

# The Exact Renormalization Group: some non-relativistic aspects (maybe)

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Mainz Workshop "Applied Newton-Cartan Geometry"

#### **Outline**

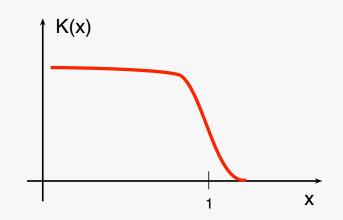
- I. Review of the Exact Renormalization Group (ERG)
- 2. ERG for partition function of free field theories
  - → higher spin gauge theory holography
  - comes about through identification of an enormous non-local symmetry of free field theories
  - holographic fields described by Cartan connection (first order formalism)
    - spin 2 part ~ graviton
- 3. ERG for wave-functionals of arbitrary states of free field theories
  - derive explicit flow through space of states
  - ERG is well-designed for unitary flow a continuous tensor network
- 4. Non-relativistic examples



#### **ERG**

$$Z = \int [d\phi]e^{-S_o[M,\phi]-S_{int}[\phi]}$$

$$S_o[M,\phi] = \int \phi \ K^{-1}(-\Box/M^2) \ \Box \phi$$



- path integral is over all modes of field
  - regulator function gives zero weight to high momentum modes
- the RG principle is that the choice of K is immaterial

$$M\frac{d}{dM}Z=0$$



#### **ERG**

- Cutoff independence comes about through the couplings of the theory becoming scale dependent
- Polchinski showed that this gives an exact equation

$$M\frac{\partial S_{int}}{\partial M} = \frac{1}{2}\Delta_B(x,y)\int [d\phi]\left[\frac{\delta S_{int}}{\delta\phi(x)}\frac{\delta S_{int}}{\delta\phi(y)} - \frac{\delta^2 S_{int}}{\delta\phi(x)\delta\phi(y)}\right]$$

- employed a trick: discard a total functional derivative in the path integral
- this single equation can be expanded to extract the scale dependence of each coupling
  - in fact, we will improve on this
    - introduce separate cutoff and renormalization scale
    - complete exact system of equations for sources and correlation functions



#### - will apply this to a special scenario

- initially won't turn on explicit interactions, but instead will source 'single trace' operators
- thus, will first study the RG properties of the generating functional of correlation functions of single trace operators
- by single trace, we mean local operators of the form

$$\phi_a^* \partial_{\mu_1} ... \partial_{\mu_s} \phi^a$$

- that is, organize elementary fields into an N-vector, and consider only U(N) (or O(N)) singlets
  - these are bilinears, and so path integral for generating functional is Gaussian
- the ERG equations are a system of first order equations for the scale dependence of the sources and the corresponding expectation values
  - this is the same data tracked by a holographic system



## Holography in First-Order

- given a conserved current  $\hat{j}^{\mu_1...\mu_s}$  there is a corresponding massless gauge field  $A_{\mu_1...\mu_s}$  in the bulk (obtained by gauge-fixing bulk tensor)
  - at linearized level, satisfies a second order PDE
  - packages together info about CFT: source and vev of  $\hat{j}^{\mu_1...\mu_s}$
- we will be led to package this info together in a sort of Hamiltonian formalism, in which RG scale plays the role of time, and the bulk gauge field appears as a canonical pair, satisfying a pair of first order PDEs the ERG equations



(running couplings

space-time field theory data

RG scale z

#### The Exactness of ERG

- usually, we think of RG flows as irreversible, associated with coarse graining
  - this is a practicality, rather than a necessity
  - it comes about because we throw away information
- if we could track everything, in principle we could have unitarity
  - typical this is impractical
  - we must track an infinite number of operators, not just the relevant subset
- there is one case where we must do so
  - in free field theories, such truncations correspond to explicit breaking of gauge symmetries (from a holographic point of view)





