

# **Steepest Descent and the g-function Mechanism in Rigorous Semiclassical Focusing NLS Asymptotics**

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joint work with

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# Semi-classical focusing Cubic Schroedinger Equation (NLS)

$$i\epsilon q_t + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon^2 q_{xx} + |q|^2 q = 0, \quad \epsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

One-parameter family of initial conditions (contains both solitons and radiation),

$$q(x, 0) = A(x)e^{iS(x)/\epsilon}$$

$$\begin{cases} A(x) = -\operatorname{sech} x, \\ S'(x) = -\mu \tanh x, S(0) = 0, \text{ parameter : } \mu \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

Goal: Asymptotic calculation of  $q(x, t, \epsilon)$ ,  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

## Results:

- Pure radiation: Global leading behavior of  $q(x, t, \epsilon)$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ ; explicit large time asymptotic behavior.
- Solitons+Radiation: Leading behavior till second break
- Both cases: Rigorous error estimate



Cai, McLaughlin, McLaughlin

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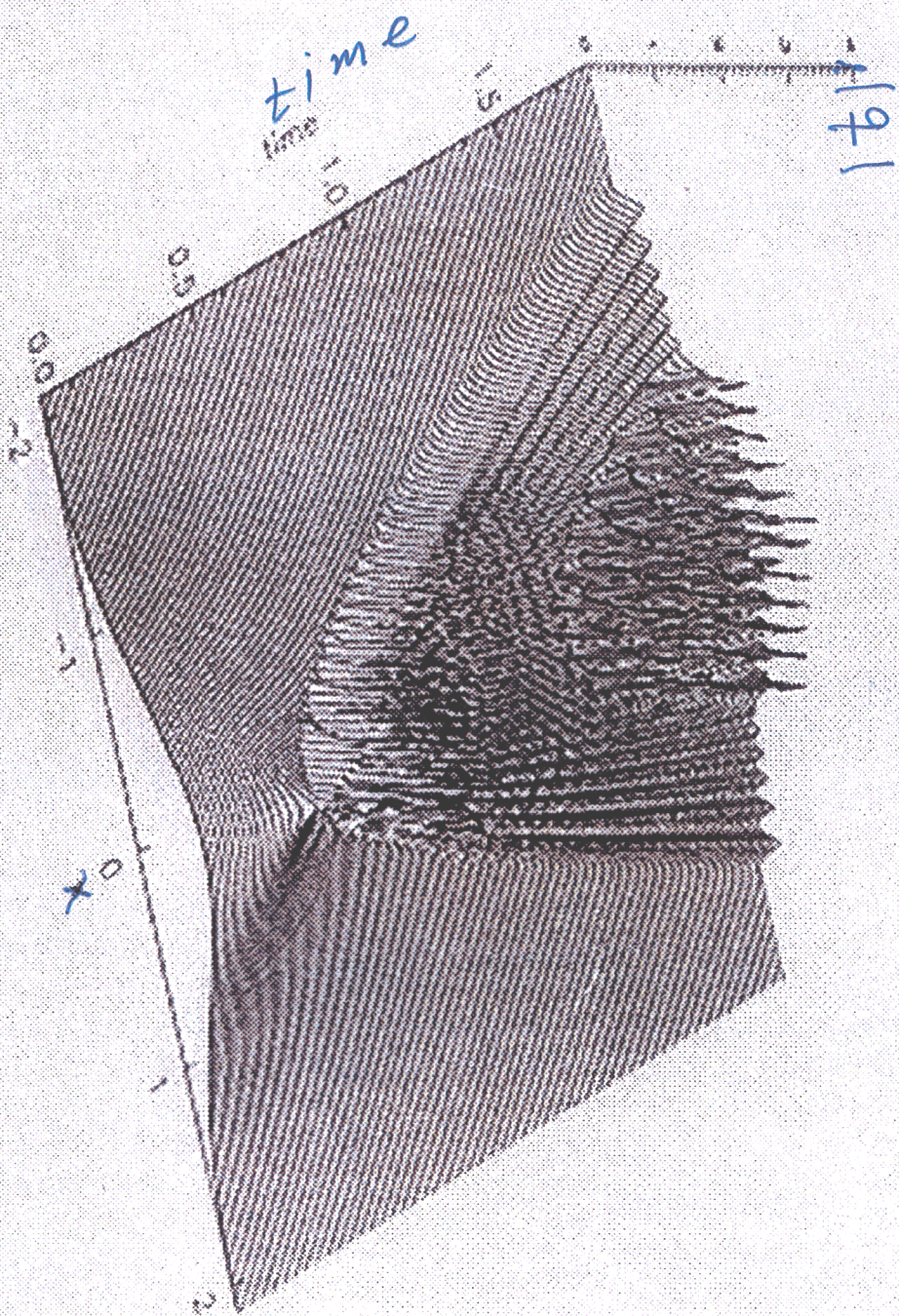


Figure 13: Semi-classical behavior: Focusing nonlinearity



# LINEAR PROBLEM ( $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ )

$$i\epsilon \frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \frac{\epsilon^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 q}{\partial x^2} = 0, \quad q(x, 0) = A(x) e^{iS(x)/\epsilon}$$

Solution by Fourier Transform

$$q(x, t) = \frac{1}{2\pi\epsilon} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A(y) e^{\frac{i}{\epsilon} [S(y) + z(x-y) - \frac{z^2}{2}t]} dy dz$$

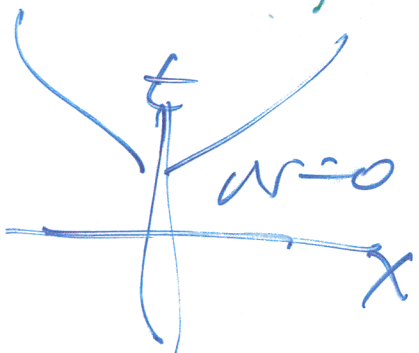
$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\varphi(y, z)}$

Stationary Phase / steepest descent

( $x, t$  : parameters)

Eikonal:

$$\nabla \varphi = 0 \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \varphi = S'(y) - z = 0 \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \varphi = x - y - zt = 0 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} z_t + z z_x = 0 \\ \text{(Burgers)} \end{array}$$



Solutions:  $(y_j(x, t), z_j(x, t))_{j=0}^{N(x, t)}$

$$q(x, t) \sim \sum_{j=0}^N c_j A(y_j) e^{\frac{i}{\epsilon} [S(y_j) - z_j(x - y_j) - \frac{1}{2} z_j^2 t]}$$

modulated exponential solution

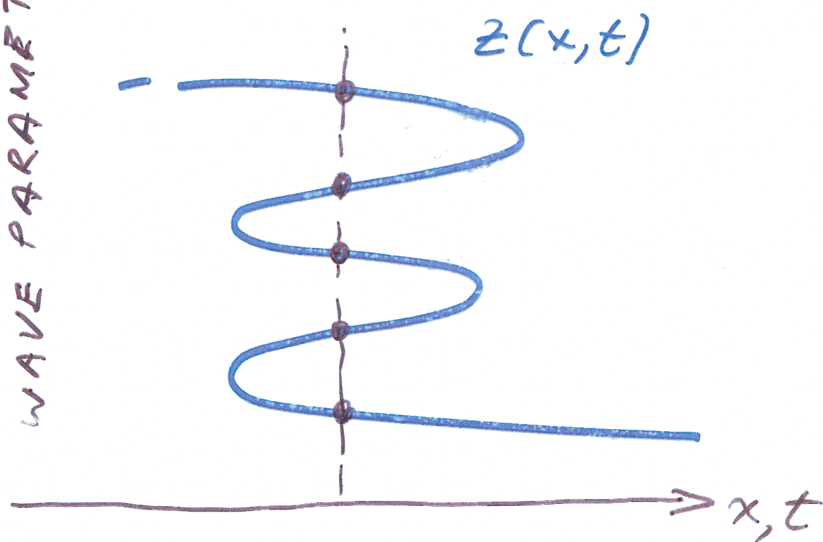
(plane wave if  $y_j, z_j$  real)

