Super Liouville conformal blocks from $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SU(2) quiver gauge theories

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Abstract

The conjecture about the correspondence between instanton partition functions in the $N = 2$ SUSY Yang-Mills theory and conformal blocks of two-dimensional conformal field theories is extended to the case of the $N = 1$ supersymmetric conformal blocks. We find that the necessary modification of the moduli space of instantons requires additional restriction of $Z(2)$-symmetry. This leads to an explicit form of the $N = 1$ superconformal blocks in terms of Young diagrams with two sorts of cells.

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1 Introduction

In [1] Alday, Gaiotto and Tachikawa uncovered a relation between two-dimensional conformal field theories (CFT) and a certain class of $\mathcal{N} = 2$ four-dimensional supersymmetric $SU(2)$ quiver gauge theories. In particular, it was argued that the conformal blocks [2] in the Liouville field theory coincide with the Nekrasov instanton partition functions. Further, this relation was generalized [3–6] to CFTs with affine and $\mathcal{W}_k$-symmetry. It turned out that the extended $\mathcal{W}_k$ conformal symmetry is related to the instanton counting for the $SU(k)$ gauge group. This development suggests that maybe for any type of chiral algebra there exist an explicit connection between conformal blocks (as well as other CFT ingredients) and some instanton partition functions.

The relation between affine algebras and the geometry of instanton moduli varieties was realized quite long ago (see, e.g. [7–9]). In this context, $\mathcal{W}$-algebras arise from the so-called toroidal algebra, depending on several quantum parameters, as a result of some special “conformal” limit. The toroidal algebra acts on the cohomologies (equivariant K-theories) [10] of the instanton moduli spaces. In the conformal limit, this algebra reproduces the coset of the form $\widehat{gl}_k(n)/\widehat{gl}_k(n - 1)$, where $k$ denotes the level of the current algebra. In the particular case where $k = 2$, this coset is isomorphic to $\mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{W}_2$, where $\mathcal{H}$ is the Heisenberg algebra and $\mathcal{W}_2$ is just the Virasoro algebra with the central charge defined in terms of the parameter $n$. The AGT relation corresponds to this situation.

The varieties of the symmetric instanton moduli were studied in [11]. This is a subspace of the moduli space consisting of fixed points under the action of some finite group. Once the action of the finite group is introduced on the instanton moduli space, the coset corresponding to the conformal limit changes. For example, if the group is $\mathbb{Z}_2$, then the $\mathcal{W}$-algebra in the conformal limit is given by the coset $\widehat{gl}_k(n)/\widehat{gl}_k(n - 2)$. In particular, for $k = 2$ this algebra is isomorphic to $gl_2(2) \times NSR$, where NSR denotes the Neveu–Schwarz–Ramond algebra. Because NSR is the symmetry of the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ super-Liouville field theory, it can be assumed that the instanton calculus in this particular case can be related to the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ super Liouville conformal blocks. Apparently, the higher cyclic groups $\mathbb{Z}_m$ may correspond to the parafermionic conformal field theories. We are focusing on the $\mathbb{Z}_2$ case here.

Our main result can be summarized as follows. We consider the two-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = 1$ superconformal field theory. We show that the conformal block in the Whittaker limit is related to the instanton partition function of the $SU(2)$ Yang–Mills theory evaluated on the $\mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetric instanton moduli space. The $\mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetry reduces the moduli space and modifies the instanton partition function. This relation gives a new explicit representation of the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ superconformal block function in terms of Young diagrams with two sorts of cells. In this paper, we only treat pure gauge theories. Theories with matter fields will be studied elsewhere.
The paper is organized as follows. In section 2 we briefly recall the results of the AGT conjecture in the ordinary Liouville case. Section 3 is devoted to description of the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SUSY conformal field theory and the construction of conformal blocks via the standard bootstrap approach [2]. In section 4 we briefly review the localization method [12–14] based on the equivariant form of the moduli integral. This consideration leads to Nekrasov’s results for the instanton partition function [15]. Section 5 is the main part of the present paper. There we consider the structure of the modified moduli space corresponding to the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ super Liouville theory. Then we derive an expression of $\mathcal{N}$-instantons contribution to the partition function in terms of the colored Young diagrams and formulate our conjecture about relations between the modified instanton partition function and the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ super Liouville conformal block. We verify the analytic properties of the new representation for the conformal block and perform some lowest levels checks in Section 6. In the Conclusion we give a brief summary and discuss some open problems.

2 AGT conjecture

To illustrate AGT correspondence we consider the four-point conformal blocks on a sphere associated with four primary fields $\Phi_{\Delta_i}$ of conformal weights $\Delta_i$. This section mainly serves to set our conventions and notation.

