

# Integrability in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM: an overview

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## SYM with 16 supercharges – conformal field theory in $d = 4$

- Textbook description:
- anomalous dimensions of gauge invariant operators
  - 3-point functions
  - sewing relations

- spectral problem of  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM: find all anomalous dimensions

- $O_n$  “good” operators – diagonal RG flow  $\langle O_n(0)O_m(x) \rangle = \frac{\delta_{mn}}{|x|^{2\Delta_n}}$

available tricks for special “good” operators

- $O_n$  “natural” operators  $\Rightarrow$  operator mixing –  $\langle O_n(0)O_m(x) \rangle \neq \delta_{mn}$

“good” operators = combinations of “natural” operators

- ◇ Clean formulation in terms of dilatation generator ( $\mathcal{D} \in PSU(2, 2|4)$ )

$$\mathcal{D}O_n = \sum_m \gamma_{nm} O_m \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{D}O_n = \Delta_n O_n$$

- Further simplification: restrict to single-trace  $O_n$  in 't Hooft limit

- Known explicit higher loop anomalous dimensions in  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM:

- BMN operators (2-loops) Gross, Mikhailov, RR
- single-magnon dispersion relation (all loops) Gross, Mikhailov, RR; Santambrogio, Zanon
- 2- and 3-loop cusp anomalous dimension Kotikov, Lipatov, Onishchenko, Velizhanin; Bern, Dixon, Smirnov
- 4-loop cusp anom. dim. tour de force Bern, Czakon, Dixon, Kosower, Smirnov; Cachazo, Spradlin, Volovich  
– further improvements

- Strong coupling – from AdS/CFT

- Operators with large quantum numbers Frolov, Tseytlin; Kruczensky, Ryzhov, Tseytlin;
- Cusp/folded string (LO, NLO, NNLO) Gubser, Klebanov, Polyakov; Frolov, Tseytlin; Kruczensky; Frolov, Tirziu, Tseytlin; RR, Tirziu, Tseytlin

## Outline

- What is integrability and why do we believe in it?
- Hamiltonian vs. (2-dimensional) S-matrix: 1,2,3,4... $\infty$ ?
- The idea of the Bethe ansatz
- BES vs direct calculations
- Is this the end?
- Outlook and open problems

## What is integrability . . .

Wikipedia: “In Hamiltonian mechanics, an integrable system refers to a Hamiltonian system that has constants of motion other than the energy itself. A completely integrable system is a system that has  $n$  degrees of freedom,  $n$  constants of motion, and whose constants of motion are in involution: that is, the Poisson bracket between each pair of constants of motion vanishes.”

- spectrum – degeneracies unexplained by lowest conservation laws
- no algorithm to identify integrable Hamiltonians

Sasha Migdal: "... but why do you believe in integrability for  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM?"

Matthias Staudacher: "I guess unlimited optimism :)"

12<sup>th</sup> Itzykson meeting, Paris 2007

## From weak coupling end:

- low order evolution operators define integrable H Lipatov;  
Minahan, Zarembo; Beisert, Staudacher
- tree-level Yangian consistent with 1-loop dilatation operator Dolan, Nappi, Witten
- higher-loop Yangian Agarwal, Rajeev; Zwiebel
- degenerate pairs and higher multiplets Beisert, Kristjansen, Staudacher  
Beisert, Spill; Torrielli; Matsumoto; Moriyama,...

## From strong coupling end:

- classical  $AdS$  string – infinitely many integrals of motion Bena, Polchinski, RR
- seem to survive quantization Berkovits
- structures characteristic to integrable systems in quantum strings
  - classical spectrum on cylinder Kazakov, Marshakov, Minahan, Zarembo;  
Beisert, Kazakov, Sakai, Zarembo

## Hamiltonian vs. (2-dimensional) S-matrix

$$\mathcal{D}O_n = \sum_m \gamma_{nm} O_m \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{D}O_n = \Delta_n O_n$$

- Interpret as a Schrödinger equation with  $\mathcal{D}$  as Hamiltonian;  $\gamma$  is its matrix representation in the basis  $\{O_n\}$
- Need vacuum; choose scalar 1/2-BPS operator  $\text{Tr} [Z^J]$   $J \rightarrow \infty$

Excitations: – replace vacuum field  $Z$  by one of remaining fields  
– enforce gauge invariance

⇒ 4 real scalars

4 fermions

arbitrary covariant derivatives of vacuum fields

Berenstein, Maldacena, Nastase



## Hamiltonian vs. (2-dimensional) S-matrix

$$\mathcal{D}O_n = \sum_m \gamma_{nm} O_m \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{D}O_n = \Delta_n O_n$$

- Interpret as a Schrödinger equation with  $\mathcal{D}$  as Hamiltonian;  $\gamma$  is its matrix representation in the basis  $\{O_n\}$
- Need vacuum; choose scalar 1/2–BPS operator
- $\gamma$  has block-diagonal structure due to charge conservation

