Bosons falling into a black hole: A superfluid analogue

Sreenath K. Manikandan^{1,2,*} and Andrew N. Jordan^{1,2,3,†}

¹Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York 14627, USA ²Center for Coherence and Quantum Optics, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York 14627, USA ³Institute for Quantum Studies, Chapman University, Orange, California 92866, USA

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We propose an analogy between the quantum physics of a black hole in its late stages of the evaporation process and a superfluid Bose-Einstein condensate (BEC), based on the Horowitz and Maldacena quantum final-state projection model [J. High Energy Phys. 02 (2004), 008]. The superfluid region is considered to be analogous to the interior of a black hole, and the normal fluid/superfluid interface is compared to the event horizon of a black hole. We theoretically investigate the possibility of recovering the wave function of particles incident on a superfluid BEC from the normal fluid, facilitated by the mode conversion processes occurring at the normal fluid/superfluid BEC interface. We also study how the correlations of an infalling mode with an external memory system can be preserved in the process, similar to Hayden and Preskill's "information mirror" model for a black hole [J. High Energy Phys. 09 (2007), 120]. Based on these analogies, we conjecture that the quantum state of bosons entering a black hole in its final state is the superfluid quantum ground state of interacting bosons. Our analogy suggests that the wave function of bosons falling into a black hole can be recovered from the outgoing Hawking modes. In the particular case in which a holelike quasiparticle (a density dip) is incident on the superfluid BEC causing the superfluid to shrink in size, our model indicates that the evaporation is unitary.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Certain many-body quantum wave functions can be considered to be rigid, in the sense that they can act like fixed points in a Hilbert space, in which the quantum dynamics around these states would exhibit interesting physical properties without changing the wave function of the rigid region. Black holes are thought to be one such physical system in which this is true. In fact, such an assumption resolves the black hole information problem since certain final states permit teleporting the information contained in the infalling matter to outgoing Hawking radiation [1-3]. The black hole described by these models is in its late stages of the evaporation process, past its "halfway point" where more than half of its initial entropy has been radiated away [4], such that an asymptotic quantum final state can be envisaged. Recently, the authors have proposed that, albeit being a completely different physical system, superconductors have many of the same features of a black hole, and the final-state projection model applies to analogous Hawking radiation (Andreev reflection) from a superconductor, thereby mapping several existing theoretical resolutions of the black hole information puzzle to experiments using superconductors [5].

Here, we extend this analogy to the case of bosonic superfluids. We consider a normal fluid/superfluid interface similar to the experimental setup discussed by Zapata and Sols [6] to describe a bosonic version of Andreev reflections [7]. In the bosonic analogue, a particlelike mode (density bump) incident on the superfluid from the normal side triggers the retroreflection of a holelike quasiparticle (density dip), which propagates in the normal region with a group velocity that is different from ordinary reflections. In experiments, the distinction between normal fluid and superfluid can be made with respect to the local speed of sound: the normal region is where the fluid flows faster than the local speed of sound. Naively, a bosonic quasiparticle incident on the superfluid from the normal fluid gets "trapped" in the superfluid because in order to return to the normal region it has to achieve velocities exceeding the local speed of sound. Such a situation can be constructed by considering a decaying condensate, with the outgoing coherent beam treated as the normal region where the condensate interactions can be ignored [6,8]. Here, the boundary between the decaying condensate and the outgoing coherent beam plays the role of an event horizon, similar to other sonic black hole analogies [9–13] and black hole lasers [14].

Our approach can be contrasted with existing proposals that compare superfluid Bose-Einstein condensates (BECs) to black holes, which aim at resolving various aspects of

skizhakk@ur.rochester.edu

jordan@pas.rochester.edu

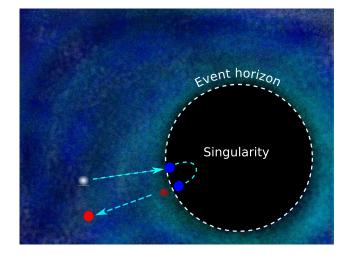


FIG. 1. Quantum information dynamics near the event horizon of a black hole in the Horowitz-Maldacena final-state projection model [1,3]. The incoming quasiparticle mode falls into the black hole by taking the negative energy particle from the Hawking pair and forming a two-mode paired entangled state inside the event horizon, while the outgoing Hawking mode escapes to infinity. In the process, the quantum information originally encoded in the incoming mode is dynamically transferred to the outgoing mode.

the particle production problem near a black hole, pioneered by Stephen Hawking [15,16]. The first paper that mentions an analogy between Andreev reflections and Hawking radiation was authored by Jacobson [17], and his attempt was to account for the outgoing black hole modes as a result of mode conversion from ingoing modes, and not produced by a trans-Plankian reservoir at the event horizon. In his 1996 publication, Jacobson concluded that a mechanism to recover the quantum information lost in black holes remains elusive, since the partner modes are still lost in the abyss of a black hole when Hawking modes are produced. We combine his observations with the finalstate projection model proposed by Horowitz and Maldacena (Fig. 1) and discuss how the information puzzle can also be studied in this analogy, therefore showing that it offer resolutions to both the trans-Plankian problem and the information puzzle at once.

Recently, there has been much interest in the superfluid/ black hole analogy, for example, the proposal by Zapata *et al.* [18] also studies bosonic Andreev reflection as analogous to Hawking radiation from black holes, although their work mainly focused on characterizing Hawking radiation from atomic condensates with a subsonic/ supersonic interface and not the quantum information paradox aspect of the problem. Similar sonic analogies to black holes using BECs have been proposed before [10-12], and a second-order superfluid phase transition near the horizon similar to helium-4 has been discussed by Hennigar *et al.* [19]. Thermodynamic features of an interacting Bose gas is also a topic of major interest in this context; for example, area law for the scaling of entropy has already been proposed for an interacting system of helium-4 [20]. Here, we further investigate the superfluid/black hole analogy from an information theory point of view for bosons and show that the unitarity of black hole evaporation in the final-state projection model is also manifest in the mode conversion processes occurring at normal fluid/ superfluid BEC interfaces.

