

Conformal invariance of $N=4$ SYM

①

① Renormalization in YM (\rightarrow β -fct, RG-eq, flow)

② β -functions for $N=1, 2$ and 4 SYM

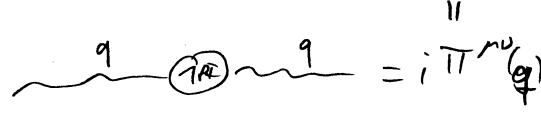
③ Conformal invariance of $N=4$ SYM

④ Anomalies in SYM (\rightarrow see e.g. $N=1$ SYM not c.i.)

I Renormalization

I.1. Motivation

Remember electron self energy?

$$(q^2 \eta^{\mu\nu} - q^\mu q^\nu) \frac{1}{\pi(q^2)}$$


The diagram shows a fermion line with a loop containing a photon line. The photon line is represented by a wavy line with a circle containing the letter 'A'.

If you calculate e^-, e^- scattering with internal photon,

then process Amplitude dependant on q^2

bare coupling is $\frac{1}{\pi}$

\rightarrow coupling $e = e(q^2) := \frac{e_0}{1 - \pi(q^2)}$

"renorm charge" physical coupling.

$\frac{1}{\infty} = \text{finite}$

Want to keep track of behaviour of coupling.

I.2. Yang-Mills-Theory

General setting: Take a Principal G -bundle over mfd M and take a connection A . To A we associate the curvature

2-Form $F := dA + g A \wedge A$

The action:

$S_{\text{YM}} := \frac{1}{4} \int_M \text{Tr}(\underbrace{*F \wedge F}_{\text{top-Form}})$, where $*$ is the Hodge-dual operator

defines a gauge theory with gauge-grp G

We call g the coupling of the theory. We now want to know how g behaves in a Quantum theory, depending on the energy-scale.

Def:

Let μ be an energy-scale for our theory. We call

$\beta(g) := \frac{dg}{d \ln \mu}$ the beta-fct associated to g .

B Callan-Symanzik - eq.

- We want to calculate the β -fct.
- Consider the bare (unrenorm) theory and the bare n-point fct.
- Bare theory is independent on the energy scale, so let $G_n^{(0)}(g)$ be bare the n-point fct, then

$$\frac{d}{d\mu} G_n^{(0)}(g) = 0$$

c.f. electron: $Z = 1 - \Pi(q^2)$

- Let Z be the wf renorm for our gauge field A , then we have

$$A = Z^{-\frac{1}{2}} A_0 \Rightarrow G_n(g) = Z^{\frac{n}{2}} G_n^{(0)}(g)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu \frac{d}{d\mu} (Z^{\frac{n}{2}} G_n) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left(\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} + \beta(g) \frac{\partial}{\partial g} + \frac{n}{2} \frac{\mu}{Z} \frac{dZ}{d\mu} \right) G_n(g) = 0 \quad \text{"Callan-Symanzik-eq."}$$

- By calculating $G_n(g)$ order by order, we can insert this in the CS-eq and calculate $\beta(g)$ order by order

Ex: QED:

Take 3pt-fct + tree level counter terms $\Rightarrow Z$

$$\Rightarrow \beta^{1-loop}(e) = \frac{e^3}{12\pi^2}$$

1st Order D.E.

