

Quantum Symmetries in $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SCFT's

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Based on arXiv: 2106.08449 (with E. Pomoni and R. Rabe) and ongoing work

Outline

- Explain what is meant by “quantum” symmetry
- Review $\mathcal{N} = 2$ superconformal theories, arising as orbifolds of the $\mathcal{N} = 4$ theory
- Briefly discuss the types of spin chains that arise in the planar limit of these theories
- Construct the quantum symmetry of the \mathbb{Z}_2 orbifold theory

Lie groups and Lie algebras

- Lie groups \leftrightarrow Symmetry in physics

$$G = e^{i \sum_k \alpha^k T^k}$$

- T^k are Lie algebra generators
- $SU(2) \rightarrow$ theory of spin in Quantum Mechanics

$$\vec{S} = \hat{x}S_x + \hat{y}S_y + \hat{z}S_z$$

where

$$S_x = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, S_y = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, S_z = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Product is non-commutative, e.g. $S_x S_y \neq S_y S_x$

The coproduct

- Algebra elements act naturally on a representation space $\{|\psi\rangle\}$ (Hilbert space in QM)

$$S_z |\uparrow\rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2} |\uparrow\rangle, \quad S_z |\downarrow\rangle = -\frac{\hbar}{2} |\downarrow\rangle$$

- How does \vec{S} act on $|\psi_1\rangle \otimes |\psi_2\rangle$?

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$$\Delta(\vec{S})(|\psi_1\rangle \otimes |\psi_2\rangle) = (\vec{S}|\psi_1\rangle) \otimes |\psi_2\rangle + |\psi_1\rangle \otimes (\vec{S}|\psi_2\rangle)$$

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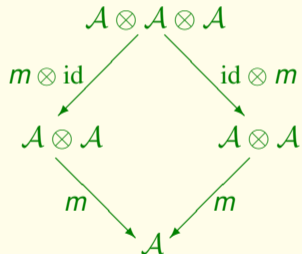
- We have just used a coproduct:

$$\Delta(X) = X \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes X$$

- Δ is co-commutative: $\tau_{12} \circ \Delta(X) = \Delta(X)$
- Hopf algebra: Allow Δ to be non-co-commutative

Hopf Algebras

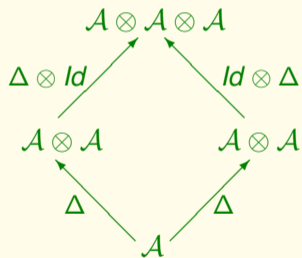
- An *algebra* \mathcal{A} (over a field k) is a vector space together with a product $m : \mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ and a unit map $\eta : k \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$



(+ more diagrams)

Hopf Algebras

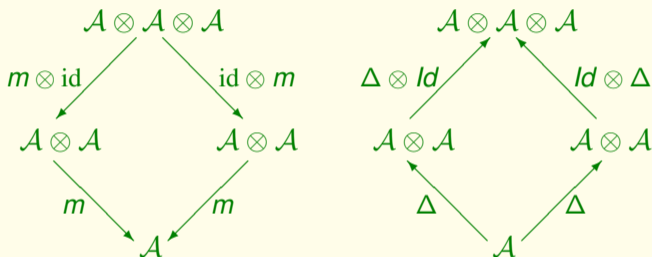
- A *coalgebra* \mathcal{A} is instead equipped with a coproduct $\Delta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{A}$ and a counit $\epsilon : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow k$



(+ more diagrams)

Hopf Algebras

- A *bialgebra* is both an algebra and a coalgebra in a compatible way



(+ more diagrams)

- A Hopf Algebra is a bialgebra equipped with an antipode $S : A \rightarrow A$

$$m(S \otimes \text{id}) \circ \Delta = m(\text{id} \otimes S) \circ \Delta = \eta \circ \epsilon.$$

Quasitriangular Hopf algebras

- Would like both m and Δ to be non-commutative
- However, there can still be a relation between Δ and $\tau_{12}\Delta$.

$$\tau_{12} \circ \Delta(a) = R(\Delta(a))R^{-1}$$

- $R : \mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{A}$ is called an *R-matrix*.
- Quantum Yang–Baxter Equation (QYBE)

$$R_{12}R_{13}R_{23} = R_{23}R_{13}R_{12} \quad \left(R_{sr}^{ij} R_{lp}^{sk} R_{mn}^{rp} = R_{sp}^{jk} R_{rn}^{ip} R_{lm}^{rs} \right)$$

