

Strings 2009 @ Rome

Holographic Neutron Stars

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Work with

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Why study Neutron Stars?

- Black hole precursors.
- Most extreme form of matter.
- Holographic description of gravitational collapse:

What is Space Time made of ?

(David Gross: 1st new question)

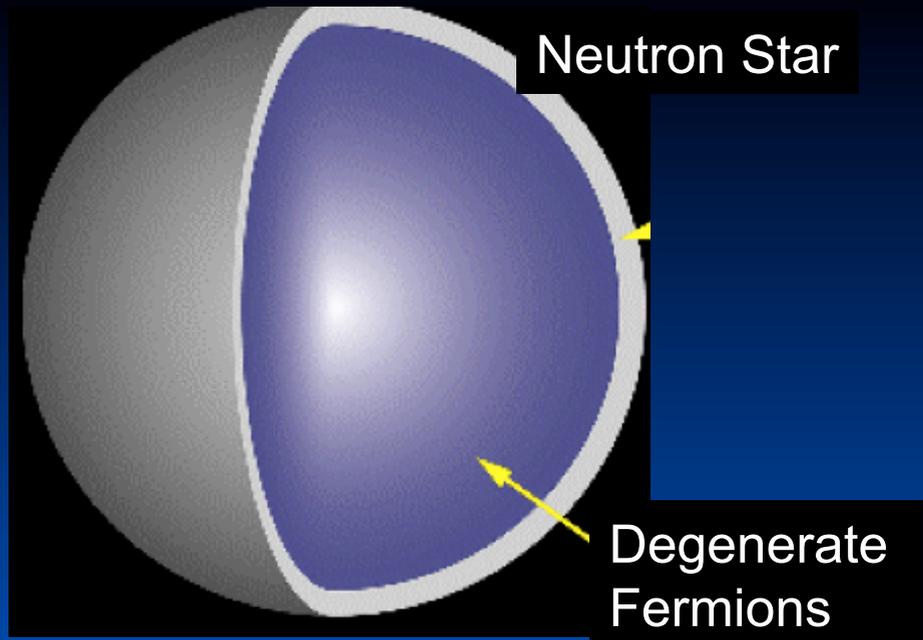
-and it is fun!

Neutron Stars

in a Nutshell

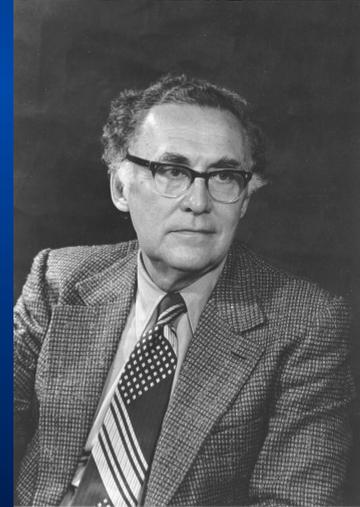
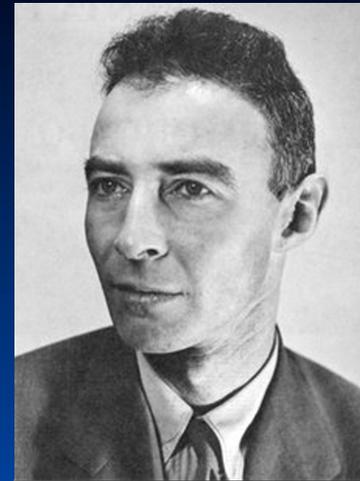
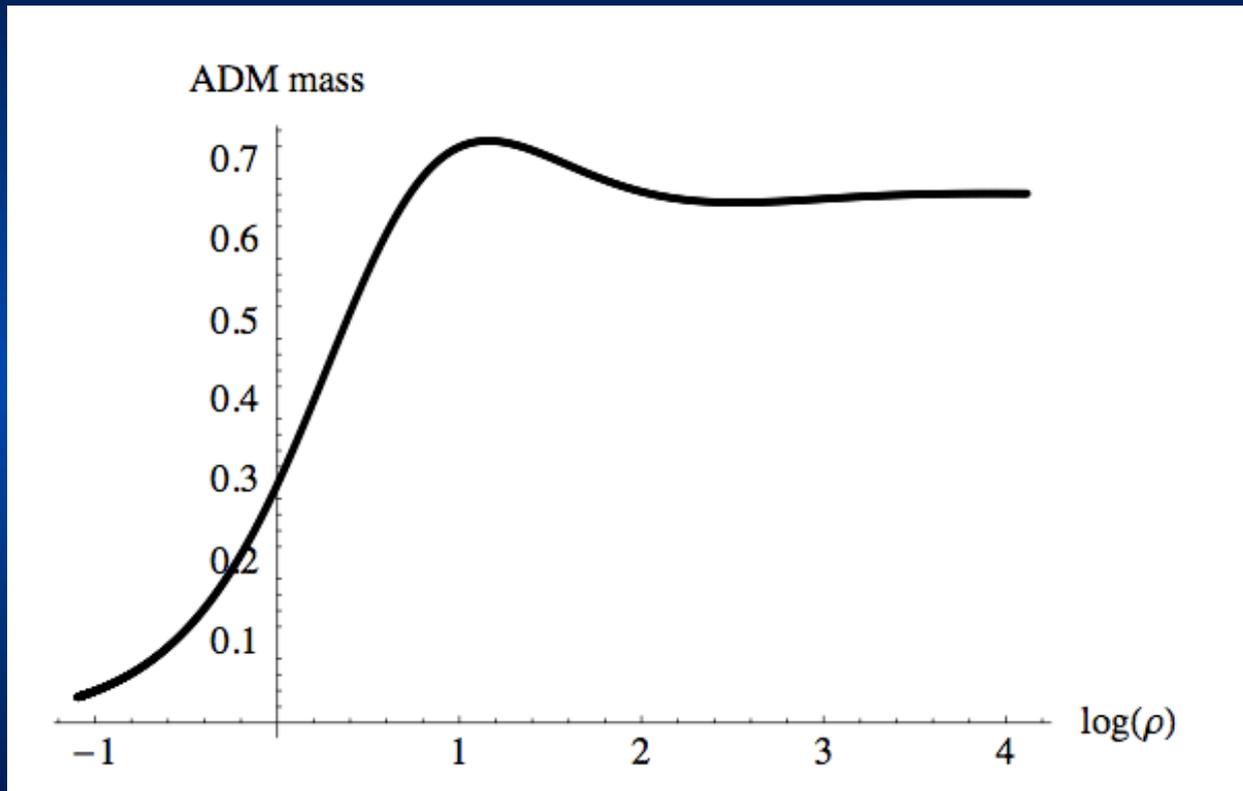
Typical mass