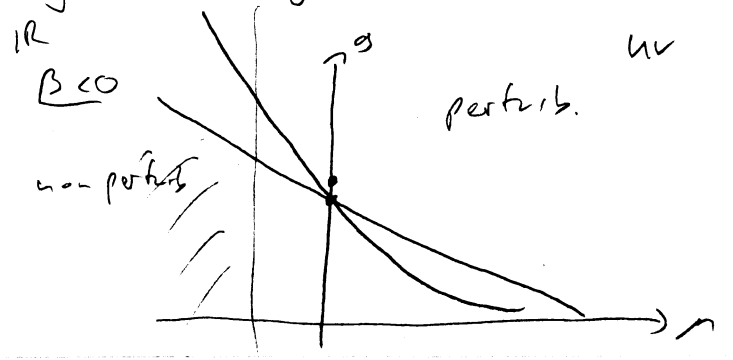
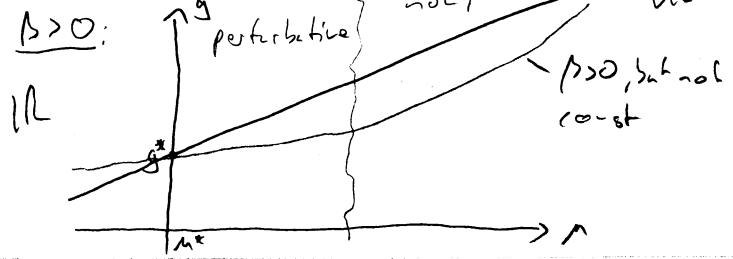
Remarks:

If we know the β -fct of the theory, we can integrate the β -fct. From the definition, we then can predict the coupling at any given scale, provided we can measure a reference value g^* at μ^* .

This change of g depending on μ is interpreted as RG-flow.

I.U Asymptotic behaviours

- a) Assume first β is constant. then depending on the sign, we have different behaviours.

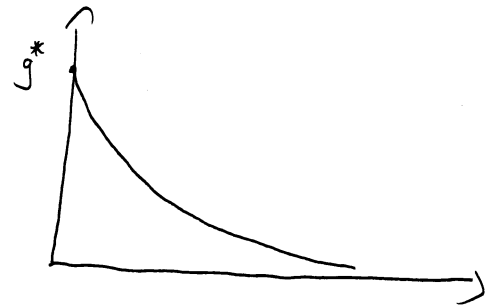
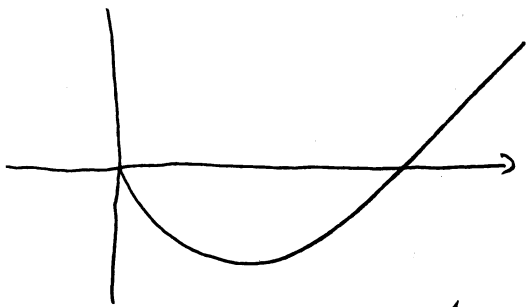
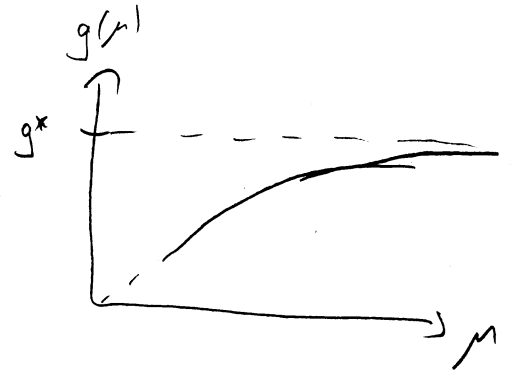
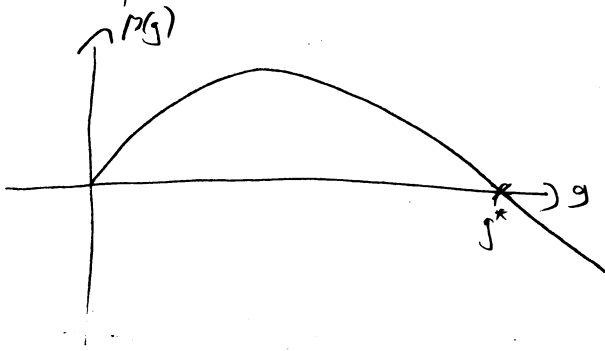


b) $\beta \rightarrow 0$ for $g \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow$ get free theory in the limit

Depending on sign we either get an IR or an UV fixed point ($g=0$) of our theory

c) If $\beta \equiv 0$, then g is indep of μ , so our theory is scale invariant. If all β -pts of a theory vanishes, this implies that the theory is conformal invariant.

d) Also possible that β flips sign



Asymptotic freedom of QCD!

