A simple holographic model of momentum relaxation

Tomás Andrade (Durham U)

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in collaboration with Ben Withers (Southampton)







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"Hasn't it occurred to you to suspect that behind that Mondrian could a Viera da Silva reality start?" Hopscotch, J. Cortázar.

Use AdS/CFT to understand condensed matter systems.

Gravity in M with AdS boundary conditions \uparrow Field Theory that lives on ∂M

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- Limitations: it's a conjecture, large N limit, only generic features (bottom-up), hard to implement (top-down).
- examples: superconductors, QGP, non-relativistic FT, etc.
- Motivation from condensed matter to study gravitational systems [AdS, hairy black holes, etc]

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Ingoing bc's for retarded 2-pt $a_x \approx (r - r_0)^{-i\omega/4\pi T}$ For small ω .

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Goal here: present a simple model of momentum relaxation in the holographic setup.



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Conclusions

Ward identity

Theory with scalar operator O and U(1) current

$$\nabla_i \langle T^{ij} \rangle = \nabla^j \psi^{(0)} \langle O \rangle + F^{ij} \langle J_i \rangle$$

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Holographically, consider $g_{\mu\nu}$, ψ_I , A_{μ} ,

$$ds^{2} = \frac{d\rho^{2}}{\rho^{2}} + \frac{1}{\rho^{2}} (g_{ij}^{(0)} + \ldots + \rho^{d} \tau_{ij} + \ldots) dx^{i} dx^{j}$$
$$A = (A_{i}^{(0)} + \ldots + \rho^{d-2} \tilde{A}_{i} + \ldots) dx^{i}$$
$$\psi_{I} = \rho^{\Delta_{-}} \psi_{I}^{(0)} + \ldots + \rho^{\Delta_{+}} \tilde{\psi}_{I} + \ldots$$

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$$\delta S_{ren} = \int_{\partial M} \sqrt{-g^{(0)}} \left[\frac{1}{2} \langle T^{ij} \rangle \delta g_{ij}^{(0)} + \langle O_I \rangle \delta \psi_I^{(0)} + \langle J^i \rangle \delta A_i^{(0)} \right]$$

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Take $\psi \propto x$ with $m_{\psi}^2 = 0$ makes bulk geometry homogeneous, can arrange more than one scalar to have isotropy. Makes use of the shift symmetry $\psi_I \rightarrow \psi_I + c_I$.

The model

$$S_{0} = \int_{M} \sqrt{-g} \left[R - 2\Lambda - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I}^{d-1} (\partial \psi_{I})^{2} - \frac{1}{4} F^{2} \right] d^{d+1}x$$

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Take the ansatz

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Find the solution [Bardoux, Caldarelli, Charmousis, '12]

$$f = r^2 - \frac{\alpha^2}{2(d-2)} - \frac{m_0}{r^{d-2}} + \frac{(d-2)\mu^2}{2(d-1)} \frac{r_0^{2(d-2)}}{r^{2(d-2)}}, \qquad \alpha^2 \equiv \frac{1}{d-1} \sum_{a=1}^{d-1} \vec{\alpha}_a \cdot \vec{\alpha}_a,$$

provided

$$\vec{\alpha}_{a} \cdot \vec{\alpha}_{b} = \alpha^{2} \delta_{ab} \qquad \forall a, b.$$
(1)

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Mechanism for dissipation? solution has $\langle O_I \rangle = 0$ and $F_{ij}^{(0)} = 0$, so $\nabla_i \langle T^{ij} \rangle = 0$. Linearized fluctuations

$$\partial_t \delta \langle P_{\mathbf{a}} \rangle = \alpha_{\mathbf{a}\mathbf{l}} \delta \langle O_{\mathbf{l}} \rangle + \delta F_{\mathbf{a}\mathbf{t}}^{(0)} \langle J_{\mathbf{t}} \rangle \tag{2}$$

Similar construction by [Donos+Gauntlett], which uses U(1) of a complex scalar, $\phi \to e^{ikx}\phi$.

Break translational invariance by $\phi = e^{ikx}\varphi(r)$, but $T_{\mu\nu}$ is indep. of x so the problem reduces to ODE's.

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One finds det M = 0. Diagonalize mass matrix by λ_1 , λ_2 .

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$$\sigma_{DC}(r) = \lim_{\omega \to 0} \frac{-\Pi}{i\omega\lambda_1}\Big|_r \qquad \sigma_{DC}(\infty) = \sigma_{DC}$$

Key idea: massless mode \Rightarrow conserved quantity, express the DC conductivity in terms of r_0 .

$$\delta A_x = e^{-i\omega t} a_x(r), \qquad \delta g_{tx} = e^{-i\omega t} h_{tx}(r) \qquad \delta \psi_1 = e^{-i\omega t} \chi(r)$$

$$L_2 \begin{pmatrix} a_x \\ \chi' \end{pmatrix} + \omega^2 \begin{pmatrix} a_x \\ \chi' \end{pmatrix} = M \begin{pmatrix} a_x \\ \chi' \end{pmatrix}$$

One finds det M = 0. Diagonalize mass matrix by λ_1 , λ_2 .

$$\Pi' + \omega^2 \lambda_1 = 0 \qquad \Rightarrow \quad \Pi' = 0 \quad \text{at} \quad \omega = 0$$

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can show $\sigma'_{DC}(r) = 0!$ So

$$\sigma_{DC} = \sigma_{DC}(r_0) = r_0^{d-3} \left(1 + (d-2)^2 \frac{\mu^2}{\alpha^2} \right).$$

Optical conductivity

Can also compute $\sigma = \sigma(\omega)$ numerically.



Optical conductivity

Can also compute $\sigma = \sigma(\omega)$ numerically. Drude physics for small ω

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



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Figure : The different curves correspond to, from top to bottom, $\alpha/\mu = 0.1, 1.0, 2.0.$

Break bulk diffeo inv. to break translational inv. on ∂M .

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Generically yields ghosts, but [de Rham, Gabadadze, Tolley, '10] argues that it's ok

$$I_{MG} = \int_{M} \sqrt{-g} \left[R - 2\Lambda - \frac{1}{4}F^2 + \beta m^2 ([\mathcal{K}]^2 - [\mathcal{K}^2]) + \frac{\alpha m^2 [\mathcal{K}]}{\alpha m^2 [\mathcal{K}]} \right] d^4 x.$$
$$\mathcal{K}^{\mu}{}_{\alpha} \mathcal{K}^{\alpha}{}_{\nu} = g^{\mu\alpha} f_{\alpha\nu} \qquad f_{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(0, 0, F, F)$$

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Drude at small ω , $\sigma_{DC}^{MG} = \sigma_{DC}^{ours}$

Consider shear modes $\sim e^{-i\omega t + ikx} \Phi(r)$

 $\delta g_{ry}, \quad \delta g_{ty}, \quad \delta g_{xy}, \quad \delta A_y$

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$$\begin{aligned} r^2(f\Phi_{\pm}')' + \left(\frac{r^2\omega^2}{f} - k^2 - \frac{\mu^2 r_0^2}{r^2} + \frac{\mu r_0}{r}c_{\pm}\right)\Phi_{\pm} &= 0, \\ \frac{1}{r^2 f}(r^2 f\Phi_1')' + \frac{\omega^2}{f^2}\Phi_1 &= 0, \\ \Phi_0 + \frac{f}{r^2}(c_+ r\Phi_+ + c_- r\Phi_-)' - \frac{k\omega}{k^2 + 2m_\beta^2}\Phi_1 &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

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In our model: $\psi_1 = \alpha x$, $\psi_2 = \alpha y$

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Same equation for Φ_{\pm} so the electrical conductivities coincide! The thermal conductivity $\sim \delta g_{ty}$ differs.

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- embedding in string theory?
- include HSC, spatially modulated phases, ...