

A three-dimensional bridge between physics and mathematics

Tudor Dimofte
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first hints:
[Dimofte-Gukov-Hollands '10]

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- its observables (quantities one can compute) all correspond to **classical**, **quantum**, or **categorical** topological invariants, some old, but many new.

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cf. Jones poly, WRT [Witten '89, Reshetikhin-Turaev '91]

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“Most” $M, \mathfrak{g} = sl_2$: explicit construction of $T_{\mathfrak{g}}[M]$

[Dimofte-Gaiotto-Gukov '11]
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$\mathfrak{g} = sl_n$:

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Main tool: (topological) ideal triangulations

+ a generalization of Thurston-Neumann-Zagier gluing methods
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Math: New “quantum” topological invariants,
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for all CS levels $k \in \mathbb{Z}$

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- analyzing asymptotics of $Z_{CS}^{G_{\mathbb{C}}}(M)$ (easy!)

\rightsquigarrow simple, conjectured (tested) formula for
 $G_{\mathbb{C}}$ -twisted Reidemeister-Ray-Singer torsion of M
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\rightsquigarrow predictions for asymptotics of colored Jones poly’s
(hard!; play a role in Volume Conjecture) [Dimofte-Gukov-Lenells-Zagier ’08]
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Hopefully: a combinatorial definition for $G_{\mathbb{C}}$ 3-manifold
homology! in progress w/ Gaiotto-Moore

(Analogous to Khovanov homology for G)

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Properties of 3d N=2 theories are governed by the geometry of 3-manifolds!

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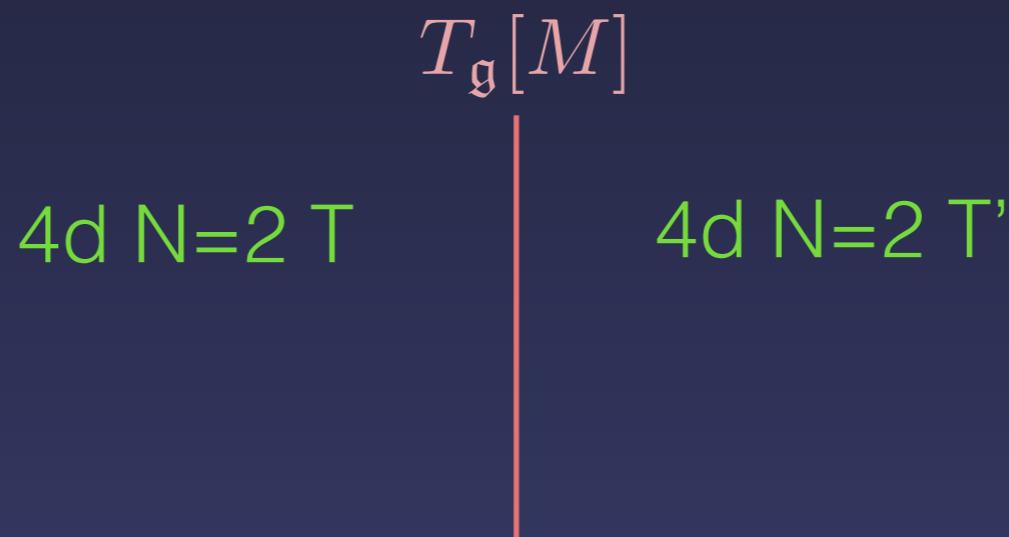
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S-duality:

g_{YM}

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Remainder of the talk:

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- a few more details on the correspondence, and observables of $T_{\mathfrak{g}}[M]$
- tetrahedra, formulas, and examples
- first look at homological/categorical invariants

The correspondence

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(2,0) SCFT
“theory \mathcal{X} ”

[Strominger, Witten '90's]

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$\mathcal{X}_{\mathfrak{g}}$ on $M \times \mathbb{R}^3$ (topological twist on M)

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- nevertheless, can infer many properties of $T_{\mathfrak{g}}[M]$ + its compact'ns

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Basic property:

$$\{\text{vacua of } T_g[M] \text{ on } \mathbb{R}^2 \times S^1\} = \{\text{flat } G_{\mathbb{C}} \text{ connections on } M\}$$
$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{flat}}(M, G_{\mathbb{C}})$$

To see this:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 6\text{d } \mathcal{X}_g & M \times \mathbb{R}^2 \times S^1 & \\ & \downarrow & \\ 3\text{d } T_g[M] & \mathbb{R}^2 \times S^1 & \\ & \downarrow & \\ 2\text{d} & \mathbb{R}^2 & \end{array}$$

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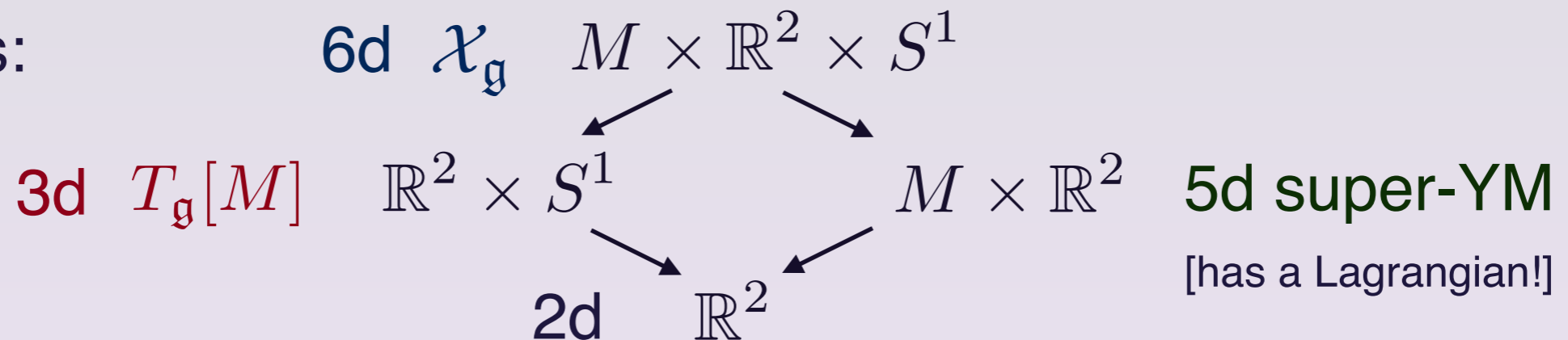
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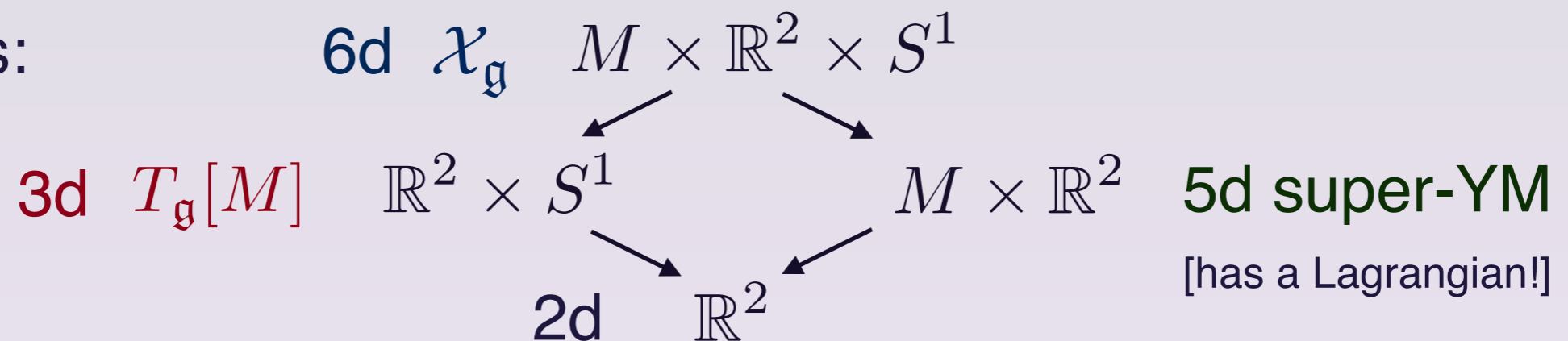
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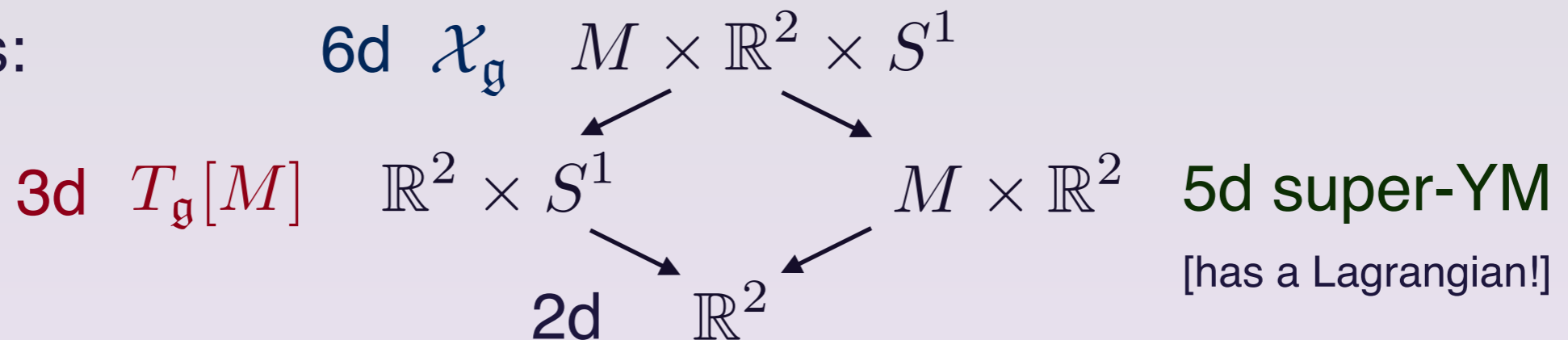
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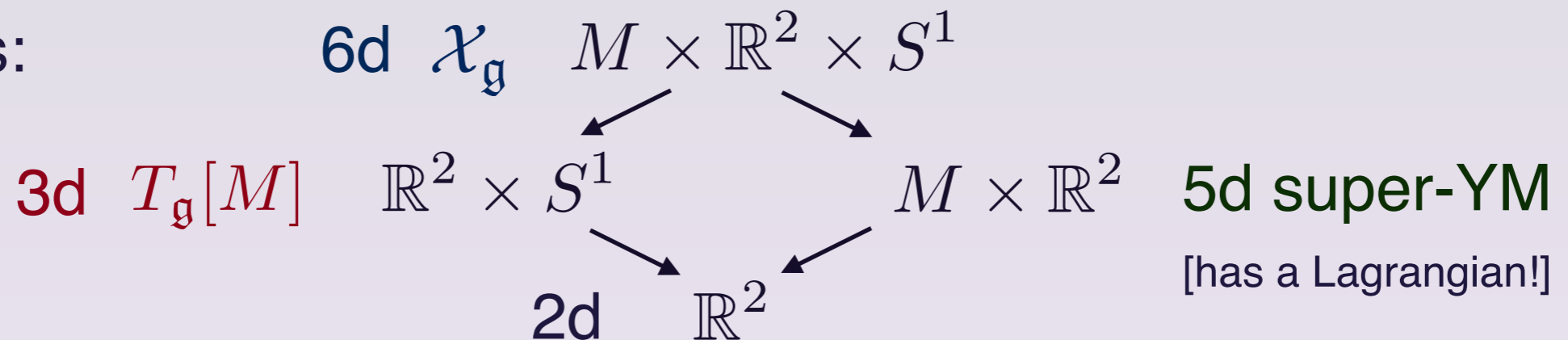
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$(a = 1, 2, 3)$ $G_{\mathbb{C}}$ connection on M

