

# STRINGY EFFECTS IN THE $N=2$ SUPERCONFORMAL QUIVER

Di Vecchia 80 Fest - Nordita (Stockholm)

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Work in progress with S. Ashok, M. Frau, A. Lerda

Based on 2206.13582, 2207.08846

and a vast earlier literature

## FOREWORD

- \* Paolo Di Vecchia has been extremely influential for me (since the "Nordic meeting" in Stockholm, 1996...)
- \* I'm really happy to be here to celebrate and thank him and I'm really grateful to the organizers for their effort
- I'll talk about a current project with many ties to "old" research discussed yesterday by Mariacristina Traci

# INTRODUCTION

- Big picture:
  - \* Non-perturbative QFT (including YM)?
  - \* QFT & gravity?
- Strategy
  - \* Start from highly symmetric cases
- Frame of mind
  - \* String Theory always offers good inspiration!

## THE ARENA: $N=2$ SYM IN $d=4$

- \* One of the best laboratories for exact results in a non-trivial QFT
- \* The theory on  $S^4$  localizes (Pestun, 2007): some observables (part. function, BPS Wilson loops, extremal correlators of chiral ops) are mapped to an interacting matrix model

Andree Young 2010; Iyama Sugama 2011, ...

Baggio et al 2014; Berkovitz et al 2016; ...

- \* In conformal cases, results on  $S^4 \rightarrow$  results on  $\mathbb{R}^4$   
(be careful with mapping of operators Rodriguez-Gomez, Russo 2016, ...)

## THE ARENA: $\mathcal{N}=2$ SYM IN $d=4$

- \* Some conformal cases have a holographic dual
- \* Perfect context to study the AdS/CFT correspondence in non maximally supersymmetric cases

## IN THIS TALK

\* Focus on a  $\mathcal{N}=2$  quiver SYM theory

Kachru, Silverstein 1998  
Oz, Taroni 1999, ...

- Localizes to an interacting multi-matrix model

Pini et al, 2017; Fiol et al 2020; Zarembo 2020; Gaiotto, Prei 2020, ...

- Conformal

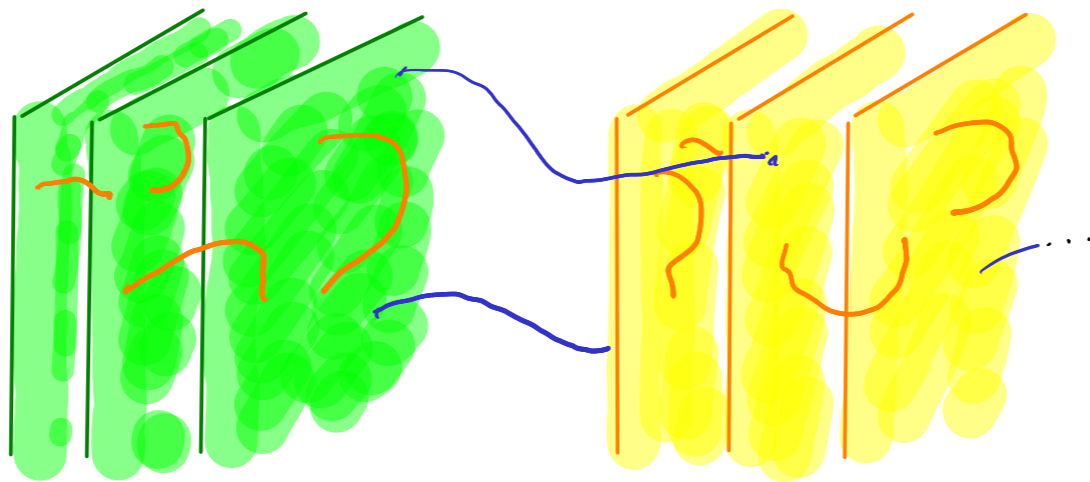
- Holographic dual: type IIB on  $AdS_5 \times S^5 / \mathbb{Z}_M$

## IN THIS TALK

- \* Use localization to resum the perturbative expansion of the structure constants for the single trace chiral/antichiral operators
- \* Obtain their strong coupling behaviour in the large  $N$  't Hooft limit
- \* Find perfect match with the dual SVGA description
  - \* except for structure constants of 3 "twisted" operators  
these require higher derivatives strongly corrections!

# THE SET-UP

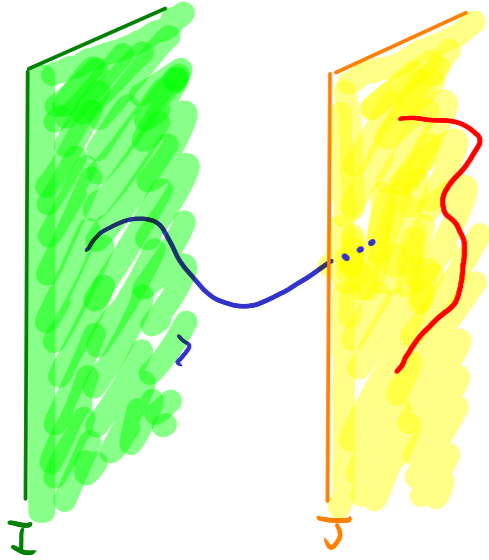
fractional D3 branes in a  $\mathbb{R}^4 \times \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_M$  background



Focus on the massless open string sector  $\rightarrow$  (quiver) gauge theory



## OPEN STRINGS



\*  $M$  types of fractional D3 (fD3), associated to the irreps of  $Z_M$ :  $R_I(s^\alpha) = s^{I\alpha}$   $I, \alpha = 0, \dots, M-1$

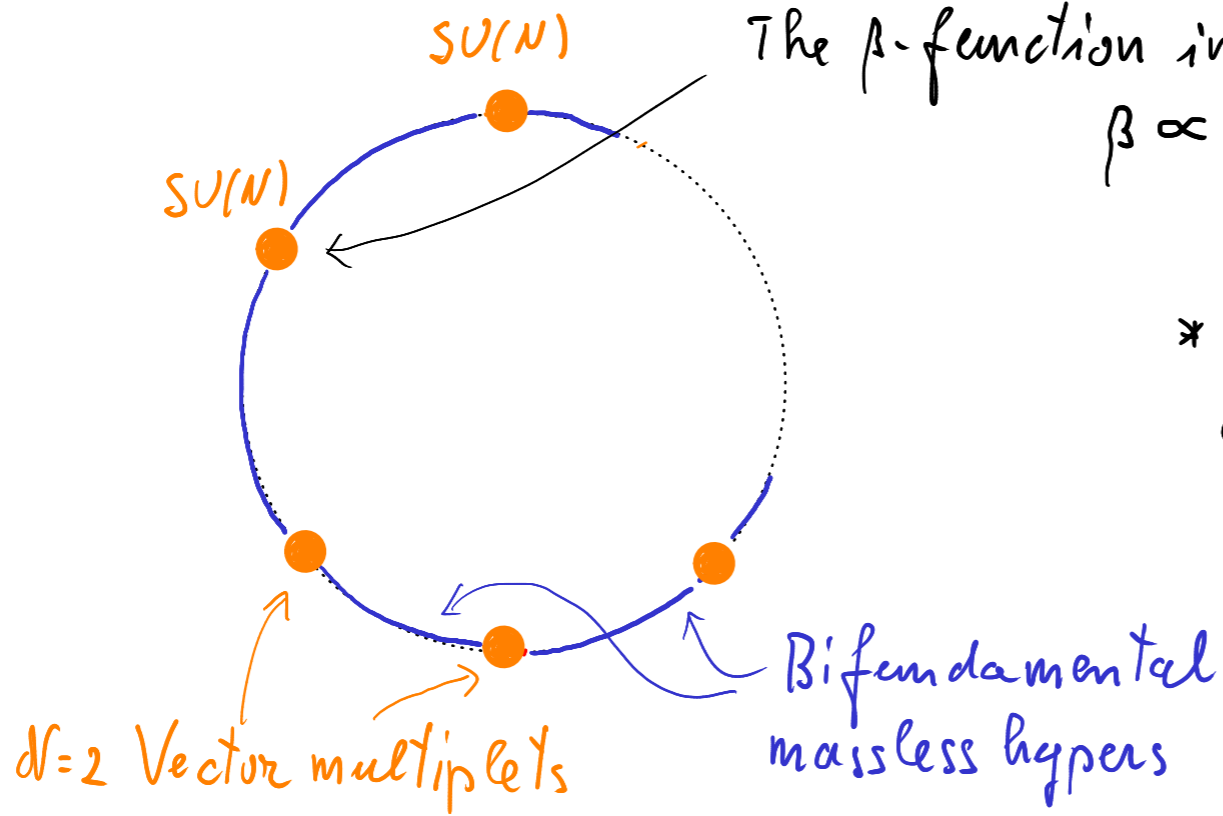
( $g = \exp(2\pi i/M)$  from now on)

