

# 新しいラージN極限と インスタントン

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畔柳さん、花田さん、本多さん、松尾さんとの共同研究  
に基づく。arXiv:1307.0809 [hep-th] (accepted by JHEP)



# From Strings to M !!

D-branes

M-branes

- BLG theory & ABJM theory for M2-branes (2007, 2008)
- 5d/6d equivalence for M5-branes (2010)

# Large-N limit?

4d SU(N) super Yang-Mills theory

- In usual, it means 't Hooft limit:

$$N \rightarrow \infty, \quad \lambda = g_{YM}^2 N : \text{fixed}$$

- 1/N expansion = genus expansion (related to [string theory](#)!)

$$F = \sum_{g=0}^{\infty} F_g(\lambda) N^{2-2g}$$

- The perturbative series (of  $\lambda$ ) may have a finite radius of convergence at large-N.
- Analytic continuation to **strong 't Hooft coupling**?  
(cf. AdS/CFT correspondence in string theory. M-theory?)
- Various nice properties (factorization, integrability, etc...)

# Super Yang-Mills theory

➤ Action

$$S_{YM} = \frac{N}{\lambda} \int d^4x \overset{\text{SU(N)}}{\downarrow} \text{Tr} \left[ \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^2 + \frac{1}{2} (D_\mu \phi)^2 + \dots \right]$$

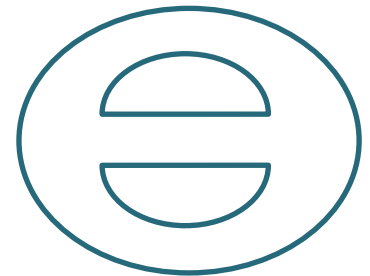
➤ N-dependence of amplitudes

- **Planar** diagram (genus 0)

dominant!

$$N^{-3} \times N^2 \times N^3 = N^2$$

(propagators) (vertices) (index loops)



- **Non-planar** diagram (genus 1)

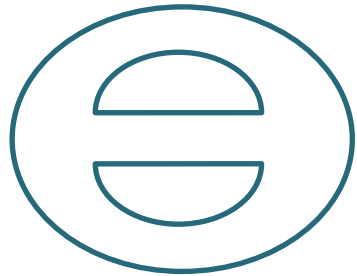
$$N^{-3} \times N^2 \times N^1 = N^0$$

(propagators) (vertices) (index loops)

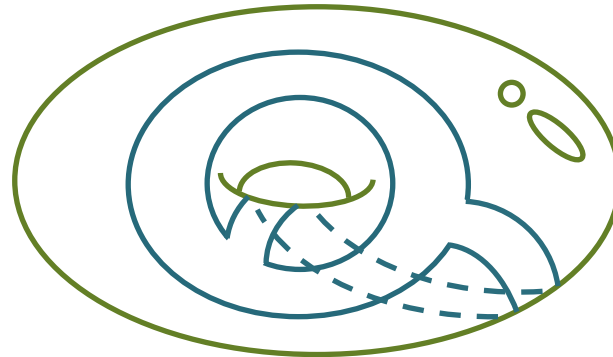


- ✓ This is why the **large-N** limit is called “the **planar** limit”.

# Topology



sphere  
(genus 0)



torus  
(genus 1)

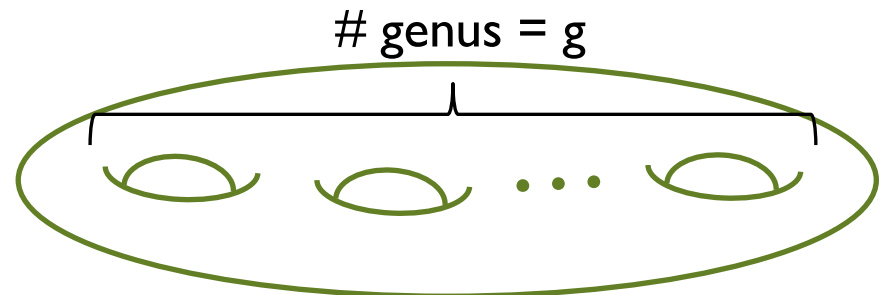
- More generally,
  - (# propagators) + (# vertices) + (# index loops)
  - =  $2 - 2(\# \text{ genus})$  : It is known as **Euler number**.