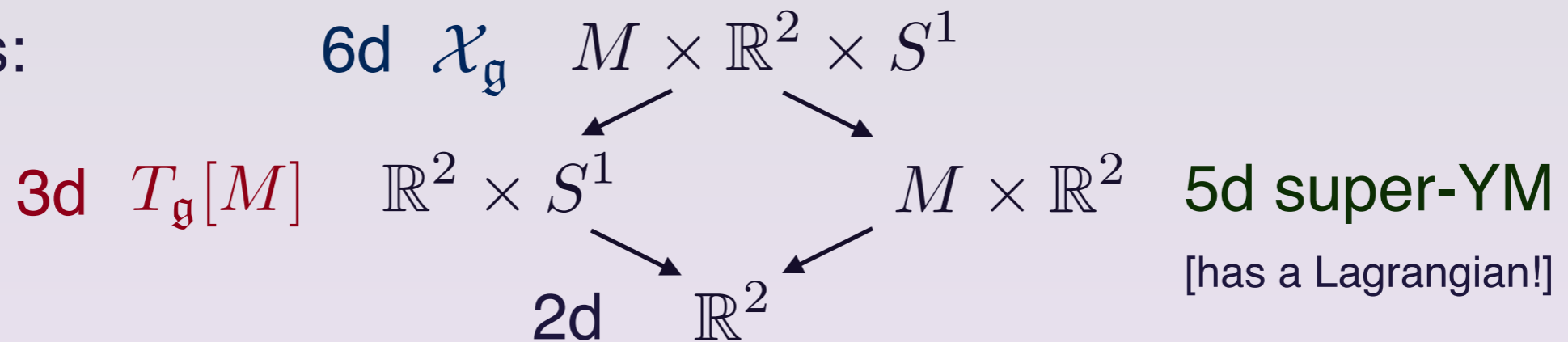
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\mathcal{A} : $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$ -valued 1-form

$$\mathcal{Z}_{CS}[M] = \int \mathcal{D}\mathcal{A} \mathcal{D}\bar{\mathcal{A}} e^{\frac{k+i\sigma}{8\pi i} I_{CS}(\mathcal{A}) + \frac{k-i\sigma}{8\pi i} I_{CS}(\bar{\mathcal{A}})} \quad [\text{Witten '91}]$$

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The correspondence

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- cf. *compact* G CS thy: on knot complements, get Jones polys
(combinatorial definition)

[Reshetikhin-Turaev '90, etc.]

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- combinatorial def'n missing for $G_{\mathbb{C}}$ until recently!

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$$\frac{T_g[M]}{\text{[Witten '91]}} = \frac{M}{\text{[Dimofte-Gukov-Hollands '10]}} = \{\text{flat } G_{\mathbb{C}} \text{ connections}\} \mathcal{M}_{\text{flat}}(M, G_{\mathbb{C}})$$

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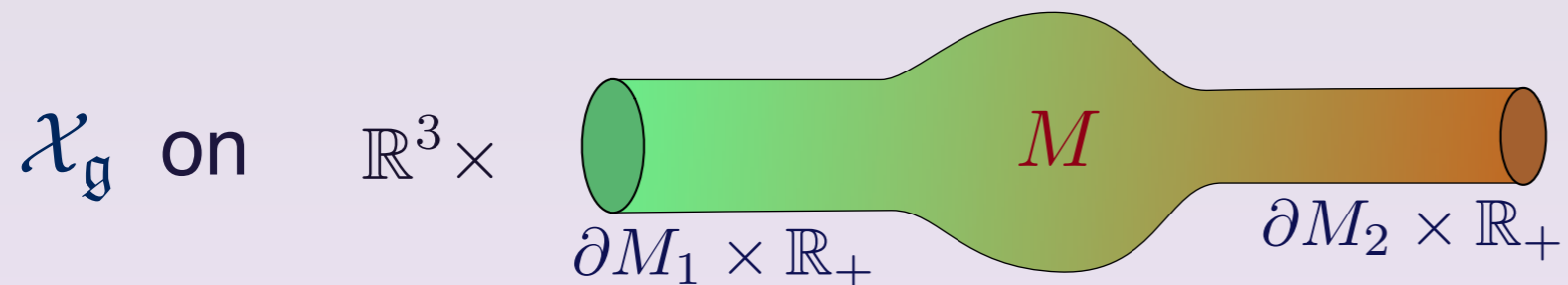
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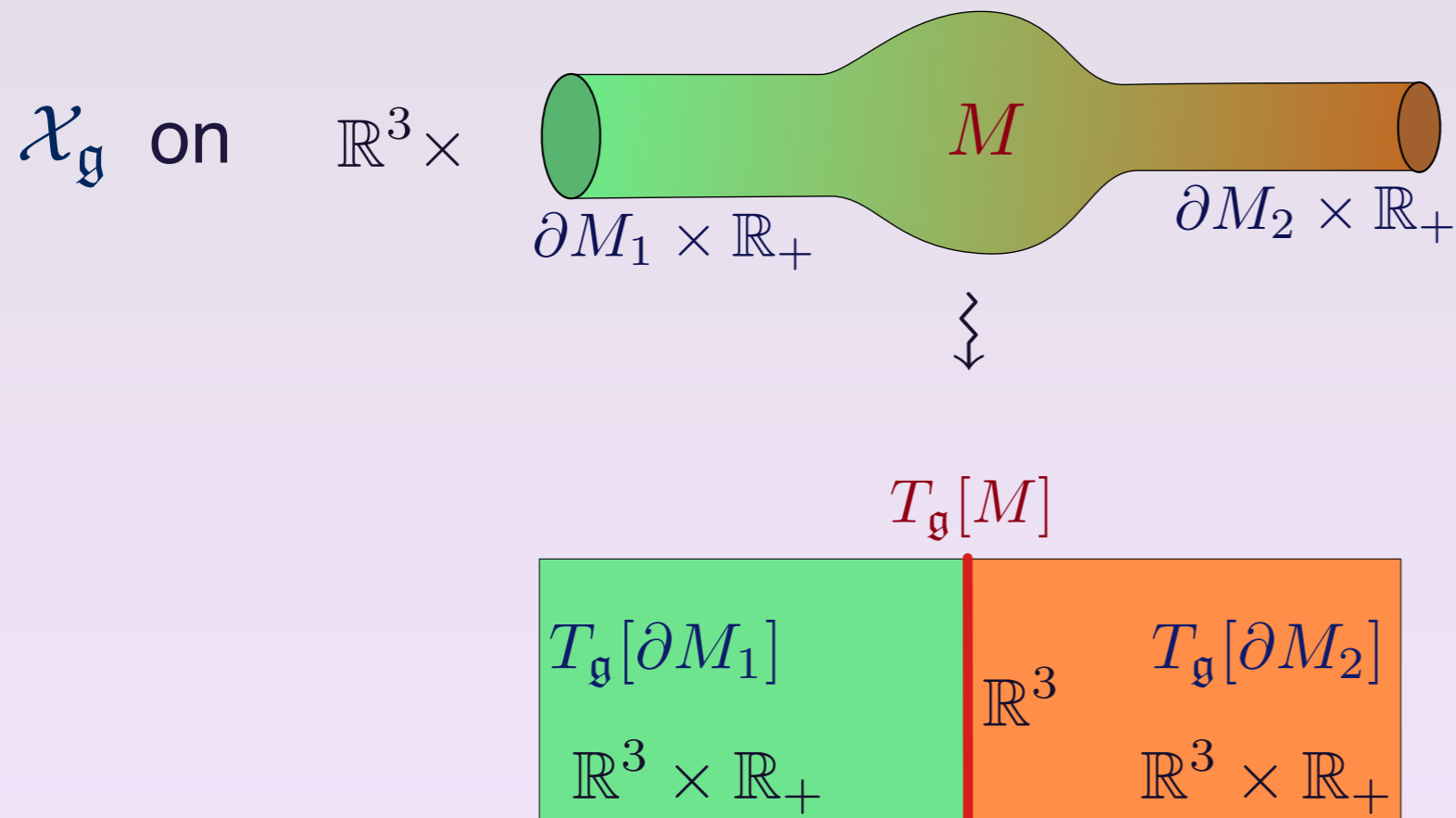


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3d interface
between 4d (N=2)
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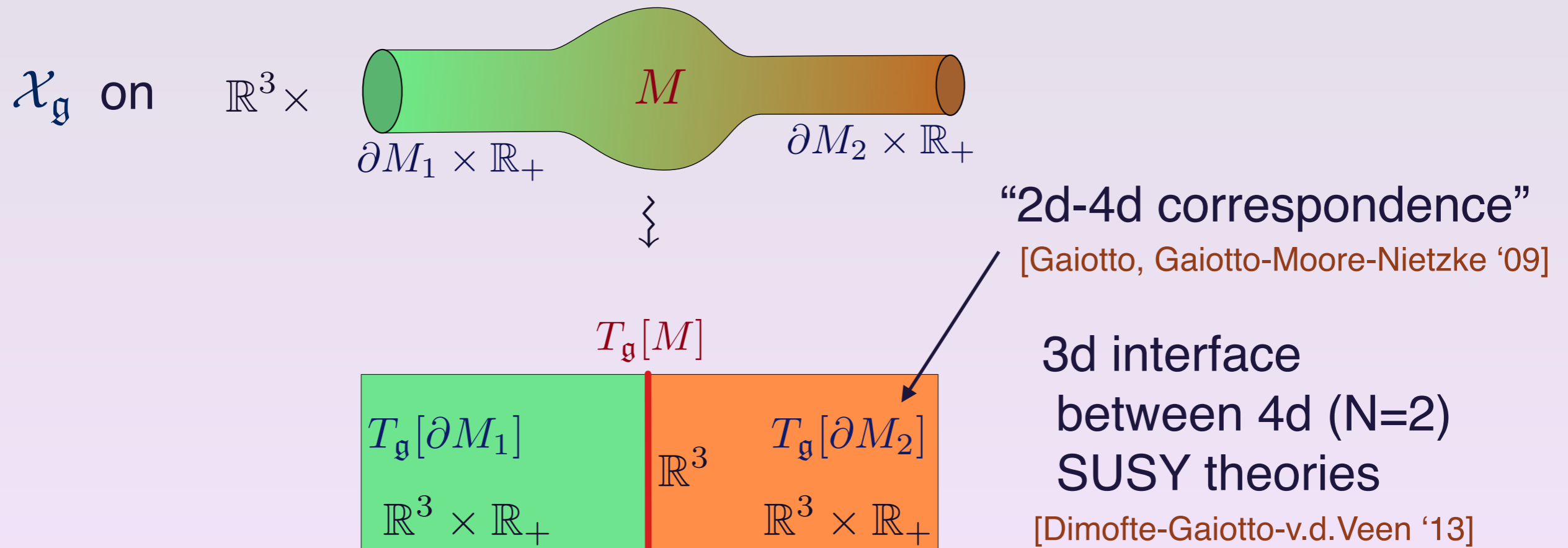
[Dimofte-Gaiotto-v.d.Veen '13]

