

Gravitational Wilson networks and conformal field theory

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Outline

- Large- c CFT and conformal blocks
- Wilson networks in AdS
- AdS/CFT correspondence

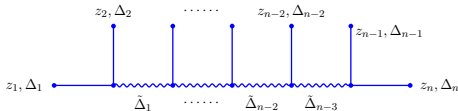
large- c CFT

Conformal correlation functions

- The n -point correlation function of $\mathcal{O}_{\Delta_j, \bar{\Delta}_j}(z_j, \bar{z}_j)$, $i = 1, \dots, n$:

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_1, \bar{\Delta}_1}(z_1, \bar{z}_1) \dots \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_n, \bar{\Delta}_n}(z_n, \bar{z}_n) \rangle = \sum_{(\bar{\Delta}_1, \bar{\Delta}_1), \dots, (\bar{\Delta}_{n-3}, \bar{\Delta}_{n-3})} C_{12\bar{1}} \dots C_{\bar{n}-3n-1n} \mathcal{F} \bar{\mathcal{F}}$$

(Holomorphic) conformal blocks $\mathcal{F}(z_1, \dots, z_n | \Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_n; \bar{\Delta}_1, \dots, \bar{\Delta}_{n-3} | c)$ in the OPE **comb channel** (there are many others)



- The 4-point conformal block ($z_1 = \infty, z_2 = 1, z_3 = z < 1, z_4 = 0$):

$$\mathcal{F}(z | \Delta_j, \bar{\Delta}, c) = z^{\bar{\Delta} - \Delta_1 - \Delta_2} \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} F_N z^N \sim 1 + \frac{(\bar{\Delta} - \Delta_1 + \Delta_2)(\bar{\Delta} - \Delta_4 + \Delta_3)}{2\bar{\Delta}} z + F_2 z^2 + \dots$$

where

$$F_2 = \frac{(\bar{\Delta} + \Delta_2 - \Delta_1)(\bar{\Delta} + \Delta_2 - \Delta_1 + 1)(\bar{\Delta} + \Delta_3 - \Delta_4)(\bar{\Delta} + \Delta_3 - \Delta_4 + 1)}{4\bar{\Delta}(2\bar{\Delta} + 1)} +$$

$$+ 2 \left(\frac{\Delta_1 + \Delta_2}{2} + \frac{3(\Delta_1 - \Delta_2)^2}{2(1 + 2\bar{\Delta})} + \frac{(\bar{\Delta} - 1)\bar{\Delta}}{2(1 + 2\bar{\Delta})} \right) \left(c + \frac{2\bar{\Delta}(8\bar{\Delta} - 5)}{(1 + 2\bar{\Delta})} \right)^{-1} \left(\frac{\Delta_3 + \Delta_4}{2} + \frac{3(\Delta_4 - \Delta_3)^2}{2(1 + 2\bar{\Delta})} + \frac{(\bar{\Delta} - 1)\bar{\Delta}}{2(1 + 2\bar{\Delta})} \right)$$

Large- c CFT

- Different large- c regimes of conformal blocks depend on the behavior of Δ_i and $\tilde{\Delta}_i$:
 - $\Delta, \tilde{\Delta} = \mathcal{O}(c^0)$: **light** operators
 - $\Delta, \tilde{\Delta} = \mathcal{O}(c^1)$: **heavy** operators
 - $\Delta, \tilde{\Delta} = \mathcal{O}(c^\alpha)$: **α -heavy** operators, $\alpha \geq 0$
- E.g. Kac dimensions of degenerate operators:

$$\Delta_{r,s} = \frac{c-1}{24} + \frac{1}{4}(a_+ r + a_- s)^2, \quad \text{where } a_\pm = \frac{\sqrt{1-c} \pm \sqrt{25-c}}{\sqrt{24}}, \quad r, s \in \mathbb{N}$$

Large- c expansion:

$$\Delta_{r,s} = \frac{1}{24}c(1-r^2) + \frac{1}{24}(13r^2 - 12rs - 1) + \frac{3(r-s)(r+s)}{2c} + \mathcal{O}(c^{-2})$$

Note that at $r=1$ one has $-\Delta_{1,s} = \frac{s-1}{2}$ (i.e. degenerate $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ modules)

- E.g. the twist operators in the replica trick:

$$\Delta_n = \frac{c}{24} \left(n - \frac{1}{n} \right), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}$$

- *Three types of conformal blocks:*
 - **Global** conformal block — all operators are light (this is the $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ block; in CFT_d all conformal blocks are global)
 - **Classical** conformal block — all operators are heavy ($\mathcal{F} \sim \exp(c F_{cl}(\Delta/c, \tilde{\Delta}/c))$, [Zamolodchikov 1988](#))
 - **Heavy-light** blocks interpolate between these two extreme regimes

Global conformal symmetry in the large- c

- Virasoro algebra commutation relations

$$[L_m, L_n] = (m - n)L_{m+n} + \frac{c}{12}m(m^2 - 1)\delta_{m+n,0}, \quad m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Primary operators transform as

$$[L_m, \mathcal{O}_\Delta(z)] = z^m(z\partial_z + (m+1)\Delta)\mathcal{O}_\Delta(z)$$

- Inönü-Wigner contraction for the Virasoro algebra, where the deformation parameter is c^{-1} .

Rescaled Virasoro generators:

$$L_{0,\pm 1} \rightarrow l_{0,\pm 1} = L_{0,\pm 1}, \quad L_m \rightarrow a_m = L_m/c, \quad |m| \geq 2$$

The contracted Virasoro algebra splits into $sl(2)$ algebra and the inf-dim Abelian algebra \mathcal{A} ,

$$[l_m, l_n] = (m - n)l_{m+n}, \quad [a_m, a_n] = 0$$

In the limit $c \rightarrow \infty$, keeping the conformal dimension Δ finite we find that the primary operator transforms as

$$[l_m, \mathcal{O}_\Delta(z)] = z^m(z\partial_z + (m+1)\Delta)\mathcal{O}_\Delta(z), \quad [a_m, \mathcal{O}_\Delta(z)] = 0$$

i.e. $\mathcal{O}_\Delta(z)$ are $sl(2)$ primary operators and a_m -singlets.

