

Holographic Lattices

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Holographic Lattices

CFT with a deformation by an operator that breaks translation invariance

Why?

- Translation invariance \Rightarrow momentum is conserved, hence no dissipation and hence DC response are infinite. To model more realistic metallic behaviour or insulating behaviour we can use a lattice
- The lattice deformation can lead to novel ground states at $T=0$. Can also model metal-insulator transitions
- Formal developments: thermo-electric DC conductivities in terms of black hole horizon data [Donos, Gauntlett]

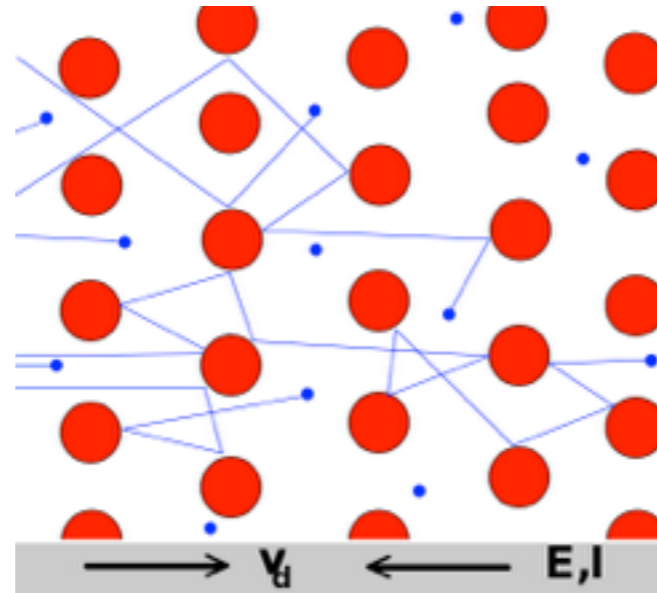
Analogous to $\eta = \frac{s}{4\pi}$ [Policastro, Kovtun, Son, Starinets]

Plan

- Drude physics and coherent metals
- Lattice with global U(1) symmetry and $\mu(x)$. In Einstein-Maxwell theory. Coherent metals.
- Q-lattices, using scalars and global symmetry. Can give coherent metals, incoherent metals and insulators and transitions between them.
- Helical lattices in D=5 pure gravity. Universal deformation. Coherent metals. Comments on calculating Greens functions

Drude Model of transport in a metal

Quasi-particle interactions ignored



$$m \frac{d}{dt} v = qE - \frac{m}{\tau} v \quad \Rightarrow \quad v = \frac{q\tau E}{m}$$

$$J = nqv$$

$$J = \sigma_{DC} E \quad \sigma_{DC} = \frac{nq^2\tau}{m}$$

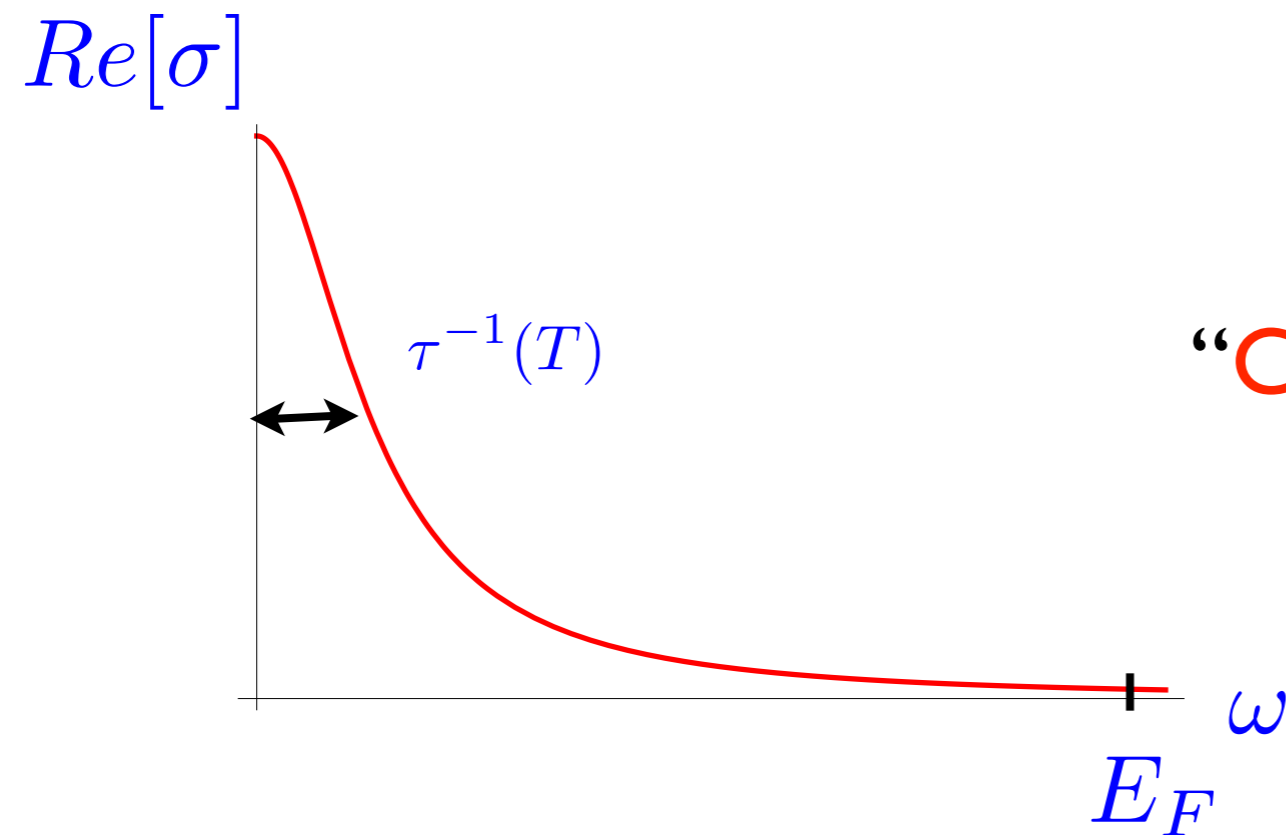
$$E = E(\omega)e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$J = J(\omega)e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$J(\omega) = \sigma(\omega)E(\omega)$$

$$\sigma(\omega) = \frac{\sigma_{DC}}{1 - i\omega\tau}$$

$$\sigma_{DC} = \frac{q^2\tau}{m}$$



“Coherent” or “good” metal

When $\tau \rightarrow \infty$ $\sigma(\omega) \sim \delta(\omega) + \frac{i}{\omega}$

