

# The gravitational path integral for N=4 BPS black holes from black hole microstate counting

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arXiv:2007.10302, 2112.10023, 2211.06873



# BPS black holes in string theory

Black holes: **gravitational solutions** to Einstein's field equations.



Behave as **thermodynamic systems w/ entropy**:  
(Bekenstein+Hawking in the 70's)

$$S_{BH} = \frac{A_H}{4} + c_1 \log A_H + \frac{c_2}{A_H} + \dots \quad (\text{area of event horizon})$$

**Boltzmann**: black hole microstates  $S_{BH} = \log d$  ,  $d \in \mathbb{N}$

**Central question in quantum gravity**: microstates ?  $d$ ?

**Four-dimensional BPS black holes in  $N = 4$  heterotic string theory**:



$$d(m, n, \ell) , \quad m, n, \ell \in \mathbb{Z} \quad , \quad \Delta \equiv 4mn - \ell^2 > 0$$

$$\log d(m, n, \ell) = \pi \sqrt{\Delta} + \dots = \frac{A_H}{4} + \dots$$

# BPS black holes in string theory

- Heterotic string theory compactified on a six-torus:

$\frac{1}{4}$  BPS black holes with unit torsion.

- BPS: supersymmetric. Asymptotically flat black holes.

- Single-centre black holes. Near horizon geometry is  $AdS_2 \times S^2$ ,

$$ds_4^2 = v_* \left( -r^2 - 1) dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{(r^2 - 1)} + d\Omega_2^2 \right)$$

- Dyonic black holes:

electric-magnetic charges  $(q_I, p^I)$  (several Maxwell fields  $F^I$ ),

charge bilinears  $m = p \cdot p$ ,  $n = q \cdot q$ ,  $\ell = q \cdot p$

- Supported by complex scalar fields  $Y^I$ .

Attractor mechanism: near horizon geometry supported by constant scalar fields  $Y^I(q, p)$ .  $S_{BH}(q, p)$ .

# Three approaches to BPS black hole entropy



## 1 Number theory:

$d(m, n, \ell)$ : **meromorphic Siegel modular form**.  
Exact expression as a **Rademacher type expansion**.  
C, Nampuri, Rosselló, arXiv: 2112.10023

## 2 Quantum entropy function: Ashoke Sen, arXiv:0805.0095

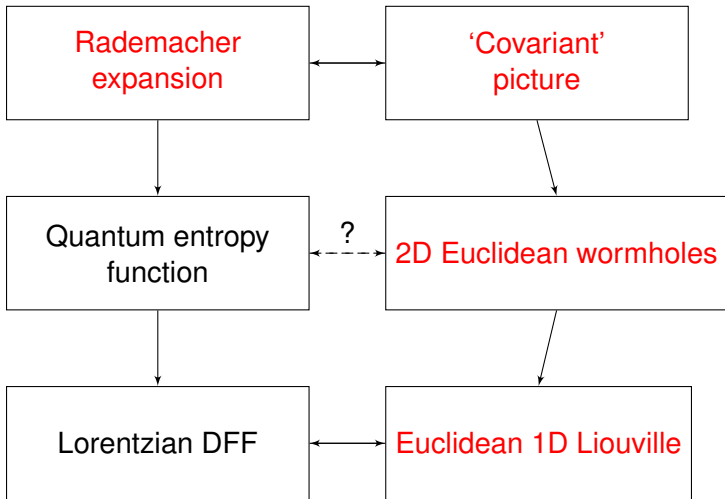
$d(m, n, \ell)$  from a **quantum gravity path integral**:  
sum over space-time geometries that asymptote  
to a **product geometry  $AdS_2 \times S^2$** .

