

# Invariant Functionals in Higher-Spin Theory

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Higher Spin Theories and Holography

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# Goal

Despite significant progress in the construction of actions during last  
thirty years: A.Bengtsson, I.Bengtsson, Brink (1983); Berends, Burgers, van Dam (1984);  
Fradkin, MV (1987),... Metsaev (2006)... Joung, Taronna (2011) ,...Boulanger, Sundell (2012) ...  
construction of the action, generating functional for correlators and BH  
entropy was lacking

# Plan

HS holographic duality from unfolded formulation

Structure of HS equations and Klein operator as de Rham cohomology

Supertrace versus Lagrangians in the extended HS equations

Invariants of the  $AdS_4$  HS theory

Structure of the boundary functional

Conclusion

# Unfolded dynamics

Covariant first-order differential equations

1988

$$dW^\Omega(x) = G^\Omega(W(x)), \quad G^\Omega(W) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f^\Omega_{\Lambda_1 \dots \Lambda_n} W^{\Lambda_1} \wedge \dots \wedge W^{\Lambda_n}$$

Geometry is encoded by  $G^\Omega(W)$ : unfolded equations make sense in any space-time

$$dW^\Omega(x) = G^\Omega(W(x)), \quad x \rightarrow X = (x, z), \quad d_x \rightarrow d_X = d_x + d_z, \quad d_z = dz^u \frac{\partial}{\partial z^u}$$

$X$ -dependence is reconstructed in terms of  $W(X_0) = W(x_0, z_0)$  at any  $X_0$

Classes of holographically dual models: different  $G$

2012

# Nonlinear HS equations

$$\mathcal{W} = (d + W) + S, \quad W = dx^n W_n, \quad S = dz^\alpha S_\alpha + d\bar{z}^{\dot{\alpha}} \bar{S}_{\dot{\alpha}}$$

$$\mathcal{W} \star \mathcal{W} = i(dZ^A dZ_A + dz^\alpha dz_\alpha F(B) \star k \star \kappa + d\bar{z}^{\dot{\alpha}} d\bar{z}_{\dot{\alpha}} \bar{F}(B) \star \bar{k} \star \bar{\kappa}),$$

$$\mathcal{W} \star B = B \star \mathcal{W}$$

## HS star product

$$(f \star g)(Z; Y) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \int d^4U d^4V \exp[iU_A V^A] f(Z + U; Y + U) g(Z - V; Y + V)$$

## Manifest gauge invariance

$$\delta\mathcal{W} = [\varepsilon, \mathcal{W}]_\star, \quad \delta B = \varepsilon \star B - B \star \varepsilon, \quad \varepsilon = \varepsilon(Z; Y; K|x)$$

## Vacuum solution with $B = 0$

$$\mathcal{W}_0 = \mathcal{W}_0^{1,0} + \mathcal{W}_0^{0,1}, \quad \mathcal{W}_0^{1,0} = dZ^A Z_A, \quad \mathcal{W}_0^{0,1} = W_0(Y|x)$$

# Klein operators

## Klein operator

$$\kappa = \exp iz_\alpha y^\alpha, \quad \kappa * \kappa = 1$$

$$\kappa * f(z, y) = f(-z, -y) * \kappa$$

For the Weyl star product of  $z$ -independent functions

$$(f * g)(y) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int d^2u d^2v \exp[iu_\alpha v^\alpha] f(y + u)g(y + v)$$

the Klein operator  $\kappa_y$  is the  $\delta$ -function

$$\kappa_y = 2\pi\delta^2(y)$$

$$\delta(y) * g(y) = g(-y) * \delta(y), \quad \kappa_y * \kappa_y = 1 \quad \sim \mathbf{h}^{-2}$$

The HS Klein operator can be defined as

$$\kappa = \kappa_y * \kappa_z$$

# Supertrace

$$\text{str}(f(z, y)) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int d^2u d^2v \exp[-iu_\alpha v^\beta] f(u, v)$$

$$\text{str}(f * g) = \text{str}(g * f)$$

**For  $z$ -independent**  $f(z, y) = f(y)$

$$\text{str}(f(y)) = f(0) \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \text{str}(\kappa_y) = \infty \sim \delta^2(0)$$

