

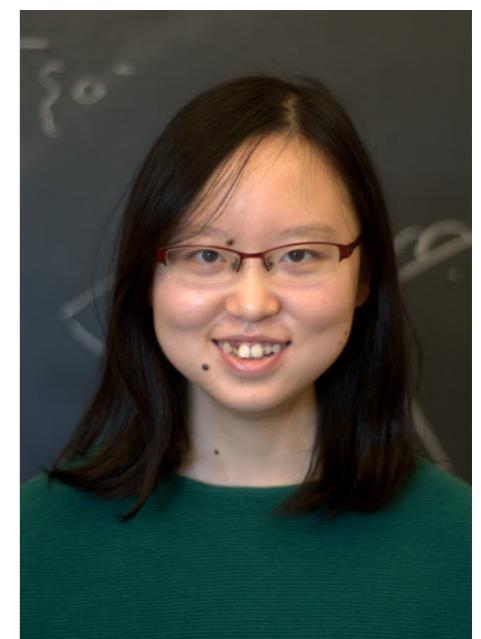
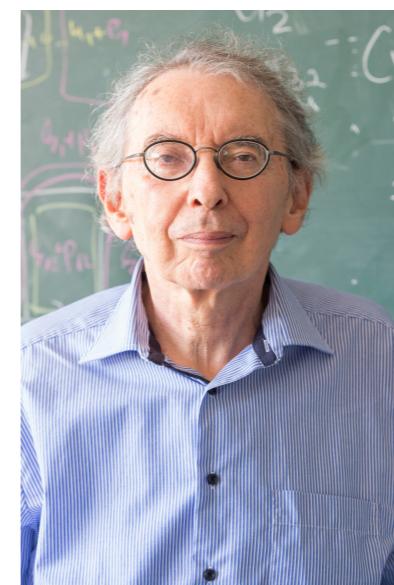
# **Event shapes, the light-ray OPE, and superconvergence**

Alexander Zhiboedov, CERN

ITMP, MSU, 2020



based on the recent work with **C-H. Chang, M. Kologlu, P. Kravchuk, D. Simmons-Duffin**

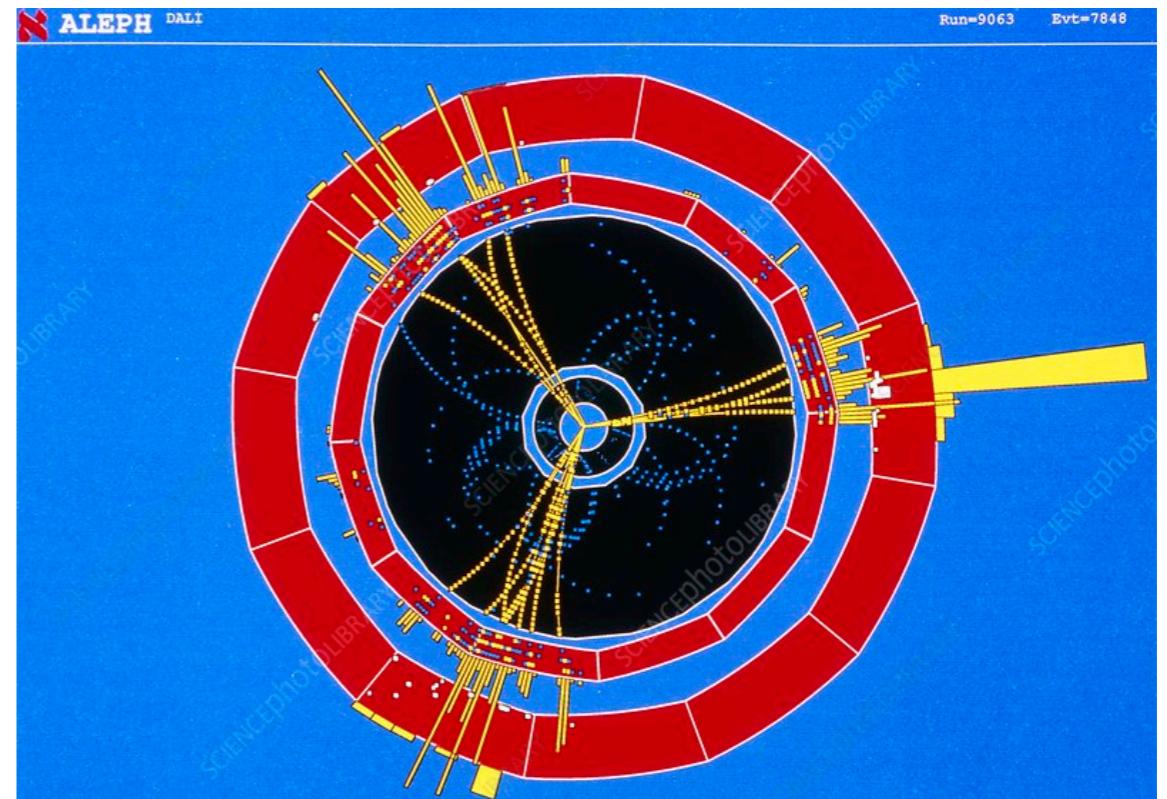
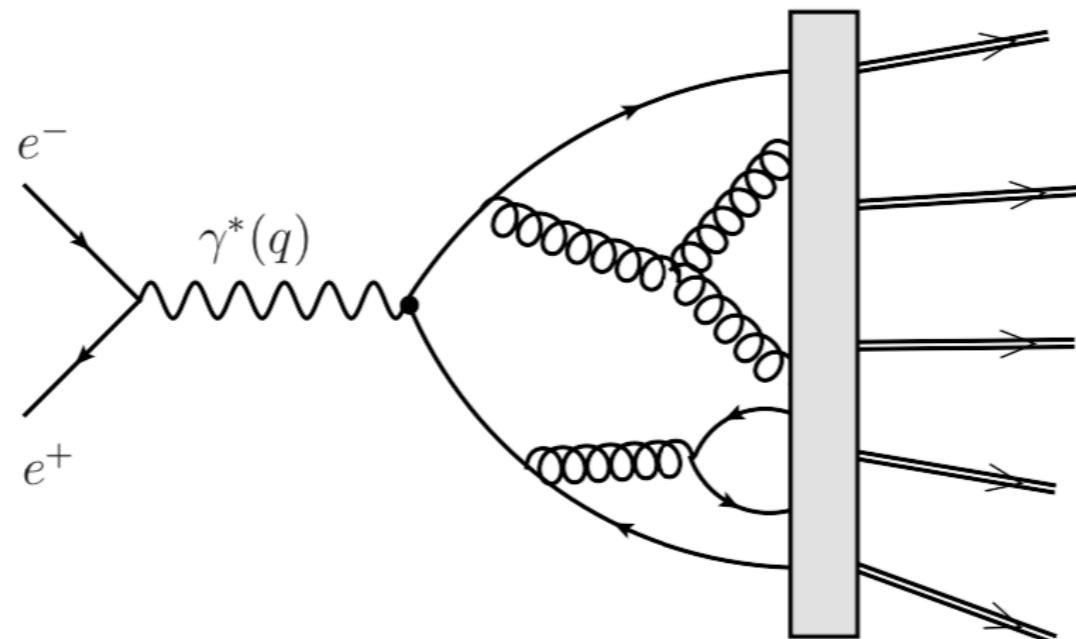


earlier work with: **A. Belitsky, J. Henn, S. Hohenegger, G. Korchemsky, E. Sokatchev, K. Yan**

# **Introduction**

# Event shapes

Let us consider annihilation of an electron-positron pair into hadrons



**Question:** How is the total scattering energy is divided in the final state?

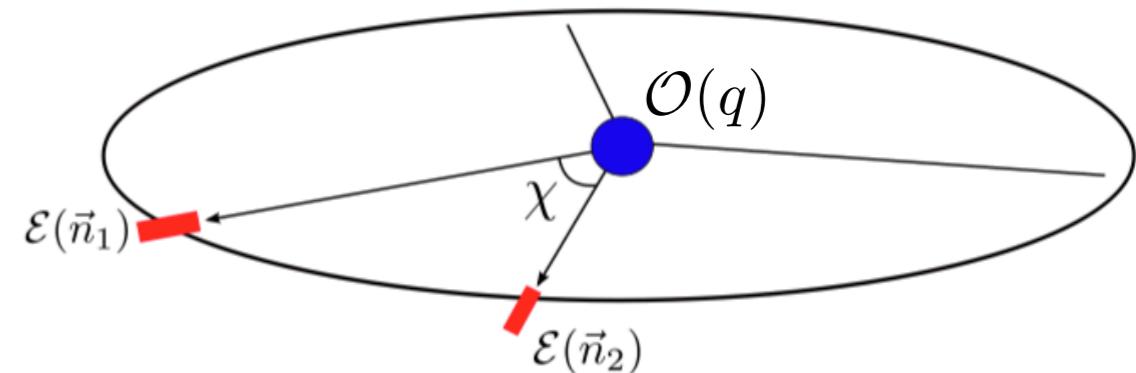
In QCD the final state can be described using a set of infrared&collinear safe observables (**event shapes**): energy-energy correlations, thrust, C-parameter, etc.

**Talk:** Address this question in the framework of conformal field theories (CFTs).

# Energy-energy correlation

$$q = (q^0, \vec{0})$$

$$\text{EEC}(\chi) = \sum_{a,b,X} \int d\sigma_{a+b+X} \frac{E_a E_b}{(-q^2)} \delta(\cos \theta_{ab} - \cos \chi)$$



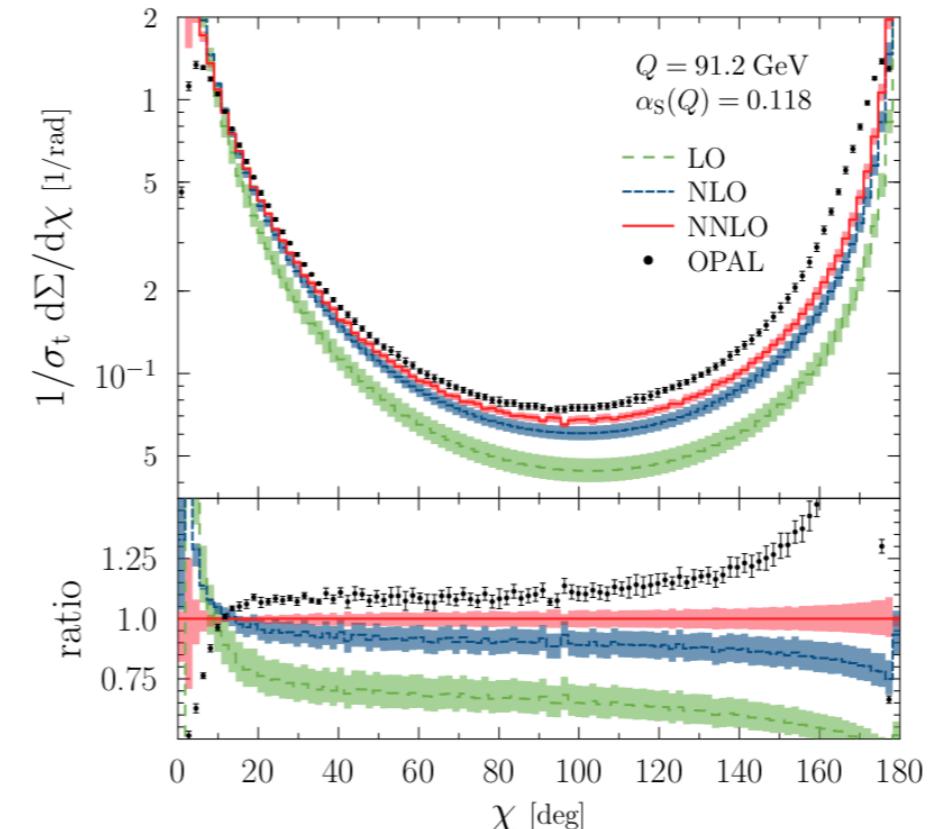
- precise experimental data
- theory side:

**QCD:**  $\text{EEC}(\chi) = \alpha_s(q)A(\chi) + \alpha_s^2(q)B(\chi) + O(\alpha_s^3)$

40 years!	<b>LO</b>	$\alpha_s(q)$	[Basham, Brown, Ellis, Love '78]
	<b>NLO</b>	$\alpha_s^2(q)$	[Dixon, Luo, Shtabovenko, Yang, Zhu '18]
	<b>NNLO</b>	(numerical)	[Del Duca, Duhr, Kardos, Somogyi, Trocsanyi '16]

delicate cancellation of the IR divergences

What is special about energy correlators?



