

Introduction to AdS/CFT

Alfonso V. Ramallo
Univ. Santiago

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Correlation functions

Euclidean correlators $\rightarrow \langle \mathcal{O}(x_1) \cdots \mathcal{O}(x_n) \rangle$

Perturb the lagrangian by a source $\rightarrow \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathcal{L} + J(x) \mathcal{O}(x) \equiv \mathcal{L} + \mathcal{L}_J$

Generating function

$$Z_{QFT}[J] = \left\langle \exp \left[\int \mathcal{L}_J \right] \right\rangle_{QFT} \rightarrow \left\langle \prod_i \mathcal{O}(x_i) \right\rangle = \prod_i \frac{\delta}{\delta J(x_i)} \log Z_{QFT}[J] \Big|_{J=0}$$

AdS/CFT prescription

$$Z_{QFT}[\phi_0] = \left\langle \exp \left[\int \phi_0 \mathcal{O} \right] \right\rangle_{QFT} = Z_{gravity}[\phi \rightarrow \phi_0]$$

$$\phi_0(x) = \phi(z=0, x) = \phi|_{\partial AdS}(x)$$

$$Z_{gravity}[\phi \rightarrow \phi_0] = \sum_{\{\phi \rightarrow \phi_0\}} e^{S_{gravity}}$$

When classical gravity dominates

$$Z_{QFT}[\phi_0] = e^{S_{gravity}^{on-shell}[\phi \rightarrow \phi_0]}$$

→ typically divergent

After renormalizing of the action

$$\log Z_{QFT} = S_{grav}^{ren}[\phi \rightarrow \phi_0]$$

$$\rightarrow \langle \mathcal{O}(x_1) \cdots \mathcal{O}(x_n) \rangle = \left. \frac{\delta^{(n)} S_{grav}^{ren}[\phi]}{\delta \varphi(x_1) \cdots \varphi(x_n)} \right|_{\varphi=0}$$

one-point function → $\langle \mathcal{O}(x) \rangle_\varphi = \frac{\delta S_{grav}^{ren}[\phi]}{\delta \varphi(x)}$ → $\langle \mathcal{O}(x) \rangle_\varphi = \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} z^{d-\Delta} \frac{\delta S_{grav}^{ren}[\phi]}{\delta \phi(z, x)}$

variation of the action

$$S_{grav} = \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int dz d^d x \mathcal{L}[\phi, \partial\phi] \rightarrow \delta S_{grav} = \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int dz d^d x \left[\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi} \delta\phi + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_\mu \phi)} \delta(\partial_\mu \phi) \right]$$

$$\rightarrow \delta S_{grav} = \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int dz d^d x \left[\left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi} - \partial_\mu \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_\mu \phi)} \right) \right) \delta\phi + \partial_\mu \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_\mu \phi)} \delta\phi \right) \right]$$

on-shell action → $\delta S_{grav}^{on-shell} = \int_{\epsilon}^{\infty} \int d^d x \partial_z \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_z \phi)} \delta\phi \right) = - \int_{\partial M} d^d x \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_z \phi)} \delta\phi \Big|_{z=\epsilon}$

canonical momentum \rightarrow

$$\Pi = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_z \phi)}$$

$$\rightarrow \delta S_{grav}^{on-shell} = \int_{\partial M} d^d x \Pi(\epsilon, x) \delta \phi(\epsilon, x)$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\delta S_{grav}^{on-shell}}{\delta \phi(\epsilon, x)} = \Pi(\epsilon, x) = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_z \phi)}$$

renormalized action \rightarrow $S^{ren} = S_{grav}^{on-shell} + S_{ct}$

renormalized momentum

$$\Pi^{ren}(z, x) = \frac{\delta S^{ren}}{\delta \phi(z, x)} \rightarrow \Pi^{ren}(\epsilon, x) = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_z \phi(\epsilon, x))} + \frac{\delta S_{ct}}{\delta \phi(\epsilon, x)}$$

one-point function in the presence of a source

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(x) \rangle_\varphi = \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} z^{d-\Delta} \Pi^{ren}(z, x)$$

Linear response theory

path integral representation \rightarrow

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(x) \rangle_\varphi = \int [D\psi] \mathcal{O}(x) e^{S_E[\psi] + \int d^d y \varphi(y) \mathcal{O}(y)}$$

At linear order

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(x) \rangle_\varphi = \langle \mathcal{O}(x) \rangle_{\varphi=0} + \int d^d y G_E(x-y) \varphi(y) \quad G_E(x-y) = \langle \mathcal{O}(x) \mathcal{O}(y) \rangle$$

For normal-ordered operators

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(x) \rangle_{\varphi=0} = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \langle \mathcal{O}(x) \rangle_\varphi = \int d^d y G_E(x-y) \varphi(y)$$

In momentum space

$$G_E(k) = \frac{\langle \mathcal{O}(k) \rangle_\varphi}{\varphi(k)} \quad \rightarrow \quad G_E(k) = \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} z^{2(d-\Delta)} \frac{\Pi^{ren}(z, k)}{\phi(z, k)}$$