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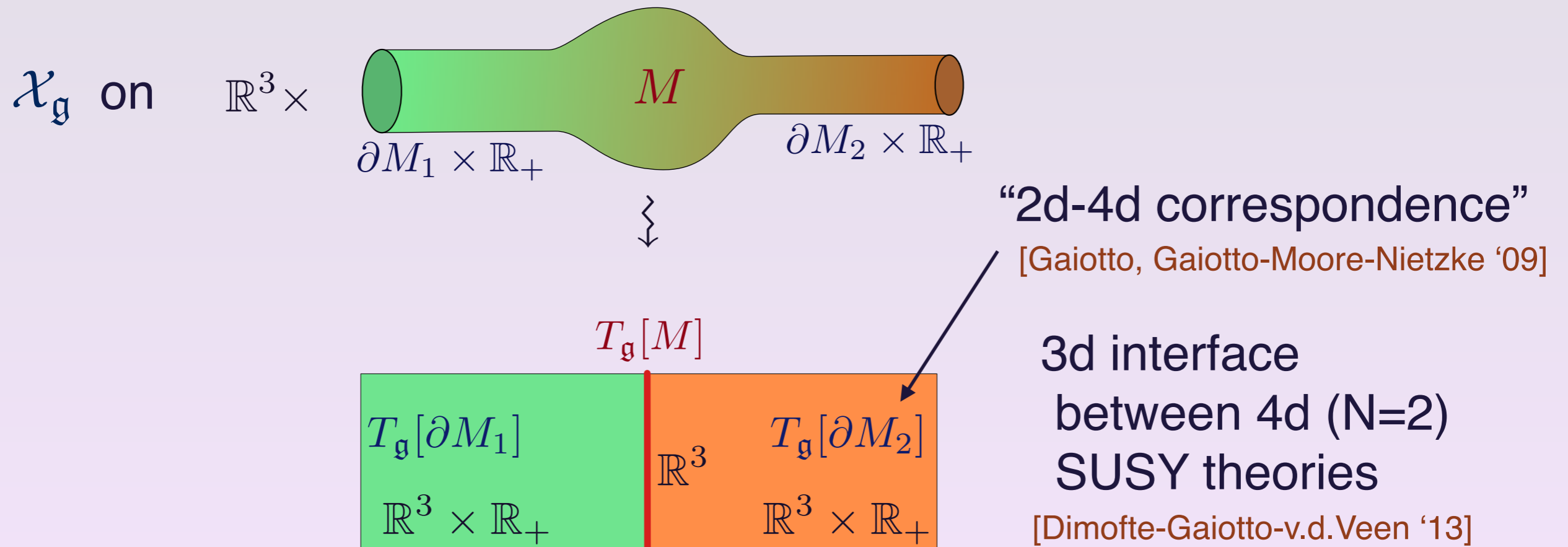
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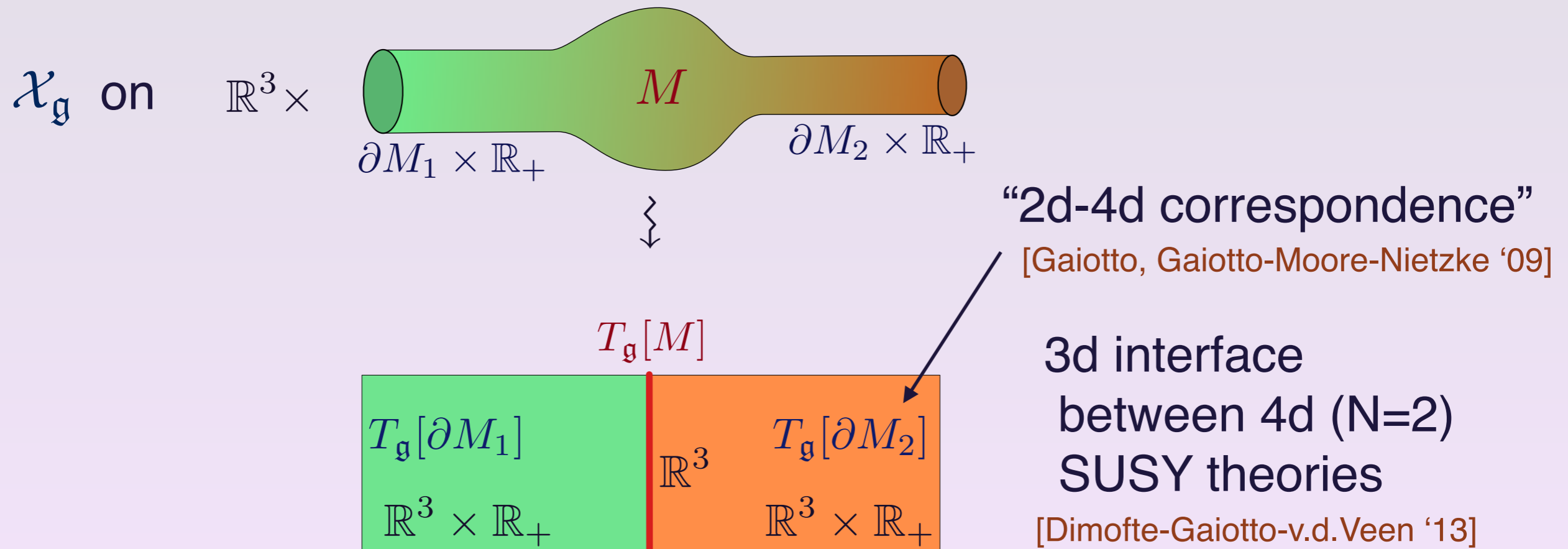


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“4d-2d correspondence”

cf. [Gadde-Gukov-Putrov '13]

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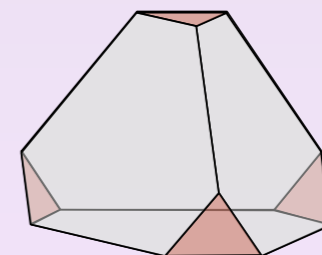
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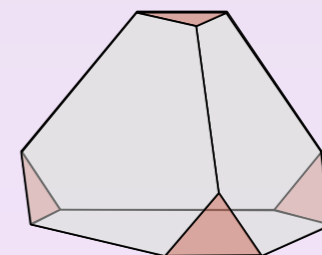
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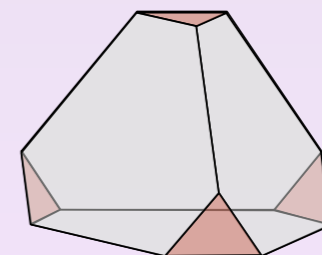


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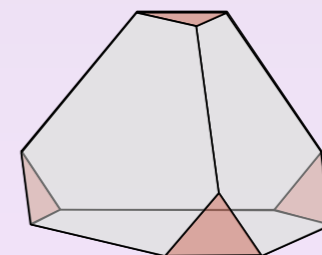


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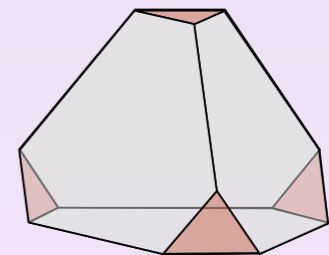
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- $PSL(2, \mathbb{C})$ flat connections are (roughly) hyperbolic metrics

So: $T_{\mathfrak{g}}[M]$ quantizes, categorifies, etc. classical hyperbolic geometry!

