

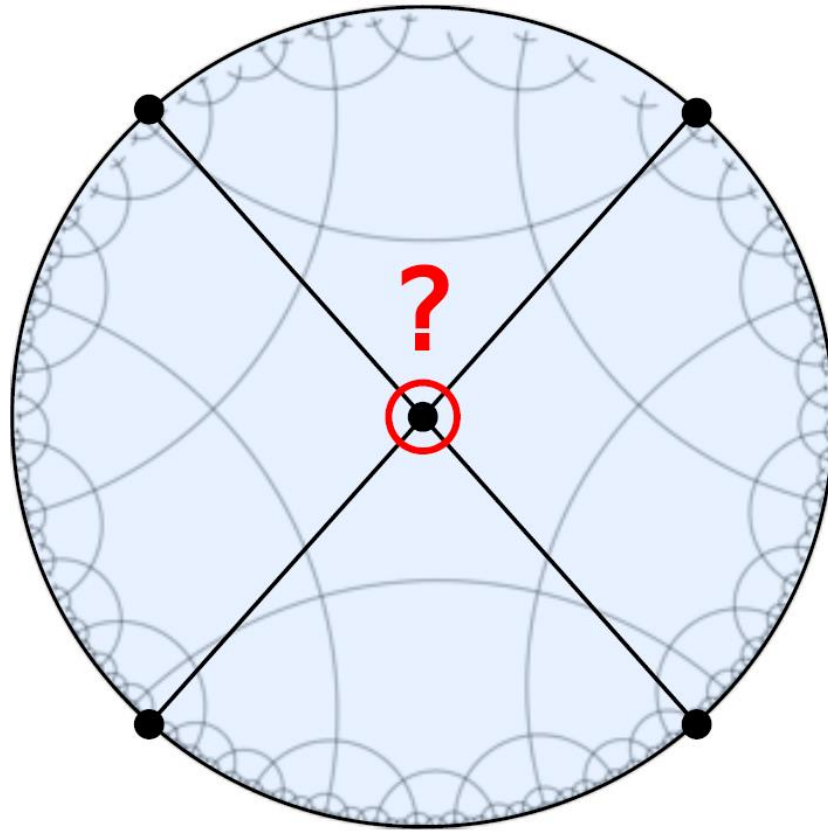
# Higher-Spin Algebras, Holography & Flat Space

Massimo Taronna



Based on: arXiv:1603.00022 & arXiv:1609.00991 (with Charlotte Sleight)  
and arXiv:1602.08566

Can holography help us understand  
higher-spin Interactions?



# What do we want to know?

- How singular is the flat limit of HS theories?
- Can AdS/CFT teach us about non-localities in HS context?
- **How to check** AdS/CFT dualities?

# Conventional Approach: Noether

Take as starting point the FronsdaL Lagrangian

[FronsdaL '78]

$$S^{(2)} = \sum_s \int \frac{1}{2} \varphi^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s} \square \varphi_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s} + \dots$$

$$\delta^{(0)} \varphi_{\mu(s)} = \nabla_\mu \xi_{\mu(s-1)}$$

Consider a **weak field expansion** of a would be non-linear action and enforce gauge invariance:

$$\begin{aligned} S &= S^{(2)} + S^{(3)} + S^{(4)} + \dots \\ \delta \varphi &= \delta^{(0)} \varphi + \delta^{(1)} \varphi + \dots \end{aligned} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} \delta^{(0)} S^{(2)} &= 0 \\ \delta^{(1)} S^{(2)} + \delta^{(0)} S^{(3)} &= 0 \\ \delta^{(2)} S^{(2)} + \delta^{(1)} S^{(3)} + \delta^{(0)} S^{(4)} &= 0 \\ &\dots \end{aligned}$$

Becomes more and more **involved** beyond the cubic order (Locality?)

[Boulanger, Leclercq, Sundell 2008, M.T. 2011; Boulanger, Kessel, Skvortsov & M.T. 2015; Bekaert, Erdmenger, Ponomarev & Sleight 2015; M.T. 2016; ...]

# Holographic Approach

Higher-spin theory  
on  $\text{AdS}_{d+1}$



Free  $O(N)$  vector  
model

[Sezgin-Sundell, Klebanov-Polyakov, '02]

The diagram illustrates the holographic approach by equating an integral over  $\text{AdS}_{d+1}$  with a triangle diagram in the  $O(N)$  vector model. On the left, a shaded circular region represents  $\text{AdS}_{d+1}$ . Three wavy lines connect boundary points labeled  $\mathcal{J}_{s_1}(x_1)$ ,  $\mathcal{J}_{s_2}(x_2)$ , and  $\mathcal{J}_{s_3}(x_3)$  to a central bulk vertex labeled  $\mathcal{V}(X)$ . The entire expression is under a large integral sign  $\int_{\text{AdS}_{d+1}}$ . This is set equal to a triangle diagram on the right, where three straight lines connect the same boundary points  $\mathcal{J}_{s_1}(x_1)$ ,  $\mathcal{J}_{s_2}(x_2)$ , and  $\mathcal{J}_{s_3}(x_3)$  to form a triangle.

