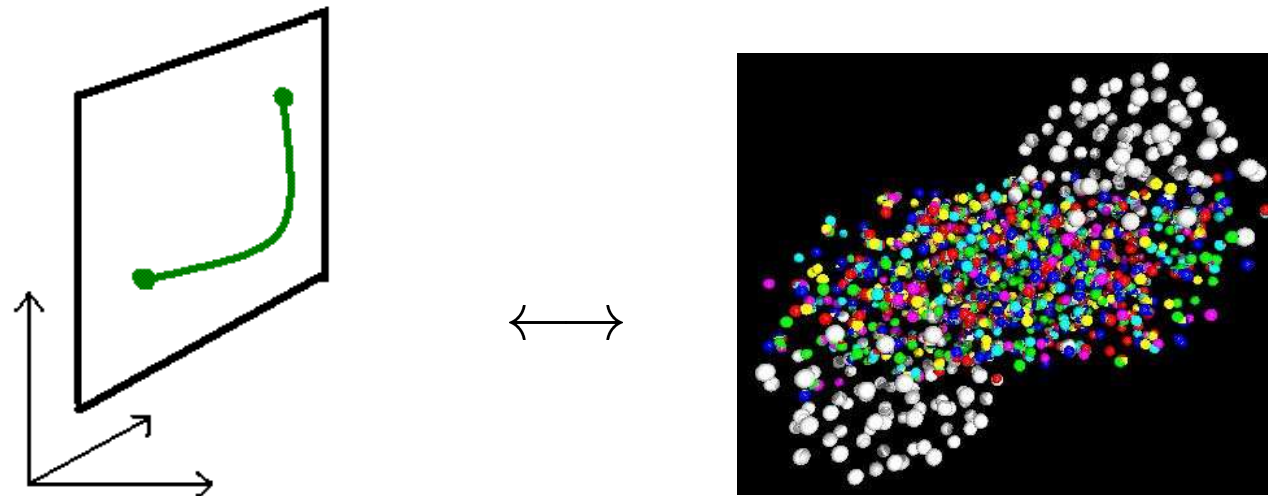


AdS/CFT and thermal properties of strongly coupled systems



[Frankfurt Group]

Kolloquium, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main

19th of April 2007

Motivation by results

- still *only* strongly coupled Yang-Mills with $N \rightarrow \infty$
- realistic properties: chiral symmetry breaking, SUSY breaking, confinement, . . .
- flavor effects: meson-mass spectra, B-meson mass
- non-equilibrium: transport coefficients (universal $\eta/s, \kappa_T, \dots$) [Policastro et al., hep-th/0205052]
- thermal spectral functions [Kovtun, Starinets, hep-th/0602059]
- thermal phase transitions [Babington et al, hep-th/0306018]
- photon/dilepton production in plasma [Huot et al., hep-th/0607237]

Overview

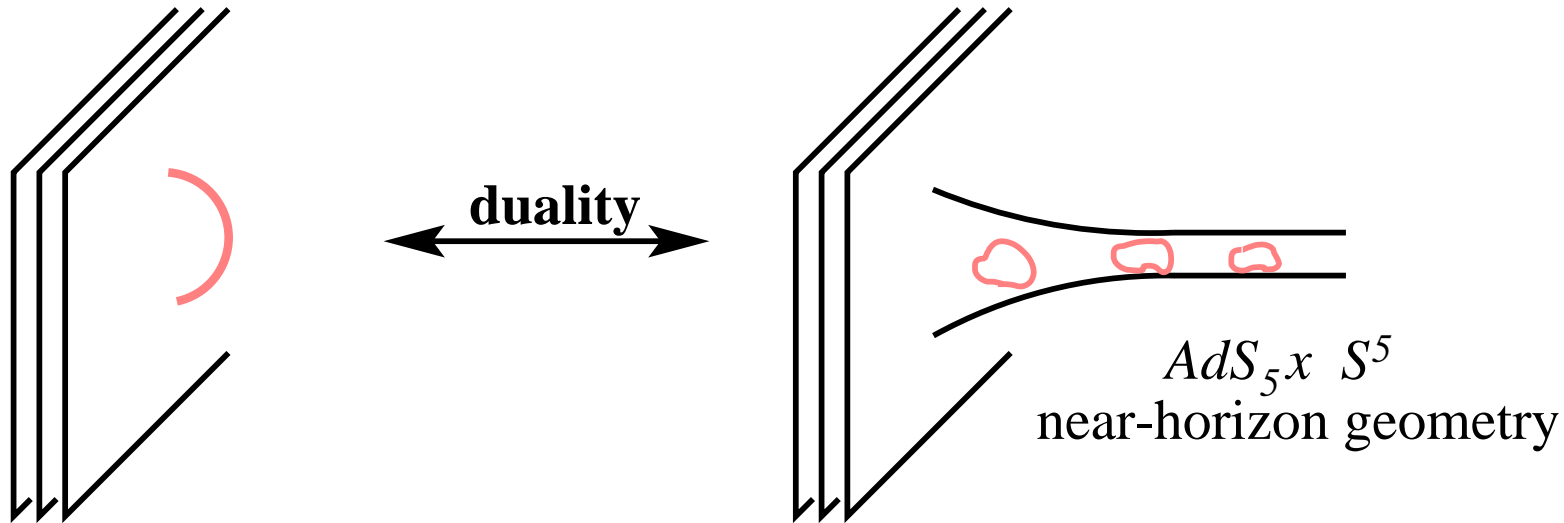
1. Overview
2. Introduction to concepts of AdS/CFT with flavor
3. Apply AdS-methods to find diffusion poles (Examples)
4. Understanding current results of AdS/CFT at finite temperature
5. Summary and Outlook

2. Introduction to methods of the AdS/CFT correspondence

How (not why) do features on the *gravity-side* affect features on the *gauge-side*?

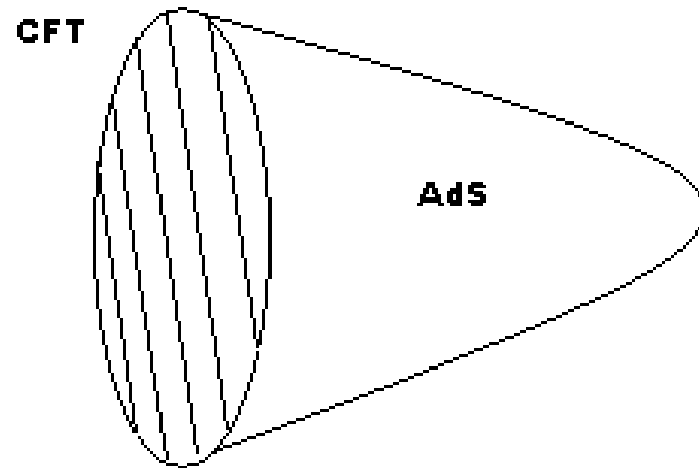
2.1 – Basic AdS/CFT correspondence

Super Yang-Mills theory in Minkowski space
stack of N D3-branes in 10d \leftrightarrow supergravity in $AdS_5 \times S^5$

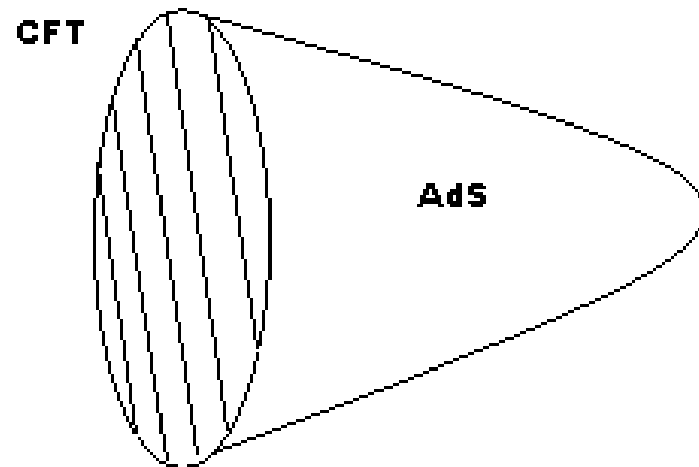


open strings ending on D3-branes \leftrightarrow closed strings near the throat-region

What is AdS?

