

Near-extremal holographic charge correlators

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Holographic applications: from Quantum Realms to the Big Bang,
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- *Near-extremal holographic charge correlators*, with David Ramirez, Mikel Sanchez-Garitaonandia and Clément Supiot, [\[arXiv:2506.11974\]](#).
- Ongoing work with the same collaborators.
- *Hydrodynamic diffusion and its breakdown near AdS_2 fixed points*, with D. Areán, R. Davison and K. Suzuki, [\[arXiv:2011.12301\]](#).

- Recent evidence for duality between near- AdS_2 spacetimes and SYK models [KITAEV'15, SACHDEV'15, MALDACENA & STANFORD'16, MALDACENA, STANFORD & YANG'16, JENSEN'16, ENGELSOY, MERTENS & VERLINDE '16].
- Large families of holographic theories have black hole solutions with an $\text{AdS}_2 \times S^d$ near-extremal geometry.
- Some thermodynamic properties of these black holes can be deduced by KK-reducing to AdS_2 [ALMHEIRI & POLCHINSKI'14, NAYAK ET AL'18, ILIESIU & TURIACI'20].
- To what extent are their dynamical properties at low temperature controlled by the AdS_2 geometry/the Schwarzian effective action?

$\text{AdS}_2 \times \mathbb{R}^d$ near-extremal spacetimes

- Charged planar black holes extensively investigated in applied AdS/CFT, eg

$$\mathcal{L} = R - \frac{1}{2} \partial \phi^2 - V(\phi) - \frac{Z(\phi)}{4} F^2 - \frac{Y(\phi)}{2} \sum_{l=1}^d \partial \psi_l^2, \quad \psi_l = m \delta_{li} x^i$$

- They are dual to charged fluids in a flat geometry, possibly subject to various instabilities at low temperature.
- In the normal phase, they often display an emergent $\text{AdS}_2 \times \mathbb{R}^d$ near-extremal geometry

$$ds^2 = \frac{\ell_2^2}{\zeta^2} \left[- \left(1 - \frac{\zeta^2}{\zeta_h^2} \right) dt^2 + \frac{d\zeta^2}{1 - \frac{\zeta^2}{\zeta_h^2}} \right] + \frac{d\vec{x}_{(d)}^2}{r_e^2}$$

- At frequencies $\omega, k \lesssim T$, the low-energy dynamics is controlled by hydrodynamics, whether $Tr_e \gtrsim 1$ [ERDMINGER ET AL'08, BANERJEE ET AL'08] or $Tr_e \lesssim 1$ [EDALATI ET AL '09,'10], eg for charged fluids:

$$\nabla_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad \nabla_\mu J^\mu = 0$$

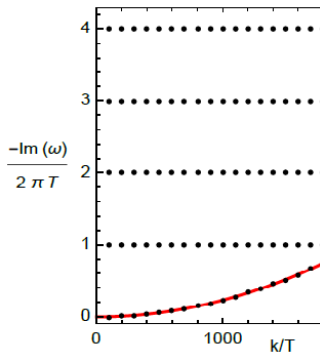
- Solving for linear perturbations, retarded Green's functions display gapless hydrodynamic poles

longitudinal sound: $\omega(k, T) = \pm c_s(T)k - i\Gamma(T)k^2 + O(k^3)$

longitudinal thermal diffusion: $\omega(k, T) = -iD_{th}(T)k^2 + O(k^4)$

transverse momentum diffusion: $\omega(k, T) = -iD_\eta(T)k^2 + O(k^4)$

$\text{AdS}_2 \times \text{R}^d$ near-extremal spacetimes: Low- T spectrum



[AREAN ET AL, 2011.12301]

- For $Tr_e \lesssim 1$, the hydrodynamic modes coexist with a tower of gapped modes controlled by the $\text{SL}(2, \text{R})$ symmetry of the $\text{AdS}_2 \times \text{R}^2$ geometry:

$$\omega_n = -2i\pi T [\Delta(k) + n]$$

Coalesce into a branch cut $\omega^{2\Delta(k)-1}$ at $T = 0$ [FAULKNER ET AL'09, EDALATI ET AL'09,'10].