UV Wilsonian picture:

\nearrow by this get the renorm scale μ .

- Usual procedure: \rightarrow introduce cutoff Λ so divergent integrals become finite
- \rightarrow show independence of cutoff \Rightarrow cutoff $\rightarrow \infty$
- \rightarrow Not much physical meaning, loose predictability of the theory

Wilson's theory is UV-divergent, view it as an effective field theory of a more fundamental theory, that is valid only up to a certain scale \rightarrow have with the RG-flow a space of field theories and the β -fct determines ~~where~~ to which theory our theory flows.

Instead of taking the limit on $\Lambda \rightarrow \infty$, study what the effective action has to be, st a change of the cutoff $\Lambda \rightarrow \Lambda'$ doesn't change the low

energy physics

⇒ effective action for our effective field theory.

II β -fct:

$$x = \frac{1}{16} \int d^4x \frac{1}{g_h^2} W^a(V_h) W^a(V_h) + h.c.$$

$$\gamma_{g_h^2} = \frac{1}{g^2}$$

Idea: Change $\Lambda \rightarrow \Lambda'$ and see how this affects the coupling. Derive β -fct according to RGE

II.1 $N=1$

a) Holomorphic coupling g_h

Holomorphy arguments (Hol coupling from VEV's of cplx superfields in F-Term) consider

holomorphic coupling $\frac{1}{g_h^2} = \frac{1}{g^2} + i \frac{\Theta}{8\pi^2}$

Now change cutoff $\Lambda \rightarrow \Lambda'$, set $\gamma = \frac{8\pi^2}{g_h^2}$, $t = \ln \frac{\Lambda}{\Lambda'}$

We get a change in γ :

$$\gamma \rightarrow \gamma' = \gamma + f(\gamma, t), \text{ where}$$

f is holomorphic in the coupling and in t (the V eff action can be shown to also be holomorphic). We know $f(\gamma, 0) = 0$ and as a shift in the Θ , by 2π doesn't change S , we get

$$f(\gamma + 2\pi i, t) = f(\gamma, t) + 2\pi i n(t) \text{ with } n(t) \in \mathbb{Z}, n(0) = 0.$$

As f is continuous (assume spacetime to be connected) $\Rightarrow n(t) = 0 \forall t$

$\Rightarrow f$ is periodic in γ and as $\frac{d}{dt} f = \beta$, so is the β -fct

\Rightarrow can F-expand β : $\beta(\gamma) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} b_n e^{-n\gamma}$

As the Theory has to make sense ~~in~~ in weak coupl. regime $\Rightarrow n \geq 0$

Anomaly considerations / Non-renorm-theorems show that $n \geq 1$ cannot arise

$\Rightarrow \beta(\gamma) = b_0 = \text{const.}$

↑
special for $|\beta(\gamma)|$ in $N=1$ pure SYM

b) canonical coupling

Going from $g_h \rightarrow g$ we have to transform our vector multiplet $V_h \rightarrow gV$ (for normalization reasons). Thus we get a Jacobian in our Path Integral

[Calculation: see hep-th/9707133, A.4 (~3 pages...)]

$$D(gV) = D(V) \exp\left(\frac{1}{16} \int d^4y \int d^2\theta \frac{2t_2(A)}{8\pi^2} \ln g W^a(gV) W^a(gV) + h.c.\right),$$

where $\int^{ab} t_2(R) := \text{Tr}_R(\underline{T^a T^b})$ is the dynkin-index generators of Rep

and A stands for the adjoint Rep.

Remarks: One could possibly include higher Order terms in the Jacobian but the power or non-renorm. then tells us, that such terms can never produce an \mathcal{F} term as w.w.

Further there are no IR-singular D-terms generated, so we don't have to worry about such subtleties.

