

# Lifshitz as a deformation of AdS

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- Based on Yegor Korovin, KS, Marika Taylor, [Lifshitz as a deformation of AdS](#) to appear

# Introduction

- **Gauge/gravity dualities** have been an important new tool in extracting **strong** coupling physics.
- In particular, there has been a lot of activity recently aiming at using holography in order to model strongly interacting **condensed matter systems**.
- More precisely, several interesting condensed matter systems exhibit **strongly interacting non-relativistic scale invariant fixed points** and one may hope to use gauge/gravity duality to study them.
- To this end supergravity solutions with **Schrödinger** and **Lifshitz** isometries were constructed and studied.

# Introduction

- The idea here is that the holographic models may allow to uncover **new universality classes**, not easily accessible with conventional perturbative methods.
- One should emphasize however that there is **very little *a priori* evidence** that the holographic models actually describe physics appropriate for the condensed matter systems.

# Introduction

- The predominant approach has been to **proceed phenomenologically** and probe the relevance of these models by computing observables holographically and comparing to experimental results.
- Our goal is to understand better the dual theory from first principles.

# Introduction: main idea

- The **main problems** with getting a handle on the dual theory are:
  - These models have been constructed in a **bottom-up** approach so we can't directly use string theory to get clues about the dual theory.
  - The geometries are **not asymptotically AdS** so the usual holographic dictionary and intuition does not directly apply.
- Our **main idea** is try to tune the parameters of the gravitational solutions so that they become **deformations of asymptotically AdS** solutions.
  - Then, at least for such parameters, one can use **standard AdS/CFT** to understand the dual theory.

# Holography for Schrödinger

This approach was exploited in [Guica, KS, Taylor, van Rees (2010)] for the **Schrödinger spacetimes**

$$ds^2 = -\frac{b^2 du^2}{r^{2z}} + \frac{2dudv + dx^i dx^i + dr^2}{r^2},$$

- For  $z = 2$ , this metric realizes geometrically the Schrödinger group in  $(d - 1)$  dimensions [Son (2008)], [K. Balasubramanian, McGreevy (2008)].
- For  $d = 2$  this is the "null warped  $AdS_3$ " solution of topologically massive gravity with  $\mu = 3$  [Anninos et al (2008)].

# Schrödinger as a deformation of AdS

$$ds^2 = -\frac{b^2 du^2}{r^4} + \frac{2dudv + dx^i dx^i + dr^2}{r^2},$$

- This metric is not asymptotically AdS.
- The metric becomes the AdS metric when  $b=0$ :  
Schrödinger is a deformation of AdS
- ⇒ Considering the **small  $b$  limit** the geometry is a small perturbation of *AdS* and **standard AdS/CFT applies**.



# The QFT dual to Schrödinger

- ➡ The dual QFT is a deformation of a relativistic CFT:

$$S_{CFT} \rightarrow S_{CFT} + \int d^d x b X_i$$

- $X_i$  is an **irrelevant operator** from the perspective of the original CFT.
- $X_i$  is **exactly marginal** operator from the perspective of the Schrödinger symmetry [Guica, KS, Taylor, van Rees (2010)] [Kraus, Perlmutter (2011)] .

# Lifshitz spacetimes

- In this work we aim to reach a similar understanding for **Lifshitz spacetimes** [Kachru, Liu Mulligan (2008)].

$$ds^2 = dr^2 - e^{2zr/l} dt^2 + e^{2r/l} dx^a dx_a$$

- The Lifshitz symmetry is realized by the following isometry,

$$t \rightarrow e^{z\lambda} t, \quad x^a \rightarrow e^\lambda x^a, \quad r \rightarrow r - \lambda l.$$

- This solution is **not asymptotically AdS**.
- The metric becomes the AdS metric when  $z = 1$ : when  $z \approx 1$  the solution is a **deformation of AdS**.

# Condensed matter systems with $z \approx 1$

A number of **theoretical models** with dynamical exponent close to one have appeared in the condensed matter literature.

