

# *Soft Hair on Generic Horizons* *and* *Black Hole Microstates*

By: M.M. Sheikh-Jabbari

Based on my recent papers with

*H. Afshar, D. Grumiller, K. Hajian, H. Yavartanoo*

And upcoming work with

*D. Grumiller, A. Perez, R. Troncoso, C. Zwikel*

ICTP, June 2019

# Outline

- Some words on black holes, theoretical and observational
- Status of black hole microstate problem
- Residual symmetries and soft charges
- Soft Hair on generic horizons
- Near horizon symmetry algebras and membrane paradigm
- Horizon fluff as black hole microstates
- Summary and Outlook

## ■ Black holes.....

- Gravity Waves has opened a window to the blackness or darkness.
- Questions around black holes (BH) touches upon the deepest issues in our understanding of notions like spacetime, Quantum Theory and Gravity.
- Observationally, BHs appear in a wide range of mass and spin in many physically relevant systems.
- Theoretically, BHs constitute a big class of known solutions to (Einstein's) General Relativity (GR).

- BH solutions come in various families with very different properties.
- Regardless of the details, **classically**  
**any BH has horizon** which separates spacetime into two causally disconnected regions, **inside and outside**.
- **Semiclassically** BHs have a **thermodynamical** description:  
they **Hawking-radiate** and **have entropy** and **evolve** as governed by **laws of thermodynamics**.
- **Unitarity** of this evolution at quantum level necessitates existence of **BH microstates**.

## ■ Equivalence Principle and Diffeomorphisms

- Einstein GR is based on **Equivalence Principle** which stipulates that all observers should give (exactly) the same description of **local events** in regions of spacetime to which they have **causal access**.
- Each observer is specified by a **coordinate system** and vice versa.
- Equivalence Principle at **theory** level is made manifest through **general covariance**, **invariance of the action under diffeomorphisms**.

- **Physical observables** in the Einstein GR are all defined through **local diffeomorphism invariant** quantities.
- In particular, any two metric tensors related by diffeomorphisms are physically equivalent:

$$x^\mu \rightarrow x^\mu + \xi^\mu(x), \quad g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow g_{\mu\nu} + \delta g_{\mu\nu}, \quad \delta g_{\mu\nu} = \nabla_\mu \xi_\nu + \nabla_\nu \xi_\mu$$

- The above is shared between all theories with **local gauge symmetries**: **Action and physical observables should be gauge invariant.**
- **Gauge symmetry is in fact a redundancy of description which should be removed by gauge fixing, but yet, there may be nontrivial gauge transformations for a prescribed falloff and boundary conditions and boundary terms.**

- Among thermodynamical quantities **entropy** is very special:  
*it is the only **extensive**, **dimensionless** and **observer independent** quantity.*
- Note: “corrections” to entropy may be ensemble dependent.
- While may not agree on mass (energy), angular momentum, temperature, **all observers must measure the same value for entropy**,
- **Features and expectations of BH entropy**
  - It should be accounted by the **BH microstates**
  - Its ubiquity is a result of ubiquitous property of BHs, **the horizon**.
  - For the cases with **Killing horizon**, BH entropy is a **conserved (Noether) charge** given by the **Wald formula**. It reduces to the Bekenstein-Hawking area law for the case of Einstein gravity.

- According to Wald's derivation, **black hole entropy** depends only on the BH solution (metric) and the **gravitational part of the action**.
- **Intensive** thermodynamical quantities like **temperature and horizon angular velocity** only depend on the metric and ,
- **Extensive** quantities like, **mass and angular momentum** depend on metric and the gravitational part of the theory.



