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# New Confinement Phases from Singular SQCD Vacua

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# Plan:

## I. Confinement and XSB in QCD, Lessons from SQCD

- singular SCFT and confinement -

## II. Monopoles and dyons in NA gauge theories

- A brief review: from Dirac, 't Hooft-Polyakov to Seiberg-Witten

## III. Recent developments

- Argyres-Seiberg, Gaiotto-Seiberg-Tachikawa, Giacomelli -

## IV. Singular SCFT and confinement

- New confinement picture -

# I. Quark confinement vs Chiral Symmetry Breaking

Basic theme :

Conformal invariance (CFT) and confinement

UV CFT  $\dashrightarrow$  Infrared-fixed point CFT

QCD:

quarks and gluons, AF  $\dashrightarrow$  collective behavior of color (confinement, XSB) ?

If confinement  $\sim$  deformation of an IR f.p. CFT

the understanding of the IR degrees of freedom in CFT

is the key to see the working of confinement / XSB

# Quark confinement mechanism

- Abelian dual superconductor ? (dynamical Abelianization)

$$SU(3) \rightarrow U(1)^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{1}$$

$$\langle M \rangle \neq 0$$

't Hooft, Nambu, Mandelstam

☞ Doubling of the spectrum (\*)

$$\Pi_1(U(1)^2) = \mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z}$$

If confinement and XSB both induced by

$$\langle M_b^a \rangle = \delta_b^a \Lambda$$

$$SU_L(N_F) \times SU_R(N_F) \rightarrow SU_V(N_F)$$

☞ Accidental  $SU(N_F^2)$  : **too many NG bosons**

- Non-Abelian monopole condensation

$$SU(3) \rightarrow SU(2) \times U(1) \rightarrow \mathbf{1}$$

$$\Pi_1(SU(2) \times U(1)) = \mathbf{Z}$$

☞ Problems (\*) avoided **but**

Non-Abelian monopole are probably **strongly coupled** (sign flip of  $b_0$  unlikely)

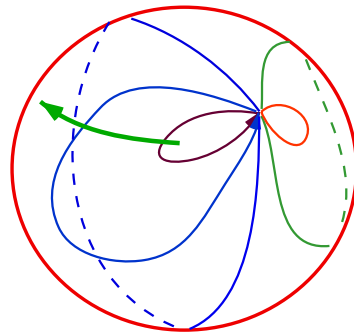
## II. Monopoles and dyons in nonAbelian gauge theories

-- a 15 min. review --

# Topology (Mapping: Space $\rightarrow G$ )

- Charged particle  $\psi(x)$  in a monopole field

$$\exp ig_e \oint_{\partial\Omega} A_i dx^i \rightarrow \exp ig_e \int_{S^2} d\mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{H} = \exp 4\pi ig_e g_m \quad (\mathbf{H} = \nabla \frac{g_m}{r}).$$



$$2g_e g_m = n, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad \Pi_1(U(1)) = \mathbb{Z}$$

Dirac ~1930

- $U(1)$  in a nonabelian theory  $G$  (Wu, Yang): monopole  $\sim \Pi_1(G) \neq \emptyset$ . Fiber bundle
- 't Hooft-Polyakov monopoles:  $\Pi_2(SU(2)/U(1)) = \Pi_1(U(1)) = \mathbb{Z}$ ; Regular monopoles
- $G \xrightarrow{\langle \phi \rangle \neq 0} H$  : similar  $\rightarrow$  **monopoles with nonabelian charges** if  $\Pi_2(G/H) \neq \emptyset$

# Non-Abelian monopoles

$$G \xrightarrow{\langle \phi \rangle \neq 0} H$$

$$SU(3) \xrightarrow{\langle \phi \rangle} \frac{SU(2) \times U(1)}{\mathbb{Z}_2}, \quad \langle \phi \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} v & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & v & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2v \end{pmatrix}$$

Goddard-Nuyts-Olive, E. Weinberg, Lee, Yi,  
Bais, Schroer, ... '77-80

H: non-Abelian

$$F_{ij} = \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{r_k}{r^3} (\beta \cdot \mathbf{T}), \quad 2\beta \cdot \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$$

cfr. (Dirac)

$$2m \cdot e \in \mathbb{Z}$$

“Monopoles are multiplets of  $\tilde{H}$  (GNOW)”

$\tilde{H}$  generated by

$$\alpha^* \equiv \frac{\alpha}{\alpha \cdot \alpha}$$

$$\langle \phi \rangle = v_1 = \mathbf{h} \cdot \mathbf{T}$$

H	$\tilde{H}$
U(N)	U(N)
SU(N)	SU(N)/ $\mathbb{Z}_N$
SO(2N)	$\widehat{SO}(2N)$
SO(2N+1)	USp(2N)

$$A_i(\mathbf{r}) = A_i^a(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{h} \cdot \alpha) S_a; \quad \phi(\mathbf{r}) = \chi^a(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{h} \cdot \alpha) S_a + [\mathbf{h} - (\mathbf{h} \cdot \alpha) \alpha^*] \cdot \mathbf{T},$$

$$S_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\alpha^2}} (E_\alpha + E_{-\alpha}); \quad S_2 = -\frac{i}{\sqrt{2\alpha^2}} (E_\alpha - E_{-\alpha}); \quad S_3 = \alpha^* \cdot \mathbf{T},$$