CAUSTICS :  $N(x, t) = \text{discontinuous}$



WAVE PARAMETERS

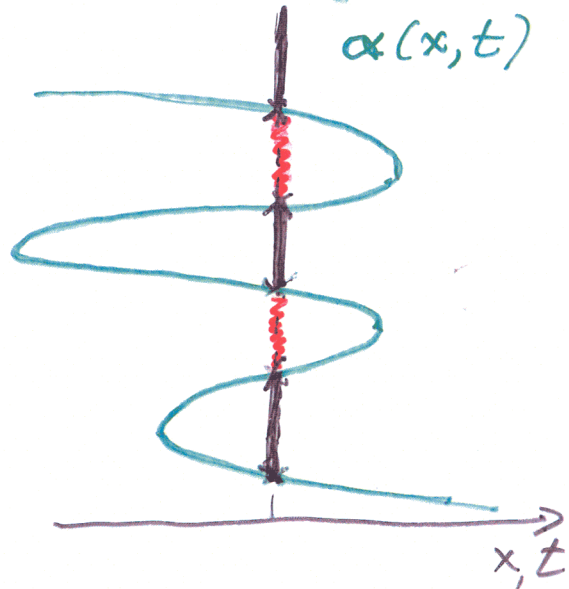
LINEAR



five linear  
wave phases

MAIN CONTRIBUTION  
TO FOURIER  
INTEGRAL  
POINTS

NONLINEAR



two nonlinear  
wave-phases

MAIN CONTRIBUTION  
TO RIEMANN  
HILBERT PROBLEM  
INTERVALS (ARCS,

## LINEAR

Fourier Transform  
(FT)

Evolution of FT

Inverse FT  
(Integral)

Steepest Descent  
(SD)

for integrals

fully nonlinear  
waveforms

Linear Superposition  
of phases

RIEMANN-HILBERT  
PROBLEM (RHP)

$m$

$\downarrow m_+$

$\uparrow m_-$

$m$

$$\begin{cases} m_+ = m_- V \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} m(z) \rightarrow I \text{ as } z \rightarrow \infty \end{cases}$$

## INTERABLE NONLINEAR

Scattering Transform  
(ST)

😊 Evolution of ST

Inverse ST  
(Riemann-Hilbert Problem  
(RHP))

SD for RHP

Deift, Zhou

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} g\text{-function} \\ \text{mechanism} \end{array} \right.$

Deift, V, Zhou



$\Theta$ -function superposition

rigorous treatment of  
endpoints:

Deift, Kriecherbauer  
McLaughlin, V, Zhou.

Given  $V$  find  $m$

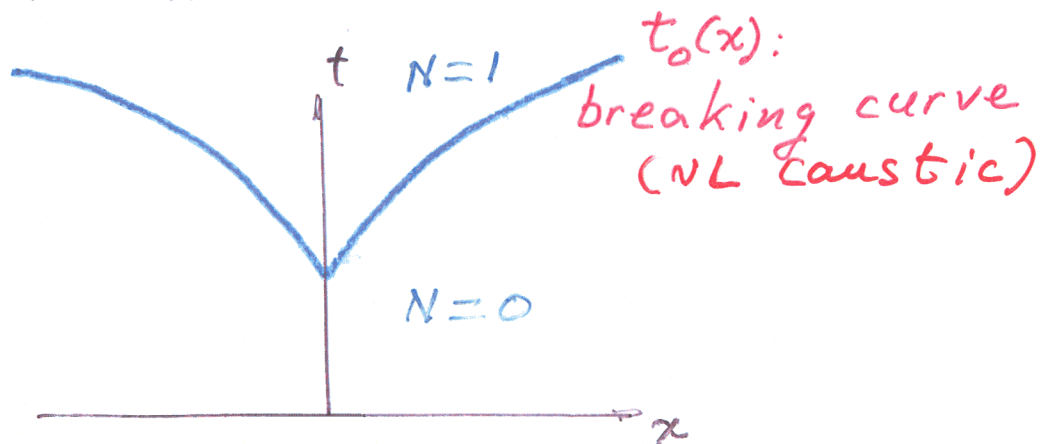


**Main Theorem.** *There exists a breaking curve  $t = t_0(x)$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , with the following properties:*

- *The genus of the solution  $q_0(x, t, \varepsilon)$  is zero below the curve, i.e. in the region  $0 \leq t < t_0(x)$ ;*
- *In the solitonless (pure radiation) case  $\mu \geq 2$  the solution in the entire region above the breaking curve has genus exactly two. In the presence of solitons ( $\mu < 2$ ), there exists some function  $t_1(x)$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $t_0(x) < t_1(x) \leq \infty$ , such that the genus equals two in the region  $t_0(x) < t < t_1(x)$ ,*
- *The breaking curve is an even function, smooth and monotonically increasing for  $x > 0$  with the asymptotic behavior*

$$t_0(x) \sim \frac{x}{2\mu}, \quad x \rightarrow +\infty,$$

$$t_0(x) = \frac{1}{2(\mu + 2)} + \frac{2\pi\sqrt{\mu + 2}}{5}x + o(x), \quad x \rightarrow 0^+;$$



- In the genus zero region ( $0 \leq t < t_0(x)$ ), the solution is controlled by a point  $\alpha_0$  in the upper complex half plane that depends on  $x$  and  $t$ .

$$q_0(x, t, \varepsilon) = \Im \alpha_0(x, t) e^{-2 \frac{i}{\varepsilon} \int_0^x \Re \alpha_0(s, t) ds}$$

- In the genus two region ( $t_0(x) < t < t_1(x)$ ) the solution is controlled by three points in the upper half plane  $\alpha_0, \alpha_2, \alpha_4$  that depend on  $x$  and  $t$ .

$$q_0(x, t, \varepsilon) = \Theta e^{\frac{2i}{\varepsilon} \Omega_1} \Im(\alpha_2 - \alpha_0 - \alpha_4),$$

$$\Theta = - \frac{\theta(-\frac{\hat{W}}{2\pi\varepsilon} - u_\infty + d) \theta(u_\infty + d)}{\theta(-\frac{\hat{W}}{2\pi\varepsilon} + u_\infty + d) \theta(-u_\infty + d)}.$$

Here the quantities  $\Omega_1, \hat{W}, u_\infty, d$  are explicit (quadratures) functions of  $\alpha_0, \alpha_2, \alpha_4$ , in which the hyperelliptic function below plays a crucial part.

$$R(z) = \left( \prod_{j=0}^2 (z - \alpha_{2j})(z - \bar{\alpha}_{2j}) \right)^{1/2}$$

- Accuracy loc. unif. in  $x, t$  not on breaking curve

$$|q(x, t, \varepsilon) - q_0(x, t, \varepsilon)| = O(\varepsilon),$$

- **modulational instability:** The evolution system for the  $2N + 1$  functions  $\alpha_0, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_{4N}$  of  $x$  and  $t$  is elliptic.



# Previous work

## Small Dispersion Weak Limits from Dyson Determinant

- Lax, Levermore: KdV, pure soliton
- Venakides: KdV, pure radiation and periodic
- Deift, K T-R McLaughlin: Toda
- Jin, Levermore, D. W. McLaughlin: Defocusing NLS

## Strong Limit (Leading Behavior )

- Venakides: KdV small dispersion (fully nonlinear waveform, Ansatz)

## Steepest Descent for RHP (SD)

- Deift, Zhou: mKdV, Painleve I, II, ...

