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Lectures on Supersymmetric Gauge Theories

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I. Dynamics of Susy Gauge Theories

II. Nonabelian Superconductors and Confinement

III. Recent developments

Lectures on Supersymmetric Gauge Theories I:

Introduction: a Review

- Symmetries and anomalies
- Nonrenormalization theorem
- NSVZ β functions
- Instantons and anomalies
- Seiberg's duality
- Gluini condensate
- Phases of SQCD

Why Supersymmetry?

- $H = Q^\dagger Q$,

$$Q : \quad |Boson\rangle \leftrightarrow |Fermion\rangle$$
$$\langle H \rangle \geq 0, \quad \rightarrow \quad \Lambda_{Cosm} \ll \Lambda_{QCD}$$

- **Hierarchy (naturalness) problem in the standard model**

$$M_{Higgs}, M_W \ll M_{Planck} \sim 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$$

- **Susy GUTs: coupling constant unification at $\mu \sim 10^{16}$ GeV? MSSM \rightarrow LHC (≥ 2007)**
- **Deep results on details of nonperturbative dynamics**
- **Haag-Lopuszhanski-Sohnius: Susy algebra is the only possible nontrivial generalization involving Poincaré and internal symmetry algebra. (cfr. Coleman-Mandula)**
- **“A truly beautiful idea never really dies... ” (Y. Nambu)**

Susy gauge theories

- Susy algebra

$$\{Q_\alpha, \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}\} = 2\sigma_{\alpha,\dot{\alpha}}^\mu P_\mu,$$

- Superfields

$$F(x, \theta, \bar{\theta}) = f(x) + \theta\psi(x) + \dots$$

$$Q_\alpha = \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta^\alpha} - i\sigma_{\alpha,\dot{\alpha}}^\mu \bar{\theta}^{\dot{\alpha}} \partial_\mu, \quad \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial\bar{\theta}^{\dot{\alpha}}} - i\theta^\alpha \sigma_{\alpha,\dot{\alpha}}^\mu \partial_\mu,$$

- Chiral superfields: $\bar{D}\Phi = 0$ ($D\Phi^\dagger = 0$)

$$\Phi(x, \theta, \bar{\theta}) = \phi(y) + \sqrt{2}\theta\psi(y) + \theta\theta F(y), \quad y = x + i\theta\sigma\bar{\theta}$$

$$D_\alpha = \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta^\alpha} + i\sigma_{\alpha,\dot{\alpha}}^\mu \bar{\theta}^{\dot{\alpha}} \partial_\mu, \quad \bar{D}_{\dot{\alpha}} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial\bar{\theta}^{\dot{\alpha}}} - i\theta^\alpha \sigma_{\alpha,\dot{\alpha}}^\mu \partial_\mu,$$

- Vector superfields $V^\dagger = V$,

$$W_\alpha = -\frac{1}{4}\bar{D}^2 e^{-V} D_\alpha e^V = -i\lambda + \frac{i}{2}(\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu)_\alpha^\beta F_{\mu\nu} \theta_\beta + \dots$$

- **Supersymmetry transformation of fields:**

Chiral superfields

$$[Q_\alpha, \phi] = \sqrt{2}\psi_\alpha; \quad \{Q_\alpha, \psi_\beta\} = \sqrt{2}F; \quad [Q_\alpha, F] = 0,$$

$$[\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}, \phi] = 0; \quad \{\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}, \psi_\beta\} = i\sqrt{2}\sigma_{\beta\dot{\alpha}}^\mu \mathcal{D}_\mu A; \quad [\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}, F] = i\sqrt{2}(\bar{\sigma}^\mu)^{\dot{\alpha}\beta} \mathcal{D}_\mu \psi_\beta,$$

In particular, $\bar{D}\Phi = 0 \Rightarrow [\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}, \phi] = 0$: ϕ is a “chiral field”;

Vector superfields

$$[Q^\alpha, A_\mu^a] = -i\sqrt{2}\bar{\lambda}^a \bar{\sigma}^\mu; \quad \{Q^\alpha, \lambda^a\} = \sigma^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}^a + iD^a; \quad [Q^\alpha, D^a] = -\sigma^\mu \mathcal{D}_\mu \bar{\lambda}^a;$$

$$[\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}, A_\mu^a] = -i\sqrt{2}\bar{\sigma}^\mu \lambda^a; \quad \{\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}, \lambda^a\} = 0; \quad [Q^\alpha, D^a] = -\mathcal{D}_\mu \lambda^a \sigma^\mu;$$