**Solve** the above equation for the bulk vertices  $\mathcal{V}(X)$  and check that the CFT gives a solution to the Noether procedure

# Holographic Approach

Higher-spin theory  
on  $\text{AdS}_{d+1}$



Free  $O(N)$  vector  
model

[Sezgin-Sundell, Klebanov-Polyakov, '02]

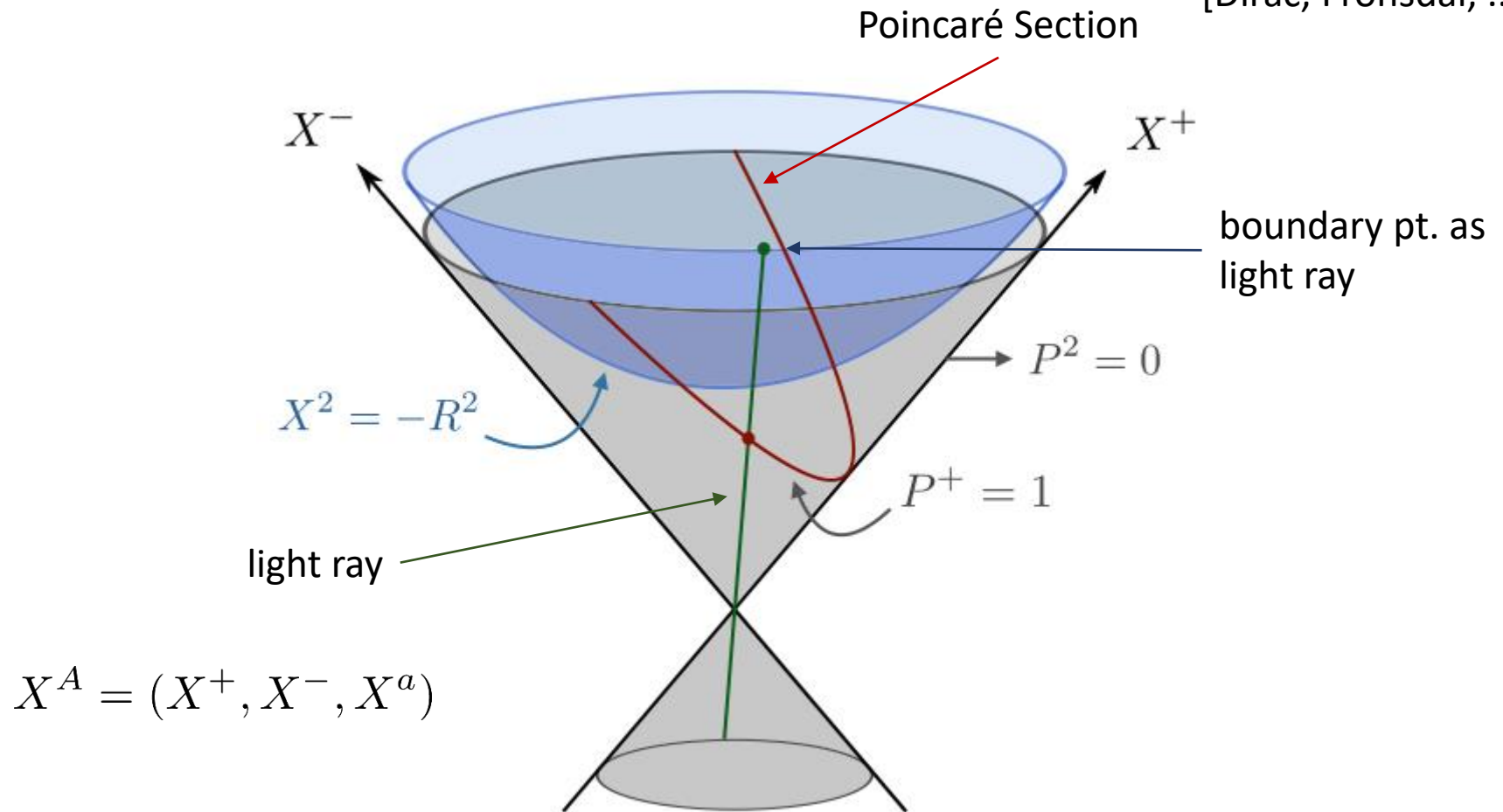
$$\int_{\text{AdS}_{d+1}} \text{tree-level processes} = \langle \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_1, s_1}(y_1) \dots \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_n, s_n}(y_n) \rangle$$

$$\approx -\frac{1}{G} \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{\delta}{\delta \bar{\varphi}_{s_1}(y_1)} S_{\text{AdS}}[\varphi_i, \varphi_i |_{\partial \text{AdS} = \bar{\varphi}_i}]$$

**Solve** the above equation for the bulk vertices  $\mathcal{V}(X)$  and check that the CFT gives a solution to the Noether procedure

# Ambient Space Trick

[Dirac, Fronsdal, ...]



$$X^A = (X^+, X^-, X^a)$$

$$\nabla^M = \partial_X^M - \frac{1}{X^2} (X^M X \cdot \partial_X + \dots)$$

# Ambient Space Trick

$$\varphi_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s}(x) \rightarrow \Phi_{A_1 \dots A_s}(X)$$

point intrinsic  
to AdS

Ambient point

To ensure same # d.o.f.  
&  
one-to-one correspondence:

$$X^A \varphi_{AA_2 \dots A_s}(X) = 0$$

$$(X \cdot \partial_X - \Delta) \varphi_{A_1 \dots A_s} = 0$$

Generating function notation:

$$\varphi_{A_1 \dots A_s}(X) \rightarrow \varphi(X, U) = \frac{1}{s!} \varphi_{A_1 \dots A_s}(X) U^{A_1} \dots U^{A_s}$$



