

# Blackfolds

## Fluid dynamics for hi-d black holes

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# Motivation: GR as a tool

- GR is a theoretical *tool* – *much like QFT* – that can be applied in many areas of physics outside the traditional fields of astro/cosmo/...
  - Main recent developments from AdS/CFT: AdS/QCD, AdS/QGP, AdS/cond-mat, Fluid/Gravity...
  - And also String theory, TeV-gravity (bhs@colliders), etc
- ➔ Develop and understand better this tool

# Motivation: GR as a tool

- Most basic set up: vacuum GR

$$R_{\mu\nu}=0$$

- $\exists$  only one parameter for tuning:  $D$
- Most basic objects: Black Holes

# Motivation: GR as a tool

- **Emphasis**: instead of quick results with high-yield gain (applications), focus on **developing fundamentals**  
*(learn from financial crisis...)*
- When first found, black hole solutions have **always** been "**answers waiting for a question**"

# Black Holes

- Main lesson from the "Golden Age" (1960's-70s):  
Black Holes are extremely simple objects, with very simple dynamics
- Main lesson from recent years:  
This simplicity occurs only in 4D.  
Hi-D black holes possess *qualitatively new* dynamics absent in 4D.

# The trouble with Hi-D Black Hole Physics

- For several years we've been trying to reproduce the successful 4D programme:
  1. Find all black hole solutions (eg, of  $R_{\mu\nu}=0$ ) in closed analytic ("exact") form
  2. Classify them
- This seems now (to me)
  1. impossible (partial success in 5D, *hopeless* in  $D>5$ )
  2. maybe doable in low D (5, 6?...), but maybe not possible/useful/the right thing in higher D

# A new framework

1. Identify **why there is novel dynamics**, different than 4D
2. Find **new organizing framework**
3. Develop **new approaches** to deal with it – new tools

# A new framework

1. Identify **why there is novel dynamics**, different than 4D
    - Different length scales along the horizon
  2. Find **new organizing framework**
    - Organize black holes according to scale hierarchy
  3. Develop **new approaches** to deal with it – new tools
    - Effective theory at long wavelengths
- Effective fluid in a dynamical worldvolume***

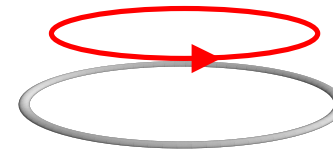
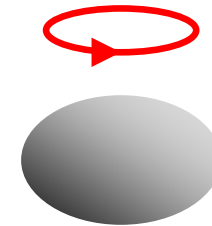
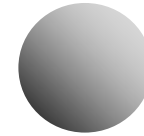


# Black holes in 4D

- Kerr black holes  $J \leq GM^2$
- Uniqueness theorem: *End of the story*

# Black holes in $D > 4$ : known exact solutions

- **Schwarzschild-Tangherlini** in any  $D$ 
  - much like Schwarzschild 4D
  - Unique static black hole, dynamically linearly stable
- **Myers-Perry** in any  $D$ 
  - spherical topology
  - rotation in all possible planes
- **Black ring** in 5D
  - topology  $S^1 \times S^2$
  - “circular black string”



# 4D vs hi-D Black Holes: Size matters

- Main novel feature of  $D > 4$  BHs: in some regimes they're characterized by **two widely separate scales**:

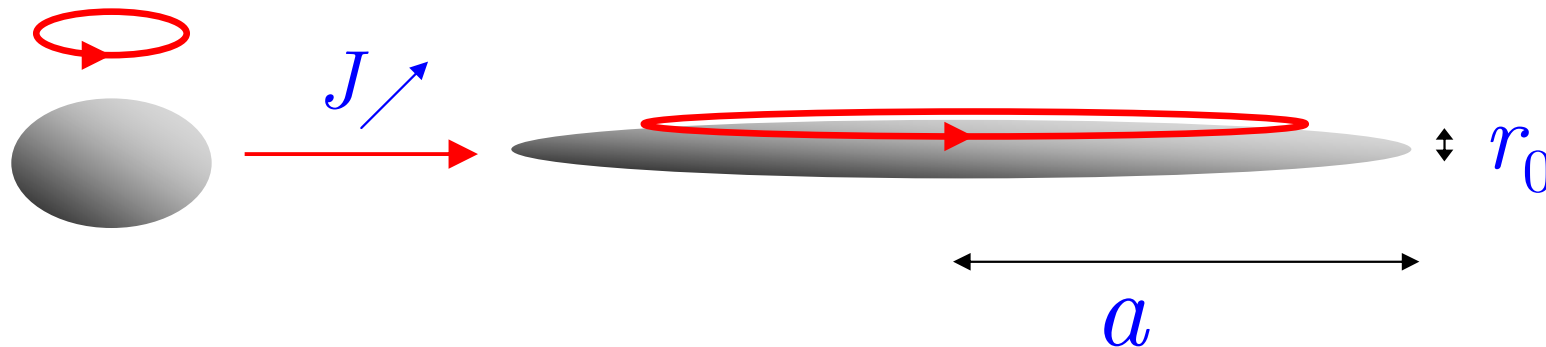
$$\ell_M \sim (GM)^{1/(D-3)}, \quad \ell_J \sim J/M$$