- Global blocks can be calculated via $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ matrix elements.

Global conformal blocks

The n -point global conformal block in the comb channel (Ferrara et al 1976, K.A., Belavin 2015, Rosenhaus 2018):

$$\mathcal{F}_{\Delta, \tilde{\Delta}}(z) = \mathcal{L}_{\Delta}(z) G_{\Delta, \tilde{\Delta}}(\chi(z))$$

- leg factor

$$\mathcal{L}_{\Delta}(z) = \left(\frac{z_{23}}{z_{12}z_{13}} \right)^{h_1} \left(\frac{z_{n-2, n-1}}{z_{n-2, n}z_{n-1, n}} \right)^{h_n} \prod_{i=1}^{n-2} \left(\frac{z_{i, i+2}}{z_{i, i+1}z_{i+1, i+2}} \right)^{h_{i+1}}$$

- cross-ratios

$$\chi_i = \frac{z_{i, i+1}z_{i+2, i+3}}{z_{i, i+2}z_{i+1, i+3}}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n-3$$

- n -point (bare) conformal block

$$G_{\Delta, \tilde{\Delta}} = \left(\prod_{i=1}^{n-3} \chi_i^{\tilde{\Delta}_i} \right) F_K \left[\begin{matrix} \Delta_1 - \Delta_2 + \tilde{\Delta}_1, \dots, \Delta_n - \Delta_{n-1} + \tilde{\Delta}_{n-3} \\ \tilde{\Delta}_1, \dots, \tilde{\Delta}_{n-3} \end{matrix} \middle| \chi_1, \dots, \chi_{n-3} \right]$$

- and F_K is the comb function (Rosenhaus 2018)

$$F_K \left[\begin{matrix} a_1, b_1, \dots, b_{k-1}, a_2 \\ c_1, \dots, c_k \end{matrix} \middle| x_1, \dots, x_k \right] \\ = \sum_{l_1, \dots, l_k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a_1)_{l_1} (b_1)_{l_1+l_2} (b_2)_{l_2+l_3} \dots (b_{k-1})_{l_{k-1}+l_k} (a_2)_{l_k}}{(c_1)_{l_1} \dots (c_k)_{l_k}} \frac{x_1^{l_1}}{l_1!} \dots \frac{x_k^{l_k}}{l_k!}$$

- $(x)_n = \Gamma(x+n)/\Gamma(x)$ are Pochhammer symbols
- Gauss ${}_2F_1$ and Appell F_2 functions
- the blocks = eigenfunctions of $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ Casimir equations in each exchange channel

Gravity in AdS

Topological gravities in lower dimensions

There are no local PDof:

vanishing Weyl tensor: $C_{mn,kl} = 0$

Indeed,

$$R_{mn,kl} = C_{mn,kl} + \text{on-shell terms}$$

- The cosmological constant $\Lambda \neq 0$
- $d = 3$: the metric g_{mn} and EOM $R_{mn} + \Lambda g_{mn} = 0$ – Einstein theory
- $d = 2$: the metric g_{mn} , the scalar ϕ and EOM $R + \Lambda = 0$ – Jackiw-Teitelboim theory

The frame formulations:

- $d = 3$: $S_{CS} = \int_{M^3} \text{Tr}(dAA + A^3)$, where A is $\mathfrak{o}(2, 2)$ -connection (Achúcarro, Townsend 1986, Witten 1988)
- $d = 2$: $S_{BF} = \int_{M^2} \text{Tr}(BF)$, where A is $\mathfrak{o}(2, 1)$ -connection, $F = dA + A^2$ and B – 0-form (Fukuyama, Kamimura 1985)
- The chiral factorization: $\mathfrak{o}(2, 2) \approx \mathfrak{o}(2, 1) \oplus \mathfrak{o}(2, 1)$ and $\mathfrak{o}(2, 1) \approx \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{R})$

The common EOM:

$$F = dA + A^2 = 0 : \quad \text{gravitational flat connections}$$

AdS₂ spacetime

- Any solution is locally AdS
- From now on, assuming the chiral factorization we will be discussing AdS₂ flat connections

- The gauge algebra is $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{R})$:

$$[J_m, J_n] = (m - n)J_{m+n}$$

where $n, m = 0, \pm 1$

- The local coordinates on AdS₂: $x^\mu = (\rho, z)$, where $\rho, z \in \mathbb{R}$
- The AdS₂ solution ([Banados 1998](#)):

$$A = e^{-\rho J_0} (J_1 dz) e^{\rho J_0} + J_0 d\rho \equiv A_\mu^m dx^\mu J_m$$

- The associated metric $g_{\mu\nu} = e_\mu \cdot e_\nu$, where $(e_\mu, \omega_\mu) = A_\mu$:

$$ds^2 = e^{2\rho} dz^2 + d\rho^2$$

with the conformal boundary at $\rho = \infty$ (actually, there are two conformal boundaries)

A primer on $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ representations \mathcal{R}_j

- Finite-dimensional series.** $\mathcal{R}_j = \mathcal{D}_j$ with weights $j \in \mathbb{N}_0/2$, $\dim \mathcal{D}_j = 2j + 1$. The standard ladder basis is given by

$$\{\mathcal{D}_j \ni |j, m\rangle : J_0 |j, m\rangle = m |j, m\rangle, m = -j, -j + 1, \dots, j - 1, j\}$$

where the highest-weight (HW) vector $|j, j\rangle$ is defined by

$$J_0 |j, j\rangle = j |j, j\rangle \quad J_{-1} |j, j\rangle = 0$$

- Negative discrete series.** $\mathcal{R}_j = \mathcal{D}_j^-$ with weights $j \in \mathbb{R}$, $\dim \mathcal{D}_j = \infty$. The basis is given by

$$\{\mathcal{D}_j^- \ni |j, m\rangle : J_0 |j, m\rangle = m |j, m\rangle, m = j, j - 1, j - 2, \dots, -\infty\}$$

where $|j, j\rangle$ is a HW vector and m is generally non-integer.

