

# *Pseudo-local Theories on AdS: A Functional Class Proposal*

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# HS-holography: Status & Motivations

Singlet Sector of  
 $O(N)/U(n)$  Vector Model



Bosonic Vasiliev's theory

Klebanov-Polyakov, Sezgin-Sundell (2002)

*All known HS theories are pseudo-local also at cubic order(!)*

- String Theory
- Vasiliev's equations

$$e^{\square}, \star$$

*Cubic couplings have been classified by Metsaev and they are local*

- Metsaev results extends to AdS via ambient space: AdS couplings have still bounded number of derivatives

$$\#\partial \leq s_1 + s_2 + s_3$$

# Goals & Plan

## The Goal:

- Study current interactions in HS theories
- Propose a functional class criterion that allows to deal with pseudo-local currents arising in string theory and Vasiliev's equations

$$\square \Phi_{\underline{m}(s)} + \dots = J_{\underline{m}(s)}(\Phi, \Phi)$$

$$\square \Phi_{\underline{m}(s)} + \dots = \sum_{k,l} a_{k,l} \Lambda^{-l} \nabla_{\underline{m}(s-k)\underline{n}(l)} \Phi \nabla_{\underline{m}(k)}^{\underline{n}(l)} \Phi + \dots$$

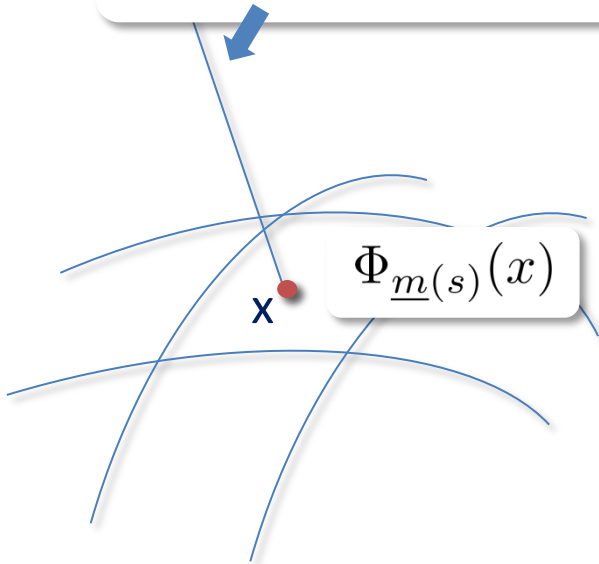
*We want to understand when there exists a “Metsaev” field frame for a pseudo-local theory at the cubic order*

## Plan of the talk:

- Unfolding and Jet space
- Pseudo-local currents and the functional class proposal
- Some checks of the proposal

# Unfolding and Jet space

$$\{\nabla^{b_1} \dots \nabla^{b_k} \Phi^{a_1 \dots a_s}(x)\}_{k=0, \dots, \infty}$$



**Jet Bundle:** each field and all of its derivatives as independent coordinates

It can be decomposed as:

- Gauge covariant components
- Gauge dependent components
- Components set to zero on the on-shell surface

- Gauge dependent components encoded into 1-forms:  $\delta\omega = d\Lambda + \dots$
- Gauge covariant components encoded into 0-forms

$$e^a, \omega^{ab} \quad (\text{frame-like})$$

$$W_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}, \nabla_\rho W_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}, \dots$$

(Weyl and derivatives)

# 1-forms & 0-forms (4d)

$$so(3, 2) \sim sp(4, \mathbb{R}) \quad \longrightarrow \quad [\hat{y}^\alpha, \hat{y}^\beta] = 2i\epsilon^{\alpha\beta} \quad [\hat{y}^{\dot{\alpha}}, \hat{y}^{\dot{\beta}}] = 2i\epsilon^{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}$$

