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# S-duality, the 4d Superconformal Index and 2d Topological QFT

Leonardo Rastelli

with A. Gadde, E. Pomoni, S. Razamat and W. Yan  
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## A new paradigm for 4d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ susy gauge theories (Gaiotto, ...)

Compactification of the  $(2, 0)$  6d theory on a 2d surface  $\Sigma$ , with punctures.  $\implies$

$\mathcal{N} = 2$  **superconformal theories** in four dimensions.



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$\mathcal{N} = 2$  **superconformal theories** in four dimensions.

- Space of complex structures  $\Sigma =$  parameter space of the 4d theory.
- Moore-Seiberg groupoid of  $\Sigma =$  (generalized) 4d S-duality

Vast generalization of “ $\mathcal{N} = 4$  S-duality as modular group of  $T^2$ ”.



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Vast generalization of “ $\mathcal{N} = 4$  S-duality as modular group of  $T^2$ ”.

**6=4+2**: beautiful and unexpected 4d/2d connections. For ex.,

- Correlators of Liouville/Toda on  $\Sigma$  compute the 4d partition functions (on  $S^4$ )

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In this talk we will uncover another surprising connection:

- A protected 4d quantity, the [superconformal index](#), is computed by [topological QFT](#) on  $\Sigma$ .

A “microscopic” 2d definition of the TQFT still lacking. We will define it in terms of its abstract operator algebra.



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- A protected 4d quantity, the [superconformal index](#), is computed by [topological QFT](#) on  $\Sigma$ .

A “microscopic” 2d definition of the TQFT still lacking. We will define it in terms of its abstract operator algebra.

[Index](#) = twisted partition function on  $S^3 \times S^1$ . Independent of the gauge theory moduli and invariant under S-duality.

It encodes the protected spectrum of the 4d theory. Useful tool.

- Computing the index in different duality frames gives very non-trivial checks of Gaiotto’s dualities.
- Conversely, assuming S-duality we will explicitly compute the index of 4d theories lacking a Lagrangian description.
- Surprising connection with elliptic hypergeometric function, an active area of mathematical research.



# Outline

Review of superconformal index

$\mathcal{N} = 2 : A_1$  generalized quivers

S-duality for  $SU(2)$  theories

The index of the  $A_1$  theories and TQFT interpretation.

Index as elliptic hypergeometric integral

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Index of  $E_6$  theory

$A_2$  TQFT

$\mathcal{N} = 4$  index

$\mathcal{N} = 1$  index

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## The Superconformal Index [Romelsberger; Kinney, Maldacena, Minwalla, Raju 2005]

The SC Index counts (with signs) the (semi)short multiplets, up to equivalence relations that sets to zero  $\oplus_i \text{Short}_i = \text{Long}$ .

$$\mathcal{I}(t, v, y, \dots) = \text{Tr}(-1)^F t^{2(\Delta+j_2)} y^{2j_1} v^{-(r+R)} \dots$$

Consider a 4d SCFT. On  $S^3 \times \mathbb{R}$  (radial quantization),  $Q^\dagger = S$ .

- The superconformal algebra implies (taking  $Q = \bar{Q}_{2+}$ )

$$2\{S, Q\} = \Delta - 2j_2 - 2R + r \equiv H \geq 0.$$

where  $E$  is the conformal dimension,  $(j_1, j_2)$  the  $SU(2)_1 \otimes SU(2)_2$  Lorentz spins, and  $(R, r)$  the quantum numbers under the  $SU(2)_R \otimes U(1)_r$  R-symmetry.

- The SC index is the Witten index

$$\mathcal{I} = \text{Tr}(-1)^F e^{-\beta H + M}$$

Here  $M$  is a generic combination of charges (weighted by chemical potentials) which commutes with  $S$  and  $Q$ .

- States with  $H > 0$  come in pairs, **boson + fermion**, and cancel out, so  $\mathcal{I}$  is  $\beta$ -independent.

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## The Index as a Matrix Integral

If the theory has **Lagrangian** description there is a simple recipe to compute the index.

- One defines a **single-letter** partition function as the index evaluated on the set of the basic objects (letters) in the theory with  $H = 0$  and in a definite representation of the gauge and flavor groups:

$$f^{\mathcal{R}_j}(t, y, v),$$

where  $\mathcal{R}_j$  labels the representation.

- Then the index is computed by enumerating the gauge-invariant words,

$$\mathcal{I}(t, y, v, \mathbf{V}) = \int [d\mathbf{U}] \exp \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_j f^{\mathcal{R}_j}(t^n, y^n, v^n) \cdot \chi_{\mathcal{R}_j}(\mathbf{U}^n, \mathbf{V}^n) \right),$$

Here  $\mathbf{U}$  is the matrix of the gauge group,  $\mathbf{V}$  the matrix of the flavor group and  $\mathcal{R}_j$  label representations of the fields under the flavor and gauge groups.

