

# Semiclassical approach to string spectrum in AdS/CFT

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R. Roiban, AT, [arXiv:0906.4294](#), [arXiv:1102.1209](#)

M. Beccaria, S. Giombi, R. Roiban, AT, to appear

## General aims:

- understand quantum gauge theories at any coupling
- understand string theories in non-trivial backgrounds

## Maximally symmetric case of gauge-string duality:

$\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM —  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  superstring

## Integrability:

allows “in principle” to solve the problem of **spectrum**  
of anomalous dimensions / string energies

## Spectrum of states

I. Spectrum of “long” operators = “semiclassical” string states  
determined by **Asymptotic Bethe Ansatz** (2002-2007)

- its final (BES) form found after intricate superposition of information from perturbative gauge theory (spin chain, BA,...) and perturbative string theory (classical and 1-loop phase,...), symmetries (S-matrix), assumption of exact integrability
- consequences **checked** against available gauge and string data

Key example: **cusp anomalous dimension**  $\text{Tr}(\Phi D^S \Phi)$

$$\Delta = S + 2 + f(\lambda) \ln S + \dots, \quad S \gg 1$$

$$f(\lambda \ll 1) = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi^2} \left[ 1 - \frac{\lambda}{48} + \frac{11\lambda^2}{2^8 \cdot 45} - \left( \frac{73}{630} + \frac{4\zeta^2(3)}{\pi^6} \right) \frac{\lambda^3}{2^7} + \dots \right]$$

$$f(\lambda \gg 1) = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{\pi} \left[ 1 - \frac{3 \ln 2}{\sqrt{\lambda}} - \frac{K}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} - \dots \right]$$

exact equation [Basso, Korchemsky, Kotanski]

## II. Spectrum of “short” operators = quantum string states

### Thermodynamic Bethe Ansatz (2005-...)

[Ambjorn, Janik, Kristjansen; Arutyunov, Frolov;  
Gromov, Kazakov, Vieira; Banjok, Janik; ...]

- reconstructed from ABA using solely methods/intuition of 2-d integrable QFT, i.e. string-theory side
- highly non-trivial construction – lack of 2-d Lorentz invariance in the standard “BMN-vacuum-adapted” l.c. gauge
- in few cases ABA “improved” by Luscher corrections is enough: 4 and 5-loop Konishi dimension, 4-loop minimal twist op. dim
- need more data to **check predictions** at  $\lambda \ll 1$  and  $\lambda \gg 1$ : against perturbative gauge-theory and string-theory data

Key example:

dimension  $\Delta = \Delta_0 + \gamma(\lambda)$  of Konishi operator  $\text{Tr}(\bar{\Phi}_i \Phi_i)$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\lambda \ll 1) = & 2 + \frac{12\lambda}{(4\pi)^2} \left[ 1 - \frac{4\lambda}{(4\pi)^2} + \frac{28\lambda^2}{(4\pi)^4} \right. \\ & \left. - [208 - 48\zeta(3) + 120\zeta(5)] \frac{\lambda^3}{(4\pi)^6} \right. \\ & \left. + 8[158 + 72\zeta(3) - 54\zeta^2(3) - 90\zeta(5) + 315\zeta(7)] \frac{\lambda^4}{(4\pi)^8} + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

5-loop result from integrability confirmed [Eden et al 2012]

Suppose can sum up  $\lambda \ll 1$  expansion and re-expand at  $\lambda \gg 1$

String theory suggests structure of strong-coupling expansion:

[Roiban, AT 09]

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\lambda \gg 1) &= 2\sqrt[4]{\lambda} + b_0 + \frac{b_1}{\sqrt[4]{\lambda}} + \frac{b_2}{(\sqrt[4]{\lambda})^3} + \dots \\ &= 2\sqrt[4]{\lambda} \left[ 1 + \frac{b_1}{2\sqrt{\lambda}} + \frac{b_2}{2(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} + \dots \right] + b_0 \end{aligned}$$

## Recent progress:

values of  $b_1, b_2, \dots$  matched between TBA and string theory

Extracting direct TBA predictions at strong coupling is hard

start at weak coupling for  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$  descendant  $\text{Tr}(\Phi D^2 \Phi)$  ( $\Delta_0 = 4$ );

plot numerically  $\Delta(\lambda)$ ;

match to expected strong-coupling expansion – extract  $b_i$

[Gromov, Kazakov, Vieira 09, Frolov 10]

$$b_0 = 0, \quad b_1 \approx 1.988, \quad b_2 \approx -3.1$$

string theory computation

[Roiban, AT 09, 11; Gromov, Serban, Shenderovich, Volin 11]

$$b_0 = 0, \quad b_1 = 2$$

more recent [Gromov, Valatka 11]

$$b_2 = \frac{1}{2} - 3\zeta(3)$$

using “2-loop” result of [Basso 11] (see below)

## Many open questions:

Analytic form of strong-coupling expansion from TBA/Y-system?

Other quantum states?

How to match to string spectrum in near-flat-space expansion?

general structure of the spectrum?

## Dimensions of short operators

= energies of quantum string states:

Aims:

- compute leading  $\alpha' \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$  correction to energy of “lightest” massive string states on first massive level dual to operators in Konishi multiplet in SYM theory
  - check against predictions of TBA approach
- understand structure of energy of higher spin states on leading Regge trajectory

## Konishi operator multiplet:

long multiplet related to singlet by susy

$$[J_2 - J_3, J_1 - J_2, J_2 + J_3]_{(s_L, s_R)} = [0, 0, 0]_{(0,0)}$$

$$s_{L,R} = \frac{1}{2}(S_1 \pm S_2)$$

$SO(6)$  ( $J_1, J_2, J_3$ ) and  $SO(4)$  ( $S_1, S_2$ ) labels

of  $SO(2, 4) \times SO(6)$  global symmetry

[Andreanopoli, Ferrara 98; Bianchi, Morales, Samtleben 03]

see table

$$\Delta = \Delta_0 + \gamma(\lambda), \quad \Delta_0 = 2, \frac{5}{2}, 3, \dots, 10$$

– same anomalous dimension  $\gamma$

singlet eigen-state of anom. dim. matrix with **lowest** eigenvalue



examples of gauge theory operators in Konishi multiplet:

$[0, 0, 0]_{(0,0)}$ :

$$\text{Tr}(\bar{\Phi}_i \Phi_i), \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \quad \Delta_0 = 2$$

$[2, 0, 2]_{(0,0)}$ :

$$\text{Tr}([\Phi_1, \Phi_2]^2) \text{ in } su(2) \text{ sector, } \Delta_0 = 4$$

