

“large N” $\mathcal{N} = 2$ super-Chern-Simons-matter theory

Anirbit

DTP, TIFR

July 10, 2011

Coming up next!

- 1 Overview of the pursuits during the MSc. internship
- 2 The background behind the work
- 3 The basic set up
- 4 Counting number of states at a given “energy” level
- 5 “Q-cohomology”
- 6 Exciting questions that remain
- 7 Thanks

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- I also learnt methods of Geometric Invariant Theory (GIT) in trying to find a description of the conformal manifold of a fixed kind of matter coupling to $\mathcal{N} = 2$ super-Chern-Simons theory. This was motivated by a recent geometric prescription for this given by Daniel Green, Zohar Komargodski, Nathan Seiberg, Yuji Tachikawa and Brian Wecht.

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- One way to test my quite simple approximation technique will be to see that the Hagedorn transition temperature that it predicts agrees very closely with the exact results for this temperature (obtained by much more sophisticated techniques) as obtained in a paper by by Ofer Aharony, Joseph Marsano, Shiraz Minwalla, Kyriakos Papadodimas and Mark Van Raamsdonk.

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- I shall also report some data that I calculated about the first few “Q-cohomologies”. Here I do not yet have any exact result like for the above.

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operator	(Δ, j, h)
ϕ	$(\frac{1}{2}, 0, \frac{1}{2})$
χ	$(1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$
Q	$(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, 1)$
D	$(1, 1, 0)$

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- Though the particular sequence in which the operators occur in a composite operator is important (up to cyclic permutation because of the overall trace over the gauge index in the actual operators) for the sake of counting its quantum number it is not. Hence for the sake of counting quantum numbers the most general operator can be thought of as “ $\phi^n \chi^m D^k$ ” with the quantum numbers $(\frac{n}{2} + m + k, \frac{m}{2} + k, \frac{n}{2} + \frac{m}{2})$. Then after the action of the supersymmetry operator the quantum numbers of $Q(\phi^n \chi^m D^k)$ are $(\frac{n}{2} + m + k + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{m}{2} + k - \frac{1}{2}, \frac{n}{2} + \frac{m}{2} + 1)$.

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- The sum $\Delta + j$ is conserved by the action of supersymmetry. Hence the action of Q preserves the value of $\Delta + j$ as $\frac{n}{2} + \frac{3m}{2} + 2k$. Coupled to the fact that Q is linear over “words” (states/operators) in the “letters” ϕ , χ and D it is consistent to talk of the matrix of Q at every value of $\Delta + j$.

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- If given an operator O_1 there exists another operator O_2 such that $O_1 = Q(O_2)$ then O_1 will be called *Q – exact*. If for an operator O it is true that $Q(O) = 0$ then O will be called *Q – closed*.

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- For the theory at hand the action of the supersymmetry operator on the fields is given as,
 - $Q\phi = [Q, \phi] = 0$
 - $Q\chi = \{Q, \chi\} = 0$ (no superpotential) (or $= \lambda\phi^3$ with a superpotential)
 - $Q(DO) = [[\phi, \chi], O] + D(QO)$

where,

- O is any arbitrary operator made up of only ϕ and χ .
- The notation $[\ , \]$ means that it will be a commutator or an anti-commutator depending on whether O is bosonic or fermionic respectively. O will be bosonic or fermionic depending on whether it has even or odd number of χ s in it.

A combinatorial formulation of the theory..contd.

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- If A and B are two operators made up of ϕ , χ and D only and $f(A)$ be the number of fermions (χ s) in A then D acts as a normal derivative on the product AB and Q acts like a graded derivative as follows,

$$D(AB) = (DA)B + A(DB)$$

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- The result of the action of Q on various members of an equivalence class of strings of letters up to cyclic permutation can only differ by an overall sign. This will be tantamount to flipping all the signs of one or more columns in the matrix for Q at any value of $\Delta + j$. But doing this does not change the rank or the dimension of the kernel of the matrix - the only two properties of the matrix that will be of relevance here. Hence it is consistent to live with the sign ambiguity resulting from arbitrarily picking the representative from each equivalence class under cyclic permutation of the “words” in the “letters”.