- Drude physics doesn't require quasi-particles

Coherent metals arise when momentum is nearly conserved [Hartnoll,Hofman]

Pole on negative imaginary axis near origin $\omega = -\frac{i}{\tau}$

- Similar comments apply to thermal conductivity $Q = -\bar{\kappa}\nabla T$

- There are also “incoherent” metals without Drude peaks

Not dominated by single time scale τ

Of particular interest to realise these in holography

- Insulators with $\sigma_{DC} = \bar{\kappa}_{DC} = 0$ at $T=0$

Holographic CFTs at finite charge density

Focus on d=3 CFT and consider D=4 Einstein-Maxwell theory:

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[R + 6 - \frac{1}{4} F^2 + \dots \right]$$

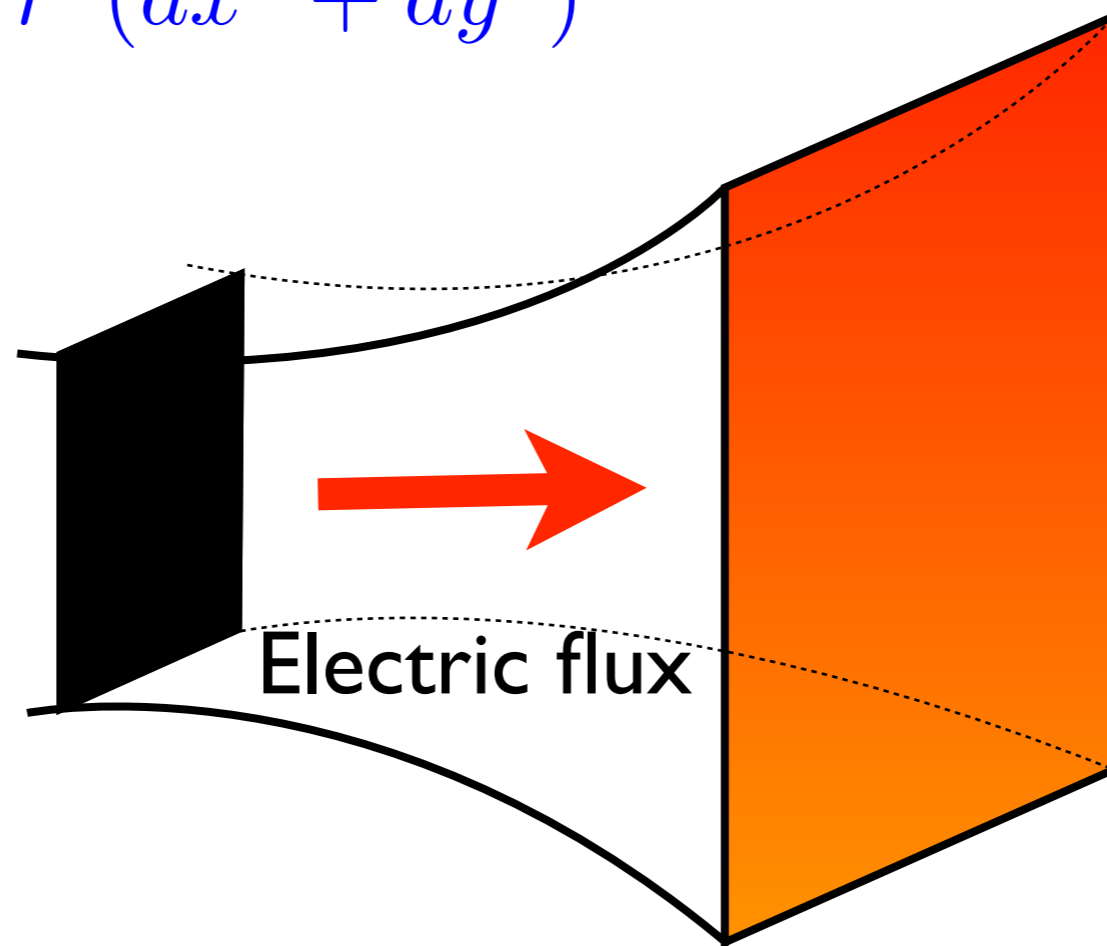
Admits AdS_4 vacuum \leftrightarrow d=3 CFT with global U(1)

Electrically charged AdS-RN black hole (brane)

Describes holographic matter at finite charge density that is translationally invariant

$$ds^2 = -U dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{U} + r^2(dx^2 + dy^2)$$

$$A_t = \mu \left(1 - \frac{r_+}{r}\right)$$



d=3 CFT

μ T

T=0 limit:

$AdS_2 \times \mathbb{R}^2$

IR

AdS_4

UV

By perturbing the black hole and using holographic tools we can calculate the electric conductivity and find a delta function at $\omega = 0$ [Hartnoll]

Construct lattice black holes dual to CFT with $\mu(x)$

$$A_t(x, r) \sim \mu(x) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{r}\right) \quad r \rightarrow \infty$$

$$g_{\mu\nu}(x, r)$$

Need to solve PDEs in two variables

e.g. Monochromatic lattice:

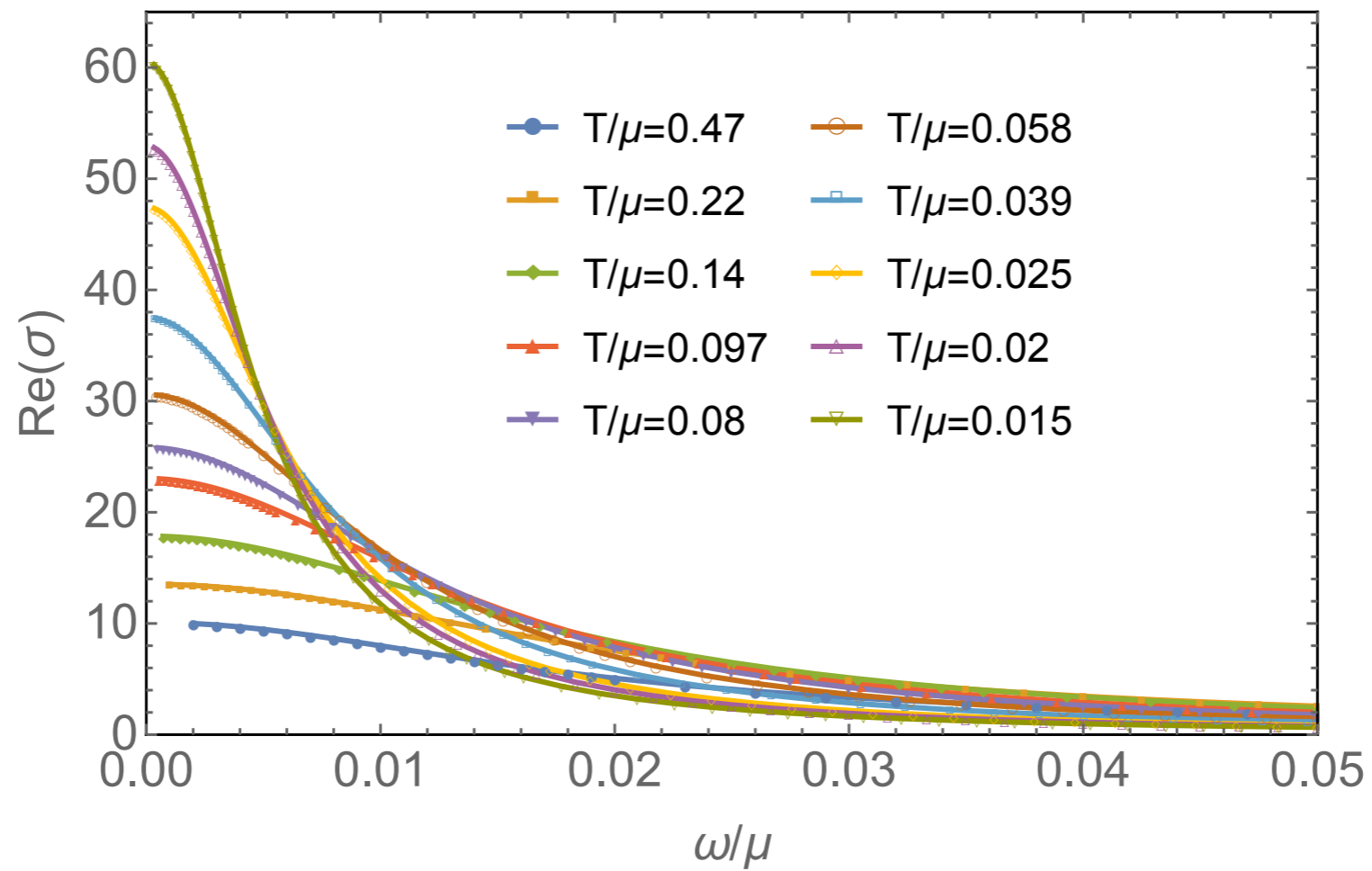
$$\mu(x) = \mu + A \cos kx$$

[Horowitz, Santos, Tong]

[Donos, Gauntlett]

After constructing black holes, one can perturb, again solving PDEs, to extract thermo-electric conductivities

Find Drude physics at finite T

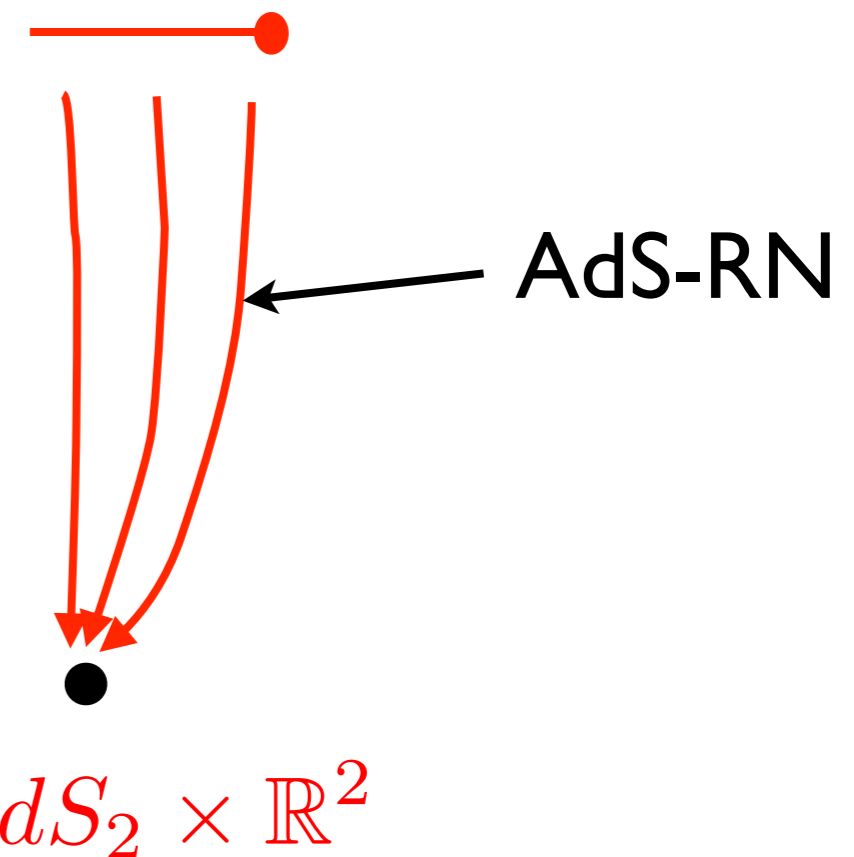


Coherent metal phases

Can be understood by analysing $T=0$ solutions:

UV data

$$k/\mu \quad A/\mu$$



IR fixed point

$$AdS_2 \times \mathbb{R}^2$$

At $T=0$ the black holes approach $AdS_2 \times \mathbb{R}^2$ in the IR perturbed by irrelevant operator with $\Delta(k_{IR}) \geq 1$

Don't find exceptions to this behaviour even for dirty lattices e.g.

$$\mu(x) = 1 + A \sum_{n=1}^{10} \cos(n k x + \theta_n),$$

Holographic Q-lattices

[Donos, Gauntlett]

- Illustrative D=4 model

$$\mathcal{L} = R - \frac{1}{2} |\partial\varphi|^2 + V(|\varphi|) - \frac{Z(|\varphi|)}{4} F^2$$

- Choose V, Z so that AdS-RN is a solution at $\varphi = 0$
- Now $\varphi \leftrightarrow \mathcal{O}$ in CFT. Want to build a holographic lattice by deforming with the operator \mathcal{O}
- The model has a gauge $U(1)$ and a global $U(1)$ symmetry
Exploit the **global bulk** symmetry to break translations so that we only have to solve ODEs

