



# Building Quantum Space-times with BCFT Legos

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Based on works with :

**Yikun Jiang, Lin Chen, Bingxin Lao**

[2404.00877](#) , [2403.03179](#)

**Gong Cheng, Lin Chen, Zhengcheng Gu**

[2311.18005](#)

**Lin Chen, Haochen Zhang, Kaixin Ji, Ce Shen, Ruoshui Wang**

[2210.12127](#)

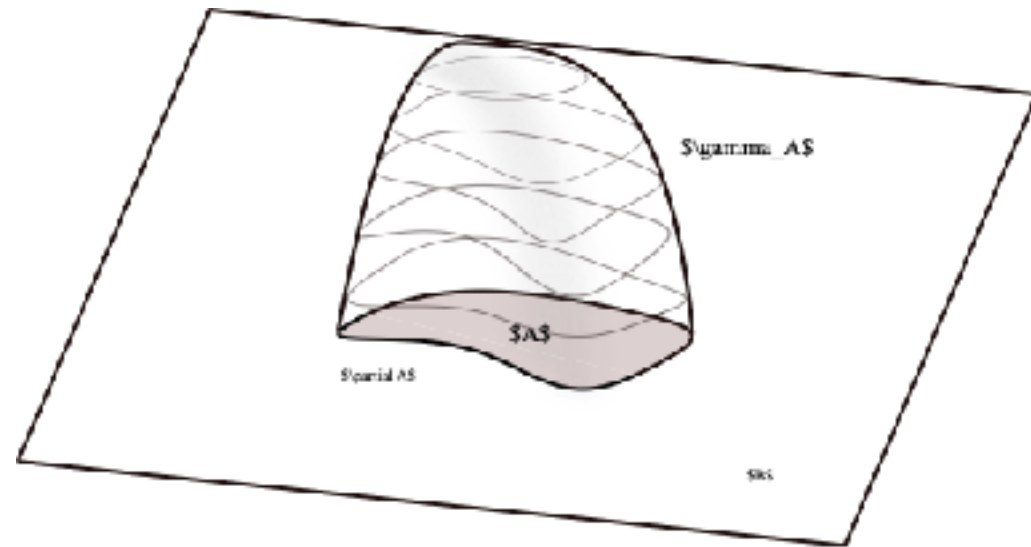


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# Many body entanglement and holographic theories

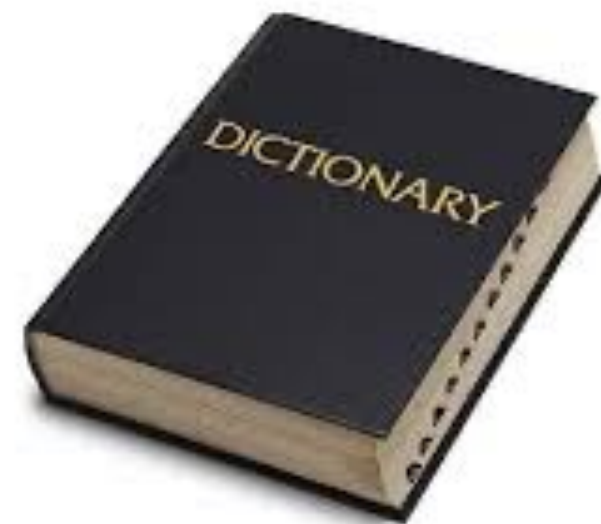
**AdS/CFT says entanglement is geometry**

Ryu-Takayanagi Formula:  
(2006)

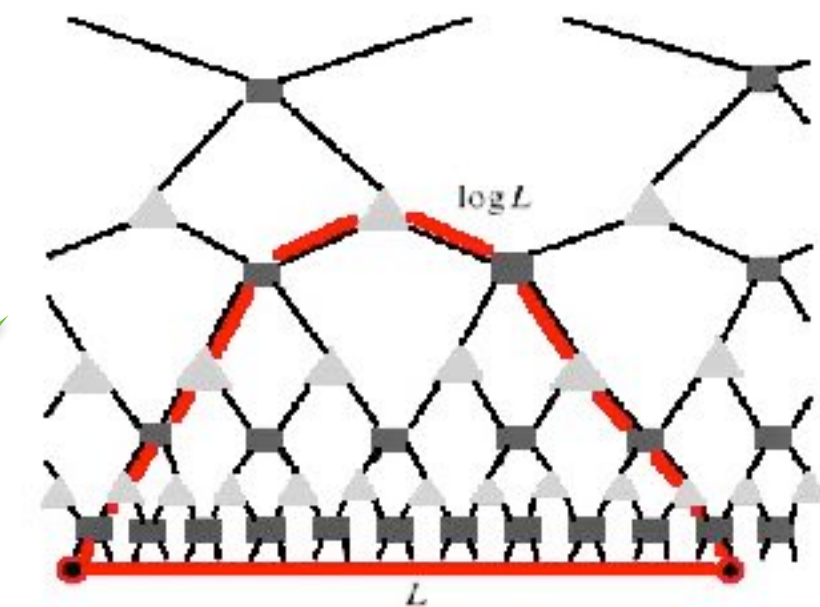


$$S_{EE} = \frac{A}{4G}$$

Tensor network is a geometrization of entanglement. It is explicitly local.