- **Lagrangian** ($\int d\theta_1 \theta_1 = 1$, etc)

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{8\pi} \text{Im} \tau_{cl} \left[\int d^4\theta \Phi^\dagger e^V \Phi + \int d^2\theta \frac{1}{2} WW \right] + \int d^2\theta \mathcal{W}(\Phi) \quad (1)$$

- $\mathcal{W}(\Phi) =$ **superpotential**;

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$$\tau_{cl} = \frac{\theta}{2\pi} + \frac{4\pi i}{g^2}$$

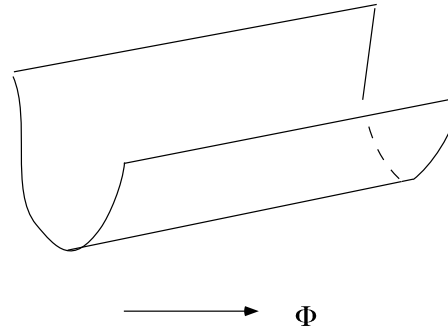
- **Scalar potential**

$$V_{sc} = \sum_{mat} \left| \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}}{\partial \phi} \right|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_a \left| \sum_{mat} \phi^* t^a \phi \right|^2$$

- **For SQCD**, $\{\Phi\} \rightarrow Q \sim \underline{N}$, $\tilde{Q} \sim \underline{N}^*$ **of** $SU(N)$

$$G_F = SU(n_f) \times SU(n_f) \times U_V(1) \times U_A(1) \times U_\lambda(1)$$

- Flat directions (CMS)



e.g., for $n_f < n_c$,

$$Q = \tilde{Q}^\dagger = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & & \\ 0 & \dots & & a_{n_f} \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & & & \dots \end{pmatrix}$$

Q:

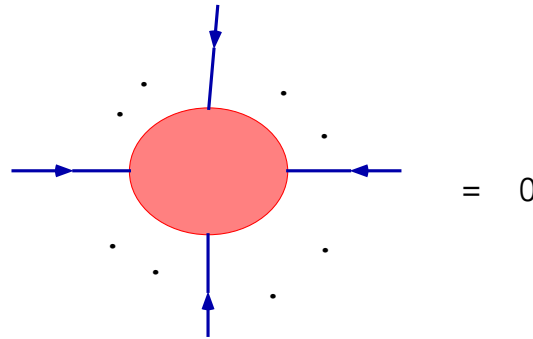
Superpotential generated? CMS modified? Symmetry breaking?

Nonrenormalization theorem

$$\mathcal{L} = \int d^2\theta d^2\bar{\theta} (\bar{\Phi}\Phi + \frac{1}{2}\Phi^2\delta^2(\bar{\theta}) + h.c.)$$

- Perturbative N.R. theorem

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle T\Phi(x, \theta, \bar{\theta})\Phi(x', \theta', \bar{\theta}') \rangle \\ &= -m \delta^2(\theta - \theta') e^{-i(\theta\sigma^\mu\bar{\theta} - \theta'\sigma^\mu\bar{\theta}')\partial_\mu} \Delta_c(x - x') \end{aligned}$$



Only D terms $\propto \int d^2\theta d^2\bar{\theta} (\dots)$ generated. No F terms

- If \exists exact **non-anomalous symmetry** $G \rightarrow$ No terms violating G generated;

- **Perturbative anomaly** (West, Grisaru, et. al., SVZ)

$$\Delta L = \int d^2\theta d^2\bar{\theta} \Phi^2 \frac{D^2}{\square} \Phi \sim \int d^2\theta \Phi^3$$

However, no such nonlocal term simulating F -term, in S_W

- Terms protected only by anomalous (e.g. $U_A(1)$) symmetries **can be generated by instantons**
- **Generalized non-renormalization theorem** (SVZ):

The gauge kinetic term

$$\int d^2\theta W_\alpha W^\alpha = \int d^2\theta d^2\bar{\theta} [(e^{-V} D_\alpha e^V) W^\alpha]$$

can be generated by 1 loop corrections - **only**.