**Since supertrace is insensitive to the choice of basis of the star-product algebra**

$$\text{str}(\kappa) \sim \delta^4(0)$$

**In our construction invariant functionals have divergent supertrace.**

**Klein operators are well-defined with respect to the star product.**

# HS equations from de Rham cohomology in the twistor space

The star-commutator with  $\mathcal{W}_0^{1,0} = dZ^A Z_A$  gives de Rham derivative

$$dZ^A Z_A * f - (-1)^p f * dZ^A Z_A = -2i d_Z f, \quad d_Z = dZ^A \frac{\partial}{\partial Z^A}$$

The right-hand side of the HS equations has the structure

$$\mathcal{W} * \mathcal{W} = -i(dZ_A dZ^A + \delta^2(dz)\delta^2(z) * \phi + \delta^2(d\bar{z})\delta^2(\bar{z}) * \bar{\phi})$$

$\phi$  and  $\bar{\phi}$  commute with  $\mathcal{W}$ .

$\delta^2(dz)\delta^2(z)$  is the De Rham cohomology of  $d_z$ .

As a result, the interaction terms form a consistent source that cannot be removed by a local field redefinition.

In the Moyal star product, the equations admit no solution at all.

The HS star-product makes the system solvable in terms of  $Z, Y$ .

# Extended system

HS equations seemingly leave no room for an invariant action as a space-time  $p$ -form built from  $\mathcal{W}$  and  $B$  since  $\text{str}(\mathcal{W} * f(B) * \mathcal{W} * g(B)) = 0$ .

Zero-forms  $\text{str}(f(B))$  suffer from divergencies of the supertrace suggested to be regularized by Colombo, Iazeolla, Sezgin and Sundell.

$$- \times - = +$$

The new proposal is to consider Lagrangians that are not of the form  $\text{str}(L)$  via the following extension of the HS unfolded equations

$$\mathcal{W} * \mathcal{W} = F(c, \mathcal{B}) + \mathcal{L}_i c^i, \quad \mathcal{W} * \mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B} * \mathcal{W}, \quad d\mathcal{L} = 0$$

$\mathcal{W} = d + W$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are differential forms of odd and even degrees, respectively (both in  $dx$  and  $dZ$ ).

$c$  are  $x$ - and  $dx$ -independent central elements like  $dZ_A dZ^A$ ,  $\delta^2(dz)k * \kappa \dots$

Lagrangians  $\mathcal{L}$  are  $x$ -dependent space-time differential forms of even degrees valued in the center of the algebra. In this talk:  $c_i = I \quad i = 1$

$$\mathcal{L}_i c^i = \mathcal{L} I$$



# Symmetries

The system is consistent because  $\mathcal{B}$  commutes with itself and with all  $c$  and  $\mathcal{L}$ . The gauge transformations are

$$\begin{aligned}\delta\mathcal{W} &= [\mathcal{W}, \varepsilon]_* , & \delta\mathcal{B} &= [\mathcal{B}, \varepsilon]_* , & \varepsilon &= \varepsilon(dx, x, dZ, \dots) \\ \delta\mathcal{B} &= \{\mathcal{W}, \xi\} , & \delta\mathcal{W} &= \xi^A \frac{\partial F(c, \mathcal{B})}{\partial \mathcal{B}^A} , & \xi &= \xi(dx, x, dZ, \dots) \\ \delta\mathcal{L} &= d\chi , & \delta\mathcal{W} &= \chi I , & \chi &= \chi(dx, x)\end{aligned}$$

$\chi$ - transformation implies equivalence up to exact forms

allowing to choose **canonical gauge**  $\mathcal{W}_I := \pi\mathcal{W} = 0$

$\pi$  is the projection to  $I$

$$\pi(f(Y, Z|x)) = f(0, 0|x) , \quad \pi(f \star g) \neq \pi(g \star f)$$

**Gauge transformation preserving canonical gauge**

$$\delta\mathcal{L} = d\chi , \quad \chi = -\pi\left([\mathcal{W}, \varepsilon]_* + \xi^A \frac{\partial F(c, \mathcal{B})}{\partial \mathcal{B}^A}\right)$$

$\mathcal{L}$  is on-shell closed and gauge invariant modulo exact forms

# Actions versus supertrace

Gauge invariant action

$$S = \int_{\Sigma} \mathcal{L}$$

Since  $\mathcal{L}$  is closed, it should be integrated over non-contractible cycles

For *AdS/CFT* the singularity is at infinity

BH invariants (entropies) are associated with  $(d - 2)$ -forms

If the HS algebra possesses a supertrace

$$\mathcal{L} = \text{str}(d\mathcal{W} + \mathcal{W} * \mathcal{W}) \Big|_{dZ=0}$$

This suggests that the second term vanishes and hence  $\mathcal{L}$  is exact.