$$M = \frac{m_{pl}^3}{m_n^2}$$



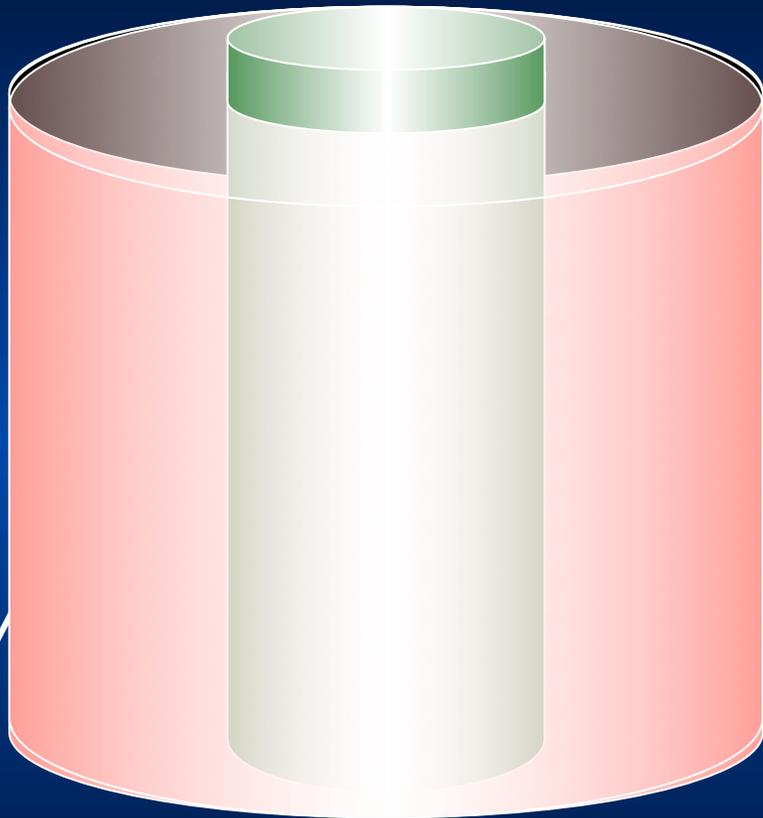
“astrophysical
see saw formula”

Oppenheimer-Volkoff Limit



AdS/CFT :

$$ds^2 = - \left(1 + \frac{r^2}{\ell^2} \right) dt^2 + \left(1 + \frac{r^2}{\ell^2} \right)^{-1} dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega_{d-1}^2$$



**operator-state
correspondence**

$$\Phi(0) |vac\rangle = |\Phi\rangle$$

$\Phi(0)$

Fermionic single trace operators

like

“

$$\Psi = \text{tr} \left(\prod_{i=1}^r \lambda \phi^{k_i} \right)$$

”

$r = \text{odd}$

\Rightarrow Strong coupling

obey fermi statistics

$$\Psi(x)\Psi(y) = -\Psi(y)\Psi(x)$$

behave as free fields for $N \rightarrow \infty$

$$\langle \Psi(x)\Psi(y)\Phi(z) \rangle = \mathcal{O} \left(N^{-1} \right)$$

and correspond to a fermionic particles in the bulk

$$\left\langle \prod_{i=1}^{\mathcal{N}} \Psi(x_i) \prod_{i=j}^{\mathcal{N}} \bar{\Psi}(y_j) \right\rangle$$

What is the operator with the lowest dimension Δ found in the factorization $|x_j| \rightarrow 0$ and $|y_j| \rightarrow \infty$?