## Holography and Higher Spin Theories

- free field theories possess an infinite number of conserved currents
  - holographically dual to gauge fields of various spins  $\phi_{m{a}}^*\partial_{\mu_1}...\partial_{\mu_s}\phi_{m{a}}$ 
    - the usual gauge transformations act diagonally on these currents, but more generally, higher spin symmetries act off-diagonally
      - they transform between different currents
  - so if we truncate to a few operators, we are explicitly breaking the symmetry of the free fixed point
    - these symmetries would also be broken by the introduction of any interactions in the field theory
- so we will keep them all, and determine a lossless RG
  - the general principle is that RG must act on a **complete closed set** of 'observables' (in free theories, this set is {"single trace ops"})
- RG can be presented as an exact Ward identity



## Symmetries of Free Fixed Points

- this symmetry acts linearly, but non-locally  $|\phi^a
  angle\mapsto \mathcal{L}|\phi^a
  angle$
- or, in the space-time basis

$$\phi^a(x) \mapsto \int d^d y \ \mathcal{L}(x, y) \phi^a(y)$$
 (\*)

- this encodes diffeomorphisms as well as higher-spin analogues

$$\mathcal{L}(x,y) = \delta^{(d)}(x-y) + \zeta^{\mu}(x)\partial_{\mu}^{(x)}\delta^{(d)}(x-y) + \zeta^{\mu\nu}(x)\partial_{\mu}^{(x)}\partial_{\nu}^{(x)}\delta^{(d)}(x-y) + \dots$$

- we implement (\*) as a change of variables in the path integral
  - this generates an exact Ward identity in the background sense
  - will be an important ingredient in RG, and is the *origin of higher spin* symmetry in the holographic bulk
  - geometry of the bulk is associated with symmetry of the fixed point



## Generating Functionals and Ward Identities

a standard tool is a generating functional

$$Z[A_{\mu}(x)] = \langle e^{i \int d^d x A_{\mu}(x) \hat{j}^{\mu}(x)} \rangle$$

- if we can compute it, it encodes all of the correlation functions of the operator  $\hat{j}^{\mu}(x)$  that is sourced
- if the quantum theory is such that the current is conserved, we have an exact Ward identity

$$Z[A_{\mu}^{g}] = Z[A_{\mu}]$$

- given a path integral rep'n of Z, derive by the Fujikawa method
  - make a change of integration variables  $\phi \mapsto \phi^g$ 
    - measure invariant (or anomalous), action transforms

$$S[\phi] + \int A_{\mu} j^{\mu} \mapsto S[\phi^{g}] + \int A^{g}_{\mu} j^{\mu}$$
 (Noether)



## Generating Functionals for Free QFTs

- we have local operators  $\left\{1,\phi^2(x),j^\mu(x),T^{\mu\nu}(x),\ldots\right\}$
- would introduce sources ('couplings')  $\{U, b(x), a_{\mu}(x), h_{\mu\nu}(x), ...\}$
- in the case of free field theory, all of these operators are bilinear in the elementary fields, and they can be collected together into a bilocal expression

$$\int d^dx \int d^dy \ \langle \phi_a | x \rangle \langle x | B | y \rangle \langle y | \phi^a \rangle = \int d^dx \int d^dy \ \phi_a^*(x) B(x,y) \phi^a(y)$$

- we can think of expanding the bi-local source quasi-locally

$$B(x,y) = b_0(x)\delta^{(d)}(x,y) + b_1^{\mu}(x)\partial_{\mu}\delta^{(d)}(x,y) + \dots$$

- this then gives local sources for the infinite collection of spin-s currents that are conserved at the free fixed point



## Free Majoranas

fixed point action

$$S_0 = \int_{x,y} \psi^m(x) \gamma^\mu P_{F;\mu}(x,y) \psi^m(y)$$
  $m = 1, 2, ..., N$   $P_{F;\mu}(x,y) = \partial_\mu^{(x)} \delta^{(d)}(x,y)$ 

- introduce sources for all single-trace operators

$$S_{int} = U + \frac{1}{2} \int_{x,y} \psi^{m}(x) \Big( A(x,y) + \gamma^{\mu} W_{\mu}(x,y) + \gamma^{\mu\nu} A_{\mu\nu}(x,y) + ... \Big) \psi^{m}(y)$$

