



**The Abdus Salam
International Centre for Theoretical Physics**



2400-10

Workshop on Strongly Coupled Physics Beyond the Standard Model

25 - 27 January 2012

Carving out the Space of 4D CFTs

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Carving Out the Space of 4D CFTs

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January 25, 2012

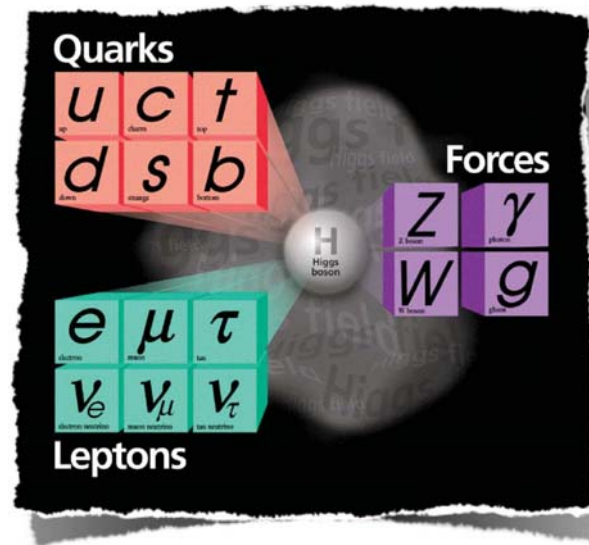
Workshop on Strongly Coupled Physics Beyond the Standard Model
ICTP – Trieste, Italy

Why Study Conformal Field Theories?

Many reasons to study Conformal Field Theories:

- ▶ QFTs often flow to conformal fixed points
- ▶ They describe quantum gravity via AdS/CFT
- ▶ They describe condensed matter systems
- ▶ ...

Why Study Conformal Field Theories?



- ▶ 4D CFTs could play a role in Beyond the Standard Model physics!
 - ▶ Walking/Conformal Technicolor [Holdom '81; ...]
 - ▶ Warped Extra Dimensions [Randall, Sundrum '99; ...]
 - ▶ Flavor Hierarchies [Georgi, Nelson, Manohar '83; Nelson, Strassler '00; DP, Simmons-Duffin '09; ...]
 - ▶ Conformal Sequestering [Luty, Sundrum '01]
 - ▶ Solution to $\mu/B\mu$ problem [Roy, Schmaltz '07; Murayama, Nomura, DP '07]
 - ▶ ...

Why Study Conformal Field Theories?

However, ideas often depend *crucially* on spectrum of operator dim's...

- ▶ Conformal Technicolor [Luty, Okui '04]:
(previously “Strong ETC”)
 - ▶ Higgs is CFT operator H , with couplings $\sim \left(\frac{1}{\Lambda}\right)^{d-1} H \bar{q}_i u_j$
 - ▶ Want $d = \dim(H) \sim 1$ to give top mass without low flavor scale Λ
 - ▶ Want $\dim(H^\dagger H) \gtrsim 4$ to solve hierarchy problem

Is this even possible???

Theories that don't work...

- ▶ Perturbative CFTs: $\dim(H) = 1 + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$, $\dim(H^\dagger H) = 2 + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$
- ▶ Large-N CFTs: $\dim(H^\dagger H) = 2 \dim(H) + \mathcal{O}(1/N^2)$

A Way Forward...

[Rattazzi, Rychkov, Tonni, Vichi '08]:

Crossing Symmetry + Unitarity leads to *bounds* on operator dimensions!

Method then extended to:

- ▶ Bounds in $\mathcal{N} = 1$ Superconformal Theories
[DP, Simmons-Duffin '10; Vichi '11]
- ▶ Bounds in the presence of global symmetries
[Rattazzi, Rychkov, Vichi '10; Vichi '11]
- ▶ Bounds on various operator product expansion coefficients
 - ▶ Scalar 3pt functions [Caracciolo, Rychkov '09]
 - ▶ Flavor Symmetry Currents [DP, Simmons-Duffin '10]
 - ▶ Stress Tensor \rightarrow Bounds on central charge c
[DP, Simmons-Duffin '10; Rattazzi, Rychkov, Vichi '10; Vichi '11]

New methods and latest results in [DP, Simmons-Duffin, Vichi '11]

Outline

- 1 CFT Review
- 2 Bounds from Crossing Relations
- 3 Latest Results

CFT Review: Algebra and Primary Operators

The conformal algebra $SO(4, 2)$ contains:

- ▶ Translations P^a and rotations M^{ab}
- ▶ Dilatations D (scale transformations)
- ▶ Special conformal generators K^a (inv. \rightarrow trans. \rightarrow inv.)

$$[K^a, P^b] = 2\eta^{ab}D - 2M^{ab}$$

- ▶ *Primary* operators $\mathcal{O}(0)$ are defined by $[K^a, \mathcal{O}(0)] = 0$
- ▶ *Descendants* obtained using $[P^a, \mathcal{O}(0)] = \partial^a \mathcal{O}(0)$

CFT Review: Correlation Functions

- ▶ Conformal symmetry fixes primary 2pt and 3pt functions in terms of dim's and spins, up to coefficients $\lambda_{\mathcal{O}}$ [Polyakov '70; Osborn, Petkou '93]

$$\langle \mathcal{O}^{a_1 \dots a_\ell}(x_1) \mathcal{O}^{b_1 \dots b_\ell}(x_2) \rangle = \frac{I^{a_1 b_1} \dots I^{a_\ell b_\ell}}{x_{12}^{2\Delta}} \left[I^{ab} \equiv \eta^{ab} - 2 \frac{x_{12}^a x_{12}^b}{x_{12}^2} \right]$$

$$\langle \phi(x_1) \phi(x_2) \mathcal{O}^{a_1 \dots a_\ell}(x_3) \rangle = \lambda_{\mathcal{O}} \frac{Z^{a_1} \dots Z^{a_\ell}}{x_{12}^{2d-\Delta+\ell} x_{23}^{\Delta-\ell} x_{13}^{\Delta-\ell}} \left[Z^a \equiv \frac{x_{31}^a}{x_{31}^2} - \frac{x_{32}^a}{x_{32}^2} \right]$$

- ▶ In *Unitary* CFTs, one also has the bound $\Delta \geq \ell + 2 - \delta_{\ell,0}$ [Mack '77]
 - ▶ Requirement that 2pt functions of descendants are ≥ 0
 - ▶ Can always work in basis where $\lambda_{\mathcal{O}}$'s are real
- ▶ Higher n -pt functions *not* fixed by conformal symmetry alone, but are determined once spectrum and $\lambda_{\mathcal{O}}$'s are known...

CFT Review: Operator Product Expansion

Let ϕ be a scalar primary of dimension d in a 4D CFT:

$$\phi(x)\phi(0) = \sum_{\mathcal{O} \in \phi \times \phi} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}} C_I(x, \partial) \mathcal{O}^I(0) \quad (\text{OPE})$$

- ▶ Sum runs over *primary* \mathcal{O} 's
- ▶ $\mathcal{O}^I = \mathcal{O}^{a_1 \dots a_\ell}$ any spin- ℓ Lorentz rep with $\ell = 0, 2, \dots$
- ▶ $C_I(x, \partial)$ fixed by conformal symmetry

CFT Review: Conformal Block Decomposition

Use OPE to evaluate 4-point function [Ferrara, Gatto, Grillo '73; ...]

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \overbrace{\langle \phi(x_1)\phi(x_2)\phi(x_3)\phi(x_4) \rangle} \\
 &= \sum_{\mathcal{O} \in \phi \times \phi} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 C_I(x_{12}, \partial_2) C_J(x_{34}, \partial_4) \langle \mathcal{O}^I(x_2) \mathcal{O}^J(x_4) \rangle \\
 &\equiv \frac{1}{x_{12}^{2d} x_{34}^{2d}} \sum_{\mathcal{O} \in \phi \times \phi} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 g_{\Delta, \ell}(u, v)
 \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ $u = \frac{x_{12}^2 x_{34}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2}$, $v = \frac{x_{14}^2 x_{23}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2}$ conformally-invariant cross ratios.
- ▶ $g_{\Delta, \ell}(u, v)$ conformal block ($\Delta = \dim \mathcal{O}$ and $\ell = \text{spin of } \mathcal{O}$)
 - ▶ Power series expansions known since 70's, now known fully in terms of hypergeometric functions [Dolan, Osborn '00; Dolan, Osborn '03]

CFT Review: Crossing Relations

- ▶ $\langle \phi(x_1)\phi(x_2)\phi(x_3)\phi(x_4) \rangle$ clearly symmetric under permutations of x_i
- ▶ After OPE, symmetry is non-manifest!
- ▶ Switching $x_1 \leftrightarrow x_3$ gives the “crossing relation”:

$$\sum \text{Diagram}_s = \sum \text{Diagram}_t$$

$$\sum_{\mathcal{O} \in \phi \times \phi} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 g_{\Delta, \ell}(u, v) = \left(\frac{u}{v}\right)^d \sum_{\mathcal{O} \in \phi \times \phi} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 g_{\Delta, \ell}(v, u)$$

- ▶ Other permutations give no new information

CFT Review: Crossing Relations

It is convenient to write this as the sum rule

$$\sum_{\mathcal{O} \in \phi \times \phi} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 F_{\Delta, \ell}(u, v) = 0$$

where

$$F_{\Delta, \ell}(u, v) \equiv \frac{v^d g_{\Delta, \ell}(u, v) - u^d g_{\Delta, \ell}(v, u)}{u^d - v^d}.$$

This is a *constraint* on the spectrum of Δ 's, ℓ 's, and $\lambda_{\mathcal{O}}$'s:

- ▶ Important implications for BSM scenarios (once generalized)
- ▶ Theoretical gold-mine! Many new insights about CFTs are just waiting to be extracted...

