

Closed string deformations in Open String Field Theory



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Based on **2103.04919**, **2103.04920**, **2103.04921**
+work in progress

with **Jakub Vosmera (ETH)**

Open/Closed Strings and String Field Theory

- Interplay between open and closed strings is at the heart of String Theory (Geometric Transitions, AdS/CFT, D-instantons, etc...)
- These interesting phenomena are beyond usual perturbation theory. But the whole non-perturbative physics should be in principle captured by the (open-closed) SFT path integral.
- Open-Closed String Field Theory is computationally hard (complete form? analytic techniques? classical solutions?)
- But there is a limit of O-C SFT which is fairly tractable: Witten-type Open String Field Theory deformed by the Shapiro-Thorn open-closed coupling (*limit of Zwiebach's interpolating O-C SFT's*)
- I will focus on this limit and see how far we can get.
- When problems arise I will try to understand them by recasting the deformed open string theory inside a fully regular open-closed string field theory.

Bosonic string

Bosonic Open String Field Theory with a deformation

- Deform Witten theory with the Shapiro-Thorn open-closed coupling

$$S^{(\mu)}[\Psi] = \frac{1}{2} \langle \Psi, Q\Psi \rangle + \frac{1}{3} \langle \Psi, \Psi^2 \rangle + \mu \langle \Psi, e \rangle$$

- The deformation is gauge invariant if $Qe = 0$ and $[e, \Psi] = 0$. This is realised by taking

$$e = \frac{1}{2\pi i} c(i)c(-i)V_{(1,1)}^{\text{matter}}(i, -i)I$$

- EOMS are deformed and $\Psi = 0$ is not a solution anymore (classical tadpole)

$$Q\Psi + \Psi^2 = -\mu e$$

- A classical solution Ψ_* (D-brane system) of the $\mu = 0$ theory will have to be deformed to solve the tadpole-sourced eom.

$$\Psi_* \rightarrow \Psi_*^{(\mu)}$$

- But it is not guaranteed that the deformed solution exists: the D-brane system could not survive the change in the closed string background!

Obstruction to vacuum shift and bulk-boundary OPE

- Assume the vacuum shift solution can be perturbatively expanded in μ

$$\Psi_\mu = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \mu^k \psi_k$$

- A deformation of the initial D-brane system will have $\psi_0 = 0$ and the first non trivial equation is

$$Q\psi_1 = -e \quad e = \frac{1}{2\pi i} c(i)c(-i)V_{(1,1)}^{\text{matter}}(i, -i)I$$

- The “Ellwood state” needs to be BRST exact! But note that $c\bar{c}V(z, \bar{z})$ is not trivial in general. This is a requirement on the bulk-boundary OPE

$$V(z, \bar{z}) = M_{ij}V^i(z)\bar{V}^j(\bar{z}) \quad \rightarrow \quad M_{ij}^{(b)}\Omega_k^j V^i(z)V^k(z^*)$$

- We get problems (obstruction) if the chiral OPE $V^i(z)V^k(z^*)$ contains a weight-one field

$$V_1^i(z)V_1^k(z^*) = \dots + \frac{1}{z - z^*} C_p^{ik} V_1^p(0) + \dots$$

- If this happens e will contain a term in the $gh=2$ cohomology $c\partial cV_1$ and the equation cannot be solved.
- See related BCFT analysis by *Fredenhagen-Gaberdiel-Keller (2006)*

Vacuum shift solution

- Using the standard Siegel gauge propagator $h = \frac{b_0}{L_0}(1 - P_0)$ s.t. $[Q, h] = 1 - P_0$

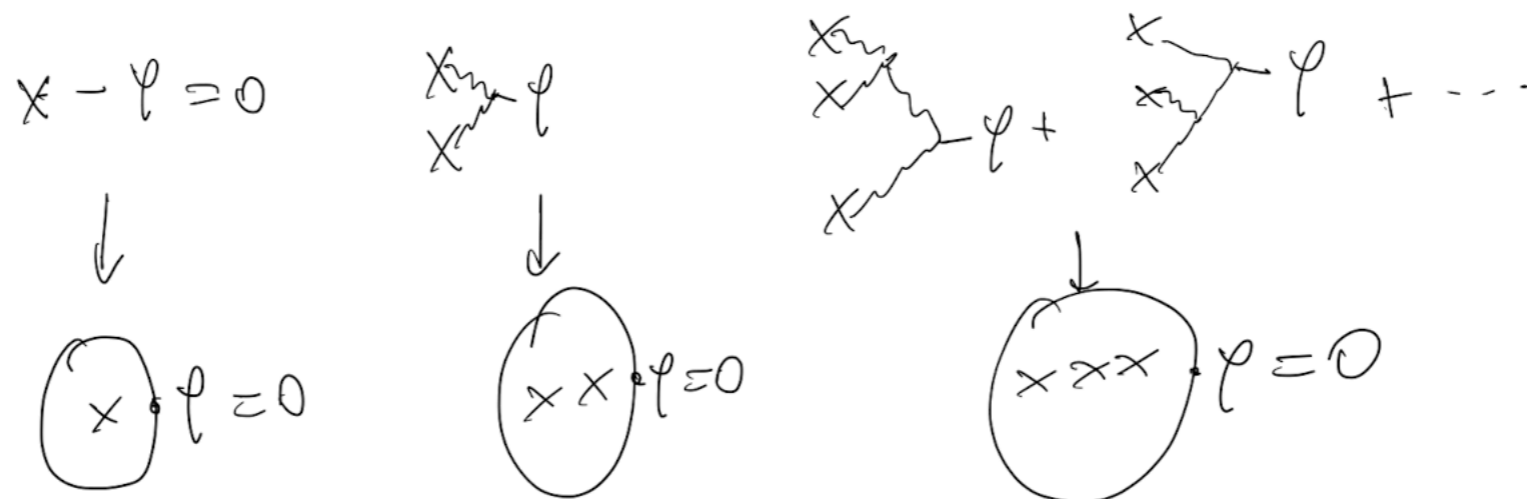
$$\psi_1 = -he, \quad \psi_2 = h(he)^2, \quad \psi_3 = -h[he, h(he)^2], \dots$$

