

# Reparametrization modes in CFTs & applications

**Felix Haehl**  
(IAS)

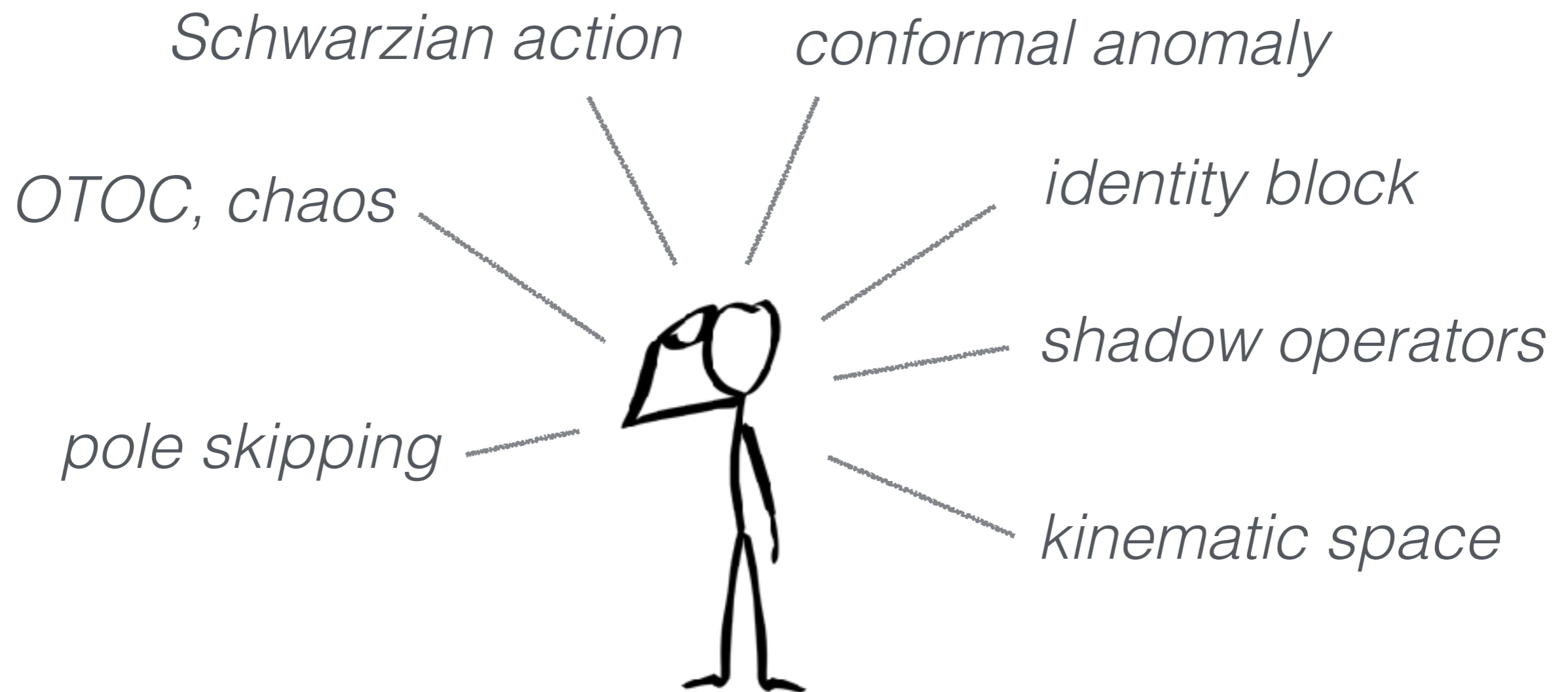
- 1909.05847 with **W. Reeves** & **M. Rozali**
- 2005.xxxxx with **T. Anous**
- (also 1808.02898 with M. Rozali)

# Summary of talk

- Topic: correlation functions in CFTs with large  $c$  and large gap
- A theory of *reparametrization fields* that describes universal aspects of energy-momentum tensor/graviton exchanges
- Applications:
  - *Effective field theory* for quantum chaos
  - Do certain *conformal block* calculations very efficiently

# Summary of talk

- Will also provide a language to piece together various ideas from SYK, CFT, bootstrap, holography



# Outline

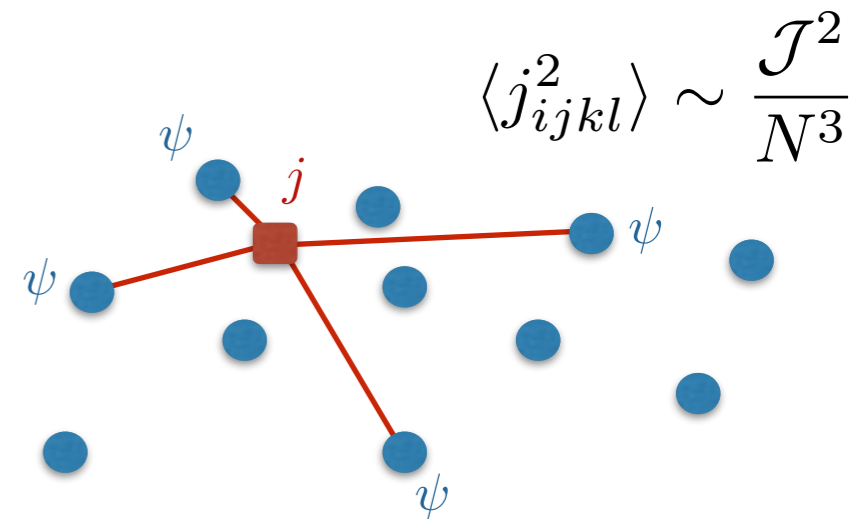
- Reparametrization fields & quantum chaos
  - SYK
  - CFT
  - Comments on thermal correlators
- Conformal blocks
  - Connection with shadow operators
  - Virasoro blocks ( $d=2$ )

*Reparametrization  
modes in SYK*

# Reminder: SYK model

- N Majorana fermions with random, Gaussian couplings
- IR: emergent conformal symmetry,  $\tau \rightarrow f(\tau)$
- Spontaneously and explicitly broken to  $SL(2, R)$
- Large N effective field theory of reparametrization Goldstone:  
*Schwarzian action*

$$H = - \sum_{ijkl}^N j_{ijkl} \psi_i \psi_j \psi_k \psi_l$$



$$S \propto -\frac{N}{\mathcal{J}} \int d\tau \{f(\tau), \tau\}$$

[Kitaev '15]

[Maldacena-Stanford '16] ...

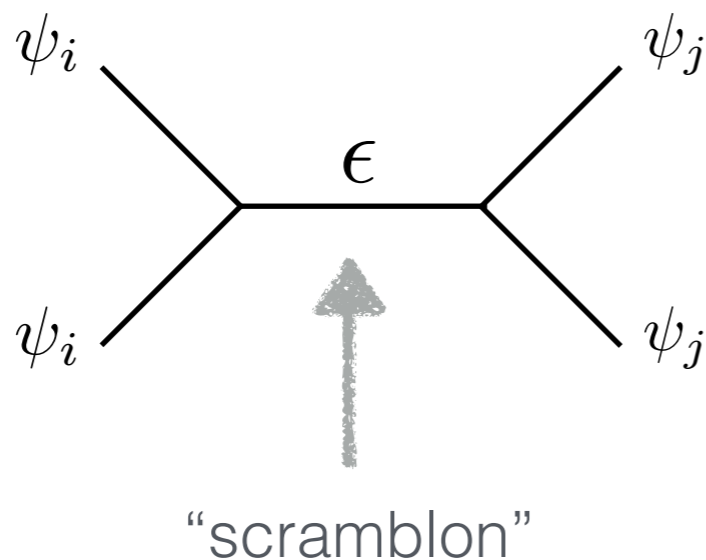
# Schwarzian action

- Schwarzian describes dominant “gravity” effects

$$S \propto -\frac{N}{\mathcal{J}} \int d\tau \{f(\tau), \tau\}$$

- E.g.: enhanced contribution to *4-pt. OTOC*:

$$\frac{\langle \psi_i(t) \psi_j(0) \psi_i(t) \psi_j(0) \rangle_{\text{conn.}}^{\text{reg.}}}{\langle \psi_i \psi_i \rangle \langle \psi_j \psi_j \rangle} \sim \frac{\beta \mathcal{J}}{N} e^{\frac{2\pi}{\beta} t}$$



$$f(\tau) = \tau + \epsilon(\tau)$$

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- Schwarzian is “*hydrodynamic*” in the sense that it captures energy conservation [Jensen ’16] ...

