

## Holographic d-wave superconductors

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# Introduction

In the last decade a *new conceptual framework* for quantum gravity has emerged:

**Holography** Any quantum theory of gravity should have a description in terms of a quantum field theory (QFT), *without gravity*, in one dimension less.

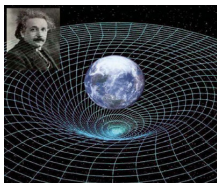
# Implications of holography

- 1 **Fundamental paradigm:** **Quantum gravity** emerges from conceptually well-understood field theories akin to QCD, with no gravity.
- 2 **Tool:** **Strongly correlated theories** can be solved using weakly interacting gravity in one higher dimension!

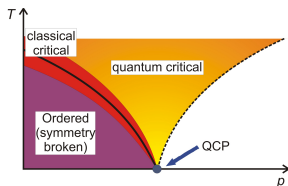


# Tool: modeling quantum critical points

- Much recent interest in engineering geometries to model **quantum critical points**.



Find geometries with the right properties to model....



(non)-Fermi liquids, (non) relativistic scale invariant systems, cold atoms, **high  $T_c$  superconductivity**....



# References

- “Holographic d-wave superconductors” with K-y. Kim and K. Skenderis, to appear.



- **Holographic superconductors**
- A new top down approach
- Example: holographic d-wave superconductors



# Holographic superconductors

**Strong correlations** are thought relevant for unconventional superconductors.

But how could we describe superconductors holographically using **AdS/CFT**?



# Holographic superconductors: ingredients

The gravity background must have the following features:

- 1 **Temperature:** black hole in bulk.
- 2 **Conserved  $U(1)$  current:** gauge field  $A_\mu$  in bulk.
- 3 **Finite density/doping:** chemical potential  $\mu$ .
- 4 **Order parameter:** e.g. charged scalar field  $\phi$  in bulk.





# Basic bottom up model

Consider bulk Lagrangian (Gubser; HHH):

$$S = \int d^{d+1}x \sqrt{-g} \left( R - \frac{1}{4} F^2 - |D\phi|^2 - V(\phi) \right).$$

- Above critical temperature  $T_c$ : Reissner-Nordstrom black hole.
- Below  $T_c$ : black hole **with scalar hair** is thermodynamically preferred.
- Scalar hair corresponds in dual theory to **symmetry breaking operator** acquiring expectation value.



# Condensed phase in probe approximation

Consider scalar/gauge field as perturbations around AdS-Schwarzschild background:

$$ds^2 = \frac{1}{r^2} \left( - \left( 1 - \frac{r^d}{r_h^d} \right) dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{\left( 1 - \frac{r^d}{r_h^d} \right)} + dx \cdot dx \right).$$

- Above  $T_c$ ,  $\phi = 0$  and  $A = \mu \left( 1 - \frac{r^{d-2}}{r_h^{d-2}} \right) dt$ .
- Below  $T_c$ , preferred phase has non-trivial profile

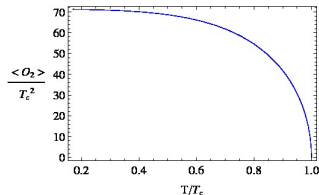
$$\phi(r) \quad A_t(r)$$

with scalar field concentrated near horizon  $r = r_h$ .



# Holographic superconductors

- The **operator**  $\mathcal{O}_2$  dual to the bulk scalar  $\phi$  acquires an expectation value below  $T_c$ .
- This vev acts as an **order parameter** for the  $U(1)$  symmetry breaking in  $d$ -dimensional field theory.
- There is a second order phase transition at  $T_c$ .



# Holographic superconductors

- The **superconducting phase** is modeled by **black hole hair**.
- Usually "black holes have no hair" but this is not true for AdS black holes.
- The hair characterizes **long range order** in the superconductor.

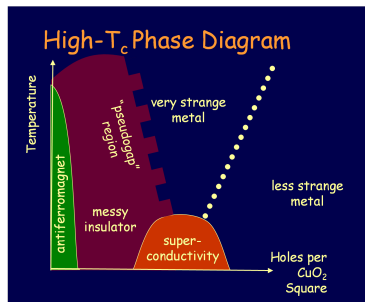


# Limitations to bottom up modeling

Simple Lagrangian captures key features but:

- 1 Lagrangian parameters e.g. scalar **potential** are arbitrary.
- 2 Insufficient for analyzing full **phase structure** and stability.
- 3 Unconventional superconductors are typically **anisotropic**, exhibiting **p-wave** and **d-wave** superconductivity.