$[0, 2, 0]_{(1,1)}$ :

$$\text{Tr}(\Phi_1 D^2 \Phi_1) \text{ in } sl(2) \text{ sector, } \Delta_0 = 4$$

AdS/CFT duality:

Konishi operator dual to

“lightest” among massive  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  string states

large  $\sqrt{\lambda} = \frac{R^2}{\alpha'}$ :

– “small” string at “center” of  $AdS_5$  – in **nearly flat** space

## Comparison between gauge and string theory states:

GT ( $\lambda \ll 1$ ): operators built out of free fields,  
canonical dim.  $\Delta_0$  determines operators that can mix

ST ( $\lambda \gg 1$ ): near-flat-space string states built out of  
free oscillators, level  $n$  determines states that can mix

(i) relate states with same global charges

(ii) assume “non-intersection principle”

no level crossing for states with same quantum numbers  
as  $\lambda$  changes from strong to weak coupling

**Flat space case:**

$$m^2 = \frac{4n}{\alpha'}, \quad n = \frac{1}{2}(N + \bar{N}) = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \quad N = \bar{N}$$

**$n = 0$ :** massless IIB supergravity (BPS) level

l.c. vacuum  $|0 \rangle$ :  $(8 + 8)^2 = 256$  states

**$n = 1$ :** first massive level (many states, highly degenerate)

$$[(a_{-1}^i + S_{-1}^a)|0 \rangle]^2 = [(8 + 8) \times (8 + 8)]^2$$

in  $SO(9)$  reps:

$$([2, 0, 0, 0] + [0, 0, 1, 0] + [1, 0, 0, 1])^2 = (44 + 84 + 128)^2$$

$$\text{e.g. } 44 \times 44 = 1 + 36 + 44 + 450 + 495 + 910$$

$$84 \times 84 = 1 + 36 + 44 + 84 + 126 + 495 + 594 + 924 + 1980 + 2772$$

switching on  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  background fields **lifts degeneracy**

states with “lightest mass” at **first excited string level**

should correspond to Konishi multiplet

string spectrum in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  :

long multiplets  $\mathcal{A}_{[k,p,q](s,s')}^\Delta$  of  $PSU(2, 2|4)$

highest weight states:  $[k, p, q]_{(s,s')}$

Remarkably, flat-space string spectrum can be re-organized

in multiplets of  $SO(2, 4) \times SO(6) \subset PSU(2, 2|4)$

[Bianchi, Morales, Samtleben 03; Beisert et al 03]

$SO(4) \times SO(5) \subset SO(9)$  rep.

lifted to  $SO(4) \times SO(6)$  rep. of  $SO(2, 4) \times SO(6)$

Konishi long multiplet

$$\widehat{T}_1 = (1 + Q + Q \wedge Q + \dots)[0, 0, 0]_{(0,0)}$$

determines the KK “floor” of 1-st excited string level

$$H_1 = \sum_{J=0}^{\infty} [0, J, 0]_{(0,0)} \times \widehat{T}_1$$

What one should expect for energy of scalar massive state in  $AdS_5$ :

$$(-\nabla^2 + m^2)\Phi + \dots = 0$$

$$\Delta(\Delta - 4) = (mR)^2 + O(\alpha') = 4n\frac{R^2}{\alpha'} + O(\alpha')$$

$$\Delta = 2 + \sqrt{(mR)^2 + 4 + O(\alpha')}$$

$$\Delta(\lambda \gg 1) = \sqrt{4n\sqrt{\lambda} + \dots}, \quad \sqrt{\lambda} = \frac{R^2}{\alpha'}$$

[Gubser, Klebanov, Polyakov 98]

e.g., for first massive level:

$$n = 1 : \quad \Delta = 2\sqrt[4]{\lambda} + \dots$$

Subleading corrections?

## Approaches to computation of corrections to string energies:

### (i) vertex operator approach:

use  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  string sigma model perturbation theory to find leading terms in anomalous dimension of corresponding vertex operators [Polyakov 01; AT 03]

### (ii) space-time effective action approach:

use near-flat-space expansion and NSR vertex operators to reconstruct  $\alpha' \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$  corrections to corresponding massive string state equation of motion [Burrington, Liu 05]

(iii) “light-cone” quantization approach:

start with light-cone gauge  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  string action

and compute corrections to energy of

corresponding flat-space oscillator string state

[Metsaev, Thorn, AT 00 ]

(iv) semiclassical approach:

identify short string state as small-spin limit of

semiclassical string state

– reproduce the structure of strong-coupling corrections

to short operators

[ Tirziu, AT 08; Roiban, AT 09, 11]



## Spectrum of quantum string states

### from target space anomalous dimension operator

Flat space:  $k^2 = m^2 = \frac{4(n-1)}{\alpha'}$  (bosonic string)

e.g. leading Regge trajectory  $(\partial x \bar{\partial} x)^{S/2} e^{ikx}$ ,  $n = S/2$

spectrum in (weakly) curved background:

solve marginality (1,1) conditions on vertex operators

e.g. scalar anomalous dimension operator  $\hat{\gamma}(G)$

on  $T(x) = \sum c_{n\dots m} x^n \dots x^m$  or on coefficients  $c_{n\dots m}$

differential operator in target space

found from  $\beta$ -function for the corresponding perturbation

$$I = \frac{1}{4\pi\alpha'} \int d^2z [G_{mn}(x) \partial x^m \bar{\partial} x^n + T(x)]$$

$$\beta_T = -2T - \frac{\alpha'}{2} \hat{\gamma} T + O(T^2)$$

$$\hat{\gamma} = \Omega^{mn} D_m D_n + \dots + \Omega^{m\dots k} D_m \dots D_k + \dots$$

$$\Omega^{mn} = G^{mn} + O(\alpha'^3), \quad \Omega^{\dots} \sim \alpha'^n R^{\dots}$$

Solve  $-\hat{\gamma} T + m^2 T = 0$ : diagonalize  $\hat{\gamma}$

similarly for massless (graviton, ...) and massive states

e.g.  $\beta_{mn}^G = \alpha' R_{mn} + O(\alpha'^3)$

gives Lichnerowicz operator as anomalous dimension operator

$$(\hat{\gamma}h)_{mn} = -D^2 h_{mn} + 2R_{mknl}h^{kl} - 2R_{k(m}h_{n)}^k + O(\alpha'^3)$$

Massive string states in curved background:

$$\int d^D x \sqrt{g} \left[ \Phi \dots (-D^2 + m^2 + X) \Phi \dots + \dots \right]$$
$$m^2 = \frac{4}{\alpha'} n, \quad X = R_{\dots} + O(\alpha')$$

case of  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  background

$$R_{mn} - \frac{1}{96} (F_5 F_5)_{mn} = 0, \quad R = 0, \quad F_5^2 = 0$$

Find leading-order term in  $X$  ?

leading  $\alpha'$  correction to **scalar** string state mass =0 (!?)

$$[-D^2 + m^2 + O(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}})]\Phi = 0$$

$$\Delta = 2 + \sqrt{4n + 4 + O(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}})}$$

$$\Delta_{(n=1)} = 2 + 2\sqrt[4]{\lambda} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\lambda}} + O\left(\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2}\right) \right]$$

prediction for leading term in strong-coupling expansion  
of **singlet** Konishi state dimension?