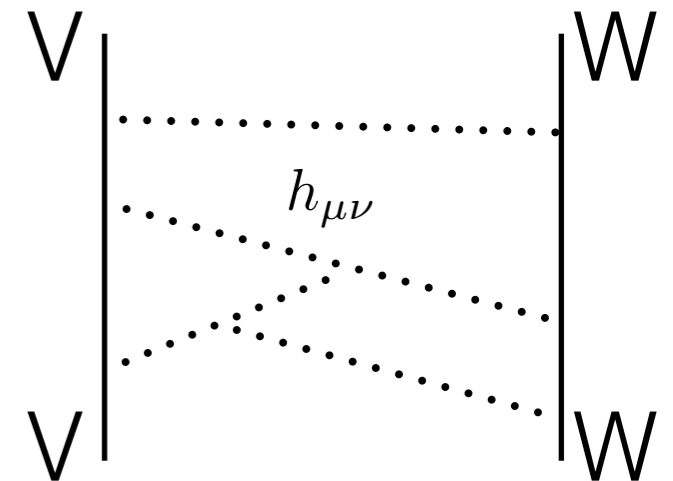
$$\partial_\tau E \equiv \partial_\tau \left[ -\frac{N}{\mathcal{J}} \{f(\tau), \tau\} \right] = 0$$

- Is Lyapunov growth more generally described by *effective field theory of energy mode*? [Blake-Lee-Liu ’18] ...



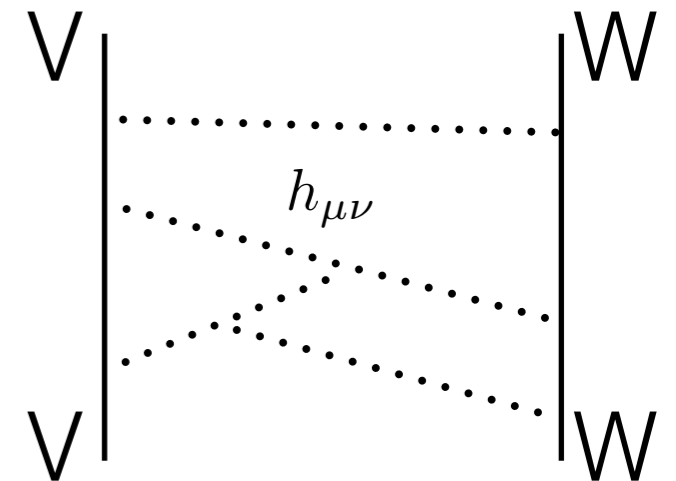
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- E.g., in 2d CFTs: stress-energy tensor exchanges also maximally chaotic [Roberts-Stanford '14] ...
- Virasoro *identity block*
- Is there some “effective description”?
- Do we learn something universal about scrambling and nonlinear gravity?



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*Effective theory of the  
“scramblon” in  $CFT_2$*

- Consider large  $c$ , large gap CFT and a reparametrization

$$(z, \bar{z}) \rightarrow (f(z, \bar{z}), \bar{f}(z, \bar{z}))$$

- $(f, \bar{f})$  have an *effective action* determined by  $\langle T_{\mu\nu} \cdots T_{\rho\sigma} \rangle$

$$e^{-W[f, \bar{f}]} = \frac{1}{Z_0} \int [d\Phi] e^{-S_{CFT} - \int d^2z \left\{ \frac{\bar{\partial} f}{\partial f} T + \text{c.c.} \right\}}$$

- Understood in general (for finite reparametrizations)

by [Alekseev-Shatashvili '89] (c.f. [Polyakov '87] [Witten '88]...)

- For simplicity, consider  $(z, \bar{z}) \rightarrow (z + \epsilon(z, \bar{z}), \bar{z} + \bar{\epsilon}(z, \bar{z}))$

- $(\epsilon, \bar{\epsilon})$  have an *effective action* determined by  $\langle T_{\mu\nu} \cdots T_{\rho\sigma} \rangle$
- Quadratic action:

$$\iint d^2 z_1 d^2 z_2 \bar{\partial}\epsilon_1 \bar{\partial}\epsilon_2 \langle T(z_1)T(z_2) \rangle + (\text{anti-holo.})$$

fixed by conformal symmetry



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$$\iint d^2 z_1 d^2 z_2 \bar{\partial}\epsilon_1 \bar{\partial}\epsilon_2 \langle T(z_1)T(z_2) \rangle + (\text{anti-holo.})$$

- The quadratic action becomes local

$$[\dots \text{ because: } \bar{\partial}_1 \langle T(z_1)T(z_2) \rangle \sim \partial^3 \delta^{(2)}(z_1 - z_2) ]$$

$$\frac{c}{24\pi} \int d^2 z \bar{\partial}\epsilon \partial^3 \epsilon + (\text{anti-holo})$$

- $(\epsilon, \bar{\epsilon})$  have an *effective action* determined by  $\langle T_{\mu\nu} \cdots T_{\rho\sigma} \rangle$

$$\frac{c}{24\pi} \int d^2 z \bar{\partial} \epsilon \partial^3 \epsilon + \text{(anti-holo)}$$

- Reminiscent of quadratic Schwarzian
  - E.g., similar symmetries & charges (however, conformal symmetry not explicitly broken)
- Euclidean propagator:

$$\langle \epsilon(k, \bar{k}) \epsilon(-k, -\bar{k}) \rangle \propto \frac{1}{c} \frac{1}{(k^0 + ik^1)(k^0 - ik^1)^3}$$

$$\langle \epsilon(z, \bar{z}) \epsilon(0, 0) \rangle \propto \frac{1}{c} z^2 \log(z\bar{z})$$

# Vertex rules

$$\langle \epsilon(z, \bar{z}) \epsilon(0, 0) \rangle \propto \frac{1}{c} z^2 \log(z\bar{z})$$

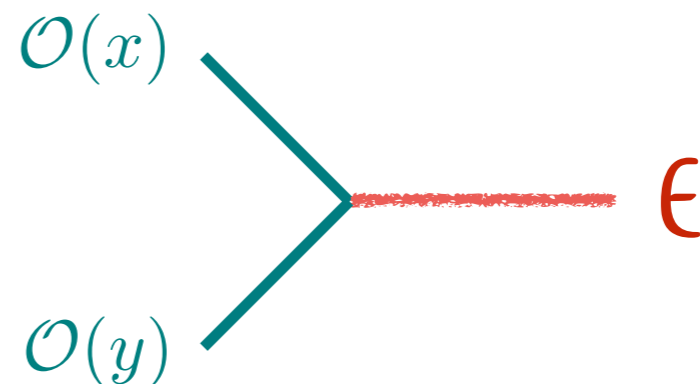
$\epsilon$

- Reparametrizations also couple to external fields:

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(z_1) \mathcal{O}(z_2) \rangle \longrightarrow [\partial f(z_1) \partial f(z_2)]^\Delta \langle \mathcal{O}(f(z_1)) \mathcal{O}(f(z_2)) \rangle \quad f(z) = z + \epsilon$$

$$= \langle \mathcal{O}(z_1) \mathcal{O}(z_2) \rangle \left\{ 1 + \Delta \left[ \partial\epsilon(z_1) + \partial\epsilon(z_2) - 2 \frac{\epsilon(z_1) - \epsilon(z_2)}{z_1 - z_2} \right] \right\}$$

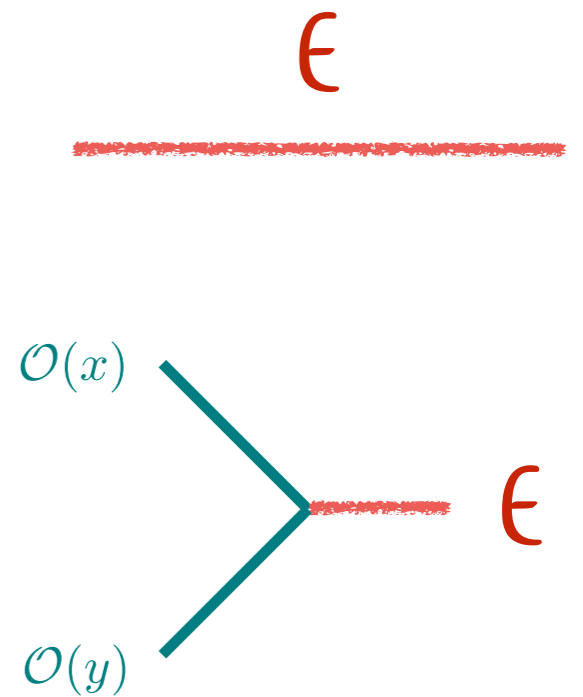
$$= \langle \mathcal{O}(z_1) \mathcal{O}(z_2) \rangle \left\{ 1 + \mathcal{B}_\Delta^{(1)}(z_1, z_2) \right\}$$





