

# Introduction to AdS/CFT research

YSW Ringberg 2014

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# take home message

AdS/CFT is a duality between a gravity theory and a quantum field theory • it can be used to study strongly coupled phenomena

# holographic principle

't Hooft, Susskind '90s

- . ordinary system without gravity in d-dim. space-time

$$S_{\max} \sim \text{volume} \sim L^{d-1}$$

- . this is not the case in a gravitating system, because they contain black holes!



the maximal entropy in a region of volume  $V$  is given by the entropy of the biggest black hole that fits in  $V$

# holographic principle

't Hooft, Susskind '90s

- . the black hole's entropy scales with the area of its event horizon

$$S_{\text{bh}} = \frac{\text{area of horizon}}{4G_{\text{N}}}$$

- . therefore in a gravitating system


$$S_{\text{max}} \sim \text{area} \sim L^{d-2}$$

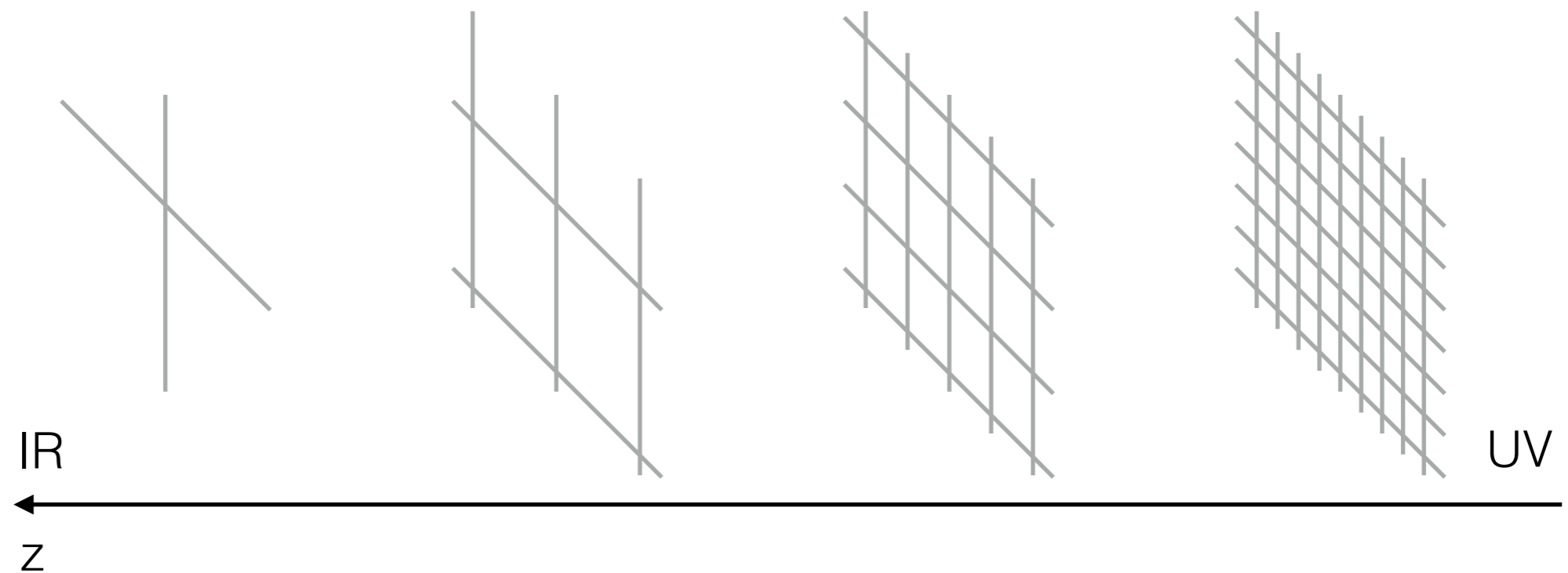
the information contained in a  $d+1$  dimensional gravitating system can be encoded in its  $d$  dimensional boundary described by an ordinary quantum field theory

# QFT with an extra dimension

what is the extra dimension from a QFT perspective?



