

Gauge/Gravity Duality and QCD observables

Ingo Kirsch

(DESY Hamburg, Germany)

in collaboration with

Johanna Erdmenger

(MPI Munich)



QCD: The Modern View of the Strong Interactions
Berlin, 6 October 2009

Outline

1. AdS/CFT and its application to QCD

- Review of AdS/CFT
- Application to study the strong interaction (QCD)
- Modifications of the AdS/CFT duality:
 - i) deformed AdS spaces + ii) introduction of flavours

2. Observables

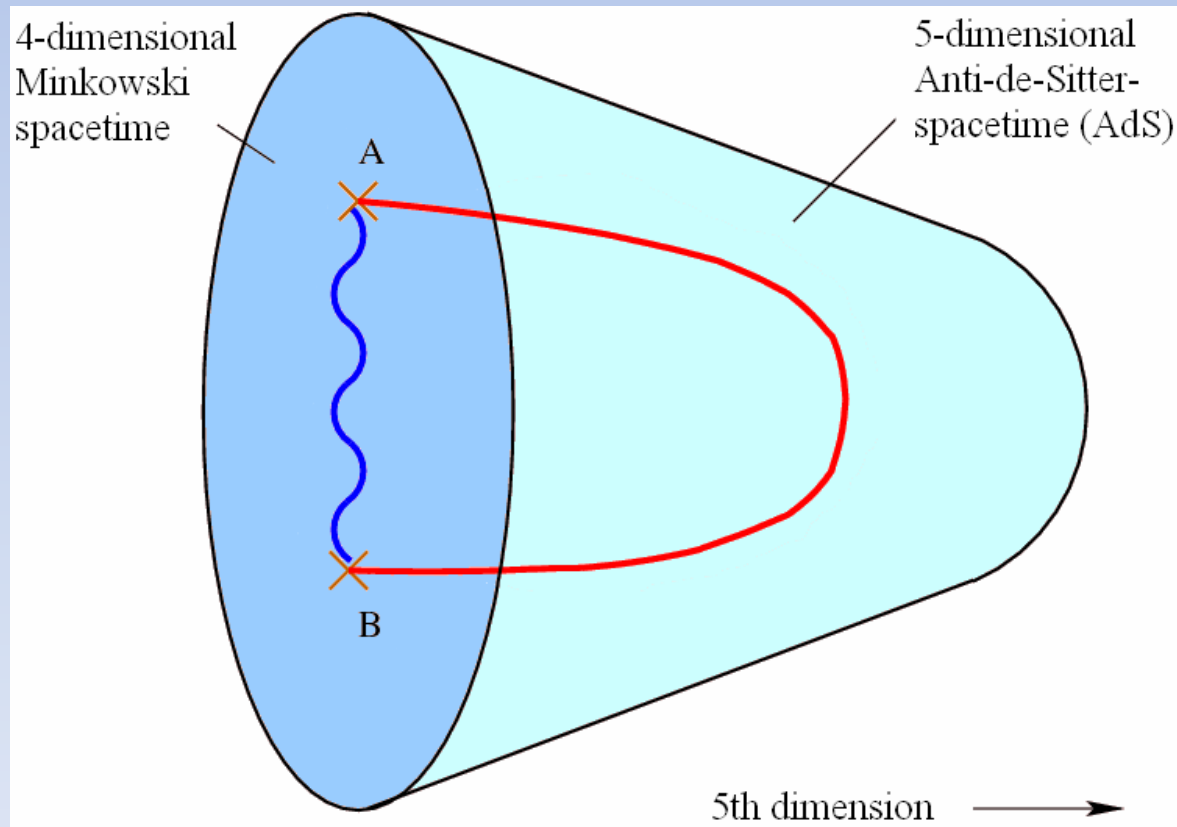
- Example I: QCD at zero temperature (large N)
 - U(1) spontaneous chiral symmetry breaking
- Example II: QCD at finite temperature (large N)
 - first-order phase transition
 - meson melting in QGP

3. Conclusions

AdS/CFT correspondence

Equivalence (or duality) of two theories:

4D conformal field theory (CFT) \Leftrightarrow **5D theory of gravity** (string theory)
on **AdS₅** (=anti-de-Sitter space, $\Lambda < 0$)



Standard AdS/CFT duality

Standard AdS/CFT correspondence:

Maldacena (1997)

- i) boundary CFT: 4d $SU(N)$ $N=4$ super Yang-Mills theory
- ii) bulk: type IIB supergravity (string th.) on $AdS_5 \times S^5$

supergravity approximation valid if $\lambda = 4\pi g_s N \gg 1$

Properties of the $N=4$ field theory:

1. $N \gg 1$ (large)
2. supersymmetric
3. conformal invariance
4. all fields in the adjoint representation (only „gluons“)

QCD:

1. $N=3$
2. not supersymmetric
3. no conformal invariance
4. gluons and quarks

Can we use AdS/CFT as dual theory of QCD?