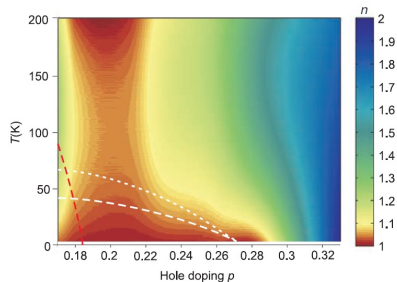
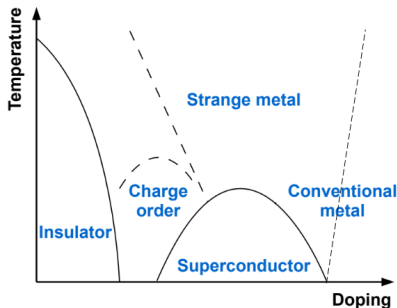
- Surprisingly, gapless modes persist at $T = 0$ besides the branch cut [EDALATI ET AL'09,'10; DAVISON & PARNACHEV'13, AREAN ET AL'20].

$$\omega = -iD_{th}(T=0)k^2 + \dots$$

- This usually signals an emergent global symmetry (eg Fermi liquids, superfluids)

- Can we derive an EFT which captures both the hydrodynamic modes and the gapped critical modes?
- What is the emergent symmetry and what causes it?
- Relation to the Schwarzian and AdS_2 ?
- This could also be relevant for the strange metallic phase of cuprate high T_c superconductors.

Strange metals: Drude or quantum critical?



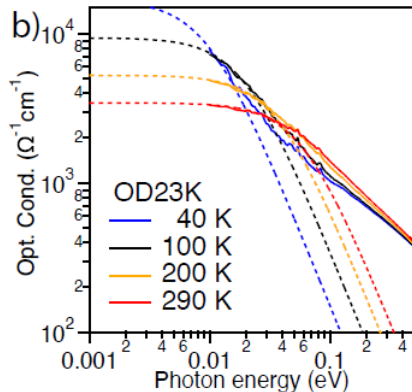
[COOPER ET AL, SCIENCE'09]

- $\rho \sim T$ over most of the OD phase diagram. From the Drude formula [LEGROS ET AL, 1805.02512]:

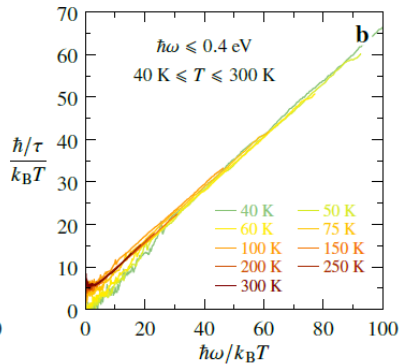
$$\rho_{\text{Drude}} = \frac{m}{ne^2} \tau_{tr} \Rightarrow \tau_{tr} = \mathcal{O}(1) \frac{\hbar}{k_B T} \simeq \tau_{\text{Planck}}$$

- Also reminiscent of quantum criticality [SACHDEV, ZAAZEN], where T is the only scale.

Strange metals: Drude or quantum critical?



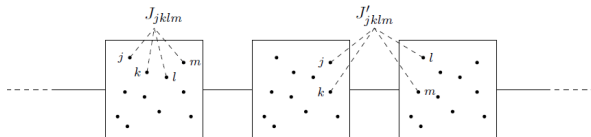
[VAN HEUMEN ET AL, 2205.00899]



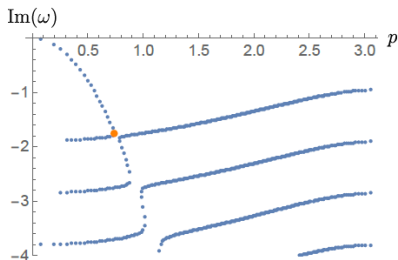
[MICHON ET AL, 2205.04030]

- AC conductivity displays a Drude peak and extra mid-IR spectral weight. Emergent branch cut [VAN DER MAREL, COND-MAT/0309172; VAN HEUMEN ET AL, 2205.00899]?
- Data also displays ω/T scaling: quantum criticality?