[Tulipánt, Kardos, Somogyi '17]

# Operator Language

[Sveshnikov, Tkachov 95']  
[Korchemsky, Sterman 97']  
[Hofman, Maldacena 08']

The previous definition can be restated in terms of the matrix element of local operators

$$\text{EEC} = \langle \mathcal{O}^\dagger(q) \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \mathcal{O}(q) \rangle$$

where

$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} r^2 \int_{t_0}^{\infty} dt \ n^i T_{0i}(t, r\vec{n}) \quad \partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0 \\ \vec{n}^2 = 1$$

acting on the multi-particle state we get

$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n})|X\rangle = \sum_i k_i^0 \delta^{(2)}(\Omega_{\vec{k}_i} - \Omega_{\vec{n}})|X\rangle$$

- Rethinking jets with energy correlators

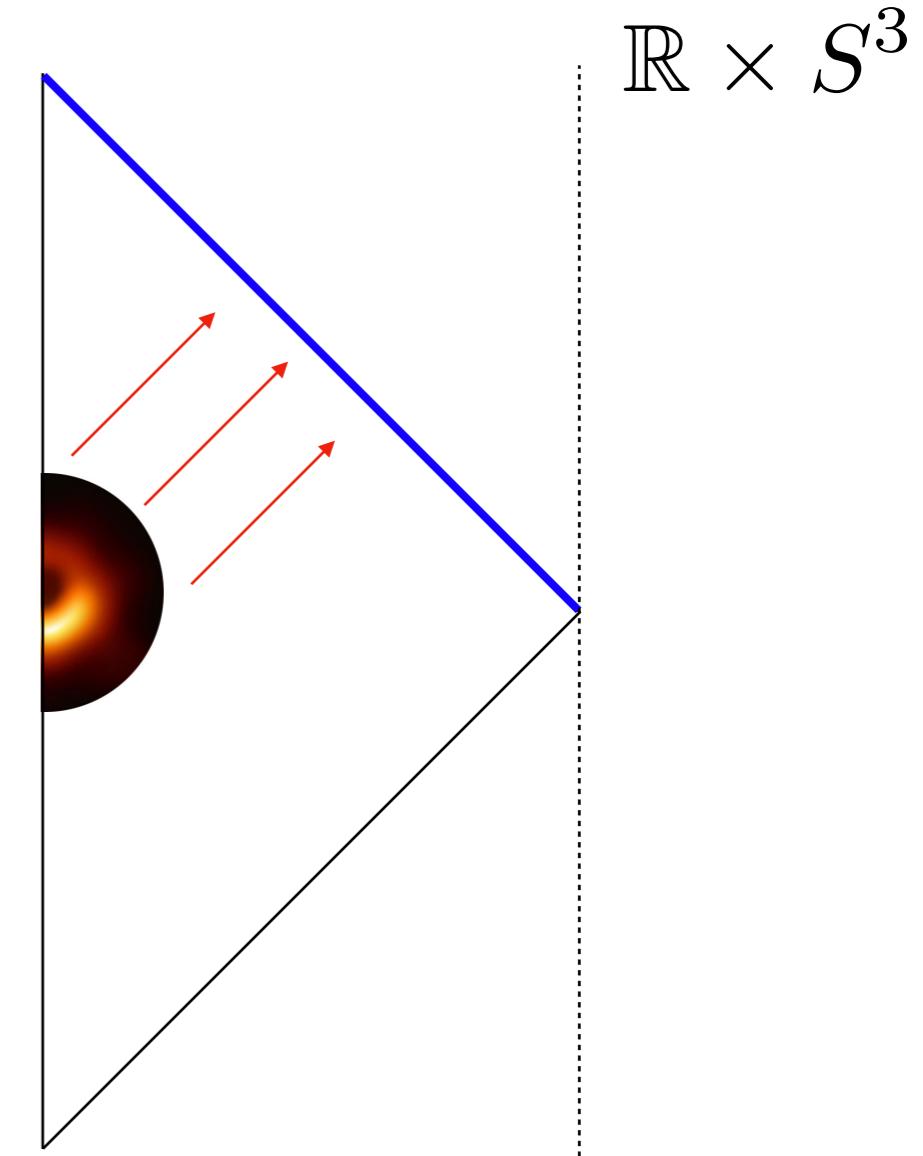
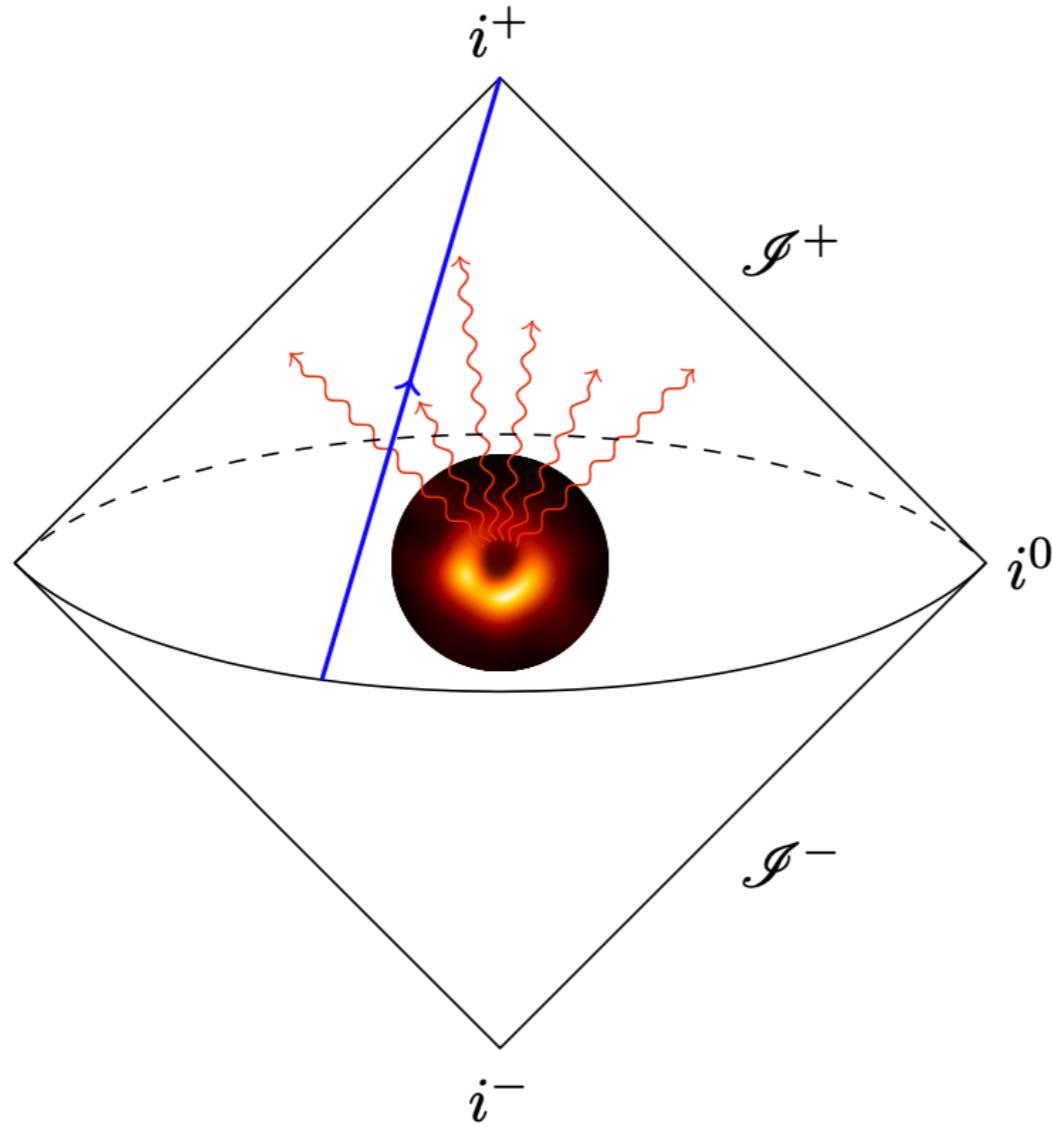
[Komiske, Metodiev, Thaler]  
[Chen, Moult, Zhang, Zhu '20]

$$\sigma_\omega = \langle \mathcal{O}^\dagger(q) \hat{\omega} \mathcal{O}(q) \rangle$$

$$\sigma_e = \langle \mathcal{O}^\dagger(q) \delta(e - \hat{e}) \mathcal{O}(q) \rangle \\ \int e^n \frac{d\sigma}{de} = \langle \mathcal{O}^\dagger \hat{e}^n \mathcal{O} \rangle$$

# Spacetime picture

Massless (un)particles go to null infinity.



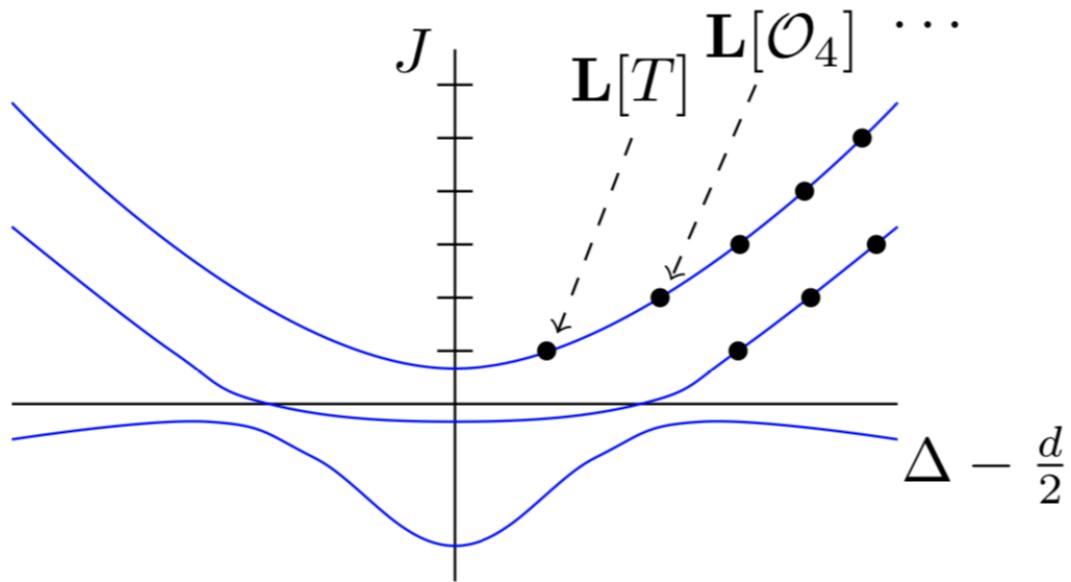
Light-ray operators:  
(detectors)

$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}) = \mathbf{L}[T] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv T_{vv}(0, v, \vec{y})$$

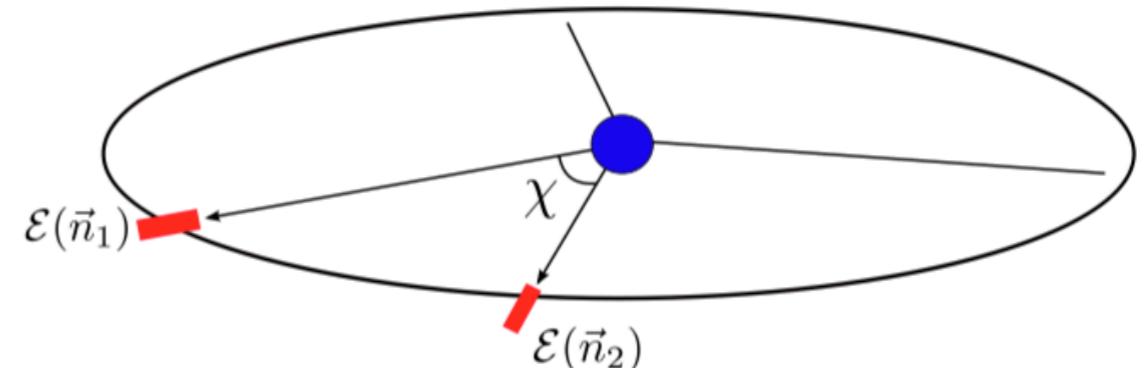
Event shapes = matrix elements of light-ray operators



