

Recent developments in $\text{AdS}_6/\text{CFT}_5$

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Why 5d SCFTs?

Higher-dimensional SCFTs integral part in general understanding of (susy) QFT, many insights into lower-dimensional theories:

- new $d \leq 4$ QFTs (4d class \mathcal{S} , 3d class \mathcal{F} , ...)
- new dualities, natural explanations for known relations (S-duality, AGT, Argyres-Seiberg duality, ...)

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5d SCFTs: higher-dimensional perspective with close relations to Lagrangian gauge theories

5d SCFTs from gauge theories

Existence of interacting QFTs in $d > 4$ surprise from perturbative perspective: $d > 4$ gauge theories non-renormalizable (\sim 4d GR).

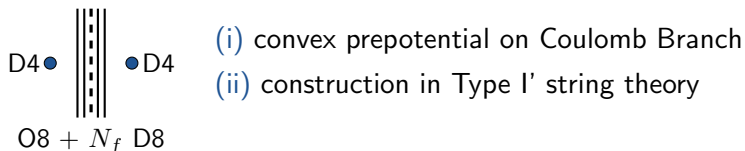
May flow to non-perturbative UV fixed point \sim asymptotic safety.

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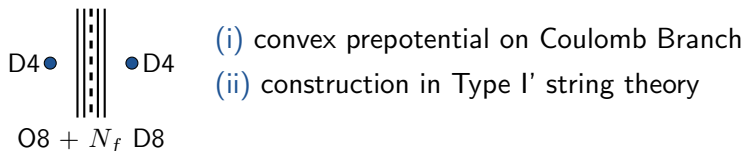


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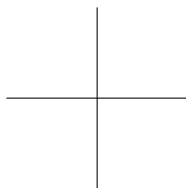
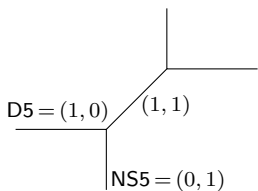
Gauge theories with (i) classified in [Intriligator, Morrison, Seiberg].

Even more theories realized by (p, q) 5-brane webs in Type IIB. . .

5-brane webs in Type IIB

[Aharony, Hanany, Kol '97]

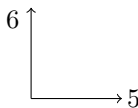
5-brane web: planar arrangement of (p, q) 5-branes at angles fixed by (p, q) , junctions w/ conserved charges



free massive hypermultiplet

free massless hypermultiplet

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
D5	×	×	×	×	×	×	×			
NS5	×	×	×	×	×		×			



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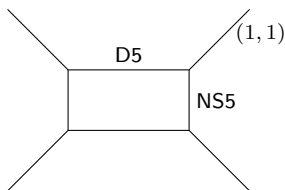


Length scales in brane web \leftrightarrow mass parameters in field theory.
UV fixed point: all lengths $\rightarrow 0$, intersection at a point.

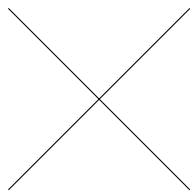
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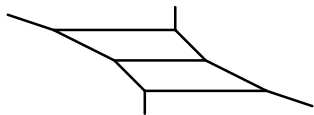
SU(2) Coulomb branch
finite gauge coupling



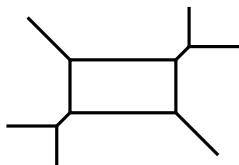
UV fixed point SCFT

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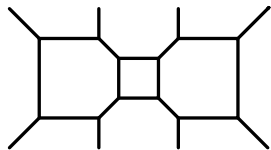
5d SCFTs from 5-brane junctions



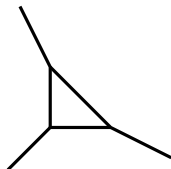
$SU(3)$, $CS=0$



$SU(2) + 2$ flavors



$SU(2) \times SU(2) \times SU(2)$ quiver

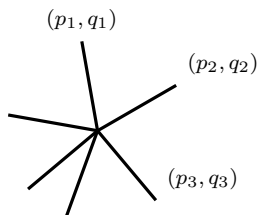


E_0 theory

Landscape of 5d gauge theories, enhanced symmetries, dualities,...

5d SCFTs from 5-brane junctions

General picture: any planar 5-brane junction realizes a 5d SCFT on the intersection point



$$p_i, q_i \in \mathbb{Z}$$

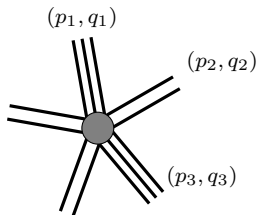
$$\sum p_i = \sum q_i = 0$$

Characterized entirely by external 5-brane charges. No standard Lagrangian. May or may not have gauge theory deformations.

