

Title: Particles and resonances in Ising Field Theory

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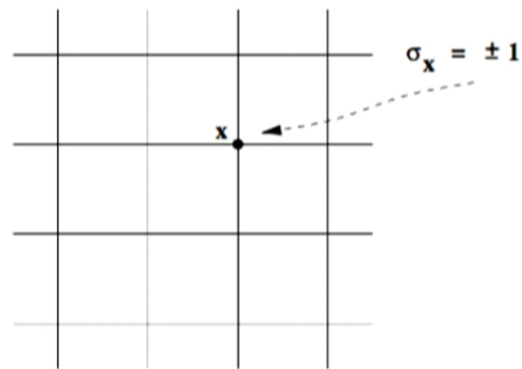
Abstract:

Particles and Resonances in Ising Field Theory

Perimeter Institute, February 2016

(2D) Ising Field Theory = scaling limit of the 2D lattice Ising model **in a magnetic field** $H \neq 0$, near its ferromagnetic critical point, $T \rightarrow T_c, H \rightarrow 0$).

$$E\{\sigma_x\} = - \sum_{\langle nn \rangle} \sigma_x \sigma_y - H \sum_x \sigma_x$$



- Defines 2D Euclidean quantum field theory
 - At the critical point – conformal field theory
- = "Minimal Model" $\mathcal{M}_{3/4}$ with $c = 1/2$.

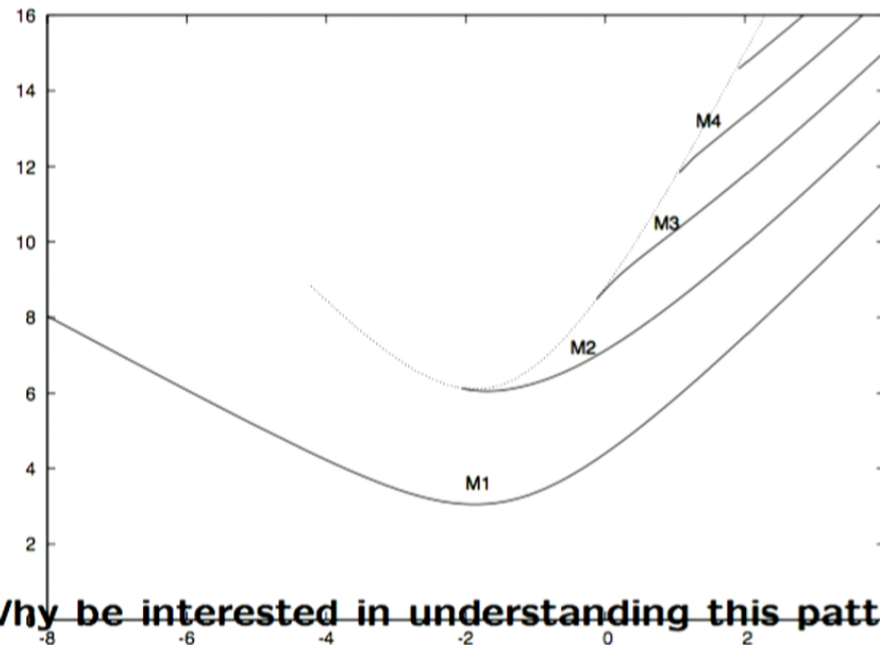
- Away from the critical point – massive QFT

⇒ Universality class of 2D Curie transition, and liquid-vapor critical point (Determines universal scaling functions, correlation functions, ...)

- Massive QFT ⇒ Particle theory (Mass spectrum of stable particles, resonance states, S-matrix)

- **Why would one want to study that theory?**

Masses $M_n(\eta)$, the functions of certain parameter of the theory:
(Numerics via TCSA)



Why be interested in understanding this pattern?

