

# Remarks on a melonic field theory with cubic interactions

(based on [\[arXiv:2012.12238\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2012.12238) with D. Benedetti)

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## Motivations and Model

[Amit, Roginsky '79]: cubic Bosonic “vector” model with melonic limit.

[Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev '15]: quartic Fermionic with disorder.

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$\{\phi_m \in \mathbb{R} : 1 \leq m \leq N\}$ , irrep of  $SO(3)$  of dimension  $N = 2j + 1$ :

$$S = \int d^d x \left( \frac{1}{2} \sum_m \left( \phi^m (-\partial^2)^\zeta \phi_m + \lambda_2 \phi_m \phi^m \right) + \sum_{m_1, m_2, m_3} \frac{\lambda}{3!} \sqrt{2j+1} \begin{pmatrix} j & j & j \\ m_1 & m_2 & m_3 \end{pmatrix} \phi^{m_1} \phi^{m_2} \phi^{m_3} \right).$$

NB:  $j \in 2\mathbb{N}$ ,  $\lambda$  can be imaginary (cf. Lee-Yang model).

$$g_j^{mm'} = g_{mm'}^j \equiv \sqrt{2j+1} \begin{pmatrix} j & j & 0 \\ m & m' & 0 \end{pmatrix} = (-1)^{j-m} \delta_{m, -m'}$$

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**Goals:** Renormalization group fixed points, associated CFTs.

Long-range (LR) parameter  $0 < \zeta \leq 1$ :

$$C(p) = \frac{1}{p^{2\zeta}}, \quad C(x, y) \sim \frac{1}{|x - y|^{2\Delta_\phi^{(0)}}}, \quad \Delta_\phi^{(0)} = \frac{d - 2\zeta}{2}.$$

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Long-range melonic CFTs can have real conformal data at large- $N$  [Benedetti et al. '19, '20] (quartic  $O(N)^3$ ,  $\zeta = d/4$ ) and also real couplings [Benedetti et al. '19] (sextic  $U(N)^3$ ,  $\zeta = d/3$ ).



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Regularizations:

$$d = 6\zeta - \epsilon \quad \text{or} \quad \zeta = \frac{d + \epsilon}{6}.$$

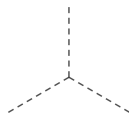
Amplitude of a Feynman graph  $\gamma$ :

$$\mathcal{A}_\gamma = c_\gamma \left( \frac{\lambda}{3!} \sqrt{N} \right)^{v(\gamma)} I_\gamma \mathcal{A}_\gamma .$$

Feynman rules ( $SO(3)$  index):

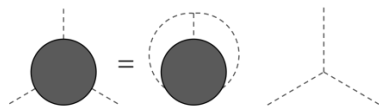
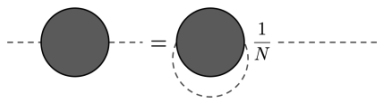


$$\delta_{m,m'}$$

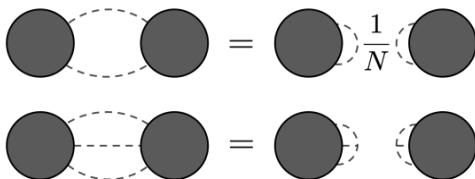


$$\lambda(3jm)\sqrt{N}$$

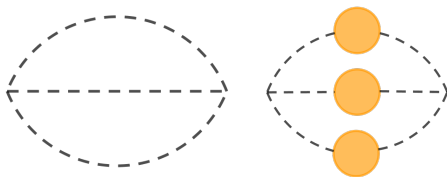
$SU(2)$  recoupling properties:



2- and 3-Particle Reducible (PR) diagrams:

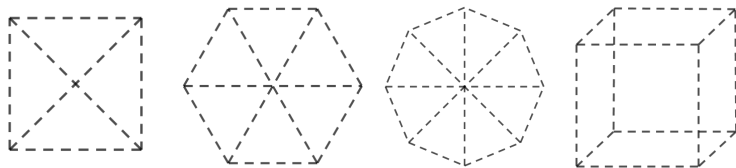


Fully-2PR diagrams (primary and with melonic insertions):