So modulo gauge fixing terms, we have for the gen. functional at fixed Λ

$$Z = \int D V_h \exp\left(-\frac{1}{16} \int d^4y \int d^2\theta \frac{1}{g_h^2} W^a(V_h) W^a(V_h) + h.c.\right) \\ = \int D V \exp\left(-\frac{1}{16} \int d^4y \int d^2\theta \left(\frac{1}{g_h^2} - \frac{2t_2(A)}{8\pi^2} \ln g\right) W^a(gV) W^a(gV) + h.c.\right)$$

Due to normalization reasons, it must hold, that

$$\frac{1}{g^2} = \text{Re}\left(\frac{1}{g_h^2}\right) - \frac{2t_2(A)}{8\pi^2} \ln g$$

From a), we know, that the difference in g_h and g_h' is 1-loop effect

$$\Rightarrow \beta(g_h) = -\frac{g_h^3}{16\pi^2} \frac{3t_2(A)}{1 - \frac{t_2(A)}{8\pi^2} g^2}$$

II.2 NSVZ β -fct

\rightarrow Novikov-Shifman-Vainshtein-Zakharov (1983)

The above β -fct actually is the β -fct for $\mathcal{N}=1, 2, 4$ SYM and can also be generalized for SYM with matter (remember matter is massless in SYM)

$$\Rightarrow \beta(g) = -\frac{g^3}{16\pi^2} \frac{3t_2(A) - \sum t_2(R_i)(1-\gamma_i)}{1 - \frac{t_2(A)}{8\pi^2} g^2}, \text{ where } \gamma_i := -\frac{d \ln Z}{d \ln \mu}$$

are the anom. dim of the matter fields, R_i Reps of them.

Facts:

- The NSVZ- β -fct is 'exact', meaning it is valid in all orders in Perturbation Theory.
- It was originally derived from an instanton calculation (non-perturb)
- Non-renorm-theorems show that there are no corrections beyond 1-loop, not even non-perturb.
- For $N=4$, the NSVZ- β -fct vanishes!!

III Conformal invariance of $N=4$ SYM

- In a famous paper Sohnius and West showed 1981, that the β -fct for $N=4$ SYM vanishes (under certain assumptions).
- 1982 AVDEEV / TARA SOV, verified this "numerically" (using PC prog) up to 3-loops
- Later it was also shown without the assumptions and in 1988 by Seiberg with non-perturbative methods.

We want to understand the proof of Sohnius and West:

→ It was shown that the trace anomaly Θ^{μ}_{μ} is proportional to the β -fct

III.1 Assumptions

- a) SUSY + $O(4)$ invariance remain unbroken order by order in P.T.
- b) The currents of ^{the} quantized theory should act as sources for SUGRA.

From this one can follow;

- i) The trace of the e.m.t and the divergence of an axial vector lie in the same irred multiplet of $N=1$ SUSY (so under one of the 4 SUSYs)
- ii) At least one axial current is conserved.

How can we see this?

If b) is true, this implies that we can assume that our ~~complete~~

II 2. Argument for the Assumptions:

The complete multiplet of currents in $N=4$ SUSY has $N=2$ SUSY as a subset. If (b) is true, then we can assume two things:

- 1) We have at most an additional 2-d central charge
- 2) The multiplet of currents for $N=2$ has a special form (as the one in Sohnius (The multiple currents for $N=2$ ext. SUSY))

The special form includes that we have an explicit $SU(2)$ invariance and two types of currents: T_μ for $SU(2)$ and $j_\mu^{(5)}$ for chiral $U(1)$.

Calculating the susy variation for those, one sees that $j_\mu^{(5)}$ is unchanged by the introduction of the 2-d central charge, and that from Super-Symmetry one gets $\partial^\mu T_\mu = 0$, but $\partial^\mu j_\mu^{(5)} \neq 0$.

To avoid reality conditions involving γ_5 for spinors, go to largest non-chiral subgroup $O(2)$.

There T_μ reduces to one polar vector and two axial vector \Rightarrow have at least one conserved axial vector!

