

“Pushing and pinching charge at strong coupling”

Talk at Univ. of Liverpool

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Based on:

1311.3292, 1401.5077, 1406.4742 with J. P. Gauntlett

1406.1659 with M. Blake

1412.2003 with M. Blake and D. Tong

- 1 Introduction/Motivation
- 2 The Holographic Lab
- 3 Holographic Charge Oscillations
- 4 Summary / Outlook

- 1** Introduction/Motivation
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Some fun homework for the holographista:

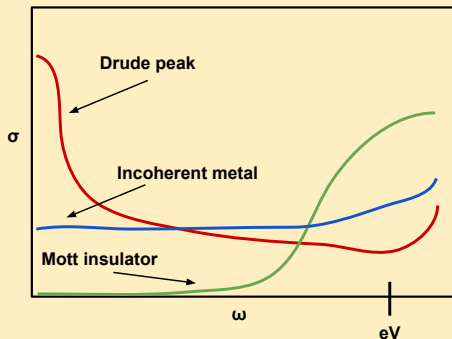
- Part I

- Incoherent transport
- Anomalous scaling of Hall angle

- Part II

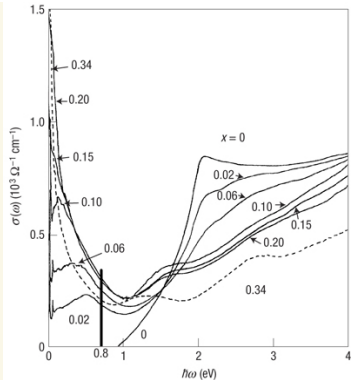
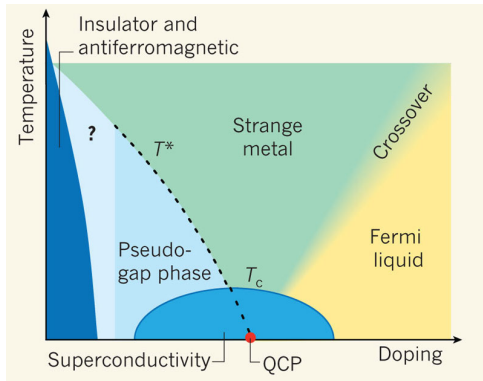
- Charge screening in holographic theories

Charge transport in real materials



- Materials with charged d.o.f. can be
 - Coherent metals with a well defined Drude peak
 - Insulators
 - Incoherent conductors of electricity
- Interactions expected to become important in the incoherent phase → Possible description in AdS/CFT?

The Cuprates



The Cuprates are real life example of :

- Incoherent transport
- Anomalous scaling of conductivity and Hall angle with T

$$\rho_{DC} \propto T, \quad \theta_H \propto T^{-2}$$

Anomalous Hall angle scaling

- Introducing a magnetic field B results in currents in two directions J_x and J_y .
- There is σ_{xx} and σ_{yx}
- Hall angle is $\theta_H = \sigma_{xy}/\sigma_{xx}$
- Fermi liquids + lattice Umklapp scattering lead to

$$\sigma_{DC}^{B=0} \sim T^{-2}, \quad \theta_H \sim T^{-2}$$

- More generally, slow momentum relaxation predicts $\sigma_{DC}^{B=0}$ and θ_H scale the same way with temperature
[Hartnoll, Kovtun, Muller, Sachdev]
- Strange metals surprisingly have

$$\sigma_{DC}^{B=0} \sim T^{-1}, \quad \theta_H \sim T^{-2}$$

- Holography evades that? Yes!

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The recipe says:

Field Theory

Start with CFT_{*d*}

Chemical potential μ

Finite T

2-point function $G_{JJ}(\omega)$

Bulk

AdS_{d+1} Asymptotics

$U(1)$ electric charge

Killing horizon

Bulk perturbation $\delta A_x, \dots$

Use Kubo's formula

$$\sigma(\omega) = \frac{G_{JJ}(\omega)}{i\omega}$$

Perfect Holographic Conductor

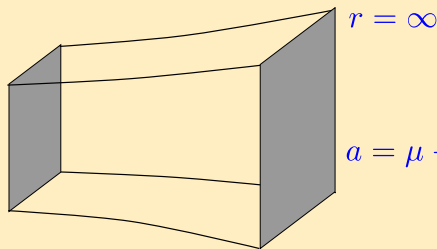
Do it in $D = 4$ Einstein-Maxwell with AdS asymptotics:

