Compactifications of 5d SCFTs with a twist

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Abstract

We study the compactification of 5d SCFTs to 4d on a circle with a twist in a discrete global symmetry element of these SCFTs. We present evidence that this leads to various 4d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ isolated SCFTs. These include many known theories as well as seemingly new ones. The known theories include the recently discovered rank 1 $SU(4)$ SCFT and its mass deformations. One application of the new SCFTs is in the dual descriptions of the 4d gauge theory $SU(N) + 1S + (N - 2)F$. Also interesting is the appearance of a theory with rank 1 and $F_4$ global symmetry.

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1 Introduction

In recent years there has been an increased interest in the compactification of higher dimensional field theories in order to better understand lower dimensional ones. The most notable case being compactification of the 6d (2, 0) theory on a Riemann surface initiated in [1]. This leads to many 4d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SCFTs and can be used to uncover various properties of these theories. A nice feature of this construction is that it naturally leads to Argyres-Seiberg type dualities [2] which are manifested as different pair of pants decomposition of the same Riemann surface.

This motivate the studying of compactification of other higher dimensional field theories. One possibility is to study the compactification of 6d (1, 0) SCFTs with its richer selection of possible theories. Indeed this has been recently studied for selected types of 6d (1, 0) SCFTs [3–7]. Instead in this article we wish to concentrate on a different route, the compactification of 5d SCFTs on a circle.

The existence of 5d SCFTs with 8 supercharges has first been noted in [8]. These provide UV completions to various 5d gauge theories which are non-renormalizable as the inverse gauge coupling squared has dimension of mass. One can interpret the gauge theory as the low-energy description of the SCFT perturbed by a mass deformation identified with the inverse gauge coupling squared. Interestingly, the gauge theory seems to contain considerable information about the UV SCFT such as its BPS spectrum, where the massive states are realized as instantons in the gauge theory which are particles in 5d. Therefore we shall sometimes drop the "low-energy" term and simply refer to these as gauge theory descriptions of the UV SCFT.

In general the dynamics of instanton particles play an important role in the UV completion of the gauge theory. A nice example for this is given by the phenomenon of enhancement of symmetry where the fixed point has a larger global symmetry than the low-energy gauge theory. From the SCFT point of view the extra symmetry is broken by the mass deformation. The mass deformation itself can be identified as a vev to a scalar in a background vector multiplet associated with a global symmetry whose Cartan remains as a symmetry of the gauge theory. This symmetry is the topological symmetry whose conserved currents is the instanton number, $j_T = *\text{Tr}(F \wedge F)$. The broken symmetry is manifested in the gauge theory by the appearance of additional conserved currents whose origin is these instantonic particles.

Five dimensional SCFTs can in turn be studied by embedding them in string theory. This can be conveniently achieved using brane webs [9, 10] where the SCFT is realized as the low-energy theory on a group of 5-branes in type IIB string theory. For example consider the web shown in figure 1(a). The low-energy theory living on the two D5-branes is an $SU(0)(2)$ gauge theory.[1] The mass deformation associated with the $SU(2)$ coupling

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[1] The subscript denotes the value of the $SU(2)$ $\theta$ angle [11]. We shall employ this to denote the $\theta$ angle for $USp$ group or Chern-Simons level for $SU$ groups. When denoting gauge theories we shall also use $F$ for matter in the fundamental representation, $AS$ for matter in the antisymmetric representation and $S$ for matter in the symmetric representation. When $SO$ groups are involved we use $V$ for matter in the vector representation. When writing quiver theories, we use the notation $G_1 \times G_2 \times ...$ where it is understood.
Figure 1: (a) The brane web for an $SU_0(2)$ gauge theory. The arrow shows the distance corresponding in the gauge theory to the inverse gauge coupling squared. (b) Taking the $1/g^2 \to 0$ limit leads to the web describing the 5d SCFT. (c) The web for $1/g^2 < 0$. Note that performing S-duality leads us back to the original theory so this limit also has a low-energy description as an $SU_0(2)$ gauge theory.

constant is visible as the distance between the two pairs of $(1, -1)$ and $(1, 1)$ 5-branes. Also visible are the BPS spectrum of the theory. For example F-strings represent the W-boson while D-strings represent the instanton particles.

We can consider taking the $1/g^2 \to 0$ limit in the web. This leads to the web in figure 1 (b) where all the 5-branes intersect at a point. Now there is no mass scale in the problem so the theory living on the 5-branes is an SCFT. All mass parameters in 5d are real and can be both positive and negative. Particularly this means that we can deform the SCFT in a different way corresponding to the negative of the deformation associated with $1/g^2$. This is shown in figure 1 (c). Note that the resulting low-energy theory is identical to the original as can be seen by performing an S-duality. So we see that deforming this 5d SCFT by a positive deformation leads to an $SU_0(2)$ gauge theory with coupling $1/g^2$, while doing a negative deformation leads to an $SU_0(2)$ gauge theory with coupling $-1/g^2$. This phenomenon, where different mass deformations of the same 5d SCFT can lead to different low-energy gauge theory descriptions is called a 5d duality. For the $SU_0(2)$ case, this is a self-duality yet there are many other known examples where different gauge theories are related in this way.

One can now study the compactification of 5d SCFTs on a circle to 4d. This has been previously explored for various SCFTs in $[5,18,19]$. It can be used to realize various isolated non-Lagrangian 4d theories of the type considered in $[1]$. The 5d SCFT lift of these theories generally have a low-energy gauge theory description and so can be studied by conventional means. Also in some cases, the 4d Argyres-Seiberg dualities lift to 5d dualities between two low-energy gauge theory descriptions of the same 5d SCFT $[15]$. This then allows studying these dualities via conventional techniques.

When compactifying a theory on a circle one can impose various twists under sym-
metries of the theory. For example, holonomies under continuous global symmetries are generally incorporated where in supersymmetric theories they lead to various mass parameters. In the case of compactification of 5d SCFTs these complete the real mass parameters of $\mathcal{N} = 1$ 5d theories to the complex mass parameters of $\mathcal{N} = 2$ 4d theories. Here we wish to study the compactification where we perform a twist by a discrete symmetry. That is we consider compactification of 5d SCFTs on a circle imposing that upon traversing the circle the theory is transformed by a discrete element of its global symmetry group.

We shall concentrate on 5d SCFTs with a brane web description, particularly the ones whose non-twisted reductions were discussed in [5,18]. The 5d SCFT is a strongly coupled non-perturbative beast so direct evaluation is usually not possible. Instead, as common in this field, we shall start by examining various simple cases, and by studying their properties, conjecture the resulting 4d theories, which in the cases at hand turns out to be isolated 4d SCFTs. This is then subjected to a variety of consistency checks.

Once the simpler cases are understood, we can use them to study more general cases where we do not have a candidate 4d theory. This then suggests that this compactification leads to a variety of unknown 4d theories. We further study some of their properties and perform various consistency checks on our conjectures.

The structure of this article is as follows. In section 2 we discuss twisted compactification of the 5d SCFT represented in string theory by the intersection of $N$ coincident D5-branes and $k$ coincident NS5-branes. We start with the simpler case of $N = 2$ where we propose identifications for the resulting theories among known class S theories. We then test these identifications by studying dualities and mass deformations of these theories. We then move on to the general case where we conjecture the resulting theories to be new isolated SCFTs. We employ various dualities to study their properties and to serve as consistency checks. One application for this is to study the duality frames for 4d $SU(N)$ gauge theory with symmetric matter and $N - 2$ fundamentals.

In section 3 we move on to study the twisted compactification of the 5d SCFT represented in string theory by $N$ coincident 5-brane junctions. We consider two different twists one under a $Z_3$ discrete element and one under a $Z_2$ one. In the $Z_3$ case we first examine various low $N$ cases identifying these with various known 4d SCFTs. Interestingly one of these is the recently discovered rank 1 $SU(4)$ SCFT found in [20]. Besides providing an additional string theory construction for this theory, by examining its mass deformation, we get string theory constructions also for other rank 1 SCFT generated by mass deforming the $SU(4)$ SCFT, originally introduced in [21]. We suspect the general case to lead to unknown isolated 4d SCFTs and we comment on some of their properties. The $Z_2$ twist is more mysterious with a variety of seemingly unknown 4d theories including one with rank 1 and $F_4$ global symmetry.

In section 4 we use the known Hall-Littlewood index for class S theories [22,24] and properties of the compactification to conjecture an expression for the Hall-Littlewood index for the theories we presented. This is then checked for the cases where the conjectured 4d theory is known. We end with some conclusion. Appendix A gives a short review of the Hall-Littlewood index. Appendix B discusses aspects of 5d index calculations for the 5d $T_4$ theory and related theories that have interesting application to the rank 1 $SU(4)$ SCFT.
and related theories.

2 \textbf{Z}_2 \textbf{twist on the } SU(N)^2 \times SU(k)^2 \times U(1) \textbf{ 5d SCFT}

We start by considering the 5d SCFT engineered in string theory by the intersection of $N$ D5-branes and $k$ NS5-branes, shown in figure 2. This 5d SCFT has an $SU(N)^2 \times SU(k)^2 \times U(1)$ global symmetry (enhanced to $SU(2N) \times SU(2)^2$ when $k = 2$ or $SU(2k) \times SU(2)^2$ when $N = 2$). Note that exchanging $N$ and $k$ leads to the same SCFT as can be seen by performing S-duality on the web in figure 2. It has two convenient low-energy gauge theory descriptions. One is given by an $NF + SU(N)^{k-1} + NF$ quiver and is generated via a mass deformation breaking the $SU(k)^2$ global symmetry. Alternatively performing a mass deformation breaking the $SU(N)^2$ global symmetry leads to the low-energy quiver gauge theory $kF + SU(k)^{N-1} + kF$.

This theory has a $Z_2 \times Z_2$ discrete symmetry (enhanced to the dihedral group $D_4$ when $N = k$) given by exchanging the two $SU(N)$ or $SU(k)$ groups. We shall be particularly interested in the element which simultaneously exchanges the two $SU(N)$ and $SU(k)$ groups, given in the web by a $\pi$ rotation in the plane. In both gauge theory descriptions it is given by a combination of charge conjugation and quiver reflection. In this section we shall investigate the 4d theory resulting from circle compactification of this 5d SCFT with a twist in this discrete element. In other words we reduce the 5d SCFT on a circle where we enforce that upon traversing the circle the theory return to itself acted by this discrete element.

This is an interesting twist to consider as it can be naturally implemented in a brane construction of the SCFT. For this let’s consider what a $\pi$ rotation of the web entails in string theory. First this includes a $\pi$ rotation of the spacetime plane where the web lives. This can also be interpreted as a reflection of the two coordinates spanning the plane. We shall call this operation $I_{45}$.

In addition the rotation of the web changes the charges of the 5-branes. Particularly, a $(p, q)$ 5-branes is mapped under this operation to a $(-p, -q)$ 5-branes. Thus, in addition to the spacetime reflection $I_{45}$, we must also perform the $SL(2, Z)$ transformation $-I$: 



Figure 2: A 5d SCFT with an $SU(N)^2 \times SU(k)^2 \times U(1)$ global symmetry.
Figure 3: The brane web representation of a 5d SCFT, described by the collapsed web. (a) A deformation of the SCFT illustrating the $2F + SU(2) \times SU(2) + 2F$ gauge theory description. (b) The S-dual web now illustrating the $SU_0(3) + 6F$ gauge theory description.

$$-I = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1)$$

This in turn is equal to $\Omega(-1)^F L$ where $\Omega$ is worldsheet parity and $F_L$ the left moving spacetime fermion number. Therefore a $\pi$ rotation of the web can be implemented in string theory by the operation $I_{45} \Omega(-1)^F L$. The twisted compactification we consider then can be implemented by compactifying a direction common to all branes and enforce that upon traversing the circle we return to the system acted by $I_{45} \Omega(-1)^F L$.

In fact this type of compactification is just a generalization of the Dabholkar-Park background [25]. This specific twisted compactification was actually studied in [26] which considered the T-dual configuration (see also [27, 28]). They found that performing T-duality on the circle leads to type IIB on the dual circle in the presence of an $O6^+$ and $O6^-$-planes. In particular this also shows that this compactification preserves the same supersymmetry as an $O7$-plane, and so applying this twisted compactification on a brane web should lead to a 4d system with $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetry.

2.1 The $N = 2$ case and related theories

We wish to begin by presenting some simple examples before discussing the general case.

2.1.1 The $N = 2, k = 3$ case and related theories

Consider the 5d SCFT shown in figure 3, which is the $N = 2, k = 3$ case of the general SCFT in figure 2. It has an $SU(2)^2 \times SU(6)$ global symmetry and two convenient gauge theory descriptions, one being $2F + SU(2) \times SU(2) + 2F$ and the other $SU_0(3) + 6F$. Like the other cases, it also has a $Z_2$ discrete symmetry given in the web by a $\pi$ rotation in the plane. This is identified with quiver reflection in the $2F + SU(2) \times SU(2) + 2F$ theory and charge conjugation in the $SU_0(3) + 6F$ theory.

Now we want to consider compactifying it on a circle with a twist involving this $Z_2$ discrete symmetry. We inquire as to what theory we get in 4d. This theory should have a
1-dimensional Coulomb branch as only one of the two Coulomb branch dimensions of the 5d SCFT is symmetric under this $Z_2$ discrete symmetry. The two $SU(2)^2$ are mapped to one another so only the symmetric combination survives.

The $SU(6)$ global symmetry should be broken to the $Z_2$ invariant part which is $USp(6)$. This can be seen as follows: we consider the action of the $Z_2$ as mapping the two $SU(3)$ subgroups of $SU(6)$ with charge conjugation, as suggested by the web. Under the $U(1) \times SU(3) \times SU(3) \subset SU(6)$ subgroup the adjoint of $SU(6)$ decomposes as: $35 = (8, 1)^0 + (1, 8)^0 + (3, 3)^2 + (3, 3)^{-2} + (1, 1)^0$. Under the $Z_2$ action the adjoints of both $SU(3)$ groups are mapped to one another so we get only one $SU(3)$. The $(3, 3)$ is projected to the $3 \times 3 = 6 + \bar{3}$ where only the symmetric combination, $6$, is invariant. So we get the conserved currents $8^0 + 6^2 + 6^{-2} + 1^0$ which builds the adjoint of $USp(6)$. Thus the resulting 4d SCFT should have an $SU(2) \times USp(6)$ global symmetry.

Further we can use the web to calculate the Higgs branch dimension of the resulting SCFT. The Higgs branch dimension is given by the number of possible motions of the 5-branes along the 7-branes. The 5d SCFT has a 12 dimensional Higgs branch. This is manifested in the web by the directions given by: breaking the 2 D5-branes on a D7-brane both on the left and the right of the web (this gives 1 direction for each side), breaking the 3 NS5-branes on the (0, 1) 7-branes both on the top and the bottom of the web (this gives 3 directions for each side), and finally separating the remaining 2 D5-branes and 3 NS5-branes along the 7-branes (this gives 4 directions, one for each brane modulo a global translation).