# Strange metals and superconductors



(TCM, Cambridge)

- Different **bottom up geometries** can model holographically parts of the phase diagram.
- E.g. **Lifshitz geometries** can model strange metal phases (Hartnoll et al, 2010).
- Challenge is to capture all of the diagram in one model.



# Outline

- Holographic superconductors
- **A new top down approach**
- Example: holographic d-wave superconductors



# Top down approach: consistent truncation

The standard top down approach relies on consistent truncation:

- Reduce and **consistently truncate** 10/11d supergravity on **Sasaki-Einstein** manifold.
- **Truncated** lower-dimensional theory reproduces Lagrangians given earlier.

However:

- Other **Kaluza-Klein modes** are set to zero, obscuring stability analysis and phase structure.





# Consistent truncation is not always possible!

- To model a **d-wave superconductor** it is natural to use a massive charged spin two field  $\phi_{\mu\nu}$  (Benini et al, 2010):

$$\begin{aligned} S = \int d^{d+1}x \sqrt{-g} & [-|D_\rho \phi_{\mu\nu}|^2 + 2|D_\mu \phi^{\mu\nu}|^2 + |D_\mu \phi|^2 \\ & - [D_\mu \phi^{*\mu\nu} D_\nu \phi + \text{c.c.}] - m^2 (|\phi_{\mu\nu}|^2 - |\phi|^2) \\ & + 2R_{\mu\nu\rho\lambda} \phi^{*\mu\rho} \phi^{\nu\lambda} - R_{\mu\nu} \phi^{*\mu\lambda} \phi^\nu_\lambda - \frac{1}{d+1} R |\phi|^2 \\ & - 2igq F_{\mu\nu} \phi^{*\mu\lambda} \phi^\nu_\lambda - \frac{1}{4} F^2] \end{aligned}$$

with  $m$  mass,  $q$   $U(1)$  charge and  $g$  gyromagnetic ratio.

- Such an action, with a finite number of terms, cannot arise from consistent truncation: **no-go theorems** for massive spin two.



# New framework: Kaluza-Klein holography

Work directly with 10d/11d solutions, extracting field theory data with Kaluza-Klein holography techniques.  
(Skenderis and M.T., 2006)

# Kaluza-Klein holography: main idea

- 1 Consider any 10/11d asymptotically  $AdS \times SE$  (Sasaki-Einstein) solution.
- 2 Near the **conformal boundary** express the solution as  $AdS \times SE$  plus corrections, e.g.

$$ds^2 = ds_{AdS}^2(x^\mu) + ds_{SE}^2(y^a) + h_{mn}(x^\mu, y^a) dx^m dx^n$$

for the **metric perturbations**  $h_{mn}$ .

- 3 Express the perturbations in terms of SE **harmonics**, e.g.

$$h_{\mu\nu} = \sum h^I_{\mu\nu}(x^\mu) Y^I(y^a),$$

using scalar harmonics  $Y^I(y^a)$ .



# Kaluza-Klein holography: main idea

- Each **Kaluza-Klein mode** has a **mass** in AdS, related to the degree of the scalar harmonic.
- Recall the **gauge** group in AdS corresponds to the **isometry** group of the SE.
- The **charges** of the Kaluza-Klein modes correspond to the charges of **harmonics** under the Killing vectors of the SE.
- Note that  $h^I_{\mu\nu}$  correspond to **massive spin two** modes in AdS.



# Kaluza-Klein holography: dual field theory

- Expressing the AdS metric as

$$ds^2 = \frac{dr^2}{r^2} + \frac{dx^i dx^i}{r^2}$$

with the conformal boundary as  $r \rightarrow 0$ , for each Kaluza-Klein mode we can look at the **asymptotic expansion** near  $r \rightarrow 0$  and read off the dual field theory data.

- For example, for a scalar mode  $\varphi$  dual to an operator of dimension  $\Delta$  then

$$\varphi \sim r^{d-\Delta}(\varphi_s + \mathcal{O}(r)) \\ + r^\Delta(\tilde{\varphi} + \mathcal{O}(r)),$$

with  $\varphi_s$  the **source for the operator** and its **vev** related to  $\tilde{\varphi}$ .



# Kaluza-Klein holography

Consider for definiteness the case of  $AdS_5 \times S^5$ .