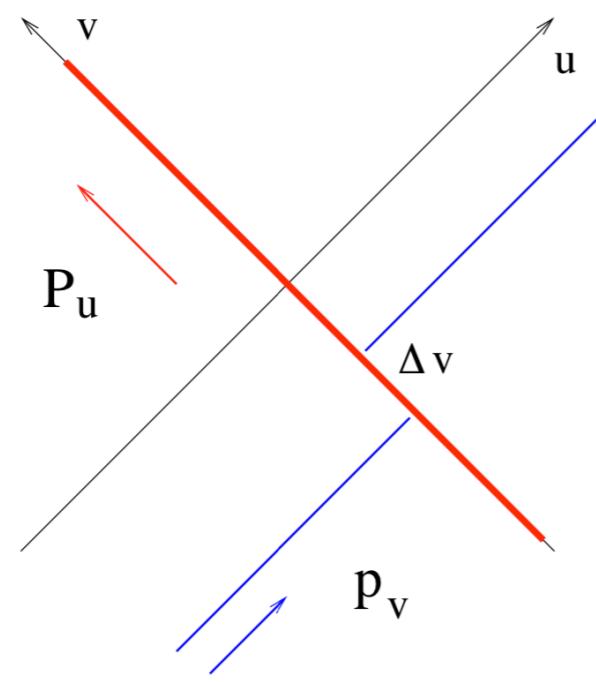
**light-ray operators**



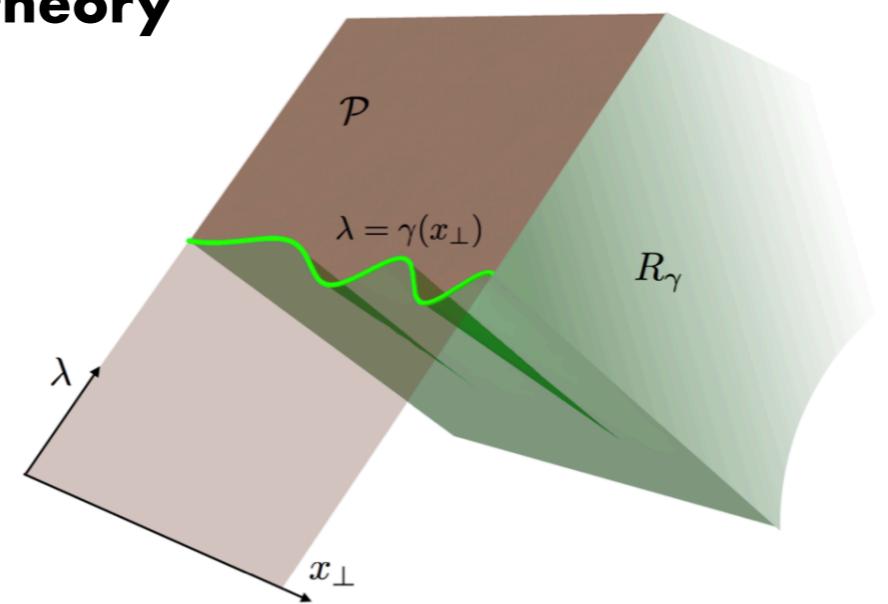
**event shapes**



**gravitational shocks**



**quantum information theory**



# Plan of the talk

1. Event shapes in  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM

2. The light-ray OPE

3. Superconvergence

# Event shapes in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

# EEC in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

We consider the stress-energy supermultiplet

$$\left\{ \underbrace{\mathcal{O}_{20'}}_{\text{scalar}}, \quad \underbrace{J_{R,\mu}}_{\text{spin one}}, \quad \underbrace{T_{\mu\nu}}_{\text{spin two}} \right\}$$

Conformal symmetry and supersymmetry imply

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(x_1)\mathcal{O}(x_2)\mathcal{O}(x_3)\mathcal{O}(x_4) \rangle = \frac{\Phi(u, v)}{x_{12}^4 x_{34}^4}$$

$$\langle J(x_1)T(x_2)T(x_3)J(x_4) \rangle \sim \underbrace{P(\partial_u, \partial_v)}_{\text{Differential operator}} \Phi(u, v)$$

$$u = \frac{x_{12}^2 x_{34}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2}, \quad v = \frac{x_{14}^2 x_{23}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2}.$$

- $\Phi(u, v)$  is known up to three loops at weak coupling (integrand up to seven loops)
- At strong coupling via the AdS/CFT correspondence

# EEC from correlation functions

In practice, to compute the energy-energy correlations

$$\text{EEC} = \underbrace{\int d^4x e^{-iqx}}_{\text{Fourier transform}} \underbrace{\lim_{r_i \rightarrow \infty} r_1^2 r_2^2 \int_{t_0}^{\infty} dt_1 dt_2}_{\text{Detector integral}} \underbrace{\langle \mathcal{O}(x) n_1^i T_{0i}(t_1, r_1 \vec{n}_1) n_2^j T_{0j}(t_2, r_2 \vec{n}_2) \mathcal{O}(0) \rangle}_{\text{Wightman function}}$$

- Compute the Euclidean correlator
- Continue to Minkowski with Wightman prescription
- Perform the detector limit and integral
- Do the Fourier integral

**Easy in Mellin space**

$$\Phi(u, v) = \int_{-i\infty}^{i\infty} ds dt M(s, t) u^s v^t$$

No IR divergences\*, no summing over states, no phase space integrals.

Computationally, in QCD it seems to be much harder than the standard prescription.

[Chicherin, Henn, Sokatchev, Yan '20]

However, in CFTs this point of view is quite powerful (and the only possible nonperturbatively)!

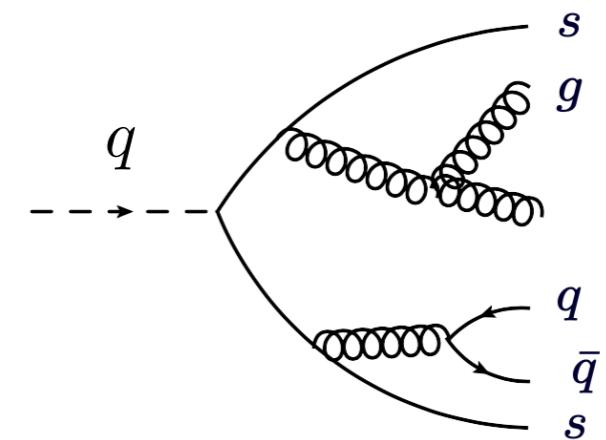
# EEC from amplitudes (perturbative)

In a conventional approach we can write

$$\text{EEC} = \sum_{a,b,X} \int d\text{LIPS} |\mathcal{F}_{a+b+X}|^2 E_a E_b \delta(\cos \chi - \cos \theta_{ab})$$

- The relevant building block is a form factor

$$\mathcal{F}_{a+b+X} \equiv \int d^4x e^{iq \cdot x} \langle a, b, X | \mathcal{O}(x) | \Omega \rangle$$



(c) Korchemsky, Talk at ITMP, 2019

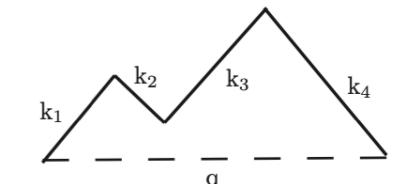
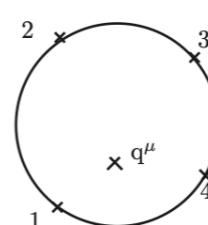
- Sum over final states

[\[Bork, Kazakov, Onischenko, Vartanov\]](#)

- Integrate over the phase space

[\[Brandhuber, Gurdogan, Mooney Spence, Travaglini, Yang\]](#)

- Delicate cancellation of the IR divergences



$$\mathcal{F} = e^{-\text{Area}}$$

impossible at strong coupling!

[\[Maldacena, AZ\]](#)

# Data (perturbative)

$$a = \frac{g_{YM}^2 N_c}{4\pi^2}$$

$$\text{EEC}_{\mathcal{N}=4} = \frac{1}{4\zeta^2(1-\zeta)}(aF_1(\zeta) + a^2F_2(\zeta) + a^3F_3(\zeta) + \dots), \quad \zeta = \frac{1 - \cos \chi}{2}$$

• LO

$$F_1(\zeta) = -\log(1 - \zeta)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\omega(\zeta(n)) &= n \\ \omega(\pi) &= \omega(\log) = 1\end{aligned}$$

• NLO

$$\begin{aligned}F_2(\zeta) = & 4(1-\zeta)\sqrt{\zeta} \left( \text{Li}_2(-\sqrt{\zeta}) - \text{Li}_2(\sqrt{\zeta}) + \frac{1}{2} \log\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{\zeta}}{1-\sqrt{\zeta}}\right) \log(\zeta) \right) + \frac{1}{3}\pi^2(1-\zeta)\zeta \\ & + 2(1-\zeta)\log(1-\zeta)\log\left(\frac{\zeta}{1-\zeta}\right) + (1-\zeta^2)(2\text{Li}_2(\zeta) + \log^2(1-\zeta)) \\ & + \frac{1}{4} \left( 6(-4\zeta^2 + 3\zeta + 3) \text{Li}_3\left(\frac{\zeta}{\zeta-1}\right) + 2\text{Li}_2(\zeta)(2(2\zeta^2 - \zeta - 2)\log(1-\zeta) + (3 - 4\zeta)\zeta\log(\zeta)) \right. \\ & \left. + 2\text{Li}_2(\zeta)(2(2\zeta^2 - \zeta - 2)\log(1-\zeta) + (3 - 4\zeta)\zeta\log(\zeta)) + \frac{1}{3}\pi^2(2\zeta^2\log(\zeta) + (-2\zeta^2 - \zeta + 2)\log(1-\zeta)) \right. \\ & \left. + (1-\zeta)(2\zeta+1) \left( -8\text{Li}_3\left(\frac{\sqrt{\zeta}}{\sqrt{\zeta}-1}\right) - 8\text{Li}_3\left(\frac{\sqrt{\zeta}}{\sqrt{\zeta}+1}\right) + \log\left(\frac{1-\zeta}{\zeta}\right)\log^2\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{\zeta}}{1-\sqrt{\zeta}}\right) \right) \right. \\ & \left. + 6(-4\zeta^2 + 3\zeta + 3)\text{Li}_3\left(\frac{\zeta}{\zeta-1}\right) - 4(\zeta-4)\text{Li}_3(\zeta) - 2\zeta(4\zeta+1)\zeta(3) \right)\end{aligned}$$

[Belitsky, Hohenegger, Korchemsky, Sokatchev, AZ '13]

• NNLO

$F_3(\zeta)$  = Harmonic polylogarithms + Elliptic integral

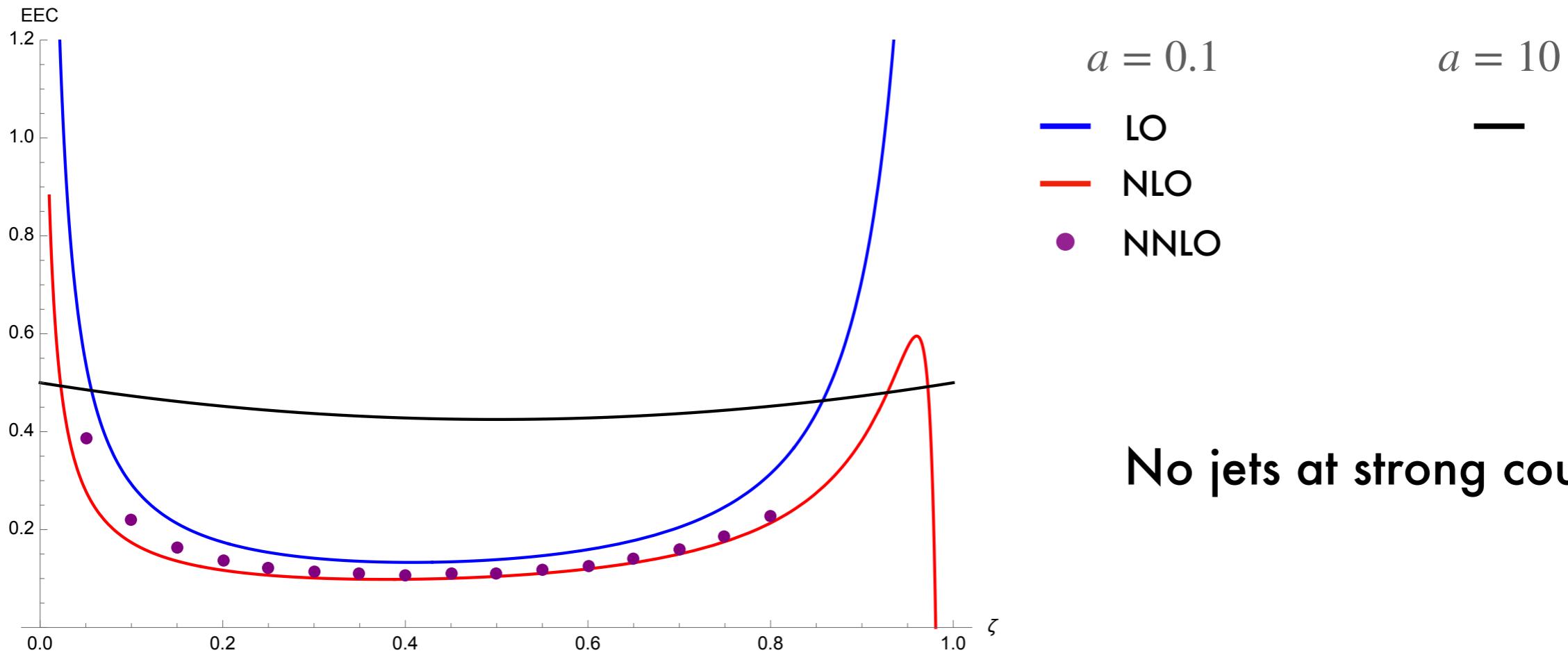
[Henn, Sokatchev, Yan, AZ '19]