The AGT conjecture states the equality between Nekrasov’s partition function and the Liouville conformal block. For the 4-point functions we have the following

$$\sum_{N=0}^{\infty} q^N \sum_{Y_1,Y_2} Z_{Y_1,Y_2} \overset{\text{AGT}}{=} (1 - q)^2(\frac{Q}{2} + \lambda_1)(\frac{Q}{2} - \lambda_3) F(\Delta_1, \Delta_2, \Delta_3, \Delta_4 | \Delta),$$

(2.1)

where the function $F = F(\Delta_i | \Delta | q)$, $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ on the right hand side is the conformal block of the Liouville theory with the central charge $c = 1 + 6Q^2$, while the so called background charge $Q$ is related to the Liouville coupling constant $b$ as $Q = b + b^{-1}$. In addition to the central charge, the four-point conformal block depends on the four-point projective invariant $q$, four “external” dimensions $\Delta_i$ and the “intermediate” dimension $\Delta$

$$\Delta = \frac{Q^2}{4} - P^2, \quad \Delta_i = \frac{Q^2}{4} - \lambda_i^2.$$  

(2.2)

In the framework of the bootstrap approach [2] the conformal block function is defined as follows

$$F(\Delta_i | \Delta | q) = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} q^N \langle N | Y_{12} N \rangle_{34},$$

(2.3)

where the so-called “chain vectors” $|N\rangle_{12} \equiv |N\rangle_{\Delta_1\Delta_2}$ are given in terms of the Virasoro generators $L_k$ and are built by using the following recursive relations

$$L_k |N\rangle_{\Delta_1\Delta_2} = (\Delta + k\Delta_1 - \Delta_2 + N - k)|N - k\rangle_{\Delta_1\Delta_2},$$

(2.4)
for any $k > 0$.

The function $Z_{Y_1,Y_2}$ in (2.1) is given by

$$Z_{Y_1,Y_2} = \frac{Z_t(\vec{a}, \vec{Y}, \mu_1)Z_t(\vec{a}, \vec{Y}, \mu_2)Z_{af}(\vec{a}, \vec{Y}, \mu_3)Z_{af}(\vec{a}, \vec{Y}, \mu_4)}{Z_{vec}(\vec{a}, \vec{Y})}. \quad (2.5)$$

By $\vec{Y}, \vec{a}, ...$ we denote pairs $(Y_1, Y_2), (a_1, a_2)$, etc. The explicit form of the functions $Z_t(\vec{a}, \vec{Y}, \mu), Z_{af}(\vec{a}, \vec{Y}, \mu)$ and $Z_{vec}(\vec{a}, \vec{Y}, \mu)$ are

$$Z_t(\vec{a}, \vec{Y}, \mu) = \prod_{i=1}^{2} \prod_{s \in Y_i} (\phi(a_i, s) - \mu + Q), \quad (2.6)$$

$$Z_{af}(\vec{a}, \vec{Y}, \mu) = \prod_{i=1}^{2} \prod_{s \in Y_i} (\phi(a_i, s) + \mu), \quad (2.7)$$

where $\phi(a, s)$ is given by (2.10) and

$$Z_{vec}(\vec{a}, \vec{Y}) = \prod_{i,j=1}^{2} \prod_{s \in Y_i} E(a_i - a_j, Y_i, Y_j | s) \prod_{i,j=1}^{2} \prod_{s \in Y_i} (Q - E(a_i - a_j, Y_i, Y_j | s)), \quad (2.8)$$

where $E(a_i - a_j, Y_i, Y_j | s)$ is defined by (2.11). It is assumed that factors in the above products associated with $Y = \emptyset$ are set to 1.

**Integer partitions.** We operate with integer partitions $Y = [k_1, ..., k_m]$ where integers are ordered as in (3.8). A particular partition can be visualized as a Young diagram disposed in one or another way. A somewhat standard choice is to adjust $k_i$ to horizontal rows. It is called symmetric basis and the respective diagram is the following plaquette

```
      k1
   k2  
  k3  
   .  
  k_m

k_m-1
```

Let us introduce transposed Young diagram $Y^T = [k'_1, ..., k'_l]$ associated with $Y$. It is given just by passing to antisymmetric basis, i.e., ordered integers $k'_i$ are adjusted to columns. The leftmost column is of height $k'_1$.

A cell $s \in Y$ has coordinates $(i, j)$ such that $i$ and $j$ label a respective row and a column. Functions $\phi(a, s)$ and $E(a, Y_1, Y_2 | s)$ are defined as follows

$$\phi(a, s) = a + b(i - 1) + b^{-1}(j - 1), \quad (2.10)$$

To reproduce the AGT convention one should rotate this diagram counterclockwise to the angle $\pi/2$ and rename $k_i = \lambda_i$.\footnote{To reproduce the AGT convention one should rotate this diagram counterclockwise to the angle $\pi/2$ and rename $k_i = \lambda_i$.}
\[ E(a, Y_1, Y_2 | s) = a + b(L_{Y_1}(s) + 1) - b^{-1}A_{Y_2}(s), \quad (2.11) \]

where arm-length function \( A_Y(s) \) and leg-length function \( L_Y(s) \) for a cell \( s \in Y \) are given by
\[ A_Y(s) = k_i - j, \quad L_Y(s) = k'_j - i. \quad (2.12) \]

The Nekrasov’s partition function parameters are related to the parameters of the conformal block \( \Delta_1, \Delta \) and \( c \) as follows:
\[ \mu_1 = \frac{Q}{2} - (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2), \quad \mu_2 = \frac{Q}{2} - (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2), \]
\[ \mu_3 = \frac{Q}{2} - (\lambda_3 + \lambda_4), \quad \mu_4 = \frac{Q}{2} - (\lambda_3 - \lambda_4), \quad (2.13) \]

and
\[ \bar{a} = (a, -a), \quad a = P. \quad (2.14) \]

**Whittaker vector.** In [16,17] several degenerated versions of the AGT conjecture were proposed. In particular it was shown that the norm of the Whittaker vector [18] coincides with the Nekrasov partition function for pure gauge theory. In what follows we are dealing with this particular case. Whittaker vector is defined as follows
\[ V = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} q^N |N\rangle, \quad (2.15) \]

where \(|N\rangle\) satisfies
\[ \begin{cases} 
L_0|N\rangle = (\Delta + N)|N\rangle, \\
L_1|N\rangle = |N - 1\rangle, \\
L_k|N\rangle = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad k > 1. 
\end{cases} \quad (2.16) \]