- The effective 5d action involves an **infinite number of KK modes**, interacting with each other.
- **Q:** So how can one work with this action, without consistently truncating?
- **A:** To extract **holographic information** about an operator of given dimension, one needs only retain a **finite number** of fields, dual to operators of this dimension or less.



# Kaluza-Klein holography

Any **Kaluza-Klein mode**, including massive spin two fields, can be switched on, with the relevant effective action systematically determined, iteratively!

- Holographic superconductors
- A new top down approach
- **Example: holographic d-wave superconductors**



# Holographic d-wave superconductors

Consider probe limit around Schwarzschild  $AdS_5 \times S^5$ :

- 1 Switch on **metric perturbation**  $h_{\mu\nu} = \phi_{\mu\nu}(x^\mu) Y^I(\theta)$ , corresponding to a **massive spin two**.
- 2 Switch on **metric/five form** perturbations  $A_\mu Y^a(\theta)$ , with  $Y^a$  a Killing vector of  $S^5$ , corresponding to 5d **gauge field**.
- 3 The spin two field  $\phi_{\mu\nu}$  is **charged** under this gauge field.

Similarly analysis for Schwarzschild  $AdS_4 \times S^7$ , for dual three-dimensional theory.



# Reduced action

- The effective action for these fields is

$$\begin{aligned} S = \int d^5x \sqrt{-g} & [-|D_\rho \phi_{\mu\nu}|^2 + 2|D_\mu \phi^{\mu\nu}|^2 + |D_\mu \phi|^2 \\ & - [D_\mu \phi^{*\mu\nu} D_\nu \phi + \text{c.c.}] - m^2 (|\phi_{\mu\nu}|^2 - |\phi|^2) \\ & - 2igq F_{\mu\nu} \phi^{*\mu\lambda} \phi_\lambda^\nu - \frac{1}{4} F^2 + \dots] \end{aligned}$$

with  $m$  mass,  $q$   $U(1)$  charge and  $g$  gyromagnetic ratio all **determined** by the 10d equations.



# Condensate phase

Recall the AdS-Schwarzschild background:

$$ds^2 = \frac{1}{r^2} \left( - \left( 1 - \frac{r^d}{r_h^d} \right) dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{\left( 1 - \frac{r^d}{r_h^d} \right)} + dx \cdot dx \right).$$

- Above  $T_C$ ,  $\phi_{\mu\nu} = 0$  and  $A = \mu \left( 1 - \frac{r^{d-2}}{r_h^{d-2}} \right) dt$ .
- Below  $T_C$ , there is a condensed phase

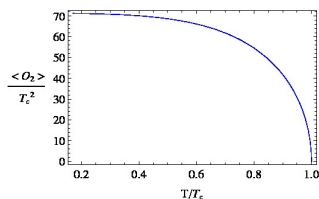
$$\phi_{xy}(r) \quad A_t(r)$$

with the spin two field breaking the **spatial isotropy**.



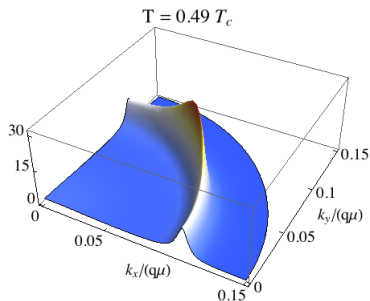
# Holographic d-wave superconductors

- The operator  $\mathcal{O}_{xy}$  acquires an expectation value below  $T_C$ .
- This vev acts as an order parameter for the  $U(1)$  symmetry breaking and the breaking of isotropy in dual 4 dimensional field theory.



# ARPES spectra

- One can also compute **fermionic correlation functions** in the condensed background.
- These relate to experimentally measured **ARPES spectra**.
- **Fermi arcs** in top down models?



# Summary

- **Anisotropic superconducting phases** are holographically modeled by **anisotropic black hole hair**.
- Massive **spin two KK** excitations are condensed in d-wave superfluids.
- Switching on other KK excitations, such as **massive vectors**, can produce a rich landscape of p-wave and other phases.



# Outlook and challenges

- 1 How well do our top down d-wave models match with **unconventional superconductors**?
- 2 Can one obtain a **realistic** superconductor phase diagram, using other KK modes?
- 3 Holographic systems are always **large  $N$** : beyond classical gravity?
- 4 Always **superfluid**: global  $U(1)$  needs to be weakly gauged.

