

# Short Distance Analysis in Algebraic Quantum Field Theory II: Applications to Superselection Theory

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Superselection Theory
- 3 Scaling of Superselection Charges
- 4 Examples
- 5 Asymptotic Morphisms and Scaling Limit
- 6 Open Problems

# Introduction

Picture of hadronic matter as composed of charged particles (**quarks and gluons**) essentially free at high energy but confined into hadrons supported by several facts:

- quark model of hadronic spectrum
- parton picture of DIS
- perturbative treatment of QCD

**Conceptual problem:** confinement picture based on attaching a physical interpretation to unobservable gauge fields. Different set of fields may yield the same observable net. Examples:

- Schwinger model (2d massless QED)
- bosonization of 3d Chern-Simons QED
- Seiberg-Witten dualities in 4d SUSY YM

**Proposed solution** [Buchholz '96]: define confinement intrinsically through comparison of superselection structures of  $\mathcal{A}$  and its scaling limit  $\mathcal{A}_{0,t}$

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# Superselection Theory

1/2

DHR (resp. BF) sectors described by unitary equivalence classes of **localized morphisms** of  $\mathcal{A}$ :

$$\Delta(O) := \{\rho : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H}) : \rho(A) = A, A \in \mathcal{A}(O')\}$$

$O$  double cone (resp.  $O = C$  spacelike cone)

**Intertwiners** between  $\rho, \sigma \in \Delta$ :

$$(\rho : \sigma) := \{T \in \mathcal{A} : T\rho(A) = \sigma(A)T, A \in \mathcal{A}\}$$

**Superselection category**  $\mathcal{T}$ :

- objects of  $\mathcal{T}$  = localized morphisms of  $\mathcal{A}$
- morphisms of  $\mathcal{T}$  = intertwiners

it's a tensor  $C^*$ -category (tensor product = composition of morphisms)  
with further properties (subobjects, direct sums, symmetry, conjugates)

It encodes unobservable charged fields and global gauge group



# Superselection Theory

2/2

## Theorem ([Doplicher, Roberts '90])

There exist unique:

- $O \mapsto \mathcal{F}(O) \subset B(\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{F}})$  field net with normal commutation relations
- $g \in G \mapsto V(g) \in B(\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{F}})$  unitary representation of compact gauge group  $G$  with  $\beta_g(\mathcal{F}(O)) = \mathcal{F}(O)$  ( $\beta_g := \text{Ad } V(g)$ )

such that:

- $\mathcal{A}(O) = \mathcal{F}(O)^G := \{F \in \mathcal{F}(O) : \beta_g(F) = F, g \in G\}$
- $\rho \in \Delta(O)$  irreducible  $\implies \exists \psi_1, \dots, \psi_d \in \mathcal{F}(O)$   $d$ -dimensional irreducible  $G$ -tensor s.t.

$$\psi_i^* \psi_j = \delta_{ij} \mathbb{1}, \quad \sum_j \psi_j \psi_j^* = \mathbb{1}, \quad \rho(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_j \psi_j \mathbf{A} \psi_j^*$$

$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{A}) := \mathcal{F}$ ,  $G(\mathcal{A}) := G$  **canonical DR field net and gauge group**

Similar result for BF sectors with field net  $C \mapsto \mathcal{F}(C)$

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## Scaling of Field Net for DHR Sectors

1/2

**Short distance behavior of superselection charges** analyzed through extension of scaling algebra methods to canonical DR field net  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $\mathcal{A}$

### Definition ([D'Antoni, M., Verch '04])

In the  $C^*$ -algebra  $B(\mathbb{R}_+, \mathcal{F})$  of bounded functions  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto \underline{F}_\lambda \in \mathcal{F}$ , with norm and  $\Gamma$  action as for  $\underline{\mathcal{A}}$  and

- $G$  action  $\underline{\beta}_g(\underline{F})_\lambda := \underline{\beta}_g(\underline{F}_\lambda)$ ,  $g \in G$

the **local field scaling algebra attached** to  $O$  is the  $C^*$ -algebra  $\underline{\mathfrak{F}}(O)$  of functions  $\underline{F}$  s.t.:

- $\underline{F}_\lambda \in \mathcal{F}(\lambda O)$
- $\lim_{\gamma \rightarrow e} \|\underline{\alpha}_\gamma(\underline{F}) - \underline{F}\| = 0$
- $\lim_{g \rightarrow e} \|\underline{\beta}_g(\underline{F}) - \underline{F}\| = 0$  (“dimensionless” charges)

$O \mapsto \underline{\mathfrak{F}}(O)$  normal covariant net with  $G$ -action  $\underline{\beta}$   
 $\underline{\mathcal{A}}(O) \subset \underline{\mathfrak{F}}(O)$

## Scaling of Field Net for DHR Sectors

2/2

$\varphi$  locally normal state on  $\mathcal{F} \rightsquigarrow \underline{\varphi}_\lambda(\underline{F}) := \varphi(\underline{F}_\lambda)$  states on  $\underline{\mathfrak{F}}$ ,

$\text{SL}^{\mathcal{F}}(\varphi) := \{\text{weak}^* \text{ limit points of } (\underline{\varphi}_\lambda)_{\lambda>0} \text{ for } \lambda \rightarrow 0\}$ .

## Theorem ([DMV '04])

- $\text{SL}^{\mathcal{F}}(\varphi) = (\underline{\omega}_{0,\iota})_{\iota \in I}$  is independent of  $\varphi$ .
- $\underline{\omega}_{0,\iota} \in \text{SL}^{\mathcal{F}}$  with GNS representation  $(\pi_{0,\iota}, \mathcal{H}_{0,\iota}, \Omega_{0,\iota})$ . Then  $\mathcal{F}_{0,\iota}(O) := \pi_{0,\iota}(\underline{\mathfrak{F}}(O))''$  is a field net in vacuum representation (irreducible if  $s = 2, 3$ ).
- $\exists G_{0,\iota} = G/N_{0,\iota}$  and a representation  $V_{0,\iota} : G_{0,\iota} \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H}_{0,\iota})$  defined through

$$V_{0,\iota}(gN_{0,\iota})\pi_{0,\iota}(\underline{F})\Omega_{0,\iota} := \pi_{0,\iota}(\underline{\beta}_g(\underline{F}))\Omega_{0,\iota}$$

such that  $\mathcal{A}_{0,\iota}(O) = \mathcal{F}_{0,\iota}(O)^{G_{0,\iota}}$ .

$O \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{0,\iota}(O)$  is the **scaling limit net** of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

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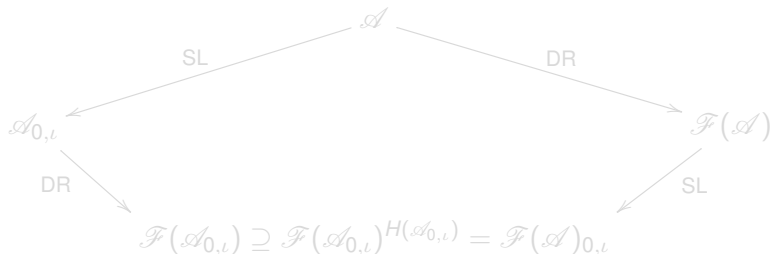
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$O \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{0,\iota}(O)$  is the **scaling limit net** of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

# Scaling Limit and DR Reconstruction

$\mathcal{F}_{0,l} = \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{A})_{0,l}$  is not in general the canonical DR field net for  $\mathcal{A}_{0,l}$

General situation:



$H(\mathcal{A}_{0,l}) \subset G(\mathcal{A}_{0,l})$  normal subgroup such that

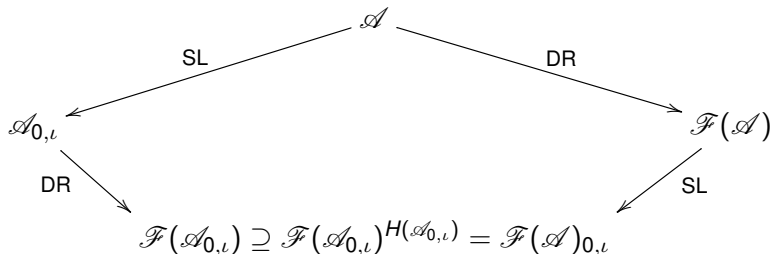
$$G(\mathcal{A})_{0,l} = G(\mathcal{A})/N(\mathcal{A})_{0,l} = G(\mathcal{A}_{0,l})/H(\mathcal{A}_{0,l}).$$