	$\phi^1$	$\phi^2$	$Z$	$A_\mu$	$\psi^1$	$\psi^2$	$\psi^3$	$\psi^4$	$Q^1$	$Q^2$	$Q^3$	$Q^4$
$J_{12}$	1	0	0	0	1/2	-1/2	-1/2	1/2	-1/2	1/2	1/2	-1/2
$J_{34}$	0	1	0	0	-1/2	1/2	-1/2	1/2	1/2	-1/2	1/2	-1/2
$J_{56}$	0	0	1	0	-1/2	-1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	-1/2	-1/2

$SU(2)$  sector

$Z, \phi$

$SU(1|1)$  sector

$Z, \psi_1$

$SU(n|m)$  sector  $\begin{matrix} 1 \leq n \leq 2 \\ 1 \leq m \leq 3 \end{matrix}$

$Z, \phi_1, \phi_2, \psi_\alpha$

Beisert – complete classification

$SL(2)$

$D^n Z, n = 0, \dots, \infty$

- vacuum –  $\text{Tr} [Z^J], J \rightarrow \infty$
- 't Hooft limit  $\rightarrow$  fields are ordered  $\rightarrow$  lattice

How does one find  $\gamma$ ?

V1: from renormalization factors  $\gamma = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \epsilon \mathbf{Z}^{-1} \frac{d\mathbf{Z}}{d \ln g_{YM}}$

V2: from 2-point function of basis elements

V3: twist-2 operators – from scattering amplitudes/AP kernel

V4: algebraically

- Constraints on the  $L$ -loop Hamiltonian
  - global symmetries and structure of Feynman diagrams
  - vacuum energy and the energy of other BPS states
  - results of explicit calculations
  - allow/introduce terms not affecting the eigenvalues
    - similarity transformations:  $\mathcal{H}' = U^{-1} \mathcal{H} U$  &  $U^\dagger \neq U^{-1}$

- Existing results:
  - 5-loop  $SU(2)$  assuming integrability, smooth continuum limit Beisert, Dippel, Staudacher
  - 2-loop  $SL(2)$  (w/o); larger sectors (w/)
  - 4-loop  $SU(2)$ ; no assumptions Beisert, McLoughlin, RR

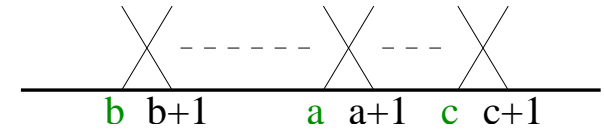
$$\mathcal{H}_0 = +\{\}$$

$$\mathcal{H}_1 = +2\{\} - 2\{1\}$$

$$\mathcal{H}_2 = -8\{\} + 12\{1\} - 2(\{1, 2\} + \{2, 1\})$$

$$\mathcal{H}_3 = +60\{\} - 104\{1\} + 4\{1, 3\} + 24(\{1, 2\} + \{2, 1\}) - 4i\epsilon_2\{1, 3, 2\} + 4i\epsilon_2\{2, 1, 3\} - 4(\{1, 2, 3\} + \{3, 2, 1\})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}_4 = & +(-560 - 4\beta_{2,3})\{\} \\ & + (+1072 + 12\beta_{2,3} + 8\epsilon_{3a})\{1\} \\ & + (-84 - 6\beta_{2,3} - 4\epsilon_{3a})\{1, 3\} \\ & - 4\{1, 4\} \\ & + (-302 - 4\beta_{2,3} - 8\epsilon_{3a})(\{1, 2\} + \{2, 1\}) \\ & + (+4\beta_{2,3} + 4\epsilon_{3a} + 2i\epsilon_{3c} - 4i\epsilon_{3d})\{1, 3, 2\} \\ & + (+4\beta_{2,3} + 4\epsilon_{3a} - 2i\epsilon_{3c} + 4i\epsilon_{3d})\{2, 1, 3\} \\ & + (4 - 2i\epsilon_{3c})(\{1, 2, 4\} + \{1, 4, 3\}) \\ & + (4 + 2i\epsilon_{3c})(\{1, 3, 4\} + \{2, 1, 4\}) \\ & + (+96 + 4\epsilon_{3a})(\{1, 2, 3\} + \{3, 2, 1\}) \\ & + (-12 - 2\beta_{2,3} - 4\epsilon_{3a})\{2, 1, 3, 2\} \\ & + (+18 + 4\epsilon_{3a})(\{1, 3, 2, 4\} + \{2, 1, 4, 3\}) \\ & + (-8 - 2\epsilon_{3a} - 2i\epsilon_{3b})(\{1, 2, 4, 3\} + \{1, 4, 3, 2\}) \\ & + (-8 - 2\epsilon_{3a} + 2i\epsilon_{3b})(\{2, 1, 3, 4\} + \{3, 2, 1, 4\}) \\ & - 10(\{1, 2, 3, 4\} + \{4, 3, 2, 1\}) \end{aligned}$$



