

Title: QFT III Lecture

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# Unitarity in 2d CFTs and

Previously: conf. blocks  $\rightarrow$  correlation functions for generic  $c$  ( $h, \bar{h}$ )

$$Q = (S)^{-1}, \quad S = \langle \chi | h | \mu, \bar{h} \rangle$$

minimal models:  $\leftarrow$  breakdown of unitarity.  
models with finite "naïvely"  
number of primaries.  $\uparrow$   
e.g. Ising CFT.

"good" QFT:  $\langle \chi | \chi \rangle \neq 0$

and singular vectors]

The Hilbert space of CFT:

$$H = \bigoplus_{(h, \bar{h})} V_{(h, \bar{c})} \otimes V_{h, c}$$

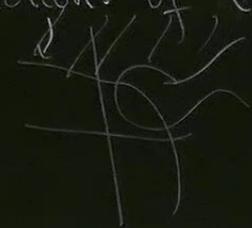
$$|M| = \sum_{i=1}^n M_i$$

$$S_{\lambda, \mu}(h, \bar{h}) = \langle \mu, h | \lambda, h' \rangle \neq 0 \text{ if } h = h', |\mu| = |\lambda|$$

Existence of negative norm state  $\Leftrightarrow$  existence of negative eigenvalue of  $S^{(e)} = S|_{\text{and } c}$

$$S^{(e)} = U^\dagger \Lambda U, \Lambda = \text{diag}(\Lambda_1^{(e)}, \dots, \Lambda_p^{(e)})$$

We can look for  $\det S^{(e)}$  as functions of  $c$  and  $h$ . Any eigenvalue can change sign



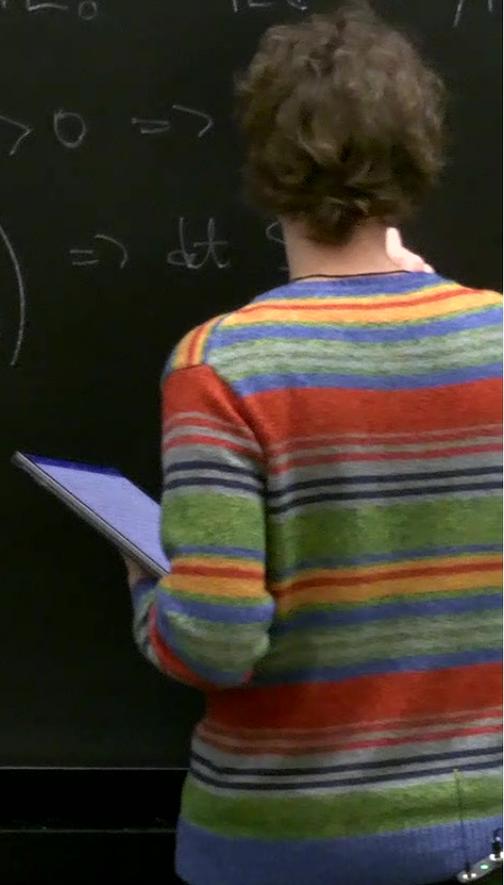
$$\det S^{(e)} = 0$$

First-naive bound:  $0 < \langle h | L_n L_{-n} | h \rangle = \langle h | (2n L_0 + \frac{c}{12}(n^2-1)h) |$   
 $\forall n:$

What else? :  $\underline{l=1}$   $\langle h | L_1 L_{-1} | h \rangle = 2h > 0 \Rightarrow$

$\underline{l=2}$   
 $(L_{-1}^2 | h \rangle, L_{-2} | h \rangle$

$$S^{(2)} = \begin{pmatrix} 4h + c/2 & 6h \\ 6h & 4h(2h+1) \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \det S$$