$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{A}_{0,l}) \not\supseteq \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{A})_{0,l} \implies \mathcal{A}$  has **confined charges** [Buchholz '96]

Example: the **Schwinger model** (see below)

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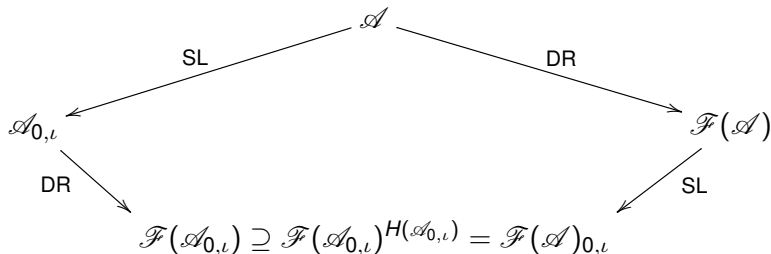
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# Presevation of DHR Sectors

1/2

Which DHR sectors *survive* the scaling limit?

Physical picture  $\leadsto$  **pointlike** charges survive.

- $\psi_j(\lambda) \in \mathcal{F}(\lambda O)$  of class  $[\rho] \implies \psi_j(\lambda)\Omega$  charge  $[\rho]$  in  $\lambda O$ .
- $[\rho]$  pointlike  $\implies$  energy of  $\psi_j(\lambda)\Omega \sim \lambda^{-1}$ .

Theorem ([DMV '04])

With  $\psi_j(\lambda)$  as above and

$$(\underline{\alpha}_h \psi_j)_\lambda := \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} dx h(x) \alpha_{\lambda x}(\psi_j(\lambda)),$$

there exists

$$\psi_j^0 = \mathbf{s}^* \text{-lim}_{h \rightarrow \delta} \pi_{0,\iota}(\underline{\alpha}_h \psi_j) \in \mathcal{F}_{0,\iota}(O)$$

and  $\psi_j^0$  is a  $G_{0,\iota}$ -multiplet which implements a DHR sector of  $\mathcal{A}_{0,\iota}$ .

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# Presevation of DHR Sectors

2/2

**Local intertwiners** between  $\rho, \sigma \in \Delta$ :

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Theorem ([DMV '04])

*If*

- all algebras  $\mathcal{F}(O)$  are factors,  $\mathcal{F}(O) \cap \mathcal{F}(O)' = \mathbb{C}\mathbb{1}$ ,
- each sector is preserved in some limit

*then*

$$(\rho : \sigma)_O = (\rho : \sigma)$$

Generalization of result of [Roberts '74] for dilation invariant theories  
 Interesting for superselection theory on curved spacetimes

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# Scaling of BF Sectors

1/2

Study of short distance behavior of charges limited to DHR sectors too narrow: if **quarks** are non-confined they ought to be **localized in cones**

**Problem:** space-like cones not affected by rescaling. How to implement RG phase space?

At least in asymptotically free theories **charges in cones should become localized** in the scaling limit (flux string becomes weaker)

## Definition ([DMV '04])

For  $O \subset C$  define  $C^*$ -algebra  $\underline{\mathfrak{F}}(C, O) \subset B(\mathbb{R}_+, \mathcal{F})$  through:

- $\underline{E}_\lambda \in \mathcal{F}(\lambda C)$
- $\lim_{\gamma \rightarrow e} \|\underline{\alpha}_\gamma(\underline{F}) - \underline{F}\| = 0$
- $\lim_{g \rightarrow e} \|\underline{\beta}_g(\underline{F}) - \underline{F}\| = 0$  (“dimensionless” charges)
- $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \sup_{A \in \underline{\mathfrak{A}}(O)_1} \|\underline{F}_\lambda, \underline{A}_\lambda\| = 0$  (“asymptotic localization” in  $O$ )

$\underline{\mathfrak{F}}$   $C^*$ -algebra generated by all  $\underline{\mathfrak{F}}(C, O)$

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## Scaling of BF Sectors

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$\varphi$  normal state on  $B(\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{F}}) \rightsquigarrow$  states  $(\varphi_\lambda)_{\lambda>0}$  on  $\underline{\mathfrak{F}}$  and  $\text{SL}^{\mathcal{F}}(\varphi)$  defined as for DHR