- $\{\dots bac\} = \dots P_{b,b+1} P_{a,a+1} P_{c,c+1}$
- $\beta$  = undetermined; directly computable
- $\epsilon$  = similarity parameters

$$\mathcal{H} \rightarrow U(\epsilon)^{-1} \mathcal{H} U(\epsilon)$$

Higher-loop  $\mathcal{H}$  is computable in principle; Direct calculation of the all-loop  $\mathcal{H}$  appears impractical; partial calculations contain nontrivial information

Eigenvectors and eigenvalues: illustrate on  $SU(2)$  sector

- 2-particle states:  $\mathcal{H}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle$

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{1 \leq l_1 < l_2 \leq J} \Psi(l_1, l_2) |\dots \overset{l_1}{\downarrow} Z \phi Z \dots \overset{l_2}{\downarrow} Z \phi Z \dots \rangle$$

- If  $l_1 - l_2 \geq L + 1$  then  $\Psi(l_1, l_2) = e^{i(l_1 p_1 + l_2 p_2)}$
  - If  $l_1 - l_2 \leq L$  details of  $\mathcal{H}$  matter;
- Bethe ansatz – asymptotic plane waves

Bethe

$$\Psi(l_1, l_2) = e^{i(l_1 p_1 + l_2 p_2)} + S(p_1, p_2, \lambda) e^{i(l_1 p_2 + l_2 p_1)}$$

- We may think of  $S(p_1, p_2, \lambda)$  as a  $(1 + 1)$ -dimensional S-matrix
- Spectrum from periodicity of wave function

$$e^{ip_1 J} = S(p_1, p_2, \lambda) \quad e^{ip_2 J} = S(p_2, p_1, \lambda)$$

Eigenvectors and eigenvalues: illustrate on  $SU(2)$  sector

- 2-particle states:  $\mathcal{H}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle$

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{1 \leq l_1 < l_2 \leq J} \Psi(l_1, l_2) |\dots \overset{l_1}{\downarrow} Z \phi Z \dots \overset{l_2}{\downarrow} Z \phi Z \dots\rangle$$

- If  $l_1 - l_2 \geq L + 1$  then  $\Psi(l_1, l_2) = e^{i(l_1 p_1 + l_2 p_2)}$
- If  $l_1 - l_2 \leq L$  details of  $\mathcal{H}$  matter;

e.g. 1-loop  $SU(2)$  sector  $\mathcal{H}_1 = \mathbf{1} - \mathcal{P}$

$$\Psi(l_1, l_2) = e^{i(l_1 p_1 + l_2 p_2)} + S(p_1, p_2, \lambda) e^{i(l_1 p_2 + l_2 p_1)}$$

$$E\Psi(l_1, l_2) = 2\Psi(l_1, l_2) - \Psi(l_1 - 1, l_2) - \Psi(l_1, l_2 + 1)$$

$$S(p_1, p_2) = -\frac{e^{i(p_1 + p_2)} - 2e^{ip_1} + 1}{e^{i(p_1 + p_2)} - 2e^{ip_2} + 1}$$

$$E = E(p_1) + E(p_2)$$

$$E(p) = 4 \sin^2 \frac{p}{2}$$

Integrability=factorization  $\leftrightarrow$  Yang-Baxter equation

$$S(p_1, p_2)S(p_1, p_3)S(p_2, p_3) = S(p_2, p_3)S(p_1, p_3)S(p_1, p_2)$$

- multi-particle S-matrix is a sequence of 2-particle S-matrices
- particle momenta are separately conserved ( $\exists$  higher IoM)

Wave function periodicity yields spectrum (Bethe equations)

$$e^{ip_k J} = \prod_{j \neq k=1}^M S(p_k, p_j, \lambda) \quad E = \sum_{k=1}^M E(p_k, \lambda)$$

Larger sectors

- Nested Bethe ansatz:
  - spectrum from periodicity
  - kind of row reduction
  - repeat 1d Bethe ansatz with a different choice of vacuum at each stage

◇ **The message:** it suffices to know  $S(p_1, p_2, \lambda)_{ij}^{kl}$  with  $i, j, k, l \in (4|4)$

## Constraints on the S-matrix from $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

- symmetries preserved by the choice of vacuum ( $PSU(2|2)^2$ )
  - ! symmetry algebra: extended and w/ quantum corrections

$$[\mathfrak{K}^a_b, \mathfrak{J}^c] = \delta_b^c \mathfrak{J}^a - \frac{1}{2} \delta_b^a \mathfrak{J}^c,$$

$$[\mathfrak{L}^\alpha_\beta, \mathfrak{J}^\gamma] = \delta_\beta^\gamma \mathfrak{J}^\alpha - \frac{1}{2} \delta_\beta^\alpha \mathfrak{J}^\gamma,$$

$$\{\mathfrak{Q}^\alpha_a, \mathfrak{G}^b_\beta\} = \delta_a^b \mathfrak{L}^\alpha_\beta + \delta_\beta^a \mathfrak{K}^b_a + \delta_a^b \delta_\beta^\alpha \mathfrak{E},$$

$$\{\mathfrak{Q}^\alpha_a, \mathfrak{Q}^\beta_b\} = \varepsilon^{\alpha\beta} \varepsilon_{ab} \mathfrak{P},$$