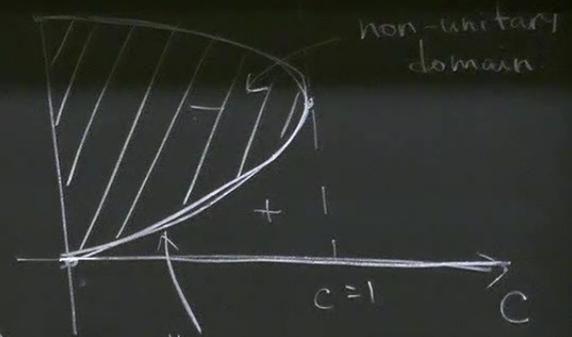
$> 0$

$$(2) = \left(4h + \frac{c}{2}\right)(4h(2h+1)) - 36h^2 = h(32h^2 + 4h(c-5) + 2c) =$$

$$h(h - h_{12}(c))(h - h_{21}(c))$$

$$h_{12} = \frac{1}{16}(5 - c - \sqrt{(1-c)(25-c)})$$

$$h_{21} = \frac{1}{16}(5 - c + \sqrt{(1-c)(25-c)})$$



there exists null state  
i.e. state of zero norm.

$$\frac{c}{12}(n^2-1)h \Big| h \Big\rangle = 2nh + \frac{1}{12}cn(n^2-1) \Rightarrow c > 0.$$

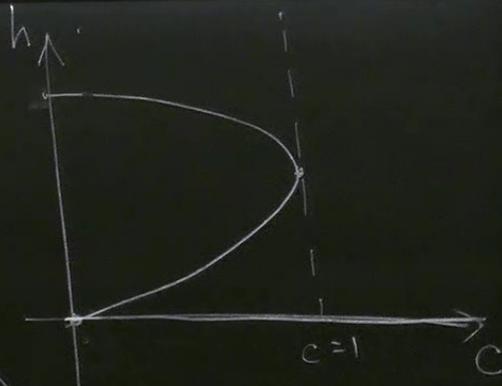
$$h > 0$$

$$S^{(2)} = \left(4h + \frac{c}{2}\right)(4h(2h+1)) - 36h^2 = h(32h^2 + 4h(c-5) + 2c) =$$

$$= h(h - h_{1,2}(c))(h - h_{2,1}(c))$$

$$h_{1,2} = \frac{1}{16}(5-c - \sqrt{(1-c)(25-c)})$$

$$h_{2,1} = \frac{1}{16}(5-c + \sqrt{(1-c)(25-c)})$$



We can repeat the same for higher levels  $l$ . apparently,

$$\det S^{(l)} = (A_l) \prod_{\substack{r \geq 1 \\ r \cdot s \leq l}} [h - h_{r,s}(c)]^{p(l-rs)} \quad \text{where}$$

there is general formula (Kac determinant formula):

- $p(n)$  is a number of Young diagrams with  $n$  boxes.

- The prefactor  $A_\ell = \prod_{\substack{r,s \geq 1 \\ rs \leq \ell}} [(r!) s!]^{p(\ell - rs) - p(\ell - r(s+1))}$

- $h_{rs}(c) = h_0 + \frac{1}{4}(rd_+ + sd_-)^2$ ,  $h_0 = \frac{1}{24}(c-1)$   
 $d_{\pm} = \frac{\sqrt{1-c} \pm \sqrt{25-c}}{\sqrt{24}}$

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There are two qualitatively different regions:

- $0 < c < 1$  - almost all points give non-unitary modules.
- $c > 1$  - all modules are unitary.

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modules.

$c > 1$       $1 < c < 25$ ,      $c > 25$ .      $h_{rs}(c) = \frac{1-c}{96} \left\{ [(r+s) + (r-s)] \right\}$

In the region  $c > 1$  there are no curves  $C_{rs} = \left\{ h_{rs}(c) - k \right\}$

•  $1 < c < 25$   $h_{rs}$  is real  $\Leftrightarrow r=s$  :  $h_{rs}(c) = \frac{1-c}{96} \left\{ \frac{(2r)^2}{20} - \frac{70}{70} \right\}$

•  $c > 25$  :  $\sqrt{\frac{25-c}{1-c}} = k > 0$  ;  $\left[ (r+s) + (r-s)k \right]^2 = \left[ r(1+k) + s(1-k) \right]^2$   
 $\Downarrow k > 0$

$\Rightarrow$  if at any point of  $R$  module is unitary - it is unitary everywhere