- $\chi_{\mathcal{R}_j}(\mathbf{U})$  is the character of the group element in representation  $\mathcal{R}_j$ .
- The measure of integration  $[d\mathbf{U}]$  is the invariant Haar measure.

$$\int [d\mathbf{U}] \prod_{j=1}^n \chi_{\mathcal{R}_j}(\mathbf{U}) = \# \text{of singlets in } \mathcal{R}_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{R}_n.$$

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$A_2$  TQFT

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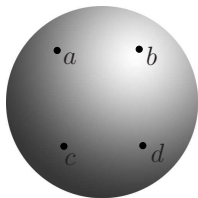
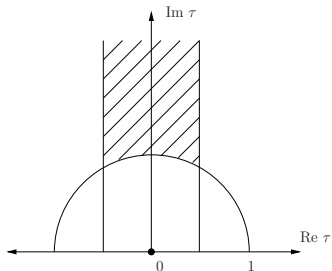
$A_2$  TQFT

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## S-duality for $\mathcal{N} = 2$ $SU(2)$ SYM with $N_f = 4$



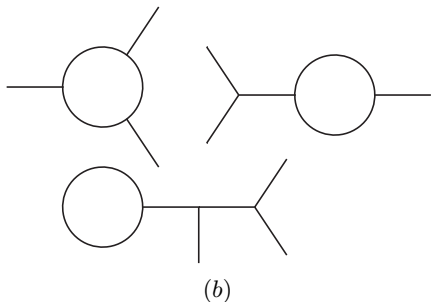
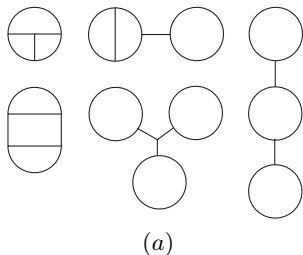
- S-duality  $\tau \rightarrow -\frac{1}{\tau}$  is accompanied by an  $SO(8)$  triality transformation
- $2 \sim \bar{2}$  and thus we have **eight**  $\mathcal{N} = 1$   $\chi$ sf in fundamental of  $SU(2)$ .
- Generalized quivers: internal edges = gauge groups; external edges = flavour groups; vertices = Tri-Fundamental  $\chi$ sf.
- Triality permutes the four  $SU(2)$  flavor factors.

**On the diagrams this is implemented as channel crossing.**



## Generalized $SU(2)$ quivers

Some examples:



The generalized quivers in (a) arise from different pairs-of-paint decomposition of the same Riemann surface. The corresponding 4d theories are related by S-dualities. They must have the **same** superconformal index. The same applies to (b).



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## The index for the $A_1$ theories

The index is read off from the quiver

$$\mathcal{I} = \int \left[ \prod_{I=1}^{N_G} dU_I \right] e^{\sum_{I \in \text{Edges}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} f_{\text{adj}}(t^n, y^n, v^n) \chi_{\text{adj}}(U_I^n)}$$

$$e^{\sum_{\{I, J, K\} \in \text{Vertices}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} f_{3\text{-fund}}(t^n, y^n, v^n) \chi_{3\text{-fund}}(U_I^n, U_J^n, U_K^n)}$$

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$$e^{\sum_{\{I, J, K\} \in \text{Vertices}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} f_{3-fund}(t^n, y^n, v^n) \chi_{3-fund}(U_I^n, U_J^n, U_K^n)}$$

Define a “metric” and “structure constants”

$$C_{U_I U_J U_K} = e^{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} f_{3-fund}(t^n, y^n, v^n, \dots) \chi_{3-fund}(U_I^n, U_J^n, U_K^n)},$$

$$\eta^{U_I U_J} = e^{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} f_{adj}(t^n, y^n, v^n, \dots) \chi_{adj}(U_I^n)} \hat{\delta}(U_I, U_J).$$

so that the index can be written as

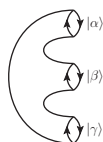
$$\mathcal{I} = \prod_{\{I, J, K\} \in \mathcal{V}} C_{U_I U_J U_K} \prod_{\{M, N\} \in \mathcal{G}} \eta^{U_M U_N},$$

where indices are contracted by integration over the Haar measure.

“ $N_F$ -point correlator, with the quiver as a Feynman diagram”.