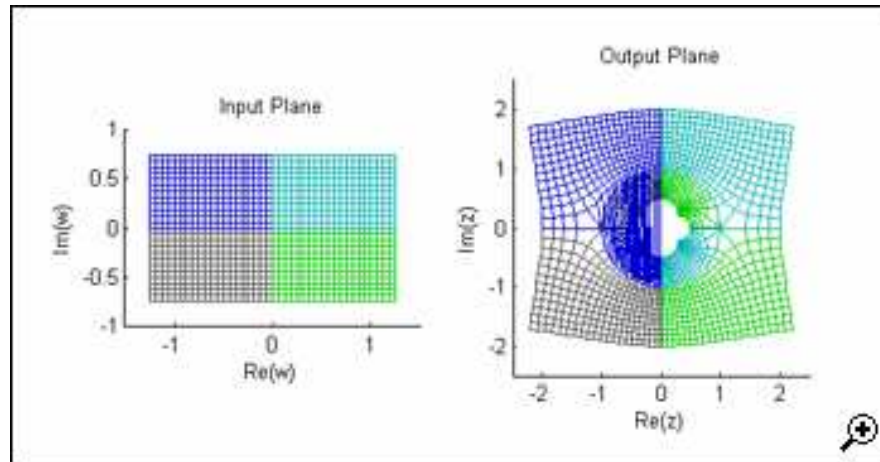


What is AdS?



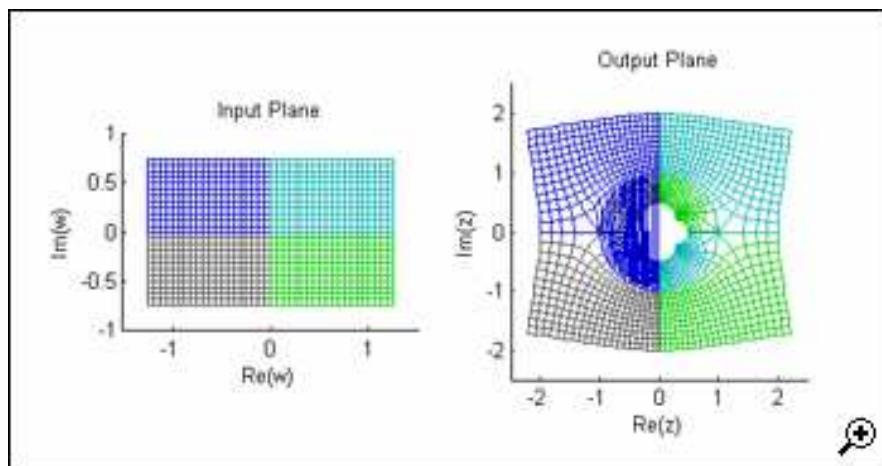
- ➔ Anti-de Sitter space
- ➔ the 5d space with constant negative curvature
- ➔ $AdS_5 \times S^5$:
 S^5 is the five-sphere
- ➔ AdS_5 has 4d boundary (Minkowski space)

What is CFT?

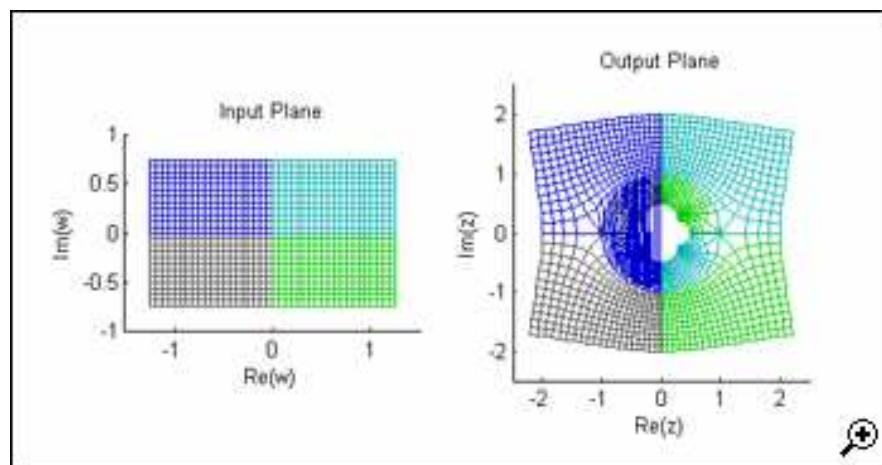


What is CFT?

- ➔ **Conformal Field Theory**
- ➔ invariant under rescaling of metric

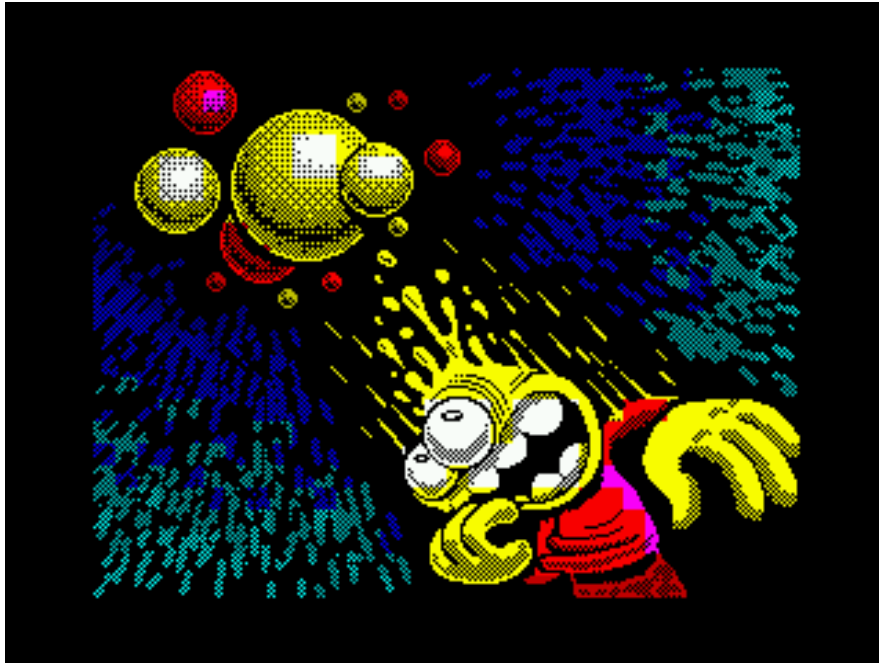


What is CFT?

