# A 2d random supersymmetric model with

disorder

# J.M., Douglas Stanford & Edward Witten based on 1706.05362

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INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY





UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

# Outline

- Some (probably unnecessary) motivation for the SYK model.
- Some technical tools
- Disordered models in 2-dimensions
- Conclusions

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The Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev model is a quantum mechanical system of N Majorana fermions with all-to-all random (q)uartic interactions conjectured to be dual to a nearly  $AdS_2$  geometry.

To summarize, among its several remarkable properties:

 It is solvable in the large N limit

It has an emergent low-energy conformal symmetry

It is maximally chaotic

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A tree boson with canonical kinetic term in 2-d has dimension zero so that a random q-boson interaction term will be relevant but such models either:

- Have potentials with generic negative directions leading to instabilities or
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Is there a higher dimensional realization of SYK physics?

Most promising is a 2-d supersymmetric model with N bosons  $\phi_i$  and N pairs of chiral fermions  $(\psi_i, \overline{\psi_i})$ . All fields have canonical kinetic terms and interact in two ways:

- Random positive bosonic potentials:
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- 2-fermion-(q-2)-boson potentials:

 $C_{i_1i_2\cdots i_q}\psi_{i_1}\overline{\psi}_{i_2}\phi_{i_3}\cdots\phi_q$ 



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[Ferarra et.al. '72, Dolan-Osborn '01, Simmons-Duffin '12]

The shadow formalism offers a construction of (super)conformal blocks appropriate constructing 4-point functions (of two conformal primaries O and O' with dimension  $\Delta$ ) in a D-dimensional CFT with a specified value of the (super)conformal Casimir in a chosen channel.

 $\langle O(x_1)O(x_2)O'(x_3)O'(x_4)\rangle = \varepsilon \int d^D y \langle O(x_1)O(x_2)\mathcal{V}(y)\rangle \langle \mathcal{V}'(y)O(x_3)O(x_4)\rangle$ 

Think of O and O' as conformal primaries in **two decoupled CFTs** in which there also exists primaries V and V' of dimension h and D - hrespectively. If the product theory is perturbed by  $\varepsilon \int d^D y \mathcal{V}(y) \mathcal{V}'(y)$ then the 3-point function  $\langle O(x_1)O(x_2)\mathcal{V}(y) \rangle$  describes the coupling of  $O(x_1)$  and  $O(x_2)$  to a dimension-h primary and is an eigenfunction of  $C_{12}$  with eigenvalue h(h - D) The RHS is a conformally invariant, singlevalued eigenstate of the 2-particle Casimir  $C_{12}$ 

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#### The shadow

representation manifests various properties of the 4-point function:

• Symmetry under exchange of  $1 \leftrightarrow 2$  or  $3 \leftrightarrow 4$  means

 $\Psi_h(\chi) = \Psi_h(\frac{\chi}{\chi - 1})$ 

• Since  $\Psi_h$  is eigenfunction of the 2-particle **Casimir** with eigenvalue h

 $\Psi_h(\chi) = \Psi_{1-h}(\chi)$ 

•  $\Psi_h$  is **meromorphic** with simple poles of h is a + odd, or - even integer The SYK model in 1-d with q-fold interactions has fermionic primaries  $\psi_i(t)$  at large N, a disorder-averaged 2-point function  $\psi_i(t_1)\psi_j(t_2)\rangle = \delta_{ij} \frac{(t_1 - t_2)}{|t_1 - t_2|^{2\Delta}}$  and a **natural 4-pt function**  $\mathcal{F}(t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4) = N \frac{\langle \psi_i(t_1)\psi_i(t_2)\psi_j(t_3)\psi_j(t_4)\rangle'}{\langle \psi_i(t_1)\psi_i(t_2)\rangle' \langle \psi_j(t_3)\psi_j(t_4)\rangle'}$ 

$$\Psi_h(\chi) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dy \, \frac{|\chi|^h}{|y|^h |\chi - y|^h |1 - y|^{1-h}}$$

