String Math 2017

Hamburg, Germany

Conformal Bootstrap in Two Dimensions

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based on works with Bruno Balthazar (Harvard)

Minjae Cho (Harvard)

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|---------------------|---|--------------|
| | Minjae Cho (Harvard) | [1511.04065] |
| | Scott Collier (Harvard) | [1608.06241] |
| | Petr Kravchuk (Caltech) | [1610.05371] |
| | Ying-Hsuan Lin (Caltech) Victor Rodriguez (Harvard) | [1702.00423] |
| | Shu-Heng Shao (IAS) | [1703.09805] |
| | David Simmons-Duffin (IAS & Caltech) | [1705.05865] |
| | Yifan Wang (Princeton) | [1705.07151] |
| | | |

1. Motivations and questions

2. Modular constraints

3. Crossing equation and spectral function

4. Comments on superconformal theories

5. Genus two modular bootstrap

[Belavin-Polyakov-Zamolodchikov '84, Friedan-Shenker '87, Segal '87, Moore-Seiberg '88]

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Non-local operators and boundary states are beyond the scope of this talk.

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- 4. <u>Rational CFTs</u>: analytic constraints on spectrum (e.g. finite dimensional modular representation) and fusion rules (Verlinde formula)
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arise on the worldsheet of superstrings in AdS
[Bershadsky, Zhukov, Vaintrob '99, Berkovits, Vafa, Witten '99, Berkovits '00, '04]

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- 5. To what extent does the low lying operator spectrum of a CFT pin down the entire theory? (Existence and uniqueness of UV completion of gravity+matter in AdS?)

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Our goal is to carve out the space of 2D (unitary) CFTs.

Beyond RCFT, our analytic tools are limited.

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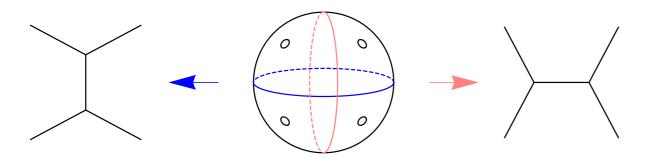
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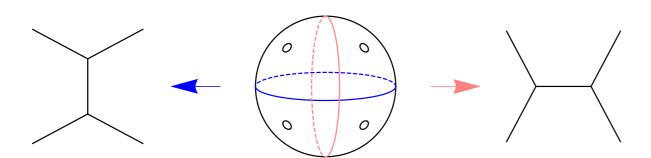
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We would like to know: what are the possible spectra of local operators and structure constants?

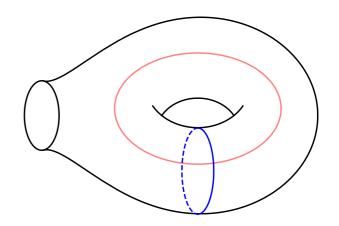
crossing invariance (associativity of OPE)



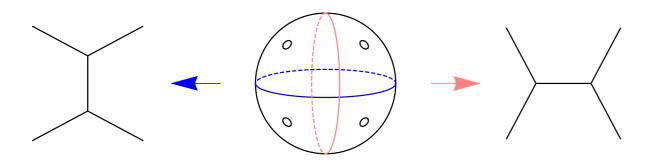
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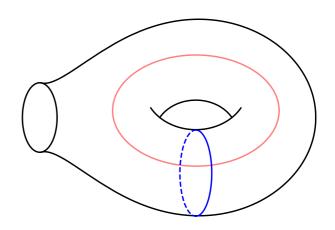


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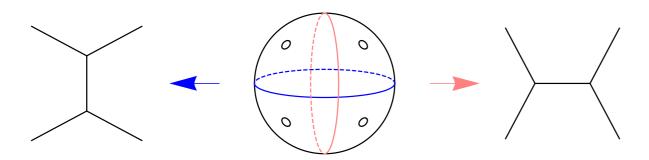


(any spacetime dimension)

modular invariance

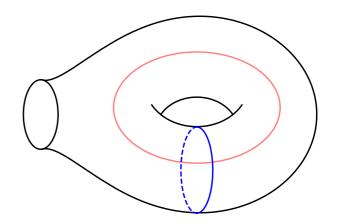


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(only properly understood in 2D)

Modular invariance of the torus partition function

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The modular constraint on the operator spectrum goes much further!

[Hellerman '09, Friedan-Keller '13, Qualls-Shapere '13, Collier-Lin-XY '16]

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We aim to rule out all spectra \mathcal{I} with some hypothetical properties.

$$\sum_{h,\tilde{h}} d_{h,\tilde{h}} \left[\chi_h(\tau) \bar{\chi}_{\tilde{h}}(\bar{\tau}) - \chi_h(-1/\tau) \bar{\chi}_{\tilde{h}}(-1/\bar{\tau}) \right] = 0$$

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Strategy: seek a linear functional

$$\alpha = \sum_{m+n=\text{odd}} a_{m,n} \left. \partial_z^m \partial_{\bar{z}}^n \right|_{z=\bar{z}=0}, \quad \tau \equiv i e^z$$

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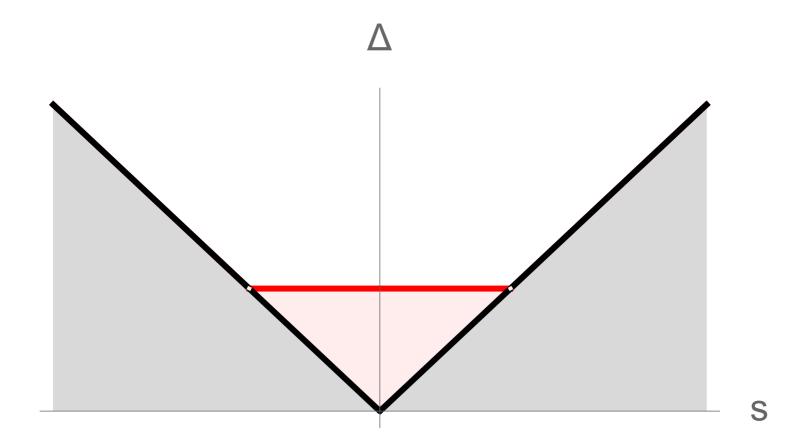
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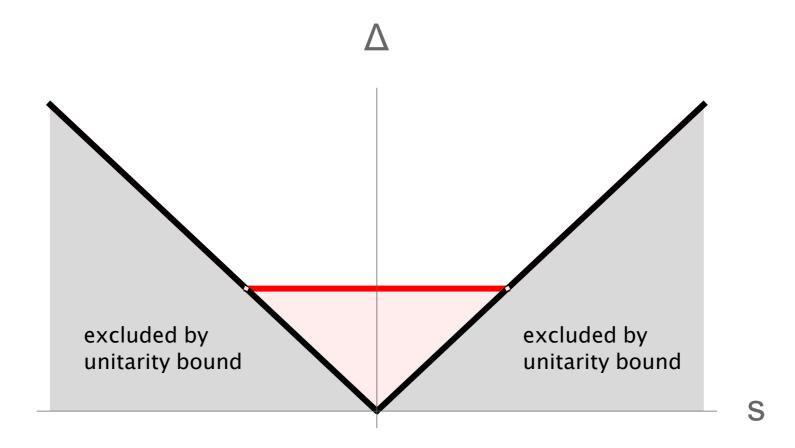
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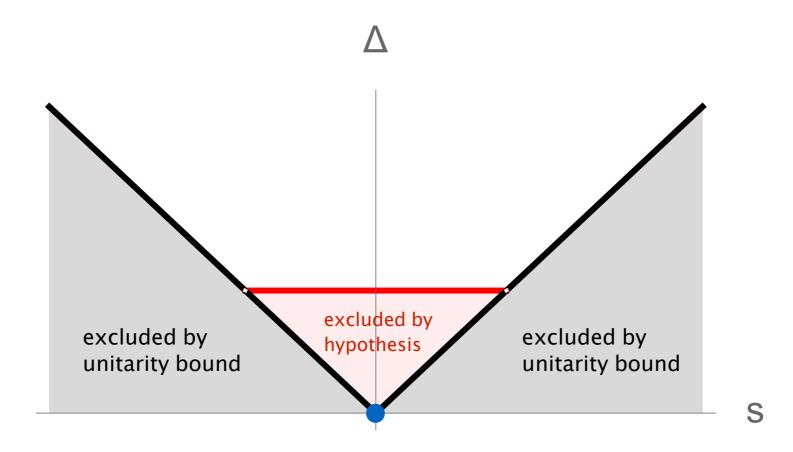
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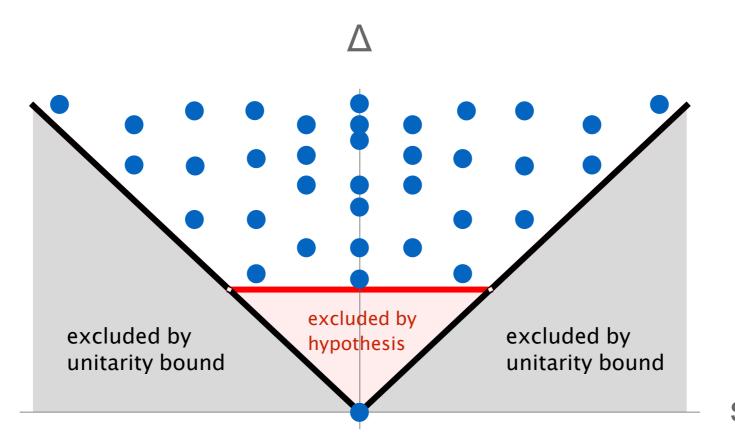
$$\alpha \left[\chi_h(\tau) \bar{\chi}_{\tilde{h}}(\bar{\tau}) - \chi_h(-1/\tau) \bar{\chi}_{\tilde{h}}(-1/\bar{\tau}) \right] > 0, \quad \forall (h, \tilde{h}) \in \mathcal{I}.$$

Depending on the hypothesis we choose to make on the spectrum, such a linear functional α may or may not exist. If α is found, then the modular crossing equation cannot be satisfied, thereby ruling out the hypothetical spectrum.

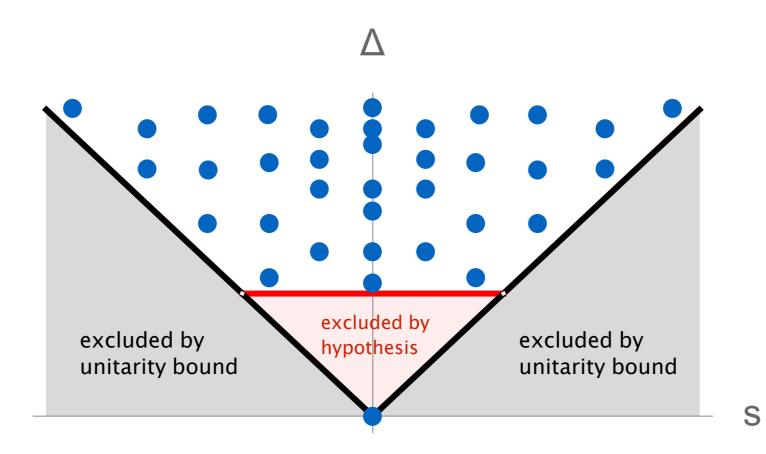




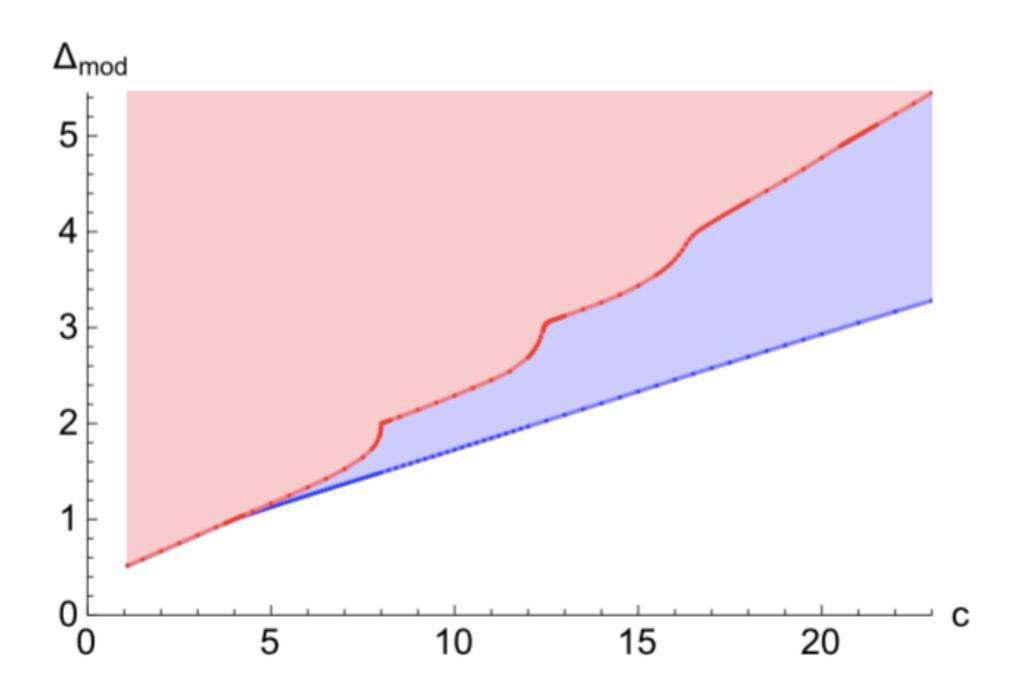


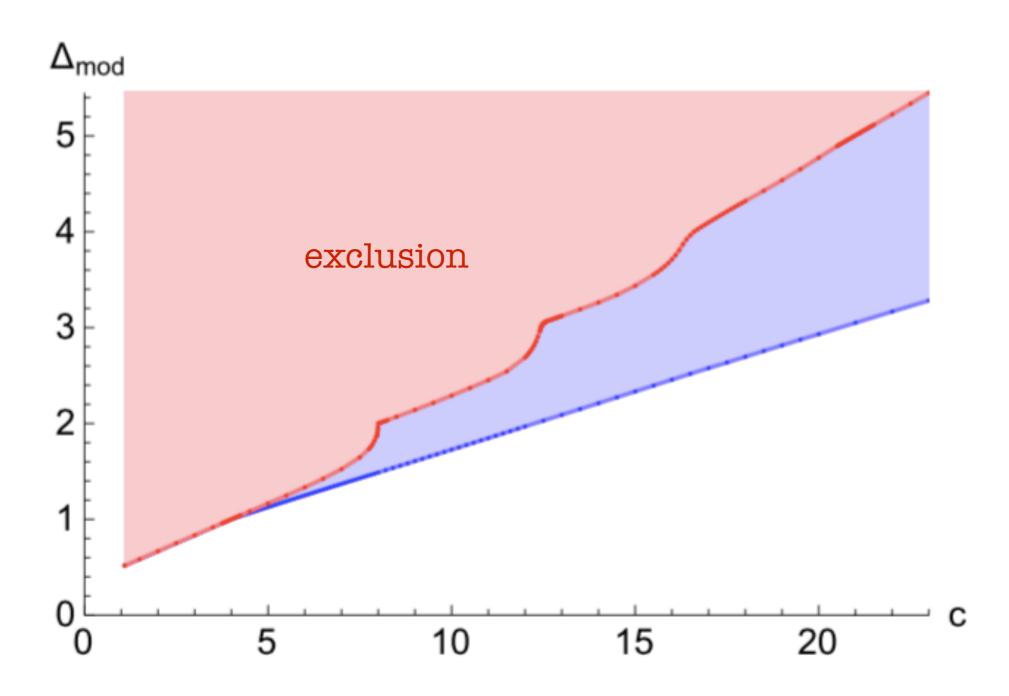


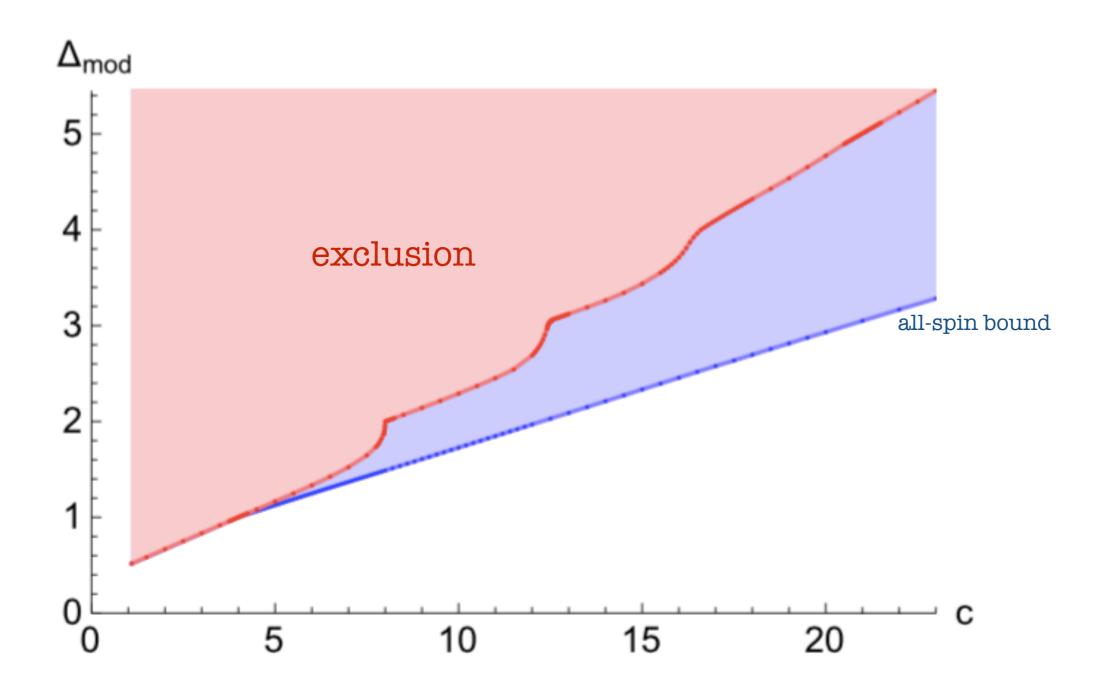
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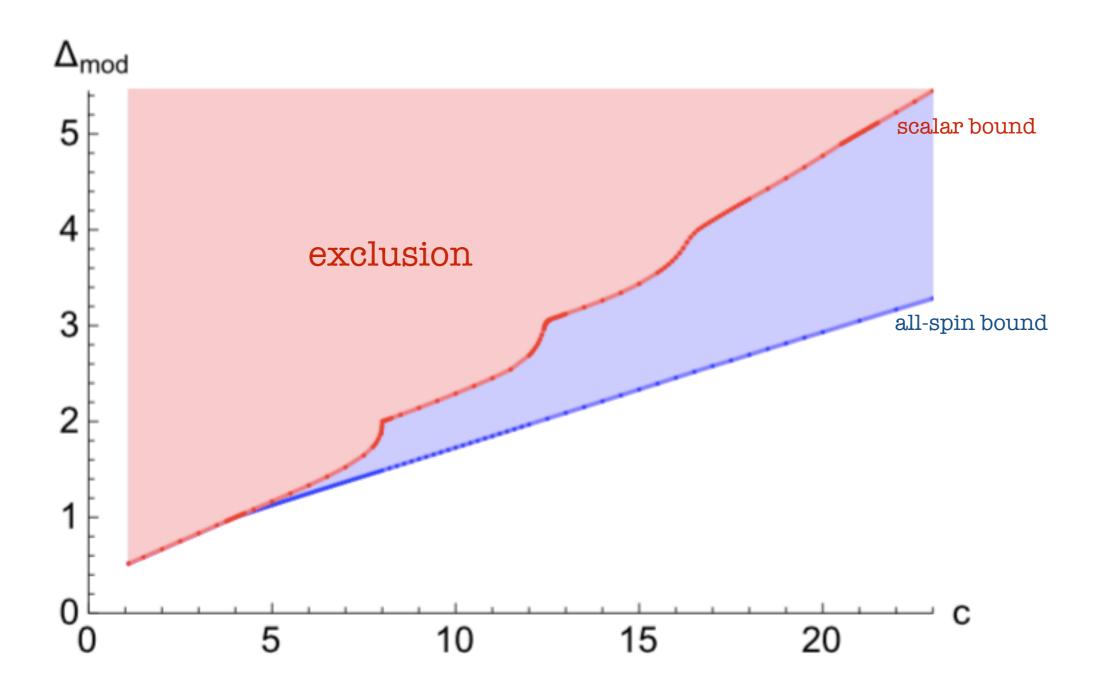


