From Navier-Stokes to Einstein

Irene Bredberg (Harvard)

with: C. Keeler, V. Lysov and A. Strominger

1006.1902, 1101.2451 and 1106.3084 (hep-th arXiv)

12 August, 2011

Holography: A gravitational system has a dual description which is a non-gravitational field theory in one fewer dimensions

- Gravity
 - Einstein equations: $G_{\mu
 u}=0$
- Fluid Mechanics: $(v_i(t, x^j), P(t, x^j))$ obey
 - Incompressibility: $abla_i v^i = 0$
 - Navier-Stokes equation:

$$\partial_t v_i + v^j \nabla_j v_i + \nabla_i P - \eta \left(\nabla^2 v_i + R_{ij} v^j \right) = 0$$

Previous work on fluid/gravity duality

Black hole membrane paradigm (1970s Damour)

- Dynamics of the fluctuations around the horizon is very similar to that of a viscous fluid
- Governed by the Damour-Navier-Stokes equation

AdS/CFT (2000s Policastro, Son, Starinets etc)

- Deform AdS spacetimes and analyse the low energy limit of the dual field theory at the boundary $r \to \infty$
- Behaviour given by fluid mechanics

We want to relate solutions of the incompressible Navier-Stokes equation to solutions of the Einstein equations

- Consider gravitational fluctuations around a background Einstein solution
- The holographically dual fluid will live on the 'cutoff' surface at $r = r_c = 1$
- We constrain the induced metric on this cutoff surface to be flat
- No singularities in the radial direction



Fluctuations in the near-horizon region

Background: $ds^2 = -RdT^2 + 2dTdR + dx_i dx^i$

Horizon at R = 0

$(T,R) \to (t,r) = (t,r)$	$\lambda T, R/\lambda$
---------------------------	------------------------

 $ds^2 = -\frac{r}{\lambda}dt^2 +$

 $\lambda \to 0 \quad \text{zooms in on} \\ \text{the near-horizon region}$

 $\left[2dtdr + r = r_c = 1(1-r)v_i dx^i dt + (1-r)(v^2 + 2P)dt^2\right] +$

 $\lambda \left[(1-r)v_{i}v_{j}dx^{i}dx^{j} - 2v_{i}dx^{i}dr + (v^{2} + 2P)dtdr + (1-r^{2})\partial^{2}v_{i}dx^{i}dt \right] + \dots$

Induced metric at the cutoff surface $r = r_c = 1$ is flat and there are no singularities in r so this metric obeys our boundary conditions.

Does this deformed geometry satisfy the Einstein equations?

Yes, it satisfies the Einstein equations...

Our deformed metric satisfies the Einstein equations through $\mathcal{O}(\lambda^0)$ if (v_i, P) satisfy precisely

the incompressibility condition:

$$\nabla_i v^i = 0$$

and the Navier-Stokes equation:

$$\partial_t v_i + v^j \nabla_j v_i + \nabla_i P - \eta \left(\nabla^2 v_i + R_{ij} v^j \right) = 0$$

with viscosity $\eta = 1$.

The constraint is the incompressible Navier-Stokes equation on the planar cutoff surface $ds^2 = -dt^2 + dx_i dx^i$; as expected from holography.

• We have made no assumptions about the asymptotics of our spacetime; AdS piece is not necessary.

• By zooming in on the near-horizon region we find a precise mathematical relation between the Einstein and the Navier-Stokes equations.

• Can generalise to spherical Schwarzschild black holes. Zoom in on the region near the horizon at r = 2m. (v_i, P) is required to satisfy the incompressible Navier-Stokes equation on a sphere.

• By identifying the near-horizon parameter λ with a low energy parameter we can show that this geometry is the same as one where the cutoff surface is at a finite radius and which perturbatively solves the Einstein equations if the dual low energy theory at the cutoff is fluid mechanics. This is analogous to fluid/gravity duality as seen in AdS/CFT.