\* Endpoints of open strings attached to fD3's transform in  $R_I \otimes \bar{R}_J$

\* This plus the geometric action fixes the invariant spectrum

\* At the massless level  $\rightarrow$   $\mathcal{N}=2$  quiver gauge theory

# QUIVER GAUGE THEORY



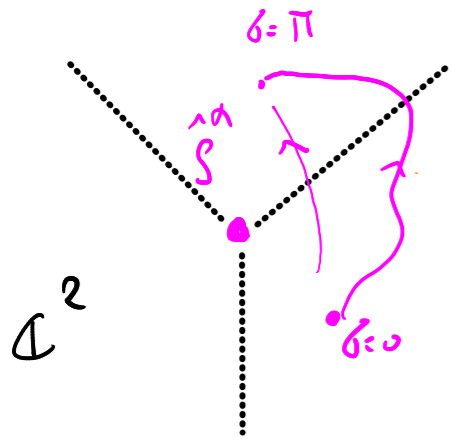
The  $\beta$ -function in each node vanishes:

$$\beta \propto 2N - 2N = 0$$

\* We take all gauge couplings equal to  $g$

Bifundamental massless hypers

# CLOSED STRINGS



\* The string close up to the  $\mathbb{Z}_M$  orbifold action:

$$X^M(\bar{z}, \sigma + 2\pi) = (\hat{g}^\alpha X)^M(\bar{z}, \sigma)$$

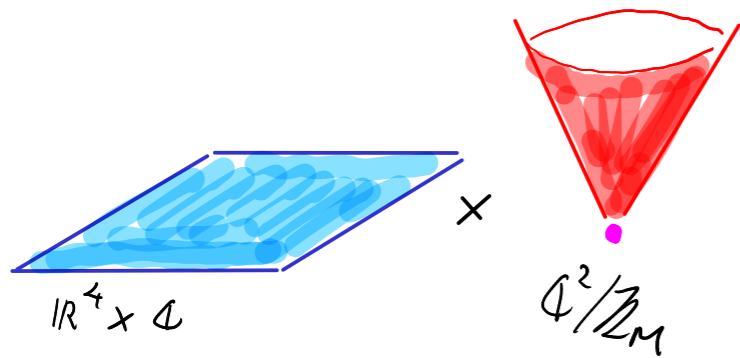
↳ action as rotation in  $\mathbb{C}^2$

\* Sectors  $\leftrightarrow$  conjugacy classes of  $\mathbb{Z}_M$

- untwisted ( $\alpha=0$ ): lives in 10d

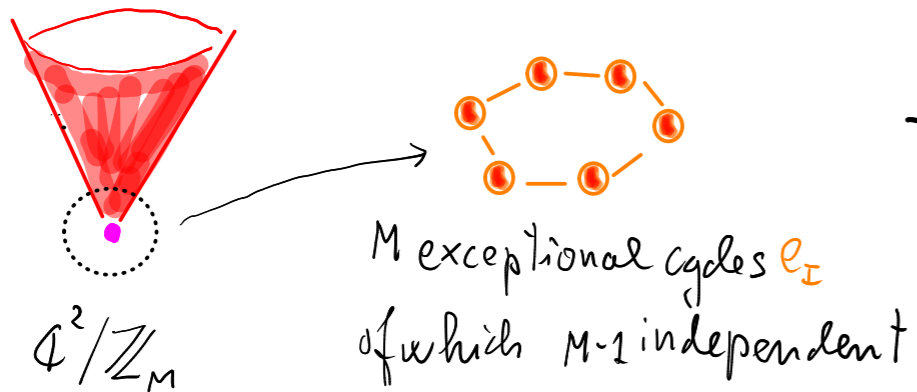
- twisted sectors ( $\alpha=1, \dots, M-1$ ): stuck at the orbifold fixed point

# TWISTED FIELDS



\* The twisted fields are six-dimensional fields

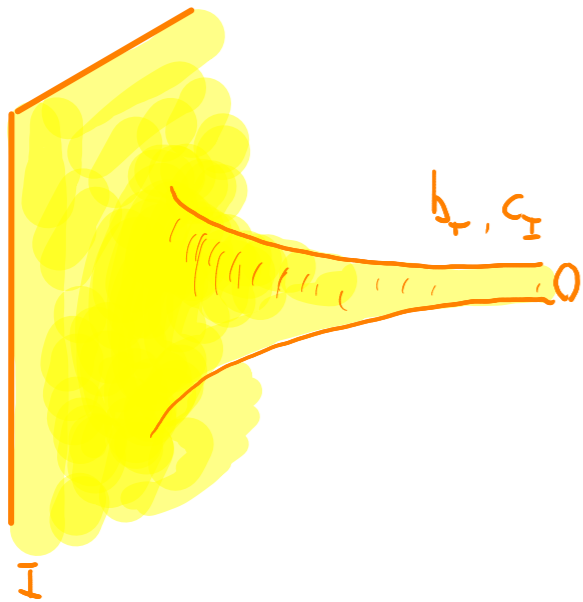
\* At the SUGRA level one works with the resolved orbifold



- the quiver adjacency matrix is the intersection of these cycles

## OPEN-CLOSED INTERPLAY

- \* Fractional D3's  $\sim$  solitons of IIB SUGRA on the (resolved) orbifold
- \*  $\sim$  D5 wrapped on the exceptional cycles  $e_I$



- \* They emit scalars  $b_I, c_I$   
 $\sim$  NS-NS and R-R 2-forms  $B_{(2)}, C_{(2)}$   
wrapped on  $e_I$

## DISCRETE FOURIER TRANSFORM

- Fields  $b_I, c_I$  emitted by a  $fD3$  of type 1  $\leftrightarrow$  irreps of  $\mathbb{Z}_M$
- Fields  $b_\alpha, c_\alpha$  in the twisted sector  $\alpha \leftrightarrow$  conj. classes of  $\mathbb{Z}_M$

