

# Strongly Coupled Anisotropic Plasma in AdS/CFT

Dimitrios Giataganas

Claude Leon Postdoctoral Fellow,  
Witwatersrand University, Johannesburg, South Africa

Based on the results of the paper  
arXiv:1202.4436 JHEP  
hep-th, hep-ph  
and ongoing work.

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Short talk, therefore non conventional presentation:

- **Motivation**
- **Brief Results**
- **Theory and Results**

# Why are we looking at these anisotropic theories?

The motivation:

- The expansion of the plasma along the longitudinal beam axis at the earliest times after the collision results to momentum anisotropic plasmas.
- Properties of the supergravity solutions, that are dual to the anisotropic theories. [for example, see talks of J. Erdmenger](#)
- There exist several results for observables in weakly coupled anisotropic plasmas. Do their predictions carry on in the strongly coupled limit models?

[\[Dumitru, Martinez, Rebhan, Romatschke, Strickland,...\]](#)

The main question we answer accurately here is:

**How the inclusion of anisotropy modifies the results on several observables in our dual QGP compared to the isotropic theory?**

# How does the anisotropic Quark Gluon Plasma looks?

**Answer:** Momentum and Pressure anisotropy.

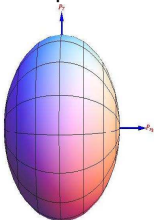
Anisotropic parameters can be introduced

$$\xi := \frac{\langle p_{\perp}^2 \rangle}{2\langle p_{\parallel}^2 \rangle} - 1, \quad \Delta := \frac{P_{\perp}}{P_{\parallel}} - 1.$$

[Romatschke, Strickland, 2003]

where  $p_{\parallel, \perp}$  are the average longitudinal, transverse momenta of the particles with respect to the anisotropic direction.  $P_{\parallel, \perp}$  refers to pressures.

**ie:** Anisotropy in the momentum space:



# What have we calculated?

**Answer:** Observables using Heavy Quark Probes in an anisotropic holographic plasma.

- The **static potential** and **static force**.
- The **drag force**.
- The **jet quenching**.
- We study the observables dependence on the anisotropy.
- We compare the results along the different directions (obtaining dimensionless quantities) and the isotropic theory.
- We answer the question if there is a possibility for more "quantitative" predictions for a QGP using this set up.

# What have we found?

- All the results depend on the particular spatial direction considered and the anisotropic parameter.
- Decrease of static potential and force compared to isotropic theory.
- Increase of the drag force above a critical velocity.
- Existence of three different jet quenching parameters, all enhanced compared to the isotropic theory.

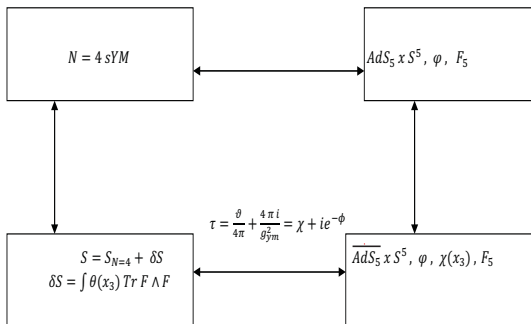
# How does the anisotropy is introduced?

- Introduction of additional branes.

[Azeyanagi, Li, Takayanagi, 2009]

	$x_0$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$u$	$S^5$
D3	X	X	X	X		
D7	X	X	X			X

- Which equivalently leads to the following deformation diagram.