Decomposition into irreducible  $\{3n_{ij}\}$  components

$$A_\gamma = N^{-n_0} \prod_{i=1}^k A_{\{3n_{ij}\}}, \quad n = 1 + n_0 - k + \sum_{i=1}^k n_i,$$



$$\{6j\}, \{9j\}, \{12j - I\}, \{12j - II\}.$$

[Amit and Roginsky '79] showed an asymptotic bound

$$|\{3nj\}| \lesssim N^{-n+1-\alpha'},$$

for  $N = (2j + 1)$  large, with  $\alpha' > 0$ .

## Schwinger-Dyson equations

At leading order in  $1/N$ :

$$G(p)^{-1} = Z \left( p^{2\zeta} + \lambda_2 \right) - \frac{\lambda^2}{2} \int_q G(q)G(p+q), \quad G(p) = p^{-d/3} \mathcal{Z}_{S/LR}.$$

Assume  $\lambda_2 = 0$ .

$Z$ : wave function renormalization (finite in the long-range variant).

( $\zeta = 1$ ) IR limit,  $p^2$  term is negligible wrt  $p^{d/3}$

$$\mathcal{Z}_{SR} = \left( \frac{d(4\pi)^{d/2}}{3\lambda^2} \frac{\Gamma(d/6)^2 \Gamma(2d/3)}{\Gamma(d/3)^2 \Gamma(1-d/6)} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}.$$

( $\zeta = d/6$ ) The SDE reduces to

$$1 = \mathcal{Z}_{LR} + \underbrace{\frac{3\lambda^2}{d(4\pi)^{d/2}} \frac{\Gamma(d/3)^2 \Gamma(1-d/6)}{\Gamma(d/6)^2 \Gamma(2d/3)}}_{a(\lambda)} \mathcal{Z}_{LR}^3,$$

with explicit solution in terms of  $a(\lambda)$

$$\mathcal{Z}_{LR} = \frac{1}{6^{2/3}} \left( \sqrt{3} \sqrt{a^3(27a+4)} + 9a^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \left( \frac{2^{1/3}}{a} - \frac{2 \times 3^{1/3}}{\left( \sqrt{3} \sqrt{a^3(27a+4)} + 9a^2 \right)^{2/3}} \right).$$

$\mathcal{Z}_{\text{LR}}$  generating function of 3-Catalan numbers:

$$\mathcal{Z}_{\text{LR}}(a) = \sum_n \frac{1}{3n+1} \binom{3n+1}{n} (-a)^n.$$

If  $\lambda^2 > 0$  and  $d < 6$ :

$$a > 0, \quad \mathcal{Z}_{\text{LR}}(a) > 0, \quad \lim_{a \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{Z}_{\text{LR}}(a) = \mathcal{Z}_{\text{SR}} (= a^{-1/3}).$$

If  $\lambda^2 < 0$  and  $d < 6$ :

$$a < 0, \quad \lim_{a \rightarrow -4/27^+} \mathcal{Z}_{\text{LR}}(a) = 3/2,$$

analogous to LR quartic  $O(N)^3$  model [Benedetti et al. '19].

In terms of rescaled coupling  $g^2 := \lambda^2 \mathcal{Z}_{\text{LR}}^3$

$$-\frac{1}{2}g_c^2 < g^2 < g_c^2 = d(4\pi)^{d/2} \frac{\Gamma(d/6)^2 \Gamma(2d/3)}{3\Gamma(d/3)^2 \Gamma(1-d/6)}.$$

( $\zeta = 1$ ) Introduce renormalized coupling and renormalization condition:

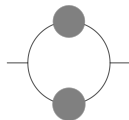
$$g := \mu^{-\epsilon/2} \lambda Z^{3/2}, \quad \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{d\Gamma^{(2)}(p)}{dp^2} \Big|_{p^2=\mu^2} = 1, \quad \Gamma^{(2)}(p) = G(p)^{-1}.$$

At leading order, no vertex correction:

$$\beta(g) = \mu \frac{\partial g}{\partial \mu} = \frac{g}{2}(-\epsilon + 3\eta(g)), \quad \eta(g) = \mu \partial_\mu \ln Z.$$

Fixed point imposes  $\eta(g^*) = \epsilon/3$ , or

$$g_\pm^* = \pm 8\sqrt{2\pi^3\epsilon} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{3/2}),$$
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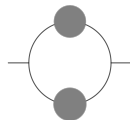
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( $\zeta = d/6$ )

$$\beta(g) = -\epsilon \frac{g}{2},$$

at  $\epsilon = 0$ , we have a line of IR fixed points.



## Beta functions: higher loops and finite- $N$

( $\zeta = 1$ ) [Amit, de Alcantara Bonfim et al., Gracey et al., Bellon et al.] considered general cubic potential

$$d_{m_1 m_2 m_3} \phi^{m_1} \phi^{m_2} \phi^{m_3},$$

assuming single rank-3 invariant, and computed finite- $N$  beta functions at fixed number of loops, e.g. two-loops:

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(\bar{g}) = & -\frac{\epsilon}{2} \bar{g} + \left( \frac{T_2}{4} - T_3 \right) \bar{g}^3 \\ & + \frac{1}{144} \left( -11 T_2^2 + 66 T_2 T_3 - 108 T_3^2 - 72 T_5 \right) \bar{g}^5 + \mathcal{O}(\bar{g}^7), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} T_2 = 1, \quad T_3 = (2j+1)\{6j\} \approx N^{-1/2}, \quad T_5 = (2j+1)^2\{9j\} \lesssim N^{-1/2}, \\ \bar{g}^2 = g^2 S_d / (2\pi)^d, \quad S_d = 2\pi^{d/2} / \Gamma(d/2). \end{aligned}$$

At large- $N$  and four-loops [Gracey '15]:

$$\beta(\bar{g}) = -\frac{\epsilon}{2}\bar{g} + \frac{1}{4}\bar{g}^3 - \frac{11}{144}\bar{g}^5 + \frac{821}{20736}\bar{g}^7 - \frac{20547}{746496}\bar{g}^9 + \mathcal{O}(\bar{g}^{11}),$$

$$\bar{g}_{\pm}^* = \pm \left( \sqrt{2}\epsilon + \frac{11\epsilon^{3/2}}{18\sqrt{2}} + \frac{13\epsilon^{5/2}}{648\sqrt{2}} + \frac{623\epsilon^{7/2}}{7776\sqrt{2}} \right) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{9/2}),$$

$$\omega = \beta'(\bar{g}_{\pm}^*) = \epsilon - \frac{11\epsilon^2}{18} + \frac{337\epsilon^3}{648} - \frac{16013\epsilon^4}{23328} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^5).$$

At finite- $N$  and two-loops:

$$\bar{g}_{\pm}^* = \pm \left( \frac{2\epsilon}{T_2 - 4T_3} \right)^{1/2} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon),$$

$$\omega \simeq \epsilon \left( 1 + 6 \frac{2^{5/4}}{\sqrt{\pi N}} \cos \left( 3N \arccos(-1/3) + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) + \mathcal{O}(N^{-3/2}) \right) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2).$$

( $\zeta = 1$ ) Real IR fixed point is preserved (except  $N = 13$  that needs  $g = i|g|$ ).

NB: In the quartic  $O(N)^3$  at short-range,  $\sqrt{\epsilon}N \gg 1$  was needed

[Benedetti et al. '20].

( $\zeta = d/6$ )  $\epsilon\sqrt{N} \ll 1$  is needed, as in the quartic  $O(N)^3$  at long-range

[Benedetti et al. '20].

