

On the Virasoro Fusion Kernel at $c = 25$

Ioannis Tsiaras

Institut de Physique Théorique (IPhT), CEA Paris-Saclay

Gong Show,

Workshop on String Theory, Holography, and Black Holes,
ICTP, Oct. 2023.

based on: [\[2310.09334\]](#) w/ Sylvain Ribault .

Motivation

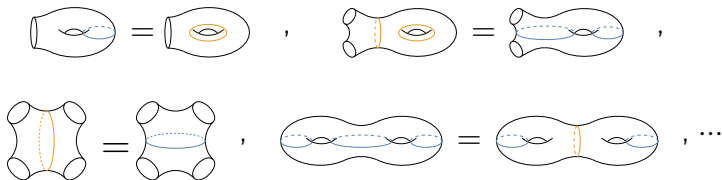
Conformal Bootstrap in 2d CFTs

- ▶ The basic **2d CFT data** at central charge c is a list of primary operators \mathcal{O}_i , along with their
 - ◊ scaling dimensions $\Delta_i = h_i + \bar{h}_i$, and spins $l_i = |h_i - \bar{h}_i|$
 - ◊ OPE coefficients C_{ijk} .

Motivation

Conformal Bootstrap in 2d CFTs

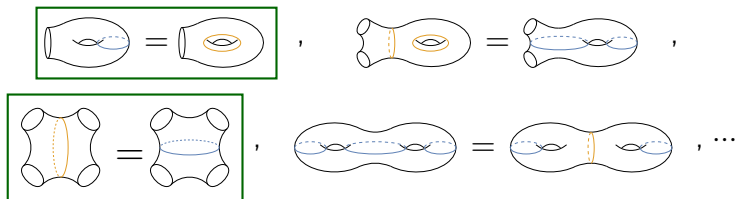
- ▶ The basic **2d CFT data** at central charge c is a list of primary operators \mathcal{O}_i , along with their
 - ◇ scaling dimensions $\Delta_i = h_i + \bar{h}_i$, and spins $l_i = |h_i - \bar{h}_i|$
 - ◇ OPE coefficients C_{ijk} .
- ▶ We are interested in a **class of $c > 1$ CFTs** that are:
 - ✓ unitary
 - ✓ compact
 - ✓ discrete
 - ✓ only Virasoro chiral algebra
- ▶ Solve **conformal bootstrap** equations on *Riemann surfaces*:



Motivation

Conformal Bootstrap in 2d CFTs


- ▶ The basic **2d CFT data** at central charge c is a list of primary operators \mathcal{O}_i , along with their
 - ◊ scaling dimensions $\Delta_i = h_i + \bar{h}_i$, and spins $l_i = |h_i - \bar{h}_i|$
 - ◊ OPE coefficients C_{ijk} .
- ▶ We are interested in a **class of $c > 1$ CFTs** that are:
 - ✓ unitary
 - ✓ compact
 - ✓ discrete
 - ✓ only Virasoro chiral algebra
- ▶ Solve **conformal bootstrap** equations on *Riemann surfaces*:



[Moore-Seiberg, '89]

Motivation


2d Conformal Bootstrap without the blocks

Let's focus on the case of the four-point functions: 

$$\sum_{h_s, \bar{h}_s} C_{s\text{-channel}}^2 |\mathcal{V}_s(z)|^2 = \sum_{h_t, \bar{h}_t} C_{t\text{-channel}}^2 |\mathcal{V}_t(1-z)|^2$$

Motivation

2d Conformal Bootstrap without the blocks

Let's focus on the case of the four-point functions: 


$$\sum_{h_s, \bar{h}_s} C_{s\text{-channel}}^2 |\mathcal{V}_s(z)|^2 = \sum_{h_t, \bar{h}_t} C_{t\text{-channel}}^2 |\mathcal{V}_t(1-z)|^2$$