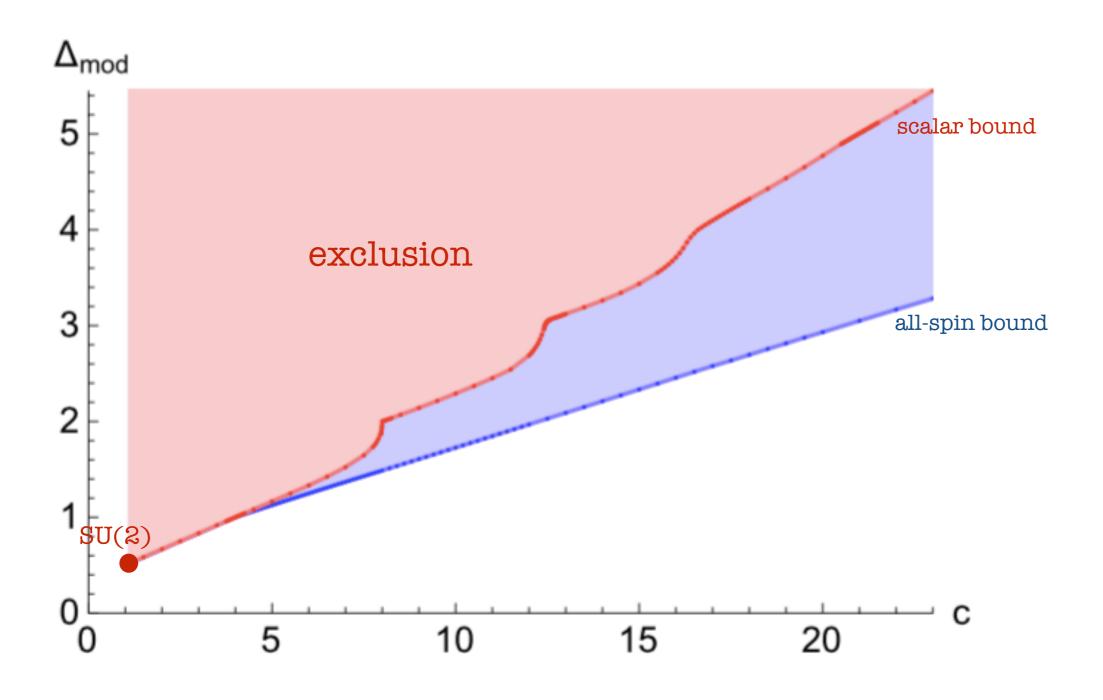
In practice, can work with a basis of linear functionals up to a finite derivative order, truncate on the range of spin (must check stability wrt increasing spin truncation), and use semidefinite programming [SDPB by D. Simmons-Duffin] to optimize the bound numerically.

