

The Joy of Watching Your BPS States (Texas A&M)

Grow \leftarrow (Both in size and number)

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Main Physical Results (w/ D. Galakhov, P. Longhi, G. Moore, A. Neitzke)

1. At certain regions of vacuum moduli, 4-dim. $\mathcal{N}=2$ $SU(3)$ SYM has a Density of States (DOS) that grows exponentially with the mass. \leftarrow

Growth Contributed by BPS States \leftarrow (Usually) Stable against Variance of moduli

2. The BPS Indices (a weighted count of BPS States) in a large class of $\mathcal{N}=2$ F.T. (Theories of class $S[A_{k-1}]$) are determined by algebraic equations.

Naively: Alg. Eqns. \rightsquigarrow

Exponential Growth in DOS is "generic."

Why is this interesting?

1. Exponential DOS in Field theory seems impossible. (naively)
(via Std. Thermodynamical Arguments)

2. Exponential Growth of DOS \Rightarrow "Hagedorn" Limiting temps
 \Rightarrow possible phase transitions.

3. In $SU(3)$ SYM there may be so ²⁴ many Hagedorn temps

Low Expectations: Exponential Growth is impossible

Start w/ a UV-Complete Field theory (e.g. asymptotically free)

=> Large Energy Phenomena are well-described by a CFT.

(only really need scale-inv.)

(d-1, 1) - CFT in a box of Volume V; heated up to a temp T:

Dim² Analysis =>

Energy in box $\rightarrow E(V, T) = \alpha \cdot V \cdot T^d$

Entropy (dimensionless) $\rightarrow S(V, T) = \beta \cdot V \cdot T^{d-1}$

Thus

$$S(E, V) = \text{Const.} \cdot V^{1/d} E^{(d-1)/d}$$

=>

States at energy E in CFT $= K \cdot e^{S(E, V)} = K \cdot e^{c V^{1/d} E^{(d-1)/d}}$

Thus,

States at energy E in Theory $\underset{E \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} K e^{c V^{1/d} E^{(d-1)/d}}$

Sub-exponential in E!

$N=2, d=4$ Field Theory

$N=2$: • Hilbert Space is a repⁿ of $N=2$ Super-Poincaré Algebra " $P^{4|8}$ "

||
Poincaré
+ 8 odd SUSY
+ Complex-valued Central elt. \hat{Z}

• Reprs of $P^{4|8} \longleftrightarrow M^2 > 0; I^2 \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}_{\neq 0}; Z \in \mathbb{C}$

• BPS Bound: $M \geq |Z|$

• BPS rep: 1-particle irrep w/ $M = |Z|$.



4 out of 8 SUSY are repⁿ trivially,

which 4 is encoded in the phase

$\text{Arg}(Z)$.

"Stable" as we deform the theory.

Low Energy EFT: Typically $U(1)^r$ abelian gauge theory

(Low Energy) Data

• \mathcal{B} : Coulomb branch (Space of vacua)

• $\hat{\Gamma} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ local sys. of possible electric/mag./Flavour charges

+

Pairing $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_u: \hat{\Gamma}_u \times \hat{\Gamma}_u \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

• $Z_u \hat{\Gamma}_u \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ Central Charge Linear Function

(EM Charge \Rightarrow Known Central Charge)

