

# Magnetising the $\mathcal{N}=4$ Super Yang-Mills plasma

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Reference: *JHEP* 06 (2022) 154 2003.00050 [hep-th]

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## Summary

1. Magnetised fluid with conformal symmetry
2. AdS/CFT correspondence and the magnetic black brane
3. Thermodynamics of the magnetic black brane
4. Conclusions

# 1. Magnetised fluid with conformal symmetry

We start with the Gibbs free energy [1]

$$G = E - TS = G(T, V, \mathcal{B})$$

where  $E = U - VM\mathcal{B}$  : magnetic enthalpy ,  $U$ : internal energy and  $M$ : magnetisation density

From conformal symmetry and extensivity

$$G = V T^D g(b)$$

where  $b = \mathcal{B}/T^2$  ,  $\mathcal{B}$ : magnetic field

Under a scaling transformation  $x' = \lambda^{-1}x$  we obtain

$$G'(T', V', \mathcal{B}') = \lambda G(T, V, \mathcal{B})$$

where  $T' = \lambda T$  ,  $V' = \lambda^{1-D}V$  ,  $\mathcal{B}' = \lambda^2\mathcal{B}$

From these results we can obtain the equation of state [2]

$$E = (D - 1)PV - 2VM\mathcal{B}$$

where  $P = -\partial G/\partial V = -G/V$  is the thermodynamic pressure

[1] R. L. Carlin, Magnetochemistry. Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg, 1986

[2] M. M. Caldarelli, O. J. C. Dias, and D. Klemm, JHEP 03 (2009) 025, arXiv:0812.0801 [hep-th]

When the volume is fixed we define the densities

$$\mathcal{G} = G/V , \mathcal{F} = F/V , \rho = E/V , \mathcal{U} = U/V , \mathcal{S} = S/V$$

For a magnetised conformal fluid in  $D = 4$  we obtain

$$\mathcal{G} = T^4 g(b)$$

and the following thermodynamic relations

$$\mathcal{S} = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{G}}{\partial T} = T^3 [2bg'(b) - 4g(b)] , \quad M = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{G}}{\partial \mathcal{B}} = -T^2 g'(b)$$

$$\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{G} + M\mathcal{B} = T^4 [g(b) - bg'(b)] , \quad \mathcal{U} = \mathcal{F} + T\mathcal{S} = T^4 [bg'(b) - 3g(b)]$$

$$\rho = \mathcal{G} + T\mathcal{S} = T^4 [2bg'(b) - 3g(b)]$$

From the derivatives of the magnetisation density we obtain

$$\chi = \frac{\partial M}{\partial \mathcal{B}} = -g''(b) , \quad \xi = \frac{\partial M}{\partial T} = 2T [bg''(b) - g'(b)]$$

$\chi$ : magnetic susceptibility ,  $\xi$ : pyro-magnetic coefficient

The equation of state takes the form

$$\rho = 3P - 2M\mathcal{B}$$

and we also find the conformal identities

$$\mathcal{G} = -P = -\frac{1}{4}TS - \frac{1}{2}M\mathcal{B}$$

$$M = \chi\mathcal{B} + \frac{1}{2}\xi T$$

The specific heat at fixed  $V$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  is given by

$$c_{V,\mathcal{B}} = T \frac{\partial S}{\partial T} = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial T} = T^3[-12g(b) + 10b g'(b) - 4b^2 g''(b)]$$

The stress-energy of the magnetic conformal fluid can be written as [3]

$$T^{\mu\nu} = (\rho + P)u^\mu u^\nu + P \eta^{\mu\nu} - \mathcal{M}^{\mu\rho} \mathcal{F}_\rho{}^\nu$$

where  $\mathcal{M}^{\mu\rho} = -\partial\mathcal{G}/\partial\mathcal{F}_{\mu\rho}$  is the polarisation tensor

For a magnetic field in the  $z$  direction we have  $\mathcal{F}_{12} = -\mathcal{F}_{21} = \mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{M}^{12} = -\mathcal{M}^{21} = M$

[3] S. A. Hartnoll, P. K. Kovtun, M. Muller and S. Sachdev, Phys. Rev. B 76 (2007) 144502 [arXiv:0706.3215 [cond-mat]]

In the fluid rest frame the stress-energy takes the form

$$T^{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(\rho, P_x, P_x, P_z)$$

where

$$\rho = \mathcal{G} + TS = \frac{3}{4}TS - \frac{1}{2}M\mathcal{B}$$

$$P_x = P - MB = \frac{1}{4}TS - \frac{1}{2}M\mathcal{B}$$

$$P_z = P = \frac{1}{4}TS + \frac{1}{2}M\mathcal{B}$$

The trace of the stress-energy tensor vanishes, i.e.  $T_{\mu}^{\mu} = -\rho + 2P_x + P_z = 0$

Note that we identify the hydrodynamic pressures  $P_x$  and  $P_z$  with  $-\mathcal{G}$  and  $-\mathcal{F}$  respectively

Due to anisotropy, sound propagates in the  $x$  and  $z$  direction with different speeds

$$c_{S,x}^2 = \left( \frac{\partial P_x}{\partial \rho} \right)_B = \frac{S - \xi B}{C_{V,B}}$$

$$c_{S,z}^2 = \left( \frac{\partial P_z}{\partial \rho} \right)_B = \frac{S}{C_{V,B}}$$