To find the Higgs branch dimension for the 4d theory resulting from the twisted compactification we must limit the counting to those motions invariant under the $Z_2$ discrete symmetry. As the two sides are mapped to one another, the motion on both sides are identified. This leaves determining whether there are constraints when separating the 5-branes along the 7-branes which is the direction fixed by the orbifolding. In other words, we need to determine if it is consistent to have a brane mapped to itself. For this we performing T-duality which maps this configuration to a group of NS5-branes, D4-branes and D6-branes in the presence of an $O6^+$ and $O6^-$-planes. There is no impediment to separating the NS5-branes along the $O6^+$-planes. Also we can tune parameters so as to have the D4-branes sit on top of the $O6^-$-plane where they can be separated along it. Thus, we conclude that we can separate 5-branes along this orbifold.

We can now count all the possible breakings consistent with the $Z_2$ discrete symmetry, where we find: 1 direction from breaking the 2 D5-branes on a D7-brane simultaneously on both sides of the web, 3 directions from breaking the 3 NS5-branes on the (0, 1) 7-branes simultaneously on the top and bottom of the web and 4 directions from separating the remaining 2 D5-branes and 3 NS5-branes along the 7-branes. This gives an 8 dimensional Higgs branch. There is an isolated rank 1 4d SCFT with an $SU(2) \times USp(6)$ global symmetry and an 8 dimensional Higgs branch [29]. Thus, the natural conjecture is that the preceding compactification leads to this theory. Next we wish to test this conjecture.
Dualities

As one piece of evidence for this conjecture, we shall show that we can recover 4d dualities involving the $SU(2) \times USp(6)$ SCFT from the 5d construction. Consider gauging both $SU(2)$ global symmetries of the 5d SCFT in figure 3 with the same coupling $g_{5d}$ so as to preserve the $Z_2$ discrete symmetry. This leads to the SCFT shown in figure 4 (a). Now let’s reduce this SCFT with the $Z_2$ twist while taking the limit $R \to 0$, $g_{5d} \to 0$ keeping $\frac{g_{5d}^2}{R}$ fixed.

Let’s consider first doing the reduction in the $R >> g_{5d}^2 > 0$ limit. At energy scales of $g_{5d}^2 >> E >> \frac{1}{R}$ the 5d theory is effectively described by weakly gauging the $SU(2)^2$ global symmetry of the 5d SCFT in figure 3 by two $SU(2)$ gauge groups with identical couplings $g_{5d}^2$. At energies of $\frac{1}{R} >> E$ we get a 4d theory. Under the twist the two $SU(2)$ gauge theories are identified so we get just one gauge group with coupling $g_{4d}^2 \sim \frac{g_{5d}^2}{R}$. The 5d SCFT should reduce to the proposed 4d $SU(2) \times USp(6)$ SCFT. So we see that in this limit the resulting 4d theory is an $SU(2)$ gauging of the $SU(2)$ global symmetry of the proposed 4d $SU(2) \times USp(6)$ SCFT.

Consider approaching this limit from a different direction given by $g_{5d}^2 < 0$, shown in figure 4 (c). Now the $SU(2)$ description is inadequate and we should switch to a different description of the SCFT given by performing S-duality on the brane web. In this description we have an $SU_0(5) + 6F$ gauge theory with coupling $-g_{5d}^2 > 0$. We now ask what happens to this theory under the twisted reduction. The twist should project the $SU(5)$ to $SO(5)$ and the $6F$ to the $3V$. This follows from the global symmetry as well as the Higgs branch analysis, both agreeing with the 4d gauge theory $SO(5) + 3V$.

Thus, we arrive at the 4d gauge theory $SO(5) + 3V$ with $g_{4d}^2 \sim \frac{g_{5d}^2}{R}$ which is weakly coupled. In fact this is a conformal theory with a marginal parameter $g_{4d}^2$. So we see that
we can compactify the same 5d SCFT in the same limit getting different weakly coupled
descriptions in different ranges of the marginal parameter $\frac{g_{5d}^2}{R}$. This implies that these
two theories are dual. That the 4d $SU(2) \times USp(6)$ SCFT obeys such a duality is indeed known [29].

There is another way to generate a 4d conformal theory by gauging part of the global
symmetry of the $SU(2) \times USp(6)$ SCFT which we can directly implement in the web. This
is done by gauging the $USp(6)$ global symmetry with an $SU(3) + 1F$ gauge theory. On the
5d SCFT this should lift to a double $SU(3) + 1F$ gauging of the $SU(6)$ global symmetry.
The resulting 5d SCFT is shown in figure 5 (a) where we have also shown the SCFT in the
two limits of $g_{5d} \to 0$ for $g_{5d}^2 > 0$ in figure 5 (b) and $g_{5d}^2 < 0$ in figure 5 (c). When $g_{5d}^2 > 0$
the $SU(3)$ group is weakly coupled and we expect the 4d theory to be a weakly coupled
$SU(3) + 1F$ gauging the $SU(2) \times USp(6)$ SCFT. However when $g_{5d}^2 < 0$ the 5d SCFT is
more appropriately described by an $2F + SU_0(4) \times SU_0(4) + 2F$ gauge theory with equal
couplings $\sim -g_{5d}^2$. The two groups are identified under the $Z_2$ symmetry. The identification
and charge conjugation implies that the bifundamental matter should decompose to a
symmetric and an antisymmetric of $SU(4)$ of which only the symmetric is $Z_2$ invariant.
Therefore, when reduced to 4d, we expect to get a weakly coupled $SU(4) + 1S + 2F$ gauge
theory. Again these are two description of the same theory in different limits of a marginal
operator and so describe a duality. This duality indeed appears in [29].

Mass deformations

As a final piece of evidence we can consider mass deformations of this SCFT. For example,
consider the deformation of the 5d SCFT shown in figure 6 (a). This mass deformation
breaks the $SU(6)$ part of the global symmetry to $SU(2)^3$, but leaves the $SU(2)^2$ part

Figure 5: (a) The brane web representation of a 5d SCFT, generated from the one in figure 3
by double gauging an $SU(3) + 1F$ into the $SU(6)$ global symmetry. (b) A mass deformation
of the SCFT corresponding to the limit $g_{SU(3)}^2 \to \infty$ where $g_{SU(3)}$ is the coupling constant
of both edge $SU(3)$ gauge groups. (b) The mass deformation corresponding to the limit
$g_{SU(3)}^2 \to -\infty$ where we have also performed S-duality on the web. That this deformation
is a continuation of the previous one is apparent as it preserves the $U(2)^2 \times U(1)^2$ global
symmetries associated with the semi-infinite 5-branes. In this limit the $SU(3)$ quiver
description is inadequate, but there is a different description as an $2F + SU_0(4) \times SU_0(4) + 2F$
gauge theory where this limit corresponds to $g_{SU(4)}^2 \to \infty$ for $g_{SU(4)}$ the coupling constant
of both $SU(4)$ gauge groups.

We can compactify the same 5d SCFT in the same limit getting different weakly coupled
descriptions in different ranges of the marginal parameter $\frac{g_{5d}^2}{R}$. This implies that these
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There is another way to generate a 4d conformal theory by gauging part of the global
symmetry of the $SU(2) \times USp(6)$ SCFT which we can directly implement in the web. This
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Therefore, when reduced to 4d, we expect to get a weakly coupled $SU(4) + 1S + 2F$ gauge
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operator and so describe a duality. This duality indeed appears in [29].

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As a final piece of evidence we can consider mass deformations of this SCFT. For example,
consider the deformation of the 5d SCFT shown in figure 6 (a). This mass deformation
breaks the $SU(6)$ part of the global symmetry to $SU(2)^3$, but leaves the $SU(2)^2$ part
unbroken. It is most convenient to describe this using the $2F + SU(2) \times SU(2) + 2F$ gauge theory description where it corresponds to taking $g_{SU(2)}^2 \to \infty$. Reducing with the $Z_2$ we see that the resulting 4d theory should be $SU(2) + 1S + 2F$ which is an IR free gauge theory. Therefore the 4d $SU(2) \times USp(6)$ SCFT, resulting from the $Z_2$ twisted compactification of the 5d SCFT in figure 3 should have a mass deformation leading to the 4d gauge theory $SU(2) + 1S + 2F$. Recently the mass deformations of the $SU(2) \times USp(6)$ SCFT were analyzed using the Seiberg-Witten curve in [30] who found that it indeed possess such a mass deformation.

We can also consider another mass deformation, shown in figure 6 (b), now breaking the $SU(2)^2$ global symmetry while preserving the $SU(6)$. This one is most conveniently addressed from the $SU_0(3) + 6F$ description where it corresponds to the limit $g_{SU(3)}^{-2} \to \infty$. Again the previous discussion leads use to conclude that the resulting 4d theory is $SO(3) + 3V$ which is again IR free. Such a mass deformation of the $SU(2) \times USp(6)$ SCFT was also found in [30].

There is an additional mass deformation we can consider, given in the web by integrating a flavor on both sides. This leads to a new 5d SCFT, shown in figure 6 (c), with gauge theory descriptions of $1F + SU(2) \times SU(2) + 1F$ and $SU_0(3) + 4F$. It has an $SU(4) \times U(1)^2$ global symmetry so we expect the 4d theory to have $USp(4) \times U(1)$ global symmetry. There is indeed a mass deformation of the $SU(2) \times USp(6)$ SCFT with that pattern of symmetry breaking leading to an isolated 4d SCFT with $USp(4) \times U(1)$ global symmetry [30]. It is natural to identify the resulting 4d SCFT with this theory.

We can test this in the same spirit as the previous tests. First we can compute the Higgs branch dimension finding $d_H = 4$, which indeed agrees with the known Higgs branch dimension of the $USp(4) \times U(1)$ SCFT. Second we can gauge various global symmetries and study the resulting dualities. In this case we can gauge an $SU(2) \subset USp(4)$ which indeed gives a 4d conformal theory. The two interesting limits of this gauging are shown in figures 7 (b)+(c). The limit of figure 7 (b) describes a double weak gauging of the $USp(4) \times U(1)$ SCFT by an $SU(2)$ gauge group, while figure 7 (c) describes an $SU(3) + 1S + 1F$ gauge theory. This suggests that these are dual as was discovered in [29,31].

We can consider taking an additional mass deformation given by integrating an additional flavor. We can get to two different 5d SCFTs depending on the sign of the mass deformation. The first shown in figure 8 (a) has an $SU(2) \times U(1)^2$ global symmetry and
Figure 7: (a) The brane web representation of a 5d SCFT, generated from the one in figure 6 (c) by double gauging both SU(2) subgroups of its SU(4) global symmetry. Note that we have performed S-duality compared to the web shown in 6 (c). (b) A mass deformation of the SCFT corresponding to the limit $g_{SU(2)}^{-2} \to \infty$ where $g_{SU(2)}$ is the coupling constant of both edge SU(2) gauge groups. (c) The mass deformation corresponding to the limit $g_{SU(2)}^{-2} \to -\infty$ where we have also performed S-duality on the web. That this deformation is a continuation of the previous one is apparent as it preserves the $U(1)^4$ global symmetry associated with the semi-infinite 5-branes while breaking the $SU(2)^2$ associated with the semi-infinite $(1, 1)$ 5-branes. In this limit the previous description is inadequate, but there is a different description as an $1F + SU_1(3) \times SU_{-1}(3) + 1F$ gauge theory where this limit corresponds to $g_{SU(3)}^{-2} \to \infty$ for $g_{SU(3)}$ the coupling constant of both SU(3) gauge groups.

Figure 8: (a) The brane web representation of a 5d SCFT, generated from the one in figure 6 (c) by a mass deformation. It has two gauge theory descriptions as an $SU_x(2) \times SU_x(2)$ quiver gauge theory and an $SU_0(3) + 2F$ one. (b) A different brane web of another 5d SCFT generated from the one in figure 6 by the opposite mass deformation. It has a gauge description has an $SU_0(2) \times SU_0(2)$ quiver gauge theory.
Figure 9: The brane web representation of a 5d SCFT, described by the collapsed web. (a) A deformation of the SCFT illustrating the $3F + SU(2) \times SU(2) + 3F$ gauge theory description. (b) The S-dual web now illustrating the $SU_0(3) + 8F$ gauge theory description.

It is also interesting to consider the 5d SCFT we can get by adding flavors to the 5d gauge theories in figure 3. When reduced with a twist this should lead to 4d theories with model symmetries of $SU(2) \times U(1)$ and $USp(4)$ respectively. Examining mass deformations of the $USp(4) \times U(1)$ SCFT we find two natural candidates for these theories: $SU(2) + 1S + 1F$ for the $SU(2) \times U(1)$ theory and $SU(2) + 2S$ for the $USp(4)$ theory. These are IR free gauge theories. We can further test this by comparing the dimension of the Higgs branch finding complete agreement.

2.1.2 The $N = 2$, general $k$ case and related theories

In this subsection we generalize the previous discussion by the addition of NS5-branes. Like in the previous case, we can propose a known 4d SCFT as the result of the twisted compactification and test this using dualities.

Consider the 5d SCFT shown in figure 10. It has an $SU(2)^2 \times SU(2k)$ global symmetry and two convenient gauge theory descriptions given by $2F + SU(2)^{k-1} + 2F$ and $SU_0(k) + 2kF$. Reducing this 5d SCFT to 4d with a twist, we expect a 4d SCFT with an $SU(2) \times$
Figure 10: The brane web representation of a 5d SCFT, described by the collapsed web. (a) A deformation of the SCFT illustrating the $2F + SU(2)^{k-1} + 2F$ gauge theory description. (b) The S-dual web now illustrating the $SU_0(k) + 2kF$ gauge theory description.

Figure 11: (a) The brane web representation of a 5d SCFT, generated from the one in figure 10 by gauging both $SU(2)$ global symmetries. (b) A mass deformation of the SCFT corresponding to the $g_{SU(2)}^{-2} \to \infty$ where $g_{SU(2)}$ is the coupling constant of both edge $SU(2)$ gauge groups. (b) The mass deformation corresponding to $g_{SU(2)}^{-2} \to -\infty$ where we have also performed S-duality on the web. That this deformation is a continuation of the previous one is apparent as it preserves the $U(2k)$ global symmetry. In this limit the $SU(2)$ quiver description is inadequate, but there is a different description as $SU_0(k + 2) + 2kF$ where this limit corresponds to $g_{SU(k+2)}^{-2} \to \infty$ for $g_{SU(k+2)}$ the coupling constant of $SU(k+2)$.

$USp(2k)$ global symmetry. Further, we can gauge the $SU(2)$ global symmetry and consider reducing the theory in the $g^2 \to 0, \frac{g^2}{R}$ fixed limit, in two different regimes of $\frac{g^2}{R}$. We find one describes a weak $SU(2)$ gauging of the aforementioned SCFT (see figure 11(b)) while the other describing a weak $SO(k + 2) + kV$ gauge theory (see figure 11(c)). There is indeed a known duality of this form [34], leading us to identify the $SU(2) \times USp(2k)$ SCFT appearing in these dualities with the one resulting from the twisted compactification.

In the $k$ even case, this theory can be constructed by the compactification of a D type 6d $(2,0)$ theory with twist [34] which allows determining its properties. We can perform some consistency checks on this identification. First we can calculate the Higgs branch dimension of these SCFTs from the web. These can be compared against the class S result for even $k$ and against what is expected from the duality for general $k$ finding complete agreement.