Idea: Strip-off Virasoro blocks *completely* using the **fusion kernel**:

$$\mathcal{V}_s(z) = \int_{t'} \mathbf{F}_{s,t'} \mathcal{V}_{t'}(1-z)$$

Motivation

2d Conformal Bootstrap without the blocks

Let's focus on the case of the four-point functions: 

$$\sum_{h_s, \bar{h}_s} C_{s\text{-channel}}^2 |\mathcal{V}_s(z)|^2 = \sum_{h_t, \bar{h}_t} C_{t\text{-channel}}^2 |\mathcal{V}_t(1-z)|^2$$

Idea: Strip-off Virasoro blocks *completely* using the **fusion kernel**:

$$\mathcal{V}_s(z) = \int_{t'} \mathbf{F}_{s,t'} \mathcal{V}_{t'}(1-z)$$

One then gets

$$\rho_{t\text{-channel}}(h, \bar{h}) = \int_{h', \bar{h}'} \mathbf{F}_{h,h'} \mathbf{F}_{\bar{h}, \bar{h}'} \rho_{s\text{-channel}}(h', \bar{h}')$$

where ρ is an appropriate *distribution*.

The Virasoro fusion kernel in 2d

- ▶ It is known **exactly** for $c \in \mathbb{C} \setminus (-\infty, 1]$ due to [Ponsot-Teschner, 01'; Teschner-Vartanov; '12] :

$$\mathbf{F}_{\rho_s, \rho_t}^{(b)} \begin{bmatrix} p_2 & p_3 \\ p_1 & p_4 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\Gamma_b(Q \pm 2ip_s)}{\Gamma_b(\pm 2ip_t)} \prod_{f \in F} \prod_{\substack{\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^f \\ \sigma_f = \eta_t(f)}} \Gamma_b\left(\frac{Q}{2} + i \sum_{j \in f} \sigma_j p_j\right)^{\sigma_f} \\ \times \int_{\frac{Q}{2} + i\mathbb{R}} \frac{du}{i} \prod_{\substack{\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^E \\ \sigma_V = 1}} S_b\left(u + \sigma_E \frac{Q}{4} + \frac{i}{2} \sum_{j \in E} \sigma_j p_j\right)^{-\sigma_E},$$

where Γ_b, S_b are some special functions, and

$$h = \frac{c-1}{24} + p^2, \quad c = 1 + 6Q^2, \quad Q \equiv b + b^{-1}.$$

The Virasoro fusion kernel in 2d

- ▶ It is known **exactly** for $c \in \mathbb{C} \setminus (-\infty, 1]$ due to [Ponsot-Teschner, '01'; Teschner-Vartanov; '12] :

$$\mathbf{F}_{p_s, p_t}^{(b)} \begin{bmatrix} p_2 & p_3 \\ p_1 & p_4 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\Gamma_b(Q \pm 2ip_s)}{\Gamma_b(\pm 2ip_t)} \prod_{f \in F} \prod_{\substack{\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^f \\ \sigma_f = \eta_t(f)}} \Gamma_b\left(\frac{Q}{2} + i \sum_{j \in f} \sigma_j p_j\right)^{\sigma_f} \\ \times \int_{\frac{Q}{2} + i\mathbb{R}} \frac{du}{i} \prod_{\substack{\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^E \\ \sigma_V = 1}} S_b\left(u + \sigma_E \frac{Q}{4} + \frac{i}{2} \sum_{j \in E} \sigma_j p_j\right)^{-\sigma_E},$$

where Γ_b, S_b are some special functions, and

$$h = \frac{c-1}{24} + p^2, \quad c = 1 + 6Q^2, \quad Q \equiv b + b^{-1}.$$

- ▶ Its form is too complicated; so far practically used in asymptotic/special limits [Collier-Maxfield-Gobeil-Perlmutter, '18; Collier-Maxfield-Maloney-I.T., '19; I.T. '20; Numasawa-I.T., '22; Chandra-Collier-Hartman-Maloney, '22, ...]