## g-function mechanism for Steepest Descent (fully nonlin. waves)

- Deift, Venakides, Zhou: small dispersion KdV

## Focusing NLS, early work

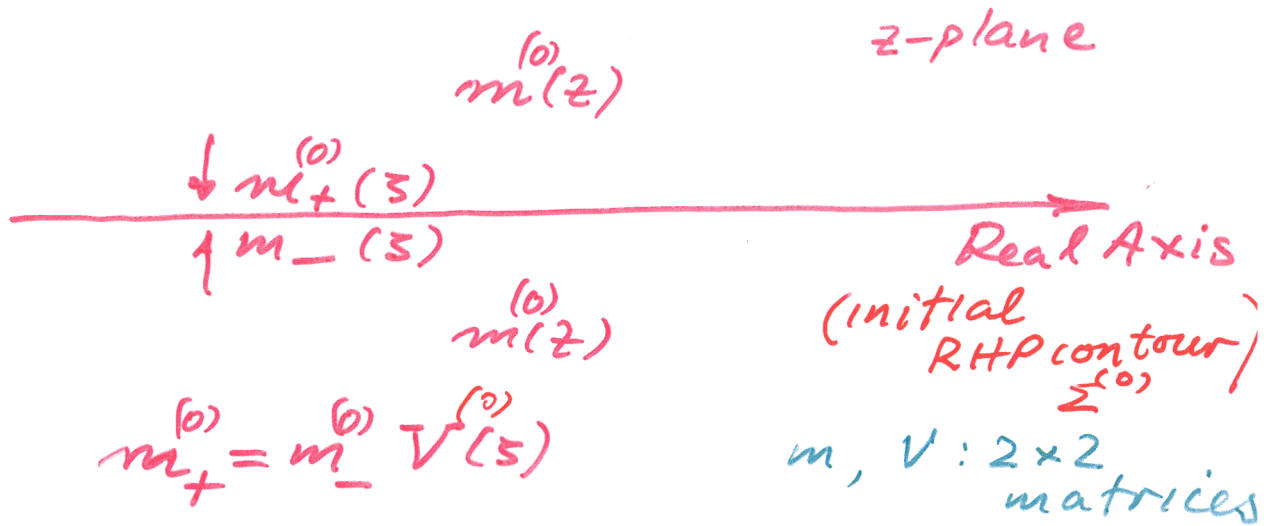
- Zakharov, Shabat: Integration of focusing NLS
- D. W. McLaughlin: semiclassical analysis
- ZS Satsuma, Yajima: spectral analysis for special potential  $\mu = 0$

## Semiclassical Focusing NLS

- Bronski: distribution of e-values
- Kamvissis, Miller: NLS numerics reveal structure
- Ceniseros, Tian: NLS numerics reveal structure
- Tovbis, Venakides: calculation of scattering data,  $\mu > 0$
- Kamvissis, K. T-R. McLaughlin, Miller: first breakthrough, pure soliton case ( $\mu = 0$ ), use of steepest descent and g-function mechanism, complex contributing contours; variational formulation, small time leading behavior, connection between genus zero and two assuming breaking curve.
- Miller: continuum limit of pole structure

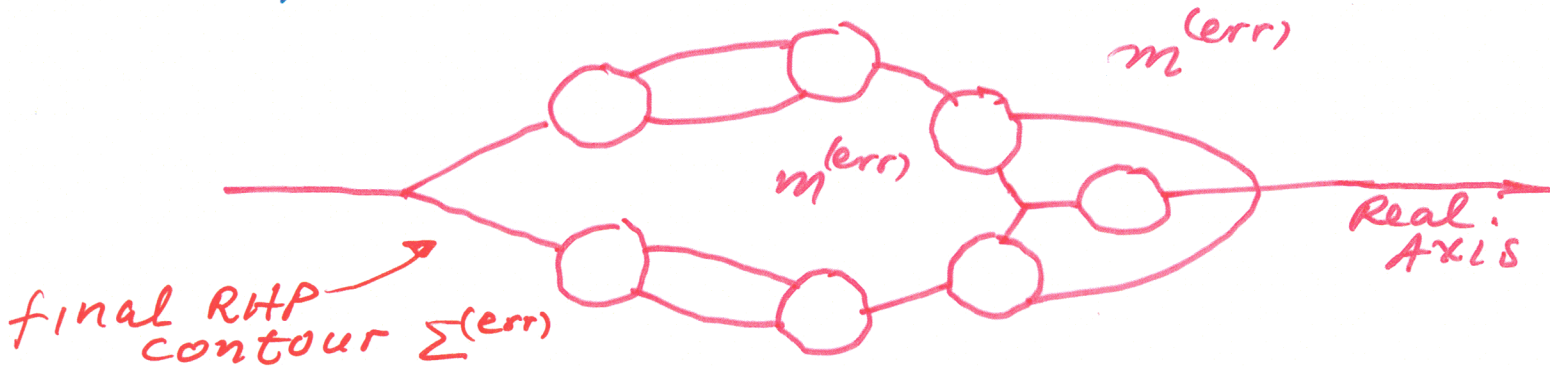


1) Find the energy:  $RHP$   $m^{(0)}$ ,  $\Sigma^{(0)}$ ,  $V^{(0)}$



2) Weaken the enemy:

- Relocate the enemy
- Give battle on ground of your choice



3) Crush the enemy:

Final RHP jump matrix:  $V^{err} = I + O(\epsilon)$

# Integrability of NLS (ZS, Zhou): LAX PAIR

$$\partial_x \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \phi_2 \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{i}{\varepsilon} \begin{pmatrix} z & q(x, t) \\ \bar{q}(x, t) & -z \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \phi_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{ZS system}$$

$$\partial_t \phi = B(z, q, q_x) \phi, \quad \phi = (\phi_1, \phi_2)^T \quad \text{Evolution System}$$

NLS EMERGES AS THE COMPATIBILITY CONDITION:

$$\partial_x \partial_t \phi = \partial_t \partial_x \phi \iff i q_t + \varepsilon^2 q_{xx} + |q|^2 q = 0$$

(Cancellations reduce vector condition to a scalar one)

## SOLUTION VIA DIRECT/INVERSE SCATTERING

- Work on the associated ZS system (LINEAR)  
Scattering matrix  $S = S(z, t) : \phi_{out} = S \phi_{in}$   
determined by the reflection coefficient  $r_0 = r_0(z, t)$ .  
Bound States  $\mapsto$  Solitons.
- Direct Scattering Transformation (ZS):  
 $q(x, 0) \mapsto r_0(z, 0) \quad (|x| \rightarrow \infty \text{ asympt. of } \phi \text{ at } t = 0)$
- Evolution of Scattering Data (Evol. System):  
 $r_0(z, t) = r_0(z, 0) e^{4iz^2 t / \varepsilon} : \lim_{|x| \rightarrow 0} q(x, t) = 0$
- Inverse Scattering Transformation (ZS):  
 $r_0(z, t) \mapsto q(x, t) \quad (\text{Riemann-Hilbert Problem for fund. matrix } \Phi \text{ of ZS as a function of spectral variable } z)$



# Inverse scattering of ZS via RHP

Goal: To construct  $q(z)$  from the reflection coefficient  $r_0(z)$  (for simplicity assume no bound states).