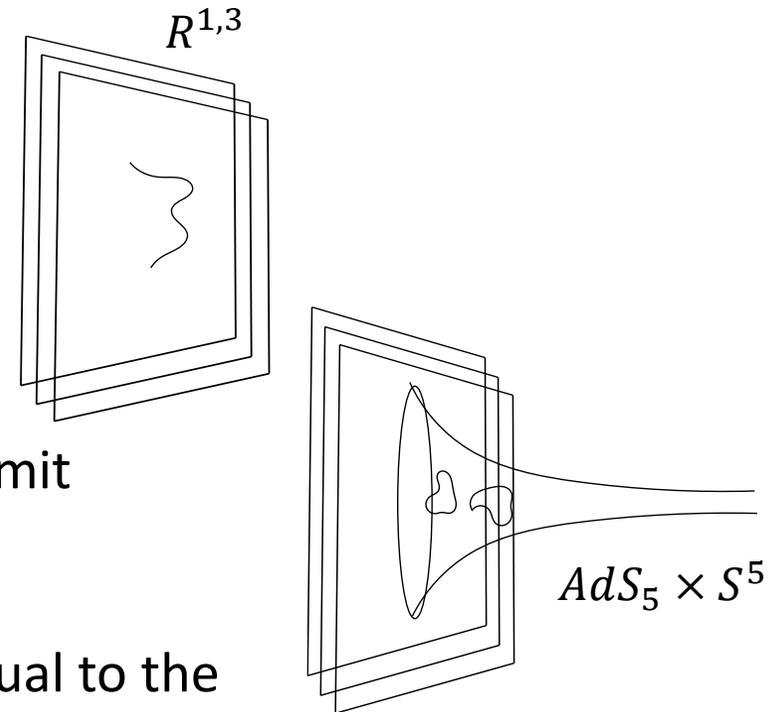
## 2. The AdS/CFT correspondence and the magnetic black brane

Dp-branes [4] are non-perturbative objects in string theory that allow for dual descriptions in terms of open strings or closed strings

Weakly coupled  $SU(N_c)$   $\mathcal{N} = 4$  Super Yang-Mills theory in 4d arises from the low energy limit of open strings attached to the stack of  $N_c$  D3-branes

Type IIB supergravity in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  arises from the low energy limit of closed strings sourced by the stack of  $N_c$  D3-branes

Maldacena conjecture [5]: Type IIB supergravity in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  is dual to the strongly coupled regime of  $SU(N_c)$   $\mathcal{N} = 4$  Super Yang-Mills theory in 4d



[4] Polchinski, Joseph. 1995. Phys. Rev.Lett., 75, 4724–4727

[5] Maldacena, Juan Martin. 1998. Adv. Theor. Math. Phys., 2, 231–252

AdS/CFT dictionary:

$$g_{YM}^2 = 4\pi g_s$$

$$L^4 = g_{YM}^2 N_C \ell_s^4$$

$g_s$ : open string coupling,  $\ell_s$ : string fundamental length,  $L$ : radius of  $AdS_5$  spacetime

Isometry group of  $AdS_5$  maps to the conformal group  $SO(2,4)$  of the 4d conformal field theory

Isometry group of  $S^5$  maps to the R-symmetry group of the  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  Super Yang-Mills theory

Fields  $\phi_{\dots}$  in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  map to operators  $O_{\dots}$  in the 4d CFT

Correlation functions of the 4d CFT are obtained from the holographic dictionary [6,7]

$$W_{CFT}[\phi^0] = S_{Sugra}[\phi_{\dots}]$$

where  $\phi^0$  arises from the asymptotic expansion of  $\phi_{\dots}$  near the boundary

Finite temperature:

The thermal state of the 4d CFT maps to a 5d black brane that is asymptotically  $AdS_5$  [8]

[6] Witten, Edward. 1998. Adv. Theor. Math. Phys., 2, 253–291.

[7] Gubser, S. S., Klebanov, Igor R., and Polyakov, Alexander M. 1998. Phys. Lett., B428, 105–114

[8] Witten, Edward. 1998. Adv. Theor. Math. Phys., 2, 505–532

## The magnetic black brane

Consider Einstein-Maxwell theory in 5d with negative cosmological constant

$$S = \sigma \int d^5x \sqrt{-g} [R + 12 - F_{mn}^2]$$

where

$$\sigma = 1/(16\pi G_5) = N_c^2/(8\pi^2)$$

The Einstein-Maxwell equations are

$$R_{mn} - \frac{R}{2} g_{mn} - 6 g_{mn} = 2T_{mn} \quad , \quad \nabla_m F^{mn} = 0$$

where

$$T_{mn} = F_{mp} F_n^p - \frac{1}{4} g_{mn} F_{pq} F^{pq} \quad (5d \text{ stress-energy tensor})$$

Contracting the Einstein equations with  $g^{mn}$  we obtain

$$R = -20 - \frac{4}{3} T = -20 + \frac{1}{3} F_{pq} F^{pq}$$

Ansatz for the metric and field strength [9]

$$ds^2 = -U(r)dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{U(r)} + e^{2V(r)}(dx^2 + dy^2) + e^{2W(r)}dz^2 \quad , \quad F = B dx \wedge dy$$

where  $B = \mathcal{B}/\sqrt{3}$

Field rescaling

$$U(r) = r_h^2 \tilde{U}(r) \quad , \quad (e^{V(r)}, e^{W(r)}) = r_h (e^{\tilde{V}(r)}, e^{\tilde{W}(r)}) \quad , \quad B = r_h^2 \tilde{B} \quad , \quad x_\mu = r_h^{-1} \tilde{x}_\mu$$

The Einstein-Maxwell equations reduce to

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{U}(\tilde{V}'' - \tilde{W}'') + [\tilde{U}' + \tilde{U}(2\tilde{V}' + \tilde{W}')] (\tilde{V}' - \tilde{W}') &= -2\tilde{B}^2 e^{-4\tilde{V}} \\ 2\tilde{V}'' + \tilde{W}'' + 2\tilde{V}'^2 + \tilde{W}'^2 &= 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}\tilde{U}'' + \frac{1}{2}\tilde{U}'(2\tilde{V}' + \tilde{W}') &= 4 + \frac{2}{3}\tilde{B}^2 e^{-4\tilde{V}} \\ 2\tilde{U}'\tilde{V}' + \tilde{U}'\tilde{W}' + 2\tilde{U}\tilde{V}'^2 + 4\tilde{U}\tilde{V}'\tilde{W}' &= 12 - 2\tilde{B}^2 e^{-4\tilde{V}} \end{aligned}$$

The first three equations are dynamical (2<sup>nd</sup> order) and the last equation is a constraint (1<sup>st</sup> order)

[9] E. D'Hoker and P. Kraus, JHEP 10 (2009) 088, arXiv:0908.3875 [hep-th].

