

Interface Flows in D1/D5 Holography

Christian Northe

June 28 2019, King's College London

Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg

Work in progress with J. Erdmenger and C. Melby-Thompson

Table of Contents

Kondo and Boundary RG Flows

Interface RG Flows in Holography

Backreacted Supergravity Solutions of Interface Fixed Points

Interfaces in the D1/D5 CFT

Summary and Outlook

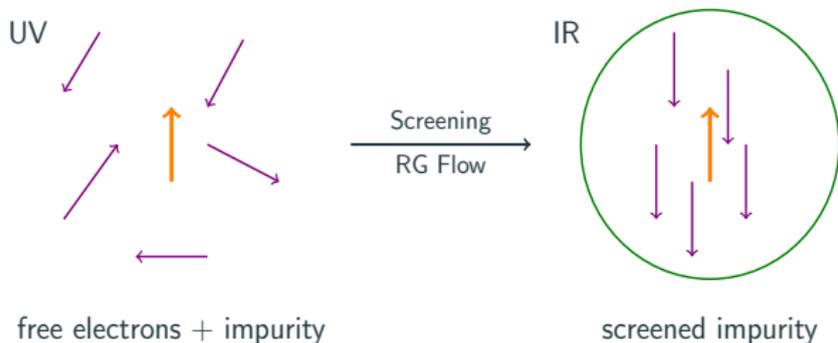
Kondo and Boundary RG Flows

Spin impurities and the Kondo effect

Heavy **magnetic impurity** interacts with conduction electrons

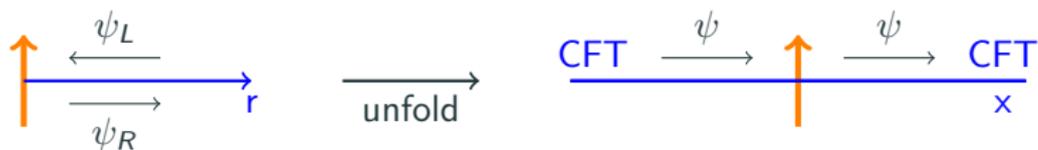
Ultraviolet. Free electrons with mild antiferromagnetic coupling to spin

Infrared. Impurity is screened through binding with conduction electrons



$$H = \psi^\dagger i\nabla\psi + \lambda \delta(\vec{r}) \vec{S} \cdot \vec{J}, \quad \vec{J} = \frac{1}{2} \psi^\dagger \mathbf{T} \psi$$

S-wave approximation



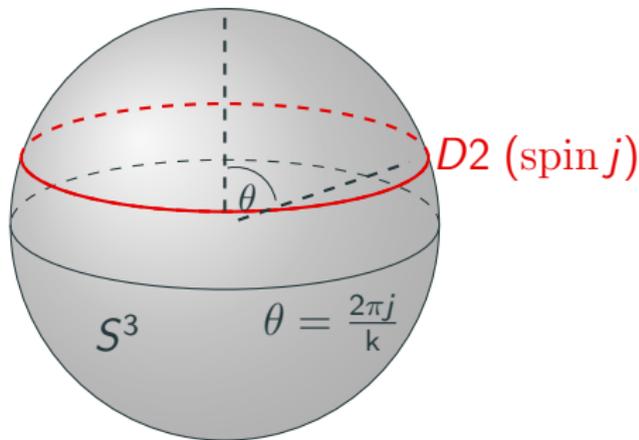
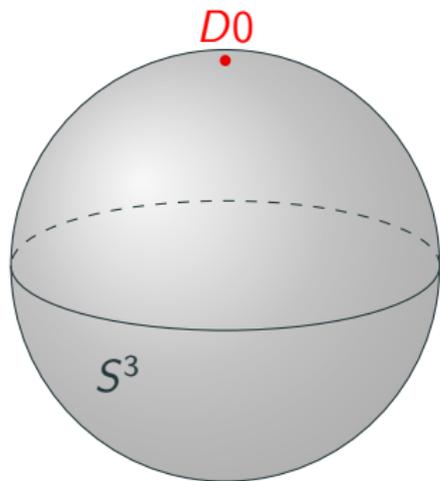
System described by action

$$\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{I}_{\text{WZW}}(\hat{\mathfrak{su}}(2)_k) + \lambda \int_{\partial\Sigma} dt \vec{S} \cdot \vec{J}(t),$$

where \vec{S} is in **spin-S** irreducible representation of $\mathfrak{su}(2)$.

