

Recursion Relations for Anomalous Dimensions of the 6d (2,0) Theory

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AdS/CFT

Worldvolume

Gravity Dual

- D3 branes \longleftrightarrow IIB string theory on $\text{AdS}_5 \times S^5$
- M2 branes \longleftrightarrow M-theory on $\text{AdS}_4 \times S^7$
- M5 branes \longleftrightarrow M-theory on $\text{AdS}_7 \times S^4$

M5-branes

- Abelian theory: 5 scalars, 8 fermions, self-dual 2-form ([Howe, Sierra, Townsend](#))
- Non-abelian theory strongly coupled, so what can we say about it?
- $OSp(8|4)$ symmetry
- When $N \rightarrow \infty$, described by 11d supergravity in $AdS_7 \times S^4$
- Central charge c is $O(N^3)$ ([Henningson, Skenderis](#))
- Goal: Go beyond the supergravity approximation

Stress Tensor Correlators

- The stress tensor belongs to a $\frac{1}{2}$ BPS multiplet whose lowest component is a dimension 4 scalar T_{IJ} in the symmetric traceless representation (**14**) of the R-symmetry group $SO(5)$
- In the large-N limit, 4-point correlators of stress tensor multiplets can be computed using Witten diagrams for 11d supergravity in $AdS_7 \times S^4$.
- Strategy: Use superconformal and crossing symmetry to deduce $1/N$ corrections to 4-point correlators, which correspond to higher derivative corrections to 11d supergravity arising from M-theory.

4-Point Function

- Superconformal symmetry fixes the 4-point function in terms of a pre-potential

$$\lambda^4 (g_{13}g_{24})^{-2} \langle T_1 T_2 T_3 T_4 \rangle = \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{S}F(z, \bar{z})) + \mathcal{S}_1^2 F(z, z) + \mathcal{S}_2^2 F(\bar{z}, \bar{z})$$

where $\lambda = z - \bar{z}$, $\mathcal{D} = -(\partial_z - \partial_{\bar{z}} + \lambda \partial_z \partial_{\bar{z}})$, $T_i = T_{IJ} Y_i^I Y_i^J$, $g_{ij} = Y_i \cdot Y_j / x_{ij}^4$

$$y\bar{y} = \frac{Y_1 \cdot Y_2 Y_3 \cdot Y_4}{Y_1 \cdot Y_3 Y_2 \cdot Y_4}, \quad (1-y)(1-\bar{y}) = \frac{Y_1 \cdot Y_4 Y_2 \cdot Y_3}{Y_1 \cdot Y_3 Y_2 \cdot Y_4}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_1 = (z-y)(z-\bar{y}), \quad \mathcal{S}_2 = (\bar{z}-y)(\bar{z}-\bar{y}), \quad \mathcal{S} = \mathcal{S}_1 \mathcal{S}_2$$

Arutyunov, Sokatchev/Heslop

- Crossing symmetry: $F(u, v) = F(v, u)$, $F(u/v, 1/v) = v^2 F(u, v)$

CPW Expansion

- Decompose 4-point function as follows:

$$F(z, \bar{z}) = \frac{A}{u^2} + \frac{g(z) - g(\bar{z})}{u \lambda} + \lambda G(z, \bar{z})$$

- These functions can be written as a sum over operators appearing in TT OPE
- A, g, G encode identity, protected, and unprotected operators, respectively:

$$A \sim 1, \quad g \sim T, \quad G \sim T \partial^l \square^n T$$

where unprotected ops have scaling dimension $\Delta = 2n + l + 8 + \mathcal{O}(1/c)$

- In more detail,

$$\lambda^2 G(z, \bar{z}) = \sum_{n,l \geq 0} A_{n,l} G_{\Delta,l}^S(z, \bar{z})$$

where superconformal blocks can be written in terms of hypergeometrics
[Dolan,Osborne/Heslop/Beem,Lemos,Rastelli,van Rees](#)

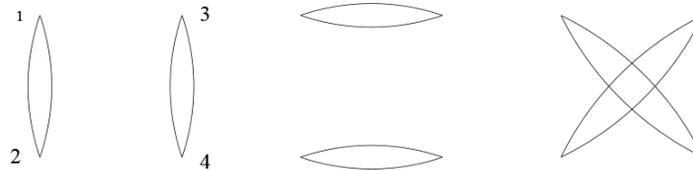
- Expand OPE data in $1/c$: $A_{n,l} = A_{n,l}^{(0)} + \frac{1}{c} A_{n,l}^{(1)} + \dots$, $\Delta = 2n + l + 8 + \frac{1}{c} \gamma_{n,l} + \dots$

- Crossing: $\sum_{n,l \geq 0} \left[A_{n,l}^{(1)} G_{\Delta,l}^S(z, \bar{z}) + \frac{1}{2} A_{n,l}^{(0)} \gamma_{n,l} \partial_n G_{\Delta,l}^S(z, \bar{z}) \right] + (u \leftrightarrow v) = 0$

