

Wall crossing and multi-centered black hole bound states

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Plan

Two problems:

1. **Wall crossing in $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetric theories**

arXiv:1011.1258

2. **Bound state spectrum of multi-centered black holes in $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supergravity.**

work in progress

Wall crossing

1. Introduction

2. Our results and comparison with earlier results (Kontsevich-Soibelman formula)

3. 'Derivation'

Even though we shall derive the result using black holes in $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supergravity, we expect this to be a general formula, valid also in $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetric gauge theories.

Introduction

Consider an $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetric string theory in D=4, e.g. type II string theory on a Calabi-Yau 3-fold.

Such a theory generically has a certain number n_v of vector multiplet fields.

$\Rightarrow$ there are $(n_v + 1)$ U(1) gauge fields.

A given state is characterized by $(n_v + 1)$ electric charges q_I and $(n_v + 1)$ magnetic charges p^I ($1 \leq I \leq n_v + 1$).

$\gamma \equiv (q_I, p^I)$ takes values over some lattice Γ .

$$\langle \gamma, \gamma' \rangle \equiv (q_I p'^I - p^I q'_I)$$

Let t denote a point in the moduli space.

The BPS mass formula takes the form

$$m(\gamma, t) = |Z(\gamma, t)|, \quad Z(\gamma, t) = q_I f^I(t) - p^I g_I(t)$$

for some known complex functions $f^I(t)$, $g_I(t)$.

We denote by $\Omega(\gamma, t)$ the index of BPS states carrying charge γ at the point t :

$$\Omega(\gamma, t) = \text{Tr}'_{\gamma}((-1)^F)$$

Tr' : removes the trace over the fermion zero modes associated with broken supersymmetries.

$\Omega(\gamma, t)$ is independent of t except for jumps across walls of marginal stability.

Let $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in \Gamma$ and take a codimension 1 subspace of the moduli space on which

$$\arg Z(\gamma_1, t) = \arg Z(\gamma_2, t)$$

On this subspace (wall),

$$|Z(\gamma_1 + \gamma_2, t)| = |Z(\gamma_1, t)| + |Z(\gamma_2, t)|$$

Thus a state of charge $(\gamma_1 + \gamma_2)$ is marginally unstable against decay into a pair of states carrying charges γ_1 and γ_2 .

More generally a state carrying charge $(M\gamma_1 + N\gamma_2)$ becomes marginally unstable.

$\Rightarrow \Omega(M\gamma_1 + N\gamma_2, t)$ could jump as t crosses this wall.

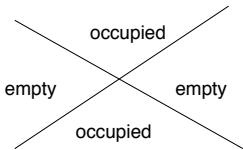
Goal: Compute the change in $\Omega(\mathbf{M}\gamma_1 + \mathbf{N}\gamma_2)$ across the wall.

Note: Only states carrying charges in the 2D sublattice spanned by γ_1 and γ_2 are relevant near this wall.

Assumption: After taking appropriate linear combinations, it is possible to choose the vectors γ_1 and γ_2 such that:

BPS states carrying charges $(\mathbf{M}\gamma_1 + \mathbf{N}\gamma_2)$ exist only for $\mathbf{M}, \mathbf{N} \geq 0$ or $\mathbf{M}, \mathbf{N} \leq 0$. Andriyash, Denef, Jafferis, Moore

$\Rightarrow$ Define $\tilde{\Gamma} \equiv \{\mathbf{m}\gamma_1 + \mathbf{n}\gamma_2 : \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n} \geq 0, (\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \neq (0, 0)\}$



Consider two chambers in the moduli space separated by the wall.

$$\mathbf{c}^+ : \quad \gamma_{12} \operatorname{Im} (\mathbf{Z}_{\gamma_1}^* \mathbf{Z}_{\gamma_2}) > 0, \quad \gamma_{12} \equiv \langle \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \rangle$$

$$\mathbf{c}^- : \quad \gamma_{12} \operatorname{Im} (\mathbf{Z}_{\gamma_1}^* \mathbf{Z}_{\gamma_2}) < 0$$

$\Omega^\pm(\gamma)$: index in these two chambers

We shall calculate Ω^- in terms of Ω^+

The results are best stated in terms of ‘rational invariants’

... Joyce, Song; ...

$$\bar{\Omega}(\alpha) = \sum_{\mathbf{m}|\alpha} \mathbf{m}^{-2} \Omega(\alpha/\mathbf{m})$$

