

Wild Hitchin Spaces

&

Kac-Moody Root Systems

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Aim

Understand Hitchin moduli  
spaces in cases where the  
Higgs fields /connections have  
irregular singularities

[ Basically poles of order  $\geq 2$  ]

## Basic questions

- ① Algebraically integrable systems ?
- ② Complete hyperkähler metrics ?
- ③ Correspondence mero. Higgs  $\longleftrightarrow$  mero. conn's
- ④ Torelli type theorems ?
- ⑤ When are the moduli spaces non-empty ?  
[irregular Deligne - Simpson]
- ⑥ Geometric Langlands ?

Original motivation ~ 1995

Dubrovin's approach to 2d TQFT

- axiomatize deformations of Frobenius algebras  
⇒ notion of Frobenius Manifold

Thm (Dubrovin)

Local moduli space of 2d semi-simple Frobenius manifolds  $\cong$  a moduli space of mero. connections on  $\mathbb{P}^1$  with 1 simple pole & 1 pole of order 2

(& interesting symplectic braid group action)

# Hitchin spaces (usual picture with punctures)

Choose

- complex reductive group  $G = K_C$
- smooth projective curve  $\Sigma$
- distinct points  $a_1, \dots, a_m \in \Sigma$
- conjugacy classes  $e_1, \dots, e_m \subset G$

(+ parabolic str.)



Hyperkähler manifold  $M$

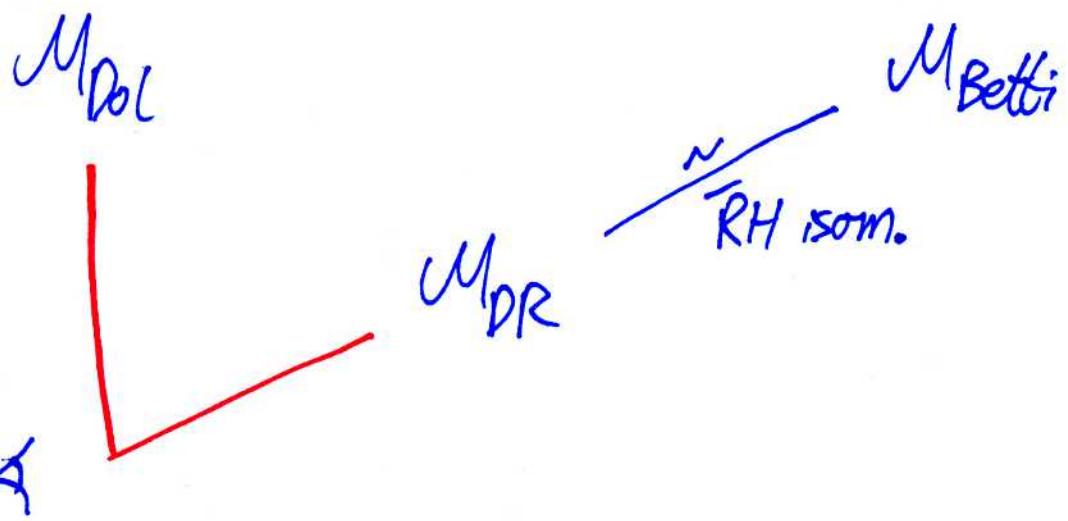
$M_{\text{Dol}}$



$M_{\text{Betti}}$

$M_{\text{DR}}$

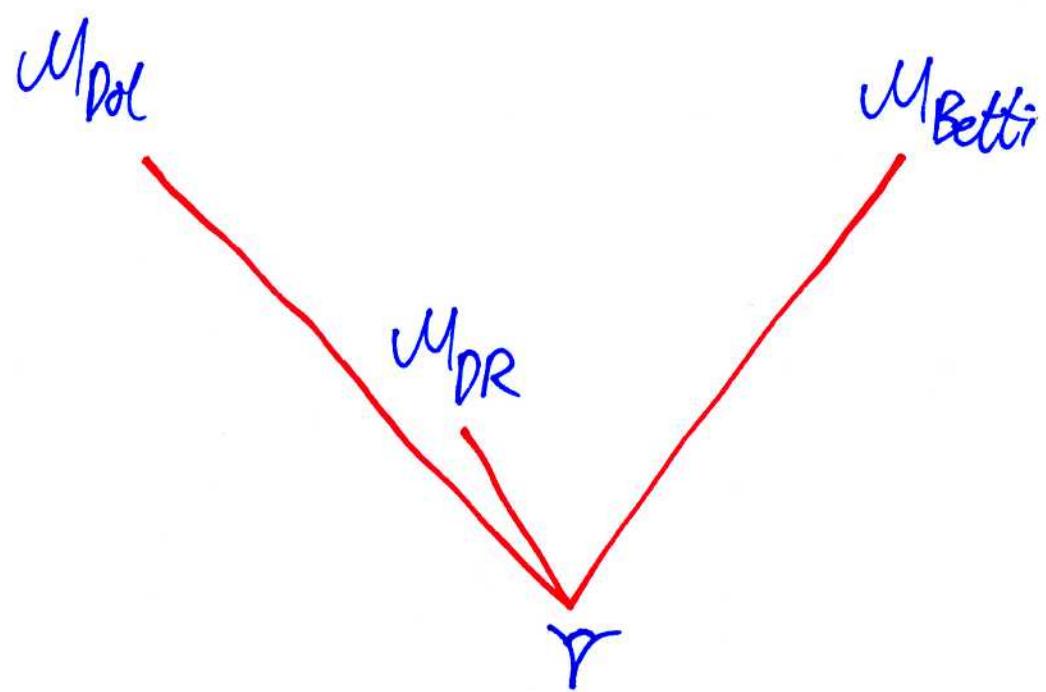
Hitchin, Donaldson, Corlette, Simpson, Nakajima, . . .