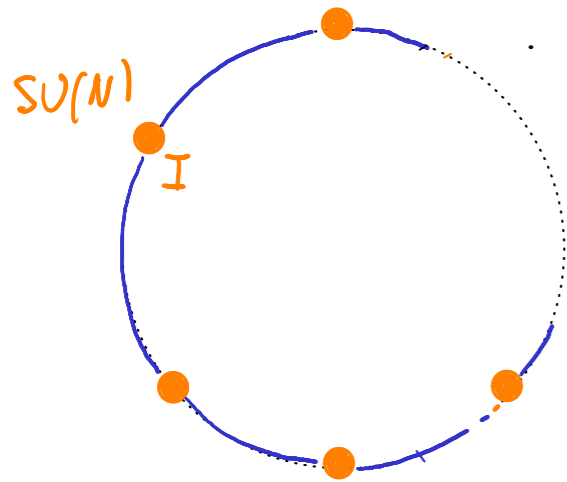
$$b_\alpha = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{M}} \sum_{I=0}^{M-1} \delta^{-\alpha I} b_I$$

(Discrete Fourier Transform)

character table of  $\mathbb{Z}_M$

\*  $b_\alpha, c_\alpha$  have a diagonal  $gd$  action (see later)

# CHIRAL OPERATORS IN THE $\mathcal{N}=2$ QUIVER GAUGE THEORY



$$\mathcal{O}_n^{(I)}(x) = \text{tr} \Phi_I^n(x)$$

complex scalar in the vector multiplet of node  $I$

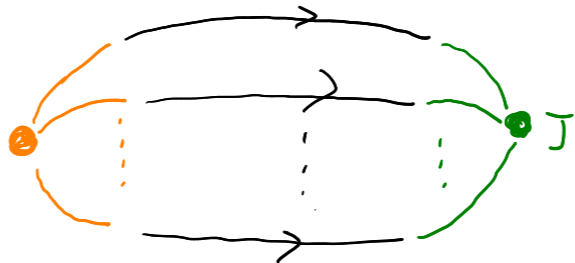
- Gauge invariant, BPS
- Dimension  $n \leftrightarrow U(1)_R$  charge
- Form a chiral ring (including multi-traces)

\* Consider the 2-point correlator as a function of  $g$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_n^{(I)}(x) \bar{\mathcal{O}}^{(J)}(y) \rangle \equiv \frac{G_n^{(I, J)}}{|x-y|^{2n}}$$

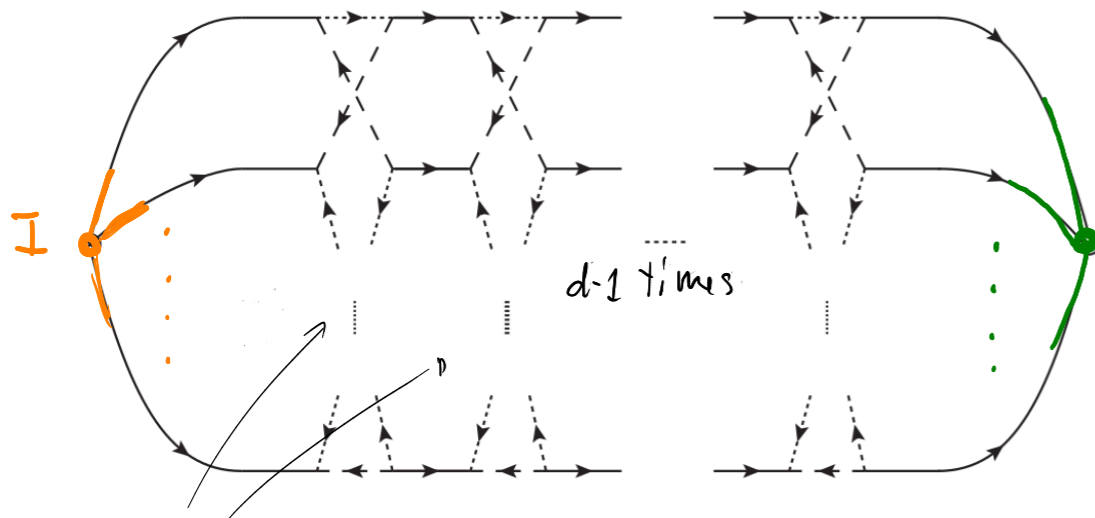
# TWO POINT FUNCTION

\* At tree level it is diagonal:  $I$



$$G_n^{IJ}(g=0) = n \left(\frac{N}{2}\right)^n \delta^{IJ}$$

\* Perturbative corrections spoil this:



$$J = I \pm d$$

$$J = I \pm d$$

$$G_n^{(I, I \pm d)} \propto \lambda^{nd} \left[ \int (2n-2) \right]^d$$

(Leading terms in the 't Hooft limit)

Matter hypermultiplet loops



## UNTWISTED AND TWISTED OPERATORS

\* As suggested by the string embedding via  $fD3$  branes on the  $o2^6$ ifold, change basis by D.F.T, i.e set

$$U_n(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \left( \mathcal{O}_n^{(0)}(\vec{x}) + \mathcal{O}_n^{(1)}(\vec{x}) + \dots + \mathcal{O}_n^{(M-1)}(\vec{x}) \right)$$

untwisted

$$T_{\alpha,n}(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \sum_{I=0}^{M-1} \int^{-\alpha I} \mathcal{O}_n^{(I)}(\vec{x}) \quad , \quad \alpha = 1, \dots, M-1$$

twisted

## DIAGONAL TWO-POINT FUNCTIONS

\* The untwisted and twisted sectors are orthogonal:

$$\langle U_n(x) \bar{U}_m(y) \rangle = \frac{G_n}{|x-y|^{2n}} \delta_{n,m}, \quad \langle T_{\alpha,n}(\vec{x}) \bar{T}_{\beta,m}(\vec{0}) \rangle = \frac{G_{\alpha,n}}{|x-y|^{2n}} \delta_{n,m} \delta_{\alpha,\beta}$$

non-trivial functions of  $g, N$ :

## EXTREMAL 3-POINT FUNCTIONS

\* For instance, with 3 untwisted operators,

$$\langle U_\kappa(x) U_\ell(y) \bar{U}_p(z) \rangle = \frac{G_{\kappa, \ell; p}}{|x-z|^{2\kappa} |y-z|^{2\ell}} \quad (p = \kappa + \ell)$$

\* Similarly we have *twisted* / untwisted and purely *twisted* cases:

$$G_{\kappa, \alpha \ell; \alpha p}$$

$$G_{\alpha \kappa, M - 2\ell; p}$$

$$G_{\kappa, \beta \ell; \gamma p}$$

$$(\gamma = \alpha + \beta)$$

## STRUCTURE CONSTANTS

\* To eliminate the dependence on the normalizations, define

$$C_{\kappa, e; p} = \frac{G_{\kappa, e; p}}{\sqrt{G_{\kappa} G_e G_p}}, \quad C_{\kappa, \alpha e; \alpha p} = \frac{G_{\kappa, \alpha e; \alpha p}}{\sqrt{G_{\kappa} G_{\alpha e} G_{\alpha p}}}, \quad \dots$$

\* These structure constants form an important part of the CFT data of the quiver theory

## STRUCTURE CONSTANTS

- \* Our aim is to study them at large  $N$ , where the single traces form a closed subsector
- \* We want to find their exact dependence on the 't Hooft coupling  $\lambda$  and extract their (leading) behaviour for large  $\lambda$
- \* Holographically, this regime is mapped to the dual string theory at tree level (lowest order in  $g_s$ ) and at lowest order in  $\alpha'$

## LOCALIZATION TO A MATRIX MODEL

- \* To go beyond lowest perturbative orders, use *localization* (Pestun 2007)
- \* On the sphere  $S_4$ , consider observables closed w.r.t a BRS charge  $Q$  (formed from susy): the path integral *localizes* to a *matrix model*
  - Applies to partition function, BPS Wilson loop, *chiral/anti-chiral vev*, ...
- \* For conformal cases  $S_4$  results  $\longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^4$  (conformally equivalent)  
Be careful with the operator map!

