

# TWISTED TOOLS FOR (UNTWISTED) QUANTUM FIELD THEORY

YALE GEOMETRY, SYMMETRY  
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# OUTLINES AND PUNCHLINES 1/2

- Discuss ideas from formal deformation theory in QFT
  - ▶ Familiar example is Ocneanu rigidity of fusion categories
- QFTs have “higher” **multilinear  $k$ -ary operations** (“brackets”)

$$\{-, -, \dots, -\} \quad (1)$$

- ▶ Control: **deformations**, (generalized) **OPEs**, and **anomalies**
  - ▶  $\infty$ -algebras, factorization algebras, and operads
- Familiar to high energy physicists and mathematicians who have studied twisted SQFTs (descent relations)
  - ▶ Not limited to twisted scenarios
- Can go very far in the case of (mixed) Holomorphic and/or Topological (HT) theories

## OUTLINES AND PUNCHLINES 2/2

- I. Introduce the eta-function and higher brackets
- II. Computing the eta-function and generalizations
- III. Holomorphic-Topological diagrams and integrals
- IV. A non-renormalization theorem for HT theories
- V. Applications to SQFTs

### Three Takeaways

1.  $\eta$ -vector exists and contains anomalies/OPEs/more
2.  $\eta$ -vector is computable, especially in HT scenarios
3. Non-renormalization theorem for HT theories

# THE $\eta$ -FUNCTION

# DEFORMATIONS OF QFTs

- Given a QFT  $T$ , it can be deformed by turning on interactions

$$S_T + \sum_i g^i \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \mathcal{O}_i(x) d^d x \quad (2)$$

- ▶  $g^i$  are coordinates on theory space
- ▶ Work perturbatively in couplings  $g^i$
- Defines a **formal pointed neighbourhood**  $\mathcal{D}[T]$  of  $T$ , consisting of all effective QFTs obtained by perturbative deformation of  $T$ 
  - ▶ Pointed because there is a distinguished point, called  $T$ .
  - ▶ Formal because we only consider deformations in an infinitesimal nbd of  $T$  (we are not at finite coupling).
  - ▶ Think of formal/infinitesimal as synonym for “perturbative”

# THE BETA FUNCTION

- Generic QFT (point) is not scale invariant
  - ▶ Scale transformation on  $T$  is traded for a change of the couplings e.g. integrating out DoF modifies couplings
- We encode infinitesimal scale transformations in vector field on theory space, the **beta function**

$$\beta = \sum_i \beta^i(g) \frac{\partial}{\partial g^i} \quad (3)$$

- ▶ Perturb around (typically free) scale-invariant theory,  $\beta = 0$
- ▶ Deformations of  $T$  preserving scale invariance are zeroes of  $\beta$
- The coefficients  $\beta^i(g)$  are power series in  $g$

$$\beta^i(g) = \underbrace{(d - \Delta_i)}_{\text{Classical}} g^i + O(g^2) \quad (4)$$

- ▶ Tune relevant terms to 0 and study  $\beta$  as a measure of scale generated by “quantum effects”

# THE BV-BRST FORMALISM 1/2

- Quantization of non-abelian gauge theories is hard: formulated redundantly in exchange for other properties

$$Z = \int [DAD\bar{\psi}D\psi] e^{-S[A,\bar{\psi},\psi]} =: \int [D\Phi] e^{-S[\Phi]}, \quad (5)$$

- ▶ Introduce a gauge fixing procedure and Fadeev-Popov ghosts  $b$  and  $c$

$$Z = \int [D\Phi DB_A db_A dc^\alpha] e^{-S[\Phi] + iB_A F^A[\Phi] - b_A c^\alpha \delta_\alpha F^A[\Phi]} \quad (6)$$

- Gauge fixed action still has residual nilpotent odd global symmetry involving fields and ghosts, called **BRST symmetry**.

