

Mean Field Equations, Hyperelliptic Curves, and Modular Forms

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MFE: $\Delta u + e^u = p \delta_0$ $p \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ on a flat torus $E = \mathbb{C}/\Lambda$

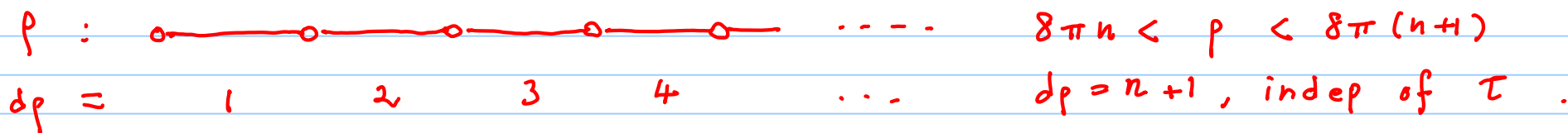
$$\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}\omega_1 + \mathbb{Z}\omega_2$$

$$\tau = \omega_2/\omega_1 \in \mathbb{H}$$

More generally, on a compact R.S. (M, g) :

$$\Delta u + p \left(\frac{h e^u}{\int h e^u} - \frac{1}{|M|} \right) = 4\pi \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j \left(\delta_{a_j} - \frac{1}{|M|} \right)$$

Fact: The topological degree for MFE is defined for $p \notin 8\pi\mathbb{N}$

p : 

Chen-Lin: PDE method,
Chai-Lin-W: Algebraic method.

Q: How about $p = 8n\pi$?

Denote by $\rho = 8\pi\eta$, $\eta \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$

Liouville theory: On simply connected domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C} \setminus \Lambda$

$$u(z) = \log \frac{8 |f'(z)|^2}{(1 + |f(z)|^2)^2}$$

f mero. on Ω

a developing map of u
simple zero/pole outside Λ

Schwarzian derivative

$$S(f) := \frac{f'''}{f'} - \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{f''}{f'} \right)^2 = u_{zz} - \frac{1}{2} u_z^2$$

analytic indep of f

$$\tilde{f} = \frac{af+b}{cf+d}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SU(2)$$

\Rightarrow Solution $u \leftrightarrow$ Collection $\{(\Omega, f)\}$ with $PSU(2)$ monodromy

when $\rho = 4\pi\ell$

ie. $\eta = \frac{\ell}{2} \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{N}$

\Rightarrow

$$\pi_1(E^x) \simeq \mathbb{Z} * \mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow PSU(2)$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\pi_1(E) \simeq \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$$

abelian quotient

Get global f mero. on \mathbb{C}

$$\text{ord}_{z=0} f'(z) = \ell$$

May choose f st. it belongs to 2 types : $(p = 4\pi l)$

$$\text{Type I : } \begin{cases} f(z + \omega_1) = -f(z) \\ f(z + \omega_2) = \frac{1}{f(z)} \end{cases}$$

(projective) monodromy group
 $\rho M \cong K_4$ Klein's 4-group
 $:= \mathbb{Z}/2 \times \mathbb{Z}/2$

$$\text{Type II : } \begin{cases} f(z + \omega_1) = e^{2i\theta_1} f(z) \\ f(z + \omega_2) = e^{2i\theta_2} f(z) \end{cases}$$

$\rho M \subset U(1) \cong S^1$

Thm (Liu-W) Assume that solution u exists. Then

u has type I developing map $f \iff l = 2n + 1$ (odd)
 " " " " $l = 2n$, ie $p = 8\pi n$

Rmk : Type II solutions must exist in families $f \mapsto e^\lambda f$

$$u_\lambda(z) := \log \frac{8\pi |e^\lambda f'(z)|^2}{(1 + |e^\lambda f(z)|^2)^2} \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

As $\lambda \rightarrow +\infty$, $u_\lambda(z) \rightarrow +\infty$ at zeros of f , $u_\lambda(z) \rightarrow -\infty$ otherwise

