

Painlevé functions, conformal blocks and combinatorics

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Tokyo, 29/11/2016

based on:

Gamayun, Iorgov, OL, 1207.0787

Iorgov, OL, Teschner, 1401.6104

Gavrylenko, OL, 1608.00958



PAUL PAINLEVÉ

(1863–1933)



Richard Fuchs

(1873-1944)



BERTRAND GAMBIER

(1879–1954)

Painlevé equations are **nonlinear** 2nd order ODEs of the form

$$w'' = F(w, w', t)$$

where $F(w, w', t)$ is a rational function of w, w', t .

Their solutions $w(t; C_1, C_2)$ satisfy **Painlevé property**

- ▶ $w(t; C_1, C_2)$ do not have **critical points** depending on C_1, C_2

Example:

- ▶ $w' = w \implies w = e^{t-C}$ ✓ (essential singularity $t = \infty$)
- ▶ $w' = w^2 \implies w = \frac{1}{C-t}$ ✓ (movable pole)
- ▶ $w' = w^3 \implies w \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{t-C}}$ ✗ (movable branchpoint)

Classification at order 1 [L. Fuchs, 1884]

The only ODE $w' = F(w, t)$ without movable critical points is the generalized Riccati equation

$$w' = p_2(t) w^2 + p_1(t) w + p_0(t).$$



Lazarus Fuchs
(1833–1902)

Painlevé equations [P. Painlevé & B. Gambier, 1900–1910]:

$$w'' = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{w} + \frac{1}{w-1} + \frac{1}{w-t} \right) (w')^2 - \left(\frac{1}{t} + \frac{1}{t-1} + \frac{1}{w-t} \right) w' + \frac{2w(w-1)(w-t)}{t^2(t-1)^2} \left(\alpha + \frac{\beta t}{w^2} + \frac{\gamma(t-1)}{(w-1)^2} + \frac{\delta t(t-1)}{(w-t)^2} \right) \quad (\text{P}_{\text{VI}})$$

$$w'' = \left(\frac{1}{2w} + \frac{1}{w-1} \right) (w')^2 - \frac{w'}{t} + \frac{(w-1)^2}{t^2} \left(\alpha w + \frac{\beta}{w} \right) + \frac{\gamma w}{t} + \frac{\delta w(w+1)}{w-1}, \quad (\text{P}_{\text{V}})$$

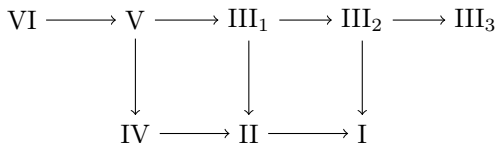
$$w'' = \frac{(w')^2}{2w} + \frac{3}{2} w^3 + 4tw^2 + 2(t^2 - \alpha)w + \frac{\beta}{w}, \quad (\text{P}_{\text{IV}})$$

$$w'' = \frac{(w')^2}{w} - \frac{w'}{t} + \frac{\alpha w^2 + \beta}{t} + \gamma w^3 + \frac{\delta}{w}, \quad (\text{P}_{\text{III}})$$

$$w'' = 2w^3 + tw + \alpha, \quad (\text{P}_{\text{II}})$$

$$w'' = 6w^2 + t. \quad (\text{P}_{\text{I}})$$

Confluence diagram:



- ▶ non-autonomous hamiltonian systems
- ▶ Bäcklund transformations
- ▶ connection formulæ

Painlevé VI:

$$\left(t(t-1)\zeta'' \right)^2 = -2 \det \begin{pmatrix} 2\theta_0^2 & t\zeta' - \zeta & \zeta' + \theta_0^2 + \theta_t^2 + \theta_1^2 - \theta_\infty^2 \\ t\zeta' - \zeta & 2\theta_t^2 & (t-1)\zeta' - \zeta \\ \zeta' + \theta_0^2 + \theta_t^2 + \theta_1^2 - \theta_\infty^2 & (t-1)\zeta' - \zeta & 2\theta_1^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- ▶ $\zeta(t) = t(t-1)\frac{d}{dt} \ln \tau$, where $\tau(t)$ is **Painlevé VI tau function**

(Special) solutions of Painlevé VI:

1. Hypergeometric Riccati family

$$\tau_{\text{Riccati}}(t) = (1-t)^{-\frac{N(N+\nu+\nu')}{2}} \det \left[A_{j-k}(t) \right]_{j,k=0}^{N-1},$$

$$A_m(t) = \frac{\Gamma(1+\nu') t^{\frac{\eta-m}{2}} (1-t)^\nu}{\Gamma(1+\eta-m) \Gamma(1-\eta+m+\nu')} {}_2F_1 \left[\begin{matrix} -\nu, 1+\nu' \\ 1+\eta-m \end{matrix} \middle| \frac{t}{t-1} \right] \\ + \frac{\xi \Gamma(1+\nu) t^{\frac{m-\eta}{2}} (1-t)^{\nu'}}{\Gamma(1-\eta+m) \Gamma(1+\eta-m+\nu)} {}_2F_1 \left[\begin{matrix} 1+\nu, -\nu' \\ 1-\eta+m \end{matrix} \middle| \frac{t}{t-1} \right]$$

- ▶ PVI parameters $(\theta_0, \theta_t, \theta_1, \theta_\infty) = \frac{1}{2}(\eta, N, -N - \nu - \nu', \nu - \nu' + \eta)$ depend on $\nu, \nu', \eta \in \mathbb{C}$ and $N \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$
- ▶ 1-parameter family of initial conditions depending on $\xi \in \mathbb{C}$
- ▶ [Forrester, Witte, '02]

2. Elliptic **Picard family**

$$\tau_{\text{Picard}}(t) = \frac{e^{i\pi\sigma^2\bar{\tau}}}{t^{\frac{1}{8}}(1-t)^{\frac{1}{8}}} \frac{\vartheta_3(\sigma\pi\bar{\tau} + \sigma'\pi|\bar{\tau})}{\vartheta_3(0|\bar{\tau})}, \quad \bar{\tau} = \frac{iK'(t)}{K(t)}$$

- ▶ PVI parameters $(\theta_0, \theta_t, \theta_1, \theta_\infty) = (\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$
- ▶ 2-parameter family of initial conditions depending on $\sigma, \sigma' \in \mathbb{C}$
- ▶ [Kitaev, Korotkin, '98]