Results

Define: $\Delta\bar{\Omega}(\alpha) \equiv \bar{\Omega}^-(\alpha) - \bar{\Omega}^+(\alpha)$

Then

$$\Delta\bar{\Omega}(\alpha) = \sum_{n \geq 2} \sum_{\substack{\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \tilde{\Gamma}\} \\ \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = \alpha}} \frac{1}{S(\{\alpha_k\})} g(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \bar{\Omega}^+(\alpha_1) \cdots \bar{\Omega}^+(\alpha_n)$$

If m_1 of the α_k 's take the same value β_1 , m_2 of the α_k 's take the same value β_2 etc then

$$S(\{\alpha_k\}) = 1 / \prod_k m_k!$$

$g(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ will be given shortly.

Note: 'charge conservation rule' ($\alpha = \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n$)

A generalization for the refined 'index'

KS, ...; Dimofte, Gukov

$$\Omega(\gamma, \mathbf{y}) \equiv \text{Tr}'_{\gamma}(-\mathbf{y})^{2J_3}$$

– not a protected index in string theory, but we can nevertheless calculate its jump across a wall of marginal stability.

$$\bar{\Omega}(\alpha, \mathbf{y}) \equiv \sum_{\mathbf{m}|\alpha} \mathbf{m}^{-1} \frac{\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}^{-1}}{\mathbf{y}^{\mathbf{m}} - \mathbf{y}^{-\mathbf{m}}} \Omega(\alpha/\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{y}^{\mathbf{m}})$$

$$\Delta \bar{\Omega}(\alpha, \mathbf{y}) = \sum_{n \geq 2} \sum_{\substack{\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\} \in \tilde{\Gamma} \\ \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = \alpha}} \frac{1}{\mathbf{s}(\{\alpha_k\})} \mathbf{g}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \mathbf{y}) \bar{\Omega}^+(\alpha_1, \mathbf{y}) \cdot \dots \cdot \bar{\Omega}^+(\alpha_n, \mathbf{y})$$

$\mathbf{g}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \mathbf{y})$ will be given shortly.

$\mathbf{g}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \mathbf{y}) \rightarrow \mathbf{g}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ as $\mathbf{y} \rightarrow 1$

We recover the earlier formulæ as $\mathbf{y} \rightarrow 1$

Result for $g(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \mathbf{y})$ (for $\alpha_{ij} \equiv \langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle > 0$ for $i < j$)

$$g(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \mathbf{y}) = (-\mathbf{y})^{-1+n-\sum_{i<j} \alpha_{ij}} (\mathbf{y}^2 - \mathbf{1})^{1-n} \sum_{\text{partitions}} (-\mathbf{1})^{\mathbf{s}-1} \mathbf{y}^{2 \sum_{\mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{b}} \sum_{j<l} \alpha_{jl}} \mathbf{m}_i^{(\mathbf{a})} \mathbf{m}_j^{(\mathbf{b})}$$

The sum runs over all ordered partitions of $(\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n)$ into $\mathbf{s}$ vectors $\beta^{(\mathbf{a})}$ ($1 \leq \mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{s}$, $1 \leq \mathbf{s} \leq n$) such that

$$\beta^{(\mathbf{a})} = \sum_i \mathbf{m}_i^{(\mathbf{a})} \alpha_i, \quad \mathbf{m}_i^{(\mathbf{a})} = \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1} \quad \forall \quad i$$

$$\sum_{\mathbf{a}=1}^{\mathbf{s}} \beta^{(\mathbf{a})} = \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n$$

$$\left\langle \sum_{\mathbf{a}=1}^{\mathbf{b}} \beta^{(\mathbf{a})}, \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \right\rangle > \mathbf{0} \quad \forall \quad \mathbf{b} \text{ with } 1 \leq \mathbf{b} \leq \mathbf{s} - 1$$

This wall crossing formula

- reproduces the semi-primitive wall crossing formula of Denef and Moore,
- agrees with the formulæ of Kontsevich and Soibelman and of Joyce and Song in all cases tested so far (up to $n=5$)
- the ‘charge conservation rules’ and the ‘identical particle rules’ agree with the KS formula after expressing the latter in terms of $\bar{\Omega}$.

However so far we do not have a proof of equivalence.