## 3 Conformal quantum mechanics:

$AdS_2/CFT_1$  correspondence: Maldacena, arXiv:9711200  
 $d(m, n, \ell)$  from a **conformal quantum mechanics model (DFF model)**.  
de Alfaro, Fubini, Furlan, 1976



# Three approaches to BPS black hole entropy



The 'covariant' picture suggests a space-time interpretation involving **2D wormholes** in  $AdS_2$ . Lin, Maldacena, Rozenberg, Shan, arXiv:2207.00408

# Number theory: meromorphic Siegel modular form

**Heterotic string theory** on  $T^6$ :  $\frac{1}{4}$  BPS states with unit torsion.

Microstate degeneracies  $d(m, n, \ell)$  given in terms of the **Fourier coefficients** of  $1/\Phi_{10}$ .  $\Phi_{10}$  Igusa cusp form of weight 10.

Dijkgraaf, Verlinde, Verlinde, arXiv: 9607026

$$d(m, n, \ell) = \int_C d\sigma dv d\rho \frac{e^{-2\pi i(m\rho + n\sigma + \ell v)}}{\Phi_{10}(\rho, \sigma, v)}$$

**Three contour integrations.** Since  $1/\Phi_{10}$  is **meromorphic** Siegel modular form,  $d(m, n, \ell)$  depends on the **choice of the integration contour  $C$** .  $\Delta = 4mn - \ell^2$ .

$1/\Phi_{10}$  captures degeneracies of **single-centre ( $\Delta > 0$ )** as well as of **two-centre black holes ( $\Delta < 0$ )**. Ashoke Sen, arXiv:0705.3874

Need to select a contour  $C$  that only captures **single-centre** degeneracies  $d(m, n, \ell)$ , with  $\Delta > 0$ .

# Siegel modular form of degree 2

Siegel's upper half plane  $\mathcal{H}_2$ :

$$\mathcal{H}_2 = \{\Omega \in \text{Mat}(2 \times 2, \mathbb{C}) : \Omega^T = \Omega, \text{Im}\Omega > 0\}$$

$$\Omega = \begin{pmatrix} \rho & \nu \\ \nu & \sigma \end{pmatrix}, \quad \rho_2 > 0, \sigma_2 > 0, \det(\text{Im}\Omega) > 0$$

Siegel modular group  $\text{Sp}(4, \mathbb{Z})$  acts on  $\mathcal{H}_2$  as

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \in \text{Sp}(4, \mathbb{Z}), \quad A^T D - C^T B = I_2$$

$$\Omega \mapsto \Omega' = (A\Omega + B)(C\Omega + D)^{-1}, \quad (\rho, \sigma, \nu) \mapsto (\rho', \sigma', \nu')$$

A Siegel modular form  $\Phi_k$  of weight  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  is a holomorphic function

$$\Phi_k : \mathcal{H}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \quad \text{s.t.}$$

$$\Phi_k((A\Omega + B)(C\Omega + D)^{-1}) = \det(C\Omega + D)^k \Phi_k(\Omega)$$

# Poles of $1/\Phi_{10}$

Poles of  $1/\Phi_{10}$  labelled by 5 integers  $(n_1, n_2, j, m_1, m_2)$  with  $n_2 \geq 0$ :

$$n_2(\rho\sigma - \nu^2) + j\nu + n_1\sigma - m_1\rho + m_2 = 0 \quad , \quad m_1n_1 + m_2n_2 = \frac{1}{4}(1 - j^2)$$

Parametrized in terms of **two distinct**  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  subgroups of  $Sp(4, \mathbb{Z})$ :

$$\Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \quad , \quad G = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$$

and  $\Sigma \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} n_2 &= -ac\gamma \quad , \quad n_1 = -bd\alpha - \gamma\Sigma \\ m_1 &= ac\delta \quad , \quad m_2 = -bd\beta - \delta\Sigma \quad , \quad j = ad + bc \quad , \end{aligned}$$

**Two types:** quadratic ( $n_2 > 0$ ) and linear ( $n_2 = 0$ ) poles.

**Linear poles:** Decay of BH bound state when crossing

$$j\nu_2 + n_1\sigma_2 - m_1\rho_2 = 0.$$



# Poles of $1/\Phi_{10}$

**Idea:** Evaluate the **first integral** (over  $\rho$ ) as a sum over **residues** associated with the **quadratic poles**  $n_2 > 0$  located in the **Siegel upper half plane**  $\mathcal{H}_2$ .

