



# Magnificent Four with Colors

NIKITA NEKRASOV

Moscow, June 10, 2019



# Magnificent Four with Colors, and Beyond Eleven Dimensions

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## A popular approach to quantum gravity

is to approximate the space-time geometry by some discrete structure





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is to approximate the space-time geometry by some discrete structure

Then develop tools for summing over these discrete structures





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Then develop tools for summing over these discrete structures

Tuning the parameters so as to get, in some limit

Smooth geometries





## To some extent

two dimensional quantum gravity  
is successfully solved in this fashion  
using matrix models

$$\log \int_{N \times N} dM e^{-N \text{tr} V(M)} \sim \sum_{\text{fat graphs} \leftrightarrow \text{triangulated Riemann surfaces}}$$





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two dimensional quantum gravity  
is successfully solved in this fashion  
using matrix models

$$\log \int_{N \times N} dM e^{-N \text{tr} V(M)} \sim \sum_{g=0}^{\infty} N^{2-2g} \sum_{\text{genus } g \text{ Riemann surfaces}}$$





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proves difficult





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is the so-called tensor theory

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$$M_{ij} \longrightarrow \Phi_{ijk}$$

There is no analogue of genus expansion for general three-manifolds

However an interesting large  $N$  scaling has been recently found

In the context of the SYK model,  $g \mapsto$  Gurau index





## In this talk

I will discuss two models of random three dimensional geometries





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I do not claim they quantize three dimensional Einstein gravity





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I will discuss two models of random three dimensional geometries

They may teach us about eleven dimensional super-gravity





## In this talk

I will discuss two models of random three dimensional geometries

They may teach us about eleven dimensional super-gravity

M-theory, and beyond





## Geometries from partitions

One way to generate a  $d$ -dimensional random geometry

Is from some local growth model in  $d + 1$ -dimensions





## Geometries from partitions

For example, start with the simplest “mathematical” problem





## Geometries from partitions

For example, start with the simplest problem: counting natural numbers

1, 2, 3, ...

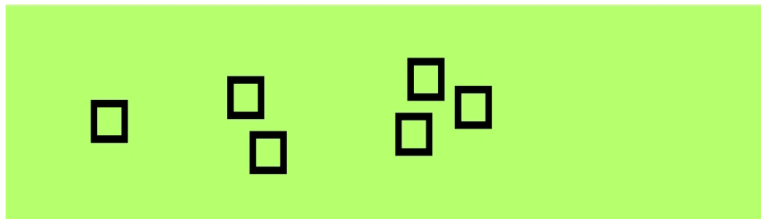




## Geometries from partitions

For example, start with the simplest problem: accounting

1, 2, 3, ...

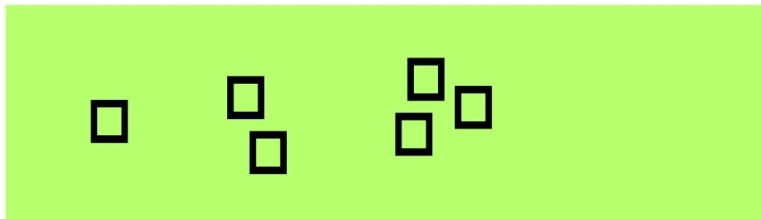




## Geometries from partitions

Accounting for objects without structure

1, 2, 3, ...





## Geometries from partitions

Now add the simplest structure: partitions of integers

$(1)$ ;  $(2)$ ,  $(1, 1)$ ;  $(3)$ ,  $(2, 1)$ ,  $(1, 1, 1)$ ; ...

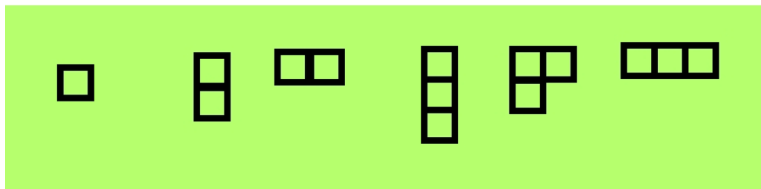




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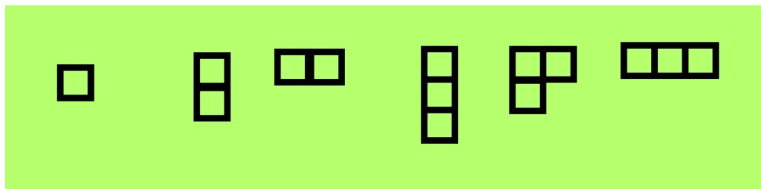




## Geometries from partitions

The structure: partitions of integers as bound states

(1);      (2), (1, 1);      (3), (2, 1), (1, 1, 1); ...