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{\text{BRST}} \Phi &= -i\epsilon c^\alpha \delta_\alpha \Phi, & \delta_{\text{BRST}} B_A &= 0, \\ \delta_{\text{BRST}} c^\alpha &= \frac{i}{2} \epsilon f_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha c^\beta c^\gamma, & \delta_{\text{BRST}} b_A &= \epsilon B_A, \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

- ▶ Physical theory can be identified with  $Q_{\text{BRST}}$ -cohomology

## THE BV-BRST FORMALISM 2/2

### ■ Focus on theories defined in BV-BRST formalism:

- ▶  $T$  is embedded in a bigger ambient theory  $\tilde{T}$  with ghosts, anti-ghosts, anti-fields, etc.
- ▶ Grassmann odd nilpotent symmetry  $Q_{\text{BRST}}$
- ▶ Observables in  $T$  are recovered from  $\tilde{T}$  by taking  $Q_{\text{BRST}}$  coho

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Ops}_T &= (\text{Ops}_{\tilde{T}}, Q_{\text{BRST}}) \\ \text{Int}_T &= (\text{Ops}_{\tilde{T}}[dx], d + Q_{\text{BRST}})\end{aligned}\tag{8}$$

### ■ i.e. we will work in BV formalism

- ▶ Essential to quantizing  $p$ -form gauge theories, theories which only close on-shell, field-dependent structure constants, or theories with other complicated constraints
- ▶ Not restricted to such complicated theories either



# THE ETA FUNCTION

- Can compute analog of  $\beta$  for any type of transformation.
  - Ex. Non-relativistic scale transformations  $(t, x) \mapsto (\lambda^z t, \lambda x)$
  - Ex. Anomalous axial transformation on  $\theta$  angle in gauge theory
- Consider  $T \hookrightarrow (\tilde{T}, Q_{\text{BRST}})$  described in a BRST formalism in terms of ambient  $\tilde{T}$ 
  - ▶ To deform  $T$ , we deform  $\tilde{T}$  without breaking BRST symmetry
  - ▶ Consider deformations of  $\tilde{T}$  with Grassmann odd couplings, non-trivial ghost number, etc. This is a formal pointed dg-supermanifold  $\mathcal{D}[\tilde{T}]$ .
- BRST symmetry will be encoded in a vector field

$$\eta = \sum_i \eta^i(g) \frac{\partial}{\partial g^i} \quad (9)$$

- ▶ Linear term tells us if adding an interaction  $\mathcal{I}$  explicitly/classically violates BRST symmetry
- ▶ Higher order terms do so “quantum mechanically”

# HIGHER ALGEBRA

- Since  $Q^2 = 0$ , the eta function  $\eta^2 = 0$ .
  - ▶ Wess-Zumino consistency condition for BRST symmetry
  - ▶ Gives **quadratic constraints** on coefficient functions  $\eta^i(g)$

$$\eta^i(g) = \sum_{n>0} \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{j_1 \dots j_n} \eta_{j_1 \dots j_n}^i g^{j_1} \dots g^{j_n} \quad (10)$$

- Define the following multilinear operation  $\text{Int}^{\otimes n} \rightarrow \text{Int}$

$$\{g^{j_1} \mathcal{I}_{j_1}, \dots, g^{j_n} \mathcal{I}_{j_n}\} = \eta_{j_1 \dots j_n}^i g^{j_1} \dots g^{j_n} \mathcal{I}_i \quad (11)$$

- ▶ The BRST variation becomes

$$\eta \mathcal{I} = \{\mathcal{I}\} + \frac{1}{2!} \{\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{I}\} + \frac{1}{3!} \{\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{I}, \mathcal{I}\} + \dots \quad (12)$$

$\eta^2 = 0 \iff$  The coefficients  $\eta_{j_1 \dots j_n}^i$  and brackets  $\{\cdot, \dots, \cdot\}$  define an  $L_\infty[1]$ -**algebra** structure on  $\text{In}$ .

