

# Holography, thermalization and heavy-ion collisions III

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**1302.0697** [PRL 110 211602 (2013)] with Janik & Witaszczyk

**1503.07514** [PRL 115 072501 (2015)] with Spaliński

# Overview of Lectures 1 & 2

**1202.0981** [PRL 108 191601 (2012)] with Mateos, van der Schee & Tancanelli  
**1304.5172** [JHEP 1309 026 (2013)] with Mateos, van der Schee & Triana  
**1305.4919** [PRL 111 181601 (2013)] and **1312.2956** [PRL 112 221602 (2014)]  
with Casalderrey-Solana, Mateos & van der Schee

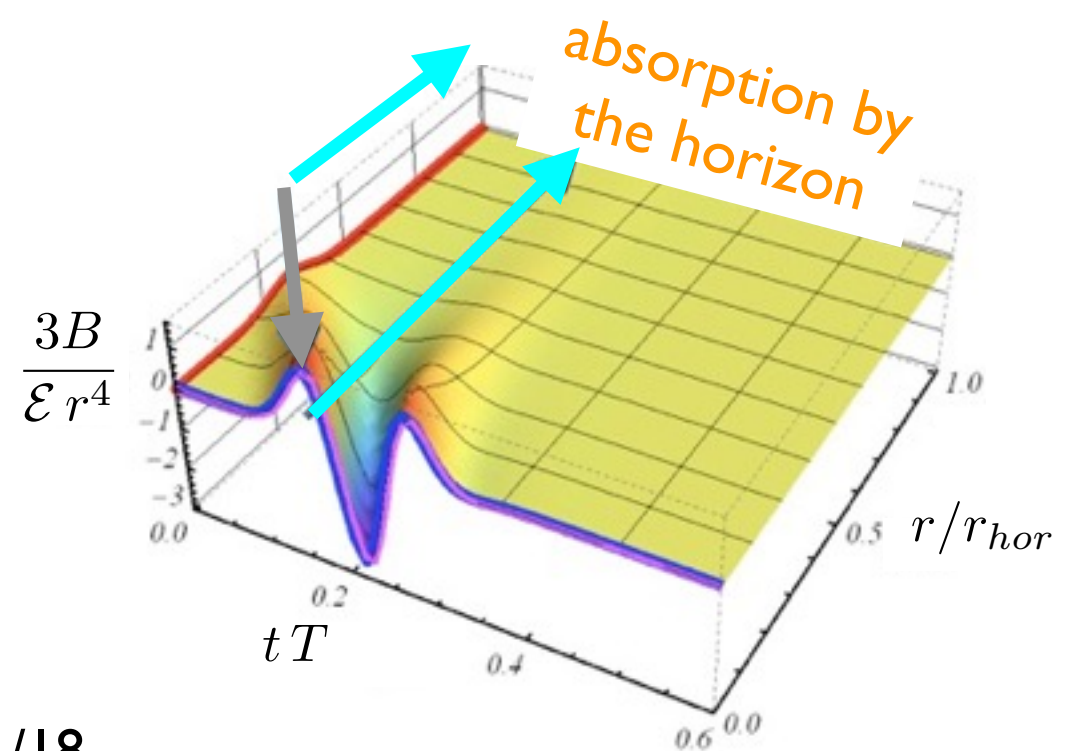
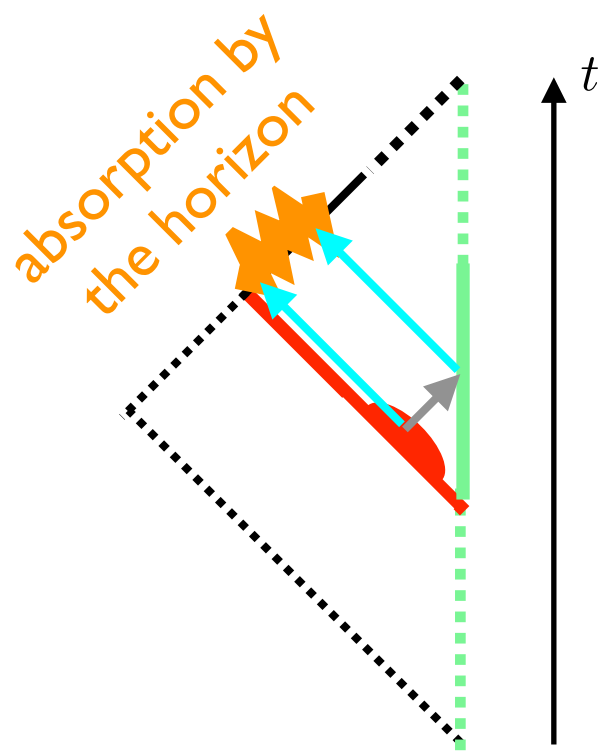
# Basic notions

certain states of a class of strongly-coupled QFTs = higher dimensional geometries

dofs of strongly-coupled QGP = QNMs of dual black branes:

$$\delta\langle T_{\mu\nu}\rangle = \sum_n \int d^3k c_n^{\mu\nu} e^{-\omega_n(k)t + i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}} \text{ with } \begin{cases} \text{exponential decay} \\ \text{in } 1/T \\ \text{slow decay (hydro)} \end{cases}$$

equilibration in strongly coupled QFTs = dual horizon formation and equilibration:



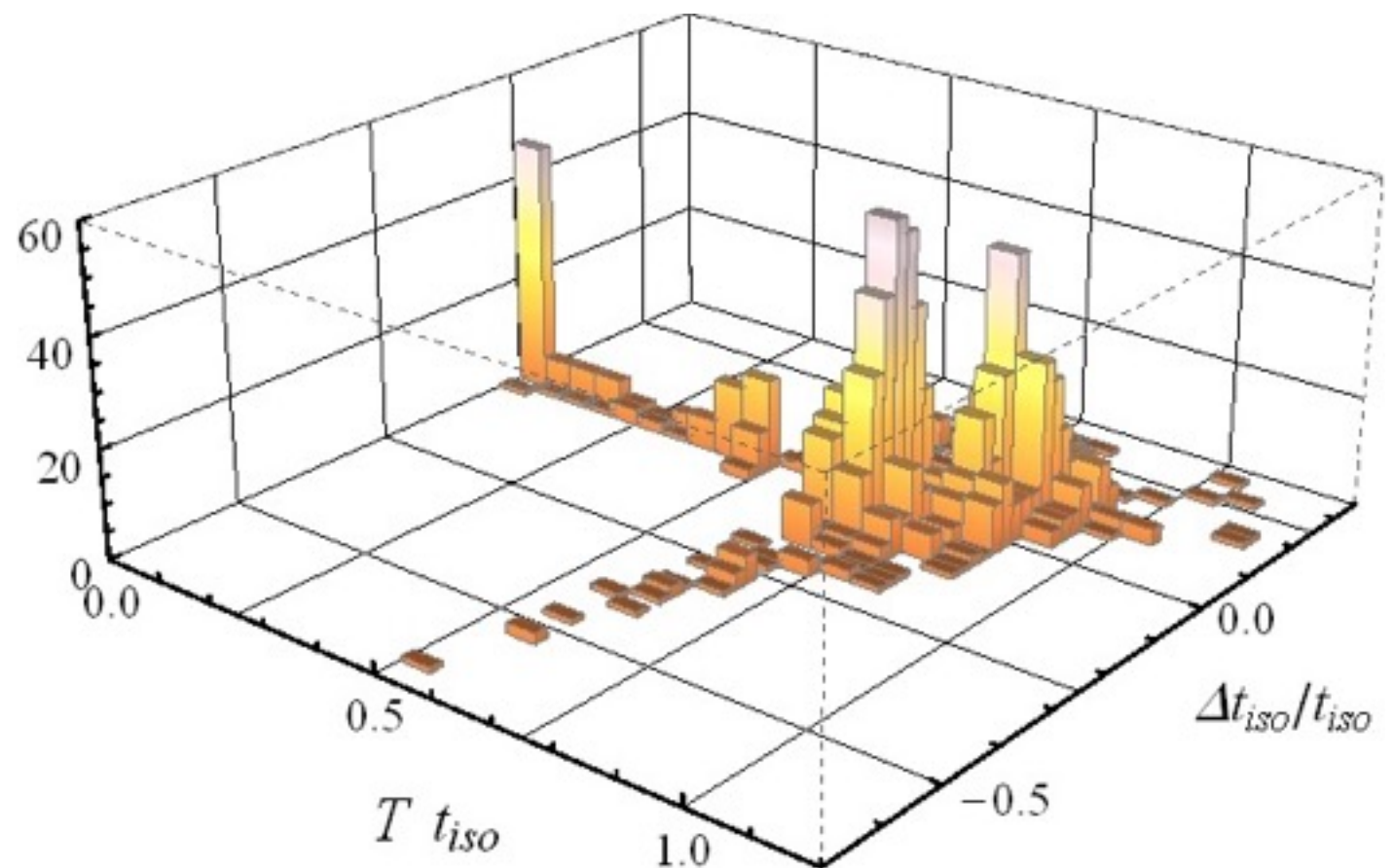
# N-eq states and relaxation rates

Real-time dynamics of QFTs requires  $\infty$ -many initial conditions, e.g.

$$B = -\frac{b(t)}{2r^4} - \frac{b'(t)}{2r^5} - \frac{7b''(t)}{24r^6} - \frac{b^{(3)}(t)}{8r^7} + \dots \text{ with } b(t) = \frac{2\pi^2}{3N_c^2} \Delta\mathcal{P}(t)$$

Holography makes it manageable by adding  $r \longrightarrow \mathcal{R}_{ab} - \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{R}g_{ab} - \frac{6}{L^2}g_{ab} = 0$

Indications that equilibration in  $1/T$  at strong coupling can be generic:



Confirmed in many other setups\*. Is  $t_{eq} T = O(1)$  becoming new “ $\eta/s = 1/4\pi$ ”?