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$$O \mapsto \mathcal{F}_{0,l}(O) := \bigcap_{C \supset O} \pi_{0,l}(\underline{\mathfrak{F}}(C, O))''$$

*covariant normal field net* with action of  $G_{0,l} = G/N_{0,l}$ , s.t.

$$\mathcal{A}_{0,l}(O) = \mathcal{F}_{0,l}(O)^{G_{0,l}}.$$

$\mathcal{F}_{0,l}$  indexed by **double cones** as expected in asymptotically free case

# An intrinsic notion of charge confinement

Study of **preservation of BF sectors** similar to DHR case (technical details more involved)

Summarizing:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{A} & \xrightarrow{\text{SL}} & \mathcal{A}_{0,\ell} \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \text{BF}(\mathcal{A}) & \longleftarrow \text{BF}_0(\mathcal{A}) \dashrightarrow & \text{DHR}(\mathcal{A}_{0,\ell})
 \end{array}$$

$\text{BF}_0(\mathcal{A}) =$  preserved BF sectors

## Charge confinement

The sectors  $\text{DHR}(\mathcal{A}_{0,\ell}) \setminus \text{BF}_0(\mathcal{A})$  are the **confined sectors** of  $\mathcal{A}$ , as they are sectors of  $\mathcal{A}_{0,\ell}$  which cannot be created by operations at finite scales

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# The Schwinger Model

Schwinger model:

- 2d QED with massless fermions
- exactly solvable, algebra of observables  $\mathcal{A}$  generated by 2d neutral free field  $\phi$  of mass  $m > 0$  [Lowenstein, Swieca '71]
- no charged states  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{F} = \mathcal{A}$  [Fröhlich, Morchio, Strocchi '79]
- interpreted as **confinement of fermions**: 2d electric potential rises linearly
- interpretation questionable from the point of view of observables

# Schwinger Model: Scaling limit and Charged States 1/2

Scaling limit of  $\mathcal{A}$  [Buchholz, Verch '97]:

- algebra  $\mathcal{A}_{0,\ell} \supset \mathcal{W}_0 \otimes \mathcal{C}_0$ , with  $\mathcal{W}_0$  (Weyl) algebra generated by  $e^{i\phi_0(f)}$ ,  $\phi_0$  2d massless free field, and  $\mathcal{C}_0$  a suitable abelian algebra **not visible in conventional approach**
- vacuum (on  $\mathcal{W}_0$ )

$$\langle \Omega_{0,\ell}, e^{i\phi_0(f)} \Omega_{0,\ell} \rangle = \begin{cases} \exp \left[ -\pi \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{dp}{2|p|} |\hat{f}(|p|, p)|^2 \right] & \text{if } \hat{f}(0) = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } \hat{f}(0) \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

(non-regular because of infrared divergence)

$\exists$  Charged states on  $\mathcal{A}_{0,\ell}$  s.t.

$$\omega_q(e^{i\phi_0(f)}) = e^{iL(f)} \langle \Omega_{0,\ell}, e^{i\phi_0(f)} \Omega_{0,\ell} \rangle$$

where

- $L(f) = -\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} dx (h(x) - h(-x)) \int_{-\infty}^x dy \rho(y)$
- $h(x) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} dx_1 [f(x_1 + x, x_1) + f(-x_1 - x, x_1)]$
- $\rho$  function with support in  $[-r, r]$  and such that  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} dx \rho(x) = q$

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# Schwinger Model: Scaling limit and Charged States 2/2

Properties of  $\omega_q$ :

- $\omega_q$  is **(spacelike cone) localized**: for  $\text{supp } f$  in the left/right spacelike complement of  $[-r, r] \times \{0\}$

$$L(f) = \mp \pi q \hat{f}(0) \Rightarrow \omega_q(e^{i\phi_0(f)}) = \langle \Omega_{0,\ell}, e^{i\phi_0(f)} \Omega_{0,\ell} \rangle$$

- $\omega_q$  has **charge  $q$** : with  $j_\mu(x) = \varepsilon_{\mu\nu} \partial^\nu \phi_0(x)$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} dx_1 \omega_q(j_0(x_0, x_1)) = q$$

while the integral vanishes for all states induced by vectors in  $\overline{\mathcal{W}_0 \Omega_{0,\ell}}$