• Strong coupling  
 $a \rightarrow \infty$

$$\text{EEC}_\infty = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{6\zeta^2 - 6\zeta + 1}{a} + \dots \right)$$

[Hofman, Maldacena '08]

# Data



- Small angle  $\zeta \rightarrow 0$  [Dixon, Moult, Zhu '19]  
[Korchemsky '19]

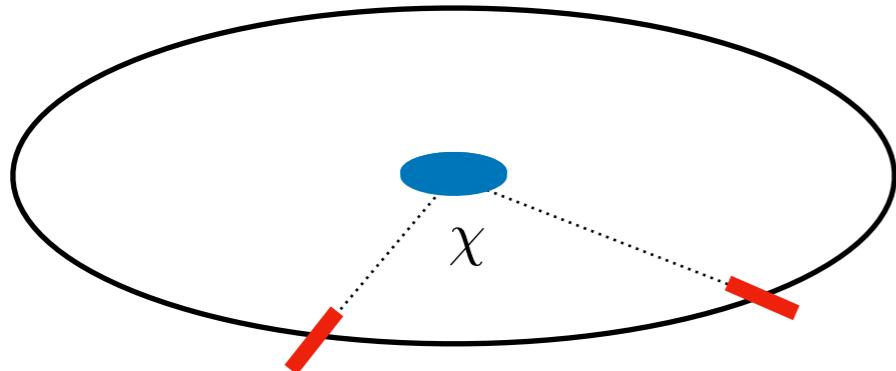
$$\text{EEC}_{\text{QCD}}(\chi \rightarrow 0) = \text{EEC}_{\mathcal{N}=4}(\chi \rightarrow 0) + \text{lower weights}$$

- Back-to-back  $\zeta \rightarrow 1$

$$\text{EEC}_{\text{QCD}}(\chi \rightarrow \pi) = \text{EEC}_{\mathcal{N}=4}(\chi \rightarrow \pi) + \text{lower weights}$$

# Event picture

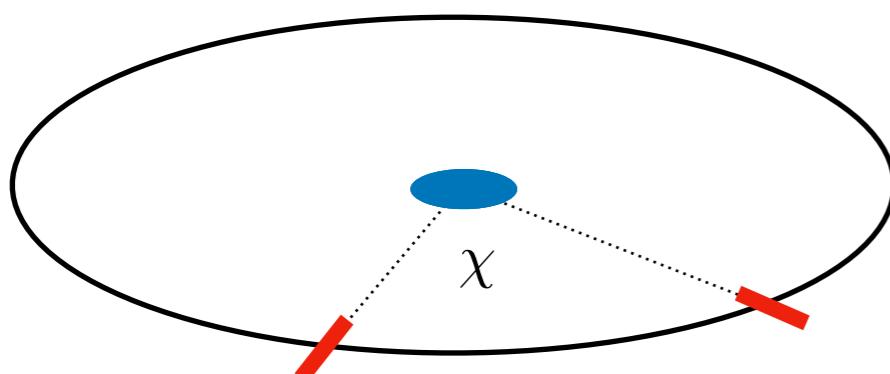
**Weak coupling (jets):**



$$\langle \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}) \rangle = \frac{q^0}{\text{vol}S^{d-2}}$$

$$\langle \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \rangle \sim \delta(\chi) + \delta(\chi - \pi)$$

**Strong coupling (no jets):**



$$\langle \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}) \rangle = \frac{q^0}{\text{vol}S^{d-2}}$$

$$\langle \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \rangle = \left( \frac{q^0}{\text{vol}S^{d-2}} \right)^2$$

$$\langle \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1) \dots \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_k) \rangle = \left( \frac{q^0}{\text{vol}S^{d-2}} \right)^k$$

How do we interpolate between the two pictures?

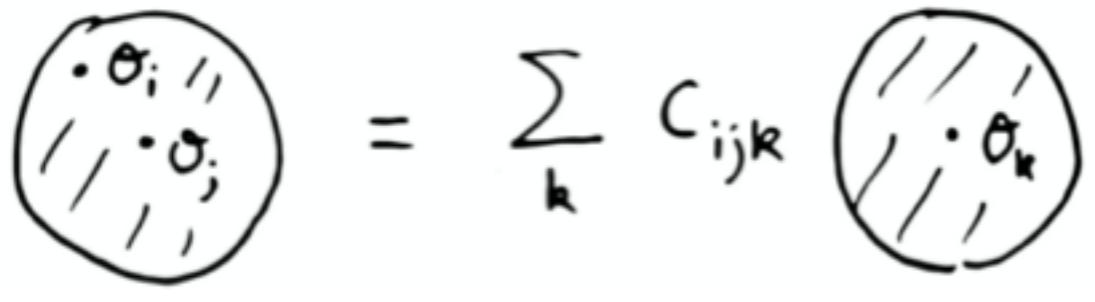
# The light-ray OPE

Can we understand these observables nonperturbatively?

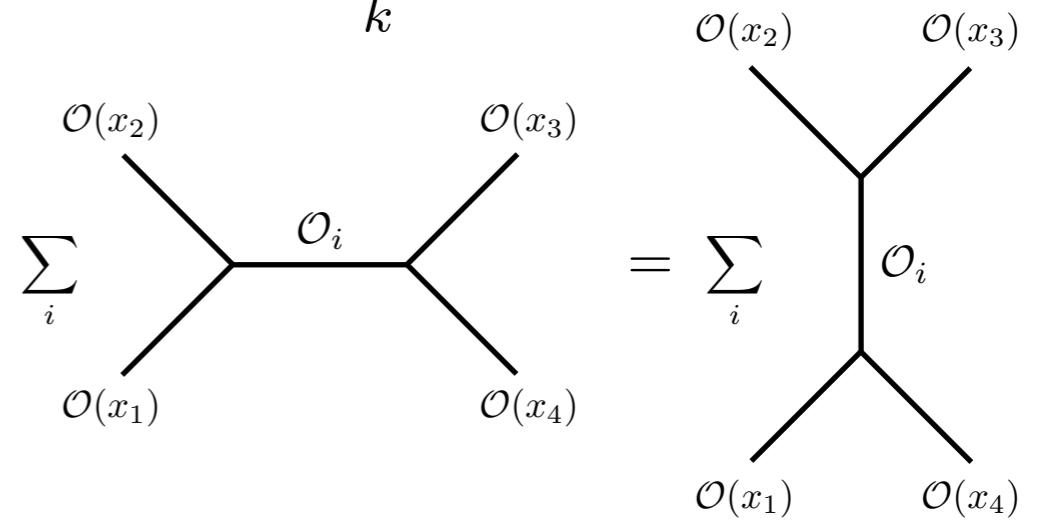
# Operator product expansion (OPE)

OPE for local operators is a powerful tool, eg it enables one to formulate the bootstrap equations

$$\mathcal{O}(x_1)\mathcal{O}(x_2) = \sum_k C_{ijk}(x_{12}, \partial_2)\mathcal{O}_k(x_2)$$



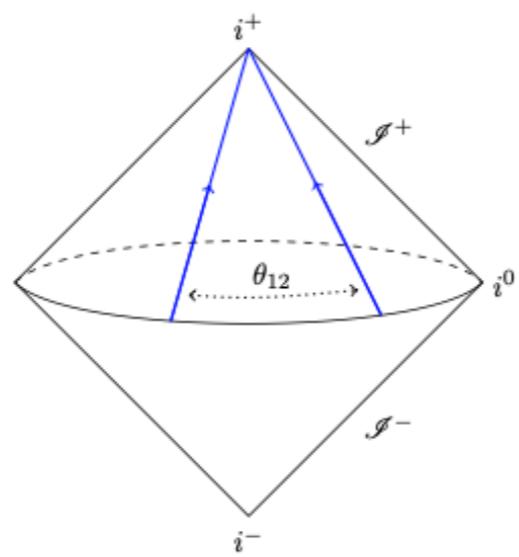
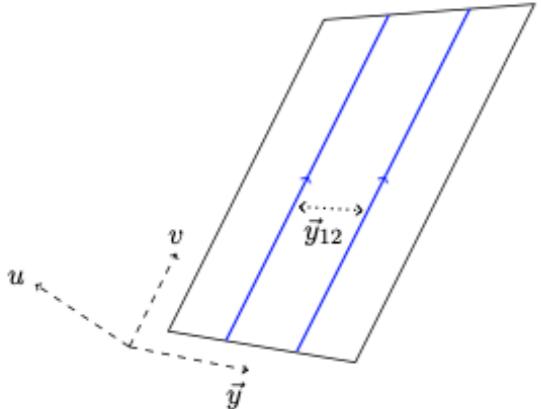
(c) D. Simmons-Duffin



Can we do the same operation for the light-ray operators (celestial energy calorimeters)?

**Lightray operator = Local on the celestial sphere**

Small angles = Small transverse distance  
Stereographic projection



$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv T_{vv}(0, v, \vec{y})$$

[Hofman, Maldacena '08]

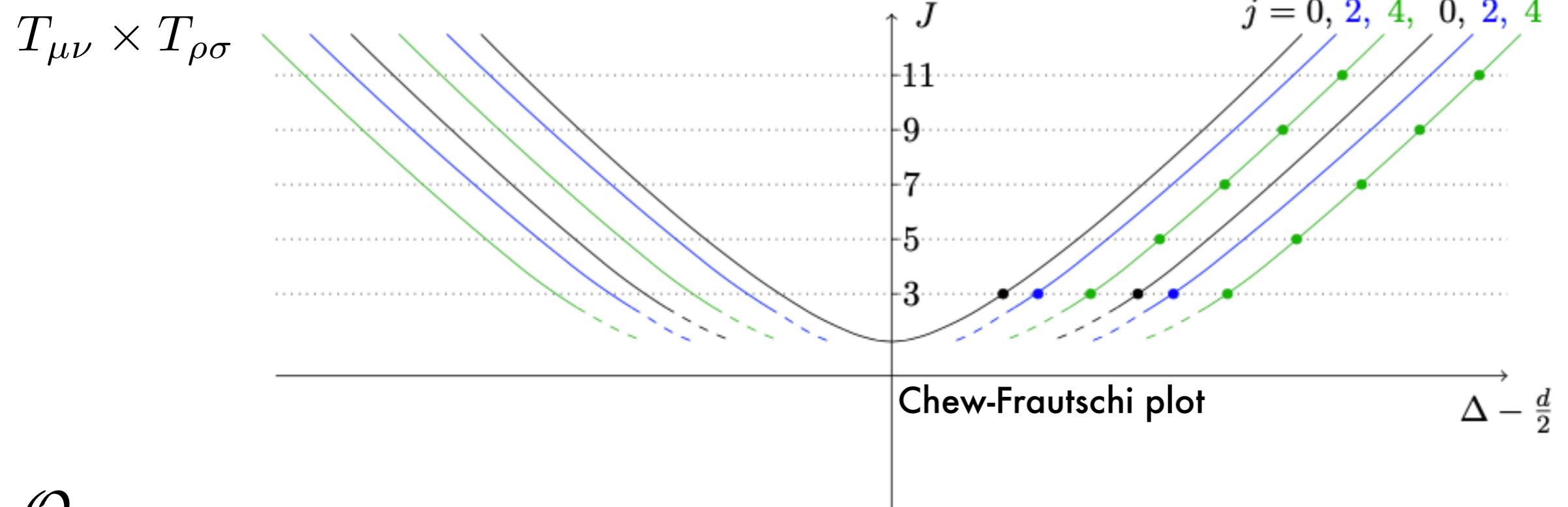
[Kologlu, Kravchuk, Simmons-Duffin, AZ '19]

