Mixed Correlators in 3D Conformal Field Theories

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Supervised by: David Poland

May 2017

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Background on CFT and the Conformal Bootstrap

Prior Results in the Space of 3D Ising-Like CFTs

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New Results from 3-Point Symmetry

New Results from "Theta Scan"

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- CFT plays a central role in the development of modern physics, appearing in the study of phase transitions, string theory, and dualities in quantum gravity.
- A CFT gives rise to correlation functions:

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_1(x_1)\mathcal{O}_2(x_2)\ldots\mathcal{O}_n(x_n)\rangle$$
.

Conversely, these correlators give information about a CFT.

Correlation Functions

 Conformal symmetry constrains the form of all two point correlators

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(x_1)\mathcal{O}(x_2)\rangle = \frac{\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{O}}}{|x_1-x_2|^{2\Delta_{\mathcal{O}}}}$$

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and the three point correlators:

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 $C_{\mathcal{O}}$ and C_{123} are constants depending only on the field \mathcal{O} . $\Delta_{\mathcal{O}}$ is called the **scaling dimension** of \mathcal{O} . Crossing Symmetry: The Conformal Bootstrap

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Associativity condition on the 4-point functions:

$$\langle \phi(x_1)\phi(x_2)\phi(x_3)\phi(x_4) \rangle = \langle \phi(x_1)\phi(x_2)\phi(x_3)\phi(x_4) \rangle$$

Crossing Symmetry: The Conformal Bootstrap

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This constraint, together with the OPE allows us to determine whether a given set of CFT data (field scaling dimensions, etc.) can give rise to an actual CFT.

The Space of 3D Ising-Like CFTs

• In 3D, operators of scaling dimension \leq 3 are called **relevant**.

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Key Question:

Are there other 3D "Ising-like" CFTs?

1. Two relevant operators (scaling dimensions < 3)

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Conjectured answer:

- 1. Two relevant operators (scaling dimensions < 3)
- 2. One is \mathbb{Z}_2 -even, one is \mathbb{Z}_2 -odd
- Key question rephrased (open problem):

What other values of $(\Delta_{\sigma}, \Delta_{\varepsilon})$ give rise to valid 3D CFTs?

Conjectured answer:

Literally none.

Method of Attack

Expansions of functions corresponding to the associativity of the correlators ⟨σσσσ⟩, ⟨εεεε⟩, ⟨σσεε⟩ give us the constraints for the CFT.

Method of Attack

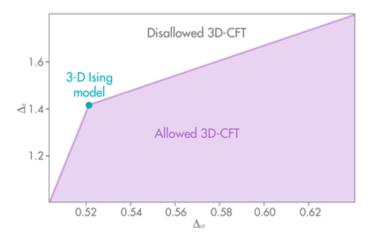
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- Essentially, we want to see whether a given series can equal zero
- This leads a task in semidefinite programming, implemented by David Simmons-Duffin's 'SDPB'

Prior Results

Using just the associativity conditions on $\langle \sigma \sigma \sigma \sigma \rangle^1$:



Prior Results



Physics Mathematics Biology Computer Science All Articles

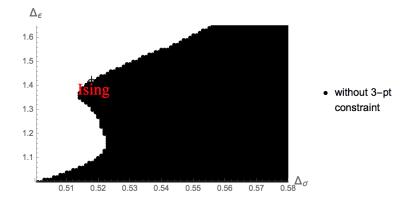
Physicists Uncover Geometric 'Theory Space'





Prior Results

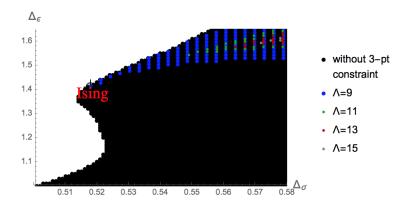
Using mixed correlators²:



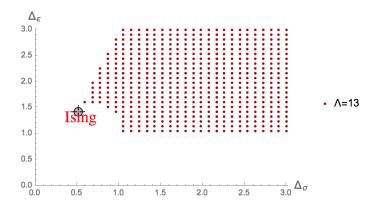
²Plotted from Aaron Hillman's work last semester $\Box \rightarrow \langle \Box \rangle \rightarrow \langle \Xi \rightarrow \langle \Xi \rangle \rightarrow \Xi \rightarrow \langle \Box \rangle$

Enforcing 3 point Symmetry

Using the package 'cboot' that makes use of a further symmetry in the 3-point coefficients $\lambda_{\sigma\epsilon\sigma} = \lambda_{\sigma\sigma\epsilon}$:



Not very close to being global...



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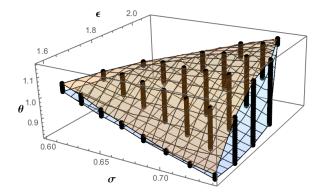
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Scanning over 3-point Functions

Define $\tan \theta = \lambda_{\sigma\sigma\epsilon}/\lambda_{\epsilon\epsilon\epsilon}$. We now scan over all possible $(\Delta_{\sigma}, \Delta_{\epsilon}, \theta)$:

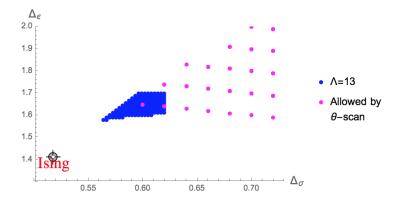
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Scanning over 3-point Functions

Define $\tan \theta = \lambda_{\sigma\sigma\epsilon}/\lambda_{\epsilon\epsilon\epsilon}$. Projection to 2D:



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Next steps:

- 1. See how we can get results using much higher A, e.g. $\Lambda=30.$
- 2. Trace the size of the region excluded as a function of $\Lambda \to \infty$