Note that for $N \rightarrow \infty$ Wick's theorem gives:

$$\det_{ij} \langle \Psi(x_i) \bar{\Psi}(y_j) \rangle$$

Composite Operators

N -particle states correspond to composites defined by

$$\Psi(x)\Phi_{\mathcal{N}}(0) \sim x^{\delta} \Phi_{\mathcal{N}+1}(0) + \dots$$

In each step the total mass

$$M = \frac{\Delta_{\mathcal{N}}}{\ell}$$

increases by the amount

$$\epsilon_F = \frac{\delta + \Delta_1}{\ell} \geq m = \frac{\Delta_1}{\ell}$$

\Rightarrow fermi energy: increasing function of particle #

Composite Operators at infinite N

out of two fields

$$\Psi \partial_i \Psi(x) = \lim_{y \rightarrow x} \frac{x_i - y_i}{(x - y)^2} \Psi(x) \Psi(y)$$

out of $d+1$ fields

$$\Psi \prod_i \partial_i \Psi$$

or $(d+1)(d+2)/2$ fields

$$\Psi \prod_i \partial_i \Psi \prod_{\{i,j\}} \partial_i \partial_j \Psi$$

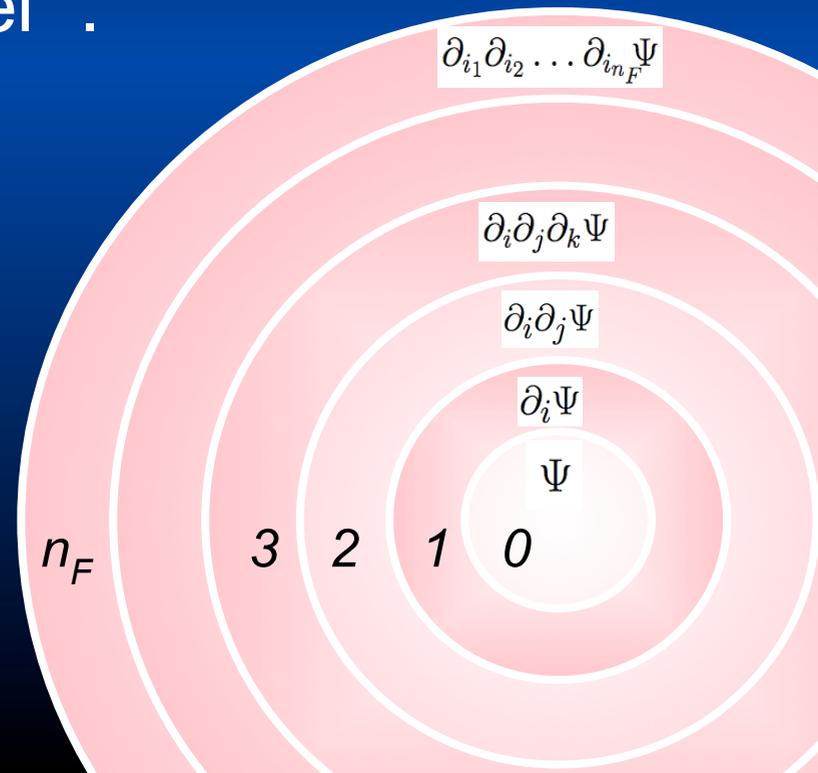
Degenerate Composite Operators

$$\Psi \prod_i \partial_i \Psi \prod_{\{i,j\}} \partial_i \partial_j \Psi \prod_{\{i,j,k\}} \partial_i \partial_j \partial_k \Psi \dots \prod_{\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{n_F}\}} \partial_{i_1} \partial_{i_2} \dots \partial_{i_{n_F}} \Psi$$

$n_F = \#$ of “shells”= “Fermi level” .

Total # of particles:

$$\mathcal{N} \sim \frac{n_F^d}{d!}$$



AdS description at infinite N

$$\partial_{i_1} \partial_{i_2} \dots \partial_{i_n} \Psi$$

= one particle state with wave function

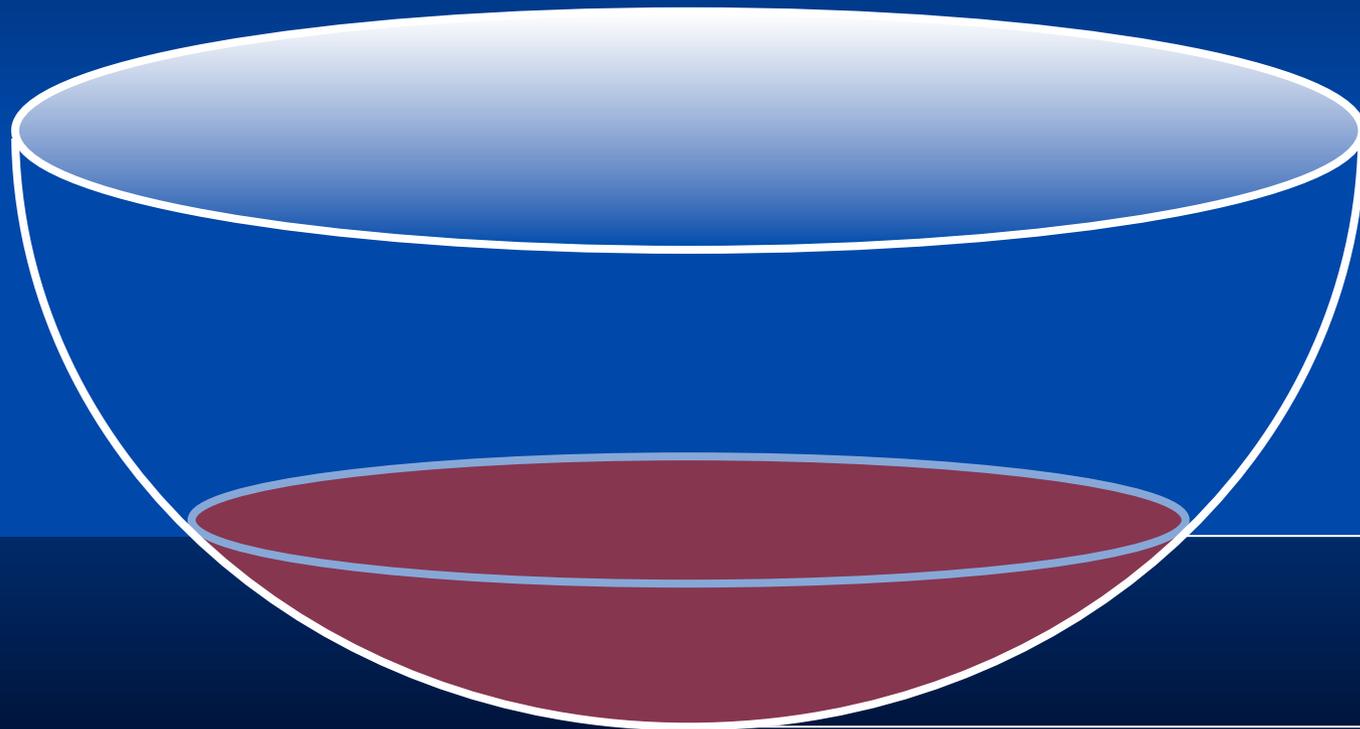
$$\psi_{n,l,\mathbf{m}}(r, \Omega) = f_{n,l}(r) Y_{n-2l,\mathbf{m}}(\Omega)$$

