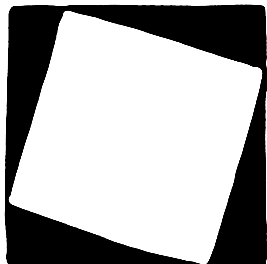


*Non-perturbative partition functions
in susy QFT*

Lotte Hollands



Maxwell Institute



THE ROYAL
SOCIETY

a rather elegant picture is emerging

for the non-perturbative topological string:

BPS quivers

Riemann-Hilbert problems /

DT invariants

[Bridgeland et al.]

[Alim, Saha, Tschner, Tulli]

wall-crossing

holomorphic Floer theory

[Kontsevich-Soibelman]

exact WKB analysis

abelianization

topological string / spectral theory

[Grassi, Marino, Gu, ...]

non-perturbative
topological string

susy gauge theory

Ω -background

[Nekrasov, Shatashvili]

[Gaiotto, Moore, Neitzke]

BPS states

spectral networks

[H, Neitzke]

TBA-like integral eqns

[H, R\"uler, Szabo]

[Grassi, Hao, Neitzke]

[Alim, H, Tulli]

4d $\mathcal{N}=2$ theories and Seiberg-Witten geometry

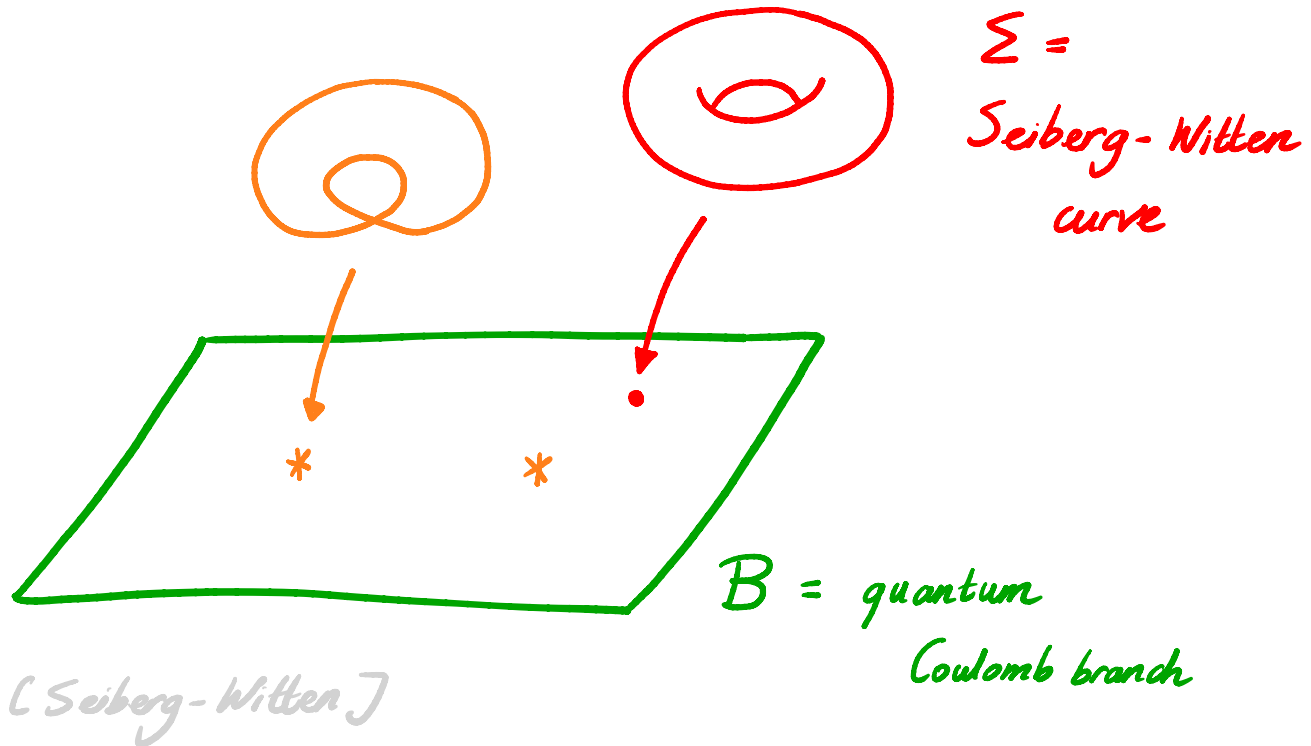


beautiful structure

+ clear path for 5d
generalization

Start in 4d with $N=2$ th. e.g. pure $SU(2)$ SYM

Low energy description:

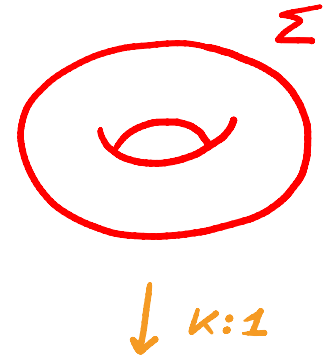


4d $N=2$ thys of class S
 rank $K \leftrightarrow su(K)$

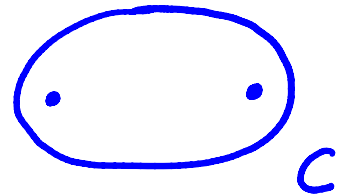
e.g. pure $SU(2)$ gauge thys
 but also intrinsically strongly
 coupled thys $MN E_6$



Seiberg-Witten curve $\Sigma \subset T_y^* C_x$
 $\{ \det(\gamma - \varphi(x)) = 0 \}$ $\lambda = y dx$