Relation to Lamé equations

$$u(z) \sim \frac{p}{2\pi} \log |z| = 4\eta \cdot \log |z| = 2\eta (\log z + \log \bar{z}), \text{ smooth on } E^x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow S(f) &= u_{z\bar{z}} - \frac{1}{2} u_z^2 = \frac{1}{z^2} (-2\eta - 2\eta^2) + o(1) \\ &= -2(\eta(\eta+1)p(z) + B) \quad \text{for some } B \in \mathbb{C} \end{aligned}$$

i.e. $f = \frac{y_1}{y_2}$ for 2 independent solutions to $y'' - \frac{1}{2} S(f) y = 0$:

$$L_{\eta, B} y := y'' - (\eta(\eta+1)p(z) + B)y = 0$$

MFE \leftrightarrow Lamé eq'n with projective unitary monodromy

$$\eta = n + \frac{1}{2} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad PM \simeq K_f \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \text{All sol's are logarithmic free}$$

Brioschi - Halphen : \exists polynomial $P_n(B) \in \mathbb{Q}[g_2, g_3][B]$, $\deg_B P_n = n+1$
19th century $P_n(B) = 0 \Leftrightarrow L_{n+\frac{1}{2}, B}$ log-free.

$$\text{Eg. } P_0(B) = B, \quad P_1(B) = B^2 - \frac{3}{7}g_2, \quad P_2(B) = B^3 - 7g_2B + 20g_3.$$

$g = n \in \mathbb{N}$ Main issue: The structure of solutions depends on τ !

Type II condition $f(z+w_i) = e^{2\pi i \theta_i} f(z) \Rightarrow f = \text{abelian integral of 2nd kind}$

$g := (\log f)' = \frac{f'}{f}$ is elliptic on E

Let a_1, \dots, a_n zeros of f , b_1, \dots, b_n poles of f

$\Rightarrow g$ has simple poles at a_i , residue = 1, at b_i , residue = -1

g has zero only at $0 \in E$, $\text{ord}_{z=0} g = l = 2n$.

Prop: (1) g is even, hence $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\} = \{-b_1, \dots, -b_n\}$

(2) $g(z) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{p'(a_i)}{p(z) - p(a_i)}$, $f = \exp \int g$

(3) $a = \{a_i\}$ satisfies $\sum_{i=1}^n p'(a_i) p(a_i)^r = 0$ for $r = 0, 1, \dots, n-2$

Def: $X_n \subset \text{Sym}^n E$ is the Liouville curve $\sum_{i=1}^n y_i x_i^r = 0$ $0 \leq r \leq n-2$

where $(x_i, y_i) = (p(a_i), p'(a_i))$, $y_i^2 = 4x_i^3 - g_2 x_i - g_3$

Lamé point of view:

Hermite-Halphen ansatz: for $a = (a_i)$, $a_i \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \Lambda$, $[a_i] \in E^x$ distinct

$$W_a(z) := e^{z \sum_{i=1}^n \wp(a_i)} \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{\sigma(z - a_i)}{\sigma(z)}$$

W_a is a solution to $L_{n,B}$ for some $B \in \mathbb{C} \iff a \in Y_n$ Lamé curve

$$Y_n := \left\{ a \in \text{Sym}^n E^x \mid \sum_{j \neq i} \left(\wp(a_i - a_j) + \wp(a_j) - \wp(a_i) \right) = 0 \right. \\ \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{"} \\ a_i \neq a_j \quad \forall i \neq j, \quad i=1, \dots, n \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\sum_{j \neq i} \frac{\wp_i + \wp_j}{x_i - x_j} = \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{\wp'(a_i) + \wp'(a_j)}{\wp(a_i) - \wp(a_j)} \quad X_n \text{ sm, } Y_n \text{ may be singular}$$

Lemma: $X_n \subset Y_n$, $Y_n \setminus X_n$ are those $a \in Y_n$ st " $a = -a$ ": Lamé functions

Thm (Hyperelliptic structure on $X_n \subset Y_n \subset \bar{X}_n$) $\pi: Y_n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ by

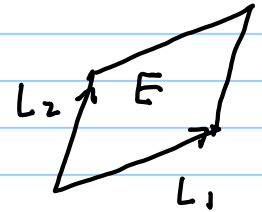
(i) $Y_n \ni a \mapsto B_a := (2n+1) \sum_{i=1}^n \wp(a_i)$ gives the B in Lamé eqⁿ

(ii) π is 2 to 1 on X_n . $Y_n \setminus X_n$ is defined by $l_n(B) = 0$, $\deg l_n = 2n+1$.

(iii) π extends to $\bar{X}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ with $\pi^{-1}(\infty) = 0^n$ a smooth pt.