$\Phi(z, x)$ : ZS fundamental matrix ( $\Im z \neq 0$ ) determined by,

$$\Phi(z, x) \sim \begin{pmatrix} e^{-\frac{izx}{\epsilon}} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{\frac{izx}{\epsilon}} \end{pmatrix}, \text{ as } x \rightarrow +\infty$$

$$\text{AND } \begin{cases} \text{column 1} \rightarrow 0 \text{ when } \Im z > 0, \\ \text{column 2} \rightarrow 0 \text{ when } \Im z < 0. \end{cases} \text{ as } x \rightarrow -\infty,$$

## NON-ENTIRE NATURE OF $\Phi$ : RIEMANN-HILBERT PROBLEM

ODE theory: for  $z \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have  $\boxed{\Phi_+ = \Phi_- C}$ , where  $C = C(z)$  is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix that is independent of  $x$ .

Normalization:  $\Phi(z, x) \longrightarrow m(z, x)$  (remove oscillations),

$$m(z, x) \sim \mathbf{I} + \frac{\tilde{m}(x)}{z} + O(z^{-2}), \quad \boxed{m_+ = m_- V}$$

$$\boxed{V|_{z \in \mathbb{R}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + |r|^2 & \bar{r} \\ r & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \quad r = r_0(z) e^{2izx/\epsilon}.$$

Recovery of  $q$  from equation  $\boxed{q(x) = -2\tilde{m}_{12}(x)}$

# Rigorous asymptotic solution of the RHP with $x$ and $t$ fixed

Tool: Jump matrix factorization, contour deformation

## Rules

- $+$  to the left,  $-$  to the right of the oriented contour.
- A RIGHT factor having a LEFT analytic continuation splits off to the LEFT on its own contour.
- A LEFT factor having a RIGHT analytic continuation splits off to the RIGHT on its own contour.

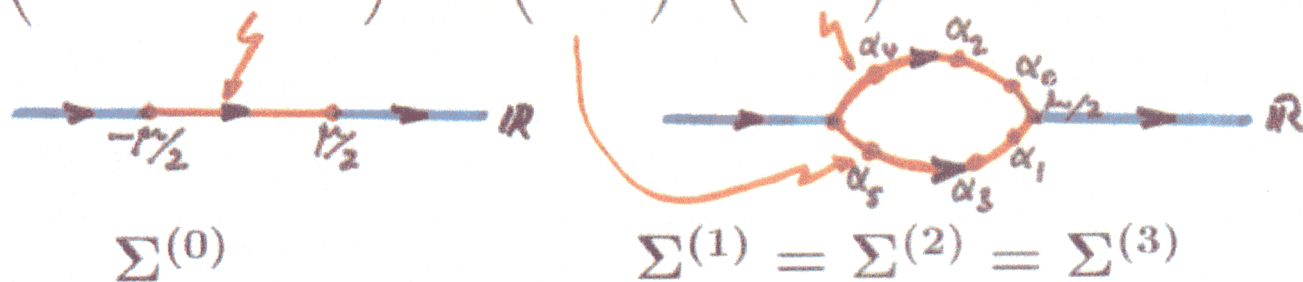
## Goals

1. Achieve a contour that is the union of arcs over each of which the jump matrix is either constant (independent of  $z$ ) or decays as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ .
2. Solve the model RH problem that neglects the decaying contours
3. Estimate the error

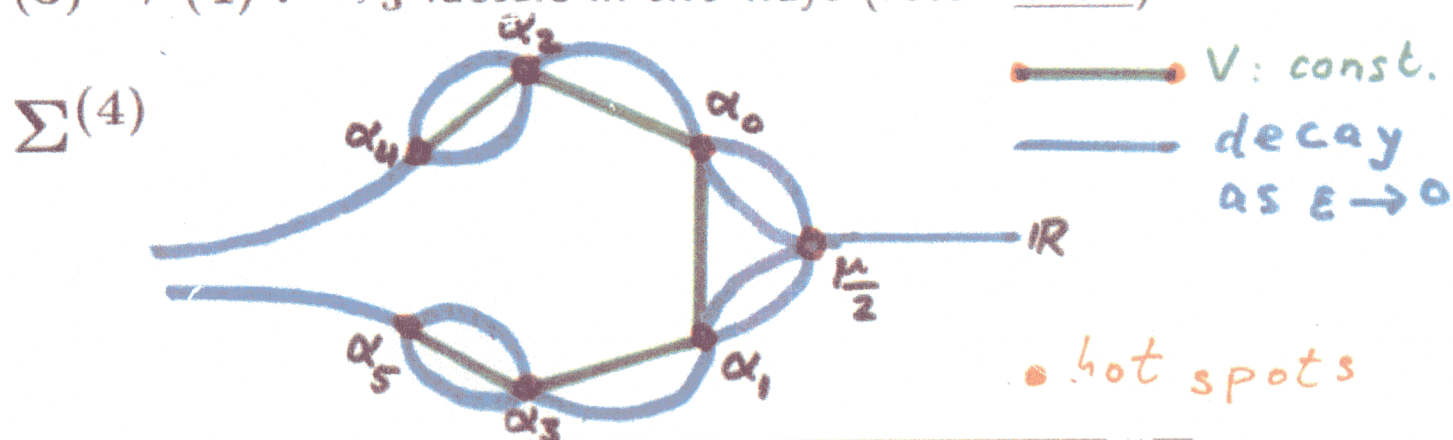
## Overview of the Procedure

- green contour:  $V$  is constant in  $z$  *piecewise*.
- blue contour:  $V$  decays as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$

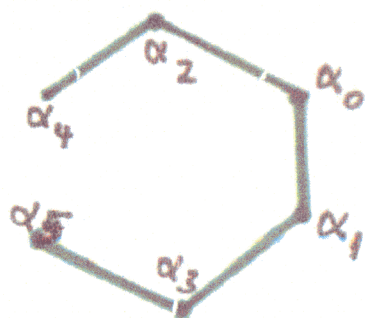
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 + |r|^2 & \bar{r} \\ r & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \bar{r} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ r & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \quad r = e^{2if/\varepsilon}$$



- (0)  $\rightarrow$  (1) : Initial Factorization/Deformation
- (1)  $\rightarrow$  (2) : Stirling Approx. of  $r_0(z)$
- (2)  $\rightarrow$  (3) :  $g$ -function transf:  $m^{(3)} = m^{(2)} e^{2ig(z)\sigma_3/\varepsilon}$
- (3)  $\rightarrow$  (4) : Factor./Deform.
- (3)  $\rightarrow$  (4) :  $V_3$  factors in two ways (recall Goals)



$\Sigma^{(mod)}$



{ Explicit solution  
through theta function



## The Initial Data enter in function $f$

$r_0(z; \varepsilon)$  is the reflection coefficient of the initial data.

$$r(z; x, t, \varepsilon) = r_0(z, \varepsilon) e^{2i(xz + 2tz^2)/\varepsilon}$$

$$r(z; x, t, \varepsilon) \sim \begin{cases} e^{-\frac{2i}{\varepsilon} f(z, \varepsilon)} & \text{when } z < \mu/2, \\ e^{-\frac{2i}{\varepsilon} (f(z, \varepsilon) + 2\pi i(\frac{\mu}{2} - z))} & \text{when } z > \mu/2 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(z; x, t, \varepsilon) = & \left( \frac{\mu}{2} - z \right) \left[ \frac{i\pi}{2} + \ln\left(\frac{\mu}{2} - z\right) \right] \\ & + \frac{z + T}{2} \ln(z + T) + \frac{z - T}{2} \ln(z - T) \\ & - T \tanh^{-1} \frac{T}{\frac{\mu}{2}} - \underbrace{xz - 2tz^2}_{\text{red wavy line}} + \frac{\mu}{2} \ln 2 + \frac{\pi}{2} \varepsilon, \quad \text{when } \Im z \geq \end{aligned}$$

where positive values have real logarithm, and

$f = f(z, \varepsilon; x, t)$  has analytic extension into the upper complex half-plane.  $T = \sqrt{(\frac{\mu}{2})^2 - 1}$ .