$$\mathcal{L}_{EM} = R - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + 12$$

$$ds_4^2 = -U(r) dt^2 + U(r)^{-1} dr^2 + r^2 (dx_1^2 + dx_2^2)$$

$$A = a(r) dt$$

$r = r_+$

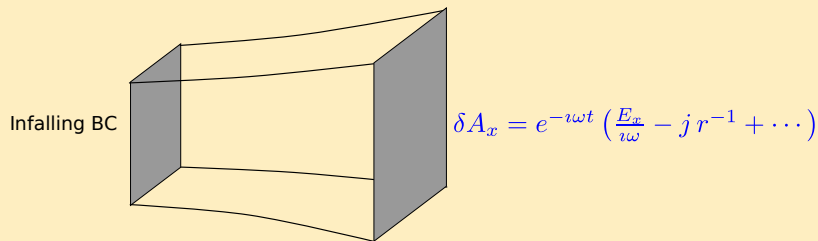


$$a = \mu - q r^{-1} + \dots$$

Background black hole has temperature T , energy E , pressure P , entropy s and charge q .

Perfect Holographic Conductor

- To calculate conductivity need to source $\delta A_x = -e^{-i\omega t} \frac{E_x}{i\omega}$ on the boundary
- Momentum (δg_{tx}) couples because of background charge



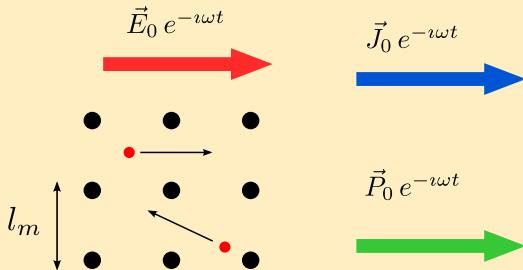
$$\omega \ll \mu \Rightarrow \sigma = j/E_x = \frac{i}{\omega} \frac{q^2}{E + P} + \frac{(Ts)^2}{(E + P)^2}$$

[Hartnoll, Herzog]

Conserved momentum \rightarrow Infinite DC conductivity \rightarrow Explicitly break translations on the boundary theory

Classical Drude model

(Missing) Physics at $\omega \ll \mu$



- Average momentum obeys

$$\langle \dot{p} \rangle = qE - \frac{1}{\tau} \langle p \rangle \Rightarrow$$

$$J = nq \frac{\langle p \rangle}{m} \Rightarrow J = \sigma E \Rightarrow$$

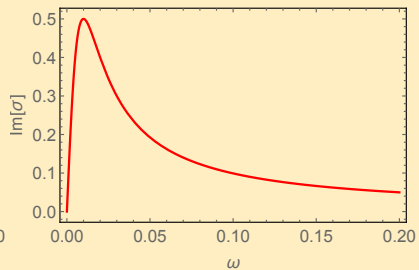
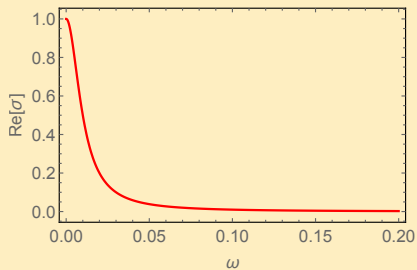
$$\langle p \rangle_0 = qE \frac{\tau}{1 - i\omega\tau}$$

$$\sigma = \frac{nq^2}{m} \frac{\tau}{1 - i\omega\tau}$$

- Without collisions $\tau \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow \sigma = \frac{nq^2}{m} \left(\delta(\omega) + \frac{i}{\omega} \right)$

Classical Drude model

This is how it looks like

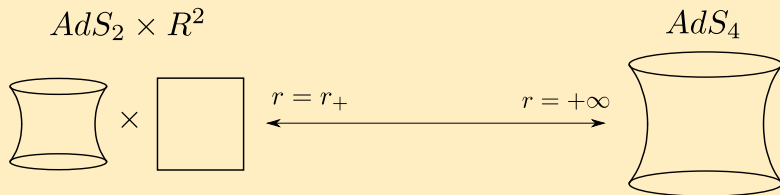


- Apart from electric currents one also has a thermal current Q
- More generally, transport coefficients are packaged in a matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} J \\ Q \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma & \alpha T \\ \bar{\alpha} T & \bar{\kappa} T \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E \\ -(\nabla T)/T \end{pmatrix}$$