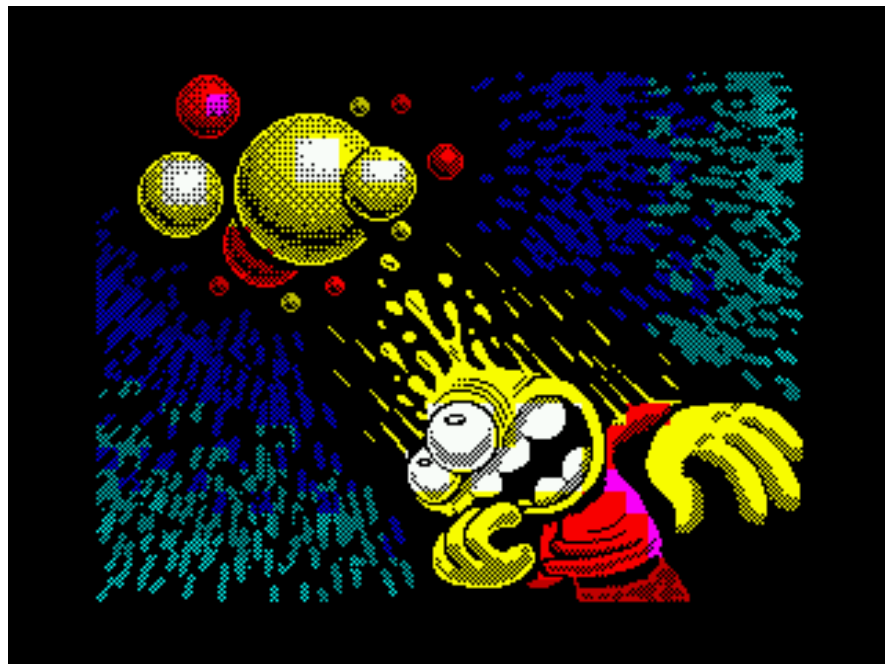


- ➔ **Conformal Field Theory**
- ➔ invariant under rescaling of metric
- ➔ Yang-Mills theory in 4d
- ➔ gauge group $SU(N)$
- ➔ supersymmetric
- ➔ *quantum* field theory
- ➔ lives on the **4d worldvolume of D3-branes**

What is supergravity?

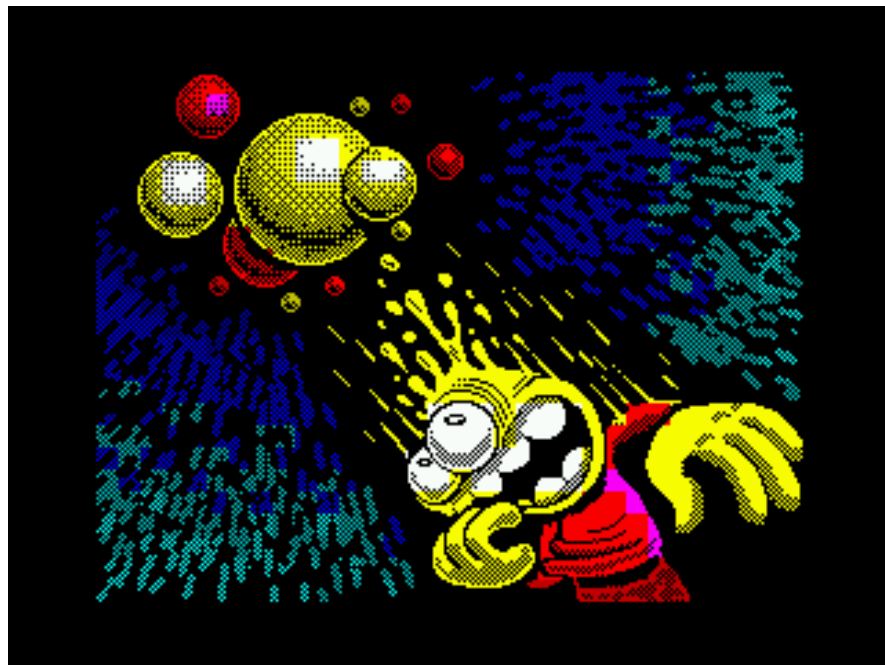


What is supergravity?



[Exocet, Demotopia]

What is supergravity?

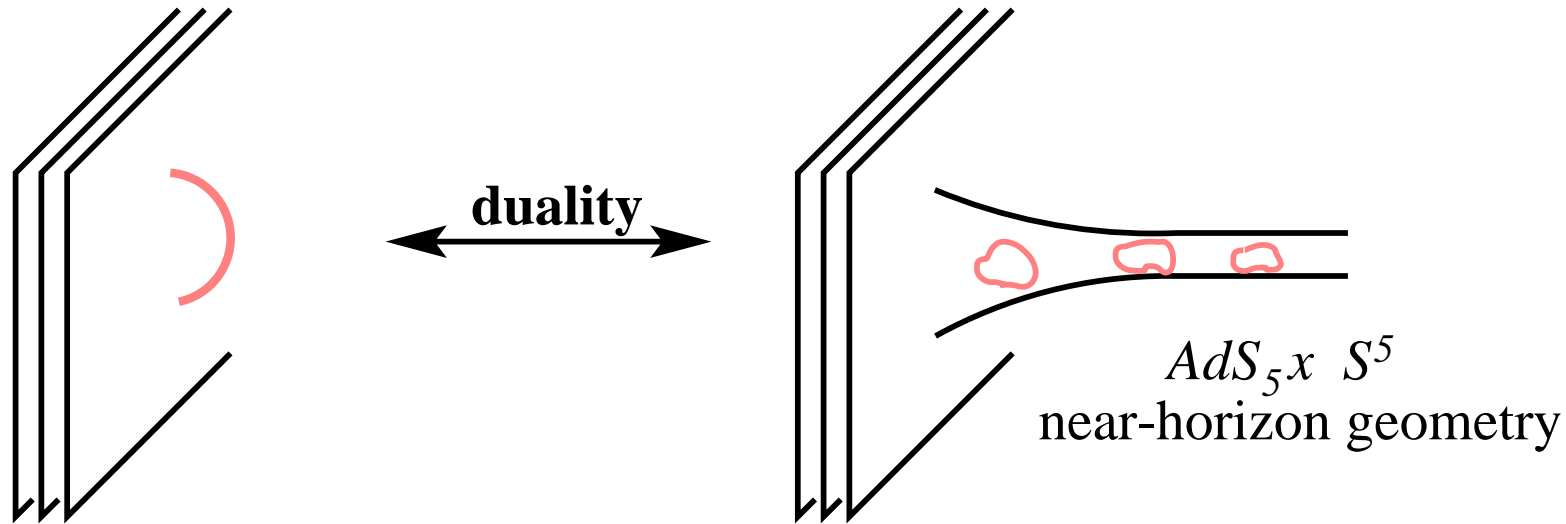


[Exocet, Demotopia]

- ➔ gravity-side of correspondence
- ➔ *classical* theory in 10 dimensions
- ➔ low-energy limit of string theory
- ➔ supersymmetric
- ➔ contains graviton as a *classical* field
- ➔ calculations involve *classical* actions, equations of motion, ...
- ➔ contains **branes as solitonic solutions** to eom