- Gauge dependent components are represented by 1-forms (Vasiliev's 1980):

$$\omega^{(s)}(y, \bar{y}|x) = \sum_{k=0}^{s-1} \frac{1}{(s-1+k)!(s-1-k)!} \omega_{\alpha(s-1+k)\dot{\alpha}(s-1-k)}(x) y^{\alpha(s-1+k)} \bar{y}^{\dot{\alpha}(s-1-k)}$$

$$\omega_{\alpha(s-1+k)\dot{\alpha}(s-1-k)} \sim \nabla^{k < s} \Phi_{\alpha(s)}$$

- The gauge covariant components are (anti-)selfdual HS Weyl tensors + the scalar (Weyl module)

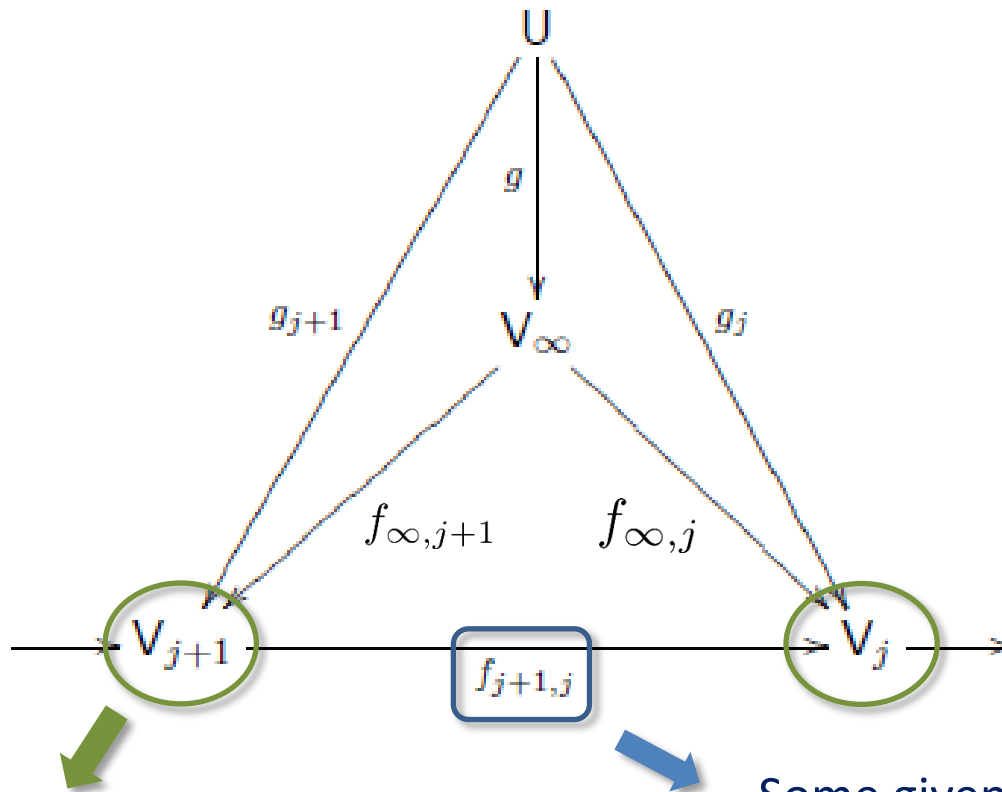
$$C^{(s)}(y, \bar{y}|x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(s+k)!k!} C_{\alpha(s+k)\dot{\alpha}(k)}(x) y^{\alpha(s+k)} \bar{y}^{\dot{\alpha}(k)}$$

$$C_{\alpha(s+k)\dot{\alpha}(k)} \sim \nabla^k C_{\alpha(s)}$$

$$C(y, \bar{y}) \sim J^\infty$$

# Pseudo-Locality & Inverse Limit

Pseudo-locality can be controlled by a formal construction in Category theory which is *“Inverse Limit”*



