

# Topological defects in open string field theory

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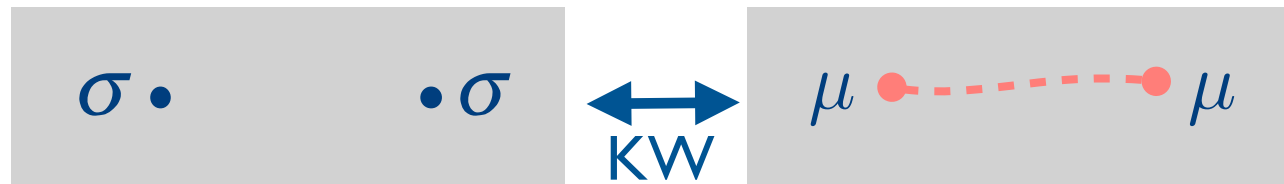


Based on the work **1512.\*\*\*[hep-th]** with:

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Carlo Maccaferri (Trino University),  
Martin Schnabl (AS CR)**

# Topological defect in 2d CFT: freely deformed

typical example:



disorder lines in 2d  
critical Ising model

studied in many contexts.. (from CMP, CFT, string theory)

why interesting ?

- generalized concept of conformal b.c.  
(may play important roles in string theory?)
- symmetry / duality of 2d CFT  
e.g. it is used to study non-geometric b.g.

Frohlich-Fuchs-Runkel-Scweigert'04, '07

Satoh-Sugawara'15

and more..

Won-Affleck'94, Oshikawa-Affleck'97, Petkova-Zuber'01, Bachas-Boer-Dijkgraaf-Ooguri'01,  
Graham-Watts'03, Bachas-Brunner'07...

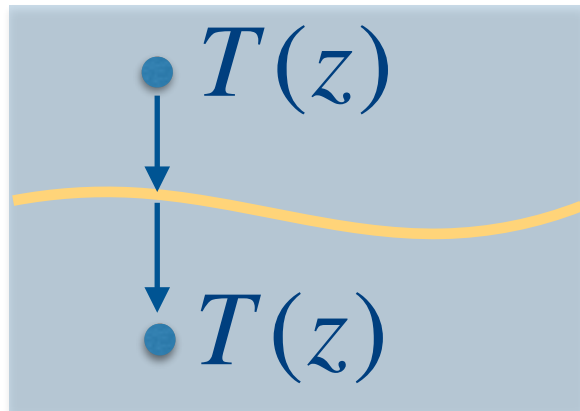
Today's talk: use TD to study Open String Field Theory

## Plan

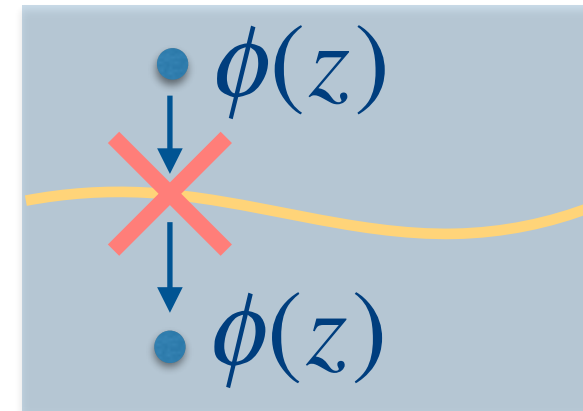
1. review of TD & bulk TD operator
2. construction of boundary TD operator
3. application to open SFT

# Topological defects in 2D CFT

The stress tensor is continuous across the defect line:

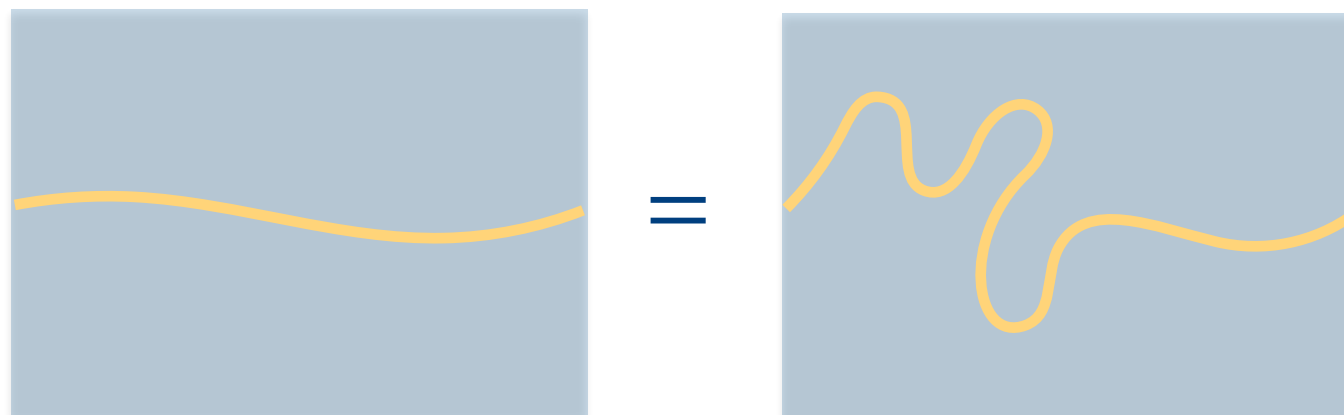


★single-valued wrt  $z$ .

