

# *Can Gravity be Localized?*

## *& new $AdS_4$ -SCFT<sub>3</sub> duality*

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based on : CB, J. Estes, *arXiv:1103.2800 [hep-th]*

B. Assel, CB, J. Estes, J. Gomis, *1106.4253 [hep-th]*  
*and in preparation*

also: O. Aharony, L. Berdichevsky, M. Berkooz, I. Shamir, *arXiv:1106.1870 [hep-th]*

*This is closely related to the questions:*

Can the graviton have mass?

Can it be a resonance?

Are sectors “hidden” from gravity possible ?

Other IR modifications of Einstein equations ?

*The subject has a long history, to which I will not  
try to do justice here .....*

In Minkowski spacetime, the answer seems to be **NO**

An important obstruction is the **vDVZ discontinuity**

van Dam, Veltman, Zakharov '70

Notice that for the photon the answer is **YES**

Indeed, the particle data group quotes the experimental bound:

$$m_\gamma < 10^{-18} eV$$

range  $> 10^9 km \sim 1$  light hour      but could be finite!

Now repeat the exercise for a **massive spin-2 field**.

The (ghost-free) massive **Pauli - Fierz** Lagrangian is:



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{PF}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{EH}} - \frac{m^2}{2} (h^{\nu\lambda} h_{\nu\lambda} - (h^\rho{}_\rho)^2)$$

where

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EH}} = -\frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu h^{\nu\lambda} \partial^\mu h_{\nu\lambda} + \partial^\mu h^{\nu\lambda} \partial_\nu h_{\mu\lambda} - \partial_\mu h^{\mu\nu} \partial_\nu h^\lambda{}_\lambda + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\nu h^\lambda{}_\lambda \partial^\nu h^\rho{}_\rho + h_{\mu\nu} T^{\mu\nu}$$

with

$$\partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0$$

Introduce again compensators to restore gauge invariance:

$$h_{\mu\nu} = h'_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{m}(\partial_\mu A_\nu + \partial_\nu A_\mu) + \frac{2}{m^2}\partial_\mu\partial_\nu\phi$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{invariant under} \quad \delta h_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu \xi_\nu + \partial_\nu \xi_\mu \\ \delta A_\mu = -m\xi_\mu + \partial_\mu \Lambda \\ \delta\phi = -m\Lambda \end{array}$$

Inserting in  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{PF}}$  gives a free massless spin-1 field, and a **two-derivative** Lagrangian mixing  $\phi$  and  $h'_{\mu\nu}$ .

PF was precisely devised for this,  
i.e. the 4-derivative term drops out

Redefining fields to remove the mixing (  $h'_{\mu\nu} = h''_{\mu\nu} + \eta_{\mu\nu}\phi$  ) finally gives:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{PF}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{EH}} - \frac{1}{2} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - 3 \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi + \boxed{\phi T^\rho{}_\rho}$$

The residual coupling is different for light, than for massive matter;  
thus the Pauli-Fierz theory does not give Einstein's theory when  $m \rightarrow 0$

If we set Newton's law to its measured form,

light bending = 3/4 of measured effect

.... so however tiny the mass, it is ruled out !

The story is more complicated than this, because **strong coupling** sets in at intermediate scales

Hotly debated whether this can cure the discontinuity;  
(some) consensus that the issue cannot be settled without  
**UV completion.**

The story looks more promising in AdS:

- ◆ The vDVZ discontinuity is absent if  $m_{\text{gr}} < 1/L_{\text{AdS}}$   
Kogan - Mouslopoulos - Papazoglou;  
Porrati
- ◆  $\exists$  a simple “model”, possibly embed-able in string theory  
Karch-Randall
- ◆ Supersymmetry can protect the required hierarchy

Of course, we don't seem to live in AdS spacetime !


OK, take attitude that anything one can learn about IR gravity is interesting, and proceed.

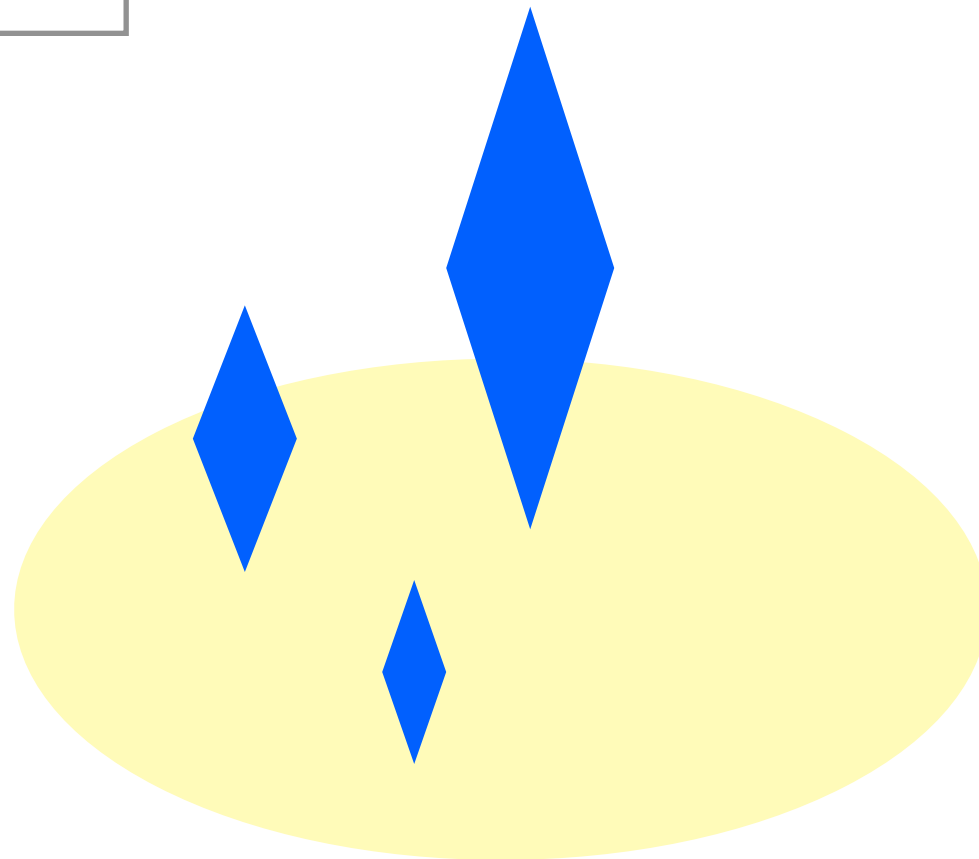


## *KK reduction for spin 2*

Interested in *warped*-(A)dS geometries,

$$\widehat{ds}^2 = e^{2A(y)} \bar{g}_{\mu\nu}(x) dx^\mu dx^\nu + \hat{g}_{ab}(y) dy^a dy^b$$


$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mathcal{M}}_4 &= \text{AdS}_4, \mathbb{M}_4, \text{dS}_4 \\ k &= -1, 0, 1 \end{aligned}$$



Consider (consistent reduction to) metric perturbations

$$ds^2 = e^{2A} (\bar{g}_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}) dx^\mu dx^\nu + \hat{g}_{ab} dy^a dy^b ,$$

$$\text{with} \quad h_{\mu\nu}(x, y) = h_{\mu\nu}^{[\text{tt}]}(x) \psi(y)$$

where

$$(\bar{\square}_x^{(2)} - \lambda) h_{\mu\nu}^{[\text{tt}]} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{\nabla}^\mu h_{\mu\nu}^{[\text{tt}]} = \bar{g}^{\mu\nu} h_{\mu\nu}^{[\text{tt}]} = 0 .$$

$$\text{Pauli-Fierz} \quad (\lambda = m^2 + 2k)$$

Linearizing the Einstein equations  $R_{MN} - \frac{1}{2}g_{MN}R = T_{MN}$

leads to the Schrodinger problem :

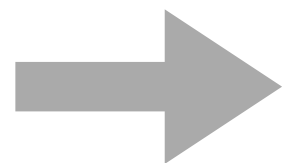
$$-\frac{e^{-2A}}{\sqrt{[\hat{g}]}} (\partial_a \sqrt{[\hat{g}]} \hat{g}^{ab} e^{4A} \partial_b) \psi = m^2 \psi$$

This is equivalent to a *scalar-Laplace* equation in d dimensions :

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\hat{g}}} (\partial_M \sqrt{\hat{g}} \hat{g}^{MN} \partial_N) h_{\mu\nu}(x, y) = 0 .$$

**Important:** the linearized equation **depends only on the geometry**, not on the detailed matter-field backgrounds.

Brandhuber, Sfetsos  
Csaki, Erlich, Hollowood, Shirman  
CB, JE



**Localization of spin-2 can only come from geometry**

The wavefunction norm is

$$\|\psi\|^2 \equiv \int d^{d-4}y \sqrt{[\hat{g}]} e^{2A} |\psi|^2$$

The would-be massless graviton has  $\psi(y) = \text{constant}$

**It is normalizable iff the transverse volume is finite**

For infinite transverse volume, either the spin-2 spectrum has a continuum, or the **lowest-lying state must be massive**.

