### BFKL Pomeron at Strong Coupling from the Quantum Spectral Curve of N=4 SYM

Fedor Levkovich-Maslyuk King's College London

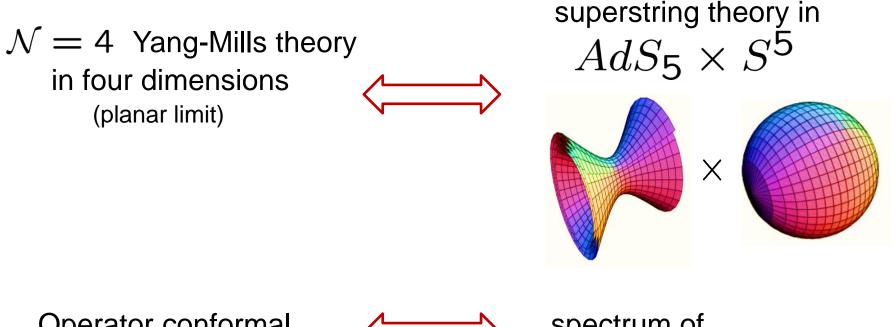
#### Based on arXiv:1402.0871 (N. Gromov, F. L.-M., G. Sizov, S. Valatka)







# **AdS/CFT duality**



Operator conformal dimensions  $\Delta_i$ 



spectrum of string energies  $E_i$ 

#### The problem we study: finding the spectrum

Hope for exact solution of both theories! Key tool: **integrability** 

## **Motivation**

- Understand gauge theory at strong coupling
- Similarities between N=4 SYM and QCD (BFKL, ....)
- Explore quantum strings, AdS/CFT

Lipatov, Faddeev, Korchemsky, ...

#### N=4 Supersymmetric Yang-Mills (SYM)

$$S = \frac{1}{g_{YM}^2} \int d^4x \, \text{tr} \, \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \, F_{\mu\nu}^2 + (D_\mu \Phi_i)^2 - \frac{1}{2} [\Phi_i, \Phi_j]^2 + \text{fermions} \right\}$$

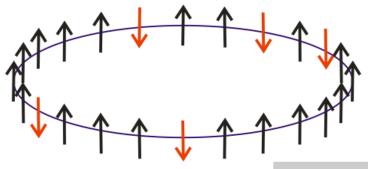
 $A_{\mu}, \Phi_i, \psi_j$  in adjoint of  $SU(N_c)$ Planar limit:  $N_c \to \infty$ ,  $\lambda = g_{YM}^2 N_c$  is fixed – 't Hooft coupling

Theory is conformal 
$$\implies \langle \mathcal{O}_i(x)\mathcal{O}_j(y) \rangle = \frac{\text{const}}{|x-y|^{\Delta_i + \Delta_j}}$$

 $\mathcal{O}(x) = \operatorname{Tr} \left( \Phi_1 \Phi_2 \Phi_1 \Phi_1 \Phi_2 \dots \Phi_1 \Phi_2 \Phi_2 \right)(x) + \text{permutations}$ 

$$\Delta_i = \Delta_i(\lambda)$$

At 1 loop – eigenvalues of integrable XXX spin chain!



Minahan, Zarembo 2002

### String theory on AdS<sub>5</sub> x S<sup>5</sup>

$$S = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{4\pi} \int \partial_{\mu} \vec{X} \cdot \partial^{\mu} \vec{X} \ d\sigma d\tau + fermions$$

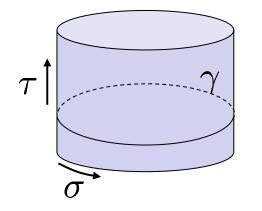
Metsaev,Tseytlin;Bena,Polchinski,Roiban; Kazakov,Marshakov,Minahan,Zarembo

 $\lambda$  = gauge theory 't Hooft coupling

Coset sigma model

 $\frac{\mathsf{PSU}(2,2|4)}{\mathsf{Sp}(2,2)\times\mathsf{Sp}(4)}$ 

Infinitely many integrals of motion! Encoded in monodromy matrix.



$$\Omega(u,\tau) = P \exp \oint_{\gamma} \mathcal{A}(u,\tau,\sigma)$$
$$\partial_{\tau} \operatorname{Tr} \Omega(u,\tau) = 0$$
on E.O.M.

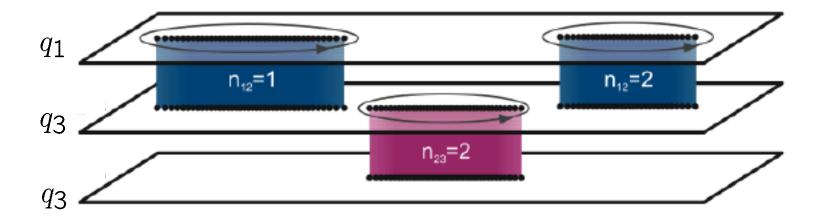
### **Classical spectral curve**

 $\Omega(u) \to \{e^{iq_1(u)}, e^{iq_2(u)}, e^{iq_3(u)}, e^{iq_4(u)}, e^{iq_5(u)}, e^{iq_6(u)}, e^{iq_7(u)}, e^{iq_8(u)}\}$ 