## THE QUIVER MATRIX MODEL

\*  $N \times N$  traceless hermitean matrices  $a_I$  ( $I=0, 1, \dots, M-1$ )

$$\mathcal{Z} = \int \prod_I (da_I e^{-\text{tr} a_I^2}) \left| Z_{1\text{-loop}} Z_{\text{inst}} \right|^2$$

Instantons suppressed:  
 $Z_{\text{inst}} \rightarrow 1$   
in the 't Hooft limit

$$= \int \prod_I (da_I e^{-\text{tr} a_I^2}) e^{-S_{\text{int}}} = \langle e^{-S_{\text{int}}} \rangle$$

\*  $S_{\text{int}}$  is complicated (see later), but its vev is taken in a gaussian (multi)-matrix model

## THE FULL LIE ALGEBRA APPROACH

\* For such free matrix correlators, we developed a "full Lie Algebra" approach:

- do not reexpress in terms of the eigenvalues

- use recursive relations that simplify in the large- $N$  limit



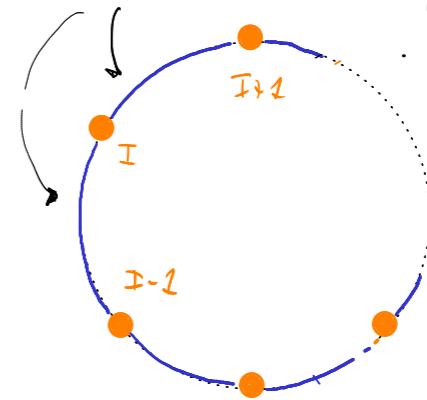
# THE INTERACTION ACTION

Galvagnolo, Preti 2010

$$S_{\text{int}} = \sum_{I=0}^{M-1} \sum_{m=2}^{\infty} \sum_{\kappa=2}^{2m} (-1)^{m+\kappa} \left( \frac{g}{8\pi^2} \right)^{2m} \binom{2m}{\kappa} \frac{(2m-1)}{2m} \left( \text{tr} a_I^{2m-\kappa} - \text{tr} a_{I+1}^{2m-\kappa} \right) \left( \text{tr} a_I^{\kappa} - \text{tr} a_{I+1}^{\kappa} \right)$$

diagonalized by introducing  
untwisted and **twisted**  
combinations of the operators,  
just as in the gauge theory  
(Discrete Fourier Transform)

Nearest-neighbor  
interactions in the quiver



# CHIRAL OPERATORS

\* Also the correlators of chiral op.s are mapped into matrix model correlators. The map is

$$O_n^{(I)}(x) = \text{tr} \Phi_I^n(x)$$

$\Phi_I(x)$  chiral  
no self-contractions

$$\longrightarrow : \text{tr} a_I^n :$$

$a_I$  hermitean  
self-contractions have  
to be subtracted

\* Thus, for instance,

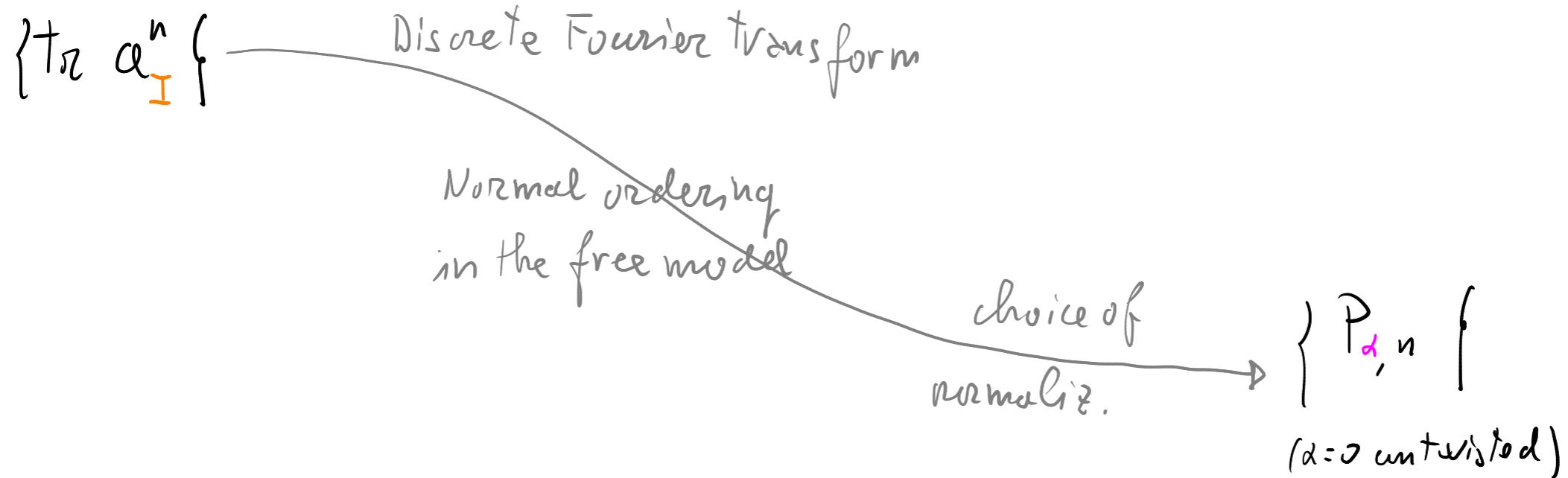
$$\langle O_n^{(I)}(x) \bar{O}_m^{(J)}(y) \rangle = \frac{G_n^{(IJ)}}{|x-y|^{2n}} \delta_{nm}$$

$$\longleftrightarrow \langle : \text{tr} a_I^n : : \text{tr} a_J^m : \rangle = G_n^{(IJ)}$$

$\uparrow$  in the interacting matrix model

## FREE MATRIX MODEL (at large $N$ )

\* Construct combinations of traces which represent in the matrix model the untwisted and **twisted** chiral operators at  $\lambda=0$



# FREE MATRIX MODEL (at large $N$ )

\* For these matrix operators,

$$\langle P_{\alpha, m} P_{\beta, n}^\dagger \rangle_0 = \delta_{\alpha, \beta} \delta_{mn}$$

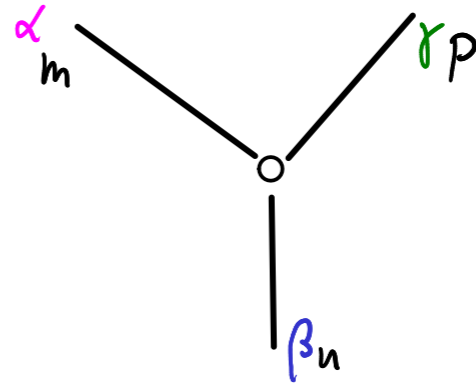
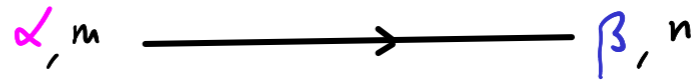
$$\langle P_{\alpha, m} P_{\beta, n} P_{\gamma, p}^\dagger \rangle_0 = C_{mnp} \delta_{\alpha + \beta, \gamma}$$

with

$$C_{mnp} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{mnp}}{N}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{mnp}}{N}$$