The remaining equation $f(z+w_i) = e^{2\sqrt{-1}\theta_i} f(z)$ $i=1, 2$, i.e.

$$\int_{L_i} g = \sum_{j=1}^n \int_{L_i} \frac{p'(a_j)}{p(w)-p(a_j)} dw = 2 \sum_{j=1}^n (w_j \delta(a_j) - \eta_j a_j) \in \sqrt{-1} \cdot \mathbb{R}$$



Green function : $-\Delta G = \delta_0 - \frac{1}{|E|}$; $\int_E G = 0$

Hecke function : $Z(t\omega_1 + s\omega_2; \tau) = \int(t\omega_1 + s\omega_2) - t\eta_1 - s\eta_2$

(for $t, s \in \frac{1}{N}\mathbb{Z}$, Z is $\Gamma(N)$ modular of weight 1 in τ)

Prop : $-4\pi G_z = Z$ where $z = t\omega_1 + s\omega_2$, so NOT holo. in $z = x+iy$

pf : $\tau = a+bi$, $\vartheta = e^{2\pi i \tau}$, $\vartheta(z; \tau) = -i \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n \vartheta^{(n+\frac{1}{2})^2} e^{(2n+1)\pi i z}$

$\Rightarrow G = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \log |\vartheta| + \frac{y^2}{2b} + C(\tau)$. Using $(\log \vartheta)_z = \int(z) - \eta_1 z$

and Legendre relation :

$\eta_1 \omega_2 - \eta_2 \omega_1 = 2\pi i$ \square

$\sigma(z) = e^{\eta_1 z^2/2} \frac{\vartheta(z)}{\vartheta'(0)}$


Via Green function G , $\omega_1 \int(z) - \eta_1 z = \omega_1 (\int(z) - t\eta_1 - s\eta_2) - 2\pi i s$

$$\omega_2 \int(z) - \eta_2 z = \omega_2 (\int(z) - t\eta_1 - s\eta_2) + 2\pi i t$$

$$\int_{L_i} g \in \sqrt{-1} \mathbb{R}, \quad i=1,2 \Leftrightarrow -4\pi \omega_i \sum_{j=1}^n G_z(a_j) \in \sqrt{-1} \cdot \mathbb{R} \quad a_j = t_j \omega_1 + s_j \omega_2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum_{j=1}^n \nabla G(a_j) = 0 \quad \text{since } \omega_1, \omega_2 \text{ are linearly indep.}$$

For such $a \in X_n$, $\frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{-1}} \int_{L_i} g$ gives $z(-\sum s_j, \sum t_j)$, coord. of $a_1 + \dots + a_n$

 \bar{X}_n How to study $\sum_{j=1}^n \nabla G(a_j) = 0$ for $a \in \bar{X}_n$?

Defⁿ: Let $\sigma: \bar{X}_n \rightarrow E$, $a \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$

$$z_n \in K(\bar{X}_n) \text{ by } z_n(a) = \int(\sigma(a)) - \sum_{i=1}^n \int(a_i)$$

Thm (Lin-W 2013) σ is a branched covering with $\deg \sigma = \frac{1}{2}n(n+1)$

Moreover, z_n is a primitive generator of $K(\bar{X}_n)/K(E)$.

Namely, \exists irreducible polynomial $W_n(z) \in \mathbb{C}[g_2, g_3, p(\sigma), p'(\sigma)][z]$
of degree $\frac{1}{2}n(n+1)$ defines $\sigma: \bar{X}_n \rightarrow E$.

Examples: $C^2 = \mathcal{L}_n(B)$ & $W_n(z)$

$$n=1 \quad C^2 = 4B^3 - g_2 B - g_3, \quad W_1(z) = z$$

$$n=2 \quad C^2 = \frac{2^2}{3^4} (B^2 - 3g_2) \prod_{i=1}^3 (B + 3e_i), \quad W_2(z) = z^3 - 3p(\sigma)z - p'(\sigma)$$

$$n=3 \quad C^2 = \frac{2^2}{3^4 5^4} B \prod_{i=1}^3 (B^2 - 6e_i B + 15(3e_i^2 - g_2)),$$

$$W_3(z) = z^6 - 15p z^4 - 20p' z^3 + \left(\frac{27}{4}g_2 - 45p^2\right)z^2 + 12p'p z - \frac{5}{4}p'^2$$

Defⁿ (New Pre-modular forms) $Z_n(\sigma; \tau) := W_n(Z(\sigma; \tau))$

ie. $\Gamma(N)$ modular in $\tau \in \mathcal{H}$ for $\sigma \in E[N]$.