- **4D BHs**: single scale:  $r_0 \sim GM$ 
  - no small parameter
- **$D > 4$  BHs**: No upper bound on  $J$  for given  $M$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Length scales  $\ell_M, \ell_J$  can differ arbitrarily

# Myers-Perry bhs in $D \geq 6$ :

## Two scales and black brane limit

- Ultra-spinning regime  $a \sim J/M \gg (GM)^{1/(D-3)}$



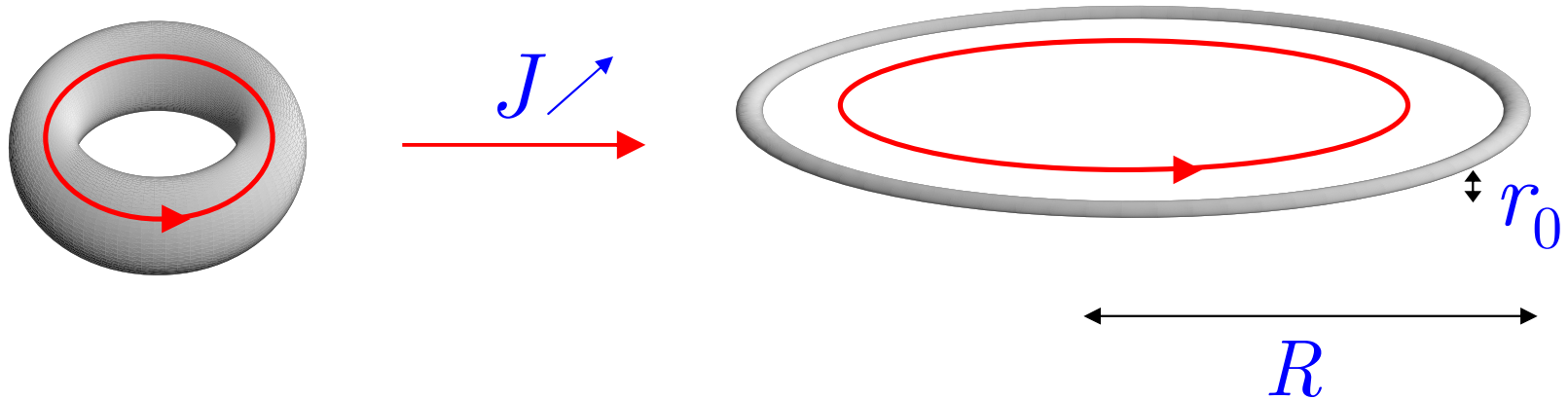
- Limit  $a \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $r_0$  finite:

$\Rightarrow$  black 2-brane along rotation plane

# Black Ring in D=5

## Two scales and black brane limit

- Ultra-spinning regime  $R \sim J/M \gg (GM)^{1/(D-3)}$

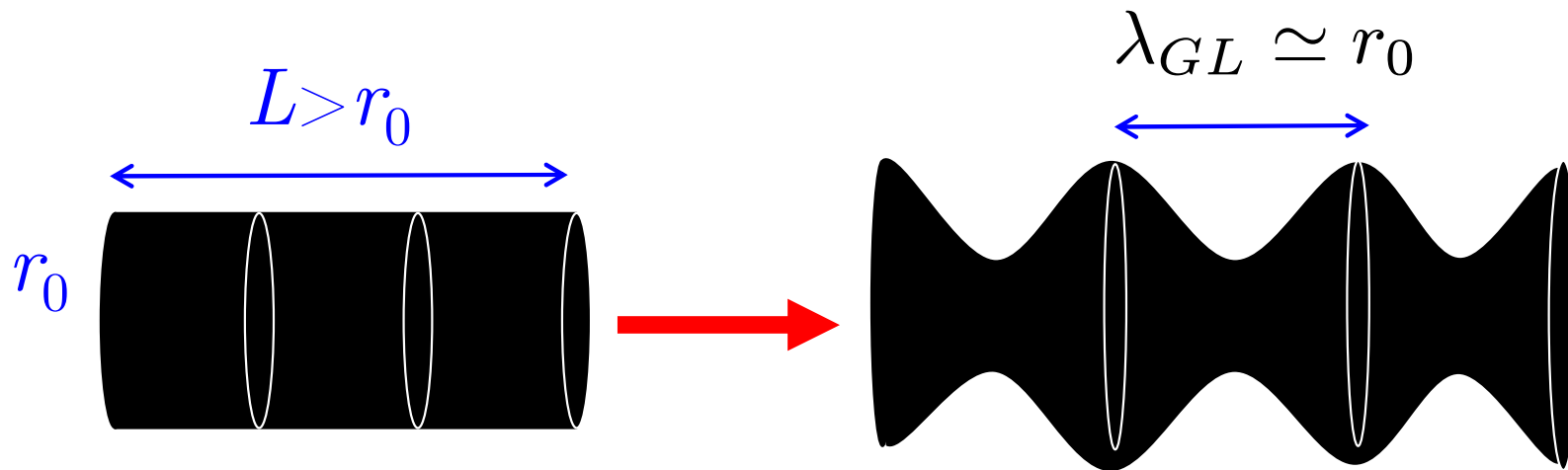


- Limit  $R \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $r_0$  finite:

$\Rightarrow$  black string along rotation direction

## Note also:

- Gregory-Laflamme instability of black brane when the **two scales  $r_0$ ,  $L$  begin to differ**

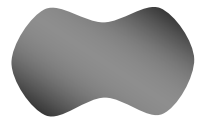
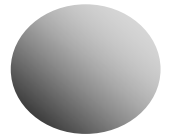


# Organization in scales

- $l_J \lesssim l_M$

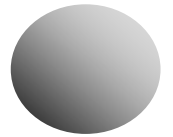
- $l_J \sim l_M$

- $l_J \gg l_M$



# Organization in scales

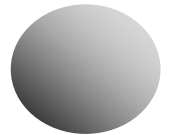
- $l_J \lesssim l_M$ : single scale, **Kerr-like** – not much new expected: uniqueness, stability
- $l_J \sim l_M$
- $l_J \gg l_M$



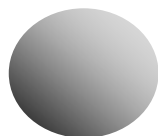
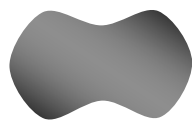



# Organization in scales

- $l_J \lesssim l_M$ : single scale, **Kerr-like** – not much new expected: uniqueness, stability
- $l_J \sim l_M$ : **threshold** of separating scales: GL-like instabilities, inhomogeneous ("pinched") phases, mergers – most difficult to study analytically, but better for **numerics**
- $l_J \gg l_M$



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- $l_J \sim l_M$ : **threshold** of separating scales: GL-like instabilities, inhomogeneous ("pinched") phases, mergers – most difficult to study analytically, but better for **numerics** 
- $l_J \gg l_M$ : separated scales. Natural approach: integrate out short-distance physics, find **long-distance effective theory** 

# Effective theory at large length scales

- Separate long- and short-wavelength d.o.f.'s
- Replace short-distance d.o.f.'s with effective theory

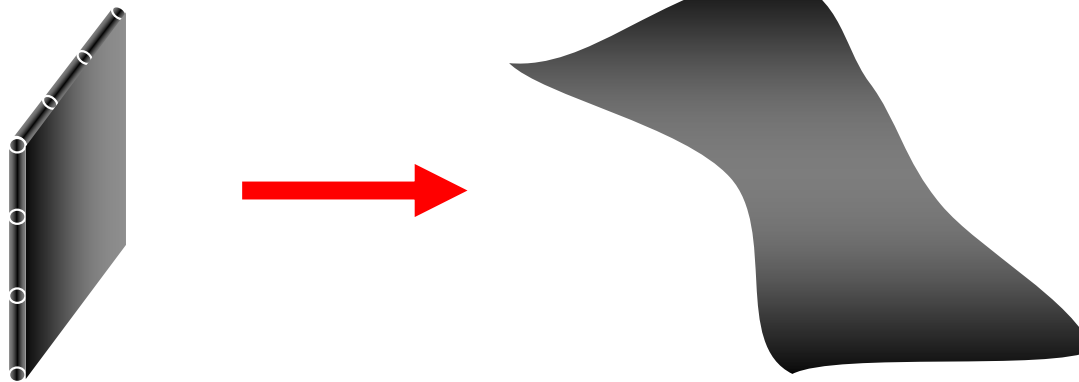
$$I_{\text{EH}} = \int \sqrt{-g} R \approx \int_{\lambda \gg r_0} \sqrt{-g_{(\text{long})}} R_{(\text{long})} + I_{\text{eff}}[g_{(\text{long})}, \phi(\sigma)]$$

