

η/s Corrections from Near-extremal, Near-horizon Quantum Fluctuations

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[Goutéraux, Ramirez, CS (2512.19642v2)]



Interacting theories at $T > 0$

AdS/CFT – large N , strong coupling

Thermal states $\overset{\text{dual}}{\longleftrightarrow}$ Black Hole in AdS

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↓ KK reduction

JT gravity

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SYK $\overset{\text{dual}}{\longleftrightarrow}$ JT gravity

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Schwarzian

Deviation from extremality with correction from Schwarzian

$$\langle S \rangle = \underbrace{S_0 + 4\pi^2 CT}_{\text{semi-classical}} + \frac{3}{2} \log CT + \dots$$

$$S_0 = \frac{\text{Vol}(\mathbb{T}^2)}{4\ell_{\text{P}}^2} \frac{L^2}{r_e^2},$$

extremal BH entropy

$$C = \frac{\text{Vol}(\mathbb{T}^2)}{24\pi\ell_{\text{P}}^2} \frac{L^2}{r_e}$$

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Natural question:

- What about out-of-equilibrium properties?

↪ hydrodynamics

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Fluid/Gravity correspondence [Rangamani 0905.4352]

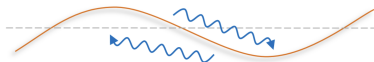
Low-energy excitations of an aAdSBH = those of hydrodynamics

Hydrodynamics

Late-time, long-distance effective description at $T \neq 0$



(a)



(b)

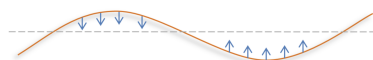
Credit: [Glorioso & Liu '18]

(a) non-protected operators \Rightarrow decay locally

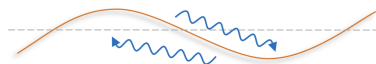
(b) conserved operators \Rightarrow relax through transport

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Enhanced regime of validity of hydro for NEBH

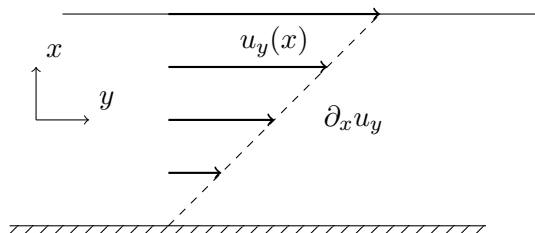
$$\omega \ll T, \quad k \ll \sqrt{T/r_e} \quad (\text{instead of } \omega, k \ll T)$$

[Araon et al. 2011.12301, Goutéraux et al. 2506.11974]

A transport coefficient: shear viscosity η

Shear viscosity = resistance to flow

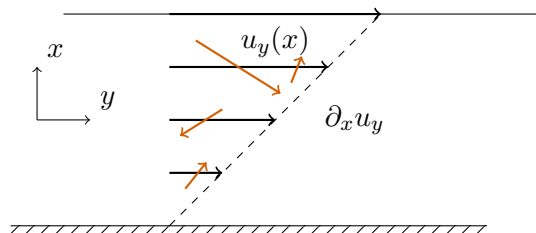
Couette flow



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momentum transfer between the layers

$\Rightarrow u_y(x)$ tends to become uniform

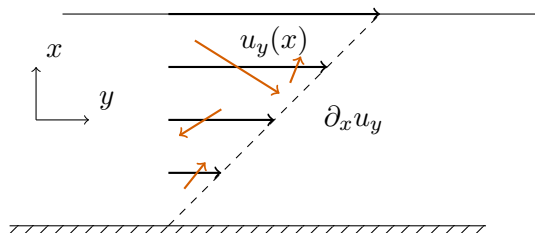
Shear Diffusion

$$\delta T^{xy} = -\eta \partial_x u_y$$

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Continuity eq.:

$$\partial_t T^{ty} + \partial_x \overset{\text{shear stress}}{\underset{\text{momentum density}}{\dot{T}^{xy}}} = 0$$

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Shear Diffusion

$$\delta T^{xy} = -\eta \partial_x u_y = -\underbrace{\frac{\eta}{\varepsilon + p}}_{D_\perp} \partial_x \delta T^{ty} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \left[\partial_t - D_\perp \partial_x^2 \right] \delta T^{xy} = 0$$

