# PERTURBATIVE STUDY OF THE LEIGH-STRASSLER DEFORMED $\mathcal{N}=4~\mathrm{SYM}$

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- K. Madhu and S. Govindarajan, JHEP 0705 (2007) 038 [arXiv:hep-th/0703020].
- K. Madhu and S. Govindarajan, To appear.

### Introduction

- The AdS/CFT correspondence as a gauge theory-string theory duality, was conjectured for  $\mathcal{N}=4$  supersymmetric Yang-Mills theory
- This Leigh-Strassler theory is a marginal deformation of  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM is interesting to extend the correspondence to cases with lesser supersymmetry, i.e,  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  supersymmetry.
- The gravity dual of this is not yet known in generality, however special cases like the β-deformation is better studied. (Lunin, Maldacena)

#### Introduction

- Chiral primary states in superconformal gauge theory are particularly useful in studying the AdS/CFT correspondence.
- We construct chiral primary states of the LS theory upto dimension 6.
- These states are found to exist in representations of a discrete symmetry group of the theory, the trihedral group  $\Delta(27)$ .
- We study the perturbative properties of the LS theory like conformal invariance, holomorphicity and symmetries to higher order.

## Leigh-Strassler deformation of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

• Consider the LS deformation of  $SU(N) \mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM

$$\mathcal{L} = \int d^2\theta d^2\bar{\theta} \operatorname{Tr}\left(e^{-gV}\bar{\Phi}e^{gV}\Phi\right) + \left[\frac{1}{2g^2}\int d^2\theta \operatorname{Tr}\left(W^{\alpha}W_{\alpha}\right) + i\hbar \int d^2\theta \operatorname{Tr}\left(q\Phi_1\Phi_2\Phi_3 - \bar{q}\Phi_1\Phi_3\Phi_2\right) + \frac{i\hbar'}{3}\int d^2\theta \operatorname{tr}\left(\Phi_1^3 + \Phi_2^3 + \Phi_3^3\right) + c.c.\right]$$

The theory is conformal invariant provided the following condition is obeyed

$$|h|^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{N^2} (q - \bar{q})^2\right) + |h'|^2 \frac{N^2 - 4}{2N^2} = g^2.$$

# The trihedral group: $\Delta(27)$

• The theory has a symmetry of the trihedral group  $\Delta(27) \sim (\mathbb{Z}_3)_R \times \mathbb{Z}_3 \rtimes \mathcal{C}_3$  acts on the fields (Aharony et al.)

$$\mathbb{Z}_3 : \Phi_1 \longrightarrow \Phi_1, \Phi_2 \longrightarrow \omega \Phi_2, \Phi_3 \longrightarrow \omega^2 \Phi_3$$
$$\mathcal{C}_3 : \Phi_1 \longrightarrow \Phi_2 \longrightarrow \Phi_3 \longrightarrow \Phi_1$$

with  $\omega$ , a non-trivial cube-root of unity and  $(\mathbb{Z}_3)_R$  is a sub-group of  $U(1)_R$ .

- $\Delta(27)$  has nine one-dimensional representations  $\mathcal{L}_{Q,j}$ and two three-dimensional representations  $\mathcal{V}_1$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2$ .
- In particular, there are polynomials which exist in the above mentioned representations, which we make use of in our work.

# Representations of $\Delta(27)$

- $\Delta(27)$  has nine one-dimensional representations  $\mathcal{L}_{Q,j}$ and two three-dimensional representations  $\mathcal{V}_1$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2$ .
- The generators h and  $\tau$  act on the one-dimensional representation v as follows:

$$h \cdot v = \omega^Q v , \quad \tau \cdot v = \omega^j v$$
 (1)

where  $v \in \mathcal{L}_{Q,j}$ . The 'charges' Q = 0, 1, 2 and j = 0, 1, 2both are clearly valued modulo three. The singlet corresponds to  $\mathcal{L}_{0,0}$  in this notation.

# Representations of $\Delta(27)$

- $\Delta(27)$  has nine one-dimensional representations  $\mathcal{L}_{Q,j}$ and two three-dimensional representations  $\mathcal{V}_1$  and  $\mathcal{V}_2$ .
- On three-dimensional representation  $\mathcal{V}_a$  with a = 1, 2

$$h \cdot \begin{pmatrix} v_0 \\ v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \omega^a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \omega^{2a} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_0 \\ v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\tau \cdot \begin{pmatrix} v_0 \\ v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_0 \\ v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Polynomials as irreps of $\Delta(27)$

- Consider three complex variables  $(z_1, z_2, z_3)$  that transform in the three-dimensional representation  $\mathcal{V}_1$  of  $\Delta(27)$ .
- For  $\Delta_0 = 0 \mod 3$ , polynomials are in the one-dimensional representations  $\mathcal{L}_{Q,j}$ . For example,

$$(z_1^3 + \omega^j z_2^3 + \omega^{2j} z_3^3) \in \mathcal{L}_{0,j}$$
,

with j = 0 giving rise to a singlet. Similarly,  $z_1 z_2 z_3$  is also a singlet.