- With ∇T a temperature gradient

Holographic Lattice



To add momentum dissipation introduce a UV - IR benign lattice:

- Keep UV fixed point \Rightarrow relevant deformation $\mathcal{O}(x)$
- Drude physics $\Rightarrow T = 0$ horizon restores translations
- Charge density is a universal relevant operator \Rightarrow Impose
 $A_t = \mu(x) - J^t(x) r^{-1} + \dots$

[Hartnoll, Hofman][Horowitz, Santos, Tong]

$$\mu(x) = \mu_0 + A(x), \quad \langle A \rangle_L = 0$$

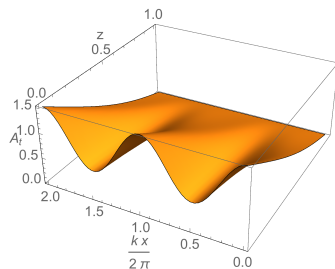
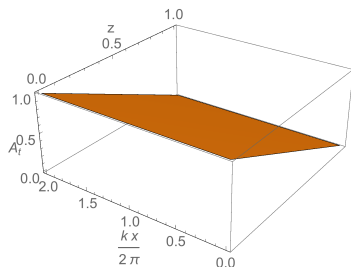
- $\mu_0 \Rightarrow$ chemical potential, $A'(x) \Rightarrow$ periodic electric field

Inhomogeneous Lattices

The task is:

- 1) Solve elliptic non-linear PDEs to find background rippled black holes
- 2) Solve non-elliptic linear PDEs to find perturbations around numerical background to extract conductivity

[Horowitz, Santos, Tong] [D&G]

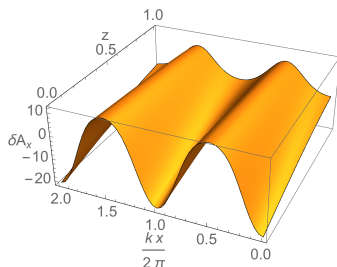


Inhomogeneous Lattices

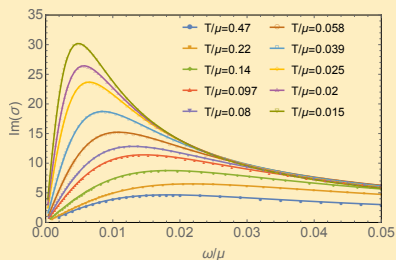
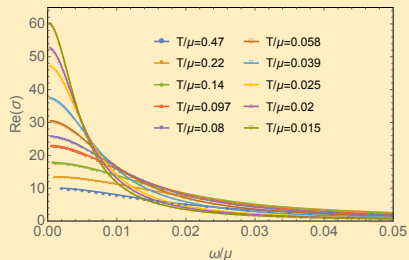
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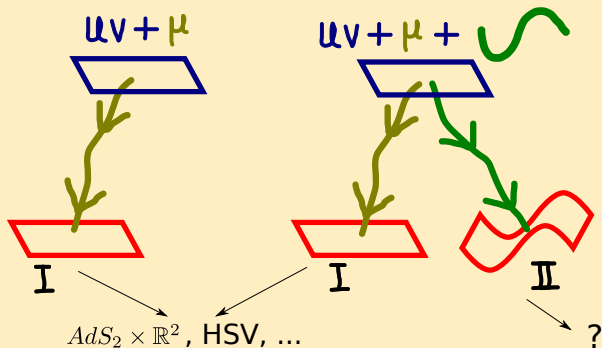


Inhomogeneous Lattices



- Our Drude peaks are there
- Nice, now get rid of them!

RG/Holographic picture



- I Charge dominated RG flows, translations restored in IR \rightarrow Coherent transport
- II Lattice (+charge) dominated RG flows, translations broken in IR \rightarrow incoherent transport

[AD, Hartnoll] [AD, Gauntlett]

Consider a simple model with a global $U(1)$ in addition to the gauged one [AD, Gauntlett]

