

Exploring 4D Conformal and Superconformal Field Theories

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SUSY Breaking '11, CERN

Motivation

- ▶ Conformal dynamics in 4D could play a role in BSM physics!
 - ▶ Walking/Conformal Technicolor [Holdom '81; ...]
 - ▶ Warped Extra Dimensions [Randall, Sundrum '99; ...]
 - ▶ Flavor Hierarchies [Georgi, Nelson, Manohar '83; Nelson, Strassler '00; DP, DSD '09; ...]
 - ▶ Conformal Sequestering [Luty, Sundrum '01; Schmaltz, Sundrum '06]
 - ▶ Solution to $\mu/B\mu$ problem [Roy, Schmaltz '07; Murayama, Nomura, DP '07]
 - ▶ ...
- ▶ Ideas often depend crucially on spectrum of operator dim's!
 - ▶ E.g., Conf. Technicolor: Want $\dim H^\dagger H \gtrsim 4$ but $\dim H \sim 1$
- ▶ Non-SUSY CFTs: Hard to calculate *anything*
- ▶ $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SCFTs: Chiral operators have $\Delta = \frac{3}{2}R$
Non-chiral operator dim's harder

Outline

- 1 CFT Review
- 2 Bounds from Crossing Relations
- 3 $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SQCD

CFT Review: Primary Operators

- ▶ In addition to Poincaré generators P^a and M^{ab} , CFTs have dilatations D and special conformal generators K^a

$$[K^a, P^b] = 2\eta^{ab}D - 2M^{ab}$$

- ▶ *Primary* operators $\mathcal{O}^I(0)$ are defined by

$$[K^a, \mathcal{O}^I(0)] = 0$$

(descendants obtained by acting with P^a)

CFT Review: Primary Operators

- ▶ Primary 2-pt and 3-pt functions fixed by conformal symmetry in terms of dimensions and spins, up to overall coefficients $\lambda_{\mathcal{O}}$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}^{a_1 \dots a_l}(x_1) \mathcal{O}^{b_1 \dots b_l}(x_2) \rangle = \frac{I^{a_1 b_1} \dots I^{a_l b_l}}{x_{12}^{2\Delta}}$$

$$\langle \phi(x_1) \phi(x_2) \mathcal{O}^{a_1 \dots a_l}(x_3) \rangle = \frac{\lambda_{\mathcal{O}}}{x_{12}^{2d-\Delta+l} x_{23}^{\Delta-l} x_{13}^{\Delta-l}} Z^{a_1} \dots Z^{a_l}$$

$$\left(I^{ab} = \eta^{ab} - 2 \frac{x_{12}^a x_{12}^b}{x_{12}^2}, \quad Z^a = \frac{x_{31}^a}{x_{31}^2} - \frac{x_{32}^a}{x_{32}^2} \right)$$

- ▶ Higher n -pt functions *not* fixed by conformal symmetry alone, but are determined once spectrum and $\lambda_{\mathcal{O}}$'s are known...

CFT Review: Operator Product Expansion

Let ϕ be a scalar primary of dimension d in a 4D CFT:

$$\phi(x)\phi(0) = \sum_{\mathcal{O} \in \phi \times \phi} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}} C_I(x, P) \mathcal{O}^I(0) \quad (\text{OPE})$$

- ▶ Sum runs over *primary* \mathcal{O} 's
- ▶ $C_I(x, P)$ fixed by conformal symmetry [Dolan, Osborn '00]
- ▶ $\mathcal{O}^I = \mathcal{O}^{a_1 \dots a_l}$ can be any spin- l Lorentz representation (traceless symmetric tensor) with $l = 0, 2, \dots$
- ▶ Unitarity tells us that $\Delta_{\mathcal{O}} \geq l + 2 - \delta_{l,0}$ and that $\lambda_{\mathcal{O}}$ is real