# $\eta$ -FUNCTION CALCULATIONS AND DATA

# BASIC ETA-FUNCTION CALCULATION - GENERAL 1/2

- $\eta$  is not just abstract fun, it is computable fun
- Correlation functions of  $T$  deformed by  $\mathcal{I}$  are correlation functions of  $T$  with additional insertions

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_1(x_1) \cdots \mathcal{O}_n(x_n) \rangle_{T+\mathcal{I}} = \left\langle \mathcal{O}_1(x_1) \cdots \mathcal{O}_n(x_n) e^{g \int d^d x \mathcal{I}} \right\rangle_T \quad (13)$$

- ▶ At **linear order**, the BRST anomaly generated by  $\mathcal{I}_i$  is just

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} [Q, \mathcal{I}_i]. \quad (14)$$

- ▶ Write

$$[Q, \mathcal{I}_i] = \sum_j \eta_i^j \mathcal{I}_j + d\mathcal{J}_i \quad (15)$$

- In perturbation theory, higher order terms

$$O(g^n) \sim \int_{\mathbb{R}^{dn}} \mathcal{I}(y_1) \cdots \mathcal{I}(y_n) \quad (16)$$

- ▶ Need **regularization** to avoid UV divergences from colliding  $\mathcal{I}$

## BASIC ETA-FUNCTION CALCULATION - GENERAL 2/2

- E.g. at  $O(g^2)$  we can regularize the deformation to

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} f_\epsilon^{(2)}(x_1, x_2) \mathcal{I}(x_1) \mathcal{I}(x_2) \quad (17)$$

- Now we can compute

$$\left[ Q, \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} f_\epsilon^{(2)}(x_1, x_2) \mathcal{I}(x_1) \mathcal{I}(x_2) \right] \Big|_{d\mathcal{J}} \quad (18)$$

$$= - \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} df_\epsilon^{(2)}(x_1, x_2) (\mathcal{I}(x_1) \mathcal{J}(x_2) + \mathcal{J}(x_1) \mathcal{I}(x_2)) \quad (19)$$

- With a sharp cutoff (**point-splitting**) this becomes

$$\{\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{I}\}(x_2) \stackrel{\text{Sharp Cutoff}}{=} \int_{|x_{12}|=\epsilon} \mathcal{I}(x_1) \mathcal{J}(x_2) + \mathcal{J}(x_1) \mathcal{I}(x_2) \quad (20)$$

- ▶ Anomaly appears in point-splitting regularization because total derivative terms give a boundary contribution.

# BASIC ETA-FUNCTION CALCULATION - CONCRETE 1/2

- 2d  $S_{\text{Matter}}$  with  $G$  global symmetry and  $G$  gauge theory

$$S_T = -\frac{1}{4} \int d^2x F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + S_{\text{Matter}} \quad (21)$$

Ex. Free fermions with vector current  $J_a^\mu = \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu t_a \psi$ .

- ▶ Study the **interaction**  $\mathcal{I} = A_\mu J^\mu$

- Add ghost and auxiliary fields  $T \hookrightarrow (\tilde{T}, Q)$

- ▶ BRST transformation of  $\mathcal{I}$  gives:

$$\delta_{\text{BRST}}(A_\mu J^\mu) = (\epsilon D_\mu c) J^\mu + A_\mu (i\epsilon g c J^\mu) = \epsilon \partial_\mu c J^\mu, \quad (22)$$

- ▶ See  $\mathcal{I}$  is BRST-closed up to total derivative  $\mathcal{J} = cJ$
- ▶ Term can potentially cause BRST anomaly

## BASIC ETA-FUNCTION CALCULATION - CONCRETE 2/2

- The two-bracket receives a contribution from the 2d  $JJ$  OPE:

$$\begin{aligned}\{\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{I}\}(x_2) &= \int_{|x_{12}|=\epsilon} :AJ:(x_1) :cJ:(x_2) + :cJ:(x_1) :AJ:(x_2) \\ &= \oint_{S_{x_2}^1} (:A(x_1)c(x_2): + :c(x_1)A(x_2):) \langle J(x_1)J(x_2) \rangle \\ &= \# :c dA: (x_2).\end{aligned}\tag{23}$$

