

# One Loop Energy of Short Strings on $AdS_5 \times S^5$

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# Outline

Introduction

Wrapping and short operators

Semiclassical Strings

Folded string in  $AdS_3$

Pulsating String in  $R \times S^2$

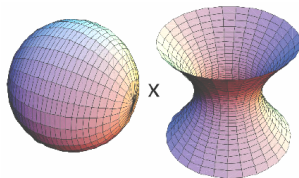
Bohr-Sommerfeld-Maslov quantisation

Single-gap Lamé operators

Results and comments

# The very beginning: $AdS_5 \times S^5 - \mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

Maldacena's conjecture states the equivalence *II B* string on  $AdS_5 \times S^5 - \mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM - Provided the Gauge/String coupling relation  $\frac{4\pi\lambda}{N_c} \equiv g_s$ .



$$\lambda = N_c g_{SYM}^2$$

First hint: symmetries

Isometries of  $AdS_5 \times S^5$ :  $SO(4,2) \times SO(6)$   
bosonic part of  $PSU(2,2|4)$   $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM

States on both sides of the duality labelled by the eigenvalues of the Casimir  $SO(4,2) \times SO(6)$ :  $[E = \Delta, S_1, S_2, J_1, J_2, J_3]$  (first three  $SO(4,2)$ , the others  $SO(6)$ )

The Basic Prediction of the conjecture: Energy of a string state  $E \Leftrightarrow \Delta$  eigenvalue of the Dil. operator (scaling dimensions) for the dual gauge  $O$  in  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM

$$E(g_s, \frac{R^2}{\alpha'}) = \Delta(\lambda, \frac{1}{N_c})$$

**Weak-Strong duality ... Difficult to test!**

# Large $N_c$ Limit, BPS, almost BPS

First simplification: Large  $N_c$  limit ( $\frac{4\pi\lambda}{N_c} \equiv g_s$ )  $N_c \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $g_s \rightarrow 0$ , free String theory (the topology of the worldsheet is a cylinder) and planar gauge theory (only single trace gauge invariant operators)



**Still difficult** ... we have some perturbative understanding of the two sides in opposite regimes

- String theory  $\sqrt{\lambda} = \frac{R^2}{\alpha'} = (\text{NL } \sigma\text{-model coupling})^{-1} \gg 1$
- Gauge theory  $\lambda = g_{YM}^2 N_c \ll 1$

An exception: BPS states ( $\text{Tr} Z^L$ ): susy protected, trivial  $\lambda$  dependence, easy to check the correspondence

**The Next step: Not BPS but Near to BPS ...**

# Almost BPS and Far from BPS

BMN or diluted limit: The idea is to take some state with large charge “ $J$ ”- almost BPS with impurity: the relevant quantity is an “effective” coupling  $\lambda' = \lambda/J^2$ ;  $\sigma$ -model corrections are suppressed.

$$\text{Tr}(\underbrace{Z \dots Z X Z \dots Z}_J)$$



Dual String state almost pointlike, rotating along a big circle with large angular momentum  $J$  in  $S^5$

$$J, N_c \rightarrow \infty \quad \frac{J}{N} \text{ fixed} \quad \lambda' = \frac{\lambda}{J^2} \text{ fixed} \quad E - J \text{ and } \Delta - J \text{ fixed}$$

BMN suggests: Simple solutions in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  duals of “long” SYM

**Generalise to far from BPS states: (more “impurities”), but still some large charge**

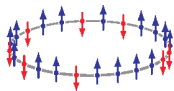
More complete dictionary between “simple” gauge theory operators and “simple”, macroscopic solitonic string solutions.

If both string energies and scaling dimensions can be doubly expanded in  $\lambda/J^2$  and  $1/J$ , we have a chance to compute both expansion and compare!

# How to compute? Bethe Ansatz & Integrability

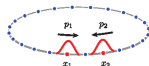
$\Delta$ : class. dim.  $\Delta_0$  + anomalous  $\Delta(g)$  ... diagonalisation  $\mathcal{D}$  ?

Planar, 1-loop  $\mathcal{D}$  on  $\mathfrak{so}(6)$  single trace operators  $\equiv$  (generalised) Spin chain Hamiltonian  $\mathcal{H}$



$$\text{Tr}(ZZWZZWZWZZWZZZZWWWZZZZWZW)$$

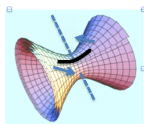
Simple Integrable system: Algebraic Bethe Ansatz to solve! Based on the analysis of the scattering of elementary excitations along the chain. **Integrable system**  $\equiv$  factorizable  $S$ -matrix



$$S(2 \rightarrow 2) \Rightarrow S(n \rightarrow n)$$

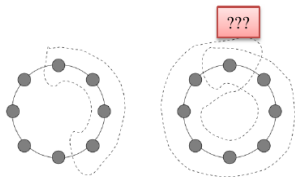
Fully generalised to the complete  $\mathfrak{psu}(2,2|4)$  algebra  
All loop **Asymptotic** Bethe Ansatz Equations  
Integrability links the two sides of AdS/CFT and test it!

$$\text{Tr } \Phi D_+^S \Phi \quad 0 < \lambda < \infty$$



fast rotation

# Wrapping Corrections

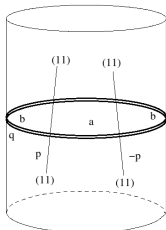


**ABA equations are correct only for  $L$  large!**

Finite size corrections associated to the “wrapping interactions”: the interaction range increases with the loop order ... at some point ( $g^{2L}$ ) interaction “overlaps”. Bethe ansatz is scattering based ... needs asymptotic states

Exp. suppressed with the size of the chain

Gauge/spin chain description  $\longleftrightarrow$  String theory/ $\sigma$ -model



QFT: virtual particles propagating and scattering around the cylinder:

Using Lüscher formulae  $\Rightarrow$  LO & NLO ( $g$ ) finite size corrections.