# How does the background looks?

The metric in string frame

[Mateos, Trancanelli, 2011]

$$ds^2 = \frac{1}{u^2} \left( -\mathcal{F}\mathcal{B} dx_0^2 + dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + \mathcal{H}d\mathbf{x}_3^2 + \frac{du^2}{\mathcal{F}} \right) + \mathcal{Z} d\Omega_{S^5}^2.$$

The functions  $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{H}$  depend on the radial direction  $u$  and the anisotropy. The anisotropic parameter is  $\alpha$  with units of inverse length. In sufficiently high temperatures,  $T \gg \alpha$ , and imposed boundary conditions the Einstein equations can be solved analytically:

$$\mathcal{F}(u) = 1 - \frac{u^4}{u_h^4} + \alpha^2 \frac{1}{24u_h^2} \left[ 8u^2(u_h^2 - u^2) - 10u^4 \log 2 + (3u_h^4 + 7u^4) \log \left( 1 + \frac{u^2}{u_h^2} \right) \right]$$

$$\mathcal{B}(u) = 1 - \alpha^2 \frac{u_h^2}{24} \left[ \frac{10u^2}{u_h^2 + u^2} + \log \left( 1 + \frac{u^2}{u_h^2} \right) \right], \quad \mathcal{H}(u) = \left( 1 + \frac{u^2}{u_h^2} \right)^{\frac{\alpha^2 u_h^2}{4}}$$

The isotropic limit  $\alpha \rightarrow 0$  reproduce the well know result of the isotropic D3-brane solution (dual to  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  finite sYM solution).



The metric can be expressed in  $\alpha$ ,  $T$  parameters through

$$u_h = \frac{1}{\pi T} + \alpha^2 \frac{5 \log 2 - 2}{48 \pi^3 T^3}.$$

The pressures can be found from the expectation value of the stress tensor, where the elements  $\langle T_{11} \rangle = \langle T_{22} \rangle = P_{x_1 x_2}$  denote the pressure along the  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  directions and  $\langle T_{33} \rangle = P_{x_3}$  is the pressure along the anisotropic direction. The analytic expression read

$$P_{x_1 x_2} = \frac{\pi^2 N_c^2 T^4}{8} + \alpha^2 \frac{N_c^2 T^2}{32}.$$

$$P_{x_3} = \frac{\pi^2 N_c^2 T^4}{8} - \alpha^2 \frac{N_c^2 T^2}{32}.$$

$$P_{x_3} < P_{x_1 x_2}$$

resembling the plasma pressure anisotropies.

# Reminder of the notation:

- $Q_{\parallel} := Q_{x_3} = Q_{\text{anisotropic}}$  , anisotropic, parallel, longitudinal, direction of collision.
- $Q_{\perp} := Q_{x_1 \text{ or } x_2}$  , transverse direction.
- $Q_{iso}$  , isotropic theory,  $\alpha = 0, \mathcal{N} = 4sYM$ .

↓       ↓       ↓

$$\frac{Q_{\parallel}}{Q_{\perp}} = ?, \quad \frac{Q_{\parallel}}{Q_{iso}} = ?, \dots$$

# Static Potential in the anisotropic background.

- We consider a string world-sheet  $(\tau, \sigma)$  of the following form.

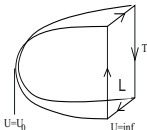
## String Configuration

$$x_0 = \tau, \quad x_p = \sigma, \quad u = u(\sigma) .$$

The  $x_p$  is the direction where the pair is aligned:

$x_p = x_2 =: x_{\perp}$  pair along transverse direction,

$x_p = x_3 =: x_{\parallel}$  pair along parallel direction to anisotropy.



In general the **length** of the two endpoints of the string on the boundary is given by

$$L = 2 \int_{\infty}^{u_0} \frac{du}{u'} = 2 \int_{u_0}^{\infty} du \sqrt{\frac{-g_{uu}c_0^2}{(g_{00}g_{pp} + c_0^2)g_{pp}}} .$$

Which should be inverted as  $u_0(L)$ . The **normalized energy** of the string is

$$2\pi\alpha'V = c_0L + 2 \left[ \int_{u_0}^{\infty} du \sqrt{-g_{uu}g_{00}} \left( \sqrt{1 + \frac{c_0^2}{g_{pp}g_{00}}} - 1 \right) - \int_{u_h}^{u_0} du \sqrt{-g_{00}g_{uu}} \right] .$$

[Sonnenschein 2000;...; D.G...]