III 3 Proof of C.2:

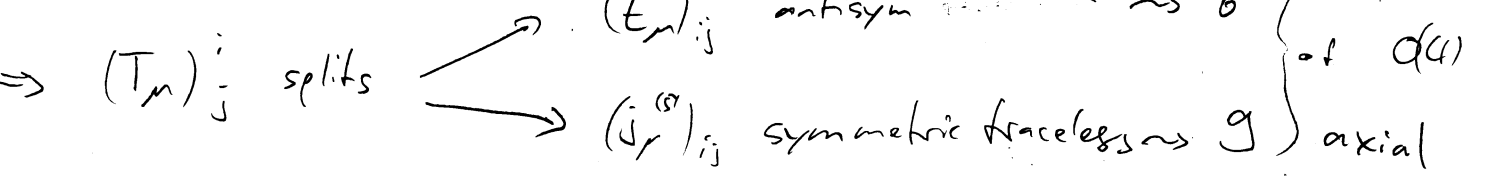
We now want to deduce, that $N=4$ SYM is conformal.

$N=4$ SYM has $SU(4)$ as R-symmetry group. This gives rise to a conserved current T_μ transforming in the adjoint (15dim) $\subset \mathfrak{su}(4)$. $(T_\mu)_i^j$

(i) $\Rightarrow \partial^\mu T_\mu = 0$ and $\partial^\mu j_\mu^{(5)}$ (axial current) lie in same multiplet and at tree level $\partial^\mu T_\mu = 0 \Rightarrow$ at least one axial vector is conserved

at tree level, so it has to be one of the $(T_\mu)_i^j$ possible broken by chiral anomaly \rightarrow later.

Pass to largest non-chiral subgroup $O(4) \subset SU(4)$



a) $\Rightarrow O(4) \equiv$ holds order by order $\Rightarrow \partial^\mu \epsilon_\mu = 0$ to all orders (8)

(ii) \Rightarrow at least one axial vector is conserved, so

$\partial^\mu (j_{\mu 5}^i)$ for at least one of them.

But they form a multiplet under $O(4)$, so all of them are conserved and we get $\partial^\mu \epsilon_\mu = 0$ order by order.

Hence $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM is conformal invariant for all orders in \hbar !!

IV Anomalies

Anomalies $\hat{=}$ failure of classical symm to be a quantum symm.

IV.1 Motivation

- Global symmetries: not so bad; doesn't make the theory inconsistent, but maybe some classically forbidden stuff happens
- Gauge symmetries: game over; leads to inconsistencies
 - \hookrightarrow needed for unitarity and renormalizability
 - \Rightarrow absolute must have that gauge sym are anomaly free

Physical application: Anomaly cancellation:

- String-Theory: \rightarrow critical dimension via vanishing of the Trace anomaly
 - \rightarrow Green-Schwarz-Mech: Consistent superstring theory must have a gauge group of certain dimension.
- SUSY: MSSM \rightarrow Need to have 2 higgsinos for consistent anomaly cancellation \Rightarrow Somewhere between today's Energy scale and the planck scale has to be another Higgs or else SUSY is not the answer to extend the SM.

Physicists love calculating stuff

IV 2) Computational facts:

a) Ward-Takahashi-Id

- Quantum analogue of Noether's theorem
- To symmetry \rightsquigarrow have current. If it is also a symmetry of the QT, then current must be conserved as an operator equation. $\partial_\mu j^\mu = 0$ (if not conserved \rightsquigarrow anomaly, which manifests itself through the fact that the PI-measure is not invariant.)

IV.2)b) Fujikawa-PI-Method

One to symmetry transformation in ψ Lagrangian, get a Jacobian in our ^{Fermionic} PI measure. If this isn't trivial, our gen. fct. is not invariant under this symmetry \Rightarrow anomaly. To calculate the Jacobian one has to introduce a regulator $f(s)$ with $f(0)=1$ and $f(s) \xrightarrow{s \rightarrow \infty} 0$ (so e.g. e^{-s})

For s we insert an expression $\sim \frac{1}{\mu^2}$ = renorm scale.

⊗ There are usually expressions of the form "0.00" or other stupid stuff.