This is achieved by mapping the quadratic poles to the **linear pole**  $v' = 0$  using the two **two distinct**  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  subgroups.

Under this map  $\frac{1}{\Phi_{10}(\rho, \sigma, v)} = (\gamma\sigma + \delta)^{10} \frac{1}{\Phi_{10}(\rho', \sigma', v')}$

At the linear pole  $v' = 0$ ,

$$\frac{1}{\Phi_{10}(\rho', \sigma', v')} = -\frac{1}{4\pi^2} \frac{1}{v'^2} \frac{1}{\eta^{24}(\rho')} \frac{1}{\eta^{24}(\sigma')} + \mathcal{O}(v'^0)$$

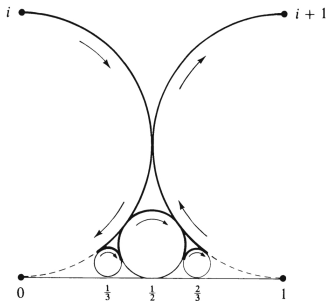
The linear pole  $v' = 0$  has to **lie the Siegel upper half plane**, hence  $\text{Im}\rho' > 0, \text{Im}\sigma' > 0$ .

# Rademacher path

**Steps:** 1) Evaluate the **first integral** (over  $\rho$ ) as a sum over **residues** associated with the quadratic poles  $n_2 > 0$ .

2) The integration contour for  $v$  is determined by the conditions  $\text{Im}\rho' > 0, \text{Im}\sigma' > 0$ .

3) The locus of the quadratic poles ( $n_2 > 0$ ) fixes the integration contour for  $\sigma$  to be **a union of Ford circles**, anchored at rational points  $0 \leq -\delta/\gamma < 1$ .



Replace horizontal segment by Rademacher path  $\Gamma_N$  composed of the upper arcs of **Ford circles**. Then  $N \rightarrow \infty$ : infinite sum of integrals over Ford circles.

**Rademacher contour** for  $N = 3$ .

# Rademacher expansion: a classic example

Dedekind's eta function  $\eta : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  :  $\eta^{24}(q) = q \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^m)^{24}$

Meromorphic modular form of weight  $k = -12$ :  $q = e^{2\pi i\tau}$ ,  $\text{Im } \tau > 0$

$$\frac{1}{\eta^{24}(\tau)} = \sum_{n=-1}^{\infty} d(n) e^{2\pi i n \tau} \quad , \quad d(n) = \int_{\mathcal{Z}}^{z+1} \frac{e^{-2\pi i n \tau}}{\eta^{24}(\tau)} d\tau \quad , \quad n > 0$$

Polar coefficient:  $d(-1) = 1$ . For  $n > 0$ , modular properties:

$$\eta^{-24}(\tau) = (c\tau + d)^{-12} \eta^{-24}\left(\frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}\right)$$

$$d(n) = \int_{\mathcal{Z}}^{z+1} \frac{e^{-2\pi i n \tau}}{\eta^{24}(\tau)} d\tau = d(-1) \frac{2\pi}{n^{13/2}} \sum_{c>0} \frac{K(n, -1, c)}{c} I_{13}\left(\frac{4\pi\sqrt{n}}{c}\right)$$

Rademacher expansion: polar coefficients, classical Kloosterman sums  $K$ , Bessel functions  $I_{13}$

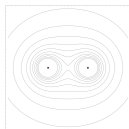
Uses: modular symmetry  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ , Ford circles.