Compared to existing approaches describing mode conversion processes at bosonic superfluid/normal fluid interface [6,18], our approach differs in that we assume a microscopic quantum description of the superfluid region as the ground state of interacting bosons [21,22]. We then look at quasiparticle excitations incident on the superfluid from the normal region, produced from fluctuations of the condensate/relative flow of the condensate, and quasiparticles introduced externally. These quasiparticles are assumed to be sufficiently low in energy such that they do not perturb the condensate away from its ground state. Considering an interacting Bose gas instead of a noninteracting Bose gas permits us to investigate resolutions to the information paradox in black holes using final-state projection models [1,3], since different bosonic modes in the ground state of an interacting Bose gas exist as entangled pairs [21–23]. Further, the condensate wave function also has certain invariance (under the transformation $\mathbf{k} \rightarrow -\mathbf{k}$) when the superfluid interactions impose a strict s-wave pairing symmetry, which is crucial for the present study.

The closest publication to the current work of which we are aware is the fermionic superfluid/black hole analogy presented in Ref. [5]. Similar to the fermionic case, we find that several existing proposals that describe black hole evaporation as a unitary process have analogies in the bosonic case as well, notably, the models proposed by Horowitz and Maldacena [1] and Hayden and Preskill [4]. Based on this analogy, we propose a final quantum state for bosons falling into a black hole, which is the ground-state wave function of a superfluid BEC in which particles exist as entangled pairs. This can be viewed on par with the previously proposed superconducting BCS wave function of fermions forming a black hole [5] in which they exist in the form of Cooper pairs [24] and therefore gives a complete symmetrical picture, prescribing wave functions to fermions and bosons inside a black hole. The advantage of our approach is that black hole evaporation can be seen to be a manifestly unitary process when the interactions are maximally entangling, and it resolves the black hole information problem for bosons, similar to resolutions of the black hole information paradox for fermions proposed previously [5]. The notion of a black hole in our present study is also consistent with the "information mirror" model proposed by Hayden and Preskill [4] and the black hole/superconductor analogy previously proposed by us, where the black hole "Andreev" reflects the quantum information encoded in the collapsing matter, while accepting particles [5].

A detailed analysis of various presumptions leading to the condensate/black hole analogy has already been presented elsewhere [5]. To be brief, our generic approach to resolve the information paradox using condensates requires that we assume the validity of a local quantum field theoretic description near the event horizon of a black hole, such that one can factorize the Hilbert space into subspaces, and define correlations such as entanglement. As has been discussed previously, such an assumption, together with the assumption of linearity and unitarity of the quantum theory, requires that the wave function of the interior of the black hole contains no information about future/past Cauchy surfaces and is special [5,25,26]. Through the work presented here, and in our previous publication [5], we show that the superfluid quantum ground state wave functions of bosons and fermions respectively have many similarities with the aforementioned special wave function to describe the interior of a black hole.

This article is organized as follows. In Sec. II, we show that the quantum information encoded in continuous variable modes falling into a superfluid BEC can be recovered from the outgoing modes, and the process can be understood as a deterministic continuous variable quantum teleportation [27] of information, mediated by local tunneling/pairing interactions. The implications to the final quantum state of an evaporating black hole is discussed in Sec. III, by making analogy with the Horowitz-Maldacena final quantum state proposal for black holes [1]. The analogy with the black hole information mirror model proposed by Hayden and Preskill [4] is also discussed in Sec. III B, in which we show that the condensate preserves quantum correlations of an infalling mode with an external memory system by transferring them to the outgoing mode. We discuss our main results and conclusions in Sec. IV.

II. MODE CONVERSION AT THE INTERFACE BETWEEN A NORMAL FLUID AND A SUPERFLUID BEC

In this section, we describe the mode conversion processes at the interface between a normal fluid and a superfluid BEC of interacting bosons, when a particlelike mode (density bump) is incident on the superfluid from the normal side. In practice, a few processes result [6]: 1) ordinary reflection, in which the particlelike mode reflects from the interface back to the normal region. 2) transmission of the quasiparticle across the condensate, and 3) Andreev reflection of the quasiparticle, in which the retroreflected quasiparticle is holelike, observed as a density dip. While all these processes are of interest for various applications of quasiparticle transport across normal fluid/superfluid interfaces [6], we restrict to situations in which the interface is ideal (low reflectivity) and vanishingly small excitation energies such that processes (1) and (2) can be respectively ignored. The time reversals of these processes are also physical; for example, the time reversal of (3) would be the case when a holelike quasiparticle (density dip) incident on the superfluid from the normal side trigger a particlelike mode (density bump) to be emitted from the superfluid to the normal side, causing the superfluid to shrink in size.

We begin by reviewing a simple model for the BEC of interacting bosons by closely following the discussions in Refs. [21,22]. The Hamiltonian for an interacting Bose gas of which the ground state is the superfluid BEC is given by (in the units $\hbar = m = 1$),

$$H = \sum_{\mathbf{p}} \varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}} d_{\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} d_{\mathbf{p}} + \frac{g}{2V} \sum_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}'} d_{\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} d_{-\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} d_{\mathbf{p}'} d_{-\mathbf{p}'}, \qquad (1)$$

where $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}} = \frac{|\mathbf{p}|^2}{2}$, *g* is the coupling constant, and *V* is the volume. In the limit $\frac{N-N_0}{N} \ll 1$, where *N* is the total number of particles and N_0 is the average number of particles in the ground state, we can write down the effective Hamiltonian for the BEC [21,22],

$$H_{\text{BEC}} = \frac{1}{2} V g n^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{p} \neq 0} [(\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}} + ng) (d_{\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} d_{\mathbf{p}} + d_{-\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} d_{-\mathbf{p}}) + ng (e^{-2i\tau} d_{\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} d_{-\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} + \text{H.c.})], \qquad (2)$$

where $n = \frac{N}{V}$ and τ is the phase of the condensate. This Hamiltonian can be diagonalized using Bogoliubov transformations, and the superfluid ground state can be computed as the Bogoliubov quasiparticle vacuum,

$$|\psi_{\text{BEC}}\rangle = e^{\frac{1}{2}\sum_{\mathbf{p}}\theta_{\mathbf{p}}(d_{\mathbf{p}}d_{-\mathbf{p}}e^{2i\tau} - d_{\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger}d_{-\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger}e^{-2i\tau})}|0\rangle, \qquad (3)$$

where $\cosh(2\theta_{\mathbf{p}}) = \frac{\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}} + ng}{\sqrt{(\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}} + ng)^2 - (ng)^2}}$ and $\sinh(2\theta_{\mathbf{p}}) = \frac{ng}{\sqrt{(\varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}} + ng)^2 - (ng)^2}}$ [21,22].