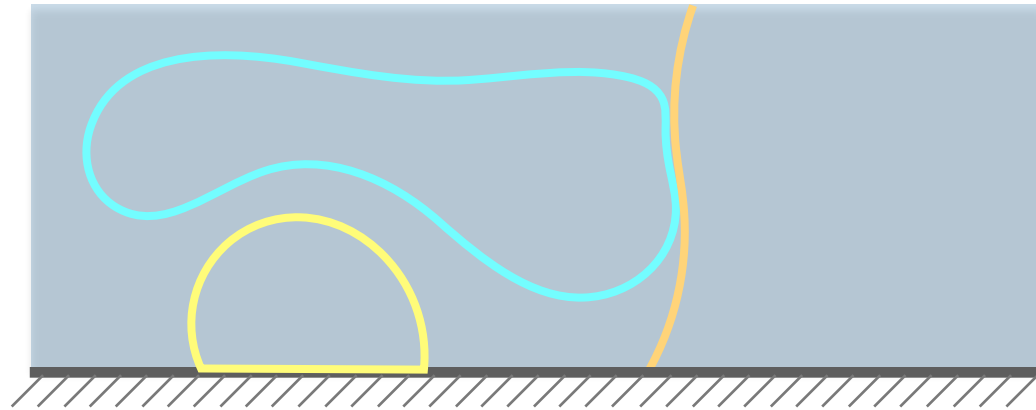


★branch cut wrt  $z$ .

Energy does not depend on the shape of TD: tensionless



We can imagine various configurations of TD



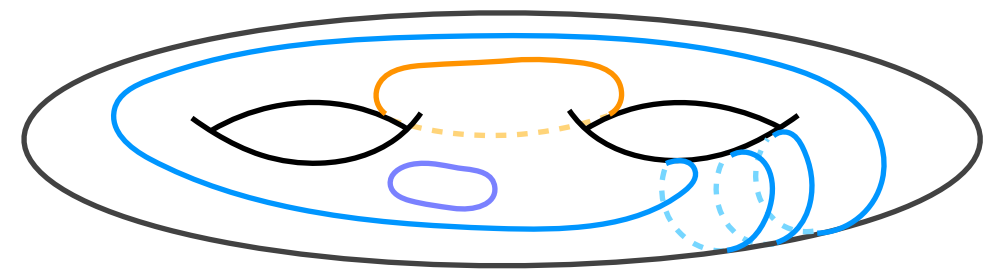
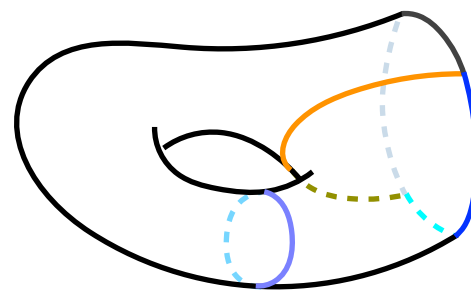
change of b.c. ?

classify TDs

how TDs fuse?

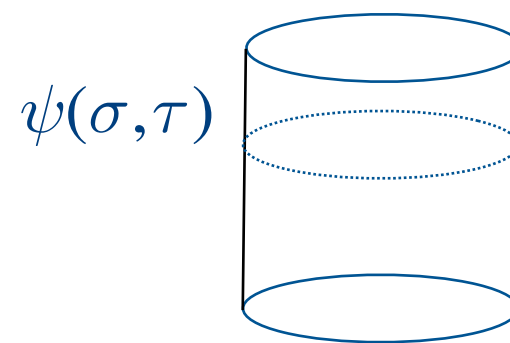
junctions

...on any Riemann surfaces in general.