In the latter case we may talk about **localization of the graviton** provided  $m_0$  can be made arbitrarily small, and in any case much smaller than the typical KK scale.

Wait a minute: **Why can't the warp factor "help"?**

When it does, *infinity* is an **apparent horizon**, which can be reached in finite proper time. This can be shown for flat brane-worlds as follows:

For a particle moving in a flat transverse dimension  $y$ :  $e^{2A} = C \sqrt{e^{2A} - \dot{y}^2}$

As  $y$  goes to infinity, we need  $e^A \rightarrow 0$ , so that  $\dot{y} \simeq e^A \rightarrow 0$

The total proper time  $\int d\tau = \int dt C^{-1} e^{2A} \simeq \int dy e^A$  must be infinite, for geodesic completeness.

If we request  $\int dy e^{2A}$  finite for a normalizable zero mode, then

$$A \simeq -\nu \log y \quad \text{with} \quad 1 > \nu > 1/2$$

This is ruled out by the "holographic c-theorem"  $A'' \leq 0$  which follows from the energy conditions in the flat-brane case QED.

Girardello et al, Freedman et al '98-99

Given an apparent horizon,

we need to supplement the *quantum* theory with **boundary conditions at the horizon** (“IR brane”)

This is an effective compactification.

For  $\mathcal{M}_4 = \text{AdS}_4$  the warp factor need not be monotonic.

Thus it can approach zero and then turn around and diverge, so as to create a graviton “trap”. The almost constant lowest mode goes to zero near the warp-factor minimum, giving the graviton a tiny mass.

The Karch-Randall model illustrates this point.



## *Karch-Randall model*

Starting point is 5D Einstein action plus a thin 3-brane

$$I_{\text{KR}} = -\frac{1}{2\kappa_5^2} \int d^4x dy \sqrt{g} \left( R + \frac{12}{L^2} \right) + \lambda \int d^4x \sqrt{[g]_4} ,$$

The solution is:

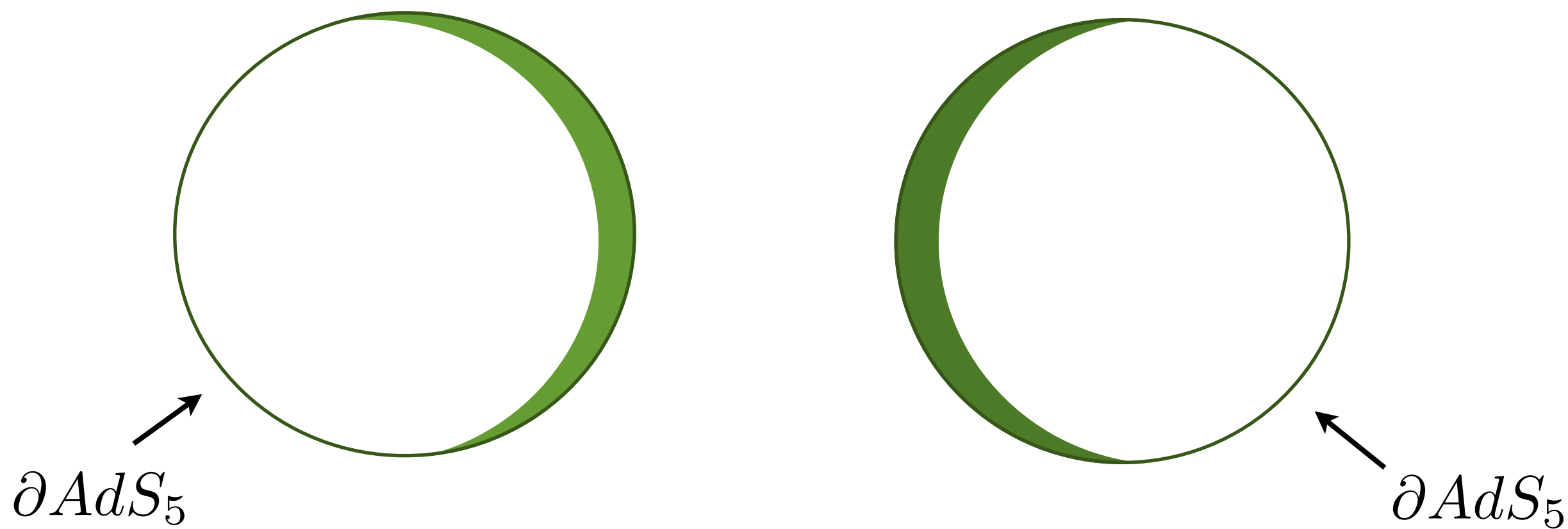
$$ds^2 = L^2 \cosh^2 \left( \frac{y_0 - |y|}{L} \right) \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu + dy^2, \quad \text{where} \quad y_0 = L \operatorname{arctanh} \left( \frac{\kappa_5^2 \lambda L}{6} \right)$$

It describes two (large) slices of  $\text{AdS}_5$  glued along a  $\text{AdS}_4$  brane

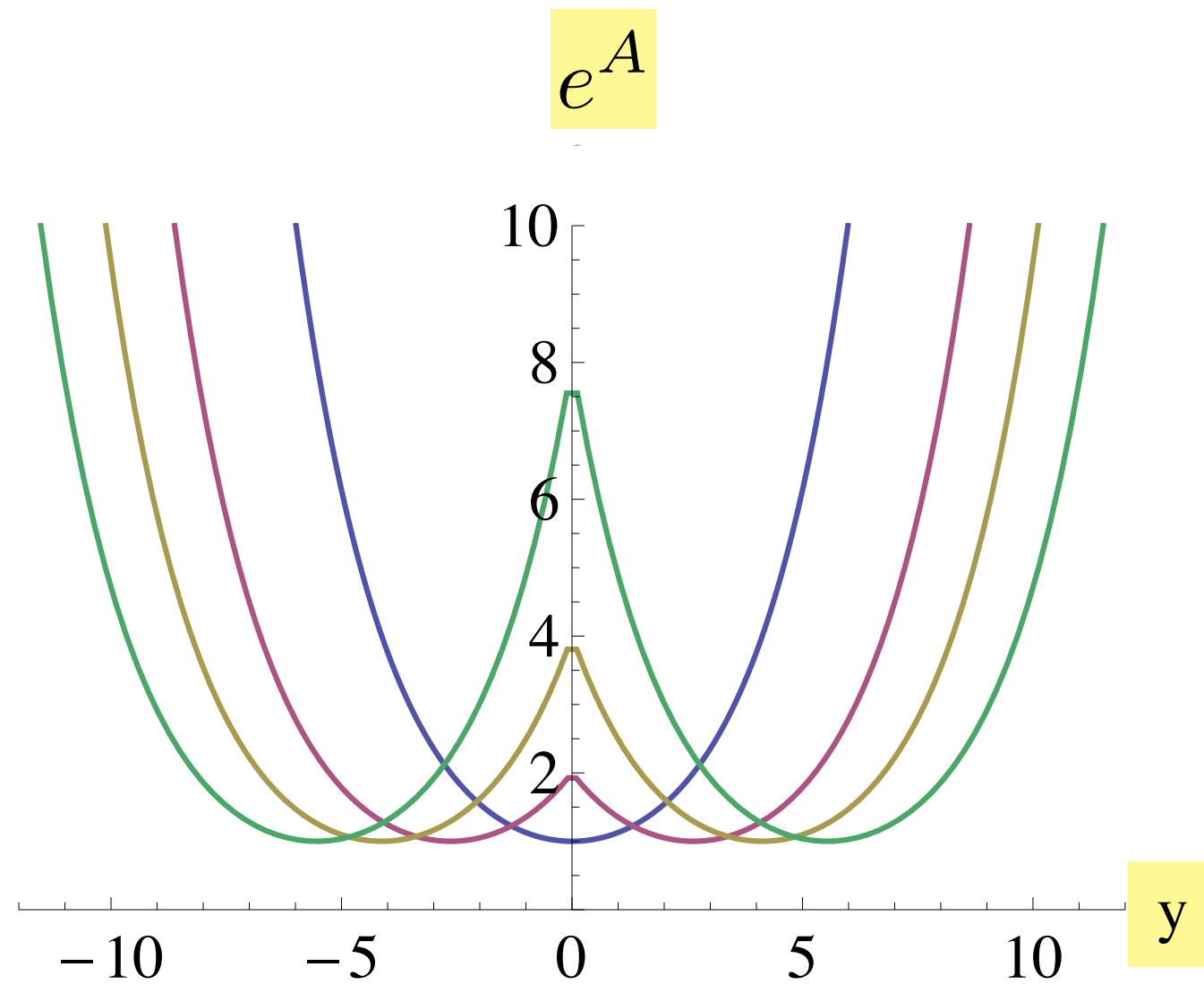
with radius

$$\ell^2 = e^{2A(0)} = L^2 \cosh^2 \left( \frac{y_0}{L} \right) .$$


One can tune  $\lambda L$  so that  $\frac{\ell}{L} \gg 1$



Cut away green slices, then glue the white ones in a symmetric fashion. Gives two 4D boundaries glued across two 3D defects (domain walls).



