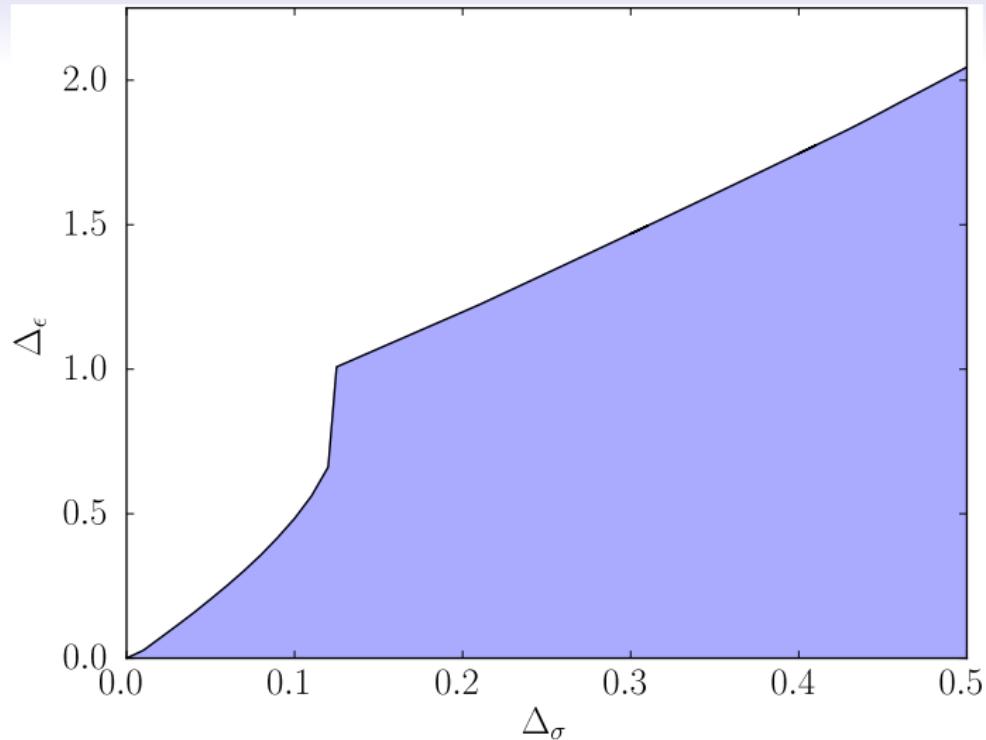


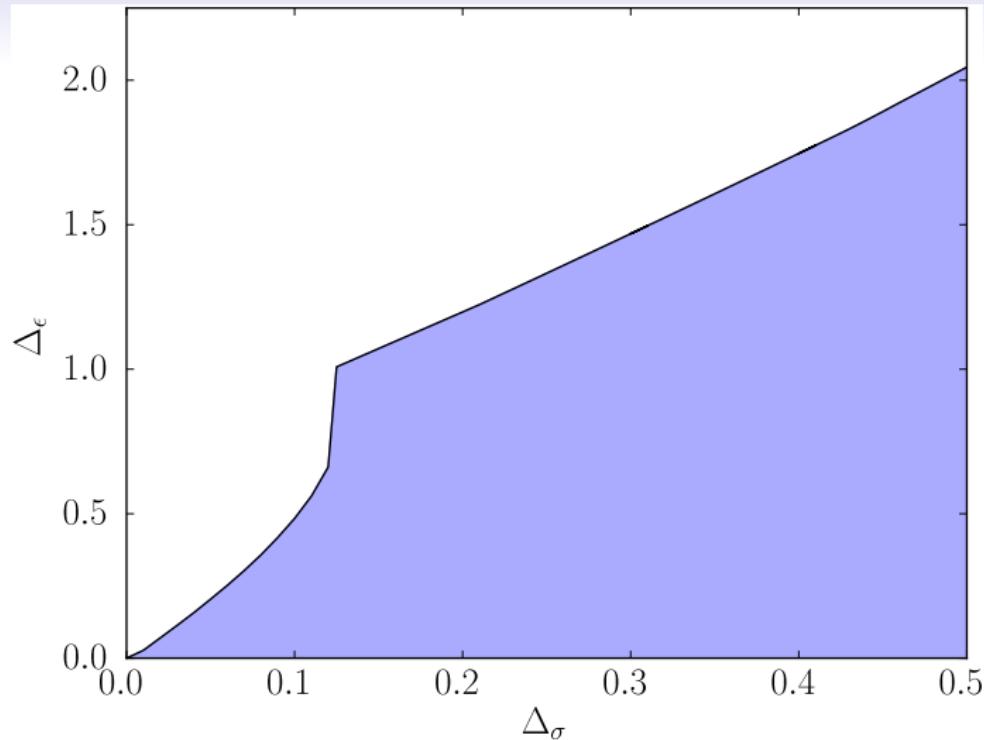
# Unitarity versus Positivity

Connor Behan

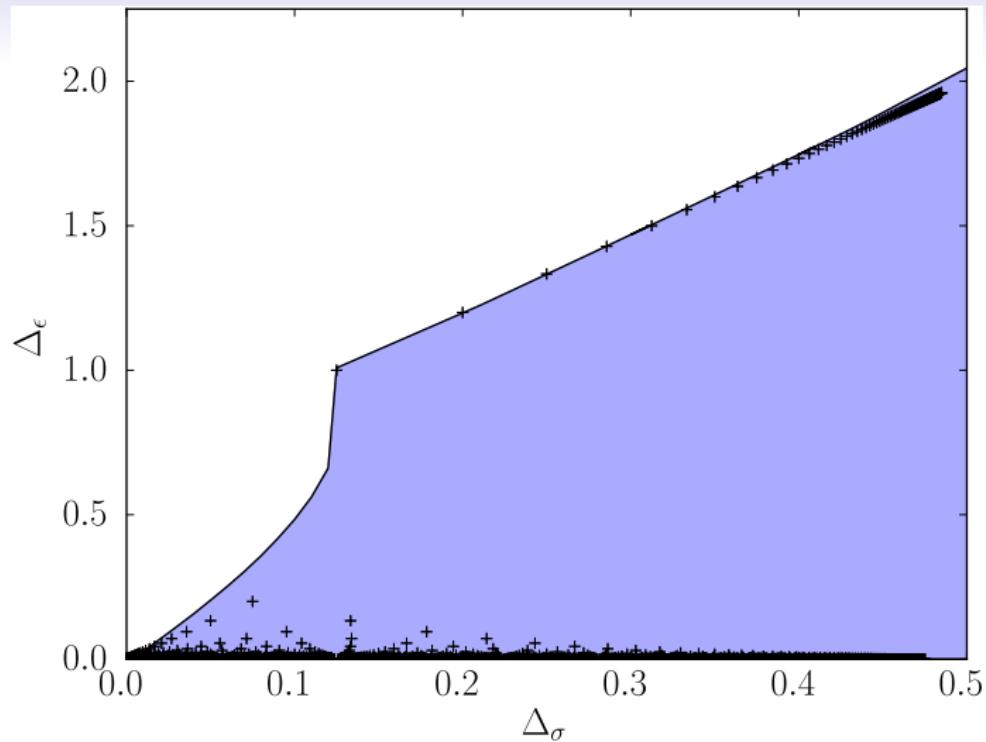
May 27, 2021  
Bootstat 2021

1712.06622, Upcoming?

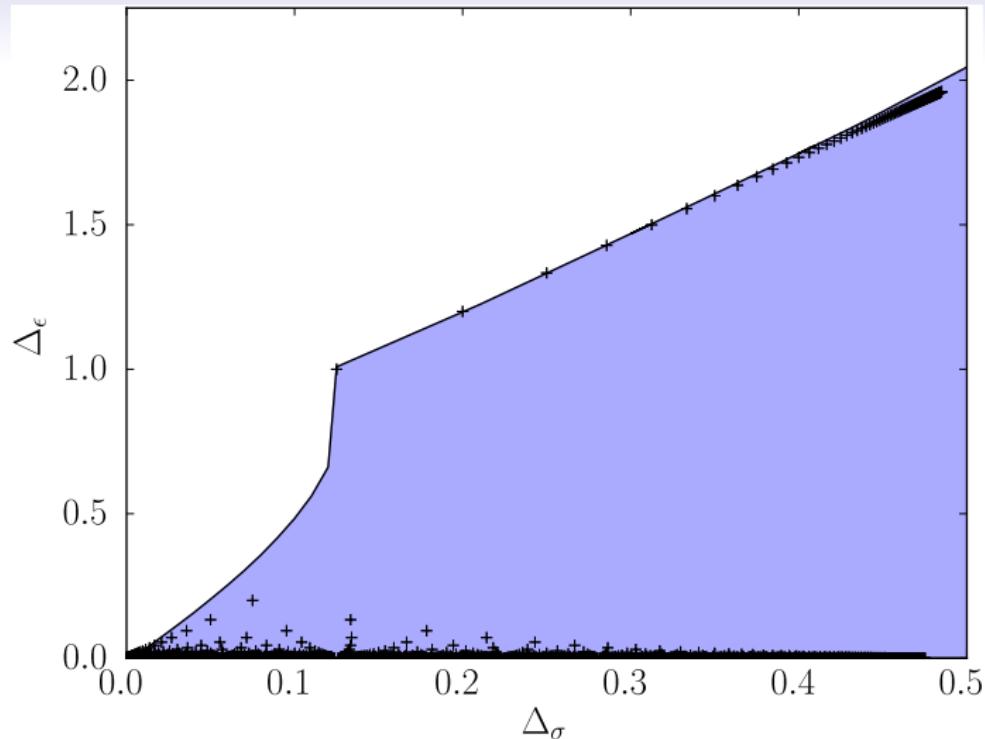




Set  $\Delta_\sigma$ ,  $\Delta_\epsilon$  to be various  $\Delta_{r,s} = \frac{[r(m+1)-ms]^2-1}{2m(m+1)}$  for  $m = 3, 4, \dots$



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 Allowed points can be deformed by  $\sigma\chi$  for any  
 $\frac{d-2}{2} < \Delta_\chi < d - \Delta_\sigma$  [CB, Rastelli, Rychkov, Zan; 1703.05325] .