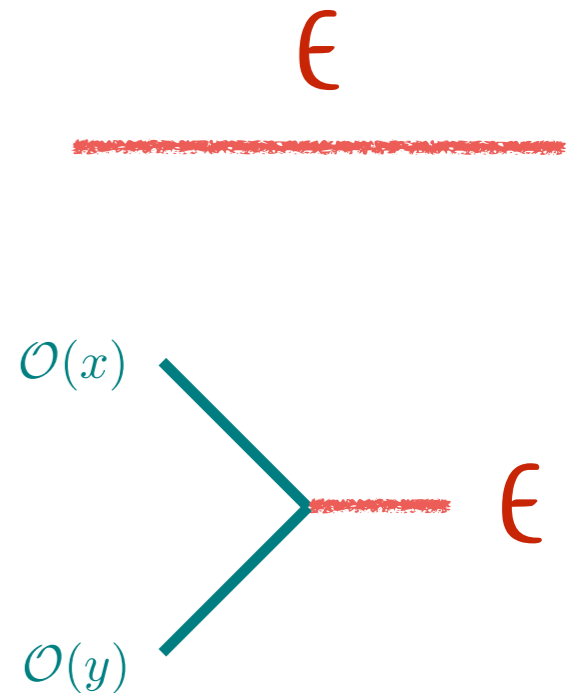
$$\langle \epsilon(z, \bar{z}) \epsilon(0, 0) \rangle \propto \frac{1}{c} z^2 \log(z\bar{z})$$

$$\mathcal{B}_{\Delta}^{(1)}(z_1, z_2) = \Delta \left[ \partial\epsilon(z_1) + \partial\epsilon(z_2) - 2 \frac{\epsilon(z_1) - \epsilon(z_2)}{z_1 - z_2} \right]$$



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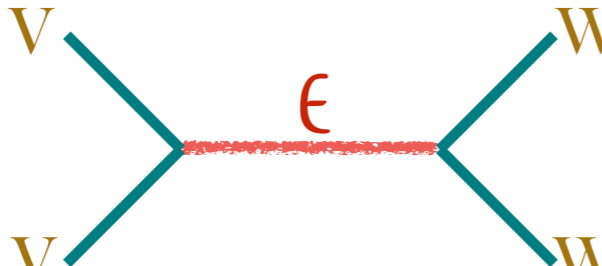


- “Feynman rules” for reparametrization field
- At *large c*, this gives a *systematic perturbation theory*

equivalent to energy-momentum exchanges

$$\langle \mathcal{B}_{\Delta_V}^{(1)} \mathcal{B}_{\Delta_W}^{(1)} \rangle =$$

$$\langle \epsilon(z) \epsilon(0) \rangle = \frac{6}{c} z^2 [\log z + \log \bar{z}]$$

$$\langle \mathcal{B}_{\Delta_V}^{(1)} \mathcal{B}_{\Delta_W}^{(1)} \rangle =$$


$$= \frac{2h_V h_W}{c} \left[ z^2 {}_2F_1(2, 2, 4, z) + 12 \frac{\bar{z}}{z} {}_2F_1(-1, -1, -2, z) {}_2F_1(1, 1, 2, \bar{z}) \right]$$

“global stress  
tensor block”

“global stress  
tensor shadow block”

*Thermal states:*

$$(z = e^{i(\tau+i\sigma)})$$

$$\langle \epsilon(\tau, \sigma) \epsilon(0, 0) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{c} \sin^2 \left( \frac{\tau + i\sigma}{2} \right) \log \left( 1 - e^{i \operatorname{sgn}(\sigma) (\tau + i\sigma)} \right)$$

## Thermal states:

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[FH-Rozali '18][Cotler-Jensen '18]

- Starting point for *EFT of quantum chaos* in 2d CFT
- E.g., captures Lyapunov growth of OTOC:

$$\frac{\langle W_1 W_2 V_3 V_4 \rangle_{\beta, \text{Eucl.}}}{\langle VV \rangle_{\beta, \text{Eucl.}} \langle WW \rangle_{\beta, \text{Eucl.}}} = 1 + \langle \mathcal{B}_{\Delta_W}^{(1)}(1, 2) \mathcal{B}_{\Delta_V}^{(1)}(3, 4) \rangle_{\beta} + \dots$$

OTOC: analytically continue to real time, with Euclidean separations held fixed

—> Get exponentially growing term if crossing branch cut of log

$$\frac{\langle W(t, \sigma) [V(0, 0), W(t, \sigma)] V(0, 0) \rangle_{\beta}}{\langle VV \rangle_{\beta} \langle WW \rangle_{\beta}} \sim \frac{1}{c} e^{\frac{2\pi}{\beta} (t - |\sigma|)}$$

[Shenker-Stanford '13][Roberts-Stanford '14][Maldacena-Shenker-Stanford '15]

*Reparametrization  
modes in  $d=2h$*

# Quadratic action

- Similar to  $d=2$ , stress tensor correlators are singular in  $d=2h$ . In particular:

$$\partial_\mu \langle T^{\mu\nu}(x) T^{\rho\sigma}(y) \rangle_{\text{conn.}} \propto C_T \left\{ \partial^\nu \partial^\rho \partial^\sigma - \frac{d-1}{d} \eta^{\nu(\rho} \partial^{\sigma)} \square - \frac{1}{d^2} \eta^{\rho\sigma} \partial^\nu \square \right\} \square^{\frac{d-2}{2}} \delta^{(d)}(x-y)$$

=> quadratic action for reparametrization  $x^\mu \rightarrow x^\mu + \epsilon^\mu$

$$W_2[\epsilon] = -\frac{1}{2} \int d^d x d^d y \partial_\mu \epsilon_\nu(x) \partial_\rho \epsilon_\sigma(y) \langle T^{\mu\nu}(x) T^{\rho\sigma}(y) \rangle_{\text{conn.}}$$

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$$\langle \epsilon^\mu(x) \epsilon^\nu(0) \rangle = \frac{1}{C_T} \left( \eta^{\mu\nu} - 2 \frac{x^\mu x^\nu}{x^2} \right) x^2 \log(\mu^2 x^2)$$



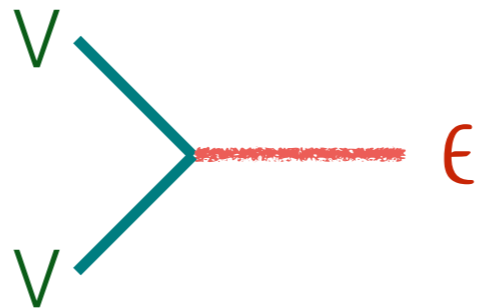
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- $\mu^2$  is a scale needed in order to write sensible expression. Related to *conformal anomaly*.
- For example, recall:  $\langle T_{\mu\nu}(x) T_{\rho\sigma}(0) \rangle \sim C_T \mathcal{D}_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}^{(4)} \frac{1}{(x^2)^{d-2}}$ 
  - $(x^2)^{-d+2}$  is too singular
  - Regularization introduces a scale

$$\langle \epsilon^\mu(x) \epsilon^\nu(0) \rangle = \frac{1}{C_T} \left( \eta^{\mu\nu} - 2 \frac{x^\mu x^\nu}{x^2} \right) x^2 \log(\mu^2 x^2)$$

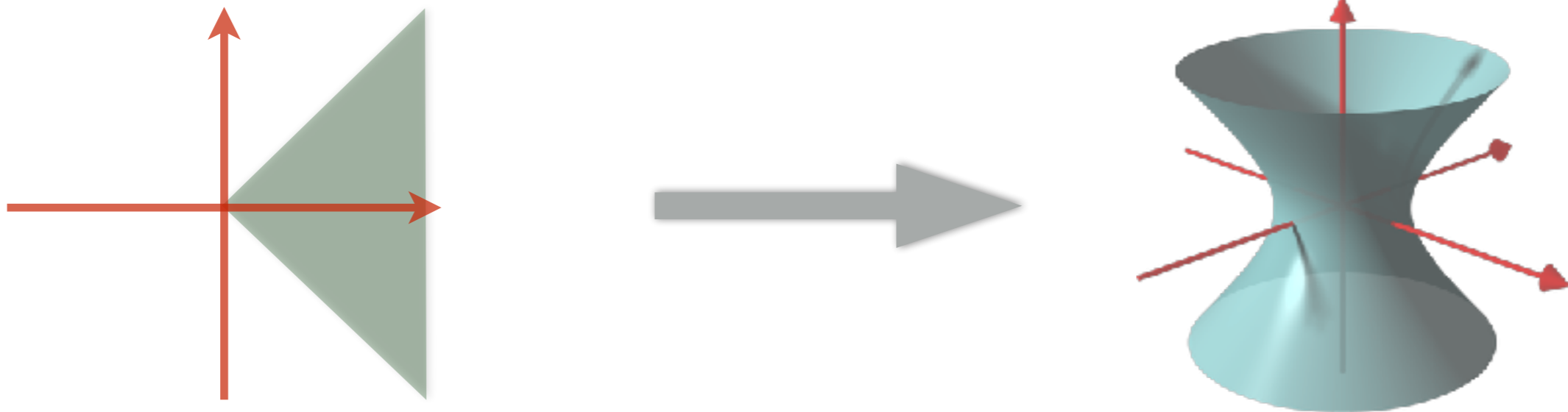
- Similarly, *bilinear couplings* are just reparametrized two-point functions:

$$\mathcal{B}_{\epsilon, V}^{(1)}(x, y) = \Delta_V \left\{ \frac{1}{d} (\partial_\mu \epsilon^\mu(x) + \partial_\mu \epsilon^\mu(y)) - 2 \frac{(\epsilon(x) - \epsilon(y))^\mu (x - y)_\mu}{(x - y)^2} \right\}$$



# Application: Rindler OTOCs

- Could again use this to study OTOCs
- In  $d > 2$ : Rindler wedge is conformal to  $\mathbb{H}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{R}$



- Can study *thermal physics on hyperbolic space* via conformal transformation

- Stress tensor contribution to *thermal 4pt function* on  $\mathbb{H}^{d-1}$  from a single  $\epsilon^\mu$  exchange:  $\langle \mathcal{B}_V^{(1)}(x_1, x_2) \mathcal{B}_W^{(1)}(x_3, x_4) \rangle$
- Analytic continuation to second sheet gives *OTOC*

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- Result:

$$\langle V(t, \mathbf{d}) W(0, 0) V(t, \mathbf{d}) W(0, 0) \rangle \sim \langle VV \rangle \langle WW \rangle \times \left[ 1 + \# e^{\lambda_L t + \mathbf{d}/v_B} \right]$$

$$\lambda_L = \frac{2\pi}{\beta}, \quad v_B = \frac{1}{d-1}$$

(agrees with [\[Perlmutter '16\]](#) )

*Remarks on  
EFT of chaos*

# Pole skipping

# Pole skipping

- Due to *relation between chaos and stress tensor*, one can already see some chaos characteristics in  $\langle TT \rangle$ 
  - $\langle T^{00}(\omega, k) T^{00}(-\omega, -k) \rangle$  has poles and zeros
  - Poles are continuation of hydro diffusion pole  $\omega + iD(\omega, k)k^2 = 0$
  - Zeros occur out of hydro regime, when  $\omega \sim T$
  - Observation: in complex frequency space poles and zeros collide — *the pole is “skipped”* — at the Lyapunov values:

$$(\omega, k)_{\text{skip}} = (i\lambda_L, iv_B)$$

[Grozdanov-Schalm-Scopelliti '17]

[Blake-Lee-Liu '18]



$$(\omega, k)_{\text{skip}} = (i\lambda_L, i\nu_B)$$

In CFT:

- E.g. d=2 CFT:  $\langle T(\omega, k)T(-\omega, -k) \rangle \propto c \frac{\omega(\omega^2 + 1)}{\omega - k}$

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More generally:

- Quadratic action:  $W_2[\epsilon] = \iint d^d\xi d^d\xi' \partial_\mu \epsilon_\nu \partial_\rho \epsilon_\sigma \langle T^{\mu\nu}(\xi)T^{\rho\sigma}(\xi') \rangle$

$$\Rightarrow \text{roughly: } \langle \epsilon\epsilon \rangle \sim \frac{1}{\partial\partial\langle TT \rangle_{\text{sing.}}}$$

- $\langle \epsilon\epsilon \rangle$  grows exponentially  $\leftrightarrow \partial\partial\langle TT \rangle_{\text{sing.}} \sim (\omega - i\lambda) \times f(\omega, k)$

- E.g.  $d=2$  CFT:  $\langle T(\omega, k)T(-\omega, -k) \rangle \propto c \frac{\omega(\omega^2 + 1)}{\omega - k}$

- In  $d > 2$  CFT:

$$\langle T^{00}(\omega_E, k)T^{00}(-\omega_E, -k) \rangle$$

$$\propto C_T \left( k^2 + \left( \frac{d}{2} \right)^2 \right) \left( k^2 + \left( \frac{d-2}{2} \right)^2 \right) \frac{\Gamma \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( \omega_E \pm ik + \frac{d-2}{2} \right) \right]}{\Gamma \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( \omega_E \pm ik - \frac{d-6}{2} \right) \right]} \Big|_{\text{reg.}}$$

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zeros

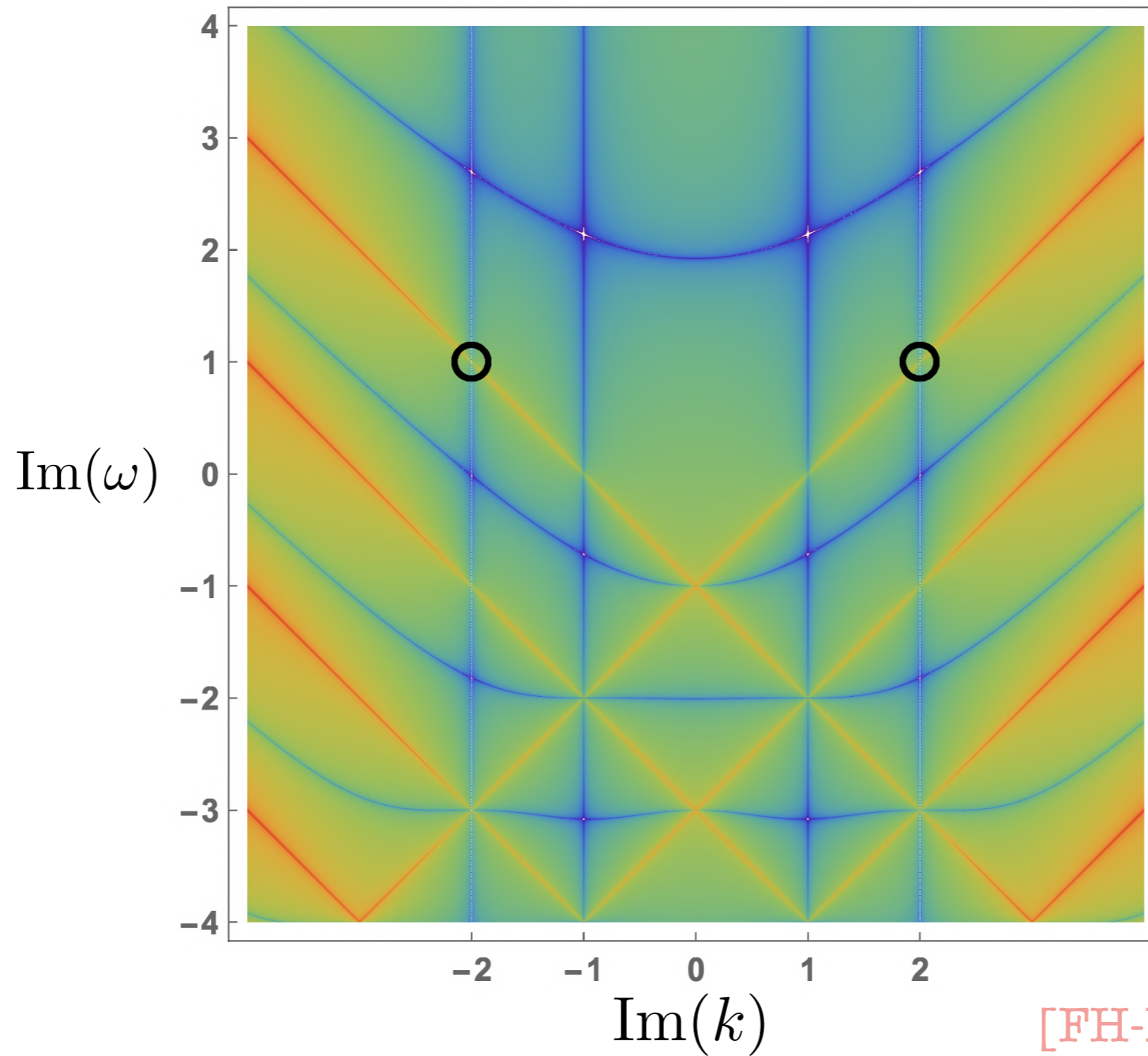
(special to stress tensor)

poles (and more zeros)

$$\langle T^{00}(\omega_E, k) T^{00}(-\omega_E, -k) \rangle$$

$$\propto C_T \left( k^2 + \left( \frac{d}{2} \right)^2 \right) \left( k^2 + \left( \frac{d-2}{2} \right)^2 \right) \frac{\Gamma \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( \omega_E \pm ik + \frac{d-2}{2} \right) \right]}{\Gamma \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( \omega_E \pm ik - \frac{d-6}{2} \right) \right]} \Big|_{\text{reg.}}$$

e.g.  $d=4$ :



[FH-Reeves-Rozali '19]

# Sub-maximal chaos (w.i.p.)

- Challenge: effective field theory for chaos with  $\lambda_L < \frac{2\pi}{\beta}$
- Stress tensor physics (identity block)  $\Rightarrow \lambda_L = \frac{2\pi}{\beta}$
- *Sub-maximal chaos* due to other exchanges

- Lowest twist Regge trajectory gives collective correction:  $\delta\lambda_L \sim j(0) - 2$  (“pomeron”)

[Costa-Goncalves-Penedones '12]

[Kravchuk-Simmons–Duffin '18]

- In bulk: stringy corrections  $\delta\lambda_L \sim \frac{\ell_{string}^2}{\ell_{AdS}^2}$

[Shenker-Stanford '15]

*Connection with  
conformal blocks*

# Conformal blocks

- Consider OPE in (Euclidean) CFT:

$$V(x)V(y) = \frac{1}{(x-y)^{2\Delta_V}} \sum_{\mathcal{O}} C_{VV\mathcal{O}} |x-y|^\Delta [\mathcal{O}(y) + \text{conformal descendants}]$$



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“OPE block”

- Conformal block decomposition of 4-point function:

$$\langle V(x_1)V(x_2)W(x_3)W(x_4) \rangle = \frac{1}{x_{12}^{\Delta_V} x_{34}^{\Delta_W}} \sum_{\mathcal{O}} C_{VV\mathcal{O}} C_{WW\mathcal{O}} G_{\Delta}^{(\ell)}(u, v)$$

$$u = \frac{x_{12}^2 x_{34}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2}, \quad v = \frac{x_{14}^2 x_{23}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2}$$

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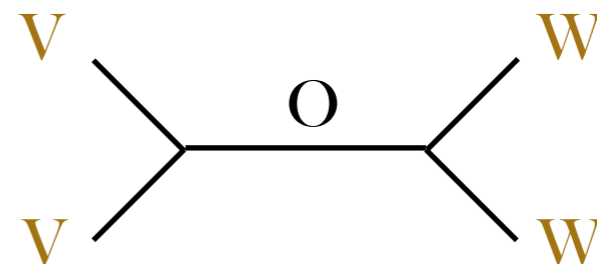
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“conformal block”

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- Can find (global) conformal blocks by solving *Casimir eq.:*

$$\mathcal{C}[SO(2, d)] G_{\Delta}^{(\ell)} = [\ell(\ell + d - 2) - \Delta(d - \Delta)] G_{\Delta}^{(\ell)}$$

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$$\mathcal{C}[SO(2, d)] G_{\Delta}^{(\ell)} = [\ell(\ell + d - 2) - \Delta(d - \Delta)] G_{\Delta}^{(\ell)}$$

- Casimir has two solutions with same eigenvalue:

$$G_{\Delta}^{(\ell)}(u, v)$$

*“physical” block*

$$G_{\tilde{\Delta}=d-\Delta}^{(\ell)}(u, v)$$

*“shadow” block*

- Distinguish them by short distance behavior:

$$G_{\Delta}^{(\ell)} \underset{u \rightarrow 0, v \rightarrow 1}{\sim} u^{\frac{\Delta-\ell}{2}} (1-v)^{\ell} + \dots$$

$$G_{d-\Delta}^{(\ell)} \underset{u \rightarrow 0, v \rightarrow 1}{\sim} u^{\frac{d-\Delta-\ell}{2}} (1-v)^{\ell} + \dots$$

# Shadow operators

- Shadow block can be thought of as the conformal block associated with a *shadow operator*  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(x) = \int d^d \xi \langle \tilde{\mathcal{O}}(x) \tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\xi) \rangle \mathcal{O}(\xi) \quad (\tilde{\Delta} = d - \Delta)$$

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- Define projector onto conformal multiplet of  $\mathcal{O}$ :

$$|\mathcal{O}\rangle = \int d^d \xi \mathcal{O}(\xi) |0\rangle \langle 0| \tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\xi)$$

Compute conformal block by projection onto  $\mathcal{O}$ :

$$G_{\Delta}^{(\ell)} \stackrel{?}{=} \langle V(x_1) V(x_2) | \mathcal{O}_{\Delta, \ell} | W(x_3) W(x_4) \rangle$$

- Define projector onto conformal multiplet of  $\mathcal{O}$  :

$$|\mathcal{O}\rangle = \int d^d\xi \mathcal{O}(\xi)|0\rangle\langle 0|\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\xi)$$

- Can understand *OPE block* from this:

$$\begin{aligned} V(x)V(y)|0\rangle \Big|_{\mathcal{O}+\text{global desc.}} &= |\mathcal{O}\rangle V(x)V(y)|0\rangle \\ &= \int d^d\xi \langle V(x)V(y)\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\xi)\rangle \mathcal{O}(\xi)|0\rangle \\ &\equiv \mathfrak{B}_{\mathcal{O}}(x,y)|0\rangle \end{aligned}$$

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Compute conformal block by projection onto  $\mathcal{O}$  :

$$G_{\Delta}^{(\ell)} \stackrel{?}{=} \langle \cancel{V(x_1)V(x_2)} | \mathcal{O}_{\Delta,\ell} | \cancel{W(x_3)W(x_4)} \rangle$$

Compute conformal block by projection onto  $\mathcal{O}$  :

$$F_{\Delta}^{(\ell)} \equiv G_{\Delta}^{(\ell)} + c_{\Delta,\ell} G_{\tilde{\Delta}}^{(\ell)} = \langle V(x_1)V(x_2)|\mathcal{O}_{\Delta,\ell}|W(x_3)W(x_4)\rangle$$

*“conformal partial wave”*

Compute conformal block by projection onto  $\mathcal{O}$  :

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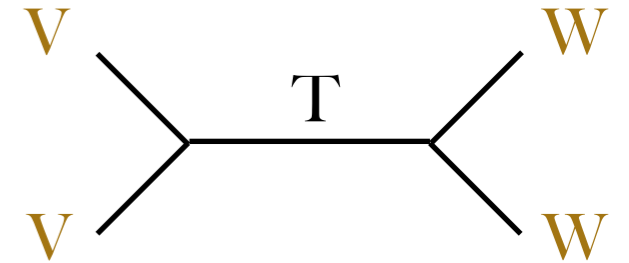
*“conformal partial wave”*

- The shadow block can be projected out by imposing correct short distance behavior

*“monodromy projection”*

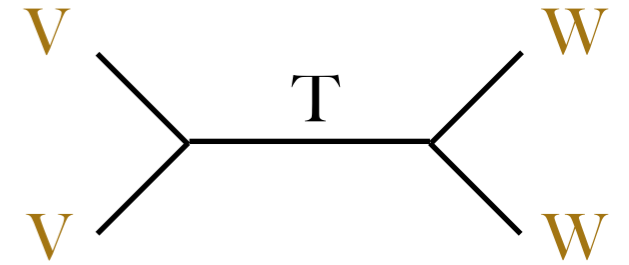
# Stress tensor block

- Interesting and universal physics is encoded by the *stress tensor block*
- Encodes graviton exchanges in AdS/CFT
- Probe pure gravity sector (gravitational scattering, bulk locality,...)
- Important example:  $V, W$  = twist operators



# Stress tensor block

- Interesting and universal physics is encoded by the *stress tensor block*



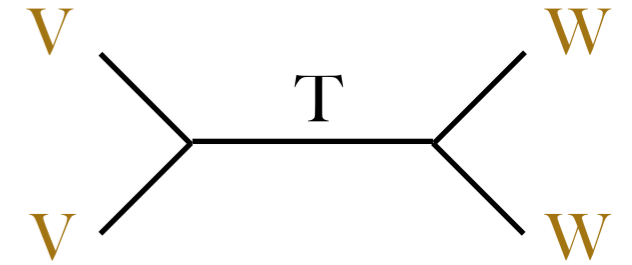
- Special feature of stress tensor shadow:

$$\tilde{T}_{\mu\nu}(x) \equiv \mathbb{P}_{\mu\nu}^{\rho\sigma} \partial_\rho \mathcal{E}_\sigma(x), \quad \mathcal{E}_\sigma(x) = \int d^d \xi K^{\alpha\beta}_\sigma(x - \xi) T_{\alpha\beta}(\xi)$$

symmetric-traceless projector

# Stress tensor block

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 symmetric-traceless projector

- Operator  $\mathcal{E}_\mu$  inherits 2-point function from  $\langle TT \rangle$ :

$$\langle \mathcal{E}^\mu(x) \mathcal{E}^\nu(0) \rangle \propto \left( \eta^{\mu\nu} - 2 \frac{x^\mu x^\nu}{x^2} \right) x^2 \log(\mu^2 x^2)$$

- Two-point function of  $\mathcal{E}_\mu$  follows from conf. symm.:

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- This is exactly the same as the two-point function of reparametrization fields,  $\langle \epsilon^\mu \epsilon^\nu \rangle$



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- This is exactly the same as the two-point function of reparametrization fields,  $\langle \epsilon^\mu \epsilon^\nu \rangle$

Calculations of stress tensor global blocks can be recast as reparametrization mode diagrams.

- EFT of the global stress tensor block  
(in thermal state: becomes EFT of maximal chaos)

Calculations of stress tensor global blocks can be recast 1-to-1 as reparametrization mode exchanges.

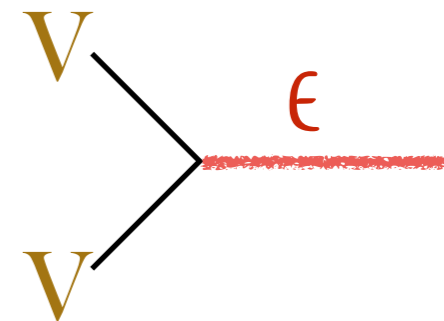
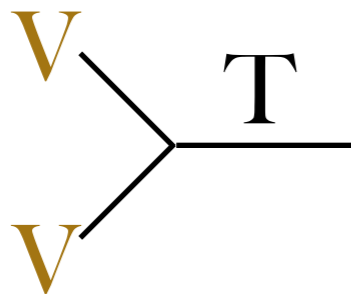
- Bilocal operators:

$$\mathfrak{B}_T(x, y) = \mathcal{B}_{\Delta_V}^{(1)}(x, y)$$

$$= \int d^d \xi \frac{\langle V(x)V(y)\tilde{T}(\xi) \rangle}{\langle V(x)V(y) \rangle} T(\xi) \quad \Delta_V \left[ \frac{1}{d} (\partial\epsilon(x) + \partial\epsilon(y)) - 2 \frac{(\epsilon(x) - \epsilon(y))^\mu (x - y)_\mu}{(x - y)^2} \right]$$

“stress tensor OPE block”

“reparam. mode vertex”



- Writing  $\tilde{T}_{\mu\nu} = \mathbb{P}_{\mu\nu}^{\rho\sigma} \partial_\rho \epsilon_\sigma$  and using conformal Ward identity, can show equivalence explicitly

Calculations of stress tensor global blocks can be recast 1-to-1 as reparametrization mode exchanges.

- Bilocal operators:

$$\mathfrak{B}_T(x, y) = \mathcal{B}_{\Delta_V}^{(1)}(x, y)$$

$$= \int d^d \xi \frac{\langle V(x)V(y)\tilde{T}(\xi) \rangle}{\langle V(x)V(y) \rangle} T(\xi) \quad \Delta_V \left[ \frac{1}{d} (\partial\epsilon(x) + \partial\epsilon(y)) - 2 \frac{(\epsilon(x) - \epsilon(y))^\mu (x - y)_\mu}{(x - y)^2} \right]$$

“stress tensor OPE block”

“reparam. mode vertex”

- lhs: have to compute *conformal integrals*
- rhs: EFT-type exchanges of  $\epsilon^\mu$

- For example, *stress tensor 4-point (global) block*:

$$F_{\Delta=d}^{(\ell=2)} = \langle \mathcal{B}_{\Delta_V}^{(1)}(x_1, x_2) \mathcal{B}_{\Delta_W}^{(1)}(x_3, x_4) \rangle \propto \left( \frac{4}{d} + \frac{1-v}{u} \log v \right)$$

—> Matches the known CPW associated with stress tensor exchanges in  $d=2,4,6$ .

[Dolan-Osborn '11] [FH-Reeves-Rozali '19]

- Note: calculation independent of  $d$

- In particular, consider  $d=2$ :

$$\langle \epsilon(z)\epsilon(0) \rangle = \frac{6}{c} z^2 [\log z + \log \bar{z}]$$

$$\langle \mathcal{B}_{\Delta_V}^{(1)} \mathcal{B}_{\Delta_W}^{(1)} \rangle = \frac{2h_V h_W}{c} \left[ z^2 {}_2F_1(2, 2, 4, z) + 12 \frac{\bar{z}}{z} {}_2F_1(-1, -1, -2, z) {}_2F_1(1, 1, 2, \bar{z}) \right]$$

“global block”

“shadow block”

- Can do *monodromy projection* at the level of  $\langle \epsilon \epsilon \rangle$  :
  - Simply drop the term  $\sim z^2 \log \bar{z}$
  - Useful in calculations
- Q: can one do this in  $d > 2$  ?

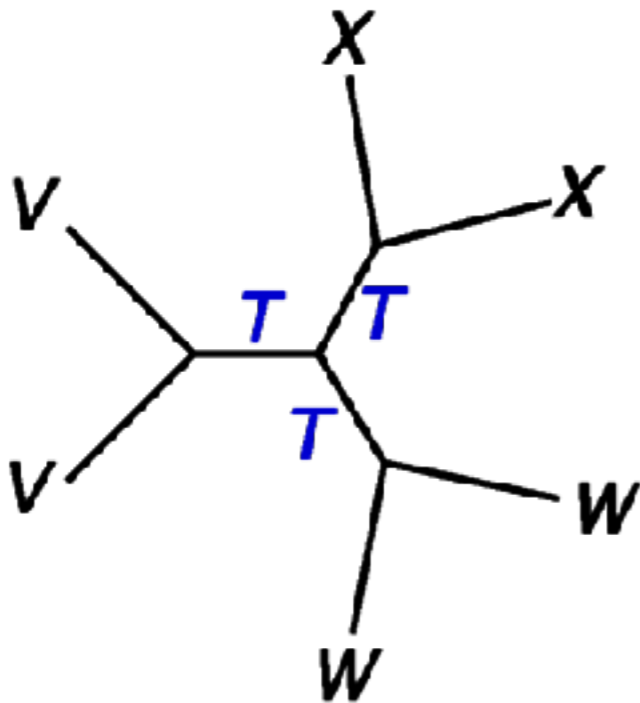
*Some explicit  
calculations*

# Six-point identity block in $d=2$

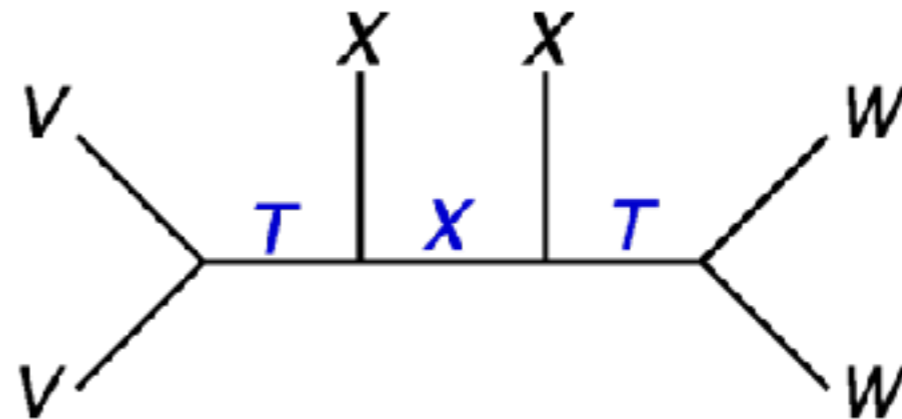
- *Higher-point conformal blocks* relevant for:
  - Entanglement entropy for multiple intervals (mutual information, ...)
  - Eigenstate thermalization
  - Chaos (higher-point OTOCs)
  - Generalized bootstrap?
  - ....

# Six-point identity block in $d=2$

- Two types of *OPE channels*:



- “star channel”
- Pure gravity sector
- Universal (in  $d=2$ )

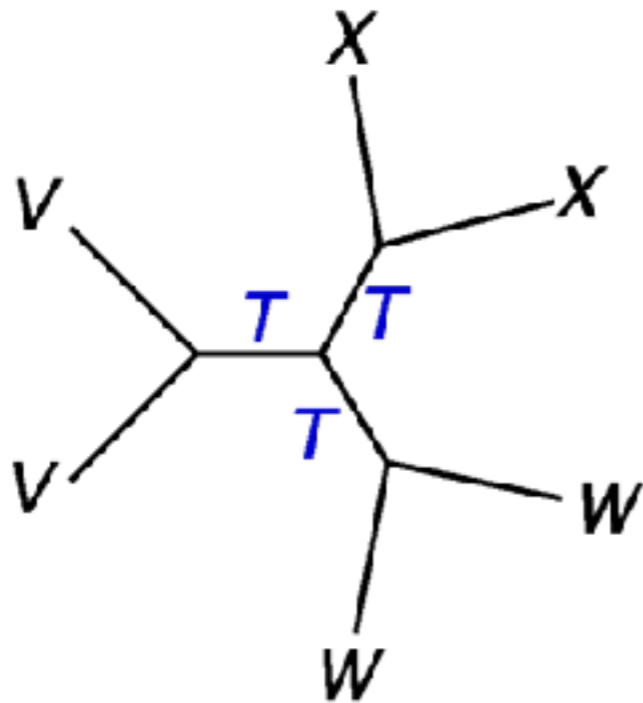


- “comb channel”
- Understood quite generally in terms of hypergeometric series/integrals [Rosenhaus '18]



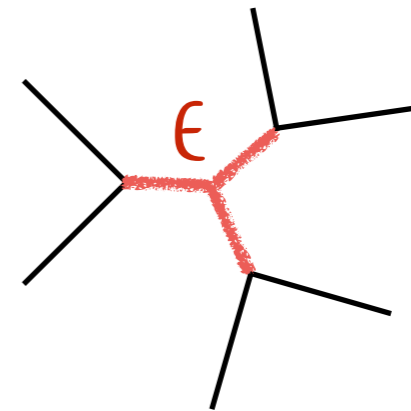
# Six-point identity block in d=2

- Two types of *OPE channels*:

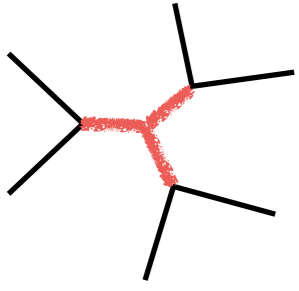


- “star channel”
- Pure gravity sector
- Universal (in d=2)

