# Applications of AdS/CFT correspondence to cold atom physics

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# Outline

- Basics of AdS/CFT correspondence
- Schrödinger group and correlation functions
- Nonrelativistic AdS/CFT and cold atoms
- Holographic Efimov effect

#### Holographic principle

• We have some evidence that

Quantum field theory in *d* spacetime dimensions

Quantum gravity in higher dimensions



 $\longleftrightarrow$ 

Holographic radial direction – RG scale

't Hooft 93, Susskind 95

#### AdS spacetime and its relation to CFT

• Einstein-Hilbert gravity action

$$S = \frac{1}{2\kappa} \int dz d^d x \sqrt{-g} \left( R + \frac{d(d-1)}{L^2} \right)$$

• Most symmetric solution is Anti-de Sitter spacetime

$$ds^{2} = L^{2} \frac{dz^{2} + \eta_{\mu\nu} x^{\mu} x^{\nu}}{z^{2}}$$

- Isometry group of  $AdS_{d+1}$  is SO(d, 2)
- Conformal group in  $Mink_d$  is also SO(d, 2)!

#### **AdS/CFT correspondence**

Maldacena 97

 $\mathcal{N} = 4, \ SU(N_c)$ in d = 4 Minkowski IIB string theory in  $AdS_5 \times S_5$ 

- Parameters on gauge side:  $g_{YM}$  and  $N_c$ Parameters on gravity side: L,  $l_{st}$  and  $\kappa$
- Mapping

$$\frac{L}{l_{st}} \sim g_{YM}^2 N_c \qquad \frac{L^8}{\kappa} \sim N_c^2$$

 $\longleftrightarrow$ 

- It is a weak/strong duality
- Classical supergravity is valid if  $N_c^2, g_{YM}^2 N_c \gg 1$

#### **Holographic dictionary**

Boundary QFTBulk gravityoperator  $\mathcal{O}$ dynamical field  $\phi$ scaling dimension  $\Delta_{\mathcal{O}}$ mass  $m_{\phi}$ global symmetrygauge symmetryfinite THawking T of a black holeentropyHawking entropychemical potentialU(1) gauge field

Correlation functions can be calculated from

 $\langle e^{\int \phi_0 \mathscr{O}} \rangle_{CFT} = Z_{gravity} [\phi \to \phi_0]$ 

# Schrödinger group

- Spacetime symmetries of free Schrödinger/diffusion equation form Schrödinger group Sch(D) Niederer 72, Hagen 72
- Schrödinger group comprises
  - translations  $P_i$  and H
  - spatial rotations  $M_{ij}$
  - Galilean boosts  $K_i$
  - number operator N
  - scale transformation  $D \Rightarrow$  dynamical exponent z = 2
  - special conformal transformation C
- Theory symmetric under Sch(D) is called NRCFT
- Example: two particles with conformal  $1/r^2$  potential

# Schrödinger group

• Nonrelativistic primary operators  $\mathscr{O}$  have well-defined scaling dimension  $\Delta_{\mathscr{O}}$  and particle number  $N_{\mathscr{O}}$  Nishida& Son 08

$$[D, \mathcal{O}] = i\Delta_{\mathcal{O}} \qquad [N, \mathcal{O}] = N_{\mathcal{O}}$$

and commute with Galilean boosts  $K_i$  and special conformal transformation C

$$[K_i, \mathscr{O}] = 0 \qquad [C, \mathscr{O}] = 0$$

Descendants are formed by commutators with  $P_i$  and H

- Kinematic invariants of Sch(D) group
- Volovich&Wen 09
- mixed invariants  $v_{ijn} = \frac{(\vec{x}_{in}t_{jn} \vec{x}_{jn}t_{in})^2}{2t_{ij}t_{in}t_{jn}}$  i < j < n
- time cross-ratios  $\frac{t_{ij}t_{kl}}{t_{ik}t_{jl}}$

