

QFT as a set of coupled ODEs

Seminar Università di Genova / INFN

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Motivation

- QFT is fantastic in statistical physics, particle physics, cosmology
- Many phenomenologically relevant QFTs are *strongly coupled*

How do we formulate predictions in strongly coupled QFTs?

Method	Downsides
Conformal bootstrap	Only CFT
S-matrix bootstrap	Only 2-to-2
Hamiltonian truncation	Cutoff breaks Lorentz, many divergences
Lattice	Expensive, sign problem, no dynamics
Integrability	Only 2D and extra conserved charges
Holography	Only large N and SUSY

Basic idea

A framework in the continuum, with no divergences and (*maybe??*) cheap

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- In CFT, local observables are fixed by $\{\Delta_i, C_{ijk}\}$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_i(x) \mathcal{O}_j(0) \rangle = \frac{\delta_{ij}}{x^{2\Delta_i}} \qquad \mathcal{O}_i(x) \mathcal{O}_j(0) = \sum_k \frac{C_{ijk}}{x^{\Delta_i + \Delta_j - \Delta_k}} (\mathcal{O}_k(0) + \text{descendants})$$

Basic idea

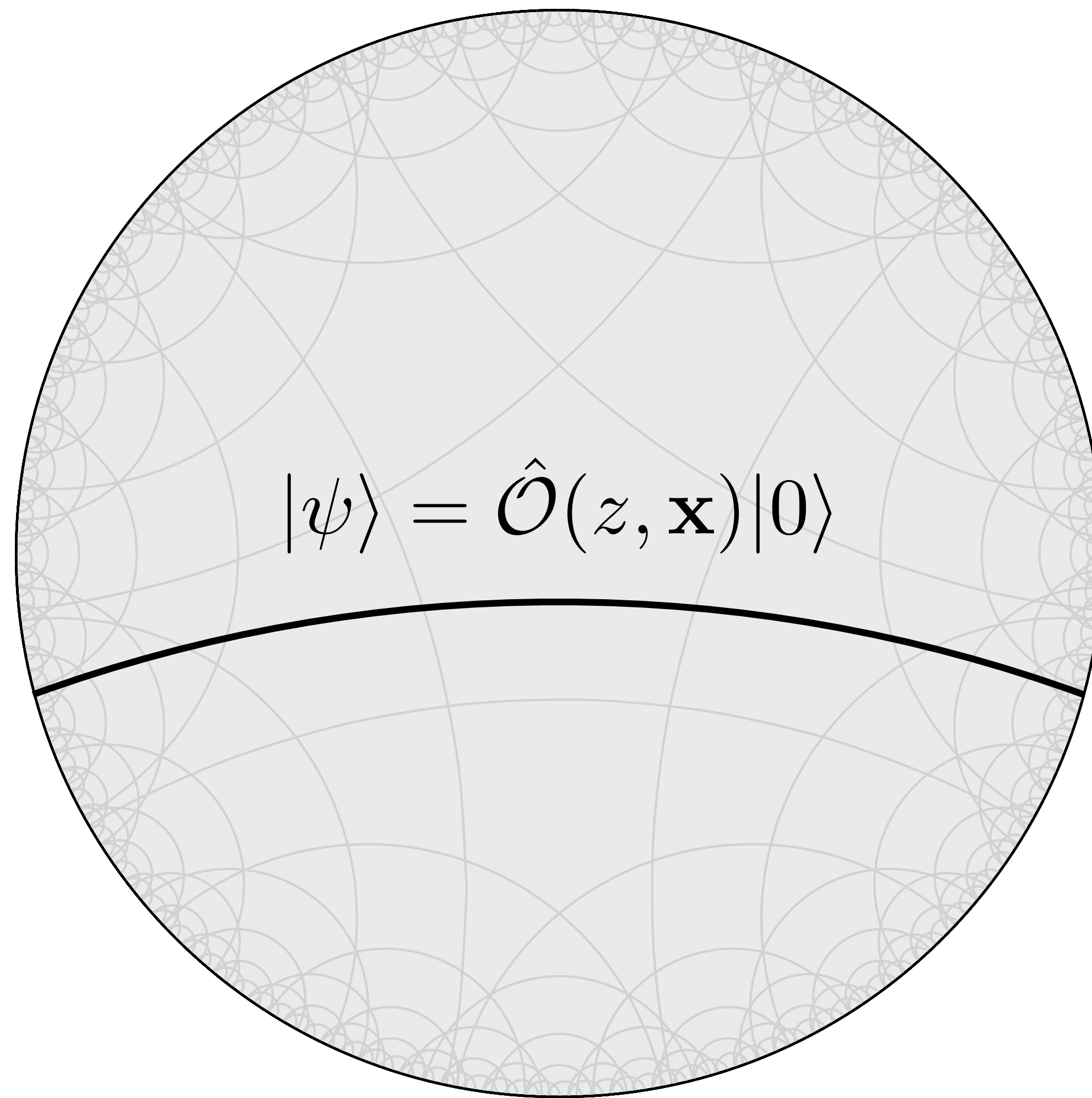
A framework in the continuum, with no divergences and (*maybe??*) cheap

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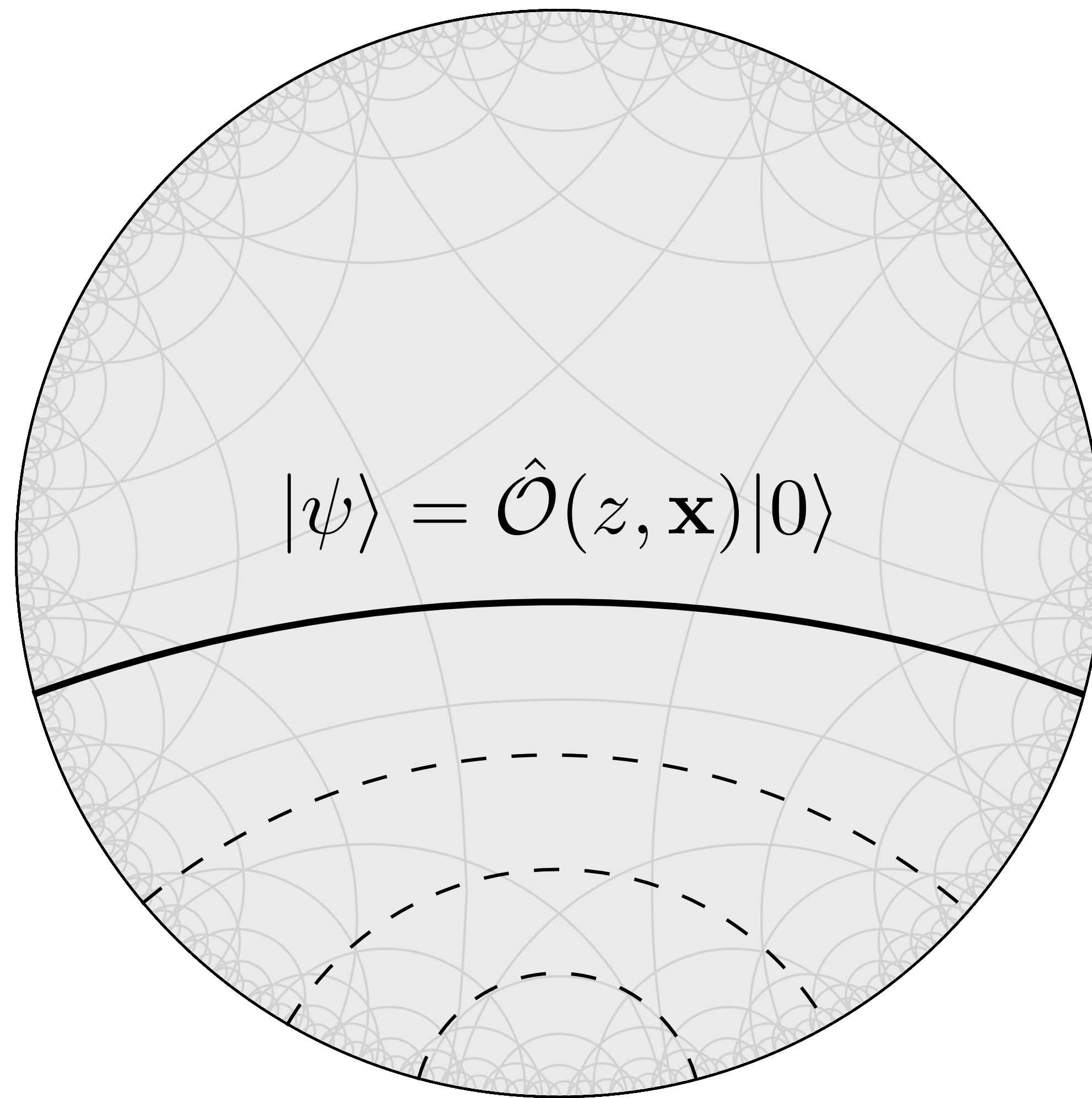
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- QFT in AdS defines a family of CFTs (without stress tensor)
- Observables in QFT in AdS fixed by $\{\Delta_i(\lambda), b_i^{\hat{\mathcal{O}}}(\lambda), C_{ijk}(\lambda)\}$

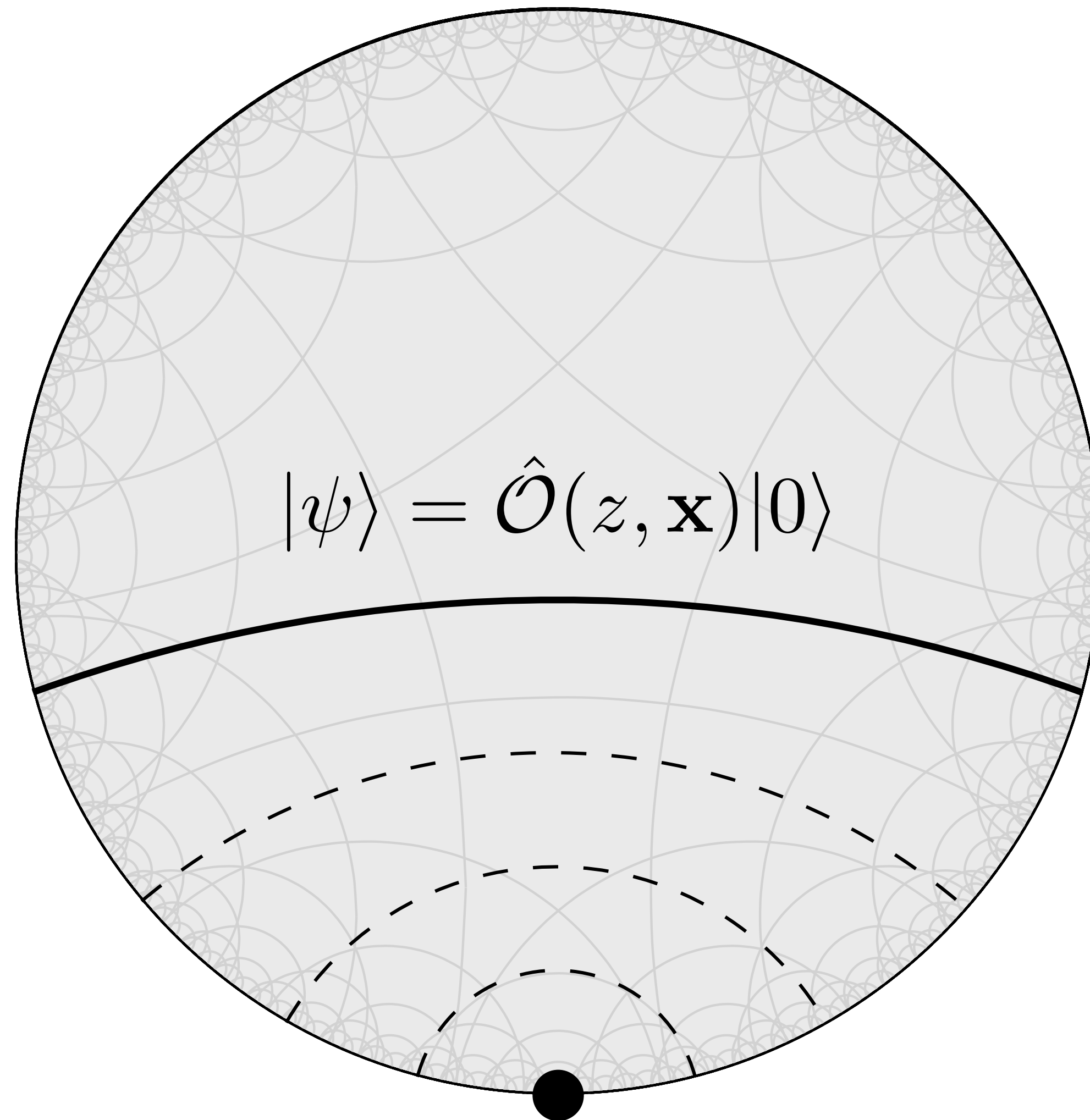
The Boundary Operator Expansion (BOE)



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The Boundary Operator Expansion (BOE)



$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_i z^{\Delta_i} b_i^{\hat{\mathcal{O}}} (\mathcal{O}_i(\mathbf{x}) + \text{desc.})$$

Basic idea

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- In CFT, local observables are fixed by $\{\Delta_i, C_{ijk}\}$

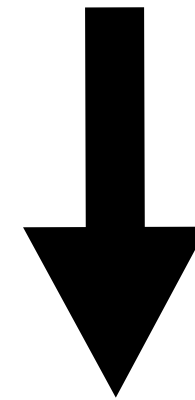
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- QFT in AdS defines a family of CFTs (without stress tensor)
- Observables in QFT in AdS fixed by $\{\Delta_i(\lambda), b_i^{\hat{\mathcal{O}}}(\lambda), C_{ijk}(\lambda)\}$
- For arbitrary λ , we can compute universally the derivatives of the data
- Truncated system of ODEs can in principle be solved iteratively, flowing the data to strong coupling and to flat space

Basic idea

What are local correlation functions in AdS?