Generalization to Global Symmetries

Now suppose ϕ_i is an $SO(N)$ fundamental. The OPE is

$$\phi_i \times \phi_j \sim \sum_{S^+} \delta_{ij} \mathcal{O} + \sum_{T^+} \mathcal{O}_{(ij)} + \sum_{A^-} \mathcal{O}_{[ij]},$$

and the 4pt function can be expanded in various tensor structures

$$\begin{aligned} x_{12}^{2d} x_{34}^{2d} \langle \overbrace{\phi_i(x_1) \phi_j(x_2)} \overbrace{\phi_k(x_3) \phi_l(x_4)} \rangle \\ = \sum_{S^+} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 (\delta_{ij} \delta_{kl}) g_{\Delta, \ell}(u, v) \\ + \sum_{T^+} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 \left(\delta_{ik} \delta_{jl} + \delta_{il} \delta_{jk} - \frac{2}{N} \delta_{ij} \delta_{kl} \right) g_{\Delta, \ell}(u, v) \\ + \sum_{A^-} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 (\delta_{ik} \delta_{jl} - \delta_{il} \delta_{jk}) g_{\Delta, \ell}(u, v). \end{aligned}$$

Generalization to Global Symmetries

Symmetry under $x_1 \leftrightarrow x_3$ and $i \leftrightarrow k$ leads to the triple-sum rule:

[Rattazzi, Rychkov, Vichi '10]

$$\sum_{S^+} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ F_{\Delta,\ell} \\ H_{\Delta,\ell} \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{T^+} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 \begin{pmatrix} F_{\Delta,\ell} \\ (1 - \frac{2}{N})F_{\Delta,\ell} \\ -(1 + \frac{2}{N})H_{\Delta,\ell} \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{A^-} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 \begin{pmatrix} -F_{\Delta,\ell} \\ F_{\Delta,\ell} \\ -H_{\Delta,\ell} \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

(Here $H_{\Delta,\ell}(u, v)$ is $F_{\Delta,\ell}(u, v)$ with $- \rightarrow +$)

- ▶ 3 sum rules \leftrightarrow 3 tensor structures

Similar rules for other global symmetries:

- ▶ $SU(N) \rightarrow 6$ sum rules
- ▶ $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SCFTs $\rightarrow 3$ sum rules (since $U(1)_R \sim SO(2)$)
 - ▶ \mathcal{O} 's in same SUSY multiplet have related λ 's: $g_{\Delta,\ell} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_{\Delta,\ell}$
(superconformal blocks) [DP, DSD '10; Fortin, Intriligator, Stergiou '11]

Outline

- ① CFT Review
- ② Bounds from Crossing Relations
- ③ Latest Results

How Does Crossing Symmetry Lead to CFT Bounds?

Crossing relation for real scalar ϕ :

- ▶ Separate out the *unit* operator in $\phi \times \phi \sim 1 + \phi^2 + \dots$

$$\underbrace{1}_{\text{unit op.}} = \underbrace{\sum \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 F_{\Delta, \ell}(u, v)}_{\text{everything else}},$$

- ▶ Make an assumption: all scalars have dimension $\Delta > \Delta_{\min}$
- ▶ Search for a linear functional α such that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha(1) &< 0, \quad \text{and} \\
 \alpha(F_{\Delta, \ell}) &\geq 0, \quad \text{for all other } \mathcal{O} \in \phi \times \phi.
 \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ If you find one, the assumption is ruled out!

CFT Bounds

Convenient to phrase search as a convex optimization problem:

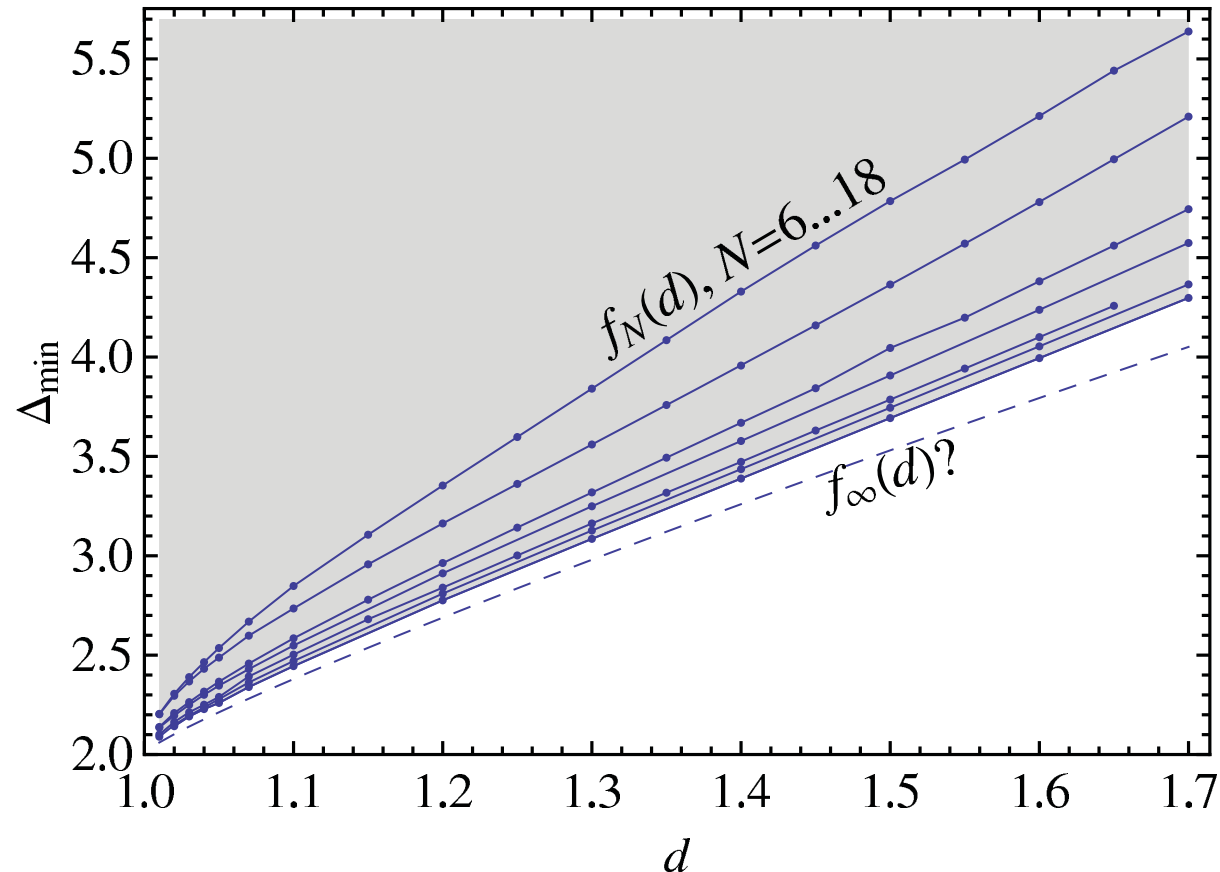
$$\text{Minimize } \alpha(1) \text{ subject to } \alpha(F_{\Delta,\ell}) \geq 0$$

- ▶ Adding normalization $\alpha(F_{\Delta_0,\ell_0}) = 1$ gives a bound $\lambda_{\mathcal{O}_0}^2 \leq \alpha(1)$
- ▶ It would be very interesting to solve this analytically! Hard...
- ▶ However, great progress has been made numerically

First Approach: [Rattazzi, Rychkov, Tonni, Vichi '08]

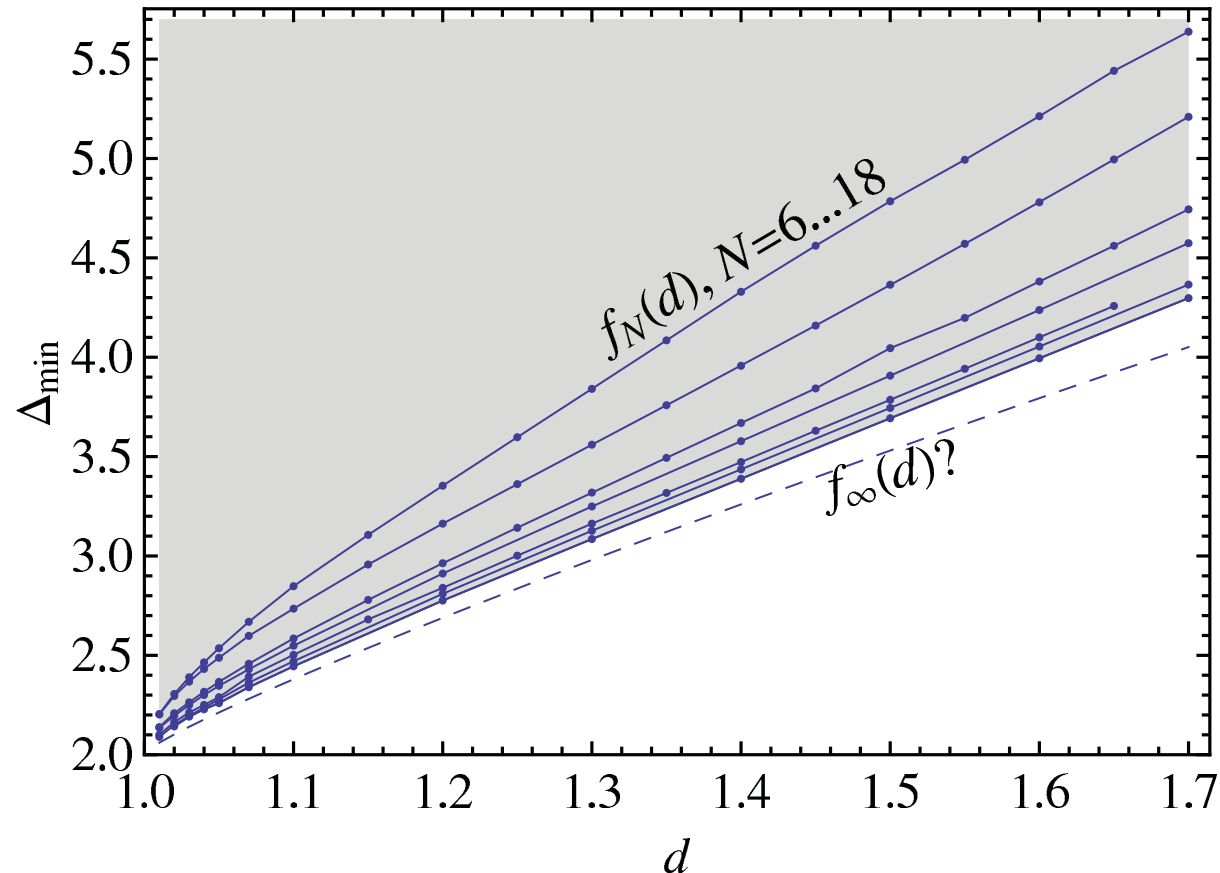
- ▶ Impose $\alpha(F_{\Delta_i,\ell_i}) \geq 0$ on a finite lattice $\{(\Delta_i, \ell_i)\}$
(verify positivity on intermediate values later)
- ▶ Take α to be linear combinations of $\partial_z^n \partial_{\bar{z}}^m F_{\Delta,\ell}$ at some point
- ▶ Implement as a *linear programming* problem that can be solved numerically (e.g., by Mathematica, GLPK, CPLEX, ...)