Let us find the coefficients of the Whittaker vector
\[ |N\rangle = \sum_{Y | Y | = N} \beta_Y |Y\rangle, \quad (2.17) \]

where \( Y \) denotes the standard basis in the Verma module. This decomposition implies
\[ \beta_Y = (M^{-1})_{YY'} \langle Y' | N \rangle, \quad (2.18) \]

where \( M^{-1} \) is inverse of the scalar product matrix \( M_{Y', Y} = \langle Y' | Y \rangle \). From (2.16) it follows that
\[ \langle Y' | N \rangle = \delta_{Y', 1N}, \quad (2.19) \]

and
\[ \beta_Y = (M^{-1})_{Y, 1N}. \quad (2.20) \]
Thus, the norm of the Whittaker vector is given by the scalar product
\[ \langle N|N \rangle = \sum_{Y,|Y|=N} \beta_Y \langle N|Y \rangle = \sum_{Y,|Y|=N} \beta_Y \beta_{1N} \delta_{Y;1N} = [(M^{-1})_{1N,1N}]^2. \] (2.21)

One can easily see that in the limit \( \Delta_{1,2} \to \infty \), after appropriate rescaling of the chain vectors, the recursive relations (2.4) reproduces (2.16). So that the norm of the Whittaker vector for \( \Delta = \Delta(a) \) is related to the corresponding limit of the four-point conformal block
\[ \langle N|N \rangle = \sum_{\vec{Y},|\vec{Y}|=N} \frac{1}{Z_{\text{vec}}(\vec{a},\vec{Y})}. \] (2.22)

3 Super Liouville field theory

In this section we recall some details about Super Liouville field theory (SLFT) \cite{19,20} necessary for the forthcoming discussion. The Lagrangian of the theory reads
\[ \mathcal{L}_{\text{SLFT}} = \frac{1}{8\pi} (\partial_a \phi)^2 + \frac{1}{2\pi} \left( \bar{\psi} \partial \psi + \bar{\psi} \partial \bar{\psi} \right) + 2i\mu \beta^2 \bar{\psi} \psi e^{b\phi} + 2\pi \beta^2 \mu^2 e^{2b\phi}, \] (3.1)
where the scale parameter \( \mu \) is called the cosmological constant and the coupling constant \( b \) is related through the “background charge” \( Q = b^{-1} + b \) to the central charge
\[ c = 1 + 2Q^2 \] (3.2)
of the Neveu-Schwarz-Ramond (NSR) algebra
\[ [L_m, L_n] = (n-m) L_{n+m} + \frac{c}{8} (n^3 - n) \delta_{n+m}, \]
\[ \{G_r, G_s\} = 2L_{r+s} + \frac{1}{2} c (r^2 - \frac{1}{4}) \delta_{n+m}, \] (3.3)
\[ [L_n, G_r] = \left( \frac{1}{2} n - r \right) G_{n+r}. \]

We will consider the NS sector defined by
\[ r, s \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2}. \] (3.4)

The states of the respective superconformal module are build as an ordered
\[ |\Delta, Y \rangle = L_{-k_1} \cdots L_{-k_m} G_{-r_1} \cdots G_{-r_n} |\Delta \rangle, \] (3.5)
where the highest weight vector \( |\Delta \rangle \) is annihilated by all positive-frequency generators and has the conformal dimension \( \Delta \) defined by \( L_0 |\Delta \rangle = \Delta |\Delta \rangle \). Vectors \( |\Delta \rangle \) and
\( G_{-1/2}|\Delta\rangle \) form primary superdublet which is denoted \((\Phi_\Delta, \Psi_\Delta)\) and \(L_0 \Psi_\Delta = (\Delta + 1/2) \Psi_\Delta\). We parametrize the conformal dimension as follows

\[
\Delta(\lambda) = \frac{Q^2}{8} - \frac{\lambda^2}{2}.
\] (3.6)

Label \( Y \) denotes a partition of some (half-)integer number \( N \)

\[
Y = [k_1, \ldots, k_m | r_1, \ldots, r_n]
\] (3.7)

such that

\[
k_1 \geq k_2 \geq \ldots \geq k_m, \quad r_1 > r_2 > \ldots > r_n, \quad \sum_{i=1}^m k_i + \sum_{j=1}^n r_j = N.
\] (3.8)

The value of \( N = 0, \frac{1}{2}, 1, \ldots \) fixes a particular level in the superconformal module.

\( \mathcal{N} = 1 \) conformal blocks. The conformal block functions of the \( \mathcal{N} = 1 \) super Liouville theory were intensively studied in the series of papers \([20–24]\). The 4-point correlation function of bosonic primaries \( \Phi_i \) with conformal weights \( \Delta_i \) is given by

\[
\langle \Phi_1(q)\Phi_2(0)\Phi_3(1)\Phi_4(\infty) \rangle = (q\bar{q})^{\Delta - \Delta_1 - \Delta_2} \sum_{\Delta} \left( C_{12}^{\Delta} C_{34}^{\Delta} F_0(\Delta_i|\Delta|q) F_0(\Delta_i|\Delta|\bar{q}) + \tilde{C}_{12}^{\Delta} \tilde{C}_{34}^{\Delta} F_1(\Delta_i|\Delta|q) F_1(\Delta_i|\Delta|\bar{q}) \right).
\] (3.9)