energy scale of the system



renormalization group flow

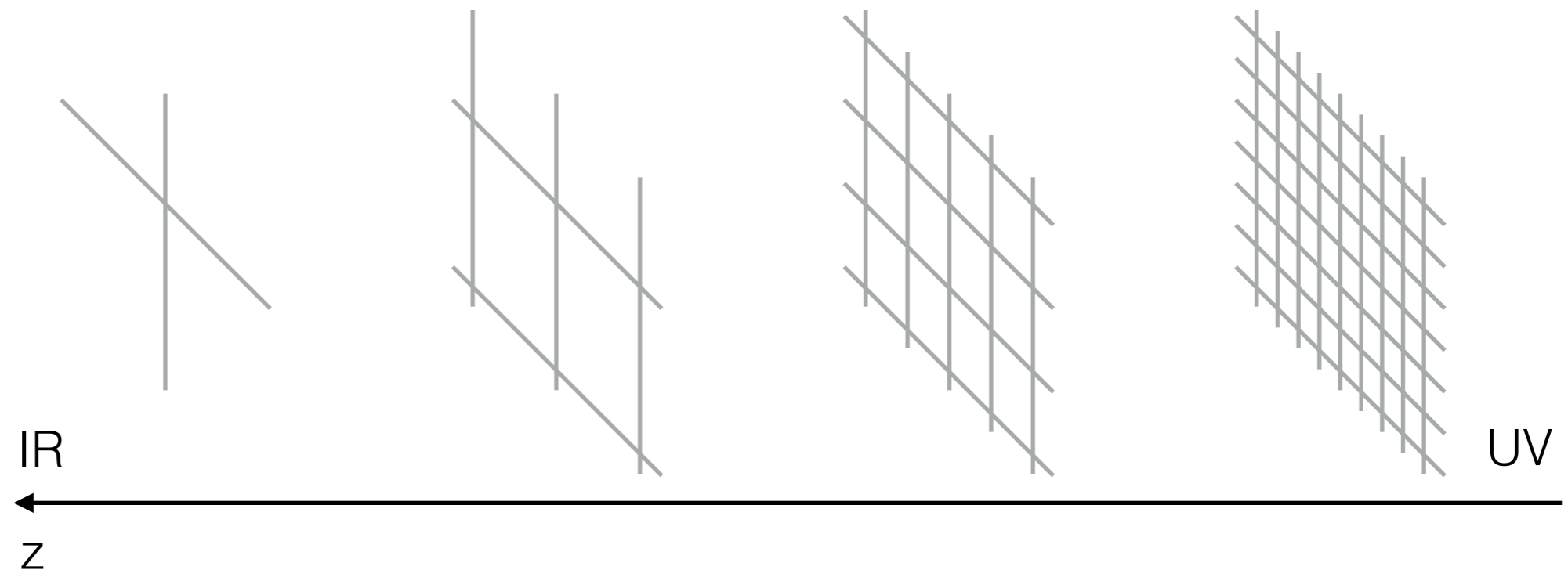
$$\frac{dg(z)}{dz} = -\beta_g(g(z))$$

# explicit realisation: AdS/CFT

- . what is a conformal field theory? a field theory with conformal symmetry!
- . translation • boost • special conformal transf. • scaling

$$\hookrightarrow \frac{dg(z)}{dz} = -\beta_g(g(z)) \equiv 0$$

- . associated symmetry group is  $SO(d,2)$



# explicit realisation: AdS/CFT

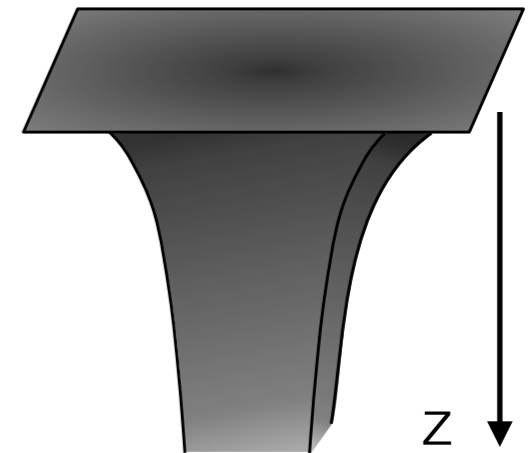
- Anti-de-Sitter space-time

- embedding of  $\text{AdS}_{d+1}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^{d+2}$

$$L^2 = X_0^2 + X_{d+1}^2 - \sum_{i=1}^d X_i^2$$



isometry group:  $\text{SO}(d,2)$



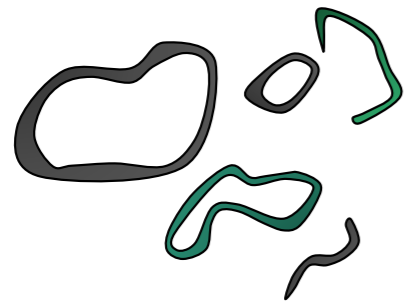
- the metric of  $\text{AdS}_{d+1}$  is given by

$$ds^2 = \frac{L^2}{z^2} (-dt^2 + dx_1^2 + \dots + dx_{d-1}^2 + dz^2)$$

- 'sequence of Minkowski space-times at different scales'