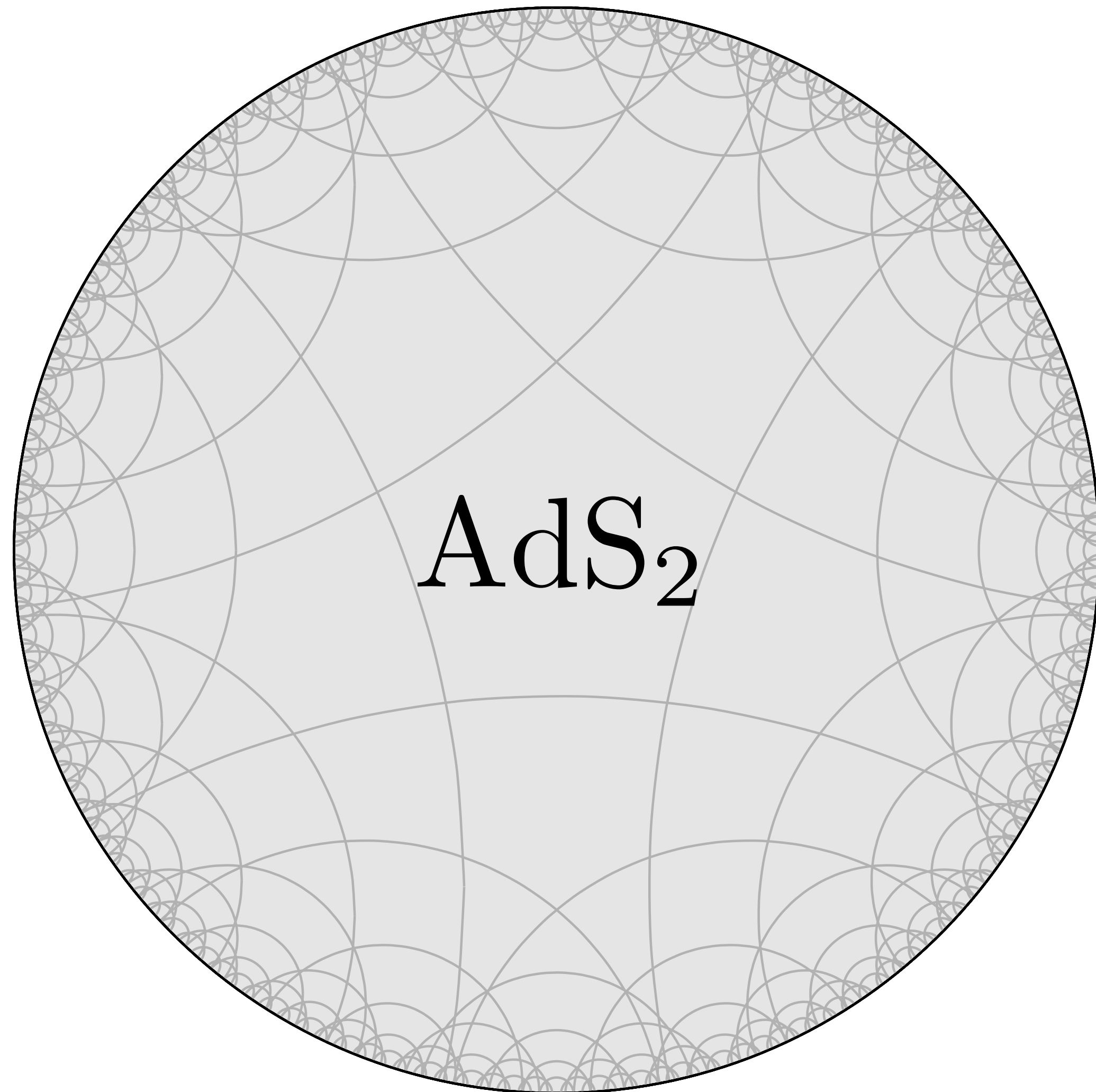
And how do we compute them?



What is the S-matrix in QFT in flat space?

And how do we compute it?

Basic idea



$$S = S_{\text{QFT}_2} + \lambda \int_{\text{AdS}_2} \hat{\Phi}$$

“QFT data” fully fixes all local observables

$$\Delta_i(\lambda), \quad C_{ijk}(\lambda), \quad b_i^{\hat{\mathcal{O}}_a}(\lambda)$$

Taking $\lambda \rightarrow \lambda + \delta\lambda$, with PT we compute

$$\frac{\Delta_i}{d\lambda}(\lambda), \quad \frac{C_{ijk}}{d\lambda}(\lambda), \quad \frac{db_i^{\hat{\mathcal{O}}_a}}{d\lambda}(\lambda)$$

Truncated system of ODEs can be iteratively solved

Inspiration: [Hollands, Wald, '23]

1D conformal manifolds: [Behan, '17]

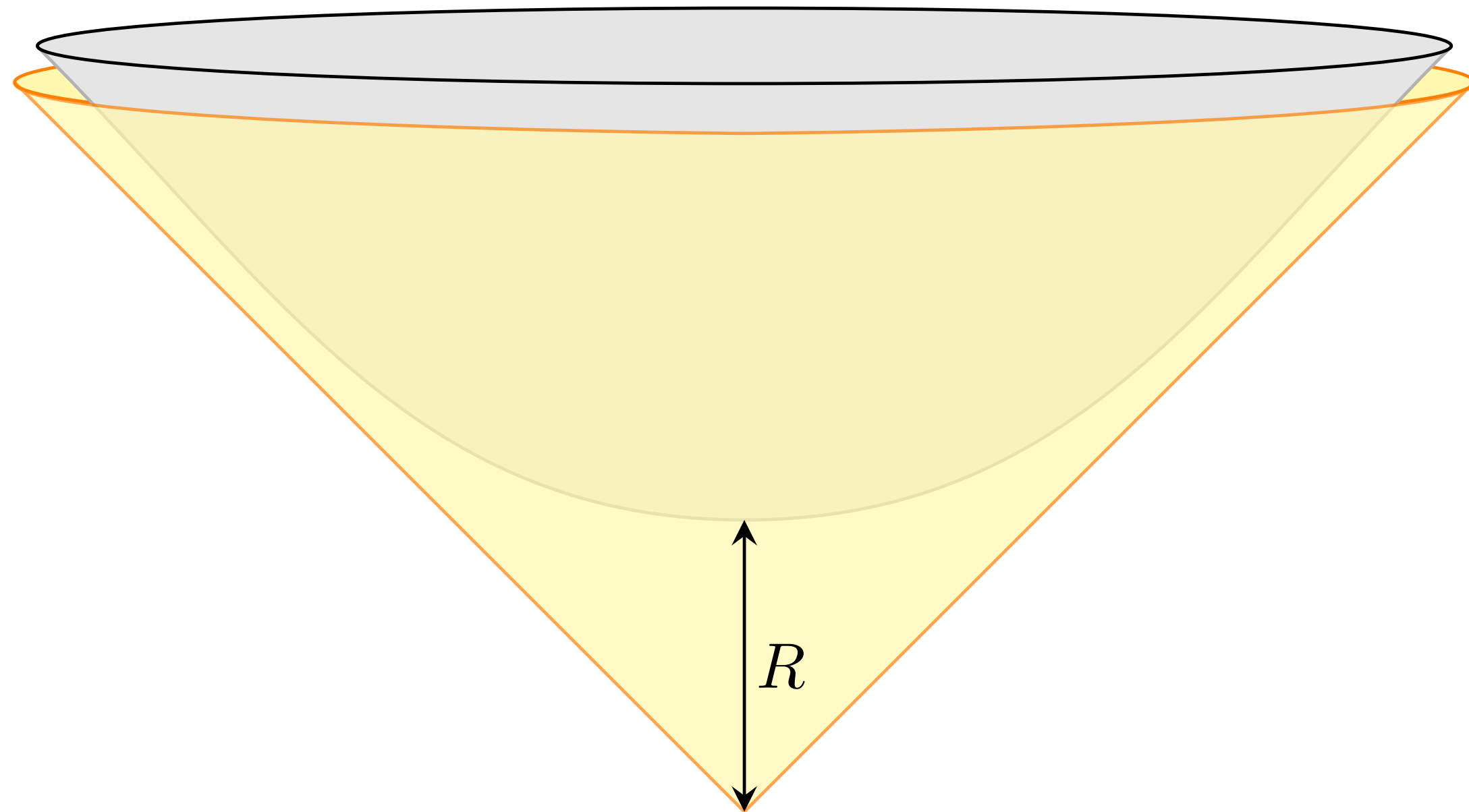
Outline

- Correlation functions from QFT data
- Perturbation theory, once and for all
- Examples and checks
- Further properties of the flow equations

Observables from QFT data

Geometry

Embedding space formalism



- Embed AdS_2 in $\mathbb{R}^{1,2}$

$$X^A X^B \eta_{AB} = -R^2$$

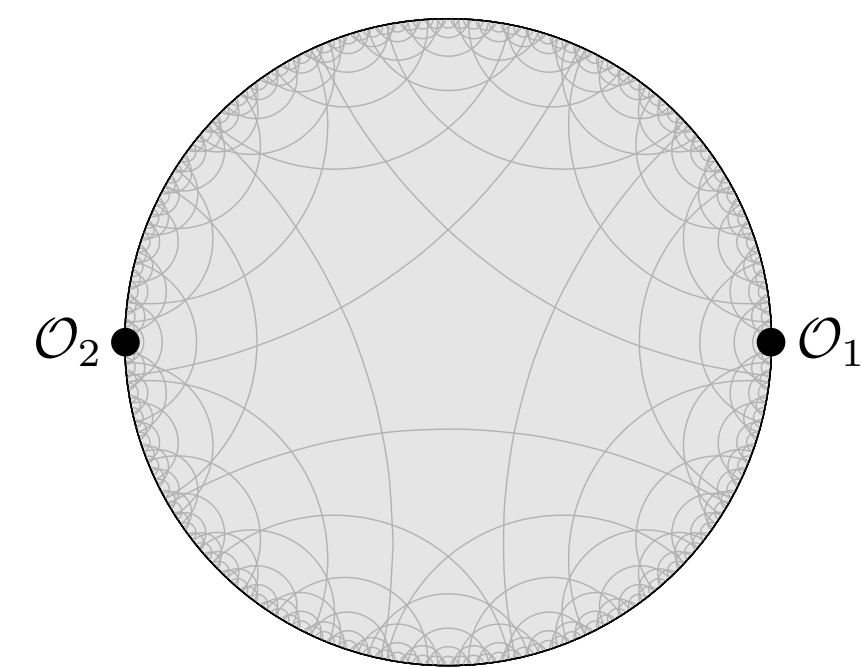
- Boundary $\equiv$ space of light rays

$$P^A P^B \eta_{AB} = 0, \quad P^A \sim \lambda P^A$$

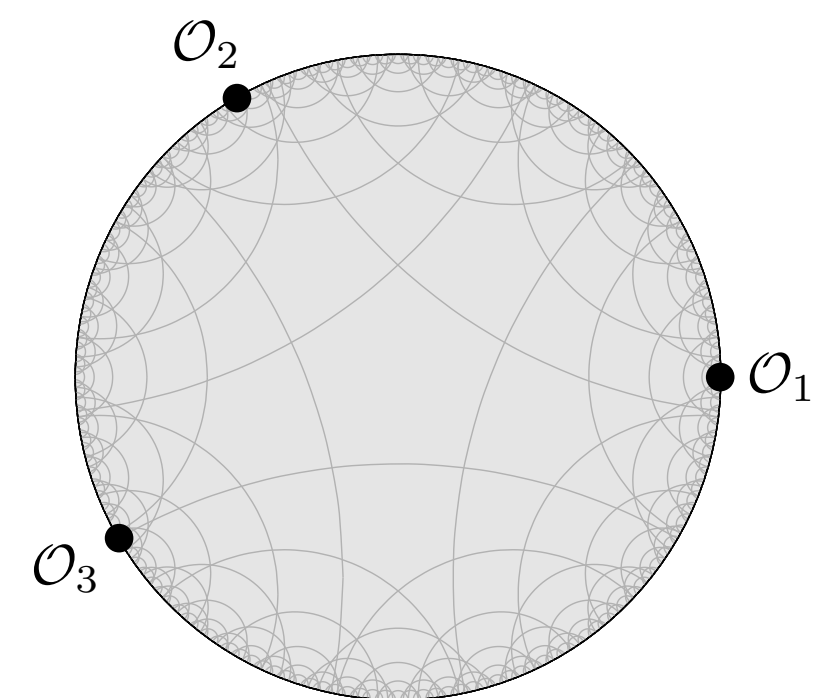
- Poincaré metric $ds^2 = \frac{dz^2 + d\tau^2}{z^2}$

Correlation functions

- At any point in the RG flow



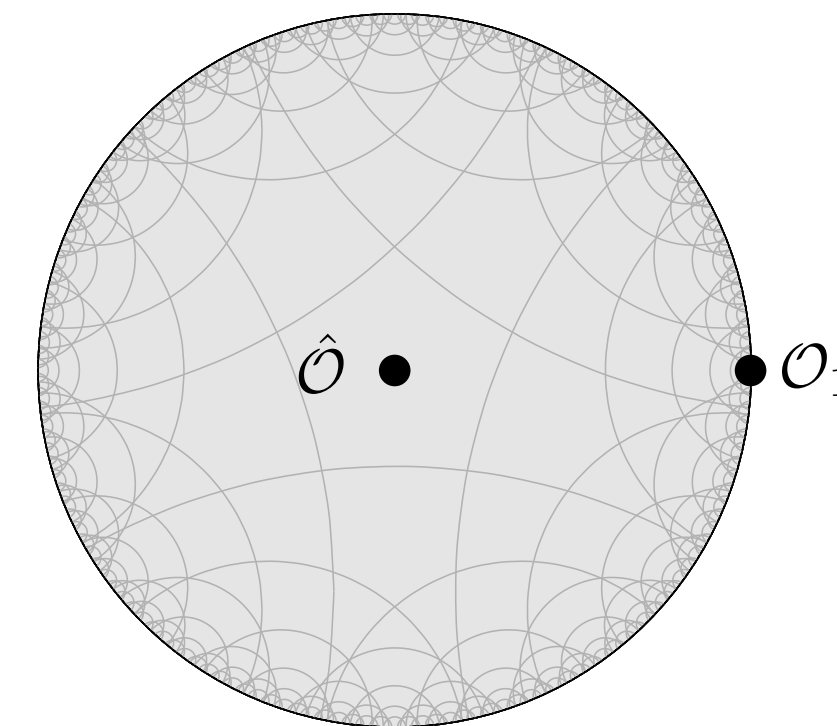
$$= \frac{\delta_{\Delta_1 \Delta_2}}{P_{12}^{\Delta_1(\lambda)}}$$



$$= \frac{C_{123}(\lambda)}{P_{12}^{\Delta_{123}(\lambda)} P_{23}^{\Delta_{231}(\lambda)} P_{13}^{\Delta_{132}(\lambda)}}$$

$$P_{12} \equiv -2P_1 \cdot P_2$$

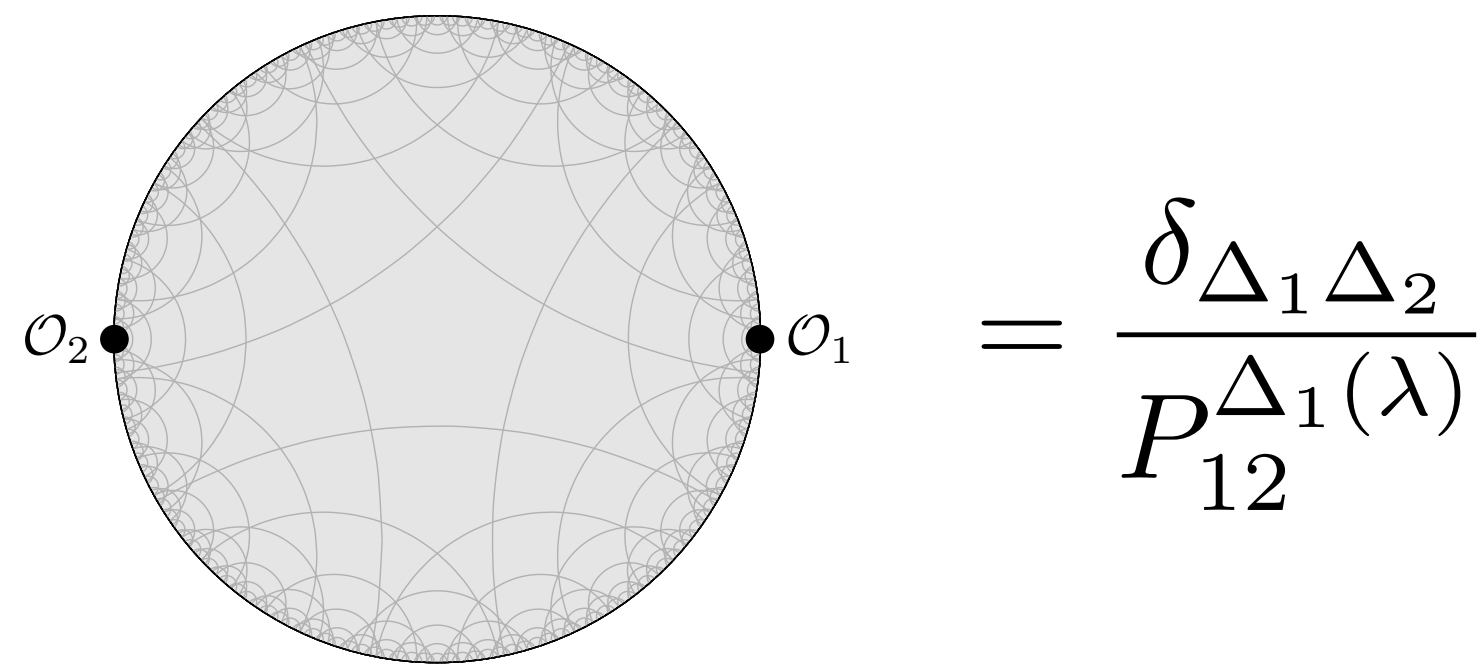
$$\Delta_{123} \equiv \Delta_1 + \Delta_2 - \Delta_3$$