Warp factor  $e^{2A} = L^2 \cosh^2 \left( \frac{y_0 - |y|}{L} \right)$   
 as  $\ell/L$  is gradually tuned up

4D parameters:  $8\pi G_N \simeq \kappa_5^2/L$   *as in usual KK*

$$V_{\text{Newton}} + \Delta V \simeq -\frac{G_N m_1 m_2}{r} \left(1 + \gamma \frac{L^2}{r^2} + \dots\right)$$

so  $\frac{\ell}{L} \sim 10^{31} - 10^{62}$   *unlike standard KK*

Spectrum : - a nearly-constant, nearly massless mode  $m_0^2 \simeq \frac{3L^2}{2\ell^2}$

- two towers of AdS<sub>5</sub> modes

$$m^2 \simeq (2n+1)(2n+4) \quad n = 0, 1, \dots$$

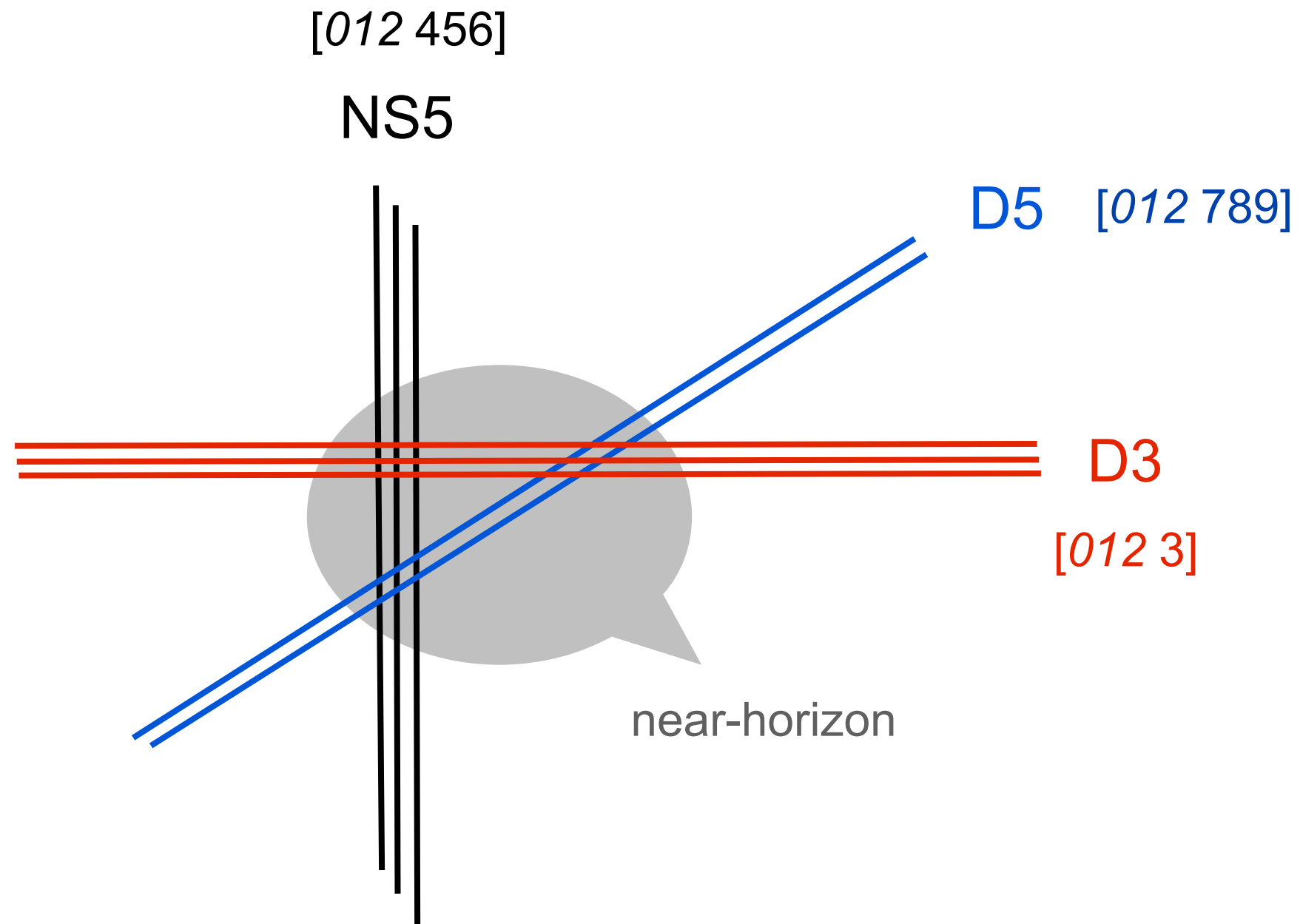
These masses are expressed in units of the AdS<sub>4</sub> radius  
so states with  $m^2 \simeq o(1)$  mediate long-range interactions.

What “saves the day” is that the AdS<sub>5</sub> states live at the  
bottom of the warp-factor well . Their wavefunctions are  
**exponentially suppressed at the brane position**

Furthermore,  $\int \psi_0 \psi^\dagger \psi \neq \text{universal}$

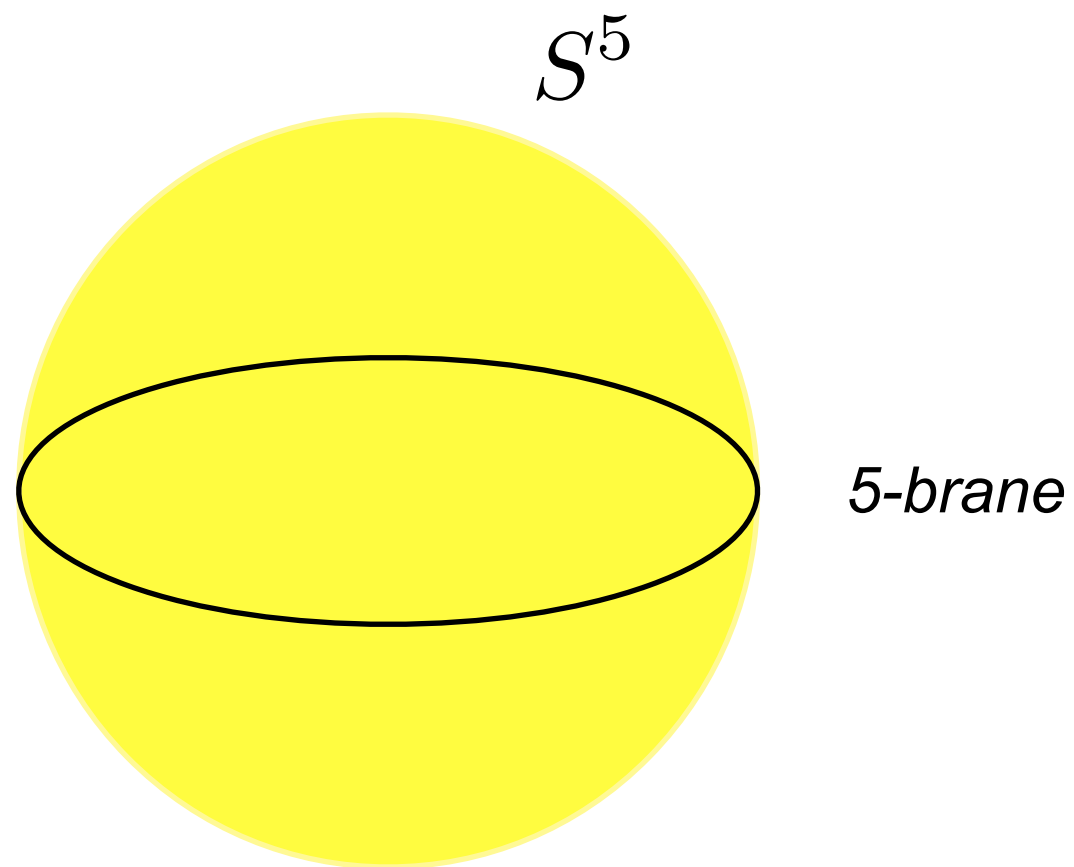
so the nearly-massless graviton has **non-universal couplings**  
to the other fields !

