

Holographic SK contours and EFTs for Fluids

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Based on: T. He, R. Loganayagam, M. Rangamani, JV, S. Zhou
[2108.03244], [2205.03415], [2211.07683], [2306.01055].

Introduction

- ▶ Real-time thermal correlators are an important observable in QFT.
- ▶ They capture the dynamical response and fluid dynamical properties of the theory (Kubo formula-transport coefficients).
- ▶ They are key to understanding the chaotic properties of quantum systems (OTOCs).

A matter of order: the SK contour

- ▶ When computing real-time correlators, the order of operators is important (causality).
- ▶ A familiar choice is to compute time-ordered correlators:
$$\langle \mathcal{T} \mathcal{O}(t_1) \mathcal{O}(t_2) \dots \mathcal{O}(t_n) \rangle.$$
- ▶ Other orderings are often useful to explore distinct physics.
Example, retarded correlators: $\theta(t - t') \langle [\mathcal{O}(t), \mathcal{O}(t')] \rangle.$

- ▶ All the orderings can be taken into account by considering time-fold contours.
- ▶ Up to 3-point (thermal) correlators, one only needs a two-fold contour (SK contour):

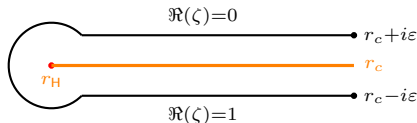
$$\langle \mathcal{O}(t_2) \mathcal{O}(t_1) \rangle_\beta =$$

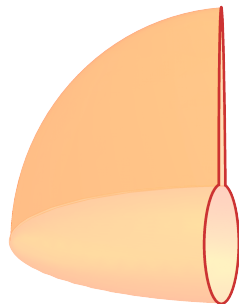
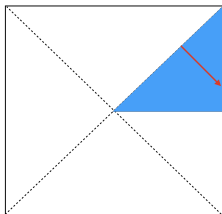
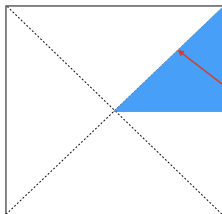
The diagram illustrates the SK contour in the complex time plane. A horizontal dashed line represents the real time axis, with a red solid line above it. A vertical red line segment descends from the start of the horizontal line to a point labeled $-i(\beta - \epsilon)$. From there, a red line goes up and then right, forming a loop that encloses the point $\mathcal{O}(t_2)$ on the dashed line. The point $\mathcal{O}(t_1)$ is on the upper red segment. The horizontal axis is labeled t with an arrow pointing right.

Holographic SK contours

- ▶ Long history of real-time holography [Herzog, Son, Starinets, Skenderis, van Rees...].
- ▶ Complex solution of Einstein equations whose boundary is the SK contour [Glorioso, Crossley, Liu] [Jana, Loganayagam, Rangamani].

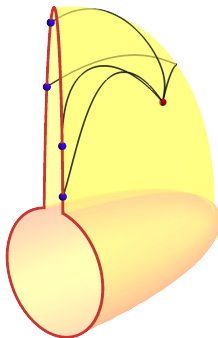
$$ds^2 = -r^2 f dv^2 + i\beta r^2 f dv d\zeta + r^2 d\vec{x}^2, \quad \frac{dr}{d\zeta} = \frac{i\beta}{2} r^2 f$$





- ▶ Key ingredient: Joining conditions must impose the KMS relations for the bdy. correlators.

- Correlation functions are then computed as Witten diagrams in this geometry.



A useful scenario: Holographic fluids

- ▶ We can study real-time gravitational path integrals in a very controlled scenario.
- ▶ Conversely, we can use these techniques to systematically construct actions for fluids and learn more about them.

Repackaging gravity: designer scalars

- ▶ Consider Einstein-Maxwell (can include CS) gravity:

$$S_{\text{Bulk}} = \int d^{d+1}x \sqrt{-G} \left(R + d(d-1) - \frac{1}{2} F_{AB} F^{AB} \right)$$

- ▶ We want to consider perturbations around equilibrium (RN black hole).
- ▶ These can be classified in terms of $SO(d-2)$ representations

[Kodama, Ishibashi] [Gubser, Pufu].