5-brane junctions with 7-branes

[DeWolfe, Hanany, Iqbal, Katz '99]

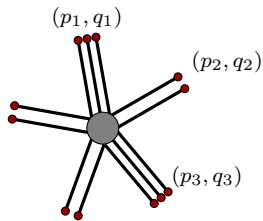
More general theories realized by 5-junctions with 7-branes:



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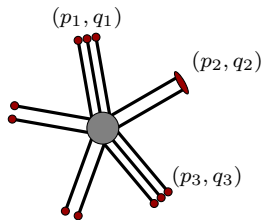


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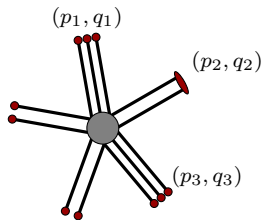


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- multiple 5-branes ending on same 7-brane \rightarrow s -rule constraints [Benini, Benvenuti, Tachikawa]
- “constrained” junctions related to unconstrained ones by RG flows

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Additional data for 5-brane junctions w/ 7-branes: partition of like-charged 5-branes into subgroups ending on same 7-brane

Recent developments in $\text{AdS}_6/\text{CFT}_5$

Outline

- $\text{AdS}_6/\text{CFT}_5$ dualities in Type IIB
- Matching “stringy” operators
- Sphere partition functions
- Counting black hole microstates

AdS₆/CFT₅ dualities in Type IIB

Holographic duals for 5d SCFTs

AdS/CFT for quantitative access to superconformal fixed points?
Needs AdS_6 solutions in Type IIB:

- Unique superconformal algebra $F(4)$, 8_Q supercharges.
- Fully localized brane intersections – expect physical singularities from brane sources.

BPS equations studied by [Apruzzi, Fazzi, Passias, Rosa, Tomasiello '14; Kim, Kim, Suh '15; Kim, Kim '16].

Symmetries and ansatz

[D'Hoker, Gutperle, Karch, CFU arXiv:1606.01254]

$$\text{AdS}_6 + 16 \text{ susies} \rightarrow \text{F}(4) \supset \text{bosonic } \text{SO}(2,5) \oplus \text{SO}(3)$$

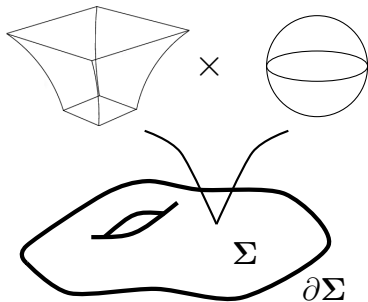
AdS_6 S^2

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \nearrow & \nwarrow \\ & \text{AdS}_6 & S^2 \end{array}$$



General ansatz: AdS_6 and S^2
warped over Riemann surface Σ

$$ds^2 = f_6(w, \bar{w})^2 ds_{\text{AdS}_6}^2 + f_2(w, \bar{w})^2 ds_{S^2}^2 + 4\rho(w, \bar{w})^2 |dw|^2$$

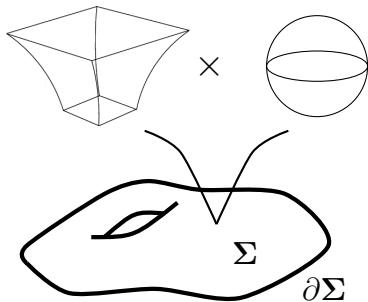
$$C_{(4)} = 0 \quad B_2 + iC_{(2)}^{\text{RR}} = \mathcal{C}(w, \bar{w}) \text{vol}_{S^2} \quad \tau = \tau(w, \bar{w})$$

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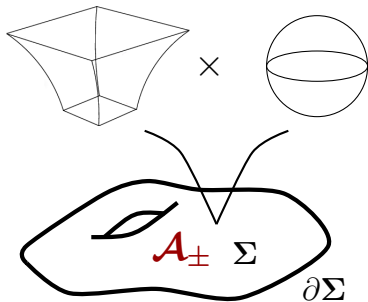
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General solution parametrized by
locally holomorphic $\mathcal{A}_\pm : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

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General local solution

[D'Hoker, Gutperle, Karch, CFU arXiv:1606.01254]