Scalar field in Euclidean AdS_{p+1}

$$S = -\frac{\eta}{2} \int dz d^d x \sqrt{g} \left[g^{MN} \partial_M \phi \partial_N \phi + m^2 \phi^2 \right] \quad \eta \rightarrow \text{constant} \quad \rightarrow$$

$$S = -\frac{\eta}{2} \int dz d^d x \partial_M \left[\sqrt{g} \phi g^{MN} \partial_N \phi \right] + \frac{\eta}{2} \int dz d^d x \phi \sqrt{g} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{g}} \partial_M \left(\sqrt{g} g^{MN} \partial_N \phi \right) - m^2 \phi \right] \rightarrow$$

$$S^{on-shell} = -\frac{\eta}{2} \int dz d^d x \partial_M \left[\sqrt{g} \phi g^{MN} \partial_N \phi \right] = \frac{\eta}{2} \int d^d x \left(\sqrt{g} \phi g^{zz} \partial_z \phi \right)_{z=\epsilon} \rightarrow$$

$$\Pi \equiv \eta \sqrt{g} g^{zz} \partial_z \phi = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_z \phi)} \rightarrow$$

$$S^{on-shell} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{z=\epsilon} d^d x \Pi(z, x) \phi(z, x)$$

In momentum space

$$\phi(z, x) = \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} e^{ik \cdot x} f_k(z)$$

$$\Pi(z, x) = \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} e^{ik \cdot x} \Pi_k(z)$$

$$S^{on-shell} = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \Pi_{-k}(z = \epsilon) f_k(z = \epsilon)$$

Near $z = 0$

$$\phi(z, x) \approx A(x) z^{d-\Delta} + B(x) z^\Delta \rightarrow f_k(z) \approx A(k) z^{d-\Delta} + B(k) z^\Delta$$

expansion of the momentum $\rightarrow \Pi(z, x) \approx \eta L^{d-1} \left[(d - \Delta) A(x) z^{-\Delta} + \Delta B(x) z^{\Delta-d} \right] \rightarrow$

$$\Pi_{-k}(z) = \eta L^{d-1} \left[(d - \Delta) A(-k) z^{-\Delta} + \Delta B(-k) z^{\Delta-d} \right]$$

$$S^{on-shell} = \frac{\eta}{2} L^{d-1} \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \left[\epsilon^{-2\nu} (d - \Delta) A(-k) A(k) + d A(-k) B(k) \right]$$

on-shell action \rightarrow

divergent \downarrow finite

local boundary counterterm

$$S_{ct} \sim \int_{\partial AdS} d^d x \sqrt{\gamma} \phi^2 \quad \leftarrow ds_{z=\epsilon}^2 = \gamma_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = \frac{L^2}{\epsilon^2} \delta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu$$



$$\int_{\partial AdS} d^d x \sqrt{\gamma} \phi^2(\epsilon, x) = L^d \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \left[\epsilon^{-2\nu} A(-k) A(k) + 2 A(-k) B(k) \right]$$

Cancel the divergence \rightarrow $S_{ct} = -\frac{\eta}{2} \frac{d-\Delta}{L} \int_{\partial AdS} d^d x \sqrt{\gamma} \phi^2 \rightarrow$

$$S_{ct} = -\frac{\eta}{2} (d-\Delta) L^{d-1} \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \left[\epsilon^{-2\nu} A(-k) A(k) + 2 A(-k) B(k) \right]$$

$$S^{ren} = S^{on-shell} + S_{ct} \rightarrow S^{ren} = \frac{\eta}{2} L^{d-1} (2\Delta - d) \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} A(-k) B(k)$$

Represent f_k as $f_k(z) = A(k) \phi_1(z, k) + B(k) \phi_2(z, k)$ $\phi_1(z, k) \approx z^{d-\Delta}$ $\phi_2(z, k) \approx z^\Delta$

Regularity of f_k at $z \rightarrow \infty$ fixes $\chi = \frac{B}{A}$ \rightarrow

$$\varphi(k) = A(k) \rightarrow S^{ren} = \frac{\eta}{2} L^{d-1} (2\Delta - d) \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \chi(k) \varphi(k) \varphi(-k)$$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(k) \rangle_\varphi = (2\pi)^d \frac{\delta S^{ren}}{\delta \varphi(-k)} = \eta L^{d-1} (2\Delta - d) \chi(k) \varphi(k) \rightarrow \langle \mathcal{O}(k) \rangle_\varphi = 2\nu \eta L^{d-1} B(k)$$

**The subleading contribution
is proportional to the VEV**

2-point function \rightarrow $G_E(k) = 2\nu \eta L^{d-1} \frac{B(k)}{A(k)}$

Determination of B/A

Define $f_k(z) = z^{\frac{d}{2}} g_k(z)$ \rightarrow $z^2 \partial_z^2 g_k + z \partial_z g_k - (\nu^2 + k^2 z^2) g_k = 0$ **modified Bessel eq.**

two ind. sols. for f_k \rightarrow
$$z^{\frac{d}{2}} I_{\pm\nu}(kz)$$
 $I_{\pm\nu}(z) \approx \frac{1}{\Gamma(1 \pm \nu)} \left(\frac{z}{2}\right)^{\pm\nu}, \quad (z \rightarrow 0)$

