# OPE coefficients in Argyres-Douglas theories

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with

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# Introductory part

### Introduction

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The operator  $\phi_r$  has U(1) charge and conformal dimension r.

More precisely, we want to compute their OPE coefficients

$$\phi_a(x) imes \phi_b(0) \sim \lambda_{a \, b \, c} \, \phi_c(0) \; + \; \cdots$$

## **Methods**

I will show two methods to approach this problem

1. Supersymmetric localization

The partition function Z can be computed in terms of a finite dimensional integral. This can be used to compute correlators

$$\langle \phi_r \, \bar{\phi}_r \rangle = \frac{1}{Z_{S^4}} \int \mathrm{d}a \left( u(a)^{2r} + \mathrm{unmixing} \right) |Z_{\Omega-\mathrm{background}}|^2 \,.$$

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2. Conformal bootstrap

Use the axioms of unitarity, operator product expansion and crossing to constrain a four-point function

$$\left. \begin{array}{c} \phi \\ \phi \end{array} \right\rangle \stackrel{|\lambda_{\phi\phi\phi^2}|^2}{\swarrow} \left< \begin{array}{c} ar{\phi} \\ ar{\phi} \end{array} \right> \left< \begin{array}{c} \phi \\ \phi \end{array} \right> \left< \begin{array}{c} \phi \\ \phi \end{array} \right> \left< \begin{array}{c} \phi \\ \phi \end{array} \right> \left< \begin{array}{c} L \leq |\lambda_{\phi\phi\phi^2}|^2 \leq U \, . \end{array} \right.$$

### Note on normalizations

In a conformal field theory two-point functions are completely fixed (provided we normalize operators appropriately)

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_i(x_1)\mathcal{O}_j(x_2)
angle = rac{\delta_{ij}}{(x_{12}^2)^\Delta}$$

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The dynamical information then completely resides in the three-point functions, which are fixed up to a constant

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_i(x_1)\mathcal{O}_j(x_2)\mathcal{O}_k(x_3)
angle = rac{\lambda_{ijk}}{x_{12}^{\Delta_1+\Delta_2-\Delta_3}x_{13}^{\Delta_1+\Delta_3-\Delta_2}x_{23}^{\Delta_2+\Delta_3-\Delta_1}}$$

## Note on normalizations (cont.d)

With chiral operators people typically set  $\lambda_{ijk}=1$  so the dynamical data is transferred to the two-point functions

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_i(x_1)\mathcal{O}_j(x_2)
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This is why we are going to compute two-point functions with localization and compare (the above ratio) with tree-point functions from the bootstrap.

#### **Conformal bootstrap**

Three simple principles go into the conformal bootstrap

1. Operator product expansion (OPE) The OPE of two operators is convergent away from other insertions

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{O}_2 \mathcal{O}_3 \cdots \rangle = \sum_k \lambda_{12k} \Big[ \frac{1}{2} \Big\rangle^{-k} \Big] (x_{12}, \partial_1) \langle \mathcal{O}_k \mathcal{O}_3 \cdots \rangle,$$

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3. Unitarity

The OPE coefficients are real thus their squares are positive.

#### Conformal bootstrap (cont.d)

Taking the OPE twice leads to the conformal block expansion

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(x_1)\mathcal{O}(x_2)\mathcal{O}(x_3)\mathcal{O}(x_4)
angle = rac{1}{(x_{12}^2x_{34}^2)^{\Delta_\mathcal{O}}}\sum_{\Delta,\ell} a_{\Delta,\ell}\,g_{\Delta,\ell}(u,v)\,,$$

where  $g_{\Delta,\ell}$ , the conformal blocks, are known kinematic functions,  $a_{\Delta,\ell} = \lambda_{OOO_{\Delta,\ell}}^2$  are (positive) OPE coefficients squared and

$$u = \frac{x_{12}^2 x_{34}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2}, \qquad v = \frac{x_{14}^2 x_{23}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2}, \qquad x_{ij} = x_i - x_j,$$