- From the above one can deduce
  - A) *Entropy of a classical, large BH is a **gravitational effect** and BH microstates should be sought for ONLY in the gravitational sector.*
  - B) *Recalling the **uniqueness theorems**, not all the physically observable gravitational effects can be removed in a local accelerating frame, hence*
  - C) *the simple and strong statement of **Equivalence Principle** should be amended.*

## ■ “Softly” moving away the equivalence principle

- Diffeo's are “local redundancies”. There are, however, **nontrivial diffeo's** to which one can associate well-defined **surface charges** not measured by local observables/observations.
- To extract the non-trivial diffeo's and the associated surface charges we may use **covariant phase space method (CPSM)**:
  - i) All field configurations (histories) may form a **Phase Space**,
  - ii) with the **symplectic structure** systematically constructed from the action of the theory:

- Consider a field configuration  $\Phi$  and perturbations around it  $\delta\Phi$ .
- On-shell field configurations  $\bar{\Phi}$  satisfy field equations and on-shell perturbations  $\delta\Phi$  satisfy linearized field equations.
- Set of  $\Phi$  and  $\delta\Phi$  may be viewed as a phase space and one-forms in the corresponding cotangent space.
- On-shell cotangent space includes two important directions:
  - $\delta\Phi$  generated by gauge and/or diffeo's transformations on  $\Phi$ ;
  - parametric variations, generated by moving in the parameter space of the solutions  $\Phi$ , e.g. the difference between two Sch'd solutions with masses  $m$  and  $m + \delta m$ .

## ■ Symplectic structure

- Symplectic current  $\omega$  is a *finite*, *closed*, *nondegenerate* two-form over tangent space and a  $d - 1$  form in space time:

$$\omega = \omega[\delta_1 \Phi, \delta_2 \Phi; \Phi]$$

- Symplectic structure  $\Omega_\Sigma$  is defined through integration of  $\omega$  over a *Cauchy surface*  $\Sigma$ :

$$\Omega_\Sigma [\delta_1 \Phi, \delta_2 \Phi; \Phi] = \int_\Sigma \omega[\delta_1 \Phi, \delta_2 \Phi; \Phi]$$

- We build  $\omega$  within the *covariant phase space method*, constructed in [Lee-Wald '1990, Wald '1993] and refined in [Barnich-Brandt '2002, Barnich-Compère '2008].

## ■ Construction of the symplectic current

- Presymplectic potential  $\theta[\delta\Phi; \Phi]$ :  $\omega = \delta\theta$ , or

$$\omega[\delta_1\Phi, \delta_2\Phi; \Phi] = \delta_1\theta[\delta_2\Phi; \Phi] - \delta_2\theta[\delta_1\Phi; \Phi]$$

- The presymplectic structure  $\theta$  is a spacetime  $d - 1$  form and a one-form over the phase space.
- The Lee-Wald contribution to  $\theta$ :

$$\delta L|_{on-shell} = d\theta_{(LW)}.$$

- Consistency of symplectic structure may require addition of *boundary terms*  $Y$ :

$$\theta = \theta_{(LW)} + dY.$$

$Y$  is a  $d - 2$  form on spacetime and one-form on phase space.

- Consistency of symplectic structure means its

- Conservation:

$$d\omega[\delta_1\Phi, \delta_2\Phi; \Phi] \approx 0 \quad \text{for all on-shell fields and perturbations.}$$

- Non-degeneracy:  $\Omega_\Sigma$  has no degenerate directions, is conserved and is independent of  $\Sigma$ .

## ■ The conserved charges

- Fundamental Theorem of Covariant Phase Space Method

$$\omega[\delta\Phi, \delta_\chi\Phi; \Phi] \approx dK_\chi[\delta\Phi; \Phi]$$

- $\delta_\chi\Phi$  is a specific transformation generated by a symmetry  $\chi$ ,
- $K$  is a spacetime  $d-2$  form, while a one-form on the tangent space of the phase space.
- Given  $K$  one can define charge variations:

$$\delta Q_\chi = \oint_{\partial\Sigma} K_\chi[\delta\Phi; \Phi]$$

- Charge  $Q_\chi$  is integrable if

$$\delta_1 \delta_2 Q_\chi - \delta_2 \delta_1 Q_\chi = 0$$

Integrability [Lee-Wald '1991]:

$$\oint_{\partial\Sigma} \chi \cdot \omega[\delta_1 \Phi, \delta_2 \Phi; \Phi] = 0, \quad \forall \chi, \delta\Phi$$

There usually exists  $\mathbf{Y}$  terms which guarantee the above.