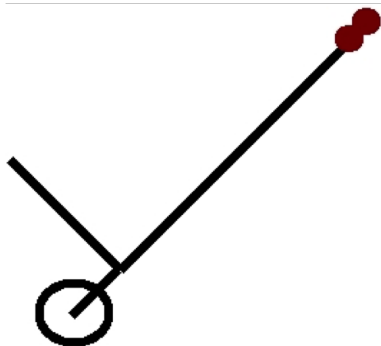




# Partitions as growth model

Gardening and bricks

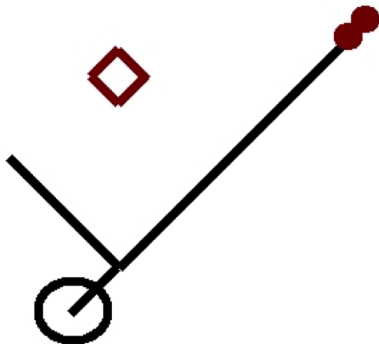
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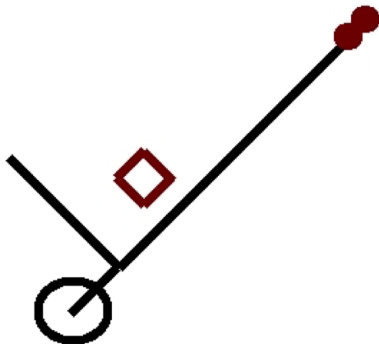
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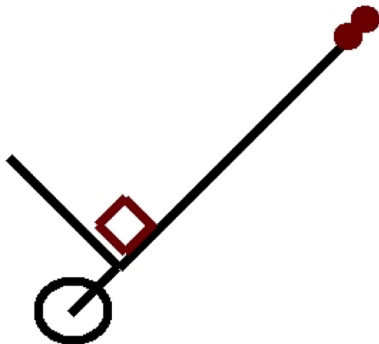
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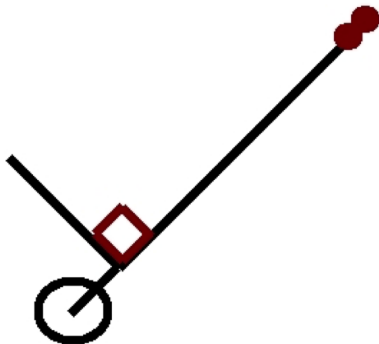
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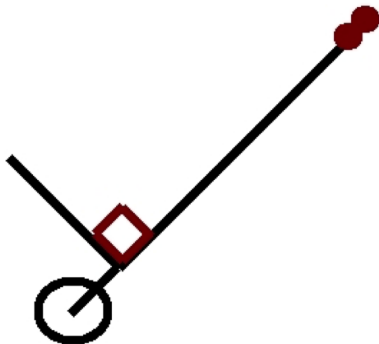
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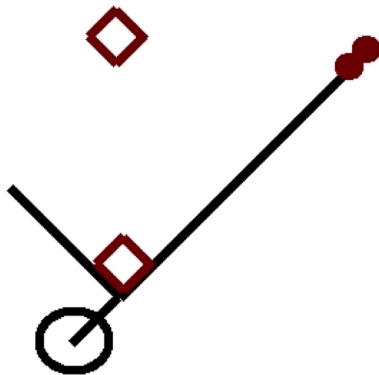
Partition (1) made of brick