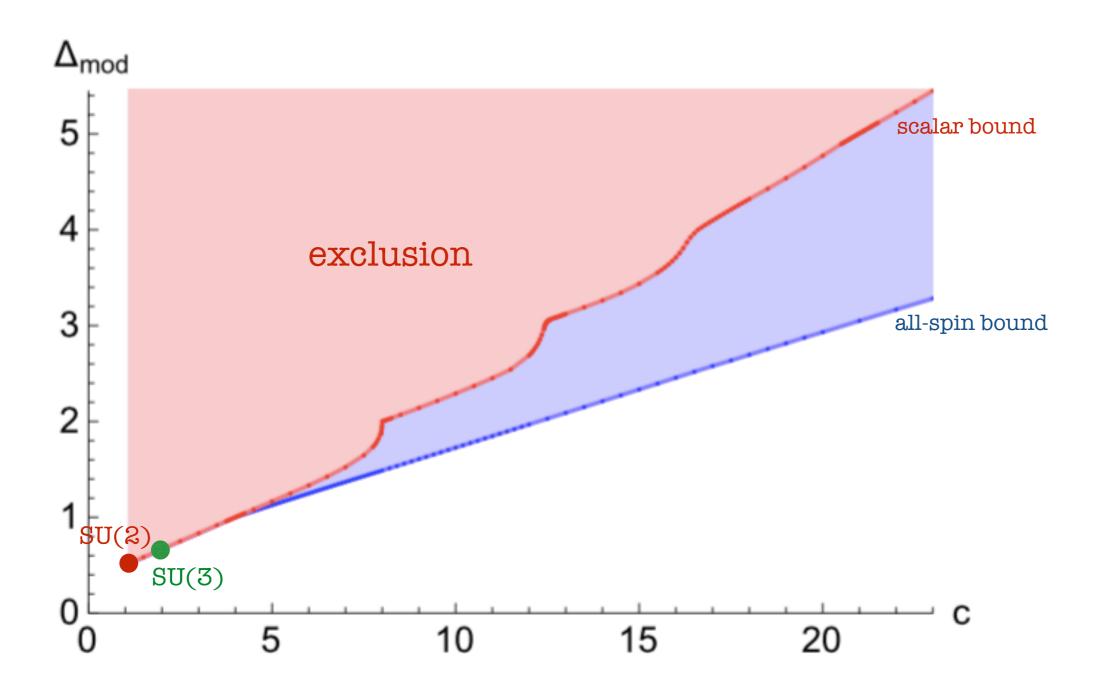


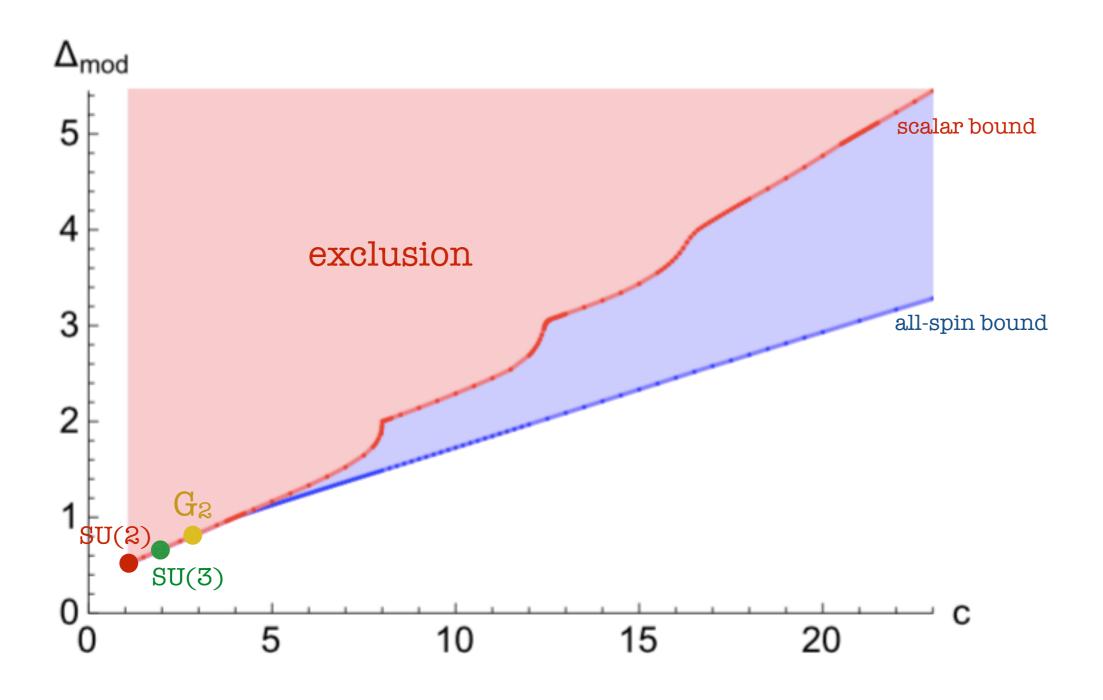


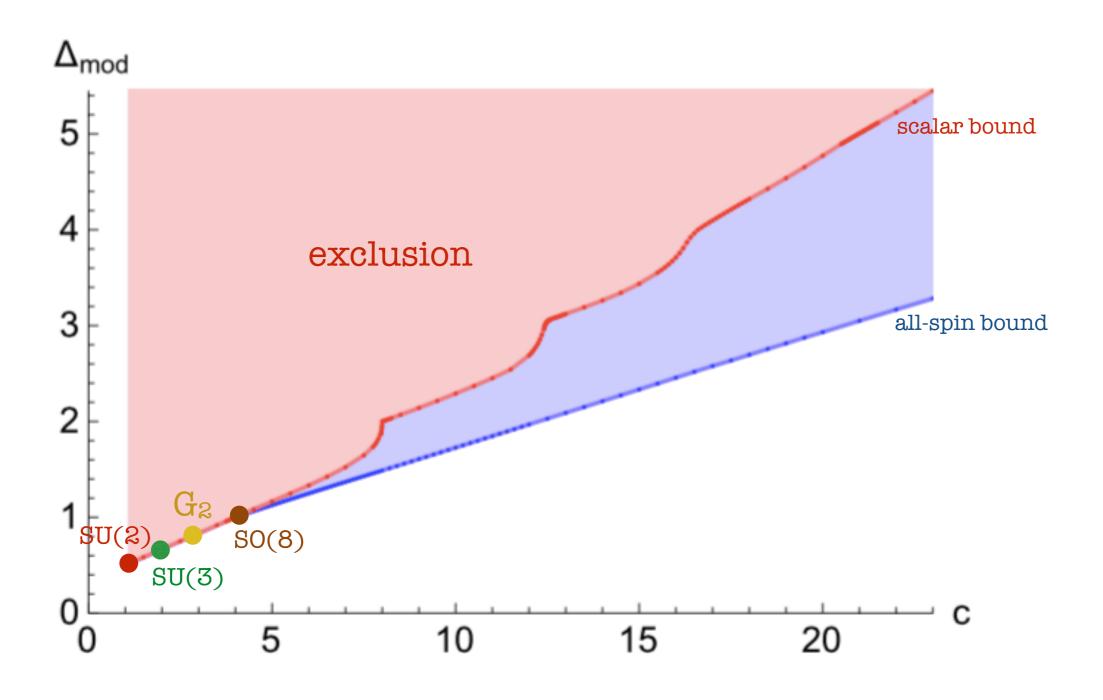


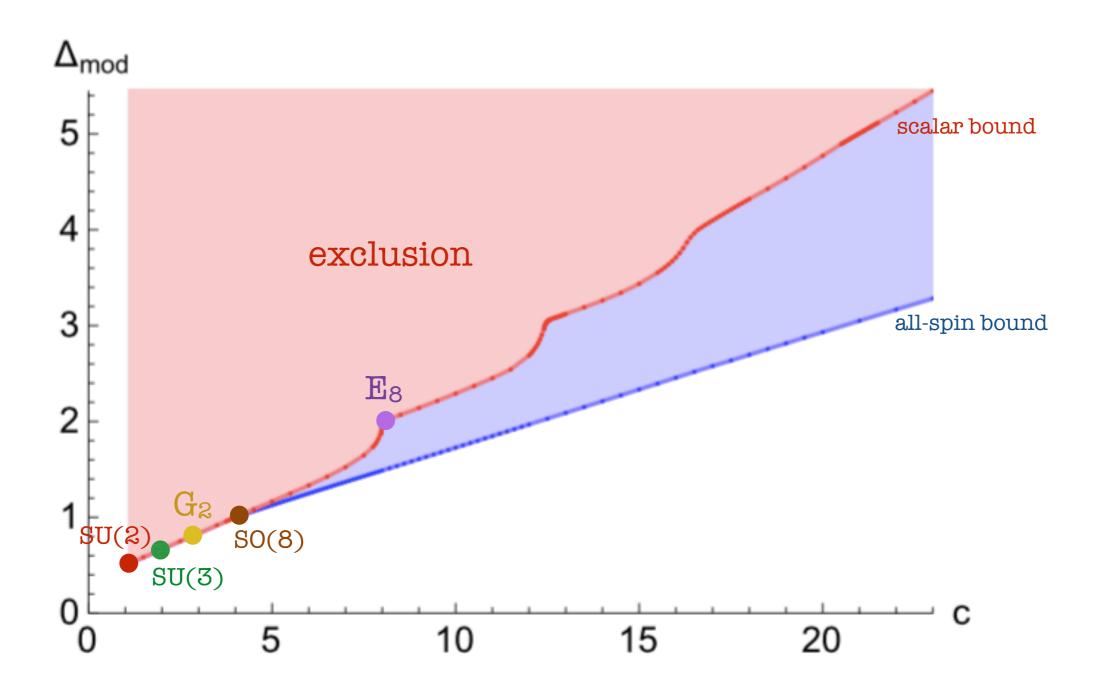


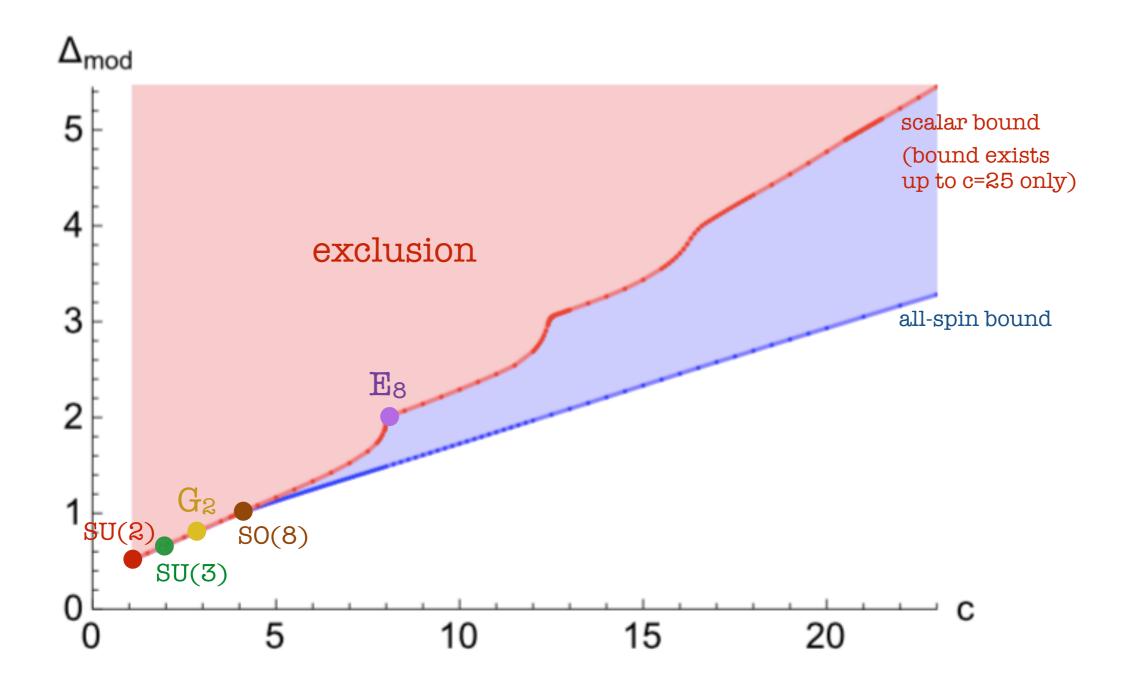


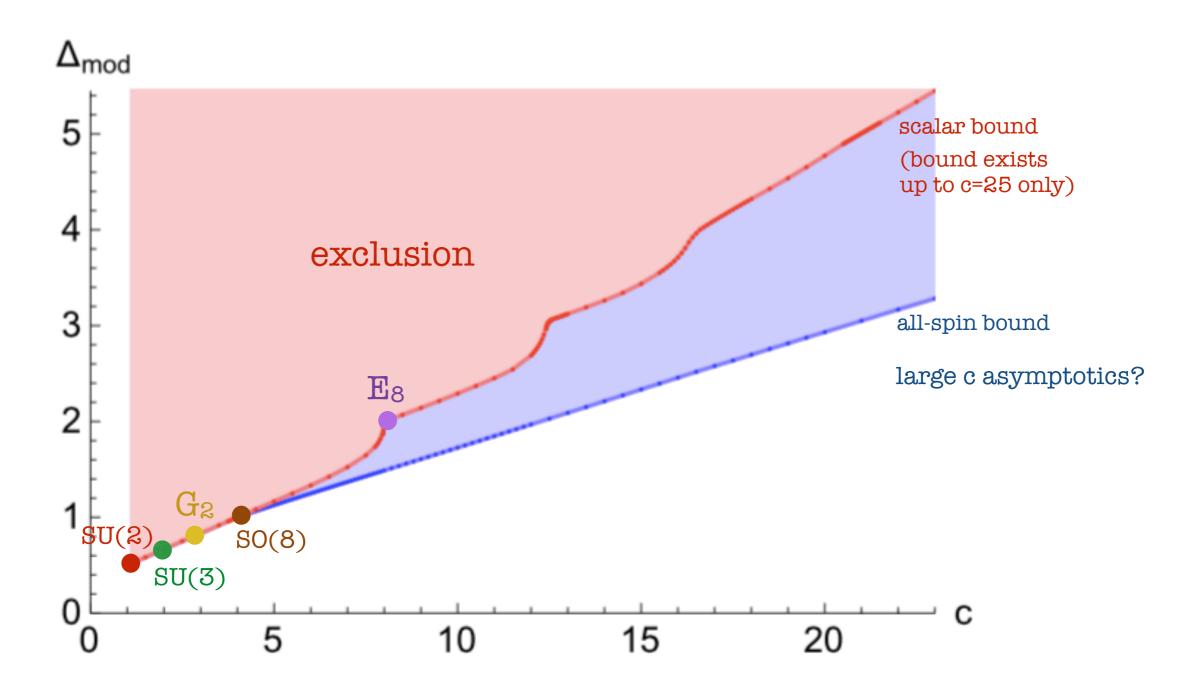


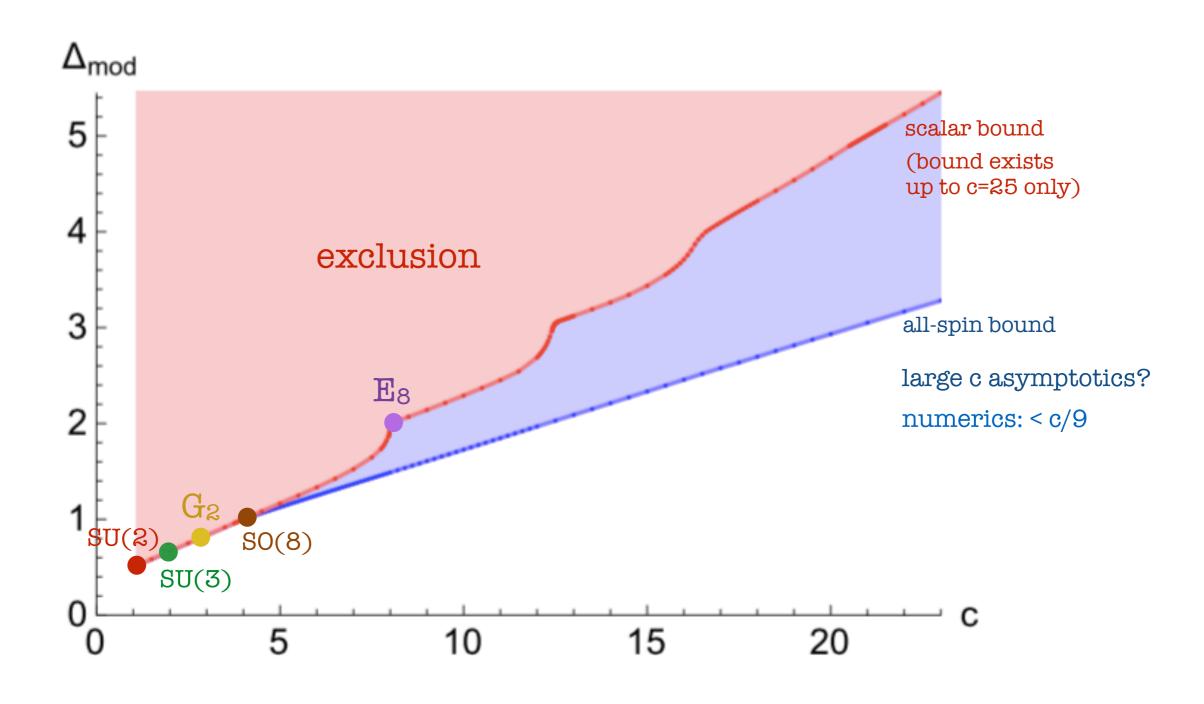


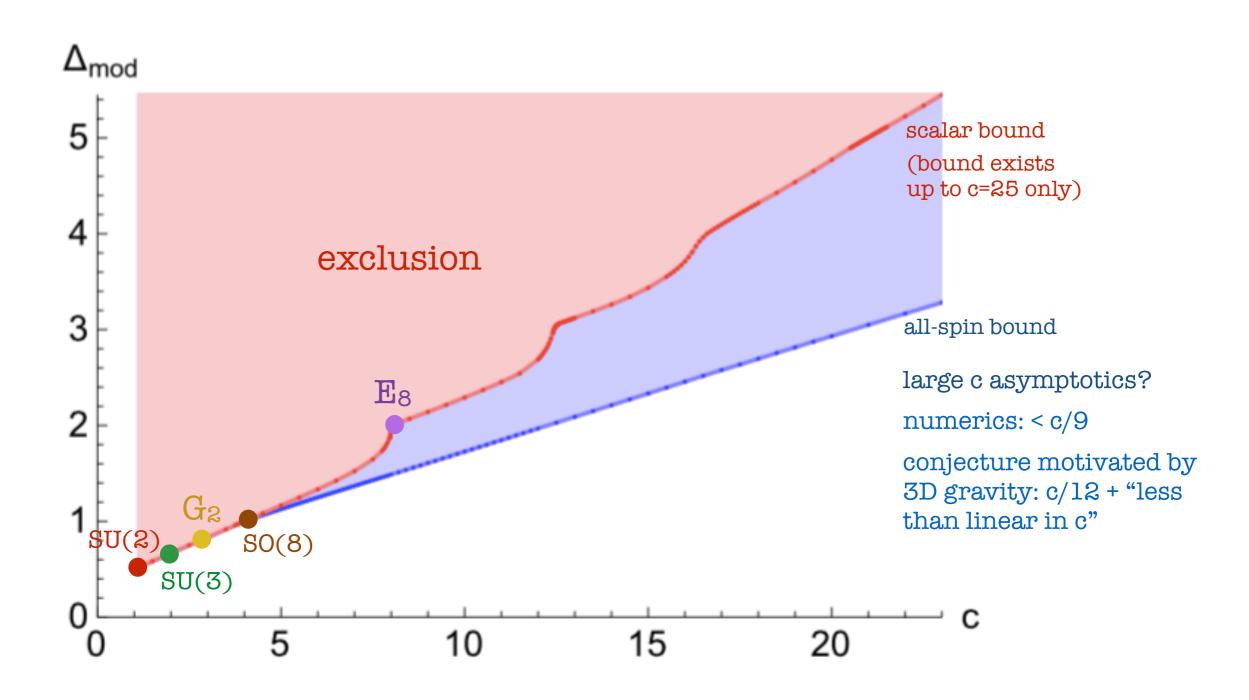






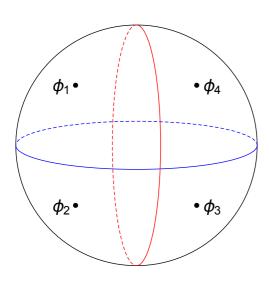




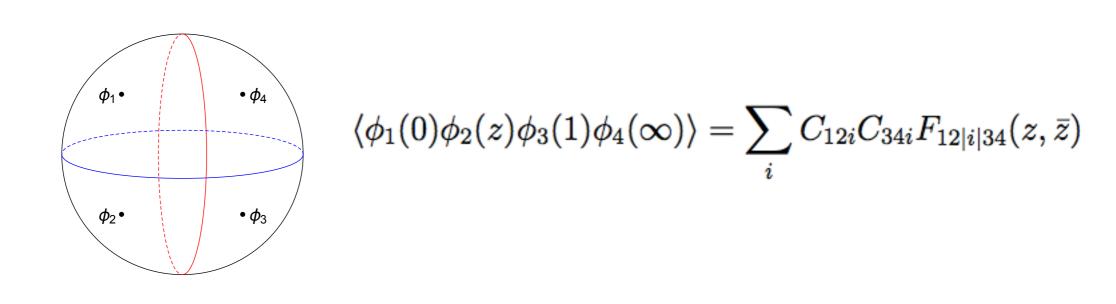


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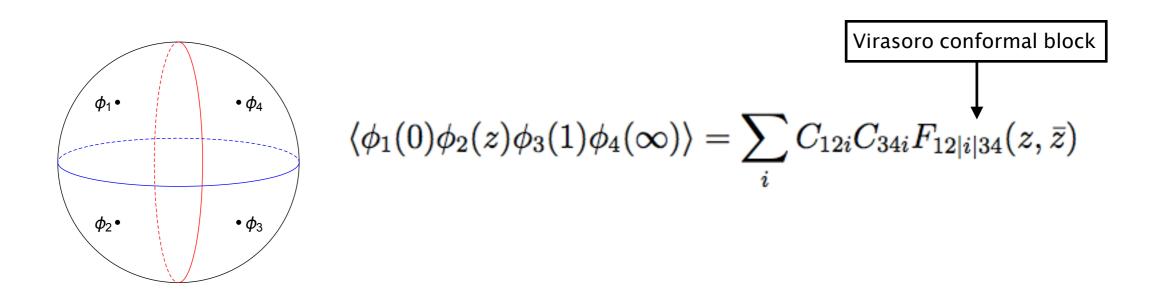


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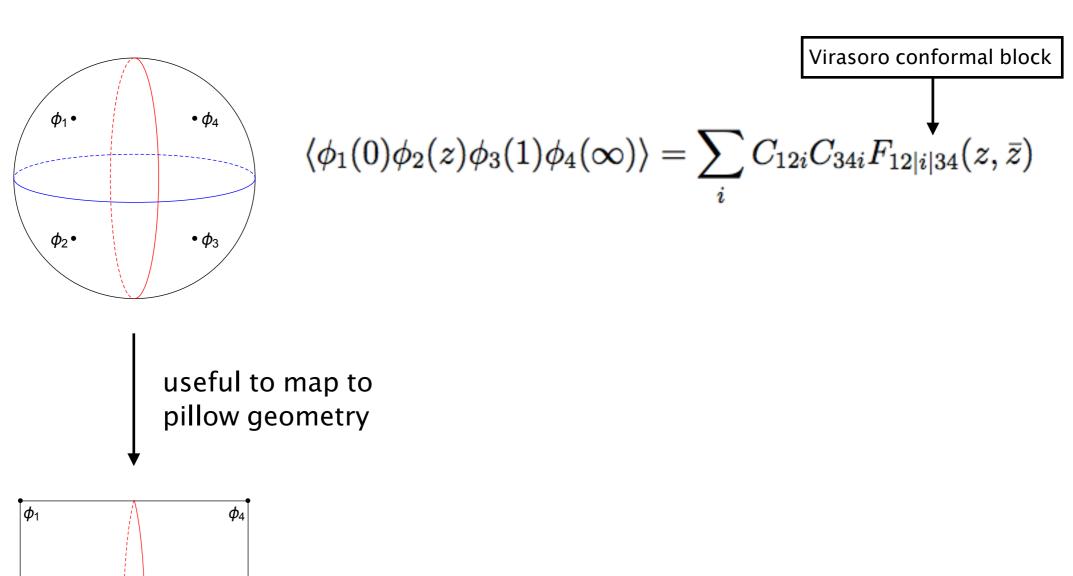
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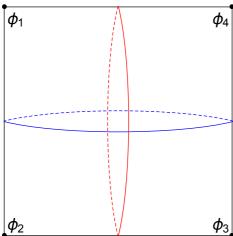
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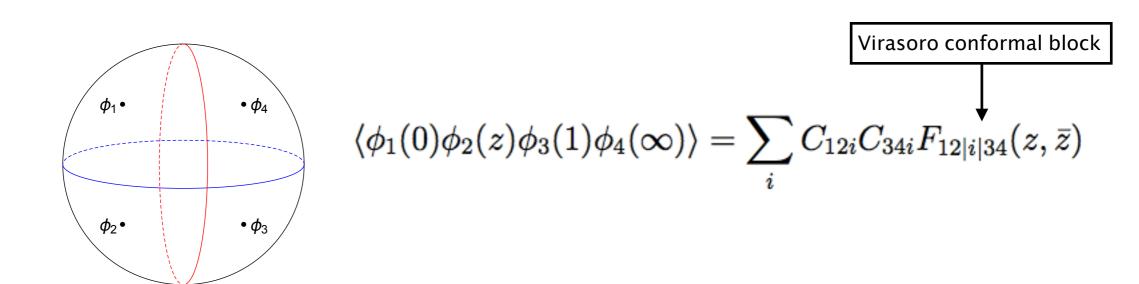
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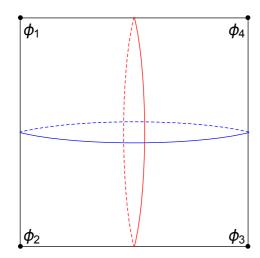
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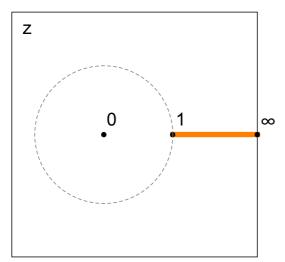
useful to map to pillow geometry

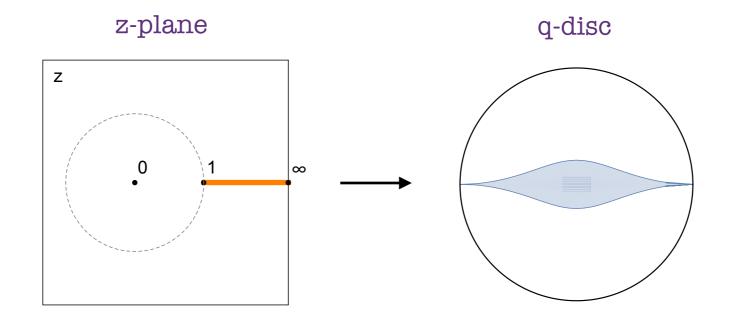
The 4-punctured sphere is conformally mapped to the pillow geometry (T^2/Z_2) , with the identification of moduli

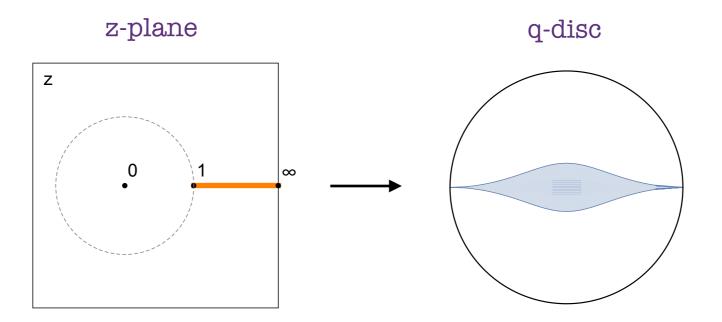


$$au = irac{K(1-z)}{K(z)}, \quad K(z) = {}_2F_1(rac{1}{2},rac{1}{2};1;z) \qquad \qquad q = e^{\pi i au}$$

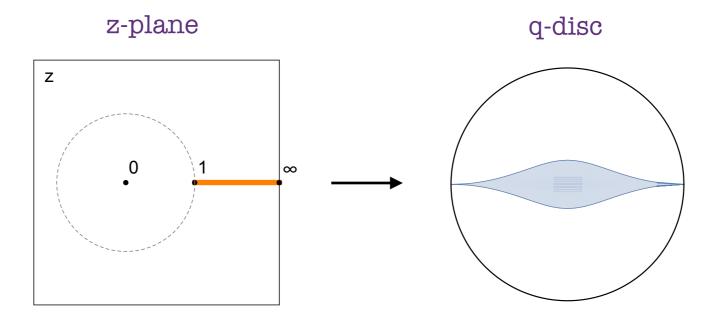
z-plane





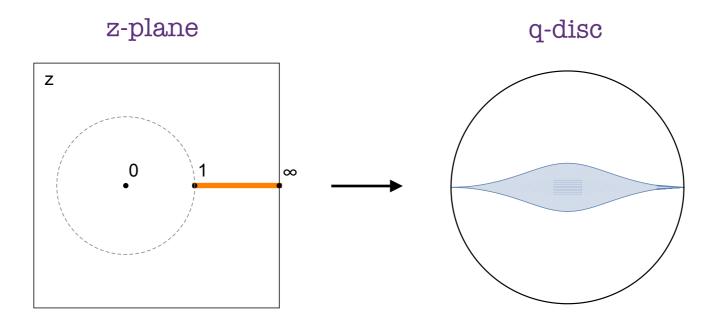


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[Zamolodchikov '87, Maldacena-Simmons-Duffin-Zhiboedov '15]

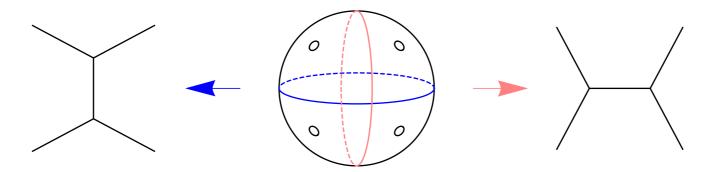


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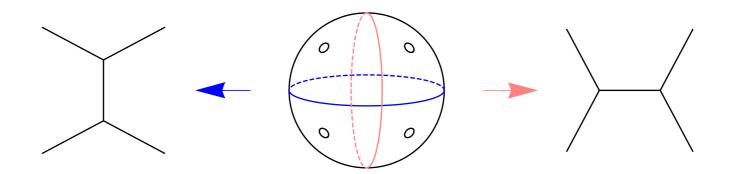
[Zamolodchikov '87, Maldacena-Simmons-Duffin-Zhiboedov '15]

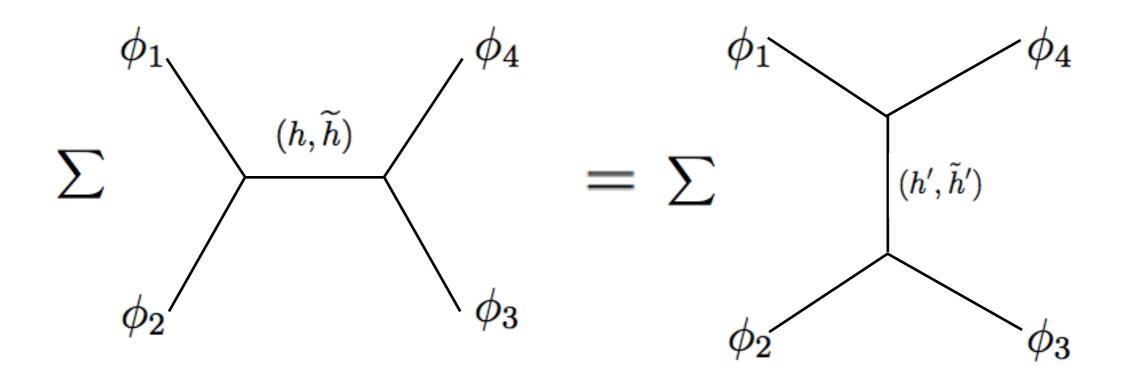
We perform practical computations using Zamolodchikov's recurrence relations, in which the Virasoro blocks are expressed in terms of residue contributions from poles in its analytic continuation in the weights or in the central charge.