General local solution to BPS eq. parametrized by two locally holomorphic functions \mathcal{A}_\pm on Σ :

$$f_6^2 = \sqrt{6\mathcal{G}T} \quad f_2^2 = \frac{1}{9} \sqrt{\frac{6\mathcal{G}}{T^3}} \quad \rho^2 = \kappa^2 \sqrt{\frac{T}{6\mathcal{G}}}$$

$$B = \frac{1 + i\tau}{1 - i\tau} = \frac{\partial_w \mathcal{A}_+ \partial_{\bar{w}} \mathcal{G} - R \partial_{\bar{w}} \bar{\mathcal{A}}_- \partial_w \mathcal{G}}{R \partial_{\bar{w}} \bar{\mathcal{A}}_+ \partial_w \mathcal{G} - \partial_w \mathcal{A}_- \partial_{\bar{w}} \mathcal{G}}$$

$$C = \frac{2i}{3} \left(\frac{\partial_{\bar{w}} \mathcal{G} \partial_w \mathcal{A}_+ + \partial_w \mathcal{G} \partial_{\bar{w}} \bar{\mathcal{A}}_-}{3\kappa^2 T^2} - \bar{\mathcal{A}}_- - \mathcal{A}_+ \right)$$

with composite quantities

$$\kappa^2 = -|\partial_w \mathcal{A}_+|^2 + |\partial_w \mathcal{A}_-|^2 \quad \partial_w \mathcal{B} = \mathcal{A}_+ \partial_w \mathcal{A}_- - \mathcal{A}_- \partial_w \mathcal{A}_+$$

$$\mathcal{G} = |\mathcal{A}_+|^2 - |\mathcal{A}_-|^2 + \mathcal{B} + \bar{\mathcal{B}} \quad T^2 = \left[\frac{1+R}{1-R} \right]^2 = 1 + \frac{2\kappa^2 \mathcal{G}}{3|\partial_w \mathcal{G}|^2}$$

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Regularity conditions

[D'Hoker, Gutperle, CFU arXiv:1703.08186]

5-brane junctions?

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Real geometry with consistent spacetime signature, $\text{Im}(\tau) > 0$ at interior points of Σ , smoothly collapse S^2 on boundary points:

$$\kappa^2 > 0 \quad \mathcal{G} > 0 \quad \text{on int}(\Sigma)$$

$$\kappa^2 = 0 \quad \mathcal{G} = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Sigma$$

→ Σ needs a boundary ($\partial_w \partial_{\bar{w}} \mathcal{G} = -\kappa^2$). To be realized by locally holomorphic $\mathcal{A}_\pm \dots$

Solution strategy

[D'Hoker, Gutperle, CFU arXiv:1703.08186]

Solution strategy: regular κ^2 from auxiliary electrostatics potential

$$\Phi \equiv -\ln \left| \frac{\partial_w \mathcal{A}_+}{\partial_w \mathcal{A}_-} \right|^2 \quad \Phi|_{\text{int}(\Sigma)} > 0 \quad \Phi|_{\partial\Sigma} = 0$$

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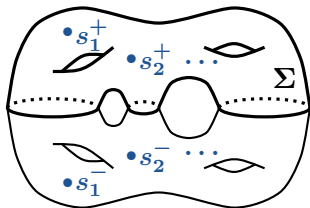
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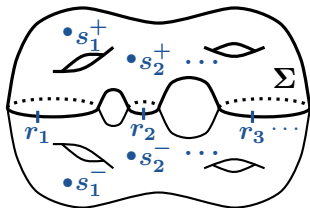
Arbitrary distribution of positive charges in Σ , negative mirror charges in doubled surface

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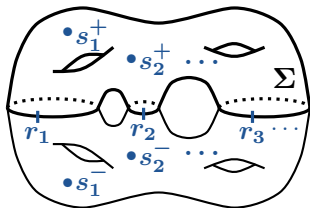
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Meromorphic differentials need **poles** r_ℓ on $\partial\Sigma$

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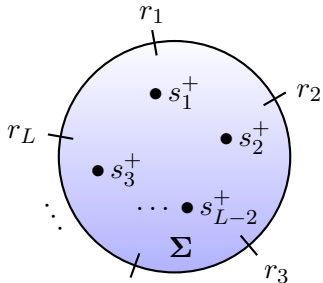
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Regularity of \mathcal{G} imposes further constraints on the resulting \mathcal{A}_\pm .