- ▶ Linear response in gravity is all packaged in a few scalars:

$$S_{\mathcal{M}} = -\frac{1}{2} \int d^{d+1}x \sqrt{-g} e^{\chi(r)} \nabla_A \Phi_{\mathcal{M}} \nabla^A \Phi_{\mathcal{M}}, \quad \sqrt{-g} e^{\chi(r)} \sim r^{\mathcal{M}}$$

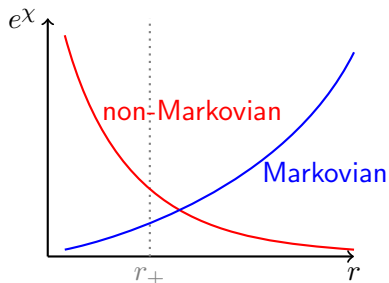
- ▶ Tensors: $e^{\chi(r)} = 1$.

- ▶ Vectors: $e^{\chi(r)} = \frac{1}{r^{2(d-1)}}$, $e^{\chi(r)} = \frac{h^2}{r^2}$, $h(r) = 1 - \frac{\mathfrak{S}_Q}{r^{d-2}}$.

- ▶ Scalars: $e^{\chi(r)} = \frac{h^2}{r^{2(d-2)} \Lambda_k^2}$, $e^{\chi(r)} = \frac{1}{h^2 r^{2(d-2)}}$,

$$\Lambda_k = k^2 + \frac{1}{2}(d-1)r^3 f'.$$

- ▶ The dilaton makes all the difference:



- ▶ The asymptotic behavior determines whether a perturbation is long or short-lived.

Solutions and actions:

► Markovian:

$$\Phi_{\mathcal{M}}(\zeta, w, \vec{k}) = J_a G_{\mathcal{M}}^{\text{in}} + \left[\left(n_\beta + \frac{1}{2} \right) G_{\mathcal{M}}^{\text{in}} - n_\beta e^{\beta(\zeta-1)} G_{\mathcal{M}}^{\text{rev}} \right] J_d$$

$$S[\Phi_{\mathcal{M}}] = - \int_k J_d^\dagger \mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{M}}^{\text{in}} \left[J_a + \left(n_\beta + \frac{1}{2} \right) J_d \right]$$

$$\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{M}} = -iw + \frac{k^2}{1 - \mathcal{M}} + \Delta_{\mathcal{M}}^{2,0}(r_+) w^2 + \dots$$

► Non-Markovian:

$$\Phi_{-\mathcal{M}}(\zeta, w, \vec{k}) = \check{\Phi}_a G_{-\mathcal{M}}^{\text{in}} + \left[\left(n_\beta + \frac{1}{2} \right) G_{-\mathcal{M}}^{\text{in}} - n_\beta e^{\beta(\zeta-1)} G_{-\mathcal{M}}^{\text{rev}} \right] \check{\Phi}_d$$

$$S[\Phi_{-\mathcal{M}}] = - \int_k \check{\Phi}_d^\dagger \mathcal{K}_{-\mathcal{M}}^{\text{in}} \left[\check{\Phi}_a + \left(n_\beta + \frac{1}{2} \right) \check{\Phi}_d \right]$$

$$\mathcal{K}_{-\mathcal{M}} = -iw + \frac{k^2}{1 + \mathcal{M}} - \Delta_{\mathcal{M}}^{2,0}(r_+) w^2 + \dots$$