Ansatz for fields

$$ds^2 = -U dt^2 + U^{-1} dr^2 + e^{2V_1} dx^2 + e^{2V_2} dy^2$$

$$A_t = a(r)$$

$$\varphi(r, x) = \phi(r) e^{ikx}$$

UV expansion:

$$U = r^2 + \dots, \quad e^{2V_1} = r^2 + \dots, \quad e^{2V_2} = r^2 + \dots$$

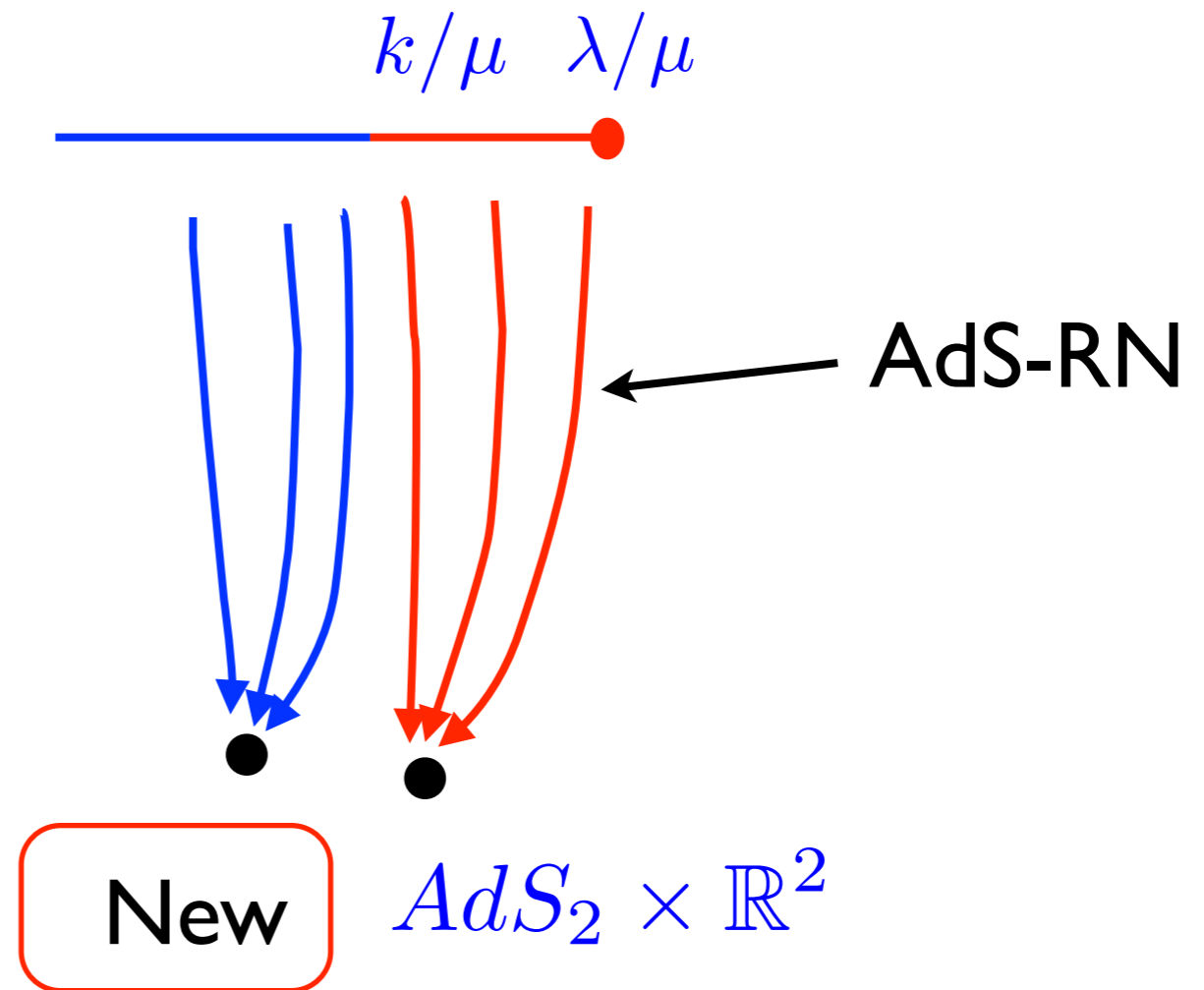
$$a = \mu + \frac{q}{r} \dots, \quad \phi = \frac{\lambda}{r^{3-\Delta}} + \dots$$

Homogeneous and anisotropic and periodic holographic lattices

UV data: T/μ $\lambda/\mu^{3-\Delta}$ k/μ

For small deformations from AdS-RN we find Drude peaks corresponding to coherent metals.

This can be understood by examining $T=0$ behaviour of solutions:



For larger deformations, for specific models, we find a transition to new behaviour. The new ground states can be both insulators and also incoherent metals!

See also: [\[Gouteraux\]](#)[\[Andrade, Withers\]](#)