## Non-unitarity is not always fatal

Along the upper bound,  $\sigma = \phi_{(1,2)}$ ,  $\epsilon = \phi_{(1,3)}$  leads to

$$\Delta_\epsilon = \frac{1}{3}(8\Delta_\sigma + 2)$$

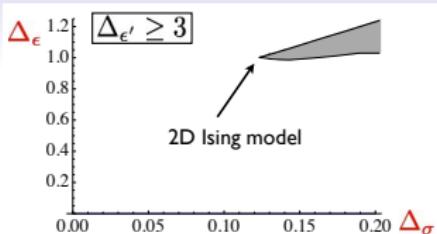
regardless of whether  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  or  $m \in \mathbb{R}$ . Null states in  $V_{(r,s)}$  lead to

$$\phi_{(r_1,s_1)} \times \phi_{(r_2,s_2)} = \sum_{r_3=|r_1-r_2|+1}^{r_1+r_2-1} \sum_{s_3=|s_1-s_2|+1}^{s_1+s_2-1} \phi_{(r_3,s_3)} \Rightarrow$$

generalized minimal model [Zamolodchikov; 05] [Ribault; 1406.4290]. Decompose

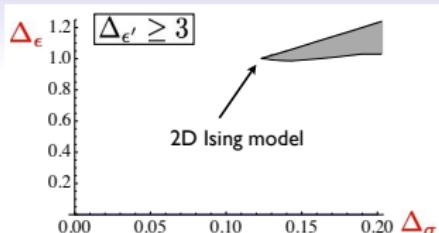
$$|z|^{2\Delta_\sigma} \langle \phi_{(1,2)}(0) \phi_{(1,2)}(z, \bar{z}) \phi_{(1,2)}(1) \phi_{(1,2)}(\infty) \rangle = \sum_{\mathcal{O}} \lambda_{\mathcal{O}}^2 G_{\Delta,\ell}(z, \bar{z})$$

and observe positivity [Liendo, Rastelli, van Rees; 1210.4258].



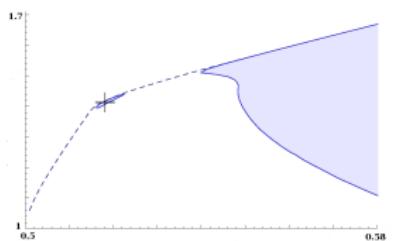
Single correlator 2D Ising kink sharpens  
if next even scalar starts at  $\Delta = 3$

[Rychkov; 1111.2115] .

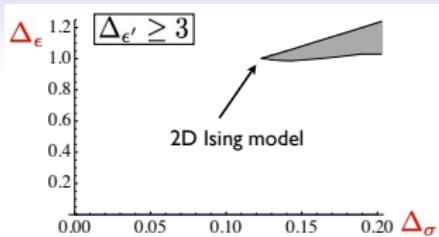


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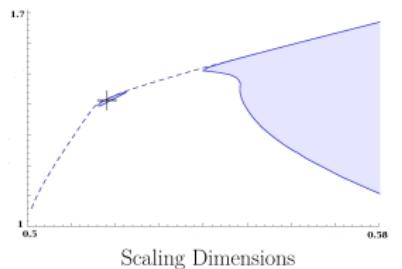
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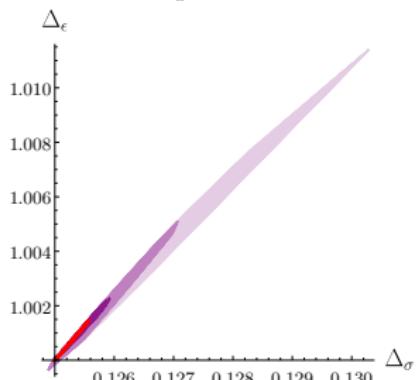
Ising island from  $\langle \sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma \rangle$ ,  $\langle \epsilon\epsilon\epsilon\epsilon \rangle$ ,  $\langle \sigma\sigma\epsilon\epsilon \rangle$   
system in 3D [Kos, Poland, Simmons-Duffin; 1406.4858] .  
What about  $\epsilon \not\subset \epsilon \times \epsilon$ ?



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Repeating this for 2D Ising seems to  
require a spin-2 gap of  $\approx 1$  above  $T_{\mu\nu}$   
[de la Fuente; 1905.09801] .