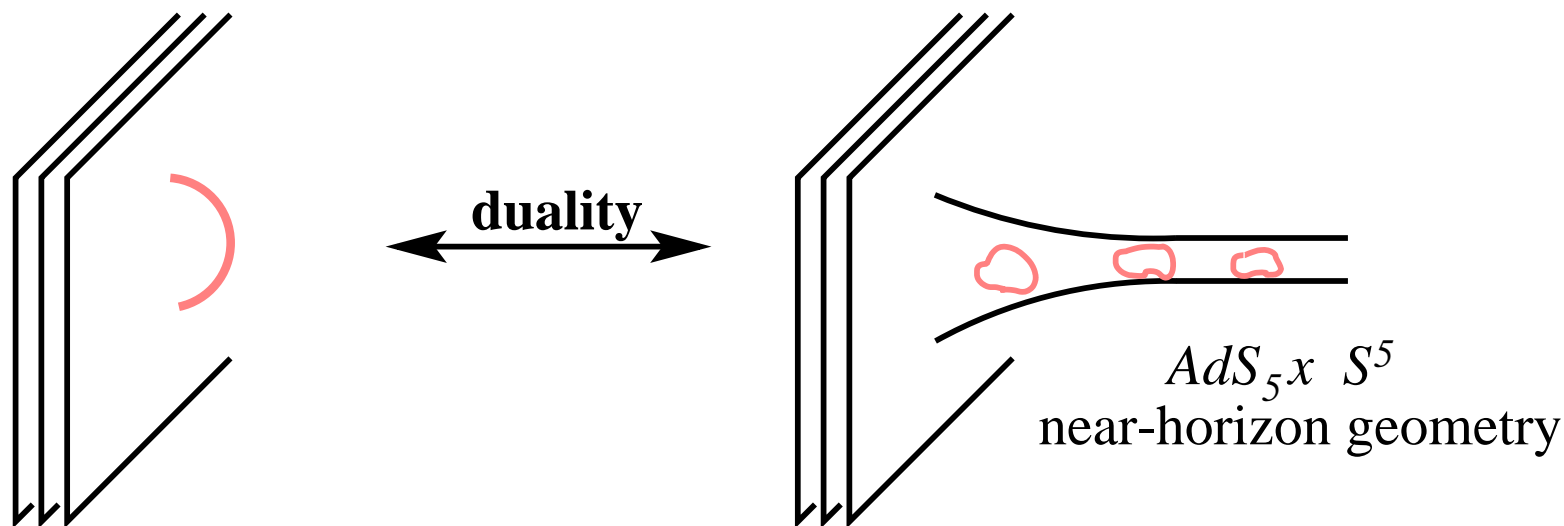
Holographic dictionary of the AdS/CFT correspondence

operators \mathcal{O} in Super Yang-Mills theory (Minkowski) \leftrightarrow supergravity fields A (AdS)



Holographic dictionary of the AdS/CFT correspondence

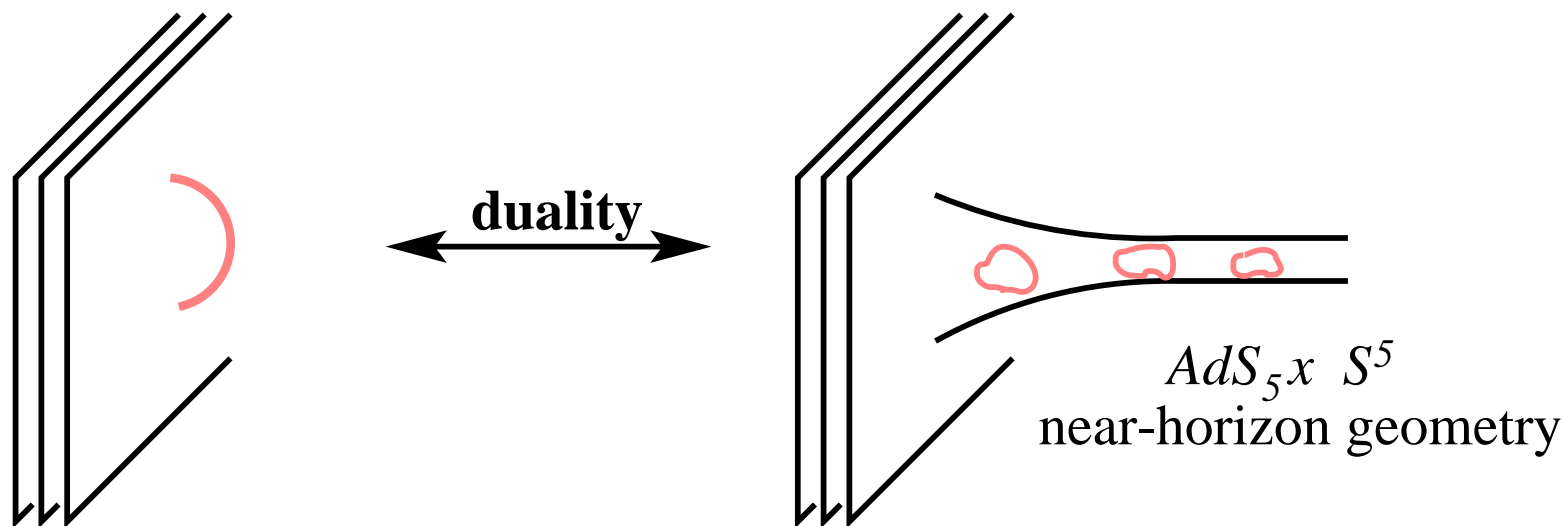
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scaling dimension Δ of operator \mathcal{O} \leftrightarrow mass m of the sugra-field A

Holographic dictionary of the AdS/CFT correspondence

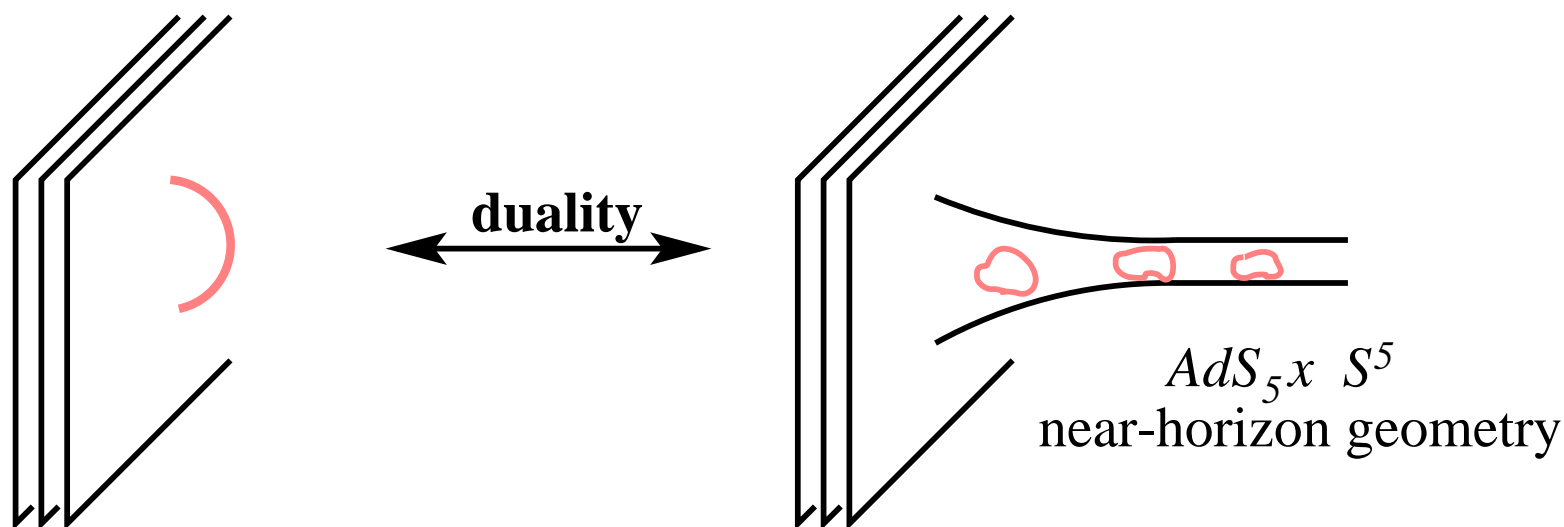
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- ➔ correlators of operators $\langle [\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}] \rangle \rightsquigarrow$ correlators of the sugra-fields $\langle [A, A] \rangle$