and energy

$$\epsilon = (n + \Delta_1) / \ell$$

Multi-trace operator = Slater determinant

Trapped Cold Fermi Gas in AdS



Hydrodynamic (or “astrophysical”) limit

Together with $N \rightarrow \infty$

$$\Delta = \frac{4}{5}n_F\mathcal{N} + \Delta_1\mathcal{N}$$

we take

$$n_F \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta_1 \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\mathcal{N} = \frac{1}{24}n_F^4$$

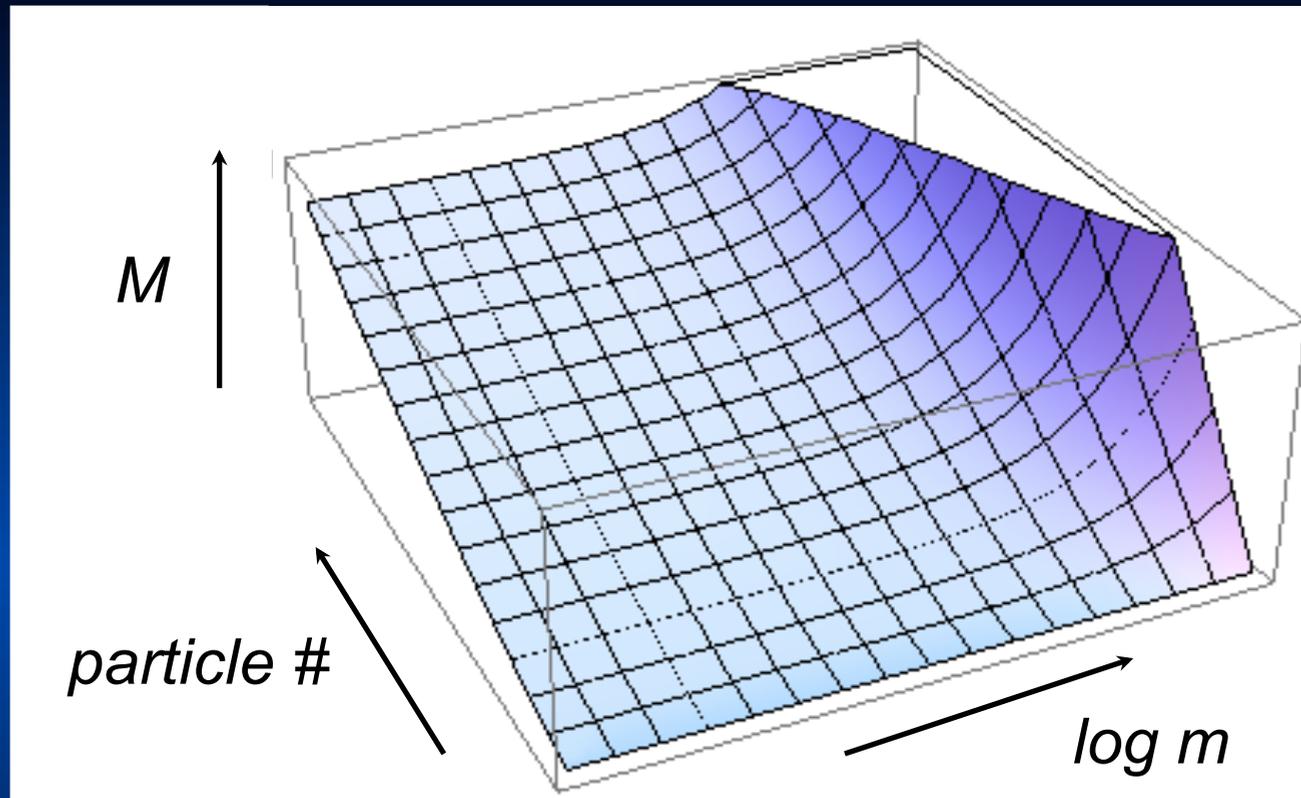
keeping

$$\frac{\Delta}{N^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{n_F}{\Delta_1} \quad \text{fixed}$$

Partial ‘t Hooft suppression: n-point functions vanish, except those that are sufficiently enhanced by combinatorial factors.

