

# **M2-branes, non-relativistic CFT & Schrodinger geometries**

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talk based on:

**Hee-Cheol Kim, S.K., Ki-Myeong Lee & Jaemo Park, in preparation**  
**“Emergent Schrodinger geometries from mass-deformed CFT”**

related refs:

D. T. Son, Phys. Rev. D **78**, 046003 (2008), [arXiv:0804.3972](#).

K. Balasubramanian & J. McGreevy, Phys. Rev. Lett. **101**, 061601 (2008), [arXiv:0804.4053](#).

J. Gauntlett, S.K., O. Varela & D. Waldram, JHEP **0904**, 102 (2009), [arXiv:0901.0676](#).

E. ‘O Colgain, O. Varela & H. Yavartanoo, JHEP **0907**, 081 (2009), [arXiv:0906.0261](#).

J. Gauntlett, J. Sonner & T. Wiseman, JHEP **1002**, 060 (2010), [arXiv:0912.0512](#).

Hee-Cheol Kim & S.K. Nucl. Phys. B **839**, 96 (2010), [arXiv:1001.3153](#).

Sangmo Cheon, Hee-Cheol Kim & S.K. [arXiv:1101.1101](#).

## CFT's with mass deformations

- Interesting QFT's often appear by perturbing well-known CFT's by relevant operators which trigger RG flows.
- Deformations leaving massless fields: often flow to new interacting CFT
- Or more nontrivial vacua (e.g. confinement, spontaneous symmetry breakings, ... )
- Very often, **mass terms** are simplest relevant operators
- Familiar examples in string theory (also in  $\text{AdS}_5/\text{CFT}_4$ ):
  - ✓ From  $\text{C}^3/\text{Z}_2$  to conifold CFT by a mass perturbation [Klebanov-Witten]
  - ✓  $\text{N}=1$  mass to  $\text{N}=4$  SYM [Donagi-Witten] [Dorey] [Polchinski-Strassler]:  
confining/Higgs vacua, etc.
  - ✓ And more... many holographic RG flows known...

## Mass-deformed $\text{CFT}_3$ & non-relativistic CFT

- Various mass deformations of  $\text{CFT}_3$  (or  $\text{SCFT}_3$ ) for M2-branes known
- Rich IR physics: dynamical SUSY breaking, sometimes confinement, spontaneous symmetry breakings & superconductivity ...
- When all propagating degrees are massive: flows to non-relativistic CFT
- Shown very concretely with a SUSY mass deformation of ABJM  
[Nakayama-Sakaguchi-Yoshida] [Lee-Lee-Lee] (2009)
- gravity duals of non-relativistic  $\text{CFT}_3$  [Son] [Balasubramanian-McGreevy] (2008)
- This talk: gravity duals of such RG flows?
- examples with string theory embeddings: e.g. M2-brane CFT's

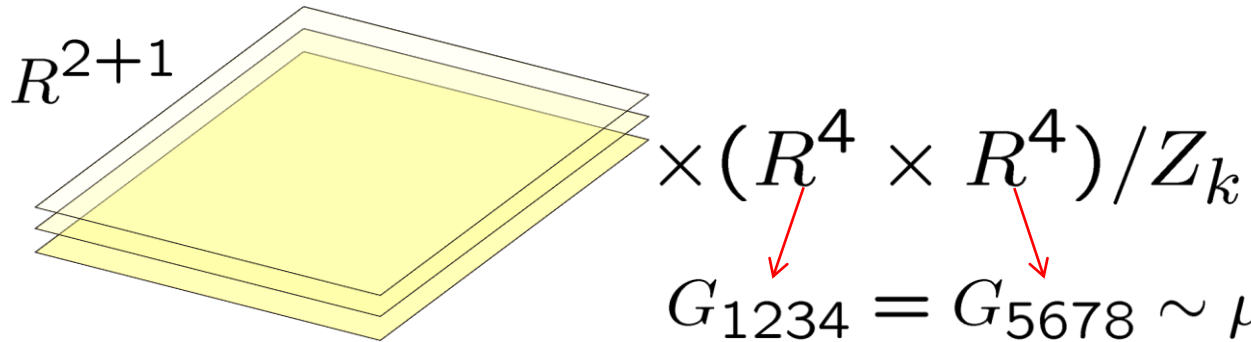
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# M2-branes in flux backgrounds

