



Goals

- Understand the coupling of higher-spins and scalar matter in 3d
- Extract the associated couplings from Vasiliev's equations (beyond Giombi and Yin)
- Link Vasiliev's equation to an ordinary Lagrangian formulation
- Test Gaberdiel-Gopakumar conjecture beyond symmetry considerations
- Understand non-localities in Vasiliev's theory

Caveats

- Vasiliev's equations are not manifestly covariant
- Need to solve part of the equations to find the physical equations
- Non-locality: functional class not specified
- Twisted sector: no CFT counterpart so far

$$\begin{aligned} \phi^2 = 1 & \quad [y_\alpha, y_\beta]_\star = 2i\epsilon_{\alpha\beta} & [z_\alpha, z_\beta]_\star = -2i\epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \\ \psi^2 = 1 & \quad \{ \phi, \psi \} = 0 \\ f(y, z; \phi, \psi) &= f_0(y, z; \phi) + \psi f_1(y, z; \phi) \end{aligned}$$

The Vasiliev's eqs. in physical space

$$D\omega = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{Flat connection}$$

$$\tilde{D}\tilde{\omega} = \frac{1}{8}(h \wedge h)^{\alpha\alpha}(y_\alpha + i\partial_\alpha^w)(y_\alpha + i\partial_\alpha^w)C(w, \phi) \Big|_{w=0}$$

$$D\tilde{C} = 0$$

$$\tilde{D}C = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad (\square + \frac{3}{4})\Phi(x) = 0$$

So far only one cocycle has been studied (symmetry based)

(Giombi & Yin; Ammon, Kraus & Perlmutter)

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{D}C^{(2)} &= [\omega, C]_\star + [\mathcal{V}(h, C, C)]_{d>3} \\ D\tilde{C}^{(2)} &= \tilde{\mathcal{V}}(h, C, C) \\ \tilde{D}\tilde{\omega}^{(2)} &= \tilde{\mathcal{V}}(h, \omega, C) \\ D\omega^{(2)} &= \omega \star \omega + \mathcal{V}(h, h, C, C) \end{aligned}$$

(Vasiliev, 1999)

Trick: field redefinition to achieve manifest covariance

$$L_{\alpha\beta}^s \equiv -\frac{i}{2}(y_\alpha y_\beta - z_\alpha z_\beta) - T_{\alpha\beta}$$

Vasiliev's equations

$$dW = W \star W$$

$$dT_{\alpha\beta} = [W, T_{\alpha\beta}]_\star$$

$$dS_\alpha = [W, S_\alpha]_\star$$

$$\frac{i}{4}\{S_\alpha, S_\beta\}_\star = T_{\alpha\beta} \quad \text{Osp}(1|2)$$

$$[T_{\alpha\beta}, S_\gamma]_\star = S_\alpha \epsilon_{\beta\gamma} + S_\beta \epsilon_{\alpha\gamma}$$

(Prokushkin & Vasiliev; Alkalaev, Grigoriev, Skvortsov)

Canonical currents

$$J_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s} \approx \Phi^\star \overleftrightarrow{\nabla}_{\mu_1} \dots \overleftrightarrow{\nabla}_{\mu_s} \Phi + \mathcal{O}(\Lambda)$$

Solving torsion

$$\square \phi_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s} + \dots = g_s J_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s}$$

Vasiliev backreaction

$$J_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s}^{ql} = g'_s \sum_l \nabla_{\mu_1} \dots \nabla_{\mu_l} \overbrace{\nabla_{\nu_1} \dots \nabla_{\nu_l}}^l \Phi^\star \nabla^{\nu_1} \dots \nabla^{\nu_l} \nabla_{\mu_{l+1}} \dots \nabla_{\mu_s} \Phi$$

$$S_{cur} = \sum_s g_s \int \phi_{\mu(s)} J^{\mu(s)} \quad \rightarrow \quad \delta^{(s)} \Phi = i g_s \epsilon_{\mu(s-1)} (-2i \nabla^\mu)^{s-1} \Phi$$

Vasiliev's cubic action(s)

Results

- The redefinition that removes the linear backreaction on the twisted sector is non-local and ambiguous
- The above ambiguity can be fixed by the requirement that the second order backreaction on the twisted sector is exact in cohomology (this is a test of the conjectured duality)
- Another redefinition is required to the next order and it is also non-local (explicit form found)
- The source to the Fronsdal equations is found upon solving the torsion constraint
- The result differs from the canonical currents at the action level in an infinite non-local tail
- Detailed analysis of couplings, improvements and cohomology
- Remarkably: CC cohomology at form degree 2 is empty

$$\mathbf{J} = D\mathbf{U}$$

$$\int_{AdS} tr(\omega \wedge D\mathbf{U}) = - \int_{\partial AdS} tr(\omega \wedge \mathbf{U})$$

$$\delta \Phi = tr\{\xi_e, C\}_\star = \sum_s (1 + (-)^s) \frac{(-)^{s-1}}{(2s-2)!} \xi_e^{\alpha(2s-2)} C_{\alpha(2s-2)}$$

$$g_s = \frac{1}{[2(s-1)]!}$$

Outlook

- Functional class of acceptable redefinitions not yet understood (non-locality)
- Possible interpretation at the action level as redefinition linking bulk and boundary
- Next step: test functional class by finding the redefinition that maps Vasiliev's non-local currents to canonical s-derivative currents
- PV theory not in the right field frame (other theory needed like the d-dimensional theory at d=3)

Boundary non-trivial Interaction