→ **NSVZ exact β functions**:

- E.g. $SU(N)$ SQCD:

$$L = \frac{1}{4} \int d^2\theta \left(\frac{1}{g^2(M)} + \frac{b_0}{8\pi^2} \log \frac{M}{\mu} \right) W^a W^a + h.c. + \int d^4\theta \sum_i Z_i(\mu, M) \Phi_i^\dagger e^{2V_i} \Phi_i,$$

$$b_0 = -3N_c + \sum_i T_{Fi}; \quad T_{Fi} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (\text{quarks}).$$

- Renormalize the fields $\Phi_i \rightarrow Z_i^{-1/2} \Phi_i = e^{-\frac{1}{2} \log Z_i} \Phi_i$ ($\bar{D}(-\frac{1}{2} \log Z_i) = 0$) \Rightarrow Anomaly $\propto \frac{1}{16\pi^2} (-\frac{1}{2} \log Z_i(\mu, M)) WW$

•

$$\frac{1}{g^2(\mu)} = \frac{1}{g^2(M)} + \frac{b_0}{8\pi^2} \log \frac{M}{\mu} - \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \log Z_i(\mu, M)$$

$$\beta_h(g) \equiv \mu \frac{d}{d\mu} g = -\frac{g^3}{16\pi^2} \left(3N_c - \sum_i T_{Fi}(1 - \gamma_i(g)) \right),$$

where $\gamma_i(g(\mu)) = -\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \log Z_i(\mu, M)|_{M, g(M)}$

- Actually by recaling $A_\mu = g_c A_{c\mu}$, $\lambda = g_c \lambda_c$,

$$\frac{1}{g^2} = \frac{1}{g_c^2} + \frac{N_c}{8\pi^2} \log g_c^2, \quad \beta(g_c) = -\frac{g_c^3}{16\pi^2} \frac{3N_c - \sum_i T_{Fi}(1 - \gamma_i(g_c))}{1 - N_c g_c^2 / 8\pi^2}.$$

- $\gamma(g) = -\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2} \frac{N_c^2 - 1}{N_c} + O(g^4)$
- Zero of the beta function at g^* where

$$\gamma(g^*) = -\frac{3N_c - N_f}{N_f}$$

Susy Identities

- **Susy transf. of $\Phi(x, \theta, \bar{\theta}) = \phi(y) + \sqrt{2}\theta\psi + \theta\theta F(y)$:**

$$[\bar{Q}^{\dot{\alpha}}, \phi] = 0, \quad \{\bar{Q}^{\dot{\alpha}}, \psi_{\alpha}\} = -\sqrt{2}\bar{\sigma}^{\mu} \partial_{\mu} \phi,$$

$$G = \langle T \phi_1(x_1) \phi_2(x_2) \dots \phi_k(x_k) \rangle$$

$$\bar{\sigma}^{\mu} \partial_{\mu}^{x_1} G = \langle T[\bar{Q}^{\dot{\alpha}}, (\psi_1(x_1) \phi_2(x_2) \dots)] \rangle = 0,$$

etc. G indep. of $x_i \rightarrow = \prod_i \langle \phi_i \rangle$

- **Analytic dep. on g_i, m_i etc ($\mathcal{W}(\Phi) = m\Phi^2 + g\Phi^3 + \dots$)**

$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial m^*} = \langle T[\bar{Q}^{\dot{\alpha}}, (\bar{\Phi}^2|_{\bar{\theta}} \phi_1(x_1) \phi_2(x_2) \dots)] \rangle = 0, \quad \frac{\partial G}{\partial g_2^*} = 0$$

- Symmetries

Fields	Δ	q_V	q_λ	q_X
Q, \tilde{Q}	1	1, -1	1	$n_c - n_f$
$\psi_Q, \psi_{\tilde{Q}}$	3/2	1, -1	0	n_c
λ_α	$\frac{3}{2}$	0	1	$-n_f$
g_l	$2 - l$	$-(l + 1)$	$1 - l$	2
Λ^{2N}	$2N$	$2N$	$\frac{4N}{3}$	0

