

Stability and bifurcations in holographic RG flows of 3d gauged supergravity

based on a joint work [arXiv:2207.XXXXX](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.XXXXX)

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International Conference on Quantum Field Theory, High-Energy Physics, and
Cosmology

July 21, DUBNA

Outline

1. Introduction
2. The holographic model
3. Holographic RG flows and dynamical system
4. Asymptotic solutions near the fixed points
5. Outlook

Introduction

The AdS/CFT conjecture

The strongest version of the conjecture $4d \mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM with $SU(N)$ is dynamically equivalent to type IIB superstring theory (contains strings and D-branes) on $AdS_5 \times S^5$ with a string length $\ell_s = \sqrt{\alpha'}$ and coupling constant g_s with the radius L and N units of $F_{(5)}$ flux on S^5 .
(Maldacena '97)

$$g_{YM}^2 = 2\pi g_s, \quad 2g_{YM}^2 N = \frac{L^4}{\alpha'^2}, \quad \lambda = g_{YM}^2 N.$$

	$\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM	IIB theory on $AdS_5 \times S^5$
Strongest form	any N and λ	Quantum string theory, $g_s \neq 0, \alpha'/L^2 \neq 0$
Strong form	$N \rightarrow \infty, \lambda$ fixed but arbitrary	Classical string theory, $g_s \rightarrow 0, \alpha'/L^2 \neq 0$
Weak form	$N \rightarrow \infty, \lambda$ large	Classical supergravity, $g_s \rightarrow 0, \alpha'/L^2 \rightarrow 0$

The holographical principle

The information of a gravity theory in AdS_{d+1} is mapped to a d theory which lives on the conformal boundary of the $(d+1)$ -dimensional spacetime.

The AdS/CFT correspondence

- $d = 2$ CFT has a description in terms of $3d$ -gravity in AdS_3 :

$$S = \int dx^2 dw \sqrt{-g} (R - \Lambda)$$

- An operator $\mathcal{O}(w)$ corresponds to a dynamical bulk field $\phi(x, w)$
- $\phi(x, 0)$ – a source for the \mathcal{O} in the CFT

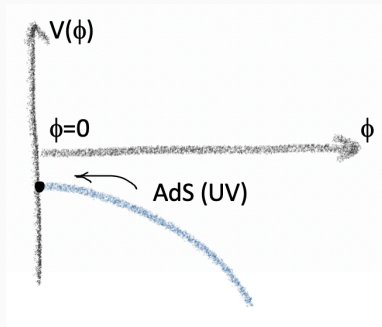
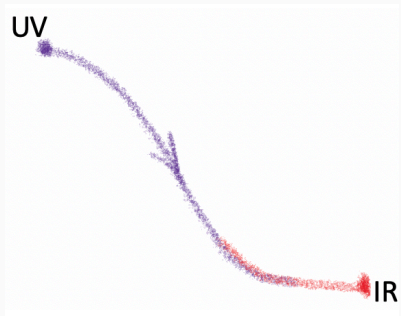
$$S = \int dx^2 dw \sqrt{-g} \left[R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right].$$

- $\phi(x, w) = \alpha w^{d-\Delta} + \dots \Leftrightarrow$

$$S = S_{CFT} + \int d^2x \alpha \mathcal{O}(x)$$

- $\alpha = 0$ – undeformed CFT, bulk scalar – const., spacetime is AdS
- $\alpha \neq 0$ corresponds to relevant coupling for the CFT; deform. AdS

Holographic picture for deviations from conformality



Holographic Renormalization Group

Akhmedov'98; de Boer et. al.'98, Boonstra et. al.'98; Skenderis'99

The domain wall solution

$$ds^2 = e^{2\mathcal{A}(w)} \eta_{ij} dx^i dx^j + dw^2, \quad \phi = \phi(w)$$

- AdS isometry group \Leftrightarrow Poincaré isometry group of DW
- the conformal symmetry at UV and/or IR fixed points
- $e^{\mathcal{A}}$ – measures the field theory energy scale
- $\phi(w)$ identifies with the running coupling along the flow
- The β -function

$$\beta = \left. \frac{d\lambda}{d \log E} \right|_{QFT} = \frac{d\phi}{dA} \Big|_{Holo}$$

The holographic model

The holographic model

Sezgin & Deger'99, Deger'02

The action $3d \mathcal{N} = 2$ supergravity is given by

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G_3} \int d^3x \sqrt{|g|} \left(R - \frac{1}{a^2} (\partial\phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right) + G.H.Y.,$$

where $G.H.Y.$ – Gibbons-Hawking-York term.