- If $j \in \mathbb{N}_0/2$ then the respective module contains a singular vector (**light Kac dimensions**) so that

$$\mathcal{D}_j^- / \mathcal{S}_{-j-1} \approx \mathcal{D}_j$$

where $\mathcal{S}_{-j-1} \subset \mathcal{D}_j^-$ is the singular subspace.

In both types of modules \mathcal{R}_j the action of $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ algebra is defined as

$$J_0 |j, m\rangle = m |j, m\rangle$$

$$J_1 |j, m\rangle = \sqrt{(m+j)(j-m+1)} |j, m-1\rangle \equiv M(j, m-1) |j, m-1\rangle$$

$$J_{-1} |j, m\rangle = -\sqrt{(m+j+1)(j-m)} |j, m+1\rangle \equiv -M(j, m) |j, m+1\rangle$$

The zeros of $M(j, m)$ define the passage from \mathcal{D}_j^- to \mathcal{D}_j since they correspond to singular vectors.

Gravitational Wilson line

The basic object is a Wilson line:

$$W_j[L] = \mathbb{P} \exp - \int_L A_j$$

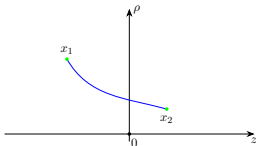
where

- #1 L – a path in AdS_2 from x_1 to x_2 and \mathbb{P} is the path-ordering operator
- #2 A_j takes values in $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{R})$ module \mathcal{R}_j , fin-dim or inf-dim.
- #3 a gauge transformation: $A \rightarrow gA g^{-1} + g dg^{-1}$, $W_j[L] \rightarrow g(x_2) W_j[L] g^{-1}(x_1)$
- #4 a path transitivity: $W_j[L_1 + L_2] = W_j[L_2] W_j[L_1]$
- #5 The main property:

$$W_j[L] = W_j[x_1, x_2]$$

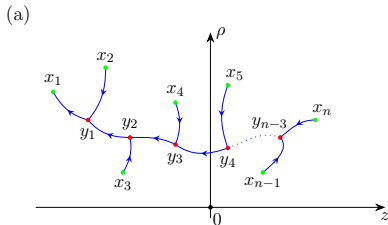
i.e. for a flat connection it depends on $x_{1,2}$ only! In our case:

$$W_j[x_1, x_2] = e^{-\rho_2 J_0} e^{z_1 J_1} e^{\rho_1 J_0}, \quad \text{where } x_i = (z_i, \rho_i)$$



Gravitational Wilson networks, I

Let us now compose Wilson lines into a network:



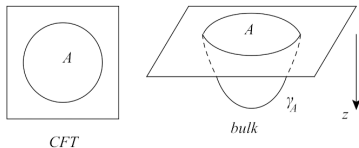
There are:

1. n endpoints (green dots, coordinates x_i)
2. n external legs (Wilson lines)
3. $n - 3$ internal legs (Wilson lines)
4. $n - 3$ three-valent vertices (red dots, coordinates y_i)
5. Each Wilson line carries its own \mathcal{R}_j

Motivation, finally

Why conformal blocks and networks?

- Ryu-Takayanagi entanglement entropy formula (2006): $S_A = \min_{\gamma_A} \frac{\text{area}(\gamma_A)}{4G_N}$



- Replica trick for the entanglement entropy:

$$\text{Renyi entropies } S_A^{(n)} = \frac{1}{1-n} \log \text{Tr} \rho_A^n \quad \text{and} \quad S_A = \lim_{n \rightarrow 1} S_A^{(n)}$$

When A consists of N disjoint intervals, the Renyi entropy can be realized as a $2N$ -point conformal correlation function of the twist operators (Calabrese, Cardy 2009):

$$\text{Tr} \rho_A^n \sim \langle \mathcal{O}_1 \dots \mathcal{O}_{2N} \rangle, \quad \Delta(\mathcal{O}_i) \sim c$$

The S_A in CFT_2 is calculated in the large- c regime by the Zamolodchikov conformal block (Hartman 2013)

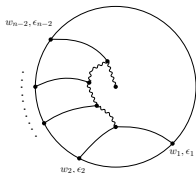
$$\sim \exp(c F_{cl})$$

Why conformal blocks and networks?

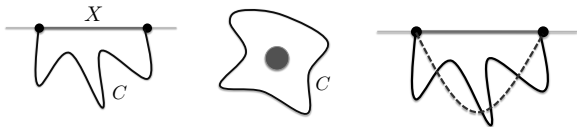
The Brown-Henneaux relation $c \sim 1/G_N$

- Geodesic networks vs large- c conformal blocks (Fitzpatrick et al 2013, Hijano et al 2015, K.A., Belavin 2015, Datta et al 2016)

$$\text{area}(\gamma_A) \sim F_{cl}$$

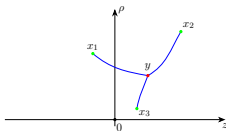


- Metric vs frame formulation of gravity theory and Wilson lines/loops vs geodesics (Amon et al 2016, Castro et al 2018)



AdS, back again

3-valent intertwiner



- The 3-valent intertwiner:

$$\text{Inv}(\mathcal{R}_{j_1} \otimes \mathcal{R}_{j_2} \otimes \mathcal{R}_{j_3}) \ni I_{j_1 j_2 j_3} : \mathcal{R}_{j_2} \otimes \mathcal{R}_{j_3} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_{j_1}$$

- The invariance property:

$$I_{j_1 j_2 j_3} U_{j_2} U_{j_3} = U_{j_1} I_{j_1 j_2 j_3}$$

where U_j are $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ operators of the corresponding representations.

