# Hot and dense QCD in the limit of large number of colors and flavors

K. Kajantie

Helsinki Institute of Physics

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1. Hot and dense QCD, N<sub>c</sub> ~ N<sub>f</sub> large  

$$e^{p(T,\mu;m_q)\frac{V}{T}} = \int \mathcal{D}A\mathcal{D}q \ e^{-\int^{1/T} d^4x \left[\frac{1}{g^2}F^2 + \bar{q}(\partial + A)q + m\bar{q}q + \mu q^{\dagger}q\right]}$$

- Chiral effective theories  $\Phi_{ij} = \langle q_i \bar{q}_j \rangle$
- Lattice Monte Carlo (vast effort!)  $V \to \infty, \ a \to 0, \ m_q \to 0$ or  $m_u, m_d, m_s, m_c, ..$  physical
  - Pert theory:  $p/T^4 = 1 + g^2 + g^3 + g^4 \log g + g^4 + g^5 + g^6 \log g + g^6 + ...$
  - Holography: >5dim gravity dual,  $N_c$ ,  $N_cg^2 \gg 1$ Make this an effective theory valid for all  $g^2$  !!

What does one expect? Take first N<sub>f</sub> ~ N<sub>c</sub>

At large T, $\mu$  quark-gluon plasma with chiral symmetry if m<sub>a</sub>=0

in between a chiral transition at  $T_{\chi}(\mu)$ 

At small T,  $\mu$  a quark-gluon system with chiral symmetry broken

A deconfinement transition to a hadronic phase

Chiral transition has an order parameter: condensate No order parameter, symmetry, associated with confinement!

This is what one gets:

On coexistence line T,  $\mu$ , p(T, $\mu$ ) equal



Reminder: coupling and mass run, are scheme dependent:





Now put here a perpendicular  $\mu$  axis :

$$2. \text{ Gravity dual}$$

$$4 \text{dim:} \qquad \int \mathcal{D}A \mathcal{D}q \ e^{-\int^{1/T} d^4x \left[\frac{1}{g^2}F^2 + \bar{q}(\partial + A)q + m\bar{q}q + \mu q^{\dagger}q\right]}$$

- 5dim gravity with AdS<sub>5</sub> boundary at z=0

potential

 $q^{\dagger}q = \bar{q}\gamma^0 q$ 

 $ds^{2} = b^{2}(z) \left[ -f(z)dt^{2} + d\mathbf{x}^{2} + \frac{dz^{2}}{f(z)} \right]$  $b(z) \rightarrow \frac{\mathcal{L}}{z}, \quad f(0) = 1, \quad f(z_h) = 0, \quad 4\pi T = -\dot{f}(z_h)$ temperature  $s = \frac{b^3(z_h)}{4Cz}$ entropy  $rac{N_c g^2(\mu)}{8\pi^2} 
ightarrow \lambda(z)$  dilaton  $m \to \tau(z)$ tachyon  $\mu \to A_0(z)$ 

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G_5} \int d^5 x \, \mathcal{L}_5$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \sqrt{-g} \begin{bmatrix} R + \left[ -\frac{4}{3} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_{\mu} \phi \partial_{\nu} \phi + V_g(\lambda) \right] & \text{Usual scalar} \\ - V_f(\lambda, \tau) \sqrt{-\det \left[ g_{ab} + \kappa(\lambda) \partial_a \tau \partial_b \tau + \omega(\lambda, \tau) F_{ab} \right]} \end{bmatrix} \\ \sqrt{1 + ... \dot{\tau}^2 + ... \dot{A}_0^2}$$

DBI action for tachyon and potential

$$A_0$$
 is cyclic  $\frac{\partial L_f}{\partial \dot{A}_0} = \tilde{n}$ 

Tachyon action is particularly interesting; string theory enters

When string tension grows, strings become points Closed string theory, containing gravity, becomes supergravity

Open string theory, containing gauge theory, goes to DBI:

**Dirac-Born-Infeld** 

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{DBI}} = -\frac{1}{\ell^4} \sqrt{-\det(g_{\mu\nu} + D_{\mu}\tau D_{\nu}\tau + \ell^2 F_{\mu\nu})}$$
  
$$= -\frac{1}{\ell^4} \sqrt{1 - \ell^4 (E^2 - B^2) - \ell^8 (E \cdot B)^2} = \frac{1}{2} (E^2 - B^2) + \frac{1}{2} \ell^4 (E \cdot B)^2 + \dots$$
  
$$\ell^2 = 1/T = 2\pi \alpha'$$

Physics in these functions:

Z<<1 UV asymptotic freedom, small  $\lambda$ 

 $\lambda(z) = \frac{1}{b_0 \log(1/\Lambda z)} + \dots$  grows towards IR

Z>>1 IR confinement

 $\lambda_h = \lambda(z_h)$ 

parameter!

$$\tau(z) = m \left( \log \frac{1}{\Lambda z} \right)^{-\frac{3}{2b_0}} z + \langle \bar{q}q \rangle \left( \log \frac{1}{\Lambda z} \right)^{\frac{3}{2b_0}} z^3 + \dots \quad \tau_h = \tau(z_h)$$
fixes m<sub>q</sub>=0