Too naive:

various subtleties (10d scalar vs singlet state, mixing, etc.)

What about **non-singlet** (susy descendant) Konishi states?

should have the same dimension

$\text{Tr}[\Phi_1, \Phi_2]^2$  corresponds to  $SO(6)$  state  $J_1 = J_2 = 2$

tensor wave function  $\Phi_{mn;kl}$

or vertex operator  $\sim Y_+^{-\Delta} \partial X_x \bar{\partial} X_x \partial X_y \bar{\partial} X_y$

## Vertex operator approach

calculate 2d anomalous dimensions from “first principles” –  
superstring theory in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  :

$$I = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{4\pi} \int d^2\sigma \left[ \partial Y_p \bar{\partial} Y^p + \partial X_k \bar{\partial} X_k + \text{fermions} \right]$$

$$Y_+ Y_- - Y_u Y_u^* - Y_v Y_v^* = 1, \quad X_x X_x^* + X_y X_y^* + X_z X_z^* = 1$$

$$Y_{\pm} = Y_0 \pm iY_5, \quad Y_u = Y_1 + iY_2, \dots, \quad X_x = X_1 + iX_2, \dots$$

construct marginal (1,1) operators in terms of  $Y_p$  and  $X_k$

e.g. vertex operator for dilaton mode (NSR framework)

$$V_J = (Y_+)^{-\Delta} (X_x)^J \left[ -\partial Y_p \bar{\partial} Y^p + \partial X_k \bar{\partial} X_k + \text{fermions} \right]$$

$$Y_+ \equiv Y_0 + iY_5 = \frac{1}{z}(z^2 + x_m x_m) \sim e^{it}$$

$$X_x \equiv X_1 + iX_2 \sim e^{i\varphi}$$

$$2 = 2 + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\lambda}} [\Delta(\Delta - 4) - J(J + 4)] + O\left(\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2}\right)$$

i.e.  $\Delta = 4 + J$  (BPS)

Vertex operator for bosonic string state

on leading Regge trajectory in flat space:  $\alpha' E^2 = 2(S - 2)$

$$V_S = e^{-iEt} (\partial x \bar{\partial} x)^{S/2}, \quad x = x_1 + ix_2$$

candidate operators for states on leading Regge trajectory:

$$V_J = (Y_+)^{-\Delta} (\partial X_x \bar{\partial} X_x)^{J/2}, \quad X_x \equiv X_1 + iX_2$$

$$V_S(\xi) = (Y_+)^{-\Delta} (\partial Y_u \bar{\partial} Y_u)^{S/2}, \quad Y_u \equiv Y_1 + iY_2$$

+ fermionic terms

+  $\alpha' \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$  terms from diagonalization of anom. dim. op.

mix with operators with same charges and dimension

in general  $(\partial X_x \bar{\partial} X_x)^{J/2}$  mixes with singlets

$$(X_x)^{2p+2q} (\partial X_x)^{J/2-2p} (\bar{\partial} X_x)^{J/2-2q} (\partial X_m \partial X_m)^p (\bar{\partial} X_k \partial X_k)^q$$

true vertex operators

= eigenstates of 2d anomalous dimension matrix

– particular linear combinations

operators for states on leading Regge trajectory

$$O_{\ell,s} = f_{k_1 \dots k_\ell m_1 \dots m_{2s}} X_{k_1} \dots X_{k_\ell} \partial X_{m_1} \bar{\partial} X_{m_2} \dots \partial X_{m_{2s-1}} \bar{\partial} X_{m_{2s}}$$

their renormalization studied before [Wegner 90]

simplest case:  $f_{k_1 \dots k_\ell} X_{k_1} \dots X_{k_\ell}$  with traceless  $f_{k_1 \dots k_\ell}$

same anom. dim.  $\hat{\gamma}$  as its highest-weight rep  $V_J = (X_x)^J$

$$\hat{\gamma} = 2 - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\lambda}} J(J+4) + \dots$$

scalar spherical harmonic that solves Laplace eq. on  $S^5$

Example of higher-level scalar operator:

$$Y_+^{-\Delta} [(\partial X_k \bar{\partial} X_k)^r + \dots], \quad r = 1, 2, \dots$$

[Kravtsov, Lerner, Yudson 89; Castilla, Chakravarty 96]

$$0 = -2(r-1) + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\lambda}} \left[ \Delta(\Delta-4) + 2r(r-1) \right] \\ + \frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} \left[ \frac{2}{3}r(r-1)(r-\frac{7}{2}) + 4r \right] + \dots$$

$r = 1$ : ground level

fermionic contributions should make  $r = 1$  exact zero of  $\hat{\gamma}$

$r = 2$ : excited level – candidate for singlet Konishi state  $\Delta_0 = 2$

$$\Delta(\Delta-4) = 4\sqrt{\lambda} - 4 + O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}}\right), \\ \Delta - \Delta_0 = 2\sqrt[4]{\lambda} \left[ 1 + 0 \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} + O\left(\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2}\right) \right]$$

fermionic contribution may change this

Bosonic operators with two spins  $J_1 = J$ ,  $J_2 \equiv K$  in  $S^5$ :

$$V_{K,J} = Y_+^{-\Delta} \sum_{u,v=0}^{K/2} c_{uv} M_{uv}$$

$$M_{uv} \equiv X_y^{J-u-v} X_x^{u+v} (\partial X_y)^u (\partial X_x)^{K/2-u} (\bar{\partial} X_y)^v (\bar{\partial} X_x)^{K/2-v}$$

highest and lowest eigen-values of 1-loop anom. dim. matrix

$$\hat{\gamma}_{\min} = 2 - K + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\lambda}} \left[ \Delta(\Delta - 4) - J(J + 4) \right.$$

$$\left. - \frac{1}{2} K(K + 10) - 2JK \right] + O\left(\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2}\right)$$

$$\hat{\gamma}_{\max} = 2 - K + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\lambda}} \left[ \Delta(\Delta - 4) - J(J + 4) \right.$$

$$\left. - \frac{1}{2} K(K + 6) \right] + O\left(\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2}\right)$$

fermions may alter terms linear in  $K$

How to take fermionic contributions into account?