Then $\rightarrow \phi_1(z, k) = \Gamma(1 - \nu) \left(\frac{k}{2}\right)^\nu z^{\frac{d}{2}} I_{-\nu}(kz)$ $\phi_2(z, k) = \Gamma(1 + \nu) \left(\frac{k}{2}\right)^{-\nu} z^{\frac{d}{2}} I_\nu(kz)$

$$f_k(z) = z^{\frac{d}{2}} \left[\Gamma(1 - \nu) \left(\frac{k}{2}\right)^\nu A(k) I_{-\nu}(kz) + \Gamma(1 + \nu) \left(\frac{k}{2}\right)^{-\nu} B(k) I_\nu(kz) \right]$$

As $I_{\pm\nu}(z) \approx \frac{e^z}{\sqrt{2\pi z}}, \quad (z \rightarrow \infty)$ \rightarrow

$$f_k(z) \approx \frac{z^{\frac{d}{2}} e^{kz}}{\sqrt{2\pi kz}} \left[\Gamma(1 - \nu) \left(\frac{k}{2}\right)^\nu A(k) + \Gamma(1 + \nu) \left(\frac{k}{2}\right)^{-\nu} B(k) \right] \quad (z \rightarrow \infty)$$

Regularity at the IR \rightarrow

$$\frac{B(k)}{A(k)} = -\frac{\Gamma(1-\nu)}{\Gamma(1+\nu)} \left(\frac{k}{2}\right)^{2\nu} = \frac{\Gamma(-\nu)}{\Gamma(\nu)} \left(\frac{k}{2}\right)^{2\nu} \rightarrow$$

$$G_E(k) = 2\nu \eta L^{d-1} \frac{\Gamma(-\nu)}{\Gamma(\nu)} \left(\frac{k}{2}\right)^{2\nu}$$

position space \rightarrow

$$G_E(x) = \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} e^{ikx} G_E(k)$$

$$\int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} e^{ikx} k^n = \frac{2^n}{\pi^{\frac{d}{2}}} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{d+n}{2})}{\Gamma(-\frac{n}{2})} \frac{1}{|x|^{d+n}}$$

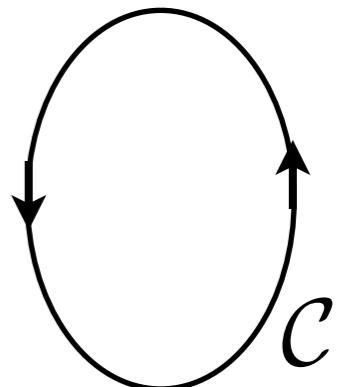
$$\langle \mathcal{O}(x)\mathcal{O}(0) \rangle = \frac{2\nu \eta L^{d-1}}{\pi^{\frac{d}{2}}} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{d}{2} + \nu)}{\Gamma(-\nu)} \frac{1}{|x|^{2\Delta}}$$

$\langle \mathcal{O}(x)\mathcal{O}(0) \rangle \sim |x|^{-2\Delta} \rightarrow \Delta$ scaling dimension of $\mathcal{O}(x)$

Wilson loops and quark-antiquark potentials

→ External charge moving along a \mathcal{C} in QED

Action → $S_{\mathcal{C}} = \oint_{\mathcal{C}} A_{\mu} dx^{\mu}$



equivalent to insert in the path integral → $e^{iS_{\mathcal{C}}} = e^{i \oint_{\mathcal{C}} A_{\mu} dx^{\mu}} \equiv W(\mathcal{C})$

$W(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow$ Wilson loop

Math. → holonomy of A_{μ} along \mathcal{C}

Phase factor due to the propagation of a quark along the closed curve \mathcal{C}

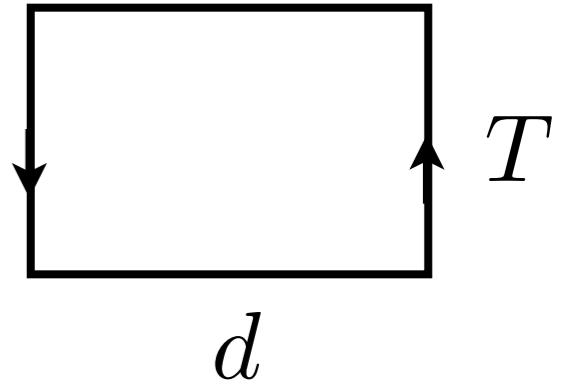
$$W(\mathcal{C}) = \text{Tr } P \exp \left[i \oint_{\mathcal{C}} A_{\mu} dx^{\mu} \right]$$

$$A_{\mu} = A_{\mu}^a T^a$$

$W(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow$ amplitude for a creation of a $q\bar{q}$ pair