KS formula:

Gaiotto, Moore, Neitzke; Andriyash, Denef, Jafferis, Moore

Consider the algebra:

$$[\mathbf{e}_\gamma, \mathbf{e}_{\gamma'}] = \kappa(\langle \gamma, \gamma' \rangle, \mathbf{y}) \mathbf{e}_{\gamma+\gamma'},$$

$$\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \equiv \frac{(-\mathbf{y})^{\mathbf{x}} - (-\mathbf{y})^{-\mathbf{x}}}{\mathbf{y} - 1/\mathbf{y}}.$$

Define:

$$\mathbf{v}_\gamma^\pm = \exp[\bar{\Omega}^\pm(\gamma, \mathbf{y}) \mathbf{e}_\gamma]$$

Then

$$\prod_{\substack{\mathbf{M} \geq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{N} \geq \mathbf{0}, \\ \mathbf{M}/\mathbf{N} \downarrow}} \mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{M}\gamma_1 + \mathbf{N}\gamma_2}^+ = \prod_{\substack{\mathbf{M} \geq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{N} \geq \mathbf{0}, \\ \mathbf{M}/\mathbf{N} \uparrow}} \mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{M}\gamma_1 + \mathbf{N}\gamma_2}^-$$

– can be used to determine $\bar{\Omega}^-$ in terms of $\bar{\Omega}^+$.

'Derivation'

Supergravity picture:

Denef; Denef, Moore

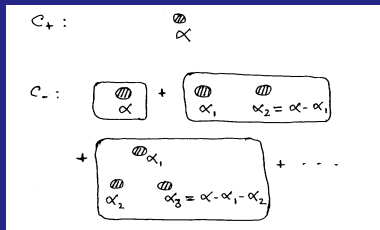
BPS states: Single centered black holes or multi-centered bound states of single centered black holes.

In c^+ the only configurations which contribute to $\Omega^+(\gamma)$ are single units (molecules) which remain immortal across the wall of marginal stability.

A molecule can contain a single BH of charge $\gamma \in \tilde{\Gamma}$ or bound states of multiple BH, each with charge lying outside $\tilde{\Gamma}$, but total charge $\gamma \in \tilde{\Gamma}$.

As we approach the wall the size of the molecule remains finite.

In c^- the index $\Omega^-(\gamma)$ gets contribution from single molecules and also bound states of these molecules.



As we approach the wall from c^- the intermolecular separation goes to ∞ and only single molecule states remain on the other side.

$\Rightarrow \Omega^+$ describes the index for single molecules.

Ω^- describes the index for single molecules + molecular bound states.

Naive guess:

$$\Delta\Omega(\alpha) = \sum_{n \geq 2} \sum_{\substack{\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \vec{\Gamma}\} \\ \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = \alpha}} \mathbf{g}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \Omega^+(\alpha_1) \cdots \Omega^+(\alpha_n)$$

$\mathbf{g}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$: Index of supersymmetric bound states of n centers with charges $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$, ignoring the internal contribution to the index from each center.

Caveat: We need to take into account the effect of symmetrization for identical particles.

Example: Two identical bosonic centers, each with degeneracy Ω , will produce $\Omega(\Omega + 1)/2$ states.

Combining this with non-trivial $\mathbf{g}$ is a complicated problem.

Strategy:

1. Argue that we can replace Bose/Fermi statistics by Boltzmann statistics if we replace Ω by $\bar{\Omega}$.

Then

$$\Delta \bar{\Omega}(\alpha) = \sum_{n \geq 2} \sum_{\substack{\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \bar{\Gamma}\} \\ \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = \alpha}} \frac{1}{S(\{\alpha_k\})} g(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \bar{\Omega}^+(\alpha_1) \cdots \bar{\Omega}^+(\alpha_n)$$

$S(\{\alpha_k\})$: Boltzmann factor ($m!$ for m identical particles)

2. Calculate $g(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ by computing the index associated with n -molecule quantum mechanics treating the different molecules as distinguishable (even if some of the α_k 's are equal).