$$\Psi^{(\mu)} = \pi_1 \frac{\mathbf{1}}{\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{m}_2 + \mu \mathbf{e})} \mathbf{1}_{TH} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mu^k \psi_k$$

- This state solves the tadpole-sourced eom provided

$$P_0 e = 0, \quad P_0 (he)^2 = 0, \quad P_0 [he, h(he)^2] = 0, \dots$$

- P_0 projects into the kernel of L_0 which contains the cohomology: **Amplitudes involving one physical open string and arbitrary number of deforming closed strings should vanish**



Effective field theory description

- Integrate out (classically) the $L_0 \neq 0$ sector (at zero momentum: massive states). Homotopy transfer, effective products (tadpole+ $m_1+m_2+m_3+\dots$).

$$S_{\text{eff}}^{(\mu)}[\varphi] = S^{(\mu)}[\Psi(0)] + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{\alpha=0}^{\infty} \frac{\mu^\alpha}{k+1} \omega\left(\varphi, n_{k\alpha}\left(\varphi^{\otimes k}\right)\right)$$

*Erbin, CM, Schnabl, Vosmera
2020
Koyama, Okawa, Suzuki*

$$n_{01} = P_0 e,$$

$$n_{k\alpha}(\varphi^{\otimes k}) = \sum_{\substack{l_1, \dots, l_\alpha \geq 0 \\ \sum_{i=1}^{\alpha+1} l_i = k}} (-1)^\alpha \tilde{m}_{k+\alpha}(\varphi^{\otimes l_1}, h_0 e, \varphi^{\otimes l_2}, h_0 e, \dots, \varphi^{\otimes l_\alpha}, h_0 e, \varphi^{\otimes l_{\alpha+1}})$$

$$\tilde{m}_2(\varphi_1, \varphi_2) = P_0 m_2(\varphi_1, \varphi_2)$$

$$\tilde{m}_3(\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \varphi_3) = -P_0 [m_2(hm_2(\varphi_1, \varphi_2), \varphi_3) + m_2(\varphi_1, hm_2(\varphi_2, \varphi_3))]$$

\vdots ,

- The previous (vanishing) obstructions are saying that the effective tadpole vanishes.

- Assuming the effective tadpole vanishes, $\Psi(0)$ is the vacuum shift solution. A cosmological constant is generated by the shift.

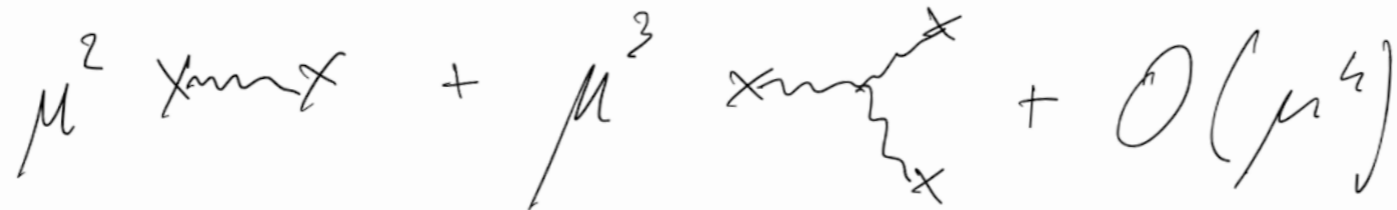
Shifted Theory

- After tadpole removal

$$S^{(\mu)}[\Psi_\mu + \psi] = S^{(\mu)}[\Psi_\mu] + \frac{1}{2} \langle \psi, Q_\mu \psi \rangle + \frac{1}{3} \langle \psi, \psi^2 \rangle$$

- Non-dynamical cosmological constant (closed string scattering off the disk)