The superconformal blocks \( F_{0,1} \) have form

\[
F_0(\Delta_i|\Delta|q) = \sum_{N=0,1,\ldots} q^N F^{(N)}(\Delta_i|\Delta),
\]

\[
F_1(\Delta_i|\Delta|q) = \sum_{N=1/2,3/2,\ldots} q^N F^{(N)}(\Delta_i|\Delta),
\] (3.10)

where

\[
F^{(N)}(\Delta_i|\Delta) = 12 \langle N|N \rangle_{34}
\] (3.11)

and vectors \( |N\rangle_{12} \) for \( N = 0, 1/2, 1, \ldots \) are defined in terms of \( \mathcal{NSR} \) generators as linear combinations on the Nth level arising in the operator product expansion \( \Phi_1(q)\Phi_2(0) \). They satisfy the following recursive relations

\[
\begin{cases} 
G_k|N\rangle_{12} = |\tilde{N} - k\rangle_{12}, \\
G_k|\tilde{N}\rangle_{12} = [\Delta + 2k\Delta_1 - \Delta_2 + N - k]|N - k\rangle_{12},
\end{cases}
\] (3.12)

where parameter \( k \) runs over half-integer values, \( k = \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \ldots \) and \( |\tilde{N}\rangle_{12} \) is the contribution of Nth level descendents in the operator product expansion \( \Psi_1(q)\Phi_2(0) \).
Supersymmetric Whittaker vector. After appropriate re-scaling the chain vectors, the limiting procedure \( \Delta_{1,3} \to \infty \) for (3.12) yields the following recursive equations

\[
G_{\frac{1}{2}}|N\rangle = |N - \frac{1}{2}\rangle, \quad G_{r}|N\rangle = 0, \quad r > \frac{1}{2},
\]

\[
G_{\frac{3}{2}}|N\rangle = |N - \frac{1}{2}\rangle, \quad G_{r}|N\rangle = 0, \quad r > \frac{1}{2}.
\]

In what follows we are interested in the study of the conformal block function in the Whittaker limit

\[
F_0(\Delta|q) = \sum_{N=0,1,...} q^N \langle N|N \rangle,
\]

\[
F_1(\Delta|q) = \sum_{N=1/2,3/2,...} q^N \langle N|N \rangle.
\]

Here we list the few lowest coefficients

\[
\langle 0 | 0 \rangle = 1,
\]

\[
\langle \frac{1}{2} | \frac{1}{2} \rangle = \frac{1}{2\Delta},
\]

\[
\langle 1 | 1 \rangle = \frac{1}{8\Delta},
\]

\[
\langle \frac{3}{2} | \frac{3}{2} \rangle = \frac{c+2\Delta}{8\Delta(c-6\Delta+2c\Delta+4\Delta^2)},
\]

\[
\langle 2 | 2 \rangle = \frac{3c+3c^2-34\Delta+22c\Delta+32\Delta^2}{64\Delta(-3+3c+16\Delta)(c-6\Delta+2c\Delta+4\Delta^2)},
\]

\[
\langle \frac{5}{2} | \frac{5}{2} \rangle = \frac{-27c+42c^2+9c^3+2\Delta+50c\Delta+72c^2\Delta-228\Delta^2+140c\Delta^2+64\Delta^3}{128\Delta(-3+3c+16\Delta)(5+3c-11\Delta+3c\Delta+2\Delta^2)(c-6\Delta+2c\Delta+4\Delta^2)}.
\]

4 ADHM construction and the determinants of the vector field

In [12,15] the form of \( \mathcal{N} = 2 \) \( SU(k) \) instanton partition function (in what follows we are dealing with \( SU(2) \) case) was derived as an integral of the equivariantly form, which is defined in terms of the vector field \( v \) acting on the moduli space \( \mathcal{M}_N \) (\( N \) is the topological charge). This action will be specified below. By means of the localization technique [13], [14], the evaluation of the moduli integral is reduced to the calculation of the determinants [9,12,15] of the vector field \( v \) in the vicinity of fixed points

\[
Z_N(a, \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2) = \sum_n \frac{1}{\det_n v}.
\]

Here \( n \) numerates fixed points of the vector field. We quote the ADHM data [25] for the construction of \( SU(2) \) instantons (see also [26-30]). These data consist of complex
matrices, two $N \times N$ matrices $B_1$, $B_2$, a $N \times 2$ matrix $I$ and a $2 \times N$ matrix $J$, fulfilling a certain regularity condition [25] and obeying the relations

$$[B_1, B_2] + IJ = 0,$$

$$[B_1, B_1^\dagger] + [B_2, B_2^\dagger] + II^\dagger - J^\dagger J = 0,$$

where $^\dagger$ denotes hermitian conjugation. The regularity condition claims that $N$-dimensional complex space $\mathbb{C}^N$ is spanned entirely by the repeated action of $B_1$ and $B_2$ on the column vectors $I_1, I_2$. The data are redundant in the sense that sets of matrices related by $U(N)$ transformations,

$$B_i' = gB_ig^{-1}, \quad I' = gI, \quad J' = Jg^{-1}; \quad g \in U(N)$$

are equivalent and represent the same point in $\mathcal{M}_N$ (i.e. give rise to the same Yang-Mills configuration).

The action of the vector field $v$ on the ADHM data is given by

$$B_1 \rightarrow t_1 B_1; \quad I \rightarrow It_v; \quad J \rightarrow t_1 t_2 t_v^{-1} J,$$

where parameters $t_l \equiv \exp \epsilon_l \tau, \ l = 1, 2$ and $t_v = \exp a \sigma_3 \tau$.

Fixed points are defined by the conditions:

$$t_i B_i = g^{-1} B_i g; \quad It_v = g^{-1} I; \quad t_1 t_2 t_v^{-1} J = Jg.$$

The solutions of this system can be parameterized by pairs of Young diagrams $(Y_1, Y_2)$ such that the total number of cells $|Y_1| + |Y_2| = N$. This comes from the observation that there should exist $N$ linear independent vectors of the form $B_1^i B_2^j I_1$ and $B_1^i B_2^j I_2$ which are the eigenvectors of the matrix $g$. These vectors correspond to the cells $(i_1, j_1) \in Y_1$ and $(i_2, j_2) \in Y_2$ respectively. The structure of the Young diagram just reflects the special way of ordering of the vectors. It is convenient to use them as a basis in $\mathbb{C}^N$, then the explicit form of the ADHM date is defined straightforwardly

$$g_{ss'} = \delta_{ss'} t_1^{i_s+1} t_2^{j_s+1},$$

$$(B_1)_{ss'} = \delta_{s+1, i_s'} \delta_{j_s, j_s'},$$

$$(B_2)_{ss'} = \delta_{i_s, i_s'} \delta_{j_s+1, j_s'},$$

$$(I_1)_s = \delta_{s, 1},$$

$$(I_2)_s = \delta_{s, |Y_1|+1},$$

$J = 0,$

where $s = (i_s, j_s)$.

To evaluate the determinant of the vector field one needs to find all eigenvectors of the vector field on the tangent space passing through the fixed points

$$t_i \delta B_i = \Lambda \ g \delta B_i g^{-1},$$

$$\delta It = \Lambda \ g \delta I,$$

$$t_1 t_2 t_v^{-1} \delta J = \Lambda \ \delta Jg^{-1}.$$
This is equivalent to the following set of equations

\[ \lambda (\delta B_{i})_{ss'} = (\epsilon_i + \phi_{s'} - \phi_s) (\delta B_{i})_{ss'}, \]
\[ \lambda (\delta I)_{sp} = (a_p - \phi_s) (\delta I)_{sp}, \]
\[ \lambda (\delta J)_{ps} = (\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2 - a_p + \phi_s) (\delta J)_{ps}, \]

where \( \Lambda = \exp \lambda \tau, g_{ss} = \exp \phi_s \tau \) and
\[ \phi_s = (i_s - 1) \epsilon_1 + (j_s - 1) \epsilon_2 + a_p(s). \]

System (4.9) gives all possible eigenvectors of the vector field. We should keep only those which belong to the tangent space. Essentially this means excluding variations breaking ADHM constraints. On the Moduli space
\[ [\delta B_1, B_2] + [B_1, \delta B_2] + \delta IJ + I \delta J = 0, \]  
\[ [\delta B_l, B_l^\dagger] + [B_l, \delta B_l^\dagger] + \delta II^\dagger + I \delta I^\dagger - \delta J^\dagger J - J^\dagger \delta J = 0. \]

Gauge symmetry can be taken into account in the following manner. We fix a gauge in which \( \delta B_{1,2}, \delta I, \delta J \) are orthogonal to any gauge transformation of \( B_{1,2}, I, J \). This gives additional constraint
\[ [\delta B_l, B_l^\dagger] - [B_l, \delta B_l^\dagger] + \delta II^\dagger - I \delta I^\dagger + \delta J^\dagger J - J^\dagger \delta J = 0. \]

We note that (4.12) and (4.13) are the real and the imaginary parts of the following equation
\[ [\delta B_l, B_l^\dagger] + \delta II^\dagger - J^\dagger \delta J = 0. \]

The variations in the LHS of (4.11) and (4.14) should be excluded from (4.9). The corresponding eigenvalues are defined from the equations
\[ t_1 t_2 ([\delta B_1, B_2] + [B_1, \delta B_2] + \delta IJ + I \delta J) = \Lambda g ([\delta B_1, B_2] + [B_1, \delta B_2] + \delta IJ + I \delta J) g^{-1}, \]
\[ [\delta B_l, B_l^\dagger] + \delta II^\dagger - J^\dagger \delta J = \Lambda g ([\delta B_l, B_l^\dagger] + \delta II^\dagger - J^\dagger \delta J) g^{-1}. \]

One finds the following eigenvalues, which should be excluded from (4.9):
\[ \lambda = (\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2 + \phi_s - \phi_s'), \]
\[ \lambda = (\phi_s - \phi_s'). \]

Thus, the determinant of the vector field (4.5) is given by
\[ \det v = \prod_{s,s' \in \vec{Y}} (\epsilon_1 + \phi_{s'} - \phi_s) (\epsilon_2 + \phi_{s'} - \phi_s) \prod_{l=1,2} (a_l - \phi_s) (\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2 - a_l + \phi_s) \]
\[ \prod_{s,s' \in \vec{Y}} (\phi_{s'} - \phi_s) (\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2 - \phi_{s'} + \phi_s) \]

Re-expressed in terms of arm-length and leg-length this expression gives (2.8)
\[ Z_{vec} = \det v, \]

once \( \epsilon_1 = b^{-1} \) and \( \epsilon_2 = b \).
5  Modified Moduli space and super conformal blocks

We define the subspace of the Moduli space $\mathcal{M}_{\text{sym}}$ for $SU(2)$ gauge group obtained by the following additional restriction of $\mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetry

$$-B_{1,2} = PB_{1,2}P^{-1}, \quad I = PI; \quad J = JP^{-1}. \quad (5.1)$$

Here $P \in U(N)$ is some gauge transformation. We suggest to consider the following proposition.