## TQFT interpretation



(a)



(b)

TQFT interpretation of the structure constants  $C_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$  and of the metric  $\eta_{\alpha\beta}$



## TQFT interpretation



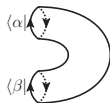
(a)



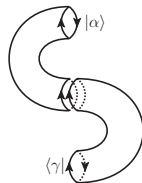
(b)

TQFT interpretation of the structure constants  $C_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$  and of the metric  $\eta_{\alpha\beta}$

- The structure constants and the metric have to satisfy a set of axioms, which guarantee independence of correlators from the way one decomposes the Riemann surface into “pairs of pants”.
- Most of the axioms are simply verified, they reduce to the statement that the indices are lowered/raised with the metric.



(a)



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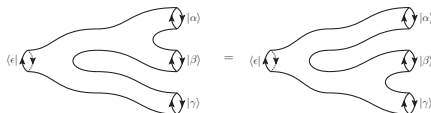


(b)



The one non-trivial condition is **associativity of the algebra**

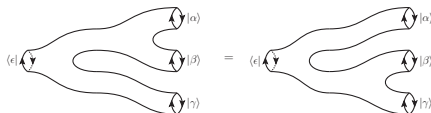
$$C_{\alpha\beta}{}^{\delta} C_{\delta\gamma}{}^{\epsilon} = C_{\beta\gamma}{}^{\delta} C_{\delta\alpha}{}^{\epsilon}$$



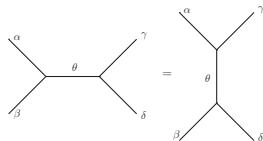


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$$C_{\alpha\beta}{}^{\delta} C_{\delta\gamma}{}^{\epsilon} = C_{\beta\gamma}{}^{\delta} C_{\delta\alpha}{}^{\epsilon}$$



Associativity of the algebra is equivalent to invariance of the index under channel crossing of the graph and thus is implied by S-duality



Crucially depends on the field content.



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$\mathcal{N} = 1$  index



## Index of a chiral superfield = elliptic Gamma function

- Mathematicians have a name for the index of the chiral superfield:  
elliptic Gamma function

$$\Gamma(z; p, q) \equiv \prod_{j, k \geq 0} \frac{1 - z^{-1} p^{j+1} q^{k+1}}{1 - z p^j q^k}.$$

- The index of a  $\chi$ sf is (*Dolan and Osborn - 2008*)

$$\exp \left[ \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} f^{chi} \left( t^k, v^k, y^k \right) \right] = \Gamma \left( \frac{t^2}{\sqrt{v}}; p, q \right), \quad p = t^3 y, \quad q = t^3 y^{-1}.$$





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- The Elliptic Beta integral is a generalization of the celebrated Euler Beta integral (*Spiridonov - 2001*)

$$\kappa \oint \frac{dz}{2\pi iz} \frac{\prod_{i=1}^6 \Gamma(t_i z^{\pm 1}; p, q)}{\Gamma(z^{\pm 2}; p, q)} = \prod_{i < j} \Gamma(t_i t_j; p, q) \rightarrow \int_0^1 dt t^{\alpha-1} (1-t)^{\beta-1} = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}.$$



## Elliptic Cookbook

Recall the character of the (anti)fundamental representation of  $SU(n)$

$$\chi_f = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i, \quad \chi_{\bar{f}} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{a_i}, \quad \prod_{i=1}^n a_i = 1.$$

- The index of a chiral multiplet in fundamental of  $SU(n)$

$$\prod_{i=1}^n \Gamma \left( \frac{t^2}{\sqrt{v}} a_i^{\pm 1}; p, q \right)$$



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$$\prod_{i=1}^n \Gamma\left(\frac{t^2}{\sqrt{v}} a_i^{\pm 1}; p, q\right)$$

- When an  $SU(n)$  symmetry is gauged we add a vector multiplet and integrate over the gauge group

$$\frac{[2\Gamma(t^2 v; p, q) \kappa]^{n-1}}{n!} \oint_{\mathbb{T}_{n-1}} \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} d\mu(a_i) \prod_{i \neq j} \frac{\Gamma(t^2 v a_i/a_j; p, q)}{\Gamma(a_i/a_j; p, q)} \dots \Bigg|_{\prod_{i=1}^n a_i = 1}$$

\* For brevity we will often omit the parameters  $p$  and  $q$  from the expression of the Gamma function.



## The index of the $SU(2)$ generalized quivers in terms of elliptic Gamma functions

The index of  $N_f = 4$   $SU(2)$  gauge theory can be written as

$$\kappa \Gamma(t^2 v) \oint \frac{dz}{2\pi i z} \frac{\Gamma(t^2 v z^{\pm 2})}{\Gamma(z^{\pm 2})} \Gamma\left(\frac{t^2}{\sqrt{v}} a^{\pm 1} b^{\pm 1} z^{\pm 1}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{t^2}{\sqrt{v}} c^{\pm 1} d^{\pm 1} z^{\pm 1}\right).$$



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This integral was recently shown to be invariant under exchanging  $a$  and  $c$  (more generally, under the Weyl group of  $F_4$ ) (van de Bult 2009)

**This checks associativity of the  $A_1$  TQFT, or equivalently, S-duality for the index of the  $A_1$  theories**

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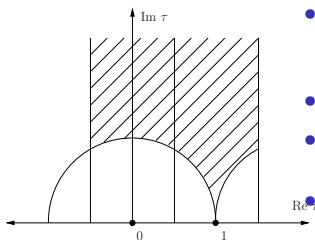
$A_2$  TQFT

$\mathcal{N} = 4$  index

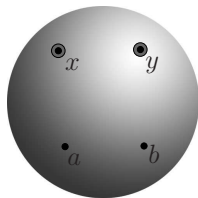
$\mathcal{N} = 1$  index



## $A_2$ generalized quivers

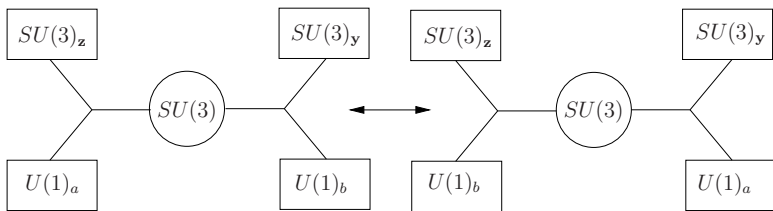


- Generalized quivers: internal edges =  $SU(3)$  gauge groups; external edges = flavour groups, either  $U(1)$  or  $SU(3)$ ; vertices = hypermultiplets.
- Basic example  $N_f = 6$   $SU(3)$  SYM
- S-duality group generated by  $\tau \rightarrow -\frac{1}{\tau}$  and  $\tau \rightarrow \tau + 2$ .
- Three possible degenerations of the four-punctured sphere: different types of punctures collide (2 possibilities), or two like punctures collide.
- “Usual” S-duality is the equivalence of the two degenerations when different types of punctures collide (interchange of the two flavor  $U(1)$  or  $SU(3)$  factors)
- **Argyres-Seiberg** duality brings us to the frame when two like punctures collide. The theory consists of an  $SU(2)$  vector multiplet coupled to a fundamental hyper and to a **strongly coupled rank-one SCFT with  $E_6$  flavor symmetry**.





## Weakly-coupled frame

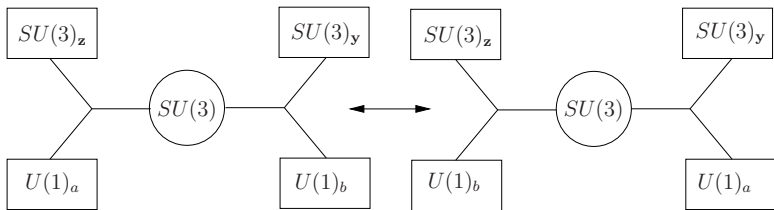


$$\mathcal{I}_{a,z;b,y} = \frac{2}{3} \kappa^2 \Gamma(t^2 v)^2 \oint_{\mathbb{T}^2} \prod_{i=1}^2 \frac{dx_i}{2\pi i x_i} \frac{\prod_{i=1}^3 \prod_{j=1}^3 \Gamma\left(\frac{t^2}{\sqrt{v}} \left(\frac{az_i}{x_j}\right)^{\pm 1}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{t^2}{\sqrt{v}} (by_i x_j)^{\pm 1}\right) \prod_{i \neq j} \Gamma\left(t^2 v \frac{x_i}{x_j}\right)}{\prod_{i \neq j} \Gamma\left(\frac{x_i}{x_j}\right)}.$$





## Weakly-coupled frame



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S-duality implies symmetry under  $a \leftrightarrow b$

Checked perturbatively in  $t$  and analytically proved for  $t = v$ .

Using (Rains 2003)

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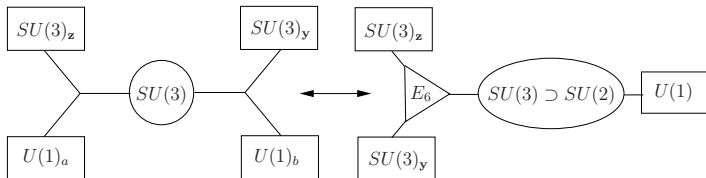
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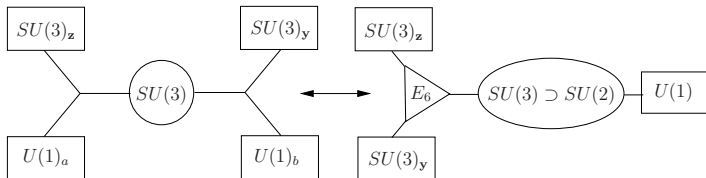


