

Spin-orbit duality

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I. Summary of the spin-orbit duality

II. Duality as a Hopf map and the conformal group

III. Oscillator vs Ising model

IV. QFT realization

Part I

The duality

Part I – The duality

Noether's theorem on Lorentz invariance, $J^{\mu\nu} = 0$, decomposes

$$J^{\mu\nu} = L^{\mu\nu} + S^{\mu\nu} \quad (1)$$

This **kinematic/dynamic** complementarity is made geometric by (1 + 3)-decomposing wrt $\eta^{\mu\nu} = \frac{p^\mu p^\nu}{p^2} + h^{\mu\nu}$,

$$J^{\mu\nu} = E^{\mu\nu} + H^{\mu\nu} : \quad \{p_\nu \star E^{\mu\nu} = 0, H^{\mu\nu} p_\nu = 0\} := \mathcal{H} \quad (2)$$

This is a **Hodge decomposition**, generalization of the \mathbb{R}^3 Helmholtz decomposition (into curl-free and divergence-free parts). For $J^{\mu\nu}$,

$$p_\nu \star L^{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad S^{\mu\nu} p_\nu = 0 \quad (\text{SSC}) \quad (3)$$

Algebraically, SSC = $S^{\mu\nu}$ set as generators of the little group.

Part I – The duality

Hodge decomposition separates between **electric** and **magnetic** parts,

$$J^{\mu\nu} = E^\mu p^\nu - E^\nu p^\mu + \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} p_\rho H_\sigma \quad (4)$$

where

$$E^\mu = \frac{L^{\mu\nu} p_\nu}{p^2} = n^\mu \quad \text{spacelike four-position} \quad (5)$$

$$H^\mu = \frac{p^\nu \star S^{\mu\nu}}{p^2} = W^\mu \quad \text{Pauli-Lubanski (position) vector}$$

We call them electric/magnetic parts since, in the rest frame,

$$J^{\mu\nu} = m \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -n^i \\ n^i & \epsilon^{ijk} W_k \end{pmatrix}_+ \quad (6)$$

Part I – The duality

Then, if $p^\mu \mapsto p^\mu$, spin-orbit duality is an **electric-magnetic duality**,

$$\begin{array}{l} n^\mu \mapsto W^\mu \\ W^\mu \mapsto -n^\mu \end{array} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad J \mapsto \star J$$

Why is this a (meaningful) duality?

- ▷ It is an automorphism of structure \mathcal{H} (original motivation).
- ▷ It preserves the Poincaré conservation laws $\dot{J} = \dot{p} = 0$.
- ▷ For $F^{\mu\nu}$, it is the usual U(1) electromagnetic duality.

Part I – The duality

- Algebraically, the Lorentz algebra $\mathfrak{so}(1, 3)$ is preserved.
(Hints: $\dot{J} = 0$ and \star is a linear map that shifts orthonormal basis).

- Geometrically, $J \mapsto \star J$ is a swap between rotations and boosts, i.e. the topological invariance

$$\mathbf{RP}^3 \times \mathbf{R}^3 \mapsto \mathbf{R}^3 \times \mathbf{RP}^3$$

- Translation generators are preserved (hint: $\dot{p} = 0$). But spacetime transforms and those are not translations anymore. The Poincarè group transforms.

Part I – The duality

For **Poincaré generators**, their possible compositions are

$$\mathbf{W} := \frac{\star(\mathbf{J} \wedge \mathbf{P})}{\mathbf{P}^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{N} := \frac{\mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{P}}{\mathbf{P}^2} \quad (7)$$

whereas $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{N} \wedge \mathbf{P}$. Then, \mathbf{W} generates $SO(3)$ and \mathbf{N} boosts,

$$[\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{W}] = \frac{\mathbf{J}}{\mathbf{P}^2}, \quad [\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{N}] = \frac{\star\mathbf{J}}{\mathbf{P}^2}, \quad [\mathbf{N}, \mathbf{N}] = -\frac{\mathbf{J}}{\mathbf{P}^2} \quad (8)$$

The duality is

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{N} \mapsto \mathbf{W} \\ \mathbf{W} \mapsto -\mathbf{N} \end{array} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{J} \mapsto \star\mathbf{J} \end{array} \quad (9)$$

It leaves the \mathbf{W}, \mathbf{N} algebra invariant $\leftrightarrow \mathfrak{so}(1, 3)$ and \mathcal{H} are preserved.