CFT Review: Conformal Block Decomposition

Use OPE to evaluate 4-point function

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \langle \overbrace{\phi(x_1)\phi(x_2)} \overbrace{\phi(x_3)\phi(x_4)} \rangle \\
 &= \sum_{\mathcal{O} \in \phi \times \phi} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 C_I(x_{12}, \partial_2) C_J(x_{34}, \partial_4) \langle \mathcal{O}^I(x_2) \mathcal{O}^J(x_4) \rangle \\
 &\equiv \frac{1}{x_{12}^{2d} x_{34}^{2d}} \sum_{\mathcal{O} \in \phi \times \phi} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 g_{\Delta, l}(u, v)
 \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ $u = \frac{x_{12}^2 x_{34}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2}$, $v = \frac{x_{14}^2 x_{23}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2}$ conformally-invariant cross ratios.
- ▶ $g_{\Delta, l}(u, v)$ conformal block ($\Delta = \dim \mathcal{O}$ and $l = \text{spin of } \mathcal{O}$)
 - ▶ Known explicitly in terms of hypergeometric functions
[\[Dolan, Osborn '00; Dolan, Osborn '03\]](#)

CFT Review: Crossing Relations

- ▶ Four-point function $\langle \phi(x_1)\phi(x_2)\phi(x_3)\phi(x_4) \rangle$ is clearly symmetric under permutations of x_i
- ▶ After OPE, symmetry is non-manifest!
- ▶ Switching $x_1 \leftrightarrow x_3$ gives the “crossing relation”:

$$\sum_{\mathcal{O} \in \phi \times \phi} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}g\Delta,l}^2(u, v) = \left(\frac{u}{v}\right)^d \sum_{\mathcal{O} \in \phi \times \phi} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}g\Delta,l}^2(v, u)$$

$$\sum \text{[Crossing Diagram]} = \sum \text{[Crossing Diagram]}$$

- ▶ Other permutations give no new information

Method of [Rattazzi et. al. '08]

[Rattazzi, Rychkov, Tonni, Vichi '08]:

crossing + unitarity leads to bounds on CFT quantities!

- ▶ Let's study the OPE coefficient of a particular $\mathcal{O}_0 \in \phi \times \phi$
- ▶ We can rewrite crossing relation as

$$\underbrace{\lambda_{\mathcal{O}_0}^2 F_{\Delta_0, l_0}(u, v)}_{\mathcal{O}_0} = \underbrace{1}_{\text{unit op.}} - \underbrace{\sum_{\mathcal{O} \neq \mathcal{O}_0} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 F_{\Delta, l}(u, v)}_{\text{everything else}}$$

where

$$F_{\Delta, l}(u, v) \equiv \frac{v^d g_{\Delta, l}(u, v) - u^d g_{\Delta, l}(v, u)}{u^d - v^d}.$$

Method of [Rattazzi et. al. '08]

Idea: Find a linear functional α such that

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha(F_{\Delta_0, l_0}) &= 1, \quad \text{and} \\ \alpha(F_{\Delta, l}) &\geq 0, \quad \text{for all other } \mathcal{O} \in \phi \times \phi.\end{aligned}$$

Applying to both sides:

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha(\lambda_{\mathcal{O}_0}^2 F_{\Delta_0, l_0}) &= \alpha\left(1 - \sum_{\mathcal{O} \neq \mathcal{O}_0} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 F_{\Delta, l}\right) \\ \lambda_{\mathcal{O}_0}^2 &= \alpha(1) - \sum_{\mathcal{O} \neq \mathcal{O}_0} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 \alpha(F_{\Delta, l}) \leq \alpha(1)\end{aligned}$$

since $\lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 \geq 0$ by unitarity.

