Gauge/Gravity Games

Ringberg2013

Gauge/Gravity Duality has many useful applications:

► Hydrodynamics

Condensed Matter

🕨 (Cosmology)

▶ Heavy Ion Collisions

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# Heavy Ion Collisions





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# Quark moving through QGP





$$\dot{p} = -\mu p + f$$
  
Friction coefficient Driving force

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# How do we calculate this?

#### Problem:

# $\blacktriangleright$ Quark-Gluon Plasma is strongly coupled: $\lambda \gg 1$

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#### Solution:

▶ Gauge/Gravity Duality!

# Holographic moving quark





AdS metric:  $ds^2 = \frac{r^2}{L^2} \left( -hdt^2 + d\vec{x}^2 \right) + \frac{L^2}{r^2} \frac{dr^2}{h} \quad \left( h(r) = 1 - \frac{r^4}{r_H^4} \right)$ 

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# String calculation



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 $\triangleright$  Start with the string action:

$$S = -T_0 \int d\tau d\sigma \sqrt{-\det g_{ab}}$$
$$= -T_0 \int dt dr \sqrt{1 + \frac{hr^4}{L^4} x'^2 - \frac{1}{h} \dot{x}^2}$$

Use the ansatz: x(t,r) = vt + x(r)

Result: 
$$\dot{p} = -\mu p$$
  $\mu = \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}T^2}{M_{\rm kin}(T)}$ 

### What about mesons?





hep-th/0605158





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Gauge/Gravity Duality can also model colliding nuclei.



Describe an ultra-relativistic nucleus travelling in the z direction with the energy density:

$$E = T_{tt} = \delta(t - z)\rho(x, y)$$





# Colliding gravitational waves



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# After collision, thermalize



# After collision, thermalize





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# Properties of the QGP: Conductivity



- We can calculate further properties of our (N=4 SYM) QGP, even ones that are hard to test in experiment (after all, we are theorists!)
- We can find how it responds to electric fields its conductivity.

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To do this, take an electric field, poke it and measure the response:  $\sim e^{-i\omega t} \vec{E}(\omega)$ 



# Phase diagram



Finding the conductivity was one of the things that helped in determining the phase diagram below of a  $(\mathcal{N} = 2 \text{ SYM}) \text{ QGP}$  at finite density and temperature.



Erdmenger, Kaminski, Kerner, Rust: arXiv:0807.2663

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#### More exotic games



> We saw that a strong chemical potential can turn our system into a superconductor. What does a strong magnetic field do?

It turns out that a magnetic field can do strange things to the vacuum of the theory. When strong enough, it causes  $\rho$ -mesons to emerge!



# A surprising ground state

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And the  $\rho$ -mesons emerge in a surprising pattern. The ground state is a triangular Abrikosov lattice!



If this applies to QCD as well, there is a small chance that we may see it at the LHC in highly off-center collisions where very strong magnetic fields are present.





**Kingberg** 

With Gauge/Gravity Duality, we saw that we can...

- > ...make a quark drag through the ( $\mathcal{N}$ = 4 SYM) QGP.
- ...examine the behaviour of a meson in the ( $\mathcal{N}$ = 4 SYM) QGP.
- ...make two nuclei collide using a model of colliding gravitational waves.
- …calculate the conductivity and phase diagram.
- …explore more exotic effects with magnetic fields.
- ▶ …and much more!



Thank you!