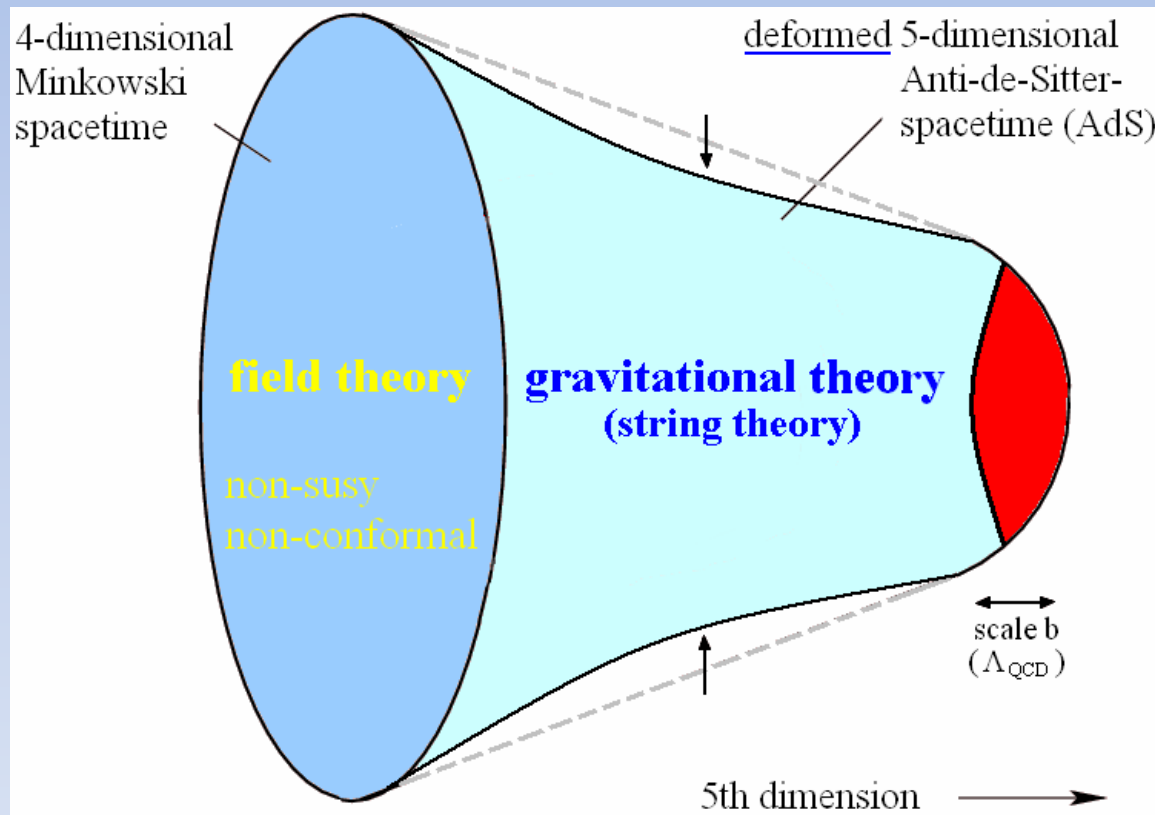
➡ **modify AdS/CFT**

Modifications of AdS/CFT

...to find a dual to a ``QCD-like“ theory

First modification

deformation of the AdS background:



some examples:

Constable-Myers background

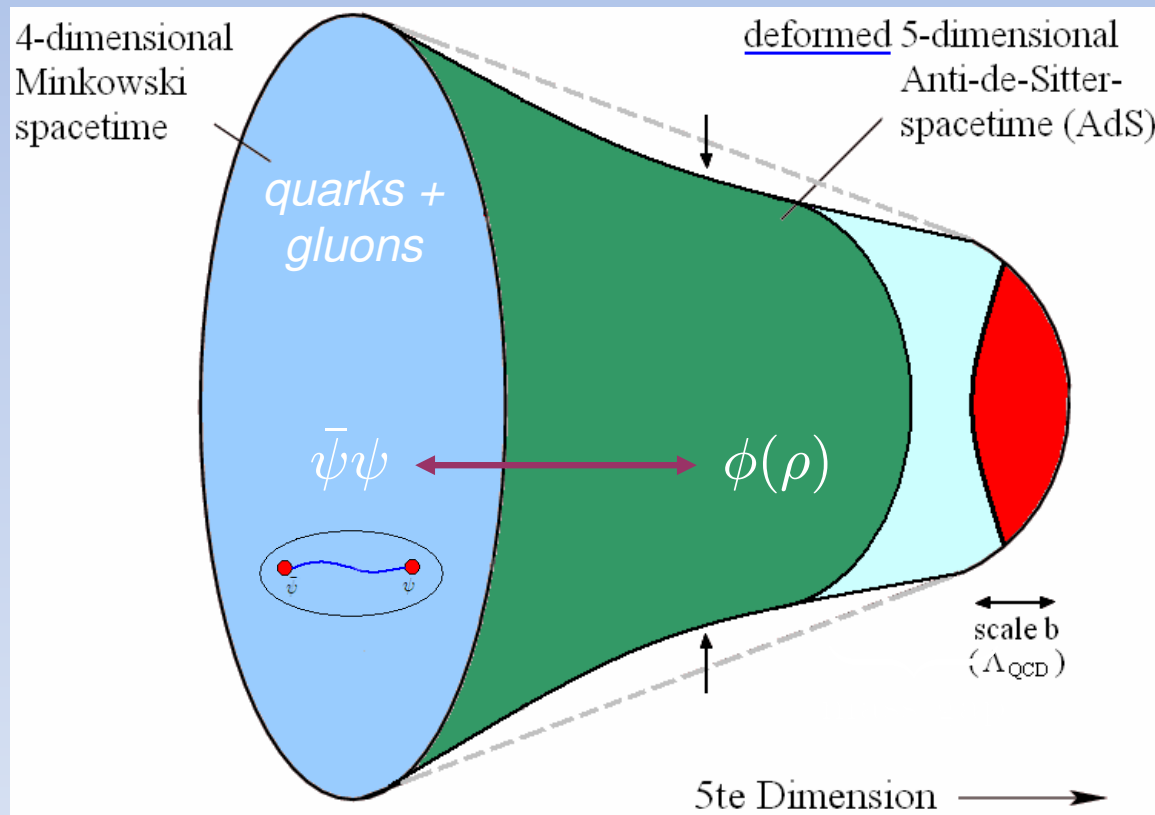
Gubser Dilaton-Flow

Maldacena-Nunez, Klebanov-Strassler, etc.

➡ breaking of supersymmetry and conformal invariance, bound states arise („confinement“)

Second modification

Introduction of fundamental fields („quarks“) in the duality:



Karch, Katz (2002)

Kruczenski, Mateos,
Myers, Winters (2003)

Babington, Erdmenger,
Evans, Guralnik, I.K. (2003)

probe (quenched)
limit: $N_f \ll N_c$

➡ additional scalar or vector fields in the AdS-space
which are dual to meson operators

Generalized AdS/CFT dictionary

Fundamental degrees of freedom added (``quarks'')

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O} \propto \bar{\psi}\psi, \bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\psi & \xleftrightarrow{\text{dual to}} & \phi(\rho, x^\mu), A^\mu(\rho, x^\mu) \\ \text{mesons} & & \text{fluctuations} \end{array}$$

e.o.m of ϕ :

$$m^2 = -3 \Rightarrow \Delta = 3, \quad m^2 = \Delta(\Delta - 4)$$

UV asymptotic behaviour of solutions to equation of motion:

$$\phi \propto m_q e^{-\rho} + c e^{-3\rho}$$

m_q = quark mass (source of \mathcal{O})

c = quark condensate (vev of \mathcal{O})

find regular solutions $\Rightarrow c(m_q)$

QCD observables

Example I: $U(1)$ chiral symmetry breaking

Example I: U(1) chiral symmetry breaking

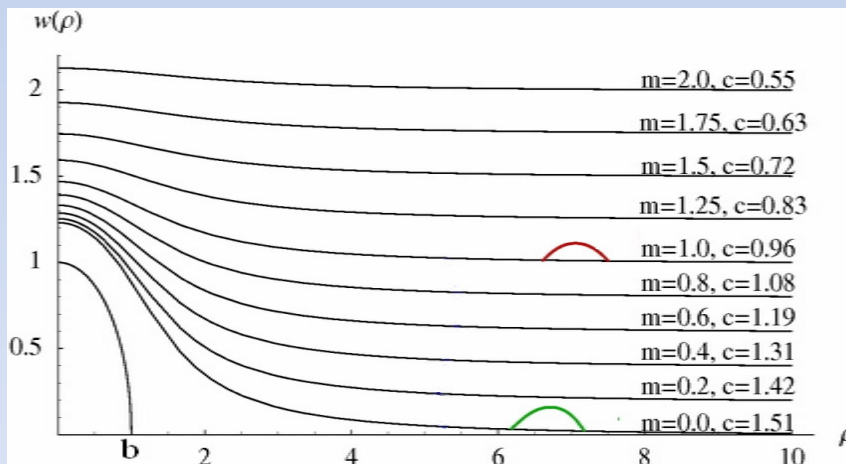
duality: i) branes in **Constable-Myers** background (confining)
 ii) „QCD-like“ SU(N) YM theory with $N \gg 1$ ($T=0$)

*Babington, Erdmenger,
 Evans, Guralnik, I.K. (2003)*

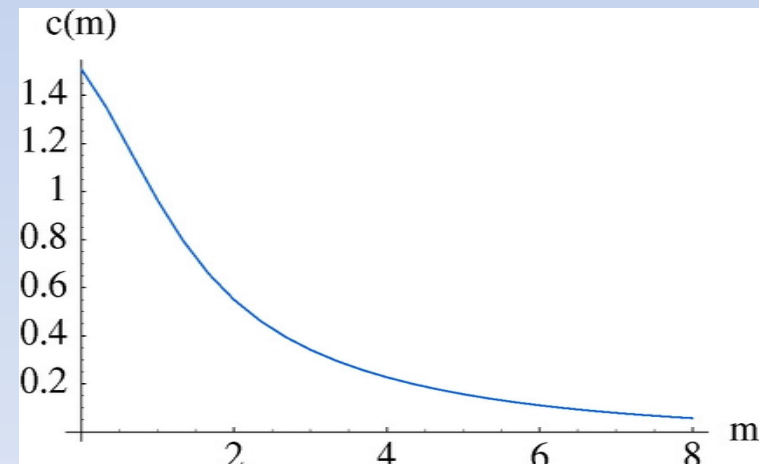
$U(1)_A$ spontaneous chiral symmetry breaking:

- $\psi \rightarrow e^{-i\varepsilon} \psi, \tilde{\psi} \rightarrow e^{-i\varepsilon} \tilde{\psi}$
- broken by quark condensate: $c = -\langle \psi \tilde{\psi} \rangle \neq 0$

embedding profiles + condensate:



„screening“ effect



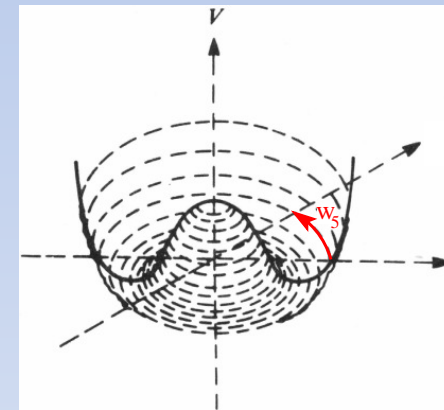
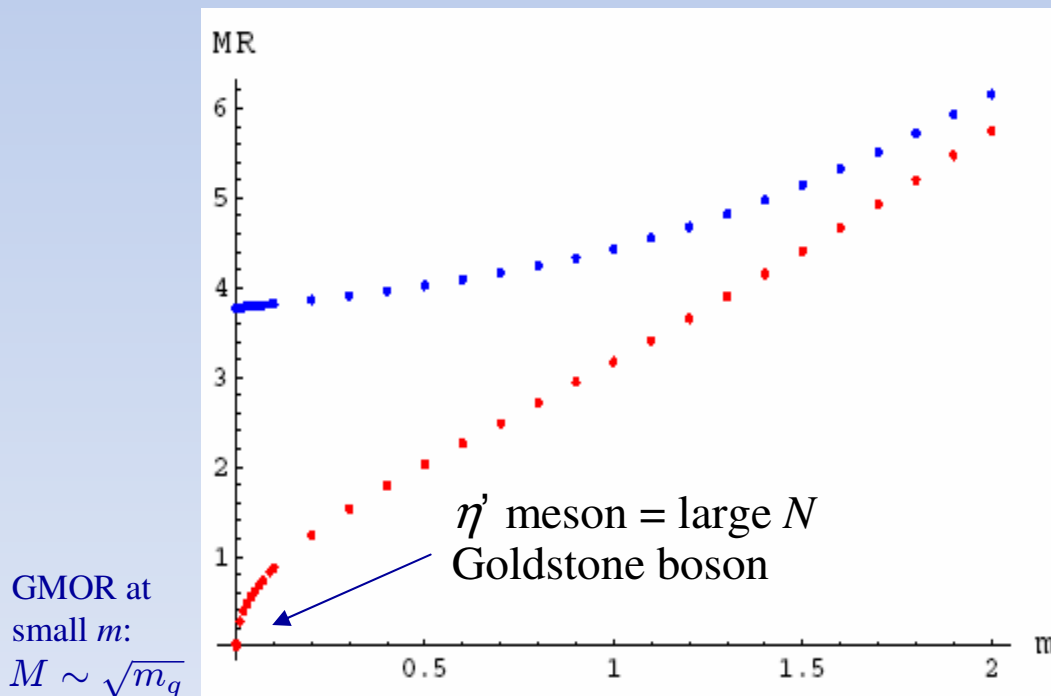
spont. U(1) breaking: $m \rightarrow 0, c \neq 0$

Meson spectrum and “large N ”

Goldstone boson (η')

Consider plane-wave-fluctuations $\delta\phi = f(\rho) \sin(kx)$ ($M^2 = -k^2$)
around the embedding profile $w = w(\rho)$

