

# FROM THERMAL 2pt FUNCTIONS TO CONFORMAL FISHNET GRAPHS

Tassos Petkou

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

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- Overview
- New results
- Outlook

Upcoming work with:

M. Karydas, S. Li and M. Villotte



⇒ CFTs at finite size/temperature

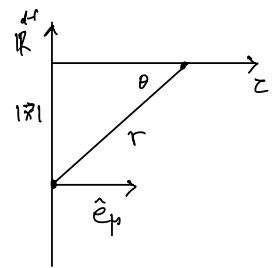
Even if one "knows fully" the  $CFT_d$  in the plane  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , it is not clear whether one "knows" as well the same  $CFT_d$  in  $S^1 \times \mathbb{R}^{d-1}$  i.e. at finite size/temperature.

\*  $d=2$  is special as  $S^1 \times \mathbb{R}^1$  is conformal to  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and the "knowledge" from the plane can be transferred to the "thermal geometry" with the help of the conformal anomaly.

In  $d > 2$  the problem shows up at the level of 2pt functions. For a quasiprimary scalar operator  $Q(x)$  with dimension  $\Delta_Q$ , the thermal 2pt function takes the general form:

$$\langle Q(x)Q(0) \rangle = \frac{1}{r^{\Delta_Q}} \sum_{\{Q_s\}} r^{\Delta_{Q_s}} C_s^{d/2-1}(\cos\theta) a_{Q_s}$$

- $x^\mu = (z, \vec{x})$ ,  $r = z^2 + |\vec{x}|^2$
- $\theta \in [0, \pi]$  is a polar angle in  $\mathbb{R}^{d-1}$   
 $z = r \cos \theta$ ,  $|\vec{x}| = r \sin \theta$
- $\beta = 1$  (mostly)
- $C_s^{d/2}(\cos \theta)$  are Gegenbauer polynomials



The sum goes over all operators that appear in the O.P.E. with spin- $s$  and dimension  $\Delta_s$ .

- $a_{Q_s} = \frac{s!}{2^s (d/2 - 1)_s} \frac{g_{QQQ_s}}{C_{Q_s}} b_{Q_s}$  → 2- and 3-pt function coefficients
- $\langle Q_s(x) \rangle_\beta = b_{Q_s} (\hat{e}_{\mu_1} \hat{e}_{\mu_2} \dots \hat{e}_{\mu_s} - \text{traces})$ ,  $\hat{e}_\mu = (\cos \theta, \vec{\theta})$



As the presence of finite size/temperature breaks translation invariance, the thermal one-point functions are non-zero.

$$T_{tt} + (d-1)T_{ii} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{x}^\mu \hat{x}^\nu \langle T_{\mu\nu} \rangle = \frac{d}{d-1} \left( \hat{e}_L \hat{e}_L - \frac{1}{d} \right) \langle T_{tt} \rangle \propto \int_0^{2\pi} \cos\theta \langle T_{tt} \rangle$$

⇒ The "thermal one-point functions"  $\alpha\alpha_s$  appear to be additional information that is required to "know" the thermal CFT<sub>d</sub>.

There is currently no thermal bootstrap.

⇒ What is known so far

### Massless free scalars

The standard calculation for the thermal 2pt function of a massless scalar field  $\phi(x)$  in  $d$ -dimensions is:

$$\langle \phi(x) \phi(0) \rangle \equiv g_d(r, \cos\theta) \quad \boxed{\omega_4 = 2\pi^4}$$

$$= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \int \frac{d^{d-1}\vec{p}}{(2\pi)^{d-1}} \frac{e^{-i\omega_n t} e^{-i\vec{p}\cdot\vec{x}}}{\omega_n^2 + \vec{p}^2}$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(d/2-1)}{4\pi^{d/2}} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{L}{[(t+k)^2 + \vec{x}^2]^{d/2-1}}$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(d/2-1)}{4\pi^{d/2}} \left[ \frac{1}{r^{d-2}} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{L}{(r^2+k^2+2rk\cos\theta)^{d/2-1}} + \frac{L}{(r^2+k^2-2rk\cos\theta)^{d/2-1}} \right) \right]$$

$$\frac{1}{(t+x^2-2tx)^{\alpha}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} t^n C_n(x)$$

$$g_d(r, \omega, \theta) = \frac{\Gamma(d/2-1)}{4\pi^{d/2}} \frac{1}{r^{d-2}} \left[ 1 + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} r^{d-2+2k} C_{2k}^{d/2-1}(\cos\theta) 2J(d-2+2k) \right]$$