$n=1$:

$$Z_1 \equiv Z = -4\pi G_z \quad \text{zero of } Z \Leftrightarrow \text{critical pt of } \mathcal{G} \Leftrightarrow \text{sol. } u \text{ to MFE}$$

This generalizes to all $n \in \mathbb{N}$:

(1) Sol. u to MFE $\Delta u + e^u = g h \pi \delta_0$ on E_τ

(2) Periods integrals $\frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{h}} \int_{L_i} g \in \mathbb{R} \quad i=1,2$

(3) Green equation $\sum_{i=1}^n \nabla G(a_i) = 0$ on the hyperelliptic curve $X_n \ni a$

(4) Coincidence equation $z_n(a) = Z(\sigma(a))$ for $a \in X_n$

(5) Zeros of pre-modular form $Z_n(\sigma i \tau) := W_n(Z)$ with $\sigma \in E_\tau[2]$

$$\begin{aligned} (3) \Leftrightarrow (4) : \quad & -4\pi \sum \nabla G(a_i) = \sum Z(a_i) & a_i = t_i \omega_1 + s_i \omega_2 \\ & = \sum \left(\int (t_i \omega_1 + s_i \omega_2) - t_i \eta_1 - s_i \eta_2 \right) \\ & = \int (\sigma(a)) - z_n(a) - \left(\sum t_i \right) \eta_1 - \left(\sum s_i \right) \eta_2 \\ & = Z(\sigma(a)) - z_n(a) . \end{aligned}$$

(4) \Leftrightarrow (5) is harder $a = -a \Rightarrow \sigma(a) \in E[2]$ considered as trivial solutions.

Rmk: Lamé with finite monodromy con to $\sigma \in E[N]$, modular form case
The good thing here is the "deformations in both σ and τ "

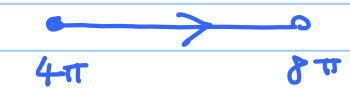
Results for $n=1$: Pair $\pm p$ of extra critical pts of G
 i.e. $p \notin E[z] \iff \text{sol } \{u_\lambda\}$ of MFE for $p = 8\pi$

Thm (Lin-W 2006) For any τ , G has either 3 or 5 critical points
 i.e. sol. u , if exists, is unique up to scaling

Idea of pf: Method of continuity in $p \in [4\pi, 8\pi]$

$$\text{Linearized eq at } u_p \quad \begin{cases} \Delta \varphi + e^{4p} \varphi = 0 \\ \varphi(-z) = \varphi(z) \end{cases} \quad \text{on } E$$

Moser symmetrization \nexists non-degenerate ($\varphi \equiv 0$).

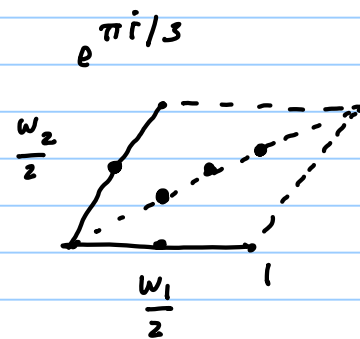


$dp = 1$
 unique sol at $p = 4\pi$

Eg. $\tau \in i\mathbb{R}$ Rectangular tori, 3 critical pts (Maximal principle)

$\tau = e^{\pi i/3}$ 5 critical points ($\mathbb{Z}/3$ symmetry)
 extra pts $p = \pm \frac{1}{3}(w_1 + w_2)$.

Let $\Omega_3 \subset M_1$, G has 3 critical pts
 $\Omega_5 \subset M_1$ " 5 " " (open set).