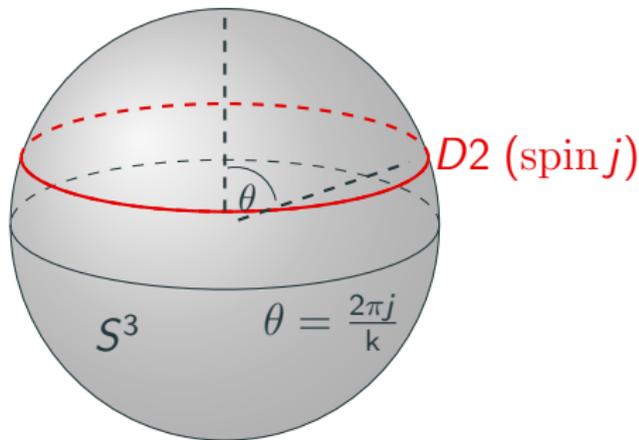
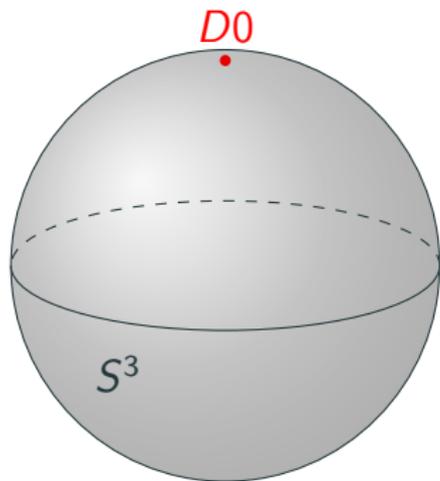
Conformally Invariant Boundary Conditions of $\hat{\mathfrak{su}}(2)_k$

- Labeled by set of primaries $j = 0, \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}, \dots, \frac{k}{2}}_{k+1}$
- Correspond to discrete set of conjugacy classes



Conformally Invariant Boundary Conditions of $\hat{\mathfrak{su}}(2)_k$

- Labeled by set of primaries $j = 0, \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}, \dots, \frac{k}{2}}_{k+1}$
- Correspond to discrete set of conjugacy classes

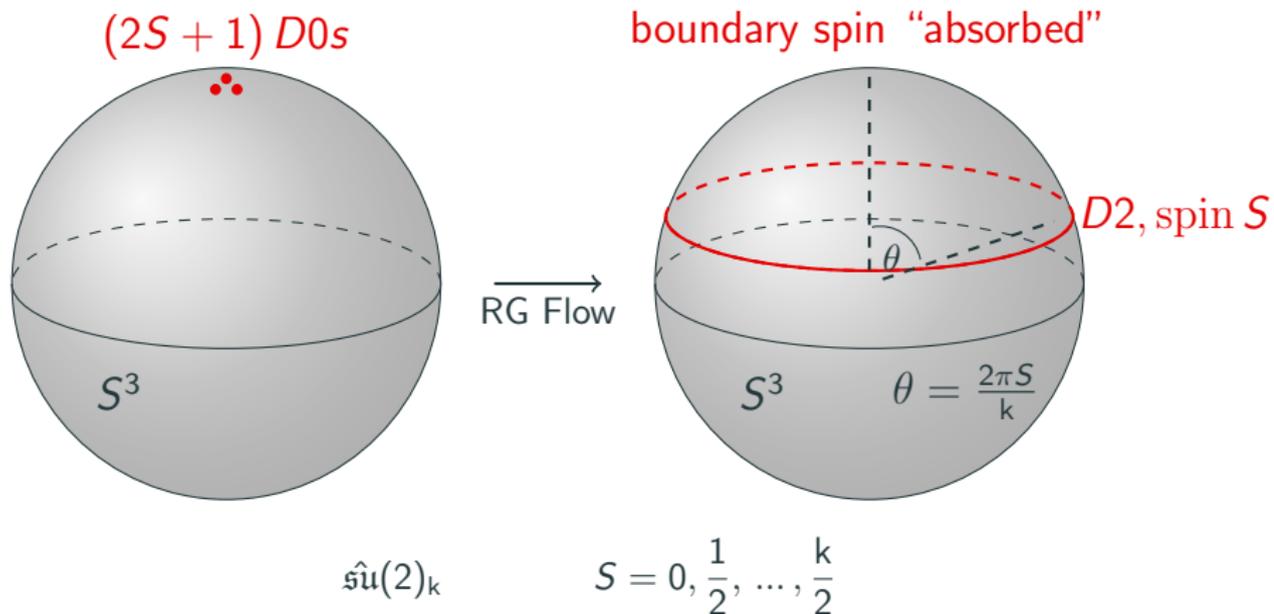


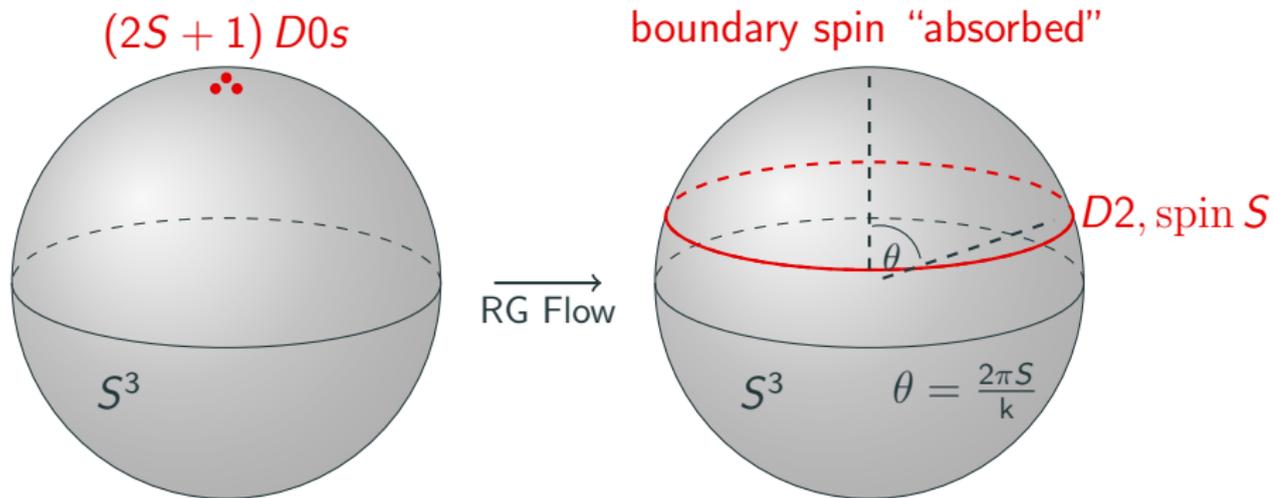
Both types of branes preserve $SO(3)$!