Bounds on $\dim \phi^2$ (from [Rychkov, Vichi '09])



- ▶ Bound on lowest dim scalar in $\phi \times \phi$ OPE, where $d = \dim(\phi)$
- ▶ Different lines correspond to increasing space of derivatives ($N = 18 \leftrightarrow 55$ -dimensional space)

Bounds on $\dim \phi^2$ (from [Rychkov, Vichi '09])



- ▶ Not yet useful for Conformal Technicolor, since $\text{Re}(H_0) \times \text{Re}(H_0) \sim H^\dagger H + H^\dagger \sigma H + \dots$
 - ▶ Need to distinguish between $SU(2)_W$ representations!
- ▶ Linear programming tricky for systems of crossing relations...

Semidefinite Programming

Latest Approach [DP, Simmons-Duffin, Vichi '11]:

- ▶ Derivatives of conformal blocks can be arbitrarily-well approximated by positive functions times polynomials:

$$\partial_z^m \partial_{\bar{z}}^n F_{\Delta, \ell} \simeq \chi_{\ell}(\Delta) P_{\ell}^{m, n}(\Delta)$$

- ▶ A polynomial $P(\Delta)$ is positive over an interval $[0, \infty)$ iff it can be written as $P(\Delta) = f(\Delta) + \Delta g(\Delta)$, where $f(\Delta)$ and $g(\Delta)$ are sums-of-squares of polynomials [Hilbert, 1888]
- ▶ A sum-of-squares can be represented by a *positive-semidefinite* matrix A : $f(\Delta) = [\Delta]_d^T A [\Delta]_d$, where $[\Delta]_d^T = (1, \Delta, \dots, \Delta^d)$

Semidefinite Programming

Latest Approach [DP, Simmons-Duffin, Vichi '11]:

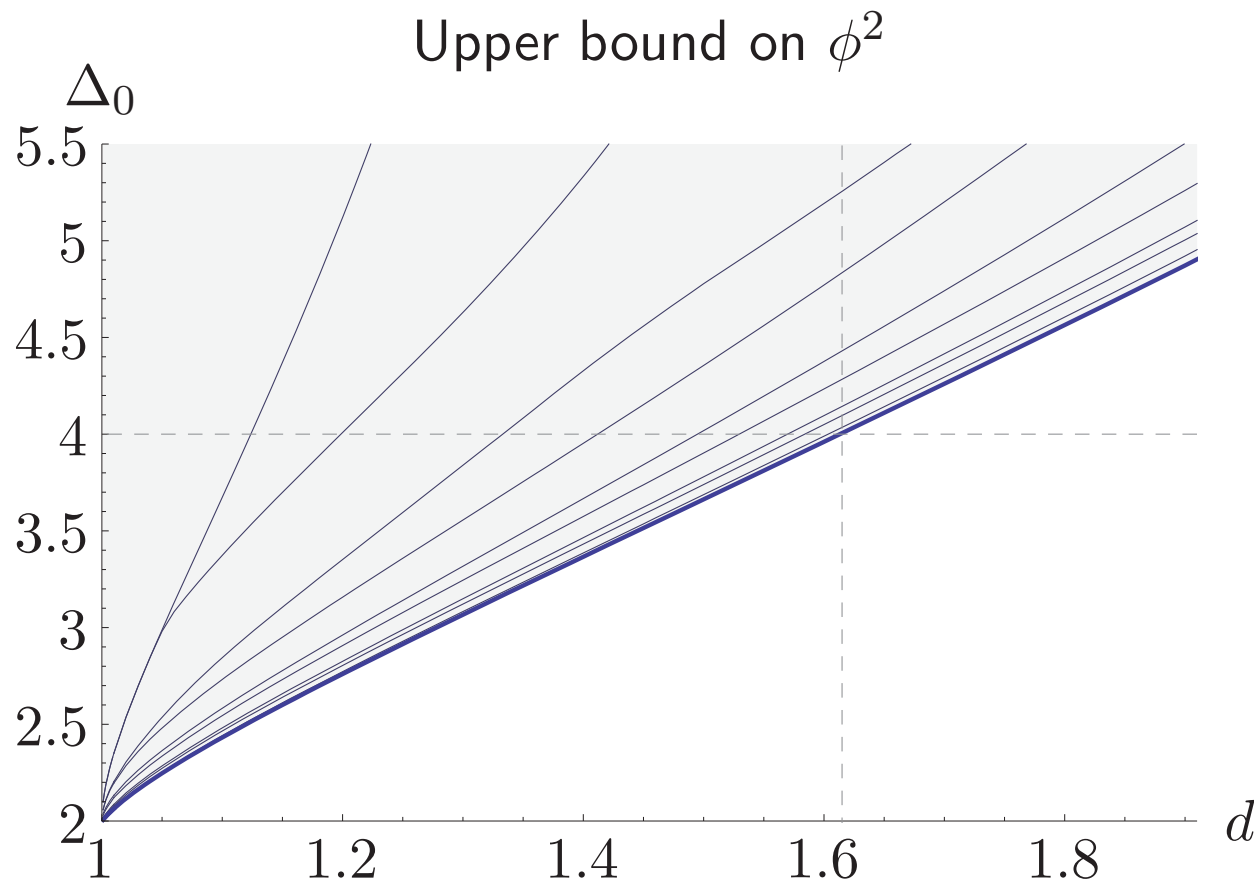
- ▶ Written in this way, the problem is phrased as a *semidefinite programming* problem, which can be solved by available software packages (we used SDPA-GMP)
- ▶ We were able to push bounds w/ global symmetries from a 10-dimensional space of derivatives to a 66-dimensional space
- ▶ We ran points in parallel on the $\sim 10,000$ core Odyssey computing cluster at Harvard University

Now for some results...

Outline

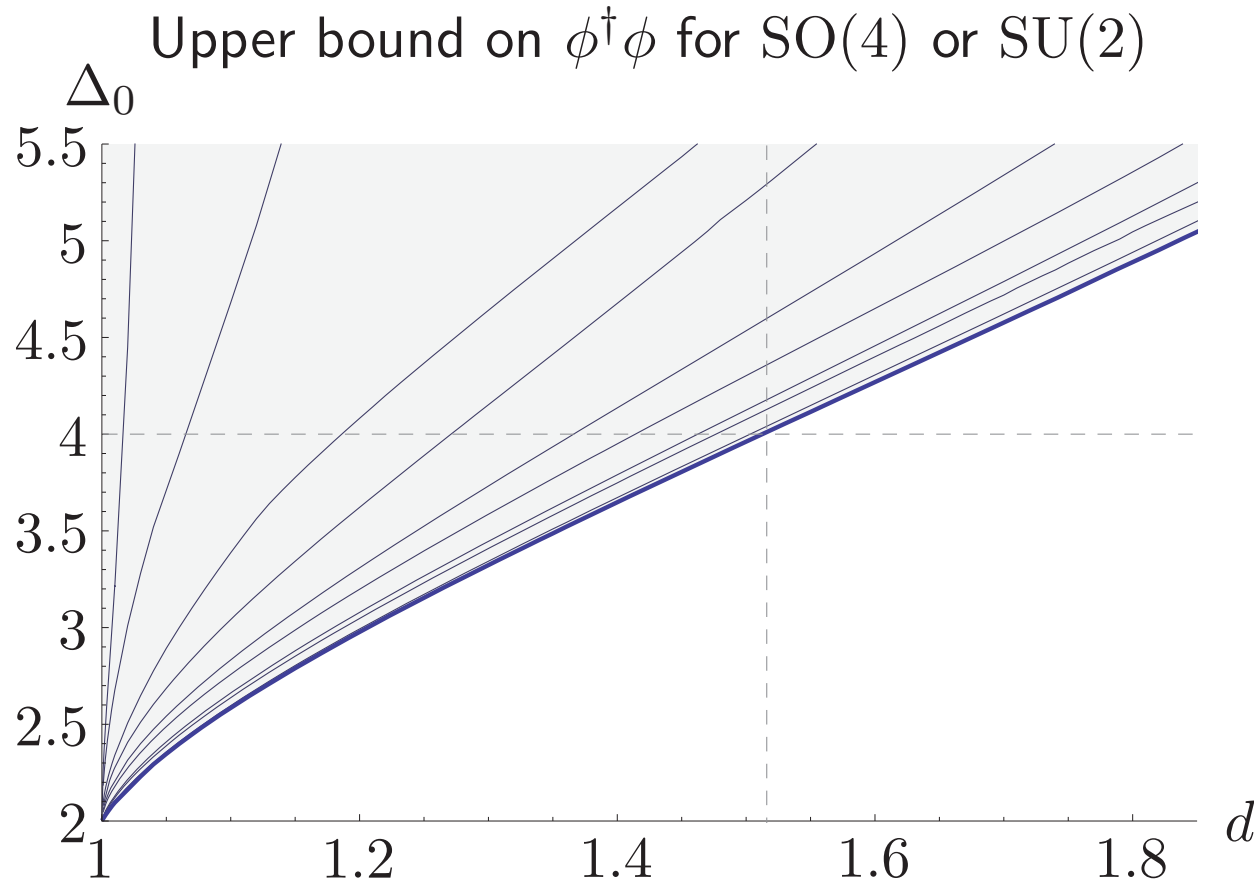
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Singlet Dimension Bounds



