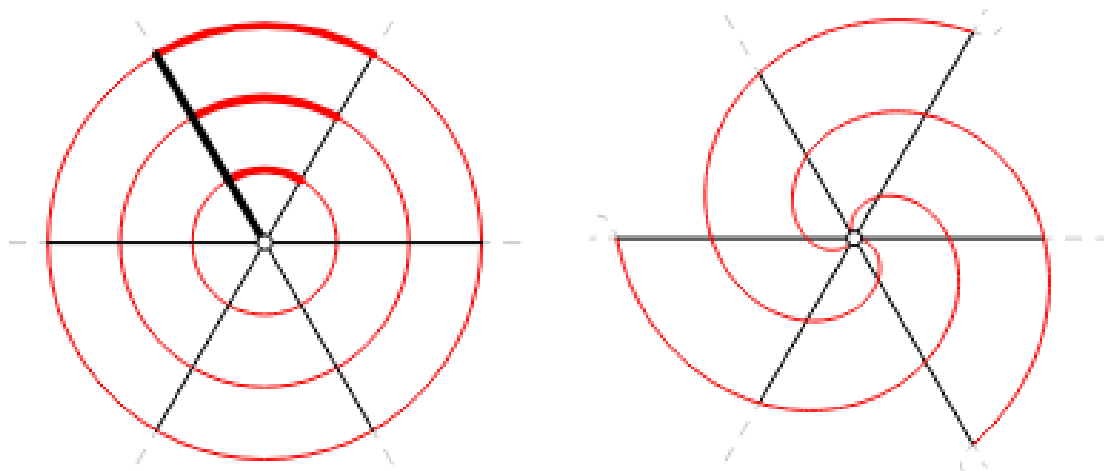


# Integrability and the spectrum of two-dimensional fishnet CFT

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Simon Ekhammar,<sup>1,2</sup> Nikolay Gromov,<sup>1</sup> Fedor Levkovich-Maslyuk,<sup>3</sup> Paul Ryan<sup>4</sup>



4D biscalar fishnet theory

$$\mathcal{L}_\phi = \frac{N_c}{2} \text{Tr} \left( \partial^\mu \phi_1^\dagger \partial_\mu \phi_1 + \partial^\mu \phi_2^\dagger \partial_\mu \phi_2 + 2\xi^2 \phi_1^\dagger \phi_2^\dagger \phi_1 \phi_2 \right)$$

SU(N) matrix-valued fields

Non-hermitian

- complex energies

coupling constant

- No gauge fields

- No SUSY

- Non-unitary

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SU(N) matrix-valued fields

Non-hermitian

- complex energies

coupling constant

- No gauge fields
- No SUSY
- Non-unitary

So why care?

## 4D biscalar fishnet theory

$$\mathcal{L}_\phi = \frac{N_c}{2} \text{Tr} \left( \partial^\mu \phi_1^\dagger \partial_\mu \phi_1 + \partial^\mu \phi_2^\dagger \partial_\mu \phi_2 + 2\xi^2 \phi_1^\dagger \phi_2^\dagger \phi_1 \phi_2 \right)$$

