# SYK, Chaos and Higher-Spins

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Based on: JHEP 1812 (2018) 065 CP

# Coupled quantum systems

Based on: arXiv:2001.03158 Alet, Hanada, Jevicki, CP

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The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model

(Sachdev, Ye, 1993; Parcollet, Georges, 1998; Kitaev 2015, 2017, Maldacena, Stanford 2016,...)

• Strongly coupled Quantum Mechanics model

$$H = (i)^{\frac{q}{2}} \sum_{1 \le i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_q \le N} j_{i_1 i_2 \cdots i_q} \psi_{i_1} \psi_{i_2} \cdots \psi_{i_q}$$
$$\langle j_{i_1 \cdots i_q}^2 \rangle = \frac{J^2(q-1)!}{N^{q-1}} = \frac{2^{q-1}}{q} \frac{\mathcal{J}^2(q-1)!}{N^{q-1}}$$

• Perturbatively solvable in the large *N* limit

• 2-point function in the IR  $\tau J \gg 1$ , conformal

$$G_c(\tau) = \frac{b}{|\tau|^{2\Delta}} \operatorname{sgn}(\tau) \qquad J^2 b^q \pi = \left(\frac{1}{2} - \Delta\right) \tan \pi \Delta \qquad \Delta = \frac{1}{q}$$

### The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev (SYK) model

• A tower of higher-spin operators in the IR

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{r} +$$

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### Relations to vector models ?

- An infinite tower of operators ! (But with finite anomalous dimensions...)
- Similar models with emergent higher-spin symmetry ? (holographic dual to higher-spin gravity)

### Why Higher-Spin ?

- What is higher-spin gravity ?
  - General relativity: graviton,
  - Higher-spin theory: graviton + higher-spin fields, spin-2,3,4,5...

spin-2

all fields are massless

- Higher-Spin theories are interesting:
  - Quantum gravity contains higher-spin fields
  - > The most symmetric phase of quantum gravity

$$m^2 = \frac{1}{\alpha'}(N+a), \qquad \alpha' \to \infty.$$

➤ A special class of solvable models of the holographic principle

$$\ell_s \gg R \gg \ell_{\text{Planck}}, \qquad \ell_s = \sqrt{\alpha'},$$
  
$$\Rightarrow \quad \left(\frac{R}{\ell_{\text{Planck}}}\right)^4 = N \gg 1, \qquad \frac{R^4}{\alpha'^2} = \lambda = g^2 N \ll 1$$

#### Relations to vector models ?

- An infinite tower of operators ! (But with finite anomalous dimensions...)
- Similar models with emergent higher-spin symmetry ?
- One dimensional case (CP, 2017)

$$H = \frac{J}{2N^{3/2}} \left( \bar{\lambda}^{ab}{}_{i} \bar{\lambda}^{ab}{}_{j} \chi^{i} \chi^{j} + \lambda^{abi} \lambda^{abj} \bar{\chi}_{i} \bar{\chi}_{j} \right) + M \bar{\lambda}^{ab}{}_{i} \lambda^{abi} + \frac{u}{N^{2}} \bar{\lambda}^{ab}{}_{i} \lambda^{ebj} \phi^{a} \phi^{e} \chi^{i} \bar{\chi}_{j} + \frac{C}{2N^{3/2}} \bar{\lambda}^{ab}{}_{i} \bar{\lambda}^{eb}{}_{j} \lambda^{efi} \lambda^{afj}$$

Higher dimensions

- Why higher dimensions ?
  - Sensible notion of spins
  - Have better studied higher-spin/string models
  - Simplest example is 1+1D

# Supersymmetric models

• SUSY is important to reach the SYK-like fix point

(Murugan, Stanford, Witten, 2017)

• Small number of supersymmetries for flexibility

• Look for connections with other established models

$$An \mathcal{N}=(0,2) model$$

$$S = \int d^2 z d\theta d\bar{\theta} \left( -\bar{\Phi}^a \partial_{\bar{z}} \Phi^a + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\Lambda}^i \Lambda^i \right) + \int d^2 z d\theta \frac{J_{ia_1 \dots a_q}}{q!} \Lambda^i \Phi^{a_1} \dots \Phi^{a_q}$$