- What kind of effective theory?
  - Hint: limit  $\ell_M/\ell_J \rightarrow 0$  yields a black brane

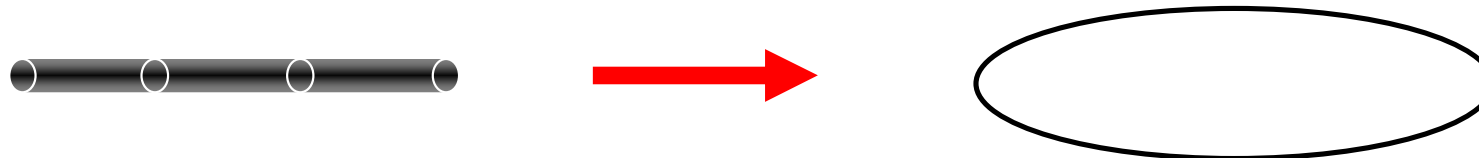
$\Rightarrow I_{\text{eff}}$  is a **worldvolume theory** for the "collective coordinates"  $\phi(\sigma)$  of a black brane

# Black holes from *blackfolds*

- **Blackfold**: **Black** p-brane w/ worldvolume = curved submanifold of spacetime



- If blackfold worldvolume is **spatially compact**, then it describes a **black hole**
  - Eg, black ring as circular black string:



# Analogous effective theories

- Cosmic strings from Nielsen-Olesen vortices

Abelian Higgs model



N-O vortex

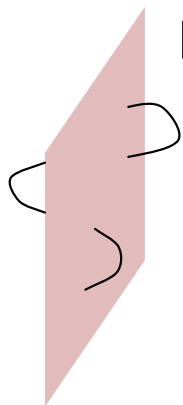


Nambu-Goto string



Collective coords:  $X^\mu(\sigma^\alpha)$

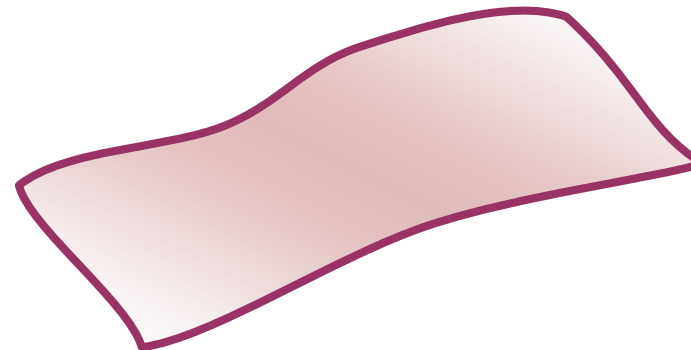
- D-branes in string theory



Dirichlet-brane

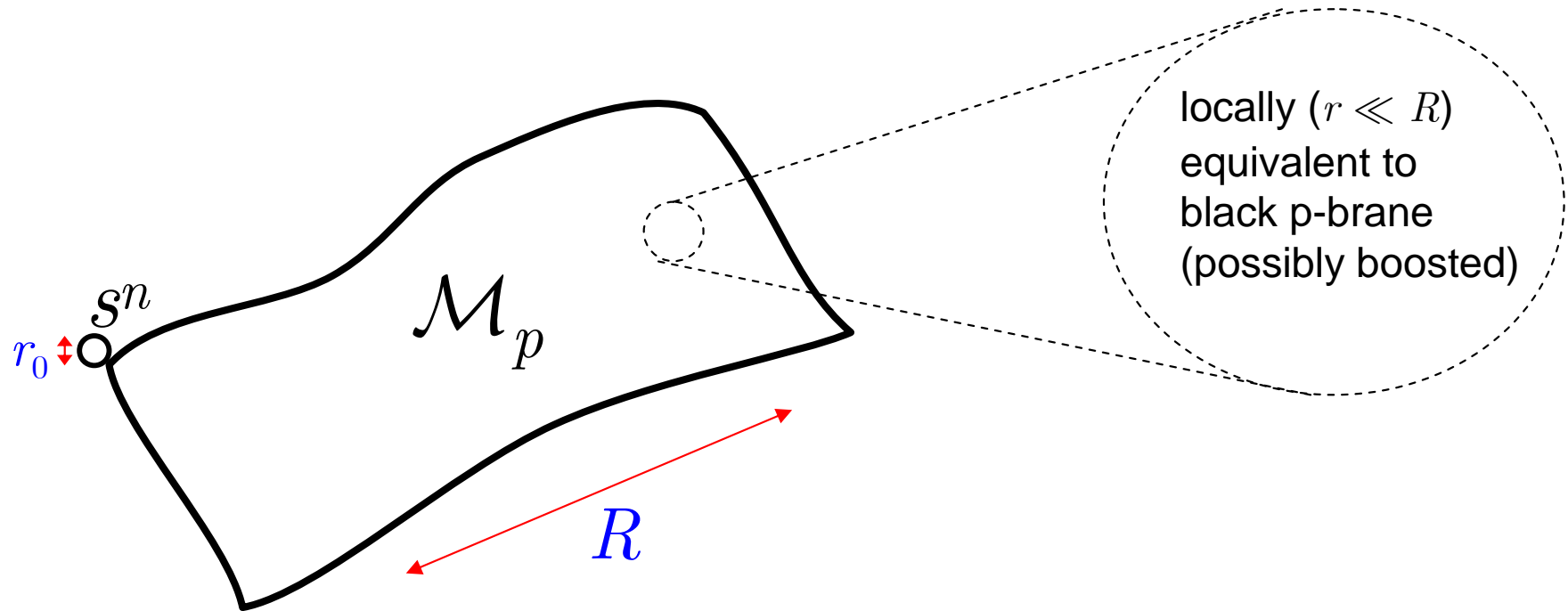


Dirac-Born-Infeld brane



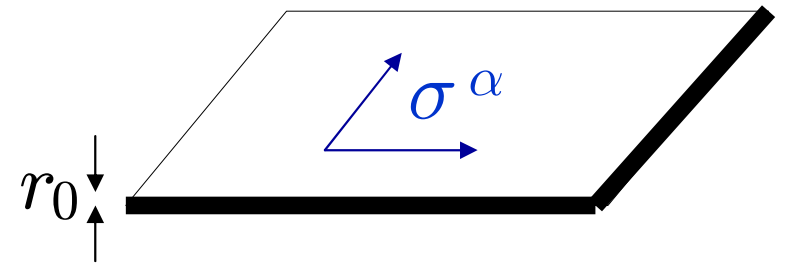
Collective coords:  $X^\mu(\sigma^\alpha), A^\mu(\sigma^\alpha)$

# Blackfolds: long-distance effective dynamics of hi-d black holes



- Black p-brane (w/ velocity  $u^\alpha$ ,  $u^\alpha u_\alpha = -1$ )

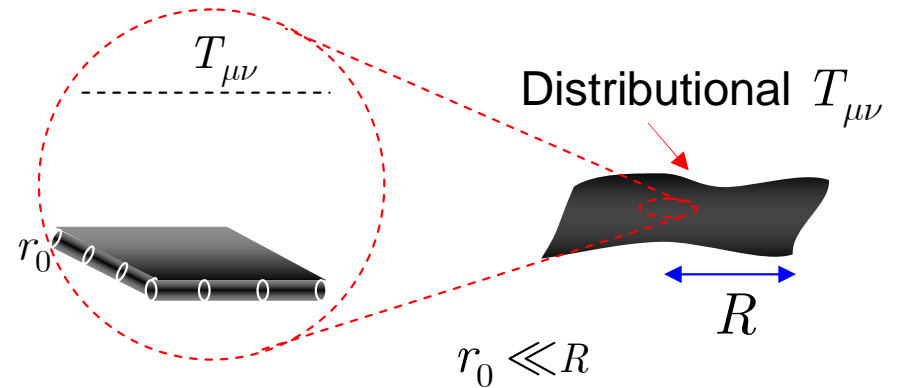
$$ds^2 = \left( \eta_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{r_0^n}{r^n} u_\alpha u_\beta \right) d\sigma^\alpha d\sigma^\beta + \frac{dr^2}{1 - \frac{r_0^n}{r^n}} + r^2 d\Omega_{n+1}^2$$



