Higher spin holography and Higgs phenomenon

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(Cf. YH-Rønne, JHEP1507 (2015) 125; Creutzig-YH, JHEP1510 (2015) 164)

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Higher spin gauge theory

- Higher spin gauge theory
 - A totally symmetric rank-s field

 $\varphi_{\mu_1\dots\mu_s} \sim \varphi_{\mu_1\dots\mu_s} + \partial_{(\mu_1}\xi_{\mu_2\dots\mu_s)}$

- Natural extension of electromagnetism (s=1) and gravity (s=2)
- Vasiliev theory is famous as a non-trivial theory on AdS
- Applications
 - Simplified version of AdS/CFT correspondence
 - More tractable than using superstring theory
 - Higher spin excitations of superstring theory
 - Higher spin gauge theory may be regarded as a toy model for superstring theory



Strings \Leftrightarrow Higher spin fields



- Higher spin gauge symmetry may appear at the tensionless limit Superstrings could be described by breaking higher spin symmetry [Gross '88]

Higgs phenomenon

- The aim of this talk
 - To understand the mechanism of higher spin symmetry breaking as a generalization of Higgs mechanism for spin 1 gauge theory
 - To examine the relation to superstring theory
- 4d Vasiliev theory
 - We examine 4d Vasiliev theory dual to 3d critical O(N) vector model
 - The anomalous dimensions of dual higher spin currents were already computed from purely CFT method
 - We reproduce them with the bulk Witten diagram to understand the mechanism from the bulk viewpoints [YH '16]
- 3d Vasiliev theory
 - We compute masses for 3d Vasiliev theory and discuss the relation to superstring theory [YH-Rønne, Creutzig-YH '15]



- 0. Introduction
- 1. Higher spin holography
- 2. Breaking of higher spin symmetry (AdS₄)
- 3. Relation to superstrings (AdS₃)
- 4. Conclusion

1. HIGHER SPIN HOLOGRAPHY

Higher spin gauge theory

- Higher spin gauge theory
 - Higher spin gauge transformation

$$\delta\varphi_{\mu_1\dots\mu_s} = \partial_{(\mu_1}\xi_{\mu_2\dots\mu_s)}, \ \varphi_{\lambda\sigma\mu_5\dots\mu_s}^{\lambda\sigma} = 0, \ \xi_{\lambda\mu_3\dots\mu_s}^{\lambda} = 0$$

- Equations of motion [Fronsdal '78]

$$\Box \varphi_{\mu_1\dots\mu_s} - \partial_{(\mu_1|} \partial^\lambda \varphi_{|\mu_2\dots\mu_s)\lambda} + \partial_{(\mu_1} \partial_{\mu_2} \varphi_{\mu_3\dots\mu_s)\lambda}{}^\lambda = 0$$

- No-go theorems [e.g. Weinberg '64] forbid non-trivial interactions consistent with higher spin gauge symmetry (with some assumptions)
- Non-trivial theories on AdS
 - Vasiliev theory: Only equations of motion are known
 - Higher spin AdS₃ gravity: Topological theory (Chern-Simons description)

Higher spin holography

• Klebanov-Polyakov proposal '02



- CFT correlators are reproduced from Vasiliev theory [Giombi-Yin '09-'10]
- Further developments
 - Role of higher spin symmetry is clarified [Maldacena-Zhiboedov '11-'12]
 - Concrete relations between superstrings and higher spin fields via AdS/CFT (ABJ triality) [Chang-Minwalla-Sharma-Yin '12]
 - Lower dimensional duality (3d Vasiliev \Leftrightarrow 2d W_N minimal model) [Gaberdiel-Gopakumar '10]

2. BREAKING OF HIGHER SPIN SYMMETRY



• Klebanov-Polyakov duality



- Higher spin symmetry breaking
 - CFT side: Symmetry is broken at the order of 1/N
 - HS side: Gauge fields become massive because of
 - The change of boundary condition for scalar field
 - One-loop effect
 - We want to confirm this bulk interpretation quantitatively