Bose/Fermi to Boltzmann

Consider a system of mutually non-interacting molecules carrying charges $\propto \gamma_0$, with total charge $k\gamma_0$.

e.g. m_s molecules with charge $s\gamma_0$, with $\sum_s sm_s = k$.

d_s : index of the molecule of charge $s\gamma_0$.

$$\text{Net index } N_k = \sum_{\substack{\{m_s\} \\ \sum_s sm_s = k}} \prod_s \left[\frac{1}{m_s!} \frac{(d_s + m_s - 1)!}{(d_s - 1)!} \right]$$

$$N_k = \sum_{\substack{\{m_s\} \\ \sum_s m_s = k}} \prod_s \left[\frac{1}{m_s!} \frac{(d_s + m_s - 1)!}{(d_s - 1)!} \right]$$

For bosons $d_s > 0$, and m_s identical bosons occupying d_s states produce a degeneracy of

$$d^{(B)} = d_s(d_s + 1) \cdots (d_s + m_s - 1)/m_s!$$

For fermions $d_s < 0$, and m_s fermions occupying $|d_s|$ states have total degeneracy

$$d^{(F)} = (|d_s|)(|d_s| - 1) \cdots (|d_s| - m_s + 1)/m_s!$$

and index

$$(-1)^{m_s} d^{(F)} = d_s(d_s + 1) \cdots (d_s + m_s - 1)/m_s!$$

Now consider a system of particles carrying charges $s\gamma_0$ for $s = 1, 2, \dots$, obeying Boltzman statistics, and carrying index

$$\bar{d}_s = \sum_{m|s} m^{-1} d_{s/m}$$

Total index of a state carrying charge $k\gamma_0$ made out of these particles:

$$M_k = \sum_{\substack{\{m_s\} \\ \sum_s s m_s = k}} \prod_s \frac{1}{m_s!} (\bar{d}_s)^{m_s}$$

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$$\bar{d}_s = \sum_{m|s} m^{-1} d_{s/m}$$

$$N_k = \sum_{\substack{\{m_s\} \\ \sum_s sm_s = k}} \prod_s \left[\frac{1}{m_s!} \frac{(d_s + m_s - 1)!}{(d_s - 1)!} \right]$$

One can easily check that

$$\sum_k M_k x^k = \prod_n (1 - x^n)^{-d_n} = \sum_k N_k x^k$$

Thus

$$M_k = N_k$$

$\mathbf{d}_s$ gets contribution from orbital part $\mathbf{d}_{\text{orb}}(\mathbf{s}\gamma_0)$ and internal part $\Omega(\mathbf{s}\gamma_0)$.

We shall argue that $\mathbf{d}_{\text{orb}}(\mathbf{k}\gamma_0) = \mathbf{k} \mathbf{d}_{\text{orb}}(\gamma_0)$

$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow \bar{\mathbf{d}}_s &= \sum_{\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{s}} \mathbf{m}^{-1} \mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{s}/\mathbf{m}} \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{s}} \mathbf{m}^{-1} \mathbf{d}_{\text{orb}}(\mathbf{s}\gamma_0/\mathbf{m}) \Omega(\mathbf{s}\gamma_0/\mathbf{m}) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{s}} \mathbf{m}^{-1} (1/\mathbf{m}) \mathbf{d}_{\text{orb}}(\mathbf{s}\gamma_0) \Omega(\mathbf{s}\gamma_0/\mathbf{m}) \\ &= \mathbf{d}_{\text{orb}}(\mathbf{s}\gamma_0) \sum_{\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{s}} \mathbf{m}^{-2} \Omega(\mathbf{s}\gamma_0/\mathbf{m}) = \mathbf{d}_{\text{orb}}(\mathbf{s}\gamma_0) \bar{\Omega}(\mathbf{s}\gamma_0) 1\end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$ we can use Boltzmann statistics provided $\Omega \rightarrow \bar{\Omega}$.

Multi-centered black hole dynamics:

1. The centers move in the minimum of the potential.

If we fix the position of one then for every other center we have a 2 dimensional configuration space.

2. The centers interact via Lorentz force

- ignore interaction among parallel charges

3. Supersymmetry forces the system to be in the ground state ('lowest Landau level')

- the configuration space can be regarded as the phase space with a definite symplectic form

de Boer, El-Showk, Messamah, Van den Bleeken

Now compare two configurations:

1. **k identical nearly coincident centers each with charge γ_0 moving in a background of other charges.**
2. A center of charge $k\gamma_0$ moving in the same background.

Compare the phase space density associated with the two dimensional motion of $k\gamma_0$ vs the two dimensional motion of a single γ_0 , keeping all the other charges fixed.

The phase space density of the particle of charge $k\gamma_0$ is k times that of the particle of charge γ_0 .

$$\mathbf{d}_{\text{orb}}(k\gamma_0) = k \mathbf{d}_{\text{orb}}(\gamma_0)$$

We assume that the classical result is not corrected by quantum effects.