 $\begin{array}{lll} \text{Chiral:} & \Phi^a = \phi^a + \sqrt{2}\theta\psi^a + 2\theta\bar{\theta}\partial_z\phi^a \,, & a = 1\dots N \\ \text{Fermi:} & \Lambda^i = \lambda^i - \sqrt{2}\theta G^i + 2\theta\bar{\theta}\partial_z\lambda^i \,, & i = 1\dots M \end{array}$ 

 $N, M \gg 1$ , with  $\mu = \frac{M}{N}$  fixed (but tunable)

IR solution 
$$G_c^I(z_1, z_2) = \frac{n_I}{(z_1 - z_2)^{2h_I}(\bar{z}_1 - \bar{z}_2)^{2\tilde{h}_I}}, \qquad I = \phi, \psi, \lambda, G$$

$$h_{\phi} = \frac{\mu q - 1}{2\mu q^2 - 2} , \quad h_{\psi} = \frac{\mu q^2 + \mu q - 2}{2\mu q^2 - 2} , \quad h_{\lambda} = \frac{q - 1}{2\mu q^2 - 2} , \quad h_{G} = \frac{\mu q^2 + q - 2}{2\mu q^2 - 2}$$
  
$$\tilde{h}_{\phi} = \frac{\mu q - 1}{2\mu q^2 - 2} , \quad \tilde{h}_{\psi} = \frac{\mu q - 1}{2\mu q^2 - 2} , \quad \tilde{h}_{\lambda} = \frac{\mu q^2 + q - 2}{2\mu q^2 - 2} , \quad \tilde{h}_{G} = \frac{\mu q^2 + q - 2}{2\mu q^2 - 2} .$$

# Range of $\mu$

• Convergence of the FT

$$\int r dr d\theta r^{2\frac{\mu q - 1}{\mu q^2 - 1} - 3} e^{i\theta} e^{ir\cos\theta}$$

$$\Rightarrow \int dr d\theta r^{2\frac{\mu q - 1}{\mu q^2 - 1} - 2} (1 + ir\cos\theta + \dots) e^{i\theta}$$

$$\Rightarrow \int dr d\theta i r^{2\frac{\mu q - 1}{\mu q^2 - 1} - 1} \cos\theta e^{i\theta}$$

$$\mu > \frac{1}{q}$$

• In this range the model flows to the SYK-like fixed point

### Numerical Confirmation



4-point function

•  $\langle \bar{\phi}^i \phi^i \bar{\phi}^j \phi^j \rangle$ ,  $\langle \bar{\phi}^i \phi^i \bar{\psi}^j \psi^j \rangle$ ,  $\langle \bar{\phi}^i \phi^i \bar{\lambda}^j \lambda^j \rangle$ , ...

$$I \xrightarrow{I} f_{I} \xrightarrow{I} f_$$

. . .

. . .

4-point function

•  $\langle \bar{\phi}^i \phi^i \bar{\phi}^j \phi^j \rangle$ ,  $\langle \bar{\phi}^i \phi^i \bar{\psi}^j \psi^j \rangle$ ,  $\langle \bar{\phi}^i \phi^i \bar{\lambda}^j \lambda^j \rangle$ , ...

$$I \xrightarrow{I} \stackrel{I}{\longrightarrow} \stackrel{J}{\longrightarrow} \stackrel{J}{\longrightarrow} \stackrel{J}{\longrightarrow} \stackrel{h}{\widehat{h}} \stackrel{1-h}{1-\widehat{h}} = k^{IJ}(h, \tilde{h}) \qquad I \xrightarrow{h} \stackrel{h}{\longrightarrow} \stackrel{1-h}{1-\widehat{h}}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} k^{\phi\phi} & k^{\phi\psi} & k^{\phi\lambda} & k^{\phi G} \\ k^{\psi\phi} & 0 & k^{\psi\lambda} & 0 \\ k^{\lambda\phi} & k^{\lambda\psi} & 0 & 0 \\ k^{G\phi} & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
whose eigenvalue x satisfies  
$$E_c(x, h, \tilde{h}, \mu, q) = x^4 - k^{\phi\phi}x^3 - \left(k^{\phi G}k^{G\phi} + k^{\phi\psi}k^{\psi\phi} + k^{\phi\lambda}k^{\lambda\phi} + k^{\psi\lambda}k^{\lambda\psi}\right)x^2 + \left(k^{\phi\phi}k^{\psi\lambda}k^{\lambda\psi} - k^{\phi\psi}k^{\psi\lambda}k^{\lambda\phi} - k^{\phi\lambda}k^{\psi\phi}k^{\lambda\psi}\right)x + k^{\phi G}k^{\psi\lambda}k^{\lambda\psi}k^{G\phi} = 0$$