## Expanding the higher correlators

For  $3 < m < 4$ , negative coefficients appear in a single OPE.

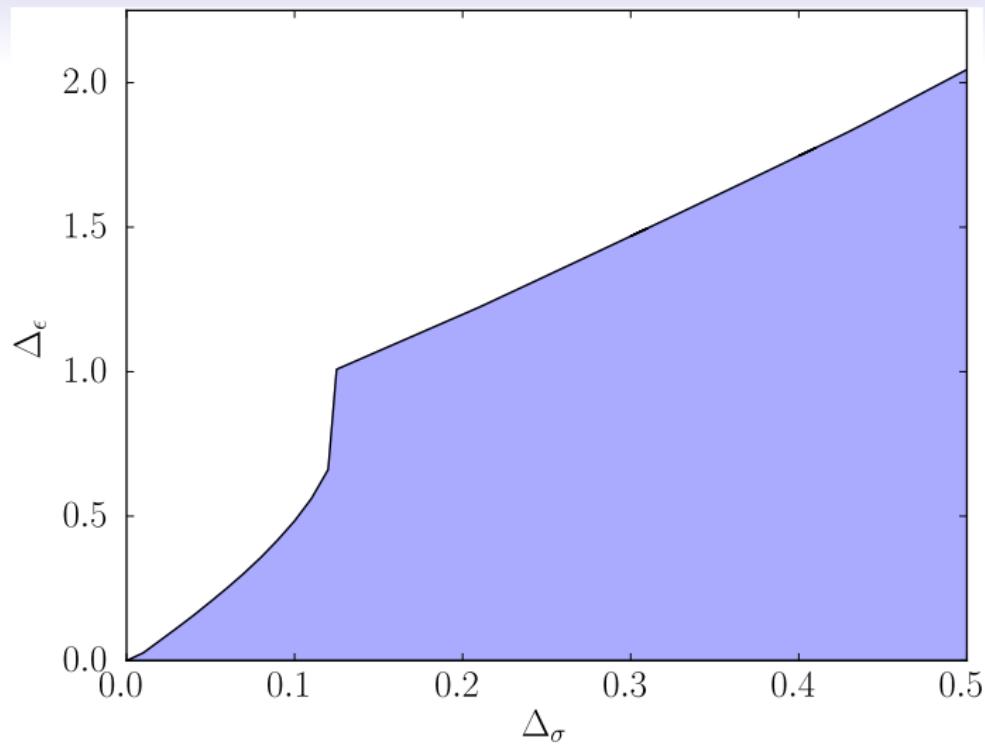
$$\phi_{(1,3)} \times \phi_{(1,3)} = \phi_{(1,1)} + \phi_{(1,3)} + \phi_{(1,5)}.$$

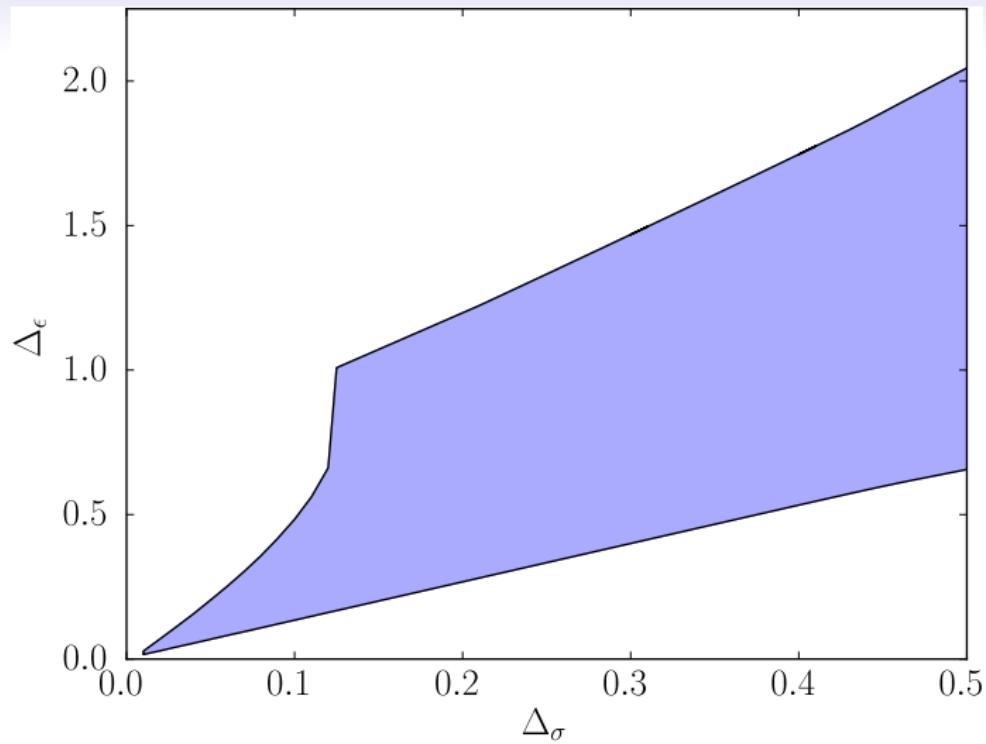
Finding operators to replace  $\phi_{(1,5)}$  is a single correlator problem.