Our next goal is to compute $g(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, y)$.

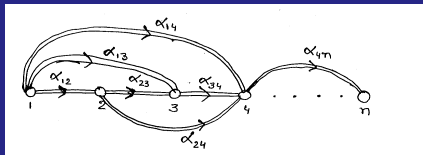
$\Rightarrow$ **quantize multi-centered black hole solutions.**

1. Indirect approach: relates the index associated with this quantum mechanics to that of a supersymmetric quiver quantum mechanics with **Denef**

a. n nodes each carrying a $U(1)$ factor

b. $\alpha_{ij} \equiv \langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle$ arrows from node i to node j

Result for this class of quivers is known and gives us back the formula for $g(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, y)$ given earlier. **Reineke**



2. Direct approach: Calculate the index by expressing it as an integral over the classical phase space and then evaluating this integral using localization techniques.

Duistermaat, Heckman

Result of direct approach (+ some guesswork based on known results for $n = 2, 3$)

$$\mathbf{g}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \mathbf{y}) = \text{Tr}(-\mathbf{y})^{2\mathbf{J}_3}$$

Of these $(-1)^{2\mathbf{J}_3}$ takes the same value on all states:

de Boer, El-Showk, Messamah, Van den Bleeken

$$(-1)^{2\mathbf{J}_3} = (-1)^{\sum_{i < j} \alpha_{ij} + n - 1}$$

$\mathbf{y}^{2\mathbf{J}_3}$ is a slowly varying function of the phase space coordinates for $\mathbf{y} \simeq 1$

$\Rightarrow \text{Tr}(\mathbf{y}^{2\mathbf{J}_3})$ can be evaluated as an integral over classical phase space

$$\mathbf{g}_{\text{cl}}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n; \mathbf{y}) = (-1)^{\sum_{i < j} \alpha_{ij} + n - 1} \int (\mathbf{y})^{2\mathbf{J}_3}$$

$$\mathbf{g}_{\text{cl}}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n; \mathbf{y}) = (-1)^{\sum_{i < j} \alpha_{ij} + n-1} \int (\mathbf{y})^{2\mathbf{J}_3}$$

The phase space has an **SU(2) rotation symmetry**.

– can be used to express the integral as a sum over fixed points of rotation along z-axis

– **collinear configuration of multi-centered black holes**
given by solutions to

Denef

$$\sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^n \frac{\alpha_{ij}}{|\mathbf{z}_{ij}|} = L \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^n \alpha_{ij}, \quad \mathbf{z}_{ij} \equiv \mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{z}_j, \quad L > 0$$

Solutions labelled by permutations σ such that

$$\mathbf{z}_{\sigma(i)} < \mathbf{z}_{\sigma(j)} \quad \text{for } i < j$$

Then the phase space integral gives:

$$\mathbf{g}_{\text{cl}}(\{\alpha_i\}, \mathbf{y}) = (-1)^{\sum_{i < j} \alpha_{ij} + n - 1} (2 \ln \mathbf{y})^{1-n} \sum_{\text{permutations } \sigma} \mathbf{s}(\sigma) \mathbf{y}^{\sum_{i < j} \alpha_{\sigma(i)\sigma(j)}}$$

The sum runs over only those permutations for which the solution exists.

$\mathbf{s}(\sigma)$: a sign which can be determined

At $\mathbf{y} = 1$ this agrees with the quiver quantum mechanics result in all cases tested.

$$\mathbf{g}_{\text{cl}}(\{\alpha_i\}, \mathbf{y}) = (-1)^{\sum_{i<j} \alpha_{ij} + n-1} (2 \ln \mathbf{y})^{1-n} \sum_{\text{permutations } \sigma} \mathbf{s}(\sigma) \mathbf{y}^{\sum_{i<j} \alpha_{\sigma(i)\sigma(j)}}$$

– cannot be the correct quantum result for $\text{Tr}(\mathbf{y}^{2\mathbf{J}_3})$ which must have $\mathbf{y} \rightarrow e^{2\pi i} \mathbf{y}$ symmetry.

– reflects the fact that classical phase space integral does not know about angular momentum quantization.