The potential of the scalar field $V(\phi)$ is

$$V(\phi) = 2\Lambda_{uv} \cosh^2 \phi \left[(1 - 2a^2) \cosh^2 \phi + 2a^2 \right],$$

where $\Lambda_{uv} < 0$ is a cosmological constant, a is a constant (the curvature of the scalar manifold \mathcal{M}).

$n = 1$ (one scalar):

$$\mathcal{M} = SU(1, 1)/U(1).$$

The behaviour of the dilaton potential

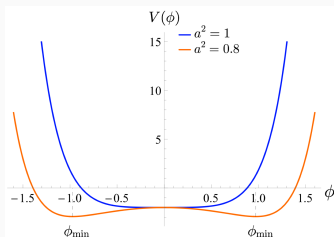


Figure 1: The dependence of the dilaton potential $V(\phi)$ for different α^2 ; blue curve - for $\alpha^2=1$, orange curve - for $\alpha^2 = 0.8$;

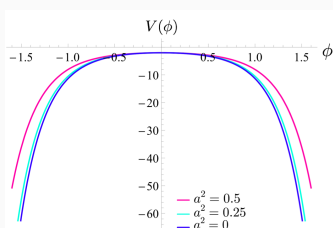


Figure 2: The dependence of the dilaton potential $V(\phi)$ for different α^2 : rose curve - for $\alpha^2 = 0.5$, light blue curve - for $\alpha^2 = 0.25$, blue - for $\alpha^2 = 0$

$$\phi_1 = 0, \quad \phi_{2,3} = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{1 \pm |a| \sqrt{1 - a^2}}{2a^2 - 1} \right).$$

The superpotential of the model

The superpotential reads

$$W = \sqrt{-\Lambda_{uv}} \cosh^2 \phi, \quad V(\phi) = \frac{a^2}{4} \left(\frac{\partial W}{\partial \phi} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} W^2.$$

For the RG flows W always increases, thus its minimum corresponds to a UV fixed point, while the maximum - to an IR.

$$\mathcal{C}\text{-function} \quad \mathcal{C} \sim \frac{1}{W}$$

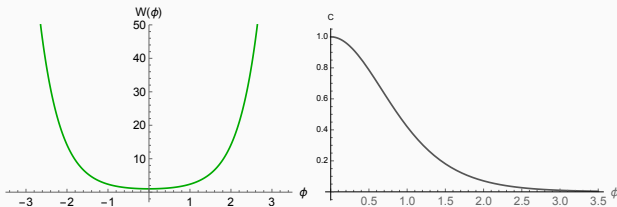


Figure 3: a) The behaviour of $W(\phi)$; b) The behaviour of \mathcal{C} -function.

EOM and exact solutions

The ansatz for the metric and for the scalar field is given by

$$ds^2 = e^{2A(w)}(-dt^2 + dx^2) + dw^2, \quad \phi = \phi(w).$$

The equations of motion are

$$2\dot{A}^2 + V - \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{a^2} = 0,$$

$$\ddot{A} + \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{a^2} = 0,$$

$$\ddot{\phi} + 2\dot{A}\dot{\phi} - \frac{a^2}{2}V_{\phi} = 0.$$

The exact solution to the dilaton [Deger'02](#)

$$\phi = \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\frac{1 + e^{-4ma^2w}}{1 - e^{-4ma^2w}} \right), \quad 0 \leq w < \infty, \quad m^2 = -\frac{\Lambda_{uv}}{4}.$$

The metric can be represented as follows:

$$ds^2 = (e^{8ma^2w} - 1)^{\frac{1}{2a^2}} (-dt^2 + dx^2) + dw^2.$$

The conformal dimension of the operator

CFT side: The deformation of the fixed point $L_{CFT} + \int d^2x \phi_0 \mathcal{O}$,

- $\Delta = 2$ marginal operator
- $\Delta < 2$ relevant operator
- $\Delta > 2$ irrelevant operator

Gravity dual: The scalar field in AdS_3

$$S \sim \int d^3x \sqrt{-g} (g^{\mu\nu} (\partial\phi)^2 + m^2 \phi^2),$$

$$ds^2 = \frac{-dt^2 + dx^2 + dz^2}{z^2}, \quad z = e^{w-w_0}, \quad ds_{DW}^2 = e^{w-w_0} (-dt^2 + dx^2) + dw^2.$$