# Polynomials as irreps of $\Delta(27)$

- Consider three complex variables  $(z_1, z_2, z_3)$  that transform in the three-dimensional representation  $\mathcal{V}_1$  of  $\Delta(27)$ .
- Solution For  $\Delta_0 \neq 0 \mod 3$ , polynomials are in the three dimensional representations  $\mathcal{V}_a$ , where *a* =  $\Delta_0 \mod 3$ . For example,

$$egin{pmatrix} z_2 z_3 \ z_3 z_1 \ z_1 z_2 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{V}_2 \; .$$

### **Chiral Primary States**

- Chiral primary states have zero anomalous dimensions.
- We will consider states made up of scalar fields.
- The anomalous dimension for such operators can be written as a modulus square.
- We find anomalous dimensions of operators  $\mathcal{O}$ diagramatically by computing  $\langle \mathcal{O}(x)\overline{\mathcal{O}}(0)\rangle$  at planar  $(N \longrightarrow \infty)$ , one-loop order. This calculation is done in component fields.

#### Interaction potential LS theory

• In terms of component fields  $V_F$  is the F-term potential

$$\begin{split} V_F &= \mathrm{Tr}\Big(|h'|^2 \bar{Z_1}^2 Z_1^2 + h\bar{h'}[Z_2, Z_3]_q \bar{Z_1}^2 - \bar{h}h'[\bar{Z_2}, \bar{Z_3}]_q Z_1^2 \\ &- |h|^2 [Z_2, Z_3]_q [\bar{Z_2}, \bar{Z_3}]_q \Big) - \frac{1}{N} \Big[ |h'|^2 \mathrm{Tr}(\bar{Z_1}^2) \mathrm{Tr}(Z_1^2) \\ &+ h\bar{h'} \mathrm{Tr}([Z_2, Z_3]_q) \mathrm{Tr}(\bar{Z_1}^2) - \bar{h}h' \mathrm{Tr}(Z_1^2) \mathrm{Tr}([\bar{Z_2}, \bar{Z_3}]_q) \\ &+ |h|^2 \mathrm{Tr}([Z_2, Z_3]_q) \Big( \mathrm{Tr}[\bar{Z_2}, \bar{Z_3}]_q \Big) \Big] + \text{cyclic permutations} \end{split}$$

*V<sub>F</sub>* has a double trace interaction which is suppressed by a factor  $\frac{1}{N}$ . We will see that this is important even in planar (*N* → ∞) limit.

#### Anomalous dimensions at planar one-loop

- For the simplest candidate operator  $\mathcal{O} = \text{Tr}(Z_1^k Z_2^l Z_3^m)$ , we compute  $\langle \mathcal{O}(x)\overline{\mathcal{O}}(0) \rangle$  to one-loop at large N.
- We observe that the contributions to anomalous dimensions from all the interactions other than  $V_F$  vanishes when we impose conformal invariance condition. This is a demonstration of the holomorphicity of the theory. (d'Hoker et al.)
- Dimension  $\Delta_0 = 2$  operators get a contribution from the  $\frac{1}{N}$  suppressed term in  $V_F$ . This cancels exactly with the contributions from the rest of the terms. Hence dimension  $\Delta_0 = 2$  operators are always protected.

#### Chiral primaries of LS theory

- There are no further chiral primaries of LS theory of the above simple form.
- We need to consider linear combinations of permutations of monomials constructed out of operators.
- These operators are in the polynomials representations of trihedral  $\Delta(27)$ .
- For example, dimension  $\Delta_0 = 4$  operator looks like

$$\mathcal{O}_{4}^{1} = \operatorname{tr} \left( Z_{2}^{4} + b \ Z_{1}^{3} Z_{2} + c \ Z_{1}^{2} Z_{3}^{2} + c_{1} Z_{1} Z_{3} Z_{1} Z_{3} \right)$$
$$+ d \ Z_{1} Z_{2}^{2} Z_{3} + \ d_{1} Z_{1} Z_{2} Z_{3} Z_{2} + d_{2} Z_{3} Z_{2}^{2} Z_{1}$$
$$+ f Z_{3}^{3} Z_{2} \right)$$

### Chiral Primaries of Leigh-Strassler theory

- This operator is in the three dimensional representation  $\mathcal{V}_1$  of  $\Delta(27)$ .
- Calculating the anomalous dimensions and writing it as a modulus square, we find that there exists a unique solution for generic values of couplings to the condition for vanishing of anomalous dimensions. Thus we obtain the chiral primary at dimension  $\Delta_0 = 4$ .

