunnel with probability **ONE** !!!

Kraus, Mathur; Bena, Mayerson, Puhm, Vernocke

Only  $e^S$  horizon-sized microstates can do it !

# Microstates geometries

- Where is the **BH charge** ?

$$L = q A_0$$

magnetic

$$L = \dots + A_0 F_{12} F_{34} + \dots$$

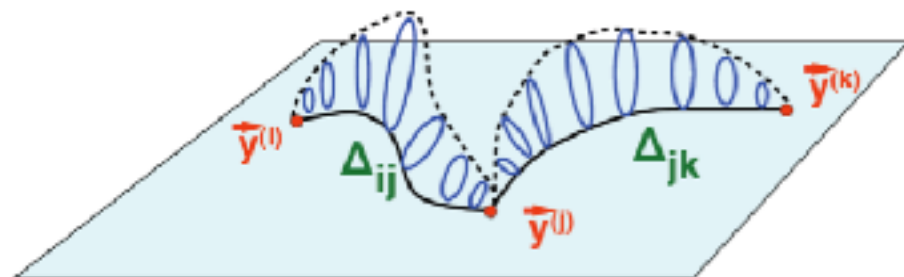
- Where is the **BH mass** ?

$$E = \dots + F_{12} F^{12} + \dots$$

- BH angular momentum**

$$J = E \times B = \dots + F_{01} F_{12} + \dots$$

2-cycles + magnetic flux



**Bubbling Geometries**

**Black Hole Solitons**

beautiful GR story behind

Gibbons, Warner

The charge is dissolved in magnetic fluxes. No singular sources.

Klebanov-Strassler



# More general bubbling solutions

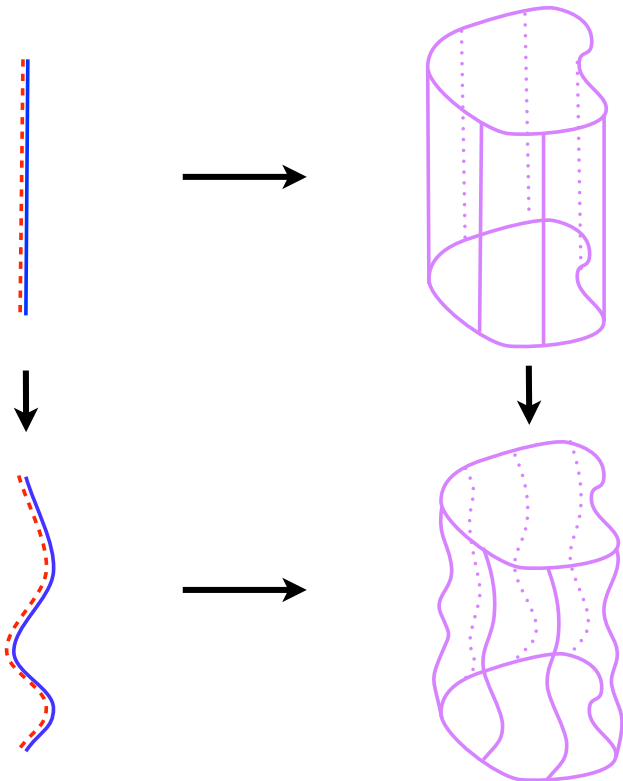
- Add supertubes
  - supersymmetric brane configs
  - arbitrary shape Mateos, Townsend
- Construct backreacted solution
  - Taub-NUT Page Green's functions (painful)
- Smooth !
  - exactly as in flat space
    - Lunin, Mathur; Emparan, Mateos, Townsend
    - Lunin, Maldacena, Maoz
- Entropy:  $S \sim (Q^{5/2})^{1/2}$
- Not yet black-hole-like ( $Q^{3/2}$ )
- Need more degrees of freedom !



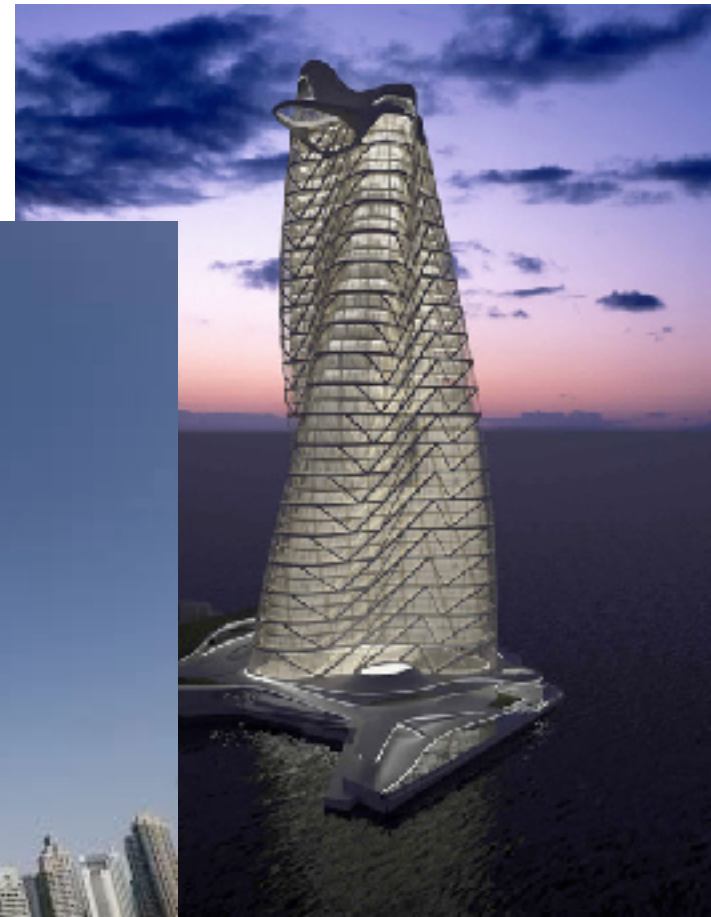
# Even more general solutions

Bena, de Boer, Shigemori, Warner

- Supertubes (locally 16 susy) - 8 functions of **one** variable ( $c = 8$ )
- Superstrata (locally 16 susy) - 4 functions of **two** variables ( $c = \infty$ )
- Double supertube transition:



Should be  
Smooth !!!