Short v.s. long multiplet

[Girardello-Porrati-Zaffaroni '02]

• Fields on AdS₄ are classified by representations of so(4,1)

- Δ : scaling dimension, s: spin ($\Delta \ge s+1$)

• Shortening of representation

$$\lim_{\Delta \to s+1} D(\Delta, s) \to D(s+1, s) \oplus D(s+2, s-1)$$

$$\uparrow$$
Short representation: $\partial \cdot J^{(s)} = 0$

• Goldstone modes from bound states with (S, n) = (s - s' - 1, 0) $D(s' + 1, s') \otimes D(2, 0) = \bigoplus_{S=0}^{\infty} \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} D(s' + S + n + 3, s' + S)$

A remark: spin 2 currents are kept conserved

Masses from anomalous dimensions

- AdS/CFT dictionary
 - The masses from the anomalous dimensions of dual currents

$$M_s^2 = \Delta_s(\Delta_s - 3) - (s+1)(s-2)$$

- The anomalous dimensions from the critical model
 - They were obtained purely from the CFT [Ruhl '04] (see also
 [Skvortsov '15, Giombi-Kirilin '16])

$$\tau_s \equiv \Delta_s - s - 1 = \frac{16(s - 2)}{3\pi^2 N(2s - 1)} + \mathcal{O}(\frac{1}{N^2}) \qquad \phi_i \qquad \phi$$

Anomalous dimensions from bulk

- Goal
 - To reproduce the masses from the bulk viewpoint
- Methods
 - Trick 1: Compute 2-pt function of currents using the bulk Witten diagram

 $\phi, \varphi^{(s' < s)}$

 $\lambda(s)$

$$\langle J_s(x_1)J_s(x_2)\rangle_{f\to\infty} = \frac{N_s P_s(x_{12})}{|x_{12}|^{2s+2+2\tau_s}}$$

Trick 2: Rewrite the scalar propagator with modified b.c. with the insertions of boundary operators



Anomalous dimensions from bulk

• Bulk Witten diagram → Boundary conformal perturbation theory

$$\left\langle \prod_{i=1}^{n} \Phi_{i}(x_{i}) \right\rangle_{f} = \frac{\left\langle \prod_{i=1}^{n} \Phi_{i}(x_{i})e^{-\Delta S} \right\rangle_{0}}{\left\langle e^{-\Delta S} \right\rangle_{0}}$$

- The anomalous dimensions are reproduced in the conformal perturbation theory [YH '16]
 - The result confirm quantitatively the bulk picture that the breaking is a one loop effect and due to the change of boundary condition
 - The Goldstone modes cannot be identified with this method



3. RELATION TO SUPERSTRINGS

ABJ triality

- Klebanov-Polyakov proposal '02
 - 4d Vasiliev theory ⇔ 3d O(N) vector model
- ABJ triality [Chang-Minwalla-Sharma-Yin '12]
 - HS side: 4d extended Vasiliev theory with U(M) Chan-Paton factor
 - CFT side: 3d U(N)_k x U(M)_{-k} Chern-Simons-Matter theory (ABJ theory)
 - String side: Superstring theory on AdS₄ x CP³



Lower dimensional triality

- Gaberdiel-Gopakumar proposal '10
 - 3d Vasiliev theory \Leftrightarrow 2d W_N minimal model
- More degrees of freedom [CHR '13] (c.f. [Gaberdiel-Gopakumar '13] for M=2)
 - HS side: 3d Vasiliev theory with U(M) CP factor
 - CFT side: 2d coset-type model at a large *N* limit
 - Evidence: One-loop partition function agrees
- Extended supersymmetry [CHR '14, HR '15]
 - N=3 SUSY at k=N+M
 - Superstrings on $AdS_3 \times M^7$ (M⁷ = SO(5)/SO(3) or SU(3)/U(1))
 - Evidence: BPS spectrum agrees (cf. [Argurio-Giveon-Shomer '00])
 - Similar proposals with N=4 [Gaberdiel-Gopakumar '13-'15]