(Yukawa-)SYK models



[GU ET AL, 1609.07832]



[CHOI ET AL, 2010.08558]

- 1d spatial extensions of SYK models also display a similar spectrum at low temperatures.
- 2d Yukawa-SYK models reproduce aspects of strange metal thermodynamics and transport [PATEL ET AL, 2203.04990; GUO ET AL, 2308.01956].

This talk

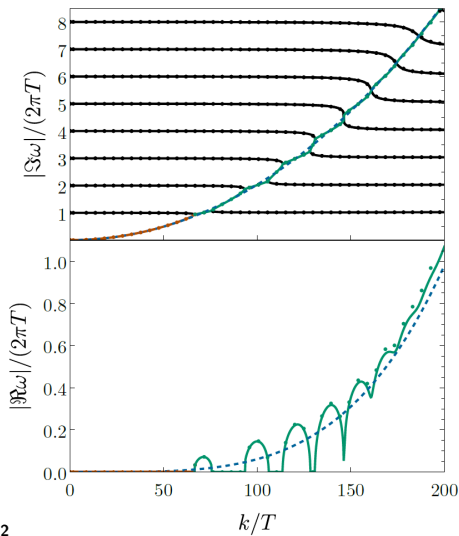
- Present an analytic expression for the probe G_{JJ}^R in a planar black hole spacetime with a near-extremal $\text{AdS}_2 \times \text{R}^2$ geometry.
- The calculation is a careful extension beyond leading order of matching calculations done in previous literature [DAVISON & PARNACHEV, 1303.6334], assuming

$$\omega r_e \sim T r_e \sim k^2 r_e^2 \ll 1$$

- Keeping track of irrelevant deformations away from $\text{AdS}_2 \times \text{R}^2$ was essential.
- Captures all the dynamics of the hydro pole, the gapped poles, and the emergent $T = 0$ spectrum: strongly suggests that the EFT can be constructed a la fluids/gravity (see also [MOITRA ET AL, 2005.00016; C. YUE'S TALK]).

Key result: Analytic computation of G_{JJ}^R

$$G_{JJ}^R = \frac{\omega^2 (1 - k^2 \mathcal{G}/3)}{i\omega + \frac{k^2}{6} (4\pi \mathbf{T} + 2(k^2 + i\omega)\mathcal{G} + 3k^2 \log 3 - 6)}, \quad (\omega, k, \mathbf{T}) = r_e(\omega, k, T)$$

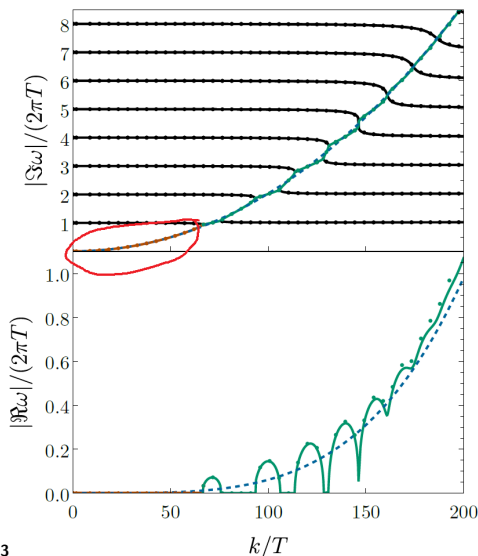


$$\mathcal{G} = \pi \cot \left(\frac{i\omega}{2\mathbf{T}} \right) + \gamma + \psi \left(\frac{i\omega}{2\pi \mathbf{T}} \right) - \log \left(\frac{9}{4\pi \mathbf{T}} \right),$$

Result valid at $0 \ll r_e T \ll 1$

Charge diffusion pole

$$G_{JJ}^R = \frac{\omega^2 (1 - k^2 \mathcal{G}/3)}{i\omega + \frac{k^2}{6} (4\pi T + 2(k^2 + i\omega)\mathcal{G} + 3k^2 \log 3 - 6)},$$