Asymptotic solution near the horizon

$$\tilde{U}(r) = \tilde{U}_{h,1}(\tilde{r} - 1) + \left( \frac{5}{3} \frac{\tilde{B}^2}{\tilde{v}_{h,0}^4} - 2 \right) (\tilde{r} - 1)^2 + \dots$$

$$\frac{e^{\tilde{V}(r)}}{\tilde{v}_{h,0}} = 1 - \frac{4\tilde{B}^2 - 3\tilde{v}_{h,0}^4}{3\tilde{U}_{h,1}\tilde{v}_{h,0}^4} (\tilde{r} - 1) + \dots$$

$$\frac{e^{\tilde{W}(r)}}{\tilde{w}_{h,0}} = 1 + \frac{2\tilde{B}^2 + 6\tilde{v}_{h,0}^4}{3\tilde{U}_{h,1}\tilde{v}_{h,0}^4} (\tilde{r} - 1) + \dots$$

We can choose  $\tilde{v}_{h,0} = 1$  whist the parameters  $\tilde{U}_{h,1}$  and  $\tilde{w}_{h,0}$  are obtained numerically

Asymptotic solution near the boundary

$$\frac{\tilde{U}(r)}{\tilde{r}^2} = 1 + \tilde{U}_{\infty,1}\tilde{r}^{-1} + \frac{\tilde{U}_{\infty,1}^2}{4}\tilde{r}^{-2} - \frac{2}{3}\tilde{B}^2\tilde{r}^{-4} \ln \tilde{r} + \tilde{U}_{\infty,4}\tilde{r}^{-4} + \dots$$

$$\frac{e^{\tilde{V}(\tilde{r})}}{\tilde{r}} = 1 + \frac{\tilde{U}_{\infty,1}}{2}\tilde{r}^{-1} + \frac{1}{6}\tilde{B}^2\tilde{r}^{-4} \ln \tilde{r} + v_{\infty,4}\tilde{r}^{-4} + \dots$$

$$\frac{e^{\tilde{W}(\tilde{r})}}{\tilde{r}} = 1 + \frac{\tilde{U}_{\infty,1}}{2}\tilde{r}^{-1} - \frac{1}{3}\tilde{B}^2\tilde{r}^{-4} \ln \tilde{r} - 2v_{\infty,4}\tilde{r}^{-4} + \dots$$

The UV parameters  $\tilde{U}_{\infty,1}$ ,  $\tilde{U}_{\infty,4}$  and  $\tilde{v}_{\infty,4}$  are obtained numerically

## Temperature, entropy density and the physical magnetic field

$$T = \frac{U'(r_h)}{4\pi} = \frac{r_h}{4\pi} \tilde{U}_{h,1} \quad (\text{absence of conical singularity})$$

$$S = \frac{S}{V_3} = \frac{A_h}{4G_5 V_3} = 4\pi\sigma e^{2V(r_h)} e^{W(r_h)} = 4\pi\sigma r_h^3 \tilde{v}_{h,0}^2 \tilde{w}_{h,0} \quad (\text{Bekenstein-Hawking formula})$$