SU(N) matrix-valued fields

Non-hermitian  
- complex energies

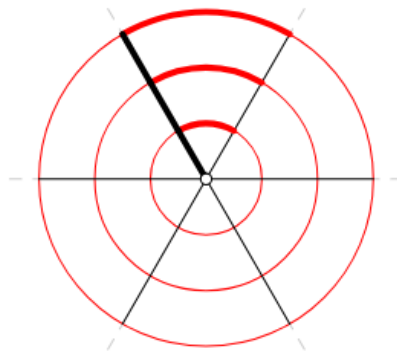
coupling constant

- No gauge fields
- No SUSY
- Non-unitary

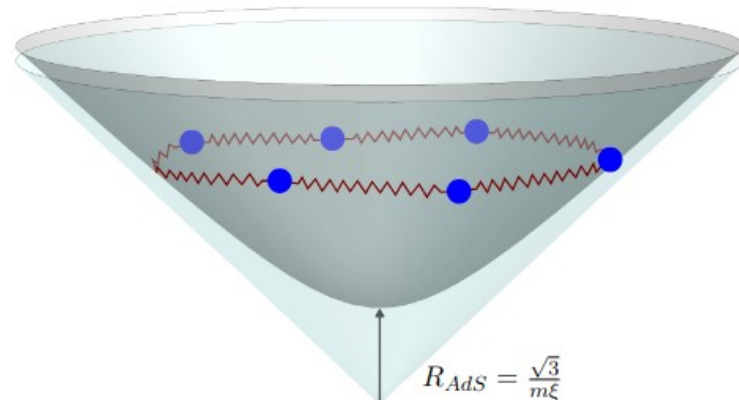
## So why care?

- Conformal
- Feynman diagrams immensely simple
  - one diagram each loop order
- Double scaling limit of planar N=4 SYM
  - inherits integrability
  - + exact spectrum from Quantum Spectral Curve

wheel graphs



Exact holographic dual

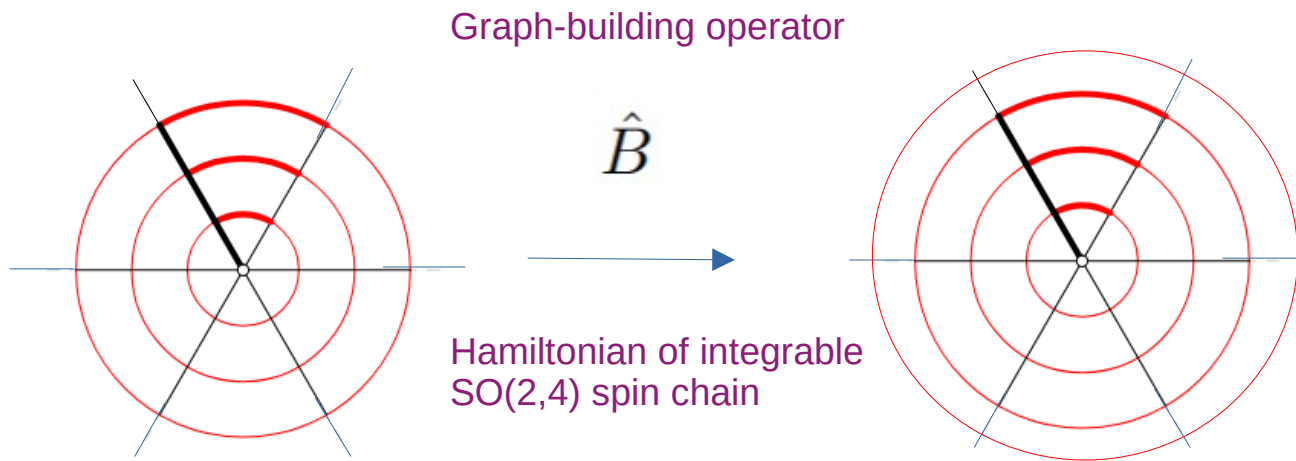


## Integrability of fishnet theory

at level of Feynman diagrams  
(point-split 2-pt function)

