PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY
SEMINAR

Dr. Nabil Iqbal

KITP, University of California, Santa Barbara

Of Wilson Lines and Geodesics: Towards Entanglement Entropy in Higher Spin Gravity

Abstract

The proposal of Ryu and Takayanagi that the entanglement entropy of a region in a field theory is related to the area of a minimal surface in its holographic gravity dual makes a direct connection between entanglement and geometry. I will first present a reformulation of their prescription in the language of the Chern-Simons formulation of 3d Einstein gravity. This observable has a natural generalization to higher spin theories of gravity in 3d: in such theories the entanglement entropy of the dual field theory should remain well-defined, but conventional notions of bulk "geometry" are no longer gauge-invariant and