# Largest family of solutions known to mankind

Arbitrary functions of **two** variables:  $\infty \times \infty$  parameters  
Bena, Giusto, Russo, Shigemori, Warner

$$\begin{aligned}
 ds_{10}^2 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha}} ds_8^2 + \sqrt{\frac{Z_1}{Z_2}} ds_4^2, \\
 ds_6^2 &= -\frac{2}{\sqrt{\mathcal{P}}} (dv + \beta) \left[ du + \omega + \frac{\mathcal{F}}{2}(dv + \beta) \right] + \sqrt{\mathcal{P}} ds_4^2, \\
 e^{2\phi} &= \frac{Z_1^2}{\mathcal{P}}, \\
 B &= \frac{Z_4}{\mathcal{P}} (du + \omega) \wedge (dv + \beta) + a_4 \wedge (dv + \beta) + \delta_2, \\
 C_0 &= \frac{Z_4}{Z_1}, \\
 C_2 &= \frac{Z_2}{\mathcal{P}} (du + \omega) \wedge (dv + \beta) + a_1 \wedge (dv + \beta) + \gamma_2, \\
 C_4 &= \frac{Z_4}{Z_2} \widehat{\text{vol}}_4 + \frac{Z_4}{\mathcal{P}} \gamma_2 \wedge (du + \omega) \wedge (dv + \beta) + x_3 \wedge (dv + \beta) + \mathcal{C}, \\
 C_6 &= \widehat{\text{vol}}_4 \wedge \left[ -\frac{Z_1}{\mathcal{P}} (du + \omega) \wedge (dv + \beta) + a_2 \wedge (dv + \beta) + \gamma_1 \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{Z_4}{\mathcal{P}} \mathcal{C} \wedge (du + \omega) \wedge (dv + \beta), \\
 \alpha &\equiv \frac{Z_1 Z_2}{Z_1 Z_2 - Z_4^2}, \quad \mathcal{P} \equiv Z_1 Z_2 - Z_4^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - \frac{Rr}{\sqrt{2} k_2 (m_1^2 - 1)} \frac{m_1 (k_2 + m_1 + 1) \Delta_{k_2+m_1-1, m_1-1} + (k_2 + m_1 - 1) \Delta_{k_2+m_1}}{(r^2 + a^2)^2} \\
 & - \frac{R}{\sqrt{2} k_2 (m_1^2 - 1) a^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta} \left[ 2(m_1 - 1) \Delta_{k_2+m_1-3, m_1-1} \right. \\
 & \quad + (m_1 - 1)(m_1 - 2) \Delta_{k_2+m_1-1, m_1-1} + m_1 (k_2 - 2) \Delta_{k_2+m_1-1, m_1+1} \\
 & \quad \left. - m_1 (m_1 - 1) \Delta_{k_2+m_1+1, m_1-1} + (m_1^2 (k_2 - 1) + 1) \Delta_{k_2+m_1+1, m_1+1} \right], \\
 & - \frac{R}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\Delta_{k_2+m_1+1, m_1+1}}{\Sigma} \sin^2 \theta - \frac{R}{\sqrt{2} k_2 (m_1^2 - 1) a^2} \left[ 2(m_1 - 1) \Delta_{k_2+m_1-3, m_1-1} \right. \\
 & \quad + (m_1^2 - 2m_1 + k_2 - 1) \Delta_{k_2+m_1-1, m_1-1} + m_1 (k_2 - 2) \Delta_{k_2+m_1-1, m_1+1} \\
 & \quad + m_1 (k_2 - m_1 - 1) \Delta_{k_2+m_1+1, m_1-1} + (k_2 (m_1^2 + m_1 - 1) - m_1 (m_1 + 1)) \Delta_{k_2+m_1+1, m_1+1} \\
 & \quad \left. - \frac{R}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\Delta_{k_2+m_1+1, m_1+1}}{\Sigma} \cos^2 \theta - \frac{R}{\sqrt{2} k_2 (m_1^2 - 1) a^2} \left[ (k_2 - 1)(m_1 - 1) \Delta_{k_2+m_1-1, m_1-1} \right. \right. \\
 & \quad - 2(m_1 - 1) \Delta_{k_2+m_1-3, m_1-1} - (m_1 - 1)(m_1 - 2) \Delta_{k_2+m_1-1, m_1-1} \\
 & \quad + (m_1 - 1)(k_2 - 3) \Delta_{k_2+m_1-1, m_1+1} + m_1 (m_1 - 1) \Delta_{k_2+m_1+1, m_1-1} \\
 & \quad \left. \left. + (m_1 - 1)(m_1 (k_2 - 1) + 1) \Delta_{k_2+m_1+1, m_1+1} \right] \right].
 \end{aligned}$$



String theory  
input crucial  
Giusto, Russo, Turton

Habemus  
Superstratum !!!