Exact point-split correlators

$$\hat{B}\Psi(x) = \Psi(x)$$

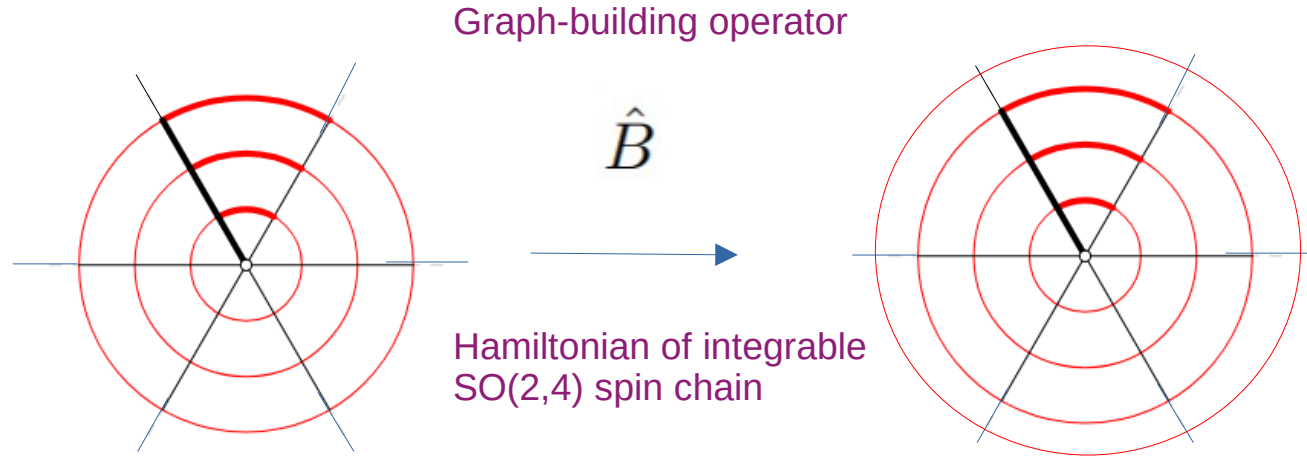


## Integrability of fishnet theory

at level of Feynman diagrams  
(point-split 2-pt function)

Exact point-split correlators

$$\hat{B}\Psi(x) = \Psi(x)$$



Fishnet theory admits extension to any D

$$\mathcal{L} = N \operatorname{tr} \left[ \phi_1^\dagger (-\partial_\mu \partial^\mu)^{\frac{D}{4}} \phi_1 + \phi_2^\dagger (-\partial_\mu \partial^\mu)^{\frac{D}{4}} \phi_2 + (4\pi)^{\frac{D}{2}} \xi^2 \phi_1^\dagger \phi_2^\dagger \phi_1 \phi_2 \right]$$

- generally non-local + non-unitary
- Conformal + integrable (same Feynman diagram structure) – SO(1,D+1) spin chain structure
- No “parent” theory like N=4 SYM to import exact techniques like Quantum Spectral Curve from

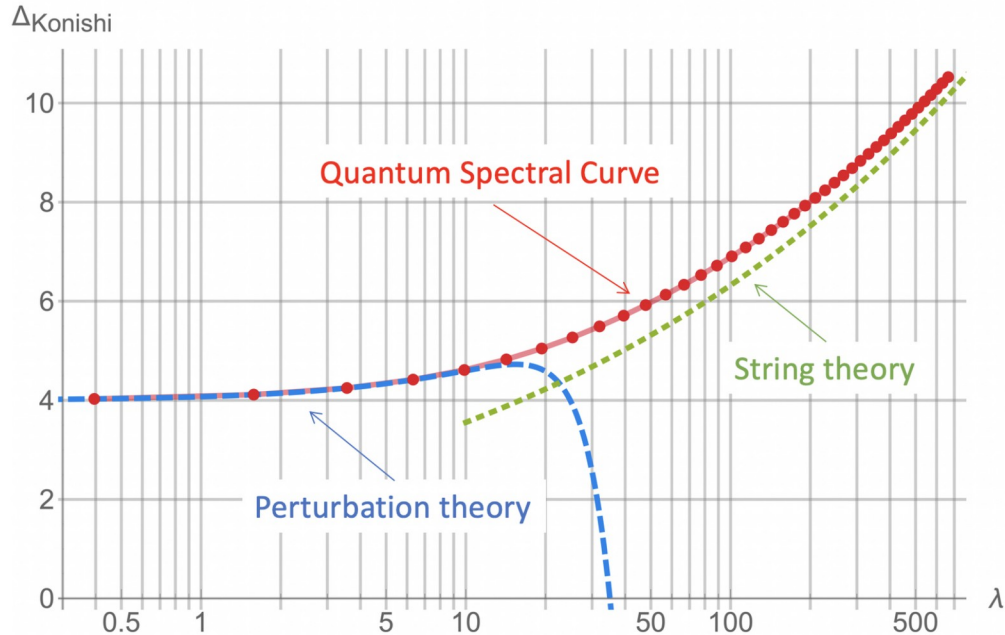
Main Motivation

# Quantum Spectral Curve

Exact solution of spectral problem of planar N=4 SYM

[Gromov, Kazakov, Leurent, Volin]