Applied to AdS/CFT: wrapping for Konishi

**Very hard to generalize to generic states ( $S$ -matrix, bound states ...)**

# TBA, Y and T

## Thermodynamical Bethe Ansatz

On the “string side”: The spectrum of the theory at finite volume can be computed through thermodynamic quantities in a “mirror model” with large volume techniques at finite temperature

Trick: Double Wick rotation  $\Rightarrow$   
thermodynamics  $\Rightarrow$  Put the theory on torus  
 $R \gg L \Rightarrow$  Find the free energy in the infinite volume but finite temperature  $\Rightarrow$  Switch the meaning of time and space directions on the torus  $\Rightarrow$  interpret the free energy as the ground state in finite volume  $L = \frac{1}{T}$



$$Z = \sum_n e^{-E_n(R)T} = \sum_n e^{-E_n^{\text{mirror}}(T)R}$$

*AdS/CFT*: The mirror theory is not equivalent to the original one (light cone gauge!)



# Y/T-system

For integrable models TBA equations are related to universal Y-system


Set of functional equations for functions  $Y_{a,s}(u)$

$$\frac{Y_{a,s}^+ Y_{a,s}^-}{Y_{a+1,s} Y_{a-1,s}} = \frac{(1 + Y_{a,s+1})(1 + Y_{a,s-1})}{(1 + Y_{a+1,s})(1 + Y_{a-1,s})}$$

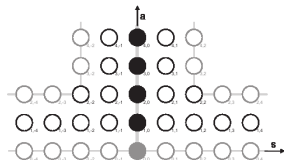
Y-system  $\equiv$  Hirota bilinear equation

$$T_{a,s}^+ T_{a,s}^- = T_{a+1,s} T_{a-1,s} + T_{a,s+1} T_{a,s-1}$$

$$Y_{a,s} = \frac{T_{a,s+1} T_{a,s-1}}{T_{a+1,s} T_{a-1,s}}$$

"T" lattice for  $\mathfrak{psu}(2, 2|4)$  

$T_{a,s}(u)$  defined on



Solution of the Y-system  $\Rightarrow E_{gs}$  (can be extended to excited states!)

$$E = \sum_j \varepsilon_1(u_{4,j}) + \sum_{a=1}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{du}{2\pi i} \frac{\partial \varepsilon_a^*}{\partial u} \log(1 + Y_{a,0}^*(u))$$

# ... is the problem solved?

Not so easy ...  $Y$ -system in principle describes the anomalous dimensions of **any** physical operator at **any** coupling ... but

Very difficult to extract information from the TBA/ $Y$ -system

## Weak Coupling

- Konishi LO and NLO Wrapping from  $Y$  (OK with Luscher, and explicit diagrammatic)
- 4-loop  $\Delta_w^{(8)} = 324 + 864\zeta(3) - 1440\zeta(5) + 5$ -loop order  
 $\Delta_w^{(10)} = -11340 + 2592\zeta(3) - 5184\zeta(3)^2 - 11520\zeta(5) + 30240\zeta(7)$
- Very few other results for the  $\beta$ -deformed SYM, and some orbifold

## Strong Coupling

**Strong coupling  $Y$ -system seems very hard to handle ...**

Only few numerical results ... Given a short operator  $(\text{Tr} \Phi \mathcal{D}_+^S \Phi)$  ... which is the dual string state? How can we compute  $\Delta$  at strong coupling?

# back to earth: semiclassical strings

What can we do in the strong coupling limit?

The quantisation of the Mestaev-Tseytlin string action still is a hard (and unsolved) problem ... but classical string solutions are known!

This is already non trivial! The integrability of the classical model is the key!

Idea: Short operators  $\leftrightarrow$  Short Strings

... Take a classical solution, and try semiclassical quantisation

- Not rigorous, without pretending generality
- The hope is that of providing some “useful” hint on the structure of anomalous dimension at strong coupling analysing some “simple” classical solution

Two methods: **Using “standard” QFT techniques:**

- Not “explicitly” based on classical integrability of the string sigma model ... (but integrability will appear! at the one-loop level integrable finite gap Lamé equation)

**Algebraic curve:** Alternative approach, more formal, integrability based

# Semiclassical Expansion

- Semiclassical strings are defined in the limit of “large” charges
- The charge essentially measures the length of the string:  
e.g. rotating string, the rotation (angular momentum) balances the contracting effect of the string tension
- We will consider simple cases, only one charge different from zero

**We want short strings  $\Rightarrow$  Small charges!**

We may expand at large  $\lambda$  with  $J = \frac{J}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$  fixed, (the semiclassical string limit) and re-expand *then* in the limit  $J \ll 1$ , i.e.  $J \ll \sqrt{\lambda}$

$$\mathcal{E}_k = \sqrt{J} [a_{0,k} + a_{1,k}J + a_{2,k}J^2 + \dots], \quad k = \text{loop order}$$

$$E = \sqrt{\sqrt{\lambda} J} \left[ a_{0,0} + \frac{a_{1,0}J + a_{0,1}}{\sqrt{\lambda}} + \frac{a_{2,0}J^2 + a_{1,1}J + a_{0,2}}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} + \dots \right]$$

$\sim$  near flat space expansion  $E(\sqrt{\lambda}, J) = 2\sqrt{n-1} \lambda^{1/4} + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{b_k}{(\lambda^{1/4})^k}$

**The same structure! Not rigorous ... but promising**

# Set up: Metsaev-Tseytlin Action I

For quadratic fluctuations we can consider the reduced action

$$I = -\frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{2\pi} \int d^2\xi [\mathcal{L}_B + \mathcal{L}_F], \quad \sqrt{\lambda} = \frac{R^2}{\alpha'}.$$

The bosonic Lagrangian is

$$\mathcal{L}_B = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{-g} g^{ab} \left[ G_{mn}^{(AdS_5)}(X) \partial_a X^m \partial_b X^n + G_{m'n'}^{(S^5)}(Y) \partial_a Y^{m'} \partial_b Y^{n'} \right].$$

We take  $\xi^a = (\tau, \sigma)$  with periodicity in  $\sigma$ . The metric on  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  is as usual

$$\begin{aligned} ds_{AdS_5}^2 &= d\rho^2 - \cosh^2 \rho dt^2 + \sinh^2 \rho (d\theta^2 + \cos^2 \theta d\phi_1^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi_2^2), \\ ds_{S^5}^2 &= d\gamma^2 + \cos^2 \gamma d\phi_3^2 + \sin^2 \gamma (d\psi^2 + \cos^2 \psi d\phi_1^2 + \sin^2 \psi d\phi_2^2). \end{aligned}$$

The fermionic Lagrangian is

$$\mathcal{L}_F = i(\sqrt{-g} g^{ab} \delta^{IJ} - \varepsilon^{ab} s^{IJ}) \bar{\theta}^I \rho_a D_a \theta^J + o(\theta^4)$$

where  $I, J = 1, 2$  are the indices of the spacetime fermions,  $s^{IJ} = \text{diag}(1, -1)$ .

