

# The Strong Gravity Theorem: a universal inequality for CFT and quantum gravity

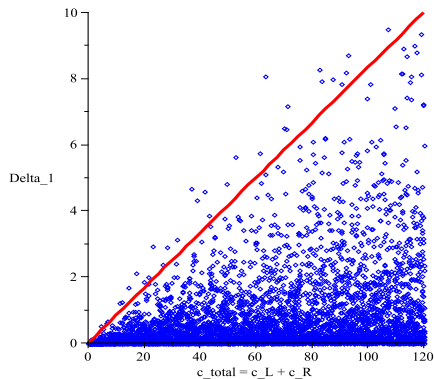
Simeon Hellerman

based on :

S.H., arXiv:0902.2790

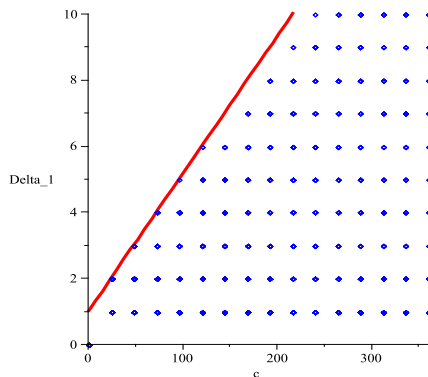
Theory Workshop 2009, KEK, Tsukuba, Japan, 17 March 2009

## Does the landscape of 2D CFT look like this?



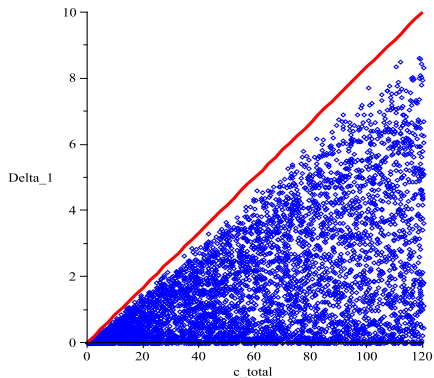
One logical possibility is that there is no "sharp" upper bound on  $\Delta_1$ , just a random distribution that falls off quickly above  $\Delta_1 \simeq \frac{c+\tilde{c}}{12}$ .

# The landscape of holomorphically factorized 2D CFT looks like this



We know for a **fact** that the landscape of **holomorphically factorized** CFT looks something like this. In this case, the red line lies at  $\Delta_1 = 1 + \frac{c+\tilde{c}}{24}$ .

We'll show that the full landscape of 2D CFT looks like this...



Here, the red line lies at  $\Delta_1 = \frac{3}{2\pi} + \frac{c+\tilde{c}}{12}$ .

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Hard to answer – we **don't know what "quantum gravity" is**, in general!

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In principle, this **answers the question** of the **maximum mass gap** among **all theories** of quantum gravity with  $\Lambda < 0$ .

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That is, we know a **great deal** about **special classes** of **CFT** – (**SUSY, holomorphically factorized, integrable,...**) – but not characteristics of the **entire landscape** of **CFT**.

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Both of these difficulties are **easier to deal with** in **two dimensional CFT**. So we will try to learn the **maximum mass gap** for a theory of **quantum gravity** with  $\Lambda < 0$  in **three dimensions**.

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[Witten, 2007]

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From now on we will assume modular invariance.



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GO TO PART 2