# Partitions as growth model

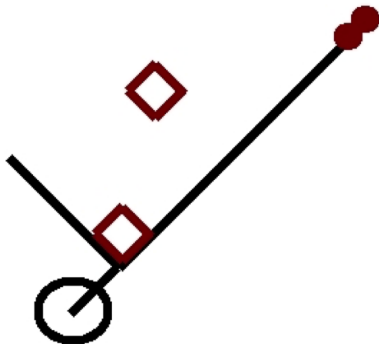
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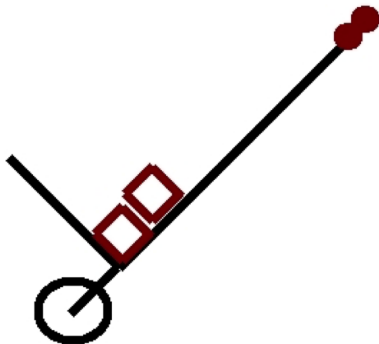
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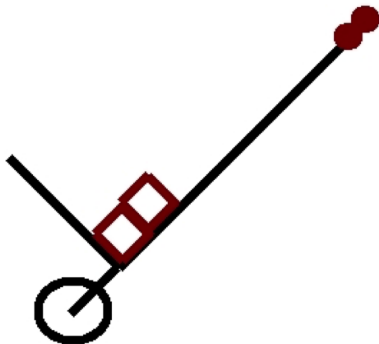
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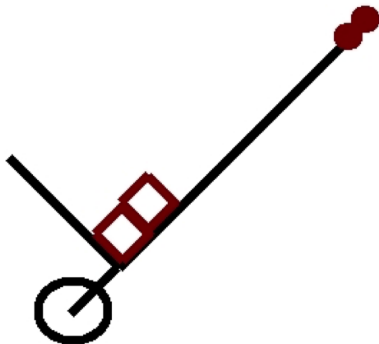
Gardening and bricks





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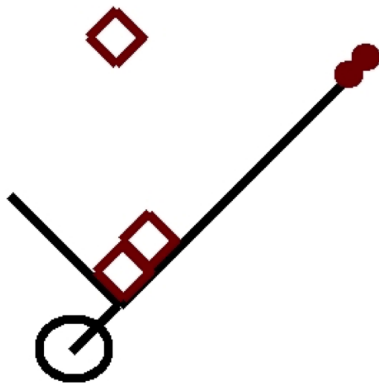
Partition (2) made of bricks





# Partitions as a growth model

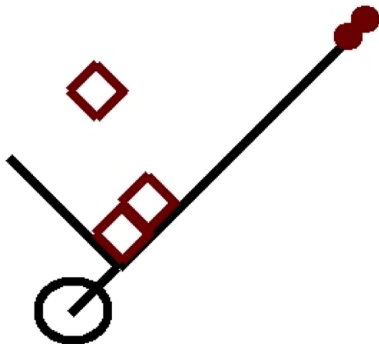
Gardening and bricks





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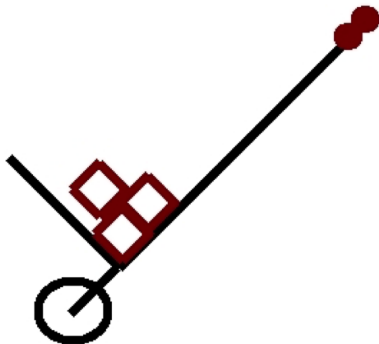
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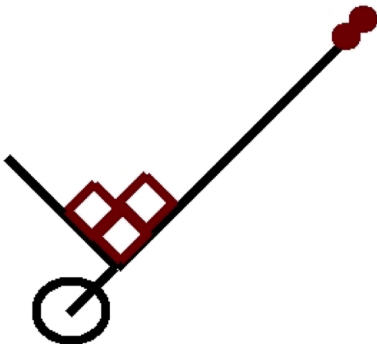
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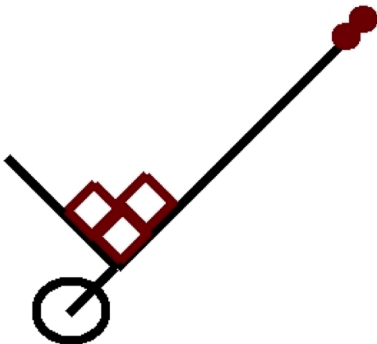
Gardening and bricks





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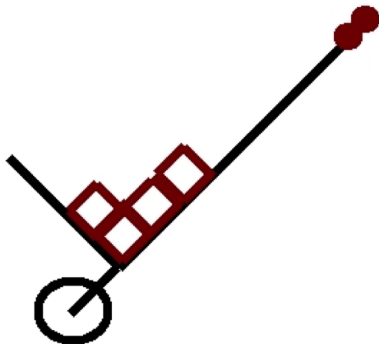
Partition  $(2, 1)$  made of bricks





## Partitions as a growth model

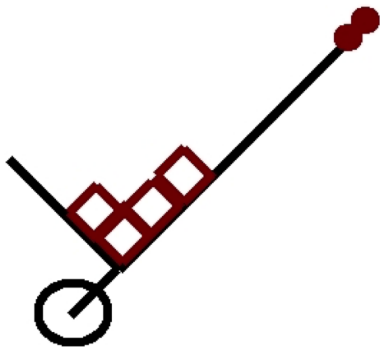
Partition  $(3, 1)$  made of bricks





## Partitions as a growth model

The probability of a given partition, e.g.  $(3, 1)$ , is determined by the equality