Rectangular Wilson loop in Euclidean space

Amplitude for the propagation of a $q\bar{q}$ pair separated a distance d

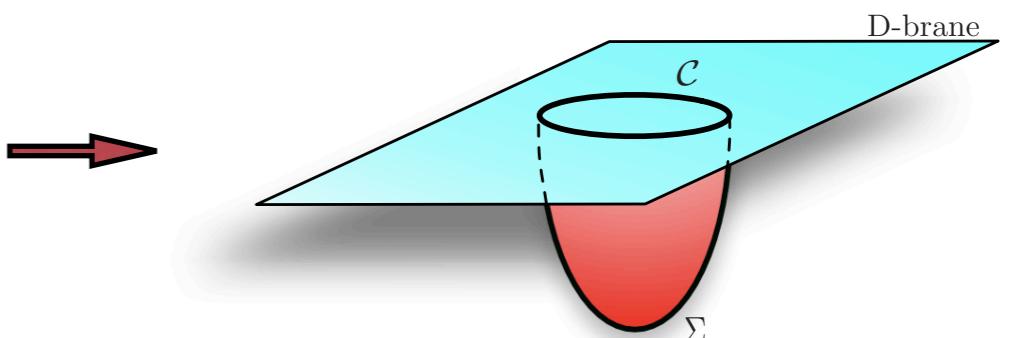


$$\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \langle W(\mathcal{C}) \rangle \sim e^{-T E(d)} \quad \longrightarrow \quad E(d) \rightarrow \text{the energy of a } q\bar{q} \text{ pair}$$

In a confining theory \longrightarrow $E(d) \approx \sigma d$ $\sigma \rightarrow \text{constant}$

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \langle W(\mathcal{C}) \rangle \sim e^{-\sigma T d} \sim e^{-\sigma (\text{area enclosed by the loop})} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{area law}$$

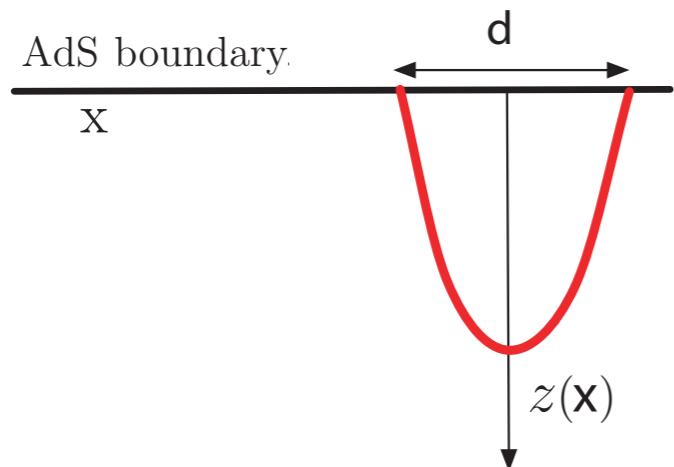
In AdS/CFT \longrightarrow Realized as open string ending on a D-brane



$$\langle W(\mathcal{C}) \rangle = Z_{string}(\partial\Sigma = \mathcal{C}) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} & \langle W(\mathcal{C}) \rangle = e^{-S(\mathcal{C})} \\ & \text{large } \lambda \quad S(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{extremal Nambu-Goto action} \end{aligned}$$

hanging string extended in x in AdS_5

induced metric



$$ds^2 = \frac{L^2}{z^2} [dt^2 + (1 + z'^2) dx^2]$$

$$S = \frac{1}{2\pi\alpha'} \int dt \int dx \sqrt{g} = \frac{TL^2}{2\pi\alpha'} \int dx \frac{\sqrt{1 + z'^2}}{z^2}$$

-----.

Lagrangian



$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{TL^2}{2\pi\alpha'} \frac{\sqrt{1 + z'^2}}{z^2}$$

$$T = \int dt$$

b. c. $\rightarrow z(x = -d/2) = z(x = d/2) = 0$

$z_* \rightarrow$ maximal value of z

$$z_* = z(x = 0)$$

First integral



$$z' \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial z'} - \mathcal{L} = \text{constant} \quad \rightarrow$$

