

# Mirror symmetry in the character table of $SL_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$

joint work with M. Mereb and F. R. Villegas

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"I would like to make a rash prediction that ideas from physics will have a big impact on number theory as the ideas flow across mathematics - on one extreme number theory, on the other physics, and in the middle geometry: the wind is blowing, and it will eventually reach to the farthest extremities of number theory and give us a new point of view."

Maxwell's equations:  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0 \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$   
 $\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} \quad \nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$   
 electro-magnetic duality:  $(\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{B}) \leftrightarrow (\mathbf{B}, -\mathbf{E})$



S-duality for  $N = 4$  SUSY Yang–Mills gauge groups  $G$  and  $G^L$   
 (Montonen–Olive 1977)



T-duality between  $\sigma$ -models with target  $\mathcal{M}_{Hitchin} \cong \mathcal{M}_{\text{DoI}}$   
 $\cong \mathcal{M}_{\text{DR}}$   
 $\cong \mathcal{M}_{\text{B}}$   
 (Bershadsky–Johanssen–Sadov–Vafa 1995)



(Strominger–Yau–Zaslow 1996) mirror symmetry for

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(G) & & \mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(G^L) \\ & \searrow \chi_G & \swarrow \chi_{G^L} \\ & \mathcal{A} & \end{array}$$

(Hausel–Thaddeus 2003; Donagi–Pantev 2012)



Homological mirror symmetry = Geometric Langlands

$$\mathcal{D}^b(\text{Coh}(\mathcal{M}_{\text{DR}}(G))) \sim \mathcal{D}^b(\text{Fuk}(\mathcal{M}_{\text{DR}}(G^L)))$$

(Kontsevich 1994; Laumon 1987)

(Beilinson–Drinfeld 1995; Kapustin–Witten 2007)



semi-classical limit  $\rightsquigarrow$  fiberwise Fourier–Mukai transform

$$\mathcal{D}^b(\text{Coh}(\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(G))) \sim \mathcal{D}^b(\text{Coh}(\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(G^L)))$$

(Arinkin 2002, Donagi–Pantev 2009)



cohomological shadow of fiberwise Fourier–Mukai transform

$$H_{str}^*(\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(G)) \cong H_{str}^*(\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(G^L))$$

(Hausel–Thaddeus 2003; Ngô 2010)



$P = W$  conjecture of (de Cataldo–Hausel–Migliorini, 2012)  $\rightsquigarrow$

$$H_{str}^*(\mathcal{M}_B(G)) \cong H_{str}^*(\mathcal{M}_B(G^L))$$

(Hausel–Villegas 2004)



Frobenius formula  $\rightsquigarrow$  identities in  $\text{Irr}(G(\mathbb{F}_q))$  and  $\text{Irr}(G^L(\mathbb{F}_q)) \rightsquigarrow$

$$\#_{str}(\mathcal{M}_B(G)(\mathbb{F}_q)) = \#_{str}(\mathcal{M}_B(G^L)(\mathbb{F}_q))$$

(Hausel–Mereb–Villegas 2012)

- $C$  smooth projective curve;  $G = SL_n$   $G^L = PGL_n$ ;  $\Lambda \in \text{Pic}^d(C)$
- $\Lambda$ -twisted  $SL_n$  Higgs bundle  $(E, \phi)$   
 $\phi \in H^0(C; \text{End}_0(E) \otimes K)$  and  $\det(E) = \Lambda$
- $\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(SL_n)$  moduli of semi-stable  $\Lambda$ -twisted  $SL_n$  Higgs bundles
- $(n, d) = 1 \Rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(SL_n)$  non-singular quasi-projective
- $\Gamma := \text{Jac}(C)[n] \cong (\mu_n)^{2g}$  acts by:  $(E, \phi) \mapsto (E \otimes L, \phi)$
- $PGL_n$  Higgs moduli space is the orbifold:  
 $\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(PGL_n) := \mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(SL_n)/\Gamma$

- Hitchin map:  $\chi_{\mathrm{SL}_n} : \mathcal{M}_{\mathrm{Dol}}(\mathrm{SL}_n) \rightarrow \mathcal{A} := \bigoplus_{i=2}^n H^0(C; K^i)$   
 $(E, \phi) \mapsto \mathrm{charpol}(\phi)$

Theorem (Hitchin 1987,1989; Nitsure 1991; Faltings 1993)

$\chi_{\mathrm{SL}_n}$  is proper completely integrable system.

Theorem (Hausel–Thaddeus 2003)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{M}_{\mathrm{Dol}}(\mathrm{SL}_n) & & \mathcal{M}_{\mathrm{Dol}}(\mathrm{PGL}_n) \\ & \searrow \chi_{\mathrm{SL}_n} & \swarrow \chi_{\mathrm{PGL}_n} \\ & \mathcal{A} & \end{array}$$

satisfies (Strominger-Yau-Zaslow 1996) for mirror symmetry.

## Conjecture (Hausel-Thaddeus 2003)

$$\begin{aligned} H_{str}^*(\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(\text{SL}_n); \mathbb{Q}) &\cong H_{str,B}^*(\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(\text{PGL}_n); \mathbb{Q}) \\ &\cong \bigoplus_{\kappa \in \hat{\Gamma}} H^*(\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(\text{SL}_n); \mathbb{Q})_{\kappa} \cong \bigoplus_{\gamma \in \Gamma} H^{*-\text{codim } \mathcal{M}^{\gamma}}(\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(\text{SL}_n)^{\gamma}/\Gamma, L_{\gamma}^B) \end{aligned}$$

Results:

- $n = 2, 3$  by (Hausel, Thaddeus 2003)
- for all  $n$  in the middle degree  $* = \dim(\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(\text{SL}_n))$   
by (Garcia-Prada–Heinloth–Schmidt, 2010)  
using (Laumon, 1987)
- for all  $n$  up to degree  $* < \min_{\gamma \in \Gamma^*} \text{codim } \mathcal{M}^{\gamma}$   
by (Hausel–Pauly 2012)  
using symmetries of Hitchin fibers (Ngô, 2006)



- for any proper map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  (de Cataldo-Migliorini 2005) introduce *perverse filtration*  $\subset P_i \subset P_{i+1} \subset \dots \subset P_k \cong H^k(X)$  from the study of the Beilinson-Bernstein-Deligne-Gabber decomposition theorem for  $f_!(\mathbb{Q}_X)$  into perverse sheaves
- extending the geometric fundamental lemma of (Ngô, 2010) from  $\mathcal{A}_{ell}$  over  $\mathcal{A} \rightsquigarrow$

## Conjecture (Refined topological mirror test)

Under the Weil pairing  $\Gamma^* \cong \Gamma$  given by  $\kappa \leftrightarrow \gamma$

$$Gr_k^P H^*(\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(\text{SL}_n))_\kappa \cong Gr_{k - \frac{F(\gamma)}{2}}^P H^{*-F(\gamma)}(\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(\text{SL}_n)^\gamma / \Gamma, L_\gamma^B)$$

- the  $SL_n$ -character variety:

$$\mathcal{M}_B(SL_n) := \{(A_i, B_i)_{i=1..g} \in SL_n^{2g} \mid [A_1, B_1] \dots [A_g, B_g] = \zeta_n^d I_n\} // PGL_n$$

non-singular, affine

- for  $PGL_n$  note that  $\Gamma \cong (\mu_n)^{2g}$  acts on  $\mathcal{M}_B(SL_n)$

$$\mathcal{M}_B(PGL_n) := \mathcal{M}_B(SL_n) / \Gamma$$

Theorem (Non-Abelian Hodge Theorem; Simpson, Corlette)

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}} \stackrel{\text{diff}}{\cong} \mathcal{M}_B$$

# $P = W$ and Betti Mirror Symmetry

Conjecture ("P=W", de Cataldo-Hausel-Migliorini 2012)

$P_k(\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}) \cong W_{2k}(\mathcal{M}_{\text{B}})$  under the isomorphism

$H^*(\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}) \cong H^*(\mathcal{M}_{\text{B}})$  from non-Abelian Hodge theory.

Conjecture (Hausel-Villegas 2004)

Under the Weil pairing  $\Gamma^* \cong \Gamma$  given by  $\kappa \leftrightarrow \gamma$

$$\text{Gr}_k^W H^*(\mathcal{M}_{\text{B}}(\text{SL}_n))_{\kappa} \cong \text{Gr}_{2k-F(\gamma)}^W H^{*-F(\gamma)}(\mathcal{M}_{\text{B}}(\text{SL}_n)^{\gamma}/\Gamma, L_{\gamma}^B)$$

in particular

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E_{\kappa}(\mathcal{M}_{\text{B}}(\text{SL}_n)) & := & \sum_{i,k} |\text{Gr}_k^W H^i(\mathcal{M}_{\text{B}}(\text{SL}_n))_{\kappa}| q^k (-1)^i \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ E(\mathcal{M}_{\text{B}}(\text{SL}_n)^{\gamma}/\Gamma, L_{\gamma}^B) q^{F(\gamma)} & = & \sum_{k,i} |\text{Gr}_{2k}^W H^i(\mathcal{M}_{\text{B}}(\text{SL}_n)^{\gamma}/\Gamma, L_{\gamma}^B)| q^{k+F(\gamma)} (-1)^i \end{array}$$