- A Hopf algebra with R satisfying the YBE is called quasitriangular \rightarrow “Quantum Group”
- The YBE guarantees that the algebra is not too trivial

Drinfeld twists

- Given an initial Hopf algebra, we can twist it to produce (in general) a quasi-Hopf algebra
- Drinfeld twist $F : \mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{A} \longrightarrow \mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{A}$

$$\Delta_F(a) = F(\Delta(a))F^{-1}, \quad R_F = F_{21} \cdot R \cdot F^{-1}$$

- To get a Hopf algebra, F should satisfy the cocycle condition

$$(1 \otimes F)(\text{id} \otimes \Delta)F = (F \otimes 1)(\Delta \otimes \text{id})F$$

- Then, R_F will satisfy the QYBE
- If not \Rightarrow quasi-Hopf algebra (non-associative)

The $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM theory

- Maximal supersymmetry in $d = 4$
- Contains a gauge field A_μ , 4 spinors ψ_α^A , and 3 complex scalars ϕ^i .
- All in the adjoint of $SU(N)$ gauge group $\rightarrow N \times N$ matrices
- Convenient to use $\mathcal{N} = 1$ superspace notation

$$\mathcal{L} = \int d^4\theta \text{Tr} e^{gV} \bar{\Phi}_i e^{-gV} \Phi^i + \left(\int d^2\theta \mathcal{W} + \int d^2\bar{\theta} \bar{\mathcal{W}} \right) + \dots$$

- Chiral Superfields $\Phi^i = \phi^i + \theta^\alpha \psi_\alpha^i + \theta^2 F^i$, $i = 1, 2, 3$
- $\mathcal{N} = 4$ superpotential:

$$\mathcal{W} = g \text{Tr} \Phi^1 [\Phi^2, \Phi^3] = \frac{g}{3} \epsilon_{ijk} \text{Tr} \Phi^i \Phi^j \Phi^k$$

- The actual potential of the QFT is derived as

$$V = \frac{\partial \bar{\mathcal{W}}}{\partial \bar{\phi}_i} \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}}{\partial \phi^i}$$

Reducing supersymmetry

- In previous work, looked at the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ marginal deformations of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM [Dlamini, KZ '19]

$$\mathcal{W}_{LS} = \kappa \text{Tr} \left(\Phi^1 [\Phi^2, \Phi^3]_q + \frac{h}{3} ((\Phi^1)^3 + (\Phi^2)^3 + (\Phi^3)^3) \right)$$

- q -commutator $[X, Y]_q = XY - qYX$
- Identified a Drinfeld twist which takes us from $(q, h) = (1, 0)$ to the general case $\Rightarrow \text{SU}(3)_{q,h}$
- Does not satisfy the cocycle condition
- Today we will look at $\mathcal{N} = 2$ theories, which are not purely superpotential deformations.

\mathbb{Z}_2 orbifold of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

- Start with $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM with $SU(2N)$ gauge group
- 6 real (3 complex) scalar fields: $SO(6) \sim SU(4)$ R -symmetry group
- Project $(V, X, Y, Z) \rightarrow (V, -X, -Y, Z)$ in R -symmetry space
- Project by $[\cdots] \rightarrow \gamma[\cdots]\gamma$ in colour space, where

$$\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} I_{N \times N} & 0 \\ 0 & -I_{N \times N} \end{pmatrix}$$

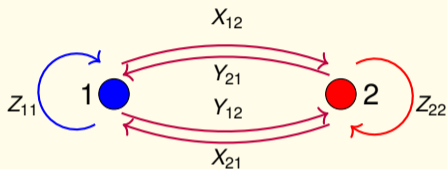
- End up with $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SYM with $SU(N)_1 \times SU(N)_2$ gauge group

$$Z = \begin{pmatrix} Z_{11} & 0 \\ 0 & Z_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & X_{12} \\ X_{21} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad Y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & Y_{12} \\ Y_{21} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Z 's adjoints, X, Y bifundamentals

\mathbb{Z}_2 orbifold of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

- Represent using a quiver diagram:



- **Superpotential:** $\mathcal{W}_{N=4} = ig \text{Tr}(X[Y, Z]) \rightarrow$

$$\mathcal{W}_{N=2} = ig (\text{Tr}_2(Y_{21}Z_{11}X_{12} - X_{21}Z_{11}Y_{12}) - \text{Tr}_1(X_{12}Z_{22}Y_{21} - Y_{12}Z_{22}X_{21}))$$

- The $SU(4)_R$ symmetry is (naively) broken to $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \times U(1)$.