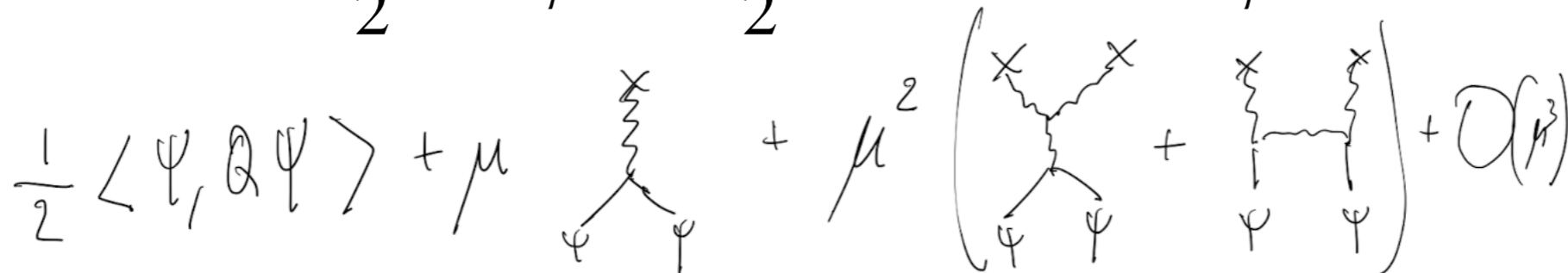
$$S^{(\mu)}[\Psi_\mu] = \frac{\mu}{2} \langle e, \Psi_\mu \rangle - \frac{1}{6} \langle \Psi_\mu, \Psi_\mu^2 \rangle = \mu^2 \langle e, he \rangle + \mu^3 \langle he, (he)^2 \rangle + O(\mu^4)$$



$$\mu^2 \text{tadpole} + \mu^3 \text{tree} + O(\mu^4)$$

- Deformed BRST operator (closed string scattering against 2 open strings)

$$\frac{1}{2} \langle \psi, Q_\mu \psi \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \langle \psi, Q\psi \rangle + \langle \psi, \Psi_\mu \psi \rangle$$



$$\frac{1}{2} \langle \psi, Q\psi \rangle + \mu \text{tree} + \mu^2 \left(\text{tree} + \text{tree} \right) + O(\mu^3)$$

- This produces a shift in the mass formula for physical open strings. The D-brane adapts to the new background.

Example: Radius deformation

- Two examples of deformations for a D1 brane at the self-dual radius

$$\begin{aligned}
 e &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} U_1^\dagger c j(i) c j(-i) |0\rangle & P_0 e &= 0 & \text{Radius def.} & j(z) &\equiv i\sqrt{\frac{2}{\alpha'}} \partial Y(z) \\
 e &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} U_1^\dagger c J_L^1(i) c J_R^2(-i) |0\rangle & P_0 e &= c \partial c j(0) |0\rangle \neq 0 & & J_L^2 &= \sqrt{2} \sin\left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{\alpha'}} Y_L\right) \\
 & & & & & J_L^1 &= \sqrt{2} \cos\left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{\alpha'}} Y_L\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

- The D1 brane (obviously) adapts to the radius deformation: mass deformations
- Initially there are three massless open string modes

$$\begin{aligned}
 \varphi_0 &= \phi_0 c j \\
 \varphi_\pm &= \phi_\pm c e^{\pm \frac{2i}{\sqrt{\alpha'}} Y}
 \end{aligned}$$

- The new mass terms can be explicitly computed

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{1}{2} \phi_0 m_0^2 \phi_0 &= \mu \langle e | \frac{b_0}{L_0} | \varphi_0 * \varphi_0 \rangle = \mu \omega(m_2(\varphi_0, \varphi_0), h e) \\
 \phi_+ m_\pm^2 \phi_- &= \mu \langle e | \frac{b_0}{L_0} | \varphi_+ * \varphi_- \rangle + (+ \leftrightarrow -) = \mu \omega(m_2(\varphi_+, \varphi_-), h e) + (+ \leftrightarrow -)
 \end{aligned}$$

Computation of mass corrections

- Reduce them to “standard” open-closed amplitudes on UHP. It can be done avoiding the complication of Giddings-like Schwarz-Christoffel map (adapt from *Berkovits-Schnabl 2003* strategy)

$$U_r = e^{\sum_{n>0} v_n^{(r)} L_{2n}}$$

$$(2\pi i) \langle e | \frac{b_0}{L_0} | \varphi_a * \varphi_b \rangle = \langle 0 | c_j(i) c_j(-i) U_1 \frac{b_0}{L_0} U_3^\dagger \varphi_a(\sqrt{3}) \varphi_b(-\sqrt{3}) | 0 \rangle =$$

$$\boxed{Qh + hQ + P_0 = 1}$$

$$= \langle 0 | c_j(i) c_j(-i) hQ U_1 hU_3^\dagger \varphi_a(\sqrt{3}) \varphi_b(-\sqrt{3}) | 0 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 0 | c_j(i) c_j(-i) hU_1 U_3^\dagger \varphi_a(\sqrt{3}) \varphi_b(-\sqrt{3}) | 0 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 0 | c_j(i) c_j(-i) hU_4^\dagger U_{\frac{4}{3}} \varphi_a(\sqrt{3}) \varphi_b(-\sqrt{3}) | 0 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 0 | c_j(i) c_j(-i) \frac{b_0}{L_0} \varphi_a(1) \varphi_b(-1) | 0 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 0 | c_j(i) c_j(-i) \frac{b_0}{L_0 + \epsilon} \varphi_a(1) \varphi_b(-1) | 0 \rangle \Big|_{\epsilon=0}$$