$$N^{2-2g}$$

# Relation to string theory

- We consider the diagrams which can be drawn on genus- $g$  surface, called “**genus- $g$  diagrams**”.
- They correspond to diagrams with  $g$  **closed string** loops.  
The amplitudes:  $N^{2-2g} \sim g_{YM}^{2(2g-2)} \sim g_s^{2g-2}$  (with  $\lambda$  fixed)
- For example, in AdS/CFT correspondence,  
**4d N=4 SYM** is equivalent to **IIB string on  $AdS_5 \times S^5$**   
(by considering the bunch of D3-branes and  $\alpha' / R_{AdS}^2 \sim \lambda^{-1/2}$ ).

genus- $g$  surface  
=  $g$  closed string loops



# String to M?

- In **string theory** (in AdS/CFT correspondence),
  - classical gravity = planar limit  
( $g_s \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\alpha' \rightarrow 0$ ) (Only genus-0 diagrams dominate.)
  - $g_s$  correction =  $1/N$  correction  
(string coupling)
  - $\alpha'$  correction =  $1/\lambda$  correction  
( $\sim$  string length<sup>2</sup>)
- But what about **M-theory**?
  - We need to consider the region of  $g_{YM}^2 \sim g_s \gtrsim \mathcal{O}(1)$
  - Is there any large-N limit??

# Another large-N limit

$$N \rightarrow \infty, \quad \lambda = g_{YM}^2 N \sim N^p$$

## ➤ p=0 case

- It is nothing but the ‘t Hooft limit.

## ➤ p>0 case

- We call it “**very strongly coupled large-N limit**”.
- 1/N expansion is different from genus expansion.
- Application for **M-theory?** (p=1):  $g_{YM}^2 \sim g_s \gtrsim \mathcal{O}(1)$   
(In ‘t Hooft limit,  $g_{YM}$  and  $g_s$  must become zero.)
- **Instanton effect** becomes finite:  $\exp[-8\pi^2/g_{YM}^2] = \mathcal{O}(1)$   
(In ‘t Hooft limit, it is exponentially suppressed.)



# Conjecture

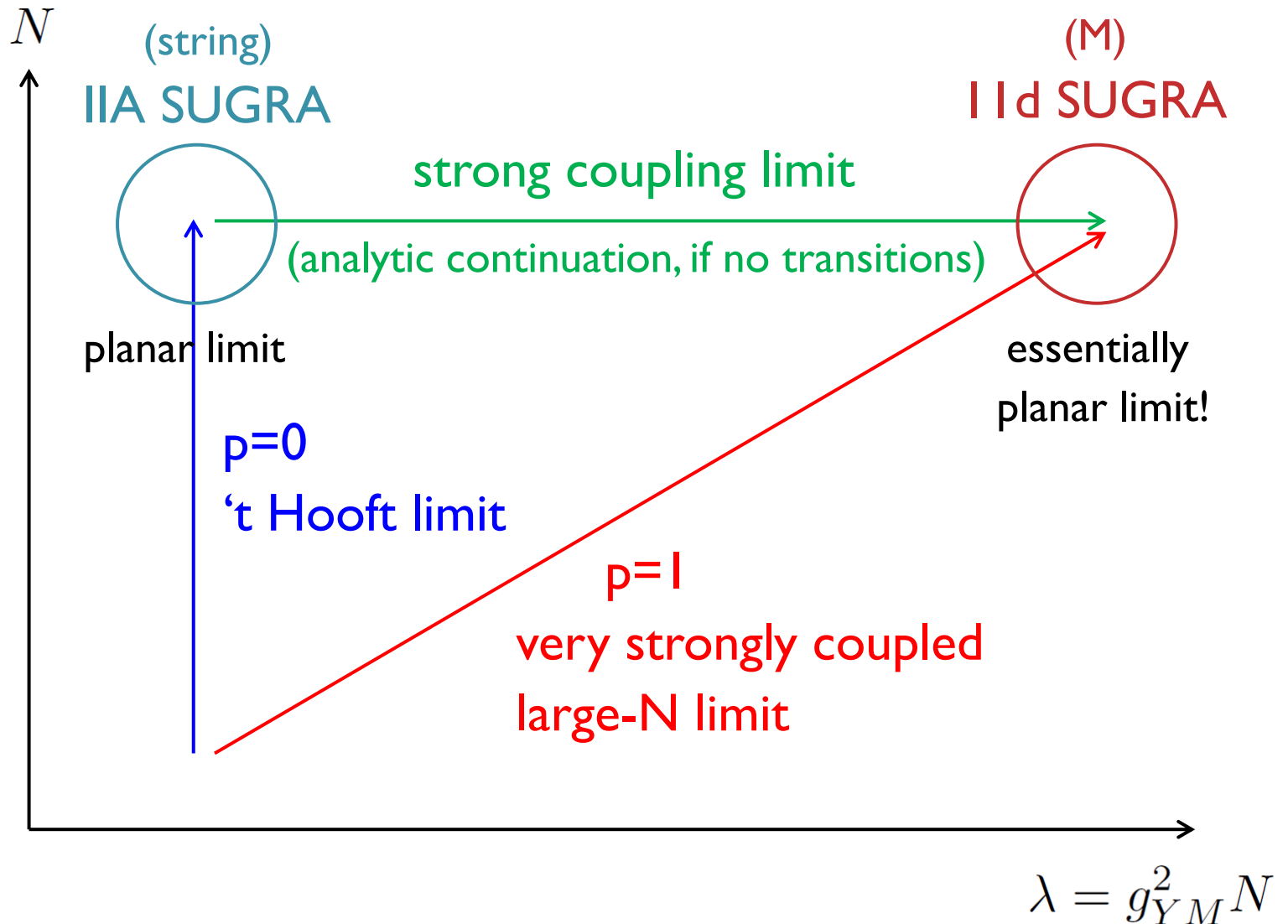
- The **very strongly coupled large-N limit** is well-defined and essentially the same as the **'t Hooft limit**.
- More precisely: large-N limit and strong 't Hooft coupling limit commute.
- When there is no “phase transition” (or as long as one considers the same point in the moduli space), the **analytic continuation** from the **planar limit** gives the right answer.