**Tensor network is a framework to construct models that realise these ideas**



Picture courtesy Orus

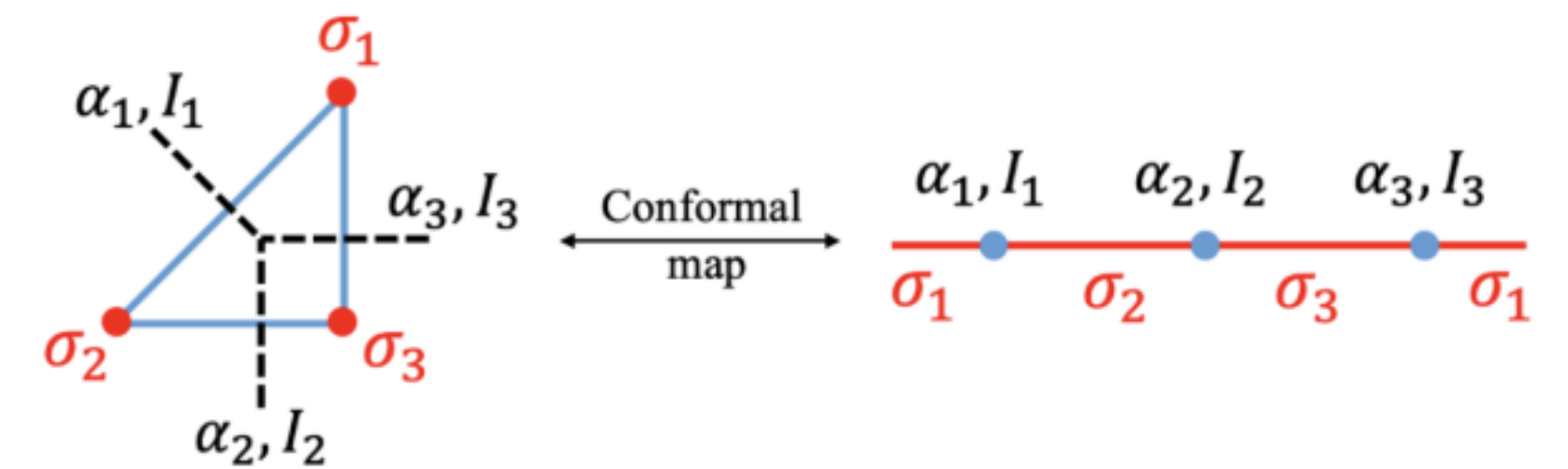
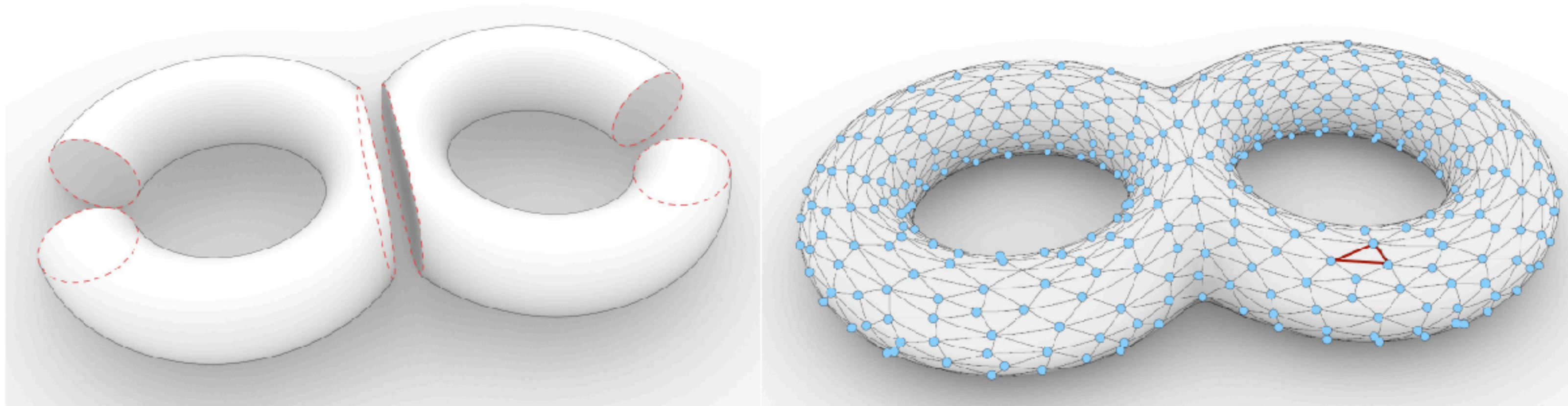
Brian Swingle (2012)

# Overview

- Step 1 Cut 2D CFT path-integral into pieces
- Step 2 Read off a 3D Bulk
- Step 3 We solved an RG fixed point problem!
- Step 4 Try Liouville CFT — it spits out a *quantum sum* of hyperbolic geometries weighted by the Einstein-Hilbert action (in the large  $c$  limit)

**Step 1: Cut 2D CFT path-integral into pieces**

# Cut a CFT into triangles



$$\mathcal{T}_{(\alpha_1, l_1)(\alpha_2, l_2)(\alpha_3, l_3)}^{\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_3}(\Delta) = C_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3}^{\sigma_3 \sigma_1 \sigma_2} \gamma_{I_1 I_2 I_3}^{\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3}(x_i, \epsilon)$$

What do we do with holes ? We want them to shrink to nothingness— this gives us the original closed string partition function.

This closing a hole business is related to this question of factorisation of CFT.

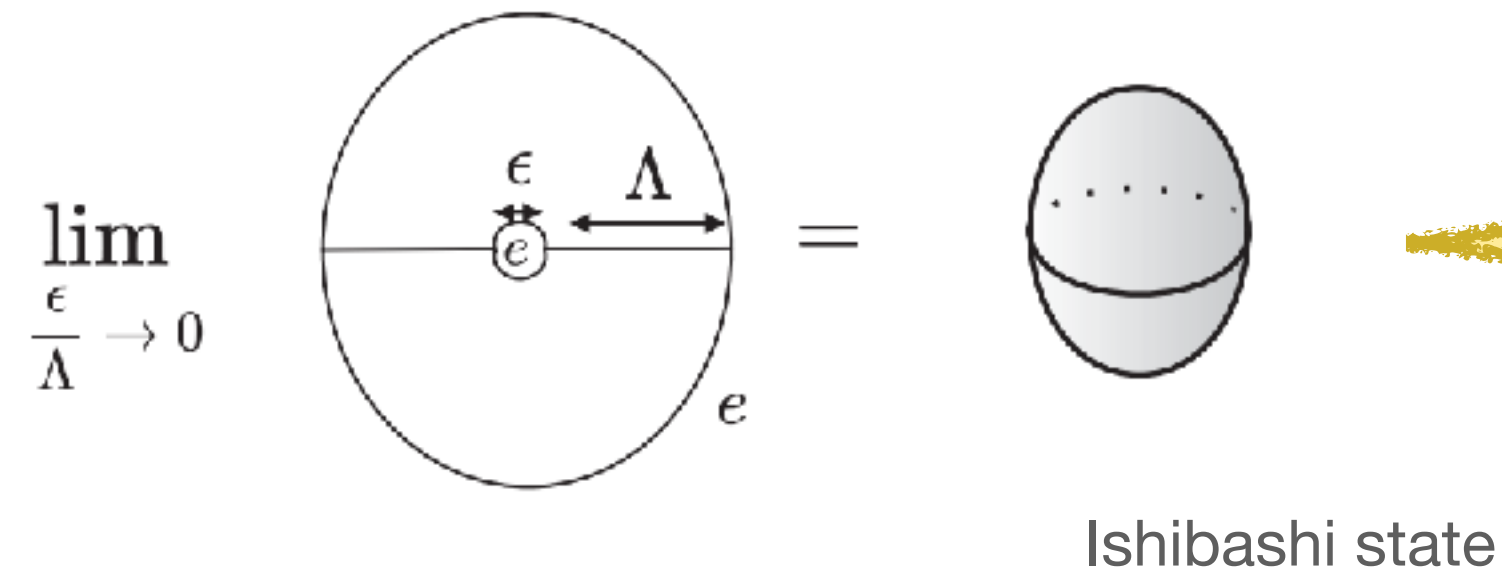
*Shrinkable bc =*

*“Entanglement Brane Boundary Condition” in RCFT*

G. Wong, LYH 2020

# CFT Factorisation and Entanglement Brane/Shrinkable Boundary

Wong, LYH 2020



The condition one would naively thought should be imposed on this boundary is that the holes should close. We therefore propose that the shrinkable boundary condition (in the closed string channel) to be the “0” Ishibashi state.

$$|a\rangle = \sum_b S_{ba} / \sqrt{S_{b0}} |b\rangle$$

quantum dimension of sector a

$$|e\rangle\rangle = \sum_a c_a |a\rangle$$

$$c_a = \sqrt{S_{00} S_{a0}}$$

$$S_{a0} = d_a / D$$

total quantum dimension

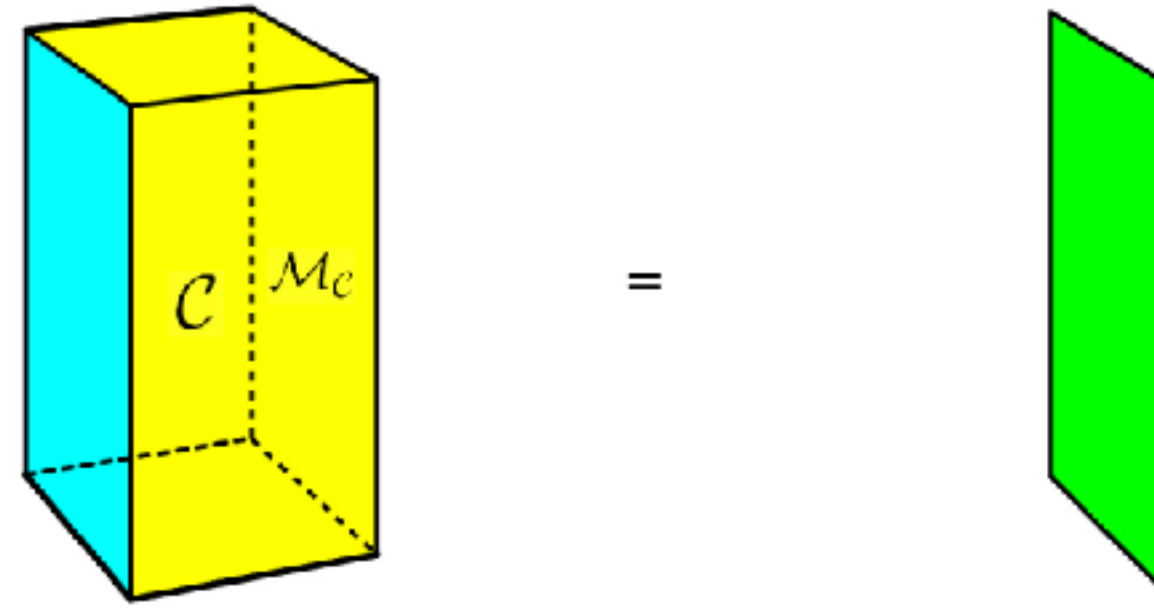
$$Z = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \sum_{\sigma_i} \prod_v (\omega_{v(\sigma_i)} e^{-\frac{\pi \epsilon}{6\epsilon}}) \sum_{\alpha_i} \sum_{\{I_i\}} \prod_{\Delta} \mathcal{T}_{(\alpha_1, I_1)(\alpha_2, I_2)(\alpha_3, I_3)}^{\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_3}(\Delta)$$



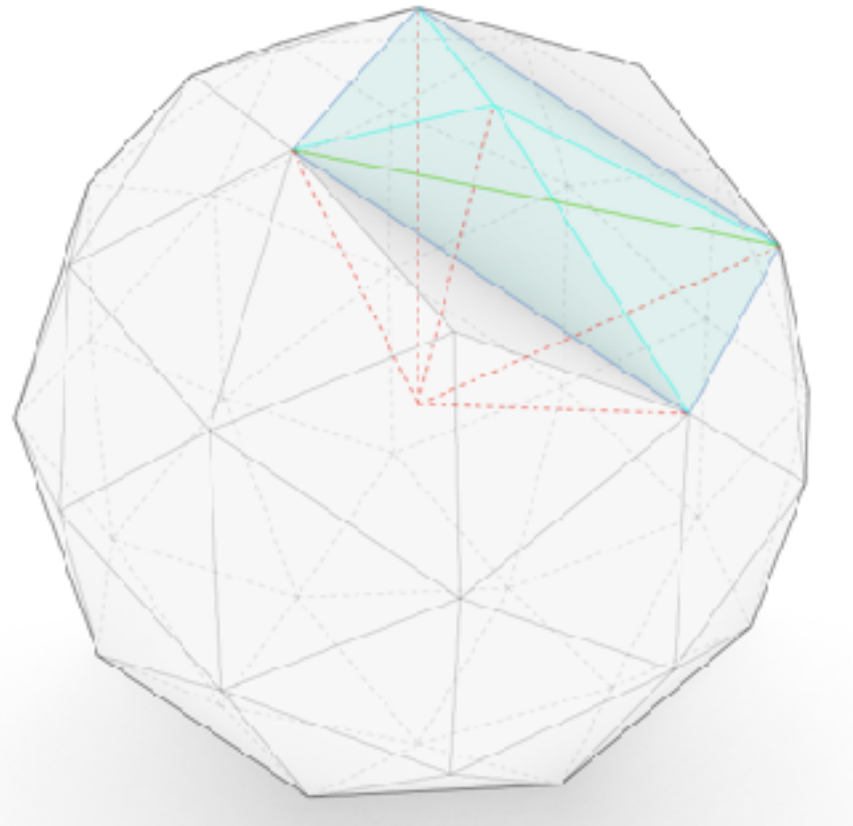
Check with a cylinder in Ising  
[2311.18005](https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.18005)

**Step 2: Read off a 3D Bulk**

# Read off a 3D Bulk



Sandwich and symmetry QFT:  
 Kong, Zheng;  
 D. Gaiotto and J. Kulp;  
 W. Ji and X.-G. Wen;  
 F. Apruzzi, F. Bonetti,  
 Garcia Etxebarria, S. S. Hosseini, and  
 S. Schafer-Nameki;  
 D. S. Freed, G. W. Moore, and C. Teleman



$$Z = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \sum_{\sigma_i} \prod_v \left( \omega_{v(\sigma_i)} e^{-\frac{\pi c}{6\epsilon}} \right) \sum_{\alpha_i} \sum_{\{I_i\}} \prod_{\Delta} \mathcal{T}_{(\alpha_1, I_1)(\alpha_2, I_2)(\alpha_3, I_3)}^{\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_3}(\Delta)$$

$$Z = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \langle \Omega | \Psi \rangle$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{(\alpha_1, I_1)(\alpha_2, I_2)(\alpha_3, I_3)}^{\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_3}(\Delta) = C_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3}^{\sigma_3 \sigma_1 \sigma_2} \gamma_{I_1 I_2 I_3}^{\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3}(x_i, \epsilon) \quad \hat{C}_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3}^{\sigma_3 \sigma_1 \sigma_2; \text{Racah}} = (d_{\alpha_1} d_{\alpha_2} d_{\alpha_3})^{1/4} \begin{Bmatrix} \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_3 \\ \sigma_3 & \sigma_1 & \sigma_2 \end{Bmatrix}$$

Fuchs, Runkel Schweigert 2000s

$$\langle \Omega | = \sum_{\alpha_i, I_i} \langle \{\alpha_i\} | \prod_{\Delta} \hat{\gamma}_{I_1 I_2 I_3}^{\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3}$$

$$| \Psi \rangle = \prod_v \sum_{\sigma_i, \alpha_i} \sqrt{d_{\alpha_i}} \left( \omega_{v(\sigma_i)} e^{-\frac{\pi c}{6\epsilon}} \right) \prod_{\Delta} \begin{Bmatrix} \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_3 \\ \sigma_3 & \sigma_1 & \sigma_2 \end{Bmatrix} | \{\alpha_i\} \rangle$$



**Step 3: This is an RG fixed point**

# Generalised Symmetry Preserving RG and Their Fixed Point

A lattice integrable model can also be written in this form:  
 R. Vanhove, M. Bal, D. J. Williamson, N. Bultinck, J. Haegeman, and  
 F. Verstraete;  
 D. Aasen, P. Fendley, and R. S. K. Mong

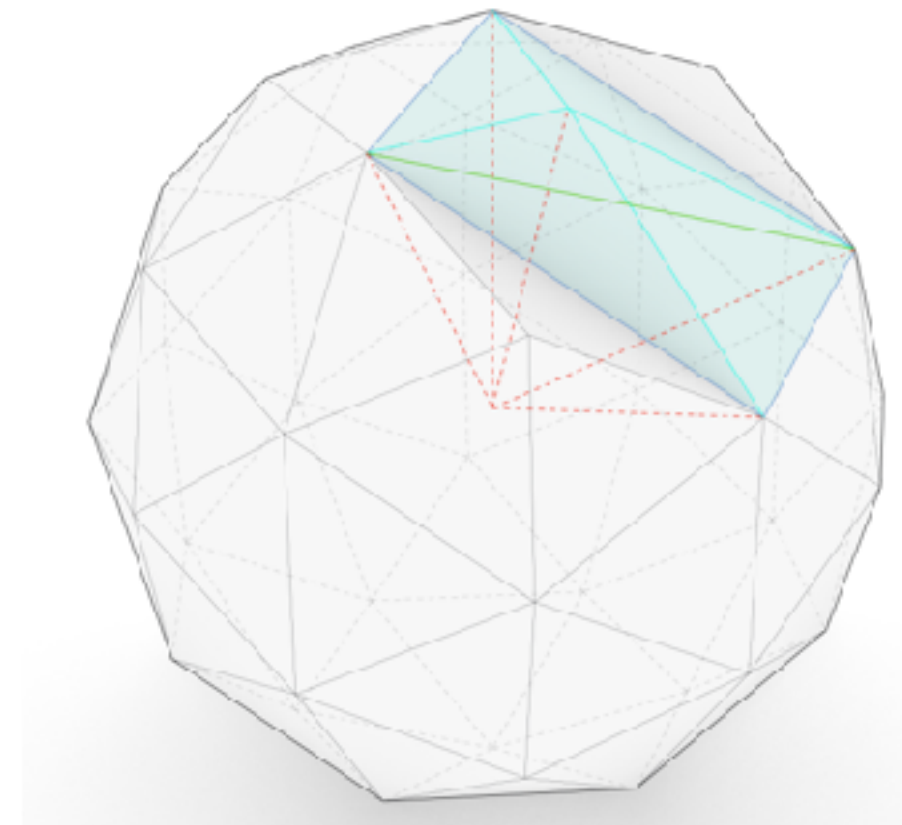
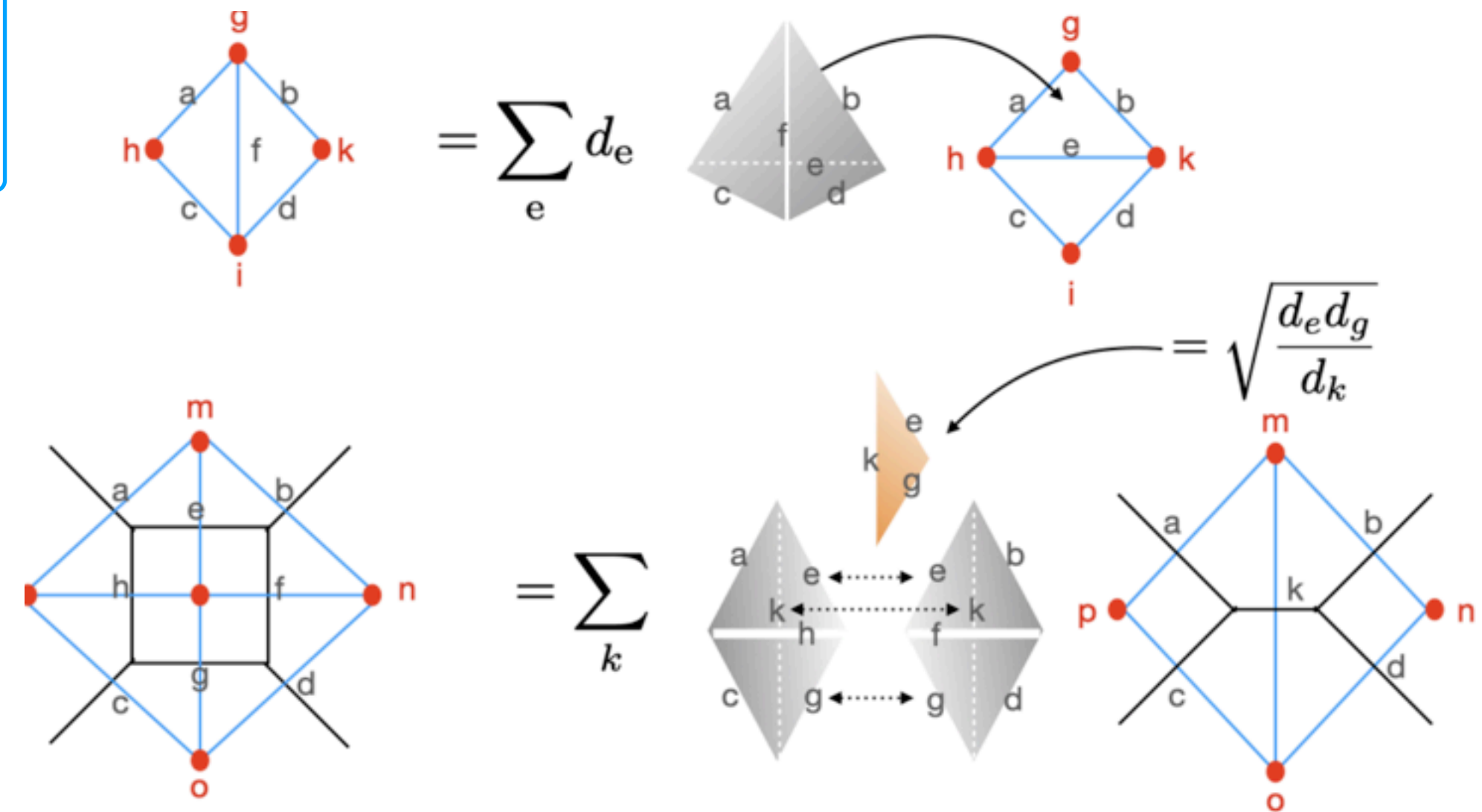
$$\langle \Omega_N | \Psi_a^{LW} \rangle$$