$$= \int_0^1 \frac{dt}{t} t^\epsilon \langle c_j(i) c_j(-i) b_0 (c_{j_a}(t) c_{j_b}(-t)) \rangle \Big|_{\epsilon=0}$$

$$U_r \phi(z) | 0 \rangle = f_r \circ \phi(z) | 0 \rangle,$$

$$f_r(z) = \tan \left(\frac{2}{r} \tan^{-1} z \right)$$

$$\boxed{\omega(m_2(\varphi_a, \varphi_b), he) = \frac{2\phi_a \phi_b}{\pi} \int_0^1 dt t^\epsilon (1 + t^2) \langle j(i) j(-i) j_a(t) j_b(-t) \rangle \Big|_{\epsilon=0}}$$

$$U_r U_s^\dagger = U_{2 + \frac{2}{r}(s-2)}^\dagger U_{2 + \frac{2}{s}(r-2)}$$

$$\omega(m_2(\varphi_a, \varphi_b), he) = \frac{2\phi_a\phi_b}{\pi} \int_0^1 dt t^\epsilon (1+t^2) \langle j(i)j(-i)j_a(t)j_b(-t) \rangle \Big|_{\epsilon=0}$$

- The U(1) current remains massless (as it should). The epsilon reg. is crucial

$$\langle j(i)j(-i)j(t)j(-t) \rangle = \frac{1}{(t-i)^4} + \frac{1}{(t+i)^4} - \frac{1}{16t^2}$$

$$\omega(e, hm_2(\varphi_0, \varphi_0)) = \frac{2\phi_0\phi_0}{\pi} \left(-\frac{i}{2} + \frac{i}{2} - \frac{\epsilon}{8(\epsilon^2-1)} \Big|_{\epsilon=0} \right) = 0$$

- The other two SU(2) currents become tachyonic (relate μ with δR by matching with the KK spectrum)

$$\langle j(i)j(-i)e^{\frac{2i}{\sqrt{\alpha'}}Y}(t)e^{-\frac{2i}{\sqrt{\alpha'}}Y}(-t) \rangle = \frac{1}{2t^2} \left(-\frac{1}{8} + \frac{4t^2}{(1+t^2)^2} \right)$$

$$\omega(e, hm_2(\varphi_+, \varphi_-)) = \frac{2\phi_+\phi_-}{\pi} \int_0^1 dt t^\epsilon \left(-\frac{1}{16t^2} - \frac{1}{16} + \frac{2}{1+t^2} \right) \Big|_{\epsilon=0} = \frac{1}{2}\phi_-\phi_+$$

$$\mu = -2 \frac{\delta R}{R}$$

Superstring

NS Open superstring field theory in LHS with deformation

$$Q^2 = 0, \quad [\eta, Q] = 0, \quad \eta^2 = 0.$$

- Add an elementary open-closed coupling to (NS) WZW-like OSFT in LHS (*Michishita*)

$$\begin{aligned} S^{(\mu)}[\Phi] &= - \int_0^1 dt \langle A_t, \eta A_Q - \mu e \rangle & A_Q &= e^{-t\Phi} Q e^{t\Phi} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \langle \eta\Phi, Q\Phi \rangle + \mathcal{I}(\Phi) + \mu \langle \Phi, e \rangle & A_t &= e^{-t\Phi} \partial_t e^{t\Phi} = \Phi \\ & & \mathcal{I}(\Phi) &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{(k+2)!} \langle \eta\Phi, \text{ad}_{\Phi}^k Q\Phi \rangle \end{aligned}$$

- Gauge invariant deformation provided

$$\begin{aligned} \eta e &= 0 & [e, \Phi] &= 0 \\ Qe &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

- Solve perturbatively the tadpole-sourced equation of motion

$$\begin{aligned} \eta Q\Phi + \mathcal{J}(\Phi) &= \mu e. & \mathcal{J}(\Phi) &= -\frac{1}{2}[\eta\Phi, Q\Phi] + \frac{1}{6} \left([\eta\Phi, [\Phi, Q\Phi]] - \frac{1}{2}[\Phi, [\eta\Phi, Q\Phi]] + \frac{1}{2}[\Phi, [\Phi, \eta Q\Phi]] \right) + O(\Phi^4) \\ \Phi_\mu &= \sum_{\alpha=1}^{\infty} \mu^\alpha \phi_\alpha. & \eta Q\phi_1 &= e \\ & & \eta Q\phi_2 &= \frac{1}{2}[\eta\phi_1, Q\phi_1] \\ & & \eta Q\phi_3 &= \frac{1}{2}[\eta\phi_1, Q\phi_2] + \frac{1}{2}[\eta\phi_2, Q\phi_1] \\ & & & - \frac{1}{6} \left([\eta\phi_1, [\phi_1, Q\phi_1]] - \frac{1}{2}[\phi_1, [\eta\phi_1, Q\phi_1]] + \frac{1}{2}[\phi_1, [\phi_1, \eta Q\phi_1]] \right) \\ & & \dots & , \end{aligned}$$

Vacuum shift and LHS perturbation theory

- The equations can be solved fixing a gauge **outside** $\text{Ker}(L_0)$, analogously to the bosonic case.

$$\phi_1 = -\xi_0 h e = -\tilde{h} h e$$

$$\phi_2 = \frac{1}{2} \xi h [h e, \tilde{h} e] = \frac{1}{2} \tilde{h} h [h e, \tilde{h} e].$$

$$\phi_3 = -\tilde{h} h \left(\frac{1}{4} [h e, \tilde{h} [h e, \tilde{h} e]] + \frac{1}{4} [\tilde{h} e, h [h e, \tilde{h} e]] - \frac{1}{6} [h e, [\tilde{h} h e, \tilde{h} e]] + \frac{1}{12} [\tilde{h} h e, [h e, \tilde{h} e]] \right)$$

...