- The basic idea is an invariant contraction: $I_{a\alpha A} X^a Y^\alpha Z^A$
- To have a non-trivial intertwiner the weights of three representations must be constrained. The Clebsch-Gordan series

$$\mathcal{R}_{j_2} \otimes \mathcal{R}_{j_3} = \bigoplus_{j_1} \mathcal{R}_{j_1}$$

If \mathcal{D}_{j_1} does arise in the CG series then the intertwiner is just a projector, otherwise it is zero. In components, the CG coefficient takes the form

$$|j_2, m\rangle \otimes |j_3, n\rangle = \sum_k \left(\langle j_1, k | I_{j_1 j_2 j_3} |j_2, m\rangle \otimes |j_3, n\rangle \right) |j_1, k\rangle$$

where the summation domain depends on the type of modules \mathcal{R}_{j_i} .

3j symbol

The intertwiner as 3j symbol:

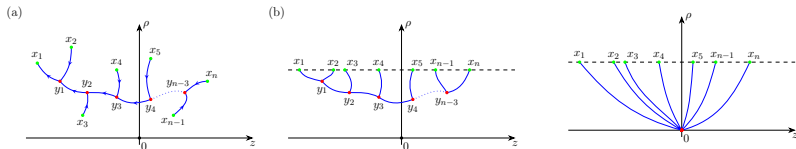
$$\langle j_1, k | l_{j_1 j_2 j_3} | j_2, m \rangle \otimes | j_3, n \rangle \equiv [l_{j_1 j_2 j_3}]^k_{mn} = (-1)^{j_1 - k} \begin{pmatrix} j_1 & j_2 & j_3 \\ -k & m & n \end{pmatrix}$$

The explicit form of the 3j symbol (e.g. in [Varshalovich et al 1987](#))

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} j_1 & j_2 & j_3 \\ m_1 & m_2 & m_3 \end{pmatrix} &= \delta_{m_1+m_2+m_3,0} \frac{\sqrt{(j_3 - j_1 + j_2)!} \sqrt{(-j_3 + j_1 + j_2)!} \sqrt{(j_3 + j_1 + j_2 + 1)!}}{(j_3 + j_1 + j_2 + 1)! \sqrt{(j_3 + j_1 - j_2)!}} \\ &\times \frac{\sqrt{(j_3 - m_3)!} \sqrt{(j_1 - m_1)!}}{\sqrt{(j_3 + m_3)!} \sqrt{(j_1 + m_1)!} \sqrt{(j_2 - m_2)!} \sqrt{(j_2 + m_2)!}} \frac{(-)^{j_1+m_2-m_3} (2j_3)! (j_3 + j_2 + m_1)!}{(j_3 - j_1 + j_2)! (j_3 - m_3)!} \\ &\times {}_3F_2(-j_3 + m_3, -j_3 - j_1 - j_2 - 1, -j_3 + j_1 - j_2; -2j_3, -j_3 - j_2 - m_1; 1) \end{aligned}$$

- Note that weights j_1, j_2, j_3 satisfy the selection rules (triangle inequalities).
- We assume that $j! = \Gamma(j + 1)$ for $j \in \mathbb{R}$ ([Holman et al 1966](#)).

Gravitational Wilson networks: AdS vertex functions



- The Wilson line **network operator**:

$$\widehat{W}_{\vec{j}_1 \dots \vec{j}_{n-3}}^{j_1 \dots j_n}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := \left(W_{j_1}[y_1, x_1] I_{j_1 j_2 \vec{j}_1} W_{\vec{j}_1}[y_2, y_1] I_{\vec{j}_1 j_3 \vec{j}_2} \dots W_{\vec{j}_{n-3}}[y_{n-2}, y_{n-3}] I_{\vec{j}_{n-3} j_{n-1} j_n} \right) \\ \times \left(W_{j_2}[x_2, y_1] \dots W_{j_{n-1}}[x_{n-1}, y_{n-2}] W_{j_n}[x_n, y_{n-3}] \right)$$

where the sets of endpoints and vertices are $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ and $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_{n-3})$.

- Let us now associate to each endpoint a particular **cap state** $|a_i\rangle \in \mathcal{R}_{j_i}$. Then, one introduces the **AdS vertex function**

$$\mathcal{V}_{\vec{j}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \equiv \langle a_1 | \widehat{W}_{\vec{j}_1 \dots \vec{j}_{n-3}}^{j_1 \dots j_n}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) | a_2 \rangle \otimes | a_3 \rangle \otimes \dots \otimes | a_n \rangle,$$

- Using the intertwiner invariance property and the path transitivity one can set $\mathbf{y} = 0$ (see Fig. 2 and Fig. 3)

$$\mathcal{V}_{\vec{j}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_{\vec{j}}(\mathbf{z}, \rho)$$

where $\mathbf{z} = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$ are the boundary points and ρ labels the line which will be finally pulled at (conformal) infinity, $\rho \rightarrow \infty$.