Using these results we obtain the dimensionless ratio

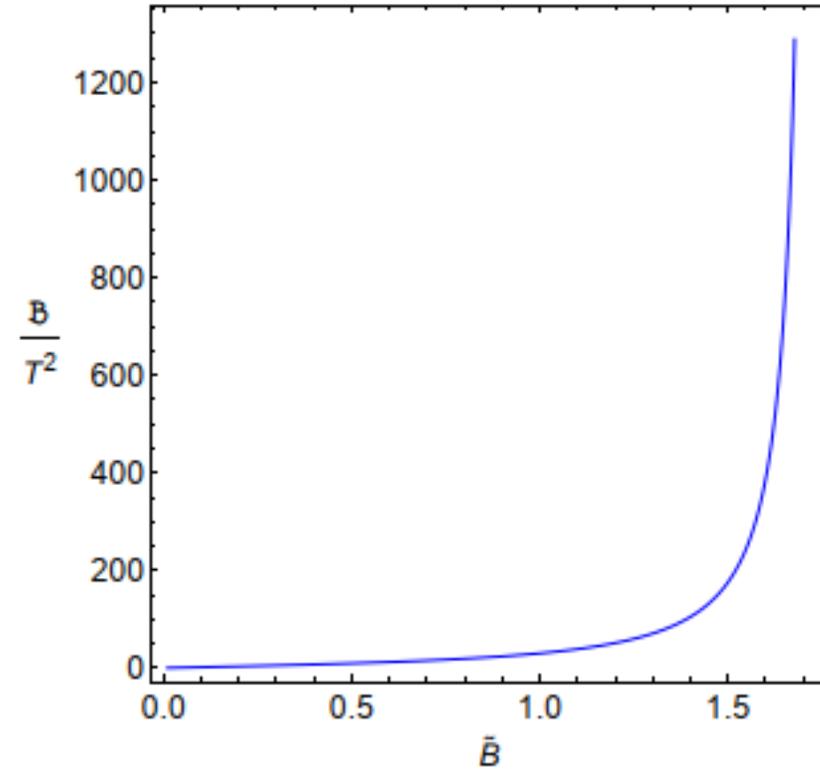
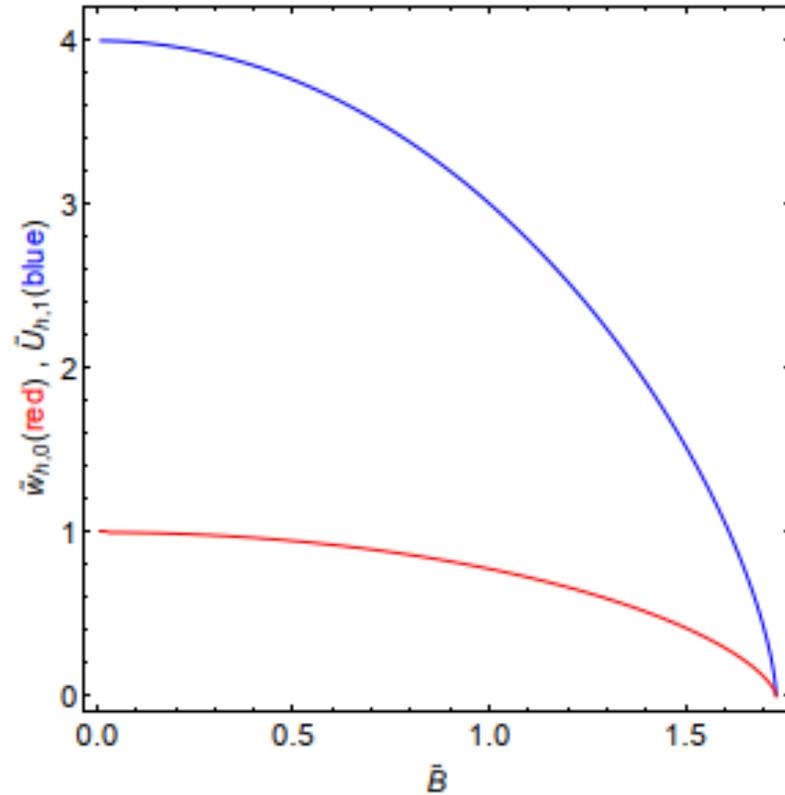
$$\frac{S}{T^3} = (4\pi)^4 \sigma \frac{\tilde{v}_{h,0}^2 \tilde{w}_{h,0}}{\tilde{U}_{h,1}^3}$$

The physical magnetic field can be obtained from the dimensionless ratio

$$b = \frac{\mathcal{B}}{T^2} = 16\sqrt{3}\pi^2 \frac{\tilde{B}}{\tilde{U}_{h,1}^2}$$

The horizon parameter  $\tilde{v}_{h,0}$  was set to 1 whilst the horizon parameters  $\tilde{U}_{h,1}$  and  $\tilde{w}_{h,0}$  are obtained numerically as function of  $\tilde{B}$

## Some numerical results



Left panel: Horizon parameters  $\tilde{U}_{h,1}$  and  $\tilde{w}_{h,0}$  as functions of  $\tilde{B}$

Right panel: dimensionless ratio  $b = \mathcal{B}/T^2$  as a function of  $\tilde{B}$

### 3. Thermodynamics of the magnetic black brane

The Euclidean on-shell action and holographic renormalisation

$$S_{on-shell} = S_M + S_{\partial M}$$

where

$$S_M = -\sigma \int_M d^5x \sqrt{g} (R + 12 - F_{mn}^2)$$

(Einstein-Maxwell term)

$$S_{\partial M} = -2\sigma \int_{\partial M} d^4x \sqrt{\gamma} K$$

(Gibbons-Hawking-York boundary term)

Evaluating both terms, the on-shell action becomes a sum of surface terms

$$S_M + S_{\partial M} = -\sigma V_3 \beta r_h^4 \left\{ 2 \left[ \tilde{U}(e^{2\tilde{V}+\tilde{W}})' \right]_{\tilde{r}=\tilde{r}_0} + \left[ e^{2\tilde{V}+\tilde{W}} \tilde{U}' \right]_{\tilde{r}=1} \right\}$$

Plugging the asymptotic behaviour of the fields  $\tilde{U}$ ,  $\tilde{V}$  and  $\tilde{W}$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & S_M + S_{\partial M} \\ &= -\sigma V_3 \beta r_h^4 \left\{ 6 \tilde{r}_0^4 + 12 \tilde{U}_{\infty,1} \tilde{r}_0^3 + 9 \tilde{U}_{\infty,1}^2 \tilde{r}_0^2 + 3 \tilde{U}_{\infty,1}^3 \tilde{r}_0 - 4 \tilde{B}^2 \ln \tilde{r}_0 + \frac{3}{8} \tilde{U}_{\infty,1}^4 + 6 \tilde{U}_{\infty,4} + \tilde{U}_{h,1} \tilde{v}_{h,0} \tilde{W}_{h,0} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Diffeomorphism invariant counter-term

$$S_{ct} = \sigma \int_{\partial M} d^4x \sqrt{\gamma} [a_1 + a_2 F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \ln(F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}) + a_3 F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}]$$

UV divergences are cancelled choosing  $a_1 = 6$ ,  $a_2 = 1/4$  and we obtain

$$S_r = -\sigma V_3 \beta r_h^4 [3\tilde{U}_{\infty,4} + \tilde{U}_{h,1} \tilde{v}_{h,0}^2 \tilde{W}_{h,0} - \tilde{B}^2 \ln \tilde{B} - \left(2a_3 + \frac{1}{2} \ln 2\right) \tilde{B}^2]$$