BOTTOM LINE: Given  $f$  find  $h$ .

## Error Analysis

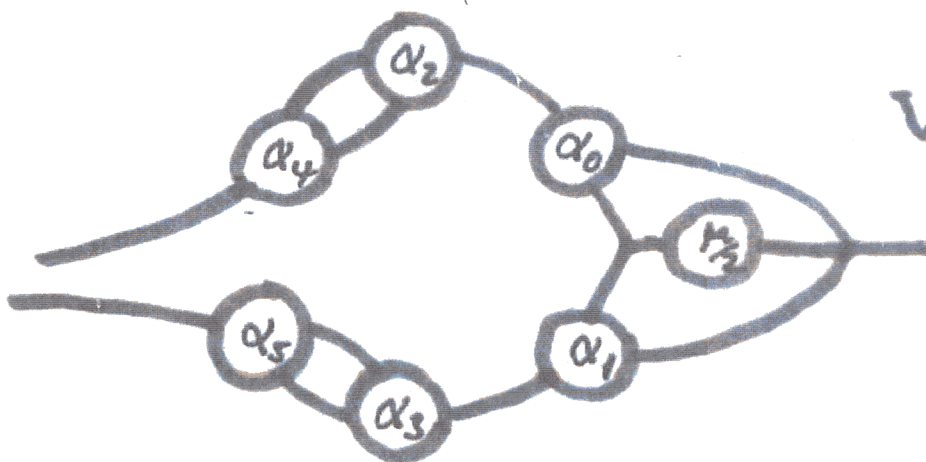
Construction of  $m^{(app)}(z)$  (to peel off  $m^{(4)}$ ).

1.  $m^{(app)}(z)$  equals the solution of the model problem  $m^{(mod)}(z)$  outside circles centered at the points  $\alpha_j$ ,  $\bar{\alpha}_j$ , and  $\mu/2$  with radii  $\delta > 0$ , small but independent on  $\epsilon$ ;
2.  $m^{(app)}(z)$  is a paramatrix of  $V^{(4)}$  inside each circle i.e. it satisfies the jump conditions of the RHP  $P^{(4)}$  inside these circles exactly;
3. the jump  $m_+^{(app)} m_-^{(app)-1}$  of  $m^{(app)}(z)$  across the circles is of order  $I + O(\epsilon)$  uniformly on the circles.

An easy calculation gives for  $q(x, t, \epsilon)$

$$q = -2 \lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} z(M(z) - I)_{12} - 2 \underbrace{\lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} z(m^{(err)}(z) - I)_{12}}_{O(\epsilon)}$$

where  $M(z) = m^{(mod)} e^{-\frac{2i}{\epsilon} g(z) \sigma_3}$ .



$$V = I + O(\epsilon)$$

## The $g$ function mechanism

Introduce the transformation  $m^{(2)} \rightarrow m^{(3)}$ , ( $h(z)=\text{TBD}$ ),

$$m^{(3)} = m^{(2)} \begin{pmatrix} e^{\frac{2i}{\varepsilon}g(z)} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-\frac{2i}{\varepsilon}g(z)} \end{pmatrix}; \quad g(z) = \frac{h(z) + f(z)}{2}$$

where the analytic in  $\bar{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \Sigma^{(2)}$  complex valued function  $g(z)$  is to be determined. The symmetry of the problem requires the Schwartz reflection invariance of  $g$ , i.e.  $g(\bar{z}) = \overline{g(z)}$ .

$$V^{(3)}|_{z \in \Sigma^+} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{\frac{i}{\varepsilon}(h_+ - h_-)} & 0 \\ -e^{\frac{i}{\varepsilon}(h_+ + h_-)} & e^{-\frac{i}{\varepsilon}(h_+ - h_-)} \end{pmatrix}$$

## Alternative factorizations of the jump matrix

Two types of factorization are given by the formulae,

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc} a & 0 \\ -b & a^{-1} \end{array} \right) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -ab^{-1} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & b^{-1} \\ -b & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -a^{-1}b^{-1} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ \\ = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -a^{-1}b & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \\ \\ \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -ab & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{array} \right.$$



# The $g$ function mechanism

## Constancy and Decay Conditions

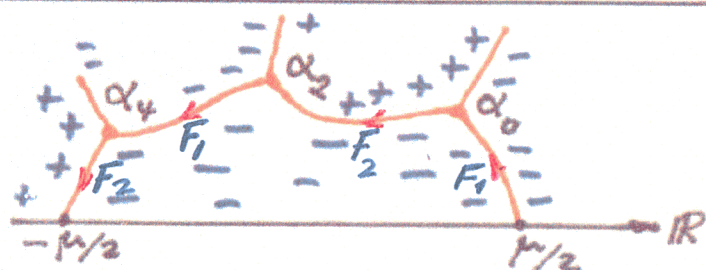
Let  $h = 2g - f$  so as to deal with  $h_+ \pm h_-$  and not with  $g_+ + g_- - f$  and  $g_+ - g_-$ ; index  $j$  labels arcs.

$$V^{(3)}|_{z \in \Sigma^+} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{\frac{i}{\varepsilon}(h_+ - h_-)} & 0 \\ -e^{\frac{i}{\varepsilon}(h_+ + h_-)} & e^{-\frac{i}{\varepsilon}(h_+ - h_-)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$F1: \begin{cases} h_+ + h_- = 2W_j, \\ (h'_+ + h'_- = 0) \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} \Im h_- < 0, \text{ (right of contour),} \\ \Im h_+ < 0, \text{ (left of contour),} \end{cases}$$

$$F2: \begin{cases} h_+ - h_- = 2\Omega_j, \\ (h'_+ - h'_- = 0) \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} \text{either } \Im h_- < 0, \\ \text{or } \Im h_+ < 0. \end{cases}$$

