

# Overview and Perspectives in Gauge Theory on Compact Manifolds and AGT-like relations (II):

3d & 5d partition functions as q-CFT correlators

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based on arXiv:1303.2626, with F. Nieri and S. Pasquetti and work in progress

## Motivations

- ▶ Recently, many **exact results** for gauge theories on compact manifolds using **localization techniques**
  - ▶ useful to study holography, 3d-3d duality, holomorphic blocks (Sara's talk), .....

Most relevant for this talk:

- ▶ **AGT correspondence:** relates certain BPS observables in 4d and 2d gauge theories to Liouville/Toda CFT correlators  
[Alday-Gaiotto-Tachikawa],[Wyllard]
  - ▶ classification of line operators
  - ▶ VEV of BPS line operators and S-duality action on them
  - ▶ VEV of surface operators
  - ▶ VEV of domain walls

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  - ▶ VEV of domain walls
- ▶ **Today:** focus on 3d and 5d gauge theory partition functions and relate them to correlators with underlying  $q$ -Virasoro symmetry

## Localization for gauge theory on compact manifolds

SUSY theory on a compact manifold  $\mathcal{M}$  of dimension  $d$ , with fields  $\Psi$

**Localization:**  $Z_{\mathcal{M}} = \int D\psi e^{-S[\psi]} = \int D\Psi_0 e^{-S[\Psi_0]} Z_{1-loop}[\Psi_0]$

- $\Psi_0$ : field configurations satisfying localizing (saddle point) equations
- a different localization schemes can produce different set of saddle points,  $\tilde{\Psi}_0$

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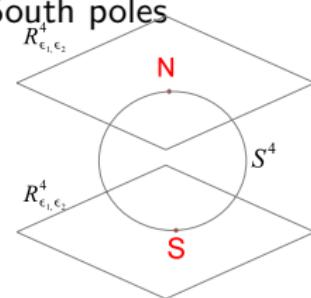
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$\mathcal{N}=2$  theories on  $S^4$  [Pestun]

- $\Psi_0$  given by:
- zero mode of a vector multiplet scalar  $a$
  - point-like instantons at North and South poles

$$Z_{S^4} = \int \prod_i da_i Z_{cl}(\vec{a}, \tau) Z_{1-loop}(\vec{a}, \vec{m}; \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2)$$

$$\times |Z_{inst}(\vec{a}, \vec{m}, \tau; \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2)|^2$$



- $Z_{inst}(\vec{a}, \vec{m}, \tau; \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2)$  is the instanton partition function on  $\mathbb{R}_{\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2}^4$ .

# Liouville theory

## Liouville CFT data

- ▶  $c_V = 1 + 6Q_0^2$  is the Virasoro central charge ( $Q_0 = b_0 + 1/b_0$ )
- ▶  $V_\alpha(z, \tilde{z})$  primary field with conformal dimension  $\Delta_\alpha = \alpha(Q_0 - \alpha)$ 
  - ▶  $\alpha = \frac{Q_0}{2} + ip_\alpha$  with  $p_\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ : non-degenerate representation
  - ▶  $\alpha^{(m,n)} = \frac{Q_0}{2} - \frac{m}{2b_0} - \frac{nb_0}{2}$  with  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ : degenerate representation
- ▶  $C(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  3-point correlation function, DOZZ formula

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Any  $n$ -point function is decomposed in terms of 3-point functions

Basic example: 4-point function

$$\langle \alpha_4 | V_{\alpha_3}(1) V_{\alpha_2}(\zeta) | \alpha_1 \rangle = \int d\alpha \quad \begin{array}{c} \alpha_2 \\ | \\ \alpha_1 \text{ --- } \alpha \text{ --- } \alpha_4 \\ | \\ \alpha_3 \end{array}$$
$$= \int d\alpha C(\alpha_4^*, \alpha_3, \alpha) C(\alpha^*, \alpha_2, \alpha_1) |\zeta^{\Delta_\alpha - \Delta_{\alpha_2} - \Delta_{\alpha_1}} \mathcal{F}_{\alpha_4 \alpha_3 \alpha \alpha_2 \alpha_1}(\zeta)|^2$$

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## Liouville CFT data

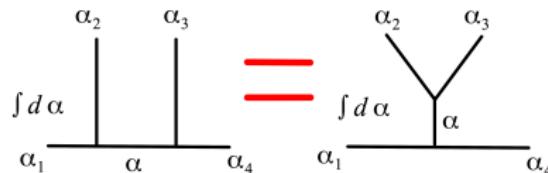
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Consistent CFT data satisfy crossing symmetry

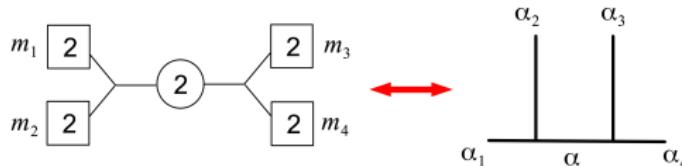


# AGT correspondence

$S^4$  gauge theory BPS observables  $\iff$  Liouville/Toda CFT correlators

[Alday-Gaiotto-Tachikawa]

The prototypical AGT example:  $S^4$  partition function of  $SU(2)$  SCQCD ( $N_f = 4$ ) is equivalent to a 4-point non-degenerate correlator



$$Z_{S^4}^{SCQCD} = \langle \alpha_4 | V_{\alpha_3}(1) V_{\alpha_2}(\zeta) | \alpha_1 \rangle$$

Dictionary:

| 2d CFT  | 4d gauge theory                               |
|---|---|
| conformal blocks $\mathcal{F}_{\alpha_4 \alpha_3 \sigma \alpha_2 \alpha_1}$ | instanton contribution $Z_{\text{inst}}$      |
| 3 – point functions $C(..)C(..)$  | perturbative contribution $Z_{\text{1-loop}}$ |
| external momenta $\alpha_i$   | masses $m_i$                                  |
| internal momentum $\alpha$  | coulomb branch $a$                            |

## why AGT works

- ▶ Perturbative tests and direct proofs in special cases ( $\mathcal{N} = 2^*$ , pure  $SU(N)$ ,  $\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2 = 0$  etc).

recent mathematical results [Maulik-Okounkov], [Schiffmann-Vasserot]

instanton partition functions  $\Leftrightarrow$  conformal blocks

- ▶ generalized  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  S-dualities (surface pants-decomposition for class- $\mathcal{S}$  theories) correspond to different channel decomposition of the correlator

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S-duality invariance of  $Z_{S^4}$   $\Leftrightarrow$  crossing symmetry of the correlator

$S^4$  partition functions and Liouville correlators constrained by the same symmetries  $\Rightarrow$  they are solutions of the same bootstrap equations, therefore are equal!