Another check we can do is to consider gauging a part of the $USp(2k)$ global symmetry and so consider a different duality. One option is to gauge it with an $SU(k) + (k-2)F$...
Figure 12: Gauging a $USp(2k)$ subgroup of an $SU(2k)$ global symmetry. The gauging is done by adding an $OT^-$ plane here shown after it has been resolved to a $(1,1)$ and $(1,-1)$ 7-branes. We can proceed by pulling out the 7-branes arriving at the configuration on the right, where a number next to a 7-brane stands for the number of 5-branes ending on that 7-brane.

gauge group which is a conformal gauging. We shall consider this duality in the next section when we discuss the general case. When $k$ is even we can also consider a double gauging of the $USp(2k)$ global symmetry by a $USp(k)$ group which leads to an interesting duality\footnote{There is a generalization of this that works for every $k$ given by gauging with an $SU(k) + 1AS$ gauge group. We will consider this in the next section.}. In the web this can be performed by adding an $OT^-$ plane and then resolving it as shown in figure 12.

This leads to the duality shown in figure 13. We can now use the known properties of the $SU(2) \times USp(2k)$ SCFT to check this duality by comparing the conformal anomalies, dimensions of Coulomb branch operators and global symmetries and their associated central charges finding complete agreement. Furthermore we can argue this duality from a class S construction, where we reduce the $6D_{k+1}$ $(2,0)$ theory on a torus with a single puncture whose associated Young diagram is shown in figure 13, being the ungrayed one on the bottom left theory. In addition we add a $Z_2$ twist in the outer automorphism of $D_{k+1}$ on one of the cycles of the torus. We then get both theories in the bottom of figure 13 as different pair of pants decompositions of this Riemann surface (see also [31] for an example of this type of dualities for the twisted $A(2,0)$ theory).

Finally we can also use this to study mass deformations of these SCFT. For example, figure 14 suggests that they should have a mass deformation, breaking the $SU(2)$ global symmetry, that leads to the IR free $SO(k)+kV$ gauge theory. There should also be another mass deformation, now breaking the $USp(2k)$ global symmetry, that leads to an IR free $SU(2) + 2F$ gauging the $SU(2)$ global symmetry of the $SU(2) \times USp(2k-4)$ SCFT. It will be interesting to see if this can be verified by alternative means.

We can also consider a mass deformation interpreted in the web by integrating a flavor. This leads to the 5d SCFT shown in figure 14 (c) having a $U(1)^2 \times SU(2k-2)$ global symmetry. We can consider the result of reducing this SCFT to 4d with the twist where based on the previous example we expect a 4d SCFT with a $U(1) \times USp(2k-2)$ global symmetry. When $N$ is odd we can identify this theory with the class S theories introduced in [31]. One evidence for this is that the dimension of the Higgs branch agree. We shall
Figure 13: Two limits of the $USp(2k)$ gauging introduced in figure 12. (a) This limit corresponds to $g_{USp(2k)}^{-2} \to \infty$. Reducing with a twist leads to the theory shown below where we use grayed Young diagrams to represent twisted punctures, and black arrows to represent gauging the appropriate symmetry of the shown class S theory. Further we use two arrows as both $USp(2k)$ groups, associated to the two punctures, are gauged. (b) This limit corresponds to $g_{USp(2k)}^{-2} \to -\infty$ and reducing it with a twist leads to the theory shown below.

Figure 14: Two mass deformations of the 5d SCFT of figure 10. A mass deformation corresponding to the limit $g_{SU(2)}^{-2} \to \infty$. (b) A different mass deformation, shown in the S-dual frame, corresponding to the limit $g_{SU(k)}^{-2} \to \infty$. (c) A 5d SCFT we get after a mass deformation corresponding to integrating out a flavor on both sides.
Finally we can consider the generalization of the $USp(10)$ theory by the addition of NS5-branes. The 5d SCFT, shown in figure 15 (a), has an $SU(2k)$ global symmetry so reducing it with a twist leads to a 4d SCFT with $USp(2k)$ global symmetry. When $k$ is even we can naturally identify it with the class S theory shown in 15 (b). This is supported as the global symmetry, dimension of the Coulomb branch and dimension of the Higgs branch all agree. Further we can again consider double gauging the $USp(2k)$ global group with a $USp(k)$ gauge group leading to the duality similar to this of figure 13 after forcing the two 5-branes to end on the same 7-brane. In the class S description this corresponds to changing the puncture with $SO(3)$ symmetry to the minimal puncture. The rest works out exactly as in the duality of figure 13 so we won’t elaborate on it.

### 2.2 The general case

In this section we turn to analyzing the general case. Particularly, we consider the compactification of the 5d SCFT whose brane description is given in figure 2. We wish to study its compactification to 4d with the $Z_2$ twist. We shall argue that this leads to an isolated 4d SCFT. The basic tool we use to study this is the dualities of the type considered in the previous subsection.

We start by considering the case of $N = 2l$ where we can consider gauging the $SU(N)$ global symmetry by $USp(2l)$. The two interesting limits of this gauging are shown in figures 16 (a)+(b). These suggest the duality shown in the lower part of figure 16. An important feature here is that the right side of the duality is given in terms of known theories allowing us to deduce the properties of the unknown theory. For this we rely on the properties of the class S theory appearing in the duality. Particularly we require the spectrum and dimensions of Coulomb branch operators, global symmetry and central charges. These can be evaluated using the methods of [35], and as these play a prominent role in the
Figure 16: Two limits of a $USp(2l)$ gauging of an $SU(2l)$ global symmetry of the SCFT in figure 2. (a) This limit corresponds to $g_{USp(2l)}^{-2} \to \infty$. Reducing with a twist leads to the theory shown below. (b) This limit corresponds to $g_{USp(2l)}^{-2} \to -\infty$ and reducing it with a twist leads to the theory shown below.

proceeding discussion we have summarized them in figure 17. For the central charges we use the Higgs branch dimension and effective number of vector multiplets. These can be readily converted to the $a$ and $c$ conformal anomalies using: $d_H = 24(c - a), n_v = 4(2a - c)$.

From these we see that the theory on the right hand side is an SCFT with a single marginal parameter. The duality suggests the theory on the left side should also be of this type. Therefore the $USp$ gauging should be conformal and the $SU(k) \times SU(N) \times U(1)$ theory should be an isolated SCFT. From the duality we can determine its properties, at least when $N$ is even, which are summarized in figure 18.

In the $N = 2l + 1$ we can consider gauging the $SU(N)$ global symmetry by $SU(N) + 1AS$. This and the resulting duality are shown in figure 19. That this describes an $SU(2l + 1) + 1AS$ gauging can be reasoned by resolving an $O7^-$-plane with a stuck NS5-brane (see figure 20). It is instructive to argue this also in an alternative way. We can interpret the system in figure 19 as an $SU(2l + 1)$ gauging of, on one side the $SU(2l + 1)$ of the $SU(2l + 1) \times SU(k) \times U(1)$ SCFT, and on the other the 5d SCFT shown in figure 21 (a). Perfuming a series of 7-brane motions we can map it to the one in figure 21 (b) which is of the form considered in 18. Thus, there is a class S theory associated with this SCFT which describes an antisymmetric hyper and two fundamentals under the $SU(2l - 1)$ global symmetry manifested in the punctures. Also note that we performed a transition of the type considered in 19 so there is an additional hyper in the theory of figure 21 (a).

Therefore the theory in figure 21 (a) is a collection of $l(2l + 1)$ free hypers that transform as the $(1, (1 - 1)(2l - 1)) + (2, 2l - 1) + (1, 1)$ under the $SU(2) \times SU(2l - 1)$ subgroup of $SU(2l + 1)$. This can only be consistent with this theory describing a single hyper in the
Figure 17: Properties of the 4d class S theory shown in the top of the picture. The table in the middle summarizes the spectrum and dimensions of Coulomb branch operators. These are somewhat different depending on whether $2N \geq k + 2$ or $2N \leq k + 2$ and whether $k$ is even or odd. In the table $i$ stands for the dimension of the operator and $d_i$ for the number of such operators present in the SCFT. Also written are the global symmetry with the central charges, Higgs branch dimension and effective number of vector multiplets. The global symmetry written is for the $N, k > 2$ case, and is further enhanced to $SU(2) \times SO(4N + 4)$ for $k = 2$ and $SU(2k + 4)$ for $N = 2$. Note that for $N = k = 2$ the theory becomes the rank 1 $E_7$ theory.
Figure 18: Properties of the conjectured $SU(k) \times SU(N) \times U(1)$ SCFT resulting from the twisted compactification of the 5d SCFT in figure 2. These can be determined from the dualities in figures 16 and 19. The table summarizes the spectrum and dimensions of Coulomb branch operators where we have assumed that $k \geq N$, the other case given by exchanging $N$ and $k$. The last entry in the middle table refers to the existence of one more Coulomb branch operator, in addition to the other ones appearing in the table. Also written are the global symmetry with the central charges, Higgs branch dimension and effective number of vector multiplets. In the global symmetry we have assumed that $N, k > 2$, the cases of $N = 2$ or $k = 2$ being covered in the previous subsection.

| $k \geq N$ | $k \geq N$ | $k \geq N$ |
|------------|------------|------------|
| $N$ odd    | $N$ even, $k$ even | $N$ even, $k$ odd |
| $i$ | $d_i$ | $i$ | $d_i$ | $i$ | $d_i$ |
| 2, 3 | 0 | 2, 3 | 0 | 2, 3 | 0 |
| 4, 5 | 1 | 4, 5 | 1 | 4, 5 | 1 |
| 6, 7 | 2 | 6, 7 | 2 | 6, 7 | 2 |
| $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ |
| $N - 3, N - 2$ | $\frac{N-1}{2}$ | $N - 2, N - 1$ | $\frac{N-1}{2}$ | $N - 2, N - 1$ | $\frac{N-1}{2}$ |
| $N - 1, N$ | $\frac{N-1}{2}$ | $N, N + 1$ | $\frac{N}{2}$ | $N, N + 1$ | $\frac{N}{2}$ |
| $N + 1, N + 2, \ldots, k + 2$ | $\frac{N-1}{2}$ | $N + 2, N + 4, \ldots, k + 2$ | $\frac{N}{2}$ | $N + 2, N + 4, \ldots, k + 1$ | $\frac{N}{2}$ |
| $k + 3, k + 4$ | $\frac{N-1}{2}$ | $N + 3, N + 5, \ldots, k + 1$ | $\frac{N}{2}$ | $N + 3, N + 5, \ldots, k$ | $\frac{N}{2}$ |
| $k + 5, k + 6$ | $\frac{N-1}{2}$ | $k + 4$ | $\frac{N}{2}$ | $k + 2, k + 3$ | $\frac{N}{2}$ |
| $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $k + 3, k + 6$ | $\frac{N}{2}$ | $k + 4, k + 5$ | $\frac{N}{2}$ |
| $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $k + 5, k + 8$ | $\frac{N}{2}$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ |
| $N + k - 4, N + k - 3$ | 2 | $N + k - 7, N + k - 4$ | 3 | $N + k - 4, N + k - 3$ | 2 |
| $N + k - 2, N + k - 1$ | 1 | $N + k - 5, N + k - 2$ | 2 | $N + k - 2, N + k - 1$ | 1 |
| $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $N + k - 3$ | 1 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ |

One more operator of dimension $\frac{N_{\text{ch}}}{2}$

\[ SU_{2k+1}(N) \times SU_{2N+4}(N) \times U(1) \]

\[ d_H = \frac{k(k+1) + N(N+1)}{2} - 1 \]

\[ n_v = \frac{(N + k + 2)(N - 1)(k - 1)}{2} \]
Figure 19: Two limits of a $SU(2N + 1) + 1AS$ gauging of an $SU(2N + 1)$ global symmetry of the SCFT in figure 2. (a) This limit corresponds to $g_{SU(2N+1)}^{-2} \to \infty$. Reducing with a twist leads to the theory shown below. (b) This limit corresponds to $g_{SU(2N+1)}^{-2} \to -\infty$ and reducing it with a twist leads to the theory shown below.

Figure 20: Starting from the left, depicting a resolved $O7^-$ plane with a stuck D5-brane and NS5-branes, we arrive to the right configuration.

Figure 21: (a) A web for a 5d SCFT gauged by $SU(2l + 1)$ in figure 19. Performing a series of 7-brane motions we arrive at the configuration in (b) which is of the form of [18].
Figure 22: Two limits of a $SU(N) + (N-2)F$ gauging of an $SU(N)$ global symmetry of the SCFT in figure 2. (a) This limit corresponds to $g_{SU(N)}^{-2} \rightarrow \infty$. Reducing with a twist leads to the theory shown below. (b) This limit corresponds to $g_{SU(N)}^{-2} \rightarrow -\infty$ and reducing it with a twist leads to the theory shown below.

antisymmetric of $SU(2l + 1)$.

We can now use the duality in figure 19 to study the $SU(N) \times SU(k) \times U(1)$ SCFT when both $N$ and $k$ are odd. This is again summarized in figure 18. We can perform several consistency checks on the properties we find. First we find that these are indeed invariant under the interchange of $N$ and $k$ as suggested by the web. This is also necessary as we could have performed the same dualities by gauging the $SU(k)$ group instead and this structure guaranties that this as well is consistent. Another consistency check we can perform is to compare the Higgs branch dimension evaluated from the web against the one expected from the duality using $d_H = 24(a-c)$ where we again find agreement. We can also compare the dimension of the Coulomb branch required from the duality against the one expected from the web where again we find agreement.

In order to perform additional consistency checks we consider other dualities. For example we can gauge the $SU(N)$ group with an $SU(N) + (N-2)F$ gauge theory which leads to a 4$d$ conformal theory. This gives to the duality shown in figure 22. We can now test this duality by matching central charges using the properties of the $SU(N) \times SU(k) \times U(1)$ SCFT we determined from the previous dualities, and consistency now necessitates that these agree. We indeed find that they agree.

We can in fact generate a number of dualities by considering the 5$d$ SCFT shown in figure 23 for $l = 1, 2, ... \lfloor \frac{N}{2} \rfloor$, where $\lfloor \frac{N}{2} \rfloor$ stands for the integer part of $\frac{N}{2}$. The figure shows two extreme limits of a particular mass deformation where the 5$d$ SCFT can be described by a double $SU$ gauging, each connecting the 5$d$ SCFT in figure 2 to the one in figure 17. When reduced to 4$d$ with the twist this naturally leads to the 4$d$ dualities shown in figure 23. Note that the two previous cases are just the $l = 1$ and $l = \lfloor \frac{N}{2} \rfloor$ limits of this duality. We can now test this duality by comparing the various central charges finding
Figure 23: Two limits of a $SU(N)$ gauging of an $SU(N)$ global symmetry of the SCFT in figure 2 on one side and the SCFT of the type in 17 on the other side. (a) This limit corresponds to $g_{SU(N)}^{-2} \to \infty$. Reducing with a twist leads to the theory shown below. (b) This limit corresponds to $g_{SU(N)}^{-2} \to -\infty$ and reducing it with a twist leads to the theory shown below.

complete agreement. We can also compare the dimension of Coulomb branch operators finding complete agreement.

2.2.1 Additional theories

From the $SU(N) \times SU(k) \times U(1)$ family of 4d SCFT we introduced we can generate additional theories by Higgsing and mass deformations. Like in class S theories, we can generate additional SCFTs by taking various Higgs branch limits of the starting SCFT. We can see the various possible Higgs branch limits from the brane web description. First, starting from a specific $SU(N) \times SU(k) \times U(1)$ theory, we can flow to ones with lower $N$ or $k$. This is described in the web by separating a group of D5 and NS5-branes from the web.

