

# Domain wall dCFTs in N=4 SYM

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Based on:

- C.K., D.L. Vu & K.Zarembo, ArXiv:2112.10438, JHEP02 (2022) 070
- C.K., D. Müller & K. Zarembo, ArXiv:2106.08116, JHEP09 (2021) 004
- M. de Leeuw, A. Ipsen, C.K, K. Vardinghus, M. Wilhelm, ArXiv:1705.03898, JHEP 08 (2017) 020
- M. de Leeuw, C.K. & K. Zarembo , ArXiv:1506.06958, JHEP 08 (2015) 098

DESY, Hamburg

Jan 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023

# AdS/CFT

$\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM in 4D  $\longleftrightarrow$  IIB strings on  $AdS_5 \times S^5$

- Conformal symmetry
- Supersymmetry
- Planar integrability

# AdS/dCFT

$\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM in 4D  
with 3D domain wall  $\longleftrightarrow$  IIB strings on  $AdS_5 \times S^5$   
with probe brane

- Conformal symmetry partially broken
- Supersymmetry partially or completely broken

# Motivation

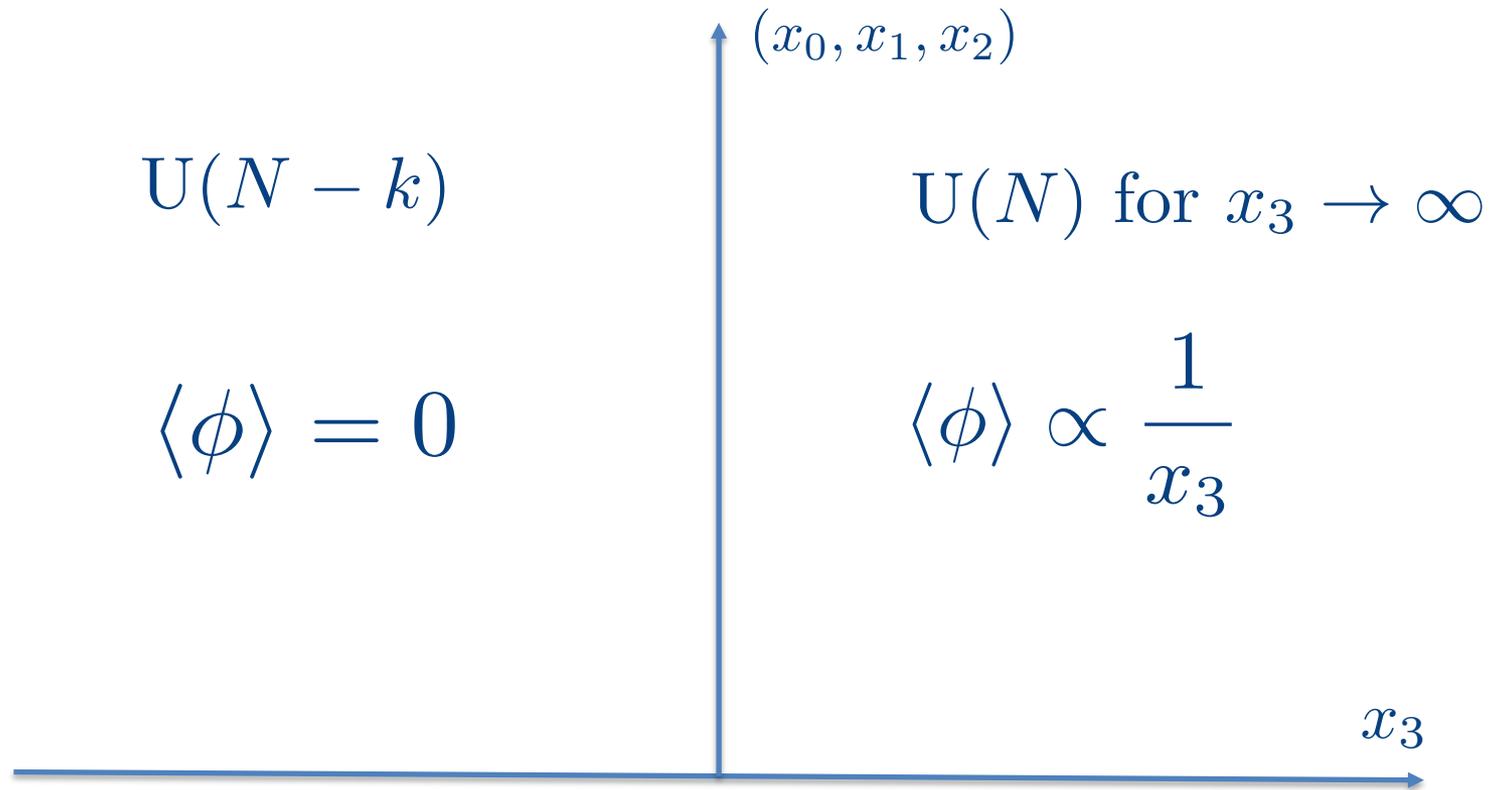
- Insights on the interplay between conformal symmetry, supersymmetry and integrability
- Tests of AdS/dCFT dictionary for set-ups with and without supersymmetry (so far all positive)
- Exact results for novel types of observables such as one-point functions, bulk-to-boundary correlators etc.
- Interesting connections to statistical physics: matrix product states and quantum quenches.
- Possible cross-fertilization with the boundary conformal bootstrap program.