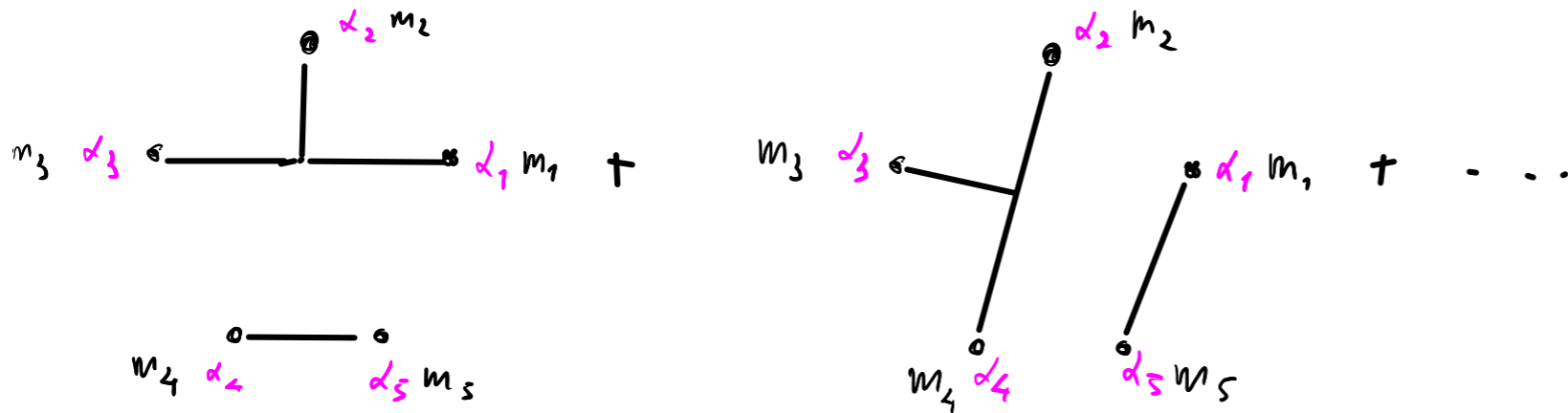
result in the  $d=4$  theory



( $m+n+p$  even)

## "WICK PROPERTY"

\* At large  $N$ , higher point correlators of the  $P_{\alpha, n}$  in the free matrix model come from all possible contractions with the above propagator (and one cubic vertex for odd # of insertions)



# INTERACTING MATRIX MODEL

\* In the  $\{P_{\alpha,n}\}$  basis the interactions are diagonal in the sectors  $\alpha$

$$S_{int} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{M-1} s_{\alpha} P_{\alpha}^{\dagger} X \cdot P_{\alpha}$$

$$s_{\alpha} = \sin^2 \frac{\pi \alpha}{M}$$

Eigenvalues  
of the adjacency  
matrix

$$X_{r,s} = -8\sqrt{rs} \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} (-1)^p C_{r,s,p} \frac{(r+s+2p-1)!}{(r+s+2p)!} \left(\frac{\lambda}{16\pi^2}\right)^{\frac{r+s+2p}{2}}$$

for  $r, s$  both even  
or both odd, otherwise zero

$$= \frac{(r+s+2p)!}{p!(r+p)!(s+p)!(r+s+p)!}$$

Only twisted  
operators  
appear!

## RESUMMING THE X MATRIX

$$X_{r,s} = \pm 8 (-)^{\frac{r+s}{2}} \sqrt{rs} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dt}{t} \frac{e^{-t}}{(e^t - 1)^2} J_r \left( \frac{t\sqrt{\lambda}}{2\pi} \right) J_s \left( \frac{t\sqrt{\lambda}}{2\pi} \right)$$

+ or - if r, s both odd or even

- \* perturbative series: expand the Bessels for small  $\lambda$  then integrate over  $t$
- \* strong coupling behaviour: use Mellin to find an asymptotic expansion
- \* Very similar "Bessel kernels" appear in several corners of  $d=4$  and  $d=2$  (e.g. for the cuspanomalous dimension via BES equation Beisert et al 2006)

## CORRELATORS IN THE INTERACTING MODEL

- \* In each twisted sector we compute free matrix correlators of  $P_{d,n}$  operators with the insertion of  $e^{-S_{int}(x)}$
- \*  $S_{int}(x)$  is quadratic in the  $P_{d,n}$  with "mass matrix"  $X$
- \* At large  $N$  the Wick rule holds
  - $\Rightarrow$  find exact expressions of the correlators in terms of the  $X$  matrix



# EXACT RESULTS

\* Partition function in the  $\alpha^{\text{th}}$  twisted sector

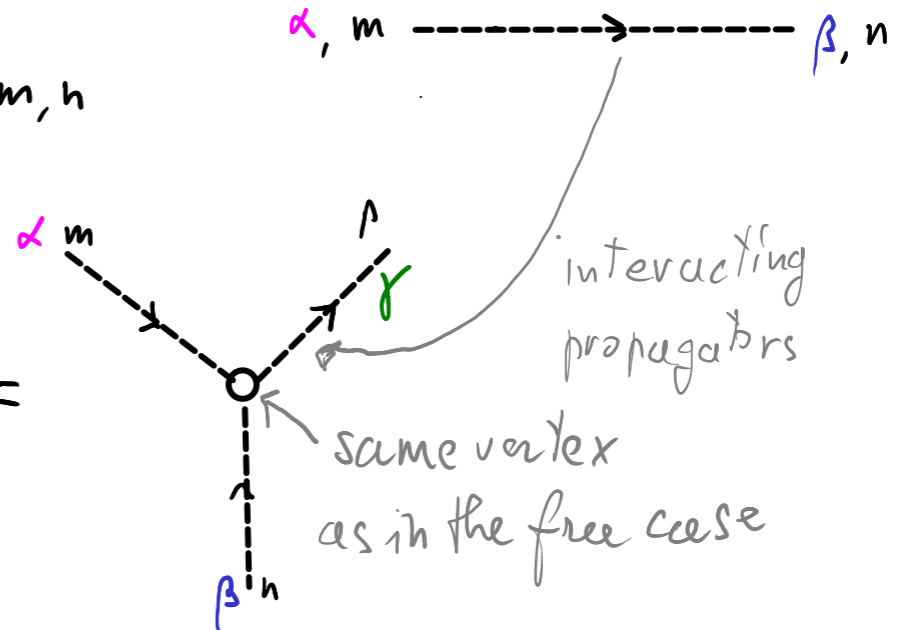
$$Z(\alpha) = \langle 1 \rangle = \langle e^{-S_{\text{int}}(\alpha)} \rangle_0 = \det^{-1/2} (\mathbb{1} - S_\alpha X)$$

\* 2-point functions

$$\langle P_{\alpha, m} P_{\beta, n}^+ \rangle = \left( \frac{1}{\mathbb{1} - S_\alpha X} \right)_{m, n}$$

\* 3-point functions

$$\langle P_{\alpha, m} P_{\beta, n} P_{\gamma, p}^+ \rangle =$$



## INTERACTING NORMAL-ORDERING

\* Due to interactions, the  $P_{\alpha,n}$  are *not* normal-ordered

\* Apply Gram-Schmidt:  $\{P_{\alpha,n}\} \xrightarrow{\text{G.S.}} \{Z_{\alpha,n}\}$