# Hydrodynamics & holographic collisions

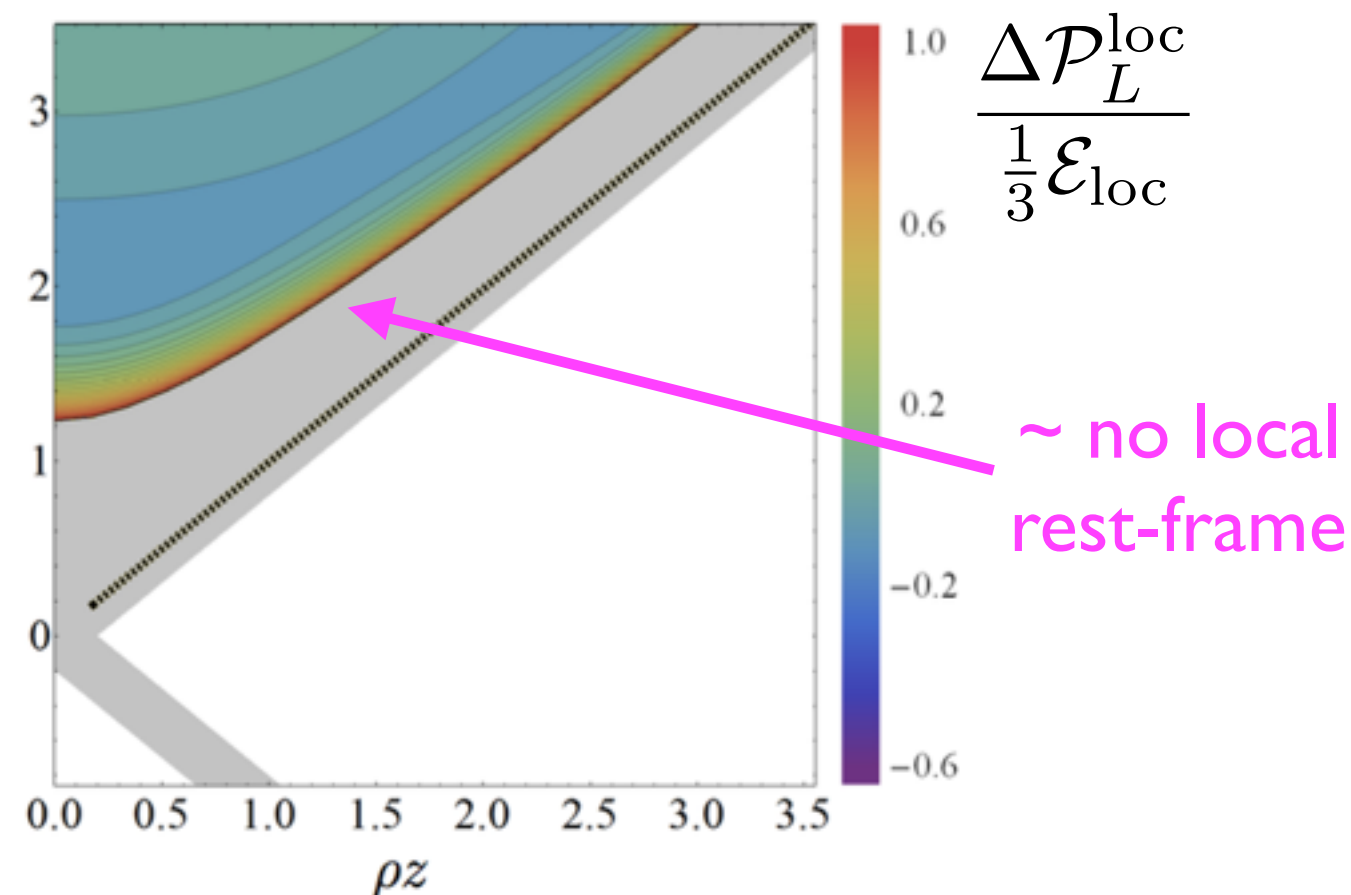
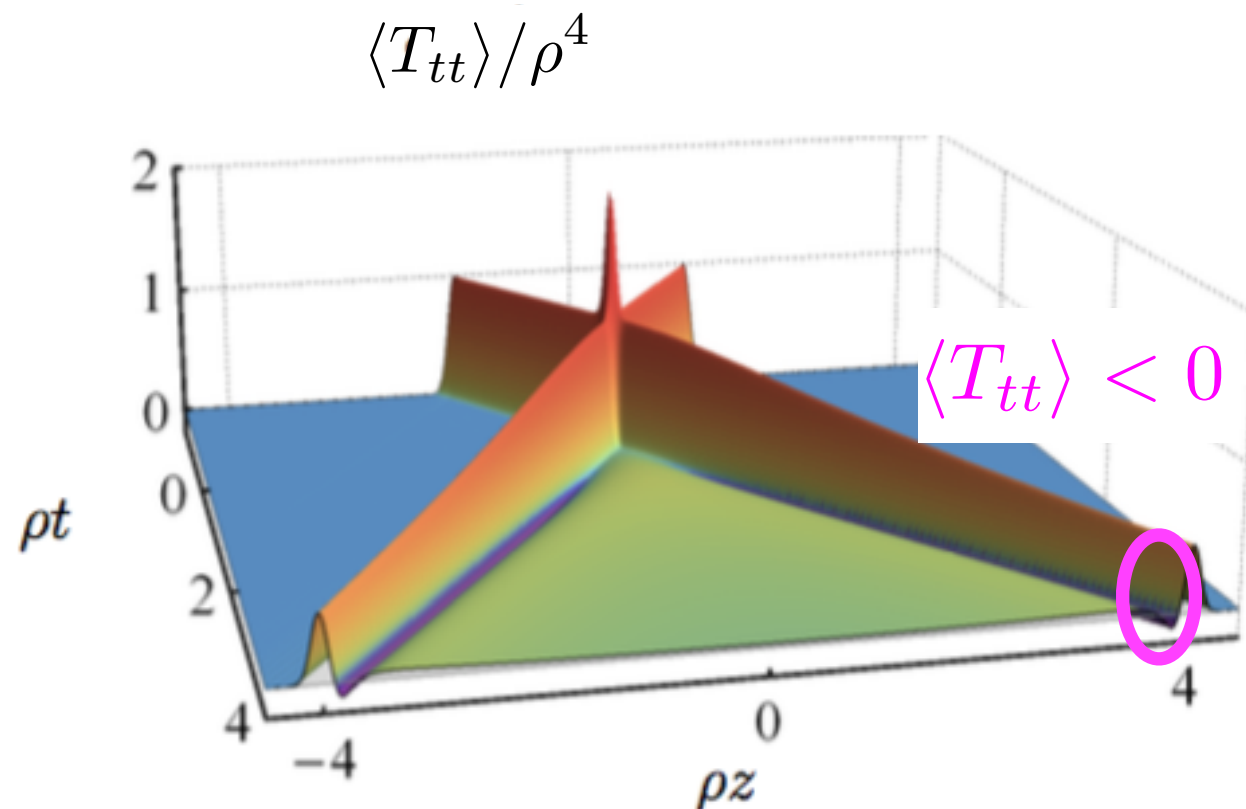
Hydrodynamics:

$$T_{hydro}^{\mu\nu} = \mathcal{E} u^\mu u^\nu + P(\mathcal{E}) \{g^{\mu\nu} + u^\mu u^\nu\} - \eta(\mathcal{E}) \sigma^{\mu\nu} - \zeta(\mathcal{E}) \{g^{\mu\nu} + u^\mu u^\nu\} (\nabla \cdot u) + \dots$$

← isotropic →
← breaks isotropy →

It is clear that  $\langle T^{\mu\nu} \rangle$ 's will not always be close to satisfying these relations

Rich transient physics before hydro:



# Hydrodynamization

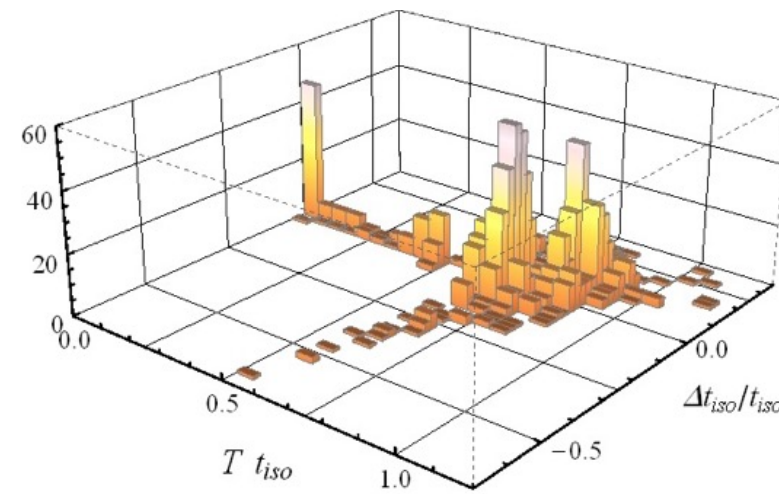
$$t_{hyd} T_{hyd} = \mathcal{O}(1) \text{ as before:}$$