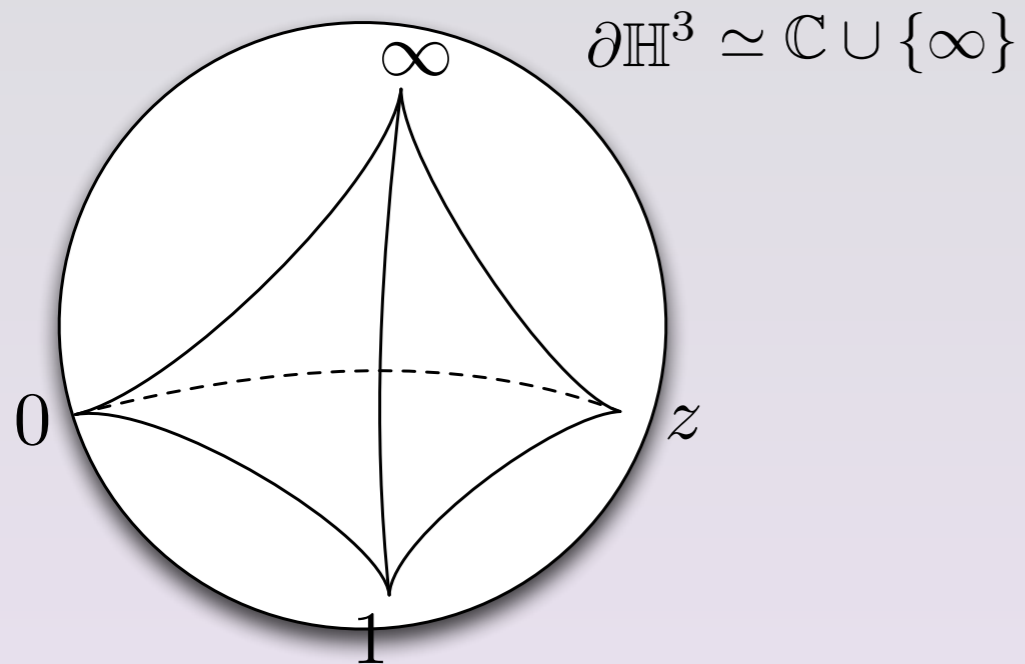
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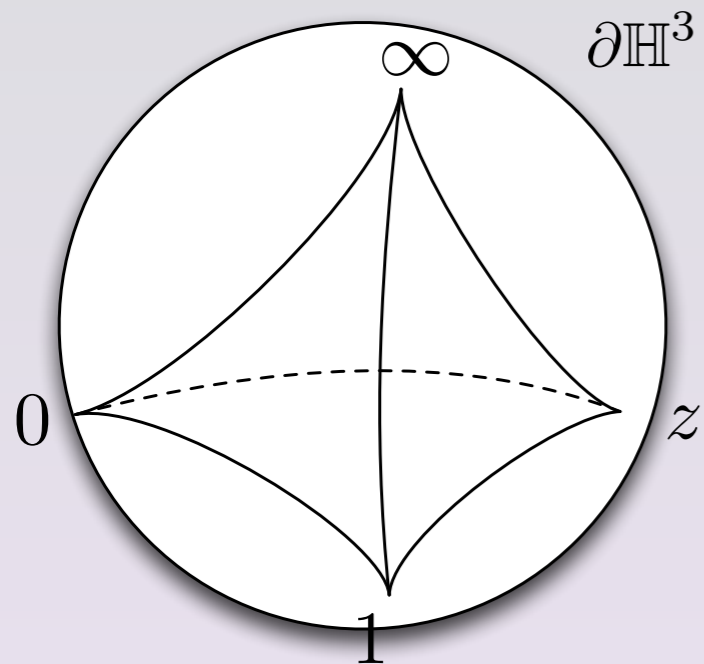
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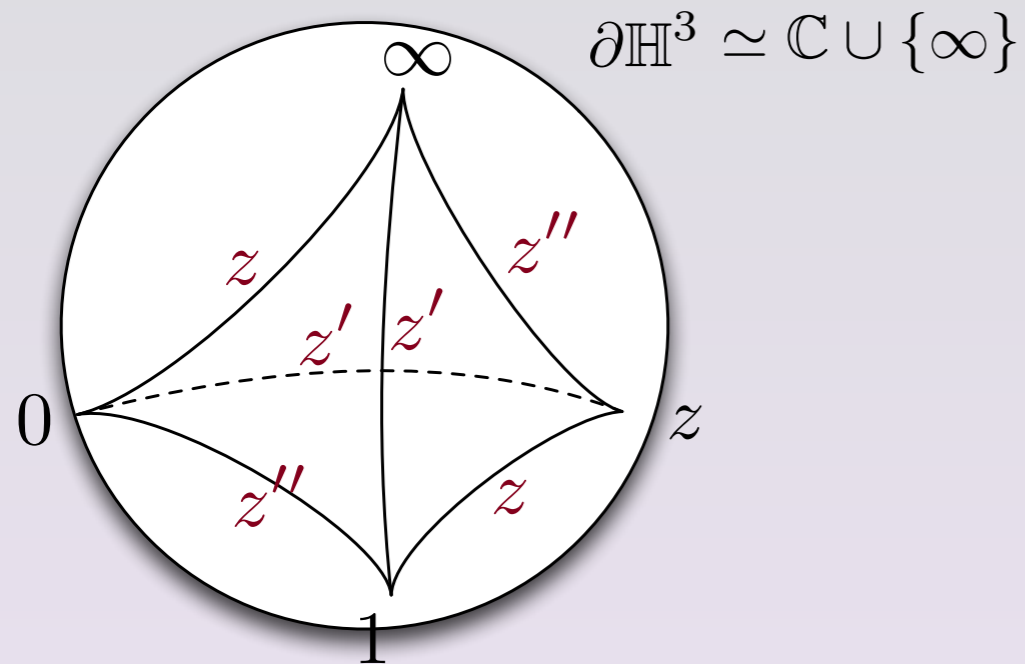


$$\partial\mathbb{H}^3 \simeq \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$$

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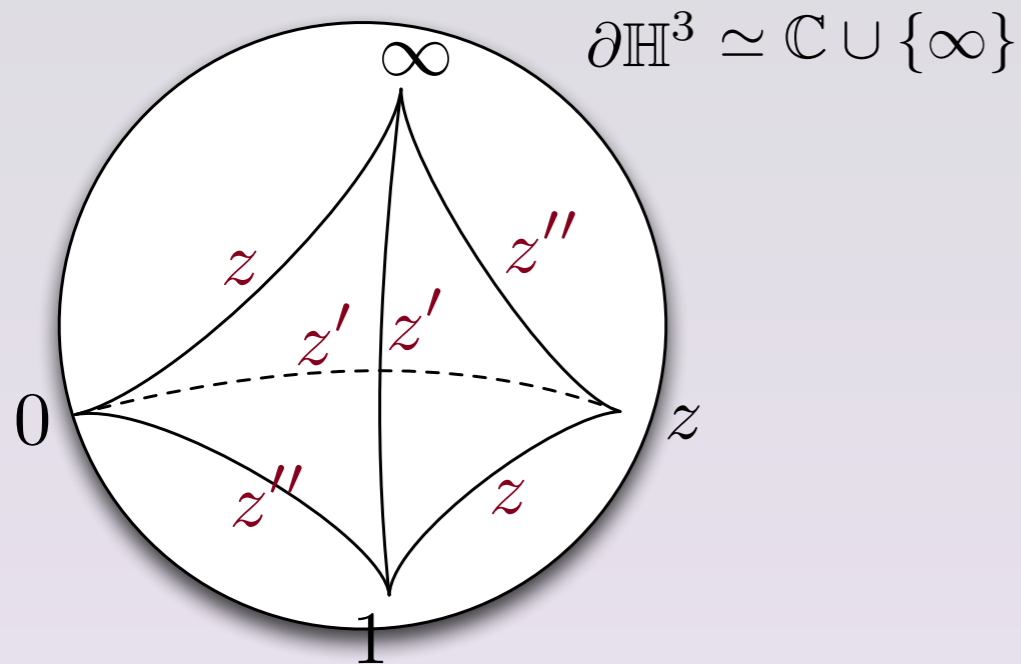


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- the hyperbolic structure is encoded in 6 complexified dihedral angles

$$z = e^{(\text{torsion}) + i(\text{angle})}$$

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- vertices at on the bdy of \mathbb{H}^3
- faces are geodesic surfaces
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$$z = e^{(\text{torsion}) + i(\text{angle})}$$