## General structure of dimension $\Delta = \text{energy } E$

vertex operators on  $R^2 \leftrightarrow$  string states on  $R \times S^1$

aim: understand structure of dependence of string energy on string tension and quantum numbers (spins)

guided by form of string vertex op. marginality condition

structure of dependence of energy  $E$  of quantum string state on quantum charges  $Q_i$  in the large string tension expansion  $\sqrt{\lambda} \gg 1$  from  $\alpha'$  expansion of 2d anomalous dimensions

of  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  vertex ops  $\rightarrow$  solution of marginality condition should give  $E = E(Q, \sqrt{\lambda})$  in the form [Roiban, AT 09, 11]

$$E^2 = 2\sqrt{\lambda} \sum_i a_i Q_i + \sum_{i,j} b_{ij} Q_i Q_j + \sum_i c_i Q_i \\ + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \left( \sum_{i,j,k} d_{ij} Q_i Q_j Q_k + \sum_{i,j} e_{ij} Q_i Q_j Q_k + \sum_i f_i Q_i \right) + \dots$$

$Q_i$  – fixed in the limit  $\sqrt{\lambda} \gg 1$

string state with  $S^5$  orbital momentum  $J$  and quantum number  $N$

$N$  = effective string level, e.g., spin component  $S = N$

$E^2$  from the 2d marginality condition

(ignore shifts of  $N$  and  $E$  by integers: depend on choice of vac.)

$$0 = N + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\lambda}} \left( -E^2 + J^2 + n_{02}N^2 + n_{11}N \right) \\ + \frac{1}{2(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} \left( n_{01}NJ^2 + n_{03}N^3 + n_{12}N^2 + n_{21}N \right) + O\left(\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^3}\right)$$

then  $E^2$  takes form:

$$E^2 = 2\sqrt{\lambda}N + J^2 + n_{02}N^2 + n_{11}N \\ + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \left( n_{01}J^2N + n_{03}N^3 + n_{12}N^2 + n_{21}N \right) \\ + \frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} \left( \tilde{n}_{11}J^2N + n_{04}N^4 + \dots \right) + O\left(\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^3}\right)$$

expanding in large  $\sqrt{\lambda}$  for **fixed**  $N, J$

$$E = \sqrt{2\sqrt{\lambda}N} \left[ 1 + \frac{A_1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} + \frac{A_2}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} + O\left(\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^3}\right) \right],$$

$$A_1 = \frac{1}{4N} J^2 + \frac{1}{4} (n_{02}N + n_{11}),$$

$$A_2 = -\frac{1}{2} A_1^2 + \frac{1}{4} (n_{01}J^2 + n_{03}N^2 + n_{12}N + n_{21})$$

Gives for particular quantum string state values of  $N$  and  $J$   
strong-coupling expansion of energy/dimension  
of the corresponding gauge-theory operator

Plan: determine the coefficients  $n_{km}$   
using semiclassical “short string” expansion approach

## Approach based on interpolation of semiclassical expansion

start with a solitonic string carrying same charges as vertex operator representing particular quantum string state

(i) first perform semiclassical expansion  $\sqrt{\lambda} \gg 1$

for **fixed** classical parameters

$$Q_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} Q_i, \text{ i.e. } (\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{J}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} (N, J)$$

(ii) then expand  $E$  in **small** values of  $Q_i$

(iii) re-interpret the resulting expression in terms of  $N, J$

limit  $Q_i = \frac{Q_i}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \rightarrow 0$  should correspond to  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \rightarrow 0$  for fixed values of quantum charges  $Q_i$

same coefficients  $n_{km}$  should be found

in direct vertex operator approach

$E$  in terms of  $\mathcal{N}$ ,  $\mathcal{J}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{E}{\sqrt{\lambda}}\right)^2 &= (2\mathcal{N} + \mathcal{J}^2 + n_{01}\mathcal{J}^2\mathcal{N} + n_{02}\mathcal{N}^2 + n_{03}\mathcal{N}^3 + n_{04}\mathcal{N}^4 + \dots) \\ &+ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}}(n_{11}\mathcal{N} + \tilde{n}_{11}\mathcal{J}^2\mathcal{N} + n_{12}\mathcal{N}^2 + \dots) \\ &+ \frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2}(n_{21}\mathcal{N} + \dots) + O\left(\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^3}\right), \end{aligned}$$

interpret  $n_{km}$  as semiclassical  $k$ -loop contribution to  $\mathcal{N}^m$  term

- quantum string loop (i.e.  $\alpha' \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \ll 1$ ) expansion

in 2d anom. dim. is different from semiclassical loop expansion:

$n_{km}$  in general appear at different orders in two expansions

(but  $n_{11}$  and  $n_{21}$  are 1-loop and 2-loop in both expansions)

- each loop term in exact expansion polynomial in charges

but in semiclassical expansion each term may contain

infinite series in small  $\mathcal{J}$ ,  $\mathcal{N}$  expansion

- to relate two expansions need to reorganize them

Semiclassical expansion of  $E^2$  organized as expansion in small  $\mathcal{N}$  formally looks like an expansion in powers of  $N$ :

$$E^2 = J^2 + h_1(\lambda, J)N + h_2(\lambda, J)N^2 + h_3(\lambda, J)N^3 + \dots$$

where for fixed  $J$  and large  $\lambda$

$$h_1 = 2\sqrt{\lambda} + n_{11} + \frac{n_{21}}{\sqrt{\lambda}} + \frac{n_{31}}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} + \dots + J^2 \left( \frac{n_{01}}{\sqrt{\lambda}} + \frac{\tilde{n}_{11}}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} + \dots \right) + \dots$$

$$h_2 = n_{02} + \frac{n_{12}}{\sqrt{\lambda}} + \dots$$

$$h_3 = \frac{n_{03}}{\sqrt{\lambda}} + \dots, \quad h_4 = \frac{n_{03}}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} + \dots$$

[exact computation of  $h_1$  for folded string state: Basso 11]

Will consider examples of “small” semiclassical string states corresponding to quantum string states with angular momentum  $J$  and few oscillator modes excited