[Chang, Kologlu, Kravchuk, Simmons-Duffin, AZ '20]

# Light-ray OPE

Remarkably, the answer to this question is positive!

$$\mathcal{E} \times \mathcal{E} = \sum_i \left( \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3,j=0}^+ + \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3,j=2}^+ + \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3,j=4}^+ \right) + \sum_{n,i} \mathcal{D}_{2n} \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3+2n,j=4}^+$$



$\mathcal{O}_{\Delta,J}$

$\Delta$  – scaling dimension

$J$  – spin

$\Delta^\pm(J)$  – Regge trajectory

[Caron-Huot '17]

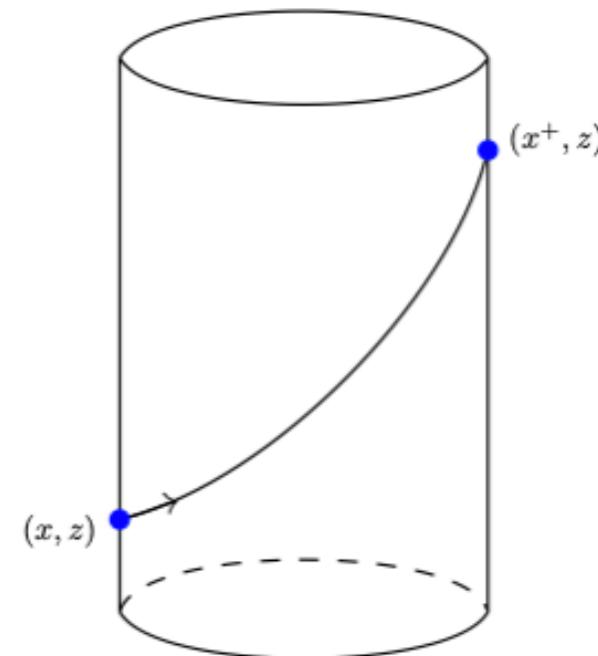
# CFT light-ray operators

[Kravchuk, Simmons-Duffin 18']

Start with a bi-local object

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{O}_{\Delta, J}^{\pm}(x, z) &\equiv \pm \int' d^d x_1 d^d x_2 K_{\Delta, J}^t(x_1, x_2; x, z) \phi_1(x_1) \phi_2(x_2) \\ &+ \int' d^d x_1 d^d x_2 K_{\Delta, J}^u(x_1, x_2; x, z) \phi_2(x_2) \phi_1(x_1)\end{aligned}$$

The kernel is obtained by Wick-rotating and light-transforming the conformal partial wave expansion.



The residues are light-ray operators

$$\mathbb{O}_{\Delta, J}^{\pm}(x, z) \sim \frac{1}{\Delta - \Delta_i^{\pm}(J)} \mathbb{O}_{i, J}^{\pm}(x, z)$$

For integer spins

$$\mathbb{O}_{i, J}^{\pm}(x, z) \sim \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv \text{ [local operator]}_{-}^{+} \stackrel{\text{even spins}}{=} \stackrel{\text{odd spins}}{=}$$

# Finite Coupling (spinless target)

**The lightray-lightray OPE (finite coupling):**

$$\sum_i \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3,j=0}^+$$

$$\langle \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \rangle = \frac{(q^0)^2}{8\pi^2} \left[ \sum_i p_{\Delta_i} \frac{4\pi^4 \Gamma(\Delta_i - 2)}{\Gamma(\frac{\Delta_i - 1}{2}) 3 \Gamma(\frac{3 - \Delta_i}{2})} f_{\Delta_i}^{4,4}(\zeta) + \frac{1}{4} (2\delta(\zeta) - \delta'(\zeta)) \right]$$

spinless target!

$$f_{\Delta}^{\Delta_1, \Delta_2}(\zeta) = \zeta^{\frac{\Delta - \Delta_1 - \Delta_2 + 1}{2}} {}_2F_1 \left( \frac{\Delta - 1 + \Delta_1 - \Delta_2}{2}, \frac{\Delta - 1 - \Delta_1 + \Delta_2}{2}, \Delta + 1 - \frac{d}{2}, \zeta \right)$$

- Sum is over Regge trajectories
- OPE data is evaluated at  $J=3$  ( $p_{\Delta_i}$ )  
(three-point functions)
- Agrees with the perturbative results
- Correctly captures contact terms

$$\zeta = \frac{1 - \cos \chi}{2}$$

**Ward identities:**

$$\int_0^1 d\zeta \langle \mathcal{E} \mathcal{E} \rangle = 1$$

$$\int_0^1 d\zeta (2\zeta - 1) \langle \mathcal{E} \mathcal{E} \rangle = 0$$

# Perturbative Checks

1. Decompose correlator in the OPE
2. Continue each trajectory in spin

One loop, weak coupling

$$\text{EEC}_{\text{1-loop}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(n!)^2}{2(2n)!} S_1(n) f_{3+2n}^{4,4}(\zeta) = -\frac{1}{4} \frac{\log(1-\zeta)}{\zeta^2(1-\zeta)}$$

Sum over Regge trajectories

OPE data evaluated at spin  $J = 3$

Strong coupling

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EEC}_{\infty} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{8} (n+1)(n+2)(n+3)(n+4) \frac{\Gamma(n+3)^2}{\Gamma(2n+5)} f_{7+2n}^{4,4}(\zeta) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

# Jets at Finite Coupling in N=4 SYM

[Hofman, Maldacena 08']

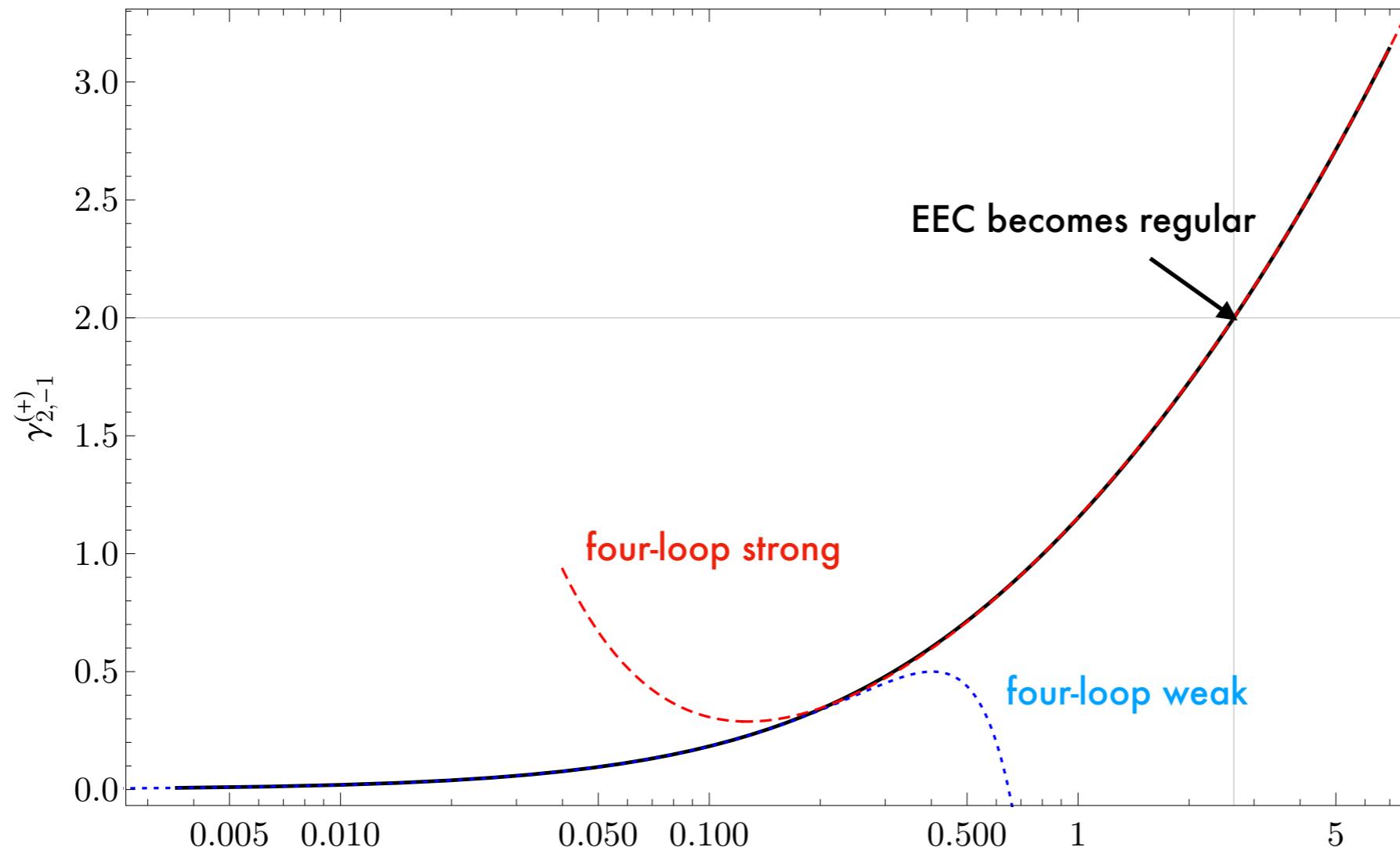
$$\langle \mathcal{E}(\theta) \mathcal{E}(0) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{\theta^{2(1-\frac{\gamma_{2,-1}^+}{2})}}$$

[Korchemsky 19']

[Dixon, Moult, Zhu 19']

[Kologlu, Kravchuk, Simmons-Duffin, AZ '19]

**integrability:**



$$a = \frac{\lambda}{4\pi^2}$$

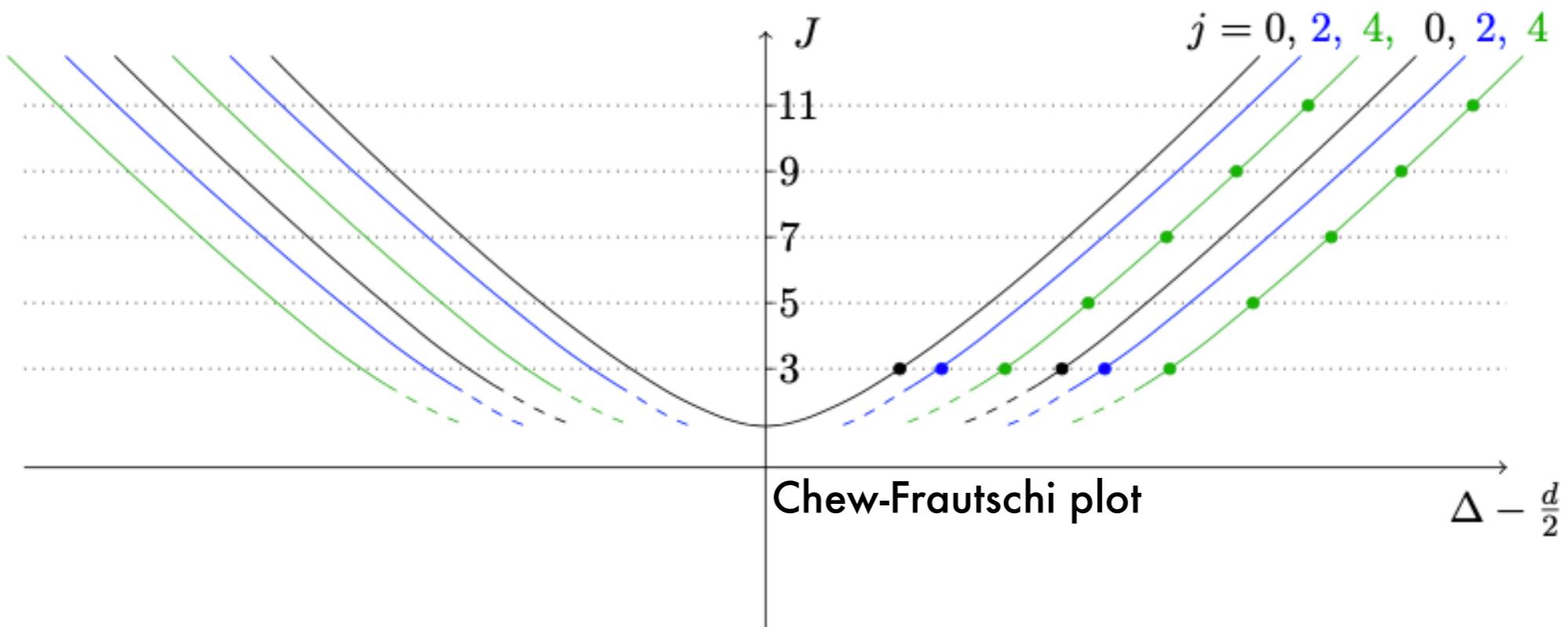
[N.Gromov]