- Quantum spin systems with quenched disorder.
- Quantum Hall systems.
- Graphene.
- Spin liquids in the presence of non-magnetic disorder.
- Quantum transitions to and from the superconducting state in high  $T_c$  superconductors.

$z \approx 1$  systems are also relevant for the study of the IR limit of Hořava-Lifshitz gravity.

# Experimental evidence for $z \approx 1$ systems

There is also **experimental evidence** for quantum critical behavior with  $z \approx 1$  in:

- the transition from the insulator to superconductor in the underdoped region of certain high  $T_c$  superconductors [Zuev et al PRL(2005)], [Matthey etal PRL(2007)] [Broun etal PRL (2007)].
- the transition from the superconductor to metal in the overdoped region of certain high  $T_c$  superconductors [Lemberger etal PRB (2011)].

# The holographic model

- We will use the formulation in terms gravity coupled to a massive vector [Taylor (2008)]

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G_{d+1}} \int d^{d+1}x \sqrt{G} \left[ R + d(d-1) - \frac{1}{4}F^2 - \frac{1}{2}M^2 A^2 \right]$$

Relative to prior literature we rescaled the fields such that the **AdS critical point has AdS radius  $l^2 = 1$** .

- This model admits a Lifshitz solution

$$\begin{aligned} ds^2 &= dr^2 - e^{2zr/l} dt^2 + e^{2r/l} dx^a dx_a; \\ A &= \mathcal{A} e^{zr/l} dt, \quad \mathcal{A}^2 = \frac{2(z-1)}{z}, \end{aligned}$$

provided the mass is given by

$$M^2 = \frac{zd(d-1)^2}{z^2 + z(d-2) + (d-1)^2}$$

# The holographic model

- Standard AdS/CFT correspondence implies that this Lagrangian, expanded around the **AdS critical point**, describes a CFT with a vector primary operator  $J_i$  of dimension

$$\Delta = \frac{d}{2} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{d}{2} - 1\right)^2 + \frac{zd(d-1)^2}{z^2 + z(d-2) + (d-1)^2}}$$

- The same theory admits a **Lifshitz critical point** with **dynamic critical exponent  $z$** , if

$$M^2 = \frac{zd(d-1)^2}{z^2 + z(d-2) + (d-1)^2}$$

viewed an equation for  $z$  has real solutions with  $z > 1$ .

# Top-down models?

Thus a **necessary condition** for obtaining such a Lifshitz theory **with critical exponent  $z_+$  or  $z_-$**  is that the spectrum of the **AdS critical point** contains vector modes with mass within the following range

	$z_+$	$z_-$
$d = 2$	$0 < M^2 \leq 1$	$M^2 = 1$
$d = 3$	$0 < M^2 \leq 2.4$	$2.33 < M^2 \leq 2.4$
$d = 4$	$0 < M^2 \leq 9/2$	$4.29 < M^2 \leq 9/2$

This is only a necessary condition because one needs to additionally check that it is consistent to retain only the massive vector mode.

# Top-down models?

The simplest AdS compactifications do contain modes in the allowed range:

- The  $AdS_3 \times S^3$  spectrum contains vector modes with  $M^2 = 1$ , leading to  $z = 1$ .
- The  $AdS_4 \times S^7$  spectrum contains two such massive vectors:
  - $M^2 = 3/4$ , leading to  $z \approx 14.72$ .
  - $M^2 = 2$ , leading to either  $z = 4$  or  $z = 1$ .
- The  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  spectrum contains one massive vector in the allowed range,  $M^2 = 3$ , leading to either  $z = 9$  or  $z = 1$ .

Consistent truncation to only these modes is a non-trivial condition that **still needs to be checked (in progress)**.



# The $z \approx 1$ case

Leaving aside the top-down models, we now focus on the case  $z = 1 + \epsilon^2$ , with  $\epsilon \ll 1$ .

- This can be achieved by taking

$$M^2 = (d - 1) + (d - 2)\epsilon^2 + \frac{1 + d - d^2}{d(d - 1)}\epsilon^4 + \dots$$

- The Lifshitz solution now becomes **Asymptotically AdS** and its dual interpretation can be obtained using the standard **AdS/CFT dictionary**.