- By using the identity resolutions

$$\mathbb{I}_j = \sum_m |j, m\rangle \langle j, m|$$

the AdS vertex function can be represented as a matrix product

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{V}_{jj}(\mathbf{z}, \rho) &= \sum_{\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{p}} \langle j_1, m_1 | I_{j_1 j_2 \tilde{j}_1} | j_2, m_2 \rangle \otimes | \tilde{j}_1, p_1 \rangle \langle \tilde{j}_1, p_1 | I_{\tilde{j}_1 j_3 \tilde{j}_2} | j_3, m_3 \rangle \otimes | \tilde{j}_2, p_2 \rangle \cdots \\ &\cdots \langle \tilde{j}_{n-3}, p_{n-3} | I_{\tilde{j}_{n-3} j_{n-1} j_n} | j_{n-1}, m_{n-1} \rangle \otimes | j_n, m_n \rangle \left(\langle \tilde{a}_1 | j_1, m_1 \rangle \langle j_2, m_2 | \tilde{a}_2 \rangle \cdots \langle j_n, m_n | \tilde{a}_n \rangle \right) \end{aligned}$$

where

- **x-dependent cap states**

$$\langle \tilde{a}_1 | = \langle a_1 | W_{j_1} [0, x_1] \quad \text{and} \quad | \tilde{a}_i \rangle = W_{j_i} [x_i, 0] | a_i \rangle, \quad i = 2, \dots, n$$

- (magnetic) indices $\mathbf{m} = (m_1, \dots, m_n)$ and $\mathbf{p} = (p_1, \dots, p_{n-3})$
- there are $3n - 3$ independent (infinite) summations
- The AdS vertex function can be cast into the equivalent form:

$$\mathcal{V}_{jj}(\mathbf{z}, \rho) = \langle \tilde{a}_1 | I_{j_1 \dots j_n | \tilde{j}_1 \dots \tilde{j}_{n-3}} | \tilde{a}_2 \rangle \otimes \cdots \otimes | \tilde{a}_n \rangle$$

where the n -valent intertwiner is given by

$$I_{j_1 \dots j_n | \tilde{j}_1 \dots \tilde{j}_{n-3}} = I_{j_1 j_2 \tilde{j}_1} I_{j_1 j_3 \tilde{j}_2} \cdots I_{j_{n-3} j_{n-1} j_n} : \quad (n-2) \text{ } 3j \text{ symbols in the comb channel}$$

with the generalized intertwiner invariance property

$$I_{j_1 \dots j_n | \tilde{j}_1 \dots \tilde{j}_{n-3}} = U_{j_1}^{-1} I_{j_1 \dots j_n | \tilde{j}_1 \dots \tilde{j}_{n-3}} U_{j_2} \cdots U_{j_n}$$

AdS/CFT

AdS/CFT correspondence: extrapolate dictionary

- The standard AdS/CFT: $Z_{AdS} = Z_{CFT}$ for two dual theories.
- For AdS₂ scalar quantum fields $\hat{\phi}_i(\rho_i, z_i)$ with masses m_i the extrapolate dictionary gives

$$\lim_{\rho \rightarrow \infty} e^{\rho \sum \Delta_i} \langle \hat{\phi}_1(\rho, z_1) \cdots \hat{\phi}_n(\rho, z_n) \rangle_{AdS} = \langle \hat{\mathcal{O}}_1(z_1) \cdots \hat{\mathcal{O}}_n(z_n) \rangle_{CFT}$$

where

1. conformal dimensions Δ_i are related to masses as $m_i^2 = \Delta_i(\Delta_i - 1)$
 2. all AdS fields are placed on the hypersurface $\rho = const \rightarrow$ conformal boundary
- Extrapolate dictionary \leftrightarrow HKLL reconstruction ([Hamilton, Kabat, Lifschytz, Lowe 2006](#)) as for three types of Witten diagrams
 - In our context the AdS vertex functions are assumed to reproduce CFT correlation functions in the way which is essentially the same as the extrapolate dictionary relation.
- #1 The AdS vertex functions are not literally AdS scalar correlation functions
 - #2 the AdS vertex functions must be subject to particular spacetime symmetry criteria that mimic those satisfied by AdS scalar correlation functions

Spacetime invariance and cap states

- We require the AdS vertex functions to be invariant with respect to AdS₂ spacetime isometry transformations:

$$\mathcal{V}_{j\bar{j}}(\mathbf{x}') = \mathcal{V}_{j\bar{j}}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{x}'(\mathbf{x}) \in SL(2, \mathbb{R})$$

The infinitesimal form of the symmetry condition is given by three global **Ward identities**

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{J}_m^{(i)} \mathcal{V}_{j\bar{j}}(x_1, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_n) = 0 \quad m = 0, \pm 1$$

where $\mathcal{J}_m = \xi_m^\mu \partial_\mu$ are the Lie derivatives along the Killing vector fields $\xi_m(x)$ of the AdS₂ spacetime

$$\mathcal{J}_{-1} = \partial_z, \quad \mathcal{J}_0 = z\partial_z - \partial_\rho, \quad \mathcal{J}_1 = z^2\partial_z - 2z\partial_\rho - e^{-2\rho}\partial_z$$

The superscript i indicates that the derivative is taken with respect to the i -th coordinate.

- For general values of the radial coordinates ρ_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$, the system of PDEs has $2n - 3$ first integrals. The hypersurface the AdS vertex functions are parameterized as

$$\mathcal{V}_{j\bar{j}}(\mathbf{x}) \Big|_{\rho_1 = \dots = \rho_n = \rho} = \mathcal{V}_{j\bar{j}}(\mathbf{z}, \rho) = \mathcal{V}_{j\bar{j}}(q_{12}, \dots, q_{n-1,n})$$

where

$$q_{i,i+1} = (z_{i+1} - z_i)e^\rho, \quad i = 1, \dots, n-1$$

Spacetime invariance and cap states

The Ward identities uniquely fix the form of the cap states $|a\rangle$:

$$\text{Ishibashi state : } (J_1 + J_{-1}) |a\rangle = 0$$

- At $j \neq \mathbb{N}_0$ there is a unique (up to a normalization) vector $|a\rangle \equiv |j\rangle \in \mathcal{D}_j^-$:

$$|j\rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{(-)^n}{-4kj + 4k^2 - 2k} (J_1)^{2n} |j, j\rangle$$