# Plan of the talk

- I. The defect set-up and its parameters (field and string picture)
- II. One and two-point functions in the bulk
- III. The theory on the defect
- IV. Summary & Open problems

# The defect set-up

$$\mathcal{N} = 4 \quad \text{SYM}$$



# Classical Fields

Assume only  $x_3$ -dependence and  $x_3 > 0$ ,  $A_\mu^{\text{cl}} = 0$ ,  $\Psi_A^{\text{cl}} = 0$

Classical e.o.m.:  $\frac{d^2 \phi_i^{\text{cl}}}{dx_3^2} = [\phi_j^{\text{cl}}, [\phi_j^{\text{cl}}, \phi_i^{\text{cl}}]]$ .  
( $x_3$  is distance to defect)

Solution:  $\phi_i^{\text{cl}} = \frac{1}{x_3} \begin{pmatrix} (t_i)_{k \times k} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$

$$\phi_4^{\text{cl}} = \phi_5^{\text{cl}} = \phi_6^{\text{cl}} = 0$$

$$[t_i, t_j] = i \epsilon_{ijl} t_l$$

i.e.  $t_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$  constitute a  $k$ -dimensional irreducible representation of  $SU(2)$

Constable, Myers  
& Tafjord '99

Set-up  $\frac{1}{2}$  BPS (for appropriate choice b.c. for zero-modes, Gaiotto & Witten '08)

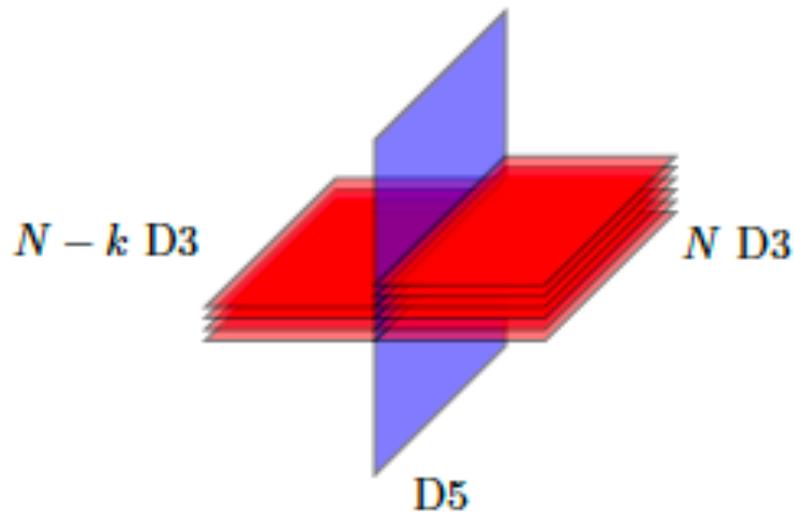
# Different cases

$$\phi_i^{\text{cl}} = \frac{1}{x_3} \begin{pmatrix} (t_i)_{k \times k} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$

- $k > 1$ : Nahm pole boundary conditions,  $\langle \phi \rangle \propto \frac{1}{x_3}$
- $k = 1$ : Limiting case,  $\langle \phi \rangle = 0$ , analytical continuation
- $k = 0$ : Completely different system. Extra fundamental fields on defect. Not the topic of this talk.