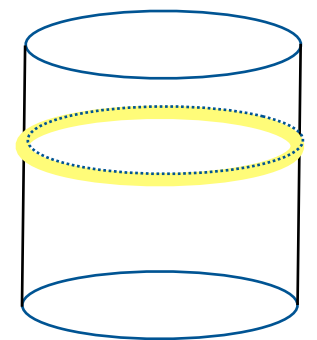


Closed loop of defects: operator acting on closed string states

$$[D, L_n] = 0$$



$D\psi(\sigma, \tau)$



$\bullet \psi$

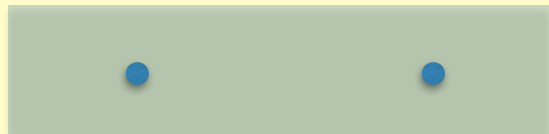


$\bullet D\psi$

**Note:** the words “fields / operators” in this talk:

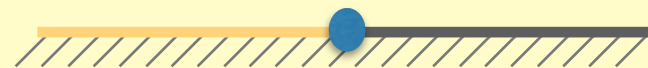
bulk fields

$$\phi_i(z, \bar{z}), T(z)$$



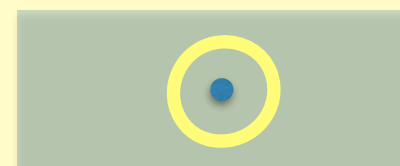
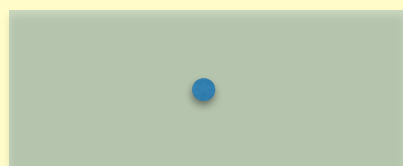
boundary fields

$$\phi_i^{(ab)}(x)$$



defect operators

$$D : \phi_i \mapsto D\phi_i$$



## Bulk TD operator

$$D : \mathcal{H}_{\text{closed}} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\text{closed}}$$

$[D, L_n] = 0 \rightarrow D$  is constant on each Verma module

e.g. critical Ising model ( $c=1/2$ )

$1,$	$\varepsilon,$	$\sigma$
	(energy density)	(spin)

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{closed}} = V_0 \otimes \bar{V}_0 \oplus V_{1/2} \otimes \bar{V}_{1/2} \oplus V_{1/16} \otimes \bar{V}_{1/16}$$

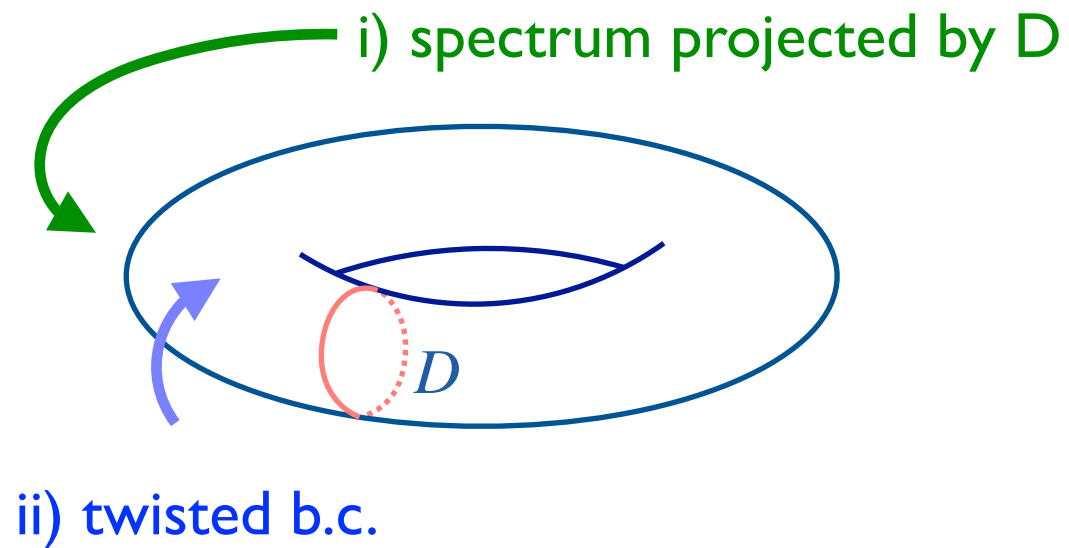
$$D = x_1 \cdot id_{V_{1/2} \otimes \bar{V}_{1/2}} + x_\varepsilon \cdot id_{V_{1/2} \otimes \bar{V}_{1/2}} + x_\sigma \cdot id_{V_{1/16} \otimes \bar{V}_{1/16}}$$

$$D \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \text{1} \end{array} = x_1 \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \text{1} \end{array}$$

$$D \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \varepsilon \end{array} = x_\varepsilon \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \varepsilon \end{array}$$

$$D \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \sigma \end{array} = x_\sigma \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \sigma \end{array}$$

From modular invariance we can fix  $x$  :



$$x_i^{(d)} = \frac{S_{di}}{S_{0i}} \quad \text{for diagonal minimal models}$$

labels for TDs = labels for primary fields

fusion of TD operators

$$D_i D_j = \sum_k N_{ij}^k D_k$$

Related to the symmetry / duality of the theory

Frohlich, Fuchs, Runkel, Schweigert'04,'06

fusion rule

$$[\phi_i][\phi_j] = \sum_k N_{ij}^k [\phi_k]$$

action on conformal boundary

$$D_i ||B_j \gg = \sum_k N_{ij}^k ||B_k \gg$$

$D_d$  maps a D-brane system to another

Graham, Watts'03



e.g. critical Ising model

3 primary fields  $\rightarrow$  3 TD operators

$$D_1 = id$$

trivial defect; nothing

$$D_\varepsilon = id_{R_0 \otimes \bar{R}_0} - id_{R_{1/2} \otimes \bar{R}_{1/2}} + id_{R_{1/16} \otimes \bar{R}_{1/16}}$$

disorder lines

$$D_\sigma = \sqrt{2} id_{R_0 \otimes \bar{R}_0} - \sqrt{2} id_{R_{1/2} \otimes \bar{R}_{1/2}} \quad (\text{implements KW dual})$$