 $\frac{\mathrm{su}(N+M)_k \oplus \mathrm{so}(2NM)_1}{\mathrm{su}(N)_{k+M} \oplus \mathrm{u}(1)}$



- Turning on string tension
 - The 2d coset model is dual to 3d Vasiliev with exact higher spin symmetry
 - Higher spin symmetry for 2d CFT is broken by deformation preserving N=3 superconformal symmetry
- The masses of higher spin fields
 - Leading in G_N , all order in deformation parameter f [YH-Rønne, Creutzig-YH '15]

$$\begin{cases} M_{(s)}^2 = 0 & (\text{so}(3)_R \text{ singlet}) \\ M_{(s)}^2 = \frac{8G_N(s-1)f^2}{(1+f^2)^2} & (\text{so}(3)_R \text{ triplet}) \end{cases}$$

- $M^2 = 0$ (symmetry is preserved at the order)
- $M^2 \propto s$ -1 (like Regge spectrum in flat space-time)
- Need to examine *M*/*N*-effects

4. CONCLUSION



- The symmetry breaking in 4d Vasiliev theory
 - Masses of higher spin fields are reproduced in conformal perturbation theory
 - Bulk interpretation is (partially) confirmed via the relation between the bulk Witten diagrams and boundary conformal perturbation theory
- Relation to superstring theory
 - AdS₄: need to introduce supersymmetry and coupling to gauge fields In order to see the relation to ABJ triality
 - AdS_3 : *M*/*N*-corrections should be included to relate to superstring theory
 - Other works on Higgsing for higher spin fields on AdS [Gaberdiel-Peng-Zadeh '15, Gwak-Joung-Mkrtchyan-Rey '15, Gwak-Kim-Rey '16]

5. APPENDICES

The map of AdS/CFT

- Superstrings on AdS₅xS⁵
- 4d U(N) gauge theory



- Tensionless limit of string theory (higher spin gauge theory) can be dual to a perturbative region of gauge theory
- Higher spin gauge theory is easier to solve than string theory



- 3d ABJ theory
 - Bi-fundamentals under U(N) x U(M) gauge symmetry

$$A_i^{\alpha}, B_{\beta}^j \ (i, j = 1, 2, \dots, N, \ \alpha, \beta = 1, 2, \dots, M)$$

- Higher spin region: *M* << *N*
 - 't Hooft parameter is stronger for U(N) than U(M)

U(N) invariant currents

Higher spin fields

 $[J_{a_1...a_s}]^{\alpha}_{\ \beta} = A^{\alpha}_i \partial_{(a_1} \cdots \partial_{a_s)} B^i_{\beta} \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad [\varphi_{\mu_1...\mu_s}]^{\alpha}_{\ \beta}$

- String region: $M \approx N >> 1$
 - tr[$ABAB \cdots AB$] ⇔ strings
 - − Single-string state ⇔ Multi-particle state of higher spin fields

Boundary condition & RG flow

- Scalar field in 4d Vasiliev theory
 - Behavior of bulk scalar near the boundary (z=0)

$$\varphi \sim az + bz^2 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a = 0 \text{ (Dirichlet b.c.)} \Leftrightarrow \Delta_+ = 2\\ b = 0 \text{ (Neumann b.c.)} \Leftrightarrow \Delta_- = 1\\ \left(\Delta_{\pm} = \frac{3}{2} \pm \sqrt{\frac{9}{4} + m^2} = 2 \text{ or } 1\right) \end{cases}$$
flow by $\delta \mathcal{L} = \frac{f}{2} (\phi^i \phi_i)^2$

Free theory at UV fixed pt.

RG

- Dimension of dual scalar operator $[\phi_i \phi^i] = 1 \Leftrightarrow \text{Neumann b.c.}$
- Critical theory at IR fixed pt.
- [Witten '01]
- Deformation by double trace like op. <> Change of bulk b.c.