## Theorem (Katz, 2008)

When  $X/\mathbb{Z}$  has polynomial-count

$$\#(X(\mathbb{F}_q)) = E(X/\mathbb{C}, q) = \sum_{i,k} |\mathrm{Gr}_k^W H^i(X/\mathbb{C})| q^k (-1)^i$$

## Theorem (Frobenius, 1896)

For any finite group  $G$ :

$$\# \{ a_1, b_1, \dots, a_g, b_g \in G \mid \prod [a_i, b_i] = z \} = \sum_{\chi \in \mathrm{Irr}(G)} \frac{|G|^{2g-1}}{\chi(1)^{2g-1}} \chi(z)$$

- for  $G = \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  (Hausel–Letellier–Villegas, 2006–2012) have evaluated this and more general character formulas  $\rightsquigarrow$  complete conjectures about the mixed Hodge polynomials  $\sum_{i,k} |\mathrm{Gr}_k^W H^i(\mathcal{M}_B(\mathrm{GL}_n))| q^k t^i$  using Macdonald polynomials
- for  $G = \mathrm{SL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  and  $z = \exp(\frac{2\pi i d}{n})$  the character formula was evaluated in (Mereb, 2010)

# Character formulas for refined Betti mirror symmetry

- $\kappa \in \hat{\Gamma}$  and  $\epsilon \in \hat{\mathbb{F}}_q^\times$  such that  $\text{ord}(\kappa) = \text{ord}(\epsilon) = k$

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_\kappa(\mathcal{M}_B(\text{SL}_n)) &= \sum_{\substack{\theta \in \text{Irr}(\text{SL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)) \\ k \parallel |\theta|}} |\theta|^{-2g} \left( \frac{|\text{SL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)|}{\theta(1)} \right)^{2g-2} \frac{\theta(\zeta_n 1)}{\theta(1)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{(q-1)^{2g-1}} \sum_{\substack{\chi \in \text{Irr}(\text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)) \\ \chi = \epsilon \chi}} \left( \frac{|\text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)|}{\chi(1)} \right)^{2g-2} \frac{\chi(\zeta_n 1)}{\chi(1)}
 \end{aligned}$$

- when  $k = \text{ord}(\gamma)$

$$E(\mathcal{M}_B(\text{SL}_n)^\gamma / \Gamma, L_\gamma^B) q^{F(\gamma)} =$$

$$\sum_{s|k} \frac{\mu(s) q^{n^2 \frac{k-1}{k} (g-1)}}{k(q-1)^{2g-1}} \sum_{\substack{\chi \in \text{Irr}(\text{GL}_{n/k}(\mathbb{F}_{q^s})) \\ \chi = \chi^{\text{Frob}_q}}} \left( \frac{|\text{GL}_{n/k}(\mathbb{F}_{q^s})|}{\chi(1)} \right)^{(2g-2)k/s} \left( \frac{\chi(\zeta_n 1)}{\chi(1)} \right)^{k/s}$$

## Theorem (Hausel–Mereb–Villegas 2012)

When  $\kappa \in \hat{\Gamma}$  and  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  such that  $\text{ord}(\kappa) = \text{ord}(\gamma) = k$

$$\begin{aligned} E(\mathcal{M}_B(\text{SL}_n)^\gamma / \Gamma, L_\gamma^B) q^{F(\gamma)} &= \\ &= \frac{q^{n^2(g-1)}}{k(q-1)^{2g-2}} \sum_{u|k^\infty} \frac{1}{u} \sum_{s|k} \mu(s) \frac{q^{-\frac{(g-1)n^2}{uk}}}{(q^{us}-1)^2} E\left(\mathcal{M}_B^{(\frac{k}{s})}(\text{GL}_{\frac{n}{ku}}); q^{us}\right) = \\ &= E_\kappa(\mathcal{M}_B(\text{SL}_n)). \end{aligned}$$

- one can compute from this  $\chi(\mathcal{M}_B(\text{SL}_n)) = \mu(n)n^{4g-3}$  matching (Mereb 2010)
- this has a natural  $t$ -deformation giving a conjecture for the mixed Hodge polynomial of  $\mathcal{M}_B(\text{SL}_n)$  and in turn the mixed Hodge polynomial of  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}(\text{SL}_n)$