Holographic dictionary of the AdS/CFT correspondence

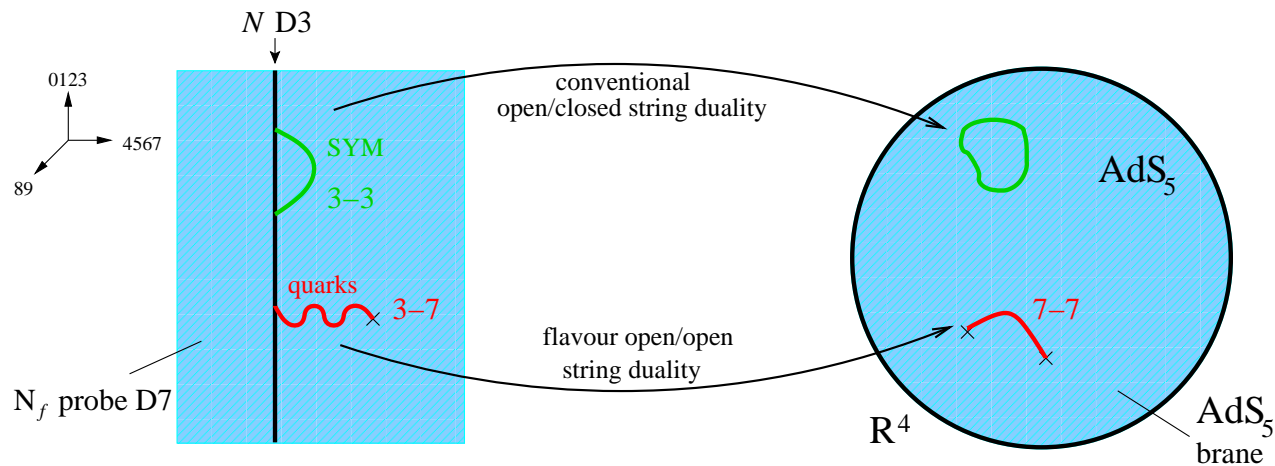
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- ➔ scaling dimension Δ of operator \mathcal{O} \leftrightarrow mass m of the sugra-field A
- ➔ correlators of operators $\langle [\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}] \rangle \rightsquigarrow$ correlators of the sugra-fields $\langle [A, A] \rangle$
- ➔ conformal symmetries \leftrightarrow AdS-isometries
- ➔ $SU(4)$: R-symmetry \leftrightarrow S^5 symmetry

2.2 – AdS/CFT with flavor

Adding probe D7-branes [Graña, Polchinski 2001] [Karch, Katz 2002]

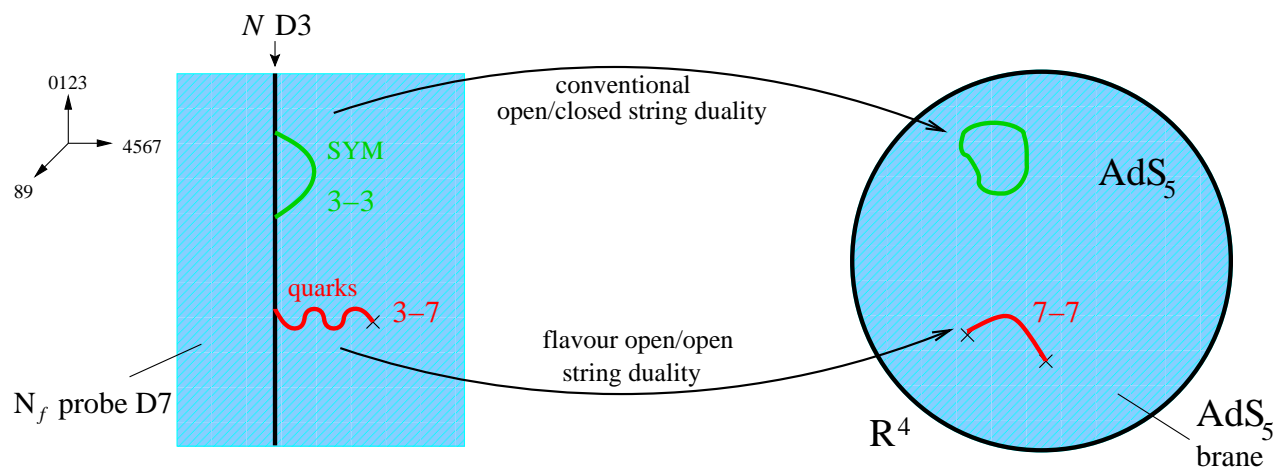


limit: $N \rightarrow \infty$ (standard Maldacena limit), N_f small (quenched approximation)

Duality acts twice!

2.2 – AdS/CFT with flavor

Adding probe D7-branes [Graña, Polchinski 2001] [Karch, Katz 2002]



limit: $N \rightarrow \infty$ (standard Maldacena limit), N_f small (quenched approximation)

Duality acts twice!

4d $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SU(N) Super Yang-Mills theory

type IIB SUGRA on $AdS_5 \times S^5$

coupled to

\longleftrightarrow

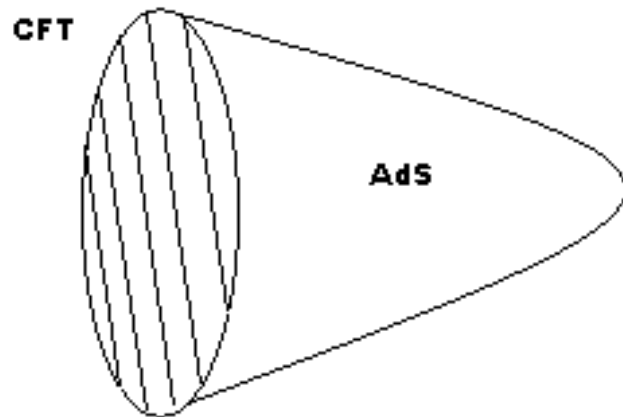
+

4d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ fundamental hypermultiplet

Dirac-Born-Infeld theory on $AdS_5 \times S^3$

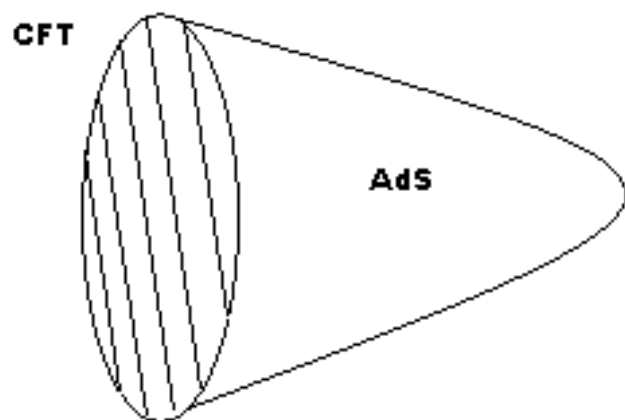
2.3 – Deformed backgrounds

Pure AdS-background (this means *space-time metric*):