# Bulk Cubic Couplings

Most general coupling (up to total deriv & redefs): sum of **building blocks**:

$$I_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{n_1, n_2, n_3}(\Phi_i) = \eta^{M_1(n_3)M_2(n_3)} \eta^{M_2(n_1)M_3(n_1)} \eta^{M_3(n_2)M_1(n_2)} (\partial^{N_3(k_3)} \Phi_{M_1(n_2+n_3)N_1(k_1)}) \\ \times (\partial^{N_1(k_1)} \Phi_{M_2(n_3+n_1)N_2(k_2)}) (\partial^{N_2(k_2)} \Phi_{M_3(n_1+n_2)N_3(k_3)})$$

The ansatz for the bulk vertex reads:

$$\mathcal{V} = \sum_{s_i, n_i} g_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{n_1, n_2, n_3} I_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{n_1, n_2, n_3}$$

# Bulk Cubic Couplings

Most general coupling (up to total deriv & redefs): sum of **building blocks**:

$$I_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{n_1, n_2, n_3}(\Phi_i) = \eta^{M_1(n_3)M_2(n_3)} \eta^{M_2(n_1)M_3(n_1)} \eta^{M_3(n_2)M_1(n_2)} (\partial^{N_3(k_3)} \Phi_{M_1(n_2+n_3)N_1(k_1)}) \\ \times (\partial^{N_1(k_1)} \Phi_{M_2(n_3+n_1)N_2(k_2)}) (\partial^{N_2(k_2)} \Phi_{M_3(n_1+n_2)N_3(k_3)})$$

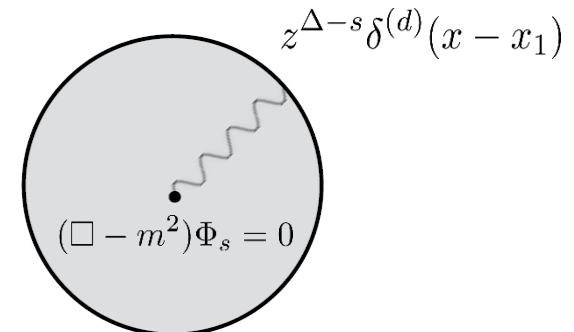
The ansatz for the bulk vertex reads:

$$\mathcal{V} = \sum_{s_i, n_i} g_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{n_1, n_2, n_3} I_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{n_1, n_2, n_3}$$

Need to solve for the relative coupling constants

Plug boundary to bulk propagators and perform the **integral** over AdS:

$$\Phi_s \sim \frac{1}{(-2P(x) \cdot X)^\Delta} (\dots)$$



# Complete Higher-Spin Cubic Action

$$g_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{n_1, n_2, n_3} = \mathcal{O}^{-1}[c_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{n_1, n_2, n_3}]$$

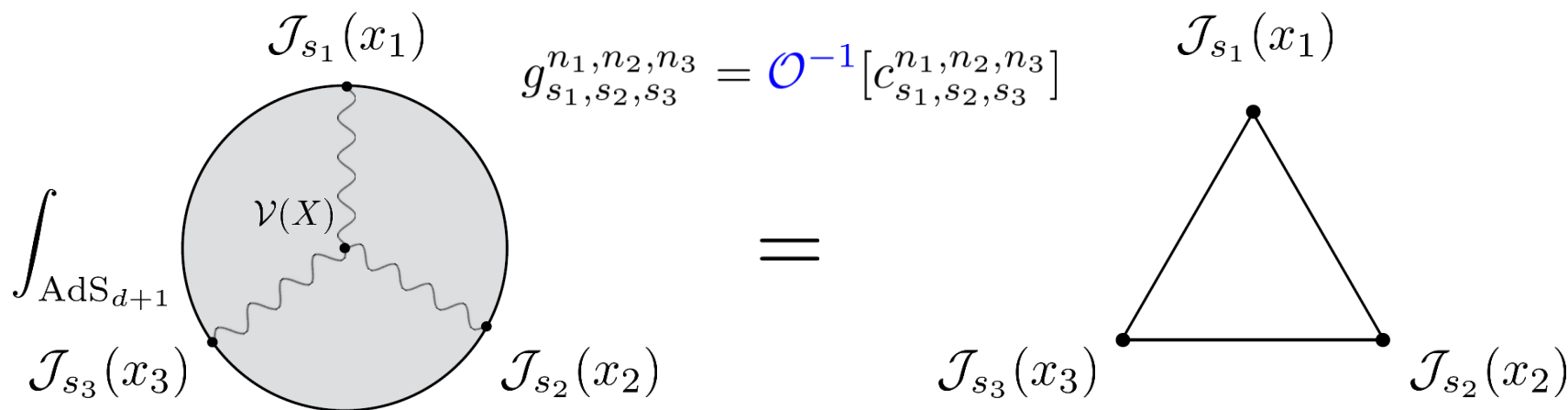
$$\mathcal{V} = \sum_{s_1, s_2, s_3} g_{s_1, s_2, s_3} I_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{0,0,0}$$

$$g_{s_1, s_2, s_3} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \frac{\pi^{\frac{d-3}{4}} 2^{\frac{3d-1+s_1+s_2+s_3}{2}}}{\Gamma(d+s_1+s_2+s_3-3)} \prod_{i=1}^3 \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma(s_i + \frac{d-1}{2})}{\Gamma(s_i + 1)}}$$

We obtain the **complete higher-spin cubic action**

$$I_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{0,0,0}(\Phi_i) = (\partial^{N_3(k_3)} \Phi_{N_1(k_1)}) (\partial^{N_1(k_1)} \Phi_{N_2(k_2)}) (\partial^{N_2(k_2)} \Phi_{N_3(k_3)})$$