# Deep superstrata

## Entropy:

- D1-D5 supertube - **dimension** of moduli space
  - classically: **dimension** =  $\infty$
  - quantize:  $4N_1N_5$  = number of superstratum **momentum carriers**

- Counting (+ fermions) (à la MSW)

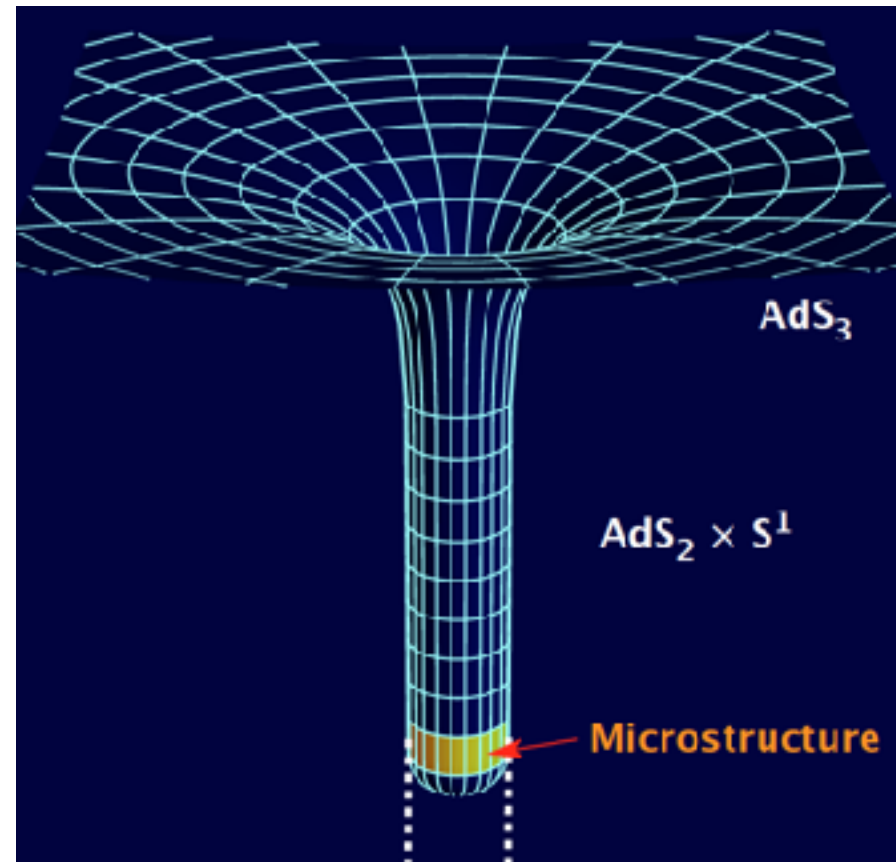
$$S = 2\pi(N_1 N_5 N_p)^{1/2} !!!$$

Bena, Shigemori, Warner

- Build deep superstrata:  
black-hole-like throats

Bena, Giusto, Martinec Russo,  
Shigemori, Turton, Warner  
(PRL editor's selection)

- First BTZ microstates



# MSW Superstrata

Bena, Martinec, Turton, Warner

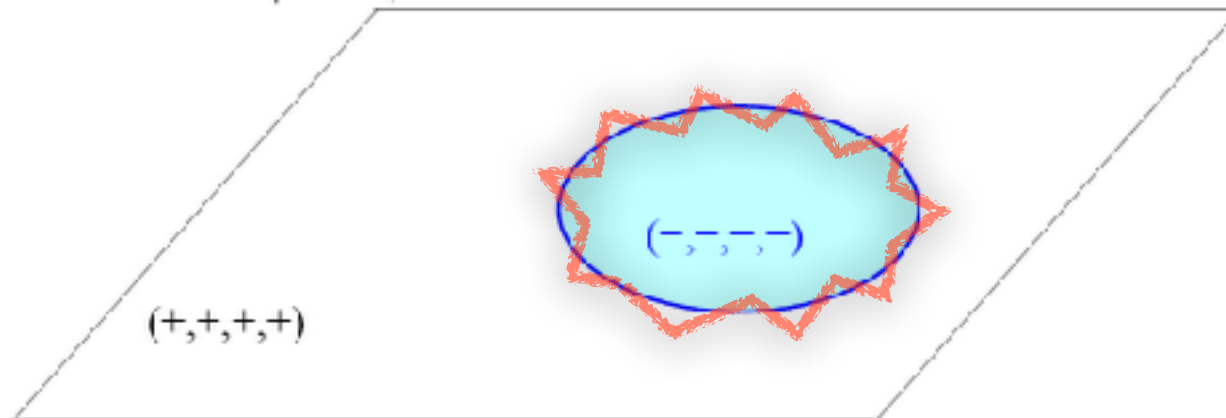
- D1-D5 solution:  $\text{AdS}_3 \times S^3 \times T^4$ 
  - T-dualize on the Hopf fiber of  $S^3$  + few more times
  - $\text{AdS}_3 \times S^2 \times T^6$ : NS vacuum of the MSW CFT
- Central charges match
- subsector of MSW CFT  $\Leftrightarrow$  subsector of D1-D5 CFT !!!
- One arbitrary function worth of smooth solutions to  $U(1)^4$  5D ungauged supergravity

Why did we miss them solutions for past 12 years ?!?