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Crossing leads to a sum rule

$$\sum_{\Delta,\ell} a_{\Delta,\ell} \left( v^2 g_{\Delta,\ell}(u,v) - u^2 g_{\Delta,\ell}(v,u) \right) = 0,$$

on which we can act with a functional  $\alpha$  of the form

$$\alpha[F] = \sum_{n,m} \alpha_{n,m} \, \partial_u^n \partial_v^m F(u,v)|_{u=v=1/4} \, .$$

## **Bounds on OPE coefficients**

Let us denote as  $F_{\Delta,\ell} = v^2 g_{\Delta,\ell}(u,v) - (u \leftrightarrow v)$ . The action of  $\alpha$  reads

$$\sum_{\Delta, \ell \neq (0,0), (\Delta_{\star}, \ell_{\star})} a_{\Delta, \ell} \alpha \big[ F_{\Delta, \ell} \big] + \alpha \big[ F_{0,0} \big] = -a_{\Delta_{\star}, \ell_{\star}} \alpha \big[ F_{\Delta_{\star}, \ell_{\star}} \big] \,.$$

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We can obtain two-sided bounds as follows [Caracciolo, Castedo Echeverri, Harling, Serone (2014)]

• Upper bound: maximize  $\alpha[F_{0,0}]$  over the space  $\alpha_{m,n}$  subject to

1. 
$$\alpha[F_{\Delta,\ell}] \ge 0$$
  
2.  $\alpha[F_{\Delta_{\star},\ell_{\star}}] = 1$   $\implies$   $a_{\Delta_{\star},\ell_{\star}} \le -\alpha[F_{0,0}]$ 

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• Lower bound: maximize  $\alpha[F_{0,0}]$  over the space  $\alpha_{m,n}$  subject to

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{1.} \ \boldsymbol{\alpha} \big[ F_{\Delta, \boldsymbol{\ell}} \big] \geq \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{2.} \ \boldsymbol{\alpha} \big[ F_{\Delta_{\star}, \boldsymbol{\ell}_{\star}} \big] = -1 \end{array} \implies \qquad \boldsymbol{a}_{\Delta_{\star}, \boldsymbol{\ell}_{\star}} \geq \boldsymbol{\alpha} \big[ F_{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0}} \big] \end{array}$$

#### **Supersymmetric localization**

Suppose we want to compute the path integral of an observable  $\mathcal{O}(\Phi, \Psi)$ 

$$Z=\int {\cal D}\Psi {\cal D}\Phi\, {\cal O}(\Phi,\Psi)$$
 ,

which is invariant under some supersymmetry transformation

$$\delta_Q {\cal O} = 0$$
 , with  $\delta_Q \Phi = \Psi$  ,  $\delta_Q \Psi = V(\Phi)$  ,  $\delta_Q^2 = 0$  .

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We can deform this integral by adding a Q-exact term

$$Z(t) = \int \mathcal{D}\Psi \mathcal{D}\Phi \,\mathcal{O}(\Phi, \Psi) \, e^{-t \,\delta_Q W(\Phi, \Psi)} \,, \qquad Z(0) = Z$$

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$$Z(t) = \int \mathcal{D}\Psi \mathcal{D}\Phi \, \mathcal{O}(\Phi, \Psi) \, e^{-t \, \delta_Q \mathcal{W}(\Phi, \Psi)} \,, \qquad Z(0) = Z \,.$$

However, the above function is actually independent on t

$$Z'(t) = -\int \delta_Q W \, \mathcal{O} \, e^{-t \, \delta_Q W} = -\int \delta_Q \left( W \, \mathcal{O} \, e^{-t \, \delta_Q W} 
ight) = 0$$
 ,

therefore we can compute  $\lim_{t\to\infty} Z(t) = Z(0)$  instead.

# Supersymmetric localization (cont.d)

If  $W = V(\Phi) \cdot \Psi$  then the dominant field configuration in the  $t \to \infty$  limit will satisfy  $V(\Phi) = 0$ .