# explicit realisation: AdS/CFT

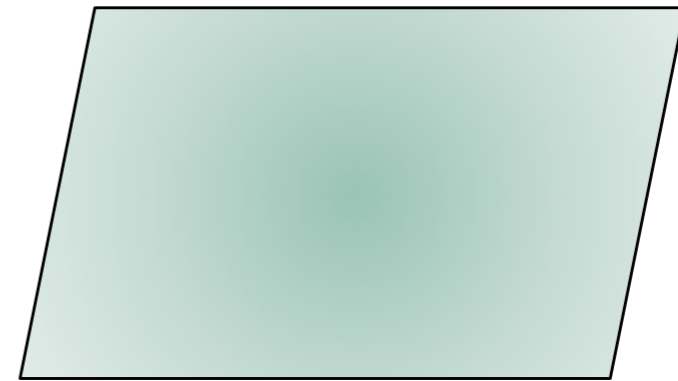
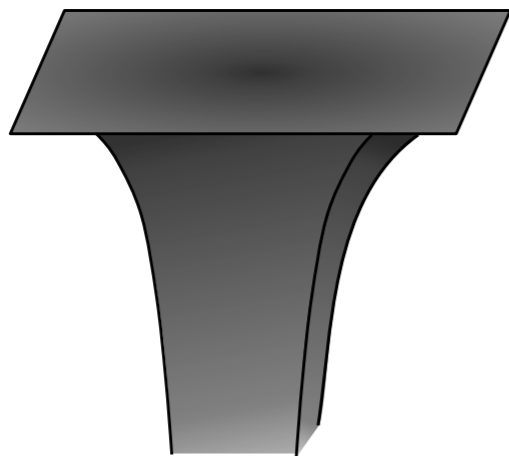
Maldacena '97



2 interpretations  
of D-Branes



special limit



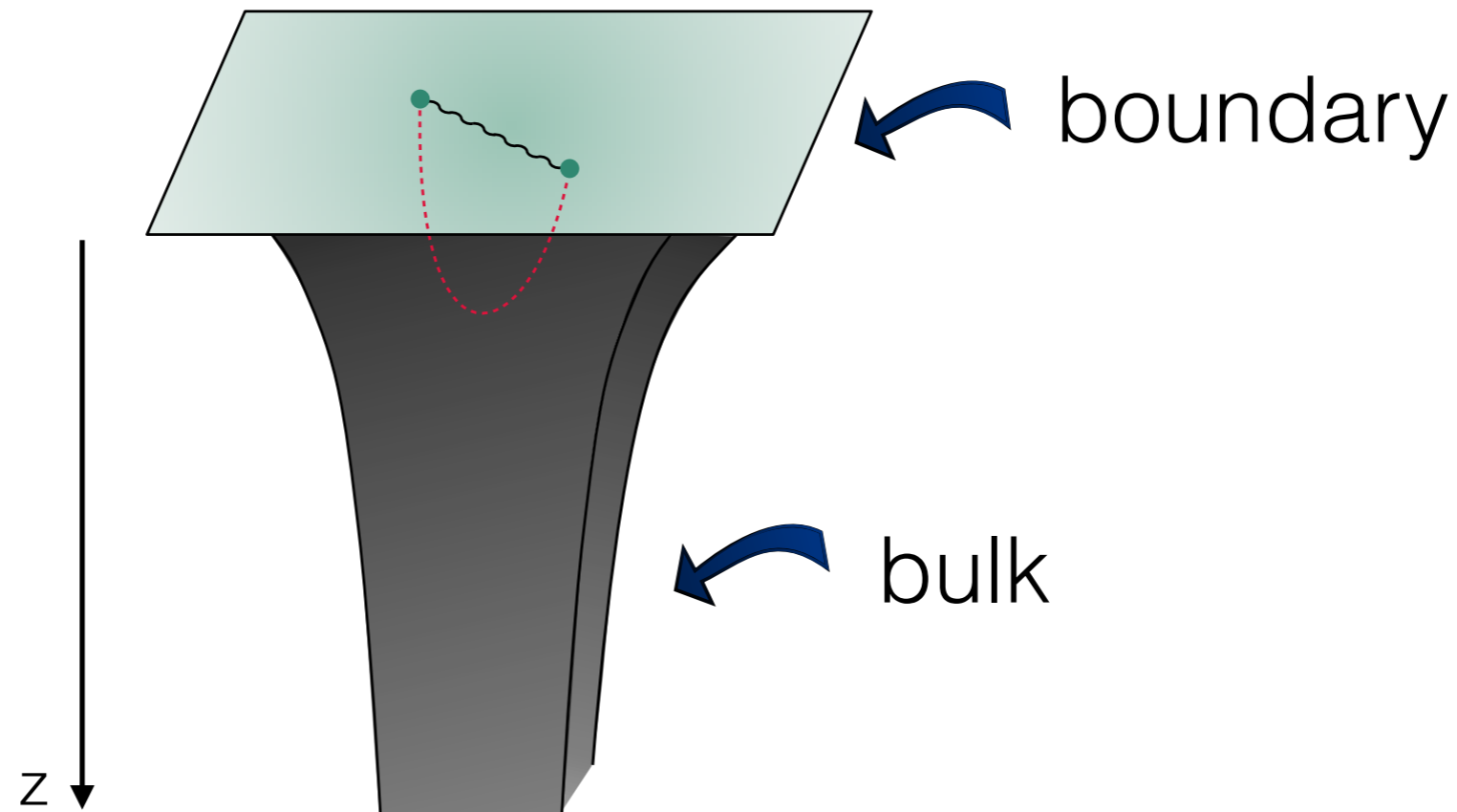
Anti-de-Sitter space-time  
weakly coupled, 5 dim  
IIB supergravity on AdS

conformal field theory  
 $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM, gauge group  $SU(N)$   
strongly coupled, 4 dim