[Gromov, Levkovich-Maslyuk, Sizov 15']

[Gromov, Kazakov, Leurent, Volin 13']

What is  $j$ ?

$$\mathcal{E} \times \mathcal{E} = \sum_i \left( \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3,j=0}^+ + \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3,j=2}^+ + \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3,j=4}^+ \right) + \sum_{n,i} \mathcal{D}_{2n} \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3+2n,j=4}^+$$

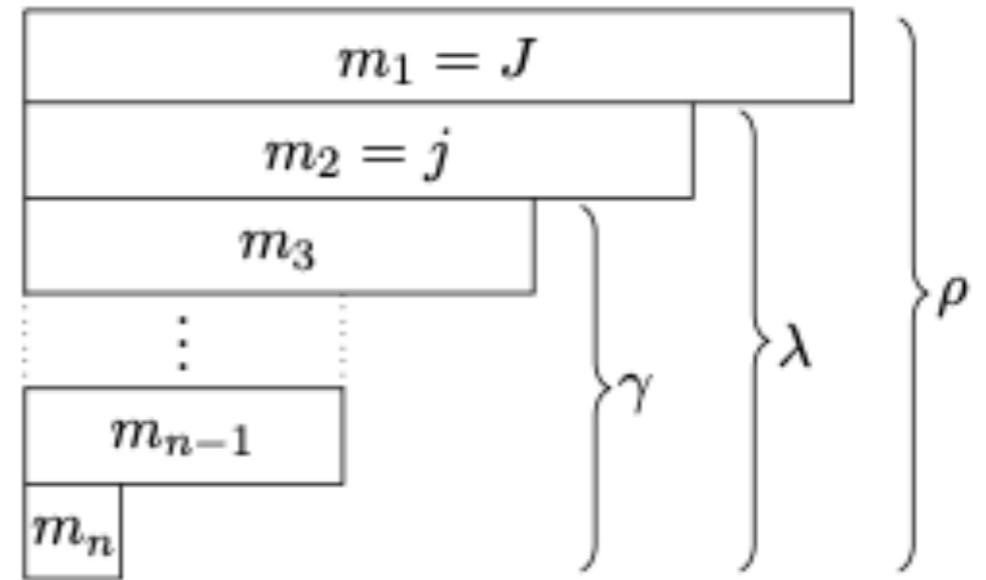


# Transverse spin

$\text{SO}(d - 1, 1)$

$$n = \left[ \frac{d}{2} \right]$$

SPIN  
transverse spin

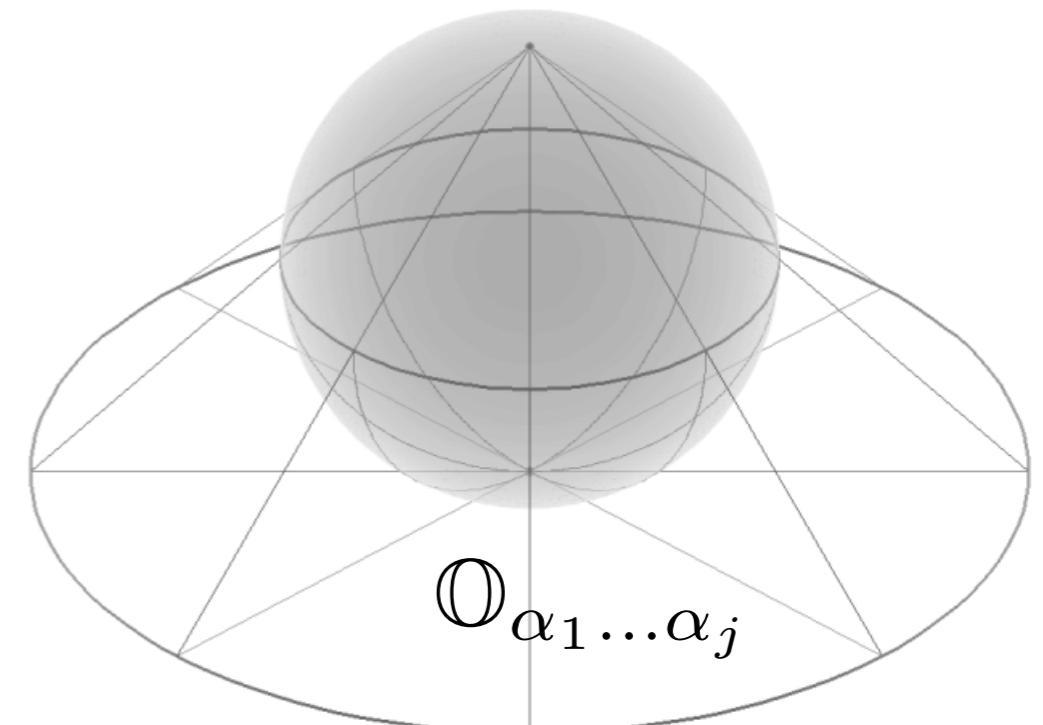


Transverse spin of  
the light-ray operator:

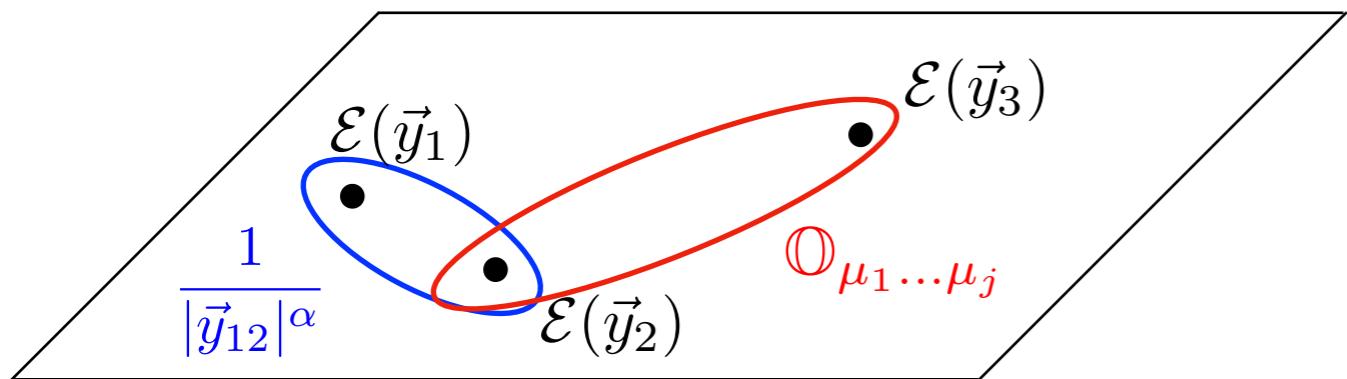
$O_j$



Celestial sphere



# Puzzle and its resolutions



**Expectation:**

Celestial crossing predicts light-rays of arbitrarily large transverse spin in the OPE!

**Puzzle:**

$$\mathcal{E} \times \mathcal{E} \stackrel{?}{=} \sum_i \left( \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3,j=0}^+ + \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3,j=2}^+ + \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3,j=4}^+ \right)$$

[Kologlu, Kravchuk, Simmons-Duffin, AZ '19]

**Resolution:** Primary descendants!

$$+ \sum_{n,i} \mathcal{D}_{2n} \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3+2n,j=4}^+$$

[Chang, Kologlu, Kravchuk, Simmons-Duffin, AZ '20]

$$\mathcal{D}_n : (\underbrace{j+n-1}_{\text{spin}}, \underbrace{j}_{\text{transverse spin}}) \rightarrow (j-1, j+n).$$

conformal  
differential operator

# Conformal Differential Operators

$V_{\Delta, J} :$  **primary operator**  $\mathcal{O}, \underbrace{\partial\mathcal{O}, \partial^2\mathcal{O}, \dots}_{\text{descendants}}$

This is not always the case! For some very special quantum numbers it can become reducible. For example

$$V_{d-1,1} \supset V_{d,0}$$

**Primary descendant:**  $\partial_\mu J^\mu$

Conserved current (short representation):  $\tilde{V}_{d-1,1} \equiv V_{d-1,1}/V_{d,0}$   
 $\partial_\mu J^\mu = 0$

Conformal differential operators arising in this way are quite special and they have been classified.

[Penedones, Trevisani, Yamazaki '15]

Do not play role for local operators due to unitarity bounds:

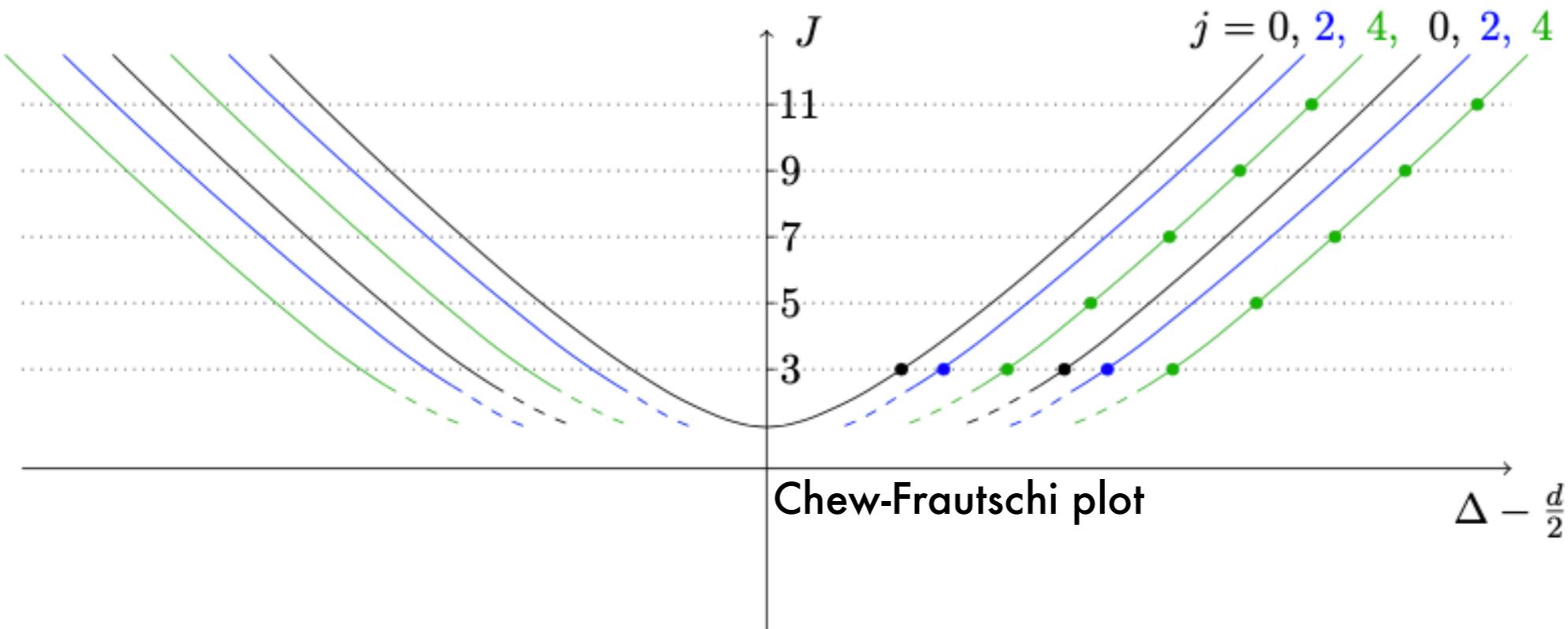
$$\Delta(J) - J \geq d - 2$$

Important for light-ray operators:  $\mathbf{L} : (\Delta, J) \rightarrow (1 - \Delta, 1 - J)$

# Light-ray OPE

$$\mathcal{E} \times \mathcal{E} = \sum_i \left( \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3,j=0}^+ + \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3,j=2}^+ + \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3,j=4}^+ \right) + \sum_{n,i} \mathcal{D}_{2n} \mathbb{O}_{i,J=3+2n,j=4}^+$$

$T_{\mu\nu} \times T_{\rho\sigma}$



How to detect transverse spin in the experiment?