# The QFT dual to Lifshitz with $z = 1 + \epsilon^2$

The dual theory is a deformation of a **relativistic CFT** by the time component of a vector primary  $J^\mu$  of **dimension  $d$** ,

$$S_{CFT} \rightarrow S_{CFT} + \sqrt{2} \int d^d x \epsilon J^t.$$

# Holographic dictionary

We are now going set up the holographic dictionary **working perturbatively in  $\epsilon$** .

- Holographic renormalization for **general  $z$**  was studied by a number of authors [Ross (2011)], [Baggio et al (2011)] [Griffin et al (2011)].
- When  **$\epsilon \sim 0$ , the solution is Asymptotically AdS**, so well established techniques can be used [de Haro, KS, Solodukhin (2000)].
- The results obtained in this fashion are more easily comparable with those of the dual QFT.

# Holographic renormalization for $z = 1 + \epsilon^2$

- We need to obtain the most general asymptotic solution with **Dirichlet data**  $\mathbf{g}_{[0](0)ij}(\mathbf{x})$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_{(0)i}(\mathbf{x})$ ,  
 $ds^2 = dr^2 + e^{2r}(\mathbf{g}_{[0](0)ij} + \dots)dx^i dx^j$ ,  $A_i = (\epsilon e^r \mathbf{A}_{(0)i} + \dots)$
- Using the asymptotic solution one can compute the most general divergences that can appear in the on-shell action and then work out the counterterm action needed to remove them. For  $d = 2$ :

$$S_{\text{ct}} = -\frac{1}{8\pi G_3} \int d^2x \sqrt{\gamma} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} R \mathbf{r}_0\right) + \frac{1}{32\pi G_3} \int d^2x \sqrt{\gamma} \left( \gamma^{ij} A_i A_j - \mathbf{r}_0 \left( (\nabla_i A^i)^2 - \frac{1}{2} F_{ij} F^{ij} \right) \right).$$

- The renormalized action is

$$S_{\text{ren}} = \lim_{r_0 \rightarrow \infty} (S_{\text{reg}} + S_{\text{ct}})$$

# One-point functions

1-point functions in the presence of sources are derived by functionally differentiating  $S_{\text{ren}}$  wrt source.

➤ Stress energy tensor:

$$\langle \mathcal{T}_{ij} \rangle = \langle T_{ij} \rangle_{[0]} + \epsilon^2 \langle T_{ij} \rangle_{[2]}$$

where the correction at order  $\epsilon^2$  contains in particular,

$$\langle T_{ij} \rangle_{[2]} = -\frac{1}{8\pi G_3} g_{[2](2)ij} - \frac{1}{2} A_{(0)}^k \langle T_{kl} \rangle_{[0]} A_{(0)}^l g_{[0](0)ij} + \dots$$

➤ Vector operator:

$$\langle \mathcal{J}^i \rangle = \frac{2\epsilon}{16\pi G_3} A_{(2)}^i - \frac{1}{2} \langle T_{ij} \rangle_{[0]} (\epsilon A_{(0)j}).$$

# Ward identities

These 1-point functions satisfy the correct Ward identities as expected.

- Diffeomorphism Ward identity

$$\nabla^j \langle T_{ij} \rangle = A_{(0)i} \nabla_j \langle J^j \rangle - \langle J^j \rangle F_{(0)ij}.$$

This is indeed the correct Ward identity.

- Trace Ward identity

$$\langle T_i^i \rangle = A_{(0)i} \langle J^i \rangle + \mathcal{A},$$

This is the expected trace Ward identity with a trace anomaly  $\mathcal{A}$ ,

$$\mathcal{A} = -\frac{1}{2} A_{(0)}^i \langle T_{ij} \rangle_{[0]} A_{(0)}^j + \dots$$

# Recovering Lifshitz invariance

Let us now evaluate the trace Ward identity at the Lifshitz critical point.