equal on opposite edges,
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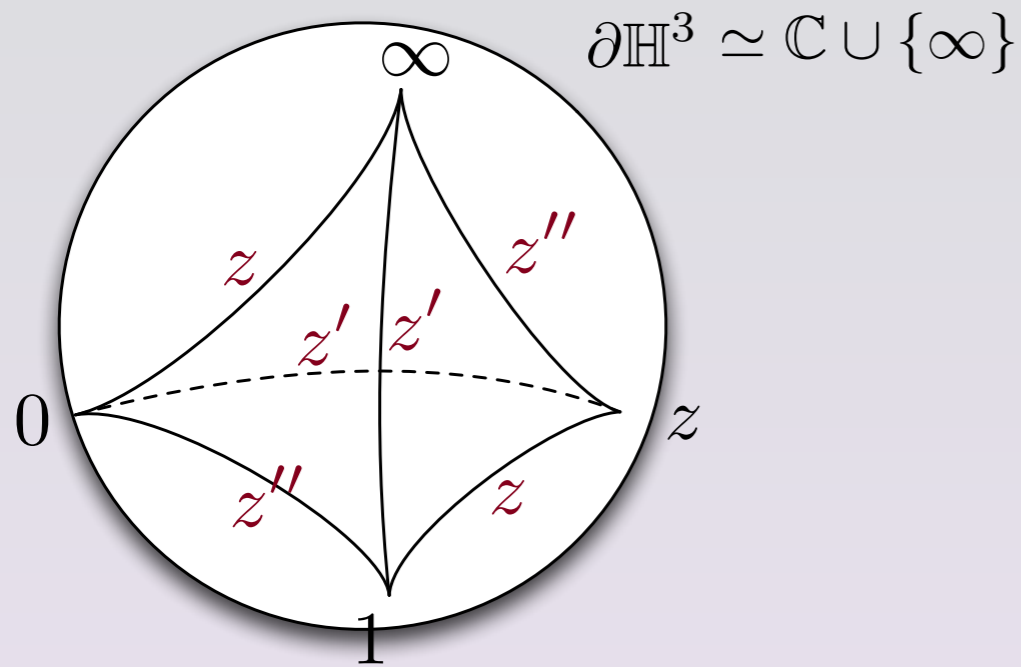
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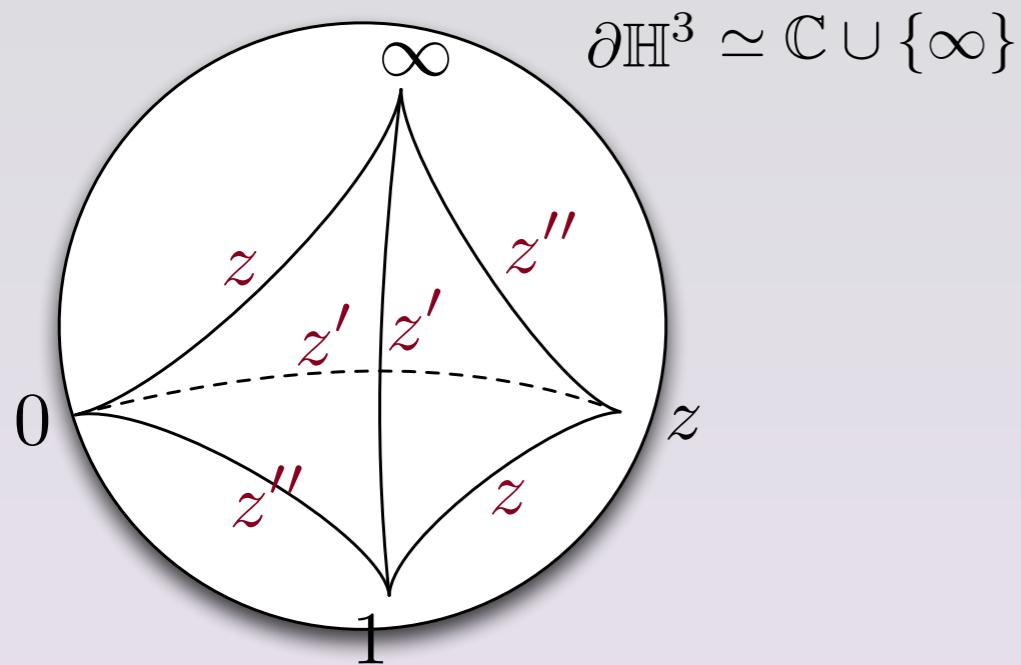
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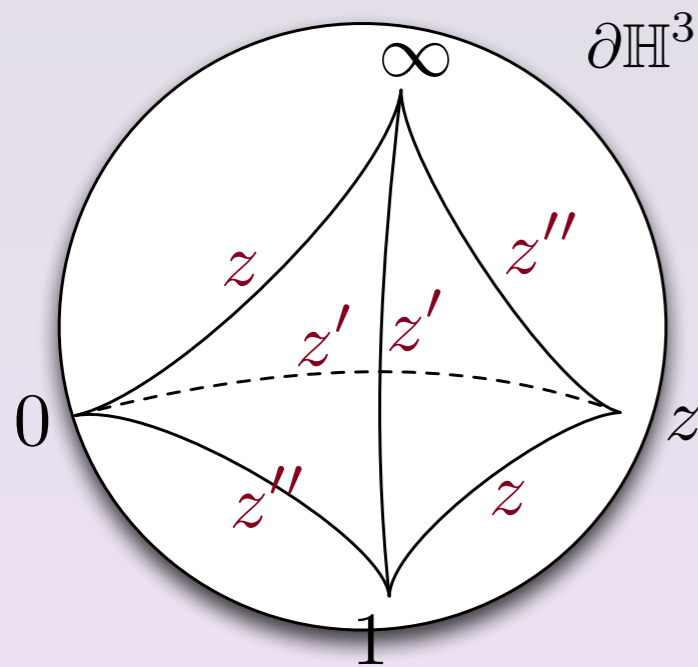
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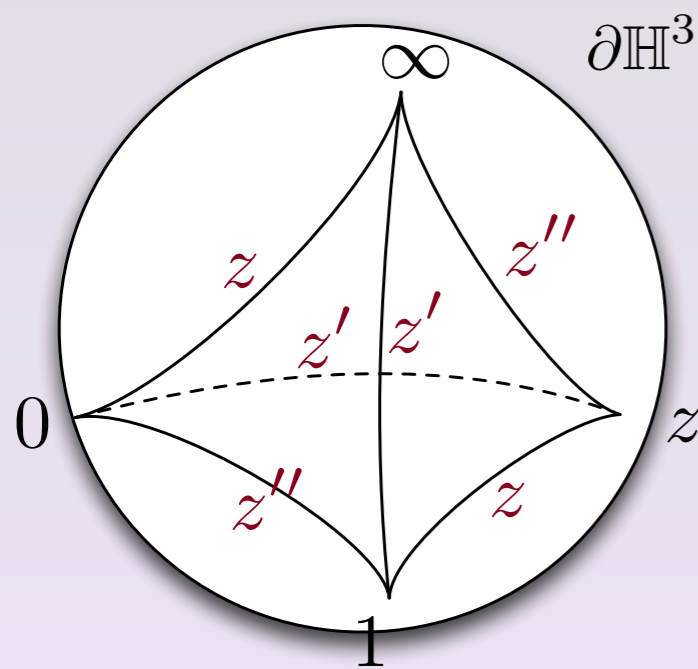
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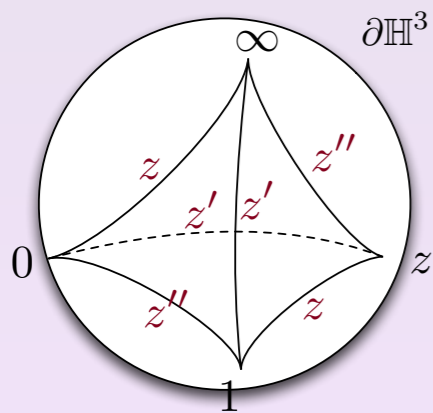
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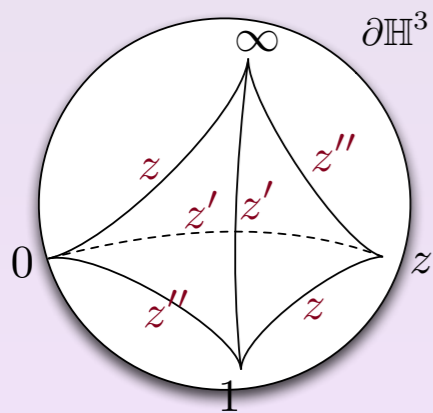
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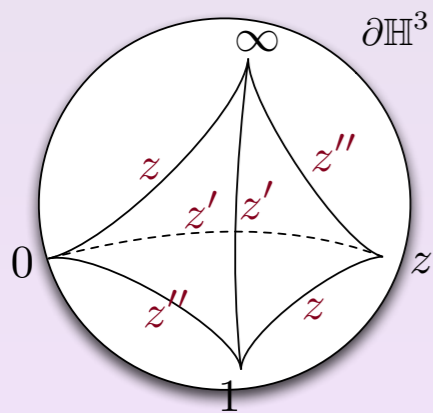
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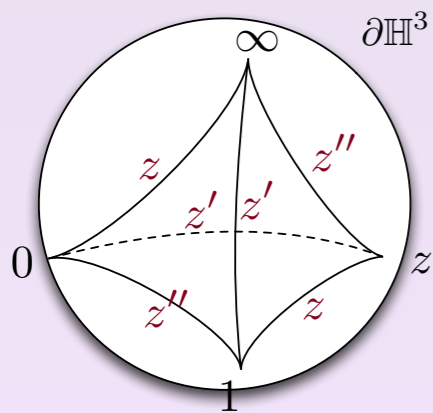
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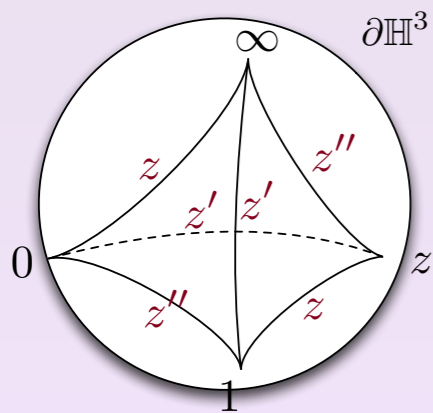
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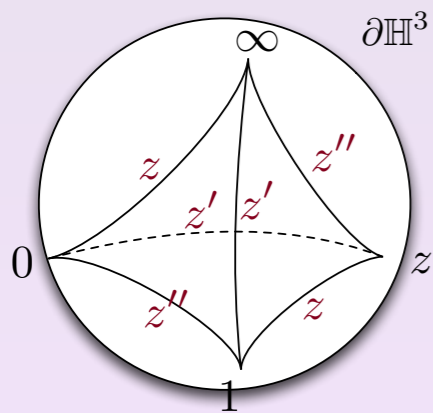
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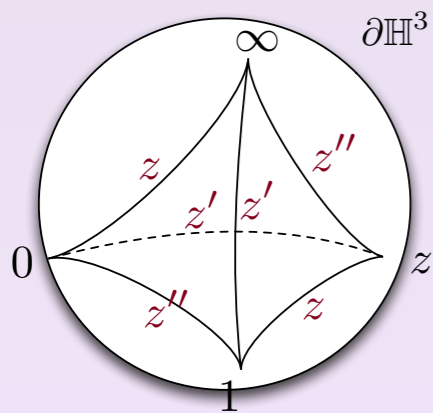
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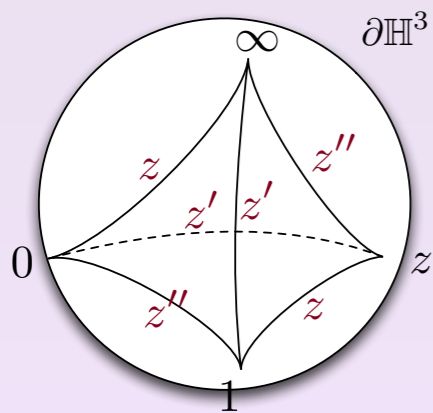
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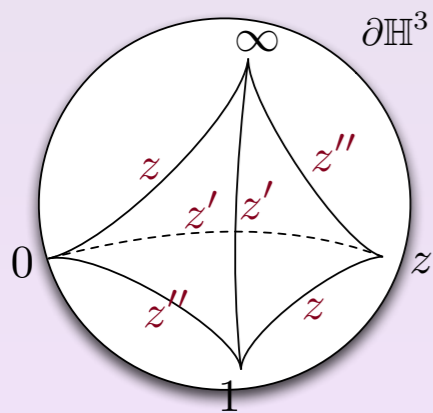
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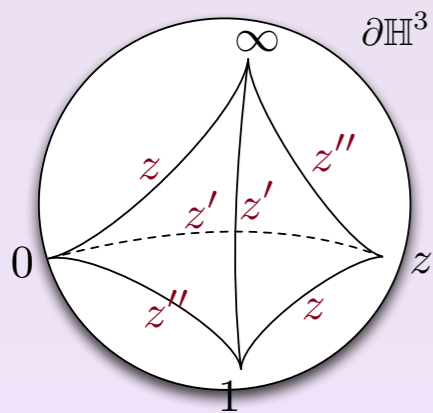
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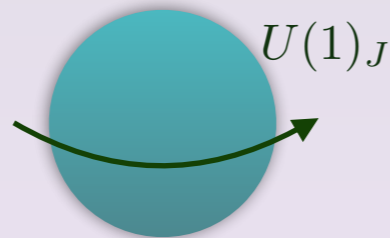
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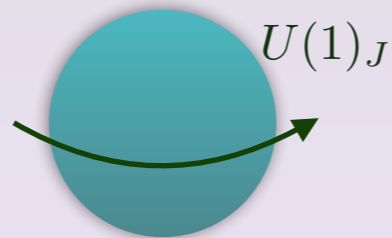
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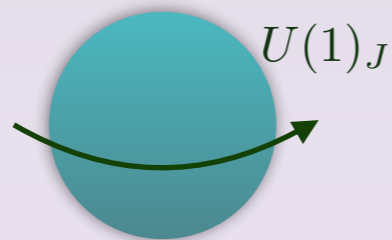
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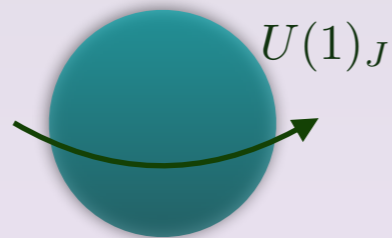
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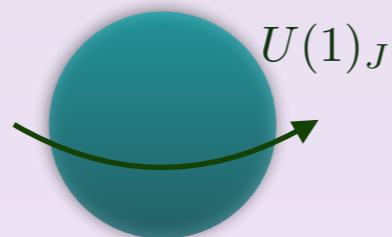
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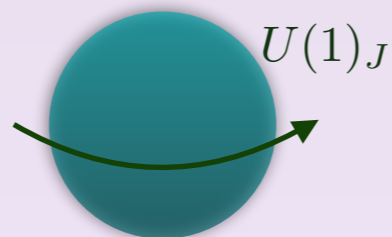
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preserves $m, e, J + R/2$; $R \rightarrow R + 1$

The correspondence is effective

$T[\Delta]$ = single free chiral superfield

E.g.

$$\mathcal{Z}_{T[\Delta]}[S^2 \times S^1] = \prod_{r=0}^{\infty} \frac{1 - q^{1 - \frac{m}{2}} \zeta^{-1}}{1 - q^{-\frac{m}{2}} \zeta}$$

modes of ψ

modes of ϕ

$$= \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}(S^2; m)} (-1)^R q^{J + \frac{R}{2}} \zeta^e \quad (\text{definition!})$$

or $H^\bullet[\mathcal{H}(S^2; m), Q]$

Categorical/homological invariant: $H^\bullet[\mathcal{H}(S^2), Q]$ itself

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That categorifies the volume of a hyperbolic tetrahedron.