Not applicable if  $\text{str}(\mathcal{W} * \mathcal{W})$  is ill-defined:

$\mathcal{L}$  with well-defined  $\text{str}(\mathcal{W} * \mathcal{W})$  are exact.

$\mathcal{L}$  with ill-defined  $\text{str}(\mathcal{W} * \mathcal{W})$  have a chance to be nontrivial.

# Invariants of the $AdS_4$ HS theory

$\mathcal{W}(dZ, dx; Z; Y; \mathcal{K}|x)$  contains all one- and three-forms in  $dZ$  and  $dx$

$\mathcal{B}(dZ, dx; Z; Y; \mathcal{K}|x)$  contains all zero- and two-forms in  $dZ$  and  $dx$

Lagrangians  $\mathcal{L}(dx|x)$  depend on space-time coordinates and differentials.

Lagrangian relevant to the generating functional of correlators in

$AdS_4/CFT_3$  HS holography is a four-form  $\mathcal{L}^4$

Lagrangian relevant to BH entropy is a two-form  $\mathcal{L}^2$  ?!

Extended HS system is

$$i\mathcal{W}*\mathcal{W} = dZ_A dZ^A + \delta^2(dz)F_*(\mathcal{B})k*\kappa + \delta^2(d\bar{z})\bar{F}_*(\mathcal{B})\bar{k}*\bar{\kappa} + G(\mathcal{B})\delta^4(dZ)k*\bar{k}*\kappa*\bar{\kappa} + \mathcal{L}I$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}^2 + \mathcal{L}^4, \quad G = g + O(\mathcal{B})$$

The  $g$ -dependent term represents de Rham cohomology in the  $Z$ -space.

Klein operators give rise to divergent traces and, hence, to nontrivial  $\mathcal{L}$

# Holography at complex infinity

For manifest conformal invariance introduce

$$y_{\alpha}^{+} = \frac{1}{2}(y_{\alpha} - i\bar{y}_{\alpha}), \quad y_{\alpha}^{-} = \frac{1}{2}(\bar{y}_{\alpha} - iy_{\alpha}), \quad [y_{\alpha}^{-}, y^{+\beta}]_{*} = \delta_{\alpha}^{\beta}$$

$AdS_4$  foliation:  $x^n = (\mathbf{x}^a, \mathbf{z})$  :  $\mathbf{x}^a$  are coordinates of leaves ( $a = 0, 1, 2,$ )

Poincaré coordinates  $\mathbf{z}$  is a foliation parameter

$$W = \frac{i}{\mathbf{z}} d\mathbf{x}^{\alpha\beta} y_{\alpha}^{-} y_{\beta}^{-} - \frac{d\mathbf{z}}{2\mathbf{z}} y_{\alpha}^{-} y^{+\alpha}$$

$$e^{\alpha\dot{\alpha}} = \frac{1}{2\mathbf{z}} dx^{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}, \quad \omega^{\alpha\beta} = -\frac{i}{4\mathbf{z}} d\mathbf{x}^{\alpha\beta}, \quad \bar{\omega}^{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} = \frac{i}{4\mathbf{z}} d\mathbf{x}^{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}$$

Vacuum connection can be extended to the complex plane of  $\mathbf{z}$  with all components containing  $d\bar{\mathbf{z}}$  being zero.

$AdS$  infinity is at  $\mathbf{z} = 0$

Generating functional for the boundary correlators

$$S = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathbf{z}=0} L(\phi)$$

An on-shell closed  $(d+1)$ -form  $L(\phi)$  for a  $d$ -dimensional boundary

$$dL(\phi) = 0, \quad L \neq dM$$

# Structure of the functional

The residue at  $z = 0$  gives the boundary functional of the following structure

$$S_{M^3}(\omega) = \int_{M^3} \mathcal{L}, \quad \mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \omega_{\mathbf{x}}^{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_{2(s-1)}} e_{\mathbf{x}}^{\alpha_{2s-1} \beta} e_{\mathbf{x}}^{\alpha_{2s} \beta} (a C_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_{2s}}(\omega) + \bar{a} C_{\dot{\alpha}_1 \dots \dot{\alpha}_{2s}}(\omega))$$

Using that

$$a C_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_{2s}}(\omega) + \bar{a} C_{\dot{\alpha}_1 \dots \dot{\alpha}_{2s}}(\omega) = a_- \mathcal{T}_{-\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_{2s}}(\omega) + a_+ \mathcal{T}_{+\dot{\alpha}_1 \dots \dot{\alpha}_{2s}}(\omega)$$