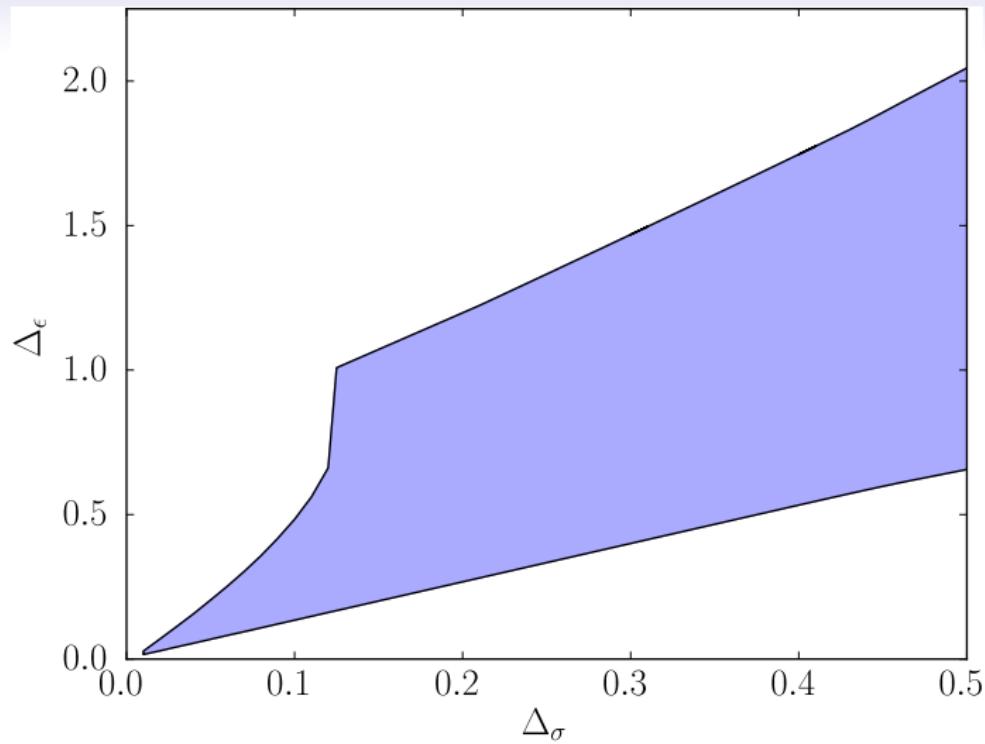
$$\sum_{\mathcal{O}} \lambda_{\epsilon\epsilon\mathcal{O}}^2 \mathbf{F}_{\Delta,\ell}^{\epsilon\epsilon;\epsilon\epsilon} = -\mathbf{T}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{T} = & \sum_{n,\bar{n}=0}^{\infty} c_n^{(1,1)} c_{\bar{n}}^{(1,1)} \mathbf{F}_{n+\bar{n},|n-\bar{n}|}^{\epsilon\epsilon;\epsilon\epsilon} \\ & + C_{(1,3)(1,3)}^{(1,3)} \sum_{n,\bar{n}=0}^{\infty} c_n^{(1,3)} c_{\bar{n}}^{(1,3)} \mathbf{F}_{\Delta_{\epsilon}+n+\bar{n},|n-\bar{n}|}^{\epsilon\epsilon;\epsilon\epsilon} \end{aligned}$$