[Azeyanagi-Fujita-Hanada '12]

[Azeyanagi-Hanada-Honda-Matsuo-SS '13]

[Azeyanagi-Fujita-Hanada '12]

[Azeyanagi-Hanada-Honda-Matsuo-SS '13]





**Observation:**

**Analytic continuation to M-theory**

# Effective theory on M2-branes

➤ ABJM theory (dual to **M-theory** on  $\text{AdS}_4 \times S^7/\mathbb{Z}_k$ )

$$S_{\text{ABJM}} = \frac{k}{2\pi} \int d\tau d^2x \left( \text{Tr} \left[ (D_\mu \Phi_A^\dagger)(D^\mu \Phi^A) + i\Psi^{\dagger A} \gamma^\mu D_\mu \Psi_A \right] \right. \\ \left. + \mathcal{L}_{\text{CS}}^{(1)} - \mathcal{L}_{\text{CS}}^{(2)} - V_B - V_F \right),$$

Chern-Simons level

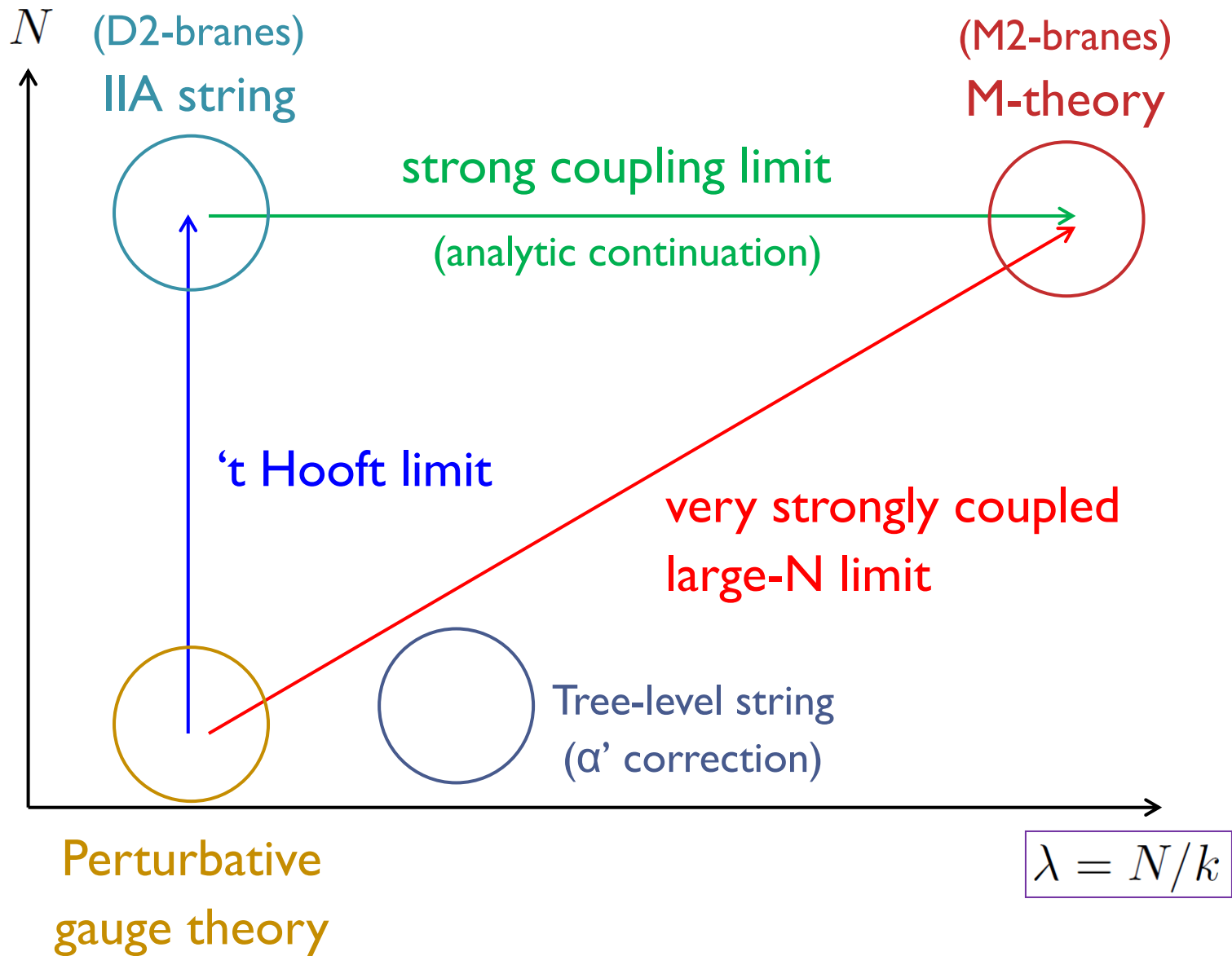
$U(N) \times U(N)$  gauge group

$A, B, C, D = 1, \dots, 4$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CS}}^{(i)} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} \text{Tr} \left[ A_\mu^{(i)} \partial_\nu A_\rho^{(i)} + \frac{2}{3} A_\mu^{(i)} A_\nu^{(i)} A_\rho^{(i)} \right],$$

$$V_B = \frac{1}{3} \text{Tr} \left[ \Phi_A^\dagger \Phi^A \Phi_B^\dagger \Phi^B \Phi_C^\dagger \Phi^C + \Phi^A \Phi_A^\dagger \Phi^B \Phi_B^\dagger \Phi^C \Phi_C^\dagger + 4\Phi^A \Phi_B^\dagger \Phi^C \Phi_A^\dagger \Phi^B \Phi_C^\dagger \right. \\ \left. - 6\Phi^A \Phi_B^\dagger \Phi^B \Phi_A^\dagger \Phi^C \Phi_C^\dagger \right],$$

$$V_F = i \text{Tr} \left[ \Phi_A^\dagger \Phi^A \Psi^{\dagger B} \Psi_B - \Phi^A \Phi_A^\dagger \Psi_B \Psi^{\dagger B} - 2\Phi_A^\dagger \Phi^B \Psi^{\dagger A} \Psi_B + 2\Phi^A \Phi_B^\dagger \Psi_A \Psi^{\dagger B} \right. \\ \left. - \epsilon^{ABCD} \Phi_A^\dagger \Psi_B \Phi_C^\dagger \Psi_D + \epsilon_{ABCD} \Phi^A \Psi^{\dagger B} \Phi^C \Psi^{\dagger D} \right],$$



# Free energy

- We can calculate it by using ABJM matrix model (which is derived by using localization technique).

[Kapustin-Willet-Yaakov '09]

- It agrees with SUGRA predictions.

(We checked it smoothly connects them and perturbative ones.)

[Drukker-Marino-Putrov '10]

[Hanada-Honda-Honma-Nishimura-SS-Yoshida '12]

- ✓ In IIA string region:

$$(N^{\frac{1}{5}} \ll k \ll N)$$

$$F = \frac{\pi\sqrt{2}}{3} \frac{N^2}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$$

- ✓ In M-theory region:

$$(k \ll N^{\frac{1}{5}})$$

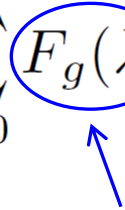
$$F = \frac{\pi\sqrt{2}}{3} \sqrt{k} N^{3/2}$$

the same  
expression!

- **Analytic continuation** from  $\lambda = \mathcal{O}(1)$  to  $\lambda = \mathcal{O}(N)$

# Planar part is dominant!

even in M-theory region!

$$F = \sum_{g=0}^{\infty} F_g(\lambda) N^{2-2g}$$


N-dependent in M-theory region

- AdS/CFT tells us that, at strong coupling,  $\alpha'$ -expansion ( **$1/\lambda$ -expansion**) is good, at least in IIA string region.
- Then, only the leading term in each  $F_g$  is important.

$$\text{For } F_0 (g=0) : \frac{\pi\sqrt{2}}{3} \frac{N^2}{\sqrt{\lambda}}, \quad \text{For } F_g (g>0) : c_g \frac{N^{2-2g}}{\lambda^{\frac{1}{2}-g}}$$

- The **planar part** ( $g=0$ ) dominates even **outside** the planar limit :  $\lambda \sim N^p$  ( $0 < p \leq 1$ )

# What about M5-branes?

- Effective field theory is not known yet.
- Recently, however, the special class (called “class S”) of **4d N=2 theories** has been widely studied as the theory of M5-brane on 2d punctured Riemann surface.



special (simple) examples

[Gaiotto '09]


- **4d N=2\* SYM** : main topic of this seminar



mass deformation

- **4d N=4 SYM** (maximal SUSY) :  
Effective theory on D3-branes (IIB string on  $AdS_5 \times S^5$ )





**Example I:**  
**4d N=4 SYM**

# AdS<sub>5</sub>/CFT<sub>4</sub> correspondence

[Maldacena '97]

- 4d N=4 SYM is **equivalent** to IIB string on AdS<sub>5</sub> × S<sup>5</sup> :

$$g_{YM}^2 \sim g_s, \quad \alpha' / R_{AdS}^2 \sim \lambda^{-1/2}$$

$$\lambda = g_{YM}^2 N$$

- Perturbative string picture is valid when

$$g_s \ll 1, \quad \lambda \gg 1$$

- In usual, one takes the 't Hooft limit first and then consider **strong 't Hooft coupling**. (tree-level string)
- Or one consider **large-but-finite-N** with  $\lambda = \mathcal{O}(1)$ , so that 1/N expansion and string loop expansion **coincide**.
- However, such limit is **not required** for the validity of the weakly coupled gravity description.

# Very strongly coupled large-N

[Azeyanagi-Fujita-Hanada '12]

When there is gravity dual:

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{F}(\lambda, N) &= F(g_s, \alpha') \\ &= g_s^{-2} F_0(\alpha') + F_1(\alpha') + g_s^2 F_2(\alpha') + \dots \\ &= g_s^{-2} (f_{0,0}) + f_{0,1} \alpha' + f_{0,2} \alpha'^2 + \dots \\ &\quad + (f_{1,0} + f_{1,1} \alpha' + f_{1,2} \alpha'^2 + \dots) \\ &\quad + g_s^2 (f_{2,0} + f_{2,1} \alpha' + f_{2,2} \alpha'^2 + \dots) + \dots\end{aligned}$$

- $f_{0,0}$  dominates as long as  $g_s \ll 1$ ,  $\lambda \gg 1$
- At  $1 \ll \lambda \ll N$ , it is simply the same expression as the  
SUGRA = planar limit. So **the very strongly coupled limit exists!!**
- In addition, the analytic continuation to  $N < \lambda$  can be confirmed by using S-duality.



# Example 2 (main topic):

## 4d $N=2^*$ SYM

[Azeyanagi-Hanada-Honda-Matsuo-SS '13]

# Free energy

- **4d N=2\* SYM** can be obtained by mass deformation of N=4 SYM. Here we consider N=2\* U(kN) SYM.
- Free energy is calculated by using **Nekrasov's formula**.

$$Z_{N=2^*} = \int d^{kN} a \left( \prod_{\substack{i,j=1 \\ i < j}}^{kN} (a_i - a_j)^2 \right) Z_{N=2^*}^{(\text{pert})}(a_i, m) | Z_{N=2^*}^{(\text{inst})}(a_i, \tilde{m}) |^2 \exp \left( - \frac{8\pi^2}{g_p^2} \sum_{i=1}^{kN} a_i^2 \right)$$

perturbative
instanton
classical

- ✓  $g_p$  is YM coupling and  $a_i$  are Coulomb parameters (moduli).
- ✓ Classical part : almost the same as N=4 case
- ✓ Perturbative part : 1-loop quantum effect
- ✓ Instanton part : non-perturbative contribution

# Perturbative part

$$F^{(\text{pert})} = -(kN)^2(1 + m^2) \left( \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{\lambda_p(1 + m^2)}{16\pi^2} + \frac{1}{4} + \gamma \right)$$

- This sector takes the same expression in the 't Hooft limit and the **very strongly coupled large-N limit**. That is, they are related by “analytic continuation”.
- The conditions in this expression are as follows:
  - ✓ We need to use the saddle point method for the integral of  $a$ , so we assume  $g_p^2 \ll 1$ , or equivalently,  $\lambda_p = g_p^2(kN) \ll N$
  - ✓ We use the spectral density of  $a$  for  $\lambda_p \gg 4\pi^2 m^2 / (m^2 + 1)$  which obeys the semi-circle law.

[Douglas-Shenker '95]

[Russo-Zarembo '12]

# One-instanton part

$$F_Y^{(\text{inst})} = -\log(\mathcal{Z}_Y / \mathcal{Z}_\emptyset) \quad \text{for the Young tableau } Y = \begin{matrix} (\square, \emptyset, \dots, \emptyset) \\ b \quad a \end{matrix}$$

$$F_Y^{(\text{inst})} \simeq \frac{8\pi^2}{g_p^2} - \log \left[ \frac{(1 - \tilde{m})^2}{(2 - \tilde{m})\tilde{m}} \right] - kN \int da \rho(a) \log \left[ \frac{(2 - i(b - a) - \tilde{m})(i(b - a) - \tilde{m})}{(2 - i(b - a))i(b - a)} \right]$$

$O(\log g_p^2)$  : interactions between instantons

- Compared to the perturbative part, it is **subdominant** in the both limits. But a different point is:
  - ✓ In the **'t Hooft limit**, it is exponentially suppressed as  $\sim e^{-N}$ .
  - ✓ In the **very strongly coupled large-N limit** ( $g_p \sim 1$ ), it may give **comparable** contribution  $O(N^0)$  as the **genus-one diagrams** in the perturbative sector.

# (Whole of) free energy

- By summing up all the parts and by taking into account the multi-instanton configurations, one obtains

$$F = \underbrace{-\log \mathcal{Z}_\emptyset}_{\text{perturbative part}} + kN \log \left| 1 + \sum_{\tilde{Y}} e^{-F_{\tilde{Y}}^{(\text{inst})}} \right|^2$$


instanton with only  $Y_1 \neq \emptyset$

- ✓ Note that the interaction between instantons is negligible.
- ✓ Then the free energy for generic tableaux decomposes to a sum of contribution from each eigenvalue  $a$  as

$$F_Y^{(\text{inst})} \simeq \sum_{Y_i \neq \emptyset} F_{Y_i}^{(\text{inst})} \quad Y = (Y_1, \dots, Y_{kN})$$

- In both limits the planar part ( $\sim N^2$ ) is dominant and they are related by “**analytic continuation**”.