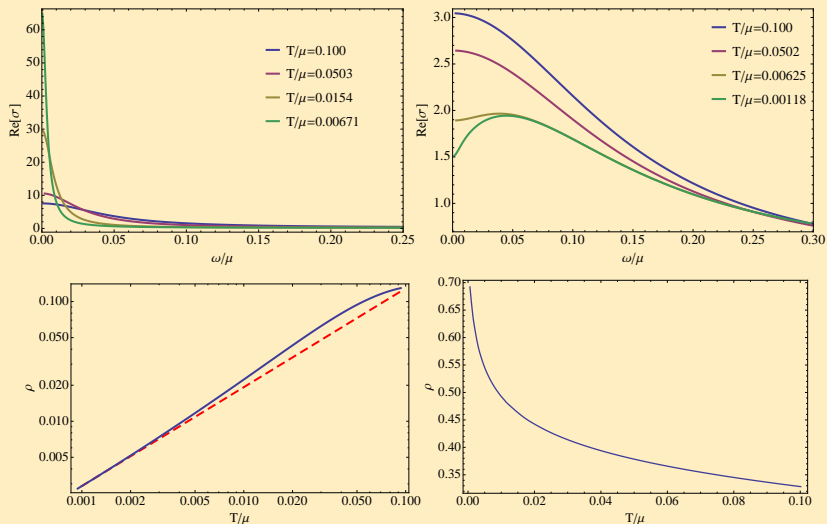
$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[R + 6 - \frac{1}{4} F^2 - |\partial\phi|^2 - m^2 |\phi|^2 \right]$$

along with the ansatz

$$ds^2 = -U(r) dt^2 + U(r)^{-1} dr^2 + e^{2V_1(r)} dx_1^2 + e^{2V_2(r)} dx_2^2$$
$$A = a(r) dt, \quad \phi = e^{ikx_1} \varphi(r)$$

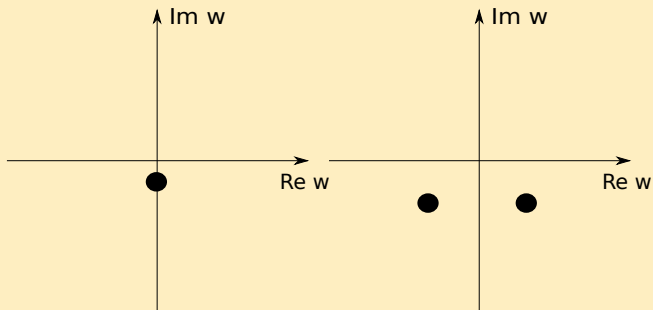
- x_1 dependence drops out due to global $U(1)$
- Leads to ODEs both for background and perturbation
- Significant simplification
- Two real scalars with $\mathcal{O}_1 \sim \cos(kx)$, $\mathcal{O}_2 \sim \sin(kx)$

Conductivity from Q-lattices



- Can model Metal - Insulator transitions
- Holography can describe incoherent transport!

RG/Holographic Picture



- QNM on the axis → coherent transport
- QNM off the axis → incoherent transport
- Recent check and also transition T [Davison, Gouteraux]

More general Q-lattices

Consider a more general situation where the instead of \mathbb{C}^2

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[R - V(|z|) - \frac{1}{4} Z(|z|) F^2 - G(|z|) |\partial z|^2 \right]$$

- Slightly more general setup
- Imagine some complex target instead of \mathbb{C}
 $G(|z|) |dz|^2 \sim d\phi^2 + f(\phi) d\chi^2$
- The phase is compact and translations are broken by setting
 $\chi = k x_1$
- Closely related models with axions
[Andrade, Withers]

More general Q-lattices

A polar decomposition yields

$$\mathcal{L} = R - \frac{1}{2} \left[(\partial\varphi)^2 + \Phi_1(\varphi) (\partial\chi_1)^2 + \Phi_2(\varphi) (\partial\chi_2)^2 \right] \\ + V(\varphi) - \frac{Z(\varphi)}{4} F^2$$

The background ansatz in this notation just reduces to

$$ds_4^2 = -U(r) dt^2 + U(r)^{-1} dr^2 + e^{2V_1(r)} dx_1^2 + e^{2V_2(r)} dx_2^2$$

$$A = a(r) dt, \quad \phi = \phi(r)$$

$$\chi_1 = k_1 x_1, \quad \chi_2 = k_2 x_2$$

Imagining situations where

$$\Phi_i(\varphi) \sim e^{\delta_i \varphi}, \quad Z \sim e^{\gamma \varphi}, \quad V \sim e^{\alpha \varphi}$$

[AD, Gauntlett][Gouteraux]

$$ds^2 = -r^u dt^2 + r^{-u} dr^2 + r^{v_1} dx_1^2 + r^{v_2} dx_2^2$$

$$\phi = -\kappa \ln r, \quad A = r^a dt, \quad \chi_1 = k_1 x_1, \quad \chi_2 = k_2 x_2$$

- Exponents u, v_1, \dots fixed by Lagrangian parameters δ_i, γ, α .
- Use perturbative argument to find small T behaviour on the horizon e.g.

$$\phi_{r=r_+} \sim -\kappa' \ln T, \quad s \sim T^\lambda$$

- So what?

