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Wilson-'t Hooft lines as transfer matrices

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Based on joint work with Kazunobu Maruyoshi and Toshihiro Ota

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Various connections between

supersymmetric QFTs \longleftrightarrow quantum integrable systems discovered in the past 10 years or so:

- Bethe/gauge correspondence (2d & 4d) [Nekrasov-Shatashvili]
- Bazhanov–Sergeev model from 4d $\mathcal{N} = 1$ quiver gauge theories [Spiridonov, Yamazaki]
- Surface defects as transfer matrices [Maruyoshi-Yagi]
- 4d Chern–Simons (= Ω-deformed 6d SYM [Costello-Y]) [Costello, Costello–Yamazaki–Witten]

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Many of them are related by string dualities [Costello-Y].

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Quantization of Donagi-Witten integrable system

- + $\mathcal{N} = 2$ theory on $\mathbb{R}^3 \times S^1$ on Coulomb branch
- IR: $\mathcal{N} = 4$ sigma model on \mathbb{R}^3
- Target *M* is the phase space of a classical complex integrable system [Donagi–Witten]
- Ω -deformation on $\mathbb{R}^2 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ quantizes \mathcal{M} [Nekrasov-Shatashvili, Nekrasov-Witten, Y]
- For class- ${\mathcal S}$ theories, ${\mathcal M}$ is a Hitchin system.

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Surface defects as transfer matrices [Maruyoshi–Y, Y]

- $\mathcal{N} = 1$ theory constructed by "brane tiling" or of class \mathcal{S}_k
- Place it on $S^3 \times S^1$
- Insert surface defects on $S^1 \times S^1$
- Surface defects act on SUSY index as difference operators, shifting flavor fugacities [Gadde-Gukov, Gaiotto-Rastelli-Razamat]
- Coincide with transfer matrices of elliptic QIS
 [Maruyoshi-Y, Y]
- Simplest case: elliptic Ruijsenaars–Schneider system [GRR, Bullimore–Fluder–Hollands–Richmond]

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We found a new correspondence:

Wilson-'t Hooft lines = transfer matrices

- $\mathcal{N} = 2$ circular quiver theory (class- \mathcal{S})
- Place it on $S^1 \times \mathbb{R}^3$
- Wind a Wilson–'t Hooft line *T* around *S*¹
- + $\langle T \rangle$ is a function of Coulomb branch parameters
- Quantization of $\langle T \rangle$ coincides with transfer matrix of trigonometric QIS

Related to other correspondences

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Consider a periodic spin chain



Spins $a^1, \ldots, a^n \in \mathfrak{h}^*$, $\mathfrak{h} = \text{Cartan of } \mathfrak{sl}_N$:

$$a^r = \operatorname{diag}(a_1^r, \dots, a_N^r), \qquad \sum_{i=1}^N a_i^r = 0$$

Local Hilbert space:

 $\mathcal{M}_{\mathfrak{h}^*} = \{\text{meromorphic functions on } \mathfrak{h}^*\}$

Total Hilbert space

$$\mathcal{H} = \underbrace{\mathcal{M}_{\mathfrak{h}^*} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{M}_{\mathfrak{h}^*}}_{n}$$

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Equivalent lattice model



Spins live between double lines:



a^r are called dynamical parameters.

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Transfer matrix T(z) is horizontal loop operator:



Solid line = worldline of particle whose Hilbert space is \mathbb{C}^N

The particle's state changes when it crosses other lines.

Solid line also has spectral parameter $z \in \mathbb{C}$.

T(z) consists of *n* copies of L-operator

$$L(z) = z \longrightarrow$$

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Dynamical parameters jump across solid lines:

$$L(z;a^1,a^2)_i^j = z \xrightarrow[a^1]{(i)} a^2 \xrightarrow[a^2 - \epsilon h_j]{(j)}$$

 $\epsilon \in \mathbb{C}$: fixed parameter (Planck constant)

 h_i are the weights of the vector rep \mathbb{C}^N :

$$\begin{split} h_1 &= \text{diag}(1 - \frac{1}{N}, -\frac{1}{N}, -\frac{1}{N}, \dots, -\frac{1}{N}), \\ h_2 &= \text{diag}(-\frac{1}{N}, 1 - \frac{1}{N}, -\frac{1}{N}, \dots, -\frac{1}{N}), \\ &\vdots \\ h_N &= \text{diag}(-\frac{1}{N}, -\frac{1}{N}, -\frac{1}{N}, \dots, 1 - \frac{1}{N}). \end{split}$$