Supergravity Prediction

- Free disconnected contribution:

$$F(u, v)_{\text{free-disc}} = 1 + \frac{1}{u^2} + \frac{1}{v^2}$$



- Decomposing into A, g, G and performing CPW expansion of G gives

$$A_{n,l}^{(0)} = \frac{(l+2)(n+3)!(n+4)!(l+2n+9)(l+2n+10)(l+n+5)!(l+n+6)!}{72(2n+5)!(2l+2n+9)!}$$

- Dynamical contribution: ([Arutyunov,Sokatchev](#))

$$F^{\text{sugra}} = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\lambda^2}{uv} \bar{D}_{3337}$$

where the D functions arise from AdS integrals:

$$D_{\Delta_1\Delta_2\Delta_3\Delta_4}(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = \int \frac{d^d w \, dw_0}{w_0^{d+1}} \prod_{i=1}^4 K_{\Delta_i}(w, x_i), \quad K_{\Delta}(w, x) = \left(\frac{w_0}{w_0^2 + (\vec{w} - x)^2} \right)^{\Delta}$$

- Performing CPW decomposition gives anomalous dimensions which scale like n^5

$$\gamma_{n,l}^{\text{sugra}} = -\frac{6}{c} \left(1 + \frac{(n-2)(n+1)}{2(2n+l+4)(l+3)} \right) \frac{(n-1)_6}{(l+1)(l+2)(2n+l+5)(2n+l+6)}$$

- The CPW coefficients satisfy ([Heslop,Lipstein](#))

$$A_{n,l}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_n \left(A_{n,l}^{(0)} \gamma_{n,l} \right)$$

Corrections to Supergravity

- [Heemskerk, Penedones, Polchinski, Sully](#) considered 4-point functions in a generic 2d or 4d CFT with a large- N expansion and solved the crossing equations to leading order in $1/c$ by truncating the CPW expansion in spin.
- They showed that the solutions are in 1 to 1 correspondence with local quartic interactions for a massive scalar field in AdS, which can be thought of as a toy model for the low-energy effective theory of the gravitational dual.
- The number of derivatives in the bulk interaction is related to the large-twist behaviour of the anomalous dimensions.

Examples

spin	interactions	anomalous dim.
0	ϕ^4	n^{const}
2	$\phi^2 (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \phi)^2$ $\phi^2 (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \nabla_\rho \phi)^2$	$n^{\text{const}+4}, n^{\text{const}+6}$
4	$\phi \nabla_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \nu_1 \nu_2} \phi \nabla_{\mu_1 \mu_2} \phi \nabla_{\nu_1 \nu_2} \phi$ $\nabla_{\rho_1} \phi \nabla_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \nu_1 \nu_2 \rho_1} \phi \nabla_{\mu_1 \mu_2} \phi \nabla_{\nu_1 \nu_2} \phi$ $\nabla_{\rho_1 \rho_2} \phi \nabla_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \nu_1 \nu_2 \rho_1 \rho_2} \phi \nabla_{\mu_1 \mu_2} \phi \nabla_{\nu_1 \nu_2} \phi$	$n^{\text{const}+8}, n^{\text{const}+10}, n^{\text{const}+12}$

Spin-0

- Spin-0 solution: ([Helsop,Lipstein](#))

$$F^{\text{spin-0}}(u, v) = C^{(0)} \lambda^2 uv \bar{D}_{5755}(u, v)$$

- Anomalous dimensions:

$$\gamma_{n,0}^{\text{spin-0}} = -\frac{C^{(0)}(n+1)_8(n+2)_6}{2240(2n+7)(2n+9)(2n+11)}$$

- Scales like n^{11} in the large- n limit.

Effective Action

- At large twist, $\gamma^{\text{spin-0}} / \gamma^{\text{sugra}} \sim n^6$
- This suggests that term in the bulk effective action corresponding to the spin-0 solution has six more derivatives than the supergravity Lagrangian, and is therefore of the form $(\text{Riemann})^4$.
- This is the M-theoretic analogue of $(\alpha')^3$ corrections in string theory and was previously deduced in flat space by uplifting string amplitudes ([Green, Vanhove](#))
- Similarly, we obtained solutions up to 20 derivatives (truncated spin 4) by guessing crossing symmetric functions and checking their CPW expansions.

Recursion Relations

- Recall crossing eq:

$$\sum_{n,l \geq 0} \left[A_{n,l}^{(1)} G_{\Delta,l}^S(z, \bar{z}) + \frac{1}{2} A_{n,l}^{(0)} \gamma_{n,l} \partial_n G_{\Delta,l}^S(z, \bar{z}) \right] + (u \leftrightarrow v) = 0$$

