# Surprising trace anomaly from freakolography

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## Freakonomics: application of economics to what is traditionally beyond its scope, uncovering hidden side of everything



(Levitt, Dubner)



# Freakolography:

application of holography to what is traditionally beyond its scope, uncovering hidden side of everything (Nakayama)

### Two main questions:

- Scale inv = Conformal inv ?
- Surprising d=4 trace anomaly

### Two main freakolographic methods:

- Space-time flipped Horava gravity
- Spontaneous Lorentz (AdS) symmetry breaking and violation of NEC

# Scale = Conformal?

- It is not true. Counterexamples in higher dimension (e.g. 5d U(1) Maxwell theory)
- But in d=2, the equivalence was shown by Zamolodchikov-Polchinski under unitarity, causality etc.
- Not known in d=3,4. One of major obstructions for the proof of a-theorem

### Conf vs Scale in EM tensor

Scale invariance

$$x^{\mu} \to \lambda x^{\mu}$$

→Trace of energy-momentum (EM) tensor is a divergence of a so-called Virial current

$$T^{\mu}_{\ \mu} = \partial^{\mu} J_{\mu} \qquad D_{\mu} = x_{\nu} T^{\ \nu}_{\mu} - J_{\mu}$$

Conformal invariance

$$x^{\mu} \to \frac{x^{\mu} + a^{\mu}x^2}{1 + 2a^{\mu}x_{\mu} + a^2x^2}$$

• EM tensor can be improved to be traceless  $\sim$ 

$$J_{\mu} = \partial^{\nu} L_{\mu\nu} \quad T^{\mu}_{\ \mu} \to \tilde{T}^{\mu}_{\ \mu} = 0 \qquad K_{\mu} = v_{\nu} \tilde{T}^{\nu}_{\ \mu}$$

## Unexpected trace anomaly

• Dimensional analysis (4d):

$$T^{\mu}_{\ \mu} = a(\text{Euler}) - c(\text{Weyl}^2) + bR^2 + b' \Box R + e\epsilon^{\rho\sigma\alpha\beta} R_{\rho\sigma\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu}_{\ \alpha\beta} + \text{non anomalous terms}$$

- Euler =  $R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} 4R^{\mu\nu}R_{\mu\nu} + R^2$  is important in "a-theorem" ("a" decreases along RG flow)
- Hirzebruch-Pontryagin term is CP violating but can appear in CP-violating CFT (in principle)
- $R^2$  is inconsistent(?) for CFTs but it can appear in scale but non-CFT
- We'll see these unexpected terms from freakolography

## Scenario one could imagine

 To get scale (but non-conf) inv, the beta function may not vanish

$$T^{\mu}_{\ \mu} = \beta^i O_i = \partial^{\mu} J_{\mu}$$

 If the virial current is chiral, then we expect gravitational chiral anomaly

$$T^{\mu}_{\ \mu} - bR^2 - a\text{Euler} + c(\text{Weyl})^2$$

$$=\beta^i O_i = D^{\mu} J_{\mu} - \epsilon^{\rho\sigma\alpha\beta} R_{\rho\sigma\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu}_{\ \alpha\beta}$$

- R<sup>2</sup> and Hirzebruch-Pontryagin term can both appear (in principle)
- Is it easy if you try?
  - If you break unitarity, it is easy.
  - It is inconsistent with strongest a-theorem (if any)

$$\frac{da}{d\log\mu} = -g_{ij}\beta^i\beta^j$$

# Holographic / freakolographic computation

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### Holographay: Start from geometry

d+1 metric with d dim Poincare + scale invariance automatically selects AdS<sub>d+1</sub> space

$$ds^{2} = \frac{dz^{2}}{z^{2}} + f(z)dx_{\mu}dx^{\mu}$$
$$z \to \lambda z , \quad t \to \lambda t , \quad x \to \lambda x$$
$$ds^{2} = \frac{dz^{2} + dx_{\mu}^{2}}{z^{2}}$$

 $\delta x_{\mu} = 2(\epsilon^{\nu} x_{\mu}) x_{\nu} - (z^2 + x^{\nu} x_{\nu}) \epsilon_{\mu} , \delta z = 2(\epsilon^{\nu} x_{\nu}) z$ 

#### Freakolography: space-time flipped Horava theory

Enhancement of "Isometry" requires d+1 diffeormorphism, so Horava theory which only preserves foliation preserving diffeomorphism does not work.

$$ds^2 = \frac{dz^2 + dx_\mu^2}{z^2}$$

$$\delta x_{\mu} = 2(\epsilon^{\nu} x_{\mu}) x_{\nu} - (z^2 + x^{\nu} x_{\nu}) \epsilon_{\mu} , \delta z = 2(\epsilon^{\nu} x_{\nu}) z$$

is not foliation preserving diff

$$\delta N = \partial_r (Nf)$$
  

$$\delta N^{\mu} = \partial_r (N^{\mu} f) + \partial_r \xi^{\mu} + \mathcal{L}_{\xi} N^{\mu}$$
  

$$\delta g_{\mu\nu} = f \delta_r g_{\mu\nu} + \mathcal{L}_{\xi} g_{\mu\nu} .$$

### Alternatively Lorentz breaking

Non-trivial vector matter configuration may break AdS isometry spontaneously: Identify its dual as Virial current. (Horava gravity and Lorentz breaking are closely related)

> Example: non-trivial vector field  $A = A_M dx^M = \frac{adz}{z}$

Not invariant under special conformal

$$\begin{split} \delta x_{\mu} &= 2(\epsilon^{\nu} x_{\mu}) x_{\nu} - (z^2 + x^{\nu} x_{\nu}) \epsilon_{\mu} \ , \delta z = 2(\epsilon^{\nu} x_{\nu}) z \\ \text{Dual to Virial current} \quad T^{\mu}_{\ \mu} = \partial^{\mu} J_{\mu} \end{split}$$