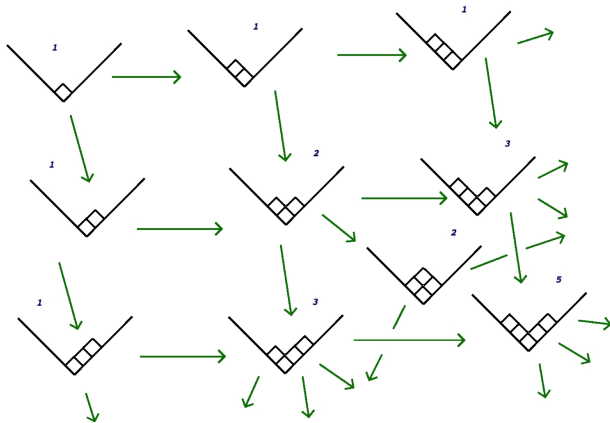


of the chances of jumps from one partition  
e.g. from  $(3, 1)$  to another, e.g.  $(3, 2)$  or  $(4, 1)$ , or  $(3, 1, 1)$





# Possibilities of growth: Young graph





## Partitions as a growth model

Thus the probability  $p_\lambda$  of a given partition  $\lambda$  is proportional to the # of ways it can be built out of the nothing times the # of ways it can be reduced to nothing





## Partitions as a growth model

Thus the probability  $p_\lambda$  of a given partition  $\lambda$

is proportional to the # of ways it can be built out of the nothing

times the # of ways it can be reduced to nothing: quantum bricks





## Plancherel measure: symmetry factors

One can calculate this to be equal to

$$p_\lambda = \left( \frac{\dim(\lambda)}{|\lambda|!} \right)^2 \Lambda^{2|\lambda|} e^{-\Lambda^2}$$

$$= e^{-\Lambda^2} \left( \prod_{\square \in \lambda} \frac{\Lambda}{\text{hook-length of } \square} \right)^2$$

For example,  $p_{3,1} = \frac{1}{1^2 2^2 4^2 1^2} = \frac{1}{64}$





## Supersymmetric gauge theory

Remarkably,  $\rho_\lambda$  is the simplest example  
of an instanton measure

$$\rho_\lambda = (\text{sDet} \Delta_{A_\lambda})^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

i.e. the one-loop (exact) contribution of an instanton  $A = A_\lambda$   
in  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  supersymmetric gauge theory





## Supersymmetric gauge theory and random partitions

Consider  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  supersymmetric gauge theory in four dimensions

The fields of a vector multiplet are

$$A_m, m = 1, 2, 3, 4; \lambda_{\alpha i}, \alpha = 1, 2 \text{ and } i = 1, 2; \phi, \bar{\phi}$$

with the supersymmetry transformations, schematically

$$\begin{aligned} \delta A &\sim \lambda + \bar{\lambda}, & \delta \phi &\sim \lambda, & \delta \bar{\phi} &\sim \bar{\lambda} \\ \delta(\lambda, \bar{\lambda}) &\sim (F^+ + D_A \phi, F^- + D_A \bar{\phi}) + [\phi, \bar{\phi}] \end{aligned}$$





## Supersymmetric gauge theory and random partitions

Supersymmetric partition function of the theory can be computed exactly

by localizing on the  $\delta$ -invariant field configurations, i.e.  $F_A^+ = 0$

$$Z = \sum_k \Lambda^{2Nk} \int_{\mathcal{M}_k^+} \text{instanton measure}$$

of some effective measure, including the regularization factors





## Supersymmetric gauge theory and random partitions

The integral over the moduli space can be further simplified by  
by deforming the supersymmetry using the rotational symmetry of  $\mathbb{R}^4$

$$Z = \sum_k \Lambda^{2Nk} \sum_{\lambda, |\lambda|=k} p_\lambda$$

The deformed path integral is computed by exact saddle point analysis  
with  $\lambda$  enumerating the saddle points





## Supersymmetric gauge theory and random partitions

Generic rotation of  $\mathbb{R}^4$  :  $g_{\text{rot}} = \exp \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \varepsilon_1 & 0 & 0 \\ -\varepsilon_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \varepsilon_2 \\ 0 & 0 & -\varepsilon_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$Z = \sum_k \Lambda^{2Nk} \sum_{\lambda, |\lambda|=k} p_\lambda(\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2)$$