'Absorption of boundary spin' Principle Affleck & Ludwig 1991

Non-abelian polarization

$(2S + 1)$ pointlike Branes (spin-0) \rightarrow 1 brane of spin S





Geometric implementation in AdS/CFT:

Kondo-like defect flows in D1/D5 system via non-abelian polarization.

Interface RG Flows in Holography

Gravitational dual of D1/D5 system

Type IIB on $M_{10} = \mathbb{R}^{1,1} \times \mathbb{R}^4 \times M_4$ (with $M_4 = K3$ or T^4):

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
D5 (N_5)	•	•					•	•	•	•
D1 (N_1)	•	•								

Near-Horizon Limit. IIB string theory on $AdS_3 \times S^3 \times M_4$ supported by $F^{(3)}$ flux on AdS_3 & S^3

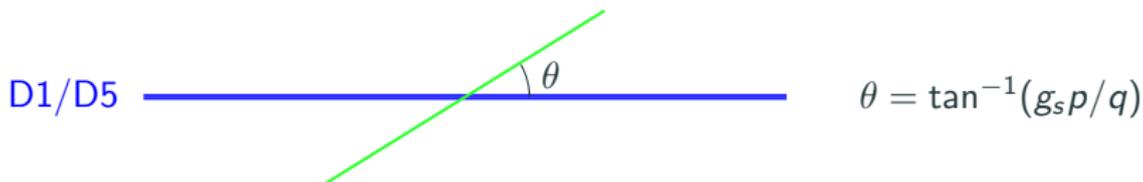
Symmetries

- $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$ small superconformal algebra.
- Bosonic part: $\mathfrak{so}(2, 2) \times \mathfrak{so}(4)$.

	AdS ₃			S ³			M ₄			
	t	x	z	θ	φ	χ	6	7	8	9
D5 (N ₅)	•	•					•	•	•	•
D1 (N ₁)	•	•								
(p, q)	•	—	•							

p = fundamental string charge, q = D1-brane charge

- Interface preserves $\mathfrak{so}(2,1) \times \mathfrak{su}(2)$ & 8 superconformal charges
- Interface with $q \neq 0$ shifts central charge of CFT

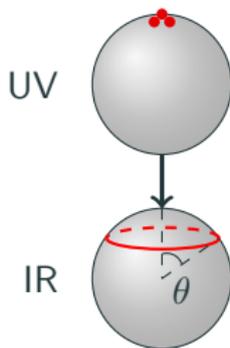


Flows from brane polarization

Deform branes by **non-abelian polarization**: Myers '99

Coordinates on S^3 become non-commutative \implies fuzzy S^2 inside S^3 .

- (p, q) strings puff up into D3 branes
- BPS flow solutions for general (p, q) obtained from κ symmetry projector (along lines of Gomis & al. '99).



	AdS ₃			S ³			M ₄			
	<i>t</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>z</i>	$\theta(z)$	ϕ	χ	6	7	8	9
D3 (<i>p, q</i>)	•	(-)	•		•	•				

Flows from brane polarization

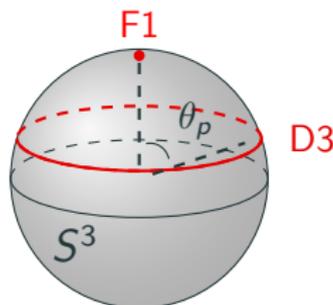
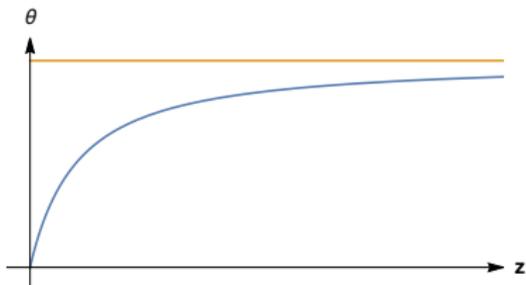
- In D3-brane description, $\theta = \theta(z)$

$$I = T_{D3} \int d^4 \xi e^{-\Phi} \sqrt{-\det(\hat{g} + F)} + T_{D3} \int (C^{(2)} \wedge F + \frac{1}{2} F \wedge F)$$

- Simplest case: when D3 branes carry no D1 charge, solution is given by

$$z = z_0 \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta_p - \theta} \quad \theta_p = \pi \frac{p}{N_5}$$

where z is the radial coordinate in Poincaré patch.