**The  $E_6$  SCFT has no Lagrangian description**

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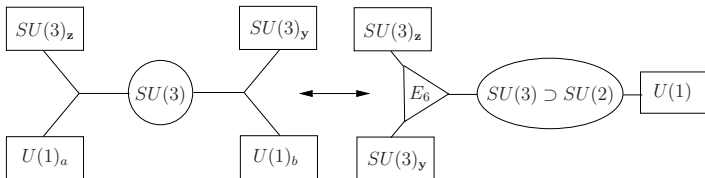


**The  $E_6$  SCFT has no Lagrangian description**

Let  $C^{(E_6)}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z})$  denote the index of rank one  $E_6$  SCFT.



## Strongly-coupled frame



**The  $E_6$  SCFT has no Lagrangian description**

Let  $C^{(E_6)}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z})$  denote the index of rank one  $E_6$  SCFT.

- In the strongly-coupled frame, the index reads

$$\hat{\mathcal{I}}(s, r; \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) = \kappa \Gamma(t^2 v) \oint_{\mathbb{T}} \frac{de}{2\pi i e} \frac{\Gamma(t^2 v e^{\pm 2})}{\Gamma(e^{\pm 2})} \Gamma\left(\frac{t^2}{\sqrt{v}} e^{\pm 1} s^{\pm 1}\right) C^{(E_6)}((e, r), \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}).$$

- **Argyres-Seiberg** duality implies

$$\hat{\mathcal{I}}(s, r; \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) = \mathcal{I}_{a, \mathbf{z}; b, \mathbf{y}} \quad s = (a/b)^{3/2}, \quad r = (ab)^{-1/2}.$$

where  $\mathcal{I}_{a, \mathbf{z}; b, \mathbf{y}}$  is the index in the weakly-coupled frame.



## Inverting the $SU(2)$ integral

$$\hat{\mathcal{I}}(s, r; \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) = \kappa \oint_{\mathbb{T}} \frac{de}{2\pi i e} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{t^2}{\sqrt{v}} e^{\pm 1} s^{\pm 1})}{\Gamma(\frac{t^4}{v}) \Gamma(e^{\pm 2})} \Gamma(t^2 v e^{\pm 2}) C^{(E_6)}((e, r), \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) .$$



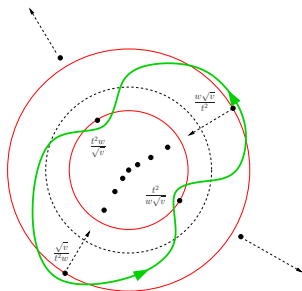
## Inverting the $SU(2)$ integral

$$\hat{\mathcal{I}}(s, r; \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) = \kappa \oint_{\mathbb{T}} \frac{de}{2\pi i e} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{t^2}{\sqrt{v}} e^{\pm 1} s^{\pm 1}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{t^4}{v}\right) \Gamma(e^{\pm 2})} \Gamma(t^2 v e^{\pm 2}) C^{(E_6)}((e, r), \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}).$$

**Inversion formula:** Under certain assumptions the following holds:  
 (Spiridonov-Warnaar 2004)

$$\hat{f}(w) = \kappa \oint_{C_w} \frac{ds}{2\pi i s} \delta\left(s, w; \left(\frac{t^2}{\sqrt{v}}\right)^{-1}\right) f(s) \Rightarrow f(s) = \kappa \oint_{\mathbb{T}} \frac{de}{2\pi i e} \delta\left(e, s; \frac{t^2}{\sqrt{v}}\right) \hat{f}(e).$$

The integration contour  $C_w$  is a deformation of the unit circle



## The index of the $E_6$ SCFT

Using the inversion formula we obtain the index of the  $E_6$  SCFT

$$\begin{aligned}
 C^{(E_6)}((w, r), \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) &= \frac{2\kappa^3 \Gamma(t^2 v)^2}{3 \Gamma(t^2 v w^{\pm 2})} \oint_{C_w} \frac{ds}{2\pi i s} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{\sqrt{v}}{t^2} w^{\pm 1} s^{\pm 1})}{\Gamma(\frac{v}{t^4}, s^{\pm 2})} \times \\
 &\times \frac{\oint_{\mathbb{T}^2} \prod_{i=1}^2 \frac{dx_i}{2\pi i x_i} \prod_{i=1}^3 \prod_{j=1}^3 \Gamma\left(\frac{t^2}{\sqrt{v}} \left(\frac{s^{\frac{1}{3}} z_i}{x_j r}\right)^{\pm 1}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{t^2}{\sqrt{v}} \left(\frac{s^{-\frac{1}{3}} y_i x_j}{r}\right)^{\pm 1}\right) \prod_{i \neq j} \Gamma\left(t^2 v \frac{x_i}{x_j}\right)}{\prod_{i \neq j} \Gamma\left(\frac{x_i}{x_j}\right)} .
 \end{aligned}$$