\rightsquigarrow long and nasty calculations, but very important.
 Expl: Adler-Bell-Jackiw anomaly (ABJ) in even dim. For $d=2n$:

$$\partial_\mu j^\mu(s) = (-1)^{n-1} \frac{2g^n}{n!(4\pi)^n} \epsilon^{m_1 \dots m_{2n}} F_{m_1 m_2} \dots F_{m_{2n-1} m_{2n}}$$

Remark:

• It is not trivial that we can apply this to SUSY-Theories. We need to take into account, that the regulator is:

- i) manifest supersymmetric
- ii) chiral
- iii) gauge covariant

This was constructed by Konishi, Shizuka; 1985.

$$\frac{L}{m^2} = \frac{1}{16m^2} \bar{D}^2 e^{-\nu} D^2 e^{\nu}$$

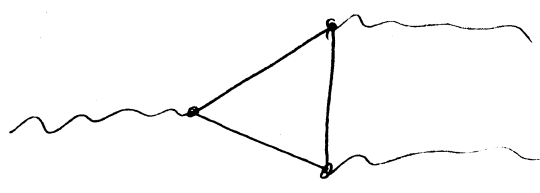
eg axial/chiral anomaly: $\mathcal{A}_{5,1}^{A.S} = -\frac{e^2}{16\pi^2}$

M : energy-scale

c) Diagram method:

"gauge anomaly"

- By considering a background gauge field (e.g our gauge grp, or another internal symmetry), get for Fermions Diagrams:



Triangle-Diagrams

- By calculating such diagrams get value for anomalies
- For such diagrams, one finds an anomaly coefficient:

$$A = \text{tr}_R (T_a \{T_b, T_c\})$$

↑
Repr of field

↑
generators

as each of the vertices carries one generator

- By considering other external fields, get other types aka gravitational / mixed anomalies.

IV 3 Anomalies in SYM:

a) R-symmetry in $N=4$ (Argument by Bilal/Chu | hep-th/0003129)

- R-sym given by $SU(4) \rightarrow$ consider external $SU(4)$ gauge (background)
- Chiral fermions transform in the \rightarrow cplx conjugate of 15
- By considering 1-loop \rightarrow anomaly is proportional to the number of fermions aka dim of adj of $SU(4)$ = gauge-grp of our SYM

$\Rightarrow A \sim N^2 - 1$ is not zero for non $U(1)$ SYM.

Rem: Bratal CFT computation gives exact result, that matches with the one we get from AAS/CFT!!

b) Trace-anomaly in $N=1$ (only abelian case)

a) Chiral Multiplet:

Co-sider a rescaling of the chiral Multiplet:

$$\Phi \rightarrow e^\chi \Phi, \quad \bar{\Phi}(x) = \phi(y) + \sqrt{2} \Theta \psi(y) + \Theta^2 F(y)$$

\Rightarrow get ~~the~~ Jacobian (in a certain choice of regularization) $\epsilon = \frac{1}{M^2}$

$$\ln J = \alpha \left(\text{Tr}_\Phi e^{\epsilon(D_\mu D^\mu)} - \text{Tr}_\psi e^{\epsilon \not{D}} + \text{Tr}_F e^{\epsilon(D_\mu D^\mu)} \right)$$

original source $\langle \phi | \Theta^2 | \phi \rangle$
compare remark

Remark: • The different exponent come from considerations of the chiral anomaly + Fujikawa method + no anomaly for no background gauge field (aka $D_n = \partial_n$)
• In a manifestly supersymmetric formulation the above formula is given by

$$\ln J = \alpha \text{STR} \left(e^{\epsilon L - \frac{\bar{D}^2}{4}} \right), \text{ with}$$
$$L = \frac{1}{16} \bar{D}^2 e^{-V} D^2 e^V$$

This reduces to $(D_\mu)^2$ on ϕ and F component and to \not{D}^2 on spinor component.