The shadow formalism takes as **input** the 3-point function  $\langle \psi_i(t_1)\psi_i(t_2)\mathcal{V}(y)\rangle = \frac{\operatorname{sgn}(t_1 - t_2)}{|t_1 - t_2|^{2\Delta - h}|t_1 - y|^h|t_2 - y|^h}$ with dimension-h bosonic primary  $\mathcal{V}$  as well as an analogous expression for  $\mathcal{V}'$  and **outputs** a contribution  $\Psi_h(t_1 \cdots t_4)$  to the normalized 4-pt function that is also an eigenfunction of  $C_{12}$ 

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Think of a 2-d CFT with holomorphic stress tensor T(z) and spinless operator O with dimensions  $(h, \tilde{h}) = (\Delta/2, \Delta/2)$  and 2-point function  $\langle O(x, \bar{x})O(0, 0) \rangle = b/|x|^{2\Delta}$ . This and conformal invariance, fixes the form of the OOT 3-point function so that the OO OPE is

 $O(x_1, \bar{x}_1)O(x_2, \bar{x}_2) \sim \frac{b}{|x_1 - x_2|^{2\Delta}} \left(1 + \frac{2h}{c}(x_1 - x_2)^2 T(x_2) + \dots\right)$ 

The central charge of a (2-d) CFT can be read off from the stress-tensor contribution to the 4-point function

$$\mathcal{F}_T = \frac{N\Delta^2\chi^2}{2c}$$

In terms of the conformal crossratio the stress tensor contribution is  $W_T = \frac{2h^2\chi^2}{c} = \frac{\Delta^2\chi^2}{2c}$ 

If the CFT has a second operator O' with the same dimensions and 2-point function as O then in the imit  $x_1 o x_2$  and  $x_3 o x_4$  the normalized 4-point function

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$$O(x_1, \bar{x}_1)O(x_2, \bar{x}_2) \sim \frac{b}{|x_1 - x_2|^{2\Delta}} \left( 1 + \frac{2h}{c} (x_1 - x_2)^2 T(x_2) + \dots \right)$$

 $N\Delta^2\chi$ 

 $\mathcal{F}_T =$ 

The central charge of a (2-d) CFT can be read off from the stress-tensor contribution to the 4-point function

In terms of the conformal crossratio the stress tensor contribution is  $W_T = rac{2h^2\chi^2}{c} = rac{\Delta^2\chi^2}{2c}$ 

If the CFT has a second operator O' with the same dimensions and 2-point function as O then in the limit  $x_1 \to x_2$  and  $x_3 \to x_4$  the normalized 4-point function

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- Some (probably unnecessary) motivation for the SYK model.
- Some technical tools
- Disordered models in 2-dimensions
- Conclusions



[Klebanov-Tarnopolsky '16, JM-Stanford-Witten '17, Giombi et.al. '17]

Consider N scalars interacting in a random degree-q potential. In the land N limit the disorder-averaged Schwinger-Dyson equations are

$$\Sigma = J^2 G^{q-1},$$

But generic unboundedness of the action poses problems for exact solutions (unitarity, non reflection-positive solutions, etc)

$$I = \int d^2x \left[ \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \phi_i)^2 + J_{i_1 i_2 \cdots i_q} \phi_{i_1} \phi_{i_2} \cdots \phi_{i_q} \right]$$

**Properties** of the model:

• k(2,0) = k(0,2) = 1 implies the existence of a holomorphic stress tensor • For q = 4 and J = 0, the solution has complex dimension  $E = 1 \pm 3$ • Using the IR propagator, the ladder diagrams are UV divergent for  $q \ge 4$ • The central charge of the theory can be computed as  $c = (1 - \Delta)^3 N = (1 - \frac{2}{2})^3 N$ 

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 $|x|^{2\Delta}$   $b^{q}J^{2} = \frac{(1-\Delta)^{2}}{\pi^{2}}$ The **ladder kernel** *K* is constructed from diagrams

and has eigenvalue  $k(h, \widetilde{h})$ 

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Jeff Murugan (UCT)