$$z^2 \sqrt{1 + z'^2} = \text{constant}$$



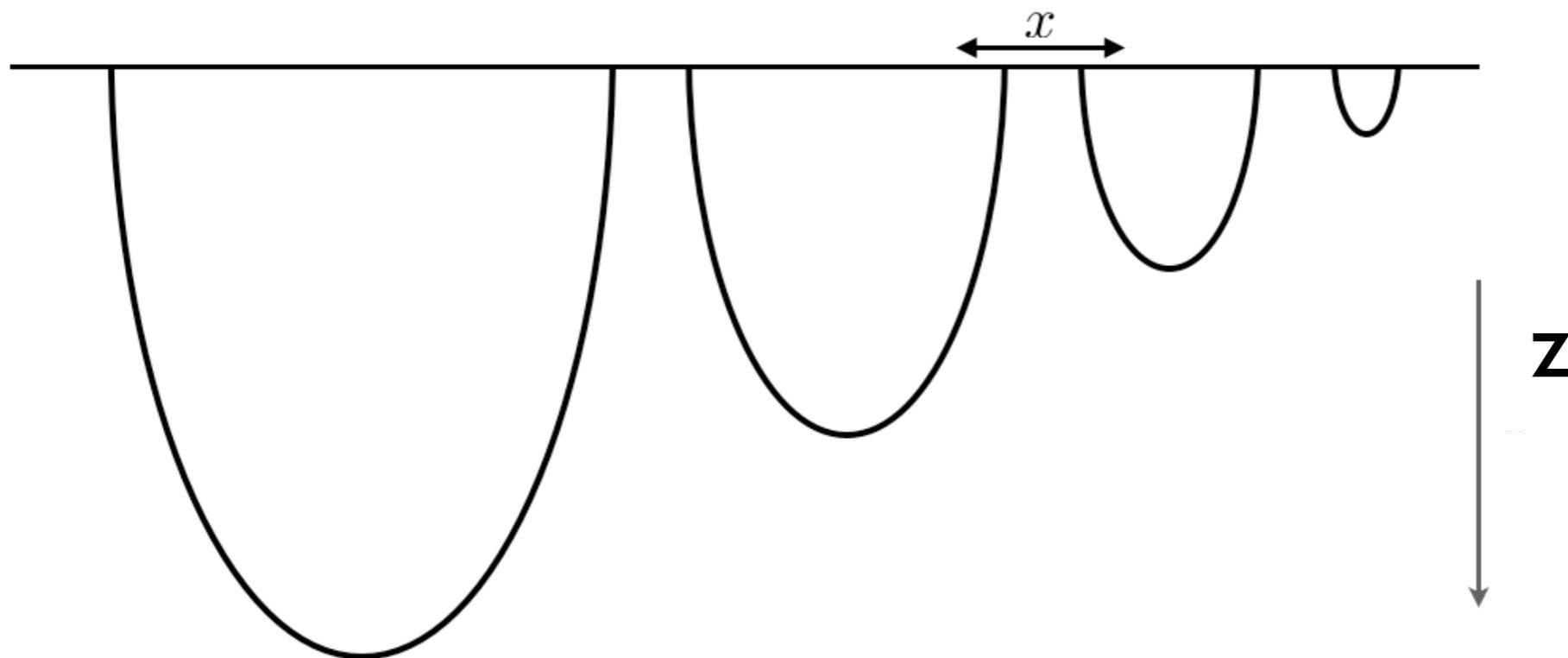
$$x = \pm z_* \int_1^{z_*} \frac{y^2}{\sqrt{1 - y^4}} dy$$

$$\frac{d}{2} = z_* \int_0^1 \frac{y^2}{\sqrt{1-y^4}} dy$$



$$z_* = \frac{d}{2\sqrt{2}\pi^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left(\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \right)^2$$

long distances in $x \rightarrow$ deeper into the AdS bulk



on-shell action \rightarrow $S = \frac{T L^2 z_*^2}{2\pi\alpha'} \int \frac{dx}{z^4}$

Change variables from x to z \rightarrow $\frac{dx}{dz} = \frac{1}{z'} = \frac{z^2}{\sqrt{z_*^4 - z^4}}$ \rightarrow

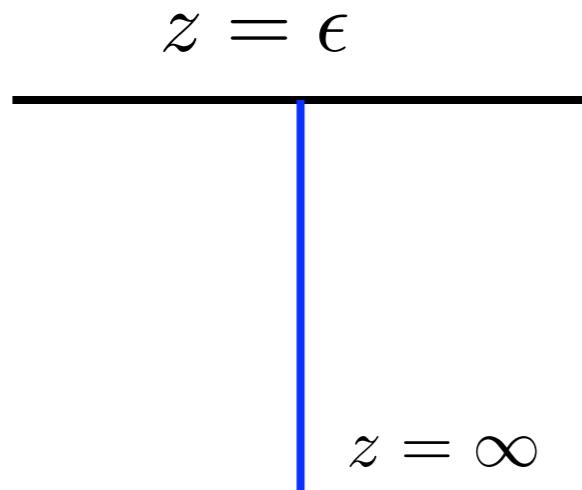
$$\rightarrow S = 2 \times \frac{TL^2 z_*^2}{2\pi\alpha'} \int_{\epsilon}^{z_*} \frac{dz}{z^2 \sqrt{z_*^4 - z^4}} \rightarrow S = \frac{TL^2}{\pi\alpha' z_*} I_{\epsilon} \rightarrow$$

$$I_{\epsilon} = \int_{\epsilon/z_*}^1 \frac{dy}{y^2 \sqrt{1 - y^4}} \rightarrow \text{diverges when } \epsilon \rightarrow 0$$

$$I_{\epsilon} = -\frac{\pi^{\frac{3}{2}} \sqrt{2}}{\left(\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)\right)^2} + \frac{z_*}{\epsilon} \rightarrow E = -\frac{4\pi^2 L^2}{\left(\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)\right)^4 \alpha'} \frac{1}{d} + \frac{L^2}{\pi\alpha'} \frac{1}{\epsilon}$$

The divergent term corresponds to the quark and antiquark masses

String hanging from the boundary $z = \epsilon$ to $z = \infty$ at fixed x



$$ds^2 = \frac{L^2}{z^2} (dt^2 + dz^2)$$



$$S_{||} = \frac{T}{2\pi\alpha'} \int_{\epsilon}^{\infty} \frac{L^2}{z^2} dz^2 = \frac{TL^2}{2\pi\alpha' \epsilon} \quad \rightarrow \quad E_{||} = 2 \times \frac{L^2}{2\pi\alpha' \epsilon}$$

$q\bar{q}$ potential $\rightarrow V_{q\bar{q}} = E - E_{||} \rightarrow V_{q\bar{q}} = -\frac{4\pi^2 L^2}{\left(\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)\right)^4 \alpha'} \frac{1}{d}$

$L^2 = \sqrt{N^2 g_{YM}} \alpha' = \sqrt{\lambda} \alpha'$ \rightarrow $V_{q\bar{q}} = -\frac{4\pi^2 \sqrt{\lambda}}{\left(\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)\right)^4} \frac{1}{d}$ \rightarrow Coulombic (conformal invariant) \rightarrow non-perturbative in λ

Perturbative result



$$V_{q\bar{q}}^{(per)} = -\frac{\pi\lambda}{d}$$

Non-perturbative result from a classical mechanics calculation!!