The crucial observation for the present study is that the ground-state wave function of a superfluid BEC given in Eq. (3) is a coherent squeezed state, which exists as pairs of particles in opposite momentum quantum states [21,22]. For the remainder of the section, we consider one such pair with squeezing parameter *r* and momentum **p** and denote it by $|\psi(r, \mathbf{p})\rangle$,

$$\begin{split} |\psi(r,\mathbf{p})\rangle &= \exp(re^{i\phi}d_{\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger}d_{-\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} - re^{-i\phi}d_{\mathbf{p}}d_{-\mathbf{p}})|0_{\mathbf{p}}0_{-\mathbf{p}}\rangle \\ &= \operatorname{sech}(r)\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}[e^{i\phi}\tanh(r)]^{n}|n_{\mathbf{p}}\rangle_{d}|n_{-\mathbf{p}}\rangle_{d}, \end{split}$$
(4)

where ϕ can be thought of as the condensate phase. This state is highly entangled. The subscript *d* is used to distinguish modes inside the condensate/falling into the condensate from the outgoing modes, labeled by *a*. The average number of excitations in each mode is $\langle n_{\mathbf{p}} \rangle = \langle n_{-\mathbf{p}} \rangle = \sinh(r)^2$. The statistics of each mode are also a pseudothermal state with an effective temperature T defined by $\exp(-\beta\omega) = \tanh(r)^2$, where $\beta = \frac{1}{k_B T}$ [21,23]. In the following, we show that the existence of particles only in

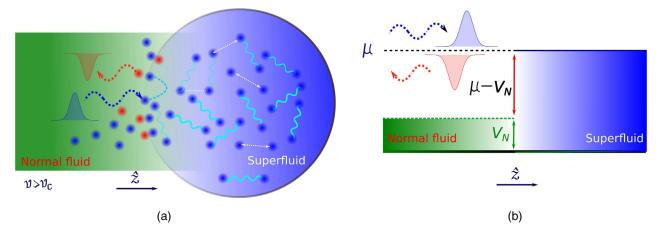


FIG. 2. (a) Boundary between a normal fluid (the fluid velocity $v > v_c$, where v_c is the local speed of sound in the superfluid region) and the superfluid. In the low-energy ($\varepsilon \to 0$) limit, a coherently populated incoming quasiparticle mode (density bump, excitation energy $+\varepsilon$, blue) can enter the superfluid by taking the negative energy ($-\varepsilon$) quasiparticle from the bosonic particle hole pair available at the interface and forming a two-mode squeezed state in the superfluid. The holelike partner mode [absence of the negative energy ($-\varepsilon$) quasiparticle, and hence a density dip, red], now populated coherently, escapes to infinity. It has energy $+\varepsilon$ from particle-hole symmetry. Interactions in the superfluid state, in which scattering events dynamically create (and break) entanglement between different modes in the condensate, are also shown. (b) Andreev scattering diagram for a leaking condensate ($\mu - V_N > 0$) for vanishingly small excitation energy ε [6].

the form of entangled pairs within the condensate requires that the quantum information encoded in the wave function of particles falling into the condensate cannot enter the condensate but has to be retroreflected out of the condensate via mode conversion processes occurring at the interface.

This can be understood as follows. In bosonic Andreev reflections, a quasiparticle (particlelike, density bump) incident on the superfluid boundary from the normal fluid can be retroreflected as a holelike quasiparticle (density dip) to the normal region, while both of them contribute positively to the density of the condensate [6]. In our model, this is described by a quasiparticle mode (particlelike, density bump) from a (bosonic) particle/hole pair falling into the condensate with the incoming quasiparticle (particlelike, density bump) and forming a paired coherent state of BECs inside the condensate while leaving behind holelike quasiparticles (density dip) that propagate back to the normal region, as depicted in Fig. 2. The converse of this process is also physical and leads to particlelike modes emitted from the condensate upon incidence of a lowdensity wave from the normal fluid.

A dynamic picture of various scattering events in the superfluid state that create and annihilate pairs of particles is depicted in Fig. 2(a), together with the scattering events at the boundary that can add/remove pairs in the condensate. Note the similarity of bosonic Andreev processes at the interface between a superfluid BEC and the normal fluid with their fermionic counterpart, which is also identified as the microscopic origin of the proximity effect in superconductors [28]; the superconductor/normal metal junction, up to a length scale equal to the coherence length of the superconducting correlations.

case, the corresponding length scale over which the condensate correlations smear out is known the "healing length" of the condensate, given by

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8\pi na}} = \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}mv_c},\tag{5}$$

where *a* is the *s*-wave scattering length of the condensate and v_c is the speed of sound in the superfluid [29].

To lowest nonvanishing order, one can identify the chemical potential μ as $\mu = \frac{d\epsilon_0}{dN} = ng$, where ϵ_0 is the ground-state energy: $\epsilon_0 = \langle \psi_{\text{BEC}} | H_{\text{BEC}} | \psi_{\text{BEC}} \rangle$ [22]. The chemical potential of the superfluid ground state also agrees with the asymptotic value of the chemical potential describing the condensate in Zapata and Sol's approach [6]. At the interface with a normal fluid, we assume that the condensate interaction strength *g* is gradually reduced and to negligible magnitudes in the outgoing coherent beam (normal fluid). This facilitates pairing of the incoming mode—having energy slightly above the asymptotic chemical potential of the condensate—with an infalling mode—having energy slightly below the asymptotic chemical potential of the condensate (still higher than the local chemical potential, as required for bosons)—at the interface.