For  $N = 2$ ,  $J = 2$  they represent particular states  
in the Konishi multiplet on gauge theory side  
– should have same 4d anomalous dimension  
= same  $E$  (modulo constant shifts)

$$E = 2\sqrt[4]{\lambda} \left[ 1 + \frac{b_1}{2\sqrt{\lambda}} + \frac{b_2}{2(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} + O\left(\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^3}\right) \right],$$

$$b_1 = 2(A_1)_{N=J=2} = 1 + n_{02} + \frac{1}{2}n_{11}$$

$$b_2 = 2(A_2)_{N=J=2} = -\frac{1}{4}b_1^2 + 2n_{01} + 2n_{03} + n_{12} + \frac{1}{2}n_{21}$$

find the coefficients  $n_{km}$  using semiclassical approach

check this universality (implied by susy)

identify general patterns in the structure of  $n_{km}$

## Semiclassical expansion:

$\sqrt{\lambda} \gg 1$ ,  $\mathcal{J} = \frac{J}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$  = fixed (e.g. for  $J = 0$ ):

$$E\left(\frac{N}{\sqrt{\lambda}}, \sqrt{\lambda}\right) = \sqrt{\lambda} \mathcal{E}_0(\mathcal{N}) + \mathcal{E}_1(\mathcal{N}) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \mathcal{E}_2(\mathcal{N}) + \dots$$

$$\mathcal{E}_n = \sqrt{\mathcal{N}} (a_{n0} + a_{n1} \mathcal{N} + a_{n2} \mathcal{N}^2 + \dots), \quad \mathcal{N} \ll 1$$

if know all terms in this expansion – express  $\mathcal{N}$  in terms of  $N$   
fix it to finite value and re-expand in  $\sqrt{\lambda}$

$$E = \sqrt{2\sqrt{\lambda}N} \left[ 1 + \frac{a_{01}N + a_{10}}{\sqrt{\lambda}} + \frac{a_{02}N^2 + a_{11}N + a_{20}}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} + \dots \right]$$

$a_{km}$  –  $k$ -loop string corrections – related to  $n_{km}$

$$a_{01} = \frac{1}{4}n_{02}, \quad a_{10} = \frac{1}{4}n_{11}, \dots \text{ etc}$$

to trust the coeff of  $\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^n}$  need coeff of up to  $n$ -loop terms

e.g. classical  $a_{01}$  and 1-loop  $a_{10}$  sufficient to fix  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$  term

[cf. “fast string” expansion  $\mathcal{N} \gg 1$  for fixed  $N$

– positive powers of  $\sqrt{\lambda}$  – need to resum]



“Short” string: probing flat-space limit of  $AdS_5 \times S^5$

(i) start with classical string solutions in flat space

representing states at 1-st excited string level

(ii) embed into  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  and find **1-loop correction** to  $E$

(iii) interpolate result to finite values  $N$ , i.e.  $\mathcal{N} = \frac{N}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \rightarrow 0$

Two basic classes of examples ( $N$ = spin,  $J$ = orbital momentum):

- circular string with 2 spins in two orthogonal planes
- folded spinning string

Rigid circular string rotating in two planes of  $R^4$

$$t = \kappa\tau, \quad \mathbf{x}_x \equiv x_1 + ix_2 = a e^{i(\tau+\sigma)}, \quad \mathbf{x}_y \equiv x_3 + ix_4 = a e^{i(\tau-\sigma)}$$

$$E_{\text{flat}} = \frac{\kappa}{\alpha'} = \sqrt{\frac{4}{\alpha'}} J, \quad J_1 = J_2 = \frac{a^2}{\alpha'}.$$

Identifying oscillator modes that are excited  
 associate it with the quantum string state created by

$$e^{-iEt} \left[ (\partial_{\mathbf{x}_x} \bar{\partial}_{\mathbf{x}_x})^{\frac{J_1}{2}} (\partial_{\mathbf{x}_y} \bar{\partial}_{\mathbf{x}_y})^{\frac{J_2}{2}} + \dots \right]$$

$$\alpha' E^2 = 2N = 2(J_1 + J_2 - 2)$$

$J_1 = J_2$  in bosonic string:

$$E_{\text{flat}} = \sqrt{\frac{4}{\alpha'} (J - 1)} .$$

Folded string rotating in a plane

$$t = \kappa\tau , \quad \mathbf{x}_1 \equiv x_1 + ix_2 = a \sin \sigma e^{i\tau}$$

$$E_{\text{flat}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\alpha'} S} , \quad S = \frac{a^2}{2\alpha'} ,$$

semiclassical counterpart of quantum string state on  
 leading Regge trajectory

$$e^{-iEt} \left[ (\partial_{\mathbf{x}_x} \bar{\partial}_{\mathbf{x}_x})^{\frac{S}{2}} + \dots \right] , \quad \alpha' E^2 = 2N = 2(S - 2)$$

3 obvious choices how to embed these solutions into  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  :

- (i) the two 2-planes may belong to  $S^5$ :  $J_1 = J_2$  “small string”
- (ii) the two 2-planes may belong to  $AdS_5$ :  $S_1 = S_2$  “small string”
- (iii) one plane in  $AdS_5$  and the other in  $S^5$ :  $S = J$  “small string”

similar choices for folded string

1. study each case in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  ; interpolate to fixed values of  $N$
2. match to states in Konishi table
3. verify universality of strong-coupling expansion of  
4d anom. dim of dual gauge theory operators  
in same supermultiplet

## Results:

for several solutions for states on leading Regge trajectory  
(maximal spin for given energy in flat limit)

$$\begin{aligned} E^2 &= 2\sqrt{\lambda}N + J^2 + n_{02}N^2 + n_{11}N \\ &+ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}}(n_{01}J^2N + n_{03}N^3 + n_{12}N^2 + n_{21}N) \\ &+ \frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2}(\tilde{n}_{11}J^2N + n_{04}N^4 + \dots) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

- $n_{01} = 1$

follows from near-BMN expansion of classical energy ( $J \ll \sqrt{\lambda}$ )

$$E^2 = J^2 + 2N\sqrt{\lambda + J^2} + \dots = J^2 + N(2\sqrt{\lambda} + \frac{J^2}{\sqrt{\lambda}} + \dots)$$

- tree-level  $n_{02}, n_{03}, \dots$  are rational

- leading 1-loop  $n_{11}$  rational [Roiban, AT 09; Gromov et al 11]

- $\tilde{n}_{11} = -n_{11}$

$$h_1 = 2\sqrt{\lambda}\sqrt{1 + \mathcal{J}^2} + \frac{n_{11}}{1 + \mathcal{J}^2} + \dots \text{ [Basso; BGRT]}$$

- $n_{12} = n'_{12} - 3\zeta(3)$ ,  $n'_{12}$  is rational

[Tirziu, AT 08; Roiban, AT 09; Gromov-Valatka 11]