Ohm/Fourier Law

More generally, combine E with thermal gradient ∇T to describe thermoelectric effect

$$\begin{pmatrix} J \\ Q \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma & \alpha T \\ \bar{\alpha} T & \bar{\kappa} T \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E \\ -(\nabla T)/T \end{pmatrix}$$

- Analytic argument to express DC transport coefficients in terms of bh horizon data

$$\sigma_{DC} = \left[\frac{Z(\phi)s}{4\pi e^{2V_1}} + \frac{4\pi q^2}{k_1^2 \Phi_1(\phi)s} \right]_{r=r_+} = \sigma_{ccs} + \sigma_{dis}$$

$$\bar{\kappa}_{DC} = \left[\frac{4\pi s T}{k_1^2 \Phi_1(\phi)} \right]_{r=r_+}, \quad \alpha_{DC} = \bar{\alpha}_{DC} = \left[\frac{4\pi q}{k_1^2 \Phi_1(\phi)} \right]_{r=r_+}$$

- Also possible for inhomogeneous lattices [AD, Gauntlett]

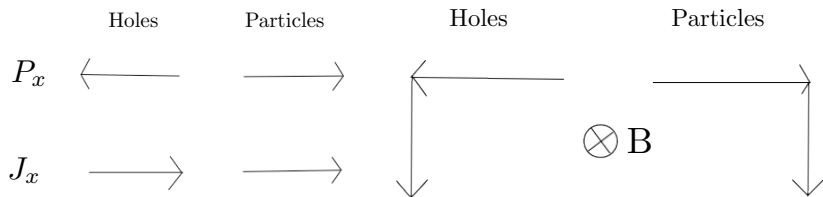
New insight from Holography

Two terms of σ_{DC} come from different physics!

- Fix a combination of E and ∇T such that we have no heat current
- In this situation we still have finite electric current

$$\sigma_{Q=0} = \sigma - \frac{\alpha \bar{a} T}{\bar{\kappa}} \Rightarrow$$
$$\sigma_{Q=0} = \sigma_{ccs} = \left[\frac{Z(\phi) s}{4\pi e^2 V_1} \right]_{r=r_+}$$

- Has to come from evolution of neutral pairs
- This contribution is exponentially suppressed in DC transport for Fermi liquids!
- Low T behaviour of σ_{DC} can be determined by either σ_{ccs} or σ_{dis}



Weak coupling fantasy!

- Particles and holes deflected in the same direction
- Opposite charge \Rightarrow Don't contribute to J_y
- Expect dissipative component of the current to dominate Hall angle

Same model, same ansatz with $B \neq 0$ this time lead to

$$\sigma_{xx} = \frac{e^{2V} k^2 \Phi (B^2 Z^2 + q^2 + Z e^{2V} k^2 \Phi)}{(B^2 Z + e^{2V} k^2 \Phi)^2 + B^2 q^2} \Big|_{r_+}$$

$$\sigma_{xy} = \frac{Bq(B^2 Z^2 + q^2 + 2Z e^{2V} k^2 \Phi)}{(B^2 Z + e^{2V} k^2 \Phi)^2 + B^2 q^2} \Big|_{r_+}$$

A bit of an ugly mess but...

$$\theta_H = \frac{Bq}{e^{2V} k^2 \Phi} \left[\frac{B^2 Z^2 + q^2 + 2Z e^{2V} k^2 \Phi}{B^2 Z^2 + q^2 + Z e^{2V} k^2 \Phi} \right] \Big|_{r_+}$$

$$= \frac{Bq}{s k^2 \Phi} \mathcal{W} = \frac{q^2}{k^2 s \Phi} \frac{B}{q} \mathcal{W}$$

■ Notice $1 < \mathcal{W} < 2$

For $B^{1/2} \ll T \ll \mu$

$$\theta_H \propto \frac{B}{q} \sigma_{dis}^{B=0}$$
$$\sigma_{DC}^{B=0} = \sigma_{ccs}^{B=0} + \sigma_{dis}^{B=0}$$

- The Hall angle scaling with T can be independent how $\sigma_{DC}^{B=0}$ scales if $\sigma_{ccs}^{B=0}$ dominates
- Can't have this with weakly coupled Fermions in DC conductivity. Particle-hole creation is gapped at low energies.