Gibbs free energy density

$$\mathcal{G} = \frac{TS_r}{V_3} = -\sigma r_h^4 [3\tilde{U}_{\infty,4} + \tilde{U}_{h,1} \tilde{v}_{h,0}^2 \tilde{W}_{h,0} - \tilde{B}^2 \ln \tilde{B} - \left(2a_3 + \frac{1}{2} \ln 2\right) \tilde{B}^2]$$

Magnetic enthalpy density

$$\rho = -\sigma r_h^4 [3\tilde{U}_{\infty,4} - \tilde{B}^2 \ln \tilde{B} - \left(2a_3 + \frac{1}{2} \ln 2\right) \tilde{B}^2]$$

Scheme-independent quantities:  $\mathcal{G}_r = \mathcal{G} - \mathcal{G}_{T=0}$ ,  $\rho_r = \rho - \rho_{T=0}$

## Holographic stress-energy tensor

$$\langle T_r^{\mu\nu} \rangle = \langle T_{reg}^{\mu\nu} \rangle + \langle T_{ct}^{\mu\nu} \rangle$$

where

$$\langle T_{reg}^{\mu\nu} \rangle = \frac{2 r_0^6}{\sqrt{-\gamma}} \frac{\delta(S_M + S_{\partial M})}{\delta\gamma_{\mu\nu}} = -2\sigma(K^{\mu\nu} - K^\gamma{}^\mu{}_\nu)$$

$$\langle T_{ct}^{\mu\nu} \rangle = -\frac{2r_0^6}{\sqrt{-\gamma}} \frac{\delta S_{ct}}{\delta\gamma_{\mu\nu}}$$

Result:

$$\langle T_r^{\mu\nu} \rangle = \text{diag}(\rho_r, P_{x,r}, P_{x,r}, P_{z,r})$$

where

$$\rho_r = -\frac{3N_c^2}{8\pi^2} r_h^4 \left\{ \tilde{U}_{\infty,4} - \frac{\tilde{B}^2}{6} \left[ 2\tilde{U}_{\infty,4}(\sqrt{3}) + \ln\left(\frac{\tilde{B}^2}{3}\right) \right] \right\}$$

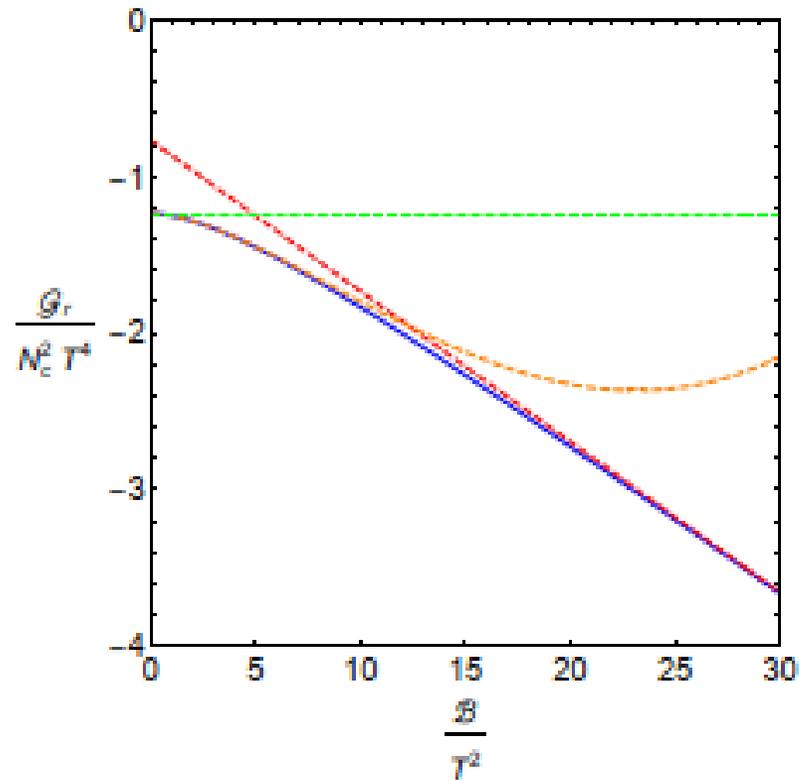
$$P_{x,r} = -\frac{N_c^2}{8\pi^2} r_h^4 \left\{ \tilde{U}_{\infty,4} - 8\tilde{v}_{\infty,4} - \frac{\tilde{B}^2}{2} \left[ 2\tilde{U}_{\infty,4}(\sqrt{3}) + \ln\left(\frac{\tilde{B}^2}{3}\right) \right] \right\}$$

$$P_{z,r} = -\frac{N_c^2}{8\pi^2} r_h^4 \left\{ \tilde{U}_{\infty,4} + 16\tilde{v}_{\infty,4} + \frac{\tilde{B}^2}{2} \left[ 2\tilde{U}_{\infty,4}(\sqrt{3}) + \ln\left(\frac{\tilde{B}^2}{3}\right) \right] \right\}$$