- At $j \in \mathbb{N}_0$ the module \mathcal{D}_j^- has a singular vector which additionally generates a new solution: the kernel of $J_1 + J_{-1}$ becomes two-dimensional and the two basis cap states read

$$|j\rangle_1 = \sum_{n=0}^j \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{(-)^n}{-4kj + 4k^2 - 2k} (J_1)^{2n} |j, j\rangle$$

$$|j\rangle_2 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{(-)^n}{4kj + 4k^2 + 2k} (J_1)^{2n} |j, -j - 1\rangle$$

- The case of finite-dimensional modules \mathcal{D}_j with $j \in \mathbb{N}_0$: $|j\rangle = |j\rangle_1$

Wilsonian extrapolate relation

- The extrapolate dictionary:

$$\lim_{\rho \rightarrow \infty} e^{-\rho \sum_{i=1}^n j_i} \mathcal{V}_{j\tilde{j}}(\rho, \mathbf{z}) = C_{j\tilde{j}} \mathcal{F}_{h\tilde{h}}(\mathbf{z})$$

where weights and conformal dimensions are identified as $h_i = -j_i$ and $\tilde{h}_k = -\tilde{j}_k$.

- The normalization coefficients $C_{j\tilde{j}} \equiv C_{j_1 \dots j_n \tilde{j}_1 \dots \tilde{j}_{n-3}}$:

$$n = 2: \quad C_{j_1 j_2} = \frac{\delta_{j_1 j_2}}{(2j_1 + 1)^{\frac{1}{2}}}; \quad n = 3: \quad C_{j_1 j_2 j_3} = \left[\frac{(2j_1)!(2j_2)!(2j_3)!}{\Delta(j_1, j_2, j_3)} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$n > 3: \quad C_{j\tilde{j}} = C_{j_1 j_2 \tilde{j}_1} \left[\prod_{i=1}^{n-4} C_{j_i j_{i+2} \tilde{j}_{i+1}} \right] C_{j_{n-3} j_{n-1} j_n} \quad \text{the comb channel}$$

where $\Delta(a, b, c) = (a + b + c + 1)!(a + b - c)!(a + c - b)!(b + c - a)!$ is the modified triangle coefficient.

- AdS vertex functions are defined up to multiplicative constants. Non-vanishing and real $C_{j_1 j_2 j_3}$ yield triangle inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned} 1) \quad j_1, j_2 \in \mathbb{N}_0/2, j_3 \in \mathbb{Z} : \quad & |j_1 - j_2| \leq |j_3| \leq j_1 + j_2 \\ 2) \quad \text{in other cases} : \quad & j_3 \leq j_1 + j_2 \end{aligned}$$

Wilson line matrix elements and their asymptotics

- We recall that

$$\mathcal{V}_{jj}(\mathbf{z}, \rho) = \sum_{m_1, \dots, m_n} \langle j_1, m_1 | I_{j_1 \dots j_n} | \tilde{j}_1 \dots \tilde{j}_{n-3} | j_2, m_2 \rangle \otimes | j_n, m_n \rangle \left(\langle \tilde{a}_1 | j_1, m_1 \rangle \langle j_2, m_2 | \tilde{a}_2 \rangle \cdots \langle j_n, m_n | \tilde{a}_n \rangle \right)$$

The x -dependence is in the blue terms only: $\langle \tilde{a} | j, m \rangle = \langle a | W_j[0, x] | j, m \rangle$ and $\langle j, m | \tilde{a} \rangle = \langle j, m | W_j[x, 0] | a \rangle$

- Denote $q = -ze^{\rho}$. The left and right Wilson matrix elements are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle j, m | \tilde{a} \rangle &\sim e^{+\rho m} (q+i)^{j-m} {}_2F_1 \left(-j, m-j; m+1 \middle| \frac{q-i}{q+i} \right) \\ \langle \tilde{a} | j, m \rangle &\sim e^{-\rho m} (q+i)^j (q-i)^m {}_2F_1 \left(-j, m-j; m+1 \middle| \frac{q-i}{q+i} \right) \end{aligned}$$

- The radius of convergence of $\langle \tilde{a} | j, m \rangle$ equals one, i.e. $|q| < 1$. In terms of ρ -coordinate one has $\rho < -\log |z|$, which means that for arbitrary z the radius of convergence in ρ goes to zero. Nonetheless, the function can be analytically continued past $|q| = 1$ thereby making the large- ρ expansion possible.

- The asymptotic ($\rho \rightarrow \infty$ i.e. $q \rightarrow \infty$) Wilson matrix elements:

$$\langle \tilde{a} | j, m \rangle \approx e^{-\rho m} q^{j+m} \sim e^{\rho j} z^{j+m} \quad \langle j, m | \tilde{a} \rangle \approx e^{\rho m} q^{j-m} \sim e^{\rho j} z^{j-m}$$

- There are singular vector subleading contributions.

Asymptotic conformal invariance

- Near the boundary the Ward identities for AdS vertex functions go to the Ward identities for CFT correlation functions. One directly finds how the AdS₂ Killing generators are restricted on the boundary:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{J}_n \langle j, m | \bar{a} \rangle &= \mathcal{L}_n \langle j, m | \bar{a} \rangle + O(e^{\rho(j-1)}) \\ \mathcal{J}_n \langle \bar{a} | j, m \rangle &= \mathcal{L}_n \langle \bar{a} | j, m \rangle + O(e^{\rho(j-1)})\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mathcal{L}_n = z^{n+1} \partial_z - j(n+1)z^n, \quad n = 0, \pm 1$$

which is the standard realization of $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ on CFT primary fields of conformal dimension $h = -j$.