# explicit realisation: AdS/CFT

Maldacena '97



- . isometry group of AdS = conformal symmetry group
- . identify the two partition functions

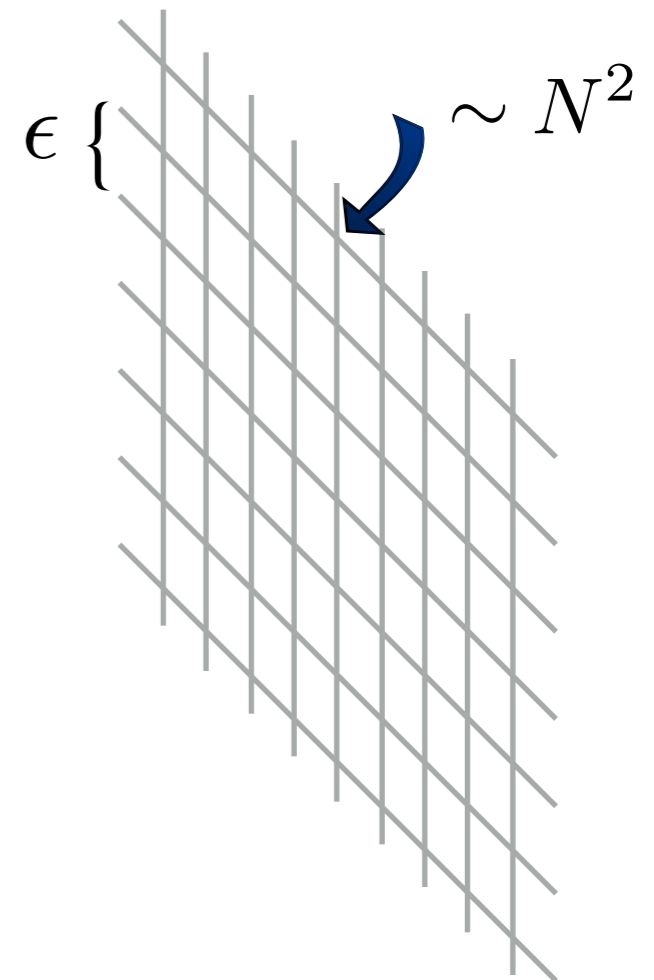
$$\exp(iS_{\text{AdS}}) = Z_{\text{AdS}} \equiv Z_{\text{CFT}} = \int \mathcal{D}\phi \exp(iS_{\text{CFT}})$$

# # degrees of freedom

CFT in  $\mathbb{R}^{1,d-1}$

- . SU(N) gauge theory has  $N^2-1$  dof's at each point
- . introduce cutoff  $\epsilon$
- . entropy as a measure of dof's