Another Higgs branch limit is given by forcing a group of D5 or NS5-branes to end on the same 7-brane. This limit is well known in the 5d class S theories of [18] as being the Higgs branch associate with partial closure of the punctures. Indeed specifying the distribution of $N$ 5-branes on a group of 7-branes constitute a partition of $N$ and so a Young diagram. Therefore we can describe theories generated by Higgsing down a $SU(N) \times SU(k) \times U(1)$ SCFT by introducing two Young diagrams, one with $N$ boxes while the other with $k$ boxes. The $SU(N) \times SU(k) \times U(1)$ SCFT itself is given by the one row diagram while other Young diagrams give other SCFT’s generated by Higgsing.

It is straightforward to generalize the methods we used in this section also to these cases. An example for this was given in section 2.1 where we studied the $USp(2N)$ SCFTs. Thus, we can essentially study dualities and mass deformations of these SCFTs.

Another way to generate theories is using mass deformations. These of course may not lead to an SCFT. Yet we can find one mass deformation which we can argue indeed gives an SCFT. We can consider the mass deformation which can be interpreted as integrating
out a flavor on both sides in the gauge theory description of the 5d SCFT. This leads to the 5d SCFT shown in figure 24 and reducing it to 4d with the $Z_2$ twist is expected to lead to a 4d theory. We now argue that this 4d theory is an isolated SCFT.

Our method is the one we used previously: we consider dualities. Particularly, we concentrate on the $N = 2n + 1$ case and consider gauging a $USp(2n)$ gauge theory into the $SU(N - 1)$ global symmetry. We can now reduce to 4d with the twist taking the scaling limit with $g^2 R$ fixed. Examining two limits of this reduction we arrive at the duality in figure 25. Note that in the $k = 2$ case this reduces to the 4d duality of [31]. This further supports identifying the $USp(2n) \times U(1)$ SCFT introduced there with the 4d theory resulting from the twisted compactification of the 5d SCFT in figure 24 for $k = 2, N = 2n + 1$.

Like in the previous case, in the $N = 2n + 2$ case we can still carry this by gauging an $SU(2n + 1) + 1AS$ which gives the duality in figure 26. Note that one side of the duality now involves the $USp(2N) \times U(1)$ SCFT that we introduced in section 2.1. With the exception of the $N$ and $k$ even case, one side in it is made of known theories so we know that it is a conformal theory with a single marginal operators. Thus, the other side must also be an SCFT with the marginal operator being the $USp(2n)$ or $SU(2n + 1)$ gauge coupling. This implies that the SCFT generated from the reduction of the 5d SCFT in figure 24 is an isolated SCFT.

We can now perform the same consistency checks as before. First we can use the duality in figure 25 to determine the properties of the SCFT when either $N$ or $k$ are odd. We can in principle use the duality in figure 26 to study the duality when both $N$ and $k$ are even, but this requires understanding the properties of the $USp(2n) \times U(1)$ SCFT. These are known when $n$ is even using the results of [31], but not when $n$ is odd. We have summarized the properties of this expected SCFT in figure 27 except in the $N, k$ even case. This can be evaluated directly from the duality in figure 25. The duality in figure 26 when applicable, can then be used as a consistency check. As other consistency checks we have verified that all properties are invariant under interchange of $N$ and $k$ and that the Coulomb branch and Higgs branch dimension, evaluated using $d_H = 24(c - a)$, agrees with what is expected from the web.

We can also consider other dualities. For example figure 28 shows the duality when gauging an $SU(N - 1) + (N - 3)F$. We can now compare all the quantities in figure 27.
Figure 25: Two limits of a $USp(2n)$ gauging of an $SU(2n)$ global symmetry of the SCFT in figure 24. (a) This limit corresponds to $g_{USp(2n)}^{-2} \rightarrow \infty$. Reducing with a twist leads to the theory shown below. (b) This limit corresponds to $g_{USp(2n)}^{-2} \rightarrow -\infty$ and reducing it with a twist leads to the theory shown below.

Figure 26: Two limits of a $SU(2n + 1) + 1AS$ gauging of an $SU(2n + 1)$ global symmetry of the SCFT in figure 24. (a) This limit corresponds to $g_{SU(2n+1)}^{-2} \rightarrow \infty$. Reducing with a twist leads to the theory shown below. (b) This limit corresponds to $g_{SU(2n+1)}^{-2} \rightarrow -\infty$ and reducing it with a twist leads to the theory shown below.
Figure 27: Properties of the conjectured $SU(k-1) \times SU(N-1) \times U(1)^2$ SCFT resulting from the twisted compactification of the 5d SCFT in figure 24. These can be determined from the duality in figures 25. The table on the left summarize the spectrum and dimensions of Coulomb branch operators where we have assumed that $k \geq N$. The other case is given by exchanging $N$ and $k$. Also written are the global symmetry with the central charges, Higgs branch dimension and effective number of vector multiplets. In the global symmetry we have assumed that $N, k > 2$ having already discussed the $k = 2$ and $N = 2$ cases in section 2.1. Note that the $N, k$ even case is not given since there is no duality which we case use to uncover them.
Figure 28: Two limits of a $SU(N-1) + (N-3) F$ gauging of an $SU(N-1)$ global symmetry of the SCFT in figure 24. (a) This limit corresponds to $g_{SU(N-1)}^{-2} \to \infty$. Reducing with a twist leads to the theory shown below. (b) This limit corresponds to $g_{SU(N-1)}^{-2} \to -\infty$ and reducing it with a twist leads to the theory shown below.

finding that they agree. It is straightforward to generalize the other dualities also to this case. We shall not carry this out here.

2.2.2 Dualities for $SU$ with symmetric matter

We can apply this to study 4d theories involving $SU$ with symmetric matter which, to our knowledge, have no known class S construction. For example consider the 4d gauge theory $SU(N) + 1S + (N-2) F$. The beta function vanishes so this is a conformal theory. We can engineer it from the 5d description as follows. Consider the 5d SCFT shown in figure 29 (a). Reducing it to 4d with a twist and taking a scaling limit leads to the 4d $SU(N) + 1S + (N-2) F$ gauge theory. We can now use this to study dualities of this theory. For example figure 29 (b) shows the same reduction, but with a different weak coupling description. This leads to the duality shown in figure 29.

It is interesting to also study dualities resulting from gauging the $SU(N-2)$ global symmetry of the SCFT appearing in figure 29. Using the results in figures 16 and 19 we find the dualities in figure 30 where we have used the naming conventions of [35]. The $S_N$ theory that appears in these dualities is dual to an $SU(N) + 1AS + (N+2) F$ gauge theory when its $SU(3)$ subgroup is gauged by $SU(3) + 1F$.

We can get another dual frame of the 4d $SU(N) + 1S + (N-2) F$ SCFT by using the family of SCFTs introduced in the previous subsection. For this we consider reducing with a twist the 5d SCFT of figure 31 (a) while taking a scaling limit leading to the 4d gauge theory $SU(N) + 1S + (N-2) F$. Again by considering the same reduction in a different range of the parameters we get the dual description shown in figure 31 (b). We can again consider gauging the $SU(N-2)$ global symmetry. Using the results in figures 25 and 26 we
Figure 29: Two limits of a $SU(N) + (N - 2)F$ gauging of an $SU(N)$ global symmetry of the $SU(N) \times SU(1) \times U(1)$ SCFT. (a) This limit corresponds to $g_{SU(N)}^{-2} \to \infty$. Reducing with a twist leads to the theory shown below. (b) This limit corresponds to $g_{SU(N)}^{2} \to -\infty$ and reducing it with a twist leads to the theory shown below.

Figure 30: Two dualities of the $SU(N) \times SU(3) \times U(1)$ for $N$ even (upper) and odd (lower) which we get by setting $k = 3$ in the dualities of figures 16 and 19.
Figure 31: Two limits of a $SU(N) + (N - 2)F$ gauging of an $SU(N)$ global symmetry of the $SU(N) \times U(1)^2$ SCFT. (a) This limit corresponds to $g_{SU(N)}^2 \to \infty$. Reducing with a twist leads to the theory shown below. (b) This limit corresponds to $g_{SU(N)}^2 \to -\infty$ and reducing it with a twist leads to the theory shown below.

We find the dualities in figure 32. The class S theory appearing in the figure as the property that gauging its $SU_8(2)$ global symmetry leads to a $USp(2N) + (2N + 2)F$ gauge theory.

We can use this to motivate a completely perturbative duality by performing both gauging simultaneously. Consider the theory shown in figure 33 where we have gauged the $SU(2N) \times SU(3) \times U(1)$ SCFT by an $SU(3) + 1F$ and $USp(2N)$ gauge theories. Then by applying the dualities of figures 29 and 30 we get a duality between two gauge theories. We can play the same game also on the $SU(2N + 1) \times SU(3) \times U(1)$ SCFT, now gauging by an $SU(3) + 1F$ and $SU(2N + 1) + 1AS$ gauge theories. This is shown in figure 34 and results in a self duality.

We can also consider simultaneously gauging the $SU(2)$ and $SU(N - 2)$ global symmetries of the $SU(N - 2) \times SU(2) \times U(1)^2$ SCFT. This leads to the dualities in figures 35 and 36, all involving known theories. The case of figure 35 is a self duality while the one in figure 36 is not. It is interesting that this is the exact opposite of the previous case.

Since these dualities all involve known theories they can be tested by ordinary means. For example consider the duality in figure 33 which is between two gauge theories. As we have a perturbative description on both sides, it can be tested by more intricate means like comparing the superconformal index. Nevertheless evaluating the superconformal index in the general case is technically challenging. Therefore, as a simple test, we shall compromise on examining the $N = 2$ case, which is the first new case. Also we shall compute the index in the simplified Hall-Littlewood limit (see also appendix A).

We expand the index in a power series in $\tau$, evaluating to order $\tau^5$. We indeed find the

\[^3\text{The } N = 1 \text{ case follows from the dualities in 29.}\]
Figure 32: Two dualities of the $SU(N) \times SU(2) \times U(1)^2$ for $N$ even (upper) and odd (lower) which we get by setting $k = 3$ in the dualities of figures 25 and 26.

Figure 33: Combining the two dualities in figures 29 and 30 we get that the two theories on the right are dual.
Figure 34: Combining the two dualities in figures 29 and 30 we get that the two theories on the right are dual.

Figure 35: Combining the two dualities in figures 31 and 32 we get that the two theories on the right are dual.
Figure 36: Combining the two dualities in figures 31 and 32 we get that the two theories on the right are dual.

indices agree being given by:

\[ I_{AS/S+SU \times SO/USp} = 1 + 2\tau^2 + 4\tau^4 - \left( \frac{p^2}{a} + \frac{a}{p^2} \right)\tau^5 + O(\tau^6) \]  

(2)

where we use \( p \) for the bifundamental \( U(1) \) fugacity and \( a \) for the \( U(1) \) fugacity associated with the symmetric or antisymmetric matter, depending on the theory.

We can do the same also for the duality in figure 36 for the case of \( N = 1 \). Besides technical issues we also need the Hall-Littlewood index of the \( U(1) \times USp(8) \) SCFT. We can calculate it using the conjectured formula for the index given in [31]. We find:

\[ I_{U(1) \times USp(8)} = 1 + \tau^2(\chi[36]+1) + \tau^4(\chi[330]+\chi[308]+\chi[36]+1) + (h^5 + \frac{1}{h^5})\chi[42]\tau^5 + O(\tau^6) \]  

(3)

where we used \( \chi[d] \) for the character of the \( d \) dimensional representation under the non-abelian global symmetry, in this case being \( USp(8) \). Also we used \( h \) as the fugacity for the \( U(1) \) global symmetry.

We can now use this to evaluate the indices for the two proposed dual theories. For the \( 1S + SU(5) \times SU(3) + 1F \) theory we find:

\[ I_{1S+SU(5)\times SU(3)+1F}^{HL} = 1 + 3\tau^2 + 6\tau^4 + (cf^2p + \frac{1}{cf^2p})(\frac{f^3}{cp} + \frac{cp}{f^3})\tau^5 + O(\tau^6) \]  

(4)

where we again use \( p \) for the bifundamental fugacity, \( f \) for the symmetric fugacity and \( c \) for the fundamental one.

For the \( SU(2) \times SU(4) \) gauging of the \( U(1) \times USp(8) \) SCFT, we find:

\[ I_{SU(2)\times SU(4)\rightarrow U(1)\times USp(8)}^{HL} = 1 + 3\tau^2 + 6\tau^4 + (h^5 + \frac{1}{h^5})(x^4 + \frac{1}{x^4})\tau^5 + O(\tau^6) \]  

(5)
where \( x \) is the fugacity for the \( U(1) \) commutant of \( SU(4) \) inside \( USp(8) \). We now see that the two indices indeed match, to the evaluated order, if we identify \( h^5, x^4 \) with \( c f^2 p, \frac{L}{cf} \).

3 Twisted compactification of \( T_N \) theories

In this section we move on to investigate twisted compactification of the 5d \( T_N \) theory whose web description is given in figure 37 [18]. This SCFT has an \( S_3 \) discrete symmetry which acts by permutating the three \( SU(N) \) global symmetries. In the analogous 4d theory this is seen as permutating the three maximal punctures. We can now consider compactifying this theory to 4d with a twist in an abelian subgroup of \( S_3 \). There are two cases to consider, \( Z_2 \) and \( Z_3 \). We shall first start with the \( Z_3 \) case and then move on to discuss the \( Z_2 \) case.

3.1 \( Z_3 \) twist

In this subsection we discuss compactification of the 5d \( T_N \) theory on a circle with a \( Z_3 \subset S_3 \) twist. The \( Z_3 \) element we twist by can be conveniently represented by the \( SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \) element \( TS \):

\[
TS = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.
\]  

(6)

Like in the previous case, we shall start by studying some simple low \( N \) cases where we can readily identify the resulting theory with a known 4d SCFT. We then test this by performing various consistency checks. In the general \( N \) case we cannot readily identify them with any known theory leading us to believe these are new. We discuss some of their expected properties.

\( N = 2 \) case

We begin with the \( N = 2 \) case where the 5d SCFT reduces to eight free half-hypermultiplets in the \((2,2,2)\) of the \( SU(2)^3 \) global symmetry. In this case we have a perturbative description of the SCFT so we can easily determine the resulting 4d theory. The twist project the
Figure 38: (a) The gauge theory description of the 5d $T_4$ theory. (b) Dualizing the $SU_0(3) + 6F$ part to $2F + SU(2) \times SU(2) + 2F$ we get this theory where the dashed line stands for an half-hyper in the $(2, 2, 2)$.

free half-hypermultiplets to the $Z_3$ symmetric part which is four free half-hypermultiplets in the $\otimes^3_{\text{sym}} 2 = 4$ of the $SU(2)$ global symmetry.

We can also support this from the Higgs branch dimension. This can be counted in the web by looking at the directions compatible with the $Z_3$ twist. There are two such directions agreeing with what is expected from four free half-hypermultiplets. The first is given by forcing the two $(1, 0), (0, 1)$ and $(1, 1)$ 5-branes to end on the same 7-brane while the second is given by separating the two 5-brane junctions.