Backreacted Supergravity Solutions of Interface Fixed Points

Asymptotically $AdS_3 \times S^3 \times M_4$ $\frac{1}{2}$ -BPS solutions

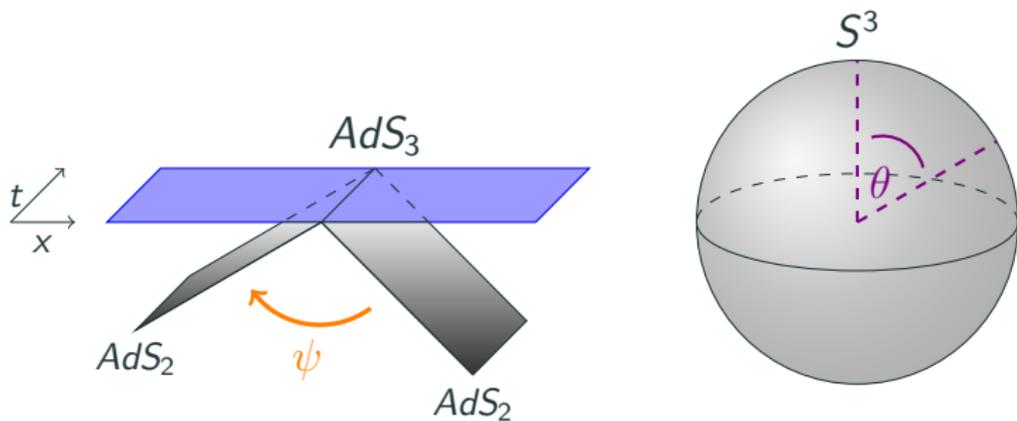
$$ds_{10}^2 = f_1^2 ds_{AdS_2}^2 + f_2^2 ds_{S^2}^2 + f_3^2 ds_{M_4}^2 + \rho^2 dz d\bar{z}$$

where $f_i = f_i(z, \bar{z})$, $\rho = \rho(z, \bar{z})$

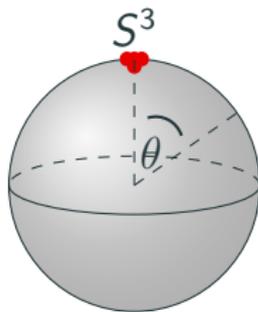
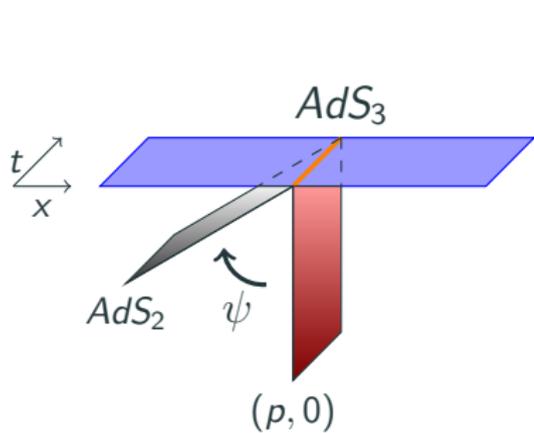
Preserves the desired Symmetries

- $\mathfrak{so}(2, 1) \times \mathfrak{so}(3)$
- 8 super(conformal) symmetries

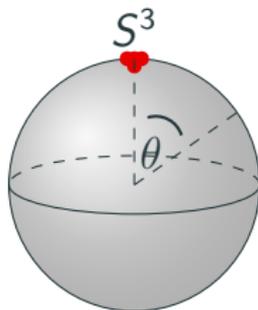
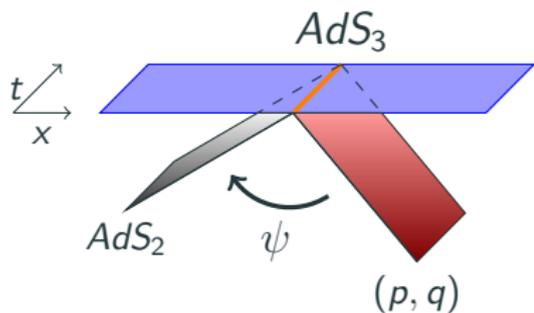
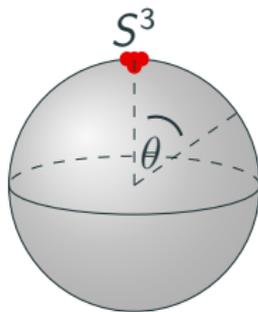
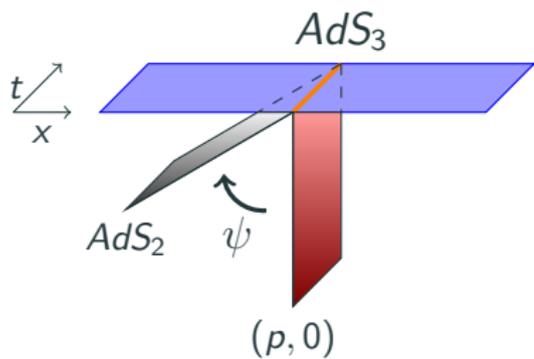
$$ds_{10}^2 = \cosh^2 \psi ds_{AdS_2}^2 + \sin^2 \theta ds_{S^2}^2 + ds_{M_4}^2 + d\psi^2 + d\theta^2$$