- Substituting these relations into the AdS Ward identities:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}_m^{(i)} \mathcal{V}_{j\bar{j}}(x_1, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_n) \Big|_{\rho_1 = \dots = \rho_n = \rho} = 0 + O(e^{\rho(\sum_{i=1}^n j_i - 1)}),$$

Taking the limit $\rho \rightarrow \infty$ and using the extrapolate dictionary identification one finds out that the above relation goes into **the $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ conformal Ward identities**.

- Finite version. Using $SL(2, \mathbb{R}) : z \rightarrow w(z)$ yields

$$\mathcal{V}_{j\bar{j}}(\rho, \mathbf{z}) = \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial w} \right)^{j_1} \Big|_{w=w_1} \cdots \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial w} \right)^{j_n} \Big|_{w=w_n} \mathcal{V}_{j\bar{j}}(\rho, \mathbf{w}) + O(e^{\rho(\sum_{i=1}^n j_i - 1)})$$

Asymptotic cap states

Requiring conformal symmetry of the AdS vertex function only at large- ρ one finds [asymptotic equations](#)

$$W_j[x, 0](J_0 - j) |a\rangle = 0 + O(e^{\rho(j-1)})$$

$$\langle a' | (J_0 + j) W_j[0, x] = 0 + O(e^{\rho(j-1)})$$

These are called [quasi-Ishibashi cap states](#). Note that $|a\rangle$ and $\langle a'|$ are generally two different vectors, $\langle a'| \neq |a\rangle^\dagger$.

- For infinite-dimensional modules \mathcal{D}_j^- :

$$|a\rangle = |j, j\rangle + (J_0 - j)^{-1} \hat{R} |j, j\rangle \quad \text{and} \quad \langle a'| = \langle j, j| \check{R} (J_0 + j)^{-1}$$

where $\hat{R}, \check{R} \in \mathcal{U}(sl(2, \mathbb{R}))$ are some constant elements.

- For finite-dimensional modules \mathcal{D}_j the operator $(J_0 + j)$ has a kernel described by LW vectors (recall that $(\mathcal{D}_j)^* \approx \mathcal{D}_j$) so that in this case the general solution can be represented as

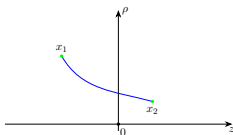
$$|a\rangle = |j, j\rangle + (J_0 - j)^{-1} \hat{L} |j, j\rangle \quad \text{and} \quad \langle a'| = \langle j, -j| + \langle j, -j| \check{L} (J_0 + j)^{-1}$$

with some new constant $\hat{L}, \check{L} \in \mathcal{U}(sl(2, \mathbb{R}))$.

- It immediately follows that the LW/HW vectors from ([Besken et al 2016](#)) solve the asymptotic equations

$$|j\rangle\rangle = |j, j\rangle \in \mathcal{D}_j, \quad j \in \mathbb{N}_0/2$$

2-point functions



- 2-point AdS vertex function

$$\mathcal{V}_{j_1 j_2}(\rho, \mathbf{z}) = \langle \tilde{a}_1 | j_{1j_2} | \tilde{a}_2 \rangle = \sum_{m_1, m_2} [j_{1j_2}]^{m_1} m_2 \langle \tilde{a}_1 | j_1, m_1 \rangle \langle j_2, m_2 | \tilde{a}_2 \rangle$$

where the 2-valent intertwiner ($j_3 = 0$) is given by $[j_{1j_2}]^{m_1} m_2 \sim \delta_{j_1 j_2} \delta^{m_1} m_2$. The final expression (see also [Castro et al 2018](#)):

$$\mathcal{V}_{j_1 j_2}(\rho, \mathbf{z}) \sim q_{12}^{2j_1} {}_2F_1 \left(-j_1, -j_1; -2j_1 \mid -\frac{4}{q_{12}^2} \right) \Big|_{q_{12}=z_{12}e^\rho \rightarrow \infty} \longrightarrow q_{12}^{2j_1} \sim e^{2\rho j_1} z_{12}^{2j_1} \equiv e^{2\rho j_1} \frac{1}{z_{12}^{2h_1}}$$

- Up to the constant, the 2-point AdS vertex function is **the bulk-to-bulk propagator** in AdS₂ ([Fronsdal 1974](#)) on the $\rho = \text{const}$ hyperplane

$$G_h(x_1, x_2) = e^{-h\sigma(x_1, x_2)} {}_2F_1 \left(h, \frac{1}{2}; h + \frac{1}{2} \mid e^{-2\sigma(x_1, x_2)} \right), \quad e^{\sigma(x_1, x_2)} = \frac{|q_{12}| \sqrt{4 + q_{12}^2} + 2 + q_{12}^2}{2}$$

where $j_1 = j_2 = -h$ and $\sigma(x_1, x_2)$ is the geodesic length between points x_1 and x_2 .

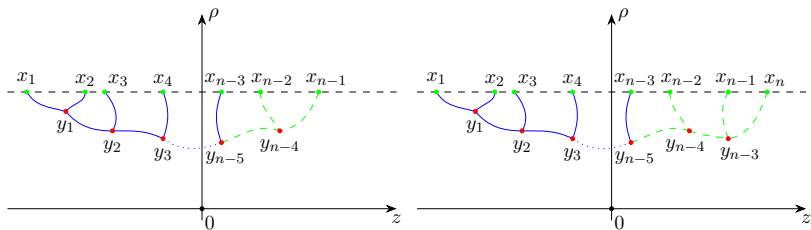
Known results and perspectives

- 2-point AdS vertex and CFT functions ([Castro et al 2018](#), [Bhatta et al 2016](#), [Besken et al 2016](#))
- 3-point and 4-point CFT functions ([Bhatta et al 2016](#), [Besken et al 2016](#))
- 5-point CFT functions ([Bhatta et al 2016](#) for [K.A.](#), [Belavin 2015](#))