**Proposition 5.1.** The $2N$-instanton contribution to the moduli integral, evaluated on the $\mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetric subspace of the moduli space $\mathcal{M}_{\text{sym}}$, reproduces the $N$th-level conformal block coefficients in the Neveu–Schwarz sector of the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ super Liouville theory up to some factor related to $\hat{g}_{\mathbb{L}_2(2)}$.

First we note that $\mathcal{M}_{\text{sym}}$ contains all fixed points of the vector field (4.5) found in the previous section. Indeed, from (5.1) one finds the explicit action of $P$ on the basis vectors

$$P(B_{1,i}^{-1}B_{2,j}^{-1}I_\alpha) = (-1)^{i+j}B_{1,i}^{-1}B_{2,j}^{-1}I_\alpha, \quad (5.2)$$

so that the matrix elements are given explicitly, $P_{ss'} = (-1)^{i+s+j_\alpha}$. Below we denote $P(s) = (-1)^{i+s+j_\alpha}$. A new feature in comparison with the results in the preceding section is this $P$-characteristic assigned to each cell in the Young diagrams related to the fixed points. To visualize this property, we use the convention that a cell with coordinates of the same or different parities are respectively white or black, as if we wrote the Young diagrams on a chess board. Then $P(s) = 1$ for white cells and $P(s) = -1$ for black ones. Consequently, the fixed points can be classified by the number of white and black cells, $N_+$ and $N_-$. This reflects the new structure of the manifold $\mathcal{M}_{\text{sym}}$ as a disjoint union of components $\mathcal{M}_{\text{sym}}(N_+, N_-)$. Each component is connected and can be considered separately.

Now we consider the action of the vector field (4.5) in $\mathcal{M}_{\text{sym}}$. The tangent space is reduced by the additional requirement (5.1)

$$-\delta B_{1,2} = P\delta B_{1,2}P^{-1}; \quad \delta I = P\delta I; \quad \delta J = \delta JP^{-1}, \quad (5.3)$$

or, on the level of the matrix elements,

$$-(\delta B_{1,2})_{ss'} = P(s)(\delta B_{1,2})_{ss'}P(s'); \quad (\delta I)_{sp} = P(s)(\delta I)_{sp}; \quad (\delta J)_{ps} = (\delta J)_{ps}P(s). \quad (5.4)$$

The first relation in (5.4) means that only eigenvectors $(\delta B_{1,2})_{ss'}$ with the different colors of $s$ and $s'$ belong to $Z_{\text{sym}}$. Similarly, the second one leaves $(\delta J)_{ps}$ only if $s$ is white. The variations, which should be excluded (4.11) and (4.14) belong to $\mathcal{M}_{\text{sym}}$ only for the matrix elements between the states of the same color. Thus, we get the new determinant
of the vector field (4.5)
\[
\det' v = \prod_{s, s' \in \vec{Y}} (\phi_{s'} - \phi_s) \prod_{P(s) \neq P(s')} (\epsilon_1 + \phi_{s'} - \phi_s) (\epsilon_2 + \phi_{s'} - \phi_s) \prod_{P(s) = P(s')} (\phi_{s'} - \phi_s) (\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2 - \alpha + \phi_s)
\]
\[
(5.5)
\]

The above consideration suggests the following form of
\[
Z_{\text{sym}}^{\text{vec}}(\vec{a}, \vec{Y}) \equiv \det' v = \prod_{\alpha, \beta = 1}^{2} \prod_{s \in \hat{\diamond} Y_{\alpha}(\beta)} E(a_{\alpha} - a_{\beta}, Y_{\alpha}, Y_{\beta}\vert s) (Q - E(a_{\alpha} - a_{\beta}, Y_{\alpha}, Y_{\beta}\vert s)),
\]
where the region \(\hat{\diamond} Y_{\alpha}(\beta)\) is defined (see (2.9)) as
\[
\hat{\diamond} Y_{\alpha}(\beta) = \{(i, j) \in Y_{\alpha} \mid P(k_{ij}(Y_{\alpha})) \neq P(k_{ji}(Y_{\beta}))\},
\]
or, in other words, the cells having different parity of the leg- and arm-factors.

We conjecture the following relation between \(Z_2\) instanton partition function for the pure gauge situation evaluated on some given component \(\mathcal{M}_{\text{sym}}(N_+, N_-)\) and super Liouville conformal blocks in the Whittaker limit (3.14):
\[
\sum_{N=0,1,2,...} q^N \sum_{\vec{Y}, N_+(\vec{Y})=N, N_-(\vec{Y})=N} \frac{1}{Z_{\text{sym}}^{\text{vec}}(\vec{a}, \vec{Y})} = F_0(\Delta(\vec{a})\mid q),
\]
\[
\sum_{N=1/2, 3/2,...} q^N \sum_{\vec{Y}, N_+(\vec{Y})=N+1/2, N_-(\vec{Y})=N-1/2} \frac{1}{Z_{\text{sym}}^{\text{vec}}(\vec{a}, \vec{Y})} = F_1(\Delta(\vec{a})\mid q).
\]
\[
(5.8)
\]

6 Lowest levels calculations and analytic properties

We performed explicit calculations of the instanton partition function up to 5-instantons contribution. The results for the norm of the Whittaker vector, which follows from our conjecture (5.8), agree with the results (3.15) derived in section 3. Below we illustrate the results for levels 1/2, 1, 3/2.