3. **Algebraic** solutions

$$\tau_{H_3'}(t) = \frac{(1-s)^{\frac{1}{20}} s^{\frac{1}{20}} (1+3s)^{\frac{1}{12}}}{(1+s)^{\frac{3}{20}} (1-3s)^{\frac{11}{300}} (1+4s-s^2)^{\frac{1}{25}}},$$
$$t = \frac{(s-1)^5(3s+1)^3(s^2+4s-1)}{(s+1)^5(3s-1)^3(s^2-4s-1)}.$$

- ▶ $(\theta_0, \theta_t, \theta_1, \theta_\infty) = (0, 0, 0, -\frac{1}{5})$, 10 branches
- ▶ no parameters in the initial conditions
- ▶ great icosahedron solution from [Dubrovin, Mazzocco, '98]

4. Fredholm determinant solutions

$$\tau_{\text{BD}}(t) = \det \left(\mathbf{1} - \lambda K|_{(0,t)} \right),$$

where continuous ${}_2F_1$ kernel $K(x, y) = \frac{\psi(x)\varphi(y) - \varphi(x)\psi(y)}{x - y}$ is defined by

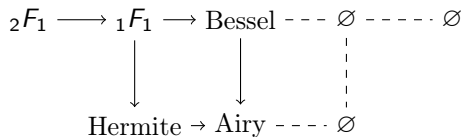
$$\varphi(x) = x^{\theta_0} (1-x)^{\theta_1} {}_2F_1 \left[\begin{matrix} \theta_0 + \theta_1 + \theta_\infty, \theta_0 + \theta_1 - \theta_\infty \\ 2\theta_0 \end{matrix} ; x \right],$$

$$\psi(x) = x^{1+\theta_0} (1-x)^{\theta_1} {}_2F_1 \left[\begin{matrix} 1 + \theta_0 + \theta_1 + \theta_\infty, 1 + \theta_0 + \theta_1 - \theta_\infty \\ 2 + 2\theta_0 \end{matrix} ; x \right].$$

- ▶ PVI parameters $(\theta_0, \theta_t = 0, \theta_1, \theta_\infty)$
- ▶ 1-parameter family of initial conditions depending on $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$
- ▶ [Borodin, Deift, '01]

Solutions:

- ▶ Riccati: classical special functions



- ▶ elliptic (PVI)
- ▶ algebraic
- ▶ transcendental (almost all solutions!)

Question 1:

Can the **general** solution of Painlevé VI be expressed in terms of a Fredholm determinant?

Digression: Monodromy preserving deformation

Consider rank N Fuchsian system on \mathbb{P}^1 :

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_z \Phi &= \Phi A(z), \\ A(z) &= \sum_{\nu=1}^{n-1} \frac{A_\nu}{z - a_\nu}, \quad A_\nu \in \mathfrak{sl}_N\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ n regular singular points $a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}, \infty$

Monodromy representation:

$$\rho : \pi_1(\mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{a\}) \rightarrow SL_N(\mathbb{C})$$

- ▶ different choices of the basis of solutions \implies equivalent representations

Riemann-Hilbert correspondence:

$$\mathcal{RH} : \begin{array}{l} \text{parameter set } \mathcal{P} \\ \text{of the linear system} \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{space } \mathcal{M} \\ \text{of monodromy data} \end{array}$$

Consider moduli space of representations with fixed local monodromies.

$$\mathcal{M}_\theta := \text{Hom}(\pi_1(\mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{a\}), SL(N, \mathbb{C})) / \sim$$

Example: $N = 2$

- ▶ Schlesinger \implies Garnier system \mathcal{G}_{n-3}
- ▶ $\dim \mathcal{M}_\theta = 3(n-1) - 3 - n = 2(n-3)$
(complete set of conserved quantities for \mathcal{G}_{n-3} !)
- ▶ $n = 4 \implies$ Painlevé VI; $a = \{0, t, 1, \infty\}$

Monodromy provides a convenient labeling of Painlevé functions.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{solution of} & & \text{construction of} \\ \text{Painlevé equations} & = & \text{inverse map } \mathcal{RH}^{-1} \end{array}$$

General solution of PVI:

[Gamayun, Iorgov, OL, 1207.0787]

PVI tau function is a Fourier transform of $c = 1$ Virasoro conformal block:

$$\tau(t) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{in\eta} \mathcal{B}(\vec{\theta}, \sigma + n, t) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{in\eta} \begin{array}{c} \theta_1 \quad \theta_t \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \sigma+n \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \theta_\infty \quad \theta_0 \end{array} (t)$$

- ▶ $\mathcal{B}(\vec{\theta}, \sigma, t) = t^\alpha \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} B_k(\vec{\theta}, \sigma) t^k$, with B_k rational in $\vec{\theta}, \sigma$ and determined by commutation relations of Vir
- ▶ as $c \rightarrow \infty$, conformal block $\mathcal{B}(t) \sim {}_2F_1(t)$
- ▶ all 4 parameters $(\theta_0, \theta_t, \theta_1, \theta_\infty) \iff$ external momenta
- ▶ 2 integration constants $(\sigma, \eta) \iff$ internal momentum + Fourier conjugate variable
- ▶ explicit inverse of the Riemann-Hilbert map

CFT derivations:

[Iorgov, OL, Teschner, 1401.6104]

- ▶ understood in the framework of Liouville CFT and generalized to an arbitrary number of punctures (**Garnier system**)
- ▶ uses quantum monodromy of conformal blocks with additional level 2 degenerate insertions

[Bershtein, Shchekkin, 1406.3008]

- ▶ bilinear differential-difference equations for conformal blocks coming from an embedding $\text{Vir} \oplus \text{Vir} \subset \text{NSR} \oplus \mathbb{F}$
- ▶ extends to arbitrary values of central charge c

AGT correspondence [Alday, Gaiotto, Tachikawa, '09]

$$B(t) = \mathcal{Z}_{\text{inst}}(t) = \text{combinatorial sum over tuples of partitions} \quad [\text{Nekrasov, '04}]$$

- ▶ proved in [Alba, Fateev, Litvinov, Tarnopolsky, '10]
- ▶ provides explicit **series representation** for general Painlevé VI function!