Marginally deformed orbifold

- Move away from the orbifold point: $g_1 \neq g_2$

$$\mathcal{W} = ig_1 \text{Tr}_2(Y_{21}Z_{11}X_{12} - X_{21}Z_{11}Y_{12}) - ig_2 \text{Tr}_1(X_{12}Z_{22}Y_{21} - Y_{12}Z_{22}X_{21})$$

- Still preserves $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetry
- Studied in detail in [Gadde,Pomoni,Rastelli '10].
- Leads to interesting spin chains in the planar limit
- Focus on holomorphic $SU(3)$ sector
 - ▶ Unbroken $SU(2)$ subsector made up of X, Y fields
 - ▶ “ $SU(2)$ -like” subsector made up of X, Z fields
- First recall how spin chains arise in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

Spin chains from $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

[Minahan-Zarembo '02]

- Take planar limit $N \rightarrow \infty$
- Observables are gauge invariant operators
- E.g. $SU(2)$ scalar sector: X, Y

$$O(x) = \text{Tr} [\dots XXXYXXXYYY \dots]$$

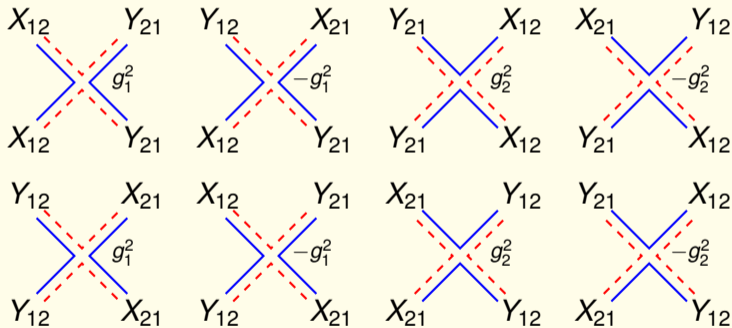
- We want to diagonalise the dilatation operator of the theory

$$DO(x) = (L + \gamma)O(x) \quad \gamma: \text{anomalous dimension}$$

- Difficult problem because of operator mixing
- At one-loop, D acts exactly like a Heisenberg Hamiltonian
- Integrability \Rightarrow Solution of the $\mathcal{N} = 4$ spectral problem

XY sector: Diagrams

- F-term contributions to the Hamiltonian



- Will rescale by $g_1 g_2$ and define $\kappa = g_2/g_1$.

XY sector: Hamiltonian

- $\mathcal{N} = 2$ picture

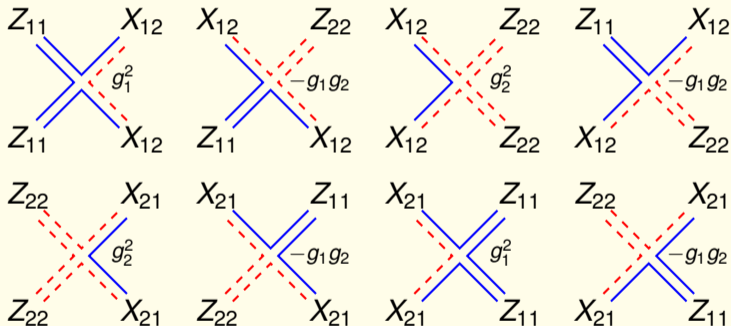
$$\mathcal{H}_{\ell, \ell+1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \kappa^{-1} & -\kappa^{-1} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\kappa^{-1} & \kappa^{-1} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \kappa & -\kappa & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\kappa & \kappa & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ on: } \begin{pmatrix} X_{12} X_{21} \\ X_{12} Y_{21} \\ Y_{12} X_{21} \\ Y_{12} Y_{21} \\ X_{21} X_{12} \\ X_{21} Y_{12} \\ Y_{21} X_{12} \\ Y_{21} Y_{12} \end{pmatrix}$$

- “Dynamical $\mathcal{N} = 4$ ” picture

$$\mathcal{H}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \kappa^{-1} & -\kappa^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & -\kappa^{-1} & \kappa^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{H}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \kappa & -\kappa & 0 \\ 0 & -\kappa & \kappa & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ on: } \begin{pmatrix} XX \\ XY \\ YX \\ YY \end{pmatrix}_i$$

XZ sector: Diagrams

- F-term contributions to the Hamiltonian



- Will again rescale by $g_1 g_2$ and define $\kappa = g_2/g_1$.

