# **Complex entanglement entropy for complex conformal field theory** [arXiv:2502.02001]

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#### **Entanglement entropy and CFT**

$$S \sim \frac{c}{3} \log \left(\frac{L}{\pi} \sin \frac{\pi l}{L}\right)$$

c : central charge
 L : total system size
 l : subsystem size

[Holzhey-Larsen-Wilczek, 1994] [Calabrese-Cardy 2004]

ex.) Ising model (c = 0.5)



ex.) non-Hermitian SSH model (c = -2) [Chang-You-Wen-Ryu, 2020]



- $Q \leq 4$  : second-order
- Q > 4 : weakly first-order
- But, expansion of the parameter space on a **complex plane** brings **complex CFT**. [Gorbenko-Rychkov-Zan, 2018] [Tang-Ma-Tang-He-Zhu, 2024]



Energy spectrum  $\leftrightarrow$  Conformal towers



OPE	non-Hermitian 5-Potts	Analytical Continuation
$C_{\epsilon\epsilon\epsilon'}$	0.8781(72) - 0.1433(21)i	0.8791 - 0.1404i
Ce'e'e'	2.2591(77) - 1.1916(39)i	2.2687 - 1.1967i
$C_{\epsilon\epsilon'\epsilon''}$	0.804(3) - 0.220(11)i	0.8318 - 0.2027i
$C_{\epsilon''\epsilon''\epsilon'}$	3.886(96) - 3.369(33)i	3.9261 - 3.3261i
$C_{\sigma\sigma\epsilon'}$	0.0658(15) + 0.0513(10)i	NA
Cose	0.7170(6) + 0.1558(1)i	NA
$C_{\sigma\sigma'\epsilon}$	0.7520(15) - 0.0831(6)i	NA
$C_{\sigma\sigma'\epsilon'}$	0.6062(4) + 0.1664(10)i	NA
Coo"e'	0.6709(45) - 0.1250(21)i	NA

#### Correlation function $\leftrightarrow$ OPE coefficients

Lattice value matches well with complex CFT prediction! How about the entanglement entropy?

# Potts model with perturbation

$$\begin{split} H_{\text{NH-Potts}}(J,h,\lambda) &= H_0(J,h) + H_1(\lambda), \\ H_0(J,h) &= -\sum_{i=1}^L \sum_{k=1}^{Q-1} \left[ J(\sigma_i^{\dagger}\sigma_{i+1})^k + h\tau_i^k \right], \\ H_1(\lambda) &= \lambda \sum_{i=1}^L \sum_{k_1,k_2=1}^{Q-1} \left[ (\tau_i^{k_1} + \tau_{i+1}^{k_1})(\sigma_i^{\dagger}\sigma_{i+1})^{k_2} + \text{h.c.} \right], \end{split}$$

With 
$$Q = 5$$
, at  
•  $J_c = 1$ ,  
•  $h_c = 1$ ,  
•  $\lambda_c = 0.079 \pm 0.060$ i,  
the model exhibits complex CFT with  
 $c \approx 1.13755 \pm 0.0210687$ i.

where

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} e^{2\pi \mathbf{i}/Q} & & & \\ & e^{4\pi \mathbf{i}/Q} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & e^{2(Q-1)\pi \mathbf{i}/Q} & \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \tau = \begin{pmatrix} & & & 1 & \\ 1 & & & \\ & 1 & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & 1 & & \end{pmatrix}$$

### Method — DMRG

In order to see the complex behavior, we cannot use the usual density matrix as Hermitian case.

1. calculate left and right eigenvectors using DMRG

2. construct generalized reduced density matrix

$$ho^{ ext{RL}}\coloneqq rac{\ket{\psi}raket{\psi}}{raket{\psi}}, \quad 
ho^{ ext{RL}}_A\coloneqq ext{tr}_B \, 
ho^{ ext{RL}}$$

3. calculate the von Neumann entropy (generalized entanglement entropy)

$$S_A = -\operatorname{tr}_A(
ho_A^{\operatorname{RL}}\log
ho_A^{\operatorname{RL}}) = -\sum_i \lambda_i \log \lambda_i$$

#### Numerical Results — Periodic boundary condition

L = 20, D = 400, **Periodic** boundary condition



**Similar to** the analytical value  $c \approx 1.13755 - 0.0210687i$ .

### Numerical Results — Open boundary condition

L = 20, D = 400,**Open** boundary condition



**Far from** the analytical value  $c \approx 1.13755 - 0.0210687i$ .

### **Comparison with other definitions**

#### SVD entropy:

$$\begin{split} \hat{\rho}_{A}^{\text{SVD}} &\coloneqq:= \frac{\sqrt{(\hat{\rho}_{A}^{\text{RL}})^{\dagger}\hat{\rho}_{A}^{\text{RL}}}}{\operatorname{tr}\sqrt{(\hat{\rho}_{A}^{\text{RL}})^{\dagger}\hat{\rho}_{A}^{\text{RL}}}}\\ S_{A} &= -\operatorname{tr}_{A}(\rho_{A}^{\text{SVD}}\log\rho_{A}^{\text{SVD}}) \end{split}$$

Entropy using absolute value of the eigenvalues:

$$S_{ ext{abs}}\coloneqq -\sum_i \lambda_i \log |\lambda_i|$$

The **generalized entanglement entropy** mostly agrees with the CFT prediction.



#### Summary

- We can see that non-Hermitian 5-state Potts model obeys complex CFT from the entropy obtained from generalized reduced density matrix.
- Periodic case is consistent with the prediction of complex CFT, but in open case the model is exposed to some kind of boundary effect.
- The generalized entanglement entropy seems to be the appropriate way to measure the entanglement entropy in complex CFT.

## Outlook

- Entropy scaling with other boundaries (cf. [Tang-Liu-Tang-Zhu, 2024])
- Does something like c-theorem exist in complex CFT?

#### Periodic boundary condition

Open boundary condition



	$c\left(D=300\right)$	$c\left(D=400\right)$
$\operatorname{CFT}$		1.1376 - 0.0211i
L = 4	1.1927 + 0.0104i	1.1927 + 0.0104i
L = 8	1.1429 - 0.0171i	1.1429 - 0.0171i
L = 12	1.1398 - 0.0196i	1.1397 - 0.0195i
L = 16	1.1389 - 0.0201i	1.1388 - 0.0203i
L = 20	1.1388 - 0.0209i	1.1385 - 0.0205i
L = 24	1.1391 - 0.0208i	1.1384 - 0.0206i
$L = 24 \ (\hat{\rho}_{\rm A}^{\rm R})$	1.1635	1.1633
$L = 24 \ (\hat{\rho}_{\mathrm{A}}^{\mathrm{SVD}})$	1.1283	1.1431