Most bulk interactions are still suppressed, except gravity.

Note: # of particles is infinite => classical fluid.



$$M = \frac{1}{5}(4\epsilon_F + m)\mathcal{N}$$

$$\mathcal{N} = \frac{\ell^4}{24}(\epsilon_F - m)^4$$

Hydrodynamic description

$$T_{\mu\nu} = (\rho + p)u_\mu u_\nu + pg_{\mu\nu}$$

Free degenerate Fermi gas:

$$\mu_F = \sqrt{k_F^2 + m^2}$$

Particle & energy densities

$$\mathbf{n} = \frac{V_{d-1} k_F^d}{d(2\pi)^d}$$

Determined by chemical potential

$$\rho = \int_m^{\mu_F} \mu \frac{d\mathbf{n}}{d\mu} d\mu$$

For a metric of the form

$$ds^2 = -A(r)^2 dt^2 + B(r)^2 dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega_{d-1}^2$$

conservation of energy momentum implies

$$\frac{d\mu_F}{dr} + \frac{1}{A} \frac{dA}{dr} \mu_F = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu_F(r) = \frac{\epsilon_F}{A(r)}$$

Tolman

The edge of the star $r = R$ is reached when

$$A(R) = \frac{\epsilon_F}{m}$$



Fermi energy
of boundary
CFT

Mass and Particle Number

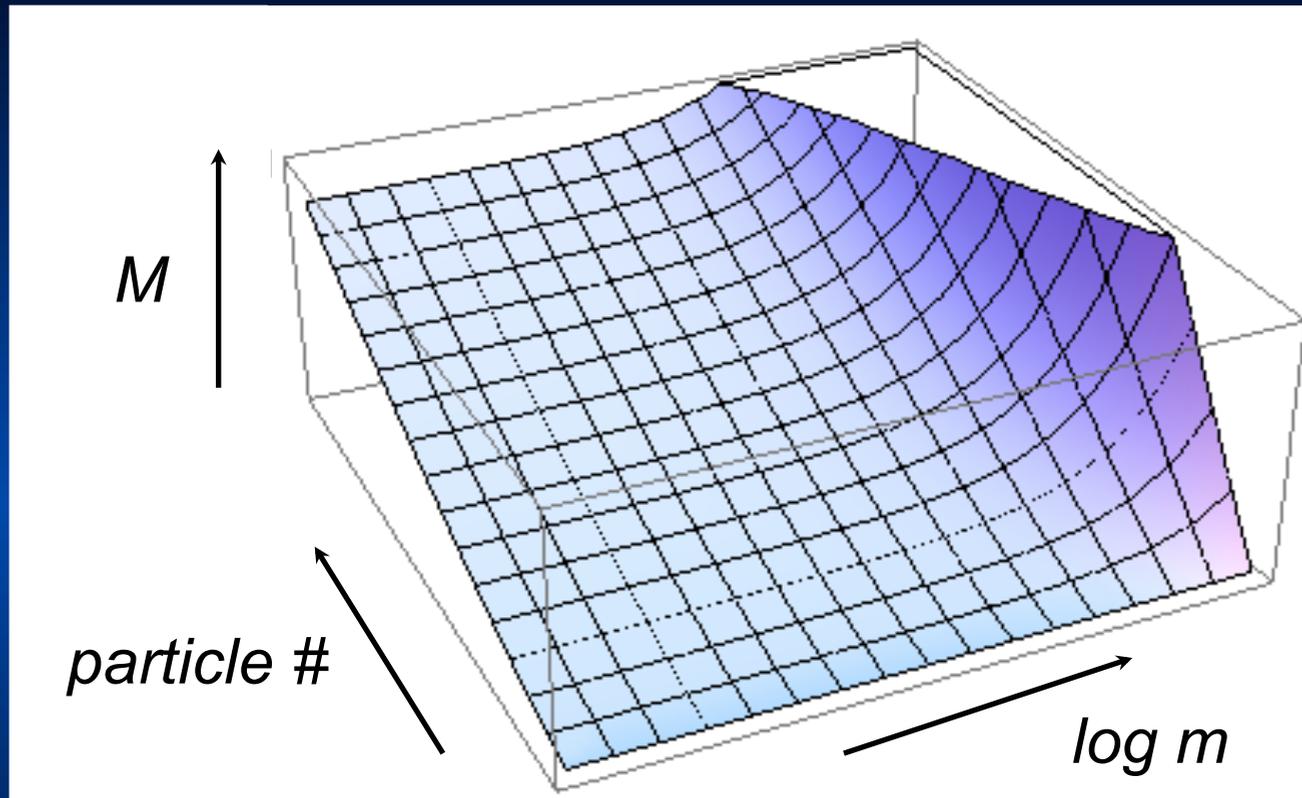
$$\mathcal{N} = V_{d-1} \int_0^R dr r^{d-1} B(r) \mathbf{n}(r)$$

$$M = V_{d-1} \int_0^R dr r^{d-1} \rho(r)$$

= ADM mass

$$M_{free} = V_{d-1} \int_0^R dr r^{d-1} A(r) B(r) \rho(r)$$

Pure AdS exactly matches CFT



$$M = \frac{1}{5}(4\epsilon_F + m)\mathcal{N}$$

$$\mathcal{N} = \frac{\ell^4}{24}(\epsilon_F - m)^4$$

Self Gravitating Neutron Star

Metric Ansatz + Einstein equations

$$ds^2 = -A(r)^2 dt^2 + B(r)^2 dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega_{d-1}^2$$

$$A^2(r) = e^{2\chi(r)} \left(1 - \frac{C_d M(r)}{r^{d-2}} + \frac{r^2}{\ell^2} \right)$$