# **Correlators in Euclidean NRCFT**

- Schrödinger symmetry and causality impose constraints on the correlators of the primary fields
   Henkel 94
- 2-point function is fixed up to a constant ( $\bar{x} = (\vec{x}, t)$ )

$$G_2(\bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2) = C\delta_{\Delta_1, \Delta_2}\delta_{M_1, M_2}\theta(t_{12})t_{12}^{-\Delta_1} \exp\left[-\frac{M_1}{2}\frac{\vec{x}_{12}^2}{t_{12}}\right]$$

• 3-point function is determined up to a function  $\Psi(v_{123})$ 

$$\begin{aligned}
G_3(\bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2, \bar{x}_3) &= \delta_{M_1 + M_2, M_3} \theta(t_{13}) \theta(t_{23}) \prod_{i < j} t_{ij}^{-\Delta_{ij,n}/2} \times \\
& \exp\left[-\frac{M_1}{2} \frac{\bar{x}_{13}^2}{t_{13}} - \frac{M_2}{2} \frac{\bar{x}_{23}^2}{t_{23}}\right] \Psi(v_{123})
\end{aligned}$$

• 4-point function is determined up to a non-universal function  $\Psi(\frac{t_{12}t_{34}}{t_{14}t_{32}}, v_{124}, v_{134}, v_{234})$  Volovich&Wen 09

### **Two-component fermions at unitarity**

• Vacuum theory is defined by action

$$S[\psi, \phi] = \int dt d^{D}x \ \left[\sum_{i=1}^{2} \psi_{i}^{*} (i\partial_{t} + \frac{\Delta}{2m})\psi_{i} - \frac{1}{c_{0}}\phi^{*}\phi + (\phi^{*}\psi_{1}\psi_{2} + \phi\psi_{2}^{*}\psi_{1}^{*})\right]$$

- Bare parameter  $c_0$  is related to scattering length a and cut-off  $\Lambda$
- Unitarity regime  $a^{-1} \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow$  no intrinsic length scale in theory
- Exact propagators and scaling dimensions of  $\psi$  and  $\phi$  can be determined analytically
- Fermions at unitarity are believed to be symmetric under the full
   Schrödinger group
   Mehen et al. 2000
- It is believed to be NRCFT (primary operators, operator/state correspondence, conformal Ward identities) Nishida&Son 08

# **Nonrelativistic AdS/CFT**

- NRCFT in D dimensions  $\Leftrightarrow$  gravity theory in higher dimensions?
- Schrödinger algebra Sch(D) is a subalgebra of the conformal algebra so(D+2,2) in  $Mink_{D+2}$  that commutes with the light-cone momentum  $P^+$
- Deformation of  $AdS_{D+3}$  in light-cone coordinates leads to the new  $Sch_{D+3}$  metric Son 08, Balasubramanian&McGreevy 08

$$ds^{2} = -\frac{dt^{2}}{z^{4}} + \frac{-2dtd\xi + dx^{i}dx^{i} + dz^{2}}{z^{2}} \quad i = 1, \dots, D$$

- Isometries of  $Sch_{D+3}$  obey the Schrödinger albegra Sch(D)
- $\partial_{\xi}$  corresponds to the particle number generator N and coordinate  $\xi$  is possibly compact

# **3-point function** $G_3$ in cold atoms



- Two important points
  - 1. no condensate in non-relativistic vacuum  $\langle \psi_i \rangle = 0$ ,  $\langle \phi \rangle = 0$
  - 2. Yukawa vertex is not renormalized in vacuum
- $G_3$  is completely determined by  $\Delta_{\psi} = \frac{D}{2}$  and  $\Delta_{\phi} = 2$