The Breitenlohner-Freedman bound:

The equation for the scalar field

$$\partial_w^2 \phi - 2\partial_w \phi - m^2 \phi = 0, \quad \phi \sim e^{\Delta(w-w_0)},$$

The solution:

$$\Delta(\Delta - 2) - m^2 = 0, \quad \Delta_{\pm} = 1 \pm \sqrt{1 + m^2}.$$

At the same time the expansion of the dilaton potential of the quadratic order gives

$$m^2 = -4\Lambda_{uv} a^2 (a^2 - 1).$$

The Breitenlohner-Freedman bound:

$$\Delta = \Delta_+ = 1 + |1 - 2a^2|.$$

The conformal dimensions using holography

Possible conformal dimensions

1. for $a^2 = 0$, $\Delta = 2$, the operator is marginal
2. for $0 < a^2 < 1/2$, $1 < \Delta < 2$, the operator is relevant,
3. for $a^2 = 1/2$, $\Delta = 1$, i.e. the operator is relevant,
4. for $1/2 < a^2 < 1$, $1 < \Delta < 2$, i.e. the operator is relevant,
5. for $a^2 = 1$, $\Delta = 2$, the operator is marginal.

The general solution to the scalar field ϕ we can represent using $\Delta_+ = \Delta$ and $\Delta_- = 2 - \Delta$:

$$\phi = \phi_0^- e^{-(2-\Delta)w} + \phi_0^+ e^{-\Delta w}.$$

Holographic RG flows and dynamical system

The autonomous dynamical system

We introduce new variables (Aref'eva, Policastro, AG'19):

$$X = \frac{\dot{\phi}}{\dot{A}}, \quad Z = e^{-\phi},$$

$Z \in (0, +\infty)$ for $\phi \in (-\infty; \infty)$.

$$\lambda = e^{\phi} \rightarrow +\infty, \quad \phi \rightarrow +\infty$$

The dynamical system is represented by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dZ}{dA} &= f(Z, X), \\ \frac{dX}{dA} &= g(Z, X), \end{aligned}$$

where the functions f and g are defined as:

$$f(Z, X) = -ZX,$$

$$g(Z, X) = \left(\frac{X^2}{a^2} - 2 \right) \left(X + \frac{a^2}{2} \times \frac{4(2a^2(Z^8 - 1) - (Z^2 - 1)(Z^2 + 1)^3)}{(Z^2 + 1)^4 - 2a^2(Z^4 - 1)^2} \right).$$

The points of equilibrium

$$\begin{cases} f(Z, X) \Big|_{Z_c, X_c} = 0, \\ g(Z, X) \Big|_{Z_c, X_c} = 0. \end{cases}$$

The stationary points are

1. $Z_c = 0, X_c = a\sqrt{2},$
2. $Z_c = 0, X_c = -a\sqrt{2},$
3. $Z_c = 0, X_c = -2a^2,$
4. $Z_c = 1, X_c = 0,$
5. $Z_c = \sqrt{\frac{1-2|a|\sqrt{1-a^2}}{2a^2-1}}, X_c = 0,$
6. $Z_c = \sqrt{\frac{1+2\sqrt{1-a^2}}{2a^2-1}}, X_c = 0.$

Stability analysis of equilibrium points

We perturb near Z_c, X_c : $Z = Z_c + \delta Z$, $X = X_c + \delta X$.

$$\frac{d}{dA} \begin{pmatrix} \delta Z \\ \delta X \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{M} \begin{pmatrix} \delta Z \\ \delta X \end{pmatrix},$$

where \mathcal{M} – the Jacobian matrix

$$\mathcal{M} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial Z} & \frac{\partial f}{\partial X} \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial Z} & \frac{\partial g}{\partial X} \end{pmatrix} \Big|_{Z=Z_c, X=X_c}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{11} = -X_c, \quad \mathcal{M}_{12} = -Z_c,$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{21} = -\frac{8Z_c(2a^2 - X_c^2)(8a^4Z_c^2(Z_c^2 - 1)^2 + 2a^2(Z_c^2 + 1)^2(Z_c^4 + 1) - (Z_c^2 + 1)^4)}{(Z_c^2 + 1)^2((Z_c^2 + 1)^2 - 2a^2(Z_c^2 - 1)^2)^2},$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{22} = \frac{3X_c^2}{a^2} - 2 - \frac{4X_c((Z_c^2 - 1)(Z_c^2 + 1)^3 - 2a^2(Z_c^8 - 1))}{(Z_c^2 + 1)^4 - 2a^2(Z_c^4 - 1)^2}.$$