Eigenvalues are integrals of motion, they define an 8-sheet algebraic curve

$$\det(\Omega(u)-z)=0$$

Branch cuts in the quasimomenta  $q_i(u)$  connect sheets

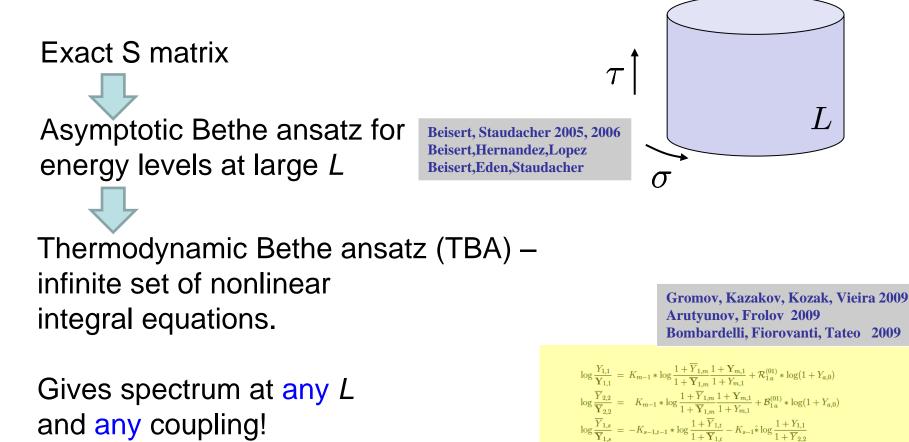


Beisert,Kazakov,Sakai,Zarembo; ..

## **Quantum integrability**

String sigma model = integrable 2d QFT in finite volume L

L = # of fields in gauge theory operator



 $\log \frac{Y_{a,1}}{Y_{a,1}} = -K_{a-1,b-1} * \log \frac{1+Y_{b,1}}{1+Y_{b,1}} - K_{a-1} * \log \frac{1+Y_{1,1}}{1+Y_{2,2}}$ 

 $+ \left[ \mathcal{R}_{ab}^{(01)} + \mathcal{B}_{a-2,b}^{(01)} \right] * \log(1 + Y_{b,0})$ 

 $\log \frac{Y_{a,0}}{\mathbf{V}_{a,b}} = \left[2\mathcal{S}_{ab} - \mathcal{R}_{ab}^{(11)} + \mathcal{B}_{ab}^{(11)}\right] * \log(1+Y_{b,0}) + 2\left[\mathcal{R}_{ab}^{(10)} + \mathcal{B}_{a,b-2}^{(10)}\right] * \log\frac{1+Y_{b,1}}{1+Y_{b,1}}$ 

 $+2\mathcal{R}_{a1}^{(10)} \hat{*}_{sym} \log \frac{1+Y_{1,1}}{1+Y_{1,1}} - 2\mathcal{B}_{a1}^{(10)} \hat{*}_{sym} \log \frac{1+Y_{2,2}}{1+\overline{Y}_{2,2}}$ 

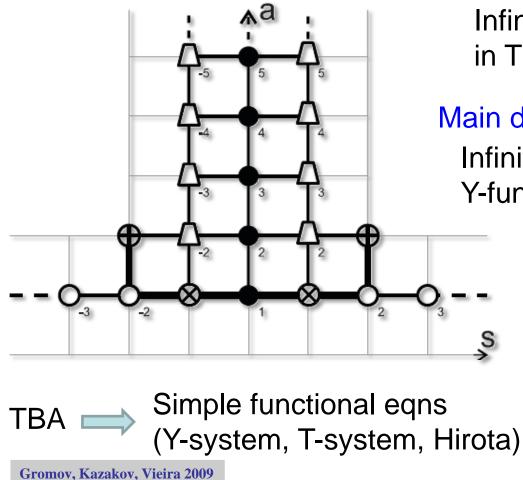
But very complicated.

#### **TBA equations**

$$\begin{split} \log \frac{Y_{1,1}}{\mathbf{Y}_{1,1}} &= K_{m-1} * \log \frac{1 + \overline{Y}_{1,m}}{1 + \overline{Y}_{1,m}} \frac{1 + \mathbf{Y}_{m,1}}{1 + Y_{m,1}} + \mathcal{R}_{1a}^{(01)} * \log(1 + Y_{a,0}) \\ \log \frac{\overline{Y}_{2,2}}{\overline{\mathbf{Y}}_{2,2}} &= K_{m-1} * \log \frac{1 + \overline{Y}_{1,m}}{1 + \overline{\mathbf{Y}}_{1,m}} \frac{1 + \mathbf{Y}_{m,1}}{1 + Y_{m,1}} + \mathcal{B}_{1a}^{(01)} * \log(1 + Y_{a,0}) \\ \log \frac{\overline{Y}_{1,s}}{\overline{\mathbf{Y}}_{1,s}} &= -K_{s-1,t-1} * \log \frac{1 + \overline{Y}_{1,t}}{1 + \overline{\mathbf{Y}}_{1,t}} - K_{s-1} * \log \frac{1 + Y_{1,1}}{1 + \overline{Y}_{2,2}} \\ \log \frac{Y_{a,1}}{\mathbf{Y}_{a,1}} &= -K_{a-1,b-1} * \log \frac{1 + Y_{b,1}}{1 + \mathbf{Y}_{b,1}} - K_{a-1} * \log \frac{1 + Y_{1,1}}{1 + \overline{Y}_{2,2}} \\ &+ \left[ \mathcal{R}_{ab}^{(01)} + \mathcal{B}_{a-2,b}^{(01)} \right] * \log(1 + Y_{b,0}) \\ \log \frac{Y_{a,0}}{\overline{\mathbf{Y}}_{a,0}} &= \left[ 2S_{ab} - \mathcal{R}_{ab}^{(11)} + \mathcal{B}_{ab}^{(11)} \right] * \log(1 + Y_{b,0}) + 2 \left[ \mathcal{R}_{ab}^{(10)} + \mathcal{B}_{a,b-2}^{(10)} \right] * \log \frac{1 + Y_{b,1}}{1 + \mathbf{Y}_{b,1}} \\ &+ 2\mathcal{R}_{a1}^{(10)} * \log \frac{1 + Y_{1,1}}{1 + \mathbf{Y}_{1,1}} - 2\mathcal{B}_{a1}^{(10)} * \log \frac{1 + \overline{Y}_{2,2}}{1 + \overline{Y}_{2,2}} \end{split}$$