The Crossing equation

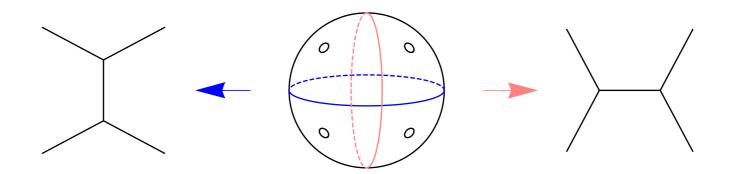


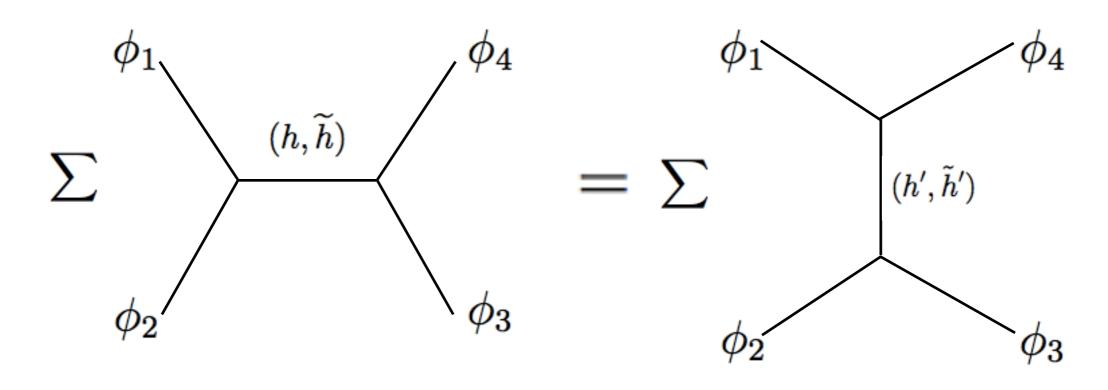
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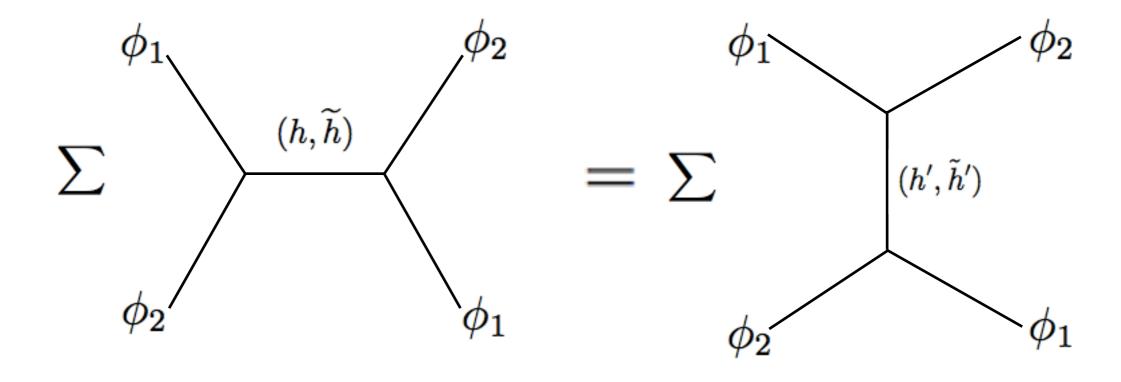


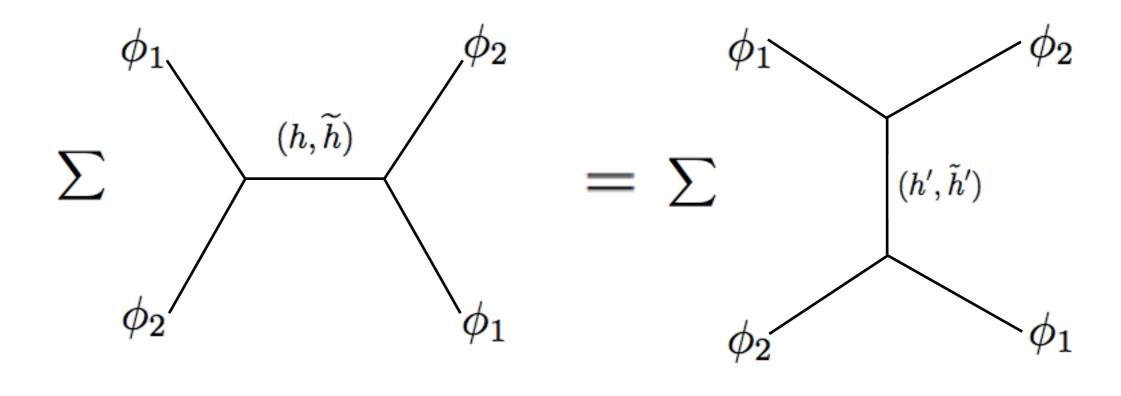
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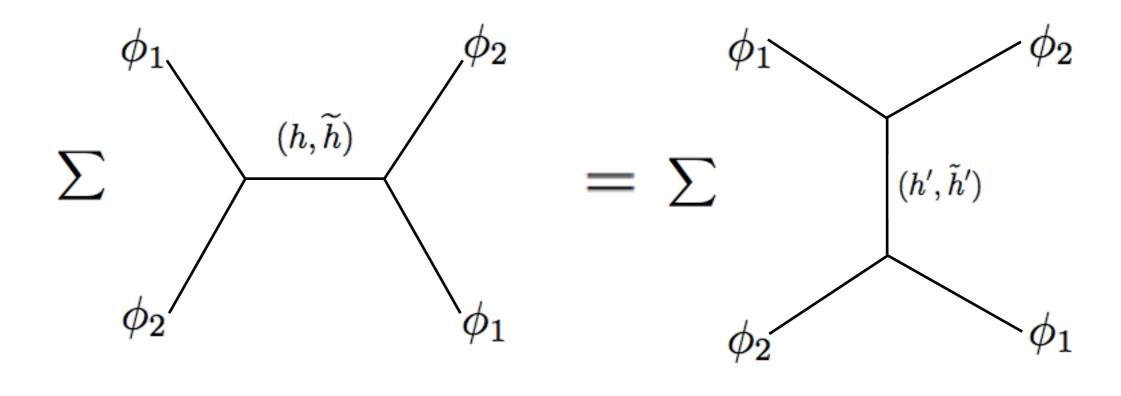


$$\sum_{i} C_{12i} C_{34i} F_{12|i|34}(z,\bar{z}) = \sum_{i} C_{14i} C_{32i} F_{14|i|32}(1-z,1-\bar{z})$$

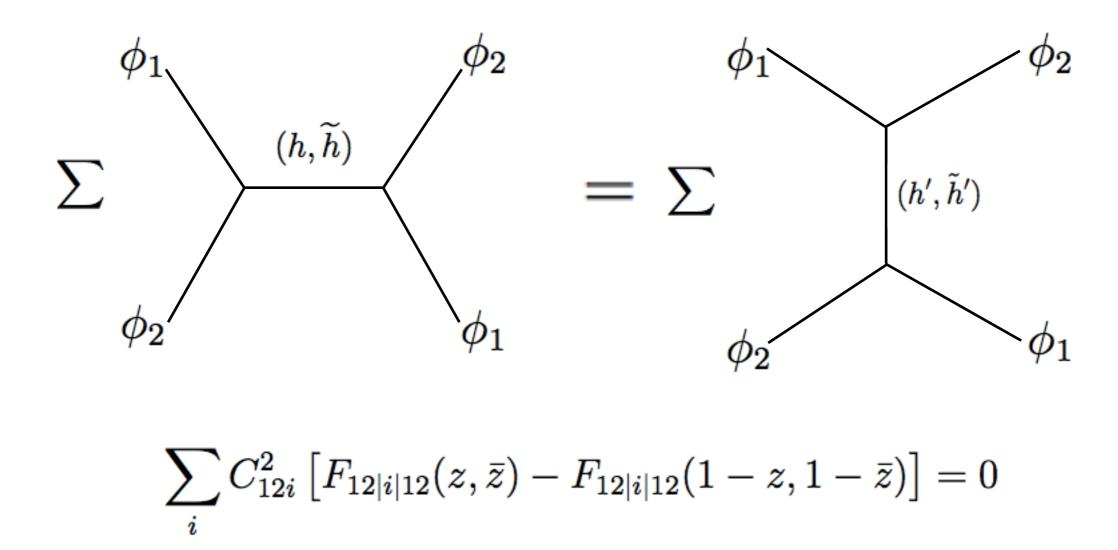




$$\sum_{i} C_{12i}^{2} \left[F_{12|i|12}(z,\bar{z}) - F_{12|i|12}(1-z,1-\bar{z}) \right] = 0$$



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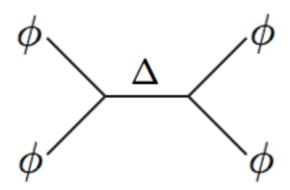


In a unitarity CFT, the OPE coefficients are real. We can again exploit the positivity of the coefficients of the conformal block expansion using semidefinite programming.

Example of a bound on the OPE gap:

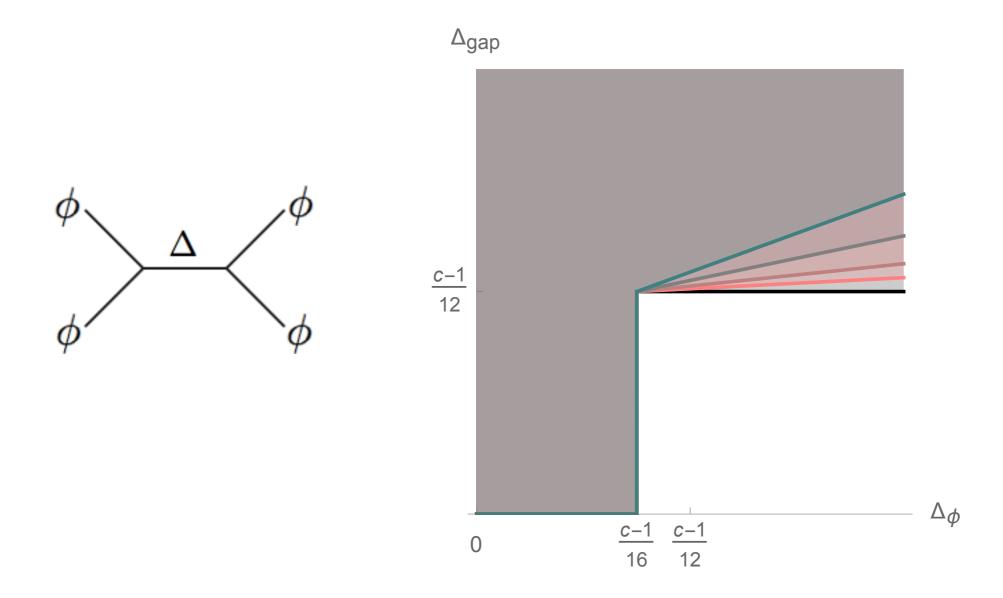
Example of a bound on the OPE gap:

Assuming only scalar Virasoro primaries in OPE



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Assuming only scalar Virasoro primaries in OPE



[van Rees, unpublished; Collier, Lin, XY, unpublished]

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The spectral function

$$f(\Delta_*) = \frac{1}{G(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})} \sum_{\Delta_i < \Delta_*} C_{12i}^2 F_{12|i|12}(1/2, 1/2)$$

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Can bound spectral function using semidefinite programming.

Recall crossing equation, in the schematic form

$$\sum_{\Delta} C_{\Delta}^2 F_{\Delta}^{(m,n)} = 0, \quad F_{\Delta}^{(m,n)} \equiv \partial_z^m \partial_{\bar{z}}^n F_{\Delta}|_{z=\bar{z}=\frac{1}{2}}, \quad m+n \text{ odd}$$

Now consider the inequality

$$\theta(\Delta_* - \Delta)F_{\Delta}^{(0,0)} - y_{0,0}F_{\Delta}^{(0,0)} + \sum_{m+n \text{ odd}} y_{m,n}F_{\Delta}^{(m,n)} \ge 0, \quad \forall \Delta \in \mathcal{I}.$$
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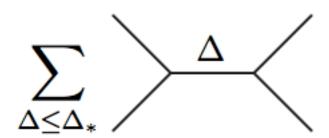
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Likewise, optimal upper bound obtained by minimizing $y_{0,0}$ subject to

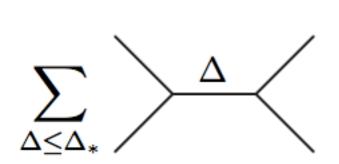
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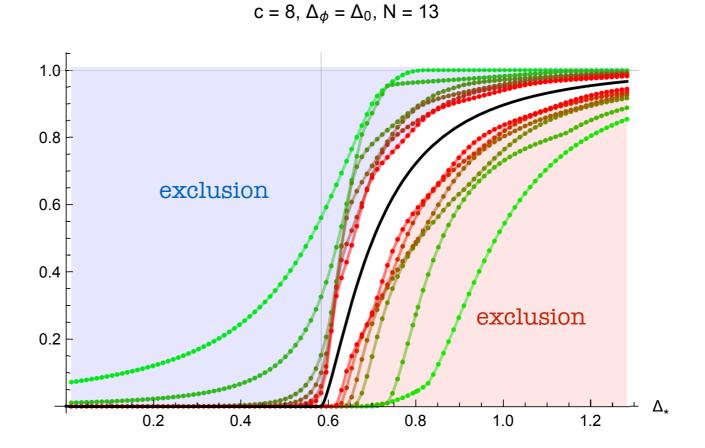
Assuming only scalar Virasoro primaries (c>1) [Collier-Kravchuk-Lin-XY'17]

Assuming only scalar Virasoro primaries (c>1) [Collier-Kravchuk-Lin-XY'17] Upper and lower bounds on spectral function:

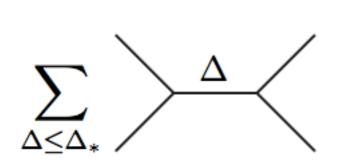


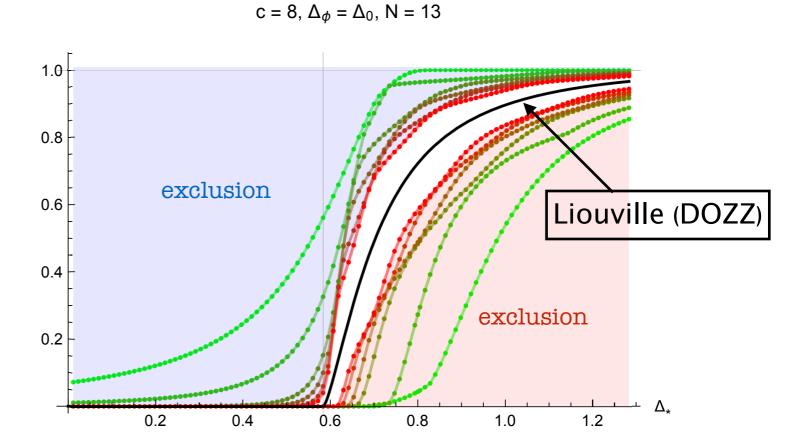
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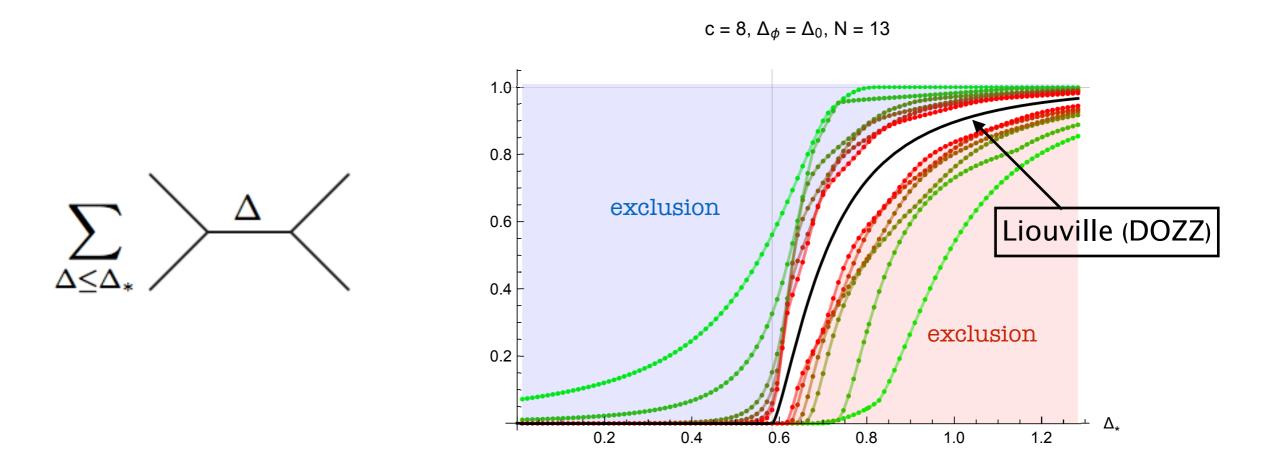


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Conjecture: the bounds pin down Liouville CFT

[Seiberg '91, Dorn-Otto '94, Zamolodchikov², '95, Teschner '95, Ponsot-Teschner '99]

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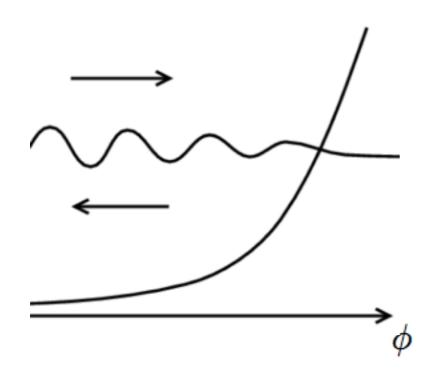
$$S_{
m Liouville}=rac{1}{4\pi}\int d^2z\sqrt{g}\left(g^{mn}\partial_m\phi\partial_n\phi+QR\phi+4\pi\mu e^{2b\phi}
ight)$$

$$c=1+6Q^2 \qquad Q=b+b^{-1}$$

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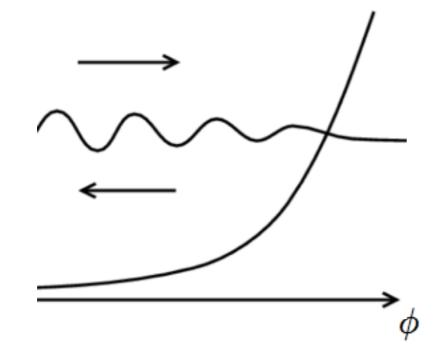
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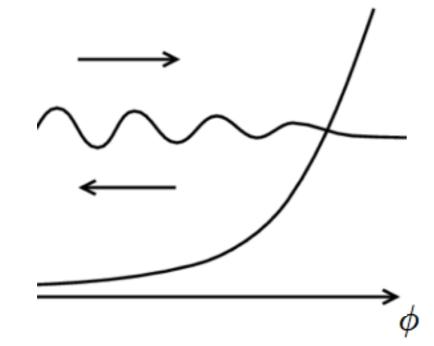
Virasoro primary operators take the form

$$\mathcal{V}_{\alpha} \sim S(\alpha)^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{2\alpha\phi} + S(\alpha)^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{2(Q-\alpha)\phi}$$
 $\phi \to -\infty$

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$$\alpha = \frac{Q}{2} + iP$$

[Seiberg '91, Dorn-Otto '94, Zamolodchikov², '95, Teschner '95, Ponsot-Teschner '99]

Reflection coefficient:

$$S(\alpha) = -\left(\pi\mu\gamma(b^2)\right)^{(Q-2\alpha)/b} \frac{\Gamma(1-(Q-2\alpha)/b)\Gamma(1-(Q-2\alpha)b)}{\Gamma(1+(Q-2\alpha)/b)\Gamma(1+(Q-2\alpha)b)}$$

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DOZZ structure constants:

$$\begin{split} \langle \mathcal{V}_{\alpha_1} \mathcal{V}_{\alpha_2} \mathcal{V}_{\alpha_3} \rangle &= \prod_{j=1}^3 S(\alpha_i)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left[\pi \mu \gamma(b^2) b^{2-2b^2} \right]^{\frac{Q-\sum \alpha_i}{b}} \\ &\times \frac{\Upsilon_b'(0) \Upsilon_b(2\alpha_1) \Upsilon_b(2\alpha_2) \Upsilon_b(2\alpha_3)}{\Upsilon_b(\sum \alpha_i - Q) \Upsilon_b(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 - \alpha_3) \Upsilon_b(\alpha_2 + \alpha_3 - \alpha_1) \Upsilon_b(\alpha_3 + \alpha_1 - \alpha_2)} \end{split}$$