$N = 3$ case

Next we move on to the $N = 3$ case. The theory we now consider is the rank 1 $E_6$ theory. Compactifying with a twist we get a 4d theory with rank 1 and a 5 dimensional Higgs branch. We can also consider the global symmetry of the 4d theory. The 5d theory has an $E_6$ global symmetry and so possesses moment map operators in the adjoint of $E_6$ which decomposes to $(8, 1, 1) + (1, 8, 1) + (1, 1, 8) + (3, 3, 3) + (\bar{3}, \bar{3}, \bar{3})$ under the $SU(3)^3$ subgroup of $E_6$. Projecting to the $Z_3$ invariant part we get moment map operators in the $8 + 10 + \bar{10}$ of the symmetric $SU(3)$ global symmetry. This builds the adjoint of $SO(8)$. Thus, we conjecture that the resulting 4d theory should be $SU(2) + 4F$ which has an $SO(8)$ global symmetry, rank 1 and a 5 dimensional Higgs branch.

$N = 4$ case

Now we move to the $N = 4$ case that is the 5d $T_4$ theory. It will be instructive to consider a gauge theory description of the SCFT where the $Z_3$ symmetry is manifest. For this we start with the gauge theory description given in [15] shown in figure 38 (a). We duality the $SU_0(3) + 6F$ part to $2F + SU(2) \times SU(2) + 2F$ which gives the gauge theory in figure 38 (b). This theory has an $S_3$ symmetry given by permutating the three $SU(2)$ groups which is the descendnet of the $S_3$ symmetry of the $T_4$ SCFT.

There is a question as to whether this direction indeed survives the projection. Unlike the previous case we do not have a T-dual description to use in order to answer this. We can however use knowledge of the theory to determine that such a direction exists.
Now we inquire about 4d theory resulting from twisted compactification of the 5d $T_4$ SCFT. Both the web and the gauge theory description suggests it should have rank 1, and we also expect an $SU(4)$ global symmetry. There is indeed a known theory with these properties which is the recently discovered rank 1 $SU(4)$ SCFT in [20]. It is natural to expect that we get this theory. We next provide further evidence for this. First we can compare the dimension of the Higgs branch where the web suggests a 9 dimensional Higgs branch agreeing with the Higgs branch dimension of the rank 1 $SU(4)$ SCFT [20]. We can also ask what is the theory we get on the Higgs branch. The $T_4$ theory has a $Z_3$ symmetric direction along which it is reduced to $T_3$. Thus the previous discussion suggests that our theory should have a Higgs branch direction leading to $SU(2) + 4F$. This also agrees with properties of the rank 1 $SU(4)$ SCFT [20].

As a more intricate check we can consider the Hall-Littlewood chiral ring [36]. In [20] it was determined to be comprised from the following operators: $\tau^2 \chi[15] + \tau^3 (\chi[20'] + \chi[20'']) + \tau^4 \chi[50] + O(\tau^5)$ ($\tau$ is the same fugacity appearing in the Hall-Littlewood index, see appendix A). As we now argue this naturally follows from this construction. Let’s consider the 5d $T_4$ theory compactified with a twist. As the Higgs branch is invariant under quantum corrections the 4d Higgs branch should be identical to a subspace of the original invariant under the twist. For the theory at hand, the Hall-Littlewood index, which is made from operators belonging to the Hall-Littlewood chiral ring, should be identical to the Hilbert series of the Higgs branch [22, 37]. Thus symmetric combinations of Higgs branch operators of the 5d theory should descend to Higgs branch operators of the 4d theory, and thus to part of the Hall-Littlewood chiral ring. So we expect to be able to identify the Hall-Littlewood chiral ring of the 4d theory in operators of the 5d theory. Note that there could exist operators acting on the subspace without a corresponding operator on the full space, or alternatively constraints acting on the subspace with no analogue on the full space. Thus, this procedure may not generate the full Hall-Littlewood chiral ring.

We can determine the basic Higgs branch operators of the 5d $T_4$ theory directly from 5d as done in the appendix. However we can use a shortcut utilizing the fact that compactifying the 5d $T_4$ theory leads to the 4d one and that the Higgs branch of the two is identical. It is well known that the Hall-Littlewood chiral ring of the 4d $T_4$ theory is comprised of the basic operators: $\tau^2 (\chi[15, 1, 1] + \chi[1, 15, 1] + \chi[1, 1, 15]), \tau^3 (\chi[4, 4, 4] + \chi[4, 4, 4]), \tau^4 \chi[6, 6, 6]$. We next project these operators to their $Z_3$ invariants by identifying the three $SU(4)$ groups giving:

$$\chi[15, 1, 1] + \chi[1, 15, 1] + \chi[1, 1, 15] \rightarrow \chi[15]$$ (7)

These are the moment map operators and this just tells us that the three $SU(4)$ groups are projected to the diagonal.

$$\chi[4, 4, 4] \rightarrow \chi[\otimes^3_{Sym}4] = \chi[20']$$ (8)

and likewise for the conjugate.

$$\chi[6, 6, 6] \rightarrow \chi[\otimes^3_{Sym}6] = \chi[50] + \chi[6]$$ (9)

35
where the three index symmetric tensor of $SO(6)$ decomposes to the trace and traceless part (the 50).

Doing the projection on the Higgs branch operators of the $T_4$ theory we see that we indeed get the ones of the $SU(4)$ SCFT. Note that the $\tau^4 \chi[6]$ operators corresponding to the trace of the three index symmetric tensor is apparently projected out. This is quite reasonable as this imply an additional constraint, a tracelessness condition, that only makes sense on the subspace.

It is interesting if one can make this construction more precise. We will explore this further in the next section.

We can also consider mass deformations. The gauge theory description suggests at least two interesting ones. First There is the mass deformation leading to the low energy gauge theory. Since we have a perturbative description it is straightforward to carry out the reduction. The three $SU(2) + 2F$ parts are identified leading to just one $SU(2) + 2F$ gauge theory. The half trifundamentals should be projected to the symmetric part being the 4 of $SU(2)$. Thus we conclude that the resulting 4d SCFT should have a mass deformation leading to the IR gauge theory $SU(2) + \frac{1}{2}4 + 2F$. This is consistent with the results of [21] who examined the Seiberg-Witten curve of this theory.

Another mass deformation is given by integrating out a flavor leading to the gauge theory in figure 39 (c). This gauge theory should originate from a 5d SCFT which can be generated from the $T_4$ SCFT via a mass deformation. It can be given a brane web description shown in figure 39 (a). As can be seen from the web and confirmed using the 5d superconformal index (see the appendix) this 5d SCFT should have an $SU(2)^3 \times U(1)^3$ global symmetry leading us to suspect the 4d theory should have an $SU(2) \times U(1)$ global symmetry. In [21] it was found that there is indeed a mass deformation leading to a 4d theory with an $SU(2) \times U(1)$ global symmetry which is expected to be yet another rank 1 SCFT. It is natural to identify the resulting 4d theory with this SCFT.

There are two additional pieces of evidence for this identification. First it has a mass deformation leading to an $SU(2) + \frac{1}{2}4 + 1F$ IR free gauge theory as expected from the $SU(2) \times U(1)$ SCFT [21]. Second the web suggests it has a 3 dimensional Higgs branch, which agrees with the results of [21] if one uses $d_H = 24(c - a)$. We can also consider the
Hall-Littlewood chiral ring of this SCFT from the 5d index similarly to the previous case. We carry this out in appendix B.

Finally we can consider another mass deformation now leading to the gauge theory in figure 40 (b). Again this gauge theory should originate from a 5d SCFT which we identify with the web in figure 40 (a). This should have a $U(1)^3$ global symmetry leading us to expect the 4d SCFT to have a $U(1)$ global symmetry. The resulting theory should also have a mass deformation leading to an $SU(2) + \frac{1}{2}4$ IR free gauge theory. Indeed in [21] it was found that the $SU(2) \times U(1)$ SCFT has such a mass deformation leading to an SCFT with these characteristic. In fact this SCFT is suspected to have an enhanced $\mathcal{N}=3$ supersymmetry [38]. As a supporting evidence we note that the Higgs branch dimension is 1 which agrees with the field theory analysis of [38].

**Higher $\mathcal{N}$ and related theories**

We can now continue to theories with higher $\mathcal{N}$. For example for $\mathcal{N}=5$ we expect a 4d theory with an $SU(5)$ global symmetry and rank 2 Coulomb branch. It should also have a 14 dimensional Higgs branch, along which it can be reduced to the rank 1 $SU(4)$ SCFT. We also expect the Hall-Littlewood chiral to contain the operators: $\tau^2\chi[24], \tau^4(\chi[35] + \chi[35]), \tau^6(\chi[175"] + \chi[175"]^\prime)$. To our awareness, no such 4d theory is known. The preceding thus suggests that there is host of possibly unknown 4d SCFTs given by the twisted compactification of the 5d $T_N$ theories with a $Z_3$ twist.

We can further generate additional theories by Higgs branch flows and mass deformations. Higgs branch flows are readily visible from the brane webs. First we can pullout a group of 5-brane junctions. This initiate a flow one $T_N$ to another one with lower $\mathcal{N}$. Alternatively we can break some of the 5-branes on the 7-branes. As previously discussed this can be naturally implemented by associating to the SCFT a Young diagram with $N$.

---

5Naively there should be two different gauge theories depending on whether the $SU(2)$ $\theta$ angles are all 0 or $\pi$. Yet we seem to find only one $Z_3$ symmetric brane web leading us to suspect that these are identical. In fact, due to the presence of the trifundamental, exchanging two $SU(2)$ gauge groups is effectively seen by the third as reversing the mass of one flavor and so changes its $\theta$ angle.
boxes. The theory given by the compactification of the $T_N$ theory is then represented by the one row Young diagram, while other choices giving different theories.

We can identify some of these theories with known 4d theories. As an example of a theory in this class that we can identify, consider the rank $k E_6$ theory whose web is shown in figure 41. It is natural to conjecture that reducing it with a twist leads to the 4d rank $k SO(8)$ theory which is just the gauge theory $USp(2k) + 1AS + 4F$. Indeed this theory has a $5k - 1$ dimensional Higgs branch agreeing with the web. In particular the one associated with the antisymmetric breaks the theory to $k$ copies of $SU(2) + 4F$ agreeing with what is expected from the web. We shall see another example of a theory in this class in the next section.

We can also consider mass deformations. As seen in the $T_4$ example, this may lead to new SCFT as well as non-conformal theories. We suspect that this will be true also for cases with higher $N$ so besides the theories introduced so far there should be many additional theories that are mass deformations of these. As we shall now argue some of them are related to the ones introduced and to themselves via dualities.

### 3.1.1 Dualities

We can consider dualities of the class of theories we introduced in the same spirit as performed in section 2. As a simple example consider the $Z_3$ symmetric gauging of the three $SU(4)$ global symmetry groups of the $T_4$ theory by an $SU(4) + 1F$ gauge theory. The brane web for the resulting 5d SCFT is shown in figure 42 (a). That it is $Z_3$ symmetric is most readily visible by noting it is invariant under $TS$. We can consider reducing this theory to 4d with the $Z_3$ twist and taking the scaling limit $g_{SU(4)}^2 \rightarrow 0, R \rightarrow 0$ keeping the ratio $g_{SU(4)}^2 R$ fixed.

We can examine the reduction in two different limits. First we can consider the limit $R >> g_{SU(4)}^2$ shown in figure 42 (b). In this limit the $SU(4) + 1F$ gauge theory is weakly coupled and should reduce to an $SU(4) + 1F$ gauging of the rank 1 $SU(4)$ SCFT. This is a conformal gauging so the result is a 4d SCFT with a single marginal operator.

Now consider the opposite limit when $g_{SU(4)}^2 < 0$, shown in figure 42 (c). Now the
description as an \( SU(4) + 1F \) gauging is inadequate, but there is an alternative description given by a weakly coupled \( SU(3) \) gauging of the SCFT in figure 42 (d). This SCFT in turn is given by a \( Z_3 \) symmetric mass deformation of the \( T_4 \) theory and should have an \( SU(3)^3 \times U(1)^3 \) global symmetry and a 6 dimensional Higgs branch. Thus, when compactified with a \( Z_3 \) twist should give a 4d theory with an \( SU(3) \times U(1) \) global symmetry.

The result of the twisted compactification in the limit of figure 42 (c) should therefore be an \( SU(3) \) gauging of this theory. Since we know from the opposite limit that this theory is an SCFT with a single marginal operator, it is quite reasonable that the \( SU(3) \) gauging is in fact conformal and that the \( SU(3) \times U(1) \) theory is an SCFT.

Since we do not know much about the \( SU(3) \times U(1) \) SCFT we cannot put too much tests on this duality. Yet it is apparent that the global symmetry agrees, both having a \( U(1) \) global symmetry. Also the Higgs branch dimension calculated from the duality using \( d_H = 24(c - a) \) agrees with that evaluated from the web. The dimension of the Coulomb branch also agrees as the 5d construction suggests the \( SU(3) \times U(1) \) SCFT having a 2 dimensional Coulomb branch.

We can generalize this to other cases. Consider the 5d SCFT shown in figure 43 (a). It has an \( SU(N)^3 \times SU(k)^3 \times U(1)^3 \) global symmetry as well as the \( Z_3 \) discrete symmetry, and reduces to the 5d \( T_N \) theory when \( k = 0 \). It can be generated from \( k \) mass deformations of the 5d \( T_{N+2k} \) SCFT or alternatively from \( N \) mass deformations of the 5d \( T_{k+2N} \) SCFT. When compactified with a \( Z_3 \) twist we expect it to lead to a 4d theory with \( SU(N) \times SU(k) \times U(1) \) global symmetry.
We can now consider weakly gauging the global $SU(N)$ symmetry by an $SU(N) + (N - 3)F$ gauge theory. In the 5d description this can be done by performing the $SU(N) + (N - 3)F$ gauging in a $Z_3$ symmetric manner and consider the $g_{SU(N)}^{-2} \rightarrow \infty$ limit. This is shown in figure 43 (b). We can now consider taking the opposite limit $g_{SU(N)}^{-2} \rightarrow -\infty$ shown in figure 43 (c). When reduced to 4d this leads to an $SU(k + 3) + kF$ gauging of the $SU(N - 3) \times SU(k + 3) \times U(1)$ theory.

From the previous cases, we expect the two theories to be weakly coupled descriptions of one conformal theory on different points on its conformal manifold. Therefore we conjecture that the $SU(N) \times SU(k) \times U(1)$ theory appearing is an SCFT and the gauging is conformal. We can perform a few consistency checks. First we can compare the global symmetries and their central charges. One can see that the global symmetries matches. To compare the central charge under the flavor symmetry we use the assumption that the $SU(N) + (N - 3)F$ gauging is conformal implying that $k_{SU(N)} = 2N + 6$. Now, due to the symmetry of the 5d SCFT under the interchange of $N$ and $k$, this effectively determine the central charge also for $SU(k)$. With this central charges we must have that the $SU(k + 3) + kF$ gauging is conformal as well as matching of the central charges of global symmetries. This is indeed obeyed. We can also compare the conformal anomaly combination $c - a$, where we use the
Higgs branch dimension evaluated from the web, and \( d_H = 24(c - a) \), to determine this combination for the \( SU(N) \times SU(k) \times U(1) \) theory. We indeed find they agree.

The construction done here is quite reminiscent of the one done in section 2 and can be considered as a generalization of it to a \( Z_3 \) case. Similarly to that case we can consider more general dualities like the dualities in figure 23 also in this case. As this is a straightforward application of the things discussed here we won’t carry it. Unfortunately, unlike the previous case, we do not find a duality frame with purely known theories so we cannot use this to determine their properties.