$$\{\mathfrak{G}^a_\alpha, \mathfrak{G}^b_\beta\} = \varepsilon^{ab} \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} \mathfrak{K}$$

$$Q^\alpha_a |\phi^b\rangle = a(p, \lambda) \delta_a^b |\psi^\alpha\rangle,$$

$$Q^\alpha_a |\psi^\beta\rangle = b(p, \lambda) \varepsilon^{\alpha\beta} \varepsilon_{ab} |\phi^b Z^+\rangle,$$

$$S^a_\alpha |\phi^b\rangle = c(p, \lambda) \varepsilon^{ab} \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} |\psi^\beta Z^-\rangle,$$

$$S^a_\alpha |\psi^\beta\rangle = d(p, \lambda) \delta_\alpha^\beta |\phi^a\rangle$$

$$\mathcal{G}S|\Psi\Psi\rangle = S\mathcal{G}|\Psi\Psi\rangle$$

! symmetry may change the vacuum charge

- unusual feature: scattering may change the vacuum charge
- factorization (à la Yang-Baxter)
- “algebraic crossing”
  - ! only indirect string theory justification
  - ! enhancement of  $psu(2|2)$  to a Hopf algebra

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{S}_{12}|\phi_1^a\phi_2^b\rangle &= A_{12}|\phi_2^{\{a}\phi_1^b\}\rangle + B_{12}|\phi_2^{[a}\phi_1^b]\rangle + \frac{1}{2}C_{12}\varepsilon^{ab}\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}|\psi_2^\alpha\psi_1^\beta\mathcal{Z}^-\rangle, \\
\mathcal{S}_{12}|\psi_1^\alpha\psi_2^\beta\rangle &= D_{12}|\psi_2^{\{\alpha}\psi_1^\beta\}\rangle + E_{12}|\psi_2^{[\alpha}\psi_1^\beta]\rangle + \frac{1}{2}F_{12}\varepsilon^{\alpha\beta}\varepsilon_{ab}|\phi_2^a\phi_1^b\mathcal{Z}^+\rangle, \\
\mathcal{S}_{12}|\phi_1^a\psi_2^\beta\rangle &= G_{12}|\psi_2^\beta\phi_1^a\rangle + H_{12}|\phi_2^a\psi_1^\beta\rangle, \\
\mathcal{S}_{12}|\psi_1^\alpha\phi_2^b\rangle &= K_{12}|\psi_2^\alpha\phi_1^b\rangle + L_{12}|\phi_2^b\psi_1^\alpha\rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

$$A_{12} = S_{12}^0 \frac{x_2^+ - x_1^-}{x_2^- - x_1^+},$$

$$B_{12} = S_{12}^0 \frac{x_2^+ - x_1^-}{x_2^- - x_1^+} \left( 1 - 2 \frac{1 - g^2/2x_2^-x_1^+}{1 - g^2/2x_2^-x_1^-} \frac{x_2^+ - x_1^+}{x_2^+ - x_1^-} \right),$$

$$C_{12} = S_{12}^0 \frac{g^2\gamma_2\gamma_1}{\alpha x_2^-x_1^-} \frac{1}{1 - g^2/2x_2^-x_1^-} \frac{x_2^+ - x_1^+}{x_2^- - x_1^+},$$

$$D_{12} = -S_{12}^0,$$

$$E_{12} = -S_{12}^0 \left( 1 - 2 \frac{1 - g^2/2x_2^+x_1^-}{1 - g^2/2x_2^+x_1^+} \frac{x_2^- - x_1^-}{x_2^- - x_1^+} \right),$$

$$F_{12} = -S_{12}^0 \frac{2\alpha(x_2^+ - x_2^-)(x_1^+ - x_1^-)}{\gamma_2\gamma_1x_2^+x_1^+} \frac{1}{1 - g^2/2x_2^+x_1^+} \frac{x_2^- - x_1^-}{x_2^- - x_1^+},$$

$$G_{12} = S_{12}^0 \frac{x_2^+ - x_1^+}{x_2^- - x_1^+} \quad H_{12} = S_{12}^0 \frac{\gamma_1}{\gamma_2} \frac{x_2^+ - x_2^-}{x_2^- - x_1^+},$$

$$K_{12} = S_{12}^0 \frac{\gamma_2}{\gamma_1} \frac{x_1^+ - x_1^-}{x_2^- - x_1^+} \quad L_{12} = S_{12}^0 \frac{x_2^- - x_1^-}{x_2^- - x_1^+}.$$

$$S_0(x_l, x_k) = \frac{1 - g^2/2x_k^+x_l^-}{1 - g^2/2x_k^-x_l^+} \sigma_{kl}^2$$