No exact expressions for higher-point AdS vertex functions (**no results**) and their near-the-boundary asymptotics (CFT conformal blocks ([Rosenhaus 2018](#)))

Recursion for asymptotic AdS vertex functions

Near-the-boundary analysis, $\rho \rightarrow \infty$:



The recursion relation:

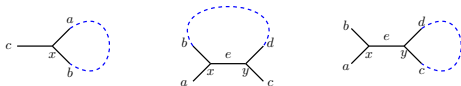
$$\mathcal{V}_{j_1 \dots j_n \bar{j}_1 \dots \bar{j}_{n-3}}^{(n)} \approx \sum_{k_n} \gamma_{n, k_n, j_n} \mathcal{V}_{j_1 \dots j_{n-2} (\bar{j}_{n-3-k_n}) \bar{j}_1 \dots \bar{j}_{n-4}}^{(n-1)}, \quad n = 5, 6, \dots$$

- E.g. Appell F_2 vs Gauss ${}_2F_1$ (splitting identity)
- OPEs ordering in CFT
- Coordinates z_j must organize into cross-ratios χ_j

Wilsonian networks with loops

Toroidal Wilson networks in the thermal AdS

- Let us build torus blocks from the Wilson networks described in the plane topology case by gluing together any two extra edges modulo $2\pi\tau$ and then identifying the corresponding irreps:



- Consider a toroidal 1-point Wilson network:

(1) The toroidal gravitational connection $A = e^{-\rho J_0} \left[J_1 + \frac{1}{4} J_{-1} \right] dz e^{\rho J_0} + J_0 d\rho$.

(2) Identify any two endpoints: $z_1 = -2\pi\tau$ and $z_2 = 0$ lie on the thermal cycle.

(3) Identify $\mathcal{R}_a \cong \mathcal{R}_b$, choose $|a\rangle = |b\rangle = |j_a, m\rangle$ and sum up over all basis states in \mathcal{R}_a .

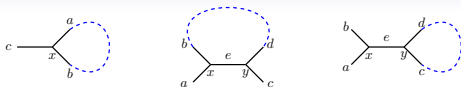
$$\begin{aligned} \mathring{V}_{a|c}(\tau, \mathbf{z}) &= \sum_m \left(\langle j_a, m | W_a[2\pi\tau, 0] I_{a,a,c} | j_a, m \rangle \right) W_c[0, z] |c\rangle \\ &\equiv \text{Tr}_a \left(W_a[2\pi\tau] I_{a;a,c} \right) W_c[0, z] |c\rangle \end{aligned}$$

(a) If $\mathcal{D}_c = 1$ (i.e. $j_c = 0$), then $W_c = 1_c$ and $I_{a;a,0} = 1_a$ so that we find the Wilson loop operator,

$$\mathring{V}_{a|0}(\tau) = \text{Tr}_a \left(W_a[2\pi\tau] \right)$$

It is known to be a character of the representation \mathcal{D}_a (Witten 1988).

(b) For non-trivial \mathcal{D}_c this yields 1-point global torus block (Kraus et al 2017, K.A., Belavin 2020).



The irreps labelled by a, b, c, d are associated with endpoints ordered as z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4 .

Wilson network in the t -channel (OPE)

- (1) Identify irreps $\mathcal{D}_d \cong \mathcal{D}_c$ and respective endpoints $z_4 = -2\pi\tau$ and $z_3 = 0$.
- (2) Choose $|d\rangle = |c\rangle = |j_c, m\rangle$ and sum up over all m to produce a trace over \mathcal{D}_c .

$$\mathring{V}_{(t) c, e|a, b}(\tau, \mathbf{z}) = \text{Tr}_c \left(W_c[0, 2\pi\tau] I_{c;c, e} I_{e;a, b} W_a[0, z_1] W_b[0, z_2] |a\rangle \otimes |b\rangle \right)$$

Wilson network in the s -channel (necklace)

- (1) Fix endpoints as $z_4 = -2\pi\tau$ and $z_2 = 0$.
- (2) Identify irreps $\mathcal{D}_d \cong \mathcal{D}_b$ and then sum up over states $|d\rangle = |b\rangle = |j_b, m\rangle$.

$$\mathring{V}_{(s) b, e|a, c}(\tau, \mathbf{z}) = \text{Tr}_b \left(W_b[0, 2\pi\tau] I_{b;c, e} I_{e;a, b} W_a[0, z_1] W_c[0, z_3] |a\rangle \otimes |c\rangle \right)$$

These two AdS vertex functions calculate 2-point global torus blocks in respectively t -channel and s -channel (K.A., Belavin 2020, K.A., Mandrygin 2023, K.A., Khiteev, in progress).

Perspectives:

- HKLL reconstruction for n -point Wilsonian networks (K.A., Khiteev, Kanoda, in progress)
- Wilsonian networks on spaces with defects (2-point Wilson line around BTZ Castro et al 2018 and in BF JT gravity Blommaert, Mertens, Verschelde 2018)
- Large- c CFT on Riemann surfaces of genus g (torus $g = 1$ CFT: K.A., Belavin 2016, 2020, Kraus et al 2017, K.A., Mandrygin 2023, K.A., Khiteev, in progress)
- $1/c$ corrections: general Virasoro conformal blocks via Wilson networks (Besken, Hegde, Kraus, D'Hoker 2017-2019 for quasi-Ishibashi cap states of fin-dim $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ modules)
- Extended CFT – W_N conformal algebras: adding higher spin fields in lower dimensions (Ammon et al 2013, de Boer et al 2015, Hegde et al 2015, Belavin et al 2022)
- HS gravity in higher dimensions within the unfolded formulation