► Sound is special:

$$\mathcal{K}_s = -w^2 + \frac{k^2}{d-1} + \nu_s k^2 \Gamma(w, k).$$

Correlation functions:

$$\langle T_{xy}(-w, -k) T_{xy}(w, k) \rangle^{\text{Ret}} \sim i \mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{M}}^{\text{in}}(w, k)$$

$$\langle T_{vx}(-w, -k) T_{vx}(w, k) \rangle^{\text{Ret}} \sim i \left[\frac{a_1}{\mathcal{K}_{-\mathcal{M}}^{\text{in}}(w, k)} + a_2 \mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{M}}^{\text{in}}(w, k) \right]$$

$$\langle J_x(-w, -k) J_x(w, k) \rangle^{\text{Ret}} \sim i \left[\frac{b_1}{\mathcal{K}_{-\mathcal{M}}^{\text{in}}(w, k)} + b_2 \mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{M}}^{\text{in}}(w, k) \right]$$

$$\langle T_{vv}(-w, -k) T_{vv}(w, k) \rangle^{\text{Ret}} \sim i \left[\frac{c_1}{\mathcal{K}_s^{\text{in}}(w, k)} + \frac{c_2}{\mathcal{K}_{-\mathcal{M}}^{\text{in}}(w, k)} \right]$$

$$\langle J_v(-w, -k) J_v(w, k) \rangle^{\text{Ret}} \sim i \left[\frac{d_1}{\mathcal{K}_s^{\text{in}}(w, k)} + \frac{d_2}{\mathcal{K}_{-\mathcal{M}}^{\text{in}}(w, k)} \right]$$

Beyond the Gaussian level: Witten diagrams in SK geometry

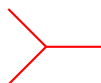
The ingredients

- ▶ Ingoing Bulk-to-Bdy Prop.: $G_{\text{in}}(\zeta, k)$.
- ▶ Outgoing Bulk-to-Bdy Prop.: $G_{\text{out}}(\zeta, k) = e^{-\beta\omega\zeta} G_{\text{in}}(\zeta, \bar{k})$
- ▶ Bulk-to-Bulk Prop:

$$G_{\text{bb}}(\zeta, \zeta'; k) = \mathcal{N}(k) e^{\beta\omega\zeta'} G_{\text{L}}(\zeta_{>}, k) G_{\text{R}}(\zeta'_{<}, k).$$

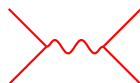
Important: $G_{\text{in}}(\zeta + 1, k) = G_{\text{in}}(\zeta, k)$.

► **Contact diagram:**



$$= \oint d\zeta \mathfrak{L}(\zeta) = \int_{r_H}^{r_c} dr (\mathfrak{L}(\zeta(r) + 1) - \mathfrak{L}(\zeta(r)))$$

► **Exchange diagram**



$$= \oint d\zeta \oint d\zeta' [F_1(\zeta, \zeta')\Theta(\zeta - \zeta') + F_2(\zeta, \zeta')\Theta(\zeta' - \zeta)]$$

$$= \int_{r_H}^{r_c} dr \int_{r_H}^{r_c} dr' [\mathfrak{F}_1\theta(r - r') + \mathfrak{F}_2\theta(r' - r)]$$

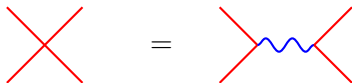
where

$$\mathfrak{F}_1 = F_1(\zeta, \zeta') - F_1(\zeta + 1, \zeta') + F_2(\zeta + 1, \zeta' + 1) - F_2(\zeta, \zeta' + 1),$$

$$\mathfrak{F}_2 = F_1(\zeta + 1, \zeta' + 1) - F_1(\zeta + 1, \zeta') + F_2(\zeta, \zeta') - F_2(\zeta, \zeta' + 1).$$

Analytic structure of Thermal correlators

- ▶ Explicit, closed-form, calculations are only possible in $d = 2$.
- ▶ General lesson: The analytic structure of higher order thermal correlators is determined by a single piece of data: $G_{\text{in}}(\zeta, k)$.
- ▶ Long-lived modes and factorization channels:



Outlook

- ▶ Effective action for fluids beyond the gaussian level:
 - ▶ SK Witten diagrams for $d > 3$.
 - ▶ Realistic vertices derived directly from gravity.
- ▶ Explicit computation of holographic OTOC (more time-folds).
- ▶ Connections to Thermal Bootstrap (block decomposition).
- ▶ Beyond holography: gravitational SK contours for more general spacetimes.

Thank You!