Thus  $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{A}_{0,\ell}) \not\supseteq \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{A})_{0,\ell} = \mathcal{A}_{0,\ell}$  and the Schwinger model has a **confined charge**



# Schwinger Model: Scaling limit and Charged States 2/2

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## Models with Non-Preserved Sectors

It is not difficult to build examples of non-preserved sectors

**Theorem ([D'Antoni, M. '06])**

*For each Lie group  $G$  and closed normal subgroup  $N \subset G$ , there exists  $\mathcal{F}$  with gauge group  $G$  such that only sectors of  $\mathcal{A} := \mathcal{F}^G$  corresponding to representations of  $G/N$  are preserved.*

$\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_1 \otimes \mathcal{F}_2$  with

- $\mathcal{F}_1$  a  $G_1$ -multiplet of Lutz models
- $\mathcal{F}_2$  a  $G_2$ -multiplet of free scalar fields
- $G_1, G_2 = G/N$  such that canonically  $G \subset G_1 \times G_2$

$\implies \mathcal{F}_{0,\iota} = (\mathcal{F}_2)_{0,\iota}$  and sectors corresponding to representations of  $G$  non-trivial on  $N$  disappear in the scaling limit

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Superselection Theory
- 3 Scaling of Superselection Charges
- 4 Examples
- 5 Asymptotic Morphisms and Scaling Limit**
- 6 Open Problems

## Asymptotic morphisms and KK-theory

1/2

Notion of asymptotic morphism of  $C^*$ -algebras introduced by [Connes-Higson '90] in connection with **KK-theory** and **Baum-Connes conjecture**.

## Definition

$\mathfrak{A}, \mathfrak{B}$   $C^*$ -algebras. An **asymptotic morphism** from  $\mathfrak{A}$  to  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a family of functions  $\rho_\lambda : \mathfrak{A} \rightarrow \mathfrak{B}$ ,  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ , such that

- $\lambda \mapsto \rho_\lambda(A)$  is continuous for every  $A \in \mathfrak{A}$ ;
- for every  $A, A' \in \mathfrak{A}$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ ,

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \rho_\lambda(A + \alpha A') - \rho_\lambda(A) - \alpha \rho_\lambda(A') = 0$$

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Definition above has several important consequences:

- asymptotic morphism  $(\rho_\lambda)$  induces a homomorphism  $\rho_* : K_*(\mathfrak{A}) \rightarrow K_*(\mathfrak{B})$
- there is a natural notion of homotopy, homotopy classes can be composed in a way consistent with K-theory
- homotopy classes of asymptotic morphisms  $\mathcal{C}_0(\mathbb{R}) \otimes \mathfrak{A} \otimes \mathfrak{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_0(\mathbb{R}) \otimes \mathfrak{B} \otimes \mathfrak{K}$  form an abelian group  $E(\mathfrak{A}, \mathfrak{B})$  (**E-theory**)
- E-theory is a bifunctor, with product structure analogous to Kasparov product, and there is a natural transformation  $KK(\mathfrak{A}, \mathfrak{B}) \rightarrow E(\mathfrak{A}, \mathfrak{B})$
- $KK(\mathfrak{A}, \mathfrak{B}) \simeq E(\mathfrak{A}, \mathfrak{B})$  if  $\mathfrak{A}$  is K-nuclear

**Moral:**  $E(\mathfrak{A}, \mathfrak{B})$  is another description of  $KK(\mathfrak{A}, \mathfrak{B})$

KK-theory is in turn a key tool for constructing **C\*-algebras invariants** and an important ingredient in noncommutative geometry (index theorems, Novikov and Baum-Connes conjecture...)

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# Asymptotic morphisms and QFT

**Intriguing question** [Doplicher '99]: Is it possible to associate to DHR morphisms  $\rho_0$  of  $\mathcal{A}_{0,\iota}$ , some sort of asymptotic morphism of  $\mathcal{A}$ ?