$\zeta(3)$  term is **universal** for states on leading Regge trajectory

$n_{1k}$  contain  $\zeta(5)$ , ... etc; likely to be universal too

– universality of “short-distance” ( $n \gg 1$ ) behaviour

- leading 2-loop coefficient  $n_{21}$  is rational and **universal**:

$$n_{21} = -\frac{1}{4}$$

found for folded string state [Basso 11]

evidence from universality [BGRT]

of the Konishi state energy ( $J = N = 2$ )

$$E_{N=J=2} = 2\sqrt[4]{\lambda} \left[ 1 + \frac{b_1}{2\sqrt{\lambda}} + \frac{b_2}{2(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} + O\left(\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^3}\right) \right]$$

$$b_1 = 1 + n_{02} + \frac{1}{2}n_{11} = 2$$

$$b_2 = -\frac{1}{4}b_1^2 + 2n_{01} + 2n_{03} + n_{12} + \frac{1}{2}n_{21} = \frac{1}{2} - 3\zeta(3)$$

matching TBA predictions interpolated to  $\lambda \gg 1$

$$2n_{02} + n_{11} = 2, \quad 4n_{03} + 2n'_{12} + n_{21} = -1$$

Need to confirm universality of  $n_{21}$  by direct computation

generalize exact result for  $h_1$  [Basso]

for  $sl(2)$  sector state to other string states

## Summary of results for $n_{km}$

### I. Folded strings with one spin $N$ and orbital momentum $J$

- folded string in  $AdS_5$  with  $(S, J)$ ,  $N = S$

[Tirziu, AT08; Gromov, Serban, Shenderovich, Volin 11;

Basso 11; Gromov, Valatka 11]

$$n_{01} = 1, \quad n_{02} = \frac{3}{2}, \quad n_{03} = -\frac{3}{8},$$
$$n_{11} = -1, \quad \tilde{n}_{11} = 1, \quad n'_{12} = \frac{3}{8}, \quad n_{21} = -\frac{1}{4}$$

- folded string in  $S^5$  with  $(J_1, J_3 = J)$ ,  $N = J_1$

[Beccaria, Marconi 11; BGRT 12]

$$n_{01} = 1, \quad n_{02} = \frac{1}{2}, \quad n_{03} = \frac{1}{8},$$
$$n_{11} = 1, \quad \tilde{n}_{11} = -1, \quad n'_{12} = -\frac{5}{8}, \quad n_{21} = -\frac{1}{4}(?)$$

## II. Circular strings with two spins and orbital momentum $J$

[Roiban, AT 09, 11; BGRT 12]

- “small” circular string with 2 spins in  $S^5$ :

$$(J_1 = J_2, J_3 = J), N = J_1 + J_2 = 2J_1$$

$$n_{01} = 1, \quad n_{02} = 0, \quad n_{03} = 0,$$

$$n_{11} = 2, \quad \tilde{n}_{11} = -2, \quad n'_{12} = -\frac{3}{8}, \quad n_{21} = -\frac{1}{4}(?)$$

- “small” circular string with 2 spins in  $AdS_5$ :

$$(S_1 = S_2, J), N = S_1 + S_2 = 2S_1$$

$$n_{01} = 1, \quad n_{02} = 2, \quad n_{03} = -1,$$

$$n_{11} = -2, \quad \tilde{n}_{11} = 2, \quad n'_{12} = \frac{13}{8}, \quad n_{21} = -\frac{1}{4}(?)$$

- “small” circular string with  $S$  in  $AdS_5$  and  $J_1$  in  $S^5$ :

$$(S = J_1, J_3 = J), N = S + J_1 = 2S$$

$$n_{01} = 1, \quad n_{02} = 1, \quad n_{03} = -\frac{1}{2},$$

$$n_{11} = 0, \quad \tilde{n}_{11} = 0, \quad n'_{12} = \frac{5}{8} (?), \quad n_{21} = -\frac{1}{4} (?)$$



### III. Circular pulsating strings:

[Beccaria,Dunne,Macorini,Tirziu,AT 10]

- pulsating string in  $AdS_3$ :  $N$ = oscillation number

$$n_{01} = 1, \quad n_{02} = \frac{5}{2}, \quad n_{03} = -\frac{13}{8},$$

$$n_{11} = -3, \quad \tilde{n}_{11} = 3(?), \quad n'_{12} = \frac{23}{8}(?), \quad n_{21} = -\frac{1}{4}(?)$$

- pulsating string in  $R \times S^2$

$$n_{01} = 1, \quad n_{02} = -\frac{1}{2}, \quad n_{03} = -\frac{1}{8},$$

$$n_{11} = 3, \quad \tilde{n}_{11} = -3(?), \quad n'_{12} = -\frac{1}{8}(?), \quad n_{21} = -\frac{1}{4}(?)$$

for  $N = J = 2$  pulsating strings should also represent states on the first excited string level, i.e. from Konishi multiplet predict the same  $b_1, b_2$  with above  $n_{nk}$

## Examples of states on subleading Regge trajectories

- $m$ -folded spinning string
- spinning string with  $n$  spikes [Kruczenski 04]

1-loop corrections:

[Gromov, Valatka 11; Beccaria, Ratti, AT 11]

$$E_{\text{folded}}^2 = 2m\sqrt{\lambda}S \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} b_{\text{folded}} + \dots \right] + J^2 + \frac{3}{2}S^2 + \dots$$

$$E_{\text{spiky}}^2 = 4\left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)\sqrt{\lambda}S \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} b_{\text{spiky}} + \dots \right] + J^2 + 4\left(1 - \frac{5}{2n} + \frac{5}{2n^2}\right)S^2 + \dots$$

$$b_{\text{folded}} = 2F(m), \quad b_{\text{spiky}} = -\frac{1}{4} + F(n-1)$$

$$F(r) \equiv -\frac{3}{4r} + 2H_r - H_{2r}, \quad H_r \equiv \sum_{k=1}^r \frac{1}{k}$$

coincide in 1-fold string case:  $E_{\text{folded}}(m=1) = E_{\text{spiky}}(n=1)$

$$a_{\text{folded}}(m=1) = a_{\text{spiky}}(n=2) = F(1) = -\frac{1}{4}$$

## Some details

Circular rotating string in  $S^5$  with  $J_1 = J_2 \equiv J'$ :

cf. Konishi descendant with  $J_1 = J_2 = 2$ :  $\text{Tr}([\Phi_1, \Phi_2]^2)$

represent it by “short” classical string with same charges

flat space  $R_t \times R^4$ : circular string solution

$$x_1 + ix_2 = a e^{i(\tau+\sigma)}, \quad x_3 + ix_4 = a e^{i(\tau-\sigma)}$$

$$E = \sqrt{\frac{4}{\alpha'} J'}, \quad J' = \frac{a^2}{\alpha'}$$

can be directly embedded into

$R_t \times S^5$  in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  [Frolov, AT 03]:

string on **small** sphere inside  $S^5$ :  $X_1^2 + \dots + X_6^2 = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 + iX_2 &= a e^{i(\tau+\sigma)}, & X_3 + iX_4 &= a e^{i(\tau-\sigma)}, \\ X_5 + iX_6 &= \sqrt{1 - 2a^2}, & t &= \kappa\tau \\ \mathcal{J}' &= \mathcal{J}_1 = \mathcal{J}_2 = a^2, & \mathcal{E}^2 &= \kappa^2 = 4\mathcal{J}' \end{aligned}$$