- the list of sources terminates, depending on space-time dimension
  - e.g., d=3: just A(x, y) and  $W_{\mu}(x, y)$
- now perform the non-local change of variables  $\psi^a(x) \mapsto \int d^d y \ \mathcal{L}(x,y) \psi^a(y)$

$$S \to \psi^m \cdot \mathcal{L}^T \cdot [\gamma^\mu (P_{F;\mu} + W_\mu) + A] \cdot \mathcal{L} \cdot \psi^m$$

$$= \psi^{m} \cdot \gamma^{\mu} \mathcal{L}^{T} \cdot \mathcal{L} \cdot P_{F;\mu} \cdot \psi^{m} + \widetilde{\psi}^{m} \cdot \left[ \gamma^{\mu} (\mathcal{L}^{T} \cdot [P_{F;\mu}, \mathcal{L}] + \mathcal{L}^{T} \cdot W_{\mu} \cdot \mathcal{L}) + \mathcal{L}^{T} \cdot A \cdot \mathcal{L} \right] \cdot \psi^{m}$$



- if  $\mathcal{L}^T \cdot \mathcal{L} = 1$  then the fixed point action remains unchanged, while the sources transform. That is

$$Zigg[\mathit{U},\mathit{A},\mathit{W}_{\mu}igg] = Zigg[\mathit{U},\mathit{\mathcal{L}}^{-1}\cdot\mathit{A}\cdot\mathit{\mathcal{L}},\mathit{\mathcal{L}}^{-1}\cdot\mathit{W}_{\mu}\cdot\mathit{\mathcal{L}} + \mathit{\mathcal{L}}^{-1}\cdot[\mathit{P}_{\mathit{F},\mu},\mathit{\mathcal{L}}].igg]$$
 tensor connection

- we call this group  $O(L^2(\mathbb{R}^{1,d-1}))$ 
  - $D_{\mu} = P_{F,\mu} + W_{\mu}$  plays the role of covariant derivative
  - the fixed point theory corresponds to

$$(A, W_{\mu}) = (0, W_{\mu}^{(0)})$$

• that is, because  $W_{\mu}$  is a connection, the QFT is unsourced whenever A is zero and  $W_{\mu}$  is a flat connection



#### Dilatations and ERG

- we extend this to RG by asking how the theory responds to a (homogeneous) dilatation  $x^{\mu} \mapsto \lambda x^{\mu}$
- one can combine  $O(L^2)$  with the dilatation in a simple way, by simply allowing  $\mathcal{L}^T \cdot \mathcal{L} = \lambda^{2\Delta_{\psi}} 1$  (we refer to this as  $CO(L^2)$ )
- this has the effect

$$Z[M,g;U,A,W_{\mu}]=Z[\lambda^{-1}M,\lambda^2g,U^{\mathcal{L}},A^{\mathcal{L}},W_{\mu}^{\mathcal{L}}]$$

$$K=K[-z^2D^{(0)2}/M^2]$$
metric seen by field theory

- if we parameterize  $g_{\mu\nu}=z^{-2}\eta_{\mu\nu}$ , we can write this equivalently as

$$Z[M,z;U,A,W_{\mu}]=Z[\lambda^{-1}M,\lambda^{-1}z,U^{\mathcal{L}},A^{\mathcal{L}},W_{\mu}^{\mathcal{L}}]$$

- we regard  $z \in [\epsilon, \infty)$  as the renormalization scale



### The Exact RG

- we perform the ERG in two steps
  - 1. lower the cutoff  $M \mapsto \lambda M$

$$Z[M,z;U,A,W_{\mu}]=Z[\lambda M,z,\tilde{U},\tilde{A},\tilde{W}_{\mu}]$$

(à la Polchinski)

• 2. bring M back to its original value via a  $CO(L^2)$  transformation

$$Z[\lambda M, z; \tilde{U}, \tilde{A}, \tilde{W}_{\mu}] = Z[M, \lambda^{-1}z, \tilde{U}^{\mathcal{L}}, \tilde{A}^{\mathcal{L}}, \tilde{W}_{\mu}^{\mathcal{L}}]$$