- Dual structure of homotopy operators for the two commuting derivations

$$h = \frac{b_0}{L_0} (1 - P_0) = \eta_0(\xi_0 h)$$

$$[Q, h] = 1 - P_0$$

$$[\eta, h] = 0$$

$$\tilde{h} = -Q(\xi_0 h) = \left(\xi_0 - X_0 \frac{b_0}{L_0} \right) (1 - P_0).$$

$$[Q, \tilde{h}] = 0$$

$$[\eta, \tilde{h}] = 1 - P_0$$

Cfr with Kroyter, Okawa, Schnabl, Torii, Zwiebach (2012)

$$\boxed{\tilde{h} h = \xi h = \xi_0 \frac{b_0}{L_0} (1 - P_0)} \text{ Full Propagator}$$

- Obstructions to vacuum shift given by LHS amplitudes between a physical open string and n deforming closed strings. Notice the $h \leftrightarrow \tilde{h}$ symmetry. "Double" homotopy transfer???

$$0 = P_0 e$$

$$0 = P_0 [h e, \tilde{h} e]$$

$$0 = P_0 \left(\frac{1}{4} [h e, \tilde{h} [h e, \tilde{h} e]] + \frac{1}{4} [\tilde{h} e, h [h e, \tilde{h} e]] - \frac{1}{6} [h e, [\tilde{h} h e, \tilde{h} e]] + \frac{1}{12} [\tilde{h} h e, [h e, \tilde{h} e]] \right)$$

⋮

Closed string deformed effective action in LHS

- Even without an homotopy transfer “package” we can integrate out order by order by hand and we find ($\varphi \in \text{Ker } L_0$)

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{\text{eff}}^{(\mu)}[\lambda\varphi] &= \left(-\frac{\mu^2}{2} \langle e, \tilde{h}he \rangle + O(\mu^3) \right) && \text{Non-dynamical cosmological constant} \\
 &+ \lambda \left(\mu \langle e, \varphi \rangle - \frac{\mu^2}{2} \langle [he, \tilde{h}e], \varphi \rangle + O(\mu^3) \right) && \begin{array}{l} \text{Effective tadpole} \\ \text{aka obstructions to vacuum shift} \end{array} \\
 &+ \lambda^2 \left(\frac{1}{2} \langle \eta\varphi, Q\varphi \rangle - \frac{\mu}{2} \langle \eta\varphi, [\tilde{h}he, Q\varphi] \rangle + O(\mu^2) \right) && \text{Mass deformations} \\
 &+ \lambda^3 \left(-\frac{1}{6} \langle \eta\varphi, [\varphi, Q\varphi] \rangle + O(\mu) \right) \\
 &+ \lambda^4 \left(\frac{1}{24} \langle \eta\varphi, [\varphi, [\varphi, Q\varphi]] \rangle - \frac{1}{8} \langle [\eta\varphi, Q\varphi], \tilde{h}h[\eta\varphi, Q\varphi] \rangle + O(\mu) \right) \\
 &+ O(\lambda^5).
 \end{aligned}$$

- These effective couplings can be computed in complete analogy to the bosonic case by “flattenization” of the Witten diagrams to the UHP.
- But the superstring setting sometimes allows for drastic simplification: ***localization at the boundary of the world sheet moduli space.***

Localization of open-closed mass terms

- From now on we will work at strict zero momentum (algebraic effective couplings)
- Often the matter BCFT has a N=2 SCFT structure and the massless states can be decomposed according to their N=2 R-charge (chiral + antichiral ring)

$$\varphi = ce^{-\phi} \mathbb{V}_{\frac{1}{2}} = ce^{-\phi} (\mathbb{V}_{\frac{1}{2}}^+ + \mathbb{V}_{\frac{1}{2}}^-) \equiv \varphi^+ + \varphi^-$$

$$G = G^+ + G^-$$

$$G_{\frac{1}{2}}^{\pm} | \mathbb{V}_{\frac{1}{2}}^{\mp} \rangle = 0$$

$$e = \varepsilon_{ij} [X_0 U^i(i) U^j(-i)] I + \varepsilon_{ij} [U^i(i) X_0 U^j(-i)] I$$

$$U^i = c \mathbb{U}_{\frac{1}{2}}^i e^{-\phi} \quad \mathcal{U}^i = \xi_0 c \mathbb{U}_{\frac{1}{2}}^i e^{-\phi}$$

$$\mathbb{U}_{\frac{1}{2}}^i = (\mathbb{U}_{\frac{1}{2}}^i)^+ + (\mathbb{U}_{\frac{1}{2}}^i)^- \quad e = e^{++} + e^{+-} + e^{-+} + e^{--}$$