Interpolates between weakly-coupled gauge theory and string theory at strong coupling

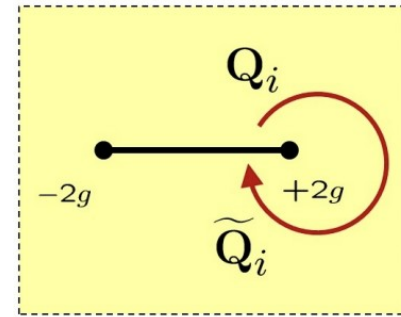


## What is it?

- collection of functions  $Q(u)$  of a single complex variable  $u$
- relations fixed by symmetry –  $\mathfrak{psu}(2,2|4)$
- model-dependent analytic properties



Branch points related to 't Hooft coupling



$$g = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{4\pi}$$

Q-functions encode conformal dimension

$$Q(u) \sim u^\Delta$$

# A Quantum Spectral Curve based approach to structure constants?

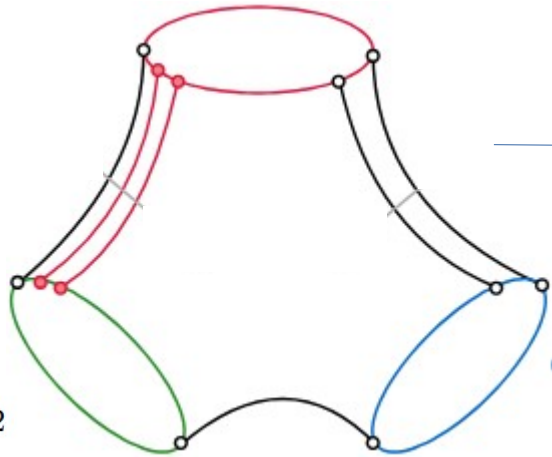
- any operator, any size (hexagons need large operators)
- strong coupling
- should naturally incorporate qualitative features like analyticity in spin (spin discrete in hexagons)

On-going program

[Basso, Cavaglià, Bargheer, Bercini, Caron-Huot, Coronado, Ekhammar, Georgoudis, Giombi, Gromov, Homrich, Jiang, Julius, Komatsu, Kostov, Lai, Levkovich-Maslyuk, Preti, PR, Serban, Sokolova, Sueiro, Trinh, Vieira, Volin, Zahraee ...]

Operators  $\leftrightarrow$  Q-functions by QSC

$$\mathcal{O}_1 \sim Q_1$$



Some functional which eats Q-functions

$$\mathcal{F}(Q_1, Q_2, Q_3)$$

$$C_{123}$$

Separation of Variables

Fishnet CFT is the ideal testing ground to develop this formalism

- 2D especially simple –  $SL(2)$  spin chain
- can important Separation of Variables from earlier work [Derkachov, Korchemsky, Manashov]
- No Quantum Spectral Curve – need to develop it!
- Spin chain is so simple we have an exact operatorial construction of the model at finite-coupling (don't have this in  $N=4$  SYM)
- We can develop Quantum Spectral Curve from first principals