Conjecture [Gamayun, Iorgov, OL, 1207.0787]

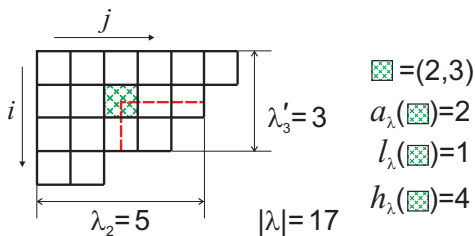
Complete expansion of Painlevé VI tau function at $t = 0$ is given by

$$\tau(t) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{in\eta} \mathcal{B}(\vec{\theta}, \sigma + n; t),$$

where the function $\mathcal{B}(\vec{\theta}, \sigma; t)$ is explicitly given by

$$\mathcal{B}(\vec{\theta}, \sigma; t) = N_{\theta_\infty, \sigma}^{\theta_1} N_{\sigma, \theta_0}^{\theta_t} t^{\sigma^2 - \theta_0^2 - \theta_t^2} (1-t)^{2\theta_t \theta_1} \sum_{\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{Y}} \mathcal{B}_{\lambda, \mu}(\vec{\theta}, \sigma) t^{|\lambda| + |\mu|},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}_{\lambda, \mu}(\theta, \sigma) &= \prod_{(i,j) \in \lambda} \frac{((\theta_t + \sigma + i - j)^2 - \theta_0^2) ((\theta_1 + \sigma + i - j)^2 - \theta_\infty^2)}{h_\lambda^2(i, j) (\lambda'_i - i + \mu_i - j + 1 + 2\sigma)^2} \times \\ &\times \prod_{(i,j) \in \mu} \frac{((\theta_t - \sigma + i - j)^2 - \theta_0^2) ((\theta_1 - \sigma + i - j)^2 - \theta_\infty^2)}{h_\mu^2(i, j) (\mu'_i - i + \lambda_i - j + 1 - 2\sigma)^2}, \\ N_{\theta_3, \theta_1}^{\theta_2} &= \frac{\prod_{\epsilon = \pm} G(1 + \theta_3 + \epsilon(\theta_1 + \theta_2)) G(1 - \theta_3 + \epsilon(\theta_1 - \theta_2))}{G(1 - 2\theta_1) G(1 - 2\theta_2) G(1 + 2\theta_3)}. \end{aligned}$$



Young diagram associated to partition
 $\lambda = \{6, 5, 4, 2\}$.

Question 2:

How to understand this combinatorial structure within the theory of monodromy preserving deformations? (without reference to CFT/gauge theory)

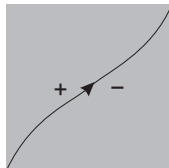
Scheme of the proof

Step 1: Represent the **tau function** of the Schlesinger system in the form of **Fredholm determinant**

- ▶ arbitrary rank N , arbitrary number n of regular singularities

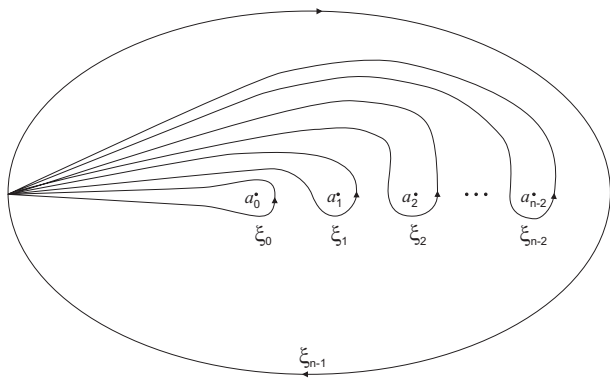
Riemann-Hilbert setup

- ▶ **contour** Γ on a Riemann surface Σ
- ▶ **jump matrix** $J : \Gamma \rightarrow GL(N, \mathbb{C})$



RHP defined by (Γ, J) is to find analytic invertible matrix function $\Psi : \Sigma \setminus \Gamma \rightarrow GL(N, \mathbb{C})$ whose boundary values satisfy

$$\Psi_+ = J\Psi_-$$

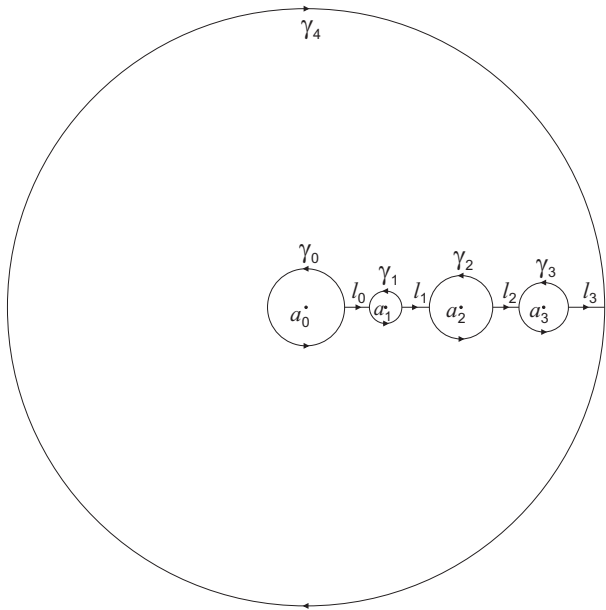


Monodromy representation $\rho : \pi_1 (\mathbb{P}^1 \setminus a) \rightarrow GL(N, \mathbb{C})$ generated by

$$M_k = \rho(\xi_k) = M_{1 \rightarrow k-1}^{-1} M_{1 \rightarrow k}$$

Assume that all $M_{1 \rightarrow k} = M_1 \dots M_k$ are diagonalizable,

$$M_{1 \rightarrow k} = S_k e^{2\pi i \mathfrak{S}_k} S_k^{-1}, \quad \mathfrak{S}_k = \text{diag} \{ \sigma_{k,1}, \dots, \sigma_{k,N} \}.$$



Contour Γ for $n = 5$

Fundamental matrix solution

$$\Phi(z) = \begin{cases} \Psi(z), & z \text{ outside } \gamma_{1\dots n}, \\ C_k (a_k - z)^{\Theta_k} \Psi(z), & z \text{ inside } \gamma_k, \quad k = 1, \dots, n-1, \\ C_n (-z)^{-\Theta_n} \Psi(z), & z \text{ inside } \gamma_n. \end{cases}$$