#### Can this be the final solution to the spectral problem in N=4 SYM?!

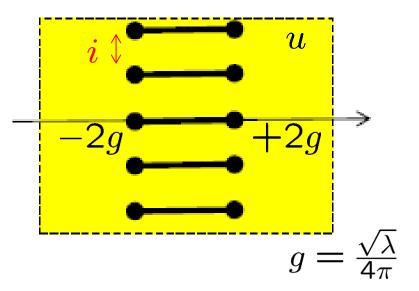
### **Y-functions and analyticity**



Infinite set of unknown functions in TBA equations –  $Y_{a,s}(u)$ 

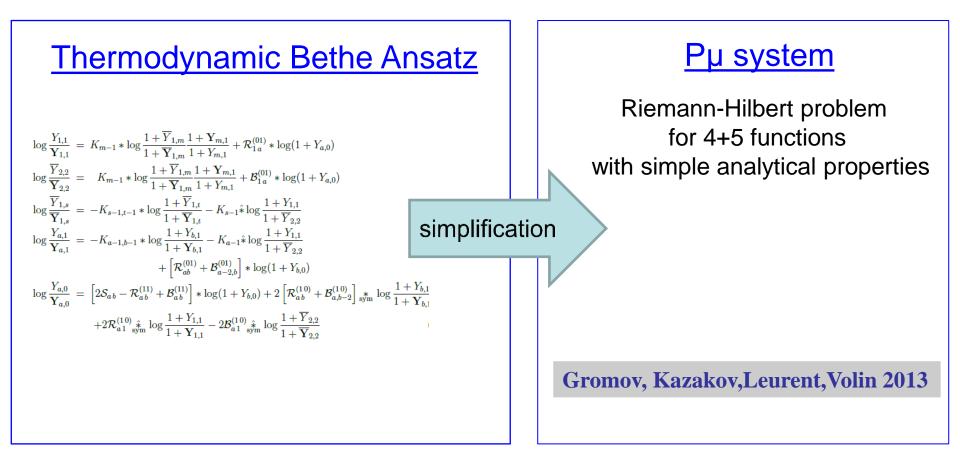
#### Main difficulty:

Infinite ladder of branch points in Y-functions



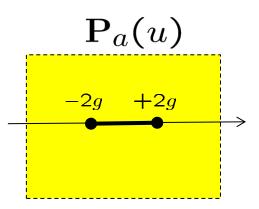
Solution is known, but need to ensure correct analytical properties

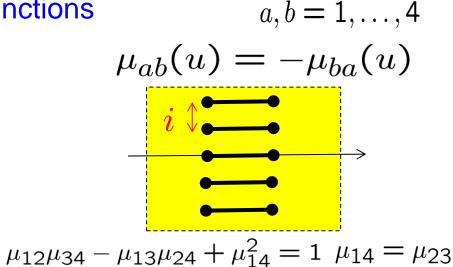
### The Pµ system



# Pµ-system/Quantum Spectral Curve

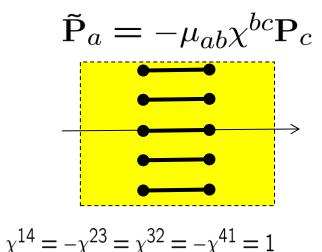
TBA equations reduced to only 4+5 functions





Branchpoints are quadratic

Analytic continuation around branchpoint



$$\tilde{\mu}_{a,b} = \mu_{a,b} + \mathbf{P}_a \tilde{\mathbf{P}}_b - \mathbf{P}_b \tilde{\mathbf{P}}_a$$
$$\tilde{\mu}_{a,b} = \mu_{a,b} (u+i)$$

# The energy from Pµ-system

Conserved charges are encoded in asymptotics

E.g. for twist operators  $Tr(ZD^SZ^{L-1})$  (where  $Z = \Phi_1 + i\Phi_2$ )

 $\mathbf{P}_{1} \simeq A_{1} u^{-L/2}$  $\mathbf{P}_{2} \simeq A_{2} u^{-L/2-1}$  $\mathbf{P}_{3} \simeq A_{3} u^{+L/2}$  $\mathbf{P}_{4} \simeq A_{4} u^{+L/2-1}$ 

And anomalous dimension  $\Delta\,$  is found from

$$A_2 A_3 = \frac{[(L-S+2)^2 - \Delta^2][(L+S)^2 - \Delta^2)]}{16iL(L+1)}$$
$$A_4 A_1 = \frac{[(L+S-2)^2 - \Delta^2][(L-S)^2 - \Delta^2]}{16iL(L-1)}.$$