### 3.2 \( Z_2 \) twist

In this subsection we discuss compactification of the 5\textit{d} \( T_N \) theory and related theories on a circle with a \( Z_2 \subset S_3 \) twist. The \( Z_2 \) discrete symmetry we twist by is given by exchanging two of the \( SU(N) \) global symmetry groups. Together with the previously discussed \( Z_3 \) element, these generate the group \( S_3 \).

#### \( N = 2 \) case

It is again convenient to start with the \( N = 2 \) case where the 5\textit{d} SCFT reduces to eight free half-hypermultiplets in the \((2,2,2)\) of the \( SU(2)^3 \) global symmetry. It is not difficult to carry out the reduction where we find the twisted 4\textit{d} theory to be that of six free half-hypermultiplets in the \((3,2)\) of the \( SU(2)^2 \) global symmetry. This is again visible from the dimension of the Higgs branch consistent with the \( Z_2 \) symmetry being 3. Again this assumes that the direction given by separating junctions along the 7-branes is not projected out. Alternatively this can be used to argue this is true which can then be applied to the higher \( N \) cases.

#### \( N = 3 \) case

Next we consider the \( N = 3 \) case. We remind the reader that the 5\textit{d} SCFT has an \( E_6 \) global symmetry and so possesses moment map operators in the adjoint of \( E_6 \) which decomposes to \((8,1,1) + (1,8,1) + (1,1,8) + (3,3,3) + (3,3,3)\) under the \( SU(3)^3 \) subgroup of \( E_6 \). Implementing the \( Z_2 \) projection on these states lead us to suspect the resulting 4\textit{d} theory possesses moment map operators in the \((8,1) + (1,8) + (6,3) + (6,3)\) under the visible \( SU(3)^2 \) global symmetry. This in fact span the adjoint of \( F_4 \) so we conclude that we get a rank 1 theory with \( F_4 \) global symmetry. This can be also inferred as the operation exchanging two \( SU(3) \) subgroups in \( E_6 \) is identical to its \( Z_2 \) outer automorphism. It is well known that the invariant part in \( E_6 \) under this outer automorphism is \( F_4 \).

It is also interesting to examine the Higgs branch of this theory. From the brane web we can determine that it has an 8 dimensional Higgs branch. Interestingly this is also the dimension of the 1 instanton moduli space of localized \( F_4 \) instantons. Furthermore as \( F_4 \subset E_6 \) it is naturally embedded in the localized \( E_6 \) 1 instanton moduli space which is the
Higgs branch of the $T_3$ theory. So it is natural to conjecture that the resulting 4d theory has this space as its Higgs branch.

To our knowledge, there is no known theory possessing these properties, and so we view this as a hint for the potential existence of such a theory. It is also natural to expect it to be an SCFT as an $F_4$ global symmetry suggests strong interactions are involved and the low rank severely limits it from having additional scale dependent coupled parts. It will be interesting to further study this and see if additional evidence for the existence of such a theory can be uncovered.

**Higher $N$ and related theories**

We can also consider other theories by compactifying other $T_N$ theories or theories related to them by mass deformations or Higgs branch flows. This then leads to a large class of potential 4d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ theories that to our knowledge are unknown. It is interesting to look for known theories among them as this can hint as to whether or not these theories exist, and if so whether they are conformal or not.

As an example consider the 5d rank 1 $E_7$ theory whose web is shown in figure 44. This has a $Z_2$ symmetry exchanging the two maximal punctures, given in the web by the 4 external (1,1) and NS 5-branes. From the field theory viewpoint this corresponds to exchanging the two $SU(4)$ parts in the $SU(2) \times SU(4)^2$ classically visible global symmetry. We can compactify this theory with a $Z_2$ twist and inquire as to properties of the resulting 4d theory.

First we ask what is the global symmetry of the theory which we try to answer by studying the moment map operators that survive the compactification. The 133 of $E_7$ decomposes under its $SU(2) \times SU(4)^2$ subgroup as: $(3, 1, 1) + (1, 15, 1) + (1, 1, 15) + (1, 6, 6) + (2, 4, 4) + (2, 4, 4)$. Enforcing the $Z_2$ projection we get: $(3, 1) + (1, 15) + (1, 20') + (2, 10) + (2, 10)$, under the $SU(2) \times SU(4)$ global symmetry\(^6\). These span the adjoint of $E_6$. In addition one can see that its Higgs branch is 11 dimensional, like the rank 1 $E_6$ theory. All of these lead us to conjecture that the resulting theory is the rank 1 $E_6$ theory.

\(^6\)In projecting the $(1, 6, 6)$ we have taken the traceless part. Like in the previous example involving $T_4$ this amounts to a constraint on the operator with no analogue in the full space.
4 Superconformal index

In the previous section, we have argued that we can infer some of the operators in the Hall-Littlewood chiral ring of a 4d theory, resulting from the twisted compactification of a 5d SCFT, from information on the spectrum of operators in the 5d SCFT. In this section we shall try to make this more accurate by conjecturing an exact expression for the full Hall-Littlewood index for some of the 4d theories we considered in this article (we refer the reader to appendix A for the definition of the Hall-Littlewood index). The Hall-Littlewood index is particularly useful for this owing to the following observations:

1. For the theories we consider, the Hall-Littlewood index should be identical to the Hilbert series of the Higgs branch. Furthermore, the Higgs branch is invariant under quantum corrections and so also under direct dimensional reduction. Therefore, it is conceivable that the Hall-Littlewood index of the twisted theory can be generated by twisting the 4d index of the direct dimensional reduction.

2. The Hall-Littlewood index is relatively easy to compute with known expressions abundant in the literature.

3. Due to points 1 and 2 there are ample expressions in the literature for theories we consider giving us direct expressions to compare with.

We consider the 4d theories resulting from the $Z_2$ or $Z_3$ twisted compactification of the 5d $T_N$ and related theories, and the $Z_2$ twisted compactification of the 5d SCFTs of figure 2 and related SCFTs. The strategy takes from point 1 above, that is we use the known expression for the Hall-Littlewood index of the 4d theory resulting from direct dimensional reduction as a basis for our conjecture. The direct dimensional reductions of the theories we consider are known to be comprised of A type class S isolated SCFTs. Therefore it is useful to first review the expressions for the Hall-Littlewood index for these types of SCFTs.

The Hall-Littlewood index for A type class S isolated SCFTs was determined in [22–24]. These are described by a compactification of the $A_{N-1}$ 6d $(2,0)$ theory on a Riemann sphere with three punctures. It is given as follows:

$$I_{\text{class S}}^{HL} = \mathcal{N}_N \sum_{\lambda} \frac{\prod_{i=1}^{3} K(\Lambda_i(a_i))\psi_{\lambda}(\Lambda_i(a_i))}{\psi_{\lambda}(\tau^{1-N}, \tau^{3-N}, \ldots, \tau^{N-1})}$$  \hfill (10)

where:

- $\mathcal{N}_N$ is an overall normalization factor given by:

$$\mathcal{N}_N = (1 - \tau^2)^{N+2} \prod_{j=2}^{N}(1 - \tau^{2j}).$$  \hfill (11)
• The sum is over all the partitions of $N \lambda = (\lambda_1, ..., \lambda_{N-1}, 0)$ corresponding to irreducible representations of $SU(N)$. The product is over the three punctures.

• $\mathcal{K}(\Lambda'_i(a_i))$ are fugacity dependent factors associated with each puncture. The exact expression for them can be found in [23].

• $\psi_\lambda(x_i)$ are the Hall-Littlewood polynomials given by:

\[
\psi_\lambda(x_i) = \mathcal{N}_\lambda(\tau) \sum_{\sigma \subset S_N} x_{\sigma(1)}^{\lambda_1} \cdots x_{\sigma(N)}^{\lambda_N} \prod_{i<j} \frac{x_{\sigma(i)} - \tau^2 x_{\sigma(j)}}{x_{\sigma(i)} - x_{\sigma(j)}}
\]  

(12)

where $\mathcal{N}_\lambda(\tau)$ is a normalization factor given by:

\[
\mathcal{N}_\lambda^{-2}(\tau) = \prod_{i=0}^{\infty} \prod_{j=1}^{m(i)} \frac{1 - \tau^{2j}}{1 - \tau^2},
\]  

(13)

and $m(i)$ is the number of rows in the Young diagram $\lambda$ of length $i$.

• $\Lambda_i(a_i)$ is a list of $N$ elements whose exact form depends on the type of puncture. The procedure for determining it in the general case can be found in [23].

4.1 $Z_3$ twisted $T_N$ and related theories

We shall start with the $Z_3$ twisted $T_N$ type theories considered in section 3.1. These are generated by compactifying the 5d $T_N$ type SCFT with a $Z_3$ twist. The untwisted dimensional reduction of these theories leads to a class S isolated SCFT corresponding to the compactification of the $A_{N-1}$ 6d $(2,0)$ theory on a Riemann sphere with three identical punctures. Its Hall-Littlewood index, which is identical to the Higgs branch Hilbert series of the 5d SCFT, is given by equation (10).

The twist project the operators down to their $Z_3$ invariants so as a minimalistic assumption it should identify the three $\mathcal{K}$ factors and project the three Hall-Littlewood polynomials, $\psi_\lambda$, down to one for the completely symmetric product. Thus we conjecture that the index for the twisted 4d theory should have the form:

\[
I_{Z_3}^{HL} = \mathcal{N}_{N^3}^\prime \sum_{\lambda} \mathcal{N}_\lambda(\tau) \mathcal{K}(\Lambda'_1(a_1)) \psi_{3\lambda}(\Lambda'_1(a_1)) \mathcal{N}_{N^3}^\prime(\tau^{1-N}, \tau^{3-N}, ..., \tau^{N-1})
\]  

(14)

where $\mathcal{N}_\lambda^\prime$ and $\mathcal{N}_N^\prime$ are $\tau$ dependent normalization factors and we use $3\lambda$ to mean the partition given by $(3\lambda_1, 3\lambda_2, ..., 3\lambda_{N-1}, 0)$. In fact we further conjecture that:

\[
\mathcal{N}_N^\prime = (1 - \tau^2)^{2-N} \prod_{j=2}^{N} (1 - \tau^{2j})
\]  

(15)
\[ N'_\lambda = N^{-2} = \prod_{i=0}^{\infty} \prod_{j=1}^{m(i)} \frac{1 - \tau^{2j}}{1 - \tau^2} \] (16)

We next support our conjecture by testing this against the cases where we can identify the resulting 4d theory with a known theory.

4.1.1 Example 1: the \( T_2 \) theory

The simplest example to start with is the \( T_2 \) theory. From equation (14) we find:

\[ I^{HL}_{T_2 \text{ twisted}} = 1 + \tau^2 \frac{1 + \tau^2}{(1 - \tau^2)(1 - a^2\tau^2)(1 - \frac{\tau^2}{a^2})} (1 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{\psi_{(3i,0)}(a, \frac{1}{a})}{(1 + \tau^2)\psi_{(i,0)}(\tau, \frac{1}{\tau})}) \] (17)

where we use \( a \) for the \( SU(2) \) fugacity. This can be evaluated explicitly. Using Mathematica we find:

\[ I^{HL}_{T_2 \text{ twisted}} = \frac{1}{(1 - a^3\tau)(1 - a\tau)(1 - \frac{\tau}{a})(1 - \frac{\tau}{a^3})} = PE\left[ \tau(a^3 + a + \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{a^3}) \right] \] (18)

This is indeed the Hall-Littlewood index of 4 free half-hypers in the 4 of \( SU(2) \).

4.1.2 Example 2: the \( T_3 \) theory

Let’s now consider the \( T_3 \) theory. From equation (14) we find:

\[ I^{HL}_{T_3 \text{ twisted}} = \frac{(1 + \tau^2)(1 + \tau^2 + \tau^4)}{(1 - \tau^2)^2(1 - \frac{\tau^2}{a^2})(1 - \frac{\tau^2}{r^2})(1 - \frac{\tau^2}{s^2})(1 - \tau^2s)(1 - \frac{\tau^2}{sr})} \sum_{\lambda} N'^{s}_\lambda(\tau)\psi_{\lambda}(\tau^2, 1, \frac{1}{\tau^2}) \] (19)

where we span the \( SU(3) \) global symmetry as \( 3 = s + \frac{1}{r} + \frac{5}{s} \).

Expanding in \( \tau \) we find:

\[ I^{HL}_{T_3 \text{ twisted}} = 1 + \tau^2(\chi_{SU(3)}[8] + \chi_{SU(3)}[10] + \chi_{SU(3)}[\bar{10}]) + O(\tau^4) \] (20)

The \( \tau^2 \) terms give the contribution of the conserved current supermultiplets and so should be in the adjoint of the global symmetry. Indeed these form the adjoint of \( SO(8) \) where only an \( SU(3) \) subgroup is visible. Expanding up to order \( \tau^6 \), we find the index naturally forms \( SO(8) \) characters where it is given by:

\[ I^{HL}_{T_3 \text{ twisted}} = 1 + \tau^2 \chi_{SO(8)}[28] + \tau^4 \chi_{SO(8)}[300] + \tau^6 \chi_{SO(8)}[1925] + O(\tau^8) \] (21)

We can compare this against the known Hilbert series of the 1-instanton moduli space of localized \( SO(8) \) instantons evaluated in [37] finding perfect agreement. Recalling that the gauge theory \( SU(2)+4F \) as this space as its Higgs branch and the identity between the Hall-Littlewood index and the Hilbert series, we see that this agrees with our expectations.
We can further calculate the complete unrefined index, that is setting the $SU(3)$ fugacities to 1. Using Mathematica we find:

\[
\frac{I^{\text{HL\ unrefined}}_{T_3\ twisted}}{(1 - \tau^2)^{10}} = 1 + 18\tau^2 + 65\tau^4 + 65\tau^6 + 18\tau^8 + \tau^{10}
\]

(22)

This indeed agrees with the unrefined Hilbert series of the 1-instanton moduli space of localized $SO(8)$ instantons [37].

4.1.3 Example 3: the $T_3$ theory

Let’s now consider the $T_4$ theory. From equation (14) we find:

\[
\frac{I^{\text{HL}}_{T_3\ twisted}}{(1 - \tau^2)^{15}} = (1 + \tau^2)(1 + \tau^2 + \tau^4)(1 + \tau^2 + \tau^6)
\]

(23)

\[
(1 - \tau^2)^3(1 - \frac{c^2}{a^2})(1 - \frac{c^2}{d^2})(1 - \frac{d^2}{a^2})(1 - \frac{d^2}{c^2})(1 - \frac{d^2}{bc})(1 - \frac{d^2}{cd})(1 - \frac{d^2}{bc})(1 - \frac{d^2}{cd})(1 - \frac{d^2}{bc})(1 - \frac{d^2}{cd})(1 - \frac{d^2}{bc})
\]

\[
\sum_{\lambda} \psi_{3\lambda}(bc, \frac{b}{c}, \frac{d}{b}, x^3, \frac{1}{x}, \frac{1}{x^3})^{\lambda}
\]

where we span the $SU(4)$ global symmetry as $4 = b(c + \frac{1}{c}) + \frac{1}{b}(d + \frac{1}{d})$.