- ▶ We use  $JJ \sim |x_{12}|^{-2}$ , Taylor expanded, and integrated by parts
- ▶  $\#$  denotes combinatorial and rep-theoretic factors

- Recover well-known **1-loop anomaly for  $G$ -gauge theory**

$$\{A_\mu J^\mu, A_\nu J^\nu\} = \# cF_{12}.\tag{24}$$

- ▶ In  $2k$ -dim, you recover anomaly from  $(k+1)$ -ary bracket

# PERTURBATIVE CORRECTIONS TO $Q$

- Callan-Symanzik equation says renormalized correlators are independent of (arbitrary) renormalization scale  $\mu$ :

$$\mu \frac{d}{d\mu} G^{(n)} = \left( \mu \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} + \beta + \gamma \right) G^{(n)} = 0 \quad (25)$$

- For BRST symmetry, we have  $\mathcal{L}_\eta$ . Nilpotency implies:

$$\mathcal{L}_\eta^2 = \{\eta, \mathbf{Q}\} + \mathbf{Q}^2 = 0 \quad (26)$$

- ▶ Coefficients  $Q^i(g)$  of  $Q$  can be identified as coefficients for multilinear operations  $\text{Int}^{\otimes n} \otimes \text{Op} \rightarrow \text{Op}$
- ▶ Local operators have a (right)  $L_\infty$ -module structure

$$Q\mathcal{O} = \{\mathcal{O}\} + \{\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{O}\} + \frac{1}{2}\{\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{I}, \mathcal{O}\} + \dots \quad (27)$$

- Can systematically compute corrections to “semi-chiral ring” in SUSY Twists



# RECAP AND FURTHER CONNECTIONS

## ■ Recap:

- ▶ Deformations are integral to our understanding of QFT
- ▶ Working in a BV-BRST formalism, we can introduce  $\eta$  that tracks violation of BRST symmetry due to interactions
- ▶  $\eta$  defines an  $L_\infty$ -algebra on interactions and Maurer-Cartan equation is solved by well-defined deformations
- ▶  $\eta$  contains useful information like anomalies

## ■ Descent operations in twisted theories

- ▶ Higher brackets appear by colliding/integrating descendants
- ▶ E.g. OPE and secondary product of cohomological TFTs is a 2-ary bracket
- ▶ [Bomans, Wu] compute higher-central charges ( $a$  and  $c$ ) of 4d SUSY gauge theories from brackets

# GENERALIZATIONS

- Can consider **position dependent interactions**: causes momentum-inflow  $p^i$  at each vertex

- ▶  $L_\infty$ -brackets extended to  $\otimes_i \text{In}_{p^{(i)}} \rightarrow \text{In}_{\sum_i p^{(i)}}$

- ▶ Momentum-coloured operad

$$\{\mathcal{I}_{i_1 p^{(1)}} \mathcal{I}_{i_2 p^{(2)}} \cdots_{p^{(n-1)}} \mathcal{I}_{i_n}\} \quad (28)$$

- Distinguished subcase: holomorphic theories with holomorphic momentum  $\lambda$  recovers  $\lambda$ -brackets and higher  $n$ -Lie or homotopy conformal algebras

- **Auxiliary and defect systems**: the brackets of  $T \times T_{\text{probe}}$  extract information about  $T$

- Ex. 't Hooft anomaly of  $S_{\text{Matter}}$  is apparent in the non-trivial bracket when coupled to  $G$ -gauge theory  $T_{\text{probe}}$

- Ex. If  $T$  is topological QM, brackets of  $T$  recover Moyal commutator. Brackets with an auxiliary fermion recovers full Moyal-star product. 1d-topological defect brackets have  $A_\infty$ .