- ▶ only piecewise constant jumps on $\mathbb{R}_{>0}$
- ▶ matrix $\Phi^{-1} \partial_z \Phi$ meromorphic on \mathbb{P}^1 with poles only possible at a_1, \dots, a_n
- ▶ local analysis shows that

$$\partial_z \Phi = \Phi A(z), \quad A(z) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{A_k}{z - a_k}$$

$$\text{with } A_k = \Psi(a_k)^{-1} \Theta_k \Psi(a_k)$$

Jump data

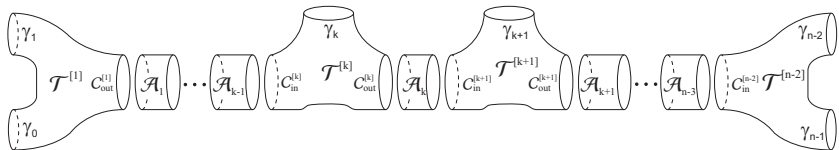
- ▶ **local exponents:** n diagonal non-resonant $N \times N$ matrices $\Theta_k = \text{diag} \{ \theta_{k,1}, \dots, \theta_{k,N} \}$ ($k = 1, \dots, n$) satisfying a consistency relation $\sum_{k=1}^n \text{Tr} \Theta_k = 0$
- ▶ **$2n$ connection matrices** $C_{k,\pm} \in \text{GL}(N, \mathbb{C})$ satisfying the constraints

$$\begin{aligned} M_{1 \rightarrow k} &:= C_{k,-} e^{2\pi i \Theta_k} C_{k,+}^{-1} = C_{k+1,-} C_{k+1,+}^{-1}, & k = 1, \dots, n-2, \\ M_{1 \rightarrow n-1} &:= C_{n-1,-} e^{2\pi i \Theta_{n-1}} C_{n-1,+}^{-1} = C_{n,-} e^{-2\pi i \Theta_n} C_{n,+}^{-1}, \\ M_{1 \rightarrow n} &:= \mathbf{1} = C_{n,-} C_{n,+}^{-1} = C_{1,-} C_{1,+}^{-1}, \end{aligned}$$

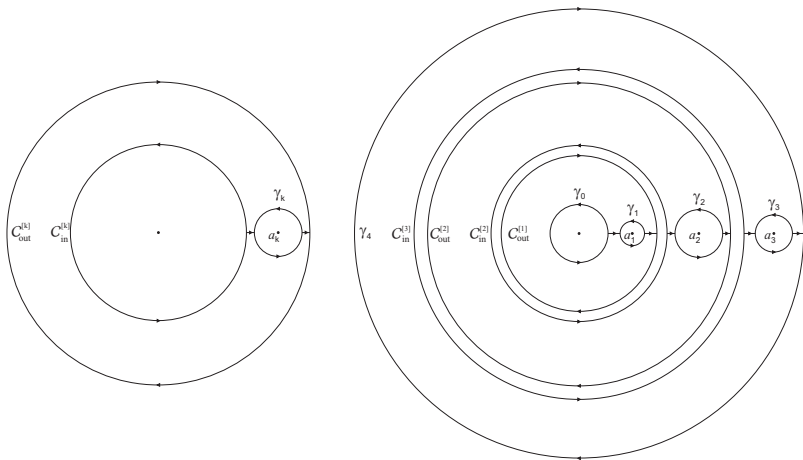
Jump matrix J

$$\begin{aligned} J(z) \Big|_{\ell_k} &= M_{1 \rightarrow k}^{-1}, & k = 1, \dots, n-1, \\ J(z) \Big|_{\gamma_k} &= (a_k - z)^{-\Theta_k} C_{k,\pm}^{-1}, & \Im z \geq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, n-1, \\ J(z) \Big|_{\gamma_n} &= (-z)^{\Theta_n} C_{n,\pm}^{-1}, & \Im z \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Auxiliary 3-point RHPs



- ▶ we are going to associate to the n -point RHP $n - 2$ **3-point** RHPs assigned to different trinions



Contour $\Gamma^{[k]}$ (left) and $\hat{\Gamma}$ for $n = 5$ (right)

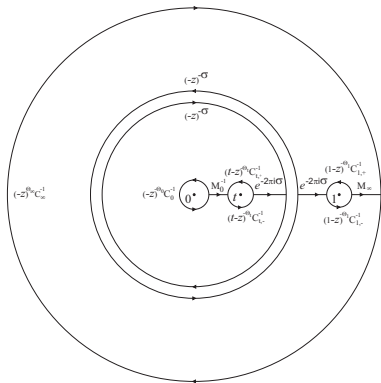
- ▶ $\hat{\Psi}(z) = \begin{cases} \Psi(z) & \text{outside the annuli,} \\ (-z)^{-\Theta_k} S_k^{-1} \Psi(z) & \text{inside.} \end{cases}$
- ▶ jumps on the boundary circles $C_{k-1}^{\text{out}}, C_k^{\text{in}}$ mimic regular singularities characterized by counterclockwise monodromies $M_{1 \rightarrow k}$

Example ($n = 4$)

$$\tau(t) = t^{\frac{1}{2}} \text{Tr}(\Theta^2 - \Theta_0^2 - \Theta_t^2) \det(\mathbf{1} + K),$$

with

$$K = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a \\ d & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \text{End}(\mathcal{V})$$



where the operators $a : \mathcal{V}_- \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_+$ and $d : \mathcal{V}_+ \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_-$ are

$$(ag)(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathcal{C}} a(z, z') g(z') dz', \quad a(z, z') = \frac{\Psi^{\text{ext}}(z) \Psi^{\text{ext}}(z')^{-1} - \mathbf{1}}{z - z'},$$

$$(dg)(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathcal{C}} d(z, z') g(z') dz', \quad d(z, z') = \frac{\mathbf{1} - \Psi^{\text{int}}(z) \Psi^{\text{int}}(z')^{-1}}{z - z'}.$$