Frohlich, Fuchs, Runkel, Schweigert'04,'06

fusion rules of defects:

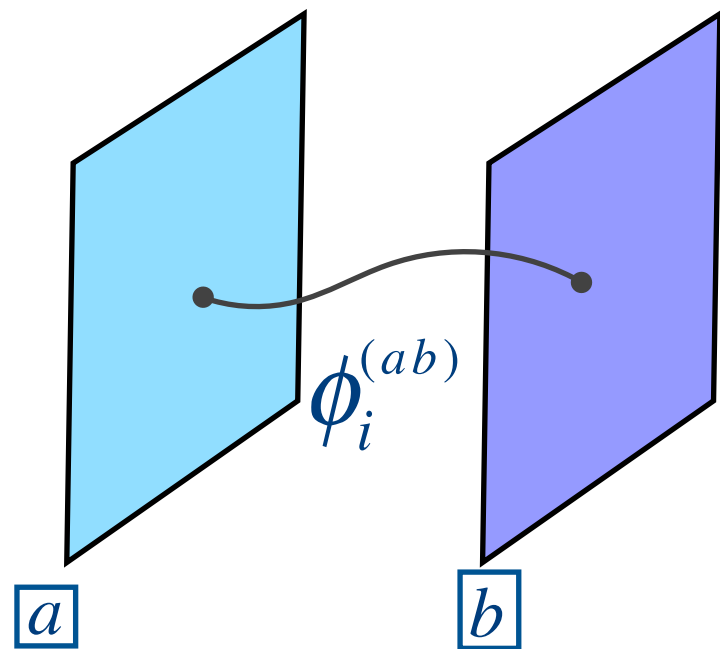
$$D_\varepsilon \times D_\varepsilon = D_1 \quad (\cdots \mathbb{Z}_2)$$

$$D_\sigma \times D_\varepsilon = D_\sigma$$

$$D_\sigma \times D_\sigma = D_1 + D_\varepsilon$$

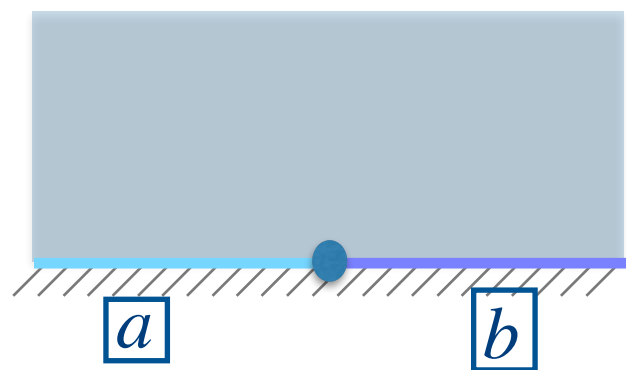
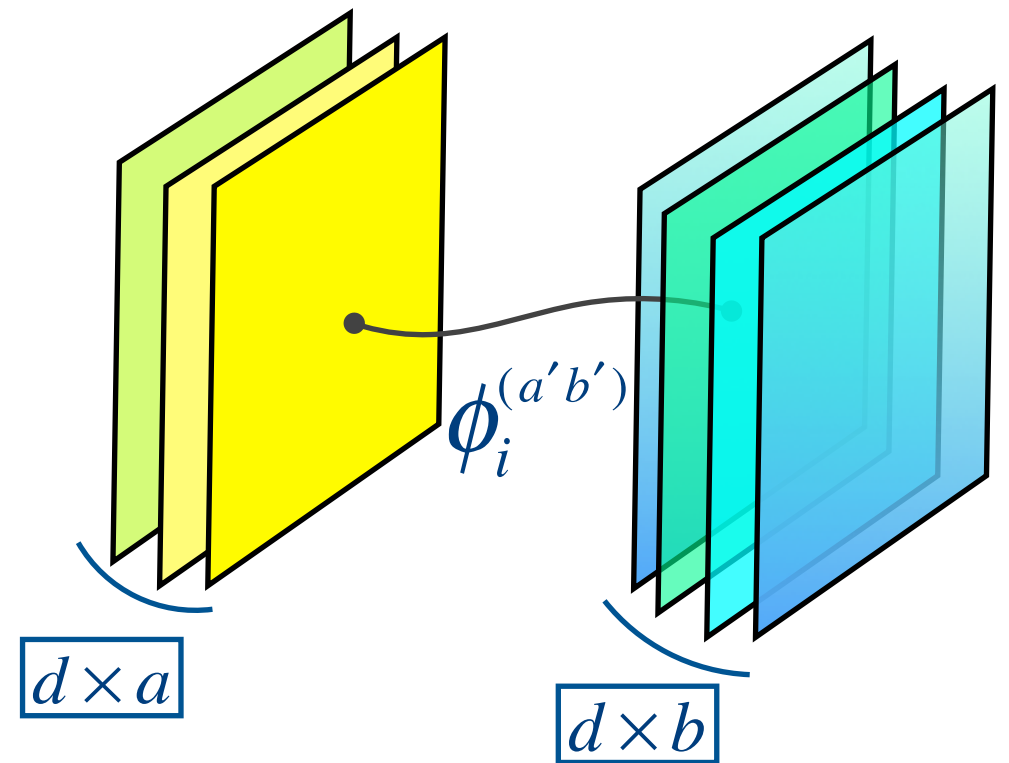
# Boundary TD operators