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- How does a point-like object affect a uniform charge distribution?
- Particle statistics/Interactions leave imprint on response
 - Debye - Hückel model
 - Lindhard theory
- Holography?
Similar sort of questions in [Horowitz, Iqbal, Santos, Way]

- Write equation for electric potential ϕ with sources
- Assume local thermodynamic equilibrium \rightarrow Boltzmann statistics for ρ
- Good approximation at high temperatures T

$$\nabla^2 \phi = - (Q \delta^3(r) - q \rho_0 + q \rho(r))$$

$$\rho(r) = \rho_0 e^{-q\phi(r)/k_B T} \approx \rho_0 (1 - q\phi(r)/k_B T)$$

$$(\nabla^2 - \lambda_D^{-2}) \phi = -Q \delta(r), \quad \lambda_D^2 = k_B T / q^2 n_0$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi = \frac{Q}{4\pi r} e^{-r/\lambda_D}$$

Lindhard Theory

- Perturb Hamiltonian by $\Delta H = q \phi(r)$
- States smoothly deformed $|k\rangle \rightarrow |\psi(k)\rangle$
- Statistics captured by Fermi - Dirac distribution f

$$\rho^{\text{ind}}(r) = q g_s \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} f(k) [|\langle r|\psi(k)\rangle|^2 - |\langle r|k\rangle|^2]$$

- Relevant quantity to extract is the charge susceptibility

$$\chi_Q(k) = \frac{\rho^{\text{ind}}(k)}{k^2 \phi(k)}$$

Linhard theory - Friedel Oscillations

- Discontinuity of f at $k = k_F$ smooths out to a \log in χ_Q

$$\chi_Q(k) = \frac{k_{TF}^2}{k^2} F(k/2k_F)$$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1-x^2}{4x} \log \left| \frac{x+1}{x-1} \right|$$

- Translating to real space Friedel oscillations for long distances

$$\rho^{\text{ind}} \propto r^{-3} \cos(2k_F r)$$

Charge Screening in Holography

- Consider a charged black hole with *AdS* asymptotics

$$A \approx \mu_{(0)} dt + \rho_{(0)} z dt + \dots$$

- We want to introduce a (local) perturbation on the boundary

$$\mu \rightarrow \mu_{(0)} + \delta\mu(\vec{x})$$

- And read off the induced charge $\delta\rho(\vec{x})$
- ⇒ Static modes of longitudinal sector in Einstein-Maxwell
- ⇒ Work in momentum space $\delta\rho(k) \propto \chi(k) \delta\mu(k)$

Charge Screening in Holography

Cases to consider:

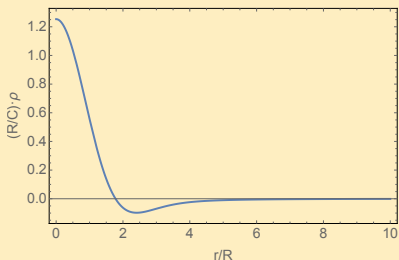
- $\mu = 0, T = 0$, i.e. AdS_4
- $\mu = 0, T > 0$, i.e. Sch. black brane
- $\mu \neq 0, T > 0$, i.e. RN black brane
- $\mu \neq 0, T = 0$, i.e. extremal RN

Charge Screening in Holography

- For $\mu = 0$, $T = 0$ scale invariance implies $\chi(k) = k$
- Can also see from exact bulk perturbation
[Chesler, Lucas, Sachdev]

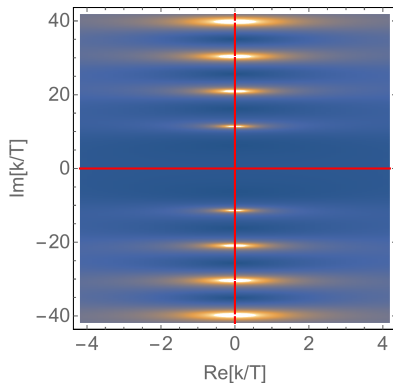
$$ds_4^2 = z^{-2} (-dt^2 + dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + dz^2)$$
$$\delta A_t = e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}} e^{-|\vec{k}|z} \rightarrow e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}} \left(1 - |\vec{k}|z + \dots\right)$$