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## Spectrum of protected operators from the index

$$C^{(E_6)} \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k t^k.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_0 &= 1, \quad a_1 t = a_2 t^2 = a_3 t^3 = 0, \quad a_4 t^4 = \frac{t^4}{v} \chi_{\mathbf{78}}^{E_6}, \quad a_5 t^5 = 0, \quad a_6 t^6 = -t^6 \chi_{\mathbf{78}}^{E_6} - t^6 + t^6 v^3 \\
 a_7 t^7 &= \frac{t^7}{v} \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right) \chi_{\mathbf{78}}^{E_6} + \frac{t^7}{v} \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right) - t^7 v^2 \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right) \\
 a_8 t^8 &= \frac{t^8}{v^2} \left( \chi_{\text{sym}^2(\mathbf{78})}^{E_6} - \chi_{\mathbf{650}}^{E_6} - 1 \right) + t^8 v + t^8 v \\
 a_9 t^9 &= -t^9 \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right) \chi_{\mathbf{78}}^{E_6} - 2t^9 \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right) + t^9 v^3 \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right) \\
 a_{10} t^{10} &= -\frac{t^{10}}{v} \left( \chi_{\mathbf{78}}^{E_6} \chi_{\mathbf{78}}^{E_6} - \chi_{\mathbf{650}}^{E_6} - 1 \right) + \frac{t^{10}}{v} \left( y^2 + 1 + \frac{1}{y^2} \right) \chi_{\mathbf{78}}^{E_6} \\
 &\quad + \frac{t^{10}}{v} \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right)^2 - t^{10} v^2 \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right)^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

The index is  $E_6$  covariant

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## Spectrum of protected operators from the index

$$\mathcal{I}(t, v, y, \dots) = \text{Tr}(-1)^F t^{2(E+j_2)} y^{2j_1} v^{-(r+R)} \dots$$

$$a_0 = 1, \quad a_1 t = a_2 t^2 = a_3 t^3 = 0, \quad a_4 t^4 = \frac{t^4}{v} \chi_{\mathbf{78}}^{E_6}, \quad a_5 t^5 = 0, \quad a_6 t^6 = -t^6 \chi_{\mathbf{78}}^{E_6} - t^6 + t^6 v^3,$$

$$a_7 t^7 = \frac{t^7}{v} \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right) \chi_{\mathbf{78}}^{E_6} + \frac{t^7}{v} \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right) - t^7 v^2 \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right), \quad a_8 t^8 = \frac{t^8}{v^2} \left( \chi_{\text{sym}^2(\mathbf{78})}^{E_6} - \chi_{\mathbf{650}}^{E_6} - 1 \right) + t^8 v + t^8 v^3,$$

$$a_9 t^9 = -t^9 \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right) \chi_{\mathbf{78}}^{E_6} - 2t^9 \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right) + t^9 v^3 \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right)$$

$$a_{10} t^{10} = -\frac{t^{10}}{v} \left( \chi_{\mathbf{78}}^{E_6} \chi_{\mathbf{78}}^{E_6} - \chi_{\mathbf{650}}^{E_6} - 1 \right) + \frac{t^{10}}{v} \left( y^2 + 1 + \frac{1}{y^2} \right) \chi_{\mathbf{78}}^{E_6} + \frac{t^{10}}{v} \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right)^2 - t^{10} v^2 \left( y + \frac{1}{y} \right)^2.$$

$$\mathbb{X} \rightarrow \frac{t^4/v - t^6}{(1 - t^3 y)(1 - t^3/y)}, \quad u \rightarrow \frac{t^6 v^3 - t^7 v^2 (y + \frac{1}{y}) + t^8 v}{(1 - t^3 y)(1 - t^3/y)}, \quad T \rightarrow \frac{-t^6 + \frac{t^7}{v} (y + \frac{1}{y}) + t^8 v - t^9 (y + \frac{1}{y})}{(1 - t^3 y)(1 - t^3/y)}.$$

	$E$	$r$	$R$	$j_1$	$j_2$
$\mathbb{X}$	2	0	1	0	0
$u$	3	-3	0	0	0
$T$	2	0	0	0	0

Constraints :

$(\mathbb{X} \otimes \mathbb{X})|_{\mathbf{650} \oplus \mathbf{1}} = 0,$

$\mathbb{X} \otimes u = 0,$

$\mathbb{X} \otimes T = 0.$

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## Outline

Review of superconformal index

$\mathcal{N} = 2 : A_1$  generalized quivers

S-duality for  $SU(2)$  theories

The index of the  $A_1$  theories and TQFT interpretation.