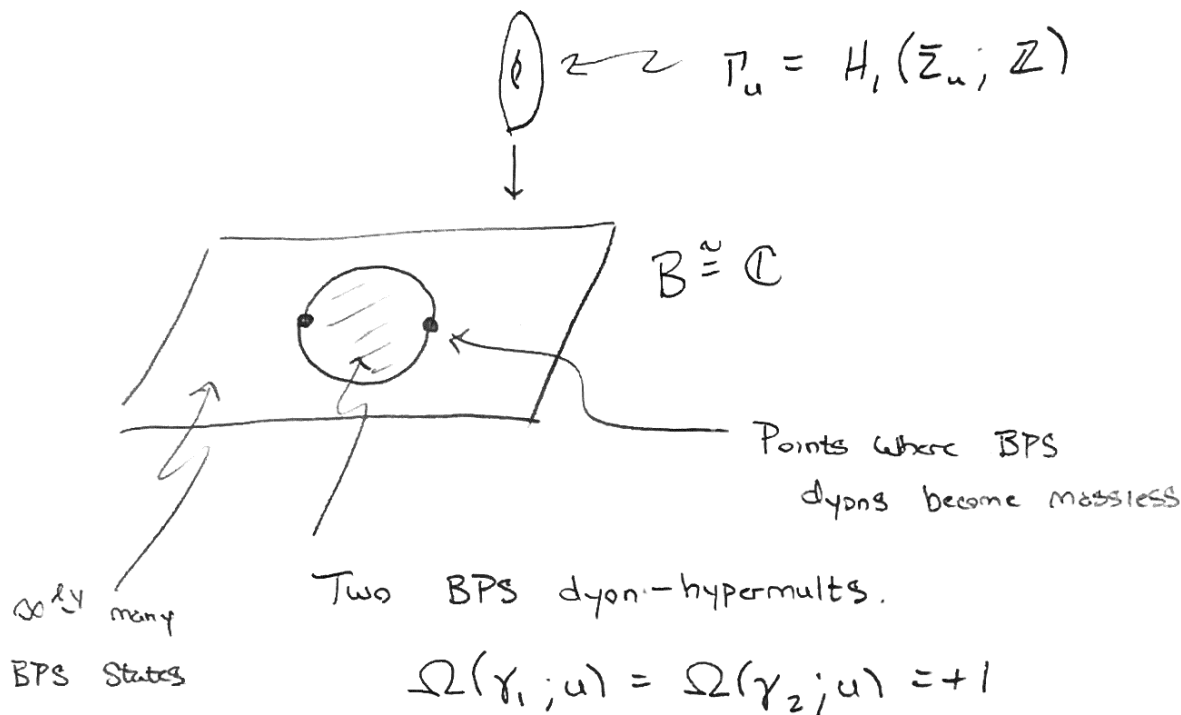
$rK \hat{\Gamma}_u = Zr + \neq \text{Flav.}$

Define the index:

$$\Omega(\gamma; u) = \text{Weighted Count of BPS states in Theory } T_u, u \in \mathcal{B}$$

Then $\Omega(\gamma; u)$ is Piecewise Stable as we vary $u \in \mathcal{B}$.

Ex: $SU(2)$ SYM (c.f. Seiberg-Witten)



$$\Omega(\gamma_i; u) = +1$$

$$\Omega(\gamma_{vm}; u) = -2$$

Jumping Behaviour well-understood!

$$\Omega(\gamma; u_*) \xrightarrow[\text{Gaiotto - Moore - Nekrasov}]{\text{Kontsevich - Soibelman}} \Omega(\gamma; u) \quad \forall u \in \mathcal{B}$$

at point u_*

+ Known Walls.

Remark:

$$4 \Omega(n\gamma) \leq \# \text{ BPS states of charge } n\gamma \leq \# \text{ States of mass } M = |n| |Z_\gamma|$$

So naively $\Omega(n\gamma)$ can grow at most as fast as $K \cdot e^{c \cdot n^{3/4}}$

Techniques For Computing Ω :

- BPS Quivers (requires partial knowledge of spectrum at u_*)
- Spectral Networks (Theories of Class S)

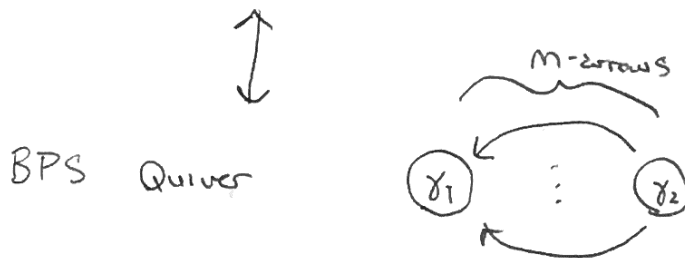
m-Kronecker Quiver

Suppose T_u contains two BPS hypers:

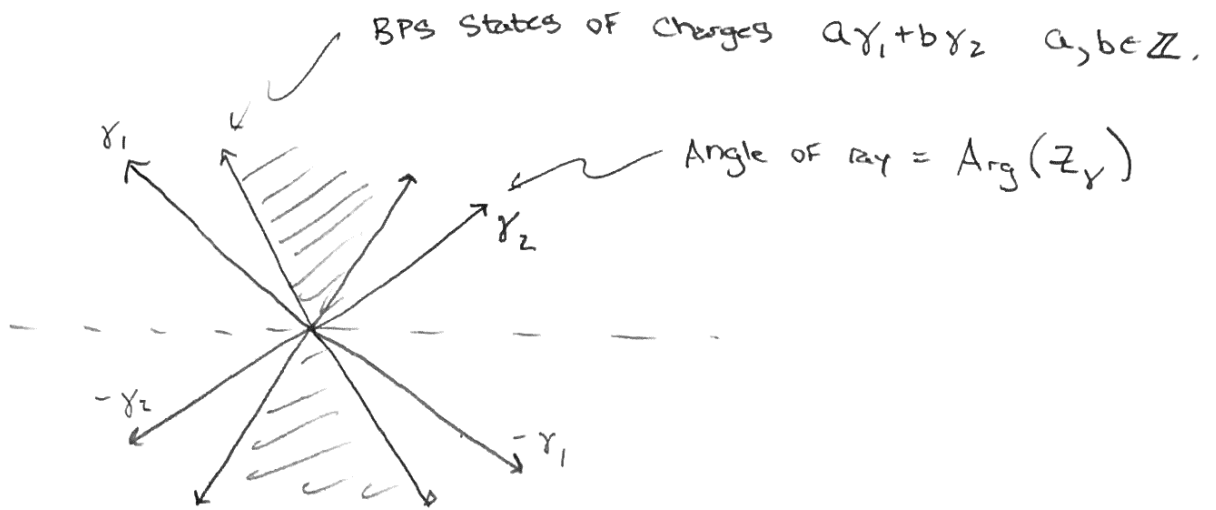
$$\exists \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \text{ w/ } \Omega(\gamma_1; u) = \Omega(\gamma_2; u) = +1$$

and

$$\langle \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \rangle = m > 0$$



Using Quiver Technology: Dense Arc of BPS states!



$$\gamma = \gamma_1 + \gamma_2 \Rightarrow$$

$$\Omega(n\gamma) \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} (-1)^{m+1} k \cdot n^{-5/2} e^{c_m \cdot n}$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} c_m = (m-1)^2 \log[(m-1)^2] - m(m-2) \log[m(m-2)] \\ k_m = \frac{1}{m-1} \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi(m-2)}} \end{array} \right)$$

G. Moore: No WWC (cannot cross walls to get Kronecker m -quiver)

Reality: Nope, $SU(3)$ SYM:

Strong Coupling: 6-hypers

⌋ Wall-Crossing


m -Kronecker Subquiver.

Spectral Networks


Theories of Class $S[A_{k-1}]$

Riemann Surf. C

+ (decorated) punctures

 $\mathcal{N}=2, d=4$ Field Theory

E.g. $C = \mathbb{CP}^1$ w/ irreg.
 $k=3$ Punc at $0, \infty$

 $SU(3)$ SYM (pure)

Spectral Networks: Decorated Graphs on C

Point $u \in B$
 $\vartheta \in S^1$



System of ODEs
 whose integral curves
 give S.N.

BPS state

w/ charge γ

s.t. $\text{Arg } z_\gamma = \vartheta$



Degenerate S.N.
 at phase ϑ .



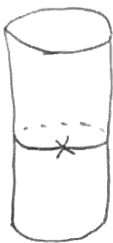
BPS states of charge $n\gamma$ (off of wall)

E.g.

1) Hypermultiplet



2) Vectormultiplet



$$\Omega(n\gamma) \longleftrightarrow T_\gamma = \prod_{n \geq 1} (1 - (\pm 1)^n z^n)^{n \Omega(n)}$$

Degen. Spectral Network \rightsquigarrow Algebraic Eqn. For T_γ

E.g. ? • "m-hard" network $\rightsquigarrow P - z P^{(m-1)^2} - 1 = 0$
 \updownarrow
 Charge $n\gamma = \gamma_1 n (\gamma_1 + \gamma_2)$
 States For m-Kronecker $\rightsquigarrow T_\gamma = P^m$
 Predicted by KS, proven by Runkel

• $(3, 2 | m)$ -hard : 39th deg. poly.
 \updownarrow
 Charge $n(3\gamma_1 + 2\gamma_2)$
 States \updownarrow
 Exponential Degeneracies!

Note Finite, deg. S.N. BPS indices coming from alg. eqns. have asymptotics of the form:

$$\Omega(n\gamma) \sim C \cdot n^\alpha \cdot \sum_{i=1}^l \left(\frac{1}{p_i}\right)^n$$

where $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}$, $p_i \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}} \subset \mathbb{C}$ are s.t. $|p_i| \leq 1$.

Generic alg. eqn. $\Rightarrow \Omega(n\gamma) \sim C \cdot n^{-5/2} \left(\frac{1}{p}\right)^n$
 with $p \in (-1, 1) \cap \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$.