In analogy with the fermionic case, a particlelike mode represents propagation of a bosonic quasiparticle excitation above the chemical potential of the condensate (above the Fermi level, in the fermionic case) on the normal side, while a holelike mode represents propagation below the chemical potential (below the Fermi level, in the fermionic case) of the condensate on the normal side. Following the discussion in Ref. [6], the normal side is described by a flat potential V_N for simplicity [see Fig. 2(b)]. As has been pointed out

previously [6], a decaying condensate will have the chemical potential slightly above the potential V_N on the normal side $(\mu > V_N)$ and hence can permit propagating holelike modes on the normal side below the asymptotic condensate chemical potential, unlike the case of a confined condensate $(V_N > \mu)$ in which the holelike modes can only be evanescent on the normal side [6]. In the following, we assume that the participating modes have energies within the allowed crossing range, $\varepsilon \epsilon (V_N - \mu, \mu - V_N)$, where we consider ε to be very small such that the energy of the incident particles does not exceed the smallest excitation energy of the condensate. Within this assumption, we can safely assume that the condensate remains in a stationary state, which is the ground state of the interacting bosons. Here ε being very small relative to $\mu - V_N$ corresponds to quasiparticle energies around the chemical potential, and therefore also represents particles which can enter/leave the condensate when the condensate is statistically described as a grandcanonical ensemble.

The interface between the normal fluid and the superfluid BEC is rather special since it involves fluctuations of the condensate. We restrict to a Hamiltonian description of the interface with the Hamiltonian that describes generation of Bogoliubov quasiparticles at the interface,

$$H_I = iJ_{\mathbf{k},-\mathbf{k}}d_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger}a_{-\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} + \text{H.c.}, \qquad (6)$$

where $d_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger}$ represent creation of an infalling quasiparticle mode with negative energy $-\varepsilon$ having wave vector $\mathbf{k} =$ $-\mathbf{k}_{\mu} + \delta \mathbf{k}$, where $|\mathbf{k}_{\mu}| = \sqrt{2(\mu - V_N)}$. The mode $a_{-\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger}$ describes a simultaneously created low-density mode with wave vector $\mathbf{k}_{\mu} - \delta \mathbf{k}$ on the normal side such that the particle density is conserved globally. Here, $iJ_{k,-k}$ are effective matrix elements that describe the quasiparticle tunneling across the interface. The resonant interaction that creates/destroys a propagating mode of lower density (holelike) on the normal side is appropriate for a leaking condensate, for which the chemical potential μ is slightly above the potential on the normal side ($\mu > V_N$), since they permit holelike modes on the normal side that are not evanescent [6]. The Hamiltonian in Eq. (6) is also similar to the tunneling Hamiltonian considered in the fermionic case [5], in which we notice that the interaction creates resonances across the interface in which the particle mode tends to be on either side of the interface. Such bosonic quasiparticle/hole pairs are highly correlated. To see this, we look at the time evolution of the vacuum $|0_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle_{d}|0_{-\mathbf{k}}\rangle_{a}$ by this interaction. We find that

$$e^{-iH_{I}t}|0_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle_{d}|0_{-\mathbf{k}}\rangle_{a} = e^{tJ_{\mathbf{k},-\mathbf{k}}d_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger}a_{-\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger}-tJ_{\mathbf{k},-\mathbf{k}}d_{\mathbf{k}}a_{-\mathbf{k}}}|0_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle_{d}|0_{-\mathbf{k}}\rangle_{a}$$
$$= \hat{S}(\zeta)|0_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle_{d}|0_{-\mathbf{k}}\rangle_{a}, \tag{7}$$

where $\hat{S}(\zeta) = e^{\zeta d_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} a_{-\mathbf{k}}^{-} - \zeta^* d_{\mathbf{k}} a_{-\mathbf{k}}}$ is the two-mode squeezing operator with squeezing parameter $\zeta = J_{\mathbf{k},-\mathbf{k}}t$, which we assume to be a real number [30]. Although we consider a simple unitary description of particle/hole production based on quasiparticle tunneling at the interface, our approach effectively describes bosonic quasiparticle production at sonic horizons by relative motion of fluids, previously studied in similar contexts [9,10,31]. Further note that the resulting unitary evolution is also consistent with the Bogoliubov representation of the BEC fluctuations in terms of the infalling and outgoing modes. To see this, we look at the time evolution of the modes d and a in the Heisenberg picture. We find that $d_{\mathbf{k}}(\zeta) = d_{\mathbf{k}}(0) \cosh \zeta + a_{-\mathbf{k}}(0)^{\dagger} \sinh \zeta$ and $a_{-\mathbf{k}}(\zeta) = a_{-\mathbf{k}}(0) \cosh \zeta + d_{\mathbf{k}}(0)^{\dagger} \sinh \zeta$, which are Bogoliubov transformations of the bosonic modes.

We now consider a simple case in which the infalling bosonic mode is labeled by wavevector $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{k}_{\mu} + \delta \mathbf{k}$, which has positive excitation energy ϵ relative to μ . Further, the mode \mathbf{q} is assumed to be coherently populated as described by the state $|\psi_{in}\rangle_{\mathbf{q}}$,

$$|\psi_{\rm in}\rangle_{\mathbf{q}} = |\alpha_{\mathbf{q}}\rangle = e^{-|\alpha|^2/2} \sum_{n} \frac{\alpha^n}{\sqrt{n!}} |n_{\mathbf{q}}\rangle_d,$$
 (8)

where we denote $|n_{\mathbf{q}}\rangle_d = \frac{(d_{\mathbf{q}}^{\dagger})^n}{\sqrt{n!}} |0_{\mathbf{q}}\rangle_d$ describing *n* quanta in an infalling mode with wave vector **q**. The choice $|\alpha| = 1$ ensures that the average energy of the infalling mode is clearly within the allowed crossing range for the example considered. We can write the joint state at the interface as a tensor product of the incoming state $|\psi_{in}\rangle_{\mathbf{q}}$ and the particle hole pair labeled by the particle wave vector **k**:

$$|\Psi\rangle = e^{-|\alpha|^2/2} \sum_{n} \frac{\alpha^n}{\sqrt{n!}} |n_{\mathbf{q}}\rangle_d \otimes \hat{S}(\zeta) |0_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle_d |0_{-\mathbf{k}}\rangle_a.$$
(9)

