# Effective conformal field theories for tensor network states Deniz Stiegemann and Tobias J. Osborne

#### Quantum phases of a chain of strongly interacting anyons

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Quantum gates for the manipulation of topological qubits rely on interactions between non-Abelian anyonic quasiparticles. We study the collective behaviour of systems of anyons arising from such interactions. In particular, we study the effect of favouring different fusion channels of the screened Majorana spins appearing in the recently proposed topological Kondo effect. Based on the numerical solution of a chain of  $SO(5)_2$  anyons we identify two critical phases whose low-energy behaviour is characterised by conformal field theories with central charges  $e \equiv 1$  and  $e \equiv 8/7$ , respectively. Our results are complemented by exact results for special values of the coupling constants which provide additional information about the corresponding phase transitions.

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Low-dimensional quantum systems hold an irresistible and enduring fascination because they can support topological states of matter with exotic quasiparticles, *anyons*, exhibiting unusual braiding statistics [1]. While initially a curiosity, anyons generated considerable excitement when it was realized that the fractional quantum Hall effect [2] — and later nanowires [3, 4] and the  $p_x+ip_y$ 

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#### P. E. Finch, H. Frahm, M. Lewerenz, A. Milsted, TJO, Phys. Rev. B 90, 081111

"... we identify two critical phases whose low-energy behaviour is characterised by conformal field theories with central charges c = 1 and c = 8/7, respectively."





## CFT Dream: find unitary action of conformal group on low-energy

space

Conformal group:  $\operatorname{conf}(\mathbb{R}^{1,1}) \cong$  $\operatorname{diff}_{+}(S^{1}) \times \operatorname{diff}_{+}(S^{1})$ 



#### Zoom out = fewer observables





#### Fewer observables = simpler Calins $-S_{n}S_{n} - S_{n}S_{n} - S_{n}S_{n}S_{n} = S_{n}S_{n}S_{n} - S_{n}S_{n}S_{n} = S_{n}S_{n}S_{n}S_{n}$ hypothesis

t→Wb

BR(t+Wb)





### Simpler = calculus



#### This is important!



# $\cdots h_{j-1,j} h_{j,j+1} \cdots$

### $H(\Lambda) \rightarrow a$ sequence of ground states $|\Omega_{\Lambda}\rangle$

## WILSON: QFT is low-energy effective theory of (2<sup>nd</sup>-order) quantum phase transition

**TNS Translation:** QFT is effective theory of sequences of TNS with increasing correlation length

MAIN TASK 1: find a TNS subspaces for low energy & large scale excitations



### Nonuniform Kadanoff RG (good for MBL and TI)





 $H_{\rm eff} =$  $h_{k,k+1}$  $k \neq j-2, j-1, j$  $|+P_{low}(h_{j-2,j-1} + h_{j-1,j} + h_{j,j+1})P_{low}|$  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}} = P_{\text{low}} \mathcal{H} \cong (\mathbb{C}^d)^{\otimes n-1}$  $a = 2/\Lambda$ +-----







Intermediate lattice systems are **coarser partitions** of circle

# No rescaling is applied!



## **Standard dyadic partitions:** partitions into std. dyadic intervals



If  $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}$  say " $P \leq Q$ " to mean partition Q is a **refinement** of P

#### (Q has more cells)

# **Standard dyadic partition:** partition into std. dyadic intervals



Kadanoff RG: a sequence (net) of effective hilbert spaces & hamiltonians (for standard dyadic partitions)



#### If $P \leq Q$ identify $\mathcal{H}_P \subset \mathcal{H}_Q$ via isometry:

$$T_Q^P:\mathcal{H}_P\to\mathcal{H}_Q$$






## every low energy state in $\mathcal{H}_P$ is identified with a **precursor** in $\mathcal{H}_Q$

 $T_Q^P:\mathcal{H}_P\to\mathcal{H}_Q$ 

 $T_Q^P:\mathcal{H}_P\to\mathcal{H}_Q$ 

# isometry $T_O^P$ is an inverse to the Kadanoff block RG from P to Q





#### Tree tensor network

(TTPN)