- If this decomposition holds then the effective tadpole is vanishing to first order $P_0 e = 0$ and also the cubic open string coupling vanishes $P_0[\eta\varphi, Q\varphi] = 0$.
Induced mass term localizes at boundary of ws moduli space

$$\tilde{S}_{1,1}(\eta\varphi) = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ij} \left\langle [\eta\varphi, Q\varphi], \xi_0 \frac{b_0}{L_0} \bar{P}_0 [(\eta\mathcal{U}^i)(i)(Q\mathcal{U}^j)(-i)] I \right\rangle +$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ij} \left\langle [\eta\varphi, Q\varphi], \xi_0 \frac{b_0}{L_0} \bar{P}_0 [(Q\mathcal{U}^i)(i)(\eta\mathcal{U}^j)(-i)] I \right\rangle.$$

*The propagator
DISAPPEARED
and it has been
replaced by P_0
(localization at the
boundary of
moduli space)*

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ij} \left\langle ([\eta\varphi^+, Q\varphi^-] - [\eta\varphi^-, Q\varphi^+]), P_0 [(\mathcal{U}^i)^+ (\mathcal{U}^j)^- - (\mathcal{U}^i)^- (\mathcal{U}^j)^+] I \right\rangle$$

$$- \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ij} \left\langle [\varphi^+, Q\varphi^+], P_0 [(\mathcal{U}^i)^- \eta(\mathcal{U}^j)^- - \eta(\mathcal{U}^i)^- (\mathcal{U}^j)^-] I \right\rangle$$

$$- \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ij} \left\langle [\varphi^-, Q\varphi^-], P_0 [(\mathcal{U}^i)^+ \eta(\mathcal{U}^j)^+ - \eta(\mathcal{U}^i)^+ (\mathcal{U}^j)^+] I \right\rangle$$

$$P_0 \sim \lim_{s \rightarrow +\infty} e^{-sL_0} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^{L_0}$$

(Deformed) generalized ADHM constraints

- 4 point amplitude \rightarrow 2 point function

$$\tilde{S}_{1,1} = 2\langle \mathbb{G}_1^- | \mathbb{H}_1^+ \rangle + 2\langle \mathbb{G}_1^+ | \mathbb{H}_1^- \rangle + \langle \mathbb{G}_0 | \mathbb{H}_0 \rangle$$

$$\mathbb{G}_1^\pm = \varepsilon_{ij} \lim_{z \rightarrow z^*} \left[(\mathbb{U}_{\frac{1}{2}}^i)^\pm(z) (\mathbb{U}_{\frac{1}{2}}^j)^\pm(z^*) \right],$$

$$\mathbb{G}_0 = \varepsilon_{ij} \lim_{z \rightarrow z^*} \left[2z \left((\mathbb{U}_{\frac{1}{2}}^i)^-(z) (\mathbb{U}_{\frac{1}{2}}^j)^+(z^*) - (\mathbb{U}_{\frac{1}{2}}^i)^+(z) (\mathbb{U}_{\frac{1}{2}}^j)^-(z^*) \right) \right]$$

$$\mathbb{H}_1^\pm = \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \left[\mathbb{V}_{\frac{1}{2}}^\pm(z) \mathbb{V}_{\frac{1}{2}}^\pm(-z) \right],$$

$$\mathbb{H}_0 = \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \left[2z \left(\mathbb{V}_{\frac{1}{2}}^-(z) \mathbb{V}_{\frac{1}{2}}^+(-z) - \mathbb{V}_{\frac{1}{2}}^+(z) \mathbb{V}_{\frac{1}{2}}^-(-z) \right) \right]$$

- Combine with the quartic open string potential, also localized (*CM, Merlano 2018*)

$$\tilde{S}_{3,0} = \langle \mathbb{H}_1^+ | \mathbb{H}_1^- \rangle + \frac{1}{4} \langle \mathbb{H}_0 | \mathbb{H}_0 \rangle$$

- To get a total potential

$$\tilde{S}(\mu) \supset \tilde{S}_{3,0} + \mu \tilde{S}_{1,1} = \langle \mathbb{H}_1^+ + 2\mu \mathbb{G}_1^+ | \mathbb{H}_1^- + 2\mu \mathbb{G}_1^- \rangle + \frac{1}{4} \langle \mathbb{H}_0 + 2\mu \mathbb{G}_0 | \mathbb{H}_0 + 2\mu \mathbb{G}_0 \rangle - 4\mu^2 \left(\langle \mathbb{G}_1^+ | \mathbb{G}_1^- \rangle + \frac{1}{4} \langle \mathbb{G}_0 | \mathbb{G}_0 \rangle \right)$$

- Global minima controlled by the *deformed ADHM-like constraints*

$$\mathbb{H}_1^\pm = -2\mu \mathbb{G}_1^\pm + \mathcal{O}(\mu^2)$$

$$\mathbb{H}_0 = -2\mu \mathbb{G}_0 + \mathcal{O}(\mu^2);$$

- Example: Nekrasov non commutative instantons by taking a D3/D(-1) system deformed by a constant Kalb-Ramond (see 2103.04921)