Index as elliptic hypergeometric integral

$\mathcal{N} = 2: A_2$  generalized quivers

Index of  $E_6$  theory

$A_2$  TQFT

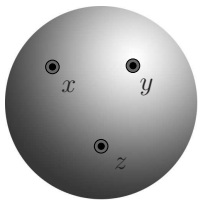
$\mathcal{N} = 4$  index

$\mathcal{N} = 1$  index

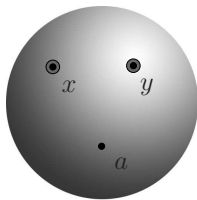
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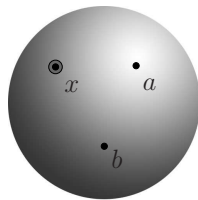
## $SU(3)$ TQFT



$C_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y},\mathbf{z}}^{(333)}$



$C_{a,\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}}^{(133)}$



$C_{a,b,\mathbf{x}}^{(113)}$

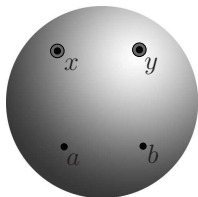
rank **1** :  $C_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y},\mathbf{z}}^{(333)}$ : Index of  $E_6$  SCFT.

rank **0** :  $C_{a,\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}}^{(133)}$ : Index of a hypermultiplet.

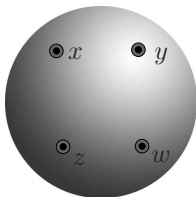
“rank **-1**” :  $C_{a,b,\mathbf{x}}^{(113)}$ : An auxiliary construct to write the Argyres-Seiberg theory .



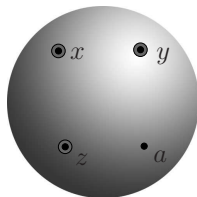
## S-duality checks of the $E_6$ index



(a)



(b)



(c)

(a)  $N_f = 6$   $SU(3)$  theory (in either of two S-dual frames), or Argyres-Seiberg theory.

(b) Two  $E_6$  theories “joined” by gauging an  $SU(3)$  subgroup of the flavor symmetry.

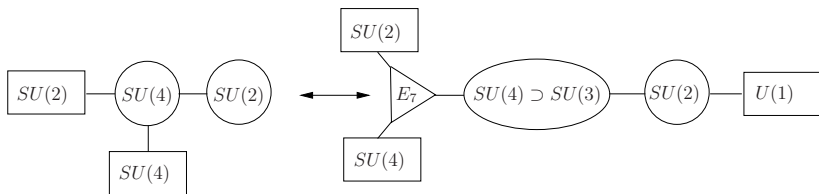
(c)  $E_6$  SCFT joined to hypers by an  $SU(3)$  gauging.

**We checked associativity perturbatively in  $t$ .**



## Higher rank

- Can in principle generalize the discussion to quivers with higher rank gauge groups.
- Get many intrinsically strongly coupled theories:  $E_7$  SCFT,  $T_N$  theories ...
- To obtain the index of these higher rank theories have to learn to invert the [superconformal tails](#).



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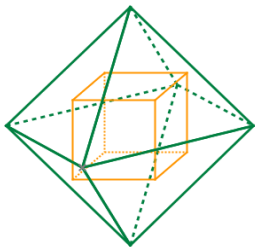
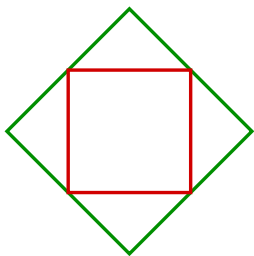
$\mathcal{N} = 4$  index

$\mathcal{N} = 1$  index

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## 32 supersymmetries: S-duality $SO(2n + 1)/Sp(n)$



- The index on root system  $\mathbf{X}$

$$\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{N}=4} \sim \oint \prod_j \frac{dz_j}{2\pi i z_j} \prod_{\alpha \in \mathbf{X}} \frac{\Gamma(t^2 e^\alpha; p, q)^3}{\Gamma(e^\alpha; p, q)},$$

where we formally identify  $z_i = e^{e_i}$ .

- The root systems of  $SO(2n + 1)$  and  $Sp(n)$  are

$$\begin{aligned} SO(2n + 1) &: \mathbf{X} = \{\pm e_i, \pm e_i \pm e_j, i < j\} \\ Sp(n) &: \mathbf{X} = \{\pm 2e_i, \pm e_i \pm e_j, i < j\}, \end{aligned}$$

and they define **dual polyhedra**.

- $n = 2$   $SO(5)$  and  $Sp(2)$  are both squares.
- $n = 3$   $SO(7)$  gives a cube and  $Sp(3)$  is an octahedron.