$$\mathcal{D}_d : \mathcal{H}_{\text{open}}^{(ab)} \rightarrow \bigoplus_{a', b'} \mathcal{H}_{\text{open}}^{(a'b')}$$

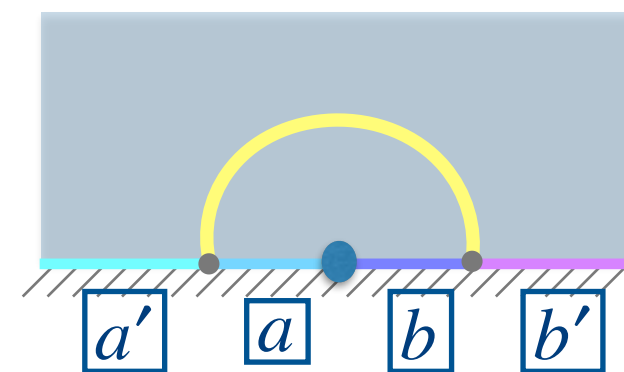


$$\xrightarrow{\mathcal{D}_d}$$

D-brane changes  
~ fusion rules



$$\xrightarrow{\mathcal{D}_d}$$



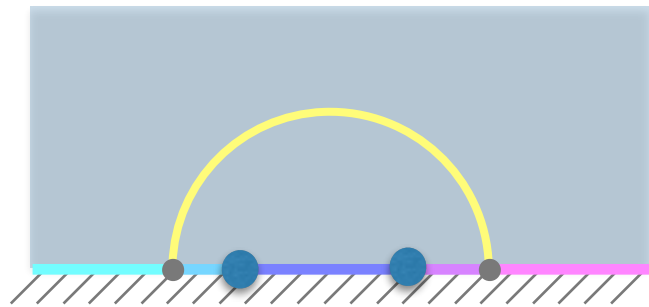
$$\begin{aligned} a' &\in d \times a \\ b' &\in d \times b \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{D}_d \phi_i^{(ab)} = \sum_{(a' b') \in d \times (ab)} X_{i(a' b')}^{d(ab)} \phi_i^{(a' b')}$$

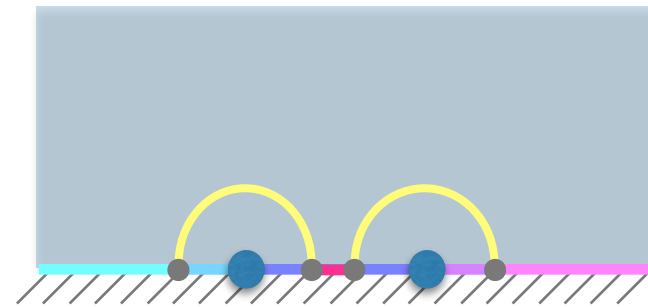
✱matrix

# How to fix $X$ coefficients?

→ require compatibility with the OPE



=



$$\mathcal{D}_d (\phi_i^{(a c)} \phi_i^{(c b)})$$

$$(\mathcal{D}_d \phi_i^{(a c)}) (\mathcal{D}_d \phi_i^{(c b)})$$

and from some physical requirement we find

$$X_{i(a'b')}^{d(ab)} = \sqrt{F_{ba'} \begin{bmatrix} i & b' \\ a & d \end{bmatrix}} \sqrt{F_{ab'} \begin{bmatrix} i & a' \\ b & d \end{bmatrix}}$$

Then, let's consider the fusion rules.

