

# Multicenter non-BPS Black Holes and what can they teach us about the Information Paradox

Iosif Bena

IPhT (SPhT), CEA Saclay

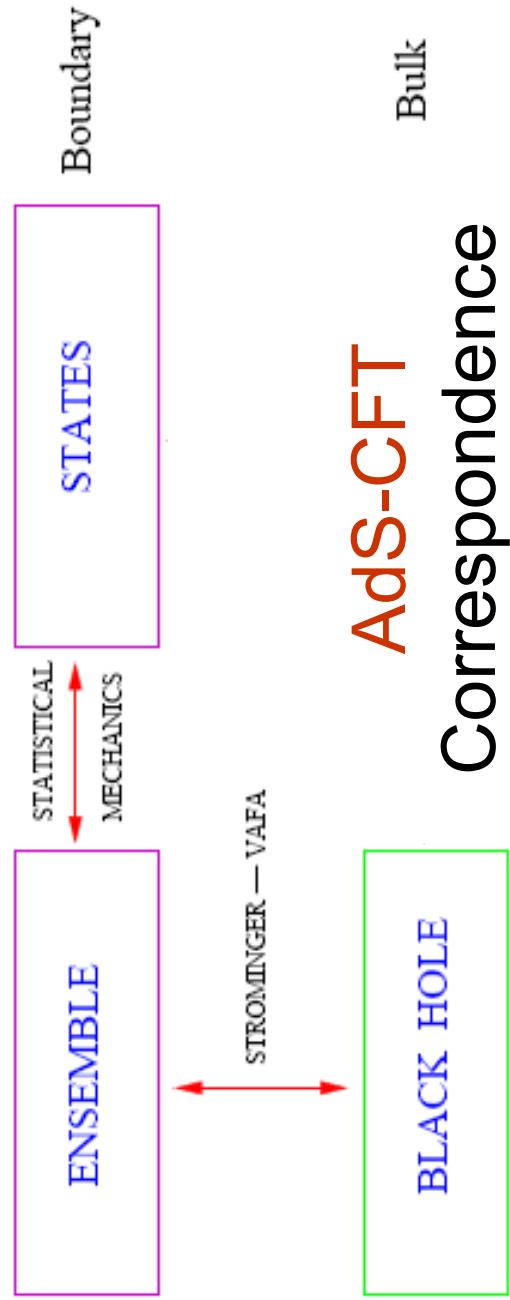
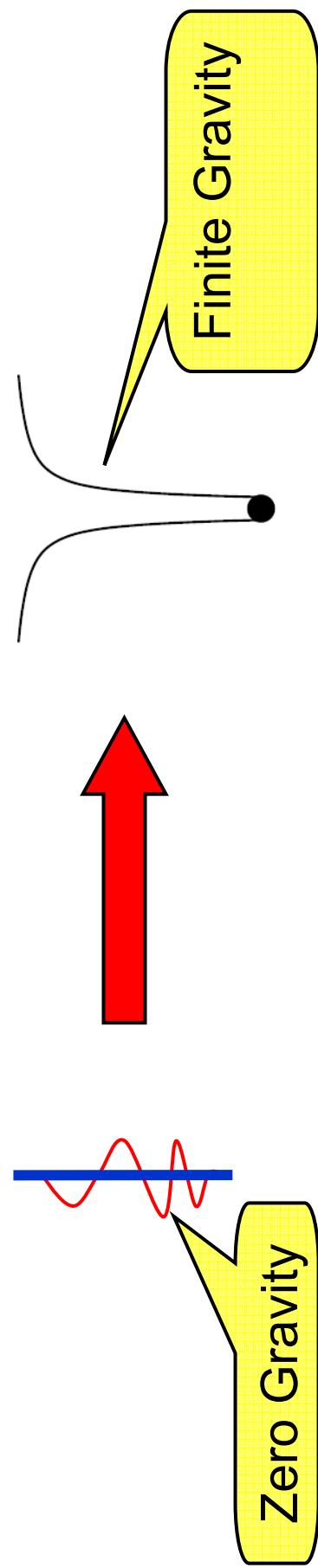
with Nick Warner, Gianguidio Dall'Agata, Clement Ruef, Stefano Giusto

# Strominger and Vafa (1996)

+1000 other articles

**Count BH Microstates  
Match B.H. entropy !!!**

**2 ways to understand:**



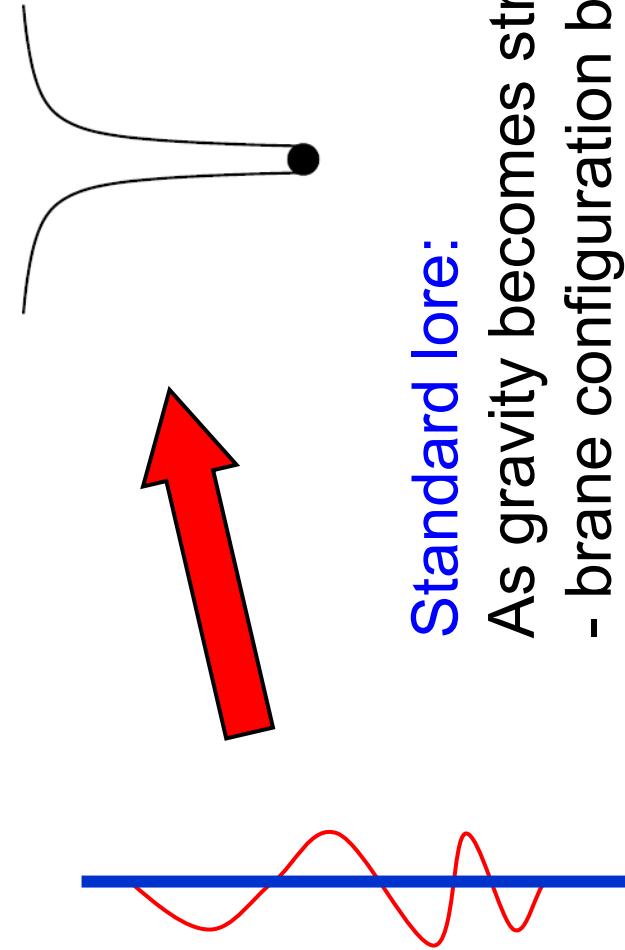
Strominger and Vafa (1996):

*Count Black Hole Microstates* (branes + strings)

**Correctly match B.H. entropy !!!**

Zero Gravity

Black hole regime of parameters:



Standard lore:

As gravity becomes stronger,

- brane configuration becomes smaller
- horizon develops and engulfs it
- recover standard black hole