Regular solutions on the disc [D'Hoker, Gutperle, CFU arXiv:1703.08186]

Worked out for $\Sigma = \text{disc}/\text{upper half plane}$. \mathcal{A}_\pm from potential Φ :

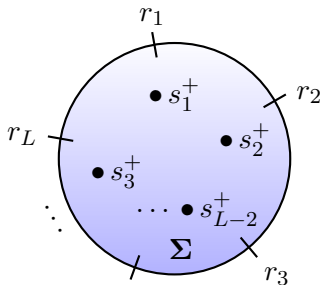


$$\mathcal{A}_\pm = \mathcal{A}_\pm^0 + \sum_{\ell=1}^L Z_\pm^\ell \ln(w - r_\ell)$$

$$Z_\pm^\ell = \sigma_\pm \prod_{n=1}^{L-2} (r_\ell - s_n^\pm) \prod_{k \neq \ell}^L \frac{1}{r_\ell - r_k}$$

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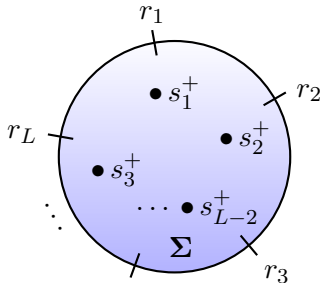
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$L \geq 3$ poles. Remaining regularity conditions leave $2L - 2$ free real parameter \sim choice of Z_+^ℓ with $\sum Z_+^\ell = 0$.

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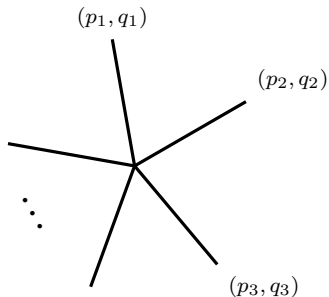
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Solutions regular except at poles. Near pole, solution matches near horizon limit of (p, q) 5-brane solution [Lu, Roy '98] w/ $q + ip \sim Z_+^m$.

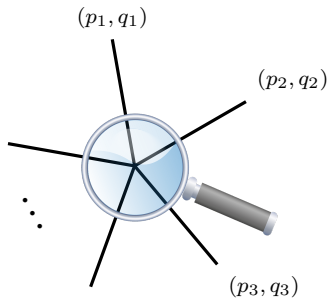
5-brane picture and AdS/CFT

Supergravity solutions for fully localized (p, q) 5-brane junctions:



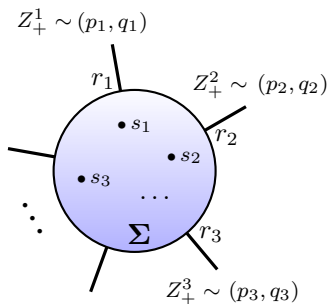
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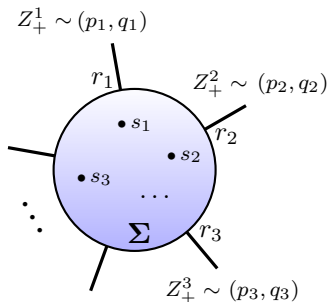
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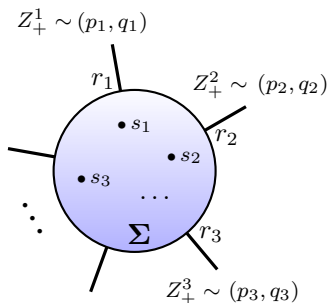
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charges \leftrightarrow residues Z_+^ℓ
- both parametrized by choice of residues mod charge cons.
- $\text{AdS}_6 + 16 \text{ susies} = F(4)$
- need $L \geq 3$, p and q charge

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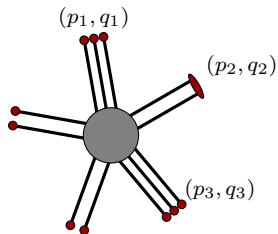
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charges \leftrightarrow residues Z_+^ℓ
- both parametrized by choice of residues mod charge cons.
- $\text{AdS}_6 + 16 \text{ susies} = F(4)$
- need $L \geq 3$, p and q charge

$\text{AdS}_6/\text{CFT}_5$: Type IIB string theory on warped AdS_6 solution \cong 5d SCFT on associated (p, q) 5-brane junction.

“Large- N ” classical supergravity limit: all $p_i, q_i \gg 1$. Generically, junctions of large groups of like-charged 5-branes (unconstrained).