Fast hydrodynamization:

$\neq$

thermalization or isotropization

$$\frac{1}{3} \varepsilon //$$



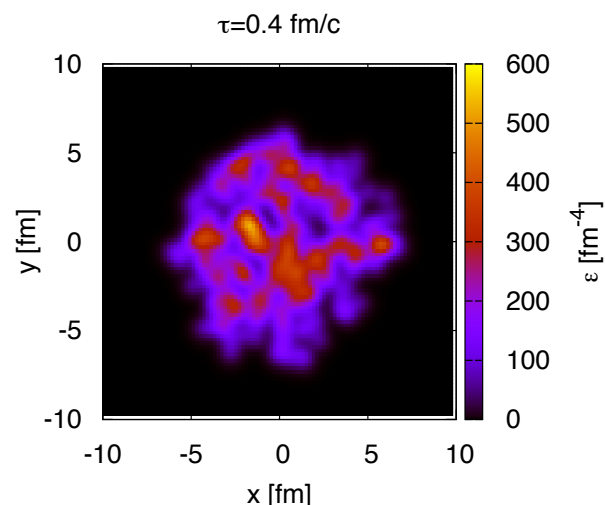
Huge anisotropies at the hydrodynamic threshold:  $\mathcal{P}_T - \mathcal{P}_L = 1.35 \times \mathcal{P}_{eq}$

Viscous hydrodynamics constitutive relations work despite:

leading order  $\approx$  correction

$$T_{hydro}^{\mu\nu} = \boxed{\mathcal{E} u^\mu u^\nu + P_{eq}(\mathcal{E}) \{g^{\mu\nu} + u^\mu u^\nu\}} - \boxed{\eta(\mathcal{E}) \sigma^{\mu\nu}} + \dots$$

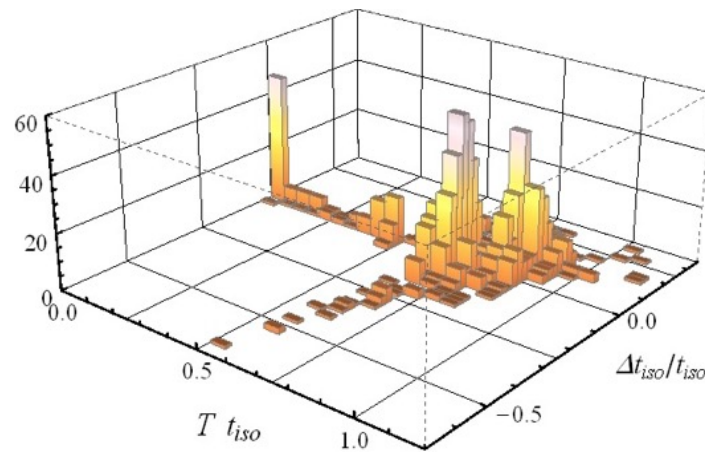
Great for pheno:



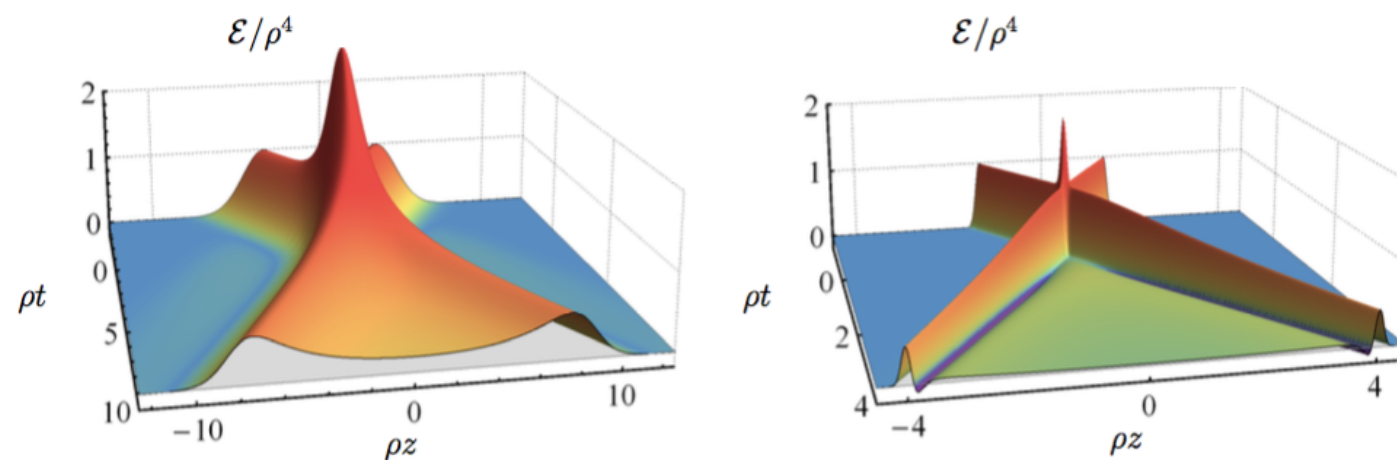
+ pA + pp

# The plan for today

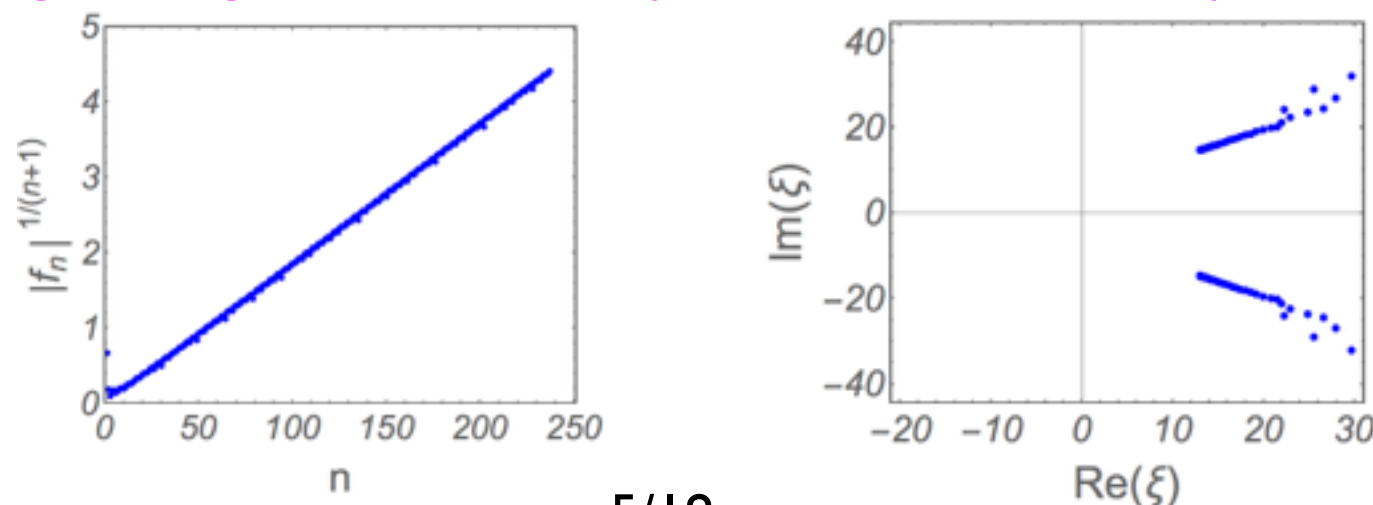
Lecture I: how long does it take  $\langle T^{\mu\nu} \rangle$  to equilibrate in strongly-coupled QFTs?



Lecture II: what is  $\langle T^{\mu\nu} \rangle(t, \vec{x})$  after a collision of 2 strongly-interacting objects?



Lecture III: why was hydrodynamization ( $\neq$  thermalization) at all possible?