- Using integrability one can define surface charges  $Q_\chi$ :

$$Q_\chi[\Phi] = \int_\gamma \oint_{\partial\Sigma} \mathbf{K}_\chi[\delta\Phi; \Phi] + N_\chi[\Phi]$$

where  $N$  is the zero point charge.

- If  $\delta Q_\chi$  is zero everywhere on the phase space,  $\chi$  is called **pure gauge transformation**. These are the “real gauge d.o.f”.



- The charges are given by surface integrals over the boundary of the Cauchy surface  $\partial\Sigma$ .
- The charge  $Q_\chi$  is non-zero if Cauchy surface is non-compact.
- Examples of  $\partial\Sigma$ :
  - Flat  $d$  dimensional Minkowski space: is the  $d - 2$  dimensional sphere at infinity,  $i^0$ .
  - Sch'ld black hole:  $\partial\Sigma = \mathcal{H} \cup i^0$ , where  $\mathcal{H}$  is the bifurcate horizon.
  - AdS-Sch'ld BH:  $\partial\Sigma = \mathcal{H} \cup S_{b',dry}^{d-2}$ .  
 (Note: AdS is not globally hyperbolic and hence one should take special care here.....)

- Algebra of charges:

$$\{Q_\chi, Q_\xi\} = Q_{[\chi, \xi]} + \text{possible central terms}$$

- Notes:

- Charges are functions over the phase space,
- the bracket is Poisson bracket among these functions, and
- $[\chi, \xi]$  is the Lie bracket of generators.

- The charges  $Q_\xi$  may be used to label states/configurations in the phase space, and hence how to account for them.

## ■ Focusing on BHs, e.g. generic Kerr black hole,

- How can we describe BH thermodynamics in terms of these conserved charges?
- what are non-trivial diffeos and what is their algebra?
- How do we specify our phase space?
- How can this resolve the BH microstate problem?

## ■ General picture and results for BH thermodynamics

- $\partial\Sigma$  has two separated parts  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $i^0$ .
- We can hence have two distinct set of charges, the Near Horizon (NH) charges and the asymptotic (AS) charges.
- Common part of the two accounts for mass and angular momenta associated with exact symmetries of the BH background solution.
- Smoothness of the geometry implies that NH and AS observers should measure the same exact charges.
- We can understand thermodynamics of stationary BHs only in terms of these exact charges, associated with Killing/exact symmetries.

- Exact charges are **symplectic symmetries** and may be computed on any codimension to compact surface. [Hajian-MMShJ, 2015].
- **First law of thermodynamics** for stationary BHs with Killing horizon is generically reduced to the equation relating Killing vectors, .e.g for Kerr BH

$$\zeta = \frac{1}{\kappa}(\xi_t + \Omega\xi_\phi)$$

- $1/\kappa$  factor is necessitated by integrability of the charge associated with  $\zeta$ , **the entropy**.

## ■ General picture/idea and results for BH microstates

- States charged under non-trivial residual diffeos are **soft**, they commute with the Hamiltonian.
- We hence have **NH soft hair** and **AS soft states/config's**.
- **NH soft hair account for BH microstates** while AS soft states are **irrelevant** to the BH entropy.
- **NH soft modes weakly interact with each other.**
- NH and AS soft states also **weakly interact** at quantum level. (Recall the potential barrier separating the NH and AS regions.)

■ Summary of results[D. Grumiller, A. Perez, MMSHJ, R. Troncoso, C. Zwickel, coming soon]

- For Sch'ld or Kerr BH, AS algebra is  $BMS_4$  and we find that NH algebra consists of NH APD's and "Horizon superrotations" plus "supertranslations".
- Besides our NH boundary (falloff) conditions, depending on what we keep fixed on the horizon, we get a different algebra.
- This is like moving between different ensembles in stat. mech.
- Our NH analysis is true for generic (non-degenerate) black hole or cosmological horizons.

## ■ Some details of charge analysis

- Any metric with a Killing horizon, in the NH region takes the form

$$ds_{NH}^2 = -\kappa^2 \rho^2 dt^2 + d\rho^2 + \Omega_{ab}(x) dx^a dx^b + \dots$$

where  $a, b = 1, 2, \dots, d-2$ .