Extension to constrained junctions [D'Hoker, Gutperle, CFU 1706.00433]

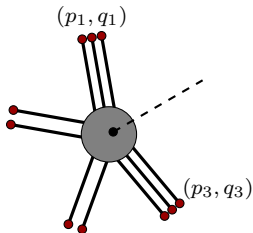
Supergravity solutions for “constrained” junctions with 7-branes:



- How to see 7-branes at intersection point?

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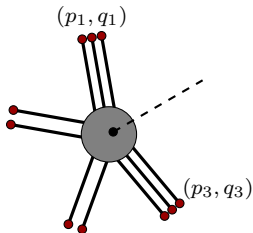


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Mass-deform to open up brane web, Hanany-Witten transitions to move 7-branes w/ multiple 5-branes into the web, take UV limit.

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Supergravity solutions for “constrained” junctions with 7-branes:



- How to see 7-branes at intersection point?

Mass-deform to open up brane web, Hanany-Witten transitions to move 7-branes w/ multiple 5-branes into the web, take UV limit.

→ $\Sigma =$ disc with punctures & $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ monodromy = 7-branes.
Works for punctures with commuting monodromies, so far.

Holographic duals for 5d SCFTs

General warped $\text{AdS}_6 \times \mathbb{S}^2 \times \Sigma$ sol. with 16 susies in Type IIB.

Physically regular solutions for $\Sigma = \text{disc}$ with single-valued \mathcal{A}_\pm .
Identified with unconstrained (p, q) 5-brane junctions.

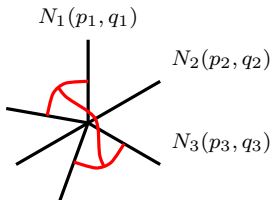
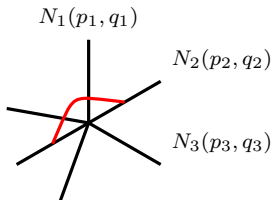
Physically regular solutions for punctured disc with commuting $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ monodromies, describe constrained 5-brane junctions.

T-duals of AdS_6 in massive IIA realized with relaxed regularity conditions [Hong,Liu,Mayerson '18, Lozano,Macpherson,Montero '18]

– Matching stringy operators –

Matching stringy operators [Bergman,Rodriguez-Gomez,CFU 1806.07898]

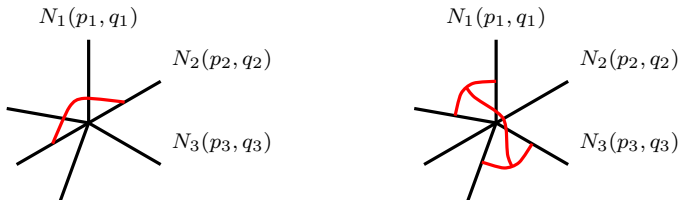
5-brane picture: gauge invariant operators from strings and string junctions connecting external 5-branes



Supergravity: probe string (junctions) $\leftrightarrow \Delta = \mathcal{O}(N)$ operators

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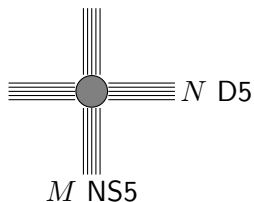
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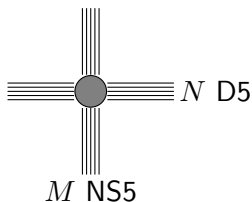
Strategy: identify stringy BPS operators in gauge theory deformations, extrapolate charges and scaling dim to SCFT

Matching stringy operators: $+_{N,M}$ theory

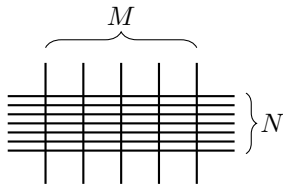


$SU(N)^2 \times SU(M)^2 \times U(1)$
global symmetry

Matching stringy operators: $+_{N,M}$ theory



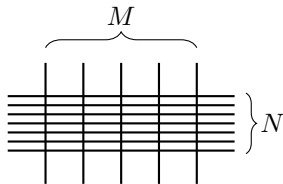
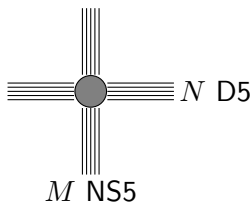
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gauge theory deformation:

$$[N] \overset{x_1}{-} SU(N) \overset{x_2}{-} \dots \overset{x_{M-1}}{-} SU(N) \overset{x_M}{-} [N]$$

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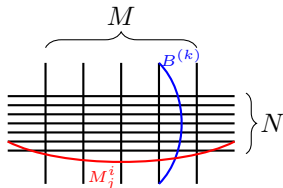
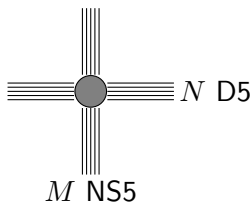
gauge theory deformation:

$$[N] \xrightarrow{x_1} SU(N) \xrightarrow{x_2} \dots \xrightarrow{x_{M-1}} SU(N) \xrightarrow{x_M} [N]$$

$$M_j^i = (x^{(1)} \dots x^{(M)})_j^i \quad (\mathbf{N}, \bar{\mathbf{N}}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}) \quad \Delta = \frac{3}{2}M \quad Q = \frac{1}{2}M$$

$$B^{(k)} = \det(x^{(k)}) \quad \subset (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{M}, \bar{\mathbf{M}}) \quad \Delta = \frac{3}{2}N \quad Q = \frac{1}{2}N$$

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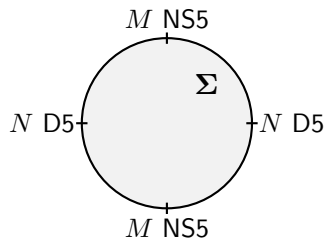
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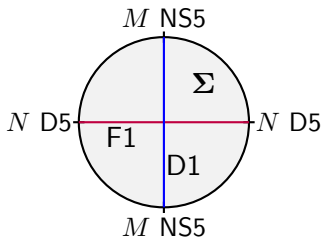
$M_j^i \sim$ F1 between D5, $B^{(k)} \subset$ D1 between NS5

Matching stringy operators: $+_{N,M}$ theory



Supergravity: 4-pole solution

Matching stringy operators: $+_{N,M}$ theory



Supergravity: 4-pole solution

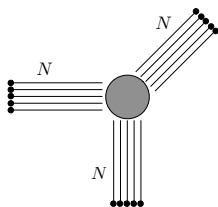
F1 between D5 poles, D1 between NS5 poles:

$$\Delta_{F1} = \frac{3}{2}M$$

$$\Delta_{D1} = \frac{3}{2}N$$

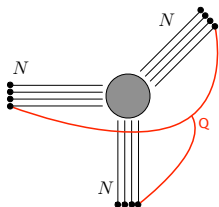
Solve EOM and are BPS, scaling dim. match field theory ✓✓

Matching stringy operators: T_N theory



5d T_N : reduce on S^1 to 4d T_N , global symmetry (at least) $SU(N)^3$

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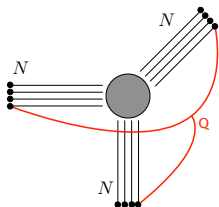


5d T_N : reduce on S^1 to 4d T_N , global symmetry (at least) $SU(N)^3$

string junction in $(\mathbf{N}, \mathbf{N}, \mathbf{N}) \supset$ meson in

$$N - SU(N - 1) - \dots - SU(2) - 2$$

Matching stringy operators: T_N theory



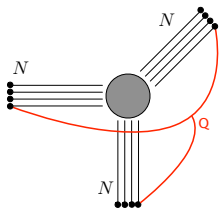
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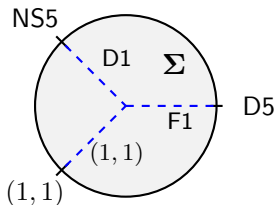
$$N - SU(N-1) - \dots - SU(2) - 2$$

$$\implies \Delta = \frac{3}{2}(N-1) \quad Q = \frac{1}{2}(N-1)$$

Triple junction in supergravity:

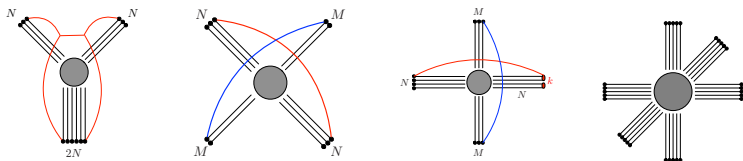
$$\Delta = \frac{3}{2}N \quad Q = \frac{1}{2}N$$