# AdS/dCFT --- The string theory side

	$x^0$	$x^1$	$x^2$	$x^3$	$x^4$	$x^5$	$x^6$	$x^7$	$x^8$	$x^9$
D3	×	×	×	×						
D5	×	×	×		×	×	×			



Geometry of D5 brane:  $AdS_4 \times S^2$

Karch & Randall '01,

Background gauge field:  $k$  units of magnetic flux on  $S^2$

# Novel features in dCFTs

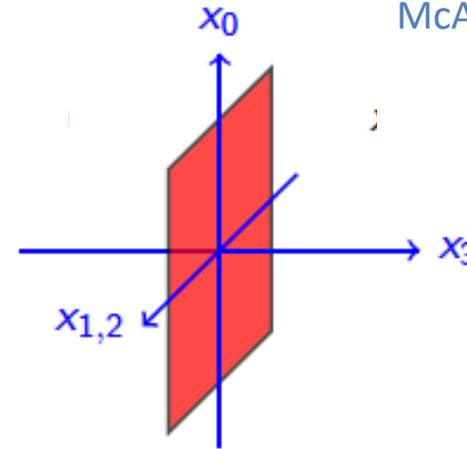
Cardy '84

McAvity & Osborn '95

Defect of co-dimension one

- One-point functions

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_{\Delta}^{\text{bulk}}(x) \rangle = \frac{C}{|x_3|^{\Delta}}$$



- Two-point functions between op's with different conf. dims.

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_{\Delta}^{\text{bulk}}(x) \mathcal{O}_{\Delta'}^{\text{bulk}}(x') \rangle = \frac{1}{|x_3|^{\Delta} |x'_3|^{\Delta'}} f(\xi), \quad \xi = \frac{|x_{\mu} - x'_{\mu}|^2}{|x_3| |x'_3|}$$

- Mixed correlators involving bulk and defect fields

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_{\Delta}^{\text{bulk}}(x) \hat{\mathcal{O}}_{\Delta'}^{\text{defect}}(\vec{x}') \rangle = \frac{\mu_{\Delta\Delta'}}{x_3^{\Delta-\Delta'} |x - (\vec{x}', 0)|^{2\Delta'}}$$

# One-point functions in the dCFT

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_\Delta^{\text{bulk}}(x) \rangle = \frac{C}{|x_3|^\Delta}$$

Cardy '84

McAvity & Osborn '95

Normalization given by:

$$\lim_{x_3 \rightarrow \infty} \langle \mathcal{O}_\Delta^{\text{bulk}}(y+x) \mathcal{O}_{\Delta'}^{\text{bulk}}(z+x) \rangle = \frac{\delta_{\Delta\Delta'}}{|y-z|^{2\Delta}}$$

Due to vevs scalar operators can have non-zero 1-pt fcts at tree-level

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_\Delta(x) \rangle = (\text{Tr}(\phi_{i_1} \dots \phi_{i_\Delta}) + \dots) \Big|_{\phi_i \rightarrow \phi_i^{\text{cl}} = \frac{t_i}{x_3}}$$

Tree level and one-loop 1-pt functions of *conformal* scalar operators can be found in closed form using the tools of integrability

deLeeuw, C.K. & Zarembo '15,

Buhl-Mortensen de Leeuw, C.K & Zarembo '16

de Leeuw, C.K & Mori, '17.

de Leeuw, C.K & Linardopoulos, '18.