Singular 4D ambipolar bases have one function worth of singular fluxes that gives rise to smooth 5D solutions

$$ds^2 = V (dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + dx_3^2) + V^{-1}(d\psi + \vec{A})^2$$

$$V = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{Q}{|\vec{r} - \vec{a}|} + \frac{Q}{|\vec{r} - \vec{b}|}$$



- Signature of base changes from  $(+, +, +, +)$  to  $(-, -, -, -)$
- $Z_i$  blow up and change sign at interface:

$$d * d Z_1 = G^2 \wedge G^3 \quad \Rightarrow \quad Z_i \sim \frac{1}{V}(\dots)$$

- Full 11D metric is smooth:

$$ds^2 = -Z^{-2}(dt + \vec{k})^2 + Z \left[ V (dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + dx_3^2) + V^{-1}(d\psi + \vec{A})^2 \right] + ds_{1,6}^2$$

Extra singular wiggly  $G^i$  sourced at the interface

# MSW CFT

- D1-D5 superstratum built on  $\text{AdS}_3 \times S^3 \times T^4$ 
  - T-dualize on the Hopf fiber of  $S^3$  + few more times
  - $\text{AdS}_3 \times S^2 \times T^6$ : NS vacuum of the MSW CFT
- Central charges match
- subsector of MSW CFT  $\Leftrightarrow$  subsector of D1-D5 CFT !!!
- One arbitrary function worth of smooth solutions to  $U(1)^4$  5D ungauged supergravity

# SUSY microstates – the story:

- We have a huge number of them
  - Arbitrary continuous functions of 2 variables
  - Superstrata reproduce black hole entropy 😊  
Bena, Shigemori, Warner
- Dual to CFT states in **typical sector**
  - This is where BH states live too 😊
  - **AdS-CFT perspective:** highly weird if BH microstates had horizon  
Bena, Wang, Warner; Taylor, Skenderis
- Two non-backreacted calculations:
  - BH entropy - **scaling** multicenter config 😊  
Denef, Moore; Denef, Gaiotto, Strominger, Van den Bleeken, Yin
  - Higgs-Coulomb map.  
Bena, Berkooz, de Boer, El Showk, Van den Bleeken; Lee, Wang, Yi



Strominger - Vafa

$$S = S_{\text{BH}}$$

Black Hole Deconstruction

Denef, Gaiotto, Strominger,  
Van den Bleeken, Yin (2007)

$$S \sim S_{\text{BH}}$$

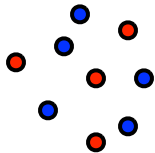
Black  
Holes

Effective coupling ( $g_s$ )

Multicenter Quiver QM

Denef, Moore (2007)  
Bena, Berkooz, de Boer, El Showk,  
Van den Bleeken.

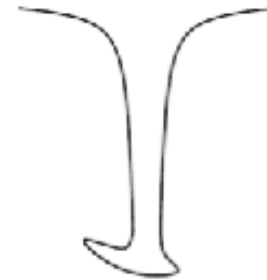
$$S \sim S_{\text{BH}}$$



Size grows

No Horizon

Smooth Horizonless  
Microstate Geometries



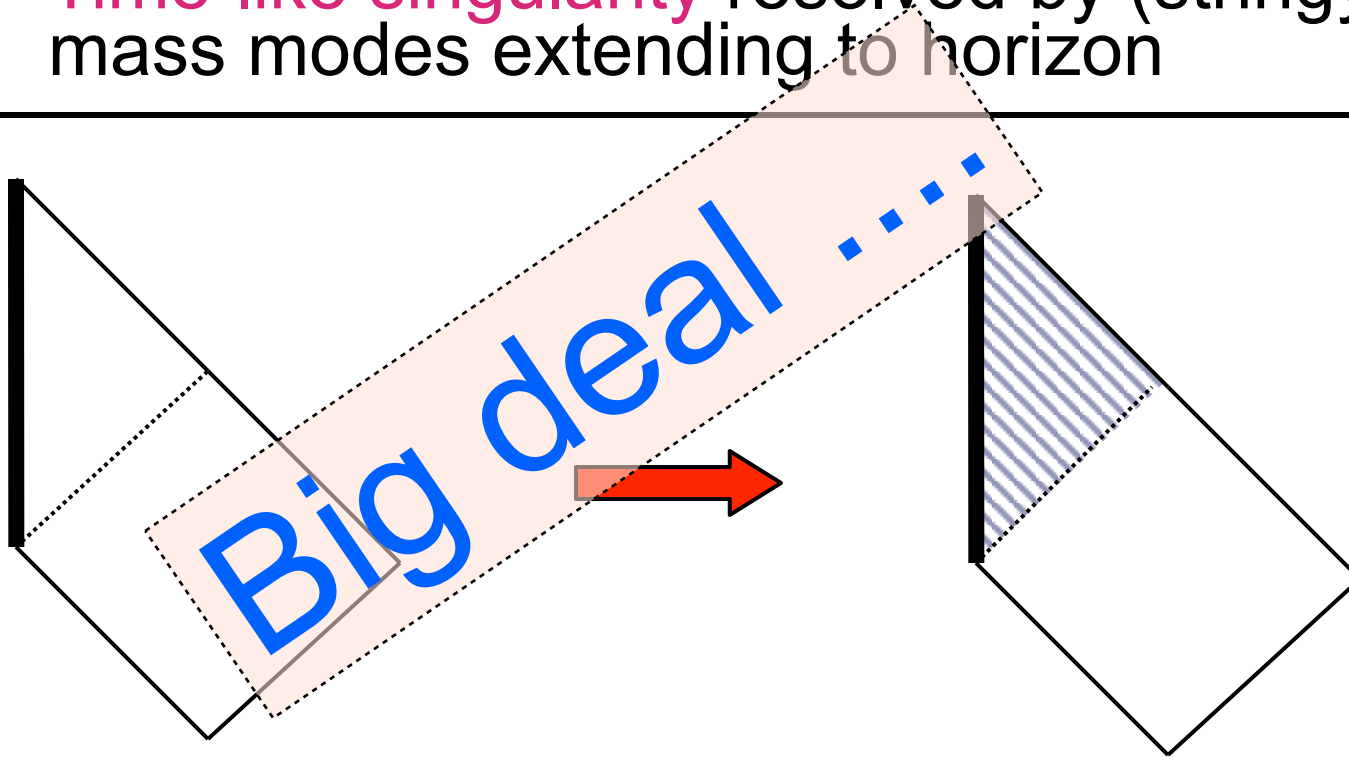
**Punchline:** Typical states **grow** as  $G_N$  increases.  
Horizon never forms