# Non-Abelian monopoles: difficulties

- Non normalizable gauge zero modes  $\Rightarrow$  NOT a H-multiplet

N. Dorey et al '96

- Topological obstruction

"Unbroken" HCG not defined globally

Abouelsaad et al '83  
Coleman,  
Balachandran  
et al

Coleman: "Colored dyons do not exist"

$SU(5) \rightarrow$   
 $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$

- GNO quantization  $2\beta \cdot \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$

$\beta$  = weight vectors of  $\tilde{H}$  ("EM" dual of H)

monopoles transform under  $\tilde{H}$  (non locally under H)

Goddard-Nuyts-olive  
'73

- Phase:  $\tilde{H}$  is confinement phase

$\Leftarrow$  H is Higgs phase

- NA monopoles require flavor  $\Leftarrow$  NA Vortices

2003 -  
Pisa  
Cambridge  
Minnesota  
Tokyo



# Seiberg-Witten '94 $N=2$ Susy G.Th.

- Exact  $L_{eff}$ ; exact BPS spectra of monopoles
- $SU(2)$   $W = \langle F_{\mu\nu} \rangle$ ;  $\mathbb{F} = (\phi, \psi)$   $\langle \phi = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ -a \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{vac. (moduli)}$

$\neq 0$   $SU(2)/U(1) \Rightarrow$

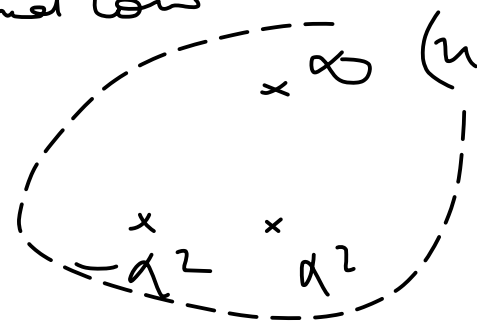
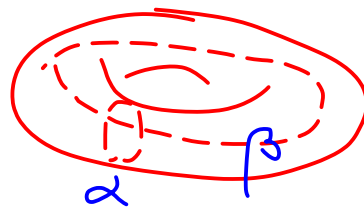
$$S = \int \frac{\partial F(A)}{\partial A} A + \frac{\partial \tilde{F}(W)}{\partial W} W$$

inv. under EM transformation

at  $u = \pm \Lambda^2 \Rightarrow$  massless monopole

- Soln: auxil. curve

$$y^2 = (x - \Lambda^2)^2 (x - u)$$



$$a_D = \frac{\partial F(a)}{\partial a} = \oint_{\alpha} \lambda; \quad \frac{da_D}{du} = \oint_{\alpha} \omega;$$

$\omega = \frac{dx}{y}$  holomorphic differ.

$$a = \oint_{\beta} \lambda; \quad \frac{da}{du} = \oint_{\beta} \omega;$$

$$\tau = \frac{da_D}{da} = \frac{\theta}{2\pi} + \frac{4\pi i}{g^2}$$

$\lambda =$  SW diff.  $= dx \frac{x}{y}$

$$M_{n_m, n_e} = \sqrt{2} (n_m a_D + n_e a)$$

$\leftarrow M_{mon} = \langle \phi \rangle / g; \quad M_W = g \langle \phi \rangle$

# What $\mathcal{N}=2$ SQCD (softly broken) teaches us

- Abelian dual superconductivity ✓

$SU(2)$  with  $N_F = 0, 1, 2, 3$

monopole condensation  $\Rightarrow$  confinement & dyn symm. breaking

$SU(N)$   $\mathcal{N}=2$  SYM :  $SU(N) \Rightarrow U(1)^{N-1}$

*Seiberg, Witten*

*Beautiful, but don't look like QCD*

- Non-Abelian monopole condensation for SQCD ✓

$SU(N)$ ,  $N_F$  quarks

$SU(N) \Rightarrow SU(r) \times U(1) \times U(1) \times \dots$        $r \leq N_F/2$

$r$  vacua are local, IR free theories

*Argyres, Plesser, Seiberg, '96  
Hanany-Oz, '96  
Carlino-Konishi-Murayama '00*

*Beautiful, but don't look like QCD*

- Non Abelian monopoles interacting very strongly

SCFT of higher criticalities, EHIY points

*Beautiful, interesting but difficult*

*Argyres, Plesser, Seiberg, Witten,  
Eguchi-Hori-Ito-Yang, '96*

# Effective degrees of freedom in the quantum $r$ vacua of softly broken $N=2$ SQCD

$$(r \leq N_f / 2)$$

Seiberg-Witten '94  
Argyres, Plesser, Seiberg, '96  
Hanany-Oz, '96  
Carlino-Konishi-Murayama '00

	$SU(r)$	$U(1)_0$	$U(1)_1$	$\dots$	$U(1)_{N-r-1}$	$U(1)_B$
$N_F \times \mathcal{M}$	$\underline{\mathbf{r}}$	1	0	$\dots$	0	0
$M_1$	$\underline{\mathbf{1}}$	0	1	$\dots$	0	0
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\ddots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$M_{N-r-1}$	$\underline{\mathbf{1}}$	0	0	$\dots$	1	0

The massless non-Abelian and Abelian monopoles and their charges at the  $r$  vacua