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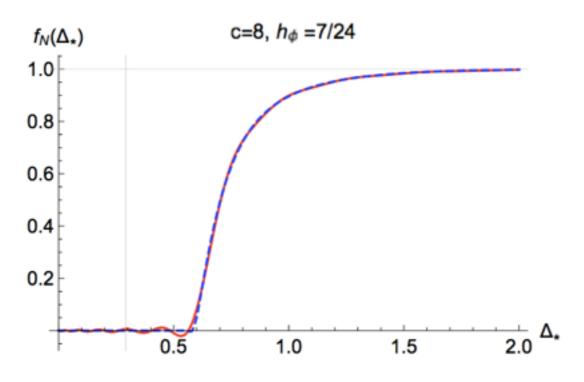
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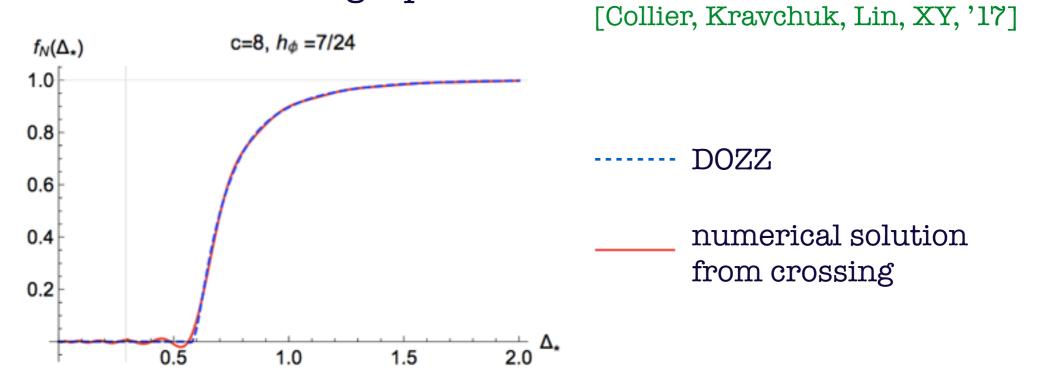
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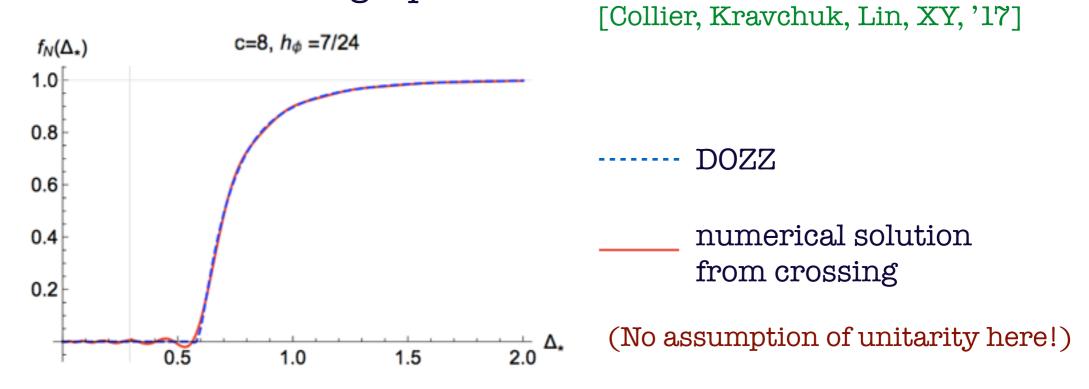
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$$\begin{split} \gamma(x) &= \frac{\Gamma(x)}{\Gamma(1-x)} \\ \log \Upsilon_b(x) &= \int_0^\infty dt \ t^{-1} \left[\left(\frac{Q}{2} - x \right)^2 e^{-t} - \frac{\sinh^2 \left[\left(\frac{Q}{2} - x \right) \frac{t}{2} \right]}{\sinh \frac{tb}{2} \sinh \frac{t}{2b}} \right], \ 0 < \mathrm{Re}(x) < \mathrm{Re}(Q) \end{split}$$

[Collier, Kravchuk, Lin, XY, '17]







[Collier, Kravchuk, Lin, XY, '17] $f_N(\Delta_*)$ $c=8, h_{\phi}=7/24$ DOZZ

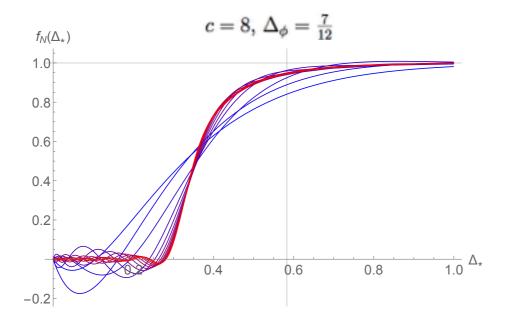
numerical solution
from crossing

 $\stackrel{{}_\perp}{2.0}$ Δ_{\star}

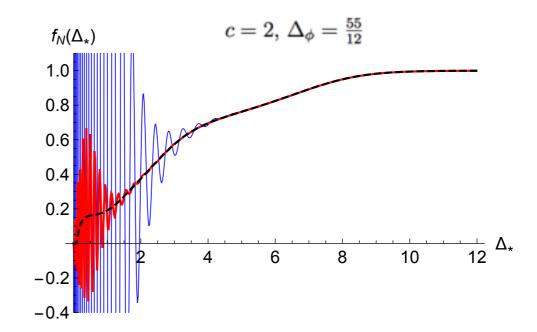
Examples that demonstrate numerical convergence:

1.5

1.0



0.5



(No assumption of unitarity here!)

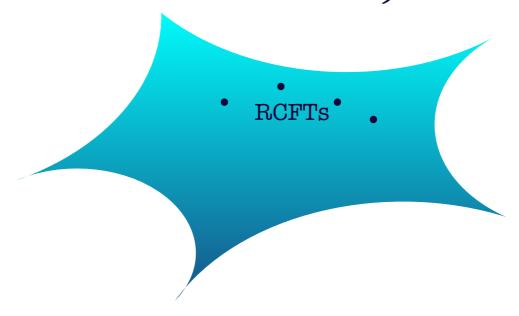
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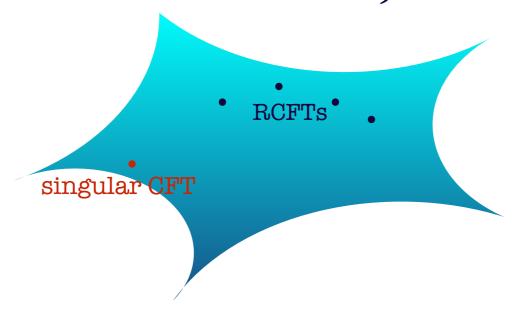
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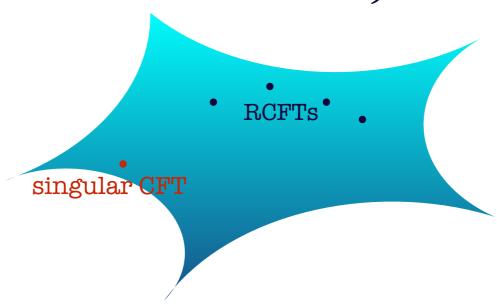


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They provide abundant examples of interacting, compact, irrational CFTs (along the conformal manifold).



Bootstrap method allows us to get a handle on the non-BPS operators in SCFTs, by analyzing e.g. the OPE of BPS operators.

1. Moduli dependence is fed into the crossing equation through chiral ring relations and/or protected BPS correlators.

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e.g. in superconformal NLSM on K3, can determine integrated half BPS 4-point function [Kiritsis-Obers-Pioline, '00, Lin-Shao-Wang-XY, '15]

$$\int \frac{d^2z}{|z(1-z)|} \langle \mathcal{O}_i(z,\bar{z})\mathcal{O}_j(0)\mathcal{O}_k(1)\mathcal{O}_\ell(\infty) \rangle = \left. \frac{\partial^4}{\partial y^i \partial y^j \partial y^k \partial y^\ell} \right|_{y=0} \int_{\mathcal{F}} d^2\tau \frac{\Theta_{\Lambda}(y|\tau,\bar{\tau})}{\eta(\tau)^{24}}$$

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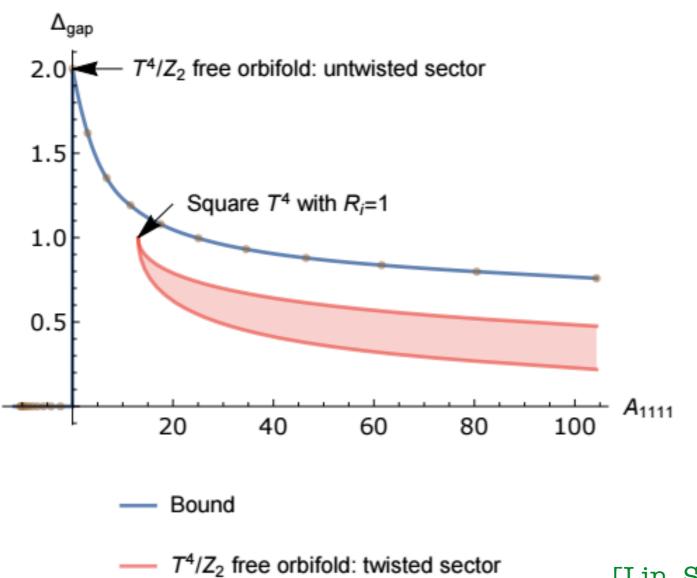
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determined from BPS correlators in N=2 cigar SCFT, related to bosonic Virasoro blocks in simple ways [Chang, Lin, Shao, Wang, XY, '14]

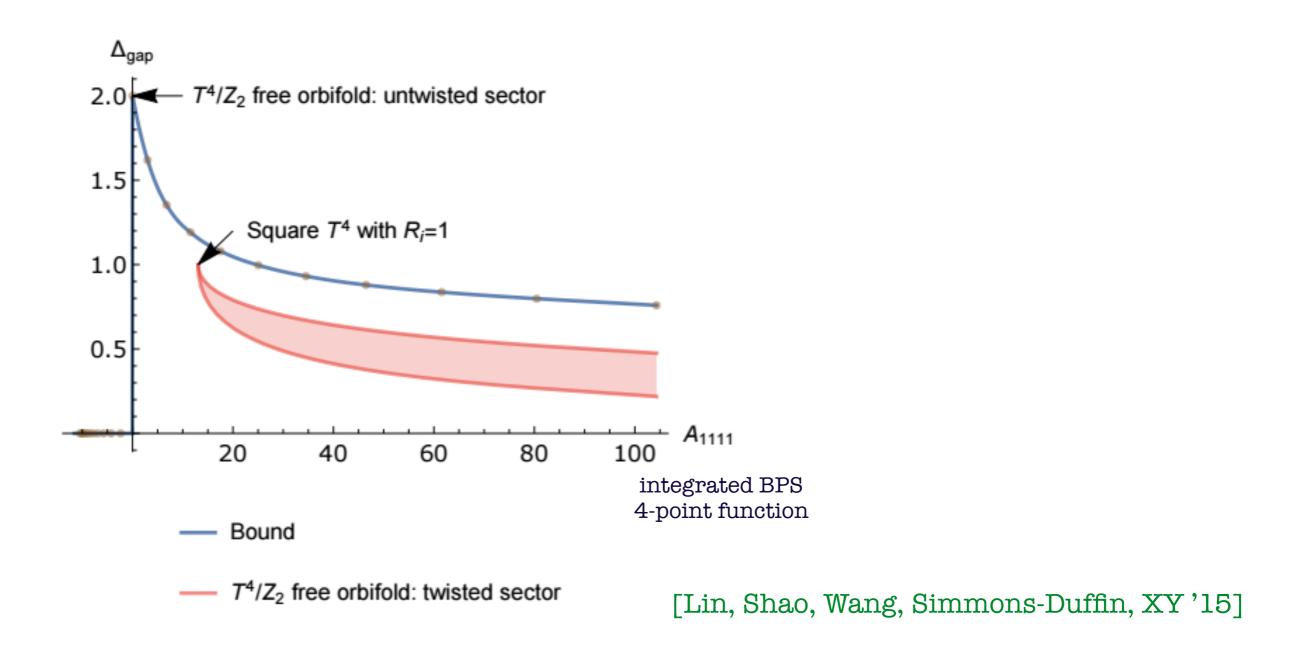
Example 1: for $\underline{\text{K3 CFT}}$, bounding the gap of non-BPS primaries in the OPE of a pair of 1/2-BPS operators along the moduli space.

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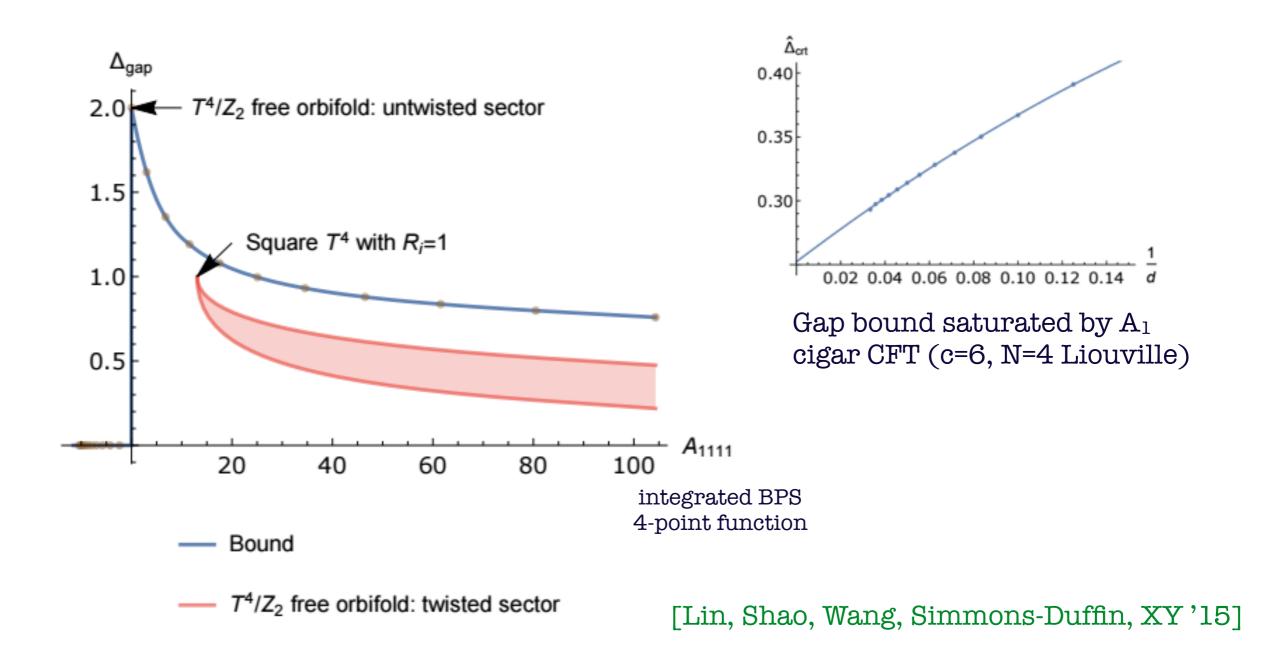


[Lin, Shao, Wang, Simmons-Duffin, XY'15]

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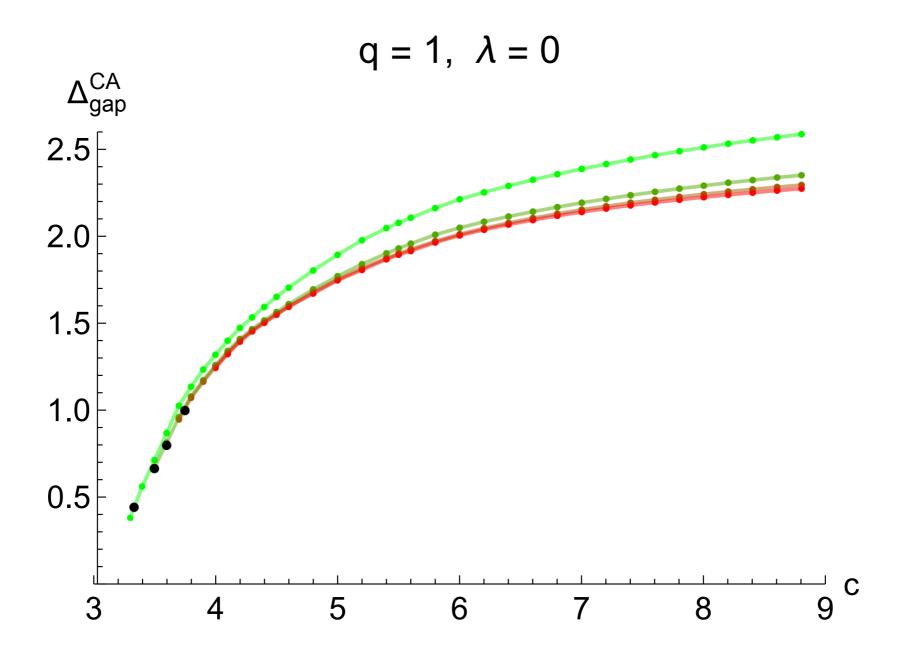
[Lin, Shao, Wang, XY'16]

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Upper bound on the scaling dimension of the first non-BPS primary in the OPE of a pair of marginal chiral and anti-chiral primaries