$E_0$  is just as in flat space

$$E_0 = \sqrt{\lambda} \mathcal{E} = \sqrt{4\sqrt{\lambda} J'} , \quad J' = \sqrt{\lambda} \mathcal{J}'$$

1-loop quantum string correction to the energy:

sum of bosonic and fermionic fluctuation frequencies ( $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ )

Bosons (2 massless + massive):

$$AdS_5 : \quad 4 \times \quad \omega_n^2 = n^2 + 4\mathcal{J}'$$

$$S^5 : \quad 2 \times \quad \omega_{n\pm}^2 = n^2 + 4(1 - \mathcal{J}') \pm 2\sqrt{4(1 - \mathcal{J}')n^2 + 4\mathcal{J}'^2}$$

Fermions:

$$4 \times \quad \omega_{n\pm}^{2f} = n^2 + 1 + \mathcal{J}' \pm \sqrt{4(1 - \mathcal{J}')n^2 + 4\mathcal{J}'^2}$$

$$E_1 = \frac{1}{2\kappa} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ 4\omega_n + 2(\omega_{n+} + \omega_{n-}) - 4(\omega_{n+}^f + \omega_{n-}^f) \right]$$

expand in small  $\mathcal{J}'$  and do sums (UV divergences cancel)

$$E_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mathcal{J}}} \left( \mathcal{J} - [3 + \zeta(3)]\mathcal{J}'^2 - \frac{1}{4}[5 + 6\zeta(3) + 30\zeta(5)]\mathcal{J}'^3 + \dots \right)$$

$$E = E_0 + E_1 = 2\sqrt{\sqrt{\lambda}J'} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\lambda}} - \frac{3}{4}[1 + 2\zeta(3)]\frac{J'}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} + \dots \right)$$

include orbital momentum  $J$  dependence:

value of  $b_1$  is shifted by “classical” contribution  $\sim J^2$  as

$$b_1(J) = b_1(0) + \frac{1}{4}J^2$$

universal value  $b_1(0) = 1$  [Roiban, AT 2009] implies  $b_1(2) = 2$

i.e. same as value for the Konishi multiplet state in the  $sl(2)$  sector

(having  $S = J = 2$ ) found from TBA [Gromov et al 2009]

$J^2$  term has simple classical origin

$$E_0^2 = 2\sqrt{\lambda}N + aN^2 + J^2 + \dots, \quad N, J \ll \sqrt{\lambda}$$

$$E_0 = \sqrt{2\sqrt{\lambda}N} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{4\sqrt{\lambda}} \left( aN + \frac{J^2}{N} \right) + \dots \right]$$

For each solution (with values of spins representing a state on the first excited string level) there will be a state in the corresponding representation in the Konishi multiplet table

– universality of the predicted value  $b_1 = 2$

• **Small circular string with  $J_1 = J_2$  and  $J_3 \neq 0$**

$$X_1 = a e^{i(w\tau+\sigma)}, \quad X_2 = a e^{i(w\tau-\sigma)}, \quad X_3 = \sqrt{1-2a^2} e^{i\nu\tau},$$

$$\mathcal{E}_0^2 = \kappa^2 = 4a^2 + \nu^2 = \nu^2 + \frac{4\mathcal{J}'}{\sqrt{1+\nu^2}}, \quad w^2 = 1 + \nu^2,$$

$$\mathcal{J}' \equiv \mathcal{J}_1 = \mathcal{J}_2 = a^2 w, \quad \mathcal{J} \equiv \mathcal{J}_3 = \sqrt{1-2a^2} \nu$$

for  $\mathcal{J}' = \frac{J'}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \ll 1$ ,  $\mathcal{J} = \frac{J}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \ll 1$

$$E_0 = 2\sqrt{\sqrt{\lambda}J'} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \frac{J^2}{8J'} - \frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} \frac{J^4}{128J'^2} + \dots \right]$$

leading term in 1-loop correction expanded in

$\mathcal{J} = \frac{J}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \ll 1$  does not depend on  $J$  – has same value as for  $J = 0$

To get a state on the first excited string level  
we should choose  $J' = 1$ , i.e.  $J_1 = J_2 = 1$   
for minimal non-trivial value of  $J = J_3 = 2$   
there is unique corresponding state in Konishi multiplet table:  
 $[0, 1, 2]_{(0,0)}$  at level  $\Delta_0 = 6$  and thus

$$b_1 = 2 \left( \frac{J^2}{8J'} + \frac{1}{2} \right)_{J=2, J'=1} = 2$$

- **Small circular spinning string with  $S_1 = S_2$  and  $J \neq 0$**

rigid circular string with two equal spins in  $AdS^5$

and orbital momentum  $J = J_1$  in  $S^5$

$$\begin{aligned}
Y_0 + iY_5 &= \sqrt{1 + 2r^2} e^{i\kappa t}, & Y_1 + iY_2 &= r e^{i(w\tau + \sigma)}, & Y_3 + iY_4 &= r e^{i(w\tau - \sigma)}, \\
X_1 + iX_2 &= e^{i\nu\tau}, & w^2 &= \kappa^2 + 1, & \kappa^2(1 + 2r^2) &= 2r^2(1 + w^2) + \nu^2, \\
\mathcal{E}_0 &= (1 + 2r^2)\kappa = \kappa + \frac{2\kappa\mathcal{S}}{\sqrt{1 + \kappa^2}}, & \mathcal{S} &= \mathcal{S}_1 = \mathcal{S}_2 = r^2 w, & \mathcal{J} &= \nu.
\end{aligned}$$