## AGT with surface operators

**surface operators:** codimension-2 operators defined by the path integral in the presence of prescribed singularities along the defect surface.  
They can be defined also coupling the 4d gauge theory to a 2d field theory on the defect.[Gukov-Witten]

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Simple surface operators  $\Leftrightarrow$  SQED with  $N$  chirals and  $N$  antichirals

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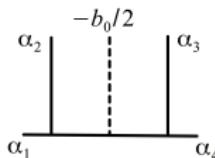
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**AGT prescription:**

Simple surface operators  $\Leftrightarrow$  degenerate primaries  $(L_{-2} + \frac{1}{b^2} L_{-1}^2) V_{-b/2} = 0$

[Alday-Gaiotto-Gukov-Tachikawa-Verlinde]

$\langle \text{surface operator} \rangle_{SCQCD} =$



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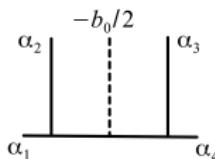
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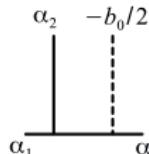
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► Decoupling 2d theory from 4d theory [Doroud-Gomis-Le Floch-Lee]



$$= \langle V_{\alpha_4} V_{\alpha_3}(1) V_{-b/2}(z) V_{\alpha_1} \rangle = Z_{S_2}^{SQED}$$

► Previous results: degenerate conformal blocks  $\leftrightarrow$  2d vortex counting  
[Dimofte-Gukov-Hollands], [Kozcaz-Pasquetti-Wyllard], [Bonelli-Tanzini-Zhao].

# $\mathcal{N} = (2, 2)$ theory on $S^2$

Two localization schemes → two representations of the partition function

[Benini-Cremonesi],[Doroud-Gomis-Le Floch-Lee]

SQED:  $U(1)$  gauge group,  $N_f$  chirals  $m_i$ ,  $N_f$  anti-chirals  $\tilde{m}_j$ , with FI  $\xi$ .

► Coulomb branch:

$$Z_{S^2} = \sum_{s \in Z} \int da \ Z_{cl}(a, s, \xi, \theta) \ Z_{1-loop}(a, \vec{m}, s)$$

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- Higgs branch

$$Z_{S^2} = \sum_i^{N_f} Z_{cl}^{(i)} Z_{1-loop}^{(i)} \left\| Z_V^{(i)}(\vec{m}; e^{2\pi i \tau}) \right\|^2$$

- $Z_{cl}^{(i)} Z_{1-loop}^{(i)}$  are evaluated on Higgs vacua  $a = a^{(i)}(\vec{m})$ .

- $Z_V^{(i)}$  is the **vortex partition function** on  $\mathbb{R}_\epsilon^2$ : [Shadchin]

$$Z_V^{(i)}(\vec{m}; e^{2\pi i \tau}) = \sum_k \prod_{j=1}^{N_f} \frac{(-im_i - i\tilde{m}_j)_k}{k!(1 + im_j - im_i)_k} e^{2\pi i \tau k} = {}_{N_f} F_{N_f-1}^{(i)}(e^{2\pi i \tau})$$

- where  $\tau = \frac{\theta}{2\pi} + i\xi$ , and the **pairing**:  $\left\| f(a; z) \right\|^2 = f(a; z)f(a; \bar{z})$ .

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**Flop Symmetry:**  $Z_{S^2}$  is invariant under :  $\xi \leftrightarrow -\xi$  and  $m_j \leftrightarrow -\tilde{m}_j$

# The Bootstrap approach to Liouville

**Conformal Bootstrap Approach:** impose crossing symmetry to derive 3-point functions. Useful to consider degenerate representation of **Virasoro**. [Belavin-Polyakov-Zamolodchikov]

- ▶ 4-point function with a degenerate insertion [Teschner]

$$\langle V_{\alpha_4}(\infty) V_{\alpha_3}(1) V_{-b_0/2}(z, \tilde{z}) V_{\alpha_1}(0) \rangle \sim G(z, \tilde{z})$$

- ▶  $V_{-b_0/2}(z, \tilde{z})$  has a null state at level 2, leading to

$$D(a, b; c; z)G(z, \tilde{z}) = 0, \quad D(a, b; c; \tilde{z})G(z, \tilde{z}) = 0$$

where  $D(a, b; c; z)$  is the hypergeometric differential operator

$$D(a, b; c; z) = z(1-z)\frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} + [c - (a+b+1)z]\frac{\partial}{\partial z} - ab$$

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$G(z, \tilde{z})$  is a bilinear combination of solutions defined around singular points  $0, 1, \infty$

Around  $z = 0$

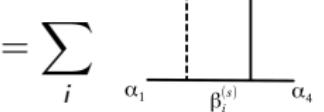
$$I_1^{(s)}(z) = {}_2F_1(a, b; c; z), \quad I_2^{(s)}(z) = z^{1-c} {}_2F_1(1+a-c, 1+b-c; 2-c; z)$$

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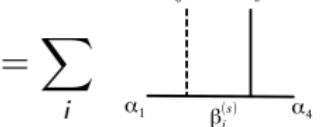
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- ▶ diagonal monodromy around  $z = 0 \rightarrow K_{12}^{(s)} = K_{21}^{(s)} = 0$
- ▶ the element of  $K$  are related to **3-point functions**

$$K_{11}^{(s)} = C(\alpha_4, \alpha_3, \beta_1^{(s)}) C(Q_0 - \beta_1, -b_0/2, \alpha_1)$$

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where the internal states are  $\beta_1^{(s)} = \alpha_1 - \frac{b_0}{2}$ ,  $\beta_2^{(s)} = \alpha_1 + \frac{b_0}{2}$

Around  $z = 0$

$$I_1^{(s)}(z) = {}_2F_1(a, b; c; z), \quad I_2^{(s)}(z) = z^{1-c} {}_2F_1(1+a-c, 1+b-c; 2-c; z)$$

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- ▶ pairing

$$\left\| f(a, b, c, z) \right\|^2 = f(a, b, c, z) f(a, b, c, \bar{z})$$

Around  $z = \infty$

$$I_1^{(u)}(z) = z^{-a} {}_2F_1(a, 1+a-c; 1+a-b; z^{-1})$$

$$I_2^{(u)}(z) = z^{-b} {}_2F_1(b, 1+b-c; 1+b-a; z^{-1})$$

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$$= \sum_i \begin{array}{c} & & \\ & \nearrow & \searrow \\ \alpha_1 & \text{---} & \beta_i^{(u)} \\ & & \alpha_3 \end{array}$$

Around  $z = \infty$

$$I_1^{(u)}(z) = z^{-a} {}_2F_1(a, 1+a-c; 1+a-b; z^{-1})$$

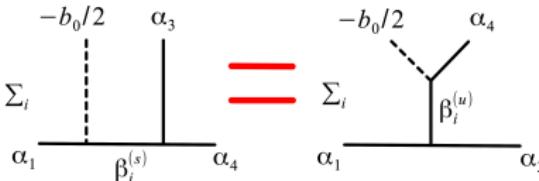
$$I_2^{(u)}(z) = z^{-b} {}_2F_1(b, 1+b-c; 1+b-a; z^{-1})$$

this is the ***u*-channel**

$$\langle V_{\alpha_4}(\infty) V_{\alpha_3}(1) V_{\alpha_2}(z) V_{\alpha_1}(0) \rangle \sim \sum_{i,j=1}^2 I_i^{(u)}(\bar{z}) K_{ij}^{(u)} I_j^{(u)}(z) = \sum_i K_{ii}^{(u)} \left\| I_i^{(u)}(z) \right\|^2$$

$$= \sum_i \begin{array}{c} & & \alpha_4 \\ & \nearrow & \\ \alpha_1 & \text{---} & \alpha_3 \\ & \beta_i^{(u)} & \end{array}$$

Conformal Bootstrap:



extending a set of solutions by analytic continuation  $I_i^{(s)} = \sum_{j=1}^2 M_{ij} I_j^{(u)}$ , we obtain

$$\sum_{k,l=1}^2 K_{kl}^{(s)} M_{ki} M_{lj} = K_{ij}^{(u)}$$

This set of equations determines the 3-point functions.

- off-diagonal elements

$$\frac{K_{22}^{(s)}}{K_{11}^{(s)}} = -\frac{M_{11}M_{12}}{M_{21}M_{22}}$$

- diagonal elements

$$\frac{K_{22}^{(u)}}{K_{22}^{(s)}} = (M_{22})^2 - \frac{M_{21}M_{12}M_{22}}{M_{11}} = \frac{M_{22}}{M_{11}}(\det M)$$

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The DOZZ formula **solves both the equations**

$$C(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3) = \frac{1}{\Upsilon(2\alpha_T - Q_0)} \prod_{r=1}^3 \frac{\Upsilon(2\alpha_r)}{\Upsilon(2\alpha_T - 2\alpha_r)}$$

where  $2\alpha_T = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3$  and

$$\Upsilon(X) \propto \prod_{n_1, n_2=0}^{\infty} (X + n_1 b_0 + n_2 1/b_0) (-X + (n_1 + 1)b_0 + (n_2 + 1)1/b_0)$$

**Conformal Bootstrap approach:** 3-point function is derived exploiting symmetries, without using the Lagrangian.

Comments on the relation:  $Z_{S^2}^{SQED} = \langle V_{\alpha_4}(\infty) V_{\alpha_3}(1) V_{-b/2}(z) V_{\alpha_1}(0) \rangle$

- ▶ vortices moduli space are slices of instantons moduli space. Indeed  
2d vortex partition functions  $\Leftrightarrow$  degenerate conformal blocks
- ▶ flop transformations correspond to different channel decomposition  
of the correlator.  
flop symmetry invariance of  $Z_{S^2}$   $\Leftrightarrow$  correlator crossing symmetry

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$S^2$  partition functions and **degenerate Liouville correlators** satisfy the same constraints thus they are equivalent.

We will now argue that a similar story holds in 3d. We start by reviewing 3d partition functions.

# $\mathcal{N} = 2$ theory on $S_b^3$

$$S_b^3 : \quad b^2|z_1|^2 + \frac{1}{b^2}|z_2|^2 = 1$$

Coulomb branch localization scheme [Hama-Hosomichi-Lee].

SQED:  $U(1)$  gauge group,  $N_f$  chirals  $m_j$ ,  $N_f$  anti-chirals  $\tilde{m}_k$ , with FI  $\xi$ .

$$Z_S^{SQED} = \int dx \ G_{cl} \cdot G_{1-loop} = \int dx \ e^{2\pi i x \xi} \prod_{j,k}^{N_f} \frac{s_b(x + m_j + iQ/2)}{s_b(x + \tilde{m}_k - iQ/2)}$$

The 1-loop contribution of a chiral multiplet is:

$$s_b(x) = \prod_{m,n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} \frac{mb + nb^{-1} + \frac{Q}{2} - ix}{mb + nb^{-1} + \frac{Q}{2} + ix}, \quad Q = b + 1/b.$$

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Flop Symmetry:  $Z_S^{SQED}$  is invariant under :  $m_j \leftrightarrow -\tilde{m}_k$  and  $\xi \leftrightarrow -\xi$   
this signs flip exchanges phase I and phase II

Higgs-branch-like factorized form: [Pasquetti]

$$Z_S^{SQED} = \sum_i^{N_f} G_{cl}^{(i)} G_{1-loop}^{(i)} \left\| \mathcal{Z}_V^{(i)} \right\|_S^2,$$

- $G_{cl}^{(i)} G_{1-loop}^{(i)}$  are evaluated on Higgs vacua  $x = -m_i$

$$G_{cl}^{(i)} = e^{-2\pi i \xi m_i}, \quad G_{1-loop}^{(i)} = \prod_{j,k}^{N_f} \frac{s_b(m_j - m_i + iQ/2)}{s_b(\tilde{m}_k - m_i - iQ/2)},$$

- q-deformed 2d vortices:

$$\mathcal{Z}_V^{(i)} = \sum_n \prod_{j,k}^{N_f} \frac{(y_k x_i^{-1}; q)_n}{(qx_j x_i^{-1}; q)_n} z^n = {}_{N_f} \Phi_{N_f-1}^{(i)}(\vec{x}, \vec{y}; z).$$

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- Vortices are glued with **S-pairing**:

$$\left\| f(x; q) \right\|_S^2 = f(x; q) f(\tilde{x}; \tilde{q})$$

$$x = e^{2\pi X b} \Leftrightarrow \tilde{x} = e^{2\pi X/b}, \quad q = e^{2\pi i b^2} \Leftrightarrow \tilde{q} = e^{2\pi i/b^2}$$

where  $x$  variables are  $x_i = e^{2\pi m_i b}$ ,  $y_i = e^{2\pi \tilde{m}_i b}$ ,  $z = e^{2\pi \xi b}$

# $\mathcal{N} = 2$ theory on $S^2 \times S^1$

Computes the (generalized) super-conformal-index

[Imamura-Yokoyama], [Kapustin-Willet], [Dimofte-Gukov-Gaiotto].

**SQED** with fugacities:

$$\begin{aligned} (\phi_i, r_i), \quad & i = 1, \dots, N_f, \quad \text{flavor} \quad U(1)^{N_f}, \\ (\xi_i, l_i), \quad & i = 1, \dots, N_f, \quad (\text{anti}) - \text{flavor} \quad U(1)^{N_f}, \\ (\omega, n), \quad & \text{topological} \quad U(1), \\ (t, s), \quad & \text{gauged} \quad U(1). \end{aligned}$$

$$Z_{id} = \sum_{s \in \mathbb{Z}} \int \frac{dt}{2\pi it} t^n \omega^s \prod_{j=1}^{N_f} \chi(t\phi_j, s + r_j) \prod_{k=1}^{N_f} \chi(t^{-1}\xi_k^{-1}, -s - l_k).$$

The **1-loop contribution** of a chiral multiplet is:

$$\chi(\zeta, m) = (q^{1/2} \zeta^{-1})^{-m/2} \prod_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - q^{k+1} \zeta^{-1} q^{-m/2})}{(1 - q^k \zeta q^{-m/2})}$$

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**Flop Symmetry:**

$Z_{id}^{SQED}$  is invariant under :  $\omega \leftrightarrow \omega^{-1}$ ,  $n \leftrightarrow -n$ ,  $\phi_j \leftrightarrow \xi_j^{-1}$ ,  $r_j \leftrightarrow -l_j$   
exchanges phase I and phase II

Higgs-branch-like factorized form: [Beem-Dimofte-Pasquetti],[Hwang-Kim-Park]

$$Z_{id}^{SQED} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_f} G_{cl}^{(i)} G_{1loop}^{(i)} \left| \left| Z_V^i \right| \right|_{id}^2,$$

- $G_{cl}^{(i)} G_{1-loop}^{(i)}$  are evaluated on Higgs vacua  $t = \phi_i^{-1}$ ,  $s = -r_i$ :

$$G_{cl}^{(i)} = \omega^{-r_i} (\phi_i^{-1})^n, \quad G_{1loop}^{(i)} = \prod_{j=1}^{N_f} \chi(\phi_j \phi_i^{-1}, r_j - r_i) \prod_{k=1}^{N_f} \chi(\phi_i \xi_k^{-1}, r_i - l_k),$$

- q-deformed 2d vortices:

$$Z_V^{(i)} = \sum_n \prod_{j,k}^{N_f} \frac{(y_k x_i^{-1}; q)_n}{(q x_j x_i^{-1}; q)_n} z^n = {}_{N_f} \Phi_{N_f-1}^{(i)}(\vec{x}, \vec{y}; z).$$

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- Vortices are glued with *id-pairing*:

$$\left| \left| f(x; q) \right| \right|_{id}^2 := f(x; q) f(\tilde{x}; \tilde{q}),$$

$$x \Leftrightarrow \tilde{x} = \bar{x}, \quad q \Leftrightarrow \tilde{q} = q^{-1}$$

where  $x$  variables are  $x_i = \phi_i q^{r_i/2}$ ,  $y_i = \xi_i q^{l_i/2}$ ,  $z = \omega q^{n/2}$

## Flop symmetry

- On the Coulomb branch it's a trivial symmetry of the integrand
- On the Higgs branch it translates into highly non-trivial relations between partition function in the two phases (analytic continuation in  $z \rightarrow z^{-1}$ )

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{id}^I &= \sum_i^{N_f} G_{cl}^{(i),I} G_{1loop}^{(i),I} \left\| \mathcal{Z}_V^{(i),I} \right\|_{id}^2 = \\ &= \sum_i^{N_f} G_{cl}^{(i),II} G_{1loop}^{(i),II} \left\| \mathcal{Z}_V^{(i),II} \right\|_{id}^2 = Z_{id}^{II}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Z_S^I &= \sum_i^{N_f} G_{cl}^{(i),I} G_{1loop}^{(i),I} \left\| \mathcal{Z}_V^{(i),I} \right\|_S^2 = \\ &= \sum_i^{N_f} G_{cl}^{(i),II} G_{1loop}^{(i),II} \left\| \mathcal{Z}_V^{(i),II} \right\|_S^2 = Z_S^{II}. \end{aligned}$$

⇒ Can these relations constrain the 1-loop part of the partition function?

## 3d partition functions and $q$ -deformed CFT

3d partition functions, in the Higgs branch expression, have a structure similar to degenerate Liouville correlators

$$Z_{id,S} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_f} G_{cl}^{(i)} G_{1loop}^{(i)} \left| \left| Z_V^i \right| \right|_{id,S}^2$$

- ▶ gauge theory flop symmetry  $\Rightarrow$  crossing symmetry
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We will construct  **$q$ -deformed degenerate correlators** using the bootstrap approach. These correlators are equivalent to **3d partition functions**.

## $q$ -deformed Virasoro algebra $\mathcal{V}ir_{q,t}$

$\mathcal{V}ir_{q,t}$  has two complex parameters  $q, t$  (useful to consider  $p = \frac{q}{t}$ ) and an infinite set of generators  $T_n$  with  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$

[Shiraishi, Kubo, Awata, Odake][Lukyanov-Pugai] [Frenkel-Reshetikhin][Jimbo-Miwa]

$$[T_n, T_m] =$$

$$-\sum_{l=1}^{+\infty} f_l (T_{n-l} T_{m+l} - T_{m-l} T_{n+l}) - \frac{(1-q)(1-t^{-1})}{1-p} (p^n - p^{-n}) \delta_{m+n,0}$$

where

$$f(z) = \sum_{l=0}^{+\infty} f_l z^l = \exp \left[ \sum_{l=1}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{n} \frac{(1-q^n)(1-t^{-n})}{1+p^n} z^n \right]$$

- invariant under:  $(q, t) \rightarrow (q^{-1}, t^{-1})$  and  $(q, t) \rightarrow (t, q)$
- considering:  $t = q^{-b_0^2}$  and  $q \rightarrow 1$

$\mathcal{V}ir_{q,t}$  reduces to the Virasoro with central charge  $c_V = 1 + 6Q_0^2$

( $T(z) = \sum_n T_n z^{-n}$  reduces to the Virasoro current  $L(z) = \sum_n L_n z^{-n-2}$ )

Representations of  $\mathcal{Vir}_{q,t}$  can be constructed using Verma modules

- ▶ The highest weight state  $|\lambda\rangle$  satisfies

$$T_0|\lambda\rangle = \lambda|\lambda\rangle, \quad T_n|\lambda\rangle = 0 \quad \text{for } n > 0$$

- ▶ the Verma module  $\mathcal{M}(\lambda)$  is constructed acting on the highest weight state  $|\lambda\rangle$  with the operators  $T_{-n}$  with  $n > 0$
- ▶ Verma modules can include singular states. In particular, there is a level 2 singular vector for the following values of the parameter  $\lambda$

$$\lambda_1 = p^{1/2}q^{1/2} + p^{-1/2}q^{-1/2}, \quad \lambda_2 = p^{1/2}t^{-1/2} + p^{-1/2}t^{1/2}$$

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Chiral blocks with degenerate primaries satisfy **difference equations**

[Awata, Kubo, Morita, Odake, Shiraishi] [Awata, Yamada][Schiappa,Wyllard]

## $q$ -deformed CFT

**$q$ -deformed Bootstrap Approach:** Consider degenerate chiral blocks, constrained to satisfy difference equations. Impose crossing symmetry to derive 3-point functions.

- ▶ 4-point function with a degenerate insertion

$$\langle V_{\alpha_4}(\infty) V_{\alpha_3}(r) V_{\alpha_2}(z, \tilde{z}) V_{\alpha_1}(0) \rangle \sim G(z, \tilde{z})$$

- ▶  $V_{\alpha_2}(z, \tilde{z})$  has a null state at level 2, leading to

$$D(A, B; C; q; z)G(z, z) = 0, \quad D(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}; \tilde{C}; \tilde{q}; \tilde{z})G(z, \tilde{z}) = 0,$$

where  $D(A, B; C; q; z)$  is the  $q$ -hypergeometric operator

$$D(A, B; C; q; z) = h_2 \frac{\partial_q^2}{\partial_q z^2} + h_1 \frac{\partial_q}{\partial_q z} + h_0$$

and  $\frac{\partial_q}{\partial_q z}$  is the  $q$ -derivative. It acts on a function  $f(z)$  as

$$\frac{\partial_q}{\partial_q z} f(z) = \frac{f(qz) - f(z)}{z(q-1)}$$

$G(z, \tilde{z})$  is a bilinear combination of solutions of the  $q$ -hypergeometric eq.

## Around $z = 0$

$$I_1^{(s)} = {}_2\Phi_1(A, B; C; z)$$

$$I_2^{(s)} = \frac{\theta(q^2 C^{-1} z^{-1}; q)}{\theta(q C^{-1}; q) \theta(q z^{-1}; q)} {}_2\Phi_1(q A C^{-1}, q B C^{-1}; q^2 C^{-1}; z)$$

- ▶ Virasoro limit  $q \rightarrow 1$ :  $\lim_{q \rightarrow 1} {}_2\Phi_1(q^a, q^b; q^c; q, z) = {}_2F_1(a, b; c; z)$  and the solutions become the  $s$ -channel basis discussed above

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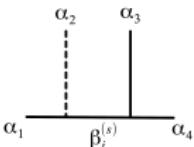
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so in the  $s$ -channel

$$\langle V_{\alpha_4}(\infty) V_{\alpha_3}(r) V_{\alpha_2}(z) V_{\alpha_1}(0) \rangle \sim \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \tilde{I}_i^{(s)} K_{ij}^{(s)} I_j^{(s)}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^2 K_{ii}^{(s)} \left\| I_i^{(s)} \right\|_*^2 = \sum_i$$



- generic pairing  $\left\| (\dots) \right\|_*^2$ . For instance

$$\left\| f(A, B, C; z; q) \right\|_*^2 = f(A, B, C; z; q) f(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}, \tilde{C}; \tilde{z}; \tilde{q})$$

## Around $z = \infty$

$$I_1^{(u)} = \frac{\theta(qA^{-1}z^{-1}; q)}{\theta(A^{-1}; q)\theta(qz^{-1}; q)} {}_2\Phi_1(A, qAC^{-1}; qAB^{-1}; q^2z^{-1}),$$

$$I_2^{(u)} = \frac{\theta(qB^{-1}z^{-1}; q)}{\theta(B^{-1}; q)\theta(qz^{-1}; q)} {}_2\Phi_1(B, qBC^{-1}; qBA^{-1}; q^2z^{-1})$$

- in the  $q \rightarrow 1$  limit we recover the undeformed  $u$ -channel basis

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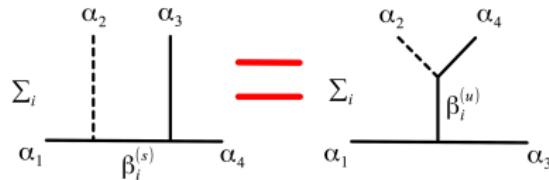
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The correlation function in the  $u$ -channel is

$$\langle V_{\alpha_4}(\infty) V_{\alpha_3}(r) V_{\alpha_2}(z) V_{\alpha_1}(0) \rangle \sim \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \tilde{I}_i^{(u)} K_{ij}^{(u)} I_j^{(s)}$$

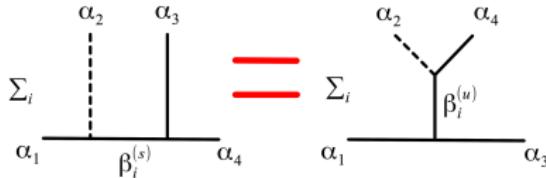
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## $q$ -deformed Bootstrap:



$$K_{11}^{(s)} \left\| I_1^{(s)} \right\|_*^2 + K_{22}^{(s)} \left\| I_2^{(s)} \right\|_*^2 = K_{11}^{(u)} \left\| I_1^{(u)} \right\|_*^2 + K_{22}^{(u)} \left\| I_2^{(u)} \right\|_*^2$$

## q-deformed Bootstrap:



$$K_{11}^{(s)} \left\| I_1^{(s)} \right\|_*^2 + K_{22}^{(s)} \left\| I_2^{(s)} \right\|_*^2 = K_{11}^{(u)} \left\| I_1^{(u)} \right\|_*^2 + K_{22}^{(u)} \left\| I_2^{(u)} \right\|_*^2$$

using analytical continuation  $I_i^{(s)} = \sum_{j=1}^2 M_{ij} I_j^{(u)}$  and  $\tilde{I}_i^{(s)} = \sum_{j=1}^2 \tilde{M}_{ij} \tilde{I}_j^{(u)}$   
we obtain

$$\sum_{k,l=1}^2 K_{kl}^{(s)} \tilde{M}_{ki} M_{lj} = K_{ij}^{(u)}$$

Bootstrap equation that determines the 3-point functions. In details

- off-diagonal elements  $\frac{K_{22}^{(s)}}{K_{11}^{(s)}} = -\frac{\tilde{M}_{11} M_{12}}{\tilde{M}_{21} M_{22}}$

- diagonal elements  $\frac{K_{22}^{(u)}}{K_{22}^{(s)}} = \frac{M_{22}}{\tilde{M}_{11}} (\det \tilde{M})$

solutions to these equations exist only for certain pairings!

## *id*-pairing $q$ -CFT

Consider the case where the blocks are glued as

$$\left\| f(x; q) \right\|_{id}^2 = f(x; q) f(\tilde{x}; \tilde{q}).$$

- ▶ with:  $x = e^{\beta X}$ ,  $\tilde{x} = e^{-\beta X}$ ,  $\tilde{q} = q^{-1}$
  - ▶ in particular,  $q = e^{\beta/b_0}$  and the  $x$  variables are
- $$A = e^{\beta(\alpha_1 + \alpha_3 + \alpha_4 - \frac{b_0}{2} - Q_0)}, \quad B = e^{\beta(\alpha_1 + \alpha_3 - \alpha_4 - \frac{b_0}{2})}, \quad C = e^{\beta(2\alpha_1 - b_0)}$$

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The bootstrap equations are solved by

$$C_{id}(\alpha_3, \alpha_2, \alpha_1) = \frac{1}{\Upsilon^\beta(2\alpha_T - Q_0)} \prod_{i=1}^3 \frac{\Upsilon^\beta(2\alpha_i)}{\Upsilon^\beta(2\alpha_T - 2\alpha_i)}$$

- where we defined:  $\Upsilon^\beta(X) \propto \prod_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \Upsilon\left(X + i\frac{2\pi}{\beta}k\right)$

$S^1 \times S^2$  superconformal index for SQED is equivalent to an *id*-pairing  
 $q$ -CFT degenerate correlator ( $\alpha_2 = -b_0/2$ )

$$Z_{id} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_f} G_{cl}^{(i),I} G_{1loop}^{(i),I} \left\| Z_V^{(i),I} \right\|_{id}^2 \sim \sum_{i=1}^2 K_{ii}^{(s)} \left\| I_i^{(s)} \right\|_{id}^2 = \sum_i \begin{array}{c} \alpha_2 \\ \vdash \\ \alpha_1 & \beta_i^{(s)} & \alpha_3 \\ \hline & \beta_i^{(s)} & \alpha_4 \end{array}$$

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dictionary: writing the flavor fugacities as  $\phi_i = e^{i\beta \Phi_i}$ ,  $\xi_i = e^{i\beta \Xi_i}$

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{Q_0}{2} + i \frac{\Phi_1 - \Phi_2}{2}, \quad \alpha_3 = \frac{b_0}{2} - i \frac{\Xi_1 + \Xi_2 - \Phi_1 - \Phi_2}{2}, \quad \alpha_4 = \frac{Q_0}{2} - i \frac{\Xi_1 - \Xi_2}{2},$$

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- ▶ gauge theory flop symmetry  $\Leftrightarrow$   $q$ -CFT crossing symmetry
- ▶  $\beta \rightarrow 0$  limit
  - ▶ CFT:  $\mathcal{V}ir_{q,t} \rightarrow$  Virasoro, we recover Liouville theory results
  - ▶ gauge:  $S^1 \times S^2$  partition function reduce to  $S^2$  partition function

Consistent:  $S^2$  partition functions match degenerate Liouville correlators [Doroud-Gomis-Le Floch-Lee]

## *S*-pairing *q*-CFT

Now, consider the case where the blocks are glued as

$$\left\| f(x; q) \right\|_S^2 = f(x; q) f(\tilde{x}; \tilde{q}).$$

► with:

$$x = e^{2\pi i X/\omega_2}, \quad \tilde{x} = e^{2\pi i \tilde{X}/\omega_1}, \quad q = e^{2\pi i \frac{\omega_1}{\omega_2}}, \quad \tilde{q} = e^{2\pi i \frac{\omega_2}{\omega_1}}$$

► and the  $x$  variables are

$$A = e^{2\pi i (\alpha_1 + \alpha_3 + \alpha_4 - \frac{\omega_3}{2} - E)/\omega_2}, \quad B = e^{2\pi i (\alpha_1 + \alpha_3 - \alpha_4 - \frac{\omega_3}{2})/\omega_2},$$
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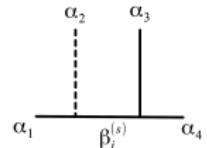
$$C_S(\alpha_3, \alpha_2, \alpha_1) = \frac{1}{S_3(2\alpha_T - E)} \prod_{i=1}^3 \frac{S_3(2\alpha_i)}{S_3(2\alpha_T - 2\alpha_i)}$$

where  $S_3(X)$  is the triple sine function

$$S_3(X) \propto \prod_{n_1, n_2, n_3=0}^{+\infty} (\omega_1 n_1 + \omega_2 n_2 + \omega_3 n_3 + X) (\omega_1 n_1 + \omega_2 n_2 + \omega_3 n_3 + E - X)$$

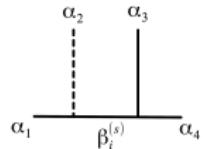
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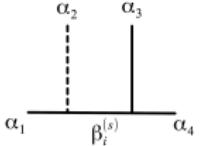
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dictionary:

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{E}{2} + i \frac{m_1 - m_2}{2}, \quad \alpha_3 = \frac{\omega_3}{2} - i \frac{\tilde{m}_1 + \tilde{m}_2 - m_1 - m_2}{2}, \quad \alpha_4 = \frac{E}{2} - i \frac{\tilde{m}_1 - \tilde{m}_2}{2},$$

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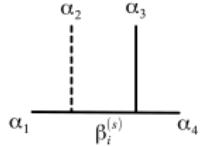
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- ▶ gauge theory flop symmetry  $\Leftrightarrow$   $q$ -CFT crossing symmetry
- ▶ in fact there are 3 possibilities:

$$\alpha_2 = -\omega_k/2, \quad q = e^{2\pi i \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_j}}, \quad \tilde{q} = e^{2\pi i \frac{\omega_j}{\omega_i}}, \quad i \neq j \neq k = 1, 2, 3.$$

so far:

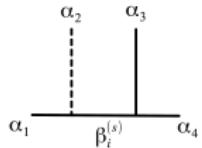
3d gauge theory partition functions  $\Leftrightarrow$   $q$ -CFT degenerate correlators

$$Z_{S,id} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_f} G_{cl}^{(i),I} G_{1loop}^{(i),I} \left| \left| Z_V^{(i),I} \right| \right|_{S,id}^2 \sim \sum_{i=1}^2 K_{ii}^{(s)} \left| \left| I_i^{(s)} \right| \right|_{S,id}^2 = \sum_i$$


and to show this we derive 3-point functions via bootstrap

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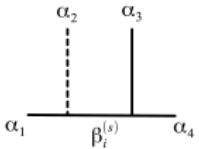
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Let's now consider non-degenerate correlators

$$\langle V_{\alpha_1} V_{\alpha_2} V_{\alpha_3} V_{\alpha_4} \rangle_{S,id} = \int d\alpha \quad \begin{array}{c} \alpha_2 \\ | \\ \alpha \\ | \\ \alpha_4 \end{array} = \int d\alpha \; C_{S,id} \; C_{S,id} \; (\text{Conf. Blocks})$$

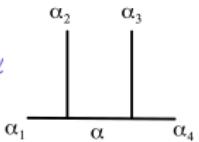
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in analogy with the AGT case, it is natural to expect that

5d gauge theory partition functions  $\Leftrightarrow$   $q$ -CFT non-degenerate correlators

# $\mathcal{N} = 1$ theory on $S^4 \times S^1$

Computes 5d super-conformal index.

Coulomb branch localization yields: [Kim-Kim-Lee], [Terashima], [Iqbal,Vafa]

$$Z_{S^4 \times S^1} = \int d\vec{\sigma} \ Z_{\text{1-loop}}(\vec{\sigma}, \vec{m}) \left| Z_{\text{inst}}^{5d}(\vec{\sigma}, \vec{m}, z; q, t) \right|^2$$

- $|Z_{\text{inst}}^{5d}|^2$  is the contribution of point-like instantons at  $N$  and  $S$  poles
- 1-loop contribution
  - vector multiplet:

$$\mathcal{Z}_{\text{1-loop}}^{\text{vect}}(\sigma) = \prod_{\alpha > 0} \Upsilon^\beta(i\alpha(\sigma)) \Upsilon^\beta(-i\alpha(\sigma))$$

- hypermultiplet of mass  $m$  in a representation  $R$ :

$$\mathcal{Z}_{\text{1-loop}}^{\text{hyper}}(\sigma, m, R) = \prod_{\rho \in R} \Upsilon^\beta \left( i(\rho(\sigma) + m) + \frac{Q_0}{2} \right)^{-1}$$

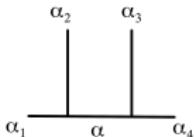
$\beta$ =circumference of  $S^1$

Conjecture:  $Z_{S^4 \times S^1}$  correspond to non-degenerate correlators with  $\mathcal{Vir}_{qt} \otimes \mathcal{Vir}_{qt}$  symmetry and *id*-pairing 3-point function.

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Example:

$$Z_{S^4 \times_q S^1}^{SQCD} = \langle V_{\alpha_1} V_{\alpha_2} V_{\alpha_3} V_{\alpha_4} \rangle_{id} = \int d\alpha$$



- ▶ 5d instantons vs  $\mathcal{Vir}_{qt}$  non-degenerate conformal blocks:

[Awata-Yamada], [Mironov-Morozov-Shakirov-Smirnov]

$$Z_{inst}^{5d, SCQCD} = \mathcal{F}_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha \alpha_3 \alpha_4}^{qt}$$

- ▶ 1-loop vs 3-point function:

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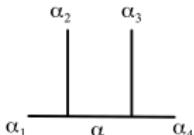
with dictionary:

$$\alpha = i\sigma + \frac{Q_0}{2}, \quad \alpha_1 \pm \alpha_2 = im_{1,2} + Q_0, \quad \alpha_3 \pm \alpha_4 = im_{3,4} + Q_0$$

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$S^2 \times S^1$  is a codimension 2 defect  $\rightarrow$  degenerate *id*-correlator

# $\mathcal{N} = 1$ theory on $S^5$

$$\omega_1^2|z_1|^2 + \omega_2^2|z_2|^2 + \omega_3^2|z_3|^2 = 1$$

Coulomb branch localisation yields: [Kallen-Zabzine],  
[Hosomichi-Seong-Terashima],[Imamura],[Kim-Kim-Kim],[Lockart-Vafa],

$$Z_{S^5} = \int d\vec{\sigma} \ Z_{cl}(\vec{\sigma}, \tau; \vec{\omega}) \ Z_{1loop}(\vec{\sigma}, \vec{m}; \vec{\omega}) \\ \times Z_{inst}^{5d,I}(\vec{\sigma}, \vec{m}, z; q, t) \ Z_{inst}^{5d,II}(\vec{\sigma}, \vec{m}, z; q, t) \ Z_{inst}^{5d,III}(\vec{\sigma}, \vec{m}, z; q, t)$$

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- ▶ Instantons comes with equivariant parameters

$$(q, t) : \left( e^{2\pi i \frac{\omega_2}{\omega_1}}, e^{-2\pi i \frac{\omega_3}{\omega_1}} \right)_I, \quad \left( e^{2\pi i \frac{\omega_1}{\omega_2}}, e^{-2\pi i \frac{\omega_3}{\omega_2}} \right)_{II}, \quad \left( e^{2\pi i \frac{\omega_1}{\omega_3}}, e^{-2\pi i \frac{\omega_2}{\omega_3}} \right)_{III}$$

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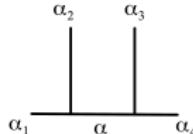
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Conjecture:  $Z_{S^5}$  correspond to non-degenerate correlators with  $\mathcal{Vir}_{qt} \otimes \mathcal{Vir}_{qt} \otimes \mathcal{Vir}_{qt}$  symmetry and  $S$ -pairing 3-point function.

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- 1loop vs 3-point function:

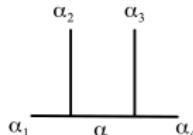
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 $\alpha_3 + \alpha_4 = im_3 + E$ ,  $\alpha_3 - \alpha_4 = im_4$ .

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$$Z_{inst}^{5d, SCQCD} = \mathcal{F}_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha \alpha_3 \alpha_4}^{qt}$$

- 1loop vs 3-point function:

$$\mathcal{Z}_{1\text{loop}}^{\text{vect}}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^4 \mathcal{Z}_{1\text{-loop}}^{\text{hyper}}(\sigma, m_i, F) = C_S(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha) C_S(E - \alpha, \alpha_3, \alpha_4)$$

with dictionary:  $\alpha = i\sigma + \frac{E}{2}$ ,  $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = im_1 + E$ ,  $\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 = im_2$   
 $\alpha_3 + \alpha_4 = im_3 + E$ ,  $\alpha_3 - \alpha_4 = im_4$ .

$S_b^3$  is a codimension 2 defect  $\rightarrow$  degenerate  $S$ -correlator

Degeneration check: [Nieri, Pasquetti, Passerini, to appear]

For  $\alpha_2 \rightarrow -\omega_3/2$  we have  $\alpha \rightarrow \alpha^\pm = \alpha_1 \pm \omega_3/2$  and

$$Z_{S^5}^{SQCD} \rightarrow Z_{S_b^3}^{SQED}$$

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In details

$$\int d\alpha Z_{1loop} \rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^2 G_{1loop}^{(i)}, \quad Z_{cl}|_{\alpha^\pm} \rightarrow G_{cl}^{(1,2)},$$

$$Z_{inst}^{5d,I} = \sum_{Y_1, Y_2} (\dots) \rightarrow \sum_{0,1^n} (\dots) = \mathcal{Z}_V^{(1,2)}, \quad Z_{inst}^{5d,II} = \sum_{W_1, W_2} (\dots) \rightarrow \sum_{0,n} (\dots) = \tilde{\mathcal{Z}}_V^{(1,2)},$$

$$Z_{inst}^{5d,III} = \sum_{X_1, X_2} (\dots) \rightarrow \sum_{0,0} (\dots) = 1$$

so that

$$Z_{inst}^{5d,I} Z_{inst}^{5d,II} Z_{inst}^{5d,III} \rightarrow \left| \left| \mathcal{Z}_V^{(1,2)} \right| \right|_S^2$$

and similarly for permutations of  $\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3$ .

Degenerate correlators/ $\mathcal{Z}_S^{SQED}$  are cross-symmetry/flop invariant.  
→ Hints of cross-symmetry/S-duality invariance for  $S^5$  theory

## Conclusions and Outlook

- ▶ some evidence for a  $q$ -CFT-like structure of 5d and 3d partition functions
- ▶ use gauge theory to study  $q$ -CFT
  - ▶ consider other pairings to construct correlators
  - ▶ test of crossing symmetry in the non-degenerate case
- ▶ use  $q$ -CFT to study gauge theory
  - ▶ construct Verlinde loop operators and study their gauge theory meaning