For $N = 2$:

$$a(z, z') = \frac{(1 - z')^{2\theta_1} \begin{pmatrix} K_{++}(z) & K_{+-}(z) \\ K_{-+}(z) & K_{--}(z) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} K_{--}(z') & -K_{+-}(z') \\ -K_{-+}(z') & K_{++}(z') \end{pmatrix} - 1}{z - z'},$$

$$d(z, z') = \frac{1 - (1 - \frac{t}{z'})^{2\theta_t} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{K}_{++}(z) & \bar{K}_{+-}(z) \\ \bar{K}_{-+}(z) & \bar{K}_{--}(z) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{K}_{--}(z') & -\bar{K}_{+-}(z') \\ -\bar{K}_{-+}(z') & \bar{K}_{++}(z') \end{pmatrix}}{z - z'},$$

with

$$K_{\pm\pm}(z) = {}_2F_1 \left[\begin{matrix} \theta_1 + \theta_\infty \pm \sigma, \theta_1 - \theta_\infty \pm \sigma \\ \pm 2\sigma \end{matrix} ; z \right],$$

$$K_{\pm\mp}(z) = \pm \frac{\theta_\infty^2 - (\theta_1 \pm \sigma)^2}{2\sigma(1 \pm 2\sigma)} z {}_2F_1 \left[\begin{matrix} 1 + \theta_1 + \theta_\infty \pm \sigma, 1 + \theta_1 - \theta_\infty \pm \sigma \\ 2 \pm 2\sigma \end{matrix} ; z \right],$$

$$\bar{K}_{\pm\pm}(z) = {}_2F_1 \left[\begin{matrix} \theta_t + \theta_0 \mp \sigma, \theta_t - \theta_0 \mp \sigma \\ \mp 2\sigma \end{matrix} ; \frac{t}{z} \right],$$

$$\bar{K}_{\pm\mp}(z) = \mp t^{\mp 2\sigma} e^{\mp i\eta} \frac{\theta_0^2 - (\theta_t \mp \sigma)^2}{2\sigma(1 \mp 2\sigma)} \frac{t}{z} {}_2F_1 \left[\begin{matrix} 1 + \theta_t + \theta_0 \mp \sigma, 1 + \theta_t - \theta_0 \mp \sigma \\ 2 \mp 2\sigma \end{matrix} ; \frac{t}{z} \right].$$

Idea of the proof

- ▶ For a circle $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{A}$ define

$$\tilde{\Psi}(z) = \begin{cases} \Psi^{\text{ext}}(z)^{-1} \hat{\Psi}(z), & \text{outside } \mathcal{C}, \\ \Psi^{\text{int}}(z)^{-1} \hat{\Psi}(z), & \text{inside } \mathcal{C}. \end{cases}$$

- ▶ contour $\tilde{\Gamma} = \mathcal{C}$ (single circle), jump $J : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{GL}(N, \mathbb{C})$ is

$$J(z) = \Psi^{\text{int}}(z)^{-1} \Psi^{\text{ext}}(z) = \tilde{\Psi}_+(z) \tilde{\Psi}_-(z)^{-1}$$

Given the symbol $J(z) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} J_k z^k$, $z \in \mathcal{A}$, define

$$T_K[J] = (J_{k-k'}), \quad H_K[J] = (J_{k+k'+1}), \quad \bar{H}_K[J] = (J_{-k-k'-1}), \quad k, k' = 0, \dots, K-1.$$

Theorem [Widom '76]. Let $C[J] = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathcal{C}} \ln \det J(z) d \ln z$, then the limit

$$D[J] = \lim_{K \rightarrow \infty} C[J]^{-K} \det T_K[J]$$

exists and is equal to

$$D[J] = \det T_\infty[J] T_\infty[J^{-1}] = \det (\mathbf{1} - H_\infty[J] \bar{H}_\infty[J^{-1}]).$$

Corollary. For symbols admitting 1st factorization, the Widom's constant $D[J]$ may be rewritten as

$$D[J] = \det(\mathbf{1} + K), \quad K = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a \\ d & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \text{End}(\mathcal{V}_+ \oplus \mathcal{V}_-),$$

where the operators $a : \mathcal{V}_- \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_+$, $d : \mathcal{V}_+ \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_-$ are defined by

$$a = \Psi^{\text{ext}} \Pi_+ \Psi^{\text{ext}-1} \Big|_{\mathcal{V}_-}, \quad d = \Psi^{\text{int}} \Pi_- \Psi^{\text{int}-1} \Big|_{\mathcal{V}_+}.$$

Theorem [Widom '74]. For symbols admitting left and right factorizations, the log-derivatives of the Dyson's constant wrt parameters are given by

$$\partial_t \ln D[J] = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_C \text{Tr} \left(J^{-1} \partial_t J \left[\partial_z \left(\tilde{\Psi}_- \right) \tilde{\Psi}_-^{-1} + \Psi^{\text{ext}-1} \partial_z \left(\Psi^{\text{ext}} \right) \right] \right) dz.$$

- Dyson's constant = tau function !!!

Step 2: Write U in the Fourier basis and expand Fredholm determinant using von Koch formula:

$$\det(\mathbf{1} + K) = \sum_{\mathfrak{y} \in 2^{\mathfrak{x}}} \det K_{\mathfrak{y}}, \quad U \in \mathbb{C}^{\mathfrak{x} \times \mathfrak{x}}$$

- ▶ multi-indices of principal minors

$$\det K_{\mathfrak{y}} = \det \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a'_J \\ d'_I & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

incorporate **color** indices $\alpha = 1, \dots, N$ and (half-)integer **Fourier** indices

- ▶ combinatorial expansion

$$\det(\mathbf{1} + K) = \sum_{(I, J) \in \text{Conf}_+} \det a'_J \det d'_I,$$

with balance condition $|I| = |J|$

- ▶ elements of Conf_+ are in bijection with N -tuples of **Young diagrams** of zero total charge
- ▶ in the case $N = 2$

$$\det(\mathbf{1} + K) = \sum_{(I, J) \in \mathbb{Y}^2 \times \mathbb{Z}} \det a'_J \det d'_I$$

Step 3: Explicit computation of elementary determinants $\det a'_j$, $\det d'_j$ of Plemelj operators

- ▶ in the case $N = 2 \implies$ **Cauchy determinants** $\det \frac{1}{x_i - y_j}$
- ▶ rewrite resulting factorized expressions using lengths of rows/columns instead of positions of particles/holes of different colors