▷ **Transverse sector** natural object of interest

$$G_{xy,xy}^R(t-t', \mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}') = -i\theta(t-t') \langle [T_{xy}(t, \mathbf{x}), T_{xy}(t', \mathbf{x}')] \rangle$$

Solution (at leading order in ∂) to

$$\left[\partial_t - D_{\perp} \nabla^2 \right] G_{xy,xy}^R(t-t', \mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}') = \delta(t-t') \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}')$$

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Fourier space: $\omega, k \ll T$, $\mathbf{k} = k\mathbf{e}_x$ (in 2+1)

$$G_{xy,xy}^R(\omega, k) = \frac{\eta \omega^2}{i\omega - D_{\perp} k^2}$$

Shear diffusion governed by a hydro mode: $\omega_{\perp} = -iD_{\perp} k^2 + \dots$

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Shear viscosity

$$\text{Kubo formula: } \eta = -\lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\omega} \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \Im G_{xy,xy}^R(\omega, k)$$

A minimal viscosity

- ▷ To compute η : need a microscopic theory

Semi-classical holography $\overset{\text{dual}}{\longleftrightarrow}$ large N , strongly coupled QFT

$$\boxed{\frac{\eta}{s} = \frac{\hbar}{4\pi k_B}}$$

“Universal result”

For large class of translation and rotation invariant two-derivative gravity theories

[Kovtun et al. '03, Cremonini '11]

An example of **Planckian dissipation**

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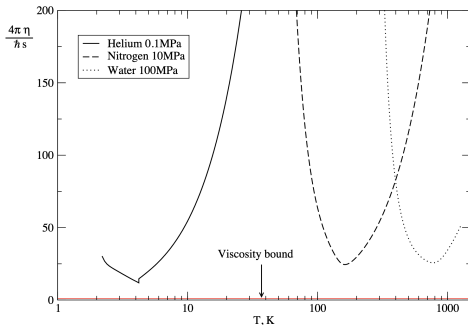
Kovtun-Son-Starinets bound [Kovtun et al. '03]

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$$\frac{\eta}{s} \geq \frac{\hbar}{4\pi k_B} \approx 6.08 \times 10^{-13} \text{ K} \cdot \text{s}$$

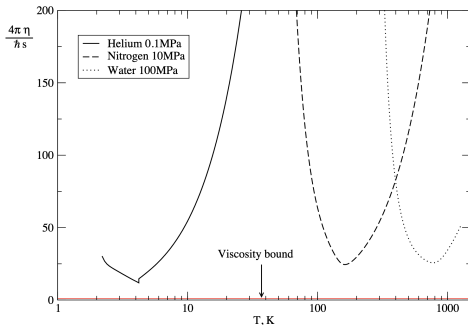


Credit: [Kovtun et al. '05]

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Credit: [Kovtun et al. '05]

- water at STP:
380 times larger
- liquid He at 4K:
9 times larger
- Cold atoms and QGP satisfy the bound

Quantify the effect of the Schwarzian fluctuations:

- A type of $1/N$ corrections to transport coefficients
- Change in the spectrum of low-energy excitations

Near-extremal hydrodynamics

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$$\frac{\langle \eta \rangle}{s_0} > \frac{1}{4\pi}$$

as expected by [Empanan 2501.17470]

Holographic set-up: AdS–Reissner–Nordström

{Relativistic fluid charged under a global U(1) symmetry}

Holographic \Updownarrow dual

4D Einstein–Maxwell theory

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{EM}} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{R + 6/L^2}{2\kappa^2} - \frac{F^2}{4g_F^2} \right]$$

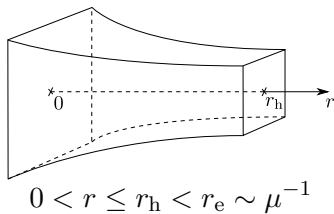
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Background solution:

$$\bar{g}_{ab} dx^a dx^b = \frac{L^2}{r^2} \left[-f(r) dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{f(r)} + \overbrace{dx^2 + dy^2} \right], \quad \bar{A}_a dx^a = \bar{A}_t(r) dt$$

$$f(r) = 1 - \frac{r^3}{r_h^3} - \frac{3r^3}{r_h r_e^2} \left(1 - \frac{r}{r_h} \right), \quad \bar{A}_t(r) = \mu \left(1 - \frac{r}{r_h} \right)$$