XZ sector: Hamiltonian

- $\mathcal{N} = 2$ picture

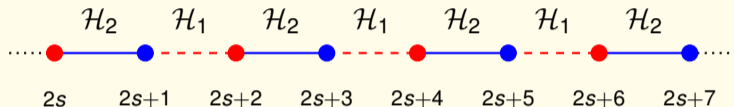
$$\mathcal{H}_{i,i+1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \kappa & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & \kappa^{-1} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \kappa^{-1} & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & \kappa & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ on: } \begin{pmatrix} X_{12} X_{21} \\ X_{12} Z_{22} \\ Z_{11} X_{12} \\ Z_{11} Z_{11} \\ X_{21} X_{12} \\ X_{21} Z_{11} \\ Z_{22} X_{21} \\ Z_{22} Z_{22} \end{pmatrix}.$$

- “Dynamical $\mathcal{N} = 4$ ” picture

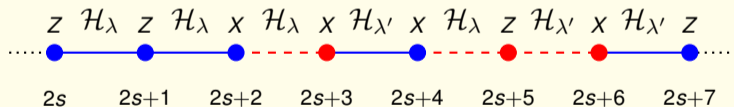
$$\mathcal{H}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \kappa & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & \kappa^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathcal{H}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \kappa^{-1} & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & \kappa & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ on: } \begin{pmatrix} XX \\ XZ \\ ZX \\ ZZ \end{pmatrix}_i$$

Dynamical spin chains

- The XY chain is strictly alternating:



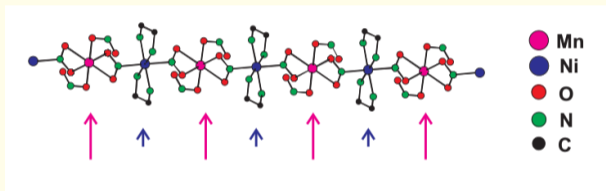
- The XZ chain is “dynamical”: The Hamiltonian depends on the number of X 's crossed.



- Introduced a “dynamical” parameter taking two values λ, λ' (more later)
- $\lambda \leftrightarrow \lambda'$ when crossing X, Y , unchanged when crossing Z

Alternating chains

- There is extensive condensed-matter literature on alternating chains, though mostly for the antiferromagnetic case
- E.g. the bimetallic chain $\text{MnNi}(\text{NO}_2)_4(\text{en})_2$ ($\text{en} = \text{ethylenediamide}$)



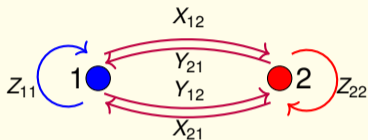
[Feyerherm, Mathonière, Kahn, J. Phys. Condens. Matter 13, 2639 (2001)]

- Have been studied with various techniques such as the recursion method [Viswanath, Müller '94], also long-wavelength approximations [Huang et al. '91]
- It is not known whether such chains are integrable (solvable by some type of Bethe Ansatz)

Quantum Symmetry

[work with E. Andriolo, H. Bertle, E. Pomoni and X. Zhang]

- First, understand the symmetries better



- Naively, $SU(4)_R \rightarrow SU(2)_L^{i=1,2} \times SU(2)_R^{i=3,4} \times U(1)$
- Eight broken generators: $R_3^1, R_4^1, R_3^2, R_4^2 + \text{conjugates}$
- Relate fields which now belong to different $SU(N) \times SU(N)$ representations
- **Claim:** Can upgrade them to true generators in a *quantum* version of $SU(4)_R$
- E.g. want to write: $R_2^3 X_{\hat{a}}^a = Z_a^a, \quad R_3^2 Z_a^a = X_{\hat{a}}^a$