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$$L(z; a^1, a^2)_i^j = z \xrightarrow[a^1]{(i)} a^2 \xrightarrow[a^1 - \epsilon h_i]{(j)} a^2 - \epsilon h_j$$

Matrix elements $L(z)_i^j$ are difference operators on $\mathcal{M}_{\mathfrak{h}^*} \otimes \mathcal{M}_{\mathfrak{h}^*}$:

$$\begin{split} L(z) &= \sum_{i,j} L(z;a^1,a^2)_i^j \Delta_i^1 \Delta_j^2 \,, \\ \Delta_i^r \colon a^r \mapsto a^r - \epsilon h_i \,. \end{split}$$

Transfer matrix

$$T(z) = \sum_{i^1, \dots, i^n} \prod_{r=1}^n L(z; a^r, a^{r+1})_{i^r}^{i^{r+1}} \prod_{s=1}^n \Delta_{i^s}^s, \qquad i^{n+1} = i^1$$

is a difference operator on $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{M}_{\mathfrak{h}^*}^{\otimes n}$.

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Crossing solid lines give R-matrix



R-matrix satisfies dynamical Yang–Baxter equation



Just like the ordinary Yang-Baxter equation

$$R_{12}R_{13}R_{23} = R_{23}R_{13}R_{12}$$

but with shifts in the dynamical parameters.

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L-operator and R-matrix satisfy RLL relation



It follows that transfer matrices commute:

$$T(z)T(z') = T(z')T(z)$$



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Proof:

By RLL relation



Multiply both sides by R^{-1} :



Take the trace, making the horizontal direction periodic.

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Since

$$[T(z),T(z')]=0\,,$$

coefficients of Laurent expansion

$$T(z) = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} T_m z^m$$

are commuting difference operators on \mathcal{H} :

$$[T_m,T_n]=0.$$

This is integrability.

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Trigonometric L-operator [Hasegawa]

$$\mathcal{L}_{w,m}(z)_i^j = \sum_{i,j} (\Delta_i^1 \Delta_j^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{\sin \pi (z - w + a_j^2 - a_i^1)}{\sin \pi (z - w)} \ell_m(a^1, a^2)_i^j (\Delta_i^1 \Delta_j^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

satisfies RLL relation with a trigonometric dynamical R-matrix (a limit of the 8vSOS R-matrix).

$$\ell_m(a^1, a^2)_i^j = \left(\frac{\prod_{k(\neq i)} \sin \pi(a_k^1 - a_j^2 - m) \prod_{l(\neq j)} \sin \pi(a_i^1 - a_l^2 - m)}{\prod_{k(\neq i)} \sin \pi(a_{ki}^1 - \frac{1}{2}\epsilon) \sin \pi(a_{ik}^1 - \frac{1}{2}\epsilon)}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

w, *m* \in \mathbb{C} are spectral parameters assigned to the double line:

$$\mathcal{L}_{w,m}(z) = z \xrightarrow{w,m}$$

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Introduce fundamental L-operators

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pm,m} = \lim_{w \to \pm i\infty} \mathcal{L}_{w,m}.$$

Then

$$(\mathcal{L}_{\pm,m})_i^j = \sum_{i,j} (\Delta_i^1 \Delta_j^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{\pm \pi i (a_j^2 - a_i^1)} \ell_m(a^1, a^2)_i^j (\Delta_i^1 \Delta_j^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

and

$$\mathcal{L}_{w,m}(z) = \frac{e^{\pi i(z-w)}\mathcal{L}_{+,m} - e^{-\pi i(z-w)}\mathcal{L}_{-,m}}{\sin \pi (z-w)}$$

We may as well consider $\mathcal{L}_{\pm,m}$ without loss of generality.

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Pick *n*-tuple of signs

$$\sigma = (\sigma^1, \dots, \sigma^n) \in \{\pm\}^n$$

and *n*-tuple of complex numbers

$$m = (m^1, \ldots, m^n) \in \mathbb{C}^n$$

Let $\mathcal{T}_{\sigma,m}$ be the transfer matrix constructed from *n* L-operators

$$\mathcal{L}_{\sigma^1,m^1},\ldots,\mathcal{L}_{\sigma^n,m^n}.$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{\sigma,m} = \sum_{i^1,\dots,i^n} \left(\prod_{s=1}^n \Delta_{i_s}^s \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \prod_{r=1}^n e^{\pi i \sigma^r (a_{i^{r+1}}^{r+1} - a_{i^r}^r)} \ell_{m^r} (a^r, a^{r+1})_{i^r}^{i^{r+1}} \left(\prod_{s=1}^n \Delta_{i_s}^s \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

This is the main character on the integrable system side.