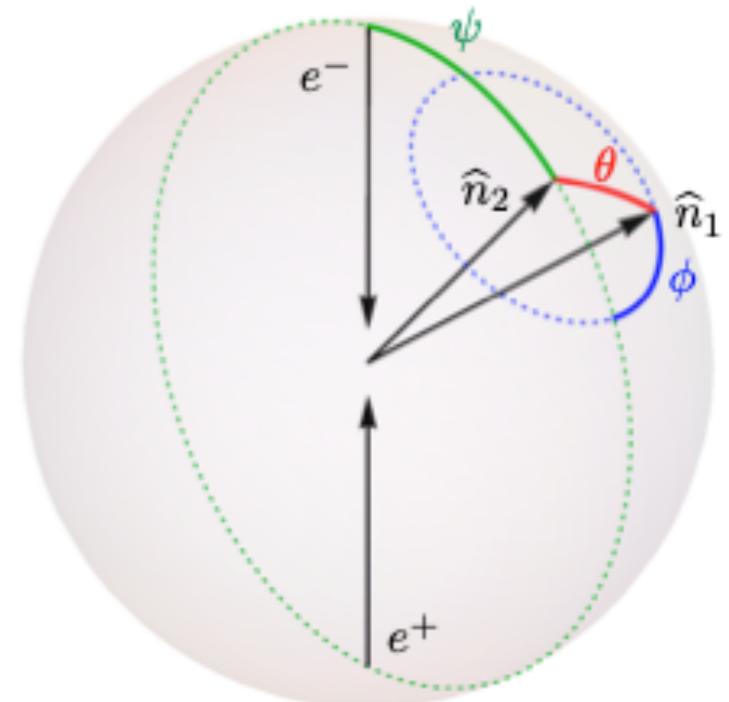
# Oriented event shapes

$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^* \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$

$$\epsilon^{*\nu} \langle J_\nu(p) | \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) | J_\mu(p) \rangle \epsilon^\mu$$

## 1. Spinning targets

- Average over polarizations
- Do not average over the beam direction!



$$\theta^{\Delta_i - 7} \left( \frac{1}{3} - \cos^2 \phi \sin^2 \psi \right) + \dots \quad (j = 2, l = 2),$$

$$\theta^{\Delta_i - 7} \left( \sin^2 \psi - \frac{2}{3} \right) + \dots \quad (j = 0, l = 2),$$

$$\theta^{\Delta_i - 7} + \dots \quad (j = 0, l = 0).$$

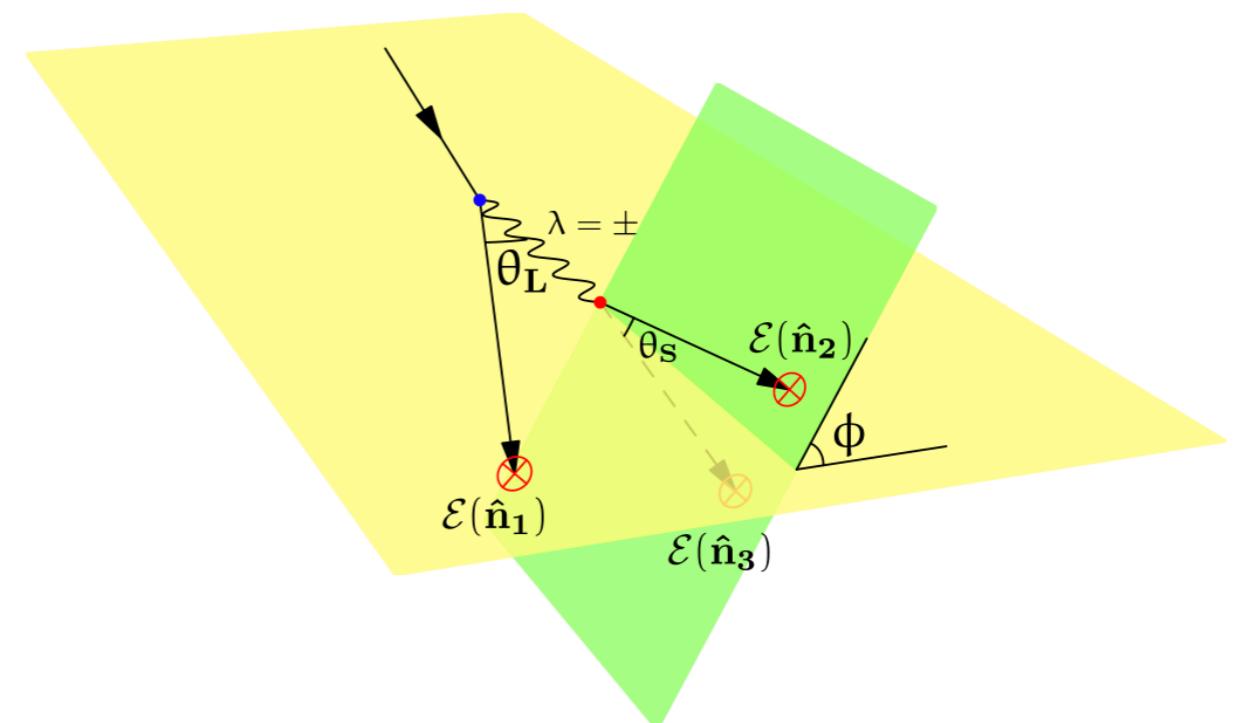
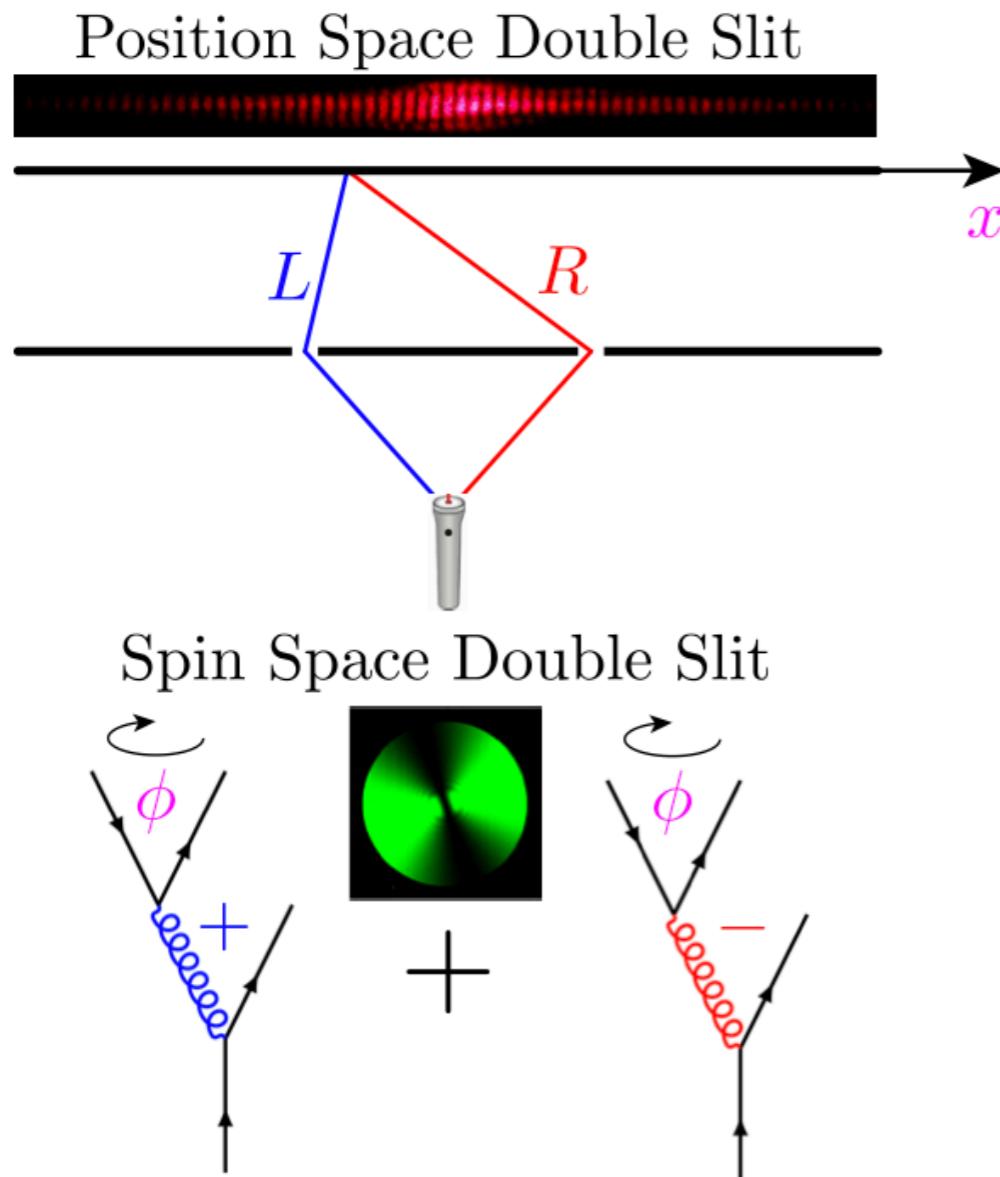
$l$  = spin of the target density matrix

$$j \leq l$$

## 2. Multi-point (three- or higher) energy correlators

# Three-point event shapes

Double slit experiment in spin space and transverse spin.

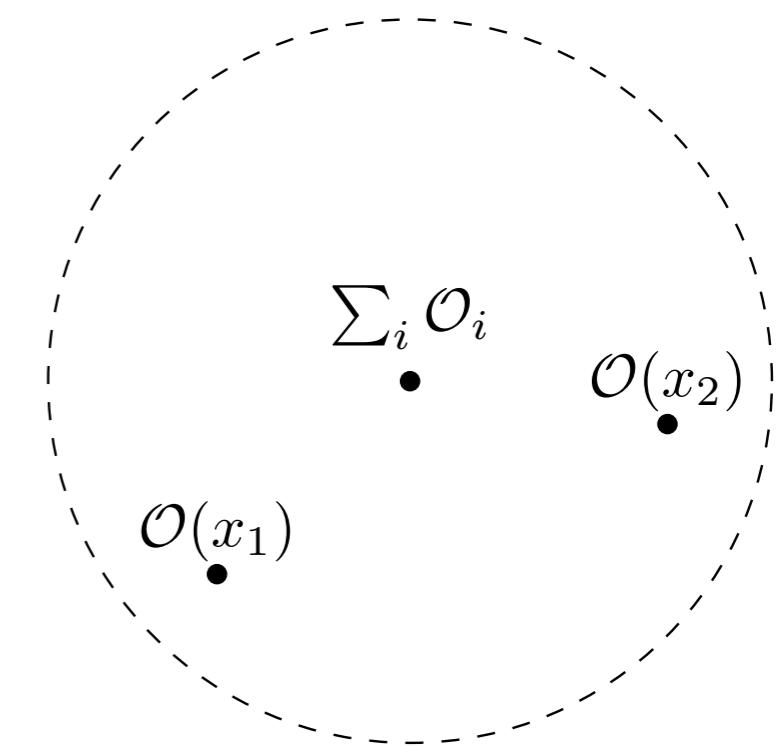


# Nature of the OPE

The usual argument

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{O}_2 |\Omega\rangle &= |\Psi\rangle = \sum_i |\mathcal{O}_i\rangle \\ |\mathcal{O}_i\rangle &= \mathcal{O}_i |\Omega\rangle\end{aligned}$$

Complete set of local operators.



