

# Anisotropic RG Flows and Strongly Coupled Systems

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Based on works with:

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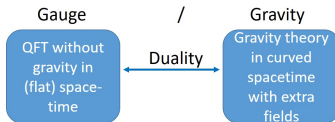
Talk given for: EISA, Corfu Workshop, September 11, 2019

# Outline

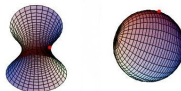
- 1 Introduction
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- 5 Monotonic functions along the RG
- 6 Conclusions

# Briefly on AdS/CFT

- **Gauge/Gravity** duality: A way to map **quantum questions** to **gravity geometric** questions and answer them.



- The initial AdS/CFT correspondence:  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  sYM on flat space  $\Leftrightarrow AdS_5 \times S^5$ , is the **harmonic oscillator** of the gauge/gravity dualities.



- It is the simple-nice model!



- Since the discovery of the initial correspondence, there is an extensive research aiming to construct more realistic gauge/gravity dualities (confinement, no susy, temperature, quarks...).
- ✓ This talk: Theories with **Broken Rotational Symmetry** in Gauge/Gravity correspondence.

# Why? Existence of Natural Systems.

The existence of **strongly coupled anisotropic systems**.

- The expansion of the Quark-Gluon plasma at the earliest times after the collision, **momentum anisotropic plasmas**.
- Strong **Magnetic Fields** in strongly coupled theories.
- New interesting phenomena in presence on such fiels, i.e. **inverse magnetic catalysis**.

*eg: (Bali, Bruckmann, Endrodi, Fodor, Katz, Krieg et al. 2011)*

- Anisotropic low dimensional **materials** in condensed matter.

# Why? More:

- **Weakly coupled vs strongly coupled** anisotropic theories.  
(*Dumitru, Strickland, Romatschke, Baier,...*)
- Properties of top-down supergravity Black hole solutions that are **AdS in UV flowing** to **Lifshitz-like in IR** :
  - ★ **Fixed scaling parameter  $z$**  for such anisotropic solutions or even isotropic flows?  
(*Azeyanagi, Li, Takayanagi, 2009; Mateos, Trancanelli, 2011;...*)
  - ★ **New flows to alternative IR fixed points?**

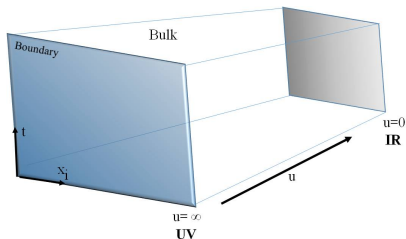
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- Ⓢtriking Features! Several **Universality Relations** for the isotropic theories are **violated** in aniso!  
**Shear viscosity  $\eta$  over entropy density  $s$** : takes **parametrically** low values wrt degree of anisotropy  $\frac{\eta}{s} < \frac{1}{4\pi}$ !  
 (*Rebhan, Steineder 2011; D.G. 2012; Jain, Samanta, Trivedy 2015; D.G., Gursoy, Pedraza, 2017*)

# Reminding Slide:

- The anisotropic hyperscaling violation metric

$$ds^2 = u^{-\frac{2\theta}{d}} \left( -u^{2z} (dt^2 + dy_i^2) + u^2 dx_i^2 + \frac{du^2}{u^2} \right)$$

exhibits a critical exponent  $z$  and a hyperscaling violation exponent  $\theta$ .



- $\theta = 0, z = 1 \Rightarrow$  AdS.
- $\theta = 0 \Rightarrow$  scale invariant theory.
- In general no scale invariance.

$$t \rightarrow \lambda^z t, \quad y \rightarrow \lambda^z y, \quad x \rightarrow \lambda x, \quad u \rightarrow \frac{u}{\lambda}, \quad ds \rightarrow \lambda^{\frac{\theta}{d}} ds.$$

# How is Anisotropy introduced? A Pictorial Representation:

- For the Lifshitz-like IIB Supergravity solutions

$$ds^2 = u^{2z}(dx_0^2 + dx_i^2) + u^2 dx_3^2 + \frac{du^2}{u^2} + ds_{S^5}^2.$$

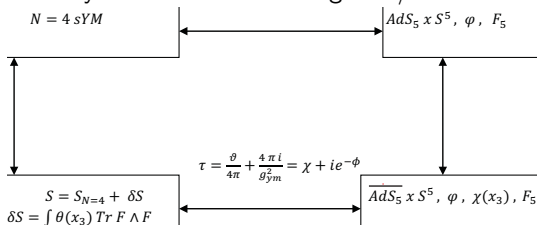
Introduction of additional branes:

(Azeyanagi, Li, Takayanagi, 2009)

Spacetime

	$x_0$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$u$	$S^5$
AdS → D3	x	x	x	x		
D7	x	x	x			x

- Which equivalently leads to the following AdS/CFT deformation.