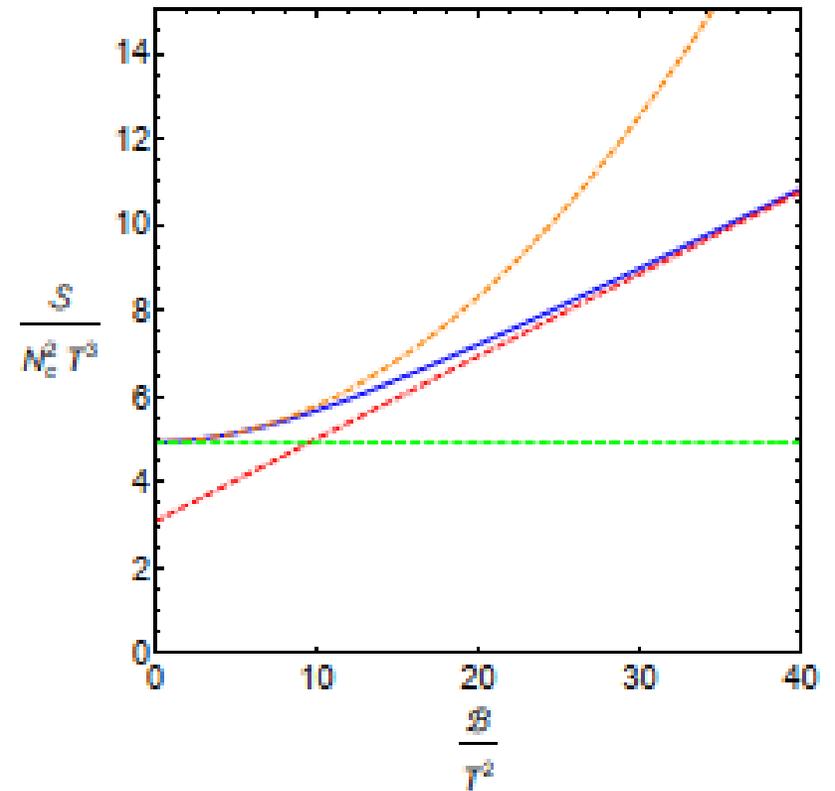
The trace of the stress-energy tensor vanishes, as expected for a conformal fluid  
A non-diffeomorphism invariant counter-term can lead to a  $T$  independent trace anomaly that disappears when subtracting the  $T = 0$  result

## Numerical results

### Gibbs free energy density



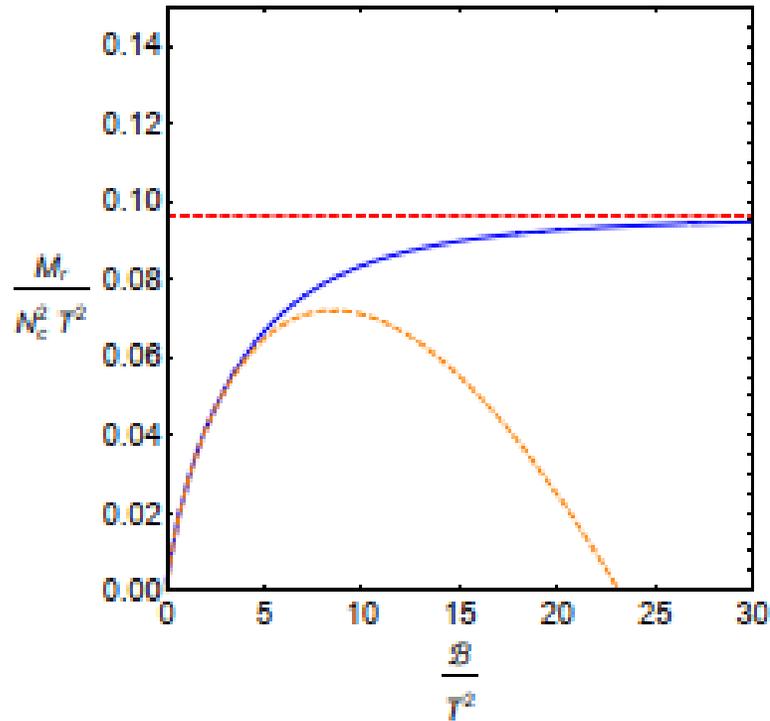
### Entropy density



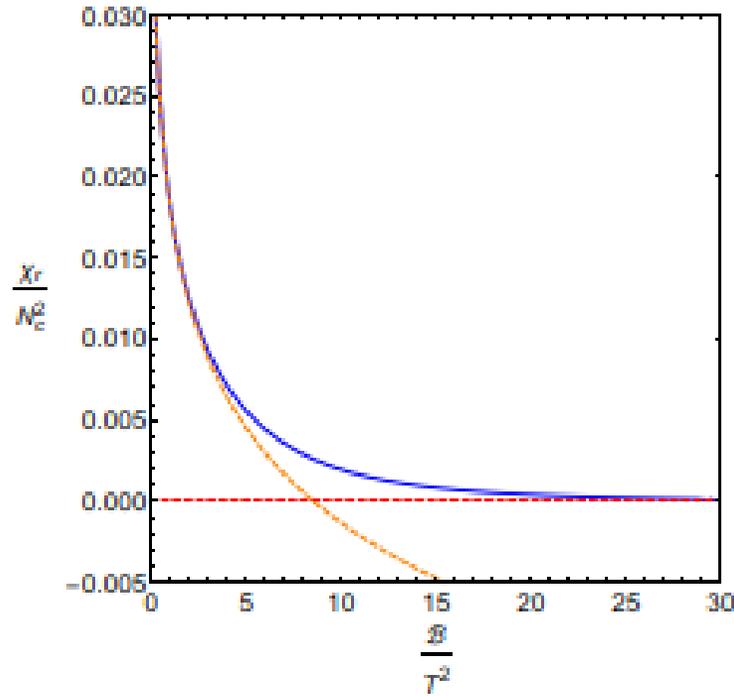
Blue curves represent the full numerical results