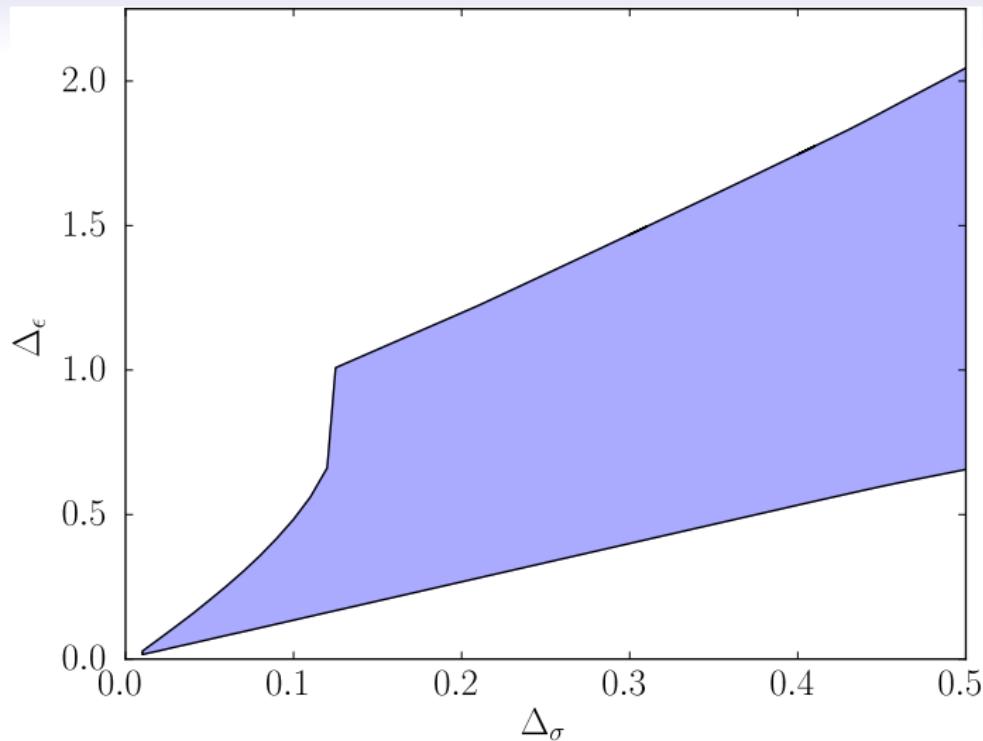
Interestingly  $C_{(1,3)(1,3)}^{(1,5)} < 0$  even at  $m = 3 \Rightarrow$  Log-CFT?







Non-unitary CFT on lower bound with  $\Delta_\epsilon = \frac{4}{3}\Delta_\sigma$  was constructed in [\[Esterlis, Fitzpatrick, Ramirez; 1606.07458\]](#).



Non-unitary CFT on lower bound with  $\Delta_\epsilon = \frac{4}{3} \Delta_\sigma$  was constructed in [\[Esterlis, Fitzpatrick, Ramirez; 1606.07458\]](#). Difficulty of solving for  $c_n$ ,  $c_{\bar{n}}$  depends on the correlator.

## The lower bound

Correlator is a single Virasoro block.

$$|z|^{2\Delta_\sigma} \langle \sigma(0)\sigma(z,\bar{z})\sigma(1)\sigma(\infty) \rangle = g(z)g(\bar{z})$$
$$g(z) = z^{\frac{2}{3}\Delta_\sigma}(1-z)^{-\frac{1}{3}\Delta_\sigma}$$

Consider  $V_\alpha = e^{i\alpha\phi}$  with **background charge** of  $2\alpha_0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} T(z) &\mapsto T(z) + i\alpha_0 \partial^2 \phi(z) \\ c &\mapsto 1 - 24\alpha_0^2 \\ h_\alpha &\mapsto \alpha(\alpha - 2\alpha_0) \end{aligned}$$

If  $\sigma = V_{\frac{\alpha_0}{2}} \bar{V}_{\frac{\alpha_0}{2}}$ , we can **skip** inserting

$$Q_\pm \sim \oint dz V_{\alpha_0 \pm \sqrt{\alpha_0^2 + 1}}(z).$$

## Ways to compute the expansion

1. Brute force:

$$g(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \left( \frac{1}{3} \Delta_{\sigma} \right)_n z^{\frac{2}{3} \Delta_{\sigma} + n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n g_{\frac{2}{3} \Delta_{\sigma} + n}^{0,0}(z)$$

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2. Lorentzian inversion [\[Caron-Huot; 1703.00278\]](#):

$$dDisc[g(z)g(\bar{z})] = 2 \sin^2 \left( \frac{\pi \Delta_{\sigma}}{3} \right) g(z)g(\bar{z})$$

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3. Compute spectral density for each half [Hogervorst, van Rees; 1702.08471] :

$$\hat{g}(\alpha) = \int_0^1 \frac{dz}{z^2} g(z) {}_2F_1 \left( \frac{1}{2} + \alpha, \frac{1}{2} - \alpha; 1; \frac{z-1}{z} \right)$$

Shows that  $c_n$  is a  ${}_3F_2$  function.

## Proving positivity

Coefficients in

$$\frac{z^p}{(1-z)^q} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(p)_n^2 n!^{-1}}{(2p+n-1)_n} {}_3F_2 \left[ \begin{matrix} -n, 2p+n-1, p-q \\ p, p \end{matrix} ; 1 \right] g_{p+n}^{0,0}(z)$$

are **continuous Hahn polynomials** satisfying a 3-term recursion.

$$P_{2n} \left( -\frac{1}{3} \Delta_\sigma \right) = \frac{3(2n-1)(\Delta_\sigma + 3n-3)}{(2\Delta_\sigma + 3n-3)(2\Delta_\sigma + 6n-3)} P_{2n-2} \left( -\frac{1}{3} \Delta_\sigma \right)$$

Could also use **Watson's theorem** when  $p = 2q$ .