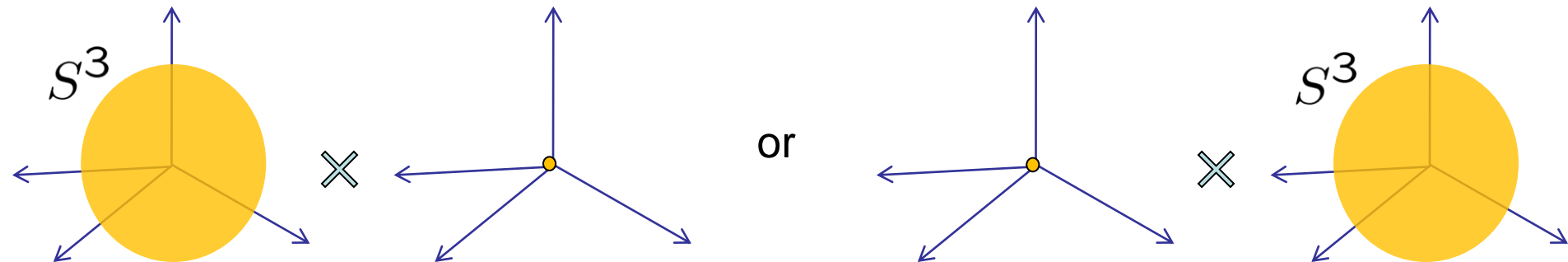
- Fermion mass on M2's probing  $R^8$  : self-dual 4-forms

$$\star_8 G_4 = G_4$$



fermion mass admitting  
maximal SUSY completion

- Discrete classical vacua from polarized M5's [Bena] [Myers]
- On the field theory side, nontrivial scalar VEV's



holography of massive M2-branes

## The field theory (perserving all Poincare SUSY)

- N=6 Chern-Simons-matter theory [ABJM 2008]: fields & charges (I=1,2,3,4)

fields	$U(N) \times U(N)$	$SO(6)_R$	$U(1)_b$
$Z_I$	$(N, \bar{N})$	<b>4</b>	$+\frac{1}{2}$
$\Psi^I$	$(N, \bar{N})$	<b><math>\bar{4}</math></b>	$+\frac{1}{2}$
$A_\mu$	$(\text{adj}, 1)$	<b>1</b>	0
$\tilde{A}_\mu$	$(1, \text{adj})$	<b>1</b>	0

- Lagrangian with mass deformation: CS level **k** is inverse coupling const.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L} = & \frac{k}{4\pi} \text{tr} \left( A dA - \frac{2i}{3} A^3 \right) - \frac{k}{4\pi} \text{tr} \left( \tilde{A} d\tilde{A} - \frac{2i}{3} \tilde{A}^3 \right) - D_\mu Z_I D^\mu \bar{Z}^I \\
 & - \frac{4\pi^2}{3k^2} \text{tr} \left( Z_I \bar{Z}^I Z_J \bar{Z}^J Z_K \bar{Z}^K + \bar{Z}^I Z_I \bar{Z}^J Z_J \bar{Z}^I Z_K + 4 Z_I \bar{Z}^J Z_K \bar{Z}^I Z_J \bar{Z}^K \right. \\
 & \left. - 6 Z_I \bar{Z}^J Z_J \bar{Z}^I Z_K \bar{Z}^K \right) + \text{fermions} \\
 & - \text{tr} \left( m^2 \bar{Z}^I Z_I + \frac{4\pi}{k} (Z_I \bar{Z}^I Z_J \bar{Z}^K - \bar{Z}^I Z_I \bar{Z}^K Z_J) \Omega^J_K \right) + \text{fermions} \\
 & \hspace{15em} \Omega^I_J \equiv m \text{diag}(1, 1, -1, -1)
 \end{aligned}$$

- Vacua: scalars  $Z_1, Z_2, Z_3, Z_4$  “spaning”  $R^8$  assume nontrivial VEV

# Non-relativistic CFT

- Simplest vacuum: all scalars VEV's =0 ('symmetric' vacuum)
- For this vacuum, we have non-relativistic CFT in IR [Nakayama-Sakaguchi-Yoshida][Lee-Lee-Lee] (2009) (can exist for more general vacua...)