# Quantum Spectral Curve for 2D Fishnet

$$\dot{h} - h = S \quad \dot{h} + h = \Delta$$

Conformal symmetry  $so(1,3) = sl(2) \oplus sl(2)$

Undotted sector

Baxter Equation

$$(u + \frac{i}{4})^J q(u+i) - t(u)q(u) + (u - \frac{i}{4})^J q(u-i) = 0$$

Linearly independent solutions, large-u asymptotics

$$q_1(u) \sim u^h + \dots, \quad q_2(u) \sim u^{1-h} + \dots$$

Freedom in pole structure  $q_j^\downarrow \quad q_j^\uparrow$

Transition matrix  $q_j^\uparrow = \Omega_j^k(u) q_k^\downarrow$

Dotted sector

$$(u + \frac{i}{4})^J \dot{q}(u+i) - \dot{t}(u)\dot{q}(u) + (u - \frac{i}{4})^J \dot{q}(u-i) = 0$$

Independent solutions

$$\dot{q}_1(u) \sim u^{\dot{h}} + \dots, \quad \dot{q}_2(u) \sim u^{1-\dot{h}} + \dots$$

$\dot{q}_j^\downarrow \quad \dot{q}_j^\uparrow$

$$\dot{q}_j^\uparrow = \dot{\Omega}_j^k(u) \dot{q}_k^\downarrow$$

Gluing

$$\Gamma^{ik} \Omega_k^j = \Gamma^{jk} \dot{\Omega}_k^i, \quad \Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix}$$

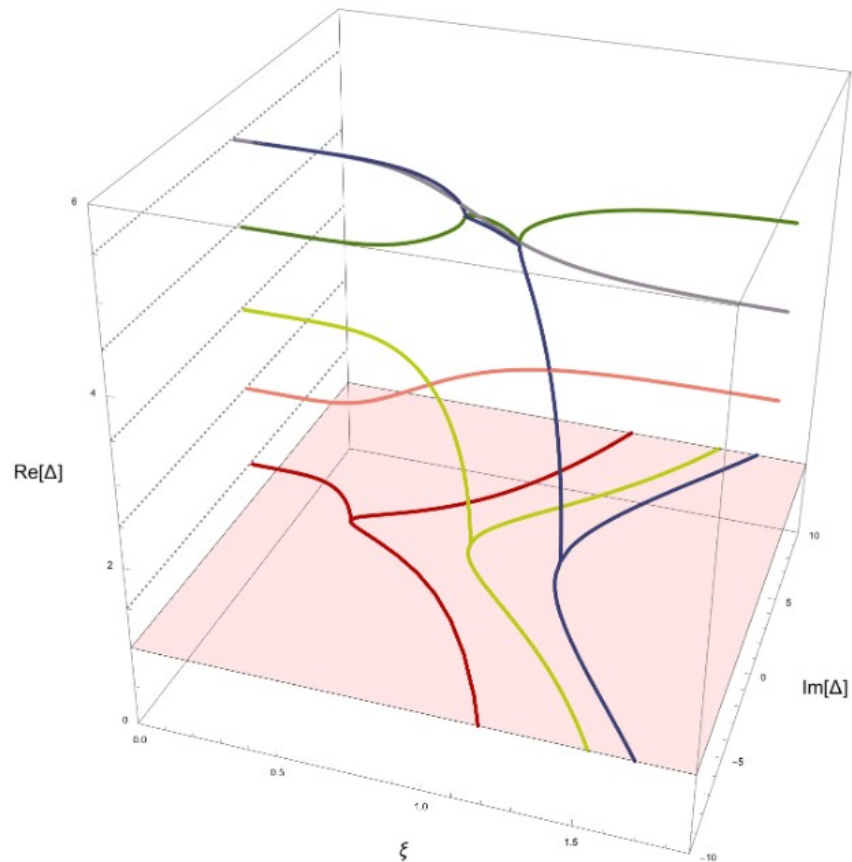
Coupling

$$Q_+(u) = \Gamma^{ij} q_i^\downarrow(u) \dot{q}_j^\uparrow(u)$$

$$\xi^{2J} = \frac{Q_+(\frac{3i}{4})}{Q_+(\frac{i}{4})}$$

Exact Results

$$\Delta = \frac{J}{2} + S + \mathcal{O}(\xi^2)$$



**Figure 3:** We plot the low-lying spectrum for 2D bi-scalar fishnet theory from weak to strong coupling for operators with  $J = 3$ ,  $M = 0$ , and  $S = 0$ . As expected, we find collisions among states and complex energy levels.