\*  $Z_{\alpha,n}$  = counterparts of the (normalized) *twisted* chiral ops in the gauge theory

\* Their correlators capture the (coordinate independent part of) the 2- and 3-point functions in the gauge theory  $\rightarrow$  structure constants

## STRONG COUPLING BEHAVIOUR

- \* In 22.11.1795 we found exact expressions for these quantities in terms of the  $X$  matrix (always in the large- $N$  limit)
- \* In this talk I focus just on their expression at the leading order in the strong-coupling expansion for large  $\lambda$

## STRONG COUPLING BEHAVIOUR

\* Expression of  $X$  as convolution of Bessel functions  $\rightarrow$  Mellin transform

$\rightarrow$  leading behaviour

$$X \underset{\lambda \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} -\lambda \underbrace{S + \dots}_{\text{3-diagonal matrix}}$$

\* The normal ordering simplifies:  $\mathcal{P}_{\alpha, \kappa} \underset{\lambda \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \mathcal{P}_{\alpha, \kappa} - \sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{\kappa-2}} \mathcal{P}_{\alpha, \kappa-2}$

\* The final result for the structure constants are very simple and depends on the untwisted/twisted content

# RESULTS FOR THE STRUCTURE CONSTANTS at large $N$

$\lambda=0$    $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$

$C_{\kappa, \ell; p}$	$\frac{\sqrt{\kappa \ell p}}{\sqrt{M} N}$	... $\lambda$ -independent Lee et al 1998 ...	$\frac{\sqrt{\kappa \ell p}}{\sqrt{M} N}$
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$C_{\kappa, \alpha \ell; \alpha p}$	//	... $\lambda$ -dependent ...	$\frac{\sqrt{\kappa (\ell-1) (p-1)}}{\sqrt{M} N}$
$C_{\alpha \kappa, M-\alpha \ell; p}$	//	//	$\frac{\sqrt{(\kappa-1) (\ell-1) p}}{\sqrt{M} N}$

$C_{\alpha \kappa, \beta \ell; \gamma p}$	//	//	$\frac{\sqrt{(\kappa-1) (\ell-1) (p-1)}}{\sqrt{M} N}$
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# HOLOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION

\* IIB string theory on the near-horizon limit of the  $fD_3$  solution

\* untwisted sector:  $AdS_5 \times S^1/2\pi$  (AdS<sub>5</sub> radius:  $R$ ) 10d

\* twisted sectors:  $AdS_5 \times S^1$  fixed under the orbifold action 6d

# HOLOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION: parameters

$$4\pi g_s = \frac{\lambda}{MN}$$

$$d' = \frac{R^2}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$$

set  $R=1$  afterwards

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{large } N : g_s \rightarrow 0 \\ \text{large } \lambda : d' \rightarrow 0 \end{array} \right.$

$\sim$  sugra

But...

\* Untwisted, 10d sugra action  $\propto \frac{1}{2\kappa_{10}^2} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^7 g_s d'^4} = \frac{4(MN)^2}{(2\pi)^5}$

\* Twisted, 6d action  $\propto \frac{1}{2\kappa_6^2} = \frac{1}{M} \frac{(2\pi d')^2}{2\kappa_{10}^2}$

$\leftarrow$  wrapping on exceptional cycles  
 $\leftarrow$  orbifolding

## HOLOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION: operators

\* To compute correlators by Witten diagrams we need the explicit map

chiral CFT operators  $\longleftrightarrow$  bulk modes in  $AdS_5$

\* **Untwisted**  $U_{\kappa}(x) \longleftrightarrow S_{\kappa}(z)$ : combination of KK modes on  $S^5/\mathbb{Z}_m$   
of the 10d metric  $h_{mn}$   
{ RR 4-form  $C_4$   
(Just as in  $d=4$ , Lee et al 1998)  
rather complicated

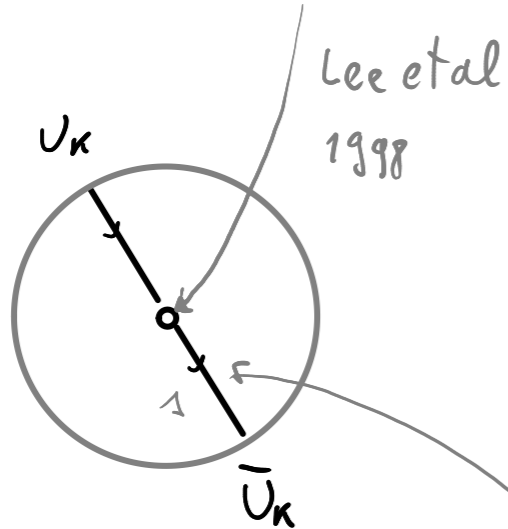
\* **Twisted**  $T_{\alpha, \kappa}(x) \longleftrightarrow \eta_{\alpha, \kappa}(z)$ : KK modes on  $S^1$  of the 6d field  
 $C_{\alpha} - i b_{\alpha}$   
(Gaiotto, 1998)



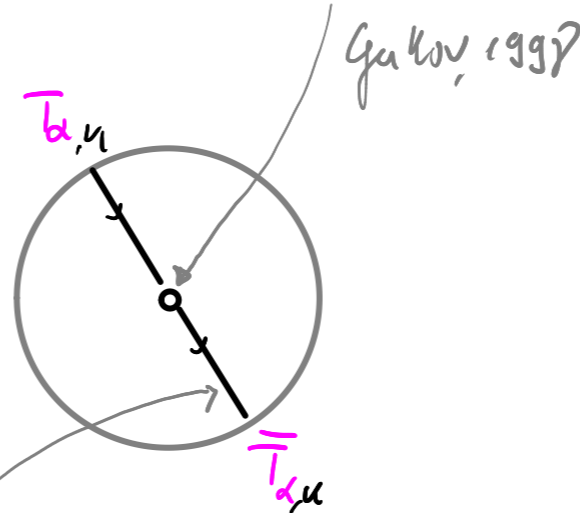
## 2-POINT FUNCTIONS

\* To evaluate the Witten diagrams we need the quadratic action:

untwisted  $S_n$  modes



twisted  $\eta_{\alpha\mu}$  modes



Bulk-to-boundary propagation:

follow Freedman et al, 1998  
S'Hokey et al 1999  
...