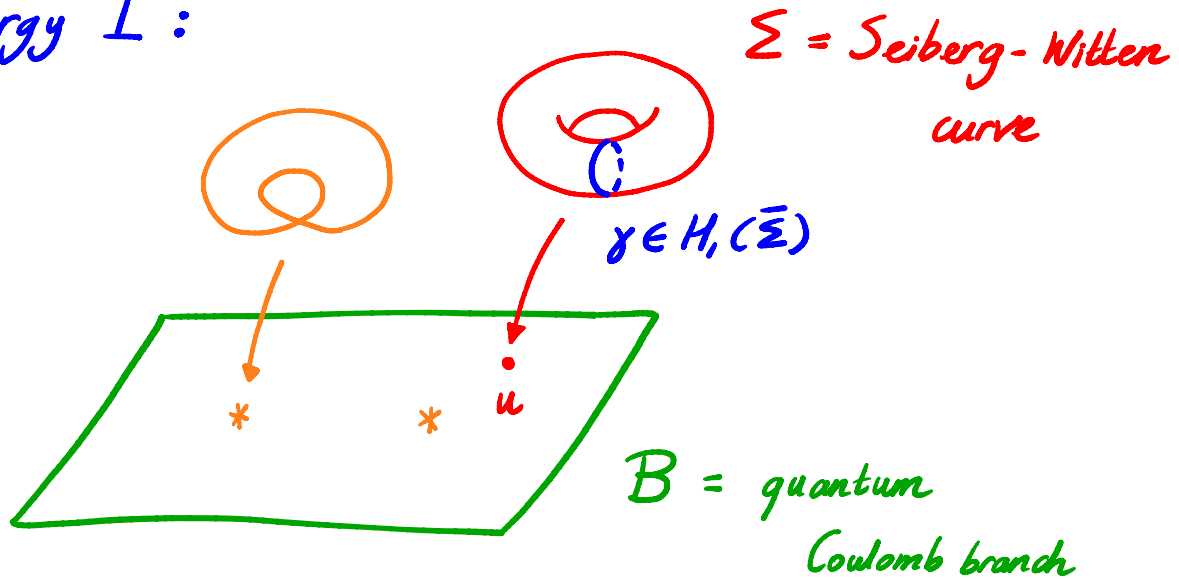


spectral curve in
 Hitchin integrable system



[Gaiotto], [Gaiotto-Moore-Neitzke]

Low energy \mathcal{I} :



hol'c central charge function $\mathcal{Z}: H_1(\bar{\Sigma}_u) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

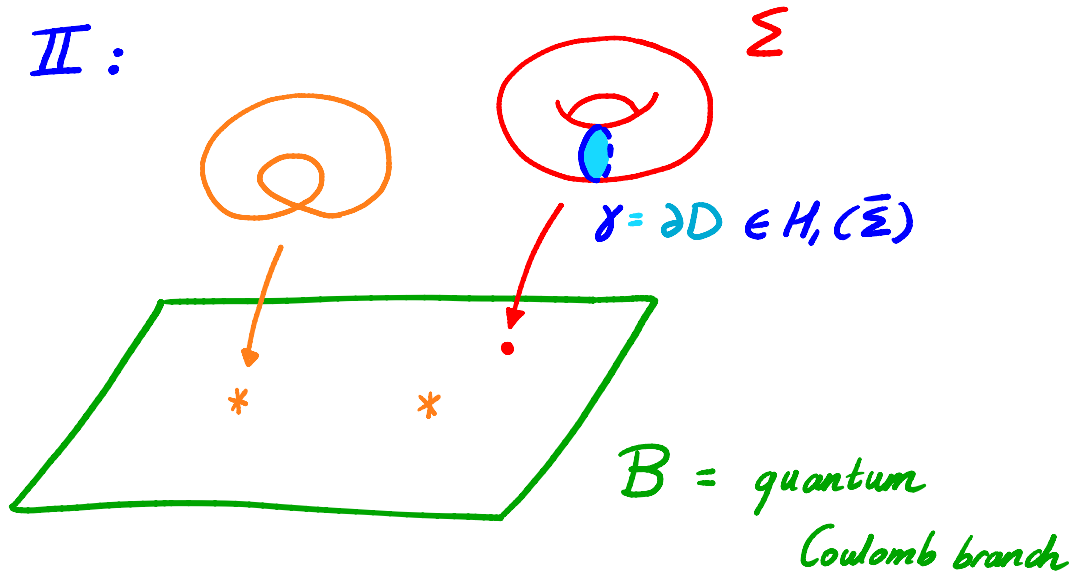
$$\mathcal{Z}(\gamma) = \oint_{\gamma} \lambda$$

$$\mathcal{Z}(\alpha^I) \equiv a^I$$

$$\mathcal{Z}(\beta_I) \equiv a_{0,I}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{Z}(\alpha^I) \equiv a^I \\ \mathcal{Z}(\beta_I) \equiv a_{0,I} \end{array} \right\} \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}_0}{\partial a^I} = a_{D,I} \quad \text{hol'c prepotential}$$

Low energy II :



BPS particles

$$\mathcal{H}_{u,\gamma}^{\text{BPS}} = \{ \psi \in \mathcal{H}_{u,\gamma} \mid H\psi = |Z_\gamma(u)|\psi \}$$

\uparrow Hilbert space in vacuum u

BPS condition

$$|\oint_\gamma \lambda| = \oint_\gamma |\lambda|$$

(calibration)

\uparrow phase λ "constant along γ "

[Klemm, Lerche,
Mayr, Vafa]

hol'c prepotential

$$Z(\alpha^I) = a^I$$

$$Z(\beta_I) = a_{D,I}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} Z(\alpha^I) = a^I \\ Z(\beta_I) = a_{D,I} \end{array} \right\} \frac{\partial F_0}{\partial a^I} = a_{D,I}$$

$$F_0 = F_0^{cl} + F_0^{1-loop} + F_0^{inst}$$

vs \updownarrow

$$\uparrow \\ \tau \underline{a}^2$$

$$\uparrow \\ \underline{a}^2 \log \underline{a}^2$$

$$\uparrow \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} F_k(\underline{a}) \Lambda^{4k}$$

BPS particles

$$\mathcal{H}_{u,\gamma}^{BPS} = \{ \psi \in \mathcal{H}_{u,\gamma} \mid H\psi = |Z_\gamma(u)|\psi \}$$

\uparrow Hilbert space in vacuum u

beautiful relation between these objects

\leadsto

if we consider the $N=2$ theory

in the Ω -background

[LH, Neitzke]²

[LH, Rüter, Szabo]

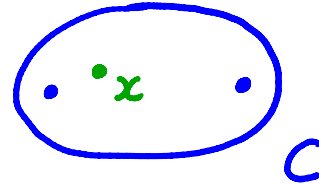
[Grassi, Hao, Neitzke]²

[Alim, LH, Tulli]