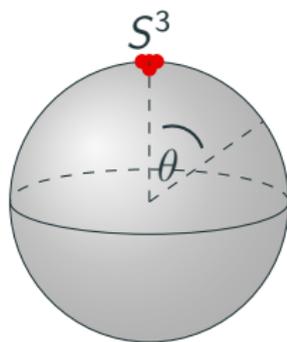
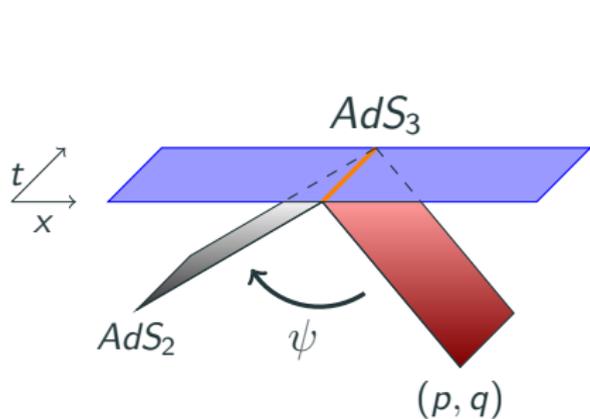
(p,q) Interface Solutions



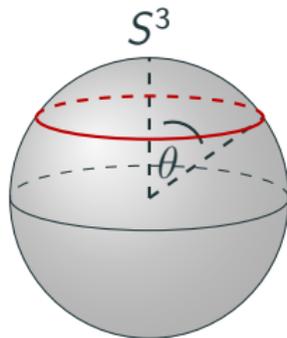
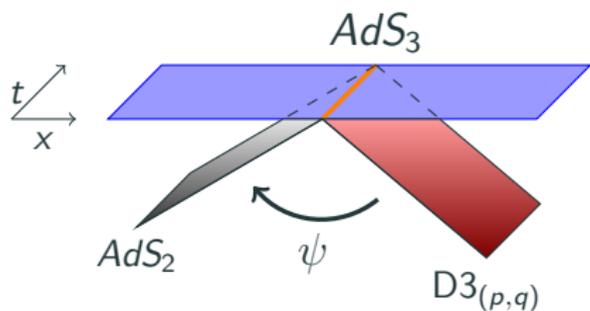
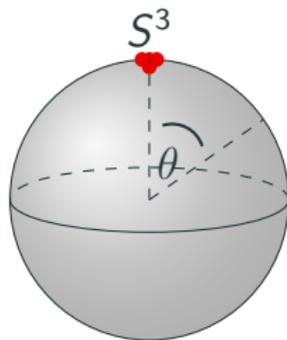
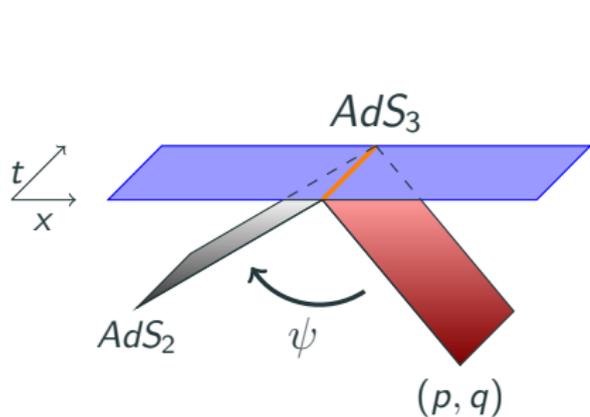
(p,q) Interface Solutions



Interface Solutions and RG Flow



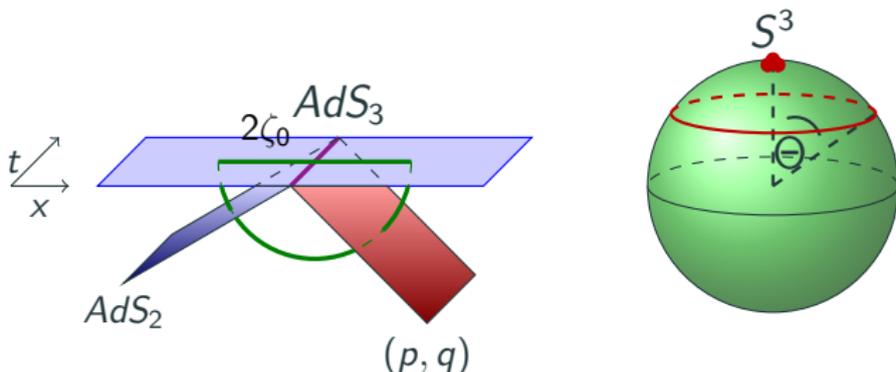
Interface Solutions and RG Flow



- Boundary entropy $s = \log g \xleftrightarrow{\text{fold}}$ interface entropy.