1. Laboratory experiment

Quantum Criticality in an Ising Chain: Experimental Evidence for Emergent E_8 Symmetry

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Quantum phase transitions take place between distinct phases of matter at zero temperature. Near the transition point, exotic quantum symmetries can emerge that govern the excitation spectrum of the system. A symmetry described by the E_8 Lie group with a spectrum of eight particles was long predicted to appear near the critical point of an Ising chain. We realize this system experimentally by using strong transverse magnetic fields to tune the quasi-one-dimensional Ising ferromagnet CoNb_2O_6 (cobalt niobate) through its critical point. Spin excitations are observed to change character from pairs of kinks in the ordered phase to spin-flips in the paramagnetic phase. Just below the critical field, the spin dynamics shows a fine structure with two sharp modes at low energies, in a ratio that approaches the golden mean predicted for the first two meson particles of the E_8 spectrum. Our results demonstrate the power of symmetry to describe complex quantum behaviors.

Symmetry is present in many physical systems and helps uncover some of their fundamental properties. Continuous symmetries lead to conservation laws; for example, the invariance of physical laws under spatial rotation ensures the conservation of angular momentum. More exotic continuous symmetries have been predicted to emerge in the proximity of certain quantum phase transitions (QPTs) (1, 2). Recent experiments on quantum magnets (3–5) suggest that quantum critical resonances may expose the underlying symmetries most clearly. Remarkably, the simplest of systems, the Ising chain, promises a very complex symmetry, described mathematically by the E_8 Lie group (2, 6–9). Lie groups describe continuous symmetries and are

important in many areas of physics. They range in complexity from the $U(1)$ group, which appears in the low-energy description of superfluidity, superconductivity, and Bose-Einstein condensation (10, 11), to E_8 , the highest-order symmetry group discovered in mathematics (12), which has not yet been experimentally realized in physics.

The one-dimensional (1D) Ising chain in transverse field (10, 11, 13) is perhaps the most-studied theoretical paradigm for a quantum phase transition. It is described by the Hamiltonian

$$H = \sum_i -JS_i^z S_{i+1}^z - hS_i^x \quad (1)$$

where a ferromagnetic exchange $J > 0$ between nearest-neighbors S_i and S_{i+1} competes with an applied external transverse magnetic field h . The Ising exchange J favors spontaneous magnetic order along the z axis ($|\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow \dots \uparrow\rangle$ or $|\downarrow\downarrow\downarrow \dots \downarrow\rangle$), whereas the transverse field h forces the spins to point along the perpendicular $+x$ direction ($|\rightarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow \dots \rightarrow\rangle$). This competition leads to two distinct phases, magnetically ordered and quantum paramagnetic, separated by a continuous transition at the critical field $h_c = J/2$ (Fig. 1A). Qualitatively, the magnetic field stimulates quantum tunneling processes between \uparrow and \downarrow spin states and these zero-point quantum fluctuations “melt” the magnetic order at h_c (10).

To explore the physics of Ising quantum criticality in real materials, several key ingredients are required: very good one-dimensionality of the magnetism to avoid mean-field effects of higher dimensions, a strong easy-axis (Ising) character, and a sufficiently low exchange energy J of a few meV that can be matched by experimentally attainable magnetic fields (10 T \sim 1 meV) to access the quantum critical point. An excellent model system to test this physics is the insulating quasi-1D Ising ferromagnet CoNb_2O_6 (14–16), where magnetic Co^{2+} ions are arranged into near-isolated zigzag chains along the c axis with strong easy-