In the anisotropic case we get:

- $V_{\parallel} < V_{\perp} < V_{iso}$  when the comparison is done with  $LT$  keeping  $\alpha$ ,  $T$  fixed.
- $\alpha_1 < \alpha_2 \Rightarrow V_{\parallel 1} > V_{\parallel 2}$ . Increase of anisotropy, leads to decrease of the static potential.
- The **critical length** of the string beyond the quarks are not bounded is decreased in presence of anisotropy as  $L_{c\parallel} < L_{c\perp} < L_{c\ iso}$ .

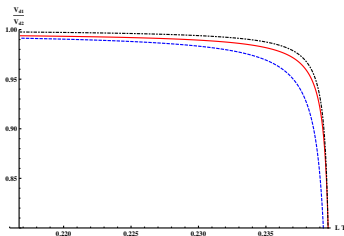


Figure:  $V_{\parallel}/V_{\perp}$ ,  $V_{\parallel}/V_{iso}$ ,  
 $V_{\perp}/V_{iso}$  vs  $LT$  and  $T = 3$ ,  
 $\alpha = 0.35T$ .

## Reminder

The static force need to be calculated and has been. Static potential has a non-physical constant.

$$F_{Q\bar{Q},anisotropic} < F_{Q\bar{Q},isotropic}$$

# Drag Force.

In AdS/CFT the **drag force** of a single quark moving in the anisotropic plasma can be represented by a trailing string from the boundary where the probe quark moves with the constant speed, to the horizon of the black hole.

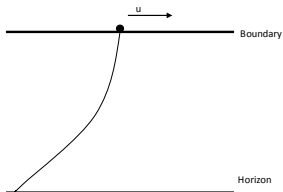
[Herzog, Karch, Kovtun, Kozcaz, Yaffe; Gubser, 2006]

In radial gauge the trailing string motion along the  $x_p := x_{\parallel, \perp}$  directions described by:

## String Configuration

$$x_0 = \tau, \quad u = \sigma, \quad x_p = v\tau + \xi(u),$$

where  $v$  is the constant speed of the quark in the boundary along the  $x_p$  direction.



Calculating the momentum flowing from the boundary to the bulk we can find the drag force for any background to be

$$F_d = -\Pi_u^1 = -\sqrt{\lambda} \frac{\sqrt{-g_{00}g_{pp}}}{(2\pi)} \Big|_{u=u_0}$$

where here  $u_0$  is given by

$$(g_{uu}(g_{00} + g_{pp}v^2)) \Big|_{u=u_0} = 0 .$$

[...]



## Drag Force results

The qualitative behavior is

- $F_{\parallel} > F_{iso}$
- $F_{\perp} > F_{iso}$  for  $v > v_c \simeq 0.9$ , while below this velocity  $F_{\perp} < F_{iso}$ .
- 

$$\frac{F_{\parallel}}{F_{\perp}} = 1 + \alpha^2 \frac{(2 - v^2) \text{Log} [1 + \sqrt{1 - v^2}]}{8\pi^2 T^2 (1 - v^2)} .$$

For any velocity:  $F_{drag,\parallel} > F_{drag,\perp}$

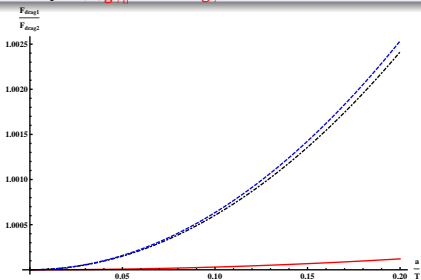


Figure:  $F_{drag,\parallel} / F_{drag,\perp}$ ,  
 $F_{drag,\parallel} / F_{drag,iso}$ ,  $F_{drag,\perp} / F_{drag,iso}$ , vs  
 $\alpha/T$ ,  $v \simeq 0.98$  and  $T = 1$ .

# The jet Quenching.

In the gravity dual description the [jet quenching](#) can be calculated from the [minimal surface](#) of a world-sheet which ends on an orthogonal Wilson loop lying along the light-like lines.

$$\langle W(C) \rangle = \exp^{-\frac{1}{4\sqrt{2}} \hat{q} L_{\perp}^2 L_{\parallel}}$$

[Liu, Rajagopal, Wiedermann, 2006]

- The parameter is a measure of energy loss of the quark.