• Solve x=1 to get the spectrum of  $O^{\tilde{h},h}$ , spin s =  $|h - \tilde{h}|$ .

### Lightest scalar operators



# The Lyapunov exponent

Out-of-Time-Ordered Correlators (Kitaev 2015, Maldacena Stanford, 2016)  $\langle \phi^a(t+i\tau_1,x_1)\phi^b(i\tau_2,x_2)\bar{\phi}^a(t+i\tau_3,x_3)\bar{\phi}^b(i\tau_4,x_4)\rangle$ 

• 
$$K_R^{(ij)} * \Psi_R^j = k_R^{ij} \Psi_R^i$$

$$\Psi_R^I(1,2) = \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{2}(h+\tilde{h})(t_1+t_2)-\frac{1}{2}(h-\tilde{h})(x_1+x_2)}}{(2\cosh\frac{x_{12}-t_{12}}{2})^{h_1+h_2-h}(2\cosh\frac{x_{12}+t_{12}}{2})^{\tilde{h}_1+\tilde{h}_2-\tilde{h}}}$$

$$h = -\frac{\lambda_L}{2} + i\frac{p}{2}$$
  $\tilde{h} = -\frac{\lambda_L}{2} - i\frac{p}{2}$  (Murugan, Stanford, Witten, 2017)

• 
$$E_R(x,h,\tilde{h},\mu,q) = x^4 - k_R^{\phi\phi}x^3 - \left(k_R^{\phi G}k_R^{G\phi} + k_R^{\phi\psi}k_R^{\psi\phi} + k_R^{\phi\lambda}k_R^{\lambda\phi} + k_R^{\psi\lambda}k_R^{\lambda\psi}\right)x^2 + \left(k_R^{\phi\phi}k_R^{\psi\lambda}k_R^{\lambda\psi} - k_R^{\phi\psi}k_R^{\psi\lambda}k_R^{\lambda\phi} - k_R^{\phi\lambda}k_R^{\psi\phi}k_R^{\lambda\psi}\right)x + k_R^{\phi G}k_R^{\psi\lambda}k_R^{\lambda\psi}k_R^{G\phi} = 0$$

Find  $\lambda_L$  by solving x=1



### Two interesting limits



### Two interesting limits

- Lyapunov exponent drops to zero
- "Integrability" takes over ?
- Large symmetries ?

 $(\tilde{h}, h) = (\gamma, \gamma + s) \text{ or } (\gamma + s, \gamma), \qquad s \in \mathbb{Z}/2$ 

looking for the smallest  $\gamma$  for each  $\mu$ 

# Lightest operators with spins



- Emergent higher-spin conserved operators in the two limits!
- Generate large symmetry
  - nonchaotic

( $\gamma, \gamma + s$ )





# Relations with Higher-spin theories

- Reverse the direction,
- Consider small deformations away from the higher-spin point

# Dispersion relation

• How does the anomalous dimension  $\gamma$  depend on spin s ?



# Dispersion relation

• How does the anomalous dimension  $\gamma$  depend on spin s ?