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In general, *glue*

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What's in it for physics?

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Two examples:

1. A geometric interpretation (and prediction) of dualities in 3d SUSY theories

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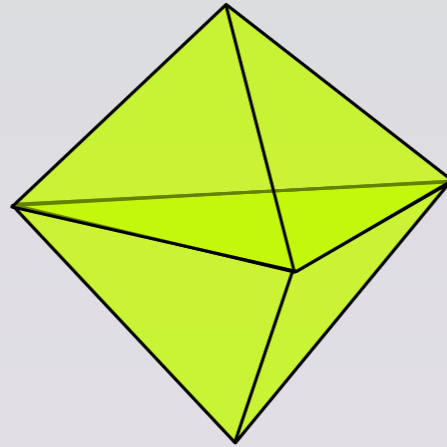
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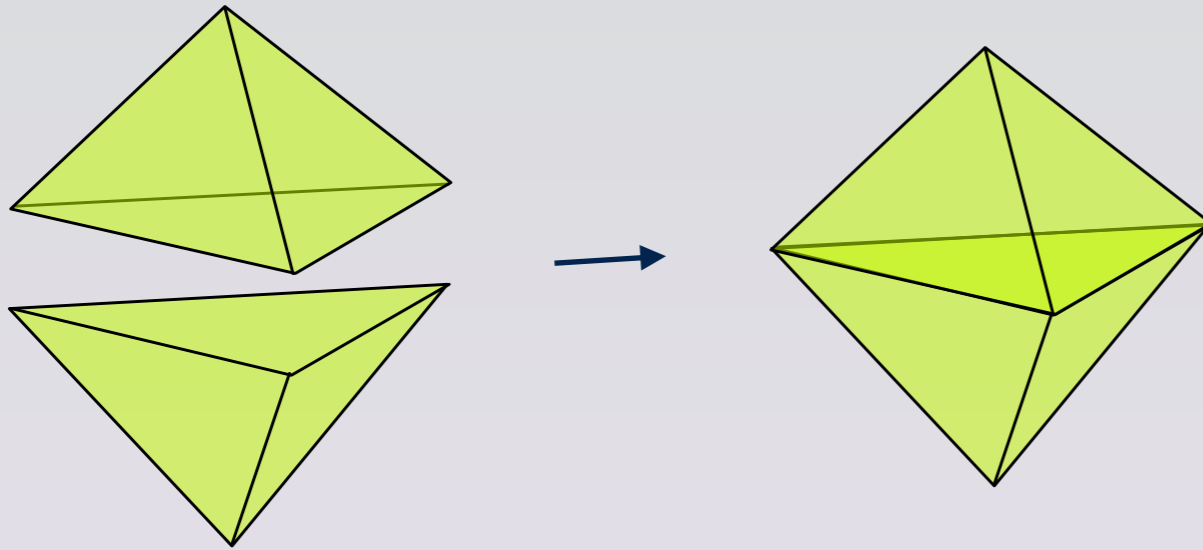
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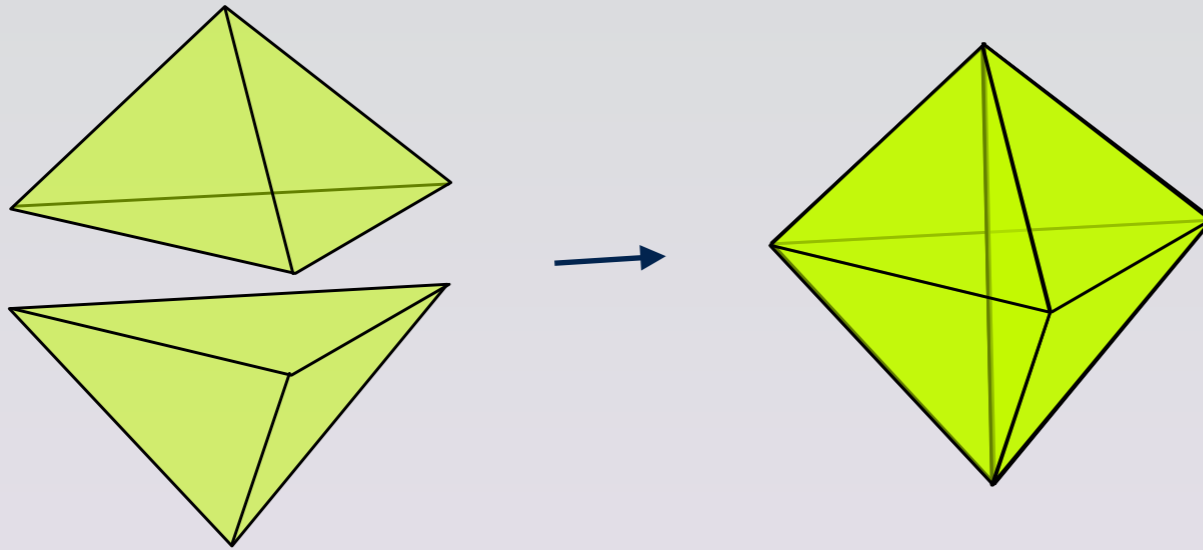
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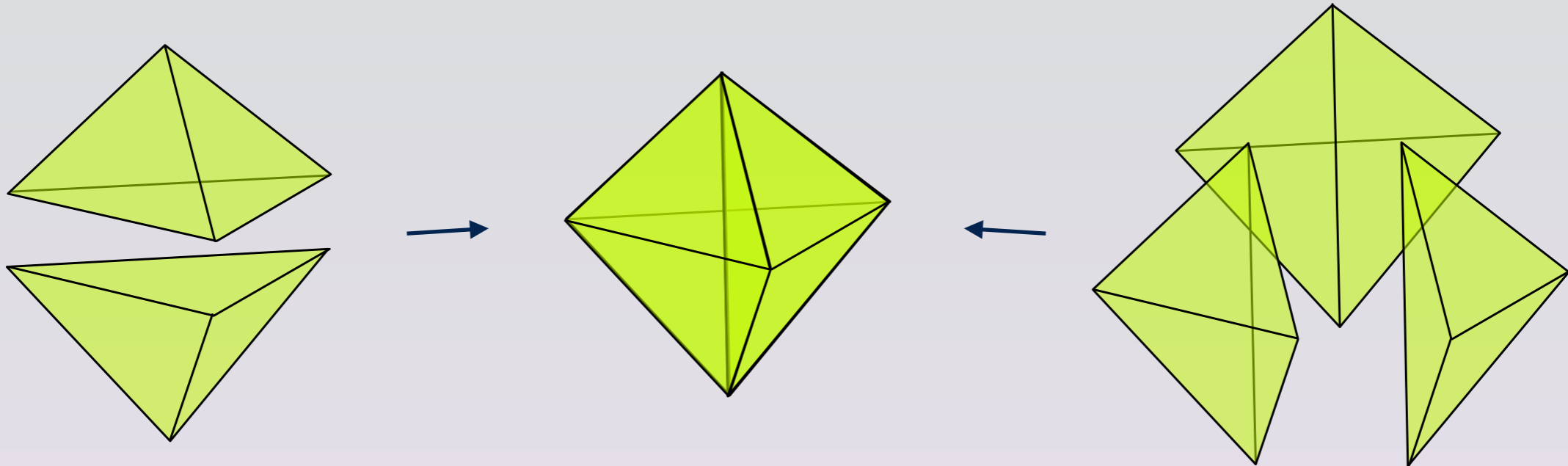
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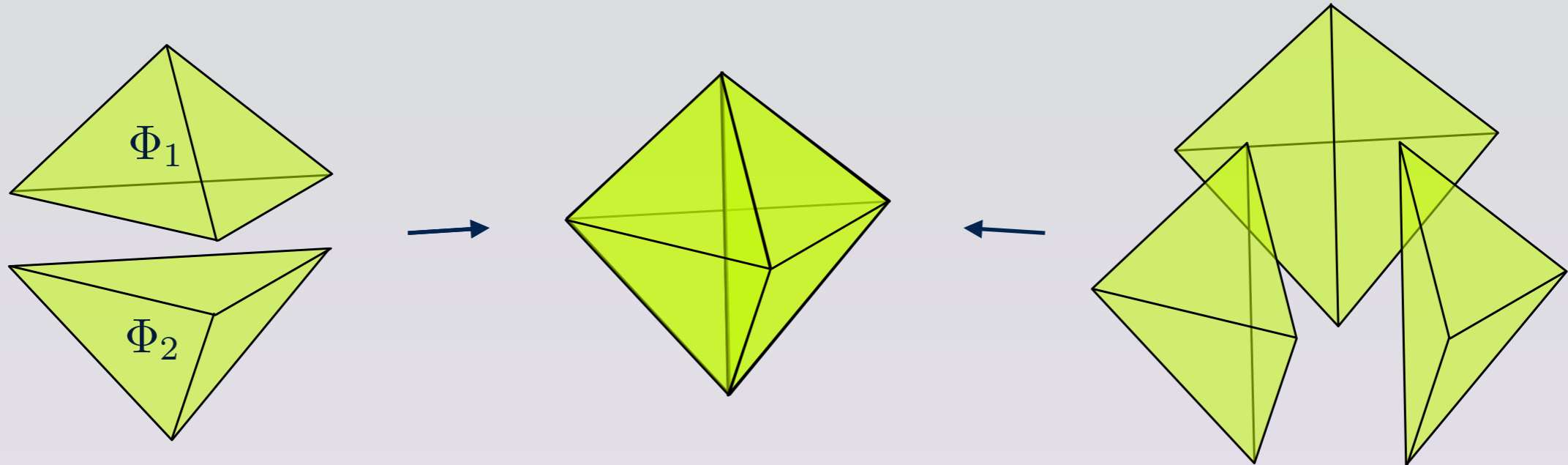
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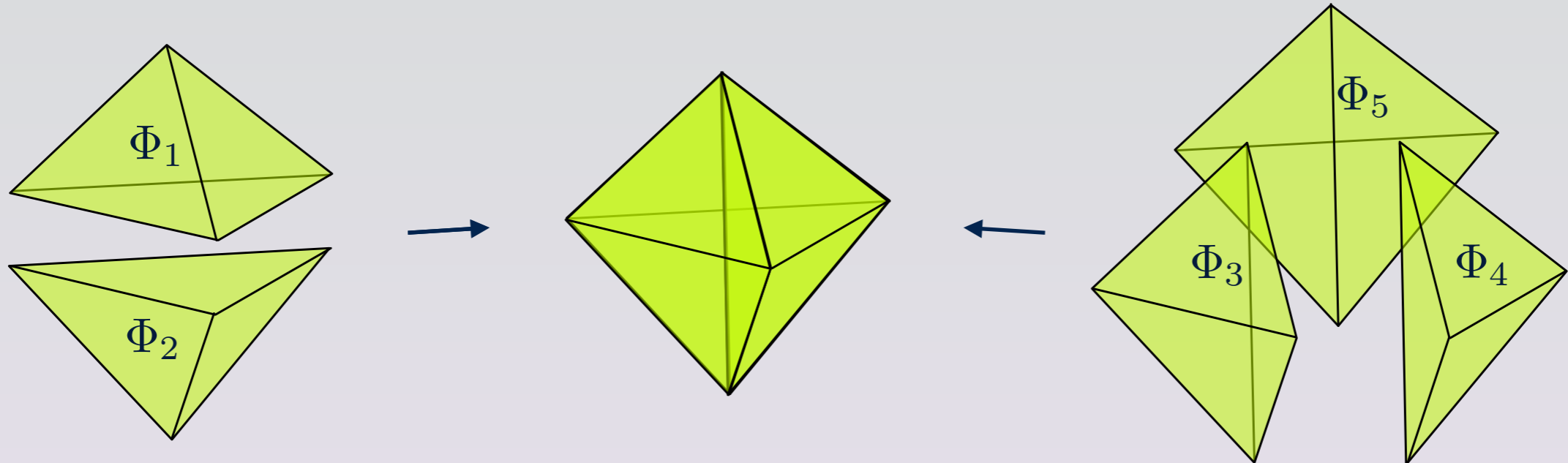
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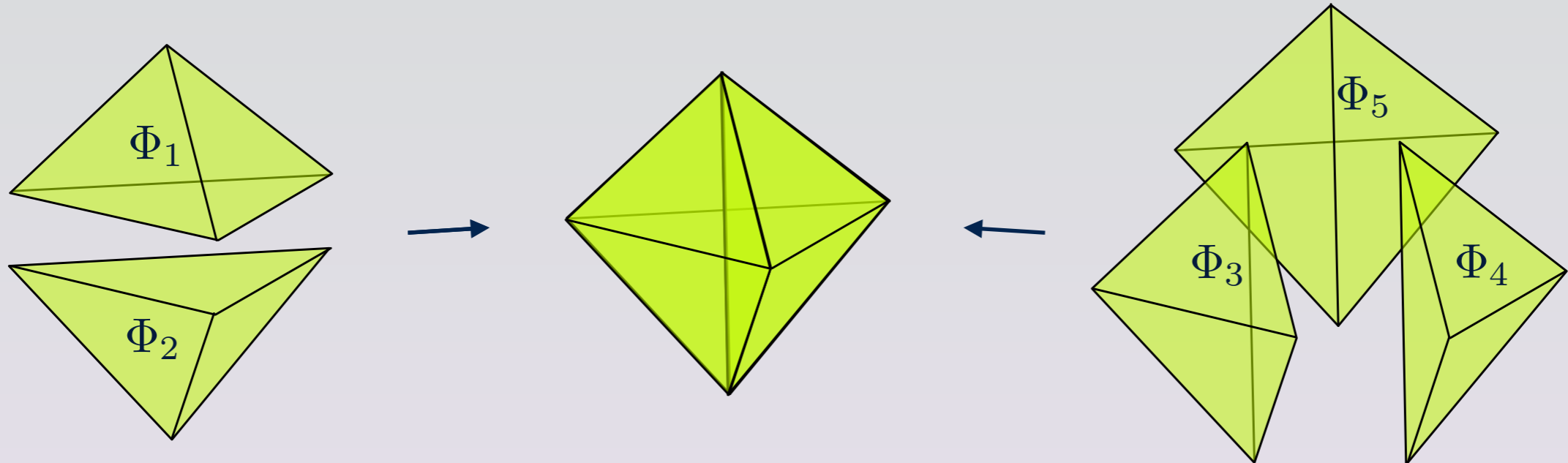
$T[M] =$ “XYZ model”