$W_j$  and  $\Omega_j$  are real constants. On the contour  $\Im h = 0$



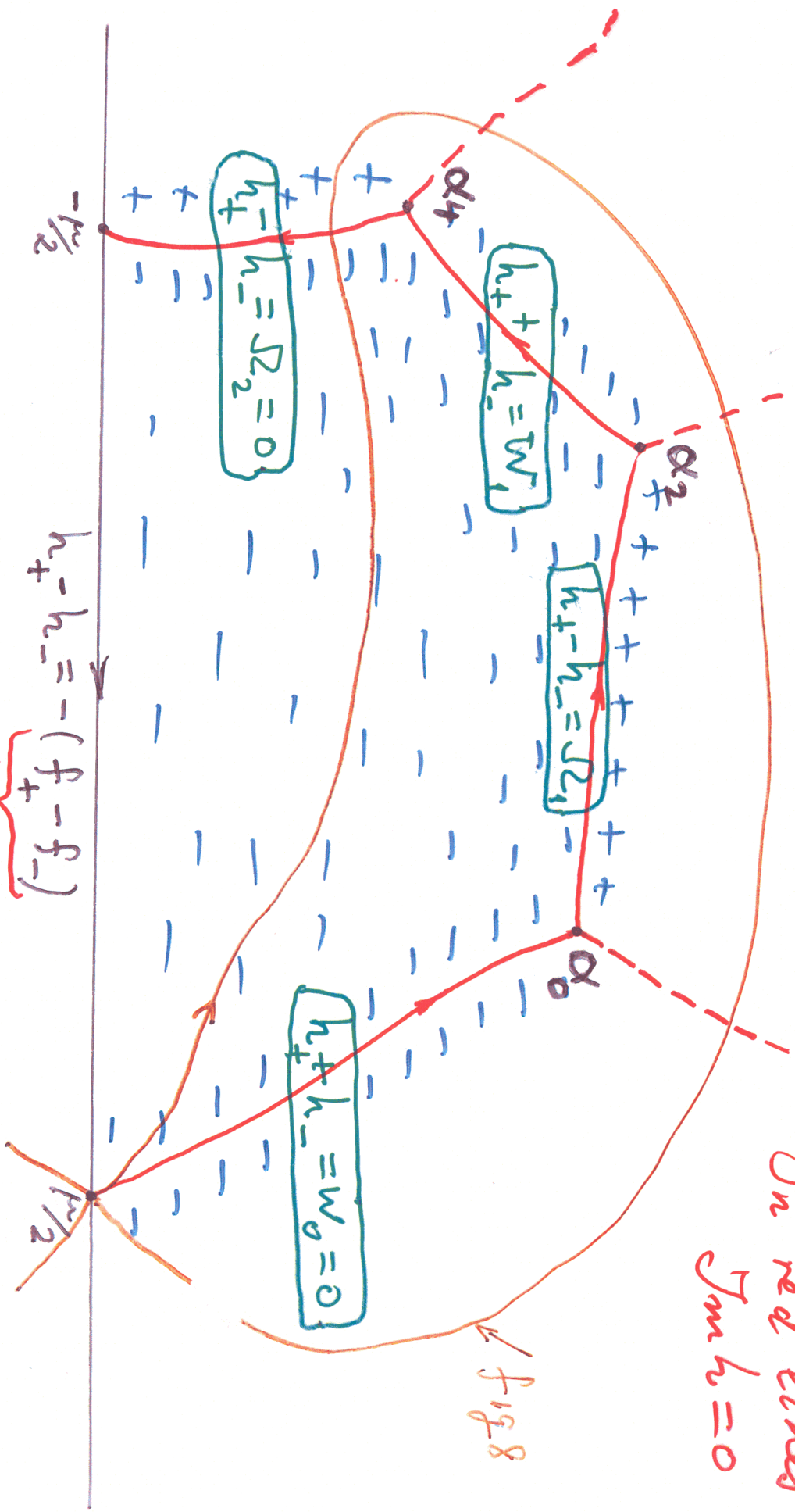
Sign structure  
of  $\Im h(z)$   
—  $\Im h(z) = 0$

Equalities for  $h'_+ \pm h'_-$  pose a scalar RHP for  $h'$ . Solution,

$$\frac{R(z)}{2\pi i} \oint_{\text{fig 8}} \frac{f'(\zeta)}{(\zeta - z)R(\zeta)} d\zeta, \quad R(z) = \sqrt{\prod_{k=0}^{4N+1} (z - \alpha_k)}$$

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On red lines  $\text{Im } h = 0$



$h_+ - h_- = -(f_+ - f_-)$   
known

$$h'(z) = \frac{R(z)}{2\pi i} \oint \frac{f'(s)}{(s-z)R(s)}$$

fig 8

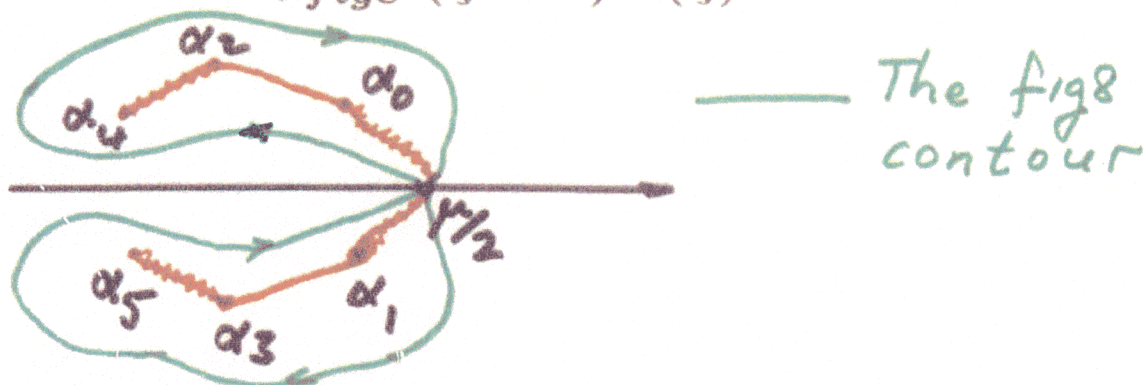
$$R(z) = \sqrt{(z-\alpha_0)(z-\bar{\alpha}_0)(z-\alpha_2)(z-\bar{\alpha}_2)(z-\alpha_4)(z-\bar{\alpha}_4)}$$

$\alpha_0, \alpha_2, \alpha_4$   
Real Const:  $\sqrt{2}, W_1$  } T B D

$z$ : inside fig 8

## The Moment and the Integral Conditions

$$h'(z) = \frac{R(z)}{2\pi i} \oint_{fig8} \frac{f'(\zeta)}{(\zeta - z)R(\zeta)} d\zeta, \quad z \text{ inside } fig8.$$



Moment Conditions (analyticity of  $g$  at infinity)

Moment conditions  $M_k$  : 
$$\oint_{fig8} \frac{\zeta^k f'(\zeta)}{R(\zeta)} d\zeta = 0,$$

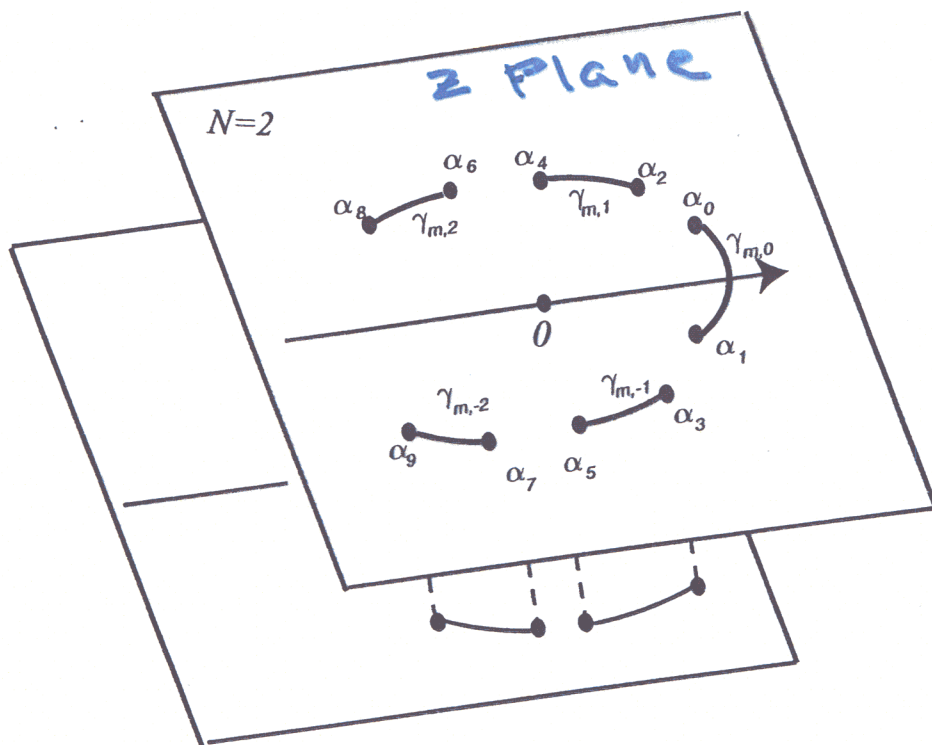
with  $k = 0, 1, \dots, 2N + 1$ . We obtain them by expanding  $(\zeta - z)^{-1}$  in the integral in powers of  $z^{-1}$ .

Integral conditions ( $\Im h(\alpha_{2i}) = 0, \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N$ )

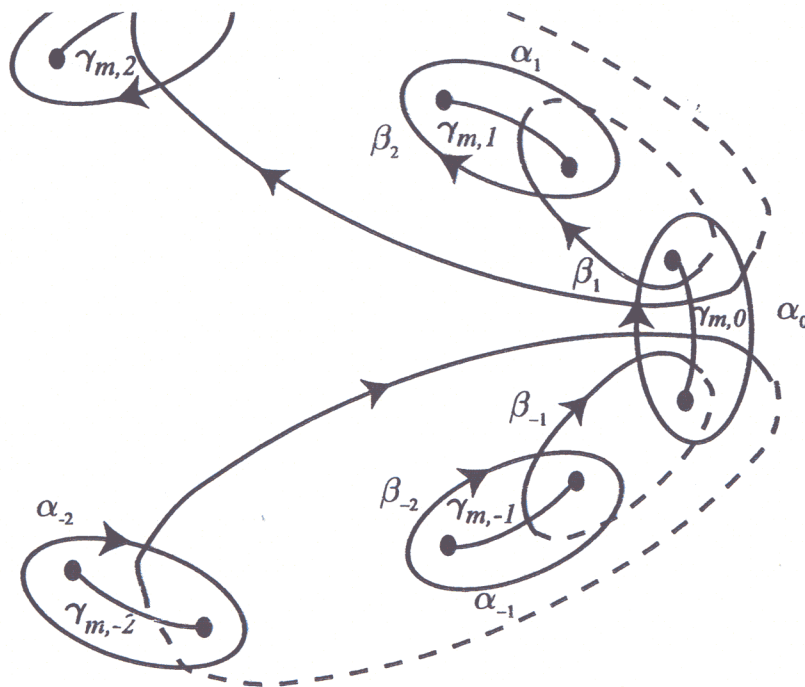
$$I_i \doteq \Im \int_{\frac{\mu}{2}}^{\alpha_i} h'(\zeta) d\zeta = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N.$$

Constants:  $W_j = W_j^-(\alpha); \quad \Omega_j = \Omega_j^-(\alpha);$   
 $W_0 = 0 \quad \Omega_{N+1} = 0 \text{ (Norm.)}$





Riemann surface  $\mathcal{R}(x, t)$

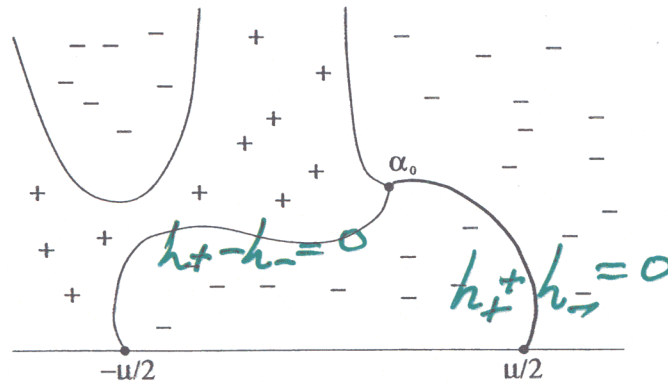


Basic cycles

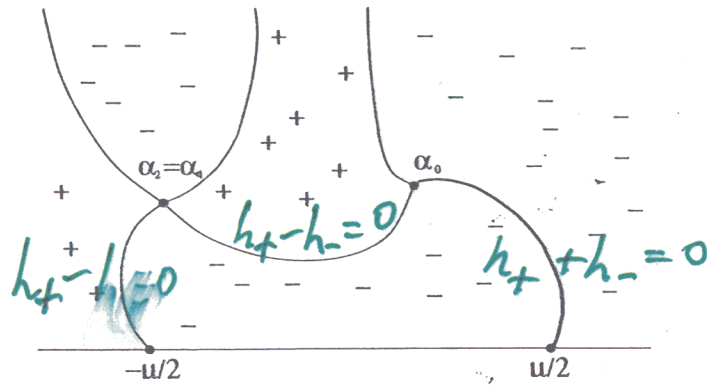
# MECHANISM OF BREAKING

Contours:  
 $\text{Im} h = 0$

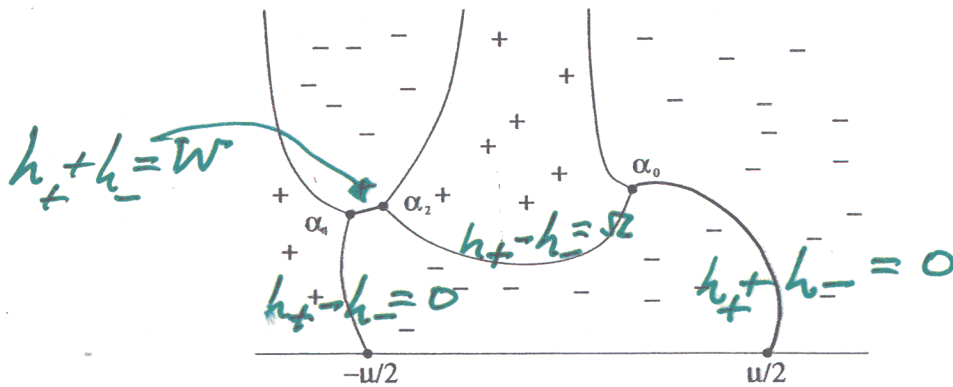
$\pm$ : sign  $\text{Im} h$



Zero level curves of  $\Im h$ , pre-break



Zero level curves of  $\Im h$ , breaking point



Zero level curves of  $\Im h$ , post-break

## The points $\alpha = (\alpha_j)_{j=0}^{4N+1}$

- The constant jump matrices on the green contour can be expressed as functions of the  $\alpha$  ONLY.
- $\alpha = \alpha(x, t)$  (dependence in the large space-time scale)
- The theta function solving the problem has form  $F(\alpha; \frac{x}{\epsilon}, \frac{t}{\epsilon})$ , i.e. it varies (oscillates) in the small space-time scale in  $x$  and  $t$  in a way that is governed by  $\alpha$ , the latter being modulated in the large space-time scale.
- The number of fully nonlinear oscillatory phases in the waveform is  $2N$ , where  $N = N(x, t)$ .
- The theta function solution of the model RHP (all green contour) provides the leading asymptotic behavior of NLS.
- The main calculational task for having the leading behavior is the calculation of  $N$  and  $\alpha$ .
- Error Estimate



# Breaking and Loss of Connection

The required zero and sign structure for a given  $N$  holds while  $x, t$  change as long as:

- All  $\alpha_j$  remain distinct;
- The ratio  $\frac{h'(z)}{R(z)} \neq 0$  for any  $z \in \gamma$ ;
- The contour  $\gamma$  stays away from singularities of  $f(z)$ .

**Breaking** occurs at some  $x, t$  at which one of the above conditions is violated. Generically, it occurs on curves in the  $(x, t)$  plane that we call **breaking curves**, across which there is a jump in the genus  $N$ . A set of  $\alpha$  satisfying the first two of the above conditions is called **nondegenerate**.

Degeneracy can occur as the result of:

1. Collision between different  $\alpha_{2k}$  in the upper half-plane (and the corresponding complex conjugates in the lower half-plane): death of a pair decreases the genus
2. Collision between the contour  $\gamma$ , which is a zero level curve of  $\Im h(z)$ , and any other branch of zero level curve of  $\Im h(z)$  : birth of a pair increases the genus.

The two events can be viewed as time-reverses of each other. In the case that we treat, the genus  $2N = 2$  and we have  $\alpha_0 \neq \alpha_2 = \alpha_4$ . The Jacobian  $|\frac{\partial F}{\partial \alpha}|$  becomes zero at this point. To establish the evolution through a breaking curve, we reparametrize the  $\alpha$  and we obtain a nonzero Jacobian.