## Conformal Partial Wave Expansion

4-point function in (12  $\rightarrow$  34) channel:

$$\mathcal{F}_{m_1, m_2; m_3, m_4}(x_1, x_2; x_3, x_4) = \langle \phi_{m_1}(x_1) \phi_{m_2}(x_2) \phi_{m_3}(x_3) \phi_{m_4}(x_4) \rangle - \langle \phi_{m_1}(x_1) \phi_{m_2}(x_2) \rangle \langle \phi_{m_3}(x_3) \phi_{m_4}(x_4) \rangle$$



From the 2PI formalism (e.g. [\[Benedetti '20\]](#)):

$$\mathcal{F}_{m_1 m_2; m_3 m_4}(x_1, x_2; x_3, x_4) = \int_{uv} (1 - K)_{m_1 m_2; a b}^{-1}(x_1, x_2; u, v) \times (G_{am_3}(u, x_3) G_{bm_4}(v, x_4) + G_{am_4}(u, x_4) G_{bm_3}(v, x_3)),$$

$$G_{ab}(x, y) = \langle \phi_a(x) \phi_b(y) \rangle,$$

$$K_{m_1 m_2; m_3 m_4}(x_1, x_2; x_3, x_4) = \int_{uv} G_{m_1 a}(x_1, u) G_{m_2 b}(x_2, v) \frac{\delta^2 \Gamma_{\text{loops}}^{2PI}}{\delta G_{ab}(u, v) \delta G_{m_3 m_4}(x_3, x_4)}.$$

Conformal partial wave expansion [Simmons-Duffin et al. '17]:

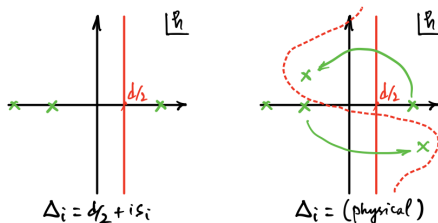
$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{m,m'} \mathcal{F}_{m;m'}^{m,m'}(x_1, x_2; x_3, x_4) &= N \sum_{J \geq 0} \int_{\frac{d}{2} - i\infty}^{\frac{d}{2} + i\infty} \frac{dh}{2\pi i} \frac{1}{1 - k(h, J)} \mu_{h,J}^{\Delta_\phi} \mathcal{G}_{h,J}^{\Delta_\phi}(x_i) \\ &= N \sum_{n,J} c_{n,J}^2 \mathcal{G}_{h_{n,J},J}^{\Delta_\phi}(x_i).\end{aligned}$$

OPE coefficients:

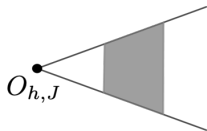
$$c_{n,J}^2 = -\mu_{h_{n,J},J}^{\Delta_\phi} \text{Res} \left[ \frac{1}{1 - k(h, J)} \right]_{h=h_{n,J}}$$

# Conformal Partial Wave Expansion

Deformation of the contour:



OPE of bilinears:



$$k(h, J)v_{h,J}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \int_{yz} v_{h,J}(x_1, y, z) K_m^m; m'{}^{m'}(x_2, x_3; y, z)$$

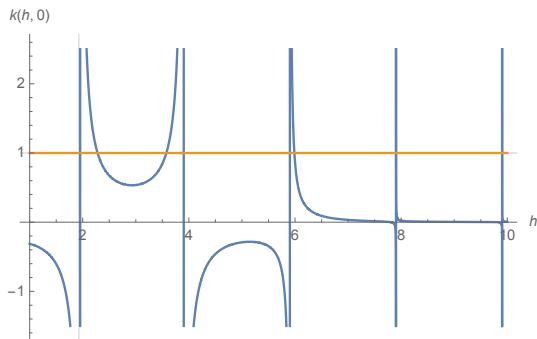
$$v_{h,J}(x_1, x_2, x_3) := \langle O_{h,J}(x_1) \phi^m(x_2) \phi_m(x_3) \rangle$$

$$O_{h,J} = \phi^m (\partial^2)^n \partial_{\mu_1} \dots \partial_{\mu_J} \phi_m$$