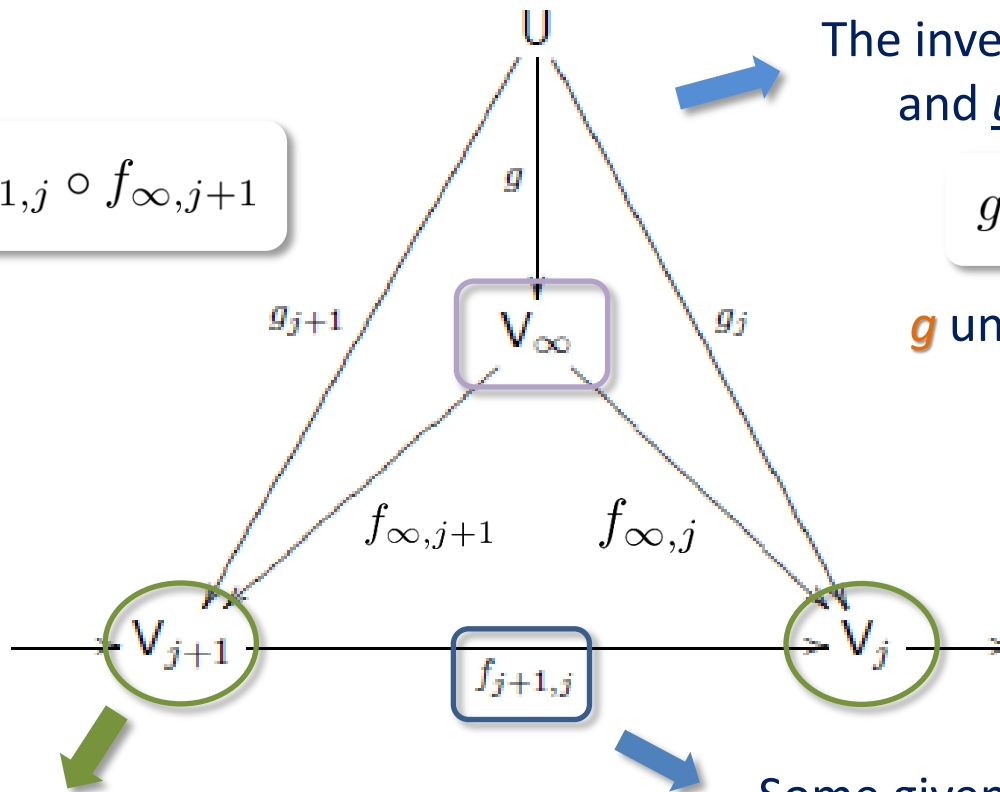
Space of “local functionals”  
with at most  $j+1/j$  derivatives

Some given linear continuous  
maps to be specified.

# Pseudo-Locality & Inverse Limit

Pseudo-locality can be controlled by a formal construction in Category theory which is “*Inverse Limit*”

$$\forall j \quad f_{\infty,j} = f_{j+1,j} \circ f_{\infty,j+1}$$



The inverse limit is universal and unique if existing

$$g_j = f_{\infty,j} \circ g$$

$g$  unique linear map

Space of “local functionals”  
with at most  $j+1/j$  derivatives

Some given linear continuous  
maps to be specified.

# 0-0-s Currents & unfolding on AdS

- Current interactions are the simplest possible interactions:

$$J^{\underline{m}(s)} \sim \Phi^* \nabla^{\underline{m}(s)} \Phi + \dots \quad \nabla_{\underline{n}} J^{\underline{nm}(s-1)} \approx 0$$

- In the unfolded language classifying currents is a cohomology problem

$$D\omega + \dots = J(C, C) \quad DJ(C, C) \approx 0$$

$$D : V_\infty \rightarrow V_\infty \quad D^2 = 0$$

- Improvements in this language are exact currents

$$J = D\xi(C, C)$$

## Some facts we can prove:

- Local cohomology:**  $s \leq k < \infty$  and  $J \in V_k(C, C)$  – 1-dim cohomology for each  $s$ , representative with  $s$  derivatives  $\tilde{J} \in V_s(C, C)$  (Metsaev coupling – canonical primary current)
- Non-local cohomology:**  $J \in V_\infty(C, C)$  – the cohomology is empty.