We try to use two remarks:

- Connes-Higson asymptotic morphisms (from  $\mathfrak{A}$  to  $\mathfrak{A}$ ) can be equivalently described as morphisms  $\rho : \mathfrak{A} \rightarrow \mathfrak{A}_0$  where  $\mathfrak{A}_0 := C_b((0, 1], \mathfrak{A})/C_0((0, 1], \mathfrak{A})$ , using a (set-theoretic) section  $s : \mathfrak{A}_0 \rightarrow C_b((0, 1], \mathfrak{A})$
- Analogy:  $\underline{\mathfrak{A}} \leftrightarrow C_b((0, 1], \mathfrak{A})$ ,  $\ker \pi_{0,\iota} \leftrightarrow C_0((0, 1], \mathfrak{A})$ ,  $\mathcal{A}_{0,\iota} \leftrightarrow \mathfrak{A}_0$

**Problems:**

- 1 How to relate morphisms of  $\mathcal{A}_{0,\iota}$  with morphisms  $\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{0,\iota}$ ?
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## Relating $\mathcal{A}$ and $\mathcal{A}_{0,l}$

Recall:  $\mathcal{A}$  satisfies the **split property** if for all  $O_1 \Subset O_2$  (i.e.  $\bar{O}_1 \subset O_2$ ) there exists  $\mathcal{N}$  type I factor such that

$$\mathcal{A}(O_1) \subset \mathcal{N} \subset \mathcal{A}(O_2)$$

Equivalently  $\mathcal{A}(O_1) \vee \mathcal{A}(O_2)' \simeq \mathcal{A}(O_1) \otimes \mathcal{A}(O_2)'$

### Theorem ([Conti, M. '12])

- $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  nets of type III<sub>1</sub> factors with split property
- $O_1 \Subset O_2 \Subset \dots \Subset O_n \Subset \dots$  with  $\bigcup_n O_n = \mathbb{R}^4$

There exists isomorphism  $\phi : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  of **quasi-local  $C^*$ -algebras** such that  $\phi(\mathcal{A}(O_n)) = \mathcal{B}(O_n)$ .

Hypotheses above:

- satisfied in free field theory, and expected to hold quite generally
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# A “Weak Closure” of the Scaling Algebra

To exploit analogy  $\mathcal{A}_{0,\ell} \leftrightarrow \mathfrak{A}_0$ : need to lift elements

$A \in \mathcal{A}_{0,\ell}(O) \setminus \pi_{0,\ell}(\mathfrak{A}(O))$  to some kind of functions  $\lambda \mapsto A_\lambda \in \mathcal{A}$

## Definition ([DMV '04])

$\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto A_\lambda \in \mathcal{A}(\lambda O)$  norm bounded is **asymptotically contained** in  $\mathcal{A}_{0,\ell}(\hat{O})$  if  $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \underline{A}, \underline{A}' \in \mathfrak{A}(\hat{O})$  s.t.

$$\limsup_{\kappa} (\|(A_{\lambda_\kappa} - \underline{A}_{\lambda_\kappa})\Omega\| + \|(A_{\lambda_\kappa}^* - \underline{A}'_{\lambda_\kappa})\Omega\|) < \varepsilon$$

$\mathfrak{A}^\bullet(O) := \{\lambda \mapsto A_\lambda \text{ asymptotically contained in } \mathcal{A}_{0,\ell}(\hat{O}) \text{ for all } \hat{O} \ni O\}$

## Theorem ([CM '12])

$O \mapsto \mathfrak{A}^\bullet(O)$  is a local net of  $C^*$ -algebras,  $\mathfrak{A}(O) \subset \mathfrak{A}^\bullet(O)$

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## Extending $\pi_{0,\ell}$ to $\underline{\mathfrak{A}}^\bullet$

We need to extend  $\pi_{0,\ell}$  to  $\underline{\mathfrak{A}}^\bullet$

**Definition** ([Bostelamnn, D'Antoni, M. '09])

$\mathcal{A}$  has **convergent scaling limit** if  $\exists$  subalgebra  $\hat{\mathfrak{A}} \subset \underline{\mathfrak{A}}$  such that

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Satisfied by free massive scalar field in  $s = 2, 3$  ( $\hat{\mathfrak{A}}$  generated by scaled Weyl operators)

Implies uniqueness of scaling limit

**Theorem** ([CM '12])

*$\mathcal{A}$  with convergent scaling limit. There exists a morphism*

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# Asymptotic Morphisms and Scaling Limit Morphisms<sup>1/2</sup>

From now on,  $\mathcal{A}$  has convergent scaling limit.