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$\mathcal{N}=2$ gauge theories have half-BPS Wilson–'t Hooft lines.

Wolrdlines of very massive dyonic particles

Charge of WH line

 $(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{e}) \in (\Lambda_{\text{coweight}} \times \Lambda_{\text{weight}})/\text{Weyl}$.

Wilson line has $\mathbf{m} = 0$ and is labeled by representation of \mathfrak{g} .

't Hooft line has $\mathbf{e} = 0$ and is labeled by representation of ${}^{L}\mathfrak{g}$.

Wilson-'t Hooft = ('t Hooft) + (Wilson for subgroup of *G* leaving **m** invariant)

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 $\mathcal{N} = 2$ gauge theory described by *n*-node circular quiver



Each node is SU(N) (more precisely, PSU(N)).

Edges are bifundamental hypers with masses m^1, \ldots, m^n .

Compactification of 6d $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ SCFT on *n*-punctured torus



WH lines = surface defects wrapping 1-cycles of the torus

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Consider Wilson–'t Hooft line $T_{\Box,\sigma}$ corresponding to

$$\gamma_{\sigma} = b + \sum_{r} \frac{1 - \sigma^{r}}{2} c^{r} \,.$$

If $\sigma^r = +1$ (-1), the cycle passes above (below) *r*th puncture.

 $\mathbf{m} = \Box \oplus \cdots \oplus \Box$ under $\mathfrak{su}_N \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathfrak{su}_N$

e specified by $\sigma \in \{\pm\}^n$

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Put the theory on twisted product

 $S^1 \times_{\epsilon} \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$.

Wrap $T_{\Box,\sigma}$ around $S^1 \times \{0\} \times \{t\}$.

Ito–Okuda–Taki tell us how to compute the vev by localization:

$$\langle T_{\Box,\sigma} \rangle = \sum_{i^1,\dots,i^n} \prod_{r=1}^n e^{2\pi i b_{i^r}^r} e^{\pi i \sigma^r (a_{i^{r+1}}^{r+1} - a_{i^r}^r)} \ell_{m^r} (a^r, a^{r+1})_{i^r}^{i^{r+1}}$$

in complexified Fenchel–Nielsen coordinates on Seiberg–Witten moduli space:

$$a = \frac{\theta_{\rm e}}{2\pi} + i\beta \operatorname{Re}\phi + \cdots, \quad b = \frac{\theta_{\rm m}}{2\pi} - \frac{4\pi i\beta}{g^2} \operatorname{Im}\phi + i\frac{\vartheta}{2\pi}\beta \operatorname{Re}\phi + \cdots$$

Alternatively, we can compute it from Toda theory by AGT.

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Compare

$$\langle T_{\Box,\sigma} \rangle = \sum_{i^1,\dots,i^n} \prod_{r=1}^n e^{2\pi i b_{i^r}^r} e^{\pi i \sigma^r (a_{i^{r+1}}^{r+1} - a_{i^r}^r)} \ell_{m^r} (a^r, a^{r+1})_{i^r}^{i^{r+1}},$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{\sigma,m} = \sum_{i^1,\dots,i^n} \left(\prod_{s=1}^n \Delta_{i_s}^s \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \prod_{r=1}^n e^{\pi i \sigma^r (a_{i^{r+1}}^{r+1} - a_{i^r}^r)} \ell_{m^r} (a^r, a^{r+1})_{i^r}^{i^{r+1}} \left(\prod_{s=1}^n \Delta_{i_s}^s \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

If we quantize a^r , b^r so that

$$[\hat{a}_i^r, \hat{b}_j^s] = -\mathrm{i}rac{\epsilon}{2\pi}\delta^{rs}igg(\delta_{ij}-rac{1}{N}igg),$$

then

 $\mathcal{T}_{\sigma,m}$ = Weyl quantization of $\langle T_{\Box,\sigma} \rangle$.

LHS easily generalizes to other reps by fusion procedure, RHS does not due to monopole bubbling.

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M-theory setup

12345 directions: twisted product $\mathbb{R}^2_{12} \times_{\epsilon} S^1_3 \times_{-\epsilon} \mathbb{R}^2_{45}$

M5: 6d $\mathcal{N} = (2,0)$ SCFT on $\mathbb{R}_0 \times \mathbb{R}^2_{12} \times_{\epsilon} S^1_3 \times S^1_6 \times S^1_{10}$

M5': *n* punctures on $S_6^1 \times S_{10}^1$

M2: surface defect

Reduction on $S_6^1 \times S_{10}^1$ gives the 4d setup with $\sigma = (+, ..., +)$.