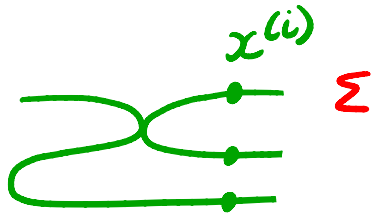
Surface defects and BPS states

UV curve C plays another important role
in the 4d $N=2$ theory:

C = moduli space of
canonical surface
defect S_x



x



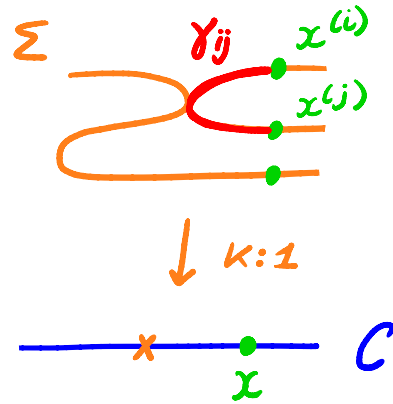
\downarrow $k=1$



$x^{(i)}$ parametrize the
vacua of the 2d $N=(2,2)$
worldvolume theory T_x
on the defect

[Cecotti-Vafa]

The 2d theory T_x has a spectrum of 2d BPS states that describe the tunneling between the vacua $x^{(i)}$



BPS condition: $|\oint_{\gamma_{ij}} \lambda| = \oint_{\gamma_{ij}} |\lambda|$

Both 2d and 4d BPS states may be visualized using the technology of spectral networks $\mathcal{W}_{u, \vartheta}$:

Fix phase ϑ , draw all real 1-dim'l trajectories on C with

$$(\lambda_j - \lambda_k) \cdot v \in e^{i\vartheta} \mathbb{R}$$

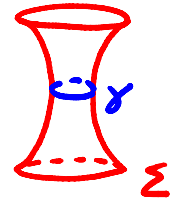
[Gaiotto-Moore-Neitzke]

Example:

$$\Sigma = \{y^2 = x^2 - m\}$$

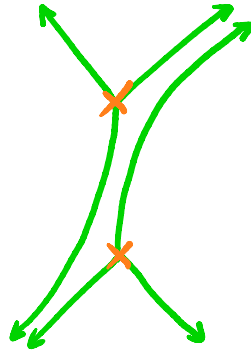
$\downarrow 2:1$

$$C = \mathbb{C}$$



real 1-dim'l trajectories defined by $\lambda \cdot v \in e^{i\theta} \mathbb{R}$:

generic \mathcal{O} :

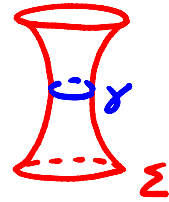


Example:

$$\Sigma = \{y^2 = x^2 - m\}$$

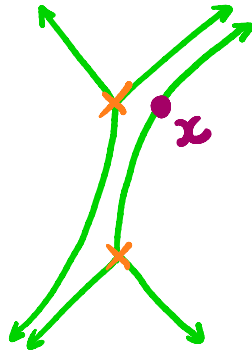
$$\downarrow 2:1$$

$$C = \mathbb{C}$$



real 1-dim'l trajedonies defined by $\lambda \cdot v \in e^{i\theta} \mathbb{R}$:

generic \mathcal{O} :



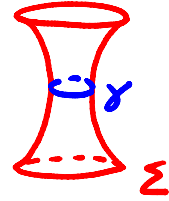
insert surface
defect T_x

Example:

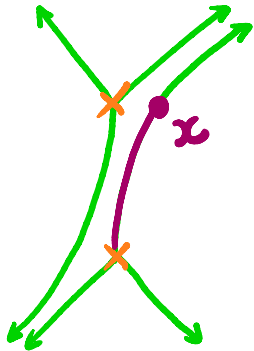
$$\Sigma = \{y^2 = x^2 - m\}$$

$\downarrow 2:1$

$$C = \mathbb{C}$$



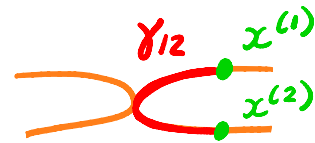
real 1-dim'l trajectories defined by $\lambda \cdot v \in e^{i\theta} \mathbb{R}$:



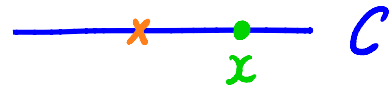
consider open

trajectory ending on x

\hookrightarrow lifts to



$\downarrow 2:1$



say $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}_c^{2d}$

2d BPS state in T_x

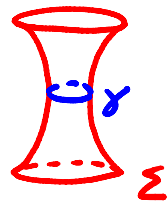
with $\arg(\mathbb{Z}_{2d}) = \mathcal{O}_c^{2d}$

Example:

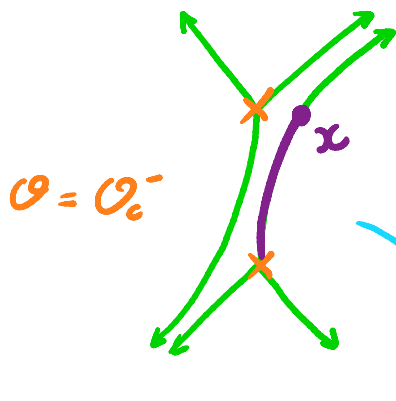
$$\Sigma = \{y^2 = x^2 - m\}$$

$$\downarrow 2:1$$

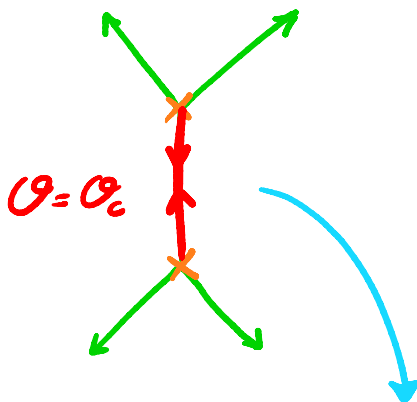
$$C = \mathbb{C}$$



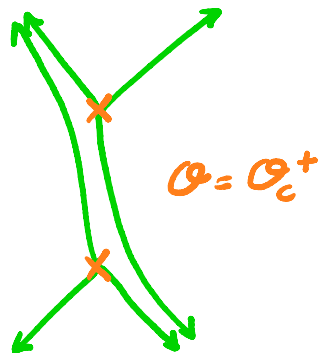
real 1-dim'l trajectories defined by $\lambda \cdot v \in e^{i\theta} \mathbb{R}$:



2d BPS state in T_x
with $\arg(Z_{2d}) = \mathcal{Q}_c^-$



4d BPS state in T_C
with $\arg(Z_{4d}) = \mathcal{Q}_c$

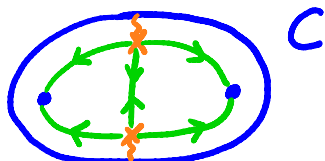


Ex: 4d BPS states in pure $SU(2)$ SYM

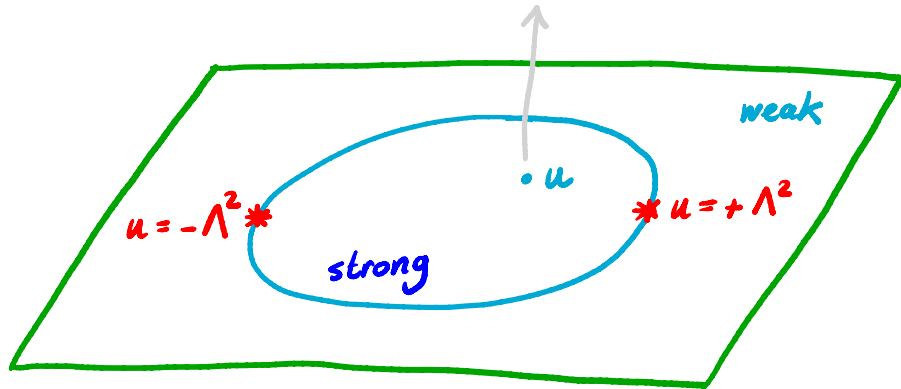
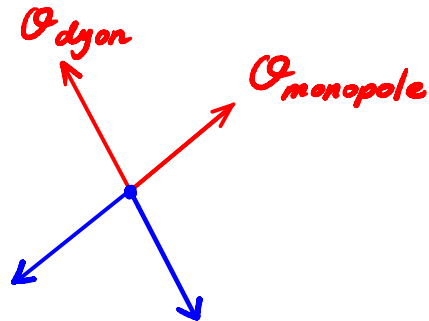
$$\Sigma_u: \{N^2 - \varphi_2(z) = 0\}$$



↓ 2:1

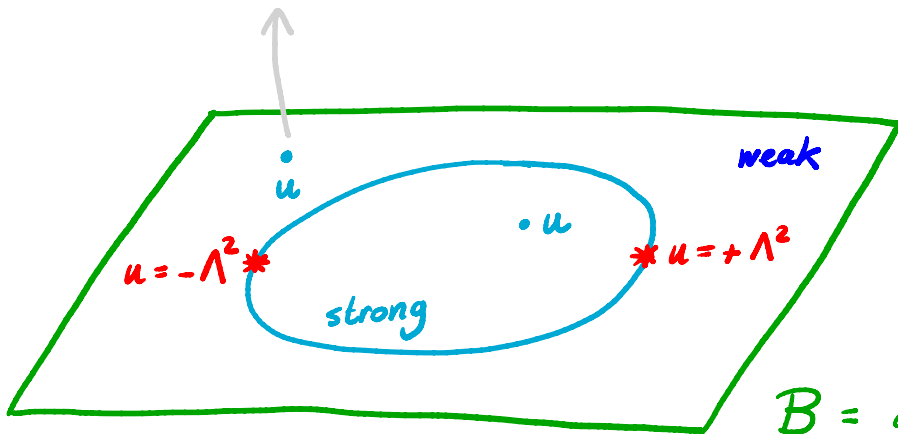
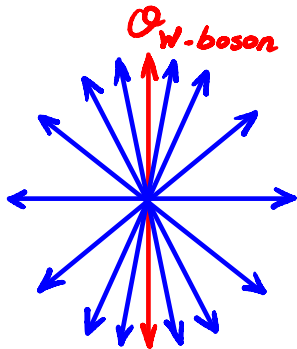


$$\mathcal{Q} = \mathcal{Q}_{\text{monopole}}$$



$B = \text{quantum Coulomb branch}$

Ex: 4d BPS states in pure $SU(2)$ SYM

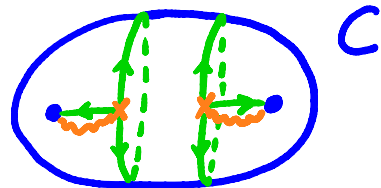


$B =$ quantum
Coulomb branch

$$\Sigma_u: \{N^2 - \varphi_2(z) = 0\}$$



\downarrow 2:1



$$\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}_{W\text{-boson}}$$

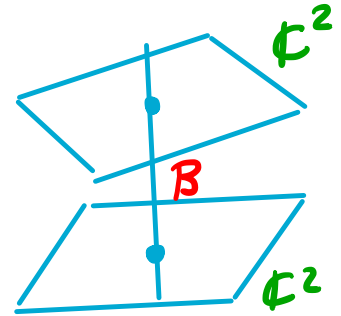
$\frac{1}{2}$ Ω -background and quantization

Ω -background [Nekrasov, Nekrasov-Okounkov]

5d $N=1$ SYM

on \mathbb{C}^2 -bundle over S^1_β :

$$(z_1, z_2, x_5) \rightarrow (z_1 e^{i\beta\epsilon_1}, z_2 e^{i\beta\epsilon_2}, x_5 + \beta)$$



$$\beta \rightarrow 0 \quad \downarrow$$

4d $N=2$ SYM

in the Ω -background

$$\mathbb{C}_{\epsilon_1} \times \mathbb{C}_{\epsilon_2}$$

also need $SU(2)_I$ rotation

$$\begin{pmatrix} e^{i\beta(\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2)/2} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-i\beta(\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2)/2} \end{pmatrix}$$

to preserve SUSY

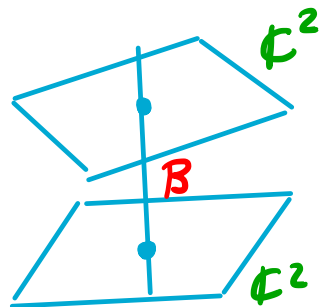
and gauge rotation $e^{i\beta a} \in G$

Partition function in Ω -background

In 5d compute index

$$Z_{5d}^{\text{Nek}}(\epsilon_{1,2}, \tau, \underline{a}) = \sum (-)^F e^{-\beta H} g$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \{ \\ \downarrow \end{array} \beta \rightarrow 0$$



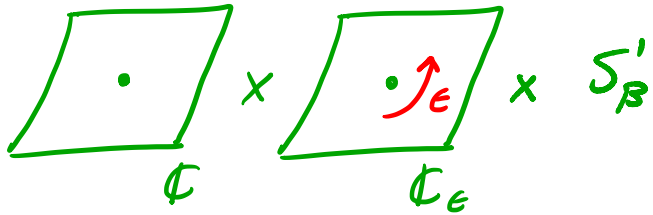
Reduces in 4d to instanton partition function:

$$\log Z^{\text{Nek}}(\epsilon_{1,2}, \tau, \underline{a}) = \frac{1}{\epsilon_1 \epsilon_2} \mathcal{F}_0(\tau, \underline{a}) + \text{terms less singular in } \epsilon_{1,2}$$

\uparrow
SW prepotential

[Nekrasov], [Nekrasov-Okounkov]

Today we are interested in $\frac{1}{2}\Omega$ -background :



i.e. \mathbb{C}^2 -bundle over S'_B

aka $\mathbb{C} \times (\mathbb{C} \times_q S'_B)$

The $\frac{1}{2}\Omega$ -background effectively defines

a 3d $N=2$ theory on $\mathbb{C} \times S_B$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \beta \rightarrow 0 \\ \downarrow \end{array} \right.$$

a 2d $N=(2,2)$ theory on \mathbb{C}

At low energies $E \ll |\epsilon|$, this theory is described by

an effective twisted superpotential

$$\tilde{W}^{\text{eff}}(\epsilon, \tau, \underline{a}) = \lim_{\epsilon_2 \rightarrow 0} \epsilon_2 \mathbb{Z}^{\text{Nek}}(\epsilon_{1,2}, \tau, \underline{a})$$

[Nekrasov-Shadashvili]

$\frac{1}{2}\Omega$ -background quantizes the Seiberg-Witten geometry:

$$(\hbar = \epsilon)$$

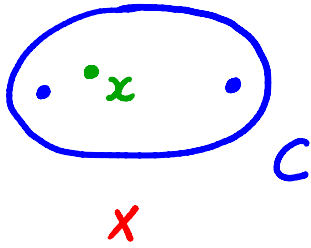
SW-curve $\Sigma \xrightarrow[\text{y d}]{} \text{differential operator } d_\epsilon$
(= oper = quantum curve)

pure $SU(2)$ SYM: $W^2 - \varphi_2(z) = 0 \rightsquigarrow$

$$\text{Mathieu diff'l eqn } d_\epsilon = \epsilon^2 \partial_z^2 - \left(\varphi_2(z) + \frac{\epsilon^2}{4z^2} \right)$$

$\xrightarrow[\text{5d}]{} \text{difference operator } D_\epsilon$
(= q-difference oper)

pure $U(1)$ SYM: $y = \frac{1-QX}{1-X} \rightsquigarrow D_\epsilon = (1-X) e^{\frac{\epsilon}{2\pi} \partial_X} - (1-QX)$



Solutions to the diff'l egn

$$d_\epsilon \psi^{(i)}(x) = 0$$

characterize the vacuum
expectation value of the
surface defect T_x
in the vacuum $x^{(i)}$

$$T_x \left[\begin{array}{c} \text{?} \\ \text{?} \end{array} \right] \mathbb{R}^2 \subset \mathbb{R}^4$$

The monodromies of $\psi^{(i)}(x)$ around cycles $\gamma \in H^1(\bar{E})$
define the quantum periods :

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} Z_\epsilon(\alpha^I) \equiv a_\epsilon^I \\ Z_\epsilon(\beta_I) \equiv a_{D,I}^\epsilon \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{W}^{\text{eff}}(a_\epsilon^I)}{\partial a_\epsilon^I} = a_{D,I}^\epsilon$$

(Mironov-Mozzorov)

Note: the quantum periods a_ϵ^I and $a_{0,I}^\epsilon$ are perturbative in ϵ

What do we actually expect non-perturbatively in ϵ ?

Is there a single (exact in ϵ) solution to $d_\epsilon \psi(x) = 0$?

[Maldacena, Moore, Shih, Seiberg]

Exact WKB analysis and non-pert partition functions

Something natural to consider: [Grassi, Marino, Gu, Schiappa, ...]

take the Borel sum of $\psi^{(i)}(x)$ and $\tilde{W}^{\text{eff}}(a^I)$

in fact, because both have Gevrey-1 asymptotics,
this is the unique thing one can do

[Nikolaev]

Questions:

- physics interpretation?
- how do we compute in particular \tilde{W}^{eff}
exact in ϵ ?

Remember, the Borel sum $B_G f(\epsilon)$ of a formal, divergent series $f(\epsilon)$ is defined as:

divergent $f(\epsilon) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n \epsilon^n$ where $c_n \sim n!$ ↙ Gevrey-1 series

↪ Borel transform $Tf(s) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_n}{n!} s^n$

↪ Borel sum $B_G f(\epsilon) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{i\theta} \epsilon^{-s} Tf(\epsilon s) ds$

Might think of Borel sum as "transseries":

$$B_G f(\epsilon) = \sum \sum c_{k,l,n} \epsilon^n e^{-kc/\epsilon} \ln\left(\pm \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)^l$$

zero modes
from inst+
anti-inst

↙ non-pert instantons

Borel sums are particularly natural in context of diff'l eqns

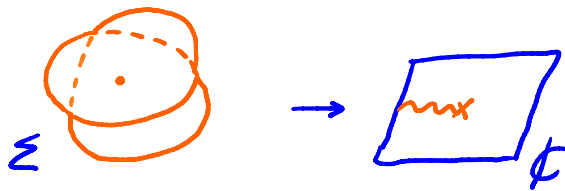
e.g. Schrödinger eqns, more generally opers

→ exact WKB analysis [Voros]

example: diff'l eqn on \mathbb{C} with irreg sing at ∞

say Airy diff'l eqn $d_\epsilon = \epsilon^2 \partial_z^2 - z$, $\epsilon \in \mathbb{C}$