- there is a freedom in the choice of  ${\cal L}$
- comparing the two, we arrive at a relation between the generating functionals at the same scale M, but different renormalization scale z

$$Z[M,z;U,A,W_{\mu}]=Z[M,\lambda^{-1}z,\tilde{U}^{\mathcal{L}},\tilde{A}^{\mathcal{L}},\tilde{W}_{\mu}^{\mathcal{L}}]$$



$$Z[M,z;U,A,W_{\mu}]=Z[M,\lambda^{-1}z,\tilde{U}^{\mathcal{L}},\tilde{A}^{\mathcal{L}},\tilde{W}_{\mu}^{\mathcal{L}}]$$

a well chosen name

or by taking  $\varepsilon \to 0$   $(\lambda \simeq 1 - \varepsilon, \mathcal{L} \simeq 1 + \varepsilon z W_z)$ 

$$(\lambda \simeq 1 - \varepsilon,$$

$$\mathcal{L} \simeq 1 + \varepsilon z W_z$$

 $[\partial_z \mathcal{W}_{\mu}^{(0)} - [P_{F;\mu}, \mathcal{W}_z^{(0)}] + [\mathcal{W}_z^{(0)}, \mathcal{W}_{\mu}^{(0)}] = 0$ 

recall: everything bi-local in x,y

$$\partial_z \mathcal{A} + [\mathcal{W}_z, \mathcal{A}] = \beta^{(\mathcal{A})}$$

$$[\partial_z \mathcal{W}_\mu - [P_{F;\mu}, \mathcal{W}_z] + [\mathcal{W}_z, \mathcal{W}_\mu] = \beta_\mu^{(\mathcal{W})}]$$

output of ERG

this is what is obtained from dilatations; we suppose that more generally, these are components of covariant equations

$$d\mathcal{W}^{(0)} + \mathcal{W}^{(0)} \wedge \mathcal{W}^{(0)} = 0$$
 $d\mathcal{A} + [\mathcal{W}, \mathcal{A}] = \boldsymbol{\beta}^{(\mathcal{A})}$ 
 $d\mathcal{W} + \mathcal{W} \wedge \mathcal{W} = \boldsymbol{\beta}^{(\mathcal{W})}$ 

other components not determined by RG

but determined by consistency 'Bianchi identities'



# (Classical) Bulk Action

- this is only half of the bulk system
  - repeat analysis for the vevs (Callan-Symanzik equations)
  - give rise to bulk 'momenta'
- the resulting system of equations is a Hamiltonian system with respect to z
  - the ERG analysis determines the Hamiltonian
  - correspondingly, there is an action

$$Z = e^{-S_{HJ}[z;B]} \rightarrow e^{-I[\mathcal{P},\mathcal{B}]} = e^{-\int dz \ Tr(\mathcal{P} \cdot \partial_z \mathcal{B} - H(\mathcal{P},\mathcal{B}))}$$

$$I = \int dz \, Tr \left\{ \mathcal{P}^I \cdot \left( \mathcal{D}_I^{(0)} \mathcal{B} - \beta_I^{(\mathcal{B})} \right) + \mathsf{N} \Delta_B \cdot \mathcal{B} \right\}$$

$$\beta^{(\mathcal{B})} = \mathcal{B} \cdot \Delta_B \cdot \mathcal{B}$$

(here I've switched to O(N) scalar theory)



## (Classical) Bulk Action

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  - · correspondingly, there is an action

$$Z[\mathcal{B}] = e^{-I[\mathcal{B}]}$$
 $I = \int dz \; Tr \left\{ \mathcal{P}^I \cdot \left( \mathcal{D}_I \mathcal{B} - oldsymbol{eta}_I^{(\mathcal{B})} 
ight) + N \; \Delta_B \cdot \mathcal{B} 
ight\}$ 
 $\beta^{(\mathcal{B})} = \mathcal{B} \cdot \Delta_B \cdot \mathcal{B}$  zero on-shell determined by cutoff function

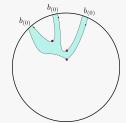


# Holographic Higher Spins

- all of the usual holographic machinery can be employed here
- a classical solution corresponds to an RG flow
- the trivial solution corresponds to the free fixed point
  - i.e., turn off all sources  $\mathcal{W}_A$  is flat
  - if we choose "spin-2 gauge", this connection encodes the geometry of
  - $AdS_{d+1}$  ,  $\mathcal{W}^{(0)} o \{e^a, \omega^a{}_b\}$

$$\mathcal{W}^{(0)}(x,y) = -\frac{dz}{z}D(x,y) + \frac{dx^{\mu}}{z}P_{\mu}(x,y)$$