$$\sigma_{kl} = e^{i\theta_{kl}} - \text{universal}$$

$$\neq 0 \text{ at } \lambda \rightarrow \infty$$

$$= \mathcal{O}(\lambda^4) \text{ at } \lambda \rightarrow 0$$

$$x^+ + \frac{g^2}{2x^+} - x^- - \frac{g^2}{2x^-} = i$$



# Asymptotic all-loop Bethe equations

Beisert, Staudacher

$$1 = \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^{K_2} \frac{u_{2,k} - u_{2,j} - i}{u_{2,k} - u_{2,j} + i} \prod_{j=1}^{K_3} \frac{u_{2,k} - u_{3,j} + \frac{i}{2}}{u_{2,k} - u_{3,j} - \frac{i}{2}},$$

$$1 = \prod_{j=1}^{K_2} \frac{u_{3,k} - u_{2,j} + \frac{i}{2}}{u_{3,k} - u_{2,j} - \frac{i}{2}} \prod_{j=1}^{K_4} \frac{x_{3,k} - x_{4,j}^+}{x_{3,k} - x_{4,j}^-},$$

$$1 = \left( \frac{x_{4,k}^-}{x_{4,k}^+} \right)^L \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^{K_4} \frac{u_{4,k} - u_{4,j} + i}{u_{4,k} - u_{4,j} - i} \sigma^2(x_{4,k}, x_{4,j}) \prod_{j=1}^{K_3} \frac{x_{4,k}^- - x_{3,j}}{x_{4,k}^+ - x_{3,j}} \prod_{j=1}^{K_5} \frac{x_{4,k}^- - x_{5,j}}{x_{4,k}^+ - x_{5,j}},$$

$$1 = \prod_{j=1}^{K_6} \frac{u_{5,k} - u_{6,j} + \frac{i}{2}}{u_{5,k} - u_{6,j} - \frac{i}{2}} \prod_{j=1}^{K_4} \frac{x_{5,k} - x_{4,j}^+}{x_{5,k} - x_{4,j}^-},$$

$$1 = \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^{K_6} \frac{u_{6,k} - u_{6,j} - i}{u_{6,k} - u_{6,j} + i} \prod_{j=1}^{K_5} \frac{u_{6,k} - u_{5,j} + \frac{i}{2}}{u_{6,k} - u_{5,j} - \frac{i}{2}},$$

$$E(g) = 2 \sum_{j=1}^{K_4} \left( \frac{i}{x_{4,j}^+} - \frac{i}{x_{4,j}^-} \right), \quad \Delta = \Delta_0 + g^2 E(g).$$

$$1 = \prod_{j=1}^{K_4} \left( \frac{x_{4,j}^+}{x_{4,j}^-} \right), \quad u_k = x_k + \frac{g^2}{x_k}, \quad u_k \pm \frac{i}{2} = x_k^\pm + \frac{g^2}{x_k^\pm}.$$

## The phase:

- ◇ Universal to all sectors; general structure: Arutyunov, Frolov, Staudacher;  
Beisert, Klose; Beisert, Tseytlin

$$\theta(u_1, u_2) = \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \beta_{r,r+1+2\nu}(g) \left[ q_r(u_1) q_{r+1+2\nu}(u_2) - q_r(u_2) q_{r+1+2\nu}(u_1) \right]$$

$$q_{r,k} = \frac{1}{r-1} \left( \frac{i}{(x_k^+)^{r-1}} - \frac{i}{(x_k^-)^{r-1}} \right) \quad g = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{\pi}$$

- various suggestions for the origin of the phase:

- relativistic 2d sigma model

Mann, Polchinski  
Gromov, Kazakov, Viera, Sakai

- fill to physical vacuum

Sakai, Satoh  
Rej, Staudacher, Zieme

- constrained by crossing at strong coupling

Janik

- morally similar to  $SP^q(i\pi - \theta) = C^p S^{\bar{p},q}(\theta) C^p$

- for AdS:  $\sigma_{12}\sigma_{\bar{1}\bar{2}} = f_{12}$  but  $f_{12} \neq f_{\bar{1}\bar{2}}$

**solution:** compatibility of algebra and  $\mathcal{C}$ :  $1 \mapsto \bar{1} \mapsto \bar{\bar{1}} \neq 1$

## The phase:

- ◇ Universal to all sectors; general structure: Arutyunov, Frolov, Staudacher; Beisert, Klose; Beisert, Tseytlin

$$\theta(u_1, u_2) = \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \beta_{r, r+1+2\nu}(g) \left[ q_r(u_1) q_{r+1+2\nu}(u_2) - q_r(u_2) q_{r+1+2\nu}(u_1) \right]$$

- strong coupling:  $c_{r,s}(g) = g^{2-r-s} \beta_{r,s}(g) = \sum_n c_{r,s}^{(n)} g^{1-n}$

$$c_{r,s}^{(n)} = \frac{(1 - (-)^{r+s})(r-1)(s-1) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}(s+r+n-3)) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}(s-r+n-1))}{2(-2\pi)^n \Gamma(n-1) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}(s+r-n+1)) \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}(s-r-n+3))}$$

! not unique

Beisert, Hernandez, Lopez

- weak coupling:  $\beta_{r, r+1+2\nu}(g) = \sum_{\mu=\nu}^{\infty} g^{2r+2\nu+2\mu} \beta_{r, r+1+2\nu}^{(r+\nu+\mu)}$