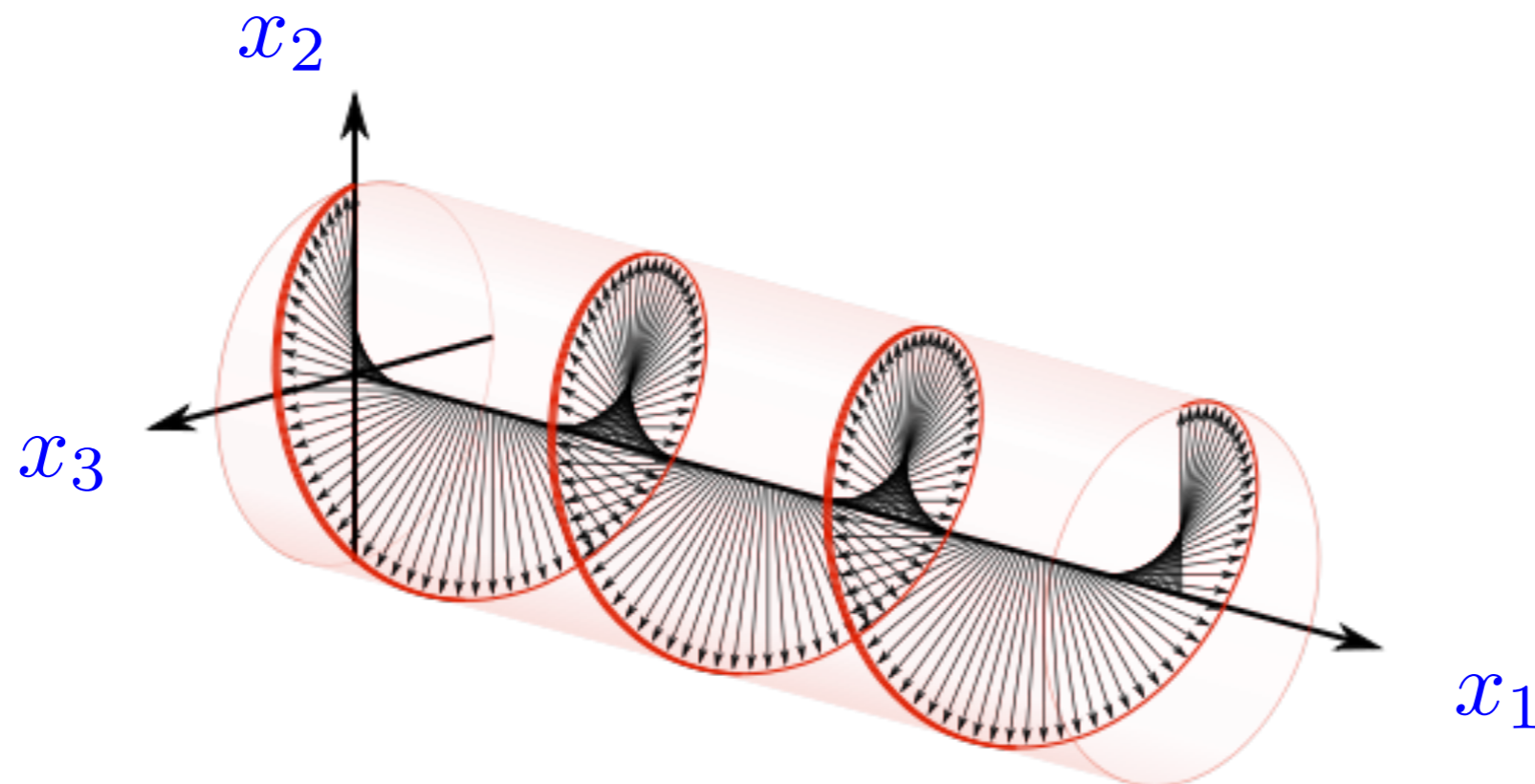
D=4 CFTs with a Helical Twist [Donos, Gauntlett, Panteleidou]

Study a universal helical deformation that applies to all d=4 CFTS

First recall the Bianchi VII_0 Lie algebra

$$[L_1, L_2] = -kL_3 \quad [L_1, L_3] = kL_2 \quad [L_2, L_3] = 0$$

$$L^1 = \partial_{x_1} + k(x_3\partial_{x_2} - x_2\partial_{x_3}) \quad L_2 = \partial_{x_2} \quad L_3 = \partial_{x_3}$$



Useful to introduce the left-invariant one-forms

$$\omega_1 = dx_1$$

$$\omega_2 = \cos(kx_1) dx_2 - \sin(kx_1) dx_3,$$

$$\omega_3 = \cos(kx_1) dx_2 + \sin(kx_1) dx_3$$

We want to explicitly break the $ISO(3)$ spatial symmetry of the CFT down to Bianchi VII_0

Achieve by introducing suitable sources for the stress tensor

Equivalently, consider CFT not on $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$ but on

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + \omega_1^2 + e^{2\alpha_0} \omega_2^2 + e^{-2\alpha_0} \omega_3^2$$

with k, α_0 parametrising the deformation

Study in holography by considering

$$S = \int d^5x \sqrt{-g} (R + 12)$$

This is a consistent truncation of all $AdS_5 \times M$ solutions in string/M-theory. Hence analysis applies to **entire class of CFTs**

Ansatz

$$ds^2 = -g f^2 dt^2 + g^{-1} dr^2 + h^2 \omega_1^2 + r^2 (e^{2\alpha} \omega_2^2 + e^{-2\alpha} \omega_3^2)$$

Equations of motion

$$f' = \dots, \quad g' = \dots, \quad h'' = \dots, \quad \alpha'' = \dots$$

IR boundary conditions: smooth black hole horizon

Expand functions at UV boundary

$$\begin{aligned}
 f &= 1 + \frac{k^2}{12r^2} (1 - \cosh 4\alpha_0) - \frac{c_h}{r^4} + \frac{k^4}{96r^4} (3 + 4 \cosh 4\alpha_0 - 7 \cosh 8\alpha_0) - \log r() + \dots, \\
 g &= r^2 \left(1 - \frac{k^2}{6r^2} (1 - \cosh 4\alpha_0) - \frac{M}{r^4} + \log r() + \dots \right), \\
 h &= r \left(1 - \frac{k^2}{4r^2} (1 - \cosh 4\alpha_0) + \frac{c_h}{r^4} + \log r() + \dots \right), \\
 \alpha &= \alpha_0 - \frac{k^2}{4r^2} \sinh 4\alpha_0 + \frac{c_\alpha}{r^4} + \log r() + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

Source parameters: α_0, k

Vev parameters: c_h, c_α, M

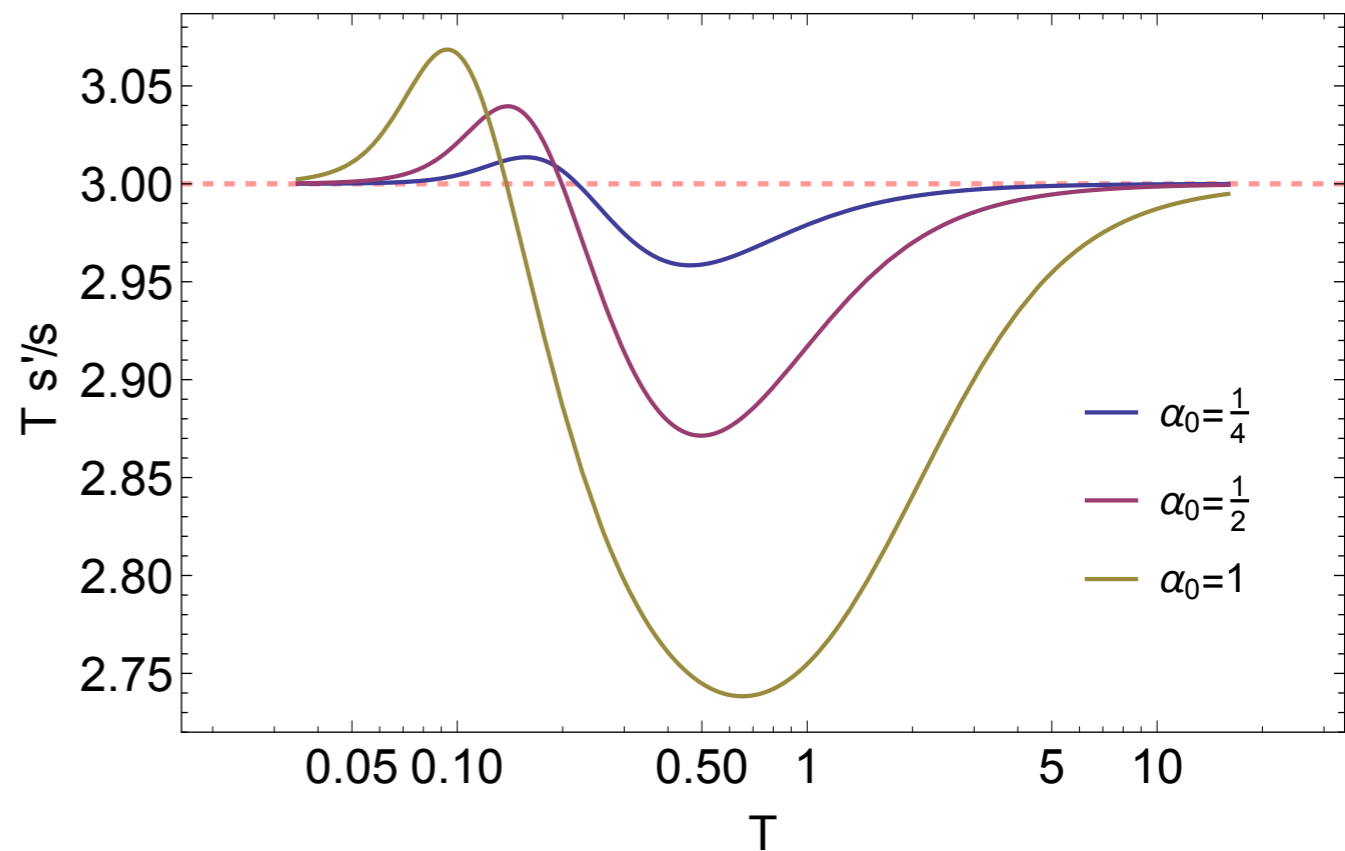
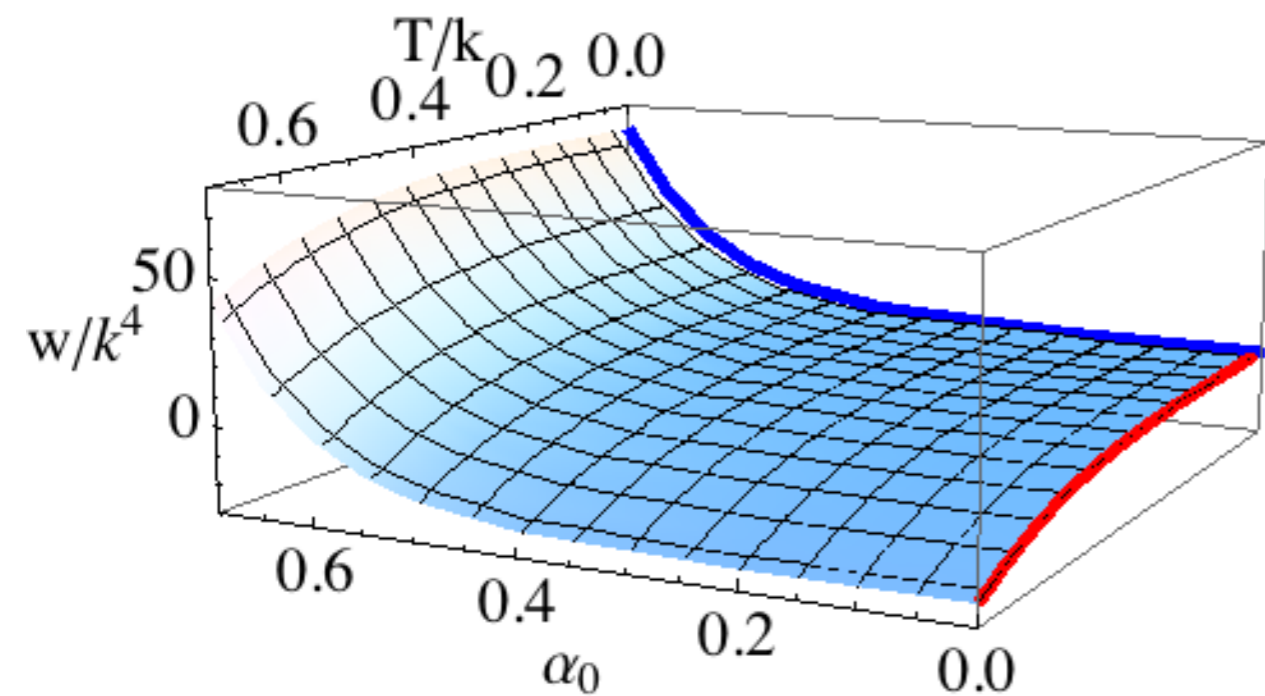
Together these give $T^{\mu\nu}$ of helically deformed CFT

Log terms arise because of conformal anomaly

$$T^\mu{}_\mu = \frac{k^4}{3} (\cosh(8\alpha_0) - \cosh(4\alpha_0))$$

Parameter count: expect two parameter family of black holes labelled by $k/T, \alpha_0$ (for fixed dynamical scale)

Results of numerics



At $T=0$ the solution might be approaching AdS5?

T=0 interpolating solutions

Consider small perturbation of α about AdS5 which one solve in terms of Bessel functions

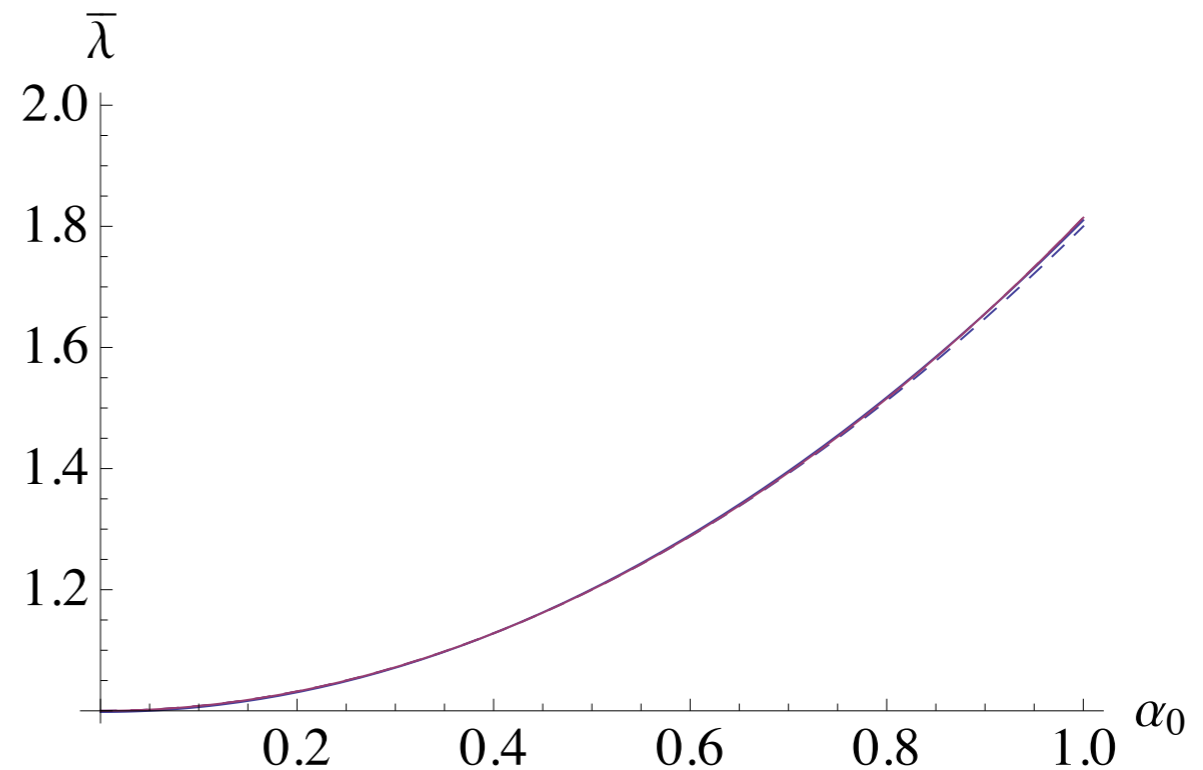
Suggests the IR expansion as $r \rightarrow 0$

$$g = r^2 + \frac{k^3 \bar{\alpha}_+^2}{r} e^{-4k/\bar{h}_+ r} \left(1 + \frac{5\bar{h}_+}{8k} r + \mathcal{O}(r^2)\right) + \dots,$$
$$f = \bar{f}_+ - \frac{k^3 \bar{\alpha}_+^2 \bar{f}_+}{2r^3} e^{-4k/\bar{h}_+ r} \left(1 + \frac{5\bar{h}_+}{8k} r + \mathcal{O}(r^2)\right) + \dots,$$
$$h = \bar{h}_+ r - \frac{k^3 \bar{\alpha}_+^2 \bar{h}_+}{2r^2} e^{-4k/\bar{h}_+ r} \left(1 + \frac{21\bar{h}_+}{8k} r + \mathcal{O}(r^2)\right) + \dots,$$
$$\alpha = \frac{\bar{\alpha}_+ 2k^2}{\sqrt{\pi \bar{h}_+} r^2} K_2 \left(\frac{2k}{\bar{h}_+ r} \right) + \dots,$$

Note that there can be a renormalisation of length scales

Length scale renormalisation

$$\bar{\lambda} \equiv \sqrt{\frac{g_{x_1 x_1}(r \rightarrow 0)}{g_{x_1 x_1}(r \rightarrow \infty)}}$$



Note similar $T=0$ ground states have been seen before

Chemical potential lattice $\mu(x)$ with no zero-mode

[Chesler, Lucas, Sachdev]

s-wave superconductors [Horowitz, Roberts]

p-wave superconductors [Basu, He, Mukherjee, Rozali, Shieh]