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cubic superpotential $W = \Phi_1\Phi_2\Phi_3$

i.e. $\mathcal{L} = \dots + \psi_1\psi_2\phi_3 + |\phi_1\phi_2|^2 + \dots$

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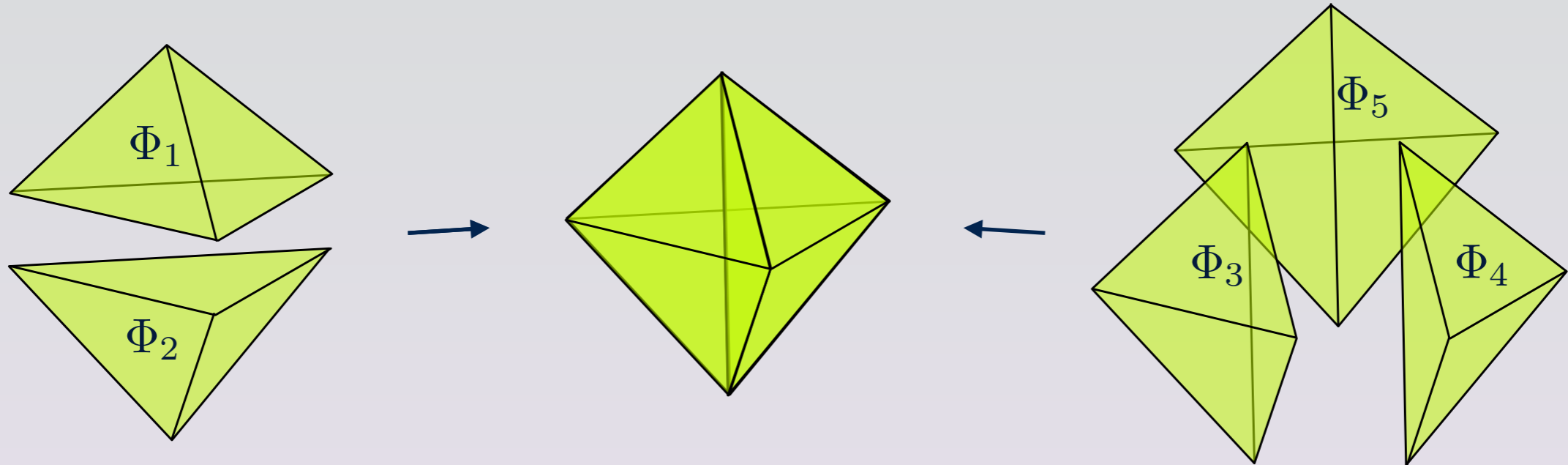
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2. 3d N=2 theories on interfaces in 4d
get labelled by 3-manifolds, and gain systematic constructions

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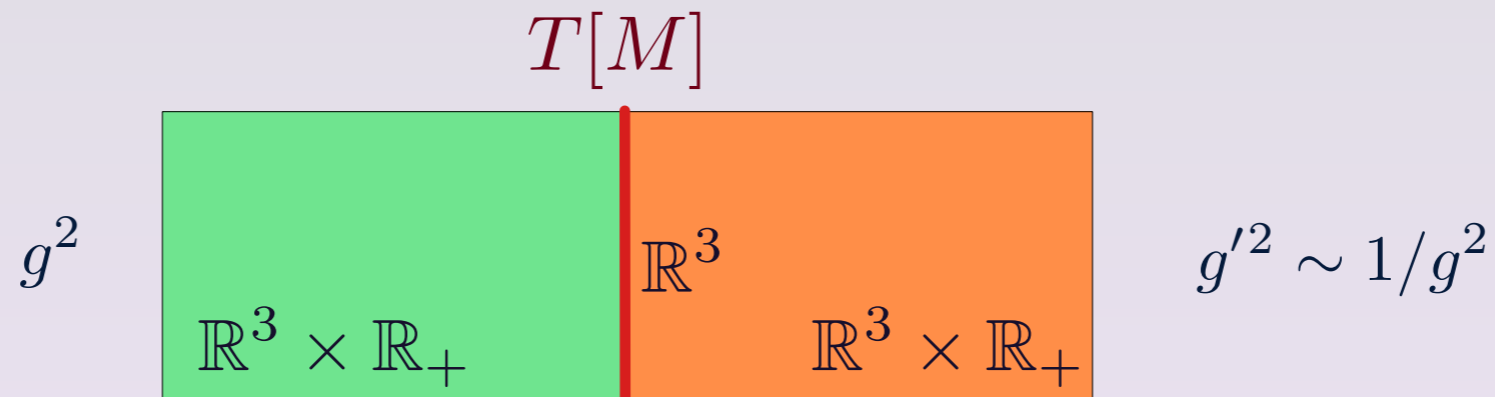
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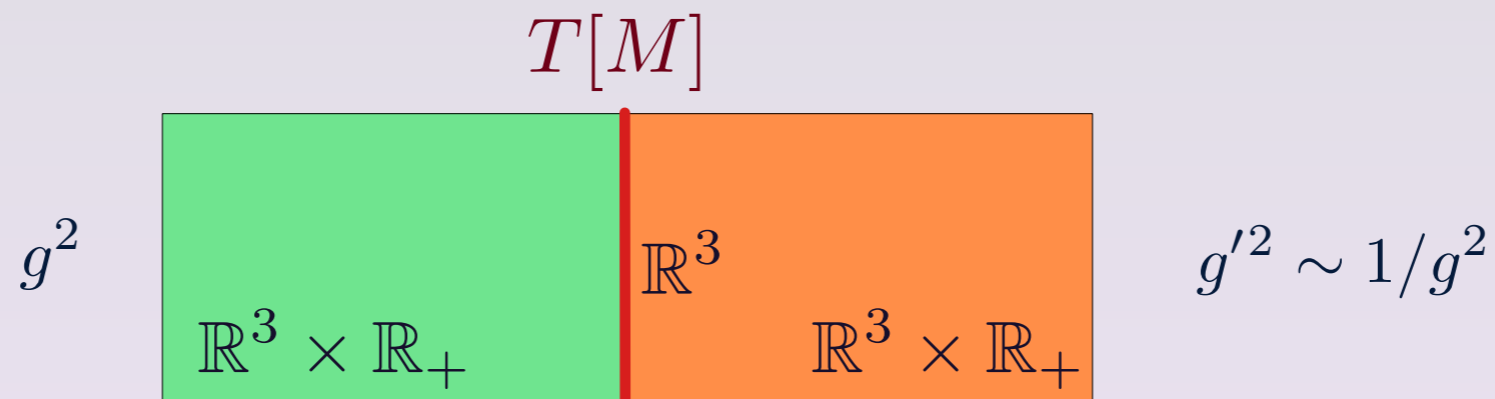