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$(\rho_\lambda)$  is called **tame** if furthermore

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- $\pi_{0,l}^\bullet(\rho^\bullet(\mathcal{A}_{loc})) \subset (\mathcal{A}_{0,l})_{loc}$

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# Asymptotic Morphisms and Scaling Limit Morphisms<sup>2/2</sup>

Following Connes-Higson and our analogy, asymptotic morphisms should correspond to morphisms  $\rho : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{0,\iota}$

Those corresponding to isomorphisms  $\phi : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{0,\iota}$  are called **asymptotic isomorphisms** and can be characterized

$\text{AMor}_\iota(\mathcal{A}) := \{(\rho_\lambda) \text{ asymptotic morphism relative to } \underline{\omega}_{0,\iota}\}$

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There is a natural notion of **asymptotic equivalence**

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Following Connes-Higson and our analogy, asymptotic morphisms should correspond to morphisms  $\rho : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{0,\iota}$

Those corresponding to isomorphisms  $\phi : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{0,\iota}$  are called **asymptotic isomorphisms** and can be characterized

$\text{AMor}_\iota(\mathcal{A}) := \{(\rho_\lambda) \text{ asymptotic morphism relative to } \underline{\omega}_{0,\iota}\}$

$\text{Also}_\iota(\mathcal{A}) := \{(\phi_\lambda) \text{ asymptotic isomorphism relative to } \underline{\omega}_{0,\iota}\}$

There is a natural notion of **asymptotic equivalence**

Isomorphism  $\phi : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{0,\iota}$  used to lift morphisms  $\rho_0 : \mathcal{A}_{0,\iota} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{0,\iota}$  to morphisms  $\rho : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{0,\iota}$

## Theorem ([CM '12])

*There is a bijective correspondence between asymptotic equivalence classes of pairs  $((\rho_\lambda), (\phi_\lambda)) \in \text{AMor}_\iota(\mathcal{A}) \times \text{Also}_\iota(\mathcal{A})$  and unitary equivalence classes of morphisms  $\rho_0 : \mathcal{A}_{0,\iota} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{0,\iota}$*



# Asymptotic Morphisms and Preserved Sectors

With  $[\rho]$  preserved define:

- $\rho(\lambda)(A) := \sum_{j=1}^d \psi_j(\lambda) A \psi_j(\lambda)^*$ ,  $A \in \mathcal{A}$   
DHR morphism of  $\mathcal{A}$  localized in  $\lambda O$
- $\rho_0(A) = \sum_{j=1}^d \psi_j^0 A (\psi_j^0)^*$ ,  $A \in \mathcal{A}_{0,\iota}$   
DHR morphism of  $\mathcal{A}_{0,\iota}$  localized in  $O_1 \ni O$

## Theorem ([CM '12])

- $\rho(A)^* : \lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto \rho(\lambda)(A_\lambda) \in \mathcal{A}$  belongs to  $\underline{\mathfrak{A}}^*$  for all  $A \in \underline{\mathfrak{A}}^*$
- if  $(\phi_\lambda) \in \text{Also}_\iota(\mathcal{A})$  then with  $\rho_\lambda := \rho(\lambda)\phi_\lambda$  one has that  $((\rho_\lambda), (\phi_\lambda)) \in \text{AMor}_\iota(\mathcal{A}) \times \text{Also}_\iota(\mathcal{A})$  is a pair associated to  $\rho_0$

**Question:** Can one characterize confinement/preservation of charges in terms of a relation as above between asymptotic morphism and families of scaled morphisms of  $\mathcal{A}$ ?

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Superselection Theory
- 3 Scaling of Superselection Charges
- 4 Examples
- 5 Asymptotic Morphisms and Scaling Limit
- 6 Open Problems**

# Open Problems

## Summary

Scaling algebras and scaling limits are a very useful structural tool for model-independent, intrinsic analysis of short-distance properties of QFT and their superselection sectors

Some further questions:

- extend analysis of charge scaling to charges with **anomalous dimension** (e.g. electric charge in Schwinger model)
- is it possible to show that  $\mathcal{A}$  generated by pointlike fields  $\implies \mathcal{A}_{0,t}$  generated by pointlike fields?
- is it possible to characterize **asymptotically free theories**, maybe in terms of scaling of 2-point functions of their pointlike fields?
- can one define **noncommutative geometry invariants** of  $\mathcal{A}$  with interesting physical interpretation in terms of asymptotic morphisms?
- relations with **local gauge theories**?

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