$$\text{BCFT: } g = \langle 0 | \mathcal{B} \rangle$$

- Compute s as interface contribution to entanglement entropy
Calabrese, Cardy '04
- Gravity dual is semi-classical \implies use Ryu-Takayanagi formula
Ryu, Takayanagi '06



(p, q) g -Theorem

Simplest case: pure F1 interfaces $(p, 0)$

$$\log g = \frac{c}{6} \left(\log \kappa + 1 - \frac{1}{\kappa} \right)$$

$$(p, 0) : \quad \kappa = \frac{T(4N_1, p) + T(0, p)}{T(4N_1, p) - T(0, p)}$$

$$D3_{(p,0)} : \quad \kappa = \frac{T(4N_1, p \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta}) + T(0, p \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta})}{T(4N_1, p \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta}) - T(0, p \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta})}$$

- g -theorem satisfied for all (p, q) interfaces
- g -factor contains contribution not visible in the probe brane limit

Interfaces in the D1/D5 CFT

Brief review of D1/D5 CFT

Type IIB on $M_{10} = \mathbb{R}^{1,1} \times \mathbb{R}^4 \times M_4$ (with $M_4 = K3$ or T^4):

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
D5 (N_5)	•	•					•	•	•	•
D1 (N_1)	•	•								

Gauge theory description. $U(N_1) \times U(N_5)$ gauge theory with bifundamental hypermultiplet. Consider Higgs branch. Gives:

Instanton description. D5 brane has a coupling $\int C^{(2)} \wedge \text{Tr}(F \wedge F)$.
 \implies D1 branes can be dissolved as $U(N_5)$ gauge instantons on M_4 .

Low energy dynamics. 2d $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$ SCFT: Non-linear sigma model on the moduli space of instantons on M_4 . [Strominger & Vafa '96](#)

Interfaces in D1/D5 CFT

Type IIB on $M_{10} = \mathbb{R}^{1,1} \times \mathbb{R}^4 \times M_4$:

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
D5 (N_5)	•	•					•	•	•	•
D1 (N_1)	•	•								
F1 (p)	•		•							

- preserves $\mathcal{N} = 4$, $d = 1$ supersymmetry
- realized in gauge theory as Wilson line. Sources jump in background electric field, changing the CFT on one side while preserving the central charge. This case is an **interface**, not a defect.



Wilson line interfaces in D1/D5 CFT

- **Wilson line** \leftrightarrow **long string** connecting distant D3 brane to D1/D5 system.
- After mixing, **lowest-lying fermions** have Lagrangian [Tong & Wong '14](#)

$$L_\eta = \eta^\dagger (i\partial_0 + \Omega_A \partial_t Z^A) \eta$$

where η is in the fundamental of $U(N_5)$, Z^A is the coordinate on \mathcal{M} , and Ω_A is a **$U(N_5)$ connection** on $M_4 \times \mathcal{M}$.

- This can be rewritten as the insertion of

$$W = \text{Tr}_F \mathcal{P} \exp \left(i \int dt \partial_t Z^A \Omega_A(y_0, Z) \right)$$

with y_0 the location of the Wilson line in M_4 .

Summary and Outlook

Summary

- Studied holographic duals of interface RG flows in the D1/D5 theory
- Probe brane limit: BPS RG flows for general (p, q) string defects
- Classical IIB Supergravity description representing backreaction for fixed points
- g -factor, including CFT contributions, in semi-classical limit of gravity

- More detailed study from CFT point of view \rightsquigarrow deformation
- Interfaces carrying D5/NS5 charges
- Generalizations to other top-down theories, especially

$$\text{AdS}_3 \times S^3 \times S^3 \times S^1$$

Thank you for your attention!

Probe brane solutions

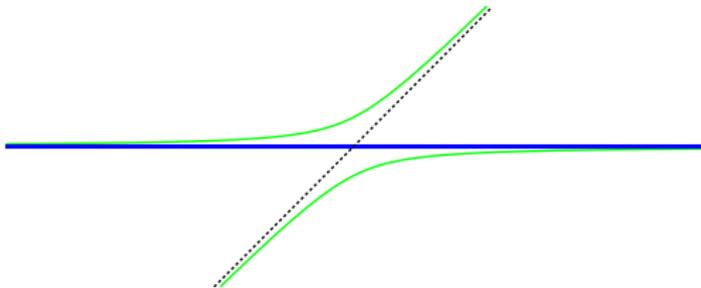
- (p, q) string interface dual to (p, q) strings in near-horizon geometry
- When D1 fields are abelian, behavior determined by DBI-CS action

$$I = qT_{D1} \int d^2\xi e^{-\Phi} \sqrt{-\det(\hat{g} + F)} + qT_{D1} \int (C^{(2)} + F)$$

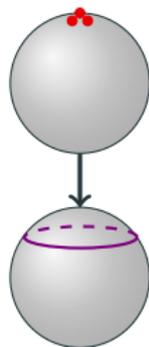
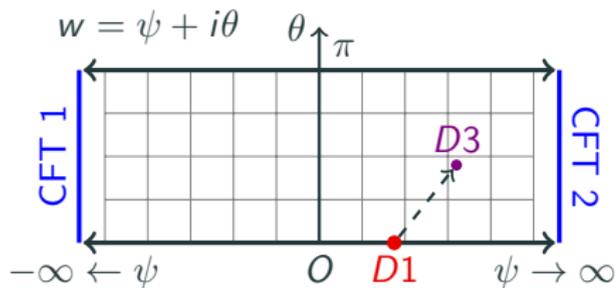
F1 charge p encoded in electric field F_{tx} .