$\Delta$

complex analytic  
geometer

two spaces!



complex algebraic geometer

three spaces, two of which are  
very close (deformation)

Eg ("E<sub>8</sub> ALG space") GL<sub>6</sub>, IP<sup>1</sup>, m=3, special orbits

Blow up 9 points on the smooth locus  
of a cuspidal cubic in IP<sup>2</sup> & remove  
strict transform of cubic

- ① Get  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{Dol}}$  if 9 points sum to zero  
(elliptically fibred - Hitchin fibration)
- ② Else get  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{DR}}$  -(deformation)
- ③  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{Betti}}$  got by blowing up IP<sup>2</sup> in 8 points  
& removing a nodal IP<sup>1</sup> (Etingof-Oblomov-Rains?)

## Wild Hitchin Spaces

Basically fixing conjugacy class of monodromy around puncture  $\Leftrightarrow$  mero. connection with simple pole & residue in fixed adjoint orbit

$$\frac{A}{z} dz \quad A \in \theta \subset \mathfrak{g}$$

$$\exp(\epsilon\pi i \theta) = e^{-cG}$$

$\Leftrightarrow$  fixing  $G[[z]]$  isom. class of connection

Generalization - allow higher order poles in fixed formal isom. class

$$\left( \frac{A_k}{z^k} + \frac{A_{k-1}}{z^{k-1}} + \dots + \frac{A_2}{z^2} + \frac{A_1}{z} \right) dz + \dots$$

Here:- assume  $A_i \in \mathfrak{t}$  (Cartan subalg.  $\mathfrak{g}$ )  
- generic condition (e.g. follows if  $A_k \in \mathfrak{t}_{\text{reg}}$ )

Similarly fix  $G[z]$  orbit of principal part of Higgs fields (at each pole)

① Thm (Bottacin, Markman) ~ 1993 & Beauville, Adams - Horned-Hurtubise  
Reiman - Semenov-Tian-Shansky  
Adler - van Moerbeke if  $g = 0$

Mod is an algebraically completely integrable system

Hitchin map - take remaining invariants of the Higgs field  
(those not already fixed)

- $M_{\text{Betti}}$
- can be described as space of certain representations of the "wild fundamental gp" of Martinet-Ramis (Tannazian viewpoint)
  - or more directly via Stokes multipliers  
 (quasi-Hamiltonian spaces generalizing the)  
 complex conjugacy classes  $e \in G$   
 $[PB, Duke '07]$

- $M_{\text{DR}}$
- complex symplectic structure obtained by extending the Atiyah-Bott approach
  - locally indept of
    - complex str. of  $\Sigma$
    - positions of  $a_1, \dots, a_m$
    - irregular parts of formal types  $A_k, \dots, A_2$

"Symplectic nature of the wild fundamental group"

(cf. PB Adv. Math. 01)

"Isomonodromy is a symplectic connection"

(2) & (3) ( $\mathcal{GL}_n$ )

Thm (O. Biquard - PB)  
2004

- Correspondence  $M_{\text{Dol}} \cong M_{\text{DR}}$ 
  - map ← earlier by Sabbah
  - same "rotation" of eigenvalues / part. weights as found by Simpson in simple pole case
- Complete hyperkahler metrics, if moduli spaces smooth
  - generic formal types  $\Rightarrow$  smoothness

# Basic examples

Approximations  $M^*$

$M$

①

$$\theta // H$$

$$\theta \subset g^*$$

$$\mathcal{L} // H$$

$\mathcal{L} \subset G^*$  dual Poisson Lie gp

②

$$H \backslash\!\! \backslash T^* G // H$$

$$H_{\lambda_2} \backslash\!\! \backslash \mathcal{D} // H_{\lambda_1}$$

$\mathcal{D} \subset (G \times G^*)^2$  Lu-Weinstein  
Sympl. double groupoid

③

special ALE spaces

e.g.  $A_{1-3}, D_4, E_{6-8}$

$$\sim \widetilde{\mathbb{C}^2/\Gamma}$$

Okamoto Painlevé spaces

"2d Hitchin systems"

## ④ Torelli type theorem ?

Is the map:  $G$ , curve + points + formal types... →

$$\begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ \mathcal{M} \end{array}$$

injective?

