

Integral Geometry and Holography [1]

Bartłomiej Czech, Lampros Lamprou, Samuel McCandlish, James Sully

Holography, which originates in [2], is known as a method to reconstruct the bulk geometry in AdS/CFT correspondence. In ref. [1], they reinterpreted holographic reconstruction formulas by a mathematic tool called *kinematic space*, which is the space of oriented geodesics. By that, the geometric information of a time slice in AdS_3 can be considered to be encoded in the kinematic space, which is intrinsically a property of the boundary theory.

As a warm-up, let us start with Euclidean \mathbb{R}^2 . All geodesics, lines, in this space are written in the form $x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta - p = 0$.¹⁾ The kinematic space is the space of all oriented geodesics, so we have to define the orientation of each line. If we continuously change the line from (θ, p) to $(\theta + \pi, -p)$, we see that the line comes back to the original one, with the formal endpoints at infinity exchanged. Therefore, we regard $(\theta + \pi, p)$ as the inversely oriented version of (θ, p) . Then the kinematic space is characterized by the pair $(\theta, p) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ with the identification $\theta \sim \theta + 2\pi$.

We can measure the length of an arbitrary curve γ by calculating a volume form defined on the kinematic space \mathcal{K} . Crofton formula gives it as

$$\text{length of } \gamma = \frac{1}{4} \int_{\mathcal{K}} \omega n_{\gamma}(\theta, p), \quad \omega = d\theta \wedge dp, \quad (1)$$

where $n_{\gamma}(\theta, p)$ is the number of times the line (θ, p) intersects with γ . In the integral, p runs over \mathcal{R} and θ on $[0, 2\pi]$.

They applied the above story to the context of $\text{AdS}_3/\text{CFT}_2$. We consider a time slice Σ on static asymptotically AdS_3 spacetime M in global patch, and a curve γ on Σ ; the metric on ∂M is $ds^2 = -dt^2 + L^2 d\theta^2$. Let $[u, v]$ be an interval of θ on $\partial\Sigma = \Sigma \cap \partial M$, and $S(u, v)$ be the length of the bulk geodesic connecting u and v . Note that interval $[u, v]$ corresponds to the identical two geodesics having different orientations. Their conjecture is that, if we replace ω in (1) with

$$\omega = \frac{\partial^2 S(u, v)}{\partial u \partial v} du \wedge dv, \quad (2)$$

then eq.(1) holds on Σ .

The formula is correct at least for any convex closed curve γ . To show this, we define $\ell(u)(> 0)$ such that the geodesic corresponding to $[u, u + \ell(u)]$ is tangent to γ . Then, we see $n_{\gamma}(u, v) = 0$ for $v < u + \ell(u)$ and $n_{\gamma}(u, v) = 2$ for $v > u + \ell(u)$, and hence²⁾

$$\text{length of } \gamma = \frac{2 \cdot 2}{4} \int_0^{2\pi} du \int_{u+\ell(u)}^{u+\pi} dv \frac{\partial^2 S}{\partial u \partial v} = - \int_0^{2\pi} du \left. \frac{\partial S(u, v)}{\partial u} \right|_{v=u+\ell(u)}. \quad (3)$$

* Written by Daichi Takeda (takedai.gauge@gmail.com)

¹⁾ Note that $|p|$ is the distance from the origin to the line.

²⁾ The other factor 2 comes from the two types of the orientation.

Here we have used $(\partial_u S)|_{v=u\pm\pi} = 0$, which holds because the geodesic length is maximum when the interval length is π .³⁾ Eq.(3) is exactly the differential entropy formula (my overview) under Ryu-Takayanagi formula, and gives the right length of γ according to [3].

From the strong subadditivity, we can show that $\partial_u \partial_v S$ is always positive. The strong subadditivity is an inequality given by

$$S(AB) + S(BC) - S(B) - S(ABC) \geq 0. \quad (4)$$

If we choose A, B and C as

$$A = [u - du], \quad B = [u, v], \quad C = [v, v + dv] \quad (5)$$

with $du, dv > 0$, then we have

$$S(u - du, v) + S(u, v + dv) - S(u, v) - S(u - du, v + dv) = \frac{\partial^2 S(u, v)}{\partial u \partial v} du dv \geq 0. \quad (6)$$

Next, let us discuss how points on Σ are interpreted in \mathcal{K} . As considered in [4] (my overview), using shrinking limit of closed curves is useful. If a closed curve γ shrinks up to a point A , then for each u , only one v makes geodesic (u, v) intersect with $\gamma = A$. Let $v_A(u)$ denote the critical v , and the curve $v = v_A(u)$ on \mathcal{K} called “point-curve.” Ref. [4] have already given a conjecture to define point-curves from the boundary entanglement entropy, and in ref. [1], the extension of it under the assumption that Σ is Riemannian.

Finally, the distance between any two points on Σ is also given in terms of \mathcal{K} . Let $v_A(u)$ and $v_B(u)$ be point-curves on \mathcal{K} , and γ_{AB} be the geodesic from A to B . As depicted in fig.10 in [1], if v satisfies

$$\min\{v_A(u), v_B(u)\} \leq v \leq \max\{v_A(u), v_B(u)\} \quad (7)$$

for fixed u , then geodesic (u, v) intersects with γ_{AB} once, and does not intersect otherwise.⁴⁾ Thus, from (1), we conclude,

$$\text{geodesic length between } A \text{ and } B = \frac{2}{4} \int_0^{2\pi} du \int_{\text{eq.(7)}} dv \frac{\partial^2 S(u, v)}{\partial u \partial v}. \quad (8)$$

References

- [1] B. Czech, L. Lamprou, S. McCandlish and J. Sully, *Integral Geometry and Holography*, *JHEP* **10** (2015) 175 [1505.05515].
- [2] V. Balasubramanian, B.D. Chowdhury, B. Czech, J. de Boer and M.P. Heller, *Bulk curves from boundary data in holography*, *Phys. Rev. D* **89** (2014) 086004 [1310.4204].

³⁾ Comment: this statement is not true when the bulk has a hole like a black hole, thus **the conjecture must be modified for holographic theories having such bulks.**

⁴⁾ If we choose γ_{AB} as the other curves connecting A and B , there is a curve which intersects with γ_{AB} twice.

- [3] M. Headrick, R.C. Myers and J. Wien, *Holographic Holes and Differential Entropy*, *JHEP* **10** (2014) 149 [[1408.4770](#)].
- [4] B. Czech and L. Lamprou, *Holographic definition of points and distances*, *Phys. Rev. D* **90** (2014) 106005 [[1409.4473](#)].