# Set up: Metsaev-Tseytlin Action II

$D_M^{IJ}$  is the 10d covariant derivative appearing in the supergravity equations of motion in terms of the spin connection and RR 5-form

$$D_M^{IJ} = \left( \partial_M + \frac{1}{4} \omega_M^{AB} \Gamma_{AB} \right) \delta^{IJ} - \frac{1}{8 \cdot 5!} F_{A_1 \dots A_5} \Gamma^{A_1 \dots A_5} \Gamma_M \epsilon^{IJ}.$$

For 10d MW spinors, and using the specific form of  $F$

$$\begin{aligned} D_a \theta^I &= \left( D_a \delta^{IJ} - \frac{i}{2} \epsilon^{IJ} \Gamma_* \rho_a \right) \theta^J, \\ D_a &= \partial_a + \frac{1}{4} \partial_a X^M \omega_M^{AB} \Gamma_{AB}, \\ \Gamma_* &= i \Gamma_{01234}, \quad \Gamma_*^2 = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Fixing  $\kappa$  symmetry with  $\theta^1 = \theta^2$  we have the further simplification

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_F &= -2i \bar{\theta} D_F \theta, \\ D_F &= -\rho^a D_a - \frac{i}{2} \epsilon^{ab} \rho_a \Gamma_* \rho_b. \end{aligned}$$

# Example I: Rotating folded string in $AdS_3$

$$ds^2 = -\cosh^2 \rho dt^2 + d\rho^2 + \sinh^2 \rho d\phi^2$$

Classical closed string solution given by

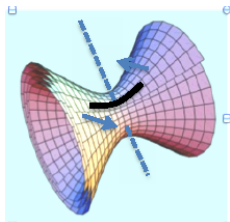
$$t = \kappa\tau, \quad \phi = \omega\tau, \quad \rho = \rho(\sigma) = \rho(\sigma + 2\pi),$$

$\kappa, \omega$  are constant parameters. The equation of motion and its solution in conformal gauge

$$\rho'^2 = \kappa^2 \cosh^2 \rho - w^2 \sinh^2 \rho,$$

$$\sinh \rho(\sigma) = \frac{k}{\sqrt{1-k^2}} \operatorname{cn}(\omega\sigma + \mathbb{K} | k^2) \quad \rho'(\sigma) = \kappa \operatorname{sn}(\omega\sigma + \mathbb{K} | k^2)$$

$\rho$  varies from 0 to its maximal value  $\rho_0$ :  $\operatorname{coth}^2 \rho_0 = \frac{\omega^2}{\kappa^2} \equiv 1 + \eta \equiv \frac{1}{k^2}$



Small spin or short string limit:  $\rho_0 \rightarrow 0$ , i.e.  $\eta \rightarrow \infty$  or  $k \rightarrow 0$  In the “short string” limit, when the string is rotating in the small central ( $\rho = 0$ ) region of  $AdS_3$ , the spin is small and the parameter  $\eta$  is large

$$E_0 = \sqrt{2S} \left( 1 + \frac{3}{8} S + \dots \right) \quad S \ll 1.$$

# 1-loop corrections: Strategy

Leading quantum correction to the energy of this solution:

- expanding the action to quadratic order in fluctuations near the classical solution

$$\tilde{I} = -\frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{4\pi} \int d\tau \int_0^{2\pi} d\sigma (\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_B + \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_F)$$

- All the fluctuation operators have Lamé form:

$$\left[ -\partial_x^2 + 2k^2 \operatorname{sn}^2(x|k^2) \right] f(x) = \Lambda f(x) \quad x \sim \sigma$$

semi-classical problem is governed by simple (finite-gap) operators.

Everything can be computed analytically in a closed form!

Integrability at work!!

- Semiclassical Quantization: “find a way to relate the eigenfrequencies of the fluctuation around the classical solution to 1-Loop Energy”

Folded String: Stationary (simple)  $\Rightarrow$  2d effective action



The folded string is simple! rigid spinning string! solution is stationary, the coeff. in the fluct. Lagrangian do not depend on  $\tau$ .

Switching to Euclidean time, the 1-loop correction  $\Rightarrow$  2d effective action  $\Gamma$  by dividing over the time interval ( $t = \kappa\tau$ )

$$E_1 = \frac{\Gamma}{\kappa\mathcal{T}}, \quad \mathcal{T} \equiv \int d\tau \rightarrow \infty, \quad \Gamma = -\ln Z$$

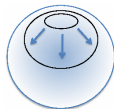
$Z$  ratio of the fermionic and bosonic determinants.

Since the above rigid spinning string solution is stationary, ( $\tau$  ind. fluctuation Lagrangian) the relevant 2-d functional determinants may be reduced to 1-d determinants

$$\ln \det[-\partial_\sigma^2 - \partial_\tau^2 + M^2(\sigma)] = \mathcal{T} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{d\Omega}{2\pi} \ln \det[-\partial_\sigma^2 + \Omega^2 + M^2(\sigma)]$$

Exact Solution Lamé eq.  $\Rightarrow$  analytic expressions for the fluctuation determinants  $\Rightarrow$  expansions in the small spin /short string limit.