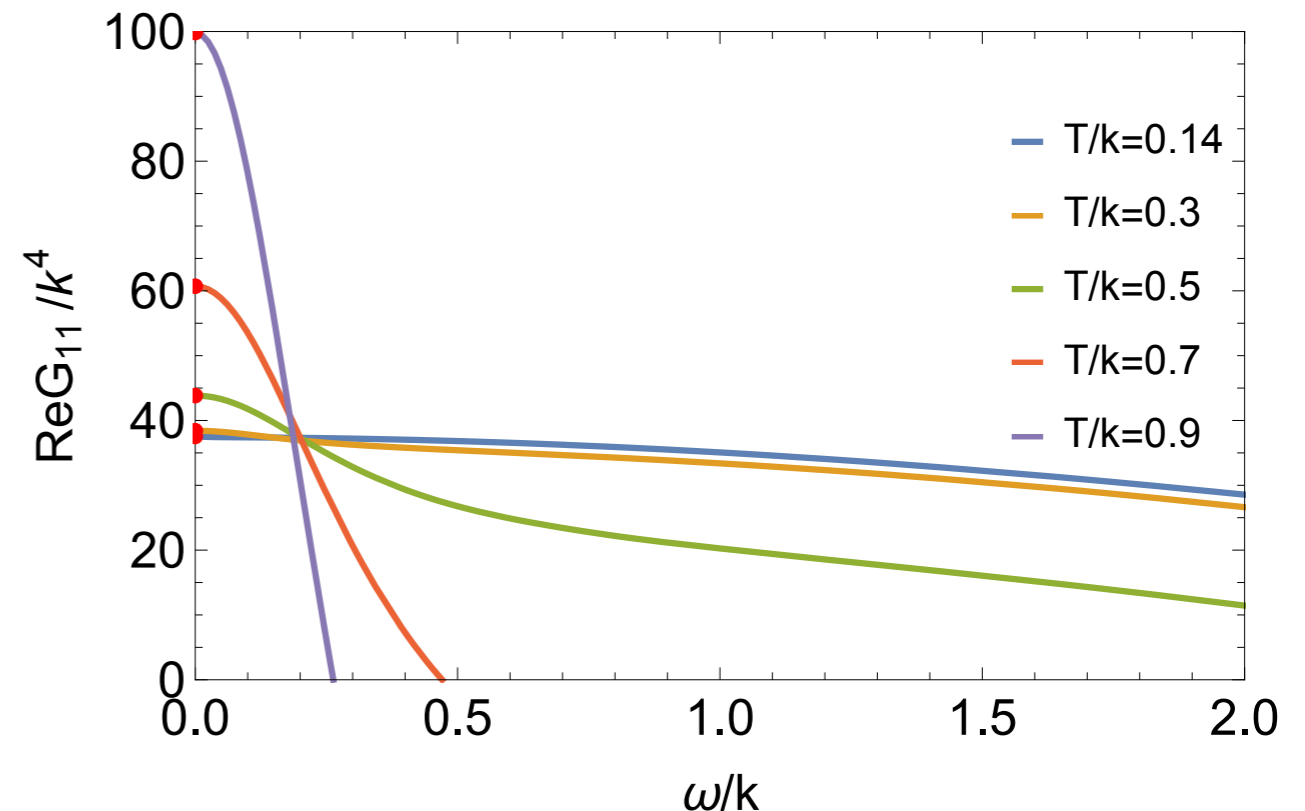
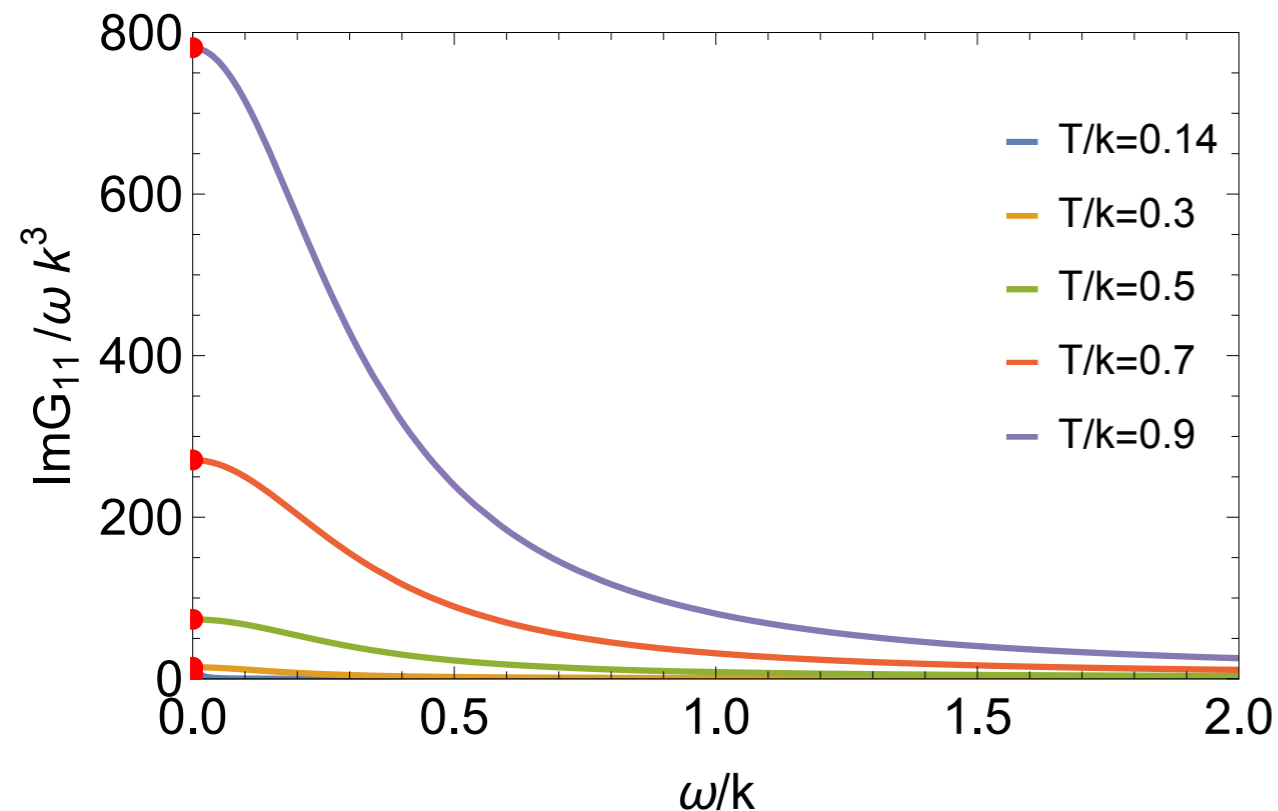
[Donos, Gauntlett, Pantelidou]

Greens functions for thermal conductivity at finite T

Perturb black hole $\delta(ds^2) = 2\delta g_{tx_1}(t, r)dt dx_1 + 2\delta g_{23}(t, r)\omega_2\omega_3$

Obtain 2x2 matrix of Greens functions

Focus on $G_{11}(\omega) = \langle T^{tx_1} T^{tx_1} \rangle$ and recall $T\kappa(\omega) \equiv \frac{G_{11}}{i\omega}$



DC calculation

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_j(t) \rangle = \int dt' G_{ji}(t - t') s_i(t')$$

Linear in time source $s_i = c_i t$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_j(t) \rangle = [tG_{ji}(\omega = 0) - \sigma_{ji}] c_i$$

$$\sigma_{ji} = \lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \text{Im} \frac{G_{ji}(\omega)}{\omega}$$

- Calculating DC $\bar{\kappa}$

Switch on source for T^{tx_1} linear in time

$$\delta g_{tx_1} = -cF(r)t + h_{tx_1}(r) \quad \text{plus} \quad \delta g_{23}(r) \quad \delta g_{rx}(r)$$

For $k = \partial_t$ construct $Q = 2\sqrt{-g}\nabla^r k^{x_1}$

Einstein's equations $\Rightarrow \partial_r Q = 0$

Evaluate the stress tensor to find $T^{tx_1} = Q - ctT^{x_1x_1}$

\Rightarrow static susceptibility

$$G_{T^{tx_1}T^{tx_1}}(\omega = 0) = T^{x_1x_1}$$

Can also evaluate Q at the black hole horizon. Need to ensure regularity at the black hole horizon

$$\kappa = \frac{\pi s T}{k^2 \sinh^2 2\alpha_+}$$

Summary/Final Comments

- Holographic lattices are interesting

d=3,4 CFTs with global U(1) symmetry:

Einstein-Maxwell theory and $\mu(x)$ deformation (PDEs)

Q-lattice: Einstein-Maxwell plus scalar field with global symmetry in the bulk (ODEs)

d=4 CFTs with universal helical deformation (ODEs)

- All of these included a realisation of strongly coupled Drude physics at small T , at least for small deformations

The Drude physics can be understood by the appearance of translationally invariant ground states in the far IR: $AdS_2 \times \mathbb{R}^2$ or AdS_5

- For larger deformations the Q-lattices realised incoherent metallic and insulating phases

The $T=0$ ground states break translation invariance

The phases have novel thermoelectric transport properties (not determined by memory matrix formalism)

- What is the landscape of such spatially modulated ground states?
- How far can we generalise the DC calculation?