- We notice the contribution from the infinite class of higher-spin conserved currents - even spin with dimensions  $\Delta_s = d-2+s : s=0, 2, 4, \dots$
- Their corresponding thermal one-point functions are:

$$a_{Q_s} = 2J(d-2+s)$$

### QUESTIONS:

- Where do these numbers come from?
- Could one follow the thermal one-point functions along the RG-flow?

Ultimately, thermal one-point functions give us info for the CFT spectrum

### Massive free scalars

One can do the corresponding calculation for massive free scalars in any  $d$ . CFT?

$$g_d(r, \omega, \theta; m) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \int \frac{d^d p}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{e^{-i\omega n \tau - i\vec{p} \cdot \vec{x}}}{\omega_n^2 + \vec{p}^2 + m^2}$$

$$g_d(r, u, \omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{m}{r}\right)^{d/2-1} K_\nu[mr]$$

zero temperature result

$$\begin{aligned} \nu &= d/2 - 1 \\ j &= e + i|\vec{x}| \\ \bar{j} &= e - i|\vec{x}| \end{aligned}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[ \left(\frac{m}{[(k-j)(k-\bar{j})]^{1/2}}\right)^\nu K_\nu[m[(k-j)(k-\bar{j})]^{1/2}] \right]$$

$$+ \left(\frac{m}{[(k+j)(k+\bar{j})]^{1/2}}\right)^\nu K_\nu[m[(k+j)(k+\bar{j})]^{1/2}]$$

From now on consider  $d = 2L + 1$ ,  $L = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

works for  $L=0 \Rightarrow d=1$

Bessels become polynomial.

- It is actually possible to obtain a thermal CFT

$$\left(\frac{m}{r}\right)^\nu K_\nu(mr) \approx \frac{1}{r^{d-2}} [L + (mr)^\# + \dots]$$

Such terms can be combined with the contributions from the thermal part to fix  $m \rightarrow m_\star \Rightarrow$  only powers of  $\left(\frac{r}{\beta}\right)$  appear.

Example:

In  $d=3$ , we find:

$$\langle \varphi^2 \rangle \propto m + 2 \ln(1 - e^{-m})$$

If we impose the absence of the  $\varphi^2$  operator we fix  $m$  to the famous value:

$$m_c = 2 \ln\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)$$

which gives the critical frequency of a quantum harmonic oscillator with zero free energy.

- It is also possible to expand the thermal part in Gegenbauer polynomials [one way to do it is using "inversion" methods].

The result for the even-spin higher spin currents is:

$$a(\Delta_s) = \frac{1}{2^{2s+\frac{d-3}{2}}} \frac{1}{s!} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{d}{2}-1)}{\Gamma(d-2+s)} \sum_{n=0}^{\frac{d-3}{2}+s} \frac{2^{n+1}}{n!} \frac{(d-3+2s-n)!}{(\frac{d-3}{2}+s-n)!} m^n L_{d-2+s-n}^{(e^{-m})}$$

For  $s=0$  we add the term

$$\tilde{a}(\Delta, 0) = \frac{1}{2^{\Delta-\frac{d-5}{2}}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} m^\Delta \Gamma(-\frac{\Delta}{2})$$

These are the thermal one-point functions of even-spin, higher spin operators with  $\Delta_s = d-2+s, s=0, 2, \dots$

## A novel observation

- Motivated by the curiosity to understand the intriguing mathematical formulae that give the thermal one-point functions, I focused on two of them:  $\langle \varphi^2 \rangle_d$  and  $\langle Q \rangle_d$   $\rightarrow$  spin-1 operator global  $U(1)$  charge.

These one-point functions arise as derivatives of thermal partition functions of complex free massive scalars.

An exactly calculable thermal partition function is the grand canonical partition function in the presence of imaginary chemical potential (equivalently: in the presence of the temporal component of a real gauge CS field).