The characteristic equation is:

$$\lambda^2 - \lambda(\mathcal{M}_{11} + \mathcal{M}_{22}) + \mathcal{M}_{11}\mathcal{M}_{22} - \mathcal{M}_{12}\mathcal{M}_{21} = 0.$$

Point	$a^2 = 0$	$0 < a^2 < \frac{1}{2}$	$a^2 = \frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2} < a^2 < 1$	$a^2 = 1$
1	none	$a \in (-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}; 0)$ unst. node $a \in (0; \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$ saddle	$a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ saddle $a = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ none	saddle	saddle
2	none	$a \in (0; \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$ unst. node $a \in (-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}; 0)$ saddle	$a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ none $a = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ saddle	saddle	saddle
3	none	saddle	none	unst. node	unst. node
4	none	stable node	stable node	stable node	none
5,6	saddle	saddle	saddle	saddle	none

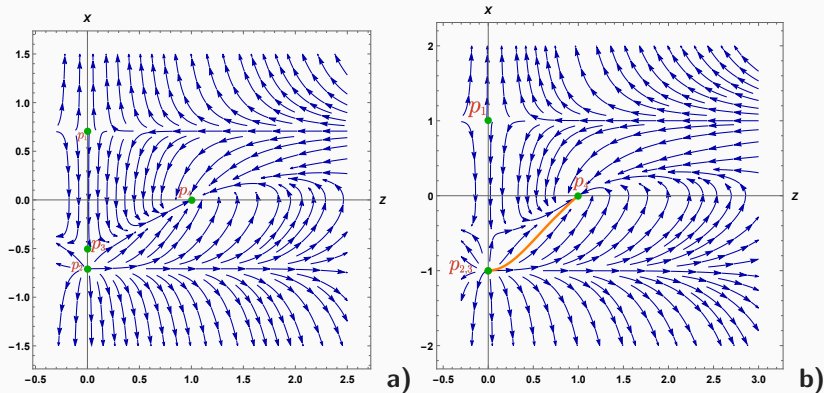


Figure 4: a) Phase portrait for $a^2 = 0.25$; b) Phase portrait for $a^2 = 0.5$.

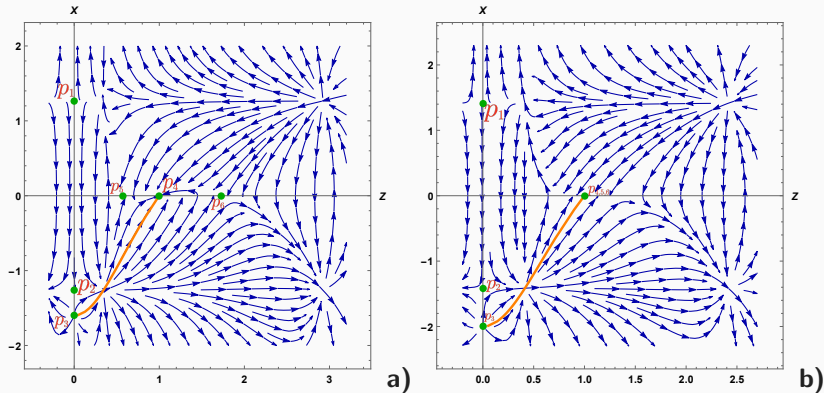


Figure 5: a) Phase portrait for $a^2 = 0.8$; b) Phase portrait for $a^2 = 1$.

Bifurcations

- The bifurcation occurs when a control parameter change causes a change of stability properties of critical points of the dynamical system.
- A local bifurcation is a bifurcation of a dynamic system that can be identified by analyzing the stability of fixed points.
- Global bifurcations cannot be detected only by a stability analysis of the fixed points and often occur when an invariant sets of the system 'collide' with each other, or with fixed points of the system.
- Typically the bifurcations are characterized by a vanishing eigenvalue of Jacobian matrix.

$$Z_c = 0 : \dot{X} = \left(\frac{X^2}{a^2} - 2\right)(X - 2a^2), \quad X_c = -\sqrt{2}a, \quad X_c = \sqrt{2}a, \quad X_c = 2a^2.$$

1) $a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ $X_c = \sqrt{2}a$ none $\lambda_1 = \sqrt{2}a$, $\lambda_2 = 4(1 - a\sqrt{2})$
 $\det \mathcal{M} = 4\sqrt{2}a(1 - \sqrt{2}a)$; $X_c = -\sqrt{2}a$ saddle(unstable), $X_c = 2a^2$ (none), **2)**
 while for $a = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ $X_c = \sqrt{2}a$ unstable, for $X_c = -\sqrt{2}a$ and $X_c = 2a^2$ none.