From high-precision numerics we computed analytic results

Leading wrapping correction

$$\Delta \Big|_{J=3, M=0, S=0} = \frac{3}{2} - \frac{2}{3} \frac{\pi^4}{\Gamma(\frac{3}{4})^8} \xi^6 + \dots \quad \gamma_{2J} \Big|_{J=3, M=0, \Delta_0 = \frac{3}{2} + |S|} = -\frac{2\sqrt{2}\pi^{5/2} \Gamma\left(\frac{|S|}{2} + \frac{1}{4}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{|S|}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^6 \Gamma\left(\frac{|S|}{2} + \frac{3}{4}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{|S|}{2} + 1\right)}.$$



People apparently like these numbers...

# Fishnet QFTs: Integrability, periods and beyond

University of Southampton

14-18 July 2025

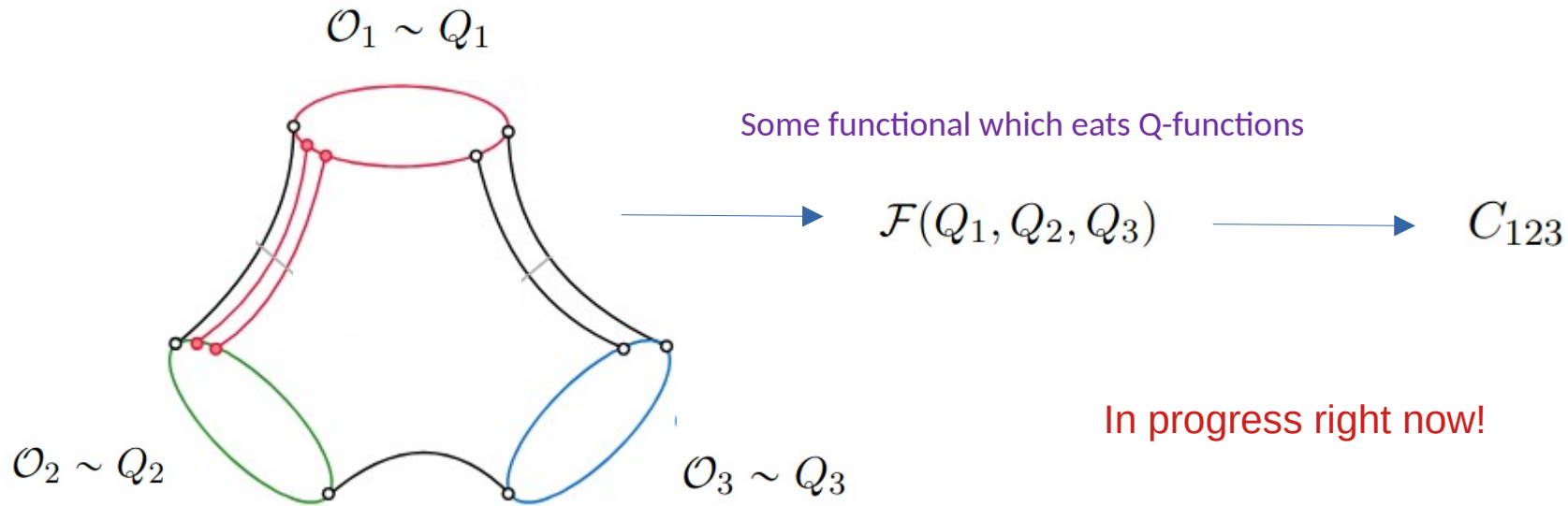
# Summary

Formulated Quantum Spectral Curve for 2D Fishnet CFT

+

Studied exact spectrum

Next step...



In progress right now!