A simpler expression at $c = 25$

- ▶ In [2310.09334] we show:

$$\mathbf{F}_{\rho_s \rho_t}^{(c=25)} \left[\begin{matrix} \rho_2 & \rho_3 \\ \rho_1 & \rho_4 \end{matrix} \right] = \frac{4\pi^2}{i} \frac{G(\pm 2ip_t)}{G(2 \pm 2ip_s)} \prod_{f \in F} \prod_{\substack{\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^f \\ \sigma_f = \eta_t(f)}} G(1 + i \sum_{j \in f} \sigma_j p_j)^{-\sigma_f} \\ \times \sum_{\epsilon = \pm} \frac{\epsilon}{\sqrt{d}} \prod_{\substack{\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^E \\ \sigma_V = 1}} \tilde{G}(\omega_\epsilon - \frac{i}{2} \sum_{j \in E} \sigma_j p_j)^{-\sigma_E},$$

where $G(x)$ is the Barnes G -function, $\tilde{G} \equiv \frac{G(1+x)}{G(1-x)}$, and d, ω_\pm are specific (trigonometric) functions of p_j 's.

A simpler expression at $c = 25$

- ▶ In [2310.09334] we show:

$$\mathbf{F}_{p_s p_t}^{(c=25)} \left[\begin{matrix} p_2 & p_3 \\ p_1 & p_4 \end{matrix} \right] = \frac{4\pi^2}{i} \frac{G(\pm 2ip_t)}{G(2 \pm 2ip_s)} \prod_{f \in F} \prod_{\substack{\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^f \\ \sigma_f = \eta_t(f)}} G(1 + i \sum_{j \in f} \sigma_j p_j)^{-\sigma_f} \\ \times \sum_{\epsilon = \pm} \frac{\epsilon}{\sqrt{d}} \prod_{\substack{\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^E \\ \sigma_V = 1}} \tilde{G}(\omega_\epsilon - \frac{i}{2} \sum_{j \in E} \sigma_j p_j)^{-\sigma_E},$$

where $G(x)$ is the Barnes G -function, $\tilde{G} \equiv \frac{G(1+x)}{G(1-x)}$, and d, ω_\pm are specific (trigonometric) functions of p_i 's.

- ▶ What does this buy us?

A simpler expression at $c = 25$

- ▶ In [2310.09334] we show:

$$\mathbf{F}_{\rho_s \rho_t}^{(c=25)} \left[\begin{matrix} \rho_2 & \rho_3 \\ \rho_1 & \rho_4 \end{matrix} \right] = \frac{4\pi^2}{i} \frac{G(\pm 2ip_t)}{G(2 \pm 2ip_s)} \prod_{f \in F} \prod_{\substack{\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^f \\ \sigma_f = \eta_t(f)}} G(1 + i \sum_{j \in f} \sigma_j p_j)^{-\sigma_f} \\ \times \sum_{\epsilon = \pm} \frac{\epsilon}{\sqrt{d}} \prod_{\substack{\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^E \\ \sigma_V = 1}} \tilde{G}(\omega_\epsilon - \frac{i}{2} \sum_{j \in E} \sigma_j p_j)^{-\sigma_E},$$

where $G(x)$ is the Barnes G -function, $\tilde{G} \equiv \frac{G(1+x)}{G(1-x)}$, and d, ω_\pm are specific (trigonometric) functions of p_i 's.

- ▶ What does this buy us?

- ★ ρ_t -channel = $\int_{\overline{h'}, \overline{h}}$ $\mathbf{F}_{h, h'} \mathbf{F}_{\overline{h}, \overline{h'}}$ ρ_s -channel implemented more easily
- ★ surprising connection with Painlevé VI non-linear diff equation
- ★ $c \leftrightarrow 26 - c$ duality in 2d CFTs!