# Boost-invariant hydrodynamics

1103.3452 [PRL 108 211602 (2012)] with Janik & Witaszczyk



# The boost-invariance Bjorken 1982

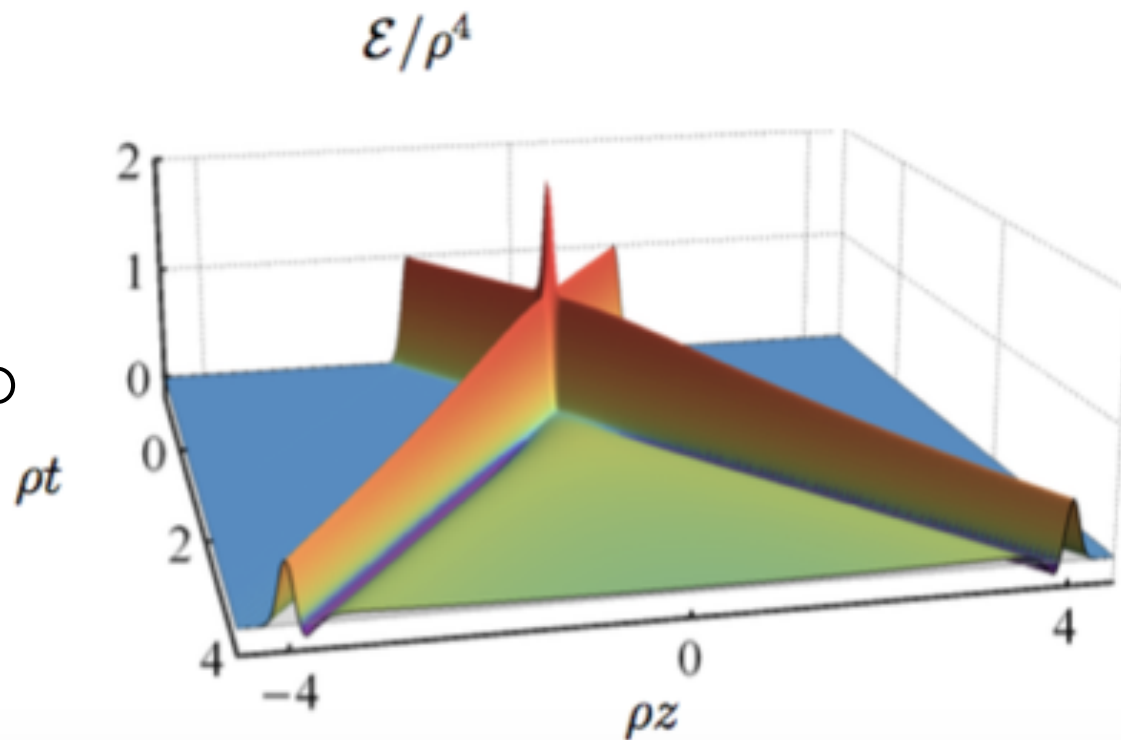
In order to understand hydrodynamics right at its threshold:

leading order  $\approx$  correction

$$T_{hydro}^{\mu\nu} = \boxed{\mathcal{E} u^\mu u^\nu + P_{eq}(\mathcal{E}) \{g^{\mu\nu} + u^\mu u^\nu\}} - \boxed{\eta(\mathcal{E}) \sigma^{\mu\nu}} + \dots$$

we have to understand better what is hidden there

Idea: focus on a simple flow in which  $\langle T^{\mu\nu} \rangle$  can be expressed as  $\langle T^{\tilde{\mu}\tilde{\nu}} \rangle(\tau)$ :

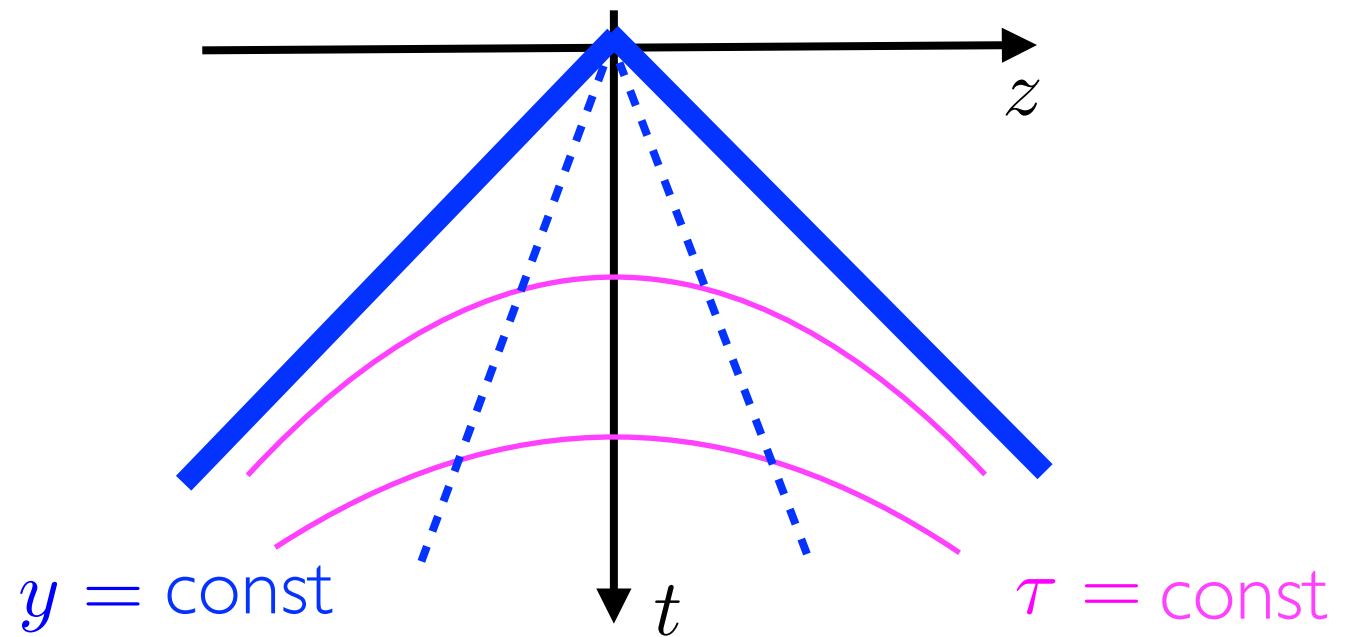
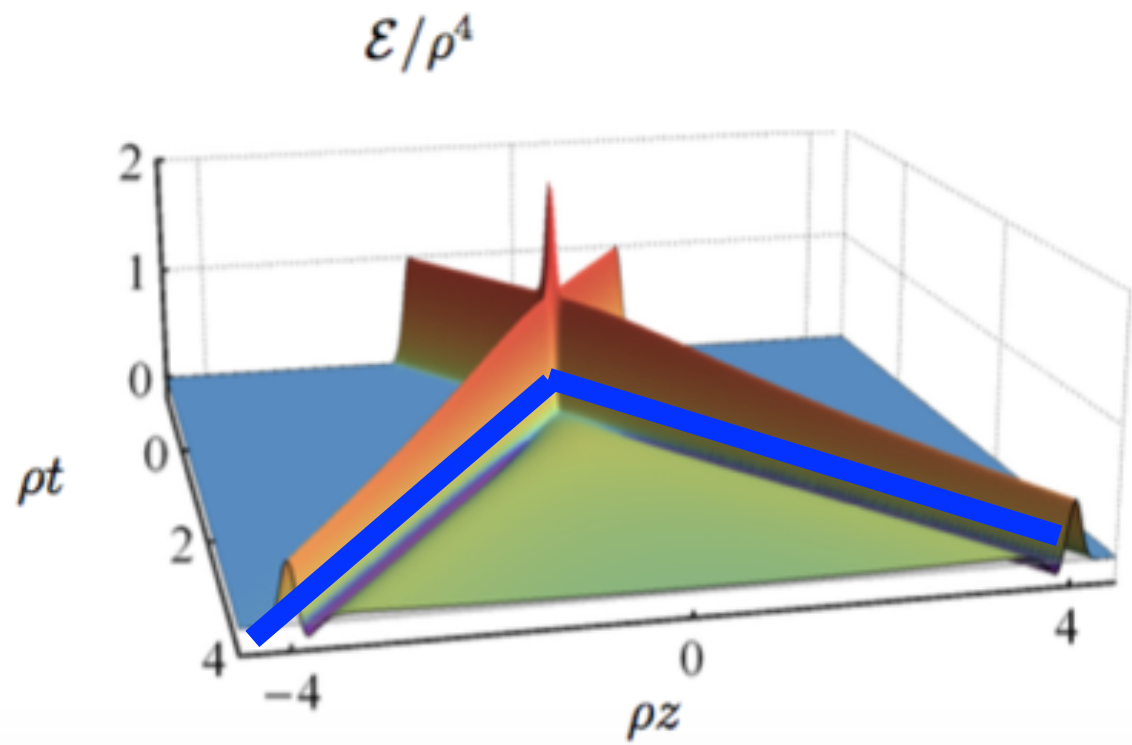


Similar to

+ additional symmetry under  $z$ -boosts:

$$\tau = \sqrt{t^2 - z^2}$$

# The boost-invariant flow Bjorken 1982



Boost-invariance: in  $(\tau \equiv \sqrt{t^2 - z^2}, y = \tanh^{-1} \frac{z}{t}, \mathbf{x}_\perp)$  coords no  $y$ -dependence:

Background Minkowski space:  $ds^2 = -d\tau^2 + \tau^2 dy^2 + d\mathbf{x}_\perp^2$

$$\text{CFT: } \langle T_{\mu\nu} \rangle dx^\mu dx^\nu = \underbrace{\mathcal{E}(\tau) d\tau^2}_{\mathcal{P}_L} + \tau^2 \underbrace{(-\mathcal{E} - \tau \dot{\mathcal{E}}) dy^2 + (\mathcal{E} + \frac{1}{2} \tau \dot{\mathcal{E}}) d\mathbf{x}_\perp^2}_{\mathcal{P}_T}$$

# The boost-invariant hydrodynamics

II03.3452 with Janik & Witaszczyk

$$\langle T_{\mu\nu} \rangle dx^\mu dx^\nu = \mathcal{E}(\tau) d\tau^2 + \tau^2 (-\mathcal{E} - \tau \dot{\mathcal{E}}) dy^2 + (\mathcal{E} + \frac{1}{2} \tau \dot{\mathcal{E}}) d\mathbf{x}_\perp^2$$

$$\downarrow u^\mu \partial_\mu = \partial_\tau$$

$$T_{hydro}^{\mu\nu} = \mathcal{E} u^\mu u^\nu + P_{eq}(\mathcal{E}) \{g^{\mu\nu} + u^\mu u^\nu\} - \eta(\mathcal{E}) \sigma^{\mu\nu} + \dots$$