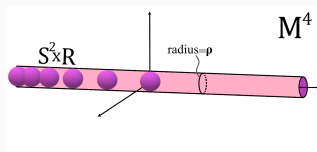
It *does not* say anything (yet) for the Poincaré algebra.

Part I – The duality

The map $n^\mu \mapsto \tilde{n}^\mu := W^\mu$ becomes trivial at

$$\rho = \sqrt{W^2} = \frac{S}{m} \quad \text{or} \quad \hat{\rho} = \frac{\hbar \sqrt{s(s+1)}}{m} \quad (\text{Møller radius}) \quad (10)$$

▷ ρ is a natural localization boundary: Classically, envelopes region of non-covariance. Quantum-mechanically, $\hat{\rho} \sim \lambda_C$, signifies pair production.



This is a **conformal immersion** $\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^2$. The **holographic map**

$$\mathbb{R}^{1,3} \mapsto \mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$$

Part I – The duality

- ▶ In fact: defining the timelike position as $\mathbf{A} = \frac{D\mathbf{P}}{\mathbf{P}^2}$: $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{N}$,

$$[\mathbf{X}^\mu, \mathbf{X}^\nu] = -\frac{\mathbf{S}^{\mu\nu}}{\mathbf{P}^2} \quad (11)$$

Formally, this means a massive theory with spin is **noncommutative**. This was first seen in relativistic mechanics by [Pryce1948] and on the superparticle by [Casalbuoni1976] and [Brink&Schwarz1981].

- ▶ This sets the **fundamental scale** at $\hat{\rho} \sim \lambda_C$, exactly on $\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$.
- ▶ It reaffirms $\hat{\rho}$ (where duality becomes trivial) as natural QM boundary.

Part I – The duality

QM on $S^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ is **noncommutative**,

$$\begin{aligned} [\hat{X}^\mu, \hat{X}^\nu] &= \frac{i}{p^2} \left(\hat{X}^\mu p^\nu - \hat{X}^\nu p^\mu + \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \hat{X}_\rho p_\sigma \right) \\ [\hat{X}^\mu, \hat{p}^\nu] &= i \frac{\hat{p}^\mu \hat{p}^\nu}{p^2} \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Minus the 3rd term, it is a κ -**deformation** of the Poincarè-Hopf algebra, with $\kappa = m$. Also,

$$[\hat{X}^i, \hat{p}^0] = -i \frac{\hat{p}^i}{\hat{p}^0} \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{Newton-Wigner localization} \quad (13)$$

In the rest frame, or in the **low-energy** regime,

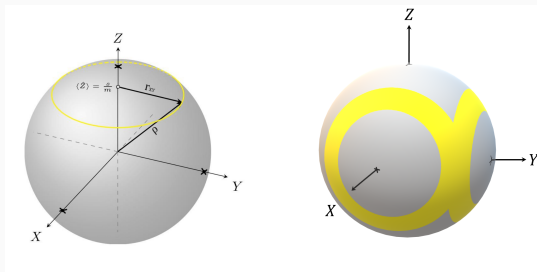
$$\begin{aligned} [\hat{X}^0, \hat{X}^i] &= -i \frac{\hat{X}^i}{m} \quad \rightarrow \quad \kappa\text{-Minkowski} \\ [\hat{X}^i, \hat{X}^j] &= -i \lambda_C \epsilon^{ijk} \hat{X}_k \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{fuzzy sphere} \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Part I – The duality

In QM vacuum, the duality implies

$$\langle \hat{X}^i \rangle = \frac{\langle \hat{S}^i \rangle}{m} \quad (15)$$

$2s + 1$ states – on the dual fuzzy sphere – are **uncertainty rings**:



▷ Left: $\langle \hat{Z} \rangle = \frac{\langle \hat{S}_Z \rangle}{m} = \frac{s}{m} \xrightarrow{\langle \hat{X} \rangle = \langle \hat{Y} \rangle = 0} \{ \Delta Z = 0, \Delta X \Delta Y = r_{XY} \}.$

▷ Right: $\langle \hat{X} \rangle = \langle \hat{Y} \rangle = \frac{s}{\sqrt{2}m} \xrightarrow{\langle \hat{Z} \rangle = 0} \{ \Delta Z, \Delta X, \Delta Y \neq 0 \}.$

Part II

Duality as a Hopf fibration and the conformal group

Part II – Duality as a Hopf fibration

In Euclidean signature, since:

▷ n^μ ($n^\mu n_\mu > 0$) is an $SO(4)$ rep, foliating \mathbb{R}^4 into concentric \mathbb{S}^3 's,

▷ $\mathbb{S}^3 \cong SU(2)$ is a $U(1)$ -bundle, since the homogeneous $\mathbb{S}^2 \cong SU(2)/U(1)$,

$$n^\mu \mapsto W^\mu = \text{1st Hopf map } \mathbb{S}^3 \xrightarrow{\mathbb{S}^1} \mathbb{S}^2$$

In this view, the duality induces the conformal immersion

$$\mathbb{R}^4 \setminus \{0\} \cong \mathbb{S}^3 \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R} \quad (16)$$

Part II – Duality as a Hopf fibration

Realization: $SU(2)$ spinor $\psi : \psi^\dagger \psi = \text{const.}$, a hypersurface $\mathbb{S}^3 \subset \mathbb{C}^2$.
The Hopf map is $\mathbb{S}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^2 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$,

$$\psi \rightarrow x^i = \psi^\dagger \sigma^i \psi \quad (17)$$

where $x^2 = (\psi^\dagger \psi)^2 = \text{const.} \Rightarrow x^i \in \mathbb{S}^2$.

Example: the 4D CBS superparticle,

$$S_{CBS} = \int dt e^{-1} (\dot{x}^\mu - i\dot{\theta}\sigma^\mu\bar{\theta} + i\theta\sigma^\mu\dot{\bar{\theta}})^2 - em^2 \quad (18)$$

feels the duality (true symmetry of S_{CBS} , also acting as parity)

$$x^i \mapsto \tilde{x}^i = W^i = \theta\sigma^i\bar{\theta} \quad (19)$$

which realizes the Hopf map.

Part II – Duality and the conformal group

$\mathbb{R}^{1,3} \mapsto \mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ yields that the bulk $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{ISO}(1,3)$ transforms:

- ▷ $SO(1,3)$ subgroup is preserved,
- ▷ translations ($\dot{p} = 0$ preserved) are realized projectively,

$$\tilde{G} = SO(2,3)$$

- $SO(2,3) \cong \text{Conf}(1,2) \cong \text{Conf}(\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R})$.
- $SO(1,3)$ is now realized as $\text{Conf}(2) = \text{Conf}(\mathbb{S}^2)$.
- The inverse map $\tilde{G} \mapsto G$ may be an Inonu-Wigner contraction.

Part III

Oscillator vs Ising model

Part III – Dual Landau levels

The simplest arena is a spin- s charge in a uniform magnetic field, $B^i = \epsilon^{ijk} \partial_j A_k$, producing the **Landau levels** ($\omega_c = \frac{B}{m}$),

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{2m} (p^i + A^i(x^j))^2, \quad E_n = \omega_c \left(n + \frac{1}{2} \right) \quad (20)$$

The duality $\mathbb{R}^3 \mapsto \mathbb{S}^2$ takes $x^i \mapsto \tilde{x}^i$, with $\tilde{x}^i \in \mathbb{S}^2$ (i.e. $\tilde{x}^2 = \rho^2$) and

$$\tilde{\mathcal{H}} = \frac{1}{2m} (p^i + A^i(\tilde{x}^j))^2, \quad \tilde{E}_n = \frac{1}{2m\rho^2} (n^2 + n(2s+1) + s) \quad (21)$$

where Hopf map $\mathbb{S}^3 \xrightarrow{\mathbb{S}^1} \mathbb{S}^2$ takes the U(1) connection $A^i(x^j) \mapsto A^i(\tilde{x}^j)$, the potential of a **Dirac monopole** of minimum charge.

Part III – Dual Landau levels

The dual monopole problem on \mathbb{S}^2 has **Lowest Landau Level**:

- $\tilde{E}_0 (= E_0) = \frac{\omega_c}{2}$,
- $(2s + 1)$ -fold degenerate = $2s + 1$ Landau orbitals,
i.e. a spin- s $SO(3)$ rep: **fuzzy sphere**.



Original postulate of the duality: the vacuum on the dual \mathbb{S}^2 is a fuzzy sphere of $2s + 1$ eigenstates. ✓

Taking $\rho, s \rightarrow \infty$, holding $B = \frac{s}{\rho^2}$ fixed, is the **thermodynamic limit**,

$$\tilde{E}_n \xrightarrow{TL} E_n = \omega_c \left(n + \frac{1}{2} \right) \quad (22)$$

- ▶ But, what is the interpretation of TL on the dual spectrum?
- ▷ The dual theory is on $\text{Conf}[\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}]$, hence TL is actually mandatory:

The dual spectra match, $\tilde{E}_n = E_n$.

Part III – Oscillator vs Ising model

For uniform $B^i = \epsilon^{ijk} \partial_j A_k$, the generic form of the Hamiltonian is

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega_c^2 x^2 + \omega_L B \cdot L \quad (23)$$

The duality takes $x^i \mapsto \frac{S^i}{m}$ – and also $L^i \mapsto S^i$ – hence

$$\tilde{\mathcal{H}} = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{\omega_c^2}{2m} S^2 + \omega_L B \cdot S \quad (24)$$

► This is an **Ising model** for just one electron:

- ▷ The 1st term, with p^i conjugate to $\tilde{x}^i = \frac{S^i}{m}$, only makes sense on \mathbb{S}^2 .
- ▷ The 2nd term is self-interaction, a QM memory term (new \propto old state).
- ▷ The 3rd term is the usual coupling between S^i and external B^i .

Part III – Oscillator vs Ising model

Disregarding electric repulsion (wrt the external B^i), consider N electrons, i.e. the center-of-mass position $x^i = (x_1^i + \dots + x_N^i)/N$,

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum^N \left(\frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega_c^2 x^2 + \omega_L B \cdot L \right) + m \omega_c^2 \sum_{a \neq b}^N x_a \cdot x_b \quad (25)$$

and the duality implies

$$\tilde{\mathcal{H}} = \sum^N \left(\frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{\omega_c^2}{2m} S^2 + \omega_L B \cdot S \right) + \frac{\omega_c^2}{m} \sum_{a \neq b}^N S_a \cdot S_b \quad (26)$$

► This is an **Ising model** for N electrons:

▷ The new term is the known inter-site interaction. It is between all possible spin-lattice sites: i.e. not only for next-neighbor (short-range) interactions but for long-range ones too.

▷ How to interpret its independence of inter-site distance?

Part IV

QFT realization

Part IV – QFT realization

In field theory, the simplest example is QED,

$$S = \int d^4x \ i\bar{\psi}\not{D}\psi - m\bar{\psi}\psi - \frac{F^2}{4} \quad (27)$$

► In analogy, we understand the duality to:

- ▷ leave the kinetic terms invariant,
- ▷ shift A^μ into a monopole,
- ▷ transform the mass term.

► The **mass term** should somehow transform, since:

- ▷ the dual theory on $\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ is **conformal**, $\tilde{G} = \text{SO}(2,3)$,
- ▷ $\bar{\psi}\psi$ is the **probability density**, a field analog of position.

Part IV – QFT realization

There is an elegant way to realize the duality. The generalized momenta $\Pi_\mu = i\partial_\mu\psi$, $\bar{\Pi}_\mu = i\partial_\mu\bar{\psi}$ define a kind of **generalized field coordinates**,

$$\Psi^\mu := \frac{\gamma^\mu\psi}{2\sqrt{-p^2}} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{\Psi}^\mu := -\frac{\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu}{2\sqrt{-p^2}}, \quad (28)$$

► Those make sense, because:

- ▷ $\bar{\Psi} \cdot \Psi = \frac{\bar{\psi}\psi}{m^2}$ is the probability density, analog of position,
- ▷ $[\bar{\Psi}^\mu, \Psi^\nu] = -\frac{i\bar{\psi}\mathbf{S}^{\mu\nu}\psi}{p^2}$, same as the underlying QM algebra.

Part IV – QFT realization

We may even extract a **spacelike coordinate** N^μ (analog of n^μ), by considering the projector $A_{\mu\nu} = i^2 \overleftarrow{\partial}_\mu \overrightarrow{\partial}_\nu / p^2$,

$$\bar{\Psi} \cdot N = \bar{\Psi} \cdot \Psi - \bar{\Psi} \cdot (A \cdot \Psi) = \frac{\bar{\psi}\psi}{m^2} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{\bar{\psi}\psi}{m^2} = \frac{3}{4} \frac{\bar{\psi}\psi}{m^2}, \quad (29)$$

The numerical factors naturally decompose into timelike/spacelike dof. Manipulating the Dirac equation, we obtain an explicit expression,

$$N^\mu := \frac{\mathbf{S}^{\mu\nu} \partial_\nu \psi}{p^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{N}^\mu := \frac{\partial_\nu \bar{\psi} \mathbf{S}^{\nu\mu}}{p^2}. \quad (30)$$

Moreover, it turns out we may isolate the spatial dof into $\bar{\psi}\psi$,

$$\bar{\psi}\psi \rightarrow \bar{\Psi} \cdot N \quad (31) \quad 21$$

Part IV – QFT realization

We may even define an analog of orbital angular momentum acting on Dirac spinors,

$$\mathfrak{L}^{\mu\nu} := \frac{\mathbf{S}^{\mu\rho}\partial_\rho}{p^2}\partial_\nu - \frac{\mathbf{S}^{\nu\rho}\partial_\rho}{p^2}\partial_\mu \quad (32)$$

Then, the total angular momentum generator,

$$\mathfrak{J}^{\mu\nu} = \mathfrak{L}^{\mu\nu} + \mathfrak{S}^{\mu\nu}, \quad (33)$$

where $\mathfrak{S}^{\mu\nu} = \mathbf{S}^{\mu\nu}/2$, satisfies the Lorentz algebra. Hence, the duality $J^{\mu\nu} \mapsto \star J^{\mu\nu}$ is (in this representation) $\mathfrak{J}^{\mu\nu} \mapsto \star \mathfrak{J}^{\mu\nu}$. Equally,

$$N^\mu \mapsto W^\mu$$

where $W^\mu = (i \vec{\partial}_\nu \star \mathbf{S}^{\mu\nu} \psi)/p^2$.

Part IV – QFT realization

Hence, the duality transforms the mass term,

$$\bar{\Psi} \cdot \mathbf{N} \mapsto \bar{\Psi} \cdot \mathbf{W} \quad (34)$$

or, wrt Dirac spinors,

$$\begin{aligned} m \bar{\psi} \psi &\mapsto i \frac{\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu}{2} (\partial^\nu \star \mathbf{S}_{\mu\nu}) \psi \\ &= \frac{i}{4} \bar{\lambda} \gamma^\alpha [e_\beta^b \nabla^\beta e_\alpha^a] \sigma_{ab} \lambda \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

Here, $\gamma^\mu = \gamma^a e_a^\alpha e_\alpha^\mu$: $e_a^\alpha = 3\text{D vielbein}$ and $e_\alpha^\mu = 4\text{D}/3\text{D duality map}$. Also, λ are Weyl spinors. Finally,

$$m \bar{\psi} \psi \mapsto \frac{i}{4} \bar{\lambda} \gamma^\alpha \omega_\alpha^{ab} \sigma_{ab} \lambda$$

where ω is the **spin connection** on $\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$.