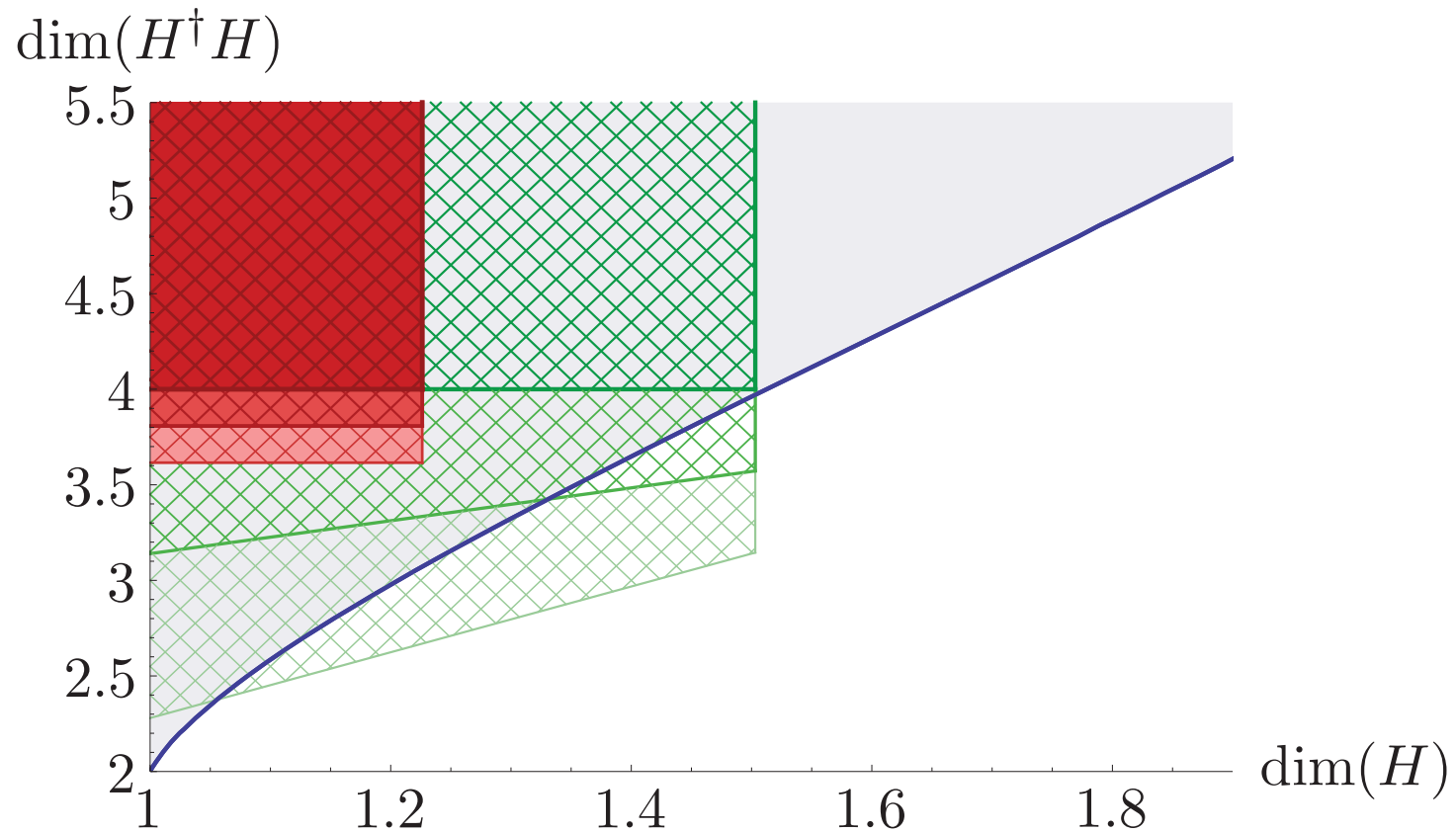
- ▶ Bound on lowest dim scalar in $\phi \times \phi$ OPE, where $d = \dim(\phi)$
- ▶ Best bound: 66-dimensional space of derivatives

SO(4) or SU(2) Singlet Dimension Bounds



- ▶ Lowest dim singlet in $\phi_i^\dagger \times \phi_j$, where ϕ_i is SU(2) fundamental
- ▶ Has implications for Conformal Technicolor [Luty, Okui '04]

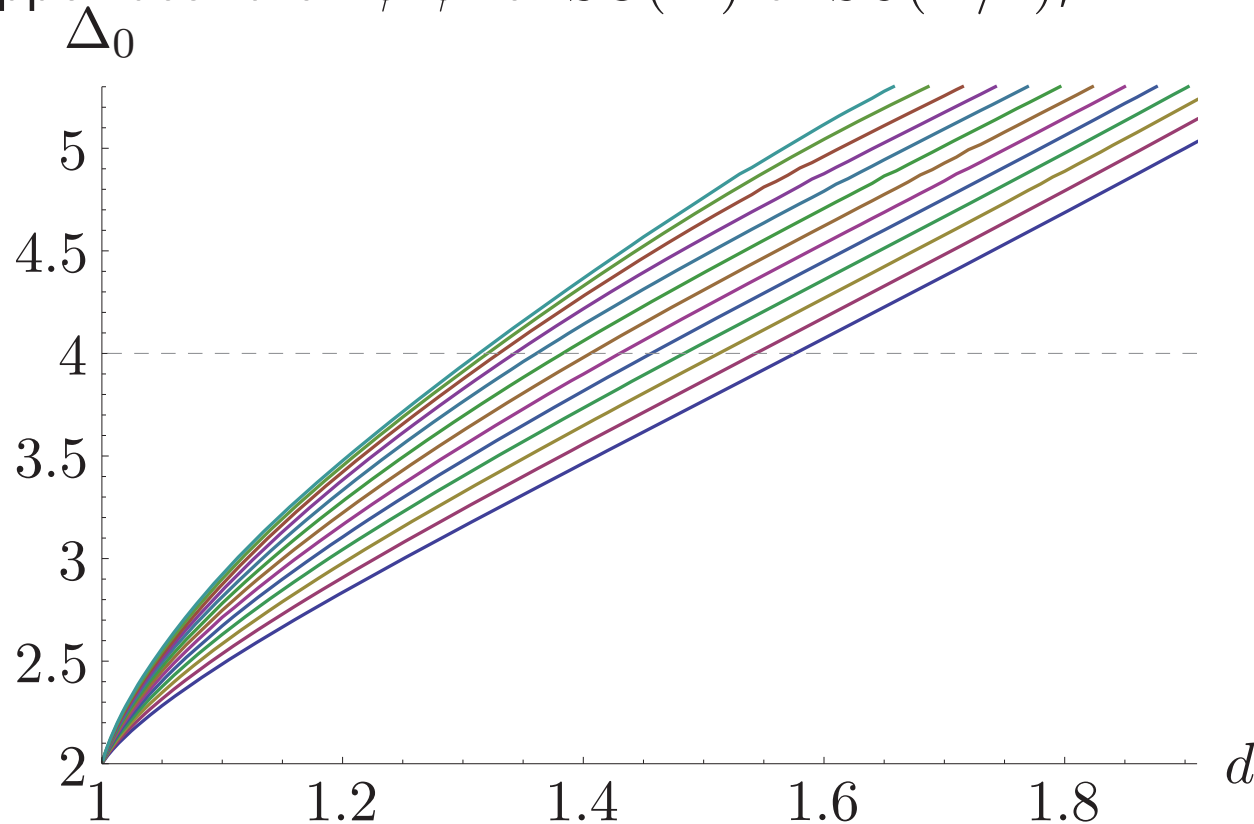
Bounding Conformal Technicolor



- ▶ Red: Flavor generic (4-ferm op's have $O(1)$ flavor violation)
- ▶ Green: Flavor optimistic (4-ferm op's Yukawa suppressed)
- ▶ 3 lines: Stability against perturbation $cH^\dagger H$ with $c \sim (1, 0.1, 0.01)$

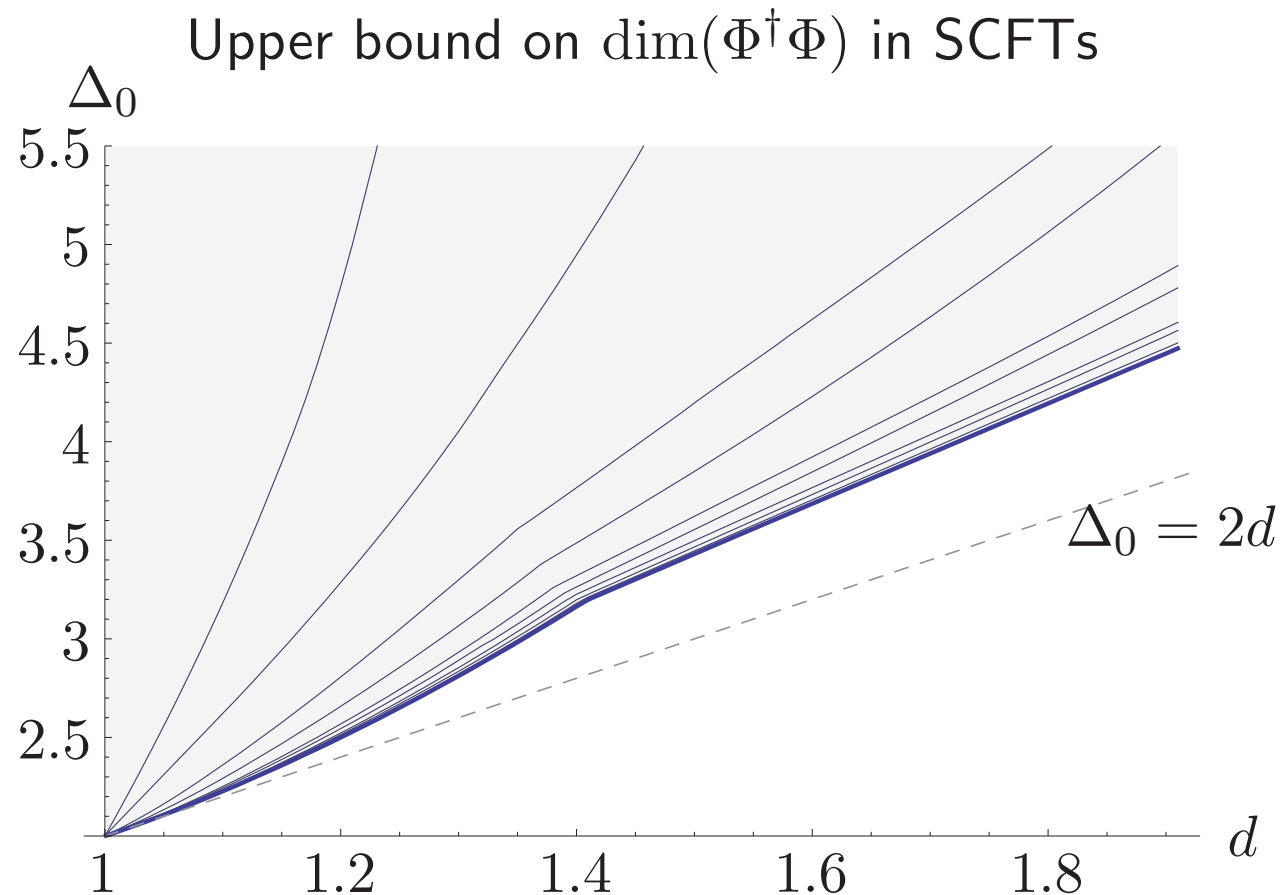
SO(N) or SU($N/2$) Singlet Dimension Bounds