$$|\Psi\rangle_\Lambda = U |\Psi\rangle_{\sqrt{2}\Lambda}$$

$$\langle \Omega_N | FF | \Psi_{ka}^{LW} \rangle = \langle \Omega_{N-1} | \Psi_{ka}^{LW} \rangle$$

CFT is an eigenstate of the RG operator.

$$\sqrt{2}\Lambda \langle \Omega | =_\Lambda \langle \Omega | U$$

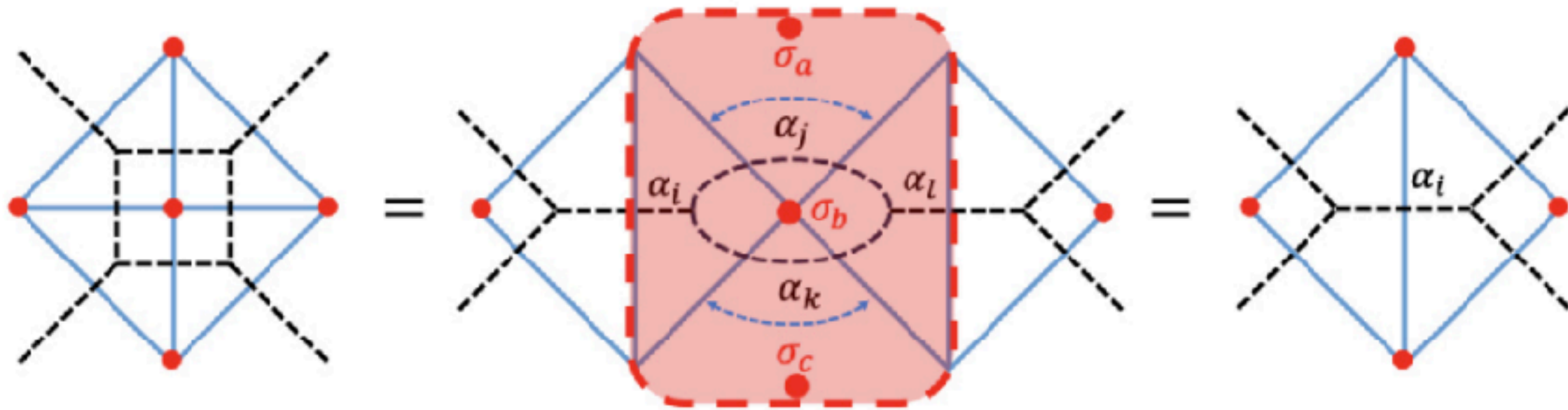


# Step 4: Liouville Theory and Quantum *Gravity*

# Liouville CFT - Closing Holes

Ponsot, Teschner

$$\Phi_{\alpha}^{\sigma_1 \sigma_2}(x) \quad \sigma \equiv Q/2 + iP_{\sigma}, \quad \alpha \equiv Q/2 + iP_{\alpha} \quad C_{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3}^{\sigma_3, \sigma_1, \sigma_2} = \frac{(\mu(P_{\alpha_1})\mu(P_{\alpha_2})\mu(P_{\alpha_3}))^{1/4}}{2^{3/8} \sqrt{\gamma_0} \Gamma_b(Q)} \\ \times \sqrt{C(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3)} \left\{ \begin{matrix} \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_3 \\ \sigma_3 & \sigma_1 & \sigma_2 \end{matrix} \right\}_b$$



$$\mu(P) = 4\sqrt{2} \sinh(2\pi P b) \sinh\left(\frac{2\pi P}{b}\right). \quad \mathcal{U}_q(SL(2, \mathbb{R}))$$

Weight the hole with the Plancherel measure

$$\int_0^{\infty} dP_{\alpha_j} dP_{\alpha_k} dP_{\sigma_b} \mu(P_{\sigma_b}) C_{\alpha_i, \alpha_j, \alpha_k}^{\sigma_b, \sigma_c, \sigma_a} C_{\alpha_j, \alpha_l, \alpha_k}^{\sigma_c, \sigma_b, \sigma_a} \begin{matrix} \alpha_j \\ \circlearrowleft \tau \\ \alpha_k \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \alpha_i & \alpha_l \\ \circlearrowright 1 \\ -1/\tau \end{matrix} = \delta(P_{\alpha_i} - P_{\alpha_l}) \frac{2^{\frac{1}{4}}}{c_b} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{\gamma_0} \Gamma_b(Q)} \right)^2$$

# Reading off the bulk

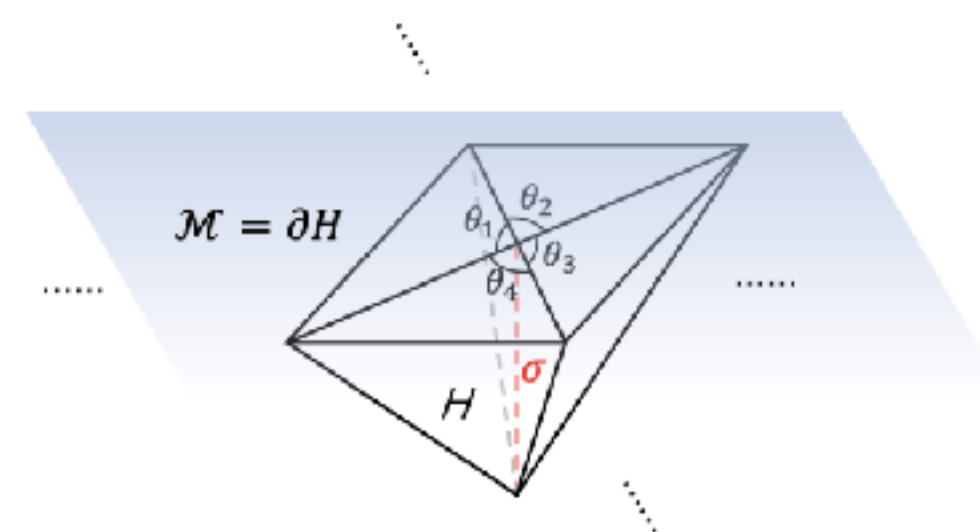
$$Z_{Liouville} = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \prod_v \int_0^\infty dP_{\sigma_i(v)} (\mathcal{N}(\epsilon) \mu(P_{\sigma_i(v)})) \times \\ \prod_i \int_0^\infty dP_{\alpha_i} \sum_{\{I_i\}} \prod_{\Delta} \mathcal{T}_{(\alpha_1, I_1)(\alpha_2, I_2)(\alpha_3, I_3)}^{\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_3}(\Delta),$$

$$Z_{Liouville} = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \langle \Omega | \Psi_{\mathcal{U}_q(SL(2, \mathbb{R}))} \rangle.$$

$$|\Psi_{\mathcal{U}_q(SL(2, \mathbb{R}))}\rangle = \prod_i \int_0^\infty dP_{\alpha_i} \sqrt{\mu(P_{\alpha_i})} \prod_v \int_0^\infty dP_{\sigma_v} \\ (\mathcal{N}(\epsilon) \mu(P_{\sigma_v})) \prod_{\Delta} \left\{ \begin{matrix} \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_3 \\ \sigma_3 & \sigma_1 & \sigma_2 \end{matrix} \right\}_b | \{\alpha_i\} \rangle,$$

$$\langle \Omega | = \prod_i \int_0^\infty dP_{\alpha_i} \sum_{\{I_i\}} \langle \{\alpha_i\} | \prod_{\Delta} (\tilde{\gamma}_{I_1 I_2 I_3}^{\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3}(\epsilon)).$$