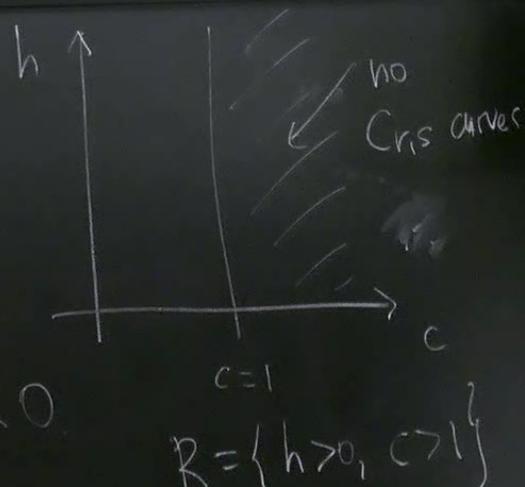


$$= \left\{ \left[ (r+s) + (r-s) \sqrt{\frac{25-c}{1-c}} \right]^2 - 4 \right\}$$

$$C_{rs} = \left\{ h_{rs}(c) - h = 0 \right\}$$

$$h(c) = \frac{1-c}{96} \left\{ (2r)^2 - 4 \right\} \Rightarrow h_{rs}(c) < 0$$

$$h(c) = \frac{1-c}{96} \left\{ (2r)^2 - 4 \right\} \Rightarrow h_{rs}(c) < 0 \quad \text{for } |r-s| \gg 1 \Rightarrow h_{rs}(c) < 0$$



it is unitary everywhere in  $\mathbb{R}$

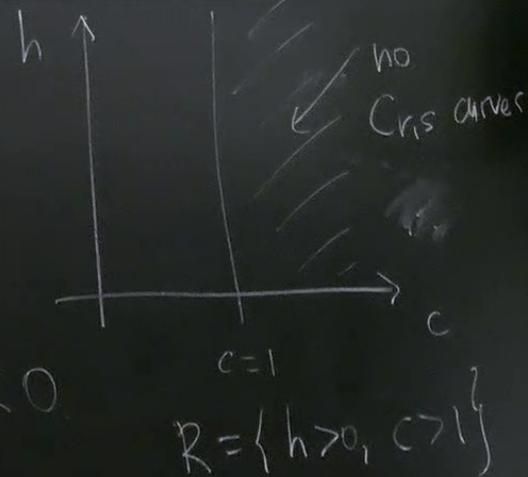
$n \rightarrow \infty$  limit. There one can see that eigenvalues of  $S^{(n)}$  are determined by diagonal matrix element.

$$= \left\{ \left[ (r+s) + (r-s) \sqrt{\frac{25-c}{1-c}} \right]^2 - 4 \right\}$$

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$$\left[ r(1+k) + s(1-k) \right]^2 \gg 4 \text{ for } r, s \in \mathbb{Z} \gg 1 \Rightarrow h_{rs}(c) < 0$$



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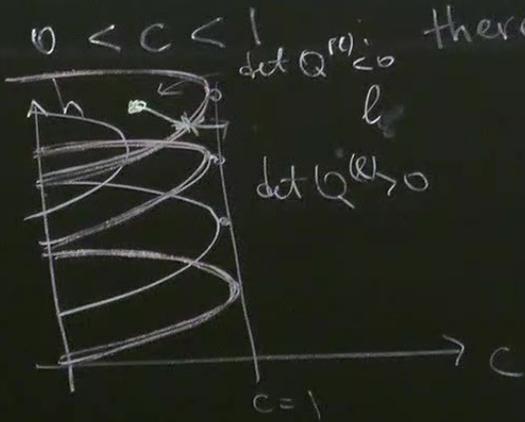
$n \rightarrow \infty$  limit. There one can see that eigenvalues of  $S^{(2)}$  are determined by diagonal matrix element, and they are positive.

lots of  $C_{r,s}$  curves. To show that "all" the points correspond to non- $u$  one have to observe that any  $(c,h)$  can be connected by crossing only one  $C_{r,s}$  contributing with  $o$  and no other  $C_{r,s}$  contributing to this  $Q^{(e)}$ .