Holographic set-up: perturbations

What we want

$$G_{xy,xy}^R \Rightarrow \text{need } g_{xy} \leftrightarrow T_{xy}$$

$$g_{ab} = \bar{g}_{ab} + \delta g_{ab}(r)e^{-i\omega t + ikx}, \quad A_a = \bar{A}_a + \delta A_a(r)e^{-i\omega t + ikx}$$

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Transverse sector:

$$(\delta g_{ty}, \delta g_{xy}, \delta A_y) \xrightarrow[\text{combinations}]{\text{gauge invariant}} \boxed{(\Phi_+, \Phi_-)} \text{ master fields}$$

[Edalati et al., '10]

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Two decoupled equations

$$\mathcal{D}_\pm \Phi_\pm = 0$$

▷ Need to solve: $\mathcal{D}_{\pm}\Phi_{\pm} = 0$

Scaling for quadratic mode

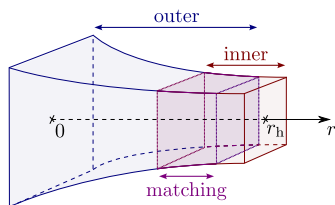
$$\epsilon \sim k^2 r_e^2 \sim \omega r_e \sim T r_e \ll 1$$

Matching procedure [Davison, Parnachev '13]

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$$\triangleleft \frac{\omega^2 r}{f f'}, \frac{k^2 r}{f'} \lesssim 1:$$

two independent modes

$$\triangleright r_h - r \ll r_h \lesssim r_e:$$

ingoing boundary condition

$$\triangleright (\omega r_e)^{2/3}, (k r_e)^2 \ll \frac{r_e - r}{r_e} \ll 1:$$

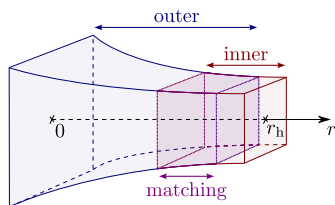
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$$G_{xy,xy}^R = -\frac{L^2}{2\kappa^2} \omega^2 G_-^R + O(\epsilon^3) = \frac{L^2}{2\kappa^2 r_e^2} \frac{\omega^2 + O(\epsilon^3)}{i\omega - \frac{r_e}{12} k^2 + O(\epsilon^2)}$$

- ▷ Interpret $i\omega$ as an inner Green's function

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Inner $\mathcal{D}_-\Phi_- = 0$: massless neutral scalar in $\text{AdS}_2 + O(\epsilon)$

↓

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Inner Green's function

$$\mathcal{G}_{\Delta=1}^R = i\omega, \quad \mathcal{G}_{\Delta=0}^R = \frac{1}{i\omega}$$

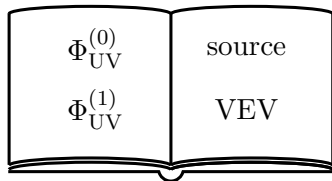
Matching and IR Green's function

Falloffs of UV and IR fields:

$$\Phi_{\text{UV}} \underset{r \rightarrow 0}{=} \Phi_{\text{UV}}^{(0)} + \Phi_{\text{UV}}^{(1)} r + \dots$$

$$\Phi_{\text{IR}} \underset{\zeta \rightarrow 0}{=} \Phi_{\text{IR}}^{(0)} + \Phi_{\text{IR}}^{(1)} \zeta + \dots$$

Dirichlet b.c.



From the matching

$$\Phi_{\text{UV}}^{(0)} = \Phi_{\text{IR}}^{(0)} \frac{(kr_e)^2}{12} - \Phi_{\text{IR}}^{(1)}$$

$$\Phi_{\text{UV}}^{(1)} = \Phi_{\text{IR}}^{(0)} r_e^{-1}$$

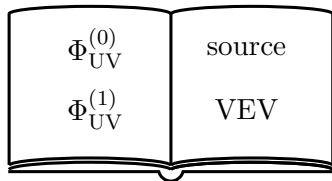
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- Mixed boundary conditions in the IR
- VEV in the IR is the **leading** mode

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{G}_{\Delta=0}^{\text{R}} = \frac{1}{i\omega}$$