Pure black hole states have no horizon

Similar story for **non-SUSY extremal** black holes

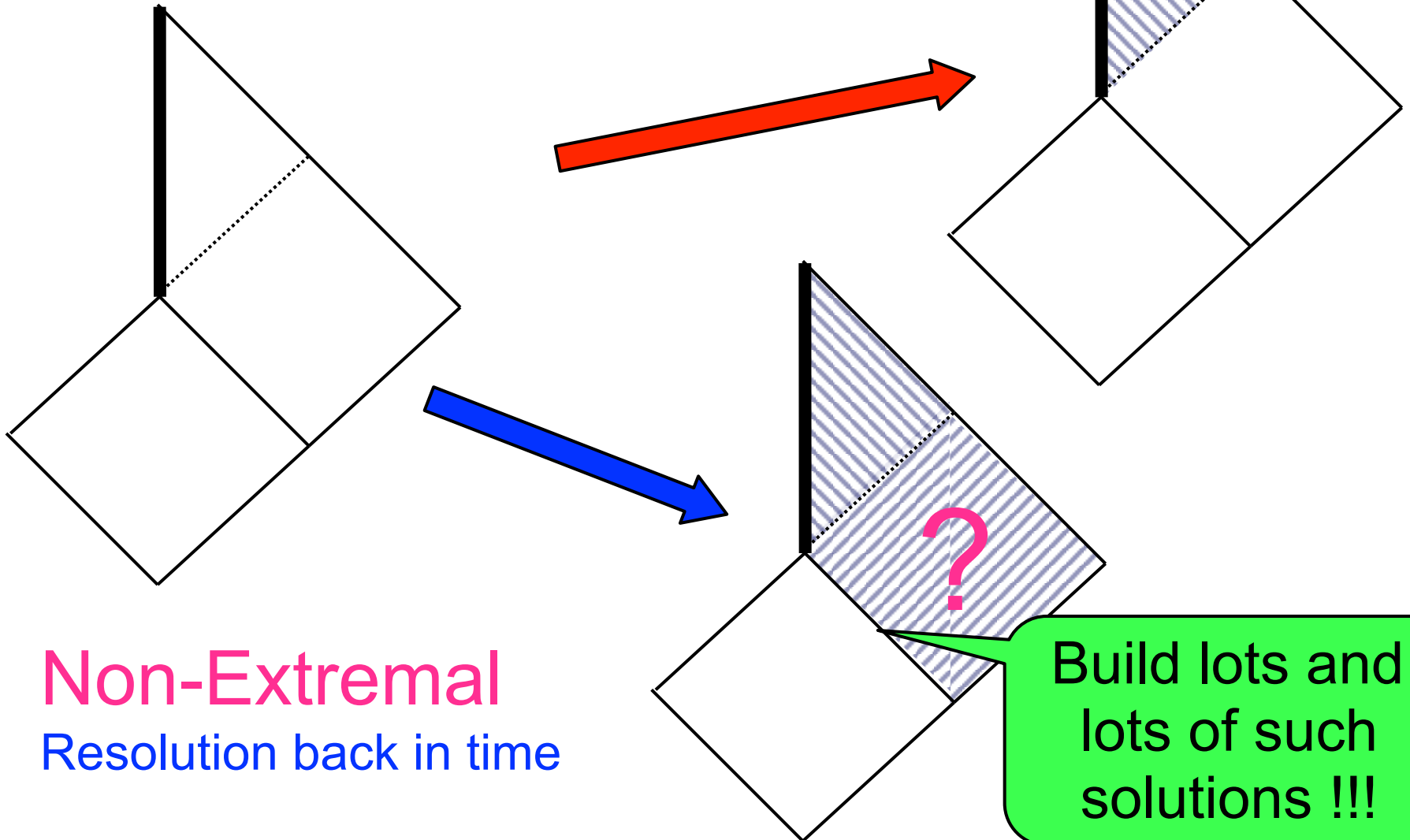
# BPS Black Hole = Extremal

- This is **not so strange**
- Horizon **in causal future** of singularity
- **Time-like singularity** resolved by (stringy) low-mass modes extending to horizon



Penrose  
Poisson, Israel  
Dafermos  
Marolf

# The really big deal fuzzball, firewall



Very few known. Extremely hard to build...