We are in  $d = 2L+1$  dimensions:

- The calculation is:

$$Z_{gc}(\beta; m, \mu) = \int \mathcal{D}\bar{\varphi} \mathcal{D}\varphi e^{-S_E} = e^{-\mathcal{G} F_{gc}(\beta; m, \mu)}$$

$$S_E = \int_0^\beta dt \int d^L \vec{x} \left[ |\partial_t - i\mu \varphi|^2 + |\vec{\nabla} \varphi|^2 + m^2 |\varphi|^2 \right]$$

Standard scaling gives:

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_{gc}(\beta, m, \mu) &= \frac{V_{d-1}}{\beta^{d-1}} C_d(\beta m, \beta \mu) \\
 &= \frac{V_{d-1}}{\beta^{d-1}} C_d(z, \bar{z}) \\
 z &= e^{-\beta m - i\beta \mu}, \quad \bar{z} = e^{-\beta m + i\beta \mu}
 \end{aligned}$$

- We essentially want to calculate the thermal partition functions of the form:

$$Z_{gc} = \text{Tr} \left( e^{-\beta \hat{H} - i\beta \mu \hat{Q}} \right) \quad \hat{H} = \hat{H}_0 + m^2 \hat{\phi}^2$$

$$\hat{H} = V_{d-1} \int \frac{d^{d-1} \vec{p}}{(2\pi)^{d-1}} \omega_{\vec{p}} (\hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{p}} + \hat{b}_{\vec{p}}^\dagger \hat{b}_{\vec{p}} + 1)$$

$$\hat{Q} = V_{d-1} \int \frac{d^{d-1} \vec{p}}{(2\pi)^{d-1}} (\hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{p}} - \hat{b}_{\vec{p}}^\dagger \hat{b}_{\vec{p}})$$

$$\omega_{\vec{p}} = \sqrt{m^2 + \vec{p}^2}$$

The result is: ( $d = 2L + 1$ )

$$\ln Z_L = V_{d-1} \int \frac{d^{d-1} \vec{p}}{(2\pi)^{d-1}} \ln Z_0(m, \mu)$$

where  $Z_0(m, \mu)$  is the partition function of two harmonic oscillators in the presence of imaginary chemical potential:



$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{p}_1^2}{2} + \frac{\hat{p}_2^2}{2} + \frac{1}{2} m^2 (\hat{x}_1^2 + \hat{x}_2^2) - i\mu (\hat{p}_1 \hat{x}_2 - \hat{p}_2 \hat{x}_1)$$

$$\Rightarrow Z_0 = \text{Tr} e^{-\beta \hat{H}} = \frac{e^{-\beta \omega}}{(1 - e^{-\beta \omega - i\beta \mu}) (1 - e^{-\beta \omega + i\beta \mu})} = \frac{z \bar{z}}{(1-z)(1-\bar{z})}$$

This is the partition function of a relativistic  
bose gas in  $d = 2L+1$ ,  $L=0,1,2,\dots$ .

- \* We can take care of the divergence from the zero-point energies of the oscillators and we get a term of the form  $\# m^d$ .
- \* Note that the frequency of the harmonic oscillator becomes the mass parameter in higher dimensions.

We find:  $\boxed{V_{d-1} = e^{d-1}}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Lu } Z_L(\beta; m, \mu) &= \frac{2e^{2L}}{(4\pi)^L (L!)^2} \int_m^\infty d\omega \omega (\omega^2 - m^2)^{L-1} \text{Lu } Z_0(\beta; m, \mu) \\ &= \frac{e^2}{2\pi} \int_m^\infty dm' m' \text{Lu } Z_{L-1}(\beta; m', \mu) \\ &= (-2\alpha^2)^L \int_0^{|\bar{z}|} \frac{dr_1}{r_1} \text{Lu } r_1 \int_0^{r_1} \frac{dr_2}{r_2} \text{Lu } r_2 \dots \int_0^{r_{L-1}} \frac{dr_L}{r_L} \text{Lu } r_L \text{Lu } Z_0(z_L, \bar{z}_L) \\ &\quad Z_L = e^{-\beta m_L - i\mu \beta} \end{aligned}$$

$\alpha^2 = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\beta^2}$

We have written  $\psi_{Z_L}$  as an iterated integral.