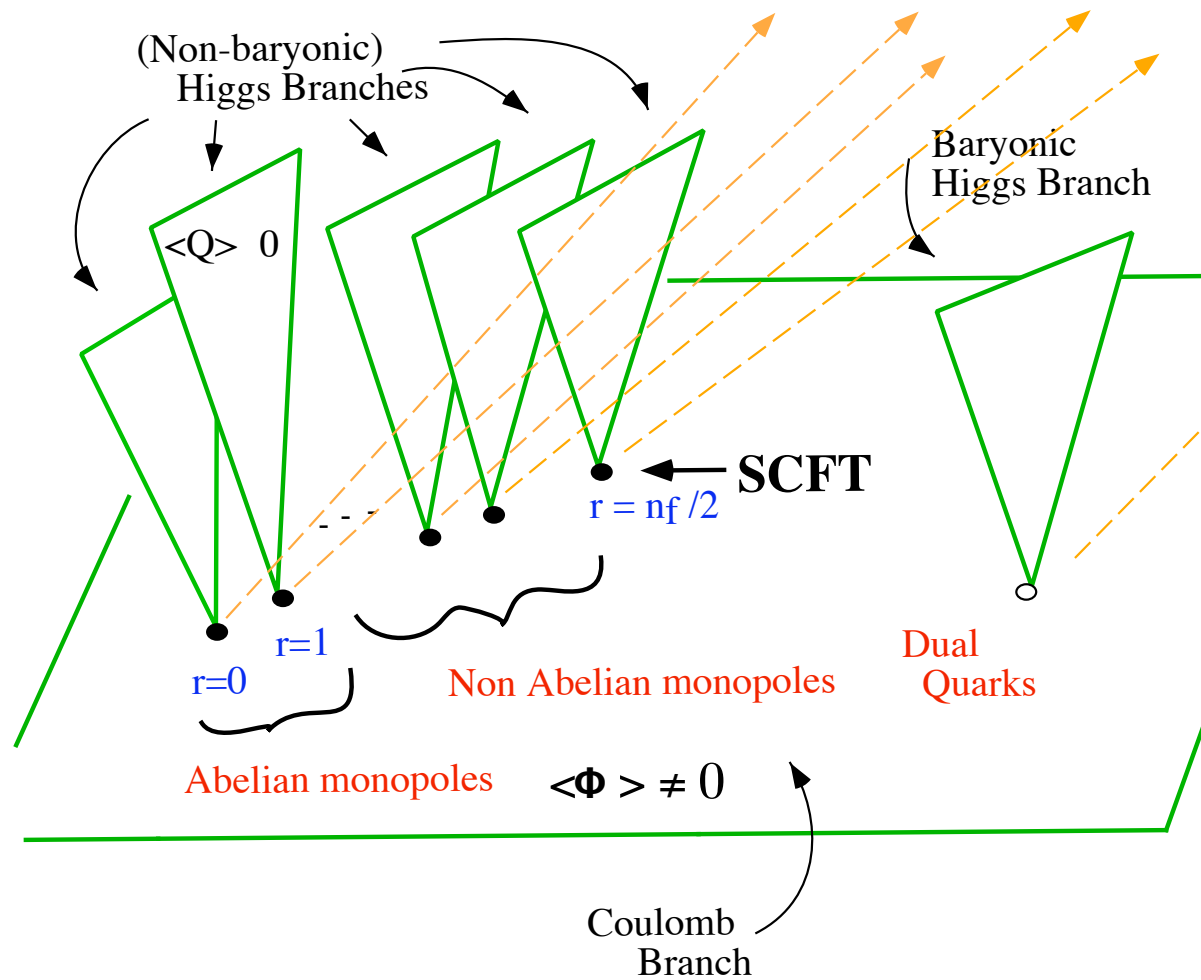
- “Colored dyons” do exist !!!

- they carry flavor q.n.

$\mu\Phi^2$  perturbation

- $\langle q^i_\alpha \rangle = v \delta^i_\alpha \Rightarrow U(N_f) \Rightarrow U(r) \times U(N_f - r)$

# QMS of N=2 SQCD (SU(n) with $n_f$ quarks)



- N=1 Confining vacua (with  $\mu\Phi^2$  perturbation)
- N=1 vacua (with  $\mu\Phi^2$  perturbation) in free magnetic pha