Quantum Symmetry

- Gauge indices of all fields to the right need to be flipped

$$\cdots Z_{11} X_{12} Z_{22} Y_{21} X_{12} \cdots \xrightarrow{\Delta(\sigma_{XZ})} \cdots Z_{11} Z_{11} Z_{11} Y_{12} X_{21} \cdots$$

- Can achieve this with a suitable coproduct \Rightarrow Quantum algebra
- Structure is that of a quantum groupoid [Lu '96, Xu '99]
- Path groupoid: Like a group, but not all compositions of elements are allowed. The allowed paths are those given by the quiver.
- Unbroken generators have the Lie algebraic coproduct $\Delta_o(a) = I \otimes a + a \otimes I$
- For the broken generators we define:

$$\Delta_o(a) = I \otimes a + a \otimes \gamma, \quad \text{where } \gamma(X_i) = X_{i+1}$$

- To complete the algebra we also need $\Delta(\gamma) = \gamma \otimes \gamma$

Twist

- Can move away from the orbifold point by a Drinfeld twist

$$\Delta(a) = F\Delta_o(a)F^{-1}$$

- (For β -deformation see [Garus '17], also [Dlamini, KZ '16,'19] for LS)
- We require that Δ preserves the F -term relations:

$$\Delta(\sigma_{\pm}^{XZ}) \triangleright \left(X_{12}Z_{22} - \frac{1}{\kappa}Z_{11}X_{12} \right) = 0$$

- A suitable twist is:

$$F = I \otimes \kappa^{-\frac{s}{2}} \quad \text{where } s = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the gauge index is 1} \\ -1 & \text{if the gauge index is 2} \end{cases}$$

- Recall that γ flips the gauge index $\Rightarrow s \circ \gamma = -\gamma \circ s$

Twisted coproduct

- Twisting the unbroken generators has no effect:

$$\Delta(\sigma_3) = (I \otimes \kappa^{-\frac{s}{2}})(I \otimes \sigma_3 + \sigma_3 \otimes I)(I \otimes \kappa^{\frac{s}{2}}) = (I \otimes \sigma_3 + \sigma_3 \otimes I)$$

- But on the broken generators we find:

$$\Delta(\sigma_{\pm}) = (I \otimes \kappa^{-\frac{s}{2}})(I \otimes \sigma_{\pm} + \sigma_{\pm} \otimes \gamma)(I \otimes \kappa^{\frac{s}{2}}) = (I \otimes \sigma_{\pm} + \sigma_{\pm} \otimes \gamma \kappa^s)$$

- Defining $K = \gamma \kappa^s$, and also $\Delta_o(s) = s \otimes I$, our final coproducts are:

$$\Delta(\sigma_{\pm}) = I \otimes \sigma_{\pm} + \sigma_{\pm} \otimes K, \quad \Delta(K) = K \otimes K$$

- $K^2 = 1 \Rightarrow$ Compatibility of the coproduct with the algebra product

$$\Delta([\sigma_+, \sigma_-]) = [\Delta(\sigma_+), \Delta(\sigma_-)]$$

- The $SU(2)$ commutation relations are not deformed, unlike in $U_q(\mathfrak{sl}(2))$

Iterated coproduct

- The twist satisfies the cocycle condition

$$F_{12} \circ (\Delta_o \otimes \text{id})(F) = F_{23} \circ (\text{id} \otimes \Delta_o)(F) =: F_{(3)}$$

giving

$$\Delta^{(3)}(a) = F_{(3)} \Delta_o^{(3)}(a) F_{(3)}^{-1} = I \otimes I \otimes a + I \otimes a \otimes K + a \otimes K \otimes K$$

- Similarly we find the L -site coproduct for the broken/revived generators:

$$\Delta^{(L)}(a) = \sum_i \dots I \otimes I \otimes a_i \otimes K \otimes K \dots$$

- By construction, the coproduct preserves the quantum plane relations
- The superpotential is now invariant under all $SU(3)$ generators

$$\Delta^{(3)}(\sigma_{\pm,3}^{XY}) \triangleright \mathcal{W} = \Delta^{(3)}(\sigma_{\pm,3}^{XZ}) \triangleright \mathcal{W} = \Delta^{(3)}(\sigma_{\pm,3}^{YZ}) \triangleright \mathcal{W} = 0$$

Is this useful?