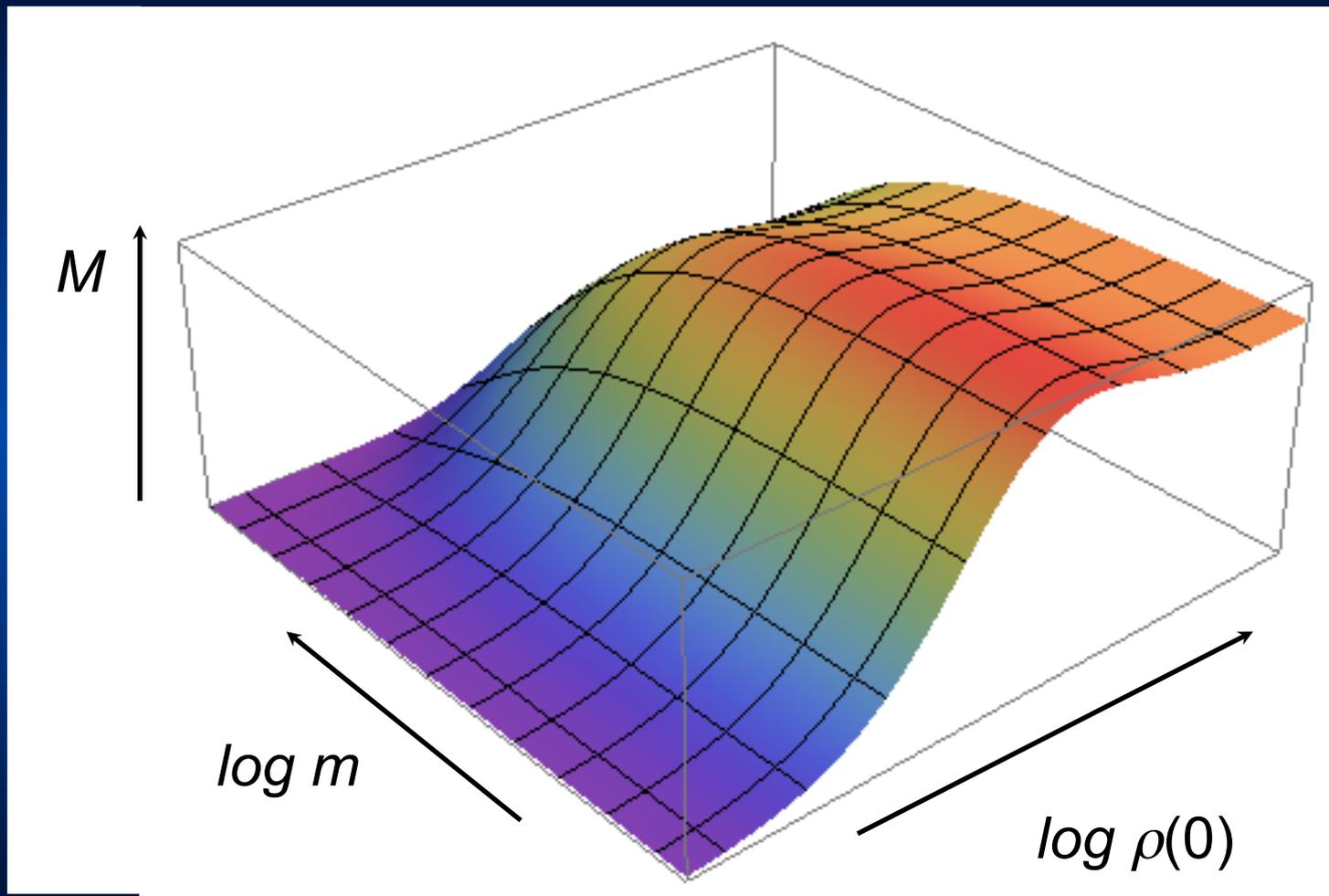
$$\frac{dM(r)}{dr} = V_{d-1} r^{d-1} \rho(r)$$

$$B^2(r) = \left(1 - \frac{C_d M(r)}{r^{d-2}} + \frac{r^2}{\ell^2} \right)^{-1}$$