# Example for Betti mirror symmetry for $n = 2$

- for  $k = \text{ord}(\gamma) = 2$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(\mathcal{M}_B(\text{SL}_2)^\gamma / \Gamma, L_\gamma^B) q^{F(\gamma)} &= \\
 \sum_{s|2} \frac{\mu(s) q^{2(g-1)}}{2(q-1)^{2g-1}} \sum_{\substack{\chi \in \text{Irr}(\text{GL}_1(\mathbb{F}_{q^s})) \\ \chi = \chi^{\text{Frob}_q}}} \left( \frac{|\text{GL}_1(\mathbb{F}_{q^s})|}{\chi(1)} \right)^{(2g-2)2/s} \left( \frac{\chi(\zeta_2 1)}{\chi(1)} \right)^{2/s} \\
 &= \left( \frac{(q-1)^{2g-2} - (q+1)^{2g-2}}{2} \right) q^{2g-2}
 \end{aligned}$$

- for  $k = \text{ord}(\kappa) = 2$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_\kappa(\mathcal{M}_B(\text{SL}_2)) &= \sum_{\substack{\theta \in \text{Irr}(\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)) \\ 2 \parallel |\theta|}} |\theta|^{-2g} \left( \frac{|\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)|}{\theta(1)} \right)^{2g-2} \frac{\theta(\zeta_2 1)}{\theta(1)} \\
 &= \left( \frac{(q-1)^{2g-2} - (q+1)^{2g-2}}{2} \right) q^{2g-2}
 \end{aligned}$$

- character tables for  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$  and  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$  known to (Jordan 1907) and (Schur 1907)

# Schur's character table of $SL_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$

2. Die Gruppe  $\mathfrak{L}_{p^n}$ , die durch die ganzen linearen Substitutionen

$$\xi_1 = \alpha \eta_1 + \beta \eta_2, \quad \xi_2 = \gamma \eta_1 + \delta \eta_2$$

gebildet wird, deren Determinante gleich 1 ist. — Die Ordnung der Gruppe

Die  $s+4$  Charaktere von  $\mathfrak{L}_s$  lassen sich in folgender Tabelle zusammenfassen:

	1	1	$\frac{s-3}{2}$	$\frac{s-1}{2}$	2	2
$\chi(E)$	1	$s$	$s+1$	$s-1$	$\frac{1}{2}(s+1)$	$\frac{1}{2}(s-1)$
$\chi(F)$	1	$s$	$(-1)^a(s+1)$	$(-1)^\beta(s-1)$	$\frac{\varepsilon}{2}(s+1)$	$-\frac{\varepsilon}{2}(s-1)$
$\chi(P)$	1	0	1	-1	$\frac{1}{2}(1 \pm \sqrt{\varepsilon s})$	$\frac{1}{2}(-1 \pm \sqrt{\varepsilon s})$
$\chi(Q)$	1	0	1	-1	$\frac{1}{2}(1 \mp \sqrt{\varepsilon s})$	$\frac{1}{2}(-1 \mp \sqrt{\varepsilon s})$
$\chi(A^a)$	1	1	$\rho^{aa} + \rho^{-aa}$	0	$(-1)^a$	0
$\chi(B^b)$	1	-1	0	$-(\sigma^{\beta b} + \sigma^{-\beta b})$	0	$-(-1)^b$

\*) Vgl. *Dickson*, *Linear Groups*, Cap. XII.



# Betti mirror symmetry for general reductive group $G$ ?

- let  $G$  be complex reductive
- (Hausel–Letellier–Villegas 2012)  $\leadsto$  definition for  $H_{str}^*(T^*V//G)$  for the stringy cohomology of symplectic quotient attached to any representation  $G \rightarrow GL(V)$
- $\mu : \begin{array}{ccc} G^{2g} & \rightarrow & G \\ (A_i, B_i)_1^g & \mapsto & \Pi_i[A_i, B_i] \end{array}$  group valued moment map equivariant
- usual quotient  $\mathcal{M}_B(G) := \mu^{-1}(1)//G$
- $C \subset G$  generic regular semisimple conjugacy class
- $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_B(G) := \mu^{-1}(C)//G$  orbifold and the Weyl group  $W$  of  $G$  acts on  $H_{str}^*(\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_B(G))$
- $H_{str}^*(\mathcal{M}_B(G)) := H_{str}^*(\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_B(G))_\epsilon$  where  $\epsilon$  is the sign representation of  $W$  on  $H^{mid}(C)$

## Conjecture

$$H_{str}^*(\mathcal{M}_B(G)) \cong H_{str}^*(\mathcal{M}_B(G^L))$$