$${}_3F_2 \left[ \begin{matrix} a, b, c \\ \frac{a+b+1}{2}, 2c \end{matrix} ; 1 \right] = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})\Gamma(\frac{1+a+b}{2})\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}+c)\Gamma(\frac{1-a-b}{2}+c)}{\Gamma(\frac{1+a}{2})\Gamma(\frac{1+b}{2})\Gamma(\frac{1-a}{2}+c)\Gamma(\frac{1-b}{2}+c)}$$

## Generalized minimal models

For all  $m$ ,  $\langle \phi_{(r,s)} \dots \rangle$  obeys a PDE in the cross-ratios of order  $rs$ .  
Series around  $z = 0$  fixed by Frobenius method with known  $h$ .

$$G(z) = z^h [1 + b_1 z + b_2 z^2 + \dots].$$

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In second order case,

$$G_{(1,1)}^{\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma}(z) = (1-z)^{-\Delta_\sigma} {}_2F_1 \left( -2\Delta_\sigma, \frac{1-2\Delta_\sigma}{3}; \frac{2-4\Delta_\sigma}{3}; z \right)$$

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yielding  $c_n$  as a **hard** sum of  ${}_3F_2$ s. Instead use

$$G_{(1,1)}^{\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma}(z) = {}_2F_1\left(-\Delta_\sigma, \frac{1+\Delta_\sigma}{3}; \frac{5-4\Delta_\sigma}{6}; \frac{1}{4} \frac{z^2}{z-1}\right)$$

$$G_{(1,3)}^{\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma}(z) = z^{\frac{1+4\Delta_\sigma}{3}} (1-z)^{-\frac{1+4\Delta_\sigma}{6}} {}_2F_1\left(\frac{1+2\Delta_\sigma}{2}, \frac{1-2\Delta_\sigma}{6}; \frac{7+4\Delta_\sigma}{6}; \frac{1}{4} \frac{z^2}{z-1}\right)$$

yielding  $c_n$  as an **easy** sum of  ${}_3F_2$ s.

## Results

Coefficients are **Wilson polynomials**

$$c_{2n}^{(1,1)} = \binom{4n-2}{2n-1}^{-1} \frac{\Delta_\sigma(1+\Delta_\sigma)}{5-4\Delta_\sigma} {}_4F_3 \left[ \begin{matrix} 1-n, n+\frac{1}{2}, 1-\Delta_\sigma, \frac{4+\Delta_\sigma}{3} \\ 1, 2, \frac{11-4\Delta_\sigma}{6} \end{matrix} ; 1 \right]$$
$$c_{2n}^{(1,3)} = \frac{4^{-n} n!^{-1} \left(\frac{1+4\Delta_\sigma}{6}\right)_n^2}{\left(\frac{1+4\Delta_\sigma}{3} + n - \frac{1}{2}\right)_n} {}_4F_3 \left[ \begin{matrix} -n, \frac{-1+8\Delta_\sigma}{6} + n, \Delta_\sigma + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1-2\Delta_\sigma}{6} \\ \frac{1+4\Delta_\sigma}{6}, \frac{1+4\Delta_\sigma}{6}, \frac{7+4\Delta_\sigma}{6} \end{matrix} ; 1 \right]$$

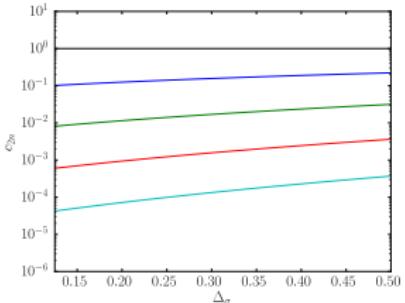
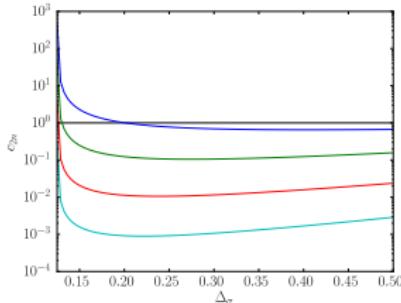
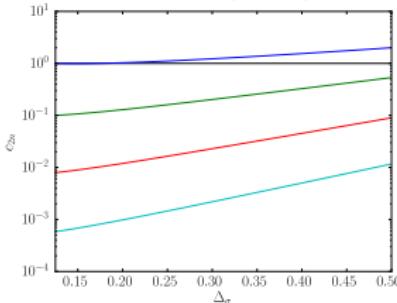
obeying a 3-term recursion  $\Rightarrow$  positivity proof.