# Spectrum of bilinears

( $\zeta = 1$ )

$$k(h, J) = -2 \frac{\Gamma(1 - \frac{1}{6}\epsilon) \Gamma(4 - \frac{2}{3}\epsilon) \Gamma(2 - \frac{1}{3}\epsilon - \frac{h-J}{2}) \Gamma(-1 + \frac{1}{6}\epsilon + \frac{h+J}{2})}{\Gamma(-1 + \frac{1}{6}\epsilon) \Gamma(2 - \frac{1}{3}\epsilon) \Gamma(4 - \frac{2}{3}\epsilon - \frac{h-J}{2}) \Gamma(1 - \frac{1}{6}\epsilon + \frac{h+J}{2})}$$



$\epsilon = 0.145$

$(\zeta = 1)$

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$h_{n,J} = 2\Delta_{\phi}^{(0)} + 2n + J + z_{n,J}$ ,  $J$  even:

$$z_{0,2} = -\epsilon,$$

$$z_{0,J \geq 4} = -\frac{2\epsilon}{3} \left[ 1 + \frac{6\Gamma(1+J)}{\Gamma(3+J)} \right] + \frac{2\Gamma(1+J)\epsilon^2}{9\Gamma(3+J)} \left( 13 - 6\gamma_E + 3\psi(1+J) - 9\psi(3+J) \right) \\ + \frac{8\Gamma(1+J)^2\epsilon^2}{\Gamma(3+J)^2} \left( 1 + \psi(1+J) - \psi(3+J) \right) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3),$$

$$z_{1,J} = -\frac{2\epsilon}{3} \left[ 1 - \frac{6\Gamma(2+J)}{\Gamma(4+J)} \right] + \frac{2\Gamma(2+J)\epsilon^2}{9\Gamma(4+J)} \left( -19 + 6\gamma_E - 3\psi(2+J) + 9\psi(4+J) \right) \\ + \frac{8\Gamma(2+J)^2\epsilon^2}{\Gamma(4+J)^2} \left( -1 + \psi(2+J) - \psi(4+J) \right) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3),$$

$$z_{n,J} = -\frac{2\epsilon}{3} + \frac{4\epsilon^2}{3n(n-1)} \frac{\Gamma(1+n+J)}{\Gamma(3+n+J)} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3), \quad (n \geq 2).$$



$(\zeta = d/6)$

$$k_{d/6}(h, J) = 2g^2 \frac{1}{(4\pi)^{d/2}} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{d}{3})\Gamma(\frac{d}{3} - \frac{h-J}{2})\Gamma(\frac{h+J}{2} - \frac{d}{6})}{\Gamma(\frac{d}{6})\Gamma(\frac{2d}{3} - \frac{h-J}{2})\Gamma(\frac{h+J}{2} + \frac{d}{6})}.$$

$$h = h_{n,J} = 2d/3 + 2n + J + z_{n,J}$$

- $d \neq 1, 3$ :

$$z_{n,J} = (-1)^{n+1} g^2 A_d \frac{\Gamma(d/6 + n + J)}{\Gamma(d/2 + n + J)\Gamma(d/3 - n)n!}, \quad (n, J \geq 0),$$

- $d = 3$ :

$$z_{0,J} = -\frac{1}{2\pi^2} g^2 \frac{\Gamma(1/2 + J)}{\Gamma(3/2 + J)}, \quad (J \geq 0),$$

(cf.  $d = 2$  case in [Benedetti et al. '19 "Hints of unitarity"])