- **One-instantons contribution**

In this simple case there are only two pairs of Young diagrams
\[
(Y_1, Y_2) = (\{1\}, \emptyset) \quad \text{and} \quad (Y_1, Y_2) = (\emptyset, \{1\}).
\]
Moreover there is no need to consider the second pair separately since interchanging \(Y_1\) and \(Y_2\) leads to the same determinant with \(a\) replaced by \(-a\). Taking into account (5.6) one easily finds
\[
\det' v(\{1\}, \emptyset) = -2a(2a + \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2).
\]
\[
(6.2)
\]
Thus for one-instantons contribution
\[
\sum_{\vec{Y},N_+(\vec{Y})=1 \atop N_-(\vec{Y})=0} \frac{1}{Z_{\text{sym}}^{\text{vec}}(\vec{a}, \vec{Y})} = \frac{1}{2a(2a + \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2)} + \frac{1}{2a(-2a + \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2)}. \quad (6.3)
\]

Eq. (5.8) offers the following answer for the coefficient
\[
F^{(1/2)}(\Delta) = \langle \frac{1}{2} | \frac{1}{2} \rangle = \frac{4b^2}{(1 - 2ab + b^2)(1 + 2ab + b^2)}, \quad (6.4)
\]
which coincides with (3.15).

- **Two-instantons contribution**

There are five fixed points in this case.
\[
(Y_1, Y_2) = (\{2\}, \{\emptyset\}), \quad (Y_1, Y_2) = (\{\emptyset\}, \{2\}),
(Y_1, Y_2) = (\{1, 1\}, \{\emptyset\}), \quad (Y_1, Y_2) = (\{\emptyset\}, \{1, 1\}),
(Y_1, Y_2) = (\{1\}, \{1\}). \quad (6.5)
\]

Now it is sufficient to consider only the first and the last pairs. The remaining pairs can be obtained from the first one by means of the interchanging and the transposition of the Young tableaux (the second operation corresponds to the interchanging \(\epsilon_1 \leftrightarrow \epsilon_2\)). The determinants are
\[
\text{det}'v(\{2\}, \{\emptyset\}) = 4a\epsilon_1(\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2)(2a + \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2),
\text{det}'v(\{1\}, \{1\}) = 1. \quad (6.6)
\]

The two-instantons contribution is
\[
\sum_{\vec{Y},N_+(\vec{Y})=1 \atop N_-(\vec{Y})=1} \frac{1}{Z_{\text{sym}}^{\text{vec}}(\vec{a}, \vec{Y})} = \frac{1}{4a\epsilon_1(\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2)(2a + \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2)} + \frac{1}{4a\epsilon_1(\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2)(2a - \epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2)}
+ \frac{1}{4a\epsilon_2(\epsilon_2 - \epsilon_1)(2a + \epsilon_2 + \epsilon_1)} + \frac{1}{4a\epsilon_2(\epsilon_2 - \epsilon_1)(2a - \epsilon_2 - \epsilon_1)}. \quad (6.7)
\]

From Eq. (5.8) one finds
\[
F^{(1)}(\Delta) = \langle 1 | 1 \rangle = \frac{b^2}{(1 - 2ab + b^2)(1 + 2ab + b^2)}. \quad (6.8)
\]

- **Three-instantons contribution**

Fixed points:
\[
(Y_1, Y_2) = (\{3\}, \{\emptyset\}), \quad (Y_1, Y_2) = (\{\emptyset\}, \{3\}),
(Y_1, Y_2) = (\{1, 1\}, \{\emptyset\}), \quad (Y_1, Y_2) = (\{\emptyset\}, \{1, 1\}),
(Y_1, Y_2) = (\{2\}, \{1\}), \quad (Y_1, Y_2) = (\{1\}, \{2\}),
(Y_1, Y_2) = (\{1\}, \{1\}), \quad (Y_1, Y_2) = (\{1\}, \{1\}),
(Y_1, Y_2) = (\{2, 1\}, \{\emptyset\}), \quad (Y_1, Y_2) = (\{\emptyset\}, \{2, 1\}). \quad (6.9)
\]
In this case there are three independent determinants

\[
\begin{align*}
\det' v(\{3\}, \emptyset) &= 4a(2a + 2\epsilon_1)\epsilon_1(\epsilon_2 - \epsilon_1)(2a + \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2)(2a + 3\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2), \\
\det' v(\{2, 1\}, \emptyset) &= -2a(2a + \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2), \\
\det' v(\{2\}, \{1\}) &= 4a(2a + 2\epsilon_1)\epsilon_1(\epsilon_2 - \epsilon_1)(2a + \epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2)(2a + \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2).
\end{align*}
\]  

(6.10)

From Eq. (5.8) we derive the following answer

\[
F^{(3/2)}(\Delta) = \left(\begin{array}{c} 3 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{array} \right) = \frac{1}{(-1 + 2ab - b^2)(1 + 2ab + b^2)} \times \frac{4b^4(9 - 22b^2 + 4a^2b^2 - 9b^4)}{(-1 + 2ab - 3b^2)(-3 + 2ab - b^2)(3 + 2ab + b^2)(1 + 2ab + 3b^2)}.
\]  

(6.11)