### **Relation to classical spectral curve**

 $P_a(u) \simeq e^{\int^u q_a(v) dv}$ 

Thus P-mu system may be viewed as a quantum version of the curve

Strongly reminds WKB wavefunction

In the classical limit

$$\psi(x) \simeq e^{\int^x p(y) dy}$$

We expect  $P_a$  should be the exact Baxter Q-functions = wavefunctions in separated variables

Gromov, Kazakov, Leurent, Volin 2013

#### **Application:**

### small spin limit and pomeron intercept

# Twist operators at small spin

$$\mathcal{O} = \mathrm{Tr}(ZD^SZ^{L-1})$$

For S=0 this operator is protected (BPS) We consider the peculiar limit when  $S \rightarrow 0$ 

Gromov, F.L.-M. Sizov, Valatka '14

1. 
$$\begin{cases} \tilde{\mathbf{P}}_{1} = -\mu_{1,2}\mathbf{P}_{3} + \mu_{1,3}\mathbf{P}_{2} - \mu_{1,4}\mathbf{P}_{1}, \\ \tilde{\mathbf{P}}_{2} = -\mu_{1,2}\mathbf{P}_{4} + \mu_{2,3}\mathbf{P}_{2} - \mu_{2,4}\mathbf{P}_{1}, \\ \tilde{\mathbf{P}}_{3} = -\mu_{1,3}\mathbf{P}_{4} + \mu_{2,3}\mathbf{P}_{3} - \mu_{3,4}\mathbf{P}_{1}, \\ \tilde{\mathbf{P}}_{4} = -\mu_{1,4}\mathbf{P}_{4} + \mu_{2,4}\mathbf{P}_{3} - \mu_{3,4}\mathbf{P}_{2}. \end{cases} \begin{cases} \tilde{\mathbf{P}}_{1} = -\mathbf{P}_{3} + \mathbf{P}_{1}, \\ \tilde{\mathbf{P}}_{2} = -\mathbf{P}_{4} - \mathbf{P}_{2} - \mathbf{P}_{1}\sinh(2\pi u), \\ \tilde{\mathbf{P}}_{3} = -\mathbf{P}_{3}, \\ \tilde{\mathbf{P}}_{4} = -\mu_{1,4}\mathbf{P}_{4} + \mu_{2,4}\mathbf{P}_{3} - \mu_{3,4}\mathbf{P}_{2}. \end{cases}$$
  
2. 
$$\tilde{\mu}_{ab}(u) = \mu_{ab}(u+i)$$
  
3. 
$$\tilde{\mu}_{a,b} = \mu_{a,b} + \mathbf{P}_{a}\tilde{\mathbf{P}}_{b} - \mathbf{P}_{b}\tilde{\mathbf{P}}_{a}$$
  
Key simplification: all  $\mathbf{P}_{a}$  are small  $\swarrow \mu_{ab}$  are trivial

Easy to solve in terms of

$$x + \frac{1}{x} = \frac{u}{g}$$
 e.g.  $P_1 = C/x, P_3 = Cx - C/x$ 

As a result we get

$$\Delta = L + S \frac{4\pi g I_{L+1}(4\pi g)}{L I_L(4\pi g)} + O(S^2)$$

Matches result of [Basso 2011] !

### S<sup>2</sup> order

P-mu system can be solved order by order in S

$$\Delta = L + S\Delta^{(1)}(g) + S^2\Delta^{(2)}(g) + \dots$$

We computed the  $S^2$  term at any coupling for L=2,3,4

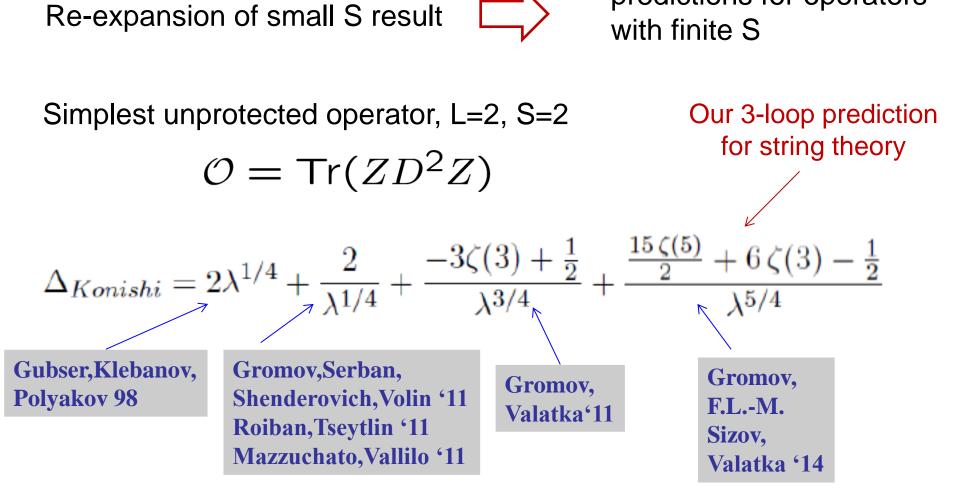
$$\Delta_{L=2}^{(2)} = \oint \frac{du_x}{2\pi i} \oint \frac{du_y}{2\pi i} \left[ \frac{8\pi^3 I_1(\sqrt{\lambda})^2 \left(x^3 - (x^2 + 1)y\right) (2\pi g I_1(\sqrt{\lambda}) - I_2(\sqrt{\lambda}))}{I_2(\sqrt{\lambda})^3 (x^3 - x)y^2} + \dots - \frac{4\pi^3 (\operatorname{sh}_{-}^x)^2 \left(x^2 + 1\right)y^2}{I_2(\sqrt{\lambda})^2 (x^2 - 1)} \right] \frac{1}{4\pi i} \partial_u \log \frac{\Gamma(iu_x - iu_y + 1)}{\Gamma(1 - iu_x + iu_y)}$$

At weak coupling – matches known predictions to 4 loops!