- analytic continuation from strong coupling

Beisert, Eden, Staudacher

## An inspired guess?

$$f(g) = -\frac{1/g}{1 - 1/g} = \frac{1}{1 - g}$$

### Series expansion:

$g \rightarrow \infty$	$g \rightarrow 0$
$f(g) = \sum b_n g^{-n} \quad (b_n = -1)$	$f(g) = \sum a_n g^{+n} \quad (a_n = +1)$

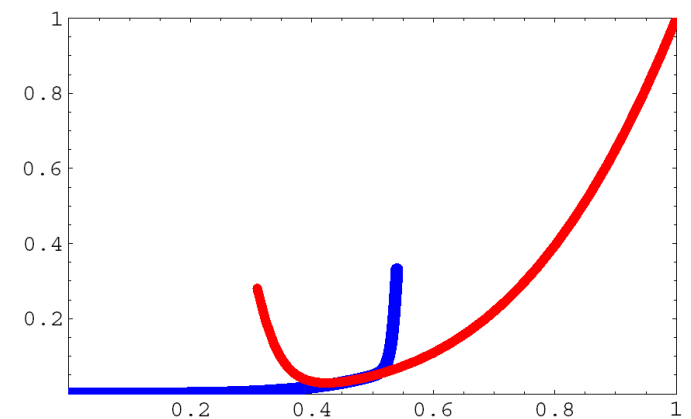
◇ Analytic continuation “rule”:  $a_n = -b_{-n}$

Beisert, Eden, Staudacher

$$c_{rs}(g) = \sum_n c_{r,s}^{(n)} g^{1-n} \mapsto - \sum_n c_{r,s}^{(-n)} g^{1+n}$$

### Various appealing features:

- only integer powers of  $\lambda$
- first nonzero contribution at 4 loops
- Lipatov’s transcendentality
- expected radius of convergence



$c_{23}/(c_{23} + 1)$  vs.  $\sqrt{\lambda}/(\sqrt{\lambda} + \pi)$

## The phase:

- ◇ Universal to all sectors; general structure: Arutyunov, Frolov, Staudacher; Beisert, Klose; Beisert, Tseytlin

$$\theta(u_1, u_2) = \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \beta_{r,r+1+2\nu}(g) \left[ q_r(u_1) q_{r+1+2\nu}(u_2) - q_r(u_2) q_{r+1+2\nu}(u_1) \right]$$

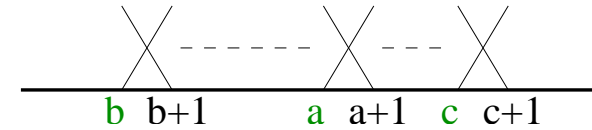
- weak coupling:  $\beta_{r,r+1+2\nu}(g) = \sum_{\mu=\nu}^{\infty} g^{2r+2\nu+2\mu} \beta_{r,r+1+2\nu}^{(r+\nu+\mu)}$

- analytic continuation from strong coupling – several possibilities: Beisert, Eden, Staudacher

$L$	no $\zeta(2n+1)$	with $\zeta(2n+1)$
4	$\beta_{2,3}^{(3)} = 2\zeta(3)$	$\beta_{2,3}^{(3)} = 4\zeta(3)$
5	$\beta_{2,3}^{(4)} = -20\zeta(5)$	$\beta_{2,3}^{(4)} = -40\zeta(5)$
6	$\beta_{2,3}^{(5)} = 210\zeta(7),$ $\beta_{3,4}^{(5)} = 12\zeta(5), \beta_{2,5}^{(5)} = -4\zeta(5)$	$\beta_{2,3}^{(5)} = 420\zeta(7),$ $\beta_{3,4}^{(5)} = 24\zeta(5), \beta_{2,5}^{(5)} = -8\zeta(5)$

- phase coefficients may be identified at the level of the Hamiltonian

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{H}_4 = & +(-560 - 4\beta_{2,3})\{\} \\
& + (+1072 + 12\beta_{2,3} + 8\epsilon_{3a})\{1\} \\
& + (-84 - 6\beta_{2,3} - 4\epsilon_{3a})\{1, 3\} \\
& - 4\{1, 4\} \\
& + (-302 - 4\beta_{2,3} - 8\epsilon_{3a})(\{1, 2\} + \{2, 1\}) \\
& + (+4\beta_{2,3} + 4\epsilon_{3a} + 2i\epsilon_{3c} - 4i\epsilon_{3d})\{1, 3, 2\} \\
& + (+4\beta_{2,3} + 4\epsilon_{3a} - 2i\epsilon_{3c} + 4i\epsilon_{3d})\{2, 1, 3\} \\
& + (4 - 2i\epsilon_{3c})(\{1, 2, 4\} + \{1, 4, 3\}) \\
& + (4 + 2i\epsilon_{3c})(\{1, 3, 4\} + \{2, 1, 4\}) \\
& + (+96 + 4\epsilon_{3a})(\{1, 2, 3\} + \{3, 2, 1\}) \\
& + (-12 - 2\beta_{2,3} - 4\epsilon_{3a})\{2, 1, 3, 2\} \\
& + (+18 + 4\epsilon_{3a})(\{1, 3, 2, 4\} + \{2, 1, 4, 3\}) \\
& + (-8 - 2\epsilon_{3a} - 2i\epsilon_{3b})(\{1, 2, 4, 3\} + \{1, 4, 3, 2\}) \\
& + (-8 - 2\epsilon_{3a} + 2i\epsilon_{3b})(\{2, 1, 3, 4\} + \{3, 2, 1, 4\}) \\
& - 10(\{1, 2, 3, 4\} + \{4, 3, 2, 1\})
\end{aligned}$$