“short” string expansion of the classical energy ( $E_0 = \sqrt{\lambda}\mathcal{E}_0$ ):

$$\mathcal{E}_0 = 2\sqrt{S} \left( 1 + S + \frac{J^2}{8S} + \dots \right)$$

including 1-loop correction:

$$E_0 + E_1 = 2\sqrt{\sqrt{\lambda}S} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \left( S + \frac{J^2}{8S} - \frac{1}{2} \right) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2}\right) \right]$$

the state on the first excited level associated to string

with two equal spins in  $AdS_5$

has two excited oscillators, i.e. should have  $S = S_1 = S_2 = 1$

for  $J = 2$  the dual state should be in representation  $[0, 2, 0]_{(1,0)}$

there is just one state in Konishi table with  $\Delta_0 = 6$

$$b_1 = 2 \left( S + \frac{J^2}{8S} - \frac{1}{2} \right)_{S=1, J=2} = 2$$



- Small circular spinning string with  $S = J_1$  and  $J_2 \neq 0$

rigid circular solution with one spin in  $AdS_5$  and one spin in  $S^5$   
and orbital momentum in  $S^5$

$$\begin{aligned}
 Y_0 + iY_5 &= \sqrt{1 + r^2} e^{i\kappa t}, & Y_1 + iY_2 &= r e^{i(w\tau + \sigma)}, & w^2 &= \kappa^2 + 1, \\
 X_1 + iX_2 &= a e^{i(w'\tau - \sigma)}, & X_3 + iX_4 &= \sqrt{1 - a^2} e^{i\nu\tau}, & w'^2 &= \nu^2 + 1, \\
 \mathcal{E}_0 &= 2\sqrt{S} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2}S + \frac{J_2^2}{8S} + \dots \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

The leading 1-loop correction to the energy vanishes  
(cancellation of AdS and sphere contributions)

$$E_0 + E_1 = 2\sqrt{\sqrt{\lambda}S} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \left( \frac{1}{2}S + \frac{J_2^2}{8S} \right) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2}\right) \right]$$

state on the first excited level:  $S = J_1 = 1$

for  $J_2 = 2$  get state  $[1, 1, 1]_{(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})}$  at  $\Delta_0 = 6$  level

$$b_1 = 2 \left( \frac{1}{2}S + \frac{J_2^2}{8S} \right)_{S=1, J_2=2} = 2$$

# Conclusions

- beginning of understanding quantum string spectrum in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  = spectrum of “short” SYM operators
- agreement with numerical prediction of TBA:  
non-trivial check of existing TBA equations at strong coupling
- observation of universality of some coefficients in strong coupling expansion of dimension for states on leading Regge trajectory
- need of systematic study of quantum string theory in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  in particular, in near flat space expansion

|                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| $\Delta_0$     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 2              | $[0, 0, 0]_{(0,0)}$                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| $\frac{5}{2}$  | $[0, 0, 1]_{(0, \frac{1}{2})} + [1, 0, 0]_{(\frac{1}{2}, 0)}$                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 3              | $[0, 0, 0]_{(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})} + [0, 0, 2]_{(0,0)} + [0, 1, 0]_{(0,1)+(1,0)} + [1, 0, 1]_{(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})} + [2, 0, 0]_{(0,0)}$                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| $\frac{7}{2}$  | $[0, 0, 1]_{(\frac{1}{2}, 0)+(\frac{1}{2}, 1)+(\frac{3}{2}, 0)} + [0, 1, 1]_{(0, \frac{1}{2})+(1, \frac{1}{2})} + [1, 0, 0]_{(0, \frac{1}{2})+(0, \frac{3}{2})+(1, \frac{1}{2})} + [1, 0, 2]_{(\frac{1}{2}, 0)}$<br>$+ [1, 1, 0]_{(\frac{1}{2}, 0)+(\frac{1}{2}, 1)} + [2, 0, 1]_{(0, \frac{1}{2})}$                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 4              | $[0, 0, 0]_{(0,0)+(0,2)+(1,1)+(2,0)} + [0, 0, 2]_{(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})+(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2})} + [0, 1, 0]_{2(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})+(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2})+(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2})} + [2, 0, 2]_{(0,0)}$<br>$+ [0, 1, 2]_{(1,0)} + [0, 2, 0]_{2(0,0)+(1,1)} + [1, 0, 1]_{(0,0)+2(0,1)+2(1,0)+(1,1)} + [1, 1, 1]_{2(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})} + [2, 0, 0]_{(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})}$                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 6              | $[0, 0, 0]_{3(0,0)+3(1,1)+(2,2)} + [0, 0, 2]_{3(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})+(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2})+(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2})+(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2})} + [0, 1, 0]_{4(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})+2(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2})+2(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2})+}$<br>$+ [0, 1, 2]_{(0,0)+2(0,1)+2(1,0)+(1,1)} + [0, 2, 0]_{3(0,0)+(0,1)+(0,2)+(1,0)+3(1,1)+(2,0)} + [0, 2, 2]_{(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})}$<br>$+ [0, 3, 0]_{2(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})} + [0, 4, 0]_{(0,0)} + [1, 0, 1]_{(0,0)+3(0,1)+3(1,0)+4(1,1)+(1,2)+(2,1)} + [1, 0, 3]_{(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})} + [0,$<br>$+ [1, 1, 1]_{4(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})+2(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2})+2(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2})} + [1, 2, 1]_{(0,0)+(0,1)+(1,0)} + [2, 0, 0]_{3(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})+(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2})+(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2})+(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2})}$<br>$+ [2, 0, 2]_{(0,0)+(1,1)} + [2, 1, 0]_{(0,0)+2(0,1)+2(1,0)+(1,1)} + [2, 2, 0]_{(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})} + [3, 0, 1]_{(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})} + [4, 0, 0]_{(0,0)}$ |
| $\frac{17}{2}$ | $[0, 0, 1]_{(0, \frac{1}{2})+(0, \frac{3}{2})+(1, \frac{1}{2})} + [0, 1, 1]_{(\frac{1}{2}, 0)+(\frac{1}{2}, 1)} + [1, 0, 0]_{(\frac{1}{2}, 0)+(\frac{1}{2}, 1)+(\frac{3}{2}, 0)} + [1, 0, 2]_{(0, \frac{1}{2})}$<br>$+ [1, 1, 0]_{(0, \frac{1}{2})+(1, \frac{1}{2})} + [2, 0, 1]_{(\frac{1}{2}, 0)}$                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 9              | $[0, 0, 0]_{(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})} + [0, 0, 2]_{(0,0)} + [0, 1, 0]_{(0,1)+(1,0)} + [1, 0, 1]_{(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})} + [2, 0, 0]_{(0,0)}$                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| $\frac{19}{2}$ | $[0, 0, 1]_{(\frac{1}{2}, 0)} + [1, 0, 0]_{(0, \frac{1}{2})}$                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 10             | $[0, 0, 0]_{(0,0)}$                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |