

Title: Spectral networks with spin and wild BPS spectra

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Abstract:

The BPS spectrum of $d=4$ $N=2$ field theories in general contains not only hyper and vector-multiplets but also short multiplets of particles with arbitrarily high spin. These BPS states of higher spin reveal quite a peculiar behavior, so sometimes they are called "wild"

states. In this talk we would try to discuss a small refinement of the asymptotic study (spectral network technique) of tt^* equations arising in an effective theory on 2d defects in $N=2$ 4d SYM theory capturing spin information and apply it to study some properties of wild BPS spectra.

This talk is based on:

- ① D. Galakhov, P. Longhi, G. W. Moore, “Spectral Networks with Spin”, **Commun.Math.Phys.** **340** (2015) **1**, **171-232**, arXiv:1408.0207
- ② D. Galakhov, P. Longhi, T. Mainiero, G. W. Moore, A. Neitzke, “Wild Wall Crossing and BPS Giants”, **JHEP** **1311** (2013) **046**, arXiv:1305.5454

Outline

- ① $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SUSY algebra and BPS spectrum
- ② tt^* -equations and parallel transport
- ③ Stokes' lines and spectral networks
- ④ Path algebra
- ⑤ Wild states pheno
- ⑥ Example: Kronecker quiver

$\mathcal{N} = 2$ SUSY algebra

The centrally extended $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SUSY algebra is given by supercharges

$$\begin{aligned} \{Q_\alpha^A, \bar{Q}_{\dot{\beta}B}\} &= 2\sigma_{\alpha\dot{\beta}}^\mu P_\mu \delta_B^A \\ \{Q_\alpha^A, Q_\beta^B\} &= 2\epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \epsilon^{AB} \bar{Z} \\ \{\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}A}, \bar{Q}_{\dot{\beta}B}\} &= -2\epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \epsilon_{AB} Z \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

We could form the following generators:

$$R_\alpha^A = \zeta^{-\frac{1}{2}} Q_\alpha^A + \zeta^{\frac{1}{2}} \sigma_{\alpha\dot{\beta}}^0 \bar{Q}^{\dot{\beta}A}, \quad \{R_\alpha^A, R_\beta^B\} = 4(E - \text{Re}(Z/\zeta)) \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \epsilon^{AB} \quad (2)$$

The central charge is non-zero in the presence of a non-trivial field configuration:

$$Z = -\frac{1}{g^2} \int_{S_{R \rightarrow \infty}^2} \langle \text{Tr} [(-iF + *F)\phi] \rangle = a_i n_i + a_i^{(D)} m_i \quad (3)$$

Charge sector $\gamma = (n_i, m_i)$, where $i = 1, \dots, \text{rank } G$.

BPS states – short reps: $\zeta = \text{Arg } Z$, $M = |Z|$

Protected spin character

To define spin content we use a protected spin character or refined BPS index. As representations of algebra $so(3) \oplus su(2)_R$ states are of two kinds

Long reps: $\rho \otimes \rho \otimes \mathfrak{h}$ Short reps: $\rho \otimes \mathfrak{h}$

Where $\rho = (\frac{1}{2}, 0) \oplus (0, \frac{1}{2})$

We define

$$\Omega(\gamma; u|y) := \frac{1}{y - y^{-1}} \text{Tr}_{H_\gamma} (2J_3) y^{2J_3} (-y)^{2I_3} = \text{Tr}_{\mathfrak{h}} y^{2J_3} (-y)^{2I_3} \quad (4)$$

For example:

- Hypermultiplet: $\Omega(y) = 1$
- Vectormultiplet: $\Omega(y) = y + y^{-1}$

2d degefects, tt^* -equations and parallel transport

We follow [Gaiotto-Moore-Neitzke '11 & '12]

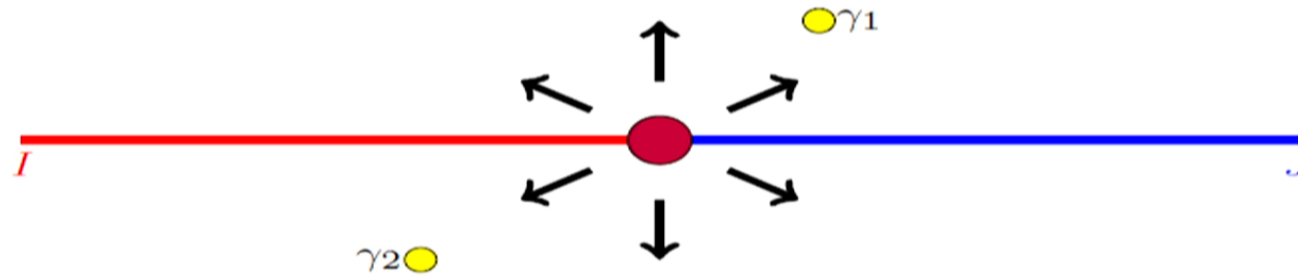
2d defects preserve a half of $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SUSY in 4d, so they are parameterized by some phase ζ . There are N vacua.

The preserved ζ -SUSY becomes $(2, 2)$ on the defect worldsheet.

η – electric parameters, 2d θ -angles

α – magnetic parameters, $A \sim \alpha d\varphi$

Interfaces:



Central charge of this configuration:

$$Z_{IJ} = \mathcal{W}^I - \mathcal{W}^J + \sum_a \gamma_a \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \vec{a} \\ \vec{a}^{(D)} \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

Partition function:

$$\Psi_{IJ} = \langle I|J \rangle \quad (6)$$

tt^* -equations – flat connections:

$$\nabla_a = \partial_{t_a} + A_a + \beta\zeta C_a, \quad \bar{\nabla}_a = \partial_{\bar{t}_a} + \bar{A}_a + \beta\zeta^{-1}\bar{C}_a \quad (7)$$

$$\nabla_a \Psi = 0 \quad (8)$$

Just a taste:

- Liouville CFT:

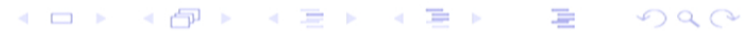
$$\left(b^{-2} \partial_z^2 - \sum_i \left(\frac{\Delta_i}{(z - q_i)^2} + \frac{1}{z - q_i} \partial_{q_i} \right) \right) \Psi = 0 \quad (9)$$

- WZW model:

$$\left(\partial_z - \frac{1}{\kappa + N} \sum_i \frac{\rho_z(T^\alpha) \otimes \rho_{q_i}(T^\alpha)}{z - q_i} \right) \Psi = 0 \quad (10)$$

Major problem: Abelianization map

$$(\hbar \partial_z - \mathcal{A}(z, \text{prm})) \Psi = 0 \Rightarrow \Psi = \left(\mathcal{P} \exp \hbar^{-1} \int \mathcal{A} \right) \Psi_0 \quad (11)$$



Asymptotic behavior:

$$\Psi \sim e^{\text{“}h^{-1}\text{”} \int \tilde{f} dW} \quad (12)$$

This reduces to an algebraic equation, spectral cover – Seiberg-Witten curve (Σ):

$$\text{Det}(dW - \mathcal{A}dz) = 0 \quad (13)$$

For example (pure $SU(3)$) ($\pi : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$):

$$x^3 - \frac{u_2}{z}x + \left(\frac{1}{z^2} + \frac{u_3}{z^3} + \frac{1}{z^4} \right) = 0, \quad dW = x dz \quad (14)$$

We expect the following solution ($x^{(i)}$ – roots):

$$\Psi \sim \begin{pmatrix} e^{\text{“}h^{-1}\text{”} \int x^{(1)} dz} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{\text{“}h^{-1}\text{”} \int x^{(2)} dz} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{\text{“}h^{-1}\text{”} \int x^{(3)} dz} \end{pmatrix} \quad (15)$$

NO! Stokes phenomenon gives off-diagonal contributions:

$$\Psi \sim \begin{pmatrix} e^{\text{“}h^{-1}\text{”} \int x^{(1)} dz} & \star & \star \\ \star & e^{\text{“}h^{-1}\text{”} \int x^{(2)} dz} & \star \\ \star & \star & e^{\text{“}h^{-1}\text{”} \int x^{(3)} dz} \end{pmatrix} \quad (16)$$

We can form a formal generating function for the line defect (monodromies):

$$F(u, \zeta, \gamma_c; y) = \sum_{\gamma_h \in \Gamma} \overline{\Omega}(u, \gamma_c + \gamma_h; y) Y_{\gamma_c + \gamma_h} \quad (17)$$

Due to spin fugacity y , Y_γ form a non-commutative algebra:

$$Y_\gamma Y_{\gamma'} = y^{\langle \gamma, \gamma' \rangle} Y_{\gamma + \gamma'} \quad (18)$$

Across stability wall at the phase ζ we loose (gain) a gas of BPS states of phase ζ :

$$Y_{\gamma_c} \mapsto Y_{\gamma_c} \prod_{\gamma_h} \prod_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} \prod_{k = -(|\langle \gamma_c, \gamma_h \rangle| - 1)}^{|\langle \gamma_c, \gamma_h \rangle| - 1} (1 + (-y)^m y^k Y_{\gamma_h})^{a_m(\gamma_h)} \quad (19)$$

Where powers $a_m(\gamma_h)$ are defined as:

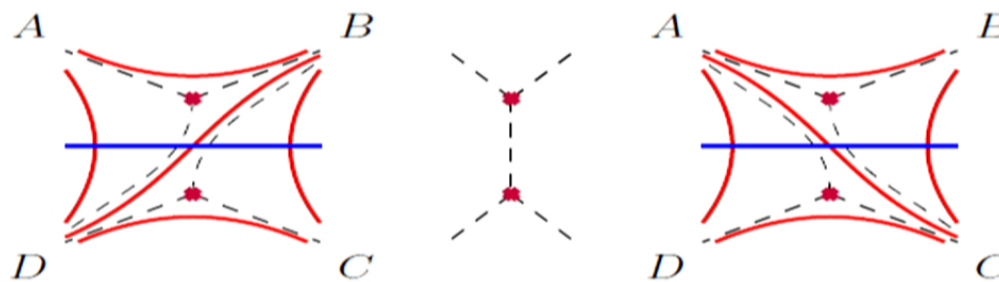
$$\Omega(\gamma_h; y) =: \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} a_m(\gamma_h) (-y)^m \quad (20)$$

Stokes' lines and spectral networks

(ij) -(Anti-)Stokes lines $\mathfrak{a}: \forall z \in \mathfrak{a}$

$$\text{Im}(\zeta dW_{ij}(T_z \mathfrak{a})) = 0 \tag{21}$$

As an example consider two ramification points:



In a case of **multiple covers**: **Networks**:

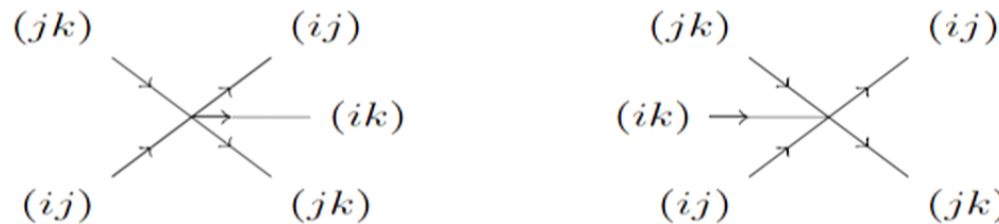
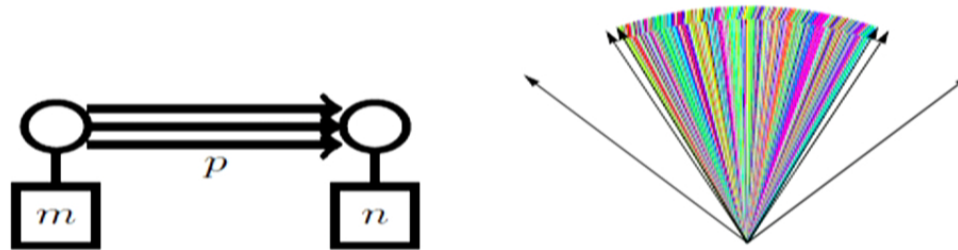


Figure: Secondary Stokes lines

Wild BPS states



The index behaves as $\Omega(\gamma, 1) \sim e^{\alpha(\gamma/|\gamma|)|\gamma|} \sim e^{aE}$.

In principle it should be bounded by the entropy of a free gas in UV

$$\Omega(\gamma, 1) \lesssim e^{S(E)} \sim e^{\kappa V^{\frac{1}{d}} E^{\frac{d-1}{d}}}$$

γ	$\delta(J_{\max}), \delta(J_{\max} - 1), \dots$
$4\gamma_1 + 3\gamma_2$	1, 0, 2, 2, 3, 2, 2, 0, ...
$7\gamma_1 + 6\gamma_2$	1, 0, 2, 2, 5, 6, 13, 14, ...
$8\gamma_1 + 6\gamma_2$	1, 0, 2, 2, 5, 6, 13, 16, ...
$8\gamma_1 + 7\gamma_2$	1, 0, 2, 2, 5, 6, 13, 16, ...

(22)

$$g(\xi) = \prod_{m=2}^{\infty} (1 - \xi^m)^{-2} = 1 + 0\xi + 2\xi^2 + 2\xi^3 + 5\xi^4 + 6\xi^5 + 13\xi^6 + \dots$$



Path algebra

So we have:

$$\pi : \begin{array}{c} \Sigma \\ \text{SW curve} \\ e^{\int x^{(i)} dz} \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{C} \\ \text{UVcurve} \\ \mathcal{P} \exp \int \mathcal{A} \end{array} \quad (23)$$

Let us think abstractly:

$$\mathcal{Y} \sim e^{\int x^{(i)} dz}, \quad \mathcal{U} \sim \mathcal{P} \exp \int \mathcal{A} \quad (24)$$

For paths on Σ :

- ① If two paths a and b are regular-homotopic then

$$\mathcal{Y}_a = \mathcal{Y}_b \quad (25)$$

- ② Concatenation rule

$$\mathcal{Y}_a \mathcal{Y}_b = \begin{cases} \mathcal{Y}_{a \circ b}, & \text{if a concatenation } a \circ b \text{ exists,} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (26)$$

There are **no more** natural **a priori** rules for this algebra.

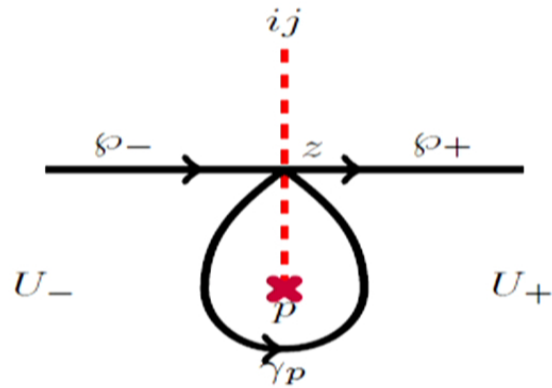
Detour rules

The WKB lines cut \mathcal{C} into charts $\mathcal{C} \setminus (\text{WKB} - \text{lines}) = \coprod_i U_i$

- ❶ If $\wp \subset U_i$ we define the parallel transport

$$\mathfrak{U}_\wp := \sum_{a \in \pi^{-1}(\wp)} \mathcal{Y}_a \quad (27)$$

- ❷ For intersection we define the re-gluing function as:



$$\begin{aligned} \wp \cap U_\pm &= \wp_\pm \\ \partial\gamma_p &= \pi_j^{-1}(z) - \pi_i^{-1}(z) \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

$\mathfrak{U}_\wp = \mathfrak{U}_{\wp_+} (1 + \mathcal{Y}_{\gamma_p}) \mathfrak{U}_{\wp_-}$

The flatness condition for the formal parallel transport requires the equivalence of parallel transports along paths D and $A_1B_1C_1$ on \mathcal{C} depicted on this figure.

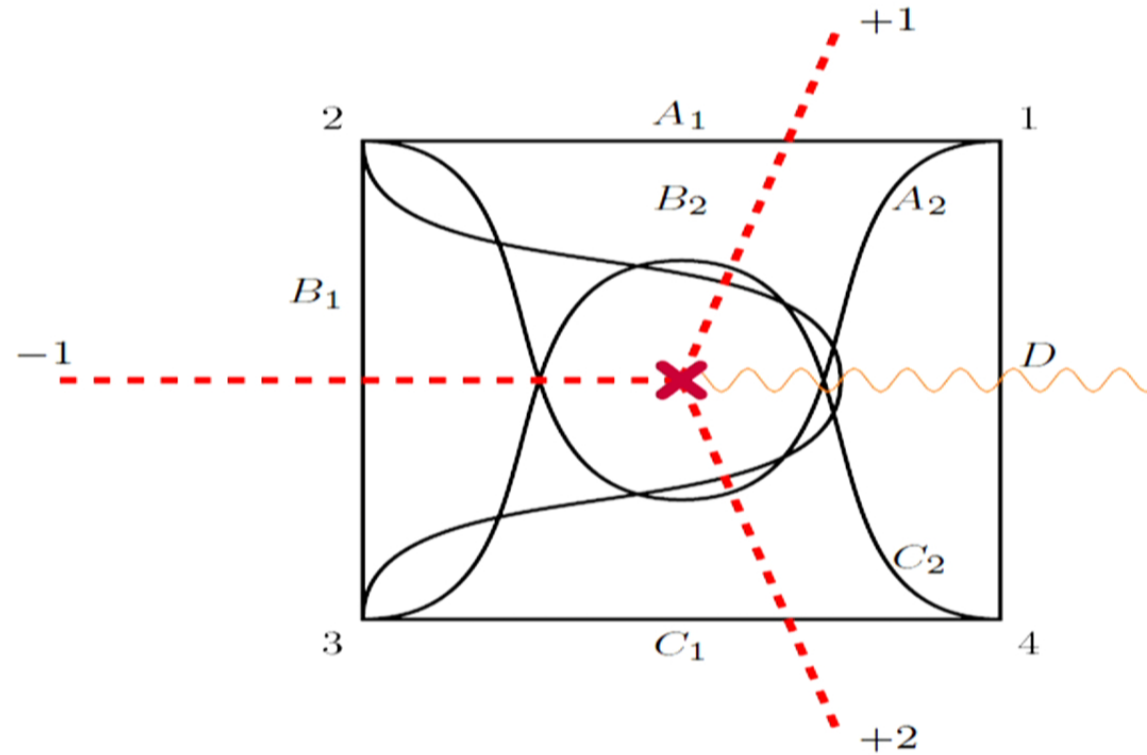


Figure: Lifts and detours

If we denote by a prime a difference between paths by a curl around the branching point, so

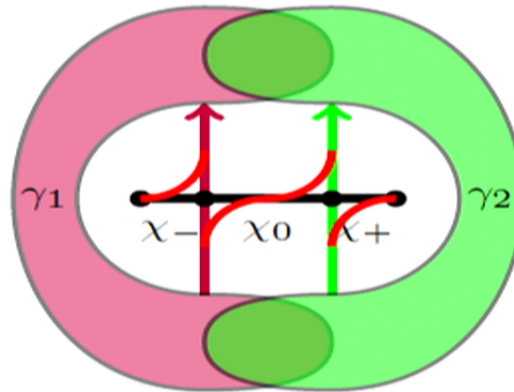
$$a = \text{[diagram of path } a \text{]}, \quad a' = \text{[diagram of path } a' \text{]} \quad (29)$$

The diagram shows two paths, a and a' , each starting from a red 'X' branching point and ending in a wavy orange line. Path a is a simple blue loop that goes left and then right. Path a' is a blue loop that goes left, loops around, and then crosses itself to the right.

then the expansion of the flatness condition delivers a **new** equation for the path algebra:

$$\boxed{\mathcal{Y}_a + \mathcal{Y}_{a'} = 0} \quad (30)$$

This equation is the central source for the homological refinement.



Then we find:

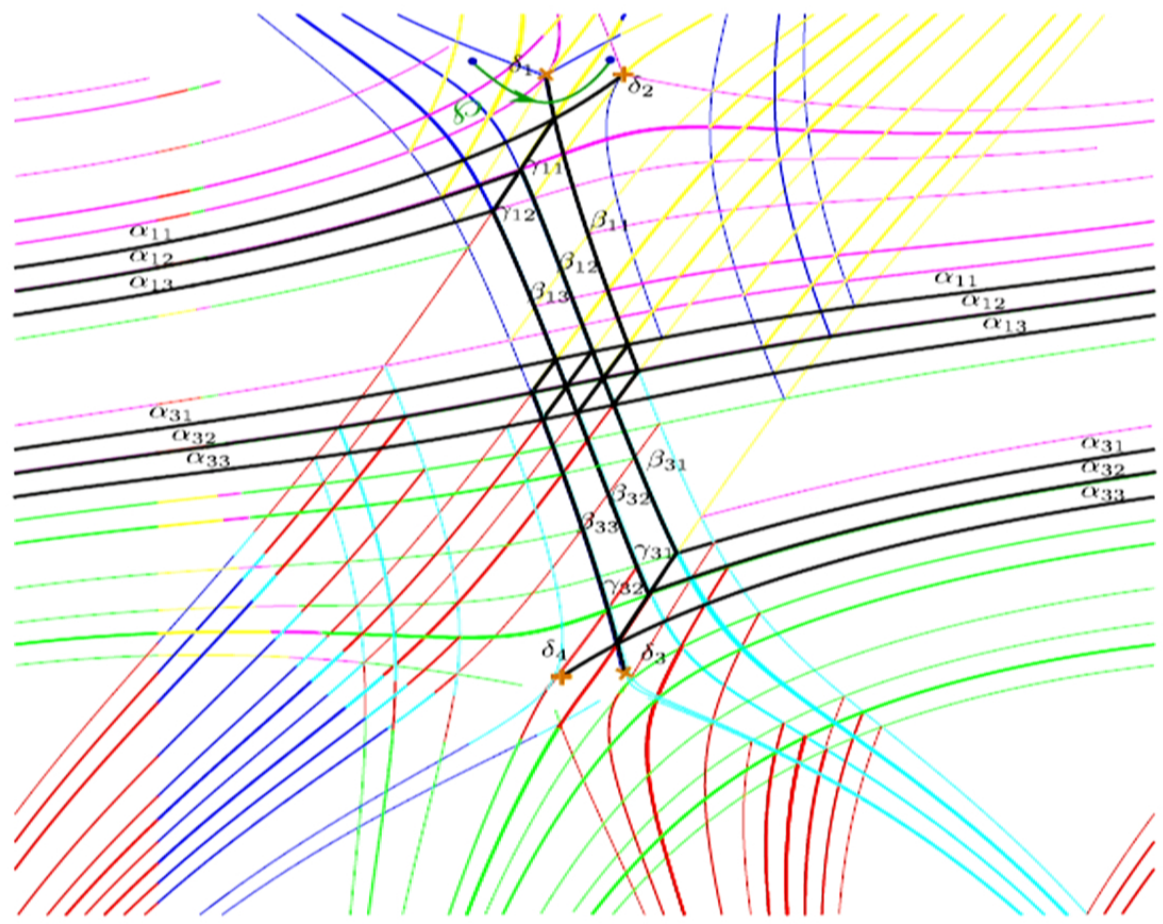
$$\text{wr}(\chi - \gamma_1 \chi_0 \gamma_2 \chi_+) = \text{wr}(\chi - \gamma_1 \chi_0 \chi_+) + \text{wr}(\chi - \chi_0 \gamma_2 \chi_+) + \langle [\gamma_1], [\gamma_2] \rangle \quad (35)$$

Or **loosely** speaking,

$$\text{wr}(\gamma_1 \gamma_2) = \text{wr}(\gamma_1) + \text{wr}(\gamma_2) + \langle [\gamma_1], [\gamma_2] \rangle \quad (36)$$

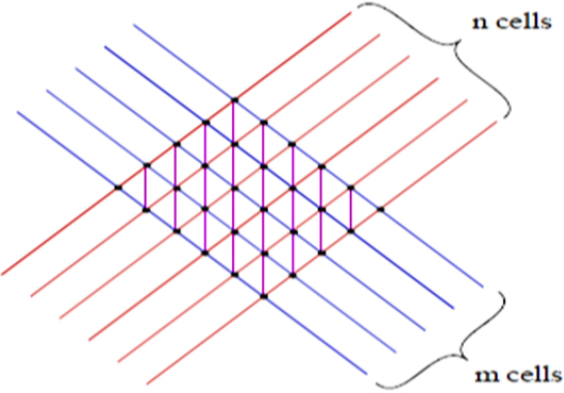
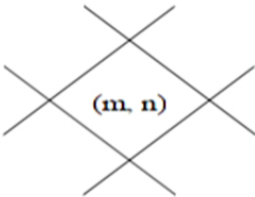
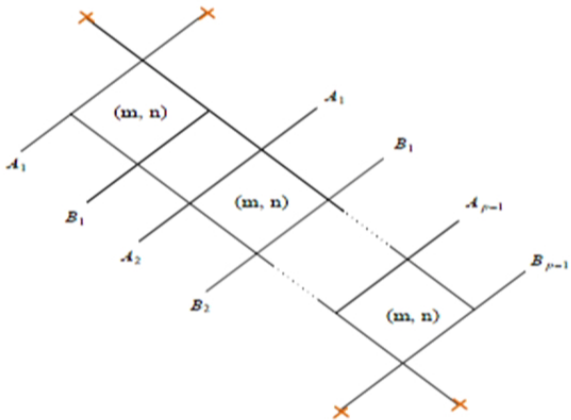
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Y}_{\gamma_1} \mathcal{Y}_{\gamma_2} = \mathcal{Y}_{\gamma_1 \gamma_2} &\leadsto y^{\text{wr}(\gamma_1)} Y_{[\gamma_1]} y^{\text{wr}(\gamma_2)} Y_{[\gamma_2]} = y^{\text{wr}(\gamma_1 \gamma_2)} Y_{[\gamma_1 \gamma_2]} \\ Y_{[\gamma_1]} Y_{[\gamma_2]} &= y^{\langle [\gamma_1], [\gamma_2] \rangle} Y_{[\gamma_1] + [\gamma_2]} \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

Example: Kronecker quiver



Generically for a quiver:

$$\begin{array}{c} \circ \\ \downarrow \\ \boxed{\alpha m} \end{array} \xrightarrow{p} \begin{array}{c} \circ \\ \downarrow \\ \boxed{\alpha n} \end{array}, \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{Z} \tag{38}$$



In the case $m = n = 1$ (slope 1) we should solve an auxiliary functional equation:

$$P(z, y) = 1 + z \prod_{s=-(p-2)}^{p-2} P(zy^{2s}, y)^{p-1-|s|} \quad (39)$$

Having its solution we can construct the generating function:

$$Q(z, y) := \prod_{s=-\frac{m-1}{2}}^{\frac{m-1}{2}} P(zy^{2s}, y) =: \prod_{n \geq 0} \prod_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} \prod_{k=1}^n \left(1 + (-y)^m y^{-(2k-1)} y^n z^n\right)^{a_m(n)} \quad (40)$$

And the desired protected spin character reads ($\langle \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \rangle = p$):

$$\Omega(n\gamma_1 + n\gamma_2, y) = \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} a_m(n) (-y)^m \quad (41)$$

Explicit examples

p=2: The equation is algebraic in this case and can be solved explicitly

$$P(z, y) = (1 - z)^{-1} \quad (42)$$

Thus

$$Q(z, y) = (1 - zy)(1 - zy^{-1}) \quad (43)$$

corresponding to the expected vectormultiplet

$$\Omega(\gamma_c, y) = y + y^{-1}, \quad \Omega(n\gamma_c, y) = 0, \quad n \geq 2 \quad (44)$$

p=3: provides the first non-trivial example, since in this case equation is no longer algebraic. Nevertheless one can study its solutions perturbatively, introducing the series

$$P(z, y) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \omega_n^{(p)}(y) z^n . \quad (45)$$

We find

$$P(z, y) = 1 + z + (y^{-2} + 2 + y^2) z^2 + \dots \quad (46)$$

Relations allow one to extract the corresponding PSCs: denoting $\chi_s(y) = (y^{2s+1} - y^{-(2s+1)}) / (y - y^{-1})$

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega(\gamma_c, y) &= \chi_1(y) \\ \Omega(2\gamma_c, y) &= \chi_{\frac{5}{2}}(y) \\ \Omega(3\gamma_c, y) &= \chi_3(y) + \chi_5(y) \\ \Omega(4\gamma_c, y) &= \chi_{\frac{5}{2}}(y) + 2\chi_{\frac{9}{2}}(y) + \chi_{\frac{11}{2}}(y) + 2\chi_{\frac{13}{2}}(y) + \chi_{\frac{17}{2}}(y) \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

Thank you for your attention!



$$\left[b^{-2} \partial_z^2 - T(z) \right] \psi = 0$$

$$\text{Prop} \int \begin{pmatrix} 1 & T(z) \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} dz = \int \frac{\sum |y|}{b \oint J(z) dz} \chi_r$$

$\chi_r = e^{\dots}$

$$J(z) + Q \partial_z J(z)$$

$$J^2(z) + Q \partial_z J(z) = T(z)$$

$$[J(z), J(z')] = B(z, z') + \text{higher ord. corr.}$$

$$[\phi_J, \phi_{J'}] = \langle \gamma, \gamma' \rangle$$

$$\int_{\gamma} \phi_J(z) dz$$

$$\int_{\gamma'} \phi_{J'}(z) dz$$