• Notice that curve  $C_{r,s}$  touches  $c=1$  at  $h_{r,s} = \frac{1}{4}(r-s)^2$ .

• Notice also that with  $r,s$  growing, the curve  $C_{r,s}$  becomes more "wide"

(and  $r,s$  fixed)  
• The multiplicity of  $h_{r,s} - h$  at level  $h = r \cdot s$  is one.

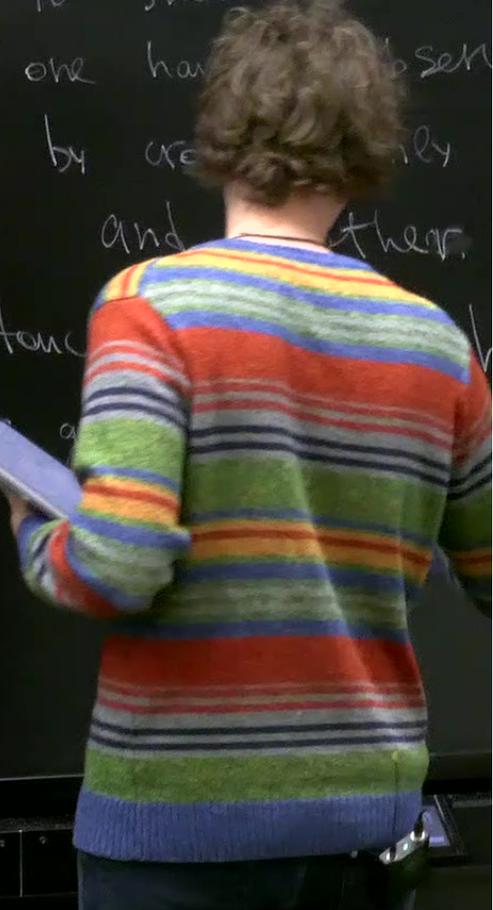


$0 < c < 1$  there are lots of  $C_{ris}$  curves.

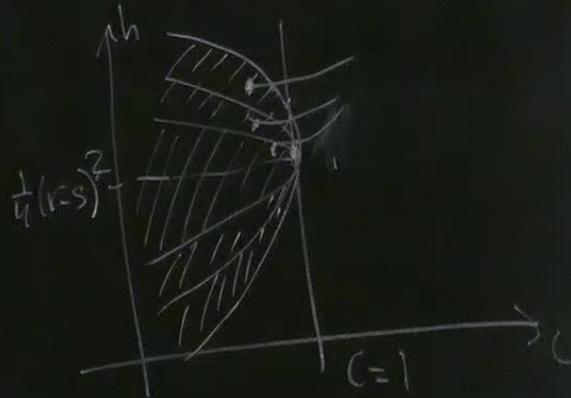
$\det Q^{(0)} < 0$   
 $\det Q^{(1)} > 0$

To show that "all  
 one has to see  
 by creating only  
 and there."

Notice that curve  $C_{ris}$  touch  
 Notice also that with



at "all" the points correspond to non-unitary theories  
 observe that any  $(c, h)$  can be connected to  $c > 1$  region  
 only one  $C_{r,s}$  contributing with odd multiplicity to some  $\det Q^{(e)}$ ,  
 other  $C_{r,s}$  contributing to this  $Q^{(e)}$ ,  
 at  $h_{rs} = \frac{1}{4}(r-s)^2$ .  
 the curve  $C_{r,s}$  becomes more "wide"