With an appropriate choice of Q the theory can be put on  $S^4$  and the relevant configurations are Coulomb branch vacua

vector multiplet :  $\phi = \text{diag}(a_1, \dots, a_r)$ , hypermultiplets :  $Q_i = 0$ ,

plus all (anti)instanton configurations at the North (South) pole.

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plus all (anti)instanton configurations at the North (South) pole. All in all we have [Pestun (2012); Gerchkovitz, Gomis, Ishtiaque, Karasik, Komargodski, Pufu (2017)]

$$Z_{S^4} = \int_{\mathfrak{h}} d^r a \left| e^{-S_{\Omega, \text{cl}}(a)} Z_{\Omega, 1\text{-loop}}(a, m, q, R) Z_{\Omega, \text{inst}}(a, m, q, R) \right|^2$$

 $Z_{\Omega,1-\text{loop}}$  is known exactly and  $Z_{\Omega,\text{inst}}$  is the Nekrasov partition function [Nekrasov (2003)] known as a power series in  $q = e^{2\pi i \tau}$ .

# **Seiberg-Witten basics**

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Example: SU(2) SQCD with one flavor.

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 :  $y^2 + (x^2 - u)y + \frac{\Lambda^3}{4}(x - m) = 0$ ,

with  $\Lambda$  the dynamically generated scale and m the mass of the hyper. This curve comes with a one-form

$$\lambda = x \frac{\mathsf{d}y}{y} \, .$$

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## Seiberg-Witten basics (cont.d)

The curve can be used to compute *a* and  $a_D$  (the masses of monopole and dyon in the IR) as a function of *u* 

$$a = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathbf{A}} \lambda$$
,  $a_D = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathbf{B}} \lambda$ .

When both of these go to zero simultaneously, we reach a CFT in the IR known as the Argyres-Douglas (AD) fixed point. In this case it is the  $(A_1, A_2)$  theory [Argyres, Douglas (1995)].

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Define the Seiberg-Witten (SW) prepotential  $\mathcal{F}_0$  as

$$a_D = -rac{1}{2\pi \mathrm{i}}rac{\partial \mathcal{F}_0}{\partial a}$$

#### What does SW have to do with localization?

The partition function can be reorganized as an expansion in 1/R (the radius of the  $S^4$ )

$$|Z_{\Omega}(a,m,q,R)| = \exp R^2 \left( \mathcal{F}_0(a,m,q) + \sum_{g \ge 1} \mathcal{F}_g(a,m,q) R^{-2g} \right).$$

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The term  $\mathcal{F}_0$  is precisely the SW prepotential [Russo (2014)]. Furthermore, the AD point is a saddle

$$\left. \mathsf{a}_D \right|_{\mathsf{AD fixed point}} = 0 = -rac{1}{2\pi \mathrm{i}} rac{\partial \mathcal{F}_0}{\partial a} \, .$$

Therefore we can expand around the AD point.

## The term $\mathcal{F}_1$

Also  $\mathcal{F}_1$  can be obtained purely from SW data [Shapere, Tachikawa (2008)] (set  $\Lambda = 1$  for brevity now)

$$\mathcal{F}_1 = -rac{1}{2} \log\left[ \det\left(rac{\partial a}{\partial u}
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#### Elliptic curves 101

Given a curve  $y^2 + p(x)y + q(x) = 0$ , the solution y(x) has branch points given by the zeros of

$$w(x)^{2} = p(x)^{2} - 4q(x) \equiv \prod_{i} (x - e_{i}).$$

The discriminant is defined to have zeros where the branch points collide

$$\Delta(x) = \prod_{i < j} (e_i - e_j)^2 \, .$$

Main part

- ✓ Pedagogical introduction to the conformal bootstrap
- $\checkmark$  Very limited introduction to localization and SW geometry
- 1. Localization approach
- 2. Bootstrap approach
- 3. Relation with the large charge expansion

### Summary for those who just joined in

We want to compute OPE coefficients of Coulomb branch operators for strongly interacting  $\mathcal{N}=2$  SCFTs in 4d