# Reading off the bulk



Kashaev;  
Teschner;  
Cotlier, Eberhardt, Zhang

$$\lim_{b \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \frac{\theta_1}{2\pi b}, \frac{\theta_2}{2\pi b}, \frac{\theta_3}{2\pi b}, \frac{\theta_4}{2\pi b}, \frac{\theta_5}{2\pi b}, \frac{\theta_6}{2\pi b} \right\}_b$$

$$= \exp \left( - \frac{V(\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4, \theta_5, \theta_6)}{\pi b^2} \right)$$

$$\lim_{b \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \frac{Q}{2} + i \frac{l_4}{2\pi b}, \frac{Q}{2} + i \frac{l_5}{2\pi b}, \frac{Q}{2} + i \frac{l_6}{2\pi b}, \frac{Q}{2} + i \frac{l_1}{2\pi b}, \frac{Q}{2} + i \frac{l_2}{2\pi b}, \frac{Q}{2} + i \frac{l_3}{2\pi b} \right\}_b$$

$$= \exp \left( - \frac{V(\pi - il_4, \pi - il_5, \pi - il_6, \pi - il_1, \pi - il_2, \pi - il_3)}{\pi b^2} \right)$$

$$= \exp \left( - \frac{\text{Vol}(T\{l_i\}) + \sum_i l_i \theta_i / 2}{\pi b^2} \right)$$

Murakami

$$\text{Vol}(T) = V(\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4, \theta_5, \theta_6) = V_l - \sum_i l_i \partial_{l_i} V_l,$$

$$V_l \equiv V(\pi - il_4, \pi - il_5, \pi - il_6, \pi - il_1, \pi - il_2, \pi - il_3).$$

$$\theta_i = 2\partial_{l_i} V_l \quad \text{mod } 2\pi.$$

$$S_{EH} = - \frac{1}{16\pi G_N} \int_H d^3x \sqrt{g} (R - 2\Lambda) = \frac{V(H)}{4\pi G_N} = \frac{V(H)}{\pi b^2},$$

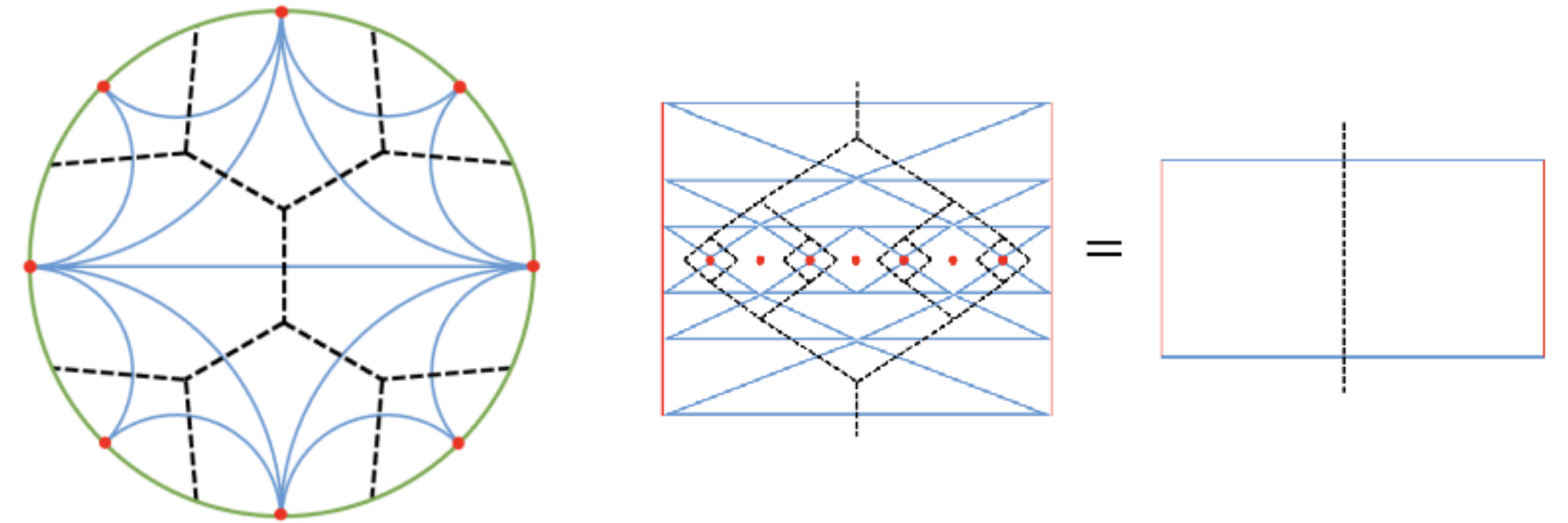
$$\sum_i \frac{\theta_i l_i}{2\pi b^2} = \sum_i \frac{\theta_i l_i}{8\pi G_N} = \frac{1}{8\pi G_N} \sum_i \int_{\Gamma_i} \theta_i \sqrt{h},$$

Gibbons Hawking Term

$$\exp(-S_{EH} + \frac{\sum_e (2\pi - \Theta_e) l_e}{8\pi G_N} + \text{surface terms on } \partial H)$$

# Conclusion and Outlook

- UV Cutoff and  $\bar{T}T$ ?  $P_k^* = \frac{1}{2b\epsilon}$ .
- Wavefunctions and “perfect tensors” ?
- JT gravity?
- Black Holes?
- Other theories — minimal models ?
- Higher Dimensions?



**Thank you!**