Yes

$g \geq 1, m=0, S\Gamma_n$  (Biswas-Gomez '01)

No

In general:

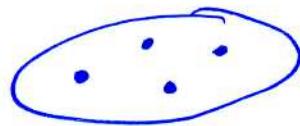
Can do Fourier-Laplace / Nahm transform  
of mero. connections on  $\mathbb{P}^1$

- changes pole orders & rk of  $G$   
(Hyperkahler isometry by S. Szabo '05)

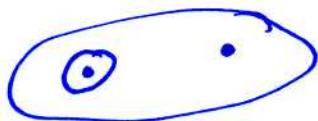
[Lots of examples when  $\dim M = 0$  — rigid differential equations]

Simple example (cf. Hornad's dual Lax pair for Painlevé VI)

①  $G = GL_2$ ,  $m = 4$ ,  $g = 0$ , all simple poles



②  $G = GL_3$ ,  $m = 2$ ,  $g = 0$ , 1 simple pole  
1 second order pole



Viewpoint: Two "representations"/"realizations"  
of the same hyperkahler moduli space  
 $M$   
(abstract)

## Approach

Attach a graph ("Dynkin diagram") to certain wild Hitchin systems & explain how to read off various realizations from the graph

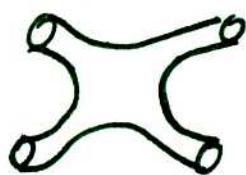
## Definition

A graph is "Hitchin" if it arises in this way from a (meromorphic) Hitchin moduli space

e.g.

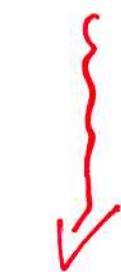


4 simple poles,  $GL_2$



affine  $D_4$  Dynkin diagram

{ Nakajima quiver  
var.



$M$



$M^*$

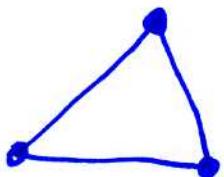
open subset  
where underlying  
bundle on  $P^1$   
holomorphically trivial

## "Known" cases of Hitchin graphs

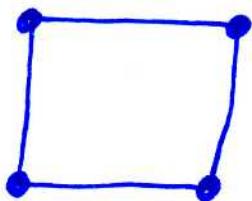
① Okamoto - Painlevé moduli spaces

$$\dim_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathcal{M}) = 2$$

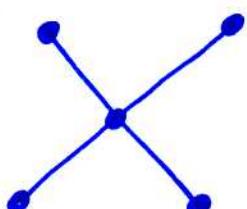
e.g.



$\hat{A}_2$

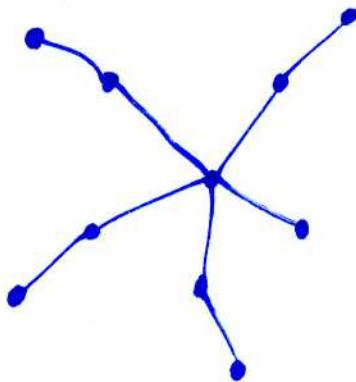


$\hat{A}_3$



$\hat{D}_4$

② Star-shaped graphs



$M$  realized as connections  
with simple poles on  $\mathbb{P}^1$

Pattern?

Let  $I_1, \dots, I_k$  be finite sets  $n_i = \# I_i$

Let  $\Gamma_C = \Gamma(n_1, \dots, n_k)$  be the  
complete k-partite graph on the sets  $I_i$ :