Hence, the duality transforms the action,

$$S = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{1,3}} i\bar{\psi}\not{D}\psi - m\bar{\psi}\psi \quad \mapsto \quad \tilde{S} = \int_{\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}} i\bar{\lambda}\gamma^\alpha \left(D_\alpha - \frac{1}{4}\omega_\alpha{}^{ab}\sigma_{ab} \right) \lambda$$

where N_f massive 4D Dirac spinors realize $2N_f$ massless 3D Weyl's.

► Hence, **the 4D mass term** transforms:

- ▷ in analogy with position, representing the probability density,
- ▷ into a massless structure, since the dual theory must be conformal,
- ▷ into exactly the spin connection needed for the dual $\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$.

Part IV – Path integral

For the 4D **free fermion**, the (Euclidean) path integral in \mathbb{R}^4 ,

$$Z_{4D} = \exp \left\{ -\frac{V_4 m^4}{(4\pi)^{\frac{4}{2}}} \left(\log \frac{\mu^2}{m^2} + \text{finite} \right) \right\} \quad (36)$$

For the dual **two 3D massless fermions** on $\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$,

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{3D} &= \exp \left\{ -\frac{V_3 R^{-3}}{(4\pi)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left(\log \frac{R^2}{\epsilon^2} + \text{finite} \right) \right\} \\ &= \exp \left\{ -\frac{V_3 m^3}{(4\pi)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left(\log \frac{\mu^2}{m^2} + \text{finite} \right) \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

where $R = 1/m$. The logarithm comes from finite effects on \mathbb{S}^2 .

But the dual space is $\text{Conf}[\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}]$. Setting $g_{\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}} = \Omega^2 \tilde{g}_{\mathbb{R}^3}$, then

$$Z_{3D} = \tilde{Z}_{3D} e^{-\mathcal{A}[\Omega, \tilde{g}]} \quad (38)$$

In 3D, the **conformal anomaly** \mathcal{A} comes from the boundary curvature. However, conformally compactified \mathbb{R}^4 (i.e. $\Omega^2 \tilde{g}_{\mathbb{R}^3}$) exhibits a conformal boundary: in this case, boundary conditions are obscure.

We suggest that \mathcal{A} is defined via AdS/CFT [[Astaneh&Solodukhin2017](#)]. It gives a contribution of the (expected) form,

$$\mathcal{A} \propto \frac{V_2}{4\pi R^2} \log \frac{R^2}{\epsilon^2} = \frac{V_2 m^2}{4\pi} \log \frac{\mu^2}{m^2} \quad (39)$$

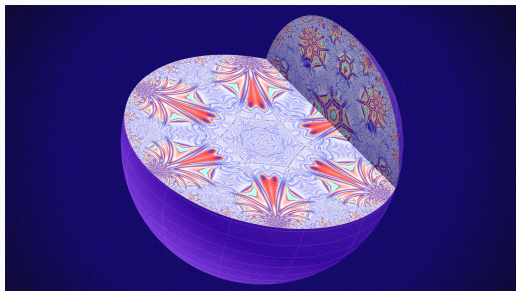
Part IV – Nested holography

The dual theory lives on $\text{Conf}[\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}]$, with $\tilde{G} = \text{SO}(2,3) = \text{Isom}(\text{AdS}_4)$.
This is the **conformal boundary of AdS_4** .

▷ $\text{Conf}[\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R}]$ cylinder continues inside to AdS_4 .

▷ The **AdS/CFT duality**, realizes a **nested holography**:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \text{massive QFT} & \xrightarrow[\text{duality}]{\text{spin-orbit}} & \text{(massless) CFT} & \xrightarrow[\text{duality}]{\text{AdS/CFT}} & \text{supergravity} \\ \text{on } \mathbb{R}^{1,3} & & \text{on } \mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{R} & & \text{on } \text{AdS}_4 \times \mathcal{M}^6 \end{array}$$



thanks!