**Analysis of the physical poles.** Another confirmation of our main statement (5.8) comes from the analysis of the conformal block singularities. The conformal block coefficients have poles if \( a = \pm \lambda_{m,n} \) [22,31]. The residues are given by

\[
\text{Res}_{a=\pm \lambda_{m,n}} F^{(N)}_{a} = (r_{m,n})^{-1},
\]  

(6.12)

where the integers \( m \) and \( n \), either both even or both odd, should satisfy \( mn = 2N \) and the coefficients

\[
r_{m,n} = 2^{1-mn} \prod_{(k,l)\in[m,n]} (kb^{-1} + lb).
\]  

(6.13)

Here

\[
[m, n] = \{1 - m : 2 : m - 1, 1 - n : 2 : n - 1\} \cup \{2 - m : 2 : m, 2 - n : 2 : n\}\setminus(0,0).
\]  

(6.14)

In the Young diagram decomposition of the conformal block coefficient of the \( N \)th level the poles \( a = \pm \lambda_{m,n} \) (such that \( mn = 2N \)) appear only in the contributions related to the pairs \( (Y_1, Y_2) \), where one of the diagram is rectangle with the weight \( n \) and the length \( m \), and another one is empty. Let us consider \( Y_2 = \emptyset \). If \( a = -\lambda_{m,n} \) the pole appears in \( E(2a, Y_1, \emptyset) \) in the cell \( (m, 1) \). One can rewrite \( r_{m,n} \) in the form, which is more adopted for the interpretation in terms of the Young diagrams

\[
r_{m,n} = \prod_{s\in Y_1, s\neq(m,1)} [(k-m)b^{-1} + (1-l)b] \prod_{s\in Y_1, s\text{--white}} [Q - ((k-m)b^{-1} + (1-l)b)] \\
\times \prod_{s\in Y_1, s\text{--black}} [(k-m)b^{-1} + (n+1-l)b] \prod_{s\in Y_1, s\text{--black}} [Q - ((k-m)b^{-1} + (n+1-l)b)],
\]  

(6.15)
for \((m, n)\) both odd and

\[
    r_{m, n} = \prod_{s \in Y_1, s \neq (m, 1), s \text{ – black}} [(k - m)b^{-1} + (1 - l)b] \prod_{s \in Y_1, s \text{ – black}} [Q - ((k - m)b^{-1} + (1 - l)b)] \\
    \times \prod_{s \in Y_1, s \text{ – black}} [(k - m)b^{-1} + (n + 1 - l)b] \prod_{s \in Y_1, s \text{ – black}} [Q - ((k - m)b^{-1} + (n + 1 - l)b)],
\]

(6.16)

for \((m, n)\) both even. We note that

\[
    [(k - m)b^{-1} + (1 - l)b] = E(-2\lambda_{m,n}, Y_1, \emptyset), \\
    [(k - m)b^{-1} + (n + 1 - l)b] = E(-2\lambda_{m,n}, Y_1, Y_1),
\]

(6.17)

so that this form of the residue \(r_{m,n}\) almost coincide with the expression which follows from (5.6). It remains to verify that the regions in (6.15) and (6.16) coincide with the region \(\Diamond Y_\alpha(\beta)\), i.e. form a subset of cells with different parity of the leg- and arm-factors. Consider first \((Y_1, \emptyset)\), which corresponds to the first lines in (6.15) and (6.16). The leg-factor \(L_{Y_1}(s) = m - i\) and the arm-factor \(A_{\emptyset}(s) = -j\). If \(s\) is white, the coordinates \(i\) and \(j\) have the same parity. Hence, for odd \(m\), \(L_{Y_1}(s)\) and \(A_{\emptyset}(s)\) are of different parity, as it should be. Similarly, if \(s\) is black and \(m\) is even, \(L_{Y_1}(s)\) and \(A_{\emptyset}(s)\) also have different parity. Finally, consider the second lines in (6.15) and (6.16), related to the pair \((Y_1, Y_1)\), then \(L_{Y_1}(s) = m - i\) and \(A_{Y_1}(s) = n - j\). Similar arguments shows that only black cells satisfy necessary requirement, that is belong to \(\Diamond Y_\alpha(\beta)\).

7 Conclusion

In this paper we formulate and perform some tests of the following statement. The sub-space of the \(SU(2)\) moduli space which consists of \(\mathbb{Z}_2\) symmetric instanton solutions is related to the \(\mathcal{N} = 1\) super Liouville theory. Namely, the conformal block function in the Whittaker limit coincides with the instanton partition function evaluated by means of the localization technique in the reduced moduli space. Our proposal generalizes the AGT relation between the ordinary Liouville theory and \(SU(2)\) quivers. The idea comes from the observation that the algebra acting on the cohomologies of \(\mathbb{Z}_2\) symmetric instanton varieties in the conformal limit is \(\mathcal{A} = \hat{gl}_2(2) \times \text{NSR}\) instead of \(\mathcal{H} \times \text{Vir}\) in the case of the ordinary AGT correspondence.

Further study of the proposed relation is clearly necessary. In particular, it would be nice to find the orthogonal basis, which consists of the eigenvectors of some commuting subalgebra of \(\mathcal{A}\), as it was done in [32, 33]. Is is interesting also to derive the representation for the four-point super conformal block. We are going to do this in the next publication. Another open question is what kind of gauge theory is behind the modified instanton moduli space discussed in this paper. Finally, it is clearly intriguing to generalize our proposed construction to the action of other possible finite groups acting on the instanton moduli, in particular, to the \(\mathbb{Z}_m\) group action.
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