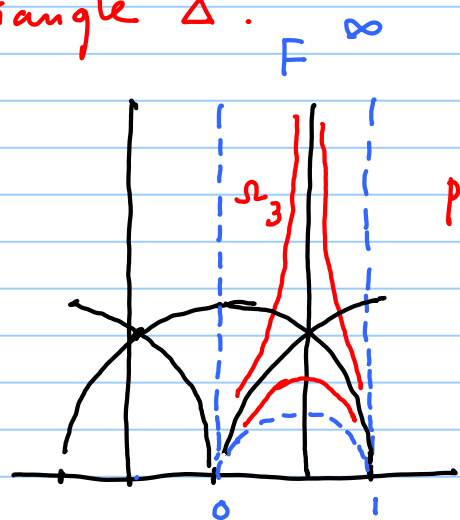


Thm (Lin-W 2012) Ω_5 is simply connected

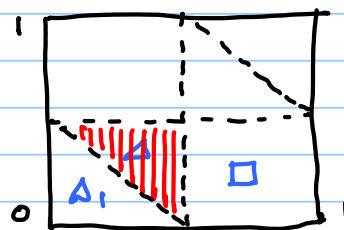
$C = \partial\Omega_5 \cup \{\infty\}$ is a smooth curve in $\overline{M}_1 \cong S^2$

$\tau \in C \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{2}w_i$ is a degenerate critical point of G for some $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

Moreover, for $\pm p \in \Omega_5$, $p = tw_1 + sw_2$, $p \mapsto (t, s) \in [0, 1]^2$ is 1-1 onto the triangle Δ .



$p \mapsto (t, s)$



Idea of pf: Argument principle on F , for

$$Z_{t,s}(\tau) := Z(t+s\tau; \tau) \quad \text{for } t, s \notin \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$$

(i) Hecke (1926): $Z_{t,s}$ has no zeros/poles at cusps $0, 1, \infty$

(ii) $Z_{t,s}$ has no zeros along ∂F

\Rightarrow # of zeros of $Z_{t,s}$ is constant in each region $\Delta_1, \Delta, \square$

(iii) $\forall \tau \in \mathbb{H}, Z_{\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}}(\tau) \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ no sol for $(t,s) \in \Delta_1$

pf: Let $z = \frac{1}{6}(w_1 + w_2) = \frac{1}{6}w_3, u = \frac{1}{3}w_3$, then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\neq \frac{p'(z)}{p(z) - p(u)} = \zeta(z+u) + \zeta(z-u) - 2\zeta(z) \\ &= \zeta\left(\frac{1}{2}w_3\right) + \zeta\left(-\frac{1}{6}w_3\right) - 2\zeta\left(\frac{1}{6}w_3\right) = -3 \left(\zeta\left(\frac{1}{6}w_1 + \frac{1}{6}w_2\right) - \frac{1}{6}\eta_1 - \frac{1}{6}\eta_2 \right). \end{aligned}$$

(iv) Similarly, $Z_{\frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4}}(\tau) \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ no sol for $(t,s) \in \square$

(v) $Z_{t,s}$ has no sol if $(t,s) \notin \Delta$ ($\{(t,s) \mid Z_{t,s}$ has finite sol $\}$ is open)

(vi) Will show $Z_{\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}}$ has a unique sol $\tau = e^{\pi i/3}$ in Δ :

pf: Let $Z(z) = \pi' \sum_{\frac{k_1}{3}, \frac{k_2}{3}} z$ over $0 \leq k_1, k_2 \leq 2$ $(k_1, k_2, 3) = 1$

$$v_\infty(z) + \frac{1}{2}v_i(z) + \frac{1}{3}v_e(z) + \sum v_p(z) = \frac{8}{12} = \frac{2}{3} \quad \text{ie. } \neq (0,0)$$

$$\text{wt } Z = 9 - 1 = 8$$

All others vanish, since $Z_{\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3}}(p) = 0$ too.

Corollary : Precise result on finite monodromy problem of Lamé eqⁿ
beyond enumeration (Beuker, Waall, Pahlmen etc)

Similar and more interesting stories for general $n \in \mathbb{N}$, via

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \bar{X}_n & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & E \\
 2:1 \quad B \downarrow & & \frac{1}{2}n(n+1) : 1 \\
 & & \mathbb{P}^1
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{and pre-modular forms } Z_n(\sigma; \tau)$$

For deformations in $p \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, non-degeneracy fails for $p > 8\pi$
we still have

Thm (Chai-Lin-W) Let U_k be a blow-up sequence wrt $p_k \rightarrow 8\pi n$
if $p_k \neq 8\pi n$ for $k \gg 0$, then the blow-up set $P = \{P_1, \dots, P_m\}$
must satisfy $m = n$ and $P = -P$, i.e. $p \in Y_n \setminus X_n$, a branch point

Question : Is this theory an analytic local Calabi-Yau theory?

W_a (or f) is related to "complex elliptic genera". End