- Corresponds 1-to-1 to a cubic self-interaction of reparametrization:



$$\langle \mathcal{B}_V^{(1)}(1, 2) \mathcal{B}_X^{(1)}(3, 4) \mathcal{B}_W^{(1)}(5, 6) \rangle \sim \langle \epsilon \epsilon \epsilon \rangle$$



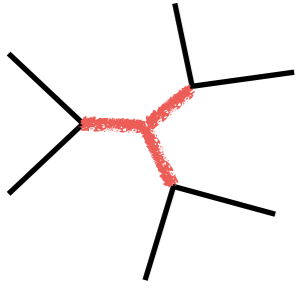
# Six-point “star channel” block

$$\langle \mathcal{B}_V^{(1)}(1, 2) \mathcal{B}_X^{(1)}(3, 4) \mathcal{B}_W^{(1)}(5, 6) \rangle \sim \langle \epsilon \epsilon \epsilon \rangle$$

- Easy! No need to do any conformal integrals, nested hypergeometric sums etc.
- Just need  $\langle \epsilon \epsilon \epsilon \rangle$ 
  - Follows by simple integration of identities like:

$$\langle \bar{\partial} \epsilon \bar{\partial} \epsilon \bar{\partial} \epsilon \rangle \propto \langle \tilde{T} \tilde{T} \tilde{T} \rangle \quad \langle \partial^3 \epsilon \partial^3 \epsilon \partial^3 \epsilon \rangle \propto \langle TTT \rangle$$

- *Monodromy projection*: only keep purely holomorphic part of  $\langle \epsilon \epsilon \epsilon \rangle$



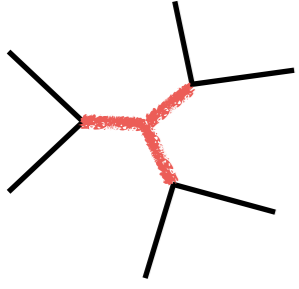
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- *Monodromy projection*: only keep purely holomorphic part of  $\langle \epsilon \epsilon \epsilon \rangle$

$$\langle \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2 \epsilon_3 \rangle_{phys.} \sim \frac{1}{c^2} z_{12} z_{23} z_{31} \left[ \text{Li}_2 \left( \frac{z_{12}}{z_{13}} \right) - \text{Li}_2 \left( \frac{z_{23}}{z_{13}} \right) \right]$$



# Six-point “star channel” block

$$\langle \mathcal{B}_V^{(1)}(1, 2) \mathcal{B}_X^{(1)}(3, 4) \mathcal{B}_W^{(1)}(5, 6) \rangle \sim \langle \epsilon \epsilon \epsilon \rangle$$

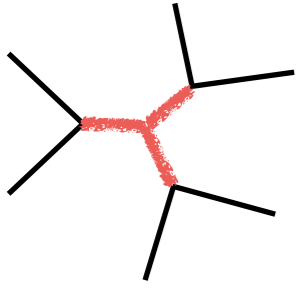
• Result:

$$G_{V,V;X,X;W,W}^{(T, \text{star})} = \langle \mathcal{B}_V^{(1)}(1, 2) \mathcal{B}_X^{(1)}(3, 4) \mathcal{B}_W^{(1)}(5, 6) \rangle$$

$$\sim \frac{h_V h_X h_W}{c^2} \left[ \mathcal{I}(z, u, v) + \mathcal{I}(z, v, u) + \mathcal{I}\left(\frac{1}{z}, \frac{u}{z}, \frac{v}{z}\right) + \mathcal{I}\left(\frac{1}{z}, \frac{v}{z}, \frac{u}{z}\right) \right]$$

$$\mathcal{I}(z, u, v) \equiv 1 + \frac{1}{(u-v)(1-z)} \left[ u \left( \frac{u(v-vz+z-u)}{1-u} + 2(z-v) \right) \log u \right. \\ \left. - (1-u) \left( \frac{(1-u)(zv+u)}{u} + 2(z-v) \right) \log(1-u) \right. \\ \left. - 2(uv-z)(\text{Li}_2(u) - \text{Li}_2(1-u)) \right]$$

$$z = \frac{z_{13} z_{24}}{z_{23} z_{14}}, \quad u = \frac{z_{13} z_{25}}{z_{23} z_{15}}, \quad v = \frac{z_{13} z_{26}}{z_{23} z_{16}}$$



# Six-point “star channel” block

$$\langle \mathcal{B}_V^{(1)}(1, 2) \mathcal{B}_X^{(1)}(3, 4) \mathcal{B}_W^{(1)}(5, 6) \rangle \sim \langle \epsilon \epsilon \epsilon \rangle$$

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$$\sim \frac{h_V h_X h_W}{c^2} \left[ \mathcal{I}(z, u, v) + \mathcal{I}(z, v, u) + \mathcal{I}\left(\frac{1}{z}, \frac{u}{z}, \frac{v}{z}\right) + \mathcal{I}\left(\frac{1}{z}, \frac{v}{z}, \frac{u}{z}\right) \right]$$

- Solves 6-point Casimir equations & boundary conditions
- Interesting transcendentality/branch cut structure
- Questions:
  - *6-point OTOCs?*  $\longrightarrow$  self interactions in the chaos EFT
  - *HHLLL block?*  $\longrightarrow$  ETH, entanglement/mutual information in excited states, ...

# Summary

- Single reparametrization mode exchanges are in 1-to-1 correspondence with *global stress tensor blocks*
- *Easy calculations*: never need to deal with conformal integrals, hypergeometric sums, Casimir PDEs etc.
- *Monodromy projection* can be done from the outset (at least in  $d=2$ )

Q: What about Virasoro blocks?

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Q: What about Virasoro blocks?

# Virasoro blocks in $d=2$



# Virasoro blocks in d=2

$$V(z_1)V(z_2)|_T \sim \frac{C_{VV1}}{|z_{12}|^{2(\Delta_V-1)}} [\mathbf{1} + \text{Virasoro descendants}]$$

- Virasoro identity block in AdS/CFT: gravitational scattering/graviton exchanges
- Proposal for generalization of shadow operator approach:

Virasoro identity blocks are computed by higher order exchanges of reparametrization fields.

$$z \rightarrow f(z) = z + \epsilon(z, \bar{z}) + \dots : \quad \mathcal{B}_h(z_1, z_2) = \left( \frac{\partial f(z_1) \partial f(z_2)}{(z_1 - z_2)^2} \right)^h$$

**Example: light-light block**

# Example: light-light block

- [Cotler-Jensen '18] already used  $\epsilon^\mu$  to reproduce the “eikonalization” of the *LLLL block*

$$\langle V(\infty)V(1)W(z)W(0) \rangle \quad \alpha \equiv \frac{\Delta_V \Delta_W}{c} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$$

- Ladder diagrams dominate in EFT

exponentiation!

$$\sim \alpha + \sim \alpha^2 + \sim \alpha^3 + \dots = e^{2\alpha z^2} {}_2F_1(2,2,4,z) + \dots$$

# Example: heavy-light block

- HHLL Virasoro block in  $d=2$ :  $\langle H(\infty)H(0)L(1)L(z, \bar{z}) \rangle$

$$\mathcal{V}_0 = \alpha^{\Delta_L} z^{-\frac{1-\alpha}{2}\Delta_L} \left( \frac{1-z}{1-z^\alpha} \right)^{\Delta_L} \quad \alpha \equiv \sqrt{1-\mu}, \quad \mu \equiv \frac{12\Delta_H}{c}$$

$$(\Delta_H \sim \mathcal{O}(c), \Delta_L \sim \mathcal{O}(1))$$

[Fitzpatrick-Kaplan-Walters '14]

# Example: heavy-light block

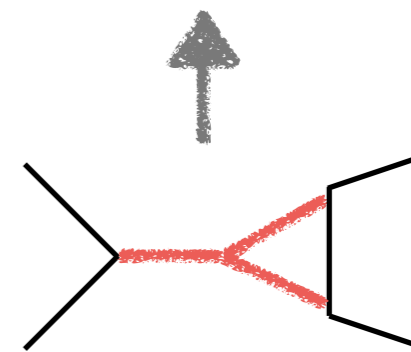
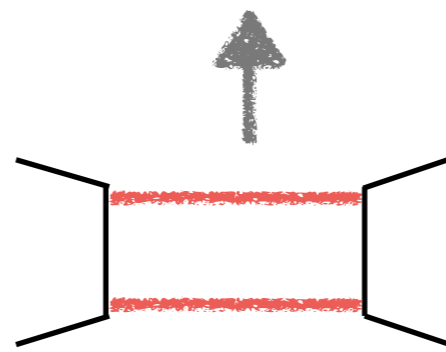
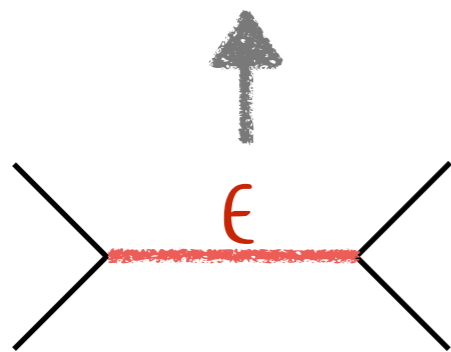
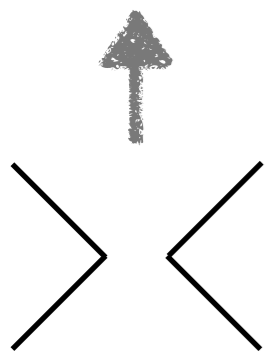
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$$(\Delta_H \sim \mathcal{O}(c), \Delta_L \sim \mathcal{O}(1))$$