All order results in SHS: A_∞ Munich Theory

- Small Hilbert with space theory with cyclic A_∞ products

$$\mathbf{M} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{M}_k = \mathbf{G}^{-1} \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{G}$$

$$[\eta, \mathbf{M}] = 0$$

$$\mathbf{M}^2 = 0$$

- The microscopic open-closed coupling is non-linear in the open strings (*Vosmera 2020*)

$$\mathbf{E} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{E}_k = \mathbf{G}^{-1} \mathbf{e} \mathbf{G}$$

$$[\eta, \mathbf{E}] = 0$$

$$\mathbf{E}^2 = 0 \quad [\mathbf{M}, \mathbf{E}] = 0$$

- The effective theory is readily obtained by **homotopy transfer** of the nilpotent coderivation

$$\mathbf{M}^{(\mu)} \equiv \mathbf{M} + \mu \mathbf{E}$$

$$S^{(\mu)}(\Psi) = \int_0^1 dt \langle \omega_S | \pi_1 \partial_t \frac{1}{1 - \Psi(t)} \otimes \pi_1 \mathbf{M}^{(\mu)} \frac{1}{1 - \Psi(t)}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\Psi_\mu(\psi) \equiv \pi_1 \frac{1}{\mathbf{1}_{T\mathcal{H}} + \mathbf{h}\delta\mathbf{M}^{(\mu)}} \mathbf{I}_0 \frac{1}{\mathbf{1}_{T\mathcal{H}} - \psi}}$$

$$\tilde{S}^{(\mu)}(\psi) = S^{(\mu)}(\Psi_\mu(0)) + \int_0^1 dt \langle \tilde{\omega}_S | \pi_1 \partial_t \frac{1}{1 - \psi(t)} \otimes \pi_1 \tilde{\mathbf{M}}^{(\mu)} \frac{1}{1 - \psi(t)}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{M}}^{(\mu)} = \mathbf{\Pi}_0 \mathbf{M}^{(\mu)} \frac{1}{\mathbf{1}_{T\mathcal{H}} + \mathbf{h}\delta\mathbf{M}^{(\mu)}} \mathbf{I}_0$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{M}}^{(\mu)} = \sum_{\alpha} \mu^\alpha \tilde{\mathbf{N}}_\alpha$$

$$\xrightarrow{\tilde{N}_{k,\alpha} \equiv \pi_1 \tilde{\mathbf{N}}_\alpha \pi_k}$$

$$\tilde{N}_{0,1} = P_0 e,$$

$$\tilde{N}_{0,2} = -P_0 E_1(he) + P_0 M_2(he, he),$$

$$\tilde{N}_{1,0}(\psi) = P_0 Q\psi,$$

$$\tilde{N}_{1,1}(\psi) = P_0 E_1(\psi) - P_0 M_2(he, \psi) - P_0 M_2(\psi, he),$$

$$\tilde{N}_{2,0}(\psi, \psi) = P_0 M_2(\psi, \psi),$$

$$\tilde{N}_{3,0}(\psi, \psi) = P_0 M_3(\psi, \psi, \psi) - P_0 M_2(\psi, hM_2(\psi, \psi)) - P_0 M_2(hM_2(\psi, \psi), \psi)$$

⋮

- This effective theory is in general *different* from the previous WZW one, but they have the *same* vacuum structure (in particular same results on localization).

Taming closed string degeneration

- Diagram with two or more closed strings will have regions in moduli space where closed strings can collide (closed string degeneration).
- Similar open string collisions are systematically taken care of by

$$\frac{1}{L_0 + \epsilon} \Big|_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0}$$

- Witten vertex and propagators cover the whole ws moduli space, but it does not give an obvious regularization towards closed string degeneration.
- Take for example the first term in the cosmological constant for the radius deformation

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma = \langle e, he \rangle &= -\frac{1}{4\pi^2} \langle 0 | V(i, -i) U_1 \frac{b_0}{L_0 + \epsilon} U_1^\dagger V(i, -i) | 0 \rangle. \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi^2} \int_0^1 dt t^\epsilon (1 - t^2) \left(\frac{1}{16t^2} + \frac{1}{(1-t)^4} + \frac{1}{(1+t)^4} \right) \end{aligned}$$

- What to do with the $t \rightarrow 1$ divergence? This is a closed string degeneration so it should be regulated by a closed string propagator.

- In this case it is “easy” to see what to do. First we prove that

$$\langle 0 | V_1(i, -i) \frac{b_0}{L_0} V_2(i, -i) | 0 \rangle = -\langle B | \frac{b_0^+}{L_0^+} V_1(-1, -\bar{1}) V_2(1, \bar{1}) | 0 \rangle,$$