# Complete Higher-Spin Cubic Action



The diagram illustrates the equivalence between an integral over AdS space and a triangle Feynman diagram. On the left, a shaded circular region represents AdS space, with three wavy lines connecting boundary points labeled  $\mathcal{J}_{s_1}(x_1)$ ,  $\mathcal{J}_{s_2}(x_2)$ , and  $\mathcal{J}_{s_3}(x_3)$ . The integral is denoted by  $\int_{\text{AdS}_{d+1}}$  and the internal region is labeled  $\mathcal{V}(X)$ . In the center, the coupling  $g_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{n_1, n_2, n_3}$  is equated to  $\mathcal{O}^{-1}[c_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{n_1, n_2, n_3}]$ . On the right, a triangle Feynman diagram with vertices at the same boundary points is shown, with an equals sign between the two sides.

$$\mathcal{V} = \sum_{s_1, s_2, s_3} g_{s_1, s_2, s_3} I_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{0,0,0} \quad g_{s_1, s_2, s_3} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \frac{\pi^{\frac{d-3}{4}} 2^{\frac{3d-1+s_1+s_2+s_3}{2}}}{\Gamma(d+s_1+s_2+s_3-3)} \prod_{i=1}^3 \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma(s_i + \frac{d-1}{2})}{\Gamma(s_i + 1)}}$$

In generating functions terms

$$Y_1 = \partial_{U_1} \cdot \partial_{X_2}$$

$$Y_2 = \partial_{U_2} \cdot \partial_{X_3}$$

$$Y_3 = \partial_{U_3} \cdot \partial_{X_1}$$

$$H_1 = \partial_{U_2} \cdot \partial_{U_3}$$

$$H_2 = \partial_{U_3} \cdot \partial_{U_1}$$

$$H_3 = \partial_{U_1} \cdot \partial_{U_2}$$

# Complete Higher-Spin Cubic Action

The diagram illustrates the equivalence between a bulk integral and a boundary Feynman diagram. On the left, a shaded circle represents the  $\text{AdS}_{d+1}$  bulk. Inside, a wavy line represents a cubic vertex  $\mathcal{V}(X)$  with three external legs connecting to boundary points  $\mathcal{J}_{s_1}(x_1)$ ,  $\mathcal{J}_{s_2}(x_2)$ , and  $\mathcal{J}_{s_3}(x_3)$ . The integral is  $\int_{\text{AdS}_{d+1}}$ . In the center, the coupling is given as  $g_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{n_1, n_2, n_3} = \mathcal{O}^{-1}[c_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{n_1, n_2, n_3}]$ . On the right, a triangle Feynman diagram with vertices  $\mathcal{J}_{s_1}(x_1)$ ,  $\mathcal{J}_{s_2}(x_2)$ , and  $\mathcal{J}_{s_3}(x_3)$  is shown, preceded by an equals sign.

$$\mathcal{V} = \sum_{s_1, s_2, s_3} g_{s_1, s_2, s_3} I_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{0,0,0} \quad g_{s_1, s_2, s_3} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \frac{\pi^{\frac{d-3}{4}} 2^{\frac{3d-1+s_1+s_2+s_3}{2}}}{\Gamma(d+s_1+s_2+s_3-3)} \prod_{i=1}^3 \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma(s_i + \frac{d-1}{2})}{\Gamma(s_i + 1)}}$$

We get:

$$I_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{0,0,0}(\Phi_i) = Y_1^{s_1} Y_2^{s_2} Y_3^{s_3} \Phi_1(X_1, U_1) \Phi_2(X_2, U_2) \Phi_3(X_3, U_3) \Big|_{X_i=X, U_i=0}$$

# Checks of the Duality

# The Holographically Reconstructed HS algebra

Cubic couplings induce deformations of gauge transformations and gauge symmetries

$$\int \left[ (\delta^{(1)} \Phi) \square \Phi + \delta^{(0)} \mathcal{V} \right] = 0$$

The first simple test is that it is possible to solve for the induced gauge transformations

The commutator of two gauge transformations closes to the lowest order automatically: extract gauge bracket (field independent)

$$\delta_{[\epsilon_1}^{(0)} \delta_{\epsilon_2]}^{(1)} \approx \delta_{\llbracket \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2 \rrbracket}^{(0)}$$

Explicit classification (modulo field and parameter redefinitions) known in constant curvature backgrounds (Joung & MT '13)

# The Classification

E. Joung & M.T.

$$P_{s_1 s_2 s_3}^{[n]} = e^{\lambda \mathcal{D}} Y_1^{s_1 - n} Y_2^{s_2 - n} Y_3^{s_3 - n} G^n \quad s_1 \geq s_2 \geq s_3$$




# The Classification

E. Joung & M.T.

$$P_{s_1 s_2 s_3}^{[n]} = e^{\lambda \mathcal{D}} Y_1^{s_1 - n} Y_2^{s_2 - n} Y_3^{s_3 - n} G^n \quad s_1 \geq s_2 \geq s_3$$

flat-space coupling



# The Classification

E. Joung & M.T.

$$P_{s_1 s_2 s_3}^{[n]} = e^{\lambda \mathcal{D}} Y_1^{s_1-n} Y_2^{s_2-n} Y_3^{s_3-n} G^n \quad s_1 \geq s_2 \geq s_3$$