Method of [Rattazzi et. al. '08]

- ▶ To make the bound $\lambda_{\mathcal{O}_0}^2 \leq \alpha(1)$ as strong as possible:
Minimize $\alpha(1)$ subject to $\alpha(F_{\Delta_0, l_0}) = 1$ and $\alpha(F_{\Delta, l}) \geq 0$
- ▶ Take α to be linear combinations of derivatives at some point

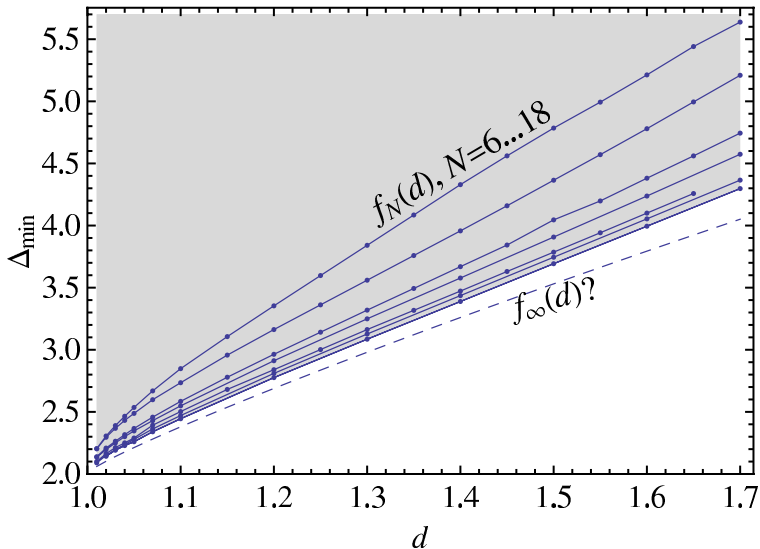
$$\alpha : F_{\Delta, l}(z, \bar{z}) \mapsto \sum_{m+n \leq N} a_{mn} \partial_z^m \partial_{\bar{z}}^n F_{\Delta, l}(1/2, 1/2)$$

- ▶ Discretize constraints to $\alpha(F_{\Delta_i, l_i}) \geq 0$ for $D = \{(\Delta_i, l_i)\}$
 (to make the problem numerically tractable)
- ▶ Take $N \rightarrow \infty$ to recover “optimal” bound

Method of [Rattazzi et. al. '08]

- ▶ Can make any assumptions about the spectrum that we want!
- ▶ Let's assume that all scalars appearing in the OPE $\phi \times \phi$ have dimension larger than some $\Delta_{\min} = \dim \mathcal{O}_0$
- ▶ If $\lambda_{\mathcal{O}_0}^2 \leq \alpha(1) < 0$, there is a contradiction with unitarity and the assumed spectrum can be ruled out

By scanning over different Δ_{\min} , one can obtain bounds on $\dim \phi^2$ as a function of $d = \dim \phi$

Bounds on $\dim \phi^2$ (taken from [Rychkov, Vichi '09])

Extensions

Method has now been extended to obtain:

- ▶ Bounds in $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SCFTs
[DP, Simmons-Duffin '10]
 - ▶ Uses *superconformal block* expansion of $\langle \Phi \Phi^\dagger \Phi \Phi^\dagger \rangle$, Φ chiral
- ▶ Bounds in the presence of global symmetries
[Rattazzi, Rychkov, Vichi '10]
 - ▶ Considering $\langle \phi_i \phi_j \phi_k \phi_l \rangle$ leads to *system* of crossing relations
- ▶ Bounds on various OPE coefficients
 - ▶ Scalar 3-pt functions [Caracciolo, Rychkov '09]
 - ▶ Flavor Symmetry Currents [DP, Simmons-Duffin '10]
 - ▶ Stress Tensor [DP, Simmons-Duffin; Rattazzi, Rychkov, Vichi '10]

$\mathcal{N} = 1$ Superconformal Algebra

dim					
+1			P_a		
+1/2		Q_α		$\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}$	
0	$M_{\alpha\beta}$		D, R		$M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}$
-1/2		S_α		$\bar{S}_{\dot{\alpha}}$	
-1			K_a		

$$\{Q, \bar{Q}\} = P$$

$$\{S, \bar{S}\} = K$$

- ▶ Superconformal primary means $[S, \mathcal{O}(0)] = [\bar{S}, \mathcal{O}(0)] = 0$
- ▶ Descendants obtained by acting with P, Q, \bar{Q}
- ▶ Chiral means $[\bar{Q}, \phi(0)] = 0$