Since the condensate only permits pairs of entangled particles to enter, the reduced state of the outgoing mode is found by applying the projection onto the state $|\psi(r, \mathbf{k}_{\mu})\rangle$ for the infalling modes. We consider the limit of vanishingly small ε ($\delta \mathbf{k} \rightarrow 0$), which corresponds to the wave vector of particles that can exist in both the condensate and the normal fluid. We obtain

$$\langle \psi | \Psi \rangle \simeq \operatorname{sech}(r) \sum_{n''=0}^{\infty} [e^{-i\phi} \tanh(r)]^{n''} \langle n''_{\mathbf{k}_{\mu}}|_{d} \langle n''_{-\mathbf{k}_{\mu}}|_{d} e^{\frac{-|a|^{2}}{2}} \sum_{n'} \frac{\alpha^{n'}}{\sqrt{n'!}} |n'_{\mathbf{k}_{\mu}}\rangle_{d} \otimes \operatorname{sech}(\zeta) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \tanh(\zeta)^{n} |n_{-\mathbf{k}_{\mu}}\rangle_{d} |n_{\mathbf{k}_{\mu}}\rangle_{a}$$

$$= \operatorname{sech}(r) \operatorname{sech}(\zeta) e^{\frac{-|a|^{2}}{2}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{[e^{-i\phi} \tanh(r) \tanh(\zeta)\alpha]^{n}}{\sqrt{n!}} |n_{\mathbf{k}_{\mu}}\rangle_{a} \propto |\alpha e^{-i\phi} \tanh(r) \tanh(\zeta)\rangle_{a}.$$

$$(10)$$

When $r, \zeta \gg 1$ (i.e., when the interaction time $t \gg \max [J_{\mathbf{k},-\mathbf{k}}^{-1}, (ng)^{-1}]$), the outgoing mode is in the coherent state $|\alpha e^{-i\phi}\rangle$, where ϕ can be associated to the phase of the condensate. This addition of a relative phase upon Andreev reflection is known for Andreev reflection of an electron (hole) at normal metal/superconductor interfaces [7,28,32], and the final-state projection approach also predicts the same phase difference between the incoming and outgoing modes [5]. The relative phase between ingoing and outgoing modes in bosonic Andreev reflections as described above can also be measured and therefore can be verified experimentally.

In the general case (for an arbitrary incoming quantum state $|\psi_{in}\rangle$), we note that the quantum state of incoming and outgoing modes in Eq. (10) is related by the "scattering" operator \mathcal{U} ,

$$|\psi_f\rangle \propto \mathcal{U}|\psi_{\rm in}\rangle = [e^{-i\phi}\tanh(r)\tanh(\zeta)]^{\hat{N}}|\psi_{\rm in}\rangle,$$
 (11)

where we have suppressed the mode indices indicating the conversion of modes. For the identical effective temperature of the final state of the infalling modes and the shared entangled pair at the interface (i.e., when $r = \zeta$), note that the operator \mathcal{U} relates directly to the effective temperature by the relation $\exp(-\beta\omega) = \tanh(r)^2$ as

$$\mathcal{U} = [e^{-i\phi} \exp(-\beta\omega)]^{\hat{N}} = \exp(-\hat{N}\beta\omega)e^{-i\hat{N}\phi}.$$
 (12)

This suggests that the unitarity in final-state projection holds only when the pairs in the superfluid BEC are maximally correlated (the superfluid interactions are maximally entangling), i.e., when $r, \zeta \gg 1$. Nevertheless, the hyperbolic tangent function tanh(x) reaches unity rather fast with respect to x; a simple accounting in terms of the tunneling/superfluid interactions suggests that this holds when the interaction time $t \gg \max[J_{\mathbf{k},-\mathbf{k}}^{-1}, (ng)^{-1}]$. Thus, at relatively large timescales relevant for the scattering problem, the scattering matrix \mathcal{U} becomes unitary in the finalstate projection approach. We emphasize that the apparent departure from unitarity in the final-state projection approach when applied to short timescales does not imply the breakdown of the unitarity of physics at the BEC interface. The seemingly lost amplitude in this effective model would correspond to the probability amplitude to remain unpaired and leakage of the incoming quasiparticle amplitude through other boundary processes for which the final-state projection approach does not account, such as ordinary reflection, and transmission of the quasiparticle across the condensate.

Notice that the limit $r, \zeta \gg 1$ is a bit tricky since the hyperbolic secant function vanishes in the limit. We can better understand the limit $r, \zeta \to \infty$ using a Heisenberg picture description by following some simple arguments in the language of continuous variable quantum teleportation [27]: in the Heisenberg picture, the particle hole pair of

bosons produced at the interface between the normal fluid and the superfluid BEC should have all the symmetries of the vacuum, and hence they should exist in time-reversed states of each other:

$$\hat{x}_{\mathbf{k}} = \hat{x}_{\mathbf{h}} \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{p}_{\mathbf{k}} = -\hat{p}_{\mathbf{h}}.$$
 (13)

Here, \hat{x} and \hat{p} are canonical Hermitian quadrature observables; for a specified mode **s**, $\hat{x}_{\mathbf{s}} = \frac{a_{\mathbf{s}} + a_{\mathbf{x}}^{\dagger}}{\sqrt{2}}$ and $\hat{p}_{\mathbf{s}} = \frac{a_{\mathbf{s}} - a_{\mathbf{x}}^{\dagger}}{\sqrt{2}i}$, satisfying the commutation relations $[\hat{x}_{\mathbf{s}}, \hat{x}_{\mathbf{s}'}] = [\hat{p}_{\mathbf{s}}, \hat{p}_{\mathbf{s}'}] = 0$, and $[\hat{x}_{\mathbf{s}}, \hat{p}_{\mathbf{s}'}] = i\delta_{\mathbf{s},\mathbf{s}'}$ [33]. Also note that the sum $\hat{p}_{\mathbf{k}} + \hat{p}_{\mathbf{h}}$, and difference $\hat{x}_{\mathbf{k}} - \hat{x}_{\mathbf{h}}$ can be measured simultaneously since their commutator vanishes. Using the correspondence between continuous variable states and Wigner functions, the Wigner phase space distribution of the (bosonic) particle-hole pair can be written as [34]

$$\mathcal{W}(x_{\mathbf{k}}, p_{\mathbf{k}}, x_{\mathbf{h}}, p_{\mathbf{h}}) \propto \delta(x_{\mathbf{k}} - x_{\mathbf{h}})\delta(p_{\mathbf{k}} + p_{\mathbf{h}}).$$
(14)

The state can be understood as a two-mode coherent squeeze state with $\zeta \to \infty$ [34] (assuming ζ to be real and $\phi = 0$),

$$\begin{split} \psi_{\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{h}} \rangle &= \lim_{\zeta \to \infty} e^{\zeta a_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} a_{\mathbf{h}}^{\dagger} - \zeta^* a_{\mathbf{k}} a_{\mathbf{h}}} |00\rangle \\ &= \lim_{\zeta \to \infty} \operatorname{sech}(\zeta) \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \tanh(\zeta)^m |mm\rangle, \quad (15) \end{split}$$

in agreement with our previous description. This limit is discussed more in the next section, in the context of an evaporating black hole.