#### Demand WLOG

# $T_R^Q T_Q^P = T_R^P, \quad \forall P \le Q \le R$





#### "Continuous limit": Extrapolate! $T_Q^P$ embeds into arbitrarily fine (std. dyadic) lattices





**Definition**: let  $(\mathcal{P}, \leq)$  be a directed set. Let a hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}_P$  be given for each  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ For all  $P \leq Q$  let $T_Q^P : \mathcal{H}_P \to \mathcal{H}_Q$  be an isometry such that:

(1)  $T_P^P$  is the identity (2)  $T_R^Q T_Q^P = T_R^P$ ,  $\forall P \le Q \le R$ 

Then  $(\mathcal{H}_P, T_Q^P)$  is a directed system.

### **Precontinuous limit:**

# $\widehat{\mathcal{H}} \equiv \varinjlim_{P \in \mathcal{P}} \mathcal{H}_P$

the disjoint union of  $\mathcal{H}_P$  over all  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ modulo the equivalence relation  $|\phi\rangle_P \sim |\psi\rangle_Q$ if there is  $R \ge P$  and  $R \ge Q$  such that  $T_R^P |\phi\rangle_P = T_R^Q |\psi\rangle_Q$ 

any book on algebra
R. F. Werner, unpublished (1993)
V. F. R. Jones, arXiv:1412.7740(2014)



## $[|\psi\rangle_P] \equiv \{|\phi\rangle_Q = T_Q^P |\psi\rangle_P\}$

# Each hilbert space $\mathcal{H}_P$ is a natural subspace of $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}$ :

 $\mathcal{H}_P \hookrightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{H}}$ 

#### via

#### $|\psi\rangle_P \mapsto [|\psi\rangle_P]$



#### What did we really need?

Hilbert spaces *H<sub>P</sub>* for partitions *P* (parametrised by TN)
Isometries *T<sub>R</sub><sup>Q</sup> T<sub>Q</sub><sup>P</sup> = T<sub>R</sub><sup>P</sup>* for each *P* ≤ *Q* ≤ *R*



#### Examples

Tree tensor networks
(Injective) MPS
(Injective) PEPS
MERA



B. Czech, G. Evenbly, L. Lamprou, S. McCandlish, X.-L. Qi, J. Sully, and G. Vidal, arXiv:1510.07637 (2015).

Unitary actions of homeomorphisms (AKA "fields")

# **CFT Dream:** find a unitary action of $conf(\mathbb{R}^{1,1})$ on $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}$



# Problem: diff<sub>+</sub>( $S^1$ ) is incompatible with std. dyadic partitions

# Strategy: study "discrete" version of conformal group; Thompson's group T

# Thompson's group T: generated by A(x), B(x), and C(x) under composition



J. W. Cannon, W. J. Floyd, and W. R. Parry, Enseign. Math., vol. 42, no. 3-4, pp. 215-256,

Thompson's group T: compatible with Verband of dyadic rational partitions



J. W. Cannon, W. J. Floyd, and W. R. Parry, *Enseign. Math.*, vol. 42, no. 3–4, pp. 215–256,

Proposition ("well known"): let  $f \in \text{diff}_{+}(S^{1})$ . Then  $\exists$  sequence  $A_{n}(x) \in T$ s.t.  $||A_{n} - f||_{\infty} \to 0$ .



see e.g., A. Akhmedov and M. P. Cohen, arXiv:1508.04604

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#### Unitary representations of T on $\hat{\mathcal{H}}$

#### $\forall f \in T$ :

## $\pi(f)[|\psi\rangle_P] = \left[|\psi\rangle_{f(P)}\right]$












V. F. R. Jones, arXiv:1412.7740 (2014)

### Fidelity:



V. F. R. Jones, arXiv:1412.7740 (2014)

#### Thompsonian invariance:

## $\pi(a)[|\Omega\rangle_P] = [|\Omega\rangle_P]?$

Necessary condition for exact Thompsonian invariance: V must satisfy



#### Physical argument: it is also sufficient

#### Conjecture: fixed points are product states



Unitary action is not continuous! (With respect to compact-open topology on T and standard topology on  $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}$ )