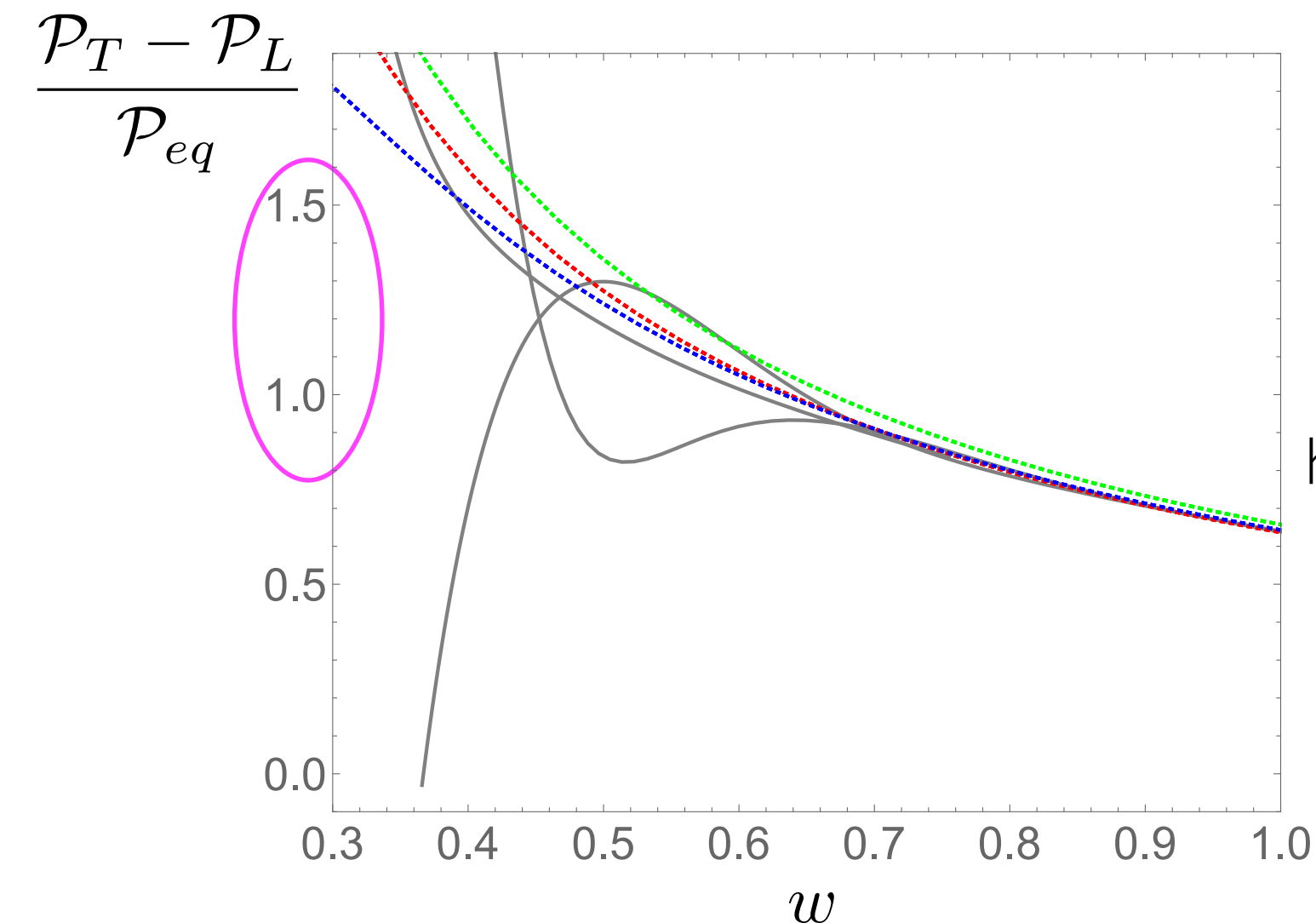
Qty of interest:  $\frac{\mathcal{P}_T - \mathcal{P}_L}{\mathcal{P}_{eq}} \sim - \frac{\overset{T^3}{\underset{\sim}{\mathcal{E}}} \sigma^{\mu\nu}}{\underset{\sim T^4}{\mathcal{E}}} + \dots \sim \overset{\text{late-time expansion}}{\underbrace{\frac{1}{\tau T}}_{\equiv \frac{1}{w}}} + O\left(\frac{1}{(\tau T)^2}\right)$

Conclusion: gradient expansion in the boost-invariant flow is an expansion in  $\frac{1}{w}$

# Hydrodynamization in the boost-invariant flow

I 103.3452 with Janik & Witaszczyk

Ab initio calculation in  $N=4$  SYM at strong coupling:



Hydrodynamics works despite huge anisotropy captured by  $-\eta \sigma^{\mu\nu}$

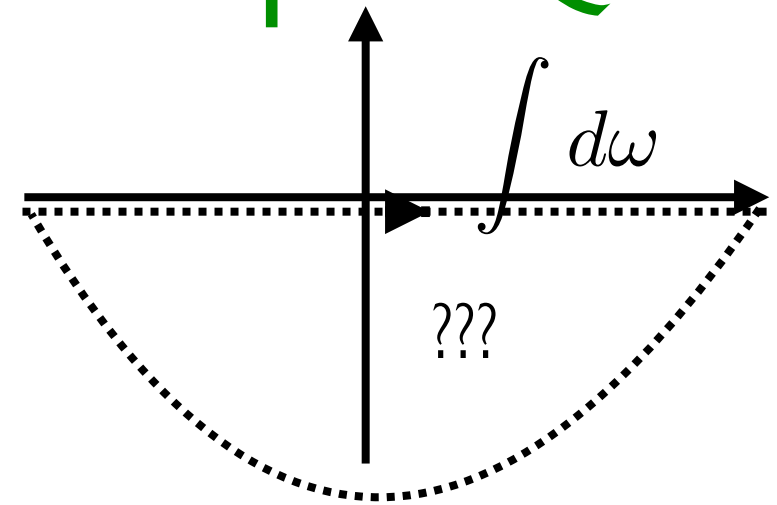
$$\frac{\mathcal{P}_T - \mathcal{P}_L}{\mathcal{P}_{eq}} = \boxed{\frac{0.64}{w} + \frac{0.02}{w^2} + \frac{0.01}{w^3} + \dots}$$

# Why can hydrodynamization occur?

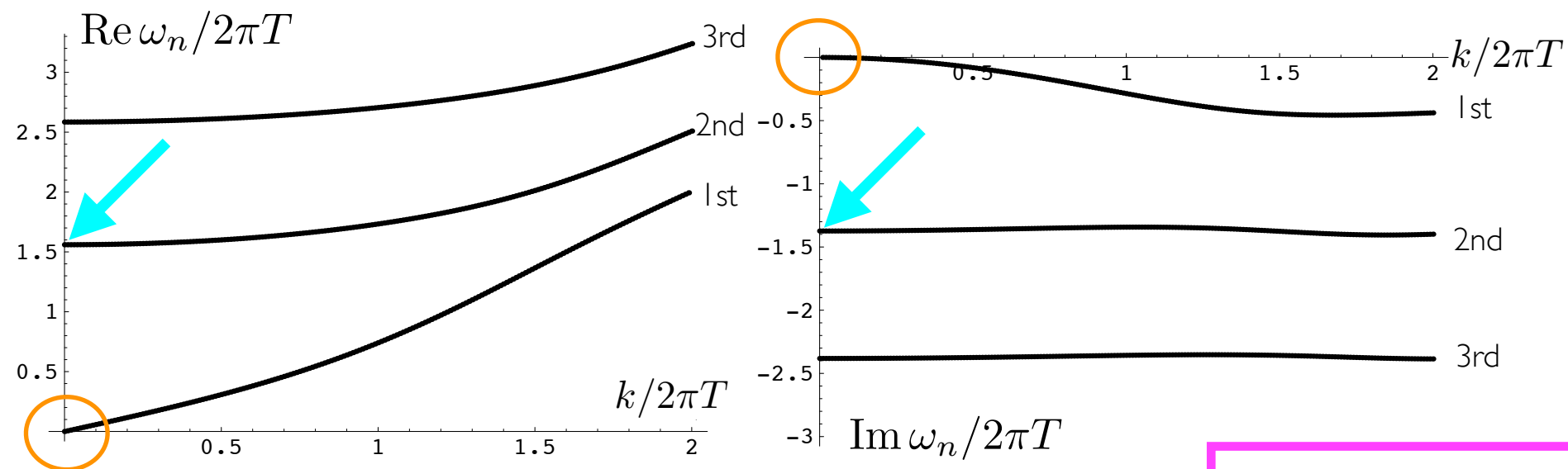
M. P. Heller, R. A. Janik and P. Witaszczyk,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 110, 211602 (2013), **1302.0697**

# Quasinormal modes: dofs of strongly-coupled QGP

$$\delta\langle T_{\mu\nu}\rangle = \left\{ \int d^3k \int d\omega e^{-i\omega t + i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}} G_R(\omega, k) \cdot \delta g \right\}_{\mu\nu} :$$