– Coupled nonlinear 2'nd order PDE's do not factorize

Să nu te rogi la sfântul care nu te ajută

Do not pray to the saint who does not help you !

proverb vechi Românesc

- Idea: perturbative construction - near-BPS
- Add antibranes to BPS bubbling sols.

Kachru, Pearson, Verlinde

- Metastable minima
- Decay to susy minima:

Bena, Puhm, Vernocke

brane-flux annihilation - Hawking radiation

- Microstates of near-extremal BH

Very few known. Extremely hard to build...

- Coupled nonlinear 2'nd order PDE's do not factorize

La pasărea oarbă îi face Dumnezeu cuib

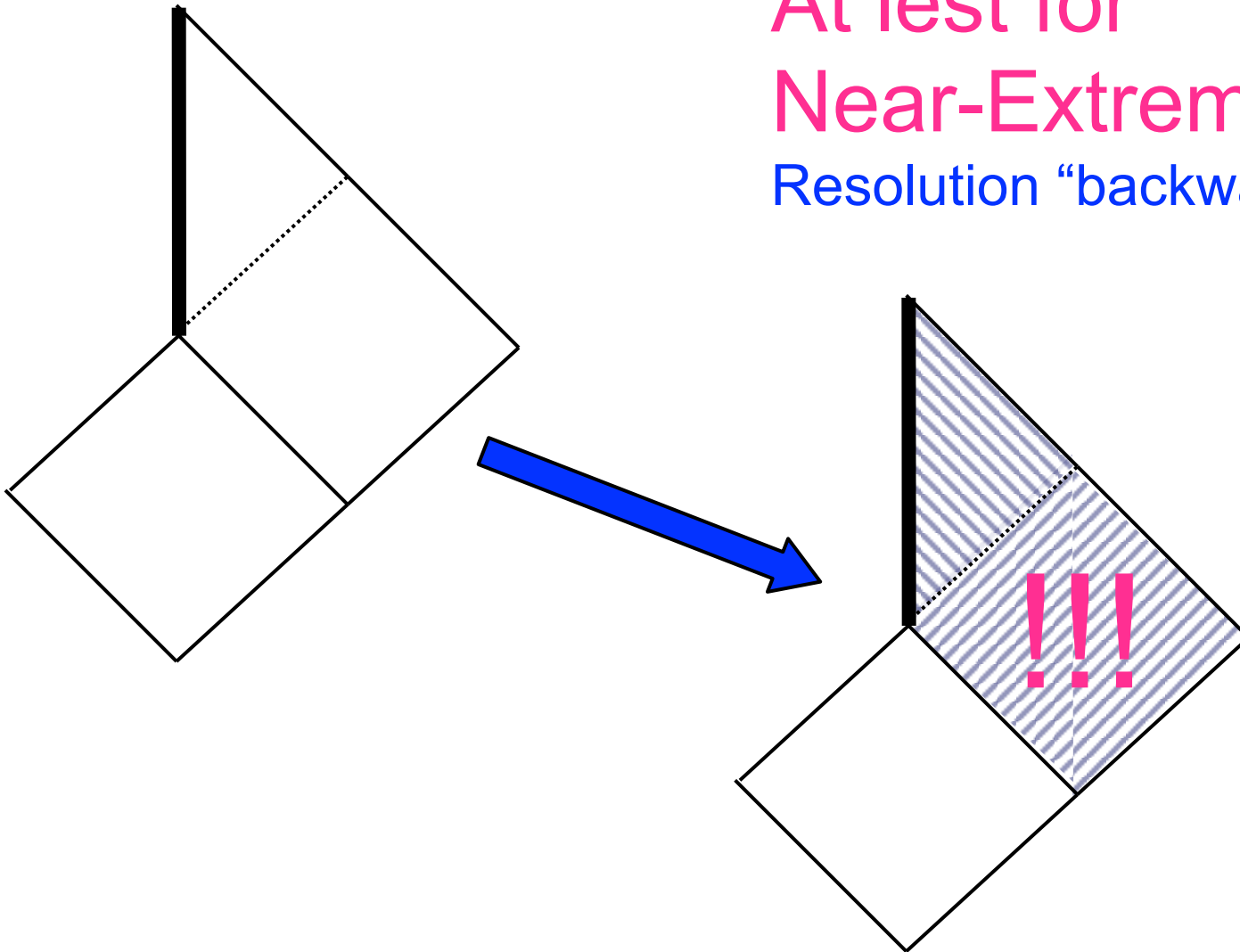
God makes the nest of the blind bird!

încă un proverb vechi Românesc

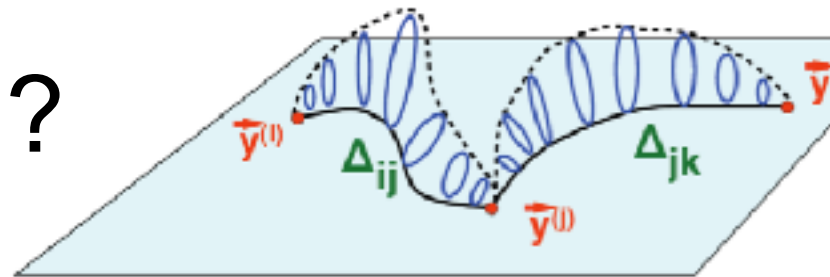
- For some solutions the 2'nd order PDE's do factorize !!!  
Bossard, Katmadas
- We can build analytically certain classes of non-extremal solutions  
Bena, Bossard, Katmadas, Turton
- Add extra cycles to JMART
- Method can get us far from extremality.
- How far ? How generic ? Antibranes ?