The deformed path integral is computed by exact saddle point

Exact saddle point approximation

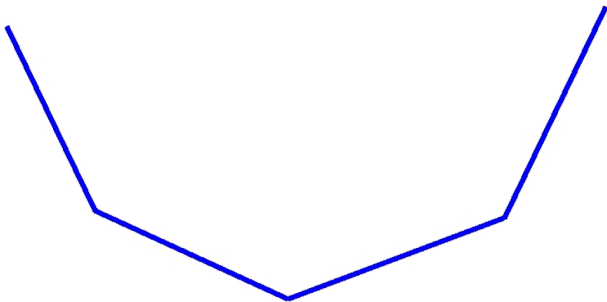
for  $U(N)$  gauge theory:  $\lambda =$  an  $N$ -tuple of partitions  $\lambda^{(1)}, \dots, \lambda^{(N)}$





# Supersymmetric gauge theory and random partitions

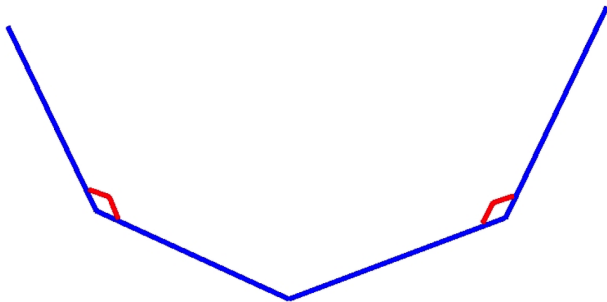
In this way supersymmetric gauge theory becomes a model of  
random partitions = random piecewise linear geometries





# Supersymmetric gauge theory and random partitions

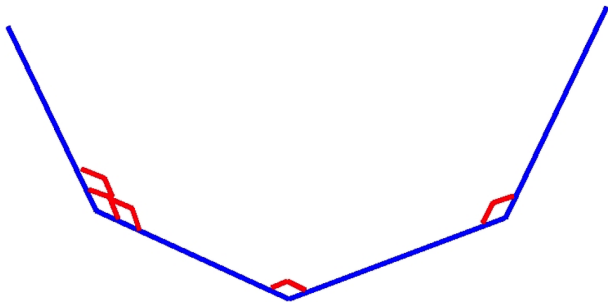
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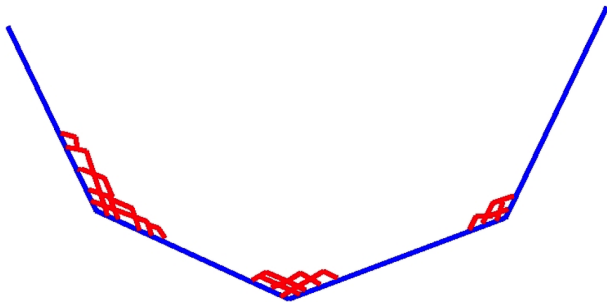
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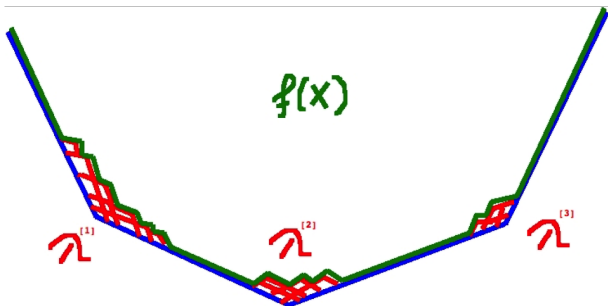
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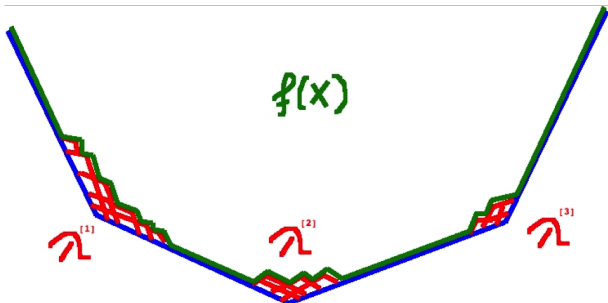
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## Supersymmetric gauge theory and random partitions

In this way supersymmetric gauge theory becomes a model of  
random partitions = random piecewise linear geometries



$$p_\lambda(\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2) = \exp \int \int dx_1 dx_2 f''(x_1) f''(x_2) K(x_1 - x_2; \varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2)$$