- Collective coordinates:
  - ‘thickness’  $r_0(\sigma)$ ,
  - velocity  $u^\alpha(\sigma)$ ,
  - transverse coords  $X^\mu(\sigma)$
- Long-wavelength variations:  $r_0 \nabla_\alpha \ll 1$

- Effective stress tensor (at long distance)

$$T_{\alpha\beta} = r_0^n (n u_\alpha u_\beta - \eta_{\alpha\beta})$$



This is an effective perfect fluid:

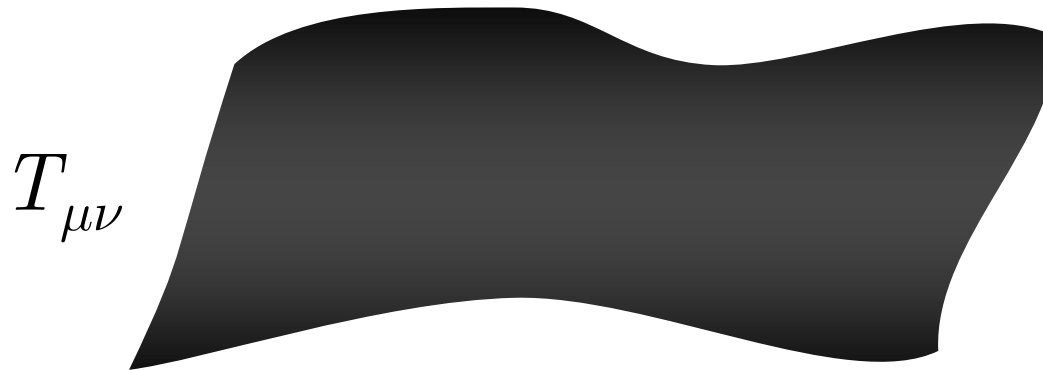
$$\varepsilon = (n+1)r_0^n, \quad P = -r_0^n$$

- Now, find equations for the collective field variables



# General Classical Brane Dynamics

- Equations for any **worldvolume source** of energy-momentum, in **probe (test brane) approx**,



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

# General Classical Brane Dynamics

- To lowest gradient-order  $T_{\alpha\beta} =$  (perfect fluid)

- Along **worldvolume** directions:

$$\nabla_{\alpha} T^{\alpha\beta} = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  **Worldvolume Fluid** equations (Euler)

- Along **transverse** directions:

*Carter*

$$\nabla_{\mu} T^{\mu\rho} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad T^{\mu\nu} K_{\mu\nu}{}^{\rho} = 0$$

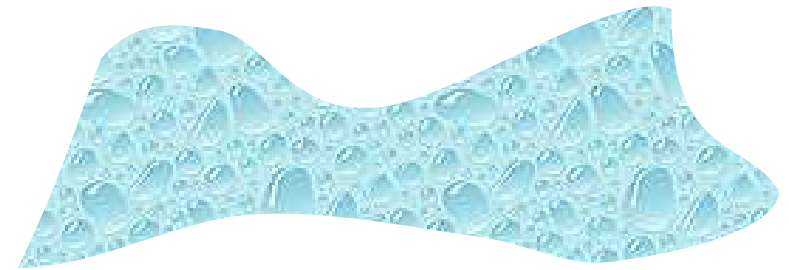
extrinsic curvature

$\Rightarrow$  **Generalized geodesic equations** (“mass x acceleration = 0”)

# General Classical Brane Dynamics

- Classical brane dynamics is the **dynamics of a fluid on a dynamical worldvolume**

Fluid-dyn is effective description  
of worldvolume thry at long wavelengths



- For the ‘black brane fluid’  $\varepsilon = (n+1)r_0^n$ ,  $P = -r_0^n$

$$\dot{u}^\mu + \frac{1}{n+1} u^\mu \bar{\nabla}_\nu u^\nu = \frac{1}{n} K^\mu + \bar{\nabla}^\mu \ln r_0$$

**Blackfold equations**

# Black hole dynamics as fluid dynamics

- Not too surprising: Fluid dynamics is the *most general effective theory* for long-wavelength fluctuations off thermo equil
- The Fluid/Gravity correspondence *(Bhattacharya+Hubeny+Minwalla+Rangamani)* for black holes in AdS: particular case of blackfold dynamics
  - Fluid is near-extremal D3-brane
  - Worldvolume is not dynamical
- Broader viewpoint: connect to “membrane paradigm”, *deeper understanding of “black holes as fluids”*