 $\phi_a(x) imes \phi_b(0) \sim \lambda_{abc} \phi_c(0) + \cdots$
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$$\phi_{a}(x) imes \phi_{b}(0) \sim \lambda_{a\,b\,c}\,\phi_{c}(0)\,+\,\cdots$$

We are going to use two approaches

1. Supersymmetric localization  $\longrightarrow$  approximation

$$\langle \phi_r \, \bar{\phi}_r \rangle = rac{1}{Z_{S^4}} \int \mathrm{d}a \left( u(a)^{2r} + \mathrm{unmixing} \right) |Z_{\Omega-\mathrm{background}}|^2$$

2. Conformal bootstrap  $\longrightarrow$  rigorous upper and lower bounds

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$$G_{ij} = G_i \delta_{ij}$$
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 $\lambda_{ijk} = 1$   $\lambda_{ijk} = \sqrt{\frac{G_k}{G_i G_j}}$ 

This is why we are going to compute two-point functions with localization and compare (the above ratio) with tree-point functions from the bootstrap.

The partition function can be expanded in  $1/R = \epsilon_1 = \epsilon_2$ 

$$|Z_{\Omega}(a,m,q,R)| = \exp R^2 \left( \mathcal{F}_0(a,m,q) + \sum_{g \ge 1} \mathcal{F}_g(a,m,q) R^{-2g} 
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with  $\mathcal{F}_0$  being the Seiberg-Witten prepotential, and  $\mathcal{F}_1$  being known

$$egin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_0 &= -\pi \mathrm{i} \sum_{s=1}^{\mathrm{rank}} a_s(u) \, a_D^s(u) \, , \ \mathcal{F}_1 &= -rac{1}{2} \, \log\!\left[ \det\left(rac{\partial a_s}{\partial u_n}
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ight] + rac{1}{12} \log \Delta(u) \, . \end{aligned}$$

Here  $\Delta(u)$  is the discriminant of the Seiberg-Witten curve.

# Localization approach

#### Rank one

Rank one is the easiest and most under control case. There are six examples of AD-type theories [Argyres, Plesser, Seiberg, Witten (1996); Minahan, Nemeschansky (1997)]

 $H_0$  is  $(A_1, A_2)$ .

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For now, let us ignore the  $\mathcal{F}_{g>1}$  terms (we will return to them later). We thus need to compute the integral

$$\int \mathsf{d}\boldsymbol{a} \left| \exp\left( R^2 \mathcal{F}_0(\boldsymbol{u}(\boldsymbol{a})) - \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{a}}{\partial \boldsymbol{u}} + \frac{1}{12} \log \Delta(\boldsymbol{u}(\boldsymbol{a})) \right) \right|^2$$

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$$\int \mathsf{d} \mathbf{a} \left| \exp \left( R^2 \mathcal{F}_0(u(\mathbf{a})) - \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{\partial \mathbf{a}}{\partial u} + \frac{1}{12} \log \Delta(u(\mathbf{a})) \right) \right|^2$$

The function u(a), while calculable, is a complicated object. However, the coefficient in  $\mathcal{F}_1$  is just right so that

$$\int \mathrm{d} u \, \left| \Delta(u)^{\frac{1}{6}} \, e^{2R^2 \mathcal{F}_0(u)} \right|$$

### Rank one (cont.d)

Expanding around the AD point  $u_*$  we find

$$\Delta(u) = (u - u_*)^{\frac{12}{r}(r-1)}, \qquad \mathcal{F}_0(u) = f_* - \frac{c_0^2}{2}(u - u_*)^{\frac{2}{r}}.$$

For  $H_{0,1,2}$ ,  $\frac{12}{r}(r-1)$  is also  $N_f + 1$  where  $N_f$  is the number of flavor of the UV theory.