# **HOLOMORPHIC-TOPOLOGICAL THEORIES**

# HOLOMORPHIC-TOPOLOGICAL THEORIES

- **“Holomorphic-Topological”** means flat spacetime has structure of  $\mathbb{C}^H \times \mathbb{R}^T$  with coords  $(x^{\mathbb{C}}, \bar{x}^{\mathbb{C}}, x^{\mathbb{R}})$ 
  - ▶ Anti-holomorphic translations in  $\mathbb{C}^H$  and translations in  $\mathbb{R}^T$  are gauge symmetries ( $Q_{\text{BRST}}$ -exact)
  - ▶ Interested in theories with action

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^H \times \mathbb{R}^T} [(\Phi, d\Phi) + \mathcal{I}(\Phi)] d^H x^{\mathbb{C}} \quad (29)$$

- ▶  $\Phi$  is a “superfield,” and  $dx^{\mathbb{R}}$  and  $d\bar{x}^{\mathbb{C}}$  are “superspace coordinates” (form-valued fields are superfields).
- Appears in holomorphic-topological twists of SUSY theories.
- In free theory, BRST closed superfields satisfy descent:

$$Q\mathcal{O} + d\mathcal{O} = 0 \quad (30)$$

- ▶ Interaction  $\mathcal{I}(\Phi)$  is BRST-closed up to total derivative.

# HOLOMORPHIC-TOPOLOGICAL INTEGRALS

- In such theories, we will be interested in brackets of the form

$$\{\mathcal{O}_1 \lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_{n-1} \mathcal{O}_n\} \quad (31)$$

- The **Feynman integrals** that contribute will take the form:

$$I_\Gamma(\lambda; z) = \int_{\mathcal{M}^{|\Gamma_0|-1}} \left[ \prod_{v \in \Gamma_0}^{v \neq v_*} d\text{Vol}_v e^{\lambda_v \cdot x_v^{\mathbb{C}}} \right] d \left[ \prod_{e \in \Gamma_1} P_\epsilon(x_{e(0)} - x_{e(1)} + z_e) \right]$$

- Let's count the form degree of the integrand:
  - ▶ (Regulated) propagator  $P_\epsilon$  is an  $(H + T - 1)$ -form
  - ▶  $(H + T) \times (|\Gamma_0| - 1)$  integration variables: one for each vertex of graph, and throw one vertex away by translation symmetry.
  - ▶  $(|\Gamma_1| - 1)$  regulated propagators and one  $(H + T)$ -form cut propagator  $dP_\epsilon(x)$

# HOLOMORPHIC-TOPOLOGICAL FEYNMAN DIAGRAMS

- Non-vanishing Feynman diagrams are ***n*-Laman graphs**

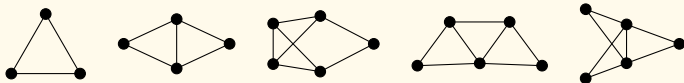
- ▶ **Global Constraint**

$$n|\Gamma_0| = (n - 1)|\Gamma_1| + n + 1 \quad (32)$$

- ▶ **Local Constraint** For subgraphs  $\Gamma[S]$

$$n|\Gamma[S]_0| \geq (n - 1)|\Gamma[S]_1| + n + 1 \quad (33)$$

- ▶ In particular,  $n = H + T$ .



- Call a graph “almost *n*-Laman” of degree  $\tau(\Gamma)$  if

$$n|\Gamma_0| = (n - 1)|\Gamma_1| + n + 1 + \tau(\Gamma) \quad (34)$$

# QUADRATIC IDENTITIES

- $I_{\Gamma}(\lambda; z)$  has a number of symmetries/identities: symmetries from the graph, and under shifts of  $z_e$ .
- Feynman integrals (more generally diagrams) satisfy infinite collections of (geometric) **quadratic identities** associated to each degree-1 almost-Laman graph:

$$\sum_{\text{Laman } S} \sigma(\Gamma, S) I_{\Gamma[S]}(\lambda + \partial; z) \cdot I_{\Gamma(S)}(\lambda; z) = 0. \quad (35)$$

- ▶ Identities imply (higher)-associativity of the accompanying brackets in a diagram-by-diagram way
- ▶ Can **bootstrap** all Feynman integrals from these identities?