- $dC_8 \sim *d\chi$  with the non-zero component  $C_{x_0 x_1 x_2 S^5}$ .



# A Theory with Phase Transitions in One Page:

- How the Field Theory looks like?
  - ✓ 4d  $SU(N)$  Strongly coupled anisotropic gauge theory.
  - ✓ Its dynamics are affected by a scalar operator  $\mathcal{O}_\Delta$ .
  - ✓ Anisotropy is introduced by another operator  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}} \sim \theta(x_3) \text{Tr} F \wedge F$  with a space dependent coupling.
- The gravity dual theory is an Einstein-Axion-Dilaton theory in 5 dimensions with a non-trivial potential.
  - ✓ A "backreacting" scalar field depending on spatial directions, the axion; and a non-trivial dilaton.
  - ✓ Solutions are non-trivial RG flows:  
Conformal fixed point in the UV  $\Rightarrow$  Anisotropic (Hyperscaling Lifshitz-like) in IR.
- The vacuum state confines color and there exists a phase transition at finite  $T_c$  above which a deconfined plasma state arises.

(D.G., Gursoy, Pedraza, 2017)

# An Anisotropic Theory

The generalized **Einstein-Axion-Dilaton action** with a **potential** for the dilaton and an **arbitrary coupling** between the axion and the dilaton:

$$S = \frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int d^5x \sqrt{-g} \left[ R - \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 + V(\phi) - \frac{1}{2}Z(\phi)(\partial\chi)^2 \right].$$

The eoms read

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}Rg_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu\phi\partial_\nu\phi + \frac{1}{2}Z(\phi)\partial_\mu\chi\partial_\nu\chi - \frac{1}{4}g_{\mu\nu}(\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{4}g_{\mu\nu}Z(\partial\chi)^2 + \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}V(\phi),$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}}\partial_\mu(\sqrt{-g}g^{\mu\nu}\partial_\nu\phi) = \frac{1}{2}\partial_\phi Z(\phi)(\partial\chi)^2 - V'(\phi),$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}}\partial_\mu(\sqrt{-g}g^{\mu\nu}\partial_\nu\chi) = 0.$$

Where

$$V(\phi) = 12 \cosh(\sigma\phi) + \left( \frac{m(\Delta)^2}{2} - 6\sigma^2 \right) \phi^2, \quad Z(\phi) = e^{2\gamma\phi}.$$

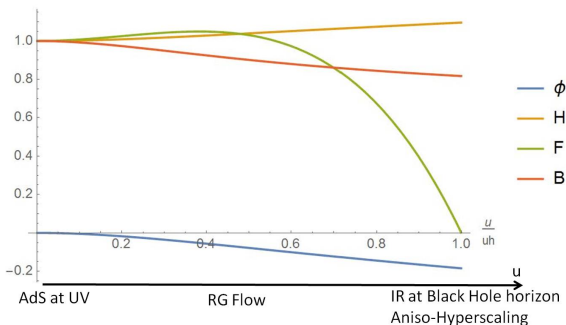
*((Gubser, Nellore), Pufu, Rocha 2008a,b)*

**Remark:** For  $\sigma = 0, \gamma = 1, m(\Delta) = 0$  the action and the solution of eoms, are reduced of IIB supergravity.

# A Solution : The RG Flow

$$ds^2 = \frac{1}{u^2} \left( -\mathcal{F}(u)\mathcal{B}(u) dt^2 + dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + \mathcal{H}(u)dx_3^2 + \frac{du^2}{\mathcal{F}(u)} \right),$$

$$\chi = \alpha x_3, \quad \phi = \phi(u), \quad \mathcal{F}(u_h) = 0.$$



$$ds^2 = u^{-\frac{2\theta}{3}} \left( -u^{2z} (f(u)dt^2 + dx_{1,2}^2) + \bar{\alpha} u^2 dx_3^2 + \frac{du^2}{f(u)u^2} \right)$$

We have obtained the theories, are they **physical**  
and **stable**?



✓ **Energy Conditions Analysis:**  $T_{\mu\nu} N^\mu N^\nu \geq 0$  ,  $N^\mu N_\mu = 0$  .

AND

✓ **Local Thermodynamical Stability Analysis:** Specific Heat...



YES!

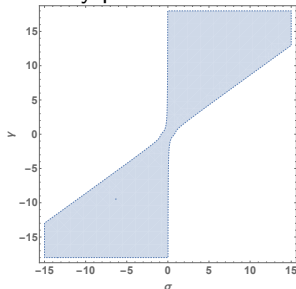
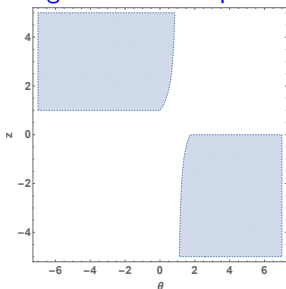
Three conditions that constrain  $(z, \theta)$  and as a result  $(\gamma, \sigma)$ .

$$(z - 1)(1 - \theta + 3z) \geq 0, \quad z = \frac{2 + 4\gamma^2 - 3\sigma^2}{2\gamma(2\gamma - 3\sigma)},$$

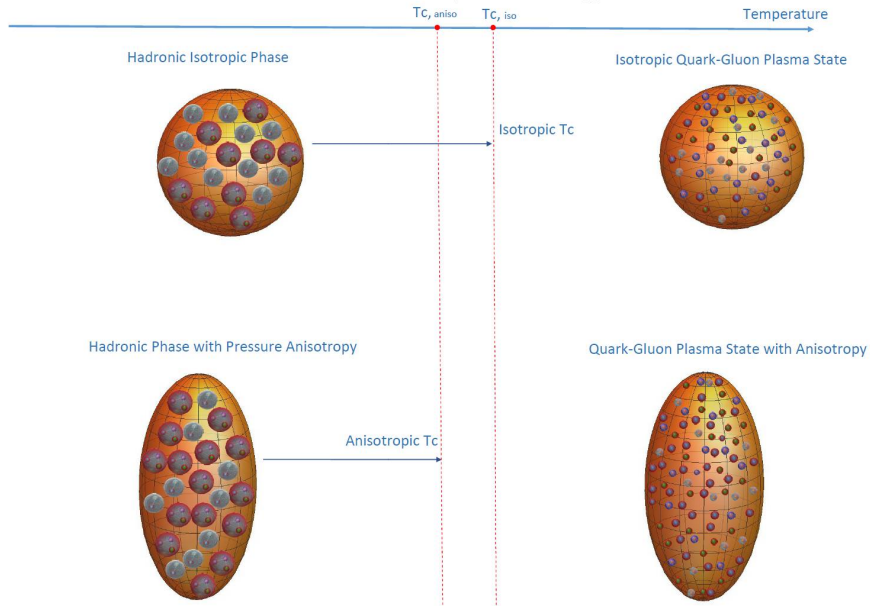
$$\theta^2 - 3 + 3z(1 - \theta) \geq 0, \quad \theta = \frac{3\sigma}{2\gamma},$$

$$1 - \theta + 2z \geq 0.$$

The blue region is the acceptable for the theory parameters.

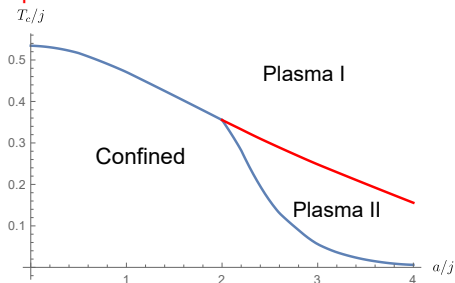


Catalysis: Lower Phase Transition Temperature  
due to any Source of Anisotropy.



# Phase Transitions

- Competition for **dominance** between **different gravitational backgrounds**.
- The **Critical Temperature** of the theories vs the **anisotropy** gives:



- The  $T_c$  is **reduced** in presence of anisotropies of the theory.  
(D.G., Gursoy, Pedraza, 2017)

# A Proposal

- The  $T_c(\alpha)$  decrease with anisotropy  $\alpha$ .
- No charged fermionic degrees of freedom in our case; our plasma is neutral.
- Anisotropy causes lower  $T_c =$  "Inverse Anisotropic Catalysis".



# Universal Results: $\eta/s$ in Theories with Broken Symmetry

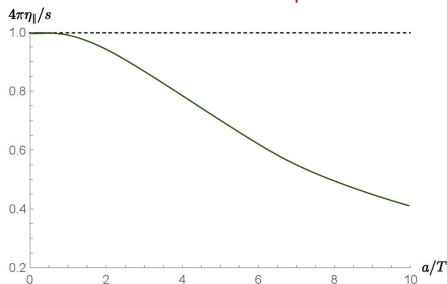
Consider a finite  $T$  theory in the **deconfined phase**:

$$ds^2 = g_{tt}(u)dt^2 + g_{11}(u)(dx_1^2 + dx_2^2) + g_{33}(u)dx_3^2 + g_{uu}(u)du^2$$