- For a Gaussian source $\delta\mu(r) = C e^{-r^2/2R^2}$ this gives



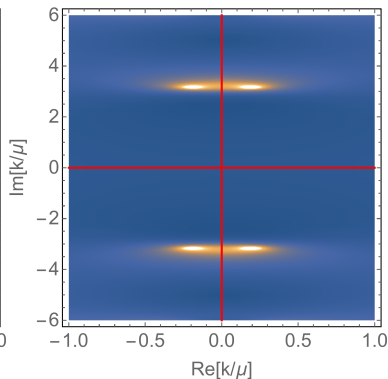
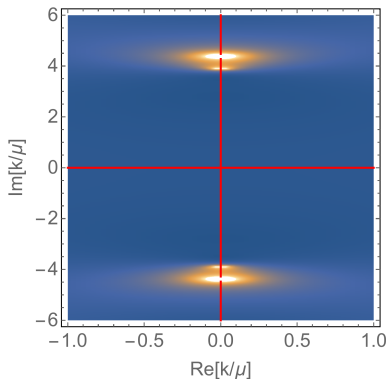
Charge screening in holography

- For $\mu = 0$, $T > 0$ need to do numerics
- Long range behaviour captured by analytic structure of $\chi(k)$ in complex k -plane
- Poles on Im axis give exponential fall off $\delta\rho \approx r^{-1/2}e^{-\text{Im}k r}$



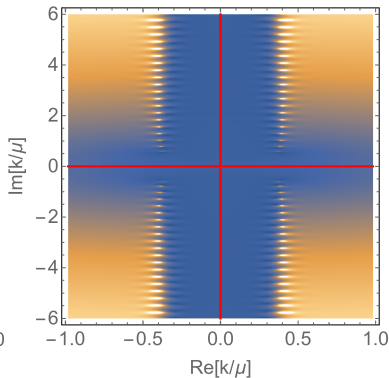
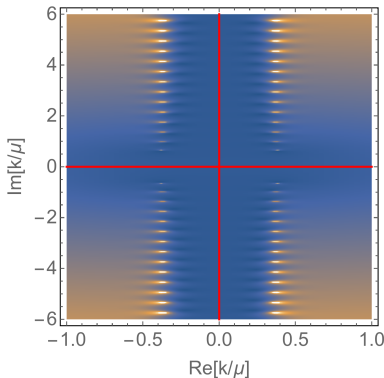
Charge screening in holography

- For $\mu \neq 0$, $T \gg \mu$ looks similar to $\mu = 0$ case
- There is a $T_c \approx .33\mu$ where two poles acquire non-zero real parts!
- This is when charge oscillations happen
 $\delta\rho \propto e^{-\lambda_1 r} \cos(\lambda_2 r)/\sqrt{r}$



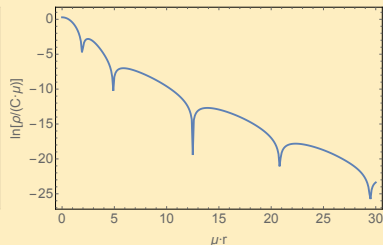
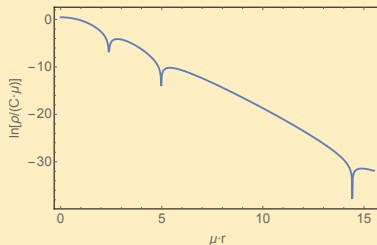
Charge screening in holography

- At $T \ll \mu$ more poles coalesce to branch cuts
- They end at $k_*/\mu_0 = \pm 2^{-3/2} \pm i/2$
- Charge oscillations remain exponentially damped!



Charge screening in holography

Charge oscillations in coordinate space for Gaussian source at $T_c > T > 0$ and $T = 0$



Distance between nodes matches with $\frac{\pi}{\text{Re}k_*}$ of leading pole

- Charge oscillations present in holography but not quite Friedel. Result of strong coupling or large N ?
- Reasonable to expect that from field theory? e.g. $\mathcal{N} = 4$

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- Holography is a good tool to study transport in strongly coupled systems
- No assumption of quasiparticles
- Offers new insight for real world problems
- Understand better the physics of the new ground states
- Friedel oscillations with exponential damping at strong strong coupling (or large N ?)
- DC transport from bh horizons: General statement?