#### Translation: we can always distinguish between $\pi(f)|\psi\rangle$ and $\pi(f')|\psi\rangle$ no matter how close f and f'











https://github.com/tobiasosborne/Continuous-Limits-of-Quantum-Lattice-Systems

### **Definition**: let $\mathcal{H} = \bigotimes_{j=1}^{2^n} \mathbb{C}^d$ . The **local Fluctuation** *k*-mode observable of $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C}^d)$ is



M. Broidioi, B. Momont and A. Verbeure, J. Math. Phys. 36, 6746 (1995)

## Denote the regular dyadic partition of $2^n$ elements as $\mathcal{P}_n$ :

#### 

# Because $\mathcal{H}_{P_n} \hookrightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{H}}$ any state $|\Omega\rangle$ in $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}$ induces a state $\omega_n$ on $\mathcal{P}_n$ .

## The *anomalous dimensions* $\delta_A$ are chosen so that

## $\lim_{n\to\infty}\omega_n(F_k^n(A)^2)<\infty$

**Definition**: an *ascending operator*  $\mu_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is an eigenvector of the ascending channel:

$$V^{\dagger}(\mu^{\alpha} \otimes \mathbb{I} + \mathbb{I} \otimes \mu^{\alpha})V = \lambda_{\alpha}\mu^{\alpha}$$



## **Lemma**: the anomalous dimensions for $\mu^{\alpha}$ are given by

### $\delta_{\alpha} = \log_2(\lambda_{\alpha}) - \frac{1}{2}$

The ascending operators  $\mu_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ form a lie algebra (equivalent to  $\mathfrak{u}(d)$ ):

 $[i\mu^{\alpha}, i\mu^{\beta}] = ig_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta}\mu^{\gamma}$ 

## When $\delta_{\alpha} = \log_2(\lambda_{\alpha}) - \frac{1}{2}$ the following limit of the *generating function* exists

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\omega_n\left(e^{i\sum_{\alpha=0}^{d^2-1}\sum_{k\in\mathbb{Z}}z_{\alpha}(k)F_k^n(\mu^{\alpha})}\right)=W(z_{\alpha}(k))$$

(Argument uses Banach fixed point theorem *a la* Hartman and Grobman and a tensor diagrammatic calculus for Taylor series.) **"Reconstruction" theorem:** the limiting generating function may be written as

$$W(z_{\alpha}(k)) = \widetilde{\omega}\left(e^{i\sum_{\alpha=0}^{d^{2}-1}\sum_{k\in\mathbb{Z}}z_{\alpha}(k)T_{k}^{\alpha}}\right)$$

#### where

 $[iT_k^a, iT_l^b] = if_c^{ab}T_{k+l}^c + d_{kl}^{ab}K,$   $a, b, c = 1, 2, \dots, d^2 - 1$ and  $\delta_{k,0}K = T_k^0 = \delta_{k,0}\mathbb{I}$ 

### **Structure constants** $f_c^{ab}$ :

(i) 
$$f_c^{ab} = 0$$
 if  $\frac{1}{2} + \delta_a + \delta_b - \delta_c > 0$ 

(ii) 
$$f_c^{ab} = g_c^{ab}$$
 if  $\frac{1}{2} + \delta_a + \delta_b - \delta_c = 0$ 

(iii)  $g_c^{ab} = 0$  if  $\frac{1}{2} + \delta_a + \delta_b - \delta_c < 0$ 

### Structure constants $f_c^{ab}$ : give Inönü-Wigner contraction g of lie algebra u(d)

**Structure constants**  $d_{kl}^{ab}$ : is a 2-cocycle on loop algebra  $\widehat{g}$ :

$$d_{kl}^{ab} = i \lim_{n \to \infty} \omega_n \left( \left[ \mu^a, \mu^b \right] \right) \delta_{k, -l}$$

## **Field operators** (currents): let $z \in \mathbb{C}$ define

$$\phi_a(z) \equiv \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} z^{-n - \Delta_a} T_n^a$$

## **Virasoro algebra**: obtain via Sugawara construction



**Conjecture(!)**: representation of Virasoro algebra via Sugawara is equivalent to that found from unitary representation of diff<sub>+</sub>( $S^1$ ) via Thompson.