Singularities in the lower-half  $\omega$ -plane are single poles (QNMs) for each value of  $k$   
 see [hep-th/0506184](#) by Kovtun & Starinets



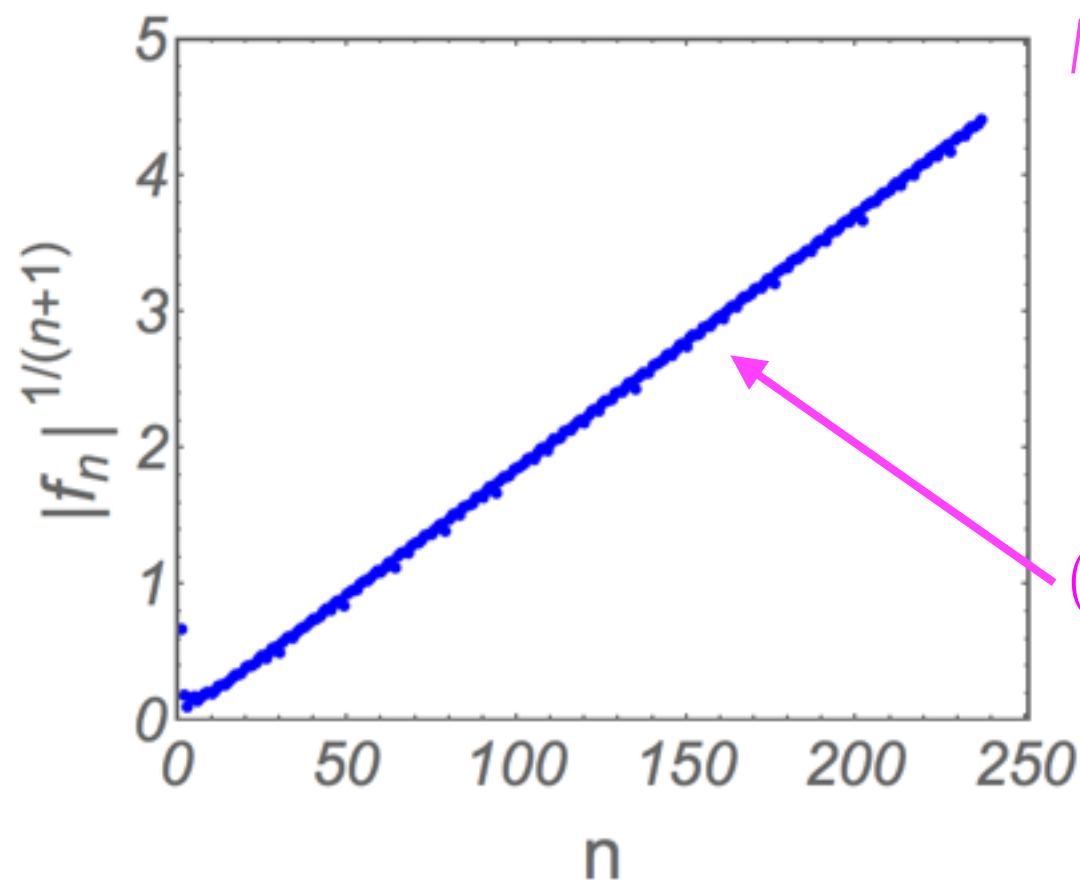
Thus  $\delta\langle T_{\mu\nu}\rangle = \sum_n \int d^3k c_n^{\mu\nu} e^{-\omega_n(k)t + i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}}$  with

- exponential decay in  $1/T$
- slow decay (hydro)

# Hydrodynamic gradient expansion is divergent

In **I302.0697** we computed  $f(w) = \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{18} \frac{\mathcal{P}_T - \mathcal{P}_L}{\mathcal{P}_{eq}}$  up to  $O(w^{-240})$ :

$$f(w) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n w^{-n} = \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{9\pi} w^{-1} + \dots$$

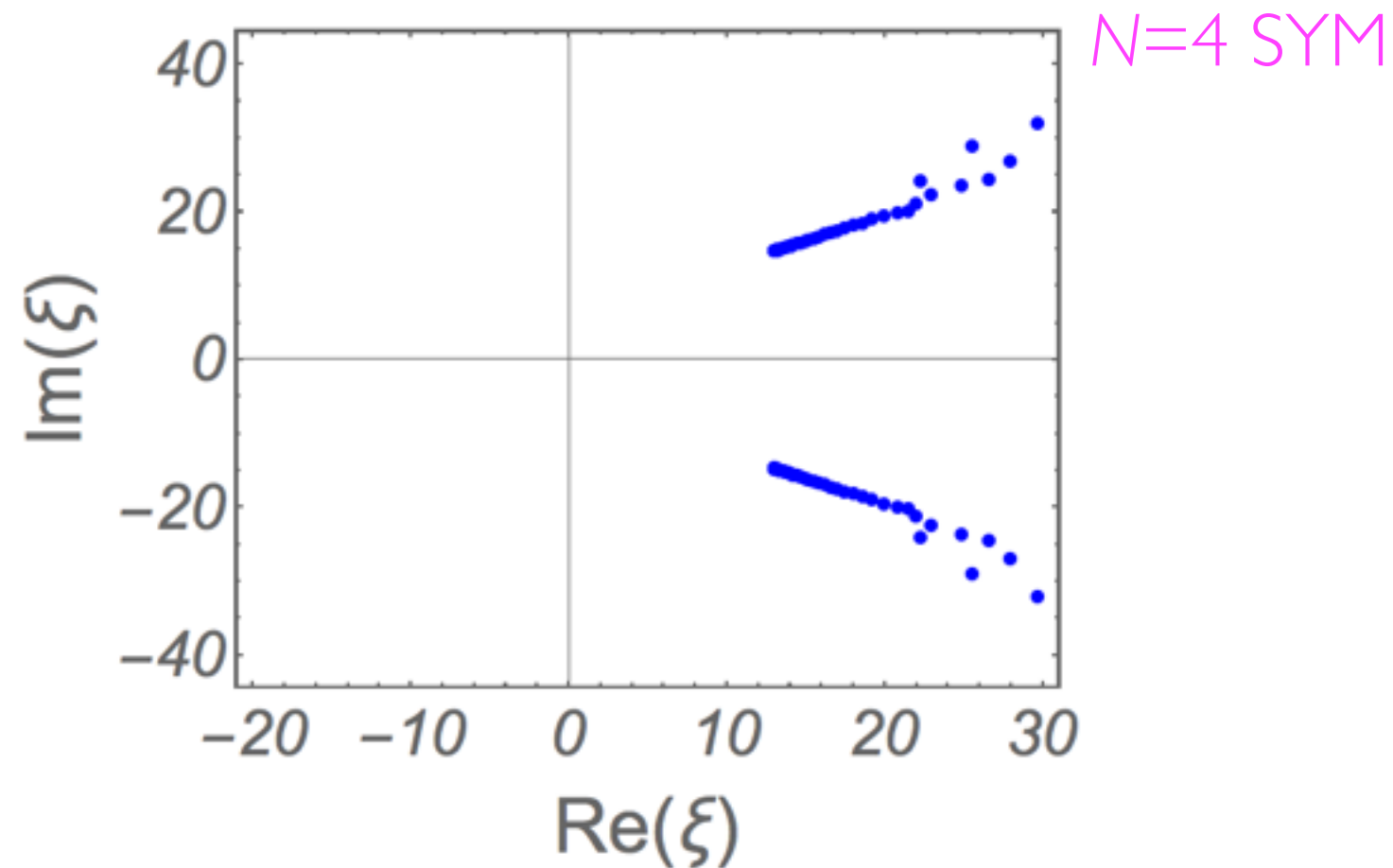


N=4 SYM

$$(n!)^{1/(n+1)} \Big|_{n \rightarrow \infty} \approx \frac{1}{e} \cdot n$$



Analytic continuation of  $f_B(\xi) \approx \sum_{n=0}^{240} \frac{1}{n!} f_n \xi^n$  revealed the following singularities:



Branch cut singularities start at  $\frac{3}{2} i \omega_{QNM_1}$

# Resumming gradient expansion in MIS theory

**1503.07514** [PRL 115 072501 (2015)] with Spaliński

see also 1509.05046 by Basar & Dunne, as well as 1511.06358 by Aniceto & Spaliński