\Rightarrow meson spectrum $M(m)$

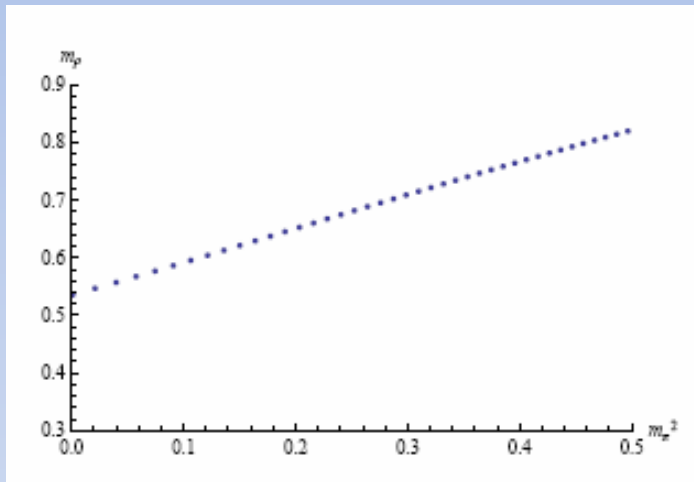


*Goldstone boson due to
spont. $U(1)$ chiral SB*

*(anomaly suppressed at
large N_c)*

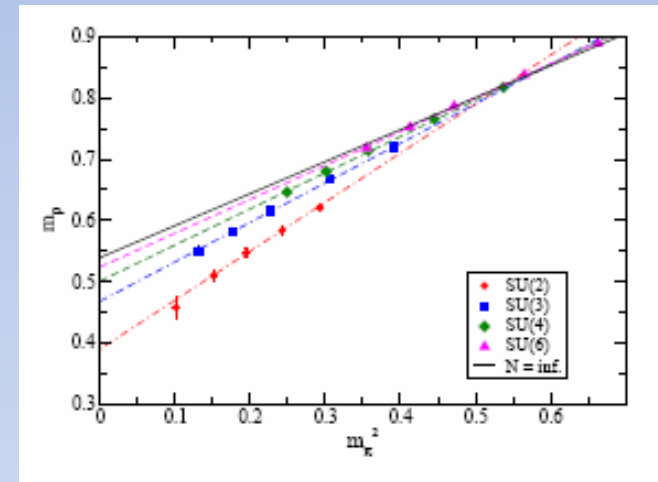
Comparison to lattice gauge theory

Mass of ρ -meson as function of π meson mass² (large N_c)



AdS/CFT: Erdmenger, Evans, Kirsch, Threlfall '07, review EPJA

$$\frac{m_\rho(m_\pi)}{m_\rho(0)} = 1 + 0.307 \left(\frac{m_\pi}{m_\rho} \right)^2$$



Lattice: Del Debbio, Lucini, Patella, Pica '07: slope 0.2816(2)

Bali, Bursa '08: slope 0.304(3)

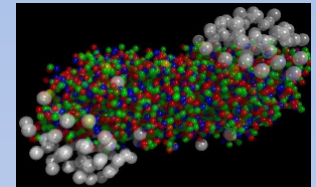
extrapolation (continuum limit):
slope 0.341 ± 0.023

QCD observables

Example II: First-order phase transition in QGP

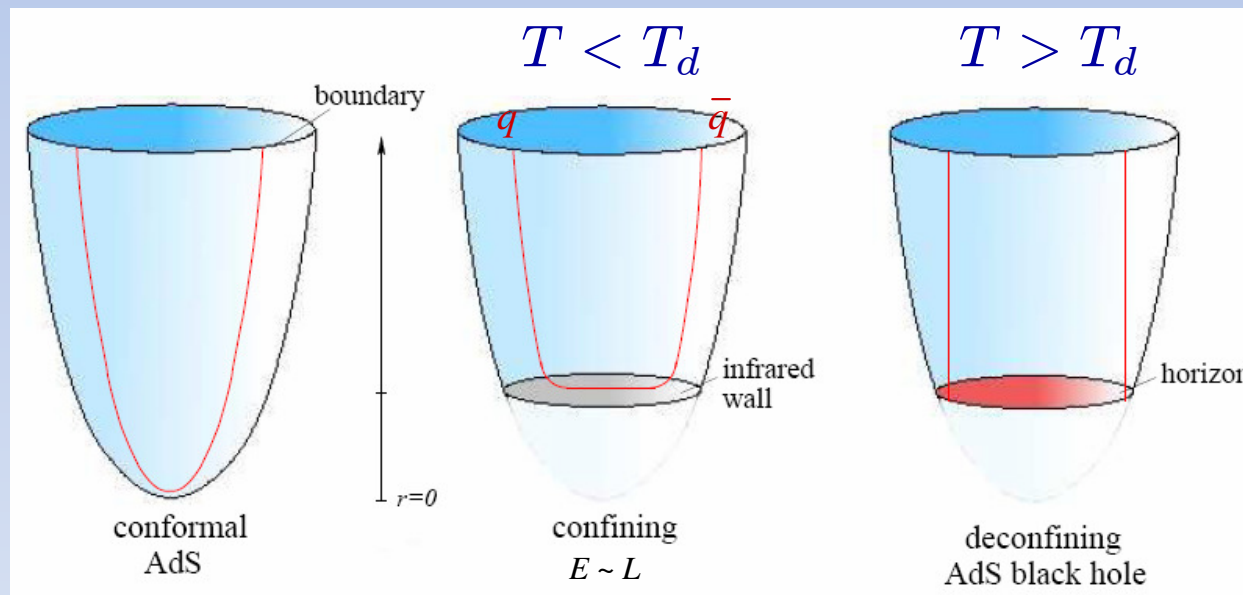
Example II: Finite Temperature

Quark gluon plasma: strongly-coupled state of matter above deconfinement temperature T_d