Lower derivative tail

flat-space coupling

# The Classification

E. Joung & M.T.

$$P_{s_1 s_2 s_3}^{[n]} = e^{\lambda \mathcal{D}} Y_1^{s_1-n} Y_2^{s_2-n} Y_3^{s_3-n} G^n \quad s_1 \geq s_2 \geq s_3$$

Lower derivative tail

flat-space coupling

	$n$	$\# \partial$	$\delta_{E_1}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_2}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_3}^{(1)}$	$C^{(3)}$
Class I	0	$s_1 + s_2 + s_3$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_\ell, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$ $\ell = 2 \text{ or } 3$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_2+s_3-s_1}{2}$	$2 s_1$	$= 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
Class II	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_1, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_3+s_1-s_2}{2}$	$2 s_2$	$\vdots$	$= 0$	$= 0$	
Class III	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\Lambda$	
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_1+s_2-s_3}{2}$	$2 s_3$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\Lambda$	
Class IV	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$s_3$	$s_1 + s_2 - s_3$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	

# The Classification

E. Joung & M.T.

$$P_{s_1 s_2 s_3}^{[n]} = e^{\lambda \mathcal{D}} Y_1^{s_1-n} Y_2^{s_2-n} Y_3^{s_3-n} G^n \quad s_1 \geq s_2 \geq s_3$$

Do not deform gauge transformations

Lower derivative tail

flat-space coupling

	$n$	$\# \partial$	$\delta_{E_1}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_2}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_3}^{(1)}$	$C^{(3)}$
Class I	0	$s_1 + s_2 + s_3$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_\ell, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$ $\ell = 2 \text{ or } 3$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_2+s_3-s_1}{2}$	$2 s_1$	$= 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
Class II	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_1, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_3+s_1-s_2}{2}$	$2 s_2$	$\vdots$	$= 0$	$= 0$	
Class III	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\Lambda$	
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_1+s_2-s_3}{2}$	$2 s_3$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\Lambda$	
Class IV	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$s_3$	$s_1 + s_2 - s_3$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	

# The Classification

E. Joung & M.T.

$$P_{s_1 s_2 s_3}^{[n]} = e^{\lambda \mathcal{D}} Y_1^{s_1-n} Y_2^{s_2-n} Y_3^{s_3-n} G^n \quad s_1 \geq s_2 \geq s_3$$

Do not deform gauge transformations

Lower derivative tail

flat-space coupling

Current Interactions

	$n$	$\# \partial$	$\delta_{E_1}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_2}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_3}^{(1)}$	$C^{(3)}$
Class I	0	$s_1 + s_2 + s_3$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_\ell, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$ $\ell = 2 \text{ or } 3$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_2+s_3-s_1}{2}$	$2 s_1$	$= 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
Class II	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_1, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_3+s_1-s_2}{2}$	$2 s_2$	$\vdots$	$= 0$	$= 0$	
Class III	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\Lambda$	
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_1+s_2-s_3}{2}$	$2 s_3$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\Lambda$	
Class IV	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$s_3$	$s_1 + s_2 - s_3$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	

# The Classification

E. Joung & M.T.

$$P_{s_1 s_2 s_3}^{[n]} = e^{\lambda \mathcal{D}} Y_1^{s_1-n} Y_2^{s_2-n} Y_3^{s_3-n} G^n \quad s_1 \geq s_2 \geq s_3$$

Do not deform gauge transformations

Lower derivative tail

flat-space coupling

Current Interactions

Quasi minimal couplings

	$n$	$\# \partial$	$\delta_{E_1}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_2}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_3}^{(1)}$	$C^{(3)}$
Class I	0	$s_1 + s_2 + s_3$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_\ell, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$ $\ell = 2 \text{ or } 3$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_2+s_3-s_1}{2}$	$2 s_1$	$= 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
Class II	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_1, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_3+s_1-s_2}{2}$	$2 s_2$	$\vdots$	$= 0$	$= 0$	
Class III	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\Lambda$	
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_1+s_2-s_3}{2}$	$2 s_3$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\Lambda$	
Class IV	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$s_3$	$s_1 + s_2 - s_3$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	

# The Classification

E. Joung & M.T.

$$P_{s_1 s_2 s_3}^{[n]} = e^{\lambda \mathcal{D}} Y_1^{s_1-n} Y_2^{s_2-n} Y_3^{s_3-n} G^n \quad s_1 \geq s_2 \geq s_3$$

Do not deform gauge transformations

Lower derivative tail

flat-space coupling

Current Interactions

Gravitational coupling

Quasi minimal couplings

	$n$	$\# \partial$	$\delta_{E_1}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_2}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_3}^{(1)}$	$C^{(3)}$
Class I	0	$s_1 + s_2 + s_3$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_\ell, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$ $\ell = 2 \text{ or } 3$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_2+s_3-s_1}{2}$	$2 s_1$	$= 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
Class II	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_1, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_3+s_1-s_2}{2}$	$2 s_2$	$\vdots$	$= 0$	$= 0$	
Class III	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\Lambda$	
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_1+s_2-s_3}{2}$	$2 s_3$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\Lambda$	
Class IV	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$s_3$	$s_1 + s_2 - s_3$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	

# The Classification

E. Joung & M.T.

$$P_{s_1 s_2 s_3}^{[n]} = e^{\lambda \mathcal{D}} Y_1^{s_1-n} Y_2^{s_2-n} Y_3^{s_3-n} G^n \quad s_1 \geq s_2 \geq s_3$$