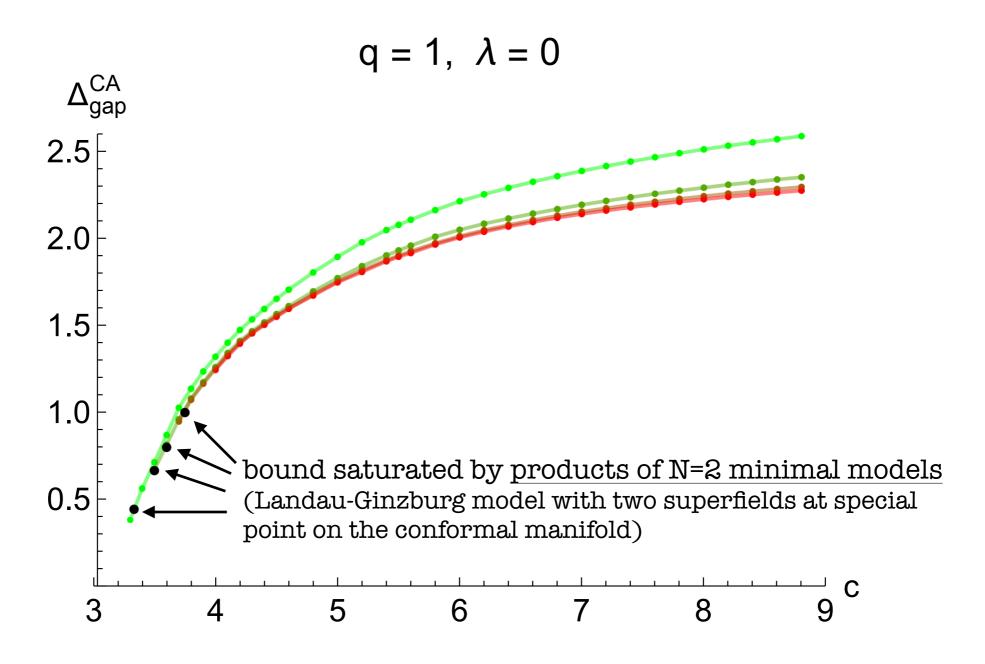
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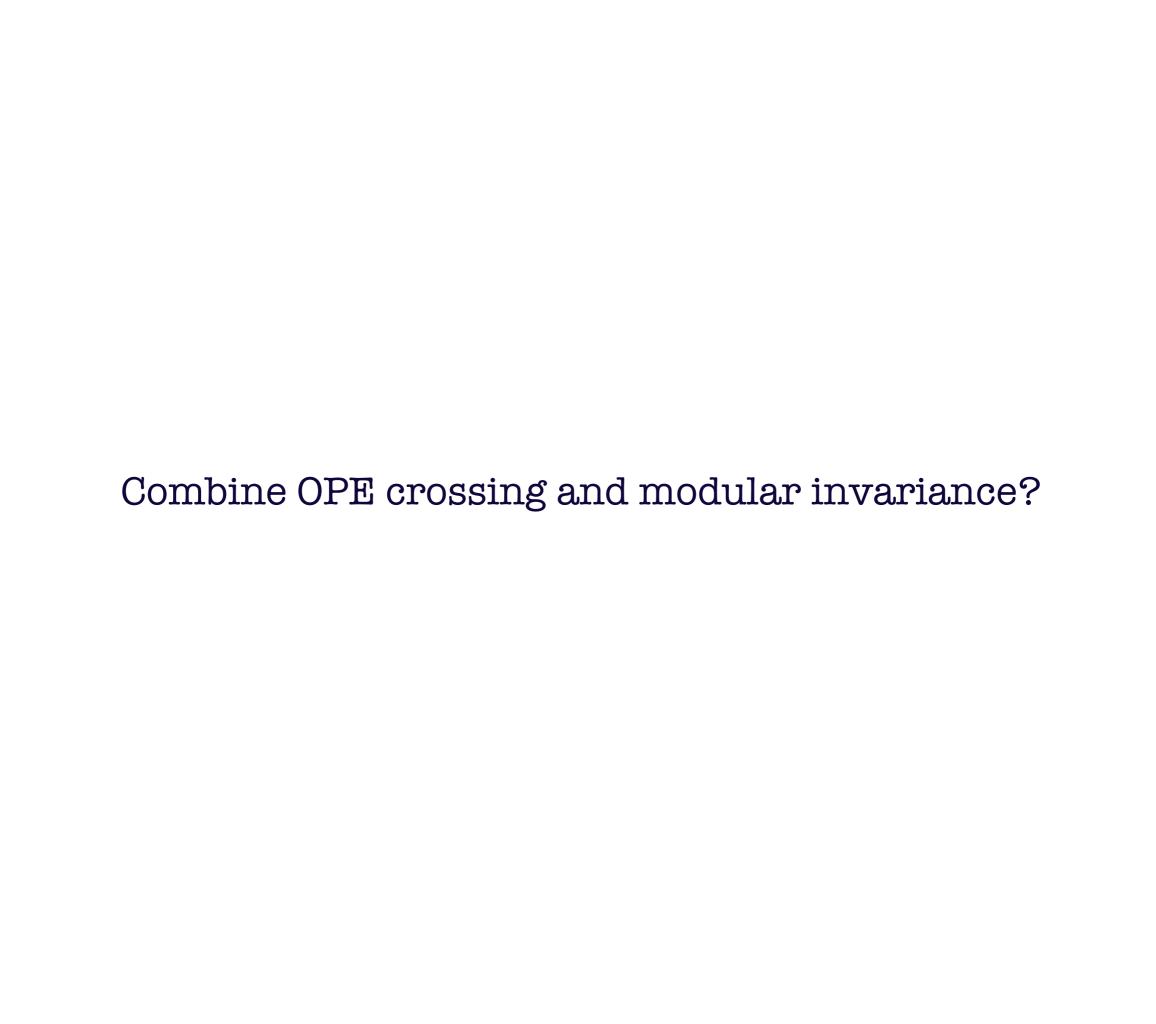
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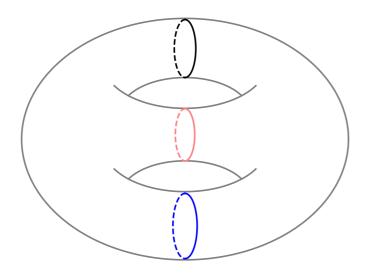
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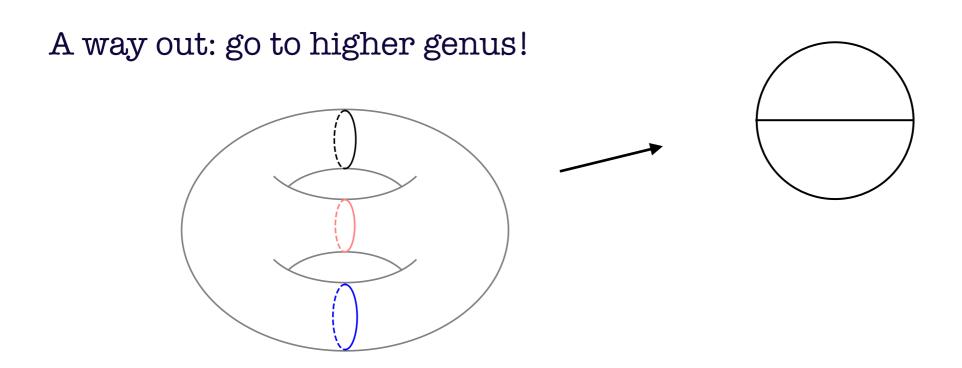
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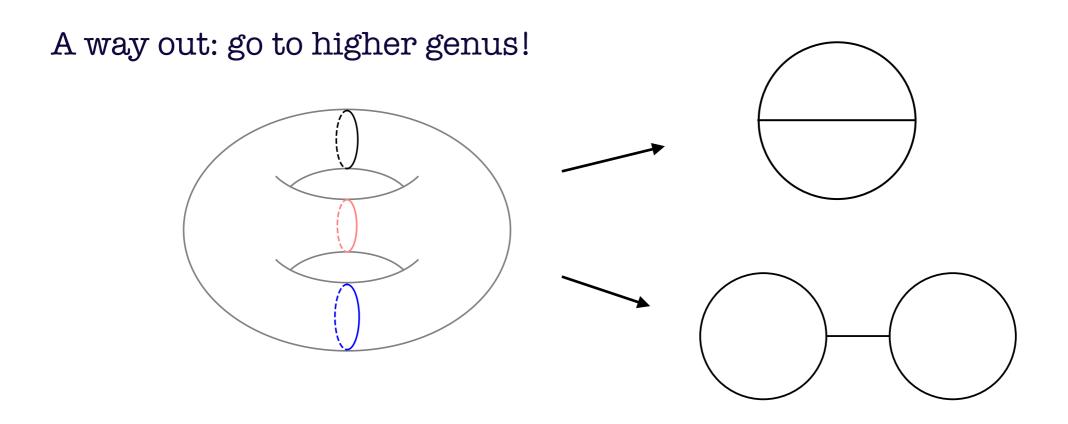
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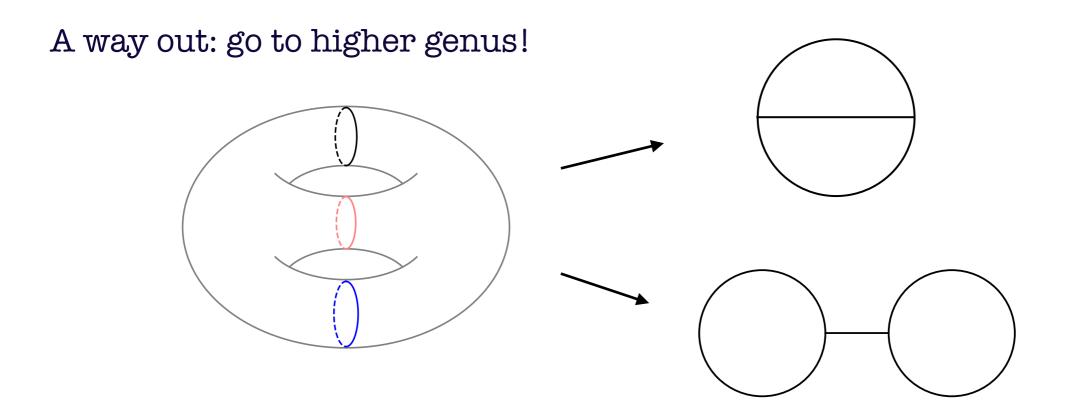
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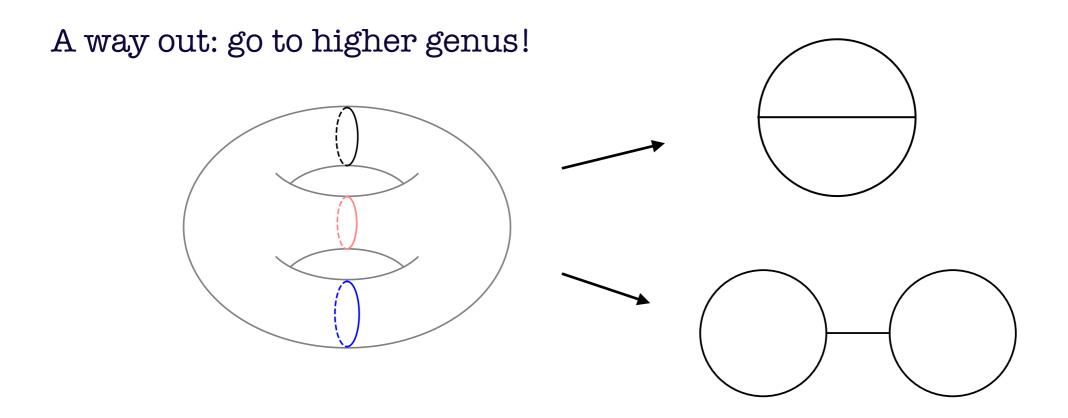


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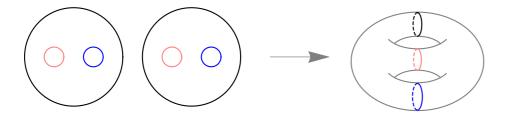
- rich enough to capture OPE and modular invariance.

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Plumbing frame:

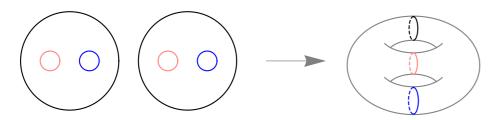
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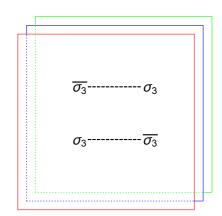
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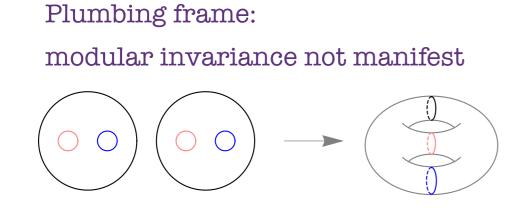


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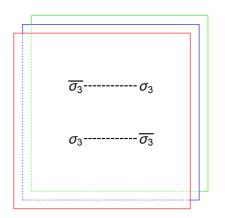


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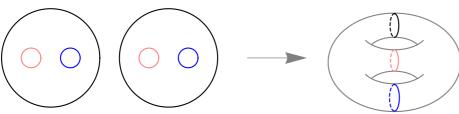
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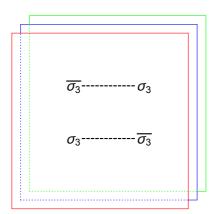
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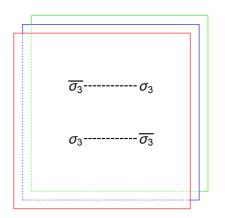
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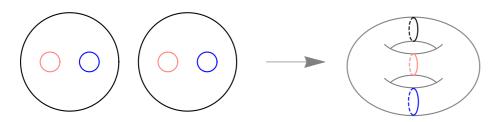
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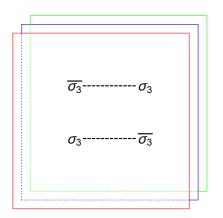
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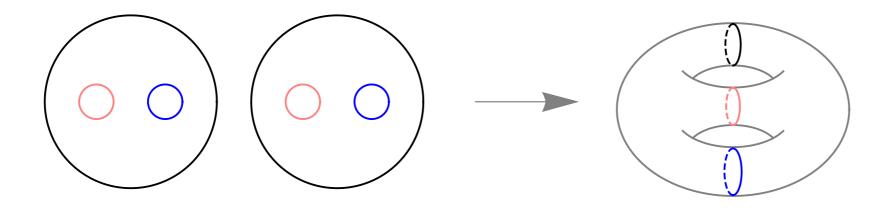


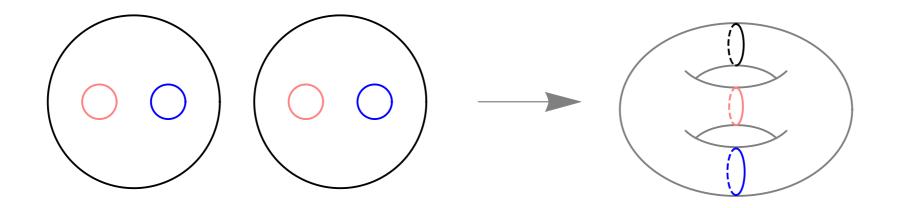
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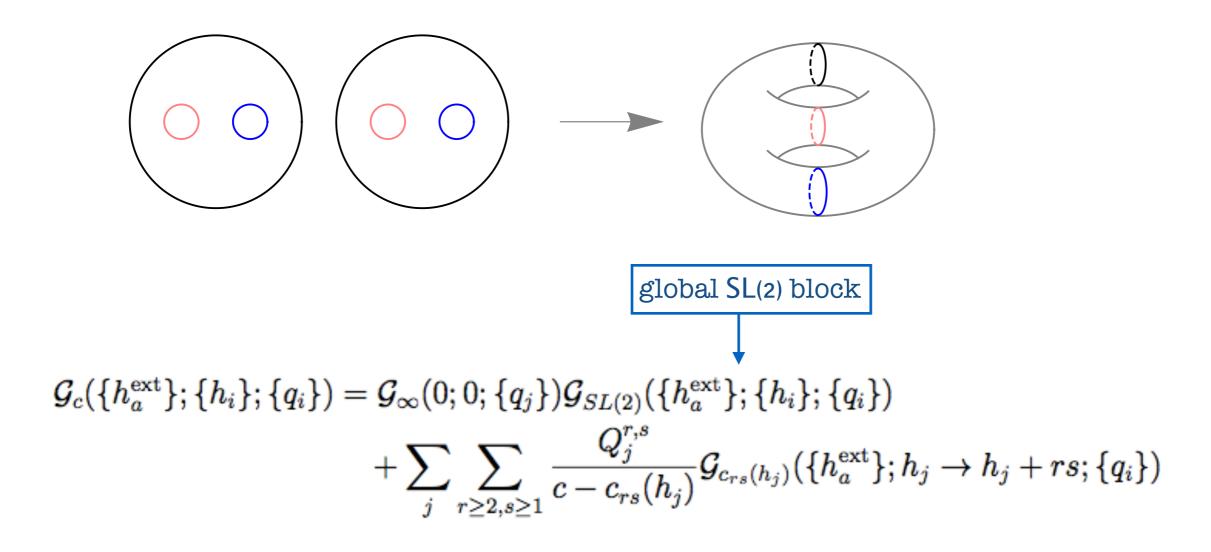
(Don't have the computer program to do this efficiently yet.)