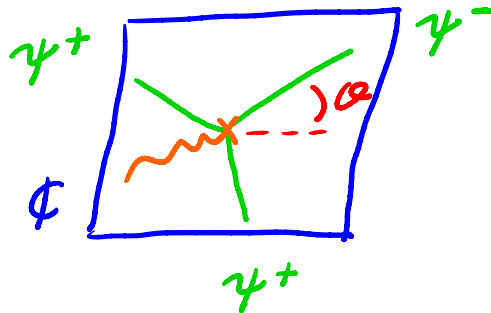
→ spectral curve $\Sigma = \{y^2 = x\} \xrightarrow{2:1} C = \mathbb{C}$



Airy diff'l eqn $d_\epsilon = \epsilon^2 \partial_z^2 - z$ $\arg(\epsilon) = \mathcal{O}$

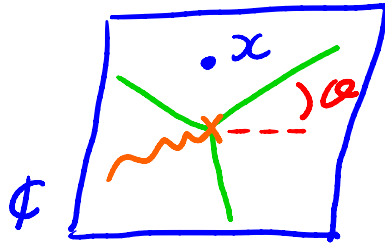
consider asymptotic solutions $\psi^\pm(x, \epsilon) \sim e^{\pm 2x^{3/2}/3\epsilon}$

and Stokes rays where these solutions decay fastest:



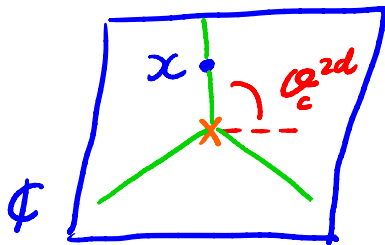
Note that these rays are precisely \mathcal{O} -trajectories of
the spectral network defined by $\lambda = \sqrt{x} dx$

Pick $x \in \mathcal{C}$ and consider Borel sum $B_{\mathcal{C}} \psi_{\pm}(x, \epsilon)$



Remember that $B_{\mathcal{C}} \psi_{\pm}$ is analytic in ϵ and locally constant in ϵ

In particular, $B_{\mathcal{C}}(x)$ is not defined when we rotate \mathcal{C} such that the Stokes ray intersects with x :



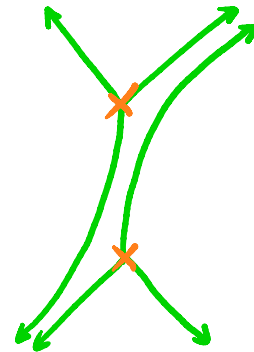
But this precisely happens when the 2d theory T_x supports a 2d BPS state with $\arg(Z) = \mathcal{C}_c^{2d}$

More generally, in *exact WKB* one considers any (C, d_ϵ)

$$\text{and ansatz } \psi^{(i)}(x) = \exp\left(\sum_{k=-1}^{\infty} \int^x \epsilon^k S_k^{(i)}(x) dx\right)$$

The set of Stokes lines

becomes a *Stokes graph*:



And, basically since $S_{-1}^{(i)} = \lambda^{(i)}$

the Stokes graph for $\arg(\epsilon) = \varphi$

is equivalent to a spectral network \mathcal{W}_φ

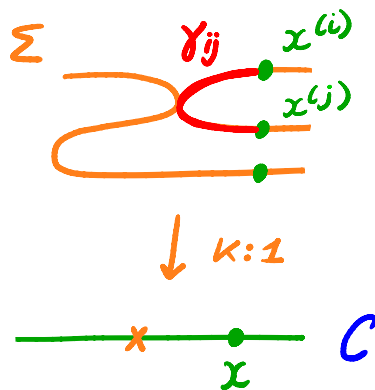
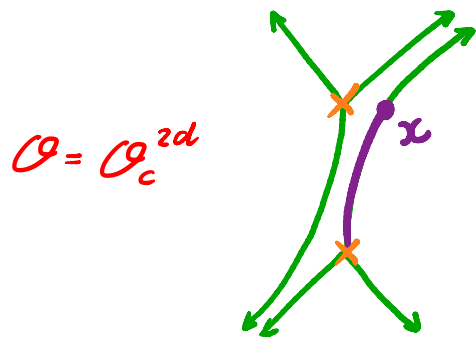
[LH, Neitzke]

[LH, Kidwai]

The Borel sum $B_{\theta} \psi^{(i)}$ is not defined along some critical directions \mathcal{O}_c

These critical directions \mathcal{O}_c correspond precisely to the phases

$\mathcal{O}_c^{2d} = \arg Z_{\gamma}^{2d}$ of the 2d BPS particles in the theory T_x



Hence the jumps of $B_{\theta} \psi^{(i)}(x, \epsilon)$ encode the 2d BPS
particle spectrum!

[Grassi, Hao, Neitzke], [Alim, LH, Tulli]

Now define exact quantum periods $\chi_\gamma^\mathcal{O}$ as the monodromies of $B_\mathcal{O} \psi^{(i)}$ around cycles $\gamma \in H'(\bar{\Sigma})$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \log \chi_{\alpha_I}^\mathcal{O} &\equiv a_{\mathcal{O}}^I \\ \log \chi_{\beta_I}^\mathcal{O} &\equiv a_{\mathcal{O},I}^\mathcal{O} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

new object: [LH, Rüter, Szabo]

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{W}_{u,\mathcal{O}}^{\text{eff}}(a_{\mathcal{O}}^I)}{\partial a_{\mathcal{O}}^I} = a_{\mathcal{O},I}^\mathcal{O}$$

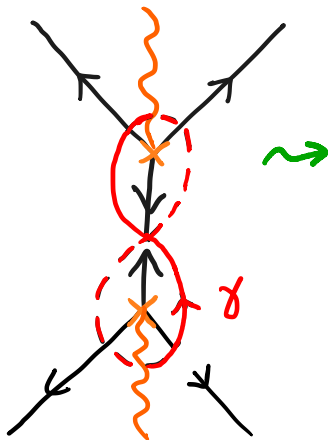
The exact quantum periods $\chi_\gamma^\mathcal{O}$ are also known as:

Voros periods (exact WKB) or

spectral coordinates (W-abelianization)

↳ geometric interpretation exact WKB
on $\mathcal{M}_{\text{flat}}(\mathbb{C}, \text{SL}_k)$ [LH, Neitzke]

The non-perturbative superpotential $\tilde{W}_{u,\mathcal{Q}}^{\text{eff}}$ is again piece-wise constant in \mathcal{Q} . It jumps whenever there is a saddle trajectory in the spectral network $W_{u,\mathcal{Q}}$:



4d BPS partide
with $Z_\gamma = \oint_\gamma \lambda$

mass BPS partide

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{\pi i k x / \epsilon}}{k^2}$$

||

$$\Delta \tilde{W}_{u,\mathcal{Q}}^{\text{eff}} = \frac{\epsilon}{2\pi i} \text{Li}_2(e^{\pi i x / \epsilon})$$

Hence $\tilde{W}_{u,\mathcal{Q}}^{\text{eff}}$ encodes the 4d BPS partide spectrum!