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After changing integration variable to  $\tilde{u} = u - u_*$  (recall  $u = \langle \phi_r \rangle$ ) the localization integral becomes

$$C_{ij} \equiv \langle \phi_r^i(\mathbf{N}) \, \bar{\phi}_r^j(\mathbf{S}) \rangle = \frac{e^{2R^2 f_*}}{Z_{S_R^4}} \int_0^\infty \mathrm{d} u \, e^{-R^2 c_0^2 \tilde{u}^{\frac{2}{r}}} \tilde{u}^{i+j+\frac{2}{r}(r-1)} \, .$$

In particular, it only depends on r! ( $c_0$  gives an overall factor.)

## Unmixing

We were expecting a diagonal matrix of two-point functions  $\langle \phi_r^i \bar{\phi}_r^j \rangle = \delta_{ij} G_j / R^{2rj}$  and instead we got  $C_{ij}$ .

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This is because the operators on the sphere mix with operators of lower dimension to create the correct eigenstates

$$\delta_{ij}G_i = C_{ij} - \sum_{m,n < \max(i,j)} C_{im} (C^{-1})^{mn} C_{nj},$$

where the sum is over operators of dimensions less than  $\phi_r^i$  and  $\phi_r^j$ .

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where the sum is over operators of dimensions less than  $\phi_r^i$  and  $\phi_r^j$ .

*Only for rank one* it is possible to write a general expression [Gerchkovitz, Gomis, Ishtiaque, Karasik, Komargodski, Pufu (2017)]

$$G_n = \frac{\det_{i,j \le n} C_{ij}}{\det_{i,j \le n-1} C_{ij}} \,.$$

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$$egin{array}{lll} \left[ {
m tr} \left( \phi^2 
ight) 
ight]^2 & {
m mixes with} & {
m tr} \, \phi^4 \, , \ & \left[ {\mathcal O}_{p/q} 
ight]^{p'} & {
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Other authors deal with it by only considering a subset of operators such as  $\left[ {\rm tr}(\phi^2) \right]^n$  [Beccaria, Galvagno, Hasan (2020)].

### Pure gauge theories

The easiest examples are given by pure gauge SU(N) theories. They give rise to the  $(A_1, A_{N-1})$  AD theory.

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The Seiberg-Witten curve is given by [Eguchi, Hori, Ito, Yang (1996)]

$$\Sigma : y^{2} + y P_{N}(x) + \frac{1}{4} \Lambda^{2N} = 0,$$
  
with  $P_{N}(x) = x^{N} - u_{2}x^{N-2} - u_{3}x^{N-3} - \dots - u_{N}.$ 

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$$r_n = [u_n] = \frac{2n}{N+2}, \qquad \frac{N}{2} + 1 < n \le N.$$

In particular we consider only rank two, namely  $(A_1, A_4)$  and  $(A_1, A_5)$ 

	$(A_1, A_4)$	$(A_1, A_5)$
$r_1$	8/7	5/4
<i>r</i> <sub>2</sub>	10/7	3/2

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We readily obtain for N = 5 and 6

$$egin{aligned} & ilde w( ilde x)^2 \sim ilde x^{\mathcal{N}} - u ilde x - v + O(
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Denote the roots of  $\tilde{w}(\tilde{x})$  as  $e_i$ 

$$ilde{w}( ilde{x})^2 = \prod_{i=1}^N ( ilde{x} - e_i)$$

Given a choice of cycles we can compute  $a_s(u, v)$ ,  $a_D^s(u, v)$  and thus the potentials  $\mathcal{F}_0(u, v)$  and  $\mathcal{F}_1(u, v)$ 

$$a_s = \oint_{oldsymbol lpha_s} \lambda$$
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#### **Final result**

The trick is to expand the one form  $\lambda$  in powers of u

$$\lambda = \mathrm{d}\tilde{x} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)}{n!\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2}-n\right)} (-\tilde{x}\,u)^n (\tilde{x}^N - v)^{\frac{1}{2}-n}.$$

Then the periods ( $\gamma_i$  is either  $\alpha_s$  or  $\beta_s$ ) are easy to compute