C.K, Müller, Zarembo '20

An exact formula for any loop order can be found by bootstrapping arguments

Komatsu & Wang '20

Gombor & Bajnok '20

# Closed expression for one-point functions

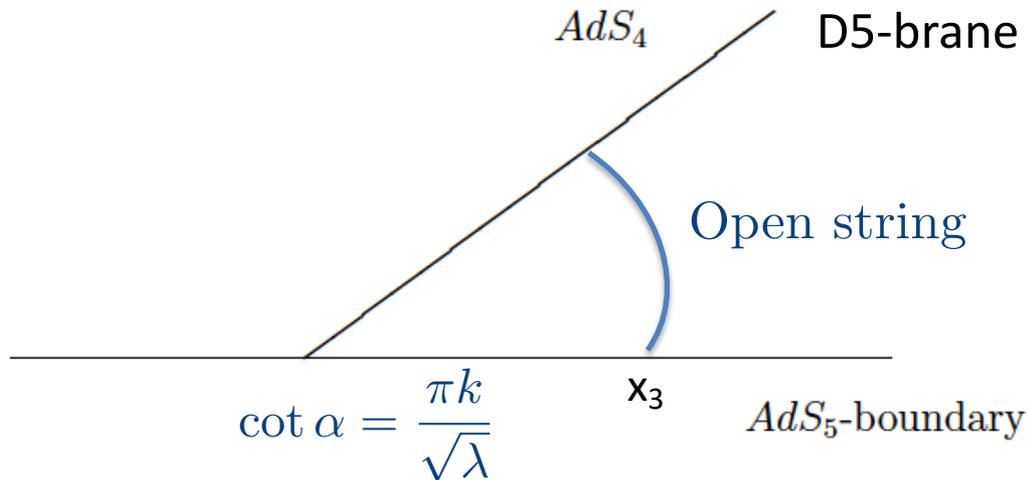
$k = 1$ , Leading order result:

C.K, Müller  
Zarembo '21

$$C = \frac{Q_1(0)Q_3(0)Q_4(0)Q_5(0)Q_7(0)}{Q_2(0)Q_2(\frac{i}{2})Q_4(\frac{i}{2})Q_6(0)Q_6(\frac{i}{2})} S \det G$$



# The string theory side



Probe brane system suggests a double scaling limit

$$\lambda \rightarrow \infty, k \rightarrow \infty, \frac{\lambda}{k^2} \text{ finite} \quad (N \rightarrow \infty)$$

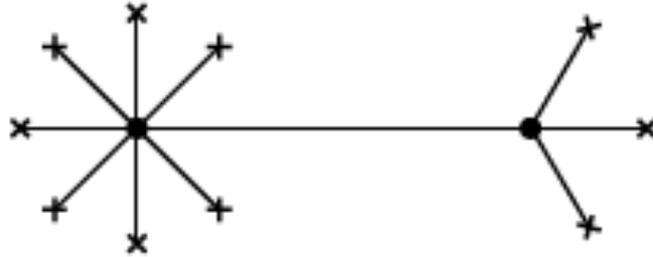
One can compare perturbative gauge theory to semi-classical string theory (or sugra).

Nagasaki & C.K., Semenoff & Buhl-Mortensen, de Leeuw  
Yamaguchi '12, Young '12, Ipsen, C.K. & Wilhelm '16

Supersymmetric localization provides exact answer for chiral primary Komatsu & Wang '20

# Two-point functions

New feature: Overlap between operators with different conf. dims.



de Leeuw, Ipsen,  
C.K., Vardinghus,  
Wilhelm `17

From general arguments

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_{\Delta}^{\text{bulk}}(x) \mathcal{O}_{\Delta'}^{\text{bulk}}(x') \rangle = \frac{1}{|x_3|^{\Delta} |x'_3|^{\Delta'}} f(\xi), \quad \xi = \frac{|x_{\mu} - x'_{\mu}|^2}{|x_3| |x'_3|}$$

Example

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \text{tr} Z^{J_1} \text{tr} Z^{J_2} \rangle_{\text{conn}} &= \frac{\xi}{\xi + 1} \langle \text{tr} Z^{J_1} \text{tr} \bar{Z}^{J_2} \rangle_{\text{conn}} \\ &= \frac{g_{\text{YM}}^2}{16\pi^2} \frac{J_1}{x_3^{J_1}} \frac{J_2}{x_3'^{J_2}} \sum_{\ell=0}^{\min\{k, J_1, J_2\}} \frac{\alpha_{\ell}^{J_1-1} \alpha_{\ell}^{J_2-1}}{\binom{2\ell+1}{\ell+1}} \frac{{}_2F_1(\ell, \ell + 1; 2\ell + 2; -\xi^{-1})}{\xi^{\ell} (\xi + 1)} \end{aligned}$$