# Relations with Higher-spin theories

• Higher-spin perturbation computation

(Gaberdiel, CP, Zadeh, 2015)



• Rotating folded closed long string in AdS

$$E-S = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{\pi} \ln(S/\sqrt{\lambda}) + \cdots$$
  $\lambda = g_{\rm YM}^2 N$ 

logarithmic due to the AdS geometry

(Gubser, Klebanov, Polyakov, 2002)



# Relations with Higher-spin theories

- Reverse the direction,
- Consider small deformations away from the higher-spin point
- Consistent with previous results
- A toy model that mimics the process of turning off the string tension where the tuning is explicit

# Comments on the higher-spin limits

- A tower of higher-spin operators, generate a higher-spin-type algebra for each q, similar to the  $W_{\infty}[\lambda]$  algebra in higher-spin holography JHEP 1907 (2019) 092 Ahn, CP
- The model is not free in these limits.
  (The special property is due to delicate screening in the IR dynamics.)
- This limit can be helpful in identifying the bulk dual of SYK

• The other limit  $\mu \to +\infty$  is similar, although not identical



# Coupled quantum systems

Based on: arXiv:2001.03158 Alet, Hanada, Jevicki, CP

### Traversable wormhole

(Gao, Jafferis, Wall, 2016)

• Eternal black hole with 2 AdS boundary, turn on

$$\delta S = \int dt \ d^{d-1}x \ h(t,x)\mathcal{O}_R(t,x)\mathcal{O}_L(-t,x)$$

• The change of distance between the two sides

$$8\pi G_N \int dU T_{UU} = \frac{(d-2)}{4} \left( (d-3)r_h^{-2} + (d-1)\ell^{-2} \right) \int dU h_{UU}$$

• Couplings between the two boundaries could violate the Averaged Null Energy Condition (ANEC)

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} T_{\mu\nu} k^{\mu} k^{\nu} d\lambda \ge 0$$

• Such a violation allows the wormhole to be traversable

(Maldacena, Stanford, Yang 2017 Maldacena, Qi 2018)

• AdS<sub>2</sub> is simple

$$ds^{2} = \frac{-dt^{2} + d\sigma^{2}}{\sin^{2}\sigma} , \qquad \sigma \in [0, \pi]$$



(Maldacena, Stanford, Yang 2017 Maldacena, Qi 2018)

R t σ=0  $\sigma = \pi$ σ



$$ds^2 = -dt_R^2 \sinh^2 \rho + d\rho^2$$



• AdS<sub>2</sub> is simple

 $ds^2 = -dt_R^2 \sinh^2 \rho + d\rho^2$ 

• Dynamics is all on the boundary



(Maldacena, Stanford, Yang 2017

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- AdS<sub>2</sub> is simple
- Dynamics is all on the boundary
- An appropriate coupling could lead to a traversable wormhole

$$S_{int} = g \sum_{i=1}^{N} \int du O_L^i(u) O_R^i(u)$$



(Maldacena, Qi 2018)

• Ground state of the coupled model is close to a thermofield double (TFD) state  $|\text{TFD};\beta\rangle = \sum e^{-\frac{1}{2}\beta E} |E\rangle_L \otimes |E\rangle_R^*$ 



# Field theory confirmation

(Maldacena, Qi 2018)

• One can test this in SYK model

$$H_{\rm int} = i\mu \sum_j \psi_L^j \psi_R^j$$

- Numerically



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$$H_{\rm int} = i\mu \sum_j \psi_L^j \psi_R^j$$

- Numerically
- Large-q

$$\Omega = \frac{|\langle TFD|G \rangle|^2}{\langle TFD|TFD \rangle \langle G|G \rangle} = 1 + O(\frac{1}{q})$$

$$\beta = \frac{2}{\alpha} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\alpha}{\mathcal{J}}\right)^2} \arctan \frac{\mathcal{J}}{\alpha}$$



# Field theory confirmation

(Maldacena, Qi 2018)

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A field theory question

- The previous computations are largely inspired by the intuitive gravity picture
- A question is if the result is a general feature for a wider class of quantum theories
- Not necessarily dual to pure gravity with black holes
  - Bulk dual could be more general gravitational theories
  - Might even not be holographic

General coupled models

(Alet, Hanada, Jevicki, CP 2020)

- We checked a few more models
  - Coupled SYK model
  - Coupled Spin models
  - Coupled "Free" models
- We find very similar results for all these models, regardless of the existence of a classical gravity dual

Coupled SYK model

- We push the computation towards the thermodynamic limit
- We checked the previous statements
  - Deviation of the overlap from 1 is not a numerical error