- We assume the bifurcate horizon  $\mathcal{H}$  ( $\kappa \neq 0$ ) with metric  $\Omega_{ab}$ , is compact and non-degenerate  $\det \Omega \neq 0$  with a finite volume.

- NH falloff behavior

$$g_{tt} = -\kappa^2 \rho^2 + \mathcal{O}(\rho^3), \quad g_{t\rho} = \mathcal{O}(\rho^2), \quad g_{ta} = f_{ta} \rho^2 + \mathcal{O}(\rho^3),$$

$$g_{\rho\rho} = 1 + \mathcal{O}(\rho), \quad g_{\rho a} = f_{\rho a} \rho + \mathcal{O}(\rho^2), \quad g_{ab} = \Omega_{ab} + \mathcal{O}(\rho),$$



- The residual diffeo's which respect these NH falloff behavior are

$$\xi^t = \frac{\eta(t; x)}{\kappa} + \mathcal{O}(\rho), \quad \xi^\rho = \mathcal{O}(\rho^2), \quad \xi^a = \eta^a(t; x) + \mathcal{O}(\rho^2),$$

where  $\partial_t + \eta^a \partial_a \kappa = \delta \kappa$ .

- $\eta, \eta^a$  may be viewed as diffeo's on a codimension one surface.
- Here we choose to work in Einstein gravity. But our results may be readily generalized to any generally covariant higher derivative theory.
- In our NH metric  $\kappa$  can be a function of  $t, x^a$ .

- Standard computation of charges leads to

$$\delta Q[\eta, \eta^a] = \int_{\mathcal{H}} \eta \delta \mathcal{P} + \eta^a \delta \mathcal{J}_a$$

where

$$\mathcal{P} = \frac{\sqrt{\Omega}}{8\pi G}, \quad \mathcal{J}_a = \frac{\sqrt{\Omega}}{16\pi \kappa G} (\partial_t f_{\rho a} - 2f_{ta})$$

- $\delta Q[\eta, \eta^a]$  are integrable if  $\eta, \eta^a$  are field independent, but we have other choices too.

- Charge variations

$$\delta \mathcal{P} = \eta^a \partial_a \mathcal{P} + \mathcal{P} \partial_a \eta^a,$$

$$\delta \mathcal{J}_a = \mathcal{P} \partial_a \eta + \mathcal{J}_a \partial_b \eta^b + \eta^b \partial_b \mathcal{J}_a + \mathcal{J}_b \partial_a \eta^b.$$

- The charge algebra

$$\{\mathcal{P}(x), \mathcal{P}(y)\} = 0 \quad \text{as} \quad \delta_{\eta} \mathcal{P} = 0$$

$$\{\mathcal{J}_a(x), \mathcal{J}_b(y)\} = \left( \mathcal{J}_a(y) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^b} - \mathcal{J}_b(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^a} \right) \delta^{d-2}(x - y)$$

$$\{\mathcal{J}_a(x), \mathcal{P}(y)\} = \left( \mathcal{P}(y) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} - \mathcal{P}(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^a} \right) \delta^{d-2}(x - y)$$

- The charges  $\mathcal{P}(x), \mathcal{J}_a(x)$  are **densities** over the horizon  $\mathcal{H}$ .
- $\mathcal{J}_a(x)$  generate **general diffeomorphisms** on the horizon.
- $\mathcal{P}(x)$  generate **supertranslations** on the horizon.

## ■ More on boundary conditions

- The above choice of  $\eta, \eta^a$  are not the only choices leading to integrable charges.
- We may choose

$$\tilde{\eta} = F(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{J}_b)\eta + F_a(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{J}_b)\eta^a, \quad \tilde{\eta}^a = G^a(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{J}_b)\eta + G^a_b(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{J}_b)\eta^b,$$

with appropriate redefinition of charges

$$\tilde{\mathcal{P}} = \tilde{\mathcal{P}}(\mathcal{P}), \quad \tilde{\mathcal{J}}_a = \tilde{\mathcal{J}}_a(\mathcal{J}_a, \mathcal{P})$$

- Below we show two such examples.