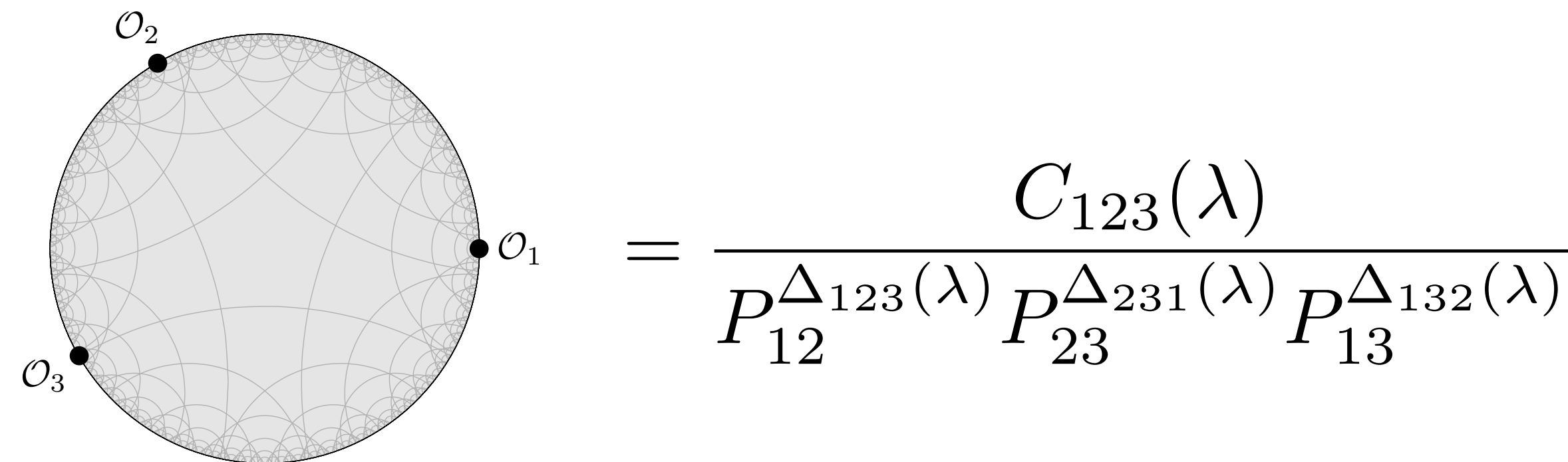
$$= \frac{b_1^{\hat{O}}(\lambda)}{(-2P \cdot X)^{\Delta_1(\lambda)}}$$

Correlation functions

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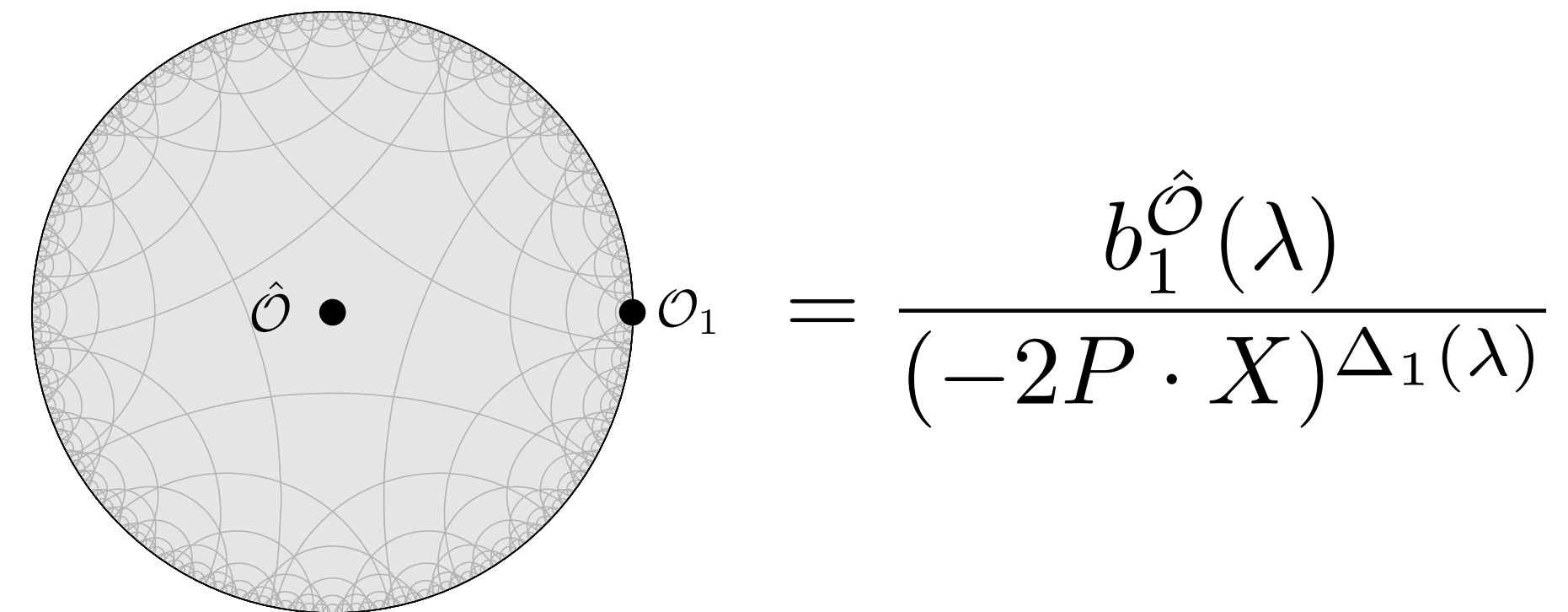
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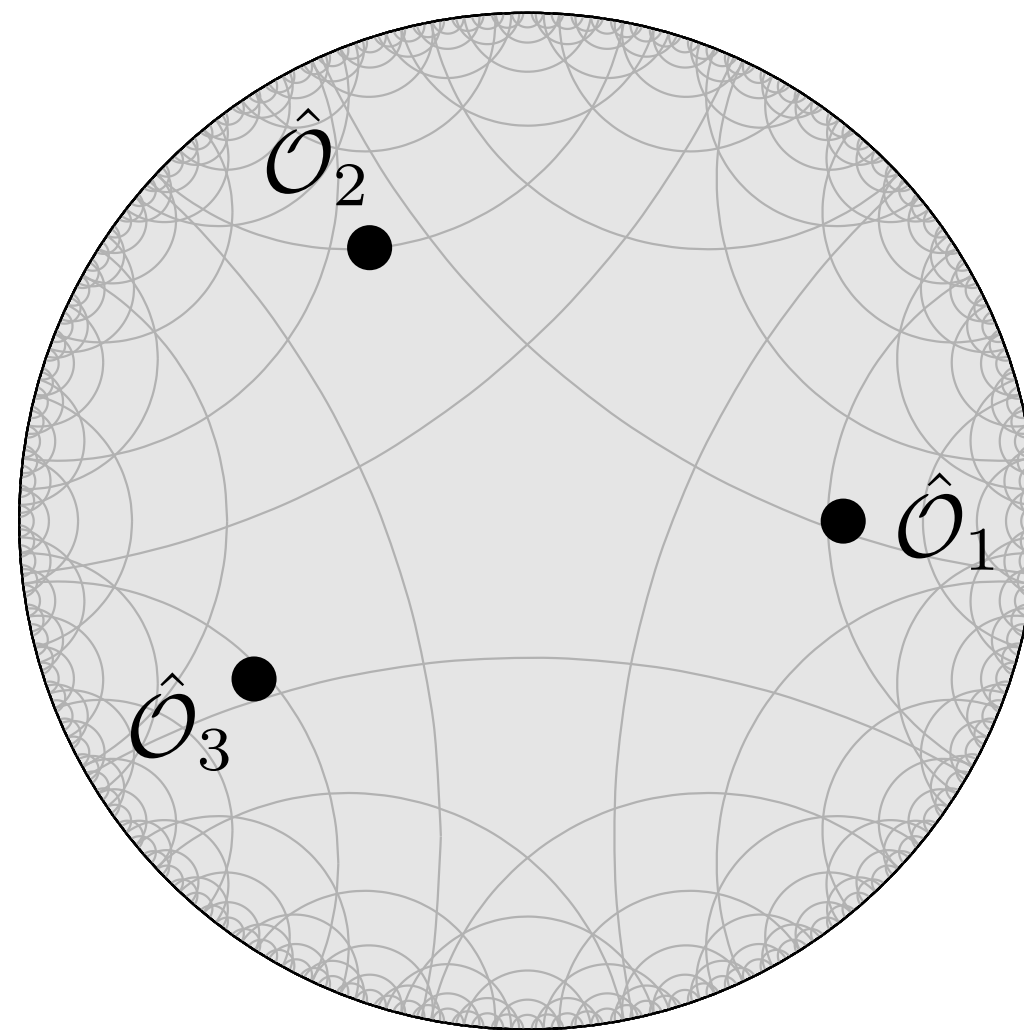
$$= \frac{b_1^{\hat{\mathcal{O}}}(\lambda)}{(-2P \cdot X)^{\Delta_1(\lambda)}}$$

These are the coefficients in the BOE

$$\hat{\mathcal{O}}(z, \tau) = \sum_i z^{\Delta_i} b_i^{\hat{\mathcal{O}}} (\mathcal{O}_i(\tau) + \text{descendants})$$

Correlation functions

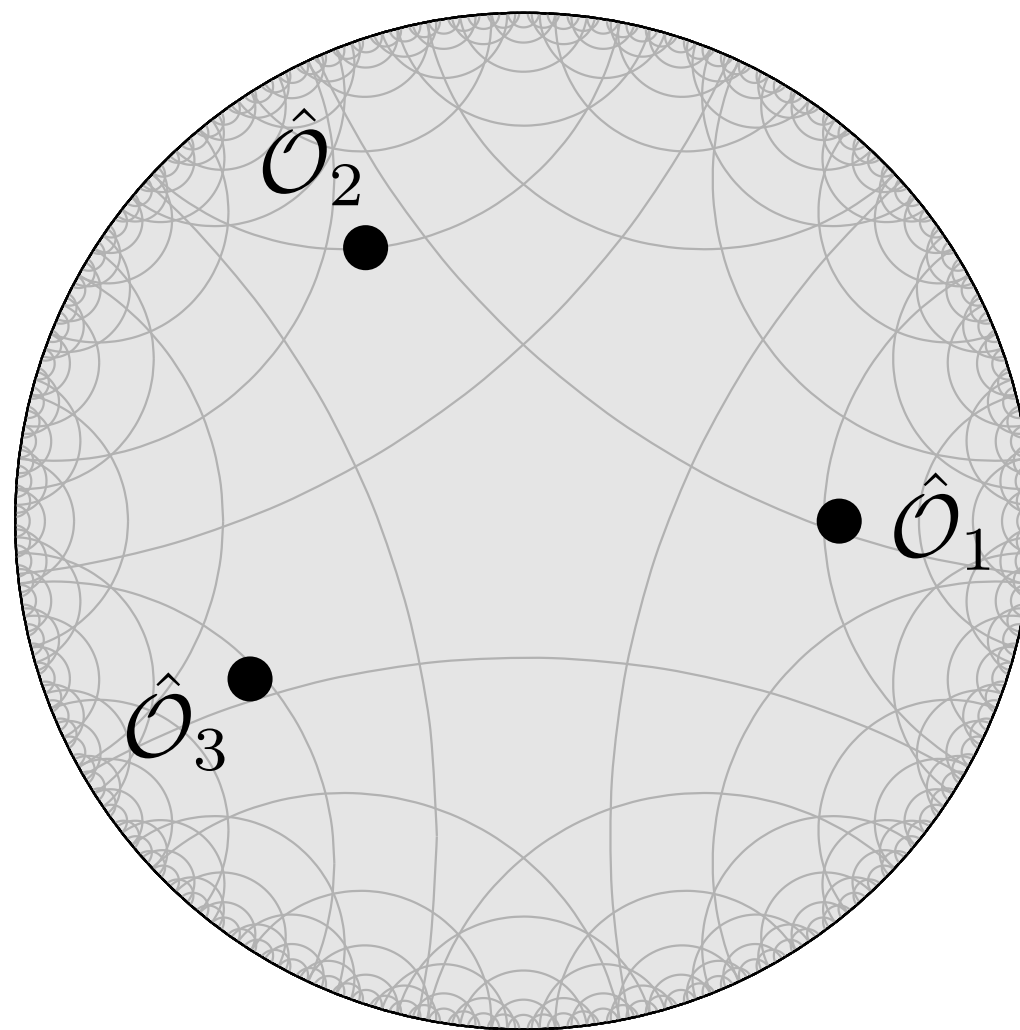
- State-operator map: any other correlation function is built from QFT data



$$= \sum_{i,j,k} b_i^{\hat{\mathcal{O}}_1} b_j^{\hat{\mathcal{O}}_2} b_k^{\hat{\mathcal{O}}_3} C_{ijk} \text{ (kinematic block)}_{ijk}$$