# **3-point function** $G_3$

• Agreement with Schrödinger Ward identities

Henkel 94

• We determined the non-universal scaling function for  $D > 2^{2}$ 

$$\Psi(y) \sim y^{-\frac{D}{2}+1}\gamma(\frac{D}{2}-1,y),$$

where  $\gamma(n, y) = \int_0^y t^{n-1} e^{-t} dt$ 

AdS/CFT gives non-universal scaling function

$$\Psi(y) \sim \int_{\mathbf{R}+i\epsilon} dv \int_{\mathbf{R}+i\epsilon'} dv' e^{-iM_1v - iM_2v'} \times (v - v' + iy)^{-\Delta_{12,3}/2} (v')^{-\Delta_{23,1}/2} v^{-\Delta_{13,2}/2},$$

where  $\Delta_{ij,k} = \Delta_i + \Delta_j - \Delta_k$ 

• We take unitarity scaling  $\Delta_1 = \Delta_2 = D/2$ ,  $\Delta_3 = 2$  and perform double contour integration

$$\Psi(y) \sim y^{-\frac{D}{2}+1} \gamma(\frac{D}{2}-1,y)$$

- Non-universal scaling function  $\Psi(y)$  agrees with unitarity cold atoms result! Fuertes& SM 09
- We take free scaling dimension  $\Delta_1 = \Delta_2 = D/2$  and  $\Delta_3 = D$ and perform double contour integration

$$\Psi(y) = \text{const}$$

- Agreement with free QFT
- Possibly AdS/CFT describes both free and unitarity regime Son 08

## **Bosons at unitarity**

• The action is similar

$$S[\psi,\phi] = \int dt d^D x \left[ \psi^* (i\partial_t + \frac{\Delta}{2m})\psi - \frac{1}{c_0}\phi^*\phi + (\phi^*\psi\psi + \phi\psi^*\psi^*) \right]$$

- Unitarity regime  $a^{-1} \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow$  no intrinsic length scale in theory
- Can be prepared in cold atoms experiments, e.g. <sup>7</sup>Li,<sup>133</sup>Cs...
- Two-body problem is similar to fermions
- It is not NRCFT due to the Efimov effect

#### **Three-body problem and the Efimov effect**

Energy spectrum near the unitarity regime

Efimov 70



• At unitarity  $a = \pm \infty$  spectrum becomes geometric

 $\frac{E_T^{(n+1)}}{E_T^{(n)}} \to e^{-2\pi/s_0} \quad \text{as } n \to \infty \quad s_0 \approx 1.0062$ 

- The spectrum is manifestation of scale quantum anomaly
- In RG language → limit cycle solution

#### **Breitenlohner-Freedman bound in** $AdS_{d+1}$

• Free complex scalar

$$S[\phi,\phi^*] = -\int dz d^d x \sqrt{-g} \left(g^{\mu\nu}\partial_\mu\phi^*\partial_\nu\phi + m^2\phi^*\phi\right)$$

in  $AdS_{d+1}$  spacetime

$$ds^2 = \frac{dz^2 + \eta^{\mu\nu} dx_\mu dx_\nu}{z^2}$$

• Fourier transform  $x^{\mu} \to q^{\mu}$  on the boundary and change variables  $\psi = z^{(1-d)/2}\phi$ 

$$-\partial_z^2 \psi + \frac{m^2 + \frac{d^2 - 1}{4}}{z^2} \psi = -q^2 \psi, \qquad q^2 \equiv -(q^0)^2 + \bar{q}^2$$

• Map onto 1D QM problem with inverse square potential!

#### **Inverse square potential in QM**

$$-\partial_z^2 \psi - \frac{\kappa}{z^2} \psi = E\psi$$

- The potential is singular and must be regularized
- Two branches of solution
  - $\kappa < \kappa_{cr} = \frac{1}{4} \rightarrow$  no bound states, continuous spectrum
  - $\kappa > \kappa_{cr} \rightarrow$  infinite geometric bound state spectrum
- In our mapping

$$E < 0 \Rightarrow (q^0)^2 < 0$$

$$\kappa > \kappa_{cr} \Rightarrow m^2 < m_{BF}^2 = -\frac{d^2}{4}$$

 The bound was first derived from positivity of conserved energy functional of scalar fluctuations Breitenlohner&Freedman 82