$$S_{\max} \sim N^2 \left( \frac{R}{\epsilon} \right)^{d-1}$$



# # degrees of freedom

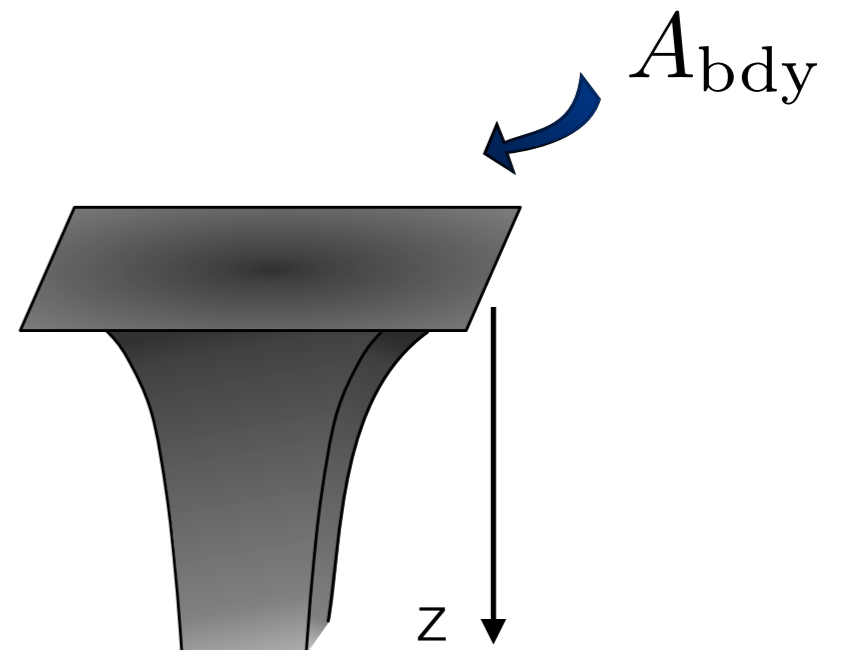
gravity in  $\text{AdS}_{d+1}$

. entropy of a gravitating system is proportional to  $A_{\text{bdy}}$

$$A_{\text{bdy}} = \int_{\text{bdy}} dx^{d-1} \sqrt{-g} = \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{LR}{z} \right)^{d-1} \sim \left( \frac{LR}{\epsilon} \right)^{d-1}$$


. cutoff  $\epsilon$

$$S_{\text{max}} \sim \frac{L^{d-1}}{4G_{\text{N}}} \left( \frac{R}{\epsilon} \right)^{d-1}$$



# # degrees of freedom

$$S_{\text{max, AdS}} \sim \frac{L^{d-1}}{4G_{\text{N}}} \left(\frac{R}{\epsilon}\right)^{d-1}$$
$$S_{\text{max, CFT}} \sim N^2 \left(\frac{R}{\epsilon}\right)^{d-1}$$