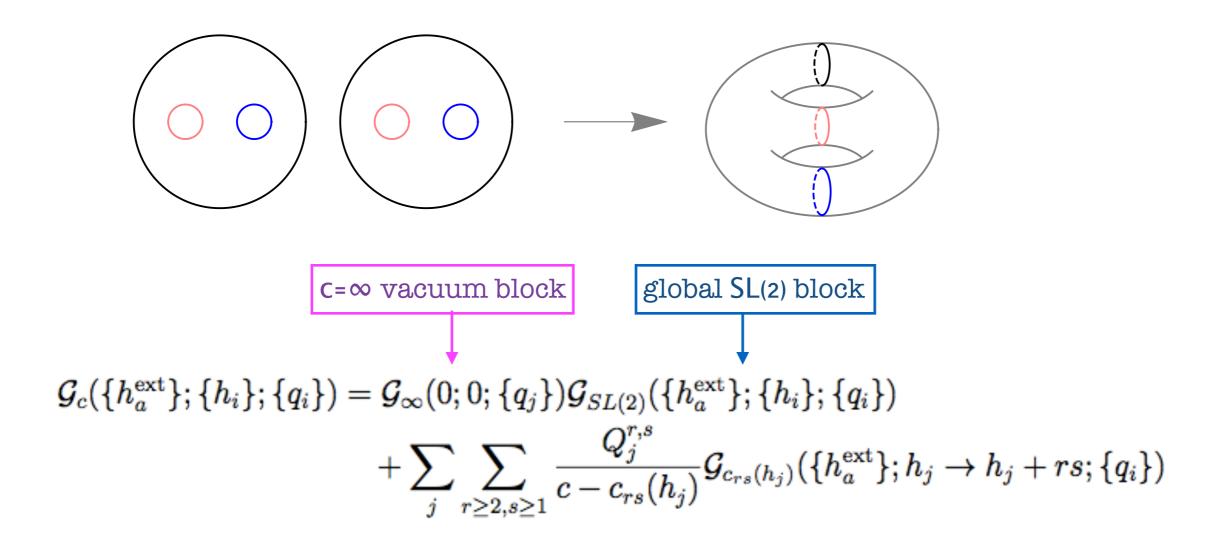


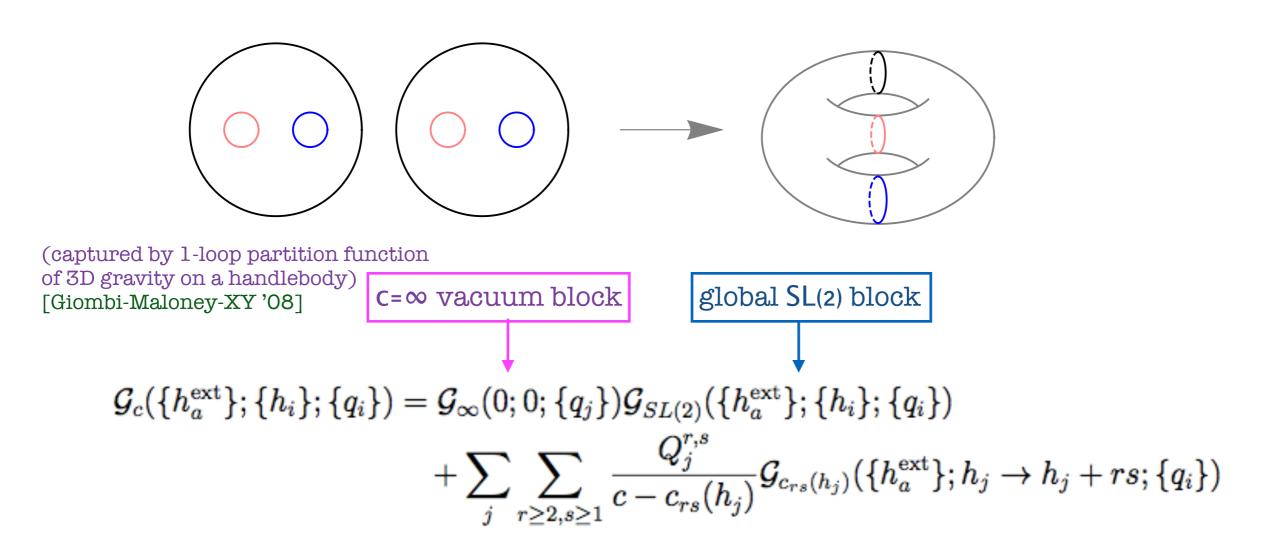


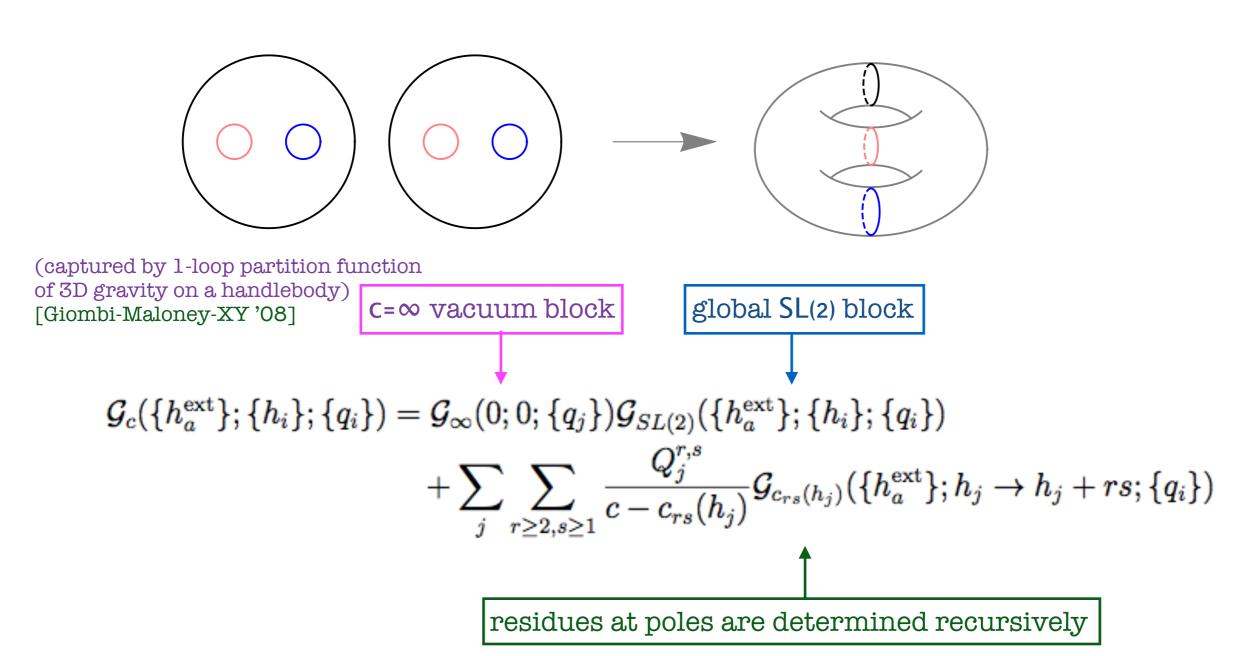
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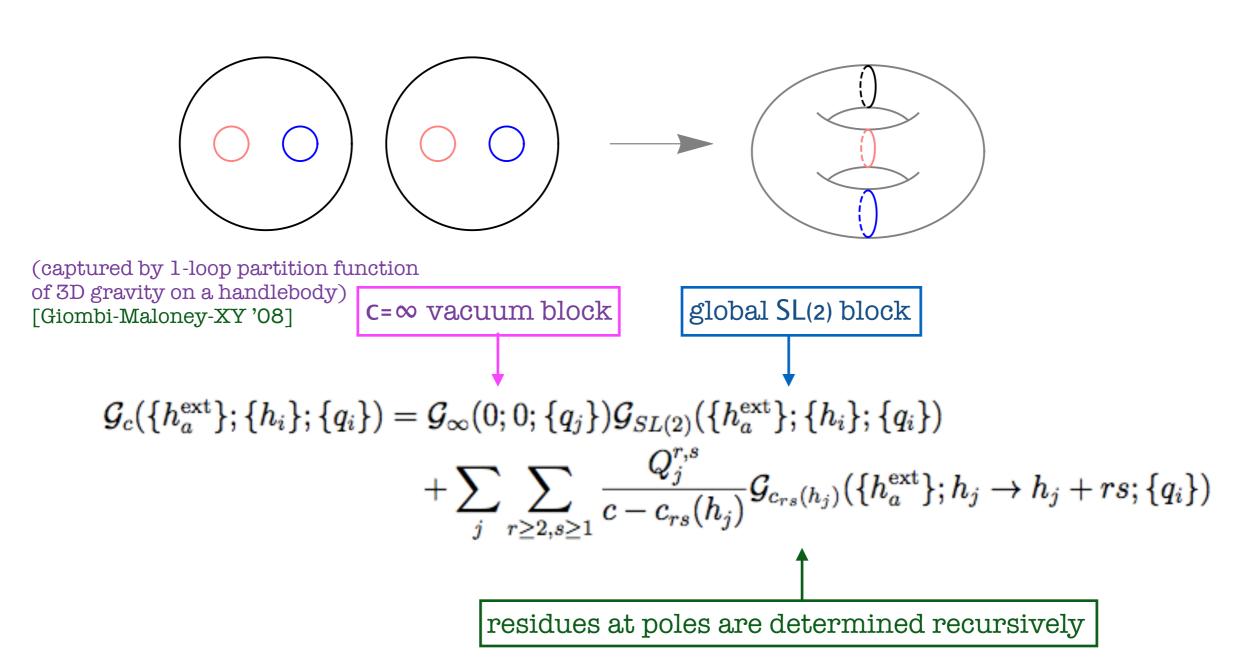






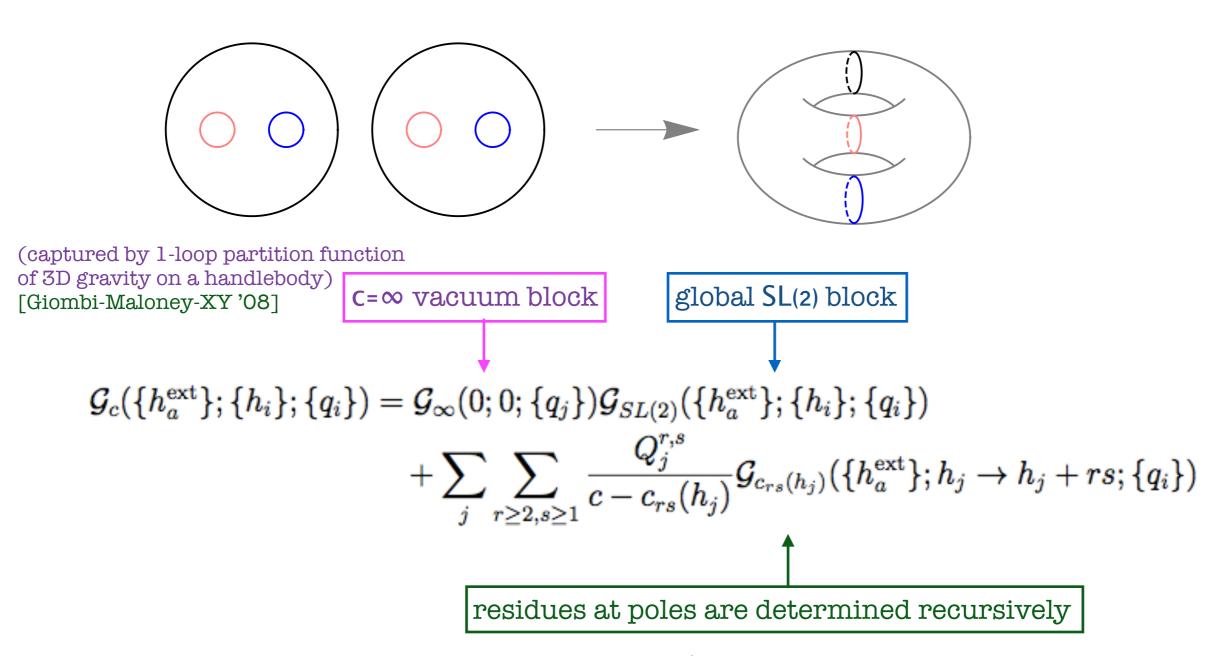


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generalizations by [Hadasz, Jaskolski, Suchanek '09] [Cho, Collier, XY '17]

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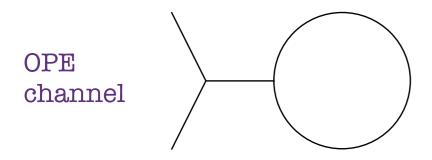
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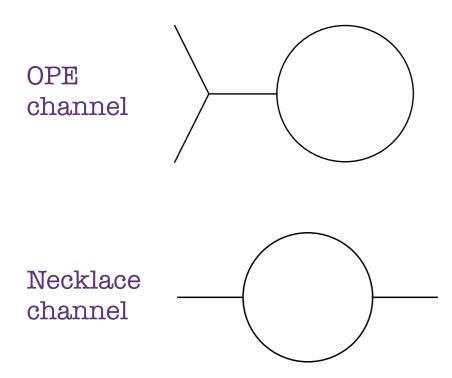
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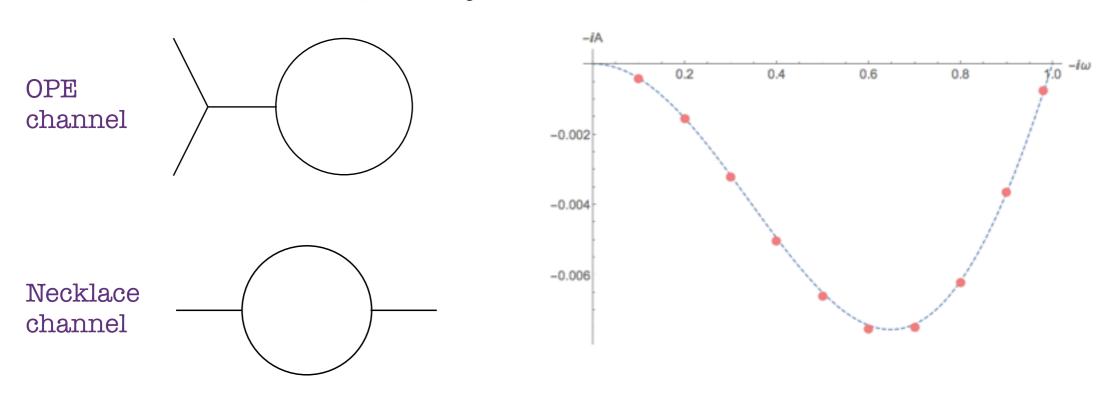
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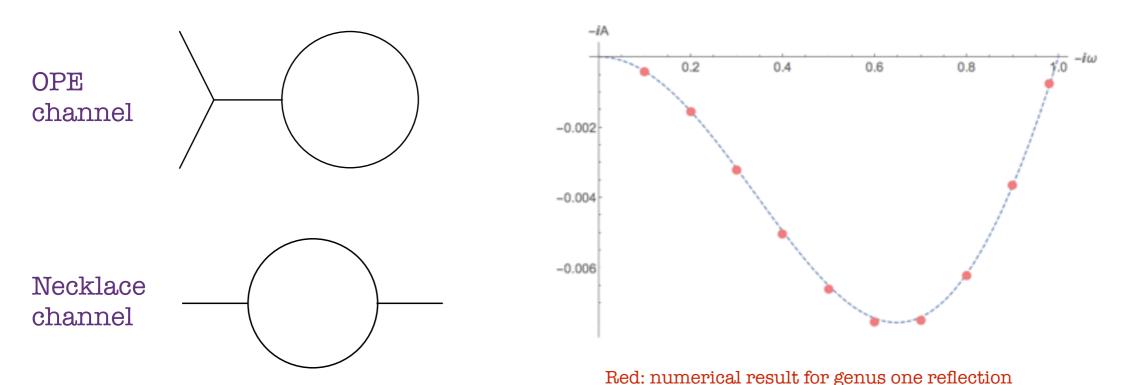
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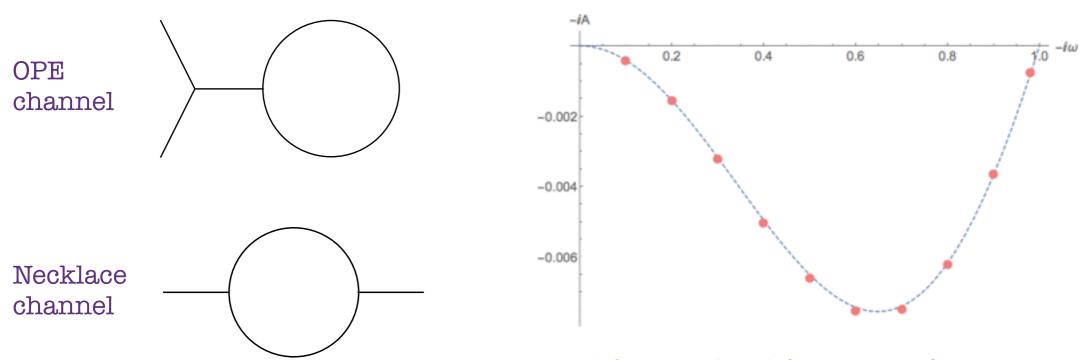


amplitude in c=1 string theory from the worldsheet

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Red: numerical result for genus one reflection amplitude in c=1 string theory from the worldsheet

Blue: matrix model result

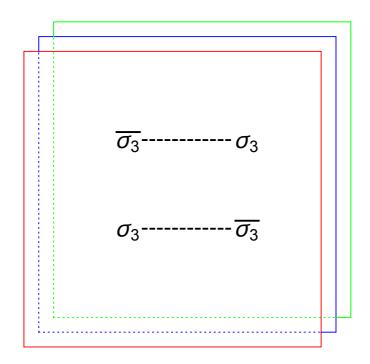
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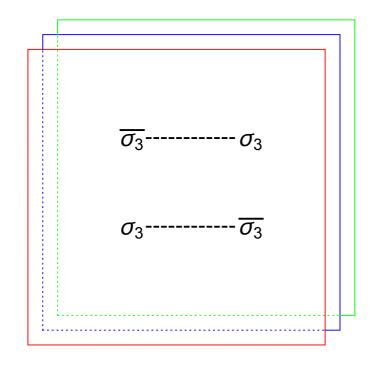
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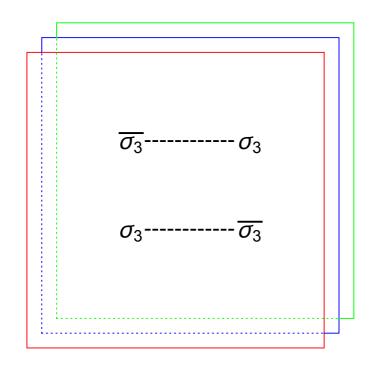


The Renyi surfaces occupy a 1 complex dimensional locus of the moduli space of genus two Riemann surfaces.

$$\Omega = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \frac{i \,_{2}F_{1}(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, 1|1-z)}{\sqrt{3} \,_{2}F_{1}(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, 1|z)}$$

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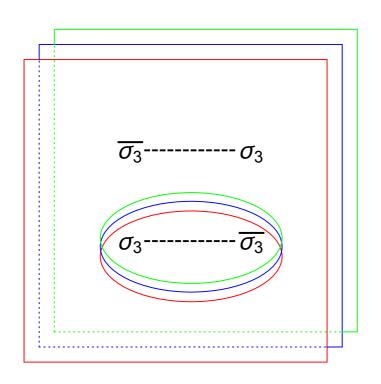


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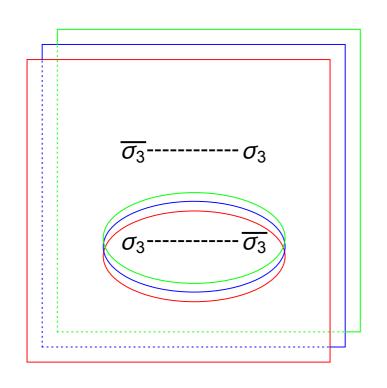
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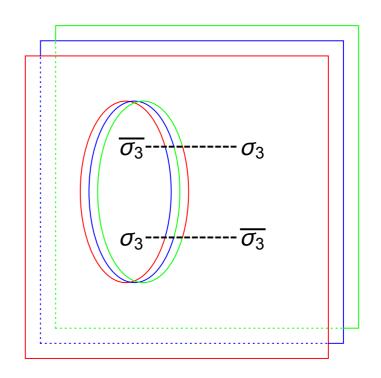
The parameter **z** is the cross ratio of the four branch points on the sphere.

Genus two crossing

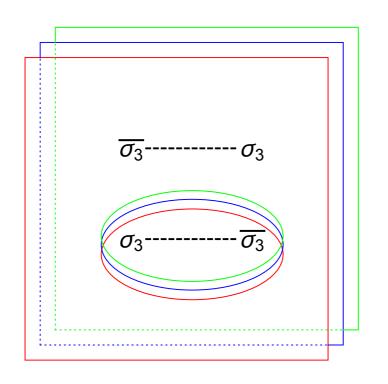


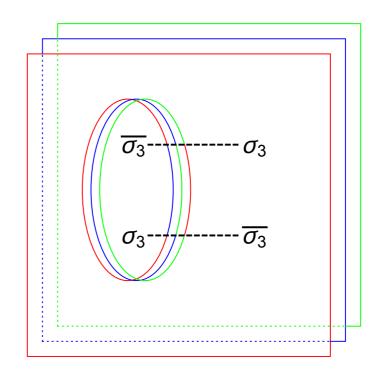
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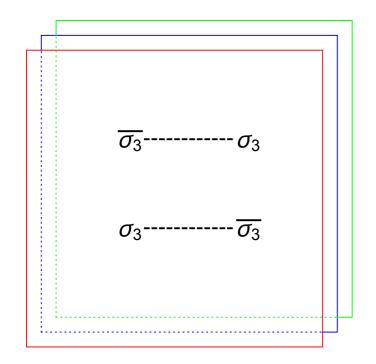


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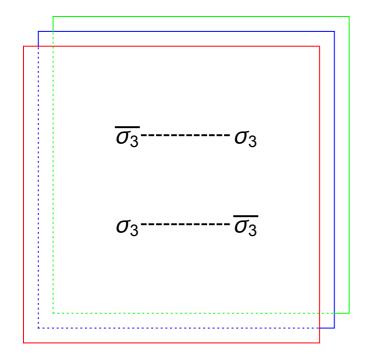




A nontrivial generator of the genus two modular group Sp(4,Z) is the crossing transformation of the four-point function of Z_3 twist fields.