# A NON-RENORMALIZATION THEOREM 1/2

- Many interesting scenarios with mixed  $HT$  degree.  
Ex. (1+1)d holomorphic boundary of a (2+1)d TFT  
Useful to “forget” some of the structure of the bulk TFT.
- Trade  $T = 2$  top. directions for an  $H = 1$  holo. direction
  - ▶ Topological superfield  $\Phi$  splits into two fields in the holomorphic theory, a  $(0, *)$ -form and a  $(1, *)$ -part:

$$\Phi = \Phi^{(0)} + \Phi^{(1)} dz. \quad (36)$$

- ▶ Topological superfield condition also splits

$$(Q + d_{\text{top}})\Phi = (Q + d_{\text{Holo}})\Phi + \partial\Phi = 0. \quad (37)$$

- $\partial\Phi$  term is now interpreted as a BRST anomaly due to the holomorphic part of the kinetic term
  - ▶ i.e. all top. theory calculations are replaced by calculations in identical holo. theory with extra  $(\Phi, \partial\Phi)$  interaction



# A NON-RENORMALIZATION THEOREM 2/2

- Consider a calculation in  $(H, T \geq 2)$ 
  - ▶ Convert to an equivalent calculation in  $(H + 1, T - 2)$ -theory

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (H, T \geq 2)\text{-theory} & \rightsquigarrow & (H + 1, T - 2)\text{-theory} \\ \Gamma & & \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots\} \end{array} \quad (38)$$

- ▶  $\gamma_i$  will correspond  $\Gamma$  with edges  $e_i \in \Gamma_1$  broken into chains of edges  $\{f_{i,1}, \dots, f_{i,m}\}$  in all possible ways
  - ▶ Each vertex has “two-point interaction”  $(\Phi, \partial\Phi)$
  - ▶ Each  $\gamma_i$  has  $|\Gamma_1| + k$  edges and  $|\Gamma_0| + k$  vertices for some  $k \geq 0$ .
- If  $\gamma_i$  are non-vanishing, they must be  $(n - 1)$ -Laman graphs.
  - ▶ Putting the two conditions together,  $\Gamma$  must be a tree for non-vanishing contribution

## Non-Renormalization Theorem

All loop graphs in  $(H, T \geq 2)$ -theories must vanish.

# APPLICATIONS TO SQFTS

# SUSY AND THE SEMI-CHIRAL RING

- **Supersymmetry** enhances Poincaré symmetry

$$\{Q_\alpha^A, \bar{Q}_{\dot{\beta}B}\} = \delta_B^A P_{\alpha\dot{\beta}}, \quad (39)$$

$$\{Q_\alpha^A, Q_\beta^B\} = \{\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}A}, \bar{Q}_{\dot{\beta}B}\} = 0. \quad (40)$$

- ▶ In Euclidean signature,  $\text{Spin}(4) \cong SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$
- ▶  $Q_\alpha$  and  $\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}$  are two-component spinors

- Pick some supercharge  $Q = Q_-$

- ▶ The **semi-chiral ring** of  $Q$  consists of all  $Q$ -invariant operators

$$[Q, \mathcal{O}] = 0 \quad (41)$$

- ▶ If SUSY isn't broken (so that  $Q|0\rangle = 0$ ), then a product of  $Q$ -invariant operators satisfies

$$\langle (\mathcal{O} + [Q, \Lambda]) \cdots \rangle = \langle \mathcal{O} \cdots \rangle + \langle [Q, \Lambda \cdots] \rangle = \langle \mathcal{O} \cdots \rangle, \quad (42)$$

So doesn't care about operators modulo  $\mathcal{O} \sim \mathcal{O} + [Q, \Lambda]$ .