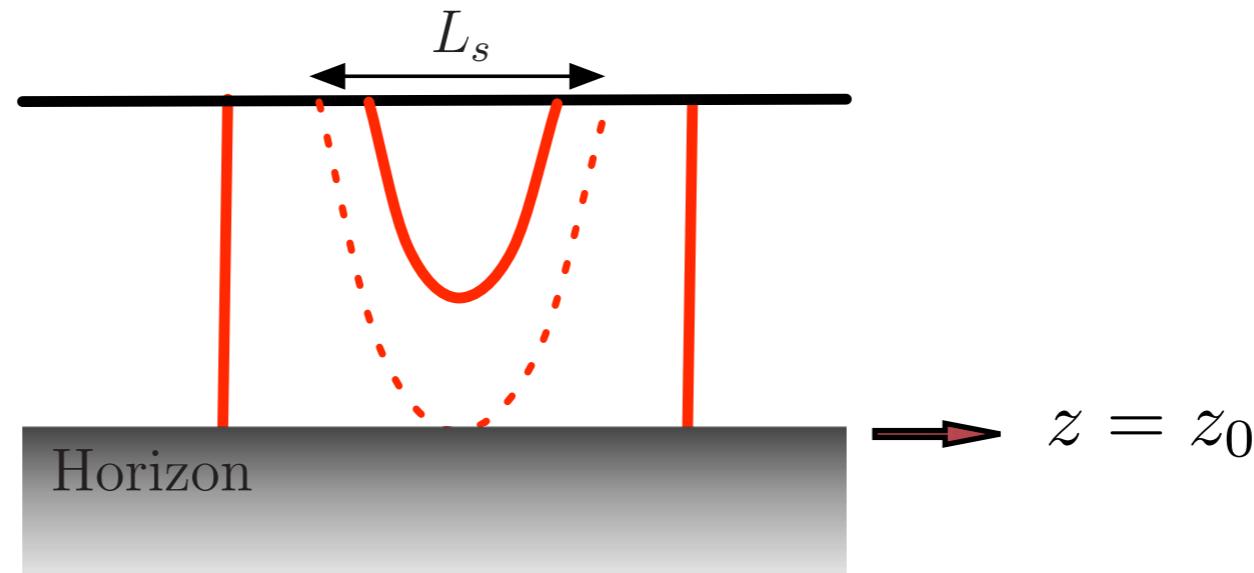
Quark-antiquark potential at finite temperature

Consider an AdS black hole

$$ds^2 = \frac{L^2}{z^2} \left[f(z) dt^2 + d\vec{x}^2 + \frac{dz^2}{f(z)} \right]$$

$$f(z) = 1 - \frac{z^4}{z_0^4}$$

$$T = \frac{1}{\pi z_0} \rightarrow \text{Temperature}$$



Action → $S = \frac{\tau L^2}{2\pi\alpha'} \int dx \frac{\sqrt{f(z) + z'^2}}{z^2}$ $\tau = \int dt$