# 0-0-s Currents & unfolding on AdS

## What do we learn?

- Without locality conserved currents are quasi-locally exact

$$DJ = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad J = D \left( \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} g_l \square^l \xi \right) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} g_l \underbrace{D (\square^l \xi)}$$

Each of this is a  
**local** Improvement

- Any pseudo-local conserved current is an (infinite) sum of conserved local Improvements

**Conserved local currents span all conserved currents (!)**

- In 4d such a basis for canonical traceless currents is schematically:

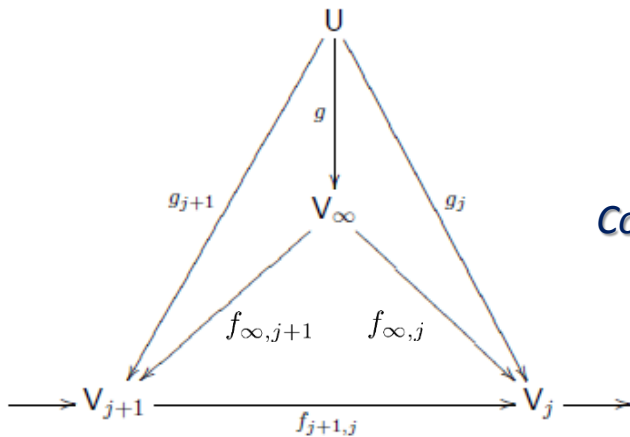
$$\left\{ C_{\dots\alpha(l)\dot{\alpha}(l)} C_{\dots}^{\alpha(l)\dot{\alpha}(l)} \right\}_{l=0,\dots,\infty} \sim \left\{ \nabla_{\dots\alpha(l)\dot{\alpha}(l)} \Phi^* \nabla_{\dots}^{\alpha(l)\dot{\alpha}(l)} \Phi \right\}_{l=0,\dots,\infty}$$

- There exist basis for conserved currents compatible with the inverse limit

$$[D, f_{\infty,j}] \approx 0$$

# Locality: a pseudo-local proposal I

Use the inverse limit to propose a pseudo-local functional class for which the cohomology is non-trivial (!)



- Decomposition in local cohomology well defined for each  $j < \infty$
- For each  $j < \infty$  one can rewrite:

Conserved



$$f_{\infty,j}(J_s) = b_{j,J}^{(s)} \tilde{J}_s + \text{Impr.}$$

$$\tilde{J}_s \in \mathbb{H}_s^{(2)}(D, CC) \quad \text{Primary-canonical}$$

- One can then take the limit:

$$J_s = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} f_{\infty,j}(J_s) = \left( \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} b_{j,J}^{(s)} \right) \tilde{J}_s + \text{Impr.}$$

- Read off the coefficient of the cohomology representative:  $\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} b_{j,J}^{(s)}$
- If the limit exists and is finite the coupling admits a Metsaev frame

# Locality: a pseudo-local proposal II

- Trivial pseudo-local currents are:  $J_s \in V^\infty \quad \longrightarrow \quad \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} b_{j,J}^{(s)} = 0$

$$f_{\infty,j}(J_s) = b_{j,J}^{(s)} \tilde{J}_s + \text{Impr.} \quad \& \quad \text{Impr.} \in V_j$$

- Given a basis one can compute the coefficients  $b_j$

$$j_{s,l} = [C_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)\beta(l)\dot{\beta}(l)} C^{\beta(l)\dot{\beta}(l)} + \dots] y^{\alpha(s)} \bar{y}^{\dot{\alpha}(s)} = c_l^{(s)} \tilde{J}_s + \text{Impr.}$$

*primary canonical*  $\nearrow$   
 $c_l^{(s)} \sim l^{2s} (l!)^2$

$$J_s = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} g_l j_{s,l} = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \left( \sum_{l=0}^j g_l c_l^{(s)} \right) \tilde{J}_s + \text{Impr.}$$

- Converges if:  $g_l \prec \frac{1}{l^{2s+1}} \left( \frac{1}{l!} \right)^2$   $b_{j,J}^{(s)}$