$m = m^{cr}$

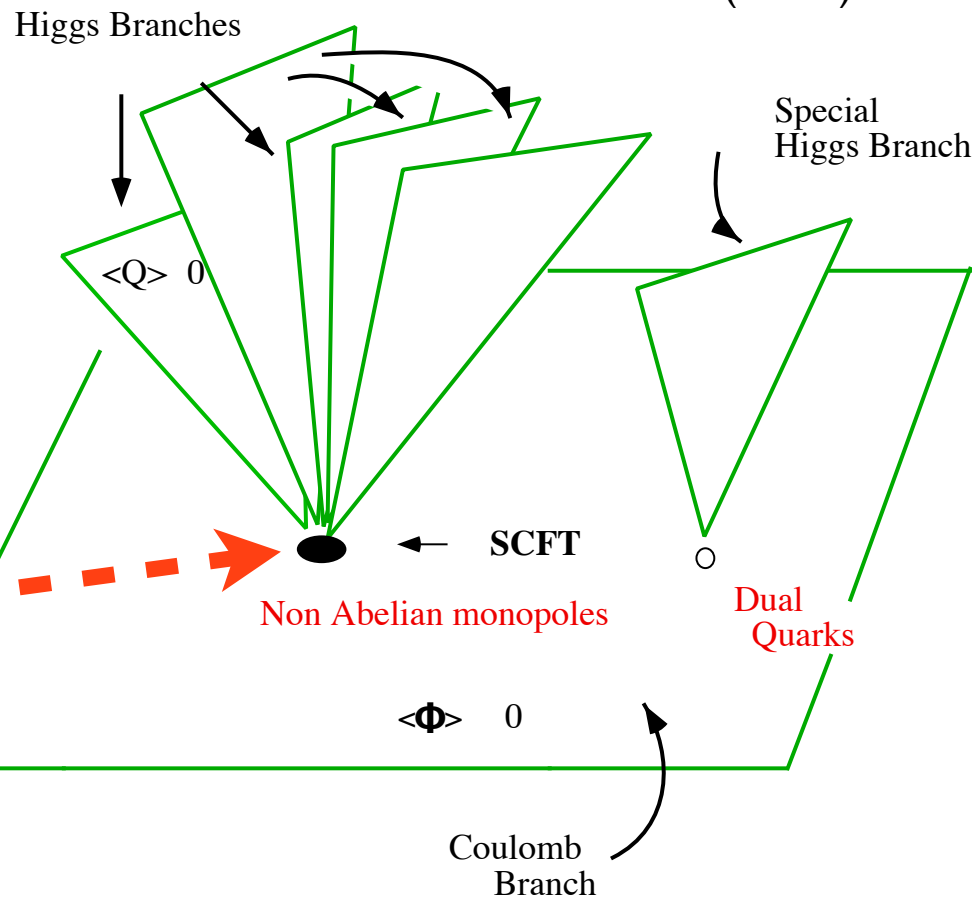
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Di Pietro, Giacomelli '11

previous slide (Universality)

$m \neq 0$

### QMS of $N=2$ $USp(2n)$ Theory with $n_f$ Quarks ( $m = 0$ )



SCFT of highest criticality EHY point non-Lagrangian

Carlino-Konishi-Murayama '00

- $N=1$  Confining vacua (with  $\Phi^2$  perturbation)
- $N=1$  vacua (with  $\Phi^2$  perturbation) in free magnetic pha



# III. Recent key developments

*N=2 SCFT's*

*Gaiotto, Seiberg, Argyres, Tachikawa,  
Moore, Maruyoshi, ... .. '09 - '12*

- S-duality in SCFT at  $g = \infty$  e.g.  $SU(N)$  w/  $N_F = 2N$
- Argyres-Seiberg S-duality applied to SCFT (IR f.p.) of highest criticality (EHIY points)
- GST duality generalized to  $USp(2N)$ ,  $SO(N)$
- Colliding r-vacua and EHIY in  $SU(N)$
- GST duality in  $USp(2N)$  and  $SU(3)$ ,  $N_F = 4$  and confinement

*Argyres-Seiberg '07  
Gaiotto '09*

*Gaiotto-Seiberg-Tachikawa '11*

*Giacomelli '12*

*Giacomelli, Di Pietro '11*

*Giacomelli, Konishi '12  
and '13*

# Argyres-Seiberg's S duality

- $SU(3)$  with  $N_F = 6$  hypermultiplets  $(Q_i, \tilde{Q}_i)$  's at infinite coupling

$$SU(3) \ w/ \ (6 \cdot \mathbf{3} \oplus \bar{\mathbf{3}}) \quad = \quad SU(2) \ w/ \ (2 \cdot \mathbf{2} \oplus SCFT_{E_6})$$

$\swarrow \quad g = \infty \qquad \qquad \quad \nearrow \quad g = 0$

$SU(2) \times SU(6) \subset E_6$

Minahan-Nemeschansky '96

Flavor symmetry  $\sim SU(6) \times U(1)$

- $USp(4)$  with  $N_F = 12$   $Q$ 's at infinite coupling

$$USp(4) \ w/ \ 12 \cdot \mathbf{4} = SU(2) \ w/ \ SCFT_{E_7}$$

$SU(2) \times SO(12) \subset E_7$

# Gaiotto-Seiberg-Tachikawa (GST)

- Apply the basic idea of Argyres-Seiberg duality to the IR f.p. SCFT
- $SU(N)$  with  $N_F = 2n$  :

$$y^2 = (x^N + u_1 x^{N-1} + u_2 x^{N-2} + \dots + u_N)^2 - \Lambda^{2N-2n} \prod_{i=1}^{2n} (x + m_i)$$

At  $u = m = 0, *$   $y^2 \sim x^{N+n}$  (EHIY point)

← relatively non-local  
massless monopoles and dyons

Note

\* except for one u

- Straightforward treatment of fluctuations around  $u=m=0$ , gives an incorrect scaling laws for the masses

✿ To get the correct scale-invariant fluctuations, introduce two different scalings:

$$u_{N-n+2} \sim O(\epsilon_A^2), \quad u_{N-n+3} \sim O(\epsilon_A^3), \quad \dots, \quad u_N \sim O(\epsilon_A^n).$$

$$u_1 \sim O(\epsilon_B), \quad u_2 \sim O(\epsilon_B^2), \quad \dots, \quad u_{N-n+2} \sim O(\epsilon_B^{N-n+2}).$$

$$\epsilon_A^2 = \epsilon_B^{N-n+2} \implies$$

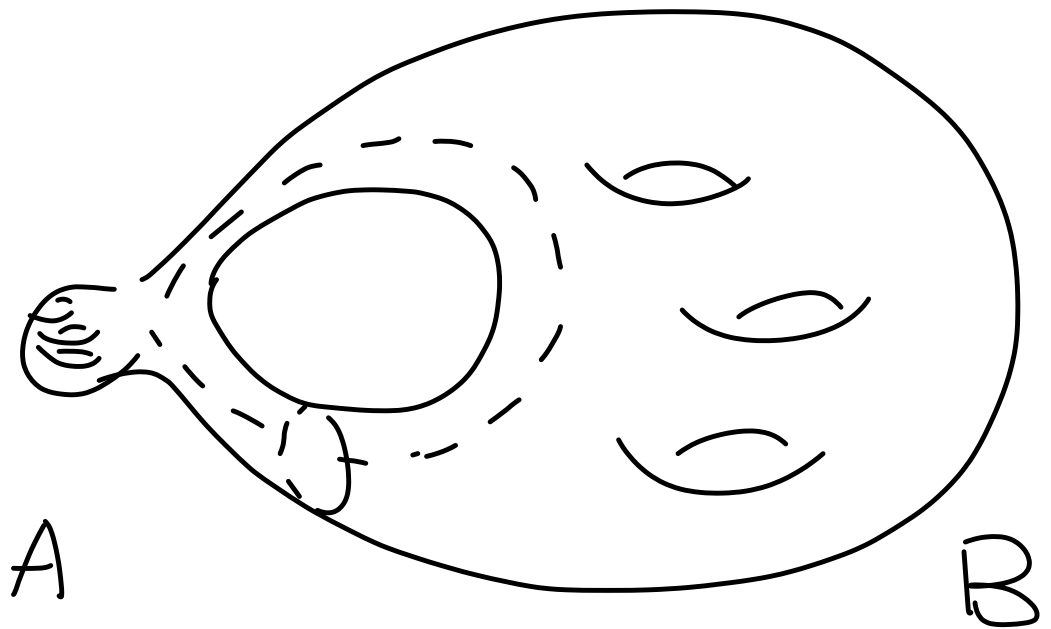
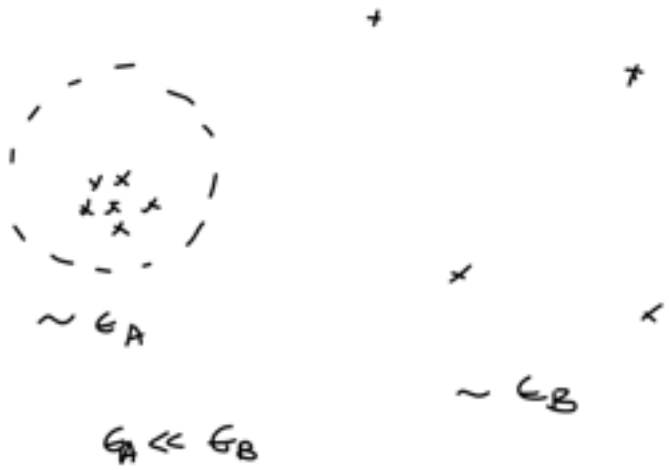
$$a_i = \oint_{\alpha_i} \lambda, \quad a_{D_i} = \oint_{\beta_i} \lambda$$

$$\lambda \sim dx y/x^n$$

$$m_{(n_m, n_e, n_i)} = \sqrt{2} |n_m a_D + n_e a + n_i m_i|$$

Eguchi-Hori-Ito-Yang



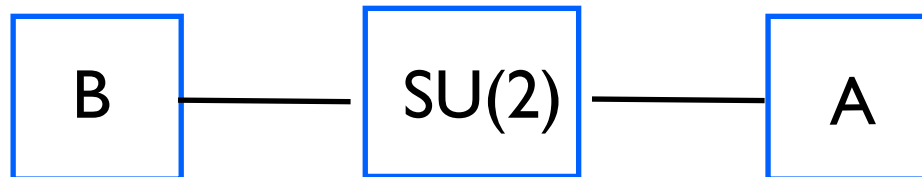




Gaiotto-Seiberg-Tachikawa '11

- $U(1)^{N-n-1}$  gauge multiplets
- $SU(2)$  gauge multiplet (infrared free) coupled to the  $SU(2)$  flavor symmetry of the two SCFT's A & B
- The A sector: the SCFT entering in the Argyres-Seiberg dual of  $SU(n)$ ,  $N_F = 2n$ , having  $SU(2) \times SU(2n)$  flavor symmetry
- The B sector: the maximally singular SCFT of the  $SU(N-n+1)$  theory with two flavors

$$b_0 = \frac{N - n}{N - n + 2}$$



where

A: 3 free  $\underline{2}$ 's ( $n=2$ );  $E_6$  of Minahan-Nemechansky ( $n=3$ ), etc.

B: the maximally singular SCFT of  $SU(2)$ ,  $N_F = 2$  (Seinberg-Witten) for  $N=3, n=2$ , etc.

- Analogous results for  $USp(2N)$ ,  $SO(N)$

Giacomelli '12

# IV. GST duals and confinement

*Note*

USp(2N) theory w/  $N_F = 2n$

- Two types of Chebyshev\* vacua ( $\phi_1 = \phi_2 = \dots = 0$ ;  $\phi_n^2 = \pm \Lambda^2$ ;  $\phi_m$  det'd by Cheb. polynom.)

$$xy^2 \sim [x^n(x - \phi_n^2)]^2 - 4\Lambda^4 x^{2n} = x^{2n}(x - \phi_n^2 - 2\Lambda^2)(x - \phi_n^2 + 2\Lambda^2).$$

$y^2 \sim x^{2n}$  singular SCFT (EHY point);

strongly interacting, relatively non-local monopoles and dyons

- A strategy: resolve the vacuum by adding small  $m_i \neq 0$  and determining the vacuum moduli ( $u_i$ 's or  $\phi_i$ 's) requiring the SW curve to factorize in maximally Abelian factors (double factors) (i.e., **Vacua in confinement phase surviving  $N=1$ ,  $\mu \Phi^2$  perturbation**)

*Carlino-Konishi-Murayama '00*

$$\Rightarrow \Rightarrow \binom{N_f}{0} + \binom{N_f}{2} + \dots + \binom{N_f}{N_f} = 2^{N_f-1} \quad \text{even } r \text{ vacua, from one of the Cheb. vacua}$$

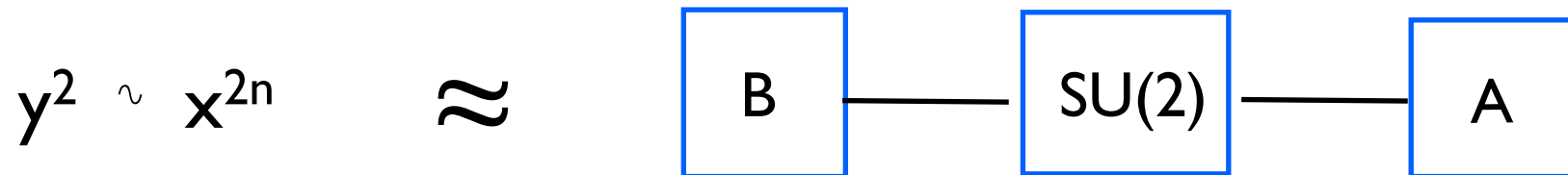
$$\binom{N_f}{1} + \binom{N_f}{3} + \dots + \binom{N_f}{N_f-1} = 2^{N_f-1} \quad \text{odd } r \text{ vacua, from one of the Cheb. vacua}$$

$$xy^2 = \left[ x \prod_{a=1}^{n_c-1} (x - \phi_a^2)(x - 2\Lambda^2 - \beta) + 2\Lambda^2 m_1 \dots m_{n_f} \right]^2 - 4\Lambda^4 \prod_{i=1}^{n_f} (x + m_i^2)$$

$$\xrightarrow{\phi_i \text{'s}} xy^2 = x(x - 4\Lambda^2 - \gamma) \prod_{a=1}^{n_c} (x - \alpha_a)^2,$$

# GST dual for the Chebyshev point of $USp(2N)$ (also $SO(N)$ )

Giacomelli '12



- $U(1)^{N-n}$  gauge multiplets
- The A sector: a (in general) non-Lagrangian SCFT having  $SU(2) \times SO(4n)$  flavor symmetry
- The B sector: a free doublet (coupled to  $U(1)$  gauge boson)

For  $N_F = 2n = 4$ , A sector  $\sim$  4 free doublets

But this allows a direct description of IR physics !!

For  $USp(2N)$ ,  $N_f = 4$

the GST dual is (both the A and B sectors are free doublets) :

Giacomelli, Konishi '12, '13

$$\boxed{1} - SU(2) - \boxed{4} .$$

$$U(1)$$

the effects of  $m_i$  and  $\mu \Phi^2$  perturbation can be studied from the superpotential:

$$\sqrt{2} Q_0 (A_D + m_0) \tilde{Q}^0 + \sqrt{2} Q_0 \phi \tilde{Q}^0 + \sum_{i=1}^4 \sqrt{2} Q_i \phi \tilde{Q}^i + \mu A_D \Lambda + \mu \text{Tr} \phi^2 + \sum_{i=1}^4 m_i Q_i \tilde{Q}^i .$$

cfr. UV Lagrangian:

$$W = \mu \text{Tr} \Phi^2 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} Q_a^i \Phi_b^a Q_c^i J^{bc} + \frac{m_{ij}}{2} Q_a^i Q_b^j J^{ab}$$

$$m = -i\sigma_2 \otimes \text{diag}(m_1, m_2, \dots, m_{n_f}) .$$

Correct flavor symmetry for all  $\{m\}$

- $m_i = m$  :  $SU(4) \times U(1)$  ;
- $m_i = 0$  :  $SO(8)$  ; etc.,

vacuum equations

$$\sqrt{2} Q_0 \tilde{Q}_0 + \mu \Lambda = 0 ;$$

$$(\sqrt{2} \phi + A_D + m_0) \tilde{Q}_0 = Q_0 (\sqrt{2} \phi + A_D + m_0) = 0 ;$$

$$\sqrt{2} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^4 Q_i^a \tilde{Q}_b^i - \frac{1}{4} \delta_b^a Q_i \tilde{Q}^i + \frac{1}{2} Q_0^a \tilde{Q}_b^0 - \frac{1}{4} \delta_b^a Q_0 \tilde{Q}^0 \right] + \mu \phi_b^a = 0 ;$$

$$(\sqrt{2} \phi + m_i) \tilde{Q}^i = Q_i (\sqrt{2} \phi + m_i) = 0, \quad \forall i .$$

Solutions

$$Q_0 = \tilde{Q}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 2^{-1/4} \sqrt{-\mu \Lambda} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

four solutions

$$a = -\frac{m_i}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad Q_i = \tilde{Q}_i = \begin{pmatrix} f_i \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}; \quad Q_j = \tilde{Q}_j = 0, \quad j \neq i.$$

four more solutions

$$a = +\frac{m_i}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad Q_i = \tilde{Q}_i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ g_i \end{pmatrix}; \quad Q_j = \tilde{Q}_j = 0, \quad j \neq i.$$

$$f_i^2 = \frac{\mu \Lambda - 4a}{\sqrt{2}} = \mu \left( \frac{\Lambda}{\sqrt{2}} + 2m_i \right).$$

They are 4 + 4 , r=1 vacua ! (p. -2)

But where are the even r-vacua (r=0,2) ???

$$g_i^2 = \frac{-\mu \Lambda + 4a}{\sqrt{2}} = -\mu \left( \frac{\Lambda}{\sqrt{2}} - 2m_i \right).$$

Answer: in the second Chebyshev vacuum:

$$\sqrt{2} Q_0 (A_D + m_0) \tilde{Q}^0 + \sqrt{2} Q_0 \phi \tilde{Q}^0 + \sum_{i=1}^4 \sqrt{2} Q_i \phi \tilde{Q}^i + \mu A_D \Lambda + \mu \text{Tr} \phi^2 + \sum_{i=1}^4 \tilde{m}_i Q_i \tilde{Q}^i$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{m}_1 &= \frac{1}{4} (m_1 + m_2 - m_3 - m_4) ; \\ \tilde{m}_2 &= \frac{1}{4} (m_1 - m_2 + m_3 - m_4) ; \\ \tilde{m}_3 &= \frac{1}{4} (m_1 - m_2 - m_3 + m_4) ; \\ \tilde{m}_4 = m_0 &= \frac{1}{4} (m_1 + m_2 + m_3 + m_4) ; \end{aligned}$$

Spinor representation  
of  $SO(2N_F)$  ...



**Magnetic Monopoles!**

GST duality is not  
electromagnetic  
duality

Flavor symmetry OK in all cases:

$m_i$	$\tilde{m}_i$	Symmetry in UV	Symmetry in IR
$m_i = 0$	$\tilde{m}_i = 0$	$SO(8)$	$SO(8)$
$m_i = m \neq 0$	$\tilde{m}_4, \tilde{m}_1 = \tilde{m}_2 = \tilde{m}_3 = 0$	$U(1) \times SU(4)$	$U(1) \times SO(6)$
$m_1 = m_2, m_3, m_4, \text{ generic}$	$\tilde{m}_2 = -\tilde{m}_3, \tilde{m}_4, \tilde{m}_1 \text{ generic}$	$U(1) \times U(1) \times U(2)$	$U(1) \times U(1) \times U(2)$
$m_1 = m_2, m_3 = m_4, m_1 \neq m_3$	$\tilde{m}_2 = \tilde{m}_3 = 0, \tilde{m}_4, \tilde{m}_1, \text{ generic}$	$SU(2) \times U(1) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$	$SO(4) \times U(1) \times U(1)$
...	...	...	...

Solutions similar to the previous case but:  $1 + 1 + 6$  in the  $m_i \rightarrow m$

## To recapitulate:

- Mass perturbation of the EHIY (SCFT) singularity :  
the resolution of the Chebyshev vacua into the sum of the r-vacua:  
(local Lagrangian theories with  $SU(r) \times U(1)^{N-r}$  gauge symmetry)
  - Correct identification of the  $N=1$  vacua surviving  $\mu \Phi^2$  perturbation
  - But physics was unclear (strongly-coupled monopoles and dyons) in  $m \rightarrow 0$  limit
- But **we have now checked** that these features of the singular EHIY (SCFT) theory is correctly reproduced by GST duals after  $\mu \Phi^2$  perturbation.



- The limit  $m \rightarrow 0$  can be taken smoothly in the GST description (cfr. the usual monopole picture)



# Physics of $USp(2N)$ , $N_F = 4$ theory at $m=0$

$$\sqrt{2} Q_0 (A_D + m_0) \tilde{Q}^0 + \sqrt{2} Q_0 \phi \tilde{Q}^0 + \sum_{i=1}^4 \sqrt{2} Q_i \phi \tilde{Q}^i + \mu A_D \Lambda + \mu \text{Tr} \phi^2 .$$

$$\rightarrow Q_0 = \tilde{Q}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 2^{-1/4} \sqrt{-\mu \Lambda} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (Q_1)^1 = (\tilde{Q}^1)_1 = 2^{-1/4} \sqrt{\mu \Lambda} , \quad Q_i = \tilde{Q}_i = 0, \quad i = 2, 3, 4.$$

$$\phi = 0, \quad A_D = 0 .$$

→ XSB

$$SO(8) \rightarrow U(1) \times SO(6) = U(1) \times SU(4) = U(4),$$

OK with results at  
 $\mu, m \gg \Lambda$

→ Confinement

$$\text{UV: } \Pi_1(USp(2N)) = \mathbf{1}$$

$$\text{IR: } \mathcal{L}_{GST} = SU(2) \times U(1), \quad \Pi_1(SU(2) \times U(1)) = \mathbf{Z}$$

Higgsed at low energies; the vortex = the unique ( $N=n$ ) confining string

Cfr. Abelianization implies  $U(1)^N$  low energy theory

- The confining string is Abelian cfr. non-Abelian vortex of r-vacua
- Confining o.p. ( $Q_0$ ) triggers XSB o.p. ( $Q_i$ )

→ multiplication  
of the meson spectrum

# Some other systems studied

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- Colliding  $r$ -vacua of  $SU(3)$ ,  $N_f = 4$  :  $G_f = U(4)$  unbroken
- Singular  $r=2$  -vacua of  $SU(4)$ ,  $N_f = 4$  :  $G_f = U(4) \Rightarrow U(2) \times U(2)$
- $SO(2N+1)$ ,  $N_f = 1$  :  $G_f = USp(2) = SU(2) \Rightarrow U(1)$
- $SO(2N)$ ,  $N_f = 2$  :  $G_f = USp(4) \Rightarrow U(2)$

In all cases the GST description gives the correct number of the vacua and the symmetry breaking pattern known from the large  $\mu$  analysis

# Conclusion

- Gaiotto-Seiberg-Tachikawa duals of singular, IRFP SCFT allows to describe (confining) systems which naively involve infinitely-strongly coupled nonAbelian monopoles and dyons
- More general cases involve nonlocal (non Lagrangian) systems
- Features different from the naive dual superconductor picture. Confinement order parameters triggers the order parameter of the global symmetry breaking

⇒ A new picture for QCD ?

The End

# Colliding r vacua of $SU(3), N_F = 4$ theory

The GST dual is now:

$$D_3 - SU(2) - \boxed{3}$$

where  $D_3$  is the most singular SCFT of the  $\mathcal{N} = 2$   $SU(2), N_F = 2$ , theory, and  $\boxed{3}$  is three free doublets of  $SU(2)$ .  $D_3$  is a nonlocal theory,\* it not easy to analyze.

We replace the system by

$$SU(2) \overset{P}{-} SU(2) - \boxed{3}$$

\* arises from the collision of a doublet vacuum and a singlet vacuum

where  $P$  is a bifundamental field. The superpotential is:

$$\sum_{i=1}^3 \sqrt{2} Q_i \Phi \tilde{Q}^i + \sum_{i=1}^3 \tilde{m}_i Q_i \tilde{Q}^i + \mu \Phi^2 + \sqrt{2} P \Phi \tilde{P} + \sqrt{2} \tilde{P} \chi P + \mu \chi^2 + m' \tilde{P} P,$$

The first  $SU(2)$  is AF: its dynamics is not affected by the second  $SU(2)$ . But to extract the  $D_3$  point, need to keep  $m' \simeq \pm \Lambda'$ , but not exactly equal. The system Abelianizes  $\rightarrow$

## Doublet vacuum (of the new, strong SU(2) $N_F = 2$ theory)

$$\sum_{i=1}^3 \sqrt{2} Q_i \Phi \tilde{Q}^i + \sum_{i=1}^3 \tilde{m}_i Q_i \tilde{Q}^i + \mu \Phi^2 + \sqrt{2} M \Phi \tilde{M} + \sqrt{2} \tilde{M} A_\chi M + \mu A_\chi \Lambda',$$

with m

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{m}_1 &= \frac{1}{4}(m_1 + m_2 - m_3 - m_4); && \rightarrow \text{correct symmetry} \\ \tilde{m}_2 &= \frac{1}{4}(m_1 - m_2 + m_3 - m_4); && \text{for all } m_i : \\ \tilde{m}_3 &= \frac{1}{4}(m_1 - m_2 - m_3 + m_4), && \rightarrow \text{six solutions (r=2 vacua)} \end{aligned}$$

SU(3),  $N_F = 4$  theory has r=0,1,2 vacua: where are the r=0,1 vacua? Answer:

## Singlet vacuum (of the new, strong SU(2) $N_F = 2$ theory)

$$\sum_{i=1}^3 \sqrt{2} Q_i \Phi \tilde{Q}^i + \sum_{i=1}^3 \tilde{m}_i Q_i \tilde{Q}^i + \mu \Phi^2 + \sqrt{2} \tilde{N} A N + \mu A \Lambda' + m' \tilde{N} N.$$


---

AF: becomes strongly coupled.  $\rightarrow$  4 + 1 vacua of

SW SU(2)  $N_F = 3$  theory!  $\rightarrow$  r=1 (4) and r=0 (1) vacua

Vacuum structure OK



## \* Remarks

- N=2 SCFT's in UV flow into N=1 SCFT, upon N=1,  $\mu \Phi^2$  perturbation (27/32)
- Some of them survive and brought into confinement phase; r-vacua, (r=0,1,2,...) upon N=1,  $\mu \Phi^2$  perturbation
- Not all singular N=2 SCFT's survives N=1,  $\mu \Phi^2$  perturbation (e.g., Ayyres-Douglas point in pure SU(3) )
- N=2 IRFP SCFT's can survive and brought into confinement phase; e.g., Colliding r-vacua of SU(N) theories, m=0, USp(2N) theory (Tchebyshev vacua); m=0, SO(N) theory
- They are strongly interacting, nonlocal theory of monopoles and dyons, in confinement phase: interesting system to understand!!

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## r-vacua

$$y^2 = \prod_a^N (x - \phi_a)^2 - \Lambda^{2N-2n} \prod_{i=1}^{2n} (x + m_i)$$

$$\phi_a = (-m_1, -m_2, \dots, -m_r, \phi_{r+1}, \dots)$$

$$m_i \rightarrow m,$$

$$y^2 = (x + m)^{2r} \prod_{b=1}^{N-r} (x - \alpha_b)^2 (x - \gamma)(x - \delta)$$

This describes  $SU(r) \times U(1)^{N-r}$  theory