Anomalies and Instantons

- $U_A(1)$ anomaly (Steinberger, Schwinger, Adler, Bell, Jackiw)

$$\partial_\mu J_5^\mu = \frac{e^2}{16\pi^2} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \quad (\pi_0 \rightarrow 2\gamma)$$

- QCD:

$$\partial_\mu J_L^\mu = \frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a,\mu\nu}$$

$$\Delta Q_5 = 2n_f \int d^4x \frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a,\mu\nu} \neq 0!$$

Axial $U_A(1)$ broken: solution of “ $U(1)$ ” problem ($m_\eta \gg m_\pi$? Why NO $U_A(1)$ Goldstone boson); But $\frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a,\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu K^\mu$!?

- Finite energy config. classified by the Pontryagin number

$$A_\mu \sim U^{-1}(x) \partial_\mu U(x), \quad x \rightarrow \infty \quad \Pi_3(SU(2)) = \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\int d^4x \frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a,\mu\nu} = n, \quad n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

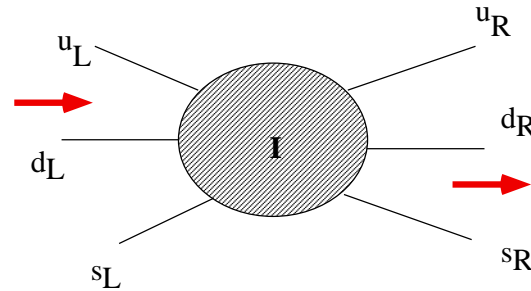
- Config with $n = 1$: instanton ⁽¹⁾

$$A_\mu = -\frac{2i}{g^2} \frac{\tau_{\mu\nu}(x - x_0)_\nu}{(x - x_0)^2 + \rho^2}, \quad \tau_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\tau_\mu \bar{\tau}_\nu - \tau_\nu \bar{\tau}_\mu}{4}$$

- Instanton effects in QCD ('t Hooft')

$$\mathcal{L}_{eff} \sim \epsilon^{i_1 \dots i_{n_f}} \epsilon_{j_1 \dots j_{n_f}} \bar{\psi}_L^{j_1}(x) \dots \bar{\psi}_L^{j_{n_f}}(x) \psi_{R,i_1}(x) \dots \psi_{R,i_{n_f}}(x)$$

$U_A(1)$ broken to Z_{2n_f} ; $SU_L(n_f) \times SU_R(n_f)$ unbroken



$$\langle \epsilon^{i_1 \dots i_{n_f}} \epsilon_{j_1 \dots j_{n_f}} \bar{\psi}_L^{j_1}(x_1) \dots \bar{\psi}_L^{j_{n_f}}(x_{n_f}) \psi_{R,i_1}(y_1) \dots \psi_{R,i_{n_f}}(y_{n_f}) \rangle \neq 0$$

¹Belavin, Polyakov, Schwarz, 't Hooft

- θ term

$$\mathcal{L} = \theta \frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a,\mu\nu}$$

renormalizable. Experimentally ($d_n < 10^{-28}$ e cm \rightarrow

$$|\theta| < 10^{-9}$$

“Strong CP Problem” (Why?)

PQ symmetry (axions); $m_u = 0$, etc

- $\Delta I = \frac{1}{2}$ problem (Why $\frac{A(K \rightarrow \pi\pi)^{\Delta I=1/2}}{A(K \rightarrow \pi\pi)^{\Delta I=3/2}} \sim 25$)

Instanton Calculation in Susy QCD

- Strong coupling (standard) instanton method

$$\langle \lambda\lambda(x_1)\lambda\lambda(x_2)\dots\lambda\lambda(x_{n_c}) \rangle = \text{const.} \Lambda^{3n_c}$$

$$L.H.S. = \text{const.} = \prod \langle \lambda\lambda \rangle = \langle \lambda\lambda \rangle^{n_c}$$

Require disentangle vac. sum (Z_{2n_c} unbroken)

- Weak coupling instanton method (svz)

(i) SQCD with massless (Q, \tilde{Q}) 's

(ii) Flat direction \rightarrow Compute instanton corrections at large $\langle Q \rangle \gg \Lambda$;

$$\Delta\mathcal{W}^{(ADS)} = (n_c - n_f) \frac{\Lambda^{(3n_c - n_f)/(n_c - n_f)}}{(\det Q\tilde{Q})^{1/(n_c - n_f)}} \quad (\#)$$

(iii) Add $\mathcal{W}_{mass} = mQ\tilde{Q} \rightarrow$ min. of the pot.