- We go to the light-cone coordinates as  $\sqrt{2}x^\pm = x_0 \pm x_p$  where  $i, p, k = 1, 2, 3$

### String configuration

$$x_- = \tau, \quad x_k = \sigma, \quad u = u(\sigma)$$

$$x_+, \quad x_{p \neq k} \quad \text{are constant ,}$$

The indices  $k, p$  denote a chosen direction.

By calculating the on-shell action, canceling the divergences and applying approximations we obtain

$$\hat{q}_p(k) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi\alpha'} \left( \int_0^{u_h} \frac{1}{g_{kk}} \sqrt{\frac{g_{uu}}{g_{--}}} \right)^{-1} .$$

### Three different parameters.

$\hat{q}$	$x_p$	$x_k$	Energetic parton along	Momentum broadening along
$\hat{q}_{\perp(\parallel)}$	$x_{\perp}$	$x_{\parallel}$	$x_{\perp}$	$x_{\parallel}$
$\hat{q}_{\parallel(\perp)}$	$x_{\parallel}$	$x_{\perp}$	$x_{\parallel}$	$x_{\perp}$
$\hat{q}_{\perp(\perp)}$	$x_{\perp,1}$	$x_{\perp,2}$	$x_{\perp,1}$	$x_{\perp,2}$

- $\hat{q}_{\parallel(\perp)} > \hat{q}_{\perp(\parallel)} > \hat{q}_{\perp(\perp)} > \hat{q}_{iso}$ .
- Enhancement of the jet quenching in presence of anisotropy!

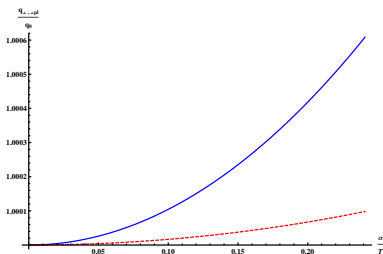


Figure:  $\hat{q}_{\perp(\parallel)}$ ,  $\hat{q}_{\perp(\perp)}$  vs  $\alpha/T$ .  $T = 5$ .

## Generic Remark

The static potential, the drag force and the jet quenching have known formulas for any generic background!      for example [\[1202.4436, D.G.\]](#)  
No need to calculate each time the quantities for new backgrounds- just need to apply the formulas.

# Other Extensions.

- Extensions of the jet quenching and the drag force calculations to generic directions and larger anisotropies have been done. [Chernicoff, Fernandez, Mateos, Trancanelli, 2012a,b,c].
- Results agree for small anisotropies. Their results change for larger anisotropies but also the inequality of pressures does differ.

# Attempt for "quantitative" predictions.

The anisotropic parameter  $\alpha$  in supergravity model and the parameter  $\xi$  measuring the anisotropy in weakly coupled plasmas can be related by

$$T \gg \alpha \Rightarrow \xi \ll 1 \Rightarrow \xi \simeq \frac{5\alpha^2}{8\pi^2 T^2} .$$

Using any comparison normalization scheme (direct or fixed energy or entropy density scheme)

$$\xi_{\text{aSYM}} \gtrsim \xi .$$

In our model  $\xi \ll 1$ ; so for  $\xi \simeq 1$  values that correspond to the QCD anisotropic plasma, our set up is not valid for a quantitative approach.

Only qualitative results in presence of anisotropy. **Still Very interesting!**

# Conclusions.

We have calculated several observables using a IIB supergravity solution in the dual anisotropic finite temperature  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  sYM plasma.

- The Static Potential and Force.
- The Drag Force.
- The Jet Quenching.

We have found clear qualitative results for the observables in the anisotropic plasma.

## Work in progress:

- Anisotropic holographic baryon.  
eg. extension of [Lozano, Picos, Siampos, DG 2012]
- k-strings.
- Inclusion of flavors  $\rightarrow$  many interesting applications.  
eg. [Erdmenger, Evans, Kirsch, Threlfall 2007]
- ...



