

M5-branes wrapped on Riemann surfaces

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Plan

- Motivations - results
- N=2 theories from wrapped M5-branes
- N=1 theories and gravity dual
- Anomaly polynomial and central charges
- 3d theories
- Conclusions - future directions

Based on: FB, Benvenuti, Tachikawa 0906.0359

FB, Tachikawa, Wecht 0909.1327

Alday, FB, Tachikawa 0909.4776

Motivations

We study the effective 4d theories from M5-branes wrapped on Riemann surfaces.

- Understanding the M5-brane theory
 - 1 M5: self-dual $B_{\mu\nu}$, $\phi^{i=1\dots 5}$, $\psi^{a=1,2}$
 - N M5: 6d $N=(2,0)$ SCFT with $SO(5)_R$
No Lagrangian

Motivations

- S-duality

Four examples:

- N=4 SU(N) SYM: SL(2,Z) S-duality
- N=2 SU(2) SQCD with 4 flavors
SL(2,Z) S-duality
- N=2 SU(3) SQCD with 6 flavors
 $\Gamma^0(2)$ S-duality + Argyres-Seiberg duality to
SU(2) w/ 1 flavor, coupled to E₆ SCFT
- N=1 SU(N) SQCD w/ 2N flavors + quartic W
Seiberg duality

Motivations

- New isolated SCFT *without* Lagrangian:
generalize $E_{6,7,8}$ SCFT's
of Minahan-Nemeschansky
- BPS quantities exactly computable via
2d - 4d correspondence with Liouville/Toda
AGT relations

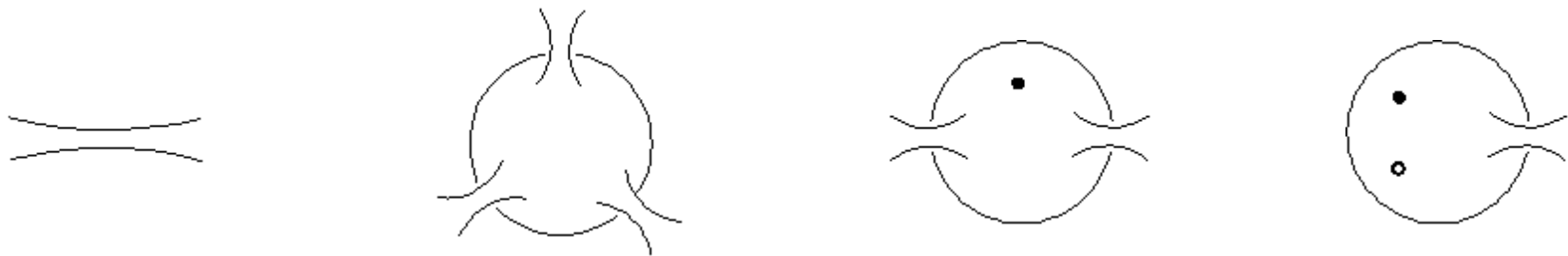
Alday Gaiotto Tachikawa

M5-branes on Σ with N=2

- N M5-branes wrapped on a Riemann surface $\Sigma_{g,n}$ with n punctures, with N=2 twist (\rightarrow the normal bundle is $T^*\Sigma$)
 \rightarrow N=2 SCFTs whose diagram "reproduces" the surface Σ

Gaiotto

- A Riemann surface with punctures admits pant decompositions in terms of tubes and triskelions:

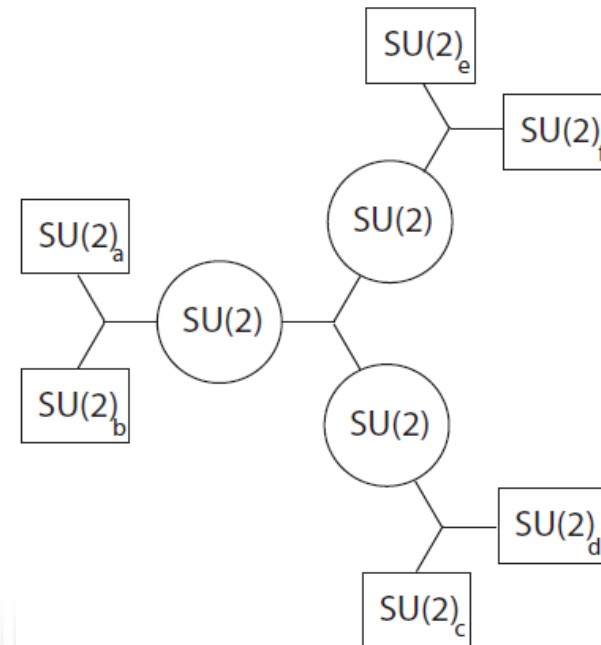
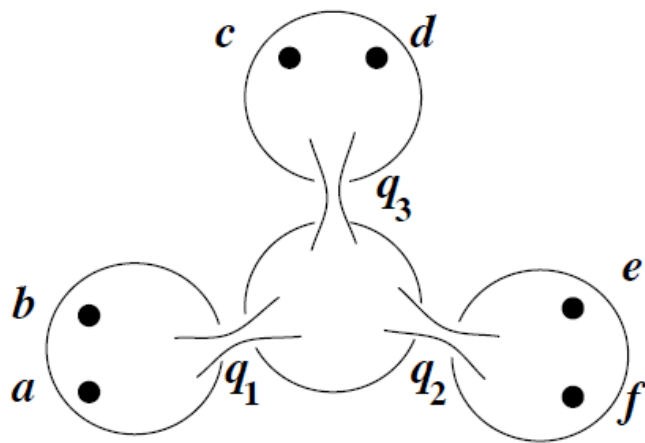
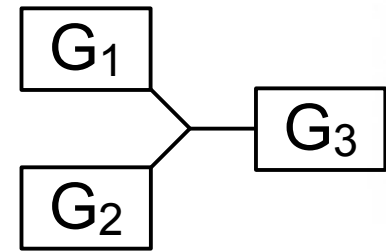


M5-branes on Σ with $N=2$

- For each decomposition, consider a limit (for the complex structure) with very long tubes
- Long tube \rightarrow weakly coupled gauge group
The triskelion is *not* weakly coupled: isolated SCFT
- What is the puncture?
 - defect of 6d theory (some field diverges)
 - transverse M5-branes \rightarrow flavors, global symmetries
 - alternative IIB description...
- A triskelion is an interacting SCFT (without coupling) with $G_1 \times G_2 \times G_3$ global symmetry
- Tubes gauge global symmetries together

Triskelions

- 4 hyper \rightarrow $SU(2) \times SU(2) \times SU(2)$
- N^2 hyper \rightarrow $SU(N) \times U(1) \times SU(N)$
- E_6 theory \rightarrow $E_6 \supset SU(3) \times SU(3) \times SU(3)$



Sicilian theories

- all $SU(2)$ quivers with bi- or tri-fundamental matter (L)
- all Hanany-Witten constructions in IIA with D4/NS5
→ linear and elliptic quivers (L)
e.g.: $SU(N)$ SQCD with $2N$ flavors, conifold theory, ...
- all superconformal linear quivers of SU groups (L)
- $E_{6,7,8}$ of Minahan-Nemeschenski and higher rank (non-L)
- theories on pure M5s (non-L)
→ dual to Maldacena-Nunez gravity solutions
- generalization to SO/Sp gauge groups
- much more...

M5-branes on Σ with N=2

- The complex structure moduli space of $\Sigma_{g,n}$ is

$$M_{g,n} = \widetilde{M}_{g,n} / \Gamma \quad \Gamma = \pi_1(M_{g,n})$$

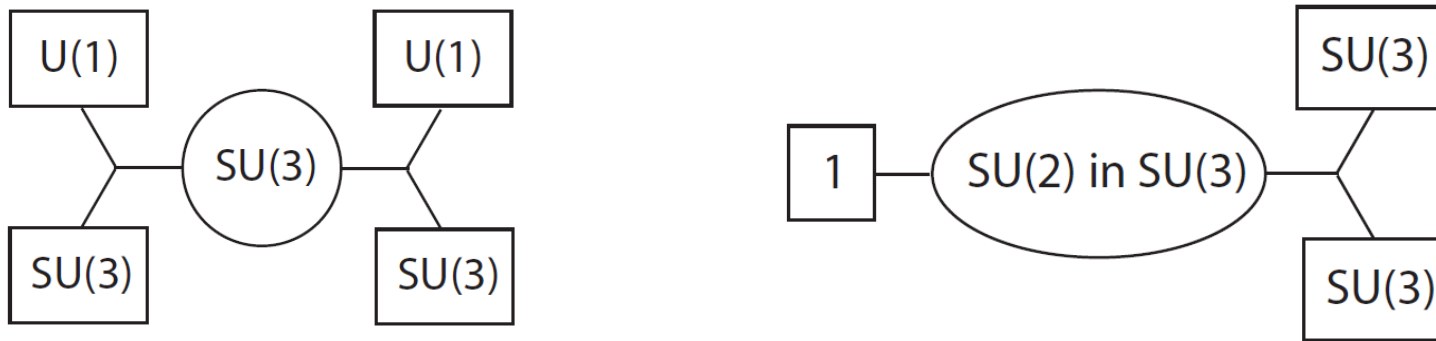
Teichmüller/(large diffeo x permutations)

It equals the parameter space of marginal couplings of the 4d theory (Γ being S-duality of couplings)

- Different pant decompositions give dual descriptions, à la Argyres-Seiberg

Argyres-Seiberg duality

- Argyres-Seiberg duality in $N=2$ $SU(3)$ SQCD w/ $N_f = 6$



in terms of Minahan-Nemeschansky E_6 theory.



The Coulomb branch

- N=2 supersymmetry: $T^*\Sigma$ hyperKähler ($\frac{1}{2}$ SUSY) with M5-branes wrapping a meromorphic curve ($\frac{1}{2}$ SUSY) of degree N :

$$x^N = \phi_N(z) + \phi_{N-1}(z)x + \dots + \phi_2(z)x^{N-2}$$

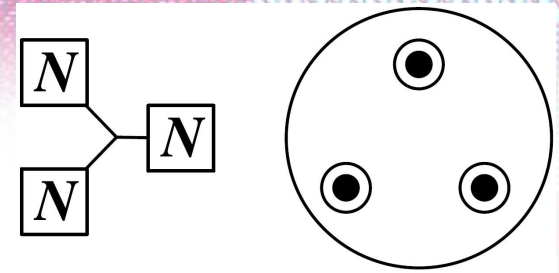
$\phi_j(z)$: degree- j differentials,
poles of order up to $j-1$ at the punctures

Eq: Seiberg-Witten curve. SW differential: $\lambda_{SW} = x$

- **Coulomb branch**: moduli space of multi-differentials with allowed poles. Riemann-Roch:

$$\text{moduli of } \phi_j = (2j-1)(g-1) + \sum_{p=1}^n d_{p,j}$$

T_N theory



- Theory on N M5-branes wrapped on S^2 with 3 “maximal” punctures
- N=2 isolated SCFT, with $SU(N)^3$ flavor symmetry
- Coulomb branch parametrized by dimension- k operators

$$u_k^{(i)} \quad \text{for } k = 3 \dots N, \quad i = 1 \dots k-2 \quad \text{flavor singlets}$$

- Higgs branch (?) contains three dimension-2 operators

$$\mu_{i=1,2,3} \quad \text{adjoint of } SU(N)_i \text{ flavor}$$

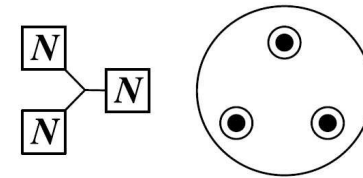
Examples:

T_2 - 4 free hypers $Q_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$

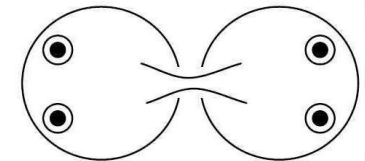
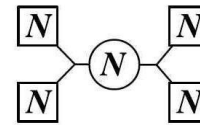
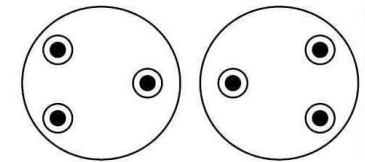
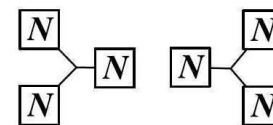
T_3 - E_6 theory of Minahan-Nemeschansky

Maldacena-Nunez + max punctures

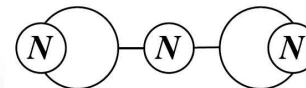
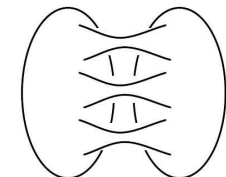
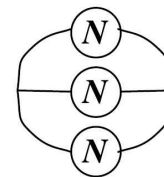
- Building blocks:
 T_N theory



- Glue (gauge) maximal punctures together (\rightarrow SCFT)



- Generate *Sicilian* theories:
 $T_{g,n}$



Flavor symmetry at the puncture

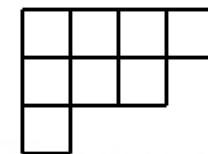
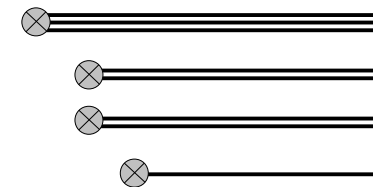
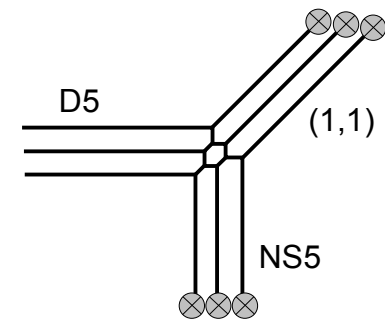
FB, Benvenuti, Tachikawa

- Understand classification of pole structures and associated flavor symmetry from IIB construction.

Focus on T_N theory:

(p,q) 5-brane webs compactified on S^1
realize the T_N theory

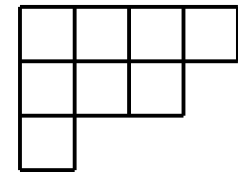
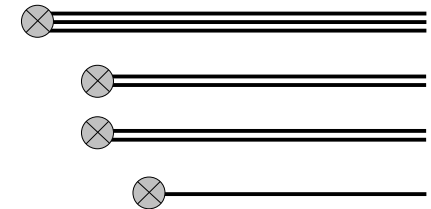
- Generalization: end multiple 5-branes on the same 7-brane
- Punctures classified by *partitions of N*
 \leftrightarrow Young diagrams with N boxes



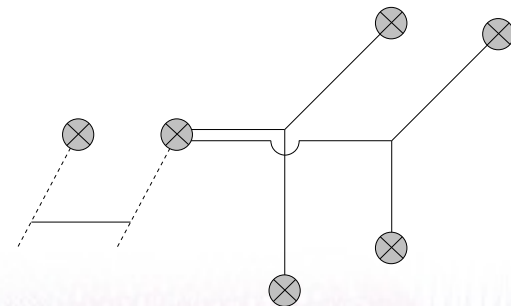
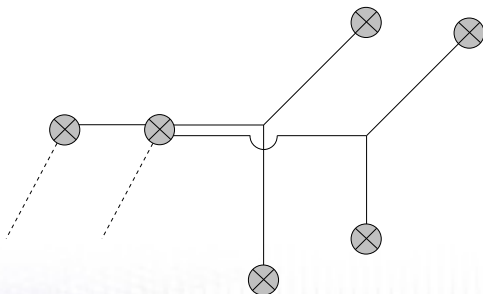
Flavor symmetry at the puncture

- Each stack of n_k identical objects
 $\rightarrow U(n_k)$ symmetry:

$$S \left[\prod_{k \geq 1} U(n_k) \right]$$



- Non-maximal punctures as effective theories along the Higgs branch of the maximal puncture



M5-branes on Σ with N=1

FB, Tachikawa, Wecht

- Worldvolume point of view: wrap the branes with N=1 twist

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{SO}(5)_R \rightarrow \text{SO}(4) \simeq \text{SU}(2) \times \text{SU}(2)_F \\ \phantom{\text{SO}(5)_R \rightarrow} \phantom{\text{SO}(4)} \phantom{\text{SU}(2)} \phantom{\text{SU}(2)_F} \\ \phantom{\text{SO}(5)_R \rightarrow} \phantom{\text{SO}(4)} \phantom{\text{SU}(2)} \phantom{\text{SU}(2)_F} \downarrow \\ \phantom{\text{SO}(5)_R \rightarrow} \phantom{\text{SO}(4)} \phantom{\text{SU}(2)} \phantom{\text{SU}(2)_F} \text{U}(1)_R \end{array}$$

embed the spin connection $\text{U}(1)_\Sigma$ into $\text{U}(1)_R$

- We expect a new infinite family of N=1 SCFTs, with intricate net of S-dualities
- Parameters: complex structure moduli space of Σ with $\text{SU}(2)$ flat bundle

Massive deformed $T_{n,g}$

- Field theory point of view: deform N=2 to N=1 with mass for the adjoint scalars in vector multiplets

- Closed class under S-duality:
only gauge groups provide dimension-2 operators $\text{Tr } \Phi_s^2$

- N=2 SUSY requires
$$W = \sum_s \text{Tr } \Phi_s (\mu_{a,i} + \mu_{b,j})$$

- Mass deformation
$$\delta W = \sum_s m_s \text{Tr } \Phi_s^2$$

- The theory flows to a fixed point with "quartic" superpotential

$$\rightarrow W = \sum_s \frac{1}{m_s} \text{Tr} (\mu_{a,i} + \mu_{b,j})^2$$

NSVZ formula

- The all-loop beta-function is computed by the NSVZ formula
It depends on the representation and anomalous dimension of fundamental fields.

→ what with non-Lagrangian sector?

$$\beta_{\frac{8\pi^2}{g^2}} = 3 T[\mathbf{adj}] - \sum_i T[\mathbf{r}_i](1 - \gamma_i) + K$$

$$K \delta^{ab} = 3 \text{Tr} R_{N=1} T^a T^b$$

← 't Hooft anomaly

- The low-energy N=1 R-symmetry is a combination of $U(1)_R \times SU(2)_R$

$$R_{IR} = \frac{1}{2} R_{N=2} + I_3$$

Flavor current central charge $k_G \delta^{ab} = -2 \text{Tr} R_{N=2} T^a T^b$

T_N and sons: $k_G = 2N$

Conformal manifold

- Compute the dimension of the conformal manifold (exactly marginal deformations) à la Leigh-Strassler:
 - write down all marginal operators, *e.g.* $\text{Tr } \mu^2$, $\text{Tr } \mu\mu$, $\text{Tr } W_\alpha W^\alpha$
 - count real relations from vanishing beta-functions
 - count phases removed by field redefinitions
(Resembles a Kahler quotient...)
- No punctures: $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} M_C = 6(g-1)$
- Maximal punctures: $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} M_C = 6(g-1) + 2n_N$

Gravity dual

- Maldacena-Nunez solution with N=1 twist:

$$w[AdS_5] \times w[H^2] \times \tilde{S}^3 \times I$$

squashed S^3 preserves $U(1)_R \times SU(2)_F$, fibered over H^2

- To get compact Riemann surface, mod out by Fuchsian group:

$$C = H^2 / \Gamma \quad \Gamma \subset SL(2, \mathbb{R})$$

- $SU(2)_F$ "unwanted" symmetry

Introduce $SU(2)_F$ Wilson lines (N=1) on C :

$$\tilde{S}^3 \rightarrow E \rightarrow H^2 \quad E_C = E / \Gamma_W \quad \Gamma_W \subset SL(2, \mathbb{R}) \times SU(2)_F$$

- Moduli space of Σ_g with $SU(2)$ Wilson lines: $6(g - 1) = \dim M_C$

Gravity dual with maximal punctures

- The gravity dual (Gaiotto Maldacena) of the maximal puncture is a Z_N orbifold singularity

$$(z, x_1, x_2) \rightarrow (e^{2\pi i/N} z, e^{-2\pi i/N} x_1, x_2)$$

- The $N=1$ twist alone would give the action

$$(z, x_1, x_2) \rightarrow (e^{2\pi i/N} z, e^{-\pi i/N} x_1, e^{-\pi i/N} x_2)$$

→ the $SU(2)_F$ monodromy has fixed conjugacy class:

$$(x_1, x_2) \rightarrow (e^{-2\pi i/N} x_1, e^{2\pi i/N} x_2)$$

- Moduli space of $\Sigma_{g,n}$ with $SU(2)$ Wilson lines and constrained monodromies:

$$6(g - 1) + 2n_N = \dim M_C$$

Central charges from SUGRA

- Central charges computed by AdS_5 radius and curvature corrections
- Packaged in the anomaly polynomial of the 6d theory:

$$I_8[A_{N-1}] = \frac{N-1}{48} \left[p_2(\mathbf{N}) - p_2(\mathbf{T}) + \frac{1}{4} (p_1(\mathbf{N}) - p_1(\mathbf{T}))^2 \right] + \frac{N^3 - N}{24} p_2(\mathbf{N})$$

Witten; Harvey Minasian Moore

- Twist \rightarrow embedding of $U(1)_R$ bundle F into the normal bundle \mathbf{N} , impose $N=1$ SUSY and integrate on Σ
- Compare with the anomaly polynomial of the 4d theory:

$$I_6 = \frac{\text{Tr } R^3}{6} c_1(F)^3 + \frac{\text{Tr } R}{24} c_1(F) p_1(\mathbf{T}_4)$$