Regime of validity of the calculation

▷ Generating functional in Schwarzian theory [Mertens & Turiaci '23]

$$\mathcal{Z}[\Phi_0] = \int [\mathcal{D}u] e^{S_0 + C \text{Schw}[u] + \frac{1}{2} \int d\tau_1^E d\tau_2^E \Phi_0(\tau_1^E) \mathcal{G}_\Delta^E(u(\tau_1^E), u(\tau_2^E)) \Phi_0(\tau_2^E)}$$

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extremal BH entropy Schwarzian coupling

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	near-extremal	$Tr_e \ll 1$	\leftrightarrow	$T/\mu \ll 1$
+	hydro regime	$\text{Vol}(\mathbb{T}^2)^{-1} \ll T/r_e$	\leftrightarrow	$k^2 \ll T\mu$
+	classical gravity	$L/\ell_P \gg 1$	\leftrightarrow	$N \gg 1$
\Rightarrow	weak quantum fluct.	$CT \gg 1$		

Plugging in near-horizon quantum fluctuations:

$$\langle G_{xy,xy}^R \rangle = \frac{L^2}{2\kappa^2 r_e^2} \frac{\omega^2}{\langle 1/i\omega \rangle^{-1} - \frac{r_e}{12} k^2} = \frac{\langle \eta \rangle \omega^2}{i\omega - \langle D_\perp \rangle k^2}$$

$$(\langle \eta \rangle, \langle D_\perp \rangle) = (\eta^{\text{cl.}}, D_\perp^{\text{cl.}}) \left[1 + \frac{1}{4\pi^2 CT} + O\left(\frac{1}{(CT)^2}\right) \right]$$

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* agrees with [2510.21602, 2512.20443]

** different from [2510.16100, 2510.15411] (other approaches)

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D_{\perp} : Hydrodynamic mode that seemed to survive $T \rightarrow 0$ limit might get lifted by near-horizon quantum fluctuations

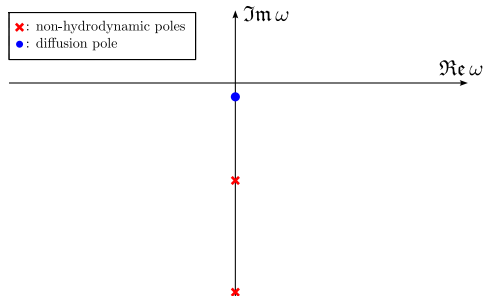
Possible follow-ups

- Explore $CT \lesssim 1$ regime, beyond hydrodynamics
- Next order in ϵ to consider $\langle s \rangle$ [Iliesiu & Turiaci '23]
- 5D calculation to connect to $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

Outlook: EFT with gapped modes

Remark

Corrections to diffusion constant, similar as **stochastic corrections** to hydrodynamics [Chen-Lin, Delacrétaz & Hartnoll '19] but without branch-cut



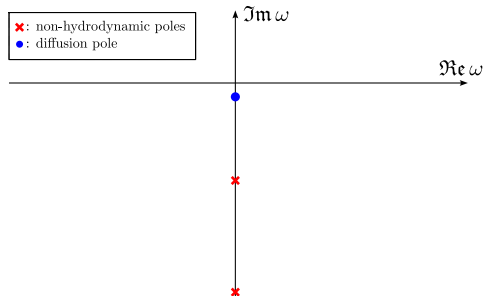
EFT with gapped modes

Integrate over gapped modes to obtain an effective action for the gapless mode

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Integrate over gapped modes to obtain an effective action for the gapless mode

End

- Hydrodynamics

$$\text{positivity of entropy production} \Rightarrow \frac{\eta}{s} \geq 0$$

- Kinetic theory and Heisenberg uncertainty principle

$$\eta \propto \varepsilon \frac{\ell_{\text{mfp}}}{\bar{u}} = \varepsilon \tau_{\text{mft}}, \quad s \sim n k_{\text{B}} \Rightarrow \frac{\eta}{s} \sim \frac{1}{k_{\text{B}}} \frac{\varepsilon}{n} \tau_{\text{mft}} \geq \frac{\hbar}{k_{\text{B}}}$$