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- In this listing if two operators are produced such that one when expanded by using the Leibnitz property of the D gives some scalar multiple of the other then only one representative form of the term will be listed. For the ease of counting purposes I will always list the term where D is acting on only one operator.

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$\Delta + j$	linearly independent $Q - \text{closed}$	linearly independent not $Q - \text{closed}$	linearly dependent not $Q - \text{exact}$
$\frac{1}{2}$	ϕ		
1	ϕ^2		
$\frac{3}{2}$	ϕ^3, χ		
2	$\phi\chi, \phi^4, (D ?)$		
$\frac{5}{2}$	$\phi^2\chi, \phi^5, D\phi$		
3	$\chi^2, \phi^3\chi, \phi^6, \phi D(\phi) = \frac{1}{2}D(\phi^2)$		
$\frac{7}{2}$	$\phi\chi^2, \phi^4\chi, \phi^7, D(\chi), \phi^2 D(\phi)$		
4	$\phi^8, \phi^5\chi, \phi^2\chi^2, \chi\phi\chi\phi, \phi^3 D(\phi), \phi D(\chi)$	$\chi D(\phi)$	$D(\phi\chi), D^2 (?)$
$\frac{9}{2}$	$\phi^9, \phi^6\chi, \phi^3\chi^2, \phi\chi\phi\chi\phi, \chi^3, \phi^4 D(\phi), \phi^2 D(\chi), D^2\phi$	$\phi\chi D(\phi), \chi\phi D(\phi)$	$\chi D(\phi^2), \phi D(\chi\phi), \phi D(\phi\chi), D(\phi^2\chi), D(\chi\phi^2)$
5	$\phi^{10}, \phi^7\chi, \phi^4\chi^2, \phi^3\chi\phi\chi, \phi^2\chi\phi^2\chi, \phi\chi^3, \phi^5 D(\phi), \chi D(\chi), \phi^3 D(\chi)$	$\phi^2\chi D(\phi), \chi\phi^2 D(\phi), \phi\chi\phi D(\phi), (D\phi)^2, \phi D^2(\phi)(?)$	$\phi^2 D(\phi\chi), \phi^2 D(\chi\phi), \phi D(\phi^2\chi), \phi D(\phi\chi\phi), \phi D(\chi\phi^2), D(\chi\phi^3), D(\phi^3\chi), D(\phi\chi\phi^2), D(\phi^2\chi\phi)$

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- Given any one such term corresponding to a fixed positive integral solution of the above Diophantine equation, all the cyclic permutations of a string of letters correspond to the same operator since everything is under a trace. More importantly this is true even with a D . Hence it suffices to count permutations of strings of letters with fixed number of ϕ s, χ s and D s up to cyclic permutation. (This could be reminiscent of what is called the "inclusion-exclusion" technique in combinatorics.)

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So the term corresponding to this solution family and $d = 1$ is,

$$\frac{1}{3p+r} \frac{(3p+r)!}{(p+r)!p!p!}$$

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In cases like theory with two non-commuting scalar fields and each of $\Delta + j = 1$ or in a theory with only ϕ and D , a similar analysis like above gives the Hagedorn transition temperature exactly the same and very close (respectively) to those obtained by more sophisticated methods in the paper "The Hagedorn/Deconfinement Phase Transition in Weakly Coupled Large N Gauge Theories", Adv.Theor.Math.Phys.8:603-696 (2004), [arXiv:hep-th/0310285v6] by Ofer Aharony, Joseph Marsano, Shiraz Minwalla, Kyriakos Papadodimas and Mark Van Raamsdonk.

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Coming up next!

- 1 Overview of the pursuits during the MSc. internship
- 2 The background behind the work
- 3 The basic set up
- 4 Counting number of states at a given "energy" level
- 5 "Q-cohomology"**
- 6 Exciting questions that remain
- 7 Thanks

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Data that was calculated about Q – *cohomology* for the first few levels of $\Delta + j$

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Data that was calculated about Q – cohomology for the first few levels of $\Delta + j$