b) Vector-Multiplet

Consider: $V \rightarrow e^{\alpha V}$

Wess-Zumino-gauge $\leadsto V = V(V_\mu, a, \lambda, \bar{\lambda}, D)$

Need to take care of Fadeev-Popov procedure:

same procedure as for chiral multiplet

V_μ : decompose V_μ^m into V_L^m, V_T^m with

$$V_L^m = \frac{D^\mu D^\nu}{(D^2)^2} V_\nu, \quad V_T^m = V_\mu^m - V_L^m$$

$so(4)$ generators parameter from gauge fields

$$\Rightarrow \ln J_V = \alpha \left(\text{Tr}_{V_T} e^{-\epsilon [(D_\mu)^2 \delta_{\mu\nu} - i F_{so}(M^{so})]_{\mu\nu}} + \text{Tr}_{V_L} e^{-\epsilon \not{D}_\mu \not{D}^\mu} \right)$$

Rem: • Manifestly susy formulation possible but super technical.

c) Combining for the result:

• We now rescale the fields according to their canonical dimension d by changing coords from $x \rightarrow e^{-\chi} x \Rightarrow$ fields pick up factor $e^{d\chi}$

• Infinitesimally one gets

$$\ln J_- = \lambda T_- \left[(d-2) - \frac{1}{2} \{ \chi_{\mu}, \partial_{\mu} \} \right] e^{t(0_{\mu})^2} \quad \text{or } \beta^2$$

• since $d=2$ for $\bar{\psi}$ in chiral multiplet drops out

• after long calculation:

$$\Rightarrow \ln J^c = \frac{\lambda}{16} \int d^4x d^2\theta \frac{T_-(R_i)}{8\pi^2} W^2 \quad \text{for chiral multiplet}$$

$$\ln J^v = \frac{\lambda}{16} \int d^4x d^2\theta \frac{-3t_2(A)}{8\pi^2} W^2 \quad \text{for vector multiplet}$$

Combining both gives us the trace anomaly
This gives also the proportionality to the β -fct!

IV 4) Outlook

a) c-Theorem:

"QFT RG-flows are irreversible"

Thm: \exists fct $c(M^2 \bar{z}z)$ for RG-flow $CFT_{UV} \rightarrow CFT_{IR}$, with

i) $c(M^2 \bar{z}z) \rightarrow c_{UV}$ as $|z| \rightarrow 0$ and $c(M^2 \bar{z}z) \rightarrow c_{IR}$ as $|z| \rightarrow \infty$

ii) Monotonic condition $\Rightarrow c_{UV} > c_{IR}$

iii) c 's are measured by Weyl anomaly $\langle \Theta \rangle = -\frac{c}{12} R$

Intuition: c measures effective #dof at scale $x = \sqrt{\bar{z}z}$

Have a coeff in $\langle T^i_i \rangle$ in front of $(\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ij}^{mn} R_{mnki})^2$

In SUSY CFT in 4d:

$$a_{UV} - a_{IR} > 0 \quad \text{modell indep}$$

b) t'Hooft Anomaly matching

• Anom glob symm G with A_{UV} : triangle anomaly. Weakly couple G by adding new gauge fields + add massless fermions st $A_4 = -A_{UV}$
 \Rightarrow non anomalous theory

• consider this new theory at lower scale $\mu' \ll \mu$. Since we can take the coupling of the new fields to be arb. weak $g \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow$ IR dynamics are same as old theory + arb weak coupled sector $\Rightarrow A_4$ shouldn't change.

• Theory still anomaly free $\Rightarrow A_{IR} + A_4 = 0 \Leftrightarrow A_{IR} = A_{UV}$ even in $g \rightarrow 0$ limit

• So global anomaly coeffs are scale indep

\Rightarrow can be used to show that certain theories don't have a mass gap, or that certain symm are spont. broken.

In preparing the part on Renormalization and the Wilsonian Picture, I used: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5] In the derivation of the NSZV β -function I followed [6], the original derivation can be found in [7]. The statements on the conformal invariance of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM can be found in [8, 9, 10]. The part on anomalies in Quantum Field Theories follows [1, 3, 11]. The superspace Fujikawa method is discussed in [12], the R-symmetry anomaly can be found in [13] and in the derivation of the trace anomaly I followed [6].

As general references over the whole talk I used [14, 15].

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