Agrees with T_N operator at large N . ✓✓

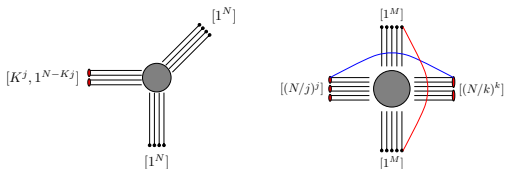


Matching stringy operators [Bergman,Rodriguez-Gomez,CFU 1806.07898]

Similar quantitative matches of field theory and supergravity for



and solutions w/punctures and only two poles [Chaney, CFU 1810.10592]



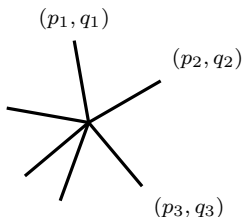
Predictions for operators not easily seen in gauge theory and more exotic junctions, e.g. $\Delta = \frac{9}{2}N$ in large- N E_0 theory.

– Sphere partition functions –

S^5 partition functions

[Gutperle, Marasinou, Trivella, CFU 1705.01561]

Holographically: on-shell action ($F_5 = 0$) or finite part of $S_{\text{EE, disc}}$

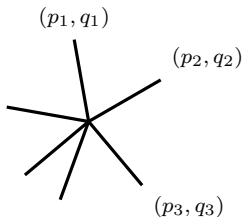


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- generically non-trivial dependence of F_{S^5} on all (p, q) charges

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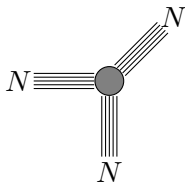
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Homogeneous rescaling of all (p, q) charges:

$$(p_i, q_i) \rightarrow N(p_i, q_i) \quad \forall i \quad \implies \quad \mathcal{F}(S^5) \rightarrow N^4 \mathcal{F}(S^5)$$

Unlike $N^{5/2}$ for $USp(N)$ theory from D4/D8/O8 [Jafferis, Pufu]

Supergravity results for T_N and $+_{N,M}$ theories:

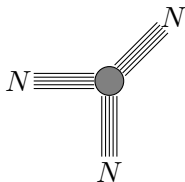


5d T_N theory w/ gauge theory deformation

$$N - SU(N - 1) - \cdots - SU(2) - 2$$

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{sugra}}(S^5) = -\frac{27}{8\pi^2} \zeta(3) N^4$$

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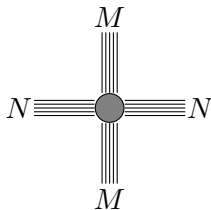
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D5/NS5 intersection: $N - SU(N)^{M-1} - N$

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{sugra}}(S^5) = -\frac{189}{16\pi^2} \zeta(3) N^2 M^2$$



$\mathcal{Z}_{N,M}$ and T_N in field theory

[Fluder, CFU 1806.08374]

Supersymmetric localization in large- N gauge theory: instantons exponentially suppressed, saddle point approximation exact.

Extrapolate to SCFT assuming higher-dim operators Q -exact.

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Zero-instanton partition function on squashed S^5 [Imamura '12]

$$\mathcal{Z}_0 = \int \prod_{i,j} d\lambda_i^{(j)} \exp(-\mathcal{F})$$

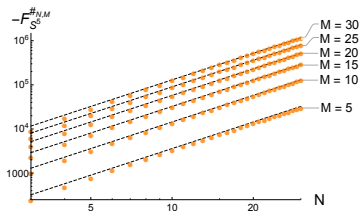
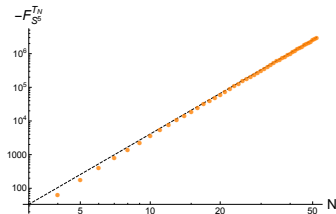
Long quivers with many gauge nodes, in general independent eigenvalue distributions.

$+_{N,M}$ and T_N in field theory

[Fluder, CFU 1806.08374]

Numerical evaluation [Herzog, Klebanov, Pufu, Tesileanu]: Replace saddle point eq. by set of particles w/ coordinates $\lambda_i^{(j)}$ in potential \mathcal{F}

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{S^5}$ numerically, $N \leq 50$ for T_N , $N, M \leq 30$ for $+_{N,M}$



Confirms N^4 and $N^2 M^2$ scaling predicted from supergravity, coefficients of leading terms agree to 1%_{oo}



– Counting AdS_6 black hole microstates –

Counting black hole microstates

[Fluder, Hosseini, CFU 1902.05074]

Consistent KK reduction to 6d F(4) sugra based on these general AdS₆ solutions: [Hong, Liu, Mayerson; Malek, Samtleben, Vall Camell '18]