# Off breaking curves: Evolution Theorem

Let  $\alpha = (\alpha_0, \alpha_2, \alpha_4, \dots, \alpha_{4N})$  with distinct  $\alpha_{2k}$  be a solution of the modulation system with genus  $2N$  at some point  $(x_0, t_0)$ . Then the solution  $\alpha(x, t)$  can be continued uniquely with the same genus into a neighborhood of  $(x_0, t_0)$  and  $\alpha(x, t)$  is a smooth function of  $x$  and  $t$ .

The proof is based on the implicit function theorem and the following expression for the Jacobian of the modulation system. The Jacobian  $\partial MI / \partial \alpha$  is given by

$$\left| \frac{\partial MI}{\partial \alpha} \right| = \det D \prod_{j=0}^{2N} \left| \frac{h'(\alpha_{2j})}{2R(\alpha_{2j})} \right|^2 \prod_{j < l} (\alpha_l - \alpha_j)$$

where the determinant is

$$\begin{pmatrix} \int_{\hat{\gamma}_{m,1}} \frac{dz_1}{R(z_1)} & \int_{\hat{\gamma}_{c,1}} \frac{dz_2}{R(z_2)} & \cdots & \int_{\hat{\gamma}_{c,N}} \frac{dz_{2N}}{R(z_{2N})} \\ \int_{\hat{\gamma}_{m,1}} \frac{z_1 dz_1}{R(z_1)} & \int_{\hat{\gamma}_{c,1}} \frac{z_2 dz_2}{R(z_2)} & \cdots & \int_{\hat{\gamma}_{c,N}} \frac{z_{2N} dz_{2N}}{R(z_{2N})} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \int_{\hat{\gamma}_{m,1}} \frac{z_1^{2N-1} dz_1}{R(z_1)} & \int_{\hat{\gamma}_{c,1}} \frac{z_2^{2N-1} dz_2}{R(z_2)} & \cdots & \int_{\hat{\gamma}_{c,N}} \frac{z_{2N}^{2N-1} dz_{2N}}{R(z_{2N})} \end{pmatrix}$$

The Jacobian is nonzero as long as all  $\alpha_j$  are distinct and  $\frac{h'(z)}{R(z)} \Big|_{z=\alpha_j} \neq 0$ .

# Passage through breaking curve, Change of Genus: Degeneracy Theorem

Suppose

$$\frac{\Im h'(z_0)}{R(z_0)} = 0, \quad \left( \text{by symmetry also: } \frac{\Im h'(\bar{z}_0)}{R(\bar{z}_0)} = 0 \right),$$

for some point  $z_0 \in \gamma$ . Then:

1. Replacing  $R(z)$  with  $\tilde{R} = R(z)(z - z_0)(z - \bar{z}_0)$  (the multiplicities of  $z_0$  and  $\bar{z}_0$  are thus increased by two) does not change the functions  $h'(z)$  and  $h(z)$ , i.e.  $h'(z; \tilde{R}) = h'(z; R)$  and  $h(z; \tilde{R}) = h(z; R)$ .
2. If the original  $\alpha$  satisfy the MI conditions with genus  $2N$ , then the new  $\alpha$  corresponding to  $\tilde{R}$ , also satisfy the MI conditions with genus  $2(N + 1)$ .
3. Conversely, if a degenerate  $\alpha = \alpha_0, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_{4N}$  with  $\alpha_{2k} = \alpha_{2k+2} = z_0$  satisfy the MI conditions with genus  $2N$ , then the  $\alpha$  that is obtained by removing the degenerate pair and its complex conjugate satisfies the MI conditions for genus  $2(N - 1)$ . Furthermore, after the removal,  $h'/R = 0$  at the site  $z_0$  of the removed pair.

## Equations for the $\alpha$ 's (modulation equations, $\mathbf{N=1}$ )

$$R(z) = \sqrt{\prod_{j=0}^2 (z - \alpha_{2j})(z - \bar{\alpha}_{2j})}, \quad \alpha_{2j} = a_{2j} + ib_{2j},$$

$$Q_i(z) = \left( \frac{(z - \alpha_{2j})(z - \alpha_{2k})}{(z - \bar{\alpha}_{2j})(z - \bar{\alpha}_{2k})} \right)$$

### Moment conditions

$$M_0 : \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{\text{sgn}\zeta}{|R(\zeta)|} d\zeta = 0$$

$$M_1 : \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{(\zeta - a_{2j})\text{sgn}\zeta}{|R(\zeta)|} d\zeta = 8t$$

$$M_2 : \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{(\zeta - a_{2j})(\zeta - a_{2k})\text{sgn}\zeta}{|R(\zeta)|} d\zeta = 2x + 8ta_{2i}$$

$$\begin{aligned} M_3 : \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left[ 1 - \frac{(\zeta - a_0)(\zeta - a_2)(\zeta - a_4)\text{sgn}\zeta}{|R(\zeta)|} \right] d\zeta \\ = 4t(b_0^2 + b_2^2 + b_4^2) + 2 \end{aligned}$$

### Integral conditions for $\alpha_{2i}$ (True also for subscripts 2j, 2k)

$$\begin{aligned} \Im \left[ \pi i(|a_{2i}| - 1) - 8ti \int_{a_{2i}}^{\alpha_{2i}} \sqrt{b^2 - y^2} Q_i(z) dy \right] \\ + \Im \left[ \int_{a_{2i}}^{\alpha_{2i}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{Q_i(z) \sqrt{b^2 - y^2} \text{sgn}\zeta}{(\zeta - z) Q_i(\zeta) \sqrt{(\zeta - a)^2 + b^2}} d\zeta dz \right] = 0 \end{aligned}$$



## Summary of Work Required

- Solve System of equations for the  $\alpha_{2i}, i = 1, 2, \dots, 4N$

CATCH: For what value of  $N$ ?

ANSWER: For the value of  $N$  for which there is a connection from  $\mu/2$  to  $-\mu/2$  by a zero-level curve of  $\mathfrak{S}h$  satisfying the above sign structure

We may start the procedure at  $t = 0$  where  $N = 0$  and evolve in time.

## Derivation of inequalities

$$M_1 : \quad b_j b_k < \frac{\pi}{64t^2}; \quad j \neq k \quad (\text{two smaller } b < \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{8t})$$

$$M_3 : \quad a_0 + a_2 - a_4 < 2 + 4t(b_0^2 + b_2^2 + b_4^2)$$

$$I_j : \quad |a_{2j}| = 1 + 2tb_{2j}^2 \nu_j + O(b_{2j})$$

where  $|\nu_j| < 1$ ;  $j = 1, 2, 3$ .

*1<sup>st</sup> Inequality* : Positive Integrand, Cauchy-Schwartz

*2<sup>nd</sup> Inequality* : Positive Integrand, Area argument

*3<sup>rd</sup> Relation* : Bound on double integral.

Theorem (pure radiation  $\mu \geq 2$ , for simplicity  $\mu = 2$ )

All three  $a_{2j}$  and all three  $b_{2j}$  are bounded for  $t \leq \infty$ . As  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , the genus 2 region is  $|x| < 4t$  and for  $x > 0$  and,

$$a_0 \rightarrow 1, \quad a_4 \rightarrow -1, \quad a_2 \sim -x/4t,$$

$$b_0 \sim e^{-8t+2x}, \quad b_4 \sim e^{-8t-2x}, \quad b_2 \sim \sqrt{\frac{1}{2t} \left(1 - \frac{x}{4t}\right)}$$

## Directions

- Long-time asymptotics in the presence of solitons.

Does  $N(t) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \tau \leq \infty$ ?

- Eigenvalues of the ZS problem:  
Facing the lack of a Sommerfeld eigenvalue condition.

- Non analyticity

Initial Data

Scattering Data

Chaotic behavior?