- Conformal blocks have schematic structure

$$G_{\Delta,l}^S(z, \bar{z}) \sim \sum u^n h_\alpha(z) h_\beta(\bar{z})$$

where $h_\beta(z) = {}_2F_1(\beta/2, \beta/2 - 1, \beta, z)$

- $\partial_n G_{\Delta,l}^B(z, \bar{z})$ gives a term with $\log(u) = \log(z\bar{z})$ so isolate $\gamma_{n,l}$ by taking

$$z \rightarrow 0 \text{ and } \bar{z} \rightarrow 1.$$

- In order for crossing equations to be consistent, the $\log(z)$ coming from $\partial_n G_{\Delta,l}^B(z, \bar{z})$ must be accompanied by a $\log(1 - \bar{z})$. Such terms arise from

$$h_\beta(\bar{z}) = \log(1 - \bar{z}) (1 - \bar{z}) \tilde{h}_\beta(1 - \bar{z}) + \text{holomorphic at } \bar{z} = 1$$

where

$$\tilde{h}_\beta(z) = \frac{\Gamma(\beta)}{\Gamma(\beta/2)\Gamma(\beta/2 - 1)} {}_2F_1(\beta/2 + 1, \beta/2, 2, z)$$

- Collecting terms proportional to $\log(z) \log(1 - \bar{z})$ then gives a refined crossing eq:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n,l \geq 0} A_{n,l}^{(0)} \gamma_{n,l} \left(\partial_n G_{\Delta,l}^S(z, \bar{z}) \right) \Big|_{\log z \log(1-\bar{z})} = \\ & - \sum_{n,l \geq 0} A_{n,l}^{(0)} \gamma_{n,l} \left(\partial_n G_{\Delta,l}^S(1-z, 1-\bar{z}) \right) \Big|_{\log z \log(1-\bar{z})} \end{aligned}$$

- To get numerical recursion relations, multiply by

$$\frac{h_{-2q}(z)}{z^q(1-z)} \times \frac{h_{-2p}(1-\bar{z})}{(1-\bar{z})^p \bar{z}}$$

and perform contour integrals around $(z, \bar{z}) = (0, 1)$

- Use orthogonality of hypergeometrics

$$\delta_{m,m'} = \oint \frac{dz}{2\pi i} \frac{z^{m-m'-1}}{1-z} h_{2m+4}(z) h_{-2m'-2}(z)$$

and define

$$\mathcal{I}_{m,m'} = \oint \frac{dz}{2\pi i} \frac{(1-z)^{m-3}}{z^{m'-1}} \tilde{h}_{2m}(z) h_{-2m'}(z)$$

- Master equation:

$$\begin{aligned}
0 = & \sum_{l=0}^L \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_{n,l}^{(0)} \gamma_{n,l} \left[P_{n,l} (\delta_{q,n} \mathcal{I}_{n+l+6,p+2} - \delta_{q,n+l+3} \mathcal{I}_{n+3,p+2}) \right. \\
& + Q_{n,l} (\delta_{q,n+2} \mathcal{I}_{n+l+6,p+2} - \delta_{q,n+l+3} \mathcal{I}_{n+5,p+2}) \\
& + R_{n,l} (\delta_{q,n+l+2} \mathcal{I}_{n+4,p+2} - \delta_{q,n+1} \mathcal{I}_{n+l+5,p+2}) \\
& \left. + S_{n,l} (\delta_{q,n+l+4} \mathcal{I}_{n+4,p+2} - \delta_{q,n+1} \mathcal{I}_{n+l+7,p+2}) - (q \leftrightarrow p) \right]
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
P_{n,l} &= \frac{l+1}{(n+3)(n+l+5)}, & Q_{n,l} &= \frac{(l+3)(n+5)(2n+l+8)}{4(2n+7)(2n+9)(n+l+5)(2n+l+10)}, \\
R_{n,l} &= \frac{l+3}{(n+3)(n+l+5)}, & S_{n,l} &= \frac{(l+1)(n+l+7)(2n+l+8)}{4(n+3)(2n+l+10)(2n+2l+11)(2n+2l+13)}.
\end{aligned}$$

- Recursion relations follow from choosing (p,q) appropriately and solutions are labelled by spin truncation L.

Solutions

- Let's first consider $L=0$. Choosing $q=0$ gives the following recursion relation in terms of p , which is readily solved on a computer to give

$$\gamma_{n,0}^{\text{spin-0}} = \gamma_{0,0} \frac{11 (n+1)_8 (n+2)_6}{2304000 (2n+7) (2n+9) (2n+11)}$$

where $\gamma_{0,0}$ is an unfixed parameter.

- For spin- L truncation, the solution will depend on $(L+2)(L+8)/4$ free parameters, in agreement with holographic arguments based on counting bulk vertices

Conclusions

- Found recursion relations for anomalous dimensions of double-trace operators in CPW expansion of 4-point stress tensor correlators in M5-brane theory.
- Solutions encode the low-energy effective action for M-theory on $\text{AdS}_7 \times S^4$, at least up to four-point interactions with unfixed coefficients.
- **Next:** Fix coefficients in M-theory effective action using chiral algebra conjecture [Beem, Rastelli, van Rees/Chester, Perlmutter](#)
- Explore loop expansion using methods developed for N=4 SYM by [Aprile, Drummond, Heslop, Paul/Alday, Bissi](#)