Nekrasov Conjecture for Toric Surfaces

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> UPenn Math-Physics Seminar April 14, 2009

Elizabeth Gasparim, Chiu-Chu Melissa Liu Nekrasov Conjecture for Toric Surfaces

The statement of the conjecture comes from N. A. Nekrasov, Seiberg-Witten prepotential from instanton counting, and predicts a relation between SUSY N = 2 Yang-Mills instanton partition functions and the Seiberg-Witten prepotential.

Field theory description: comes from comparison of the infrared and ultraviolet limits of certain gauge theories. Nekrasov verifies that the vaccum expectation values of their observables is not sensitive to the energy scale.

- 1. In the ultraviolet the theory is weakly coupled and dominated by instantons.
- 2. In the infrared there appears a relation to the prepotential of the effective theory.

Comparing the results of 1 and 2 leads to a conjectural relation between the instanton partition function and the Seiberg–Witten prepotential.

The conjecture for instantons on \mathbb{R}^4 was proven (4d cases)

by Nekrasov and Okounkov in Seiberg–Witten Theory and Random Partitions – 2003

by Nakajima–Yoshioka in Instanton Counting on Blowup I. 4-Dimensional Pure Gauge Theory – 2003

by Braverman–Etingof in Instanton counting via affine Lie algebras II: from Whittaker vectors to the Seiberg–Witten prepotential – 2004

Note that the papers above address only instantons on \mathbb{R}^4 . Our result is a proof of a generalised form of Nekrasov's conjecture for instantons on toric surfaces.

Göttsche–Nakajima–Yoshioka (5d theory compactified on a circle) *K-theoretic Donaldson invariants via instanton counting* – 2006

Theorem (G., Chiu-Chu Melissa Liu)

Nekrasov's conjecture is true for non-compact toric surfaces.

(We prove 8 instances of the conjecture, more later...)

I now explain the formal statement of the theorem for instantons over the open, toric surface

 $\Sigma_k^o \coloneqq \Sigma_k ackslash \ell_\infty = \mathsf{Tot}ig(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(-k)ig)$

In this particular example we have the same moduli spaces as the ones considered by Bruzzo – Poghossian – Tanzini in *Instanton counting on Hirzebruch surfaces*– 2008

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- ▶ Non-compact case: there is a family of theories parametrised by the *u*-plane.
- Compact case: one integrates over the *u*-plane, so the partition function depends on one less parameter.

Nekrasov instanton partition function (pure gauge)

$$Z_X^{\text{inst}}(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \vec{a}; \Lambda) := \sum_{n \ge 0} \Lambda^{2rn} \int_{\mathfrak{M}(X, r, n)} 1$$

where $\mathfrak{M}(X, r, n)$ is the moduli space of framed SU(r)-instantons with charge n on surface X.

Here the ϵ_i are parameters of the small torus action on the surface, and \vec{a} is a vector on the Lie algebra of the big torus that acts on framings.

The integral is taken by formally applying Atiyah–Bott localization and taking the result as the definition.

First I intent to compare existence results for classical instantons versus supersymmetric instantons.

Lemma (G., Köppe, Majumdar)

SU(r)-instantons on Σ_k^o are in one-to-one correspondence with rank-r holomorphic bundles on Σ_k^o with $c_1 = 0$ together with a framing at infinity.

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Remark

If k = 1, then all holomorphic bundles on $\sum_{k=0}^{o}$ with $c_1 = 0$ correspond to instantons; otherwise there are strong restrictions on the splitting type.

In particular, this implies gaps on the values of the topological charge.

Theorem (G., Köppe, Majumdar) If E is a nontrivial SU(2)-instanton on Σ_k^o , then its charge satisfies $\chi(E) \ge k - 1$.

Definition

Let $\pi: \tilde{X} \to X$ be a resolution of a singularity $x \in X$ and E sheaf on \tilde{X} then the local charge of E is

$$\chi^{loc}(E) := I(R^1 \pi_* E) + I\left(\frac{(\pi_* E)^{\vee \vee}}{\pi_* E}\right) = \mathbf{h}_k(E) + \mathbf{w}_k(E)$$

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Theorem (Ballico, Köppe, G.)

Let *E* be an algebraic rank-2 vector bundle over $\sum_{k=0}^{0} \text{ with } c_1 = 0$ and splitting type j > 0. Let $n_1 = \lfloor \frac{j-2}{k} \rfloor$ and $n_2 = \lfloor \frac{j}{k} \rfloor$. Then the following bounds are sharp:

$$j-1 \leq \mathbf{h}_k(E) \leq (j-1)(n_1+1) - k \binom{n_1}{2}$$

 $0 \leq \mathbf{w}_k(E) \leq (j+1)n_2 - k \binom{n_2}{2}$

and $w_1(E) \ge 1$.

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In greater generality, for framed, torsion-free sheaves of degree d and $c_2 = n$ we have:

Lemma

 $\mathfrak{M}(\Sigma_k, r, d, n)$ is smooth of dimension $2nr + k(r-1)d^2$.

Computation technique: We use the Atiyah–Bott Localisation Theorem for the toric action on the moduli spaces to compute Nekrasov's partition function.

We have a torus $\tilde{T} = T_t \times T_e$ where: the small torus $T_t \simeq \mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*$ acts on the surface X, the big torus T_e is the maximal torus of GL(r) acting on frames.

- For $(t_1, t_2) \in T_t$ we denote by $F_{(t_1, t_2)}$ the automorphism of X given by $F_{(t_1, t_2)}(x) = (t_1, t_2) \cdot x$.
- ▶ For $\vec{e} = \text{diag}(e_1, \dots, e_r) \in T_e$ we denote by $G_{\vec{e}}$ the isomorphism of $\mathcal{O}_{\ell_{\infty}}^{\oplus r}$ given by $(s_1, \dots, s_r) \mapsto (e_1s_1, \dots, e_rs_r)$.

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The above actions induce an action of *T* on the moduli space: given (E, Φ) ∈ 𝔐_{r,d,n}(X, ℓ_∞) set

$$(t_1,t_2,ec{e})\cdot(E,\Phi)=ig((F_{t_1,t_2}^{-1})^*E,\Phi'ig)$$
 ,

where Φ' is the composition of homomorphisms

$$(F_{t_1,t_2}^{-1})^* E|_{\ell_{\infty}} \xrightarrow{(F_{t_1,t_2}^{-1})^* \Phi} (F_{t_1,t_2}^{-1})^* \mathcal{O}_{\ell_{\infty}}^{\oplus r} \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\ell_{\infty}}^{\oplus r} \xrightarrow{\mathsf{G}_e} \mathcal{O}_{\ell_{\infty}}^{\oplus r}$$

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The set of fixed points $\mathfrak{M}_{r,d,n}(X,\ell_{\infty})^{\widetilde{T}}$ consist of

$$(E, \Phi) = (I_1(D_1), \Phi_1) \oplus \cdots \oplus (I_2(D_r), \Phi_r)$$

such that

$$I_{\alpha}(D_{\alpha}) = I_{\alpha} \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X}(D_{\alpha})$$

- D_{lpha} is a T_t -invariant divisor in $X_0 = X \setminus \ell_{\infty}$
- I_{α} are ideal sheaves of 0-dimensional subschemes Q_{α} in X_0 .
- I_{α} is fixed by the action of T_t .

• Φ_{α} is an isomorphism from $(I_{\alpha})_{\ell_{\infty}}$ to the α th factor of $\mathcal{O}_{\ell_{\infty}}^{\oplus r}$. The support of Q_{α} must be contained in the fixed point set in X.

Each Q_{α} is a union of subschemes Q_{α}^{ν} supported at a fixed point $p_{\nu} \in X_0$. If we take a coordinate system (x, y) around p_{ν} then the ideal of Q_{α}^{ν} is generated by monomials $x^i y^j$, so Q_{α}^{ν} corresponds to a Young diagram Y_{α}^{ν} .

Relation to the surface X^0 : we write a graph Γ so that the fixed point set gets described in terms of combinatorial data:

$$\begin{cases} \text{vertices of } \Gamma \} \iff \{ T_t \text{-fixed points in } X^0 \} \\ \{ \text{edge of } \Gamma \} \iff \{ T_t \text{-invariant } \mathbb{P}^1 \text{ in } X^0 \} \end{cases}$$

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Let $ET \rightarrow BT$ be the universal *T*-bundle. Then

$$BT = B(\mathbb{C}^*)^{2+r} \cong (B\mathbb{C}^*)^{2+r}$$

where $B\mathbb{C}^* = \mathbb{P}^{\infty}$. The *T*-equivariant cohomology of *X* is

$$H^*_T(X) = H^*(ET \times_T X)$$

is the homotopy orbit space. In particular,

$$H^*_T(\mathrm{pt}) = H^*_T(BT) \cong \mathbb{Q}[\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, a_1, \dots, a_r].$$

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Notation:

- $M^T = T$ -fixed points of M.
- N = normal bundle of M^T .

$$\int_{M} \alpha = \int_{M^{T}} \frac{i^{*} \alpha}{e_{T}(N)} ,$$

where $i: M^T \hookrightarrow M$ is the inclusion.

In particular, when M^{T} consists of isolated points, then

$$\int_{M} \alpha = \sum_{j=1}^{N} \frac{i^{*} \alpha}{e_{T}(T_{p_{j}}M)}$$

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For i = 1, 2, let $p_i : BT_t \cong \mathbb{P}^{\infty} \times \mathbb{P}^{\infty}$ be the projection to the *i*-th factor, and let $\epsilon_i = (c_1)_{T_t}(p_i^*\mathcal{O}(1))$. Then

$$H^*_{T_t}(pt; \mathbb{Q}) = H^*(BT_t; \mathbb{Q}) = \mathbb{Q}[\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2].$$

Let $t_i = e^{\epsilon_i} = ch_1(p_i^*\mathcal{O}(1))$. Similarly, for j = 1, ..., r, let $q_j : BT_e \cong (\mathbb{P}^{\infty})^r \to \mathbb{P}^{\infty}$ be the projection to the *j*-th factor, and let $a_j = (c_1)_{T_t}(q_i^*\mathcal{O}(1))$. Then

$$H^*_{T_e}(pt; \mathbb{Q}) = H^*(BT_e; \mathbb{Q}) = \mathbb{Q}[a_1, \ldots, a_r].$$

Let $e_j = e^{a_j} = ch_1(q_j^* \mathcal{O}(1))$. We write $\vec{a} = (a_1, ..., a_r)$ and $\vec{e} = (e_1, ..., e_r) = (e^{a_1}, ..., e^{a_r})$.

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 $T_t = C^* \times C^*$ acting on \mathbb{P}^2 by $(t_1, t_2)[z_0, z_1, z_2] = [z_0, t_1z_1, t_2z_2]$ here we have $H^*_{T_t}(pt, \mathbb{Q}) = \mathbb{Q}[\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2]$ and

$$egin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{P}^2} 1 &= rac{1}{\epsilon_1 \epsilon_2} + rac{1}{(-\epsilon_1)(-\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2)} + rac{1}{(-\epsilon_2)(\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2)} = 0 \ & \int_{\mathbb{C}^2} 1 &= rac{1}{\epsilon_1 \epsilon_2} \end{aligned}$$

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- ϵ_1, ϵ_2 = weights of the small torus action
- \vec{a} = vector in the Lie algebra of the big torus
- $\Lambda =$ formal variable

Definition

$$F_{\Sigma_k,d}^{\text{inst}}(\epsilon_1,\epsilon_2,\vec{a};\Lambda) := \log Z_{\Sigma_k,d}^{\text{inst}}(\epsilon_1,\epsilon_2,\vec{a};\Lambda)$$
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Main Theorem - Pure Gauge Theory

Theorem (G., Chiu-Chu Melissa Liu) Statement for Σ_k^0

The function

$$\epsilon_2(k\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2) F_{\Sigma_k^0,d}^{inst}(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \vec{a}; \Lambda)$$

is analytic in ϵ_1, ϵ_2 near $\epsilon_1 = \epsilon_2 = 0$.

The limit at zero is

$$\lim_{\epsilon_1,\epsilon_2\to 0} \epsilon_2(k\epsilon_1+\epsilon_2) \ F^{inst}_{\Sigma^0_k,d}(\epsilon_1,\epsilon_2,\vec{a};\Lambda) = k\mathcal{F}^{inst}_0(\vec{a};\Lambda) \ ,$$

where $\mathcal{F}_0^{inst}(\vec{a}; \Lambda)$ is the instanton part of the Seiberg–Witten prepotential.

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Expression for Nekrasov's partition function

$$Z^{\text{inst}}_{\Sigma^0_k, d}(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \vec{a}; \Lambda) = \sum_{\{\vec{d}\}=-\frac{d}{r}} \frac{\Lambda^{kr(\vec{d}, \vec{d})}}{\prod_{\alpha, \beta} I^{k, \vec{d}}_{\alpha, \beta}(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \vec{a})}$$

$$Z_{\mathbb{C}^2}^{\mathsf{inst}}(\epsilon_1,\epsilon_2,ec{a}+\epsilon_2ec{d};\Lambda)\cdot Z_{\mathbb{C}^2}^{\mathsf{inst}}(-\epsilon_1,k\epsilon_1+\epsilon_2,ec{a}+(k\epsilon_1+\epsilon_2)ec{d};\Lambda)$$
 ,

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where we used expression of the partition function for \mathbb{C}^2

$$Z_{\mathbb{C}^2}^{\text{inst}}(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \vec{a}; \Lambda) = \sum_{\vec{Y}} \frac{\Lambda^{2r|\vec{Y}|}}{\prod_{\alpha,\beta=1}^r n_{\alpha,\beta}^{\vec{Y}}(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \vec{a})} , \quad \text{and...}$$

... and

$$I_{\alpha,\beta}^{k,\vec{d}}(\epsilon_{1},\epsilon_{2},\vec{a}) = \begin{cases} \prod_{j=0}^{d_{\alpha}-d_{\beta}-1} \prod_{i=0}^{kj} (-i\epsilon_{1}-j\epsilon_{2}+a_{\beta}-a_{\alpha}) & \text{if } d_{\alpha} > d_{\beta}, \\ \\ d_{\beta}-d_{\alpha} kj-1 \\ \prod_{j=1}^{j=1} \prod_{i=1}^{i=1} (i\epsilon_{1}+j\epsilon_{2}+a_{\beta}-a_{\alpha}) & \text{if } d_{\alpha} < d_{\beta}, \\ 1 & \text{if } d_{\alpha} = d_{\beta}, \end{cases}$$

$$egin{aligned} n_{lpha,eta}^{ec{\mathbf{Y}}}(t_1,t_2) &= \prod_{s\in Y_lpha} \left(-l_{Y_eta(s)}\epsilon_1 + (a_{Y_lpha}(s)+1)\epsilon_2 + a_eta - a_lpha
ight) \ &\cdot \prod_{t\in Y_eta} \left((l_{Y_lpha(t)}+1)\epsilon_1 - a_{Y_eta(t)}\epsilon_2 + a_eta - a_lpha
ight) \ . \end{aligned}$$

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Seiberg–Witten curves are a family of hyperelliptic curves parametrised by $\vec{u} = (u_2, \cdots, u_r)$:

$$C_{\vec{u}}: \Lambda^r\left(w+\frac{1}{w}\right) = P(z) = z^r + u_2 z^{r-2} + u_3 z^{r-3} + \cdots + u_r$$
,

coming together with the double cover $C_{\vec{u}} \to \mathbb{P}^1$ given by the projection $(w, z) \mapsto z$.

The parameter space $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{C}^{r-1}$ is the so-called *u*-plane.

The hyperelliptic involution is given by $\iota(w) = 1/w$. Introducing $y = \Lambda^r \left(w - \frac{1}{w}\right)$ we have

$$y^2 = P(z)^2 - 4\Lambda^{2r}.$$

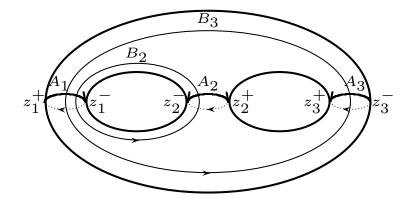
We choose a symplectic basis $\{A_{\alpha}, B_{\alpha}, \alpha = 2, ..., r\}$ of $H_1(C_{\vec{u}}; \mathbb{Z})$; consequently

$$A_{\alpha} \cdot A_{\beta} = 0 = B_{\alpha} \cdot B_{\beta}$$

and

$$A_{lpha} \cdot B_{eta} = \delta_{lphaeta}$$
 .

Symplectic basis on $C_{\vec{u}}$



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The (multivalued meromorphic) Seiberg–Witten differential is defined by

$$dS := -\frac{1}{2pi} \frac{dw}{w} = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{zP'(z)dz}{\sqrt{P(z)^2 - 4\Lambda^{2r}}}$$

Functions $a_{\alpha}, a_{\beta}^{D}$ on the *u*-plane are defined by

$$m{a}_lpha := \int_{m{A}_lpha} dS$$
 , $m{a}_eta^D := 2\pi \sqrt{-1} \int_{m{B}_eta} dS$

for $\alpha = 1, \ldots, r$ and $\beta = 2, \ldots, r$.

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The Seiberg–Witten prepotential is a locally defined function $\mathcal{F}_0(\vec{a}; \Lambda)$ on the \vec{u} -plane satisfying:

$$a^D_lpha = -rac{\partial \mathcal{F}_0}{\partial \pmb{a}_lpha} \; .$$

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It then follows that

$$au_{lphaeta} = -rac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{-1}}rac{\partial^2 \mathcal{F}_0}{\partial m{a}_lpha \partial m{a}_eta}$$

is the period matrix of $C_{\vec{u}}$.

(Defined in Electric-magnetic duality, monopole condensation, and confinement in N = 2 Supersymmetric Yang Mills theory.)

The instanton partition functions in 4D, 5D and 6D correspond to the generating series of the holomorphic Euler characteristic χ_0 , the Hirzebruch genus χ_y , and elliptic genus χ of $\mathfrak{M}(\Sigma_k, 1, d, n)$, respectively.

The 4D case: Holomorphic Euler Characteristic: $\chi(\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{M}})$

$$Z_{\mathbb{C}^{2}}(t_{1}, t_{2}; Q) = \sum_{Y} \frac{Q^{|Y|}}{\prod_{s \in Y} \left(1 - t_{1}^{\prime(s)} t_{2}^{-1 - a(s)}\right) \left(1 - t_{1}^{-1 - \prime(s)} t_{2}^{a(s)}\right)}$$
$$Z_{\Sigma_{k}, d}(t_{1}, t_{2}; Q) = Z_{\mathbb{C}^{2}}(t_{1}, t_{2}; Q) \ Z_{\mathbb{C}^{2}}(t_{1}^{-1}, t_{1}^{k} t_{2}; Q) \ .$$

The 5D case: Hirzebruch χ_y -genus

$$Z_{\mathbb{C}^{2}}(t_{1}, t_{2}; Q, y) = \sum_{Y} Q^{|Y|} \prod_{s \in Y^{1}} \frac{\left(1 - yt_{1}^{l(s)}t_{2}^{-1-a(s)}\right) \left(1 - yt_{1}^{-1-l(s)}t_{2}^{a(s)}\right)}{\left(1 - t_{1}^{l(s)}t_{2}^{-1-a(s)}\right) \left(1 - t_{1}^{-1-l(s)}t_{2}^{a(s)}\right)}$$

 $Z_{\Sigma_k,d}(t_1, t_2; Q, y) = Z_{\mathbb{C}^2}(t_1, t_2; Q, y) \ Z_{\mathbb{C}^2}(t_1^{-1}, t_1^k t_2; Q, y) \ .$