We emphasize that the interactions mediating this dynamical transfer of quantum information at the normal fluid/superfluid BEC interface are strictly local. They are either the tunneling interaction at the interface that creates the quasiparticle excitations across the normal fluid/superfluid BEC boundary or the scattering/pairing interactions inside the condensate. This rules out the possibility of the superluminal transfer of quantum information happening at the interface. In fact, the speed of quantum information transfer can be roughly associated to the local speed of sound (v_c) in the superfluid state [5].

III. QUANTUM FINAL STATE OF BOSONS FALLING INTO A BLACK HOLE

In the previous section, we have discussed how the superfluid quantum ground state of interacting bosons can act like a fixed point in Hilbert space, such that a unitary description of quasiparticles interacting with the superfluid BEC is possible without changing the wave function of the superfluid BEC, when the condensate interactions are maximally entangling. Effectively, these processes can be described by considering the BEC necessitating a finalstate boundary condition for the modes that enter/leave the condensate. This, in turn preserves the quantum information encoded in the infalling modes via mode conversion processes that locally transfer the information to the outgoing modes.

We now look at the implications of this result for a black hole in its final stages of the evaporation process [1,3,4,15,25,26]. Our description of bosonic Andreev reflection from a normal fluid/superfluid BEC interface is quite similar to the ideas proposed by Horowtiz and Maldacena [1] and Preskill and Hayden [4], respectively, regarding how the quantum information encoded in the infalling matter can escape from a black hole past the halfway point in the evaporation process, in which more that half of its initial entropy has been radiated away and a quantum final-state description can be envisaged. The prevalent idea these models propose is that a black hole in its final state, while accepting particles, acts like an information mirror [4] to the quantum information encoded in the infalling particles and reflects the quantum information to the exterior via outgoing Hawking modes. In the following, we revisit the quantum information dynamics in these two models in the context of quantum information encoded in (continuous variable) bosonic modes and compare to the dynamics of a normal fluid/superfluid BEC interface.

A. Analogy to the Horowitz-Maldacena model

Following the condensate description provided in Sec. II, here we first describe how the information dynamics at the interface between a normal fluid and a superfluid BEC makes the condensate wave function analogous to the Horowitz-Maldacena prescription for the quantum final state of a black hole [1]. In comparison to the original proposal by Horowitz and Maldacena, we consider quantum information encoded in continuous variable modes as appropriate for bosons [27,34]. The resource for teleporting the quantum information to the exterior of a black hole is the entanglement between the particle/antiparticle pair produced at the event horizon (bosonic particle/hole pairs available at the interface between a normal fluid/superfluid BEC interface). We consider the limit $r, \zeta \to \infty$, corresponding to infinitely squeezed (maximally entangled) modes. A finite amount of squeezing in the final state would be analogous to the example described in Sec. II, in which a departure from unitarity can be measured owing to not-maximally entangling interactions in the final state. This departure from unitarity in the final-state projection approach has been discussed previously by Gottesman and Preskill in Ref. [2].

Since the Hawking pair is produced spontaneously from the vacuum, they are maximally entangled and exist in time-reversed states of each other such that they satisfy perfect correlations,

$$\hat{p}_o = -\hat{p}_i$$
 and $\hat{x}_o = \hat{x}_i$, (16)

in agreement with Eq. (14). The subscripts *i* and *o* denote ingoing and outgoing Hawking modes, respectively. Now, consider an incoming particlelike mode, described by the quadratures \hat{x}_{in} and \hat{p}_{in} . Following the Horowitz-Maldacena proposal for black hole evaporation, the infalling matter falls into the black hole (superfluid BEC) with the negative energy particle produced from vacuum fluctuations near the event horizon (fluctuations of the condensate at the interface between the superfluid/normal region), and the partner Hawking mode escapes to infinity. In the process, the black hole (in its final stages of the evaporation process) applies a final-state boundary condition in which the infalling modes are projected onto the relative position quadrature $(\hat{x}_{in} - \hat{x}_i)$ basis, yielding result x_{-} , and to the sum of the momentum quadratures $(\hat{p}_{in} + \hat{p}_{i})$ basis, yielding result p_+ . Note that one can, in principle, simultaneously measure these two observables since they commute. As a result of perfect correlations described by Eq. (16), the outgoing Hawking mode has the spatial quadrature $\hat{x}_o = \hat{x}_i = \hat{x}_{in} - x_-$ and the momentum quadrature $\hat{p}_o = -\hat{p}_i = \hat{p}_{in} - p_+$ [27,34]. In the Schrödinger picture, if the wave function of the incoming particle were $\psi_{in}(x_{in})$, the wave function of the outgoing hole would be unitarily related by spacial and momentum displacements, $\psi_o(x_o) = e^{ix_o p_+} \psi_{\rm in}(x_o + x_-)$ [27].

We now look at the case in which the underlying spacetime metric has spherical symmetry, and then it is natural to expect that the final quantum state of pairs of bosons entering into the black hole also respects this symmetry, which puts restrictions on the class of all possible candidate wave functions to describe the final quantum state of a black hole. The superfluid ground state of interacting bosons satisfies this symmetry; the two pairing modes are entangled in opposite momentum quantum states, in which the paired wave function is symmetric under $\mathbf{k} \rightarrow -\mathbf{k}$, and the squeezing parameter depends only on the magnitude $|\mathbf{k}|$, thereby strictly imposing the *s*-wave symmetry for the infalling modes.

We therefore conjecture that the final quantum state of bosons collapsing into a black hole is the maximally correlated superfluid quantum ground state of interacting bosons corresponding to the limit $r \to \infty$, $x_{-} = p_{+} = 0$, analogous to the Horowitz-Maldacena proposal [1]. The wave function of the outgoing mode in this case becomes $\psi_o(x_o) = e^{ix_o p_+} \psi_{in}(x_o + x_-) = \psi_{in}(x_o)$ [27], which is same as the wave function of the infalling mode. Here, we considered the case in which the phase of the superfluid is set to zero for simplicity. Assuming a nonzero phase ϕ for the superfluid quantum ground state of maximally correlated pairs corresponds to a unitary transformation $\hat{U} = e^{-i\hat{N}\phi}$ relating the incoming and outgoing modes, as is evident from Eq. (10). An illustration of the Horowitz-Maldacena proposal superimposed on the Penrose diagram of an evaporating black hole is shown in Fig. 3.