#### **No BF bound in** $Sch_{D+3}$

• Free complex scalar in  $Sch_{D+3}$ 

$$S[\phi,\phi^*] = -\int dz dt d\xi d^D x \sqrt{-g} \left(g^{\mu\nu}\partial_\mu\phi^*\partial_\nu\phi + m_0^2\phi^*\phi\right)$$

• Mapping onto Schrödinger equation

$$-\partial_z^2 \psi + \frac{m^2 + \frac{(D+2)^2 - 1}{4}}{z^2} \psi = -\widetilde{q}^2 \psi, \qquad \widetilde{q}^2 \equiv -2M\omega + \overline{q}^2$$

• Due to nonrelativistic dispersion

$$E < 0 \Rightarrow \omega < 0$$

- Nothing special happens at  $m^2 = m_{BF}^2 = -\frac{(D+2)^2}{4}$
- No stability bound in nonrelativistic AdS/CFT!

Son

**Two-point correlator**  $\langle OO^{\dagger} \rangle$  for  $m^2 < m_{BF}^2$ 

• Using standard AdS/CFT machinery we can calculate SM 09

 $\langle OO^{\dagger} \rangle \sim \tan \left\{ |\nu| \ln \widetilde{q} + \gamma \right\},$ 

where 
$$\nu = \sqrt{\frac{(D+2)^2}{4} + m^2}$$
 and  $\tilde{q}^2 \equiv -2M\omega + \bar{q}^2$ 

- Properties
  - $\langle OO^{\dagger} \rangle$  is log-periodic in  $\widetilde{q}$
  - Operator *O* describes infinitely many particles

$$\frac{\omega_{n+1}}{\omega_n} = \exp\left(-\frac{2\pi}{|\nu|}\right)$$

- Continuous scale symmetry is broken  $\rightarrow$  limit cycle solution
- $\gamma$  determines initial UV position on RG limit cycle

#### Limit cycles in QM and complex $\Delta$

- Efimov effect
  - Trimer operator  $O = \psi \phi$  has

$$\Delta_{\pm} = \frac{5}{2} \pm is_0$$

- QM with  $1/r^2$  potential in D dimensions
  - For  $\kappa > \kappa_{cr} = \frac{(D-2)^2}{4}$ , composite  $O = \psi \psi$  acquires complex scaling dimension

$$\Delta_{\pm} = \frac{D+2}{2} \pm \sqrt{\frac{(D-2)^2}{4} - \kappa}$$

• If described by AdS/CFT  $\rightarrow m^2 < m^2_{BF}$ 

#### **Conclusion and outlook**

- AdS/CFT was extended to nonrelativistic physics
- Schrödinger symmetry is powerful
- Agreement of specific 3-point function, but better understanding?
- Limit cycles can be realized in nonrelativistic AdS/CFT
- Calculate limit cycle two-point function in QM and compare with holographic prediction

## **Extra slides**

#### **Applications to condensed matter physics**

- Holographic systems with Schrödinger symmetry
- Holographic superfluids
- Holographic non-Fermi liquids
- Holographic systems with Lifshitz symmetry

### Schrödinger algebra

• Centrally extended Galilei algebra

$$\begin{split} [M_{ij}, M_{kl}] &= i(\delta_{ik}M_{jl} - \delta_{jk}M_{il} + \delta_{il}M_{kj} - \delta_{jl}M_{ki}) \quad , \\ [M_{ij}, K_k] &= i(\delta_{ik}K_j - \delta_{jk}K_i), \quad [M_{ij}, P_k] = i(\delta_{ik}P_j - \delta_{jk}P_i), \\ [P_i, K_j] &= -i\delta_{ij}N \quad , \qquad [H, K_j] = -iP_j \quad . \end{split}$$

• Additionally

 $[P_i, D] = -iP_i$  ,  $[P_i, C] = -iK_i$  ,  $[K_i, D] = iK_i$  , [D, C] = -2iC , [D, H] = 2iH , [C, H] = iD .

• The generators H, D and C close a subalgebra sl(2, R)