A simpler expression at $c = 25$

- ▶ In [2310.09334] we show:

$$\mathbf{F}_{\rho_s \rho_t}^{(c=25)} \left[\begin{matrix} \rho_2 & \rho_3 \\ \rho_1 & \rho_4 \end{matrix} \right] = \frac{4\pi^2}{i} \frac{G(\pm 2ip_t)}{G(2 \pm 2ip_s)} \prod_{f \in F} \prod_{\substack{\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^f \\ \sigma_f = \eta_t(f)}} G(1 + i \sum_{j \in f} \sigma_j p_j)^{-\sigma_f} \\ \times \sum_{\epsilon = \pm} \frac{\epsilon}{\sqrt{d}} \prod_{\substack{\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^E \\ \sigma_V = 1}} \tilde{G}(\omega_\epsilon - \frac{i}{2} \sum_{j \in E} \sigma_j p_j)^{-\sigma_E},$$

where $G(x)$ is the Barnes G -function, $\tilde{G} \equiv \frac{G(1+x)}{G(1-x)}$, and d, ω_\pm are specific (trigonometric) functions of p_i 's.

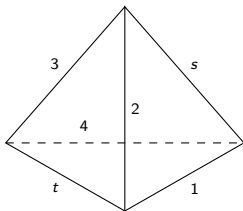
- ▶ What does this buy us?

- ★ ρ_t -channel = $\int_{\bar{h}', \bar{h}}$ $\mathbf{F}_{h, h'} \mathbf{F}_{\bar{h}, \bar{h}'}$ ρ_s -channel implemented more easily
- ★ surprising connection with Painlevé VI non-linear diff equation
- ★ $c \leftrightarrow 26 - c$ duality in 2d CFTs!

Thank you!

Extra slides

Tetrahedron notation:



Name	Notation	Value
Edges	E	$\{1, 2, 3, 4, s, t\}$
Pairs of opposite edges	P	$\{13, 24, st\}$
Faces	F	$\{12s, 34s, 23t, 14t\}$
Vertices	V	$\{14s, 12t, 34t, 23s\}$

Formulas will involve assigning signs to edges. We use the notations:

- ▶ $\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^E$ is an assignment of a sign $\sigma_i \in \{+, -\}$ for any $i \in E$, and $\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^F$ for a triple of signs on a face $f \in F$.
- ▶ $\sigma_E, \sigma_V, \sigma_f, \sigma_p$ for products of 6, 3, 3 or 2 signs on all edges, a vertex, a face, or two opposite edges.
- ▶ $\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^E | \sigma_V = 1$ for sign assignments whose products are 1 at each vertex. There are 8 such assignments, and they can be split in two halves according to $\sigma_E = \pm 1$.
- ▶ The indicator function $\eta_i \in \mathbb{Z}_2^F$ is $\eta_i(f) = 1$ if the edge i belongs to the face f , and $\eta_i(f) = -1$ otherwise.

Here is the set $\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^E | \sigma_V = 1$:

s	t	1	2	3	4	σ_E
-	+	-	-	+	+	-
-	+	+	+	-	-	-
+	-	-	+	+	-	-
+	-	+	-	-	+	-
+	+	-	-	-	-	+
+	+	+	+	+	+	+
-	-	-	+	-	+	+
-	-	+	-	+	-	+

The functions d, ω_{\pm} :

$$d = \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 \cosh(2\pi p_2) & -2 \cosh(2\pi p_3) & 2 \cosh(2\pi p_5) \\ -2 \cosh(2\pi p_2) & 2 & 2 \cosh(2\pi p_t) & -2 \cosh(2\pi p_1) \\ -2 \cosh(2\pi p_3) & 2 \cosh(2\pi p_t) & 2 & -2 \cosh(2\pi p_4) \\ 2 \cosh(2\pi p_5) & -2 \cosh(2\pi p_1) & -2 \cosh(2\pi p_4) & 2 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$e^{2\pi i \omega_{\pm}} = \frac{\sum_{ij \in P} 4 \sinh(2\pi p_i) \sinh(2\pi p_j) \mp \sqrt{d}}{2 \sum_{\substack{\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^E \\ \sigma_V=1}} \sigma_E e^{-\pi \sum_{k \in E} \sigma_k p_k}}.$$