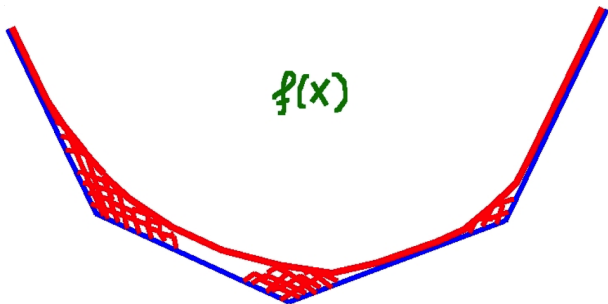




## Emergent spacetime geometry

In the limit  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2 \rightarrow 0$  (back to flat space supersymmetry)

The sum over random partitions is dominated by the so-called limit shape



$$p_\lambda(\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2) \sim \exp \frac{1}{\varepsilon_1 \varepsilon_2} F_\lambda$$





## Higher dimensional gauge theories

The analogous supersymmetric partition functions  
can be defined for  $d = 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9$  dimensional gauge theories  
using embedding in string theory for  $d > 4$





## Extra dimension

These computations can be used to test some  
of the most outstanding predictions of mid-90s, e.g. that  
sum over the  $D0$ -branes = lift to one higher dimension





## Extra dimension

E.g. the max susy gauge theory in  $4 + 1$  dim's

$$\begin{aligned}
Z_{4+1}^{N=1} &= \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{R}^4}} g_{\text{rot}} g_{\text{R-sym}} g_{\text{flavor}} (-1)^F \\
&= \exp \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} F_5(q_1^k, q_2^k, \mu^k, p^k)
\end{aligned}$$

Free energy  $F_5(q_1, q_2, \mu, p) = \frac{p}{1-p} \frac{(1-\mu q_1)(1-\mu q_2)}{\mu(1-q_1)(1-q_2)}$

$q_1 = e^{i\beta\varepsilon_1}$ ,  $q_2 = e^{i\beta\varepsilon_2}$ ,  $\beta\varepsilon_1$ ,  $\beta\varepsilon_2$  are the angles of the spatial  $\mathbb{R}^4$  rotation

$\mu = e^{i\beta m}$ ,  $m$  is the mass of the adjoint hypermultiplet,

$\beta$  is the circumference of the temporal circle

$p$  is the fugacity for the # of instantons =

# of  $D0$  branes bound to a  $D4$  brane in the IIA string picture





## Extra dimension

Remarkably,

$$Z_{4+1}^{N=1}(q_1, q_2, \mu, p) = \exp \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} F_5 \left( (\cdot)^k \right) =$$

= Partition function of a minimal  $d = 6$ ,  $\mathcal{N} = (0, 2)$  multiplet

On space-time  $\mathbb{R}^4 \times \mathbb{T}^2$

$$p = e^{2\pi i \tau}, \quad \tau = \text{complex modulus of the } \mathbb{T}^2$$





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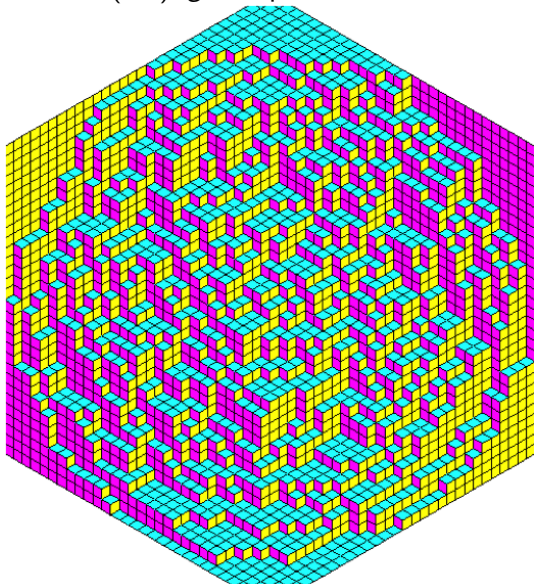
In agreement with  $D4 \text{ brane} = M5 \text{ brane on } S^1$





## Even higher dimensions: $6 + 1$

SYM in  $6 + 1$  dim's -  $\text{Tr}(-1)^F g$  is expressed as a sum over plane partitions

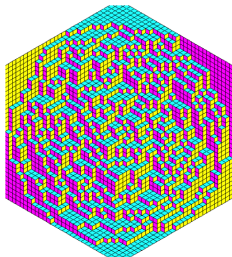




## Even higher dimensions: 6 + 1

SYM in 6 + 1 dim's –  $\text{Tr}(-1)^F g$  is expressed as a sum over plane partitions

$$g_{\text{rot}} = \begin{pmatrix} R_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & R_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & R_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad R_i = \exp i\beta \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \varepsilon_i \\ -\varepsilon_i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