## Example II: Pulsating String in $R \times S^2$



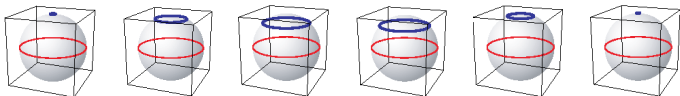
$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + d\psi^2 + \sin^2\psi d\phi^2 \quad t = \kappa\tau, \quad \psi = \psi(\tau), \quad \phi = m\sigma,$$

EQM and the conformal gauge constraint

$$\ddot{\psi} + m^2 \sin\psi \cos\psi = 0 \quad \dot{\psi}^2 + m^2 \sin^2\psi = \kappa^2$$

The classical solution  $\sin\psi(\tau) = \frac{\kappa}{m} \operatorname{sn}\left(m\tau \mid \frac{\kappa^2}{m^2}\right)$ ,  $|\sin\psi| \leq \sin\psi_0 = \frac{\kappa}{m}$   
Energy and the oscillation number

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{E}{\sqrt{\lambda}} = \kappa, \quad \mathcal{N} = \frac{N}{\sqrt{\lambda}} = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\psi}{2\pi} \sqrt{\kappa^2 - m^2 \sin^2\psi}$$



Short string expansion of the classical energy

$$\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}) = \sqrt{2m\mathcal{N}} \left( 1 - \frac{\mathcal{N}}{8m} - \frac{5\mathcal{N}^2}{128m^2} + \dots \right).$$

## Almost the same strategy:

- Expand the action around the classical solution and find fluctuation operators
- Show that they are Lamé

$$\left[ -\partial_x^2 + 2k^2 \operatorname{sn}^2(x|k^2) \right] f(x) = \Lambda f(x)$$

- Time-dependent case ( $x \sim \tau$  !) ... Quantisation of time-periodic solitons
- **Bohr-Sommerfeld-Maslov semiclassical quantisation**  
The 1-loop correction to their energy is determined in a more complicated way than just by summing characteristic frequencies! No more determinants! ... we will need “stability angles”
- Solve Lamé: “stability angles” for the pulsating string [and determinants (for the folded string)]
- Compute the energy and expand in the “short limit”

# Quadratic fluctuation Lagrangian I

$AdS_5$  directions are represented by a free massless “ghost” field plus four free massive fields ( $k = 1, 2, 3, 4$ ;  $\partial_a \partial^a = -\partial_\tau^2 + \partial_\sigma^2$ )

$$L_{AdS}^{(2)} = -\frac{1}{2}(\dot{\beta}^2 - \beta'^2) + \frac{1}{2}(\dot{y}_k^2 - y_k'^2 - \kappa^2 y_k y_k)$$

$S^5$  fluctuations ( $\xi, \eta, z_1, z_2, z_3$ )

$$L_S^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2}(\dot{\xi}^2 - \xi'^2 - M_\xi^2 \xi^2) + \frac{1}{2}(\dot{\eta}^2 - \eta'^2 - M_\eta^2 \eta^2) + m \cos \psi (\xi \eta' - \xi' \eta) \\ + \frac{1}{2}(\dot{z}_i^2 - z_i'^2 - M^2 z_i^2)$$

where the background-dependent masses are

$$M^2 = \kappa^2 - 2m^2 \sin^2 \psi, \quad M_\xi^2 = \kappa^2 + m^2 \cos(2\psi) \quad M_\eta^2 = m^2 \cos(2\psi)$$

Solving the Virasoro constraints one can show that the coupled system ( $\xi, \eta$ ) is equivalent to a decoupled system of one massless mode + of the massive mode with the Lagrangian

$$L = \frac{1}{2}(\dot{g}^2 - g'^2 - \tilde{M}^2 g^2) \quad \tilde{M}^2 = \kappa^2 \left(1 - \frac{2}{\sin^2 \psi}\right)$$

# Quadratic fluctuation Lagrangian II

Starting from the fermionic fluctuation Lagrangian

in the standard  $\theta^1 = \theta^2$  kappa symmetry

$$\mathcal{L}_F = -2i\bar{\vartheta}\left(-\rho^a D_a - \frac{i}{2}\varepsilon^{ab}\rho_a\Gamma_*\rho_b\right)\vartheta,$$

After some computations ...

$$D_F = \Gamma_0\partial_\tau - \Gamma_9\partial_\sigma + \Gamma_{079}\psi.$$

We are interested in eigenvalues and determinant  $\Rightarrow$  take the square of the simpler operator

$$\tilde{D}_F \equiv \Gamma_{09} D_F = \Gamma_9\partial_\tau - \Gamma_0\partial_\sigma - \Gamma_7\psi.$$

Diagonalizing  $\Gamma_{97}$  (i.e. replacing it by  $\pm i$ ) we get the following second order fermionic operator

$$\tilde{D}_{F\pm}^2 = \partial_\tau^2 - \partial_\sigma^2 + M_\pm^2 \quad M_\pm^2 = \psi^2 \pm i\psi$$

Taking into account the specific form of the solution  $\psi(\tau)$

$$M_\pm^2 \sim k^2 \text{cn}^2(x|k^2) \mp i k \text{sn}(x|k^2) \text{dn}(x|k^2)$$

# UV check

UV Check on the resulting fluctuation Lagrangian:

UV finiteness of the 1-loop partition function: In conformal gauge  $\Leftrightarrow$  sum of the effective mass-squared terms for bosons equals that for the fermions

$$\begin{aligned} AdS & : 4 \times \kappa^2, \\ S^5 & : 3 \times (\kappa^2 - 2m^2 \sin^2 \psi), \\ & 1 \times (m^2 \cos(2\psi) - m^2 \cos^2 \psi), \\ & 1 \times (\kappa^2 + m^2 \cos(2\psi) - m^2 \cos^2 \psi), \\ F & : -8 \times (\kappa^2 - m^2 \sin^2 \psi) \end{aligned}$$

... indeed sums to zero.