Expanding this in a power series in $\tau$ we find:

\[
\frac{I^{\text{HL}}_{T_3\ twisted}}{(1 - \tau^2)^{15}} = 1 + \tau^2 \chi_{SU(4)}[15] + \tau^3(\chi_{SU(4)}[20^\prime] + \chi_{SU(4)}[20^\prime]) + \tau^4(\chi_{SU(4)}[84] + \chi_{SU(4)}[50])
\]

+ \chi_{SU(4)}[20^\prime] + \chi_{SU(4)}[15] + 1 + \tau^5(\chi_{SU(4)}[140] + \chi_{SU(4)}[140] + \chi_{SU(4)}[120])

+ \chi_{SU(4)}[120] + \chi_{SU(4)}[20^\prime] + \chi_{SU(4)}[20^\prime]) + O(\tau^6)

= PE[\tau^2 \chi_{SU(4)}[15] + \tau^3(\chi_{SU(4)}[20^\prime] + \chi_{SU(4)}[20^\prime]) + \tau^4 \chi_{SU(4)}[50] + \tau^5(\chi_{SU(4)}[20] + \chi_{SU(4)}[20]) + O(\tau^6)]

(24)

This agrees with the Hall-Littlewood index for the rank 1 $SU(4)$ SCFT computed in [20].

4.1.4 Example 4: an $A_4$ case

Consider the 5d SCFT represented by the web in figure 45 (a). This theory describes the $T_3$ SCFT with a single free hyper [6]. We can compactify this theory to 4d with a twist where we expect to get the rank 1 $SU(4)$ SCFT with a free hyper. We can now use this as a further test on our index conjecture, now for a case with a non-maximal puncture.

Applying equation (14) and expanding in a power series in $\tau$ we find:

\[
I^{\text{HL}}_{A_4\ twisted} = PE[\tau(a^3 + \frac{1}{a^3})]I^{\text{HL}}_{T_3\ twisted} + O(\tau^5)
\]

(25)

which is indeed the Hall-Littlewood index of the rank 1 $SU(4)$ SCFT with an additional free hyper.
4.1.5 Example 5: an $A_5$ case

Consider the 5d SCFT represented by the web in figure 45 (b). The punctures show an $SU(2)^6 \times U(1)^3$ global symmetry though the true global symmetry is $SO(8) \times SU(2)^3 \times U(1)^2$ as can be inferred from the superconformal index of the associated 4d class S theory. The $Z_3$ discrete symmetry acts by permuting the three $SU(2)$’s, and act on the $SO(8)$ as the $Z_3$ element of its outer automorphism group.

We can consider the 4d theory resulting from the $Z_3$ twisted compactification. Applying equation (14) we find:

$$I_{A_5 \text{ twisted}}^{HL} = 1 + \tau^2 (1 + \chi[3, 1]_{SU(2)^2} + \chi[1, 3]_{SU(2)^2}) + q^6 + \frac{1}{q^6} + (q^3 + \frac{1}{q^3}) \chi[4, 1]_{SU(2)^2}) + O(\tau^3)$$

(26)

where we use $q$ for the fugacity of the $U(1)$ global symmetry. The $\tau^2$ terms show the conserved currents for the $SU(2)^2 \times U(1)$ global symmetry visible from the web and the puncture, but in addition there are additional conserved currents spanning the adjoint of $G_2 \times SU(2)$. Expanding up to $\tau^4$ we indeed find that it forms characters of $G_2 \times SU(2)$ being given by:

$$I_{A_5 \text{ twisted}}^{HL} = 1 + \tau^2 (\chi[3, 1] + \chi[1, 14]) + \tau^3 (\chi[4, 1] + 2\chi[2, 7]) + \tau^4 (\chi[5, 1] + \chi[3, 14]) + \chi[1, 77'] + \chi[1, 27] + \chi[1, 14] + 2\chi[3, 7] + 4) + O(\tau^5)$$

(27)

where we have written it in characters of the $G_2 \times SU(2)$ global symmetry ordered as $\chi[SU(2), G_2]$.

We can compactify it to 4d with a twist, where we expect to get a 4d SCFT with a 12 dimensional Higgs branch and a $G_2 \times SU(2)$ global symmetry. We can in fact find an appropriate candidate for this theory in a known theory being theory number 19 in [20]. This theory indeed has a $G_2 \times SU(2)$ global symmetry and 12 dimensional Higgs branch agreeing with the expectation from the index and the web. As a consistency check we can
see from the web that it should have a Higgs branch direction leading to the rank 1 $SU(4)$ SCFT and a different one leading to the gauge theory $USp(4) + 1AS + 4F$. These indeed exist also for the theory we identified. Furthermore using the expressions in [20] we can compute the Hall-Littlewood index for it, finding it matches (27) at least to the order we evaluate it.

### 4.2 $Z_2$ twisted $T_N$ and related theories

We next move on to the case of the $Z_2$ twisted $T_N$ type theories considered in section 3.2. These are generated by compactifying the 5d $T_N$ type SCFT with a $Z_2$ twist. The untwisted dimensional reduction of these theories leads to a class S isolated SCFT corresponding to the compactification of the $A_{N-1}$ 6d $(2,0)$ theory on a Riemann sphere with two identical punctures and one possibly different puncture (which we conveniently choose as $i = 1$). Its Hall-Littlewood index, which is identical to the Higgs branch Hilbert series of the 5d SCFT, is given by equation (10).

The conjectured expression now takes the form:

$$I_{Z_2}^{HL} = \mathcal{N}_N'' \sum_{\lambda} \frac{\mathcal{K}(\Lambda'_1(a_1))\mathcal{K}(\Lambda'_2(a_2))\psi_{2\lambda}(a_1)\psi_{\lambda}(a_2)}{\mathcal{N}_N''(\tau)\psi_{\lambda}(\tau, 1)}$$  \hspace{1cm} (28)

where $\mathcal{N}_N''$ and $\mathcal{N}_\lambda''$ are $\tau$ dependent normalization factors and we use $2\lambda$ to mean the partition given by $(2\lambda_1, 2\lambda_2, \ldots, 2\lambda_{N-1}, 0)$. The values of $\mathcal{N}_N''$ and $\mathcal{N}_\lambda''$ are further given by:

$$\mathcal{N}_N'' = (1 - \tau^2)^2 \prod_{j=2}^{N}(1 - \tau^j)$$  \hspace{1cm} (29)

$$\mathcal{N}_\lambda'' = \mathcal{N}_\lambda^{-1}$$  \hspace{1cm} (30)

We next support this conjecture by testing this against the cases where we can identify the resulting 4d theory with a known theory.

#### 4.2.1 Example 1: the $T_2$ theory

As the simplest example let’s consider the $T_2$ theory. Using equation (28) we find that the index for the $Z_2$ twisted theory is:

$$I_{T_2}^{HL} = \frac{(1 - \tau^4)}{(1 - \tau^2)^2(1 - a^2\tau^2)(1 - \frac{a^2}{b^2})(1 - b^2\tau^2)(1 - \frac{b^2}{a^2})} \sum_{\lambda} \frac{\psi_{2\lambda}(a, \frac{1}{a})\psi_{\lambda}(b, \frac{1}{b})}{\mathcal{N}_\lambda''(\tau, \frac{1}{\tau})}$$  \hspace{1cm} (31)

Using Mathematica we can perform the representation sum and find that:

$$I_{T_2}^{HL} = \frac{1}{(1 - a^2\tau)(1 - b\tau)(1 - \frac{b\tau}{a})(1 - \frac{a\tau}{b})(1 - \frac{\tau}{a^2})(1 - \frac{\tau}{b^2})} = PE[\tau(a^2+1+ \frac{1}{a^2}) (b+1 \frac{1}{b})]$$  \hspace{1cm} (32)

This is indeed the Hall-Littlewood index for 6 half-hypers in the $(3, 2)$ of $SU(2) \times SU(2)$.  

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4.2.2 Example 2: the $T_3$ theory

Let’s next consider the $T_3$ theory. We have argued that this should lead to a $4d$ theory with an $F_4$ global symmetry and an 8 dimensional Higgs branch. This can be naturally accommodated if the Higgs branch is the moduli space of localized $F_4$ 1 instantons. We now wish to apply equation (28) to this case.

Expanding the index in a power series in $\tau$, we find:

$$I_{T_3}^{\text{twisted}} = 1 + \tau^2(\chi[8,1] + \chi[1,8] + \chi[6,3] + \chi[\overline{6},\overline{3}]) + \tau^4(\chi[27,8] + \chi[24,3] + \chi[24,\overline{3}]) + \tau^6\chi[\overline{15},3] + \chi[15,\overline{3}] + \chi[6,15] + \chi[\overline{6},\overline{15}] + \chi[\overline{6},\overline{6}] + \chi[6,6] + \chi[6,3] + \chi[\overline{6},\overline{3}] + \chi[15,\overline{15}] + \chi[\overline{15},6] + \chi[8,8] + \chi[27,1] + \chi[1,27] + \chi[8,1] + \chi[1,8] + 1) + O(\tau^6)$$

where we write the index in characters of the $SU(3)\times SU(3)$ global symmetry. As previously mentioned, the $\tau^2$ terms, which contains the contribution of the moment map operators, form the adjoint representation of $F_4$. Furthermore looking at the $\tau^4$ terms we see that they form the $1053'$ dimensional representation of $F_4$. This is in fact the first few terms in the Hilbert series of the localized 1 instanton moduli space of $F_4$. Furthermore, for the unrefined index we can perform the representation summation with Mathematica finding:

$$I_{T_3}^{\text{HL twisted}} = 1 + 36\tau^2 + 341\tau^4 + 1208\tau^6 + 1820\tau^8 + 1208\tau^{10} + 1820\tau^{12} + 341\tau^{14} + 36\tau^{16} + O(\tau^{16})$$

This is indeed the unrefined Hilbert series of the localized 1 instanton moduli space of $F_4$ [37].

4.2.3 Example 3: rank 1 $E_7$ theory

Let’s consider the rank 1 $E_7$ theory. As previously discussed compactifying this theory to $4d$ with a $Z_2$ twist, we expect to get the rank 1 $E_6$ theory. We can use this to test equation (28) also for a case with a non-maximal puncture. Expanding the index in a power series in $\tau$, we indeed find it forms characters of $E_6$, and is further given by:

$$I_{E_7}^{\text{HL twisted}} = 1 + \tau^2\chi_{E_6}[78] + \tau^4\chi_{E_6}[2430] + \tau^6\chi_{E_6}[43758] + O(\tau^7)$$

This indeed agree with the Hall-Littlewood index of the rank 1 $E_6$ being the Hilbert series of the localized 1 instanton moduli space of $E_6$ [37].

4.3 $SU(N) \times SU(k) \times U(1)$ SCFT and related theories

Finally we wish to attempt to extend the conjecture for the Hall-Littlewood index also for the $Z_2$ twisted theories we originally considered in section 2. We shall adopt a similar strategy. We first consider the index for the $4d$ theory resulting when compactifying the theory without the twist. We then use this to conjecture the form for the index with the
Figure 46: The 4d theory resulting from the compactification of the 5d theory of figure 2. The $\chi_{N}^{k-1}$ is a class S theory whose definition is given in [15]. The theory is somewhat different depending on whether $N > k$ or $N = k$. Note that due to the self duality of the theory of figure 2 the $N < k$ is identical to the $N > k$ case with $N$ and $k$ replaced.

twist. Finally we test this by comparing against cases where we can identify the 4d theory with a known one.

Let’s first consider the 4d theory resulting from compactifying the 5d theory of figure 2 with no twist. This was considered in [5] and they found we get the IR free theory shown in figure 46. One can see that it has two $A_{N-1}$ maximal punctures and two $A_{k-1}$ ones. These correspond to the groups of parallel 5-branes and closing them corresponds to forcing some of the 5-branes to end on the same 7-brane. This essentially gives the generalization of this to other theories generated by Higgs branch flows.

The 4d theory shows the $Z_2 \times Z_2$ discrete symmetry of the 5d SCFT, given by exchanging the two pairs of punctures. Particularly the $Z_2$ that we twist by corresponds to exchanging both punctures simultaneously.

We can write the Hall-Littlewood index of these theories as:

$$I^{HL} = \int M_{Haar}^{SU(k)} PE[-\tau^2 \chi_{SU(k)}(k^2 - 1)] I_{T_k}^{HL} I_{\chi_{N}^{k-1}}^{HL}$$

(36)

for the $N > k$ case and

$$I^{HL} = \int M_{Haar}^{SU(k)} PE[-\tau^2 \chi_{SU(k)}(k^2 - 1) + \tau (m \chi_{SU(k)}(k) + \frac{1}{m} \chi_{SU(k)}(\bar{k}))] I_{T_k}^{HL} I_{\chi_{N}^{k-1}}^{HL}$$

(37)

for the $N = k$ case. Here $M_{Haar}^{SU(k)}$ is the Haar measure of $SU(k)$, $m$ the fugacity for $U_F(1)$, and $I_{T_k}^{HL}$ and $I_{\chi_{N}^{k-1}}^{HL}$ are the Hall-Littlewood indices of the $T_k$ and $\chi_{N}^{k-1}$ theories. The generalization to cases with non-maximal punctures can be done by replacing the $T_k$ and $\chi_{N}^{k-1}$ theories by their appropriate versions.

---

7When $N = k$ there is an additional discrete element given by exchanging the two $T_N$ SCFTs. This element does not commute with the $Z_2 \times Z_2$ discrete symmetry and together they form the dihedral group $D_4$.

8Since the theory is IR free by index we mean the index of the two SCFTs with the gauge invariance constraint. Alternatively we can define it as the Hilbert series of the Higgs branch.
We can now conjecture a form for the Hall-Littlewood index of the twisted theory. As mentioned the twist act by simultaneously exchanging both pairs of maximal punctures. As suggested in the previous subsection, implementing the twist on each on the two class S theories convert it to a 4d theory whose Hall-Littlewood index is given by equation (28). Thus the natural conjecture is to use a similar expression just with the $T_k$ and $\chi_{N-1}$ theories replaced with their twisted cousins:

$$I_{HL} = \int M_{Haar}^{SU(k)} P E[-\tau^2 \chi_{SU(k)}[k^2 - 1]] I_{T_k}^{HL_{twisted}} I_{\chi_{N-1}^{twisted}}^{HL}$$

for the $N > k$ case and

$$I_{HL} = \int M_{Haar}^{SU(k)} P E[-\tau^2 \chi_{SU(k)}[k^2 - 1] + \tau (m \chi_{SU(k)}[k])] I_{T_k}^{HL_{twisted}} I_{T_k}^{HL_{twisted}}$$

for the $N = k$ case, and likewise for the cases with non-maximal punctures. In the rest of this section we test this relation by considering various examples.

**4.3.1 Example 1: the $N = 2, k = 3$ case**

As a starting example let’s consider the original theory we discussed in section 2 which is the $N = 2, k = 3$ case. The resulting 4d theory is expected to be the rank 1 $SU(2) \times USp(6)$ theory. We wish to use this case to test equation (38). In the case at hand, the $Z_2$ twisted $T_2$ theory is just 3 free hypermultiplets while the $Z_2$ twisted $\chi_3$ theory is just the $F_4$ theory whose conjectured Hall-Littlewood index was given in equation (33). Thus, we conjecture the Hall-Littlewood index for the rank 1 $SU(2) \times USp(6)$ theory to be:

$$I_{SU(2) \times USp(6)}^{HL} = \int M_{Haar}^{SU(2)} P E[\tau \chi[3] \chi_{SU(2)}[2] - \tau^2 \chi_{SU(2)}[3]] I_{F_4}^{HL}$$

$$= 1 + \tau^2 (\chi[3, 1] + \chi[1, 21]) + \tau^3 \chi[3, 14']$$

$$+ \tau^4 (\chi[5, 1] + \chi[3, 21] + \chi[1, 126] + \chi[1, 90] + 1)$$

$$+ \tau^5 (\chi[5, 14'] + \chi[3, 216] + \chi[3, 14']) + O(\tau^6)$$

We now want to compare (40) with the Hall-Littlewood index evaluated from a class S construction. This theory can also be realized, though accompanied by free hypermultiplets, in class S constructions by a twisted compactification of an $A$ or $D$ type $(2,0)$ theory [34, 39]. We can use this to calculate the Hall-Littlewood index of this theory, though the presence of the free hypers makes a high order calculation quite consuming. Using this we indeed find (40), at least to the order we evaluated it.