- at least when the free fixed point has relativistic symmetry
- all correlation functions can be systematically computed



- · look like "bi-local Witten diagrams"
- these resum to the determinant proof that no information has been lost



#### Conformal details

- the usual conformal group  $SO(2, d) \subset CO(L^2)$
- each local operator transforms in a short conformal module  $U(\Delta,s)$
- the corresponding sources transform in the dual module  $U(d-\Delta,s)$
- the bulk degrees of freedom transform in

$$\oplus_s \Big( \mathit{U}(d-\Delta,s) \oplus \mathit{U}(\Delta,s) \Big)$$

- linearizing around  $AdS_{d+1}$ , one can write the equations of motion as decoupled second order PDEs
  - these are nothing but Casimir = s(s + d 2)
  - "Fronsdal equations" of higher spin theory



#### The Role of Time

- The partition function is a functional integral over the modes of fields in all of space-time (Euclidean, really)
- We assumed the fixed point had relativistic symmetry (z=1)
- So there are two directions that one can go
  - Consider other structures, such as wave-functionals or density matrices, that fix, say, space-like hypersurfaces (and thus break time-translational invariance)
  - Consider other fixed points with non-relativistic symmetries
- Each requires answering two questions:
  - How do we regulate the functional integral in the ERG fashion?
  - What operators do we source?
    - Must be a closed set under action of RG if exactness is to be maintained

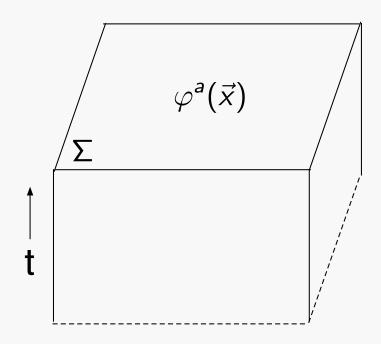


#### **ERG** and Wave-functionals

- in continuum QFT, we do not typically consider explicit wave functionals for states
- however, the ground state wave-functional of a free field theory is well-known, being Gaussian
  - much less understood is how the renormalization group acts on the ground state, as well as all other states
- we can in fact use ERG methods to study this
  - builds on similar concepts to those introduced previously
  - the ERG construction naturally retains 'ancillary' degrees of freedom
  - generates a flow in the space of states
    - equivalent to a continuous tensor network whose properties we can study



- to employ these exact methods for wave-functionals, we need to carefully construct familiar concepts
- wave-functional in 'position basis'  $\langle \varphi^a(\vec{x}) | \Psi \rangle$  obtained by path integral over half space-time in Euclidean time, with specified boundary condition on a space-like hypersurface



$$\langle \varphi^{a}(\vec{x})|\Psi\rangle \equiv Z[M_{-};\varphi^{a}]$$

- extract ground state by usual limiting procedure
- generate large class of states by operator insertions in Euclidean time



- various technical points to manage
  - convergence
  - normalizability
  - well-defined canonical structure (boundary conditions)
- here we are interested in states corresponding to insertions of O(N)-invariant operators

$$|\psi\rangle=e^{-\delta\hat{H}}\hat{\mathcal{O}}_1(0,ec{x}_1)\hat{\mathcal{O}}_2(0,ec{x}_2)\cdots\hat{\mathcal{O}}_n(0,ec{x}_n)|\Omega
angle$$

- it is useful to introduce the generating functional of states

$$|\psi[b]\rangle = \mathcal{T}_{E}e^{-rac{1}{2}\int_{M_{-}}d^{d}x\int_{M_{-}}d^{d}y\,\hat{\phi}^{a}(x)b(x,y)\hat{\phi}^{a}(y)}|\Omega
angle$$

- (can generalize to contour ordering in complex time)
- b(x,y) plays a similar role to the sources considered earlier