- Whereas the Borel sum of W^{eff} can only be computed with a weakly coupled description, the definition of $W_{u, \varrho}(\epsilon, \tau, \underline{a})$ in terms of quantum periods may be extended to all of \mathcal{B} (and used for theories without a weakly coupled description)
- The resulting $W_{u, \varrho}(\epsilon, \tau, \underline{a})$ is the solution to a Riemann-Hilbert problem specified by the corresponding BPS structure.

[Bridgeland], inspired by [Gaiotto, Moore, Neitzke]

similar to [Alim, Saha, Tulli, Teschner], [Alim, LH, Tulli] in sd

- Geometrically, $\exp W_{u,\alpha}(\epsilon, \tau, \underline{a})$

transforms as a section of a "classical Chern-Simons"

line bundle over $M_{\text{flat}} \times \mathbb{C}_\epsilon^*$

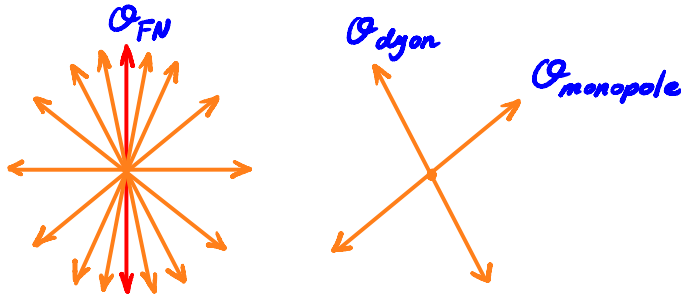
↑ defined by gluings
via generalized cluster charts

this line bundle is

introduced/described in

[Alexandrov, Persson, Pioline]

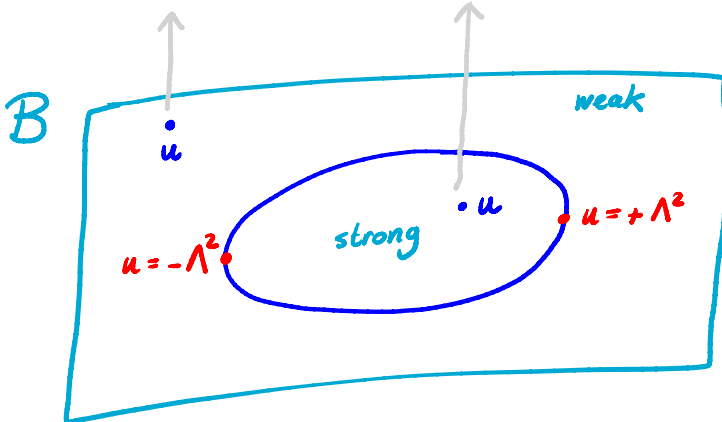
[Niztke], [Niztke, Freed]



$$\leadsto W_{u,\alpha}(\epsilon, \tau, \underline{a}) \in \mathcal{L}$$



$$M_{\text{flat}}(\mathbb{C}) \times \mathbb{C}_\epsilon^*$$



it features in similar set-ups in:

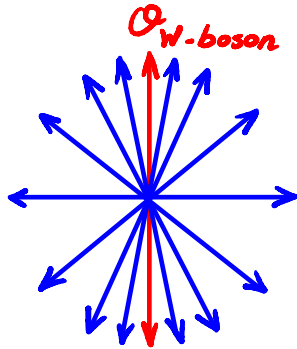
[Alim-Saha-Tulli-Teschner] (5d, s-d)

[Coman-Longhi-Teschner] (4d, s-d)

Example of a computation: pure $SU(2)$ SYM

[LH-Rüger-Szabo]

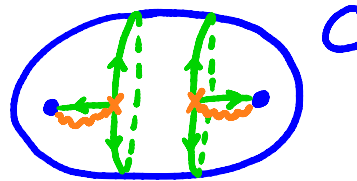
weakly coupled



$$\Sigma_u: \{N^2 - \varphi_2(z) = 0\}$$



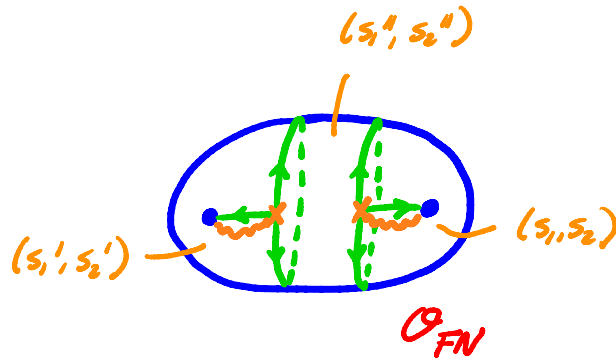
↓ 2:1



$$\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}_{W\text{-boson}} \equiv \mathcal{O}_{FN}$$

One can write χ_α^{FN} and χ_B^{FN} as Wronskians of special solutions (using W^{FN} -abelianization or exact WKB)

[LH, Neibcke]



χ_α^{FN} = eigenvalue of s_2'' around pants cycle

$$\chi_B^{FN} = \frac{s_1' \wedge s_1''}{s_1 \wedge s_1''} \frac{s_1 \wedge s_2''}{s_1' \wedge s_2''} \quad (\text{lateral summation})$$