\Downarrow

$$\int_0^1 \frac{dt}{t} \langle 0 | V_1(i, -i) b_0 V_2(it, -it) | 0 \rangle = \int_1^0 \frac{dx}{x} \langle B | b_0^+ V_1(-x, -\bar{x}) V_2(x, \bar{x}) | 0 \rangle$$

$$x = \frac{1 - \sqrt{t}}{1 + \sqrt{t}}$$

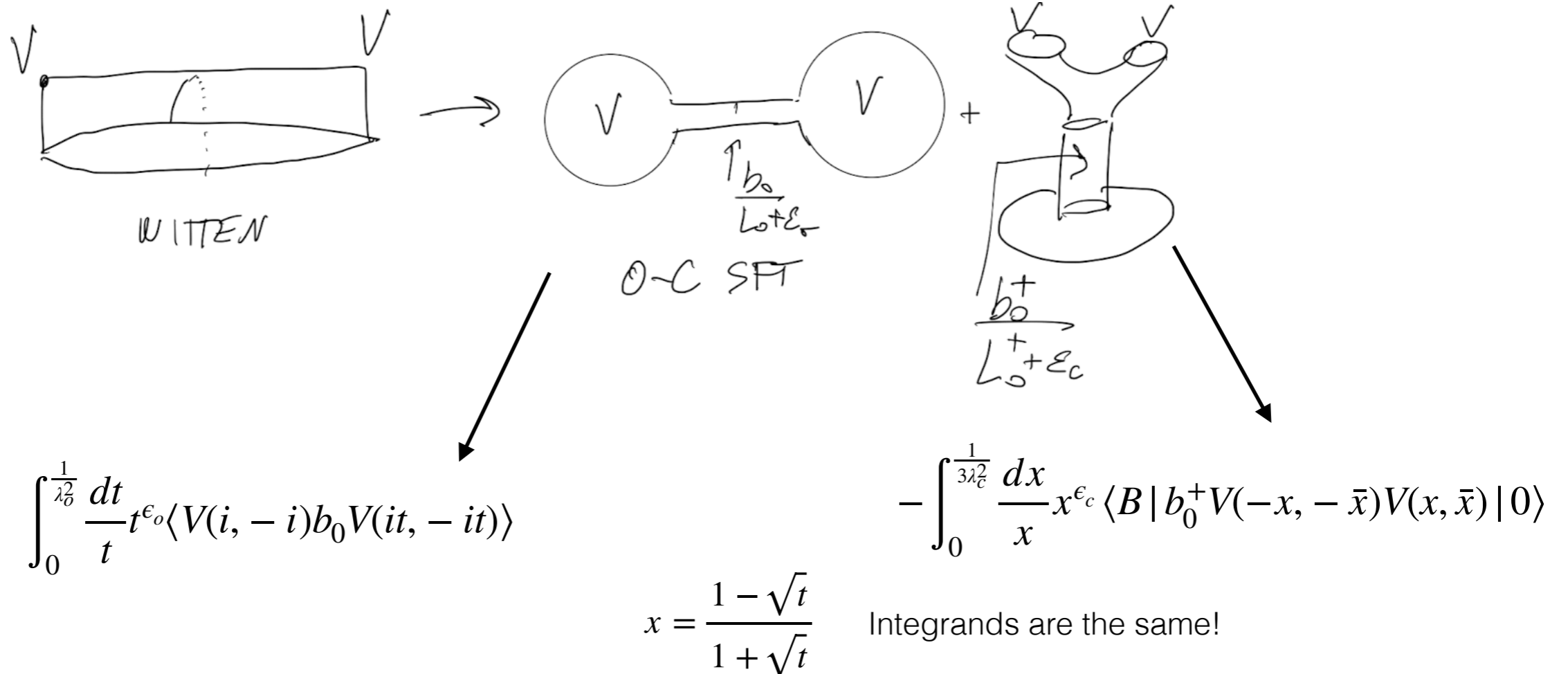
- This suggests that the term which diverges in $t \rightarrow 1$ should be regulated

$$\frac{b_0^+}{L_0^+ + \epsilon_{\text{closed}}} = \int_0^1 dx x^{\epsilon_{\text{closed}} - 1} b_0^+ x^{L_0^+} \quad \int_0^1 dt x(t)^{\epsilon_{\text{closed}}} \frac{1+t}{(1-t)^3} = -\frac{1}{8 - 2\epsilon_{\text{closed}}^2} \rightarrow -\frac{1}{8}$$

- In total this gives

$$\Gamma = \langle e, he \rangle = 0, \quad (\text{radius deformation})$$

- To have a more rigorous check, we have computed the same amplitude in O-C SFT with $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ vertices



- The full moduli space is covered by the two diagrams if the open and closed string stubs are related as $\lambda_o = \frac{3\lambda_c^2 + 1}{3\lambda_c^2 - 1}$
- The “heuristic” result we got in previous slide seems then to be robust.
- How does this generalises to superstring? New localization channels?*

Conclusions

- OSFT based on Witten product allow for explicit perturbative and non-perturbative computations involving open and closed strings. All computations are fairly explicit to the very end.

Pressing questions

- *Is there a large Hilbert space homotopy transfer? Positive evidence in the partially gauge fixed theory (work in progress)*
- *Can we systematically control closed string degeneration inside OSFT? Is it useful to understand OSFT as a singular limit of O-C SFT? (work in progress)*
- *Sometimes amplitudes localize on closed string degeneration. Can we understand this in OSFT? Localization in O-C SFT? (work in progress)*
- *Can we consistently couple the ghost dilaton? (it's not a $(0,0)$ primary)*
- *What is the cosmological constant computing?*
- **So much to do!**
- **Thanks, comments and suggestions are welcome!!**