# Gregory-Laflamme as sound-mode instability

- Consider pressure (sound) waves of the worldvolume “black brane fluid”:

$$P = -r_0^n, \quad \delta P \longrightarrow \delta r_0$$



- Sound velocity  $c_s^2 = dP/d\varepsilon < 0$  : **unstable**

long-wavelength tail of GL-instability

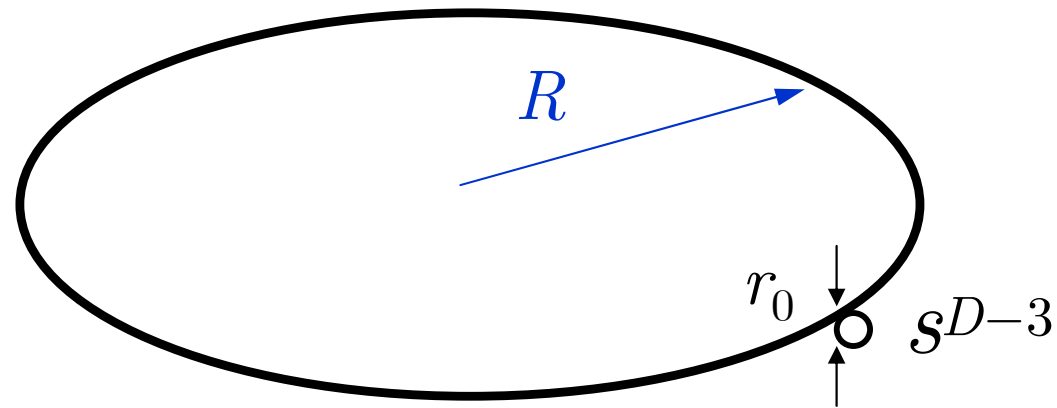
- GL = sound-mode instability in the effective fluid

# The Blackfold Gallery



- Simplest example: black rings in  $D \geq 5$

$$D = n + 4$$

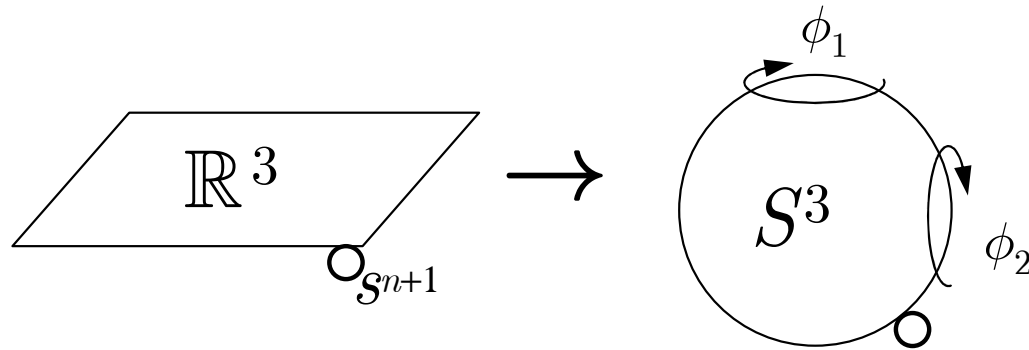


→ black holes with horizon  $S^1 \times S^{D-3}$

"small" transverse sphere  $\sim r_0$

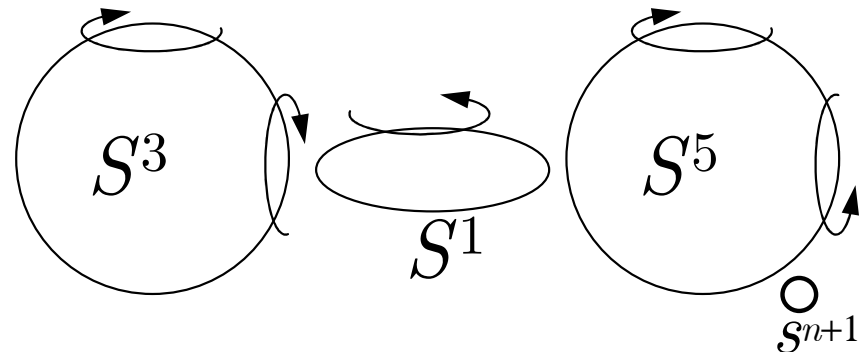
- Products of spheres

- $\mathbb{R}^3 \times S^{n+1} \rightarrow S^3 \times S^{n+1}$



- Can do it for any product of odd-spheres

$$\prod_{p_a \in \text{odd}} S^{p_a} \times S^{n+1}$$





- Solving a conjecture on horizon symmetries

- Rigidity of horizons: How many spatial  $U(1)$  isometries must a bh horizon have?