■ NH “generalized BMS algebra”

Choose

$$\tilde{\eta} \equiv \eta_{(r)} = \mathcal{P}^{-r} \eta, \quad \tilde{\mathcal{P}} \equiv \mathcal{P}_{(r)} = \frac{\mathcal{P}^{r+1}}{r+1},$$

with  $\tilde{\eta}^a = \eta^b$ ,  $\tilde{\mathcal{J}}_a = \mathcal{J}_a$ . Then

$$Q[\eta_{(r)}, \eta^a] = \int_{\mathcal{H}} [\eta_{(r)} \mathcal{P}_{(r)} + \eta^a \mathcal{J}_a]$$

yielding the algebra

$$\{\mathcal{P}_{(r)}(x), \mathcal{P}_{(r)}(y)\} = 0$$

$$\{\mathcal{J}_a(x), \mathcal{J}_b(y)\} = \left( \mathcal{J}_a(y) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^b} - \mathcal{J}_b(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^a} \right) \delta^{d-2}(x-y)$$

$$\{\mathcal{J}_a(x), \mathcal{P}_{(r)}(y)\} = \left( r \mathcal{P}_{(r)}(y) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} - \mathcal{P}_{(r)}(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^a} \right) \delta^{d-2}(x-y)$$

- The above is true in any dimension.
- There is no central term in the above NH algebras.
- If  $\Omega_{ab}$  is topologically an  $S^{d-2}$ ,  $\mathcal{J}_a$  part of the algebra includes  $d-2$  dimensional Euclidean conformal algebra  $so(d-1,1)$ , i.e.  $d$  dimensional Lorentz algebra.
- For  $r=0$  and  $d=3,4$  this recovers the DGGP algebra [Donnay, Giribet, Gonzalez, Pino, 2015, 2016].
- For  $r=1, d=3$  we recover  $BMS_3$ .
- For  $d=3$ , generic  $r$ , we get  $W(0;-r)$  algebra [Parsa, Safari, MMSHJ, 2018].

- For  $d = 4$ , if restrict

$$\Omega_{ab} = \Phi^2 \Omega_{ab}^{S^2}$$

- for  $r = 1/2$  we get  $\text{BMS}_4$ .
- For generic  $r$  we get  $W(-r/2, -r/2; -r/2, -r/2)$  [Safari, MMSHJ, 2019].
- For  $d > 4$  restricting horizon metric  $\Omega_{ab}$  to conformally sphere ones, for  $r = \frac{1}{d-2}$  we get an algebra which may be called  $\text{BMS}_d$ .
- For generic  $r$  we get a higher spin version of BMS, “supertranslations  $\mathcal{P}$  have generic spin  $s = r(d - 2)$ ).

■ NH Heisenberg-like algebra, another special case:

- Define

$$\eta_{\text{H}}^a = \sqrt{\Omega} \, \eta^a, \quad \mathcal{J}_a^{\text{H}} = \frac{\mathcal{J}_a}{\sqrt{\Omega}}$$

- $\mathcal{J}_a^{\text{H}}$  is a one-form (not a density).

- Then

$$Q_{\text{H}}[\eta_{\text{H}}, \eta_{\text{H}}^a] = \int_{\mathcal{H}} \eta_{\text{H}} \mathcal{P} + \eta_{\text{H}}^a \mathcal{J}_a^{\text{H}}$$

with

$$\delta \mathcal{P} = \frac{1}{8\pi G} \partial_a \eta_{\text{H}}^a$$

$$\delta \mathcal{J}_a^{\text{H}} = \frac{1}{8\pi G} \left[ \partial_a \eta_{\text{H}} - \frac{\eta_{\text{H}}^b}{\mathcal{P}} \left( \partial_a \mathcal{J}_b^{\text{H}} - \partial_b \mathcal{J}_a^{\text{H}} \right) \right], \quad \eta_{\text{H}} = \eta + \eta^a \mathcal{J}_a^{\text{H}}.$$

- $Q_{\text{H}}$  become integrable if we assume  $\eta_{\text{H}}, \eta^a$  are field independent.