Superconformal Block Decomposition

ϕ : scalar chiral superconformal primary of dimension d in an SCFT
(lowest component of chiral superfield Φ)

$$\langle \overbrace{\phi(x_1)\phi^\dagger(x_2)} \overbrace{\phi(x_3)\phi^\dagger(x_4)} \rangle = \frac{1}{x_{12}^{2d}x_{34}^{2d}} \sum_{\mathcal{O} \in \Phi \times \Phi^\dagger} |\lambda_{\mathcal{O}}|^2 (-1)^l \mathcal{G}_{\Delta,l}(u,v)$$

- ▶ Sum over superconformal primaries \mathcal{O}^I with zero R -charge
- ▶ $\lambda_{\mathcal{O}}$ real for even spin \mathcal{O}^I , imaginary for odd spin \mathcal{O}^I
- ▶ $x_1 \leftrightarrow x_3$ gives crossing relation only involving $\mathcal{O}^I \in \Phi \times \Phi^\dagger$
- ▶ $\mathcal{G}_{\Delta,l}(u,v)$ finite sum of conformal blocks, since \mathcal{O} has finite number of descendants that are conformal primaries...

Superconformal Block Derivation

Multiplet built from \mathcal{O} (generically) contains four conformal primaries with vanishing R -charge and definite spin:

name	operator	dim	spin
\mathcal{O}	\mathcal{O}	Δ	l
J, N	$Q\bar{Q}\mathcal{O} + \#P\mathcal{O}$	$\Delta + 1$	$l + 1, l - 1$
D	$Q^2\bar{Q}^2\mathcal{O} + \#PQ\bar{Q}\mathcal{O} + \#PP\mathcal{O}$	$\Delta + 2$	l

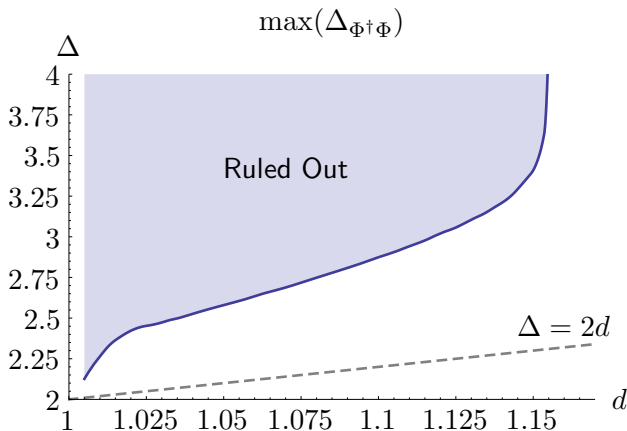
- ▶ Superconformal symmetry fixes coefficients of $\langle\phi\phi^\dagger J\rangle, \langle\phi\phi^\dagger N\rangle, \langle\phi\phi^\dagger D\rangle$ in terms of $\langle\phi\phi^\dagger \mathcal{O}\rangle$
- ▶ Must also normalize J, N, D to have canonical 2-pt functions
- ▶ Superconformal block is then a sum of $g_{\Delta, l}$'s for \mathcal{O}, J, N, D

Superconformal Blocks

We find,

$$\mathcal{G}_{\Delta,l} = g_{\Delta,l} - \frac{(\Delta + l)}{2(\Delta + l + 1)} g_{\Delta+1,l+1} - \frac{(\Delta - l - 2)}{8(\Delta - l - 1)} g_{\Delta+1,l-1} + \frac{(\Delta + l)(\Delta - l - 2)}{16(\Delta + l + 1)(\Delta - l - 1)} g_{\Delta+2,l}$$

- ▶ When unitarity bound $\Delta \geq l + 2$ is saturated, multiplet is shortened
- ▶ $\mathcal{G}_{\Delta,l}$ can also be determined from consistency with $\mathcal{N} = 2$ superconformal blocks computed by [\[Dolan, Osborn '01\]](#)