Bifurcations

Gukov'17

$$\Delta = |1 - 2a^2| + 1; \quad \Delta - d = |1 - 2a^2| - 1.$$

1. for $a^2 = 0$ $\Delta - d = 0$,
2. for $0 < a < \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$, $\Delta - d = -2a^2$,
3. for $-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} < a < 0$, $\Delta - d = -2a^2$,
4. for $a^2 = \frac{1}{2}$, $\Delta - d = -1$,
5. for $a^2 = 1$, $\Delta - d = 0$,
6. $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} < a < 1$, $\Delta - d = 2(a^2 - 1)$,
7. $-1 < a < -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$, $\Delta - d = 2(a^2 - 1)$.

Asymptotic solutions near the fixed points

Asymptotic gravitational solutions near the fixed points

Recall:

$$\frac{\ddot{A}}{\dot{A}^2} = -\frac{X_c^2}{a^2}, \quad X_c = \frac{\dot{\phi}}{\dot{A}}.$$

The generic form of the solution for the metric and the dilaton:

$$A = \frac{a^2}{X_c^2} \ln \left[\frac{X_c^2 \dot{A}_0 (w - w_0) + a^2}{X_c^2 \dot{A}_0 (w_1 - w_0) + a^2} \right] + A_0,$$

and

$$\phi = \frac{a^2}{X_c} \ln \left[\frac{\dot{A}_0 X_c^2 (w - w_0) + a^2}{\dot{A}_0 X_c^2 (w_1 - w_0) + a^2} \right] + \phi_0,$$

where $A_0 = A(w_0)$, $\phi_0 = \phi(w_0)$, $\dot{A}_0 = \dot{A}(w_0)$, w_0, w_1 are constants of integration.

- $Z_c = 0$, $X_c = \sqrt{2}a$. The metric and the dilaton are given by

$$ds^2 \cong \left| \frac{2\dot{A}_0(w - w_0) + 1}{2\dot{A}_0(w_1 - w_0) + 1} \right| (-dt^2 + dx^2) + dw^2, \phi = \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}} \ln \left| \frac{2\dot{A}_0(w - w_0) + 1}{2\dot{A}_0(w_1 - w_0) + 1} \right| + \phi_0.$$

Since $Z_c = 0$, then $\phi \rightarrow +\infty$, so $a > 0$ and $w \rightarrow w_0 - \frac{1}{2\dot{A}_0}$, or $w \rightarrow +\infty$ and $a < 0$. The potential $\phi \rightarrow +\infty$: $V \rightarrow \pm\infty$, however from the EOM $V = 0$, $\frac{dV}{d\phi} = 0$.

NOT A SOLUTION TO EOM.

- $Z_c = 0$, $X_c = -a\sqrt{2}$. The metric and the dilaton are given by

$$ds^2 \cong \left| \frac{2\dot{A}_0(w - w_0) + 1}{2\dot{A}_0(w_1 - w_0) + 1} \right| (-dt^2 + dx^2) + dw^2, \phi = -\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}} \ln \left| \frac{2\dot{A}_0(w - w_0) + 1}{2\dot{A}_0(w_1 - w_0) + 1} \right| + \phi_0.$$

NOT A SOLUTION TO EOM.