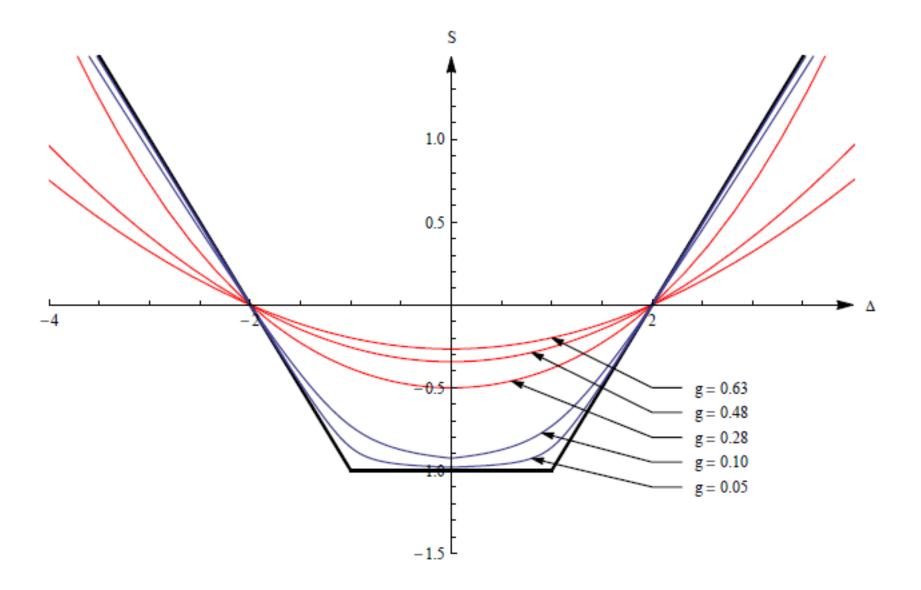
$$\gamma_{J=2}^{(2)} = -8g^2\zeta_3 + g^4\left(140\zeta_5 - \frac{32\pi^2\zeta_3}{3}\right) + g^6\left(200\pi^2\zeta_5 - 2016\zeta_7\right) + g^8\left(-\frac{16\pi^6\zeta_3}{45} - \frac{88\pi^4\zeta_5}{9} - \frac{9296\pi^2\zeta_7}{3} + 27720\zeta_9\right) + \dots$$

### Konishi operator at strong coupling

predictions for operators

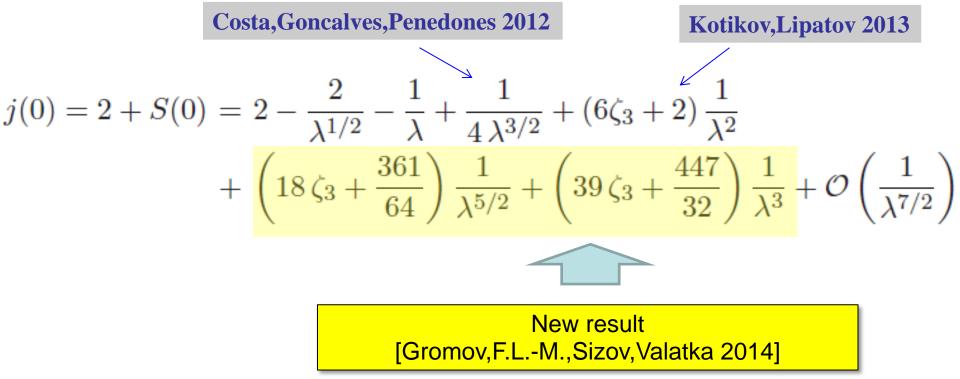


## **S (Δ) for L=2**

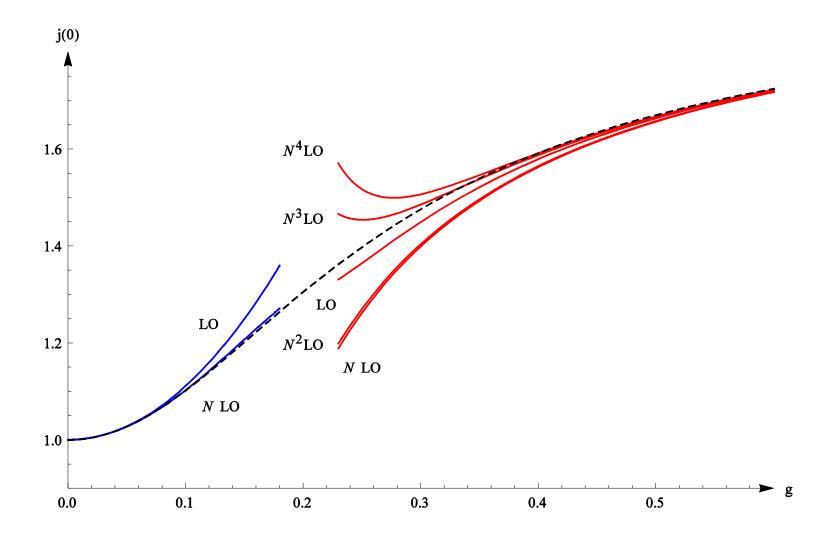


# **BFKL pomeron intercept** $j(\Delta) \equiv 2 + S(\Delta)$

With our results we can compute the intercept j(0) at strong coupling:



### **BFKL pomeron intercept**



# Conclusions

- Quantum Spectral Curve/ $\mathbf{P}\mu$  system applied to study twist operators in N=4 SYM
- $S^2$  term in conformal dimension found at any coupling
- Tested at weak and strong coupling
- New strong coupling prediction for Konishi operator
- Two new terms in BFKL intercept at strong coupling
- Other applications: quark-antiquark potential, ABJM theory

Gromov, Sever 12 Gromov, F.L.-M., Sizov 13

Cavaglia,Fioravanti,Gromov,Tateo 14 Gromov, Sizov 14

• Many future directions: exact wavefunctions and separated variables, correlators, BFKL, ...

# Asymptotic energy spectrum

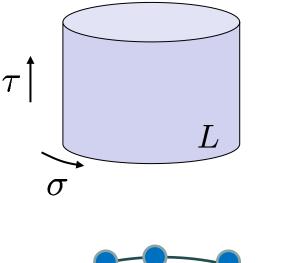
string sigma model = 2d QFT with finite spatial size L

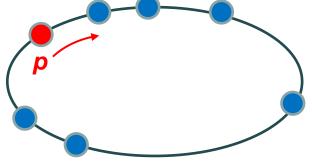
 $L \to \infty$ 

Factorized scattering; quantization of momenta

$$e^{ip_iL} = \prod_{j=1}^M S(p_i, p_j)$$

 Bethe ansatz equations





$$\Delta = \sum \epsilon(p_j)$$

# All-loop asymptotic Bethe ansatz (ABA)

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

$$1 = \prod_{j \neq k}^{K_2} \frac{u_{2,k} - u_{2,j} - i}{u_{2,k} - u_{2,j} + i} \prod_{j=1}^{K_3} \frac{u_{2,k} - u_{3,j} + \frac{i}{2}}{u_{2,k} - u_{3,j} - \frac{i}{2}} \prod_{j=1}^{K_1} \frac{u_{2,k} - u_{1,j} + \frac{i}{2}}{u_{2,k} - u_{1,j} - \frac{i}{2}},$$

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

$$1 = \left(\frac{x_{4,k}^-}{x_{4,k}^+}\right)^L \prod_{j \neq k}^{K_4} \frac{u_{4,k} - u_{4,j} + i}{u_{4,k} - u_{4,j} - i} \prod_j^{K_4} \left(\frac{1 - 1/x_{4,k}^+ x_{4,j}^-}{1 - 1/x_{4,k}^- x_{4,j}^+}\right) \sigma^2(x_{4,k}, x_{4,j})$$

$$\times \prod_{j=1}^{K_1} \frac{1 - 1/x_{4,k}^- x_{1,j}}{1 - 1/x_{4,k}^+ x_{1,j}} \prod_{j=1}^{K_3} \frac{x_{4,k}^- - x_{3,j}}{x_{4,k}^+ - x_{3,j}} \prod_{j=1}^{K_5} \frac{x_{4,k}^- - x_{5,j}}{x_{4,k}^+ - x_{5,j}} \prod_{j=1}^{K_7} \frac{1 - 1/x_{4,k}^- x_{7,j}}{1 - 1/x_{4,k}^+ x_{7,j}},$$

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

$$1 = \prod_{j \neq k}^{K_6} \frac{u_{6,k} - u_{6,j} - i}{u_{6,k} - u_{6,j} - \frac{i}{2}} \prod_{j=1}^{K_6} \frac{u_{6,k} - u_{5,j} + \frac{i}{2}}{1 - 1/x_{7,k} x_{4,j}^+}}.$$

 $E = \sum_{j} \epsilon(u_{4,j})$ 

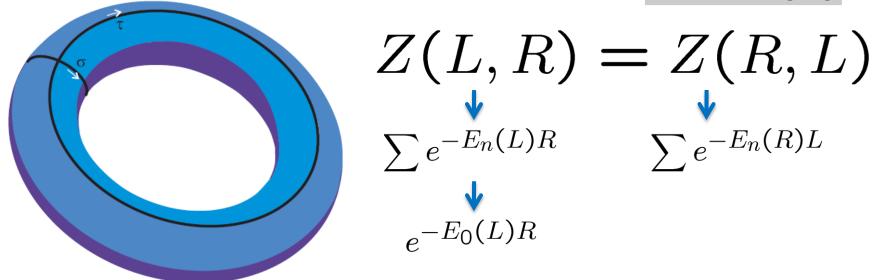
At any coupling!

But only for  $L \to \infty$ 

Beisert, Staudacher 2005, 2006 Beisert,Hernandez,Lopez Beisert,Eden,Staudacher L = # of fields in operator = spatial size in 2d What is the spectrum at finite L ???