Upper bound on $\phi^\dagger\phi$ for SO(N) or SU($N/2$), $N = 2..15$



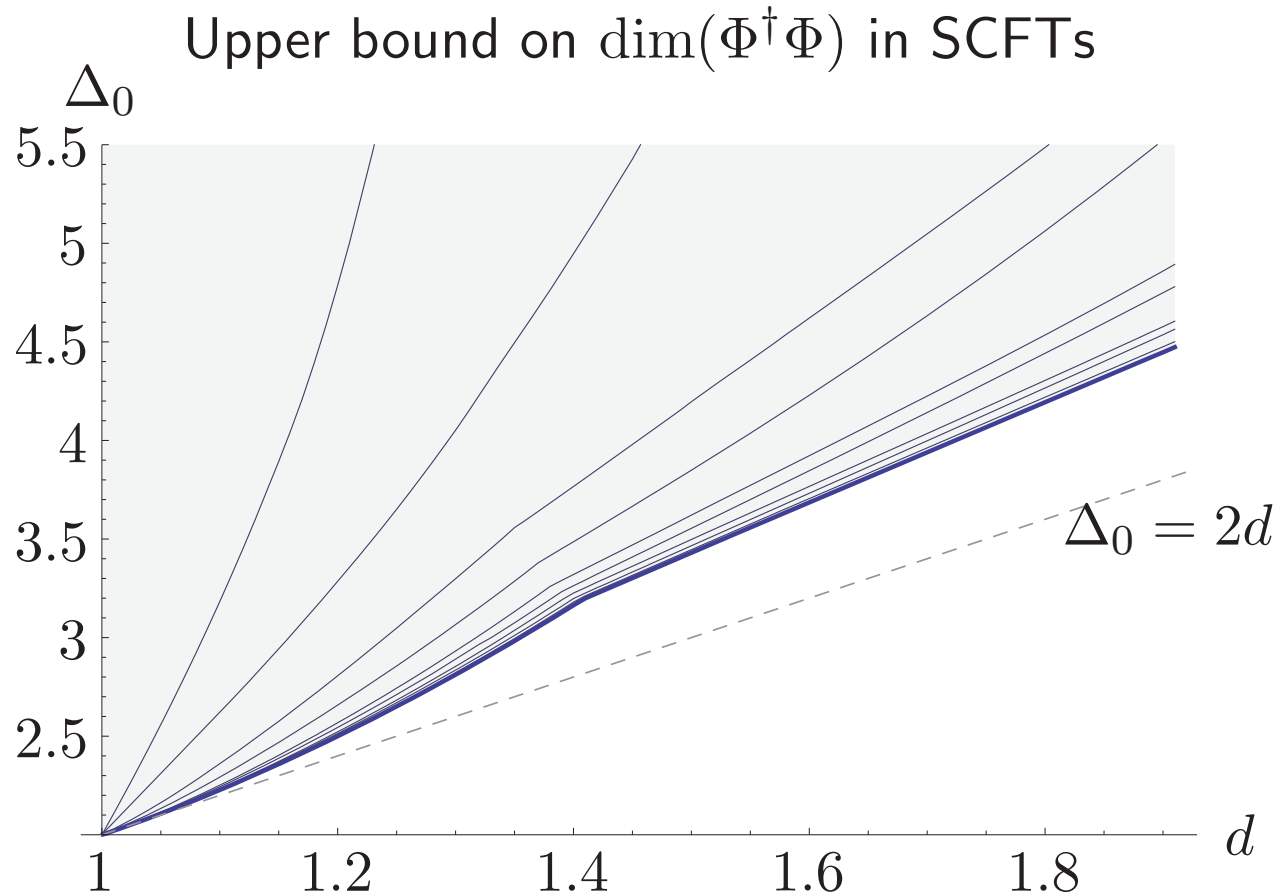
- ▶ Bounds get weaker as N increases
- ▶ SO(N) bounds and SU($N/2$) bounds are identical

Superconformal Operator Dimension Bounds



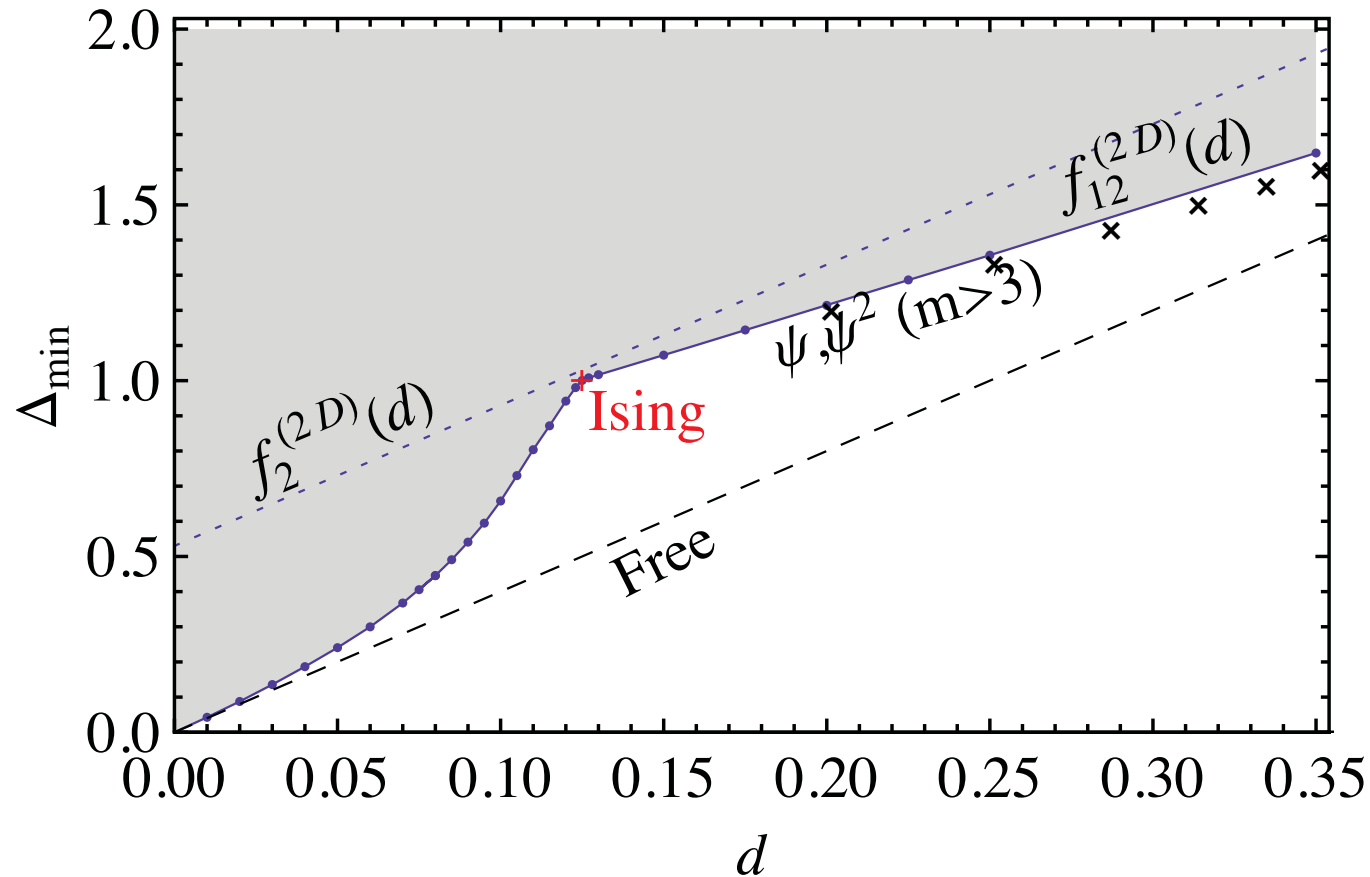
- ▶ Bound on lowest dimension scalar in $\Phi \times \Phi^\dagger$ OPE, where Φ is a chiral superconformal primary in an $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SCFT
- ▶ Bound appears to asymptote to the line $\Delta_0 = 2d$ near $d \sim 1$

Superconformal Operator Dimension Bounds



- ▶ At large- N , constraint on $O(1/N^2)$ corrections to $\dim(\Phi^\dagger\Phi)$
- ▶ We also see a *kink* near $d \sim 1.4$, maybe an SCFT lives there?

For Comparison: 2D Dimension Bounds



[Rychkov, Vichi '09]

- ▶ Kink at 2D Ising model, exact solution: $\Delta_{\sigma} = 1/8$, $\Delta_{\epsilon} = 1$
- ▶ Bound saturated by sequence of unitary minimal models

Future Directions

Some future directions for this program:

- ▶ Explore bounds in 3D CFTs – see Slava's talk!
[El-Showk, Paulos, DP, Rychkov, Simmons-Duffin, Vichi, in progress]
- ▶ Add assumptions about gaps in spectrum
- ▶ Explore the kink in $\Phi^\dagger\Phi$ bound \rightarrow known SCFT or something new?
- ▶ Incorporate more operators (e.g., 4pt functions containing ϕ^2)
- ▶ 4pt functions of operators with spin
(for conformal blocks see [Costa, Penedones, DP, Rychkov '11])
- ▶ Improve analytic understanding
- ▶ AdS dual interpretation?

To Summarize...

We are learning *genuinely new* things about strongly-coupled theories with little or no supersymmetry. Stay tuned!

Backup Slides

CFT Review: Conformal Blocks

Explicit formula [Dolan, Osborn '00]

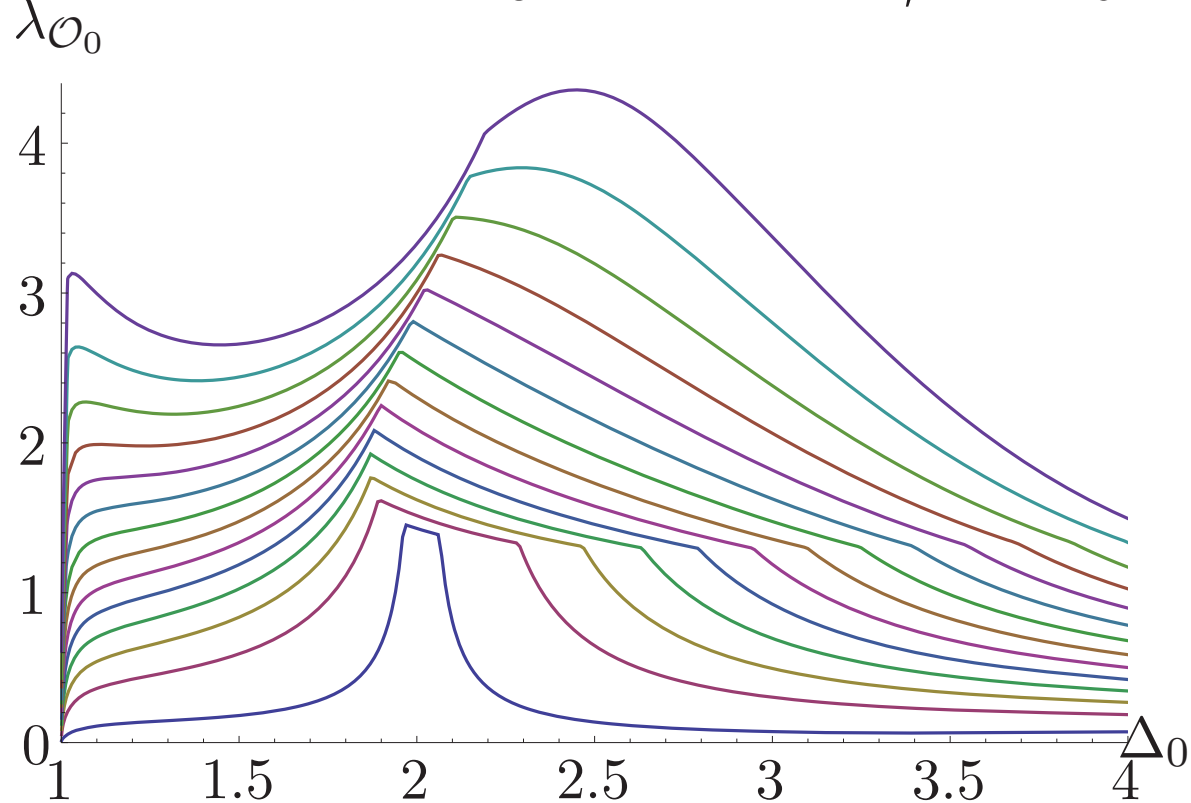
$$g_{\Delta,l}(u,v) = \frac{z\bar{z}}{z-\bar{z}} [k_{\Delta+l}(z)k_{\Delta-l-2}(\bar{z}) - z \leftrightarrow \bar{z}]$$
$$k_{\beta}(x) = x^{\beta/2} {}_2F_1(\beta/2, \beta/2, \beta; x),$$