- Use  $U(1)_b$  charge as particle number symmetry

$$Z_I = \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2m}} z_I e^{-imc^2 t/\hbar}$$

- Take the limit  $c \rightarrow \infty$  or  $\frac{p^2}{2m} \ll mc^2$  (after restoring c & Plank const.)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & \text{tr} \left[ i\hbar \bar{z}^I D_t z_I - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} |D_i z_I|^2 + \frac{\pi \hbar^2}{mk} (z_I \bar{z}^I z_J \bar{z}^K \Omega^J_K - \bar{z}^I z_I \bar{z}^J z_K \Omega^K_J) \right] \\ & + \frac{k\hbar}{4\pi} \text{tr} \left[ AdA - \frac{2i}{3} A^3 - \tilde{A} d\tilde{A} + \frac{2i}{3} \tilde{A}^3 \right] + \text{fermions} \end{aligned}$$

- No sextic, just quartic potential (anisotropic scale invariance)



## Non-relativistic CFT (*continued*)

- particle number (N) from  $U(1)_b$  (only positively charged modes kept)
- translations ( $H, P_i$ ), rotation ( $J$ ), Galilean boosts ( $G_i$ )
- scale inv. ( $D$ ) with  $z=2$ : (scale dim=1 for bosons/fermions)  $\delta t = \alpha^2 t, \delta x_i = \alpha x_i$
- special conformal transformation ( $K$ ): (also, appropriately transform fields)

$$\delta t = \alpha t^2, \delta x_i = -\alpha t x_i$$

- Schrodinger algebra:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} [H, P_{\pm}] &= 0, \quad [P_+, P_-] = 0, \quad [J, H] = 0, \quad [J, H] = 0, \\ [J, P_{\pm}] &= \pm P_{\pm}, \quad [G_+, G_-] = 0, \quad [J, G_{\pm}] = \pm G_{\pm}, \\ i[H, G_{\pm}] &= P_{\pm}, \quad i[P_+, G_-] = i[P_-, G_+] = 2m\mathcal{N}. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad \text{Galilean algebra}$$

$$i[D, H] = 2H, \quad i[D, K] = -2K, \quad i[K, H] = D \quad \left. \vphantom{[D, H]} \right\} \quad \text{SO}(2,1)$$

... and...  $\begin{aligned} [D, J] &= 0, \quad i[D, P_{\pm}] = P_{\pm}, \quad i[D, G_{\pm}] = -G_{\pm} \\ [K, J] &= 0, \quad i[K, P_{\pm}] = -G_{\pm}, \quad [K, G_{\pm}] = 0, \end{aligned}$

- Classical action has 2 extra NR conformal SUSY: 14 SUSY in total

## A gravity dual of NR CFT

- At least Galilean + scale symmetries are generic in IR for any type of mass deformations (classically), when all dynamical degrees are massive.
- Question: what is the gravity dual of NR CFT in the IR?
- candidate: Schrodinger geometry [D.T. Son] [Balasubramanian,McGreevy] (2008)

$$ds_5^2 = L^2 \left[ -ar^4(dx^+)^2 + r^2(d\vec{x}^2 + dx^+ dx^-) + \frac{dr^2}{r^2} \right]$$

translational symmetry along  $x^-$  :  
particle number symmetry

- $Sch_5$  for 2+1d NR CFT obtained by perturbing 3+1d relativistic CFT (i.e.  $AdS_5$ ) by irrelevant operators breaking 4d symmetry [Maldacena-Martelli-Tachikawa] [Herzog-Rangamani-Ross] [Adams-Balasubramanian-McGreevy] (2008)
- We want flows from  $AdS_4$  to  $Sch_5$ : solutions with  $AdS_4/Sch_5$  in UV/IR