# Results

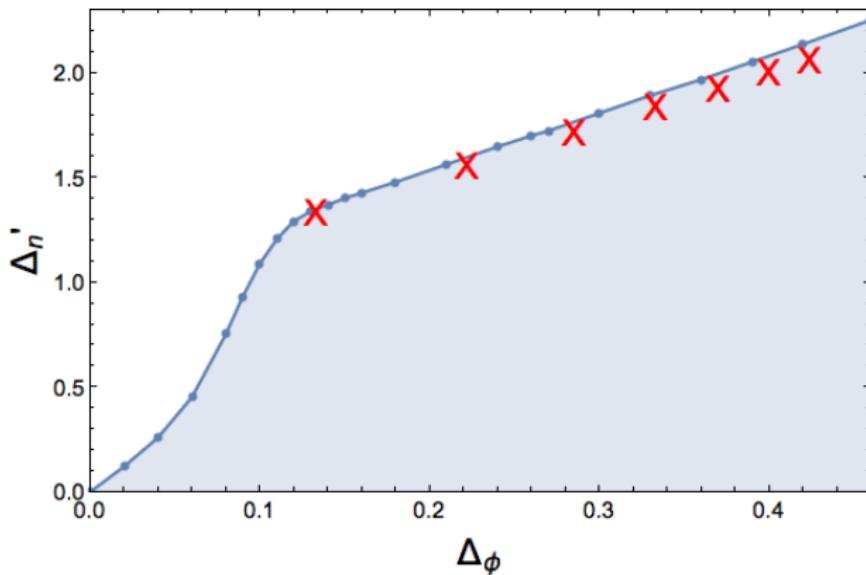
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$$c_{2n}^{(1,3)} = \frac{4^{-n} n!^{-1} \left(\frac{1+4\Delta_\sigma}{6}\right)_n^2}{\left(\frac{1+4\Delta_\sigma}{3} + n - \frac{1}{2}\right)_n} {}_4F_3 \left[ \begin{matrix} -n, \frac{-1+8\Delta_\sigma}{6} + n, \Delta_\sigma + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1-2\Delta_\sigma}{6} \\ \frac{1+4\Delta_\sigma}{6}, \frac{1+4\Delta_\sigma}{6}, \frac{7+4\Delta_\sigma}{6} \end{matrix}; 1 \right]$$

obeying a 3-term recursion  $\Rightarrow$  positivity proof.  
Solution for  $\langle \epsilon \epsilon \epsilon \epsilon \rangle$  still relies on **brute force**.

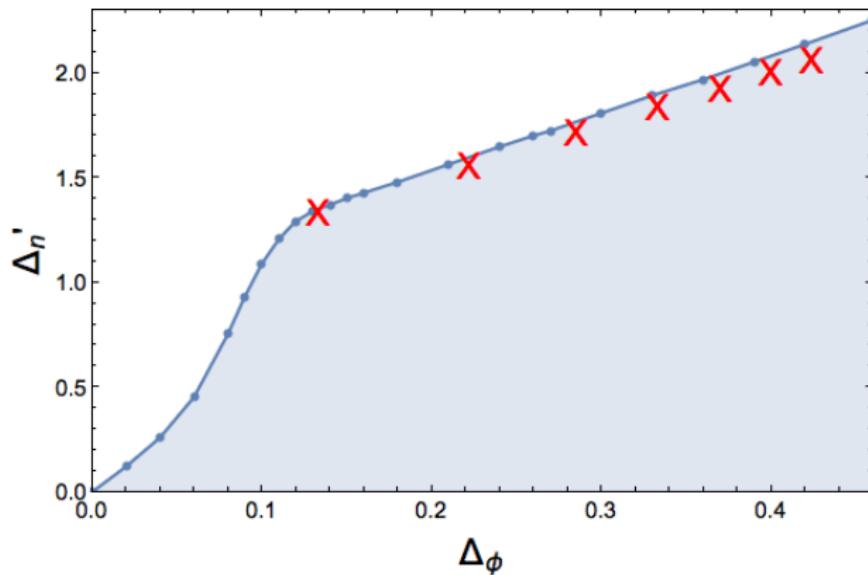


## Next target



2D  $S_3$  bootstrap knows about  $W_3$  minimal models [Rong, Su; 1712.00985].

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Null state conditions reviewed in [Fateev, Litvinov; 0709.3806].

## A better Frobenius method

The key identity is

$$f_{p,q}(z) = z^{h-p} {}_2F_1 \left( \begin{matrix} h, h-q \\ 2h \end{matrix}; z \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dz} f_{p,q}(z) &= (h-p)f_{p+1,q}(z) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{1-z} [(h+q)f_{p+1,q+1}(z) - (h+q)f_{p+1,q}(z) + hf_{p,q}(z)]. \end{aligned}$$

Differentiated block  $f_{p,q}$  expands into **finitely** many blocks.

$$\begin{aligned} c_n &= A(n)c_{n-1} + B(n)c_{n-2} + C(n)c_{n-3} \Rightarrow \\ c_n &\geq \tilde{A}(n)c_{n-1} + \tilde{B}(n)c_{n-2} \end{aligned}$$

A single recursion might enable more positivity proofs.