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The result is an integral that can be performed numerically

$$C_{u^{m}v^{n}}(A_{1}, A_{4}) = \int d\kappa dV |5^{5} + 4^{4}\kappa^{5}|^{\frac{1}{6}} e^{-V^{\frac{7}{5}}f(\kappa)}\kappa^{m}V^{n+\frac{4}{5}m+\frac{22}{15}},$$
  
$$C_{u^{m}v^{n}}(A_{1}, A_{5}) = \int d\kappa dV |6^{6} - 5^{5}\kappa^{6}|^{\frac{1}{6}} e^{-V^{\frac{4}{3}}f(\kappa)}\kappa^{m}V^{n+\frac{5}{6}m+\frac{5}{3}},$$

for  $V \propto v$  ,  $\kappa \propto u v^{-r_1/r_2}$ ,  $f(\kappa) = -2V^{-2/r_2} {
m Re}\, {\cal F}_0.$ 

### **Results**

For rank one we find

SCFT	$H_0$	$H_1$	$H_2$	$E_6$	$E_7$	$E_8$
$\lambda^2_{\mu\mu\mu^2}$	2.098	2.241	2.421	4.514	6.755	15.12
$\lambda^2_{\mu\mu^2\mu^3}$	3.300	3.674	4.175	12.05	24.01	95.33
$\lambda_{u^2 u^2 u^4}^2$	7.206	8.624	10.72	67.01	222.2	2443.4

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#### Whereas for rank two

SCFT	$(A_1, A_4)$	$(A_1, A_5)$
$\lambda^2_{\mu\mu\mu^2}$	1.87	1.93
$\lambda_{uvuv}^2$	1.04	1.04
$\lambda^2_{v v v^2}$	2.23	2.20

# Bootstrap approach

### **General strategy**

The bootstrap approach lets us put upper and lower bounds on the OPE coefficients of isolated operators.

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We consider four-point functions of the form

$$\langle \bar{\phi}_r(x_1)\phi_r(x_2)\phi_r(x_3)\bar{\phi}_r(x_4)
angle = rac{f(z,ar{z})}{(x_{12}^2)^r(x_{34}^2)^r},$$

with 
$$x_{ij}^2 = |x_i - x_j|^2$$
 and  
 $\frac{x_{12}^2 x_{34}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2} = u = z\bar{z}, \qquad \frac{x_{14}^2 x_{23}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2} = v = (1 - z)(1 - \bar{z}).$ 

Here r is a chiral primary with  $U(1)_r$  charge and conformal dimension r.
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Here r is a chiral primary with  $U(1)_r$  charge and conformal dimension r.

This setup was studied in [Beem, Lemos, Liendo, Rastelli, Rees (2016); Lemos, Liendo (2016)].

#### General strategy (cont.d)

The OPE coefficients  $\lambda^2_{\phi_r\phi_r\mathcal{O}}$  appear in the superconformal block expansion of  $f(z, \bar{z})$ .

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In order to obtain the OPE coefficients  $\lambda^2_{\phi_{r_1}\phi_{r_2}\mathcal{O}}$   $(r_1 \neq r_2)$  we need to consider a system of mixed correlators which also includes

$$\langle \bar{\phi}_{r_1}(x_1)\phi_{r_1}(x_2)\phi_{r_2}(x_3)\bar{\phi}_{r_2}(x_4) \rangle$$

The idea is the same, just more complicated, thus I will not discuss it.

#### Supermultiplets in the OPE

The following multiplets are exchanged in the OPE



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The operator in the rectangle is the one whose OPE we want to bound. The number in parentheses e.g.  $L\bar{L}^{(4)}$  is the order of the lowest super-descendant which contributes to the four-point function.