Susskind  
Horowitz, Polchinski  
Damour, Veneziano

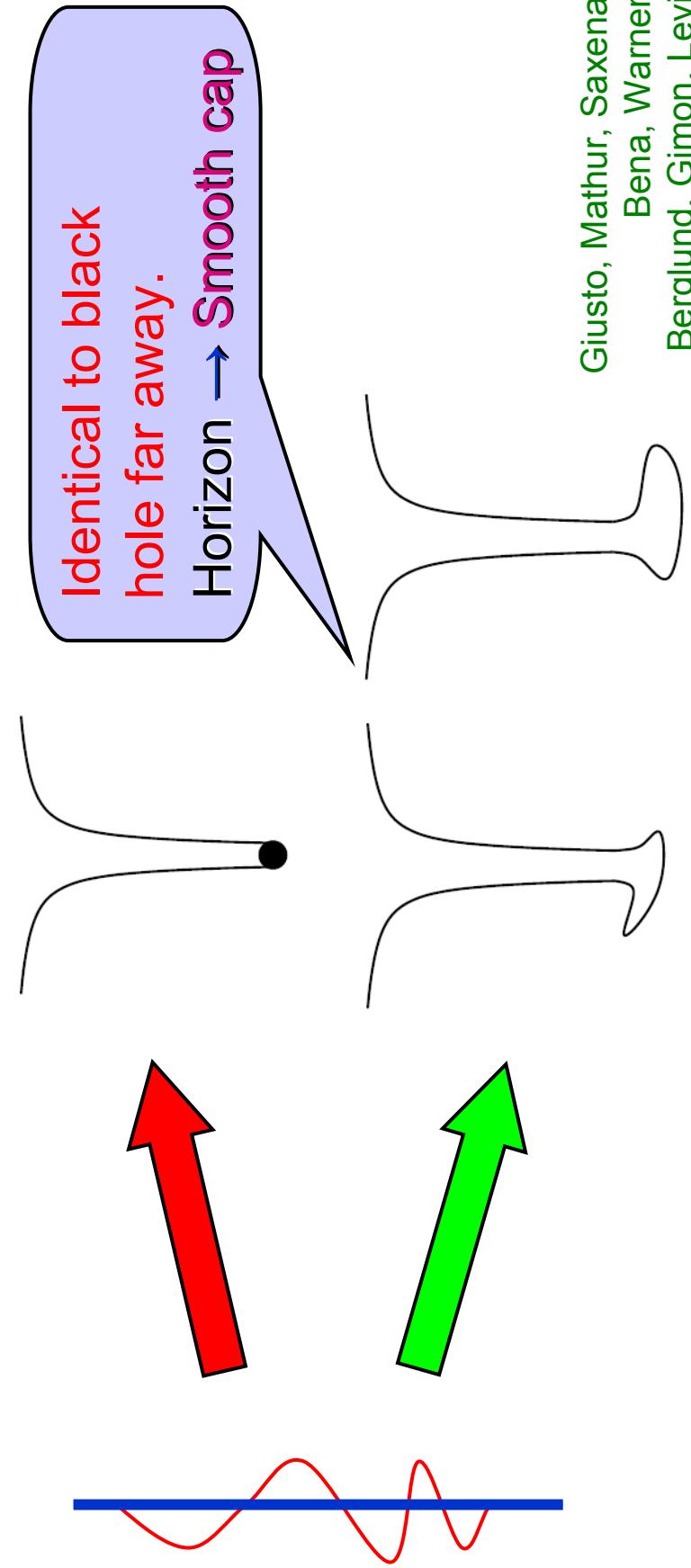
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Zero Gravity

Black hole regime of parameters:

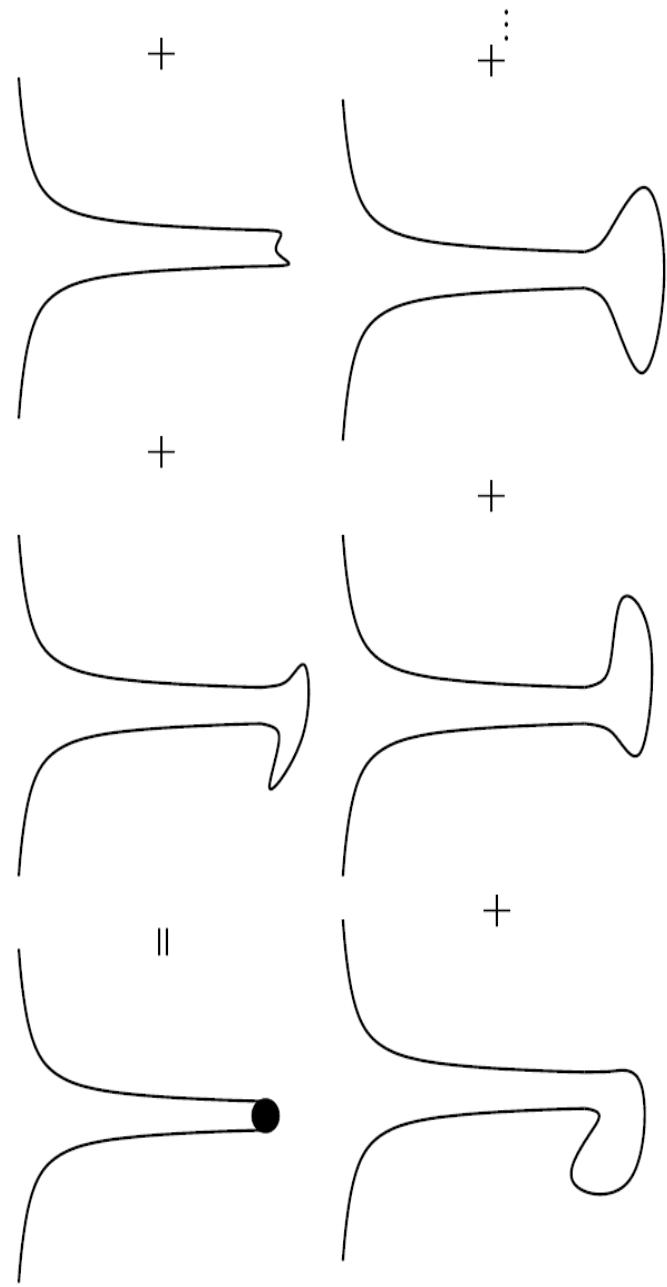


**BIG QUESTION:** Are **all** black hole microstates becoming geometries with no horizon?

?

Black hole = ensemble of horizonless microstates

Mathur & friends



# Analogy with ideal gas

## Thermodynamics

(Air = ideal gas)

$$P V = n R T$$

$$dE = T dS + P dV$$

## Statistical Physics

(Air -- molecules)

$e^S$  microstates

typical  
atypical



## Thermodynamics

Black Hole Solution

## Statistical Physics

Microstate geometries

Long distance physics  
Gravitational lensing

Physics at horizon  
Information loss

## A few corollaires

new low-mass  
degrees of freedom

- Thermodynamics (LQFT) breaks down at horizon.  
Nonlocal effects take over.
- No spacetime inside black holes. Quantum superposition of microstate geometries.

Can be proved by rigorous calculations:

1. Build most generic microstates + Count
2. Use  $AdS$ -CFT

∞ parameters  
black hole charges

# Word of Caution

- To replace classical BH by BH-sized object

- Gravastar

- Fuzzball

- LQG muck

- Quark-star, you name it ...

satisfy very **stringent** (*mutilating*) test:

Horowitz

Same growth with  $G_N$  !!!