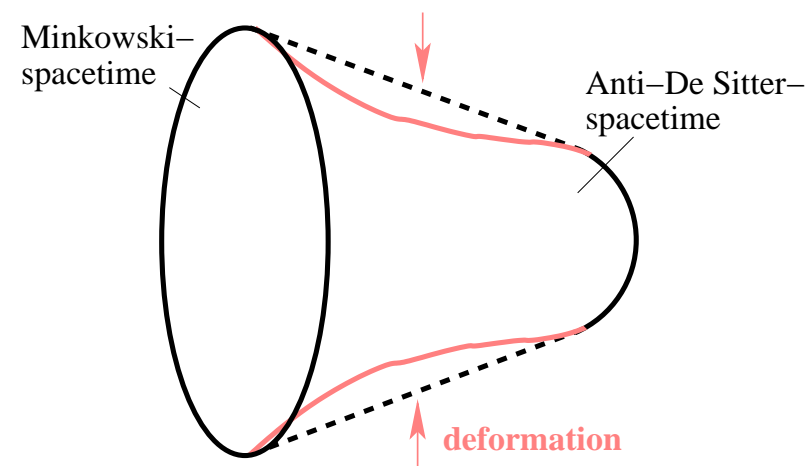


2.3 – Deformed backgrounds

Pure AdS-background (this means *space-time metric*):



Deformed **gravity background changes dual field theory:**



➔ e.g. all SUSY broken, dual field theory at **finite temperature**

2.4 – Minkowski correlators from AdS/CFT

coord. names	x^0	x^1	x^2	x^3	u	S^3	–
indices	μ, ν, \dots				i, j, \dots	u	α

[Son, Starinets, hep-th/0205051]

$$S_{\text{cl}} = \int du d^4x B(u) (\partial_u A)^2 \quad (1)$$

Step 1: Extract the factor $B(u)$.

Step 2: Find solution $f(u, \vec{k})$ to mode equation of motion

with boundary conditions at $u = 0$

$$A(u, \vec{k}) = f(u, \vec{k}) A^{\text{boundary}}(\vec{k}) \quad (2)$$

and incoming wave b.c. at horizon $u = 1$.

Step 3: Find the retarded correlator as

$$G^R(\vec{k}) = -2B(u) f(u, -\vec{k}) \partial_u f(u, \vec{k}) \Big|_{u \rightarrow 0} \quad (3)$$

Summary of concepts:

- ↳ AdS/CFT is a holographic duality
- ↳ AdS/CFT relates operators from field theory to supergravity-fields
- ↳ flavor can be added by adding D7-branes
- ↳ realistic QFT features by deforming supergravity background
- ↳ QFT-correlators at strong coupling can be computed by dual calculation in weakly coupled supergravity

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3. Apply AdS-methods to find diffusion poles

What can we calculate explicitly?

3.1 – Example #1: Super-Maxwell theory

[Policastro, Son, Starinets, '02]

Task: Calculate the R-charge diffusion constant (\rightarrow correlator)!

Background:

$$ds^2 = \frac{b^2 R^2}{u} \left(-f(u) dx_0^2 + dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + dx_3^2 \right) + \frac{R^2}{4u^2 f(u)} du^2 + R^2 d\Omega_5^2, \quad (4)$$

$$0 \leq u \leq 1, \quad x_i \in \mathbb{R},$$

with

$$f(u) = 1 - u^2, \quad R^4 = 4\pi g_s N_c \alpha'^2, \quad b = \pi T. \quad (5)$$

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with

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Classical action (AdS side):

$$S_{\text{Super-Maxwell}} = -\frac{N^2}{16\pi^2} \int du d^4x \sqrt{-g(u)} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \quad (6)$$

Now fix the gauge $A_u \equiv 0$, choose frame $\vec{k} = (\omega, 0, 0, q)$ and use Fourier transform of A_μ .

Applying the recipe for correlators

Step 1: Factor

$$B(u) = -\frac{N^2}{16\pi^2} \sqrt{-g(u)} g^{\mu\mu'} g^{\nu\nu'} \quad (7)$$

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Step 2: Solve equations of motion (5 Maxwell equations in 5d position-space)

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}} \partial_\nu [\sqrt{-g} g^{\mu\rho} g^{\nu\sigma} (\partial_\rho A_\sigma - \partial_\sigma A_\rho)] = 0, \quad (8)$$

➔ Fourier transform fields

➔ Use dimensionless $\mathfrak{w} = \omega/(2\pi T)$, $\mathfrak{q} = q/(2\pi T)$

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➔ Fourier transform fields

➔ Use dimensionless $\mathfrak{w} = \omega/(2\pi T)$, $\mathfrak{q} = q/(2\pi T)$

Small frequencies, long wavelengths justify e.g.

$$A'_t(u) = (1-u)^{-\frac{i\mathfrak{w}}{2}} \frac{\mathfrak{q}^2 A_t^{\text{boundary}} + \mathfrak{w}\mathfrak{q} A_z^{\text{boundary}}}{i\mathfrak{w} - \mathfrak{q}^2} \times \left[1 + \frac{i\mathfrak{w}}{2} \ln \frac{2u^2}{1+u} + \mathfrak{q}^2 \ln \frac{1+u}{2u} + \mathcal{O}(\mathfrak{w}^2, \mathfrak{q}^4, \mathfrak{w}\mathfrak{q}^2) \right] \quad (9)$$

Correlator

Step 3: Formula

$$G^R(\vec{k}) = -2B(u) f(u, -\vec{k}) f'(u, \vec{k}) \Big|_{u \rightarrow 0} \quad (10)$$

identify $A(u, \vec{k}) = f(u, \vec{k}) A^{\text{boundary}}(\vec{k})$.

Time components correlator

$$G_{tt}^{ab} = \frac{N^2 T q^2}{16\pi(i\omega - Dq^2)} + \dots \quad (11)$$

exhibits a pole with

$$D = \frac{1}{2\pi T} \quad (12)$$

Correlator

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Compare to the diffusion equation in position space

$$\partial_t \rho + D \nabla^2 \rho = 0, \quad (13)$$

and in momentum space

$$(i\omega - Dq^2)\rho = 0. \quad (14)$$

Interpretation of result

Question: What exactly have we computed?

Answer: The correlator of Super-Maxwell gauge fields A (a 5d generalization of the electromagnetic vector potential). This is dual to the retarded R-current correlator

$$G^R = -i \int d^4x e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}} \Theta(t) \langle [J(\vec{x}), J(0)] \rangle \quad (15)$$

- ➔ J is the R-current (analog to 'electromagnetic' current) of the Abelian Super Yang-Mills QFT.
- ➔ The R-charge Q coupling to this current undergoes a diffusion process with $D = 1/(2\pi T)$.

3.2 – Example #2: Isospin flavor theory

[Erdmenger, Kaminski, Rust '02]

Task: Compute the diffusion constant of non-Abelian isospin charge!

Background: AdS black hole **as before**.

Classical supergravity action \rightarrow effective Dirac-Born-Infeld action on D7-brane.

What's new?