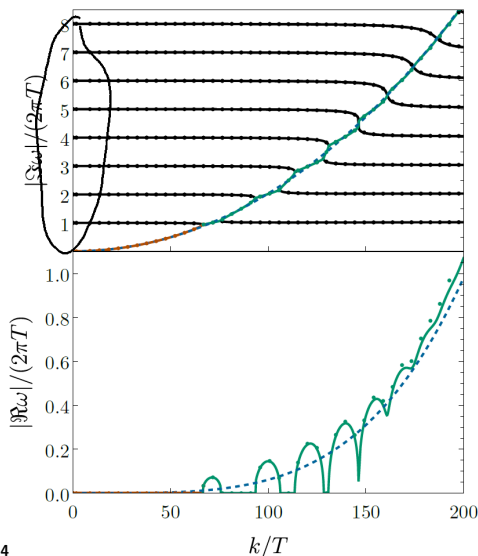
$$\mathcal{G} = \pi \cot \left(\frac{i\omega}{2T} \right) + \gamma + \psi \left(\frac{i\omega}{2\pi T} \right) - \log \left(\frac{9}{4\pi T} \right)$$

hydro diffusion pole $\omega, k \lesssim T$

$$i\omega = k^2 \left(1 - \frac{2\pi T}{3} \right) + \frac{k^4}{6} \log \left[\frac{243}{16} \left(\frac{1}{2\pi T} \right)^4 \right] + \dots$$

Key result: Analytic computation of G_{JJ}^R

$$G_{JJ}^R = \frac{\omega^2 (1 - \mathbf{k}^2 \mathcal{G}/3)}{i\omega + \frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{6} (4\pi \mathbf{T} + 2(\mathbf{k}^2 + i\omega)\mathcal{G} + 3\mathbf{k}^2 \log 3 - 6)},$$



Gapped IR poles

$$\omega_n = -2i\pi T [\Delta(k=0) + n]$$

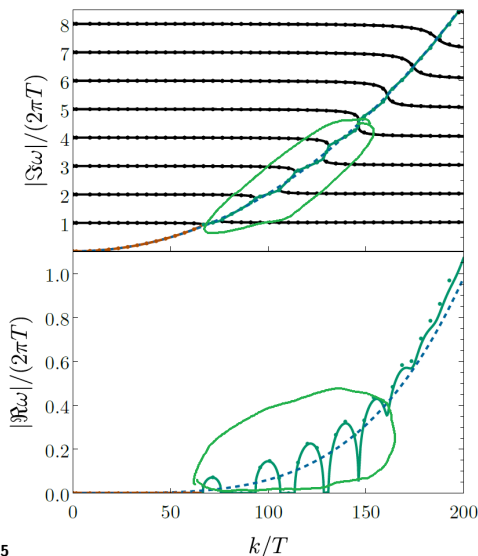
$$\Delta(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{1 + \frac{4\mathbf{k}^2}{3}}$$

Originate from [\[FAULKNER ET AL, 0907.2694\]](#)

$$G_{IR}^R \sim T^{2\Delta-1} \frac{\Gamma(\Delta - i\frac{\omega}{2\pi T})}{\Gamma(1 - \Delta - i\frac{\omega}{2\pi T})}$$

Pole-snatching

$$G_{JJ}^R = \frac{\omega^2 (1 - k^2 \mathcal{G}/3)}{i\omega + \frac{k^2}{6} (4\pi T + 2(k^2 + i\omega)\mathcal{G} + 3k^2 \log 3 - 6)},$$



Parity: poles with a real part come in pairs [\[KAMINSKI ET AL, 0911.3610\]](#).

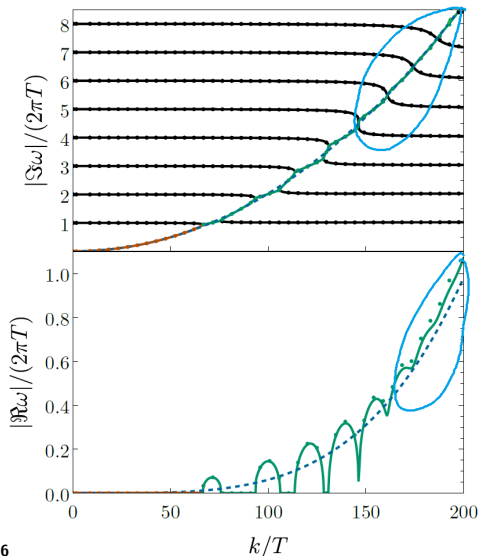
Hydro pole snatches one of the poles from the tower of critical poles and leaves the imaginary axis.