Correlation functions

- State-operator map: any other correlation function is built from QFT data



$$= \sum_{i,j,k} \overbrace{b_i^{\hat{O}_1} b_j^{\hat{O}_2} b_k^{\hat{O}_3} C_{ijk}}^{\text{Dynamics}} \overbrace{(\text{kinematic block})_{ijk}}^{\text{Theory-independent}}$$

The QFT data

- QFT observables are thus fully fixed by these functions

$$\Delta_i(\lambda), \quad C_{ijk}(\lambda), \quad b_i^{\hat{\mathcal{O}}_a}(\lambda)$$

- For boundary observables, we only need

$$\Delta_i(\lambda), \quad C_{ijk}(\lambda), \quad b_i^{\hat{\Phi}}(\lambda)$$

- ODEs for these functions come by solving perturbation theory once and for all

Perturbation theory, once and for all

Perturbation theory, once and for all

Shifting data

- Change the coupling infinitesimally

$$S = S_{\text{QFT}_2} + (\lambda + \delta\lambda) \int_X \hat{\Phi}$$

- At leading order, the only effect is

$$\delta\Delta_i(\lambda) = \delta\lambda \Delta'_i(\lambda)$$

$$\delta C_{ijk}(\lambda) = \delta\lambda C'_{ijk}(\lambda)$$

$$\delta b_{\hat{\mathcal{O}}_i}(\lambda) = \delta\lambda b'_{\hat{\mathcal{O}}_i}(\lambda)$$

Perturbation theory, once and for all

2-pt function

$$S = S_{\text{QFT}_2} + (\lambda + \delta\lambda) \int_X \hat{\Phi}$$

$$\delta\Delta_i(\lambda) = \delta\lambda \Delta'_i(\lambda)$$

Perturbation theory, once and for all

2-pt function

$$S = S_{\text{QFT}_2} + (\lambda + \delta\lambda) \int_X \hat{\Phi} \qquad \delta\Delta_i(\lambda) = \delta\lambda \Delta'_i(\lambda)$$

- At the same time,

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(P_1) \mathcal{O}(P_2) \rangle_{(\lambda+\delta\lambda)} = \langle \mathcal{O}(P_1) \mathcal{O}(P_2) \rangle_{(\lambda)} - \delta\lambda \int_X \langle \mathcal{O}(P_1) \mathcal{O}(P_2) \hat{\Phi}(X) \rangle_{(\lambda)}$$

Perturbation theory, once and for all

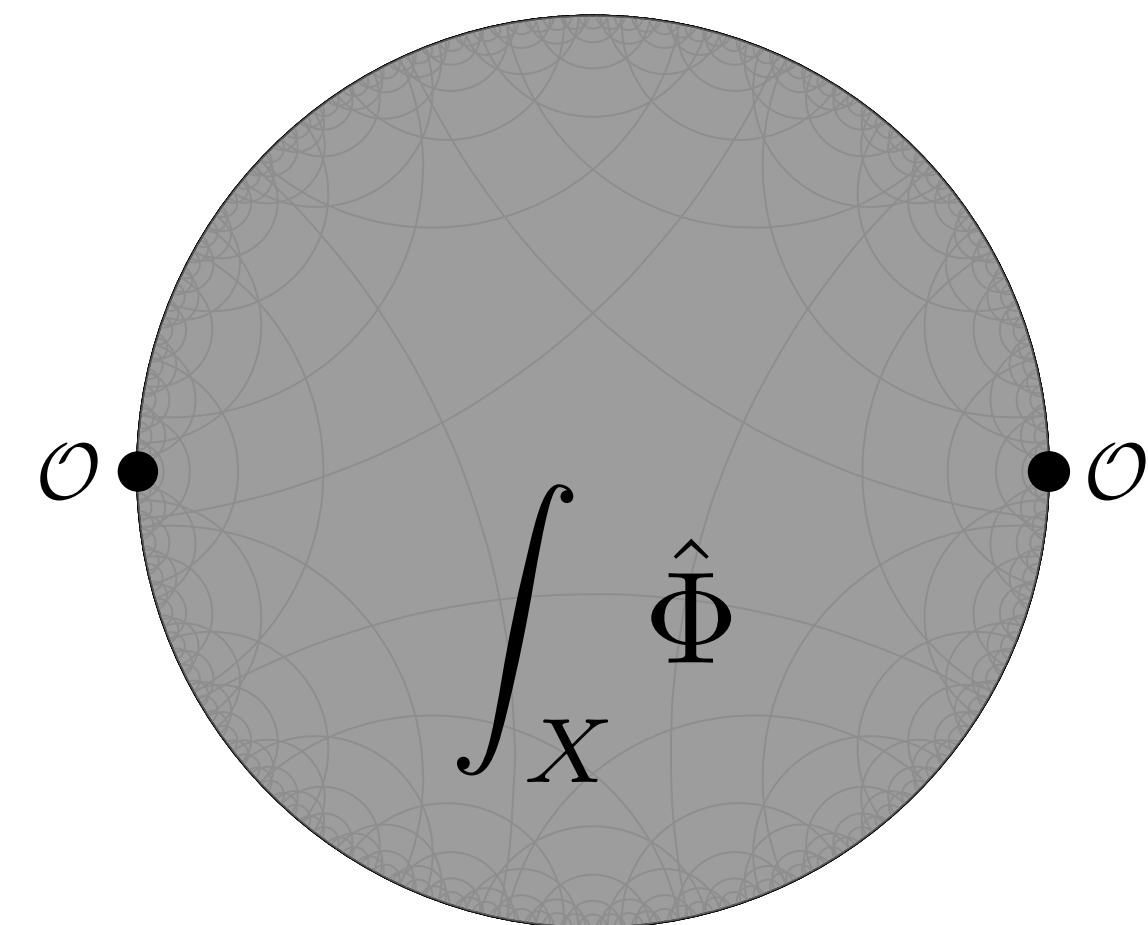
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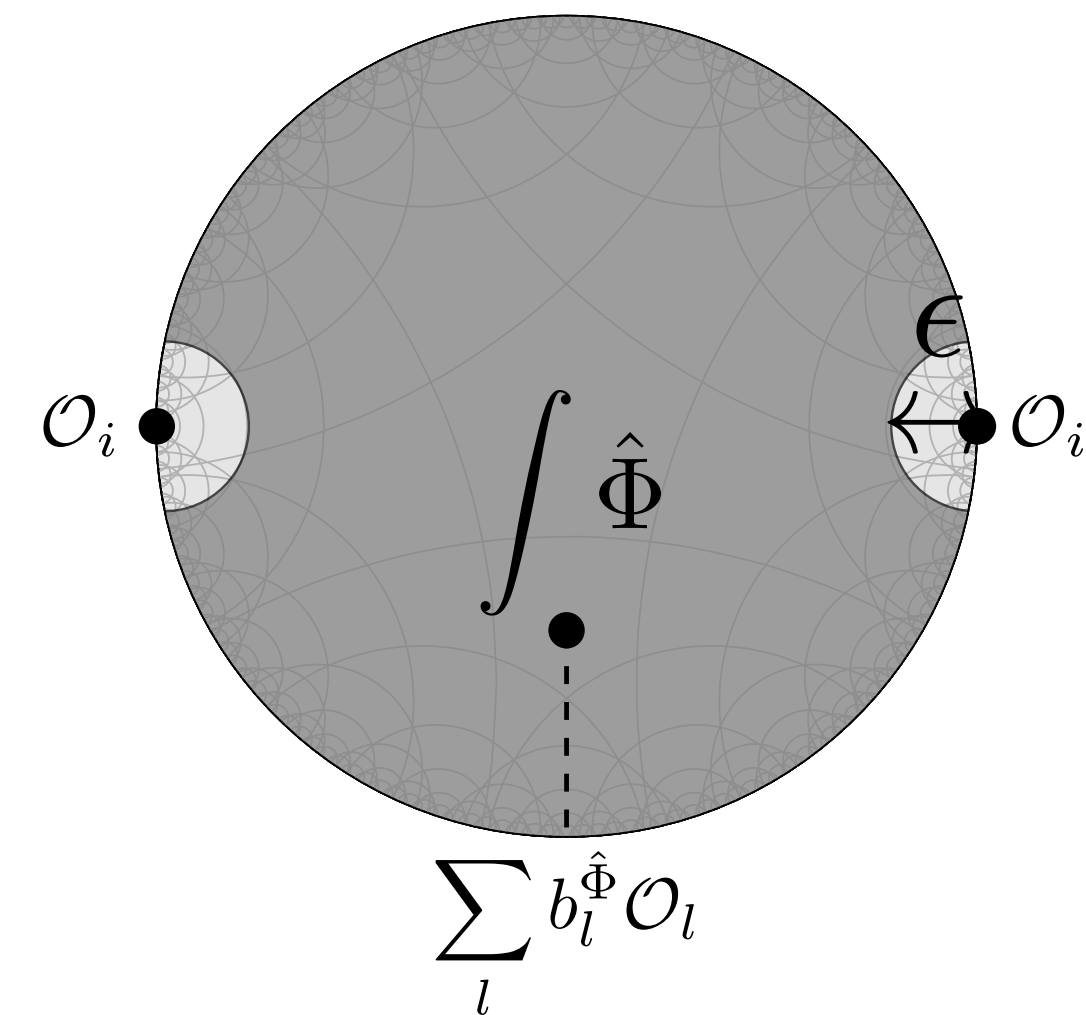
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- Renormalization conditions

$$\mathcal{O}_{(\lambda+\delta\lambda)} = (1 + Z(\epsilon)) \mathcal{O}_{(\lambda+\delta\lambda)}^R$$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_i^R(P_1) \mathcal{O}_j^R(P_2) \rangle_{(\lambda+\delta\lambda)} \equiv \frac{\delta_{ij}}{P_{12}^{\Delta_i + \delta\Delta_i}}$$

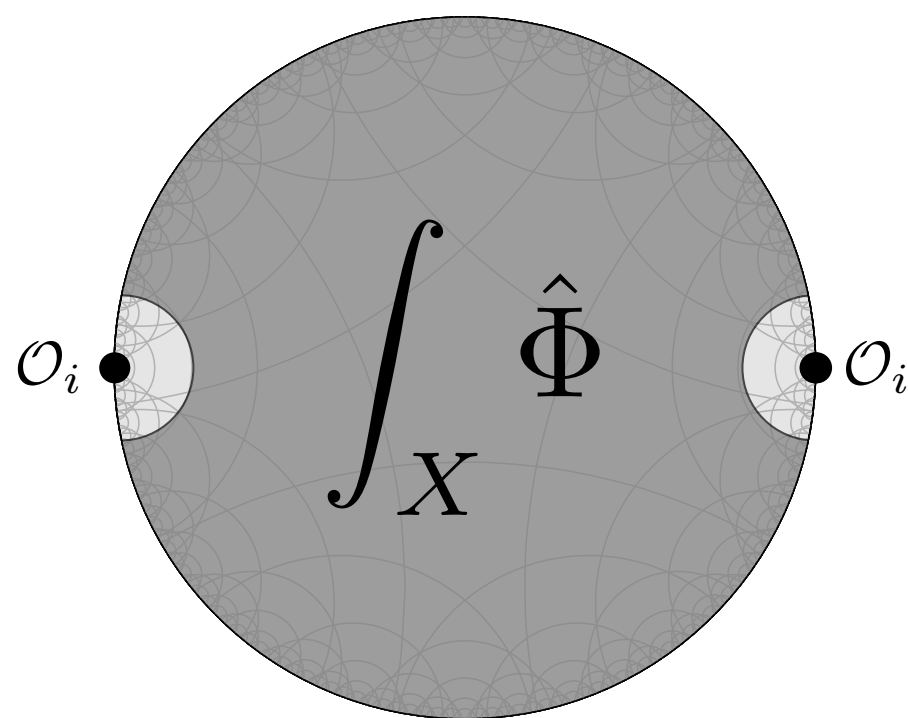


Perturbation theory, once and for all

Conformal blocks

- We want to carry out these integrals universally

$$\int_{X,\epsilon} \langle 0 | \mathcal{O}_i(P_1) \mathcal{O}_i(P_2) \hat{\Phi}(X) | 0 \rangle$$

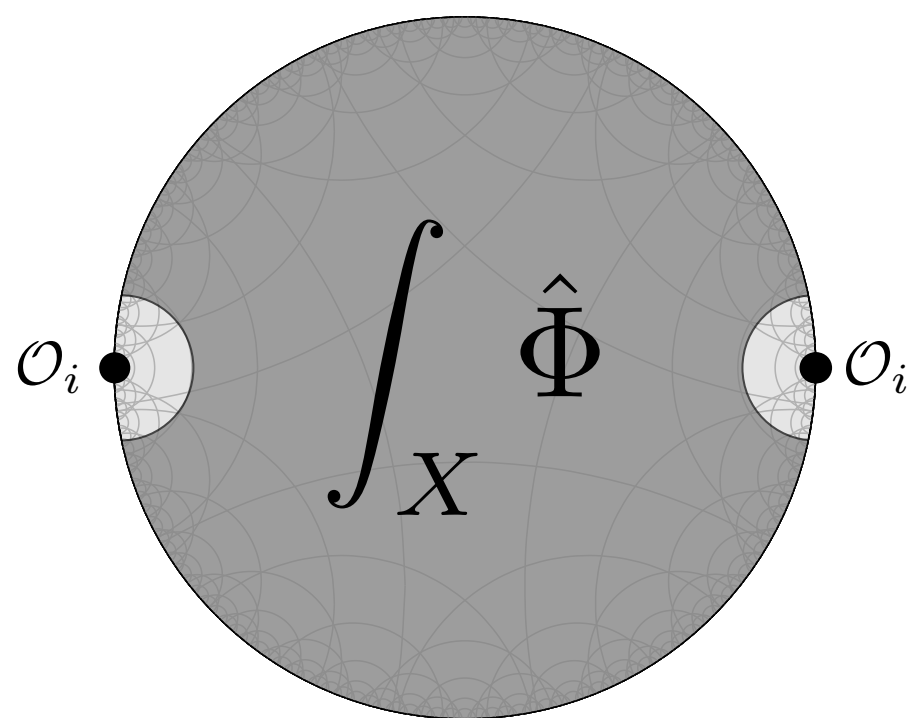


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Perturbation theory, once and for all