# The boost-invariant MIS theory

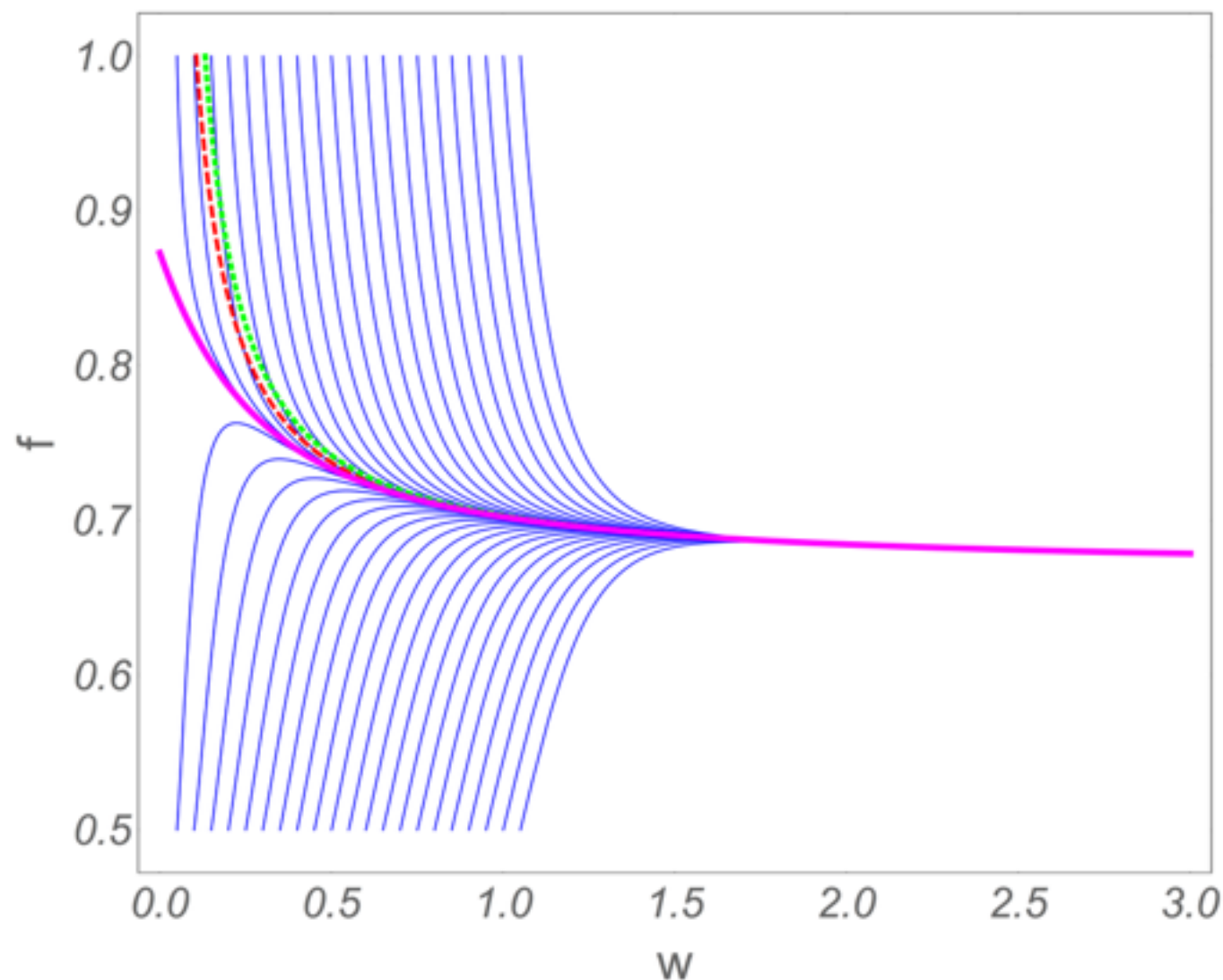
1503.07514

$$(\tau_{\Pi} \mathcal{D} + 1) \Pi_{\mu\nu} = -\eta \sigma_{\mu\nu} + \dots$$



$$C_{\eta} = \frac{\eta}{s} \quad \text{and} \quad C_{\tau_{\Pi}} = \tau_{\Pi} T$$

$$f' = -\frac{1}{C_{\tau_{\Pi}}} + \frac{2}{3 C_{\tau_{\Pi}} f} + \frac{16}{3 w} - \frac{16}{9 w f} + \frac{4 C_{\eta}}{9 C_{\tau_{\Pi}} w f} - \frac{4 f}{w} + \dots$$



attractor

different solutions

$$f(w) = f_0 + f_1 w^{-1}$$

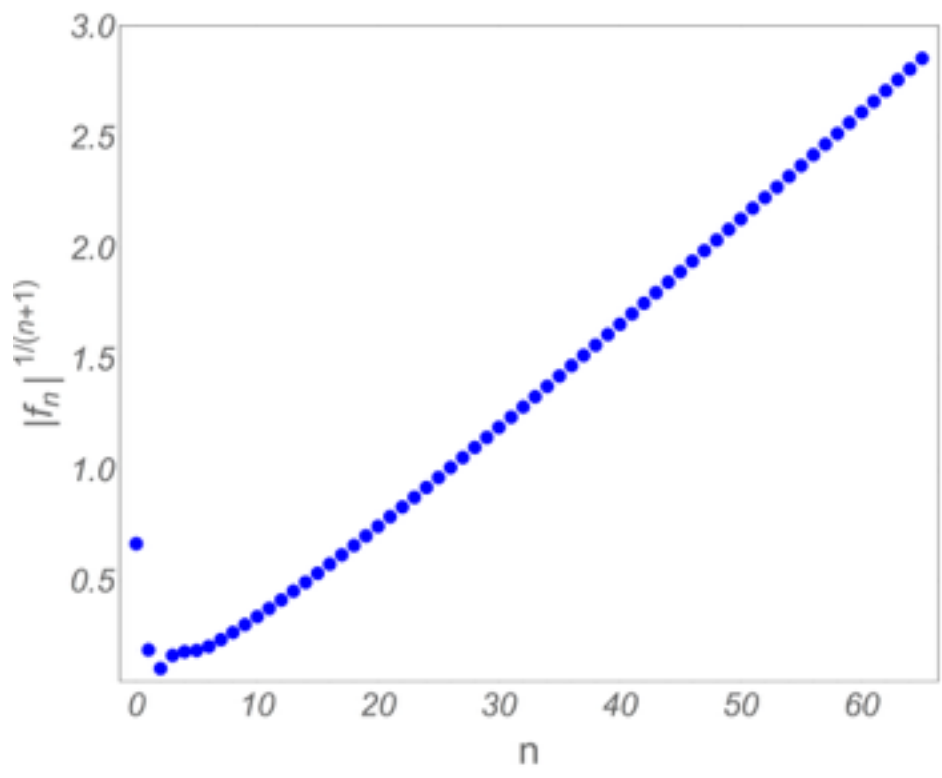
$$f(w) = f_0 + f_1 w^{-1} + f_2 w^{-2}$$

# Gradient expansion

I503.07514

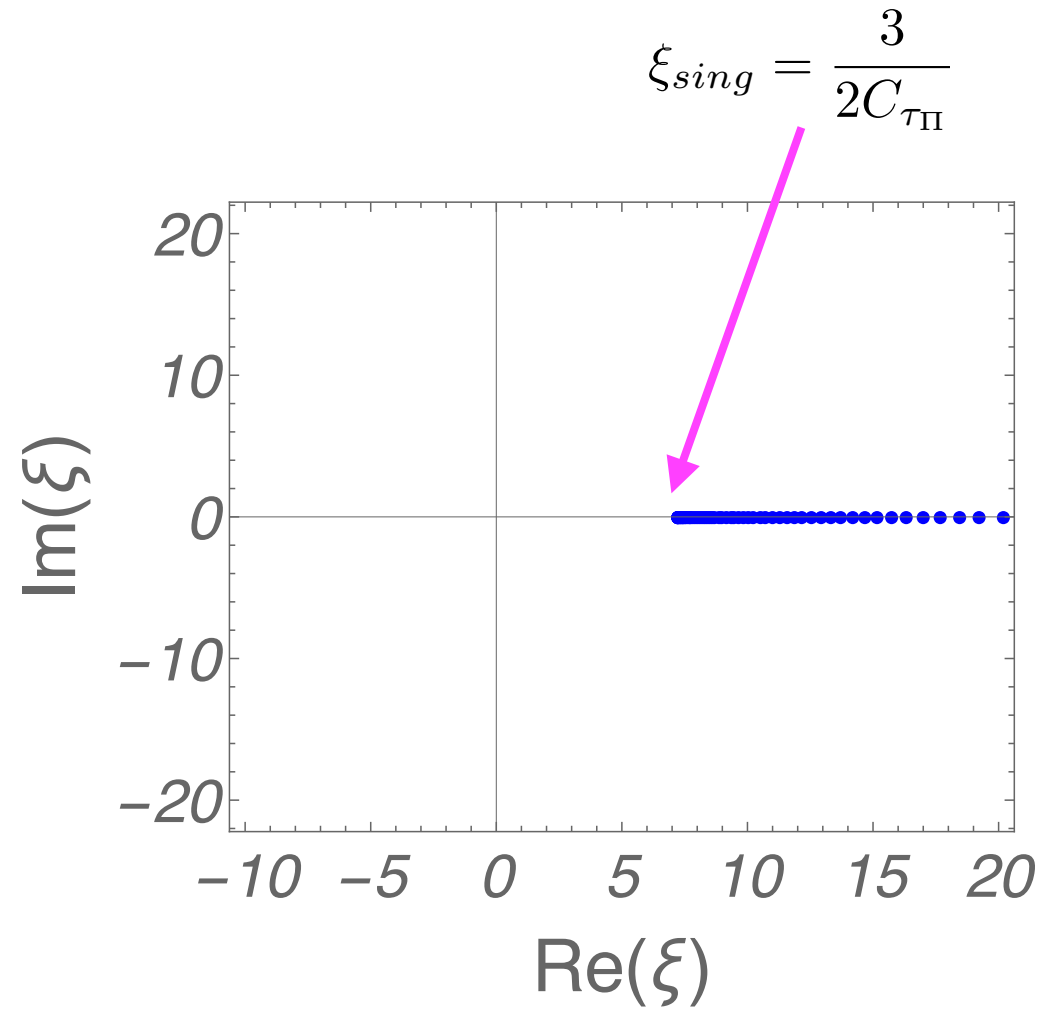
$$f' = -\frac{1}{C_{\tau_{\Pi}}} + \frac{2}{3 C_{\tau_{\Pi}} f} + \frac{16}{3 w} - \frac{16}{9 w f} + \frac{4 C_{\eta}}{9 C_{\tau_{\Pi}} w f} - \frac{4 f}{w} + \dots$$

$$f = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f_n}{w^n} + \underbrace{\delta f}_{\exp\left(-\frac{3}{2C_{\tau_{\Pi}}}w\right) \times \dots} + \mathcal{O}(\delta f^2)$$