- The Hamiltonian does **not** commute with $\Delta(a)$ (for the broken a 's).
- So we do not expect κ -deformed multiplets to map 1-1 to eigenstates of the Hamiltonian
- Algebraic Bethe Ansatz: Assume there exists an R -matrix $R(u)$, depending on a spectral parameter u
- Our twist is in the quantum plane limit ($u \rightarrow \infty$ for rational integrable models)
- The full twist will also be u -dependent, such that

$$R(u, \kappa) = F(u)_{21} R(u, \kappa = 1) F(u)_{12}^{-1}$$

- So we expect a different twist/coproduct for each u (i.e. each eigenvalue of \mathcal{H})
- For BPS states, it turns out that $\Delta^{BPS}(a, \kappa) = \Delta(a, 1/\kappa)$.
- Agrees with the direct diagonalisation in [Gadde, Pomoni, Rastelli '10]

Example: BPS spectrum

$$X_{12}X_{21}X_{12}X_{21}$$

$$\downarrow \Delta^{BPS}(\sigma_-^{XZ})$$

$$X_{12}X_{21}X_{12}Z_{22} + \kappa X_{12}X_{21}Z_{11}X_{12} + X_{12}Z_{22}X_{21}X_{12} + \kappa Z_{11}X_{12}X_{21}X_{12}$$

$$\downarrow \Delta^{BPS}(\sigma_-^{XZ})$$

$$\kappa X_{12}X_{21}Z_{11}Z_{11} + X_{12}Z_{22}X_{21}Z_{11} + \frac{1}{\kappa} X_{12}Z_{22}Z_{22}X_{21} + \kappa Z_{11}X_{12}X_{21}Z_{11} + Z_{11}X_{12}Z_{22}X_{21} + \kappa Z_{11}Z_{11}X_{12}X_{21}$$

$$\downarrow$$

...

- To get a closed eigenstate, add the state with $\{1 \leftrightarrow 2, \kappa \leftrightarrow \kappa^{-1}\}$ and impose cyclicity. We find the following BPS state:

$$\kappa \text{Tr}_1(X_{12}X_{21}Z_{11}Z_{11}) + \text{Tr}_1(X_{12}Z_{22}X_{21}Z_{11}) + \frac{1}{\kappa} \text{Tr}_1(X_{12}Z_{22}Z_{22}X_{21})$$

- This state is not protected by $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetry. The fact that it still has $E = 0$ is a consequence of the quantum symmetry

Twisted $SU(4)$ groupoid

- We have extended this to multiplets in the full deformed $SU(4)$ sector
[Andriolo, Bertle, Pomoni, Zhang, KZ, to appear]
- Mainly focused on $L = 2$ ($\mathbf{20}'$, $\mathbf{15}$) and $L = 3$ ($\mathbf{50}$, $\mathbf{10}$) etc.
- The non-BPS multiplets of the closed Hamiltonian at $\kappa = 1$ break up into several multiplets as $\kappa \neq 1$
- **Main idea:** Can partially untwist the Hamiltonian to make the open multiplets agree with those at the orbifold point, while leaving the closed spectrum unchanged. Schematically:

$$R'(u, \kappa) = G(u)_{21} R(u, \kappa) G(u)_{12}^{-1} \Rightarrow H'_{\text{open}} = H_{\text{open}} + \delta H_{\text{open}} \quad (\text{but } H'_c = H_c)$$

- In this basis the splitting is only due to the closed boundary conditions
- First step towards constructing $F(u)$

Not discussed

- Coordinate Bethe Ansatz for the 2-magnon problem
- 3-magnon scattering in special cases (D. Bozkurt, E. Pomoni)
- Dynamical Yang-Baxter equation (Felder)
- Interpretation as dilute RSOS model (with A. Roux)
- Hints of integrability in the XY sector (with M. de Leeuw, E. Pomoni, A. Retore)
- More general $\mathcal{N} = 2$ orbifolds, e.g. \mathbb{Z}_k, D_k (with J. Bath)

Summary

- Spin chains for $\mathcal{N} = 2$ orbifold theories are dynamical
- The naively broken $SU(4)_R$ generators are not lost but can be upgraded to generators of a quantum groupoid
- Found a simple twist that takes us away from the orbifold point
- The twist leads to a quantum groupoid coproduct
- Studied short chains with the goal of better understanding the twist and the implications of this quantum symmetry

Thanks for your attention!