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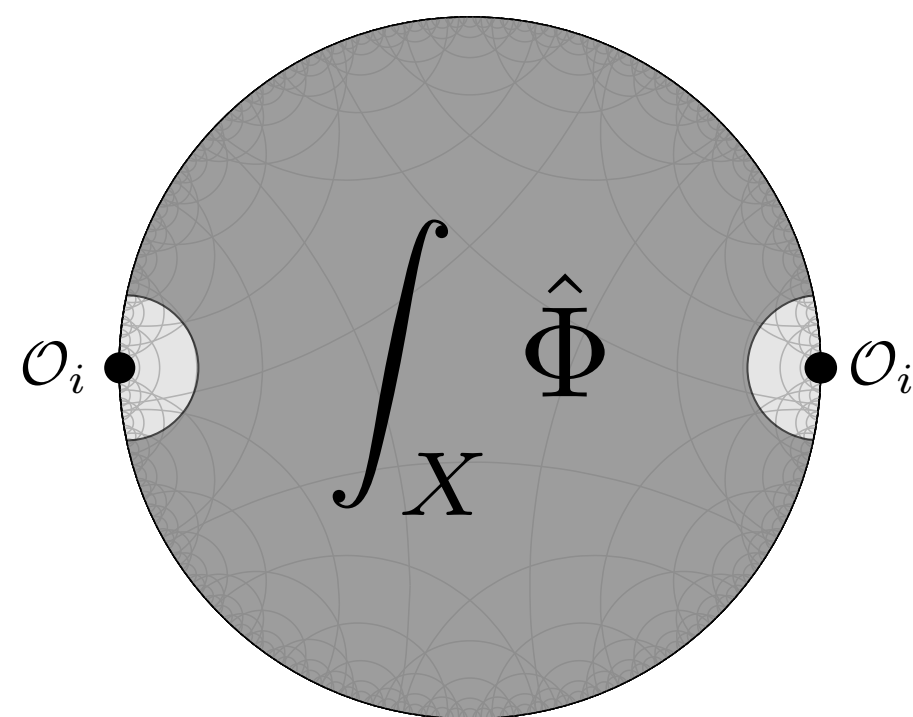
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U

U

C_{iij}

$b_j^{\hat{\Phi}}$



Perturbation theory, once and for all

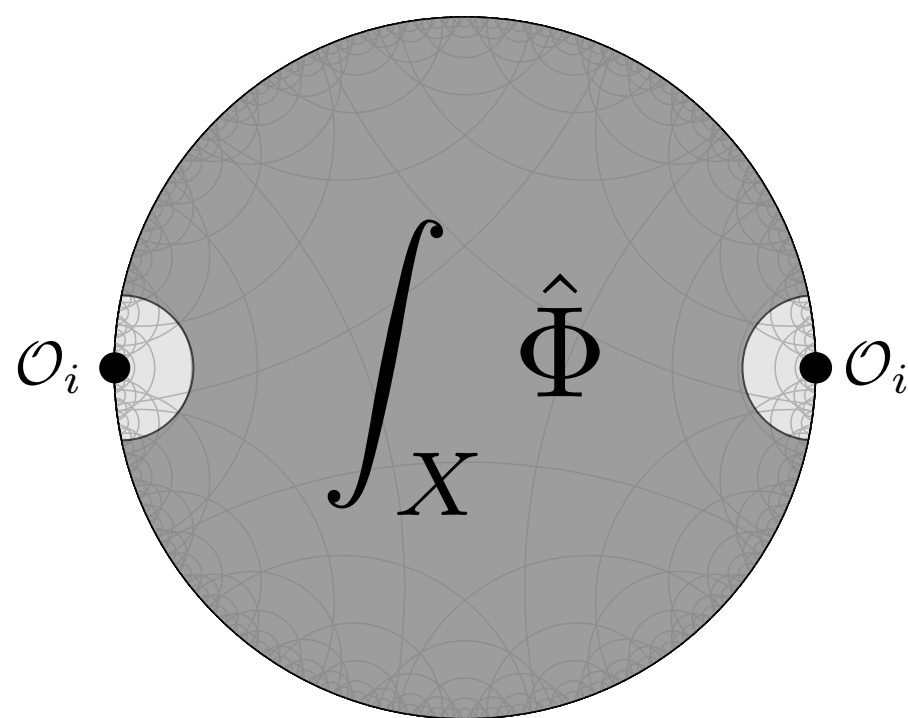
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$$= \frac{1}{P_{12}^{\Delta_i}} \int_{X,\epsilon} \sum_j C_{iij} b_j^{\hat{\Phi}} G_{\Delta_i, \Delta_j}(\chi)$$

← Conformal block



$$\chi \equiv \frac{P_{12}}{(P_1 \cdot X)(P_2 \cdot X)}$$

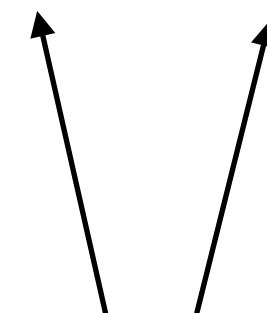
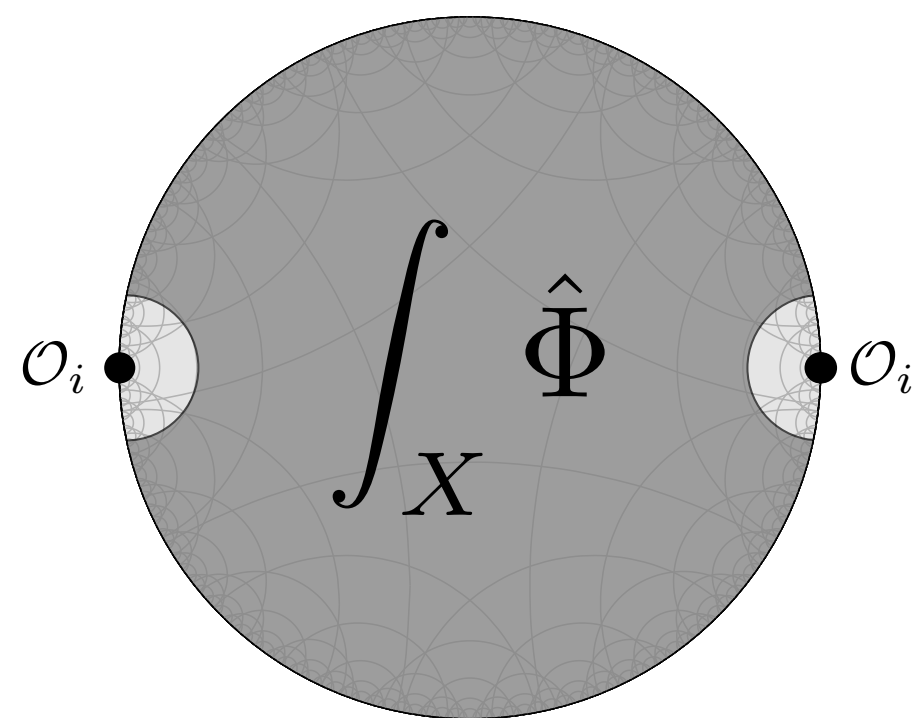
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Conformal blocks

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$$\int_{X,\epsilon} \langle 0 | \mathcal{O}_i(P_1) \mathcal{O}_i(P_2) \hat{\Phi}(X) | 0 \rangle = \int_{X,\epsilon} \sum_j \int_P \langle 0 | \mathcal{O}_i(P_1) \mathcal{O}_i(P_2) | \Delta_j, P \rangle \langle \Delta_j, P | \hat{\Phi}(X) | 0 \rangle$$

$$= \frac{1}{P_{12}^{\Delta_i}} \int_{X,\epsilon} \sum_j C_{iij} b_j^{\hat{\Phi}} G_{\Delta_i, \Delta_j}(\chi)$$



Can we swap?

$$\chi \equiv \frac{P_{12}}{(P_1 \cdot X)(P_2 \cdot X)}$$

Local blocks

- Big technical parenthesis: must use *local blocks* [Levine, Paulos '23], [Meineri, Penedones, Spirig '23]
- Naive conformal blocks present unphysical cuts
- Local blocks form a basis with physical analytic structure
- Endowed with an extra free parameter α
- There exists an integral transform

$$F^{(\alpha)}[G] = G^{(\alpha)}$$

$$F^{(\alpha)}[I] = I^{(\alpha)}$$

Perturbation theory, once and for all

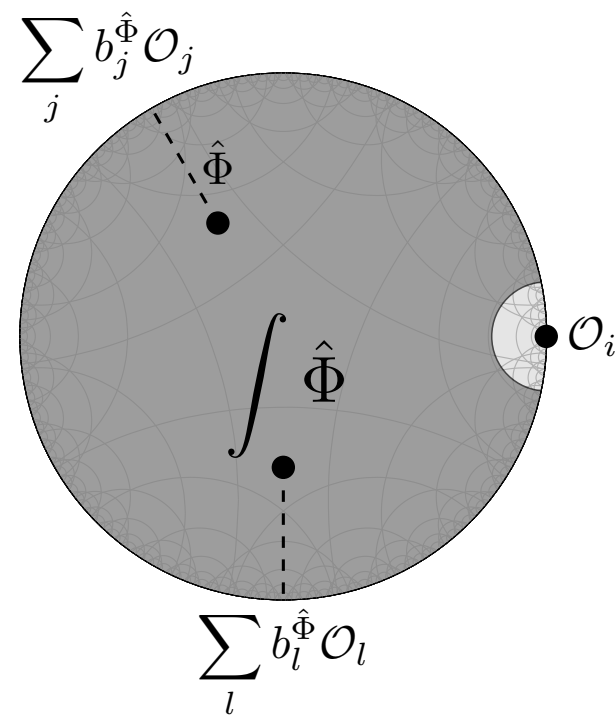
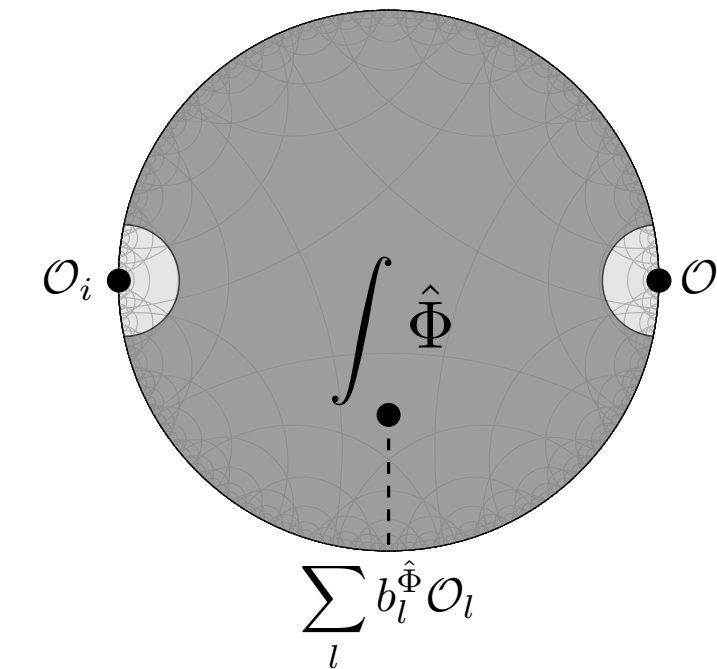
- Expanding for small $\delta\lambda$ and matching,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d\Delta_i}{d\lambda} &= \mathcal{O}_i \bullet \int_{\sum_l b_l^{\hat{\Phi}} \mathcal{O}_l} \hat{\Phi} \bullet \mathcal{O}_i \\
 \frac{db_i^{\hat{\Phi}}}{d\lambda} &= \sum_j b_j^{\hat{\Phi}} \mathcal{O}_j \bullet \int_{\sum_l b_l^{\hat{\Phi}} \mathcal{O}_l} \hat{\Phi} \bullet \mathcal{O}_i \\
 \frac{dC_{ijk}}{d\lambda} &= \mathcal{O}_i \bullet \int_{\sum_l b_l^{\hat{\Phi}} \mathcal{O}_l} \hat{\Phi} \bullet \mathcal{O}_j \bullet \mathcal{O}_k
 \end{aligned}$$

The flow equations

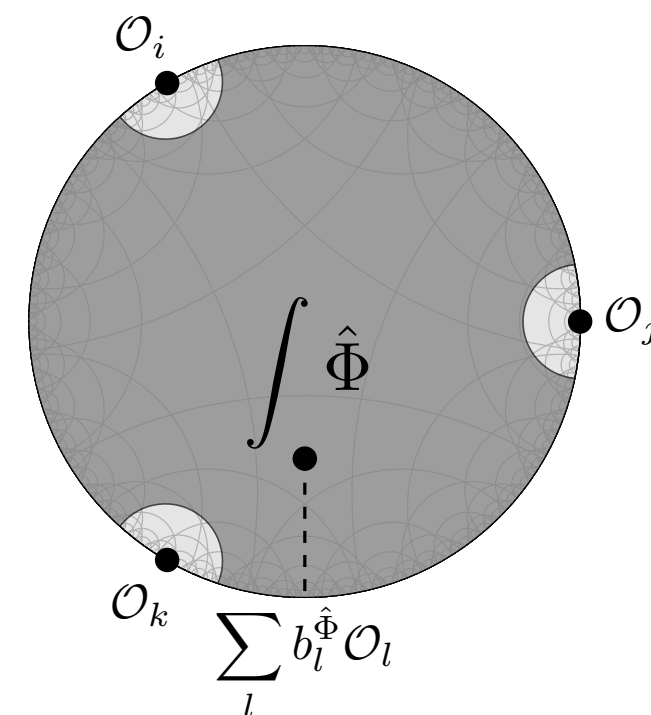
- The ODEs:

$$\frac{d\Delta_i}{d\lambda} = \sum_l b_l^{\hat{\Phi}} C_{iil} \mathcal{I}^{(\alpha)}(\Delta_l)$$



$$\frac{db_i^{\hat{\Phi}}}{d\lambda} = \sum_{j,l} b_l^{\hat{\Phi}} b_j^{\hat{\Phi}} C_{ijl} \mathcal{J}_{\Delta_i}^{(\alpha)}(\Delta_l, \Delta_j)$$

$$\frac{dC_{ijk}}{d\lambda} = \sum_{l,m} b_l^{\hat{\Phi}} C_{lim} C_{mjk} \mathcal{K}_{\Delta_i \Delta_j \Delta_k}^{(\alpha)}(\Delta_l, \Delta_m) + (ijk) \text{ perms.}$$



Examples and Checks

Example

Scalar GFF

$$S = -\frac{1}{2} \int \sqrt{g} \, d^2x \left(\partial_\mu \hat{\phi} \partial^\mu \hat{\phi} + m^2 \hat{\phi}^2 \right)$$

- In this example $\hat{\Phi} = \hat{\phi}^2$ and $\lambda = \frac{m^2}{2}$.