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$\Delta + j$	$\lambda \neq 0$ $\dim(\text{Ker}) - \dim(\text{Im}) = \dim(\text{Ker}/\text{Im})$	$\lambda = 0$ $\dim(\text{Ker}) - \dim(\text{Im}) = \dim(\text{Ker}/\text{Im})$
5	$7 - 6 = 1$	$11 - 2 = 9$
4	$6 - 4 = 2$	$9 - 1 = 8$
3	$4 - 2 = 2$	$6 - 0 = 6$
2	$3 - 2 = 1$	$5 - 0 = 5$
1	$2 - 1 = 1$	$3 - 0 = 3$
0	$2 - 1 = 1$	$3 - 0 = 3$
-1	$1 - 1 = 0$	$2 - 0 = 2$
-2	$1 - 1 = 0$	$2 - 0 = 2$
-3	$1 - 1 = 0$	$1 - 0 = 1$
-4	$1 - 0 = 1$	$1 - 0 = 0$

Data that was calculated about Q – cohomology for the first few levels of $\Delta + j$

For the first 10 “energy” levels the calculated data is as follows,

$\Delta + j$	$\lambda \neq 0$	$\lambda = 0$
	$\dim(\text{Ker}) - \dim(\text{Im}) = \dim(\text{Ker}/\text{Im})$	$\dim(\text{Ker}) - \dim(\text{Im}) = \dim(\text{Ker}/\text{Im})$
5	$7 - 6 = 1$	$11 - 2 = 9$
4	$6 - 4 = 2$	$9 - 1 = 8$
3	$4 - 2 = 2$	$6 - 0 = 6$
2	$3 - 2 = 1$	$5 - 0 = 5$
1	$2 - 1 = 1$	$3 - 0 = 3$
0	$2 - 1 = 1$	$3 - 0 = 3$
-1	$1 - 1 = 0$	$2 - 0 = 2$
-2	$1 - 1 = 0$	$2 - 0 = 2$
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-5	$1 - 0 = 1$	$1 - 0 = 0$

The number of “Q-cohomology” classes seems to change for the slightest of non-zero values of λ from its values in the free case ($\lambda = 0$) and then it remains constant irrespective of the strength of the deformation. The above can be understood from the fact that in the defining equations for Q , the λ can always be scaled to 1 by a variable redefinition of the fields.

Coming up next!

- 1 Overview of the pursuits during the MSc. internship
- 2 The background behind the work
- 3 The basic set up
- 4 Counting number of states at a given “energy” level
- 5 “Q-cohomology”
- 6 Exciting questions that remain**
- 7 Thanks

Future directions

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- As has been said in the introduction, the main objective is to be able to get an analytic control over features of these theories like their BPS spectrum and “Q-cohomology” which are being believed to be independent of the 'tHooft parameter (λ). Added to the above is also the assumption that the “Q-cohomology” calculated in the classical theory is in bijection with the BPS spectrum. Given how important these intuitions are in paving a way towards strong/weak coupling dualities, it becomes extremely important to be able to find a proof or at least stronger evidence in their favour.

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- There is increasing evidence for the decrease of the R-charge (from its original value of $\frac{1}{2}$) for the chiral fields as a function of the 'tHooft parameter. In perturbation theory this was pointed out by Davide Gaiotto and Xi Yin and in recent months it also has been converted into possibly an exact result by Daniel Jafferis. These give strong reasons to believe that the scaling dimensions of the operators will also decrease exactly in the same way so as to preserve the BPS nature of these operators. Hence the challenge is to show that the BPS spectrum remains invariant with the 'tHooft coupling though the scaling dimension and R-charge (the very same quantities defining the BPS condition!) are decreasing.

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Future directions

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- Here it is appropriate to mention that in the recent work by Shiraz Minwalla, Prithvi Narayan, Tarun Sharma, V. Umesh, Xi Yin, they have shown numerical evidence for the R-charge value to asymptote from above to $\frac{1}{2(\lambda+1)}$. They have also shown that in some theories the R-charge goes to zero as the 'tHooft coupling goes to infinity. That means that in that limit one can add arbitrary number of scalar fields to the operators with no increase in R-charge and this would mean that the theory is developing a continuum of states. This is indicative of there being a description in terms of a theory with a non-compact dimension though there was no such geometrical feature initially! These exciting results need to be understood analytically and hopefully a non-perturbative understanding would eventually emerge.

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- I also owe a lot to the deep insights and beautiful references on these subjects that were shared with me by Davide Gaiotto and F.A.Dolan.