- $Z_c = 0$, $X_c = -2a^2$. The metric and the dilaton are

$$ds^2 \cong \left| \frac{4a^2 \dot{A}_0(w - w_0) + 1}{4a^2 \dot{A}_0(w_1 - w_0) + 1} \right|^{\frac{1}{2a^2}} (-dt^2 + dx^2) + dw^2,$$

$$\phi = -\frac{1}{2} \ln \left| \frac{4a^2 \dot{A}_0(w - w_0) + 1}{4a^2 \dot{A}_0(w_1 - w_0) + 1} \right| + \phi_0.$$

Since $Z_c = 0$, $\phi \rightarrow +\infty$, for $\phi \rightarrow +\infty$ the potential behaves as

$$V \sim \begin{cases} -\infty, & \text{for } 0 \leq a^2 \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ +\infty, & \text{for } a^2 > \frac{1}{2}. \end{cases} \quad \text{SOLVES EOM for any } a \text{ and}$$

$$w \rightarrow w_0 - \frac{1}{4a^2 \dot{A}_0}.$$

- $Z_c = 1$, $X_c = 0$. The metric and the dilaton are given by

$$ds^2 \approx e^{2\sqrt{-\Lambda_{uv}}(w-w_0)} (-dt^2 + dx^2) + dw^2, \quad \phi = 0, \quad V = 2\Lambda_{uv}.$$

where w_0 –a constant of integration. **SOLVES EOM for any** a .

- $Z_c = \sqrt{\frac{1-2|a|\sqrt{1-a^2}}{2a^2-1}}, \quad X_c = 0.$

The metric and the scalar field are

$$s^2 \approx e^{2a^2 \sqrt{-\frac{\Lambda_{uv}}{2a^2-1}}(w-w_0)} (-dt^2 + dx^2) + dw^2, \quad \phi = \ln \sqrt{\frac{1-2|a|\sqrt{1-a^2}}{2a^2-1}}$$

$$V = \frac{2a^4 \Lambda_{uv}}{2a^2-1},$$

where w_0 – the constant of integration. **SOLVES EOM for $a^2 > \frac{1}{2}$.**

- $Z_c = \sqrt{\frac{1+2|a|\sqrt{1-a^2}}{2a^2-1}}, \quad X_c = 0.$

The metric and the scalar field are

$$ds^2 \approx e^{2a^2 \sqrt{-\frac{\Lambda_{uv}}{2a^2-1}}(w-w_0)} (-dt^2 + dx^2) + dw^2, \quad \phi = \ln \left(\sqrt{\frac{1+2|a|\sqrt{1-a^2}}{2a^2-1}} \right)$$

$$V = \frac{2a^4 \Lambda_{uv}}{2a^2-1},$$

where w_0 – the constant of integration. **SOLVES EOM for $a^2 > \frac{1}{2}$.**

Holographic RG flows

Point	$V(\phi)$	Type with energy scale	UV/IR
$p_3, Z_c = 0, X_c = -2a^2$	$V \rightarrow \pm\infty$	stable for all a	IR
$p_4, Z_c = 1, X_c = 0$	const	Unstable for all a	UV
$p_5, Z_c = \sqrt{\frac{1-2 a \sqrt{1-a^2}}{2a^2-1}}, X_c = 0$	const	Unstable for all a	UV
$p_6, Z_c = \sqrt{\frac{1+2 a \sqrt{1-a^2}}{2a^2-1}}, X_c = 0$	const	Unstable for all a	UV

Holographic RG flows

Possible RG flows:

- $a^2 < \frac{1}{2}$:
 - p_4 (UV, AdS_3 , $\phi = 0$) to p_3 (IR, $\phi \rightarrow +\infty$)
- $a^2 > \frac{1}{2}$:
 - p_4 (UV, AdS_3 , $\phi = 0$) to p_3 (IR, $\phi \rightarrow +\infty$);
 - p_5 (UV, AdS_3 , $\phi = \ln\left(\sqrt{\frac{1-2|a|\sqrt{1-a^2}}{2a^2-1}}\right)$) to p_3 (IR, $\phi \rightarrow +\infty$);
 - p_6 (UV, AdS_3 , $\phi = \ln\left(\sqrt{\frac{1+2|a|\sqrt{1-a^2}}{2a^2-1}}\right)$) to p_3 (IR, $\phi \rightarrow +\infty$).

Outlook

Outlook

Summary

- Relevant deformations related to holographic RG flows were studied
- Stability analysis of equilibrium points was done
- Classification of fixed points according to stability was done
- Holographic RG flows from UV fixed points with $\phi = const$ to IR fixed points with $\phi \rightarrow +\infty$ were found (AdS-hyperscaling violating geometry flows, no AdS-AdS flows).

Questions

- Finite-temperature generalizations; Gubser's bound ($V \leq 0$)?
- Phase transitions as bifurcations? ([Gukov '17](#))
- Are there irrelevant deformations? (the so-called Zamolodchikov $T\bar{T}$ -deformations)

Thank you for attention!