Do not deform gauge transformations

Lower derivative tail

flat-space coupling

Current Interactions

Gravitational coupling

Quasi minimal couplings

	$n$	$\# \partial$	$\delta_{E_1}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_2}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_3}^{(1)}$	$C^{(3)}$
Class I	0	$s_1 + s_2 + s_3$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_\ell, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$ $\ell = 2 \text{ or } 3$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_2+s_3-s_1}{2}$	$2 s_1$	$= 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
Class II	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_1, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_3+s_1-s_2}{2}$	$2 s_2$	$\vdots$	$= 0$	$= 0$	
Class III	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\Lambda$	Reason why flat limit is hard
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_1+s_2-s_3}{2}$	$2 s_3$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\Lambda$	
Class IV	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$s_3$	$s_1 + s_2 - s_3$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	



# The Classification

E. Joung & M.T.

$$P_{s_1 s_2 s_3}^{[n]} = e^{\lambda \mathcal{D}} Y_1^{s_1-n} Y_2^{s_2-n} Y_3^{s_3-n} G^n \quad s_1 \geq s_2 \geq s_3$$

Do not deform gauge transformations

Lower derivative tail

flat-space coupling

Current Interactions

Gravitational coupling

Quasi minimal couplings

	$n$	$\# \partial$	$\delta_{E_1}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_2}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_3}^{(1)}$	$C^{(3)}$
Class I	0	$s_1 + s_2 + s_3$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_\ell, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$ $\ell = 2 \text{ or } 3$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_2+s_3-s_1}{2}$	$2 s_1$	$= 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
Class II	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_1, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_3+s_1-s_2}{2}$	$2 s_2$	$\vdots$	$= 0$	$= 0$	
Class III	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\Lambda$	Reason why flat limit is hard
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_1+s_2-s_3}{2}$	$2 s_3$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\Lambda$	
Class IV	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$s_3$	$s_1 + s_2 - s_3$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	

$$[E_1, E_2]_3^{(0)} \neq 0 \quad \text{iff} \quad \delta_{E_1}^{(1)} \neq 0 \quad \& \quad \delta_{E_2}^{(1)} \neq 0$$

# Quartic Consistency

At cubic order no condition is imposed on the deformations but at quartic

A key trick is to focus on Killing tensors  
(asymptotic charges)

$$\nabla_\mu \epsilon_{\mu(s-1)} = 0 \longrightarrow \boxed{\phantom{\epsilon_{\mu(s-1)}}}$$

## Jacobi:

Fradking & Vasiliev; Boulanger, Ponomarev, Skvortsov & MT

## Admissibility:

Konstein & Vasiliev; Boulanger, Kessel, Skvortsov & MT

## Cubic covariance:

$$[[\epsilon_1, [[\epsilon_2, \epsilon_3]]^{(0)}]]^{(0)} + \text{cyclic} = 0$$

$$\delta_{[\epsilon_1}^{(1)} \delta_{\epsilon_2]}^{(1)} \approx \delta_{[[\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2]]^{(0)}}^{(1)}$$

$$\delta_\epsilon^{(1)} S^{(3)} \approx 0$$

*Completely fix*  $S^{(3)}$

A test in this context goes backwards: we have the cubic action and we can test that it solves the above necessary conditions

# The Holographically Reconstructed HS algebra

The deformation of the gauge algebra induced by the cubic couplings **matches** the structure constants of the HS algebras **in any D**

$$\left\langle \epsilon_3 | \llbracket \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2 \rrbracket^{(0)} \right\rangle \stackrel{?}{=} \text{Tr} \left[ \boxed{\phantom{\epsilon_1}} \star \boxed{\phantom{\epsilon_2}} \star \boxed{\phantom{\epsilon_3}} \right]$$


[Eastwood, Vasiliev; Joung, Mkrtchyan ...]

The **reconstructed bracket** reproduces as expected the HS algebra structure constants with the following normalisation of the invariant bilinear:

$$\text{Tr}(T_s \star T_s) = \frac{1}{(s-1)!^2} \frac{\pi^{\frac{d}{2}-1} s 2^{d-4s+7} \Gamma\left(\frac{d}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{d-3}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{d-5}{2} + s\right)}$$

[C.Sleight & M.T. 1609.00991]

Flat Limit

# The Classification

$$P_{s_1 s_2 s_3}^{[n]} = e^{\lambda \mathcal{D}} Y_1^{s_1 - n} Y_2^{s_2 - n} Y_3^{s_3 - n} G^n \quad s_1 \geq s_2 \geq s_3$$

	$n$	$\# \partial$	$\delta_{E_1}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_2}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_3}^{(1)}$	$C^{(3)}$
Class I	0	$s_1 + s_2 + s_3$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_\ell, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$ $\ell = 2 \text{ or } 3$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_2 + s_3 - s_1}{2}$	$2 s_1$	$= 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
Class II	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_1, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_3 + s_1 - s_2}{2}$	$2 s_2$	$\vdots$	$= 0$	$= 0$	
Class III	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\Lambda$	Reason why flat limit is hard
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_1 + s_2 - s_3}{2}$	$2 s_3$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\Lambda$	
Class IV	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$s_3$	$s_1 + s_2 - s_3$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	

Gravitational coupling



# The Classification

$$P_{s_1 s_2 s_3}^{[n]} = e^{\lambda \mathcal{D}} Y_1^{s_1 - n} Y_2^{s_2 - n} Y_3^{s_3 - n} G^n \quad s_1 \geq s_2 \geq s_3$$