Solve 
$$\dot{A}_0$$
 from  $\frac{\partial L_f}{\partial \dot{A}_0} = \tilde{n}$ 

$$A_0(z) = \mu + \int_0^z dz \, \dot{A}_0(z) = \mu - nz^2 + \dots$$
$$n = \frac{\tilde{n}}{4\pi}s = \tilde{n}\frac{b_h^3}{16\pi G_5}$$

chemical potential number density

The five functions b(z), f(z),  $\lambda(z)$ ,  $\tau(z)$ ,  $A_0(z)$  are obtained as solutions of Einstein's equations shooting from the horizon

Two types of tachyon solutions:  $\tau = 0$ : chirally symmetric, no condensate  $\tau$  nonzero: chirality broken, nonzero condensate

As in lattice Monte Carlo, particularly time consuming is fixing  $m_q = 0$ . One has to choose  $\tau(z_h)$  properly:

Two parameters:  $\lambda_h$ ,  $\tilde{n}$ 

 $T(\lambda_h, \tilde{n}), \ \mu(\lambda_h, \tilde{n})$ 

 $dp = sdT + nd\mu \Rightarrow p_s(\lambda_h, \tilde{n}), p_b(\lambda_h, \tilde{n})$ 

## 3. Results





#### Typical bulk field configuration:



#### Physical region



~ charged Reissner-Nordström BHs

# Constant T, $\mu$ on $\lambda_h$ , $\tilde{n}$ plane

(chirally symmetric sols)



 $T_{\chi}(\mu) \Rightarrow T_{\chi}(n)$ 



Entropy finite at T=0!!



Actually the expansion for getting all T=0 solutions is more complicated:

$$f(z) = z^2 + z^{2 + \text{noninteger}} + \dots$$

why is entropy finite? No baryon operator, nuclear matter.. No qq operator, color-flavor locking, etc

### 4. Deconfinement



 $2N_c^2 + rac{7}{8} 4N_f N_c$  vs  $N_f^2$  dofs

#### 5. Conclusions

- This model is an effective theory connecting strong coupling holography to the weak coupling region

- The subtle interplay between confinement/chiral symmetry and charged black holes with and without tachyons produces a coexistence line with a critical point. Quite impressive

- The potentials  $V_g(\lambda)$ ,  $V_f(\lambda)$  are constrained but not completely: predictive power is limited. Offers a **framework, alternatives** 

- Not a cheap simple way to solve QCD!

- Much to do: more and better numbers, other potentials, larger Nf, more on T=0, other BSM theories (technicolor!), correlators, magnetic fields, theta vacua, baryons....

## Overflow



Here is the gravity action:

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G_5} \int d^5 x \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{L} = S[g_{\mu\nu}, \lambda, \tau]$$

$$\mathcal{L} = R + \left[ -\frac{4}{3} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_{\mu} \phi \partial_{\nu} \phi + V_g(\lambda) \right]$$

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$$-x_f V_f(\lambda) e^{-\mu^2 \tau^2} \sqrt{1 + g^{zz} (1 + \lambda(z))^{-4/3} \tau'(z)^2}$$

Matched to  $\beta$  function near  $\lambda \text{=} 0$ 

$$V_g(\lambda) = \frac{12}{\mathcal{L}_0^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{88\lambda}{27} + \frac{4619\lambda^2}{729} \frac{\sqrt{1 + \ln(1 + \lambda)}}{(1 + \lambda)^{2/3}} \right] \qquad e^{-\phi}R + .. \to R + ..$$

confinement at large  $\lambda$ 

EOM : 
$$\frac{\delta S}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} = 0$$
,  $\frac{\delta S}{\delta \lambda} = 0$ ,  $\frac{\delta S}{\delta \tau} = 0$ 

Simple thermal argument for  $x_c=4$ :

At low T dominant, easiest-to-excite modes are  $N_{f}^{2}$  Goldstone bosons (usual chiral symmetry breaking)

At some Tc these melt into  $2N_c^2 + \frac{7}{8}4N_fN_c$  gluons and quarks

Assume latent heat is ~ difference between these numbers. One enters the conformal regime when latent heat vanishes.

It vanishes at  $N_f = 4 N_c$ 



#### 't Hooft, Witten, Veneziano limits

't Hooft limit:  $\lambda$  fixed, N<sub>c</sub> large

Chiral anomaly:

$$\partial_{\mu}(\bar{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}\gamma_{5}\psi) \sim g^{2}N_{f}\,\tilde{F}_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} = \frac{\lambda}{N_{c}}N_{f}\,\tilde{F}_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}$$

Witten: at fixed  $\lambda$ , N<sub>f</sub> large N<sub>c</sub> switches of the anomaly

Veneziano: keep  $N_f/N_c$  fixed at large  $N_c$ 

#### Gauge/gravity duality

$$\langle \exp\left[i\int d^4x\,\phi_0(x)\,\mathcal{O}(x)\right]\rangle$$

$$\exp\left[i\int d^4x \int dz \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{L}_{\text{grav}}[g_{\mu\nu}, ..., \phi(x, z)]\right]$$
$$\phi(x, z) = \phi_0(x) z^{\Delta_-} + \langle \mathcal{O} \rangle z^{4-\Delta_-} + ...$$

Dofs of gravity ~ area, not volume!

AdS<sub>5</sub> has boundary at z=0 and scale L

 $N_c$ ,  $g^2N_c$  large