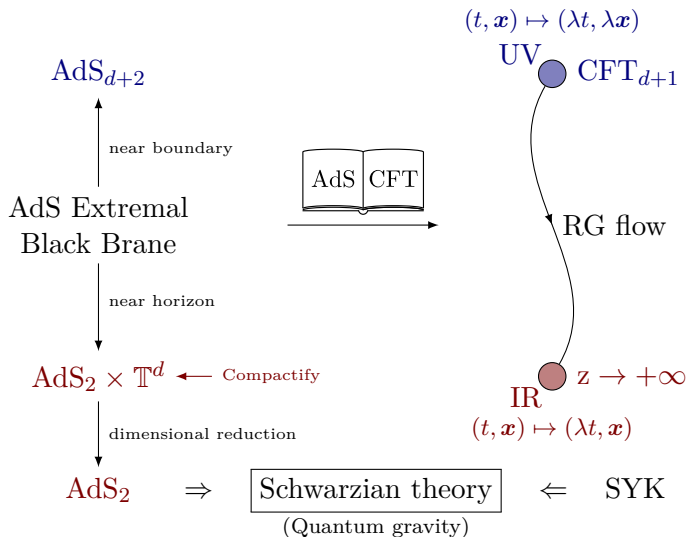
- | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Semi-classical
holography | $\xleftrightarrow{\text{dual}}$ | large N , strongly
coupled QFT |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|

$$\boxed{\frac{\eta}{s} = \frac{\hbar}{4\pi k_{\text{B}}}}$$

“Universal result”

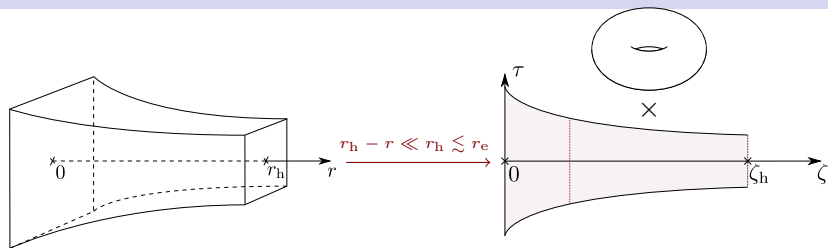
For large class of translation and rotation invariant two-derivative gravity theories

Near-Extremal Black Holes



Same universality class as SYK models

Holographic Set-up: IR Geometry

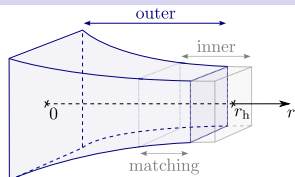


Zoom in near horizon [Faulkner et al. '09]

$$r = r_e - \epsilon \frac{r_e^2}{6\zeta}, \quad t = \epsilon^{-1} \tau, \quad T = \frac{\epsilon}{4\pi\zeta_h} + O(\epsilon^2)$$

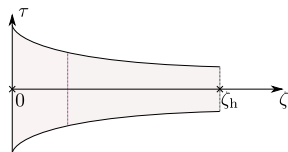
$$ds^2 \underset{\epsilon \rightarrow 0}{=} \underbrace{\frac{L^2}{6\zeta^2} \left[- \left(1 - \frac{\zeta}{\zeta_h} \right) d\tau^2 + \frac{d\zeta^2}{1 - \zeta/\zeta_h} \right]}_{\text{Black Hole in AdS}_2} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{r_e^2} [dx^2 + dy^2]}_{\mathbb{T}^2} + O(\epsilon)$$

Solve the EoM: Matching Procedure [Davison, Parnachev '13]



$$\triangleleft \frac{\omega^2 r}{f f'}, \frac{k^2 r}{f'} \ll 1$$

$$f (f \Phi'_{\pm})' + \left[\underbrace{\omega^2 - f k^2}_{O(\omega^2, k^2)} - \frac{f f'}{r} - \frac{6r \beta_{\pm}}{r_e^2 r_h} f \right] \Phi_{\pm} = 0$$



$$\triangleright r_h - r \ll r_h \lesssim r_e$$

Zoom in near horizon [Faulkner et al. '09]

$$r = r_e - \epsilon \frac{r_e^2}{6\zeta}, \quad t = \epsilon^{-1} \tau, \quad T = \frac{\epsilon}{4\pi \zeta_h} + O(\epsilon^2)$$

$$ds^2 \underset{\epsilon \rightarrow 0}{=} \frac{L^2}{6\zeta^2} \left[- \left(1 - \frac{\zeta}{\zeta_h} \right) d\tau^2 + \frac{d\zeta^2}{1 - \zeta/\zeta_h} \right] + \frac{1}{r_e^2} [dx^2 + dy^2] + O(\epsilon)$$