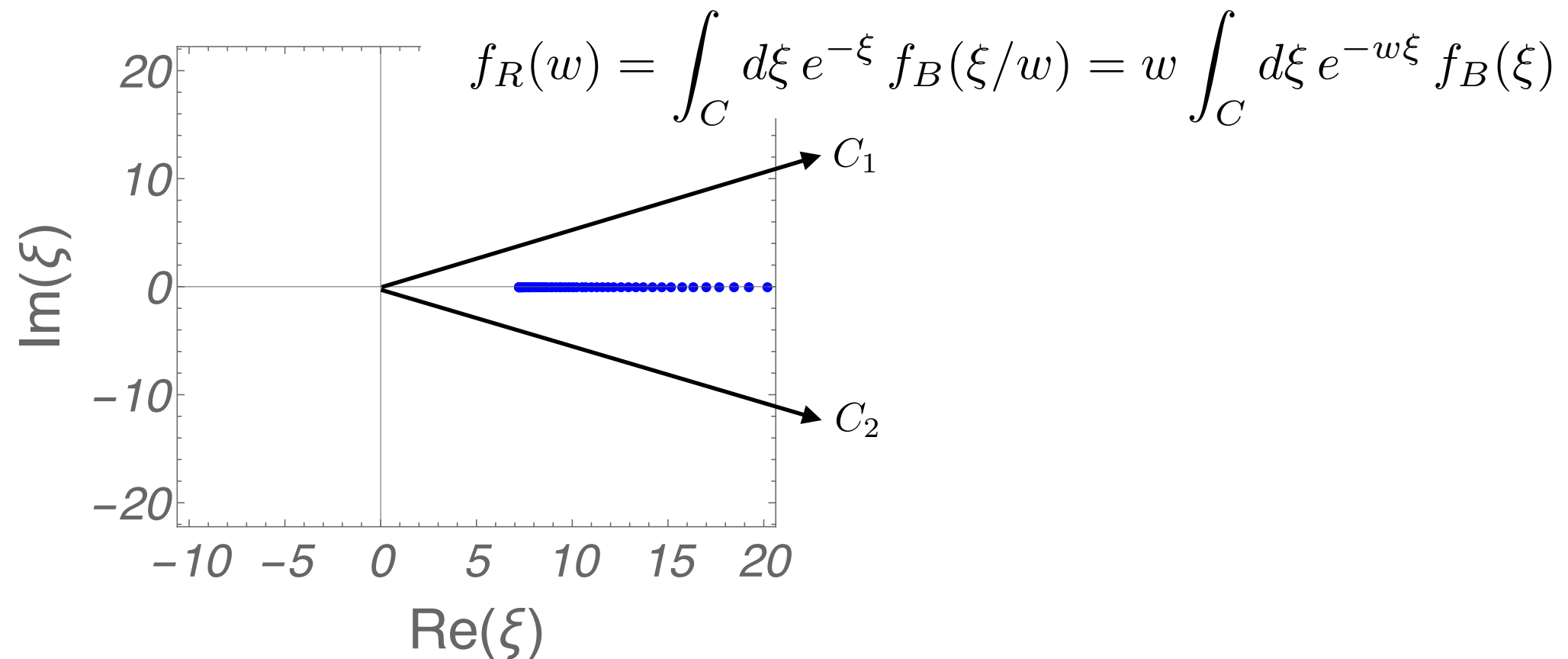


$$f_B(\xi) \approx \sum_{n=0}^{200} \frac{1}{n!} f_n \xi^n$$

A magenta arrow points from this equation towards the right-hand plot.



Hydrodynamic gradient expansion is intrinsically ambiguous:



The ambiguity goes away upon including the quasinormal mode ( $f_n = a_{0,n}$ )

$$f = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} (c_{amb} + r)^m \left\{ w^{\frac{C_\eta}{C_{\tau\Pi}}} \exp\left(-\frac{3}{2C_{\tau\Pi}} w\right) \right\}^m \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{m,n} w^{-n}$$

↑  
initial condition

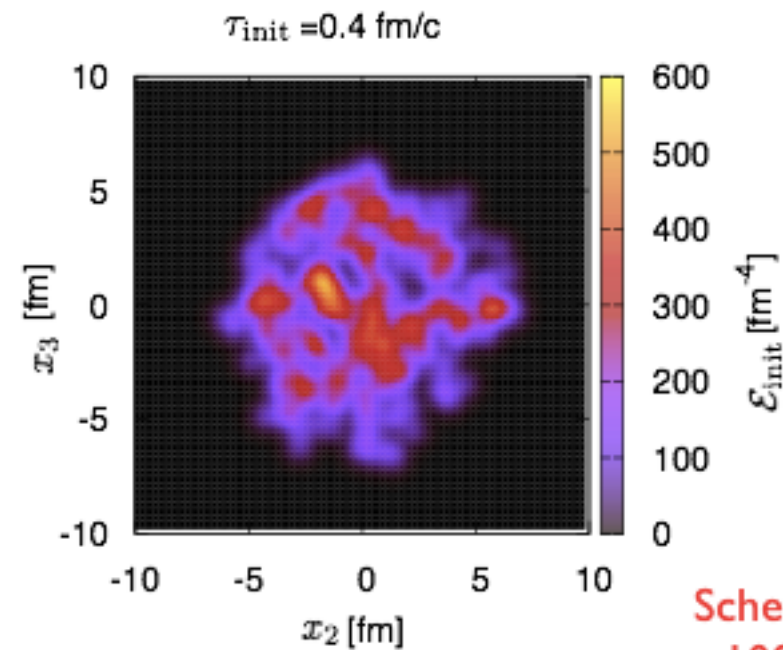
**Homework:** write an ansatz for a transseries for  $f$  in  $N=4$  SYM

# Summary of Lecture III

**1302.0697** [PRL 110 211602 (2013)] with Janik & Witaszczyk

**1503.07514** [PRL 115 072501 (2015)] with Spaliński

pheno:  
hydrodynamization



Schenke et al.  
1009.3244

hydrodynamic gradient expansion diverges

precision calculations  
in NumHol

towards genericity

new connections:  
transseries & resurgence  
(very active area in QM & QFT)



# Take-home messages

- 1202.0981** [PRL 108 191601 (2012)] with Mateos, van der Schee & Tancanelli
- 1304.5172** [JHEP 1309 026 (2013)] with Mateos, van der Schee & Triana
- 1305.4919** [PRL 111 181601 (2013)] and **1312.2956** [PRL 112 221602 (2014)]  
with Casalderrey-Solana, Mateos & van der Schee
- 1103.3452** [PRL 108 211602 (2012)] with Janik & Witaszczyk
- 1302.0697** [PRL 110 211602 (2013)] with Janik & Witaszczyk
- 1503.07514** [PRL 115 072501 (2015)] with Spaliński

# Take-home messages:

**Key idea:** novel ab initio methods allow to test our understanding of collective phenomena in QFTs

**Lesson I:** hydrodynamization at strong coupling takes  $t_{hyd} = O(1/T_{hyd})$

**Lesson II:** a priori, hydrodynamization  $\neq$  thermalization / isotropization

**Lesson III:** hydrodynamic gradient expansion diverges; as a result gradients need not to be parametrically small in order for the viscous hydrodynamics to work

All three lessons directly lead to valuable insights for the HIC pheno

Open problems

# Open problems

**Problem I:** how does the breaking of the conformal symmetry affect lessons I-III ?

→ [1503.07114](#) with Buchel & Myers, [1503.07149](#) by Janik et al. & [1604.06439](#) by Attems et al.

**Problem II:** how about higher curvature corrections to  $\mathcal{R}_{ab} - \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{R}g_{ab} - \frac{6}{L^2}g_{ab} = 0$ ?

→ [1605.02173](#) by Grozdanov, Kaplis & Starinets

**Problem III:** are  $\sim$ AdS-instability-like processes relevant for any realistic equilibration ?

→ [1311.7560](#) by Craps et al.

**Problem IV:** understanding large-order hydro gradient expansion for a general flow ?

→ [1507.02461](#) by Grozdanov & Kaplis

**Problem V:** observational signatures of “QNMs” in experiments (HIC / cold atoms) ?

→ [1508.01199](#) by Brewer & Romatschke

**Problem VI:** new insights in weakly-coupled QFTs from holographic lessons ?

→ [1506.06647](#) by Kurkela & Zhu, as well as [1512.05347](#) by Keegan et al.

**Problem VII:** nonlocal correlation functions beyond the AdS-Vaidya paradigm?

→ [1211.0343](#) by Chesler & Teaney

**Problem VIII:** relax symm. assumptions / better projectiles for holographic collisions?

→ [1501.04644](#) by Chesler & Yaffe