- again, there is a large non-local symmetry present
  - restrict  $\mathcal{L}(x,y)$  to preserve  $\Sigma$
  - need to regulate appropriately

$$S_{\phi} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{M} \phi(x) \circ K^{-1} \left( -\vec{D}^{2}/M^{2} \right) \circ D^{2} \circ \phi(x) + \frac{1}{2z^{d-2}} \int_{\Sigma} \varphi(\vec{x}) \cdot K^{-1} \left( -\vec{D}^{2}/M^{2} \right) \cdot D_{t} \cdot \phi|_{\Sigma} \left( \vec{x} \right)$$

- cannot introduce arbitrary number of time derivatives
  - sufficient to introduce 'spatial' regulator  $K\left(-\vec{D}^2/M^2\right)$
- recall for partition function, we implemented ERG as a 2-step process
  - lower cutoff  $M \mapsto \lambda M$
  - use CO(L2) to take  $\lambda M \mapsto M$ ,  $z \mapsto \lambda^{-1} z$



- for the generator of states, we employ a similar process
  - the novelty is that we have to take care with boundary terms
  - there is dependence on a bulk kernel  $\Delta_B$  but now also a boundary kernel  $\Delta_\Sigma$ , and a CO(L2) transformation given by  $W_z$  and  $w_z$ 
    - these know about the details of the regulator
- for the partition function, we required M-independence as the basic RG requirement
  - for wave-functionals, this would be too strong
  - instead we just eliminate M-derivatives from the ERG equations

$$z\frac{\partial}{\partial z}\Psi = \left(zTr_{\Sigma \times C}\left(([W_z, b]_{\circ} + b \circ \Delta_B \circ b) \circ \frac{\delta}{\delta b}\right) + z\frac{N}{2}Tr_{\Sigma}g + z\int_{\Sigma}\varphi \cdot g^{T} \cdot \frac{\delta}{\delta \varphi}\right)\Psi$$

$$g(z; \vec{x}, \vec{y}) := \left(\frac{1}{2}\Delta_{\Sigma} + w_z\right)(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$$



#### **ERG** for Ground State

- the ground state is obtained by setting b(x,y)=0
  - then, the  $\delta/\delta b$  terms disappear
    - the ground state does not mix with other states, and satisfies

$$z \frac{d}{dz} |\Omega(z)\rangle = i \Big( \mathbf{K}(z) + \mathbf{L}(z) \Big) |\Omega(z)\rangle$$

$$\mathbf{K}(z) = rac{z}{2} \left( \hat{\pi} \cdot \Delta_{\Sigma}(z) \cdot \hat{\phi} + \hat{\phi} \cdot \Delta_{\Sigma}^{\mathsf{T}}(z) \cdot \hat{\pi} \right)$$
 "disentangler"

$$\mathbf{L}(z) = \frac{z}{2} \left( \hat{\pi} \cdot \mathbf{w}_z(z) \cdot \hat{\phi} + \hat{\phi} \cdot \mathbf{w}_z^\mathsf{T}(z) \cdot \hat{\pi} \right)$$
 scale transformation

- K and L are both Hermitian
- can be solved in terms of path-ordered exponential

$$\Psi_{\Omega}[z_*,\varphi] = \left\langle \varphi \middle| \Omega(z_*) \right\rangle = \left\langle \varphi \middle| \mathcal{P} e^{\frac{i}{2} \int_{\epsilon}^{z_*} dz \int_{\Sigma} \left( \hat{\pi} \cdot g(z) \cdot \hat{\phi} + \hat{\phi} \cdot g^{\mathsf{t}}(z) \cdot \hat{\pi} \right) \middle| \Omega(\epsilon) \right\rangle.$$



#### **ERG** for States

- for any other state, we have

$$z\partial_z |\Psi_C[b]\rangle = \left(-Tr\,\boldsymbol{\beta}\circ\frac{\delta}{\delta b} + i\mathbf{K} + i\mathbf{L}\right)|\Psi_C[b]\rangle$$