# The really big deal

At least for  
Near-Extremal  
Resolution “backwards in time!”

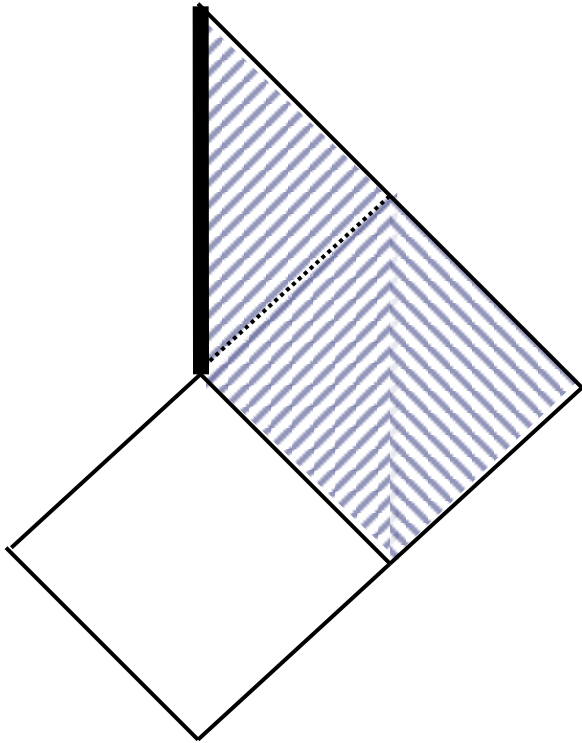


# Why not collapsing ?



- 5(+6)d : smooth solutions + **quantized** magnetic flux on topologically-nontrivial **2-cycles**
  - cycles smaller  $\rightarrow$  increases energy
  - bubbling = **only** mechanism to avoid collapse in semiclassical limit Gibbons, Warner
  - If **any** state in the  $e^S$ -dimensional BH Hilbert space has a semiclassical limit, it **must** be a microstate geometry !
- 4(+6)d : multicenter solutions Denef
  - smooth GH centers with negative charge  $\rightarrow$  centers with **negative** D6 **charge** and **negative mass**
  - common in String Theory (e.g. orientifolds); **nowhere else**
  - **Highly unusual** matter from a 4d perspective
  - Usual matter does not hang around, just falls in BH

# What about other black holes?



- Near Extremal ?
- Schwarzschild + 1 electron ?

Take electron away

Same Penrose diagram !

String theory **can** resolve BH singularities

“backwards in time.” **Why stop at near-extremal?**

**Same Mechanism ?**



# Pure BH states have no horizon - 4 approaches:

## (1) Information-theory arguments

Mathur 2009, AMPS, etc

- secondary question: firewall ? burn or spit through ?

## (2) Generic AdS-CFT

Agnostic about theory

No mechanism for Hair !

Strominger, Taylor, AMPS2 (Papadodimas Raju against)

- nontrivial  $\Rightarrow$  no spherical symmetry  $\Rightarrow$  no horizon

## (3) Follow microstates from weak to strong coupling

- BH deconstruction, String emission, Higgs-Coulomb map

Denef, Gaiotto, Strominger, Van den Bleeken, Yin, Giusto, Russo, Turton  
Bena, Berkooz, de Boer, El Showk, Van den Bleeken; Lee, Wang, Yi

## (4) Lots of BH microstate geometries = Hair !!!

- One mechanism in three hypostases:

Bubbling  $\Leftrightarrow$  Brane polarization  $\Leftrightarrow$  NonAbelian

- Can capture typical BH states; can get BH entropy

# A few questions

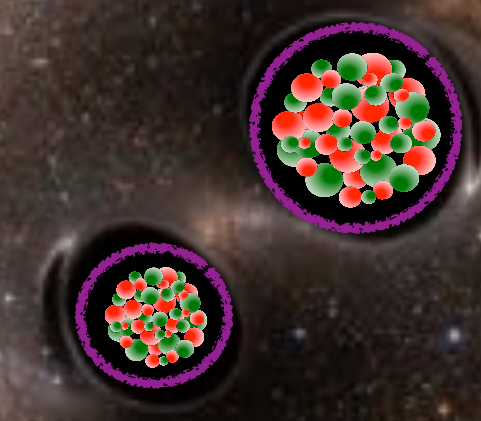
- Would all microstates be classical ?
  - Only constructions that include gravity and one can trust.
  - Hovering mechanism extrapolates  $\Rightarrow$  brane polarization, non-Abelian
  - Typical states: many small bubbles or just a few ?
  - Larger bubbles - more entropy Denef, Moore; Bena, Shigemori, Warner
- Don't people in Saclay say antibranes are bad?
  - Tachyonic ! Bad for cosmology, but not for BH !
  - Instabilities in fact expected for non-extremal black hole microstates; JMaRT (+ bubbles) has them Myers&al, Santos&al
  - D1-D5: BPS left-movers + right movers Mathur
- Can you fall through horizon drinking your coffee ?  
(as GR textbooks say) ... Or do you go splat ?
  - Analyze  $\infty$  density shells / membranes / stuff carrying d.o.f. @ horizon (kept from collapsing by the Tooth Fairy)
  - Modify gravity by weird terms and analyze horizon
  - Use actual solutions of String Theory