# Exact expression for $d(m, n, \ell)$ with $\Delta = 4mn - \ell^2 > 0$

**Theorem:**  $d(m, n, \ell) \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\tilde{\Delta} = 4m\tilde{n} - \tilde{\ell}^2 < 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 d(m, n, \ell) = & (-1)^{\ell+1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{+\infty} \sum_{\substack{\tilde{\ell} \in \mathbb{Z}/2m\mathbb{Z} \\ \tilde{n} \geq -1, \\ \tilde{\Delta} < 0}} \left( 2\pi \sum_{\substack{\tilde{n} \geq -1, \\ \tilde{\Delta} < 0}} c_m^F(\tilde{n}, \tilde{\ell}) \frac{\text{Kl}\left(\frac{\Delta}{4m}, \frac{\tilde{\Delta}}{4m}, \gamma, \psi\right)_{\ell\tilde{\ell}}}{\gamma} \left(\frac{|\tilde{\Delta}|}{\Delta}\right)^{23/4} I_{23/2} \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma m} \sqrt{|\tilde{\Delta}|}\right) \right. \\
 & - \delta_{\tilde{\ell}, 0} \sqrt{2m} d(m) \frac{\text{Kl}\left(\frac{\Delta}{4m}, -1; \gamma, \psi\right)_{\ell 0}}{\sqrt{\gamma}} \left(\frac{4m}{\Delta}\right)^6 I_{12} \left(\frac{2\pi}{\gamma} \sqrt{\frac{\Delta}{m}}\right) \\
 & \left. + \frac{1}{2\pi} d(m) \sum_{\substack{g \in \mathbb{Z}/2m\gamma\mathbb{Z} \\ g = \tilde{\ell} \bmod 2m}} \frac{\text{Kl}\left(\frac{\Delta}{4m}, -1 - \frac{g^2}{4m}; \gamma, \psi\right)_{\ell\tilde{\ell}}}{\gamma^2} \right. \\
 & \left. \left(\frac{4m}{\Delta}\right)^{25/4} \int_{-1/\sqrt{m}}^{1/\sqrt{m}} dx' f_{\gamma, g, m}(x') (1 - mx'^2)^{25/4} I_{25/2} \left(\frac{2\pi}{\gamma\sqrt{m}} \sqrt{\Delta(1 - mx'^2)}\right) \right),
 \end{aligned}$$

with



$$\begin{aligned}
 c_m^F(\tilde{n}, \tilde{\ell}) = & \sum_{\substack{a > 0, c < 0 \\ b \in \mathbb{Z}/a\mathbb{Z}, ad - bc = 1 \\ 0 \leq \frac{b}{a} + \frac{\tilde{\ell}}{2m} < -\frac{1}{ac}}} \left( (ad + bc)\tilde{\ell} + 2ac\tilde{n} + 2bdm \right) d(c^2\tilde{n} + d^2m + cd\tilde{\ell}) d(a^2\tilde{n} + b^2m + ab\tilde{\ell}) \\
 \frac{1}{\eta^{24}(\tau)} = & \sum_{n=-1}^{\infty} d(n) e^{2\pi i \tau n}, \quad \text{two } SL(2, \mathbb{Z})
 \end{aligned}$$

# Exact Rademacher type expansion for $1/\Phi_{10}$

## Area law:

$$\gamma = 1, \tilde{n} = -1, \tilde{\ell} = m: \quad d(m, n, \ell) \approx e^{\pi\sqrt{\Delta}} = e^{\frac{1}{4}A_H}$$

Rademacher type expansion that we obtained arises as:

- A sum over **residues of the quadratic poles** of  $1/\Phi_{10}$
- Expansion uses **two**  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  subgroups
- Integration contour: uses **Ford circles** (integral over  $\sigma$ )
- Expansion encoded in **degeneracies of the perturbative  $\frac{1}{2}$  BPS states!**  $c_m^F(\tilde{n}, \tilde{\ell}) = \sum L d(M) d(N)$  **bound state degeneracy**
- Contributions  $I_{12}$  and  $I_{25/2}$ : reflect underlying **Mock modular** behaviour that is encoded in the **Fourier-Jacobi decomposition** of  $1/\Phi_{10}$ ,

$$\frac{1}{\Phi_{10}(\rho, \sigma, \nu)} = \sum_{m=-1}^{\infty} \psi_m(\sigma, \nu) e^{2\pi i m \rho}$$