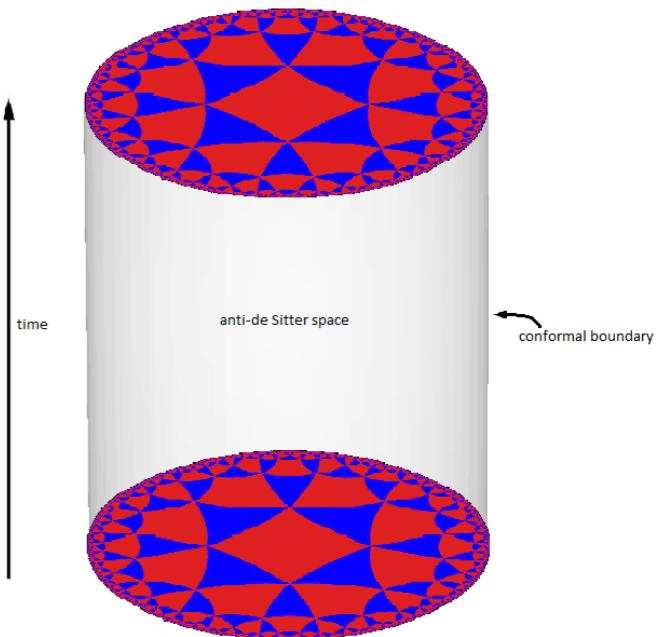
No such construction is available for light-ray operators.

The formula is derived by doing harmonic analysis on the celestial sphere, matching the kernel, and **closing the contour**.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{D}_n \int' d^d x_1 d^d x_2 K_{\delta+1, J, j}^t(x_1, x_2; x, z) \mathcal{O}_1(x_1) \mathcal{O}_2(x_2) \\ \xrightarrow[J \rightarrow J_1 + J_2 - 1 + n]{} \int D^{d-2} z_1 D^{d-2} z_2 k_{\delta, j+n}(z_1, z_2; z) \mathbf{L}[\mathcal{O}_1](x, z_1) \mathbf{L}[\mathcal{O}_2](x, z_2).\end{aligned}$$

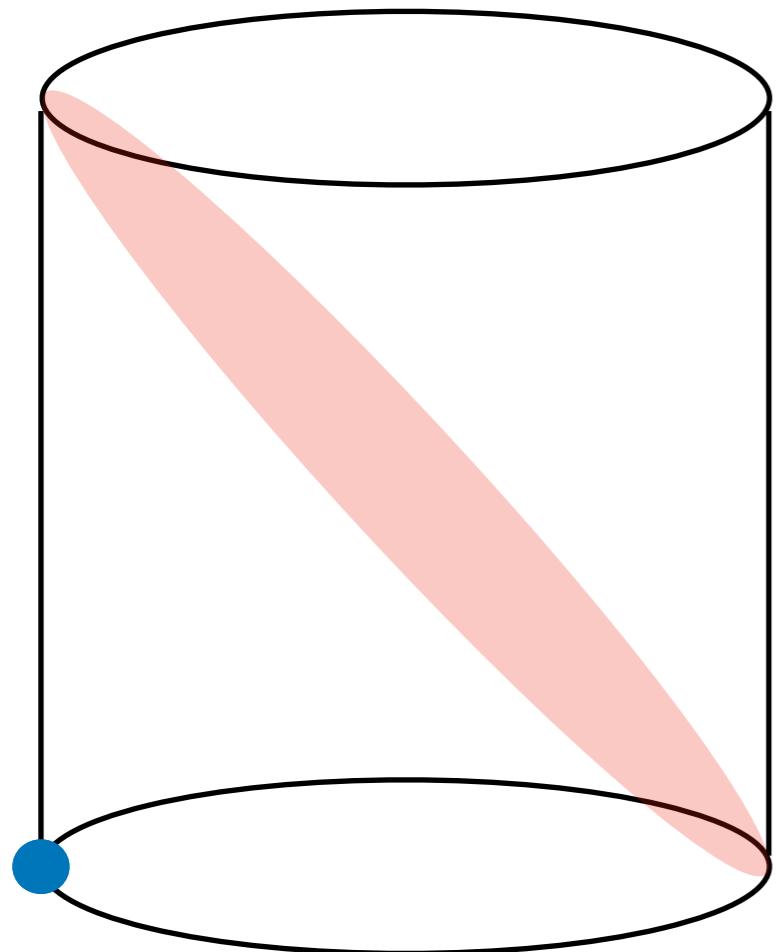
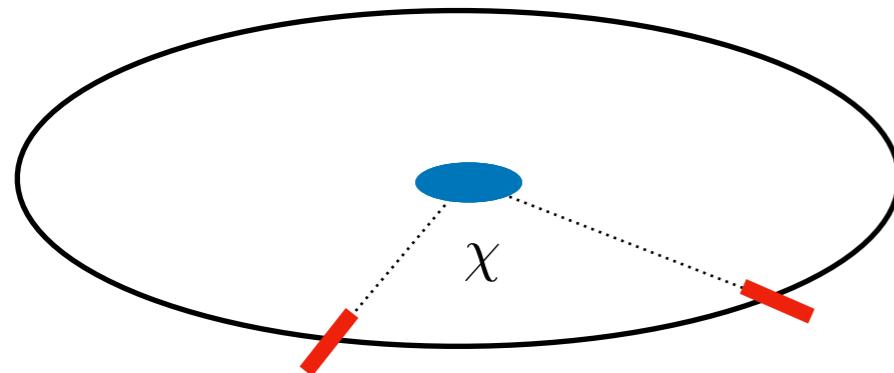
# Superconvergence and gravitational EFTs

## What about gravity dual?



# Event shape dual

[Hofman, Maldacena 08']



Quantum state at strong coupling.

Energy  
calorimeter

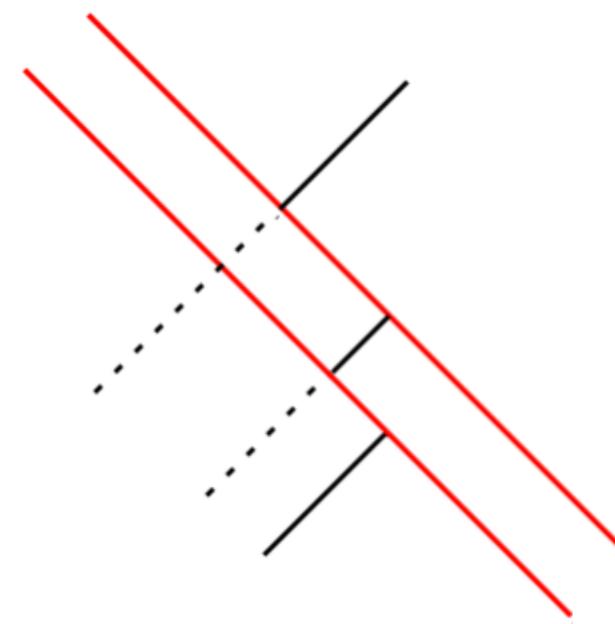
=

Gravitational  
shockwave

Measuring  
energy

=

Shapiro  
time delay



[Shapiro '64]

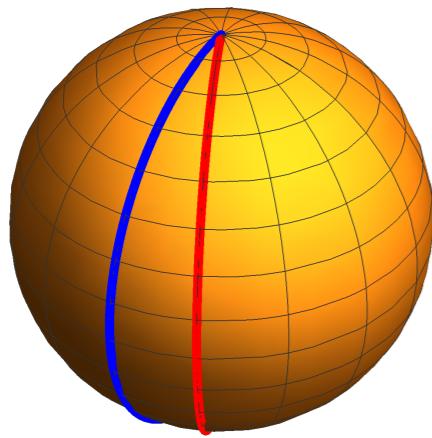
# Conformal collider bounds

ANEC:

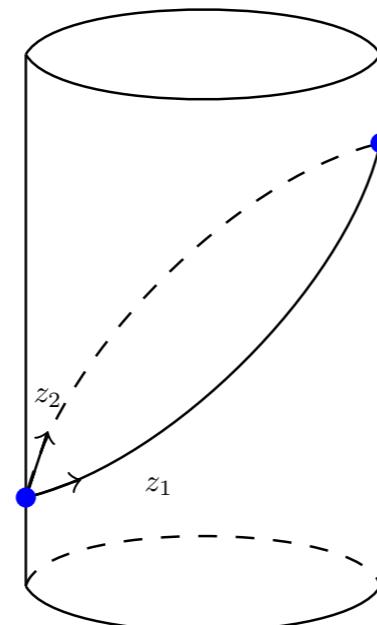
$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}) \geq 0$$

Superconvergence:

$$[\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1), \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2)] = 0$$



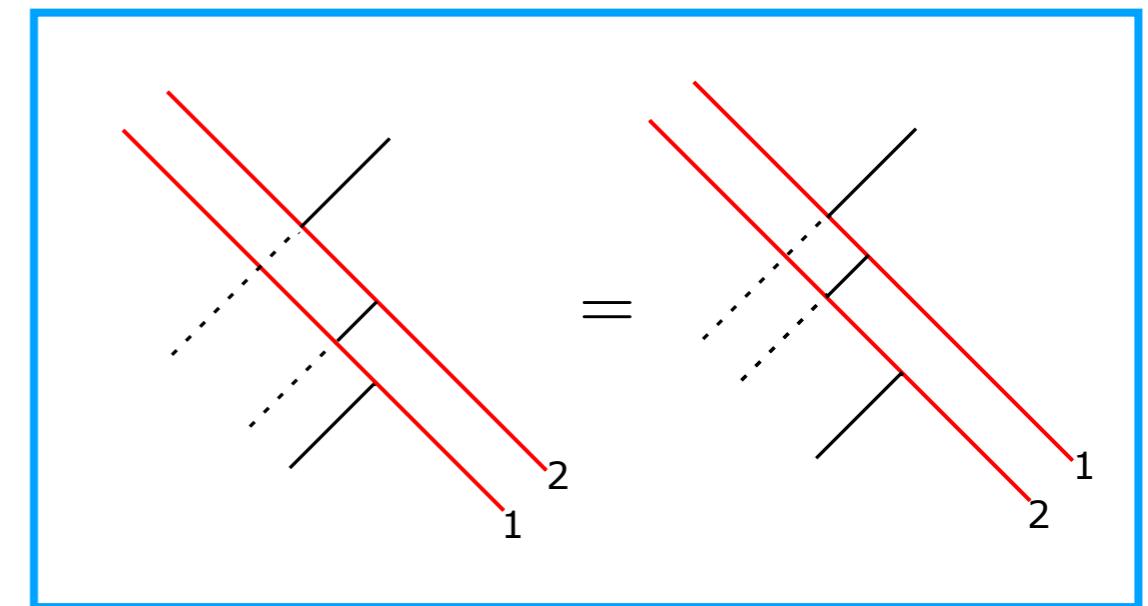
Bound on the Regge limit



Causality:

$$\Delta t_{\text{Shapiro}} \geq 0$$

Commutativity of shocks:  
(stringy equivalence principle)



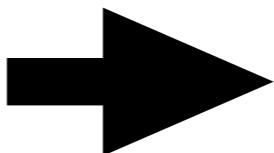
# Bounds on gravitational EFTs

$$S = \frac{1}{l_{Pl}^{D-2}} \int d^5 x \sqrt{-g} (-2\Lambda + R + \alpha_{GB} "R^2" + \dots)$$

Let us introduce a non-minimal coupling:  $\alpha_{GB} \sim \frac{a - c}{c}$

ANEC:

$$\langle T \cdot \epsilon^*(p) | \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}) | T \cdot \epsilon(p) \rangle \geq 0$$

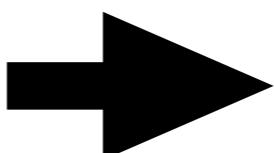


$$-\frac{2}{3} \leq \frac{a - c}{c} \leq \frac{13}{18}$$

[Hofman, Maldacena '08]

Superconvergence:

$$\langle T \cdot \epsilon^*(p) | [\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1), \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2)] | T \cdot \epsilon(p) \rangle = 0$$



$$\frac{a - c}{c} \sim \frac{1}{m_{\text{string}}^2}$$

**superconvergence**

[Alfaro, Fubini, Rossetti, Furlan 66']

$$\int dt \text{Disc}_t A(s, t) = 0$$

[Camanho, Edelstein, Maldacena, AZ '14]  
 [Kologlu, Kravchuk, Simmons-Duffin, AZ '19]

# Conclusions

- New Lorentzian methods in CFTs
  - \* light-ray operators/event shapes (conformal differential operators  
conformal integral transforms, etc)
  - \* dispersion relations/sum rules
- More conceptually
  - \* what is the space of light-ray operators? (celestial bootstrap)
  - \* non-conformal theories (connection to QCD)
  - \* dispersive methods in quantum gravity (swampland vs landscape)  
flat space/dS?
- Experimentally
  - \* event shapes in the lab? (does the 3d ising model/QCP have jets?)
  - \* oriented and multi-point event shapes (higher transverse spin)