Now we need to know s_i and s_i' in terms of s_i''

i.e. we need to compute **connection coeff** for the
Mathieu eqn

$$s_i = \frac{r_i}{\Lambda} s_2'' + \frac{t_i}{\Lambda} s_1''$$

computed perturbatively in Λ
in [LH-Rüster-Szabo],

(proven by [Lisovyy, Naidiuk] for Heun eq)

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \log X_\alpha^{FN} &\equiv a \\ \log X_B^{FN} &\equiv a_0 \equiv \frac{\partial \tilde{W}_{FN}^{eff}(a)}{\partial a} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \tilde{W}_{FN}^{eff} = \tilde{W}_{NS}^{eff} !$$

This connects exact WKB with the NRS proposal that $\tilde{W}^{eff}(\epsilon, \tau, \underline{a})$

is the **generating function ofopers** in **Fenchel-Nielsen coordinates**

idea [Nekrasov-Rosly-Shatashvili]

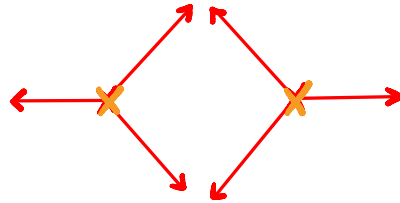
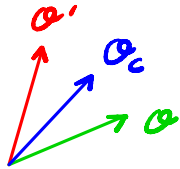
geom comp [LH-Kidwai]

gauge thy derivation [Nekrasov-Jeong]

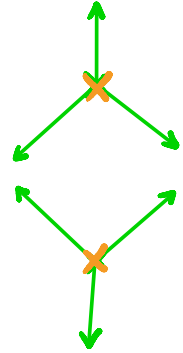
any other class S example [LH-Rüster-Szabo]

- In terms of field theory, change of phase \mathcal{Q} corresponds to coupling a 3d $N=2$ thy to the boundary of $\mathbb{R}_\epsilon^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2$.

simplest example



flip
↔



\sim coupling 3d $T(\text{diamond})$ to boundary

$$a^{\varphi'} = a^{\varphi}$$

$$a_D^{\varphi'} = a_D^{\varphi} + \log(1 - e^{\pi i a^{\varphi} / \epsilon})$$

$$\leadsto \Delta W = -\frac{\epsilon}{2\pi i} \text{Li}_2(e^{\pi i a^{\varphi} / \epsilon})$$

[UH, Rüter, Szabo], [Dimofte, Gaiotto, Veen]

Summary

- We have defined a *non-perturbative superpotential* $\tilde{W}_{u, \varrho}^{\text{eff}}(\epsilon, \tau, \underline{a})$ which depends on $u \in \mathcal{B}$ and $\varrho \in \mathbb{R}/2\pi\mathbb{Z}$.
- This superpotential may be computed as a *generating function of opers* in terms of certain *generalized cluster coord.*
- It may also be defined through *exact WKB analysis* in terms of a *Borel sum of quantum periods*.
- $\tilde{W}_{u, \varrho}^{\text{eff}}$ encodes the *BPS particle spectrum* in its jumps.

To do:

- extension to full $\mathbb{Z}^{\text{Nek}}(t_1, t_2)$ of this picture
relation to isomonodromy / Painleve
as studied in [Bonelli, Tanzini, ...], [Garrylenko, Grassi, ...]
- one may be able to derive yd TS/ST through this picture
- lift to sd: resolved conifold example [Grassi, Hao, Naitake]
[Alim, LH, Tulli]
dream to understand local $\mathbb{P}^2 / \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$
as recently studied by [Gu, Kashani-Poor, Klemm, Marino]
and relatedly split attractor flow in [Bousseau, Descombes,
LeFloch, Poline]

Application: Spectral problems

$d_\epsilon \psi(x) = 0$ defines a spectral problem if we choose:

some reality condition on ϵ & $\psi \in \mathcal{H}$ Hilbert space

s.t. $d_\epsilon \psi = 0$ with $\psi \in \mathcal{H}$ has *discrete* set of solutions

Ex: quantum harmonic oscillator

$$\hbar^2 \psi''(x) + (x^2 - E) \psi(x) = 0 \quad \text{with } \psi(x) \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$$

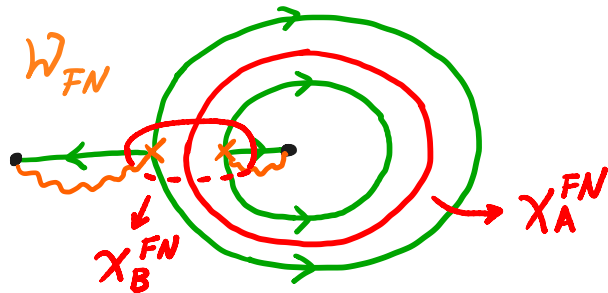
Claim: perspective of spectral networks / exact WKB analysis for all \mathcal{Q} is helpful to define and analyze new and old spectral problems

\leadsto new spectral problems: T3-equation [LH, Neitzke]
resolved conifold [Alim, LH, Tulli]

Mathieu diff'l eqn: $d_\epsilon = \epsilon^2 \partial_x^2 + \left(\frac{1}{x^3} + \frac{2E + \frac{1}{4}\epsilon^2}{x^2} + \frac{1}{x} \right)$

$\epsilon = \hbar > 0$ and $x = e^{ix}$ with $x \in \mathbb{R} \rightsquigarrow$

Mathieu spectral problem $\hbar^2 \psi''(x) - (2\cos(x) + 2E) \psi(x) = 0$



with $\psi(x+2\pi) = \psi(x)$, $E < 0$

\rightsquigarrow bound states $\sim \chi_A^{FN} = 1$

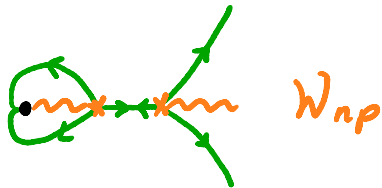
needs to be written in terms of $\chi_{A,B}^{np}$
to analyze using WKB

[UH, Neitzke]

$x = ix' + \pi$ and $x' \in \mathbb{R} \rightsquigarrow$

modified Mathieu spectral problem $\hbar^2 \psi''(x') - (\cosh x' - 2E) \psi(x') = 0$

with $\psi(x') \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$, $E > 0$



\rightsquigarrow exact quantization
condition $\chi_B^{FN} = 1$

can be analyzed using WKB since $E > 0$