- Solutions are the near-horizon limit of:

$$x_1(x_2) = \frac{qT_{D1}}{pT_{F1}} \left(x_2 - \frac{g_s \alpha' N_5}{x_2} \right).$$



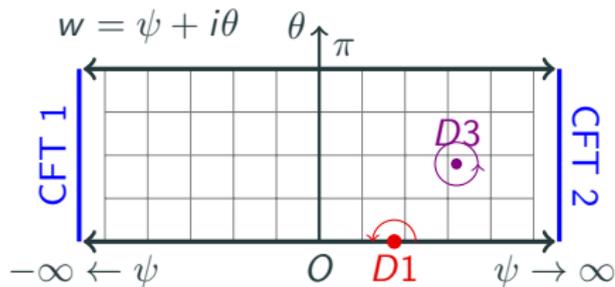
(p, q) Interface Flows



- Boundary RG flow \Rightarrow CFTs remain unchanged
- Invariance of charges
 \Rightarrow location of $D3$ in terms of location of $D1$ and $\#(D1\text{-branes})$

Imposing Branes

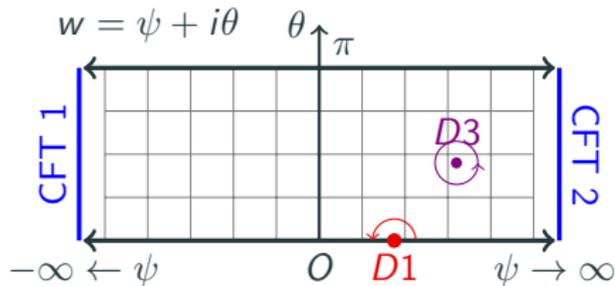
Solutions depend on harmonic functions a, b, u, v and their duals $\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{u}, \tilde{v}$



$$Q_{D3} = \int_{\mathcal{C}} dC^{(4)} = C_{T^4}|_{\text{cycle}}$$
$$C_{T^4} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{b\tilde{b}}{a} - \tilde{u} \right)$$

Imposing Branes

Solutions depend on harmonic functions a, b, u, v and their duals $\tilde{a}, \tilde{b}, \tilde{u}, \tilde{v}$

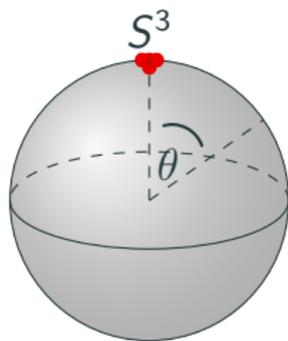
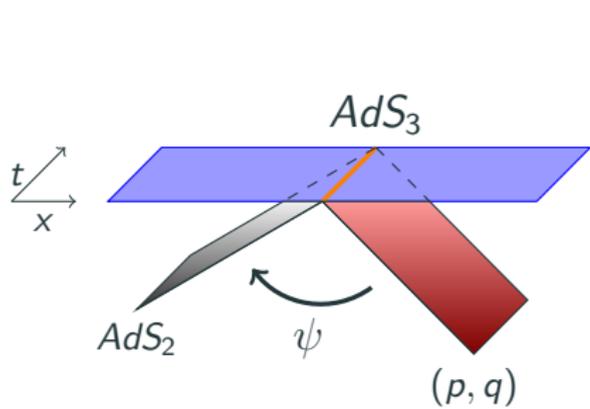


$$Q_{D3} = \int_{\mathcal{C}} dC^{(4)} = C_{T^4}|_{\text{cycle}}$$

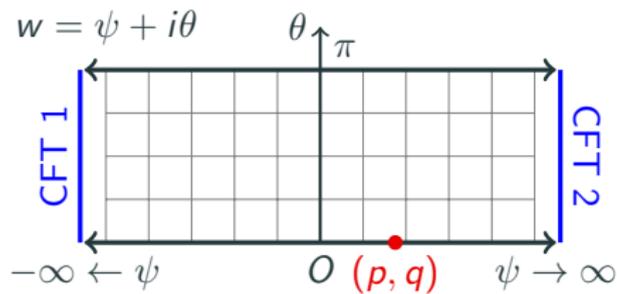
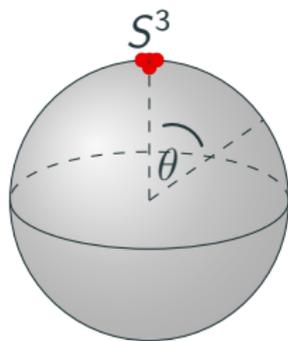
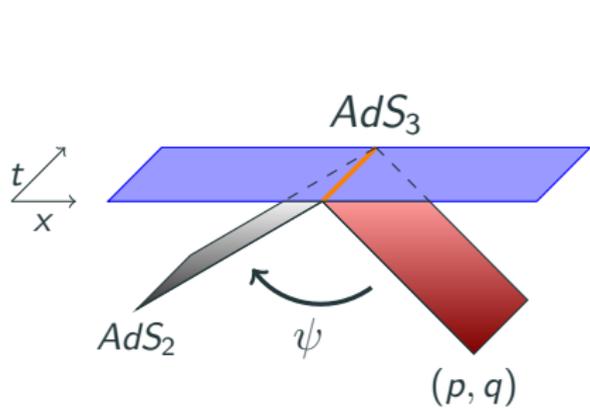
$$C_{T^4} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{b\tilde{b}}{a} - \tilde{u} \right)$$