*This defines a pseudo-local functional class preserving the cohomology*

# Locality: String Field Theory

0-0-s vertex in open string theory is also pseudo-local!

$$\mathcal{V}_3 \sim |y_{12}y_{13}y_{23}| \exp \left[ \alpha' \sum_{i \neq j} p_i \cdot p_j \ln |y_{ij}| - \frac{\sqrt{2\alpha'}}{y_{31}} p_3 \cdot \alpha_{+1} \right] \Phi^*(p_2) \Phi(p_3) \Phi_{\underline{m}(s)}(p_1) \alpha_{-1}^{\underline{m}(s)}$$

One can split the latter in improvements and canonical currents (local cohomology):

$s=1$ :

$$J^{\underline{m}} \sim \exp \left( -\alpha' \square \ln \left| \frac{y_{23}}{y_{31}y_{12}} \right| \right) \Phi^* \overset{\leftrightarrow}{\partial}^{\underline{m}} \Phi = \Phi^* \overset{\leftrightarrow}{\partial}^{\underline{m}} \Phi - \alpha' \left( \ln \left| \frac{y_{23}}{y_{31}y_{12}} \right| \right) \square \underbrace{(\Phi^* \overset{\leftrightarrow}{\partial}^{\underline{m}} \Phi)} + \dots$$



- Canonical current comes with a finite coefficient compatible with Virasoro
- All infinite tail contributes! (no redefs involved)
- The locality proposal works for ST

$$J^{\underline{m}(s)} \sim \frac{1}{s!} \Phi^* \overset{\leftrightarrow}{\partial}^{\underline{m}(s)} \Phi + \text{Impr.}$$

M.T. 2010, Sagnotti & M.T. 2010

**Need to write the currents as primary plus Impr.**


# Locality and Witten Diagrams (3d)

We have computed the Witten diagram associated to each basis element:



$$\square^l J^{\text{can.}}$$

$$J_s = \sum_l g_l \square^l J^{\text{can.}}$$


$$\langle J_s \mathcal{O}^* \mathcal{O} \rangle \sim \left( \sum_l g_l c_l^{(s)} \right) \frac{1}{|x_{12}|} \left( \frac{x_{12}^+}{x_{31}^+ x_{23}^+} \right)^s$$

$$\int_{AdS} \sum_l \stackrel{?}{=} \sum_l \int_{AdS}$$

*This locality proposal ensures that infinite sum and AdS integral commute – otherwise some analyticity issue may occur (??)*

# Summary

*We propose a functional class for pseudo-local theories*

## *Properties:*

- This functional class space works in String Field Theory
- It ensures that the integration over space time and infinite sum over derivatives commute (preserves holographic S-matrix)
- It is *tuned* to make primary canonical currents non-trivial cohomologies – otherwise one can consider:

$$\tilde{J}_s^{\text{can}} = \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \left( \tilde{J}_s^{\text{can}} - \frac{1}{c_l^{(s)}} \square^l \tilde{J}_s^{\text{can}} \right) = \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} (D\xi_l) = D\xi \quad ?$$

- **Puzzle:** for divergent coefficient of the cohomology the Metsaev frame cannot be reached or is singular – Intrinsically non-local cubic?? Clash with Metsaev's classification??



# Resumming Vasiliev's Backreaction

*Puzzle: Metsaev's field frame seems singular*

$$\frac{\cos(2\theta)}{12} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} l \right) J_{s=2}^{\text{can.}}$$

The series diverge as  $l^{2s-3}$

$$\frac{\cos(2\theta)}{3 \cdot 7!} \left( \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \frac{l(l+1)(l+2)^2(3l+11)(5l(l+4)+3)}{(l+3)(l+4)} \right) J_{s=4}^{\text{can.}}$$

Skvortsov & M.T. 2015

## Possible ways out:

- Vasiliev's theory may not admit a Metsaev frame (Vasiliev vs. Metsaev)
- The prescription of the equations should be improved
- The functional class needs to be enlarged (hard since we only not allow the redefinitions that would remove the cohomology)