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In static gauge: Sum proportional to the Euler density of the induced metric ... this is proportional to the Euler number which vanishes for the cylinder topology under discussion.

and the sum is  $2m^2 \sin^2 \psi - 2 \frac{\kappa^2}{\sin^2 \psi} = \sqrt{-g} R^{(2)}$

- ✓ Expand the action around the classical solution and find fluctuation operators

- Show that they are Lamé

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# Lamé form of fluctuation operators

$S^5$  modes  $z_i$  with mass  $M^2 = \kappa^2 - 2m^2 \sin^2 \psi$ :  $O_I = -\partial_\tau^2 + 2m^2 \sin^2 \psi - \kappa^2 - n^2$

$$O_I = m^2 \left[ -\partial_x^2 + 2k^2 \operatorname{sn}^2(x|k^2) - \Lambda \right], \quad x = m\tau, \quad k^2 = \frac{\kappa^2}{m^2}, \quad \Lambda = \frac{\kappa^2 + n^2}{m^2}$$

$S^5$  mode with mass  $\tilde{M}^2 = \kappa^2 \left(1 - \frac{2}{\sin^2 \psi}\right)$ :  $O_{II} = m^2 \left[ -\partial_x^2 + 2n^2 \operatorname{sn}^2(x|k^2) - \Lambda \right]$

$\operatorname{ns}(z|k^2) = k \operatorname{sn}(z + i\mathbb{K}'|k^2)$

$$O_{II} = m^2 \left[ -\partial_x^2 + 2k^2 \operatorname{sn}^2(x|k^2) - \Lambda \right], \quad x \equiv m\tau + i\mathbb{K}', \quad k = \frac{\kappa}{m}, \quad \Lambda = \frac{\kappa^2 + n^2}{m^2}$$

The fermion op. with the mass  $M_\pm^2 = \psi^2 \pm i\psi$ :  $O_{III}^\pm = -\partial_\tau^2 - \psi^2 \mp i\psi - n^2$ .

This operator is non-hermitian, but is PT-symmetric and has a real spectrum

Does not look like the standard single-gap Lamé operator ... rescaling of  $x$  and a Gauss/Landen/Jacobi Transformations

$$O_{III}^\pm = \bar{m}_\pm^2 \left[ -\partial_{\bar{x}}^2 + 2\bar{k}_\pm^2 \operatorname{sn}^2(\bar{x}|\bar{k}_\pm^2) - \Lambda \right], \quad \bar{x} \equiv \bar{m}_\pm \tau + \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{K}(\bar{k}_\pm^2)$$

$$\bar{k}_\pm^2 = \pm 4 \frac{\frac{i\kappa}{m} \sqrt{1 - \frac{\kappa^2}{m^2}}}{\left(\sqrt{1 - \frac{\kappa^2}{m^2}} \pm \frac{i\kappa}{m}\right)^2}, \quad \Lambda = \frac{n^2}{\bar{m}_\pm^2 + \bar{k}_\pm^2}, \quad \bar{m}_\pm = \frac{m}{2} \left( \sqrt{1 - \frac{\kappa^2}{m^2}} \pm i \frac{\kappa}{m} \right)$$



- ✓ Expand the action around the classical solution and find fluctuation operators
- ✓ Show that they are Lamé

$$\left[ -\partial_x^2 + 2k^2 \operatorname{sn}^2(x|k^2) \right] f(x) = \Lambda f(x)$$

- Time-dependent case ( $x \sim \tau$  !) ... Quantisation of time-periodic solitons
- **Bohr-Sommerfeld-Maslov semiclassical quantisation**  
The 1-loop correction to their energy is determined in a more complicated way than just by summing characteristic frequencies! No more determinants! ... we will need “stability angles”
- Solve Lamé: “stability angles” for the pulsating string [and determinants (for the folded string)]
- Compute the energy and expand in the “short limit”

# Bohr-Sommerfeld-Maslov quantisation I

Semiclass. quant. of (class. integrable, time-periodic) Hamiltonian

## Classical integrability

$\exists n$  functions  $F_i, \in C(T^*X)$  such that:

- $dF_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dF_n \neq 0$ , almost everywhere,
- $\{F_i, F_j\} = 0$ ,
- $H = H(F_1, \dots, F_n)$ .

Define  $n$ -tori (Liouville tori), action variables  $I_i$ , angle variables  $\varphi_i$  (the coord. of the torus)

## We want to solve the semiclassical problem

$$\widehat{F}_i \psi = f_i \psi + O(\hbar^2)$$

WKB-like solution  $\exists$  iff BSM quantisation condition is satisfied

$$\frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int_{\gamma_i} \mathbf{p} \cdot d\mathbf{q} = N_i + \frac{\mu_i}{4} + O(\hbar), \quad i = 1, \dots, n,$$

$N_i$  action variables,  $\{\gamma_i\}$  cycles of a Liouville torus,  $\mu_i$  Maslov indices they generalise the familiar

1/2 in the standard WKB

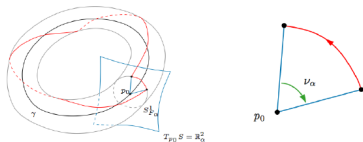
# Bohr-Sommerfeld-Maslov quantisation II

If the class. torus  $p < n$  non trivial cycles  $\Rightarrow$  change in the BSM q. condition

$$\frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int_{\gamma_k} p \cdot dq = N_k + \frac{\mu_k}{4} + \sum_{\alpha=p+1}^n \left( n_\alpha + \frac{1}{2} \right) \frac{v_\alpha^{(k)}}{2\pi} + O(\hbar)$$

The *stability angles* account the fluct. transverse to the codimension  $p$  invariant torus

$v_\alpha^{(k)}$  found studying small fluctuations ... they are nothing but the usual eigenfrequencies for fluctuations around static solitons



Superstring periodic  $\mathcal{T}$  solutions: 1-dimensional integrable system with invariant tori embedded in the string phase space

$$\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_{cl}(\mathcal{N}) + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\lambda}} \frac{1}{\mathcal{T}} \sum_{v_s > 0} v_s + O\left(\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2}\right)$$

Fluctuation operators are all of the single-gap Lamé form - “Schroedinger-like” periodic potential  
Stability angles  $\sim$  quasi momentum

Independent solutions  $f_\pm(x)$

$$f_\pm(x + \mathcal{T}) = e^{\pm iv} f_\pm(x) \quad v = p\mathcal{T} ,$$

# Remarks on single-gap Lamé operators I

Consider the following eigenvalue problem for an ordinary differential operator with a periodic potential

$$Of \equiv [-\partial_x^2 + V(x)]f(x) = \Lambda f(x), \quad V(x+L) = V(x)$$

Assume quasi-periodic boundary conditions

$$f(x+L) = e^{i\alpha} f(x), \quad \alpha \in [0, 2\pi).$$

Floquet-Bloch theory: two independent solutions  $f_{\pm}(x) = e^{\pm ip(\Lambda)x} \chi_{\pm}(x)$ , where  $\chi_{\pm}(x)$  are periodic, so that under translation through one period the solutions  $f_{\pm}(x)$  change by a phase

$$f_{\pm}(x+L) = e^{\pm ip(\Lambda)L} f_{\pm}(x)$$

$p(\Lambda)$  is the *quasi-momentum*. The discriminant is  $\Delta(\Lambda) = 2 \cos(Lp(\Lambda))$