# Anisotropic momentum distribution function in weakly coupled plasmas

The anisotropic distribution function that can be written as

$$f_{aniso} = c_{norm}(\xi) f_{iso}(\sqrt{\mathbf{p}^2 + \xi(\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{n})^2})$$

where

[Romatschke, Strickland, 2003]

$$\xi = \frac{\langle p_T^2 \rangle}{2\langle p_L^2 \rangle} - 1$$

and  $\mathbf{n}$  the unit vector along the anisotropic direction.

To relate  $\xi$  and  $\alpha$  we use the pressures

$$\Delta := \frac{P_T}{P_L} - 1 = \frac{P_{x_1 x_2}}{P_{x_3}} - 1 .$$

Using the anisotropic distribution function: [\[Martinez, Strickland, 2009\]](#)

$$\Delta = \frac{1}{2}(\xi - 3) + \xi \left( (1 + \xi) \frac{\arctan \sqrt{\xi}}{\sqrt{\xi}} - 1 \right)^{-1}$$

Using the supergravity model

$$\Delta = \frac{\alpha^2}{2\pi^2 T^2} .$$

For

$$T \gg \alpha \Rightarrow \xi \ll 1 \Rightarrow \xi \simeq \frac{5\alpha^2}{8\pi^2 T^2} .$$

Supposing we trust the estimation of the anisotropic parameter  $\xi \simeq 1$  obtained from

$$\xi = \frac{10\eta}{T\tau_S} .$$

and using any comparison normalization scheme (direct or fixed energy or entropy density scheme)

$$\xi_{aSYM} \gtrsim \xi .$$

In our model  $\xi \ll 1$  so for  $\xi \simeq 1$  values that correspond to the QCD anisotropic plasma, our approximations are not valid.

# Partial List of Results

We have calculated several observables using a IIB supergravity solution in the dual anisotropic finite temperature  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  sYM plasma.

- The static potential:
  - $V_{\parallel} < V_{\perp} < V_{iso}$ .
  - $\alpha_1 < \alpha_2 \Rightarrow V_{\parallel 1} > V_{\parallel 2}$ .
- The drag Force:
  - $F_{\parallel} > F_{iso}$  and  $F_{\parallel} > F_{\perp}$ .
  - $F_{\perp} > F_{iso}$  for  $v > v_c \simeq 0.9$ , while below this velocity  $F_{\perp} < F_{iso}$ .
- The jet quenching:
  - $\hat{q}_{\parallel(\perp)} > \hat{q}_{\perp(\parallel)} > \hat{q}_{\perp(\perp)} > \hat{q}_{iso}$ .
  - In weak coupling has been observed enhancement of the jet quenching as  $\hat{q}_{\perp(\parallel)} > \hat{q}_{\perp(\perp)}$  in agreement with our results. [Dumitru, Nara, Schenke, Strickland; Baier, Mehtar-Tani, 2008,..].

$$P(k_{\perp}) = \int d^2x_{\perp} e^{-ik_{\perp} \cdot x_{\perp}} \mathcal{W}_{\mathcal{R}}(x_{\perp})$$

$$\mathcal{W}_{\mathcal{R}}(x_{\perp}) = \frac{1}{d(\mathcal{R})} \left\langle \text{Tr} \left[ W_{\mathcal{R}}^{\dagger}[0, x_{\perp}] W_{\mathcal{R}}[0, 0] \right] \right\rangle$$

$$W_{\mathcal{R}}[x^+, x_{\perp}] \equiv P \left\{ \exp \left[ ig \int_0^{L^-} dx^- A_{\mathcal{R}}^+(x^+, x^-, x_{\perp}) \right] \right\}$$

$$\hat{q} \equiv \frac{\langle k_{\perp}^2 \rangle}{L} = \frac{1}{L} \int \frac{d^2k_{\perp}}{(2\pi)^2} k_{\perp}^2 P(k_{\perp})$$