## Gravity solutions for a holographic flow

- We want to clearly see if  $Sch_5$  is indeed suitable for describing our NR M2-brane system: flow solution for **any** mass deformation of  $AdS_4 \times S^7$ ?
- 4d SUGRA for  $AdS_4 \times SE_7$  (skew-whiffed) [Gauntlett, S.K., Varela, Waldram] (2009)

$$ds_{11}^2 = ds_4^2 + e^{2U} ds^2(KE_6) + e^{2V} \eta^2$$

$$G_4 = 6e^{-6U-V} (-1 + h^2) \text{vol}_4 + dh \wedge J \wedge \eta + 2hJ \wedge J$$

$$ds_4^2 = e^{2A(r)} (\eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu) + dr^2 \quad \text{self-dual 4-forms in } R^8 \text{ or } C(SE_7)$$

want 2+1d Poincare invariant flow:  
flowing to IR itself does not break it

$$\eta \equiv d\psi + \theta, \quad d\theta = 2J$$

- Flow from  $AdS_4$  to  $Sch_5$ : possible if  $U(1)$  circle of  $SE_7$  participates in  $Sch_5$
- plausible from QFT: used internal  $U(1)$  as particle number symmetry.

## Gravity solutions for holographic flow *(continued)*

- As will be clear shortly, demand that the U(1) circle suitably shrinks in IR:  
IR solution in small radius expansion is given by

$$\begin{aligned} e^V &= \rho \left( 1 - \frac{7}{16}\rho^2 + \frac{69}{256}\rho^4 - \frac{2209}{12288}\rho^6 + \dots \right) \\ e^A &= a_0 \rho \left( 1 + \frac{3}{16}\rho^2 - \frac{15}{256}\rho^4 + \frac{329}{12288}\rho^6 + \dots \right) \end{aligned} \quad \text{with } U = 0, \quad h^2 = 1 - e^{2V}, \quad \rho = e^{\sqrt{2}r}$$

$$\begin{aligned} ds_{11}^2 &= ds_4^2 + e^{2U} ds^2(KE_6) + e^{2V} \eta^2 \\ G_4 &= 6e^{-6U-V} (-1 + h^2) \text{vol}_4 + dh \wedge J \wedge \eta + 2hJ \wedge J \\ ds_4^2 &= e^{2A(r)} (\eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu) + dr^2 \end{aligned}$$

- Exact solution [Gauntlett-Sonner-Wiseman] (2009): “zero T limit of neutral black hole”

$$\begin{aligned} ds_{4E}^2 &= r^2 (-dt^2 + d\vec{x}^2) + g^{-1}(r) dr^2 \\ h(r) &= \frac{\sqrt{3} \sqrt{\frac{6\sqrt{3}(2r^8+4r^4+1)}{\sqrt{Z}} - Z + 9} - \sqrt{3Z} + 3}{6(r^4 + 1)} \\ Z(r) &\equiv \frac{2 \cdot 6^{2/3} (r^4 + 1) r^{8/3}}{(\sqrt{48r^4 + 81} - 9)^{1/3}} - 6^{1/3} (r^4 + 1) \left( \sqrt{48r^4 + 81} - 9 \right)^{1/3} r^{4/3} + 3 \end{aligned}$$

- Checked its IR expansion; also, separately found numerical flow solution.

# Gravity dual of the non-relativistic limit

- 1<sup>st</sup> step of QFT non-relativistic limit: redefine energy
- Gravity: redefine IR coordinate  $x^- = \psi - a_0 t$
- Discarding anti-particles with small NR energy: suitably scale to IR  $\rho = 0$

$$ds_{11}^2 = a_0^2 \rho^2 \left(1 + \frac{3}{16} \rho^2 + \dots\right)^2 (-dt^2 + d\vec{x}^2) + \frac{d\rho^2}{2\rho^2} + \rho^2 \left(1 - \frac{7}{16} \rho^2 + \dots\right)^2 (d\psi + \theta)^2 + ds^2(KE_6)$$

$$G_4 = -6a_0^3 \rho^4 (1 + \dots) \text{vol}_3 \wedge dr - \frac{1}{2} d(\rho^2 + \dots) \wedge J \wedge \eta + (2 + \dots) J \wedge J$$

scaling limit  $\rho \rightarrow \epsilon \rho$ ,  $x^+ \rightarrow \epsilon^{-2} x^+$ ,  $\vec{x} \rightarrow \epsilon^{-1} \vec{x}$ ,  $x^- \rightarrow x^-$  with  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$

$$ds_{11}^2 = \boxed{-\frac{5a_0^2}{4} \rho^4 (dx^+)^2 + \rho^2 (a_0^2 d\vec{x}^2 + 2a_0 dx^+ (dx^- + \theta)) + \frac{d\rho^2}{2\rho^2}} + ds^2(KE_6)$$

$$G_4 = -3\sqrt{2} a_0^3 \rho^3 dx^+ \wedge dx^1 \wedge dx^2 \wedge d\rho - a_0 \rho d\rho \wedge J \wedge dx^+ + 2J \wedge J .$$