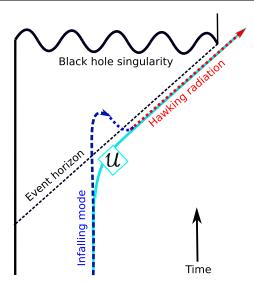


FIG. 3. Quantum information dynamics in the Horowitz-Maldacena final-state projection model, shown in the Penrose diagram of an evaporating black hole [1,3,5,35]. It is shown that the quantum information encoded in the infalling mode is dynamically transferred to the outgoing Hawking radiation by the black hole imposing a particular final-state boundary condition, in which the unitarity of the process is described by the scattering matrix U.

Further, notice that the superfluid quantum ground-state wave function, being macroscopic, is also rigid in some sense and can act like a fixed point in the Hilbert space, in which the dynamics can still respect unitarity and linearly of quantum physics without changing the wave function of the condensate. In laboratory settings, external parameters like temperature and pressure control give this stability to the condensate ground state, and we assume the boundary processes are also sufficiently low energy ($\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$) so as not to perturb the condensate from its ground state. This observation should be read in the context of an earlier argument made by Susskind, as to how, in the gravity context, requiring the validity of a local quantum field theory respecting linearity and unitarity of quantum physics makes the wave function of the interior of a black hole independent of the past and future Cauchy surfaces [25,26]. By satisfying certain symmetry requirements as discussed above, we find that the superfluid ground state of interacting bosons can qualify as this special quantum state to describe the final quantum state of bosons collapsing into a black hole past its halfway point in evaporation.

B. Black hole as an information mirror: Analogy to Hayden-Preskill model

The information mirror hypothesis for black hole evaporation was proposed by Hayden and Preskill to describe the final stages of an evaporating black hole, in which the quantum information encoded in the infalling modes is rapidly revealed in the outgoing radiation [4]. Here, we resort to a minimal description of the Hayden-Preskill model proposed by Lloyd and Preskill [3,5]. We show that a black hole assuming a superfluid quantum final-state description in its late stages of the evaporation process can Andreev reflect the quantum information out of the superfluid while accepting particles and therefore show that the normal fluid/superfluid BEC interface provides an experimentally realizable paradigm in which the black hole– information mirror hypothesis can be investigated.

We proceed as follows. Consider two quasiparticle excitation pairs at the boundary between a normal fluid and a superfluid BEC described by squeezing parameters ζ_1 and ζ_2 , respectively. While there are quasiparticle excitation pairs created by the fluctuations of the BEC, we can also introduce these quasiparticle excitations externally. The two-mode squeezed state $|\psi_1\rangle = \hat{S}(\zeta_1)|0_{\mathbf{m}}\rangle|0_{\mathbf{q}}\rangle_d$ is assumed to describe a correlated information/external memory system, in which the quantum information contained in the mode **k** is described as correlations with an external memory system **m**. The second quasiparticle pair $|\psi_2\rangle = \hat{S}(\zeta_2)|0_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle_d|0_{-\mathbf{k}}\rangle_a$ describes a bosonic particle/hole pair similar to our description in Sec. II. Here, we assume ζ_1 , ζ_2 to be real for simplicity.

When the mode **k** is incident on the superfluid BEC interface from a normal fluid, the BECs require that the infalling particles form a particular entangled state inside the BEC, mediated by the condensate interactions. We implement this as the condensate applying a particular final-state boundary condition for the infalling modes. The limiting case $\delta \mathbf{k} \rightarrow 0$ is shown below and corresponds to modes that can be present in both the condensate and the normal fluid. We find that applying the condensate boundary condition leaves the outgoing mode to be correlated with the memory system,

$$\begin{split} |\psi_{\mathbf{m},a}\rangle &= \langle \psi(r,\mathbf{k}_{\mu})|\psi_{1}\rangle \otimes |\psi_{2}\rangle \\ &= \langle \psi(r,\mathbf{k}_{\mu})|\hat{S}(\zeta_{1})|0_{\mathbf{m}}\rangle|0_{\mathbf{k}_{\mu}}\rangle_{d} \otimes \hat{S}(\zeta_{2})|0_{-\mathbf{k}_{\mu}}\rangle_{d}|0_{\mathbf{k}_{\mu}}\rangle_{a} \\ &= \operatorname{sech}(r)\sum_{n'=0}^{\infty} [e^{-i\phi}\tanh(r)]^{n''}\langle n''_{\mathbf{k}_{\mu}}|_{d}\langle n''_{-\mathbf{k}_{\mu}}|_{d} \\ &\operatorname{sech}(\zeta_{1})\sum_{n'=0}^{\infty}\tanh(\zeta_{1})^{n'}|n'_{\mathbf{m}}\rangle|n'_{\mathbf{k}_{\mu}}\rangle_{d} \otimes \operatorname{sech}(\zeta_{2}) \\ &\times \sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\tanh(\zeta_{2})^{n}|n_{-\mathbf{k}_{\mu}}\rangle_{d}|n_{\mathbf{k}_{\mu}}\rangle_{a} \\ &\propto \operatorname{sech}(r)\operatorname{sech}(\zeta_{1})\operatorname{sech}(\zeta_{2}) \\ &\times \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [e^{-i\phi}\tanh(r)\tanh(\zeta_{1})\tanh(\zeta_{2})]^{n}|n_{\mathbf{m}}\rangle|n_{\mathbf{k}_{\mu}}\rangle_{a}, \end{split}$$

$$(17)$$

which describes entanglement between the memory system and the outgoing mode. Further, note that in the limit r, ζ_1 and $\zeta_2 \rightarrow \infty$, we obtain the perfect transfer of correlations.