#### Superconformal blocks

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angle &= \sum_{(\Delta, \ell) \in ar{\phi} imes \phi} \lambda_{\phi ar{\phi} \mathcal{O}_{\Delta, \ell}}^2 \, \mathcal{G}_{\Delta, \ell}(z, ar{z}) \, , \ &= \sum_{(\Delta, \ell) \in \phi imes \phi} |\lambda_{\phi \phi ar{\mathcal{O}}_{\Delta, \ell}}|^2 \, g_{\Delta, \ell}(1-z, 1-ar{z}) \, . \end{aligned}$$

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As it is always the case for chiral operators, the superblocks are usual scalar blocks with some shifts

$$\mathcal{G}_{\Delta,\ell}(z,\bar{z}) = (z\bar{z})^{-1}g_{\Delta+2,\ell}(z,\bar{z}).$$

In the crossed channels they are literally just scalar blocks.

#### **Bounds on OPE coefficients**

The crossing equations can be recast into a vector form

$$\sum_{\Delta,\ell} |\lambda_{\phi\phi\tilde{\mathcal{O}}}|^2 \vec{V}_{\Delta,\ell}^{\text{charged}} + \sum_{\Delta,\ell} (\lambda_{\phi\bar{\phi}\mathcal{O}})^2 \vec{V}_{\Delta,\ell}^{\text{neutral}} = -\vec{V}_{0,0}^{\text{neutral}} - \frac{r^2}{6c} \vec{V}_{2,0}^{\text{neutral}},$$

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where the entries of  $V_{\Delta,\ell}^{...}$  are  $\pm$  combinations of a block and its crossed.

We look for functionals  $\alpha = \sum \alpha_{n,m} \partial_z^n \partial_{\bar{z}}^m |_{z=\bar{z}=1/2}$  that solve the problem Fix c, then maximize (minimize)  $B_{\pm} \equiv \alpha \left[ \vec{V}_{0,0}^{\text{neut.}} + \frac{r^2}{6c} \vec{V}_{2,0}^{\text{neut.}} \right]$  subject to 1.  $\alpha [\vec{V}_{2r,0}^{\text{charged}}] = \pm 1$ 

**2.**  $\alpha$ [others]  $\geq 0$ 

#### Bounds on neutral sector

One could also assume a specific value of  $\lambda_{\phi\phi\phi^2}$  and c and put an upper bound on the gap between the stress tensor and the first neutral unprotected operator.

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This is done by doing a binary search on  $\Delta_{gap}$  while solving the problem There exists an  $\alpha$  such that

1. 
$$\alpha \left[ \vec{V}_{0,0}^{\text{neutral}} + |\lambda_{\phi\phi\phi^2}|^2 \vec{V}_{2r,0}^{\text{charged}} + \frac{r^2}{6c} \vec{V}_{2,0}^{\text{neutral}} \right] = 1$$

 $\textbf{2. } \alpha[\vec{V}_{\Delta,0}^{neutral}] \geq 0 \quad \forall \; \Delta \geq \Delta_{gap} > 2$ 

3.  $\alpha$ [others]  $\geq 0$ 

#### **Results for OPE coefficients**

For rank one we find (some were previously known from [Lemos, Liendo (2016); Gimenez-Grau, Liendo (2020)]). Red numbers disallow the approximate localization result

	$H_0$	$H_1$	$H_2$	H <sub>0</sub> (localization)
<u>ر</u>	2.167	2.359	2.698	2 000
<b>Λ</b> <sub>U U U<sup>2</sup></sub>	2.142	2.215	2.298	2.090
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#### While for higher rank

	$(A_1, A_4)$	$(A_1, A_5)$	(A <sub>1</sub> , A <sub>4</sub> ) (loc.)	(A <sub>1</sub> , A <sub>5</sub> ) (loc.)
<u>ر</u>	2.102	2.231	1 07	1 02
<b>Λ</b> <sub>U U U<sup>2</sup></sub>	2.024	2.055	1.07	1.95
١2	1.125	1.233		
$\lambda_{UVUV}$	0.981	0.960		
$\lambda^2_{vvv^2}$	2.533	2.709		
	2.181	2.195		

#### Improving the OPE results

For higher rank we can improve the results and bound the 3d region  $\{\lambda_{uuu^2}, \lambda_{vvv^2}, \lambda_{uvuv}\}$ 

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See for instance  $(A_1, A_4)$ 



#### Results for neutral unprotected sector

Take the theories  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ . Fixing  $\lambda_{uuu^2}$  we find the upper bounds (red is disallowed)



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It seems that the true theory favors a large gap as compared to the free theory value, as expected from their strongly coupled nature.