Consider N scalars interacting in a random degree-q potential. In the large Ignoring these issues, in N limit the disorder-averaged Schwinger-Dyson equations are the IR we find  $G = \frac{b}{|x|^{2\Delta}} \quad \Delta = \frac{2}{a}$  $\Sigma = J^2 G^{q-1}, \qquad G = \frac{1}{-\partial^2 - \Sigma} \qquad 1 - \frac{1}{2}$ But generic unboundedness of the action poses problems for exact solutions  $b^q J^2 = \frac{(1-\Delta)^2}{\pi^2}$ (unitarity, non reflection-positive solutions, etc) The ladder kernel K $I = \int d^2x \left| \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \phi_i)^2 + J_{i_1 i_2 \cdots i_q} \phi_{i_1} \phi_{i_2} \cdots \phi_{i_q} \right|$ is constructed from diagrams **Properties** of the model: • k(2,0) = k(0,2) = 1 implies the existence of a holomorphic stress tensor 2 • For q = 4 and J = 0, the solution has complex dimension  $E = 1 \pm 3i$ • Using the IR propagator, the ladder diagrams are UV divergent for  $q \ge 4$ and has eigenvalue The central charge of the theory can be computed as k(h,h) $c = (1 - \Delta)^3 N = \left(1 - \frac{2}{a}\right)^3 N$ 

The **positive-definite** square of a random potential  $\sim \frac{1}{4}(B^a)^2 + iB^aC^a \cdot \phi \cdots$ giving a model with two sets of fields  $\phi$  and B and Schwinger-Dyson equations  $G_{\phi} = \frac{1}{-\partial^2 - \Sigma_{\phi}}, \qquad G_B = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} - \Sigma_B}$ 

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This model has two parameters q and r=M/N and solutions that are compatible with unitarity and reflection positivity.

With two fields in the theory, the **conformal ladder kernel** is now a 2x2 matrix which is diagonalized on a basis of conformal vectors  $(v_{\phi\phi}, v_{BB})$  with matrix-valued eigenvalue  $\mathbf{k}(h, \tilde{h})$ . This satisfies:

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[JM-Stanford-Witten '17]

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$$\overline{2} - \Delta B$$

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Consistent with
 numerical
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#### Consider an $\mathcal{N} = 1$ theory with a random superpotential.

- Scalar superfields:  $\Phi(X) = \phi(x) + i\theta\psi(x) + i\bar{\theta}\bar{\psi}(x) + \theta\bar{\theta}F(x)$
- Supercharge generators:  $Q = \partial_{\theta} \theta \partial_x$ ,  $\bar{Q} = \partial_{\bar{\theta}} \bar{\theta} \partial_{\bar{x}}$
- Superspace derivatives:  $D_{\theta} = \partial_{\theta} + \theta \partial_x$ ,  $D_{\bar{\theta}} = \partial_{\bar{\theta}} + \bar{\theta} \partial_{\bar{x}}$
- Large N discrete R-symmetry:  $\theta \to -\theta, \ \bar{\theta} \to +\bar{\theta}, \ \Phi_i \to -\Phi_i$

$$= \int d^2 d^2 \theta \left[ \frac{1}{2} D_{\bar{\theta}} \Phi_i D_{\theta} \Phi_i + i C_{i_1 i_2 \cdots i_q} \Phi_{i_1} \Phi_{i_2} \cdots \Phi_{i_q} \right]$$

At large-N the 2-point function is determined by the **S-D equations** $G(p)=rac{4}{p^2(1-\Sigma(p))}, \quad \Sigma(x)=-J^2G(x)^{q-1}$ 

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$$G(X_1, X_2) = \frac{b}{|x_1 - x_2 - \theta_1 \theta_2|^{2\Delta}}, \quad \Delta = \frac{1}{q}, \quad b^q J^2 = \frac{1}{\pi}$$

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#### [JM-Stanford-Witten '17]



#### [JM-Stanford-Witten '17]

To construct the 4-point function, we sum the ladder diagrams as usual

$$\mathcal{F} = \frac{1}{1-K} \mathcal{F}_0$$

and use the shadow representation.