➔ Non-Abelian flavor indices

➔ Field strength $F_{\mu\nu}^a = 2\partial_{[\mu}A_{\nu]}^a + f^{abc}A_{\mu}^bA_{\nu}^c$

➔ Introduce $SU(2)$ -chemical potential μ as background

➔ Consider fluctuations A_{ν}

$N_f = 2$:

➔ 3×5 component equations of motion,

➔ coupled through flavor indices and

➔ coupled through Lorentz indices

Solution

Decouple equations by trafo

$$X_i = A_i^1 + iA_i^2, \quad \tilde{X}_i = A_i^1 - iA_i^2. \quad (16)$$

Performing **three steps** as before gives

$$G_{t\tilde{t}} = - \frac{N_c T}{8\pi\sqrt{2\mu}} \frac{q^2\sqrt{\omega}}{\omega + q^2 D(\omega)}, \quad (17)$$

$$G_{\tilde{t}t} = \frac{N_c T}{8\pi\sqrt{2\mu}} \frac{q^2\sqrt{\omega}}{i\omega - q^2 D(\omega)}, \quad (18)$$

where $D(\omega)$ is given by

$$D(\omega) = \sqrt{\frac{\omega}{2\mu}} \frac{1}{2\pi T}. \quad (19)$$

Interpretation of result

Question: What exactly have we computed?

Answer: The correlator of Isospin gauge fields A (a generalization of the electromagnetic vector potential). This is dual to the retarded isospin current-current correlator

$$G^R = -i \int d^4x e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}} \Theta(t) \langle [J(\vec{x}), J(0)] \rangle \quad (20)$$

- ➔ J is essentially the isospin charge current of the Abelian Super Yang-Mills QFT.
- ➔ The charge Q coupling to this current undergoes a diffusion process with diffusion coefficient

$$D = \sqrt{\frac{\omega}{2\mu}} \frac{1}{2\pi T}. \quad (21)$$

Summary of examples (diffusion poles):

- ↳ two examples for general method finding correlators in supergravity
- ↳ dual QFTs have hydrodynamic feature (diffusion pole in correlators)
- ↳ #1 is Super Maxwell theory with an 'Abelian' charge undergoing diffusion with $D = 1/(2\pi T)$
- ↳ #2 is non-Abelian isospin flavor ($N_f = 2$) on D7-brane with dual isospin current and charge undergoing diffusion with $D = \sqrt{\frac{\omega}{2\mu}} \frac{1}{2\pi T}$.

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4. Understanding AdS/CFT results

What can we learn about thermal field theory at strong coupling?

4.1 – Universal viscosity bound

Kubo-formula relates viscosity η to energy-momentum T_{ij} correlator

$$\eta = \frac{\beta}{5} \int d^3x' \int_{-\infty}^t dt' e^{\epsilon(t'-t)} \langle T_{\alpha\beta}(t, \vec{x}), T^{\alpha\beta}(t', \vec{x}') \rangle_{\text{retarded}}, \quad (22)$$

with $\alpha, \beta = 1, 2$.

Dual (source) field is graviton $h_{\mu\nu}$

$$\langle T_{ij}(t, \vec{x}), T_{mn}(t', \vec{x}') \rangle_{\text{retarded}} \rightsquigarrow \langle h_{ij}(t, \vec{x}), h_{mn}(t', \vec{x}') \rangle_{\text{retarded}}. \quad (23)$$

Picture: graviton 'scattered' on black hole

→ The **only universal bound** from AdS/CFT

$$\frac{\eta}{s} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \quad (24)$$

For all thermal theories with a gravity dual.

Case study of theories with universal bound reviewed in [Son, Starinets, 0704.0240]

Common features:

- ➔ the thermal field theory has a gravity dual
- ➔ Supergravity background is asymptotically AdS

Distinct features:

- ➔ supersymmetry
- ➔ conformal symmetry
- ➔ flavor/ fundamental matter
- ➔ nonzero chemical potential

Hydrodynamic poles and (quasi)normal modes

Alternatively, examine poles of T_{ij} -correlator (hydro limit)

$$\langle T_{ij}, T_{mn} \rangle \propto \frac{1}{i\omega - Dq^2} \quad (25)$$

with diffusion constant

$$D = \frac{\eta}{\epsilon + P} = \frac{1}{4\pi T}. \quad (26)$$

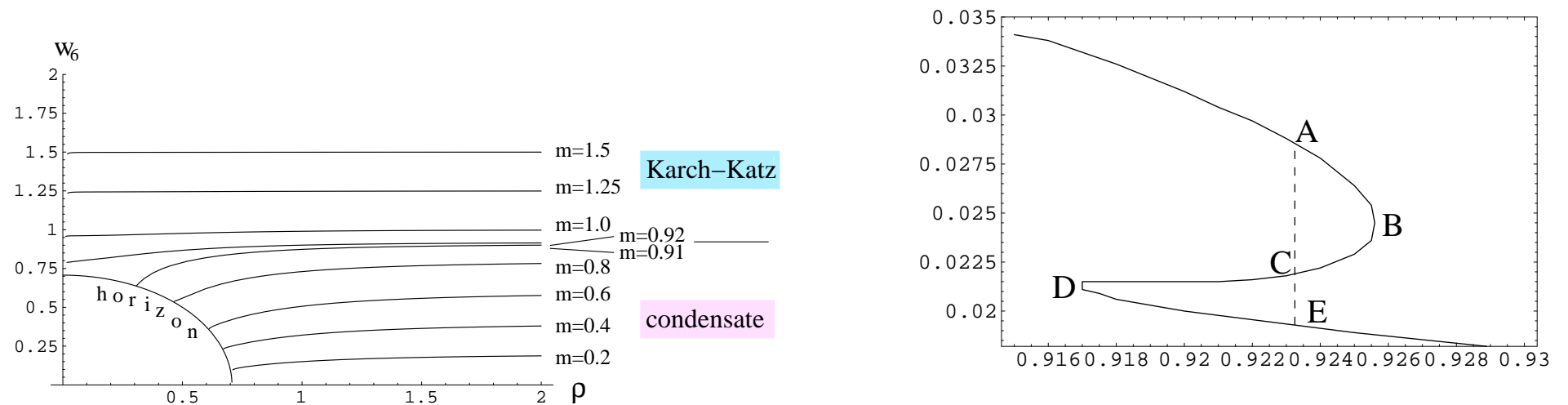
Generalization beyond hydrodynamics (to arbitrary wave-vector \vec{k}):

- ➔ Supergravity correlators have infinitely many poles
- ➔ Solutions in flat spacetime: normal modes (ω real)
- ➔ Solutions in curved spacetime: quasinormal modes (ω complex \rightarrow dissipative mode)
- ➔ quasinormal modes \leftrightarrow poles of QFT-correlators
- ➔ hydrodynamic poles are identical to the lowest quasinormal mode frequencies
- ➔ what are the higher ones?

Geometry change vs. phase change

[Babington, Erdmenger, Evans, Guralnik, Kirsch, hep-th/0306018]

For the regular solutions the D7-brane either ends at the horizon, or ends at a point outside the horizon, \Rightarrow Two classes of regular solutions in the AdS black hole background:



[Ingo Kirsch, PhD thesis]

First order phase transition in type II B AdS black hole background

Summary & Outlook

[Son, Starinets, 0704.0240]

- ✓ Gauge/gravity correspondence relates supergravity in AdS black hole backgrounds at weak coupling to a thermal field theory at strong coupling.
- ✓ Correlators can be computed.
- ✓ Universal viscosity bound in all theories with gravity dual.
(not from conformal symmetry or SUSY)
- ✓ Diffusion constants from poles of correlators/ lowest quasinormal mode
- ✓ Thermal phase transition in toy model dual to change of geometry.

- ✍ Why is η/s universal in a class of theories?
- ✍ What do higher quasinormal modes correspond to?
- ✍ Is QCD in the same universality class as the known theories?
- ✍ What is the QCD gravity dual?
- ✍ What is the thermal FT meaning of the two correlators connected to isospin diffusion?