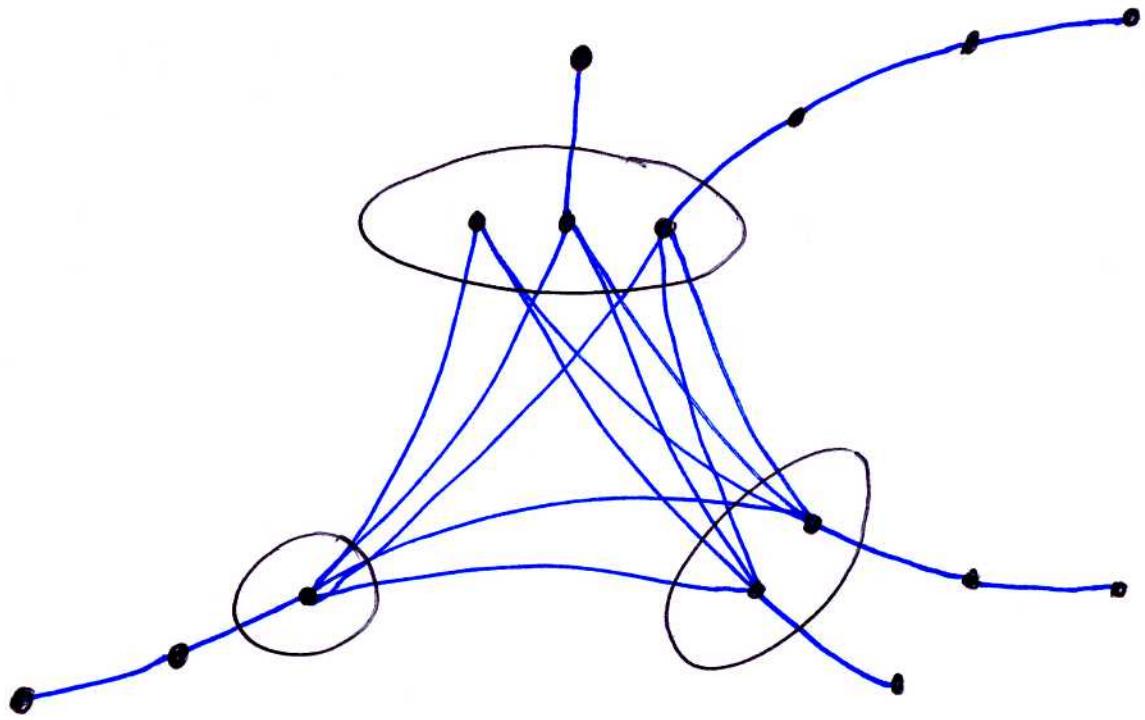
[with nodes  $I = \bigcup I_i$  and an edge joining  
 $e \in I_i$  to  $f \in I_j$  iff  $i \neq j$ ] ]

Theorem (PB 0806-1050)

- $\Gamma_C$  is a Hitchin graph
- The same is true if we first glue an arbitrary "leg" onto each node of  $\Gamma_C$



— i.e. we get a rich class of "Dynkin diagrams"



Example "complete tripartite graph with legs"