(iv) Decouple the quarks $m \rightarrow \infty$, $\Lambda_{YM}^* = m\Lambda^*$

$$\langle \lambda\lambda \rangle = \Lambda^3$$

- Numerical discrepancy (“4/5 puzzle”)
- Other methods (Compactification on $\mathbf{R}^3 \times S^1$; $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SYM and decoupling the adjoint scalar) give WCI results
- For $SU(n_c)$:

$$\langle \lambda \lambda \rangle = e^{2\pi i k / n_c} \Lambda^3, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n_c$$

- $SU(r + 1)$, $SO(2r + 1)$, $USp(2r)$, $SO(2r)$ SYM: (apart from $e^{2\pi i k / T_G}$)

$$T_G = r + 1, 2r - 1, r + 1, 2r - 2,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle \frac{\text{Tr} \lambda^2}{16\pi^2} \right\rangle_{SU(r+1)} &= \Lambda^3, & \left\langle \frac{\text{Tr} \lambda^2}{16\pi^2} \right\rangle_{SO(2r+1)} &= 2^{\frac{4}{2r-1}-1} \Lambda^3, \\ \left\langle \frac{\text{Tr} \lambda^2}{16\pi^2} \right\rangle_{USp(2r)} &= 2^{1-\frac{2}{r+1}} \Lambda^3, & \left\langle \frac{\text{Tr} \lambda^2}{16\pi^2} \right\rangle_{SO(2r)} &= 2^{\frac{2}{r-1}-1} \Lambda^3, \end{aligned}$$

$U(1)$ -Related (Konishi) Anomaly

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$$-\frac{1}{4}\bar{D}^2(Q^\dagger e^V Q) = m\tilde{Q}Q + \frac{g^2}{16\pi^2}\text{Tr}W_\alpha W^\alpha$$

Im. part of the F-component = $U_A(1)$ anomaly

- In SQCD

$$\{\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}, \bar{\psi}^{\dot{\alpha}}Q\} = m\tilde{Q}Q - \frac{g^2}{16\pi^2}\text{Tr}\lambda_\alpha\lambda^\alpha$$

- Vacuum aligned with mass perturbation

$$\langle m_i\tilde{Q}_iQ_i \rangle = \langle \frac{g^2}{16\pi^2}\text{Tr}\lambda_\alpha\lambda^\alpha \rangle \quad (\text{no sum}) \quad i = 1, \dots, n_f$$

cfr. Dashen; $\langle \bar{\psi}_i\psi_i \rangle = -\Lambda^2$ ($i = u, d, s$)

- General chiral gauge th with $\mathcal{W}(\Phi_i)$

$$-\frac{1}{4}\bar{D}^2(\Phi_i^\dagger e^V \Phi_i) = \Phi_i \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}}{\partial \Phi_i} + C(\Phi_i) \frac{g^2}{16\pi^2}\text{Tr}W_\alpha W^\alpha \quad (\S)$$

- Check of dynamical calculation (Instantons) and general argument

- **Derivation:** $\delta\Phi_i = i A(z) \Phi_i$ ($A(z)$ arbitrary) \rightarrow **Jacobian**

$$J = \det(\delta\Phi'_{z'}/\delta\Phi_z) = \det\langle z'| e^{iA(z)}(-\frac{\bar{D}^2}{4})|z\rangle = e^{\text{Tr } iA(z)=-\frac{\bar{D}^2}{4}}$$