3  
options

# How can we observe this ?

Universal feature:

- **Low-mass degrees of freedom at horizon.**



**LIGO, eLISA:**

**Extra dissipation - different gravitational waves**  
**Distortion of the Kerr multipole moments**

# Summary and Future Directions

- String theory configurations that **hover above horizon**.  
**Topology + fluxes**  $\Leftrightarrow$  **brane polarization**  $\Leftrightarrow$  **nonabelian d.o.f.**
- **BPS black hole microstates** = horizonless solitons
  - **low-mass modes** affect **large (horizon) scales**
  - Convergence of many research directions
  - BPS **superstrata** - 2 variables - **Black Hole Entropy !**
- Extensive extremal non-BPS story
- Extend to **non-extremal** black holes
  - **Near**-extremal
    - Metastable supertubes Bena, Puhm, Verhocke
  - **Far** from extremality — 2'nd order nonlinear coupled PDE
    - **Systematic construction** Bena, Bossard, Katmadas, Turton
    - Others: numerics? inverse scattering? blackfolds?
  - Maybe start thinking about **experimental** consequences ?
    - Gravity waves
    - Supermassive BH formation easier



# Quantum Gravity in $\text{AdS}_2$

- Everybody & their brother & SYK  
Sachdev, Ye, Kitaev
- $\text{AdS}_2$  - no finite-energy excitations  
Maldacena, Strominger
- backreaction of particle in  $\text{AdS}_2$  either
  - destroys UV
  - singularity in IR  
(?  $\leftrightarrow$  SYK 4-pt. function **not** conformally invariant)
- Singularities in String Theory and AdS-CFT solved by **string and brane dynamics** involving **extra dimensions** 20 years of examples



# Quantum Gravity in $\text{AdS}_2$

- Typical microstate geometries have **long  $\text{AdS}_2$  throat**

- Limit when length  $\rightarrow \infty$

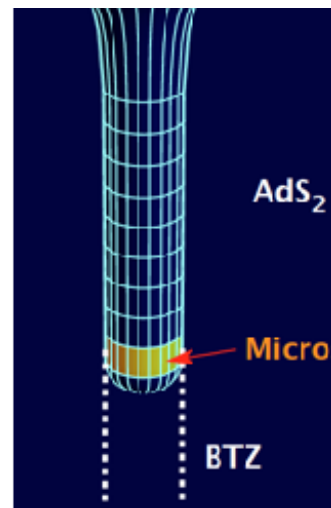
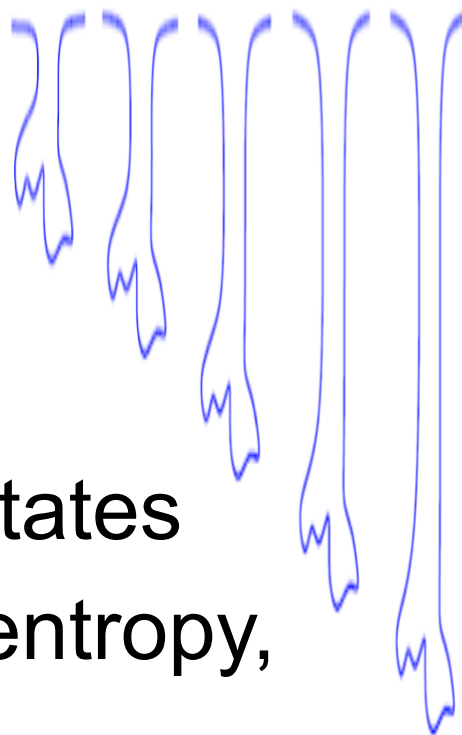
- Solutions above  $\rightarrow$  **asymptotically- $\text{AdS}_2$**

Bena, Heidmann, Turton

- **Same entropy** as microstates

- If superstrata count BH entropy, so do these solutions !

- Ground states of QM dual to  $\text{AdS}_2$  Sen



# Some speculative connections

- [A.](#) 10-yr old question: what is the dual of **pure Higgs states** ?
- Martinec: W-branes - pure Higgs entropy from condensing M2 branes wrapping 2-cycles in GH space (F1 between fluxed D6 in 10D)
- Similar to D0-D4: bi-fundamentals come from F1 between D0 and D4
  - F1's source fields in hypermultiplets of sugra.
  - Long time belief: need sugra solutions with hypermultiplets  
[Ortin, Raymaekers, Van den Bleeken](#)
  - Think deeper: hypermultiplets = **red herring**
- String emission calculations - first order in operators that correspond to going on the Higgs branch
- Going on the Higgs branch turns on **(1,1)** metric components on the  $T^6$ . Same from four-charge system [Bianchi, Morales, Pieri](#)
- Makes sense - condensation of F1 between 2 D2's bend them into each other. Source extra **(1,1)** components



# Some speculative connections

- **B.** MSW entropy counting:
- $N_1, N_2, N_3$  M5 wrapping three  $T^4$ 's inside  $T^6$ . Singular ample divisor.
- Smooth ample divisor = deformation into single M5 brane of length  $N_1 \times N_2 \times N_3$ ; sources  $(1,1)$  metric components. Expects them to be present in generic microstate
- **C.** String emission - extra field  $(1,1)$  metric on  $T^6$  Giusto, Russo, Turton
- **D.** Smoothness of superstrata - coiffuring - same field
- **E.** Function worth of MSW microstate solutions - same field
- **Five** different indications we are converging on the right ingredient.