## *The String-theory embedding*



*Karch and Randall* proposed to embed their model in IIB string theory, by inserting 5-branes in the  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  geometry of D3-branes.

The geometry of a 5-brane in the probe limit is  $AdS_4 \times S^2$



The exact geometry of these configurations was discovered some years ago  
by *D'Hoker, Estes and Gutperle*

**Q:** Is the graviton in these geometries “localized” ?

**A:** **No**; but it does obtain an arbitrarily-small mass in  
a curved 10d spacetime.

The ensuing geometries are interesting for other reasons:

- holographic duals of  $N=4$  SCFT<sub>3</sub> of Gaiotto-Witten
- (first?) IIB compactifications without moduli



The **EDG** solutions are  $AdS_4 \times S^2 \times S^2$  fibrations over a surface  $\Sigma$  .

They depend on **two harmonic functions**  $h_1, h_2$  subject to certain global consistency conditions.

metric :  $ds^2 = f_4^2 ds_{AdS_4}^2 + f_1^2 ds_{S_1^2}^2 + f_2^2 ds_{S_2^2}^2 + 4\rho^2 dz d\bar{z} ,$

$$f_4^8 = 16 \frac{N_1 N_2}{W^2} , \quad f_1^8 = 16 h_1^8 \frac{N_2 W^2}{N_1^3} , \quad f_2^8 = 16 h_2^8 \frac{N_1 W^2}{N_2^3}$$

dilaton :  $e^{4\phi} = \frac{N_2}{N_1}$

where :  $W = \partial h_1 \bar{\partial} h_2 + \bar{\partial} h_1 \partial h_2 = \partial \bar{\partial} (h_1 h_2) ,$

$$N_1 = 2h_1 h_2 |\partial h_1|^2 - h_1^2 W , \quad N_2 = 2h_1 h_2 |\partial h_2|^2 - h_2^2 W .$$

There are also 3-form and 5-form backgrounds, and 1/4 unbroken supersymmetry.

The solutions of interest have  $\Sigma$  = infinite strip  
 with  $h_1, h_2$  obeying N or D conditions, possibly  
 with isolated singularities on the boundary, e.g.



The harmonic functions for this choice are:

$$h_1 = \left[ -i\alpha_1 \sinh(z - \beta_1) - \gamma_1 \ln \left( \tanh\left(\frac{i\pi}{4} - \frac{z - \delta_1}{2}\right) \right) \right] + \text{c.c.} ,$$

$$h_2 = \left[ \alpha_2 \cosh(z - \beta_2) - \gamma_2 \ln \left( \tanh\left(\frac{z - \delta_2}{2}\right) \right) \right] + \text{c.c.} .$$

Reduction of eigenmode equation:  $\psi(y^a) = Y_{l_1 m_1} Y_{l_2 m_2} \psi_{l_1 l_2}(z, \bar{z})$   
 leads to a **Laplace-Beltrami** spectral problem on  $\Sigma$  :

$$\frac{2h_1 h_2}{\partial \bar{\partial}(h_1 h_2)} \partial \bar{\partial} \tilde{\psi}_{00} = (m^2 + 2) \tilde{\psi}_{00} , \quad \text{where} \quad \tilde{\psi}_{00} \equiv h_1 h_2 \psi_{00} .$$

The norm is  $\|\psi\|^2 = \int_{\Sigma} d^2 z |W h_1 h_2| |\psi_{l_1 l_2}|^2 = \int_{\Sigma} d^2 z \left| \frac{W}{h_1 h_2} \right| |\tilde{\psi}_{l_1 l_2}|^2$   
 and the b.conditions for  $\psi_{00}$  are *Neumann*.

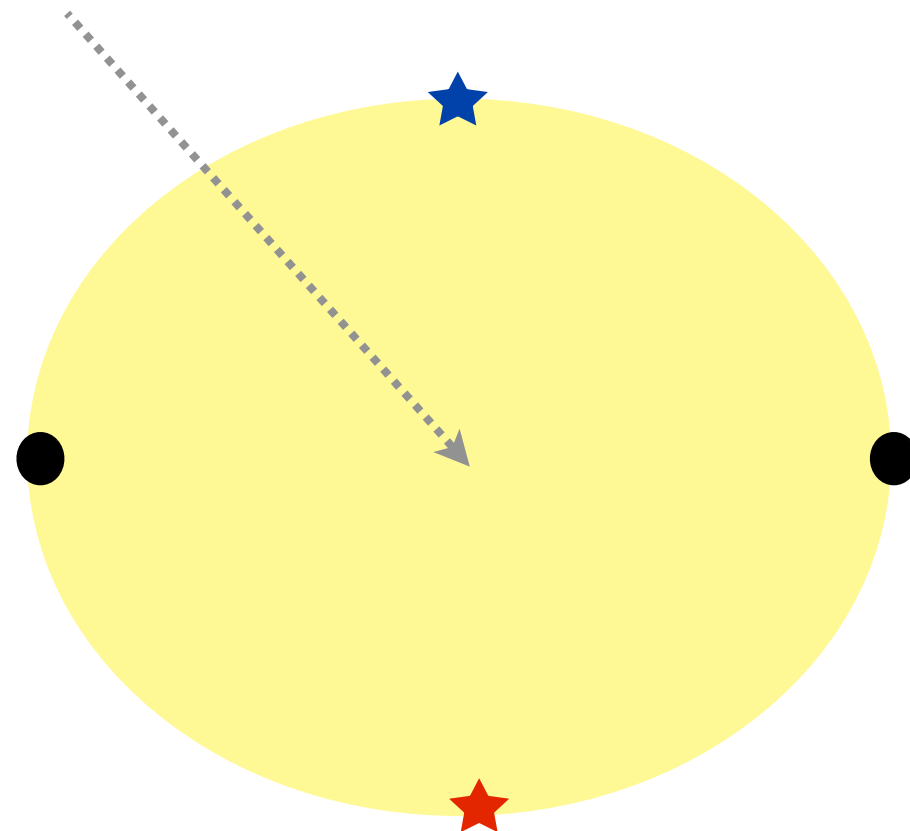
**Too hard to solve analytically**, except in the simplest case of the  
 (dilaton domain wall) Janus solution where the equation reduces to  
**Heun's equation**.

Janus cannot localize gravity because the dilaton has **no (super)potential**, so its domain wall tends to spread to infinite thickness.

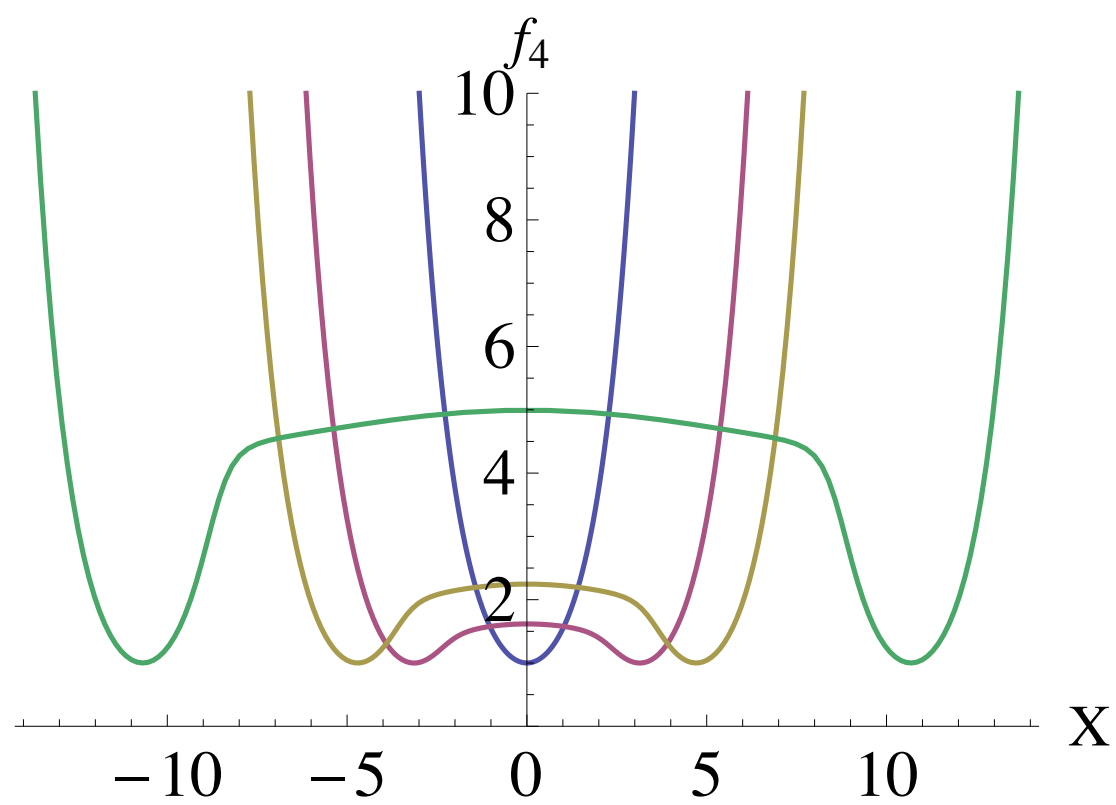
Adding one type of 5-branes does not help: the dilaton adjusts to ( $\infty$ ly) small or large value, so as to minimize the 5-brane tension.