## 2-POINT FUNCTIONS

\* Results:

\* Untwisted: 
$$G_k = \frac{M N^2 k (k-1)^2 (k-2)^2}{2^{k-4} \pi^4 (k+1)^2}$$

\* Twisted: 
$$G_{d,k} = \frac{M N^2 (k-1)(k-2)^2}{S_d \lambda \pi^4}$$

due to the extra  $\alpha'^2$   
in the  $G_d$  action

### 3-POINT FUNCTIONS

\* We need the cubic action for the  $S_4$  and  $\eta_{\alpha, \mu}$  modes

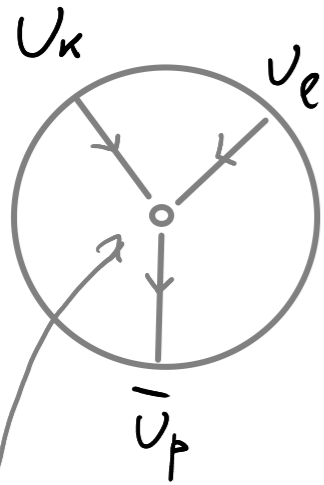
\* the  $(S)^3$  terms come from the 10d action reduced on  $S_5$  Lee et al, 1998

\* the  $(S \eta^2)$  terms come from the 6d action - we derived them in 2207.08846

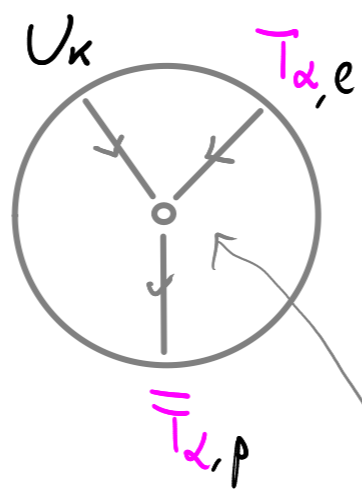
$$S_6 = \frac{(2\pi\alpha')^2}{2\kappa_{10}^2 M} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{M-1} \frac{1}{2S_\alpha} \left[ \int d^6x \sqrt{G} \left( \nabla b_\alpha^\dagger \cdot \nabla b_\alpha + \nabla C_\alpha^\dagger \cdot \nabla C_\alpha \right) + \mathcal{P} \left[ C_4 \wedge db_\alpha^\dagger \wedge dC_\alpha \right] \right]$$

AdS<sub>5</sub> × S<sub>1</sub> bkg ; Expand in S<sub>1</sub> harmonics

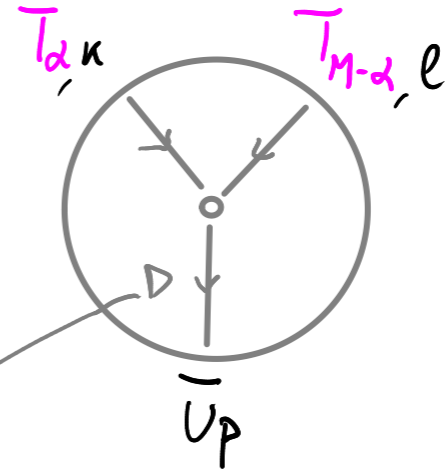
# 3-POINT FUNCTIONS



Cubic coupling  
of the  $(S)^3$  type



Cubic  $(S\eta^2)$  couplings



### 3-POINT FUNCTIONS

\* Results

$$G_{\kappa, e; p} = MN^2 \frac{\kappa(\kappa-1)(\kappa-2)}{2^{\kappa/2-2} \pi^2 (\kappa+1)} \frac{e(e-1)(e-2)}{2^{e/2-2} \pi^2 (e+2)} \frac{p(p-1)(p-2)}{2^{p/2-2} \pi^2 (p+2)}$$

$$G_{\kappa, \alpha e; \alpha p} = \frac{MN^2}{S_d(\lambda)} \frac{\kappa(\kappa-1)(\kappa-2)}{2^{\kappa/2-2} \pi^2 (\kappa+1)} \frac{(e-1)(e-2)}{\pi^2} \frac{(p-1)(p-2)}{\pi^2}$$

due to extra  $\alpha^2$  in  $S_6$

$$G_{\alpha \kappa, M-\alpha e; p} = \dots \text{ (mutatis mutandis)}$$

## STRUCTURE CONSTANTS

\* From the above results we get

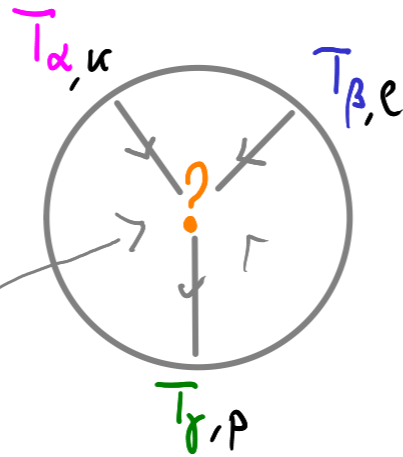
$$C_{\kappa, e; p} = \frac{G_{\kappa, e; p}}{\sqrt{G_{\kappa} G_e G_p}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M} N} \sqrt{\kappa e p} \quad \checkmark \quad (\text{same as for } \lambda \rightarrow 0) \\ \text{Lee et al 1998}$$

$$C_{\kappa, \alpha e; \alpha p} = \frac{G_{\kappa, \alpha e; \alpha p}}{\sqrt{G_{\kappa} G_{\alpha e} G_{\alpha p}}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M} N} \sqrt{\kappa (\ell-1) (p-1)} \quad \checkmark$$

Both numerator and denominator are proportional to  $1/\lambda$  that cancels out

### 3-POINT FUNCTIONS: MISSING

\* A class of Witten diagrams is missing from the previous description



i There is no purely twisted cubic coupling  $(\eta)^3$  in the 6d supergravity action obtained by wrapping on the exceptional cycles the 10d action that was quadratic in  $B_{(2)}$  and  $C_{(2)}$  !

## WHAT WOULD WE NEED?

\* From the gauge theory side, the 3-twist structure constants

$$C_{\alpha\kappa, \beta\ell; \gamma\rho} = \frac{\sqrt{(\kappa-1)(\ell-1)(\rho-1)}}{MN}$$

are on the same ground as the others

\* To reproduce them on the holographic side we would need

$$G_{\alpha\kappa, \beta\ell; \gamma\rho} = C_{\alpha\kappa, \beta\ell; \gamma\rho} \sqrt{G_{\alpha\kappa} G_{\beta\ell} G_{\gamma\rho}}$$

↑ known

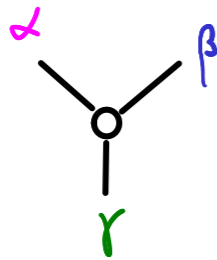


## WHAT WOULD WE NEED?

\* We would need the following result from Witten diagrams:

$$G_{\alpha k, \beta l; \gamma p} = \frac{M N^2}{\sqrt{S_\alpha S_\beta S_\gamma}} \frac{1}{\lambda^{3/2}} \frac{(k-1)(k-2)}{\pi^2} \frac{(l-1)(l-2)}{\pi^2} \frac{(p-1)(p-2)}{\pi^2}$$

\* Thus we need a cubic 6d bulk coupling of the type  $\eta_\alpha \eta_\beta \bar{\eta}_\gamma$



with an extra  $(\alpha')^3$  w.r.t. the untwisted couplings

## WE NEED THE STRING!

\* The 6d bulk action that, put on  $AdS_5 \times S_1$ , yields these couplings:

$$S'_{(6)} \sim \frac{\alpha'^3}{2\kappa_{10}} \cdot \frac{1}{M} \int d^6x \mathcal{L}(G, C_4; \eta)$$

-  $[\mathcal{L}'] = L^{-4} \rightarrow$  4-derivative action

( $G$ , components of  $C_4$  and  $\eta$  are dimensionless)

-  $\mathcal{L}'$  cubic in the twisted fields

## WE NEED THE STRING!

- \*  $S_{(6)}^1$  has a power of  $\alpha'$  and two derivatives more than the 6d supergravity action  $S_{(6)}$ , and is cubic in the twisted fields
- \* It is natural to think it comes from world-sheet string corrections
- \* These corrections represent the leading terms in  $\alpha'$  that give a 3-twist coupling  $\Rightarrow$  are needed to match these CFT data