Cauchy-Plemelj operators

- ▶ associate to every trinion \mathcal{T}_k with $k = 2, \dots, n - 3$ the spaces of vector-valued functions

$$\mathcal{H}^{[k]} = \bigoplus_{\epsilon=\text{in},\text{out}} \left(\mathcal{H}_{\epsilon,+}^{[k]} \oplus \mathcal{H}_{\epsilon,-}^{[k]} \right), \quad \mathcal{H}_{\epsilon,\pm}^{[k]} = \mathbb{C}^N \otimes \mathcal{V}_{\pm}(\mathcal{C}_k^{\epsilon}).$$

- ▶ elements $f^{[k]} \in \mathcal{H}^{[k]}$ will be written as

$$f^{[k]} = \begin{pmatrix} f_{\text{in},-}^{[k]} \\ f_{\text{out},+}^{[k]} \end{pmatrix} \oplus \begin{pmatrix} f_{\text{in},+}^{[k]} \\ f_{\text{out},-}^{[k]} \end{pmatrix}.$$

- ▶ define an operator $\mathcal{P}^{[k]} : \mathcal{H}^{[k]} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^{[k]}$ by

$$\mathcal{P}^{[k]} f^{[k]}(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathcal{C}_k^{\text{in}} \cup \mathcal{C}_k^{\text{out}}} \frac{\Psi_+^{[k]}(z) \Psi_+^{[k]}(z')^{-1} f^{[k]}(z') dz'}{z - z'}$$

Lemma. We have $(\mathcal{P}^{[k]})^2 = \mathcal{P}^{[k]}$ and $\ker \mathcal{P}^{[k]} = \mathcal{H}_{\text{in},+}^{[k]} \oplus \mathcal{H}_{\text{out},-}^{[k]}$. Moreover, $\mathcal{P}^{[k]}$ can be explicitly written as

$$\mathcal{P}^{[k]} : \left(\begin{array}{c} f_{\text{in},-}^{[k]} \\ f_{\text{out},+}^{[k]} \end{array} \right) \oplus \left(\begin{array}{c} f_{\text{in},+}^{[k]} \\ f_{\text{out},-}^{[k]} \end{array} \right) \mapsto \left(\begin{array}{c} f_{\text{in},-}^{[k]} \\ f_{\text{out},+}^{[k]} \end{array} \right) \oplus \left(\begin{array}{cc} a^{[k]} & b^{[k]} \\ c^{[k]} & d^{[k]} \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c} f_{\text{in},-}^{[k]} \\ f_{\text{out},+}^{[k]} \end{array} \right),$$

where the operators $a^{[k]}$, $b^{[k]}$, $c^{[k]}$, $d^{[k]}$ are defined by

$$(a^{[k]}g)(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{C_k^{\text{in}}} [\Psi_+^{[k]}(z) \Psi_+^{[k]}(z')^{-1} - \mathbf{1}] \frac{g(z') dz'}{z - z'}, \quad z \in C_k^{\text{in}},$$

$$(b^{[k]}g)(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{C_k^{\text{out}}} \Psi_+^{[k]}(z) \Psi_+^{[k]}(z')^{-1} \frac{g(z') dz'}{z - z'}, \quad z \in C_k^{\text{in}},$$

$$(c^{[k]}g)(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{C_k^{\text{in}}} \Psi_+^{[k]}(z) \Psi_+^{[k]}(z')^{-1} \frac{g(z') dz'}{z - z'}, \quad z \in C_k^{\text{out}},$$

$$(d^{[k]}g)(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{C_k^{\text{out}}} [\Psi_+^{[k]}(z) \Psi_+^{[k]}(z')^{-1} - \mathbf{1}] \frac{g(z') dz'}{z - z'}, \quad z \in C_k^{\text{out}}.$$

- ▶ introduce the total space

$$\mathcal{H} := \bigoplus_{k=1}^{n-2} \mathcal{H}^{[k]}.$$

- ▶ there is a splitting

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_+ \oplus \mathcal{H}_-,$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\pm} := \mathcal{H}_{\text{out},\pm}^{[1]} \oplus \left(\mathcal{H}_{\text{in},\mp}^{[2]} \oplus \mathcal{H}_{\text{out},\pm}^{[2]} \right) \oplus \dots \oplus \left(\mathcal{H}_{\text{in},\mp}^{[n-3]} \oplus \mathcal{H}_{\text{out},\pm}^{[n-3]} \right) \oplus \mathcal{H}_{\text{in},\mp}^{[n-2]}.$$

- ▶ combine the 3-point projections $\mathcal{P}^{[k]}$ into an operator $\mathcal{P}_{\oplus} : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ given by the direct sum

$$\mathcal{P}_{\oplus} = \mathcal{P}^{[1]} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{P}^{[n-2]}.$$

- ▶ similarly, define another projection $\mathcal{P}_{\Sigma} : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ by

$$\mathcal{P}_{\Sigma} f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathcal{C}_{\Sigma}} \frac{\hat{\Psi}_+(z) \hat{\Psi}_+(z')^{-1} f(z') dz'}{z - z'}, \quad \mathcal{C}_{\Sigma} := \bigcup_{k=1}^{n-3} \mathcal{C}_k^{\text{out}} \cup \mathcal{C}_{k+1}^{\text{in}}.$$

- ▶ it is easy to show that $\mathcal{P}_\Sigma \mathcal{P}_\oplus = \mathcal{P}_\oplus$ and $\mathcal{P}_\oplus \mathcal{P}_\Sigma = \mathcal{P}_\Sigma$
- ▶ the space

$$\mathcal{H}_\mathcal{T} := \text{im } \mathcal{P}_\oplus = \text{im } \mathcal{P}_\Sigma.$$

can be thought of as the subspace of functions on the union of boundary circles $\mathcal{C}_k^{\text{in}}, \mathcal{C}_k^{\text{out}}$ that can be continued inside $\bigcup_{k=1}^{n-2} \mathcal{T}_k$ with monodromy and singular behavior of the n -point fundamental matrix solution $\Phi(z)$

- ▶ varying the positions of singular points, one obtains a trajectory of $\mathcal{H}_\mathcal{T}$ in the infinite-dimensional Grassmannian $\text{Gr}(\mathcal{H})$ defined with respect to the splitting $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_+ \oplus \mathcal{H}_-$
- ▶ each of the subspaces \mathcal{H}_\pm may be identified with $N(n-3)$ copies of the space $L^2(S^1)$ of functions on a circle; the factor $n-3$ corresponds to the number of annuli and N is the rank of the appropriate RHP