- The **anisotropic shear viscosity** violates the isotropic “bound” of  $1/4\pi$  :

$$\eta_{ij,kl} = - \lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\omega} \text{Im} \int dt dx e^{i\omega t} \langle T_{ij}(t, x), T_{kl}(0, 0) \rangle$$

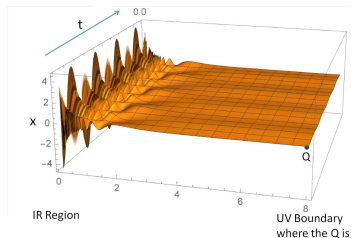
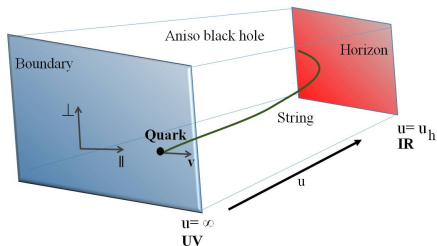
**“Frictionless” Anisotropic Plasma.**



- The Ratio:

$$4\pi \frac{\eta_{||}}{s} = \frac{g_{11}}{g_{33}} \Big|_{u=u_h} \sim \left( \frac{T}{\alpha} \right)^p, \quad p = 2 - \frac{2}{z} \sim [0, \infty), \quad \alpha \gg T.$$

# Langevin Dynamics and Brownian Motion



$$\frac{\kappa_{\parallel}}{\kappa_{\perp}} = \frac{(g_{00}g_{\parallel\parallel})'}{g_{\perp\perp}g_{\parallel\parallel} \left( \frac{g_{00}}{g_{\parallel\parallel}} \right)'} \Big|_{u=u_{wh}}, \quad \langle p_{\parallel,\perp}^2 \rangle \sim \kappa_{\parallel,\perp} \mathcal{T}$$

**A Universal Inequality for Isotropic Theory:**

$\kappa_{\parallel} \geq \kappa_{\perp}$  for **any isotropic** strongly coupled plasma!  
 Can be inverted in the **anisotropic theories**:  $\kappa_{\parallel} \geq \kappa_{\perp}$ .

(Gursoy, Kiritsis, Mazzanti, Nitti, 2010; D.G. Soltanpanahi, 2013a,b; D.G. 2018)

# Anisotropic candidate of $c$ -function

- A proposed the  $c$ -function is  
(Chu, Giataganas, 2019;(2d) Casini, Huerta 2006; (iso 2d+) Ryu, Takayanagi 2006; Myers, Singh 2012; (nrcft) Cremonini, Dong 2014)

$$c_x := \beta_x \frac{l_x^{d_x-1}}{H_x^{d_1-1} H_y^{d_2}} \frac{\partial S_x}{\partial \ln l_x}, \quad d_x := d_1 + d_2 \frac{n_2}{n_1}$$

where  $H$  is the infrared regulator, the dimensions  $n_1$ ,  $n_2$  are defined at the fixed point

$$[t] = L^{n_t}, \quad [x_i] = L^{n_i}, \quad [y_j] = L^{n_j}.$$

- A relativistic "c-theorem" is **guaranteed** as long as the **NEC**:  
 $T_0^0 - T_r^r \leq 0$  is satisfied!

$$\frac{dc}{dr} \propto - \int_0^l dx A'^{-2} (T_0^0 - T_r^r) \geq 0.$$

- How about the **Anisotropic theories**?

- Not a **one-to-one** correspondence between **NEC** ( $g'_i(r) > 0$ ) and **c-function monotonicity**, but not surprising!
- **Interesting observation**: For an anisotropic theory with  $d_1 = d_2$ , **the boundary condition**

$$g_i \text{ UV} \leq 0 ,$$

with a **conformal UV fixed point** guarantees the **right monotonicity** the c-functions along the RG flow.

Are there any **other observables** that form functions, to have **monotonic behavior** along the RG flow?

(Chu, Derendinger, Giataganas, in progress)

# Conclusions

- ✓ **Observation:** In strongly coupled theories many phenomena are more sensitive to **the presence of the anisotropy** than **the source that triggers it**.
- ✓ Strongly Coupled **Confining Anisotropic** theories with **confinement /deconfinement** phase transition.
- ✓ The phase transitions occur at **lower** critical **Temperature** as the anisotropy is **increased** = **Inverse Anisotropic Catalysis!**
- ✓ Several **Universal Isotropic** relations are **anisotropically violated**.
- ✓ **Holographic monotonic functions** and conditions of monotonicity for (anisotropic) RG flows.