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Compactify
$$\mathbb{R}_9 \to S_9^1$$
:

Spacetime
$$\mathbb{R}_0$$
 \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 S_3^1 \mathbb{R}_{45}^2 S_6^1 \mathbb{R}_7 \mathbb{R}_8 S_9^1 S_{10}^1
 $N \text{ M5}$ \mathbb{R}_0 \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 S_3^1 S_6^1 S_{10}^1
 $n \text{ M5'}$ \mathbb{R}_0 \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 S_3^1 \mathbb{R}_8 S_9^1 $-$
 $M2$ S_3^1 S_6^1 $\mathbb{R}_8^{\geq 0}$ $-$

Reduce on S_3^1 :

 $S_{6}^{1} S_{6}^{1}$ Spacetime \mathbb{R}_7 \mathbb{R}_8 S_{9}^{1} \mathbb{R}_0 N D4 \mathbb{R}_0 S_{10}^1 R S_{9}^{1} \mathbb{R}_8 *n* D4 \mathbb{R}_0 $\mathbb{R}_8^{\geq 0}$ S_{6}^{1} F1

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Spacetime
$$\mathbb{R}_0$$
 \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 \mathbb{R}_{45}^2 S_6^1 \mathbb{R}_7 \mathbb{R}_8 S_9^1 S_{10}^1
 $N \text{ D4}$ \mathbb{R}_0 \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 S_6^1 S_{10}^1
 $n \text{ D4}$ \mathbb{R}_0 \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 \mathbb{R}_8 S_9^1
 $F1$ S_6^1 $\mathbb{R}_8^{\geq 0}$ $-$

Apply T-duality $S_9^1 \rightarrow \check{S}_9^1$:

 $S_{6}^{1} \\ S_{6}^{1}$ \check{S}_{9}^{1} \check{S}_{9}^{1} Spacetime \mathbb{R}_0 \mathbb{R}^{2}_{12} \mathbb{R}^{2}_{45} \mathbb{R}_7 S_{10}^1 \mathbb{R}_8 \mathbb{R}_0 N D5 \mathbb{R}^2_1 S_{10}^{1} *n* D3 \mathbb{R}_0 \mathbb{R}_8 $\mathbb R$ $\mathbb{R}_8^{\geq 0}$ S_{6}^{1} F1 _

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Spacetime
$$\mathbb{R}_0$$
 \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 \mathbb{R}_{45}^2 S_6^1 \mathbb{R}_7 \mathbb{R}_8 \check{S}_9^1 S_{10}^1
 $N D5 \mathbb{R}_0$ \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 S_6^1 \check{S}_9^1 S_{10}^1
 $n D3 \mathbb{R}_0$ \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 \mathbb{R}_8 $-$
 $F1 S_6^1$ $\mathbb{R}_8^{\geq 0}$ $-$

D5: 6d $\mathcal{N} = (1,1)$ SYM on $\mathbb{R}_0 \times \mathbb{R}^2_{12} \times S^1_6 \times \check{S}^1_9 \times S^1_{10}$

D3: codim-3 operator on $\mathbb{R}_0 \times \mathbb{R}^2_{12}$

F1: Wilson line on S_6^1

Ω-deformation on \mathbb{R}^2_{12} from nontrivial background, due to the initial twisted product in 12345 directions [Hellerman–Orland–Reffert].

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$$\begin{split} &\Omega\text{-deformed 6d }\mathcal{N}=(1,1) \text{ SYM on } \mathbb{R}_0\times \mathbb{R}^2_{12}\times S^1_6\times \check{S}^1_9\times S^1_{10}\\ &\rightsquigarrow \text{Costello's 4d Chern-Simons on } \mathbb{R}_0\times S^1_6\times \check{S}^1_9\times S^1_{10} \text{ [Costello-Y]} \end{split}$$
 $&\text{Codim-3 operators on } \mathbb{R}_0\times \mathbb{R}^2_{12}\\ &\rightsquigarrow \text{ line operators on } \mathbb{R}_0 \end{split}$ \end{split}

 \rightsquigarrow Wilson line on S_6^1





Topological on $\mathbb{R}_0 \times S_6^1$, holomorphic on $\check{S}_9^1 \times S_{10}^1$

 $2d TQFT + line defects \implies lattice model$

 $TQFT + extra dimensions \implies integrability [Costello]$





Wilson line gives transfer matrix of elliptic QIS with

 $\tau = \mathrm{i}R_{10}/\check{R}_9\,.$

Now, decompactify $S_9^1 \to \mathbb{R}_9$. Take $R_9 \to \infty$, or $\check{R}_9 \to 0$. This is the trigonometric limit $\tau \to i\infty$.