$\langle \mathcal{O}_L \text{Tr}(\phi_1 \phi_2) \rangle$  can be expressed in terms of  $\langle \mathcal{O}_L \rangle$  Widén `17

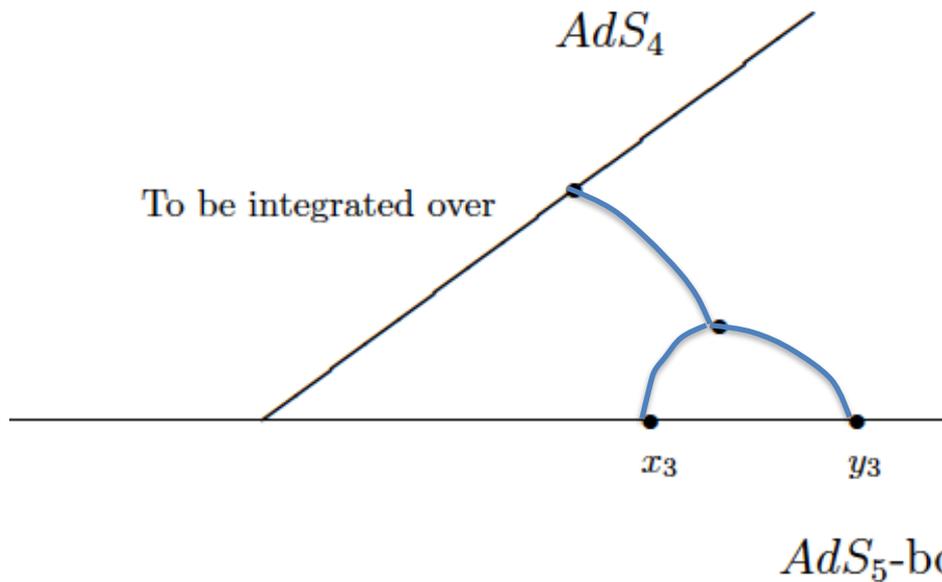
## Two-point functions --- string theory side

Prediction for string theory:

$$\lambda = g_{\text{YM}}^2 N \rightarrow \infty, \quad k \rightarrow \infty, \quad \frac{\lambda}{k^2} \text{ finite},$$

$$\langle \text{tr} Z^{J_1} \text{tr} \bar{Z}^{J_2} \rangle = \frac{\lambda}{16\pi^2} \frac{1}{N} \left( \frac{k}{2} \right)^{J_1+J_2-1} \frac{1}{x_3^{J_1} y_3^{J_2}} \frac{2\xi + 1}{(\xi + 1)\xi^2}$$

Relevant string theory computation: (Notice factor of  $\frac{1}{N}$  )



Open problem

# The perturbative program, $k > 1$

Buhl-Mortensen, de Leeuw,  
Ipsen, C.K., Wilhelm '16

Expand the  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  action around  $\phi^{\text{cl}}$

$$\phi_i = \phi_i^{\text{cl}} + \tilde{\phi}_i = \frac{t_i}{x_3} + \tilde{\phi}_i \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$

➔ Complicated mass matrix

- Mixing involving both flavour and colour
- Mass terms involving  $x_3$  dependence

$$A_\mu, \Phi_i, \Psi = \left[ \begin{array}{c|ccc} & k & N - k & \\ \hline x & y & y & y \\ y & z & z & z \\ y & z & z & z \\ y & z & z & z \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} k > 1 \\ N - k \end{array}$$

x and y fields become massive,  $m^2 \propto 1/x_3^2$

Described in terms of  $AdS_4$  propagators

The defect acts as a boundary of an  $AdS_4$  space

# The perturbative program, $k = 1$

C.K. Müller,  
Zarembo '20

OBS:  $\phi^{cl} = 0$

Can be understood by analytical continuation of the  $k > 1$  case

AdS propagators converge to Dirichlet/Neuman propagators

	$\Phi_{4,5,6}, A_{0,1,2}, c$	$\Phi_{1,2,3}, A_3$	
$x, y$	Dirichlet	Neumann	Supersymmetry conserved
$z$	no BCs	no BCs	