Gravitational  
coupling 

	$n$	$\# \partial$	$\delta_{E_1}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_2}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{E_3}^{(1)}$	$C^{(3)}$
Class I	0	$s_1 + s_2 + s_3$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$= 0$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_\ell, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$ $\ell = 2 \text{ or } 3$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_2 + s_3 - s_1}{2}$	$2 s_1$	$= 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
Class II	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\approx \tilde{K}(Y_1, H_{12}, H_{23}, H_{31})$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_3 + s_1 - s_2}{2}$	$2 s_2$	$\vdots$	$= 0$	$= 0$	
Class III	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	$\Lambda$	Reason why flat limit is hard
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$\frac{s_1 + s_2 - s_3}{2}$	$2 s_3$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\Lambda$	
Class IV	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\neq 0$	
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
	$s_3$	$s_1 + s_2 - s_3$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	$\neq 0$	

$$[T_s, T_s] \sim T_2$$

$$[T_2, T_s] \sim \Lambda T_s \rightarrow 0$$

# Ambient Space Interpretation

A flat space total derivative gives a non-vanishing AdS coupling

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^{d+2}} d^{d+2}X \delta(\sqrt{-X^2} + 1) \partial_X^A f_A(X) \neq 0$$

AdS couplings can be written exactly as flat space ones but with appropriate choice of boundary terms

$$Y_1^{s_1} Y_2^{s_2} Y_3^{s_3} \Phi_1 \Phi_2 \Phi_3 \longrightarrow \Lambda^{s_1+s_2+s_3-2} \nabla^2 \Phi^3$$

In principle we can rewrite also the above coupling as a total derivative...

...flat limit ambiguous (non-abelian structure appear as total derivative)

[Joung, M.T.; Conde, Joung, Mkrtychyan]

# Ambient Space Interpretation

A flat space total derivative gives a non-vanishing AdS coupling

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^{d+2}} d^{d+2}X \delta(\sqrt{-X^2} + 1) \partial_X^A f_A(X) \neq 0$$

AdS couplings can be written exactly as flat space ones but with appropriate choice of boundary terms

$$Y_1^{s_1} Y_2^{s_2} Y_3^{s_3} \Phi_1 \Phi_2 \Phi_3 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \Lambda^{s_1+s_2+s_3-2} \nabla^2 \Phi^3$$

In principle we can rewrite also the above coupling as a total derivative...

...flat limit ambiguous (non-abelian structure appear as total derivative)

[Joung, M.T.; Conde, Joung, Mkrtchyan]

**But the non-abelian structure should  
be non-vanishing!!**



# Metsaev's light-cone couplings?

Metsaev fixed **all cubic coupling** in flat space by requiring **Poincaré invariance** up to the quartic order:

$$\varphi^{+\dots} = 0$$

$$\mathcal{V} = \sum_{|s_i|=0}^{\infty} \frac{(il)^{s_1+s_2+s_3}}{\Gamma(s_1+s_2+s_3)} \underbrace{[\partial_{x_1}(\partial_2^+ - \partial_3^+) + \text{cyclic}]}^{s_1+s_2+s_3} \frac{\varphi_{s_1}}{(\partial_{x_1}^+)^{s_1}} \frac{\varphi_{s_2}}{(\partial_{x_2}^+)^{s_2}} \frac{\varphi_{s_3}}{(\partial_{x_3}^+)^{s_3}} + h.c.$$

holomorphic-light cone momentum  $P$  ( $\bar{P}$ )

# Metsaev's light-cone couplings?

Metsaev fixed **all cubic coupling** in flat space by requiring **Poincaré invariance** up to the quartic order:

$$\varphi^{+\dots} = 0$$

$$\mathcal{V} = \sum_{|s_i|=0}^{\infty} \frac{(il)^{s_1+s_2+s_3}}{\Gamma(s_1+s_2+s_3)} [\partial_{x_1}(\partial_2^+ - \partial_3^+) + \text{cyclic}]^{s_1+s_2+s_3} \frac{\varphi_{s_1}}{(\partial_{x_1}^+)^{s_1}} \frac{\varphi_{s_2}}{(\partial_{x_2}^+)^{s_2}} \frac{\varphi_{s_3}}{(\partial_{x_3}^+)^{s_3}} + h.c.$$

Lower derivative structure non-vanishing

The overall coupling constant is the same as in  $\text{AdS}_4$

Covariantisation problematic (?) (non-local field frame?)

$\frac{P}{\bar{P}}$  **Well defined functional class**

$$f_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{(k)} \equiv Y_1^{s_1} Y_2^{s_2} Y_3^{s_3} \left( \frac{G}{Y_1 Y_2 Y_3} \right)^k \phi_1 \phi_2 \phi_3$$

In generic d we must impose  $k \leq s_{\min}$  but in 4d the light-cone gauge fixing is non singular for  $s_1+s_2+s_3-2k \geq 0$  (Exotic couplings!!)

$$\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{V}_{\text{standard}} + \# \mathcal{V}_{\text{exotic}}$$

**Non-vanishing non abelian structure**

# Metsaev's theory has HS symmetry?

In this way we obtain the following formal (non-local field frame) covariantisation:

$$\mathcal{V}^{(M)} = \sum_{s_i=0}^{\infty} \left[ \sum_k \frac{(il)^{s_1+s_2+s_3-2k}}{\Gamma(s_1+s_2+s_3-2k)} f_{s_1,s_2,s_3}^{(k)} \right]$$

The above covariantisation includes non-localities... (auxiliary fields needed??)

$$\mathcal{V} = \text{standard vertex} + (\partial_u)^{-1} \frac{(il)^{2s+2-2k}}{\Gamma(2s+2-2k)} \Big|_{k=s} = (il)^2$$

Equivalence principle in flat space!