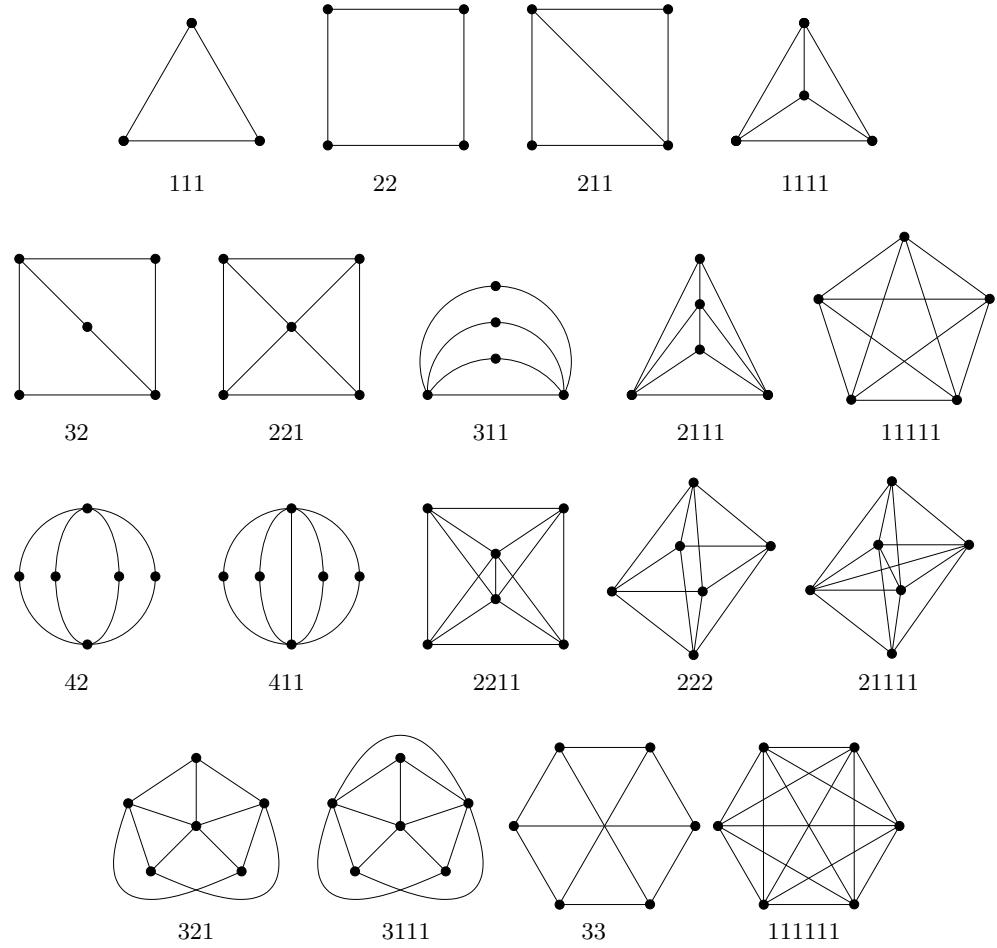


FIGURE 1. Graphs from partitions of  $N \leq 6$   
(omitting the stars  $\Gamma(n, 1)$  and the totally disconnected graphs  $\Gamma(n)$ )

$k+1$  ways to 'read' complete  $k$ -partite graph w. legs

$$\Gamma_C = \Gamma(n_1, \dots, n_k) = \Gamma(I_1, \dots, I_k)$$

Auxiliary data

- dimension  $d_i \in \mathbb{N}$  & nodes  $i$
- real no.s  $\alpha_i, \beta_i, \gamma_i$  & nodes  $i$
- distinct complex no.s  $a_1, \dots, a_k$
- complex no.s  $b_i$  & nodes of  $\Gamma_C$  ( $i \in I_j$ )  
( $b_i \neq b_{i'}$  if  $i, i'$  in same part)

## Principal reading

- $G = GL_N \quad N = \sum_{\text{nodes of } \Gamma_c} d_i$
- 1 pole of order 3 & no others on  $\mathbb{P}^1$

Set  $N_j = \sum_{i \in I_j} d_i \quad j=1,..,k \quad \text{so} \quad N = \sum N_j$

- Formal type  $\left( \frac{A_3}{z^3} + \frac{A_2}{z^2} + \frac{A_1}{z} \right) dz$   
 $A_3$  evals  $a_j$  (multiplicities  $N_j$ )  
 $A_2$  evals  $b_i \quad i \in I_j$  in  $a_j$  eigenspace  $A_3$   
(multiplicities  $d_i$ )

Let  $H = \text{Stab}(A_2, A_3) \cong \prod GL_{d_i}(\mathbb{C})$

$A_1$  is in fixed adjoint orbit of  $H$ , determined by the legs

{ Reduces to simple pole case in each simultaneous eigenspace of  $A_2, A_3$  }

## Other k readings

Choose one of the  $k$  'parts' - say  $I_1$

① Delete this part

& obtain (as above) formal type at pole of order 3

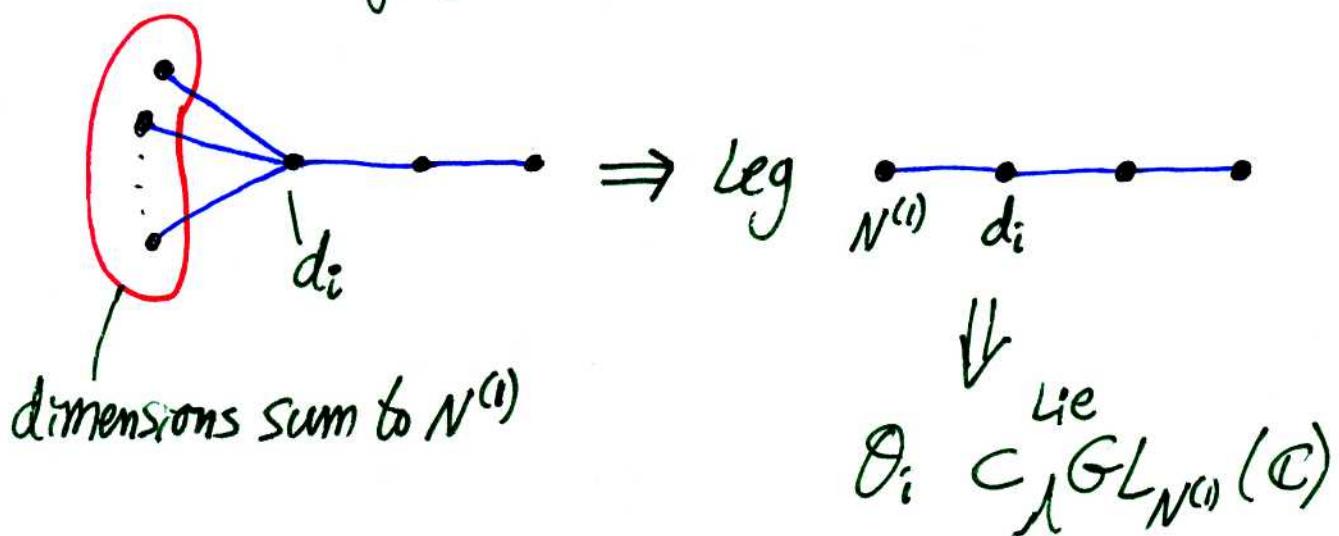
$$G = GL_{N^{(1)}}(\mathbb{C}), \quad N^{(1)} = N - N_{I_1}$$

② Put a simple pole at  $z = 1/b_i \quad \forall i \in I_1$

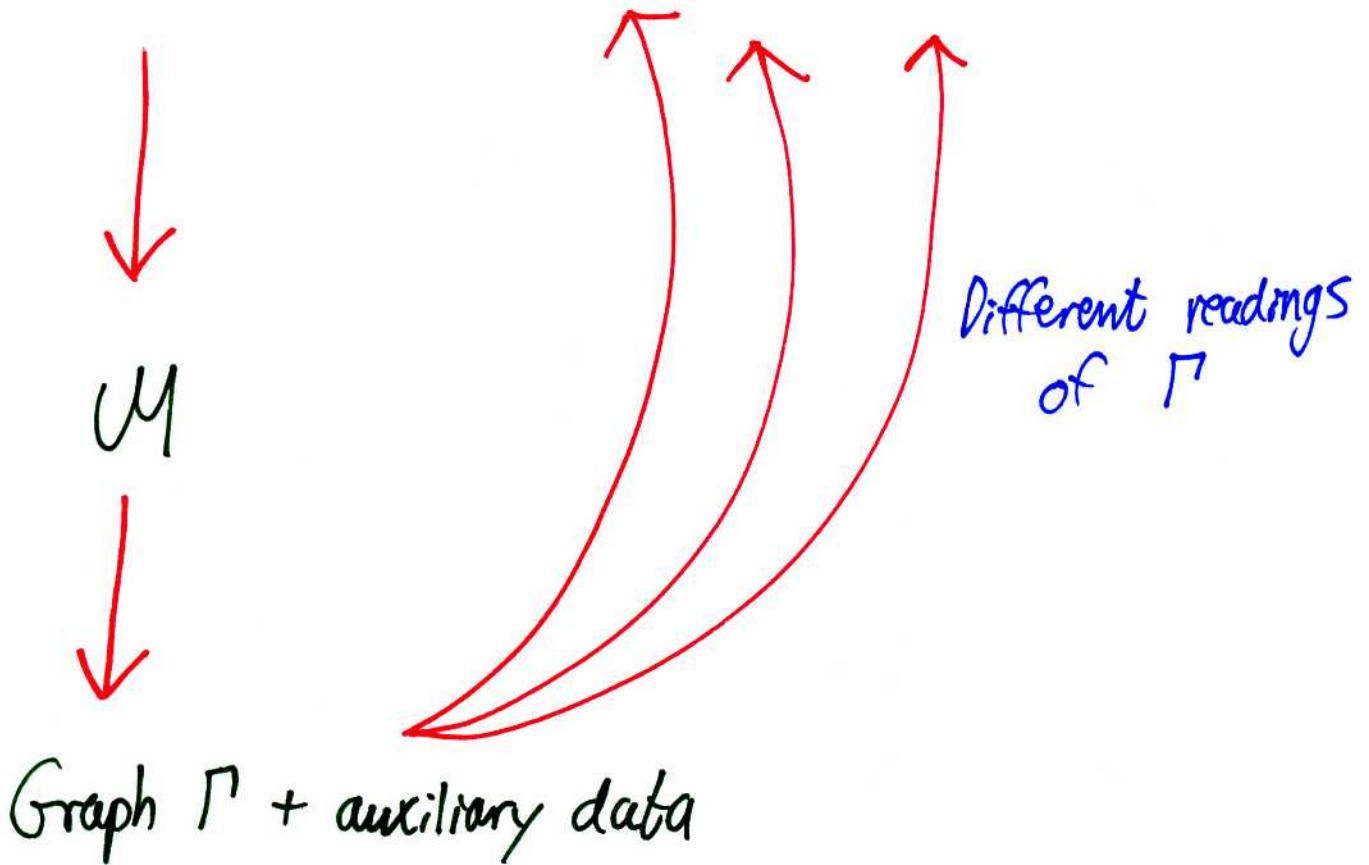
$n_{I_1} = \# I_1$  simple poles

Need to fix adjoint orbits of residues at the simple poles

Near  $i \in I_1$ , graph looks like

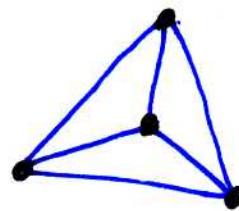


(Cetain) input data  $G$ , formal type, divisor, ...