$$Q_{D1} = 4\pi \left(\int_{\mathcal{C}} \frac{4u}{a} \frac{au - b^2}{au + \tilde{b}^2} i(\partial_w c^{(1)} - \chi \partial_w b^{(1)}) dw + \int_{\mathcal{C}} 4C_{T^4} dw \right) + \text{c.c.}$$

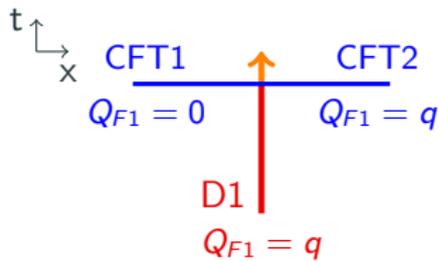
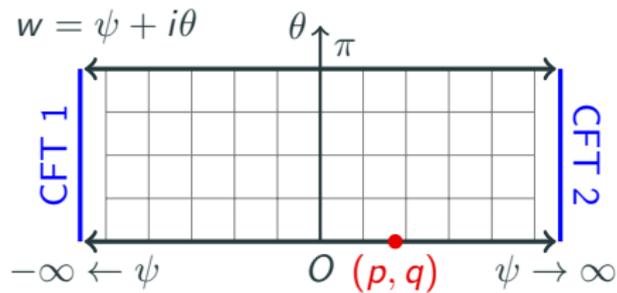
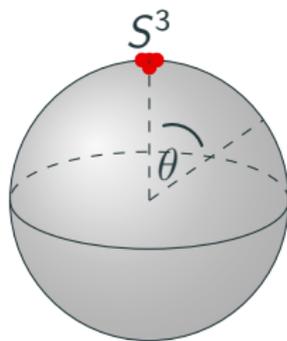
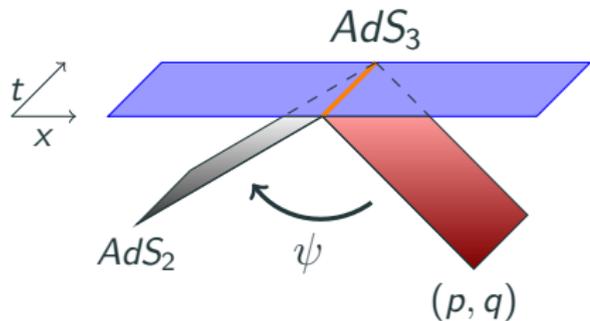
F1/D1 Interface Solution



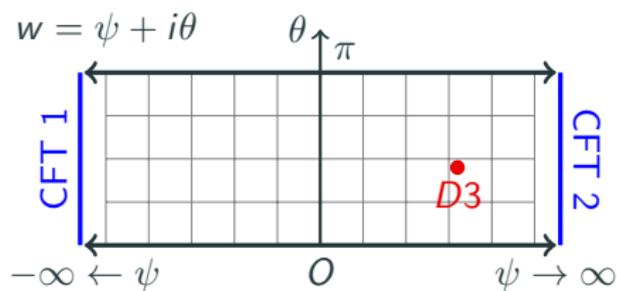
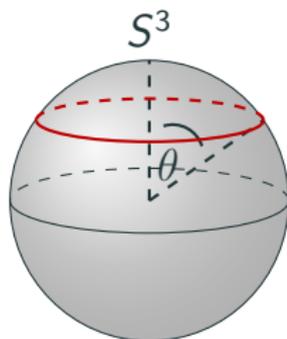
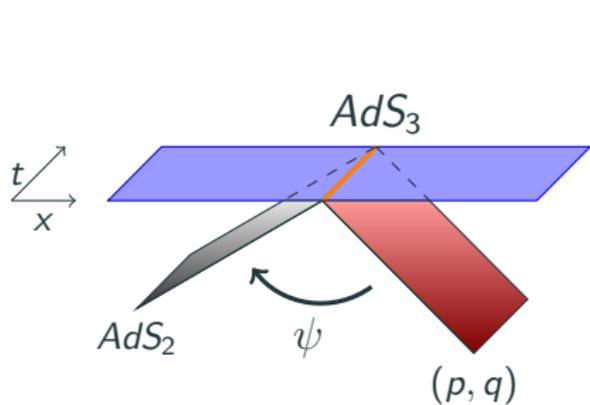
F1/D1 Interface Solution



F1/D1 Interface Solution



D3 Defect (dissolved D1/F1-branes)



D3 Defect (dissolved D1/F1-branes)