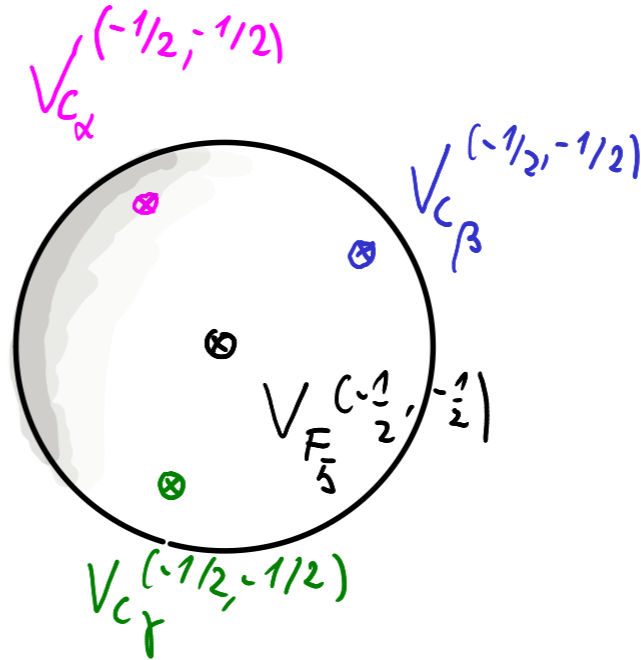
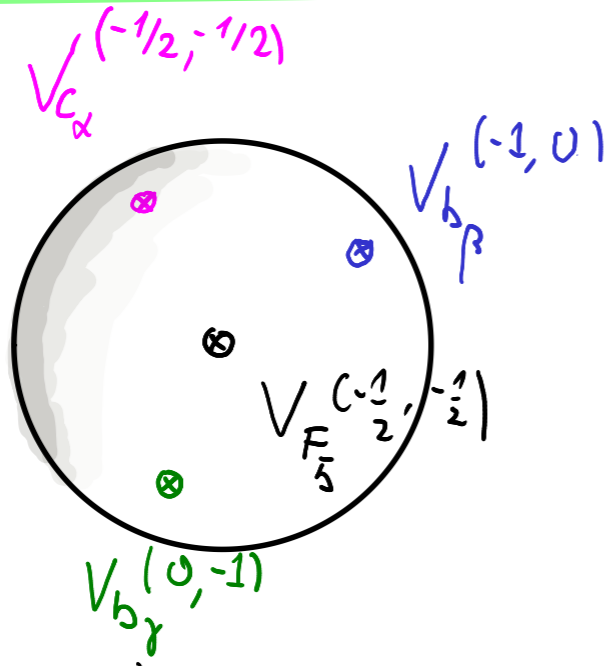
## STRATEGY

- \* We cannot compute directly the string on the  $AdS_5 \times S^5 / \mathbb{Z}_M$  bkg
- \* The "flat" bkg  $\mathbb{R}^4 \times \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}^2 / \mathbb{Z}_M$  is a solvable world-sheet CFT
- \* We construct the space-time action from string scattering amplitudes, in the flat bkg, covariantizing it
- \* Only at this point we insert the AdS bkg

# STRING DIAGRAMS

- \* Type IIB on  $\mathbb{R}^6 \times \mathbb{S}^2/\mathbb{Z}_M$  at tree level (sphere diagrams)
  - \* Vertex op.s for twisted scalars  $b_\alpha$  (NS-NS) and  $C_\alpha$  (R-R) known
  - \* The needed 4-derivative couplings arise from 4-point diagrams
    - 3 twisted fields ( $b_\alpha$  or  $C_\alpha$ )
    - one untwisted field:
      - $C_4$  RR form
      - metric
- appearing via  $\bar{F}_5$  or curvature  $\rightarrow$  constant on the  $AdS_4 \times S_1$  background

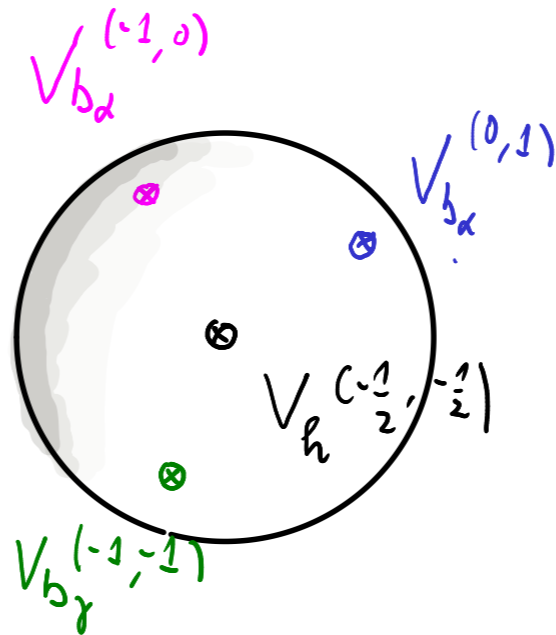
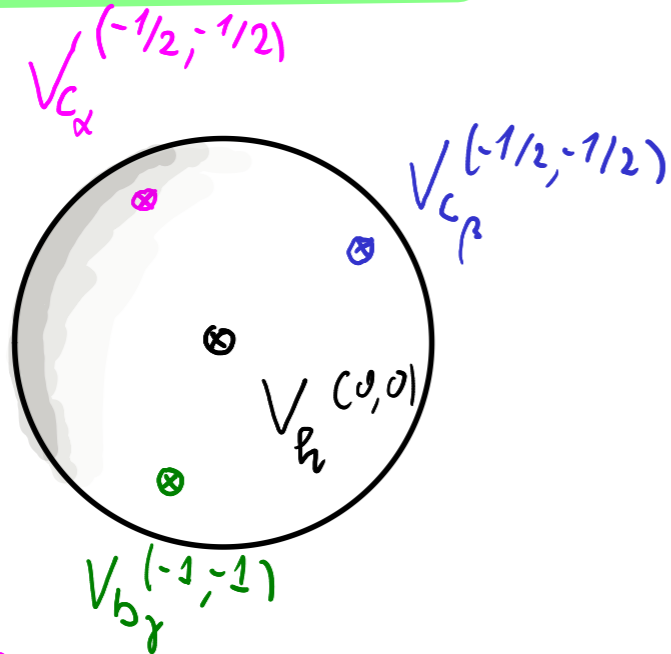
# STRING DIAGRAMS with $F_5$



$$\propto \frac{(\alpha')^3}{2\kappa_{10}^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{s_\alpha s_\beta s_\gamma}} \left\{ \partial C_\alpha \cdot \partial b_\beta \left( \overline{F}_5 \wedge db_\gamma \right) + \partial C_\alpha \cdot \partial C_\beta \left( \overline{F}_5 \wedge dC_\gamma \right) \right\}$$

Exactly the right structure when put on the  $AdS_5 \times S^2$  bkg

# STRING DIAGRAMS with the metric under analysis!



$$\rightarrow \frac{(\alpha')^3}{2\kappa_{10}^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{s_\alpha s_\beta s_\gamma}} \left\{ R_{mn} \partial^m c_\alpha \partial^n c_\beta h_\gamma + R_{mn} \partial^m b_\alpha \partial^n b_\beta b_\gamma \right\}$$

Preliminary!

The right structure when put on  $AdS_5 \times S^1$

## CONCLUSIONS

- \* We better finish now the computation and check whether the 3-twist structure constants are really reproduced 😊
- \* In this project, as in many others, enter so many things we all learned along the years working and discussing with Paolo!
- \* This has not only been useful and instructive but also extremely pleasant at the personal and intellectual level