- **Regularize the high eigenvalues by**

$$\text{Tr} [iA(z)\frac{-\bar{D}^2}{4}] \rightarrow \lim_{M \rightarrow \infty} \text{Tr} [iA(z)e^{L/M^2}(\frac{-\bar{D}^2}{4})]$$

$$L \equiv \bar{D}^2 e^{-V} D^2 e^V / 16$$

- **Acting on** $\frac{-\bar{D}^2}{4}$

$$L = P^2 - \frac{1}{2}W^\alpha D_\alpha + C^\mu P_\mu + F,$$

where

$$W^\alpha = -\frac{1}{4}(\bar{D}^2 e^{-V} D^\alpha e^V),$$

$$C^\mu = -\frac{1}{2}\sigma_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}^\mu(\bar{D}^{\dot{\alpha}} e^{-V} D^\alpha e^V),$$

$$F = (\bar{D}^2 e^{-V} D^2 e^V)/16.$$

- $M \rightarrow \infty$;

$$\int d^4p e^{-p^2/M^2} \sim M^4;$$

each power of L/M^2 from the exponent; also

$$\langle \theta\bar{\theta} | DD\bar{D}^2 | \theta\bar{\theta} \rangle \neq 0,$$

\therefore only terms quadratic in $\frac{1}{2}W^\alpha D_\alpha$ contribute \Rightarrow (§)

- **Pauli-Villars, Supergraph 1-loop calculation, Point-splitting, BPHZ, (Clark-Love, Gates-Grisaru-Rocek-Siegel, Piguet-Sibold, Konishi, Konishi-Shizuya); All these methods in Component formalism**
- **Functional-integral method particularly elegant for generalization**

Intrilligator, Leigh, Seiberg ('94)

- $\mathcal{N} = 1$ Gauge theory G with generic matter ϕ_i with

$$\mathcal{W}_{tree}(\phi_i) = \sum_r g_r X^r(\phi_i)$$

- Set $\mathcal{W}_{tree}(\phi_i) = 0$ first. \rightarrow **Flat directions** along ϕ_i . Reinterpret in terms of gauge invariant composites (as (*) for SQCD).
- Turn on g_r and Λ_s . \mathcal{W}_{eff} restricted by
 - (i) **holomorphy** (i.e. holomorphic in g_r, X_r, Λ_s .)
 - (ii) **invariance under various symmetries.** If some symmetry is broken by \mathcal{W} , it can be regarded as exact, by assigning appropriately the charges to g_r, Λ_s
 - (iii) **Asymptotics**
- In many cases these are sufficient to determine \mathcal{W}_{eff} exactly.

Phases of SQCD; Seiberg duality

- Massless SQCD

→ Superpot. (#); Vacuum runaway ($n_f < n_c$);

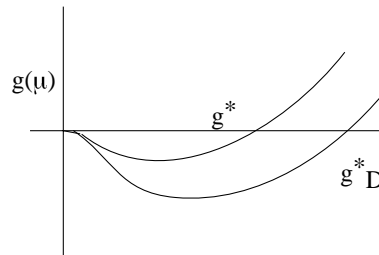
→ No generation of superpotential for $n_f > n_c$

- $n_f = n_c$:

$$(C.M.S.) \quad \det M - B \tilde{B} = 0 \quad (*)$$

$$(Q.M.S.) \quad \det M - B \tilde{B} = \Lambda^{2n_f}$$

- $\frac{3n_c}{2} < n_f < 3n_c$ (Conformal window), infrared fixed point (SCFT): described either as the original SQCD (with Q, \tilde{Q}) or as dual $SU(\tilde{n}_c) = SU(n_f - n_c)$ theory with dual quarks (q, \tilde{q}, M) (Seiberg, Kutasov, Schwimmer, ...)



N_f	Deg.Freed.	Eff. Gauge Group	Phase	Symmetry
0 (SYM)	-	-	Confinement	-
$1 \leq N_f < N_c$	-	-	no vacua	-
N_c	M, B, \tilde{B}	-	Confinement	$U(N_f)$
$N_c + 1$	M, B, \tilde{B}	-	Confinement	Unbroken
$N_c + 1 < N_f < \frac{3N_c}{2}$	q, \tilde{q}, M	$SU(\tilde{N}_c)$	Free-magnetic	Unbroken
$\frac{3N_c}{2} < N_f < 3N_c$	q, \tilde{q}, M or Q, \tilde{Q}	$SU(\tilde{N}_c)$ or $SU(N_c)$	SCFT	Unbroken
$N_f = 3N_c$	Q, \tilde{Q}	$SU(N_c)$	SCFT (finite)	Unbroken
$N_f > 3N_c$	Q, \tilde{Q}	$SU(N_c)$	Free Electric	Unbroken