SL(2,R) invariance:

$$n(k \ll T) \mapsto n(T \ll k) - 1$$

Key result: Analytic computation of G_{JJ}^R

$$G_{JJ}^R = \frac{\omega^2 (1 - \mathbf{k}^2 \mathcal{G}/3)}{i\omega + \frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{6} (4\pi \mathbf{T} + 2(\mathbf{k}^2 + i\omega)\mathcal{G} + 3\mathbf{k}^2 \log 3 - 6)},$$



At $T = 0$

$$\mathcal{G} = \pm i\pi + \gamma + \log\left(\frac{2i\omega}{9}\right)$$

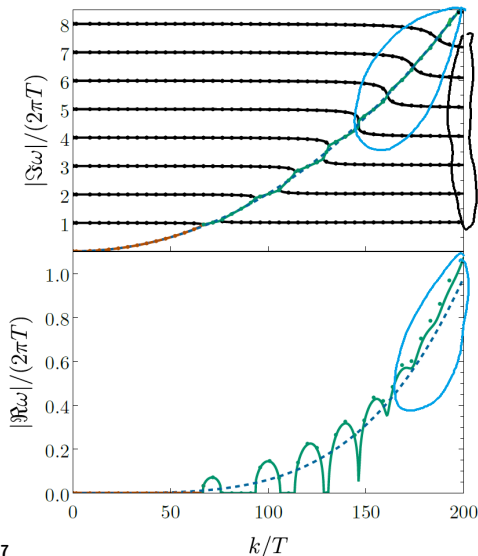
Gapless pole survives

$$\omega = -i\mathbf{k}^2 + i\frac{4}{3}\mathbf{k}^4 \log(\mathbf{k})$$

$$+ i\frac{2}{3}\mathbf{k}^4 \left(\gamma + \log 2 - \frac{5}{4} \log 3 \mp i\pi \right)$$

Key result: Analytic computation of G_{JJ}^R

$$G_{JJ}^R = \frac{\omega^2 (1 - \mathbf{k}^2 \mathcal{G}/3)}{i\omega + \frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{6} (4\pi \mathbf{T} + 2(\mathbf{k}^2 + i\omega)\mathcal{G} + 3\mathbf{k}^2 \log 3 - 6)},$$



At $T = 0$

$$\mathcal{G} = \pm i\pi + \gamma + \log\left(\frac{2i\omega}{9}\right)$$

Gapless pole survives

$$\omega = -ik^2 + i\frac{4}{3}k^4 \log(k)$$

$$+ i\frac{2}{3}k^4 \left(\gamma + \log 2 - \frac{5}{4} \log 3 \mp i\pi \right)$$

and log branch cut forms

- Background spacetime

$$S_{\text{background}} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[R - 2\Lambda - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I=1}^2 (\partial\psi_I)^2 \right]$$

$$ds^2 = \frac{\ell^2}{r^2} \left(-f(r) dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{f(r)} + d\vec{x}^2 \right),$$

$$f(r) = 1 - \frac{m^2 r^2}{2} - \left(1 - \frac{m^2 r_h^2}{2} \right) \frac{r^3}{r_h^3}, \quad \psi_I = m \delta_{li} x^i$$

- Emergent $\text{AdS}_2 \times \mathbb{R}^2$ geometry

$$r = r_e - \epsilon \frac{r_e^2}{3\zeta}, \quad r_h = r_e - \epsilon \frac{r_e^2}{3\zeta_h}, \quad t = \epsilon^{-1} \tau, \quad r_e = \frac{\sqrt{6}}{m}$$

- Analogous results for other spacetimes, eg Reissner-Nordström.