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## 8 Supersymmetries

Curious recipe : compute the index by counting the states in the UV, but with the IR charge assignments (Romelsberger)

Can be justified interpreting the index as the Witten index of the non-conformal theory on  $S^3 \times \mathbb{R}$  interpolating between UV and IR fixed points.





- Several Seiberg-dual pairs turn out to have the same index.  
(Romelsberger, Dolan Osborn, Spiridonov Vartanov)
- Remarkably, setting  $v = t$  in the  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  index gives the  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  index of the SCFT obtained (in the IR) integrating out the chiral adjoints.
- We consider  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  SCFTs that have an  $AdS_5$  dual.  
Closed formulas for the index of the SCFTs dual to  $AdS_5 \times Y_{pq}$ .
- We check toric duality of these theories
- We match the index of conifold gauge theory to gravity on  $AdS \times T^{1,1}$

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## $Y^{p,q}$ quiver gauge theory

- $Y^{p,p}$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_{2p}$  orbifold of  $\mathcal{N} = 4$
- $Y^{p,0}$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  orbifold of the conifold  $Y^{1,0}$
- 4 types of field in  $Y^{p,q}$  theory

	$U(1)_r$	Arrows
$U$	$1 - \frac{1}{2}(x + y)$	
$V$	$1 + \frac{1}{2}(x - y)$	
$Z$	$x$	
$Y$	$y$	

$$y_{p,q} = \frac{1}{3q^2} \left\{ -4p^2 + 2pq + 3q^2 + (2p - q)\sqrt{4p^2 - 3q^2} \right\},$$

$$x_{p,q} = \frac{1}{3q^2} \left\{ -4p^2 - 2pq + 3q^2 + (2p + q)\sqrt{4p^2 - 3q^2} \right\}.$$

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## Toric duality

- Example of toric duality

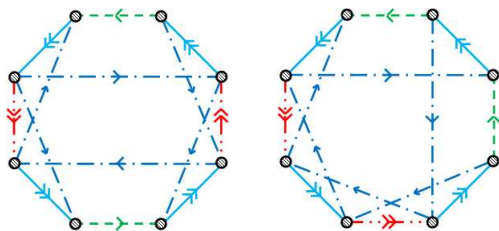


Figure: Different quiver diagrams for  $Y^{4,2}$ .

- Indices of toric-dual quivers are equal using Rains' identity

## Toric duality



Figure: Action of Seiberg duality

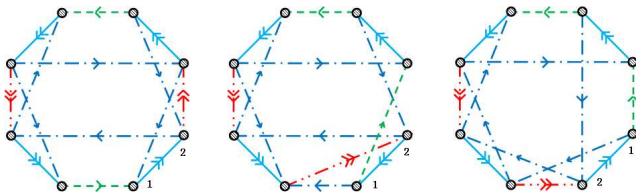


Figure: Example of the  $Y^{4,2}$  quiver. Middle: Seiberg duality on node 1. Right: swap nodes 1 and 2.



## Index of the conifold gauge theory and $AdS \times T^{1,1}$

- In the large  $N$  limit, we can compute quiver gauge theory index by saddle point approximation

$$\mathcal{I} = - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\varphi(k)}{k} \log[\det(1 - i(t^k, y^k))] \quad \varphi(n) = \text{Euler Phi function}$$

- $i(x)$ , index valued adjacency matrix of the quiver
- Conifold index:

$$\mathcal{I} = \frac{t^3 ab}{1 - t^3 ab} + \frac{t^3 \frac{a}{b}}{1 - t^3 \frac{a}{b}} + \frac{t^3 \frac{b}{a}}{1 - t^3 \frac{b}{a}} + \frac{t^3 \frac{1}{ab}}{1 - t^3 \frac{1}{ab}} - \frac{t^3 y}{1 - t^3 y} - \frac{t^3 \frac{1}{y}}{1 - t^3 \frac{1}{y}}$$

$a, b$  are potentials of  $SU(2)_a \times SU(2)_b$  global symmetry

- KK reduction on  $T^{1,1}$ , spectrum of scalar laplacian (*Nakayama*)
- On gravity side, contribution from graviton, gravitino and vector multiplets, exactly matches with gauge theory result

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## Outlook

- Many possible extensions to theories with 16 supercharges (higher rank, ADE)
- Possible to add line and surface operators

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- It must be possible to obtain a “microscopic” Lagrangian description of the 2d TQFT by reduction of the twisted 6d (2,0) theory on  $S^3 \times S^1$ . This would give a uniform description of the index for all  $A_n$  theories.
- Relation to Liouville/Toda?
- More systematic understanding of the connection with elliptic hypergeometric mathematics?

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Thank You