

# 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]

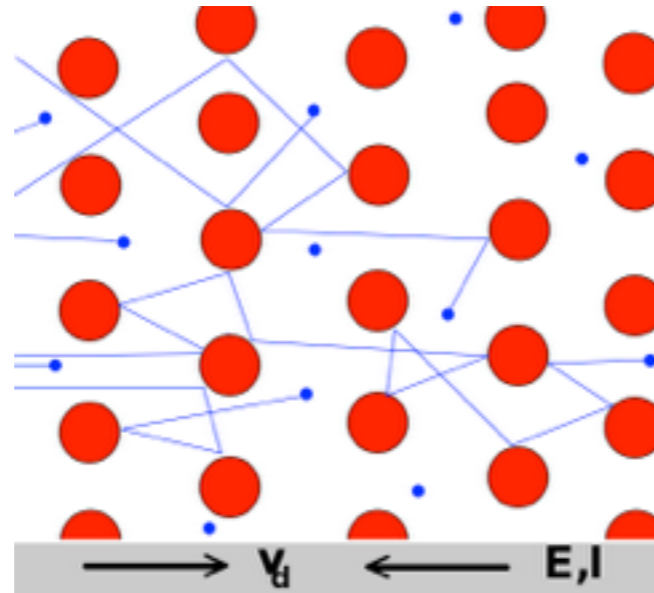
Analogous to  $\eta = \frac{s}{4\pi}$  [Policastro, Kovtun, Son, Starinets]

# Plan

- Drude physics
- 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



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

$$J = nqv$$

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

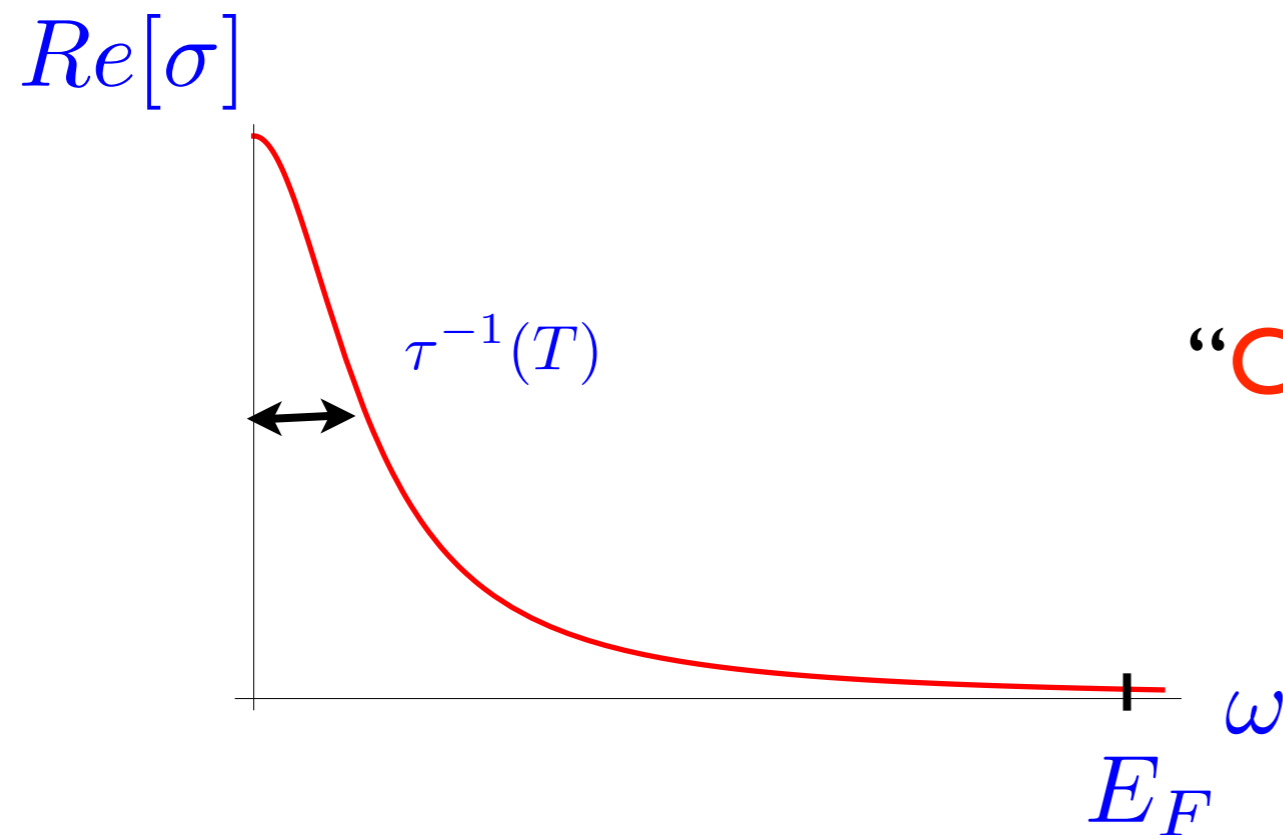
$$E = E(\omega)e^{-i\omega t}$$

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

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

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

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



“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  $\tau$

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:

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

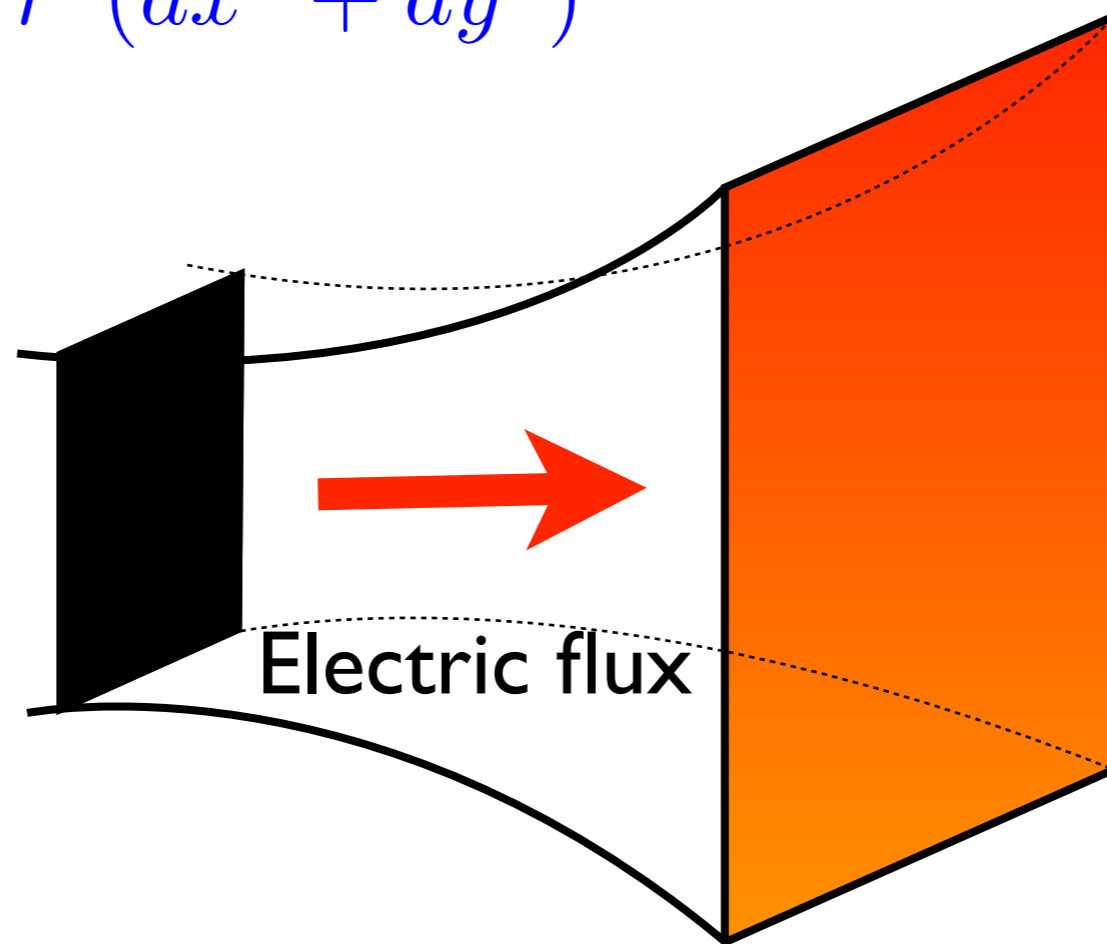
Admits  $AdS_4$  vacuum  $\leftrightarrow$  d=3 CFT with global U(1)

# 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

$\mu$   $T$

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:

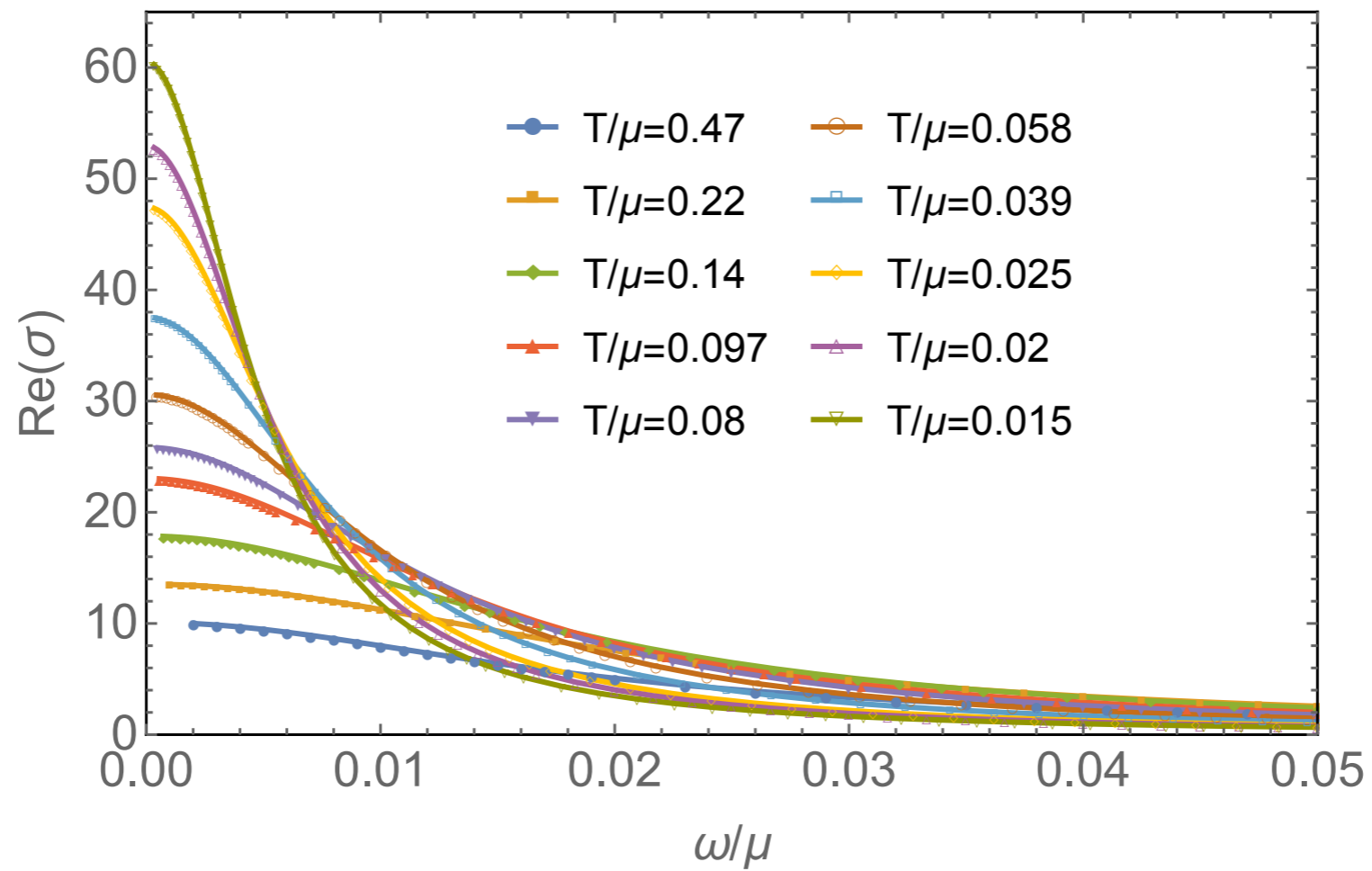
$$\mu(x) = \mu + A \cos kx$$

[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

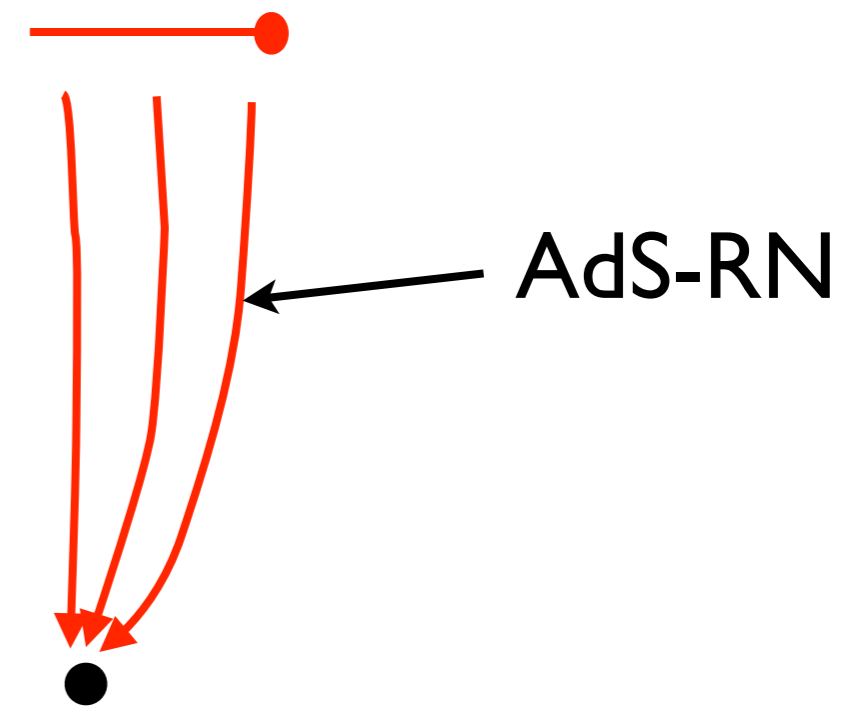


## Coherent metal phases

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:

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

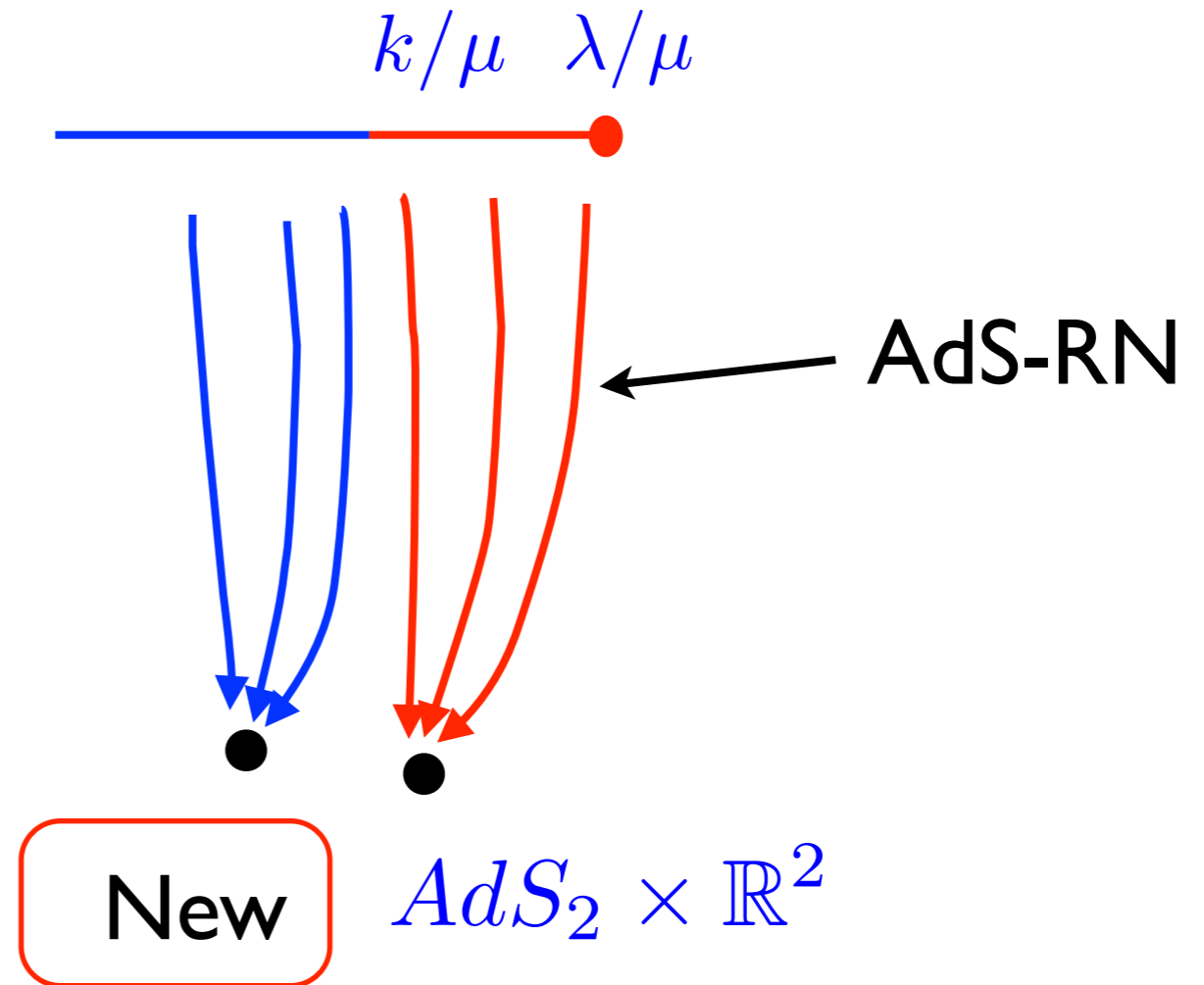
$$a = \mu + \frac{q}{r} \dots, \quad \phi = \frac{\lambda}{r^{3-\Delta}} + \dots$$

Homogeneous and anisotropic and periodic holographic lattices

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

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

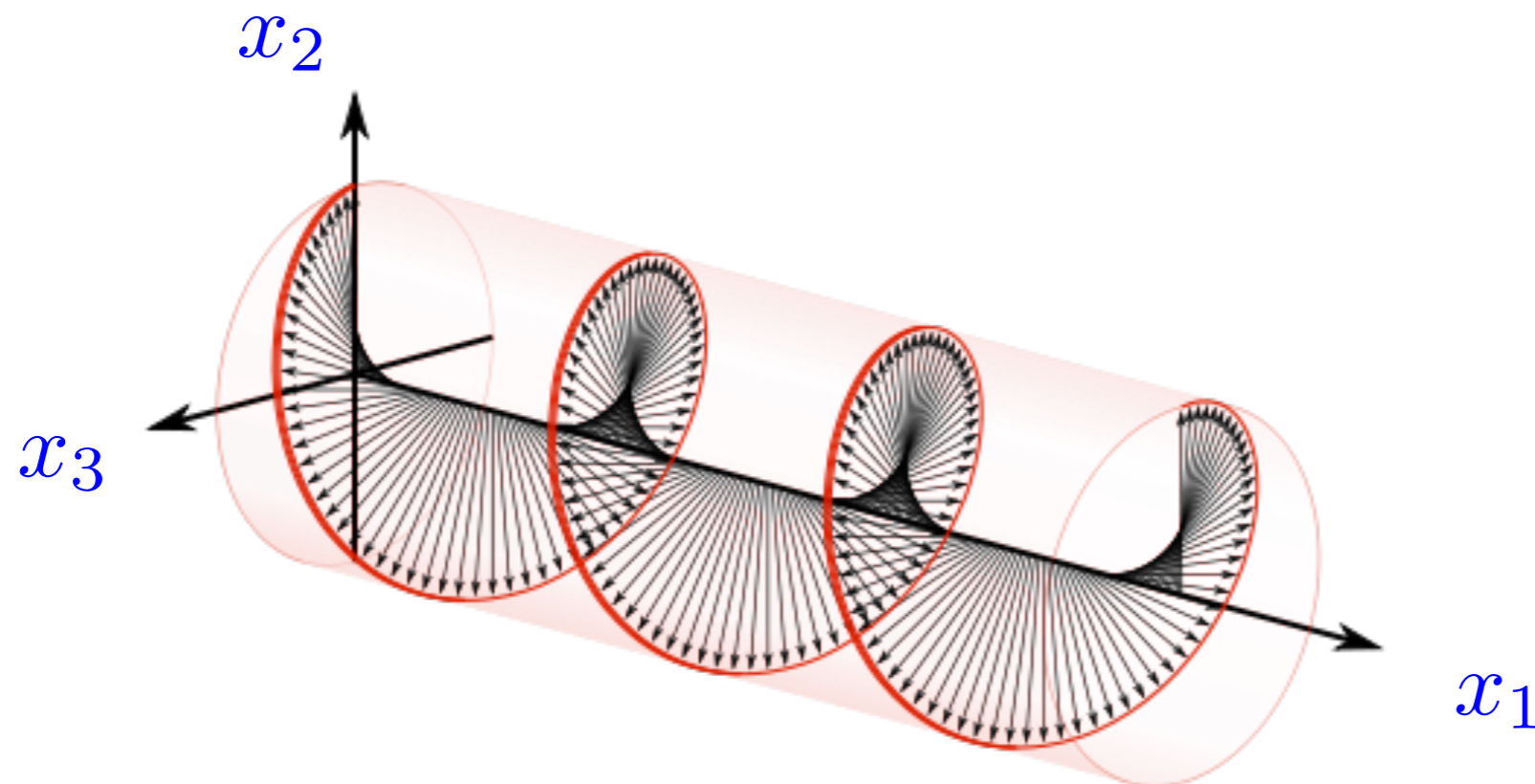
# D=4 CFTs with a Helical Twist [Donos, Gauntlett, Panteleidou]

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  $k, \alpha_0$  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

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

AdS-Schwarzschild:  $f = 1, \quad g = r^2 - \frac{r_+^4}{r^2}, \quad h = r, \quad \alpha = 0$

## 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:  $\alpha_0, k$

Vev parameters:  $c_h, c_\alpha, M$

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

Log terms arise because of conformal anomaly

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

Boundary conditions in the IR - smooth black hole horizon

$$\begin{aligned} g &= g_+(r - r_+) + \dots, & f &= f_+ + \dots, \\ h &= h_+ + \dots, & \alpha &= \alpha_+ + \dots \end{aligned}$$

with  $g_+ = 4r_+$

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

Thermodynamics from  $T^{\mu\nu}$  [Donos, Gauntlett]

Free energy density  $w$

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

Killing vector  $\partial_t$

$$w = -Ts - \frac{k}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi/k} dx_1 \sqrt{-\gamma} (T^{tt} \gamma_{tt})$$

Killing vectors  $\partial_{x_2}$  and  $\partial_{x_3}$

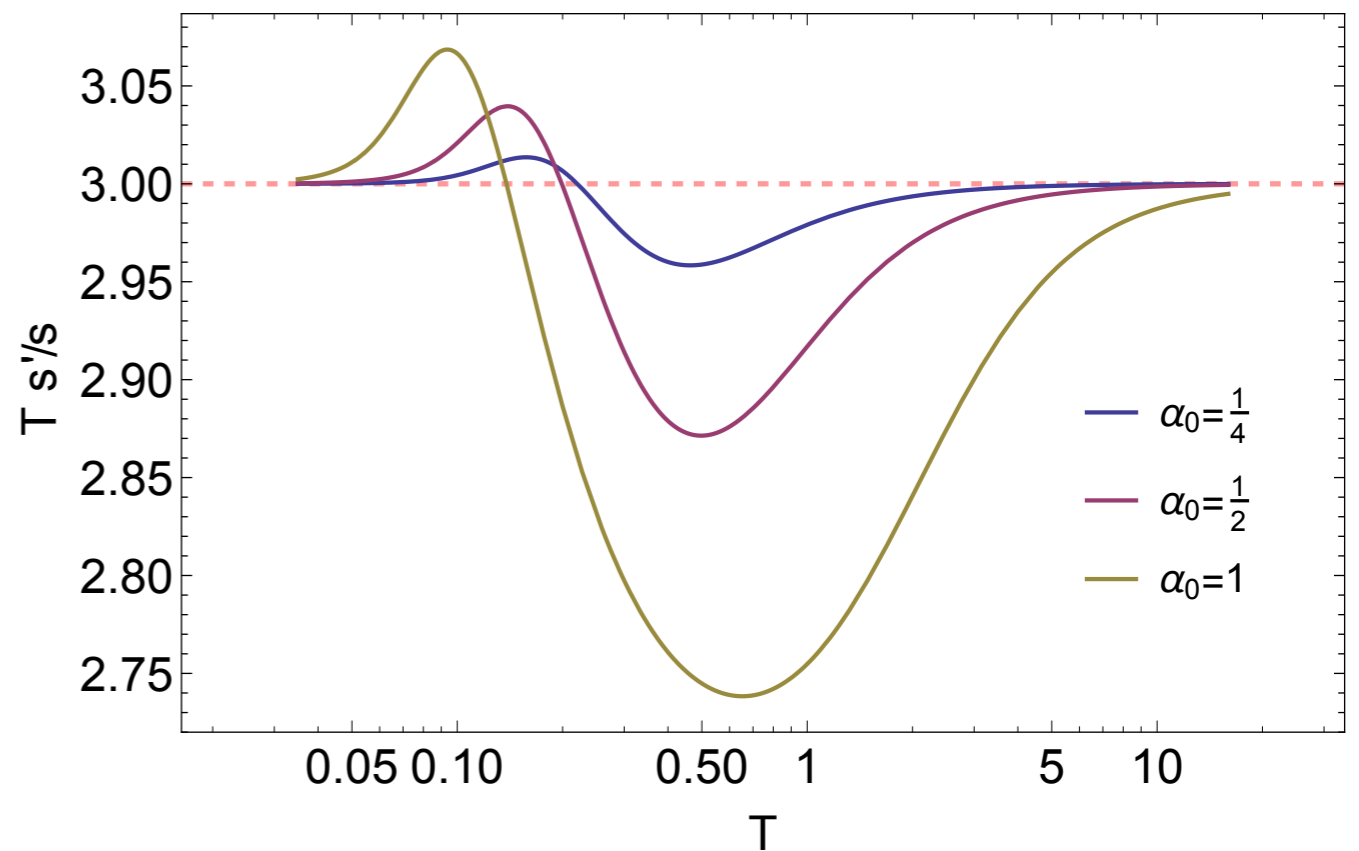
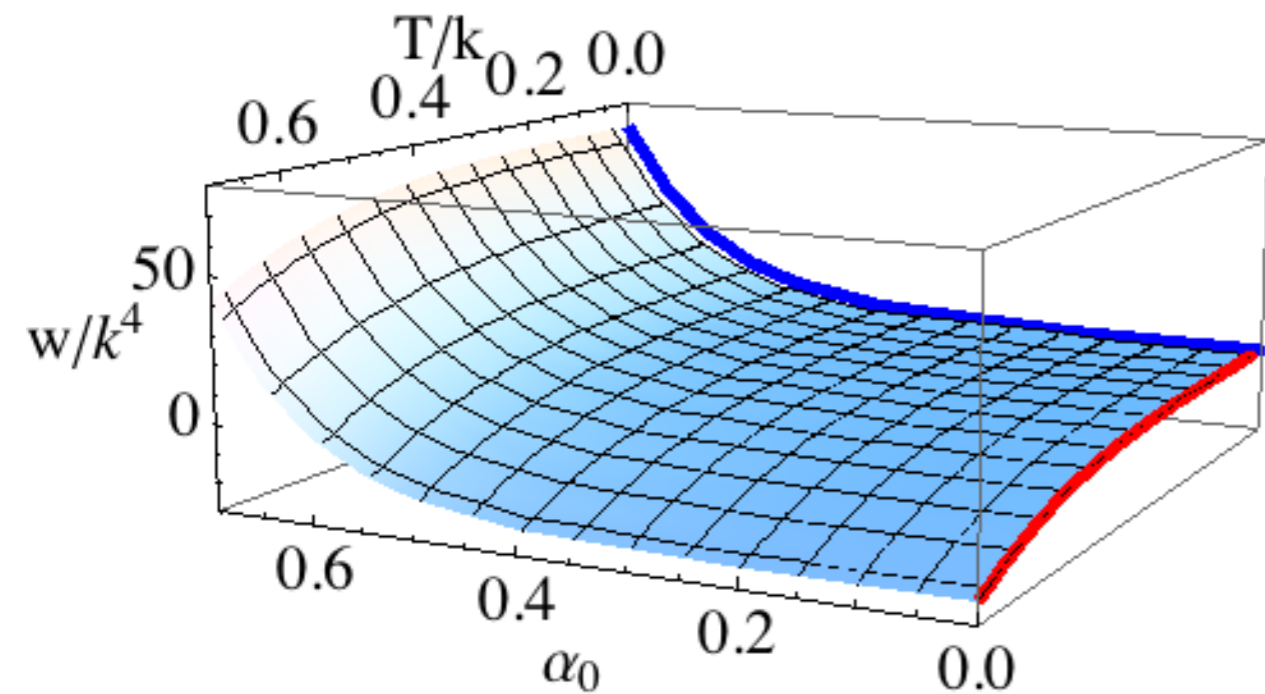
$$w = -\frac{k}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi/k} dx_1 \sqrt{-\gamma} \left( T^{x^2 x^2} \gamma_{x^2 x^2} + T^{x^2 x^3} \gamma_{x^2 x^3} \right),$$

$$w = -\frac{k}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi/k} dx_1 \sqrt{-\gamma} \left( T^{x^3 x^2} \gamma_{x^3 x^2} + T^{x^3 x^3} \gamma_{x^3 x^3} \right)$$

## First law

$$\delta w = -s\delta T - \frac{2\pi}{k} \int_0^{2\pi/k} dx_1 \sqrt{-\gamma} \left( \frac{1}{2} T^{\mu\nu} \delta\gamma_{\mu\nu} \right) + \frac{\delta k}{k} \left( w + \frac{2\pi}{k} \int_0^{2\pi/k} dx_1 \sqrt{-\gamma} (T^{x_1 x_2} \gamma_{x_1 x_2} + T^{x_1 x_3} \gamma_{x_1 x_3}) \right)$$

# Results of numerics



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

## T=0 interpolating solutions

Consider small perturbation of  $\alpha$  about AdS5 which one solve in terms of Bessel functions

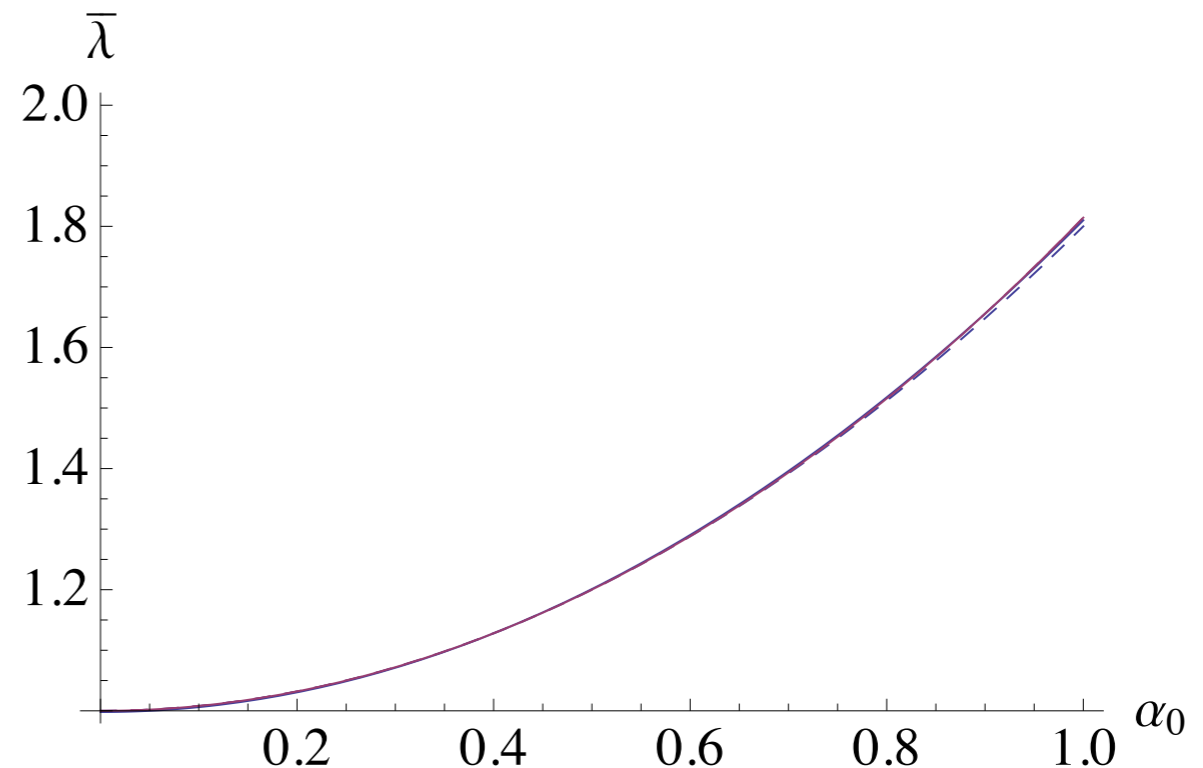
Suggests the IR expansion as  $r \rightarrow 0$

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

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

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

with

$$\delta g_{tx_1}(t, r) = \int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} e^{-i\omega t} h_{tx_1}(\omega, r)$$

$$\delta g_{23}(t, r) = \int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} e^{-i\omega t} h_{23}(\omega, r)$$

We obtain linear ODEs:

$$h''_{23} = \dots \qquad h''_{tx} = \dots$$

and a constraint equation involving  $h'_{tx}$  and  $h'_{23}$

## IR boundary conditions

Ingoing at black hole horizon [Son,Starinets]

## UV boundary conditions

$$h_{tx_1} = r^2 s_1 + \frac{i\omega k}{2} \sinh 2\alpha_0 s_2 + \frac{v_1}{r^2} + \dots$$

$$h_{23} = r^2 s_2 + \left( \frac{1}{2} i\omega k \sinh 2\alpha_0 s_1 + \frac{\omega^2}{4} s_2 - k^2 \cosh^2 2\alpha_0 s_2 \right) + \frac{v_2}{r^2} + \dots$$

with the constraint

$$64i\omega v_1 + 128k \sinh 2\alpha_0 v_2 + i\omega(-128c_h + 16k^4 \sinh 2\alpha_0^4) s_1 \\ - 4k(64c_\alpha \cosh 2\alpha_0 + 4k^2 \sinh 2\alpha_0^3(2k^2 - \omega^2 + 2k^2 \cosh 4\alpha_0)) s_2 = 0$$

Greens function  $J_i = G_{ij} s_j$

with

$$J_1 = \langle T^{t x_1} \rangle = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{-g_\infty}} \frac{\delta S^{(2)}}{\delta h_{t x_1}(r)},$$

$$J_2 = \langle T^{\omega_2 \omega_3} \rangle = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{-g_\infty}} \frac{\delta S^{(2)}}{\delta h_{23}(r)}.$$

Calculate the variation of the action and discard a horizon contribution

$$\delta S_\infty^{(2)} = \int d^2 x \int_{\omega \geq 0} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \left( \delta \bar{s}_i(\omega) J_i(\omega) + \delta s_i(\omega) \bar{J}_i(\omega) \right)$$

with

$$J_1 = s_1(\dots) + s_2(\dots) - 4v_1$$

$$J_2 = s_1(\dots) + s_2(\dots) + 4v_2$$

dots are fixed by  $\omega$  and black hole background:  $\alpha_0, k, M, c_\alpha, c_h$

To obtain  $G_{ij} = \frac{\partial J_i}{\partial s_j}$  we need to work out  $\frac{\partial v_i}{\partial s_j}$

This is subtle due to residual gauge invariance

Take the background black hole with  $x_1 \rightarrow x_1 + e^{-i\omega t} \epsilon_0$   
which induces

$$\begin{aligned} s_1 &\rightarrow s_1 - i\epsilon_0\omega, & v_1 &\rightarrow v_1 - 2i\epsilon_0\omega\left(c_h + \frac{k^4}{8} \sinh^4 2\alpha_0\right) \\ s_2 &\rightarrow s_2 - 2\epsilon_0 k \sinh 2\alpha_0, & v_2 &\rightarrow v_2 - \epsilon_0 k \cosh 2\alpha_0 (4c_\alpha + k^4 \cosh 2\alpha_0 \sinh^3 2\alpha_0) \end{aligned}$$

with some work one can find  $\frac{\partial v_i}{\partial s_j}$  consistent with these

Alternative procedure: work in a gauge with  $s_1 = 0$

and calculate  $G_{i2} = \frac{J_i}{s_2} \Big|_{s_1=0}$

Then work in a gauge with  $s_2 = 0$  and  $G_{i1} = \frac{J_i}{s_1} \Big|_{s_2=0}$

Comment: suppose we calculate on-shell action

$$S_{\infty}^{(2)} = \int_{\omega \geq 0} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \left( s_2 \bar{s}_2(\dots) + s_1 \bar{s}_1(\dots) + s_1 \bar{s}_2(\dots) + \bar{s}_1 s_2(\dots) \right. \\ \left. + 2(s_2 \bar{v}_2 + \bar{s}_2 v_2 - s_1 \bar{v}_1 - \bar{s}_1 v_1) \right)$$

dots are fixed by  $\omega$  and black hole background:  $\alpha_0, k, M, c_\alpha, c_h$