- **K** and **L** are state independent,  $\beta$  causes mixing of states along the flow
- if we think of  $|\Psi_C[b]\rangle$  as a family of states in the space of b, we can regard this equation as a flow along the integral curves of  $\beta$ 
  - that is, we introduce a "running" source  $\mathcal{B}(z;x,y)$  satisfying

$$z\partial_z\mathcal{B}=\beta[\mathcal{B}]$$

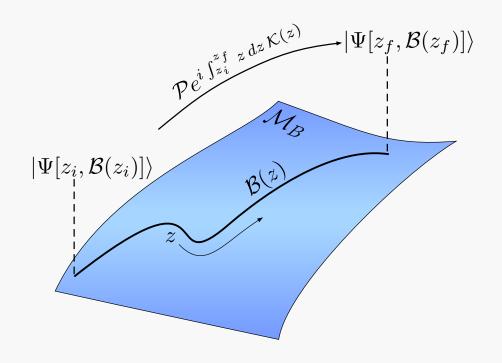
$$z\frac{d}{dz}|\Psi_C[z,\mathcal{B}(z)]\rangle=i\left(\mathbf{K}+\mathbf{L}\right)|\Psi_C[z,\mathcal{B}(z)]\rangle$$

• (same equation as ground state)



#### **ERG** for States

- claim: RG principle for states should be that the flow is along integral curves of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ 
  - then, state changes by a unitary operator
  - consistent with RG-invariance of norm (~ partition function)





#### MERA?

- All of the concepts that I've presented are in fact present in the tensor network story, no more, no less
- Thus we have derived a tensor network directly in the continuum
- however, the disentangling is happening in momentum space
  - ground state is a product state in momentum space
    - excited states are typically not
  - by looking at non-trivial states, can show that K disentangles states above and below RG scale
  - MERA, by hand, implements disentangling in coordinate space
- **K** is given by the choice of regulator
  - optimization, as in MERA, then explores different choices of regulator



## The Big Questions

- This optimization is the new ingredient
  - Usually in QFT, we choose a regulator and believe any choice is equivalent. That is true for the full path integral, as Polchinski emphasized.
  - What is optimization then? Should we minimize some notion of complexity along RG flows?
- So we've seen that ERG is about entanglement in momentum space we can also study real space entanglement using ERG
  - the flow of reduced density matrices, entanglement entropy, etc., apparently requires even more sophisticated regulators



## **ERG** for Schrodinger

- One can repeat the analysis for *any* free fixed point, including those with non-relativistic symmetries
  - the z=2 Schrodinger fixed point is particularly simple
- One can extract the non-relativistic ERG from the relativistic version by employing DLCQ
  - Introduce coordinates  $(\xi, t, \vec{x})$  with  $\Box = \partial_{\xi} \partial_{t} + \vec{\nabla}^{2}$  and assign scaling

$$(\xi, t, \vec{x}) \mapsto (\xi, \lambda^2 t, \lambda \vec{x})$$

- Then the generator  $\underline{N}=\underline{\partial}_{\xi}$  is central, the partition function decomposes into superselection sectors of definite eigenvalue n, and within such a sector,

$$\square o \mathcal{S}_n = in\partial_t + \vec{
abla}^2$$

- Thus we can use the same regulator as before, but within a superselection sector, it becomes effectively a function of  $S_n$ 



## **ERG** for Schrodinger

- A central question is how the DLCQ descends to the bulk theory
- The trick is that one must source operators appropriately

$$\varphi(\xi, t, \vec{x}) = e^{in\xi} \varphi(t, \vec{x})$$

$$B(\xi, t, \vec{x}; \xi', t', \vec{x}') = e^{in(\xi - \xi')} B_n(t, \vec{x}; t', \vec{x}')$$

- This corresponds to a usual result in non-relativistic holography
  - Local bulk fields dual to local conserved currents have n=0.
- here, we define bulk DLCQ to mean that the bulk bi-local fields have this specific  $\xi$ -dependence
  - And then one can extract all correlation functions of (higher spin) currents in the free non-relativistic theory



## Remarks / Questions

- free field theories can be interpreted directly as holographic higher spin theories
  - bulk geometry is encoded in the nature of the fixed point theory
  - the bulk theory gives everything we can expect of a holographic theory
    - does Vasiliev=Leigh?
- unitary networks emerge from ERG applied to states
- natural to ask what happens when QFT interactions are turned on
  - for 'multi-trace' interactions, can show that a precise quantum bulk higherspin theory emerges
  - higher spin symmetry is largely Higgsed (currents have anomalous dimensions)
  - hope: systematically understand effect on tensor networks