# Remarks on single-gap Lamé operators II

Quadratic fluctuation operators have “single-gap Lamé” form

$$\left[-\partial_x^2 + 2k^2 \operatorname{sn}^2(x|k^2)\right] f(x) = \Lambda f(x) \quad ,$$

The two independent Bloch solutions

$$f_{\pm}(x) = \frac{H(x \pm \alpha)}{\Theta(x)} e^{\mp x Z(\alpha)} \quad ,$$

$H, \Theta, Z$  are the Jacobi Eta, Theta and Zeta functions

Spectral parameter  $\alpha = \alpha(\Lambda)$ : related to the eigenvalue  $\Lambda$  by the transcendental equation:

$$\operatorname{sn}(\alpha|k^2) = \sqrt{\frac{1+k^2-\Lambda}{k^2}} \quad .$$

Periodicity properties of the Jacobi functions  $\Rightarrow$  solutions  $f_{\pm}(x)$  acquire a phase under a shift through one period  $2\mathbb{K}$ :

$$f_{\pm}(x + 2\mathbb{K}) = -f_{\pm}(x) e^{\mp 2\mathbb{K}Z(\alpha)} \equiv f_{\pm}(x) e^{2i\mathbb{K}p(\alpha)} \quad .$$

This defines the quasi-momentum as  $p(\Lambda) = iZ(\alpha|k^2) + \frac{\pi}{2\mathbb{K}}$

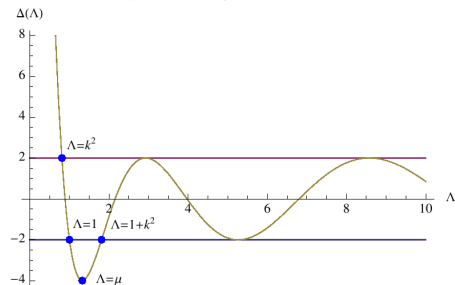
# Remarks on single-gap Lamé operators III

Explicit expression for the quasi-momentum implies that we can write an explicit expression for the

- Functional determinant  $\det O = \Delta(0) - 2 \cos \alpha$
- Stability Angles (just rescaling by  $\mathcal{T}$ )

The periodic Lamé potential has the special property that its band spectrum has only a single gap - three band edges

$$\Lambda_1 = k^2, \quad \Lambda_2 = 1, \quad \Lambda_3 = 1 + k^2$$



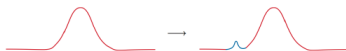
The periodic and the antiperiodic eigenvalues

$$\Delta(\Lambda) = \begin{cases} +2 & \text{(periodic)} \\ -2 & \text{(antiperiodic)} \end{cases}$$

# The role of Integrability

## Why everything is so simple (solvable Lamé)?

- The solutions we considered are part of a more general class “finite gap” String Solutions, characterised by an “algebraic curve”  $\Leftrightarrow$  set of cuts on a Riemann surface (Point where the Bethe roots condensate in the continuum limit)
- Integrable system: given a solitonic solution  $\Leftrightarrow$  study the perturbed system by adding another “small soliton” (Bäcklund Transformation)



- Algebraic curve semiclassical quantization: deforming the cuts defining the algebraic curve (adding extra roots)



- Solution of the Lamé equation  $\Rightarrow$  Baker Akhiezer function

- ✓ Expand the action around the classical solution and find fluctuation operators
- ✓ Show that they are Lamé

$$\left[ -\partial_x^2 + 2k^2 \operatorname{sn}^2(x|k^2) \right] f(x) = \Lambda f(x)$$

- ✓ Time-dependent case ( $x \sim \tau$  !) ... Quantisation of time-periodic solitons
- ✓ Bohr-Sommerfeld-Maslov semiclassical quantisation
- ...
- ✓ Solve Lamé
  - Compute the energy and expand in the “short limit”



# Pulsating String: Stability angles I

- $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_{cl}(\mathcal{N}) + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\lambda}} \frac{1}{\mathcal{T}} \sum_{\mathbf{v}_s > 0} \mathbf{v}_s + O\left(\frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2}\right)$
  - The period of the problem is  $\mathcal{T} = \frac{4\mathbb{K}}{m}$ .
  - We want the short string: small  $\kappa \Leftrightarrow$  small semiclassical oscillation parameter  $\mathcal{N}$
  - compute exact stability angles (Lamé), expand, and then sum
- 

## 4 massless $AdS_5$ fluctuations

$$\mathbf{v}_{AdS_5} = 4\mathbb{K} \sqrt{k^2 + \frac{n^2}{m^2}} \quad k \equiv \frac{\kappa}{m}$$

Expanding in small  $\kappa$ , i.e. in small  $k$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v}_{AdS_5} &= \frac{2\pi n}{m} + k^2 \left( \frac{\pi m}{n} + \frac{\pi n}{2m} \right) + \frac{\pi k^4 (-8m^4 + 8m^2 n^2 + 9n^4)}{32mn^3} \\ &+ \frac{\pi k^6 (16m^6 - 8m^4 n^2 + 18m^2 n^4 + 25n^6)}{128mn^5} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

# Pulsating String: Stability angles II

$S^5$  bosonic fluctuations (Type I and II)

$$v_{S^5} = \pm 4\mathbb{K} \left( i\mathbb{Z}(\alpha|k^2) + \frac{\pi}{2\mathbb{K}} \right) \equiv \pm 4\mathbb{K} i\mathbb{Z}(\alpha|k^2), \quad \text{sn}(\alpha|k^2) = \sqrt{\frac{1+k^2-\Lambda}{k^2}} = \frac{1}{k} \sqrt{1 - \frac{n^2}{m^2}}.$$

define  $a = \sqrt{1 - \frac{n^2}{m^2}}$

$$\mathbb{Z}(\text{sn}^{-1}\left(\frac{a}{k}|k^2\right)|k^2) = i \int_1^{a/k} \frac{dt}{\sqrt{t^2-1}} \left( \sqrt{1-k^2t^2} - \frac{\mathbb{E}}{\mathbb{K}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-k^2t^2}} \right).$$