The only interesting limit is one with both NS5 and D5 charges, and with  $\frac{Q_5}{Q_3} \gg 1$ .

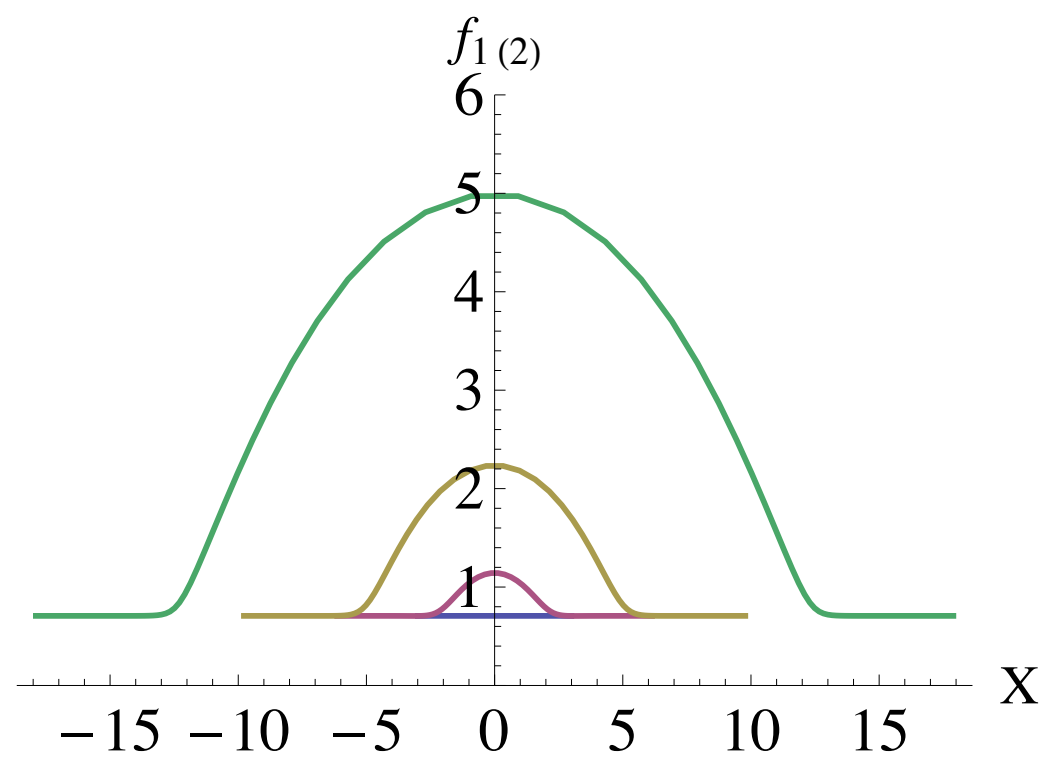
Inspection of the geometry shows that this creates a bubble of almost factorized  $AdS_4 \times K$  geometry in the central region.



The  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  regions are **much more curved**

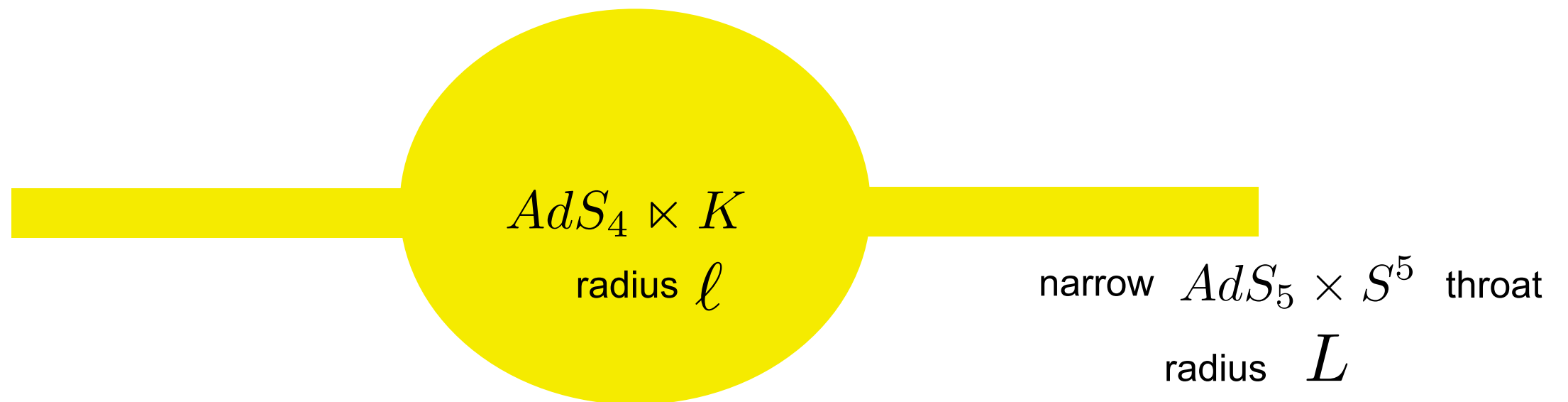


warp factor



sphere radii

The 10d geometry looks like this:



graviton mass  $\sim \frac{L}{\ell} \ll 1$

Actually the limit  $Q_3 \rightarrow 0$  is smooth: **transverse space compactifies**,  
the asymptotic regions  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  go over to smooth  $AdS_4 \times \mathcal{D}_6$  caps

These  $AdS_4 \times_w \mathcal{M}_6$  solutions must be **gravity duals to**  
**3-dimensional (super)conformal field theories**

Which ones ?

By studying the flat-space configurations, *Gaiotto and Witten* have proposed the existence of a class of interacting SCFTs in three dimensions that they called

$$T_{\rho}^{\hat{\rho}}(SU(N))$$

They are in 1-to-1 correspondence with solutions of Nahm's equations:

$$\frac{dX^a}{dt} = i\epsilon_{abc}[X^b, X^c]$$

on the interval, with boundary conditions that are simple poles,

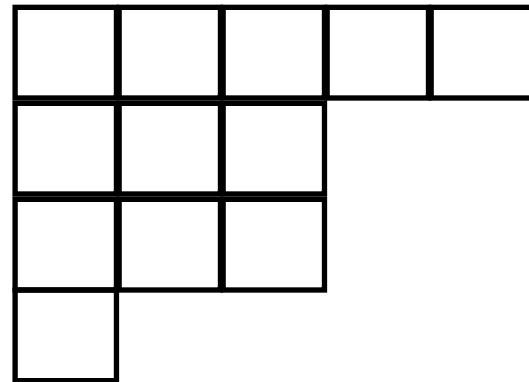
$$X^a \sim \frac{J^a}{t} \quad \longleftarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{N-dimensional generators} \\ \text{of SU(2)} \end{array}$$