- ▶ introduce operators $\mathcal{P}_{\oplus,+} : \mathcal{H}_+ \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_T$ and $\mathcal{P}_{\Sigma,+} : \mathcal{H}_+ \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_T$ given by restrictions of \mathcal{P}_{\oplus} and \mathcal{P}_{Σ} to \mathcal{H}_+
- ▶ define $L \in \text{End}(\mathcal{H}_+)$ defined by

$$L := \mathcal{P}_{\oplus,+}^{-1} \mathcal{P}_{\Sigma,+}$$

- ▶ there exists a basis in which $L^{-1} = \mathbf{1} - K$, with

$$K = \begin{pmatrix} U_1 & V_1 & 0 & \cdot & 0 \\ W_1 & U_2 & V_2 & \cdot & 0 \\ 0 & W_2 & U_3 & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & V_{n-4} \\ 0 & 0 & \cdot & W_{n-4} & U_{n-3} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{g} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{g}_1 \\ \tilde{g}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \tilde{g}_{n-3} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tilde{g}_k = \begin{pmatrix} g_{\text{out},+}^{[k]} \\ g_{\text{in},-}^{[k+1]} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$U_k = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a^{[k+1]} \\ d^{[k]} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad V_k = \begin{pmatrix} b^{[k+1]} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad W_k = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c^{[k+1]} \end{pmatrix}$$

Definition

The tau function associated to the Riemann-Hilbert problem for Ψ is defined as

$$\tau(\mathbf{a}) := \det(L^{-1})$$

Theorem

We have

$$\tau(\mathbf{a}) = \Upsilon(\mathbf{a})^{-1} \tau_{\text{JMU}}(\mathbf{a}),$$

where $\tau_{\text{JMU}}(\mathbf{a})$ is defined up to a prefactor independent of \mathbf{a} by

$$d_a \ln \tau_{\text{JMU}} = \sum_{1 \leq k < l \leq n-1} \text{Tr} A_k A_l d \ln(a_k - a_l),$$

and $\Upsilon(\mathbf{a}) = \prod_{k=2}^{n-2} a_k^{\bar{\Delta}_k - \bar{\Delta}_{k-1} - \Delta_k}$, with $\Delta_k = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \Theta_k^2$, $\bar{\Delta}_k = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \mathfrak{G}_k^2$

Fourier basis

Let us represent the elements of \mathcal{H}_C by their Laurent series inside \mathcal{A} ,

$$f(z) = \sum_{p \in \mathbb{Z}'} f^p z^{-\frac{1}{2}+p}, \quad f^p \in \mathbb{C}^N,$$

and write integral kernels of 3-point projection operators $a^{[k]}$, $b^{[k]}$, $c^{[k]}$, $d^{[k]}$ as

$$a^{[k]}(z, z') := \frac{\Psi_+^{[k]}(z) \Psi_+^{[k]}(z')^{-1} - \mathbf{1}}{z - z'} = \sum_{p, q \in \mathbb{Z}'_+} a_{-q}^{[k] p} z^{-\frac{1}{2}+p} z'^{-\frac{1}{2}+q}, \quad z, z' \in \mathcal{C}_k^{\text{in}},$$

$$b^{[k]}(z, z') := -\frac{\Psi_+^{[k]}(z) \Psi_+^{[k]}(z')^{-1}}{z - z'} = \sum_{p, q \in \mathbb{Z}'_+} b^{[k] p}_q z^{-\frac{1}{2}+p} z'^{-\frac{1}{2}-q}, \quad z \in \mathcal{C}_k^{\text{in}}, z' \in \mathcal{C}_k^{\text{out}}$$

$$c^{[k]}(z, z') := \frac{\Psi_+^{[k]}(z) \Psi_+^{[k]}(z')^{-1}}{z - z'} = \sum_{p, q \in \mathbb{Z}'_+} c^{[k] -p}_{-q} z^{-\frac{1}{2}-p} z'^{-\frac{1}{2}+q}, \quad z \in \mathcal{C}_k^{\text{out}}, z' \in \mathcal{C}_k^{\text{in}}$$

$$d^{[k]}(z, z') := \frac{\mathbf{1} - \Psi_+^{[k]}(z) \Psi_+^{[k]}(z')^{-1}}{z - z'} = \sum_{p, q \in \mathbb{Z}'_+} d^{[k] -p}_q z^{-\frac{1}{2}-p} z'^{-\frac{1}{2}-q}, \quad z, z' \in \mathcal{C}_k^{\text{out}}.$$

Von Koch's formula

Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{\mathfrak{X} \times \mathfrak{X}}$ be a matrix indexed by a discrete and possibly infinite set \mathfrak{X} . The basic tool for expanding $\tau(a)$ is the formula

$$\det(\mathbf{1} + A) = \sum_{\mathfrak{Y} \in 2^{\mathfrak{X}}} \det A_{\mathfrak{Y}},$$

where $\det A_{\mathfrak{Y}}$ denotes the $|\mathfrak{Y}| \times |\mathfrak{Y}|$ principal minor obtained by restriction of A to a subset $\mathfrak{Y} \subseteq \mathfrak{X}$.

In our case : A is K in the Fourier basis. Elements of \mathfrak{X} are multi-indices which encode the following data:

- ▶ positions of the blocks $a^{[k]}$, $b^{[k]}$, $c^{[k]}$, $d^{[k]}$ in K
- ▶ a half-integer Fourier index of the appropriate block;
- ▶ a color index in $\{1, \dots, N\}$.

Combine Fourier and color indices into one multi-index

$$i = (p, \alpha) \in \mathfrak{N} := \mathbb{Z}' \times \{1, \dots, N\}$$

Unordered sets $\{i_1, \dots, i_m\} \in 2^{\mathfrak{N}}$ of such multi-indices are denoted by I or J . Given $M \in \mathbb{C}^{\mathfrak{N} \times \mathfrak{N}}$, we denote by M_I^J its restriction to rows I and columns J .