# FROM SUSY TO THE HOLOMORPHIC TWIST

- Given any SQFT, we obtain the **Holomorphic Twist** by taking **cohomology** of any one nilpotent supercharge, e.g.  $Q := Q_-$

$$Q^2 = 0, \quad Q\text{-Closed: } [Q, \mathcal{O}] = 0, \quad Q\text{-Exact: } [Q, \Lambda], \quad (43)$$

- ▶ Most available & least forgetful twist: only needs  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  SUSY.
  - ▶ Cohomology isolates the semi-chiral ring
- Anti-holomorphic translations are  $Q$ -exact, so twisted theory is (cohomologically) **holomorphic**

$$\{Q, \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}\} = \partial_{\bar{z}^{\dot{\alpha}}} \quad (44)$$

- Operators captured by holomorphic twist are those counted by the **superconformal index** [Saber, Williams], [Raghavendran]

$$\mathcal{I} = \text{Tr}(-1)^F p^{j_1+j_2-r/2} q^{j_1-j_2-r/2} e^{-\beta\{Q_-, S_+\}} \quad (45)$$

# TWISTING $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SYM

- $\mathcal{N} = 1$  SYM is  $SU(N)$  gauge theory with an adjoint fermion

$$\mathcal{L} = \int d^2\theta \frac{-i}{8\pi} \tau \operatorname{tr} W_\alpha W^\alpha + \text{c.c.} \quad (46)$$

- Twist is identified (in a non-trivial way) with a **holomorphic bc system**

- ▶ Fields are collected in adjoint bosonic superfield  $b$  and (co)adjoint fermionic superfield  $c$ .

- The Lagrangian of this theory is

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{twisted}} = \operatorname{Tr} b \left( \bar{\partial} c - \frac{1}{2} [c, c] \right) + \tau \operatorname{Tr} \partial_\alpha c \partial^\alpha c. \quad (47)$$

- ▶ Free cohomology

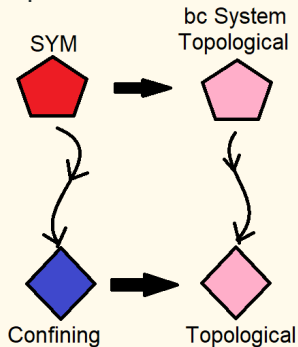
$$\mathbb{C}[b, \partial_\alpha b, \partial_\alpha \partial_\beta b, \dots, \partial_\alpha c, \partial_\alpha \partial_\beta c, \dots]^G \quad (48)$$

- ▶ Derivative of the stress tensor is  $\partial_\alpha S^\alpha = \partial_\alpha b_A \partial^\alpha c^A$ .

# HOLOMORPHIC CONFINEMENT

- $\partial_\alpha S^\alpha$  generates (among other things) all the remaining spacetime symmetries (e.g. holo. translations/rotations).
- Adding **one loop corrections**, we find  $\partial_\alpha S^\alpha = Q \text{Tr } b^2$ 
  - ▶ Exactness of  $\partial_\alpha S^\alpha$  means local operators are invariant under remaining spacetime transformations.
  - ▶ Theory becomes **topological** at one loop!

- Being topological is compatible with **confinement**: if topological in the UV, then topological in the IR.
  - ▶ Constrains IR physics: the holomorphic twist of the IR must also be topological.
  - ▶ We call this **Holomorphic Confinement** [Budzik, Gaiotto, JK, Williams, Wu, Yu]



# FINAL RECAP

# RECAP

- I. Introduced  **$\eta$ -function**; interactions have  $L_\infty$ -algebra structure, tracks violation of BRST symmetry by interactions
- II.  $\eta$ -function contains familiar data like anomaly data, and briefly discussed the relation to twisted SQFTs
- III. Introduced holomorphic-topological theories, and showed brackets are very strongly constrained (**Laman graphs**)
- IV. Laman graphs prove associativity relations, and no perturbative corrections when  $T \geq 2$  topological directions.
- V. Application to Super-Yang Mills and “**holomorphic confinement**”

## Three Takeaways

1.  $\eta$ -vector exists and contains anomalies/OPEs/more
2.  $\eta$ -vector is computable, especially in HT scenarios
3. Non-renormalization theorem for HT theories



**FIN**