- BH size **grows** with  $G_N$
- Size of objects in other theories **becomes smaller**

- BH **microstate** geometries **pass this test**
- **Highly nontrivial** mechanism

# BPS Microstates geometries

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \textcolor{blue}{M2} & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ \textcolor{green}{M2} & 0 & & 3 & 4 \\ \textcolor{magenta}{M2} & 0 & & 5 & 6 \end{array}$$

3-charge 5D black hole Strominger, Vafa; BMPV

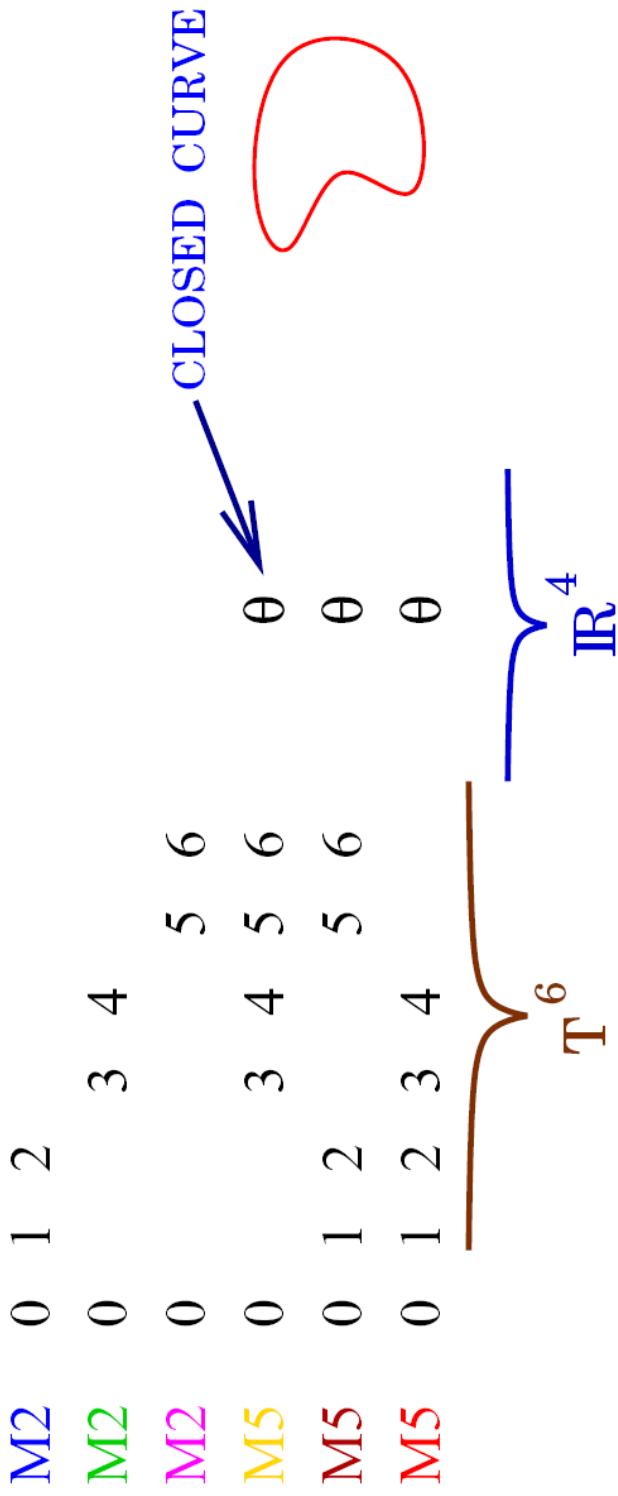
$$S_{BMPV} = 2\pi \sqrt{N_1 N_5 N_P - J^2}$$

$$ds^2 = Z_1^{-2/3} Z_2^{-2/3} Z_3^{-2/3} (dt + \vec{k})^2 + Z_1^{1/3} Z_2^{1/3} Z_3^{1/3} dx_{\mathbb{R}^4}^2 + ds_T^2$$

$$F_{120i} = \partial_i \textcolor{blue}{Z}_1^{-1} \quad F_{340i} = \partial_i \textcolor{teal}{Z}_2^{-1} \quad F_{560i} = \partial_i \textcolor{violet}{Z}_3^{-1} \quad \text{electric}$$

Want solutions with same asymptotics, but no horizon

# BPS Microstates geometries



$$ds^2 = Z_1^{-2/3} Z_2^{-2/3} Z_3^{-2/3} (dt + \vec{k})^2 + Z_1^{1/3} Z_2^{1/3} Z_3^{1/3} dx_{\mathbb{R}^4}^2 + ds_{T^6}^2$$

$$F_{120i} = \partial_i Z_1^{-1} \quad F_{340i} = \partial_i Z_2^{-1} \quad F_{560i} = \partial_i Z_3^{-1}$$

$$F_{12ij} = G_{ij}^1 \quad F_{56ij} = G_{ij}^2 \quad F_{56ij} = G_{ij}^3$$

magnetic

Solution depends on  $G^1$   $G^2$   $G^3$   $Z_1$   $Z_2$   $Z_3$   $\vec{k}$   
 Bena, Warner  
 Gutowski, Reall

# BPS Microstates geometries

Linear system

$\mathbb{R}^4$  base (4D Hyper Kahler)

**4 layers:**

$$*G^I = G^I$$

Bena, Warner

$$d * dZ_1 = G^2 \wedge G^3$$

$$\vec{dk} + * \vec{dk} = G^1 Z_1 + G^2 Z_2 + G^3 Z_3$$

M2 Killing  
Spinors !!!

Focus on Gibbons-Hawking (Taub-NUT) base:

$$ds^2 = V(dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + dx_3^2) + V^{-1}(d\psi + \vec{A})^2$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{A} = \nabla V$$