- This  $\text{Sch}_5$  is related to a known one. [O. Colgain, Varela, Yavartanoo] (2009)

## Comments on the IR solution

- The solution near  $\rho = 0$  might look like  $\text{AdS}_5$  fibered over  $\text{KE}_6$

$$ds_{11}^2 = a_0^2 \rho^2 \left( 1 + \frac{3}{16} \rho^2 + \dots \right)^2 (-dt^2 + d\vec{x}^2) + \frac{d\rho^2}{2\rho^2} + \rho^2 \left( 1 + \frac{7}{16} \rho^2 + \dots \right)^2 (d\psi + \theta)^2 + ds^2(\text{KE}_6)$$

$$G_4 = -6a_0^3 \rho^4 (1 + \dots) \text{vol}_3 \wedge dr - \frac{1}{2} d(\rho^2 + \dots) \wedge J \wedge \eta + (2 + \dots) J \wedge J$$

- However, without sub-leading terms,  $\text{AdS}_5$  fibered over  $\text{KE}_6$  is not a solution. (Without fibration over  $\text{KE}_6$ , the direct product **is** an exact solution.)
- Also, one cannot take a consistent scaling limit towards this geometry.
- One might be tempted to try

$$\rho \rightarrow \epsilon \rho, \quad t \rightarrow \epsilon^{-1} t, \quad \vec{x} \rightarrow \epsilon^{-1} \vec{x}, \quad \psi \rightarrow \epsilon^{-1} \psi \quad \text{with } \epsilon \rightarrow 0$$

- The last angle is periodic, meaningless to take it to be 'large'

## Some aspects of dual QFT

- flow from  $\text{AdS}_4 \times S^7$  in skew-whiffed frame:  $\text{SO}(8)$  broken to  $\text{SU}(4) \times \text{U}(1)_b$ 
    - scalar :  $8_v \rightarrow 4_{-1} + \bar{4}_1$
    - fermion :  $8_c \rightarrow 1_2 + 1_{-2} + 6_0$
    - supercharge :  $8_s \rightarrow 4_1 + \bar{4}_{-1}$
- } representation changed without skew-whiffing:  $6_0$  is the ABJM supercharge
- Dual mass operator: fermion mass

$$M_{ab} \psi^a \psi^b \quad (a,b=1,2, \dots 8)$$

$$M_{ab} : 35_+ \rightarrow 1_0 + 1_4 + 1_{-4} + 6_2 + 6_{-2} + 20$$

$$m_f \left( \frac{1}{2} \psi^i \psi^i - 3 \bar{\xi} \xi \right) \quad (i=1,2, \dots 6)$$

- Boson masses:  $m_b^2 Z_I \bar{Z}^I$
- mass ratios for bosons/fermions in UV: satisfies a supertrace constraint

$$\text{Str}(M^2) = 8m_b^2 - \text{tr}(M_f^2) = 0$$

## Comments on SUSY mass deformations

- So is the story same for maximally supersymmetric mass-deformation?
- SUSY Schrodinger solutions for M2: only found solutions with different properties (without 14 SUSY) [Ooguri-Park] [Jeong-Kim-Lee-O Colgain-Yavartanoo]
- For some vacua, SUSY spontaneously broken (or vacua are absent): completely classified by a Witten index calculation [Hee-Cheol Kim, S.K.]
- In particular, w/  $VEV=0$ , SUSY broken when  $N > k$ : always broken in the large  $N$  limit with  $N \gg k$ , in which gravity description is reliable.
- Flow with spontaneously broken SUSY and IR Schrodinger symmetry?  
Open question (perhaps the non-SUSY vacuum is meta-stable...)