Propagators for complex scalars, e.g.  $Z = \phi_1 + i\phi_4$

$$D_\kappa(x, y) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \left( \frac{1}{|x - y|^2} + \frac{\kappa}{|\bar{x} - y|^2} \right), \quad \kappa = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{Neumann} \\ -1 & \text{Dirichlet} \\ 0 & \text{no BCs.} \end{cases}$$

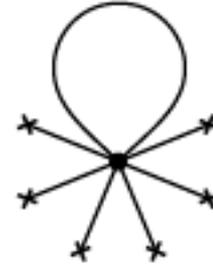
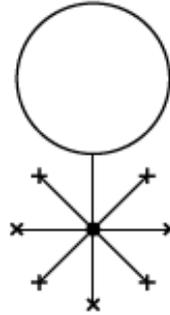
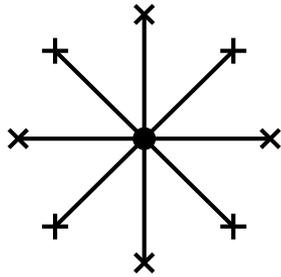
$$\bar{x} = (x_0, x_1, x_2, -x_3)$$

$$\langle X^{1a}(x) X^{b1}(y) \rangle = \frac{g_{\text{YM}}^2 \delta^{ab}}{2} \left( D_1(x, y) - D_{-1}(x, y) \right) = \frac{g_{\text{YM}}^2 \delta^{ab}}{4\pi^2 |\bar{x} - y|^2}, \quad \text{OBS: Finite at coinciding points}$$

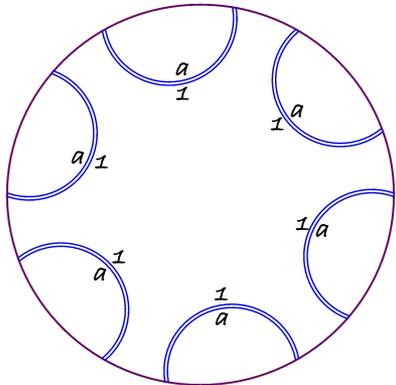
# Difference in diagrammatics

## One-point functions

$k > 1$  : Tree-level and one-loop order



$k = 1$  : Leading order (Large-N)



$$\Phi = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} k & N - k \\ \hline \Phi_{l,m} & \Phi_{n,a} \\ \hline \Phi_{a,n} & \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} k > 1 \\ N - k \end{array}$$

$$l = 0, 1, \dots, k - 1,$$

$$m = -l, \dots, l$$

$$n = 1, \dots, k$$

$$a = k + 1, \dots, N$$

Extracting boundary fields: Example

$$\langle \phi_{lm}^1(x) \phi_{lm}^1(y) \rangle \sim \frac{{}_2F_1(l-1, l, 2l, -\xi^{-1})}{(1+\xi)(\xi^l)} \frac{1}{x_3 y_3}, \quad \xi = \frac{|x-y|^2}{x_3 y_3}$$

$$\sim x_3^{2l} \frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{y}|^{2(l+1)}}, \quad \text{as } x_3 = y_3 \rightarrow 0_+$$

Hence,

$$\hat{\phi}_{lm}^1(\vec{x}) = \lim_{x_3 \rightarrow 0_+} x_3^{-l} \phi_{lm}^1(x), \quad \hat{\Delta}_{\phi_{lm}^1} = l + 1$$