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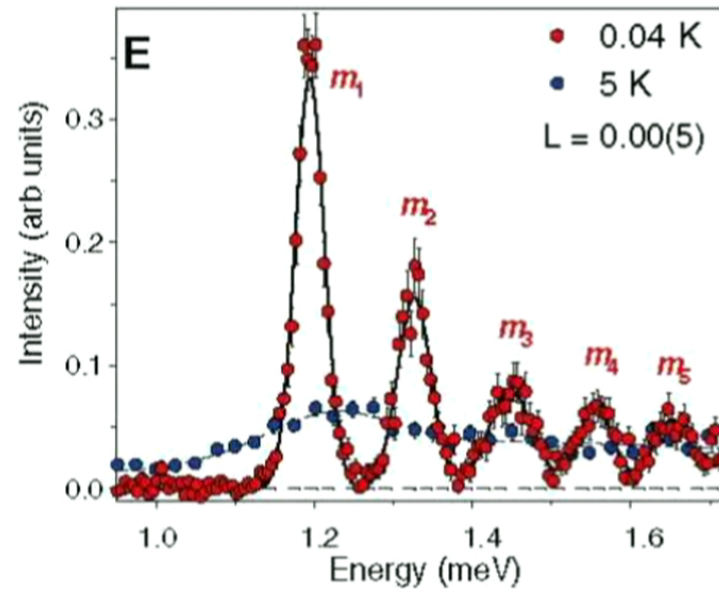
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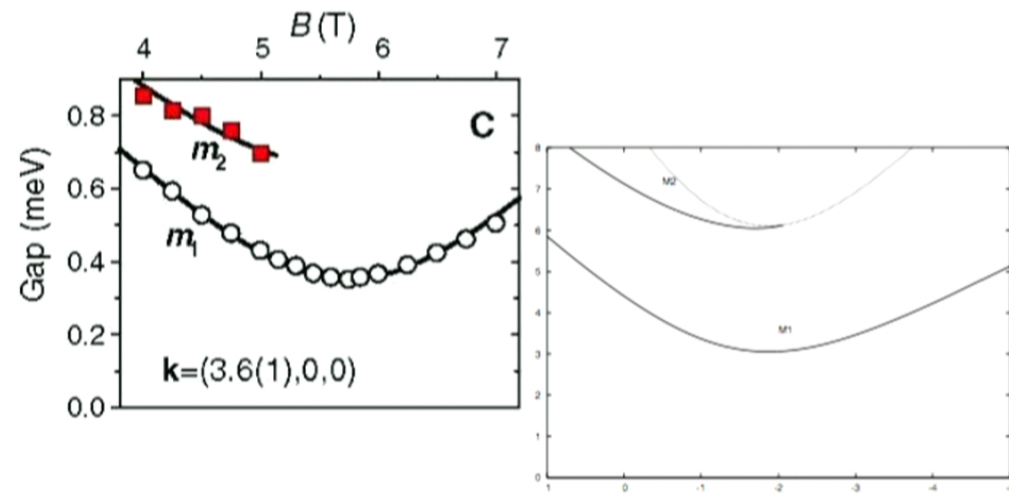
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2. "Understanding" of the QFT model

- generally non-integrable - no analytic solution exists, nor is expected (except for few **Integrable points** in the parameter space)
- Basic physics behind of the mass spectrum is understood ("**McCoy-Wu scenario**", **1976**), but there are many intricate details, with only partial, or no answers.
- How much one can hope to "understand" a full-fledged, non-perturbative, non-integrable, (not even supersymmetric!) QFT?

I will discuss some features with data obtained by

- Numerical analysis
- Integrable QFT (integrable points)
- "Interpolation" between integrable points
- Special cases of resonance states accessible through "integrability"

IFT: RG flow out of the fixed point $\mathcal{M}_{3/4}$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{IFT}} = \mathcal{A}_{c=1/2 \text{ CFT}} + \frac{m}{2\pi} \int \varepsilon(x) d^2x + h \int \sigma(x) d^2x ,$$

$\varepsilon(x)$ with $(\Delta, \bar{\Delta}) = (1/2, 1/2)$ ("energy density");

$$m \sim T_c - T$$

$\sigma(x)$ with $(\Delta, \bar{\Delta}) = (1/16, 1/16)$ ("spin density");

$$h \sim H$$

Apart from overall scale, the theory depends on a single dimensionless parameter

$$\eta = \frac{m}{|h|^{8/15}} \sim \frac{T_c - T}{H^{8/15}} .$$

Generally [i.e. except for $(m, h) = (0, 0)$, and the Yang-Lee point at certain pure imaginary $h = \pm i (0.1893) m^{15/8}$] IFT is massive.