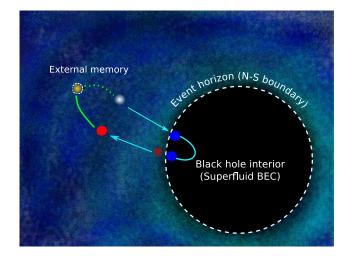


FIG. 4. Information mirror–like processes near the event horizon [normal fluid–superfulid (N-S) boundary] following Hayden and Preskill's proposal [3–5]: The incoming quasiparticle mode initially entangled with an external memory falls into the black hole by taking one particle from the Hawking pair and forming a two-mode paired entangled state inside the event horizon, while the outgoing Hawking mode, now correlated with the external memory, escapes to infinity.

This can be seen immediately using the Heisenberg picture again. A perfectly correlated memory m and the infalling mode **q** are described by the correlations $\hat{x}_{\mathbf{m}} = \hat{x}_{\mathbf{q}}$ and $\hat{p}_{\mathbf{m}} = -\hat{p}_{\mathbf{q}}$ [see Eq. (14)]. Another maximally correlated quasiparticle excitation pair (labeled by wave vector \mathbf{k}) is produced due to the tunneling interactions at the interface, satisfying correlations $\hat{x}_{\mathbf{k}} = \hat{x}_{-\mathbf{k}}$ and $\hat{p}_{\mathbf{k}} = -\hat{p}_{-\mathbf{k}}$. Following our previous discussions, a spherically symmetric black hole (superfluid BEC) imposes the boundary condition that the infalling modes are maximally correlated; it imposes the correlations $\hat{x}_{\mathbf{q}} = \hat{x}_{\mathbf{k}}$ and $\hat{p}_{\mathbf{q}} = -\hat{p}_{\mathbf{k}}$. As a consequence, we find that the outgoing matter is now maximally correlated to the memory system, $\hat{x}_{\mathbf{m}} = \hat{x}_{-\mathbf{k}}$ and $\hat{p}_{\mathbf{m}} = -\hat{p}_{-\mathbf{k}}$. In the sense of Preskill and Hayden, this describes a dynamical transfer of information from the infalling mode to the outgoing modes facilitated by the black hole applying an appropriate boundary condition for the infalling modes. Please see Fig. 4 for an illustration of this proposal.

C. Effective temperature of Andreev processes

During the Andreev processes, an incident quasiparticle penetrates a finite distance into the condensate as evanescent waves [6,28]. For a superconductor, this length scale can be associated to the superconducting coherence length of the condensate [28]. Similarly, for interacting bosons, we note that the corresponding length scale can be associated to the healing length of the condensate, $\lambda = \hbar/(\sqrt{2}mv_c)$.

This can be understood as follows: Andreev processes are most probable when the quasiparticles have roughly the energy equal to the chemical potential of the condensate, μ . By equating $\frac{p^2}{2m} = \mu = mv_c^2$, we obtain the corresponding de Broglie wavelength, $\lambda = \hbar/(\sqrt{2}mv_c)$. Note that this is essentially equivalent to equating the quantum pressure and interaction terms in the Hamiltonian as discussed in Ref. [29]. At the chemical potential, the Bogoliubov dispersion relation transitions between phononic (linear dispersion) and free particle dispersion relation [36,37], therefore facilitating mode conversion processes mediated by condensate interactions.

From the most probable energy $\sim \mu$, Andreev processes can be associated to an effective temperature for the superfluid state,

$$T_{\lambda} = \frac{\hbar v_c}{\sqrt{2}k_B \lambda},\tag{18}$$

where v_c is the speed of sound in the superfluid state and λ is the healing length [38]. This is similar to the effective temperature of the superconducting ground state, which varies as $T_{\lambda_s} \sim \frac{\hbar v_F}{k_B \lambda_s}$, where v_F is the Fermi velocity and λ_s is the coherence length of the superconductor [5,39]. By comparing the effective temperature of the superfluid state with the temperature of a Schwarzschild black hole [5,15,40–42],

$$T_{\rm BH} = \frac{\hbar c}{4\pi k_B r_S},\tag{19}$$

where *c* is the speed of light and r_s the Schwarzschild radius, we arrive at the conclusion that in the Andreev analogy the speed of sound is analogous to the speed of light, and the healing length of the superfluid is analogous to the Schwarzschild radius of a black hole.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

In this article, we proposed an analogy to investigate the resolutions of the quantum information paradox in black holes by comparing the final quantum state of a black hole in its late stages of the evaporation process to the superfluid quantum ground state of interacting bosons. We showed that in this scenario the problem of particle production near the event horizon (pioneered by Hawking [15]) can be compared to mode conversion processes occurring at a normal fluid/superfluid BEC interface, in such a way that the quantum information is preserved. Here, the quantum correlations encoded in continuous variable modes falling into a superfluid BEC can be dynamically transferred to the outgoing modes, facilitated by the superfluid applying a final-state boundary condition to the infalling modes.

In our analogy, the interface between a normal fluid and a superfluid BEC played the role of the event horizon in black holes, and the bulk of the superfluid was compared to the interior of a black hole in which the quantum final-state projection is applied. We further conjectured that the final quantum state for bosons falling into a black hole is the pair wave function of interacting bosons in a superfluid BEC ground state. The appeal of this conjecture is that 1) it resolves the information paradox in black holes by providing a unitary description of the particle production problem near the event horizon; 2) it allows one to test quantum theories of gravity in controlled laboratory settings using normal fluid/superfluid BEC interfaces; and 3) in conjunction with the earlier result of ours [5] in which we proposed a superconducting BCS wave function for fermions collapsing into a black hole, the bosonic analogy presented here, proposing the superfluid ground state of interacting bosons as the quantum final state of bosons falling into a black hole, gives a complete symmetric picture, prescribing the quantum final state to both fermions and bosons inside a black hole.

We stress that, although we find surprisingly good similarity between the superfluid quantum ground state of interacting bosons (present study)/interacting fermions (see Ref. [5]) and the proposed quantum final state of a black hole in Horowitz-Maldacena and Hayden-Preskill information mirror models, there are obvious differences between the two systems one can point out, and hence this analogy, considered alone, does not imply an exact correspondence between the two fields. What is remarkable is that, albeit being a very complex many-body system, a "classical" black hole is characterized by very few parameters: its mass, charge, and angular momentum. Hence, one would naively expect a microscopic quantum treatment for the final quantum state of black holes should also have a similar simple set of parameters describing the dynamics, supporting our analogy to superfluid wave functions as candidate wave functions to describe the quantum final state of a black hole.

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