# 'Covariant picture'

Integrate  $1/\Phi_{10}$  over  $\rho$ , add **total derivative term** that vanishes on **integration contour**, change of variables  $(\sigma, \nu) \rightarrow (\tau_1, \tau_2)$ :

$$d(m, n, \ell)_{\Delta > 0} = \sum_{SL^2(2, \mathbb{Z}), \Sigma} \frac{e^{i\pi\varphi}}{\gamma} \frac{1}{(ac)^{13}} \int_{\Gamma_2} \frac{d\tau_2}{\tau_2^2} \left( \int_{\Gamma_1} d\tau_1 f(\tau_1, \tau_2) \right)$$

$$f(\tau_1, \tau_2) = \left[ 26 + \frac{2\pi}{n_2} \frac{(m(\tau_1^2 + \tau_2^2) + n - \ell\tau_1)}{\tau_2} \right] \frac{e^{\frac{\pi}{n_2} \frac{m(\tau_1^2 + \tau_2^2) + n - \ell\tau_1}{\tau_2}}}{\eta^{24}(\rho'_*) \eta^{24}(\sigma'_*) \tau_2^2}$$

$$\rho'_* = -\frac{a}{c} \frac{\tau_1 + i\tau_2}{\gamma} - \frac{b}{c} \frac{\alpha}{\gamma} - \frac{a}{c} \Sigma$$

$$\varphi = \frac{2}{n_2} \left( -\frac{1}{2} j\ell - m_1 n + n_1 m \right)$$

$$\Gamma_1 : \quad \tau_1 = \frac{\ell}{2m} + i\tau_2(-1 + 2y) \quad , \quad 0 < y < 1$$

$$\Gamma_2 : \quad \tau_2 = \frac{\sqrt{\Delta}}{2m} + it \quad , \quad -\infty < t < \infty$$

## S-duality invariance:

invariance under the T-generator of  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  manifest:

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & s \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad s \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$m = p \cdot p \rightarrow m,$$

$$n = q \cdot q \rightarrow n - sl + s^2 m$$

$$l = q \cdot p \rightarrow l - 2sm$$

$$m_1 \rightarrow m_1, \quad n_1 \rightarrow n_1 - sj - s^2 m_1, \quad j \rightarrow j + 2sm_1$$

$$m_2 \rightarrow m_2, \quad n_2 \rightarrow n_2$$

# Quantum entropy function

Reproduce  $d(m, n, \ell)$  by a suitable quantum gravity path integral, **quantum entropy function (QEF)**. Ashoke Sen, arXiv:0805.0095, 0809.3304

- Functional integral over all fields in string theory in an **Euclidean background  $B$**  that asymptotes to a specific **Euclidean  $AdS_2 \times S^2$  solution** fixed by the attractor mechanism.  $W = \sum_B W_B$
- Background  $B$ : supported by Abelian gauge potentials  $A^I$ , constant complex scalar fields  $Y^I$
- Using supersymmetric localization: QEF is a finite-dimensional integral over  $\{\phi^I\}$ , where  $Y^I = \frac{1}{2}(\phi^I + i\rho^I)$ . Dabholkar, Gomes, Murthy, 2010
- **QEF**  $\rightarrow$  **Rademacher** picture.  $c_m^F(\tilde{n}, \tilde{\ell})$  in measure.

**Macroscopic interpretation** of ‘**covariant picture**’:

- **Saddle point analysis:**  $\tau_* = (\tau_1 + i\tau_2)_* = \frac{\ell}{2m} + i\frac{\sqrt{\Delta}}{2m}$

$$\frac{\pi}{n_2} \frac{(m(\tau_1^2 + \tau_2^2) + n - \ell\tau_1)}{\tau_2} \Big|_* + \pi i\varphi = \frac{1}{n_2} \left[ \frac{A_H}{4} + 2\pi i \left( -\frac{1}{2}j\ell - m_1 n + n_1 m \right) \right]$$