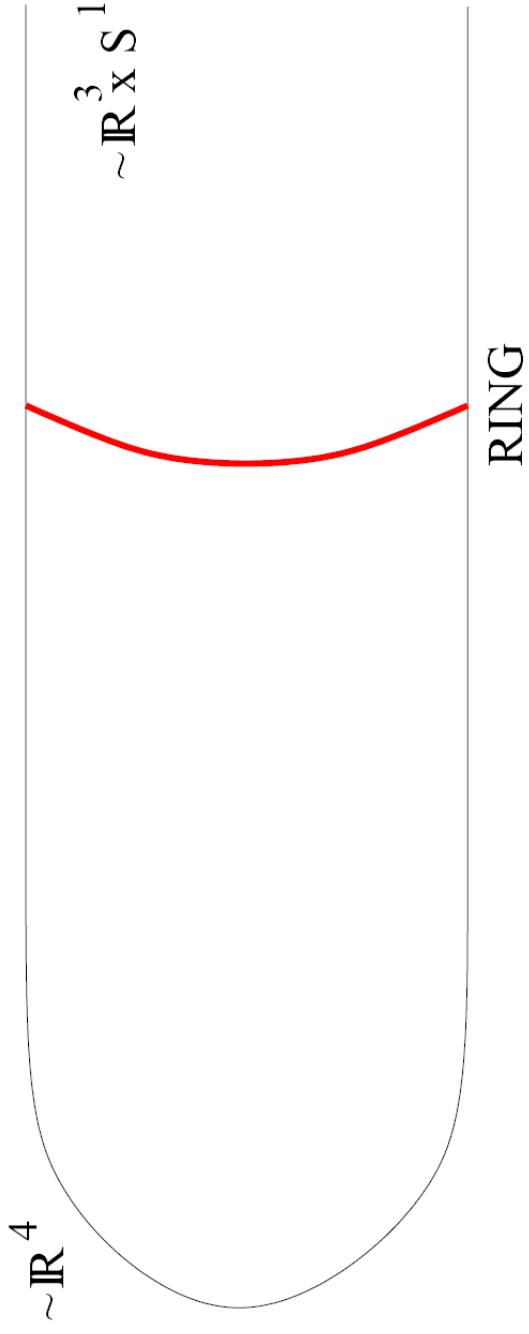
$$V = \frac{1}{r}$$
  
$$V = 1 + \frac{1}{r}$$
  
**Taub-NUT**

8 harmonic functions

Gauntlett, Gutowski,  
Bena, Kraus, Warner

# BPS Black Rings (in Taub-NUT)

Elvang, Emparan, Mateos, Reall; Bena, Kraus, Warner; Gaiotto, Strominger, Yin



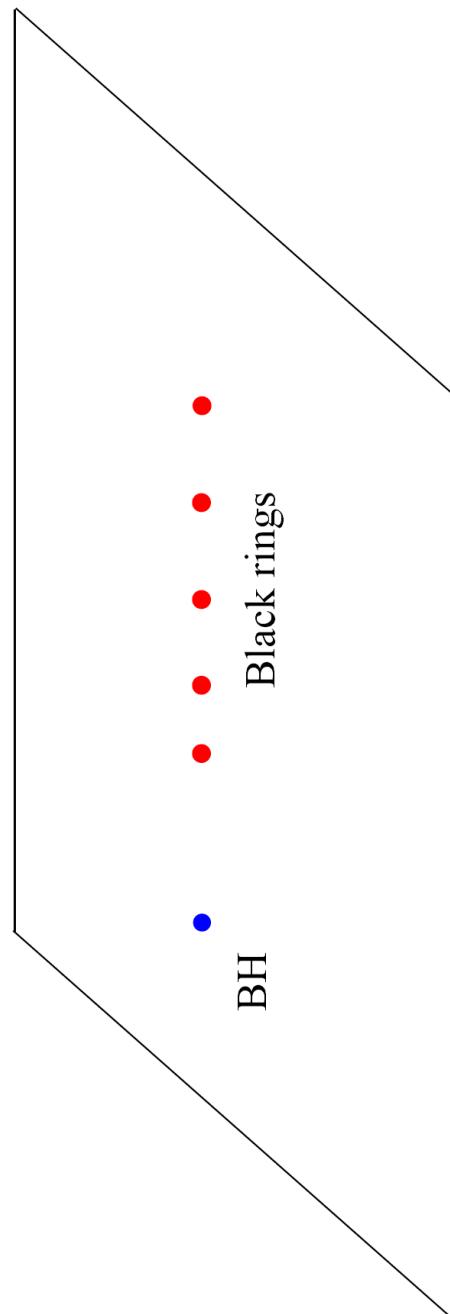
$$S = \pi \sqrt{2n_1 n_2 \bar{N}_1 \bar{N}_2 + 2n_1 n_3 \bar{N}_1 \bar{N}_3 + 2n_2 n_3 \bar{N}_2 \bar{N}_3 - n_1^2 \bar{N}_1^2 - n_2^2 \bar{N}_2^2 - n_3^2 \bar{N}_3^2 - 4n_1 n_2 n_3 J_T}$$

4D BH: **D2** charges  $\bar{N}_1 \bar{N}_2 \bar{N}_3$ , **D4** charges  $n_1 n_2 n_3$  and D0 charge  $J_T$

- Position of ring depends on **charges** and **moduli**
- Ring can go to infinity and **disappear from spectrum**
- **Lines of marginal stability**, **wall crossing**, and all that ...

# Examples: Multiple Black Rings

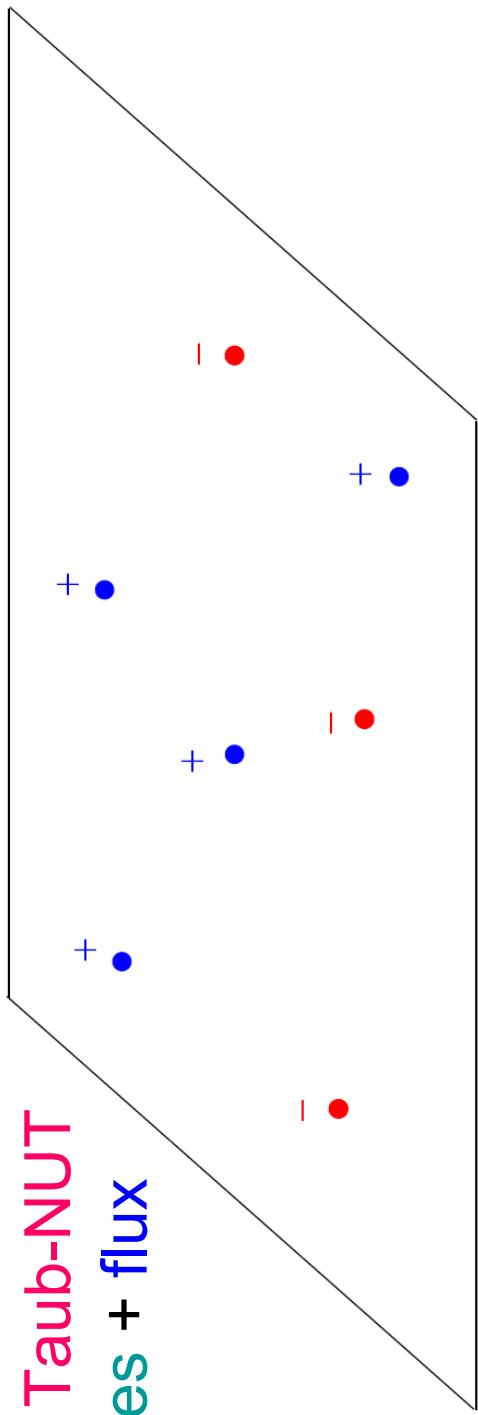
- 5D BH on tip of Taub-NUT  $\Leftrightarrow$  4D BH with D6 charge
- Black ring with BH in the middle  $\Leftrightarrow$  2-centered 4D BH
- 17 black rings + BH  $\Leftrightarrow$  18-centered 4D BH      **Denef**



- 4D **D6,D4,D2,D0 BH**  $\Leftrightarrow$  5D black **hole**
- 4D **D4,D2,D0 BH**  $\Leftrightarrow$  5D black **ring**
- 5D: ring supported by angular momentum
- 4D: multicenter configuration supported by **E**  $\times$  **B**

# Microstates geometries

Multi-center Taub-NUT  
many **2-cycles + flux**



Compactified to 4D  $\rightarrow$  multicenter configuration

Denef

- $+$  GH center  $\Leftrightarrow$  D6 brane
- $-$  GH center  $\Leftrightarrow$   $\overline{\text{D}6}$  brane

Abelian worldvolume flux  
Each: **16** supercharges  
**4 common supercharges**  
**(D2,D2,D2)**

# Microstates geometries

- Where is the BH charge ?

$$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{q} \mathbf{A}_0$$

magnetic

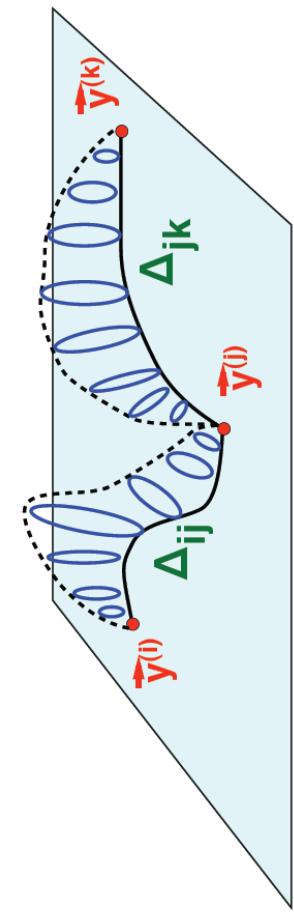
$$\mathbf{L} = \dots + \mathbf{A}_0 \mathbf{F}_{12} \mathbf{F}_{34} + \dots$$

- Where is the BH mass ?

$$\mathbf{E} = \dots + \mathbf{F}_{12} \mathbf{F}^{12} + \dots$$

- BH angular momentum

$$\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B} = \dots + \mathbf{F}_{01} \mathbf{F}_{12} + \dots$$