- for  $d = 1$ :

$$z_{n,J} = (-1)^{n+1} g^2 A_1 \frac{\Gamma(1/3 - n)\Gamma(1/6 + J + n)}{\Gamma(1/2 + J + n)n!}, \quad (n, J \geq 0),$$

$$A_d = \frac{\Gamma(d/3)}{2^{d-2}\pi^{d/2}\Gamma(d/6)}.$$

In unitary CFTs, conformal dimensions satisfy:

$$h_{n,J} \geq \begin{cases} \frac{d-2}{2} & \text{if } J = 0, \\ d - 2 + J & \text{if } J \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

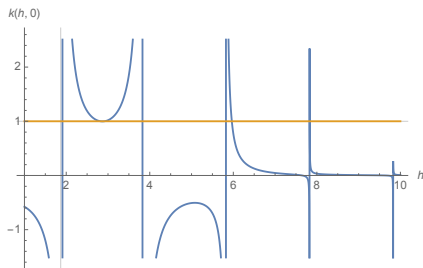
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( $\zeta = 1$ )  $h_{0,0}$  merges with its shadow  $h_{-1,0} = d - h_{0,0}$  at  $\epsilon \approx 0.264$ :

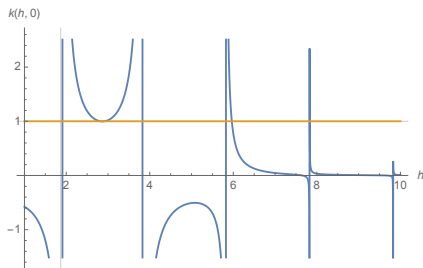
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For  $J > 0$ ,  $h_{n,J}$  obey the bound numerically up to  $\epsilon \approx 0.264$ .

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$$h_{0,0} = d/2 + i f, \quad f \in \mathbb{R}.$$

For  $J > 0$ ,  $h_{n,J}$  obey the bound numerically up to  $\epsilon \approx 0.264$ .

NB:  $[(\phi^2)^2] = 2h_{0,0} = d + i f'$ , dangerously irrelevant operator may destabilize the CFT. Spontaneous symmetry breaking? [Kim, Klebanov et al. '19]

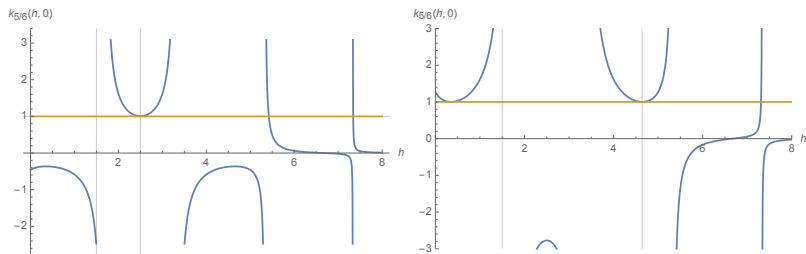
( $\zeta = d/6$ ) Unitarity bounds imply in  $d = 6 - \epsilon$ :

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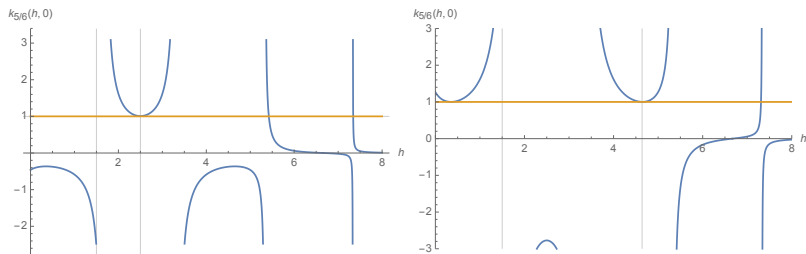
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NB: compared to Ising short-to-long-range transition [e.g. Behan, Rastelli et al '17]: ( $g$  vs  $\zeta$ ), ( $\phi^3$  marginal,  $\phi^4$  is not), presence of operators of complex dimension.



## Conclusions

Bosonic cubic model, invariant under  $SO(3)$ .

Melonic large- $N$  limit and no disorder.

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Thank you!