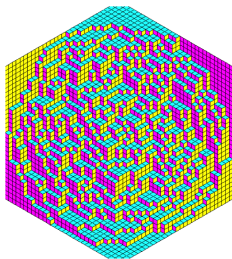


## Even higher dimensions: 6 + 1

SYM in 6 + 1 dim's –  $\text{Tr}(-1)^F g$  is expressed as a sum over plane partitions

$$Z_{6+1}^{N=1} = \exp \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} F_7(q_1^k, q_2^k, q_3^k, p^k)$$

Again,  $p$  counts instantons =  $D0$  branes bound to a  $D6$



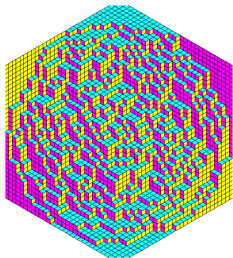


## Even more higher dimensions: $6 + 1 \rightarrow 10 + 1$

It turns out, that the supersymmetric free energy of plane partitions

$$F_7(q_1, q_2, q_3, p) = \frac{\sum_{a=1}^5 (Q_a - Q_a^{-1})}{\prod_{a=1}^5 \left( Q_a^{\frac{1}{2}} - Q_a^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right)}$$

$$Q_1 = q_1, Q_2 = q_2, Q_3 = q_3, Q_4 = p(q_1 q_2 q_3)^{-\frac{1}{2}}, Q_5 = p^{-1}(q_1 q_2 q_3)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$



$S(3)$ -symmetry enhanced to  $S(5)$  symmetry

Twisted Witten index of 11d supergravity!

Plane partitions = 3d Young diagrams

know about (super)gravity in  $10 + 1$  dimensions!

In agreement with:  $D6 \rightarrow Taub - Nut \approx \mathbb{R}^4$ ,

IIA  $\rightarrow$  M-theory





## From 2d and 3d to 4d Young diagrams

It turns out, one can set up a count of solid partitions

= 4d Young diagrams

**How to visualize them?**

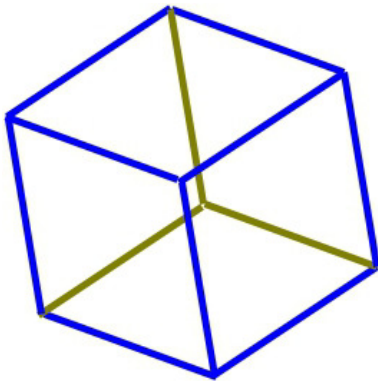




## From 2d and 3d to 4d Young diagrams

### How to visualize 4d Young diagrams?

Use the projection from  $\mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  along the  $(1, 1, 1, 1)$  axis



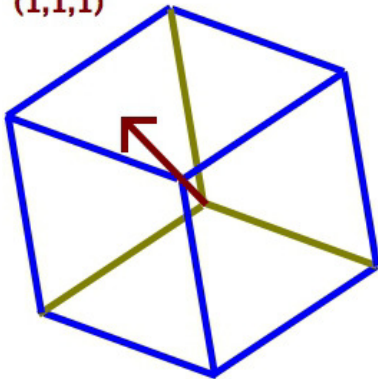


## From 2d and 3d to 4d Young diagrams

### How to visualize 4d Young diagrams?

Just like the projection from  $\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  along the  $(1, 1, 1)$  axis

$(1, 1, 1)$

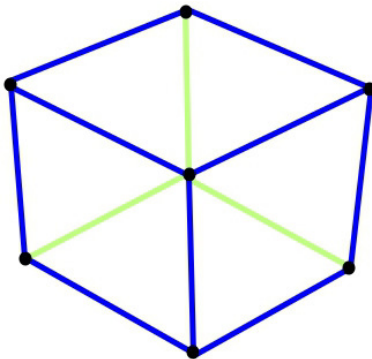




## From 2d and 3d to 4d Young diagrams

### How to visualize 4d Young diagrams?

The projection from  $\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  gives the tessellation of  $\mathbb{R}^2$



By rombi of three orientations

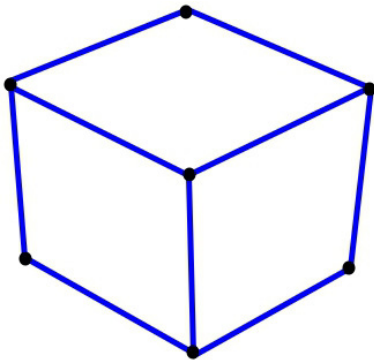




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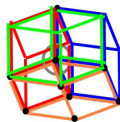
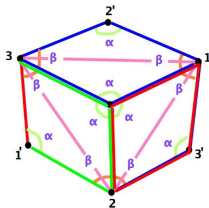




