



# The Correspondence Between Rotating Black Holes and Fundamental Strings

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Based on ongoing work with **R. Emparan**, **A. Puhm**, and **M. Tomašević**

New horizons for horizonless physics: from gauge to gravity and back again

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# Motivation

- Black holes have large entropy

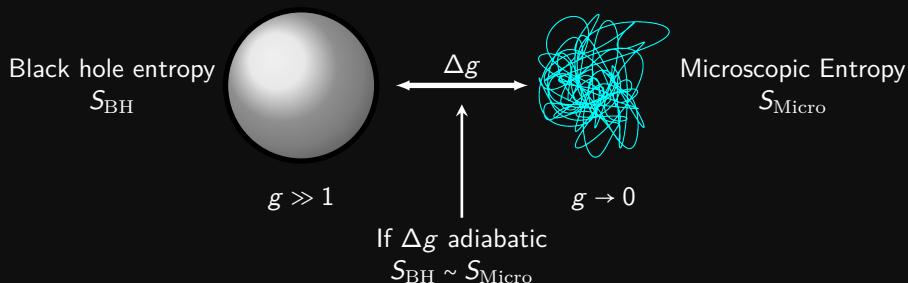
$$S_{BH} = \frac{A_H}{4 G_D \hbar} \gg 1.$$

- Is there a statistical interpretation?
- String theory offers some insight into the microscopic picture:
  - Explicit constructions of microstates.
  - Counting arguments at weak string coupling.

# Black holes in String Theory

- String coupling  $g$  controls the strength of gravitational interactions

$$G_D \sim l_P^{D-2} \sim g^2 l_s^{D-2}$$



- But in general the properties are vastly different, for example in  $D=4$

$$S_{\text{BH}} \propto M^2, \quad S_{\text{micro}} \propto M.$$

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# Starring

Schwarzschild Black Hole in  
 $D$ -dimensions with mass  $M$

- $S_{\text{BH}} \sim \left(\frac{M}{M_P}\right)^{\frac{D-2}{D-3}} \sim g^{\frac{2}{D-3}} \left(\frac{M}{M_s}\right)^{\frac{D-2}{D-3}}$ ,
- $r_H \sim \left(\frac{M}{M_P}\right)^{\frac{1}{D-3}} l_P \sim \left[g_c^2 \frac{M}{M_s}\right]^{\frac{1}{D-3}} l_s$
- $T_{\text{Haw}} \sim \frac{1}{r_H}$

Highly excited fundamental string in  
 $D$ -dimensions with mass  $M \sim \sqrt{N} M_s$

- $S_{\text{Micro}} \sim \frac{M}{M_s} \sim \sqrt{N}$ ,
- $\langle r \rangle \sim \sqrt{\frac{M}{M_s}} l_s$ ,


$$r_H \gg l_s$$

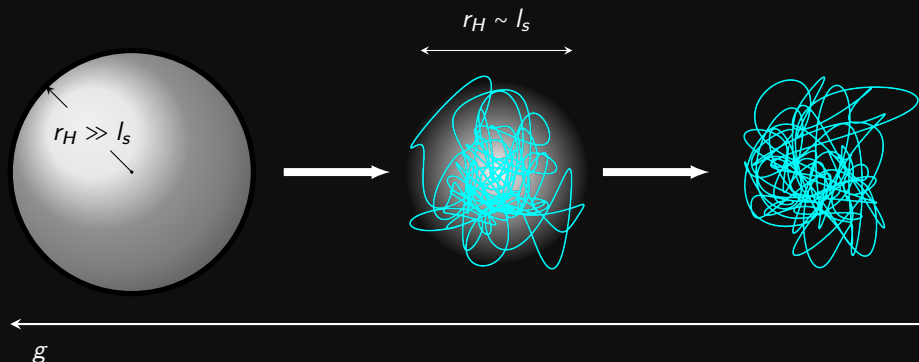


$$g^2 \sim \left(\frac{l_P}{l_s}\right)^{D-2} \sim \left(\frac{M_s}{M_P}\right)^{D-2}$$

# The correspondence

[Susskind, Horowitz+Polchinski, Damour+Veneziano...]

- Keep the entropy  $S$  fixed and change the string coupling  $g$ .
- The black hole and free string descriptions change when the curvature at the horizon of the black hole becomes of the string scale.
- For Schwarzschild Black holes the correspondence point is when





- Fix the entropy of a large black hole

$$S_{\text{BH}} \sim \left( \frac{M}{M_P} \right)^{\frac{D-2}{D-3}} \sim g^{\frac{2}{D-3}} \left( \frac{M}{M_s} \right)^{\frac{D-2}{D-3}}$$

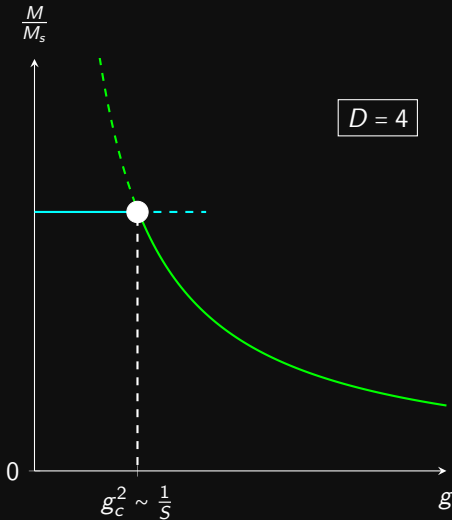
- At which value of string coupling is  $r_H \sim l_s$

$$r_H \sim \left[ g_c^2 \frac{M}{M_s} \right]^{\frac{1}{D-3}} l_s,$$

$$g_c^2 \sim \frac{M_s}{M} \sim \frac{1}{S_{\text{BH}}} \ll 1$$

- At  $g = g_c$

$$S_{\text{BH}} \sim \frac{M}{M_s} \sim S_{\text{Micro}}$$



# Other properties

- Hawking temperature increases to the Hagedorn scale

$$T_{\text{Haw}} \sim \frac{1}{r_H} \Big|_{g=g_c} \sim \frac{1}{l_s} \sim T_{\text{Hag}}$$

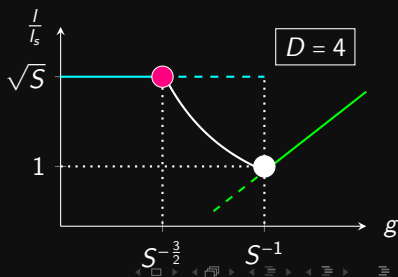
- Sizes do not match – string is much larger

$$r_H \sim l_s \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \langle r \rangle \sim \sqrt{\frac{M}{M_s}} l_s.$$

- One needs to include the effects of self-interaction.

[Horowitz+Polchinski, Damour+Veneziano, Chen+Maldacena+Witten, Brustein et al., ...]

- Modelled using a winding condensate near the Hagedorn temperature.
- Strong dependence on the dimension  $D$ .
- Upshot: Self-interactions interpolate between black hole and free string sizes

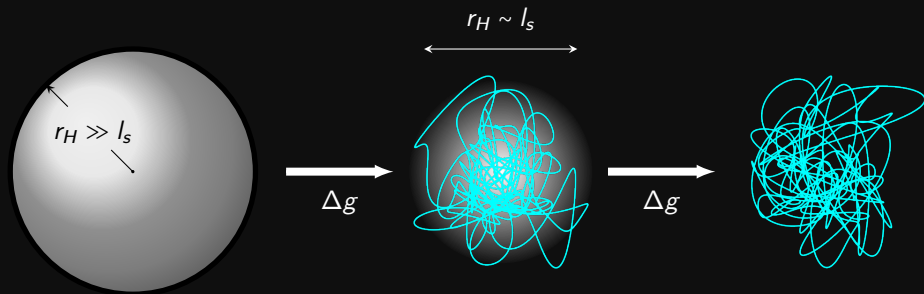


# Intermezzo – Dynamical evaporation

- Hawking evaporation: Fix  $g$  at a large value and decrease  $M$  and  $S$ .
- When  $r_H \sim l_s$

$$M \sim \frac{1}{g^2} M_s, \quad S_{\text{BH}} \sim \frac{1}{g^{\frac{2}{D-3}}}, \quad T_{\text{Haw}} \sim \frac{1}{l_s} \sim T_{\text{Hag}},$$

you can think of the black hole becoming a hot soup of weakly interacting strings  $\Rightarrow$  Possible endpoint of BH evaporation

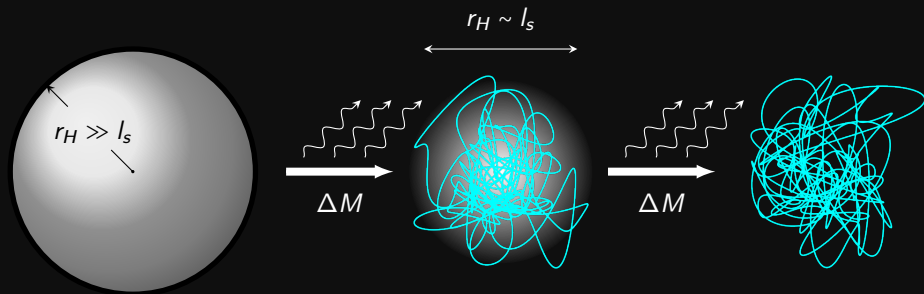


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- A proposal on how to relate black hole and free string regimes.
- Allows for a parametric match between black hole and string states

$$S_{\text{BH}} \sim S_{\text{Micro}}.$$

## Successes

- Works for a black holes with a wide variety of charges.
- Provides a microscopic understanding of the black hole entropy (at  $g = 0$ ).
- Can be seen as a model for the endpoint of black hole evaporation.

## Limitations

- In general does not capture numerical  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  factors.
  - In supersymmetric configurations these can be reproduced.

[Strominger+Vafa, Sen, . . .]

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# Adding Angular momentum

- Fixing the angular momentum should not modify the black hole/fundamental string correspondence too much.

⇒ Neutral rotating black objects should be related to rotating stringy objects.

- Kerr bound and Regge bound are qualitatively similar

$$J_{\text{Kerr}} = \frac{M^2}{M_P^2}, \quad J_{\text{Regge}} = \frac{M^2}{M_s^2},$$

but ultimately expressed in different units.

# Difficulties

- At weak string coupling  $g \ll 1$

$$J_{\text{Kerr}} \sim g^2 \frac{M^2}{M_s^2} \ll \frac{M^2}{M_s^2} = J_{\text{Regge}}.$$

- There exist stringy objects which have violate the Kerr bound.
- The two bounds are saturated by completely different objects:

$$J = J_{\text{Kerr}}:$$

Extremal Kerr solution

- Large entropy  $S_{\text{BH}} \propto M^2$
- Still spherical



$$J = J_{\text{Regge}}:$$

Rigid Rods

- Non-degenerate
- Highly non-spherical





# Even more difficulties

## Black Hole side

- Kerr Bound only for  $D = 4$ .
  - Increasing the number of dimensions add to complexity:
    - Kerr bound get replaced by stability bounds.
    - More allowed angular momenta  $\lfloor \frac{D-1}{2} \rfloor$   
 $\Rightarrow$  More complicated black objects (black rings, ...)
- [Myers+Perry, Emparan+Reall, ...]
- Do all such objects have a corresponding string counterpart?

## String side

- Regge bound is independent of number of dimensions.
- In  $D > 4$  more planes of rotation allow for stringy objects stabilised by angular momentum (plasmid strings)

# Stringy objects ( $g = 0$ )

- Highly excited strings behave like random walks with  $M \sim \sqrt{N} M_s$  steps

[Mitchel+Turok, ...]

$$\langle (\Delta r)^2 \rangle \sim \frac{M}{M_s} l_s^2, \quad S \sim \frac{M}{M_s} \sim \sqrt{N},$$

- Strings with no rotation are isotropic in all directions: string balls.



- Slow rotating strings ( $J < \sqrt{N}$ ): Corrections quadratic in  $J$  but heavily suppressed

$$\langle (\Delta r)^2 \rangle \sim \left[ \sqrt{N} \pm \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{J^2}{N}\right) \right] l_s^2, \quad S \sim \sqrt{N} - \frac{J^2}{N},$$

Slowly rotating strings essentially stay string balls.

- Increasing rotation lowers the entropy

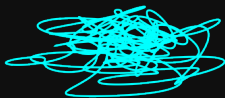
[Russo+Susskind]

$$S \sim \sqrt{N - J},$$

and pancakes the string

$$\langle (\Delta r)^2 \rangle_{\perp} \sim \sqrt{N - J}, \quad \langle (\Delta r)^2 \rangle_{\parallel} \sim \sqrt{N}$$

Pancakes



Plasmids



Bars



[Blanco-Pillado+Emparan+Iglesias]

# Black objects in $D = 4$

- Kerr black hole
- Radius of the outer horizon

$$r_+ = \frac{M}{M_P} \left[ 1 + \sqrt{1 - \frac{M_P^4}{M^4} J^2} \right] l_P,$$

- Entropy

$$S_{\text{BH}} = \frac{M^2}{M_P^2} \left[ 1 + \sqrt{1 - \frac{M_P^4}{M^4} J^2} \right],$$

- Temperature

$$T_{\text{Haw}} \sim \frac{\sqrt{1 - \frac{M_P^4}{M^4} J^2}}{r_+}$$

- Kerr Bound

$$J_{\text{Kerr}} \leq \frac{M^2}{M_P^2}.$$

$$D \geq 5$$

- I will focus on black objects with only one plane of rotation.
- Simplest solutions are Myers-Perry black holes

[Myers+Perry]

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + \frac{\mu}{r^{D-5} \Sigma} (dt - a \sin^2 \theta d\phi)^2 + \frac{\Sigma}{\Delta} dr^2 + \Sigma d\theta^2 + (r^2 + a^2) \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2 + r^2 \cos^2 \theta d\Omega_{D-4}^2,$$

where

$$\Sigma = r^2 + a^2 \cos^2 \theta, \quad \Delta = r^2 + a^2 - \frac{\mu}{r^{D-5}},$$

and

$$\mu = \frac{16 \pi G}{(D-2)\Omega_{D-2}} M, \quad a = \frac{D-2}{2} \frac{J}{M}.$$

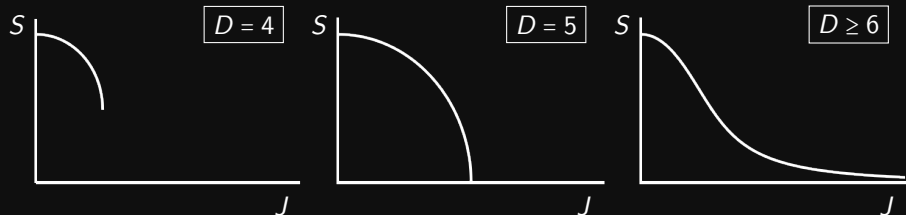
# Myers-Perry Black holes

- The event horizon is determined by

$$r_0^2 + a^2 - \frac{\mu}{r_0^{D-5}} = 0,$$

- The entropy is proportional to

$$S_{\text{MP}} \sim r_0^{D-4} (r_0^2 + a^2).$$

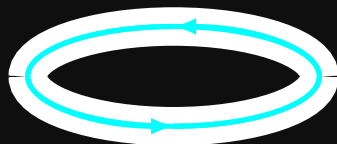


# Black rings ( $D \geq 5$ )

[Empan+Reall]

- Gravitational attraction is balanced out by angular momentum.
- Can also have arbitrary large angular momentum.
- We will consider two cases:
  - Neutral black rings
  - Dipole black rings (additional fundamental string dipole charge)

[Empan]



- Which of these objects are stable?
- Mass and angular momentum length scales

$$L_M \equiv \left( \frac{M}{M_P} \right)^{\frac{1}{D-3}} l_P, \quad L_J \equiv \frac{J}{M},$$

- Stability bounds replace the Kerr bound in  $D \geq 5$

$$L_J \lesssim L_M, \quad \iff \quad \boxed{J \lesssim S}$$

- Spheroidal objects (Kerr, gently spinning MP) are stable
- Ultraspinning objects ( $J > S$ ) are unstable: They can fragment.
- **Exception:** Dipole rings can be stable even if highly spinning.



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# General principle

- Adiabatic change of string coupling  $g$ , keep  $S$  and  $J$  fixed.
- Follow strings states as  $g$  increases.
- Follow black objects as  $g$  decreases.
- Identify which string objects get mapped to which object at strong coupling.
- We have to consider the relevant timescale for stability: At finite  $g$  both black holes and strings radiate.
- Radiation sets the scale of stability.

# Correspondence in $D = 4$

- Only the Kerr black hole at  $g \gg 1$ .
- Rotating string balls, pancakes and rods on the string side.
- Because of the Kerr bound

$$J_{\text{Kerr}} \leq \frac{M^2}{M_P^2},$$

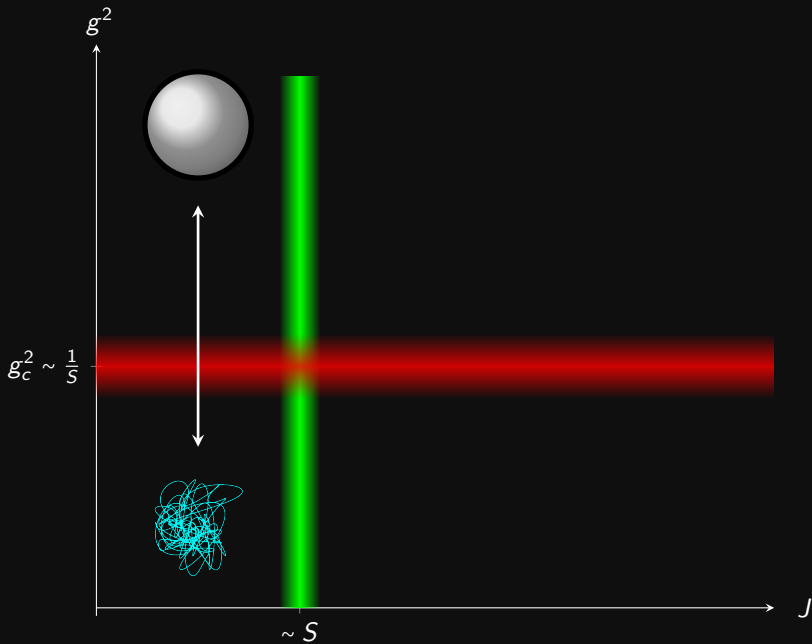
angular momentum effects give an  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  correction

$$r_+ = \frac{M}{M_P} \left[ 1 + \sqrt{1 - \frac{M_P^4}{M^4} J^2} \right] l_P, \quad S_{\text{BH}} = \frac{M^2}{M_P^2} \left[ 1 + \sqrt{1 - \frac{M_P^4}{M^4} J^2} \right],$$

- To leading order we get the same results as in the non-rotating case:

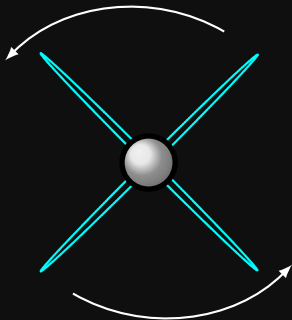
$$g_c^2 \sim \frac{1}{S}, \quad \text{and} \quad J \lesssim S$$

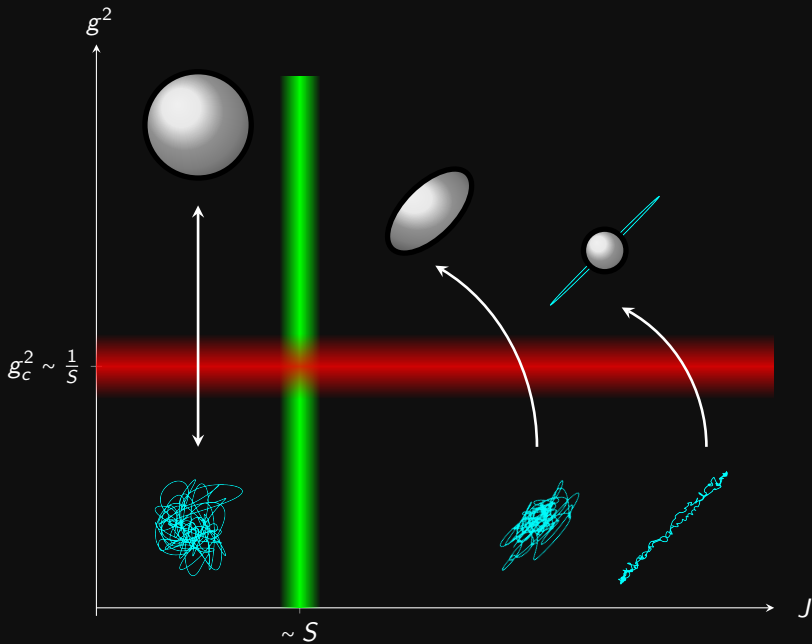
**Plump rotating black holes** are matched with **slowly rotating black strings**.



# What about highly rotating strings?

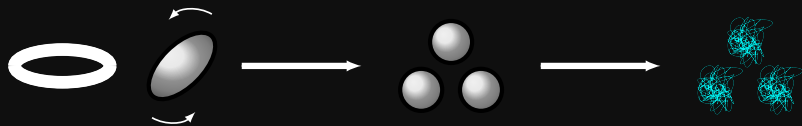
- Even in  $D = 4$  we have string bars and pancakes.
- These objects should not have a stable counterpart at strong coupling.
- At  $g > 0$  such objects radiate and lose angular momentum. [\[Iengo+Russo\]](#)
- Above the correspondence point, they either become non-stable objects or possibly even stringy hybrids [\[Deng+Gruzinov+Levin+Vilenkin\]](#)





$$D \geq 5$$

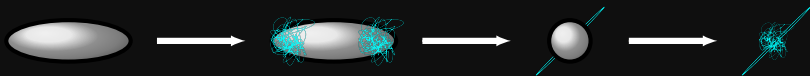
- The results from  $D = 4$  naturally extend to higher dimensions.
- But we also have some new ingredients:
  - Ultraspinning Myers-Perry black holes ( $J > S$ ).
  - Ring like configurations (string and black hole side).
- Most  $J > S$  objects are unstable to fragmentation.



- Each individual fragment will transition into a (slowly rotating) string.

$$D \geq 5$$

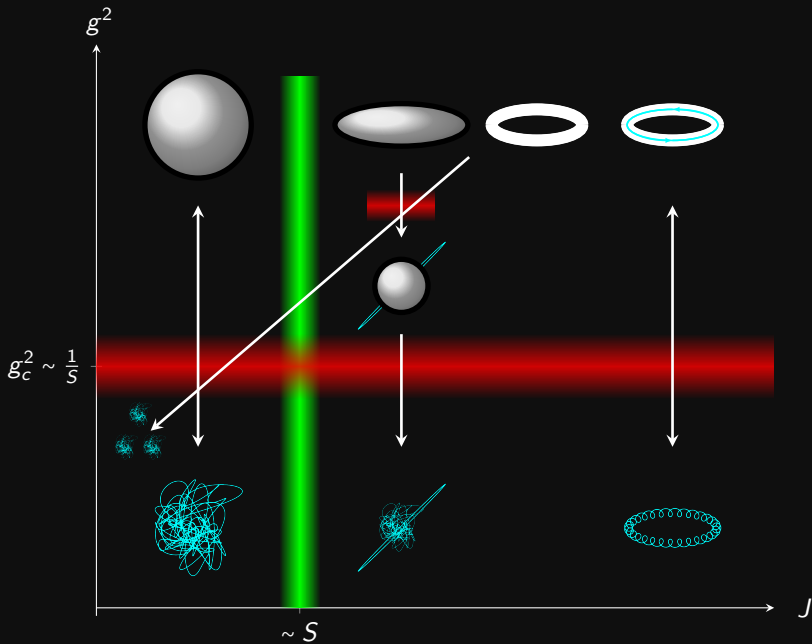
- For long lived ellongated Myers-Perry black holes, end points can transition earlier than the poles



- Hybrids can potentially become stringy bars with suitably localised excitations.
- Dipole rings can be stable and transition into plasmids.







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# Summary

- The black hole/string correspondence provides stringy insight into the black hole degrees of freedom.
- We characterised the correspondence between rotating black holes and fundamental strings with momentum in arbitrary ( $D \geq 4$ ) dimensions.
- For slowly rotating black holes  $J < S$ , the correspondence is an extension of the non-rotating case.
- For higher angular momentum, there are several non-trivial transitions that depend on the configurations.
- We find that some transitions depend on the direction in which we change the coupling: Non-reversible changes.

# Outlook

- Details of transitions?
- What happens near the extremal bound?
- Other spacetimes (AdS/dS)?
- Adding Ramond charges?
- For which configurations with angular momentum can one find bound states at  $g > 0$ ? [Horowitz+Polchinski]