RHIC

Confinement/Deconfinement



AdS black hole: - AdS/CFT dual of field theory at finite temperature
- Hawking temperature $T_H \Leftrightarrow$ temperature in the dual QFT

Embedding and quark condensate

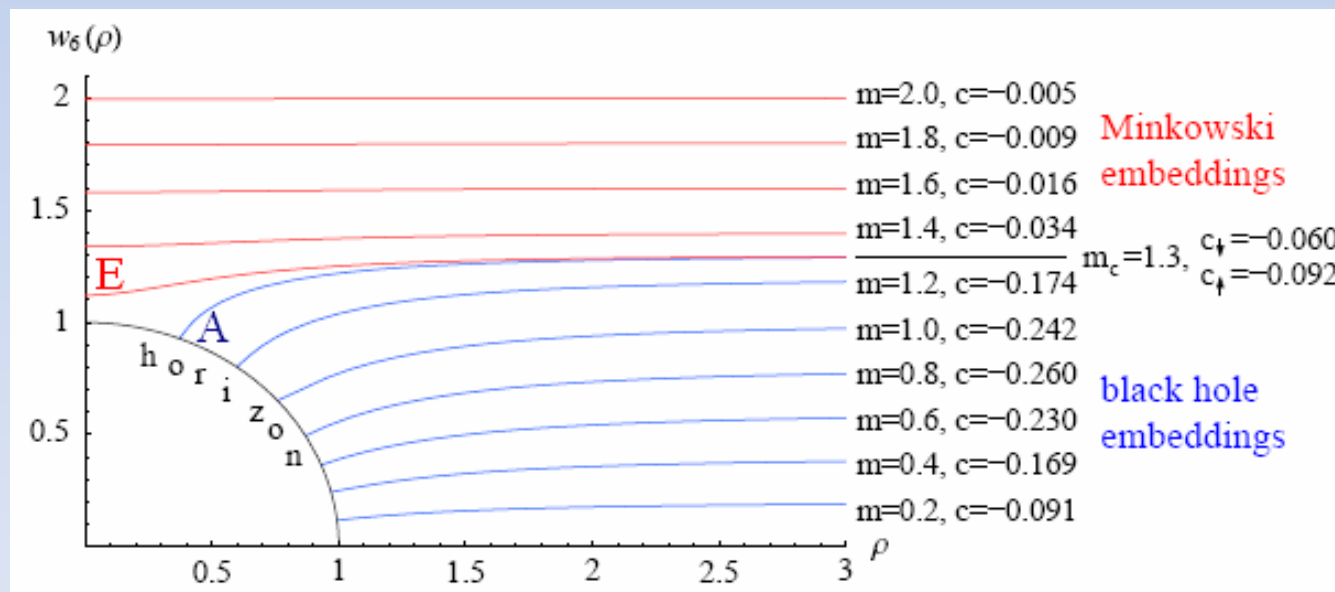
duality: i) branes in **AdS black hole** background (deconf.)
 ii) „QCD-like“ SU(N) YM theory with $N \gg 1$ ($T \neq 0$)

Babington, Erdmenger, Evans, Guralnik, I.K. (2003), I.K. (2004)

Mateos, Myers, Thomson (2006)

Two kinds of embedding solutions: branes may end either on the horizon or at a point above the horizon

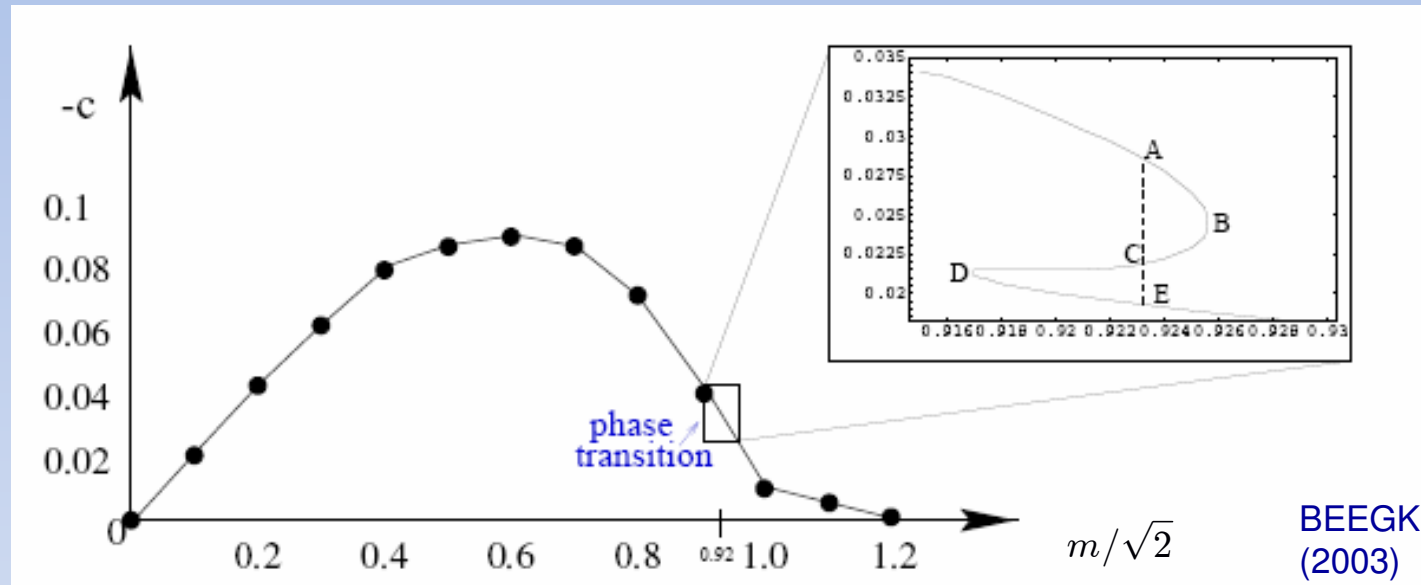
embedding profiles:



First-order phase transition

condensate vs quark mass:

I.K. (2004)



properties of the transition:

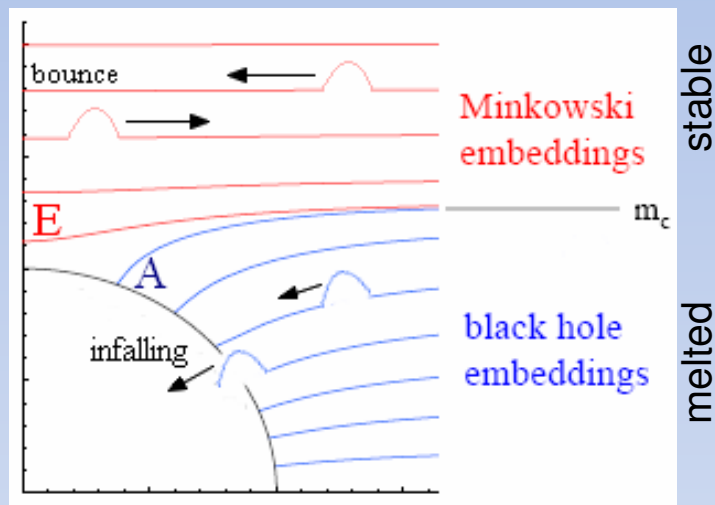
- transition occurs above conf./deconf. transition, $T_c > T_{dec}$
- first-order transition at $m_c=1.3$ (= 0.92 in figure)

Physical interpretation?

Meson melting into the QGP

decay governed by **quasinormal** modes:

*Hoyos, Landsteiner,
Montero (2006)*



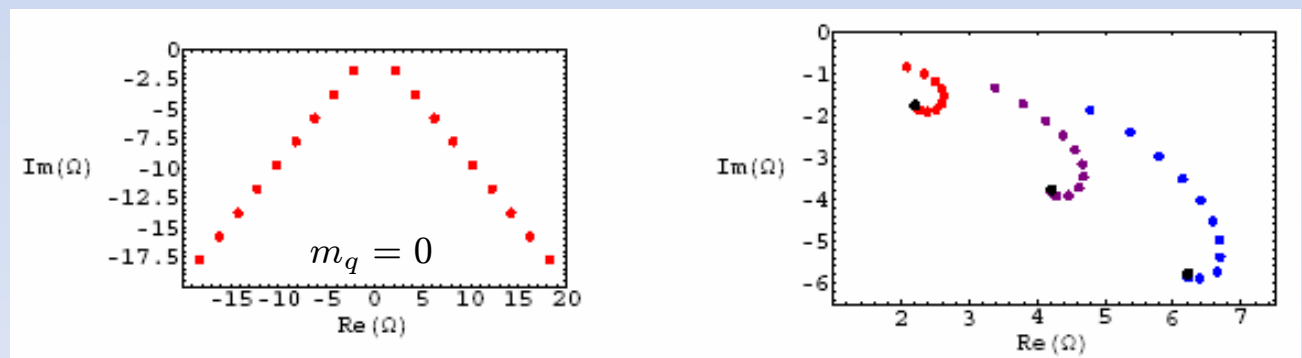
$$\delta\phi = \phi(\rho)e^{-i\omega t + ik \cdot x}$$

$$\omega_n^{\text{quasinormal}} = \Omega - i\frac{\Gamma_n}{2}$$

$$\tau \sim \Gamma_n^{-1} \text{ relaxation time}$$

⇒ qn. modes dissipate energy into the BH,
mesons melt into the quark gluon plasma