## From 2d and 3d to 4d Young diagrams

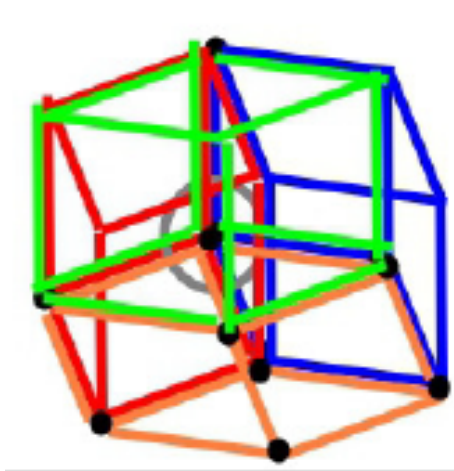
Projection from  $\mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  along  $(1, 1, 1, 1)$

Get the tessellation of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  by squashed cubes





# Random 3d geometries!





## From 2d and 3d to 4d Young diagrams

It turns out, one can set up a count of solid partitions  
= 4d Young diagrams

Previous famous attempts due to P. MacMahon, 1916



$$Z_2(q) = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1-q^n}, \text{ L. Euler}$$



$$Z_3(q) = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1-q^n)^n}, \text{ MacMahon}$$



$$Z_4(q) = ? \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1-q^n)^{n(n+1)/2}}$$

Gives **1, 4, 10, 26, 59, 141, ..., 217554, 424148 ...**

Instead of **1, 4, 10, 26, 59, 140, ..., 214071, 416849 ...**





## Beyond eleven dimensions !?!

Supersymmetric count of solid partitions

Four dimensional Young diagrams

as instanton configurations in

super-Yang-Mills theory on  $\mathbb{R}^8 \times S^1$





## Magnificent Four Partition Function

$$Z_{8+1}^{U(n|n)}(q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4; \vec{a} | \vec{b}; p) = \exp \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} F_9(q_1^k, q_2^k, q_3^k, q_4^k, \mu^k, p^k)$$

$$q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4, \quad \prod_{a=1}^4 q_a = 1,$$

parameters of an  $SU(4) \subset Spin(8)$  rotation of  $\mathbb{R}^8$





## Magnificent Four Partition Function

$$Z_{8+1}^{U(n|n)}(q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4; \vec{a} | \vec{b}; p) = \exp \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} F_9(q_1^k, q_2^k, q_3^k, q_4^k, \mu^k, p^k)$$

$$\vec{a} | \vec{b} = (a_1, \dots, a_n | b_1, \dots, b_n), \quad \prod_{a=1}^4 q_a = 1, \quad \mu = \prod_{i=1}^n b_i / a_i$$

eigenvalues of the complexified  $U(n|n)$  holonomy on  $S^1$





## Magnificent Four Partition Function

$$Z_{8+1}^{U(n|n)}(q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4; \vec{a} | \vec{b}; p) = \exp \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} F_9(q_1^k, q_2^k, q_3^k, q_4^k, \mu^k, p^k)$$

$$\text{Free energy } F_9 = \frac{[q_{12}][q_{13}][q_{23}][\mu]}{[q_1][q_2][q_3][q_4][\sqrt{\mu p}][\sqrt{\mu/p}]}$$

$$[x] := x^{\frac{1}{2}} - x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

Our formula has been checked for up to  $n = 16$  instantons  
*with N. Piazzalunga*

*R. Poghossian -- up to  $n=17$*

Works in all **1, 4, 10, 26, 59, 140, ..., 214071, ...** cases!





## Magnificent Four Partition Function

For special values of  $\mu$  our partition function

Reduces to the previously known lower dimensional ones

In particular, for if all  $b_i = q_4$

we get the partition function of  $U(n)$  theory in  $6 + 1$  dimensions

which matches sugra on  $\mathbb{R}^4/\mathbb{Z}_n \times \mathbb{R}^6 \times S^1$





## Magnificent Four Partition Function

For general values of  $\mu$  our partition function

Coincides with that of some system of free bosons and fermions

Which contains (cohomologically) 11d linearized supegravity

What is its minimal number of spacetime dimensions?





## Beyond eleven dimensions !?!

Non-Poincare supersymmetry?





**THANK YOU**