Example

Scalar GFF

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- In this example $\hat{\Phi} = \hat{\phi}^2$ and $\lambda = \frac{m^2}{2}$.
- The theory is solvable. It has, for example, primaries ϕ and $[\phi^2]_n$

$$\Delta_\phi(m^2) = \frac{1}{2} \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} + m^2}$$

$$\Delta_{[\phi^2]_n}(m^2) = 2\Delta_\phi(m^2) + 2n$$

Example

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$$b_{\hat{\phi}}^{\hat{\phi}}(m^2) = \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma(\Delta)}{2\sqrt{\pi}\Gamma(\Delta + \frac{1}{2})}}$$

$$b_{[\phi^2]_n}^{\hat{\phi}^2}(m^2) = \frac{\Gamma(\Delta)}{\sqrt{2\pi}\Gamma(\Delta + \frac{1}{2})} \sqrt{\frac{(\frac{1}{2})_n (\Delta)_n^3 (2\Delta - \frac{1}{2})_n}{n! (\Delta - \frac{1}{4})_n (2\Delta)_n (\Delta + \frac{1}{4})_n (\Delta + \frac{1}{2})_n}}$$

Example

Scalar GFF

$$\frac{1}{2\Delta_\phi - 1} = \frac{d\Delta_\phi}{dm^2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_{[\phi^2]_n}^{\hat{\phi}^2} C_{[\phi^2]_n \phi\phi} \mathcal{I}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2n)$$

Example

Scalar GFF

From boundary expansion of $\langle \hat{\phi}^2 \hat{\phi}^2 \rangle$

$$\frac{1}{2\Delta_\phi - 1} = \frac{d\Delta_\phi}{dm^2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_{[\phi^2]_n}^{\hat{\phi}^2} C_{[\phi^2]_n \phi\phi} \mathcal{I}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2n)$$

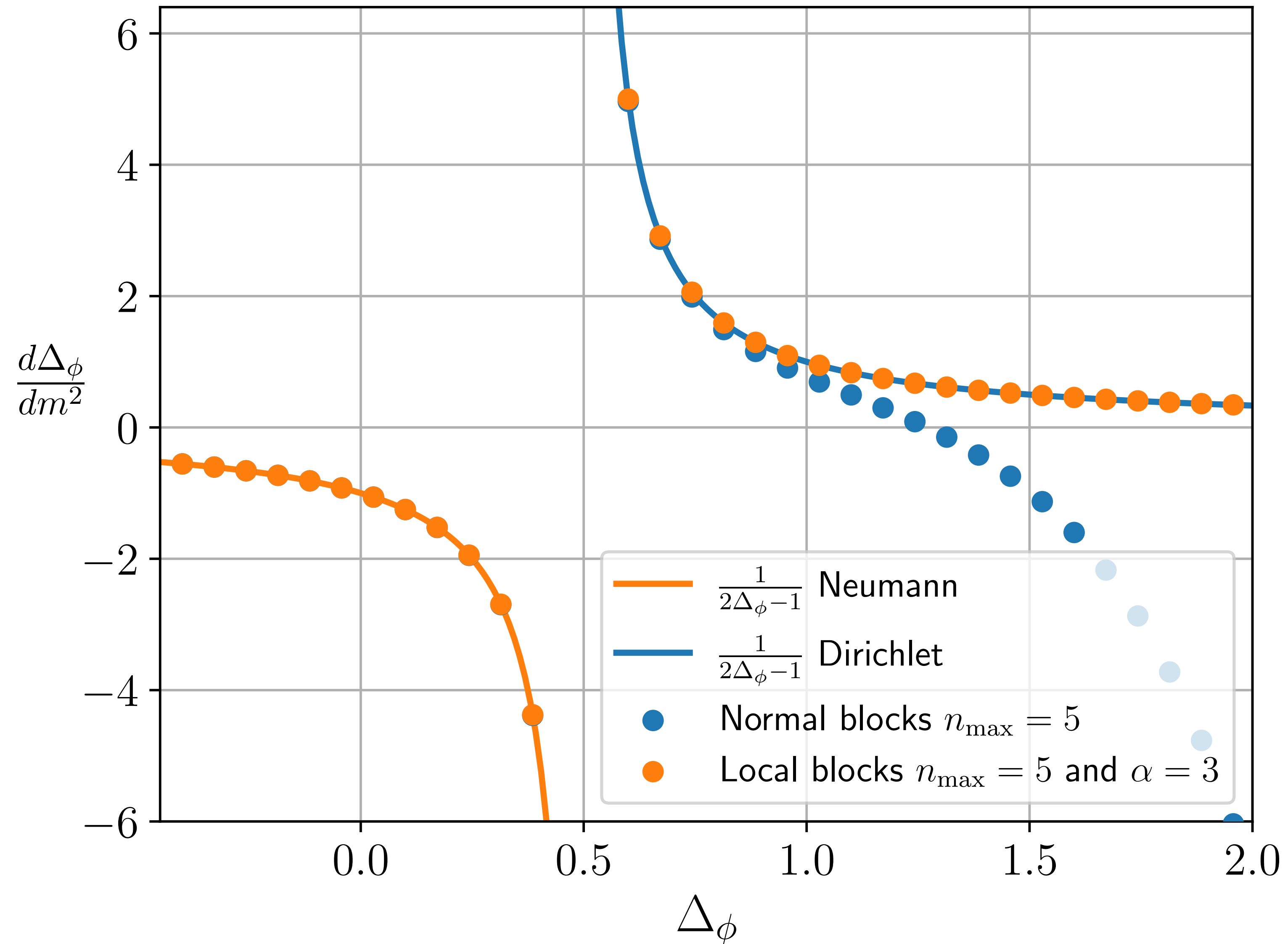
From harmonic analysis on $\langle \phi\phi\phi\phi \rangle$

[Simmons-Duffin, Kravchuk, Karateev, '19]

$$\mathcal{I}^{(\alpha)}(\Delta) = \frac{\pi \Gamma(\Delta + \frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(2\alpha - 1)}{2^{2\alpha-2} (\Delta - 1) \Gamma(\frac{\Delta}{2}) \Gamma(\frac{\Delta}{2} + 1) \Gamma(\frac{\Delta-1}{2} + \alpha) \Gamma(\alpha - \frac{\Delta}{2})}$$

Flow of scaling dimensions

$$\frac{d\Delta_\phi}{dm^2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{n_{\max}} b_{[\phi^2]_n}^{\hat{\phi}^2} C_{[\phi^2]_n \phi\phi} \mathcal{I}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2n)$$

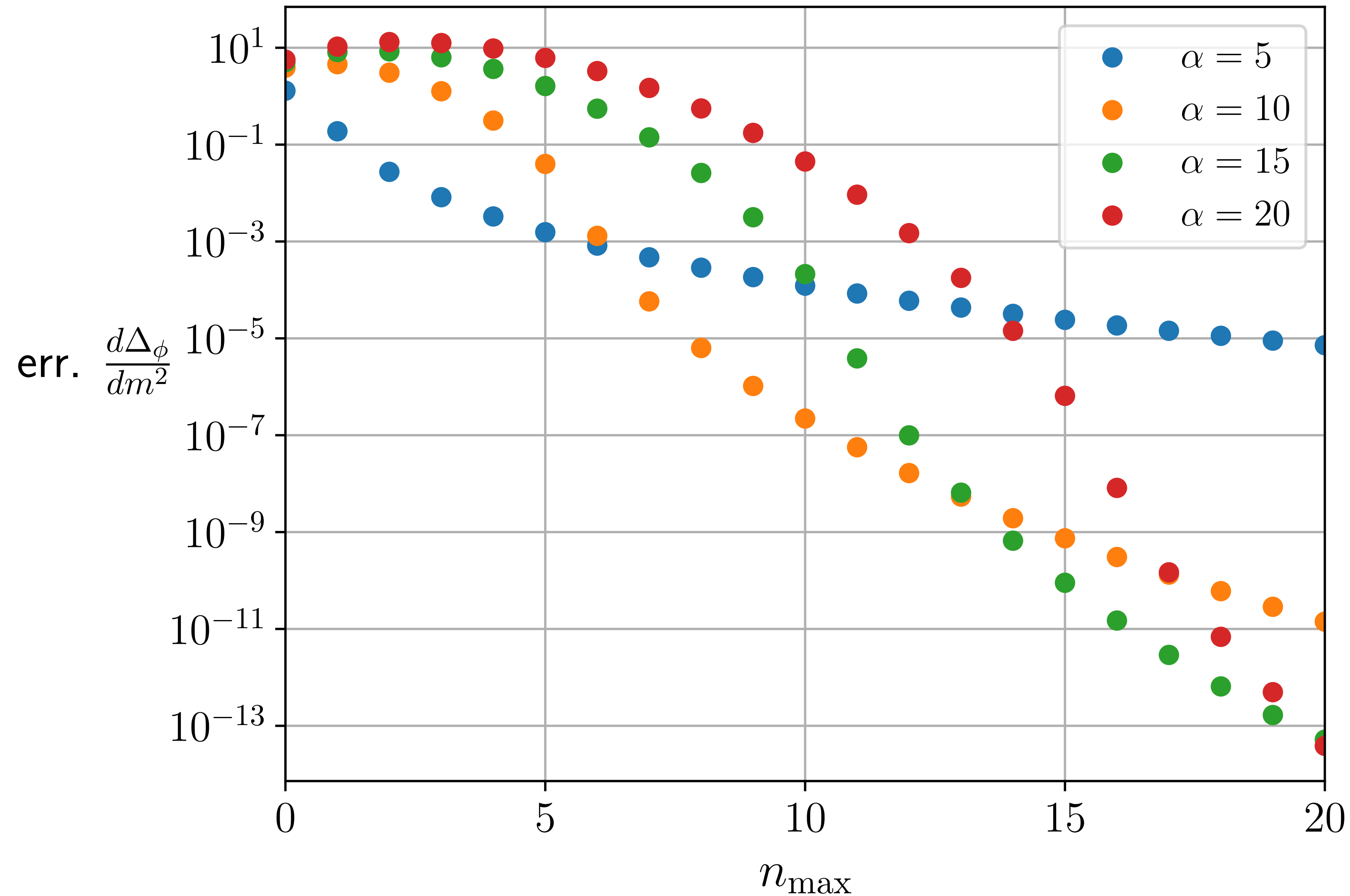


Sum over normal blocks converges only if

$$\Delta_i < \frac{3}{4}$$

Flow of scaling dimensions

$$\frac{d\Delta_\phi}{dm^2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{n_{\max}} b_{[\phi^2]_n}^{\hat{\phi}^2} C_{[\phi^2]_n \phi \phi} \mathcal{I}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2n)$$



$$\Delta_\phi = \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

Universal error estimate:

$$\Delta_{\max}^{2(\Delta_i - \alpha) + \Delta_{\hat{\Phi}}}$$

Flow of BOE coefficient

From harmonic analysis on $\langle \phi\phi\phi\phi\phi\phi \rangle$

[Antunes, Costa, Goncalves, Boas '22]

[Antunes, Harris, Kaviraj, Schomerus '23]

$$\frac{db_{\phi^2}^{\hat{\phi}^2}}{dm^2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l,j}^{\infty} b_{[\phi^2]_l}^{\hat{\phi}^2} b_{[\phi^2]_j}^{\hat{\phi}^2} C_{\phi^2[\phi^2]_l[\phi^2]_j} \mathcal{J}_{2\Delta_{\phi}}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_{\phi} + 2l, 2\Delta_{\phi} + 2j)$$

Flow of BOE coefficient

From harmonic analysis on $\langle \phi\phi\phi\phi\phi\phi \rangle$

[Antunes, Costa, Goncalves, Boas '22]

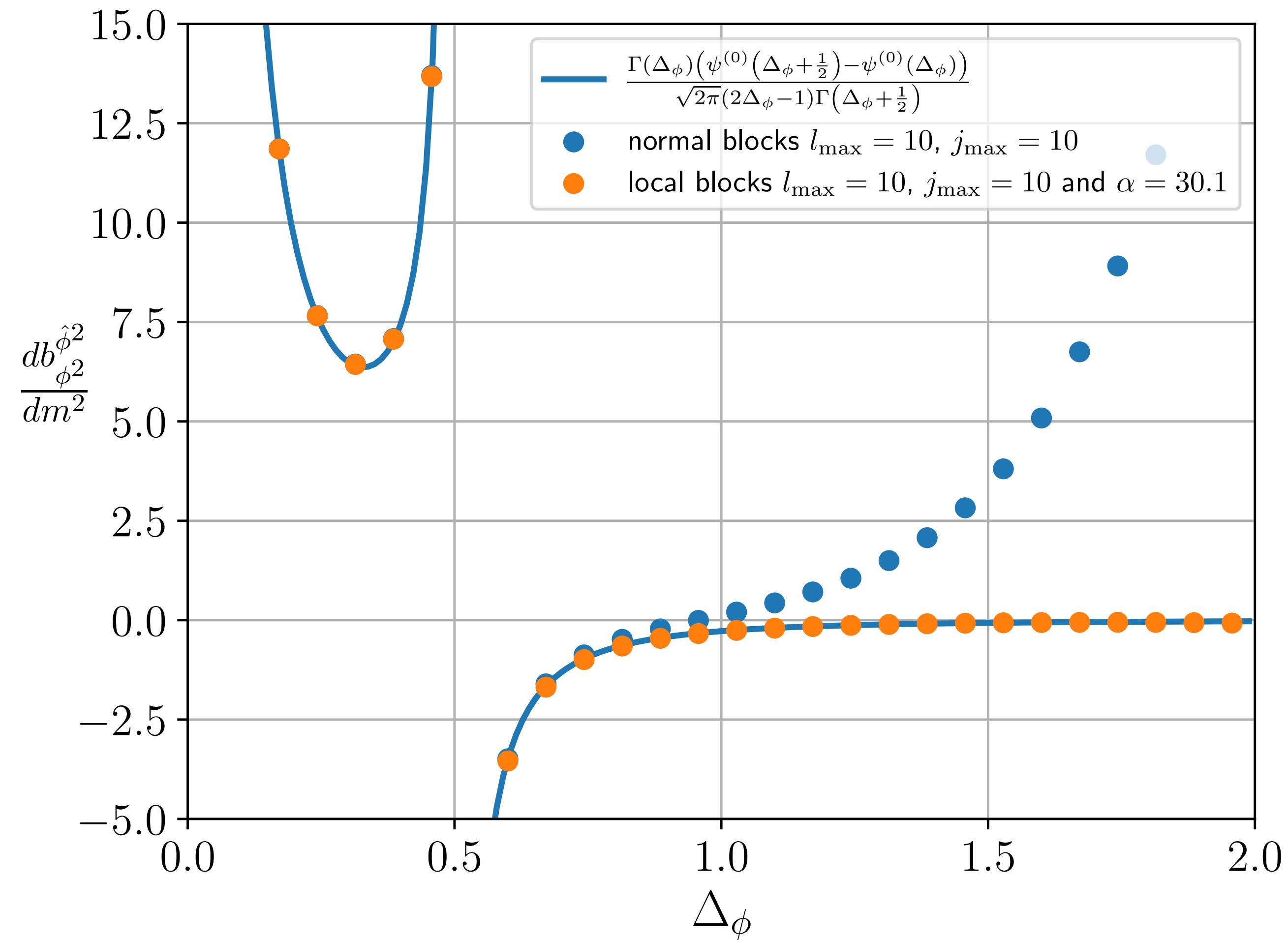
[Antunes, Harris, Kaviraj, Schomerus '23]

$$\frac{db_{\phi^2}^{\hat{\phi}^2}}{dm^2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l,j} b_{[\phi^2]_l}^{\hat{\phi}^2} b_{[\phi^2]_j}^{\hat{\phi}^2} C_{\phi^2[\phi^2]_l[\phi^2]_j} \mathcal{J}_{2\Delta_\phi}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2l, 2\Delta_\phi + 2j)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}_{\Delta_3}^{(\alpha)}(\Delta_1, \Delta_2) = & \frac{2\sqrt{\pi}\Gamma\left(\frac{\Delta_1+1}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(\Delta_2 + \frac{1}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(\alpha - \frac{1}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(\alpha - \frac{\Delta_{23}}{2}\right)}{(\Delta_1 - 1)\Delta_{23}\Gamma\left(\frac{\Delta_{123}}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(\alpha - \frac{\Delta_1}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(\alpha + \frac{\Delta_{132}-1}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{\Delta_2+\Delta_3+1}{2}\right)} \\ & \times {}_3F_2\left(\frac{\Delta_{132}}{2}, \frac{\Delta_1-1}{2}, \alpha + \frac{\Delta_1-1}{2}; \Delta_1 + \frac{1}{2}, \alpha - \frac{\Delta_{23}}{2} + \frac{\Delta_1-1}{2}; 1\right) \end{aligned}$$

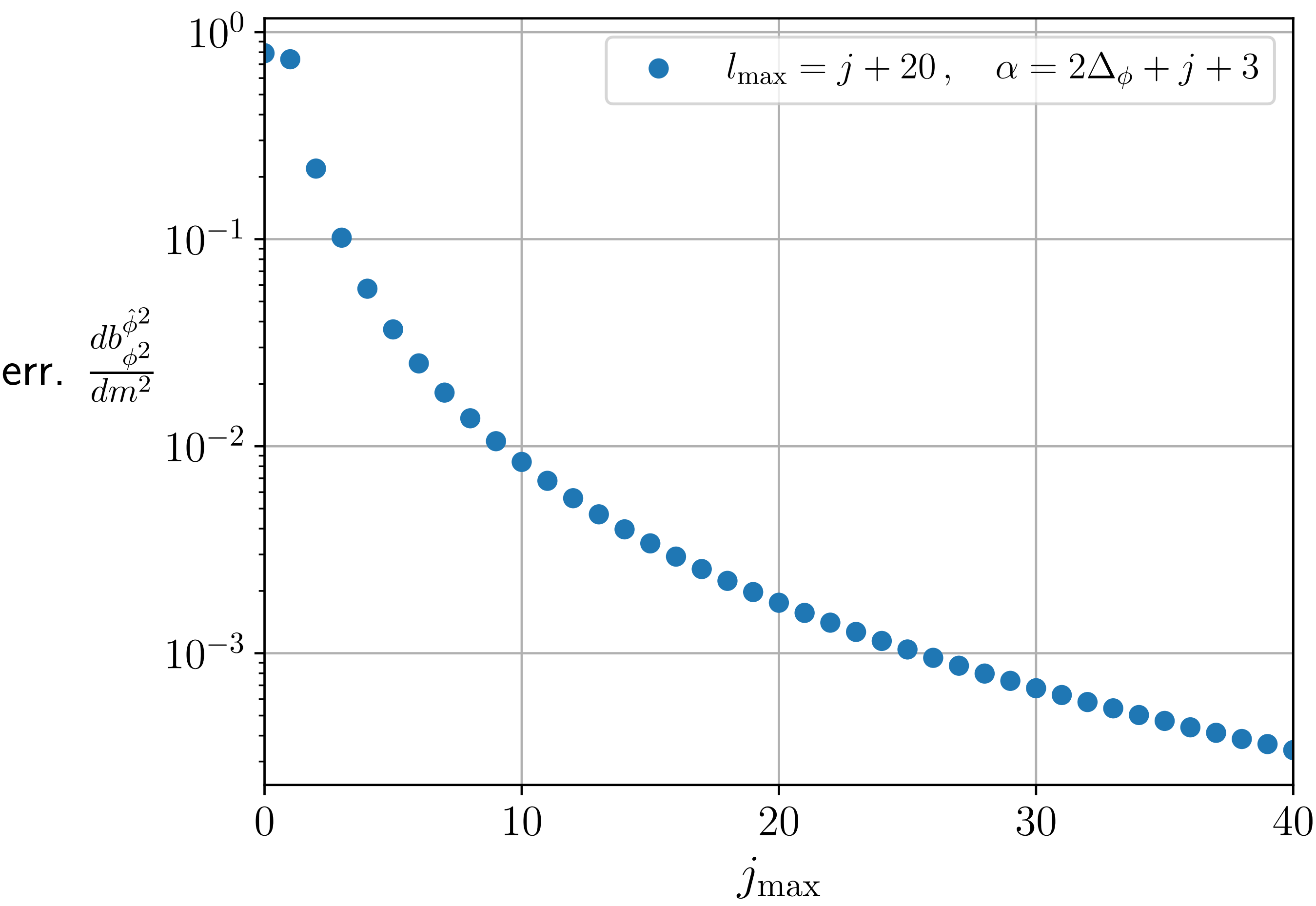
Flow of BOE coefficient

$$\frac{db_{\phi^2}^{\hat{\phi}^2}}{dm^2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=0}^{j_{\max}} \sum_{l=0}^{l_{\max}} b_{[\phi^2]_l}^{\hat{\phi}^2} b_{[\phi^2]_j}^{\hat{\phi}^2} C_{\phi^2[\phi^2]_l[\phi^2]_j} \mathcal{J}_{2\Delta_\phi}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2l, 2\Delta_\phi + 2j)$$



Flow of BOE coefficient

$$\frac{db_{\phi^2}^{\hat{\phi}^2}}{dm^2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=0}^{j_{\max}} \sum_{l=0}^{l_{\max}} b_{[\phi^2]_l}^{\hat{\phi}^2} b_{[\phi^2]_j}^{\hat{\phi}^2} C_{\phi^2[\phi^2]_l[\phi^2]_j} \mathcal{J}_{2\Delta_\phi}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2l, 2\Delta_\phi + 2j)$$



$$\Delta_\phi = 2.1$$

Flow of OPE coefficient

$$0 = \frac{dC_{\phi\phi 1}}{dm^2} = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} b_{[\phi^2]_l}^{\hat{\phi}^2} C_{\phi\phi[\phi^2]_l} \left(\mathcal{K}_{\Delta_\phi, \Delta_\phi, 0}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2l, \Delta_\phi) + \mathcal{K}_{\Delta_\phi, 0, \Delta_\phi}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2l, \Delta_\phi) \right. \\ \left. + \mathcal{K}_{0, \Delta_\phi, \Delta_\phi}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2l, 2\Delta_\phi + 2l) \right)$$

Flow of OPE coefficient

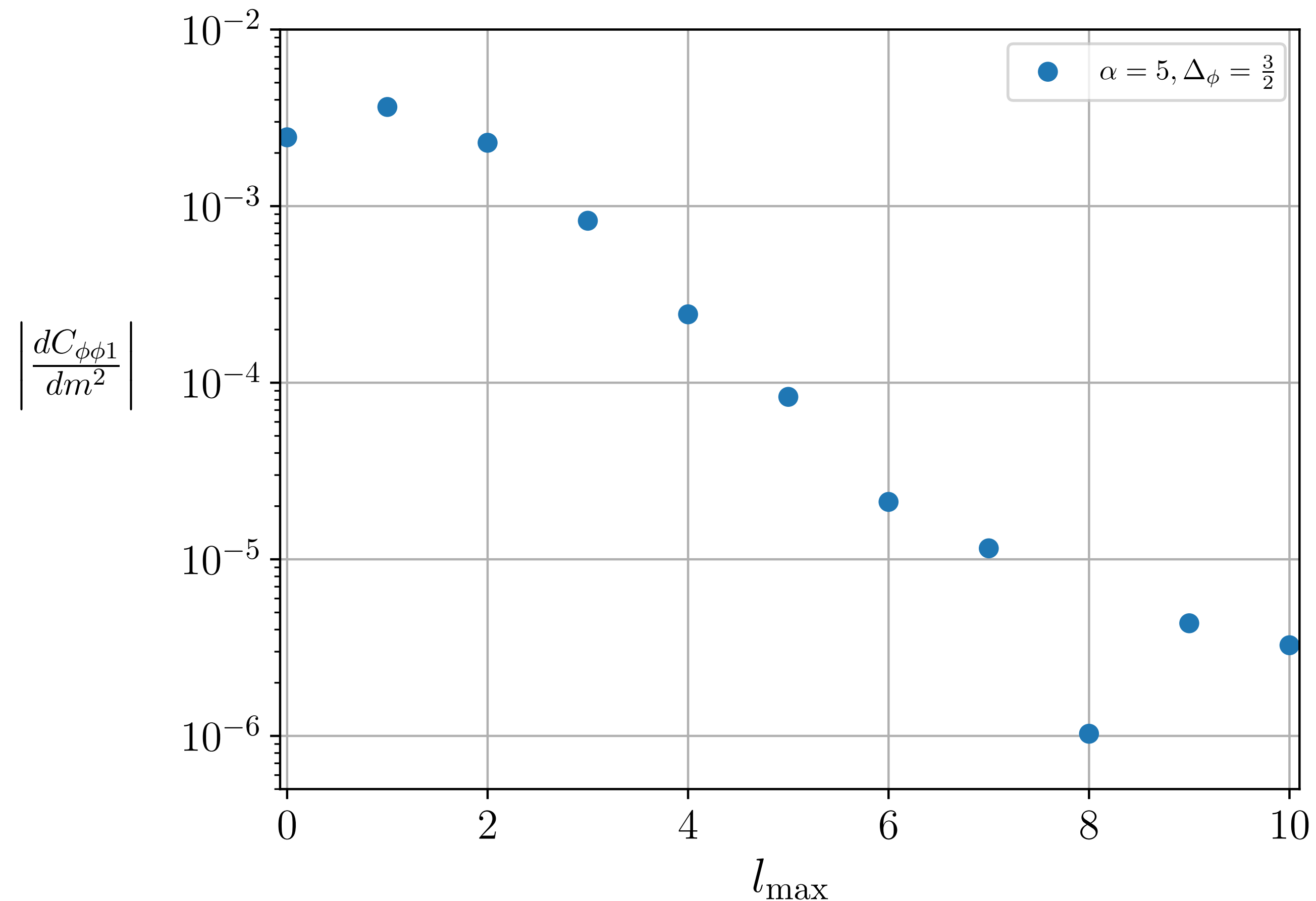
$$0 = \frac{dC_{\phi\phi 1}}{dm^2} = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} b_{[\phi^2]_l}^{\hat{\phi}^2} C_{\phi\phi[\phi^2]_l} \left(\mathcal{K}_{\Delta_\phi, \Delta_\phi, 0}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2l, \Delta_\phi) + \mathcal{K}_{\Delta_\phi, 0, \Delta_\phi}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2l, \Delta_\phi) \right. \\ \left. + \mathcal{K}_{0, \Delta_\phi, \Delta_\phi}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2l, 2\Delta_\phi + 2l) \right)$$

This is the numerical bottleneck for now:

$$\mathcal{K}_{\Delta_i \Delta_j \Delta_k}^{(\alpha)}(\Delta_l, \Delta_m) = \int \frac{dc_1 dc_2 dc_3}{(2\pi i)^3} f_{\Delta_i \Delta_j \Delta_k}^{\Delta_l, \Delta_m}(c_1, c_2, c_3)$$

Flow of OPE coefficient

$$0 = \frac{dC_{\phi\phi 1}}{dm^2} = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} b_{[\phi^2]_l}^{\hat{\phi}^2} C_{\phi\phi[\phi^2]_l} \left(\mathcal{K}_{\Delta_\phi, \Delta_\phi, 0}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2l, \Delta_\phi) + \mathcal{K}_{\Delta_\phi, 0, \Delta_\phi}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2l, \Delta_\phi) + \mathcal{K}_{0, \Delta_\phi, \Delta_\phi}^{(\alpha)}(2\Delta_\phi + 2l, 2\Delta_\phi + 2l) \right)$$



Further properties of the flow equations

The flat space limit and the S-matrix

- The coupling λ is in units of R
- Flow can be seen as happening from heavily curved AdS to flat space
- In principle, spectrum and S-matrix can be extracted

$$\frac{m_i}{m_0} = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Delta_i(\lambda)}{\Delta_0(\lambda)}$$

$$S(s) \sim \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{\mathcal{O}_\Delta} f(\Delta) C_{\phi\phi\mathcal{O}_\Delta}^2(\lambda) \delta\left(\frac{\sqrt{s}}{m} - \frac{\Delta(\lambda)}{\Delta_\phi(\lambda)}\right)$$

[Meineri, Penedones, Spirig, '23]

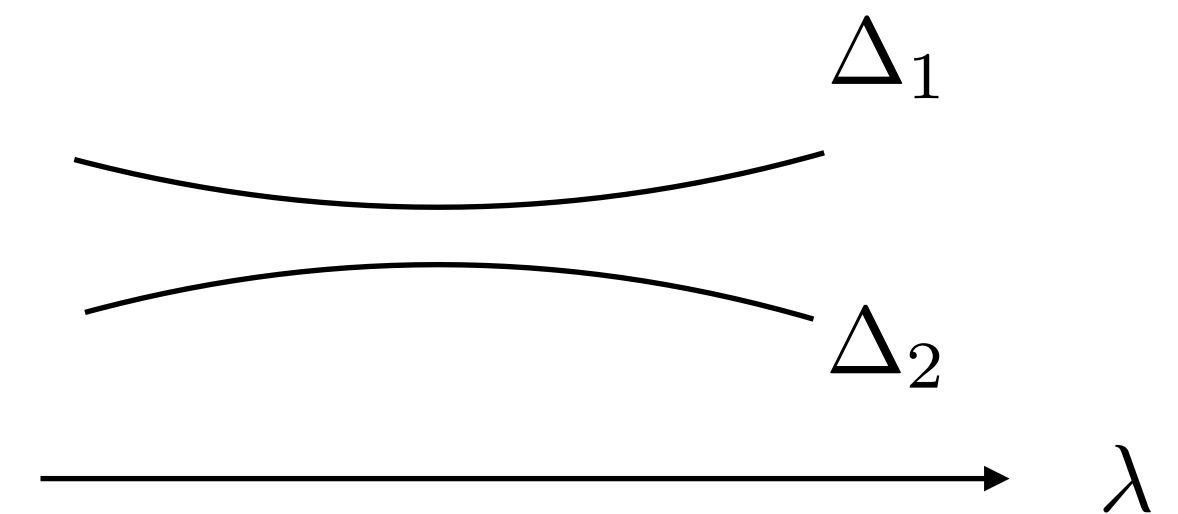
[Paulos, Penedones, Toledo, van Rees, Vieira, '16]

More: [van Rees, Zhao, '22], [Polchinski, '99], [Cordova, He, Paulos '22]

Further properties

Level repulsion

- Eigenvalues of hamiltonians which depend on continuous parameters don't cross
- Proven in RMT and finite dimensional QM
- Expected to hold generically in QFT
- We can prove it with our equations



$$0 < \Delta_1 - \Delta_2 \ll 1 :$$

$$\frac{d^2(\Delta_1 - \Delta_2)}{d\lambda^2} = \frac{c}{(\Delta_1 - \Delta_2)^3}$$

Further properties

Mergers and annihilations of theories

- Expected when operators hit marginality
[Kaplan et al 2009, Gorbenko et al 2018]
- From the first flow equation,

$$\Delta_* \gtrsim 1, \quad \frac{d\Delta_i}{d\lambda} \sim \frac{c}{\Delta_* - 1}$$

$$\Delta_i(\lambda) \sim \Delta_i(\lambda_c) \pm \sqrt{2c(\lambda - \lambda_c)} \quad c = \frac{C_{ii*}^2 b_1^{\hat{\Phi}}}{C_{***}}$$