where $u = z\bar{z}$ and $v = (1-z)(1-\bar{z})$.

- ▶ Similar closed-form expressions in other even dimensions, recursion relations known in odd dimensions
- ▶ Alternatively can be viewed as eigenfunctions of the quadratic casimir of the conformal group [Dolan, Osborn '03]

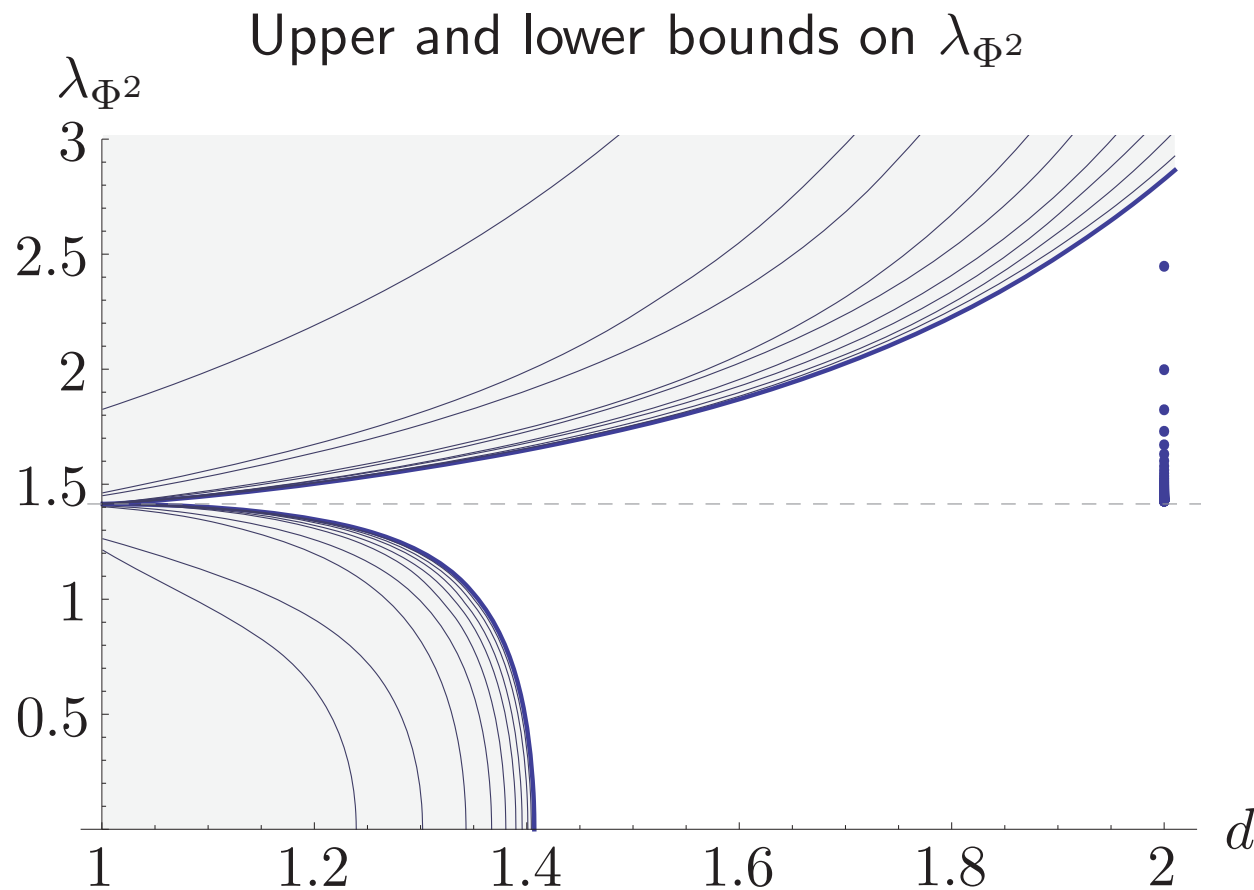
Scalar OPE Coefficient Bounds

Upper bounds on scalar OPE coefficients, $d = 1.01..1.66$



- ▶ Bound on size of scalar OPE coefficient $\phi \times \phi \sim \lambda_{\mathcal{O}_0} \mathcal{O}_0$
- ▶ As $d \rightarrow 1$ nicely converges to free value, $\lambda_{\mathcal{O}_0} = \sqrt{2}$ at $\Delta_0 = 2$
 - ▶ However, distribution of operators with $\lambda < \sqrt{2}$ also allowed?

Upper and Lower Bounds on Φ^2 OPE Coefficient in SCFTs



- ▶ Now we consider the OPE $\Phi \times \Phi \sim \Phi^2 + \dots$, where $\Delta_{\Phi^2} = 2d$
- ▶ Scalar descendants of non-chiral operators $\overline{Q}^2 \mathcal{O}$ can appear, but unitarity forces $\Delta_{\overline{Q}^2 \mathcal{O}} \geq |2d - 3| + 3$
- ▶ *Lower bounds* possible due to gap in dimensions for $d < 3/2$

The Stress Tensor

T^{ab} is a $\Delta = 4, \ell = 2$ operator present in every CFT:

- ▶ Ward identity fixes $\langle \phi \phi T \rangle \propto d$
- ▶ Only unknown: $\langle TT \rangle \propto c$, the central charge
- ▶ In SCFT, T part of $U(1)_R$ current multiplet ($\Delta = 3, \ell = 1$)

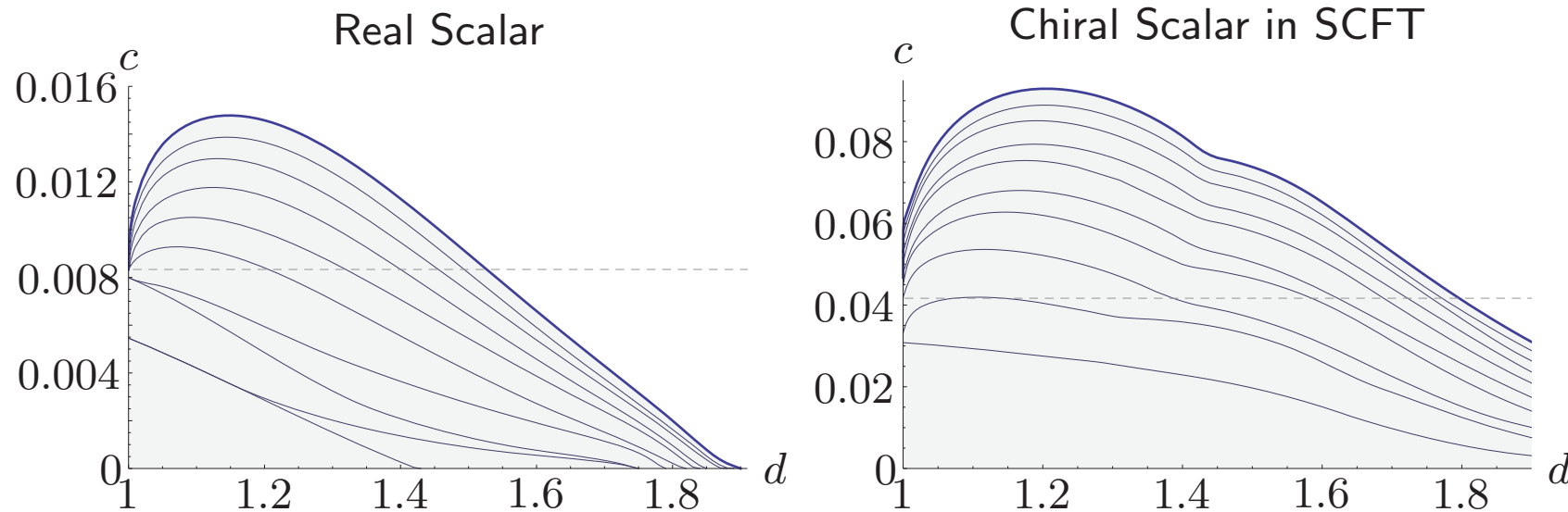
$$\mathcal{J}^a = J_R^a + \theta \sigma_b \bar{\theta} T^{ab} + \dots$$

- ▶ Conformal block contributions are

$$\langle \phi \phi \phi \phi \rangle \sim \frac{d^2}{360c} g_{4,2} \quad (\text{general CFTs})$$