# Naive fusion rule breaks down due to **boundary effects**

$$\mathcal{D}_d \mathcal{D}_c \neq \sum_{e \in d \times c} \mathcal{D}_e$$

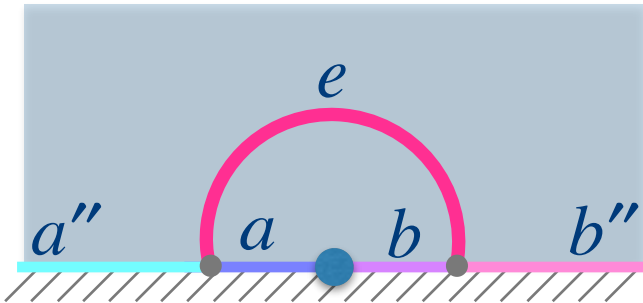
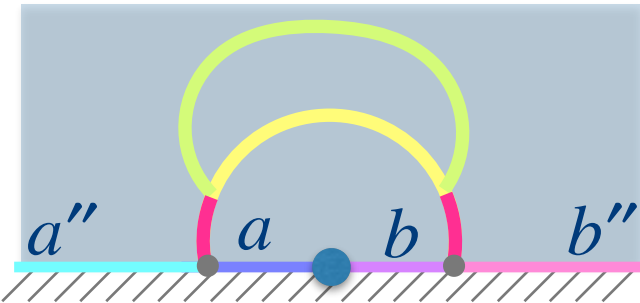
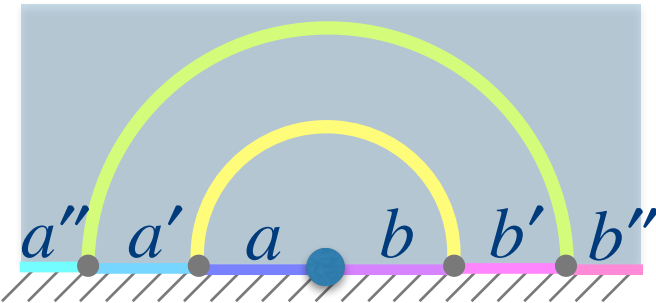
but with the U matrix

$$\left( \mathcal{D}_d \left( \mathcal{D}_c \phi_i^{(ab)} \right)^{(a'b')} \right)^{(a''b'')} = \sum_{e \in d \times c} U_{a'e} \begin{bmatrix} d & c \\ a'' & a \end{bmatrix} \left( \mathcal{D}_e \phi_i^{(ab)} \right)^{(a''b'')} U_{b'e} \begin{bmatrix} c & d \\ b & b'' \end{bmatrix}$$

(matrix)

$$U_{a'e} \begin{bmatrix} d & c \\ a'' & a \end{bmatrix} = \sqrt{F_{a'e} \begin{bmatrix} d & c \\ a'' & a \end{bmatrix}} \sqrt{F_{ea'} \begin{bmatrix} d & a'' \\ c & a \end{bmatrix}}$$

graphically,




$$= \sum_e F_{a'e} \begin{bmatrix} d & c \\ a'' & a \end{bmatrix} \img alt="Diagram of a Y-junction where a yellow line and a green line meet at a point on a horizontal line." data-bbox="400 914 480 989"/>$$

factors from junction points “•”

Now, we want to use  $\mathcal{D}_d$  to analyze  
the classical solutions of open string field theory:

open string field: fluctuation around a D-brane system

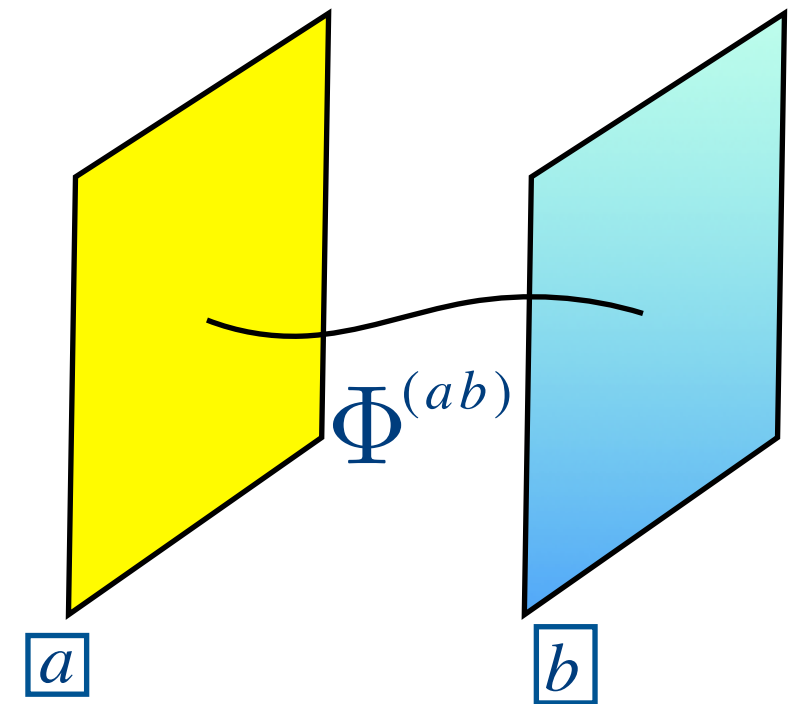
$$\Phi^{(ab)} = \sum_{i,I} M_{i,I} L_I \phi_i^{(ab)} |0\rangle$$

$$L_I = L_{-i_1} L_{-i_2} \cdots L_{-i_n}$$

$I$  : multi-index

eom:  $Q\Phi + \Phi * \Phi = 0$

cl. solution: D-brane configuration



Defect operator maps **solution to solution**:

∴  
 $\mathcal{D}$  commutes with BRS charge:

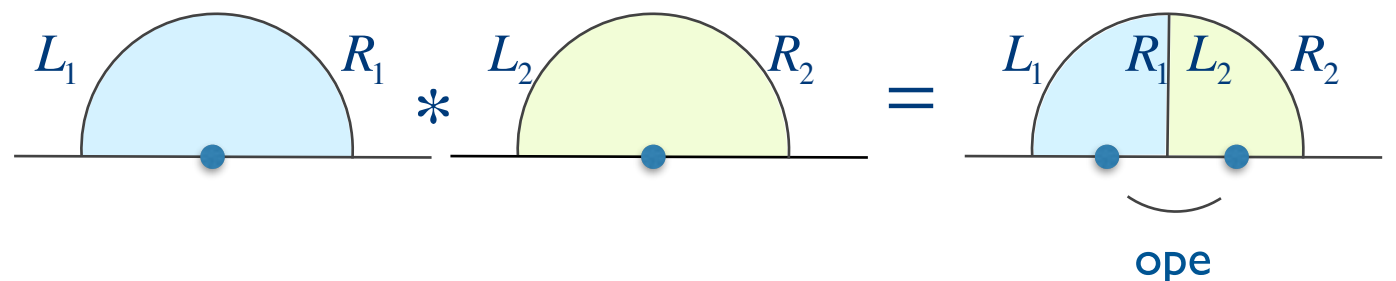
$$[Q, \mathcal{D}] = 0$$

$$\therefore \left( \begin{array}{l} [\mathcal{D}, L_n] = 0 \\ \mathcal{D} : \text{from matter CFT} \\ [\mathcal{D}, b_n] = [\mathcal{D}, c_n] = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$\mathcal{D}$  is '**distributable**' wrt star product:

$$\mathcal{D}(\Phi_1 * \Phi_2) = (\mathcal{D}\Phi_1) * (\mathcal{D}\Phi_2)$$

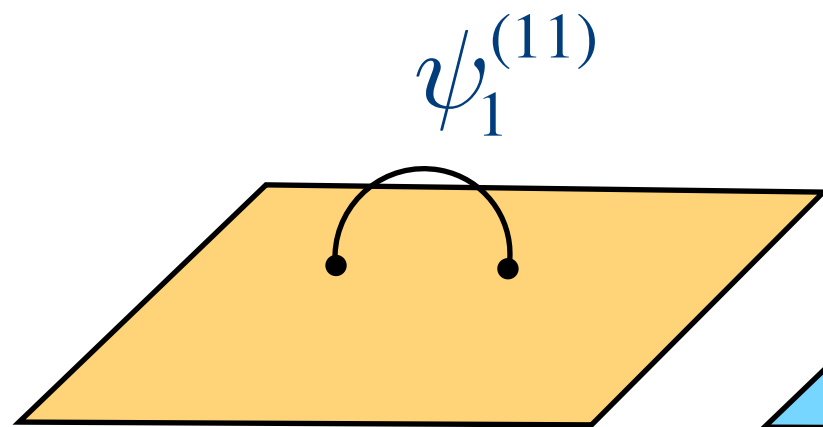
∴ star prod.  $\leftarrow$  conformal transf. & ope



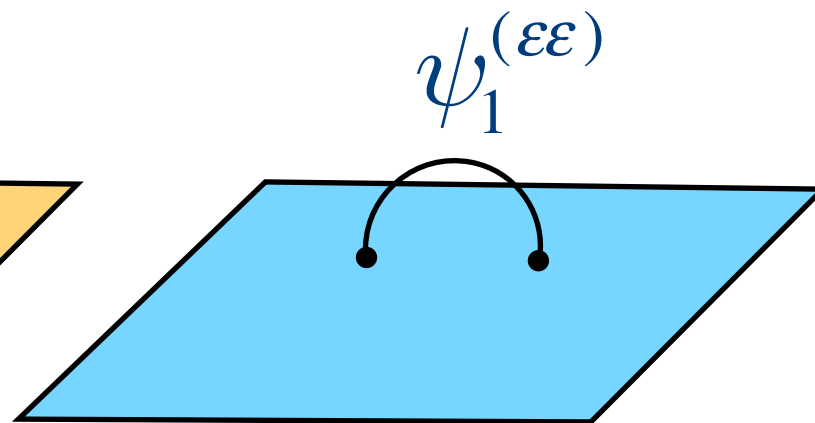
e.g. critical Ising model  $\varepsilon \times \varepsilon = 1, \quad \sigma \times \varepsilon = \sigma, \quad \sigma \times \sigma = 1 + \varepsilon$

fusion rule:  $\varepsilon \times \varepsilon = 1, \quad \sigma \times \varepsilon = \sigma, \quad \sigma \times \sigma = 1 + \varepsilon$