Further properties

Mergers and annihilations of theories

- Expected when operators hit marginality

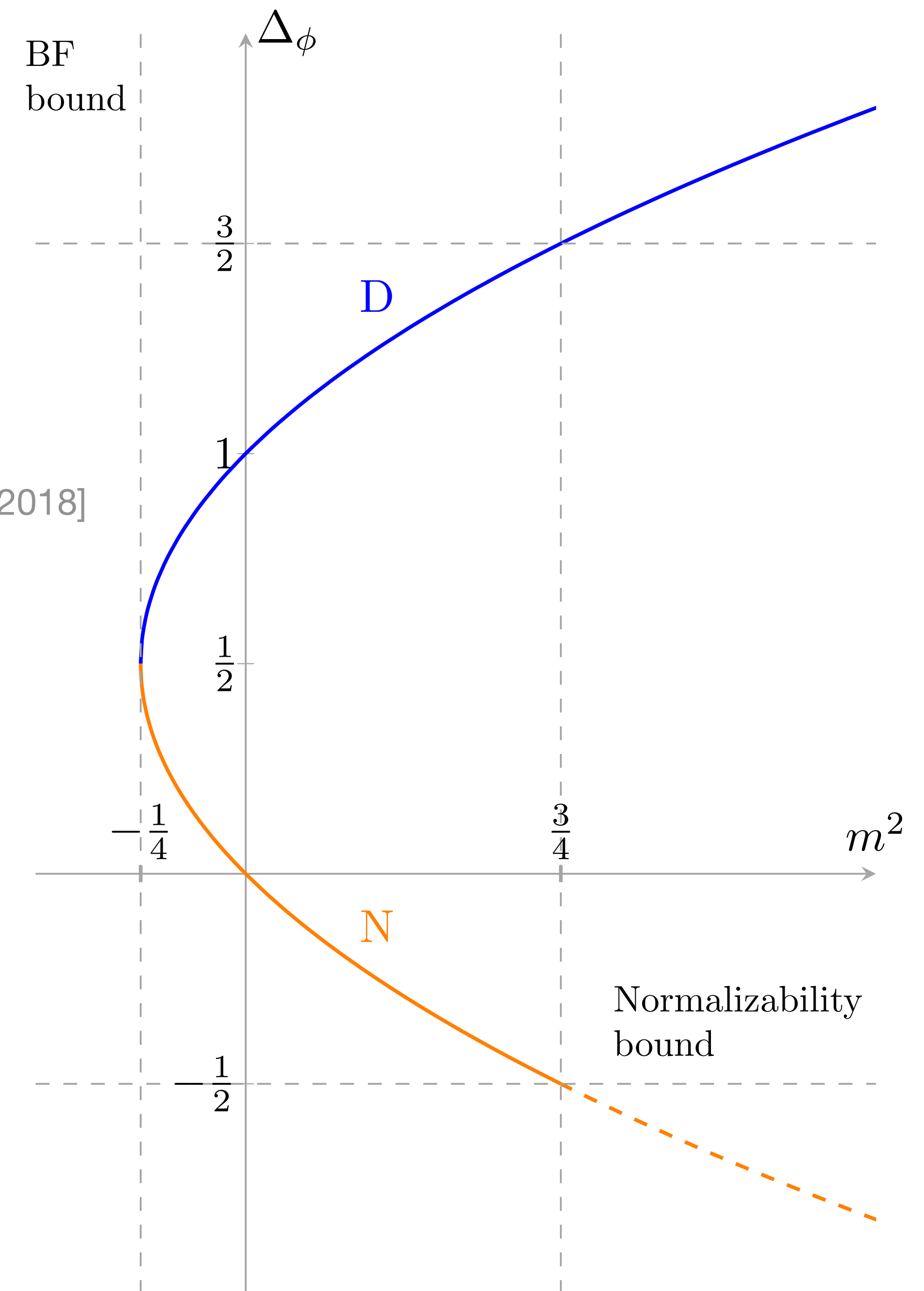
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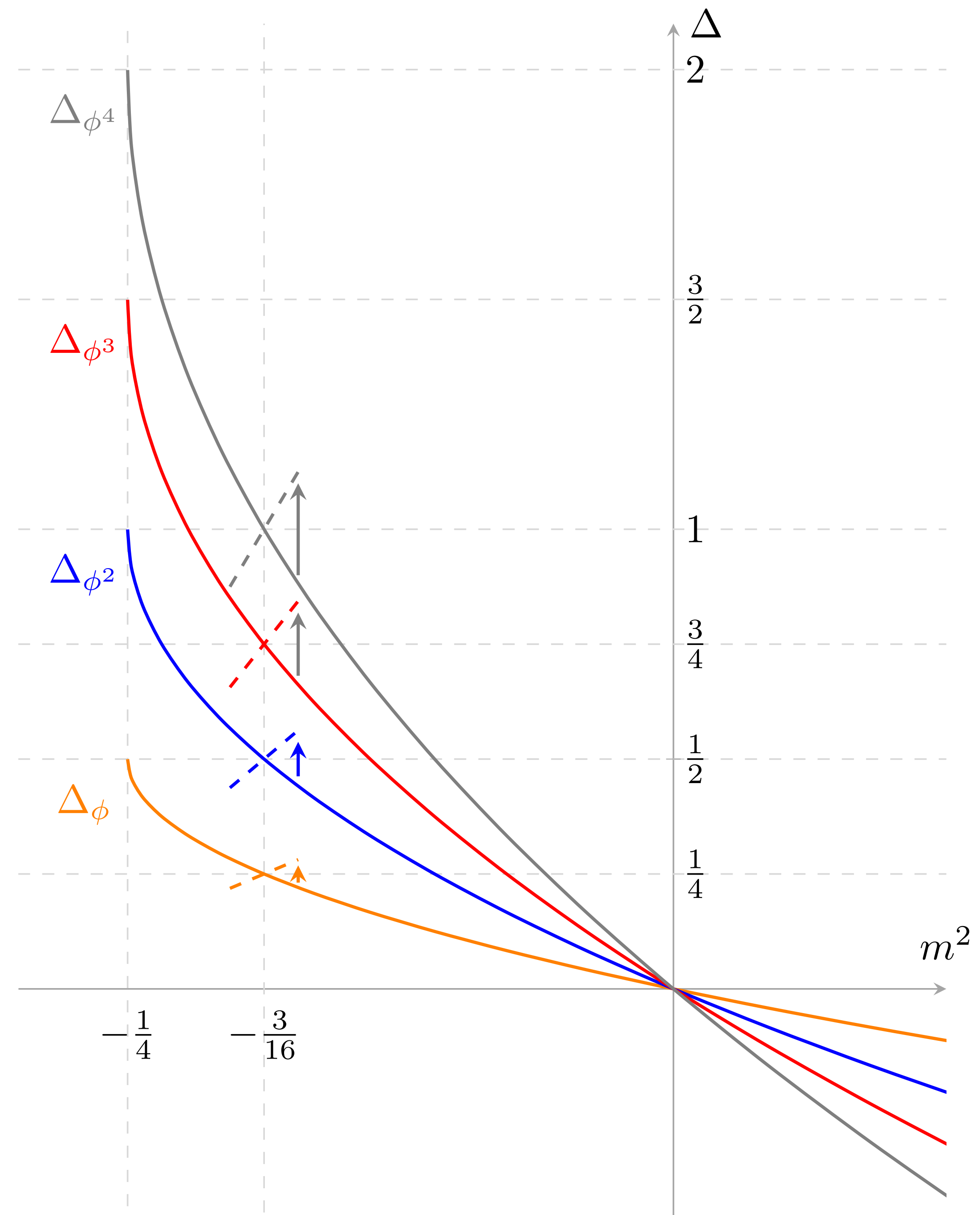
- Example in free massive theory:



Further properties

Free bulk and interacting boundary

- There exists a family of 1D CFTs called *Long Range Ising*
- Critical point of Ising model with decaying interactions
- It is equivalent to the following construction
 - Take free massive scalar in AdS2
 - Turn on ϕ^4 only on the boundary
 - Flow to IR fixed point on boundary
- Fits in our flow equations framework



Conclusion

Conclusion

Summary

- QFT in AdS can be phrased in terms of $\Delta_i(\lambda)$, $C_{ijk}(\lambda)$, $b_i^{\hat{\mathcal{O}}}(\lambda)$
- Their evolution under RG flows is governed by coupled ODEs
- No more divergences to deal with
- Fully non-perturbative
- Nontrivial checks for scalar and fermion GFF
- They know a lot about QFT (level repulsion, merger-annihilation, etc..)
- What next?

Conclusion

Short term wishes

- Efficiency
- Solve simple interacting cases (ex: LRI family)
- More concise form? No $b_i^{\hat{\Phi}}$, no λ

Conclusion

Longer term wishes

- Generalization to multiple deformations (maybe trivial)
- Ising Field Theory and flows between minimal models [Lauria, Milam, van Rees '24]
- $O(N)$ nonlinear sigma model and $O(N)$ GN model [Copetti, Di Pietro, Ji, Komatsu '24]
- Generalization to higher dimensions
- $\vdots$
- YM_4 [Ciccone, De Cesare, Di Pietro, Serone '24]
- $QCD_4!$

What is QFT?

- This framework inherits all axioms from CFT (except bdy stress tensor)
- Existence of bulk stress tensor implies [Meineri, Penedones, Spirig '23]

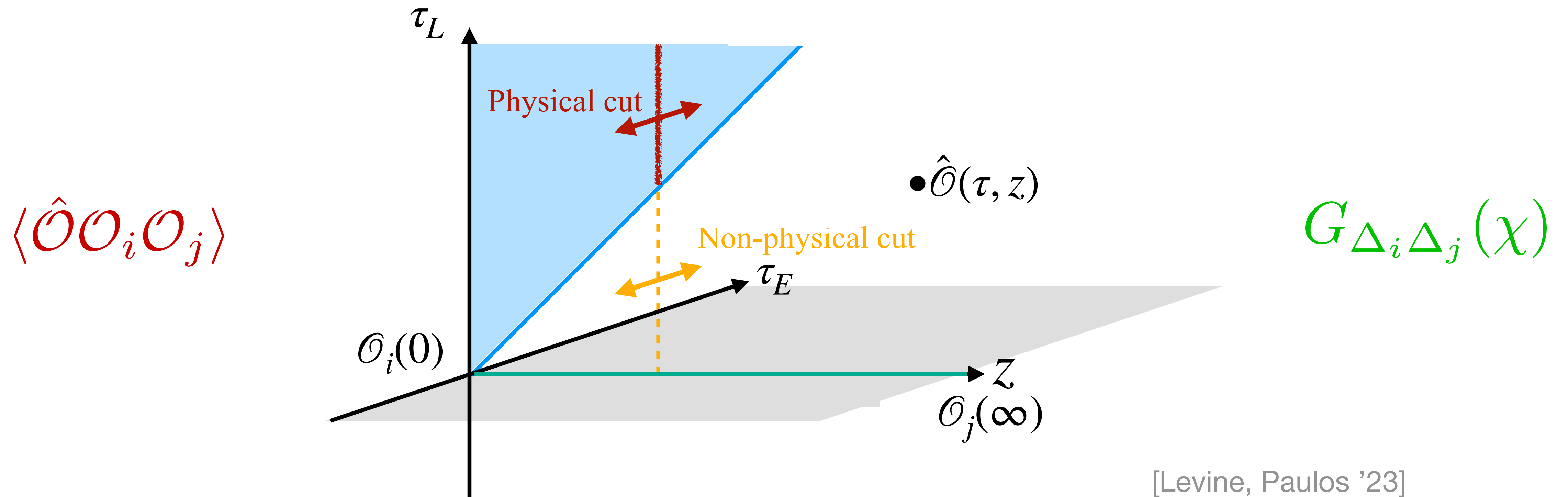
$$c^{\text{UV}} = \sum_i \frac{24\Gamma(2\Delta_i)}{4^{\Delta_i}\Gamma^2(\Delta_i + 2)} \left(b_i^{\hat{\Theta}}\right)^2 \qquad \Delta_i = \sum_j b_j^{\hat{\Theta}} C_{iij} \kappa(\Delta_j, \alpha)$$

- Possibly exciting for axiomatic (and computable) approach to QFT

Thank you

Backup

Analytic structure



[Levine, Paulos '23]

[Meineri, Penedones, Spirig '23]

Local blocks

The dispersive integral



Consider the following trivial rewriting

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_i(P_1) \mathcal{O}_i(P_2) \hat{\mathcal{O}}(X) \rangle = \frac{1}{P_{12}^{\Delta_i}} f(\chi)$$

$$f(\chi) = \chi^\alpha \oint_\chi \frac{d\chi'}{2\pi i} \frac{1}{\chi' - \chi} \frac{f(\chi')}{\chi'^\alpha}$$

Imposing a physical analytic structure for the correlator,

$$f(\chi) = \chi^\alpha \int_{-\infty}^0 \frac{d\chi'}{2\pi i} \frac{1}{\chi' - \chi} \text{Disc}_{\chi' \leq 0} \left(\frac{f(\chi')}{\chi'^\alpha} \right)$$

Now plug in $f(\chi) = \sum_j b_{\hat{\mathcal{O}}_j} C_{iij} G_{\Delta_i, \Delta_j}(\chi)$. Swapping (valid for $\alpha > \Delta_i + \frac{\Delta_{\hat{\mathcal{O}}}}{2}$)

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_i(P_1) \mathcal{O}_i(P_2) \hat{\mathcal{O}}(X) \rangle = \frac{1}{P_{12}^{\Delta_i}} \sum_j b_{\hat{\mathcal{O}}_j} C_{iij} G_{\Delta_i, \Delta_j}^{(\alpha)}(\chi) \quad G_{\Delta_i, \Delta_j}^{(\alpha)}(\chi) \equiv \chi^\alpha \int_{-\infty}^0 \frac{d\chi'}{2\pi i} \frac{1}{\chi' - \chi} \text{Disc}_{\chi' \leq 0} \left(\frac{G_{\Delta_i, \Delta_j}(\chi')}{\chi'^\alpha} \right)$$

Renormalization condition

- Explicitly, we choose

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_i^R(P_1) \mathcal{O}_j^R(P_2) \rangle_{(\lambda+\delta\lambda)} \equiv \frac{\delta_{ij}}{P_{12}^{\Delta_i+\delta\Delta_i}}$$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_i^R(P_1) \mathcal{O}_j^R(P_2) \mathcal{O}_k^R(P_3) \rangle_{(\lambda+\delta\lambda)} \equiv \frac{C_{ijk} + \delta C_{ijk}}{P_{12}^{\Delta_{ijk}+\delta\Delta_{ijk}} P_{23}^{\Delta_{jki}+\delta\Delta_{jki}} P_{13}^{\Delta_{ikj}+\delta\Delta_{ikj}}}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_i(P) \Big|_{(\lambda+\delta\lambda)} = \left(\delta_i^j + \delta Z_i^j \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n D_P^n \right) \mathcal{O}_j^R(P) \Big|_{(\lambda+\delta\lambda)}$$