$$\frac{L^{d-1}}{4G_{\text{N}}} \sim N^2$$

. curvature of  $\text{AdS}_{d+1}$  is  $R_{\text{AdS}} = -\frac{d(d+1)}{L^2}$



gravity is classical ~ large N CFT

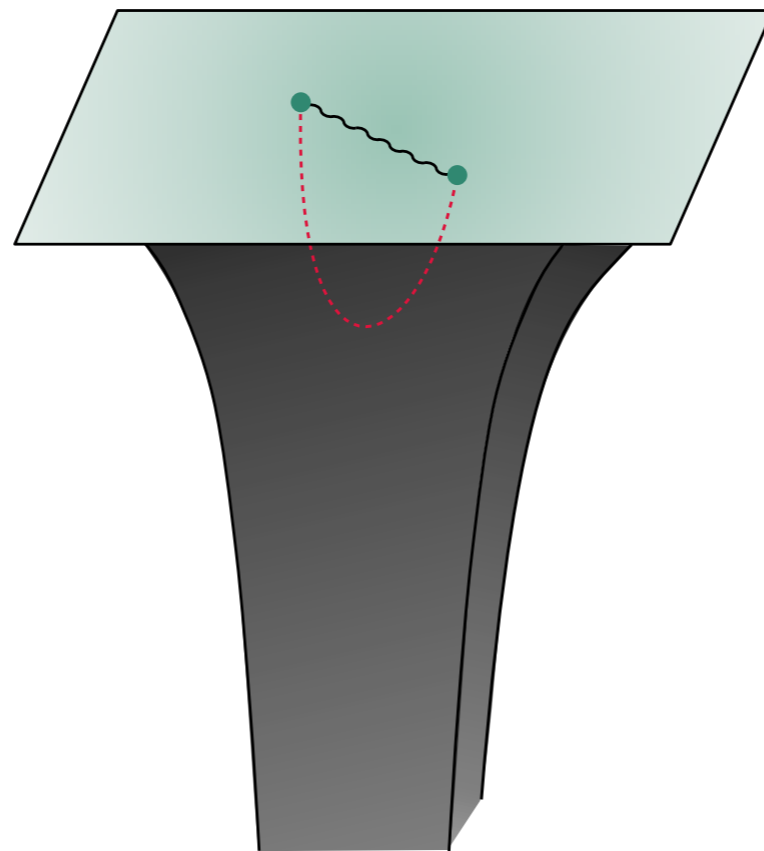
# gauge/gravity duality

gravity theory

quantum field theory

fields

operators



# gauge/gravity duality

gravity theory

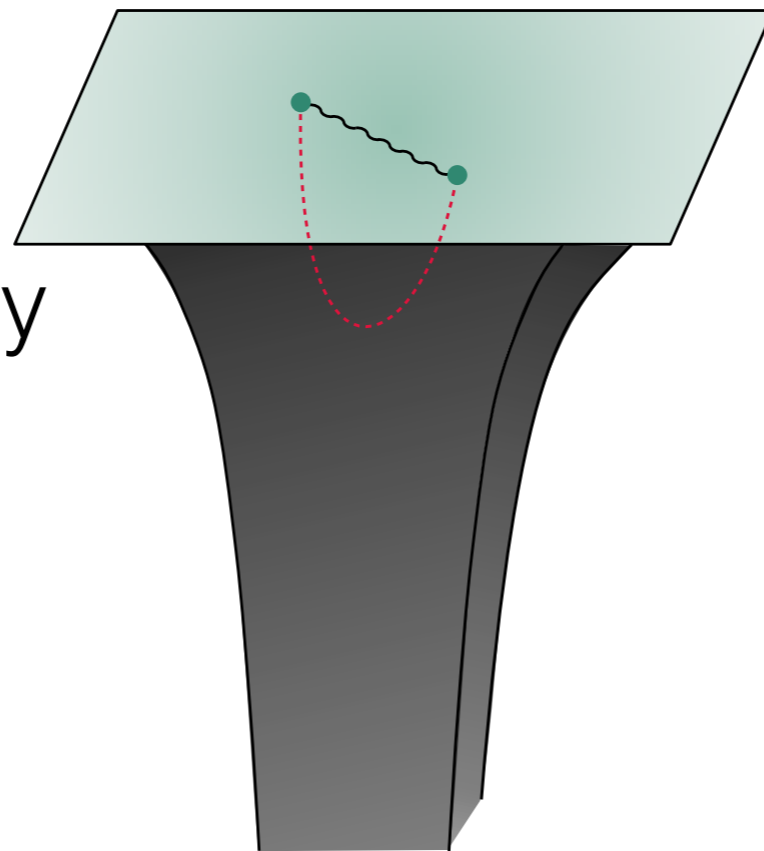