$\mathcal{T}_-$  describes local boundary terms

$\mathcal{T}_+$  describes nontrivial correlators via the variation of  $S_{M^3}$  over the HS gauge fields  $\omega_{\mathbf{x}}^{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_{2(s-1)}}$

$$\langle J(\mathbf{x}_1) J(\mathbf{x}_2) \dots \rangle = \left. \frac{\delta^n S_{M^3}(\omega, C(\omega))}{\delta \omega(x_1) \delta \omega(x_2) \dots} \right|_{\omega=0}$$

Computation of  $a_+$ : work in progress

# Conclusions

Formulation of holographic duality at the level of the generating functional from the unfolded formulation of HS equations

The proposed formulation is coordinate-independent and applicable to any boundaries and bulk solutions

Invariant functionals for singular solutions BH entropy(?!) follow from the same construction via the  $\mathcal{L}^2$ -form

$AdS_3/CFT_2$ : Invariant functional is a two-form: boundary functional is an integral of a one-form: holomorphicity of  $CFT_2$

# HS AdS/CFT correspondence

General idea of HS duality

Sundborg (2001), Witten (2001)

$AdS_4$  HS theory is dual to  $3d$  vectorial conformal models

Klebanov, Polyakov (2002), Petkou, Leigh (2005), Sezgin, Sundell (2005); Giombi and Yin (2009);

Maldacena, Zhiboedov (2011,2012); MV (2012); Koch, Jevicki, Jin, Rodrigues (2011-2014);

Giombi, Klebanov; Tseytlin (2013,2014) ...

$AdS_3/CFT_2$  correspondence

Gaberdiel and Gopakumar (2010)

Analysis of HS holography helps to uncover the origin of  $AdS/CFT$  ?!

Despite significant progress in the construction of actions during last  
thirty years: A.Bengtsson, I.Bengtsson, Brink (1983); Berends, Burgers, van Dam (1984);

Fradkin, MV (1987), ... Boulanger, Sundell (2012) ...

construction of the generating functional for correlators and entropies  
was lacking

# 3d conformal equations

## Rank-one conformal massless equations

Shaynkman, MV (2001)

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{\alpha\beta}} \pm i \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^\alpha \partial y^\beta}\right) C_j^\pm(y|x) = 0, \quad \alpha, \beta = 1, 2, \quad j = 1, \dots, \mathcal{N}$$

**Bosons (fermions) are even (odd) functions of  $y$ :**  $C_i(-y|x) = (-1)^{p_i} C_i(y|x)$

## Rank-two equations: conserved currents

$$\left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{\alpha\beta}} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^{(\alpha} \partial u^{\beta)}} \right\} J(u, y|x) = 0$$

Gelfond, MV (2003)

$J(u, y|x)$ : **generalized stress tensor. Rank-two equation is obeyed by**

$$J(u, y|x) = \sum_{i=1}^{\mathcal{N}} C_i^-(u+y|x) C_i^+(y-u|x)$$

## Primaries: 3d currents of all integer and half-integer spins

$$J(u, 0|x) = \sum_{2s=0}^{\infty} u^{\alpha_1} \dots u^{\alpha_{2s}} J_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_{2s}}(x), \quad \tilde{J}(0, y|x) = \sum_{2s=0}^{\infty} y^{\alpha_1} \dots y^{\alpha_{2s}} \tilde{J}_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_{2s}}(x)$$

$$J^{asym}(u, y|x) = u_\alpha y^\alpha J^{asym}(x)$$

$$\Delta J_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_{2s}}(x) = \Delta \tilde{J}_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_{2s}}(x) = s + 1 \quad \Delta J^{asym}(x) = 2$$

**Conservation equation:**  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{\alpha\beta}} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial u_\alpha \partial u_\beta} J(u, 0|x) = 0$



# Free massless fields in $AdS_4$

Infinite set of spins  $s = 0, 1/2, 1, 3/2, 2 \dots$

Fermions require doubling of fields

$$\omega^{ii}(y, \bar{y} | x), \quad C^{i1-i}(y, \bar{y} | x), \quad i = 0, 1,$$

$$\bar{\omega}^{ii}(y, \bar{y} | x) = \omega^{ii}(\bar{y}, y | x), \quad \bar{C}^{i1-i}(y, \bar{y} | x) = C^{1-i i}(\bar{y}, y | x)$$

$$A(y, \bar{y} | x) = i \sum_{n,m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!m!} y_{\alpha_1} \dots y_{\alpha_n} \bar{y}_{\dot{\beta}_1} \dots \bar{y}_{\dot{\beta}_m} A^{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n, \dot{\beta}_1 \dots \dot{\beta}_m}(x)$$