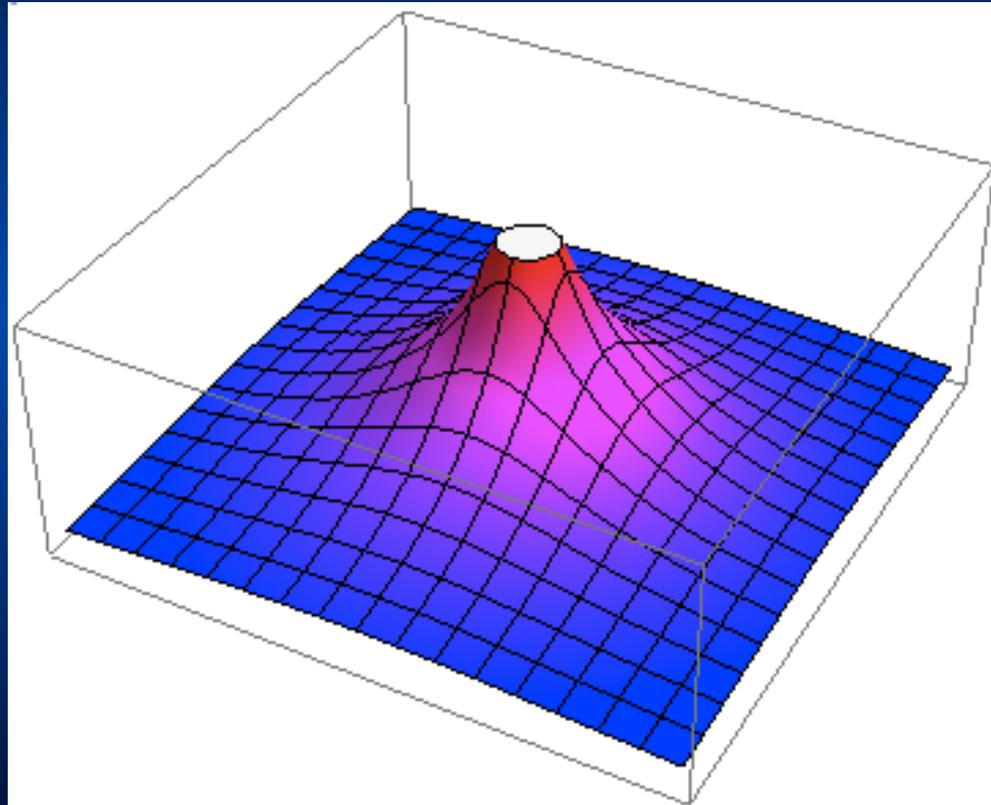
$$\frac{d\chi}{dr} = V_{d-1} \frac{C_d}{2} B^2 r (\rho + p)$$

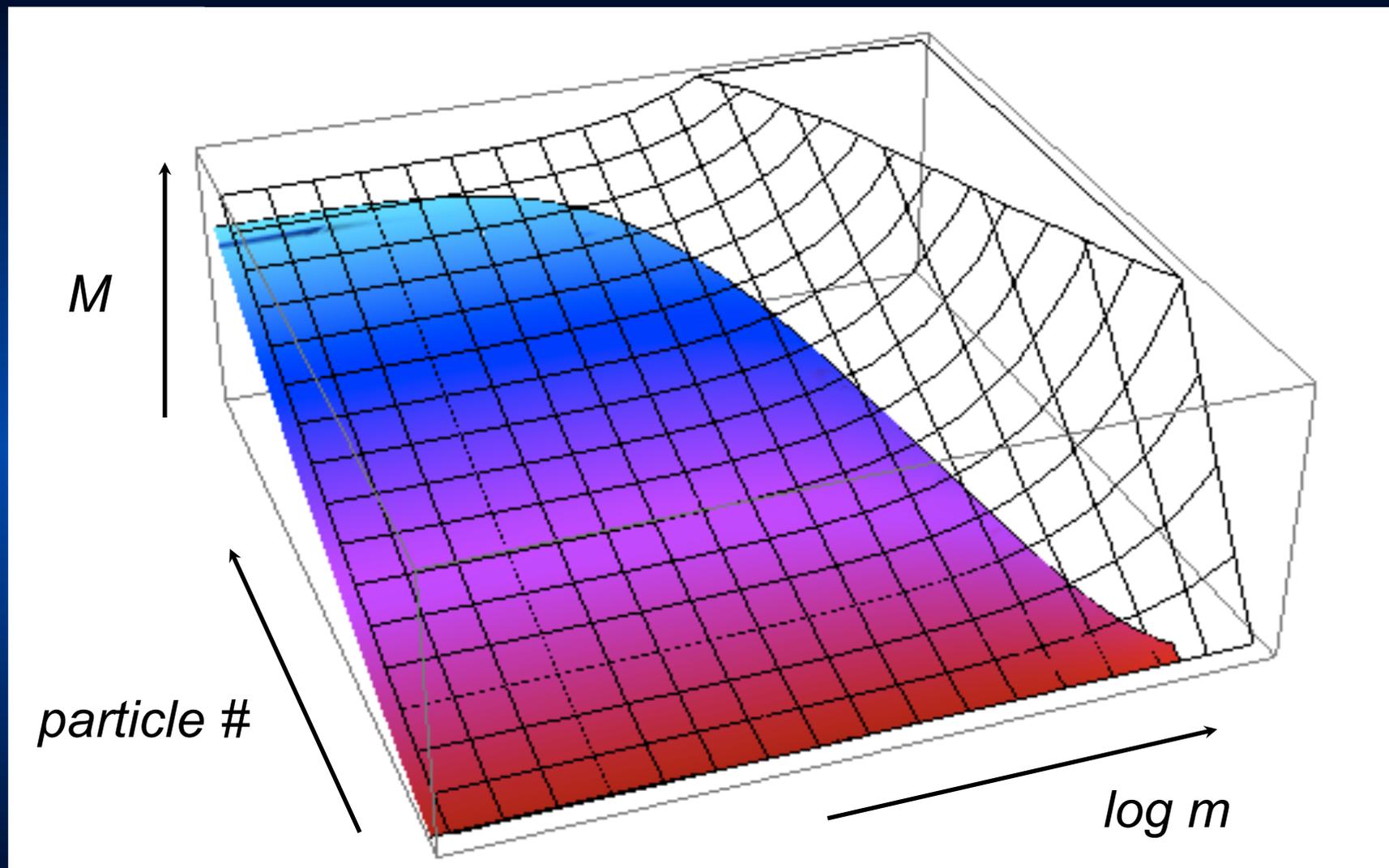
+ Stress energy conservation

“TOV equations”