Coupled SYK model

SYK Overlap q=4



Coupled SYK model

- We push the computation towards the thermodynamic limit
- We checked the previous statements
  - Deviation of the overlap from 1 is not a numerical error
  - Important for the overlap to be not always 1

Coupled SYK model

- We push the computation towards the thermodynamic limit
- We checked the previous statements
  - Deviation of the overlap from 1 is not a numerical error
  - Important for the overlap to be not always 1
  - The effective temperature of the TFD

Coupled SYK model



Coupled spin model

• 
$$\hat{H}_{\alpha} = \sum_{i=1}^{L/2} \left( \frac{1}{4} \vec{\sigma}_{i,\alpha} \vec{\sigma}_{i+1,\alpha} + \frac{\vec{w}_{i,\alpha}}{2} \vec{\sigma}_{i,\alpha} \right), \qquad \alpha = L, R$$

- $\vec{w}_{i,\alpha}$  is randomly chosen from the interval [-W,+W]
- Different phases for different W
  - -W = 0, Integrable
  - $0 \le W < W_c$ , Ergodic
- ( $W_c \sim 3.7$  in this setting)
- $W_c < W$ , Many-body localization
- No clear gravity dual

Coupled spin model

• 
$$\hat{H}_{\alpha} = \sum_{i=1}^{L/2} \left( \frac{1}{4} \vec{\sigma}_{i,\alpha} \vec{\sigma}_{i+1,\alpha} + \frac{\vec{w}_{i,\alpha}}{2} \vec{\sigma}_{i,\alpha} \right), \qquad \alpha = L, R$$

• Turn on a suitably chosen coupling

$$\hat{H}_{\text{int}} = \mu \sum_{i=1}^{L/2} \left( \hat{\Sigma}_i^{\dagger} \hat{\Sigma}_i + \hat{\Sigma}_i \hat{\Sigma}_i^{\dagger} \right)$$
$$\hat{\Sigma}_i = \sigma_{iL}^+ - (\sigma_{iR}^-)^*, \qquad \hat{\Sigma}_i^{\dagger} = \sigma_{iL}^- - (\sigma_{iR}^+)^* \qquad \sigma_{i\alpha}^{\pm} = \frac{\sigma_{i\alpha}^x \pm \sqrt{-1}\sigma_{i\alpha}^y}{2}$$

• Study the overlap between the ground state of this coupled model and the TFD at some temperature

Coupled spin model



Coupled spin model



• 
$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{p}_{\rm L}^2}{2} + \frac{\omega^2 \hat{x}_{\rm L}^2}{2} + \frac{\hat{p}_{\rm R}^2}{2} + \frac{\omega^2 \hat{x}_{\rm R}^2}{2} + \frac{C_+}{2} \left(\hat{x}_{\rm L} + \hat{x}_{\rm R}\right)^2 - \frac{C_-}{2} \left(\hat{x}_{\rm L} - \hat{x}_{\rm R}\right)^2$$

• Can solve this problem analytically ( No need for large-N and strong coupling, hence not necessarily holographic )

• 
$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{p}_{+}^{2}}{2} + \frac{\omega_{+}^{2}\hat{x}_{+}^{2}}{2} + \frac{\hat{p}_{-}^{2}}{2} + \frac{\omega_{-}^{2}\hat{x}_{-}^{2}}{2}$$
  
 $\omega_{+} = \sqrt{\omega^{2} + 2C_{+}}, \qquad \omega_{-} = \sqrt{\omega^{2} - 2C_{-}}, \qquad \hat{x}_{\pm} = \frac{\hat{x}_{\mathrm{L}} \pm \hat{x}_{\mathrm{R}}}{\sqrt{2}}$ 