# **Thermodynamic Bethe ansatz (TBA)**

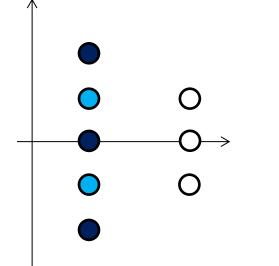
Zamolodchikov; Yang, Yang



From **asymptotic** spectrum  $(R \rightarrow \infty)$  we get ground state energy at **finite** volume!

$$E_0(L) = -\lim_{R \to \infty} \frac{\log \sum e^{-E_n(R)L}}{R}$$

# **TBA equations**



 $R \rightarrow \infty$  : Bethe roots form complexes

 $Y_n(u)$  are expressed in terms of densities ho(u)

From (mirror) asymptotic Bethe equations TBA equations for Y-functions

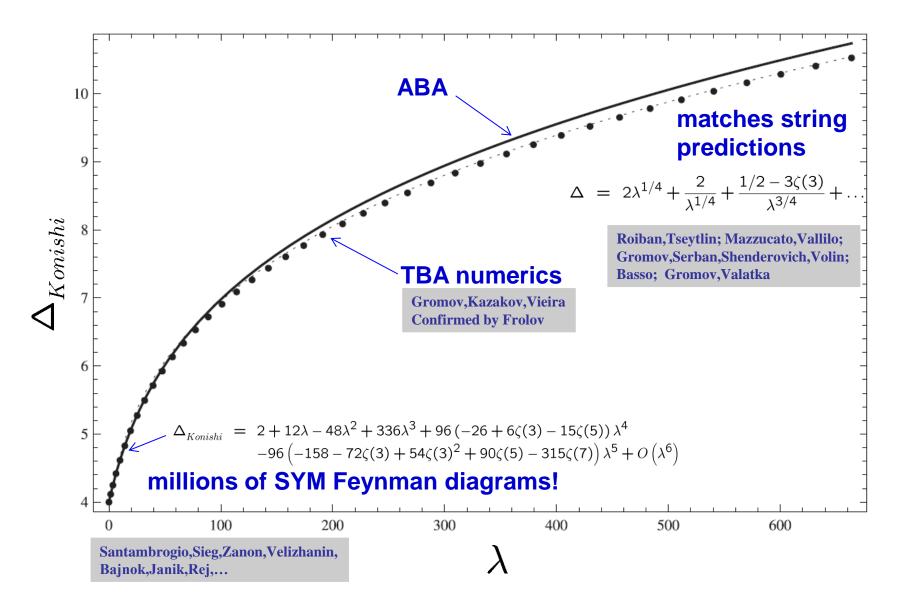
Gromov, Kazakov, Kozak, Vieira 2009 Arutyunov, Frolov 2009 Bombardelli, Fiorovanti, Tateo 2009

 $\log Y_n(u) = \Phi_n(u) + \int dv \ K_{n,m}(u,v) \log(1+Y_m(v))$ 

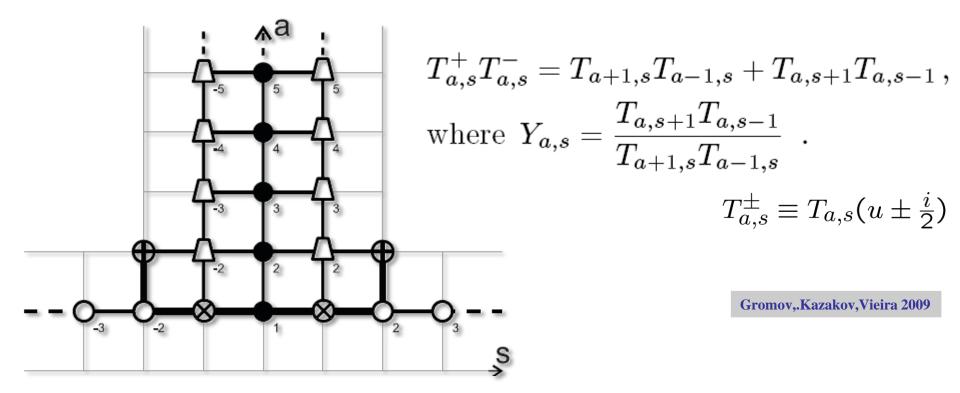
For excited states – contour deformation trick

**Dorey**,**Tateo** 

# Konishi operator: $Tr[\Phi_1, \Phi_2]^2$



# **Hirota equation**

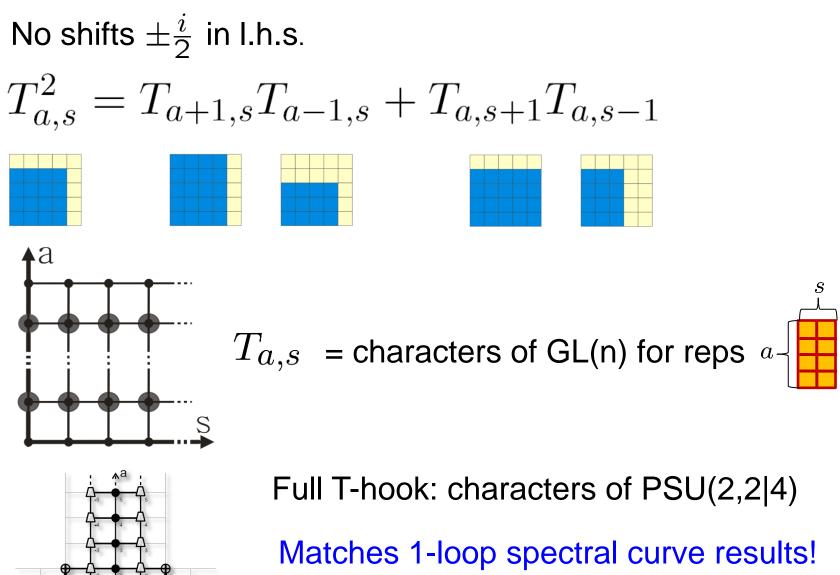


- Large L solutions ABA
- Efficiently compute weak-coupling corrections

Allowed to reduce TBA to a finite set of integral equations!