## Large charge expansion

#### Why does the approximation work at all?

We have dropped infinitely many terms from

$$|Z_{\Omega}(a,m,q,R)| = \exp R^2 \left( \mathcal{F}_0(a,m,q) + \sum_{g \ge 1} \mathcal{F}_g(a,m,q) R^{-2g} \right).$$

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In the CFT point they should all be contributing at the same order since R can be rescaled away from the integral

$$\mathcal{F}_g(u)\sim c_{\mathcal{F}_g}(a-a_*)^{2-2g} \quad ig( imes \log R(a-a_*) \quad ext{if } g=1ig)\,.$$

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Yet somehow throwing most of them away still gives reasonably good results: there has to be a sense in which this is an expansion.

#### Why does the approximation work at all? (cont.d)

For rank one we have integrals of the form

$$C_{ij} = \int_0^\infty dy \, y^{r(i+j+3)-3} e^{-y^2} \, \exp\left(-\frac{c_{\mathcal{F}_2}}{y^2} - \frac{c_{\mathcal{F}_3}}{y^4} - \dots\right) \, .$$

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For large  $i, j \sim n$  the integral localizes in the positive solution of

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}y}\big((r(n+3)-3)\log y-y^2\big)=0\,.$$

which grows like  $\sqrt{n}$ . Therefore all terms  $1/y^k$  are suppressed by powers of *n*.

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*Note*: this is hand wavy because to get  $G_n$  we need to take a ratio of determinants where all  $C_{ij}$ 's enter.

#### Comparison

Indeed we can compare the OPE coefficients of heavy operators obtained from localization with the asymptotic formula [Hellerman, Maeda (2017); Hellerman, Maeda, Orlando, Reffert, Watanabe (2019)]

,

$$G_{n} \sim \tilde{\mathcal{Y}} \Gamma(nr+1) \left(\frac{N_{\mathcal{O}}}{2\pi R}\right)^{2nr} (nr)^{\alpha} + O\left(\frac{1}{n^{\#}}\right)$$

$$G_{nn}$$

$$G_{nn}$$

$$10^{400} \left[ 10^{300} \\ 10^{300} \\ 10^{200} \\ 10^{100} \\ 10^{100} \\ 50 \\ 100 \\ 150 \\ 200 \\ 250 \\ 300 \\ n$$

$$r = \frac{6}{5}$$

#### **Possible future developments**

We did this comparison numerically but it would be interesting to see if both the asymptotics and the corrections can be derived by studying the integral

$$G_n = \frac{\det_{i,j \le n} C_{ij}}{\det_{i,j \le n-1} C_{ij}}, \quad \text{with}$$

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$$G_n = \frac{\det_{i,j \le n} C_{ij}}{\det_{i,j \le n-1} C_{ij}}, \quad \text{with}$$

$$C_{ij} = \int_0^\infty dy \, y^{r(i+j+3)-3} e^{-y^2} \exp\left(-\frac{c_{\mathcal{F}_2}}{y^2} - \frac{c_{\mathcal{F}_3}}{y^4} - \dots\right)$$

Conversely, could we use this to put bounds on the  $c_{\mathcal{F}_g}$ 's? A simple Laurent expansion around  $y \sim \sqrt{n}$  shows that at any given order in 1/n only finitely many  $c_{\mathcal{F}_g}$  contribute.

## Conclusions

#### Conclusions

- I discussed the computation of OPE coefficients of Coulomb branch operators in Argyres-Douglas theories
- I showed two complementary approaches: localization and bootstrap
- The localization result could also be used as input in the bootstrap problem
- I argued that the localization method works well because the large charge expansion unexplainably works well even at low dimensions
- I left with some open questions on how to make the link more precise (w.i.p.)

# Thank you!