$$\{\mathcal{P}(x), \mathcal{P}(y)\} = 0$$

$$\{\mathcal{J}_a^{\text{H}}(x), \mathcal{J}_b^{\text{H}}(y)\} = \frac{1}{8\pi G \mathcal{P}(x)} F_{ba}(x) \delta^{d-2}(x - y)$$

where  $F_{ab}(x) \equiv \partial_a \mathcal{J}_b^{\text{H}}(x) - \partial_b \mathcal{J}_a^{\text{H}}(x)$

$$\{\mathcal{J}_a^{\text{H}}(x), \mathcal{P}(y)\} = \frac{1}{8\pi G} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} \delta^{d-2}(x - y)$$

The above implies

$$\{F_{ab}(x), \mathcal{P}(y)\} = 0.$$

- If  $F_{ab}(x) = 0$ , e.g. as in the Sch'ld case, then

$$\mathcal{J}_a^H(x) \equiv \partial_a \mathcal{Q}(x).$$

- Hence  $\{\mathcal{Q}(x), \mathcal{Q}(y)\} = 0$  and

$$\{\mathcal{Q}(x), \mathcal{P}(y)\} = \frac{1}{8\pi G} \delta^{d-2}(x - y)$$

- Upon “quantization,” replacing  $\{, \}$  with  $-i[, ]$ , the NH algebra reduces to “a Heisenberg type algebra”, with  $\hbar$  equal to  $1/(8\pi G)$ .
- In general, one can decompose the one-form  $\mathcal{J}_a^H$  into exact and coexact parts. The exact part  $\mathcal{Q}$  is the “conjugate” to  $\mathcal{P}$ .

- NH Hamiltonian

$$H_{\text{NH}} = Q_{\text{H}}[\eta_{\text{H}} = \kappa \equiv \eta_0, \eta_H^a = 0] = \int_{\mathcal{H}} \kappa \mathcal{P} \equiv \kappa \mathcal{P}_0$$

- $\mathcal{P}_0$  commutes with all the other charges as  $\delta_{\eta_0} \mathcal{P} = 0$ ,  $\delta_{\eta_0} \mathcal{J}_a^{\text{H}} = 0$ .
- Therefore, all states charged under  $\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{J}_a^{\text{H}}$  are **soft**.
- Note that the above happens only for the “Heisenberg-type” boundary conditions, generically the near horizon Hamiltonian need not commute with the other charges.
- “Heisenberg-type” boundary conditions are hence more natural.

- The BH (Bekenstein-Hawking) entropy and *the NH first law*

$$S_{\text{BH}} = 2\pi \mathcal{P}_0 = \frac{1}{4G} \int_{\mathcal{H}} \sqrt{\Omega} = \frac{\text{Area}}{4G},$$

$$dH_{\text{NH}} = T_H dS_{\text{BH}}, \quad T_H = \frac{\kappa}{2\pi}$$

- *Entropy must be a charge commuting with all the charges labelling microstates.*
- The above is true for any horizon in any dimension.
- Had we used a more general theory of gravity, we would recover Wald's entropy.

► 4d Kerr and NUT BHs, example

- In this case  $\mathcal{J}_a^{\text{H}}$  does not have an exact part and

$$\mathcal{P} = \frac{2Mr_+}{8\pi G} \sin \theta, \quad \mathcal{J}_a^{\text{H}} = \epsilon_a^b \partial_b \psi$$

where

$$\psi = \frac{1}{8\pi G} \left[ 2 \arctan U + \frac{r_+ - r_-}{2M} U \right], \quad U = \sqrt{r_-/r_+} \cos \theta.$$

- For the Kerr case,  $\int_{\mathcal{H}} F = 0$ .
- One can show that the NUT charge is proportional to  $\int_{\mathcal{H}} F$ .

## Discussion, Concluding Remarks and Outlook

---

### ⊛ The need for revisiting Einstein General Invariance:

- Not all diffeomorphic/gauge equivalent field configurations are physically equivalent.
- Only a measure-zero subset of gauge transformations, defined on codimension two surfaces can be non-trivial.
- This codim. two surface may or may not be the boundaries of Cauchy surfaces  $\partial\Sigma$ ; it may be bifurcation surface of a horizon.
- One may distinguish classes of gauge equivalent/diffeomorphic configurations by the non-local surface charges labelling them.