→ any (bosonic) solution to 6d F(4) supergravity combined with any choice of $(\Sigma, \mathcal{A}_{\pm})$ uplifts to 10d solution of Type IIB

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Magnetically charged AdS₆ black holes in 6d F(4) supergravity with AdS₂ × Σ_{g₁} × Σ_{g₂} near-horizon limit [Suh '18] ([Naka '02])

$$ds^2 = ds_{AdS_2}^2 + ds_{\Sigma_{g_1}}^2 + ds_{\Sigma_{g_2}}^2 \quad \phi = \text{const}$$
$$F^3 \sim \text{vol}_{\Sigma_{g_1}} + \text{vol}_{\Sigma_{g_2}} \quad B_2 \sim \text{vol}_{AdS_2}$$

Σ_{g_i} constant curvature Riemann surfaces of genus g_i > 1.

Counting black hole microstates

[Fluder, Hosseini, CFU 1902.05074]

Uplift to family of Type IIB AdS₆ black hole solutions, one for each choice $(\Sigma, \mathcal{A}_\pm)$, labeled by $(\mathfrak{g}_1, \mathfrak{g}_2)$. Bekenstein-Hawking entropy:

$$S_{\text{BH}} = -\frac{8}{9}(1 - \mathfrak{g}_1)(1 - \mathfrak{g}_2)\mathcal{F}_{S^5}$$

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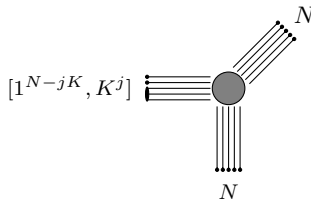
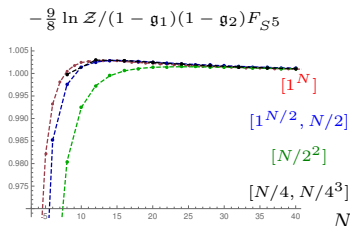
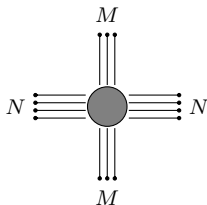
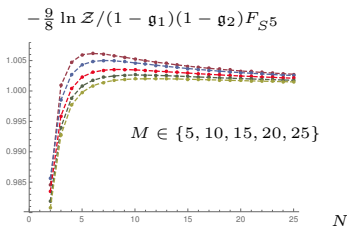
Near-horizon solution describes 5d SCFT characterized by $(\Sigma, \mathcal{A}_\pm)$ compactified on $\Sigma_{\mathfrak{g}_1} \times \Sigma_{\mathfrak{g}_2} \times S^1$ with topological twist.

Partition function $\mathcal{Z}_{S^1 \times \Sigma_{\mathfrak{g}_1} \times \Sigma_{\mathfrak{g}_2}}$ from localization [Hosseini, Yaakov, Zaffaroni; Cricigno, Jain, Willett '18] \sim 5d topologically twisted index.

Counting black hole microstates

[Fluder, Hosseini, CFU 1902.05074]

Large- N saddle point prescription of [Hosseini, Yaakov, Zaffaroni '18]:



Supports index computation, KK reductions, $\text{AdS}_6/\text{CFT}_5$ dualities.

– Summary & Outlook–

Summary

Supergravity solutions for fully localized 5-brane junctions in Type IIB. Holographic duals for the corresponding 5d SCFTs.

Quantitative tests of proposed $\text{AdS}_6/\text{CFT}_5$ dualities: spectrum of stringy operators, S^5 partition functions, top. twisted indices.

Supports existence of 5d SCFTs and SCFT interpretation of 5-brane junctions.

N^4 scaling of # d.o.f. from sphere partition functions, results consistent with conjectured 5d F-theorem

Outlook

More quantitative studies of 5d SCFTs: spectrum, correlators, non-local operators, finite T , ...

Lessons for $d \leq 4$: boundaries and defects, compactification, e.g. new “class \mathcal{F} ” examples from $\text{AdS}_4 \times \Sigma_g$ in 6d $F(4)$, ...

Further solutions: RG flows, non-minimal truncations, mutually non-local 7-branes, ...

Similar story for closely related $\text{AdS}_2 \times S^6 \times \Sigma$ solutions?

[Corbino,D'Hoker,CFU 1712.04463], [Corbino,D'Hoker,Kaidi,CFU 1812.10206]

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Thank you!