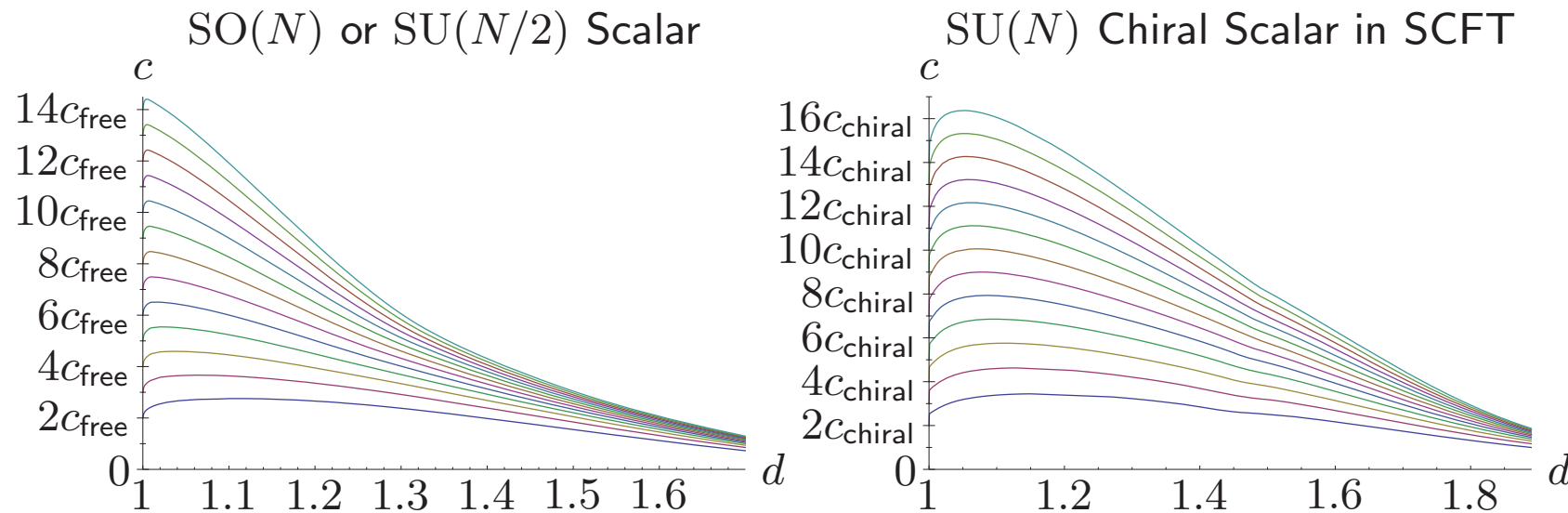
$$\langle \Phi \Phi^\dagger \Phi \Phi^\dagger \rangle \sim \frac{d^2}{72c} \mathcal{G}_{3,1} \quad (\text{SCFTs})$$

Lower Bounds on c



- ▶ Bound smoothly approaches free values as $d \rightarrow 1$
 - ▶ $c_{\text{free}} = \frac{1}{120}$ (real scalar)
 - ▶ $c_{\text{chiral}} = \frac{1}{24}$ (chiral superfield)
- ▶ If a CFT contains a $d = 1$ scalar, $c = c_{\text{free}} + c_{\text{int}} \geq c_{\text{free}}$
- ▶ In dual AdS_5 description, $c \sim R^3 M_P^3$
 - ▶ Bound \rightarrow Fundamental limit to strength of quantum gravity!

Lower Bounds on c for $SO(N)$ or $SU(N)$, $N = 2..15$



- ▶ All lower bounds approach the free values Nc_{free} or Nc_{chiral} as $d \rightarrow 1$, growing linearly with N near $d \sim 1$
- ▶ Also similar bounds on current 2pt functions: $\langle J^I J^J \rangle \propto \kappa \delta^{IJ}$
 - ▶ Bound on strength of bulk gauge couplings in AdS_5 !

$\mathcal{N} = 1$ Superconformal Algebra

dim					
+1			P_a		
+1/2		Q_α		$\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}$	
0	$M_{\alpha\beta}$		D, R		$M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}$
-1/2		S_α		$\bar{S}_{\dot{\alpha}}$	
-1			K_a		

$$\{Q, \bar{Q}\} = P$$

$$\{S, \bar{S}\} = K$$

- ▶ Superconformal primary means $[S, \mathcal{O}(0)] = [\bar{S}, \mathcal{O}(0)] = 0$
- ▶ Descendants obtained by acting with P, Q, \bar{Q}
- ▶ Chiral means $[\bar{Q}, \Phi(0)] = 0$

Superconformal Block Decomposition

Φ : scalar chiral superconformal primary of dimension d in an SCFT

$$\langle \overline{\Phi(x_1)\Phi^\dagger(x_2)} \overline{\Phi(x_3)\Phi^\dagger(x_4)} \rangle = \frac{1}{x_{12}^{2d} x_{34}^{2d}} \sum_{\mathcal{O} \in \Phi \times \Phi^\dagger} |\lambda_{\mathcal{O}}|^2 \mathcal{G}_{\Delta, \ell}(u, v)$$

- ▶ Sum over s.c. primaries \mathcal{O} with $R = 0$ and $\ell = 0, 1, 2, \dots$
- ▶ $x_1 \leftrightarrow x_3$ gives crossing relation only involving $\mathcal{O} \in \Phi \times \Phi^\dagger$
- ▶ Additional constraints come from relation to $\Phi \times \Phi$ OPE

Note: $\mathcal{G}_{\Delta, \ell}(u, v)$ is a *finite* sum of conformal blocks, since \mathcal{O} has finite number of descendants that are conformal primaries!

Superconformal Block Derivation

Multiplet built from \mathcal{O} (generically) contains four conformal primaries with vanishing R -charge and definite spin:

name	operator	dim	spin
\mathcal{O}	\mathcal{O}	Δ	l
J, N	$Q\bar{Q}\mathcal{O} + \#P\mathcal{O}$	$\Delta + 1$	$l + 1, l - 1$
D	$Q^2\bar{Q}^2\mathcal{O} + \#PQ\bar{Q}\mathcal{O} + \#PPO$	$\Delta + 2$	l

- ▶ Superconformal symmetry fixes coefficients of $\langle\Phi\Phi^\dagger J\rangle, \langle\Phi\Phi^\dagger N\rangle, \langle\Phi\Phi^\dagger D\rangle$ in terms of $\langle\Phi\Phi^\dagger\mathcal{O}\rangle$
- ▶ Must also normalize J, N, D to have canonical 2pt functions
- ▶ Superconformal block is then a sum of $g_{\Delta,\ell}$'s for \mathcal{O}, J, N, D

Superconformal Blocks

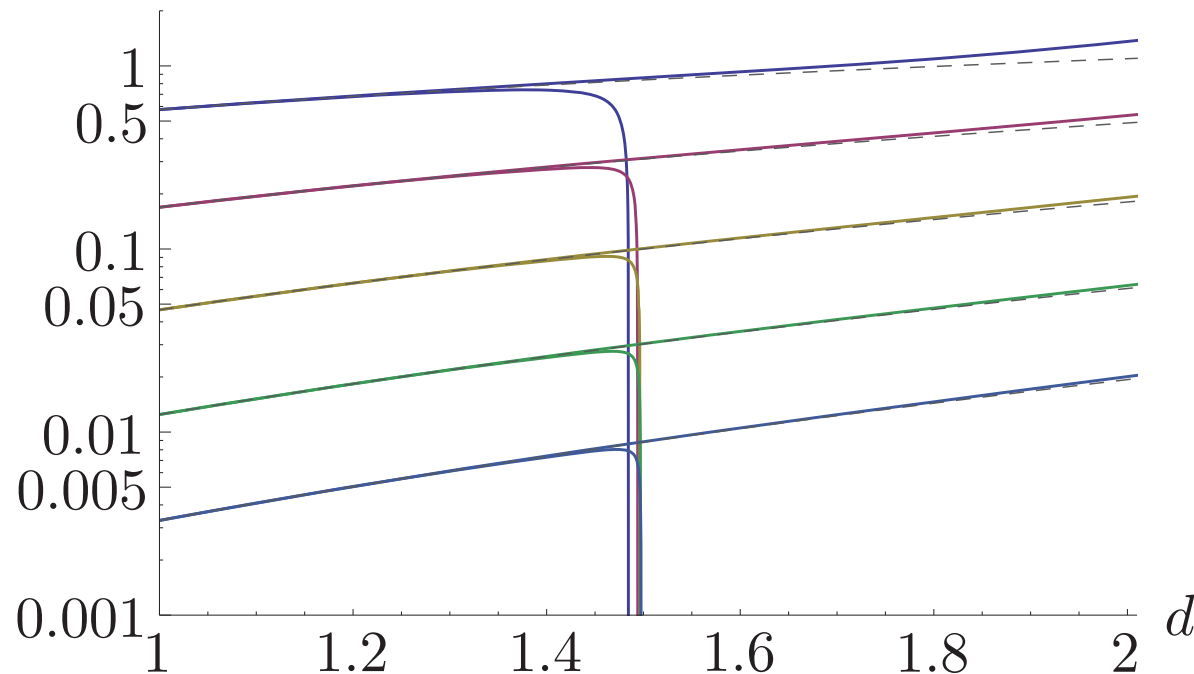
We found, [DP, Simmons-Duffin '10]

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_{\Delta,\ell} = & g_{\Delta,\ell} + \frac{(\Delta + \ell)}{4(\Delta + \ell + 1)} g_{\Delta+1,\ell+1} + \frac{(\Delta - \ell - 2)}{4(\Delta - \ell - 1)} g_{\Delta+1,\ell-1} \\ & + \frac{(\Delta + \ell)(\Delta - \ell - 2)}{16(\Delta + \ell + 1)(\Delta - \ell - 1)} g_{\Delta+2,\ell} \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Unitarity bound $\Delta \geq \ell + 2$ saturated \rightarrow multiplet shortened
- ▶ $\mathcal{G}_{\Delta,\ell}$ can also be determined from consistency with $\mathcal{N} = 2$ superconformal blocks computed by [Dolan, Osborn '01]
- ▶ Similar results for current 4pt functions recently derived by [Fortin, Intriligator, Stergiou '11]