#### Chiral Primaries at planar one-loop

- At dimension  $\Delta_0 = 6$  we find that there are operators  $\mathcal{O}_6^{(0,0)}$  in the  $\mathcal{L}_{0,0}$  representation of  $\Delta_0 = 4$  that are protected. There are precisely two independent solutions, for generic values of couplings.
- Solution Solution For operators in the  $\mathcal{L}_{i,j}$ , *i* ≠ 0 and/or *j* ≠ 0 there are no generic solutions. But solutions exist on specific sub-loci of the coupling space.
- In general, if an operator has dimension  $\Delta_0 = a \mod 3$ , for generic values of couplings, when  $a = 0 \mod 3$ , there are two independent chiral primaries in the one-dimensional  $\mathcal{L}_{0,0}$  representation of  $\Delta(27)$ . When  $a \neq 0 \mod 3$ , the chiral primaries are in the three-dimensional representation  $\mathcal{V}_a$ .

#### Chiral Primaries at planar one-loop

• We can organize the chiral primaries of  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM, the  $\beta$ -deformed theory as well, since the  $\Delta(27)$  symmetry of the LS theory was obtained by breaking down the bigger invariance groups of these theories. For  $\Delta_0 > 2$ , we have the following conjecture :

Scaling dim.	$\Delta_0 = 3r$	$\Delta_0 = a \bmod 3$
$\mathcal{N} = 4$ theory	$\mathcal{L}_{0,0} \oplus rac{r(r+1)}{2}ig[\oplus_{i,j}\mathcal{L}_{i,j}ig]$	$\frac{(\Delta_0+1)(\Delta_0+2)}{6} \mathcal{V}_a$
$\beta$ -def. theory	$\mathcal{L}_{0,0}\oplus_j \mathcal{L}_{0,j}$	$\mathcal{V}_{a}$
LS theory	$2\mathcal{L}_{0,0}$	$\mathcal{V}_{a}$

### Anomalous dimension of chiral superfield

- Using SU(N) gauge invariance and the  $\Delta(27)$  symmetry we can argue that  $\gamma_J^I$  must be proportional to  $\delta_J^I$ .
- The only gauge invariant SU(N) tensor is  $\delta_b^a$ . Hence gauge invariance of the matrix  $\gamma_J^I$  implies  $\gamma_J^I \equiv \gamma_j^i \delta_b^a$ .
- $\Delta(27)$  invariance implies  $c_{112} = ... = 0$  and  $c_{111} = c_{222} = c_{333}$
- For the quantum theory to preserve  $\Delta(27)$  symmetry,  $\beta(c_{112}) = 0$ . and  $\beta(c_{111}) = \beta(c_{222})$ .
- **J** Using the JJN  $\beta$ -function

$$\beta(Y_{IJK}) \sim Y_{LJK} \ \gamma_I^L + Y_{ILK} \ \gamma_J^L + Y_{IJL} \ \gamma_K^L$$

we easily see that  $\gamma_j^i \equiv \gamma \delta_j^i$ .

### Conformal invariance of LS theory

- Hence in LS theory, there is a single condition in the coupling space which ensures marginality of the couplings. This holds true at two-loop too.
- At three-loop the anomalous dimension has a contribution (Jack, Jones, North)



However, there exists redefinitions of coupling constants that ensure the vanishing of anomalous dimension at three-loop also.

### **Effective Superpotential**

The contributions from the D-terms to the effective superpotential at two-loop are from the following Feynman diagrams



The contribution from this is proportional to W once we impose the conformal invariance condition.

### **Effective Superpotential**

- There are no corrections possible at one-loop from chiral interaction vertices.
- Holomorphy restricts the possible diagrams that can contribute to the effective action. The only diagram that gives a non-trivial contribution (that is not proportaional to the classical superpotential)



This is a finite contribution

### **Effective Superpotential**

- This contribution is related to the three-loop anomalous dimension  $\gamma^{(3)}$  calculated. It is expected that the coupling constant redefinitions that make  $\gamma^{(3)}$  vanish, remove this contribution. Thus the two-loop effective action is expected to be identical to the tree level action
- Hence holomorphy and conformal invariance can be preserved.

### Summary of results

- The symmetry group trihedral  $\Delta(27)$  of the LS theory helps to classify the chiral primary states with dimension  $\Delta_0 > 2$  in its representations, for generic values of the couplings. The multi trace interactions in  $V_F$  ensure that dimension 2 operators are always protected
- $\Delta(27)$  is essential in preserving the conformal invariance of the theory. The effective Kähler potential as well as the superpotential shows that  $\Delta(27)$  is preserved in quantum theory as well.

### Summary of results

- We observe that there are coupling constant redefinitions which ensure vanishing of anomalous dimensions to three-loop, preserving conformal invariance.
- The same coupling constant redefinitions can eliminate two-loop corrections to the superpotential hence also preserving the holomorphicity of the theory.