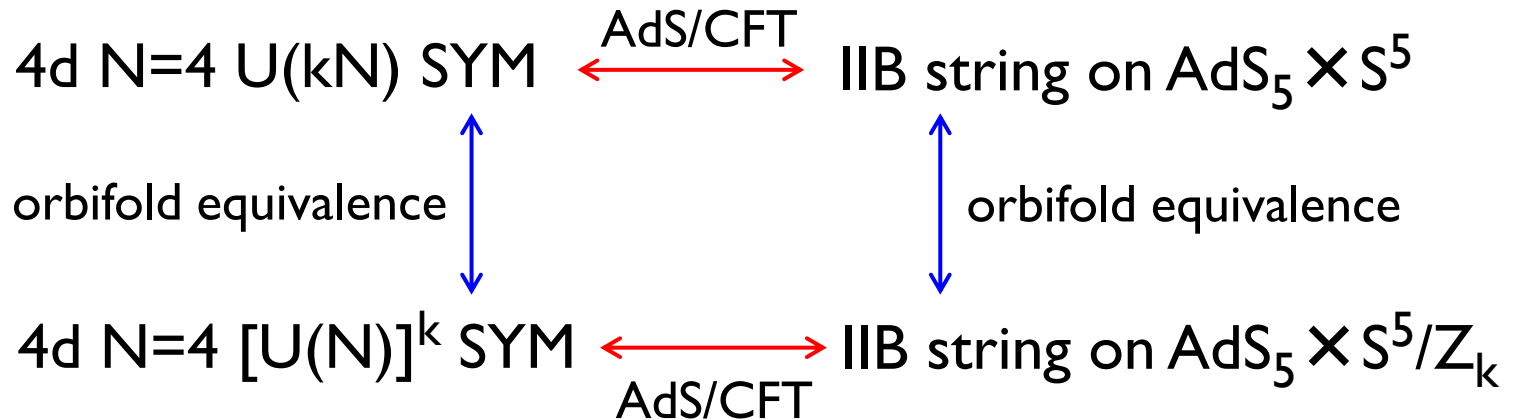


# Further evidence: Orbifold equivalence

[Azeyanagi-Hanada-Honda-Matsuo-SS '13]

# 4d N=4 SYM

[Kachru-Silverstein '98]



In the gauge side, correlation func. of  $Z_k$ -invariant operators coincide with that in the orbifolded theory.

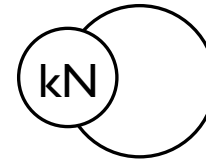
In the gravity side,  $Z_k$ -invariant modes do not distinguish these two theories.

- In this discussion, the **planar limit** is not really necessary: classical gravity discussion is the key.
- From the gauge theory viewpoint, the equivalence is gone as soon as the **nonplanar** diagrams are taken into account.

# 4d $N=2^*$ SYM

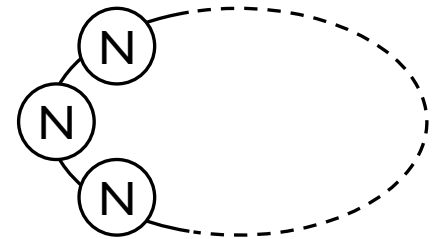
[Azeyanagi-Hanada-Honda-Matsuo-SS '13]

“parent”:  $N=2^*$   $U(kN)$  gauge theory



$Z_k$  orbifolding

“daughter”:  $N=2$   $[U(N)]^k$  necklace quiver



- When the daughter theory keeps  $N=2$  SUSY, one can easily confirm the **orbifold equivalence** by using the Nekrasov’s formula. In both large- $N$  limits,

$$F_p(\lambda, N) = kF_d(\lambda, N)$$

- The equivalence holds at each instanton sector.  
(The sector with the same total number of instantons.)

# Towards SYM with less SUSY



You can use Nekrasov's formula.

You can take it to be non-SUSY!

$$F_p(\lambda, N) = kF_d(\lambda, N)$$

- The orbifold equivalence requires that the **vacuum structures** of the parent and daughter theories be properly related.
- When the number of instantons and anti-instantons is  $O(1)$ , the vacuum structures don't change, so the equivalence holds.
- However, when it becomes  $O(N)$ , the vacuum structures in the **very strongly coupled large-N limit** are modified and hence careful identification of the right vacua is required.

# Conclusion and Discussion

- Both in the **very strongly coupled large-N limit** and in the **'t Hooft limit**, the planar sector is dominant.
- In addition, the two large-N limits are smoothly related by **analytic continuation**. (No transitions in our cases.)

➤ Application for 4d N=2 theories in “class S”

- Gauge/gravity correspondence in M-theory?

On-shell action of **11d SUGRA**  
(Gaiotto-Maldacena geometry)

??  
=

Free energy of  
**4d N=2 gauge theory**

- 11d SUGRA, corresponding to “planar” in gauge theory side, *may* know the **instantons** in the large-N limit with **fixed  $g_{YM}$** !

[Azeyanagi-Hanada-Honda-Matsuo-SS, in progress]