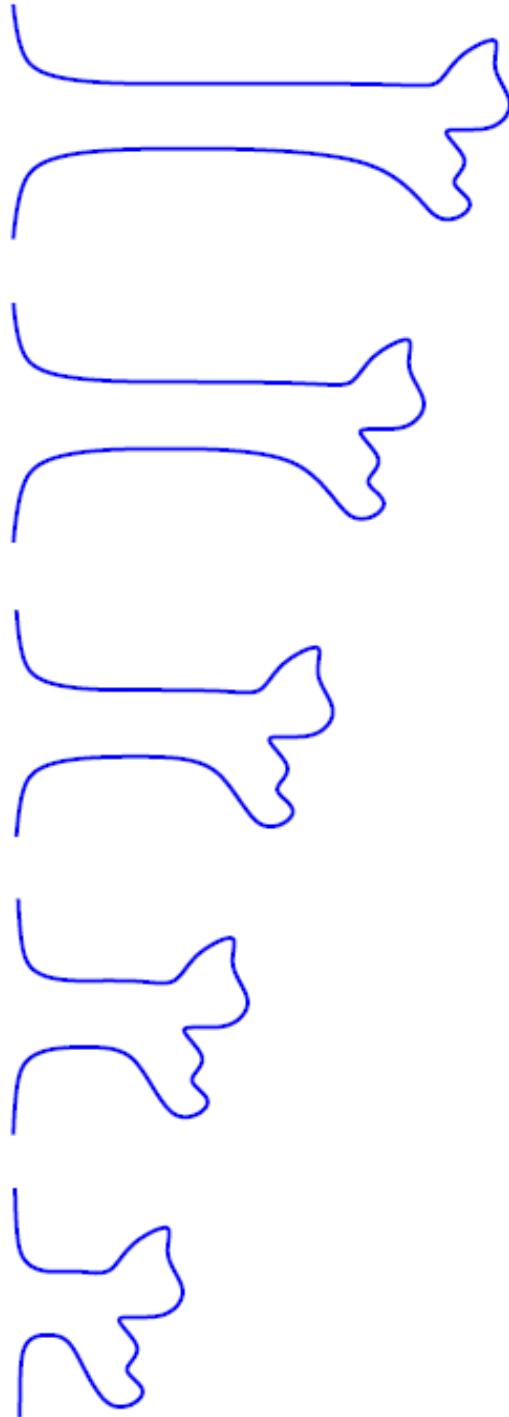
2-cycles + magnetic flux

Charge dissolved in fluxes  
Klebanov-Strassler

$$\int_{O-a} F_{12ij} = n_1$$

$$\int_{O-a} F_{34ij} = f_2$$

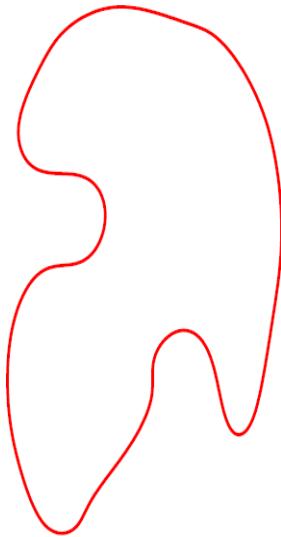
# The deep microstates



- 4D perspective: points collapse on top of each other
- 5D: throat deeper and deeper; **cap remains similar !**
- **Solution smooth throughout scaling !**
- Long throats → **small mass gap** → **typical CFT sector**
- Scaling goes on forever !!! **AdS-CFT unhappy**
  - Can it be stopped ? Quantum effects ? **see Jan's talk**
  - Destroy huge chunk of a smooth horizonless solution ?

# More general solutions

- Put supertube in bubbling solution
- Supertubes [Mateos, Townsend; Emparan](#)
  - supersymmetric brane configs.
  - **arbitrary** shape:
  - **smooth** supergravity solutions [Lunin, Mathur; Lunin, Maldacena, Maoz](#)
- Classical moduli space of microstates solutions  
**has infinite dimension !**
  - Much bigger than space Jan counts (extra  $U(1)$ )
  - Key ingredient in getting correct D1-D5 entropy
  - Wiggly supertubes **do not** descend to 4D sugra.



# More general solutions

Problem: 2-charge supertubes have 2 charges

$$S_{TUBE} = 2\pi \sqrt{2N_1 N_2}$$

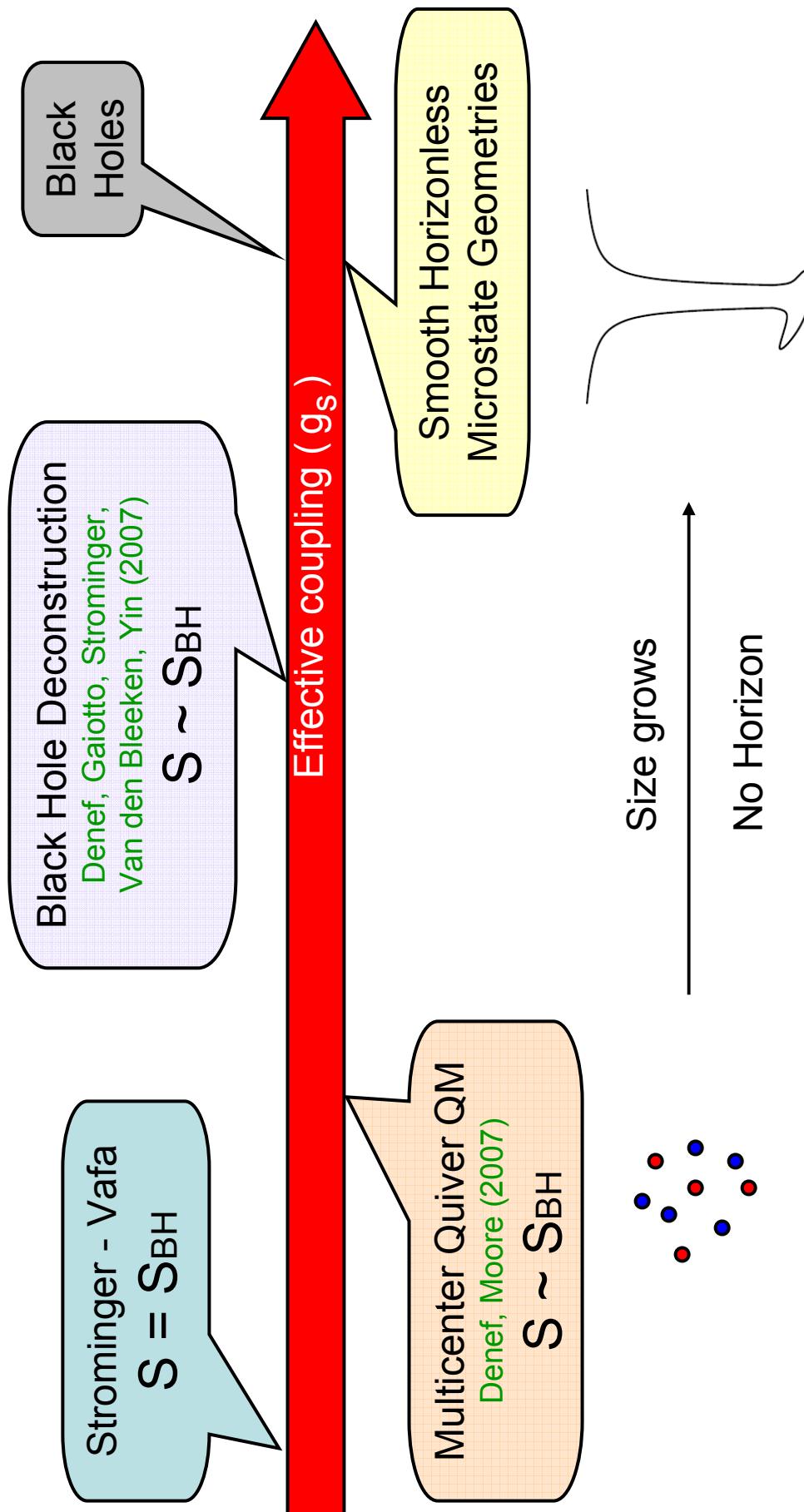
Marolf, Palmer; Rychkov

**Solution:**

- In deep scaling solutions: Bena, Bobev, Ruef, Warner  
 $N_1 \rightarrow N_1^{\text{eff}} \equiv N_1 + d_3 A_2, N_2 \rightarrow N_2^{\text{eff}} \equiv N_2 + d_3 A_1$
- Entropy enhancement !!! **FULL SOLUTION**  
 $S_{TUBE}^{\text{ENHANCED}} \sim S_{BH}$  smooth sugra solutions + 1D

# BPS microstates – the story:

- We have a huge number of them
  - Arbitrary continuous functions
  - **Infinite-dimensional** moduli space
  - Supertube **Entropy Enhancement**
  - Black-Hole-like entropy ☺  
Bena, Bobev, Ruef and Warner
- Dual to CFT states  $\in$  **typical sector**
  - This is where BH states live too ☺
  - **CFT perspective:** highly weird if BH microstates were anything but fuzzballs
- Two non-backreacted calculations:
  - BH entropy from **horizon-less scaling** multicenter configurations ☺

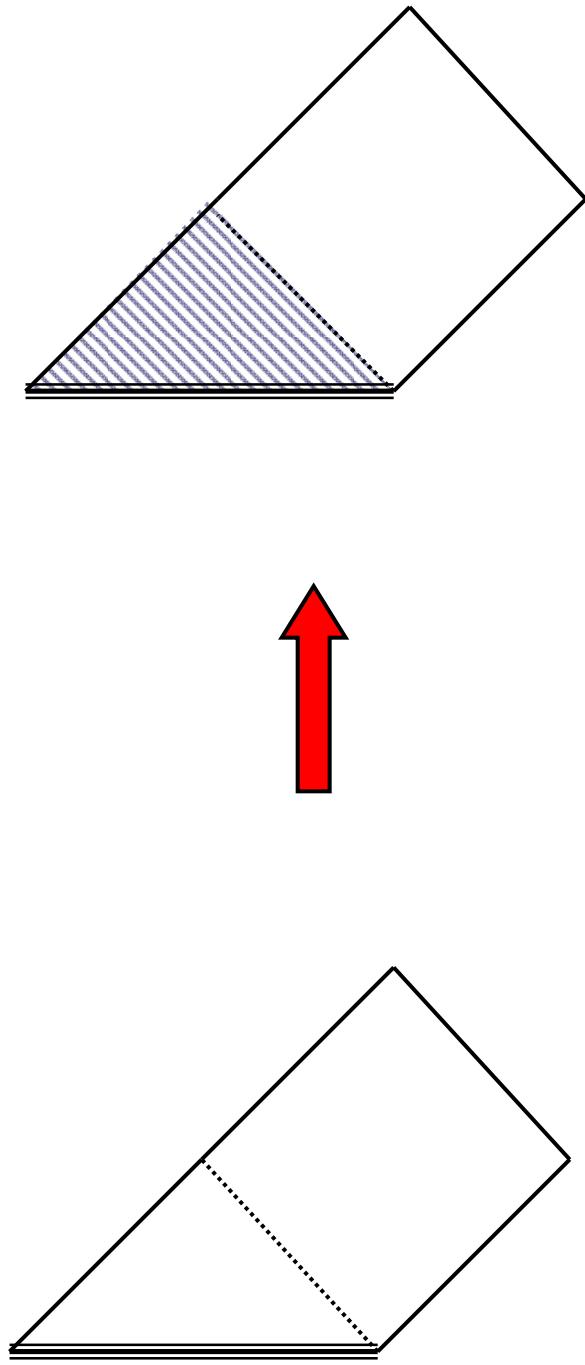


**Punchline:** Typical states **grow** as  $G_N$  increases.  
Horizon never forms.

Quantum effects from singularity **extend to horizon**

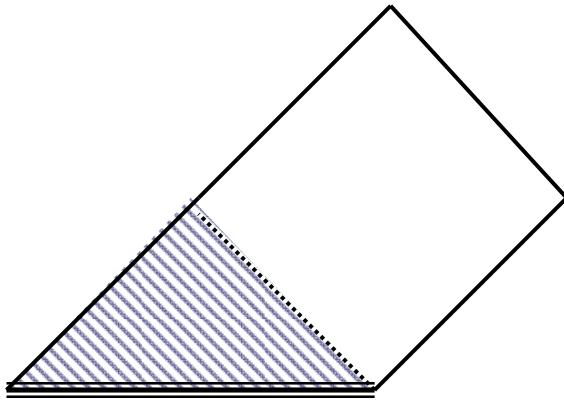
# BPS Black Hole = Extremal

- This is not so strange
- Horizon **in causal future** of singularity
- **Time-like singularity** resolved by stringy low-mass modes extending to horizon



# Always asked question:

- Why are **quantum effects** affecting the horizon (low curvature) ?
- Answer: space-time has **singularity**:
  - **low-mass** degrees of freedom
  - change physics on **long distances**
- **Very common** in string theory !!!
  - Polchinski-Strassler
  - Klebanov-Strassler
  - Giant Gravitons + LLM
  - D1-D5 system
- It can be even worse – quantum effects significant even **without horizon or singularity** !



de Boer, El Showk, Messamah, van den Bleeken

# Extremal **non-BPS** black holes

- Same singularity. **Same Penrose diagram.**
  - Why BPS different from extremal ?
  - GR friends would strangle us.
- How can one show this ?
  - Construct **multi-center extremal** black holes
  - Easier said than done. **No susy** to help.
  - Second-order eqns. As messy as Kerr ☹
  - Could extremality **make things easier** ?
- **It does for single-center** Ceresole, Dall'Agata + friends

# Extreme non-BPS multicenter

Almost – BPS:

$\mathbb{R}^4$  base (4D Hyper Kahler)

Goldstein, Katmadas:

$$-\ast G^I = G^I$$

$$d \ast dZ_1 = G^2 \wedge G^3$$

$$-\vec{dk} + \ast \vec{dk} = G^1 Z_1 + G^2 Z_2 + G^3 Z_3$$

- Still solves equations of motion !!
- Base needs just be Ricci-Flat  
[Bena, Giusto, Ruef, Warner](#)
- $R^4$  or  $R^3 \times S^1 \rightarrow$  BPS sols (absorb the  $-$ )
- Nontrivial new solutions in Taub-NUT

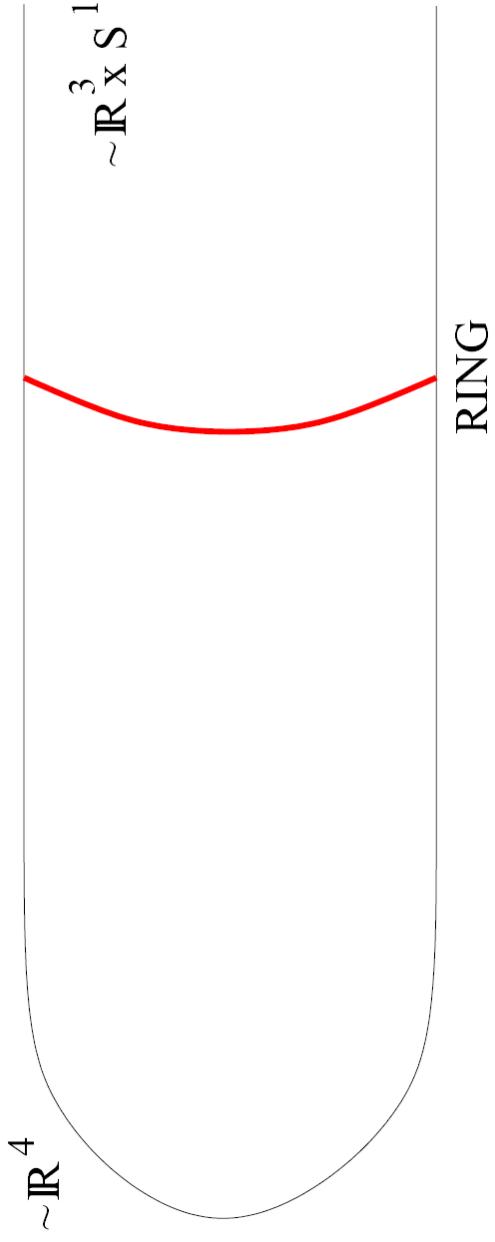
# Why non-BPS ?

Bena, Dall'Agata, Giusto, Ruef, Warner

- Objects are **locally BPS**
  - M2 brane Killing Spinors
  - **Incompatible** with base space:  
 $- *G^I = G^I$
- **Four-dimensional perspective**
  - **D2-D2-D2** system has 4 supercharges
  - Add **D6** – susy preserved
  - Add **anti-D6** – susy broken
  - Any 3 of the 4 branes preserve susy
- **Probe D2** still feels no force
  - Built in the ansatz
  - Mutually BPS w.r.t. any of the background branes

# Non-BPS Rings (in Taub-NUT)

Bena, Dall'Agata, Giusto, Ruef, Warner



$$S = \pi \sqrt{2n_1 n_2 \bar{N}_1 \bar{N}_2 + 2n_1 n_3 \bar{N}_1 \bar{N}_3 + 2n_2 n_3 \bar{N}_2 \bar{N}_3 - n_1^2 \bar{N}_1^2 - n_2^2 \bar{N}_2^2 - n_3^2 \bar{N}_3^2 - 4n_1 n_2 n_3 J_T}$$

4D BH: D2 charges  $\bar{N}_1 \bar{N}_2 \bar{N}_3$ , D4 charges  $n_1 n_2 n_3$  and D0 charge  $J_T$

- Near-ring geometry same as BPS
- Distance from center of Taub-NUT different
- Almost-BPS equations more involved
- But we solved them ...

# A flavor of the equations

- Non-BPS

$$\Theta^{(I)} = d[K^{(I)}(d\psi + A) + b^{(I)}]$$

$$\square_3 Z_I = V \frac{|\epsilon_{IJK}|}{2} \square_3(K^{(J)} K^{(K)})$$

$$Z_I = L_I + \frac{|\epsilon_{IJK}|}{2} \sum_{j,k} \left( h + \frac{qr}{a_j a_k} \right) \frac{d_j^{(J)} d_k^{(K)}}{\Sigma_j \Sigma_k}$$

$$k = \mu(d\psi + A) + \omega$$

$$d(V\mu) + *_3 d\omega = V Z_I dK^{(I)}$$

- BPS

$$\Theta^{(I)} = d[\frac{K^{(I)}}{V}(d\psi + A) + b^{(I)}]$$

$$\square_3 Z_I = V \frac{|\epsilon_{IJK}|}{2} \square_3(\frac{K^{(J)} K^{(K)}}{V^2})$$

Simple solution:

$$Z_I = \frac{|\epsilon_{IJK}|}{2} \frac{K^{(J)} K^{(K)}}{V^2} + L_I$$

$$\mu = \frac{K^1 K^2 K^3}{V^2} + \frac{L_I K^I}{2} + M$$

# How to solve for $\kappa$

- Look at each term on the right hand side.
- Find corresponding  $\mu$  and  $\omega$  e.g.
- Combine all pieces to find full  $\kappa$

$$d(V\mu_i^{(4)}) + *_3 d\omega_i^{(4)} = \frac{1}{r\Sigma_i} d\frac{1}{\Sigma_i}, \quad V\mu_i^{(4)} = \frac{\cos\theta}{2a_i\Sigma_i^2}, \quad \omega_i^{(4)} = \frac{r\sin^2\theta}{2a_i\Sigma_i^2} d\phi$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &= \sum_i \ell_I d_i^{(I)} \mu_i^{(1)} + \sum_i Q_i^{(I)} d_i^{(I)} (h\mu_i^{(2)} + q\mu_i^{(4)}) + \sum_{i \neq i'} Q_i^{(I)} d_{i'}^{(I)} (h\mu_{ii'}^{(3)} + q\mu_{ii'}^{(5)}) \\ &\quad + \sum_{i,j,k} d_i^{(1)} d_j^{(2)} d_k^{(3)} (h^2 \mu_{ijk}^{(6)} + q^2 \mu_{ijk}^{(7)} + hq\mu_{ijk}^{(8)}) + \mu^{(9)} \\ \omega &= \sum_i \ell_I d_i^{(I)} \omega_i^{(1)} + \sum_i Q_i^{(I)} d_i^{(I)} (h\omega_i^{(2)} + q\omega_i^{(4)}) + \sum_{i \neq i'} Q_i^{(I)} d_{i'}^{(I)} (h\omega_{ii'}^{(3)} + q\omega_{ii'}^{(5)}) \\ &\quad + \sum_{i,j,k} d_i^{(1)} d_j^{(2)} d_k^{(3)} (h^2 \omega_{ijk}^{(6)} + q^2 \omega_{ijk}^{(7)} + hq\omega_{ijk}^{(8)}) + \omega^{(9)}, \end{aligned}$$

# Regularity

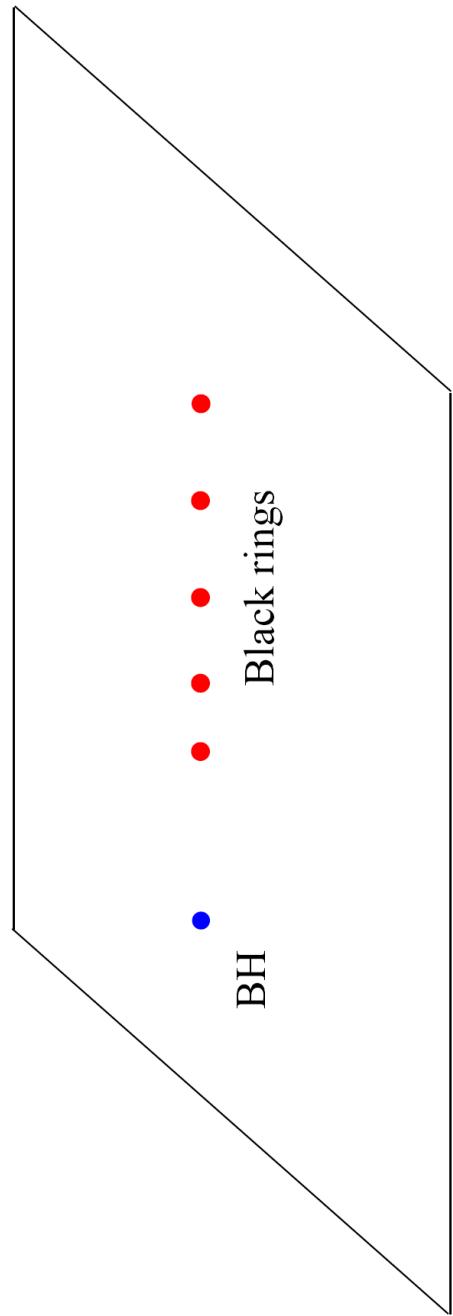
- Vanishing  $\omega$  on axis  $\rightarrow$  no Dirac strings
  - Implies “bubble” or “integrability equations”
  - Walls of marginal stability, wall crossing, etc
  - Bubble equations now cubic !!!
- No CTC’s at black ring horizons  $\rightarrow$  free harmonic function in  $\kappa$  has **dipole part**
- Add dipole part at **Taub-NUT center**  $\rightarrow$  **most general** under-rotating non-BPS **extremal 4D BH**

Bena, Dall’Agata, Giusto, Ruef, Warner

# Multiple non-BPS Rings

Bena, Giusto, Ruef, Warner

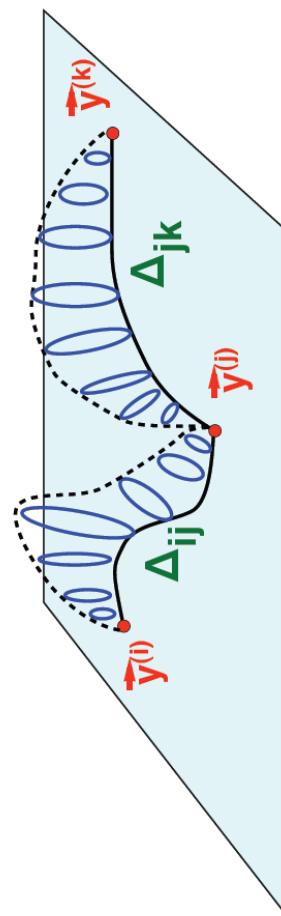
- 4D multicentered black holes
- BH at tip of Taub-NUT: **anti-D6 + D2 + rotation**
- BH's coming from rings: **D4-D2-D0** charges



- There exist scaling solutions (very long throats)
- Scaling solutions can have nonzero angular momentum !
- In scaling limit: **non-BPS bubble eqs = BPS bubble eqs**

# Non-BPS horizonless microstates

- Impossible within almost-BPS ansatz
- Anti-self-dual flux in GH spaces is **non-normalizable**
- Solution not asymptotically-flat
- We have to be smarter !
- 2 ways



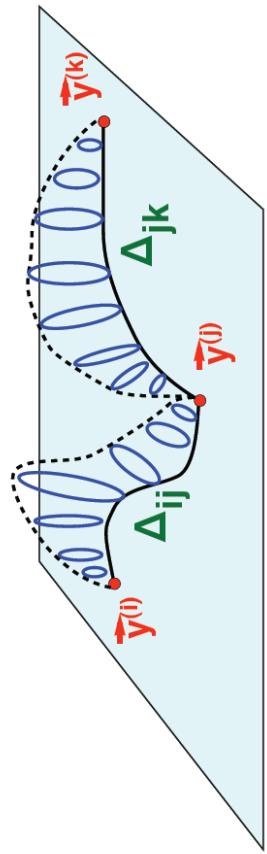
# 1. Floating Branes

Need good grad  
student + postdocs

- Blast **full force** through sugra equations
  - Particular ansatz – **M2** branes **feel no force**
  - Warp factors equal to electric potentials
- New class of 5D solutions: **Bena, Giusto, Ruef, Warner**
- 4D base = **electrovac** Euclidean solution
- Any electrovac sol.  $\rightarrow$  **full solution**
  - **Linear** procedure !
- Two obvious families of base-spaces
  - Israel-Wilson metrics
  - Euclidean Kerr-Newman

# 1. Floating Branes

- Israel-Wilson base



$$ds_4^2 = (V_+ V_-)^{-1} (d\psi + \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{y})^2 + (V_+ V_-) (dy_1^2 + dy_2^2 + dy_3^2)$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} = V_- \vec{\nabla} V_+ - V_+ \vec{\nabla} V_-$$

- Highly nontrivial **non-BPS** solutions:
  - D6-D4-D2-D0 BH in anti-D6 background
  - Can put **normalizable flux** on cycle between anti-D6 and D6

## 2. Spectral Flow

- Sequence of dualities: Bena, Bobev, Warner
  - Lift to D1-D5-P duality frame (6D sugra)
  - Mix KK U(1) with GH U(1) + dualize back
- Reshuffles charges.  $BPS \leftrightarrow BPS$
- Almost-BPS sols  $\leftrightarrow$  IW base solutions  
Bena, Giusto, Ruef, Warner
- GH center (D6)  $\leftrightarrow$  2-charge supertube (D4)
- **Almost-BPS supertube**  $\leftrightarrow$  IW solution with flux between D6 and anti-D6
- Several supertubes  $\leftrightarrow$  smooth multicenter **deep** scaling solution (as good as it gets)

# Physics punchline

In string theory:

**extremal black holes** = ensembles of horizonless microstates.

- Can be proven (disproven) **rigorously**
- **No spacetime inside horizon.** Instead – quantum superposition of microstates
- No unitarity loss/information paradox

# What about nonextremal ?

- Given total energy budget:  
most entropy obtained by making  
**brane-antibrane pairs**
- $S = 2\pi (N_1^{1/2} + \underline{N}_1^{1/2})(N_2^{1/2} + \underline{N}_2^{1/2})(N_3^{1/2} + \underline{N}_3^{1/2})$   
Horowitz, Maldacena, Strominger
- Mass gap =  $1/N_1^{\text{blue}} N_2^{\text{yellow}} N_3^{\text{red}}$
- Extend on long distances (horizon scale)
- More mass – lower mass-gap – larger size
- Only 3 solutions known. Work very nicely.  
**Jejjala**, **Madden**, **Ross**, **Tritchener** (JMaRT); **Myers & al**, **Mathur & al**.
- One multi-center solution (with horizon)  
Camps, Emparan, Figueras, Giusto, Saxena

# The Running Bolt

- Base space just needs be Ricci Flat
- Take Euclidean Schwarzschild:

$$ds_4^2 = \left(1 - \frac{2m}{r}\right) d\tau^2 + \left(1 - \frac{2m}{r}\right)^{-1} dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2 + r^2 \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2$$

- Put fluxes on the Bolt Bena, Giusto, Ruef, Warner
  - Bolt starts running 😊
- Smooth solution.
- D4, D2, D0, mass of **big fat nonextremal BH** !
- Mass **decreases** with increasing  $|Q|$  !

$$M = \frac{\pi}{4G_5} \left( 16m^2 + \frac{\varepsilon}{4\pi^2} (Q^1 + Q^2 + Q^3) \right)$$

# Summary and Future Directions

- Strong evidence that in **string theory**:  
**extremal black holes** = ensembles of microstates
  - QG low-mass modes can change physics on **large (horizon) scales**
  - Convergence of research directions
  - Classify all **extremal** solutions
    - 2, 3 spectral flows take us **out of IW ansatz**
    - Solve equations. Find larger (largest ?) class.
    - What is the orbit of multi-center extremal BH's ?
  - Extend to **non-extremal** black holes
    - Probably; at least near-extremal
    - Need more non-extremal microstates
      - Inverse scattering methods. Use **JMaRT** as seed.
- **New light degrees of freedom at horizon.**  
Experiment?