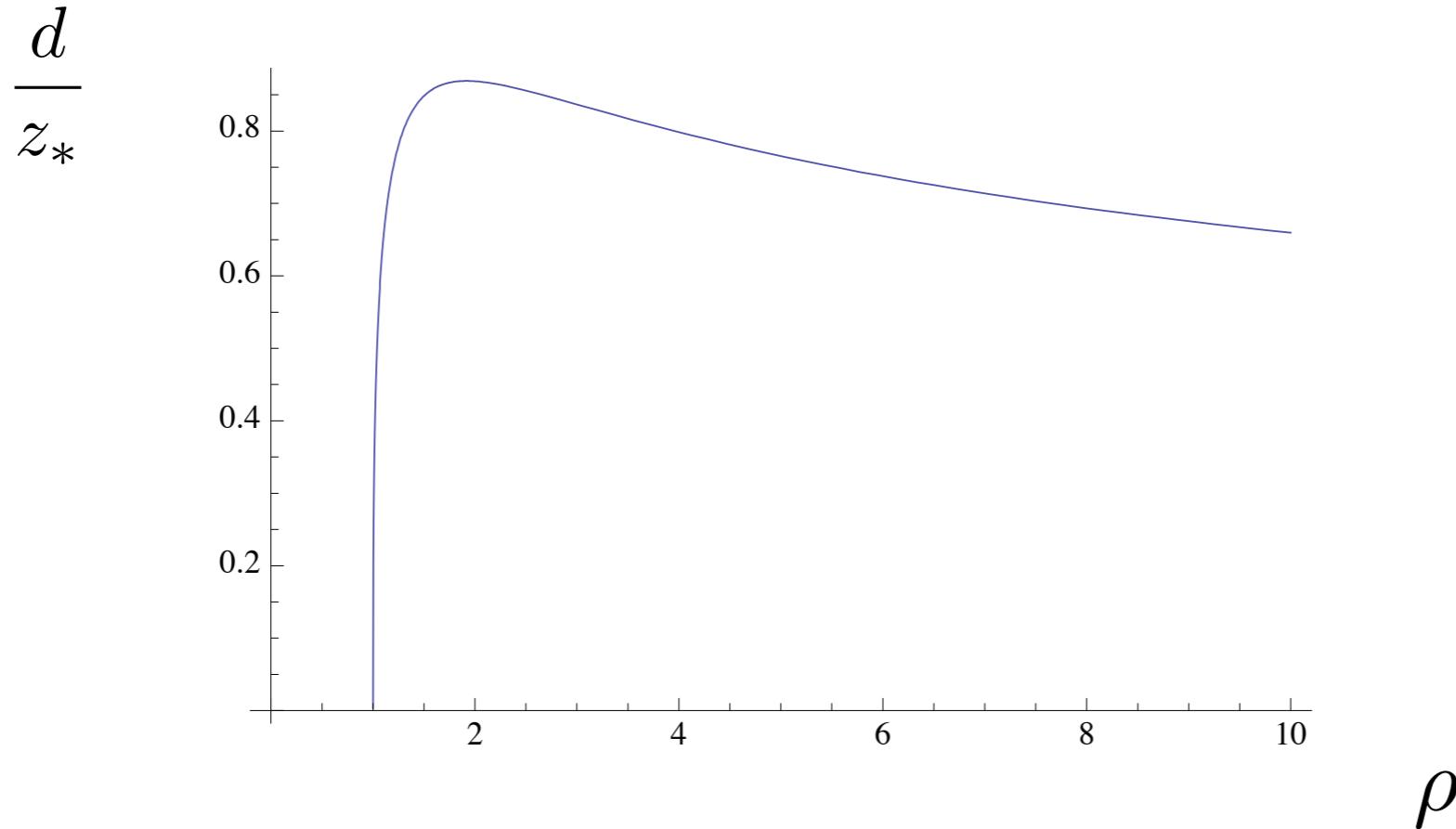
First integral → $\frac{z^2 \sqrt{f(z) + z'^2}}{f(z)} = \text{constant} = \frac{z_*^2}{\sqrt{f(z_*)}}$

$q\bar{q}$ distance



$$d = 2z_* \sqrt{\rho - 1} \int_0^1 \frac{y^2 dy}{\sqrt{(1 - y^4)(\rho - y^4)}}$$

$$\rho \equiv \left(\frac{z_0}{z_*}\right)^4$$



- $z_* \rightarrow z_0 \rightarrow \rho \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow d \rightarrow 0$
- There is a maximal value of d ($d_{max} \sim z_0$)
- At high $T \rightarrow$ disconnected configuration energetically favored

Models thermal screening in a plasma!

$q\bar{q}$ potential in a confining background

Generated by analytic continuation of the AdS black hole

$$ds^2 = \frac{L^2}{z^2} \left[-dt^2 + dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + f(z)du^2 + \frac{dz^2}{f(z)} \right] \rightarrow \text{space ends at } z = z_0$$

Induced metric in Euclidean signature $\rightarrow ds^2 = \frac{L^2}{z^2} \left[dt^2 + \left(1 + \frac{z'^2}{f}\right) dx^2 \right]$