This problem has been solved by *Kronheimer and Nakajima*

One can associate a partition of  $N$  with each choice of the  $J^a$

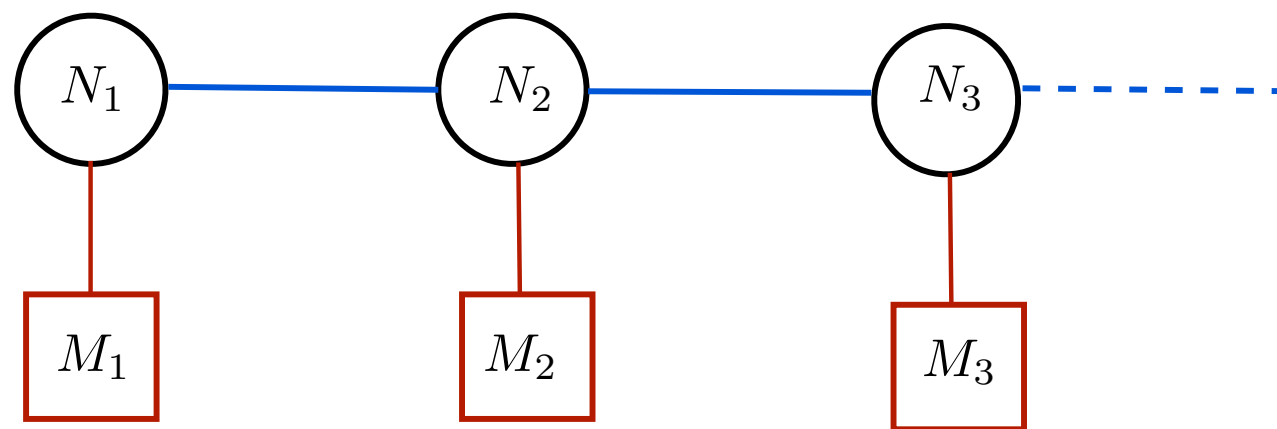
e.g.  $\rho : 12 = 5 + 3 + 3 + 1$



K & N have shown that solutions exist iff  $\rho^T > \hat{\rho}$

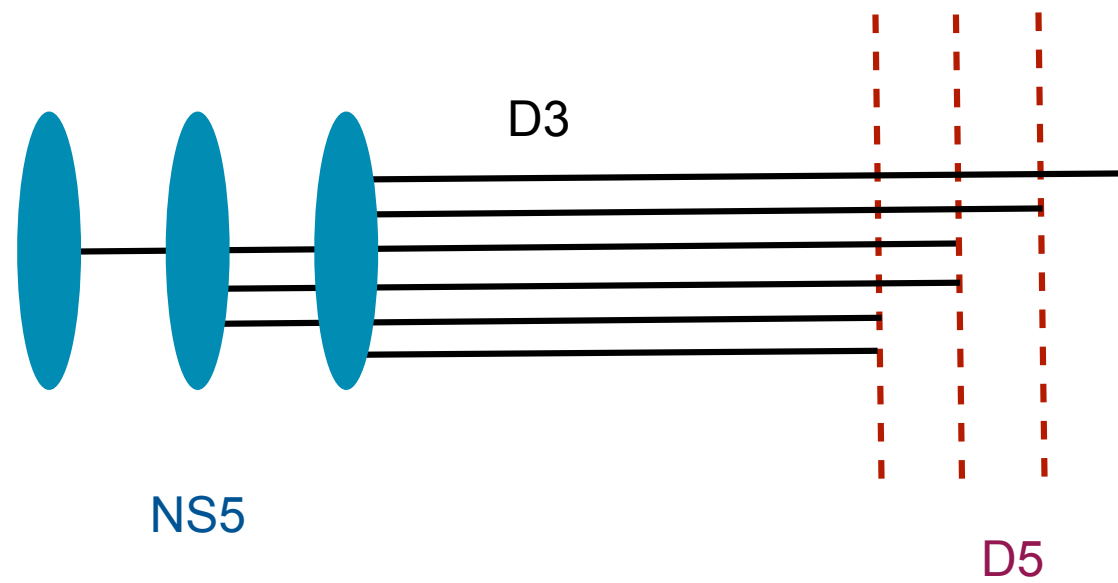
where these are the two partitions at the interval ends.

The underlying gauge theories are described by **linear quivers**

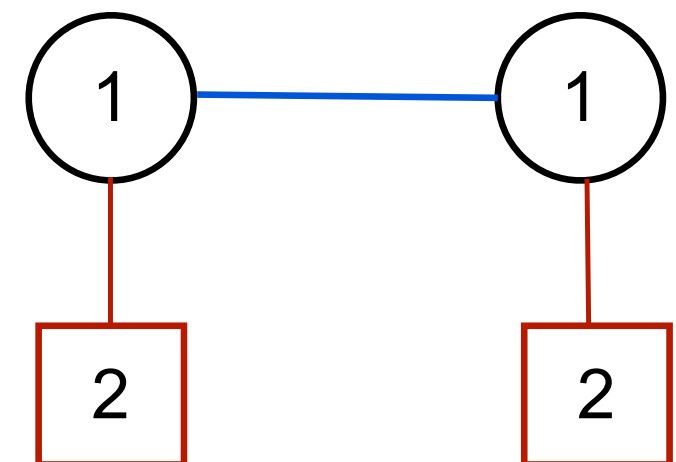
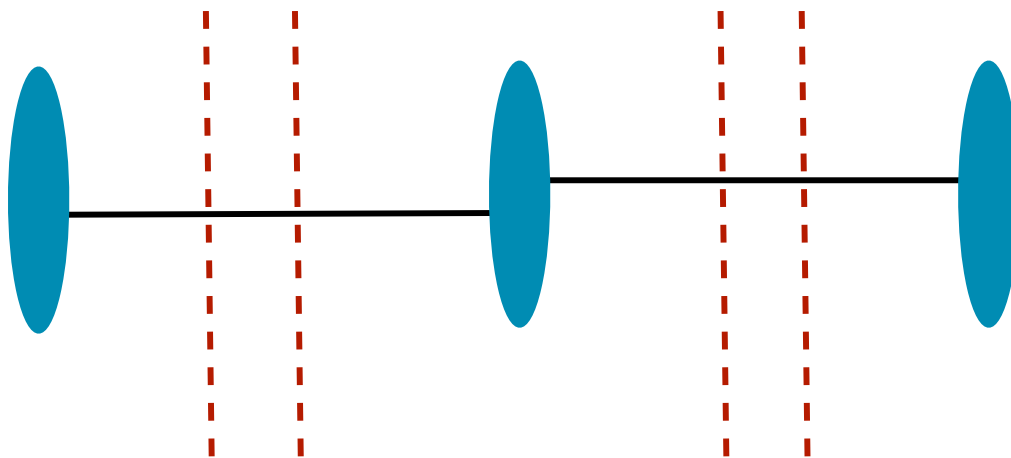


$$U(N_1) \times U(N_2) \times U(N_3) \times \dots$$

for example:



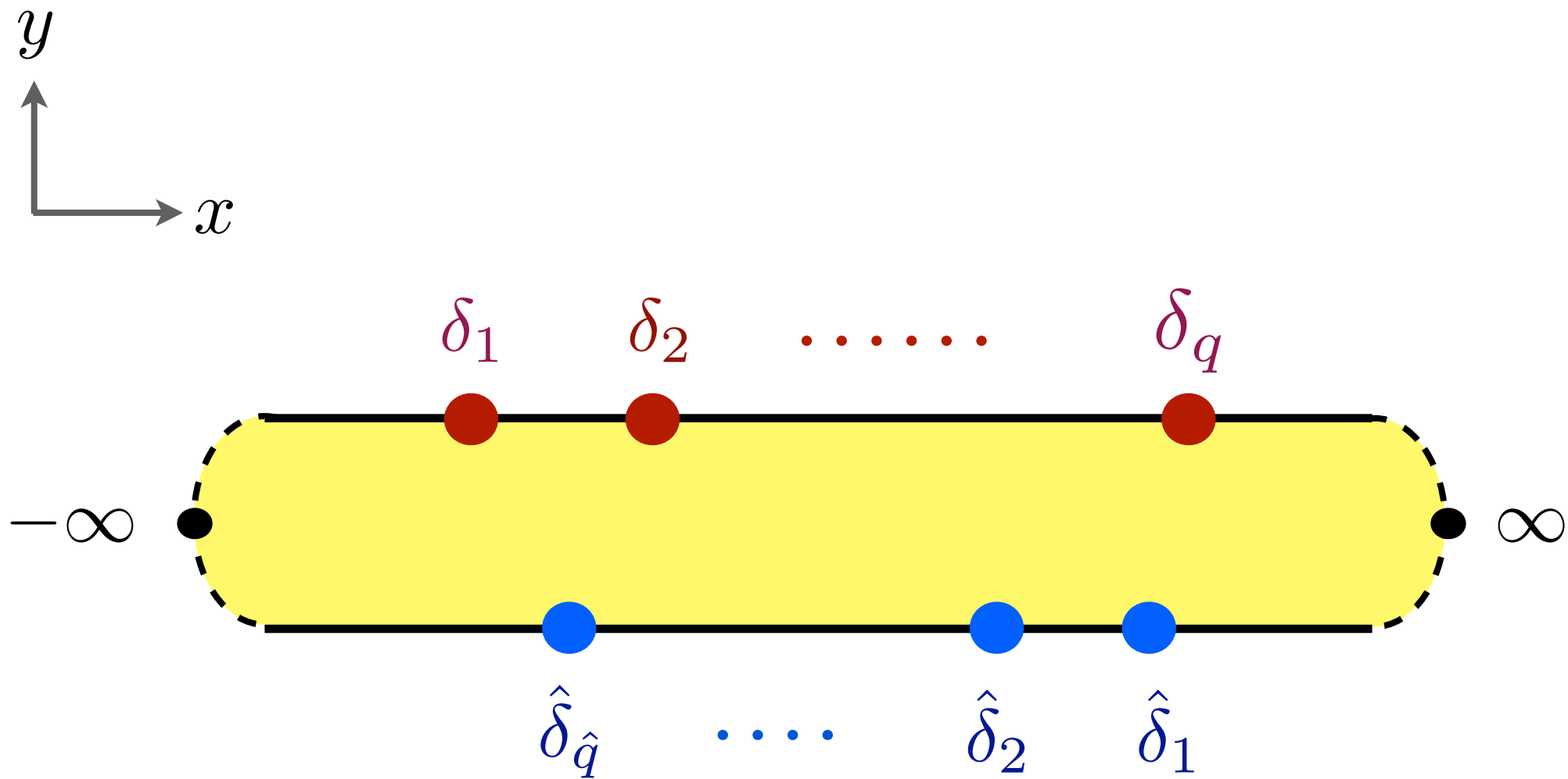
$$N = 6 ; \rho = (2, 2, 1, 1) ; \hat{\rho} = (3, 2, 1)$$



General result (by moving branes):

supersymmetry  $\iff \hat{\rho}^T \geq \rho$  ,   and   irreducibility  $\iff \hat{\rho}^T > \rho$  .

When the inequality is saturated, the quiver breaks down to disjoint pieces.



$$h_1 = \left[ -i\alpha \sinh(z - \beta) - \sum_{a=1}^q \gamma_a \ln \left( \tanh \left( \frac{i\pi}{4} - \frac{z - \delta_a}{2} \right) \right) \right] + c.c.$$

$$h_2 = \left[ \hat{\alpha} \cosh(z - \hat{\beta}) - \sum_{b=1}^{\hat{q}} \hat{\gamma}_b \ln \left( \tanh \left( \frac{z - \hat{\delta}_b}{2} \right) \right) \right] + c.c.$$

## D3-brane Page charges in fivebrane stacks:

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q_{D3}^{\text{inv}(a)} &= \int_{\mathcal{C}_a} F_5 - B_2 \wedge F_3 + \int_{\mathcal{C}_a} F_3 \wedge B_2 \Big|_{z=\infty} \\
 &= 2^8 \pi^3 \left( \hat{\alpha} \gamma_a \sinh(\delta_a - \hat{\beta}) - 2 \gamma_a \sum_{b=1}^{\hat{q}} \hat{\gamma}_b \arctan(e^{\hat{\delta}_b - \delta_a}) \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{Q}_{D3}^{\text{inv}(b)} &= \int_{\hat{\mathcal{C}}_b} F_5 + C_2 \wedge H_3 - \int_{\hat{\mathcal{C}}_b} H_3 \wedge C_2 \Big|_{z=-\infty} \\
 &= 2^8 \pi^3 \left( \alpha \hat{\gamma}_b \sinh(\hat{\delta}_b - \beta) + 2 \hat{\gamma}_b \sum_{a=1}^q \gamma_a \arctan(e^{\hat{\delta}_b - \delta_a}) \right) .
 \end{aligned}$$

$$N_{D3}^{(a)} = -N_{D5}^{(a)} \sum_{b=1}^{\hat{q}} \hat{N}_{NS5}^{(b)} \frac{2}{\pi} \arctan(e^{\hat{\delta}_b - \delta_a}) ,$$

$$\hat{N}_{D3}^{(b)} = \hat{N}_{NS5}^{(b)} \sum_{a=1}^q N_{D5}^{(a)} \frac{2}{\pi} \arctan(e^{\hat{\delta}_b - \delta_a})$$

Compute the linking numbers:

$$l^{(a)} \equiv -\frac{N_{D3}^{(a)}}{N_{D5}^{(a)}} \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{l}^{(b)} \equiv \frac{\hat{N}_{D3}^{(b)}}{\hat{N}_{NS5}^{(b)}} .$$

Prove  $\rho^T > \hat{\rho}$  using the fact that  $\arctan \theta \leq \pi/2$

By counting parameters one can check that they are all **quantized**

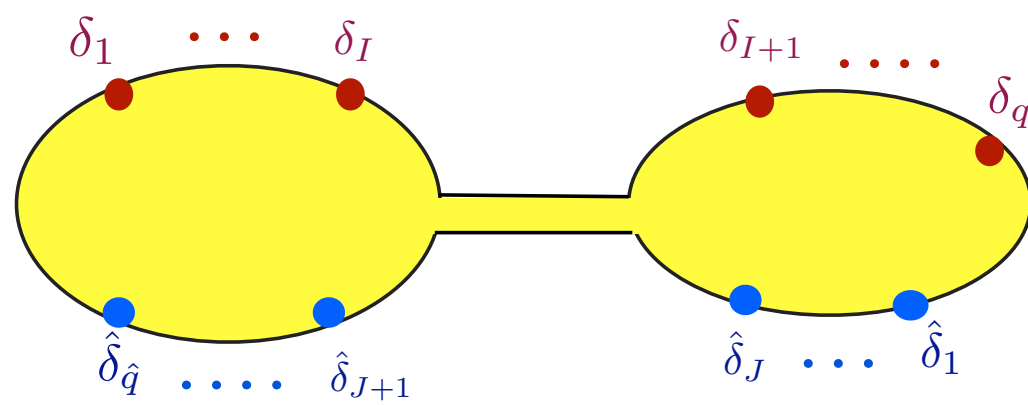
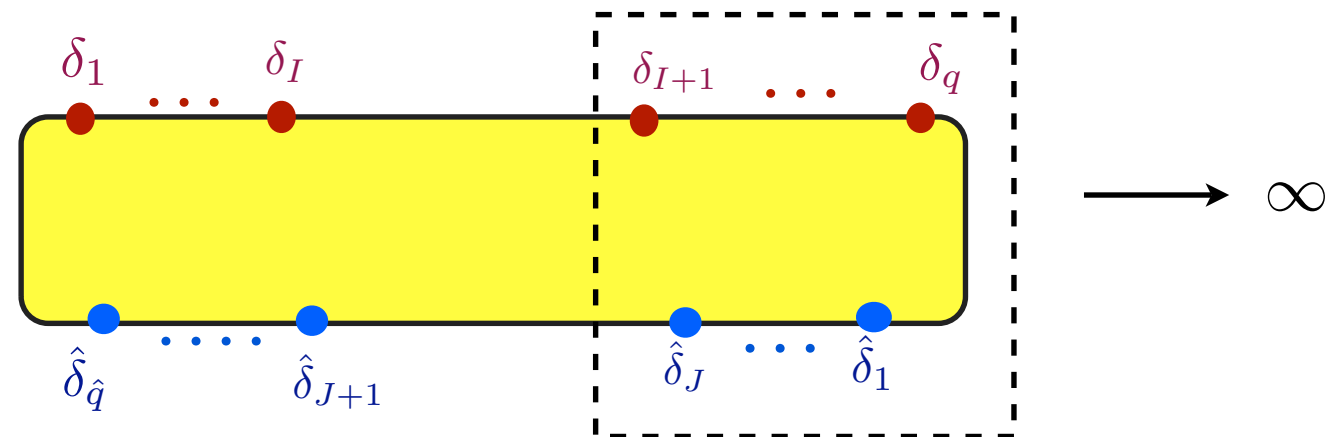
These are examples of **IIB AdS vacua with no moduli**