This representation facilitates the proof of some previously unnoticed differential equation identities.

Define:

$$\hat{D} = \frac{1}{\beta^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial m^2} = \frac{1}{2\omega|z|} (z \partial_z + \bar{z} \partial_{\bar{z}})$$

$$\hat{L} = \frac{1}{\beta} i \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} = z \partial_z - \bar{z} \partial_{\bar{z}}$$

Then:

$$\hat{D} \cdot \psi_{Z_L} = -\frac{1}{\beta} \langle \hat{\Phi}^2 \rangle_L$$

$$\hat{L} \cdot \psi_{Z_L} = \langle \hat{Q} \rangle_L$$

For example:

$$\langle \hat{\Phi}^2 \rangle_0 \equiv \frac{1}{2} \langle \hat{X}_1^2 + \hat{X}_2^2 \rangle = -\frac{\beta}{2\omega|z|} \left( 1 + \frac{z}{1-z} + \frac{\bar{z}}{1-\bar{z}} \right)$$

$$\langle \hat{Q} \rangle_0 = \frac{\bar{z}}{1-\bar{z}} - \frac{z}{1-z}$$

We then obtain:

$$\hat{D} \cdot \langle \hat{\Phi}^2 \rangle_L = -L^2 \langle \hat{\Phi}^2 \rangle_{L-1}$$

$$\hat{L} \cdot \langle \hat{Q} \rangle_L = -L^2 \langle \hat{Q} \rangle_{L-1}$$

First order

evolution equations

??

Dyson/Magnon series

→ resummation!

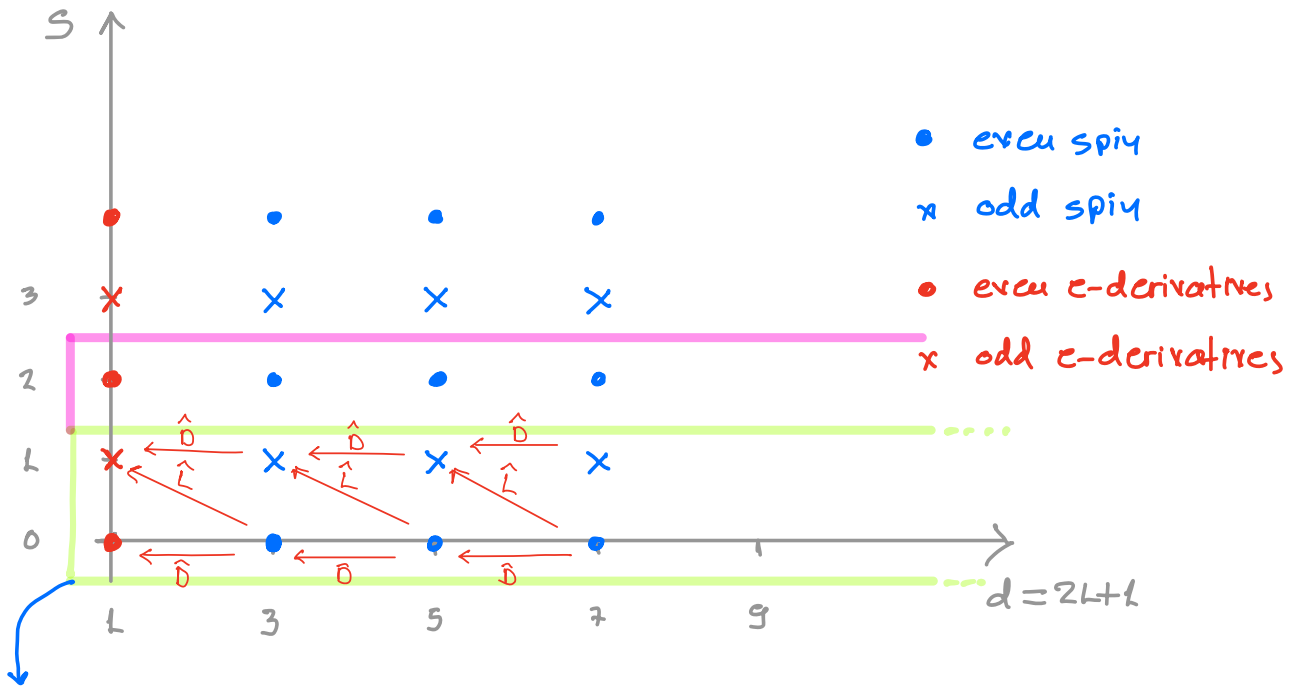
There is also a second-order equation:

$$z \bar{z} \partial_{\bar{z}} \partial_z = \frac{1}{4b^2} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial m^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mu^2} \right) = \frac{1}{4b^2} \partial^2$$

$$\partial^2 \langle \hat{\Phi} \rangle_L = -4(2b)^2 L \langle \hat{\Phi} \rangle_{L-1}$$

$$\partial^2 \langle \hat{Q} \rangle_L = -4(2b)^2 L \langle \hat{Q} \rangle_{L-1}$$

### RECAP



The partition functions yield the spin 0, 1, 2 operators

\* Notice the second order differential equation:

$$\left[ \frac{1}{L} z \bar{z} \partial_{\bar{z}} \partial_z - \frac{1}{2|z|} (z \partial_z + \bar{z} \partial_{\bar{z}}) \right] \psi z_L = 0$$

What are  $\langle \hat{\mathcal{Q}}^2 \rangle_L$  and  $\langle \hat{\mathcal{Q}} \rangle_L$  ?

After some calculations we find:

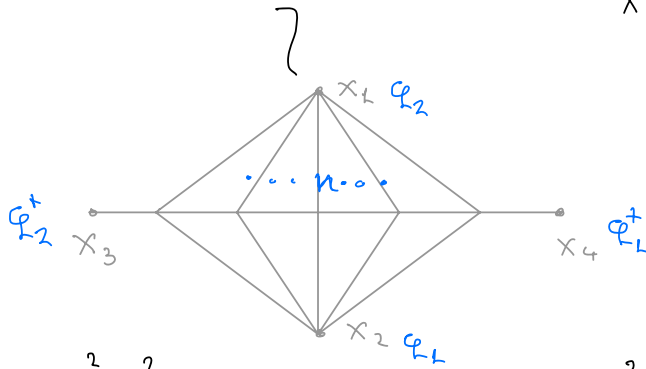
$$\langle \hat{\mathcal{Q}} \rangle_L = \mathcal{L} \sum_{n=0}^L \frac{(-1)^n (2L-n)! (2L+1)^n}{n! (L-n)!} [Li_{2L-n}(z) - Li_{2L-n}(\bar{z})]$$

$$Li_n(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{z^k}{n^k}$$

This is intimately related to fishnet graphs in  $d=4$ .

$$\mathcal{L} = \text{Tr}(\partial_\mu \Phi_i \partial_\mu \Phi_i^+ - (4\pi g)^2 \Phi_L \Phi_L \Phi_L^+ \Phi_L^+) // N_c \times N_c \text{ matrices}$$

$$\text{Tr} \langle \Phi_2^n(x_1) \Phi_L(x_2) \Phi_2^n(x_3) \Phi_L^+(x_4) \rangle = \frac{1}{x_{12}^{2n} x_{34}^{2n}} \Phi_n(z, \bar{z})$$



$$\left. \begin{array}{l} x_1 \rightarrow 0 \\ x_2 \rightarrow \infty \\ x_3 \rightarrow z \\ x_4 \rightarrow L \end{array} \right\} \text{CFT}$$

$$u = \frac{x_{1u}^2 x_{23}^2}{x_{12}^2 x_{3u}^2} = \frac{z\bar{z}}{(1-z)(1-\bar{z})}$$

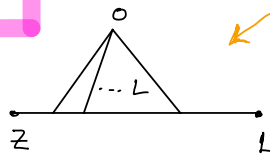
$$v = \frac{x_{13}^2 x_{2u}^2}{x_{12}^2 x_{3u}^2} = \frac{u}{z\bar{z}}$$

$$\Phi_n(z, \bar{z}) = \frac{(1-z)(1-\bar{z})}{z-\bar{z}} \sum_{n=L}^{2L} \frac{n! [2L+1]^{2L-n}}{L! (n-L)! (2L-n)!} [Li_n(z) - Li_n(\bar{z})]$$