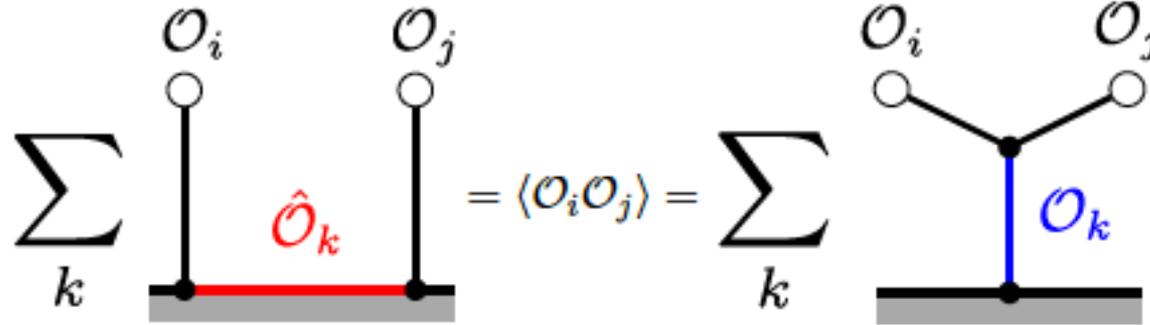
## Boundary fields

$\Phi$	$\hat{\Delta}$	$U(N - k)$	
$(\hat{\phi}_{1,2,3})_{lm}$	$l + 1$	singlet	
$(\hat{\phi}_{4,5,6})_{lm}$	$l + 2$	singlet	
$(\hat{A}_{\hat{\mu}})_{lm}$	$l + 2$	singlet	
$(\hat{\psi}_{1,2,3,4})_{lm}$	$l + \frac{3}{2}$	singlet	
$[\hat{\phi}_{1,2,3}]_{n,a}$	$\frac{k+1}{2}$	fundamental	$n = k, k + 1, \dots, N,$ $a = 1, 2, \dots, k$
$[\hat{\phi}_{4,5,6}]_{n,a}$	$\frac{k+3}{2}$	fundamental	
$[\hat{A}_{\hat{\mu}}]_{n,a}$	$\frac{k+3}{2}$	fundamental	
$[\hat{\psi}_{1,2,3,4}]_{n,a}$	$\frac{k+2}{2}$	fundamental	

NB:  $\hat{\mu} = 0, 1, 2$ ,  $A_3$  has been used to define gauge covariant fields

Gauge invariant operators can be constructed

# Bulk-boundary couplings by BOE



Liendo, Rastelli  
Van Rees '12

Liendo &  
Meneghelli. 16,

$$\text{OPE: } \mathcal{O}_i(x) \mathcal{O}_j(y) = \frac{M_{ij}}{|x-y|^{\Delta_i + \Delta_j}} + \sum_k \frac{\lambda_{ij}^k}{|x-y|^{\Delta_i + \Delta_j - \Delta_k}} C(x-y, \partial_y) \mathcal{O}_k(y)$$

$$\text{BOE: } \mathcal{O}_i(x) = \sum_j \frac{\mu_i^j}{(2x_3)^{\Delta_i - \Delta_j}} \hat{C}(x_3, \vec{\partial}) \hat{\mathcal{O}}_j(\vec{x})$$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_i(x) \mathcal{O}_j(y) \rangle = \frac{f_{ij}(\xi)}{(2x_3)^{\Delta_i} (2y_3)^{\Delta_j}} \quad \langle \mathcal{O}_i \rangle = \frac{C_i}{(2x_3)^{\Delta_i}}$$

$$\lim_{z_3 \rightarrow \infty} \langle \mathcal{O}_i(x+z) \mathcal{O}_j(y+z) \rangle = \frac{M_{ij}}{|x-y|^{\Delta_i + \Delta_j}}$$

## From OPE

$$f_{ij}(\xi) = \xi^{-\frac{\Delta_i + \Delta_j}{2}} \left[ M_{ij} + \sum_k \lambda_{ij}^k C_k \underbrace{F_{\text{bulk}}(\Delta_k, \Delta_i - \Delta_j, \xi)}_{\text{Bulk conformal block}} \right]$$

Structure constants of N=4 SYM from one- and two-point functions (1+2=3)

## From BOE

$$f_{ij}(\xi) = C_i C_j + \sum_k \mu_i^k \mu_{jk} \underbrace{F_{\text{bdy}}(\Delta_k, \xi)}_{\text{Boundary conformal block}}$$