Scaling for quadratic mode

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

Holographic Set-up: Perturbations

What we want

$$G_{xy,xy}^R \Rightarrow \text{need } g_{xy} \leftrightarrow T_{xy}$$

$$g_{ab} = \bar{g}_{ab} + \delta g_{ab}(r)e^{-i\omega t + ikx}, \quad A_a = \bar{A}_a + \delta A_a(r)e^{-i\omega t + ikx}$$

Transverse sector:

$$(\delta g_{ty}, \delta g_{xy}, \delta A_y) \xrightarrow[\text{combinations}]{\text{gauge invariant}} \boxed{(\Phi_+, \Phi_-)} \quad \text{master fields}$$

Two decoupled equations:

$$f (f\Phi'_{\pm})' + \left[\omega^2 - fk^2 - \frac{ff'}{r} - \frac{6r\beta_{\pm}}{r_e^2 r_h} f \right] \Phi_{\pm} = 0$$
$$\beta_{\pm} = \frac{3}{4} \left(1 + \frac{r_e^2}{3r_h^2} \right) \left[1 \pm \sqrt{1 + \frac{16k^2 r_e^2}{27} \left(1 + \frac{r_e^2}{3r_h^2} \right)^{-2}} \right]$$

Alternate Quantization

The quantization scheme is decided the matching
Imposes **alternate** quantization

$$\mathcal{G}_{\Delta=0}^{\text{R}}(\omega) = \frac{1}{i\omega} \xrightarrow[\text{rotate}]{\text{Wick}} \mathcal{G}_{\Delta=0}^{\text{E}}(\omega_{\text{E}}) = \frac{-1}{|\omega_{\text{E}}|} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{F}^{-1}} \frac{\gamma}{\pi} + \frac{1}{2\pi} \boxed{\log |\tau_{\text{E}}|^2}$$

To connect with Schwarzian literature: go Euclidean


$$\langle \log |\tau_{\text{E}}|^2 \rangle$$

Logarithmic Correlator

$$\mathcal{G}_{\Delta=0}^R(\omega) = \frac{1}{i\omega} \xrightarrow[\text{rotate}]{\text{Wick}} \mathcal{G}_{\Delta=0}^E(\omega_E) = \frac{-1}{|\omega_E|} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{F}} \frac{\gamma}{\pi} + \frac{1}{2\pi} \log |\tau_E|^2$$

Need to compute $\langle \log |\tau_E|^2 \rangle$

Extracted from expansion of [Mertens et al., '17]:

$$\langle \mathcal{G}_{\Delta}^E \rangle = \frac{e^{S_0}}{\mathcal{Z}(\beta)} \int d\mu(p_1) d\mu(p_2) e^{-\tau_E \frac{p_1^2}{2C}} e^{-(\beta - \tau_E) \frac{p_2^2}{2C}} \frac{2\Gamma(\Delta \pm ip_1 \pm ip_2)}{(2C)^{2\Delta} \Gamma(2\Delta)}$$

Logarithmic Correlator

To extract logarithm, expand in Δ

$$\mathcal{G}_{\Delta}^E(\tau_1^E - \tau_2^E) = \left(\pi^2 T^2 \frac{u'(\tau_1^E)u'(\tau_2^E)}{\sin^2(\pi T|u(\tau_1^E) - u(\tau_2^E)|)} \right)^{\Delta} = \left(\mathcal{G}_{\Delta=1}^R \right)^{\Delta}$$

$$\downarrow \Delta \rightarrow 0$$

$$1 + \Delta \log \mathcal{G}_{\Delta=1}^E$$

$$\downarrow u \mapsto \text{id}, T \rightarrow 0$$

$$1 - \Delta \log |\tau_1^E - \tau_2^E|^2$$

$$\mathcal{Z}[\Phi_0] = \int [\mathcal{D}u] e^{S_0 + C \text{Schw}[u] + \frac{1}{2} \int d\tau_1^E d\tau_2^E \Phi_0(\tau_1^E) \mathcal{G}_{\Delta}^E \Phi_0(\tau_2^E)}$$

$$\langle \mathcal{G}_{\Delta}^E \rangle = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}[\Phi_0]} \frac{\delta^2 \mathcal{Z}[\Phi_0]}{\delta \Phi_0(\tau_1^E) \delta \Phi_0(\tau_2^E)} \Big|_{\Phi_0=0} \quad [\text{Mertens et al., '17}]$$