With the appropriate normalizations, we can

show that:

$$\langle Q \rangle_L = \alpha^{2L} L! (z - \bar{z})$$

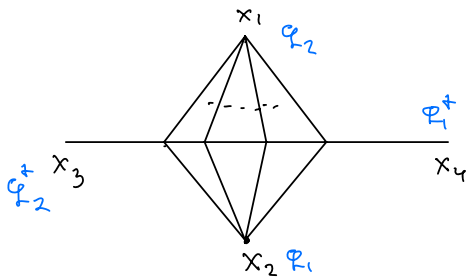


The corresponding results for  $\langle \varphi^2 \rangle_{L+1}$  are a surprise: We find.

$$\langle \varphi^2 \rangle_L = \alpha^{2L} \sum_{n=0}^L \frac{(-1)^n (2L-n)! (2\alpha|z|)^n}{n! (L-n)!} \left[ \text{Li}_{2L+1-n}(z) + \text{Li}_{2L+1-n}(\bar{z}) \right] + (-\alpha^2)^L \frac{L!}{2(2L+1)!} (2\alpha|z|)^{2L+1}$$

This result corresponds to 4pt graphs of a singular 2d fishnet model:

$$\mathcal{L} = \text{Tr} \left[ \varphi_1^+ (-\partial^2)^\omega \varphi_2 + \varphi_2^+ (-\partial^2)^{1-\omega} \varphi_1 + 4\pi f^2 \varphi_1 \varphi_2 \varphi_1^+ \varphi_2^+ \right]$$



→ in the limit  $\omega \rightarrow 1$

These ladder are proportional to:

$$\sum_{m=-\infty}^{+\infty} \int d^d v \frac{(z\bar{z})^{i\nu} \left(\frac{z}{\bar{z}}\right)^{m/2}}{(m^2/4 + v^2)^{L+k}}$$

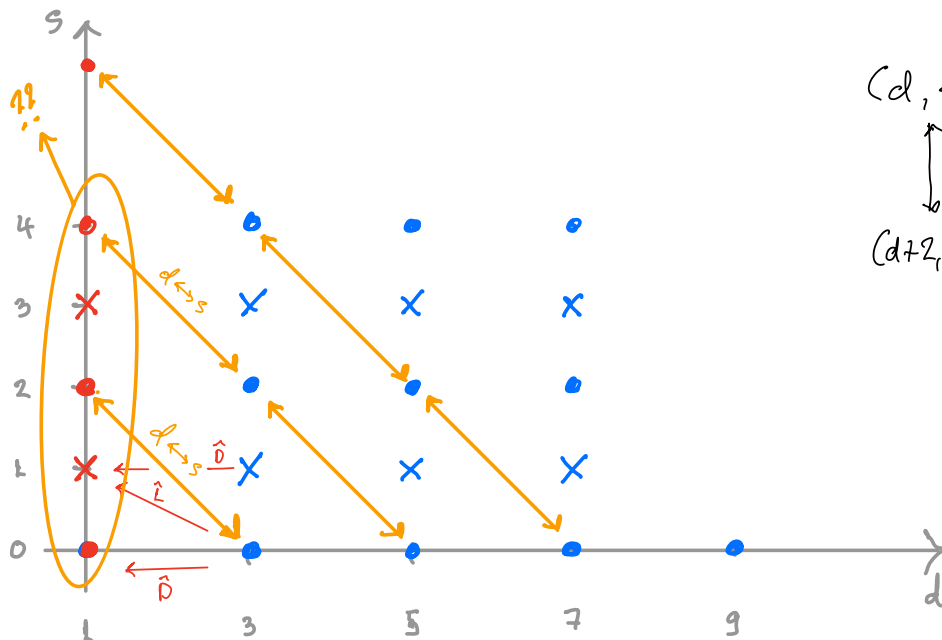


$$a_s^{(+)}(\mu) = \text{Li}_{d-2+s}(e^{-i\beta\mu}) + \text{Li}_{d-2+s}(e^{i\beta\mu}) = 2\text{Ci}_{d-2+s}(\mu)$$

$$a_s^{(-)}(\mu) = \text{Li}_{d-2+s}(e^{-i\beta\mu}) - \text{Li}_{d-2+s}(e^{i\beta\mu})$$

$$\text{Li}_s(\mu) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-i\beta k \mu}}{k^s} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos k \mu}{k^s} - i \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin k \mu}{k^s} = \text{Ci}_s(\mu) - i \text{Si}_s(\mu)$$