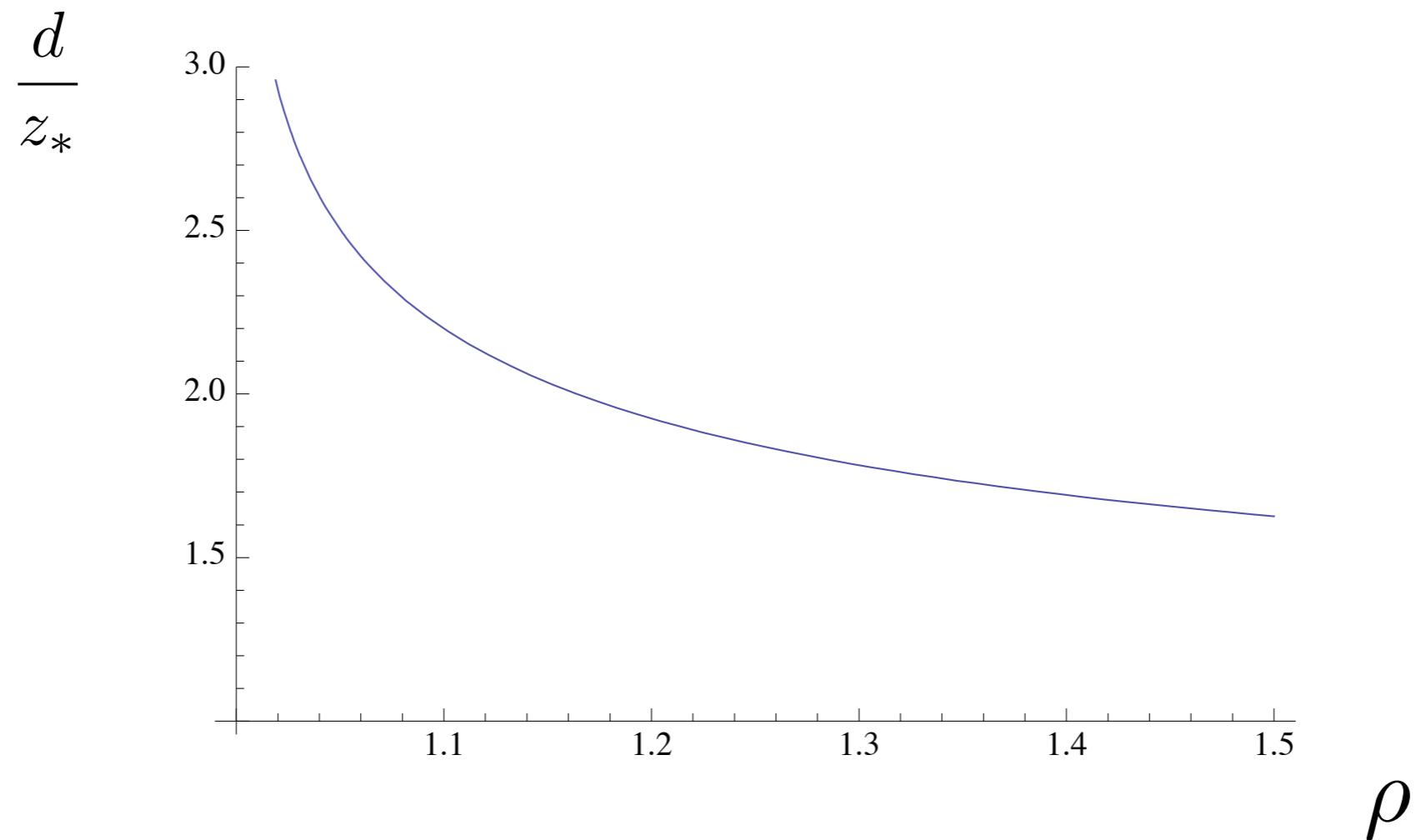
Action $\rightarrow S = \frac{\tau L^2}{2\pi\alpha'} \int \frac{dx}{z^2} \sqrt{1 + \frac{z'^2}{f(z)}}$

First integral $\rightarrow \frac{z^2}{\sqrt{f(z)}} \sqrt{f(z) + z'^2} = z_*^2 \rightarrow$

$$x = \pm z_* \sqrt{\rho} \int_1^{\frac{z}{z_*}} \frac{y^2 dy}{\sqrt{(1 - y^4)(\rho - y^4)}}$$

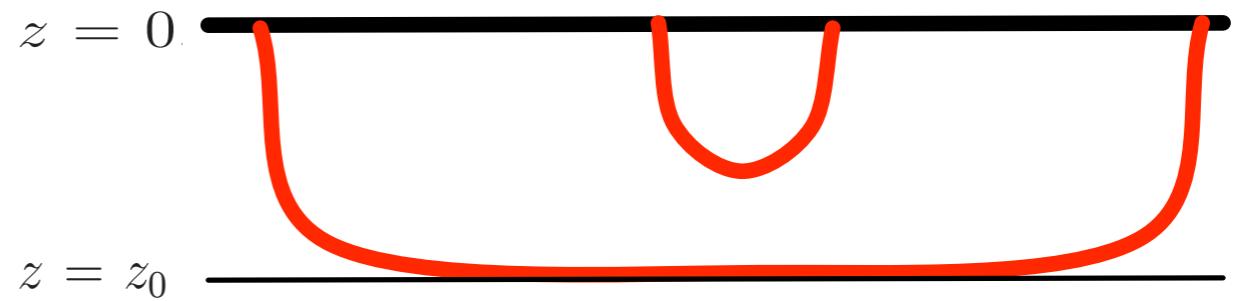
$$d = 2z_* \sqrt{\rho} \int_0^1 \frac{y^2 dy}{\sqrt{(1 - y^4)(\rho - y^4)}}$$

$$\rho \equiv \left(\frac{z_0}{z_*}\right)^4$$



- No maximal distance
- The distance diverges as we approach the end of the space

Qualitative picture →



When $d \rightarrow \infty$ the profile is almost rectangular

- Vertical parts → masses of the static quarks
- Horizontal part → $q\bar{q}$ potential

$$S_{horizontal} = \frac{\tau L^2}{2\pi\alpha'} \frac{d}{z_0^2} \rightarrow \text{Area law} \rightarrow \text{Confinement}$$

$$V = \sigma_s d$$

$$\sigma_s = \frac{L^2}{2\pi\alpha'} \frac{1}{z_0^2}$$

$$\sigma_s = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{2\pi z_0^2}$$

effective string tension

$$\text{mass gap} \rightarrow M \sim \frac{1}{z_0}$$

$z_0 \rightarrow$ glueball size

$$\sigma_s \sim \sqrt{\lambda} M^2$$