The two basic integrals are

$$\int_1^{a/k} \frac{dt}{\sqrt{t^2-1}} \sqrt{1-k^2t^2} = i \left( \mathbb{E}\left(\arcsin \frac{a}{k} | k^2\right) - \mathbb{E} \right),$$

$$\int_1^{a/k} \frac{dt}{\sqrt{t^2-1}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-k^2t^2}} = i \left( \mathbb{F}\left(\arcsin \frac{a}{k} | k^2\right) - \mathbb{K} \right).$$

In order to expand at small  $k$ , we use the transformation

$$\mathbb{E}\left(\arcsin \frac{a}{k} | k^2\right) = \frac{\mathbb{E}}{\mathbb{K}} \mathbb{F}\left(\arcsin \frac{a}{k} | k^2\right) + i \sqrt{1-a^2} \sqrt{1 - \frac{k^2}{a^2}} \left( \frac{\Pi(a^2|k^2)}{\mathbb{K}} - 1 \right).$$

The final result is remarkably simple: all incomplete elliptic integrals simplify.

$$\mathbb{Z}(\text{sn}^{-1}\left(\frac{a}{k}|k^2\right)|k^2) = i \sqrt{1-a^2} \sqrt{1 - \frac{k^2}{a^2}} \left( 1 - \frac{\Pi(a^2|k^2)}{\mathbb{K}} \right).$$

# Pulsating String: Stability angles III

$$\begin{aligned} v_{S^5} = -4i \mathbb{K} \mathbb{Z}(\operatorname{sn}^{-1}(\frac{a}{k} | k^2) | k^2) &= \frac{2\pi n}{m} + \frac{\pi k^2 n}{2m} + \frac{\pi k^4 n (13m^2 - 9n^2)}{32m(m-n)(m+n)} \\ &+ \frac{\pi k^6 n (45m^4 - 62m^2 n^2 + 25n^4)}{128m(m-n)^2(m+n)^2} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

The singularity at  $n = m$  is only apparent, since it happens at  $a = 0$  where our derivation cannot be applied; the above expression is just zero at that point

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## Fermionic fluctuations

$$v_F = \pm 4i \mathbb{K} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{Z}(\alpha(\beta) | k^2) + i \sqrt{\beta} \sqrt{1 + \frac{16\beta k^2}{(1-4\beta)^2}} \right], \quad \alpha(\beta) = \operatorname{cn}^{-1} \left( -\frac{1+4\beta}{1-4\beta} | k^2 \right), \quad \beta = \frac{n^2}{m^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v_F &= \frac{2\pi n}{m} + \frac{\pi n (3m^2 + 4n^2)}{2m(2n-m)(m+2n)} k^2 - \frac{\pi n (15m^6 - 276m^4 n^2 - 304m^2 n^4 + 576n^6)}{32m(m-2n)^3(m+2n)^3} k^4 \\ &- \frac{\pi n (35m^{10} - 780m^8 n^2 + 9696m^6 n^4 + 9856m^4 n^6 - 28928m^2 n^8 + 25600n^{10})}{128m(m-2n)^5(m+2n)^5} k^6 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

## ... and the Sum

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}_1 = \frac{1}{2\mathcal{T}\kappa} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} v_n &= 2 + \kappa(1 - 4\log 2) + \frac{1}{8}\kappa^3(3\zeta_3 + 1 + 4\log 2) \\ &+ \frac{1}{4}\kappa^5\left(-\frac{63\zeta_3}{16} - \frac{15\zeta_5}{16} + \frac{7}{32} + \log 2\right) + O(\kappa^7)\end{aligned}$$

Check: The sum over  $n$  is convergent

---

... remember that we can organise the short string expansion of the energy as

$$\begin{aligned}E &= E\left(\frac{N}{\sqrt{\lambda}}, \sqrt{\lambda}\right) = \sqrt{\lambda} \mathcal{E}_0(\mathcal{N}) + \mathcal{E}_1(\mathcal{N}) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \mathcal{E}_2(\mathcal{N}) + \dots, \\ \mathcal{E}_k &= \sqrt{2\mathcal{N}} \left( a_{0k} + a_{1k} \mathcal{N} + a_{2k} \mathcal{N}^2 + \dots \right) + c_{0k} + c_{1k} \mathcal{N} + \dots.\end{aligned}$$

we thus find that for the pulsating string in  $\mathbb{R} \times S^2$

$$\begin{aligned}E_1 \equiv \mathcal{E}_1 &= 2 + \sqrt{2\mathcal{N}} \left[ 1 - 4\log 2 + \left( \frac{3}{2} \log 2 + \frac{3}{4} \zeta_3 + \frac{1}{8} \right) \mathcal{N} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \left( \frac{25}{32} \log 2 - \frac{135}{32} \zeta_3 - \frac{15}{16} \zeta_5 + \frac{11}{128} \right) \mathcal{N}^2 + \dots \right].\end{aligned}$$

and finally ...

... can be re-written in terms of  $N$  and the string tension  $\lambda$  as follows

$$E = \sqrt{2N\sqrt{\lambda}} \left( a_{00} + \frac{a_{10}N + a_{01}}{\sqrt{\lambda}} + \dots \right) + c_{01} + \dots$$
$$a_{00} = 1, \quad a_{10} = -\frac{1}{8}, \quad a_{01} = 1 - 4 \log 2, \quad c_{01} = 2$$

Apply the same strategy to other, simple, classical solutions!