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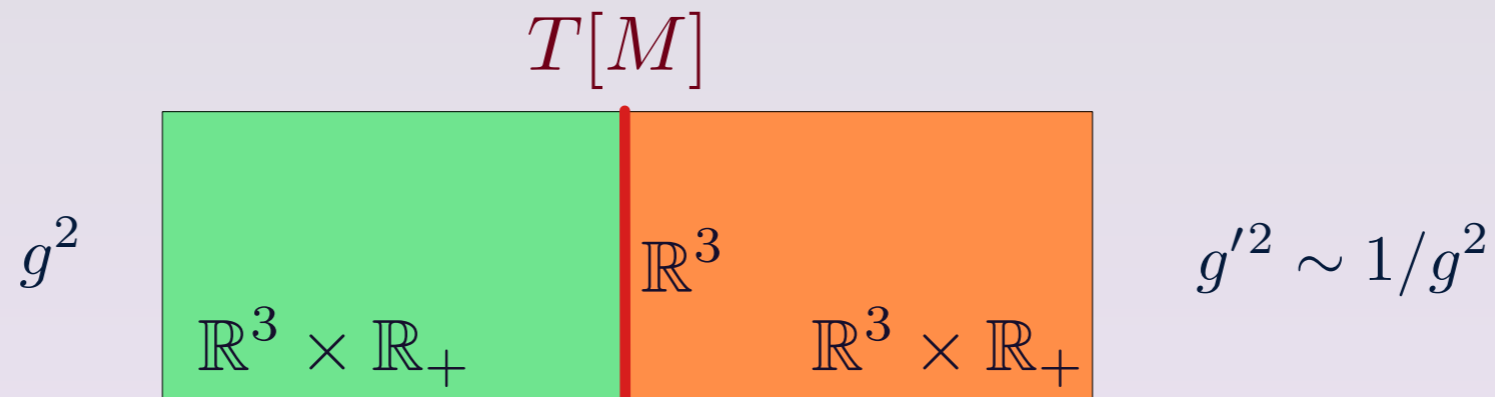


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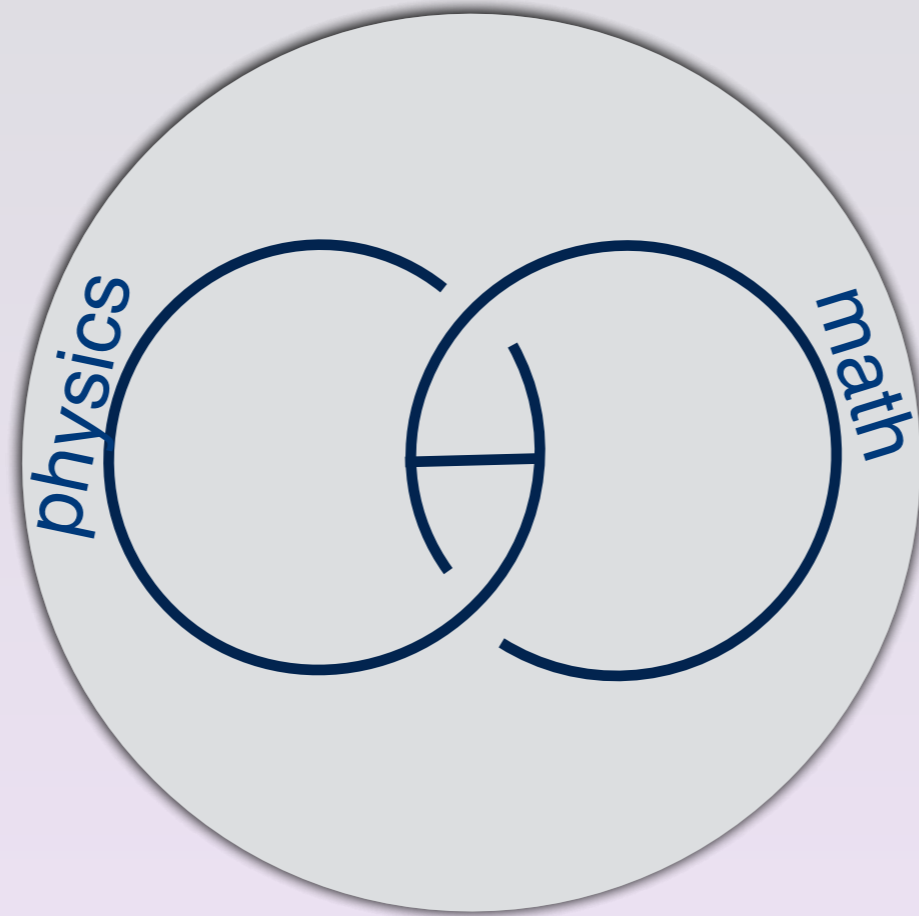
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- moduli spaces
- partition functions
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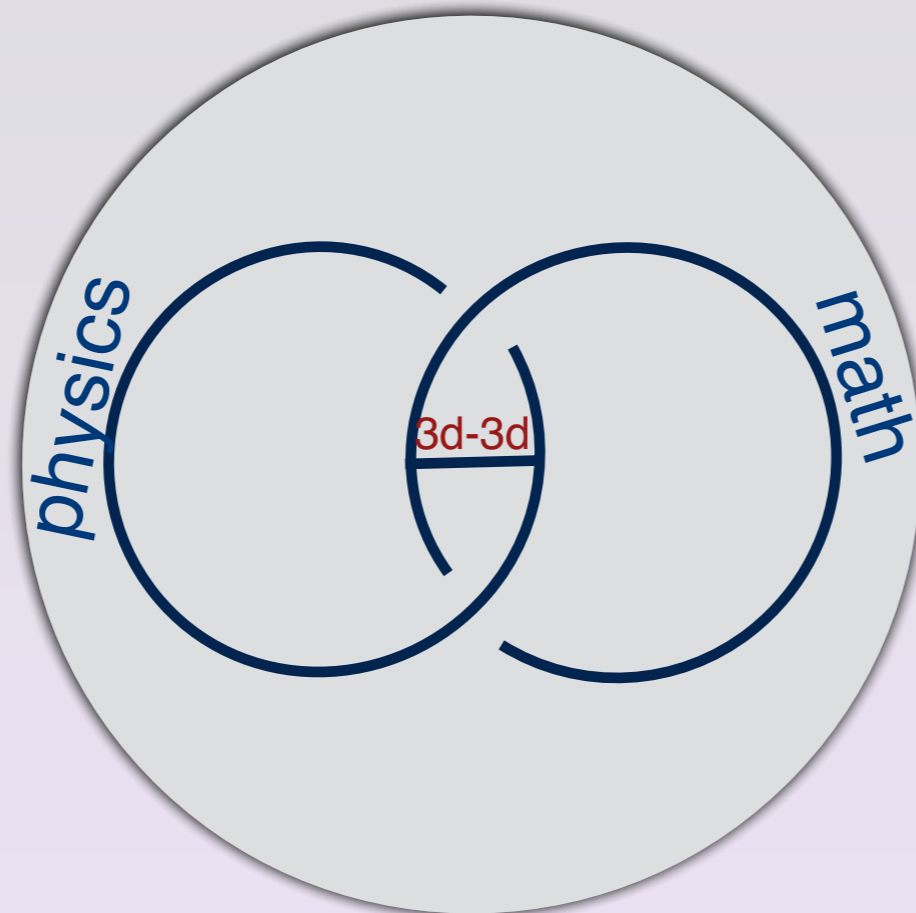


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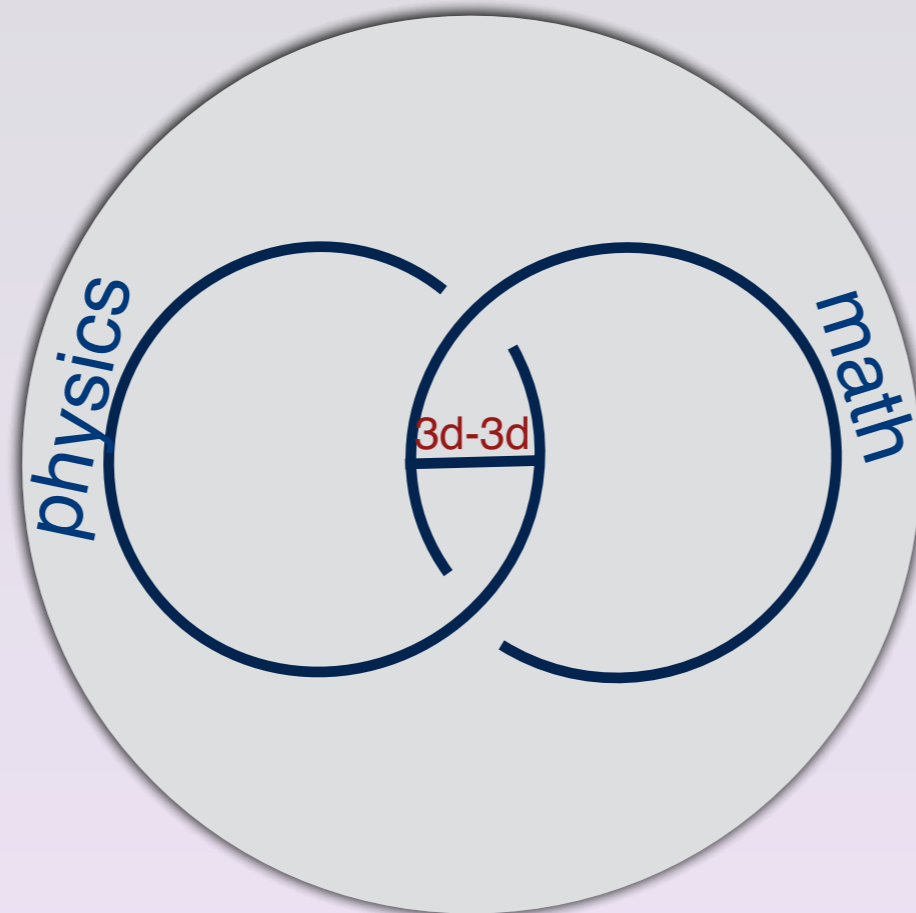
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I hope this type of work will find a place here at Davis.