- $\{\dots bac\} = \dots P_{b,b+1} P_{a,a+1} P_{c,c+1}$
- $\beta$ =undetermined; directly computable
- $\epsilon$ =similarity parameters

$$\mathcal{H} \rightarrow U(\epsilon)^{-1} \mathcal{H} U(\epsilon)$$

- Direct calculation of  $\mathcal{H}_4 \implies \beta_{23}^{(3)} = 4\zeta(3)$

Beisert, McLoughlin, RR

- expected  $\zeta$ -constants at 5, 6, 7, 8-loops

McLoughlin, RR (unpublished)

## Twist operators; $SL(2)$ sector

$$O_{n_1 \dots n_{\mathcal{L}}} = \text{Tr} [D^{n_1} Z \dots D^{n_{\mathcal{L}}} Z] \quad \sum_{i=1}^{\mathcal{L}} n_i = S \quad \mathcal{L} = \Delta_0 - S$$

- Hamiltonian is complicated; unknown beyond 2-loops

Various scaling limits:

- 1)  $S \ll \mathcal{L}$
- 2)  $\mathcal{L} \rightarrow \infty, S \rightarrow \infty, (\ln S)/\mathcal{L} < 1$   $\lambda \frac{S}{\mathcal{L}^2}$   
 $\frac{\lambda}{\mathcal{L}} \ln \frac{S}{\mathcal{L}}$
- 3)  $\mathcal{L} \rightarrow \infty, S \rightarrow \infty, (\ln S)/\mathcal{L} \gg 1$   $\sqrt{\lambda} \ln S / \sqrt{\lambda}$

- Contact with perturbative gauge theory data – need small  $\mathcal{L}$

- AP kernel – close relation to  $\mathcal{L} = 2$ ;  $\gamma(g, S) \xrightarrow{S \rightarrow \infty} f(g) \ln S$   
 $f(g) = \Gamma_{\text{cusp}}$

## However...

- BA defined with  $\mathcal{L} \rightarrow \infty$  and fixed  $S$ ; order of limits issue?
- $S \gg \mathcal{L}$  really removes twist dependence?
- small twist is outside asymptotic regime; does it matter?

Twist operators;  $SL(2)$  sector; Bethe equations for  $(\ln S)/\mathcal{L} \gg 1$

$$\left(\frac{x_k^+}{x_k^-}\right)^{\mathcal{L}} = \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^S \frac{x_k^- - x_j^+}{x_k^+ - x_j^-} \frac{1 - g^2/x_k^+ x_j^-}{1 - g^2/x_k^- x_j^+} e^{2i\theta(u_k, u_j)} \quad u \pm \frac{i}{2} = x^\pm + \frac{g^2}{2x^\pm}$$

$$E(g) = \sum_{j=1}^S \left[ \frac{i}{x_j^+} - \frac{i}{x_j^-} \right]$$

- take logarithm; sums  $\rightarrow$  integrals as  $S \gg 1$ ;  $u_i \rightarrow \rho(u)$
- take  $d/du$ ; perturb around  $\rho_0 = \rho|_{g=0}$ :  $\rho(u) = \rho_0(u) - g^2 \frac{E_0}{S} \sigma(u)$ ;  
Fourier-transform  $\sigma(u) \mapsto \hat{\sigma}(t)$

$$\hat{\sigma}(t) = \frac{t}{e^t - 1} \left[ K(2gt, 0) - 4g^2 \int_0^\infty dt' \widehat{K}(2gt, 2gt') \hat{\sigma}(t') \right]$$

BES

$$\widehat{K}(t, t') = \frac{J_1(t)J_0(t') - J_1(t')J_0(t)}{t - t'} + \widehat{K}_d(t, t')$$

$$\widehat{K}_d(t, t') = \frac{4}{tt'} \sum_{\mu > \nu} (-)^\nu g^{2\mu+1} \left( \beta_{2\rho, 2\rho+1+2\nu}^{(2\rho+\nu+\mu)} J_{2\rho+2\nu}(t) J_{2\rho-1}(t') + \beta_{2\rho+1, 2\rho+2+2\nu}^{(2\rho+1+\nu+\mu)} J_{2\rho}(t) J_{2\rho+1+2\nu}(t') \right)$$

$$f(g) = E(g)/\ln S = 16g^2 \hat{\sigma}(0)$$



- Weak coupling:

Beisert, Eden, Staudacher

$$\pi^2 f(g) = \frac{\lambda}{2} - \frac{\lambda^2}{96} + \frac{11 \lambda^3}{23040} - \left( \frac{73}{2580480} + \frac{\zeta(3)^2}{1024\pi^6} \right) \lambda^4 \dots$$

- agrees within numerical accuracy with direct calculation of  $\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}$   
Bern, Czakon, Dixon, Kosower, Smirnov; Cachazo, Spradlin, Volovich
- $\lambda^5$  agrees with Padé extrapolation of 4-loop  $\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}$

Bern, Czakon, Dixon, Kosower, Smirnov

◇ Bethe ansatz works unexpectedly well despite potential issues

- Strong coupling limit:

- Direct extrapolation of BES  
Benna, Benvenuti, Klebanov, Scardicchio
  - ◇ correct LO and NLO; uncertainties w/ procedure at NNLO
  - ◇ NNLO: apparent inconsistency with ws Feynman diagrammatics  
RR, Tirziu, Tseytlin
- Use strong coupling phase  
Casteill, Kristjansen
  - ◇ correct LO and NLO; NNLO N/A

Does this imply that asymptotic BA is complete?

- Further tests at finite spin and finite length
  - use BFKL

Kotikov, Lipatov, Rej,  
Staudacher, Velizhanin

$$\frac{\omega^2}{-g^2} = \Psi(-g^2 E(g)) + \Psi(1 + g^2 E(g)) - 2\Psi(1) \quad \Psi(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \ln \Gamma(x)$$
$$\omega = S + 1$$

Balitsky, Fadin, Kuraev, Lipatov

- Encodes the  $t$ -channel exchange of pomeron resonance

$$\text{Tr} [Z D^{-1+\omega} Z]$$

- Sensitive to complete dependence on  $\lambda$  and  $S$ 
  - different organization of Feynman diagrams
- valid for negative spin around  $\omega = 0$
- Comparison with asymptotic BA predictions require
  - calculation at finite spin
  - continuation to  $S < 0$  and expansion around  $S = -1$

The comparison:

- BFKL

$$E(g)^{\text{BFKL}} = \frac{-4g^2}{\omega} - 0 \left( \frac{-4g^2}{\omega} \right)^2 + 0 \left( \frac{-4g^2}{\omega} \right)^3 - 2\zeta(3) \left( \frac{-4g^2}{\omega} \right)^4 + \dots$$

- ABA

$$E(g)^{\text{ABA}} = \frac{-4g^2}{\omega} - 0 \left( \frac{-4g^2}{\omega} \right)^2 + 0 \left( \frac{-4g^2}{\omega} \right)^3 - \frac{(-4g^2)^4}{\omega^7} + \dots$$

- ABA breaks down at finite spin and finite length at 4-loops

Kotikov, Lipatov, Rej, Staudacher, Velizhanin

## The comparison:

- ABA breaks down at finite spin and finite length at 4-loops

Kotikov, Lipatov, Rej, Staudacher, Velizhanin

- Proposed fix: change dressing phase coefficients ( $\beta_{23}^{(3)}$ )

$$\zeta(3) \mapsto \frac{47}{24}\zeta(3) - \frac{1}{4}S_{-4} + \frac{3}{4}S_{-2}S_1 + \frac{3}{8}S_1S_2 + \frac{3}{4}S_3 + \frac{1}{6}S_{-2,1} - \frac{17}{24}S_{2,1}$$

- makes S-matrix state-dependent (depends on  $S$ ) – **Universality?**
- Assuming all previous assumptions hold → **conjecture** for  $\gamma_{\text{Konishi}}$

$$O = \sum_i \text{Tr} [\phi^i \bar{\phi}_i] \quad \gamma(g) = 12g^2 - 48g^4 + 336g^6 - \left( \frac{5307}{2} + 564\zeta(3) \right) g^8 \dots$$

Kotikov, Lipatov, Rej, Staudacher, Velizhanin

## Outlook ...

- Great progress toward finding spectrum of  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM
- Bethe Ansatz works better than expected but incomplete
- Not immediately clear what it is diagonalizing
  - $\lambda \rightarrow 0$  complete 1-loop; higher loops in some sectors
  - $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$  a continuum leading order Hamiltonian

## ... and some open problems

- ★ Prove integrability
- ★ What integrable model describes the  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  spectral problem?  
What about the world sheet sigma model?
- ★ Is the dressing phase truly correct and who ordered it?
  - Other solutions? Other analytic continuation?
  - more reliable computations are needed at strong coupling
- ★ Use of integrability for finite quantum numbers?
  - no direct calculation of a wrapping effect
  - why some quantities are insensitive to it?
- ★ New computational techniques?
- ★ are there extra symmetries waiting to be discovered?
- ★ Is integrability restricted to the spectral problem?
  - consequences/extra structure in scattering amplitudes?