Pulsating string in  $AdS_3$

spinning folded string in  $\mathbb{R} \times S^2$

$$\sinh \rho(\tau) = \sqrt{R_+} \operatorname{cn}(x + \mathbb{K}(k^2) | k^2),$$

$$x = m \sqrt{R_+ - R_-} \tau \equiv w \tau, \quad R_{\pm} = \frac{-m \pm \sqrt{m^2 + 4 \mathcal{E}_0^2}}{2m}$$

$$k^2 = \frac{R_+}{R_+ - R_-} = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \left( \frac{2\mathcal{E}_0}{m} \right)^2}} \right).$$

$$N = \sqrt{\lambda} \mathcal{N}, \quad \mathcal{N} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \oint d\rho \dot{\rho}$$

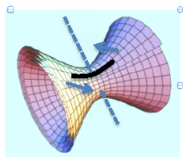
$$\sin \theta = \sqrt{q} \operatorname{sn}(w_{21} \sigma | q), \quad \cos \theta = \operatorname{dn}(w_{21} \sigma | q),$$

$$q = \sin^2 \theta_0 = \frac{\kappa^2 - w_1^2}{w_2^2 - w_1^2}, \quad w_{21} = \sqrt{w_2^2 - w_1^2} = \frac{2}{\pi} \mathbb{K}(q).$$

$$\mathcal{E}_0 = \kappa, \quad \mathcal{J}_1 = \frac{w_1}{w_{21}} {}_2F_1\left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 1, q\right),$$

$$\mathcal{J}_2 = \frac{w_2}{w_{21}} \frac{q}{2} {}_2F_1\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, 2, q\right). \quad \frac{\mathcal{J}_1}{w_1} + \frac{\mathcal{J}_2}{w_2} = 1.$$

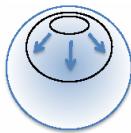
# Konishi multiplet vs. semiclassical strings (?)



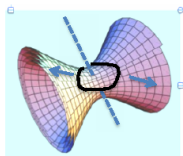
folded in  $AdS_3$



folded in  $R \times S^2$



pulsating  $R \times S^2$



pulsating  $AdS_3$

$$E_1 = 2 + \sqrt{2} \mathcal{J} \left[ 2 - 4 \log 2 + \left( -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{2} \log 2 + \frac{3}{4} \zeta_3 \right) \mathcal{J} + \left( \frac{1}{64} - \frac{15}{32} \log 2 + \frac{51}{32} \zeta_3 - \frac{15}{16} \zeta_5 \right) \mathcal{J}^2 + \dots \right],$$

$$E_1 = 1 + \sqrt{2} \mathcal{S} \left[ \frac{3}{2} - 4 \log 2 + \left( -\frac{23}{16} + \frac{3}{2} \log 2 + \frac{3}{4} \zeta_3 \right) \mathcal{S} + \left( \frac{689}{256} - \frac{63}{32} \log 2 - \frac{15}{32} \zeta_3 - \frac{15}{16} \zeta_5 \right) \mathcal{S}^2 + \dots \right],$$

$$E_1 = 2 + \sqrt{2} \mathcal{N} \left[ 1 - 4 \log 2 + \left( \frac{1}{8} + \frac{3}{2} \log 2 + \frac{3}{4} \zeta_3 \right) \mathcal{N} + \left( \frac{11}{128} + \frac{25}{32} \log 2 - \frac{135}{32} \zeta_3 - \frac{15}{16} \zeta_5 \right) \mathcal{N}^2 + \dots \right],$$

$$E_1 = 1 + \sqrt{2} \mathcal{N} \left[ \frac{5}{2} - 4 \log 2 + \left( -\frac{37}{8} + \frac{5}{2} \log 2 + \frac{3}{4} \zeta_3 \right) \mathcal{N} \right. \\ \left. + \left( \frac{3915}{256} - \frac{231}{32} \log 2 - \frac{117}{32} \zeta_3 - \frac{15}{16} \zeta_5 \right) \mathcal{N}^2 + \dots \right],$$

“Some” universality: Highest transcendentality terms are equal

# Konishi multiplet vs. semiclassical strings (?)

Folded spinning string in  $\mathbb{R} \times S^2$

$$E = \sqrt{2J\sqrt{\lambda}} \left( 1 + \frac{\frac{1}{8}J + 2 - 4\log 2}{\sqrt{\lambda}} + \dots \right) + 2 + \dots$$

Folded spinning string in  $AdS_3$

$$E = \sqrt{2S\sqrt{\lambda}} \left( 1 + \frac{\frac{3}{8}S + \frac{3}{2} - 4\log 2}{\sqrt{\lambda}} + \dots \right) + 1 + \dots$$

Pulsating string in  $\mathbb{R} \times S^2$

$$E = \sqrt{2N\sqrt{\lambda}} \left( 1 + \frac{-\frac{1}{8}N + 1 - 4\log 2}{\sqrt{\lambda}} + \dots \right) + 2 + \dots$$

Pulsating string in  $AdS_3$

$$E = \sqrt{2N\sqrt{\lambda}} \left( 1 + \frac{\frac{5}{8}N + \frac{5}{2} - 4\log 2}{\sqrt{\lambda}} + \dots \right) + 1 + \dots,$$

# Summary and comments

- Exact structure of one-loop correction to energy for a class of classical string solutions (simple elliptic functions).  
(Next in complexity to the simplest rational class, trigonometric functions)
- In all cases where there is only one charge/adiabatic invariant besides the energy the fluctuation operators can be decoupled and put into a single-gap Lamé type form.
- We have found the one-loop energies in the limit of small values of the semiclassical parameters small size of the string/ “near-flat” approximation
- The hope: This “short-string” limit may shed light on the structure of strong-coupling corrections to dimensions of “short” dual gauge theory operators for which the “wrapping” contributions are important.



## Still to do ...

- The semiclassical approximation is based on assumption that  $\sqrt{\lambda} \gg 1$  with semiclassical parameters like  $S = \frac{S}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$ ,  $J = \frac{J}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$  or  $\mathcal{N} = \frac{N}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$  fixed, so that  $S, J$  or  $N$  are formally large. Still, taking the “short-string” limit in which  $S, J, \mathcal{N} \rightarrow 0$  one may conjecture that that limit “commutes” with large the  $\sqrt{\lambda}$  limit ... is this true?

Consider the Folded String case - Konishi operator:

structure of the semiclassical result OK, coefficient?

One would expect rational ... [Numerical by Gromov & C.]

- ... we start with class. solution with all charges = 0 but one ... tricky! Add an additional momentum in  $S^5$ !
- Comparison, step by step, with the algebraic curve
- Classical solutions with two charges different from zero ... it seems very difficult ... in principle, the nice Lamé equation can be generalized to a many component one solved by Baker Akhiezer function

Thank you!