quantum field theory

fields

operators

gauge symmetry

global symmetry



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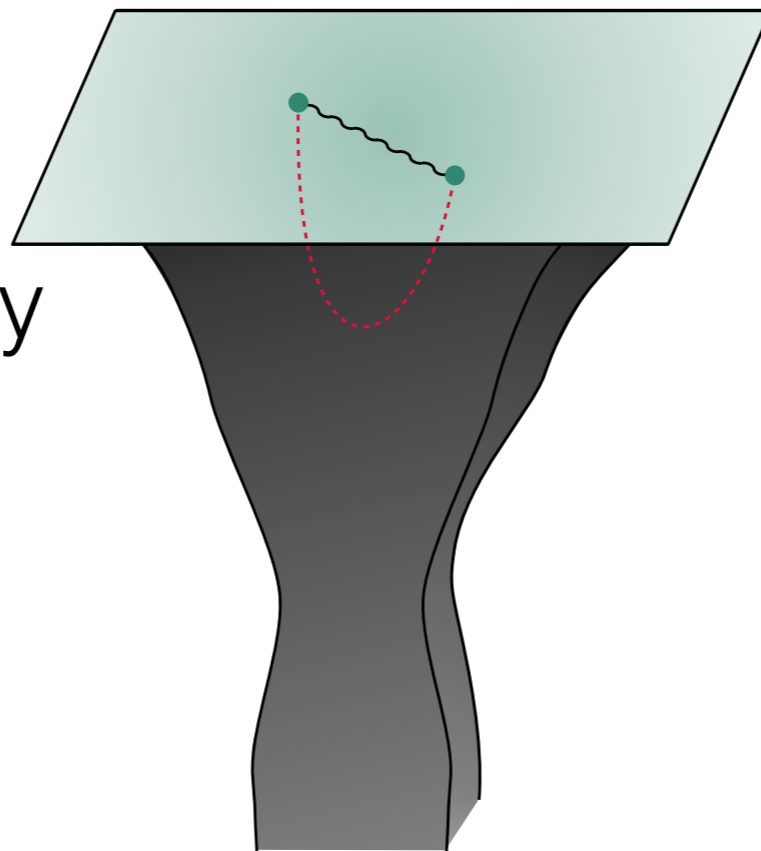
operators

gauge symmetry

global symmetry

deformation

less symmetry



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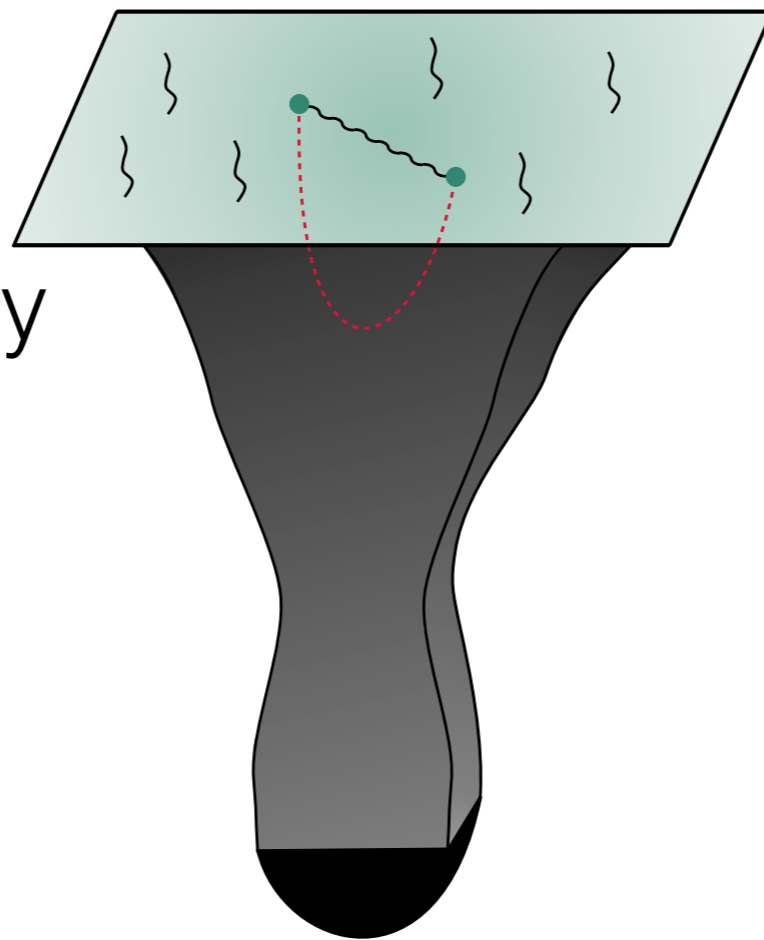
global symmetry