**4.3.2 Example 2: the $N = 2, k = 4$ case**

For our next example we consider the $N = 2, k = 4$ case which we conjecture should lead to the rank 2 $SU(2) \times USp(8)$ theory. This theory can be constructed by a twisted
compactification of a type $A$ or $D$ $(2,0)$ theory \cite{34,39}. Using the $A$ type construction we find:

\[
I_{SU(2) \times USp(8)}^{HL} = 1 + \tau^2(\chi[3,1] + \chi[1,36]) + \tau^4(\chi[5,1] + \chi[3,36] + \chi[3,42] \\
+ \chi[1,330] + \chi[1,308] + 1) + O(\tau^6)
\]

(41)

where again we write the index in characters of the $SU(2) \times USp(8)$ global symmetry ordered as $\chi[SU(2),USp(8)]$.

We can now compare this against the conjectured expression in (38). Again on one side we have the $Z_2$ twisted $T_2$ theory which is just 3 free hypermultiplets. The other side is the $Z_2$ twisted $\chi^4$ theory which we have not previously discussed. The $Z_2$ twisted $\chi^4$ theory as rank 2 and $SU(2) \times USp(8)$ global symmetry which we may be tempted to identify with the $SU(2) \times USp(8)$ SCFT we are considering. Furthermore the dimension of the Higgs branch also agrees. However this theory as a Higgs branch limit leading to the $F_4$ theory in contrary to the known $SU(2) \times USp(8)$ SCFT so it must be a different theory. Also using (28) we find the following Hall-Littlewood index:

\[
I_{\chi_4}^{HL \text{ twisted}} = 1 + \tau^2(\chi[3,1] + \chi[1,36]) + \tau^3\chi[2,42] \\
+ \tau^4(\chi[5,1] + \chi[3,36] + \chi[1,330] + \chi[1,308] + 1) \\
+ \tau^5(\chi[4,42] + \chi[2,42] + \chi[2,1155]) + O(\tau^6)
\]

(42)

which differs from (41).

Returning to the index computation for the $SU(2) \times USp(8)$ SCFT, we can now use the conjecture \cite{38} where we find:

\[
I_{SU(2) \times USp(8)}^{HL} = \int M_{Haar}^{SU(2)} PE[\tau \chi[3] \chi_{SU(2)[2]} - \tau^2 \chi_{SU(2)[3]}] I_{SU(2) \times USp(8)}^{HL} 
\]

(43)

\[
= 1 + \tau^2(\chi[3,1] + \chi[1,36]) + \tau^4(\chi[5,1] + \chi[3,36] + \chi[3,42] \\
+ \chi[1,330] + \chi[1,308] + 1) + O(\tau^6)
\]

This matches the explicit expression (42) to the order it was evaluated.

4.3.3 Example 3: the $N = 3, k = 3$ case

As a final example let us consider an $N = k$ case, particularly the $N = k = 3$ case. Using the conjecture \cite{38} we find:
\[ I_{SU(3) \times SU(3) \times U(1)}^{HL} = \int M_{Haar}^{SU(3)} PE[\tau(m_\chi_{SU(3)}[3] + \frac{1}{m} \chi_{SU(3)}[3])] - \tau^2 \chi_{SU(3)}[8]] I_4 F_4 I_4^{HL} \]

\[ = 1 + \tau^2 (1 + \chi[8, 1] + \chi[1, 8]) + \tau^3 (m \chi[6, 1] + m \chi[6, 1] + \frac{1}{m} \chi[6, 1] + \frac{1}{m} \chi[1, 6]) + \tau^4 (\chi[27, 1] + \chi[8, 1] + \chi[1, 27] + \chi[6, 6] + \chi[6, 6] + 2 \chi[8, 1] + 2 \chi[1, 8] + 3) + \tau^5 (m \chi[24, 1] + m \chi[24, 1] + \frac{1}{m} \chi[24, 1] + \frac{1}{m} \chi[24, 1] + m \chi[15, 1] + m \chi[15, 1] + m \chi[15, 1] + \frac{1}{m} \chi[15, 1] + \frac{1}{m} \chi[15, 1] + m \chi[8, 6]) + O(\tau^6) \]

where we write the index in characters of the \( SU(3) \times SU(3) \) global symmetry.

To our knowledge this theory has not been realized before so we have nothing to compare this expression to. Nevertheless, the 5d construction suggests that this theory obeys a duality, shown in figure 29 for \( N = 5 \). We can use this as a consistency check by calculating the Hall-Littlewood index on both sides and comparing. Calculating to order \( \tau^5 \) we indeed find they match.

5 Conclusions

In this article we have explored the dimensional reduction of 5d SCFTs to 4d with a twist in an element of their discrete global symmetry. We have concentrated on 5d SCFTs with a brane web representation particularly the SCFTs given by the intersection of NS and D5-branes and the 5d \( T_N \) theory. We have argued that this leads to various known 4d isolated SCFTs as well as a wealth of potentially new ones. We then used the 5d description to infer various properties of these SCFTs such as their Higgs branch, mass deformations and dualities. We have also used this construction to conjecture an expression for the Hall-Littlewood index for these theories.

It is interesting to see if we can find additional evidence for the existence of the 4d theories we introduced. These may also teach us more about their properties. One interesting question is whether or not these can be incorporated into the known class S construction. Alternatively it is interesting if they can be constructed by alternative means such as compactification of \((1, 0)\) 6d SCFTs or geometric engineering. For instance recently \( [40, 41] \) initiated a systematic study of 4d \( \mathcal{N} = 2 \) SCFTs engineered using type IIB string theory on Calabi-Yau 3-fold singularities. It is interesting to see if the theories found in this paper can also be constructed using this method.

This is especially true for the theories introduced in section 3.2 particularly the rank 1 \( F_4 \) theory. Recently a systematic study of rank 1 \( \mathcal{N} = 2 \) SCFTs was initiated in \( [21, 30, 42] \), and it is interesting if this can support or disfavor its existence. Furthermore the existence of a rank 1 \( F_4 \) SCFT was suspected from the superconformal bootstrap analysis in \( [43, 44], \)

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which also calculated some of its central charges. It will be interesting if we can calculate these also for our proposed rank 1 \( F_4 \) theory and compare with their results.

An additional angle is to try to generalize these constructions to more theories. One possibility is to study other 5d SCFTs. Another possibility is to twist by other discrete symmetries. We have seen that the \( Z_3 \) twist discussed in section 3.1 can be thought of as a generalization of the \( Z_2 \) twist discussed in section 2. In both of these the twisted discrete element can be represented by the action of an \( SL(2, Z) \) element on the brane web, being \( TS \) for the \( Z_3 \) case, and \(-I\) for the \( Z_2 \) case. So a possible generalization is to consider other finite subgroups of \( SL(2, Z) \), for example the \( Z_4 \) and \( Z_6 \) subgroups appearing in the construction of S-folds [45,46]. In fact the connection with S-folds itself appear to warrant further exploration.

Yet another interesting direction is to study the compactification of these theories to 3d. Besides the natural interest, the resulting theories are then 5d SCFT compactified on a torus with a twist on one of its cycles. Alternatively we can get the same theory by taking the untwisted 4d reduction and compactifying it to 3d with a twist. These should be related by a modular transformation on the torus which could potentially lead to interesting 3d structure.

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**A The Hall-Littlewood index**

The Hall-Littlewood index is a special limit of the 4d \( \mathcal{N} = 2 \) superconformal index. The 4d superconformal index is the counting of all BPS operators in the theory, annihilated by a chosen supercharge, modulo the possible merging of BPS operators to form a non BPS multiplet. It can be further refined so as to keep track of the representations of the operators under the superconformal and flavor symmetries.

Specifically for the 4d \( \mathcal{N} = 2 \) case, the bosonic part of the superconformal group is \( SO(4, 2) \times SU_R(2) \times U_r(1) \). The representations are then labeled by the highest weights of its \( SO(4) \times SU_R(2) \times U_r(1) \) subgroup. We label the two weights of \( SO(4) \) as \( j_1, j_2 \), that of \( SU_R(2) \) as \( R \) and that of \( U_r(1) \) as \( r \).

The 4d \( \mathcal{N} = 2 \) superconformal index is then given by the following trace formula:

\[
I = Tr(-1)^F p^{j_1+q_2-r} q^{j_2-j_1-r} \tau^{2R+2r} \prod_i a_i^{f_i} \tag{45}
\]

where \( p, q \) and \( \tau \) are fugacities associated with the superconformal algebra, \( a_i \) are fugacities associated with the various flavor symmetries whose Cartan charges are given by \( f_i \).
The Hall-Littlewood index is a special limit of the 4d \( \mathcal{N} = 2 \) superconformal index given by taking \( p = q = 0 \). This limit counts only a subsector of the full BPS operators in the theory. Alternatively it is given directly by the following trace formula:

\[
I_{HL} = Tr_{HL}(-1)^F \tau^{2E-2R} \prod_i a_i^f_i
\]

where \( Tr_{HL} \) denotes trace over all operators obeying: \( j_1 = 0, \ E - 2R - r = 0 \) \[22\].

**B Indices for 5d \( T_4 \) theory and its mass deformations**

In this appendix we discuss the 5d index for the \( T_4 \) theory and its \( Z_3 \) symmetric mass deformations.

**B.1 \( T_4 \) theory**

The 5d index for the \( T_4 \) theory can be evaluated from its gauge theory description as \( 4F + SU(3) \times SU(2) + 2F \). This was done in \([15]\) where it was indeed shown that there are additional instantonic conserved currents that enhance the classical \( SU(2)^2 \times U(1)^4 \) global symmetry to \( SU(4)^2 \). The index also contains order 3 operators in the \((4, 4, 4)\) and \((\bar{4}, \bar{4}, \bar{4})\), as expected from the 4d Hall-Littlewood chiral ring. Furthermore we expect an order 4 operator in the \((6, 6, 6)\). Breaking the enhanced \( SU(4)^2 \) group into their \( SU(2)^2 \times U(1)^4 \) representations, we find:

\[
(6, 6, 6) = (q_1 q_2^2 + \frac{1}{q_1 q_2^2}) \chi[6, 1, 1] + (\frac{z^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{z^2}) \chi[6, 1, 1] + (\frac{b_2 z^2}{b^2} + \frac{q_2 z^2}{b^2} + q_1 q_2 z^2 + \frac{1}{q_1 q_2 z^2}) \chi[6, 2, 1] + (\frac{q_2 b^2}{z^2} + \frac{z^2}{q_2 b^2} + q_1 q_2 + \frac{z^2}{q_1 q_2}) \chi[6, 1, 2] + (q_1 + \frac{1}{q_1} + z b^2 + \frac{1}{z b^2}) \chi[6, 2, 2]
\]

where we used the notation of \([15]\).

One can see that it is made of two perturbative contributions corresponding to the operators \( J^{ij} \bar{Z}^{i\bar{a}} \bar{Z}^{j\bar{b}} Q^a Q^b \), \( \epsilon^{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma} q_\alpha Z^{\alpha \bar{a}} Q^\beta \bar{Q}^\gamma \) and their conjugates, where we use \( Z \) for the bifundamental field and \( Q \) and \( q \) for the flavors of the \( SU(3) \) and \( SU(2) \) gauge groups respectively. The rest are instanton charged states, and we have also verified using instanton counting methods that these exist.

**B.2 \( SU(2)^3 \times U(1)^3 \) theory**

In this section we deal with the 5d \( SU(2)^3 \times U(1)^3 \) SCFT. In particular, we calculate the index from the \( 2F + SU(3) \times SU(2) + 1F \) gauge theory description. We use the fugacity allocation shown in figure \([47]\).

We calculate the index to order \( x^3 \). To that order, besides the perturbative contribution, we also get contributions from the \((1, 0)\), \((0, 1)\) and \((1, 1)\) instantons. We find:
One can see from the $x^2$ terms the conserved currents of the classically visible $SU(2) \times U(1)^5$ global symmetry as well as additional conserved currents, coming from the $(0,1)$ instanton, that lead to an enhancement of $U(1)^2 \to SU(2)^2$. The index can be written in characters of the $SU(2)^3 \times U(1)^3$ global symmetry:

\[
I = 1 + x^2 \left( 3 + \chi[3, 1, 1]^{0,0,0} + \chi[1, 3, 1]^{0,0,0} + \chi[1, 1, 3]^{0,0,0} \right) + x^3 \left( \chi[2]_{SU(2)} (4 + \chi[3, 1, 1]^{0,0,0} + \chi[1, 3, 1]^{0,0,0} + \chi[1, 1, 3]^{0,0,0}) + \chi[2, 2, 2]^{1,1,1} + \chi[2, 2, 2]^{1,-1,-1} + \chi[2, 1, 1]^{1,0,0} + \chi[2, 1, 1]^{-1,0,0} + \chi[1, 2, 1]^{0,1,0} + \chi[1, 2, 1]^{0,-1,0} + \chi[1, 1, 2]^{0,0,1} + \chi[1, 1, 2]^{0,0,-1} \right) + O(x^4)
\]

where we use the notation $\chi[d_1, d_2, d_3]^{q_1, q_2, q_3}$ for an operator with in $d_i$ dimensional representation under $SU(2)_i$ and charge $q_i$ under $U(1)_i$. In term of the fugacities these are spanned by:

\[
\begin{align*}
\chi[3, 1, 1]^{1,0,0} &= \frac{z}{bh} \chi[3]_{SU(2)} \\
\chi[1, 3, 1]^{0,1,0} &= (q_2 \sqrt{hz}^3 + 1 + \frac{1}{q_2 \sqrt{hz}^3}) \frac{q_1 q_2^2 h \frac{z}{i}}{z^{\frac{1}{2}}} \\
\chi[1, 1, 3]^{0,0,1} &= (\sqrt{hz}^3 + 1 + \frac{q_2}{\sqrt{hz}^3}) \frac{h \frac{z}{i} b}{q_1 q_2^2 z^{\frac{1}{2}}}.
\end{align*}
\]
We can use this to try and guess the Hall-Littlewood chiral ring of the 4d SCFT where we find:

\[ I_{4d}^{HL} = \tau^2 \chi[3]^0 + \tau^3(\chi[4]^3 + \chi[4]^{-3} + \chi[2]^1 + \chi[2]^{-1}) + O(\tau^4) \]  

(53)

It will be interesting to see how the enhancement as well as the full index arise from the SU(2)^3 gauge theory description, both for this theory and the T_4 itself. Unfortunately, there are technical issues in performing instanton counting due to the half trifundamental that impedes instanton counting in these theories. Since the U(1)^3 SCFT, that we get by performing another Z_3 symmetric mass deformation, as only this description, understanding this will allow us to repeat this analysis also for this theory. We reserve this for future work.

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