## Comments on SUSY mass deformations *(continued)*

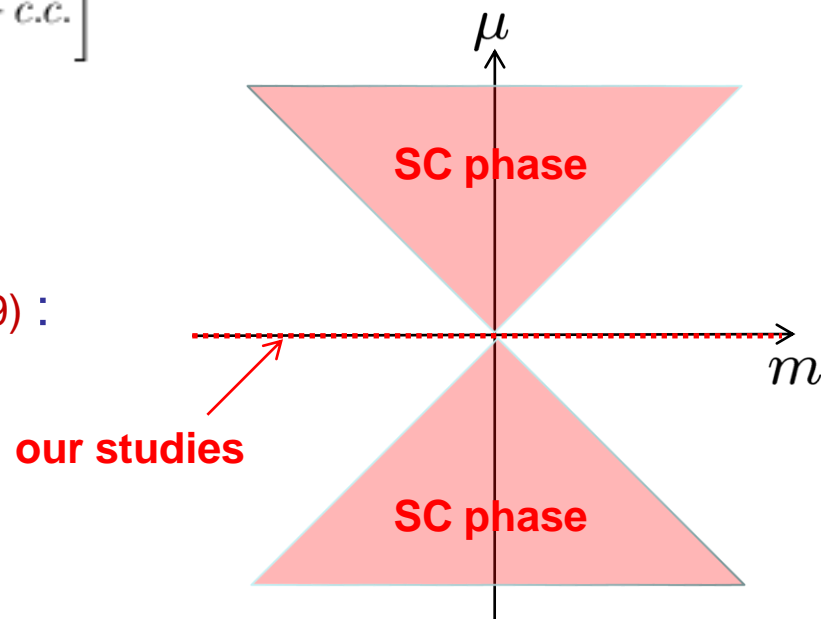
- For the SUSY vacua, the gravity duals are well understood.
- gravity dual for  $k=1$  (no orbifold): bubbling geometry [Lin-Lunin-Maldacena] (2004)
- # of classical SUSY vacua is more than the LLM gravity solution. [Gomis, Rodriguez-Gomez, v. Raamsdonk, Verlinde] (2008)
- With SUSY breaking, complete agreement [S.K., Hee-Cheol Kim] (2010)
- $k>1$ :  $Z_k$  orbifold, fractional M2's [S. Cheon, H.-C. Kim, S.K.] (2011)
- Generic SUSY vacua partly break  $U(N)\times U(N)$  gauge symmetry: NR CFT involving massive vectors? Further studies on the gravity dual?

## Comments on holographic superconductors

- The  $SE_7$  flows discussed here can be viewed in a broader context, involving holographic superconductors. [Gauntlett-Sonner-Wiseman] (2009)
- One can add a charged scalar & gauge field: ( $H_2$  and  $dA_2$  related)

$$\begin{aligned} ds_{11}^2 &= ds_4^2 + e^{2U} ds^2(KE_6) + e^{2V} (\eta + A_1)^2 \\ G_4 &= 6e^{-6U-V} (-1 + h^2 + |\chi|^2) \text{vol}_4 + H_2 \wedge J + dh \wedge J \wedge (\eta + A_1) + 2hJ \wedge J \\ &\quad + \sqrt{3} \left[ \chi(\eta + A_1) \wedge \Omega - \frac{i}{4} D\chi \wedge \Omega + c.c. \right] \end{aligned}$$

- QFT at nonzero chemical potential
- the phase diagram at zero T [GSW] (2009) :



## Concluding remarks

- Holography of mass-deformed M2: many vacua & interesting IR physics
- In this talk, I focused on the gravity dual of a non-relativistic CFT obtained by a mass deformation of relativistic CFT.
- More general gravity solutions with Schrodinger symmetry?
  - ✓ If one obtains 2+1d NR CFT from 3+1d CFT with irrelevant operators, presence of  $x^-$  is crucial: just extra QFT direction in 3+1d
  - ✓ Exotic property of thermodynamics: presence of infinite particle species, coming from KK tower [Barbon-Fuertes] (2009) [Balasubramanian-McGreevy] (2010)
  - ✓ Our NR limit does not necessarily involve isometry realization.