#### Interpretation: Holographic c-theorem

Holographic c-theorem gives:  $ds^2 = e^{2A(r)}dx^{\mu}dx_{\mu} + dr^2$  $\frac{da}{dr} \sim \frac{A''}{(A')^d} \sim (T_t^t - T_r^r) = k^M k^N T_{MN}$ Null energy condition (NEC) leads to strong c-theorem

$$k^M k^N T_{MN} \ge 0$$
,  $k^2 = 0$ 

Strict null energy condition leads to strongest c-theorem (= positivity of metric)

$$T^{t}_{t} - T^{r}_{r} \sim G^{IJ} \partial_{r} \Phi_{I} \partial_{r} \Phi_{J} \sim G^{IJ} \beta_{I} \beta_{J} \ge 0$$

Modification of the possibility  $\beta^I O_I = \partial^{\mu} J_{\mu} \rightarrow \text{sigma model is}$ gauged.  $G^{IJ}(\partial_r - A_r) \Phi_I(\partial_r - A_r) \Phi_J$ 

 $\Leftrightarrow$ 

 $\Phi^{I} \sim z^{ia}$  corresponds to "cyclic" RG-flow

In unitary gauge, we conclude scale but non-conf bulk vector condensation  $A = A_M dx^M = \frac{adz}{dx}$ 

Null energy condition:  $R_{MN}k^Mk^N \ge 0$ ,  $k^Mk_M = 0$ 

(Ex) 
$$L = -\frac{1}{4}F_{MN}F^{MN} + m^2A_MA^M + \lambda(A_MA^M)^2$$
  
 $R_{zz} + R_{tt} = (m^2 + 2\lambda a^2)a^2 = 0$ 

- More generically, we need strict NEC to completely exclude the possibility
- Equivalent for strongest holographic c-theorem
- It is true in supergravity compactification

### Freakolography and trace anomaly

• Consider space-time flipped Horava gravity whose dual is scale but non-conformal

$$ds^{2} = N^{2} dr^{2} + G_{\mu\nu} (dx^{\mu} + N^{\mu} dr) (dx^{\nu} + N^{\nu} dr)$$
$$S = \int N dr \sqrt{-G} d^{d} x (K^{\mu\nu} K_{\mu\nu} - \lambda K^{2} + R + \Lambda) .$$
$$K_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2N} (\partial_{r} G_{\mu\nu} - D_{\mu} N_{\nu} - D_{\nu} N_{\mu})$$

Introduce the Graham-Fefferman ansatz

$$ds^{2} = l^{2} \left( \frac{d\rho^{2}}{4\rho^{2}} + \frac{g_{\mu\nu}(\rho, x)dx^{\mu}dx^{\nu}}{\rho} \right)$$
$$g = g^{(0)} + \rho g^{(2)} + \dots + \rho^{d/2}g^{(d)} + \rho^{d/2}\log\rho h^{(d)} + \mathcal{O}(\rho^{d/2+1})$$

Solve EOM and study the log counterterm

$$S = \frac{l^3}{4} \log \epsilon \int d^4 x \sqrt{-g_0} \left( R^{(0)}_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu(0)} - \frac{\lambda}{4\lambda - 1} R^{(0)2} \right)$$

### Space-time flipped Horava gravity

Holographic (freakolographic) trace anomaly is

$$T^{\mu}_{\ \mu} \rangle = -2c \left( R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\lambda}{4\lambda - 1} R^2 \right)$$
$$= c \left( (\text{Euler} - \text{Weyl}^2) - \frac{2}{3} \frac{\lambda - 1}{4\lambda - 1} R^2 \right)$$

- We found  $R^2$  term! Cannot be conformal!
- One may further add  $\int N dr \sqrt{-G} d^4 x K \epsilon^{\rho\sigma\alpha\beta} R_{\rho\sigma\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu}_{\ \alpha\beta}$  to generate CP violating trace anomaly

$$T^{\mu}_{\ \mu} = e\epsilon^{\rho\sigma\alpha\beta}R_{\rho\sigma\mu\nu}R^{\mu\nu}_{\ \alpha\beta}$$

• Or, CS-gravity coupling with vector condensation directly gives CP-odd as expected from anomaly in virial current

$$\int d^5x \sqrt{g} \epsilon_{MNLPQ} A^M R^{NL}_{\ AB} R^{PQAB} = a \log \epsilon \int d^4x \sqrt{g} \epsilon^{\rho\sigma\alpha\beta} R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} R^{\mu\nu}_{\ \alpha\beta}$$

### Can/should (strict) NEC kill freakolography?

- In d=2, boundary (d=3 bulk), we can show strongest c-theorem, and scale = inv, so effectively, strict NEC must be true
- (strict) NEC is related to unitarity?
- NEC gives area non-decreasing theorem for black hole holography
- No information in zero-energy states (= strict NEC)
- Counterexample in higher dimension? d =  $4 \epsilon$  result by Grinstein et al?

### What we leaned from holography

- Full space-time diff is tightly related to the emergence of conformal invariance
- It is possible to construct scale but non-conf geometry at the sacrifice of full space-time diff (spontaneous Lorentz symmetry breaking, Horava-like gravity...)
- Are they good? (violation of NEC, unitarity?...)
- No holography? Or Freakoholography?

After the success, Levitt and Dubner wrote the second book ``super freakonomics".

Naturally, we expect we'll hear about ``super freakolography" next time.



Stay tuned!!