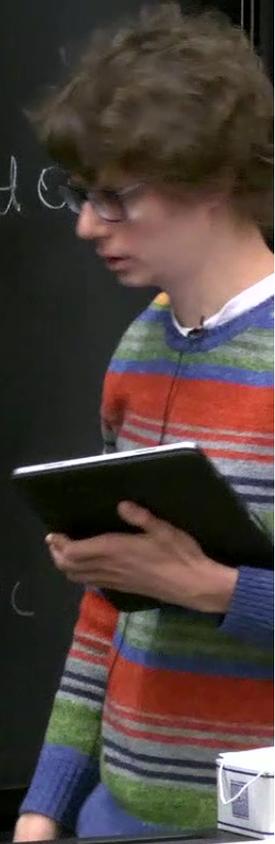
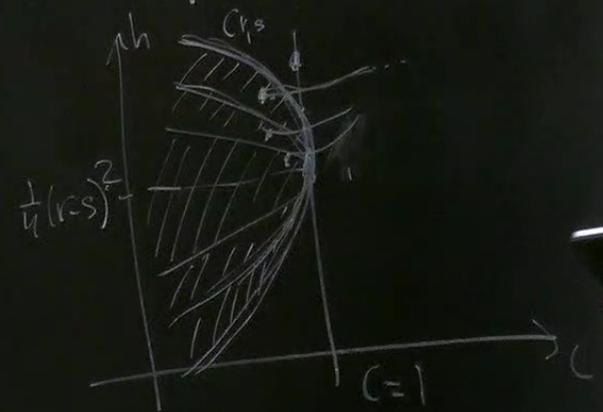
now that "all" the points correspond to non-unitary theories  
 we have to observe that any  $(c, h)$  can be connected to  $c > 1$  region

crossing only one  $C_{r,s}$  contributing with odd multiplicity to some det  $\mathcal{Q}$   
 and no other  $C_{r,s}$  contributing to this  $\mathcal{Q}^{(e)}$ ,

$$c=1 \text{ at } h_{r,s} = \frac{1}{4}(r-s)^2.$$

ing, the curve  $C_{r,s}$  becomes more "wide"

level)  $l = r \cdot s$  is one, which is odd number.



We can repeat the same for higher levels  $l$ . apparently, there

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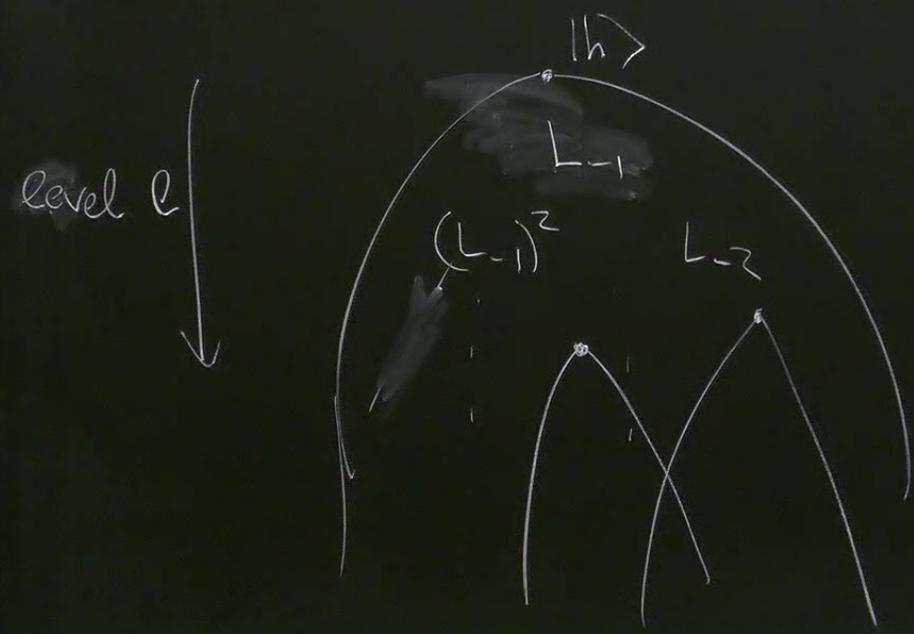
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ules.

However, even in  $0 < c < 1$  region there are points  $h > 1$

Instead of  $V_{h,c}$ , we

For  $c = 1 - \frac{6}{m(m+1)}$ ,  $h$



are points, whose modules can be made unitary:

$h_{i,c}$ , we take their quotients  $M_{h_{i,c}} = V_{h_{i,c}} / (\text{singular vectors})$

$$h_{r,s}(m) = \frac{[(m+1)r - ms]^2 - 1}{4m(m+1)}$$

$1 \leq r \leq m, 1 \leq s < r$

$M_{h_{i,c}}$  are unitary. (unitary minimal models)