Central charges from SUGRA

- *Get:* $\text{Tr } R = N(g - 1)$, $\text{Tr } R^3 = N^3(g - 1)$
- Exploiting SUSY, reproduce the central charges:

$$a = \frac{3}{32} [3 \text{Tr } R^3 - \text{Tr } R] \quad c = \frac{1}{32} [9 \text{Tr } R^3 - 5 \text{Tr } R]$$

→ matching with field theory

$$a = (g - 1) \frac{9N^3 - 3N - 6}{32} \quad c = (g - 1) \frac{9N^3 - 5N - 4}{32}$$



2d – 4d correspondence

- The Nekrasov partition function of the 4d theory obtained wrapping M5s on $\Sigma_{g,n}$ with equivariant deformations $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2$ is equal to the conformal blocks of Liouville/Toda theory on $\Sigma_{g,n}$ with parameter $b^2 = \varepsilon_1 / \varepsilon_2$

Alday Gaiotto Tachikawa

- More observables: Wilson - 't Hooft loops, surface operators, ...

Drukker Morrison Okuda

Alday Gaiotto Gukov Tachikawa Verlinde

Drukker Gomis Okuda Teschner

- Hard to understand the relation between $\varepsilon_{1,2}$ of Ω -background and central charge of Liouville/Toda (quantum property)

Bonelli Tanzini

Dijkgraaf Vafa

Witten Nekrasov

Toda central charge from 6d anomaly

Alday FB Tachikawa

- Compute the 2d central charge compactifying the anomaly polynomial.
Compactify the 6d $N = (2,0)$ theory on $\Sigma \times X_4$.
Exploit $N = (0,2)$ of the 2d theory on Σ

- 6d anomaly polynomial for ADE series without center of mass:

$$I_8[G] = \frac{r_G}{48} \left[p_2(\mathbf{N}) - p_2(\mathbf{T}) + \frac{1}{4} (p_1(\mathbf{N}) - p_1(\mathbf{T}))^2 \right] + \frac{d_G h_G}{24} p_2(\mathbf{N})$$

Intriligator; Yi

- First step: embed the spin connection of X_4 in $SO(5)_R$.
→ $N = (0,2)$ SUSY in 2d
- Integrate on X_4 : dependence on $\chi(X_4)$ and $P_1(X_4)$

- Compare with 2d anomaly polynomial, and use N=(0,2) SUSY:

$$I_4 = \frac{c_R}{6} c_1(F)^2 + \frac{c_L - c_R}{24} p_1(T_2)$$

We get the central charges of the 2d theory on Σ .

- Nekrasov's partition function is an equivariant integral on $X_4 = \mathbb{R}^4$ with equivariant parameters $\epsilon_{1,2}$ with respect to a $U(1)^2$ action. Integrated equivariant classes (use localization formula):

$$P_1(\mathbb{R}^4) = \int \epsilon_1^2 + \epsilon_2^2 = \frac{\epsilon_1^2 + \epsilon_2^2}{\epsilon_1 \epsilon_2} \quad \chi(\mathbb{R}^4) = \int \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2 = 1$$

- Second step: embed the spin connection of Σ into $U(1)_R$
 → topological twisting of right sector $b^2 = \epsilon_1 / \epsilon_2$

$$c_R \rightarrow 0 \quad c_L = r_G + \left(b + \frac{1}{b}\right)^2 d_G h_G$$



3d Sicilian theories

FB Tachikawa Xie, work in progress

- Compactify N=2 4d theories on S^1

3d Sicilian theories flow to N=4 SCFT fixed point

Coulomb branch & Higgs branch, both hyperKahler

- Coulomb: T^{2n} fibration over 4d Coulomb branch
- Higgs: same as 4d Higgs branch

- M5 on $S^1 \times \Sigma \rightarrow$ D4 (5d SYM) on Σ

Gaiotto Moore Neitzke

3d Coulomb (finite R): Hitchin moduli space on Σ (with punctures)

$$F - \phi \wedge \phi = 0$$
$$D\phi = D^* \phi = 0$$

- The mirror: quiver theory!
- Hitchin moduli space around fixed point is a quiver variety:
Higgs branch of mirror quiver.

Future directions

- Higgs branch (of T_N)
- more on N=1: chiral theories
compactify some 6d N=(1,0) theories
- 2d - 4d correspondence: extension to N=1
surface operators, domain walls, ...
- 3d Sicilian theories, CS couplings,
mirror symmetry, SUGRA solutions...