In particular we are saying the open part  $\mathcal{M}^*$  of  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{irr}}$  (or  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{ar}}$ ) where the underlying holom. bdlc is trivial, is complex symplectically isomorphic to a Nakajima quiver variety attached to  $\Gamma$

## Tetrahedron



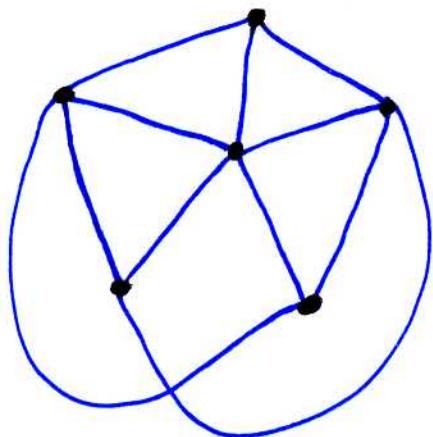
$$\Gamma(1,1,1,1)$$

dimensions 1, 2, 3, 4 say

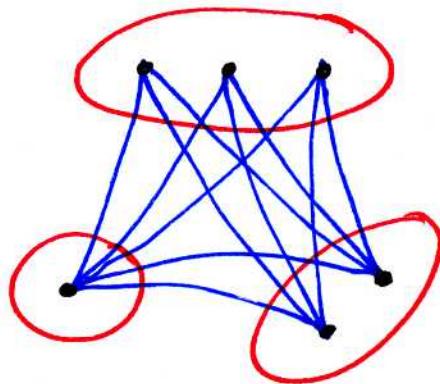
$\dim_{\mathbb{C}} M = 12$ , four-partite graph  
 $\Rightarrow 5$  readings :

<u>rank of vector bundles</u>	<u>pole orders</u>
10	3
9	3+1
8	3+1
7	3+1
6	3+1

$\Gamma(3, 2, 1)$



=



$d_i = 1 \ \forall i$  say

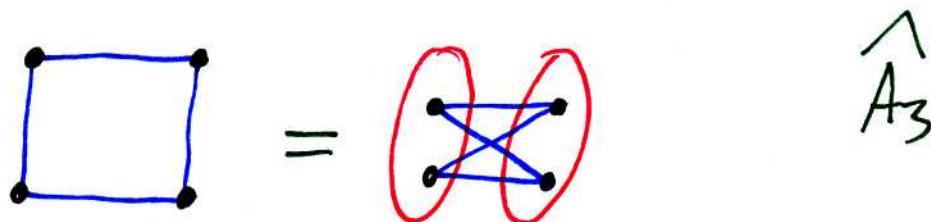
Rank	poles
6	3
5	$3+1$
4	$3+1+1$
3	$3+1+1+1$

# Bipartite cases - 3 readings

Compare: Jimbo-Miwa-Mori-Sato (Bose gas, Painlevé 5)  
 with & Hornad's duality

In 2 readings only one eigenvalue of  $A_3$   
 ~ can shift it to zero  $\Rightarrow$  order 2 pole