Gromov,Kazakov, Leurent,Volin, 2011

# **Strong coupling**



Gromov 2009 Gromov,Kazakov,Tsuboi 2010

# **Other integrable cases of AdS/CFT**

# **Deformations of N=4 SYM**

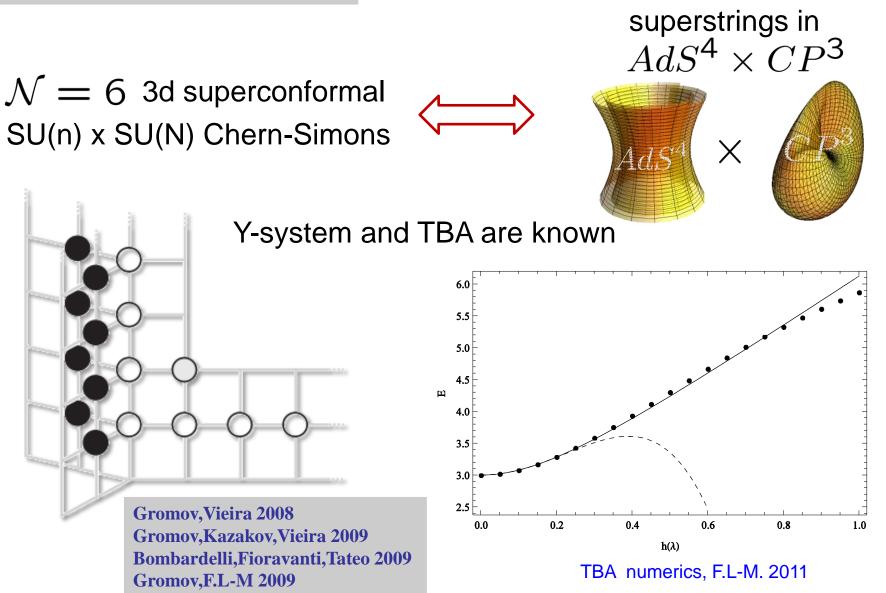
- N=1 or no SUSY
- Dual to deformed versions of AdS5 x S5
- appears to be integrable (ABA, TBA, ...)
- Y-system is the same!

Beisert,Roiban 2005 Gromov,F.L-M 2010 Arutyunov,Leeuw,Tongeren 2010,2012 Ahn, Bajnok,Bombardelli, Nepomecie 2011

Example: weak-coupling checks of Y-system vs direct perturbative results at 11 loops!

# **ABJM** duality

Aharony, Bergman, Jafferis, Maldacena 2008



# Conclusions

- For the first time: exact results (in planar limit) for nontrivial 4d gauge theory in non-BPS sectors
- Full spectrum at any coupling from a system of functional (Y-system, Hirota) or integral (TBA) equations
- Confirmed by all known tests
- Extensions to other AdS/CFT dualities
- Many other directions : 3-point functions, scattering amplitudes, ...

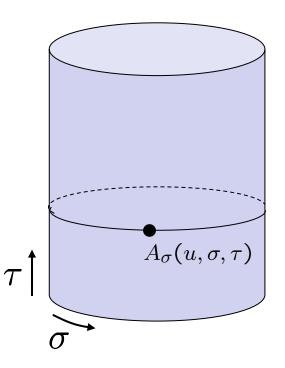
# **Classical integrability of the string**

Coset sigma model

$$\frac{\mathsf{PSU}(2,2|4)}{\mathsf{Sp}(2,2)\times\mathsf{Sp}(4)}$$

A(u) - flat connection (on e.o.m.) $u \in \mathbb{C}$  $\Omega(u, \tau) = \operatorname{Pexp} \oint A_{\sigma}(u) d\sigma$ 

eigenvalues  $\lambda(u)$  are conserved (spectral curve)



### Infinitely many integrals of motion!

# Mixing and integrability in N=4 SYM

$$\mathcal{O}_i^{\text{ren}} = Z_{ij}(\Lambda)\mathcal{O}_j^{\text{bare}} \quad \Delta = \Delta^{(0)} + \gamma$$

Our goal: compute the spectrum of dimensions  $\Delta_i(\lambda)$  $\gamma_i$  are eigenvalues of the mixing matrix:  $\Gamma = Z^{-1} \frac{dZ}{d \log \Lambda}$ 

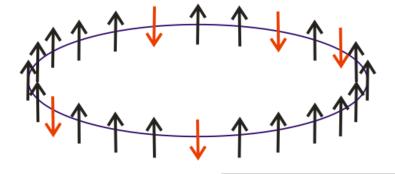
 $\mathcal{O}_i(x) = \operatorname{tr} \left( \Phi_1 \Phi_2 \Phi_1 \dots \Phi_1 \Phi_1 \Phi_2 \Phi_2 \Phi_1 \right)(x)$ 

1-loop mixing matrix = integrable spin chain Hamiltonian!

L = number of fields

Solved by Bethe ansatz:

$$\left(\frac{u_j + i/2}{u_j - i/2}\right)^L = -\prod_{k=1}^M \frac{u_j - u_k + i}{u_j - u_k - i}$$



Minahan, Zarembo 2002

$$\gamma = \sum_{k=1}^{M} \frac{\lambda}{u_k^2 + 1/4}$$