- Probe gauge field

$$S = - \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \frac{1}{4} F^2$$

- Gauge field perturbation

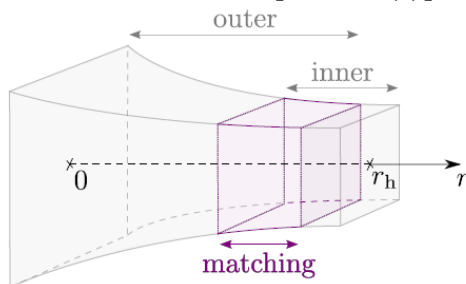
$$\delta A_\mu = e^{-i(\omega t - kx)} a_\mu(r), \quad E_x = \omega a_x(r) + k a_t(r)$$

- Perturbation equation

$$\left[\frac{f(r) E'_x}{\omega^2 - k^2 f(r)} \right]' + \frac{1}{f(r)} E_x = 0$$

Matching calculation

$$\left[\frac{f(r)E'_x}{\omega^2 - k^2 f(r)} \right]' + \frac{1}{f(r)} E_x = 0$$



- Outer region

$$r^2 \omega^2 / f^2, r^2 k^2 / f \ll 1$$

- Inner region

$$\zeta / r_e, \zeta_h / r_e \gtrsim \epsilon$$

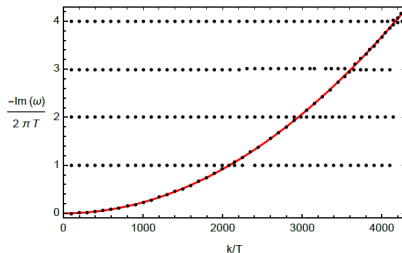
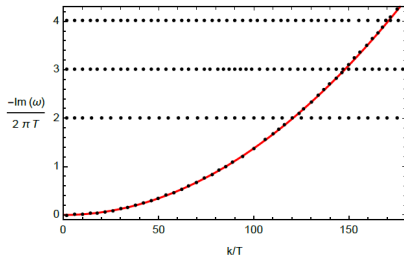
- Expand perturbation equation in both regions.

[CREDIT: C. SUPLOT]

- Solve in each region: inner solution, outer solution.
- Expand ingoing wave condition order by order in ϵ :

$$\delta A_\mu \sim e^{-i\omega(t+r^*)}, \quad r^*(r) = \int_0^r \frac{dr_1}{f(r_1)}$$

Backreaction?



[AREAN ET AL'20]

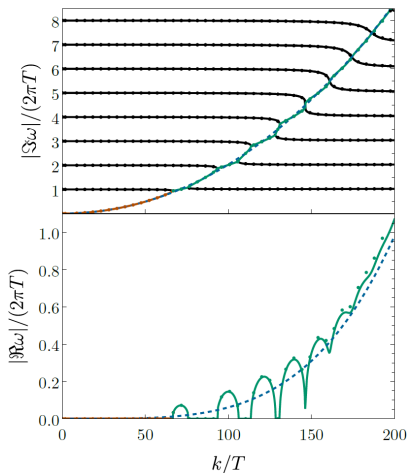
- Leading order result from matching [DAVISON & PARNACHEV'13]

$$\omega_{\perp}(k, T=0) = -iD_{\eta}(T=0)k^2 + O(k^4)$$

- Next-order correction, small temperature correction: WIP.
- Non-analytic contributions? [MOITRA ET AL, 2005.00016; C. YUE'S TALK]
- (Yukawa-)SYK models?

Summary and outlook

$$G_{JJ}^R = \frac{\omega^2 (1 - k^2 \mathcal{G}/3)}{i\omega + \frac{k^2}{6} (4\pi T + 2(k^2 + i\omega)\mathcal{G} + 3k^2 \log 3 - 6)}, \quad (\omega, k, T) = r_e(\omega, k, T)$$



$$\mathcal{G} = \pi \cot \left(\frac{i\omega}{2T} \right) + \gamma + \psi \left(\frac{i\omega}{2\pi T} \right) - \log \left(\frac{9}{4\pi T} \right),$$

- Result valid at $0 \ll r_e T \ll 1$: EFT for scales all the way to $1/r_e$?
- Construct holographic effective action
[NICKEL & SON, 1009.3094; DAVISON ET AL, 2210.14802]:
Identification of emergent symmetry.
- Backreaction? Impact of Schwarzian action on $T = 0$ gapless modes?