Bulk-to-boundary couplings from one- and two-point functions

# Stress tensor and displacement operator

Improved  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM stress tensor

$$T_{\mu\nu}^{\text{scalars}} = \frac{2}{g_{YM}^2} \text{Tr} \left\{ -\frac{2}{3} (\partial_\mu \phi_i) (\partial_\nu \phi_i) + \frac{1}{3} \phi_i (\partial_\mu \partial_\nu \phi_i) + \frac{1}{6} g_{\mu\nu} \left( (\partial_\rho \phi_i)^2 + \frac{1}{2} [\phi_i, \phi_j]^2 \right) \right\}$$

Symmetric, traceless and conserved

$$T_{\mu\nu} = T_{\nu\mu}, \quad g^{\mu\nu} T_{\mu\nu} = 0, \quad \partial^\mu T_{\mu\nu} = 0$$

$$\langle T_{\mu\nu}(x) \rangle = 0$$

Displacement operator

$$\partial_\mu T^{\mu\perp}(x) = -D(\vec{x}) \delta(x_\perp)$$

$$D(\vec{x}) = \lim_{x_3 \rightarrow 0} -T^{\perp\perp}(\vec{x}, x_3)$$

# Displacement operator two-point function

C.K., Linardopoulos  
Volk

Leading order

$$\langle D(\vec{x})D(\vec{y}) \rangle = \lim_{x_3, y_3 \rightarrow 0_+} \langle T^{\perp\perp}(x)T^{\perp\perp}(y) \rangle = \frac{5 \cdot 2^6}{9\pi^2 g_{\text{YM}}^2} k(k^2 - 1) \frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{y}|^8}$$

Special case of the following result for  $x_3, y_3 > 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle T_{\mu\nu}(x)T_{\rho\sigma}(y) \rangle = & \frac{1}{|x - y|^8} \left\{ \left( X_\mu X_\nu - \frac{g_{\mu\nu}}{4} \right) \left( Y_\rho Y_\sigma - \frac{g_{\rho\sigma}}{4} \right) A(v) \right. \\ & + \left( X_\mu Y_\rho I_{\nu\sigma} + X_\mu Y_\sigma I_{\nu\rho} + X_\nu Y_\rho I_{\mu\sigma} - g_{\mu\nu} Y_\rho Y_\sigma - g_{\rho\sigma} Y_\mu Y_\nu + \frac{1}{4} g_{\mu\nu} g_{\rho\sigma} \right) B(v) \\ & \left. + I_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} C(v) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$A(v) = 4\alpha(6v^6 + 3v^4 + v^2), \quad B(v) = -\alpha(3v^6 - v^4 - 2v^2), \quad C(v) = \alpha v^2(v^2 - 1)^2$$

$$v = \frac{\xi}{1 + \xi}, \quad \xi = \frac{|x - y|^2}{4x_3 y_3}, \quad X_\mu = v \left( \frac{2x_3(x^\mu - y^\mu)}{|x - y|^2} - n_\mu \right), \quad Y_\mu = X_\mu|_{x \leftrightarrow y}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{8k(k^2 - 1)}{9\pi^2 g_{\text{YM}}^2}$$

## Other similar set-ups and results

	D3-D5	D3-D7	D3-D7	D2-D4 (IIA)
Susy	1/2 BPS	None	None	1/2 BPS
Brane geometry	$\text{AdS}_4 \times S^2$	$\text{AdS}_4 \times S^2 \times S^2$	$\text{AdS}_4 \times S^4$	$\text{AdS}_3 \times \text{CP}^1$
MPS $\rangle$	Integrable	Non-integrable	Integrable	Integrable
1-pt functions	Exact formula derived at tree level and one-loop. Bootstrapped to all orders. Finite size effects via TBA.	?	Exact formula at tree level. —	Exact formula at tree level. —
Match to strings:	yes	yes	yes	?

# Future directions

- Transport properties of the defect
- Other conf. data related to displacement operator two-point function
- Complete classification of boundary operators
- Bulk-boundary couplings from BOE and 2-pt functions
- Bootstrapping defect three-point functions

Thank you