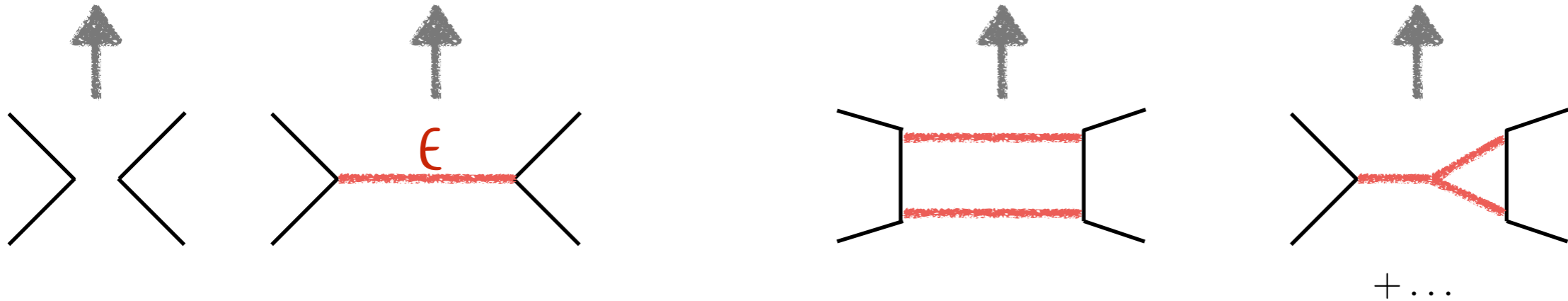
[Fitzpatrick-Kaplan-Walters '14]

$$\mathcal{V}_0 = 1 + \mu \Delta_L \left[ \frac{z+1}{4(z-1)} \log z - \frac{1}{2} \right] + \frac{\mu^2}{2} \left[ \Delta_L^2 \left( \frac{z+1}{4(z-1)} \log z - \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 + \frac{\Delta_L}{8} (\dots) \right] + \frac{\mu^3}{6} [\dots] + \dots$$



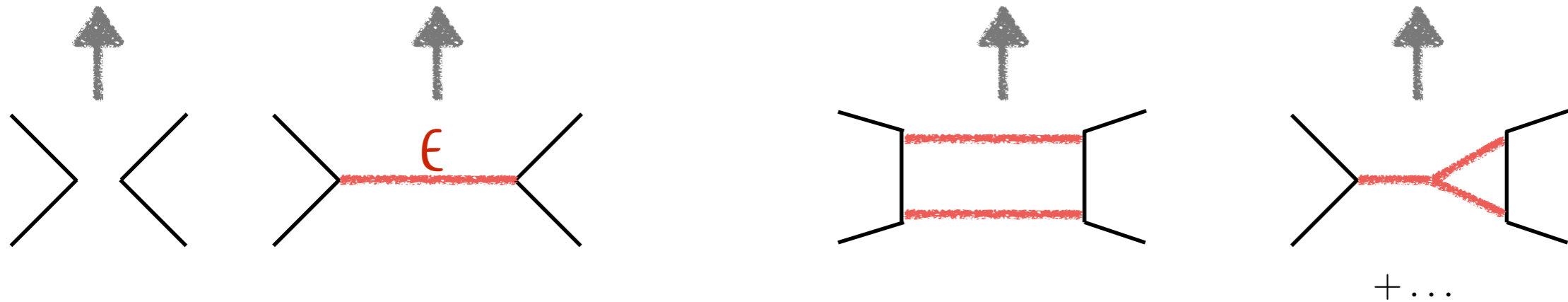
+ ...

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- Reparametrization mode diagrams: systematic way to construct HLL block order by order
- $1/c$  corrections computed by loops [Cotler-Jensen '18]

$$\mathcal{V}_0 = 1 + \mu \Delta_L \left[ \frac{z+1}{4(z-1)} \log z - \frac{1}{2} \right] + \frac{\mu^2}{2} \left[ \Delta_L^2 \left( \frac{z+1}{4(z-1)} \log z - \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 + \frac{\Delta_L}{8} (\dots) \right] + \frac{\mu^3}{6} [\dots] + \dots$$



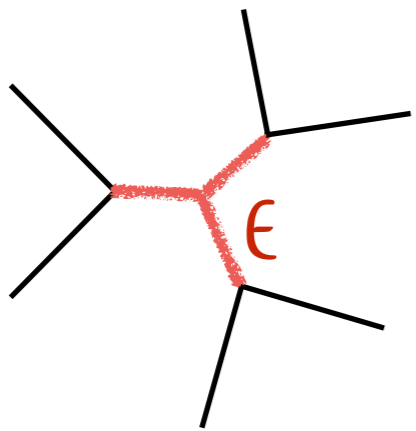
- Reparametrization mode diagrammatics: systematic way to construct HLL block order by order
- $1/c$  corrections computed by loops [Cotler-Jensen '18]
- Q: Do multi-T contributions to HLL exponentiate in  $d > 2$ ?  
[Fitzpatrick-Huang(-Li) '19]  
[Kulaxizi et al. '19] ...
- Reparametrization mode approach might be useful

# Six-point Virasoro identity block

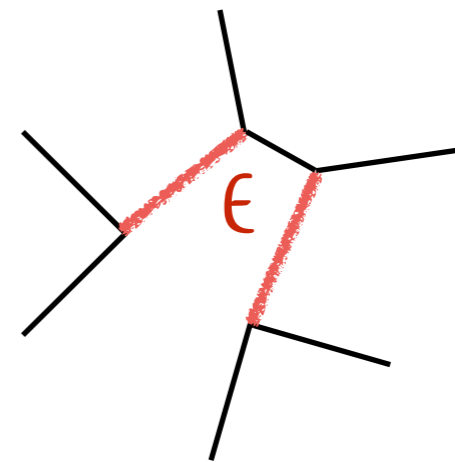


# Six-point Virasoro identity block

- Computed by *all connected diagrams* in  $\langle \mathcal{B}_V \mathcal{B}_X \mathcal{B}_W \rangle$
- Leading order at large  $c$ :



+



$$\langle \mathcal{B}_V^{(1)}(1, 2) \mathcal{B}_X^{(1)}(3, 4) \mathcal{B}_W^{(1)}(5, 6) \rangle \sim \langle \epsilon \epsilon \epsilon \rangle$$

$$\langle \mathcal{B}_V^{(1)}(1, 2) \mathcal{B}_X^{(2)}(3, 4) \mathcal{B}_W^{(1)}(5, 6) \rangle \sim \langle \epsilon \epsilon \rangle \langle \epsilon \epsilon \rangle$$

$$\mathcal{V}_{\text{id.}}^{(6)} = G^{(6, \text{global})} + G^{(6, \text{extra})} + \mathcal{O}(1/c)$$

# Six-point Virasoro identity block

$$\mathcal{V}_{\text{id.}}^{(6)} = G^{(6, \text{global})} + G^{(6, \text{extra})} + \mathcal{O}(1/c)$$

- Surprising: leading term  $\neq$  global block
- $\mathcal{V}_{\text{id.}}^{(6)}$  exponentiates when  $\Delta_V, \Delta_X, \Delta_Y \sim c^{2/3}$
- “Extra” term turns out to be the dominant one in Regge limit

$$\text{OTOC}_{\text{id.}}^{(6)} \approx \text{OTOC}^{(6, \text{extra})} \sim e^{\frac{2\pi}{\beta} (t - 2t_*)}$$

*Conclusion*

# Summary

- Can write down *systematic EFT for reparametrization modes* in CFT for  $d=2h$  perturbatively in  $1/c$

- Bilinear operators correspond to “*OPE blocks*”

$$\begin{array}{c} V \\ \diagdown \\ \phantom{V} \\ \diagup \\ V \end{array} \text{---} T = \begin{array}{c} V \\ \diagdown \\ \phantom{V} \\ \diagup \\ V \end{array} \text{---} \epsilon$$

- Reparametrization mode closely related to *shadow of T*
  - Explains why and how this theory computes conformal blocks, OTOCs etc.
  - 6-point block: exploit advantages to get new results
- Applications to thermal physics (OTOCS, ETH, ...)

# Outlook

- Compute more complicated blocks
- Hydrodynamic origin of quantum chaos?
  - Is there an EFT for *non-maximal chaos*?
- *Non-linear action* similar to Schwarzian ( $d=1$ ) and Alekseev-Shatashvili ( $d=2$ ) in  $d>2$  ?
- Understand monodromy projection at the level of the reparametrization mode theory in  $d>2$
- Odd dimensions?