Principal minor

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & (a^{[2]})_{J_1}^{I_1} & (b^{[2]})_{I_2}^{I_1} & 0 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & 0 & 0 \\ (d^{[1]})_{I_1}^{J_1} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (a^{[3]})_{J_2}^{I_2} & (b^{[3]})_{I_3}^{I_2} & \cdot & \cdot & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & (c^{[2]})_{J_1}^{J_2} & (d^{[2]})_{I_2}^{J_2} & 0 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (c^{[3]})_{J_2}^{J_3} & (d^{[3]})_{I_3}^{J_3} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & (b^{[n-3]})_{I_{n-3}}^{I_{n-2}} & 0 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & 0 & 0 & (a^{[n-2]})_{J_{n-3}}^{I_{n-3}} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & (c^{[n-3]})_{J_{n-4}}^{J_{n-3}} & (d^{[n-3]})_{I_{n-3}}^{J_{n-3}} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

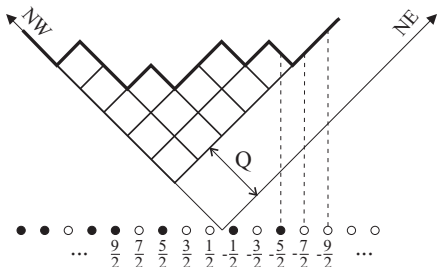
- ▶ vanishes unless **balance condition** $|I_k| = |J_k|$ is satisfied
- ▶ **factorization** into a product of elementary determinants

$$Z_{I_k, J_k}^{I_{k-1}, J_{k-1}}(\mathcal{T}^{[k]}) := (-1)^{|I_k|} \det \begin{pmatrix} (a^{[k]})_{J_{k-1}}^{I_{k-1}} & (b^{[k]})_{I_k}^{I_{k-1}} \\ (c^{[k]})_{J_{k-1}}^{J_k} & (d^{[k]})_{I_k}^{J_k} \end{pmatrix}$$

Corollary: Fredholm determinant $\tau(a)$ is given by

$$\tau(a) = \sum_{(\vec{I}, \vec{J}) \in \text{Conf}_+} \prod_{k=1}^{n-2} z_{I_k, J_k}^{I_{k-1}, J_{k-1}} \left(\mathcal{T}^{[k]} \right)$$

- ▶ The set Conf_+ of proper balanced configurations (\vec{I}, \vec{J}) may be described in terms of Maya diagrams and charged partitions
- ▶ A **Maya diagram** is a map $m : \mathbb{Z}' \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$ subject to the condition $m(p) = \pm 1$ for all but finitely many $p \in \mathbb{Z}'_{\pm}$ (positions of **particles** and **holes**)
- ▶ $\text{charge}(m) = \#(\text{particles}) - \#(\text{holes})$
- ▶ balanced configurations (I_k, J_k) are in one-to-one correspondence with N -tuples of Maya diagrams of **zero total charge**



- ▶ here the charge $Q(m) = 2$ and the positions of particles and holes are given by $p(m) = (\frac{13}{2}, \frac{7}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$ and $h(m) = (-\frac{5}{2}, -\frac{1}{2})$
- ▶ $\mathbb{M}_0^N \cong \mathbb{Y}^N \times \Omega_N$, where Ω_N denotes the A_{N-1} root lattice:

$$\Omega_N := \left\{ \vec{Q} \in \mathbb{Z}^N \mid \sum_{\alpha=1}^N Q^{(\alpha)} = 0 \right\}.$$

Alternative combinatorial notation :

$$Z_{\vec{Y}_k, \vec{Q}_k}^{\vec{Y}_{k-1}, \vec{Q}_{k-1}}(\mathcal{T}^{[k]}) := Z_{I_k, J_k}^{I_{k-1}, J_{k-1}}(\mathcal{T}^{[k]}),$$

Theorem

Fredholm determinant $\tau(a)$ can be written as a combinatorial series

$$\tau(a) = \sum_{\vec{Q}_1, \dots, \vec{Q}_{n-3} \in \Omega_N} \sum_{\vec{Y}_1, \dots, \vec{Y}_{n-3} \in \mathbb{Y}^N} \prod_{k=1}^{n-2} Z_{\vec{Y}_k, \vec{Q}_k}^{\vec{Y}_{k-1}, \vec{Q}_{k-1}}(\mathcal{T}^{[k]})$$

- ▶ elementary determinants $Z_{\vec{Y}_k, \vec{Q}_k}^{\vec{Y}_{k-1}, \vec{Q}_{k-1}}$ are constructed from matrix elements of 3-point Plemelj operators in Fourier basis
- ▶ in rank $N = 2$, they are given by **Cauchy matrices** conjugated by diagonal factors \Rightarrow explicitly computable !!!
- ▶ the result coincides with **dual** Nekrasov partition function for $U(2)$ linear quiver gauge theory **with $\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2 = 0$**
- ▶ series representation for general solution of **PVI/Garnier system**
- ▶ rank $N \Rightarrow$ a **sum** of $N - 1$ Cauchy matrices (unless additional spectral conditions are imposed)

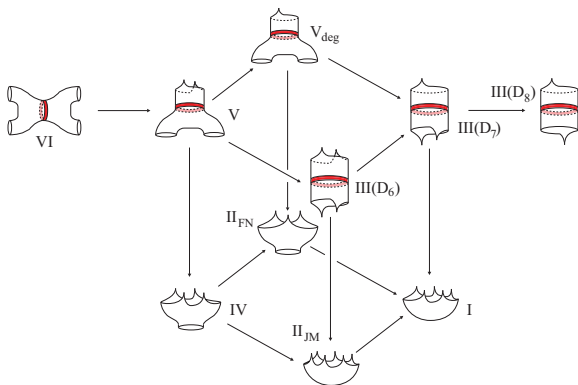
Conclusions

1. Isomonodromic **tau functions** of Fuchsian systems can be written as **block Fredholm determinants** whose kernels are built of fundamental solutions of 3-point Fuchsian systems
2. Expanding these determinants in Fourier basis leads to **combinatorial series** over tuples of partitions
3. The coefficients of the series can be computed explicitly when 3-point solutions have hypergeometric representations (in particular for $N = 2$)

Generalizations

1. Irregular case [[Nagoya, '15](#)]
2. q -Painlevé equations [[Bershtein, Shchekkin, '16](#)]
3. ...

Other Painlevé equations



Chekhov-Mazzocco-Rubtsov confluence diagram



Gauss



Whittaker



Bessel

Some solvable RHPs in rank $N = 2$