Neutron Star near OV limit





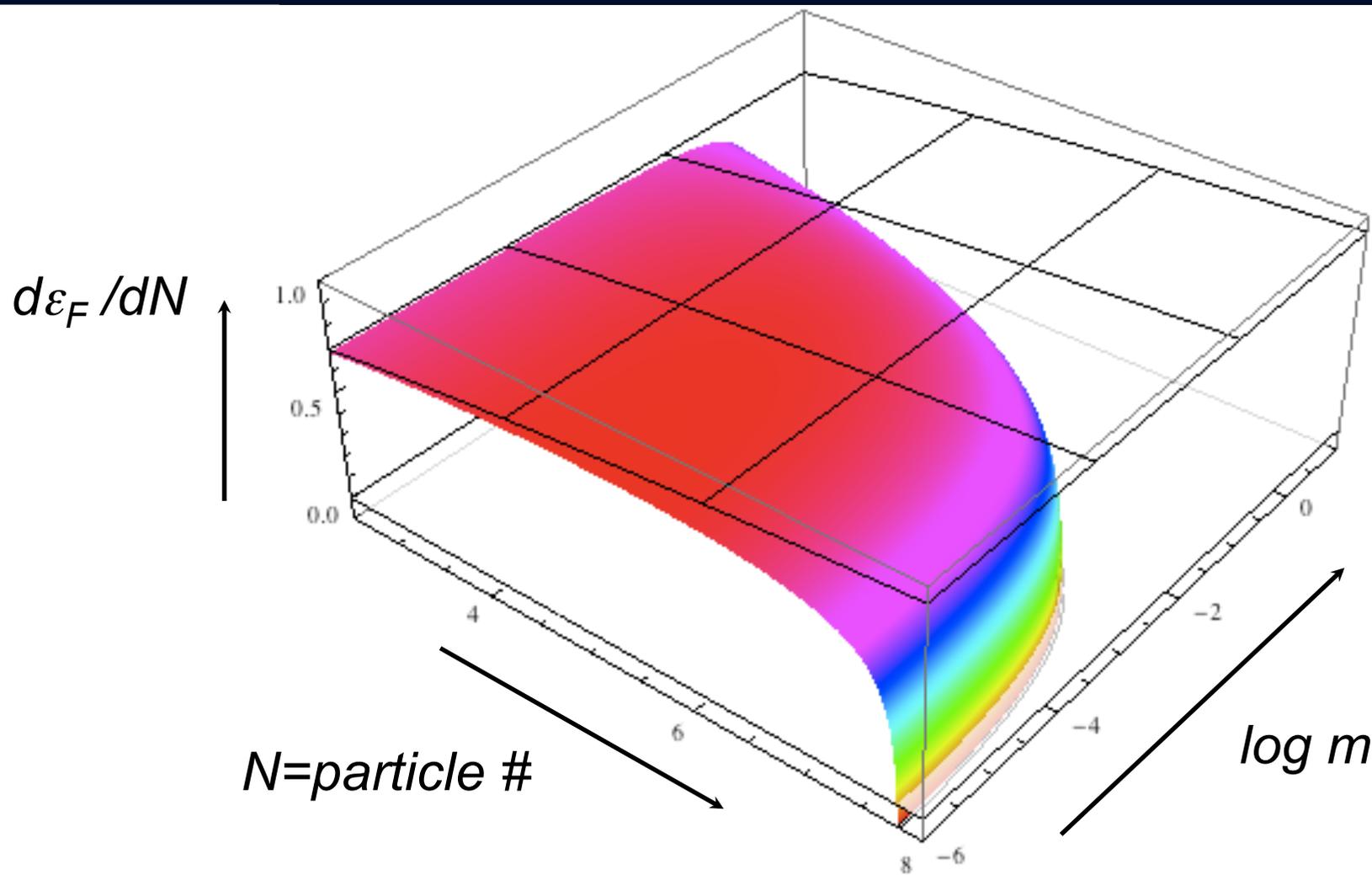
Thermodynamic relations in the CFT

$$M(\epsilon_F) = \int_m^{\epsilon_F} \epsilon \frac{dN(\epsilon)}{d\epsilon} d\epsilon$$

At OV limit # of states at Fermi surface diverges.
Assuming extensivity the CFT pressure obeys:

$$\frac{dP}{dN} = \frac{N}{V} \frac{d\epsilon_F}{dN} \rightarrow 0$$

Clear sign of an instability: phase transition.



Concluding

- What happens beyond the OV limit?

A tachyonic mode develops leading to gravitational collapse.

Essential phenomenon happens at center => infrared in CFT.

- Signal of a high density phase transition in the CFT.
- Can one find more precise bounds on the other interactions.
- Do they play some role before the collapse?
- Can one study the dynamics of the collapse in the CFT