Upper Bound on Dimension of $\Phi^\dagger\Phi$ 

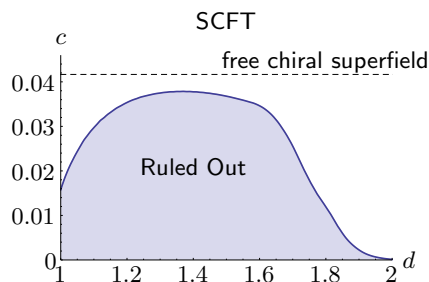
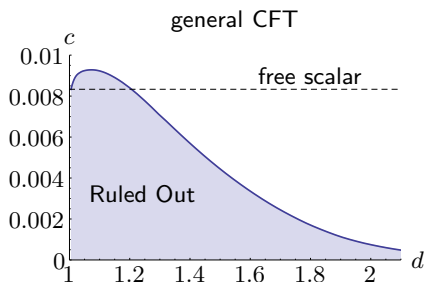
- ▶ Weaker than before due to odd- l operators in $\Phi \times \Phi^\dagger$ OPE
- ▶ Bounds improve further by using relation to $\Phi \times \Phi$ OPE, but trickier numerically [Vichi, in progress]

The Stress Tensor

- ▶ Ward identity fixes $\langle \phi\phi T \rangle \propto d$
- ▶ Only unknown: $\langle TT \rangle \propto c$, the central charge
(trace anomaly $16\pi^2 \langle T_a^a \rangle = c(\text{Weyl})^2 - a(\text{Euler})$)
- ▶ In an SCFT, T lives in the $U(1)_R$ current multiplet
 $\mathcal{J}^a = J_R^a + \theta\sigma_b \bar{\theta} T^{ab} + \dots$, and c determined by $U(1)_R$
- ▶ Conformal block contributions are

$$\langle \phi\phi\phi\phi \rangle \sim \frac{d^2}{90c} g_{4,2} \quad (\text{general CFTs})$$

$$\langle \phi\phi^\dagger\phi\phi^\dagger \rangle \sim -\frac{d^2}{36c} \mathcal{G}_{3,1} \quad (\text{SCFTs})$$

Lower Bound on c 

(See also [\[Rattazzi, Rychkov, Vichi '10\]](#))

- ▶ In dual AdS_5 , $c \sim \pi^2 L^3 M_P^3$. Gravity can't be arbitrarily strong in presence of light bulk scalar!
- ▶ Similar bounds can be placed on coefficients of flavor current 2-point functions $\langle J^I J^J \rangle \propto \tau^{IJ}$

Future Directions

Some future directions for this program:

- ▶ Obtain stronger bounds to make contact with BSM scenarios
- ▶ Better algorithms (esp. to deal with global symmetries)
- ▶ Bounds in other dimensions
- ▶ 4-point functions of operators with spin [in progress...]
- ▶ AdS dual interpretation?

Another Strategy...

- ▶ Another route to progress: look for theories that have extra hidden structure that makes them more solvable?
- ▶ Success story in (planar) $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM: *Integrability* lets one calculate operators dimensions at $\lambda \sim O(1)$
[Beisert, Staudacher, Gromov, Kazakov, Vieira... + many others]
- ▶ First evidence: [Minahan, Zarembo '02] found that the 1-loop dilatation operator acting on scalars $\text{Tr}(X_i \dots X_j)$ is equivalent to an exactly solvable Heisenberg spin chain
- ▶ As an exploration, let's repeat this study for $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SQCD...
[DP, Simmons-Duffin '11]

$\mathcal{N} = 1$ SQCD

- ▶ Matter content:

	$SU(N_c)$	$SU(N_f)_L$	$SU(N_f)_R$	$U(1)_B$	$U(1)_R$
Q_{ai}	\square	\square	1	1	$1 - \frac{N_c}{N_f}$
$\tilde{Q}^{i\tilde{a}}$	$\bar{\square}$	1	$\bar{\square}$	-1	$1 - \frac{N_c}{N_f}$

$$i, \tilde{i} = 1, \dots, N_f$$

$$a = 1, \dots, N_c$$

- ▶ Conformal window: $\frac{3}{2} < \frac{N_f}{N_c} < 3$ [Seiberg '94]
- ▶ Veneziano limit: $N_f, N_c \rightarrow \infty$, with $\frac{N_f}{N_c}$ fixed
Weak-coupling [Banks, Zaks '82] regime: $\epsilon = \frac{3N_c}{N_f} - 1 \ll 1$

$$\lambda \equiv \frac{g^2 N_c}{8\pi^2} = \epsilon + \frac{\epsilon^2}{2} + \frac{9}{4}(1 + 2\zeta_3)\epsilon^3 + \dots$$

Generalized Single Trace Operators

Basic objects when $N_c, N_f \rightarrow \infty$ are “generalized single-trace” operators. Using only scalars, the building blocks are:

$$X \equiv (QQ^\dagger)_b^a, \quad Y \equiv (\tilde{Q}^\dagger \tilde{Q})_b^a$$

We then have flavor singlets

$$Q_{ai} Q^{\dagger ib} \tilde{Q}_{b\tilde{j}}^\dagger \tilde{Q}^{\tilde{j}c} \dots Q_{dk} Q^{\dagger ka} = \text{Tr}(XY \dots X) \quad \text{“closed”}$$

and flavor adjoint+bifundamentals

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} Q^\dagger XY \dots XQ \\ \tilde{Q}XY \dots XQ \\ Q^\dagger XY \dots X\tilde{Q}^\dagger \\ \tilde{Q}XY \dots X\tilde{Q}^\dagger \end{array} \right\} \quad \text{“open”}$$

1-Loop Dilatation Operator as a Spin Chain

- ▶ Useful notation: $XYX \dots \rightarrow |\uparrow\downarrow\uparrow \dots\rangle$ (spin chain state)
- ▶ Represent operators acting on spins in terms of Pauli Matrices
- ▶ Evaluating 1-loop diagrams, we obtain the Dilatation operator:

$$D_{closed} = 2L + \lambda \frac{N_f - N_c}{2N_c} L + \underbrace{\frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{L-1} \left(\sigma_n^z \sigma_{n+1}^z - \frac{N_f}{N_c} \sigma_n^x \right)}_H + \dots$$

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- ▶ H is the Hamiltonian for the 1D Ising Model in a transverse magnetic field: exactly solvable [Pfeuty '70]!

Solution

Map to fermionic oscillators [Jordan, Wigner '28]:

$$c_n^\dagger = \left(\prod_{m=0}^{n-1} \sigma_m^x \right) \sigma_n^+ \quad c_n = \left(\prod_{m=0}^{n-1} \sigma_m^x \right) \sigma_n^-$$

$$\{c_n^\dagger, c_m\} = \delta_{nm}, \quad \{c_n, c_m\} = \{c_n^\dagger, c_m^\dagger\} = 0$$

$(\sigma_n^\pm \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_n^y \pm i\sigma_n^z), \prod_{m=0}^{n-1} \sigma_m^x$ counts parity ($Q \leftrightarrow \tilde{Q}^\dagger$) to the left)

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Key fact: Hamiltonian quadratic in c, c^\dagger

$$H = \sum_{n=0}^{L-1} (\sigma_n^z \sigma_{n+1}^z - h\sigma_n^x)$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{L-1} (c_n^\dagger + c_n)(c_{n+1}^\dagger - c_{n+1}) - h(2c_n^\dagger c_n - 1).$$

Diagonalizing the Fermions

Now go to momentum space and do Bogoliubov transformation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 H &= \sum_{n=0}^{L-1} (c_n^\dagger + c_n)(c_{n+1}^\dagger - c_{n+1}) - h(2c_n^\dagger c_n - 1) \\
 &= \sum_k \left[-(2 \cos k + 2h)c_k^\dagger c_k - i \sin k (c_{-k}^\dagger c_k^\dagger + c_{-k} c_k) \right] + Lh \\
 &= \sum_k \epsilon(k) \left(b_k^\dagger b_k - \frac{1}{2} \right) \quad (\text{Bogoliubov})
 \end{aligned}$$

\implies A system of free fermions, with dispersion relation

$$\epsilon(k) = 2\sqrt{h^2 + 1 + 2h \cos k} \quad \left(h = \frac{N_f}{N_c} = 3 + O(\lambda) \right)$$

Quasimomenta Quantization

- ▶ Allowed values of k depends on overall parity, which determines the boundary conditions for the c 's

$$P \equiv \prod_{n=0}^{L-1} \sigma_n^x = \begin{cases} -1 : & k = \frac{2\pi m}{L} & \text{(periodic)} \\ +1 : & k = \frac{(2m+1)\pi}{L} & \text{(anti-periodic)} \end{cases}$$

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- ▶ Similarly, can think of operators with open flavor indices as states in an open chain with “fixed” boundary conditions,

$$Q^\dagger XY \dots YQ \quad \Longrightarrow \quad |\uparrow \uparrow\downarrow \dots \downarrow \uparrow\rangle$$

- ▶ System is still solvable [Douçot, Feigel'man, Ioffe, Iosevich '04]! Same H , but with an interesting quantization condition:

$$\frac{\sin(k(L+2))}{\sin(k(L+1))} = -h \quad \text{(open chains)}$$

Example: Closed 4-field Operators

4-field flavor singlet operators: $\text{Tr}(X^2)$, $\text{Tr}(Y^2)$, $\text{Tr}(XY)$.

- ▶ Odd parity

$$b_{\pi}^{\dagger}|0\rangle \quad \underbrace{b_0^{\dagger}|0\rangle}_{\sum k=0} \longleftrightarrow \text{Tr}(X^2 - Y^2)$$

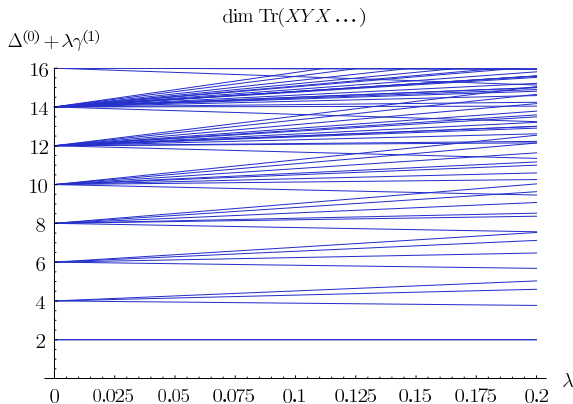
$$\gamma = \left(2 + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{10 + 6 \cos 0} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{10 + 6 \cos \pi} \right) \lambda = 3\lambda$$

- ▶ Even parity

$$\underbrace{|0\rangle, \quad b_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\dagger} b_{\frac{3\pi}{2}}^{\dagger} |0\rangle}_{\sum k=0} \longleftrightarrow \text{Tr}(X^2 + Y^2), \quad \text{Tr}(XY)$$

$$\gamma = \left(2 \pm \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{10 + 6 \cos \frac{\pi}{2}} \pm \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{10 + 6 \cos \frac{3\pi}{2}} \right) \lambda = (2 \pm \sqrt{10})\lambda$$

Asymptotics



$$\gamma_{\pm} = \lambda L \pm \frac{\lambda L}{4\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} dk \sqrt{10 + 6 \cos k} \quad (\text{Large } L)$$

$$\approx (1 \pm 1.54)\lambda L$$

Outlook

Possible directions

- ▶ At 2-loops, mixing with fermions+gauge fields, but still nearest neighbor in X, Y . Nontrivial S -matrix for b^\dagger, b ?
- ▶ Magnetic dual is weakly-coupled when $N_f/N_c \sim 3/2$
 - ▶ Building blocks of generalized single traces:
 $q(MM^\dagger)^k q^\dagger, \tilde{q}^\dagger(M^\dagger M)^k \tilde{q}, q(MM^\dagger)^k M \tilde{q}, \tilde{q}^\dagger(M^\dagger M)^k M^\dagger q^\dagger$
 - ▶ Noncompact spin chain?
- ▶ Speculation: TFIM has quantum phase transition at $h = 1$ (naively $N_f/N_c = 1$). Could this be relevant in SQCD?

...lots of work to be done!

Backup Slides

CFT Review: Conformal Blocks

Explicit formula [Dolan, Osborn '00]

$$g_{\Delta,l}(u,v) = \frac{(-1)^l}{2^l} \frac{z\bar{z}}{z-\bar{z}} [k_{\Delta+l}(z)k_{\Delta-l-2}(\bar{z}) - z \leftrightarrow \bar{z}]$$
$$k_{\beta}(x) = x^{\beta/2} {}_2F_1(\beta/2, \beta/2, \beta; x),$$

where $u = z\bar{z}$ and $v = (1-z)(1-\bar{z})$.

- ▶ Similar expressions in other even dimensions, recursion relations known in odd dimensions
- ▶ Alternatively can be viewed as eigenfunctions of the quadratic casimir of the conformal group [Dolan, Osborn '03]

Flavor Currents

- ▶ If ϕ transforms under flavor symmetry with charges T^I , conserved currents J^I appear in the $\phi \times \phi^\dagger$ OPE:

$$\langle \phi \phi^\dagger J^I \rangle \sim -\frac{i}{2\pi^2} T^I \quad (\text{Ward id.})$$

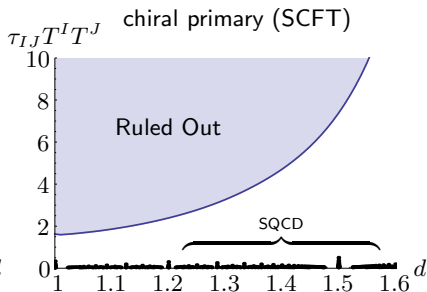
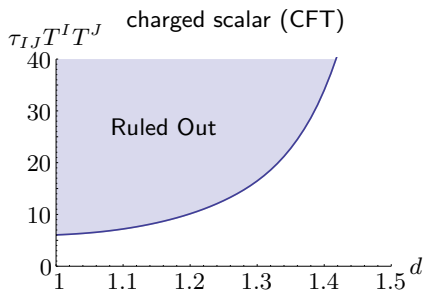
- ▶ Flavor current conformal blocks are then determined by current 2-pt functions

$$\langle J^I J^J \rangle \sim \frac{3}{4\pi^4} \tau^{IJ}$$

$$\langle \phi \phi^\dagger \phi \phi^\dagger \rangle \sim -\frac{1}{3} \tau_{IJ} T^I T^J g_{3,1} \quad (\text{general CFTs}),$$

$$\langle \phi \phi^\dagger \phi \phi^\dagger \rangle \sim \tau_{IJ} T^I T^J \mathcal{G}_{2,0} \quad (\text{SCFTs}),$$

where $\tau_{IJ} = (\tau^{IJ})^{-1}$ (in SCFTs, $\tau^{IJ} = -3\text{Tr}(RT^I T^J)$).

Upper Bounds on $\tau_{IJ}T^IT^J$ 

- ▶ Example: SUSY QCD with $\frac{3}{2}N_c < N_f < 3N_c$, $M = Q\tilde{Q}$
 $\langle MM^\dagger MM^\dagger \rangle$: $d = 3 - \frac{3N_c}{N_f}$ and $\tau_{IJ}T^IT^J = \frac{2}{3} \frac{N_f - 1}{N_c^2}$
- ▶ In dual AdS_5 , $(8\pi^2 L)\tau_{IJ} = g_{IJ}^2$. Gauge coupling can't be too strong in presence of charged scalar.