Taking clue from known results for $n = 2, 3$ we replace $2 \ln \mathbf{y}$ by $2 \sinh \ln \mathbf{y} = (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}^{-1})$:

$$\mathbf{g}(\{\alpha_i\}, \mathbf{y}) = (-1)^{\sum_{i<j} \alpha_{ij} + n-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}^{-1})^{1-n} \sum_{\text{permutations } \sigma} \mathbf{s}(\sigma) \mathbf{y}^{\sum_{i<j} \alpha_{\sigma(i)\sigma(j)}}$$

$$g(\{\alpha_i\}, y) = (-1)^{\sum_{i < j} \alpha_{ij} + n - 1} (y - y^{-1})^{1-n} \sum_{\text{permutations } \sigma} s(\sigma) y^{\sum_{i < j} \alpha_{\sigma(i)\sigma(j)}}$$

– agrees with the quiver quantum mechanics results in all cases tested (up to $n=5$).

(also seems to work away from the wall of marginal stability where quiver quantum mechanics sometimes fails.)

Multi-centered black hole bound states

Consider an $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetric string theory at a generic point of the moduli space.

For a given charge α the index receives contribution from single centered black holes as well as multi-centered black holes.

The index Ω for a single centered black hole can be computed in principle using quantum entropy function formalism.

talk by Atish

Question: How can we use this information to compute the index associated with multi-centered black holes?

Naive guess: Use the same formula for the bound state spectrum as near the wall of marginal stability.

$$\sum_{n \geq 1} \sum_{\substack{\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\} \in \Gamma \\ \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = \alpha}} \frac{1}{s(\{\alpha_k\})} g(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \mathbf{y}) \bar{\Omega}(\alpha_1, \mathbf{y}) \cdot \dots \bar{\Omega}(\alpha_n, \mathbf{y})$$

$$g(\{\alpha_i\}, \mathbf{y}) = (-1)^{\sum_{i < j} \alpha_{ij} + n - 1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}^{-1})^{1-n} \sum_{\text{permutations } \sigma} s(\sigma) \mathbf{y}^{\sum_{i < j} \alpha_{\sigma(i)\sigma(j)}}$$

Differences:

- α_i 's span the full lattice instead of 2D sublattice.**
- The Ω 's now refer to index of single centered black holes rather than black hole molecules.**

Caveats:

1. In this case the relevant equations are

$$\sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^n \frac{\alpha_{ij}}{|z_{ij}|} = c_i$$

c_i : constants which depend on moduli and charges

– necessary but not sufficient conditions for existence of collinear multi-black hole solutions.

For each such solution we must check that the corresponding metric is regular.

– a simple algebraic procedure.

2. For some charges, besides collinear solutions we also have 'scaling solutions' which are invariant under rotation about the z-axis.

– solutions where all the centers approach each other.

How do we evaluate the contribution from these additional fixed points?

Our proposal: use 'minimal modification hypothesis'

1. First ignore the contribution from the scaling solutions and express the result for the index of bound states of centers carrying charges $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ as sum of terms like

$$f(\cdots; \mathbf{y}) \Omega(\alpha_{i_1}, \mathbf{y}^{m_1}) \cdots \Omega(\alpha_{i_k}, \mathbf{y}^{m_k})$$

2. If $f(\cdots; \mathbf{y})$ is a finite linear combination of $\mathbf{y}^{\pm m}$, i.e. if the denominators involving $(y^k - y^{-k})$ are cancelled by the numerator factors, then leave the term unchanged.

3. Otherwise add to f a function h such that

a. $(f + h)$ is a finite linear combination of $\mathbf{y}^{\pm m}$.

b. h vanishes as $\mathbf{y} \rightarrow \infty$.

This algorithm gives the correct result in all known cases.

Example:

Suppose we have a three centered configuration and suppose that the contribution from collinear solutions leads to the following result for $f(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, y)$:

$$(-1)^l (y - y^{-1})^{-2} (y^l + y^{-l}), \quad l \equiv \sum_{i < j} \alpha_{ij}$$

– not a finite linear combination of $y^{\pm m}$.

Our prescription gives

$$\begin{aligned} & (-1)^l (y - y^{-1})^{-2} (y^l + y^{-l} - 2) \quad \text{for } l \text{ even} \\ & (-1)^l (y - y^{-1})^{-2} (y^l + y^{-l} - y - y^{-1}) \quad \text{for } l \text{ odd} \end{aligned}$$

This gives a complete algorithm for computing the index for a given charge α in an $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetric string theory if we know the index Ω of single centered black holes.

This can then be compared with the microscopic results.