Here we did NOT discard any terms arising from the black hole horizon

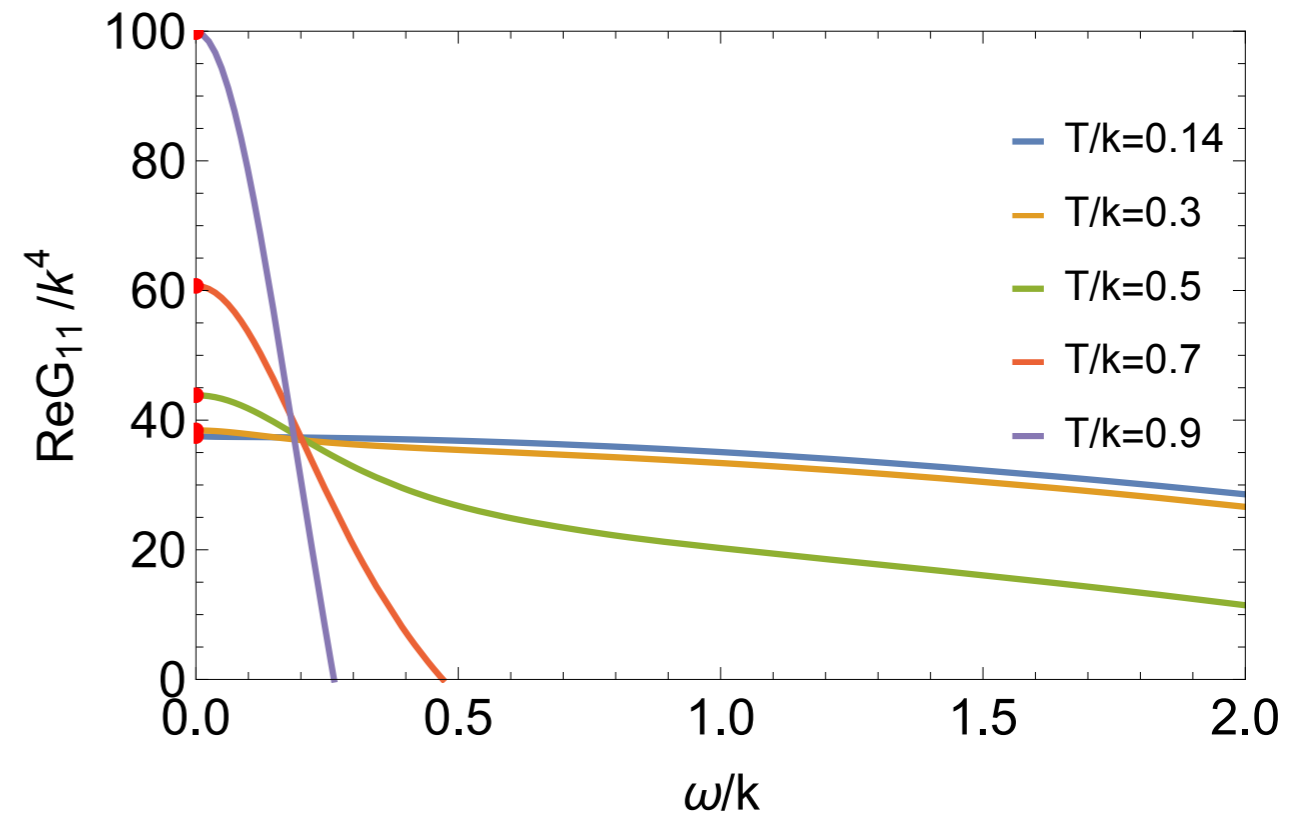
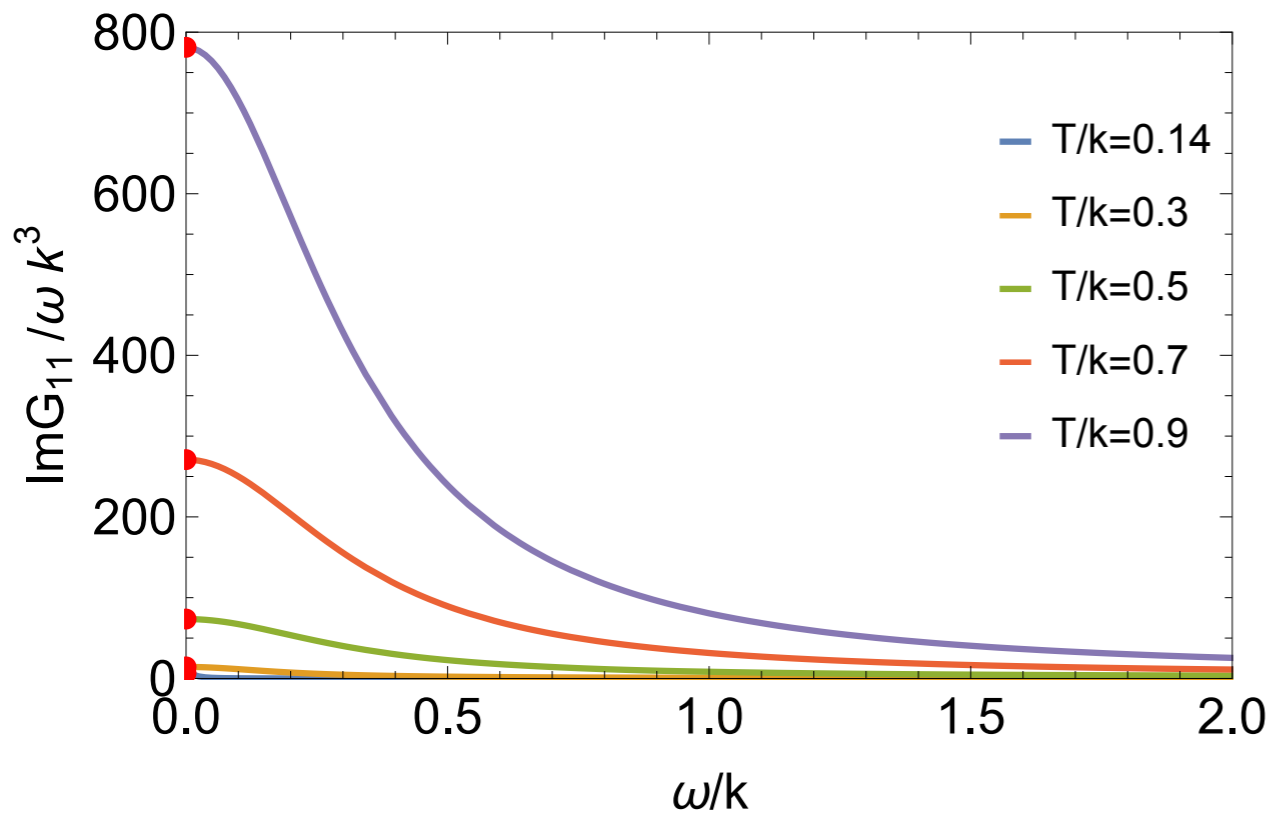
Using the same derivatives for  $\frac{\partial v_i}{\partial s_j}$  as above we find

$$\frac{\partial^2 S^{(2)}}{\partial s_i \partial \bar{s}_j} = G_{ij} + G_{ij}^\dagger$$

# Numerical results

Focus on  $G_{11}(\omega) = \langle T^{tx_1} T^{tx_1} \rangle$

and recall that  $T\kappa(\omega) \equiv \frac{G_{11}}{i\omega}$



## 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 finite  $T$ , 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?