The ladder kernel and zero-rung ladder are:  

$$K = -\frac{(q-1)}{\pi^2} \frac{1}{|\langle 1,3\rangle|^{2\Delta}|\langle 2,4\rangle|^{2\Delta}|\langle 3,4\rangle|^{2-4\Delta}}$$

$$\mathcal{F}_0 = |\chi + \zeta|^{2\Delta} + \left|\frac{\chi + \zeta}{\chi - 1}\right|^{2\Delta}$$

$$\mathcal{F}\Big|_{\zeta=\bar{\zeta}=0} = \frac{1}{\pi(q-1)} \sum_{\ell=\text{even}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{ds}{2\pi} \frac{\sin(\pi h)}{\cos(\pi \tilde{h})} \frac{\Gamma(h)^2}{\Gamma(2h)} \frac{\Gamma(\tilde{h})^2}{\Gamma(2\tilde{h})} F_h(\chi) F_{\tilde{h}}(\bar{\chi}) \\ \left[ \frac{k^{FB}(h-\frac{1}{2},\tilde{h})}{1-k^{FB}(h-\frac{1}{2},\tilde{h})} + \frac{k^{BF}(h,\tilde{h})-\frac{1}{2})}{1-k^{BF}(h,\tilde{h})-\frac{1}{2})} - \frac{k^{BB}(h,\tilde{h})}{1-k^{BB}(h,\tilde{h}))} - \frac{k^{FF}(h-\frac{1}{2},\tilde{h})-\frac{1}{2})}{1-k^{FF}(h-\frac{1}{2},\tilde{h})-\frac{1}{2})} \right]$$

Some observations on the spectrum:

- The stress tensor is the  $(h, \tilde{h}) = (2, 0)$ decendent of a  $\left(\frac{3}{2}, 0\right)$  FB primary
- The central charge  $c = \frac{3}{2} \left( 1 \frac{2}{q} \right) N$
- At large q the theory is weakly coupled • At q = 2 it is trivial

**Eigenvalues** of the kernel come in four types  $k^{BB}(h, \tilde{h}), k^{FB}(h, \tilde{h}), k^{BF}(h, \tilde{h}), k^{FF}(h, \tilde{h})$ depending on the statistics of the primary insertions, and satisfy: •  $k^{FB}(h, \tilde{h}) = k^{BF}(\tilde{h}, h),$  etc •  $k^{BB}(h, \tilde{h}) = -k^{FB}(h + \frac{1}{2}, \tilde{h}) = -k^{BF}(h, \tilde{h} + \frac{1}{2}) = k^{FF}(h + \frac{1}{2}, \tilde{h}) = -k^{FF}(h, \tilde{h} + \frac{1}{2}) = k^{FF}(h + \frac{1}{2}, \tilde{h}) = -k^{FF}(h, \tilde{h} + \frac{1}{2}) = k^{FF}(h, \frac{1}{2}, \tilde{h}) = -k^{FF}(h, \tilde{h} + \frac{1}{2}) = k^{FF}(h, \frac{1}{2}, \tilde{h}) = -k^{FF}(h, \tilde{h} + \frac{1}{2}) = k^{FF}(h, \frac{1}{2}, \tilde{h}) = -k^{FF}(h, \frac{1}{2}, \tilde{h}) = -k^{FF}(h, \tilde{h} + \frac{1}{2}) = k^{FF}(h, \frac{1}{2}, \tilde{h}) = -k^{FF}(h, \frac{1}{2}, \tilde{h}) = -k^{FF}(h, \frac{1}{2}, \tilde{h}) = -k^{FF}(h, \tilde{h} + \frac{1}{2}) = k^{FF}(h, \frac{1}{2}, \tilde{h}) = -k^{FF}(h, \frac{1}{2}, \tilde{h})$ 