- *Hollands+Ishibashi+Wald* : at least one

$$\partial_t + \Omega \partial_\phi$$

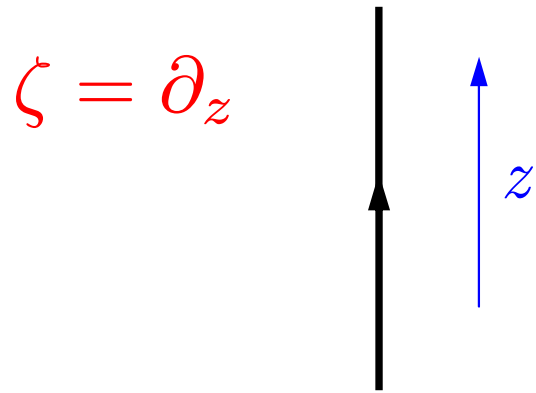
- But *possibly more*: MP bhs and black rings have all the Cartan subgroup of  $O(D-1) \Rightarrow U(1)^{\lfloor (D-1)/2 \rfloor}$

– e.g. 5D bhs have spatial isometry  $U(1)_{\phi_1} \times U(1)_{\phi_2}$

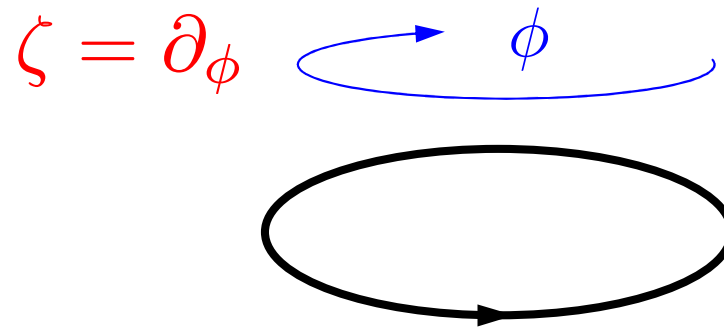
- *Reall* conj. (2002):  $\exists$  hi-d bhs w/ only  $U(1)_\phi$

# The solution: Helical blackfolds

- Place a boosted black string along an isometry  $\zeta$  of background



black string



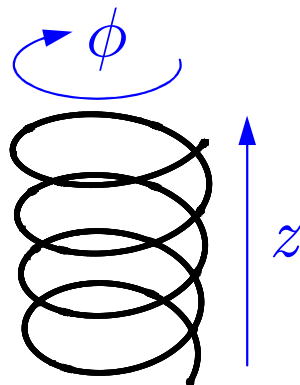
black ring

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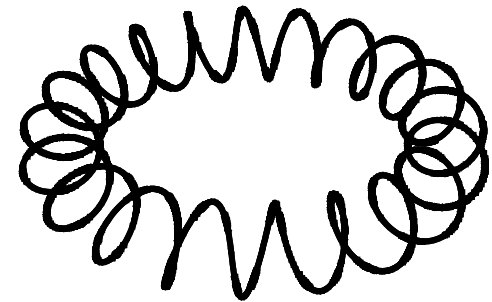
$$\zeta = k\partial_z + \partial_\phi$$

Helical  
black string



$$\zeta = n\partial_{\phi_1} + m\partial_{\phi_2}$$

Helical  
black ring  
(slinky)

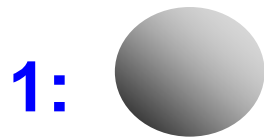


(n.b: profile is static!)

- The orthogonal isometry is broken:  
Horizon has *only one* spatial U(1)

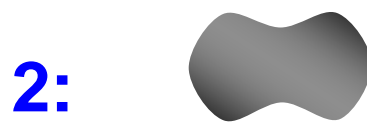
# Conclusions

- We don't know the landscape of hi-d bhs in detail yet, but now **we have a map**
- Black hole dynamics splits into three regimes according to size hierarchies



**Solved?**

**4D-like**



**Numerics** (making progress)



**Blackfolds:** we have the theory

**No 4D counterpart**

# Conclusions

- Hi-D black hole dynamics (at large spin) is
  - brane-like: **elastic** dynamics
  - fluid-like: **hydro**dynamics
- New dynamics → **change focus**
  - **less** emphasis on **exact** solutions
  - get used to **approximate effective** descriptions
- **Classification?**
  - Close to completing it in 5D
  - But it becomes increasingly harder at higher D