- In view of these charges one should extend the **physical Hilbert space of the theory**:

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_{local\ gauge\ inv.} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{soft}$$

- Their number is infinite (coming from continuous local transformations).
- They form an algebra which may admit central extensions.
- For the case of black holes,

$$\partial\Sigma = \mathcal{H} \cup i_0, \quad \mathcal{H}_{soft} = \mathcal{H}_{horizon} \cup \mathcal{H}_\infty.$$

⊛ Question: Are these charges and their algebra **gauge invariant**? Do they depend on the choice of gauge fixing and “boundary conditions”?

- Presence of surface charges do not change the  $n$ -p’t functions of **local gauge invariant operators**, or the **S-matrix**.

⊛ Question: Do these charges have any physical relevance?

- Quantum Gauge Field and Gravity Theories
  - **memory effect**;
  - “soft theorems” and IR dynamics of gauge theories;
  - identifying and counting of BH microstates;
  - resolving the BH unitarity problem?!



- Working within **Hawking-Perry-Strominger “soft hair” paradigm**, we have over shooting problem: there are too many soft states,  
*We need to cut the soft hair off*
- In series of our works on 3d BHs, we made **horizon fluff proposal** in which we proposed a way for the cutoff. [Afshar, Grumiller, MMSHJ, 2016; MMSHJ, Yavartanoo, 2016 & Afshar, Grumiller, MMSHJ, Yavartanoo, 2017].
- A paper of today [W. Merbis, D. Grumiller] have elaborated further on the cutoff procedure.
- We also extended **horizon fluff proposal** to 4d extremal Kerr BH [Hajian, MMSHJ, Yavartanoo, 2017].
- Key question in the **horizon fluff proposal** is to single out a set of NH soft hairs which “add up” giving the mass and angular momentum.

- Thermodynamical features of large classical BHs are **universal**.
- It is hence expected that the BH microstate identification should have a universal answer.
- With this motivation, we made such a universal analysis for NH soft charges, algebras and states.
- There are **various consistent choices for the boundary conditions**, for **a given NH falloff**, yielding different NH Symmetry Algebras.
- Our NH SA, includes **generic diffeos on  $d - 2$  dim. bifurcation horizon surface**, plus a **supertranslation part**.

- Our NH SA includes  $\text{BMS}_d$ , *without a central term*, as a subalgebra.
- We also have a generic Heisenberg-type algebra, with  $1/(4G)$  playing the role of Planck's constant.
- One can compute the on-shell *boundary action*:

$$I_B = \int dt d^{d-2}x \left( \mathcal{N}_H \mathcal{P} + \mathcal{N}_H^a \mathcal{J}_a^H \right)$$

where  $\mathcal{N}_H, \mathcal{N}_H^a$  are the usual lapse and shift functions.

- The above may be viewed as the “action” for a physical membrane at the horizon, as *membrane paradigm* suggests.

## ■ NH SA and the membrane paradigm[D. Grumiller, MMSHJ, 2018]

- The idea is that a universal question like BH microstates should have a universal answer through membrane paradigm.
- That is, membrane action as “hydrodynamical” description of the BH thermodynamics.
- Upon its “semiclassical” Bohr-type quantization we should be able to identify BH microstates.
- Consider a  $d-2$  dimensional brane wrapping the stretched horizon.

- Membrane action is the volume it swips over the spacetime.
- The action is invariant under  $d - 1$  dimensional diffeos and the only physical parameter in this action is membrane tension  $T$ .
- Fixing the static gauge on the membrane and choosing the natural light-cone time coordinate

$$\tau = t$$

- The membrane e Hamiltonian becomes

$$H_{\text{membrane}} = \frac{T}{2\pi} \int_{\mathcal{H}} \sqrt{\det \Omega}$$

- Comparing this with our  $H_{NH}$ , we learn

$$T = \frac{\kappa}{4G}$$

*Our proposal for BH microstates:*

BH microstates are certain states among the near horizon soft hair  
and  
are indistinguishable (degenerate) from the asymptotic symmetry  
viewpoint.

This Heisenberg algebra arises as a result of Rindler wedge,  
ubiquitously found in any nonextreme NH geometry.

Membrane paradigm may be providing the way to identify BH  
microstates.

*Thank You For Your Attention*