- In this case,

$$A_{(0)t} = \sqrt{2}, \quad g_{(0)ij} = \eta_{ij}$$

- Then the trace Ward identity leads to

$$\langle T_i^i \rangle = -\epsilon^2 \langle T_t^t \rangle + O(\epsilon^4) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \langle z T_t^t \rangle + \langle T_a^a \rangle = O(\epsilon^4)$$

- This is precisely the condition for Lifshitz invariance!

# The QFT side: remarks

The Lifshitz theory we obtained is **markedly different** than any other Lifshitz invariant theory that appeared before.

- For example, the scalar theory with action

$$S = \int dt d^3x (\dot{\phi}^2 + \phi (-\partial^2)^z \phi) \quad (1)$$

which is often used in the literature as an illustrative example (especially when  $z = 2$ ) does not become of the form we find when  $z \sim 1 + \epsilon^2$ .

- This suggests that this field theory model is **unlikely to share key features of the holographic modle**.
- None of the condensed matter Lifshitz models are of this form, which leads to the question:
  - ⇒ **Is this type of Lifshitz model special to strongly coupled models or not?**



# The QFT story

- The answer to this question is:

These models are generic. If one deforms **any CFT by any dimension  $d$  vector primary**, the theory becomes **Lifshitz invariant with  $z = 1 + \epsilon^2 + O(\epsilon^4)$** .

- Whether this fixed point is **stable or not** depend on the particular CFT/vector primary.

# Sketch of proof

Our theory is defined by

$$S = S_{CFT} + \int d^d x \epsilon J^t.$$

where  $J^i$  is a conformal vector primary of dimension  $d$ .

- This theory still has a **conserved stress-energy tensor**, but it is **not symmetric** anymore.
- **Classically**, the **stress-energy tensor is traceless** (because the dimension of  $J^\mu$  is  $d$ ).
- ➡ The classical theory is a  **$z = 1$  non-relativistic CFT**.

# The quantum theory

We can analyze the quantum theory using **conformal perturbation theory**.

- The first non-trivial effects are at **order  $\epsilon^2$** , where we find

$$Z[\epsilon] = \left\langle \epsilon^2 \int d^d x d^d y J^t(x) J^t(y) \right\rangle_{CFT} + O(\epsilon^3)$$

- To compute this we may use the OPE of  $J^i J^j$ .

- This OPE contains the following universal terms

$$J_i(x)J_j(0) \sim \frac{I_{ij}}{x^{2d}} + \cdots + \mathcal{A}_{ij}{}^{kl} \frac{T_{kl}}{x^d} + \cdots ,$$

where  $I_{ij} = \delta_{ij} - 2x_i x_j / x^2$ .

- In  $d = 2$ , the OPE coefficient  $\mathcal{A}_{ij}{}^{kl}$  is **completely fixed** by conformal invariance.
- In  $d > 2$ , the OPE coefficient  $\mathcal{A}_{ij}{}^{kl}$  is **fixed up to two constants** by conformal invariance.

# Lifshitz invariance

- Inserting the OPE in  $Z[\epsilon]$  one finds a **logarithmic divergence proportional to  $T_{ij}$** .
- To remove the infinity one adds a **counterterm** in the action.
- This results in a **beta** function  $\beta_g^{ij}$  for the source of  $T_{ij}$ , i.e. the background metric, leading to

$$\langle T_i^i \rangle = -\beta_g^{ij} T_{ij}, \quad \beta_g^{ij} \sim A_{(0)}^i A_{(0)}^j$$

- Using the specific coefficient of the OPE we find that **this is precisely the Ward identity we found at strong coupling using holographic renormalization!**
- The same argument we gave earlier **establishes Lifshitz invariance to this order.**

# Conclusions

- Gravity:** We showed that the Lifshitz solution with  $z \approx 1$  is dual to a deformation of a relativistic CFT by the time component of a **vector conformal primary of dimension  $d$** .
- QFT:** Such a deformation of a relativistic CFT always leads to **Lifshitz invariant theory with  $z \approx 1$** .

# Outlook

- Correlation functions: compute holographically 2-point functions.
- Black holes: obtain black hole solutions.