

**Higher Spin Theory  
and Holography-6  
May -June, 2017**

**Fermionic continuous spin field in (A)dS**

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# Plan

- 1) Fermionic massless and massive continuous spin field in  $R^{d,1}$
- 2) Fermionic continuous spin field in  $AdS_{d+1}$
- 3) Computation of partition function of continuous spin field. Modified De Donder gauge

Lagrangian for continuous massless spin

**bosonic in  $R^{3,1}$**

Schuster and Toro **2014**

**fermionic in  $R^{3,1}$**

X.Bekaert, M.Najafizadeh, M.R.Setare, **2016**

# **Continuous spin field via deformation of tower decoupled Fang-Fronsdal fields**

method by Zinoviev 2001

## Field content

Totally symmetric triple-traceless field in  $R^{d,1}$

$$\psi^{a_1 \dots a_n}, \quad n = 0, 1, \dots, \infty$$

$$\gamma^a \psi^{abba_4 \dots a_n} = 0$$

Lagrangian for decoupled Fang-Fronsdal fields

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{L}_n$$

$\mathcal{L}_n$  - Fang-Fronsdal Lagrangian for spin  $n$ -field

$$[\bar{\alpha}^a, \alpha^b] = \eta^{ab}, \quad [\bar{v}, v] = 1$$

$$\bar{\alpha}^a |0\rangle = 0 \quad \bar{v} |0\rangle = 0$$

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v^n \alpha^{a_1} \dots \alpha^{a_n} \psi^{a_1 \dots a_n} |0\rangle$$

$$(N_\alpha - N_\nu)|\psi\rangle = 0$$

$$N_\alpha \equiv \alpha^a \bar{\alpha}^a \quad N_\nu = \nu \bar{\nu}$$

## gauge transformation parameters

$$\xi^{a_1 \dots a_n}, \quad n = 0, 1, \dots, \infty$$

$$|\xi\rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v^{n+1} \alpha^{a_1} \dots \alpha^{a_n} \xi^{a_1 \dots a_n} |0\rangle.$$

gamma-traceless

$$\gamma^a \xi^{a a_2 \dots a_n} = 0$$



# Lagrangian for massless fields in $R^{d,1}$

$$i\mathcal{L} = \langle \psi | E | \psi \rangle$$

$$E = E_{FF}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_{FF} \equiv & \not{\partial} - \alpha \not{\partial} \gamma \bar{\alpha} - \gamma \alpha \bar{\alpha} \not{\partial} + \gamma \alpha \not{\partial} \gamma \bar{\alpha} \\ & + \gamma \alpha \alpha \not{\partial} \bar{\alpha}^2 + \alpha^2 \gamma \bar{\alpha} \bar{\alpha} \not{\partial} - \alpha^2 \not{\partial} \bar{\alpha}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha \not{\partial} &= \alpha^a \not{\partial}^a & \alpha^2 &= \alpha^a \alpha^a \\ \gamma \alpha &= \gamma^a \alpha^a \end{aligned}$$

**massless in flat:** gauge transformations

$$\delta|\psi\rangle = \alpha\partial|\xi\rangle$$

## massive in flat

$$i\mathcal{L} = \langle \psi | E | \psi \rangle$$

$$E = E_{FF} + \mathbf{E}_{(0)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}_{(0)} &= (1 - \gamma\alpha\gamma\bar{\alpha} - \alpha^2\bar{\alpha}^2)\mathbf{e}_1^\Gamma \\ &+ (\gamma\alpha - \alpha^2\gamma\bar{\alpha})\bar{\mathbf{e}}_1 + (\gamma\bar{\alpha} - \gamma\alpha\bar{\alpha}^2)\mathbf{e}_1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\delta|\psi\rangle = (\alpha\partial - \mathbf{e}_1 + \gamma\alpha\mathbf{e}_1^\Gamma - \alpha^2\bar{\mathbf{e}}_1)|\xi\rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\delta\psi^{a_1\dots a_n} &= \partial^{(a_1}\xi^{a_2\dots a_n)} \\
&+ \mathbf{e}_1\xi^{a_1\dots a_n} \\
&+ \mathbf{e}_1^\Gamma\gamma^{(a_1}\xi^{a_2\dots a_n)} \\
&+ \bar{\mathbf{e}}_1\eta^{(a_1a_2}\xi^{a_3\dots a_n)}
\end{aligned}$$