[JM-Stanford-Witten '17]



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# Additional U(1) symmetry

Since  $k^{FB}(1/2,0) = q - 1$ , we find indeed that  $k_A^{FB}(1/2,0) = 1$ as expected for the (I,O) part of the U(I) current. **BUT** the function  $1/(1 - k_A^{FB}(1/2,0))$  has a **double pole at (I/2,O)** that lies on the integration contour of the 4-point function. We therefore expect the model to not find a true IR fixed point.

 $iC_{i_1\cdots i_r\bar{j}_1\cdots \bar{j}_r}\Phi_{i_1}\cdots \Phi_{i_r}\bar{\Phi}_{j_1}\cdots \bar{\Phi}_{j_r}$ 

The holomorphic and anti-holomorphic parts of the current associated to a **2-d (S)CFT** with a continuous symmetry must be separately conserved. This means that in a 2-d supersymmetric model with **SYKlike ladder structure** we must expect to find a dimension (1/2,0) primary in the FB channel. A candidate theory has **N/2 complex superfields** and their complex conjugates interacting in a random superpotential.

#### [JM-Stanford-Witten '17]

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The holomorphic and anti-holomorphic parts of the current associated to a **2-d (S)CFT** with a continuous symmetry must be separately conserved. This means that in a 2-d supersymmetric model with **SYKlike ladder structure** we must expect to find a dimension (1/2,0) primary in the FB channel. A candidate theory has **N/2 complex superfields** and their complex conjugates interacting in a random superpotential.

[JM-Stanford-Witten '17] The 4-point function splits into an S and A channel. This induces a splitting of the kernel eigenvalues as  $k^{FB} \rightarrow k_S^{FB} + k_A^{FB}$ where  $k_S^{FB}(h,\tilde{h}) = k^{FB}(h,\tilde{h}),$  $k_A^{FB}(h, \tilde{h}) = \frac{1}{a-1} k^{FB}(h, \tilde{h})$ follows from the ladder diagrams

# Additional U(1) symmetry

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[Stanford '16, Maldacena-Stanford '15, JM-Stanford-Witten '17]

Out-of-time-order thermal correlators provide a diagnostic for quantum chaos in large N systems

 $F(t) = \left\langle V(0)W(\beta/4 + it)V(\beta/2)W(3\beta/4 + it) \right\rangle$ 

In a chaotic system  $F(t) = 1 - \frac{1}{N}e^{\lambda_L t} + \dots$  where  $\lambda_L$  is a chaos exponent

$$W(t_1, t_2) = W_0(t_1, t_2) + \int_0^{t_1} dt_3 \int_0^{t_2} dt_4 \ K_R(t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4) W(t_3, t_4)$$

In SYK-like models we get this information from the correlator

 $W(t_1, t_2) = \left\langle \left( \psi_i(\varepsilon) - \psi_i(-\varepsilon) \right) \psi_j(it_1) \left( \psi_i(\beta/2 + \varepsilon) - \psi_i(\beta/2 - \varepsilon) \right) \psi_j(\beta/2 + it_2) \right\rangle$ 

There are two ways to compute the correlator:

The retarded kernel and an integral equation

A direct analytic continuation from the Euclidean 4-point function.

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#### Conclusions and Future work



Hristo! 감사합니다 Chacuoi ann ылана и иналария Ке а leboha! Paldies оас вохарюсю́! Gracies! Ngeyabonga! Baie Dankie! Děkuji Ukhani! Thank You Merci! Asarte Obrigado! Grazias! Tak Obrigado! Siyabonga! Danke! Dakujem Tak члити i Gracias धन्यवाद Grazie! 50525 Suksema! Juspajaraña شكر! Тэşəkkür edirəm! Dzięki Obrigadu! Дзякуй Благодаря Dankon Mahalo Dankon Mahalo