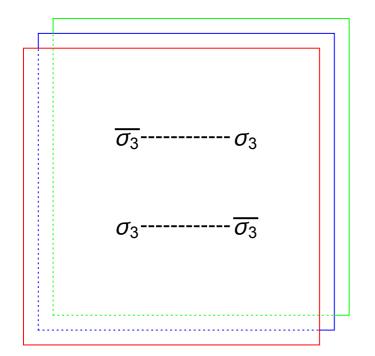


$$\langle \sigma_3(0)\overline{\sigma}_3(z,\bar{z})\sigma_3(1)\overline{\sigma}_3'(\infty)\rangle = \sum_{i,j,k} C_{ijk}^2 \mathcal{F}_c(h_i,h_j,h_k;z)\overline{\mathcal{F}}_c(\tilde{h}_i,\tilde{h}_j,\tilde{h}_k;\bar{z})$$



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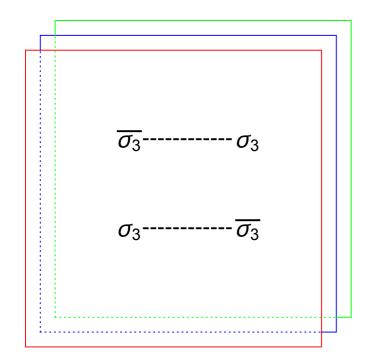
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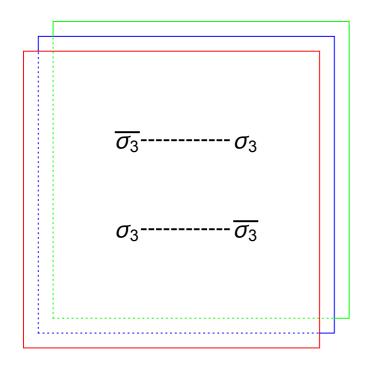
plumbing frame block



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conformal anomaly plumbing frame block

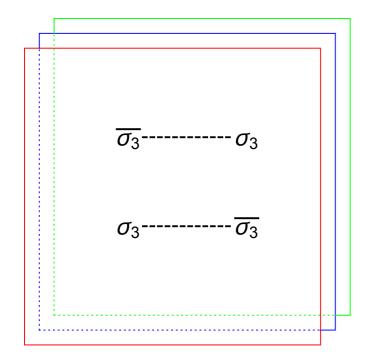
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$$\mathcal{F}^{cl}(z) = -\frac{2}{9}\log(z) + 6\left(\frac{z}{27}\right)^2 + 162\left(\frac{z}{27}\right)^3 + 3975\left(\frac{z}{27}\right)^4 + 96552\left(\frac{z}{27}\right)^5 + 2356039\left(\frac{z}{27}\right)^6 + \cdots$$

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$$\langle \sigma_3(0)\overline{\sigma}_3(z,\overline{z})\sigma_3(1)\overline{\sigma}_3'(\infty) \rangle = \sum_{i,j,k} C_{ijk}^2 \mathcal{F}_c(h_i,h_j,h_k;z)\overline{\mathcal{F}}_c(\tilde{h}_i,\tilde{h}_j,\tilde{h}_k;\bar{z})$$

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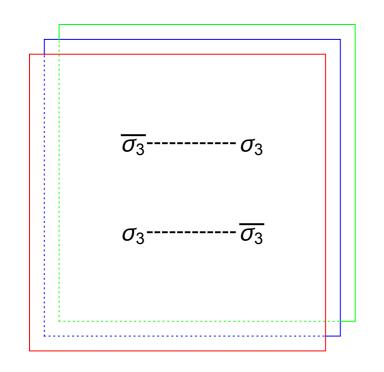
$$\boxed{\text{conformal anomaly}} \qquad \boxed{\text{plumbing frame block}}$$

$$\mathcal{F}^{cl}(z) = -\frac{2}{9}\log(z) + 6\left(\frac{z}{27}\right)^2 + 162\left(\frac{z}{27}\right)^3 + 3975\left(\frac{z}{27}\right)^4 + 96552\left(\frac{z}{27}\right)^5 + 2356039\left(\frac{z}{27}\right)^6 + \cdots$$

The infinite c limit of the plumbing frame block for the Renyi surface is

$$\mathcal{G}_{\infty}(h_1,h_2,h_3|z) = \left(\frac{z}{27}\right)^{h_1+h_2+h_3} \left\{ 1 + \left[\frac{h_1+h_2+h_3}{2} + \frac{(h_2-h_3)^2}{54h_1} + \frac{(h_3-h_1)^2}{54h_2} + \frac{(h_1-h_2)^2}{54h_3} \right] z + \frac{(h_3-h_1)^2}{54h_3} + \frac{(h_3-h_1)^$$

 $+\frac{1000_{1}(1+1)_{1$



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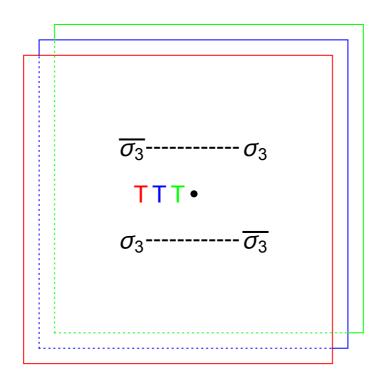
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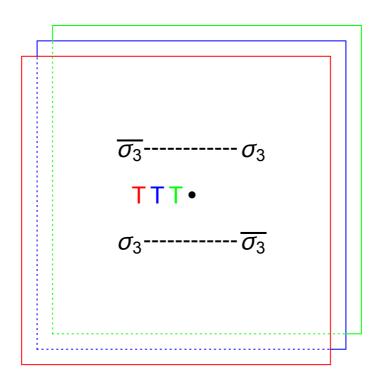
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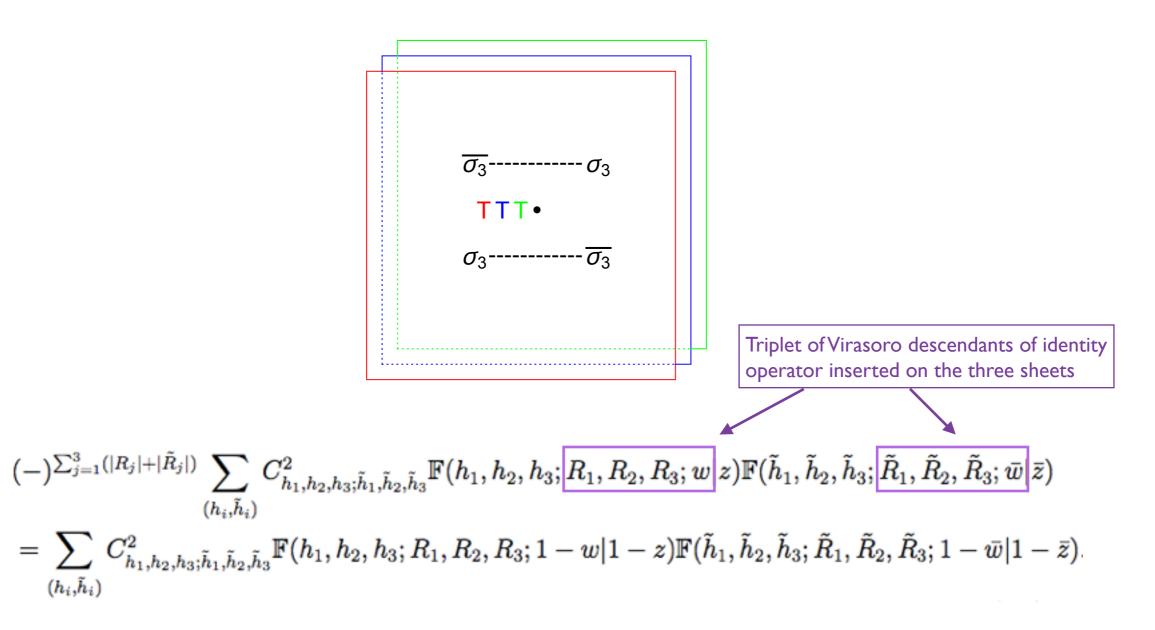
$$\mathcal{G}_{\infty}(h_1, h_2, h_3 | z) = \left(\frac{z}{27}\right)^{h_1 + h_2 + h_3} \left\{ 1 + \left[\frac{h_1 + h_2 + h_3}{2} + \frac{(h_2 - h_3)^2}{54h_1} + \frac{(h_3 - h_1)^2}{54h_2} + \frac{(h_1 - h_2)^2}{54h_3} \right] z + \frac{(h_3 - h_1)^2}{54h_3} \right\} = \left(\frac{z}{27}\right)^{h_1 + h_2 + h_3} \left\{ 1 + \left[\frac{h_1 + h_2 + h_3}{2} + \frac{(h_2 - h_3)^2}{54h_1} + \frac{(h_3 - h_1)^2}{54h_2} + \frac{(h_1 - h_2)^2}{54h_3} \right] z + \frac{(h_3 - h_1)^2}{54h_3} +$$

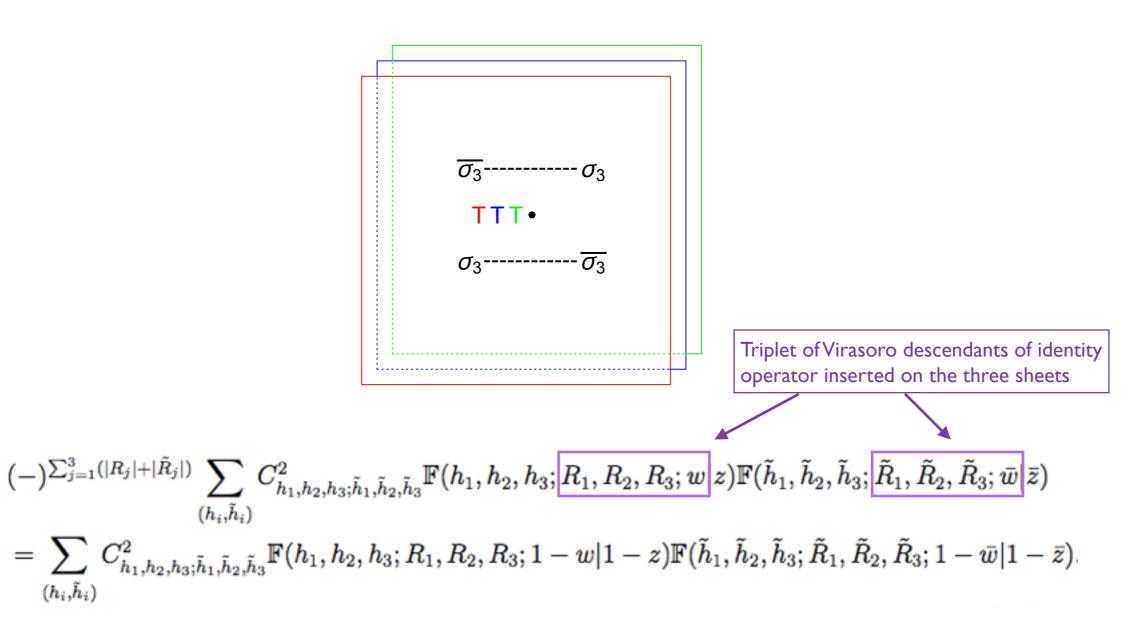
(Finite c result can be recovered by recursion formula.)





$$\begin{split} &(-)^{\sum_{j=1}^{3}(|R_{j}|+|\tilde{R}_{j}|)} \sum_{(h_{i},\tilde{h}_{i})} C_{h_{1},h_{2},h_{3};\tilde{h}_{1},\tilde{h}_{2},\tilde{h}_{3}}^{2} \mathbb{F}(h_{1},h_{2},h_{3};R_{1},R_{2},R_{3};w|z) \mathbb{F}(\tilde{h}_{1},\tilde{h}_{2},\tilde{h}_{3};\tilde{R}_{1},\tilde{R}_{2},\tilde{R}_{3};\bar{w}|\bar{z}) \\ &= \sum_{(h_{i},\tilde{h}_{i})} C_{h_{1},h_{2},h_{3};\tilde{h}_{1},\tilde{h}_{2},\tilde{h}_{3}}^{2} \mathbb{F}(h_{1},h_{2},h_{3};R_{1},R_{2},R_{3};1-w|1-z) \mathbb{F}(\tilde{h}_{1},\tilde{h}_{2},\tilde{h}_{3};\tilde{R}_{1},\tilde{R}_{2},\tilde{R}_{3};1-\bar{w}|1-\bar{z}). \end{split}$$





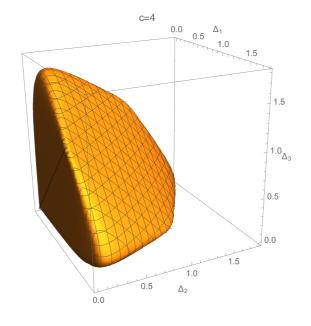
Modified genus two conformal blocks (with insertions of Virasoro descendants of id)

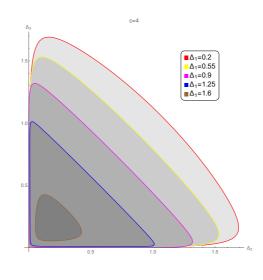
$$\begin{split} \mathbb{F}(h_1,h_2,h_3;R_1,R_2,R_3;w|z) &= 3^{-3\sum_{i=1}^3 h_i} \sum_{\{N_i\},\{M_i\}} z^{-2h_\sigma + \sum_{i=1}^3 (h_i + |N_i|)} w^{\sum_{k=1}^3 (|M_k| - |N_k| - |R_k|)} \\ &\times \rho(\mathcal{L}_{-N_3}^{\infty} h_3, \mathcal{L}_{-N_2}^1 h_2, \mathcal{L}_{-N_1}^0 h_1) \rho(\mathcal{L}_{-M_3}^{\infty *} h_3, \mathcal{L}_{-M_2}^{1*} h_2, \mathcal{L}_{-M_1}^{0*} h_1) \\ &\times \sum_{|P_i| = |N_i|, \; |Q_i| = |M_i|} \prod_{k=1}^3 G_{h_k}^{N_k P_k} G_{h_k}^{M_k Q_k} \rho(L_{-Q_k} h_k, L_{-R_k} \mathrm{id}, L_{-P_k} h_k) \end{split}$$

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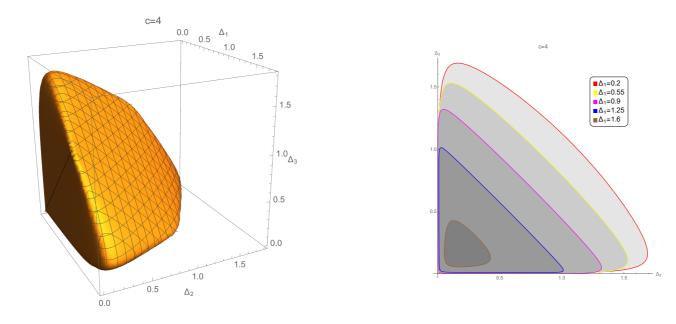
e.g. "critical domain" for structure constants in the space of weights



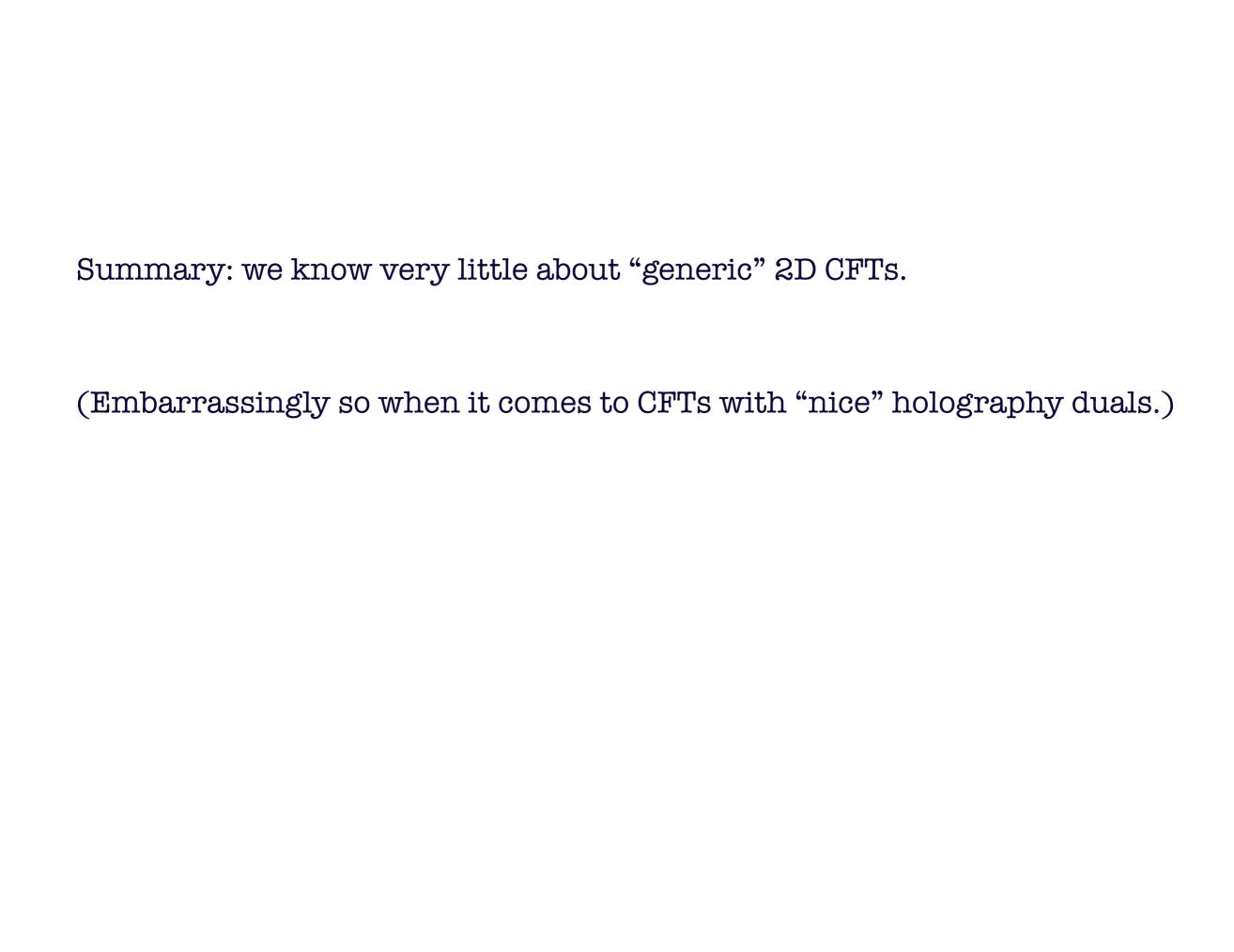


Some nontrivial bounds relating structure constants of small and large dimension operators can be derived by simply inspecting the first few orders of the expansion of the genus two modular crossing equation around z=1/2.

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A systematic investigation of the consequences of the genus two modular crossing equation is yet to be performed. Summary: we know very little about "generic" 2D CFTs.



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Lots of work to do for physicists and mathematicians!