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Spacetime
$$\mathbb{R}_0$$
 \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 \mathbb{R}_{45}^2 S_6^1 \mathbb{R}_7 \mathbb{R}_8 \check{S}_9^1 S_{10}^1
 $N \text{ D5}$ \mathbb{R}_0 \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 S_6^1 \check{S}_9^1 S_{10}^1
 $n \text{ D3}$ \mathbb{R}_0 \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 \mathbb{R}_8 $-$
 $F1$ S_6^1 $\mathbb{R}_8^{\geq 0}$ $-$

For Nekrasov–Shatashvili, apply S-duality:

Spacetime
$$\mathbb{R}_0$$
 \mathbb{R}^2_{12} \mathbb{R}^2_{45} S^1_6 \mathbb{R}_7 \mathbb{R}_8 \check{S}^1_9 S^1_{10}
 $N \text{ NS5 } \mathbb{R}_0$ \mathbb{R}^2_{12} S^1_6 \check{S}^1_9 S^1_{10}
 $n \text{ D3 } \mathbb{R}_0$ \mathbb{R}^2_{12} \mathbb{R}_8 $-$
 $\text{ D1 } S^1_6$ $\mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}_8$ $-$

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Then T-duality on S_6^1 :

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Spacetime
$$\mathbb{R}_0$$
 \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 \mathbb{R}_{45}^2 \check{S}_6^1 \mathbb{R}_7 \mathbb{R}_8 \check{S}_9^1 S_{10}^1
 $N \text{ NS5 } \mathbb{R}_0$ \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 \check{S}_6^1 \check{S}_9^1 S_{10}^1
 $n \text{ D4 } \mathbb{R}_0$ \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 \check{S}_6^1 \mathbb{R}_8 $-$
 $\text{ D0 } \mathbb{R}_8^{\geq 0}$ $-$

D4–NS5: 4d \mathcal{N} = 2 theory for (N + 1)-node linear quiver

$$n - n - \cdots - n - n$$

placed on $\mathbb{R}_0 \times \mathbb{R}^2_{12} \times \check{S}^1_6$.

 Ω -deformation quantizes DW system (trigonometric Gaudin) \implies noncompact XXX spin chain

D0 is a local operator, acting as a transfer matrix.

Actuality, 9 & 10 directions are compact, so it's a 6d lift. We get the elliptic version of the integrable system.

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Go back to M-theory

Reduce on S_{10}^1 :

Spacetime
$$\mathbb{R}_0$$
 \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 S_3^1 \mathbb{R}_{45}^2 S_6^1 \mathbb{R}_7 \mathbb{R}_8 \check{S}_9^1
 $N \,\mathrm{D4}$ \mathbb{R}_0 \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 S_3^1 S_6^1 $-$
 $n \,\mathrm{NS5}$ \mathbb{R}_0 \mathbb{R}_{12}^2 S_3^1 \mathbb{R}_8 \check{S}_9^1
 $\mathrm{D2}$ S_3^1 S_6^1 $\mathbb{R}_8^{\geq 0}$ $-$

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Apply T-duality on S_9^1 :

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D5–NS5: 5d circular quiver theory on $\mathbb{R}_0 \times \mathbb{R}^2_{12} \times_{\epsilon} S^1_3 \times \check{S}^1_9$

D3: surface defect on $S_3^1 \times \check{S}_9^1$

We can add more NS5s, preserving 4d $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SUSY on $\mathbb{R}^2_{12} \times_{\epsilon} S^1_3 \times \check{S}^1_9$. This leads to the brane tiling story [Maruyoshi-Y].

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Summary

- We considered a class of Wilson–'t Hooft lines in 4d ${\cal N}=2$ circular quiver theories.
- We found that they can be identified with transfer matrices of trigonometric QIS.
- This is useful for calculuations of line operator vevs.
- By embedding into string theory, the correspondence can be related to other known correspondences via dualities.

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Further directions

- Surface defects in 5d circular quiver theory correspond to transfer matrices of elliptic QIS.
- Variations of the present setup
- Circular quiver theories deconstruct 6d $\mathcal{N} = (2,0)$ SCFT. Integrability is behind surface operators in 6d theory.