The unfolded system for free massless fields is **MV (1989)**

$$\star \quad R_1^{ii}(y, \bar{y} | x) = \eta \bar{H}^{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \bar{y}^{\dot{\alpha}} \partial \bar{y}^{\dot{\beta}}} C^{1-i i}(0, \bar{y} | x) + \bar{\eta} H^{\alpha\beta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^\alpha \partial y^\beta} C^{i1-i}(y, 0 | x)$$

$$\star \quad \tilde{D}_0 C^{i1-i}(y, \bar{y} | x) = 0$$

$$R_1(y, \bar{y} | x) = D_0^{ad} \omega(y, \bar{y} | x) \quad H^{\alpha\beta} = e^\alpha_{\dot{\alpha}} \wedge e^{\beta\dot{\alpha}}, \quad \bar{H}^{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} = e_\alpha^{\dot{\alpha}} \wedge e^{\alpha\dot{\beta}}$$

$$D_0^{ad} \omega = D^L - \lambda e^{\alpha\dot{\beta}} \left( y_\alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{y}^{\dot{\beta}}} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y^\alpha} \bar{y}_{\dot{\beta}} \right), \quad \tilde{D}_0 = D^L + \lambda e^{\alpha\dot{\beta}} \left( y_\alpha \bar{y}_{\dot{\beta}} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^\alpha \partial \bar{y}^{\dot{\beta}}} \right)$$

$$D^L = d_x - \left( \omega^{\alpha\beta} y_\alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial y^\beta} + \bar{\omega}^{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \bar{y}_{\dot{\alpha}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{y}^{\dot{\beta}}} \right)$$

# Field equations at the boundary

## Rescaling

$$C(y, \bar{y} | \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{z} \exp(y_\alpha \bar{y}^\alpha) T(w, \bar{w} | \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}), \quad \mathbf{w}^\alpha = \mathbf{z}^{1/2} \mathbf{y}^\alpha, \quad \bar{\mathbf{w}}^\alpha = \mathbf{z}^{1/2} \bar{\mathbf{y}}^\alpha$$

$$W^{jj}(y^\pm | \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \Omega^{jj}(v^-, w^+ | \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}), \quad \mathbf{v}^\pm = \mathbf{z}^{-1/2} \mathbf{y}^\pm, \quad \mathbf{w}^\pm = \mathbf{z}^{1/2} \mathbf{y}^\pm$$

In the limit  $\mathbf{z} \rightarrow 0$  free HS equations take the form

$$\left( d_{\mathbf{x}} + 2i d_{\mathbf{x}}^{\alpha\beta} v_\alpha^- \frac{\partial}{\partial w^{+\beta}} \right) \Omega^{jj}(v^-, w^+ | \mathbf{x}, 0) = d_{\mathbf{x}}^{\alpha\gamma} d_{\mathbf{x}}^{\beta\gamma} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial w^{+\alpha} \partial w^{+\beta}} \mathcal{T}_-^{jj}(w^+, 0 | \mathbf{x}, 0)$$

$$D_{\mathbf{x}} \Omega_{\mathbf{z}}^{jj}(v^-, w^+ | \mathbf{x}, 0) + D_{\mathbf{z}} \Omega_{\mathbf{x}}^{jj}(v^-, w^+ | \mathbf{x}, 0) = -\frac{i}{2} d_{\mathbf{x}}^{\alpha\beta} d_{\mathbf{z}} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial w^{+\alpha} \partial w^{+\beta}} \mathcal{T}_+^{jj}(w^+, 0 | \mathbf{x}, 0)$$

$$\left[ d_{\mathbf{x}} - i d_{\mathbf{x}}^{\alpha\beta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial w^{+\alpha} \partial w^{-\beta}} \right] \mathcal{T}_\pm^{j \ 1-j}(w^+, w^- | \mathbf{x}, 0) = 0$$

$$\mathcal{T}_\pm^{jj}(w^+, w^- | \mathbf{x}, 0) = \eta T^{j \ 1-j}(w^+, w^- | \mathbf{x}, 0) \pm \bar{\eta} T^{1-j \ j}(-iw^-, iw^+ | \mathbf{x}, 0)$$