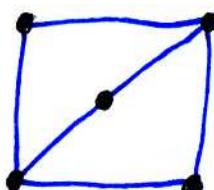
e.g 1



$d_i = 1 \ \forall i$

Rank	poles
4	3
2	$2+1+1$
2	$2+1+1$

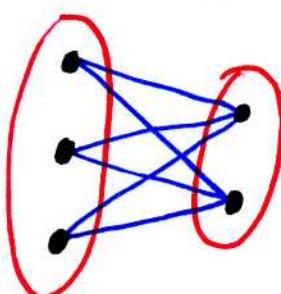
2



$d_i = 1 \ \forall i$

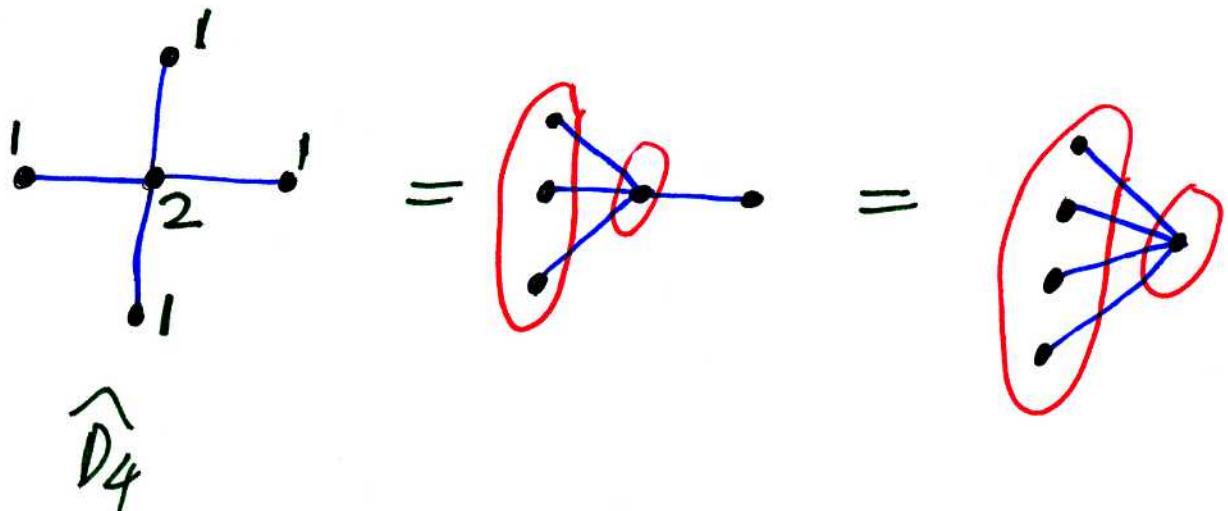
Rank	poles
5	3
3	$2+1+1$
2	$2+1+1$

$\Gamma(3,2)$



Stars:  $\mathcal{N}(n, 1)$  (with legs)

e.g.



Rank	poles
6	3
4	2+1
3	2+1
2	(+1+1+1)

Additive/ $U^*$  version of isom.  $2 \cong 4$  for  $\mathcal{N}(n, 1)$   
is complexification of "Gelfand MacPherson duality"  
 $\sim$  dilogarithm

## Extensions

- ① Higher order pole ✓ (need multiple edges)
- ②  $\geq 2$  irregular singularities  
 $M^*$  not a quiver variety  
→ more general picture (~bows)  
(e.g Rk 2, 2+2  $M^* \cong D_2$  ALF space)

Ulterior motive for attaching a graph to  $\mathcal{M}$ :

→ Get a **Kac-Moody root system**

- 1 Get precise criteria for existence of stable connections (phrased in terms of roots)
  - extending work of Crawley-Boevey on the Deligne-Simpson problem
$$\left[ \exists ? \text{ stable connections in simple pole case } / p' \right]$$

(Star shaped graphs here)
- 2 Get "reflection functors" - action of KM Weyl group on auxiliary data

Claim These induce more isomorphisms between  $\mathcal{M}$ 's  
[typical orbits are infinite]

Given graph  $\Gamma$ , nodes  $I$ ,  $n = \#I$

- Cartan matrix  $C = 2 - A$  ( $n \times n$ )

$$A_{ij} = \#\text{edges node } i \leftrightarrow \text{node } j$$

- Root lattice  $\mathbb{Z}^I = \bigoplus_{i \in I} \mathbb{Z} \varepsilon_i$  has bil. form  $(,)$

$$(\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_j) = C_{ij}$$

- Weyl group  $W \subset \mathbb{Z}^I$  generated by  $\{s_i\}_{i \in I}$

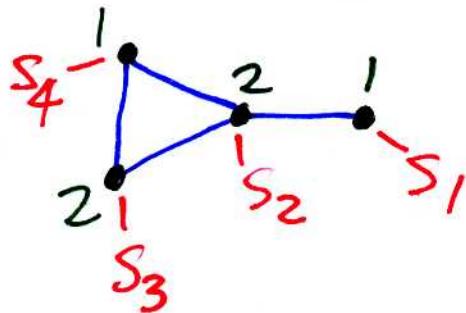
$$s_i(x) = x - (x, \varepsilon_i) \varepsilon_i$$

( $\ell$  dual reflections  $r_i \in \mathbb{C}^I$  s.t.  $r_i(1) \cdot s_i(x) = 1 \cdot x$ )

- Root system  $\subset \mathbb{Z}^I$  (real & imaginary roots)

View dimension vector  $\underline{d} \in \mathbb{Z}^I$

Example of  $W$  action



Read e.g. as  
Rk 3, poles 3+1

$$\underline{d} = (1, 2, 2, 1)$$

Here  $W \supset_{\text{index 2}} W^+ \cong \text{PSL}_2(E)$   $E = \mathbb{Z}[\omega]$   
(cf. Feingold-Kleinschmidt-Nicolai '08) (Eisenstein integers)

① Let  $W = S, S_4 S, S_2 S_4 S, S_3 S,$

Compute  $W^n(1, 2, 2, 1) \rightarrow$  Read as connections on  
bundles of rank  $n^2 + (n-1) + (n-2)^2$

②  $S, S_2 S_3 (1221) = (0111) \Rightarrow$

so  $\mathcal{M}^* \cong A_2$  ALE space ( $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} = 2$ )