...but is enough to extract structure constants of the would be underlying HS algebra:

$$\left\langle \epsilon_3^L | \llbracket \epsilon_1^L, \epsilon_2^L \rrbracket^{(0)} \right\rangle_{\text{Metsaev}} \stackrel{!}{=} \text{Tr} \left[ \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \phantom{0} \\ \hline \phantom{0} \\ \hline \end{array} \star \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \phantom{0} \\ \hline \phantom{0} \\ \hline \end{array} \star \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \phantom{0} \\ \hline \phantom{0} \\ \hline \end{array} \right]$$

# Summary

- Holographic reconstruction very powerful: allows to reconstruct HS action in AdS
- The coupling reconstructed are not only gauge invariant but solve the Noether procedure up to the quartic order
- First test of the duality in  $d > 4$
- Flat limit may be well defined (?)

$$\mathcal{V} = \sum_{s_1, s_2, s_3} g_{s_1, s_2, s_3} I_{s_1, s_2, s_3}^{0,0,0}$$

$$g_{s_1, s_2, s_3} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \frac{\pi^{\frac{d-3}{4}} 2^{\frac{3d-1+s_1+s_2+s_3}{2}}}{\Gamma(d+s_1+s_2+s_3-3)} \prod_{i=1}^3 \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma(s_i + \frac{d-1}{2})}{\Gamma(s_i + 1)}}$$



# A quartic functional class

Locality of quartic scalar interactions can be studied with a trick in a theory that couples the scalar to HS:

$$\mathcal{F}_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}(\phi_s) = j_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}^{(0)}$$

$$(\square + 2)\Phi(x) = \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \phi_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)} C^{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)} + \sum_{s,l} \alpha_{s,l} j_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}^{(l)} C^{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}$$

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

$$j_s^{(l)} \sim \square^l \Phi \nabla^s \Phi$$

# A quartic functional class

Locality of quartic scalar interactions can be studied with a trick in a theory that couples the scalar to HS:

$$\mathcal{F}_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}(\phi_s) = j_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}^{(0)}$$

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

$$j_s^{(l)} \sim \square^l \Phi \nabla^s \Phi$$

$$(\square + 2)\Phi(x) = \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \boxed{\phi_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}} C^{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)} + \sum_{s,l} \boxed{\alpha_{s,l} j_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}^{(l)}} C^{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}$$

A redefinition of the HS field of spin  $s$  can remove all couplings involving a term with  $s$  derivatives of the scalar (!)

$$\mathcal{F}_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}(\phi_s) = \tilde{j}_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}(\Phi, \Phi)$$

$$(\square + 2)\Phi(x) = \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \phi_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)} C^{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}$$

$$\tilde{j}_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}(\Phi, \Phi) \equiv j_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}^{(0)}(\Phi, \Phi) - \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \alpha_{s,l} \mathcal{F}_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)} \left( j_s^{(l)}(\Phi, \Phi) \right)$$

# A quartic functional class

Locality of quartic scalar interactions can be studied with a trick in a theory that couples the scalar to HS:

$$\mathcal{F}_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}(\phi_s) = j_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}^{(0)}$$

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

$$j_s^{(l)} \sim \square^l \Phi \nabla^s \Phi$$

$$(\square + 2)\Phi(x) = \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \boxed{\phi_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}} C^{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)} + \sum_{s,l} \boxed{\alpha_{s,l} j_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}^{(l)}} C^{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}$$

A redefinition of the HS field of spin  $s$  can remove all couplings involving a term with  $s$  derivatives of the scalar (!)

$$\mathcal{F}_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}(\phi_s) = \tilde{j}_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}(\Phi, \Phi)$$

$$(\square + 2)\Phi(x) = \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \phi_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)} C^{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}$$

$$\boxed{\tilde{j}_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}(\Phi, \Phi) \equiv j_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}^{(0)}(\Phi, \Phi) - \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \alpha_{s,l} \mathcal{F}_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)} \left( j_s^{(l)}(\Phi, \Phi) \right)}$$

This simply amounts to a change of the source to the HS equations by an “Improvement”



# A quartic functional class

$$\mathcal{F}_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}(\phi_s) = \tilde{j}_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}(\Phi, \Phi)$$

$$(\square + 2)\Phi(x) = \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \phi_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)} C^{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}$$

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

$$j_s^{(l)} \sim \square^l \Phi \nabla^s \Phi$$

$$\tilde{j}_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}(\Phi, \Phi) \equiv j_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)}^{(0)}(\Phi, \Phi) - \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \alpha_{s,l} \mathcal{F}_{\alpha(s)\dot{\alpha}(s)} \left( j_s^{(l)}(\Phi, \Phi) \right)$$

This simply amounts to a change of the source to the HS equations by an “Improvement”

We can now use the cubic functional class to distinguish local couplings from non-local ones

$$\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \tilde{\alpha}_l^{(s)} C_l^{(s)} = 1$$

$$\mathcal{I}_s^{(l)} = j_s^{(l-1)} - C_l^{(s)} j_s^{(0)}$$

$$\tilde{\alpha}_l^{(s)} = \delta_{l,0} - \frac{1}{4(s-1)} [l^2 \alpha_{s,l-2} + \alpha_{s,l-1} (2ls + 2(l+1)^2 + s^2) + \alpha_{s,l} (l+s+2)^2]$$

- Local quartic couplings always satisfy the above condition trivially
- Even a convergent quartic interaction can be non-local (!)