Orange and red curves represent analytical results at small  $b$  or large  $b$

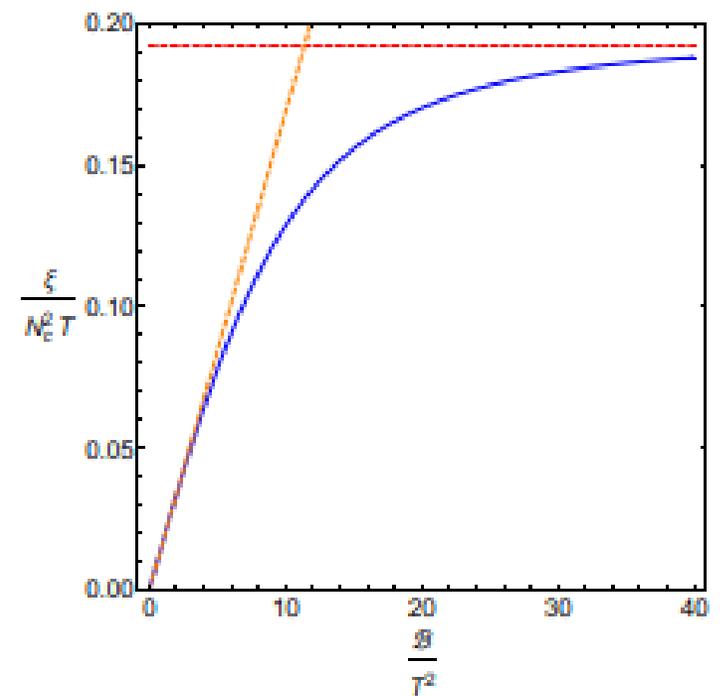
Magnetisation



Susceptibility



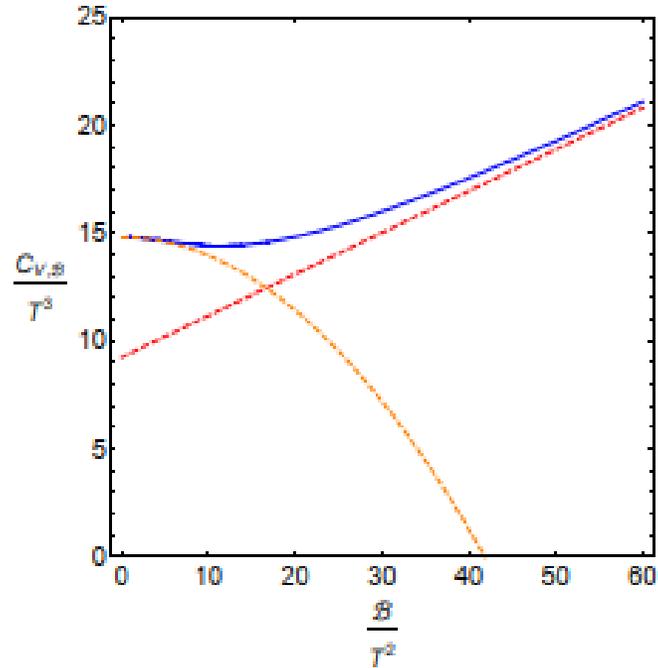
Pyro-magnetic coefficient



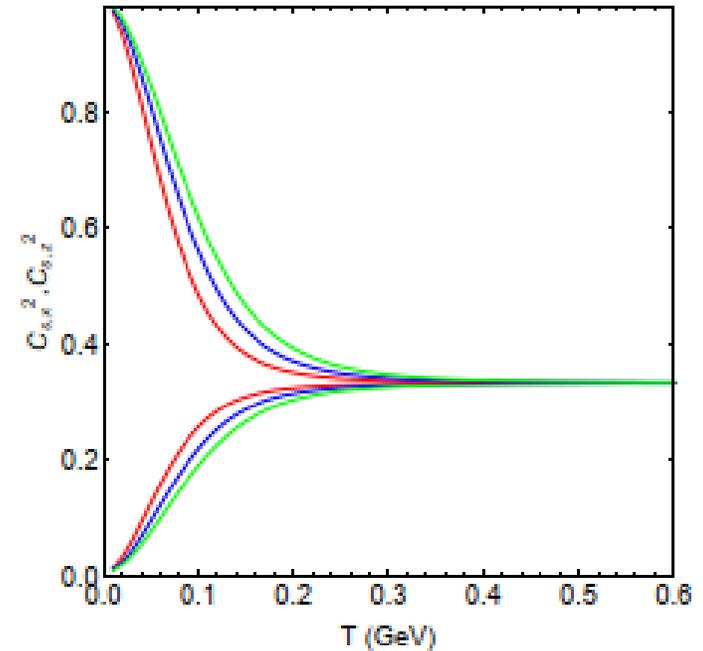
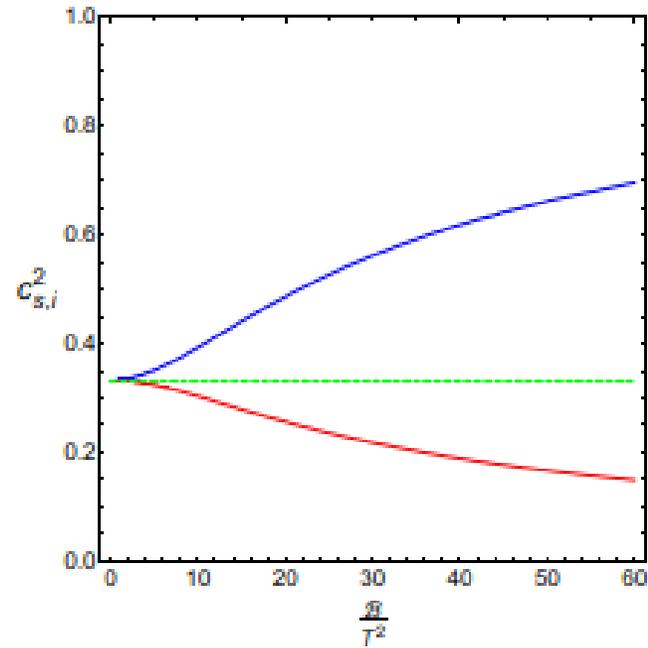
Blue curves represent the full numerical results