deformation procedure **Zinoviev 2001**

## massive in flat

$$e_1^\Gamma = m$$

$$e_1 = e_\nu \bar{v}$$

$$\bar{e}_1 = v e_\nu$$

$$e_\nu = \sqrt{F_\nu}$$

$$F_\nu = (s - N_\nu)m^2$$

## Continuous massless in flat

$$e_1^\Gamma = \kappa_0$$

$$e_1 = e_\nu \bar{v}$$

$$\bar{e}_1 = v e_\nu$$

$$e_\nu = \sqrt{F_\nu}$$

$$F_\nu = \kappa_0^2$$

## Continuous massive in flat

$$e_1^\Gamma = \kappa_0$$

$$e_1 = e_v \bar{v}$$

$$\bar{e}_1 = v e_v$$

$$e_v = \sqrt{F_v}$$

$$F_v = \kappa_0^2 - \mu_0 \left( N_v + \frac{d-1}{2} \right)^2$$

$\kappa_0$  and  $\mu_0$  – dimensionfull parameters

# Classical unitarity

1)

$$i\mathcal{L} = \langle \psi | \not{\partial} | \psi \rangle + \dots$$

2)

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}^\dagger$$

2)  $\implies$

$$2a) \quad e_1^{\Gamma\dagger} = e_1^\Gamma \quad e_1^\dagger = \bar{e}_1$$

$$2b) \quad \mathbf{F}_\nu \geq 0$$



**All previously known classically unitary systems turns out to be associated with unitary representations of space-time symmetry algebras**

$$\mu_0 = m^2$$

$$\kappa_0 \neq 0$$

$\mu_0 = 0$       **massless continuous** unitary

$\mu_0 > 0$       **massive continuous** - nonunitary

$\mu_0 < 0$       **tachyonic continuous** - unitary

**conjecture**

**massive classically unitary continuous spin  
field**

is associated with

**tachyonic UIR of Poincaré algebra**

## reducible case

$$F_\nu(s) = 0 \quad \implies$$

$$\kappa_0^2 = \left(s + \frac{d-1}{2}\right)^2 \mu_0$$

$$F_\nu = (s - N_\nu)(s + d - 2 + N_\nu) \mu_0$$

$$|\psi\rangle = |\psi^{0,s}\rangle + |\psi^{s+1,\infty}\rangle$$

$$|\psi^{M,N}\rangle \equiv \sum_{n=M}^N v^n \alpha^{a_1} \dots \alpha^{a_n} \psi^{a_1 \dots a_n} |0\rangle$$

$$\mathcal{L}(\psi) = \mathcal{L}(\psi^{0,s}) + \mathcal{L}(\psi^{s+1,\infty})$$

$$\mu_0 > 0$$

$\psi^{0,s}$  – classically **unitary**

$\psi^{s+1,\infty}$  – classically **non-unitary**

# Fermionic continuous spin field in (A)dS<sub>d+1</sub>

$$i\mathcal{L} = \langle \psi | E | \psi \rangle$$

$$E = E_{FF} + \mathbf{E}_{(0)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}_{(0)} &= (1 - \gamma\alpha\gamma\bar{\alpha} - \alpha^2\bar{\alpha}^2)\mathbf{e}_1^\Gamma \\ &+ (\gamma\alpha - \alpha^2\gamma\bar{\alpha})\bar{\mathbf{e}}_1 + (\gamma\bar{\alpha} - \gamma\alpha\bar{\alpha}^2)\mathbf{e}_1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\delta|\psi\rangle = (\alpha D - \mathbf{e}_1 + \gamma\alpha\mathbf{e}_1^\Gamma - \alpha^2\bar{\mathbf{e}}_1)|\xi\rangle$$



$$e_1^\Gamma = \kappa_0$$

$$e_1 = e_\nu \bar{v}$$

$$\bar{e}_1 = v e_\nu$$

$$e_\nu = \sqrt{F_\nu}$$

$$F_\nu = \kappa_0^2 - \mu_0 \left( N_\nu + \frac{d-1}{2} \right)^2 - \rho \left( N_\nu + \frac{d-1}{2} \right)^4$$

$$\rho = -1/R^2 \quad \text{for } AdS$$

$$\rho = +1/R^2 \quad \text{for } dS$$

Analyse  $F_v(n) \geq 0$

For **dS** there are **NO** classically unitary solution

many solutions for **AdS**

## reducible cases

### One root

$$F_\nu(s) = 0$$

$\implies$  massive + infinite comp. fields

### two roots

$$F_\nu(s_1) = 0, \quad F_\nu(s_2) = 0$$

$\implies$  massive + partial massless

+ infinite component fields

## Partition function

Partition function of fermionic

continuous spin is equal to 1

$$Z = 1$$

$$Z^{-1} = \prod_{n=0}^{\infty} Z_n^{-1}$$

$$Z_n^{-1} = \frac{\mathcal{D}_{n-1}(M_{n-1}^2) \mathcal{D}_{n-1}(M_{n-1}^2)}{\mathcal{D}_n(M_n^2) \mathcal{D}_{n-2}(M_{n-2}^2)}$$

$$\mathcal{D}_n(M^2) = \sqrt{\det_n(-\not{\square} + M^2)}$$

$$\not{\square} \equiv \not{D} \not{D}$$

$$M_n^2 \equiv \mu_0 + \rho \left( n + \frac{d-1}{2} \right)^2$$

$\mathcal{D}$  on space of gamma-traceless fields

## Modified de Donder gauge condition

$$\bar{C}_{\text{mod}}|\psi\rangle = 0$$

$$\bar{C}_{\text{mod}} \equiv \bar{C} - (\gamma\bar{\alpha} + \gamma\alpha\bar{\alpha}^2)\mathbf{e}_1^\Gamma + \bar{\alpha}^2\mathbf{e}_1 - \Pi\bar{\mathbf{e}}_1$$

$$\bar{C} \equiv \bar{\alpha}D - \frac{1}{2}\alpha D\bar{\alpha}^2$$

$$\Pi \equiv 1 - \alpha^2 \frac{1}{2(2N_\alpha + d + 1)} \bar{\alpha}^2$$

## Simple equations of motion

$$(\square - M^2 + \rho\alpha^2\bar{a}^2)|\psi\rangle = 0$$

$$M^2 \equiv \mu_0 + \rho(N_v + \frac{d-1}{2})^2$$

## Left-over gauge symmetry of EOM

$$(\not{\partial} - M_\xi^2)|\xi\rangle = 0$$

$$M_\xi^2 \equiv \mu_0 + \rho(N_\nu + \frac{d-3}{2})^2$$



Decompose physical field into  $\gamma$ -traceless fields

$$|\psi\rangle = |\psi_I\rangle + \gamma\alpha|\psi_\Gamma\rangle + \alpha^2|\psi_{II}\rangle$$

$$\gamma\bar{\alpha}|\psi_\tau\rangle = 0, \quad \tau = I, \Gamma, II$$

$$(\not{\square} - \mathbf{M}_n^2)\psi_\tau^{a_1 \dots a_n} = 0$$

$$(\not{\square} - \mathbf{M}_n^2)\xi^{a_1 \dots a_n} = 0$$