• Ground state

 $|0\rangle_{\text{coupled}} = \mathcal{N}^{-1/2} e^{A_1(\hat{a}_{\mathrm{L}}^{\dagger 2} + \hat{a}_{\mathrm{R}}^{\dagger 2})} e^{A_2 \hat{a}_{\mathrm{L}}^{\dagger} \hat{a}_{\mathrm{R}}^{\dagger}} |0\rangle_{\mathrm{L}} |0\rangle_{\mathrm{R}}$  $A_1 = \frac{1}{4} \frac{r_+ - r_+^{-1}}{r_+ + r_+^{-1}} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{r_- - r_-^{-1}}{r_- + r_-^{-1}}, \qquad A_2 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{r_+ - r_+^{-1}}{r_+ + r_+^{-1}} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{r_- - r_-^{-1}}{r_- + r_-^{-1}} \qquad r_{\pm} = \sqrt{\frac{\omega_{\pm}}{\omega}}$ 

• The ground state is identical to a TFD when

$$A_1 = 0$$
  $\checkmark$   $\sqrt{1 + 2C_+/\omega^2}\sqrt{1 - 2C_-/\omega^2} = 1$ 

• At this value we can determine the effective temperature  $|0\rangle_{\text{coupled}} = \mathcal{N}^{-1/2} |A_2|^{-1/2} \sum e^{-E_n/2T_{\text{eff}}} |n\rangle_{\text{L}} |n\rangle_{\text{R}}$   $T_{\text{eff}} = -\frac{\omega}{2\log\left(\left|\frac{r_+ - r_+^{-1}}{r_+ + r_+^{-1}}\right|\right)}$ 

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• We can further study how excitation in the coupled model affect the comparison with TFD

 $|\langle \mathrm{TFD}(\beta)|n_+, n_-\rangle_{\mathrm{coupled}}|^2$ 

- The overlap decays fast as energy injected
- This is as expected as if there is a gravitational dual picture, even though it is not believed to be the case



- We can further compute the entanglement between the two sides as temperature increases
- We consider the coupled model in a thermal state with

$$\rho(\beta) = \sum_{n} e^{-\beta E_n} |n\rangle \langle n|$$

where  $|n\rangle$  is the energy eigenstates of the coupled Hamiltonian

• Consider the simplest quantity: the L-R mutual information

$$S_{\rm EE,L} + S_{\rm EE,R} - S_{\rm therm}$$

We expect it to decrease as temperature increases.



- Strange behavior (not monotonic decreasing)
- Conjecture: it is due to non-vanishing classical correlations

• Considered a different quantity

 $S_{\rm EE,L} + S_{\rm EE,R} - S_{\rm diag} = S_{\rm EE,L} + S_{\rm EE,R} - S_{\rm thermal} - (S_{\rm diag} - S_{\rm thermal})$ 

where the "diagonal entropy" is computed by

$$\hat{\rho}_{\text{diag}} = \sum_{n_{\text{L}}, n_{\text{R}}} \rho_{n_{\text{L}}, n_{\text{R}}; n_{\text{L}}, n_{\text{R}}} \left( |n_{\text{L}}\rangle \langle n_{\text{L}}| \right) \left( |n_{\text{R}}\rangle \langle n_{\text{R}}| \right)$$

if the thermal density matrix is

$$\hat{\rho} = \sum_{n_{\mathrm{L}}, n_{\mathrm{R}}, n'_{\mathrm{L}}, n'_{\mathrm{R}}} \rho_{n_{\mathrm{L}}, n_{\mathrm{R}}; n'_{\mathrm{L}}, n'_{\mathrm{R}}} \left( |n_{\mathrm{L}}\rangle \langle n'_{\mathrm{L}}| \right) \left( |n_{\mathrm{R}}\rangle \langle n'_{\mathrm{R}}| \right)$$

• The last factor is meant to capture the classical L-R correlations



- Find better behaviors
- A more thorough understanding is still needed.

# Coupled free matrix/vector models

- The analysis of the harmonic oscillators essentially carry through to the cases of free matrix/vector models
- i.e. Ground state ~ TFD
- But due to non-trivial gauge invariance constraints, thermodynamic behaviors are different

# General coupled theories

(Alet, Hanada, Jevicki, CP 2020)

- We checked a few models
  - Coupled SYK model
  - Coupled Spin models
  - Coupled "Free" models
- We find very unexpected similar results for all these models, regardless of the existence of a classical gravity dual
- From the field theory point of view, the coupled models could provide a simple way to prepare thermofield double states
  ( if the property is truly universal, maybe even in labs with simple systems )

# Thank you !