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The 6D case: Elliptic genus

$$\begin{split} Z_{\mathbb{C}^{2}}(t_{1},t_{2};Q,y,p) &= \sum_{Y} (y^{-1}Q)^{|Y|} \prod_{n\geq 1} \\ &\prod_{s\in Y} \frac{\left(1-yp^{n-1}t_{1}^{l(s)}t_{2}^{-1-a(s)}\right) \left(1-y^{-1}p^{n}t_{1}^{-l(s)}t_{2}^{1+a(s)}\right)}{\left(1-p^{n-1}t_{1}^{l(s)}t_{2}^{-1-a(s)}\right) \left(1-p^{n}t_{1}^{-l(s)}t_{2}^{1+a(s)}\right)} \cdot \\ &\prod_{s\in Y} \frac{\left(1-yp^{n-1}t_{1}^{-1-l(s)}t_{2}^{a(s)}\right) \left(1-y^{-1}p^{n}t_{1}^{1+l(s)}t_{2}^{-a(s)}\right)}{\left(1-p^{n-1}t_{1}^{-1-l(s)}t_{2}^{a(s)}\right) \left(1-p^{n}t_{1}^{1+l(s)}t_{2}^{-a(s)}\right)} \end{split}$$

and

$$Z_{\Sigma_k,d}(t_1, t_2; Q, y, p) = Z_{\mathbb{C}^2}(t_1, t_2; Q, y, p) \ Z_{\mathbb{C}^2}(t_1^{-1}, t_1^k t_2; Q, y, p)$$

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Given two multiplicative classes A, B we define

$$Z_{X_0,A,B,d}^{\text{inst}}(\epsilon_1,\epsilon_2,\vec{a};\Lambda) := \Lambda^{(1-r)d\cdot d} \sum_{n\geq 0} \Lambda^{2rn} \int_{\mathfrak{M}_{r,d,n}(X,\ell_\infty)} A_{\tilde{t}}(T_{\mathfrak{M}}) B_{\tilde{t}}(V)$$

where $T_{\mathfrak{M}}$ = tangent bundle and V = natural bundle on \mathfrak{M} obtained from the universal sheaf $\mathcal{E} \to X \times \mathfrak{M}$. Let p_i be the projections to the two factors.

The natural bundle over $\mathfrak{M}_{r,d,n}(X, \ell_{\infty})$ is

$$V := (R^1 p_2)_* (\mathcal{E} \otimes p_1^* (\mathcal{O}_X(-\ell_\infty))).$$

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Theorem

Nekrasov conjecture for toric surfaces

The 8 cases we prove are:

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- **1**. 4d pure gauge theory: A = B = 1, $\mathbf{m} = \emptyset$.
- 2. 4d gauge theory with N_f fundamental matter hypermultiplets: $A = 1, B = e_{T_m}(V \otimes M), \mathbf{m} = (m_1, \dots, m_{N_f}),$ where M is the fundamental representation of $U(N_f)$ T_m is the maximal torus of $U(N_f)$
- 3. 4d gauge theory with one adjoint matter hypermultiplet: $A = e_m T_{\mathfrak{M}}, B = 1, \mathbf{m} = m.$
- 4. 5d gauge theory compactified on a circle: $A = \hat{A}_{\beta}(T_{\mathfrak{M}})$ is the \hat{A}_{β} genus of the tangent bundle (the usual \hat{A} genus being the case $\beta = 1$), B = 1, $m = \emptyset$ but F depends on the additional parameter β .

With the $\ ^{\rm m}$ replaced by $\ ^{\rm pert}$, we derive 4 more cases of the conjecture, with same restrictions as in the first part:

- 1. 4d pure gauge theory.
- 2. 4d gauge theory with N_f fundamental matter hypermultiplets.
- 3. 4d gauge theory with one adjoint matter hypermultiplet.
- 4. 5d gauge theory compactified on a circle or circumference β .

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Obrigada pela atenção!

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