Plot of $\text{Im}(\omega)$
versus $\text{Re}(\omega)$



Finite U(1) quark number density

Quark number density n_q and U(1) chemical potential μ

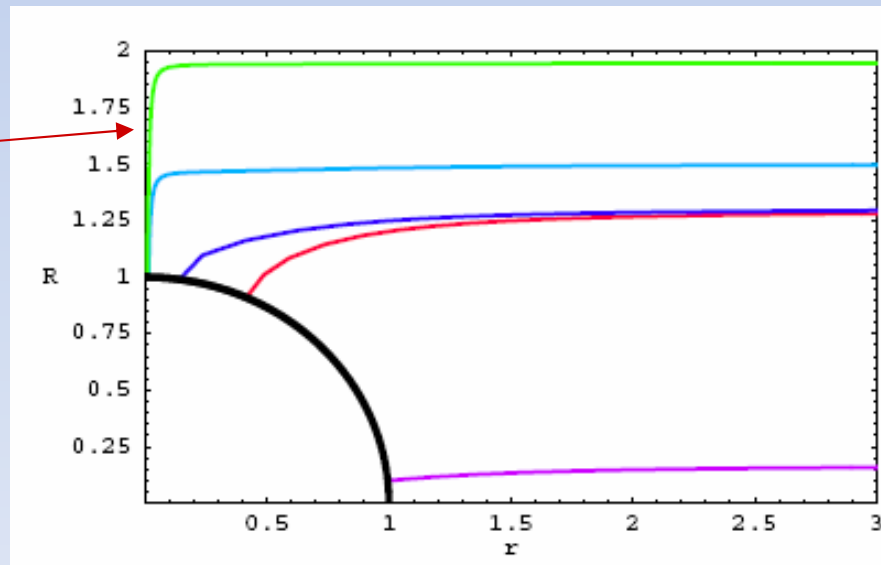
*Mateos, Myers,
Matsuura et al*

$$A_0(\rho) = \mu + \frac{\tilde{d}}{\rho^2}, \quad \tilde{d} = \frac{2^{5/2}}{N_f \sqrt{\lambda} T^3} n_q$$

(A_0 = time component of worldvolume gauge field)

For $n_q \neq 0$ all embeddings are black hole embeddings (mesons melt):

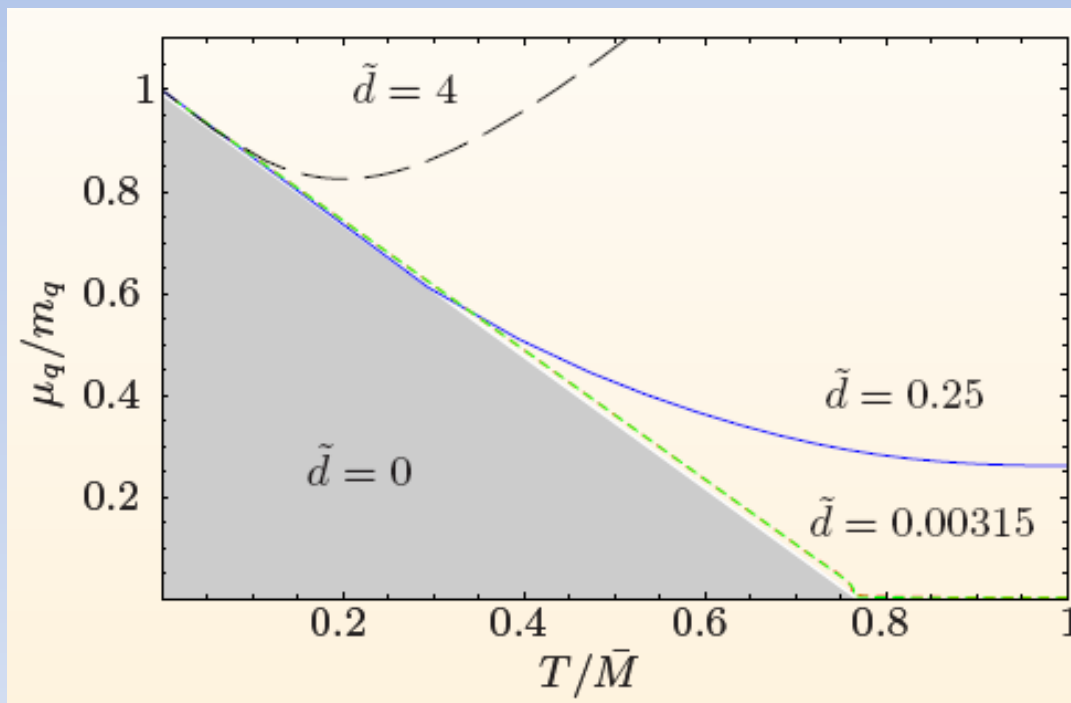
string



Phase diagram for finite quark number density

Phase diagram:

*Sin, Yogendran et al; Mateos,
Myers et al; Karch, O'Bannon; . . .*



*first-order transition
is characterised by
the condensation of
charge*

grey region: $n_q = 0$: Minkowski embeddings \Rightarrow stable mesons

white region: $n_q \neq 0$: black hole embeddings \Rightarrow meson melting

Conclusions

Generalized AdS/CFT dualities provide new tools for strongly-coupled gauge theories

numerous applications:

- spontaneous chiral symmetry breaking
- first-order phase transition in the deconfined phase
interpretation: meson melting in quark gluon plasma
- many others ...

Erdmenger, Evans, I. K. and Threlfall,
Review Paper (2007), EPJA