# Macroscopic interpretation of 'covariant picture'

- **Semi-classical interpretation** in terms of sums over space-time backgrounds:  $\mathbb{Z}_{n_2}$  orbifolds of Euclidean  $AdS_2 \times S^2$

$$ds^2 = v_* \left( (r^2 - 1) d\theta^2 + \frac{dr^2}{r^2 - 1} + d\psi^2 + \sin^2 \psi d\phi^2 \right)$$
$$0 \leq \theta < \frac{2\pi}{n_2}, \quad 0 \leq \phi < \frac{2\pi}{n_2},$$

supported by gauge potentials  $A'_\theta$  that acquire a **constant real part** when orbifolding,

$$A'_\theta = -ie'_* (r - 1) d\theta + \text{Re}A'_\theta$$

$$\frac{1}{n_2} \left[ \frac{A_H}{4} + \pi i (q \cdot \text{Re}A_\theta - p \cdot \text{Re}\tilde{A}_\theta) \right]$$

$(\text{Re}A_\theta, \text{Re}\tilde{A}_\theta)$  expressed in terms of  $(q_I, p^I; m_1, n_1, j)$ ,  
symplectic vector under S-duality

# Macroscopic interpretation of 'covariant picture'

- **Measure:**

$$\left[ 26 + \frac{2\pi}{n_2} \frac{(m(\tau_1^2 + \tau_2^2) + n - \ell\tau_1)}{\tau_2} \right] \Big|_* = 26 + 2 \frac{A_H}{4 n_2}$$

absence of  $\log A_H$  term in  $N = 4$  black hole entropy,

$$S_{BH} = \frac{A_H}{4} + 0 \log A_H + \dots \quad \text{Banerjee, Jatkar, Sen, arXiv: 0810.3472}$$

- Terms  $\frac{1}{\eta^{24}(\rho'_*) \eta^{24}(\sigma'_*) \tau_2^{12}}$ :

underlying **bound state structure** of Rademacher picture not manifest here  $(c_m^F = \sum L d(M) d(N))$

Consider  $n_2 = 1$ :  $\frac{1}{\eta^{24}(\tau) \eta^{24}(-\bar{\tau}) (\tau - \bar{\tau})^{12}}$

2D JT gravity point of view: **how to account for this?**

# Macroscopic interpretation of 'covariant picture'

Global Euclidean  $AdS_2$ : supported by constant dilaton field  $\Phi_0 = v_*$

$$ds^2 = \frac{v_*}{\sin^2 \sigma} \left( dT^2 + d\sigma^2 \right) \quad , \quad -\pi < \sigma < 0 \quad , \quad T \cong T + 2\pi\tau_{2*} \quad ,$$

**Proposal:**

Add **24 chiral + 24 antichiral periodic** scalar fields (critical closed bosonic string), time-independent classical configuration:  $T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{cl}} = 0$ .

**1-loop partition function of periodic scalars:**

$$Z^{1\text{-loop}} = \frac{1}{\eta^{24}(\tau) \eta^{24}(-\bar{\tau})} \frac{1}{(\tau - \bar{\tau})^{12}}$$

$\langle T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{quan}} \rangle \neq 0$ , backreacts on the dilaton

$$\Phi_0 + \Phi = \Phi_0 - 24 \mathcal{E} [2\pi\tau_{2*}] \left( 1 - \frac{\sigma + \frac{\pi}{2}}{\tan \sigma} \right) \quad , \quad -\pi < \sigma < 0$$

The resulting solution (trumpet + dilaton) is interpreted as an **2D Euclidean wormhole solution**.

# Conclusions

## Summarizing:

- QEF  $\rightarrow$  Rademacher picture:  $c_m^F(\tilde{n}, \tilde{\ell})$  in measure.  
( $c_m^F = \sum L d(M) d(N)$ )
- Macroscopic interpretation of 'covariant' picture: 2D picture.
  - ▶  $\frac{1}{4}A_H$ : JT gravity on the disc.
  - ▶  $\eta^{24}$  contributions: Euclidean wormhole on the trumpet.
- Euclidean 1D Liouville type action / Lorentzian DFF type action

$$\begin{aligned} S_{\text{Liouv}} &= \int dt \left[ \frac{1}{2} (l')^2 + 2e^{-l} \right] \\ S_{\text{DFF}} &= \int dt \left[ \frac{(\nu')^2}{\alpha\nu} + \alpha \left( \frac{1}{\nu} + \nu \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

by means of reparametrization  $dt \rightarrow \alpha(t) dt$ .

Thanks!