APPENDIX A1: Applying the recipe for correlators

Step 1: Factor

$$B(u) = -\frac{N^2}{16\pi^2} \sqrt{-g(u)} g^{\mu\mu'} g^{\nu\nu'} \quad (28)$$

Step 2: Equations of motion (5 Maxwell equations in 5d position-space)

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}} \partial_\nu [\sqrt{-g} g^{\mu\rho} g^{\nu\sigma} (\partial_\rho A_\sigma - \partial_\sigma A_\rho)] = 0, \quad (29)$$

reduce to (in momentum-space)

$$\mathbf{w} A'_t + \mathbf{q} f A'_z = 0, \quad (30a)$$

$$A''_t - \frac{1}{uf} (\mathbf{q}^2 A_t + \mathbf{w} \mathbf{q} A_z) = 0, \quad (30b)$$

$$A''_z + \frac{f'}{f} A'_z + \frac{1}{uf^2} (\mathbf{w}^2 A_z + \mathbf{w} \mathbf{q} A_t) = 0, \quad (30c)$$

$$A''_\alpha + \frac{f'}{f} A'_\alpha + \frac{1}{uf} \left(\frac{\mathbf{w}^2}{f} - \mathbf{q}^2 \right) A_\alpha = 0, \quad (30d)$$

with dimensionless $\mathbf{w} = \omega/(2\pi T)$, $\mathbf{q} = q/(2\pi T)$ and $A' = \partial_u A$.

APPENDIX A2: Equation of motion and boundary conditions

Combining the first two equations gives

$$A_t''' + \frac{(uf)'}{uf} A_t'' + \frac{\mathfrak{w}^2 - \mathfrak{q}^2 f(u)}{uf^2} A_t' = 0, \quad (31)$$

Singular coefficients! \rightarrow Indicial ansatz with regular $F(u)$

$$A_t' = (1 - u)^\beta F(u) \quad (32)$$

gives

$$\beta = \pm \frac{i\mathfrak{w}}{2} \quad (33)$$

Define $\ln(1 - u) = -r$, with $0 \leq r \leq \infty$, then

$$A_t' \propto e^{-\beta r} \quad (34)$$

\rightarrow Pick incoming wave $\beta = -i\mathfrak{w}/2$.

APPENDIX A3: Hydrodynamic limit and solution

Small frequencies, long wavelengths justify

$$F(u) = F_0 + \mathfrak{w}F_1 + \mathfrak{q}^2G_1 + \mathfrak{w}^2F_2 + \mathfrak{w}\mathfrak{q}^2H_1 + \mathfrak{q}^4G_2 + \dots . \quad (35)$$

Simple solution

$$F_0 = C, \quad F_1 = \frac{iC}{2} \ln \frac{2u^2}{1+u}, \quad G_1 = C \ln \frac{1+u}{2u}. \quad (36)$$

Fix constant by boundary values (b.c. at $u = 0$)

$$C = \frac{\mathfrak{q}^2 A_t^{\text{boundary}} + \mathfrak{w}\mathfrak{q} A_z^{\text{boundary}}}{i\mathfrak{w} - \mathfrak{q}^2}, \quad (37)$$

APPENDIX A4: Correlator

Step 3: Formula

$$G^R(\vec{k}) = -2B(u)f(u, -\vec{k})f'(u, \vec{k}) \Big|_{u \rightarrow 0} \quad (38)$$

identify $A(u, \vec{k}) = f(u, \vec{k})A^{boundary}(\vec{k})$.

Boundary behavior of our solution e.g. in time-components

$$A'_t = (\mathfrak{q}^2 A_t^0 + \mathfrak{w}\mathfrak{q} A_z^0) \ln \epsilon + \frac{\mathfrak{q}^2 A_t^0 + \mathfrak{w}\mathfrak{q} A_z^0}{i\mathfrak{w} - \mathfrak{q}^2}, \quad (39)$$

And the corresponding correlator

$$G_{tt}^{ab} = \frac{N^2 T q^2}{16\pi(i\omega - Dq^2)} + \dots \quad (40)$$

exhibits a diffusion pole with diffusion constant

$$D = \frac{1}{2\pi T} \quad (41)$$

APPENDIX B1: Examples for deformed backgrounds

1. Constable-Myers background:

↳ dual field theory confining

↳ **all SUSY broken**

APPENDIX B1: Examples for deformed backgrounds

1. Constable-Myers background:

↳ dual field theory confining

↳ all SUSY broken

2. AdS black hole background:

↳ horizon

↳ $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM at finite temperature

↳ dual QFT also confining

↳ cf. thermal examples in next section

In UV limit, both geometries return to $AdS_5 \times S^5$ with D7 probe wrapping $AdS_5 \times S^3$.

APPENDIX B2: Constable-Myers background

The Myers-Constable background is given by the metric

$$ds^2 = H^{-1/2} \left(\frac{w^4 + b^4}{w^4 - b^4} \right)^{\delta/4} dx_4^2 + H^{1/2} \left(\frac{w^4 + b^4}{w^4 - b^4} \right)^{(2-\delta)/4} \frac{w^4 - b^4}{w^4} \sum_{i=1}^6 dw_i^2,$$

where

$$H = \left(\frac{w^4 + b^4}{w^4 - b^4} \right)^{\delta} - 1 \quad (\Delta^2 + \delta^2 = 10)$$

and the dilaton and four-form

$$e^{2\phi} = e^{2\phi_0} \left(\frac{w^4 + b^4}{w^4 - b^4} \right)^{\Delta}, \quad C_{(4)} = -\frac{1}{4} H^{-1} dt \wedge dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$$

This background has a singularity at $w = b$

APPENDIX B3: Schwarzschild black hole background

$$ds^2 = \left(w^2 + \frac{b^4}{4w^2} \right) d\vec{x}^2 + \frac{(4w^4 - b^4)^2}{4w^2(4w^4 + b^4)} d\tau^2 + \frac{1}{w^2} \sum_{i=1}^6 dw_i^2 \quad (42)$$

with radial coordinate $w^2 = \rho^2 + w_5^2 + w_6^2$ and b a deformation parameter, τ periodic (period $\pi b = T^{-1}$)

horizon: S^1 collapses at $w = \frac{1}{2}b$

APPENDIX C: Correlation functions from AdS/CFT

Formally stated for Euclidean metric:

$$\langle e^{\int d^4x A^{boundary}(\vec{x}) \mathcal{O}(\vec{x})} \rangle_{CFT} = Z_{SUGRA}[A(z, \vec{x})] \Big|_{A(0, \vec{x}) = A^{boundary}(\vec{x})} \quad (43)$$

APPENDIX C: Correlation functions from AdS/CFT

Formally stated for Euclidean metric:

$$\langle e^{\int d^4x A^{boundary}(\vec{x}) \mathcal{O}(\vec{x})} \rangle_{CFT} = Z_{\text{SUGRA}}[A(z, \vec{x})] \Big|_{A(0, \vec{x}) = A^{boundary}(\vec{x})} \quad (43)$$

and by functional differentiation on both sides:

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(\vec{x}) \mathcal{O}(\vec{y}) \rangle_{CFT} = \frac{\delta}{\delta A^{boundary}(\vec{x})} \frac{\delta}{\delta A^{boundary}(\vec{y})} Z_{\text{SUGRA}} \Big|_{A = A^{boundary}} \quad (44)$$

The fields A act as sources for the operators \mathcal{O} .