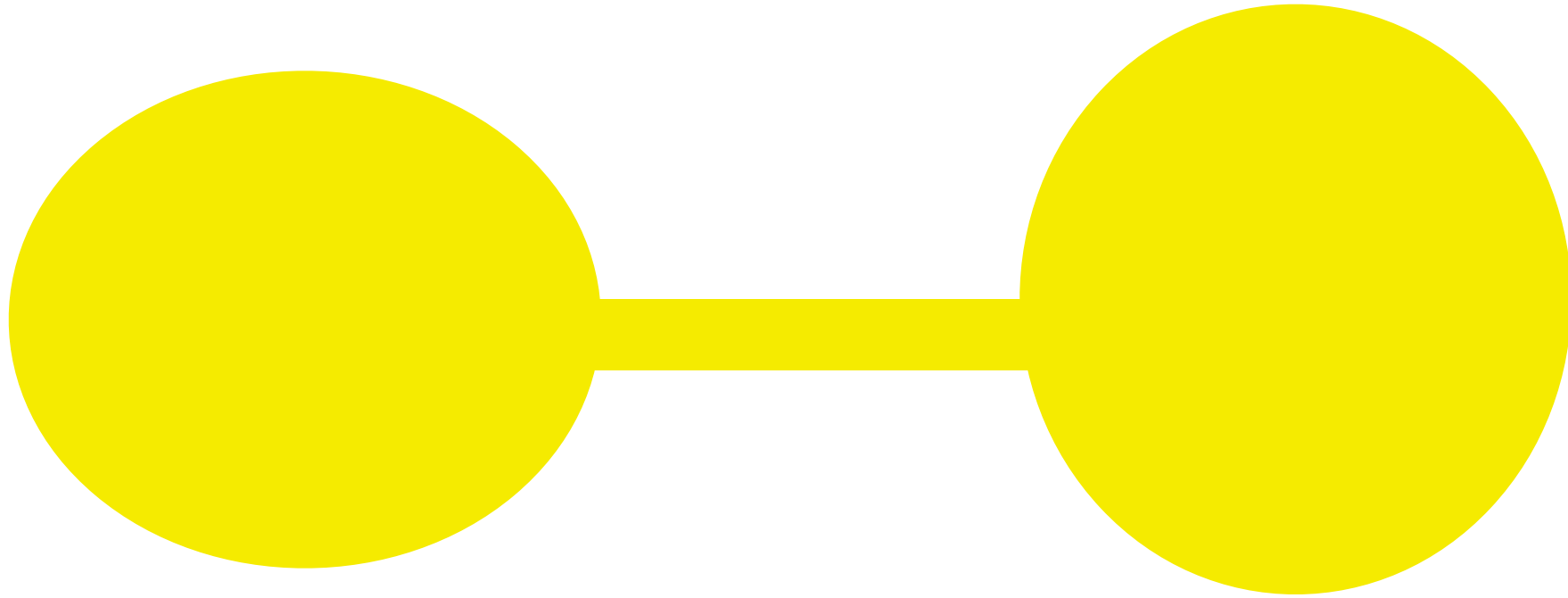


Another interesting limit  $\hat{\rho} \simeq \rho^T$  correspond to **severing**

**one** (or more) **link**, by taking  $N_i \rightarrow 0$

This corresponds to factorizing the 5-brane singularities on the strip.

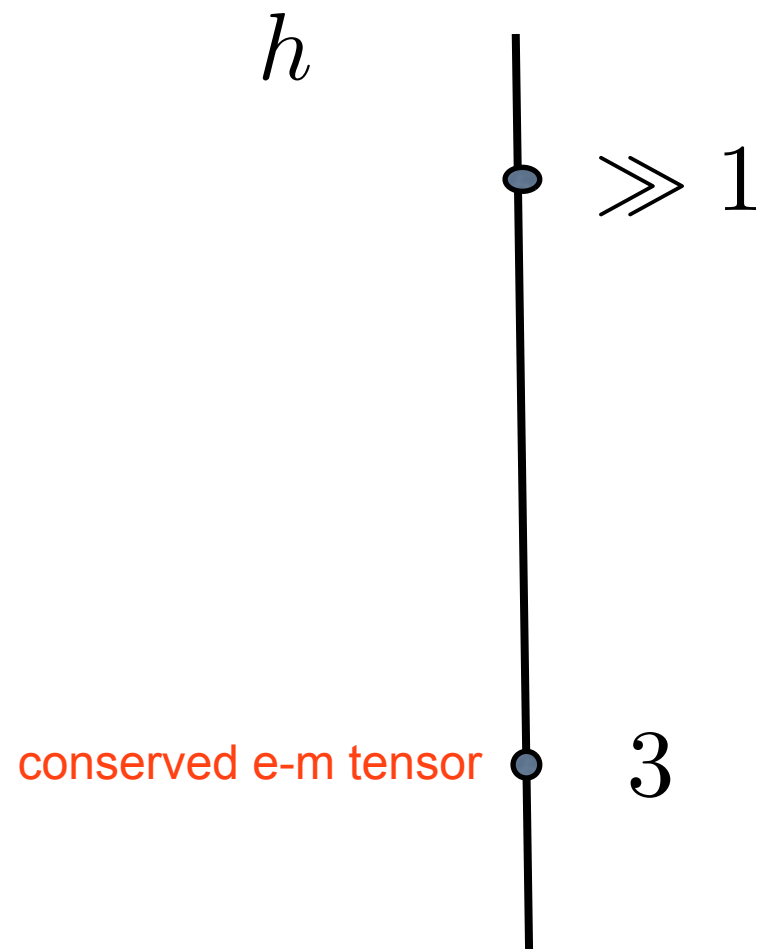




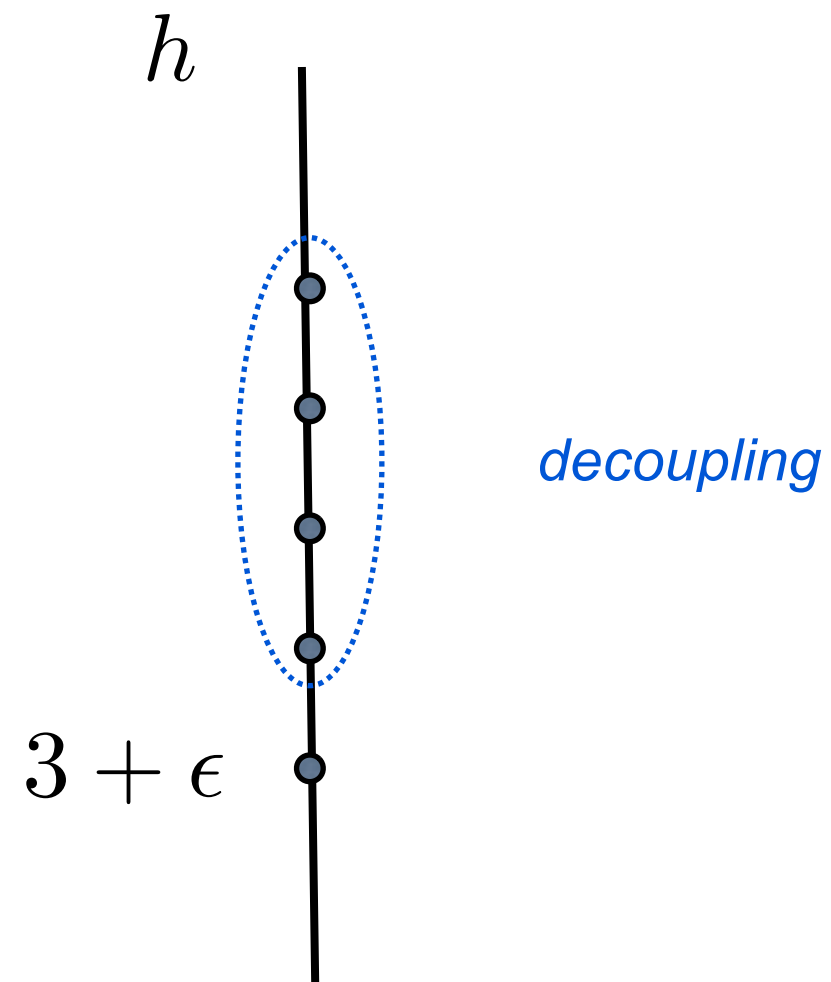
this is a string-theory wormhole

## *Holographic comment*

on massive AdS gravity theories:



CFT spectrum



defect CFT spectrum

## CONCLUSIONS

- (1) Embedding of Karch-Randall in string theory gives massive graviton in  $AdS_4 \times K$  backgrounds.
- (2) New isolated vacua, and stringy wormholes
- (3) Holographic duals for (large class of) N=4 d=3 SCFTs.

*Thank you*