## Emerging pattern



- $d \leftrightarrow s$  duality

$$(d, s) \leftrightarrow (d-2, s+2)$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$(d+2, s-2)$$

Conjecture

"Thermal" one-point functions of free theories  
make a lattice space of 4pt fishnet graphs

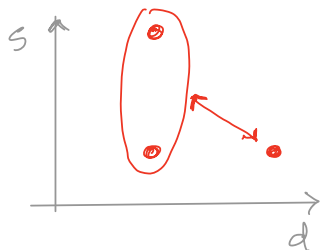
|| Fishnet graphs are assigned a spin  $-s$

$$d = 2L + 1 : L \leftrightarrow S : \text{Loop order} \leftrightarrow \text{spin}$$

|| The two types of fishnet graphs in  $d=2, d=4$  build the full lattice space through recursive relations

For  $m \neq 0$  the relationships become more complicated. From the known results for  $m \neq 0, \ell = 0$  we can verify:

$$a(d, s+2) = \frac{1}{(s+1)(s+2)} \left[ \frac{1}{d/2-1} a(d+2, s) + \frac{m^2}{(d/2+s)(d/2-1+s)} a(d, s) \right]$$



Important consequence:

The higher-spin "thermal" one-point functions correspond to linear combinations of multi-loop fishnet graphs.



## ➡ Further questions and remarks

- Why 4pt fishnet graphs correspond to "thermal" one-point functions?
- What is the physical meaning of the recursive relations and the differential equations?

### RECAP II

$$\langle \varphi(x) \varphi(b) \rangle = \frac{1}{r^{\Delta_\varphi}} \sum_{\mathcal{Q}_s} r^{\Delta_\varphi, \frac{d}{2}} C_s(\omega, \theta) \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{Q}_s}(\bar{z}, \bar{\bar{z}})$$

↙
↘

Conformal invariance  
at finite size/temperature

Fishnet graphs  
at all loops

→ The "thermal" two-point function resembles an all-loop resummation of fishnet graphs.

→ The recursive relations appear to be a consequence of the free e.o.m.

e.g.  $\partial^2 \varphi = m^2 \varphi \Rightarrow \partial_b^2 \varphi = -\vec{\partial}^2 \varphi + m^2 \varphi$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \langle \varphi \partial_b^2 \varphi \rangle &\simeq -\langle \varphi \vec{\partial}^2 \varphi \rangle + m^2 \langle \varphi^2 \rangle \\ \rightsquigarrow \langle T_{00} \rangle_d &\simeq \langle \varphi^2 \rangle_{d+2} + m^2 \langle \varphi^2 \rangle_d \end{aligned}$$

} can reduce everything to scalar one-pt functions

→ A geometric interpretation?

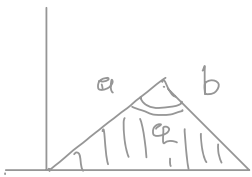
The "thermal" one-point functions for  $d=1$  are

$$\langle |x|^2 \rangle_\epsilon = -\frac{b}{2\omega|z|} \left( 1 + \frac{z}{1-z} + \frac{\bar{z}}{1-\bar{z}} \right)$$

$$\langle Q \rangle_\epsilon = \frac{\bar{z}}{1-\bar{z}} - \frac{z}{1-z}$$

$$z = \frac{b}{a} e^{i\varphi}$$

$$\bar{z} = \frac{b}{a} e^{-i\varphi}$$



$2ab \sin \varphi$

$a^2 - b^2$

In  $d=3$   $\langle Q \rangle_3 =$  Bloch-Wigner function

gives volume of an ideal tetrahedron in hyperbolic space.

$$\hat{D} \langle \hat{Q} \rangle_3 = \langle \hat{Q} \rangle_4 \dots$$

$$\hat{D} \langle \hat{Q} \rangle_5 = \langle \hat{Q} \rangle_3 \dots$$

hyper-hyperbolic volumes?

to be continued ...