deformation

less symmetry

black hole

temperature





# gauge/gravity duality

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quantum field theory

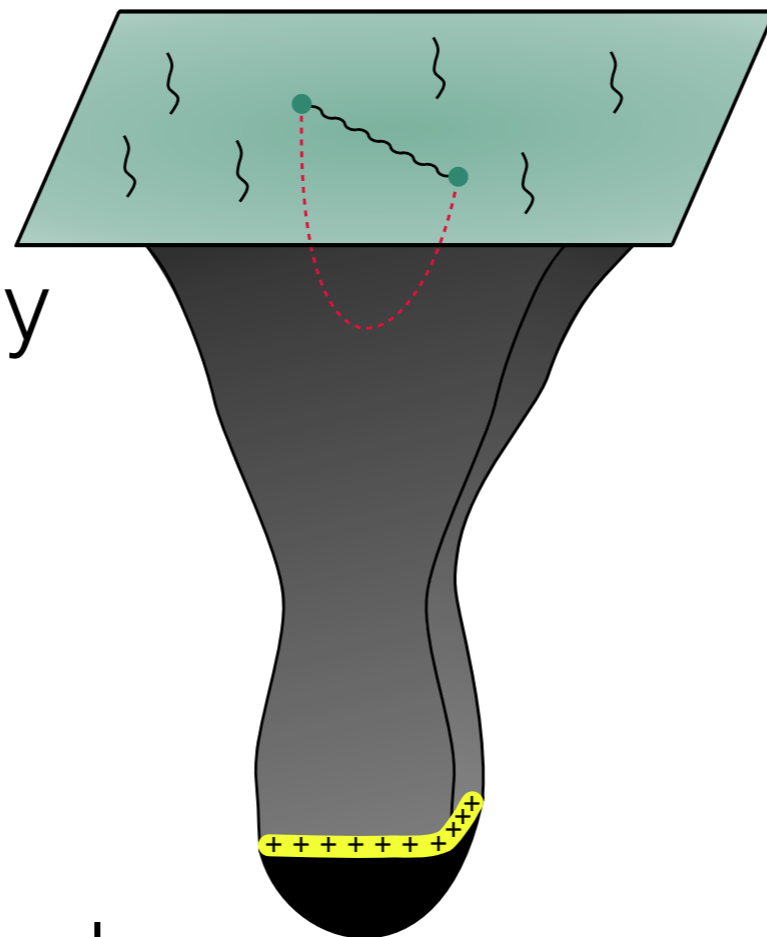
fields

gauge symmetry

deformation

black hole

charged black hole



operators

global symmetry

less symmetry

temperature

charge density

# gauge/gravity duality

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black hole

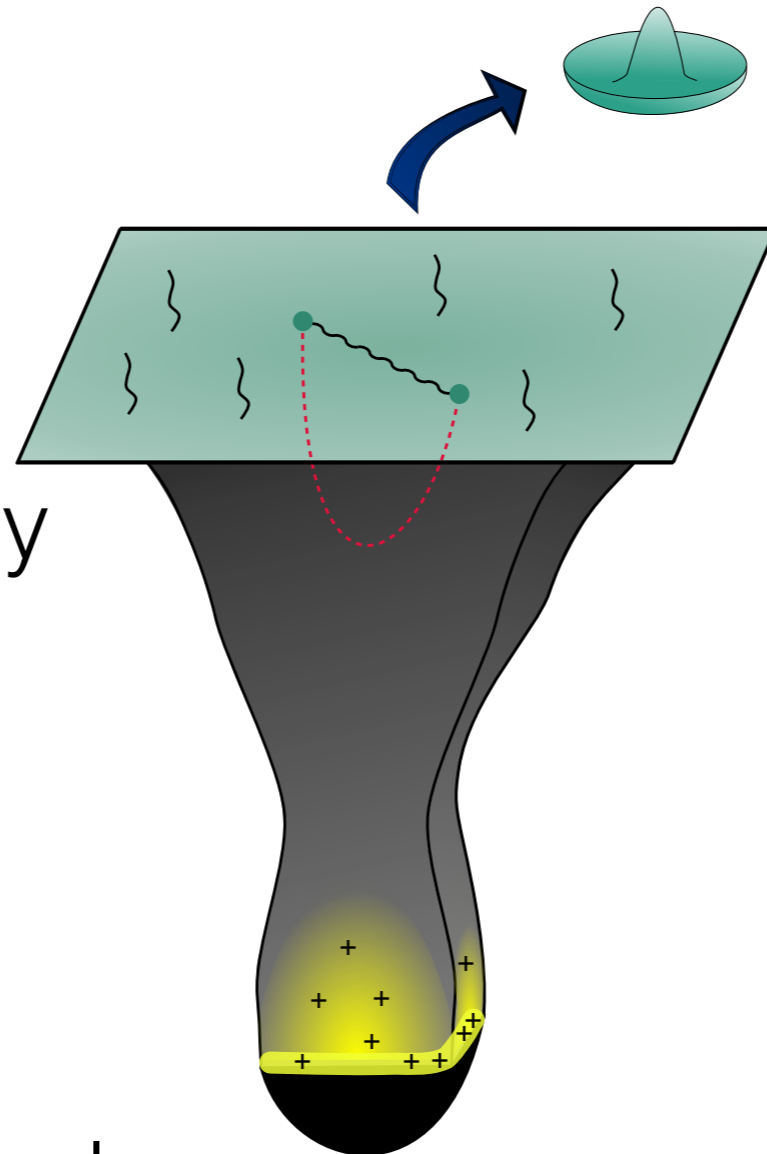
temperature

charged black hole

charge density

black hole 'hair'

SSB



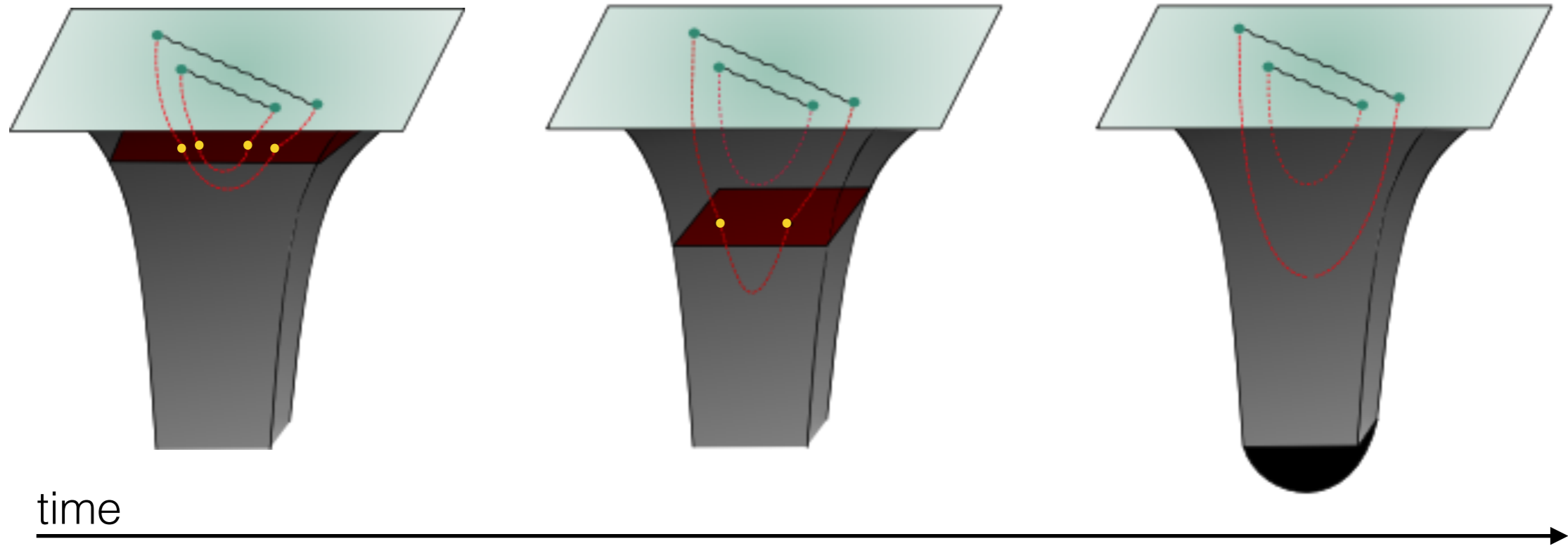
# example: thermalization

gravity theory

quantum field theory

black hole formation

thermalization



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