Orange and red curves represent analytical results at small  $b$  or large  $b$

Specific heat



Speeds of sound



Blue curves represent the full numerical results

Orange and red curves represent analytical results at small  $b$  or large  $b$

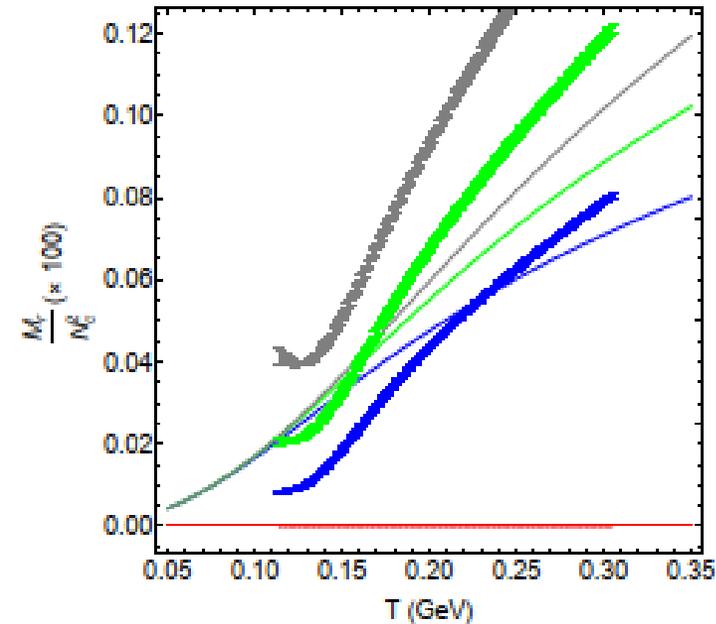
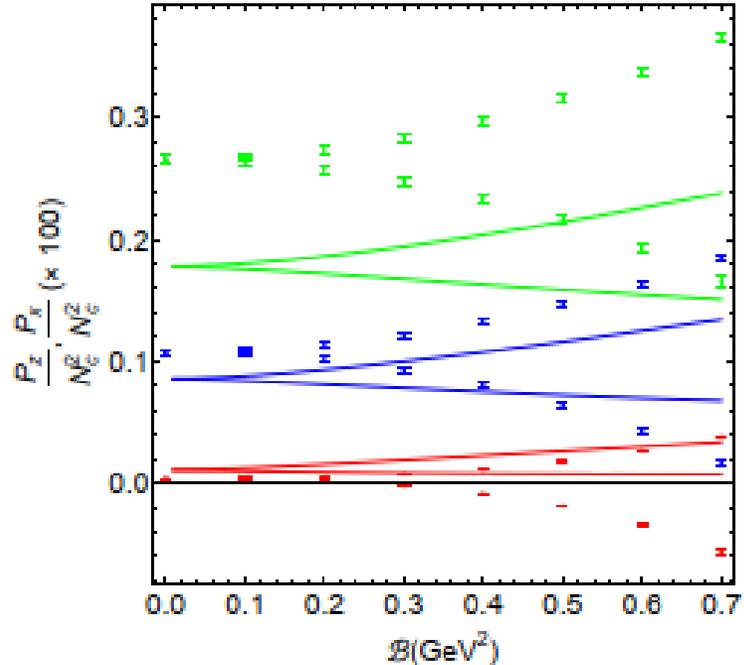
**Important conclusion:** The behaviour of all the thermodynamic quantities at large  $b$  is consistent with  **$3 + 1 \rightarrow 1 + 1$  dimensional reduction** in the magnetised conformal plasma

The analytical result at large  $b$  is consistent with the  **$BTZ \times R^2$**  where the BTZ black brane [10] is the gravity dual of a 2d CFT at finite temperature

[10]M. Banados, C. Teitelboim, and J. Zanelli, Phys. Rev. Lett. 69 (1992) 1849–1851, arXiv:hep-th/9204099

## Phenomenological comparison to lattice QCD results

In this case we fix  $\sigma = N_c^2 / (45\pi^2)$  in order to match the Stefan-Boltzmann result for a free Yang-Mills plasma in the large  $N_c$  limit. We compare against the lattice QCD results of [11]



Left panel: Red, blue and green correspond to  $T = 0.15\text{GeV}$ ,  $T = 0.25\text{GeV}$  and  $T = 0.3\text{GeV}$

Right panel: Red, blue, green and grey correspond to  $\mathcal{B} = 0\text{GeV}^2$ ,  $\mathcal{B} = 0.2\text{GeV}^2$ ,  $\mathcal{B} = 0.3\text{GeV}^2$  and  $\mathcal{B} = 0.4\text{GeV}^2$

## 4. Conclusions

- We used the AdS/CFT correspondence to investigate the strongly coupled regime of a  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  Super Yang-Mills plasma in the presence of a finite magnetic field
- We obtained a Gibbs free energy density and a stress-energy tensor consistent with a magnetised fluid with conformal symmetry
- The behaviour of the thermodynamic quantities at large magnetic fields is compatible with a  $3 + 1 \rightarrow 1 + 1$  dimensional reduction of the CFT
- We found that the anisotropy between the pressures in the magnetised conformal fluid increases with the magnetic field in a qualitatively similar way than the quark-gluon plasma
- Possible future directions: incorporate confinement and chiral symmetry breaking in order to describe magnetic catalysis and inverse magnetic catalysis, describe perturbations of the magnetic black brane and compare with magnetohydrodynamics.

THANK YOU!