Higher-Spin Protected Operators in $\Phi \times \Phi$

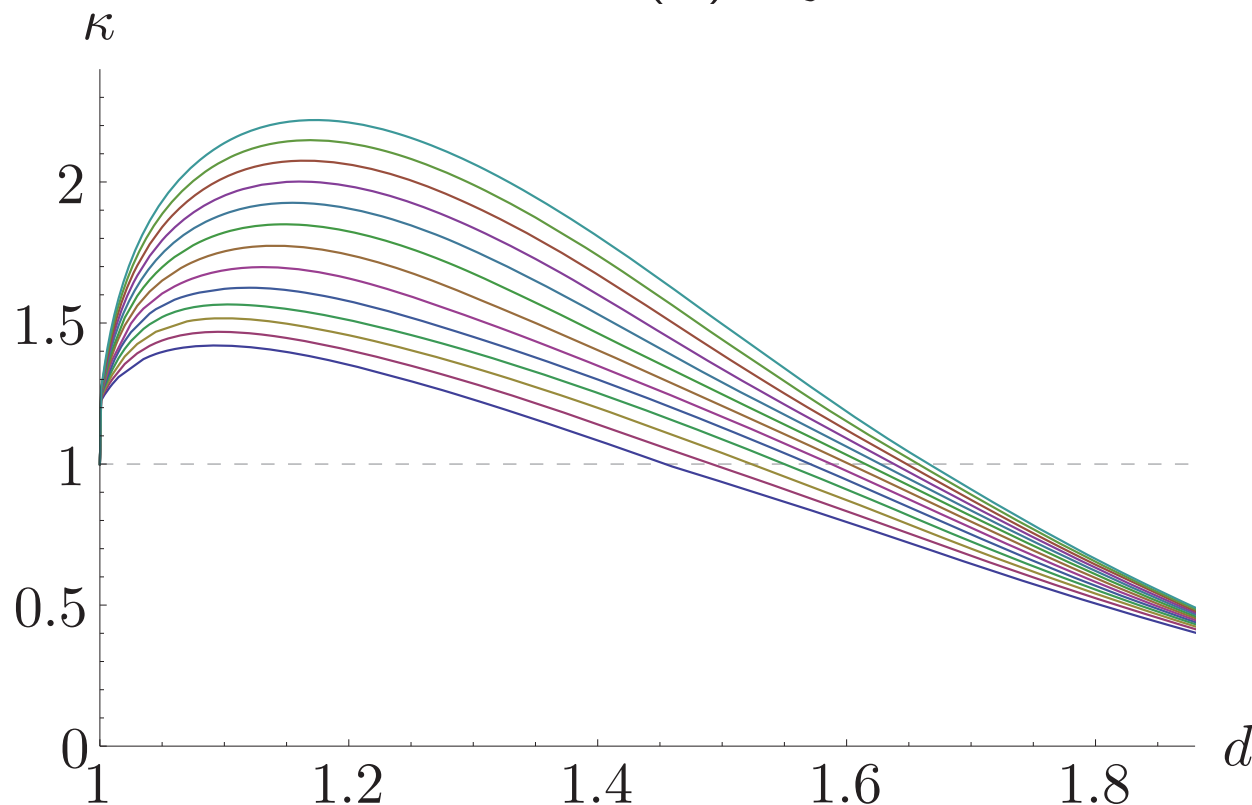
Upper and lower bounds on $\lambda_{(\overline{Q}\mathcal{O})_\ell}$, $\ell = 2, 4, \dots, 10$



- ▶ $\Phi \times \Phi$ OPE also has higher-spin protected operators $(\overline{Q}\mathcal{O})_\ell$
- ▶ Gap since $\Delta_{(\overline{Q}\mathcal{O})_\ell} = 2d + \ell$ while $\Delta_{(\overline{Q}^2\mathcal{O})_\ell} \geq |2d - 3| + 3 + \ell$
- ▶ Dashed lines large- N values...deviations tightly constrained!

Current 2pt Function Bounds in SCFTs

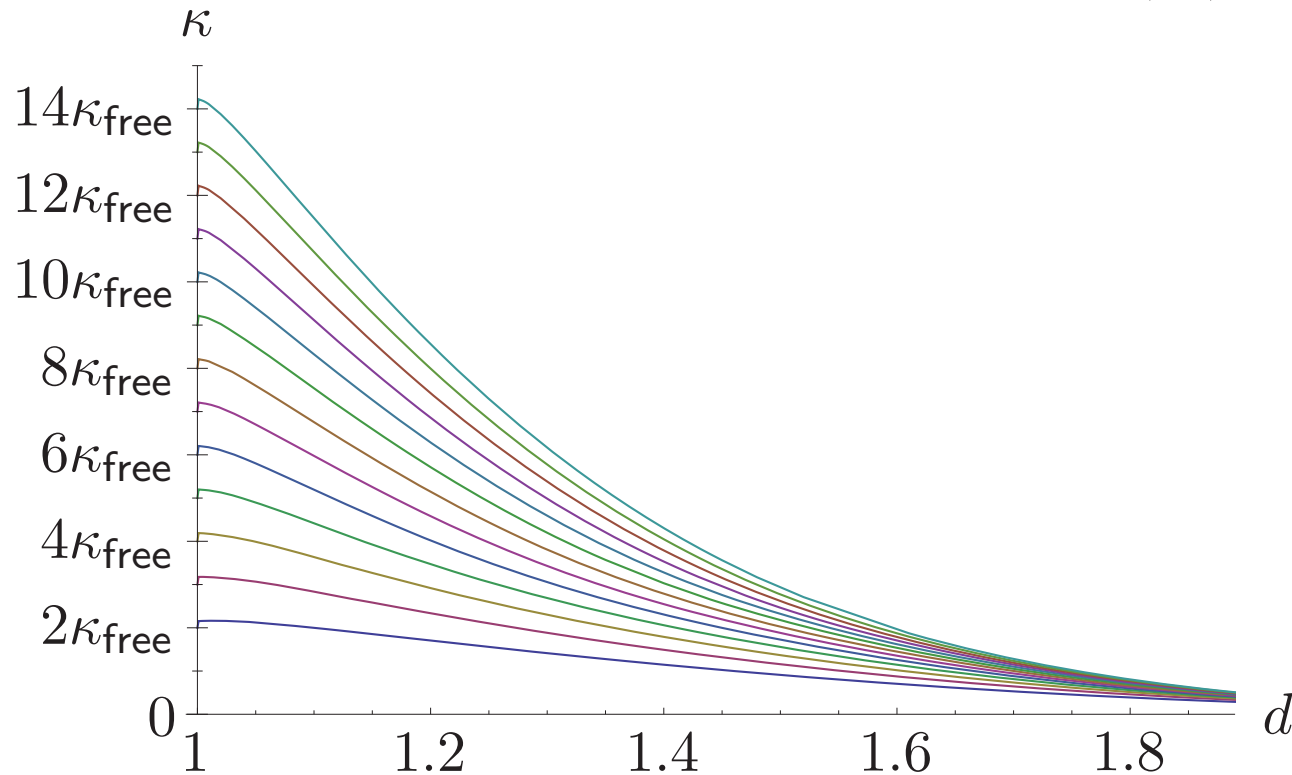
SUSY lower bound on κ for $SU(N)$ adjoint currents, $N = 2..15$



- Lower bounds on coefficient $\langle J^I J^J \rangle \propto \kappa \delta^{IJ}$, if J^I is the adjoint $SU(N)$ global symmetry current appearing in $\Phi^i \times \Phi^{j\dagger}$

Current 2pt Function Bounds in SCFTs

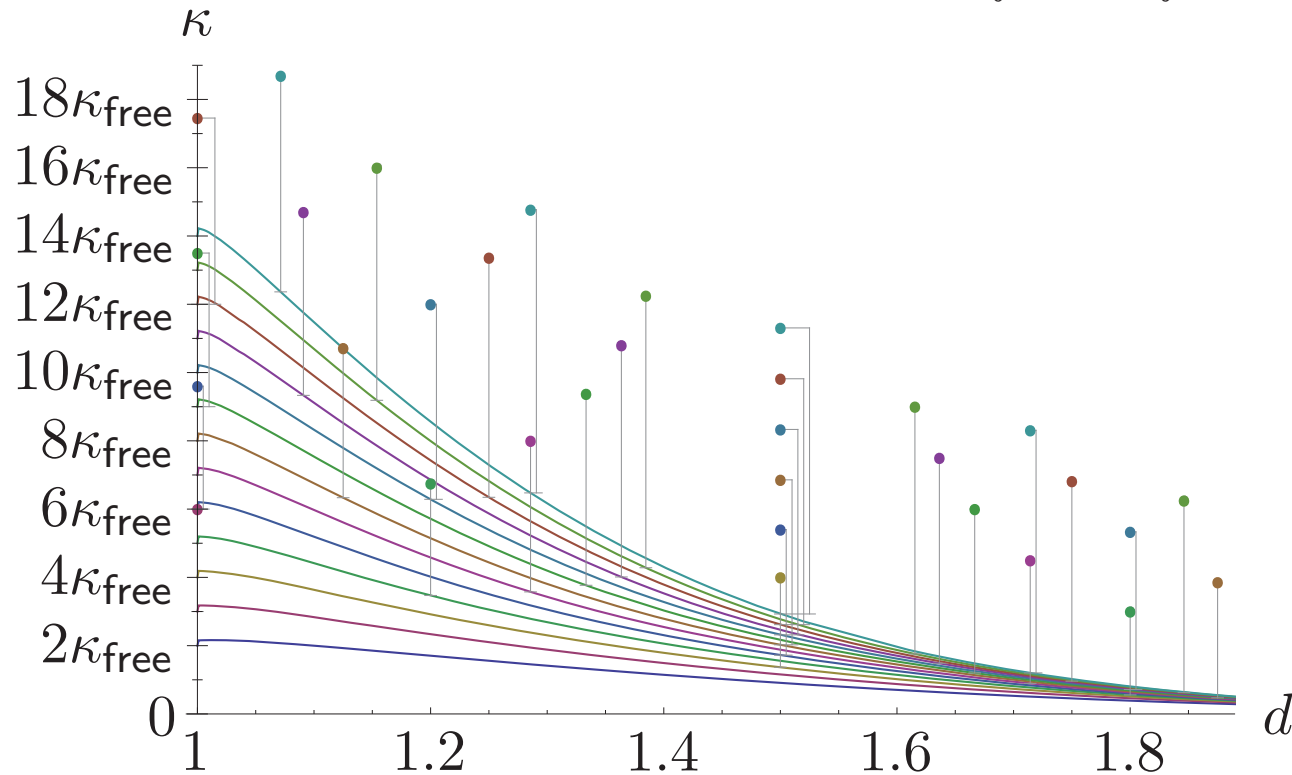
SUSY lower bound on κ for singlet currents of $SU(N)$, $N = 2..15$



- ▶ Bounds on coefficient $\langle J^I J^J \rangle \propto \kappa \delta^{IJ}$, assuming J^I is a *singlet* under the $SU(N)$ global symmetry
- ▶ In SCFTs $\kappa \delta^{IJ} = -3\text{Tr}(F^I F^J R)$ is calculable!

Bounds on Current 2pt Function and Comparison to SQCD

SUSY lower bounds on κ_R using $SU(N_f)_L$, $N_f = 2..15$



Conformal $SU(N_c)$ SQCD: $\frac{3}{2}N_c < N_f < 3N_c$, Mesons: $M = Q\tilde{Q}$

- ▶ $SU(N_f)_L \times SU(N_f)_R$: $M \times M^\dagger \sim J_L + J_R + \dots$
- ▶ Use $SU(N_f)_L$ crossing relations to bound $\langle J_R J_R \rangle \propto \kappa_R$

Realized values: $d_M = 3 - \frac{3N_c}{N_f}$ and $\kappa_R = \frac{9}{16} \frac{N_c^2}{N_f}$