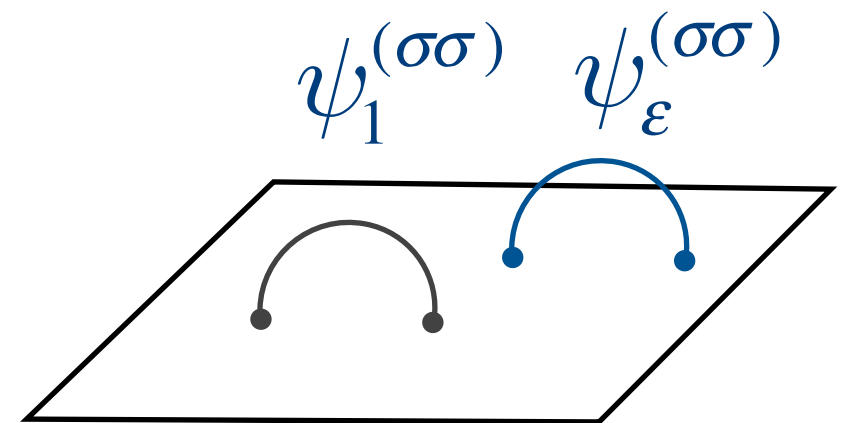
three conformal boundary conditions:



$1 : \text{fixed}(+)$



$\varepsilon : \text{fixed}(-)$



$\sigma : \text{free}$

$\mathbb{Z}_2$  symmetry

# defect action on classical solutions:

$$\Psi_{\sigma \rightarrow 1} = \psi_1^{(\sigma\sigma)} + \psi_\varepsilon^{(\sigma\sigma)}$$

free  $\rightarrow (+)$

$$\Psi_{\sigma \rightarrow \varepsilon} = \psi_1^{(\sigma\sigma)} - \psi_\varepsilon^{(\sigma\sigma)}$$

free  $\rightarrow (-)$

$$X_{1(\sigma\sigma)}^{\varepsilon(\sigma\sigma)} = 1, \quad X_{\varepsilon(\sigma\sigma)}^{\varepsilon(\sigma\sigma)} = -1$$

$\mathcal{D}_\varepsilon$

$\mathcal{D}_\varepsilon$

\*observed in [Kdurna-Rapcak-Schnabl'13]

$\mathcal{D}_\sigma$

$$\Psi_{1+\varepsilon \rightarrow \sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1^{(\sigma\sigma)} & -\psi_\varepsilon^{(1\varepsilon)} \\ -\psi_\varepsilon^{(\varepsilon 1)} & \psi_1^{(\varepsilon\varepsilon)} \end{pmatrix}$$

⋮

⋮



# Summary

- Construction of boundary topological defect operators
- Application to Open String Field Theory:  
mapping of classical solutions

and...

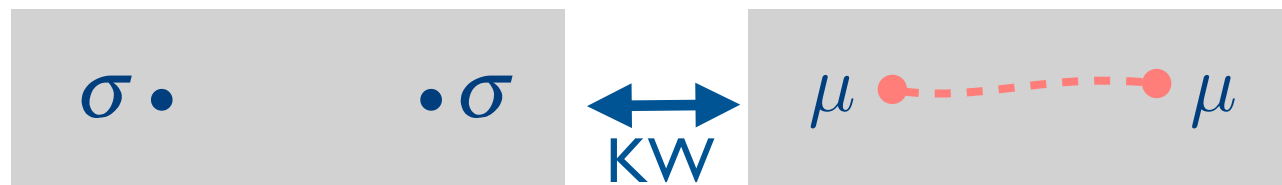
- mapping of physical quantities (energies, gauge-invariant obs.)
- U and vacuum structure of OSFT
- Generalization (other RCFTs, etc..)
- graphical calculation of defect networks
- world sheet symmetry and spacetime symmetry..





# Topological defect in 2d CFT: freely deformed

typical example:



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critical Ising model

studied in many contexts.. (from CMP, CFT, string theory)

Won-Affleck'94, Oshikawa-Affleck'97, Petkova-Zuber'01, Bachas-Boer-Dijkgraaf-Ooguri'01,  
Graham-Watts'03, Frohlich-Fuchs-Runkel-Scweigert'04, '07, Bachas-Brunner'07,...

time is limited and cannot explain all, sorry..

Today's talk: use TD to study open string field theory

## Plan

1. review of TD & bulk TD operator
2. construction of boundary TD operator
3. application to open SFT