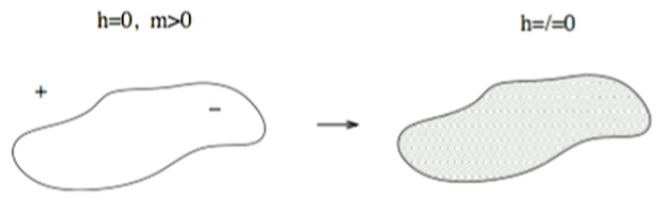
Qualitative picture ("McCoy-Wu scenario")

- $h = 0$. Onsager's theory: IFT = Free particle theory

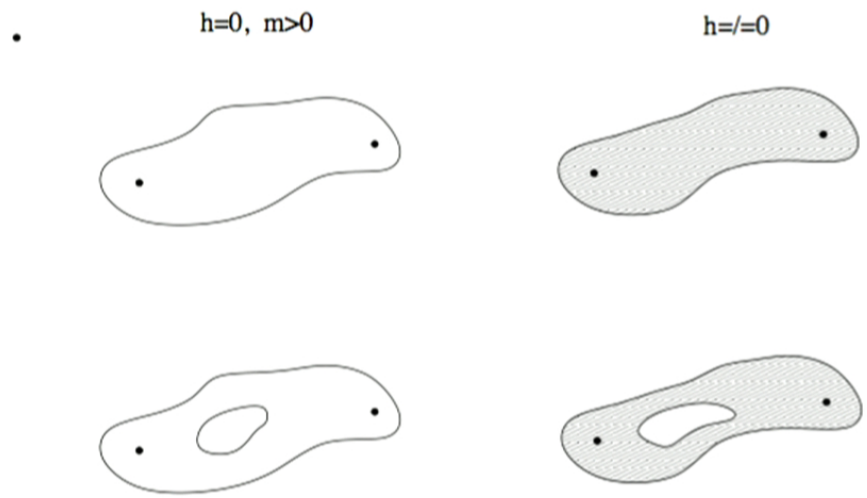
$m < 0$ ("High-T" regime): Single vacuum $\langle \sigma \rangle = 0$, free particle of mass $|m|$ = excitation over the vacuum; $m \sim (T_c - T)/a$.

$m > 0$ ("Low-T" regime): Spontaneous breaking $\langle \sigma \rangle = \pm \bar{\sigma}$, free particle = kink interpolating between the two vacua.

- Low-T plus weak magnetic field $h \Rightarrow$ confining attraction between the kinks (analogous to quarks) \Rightarrow Tower of "mesons" (stable and resonances).

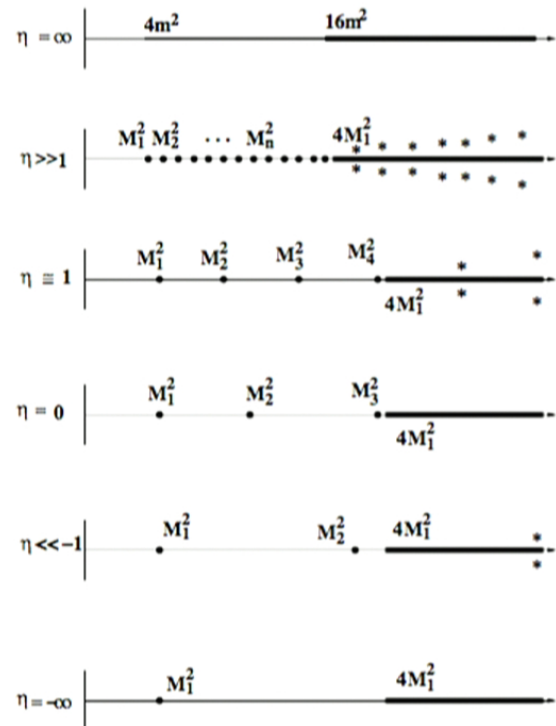


Spin-spin correlation function $\langle \sigma(x_1)\sigma(x_2) \rangle$

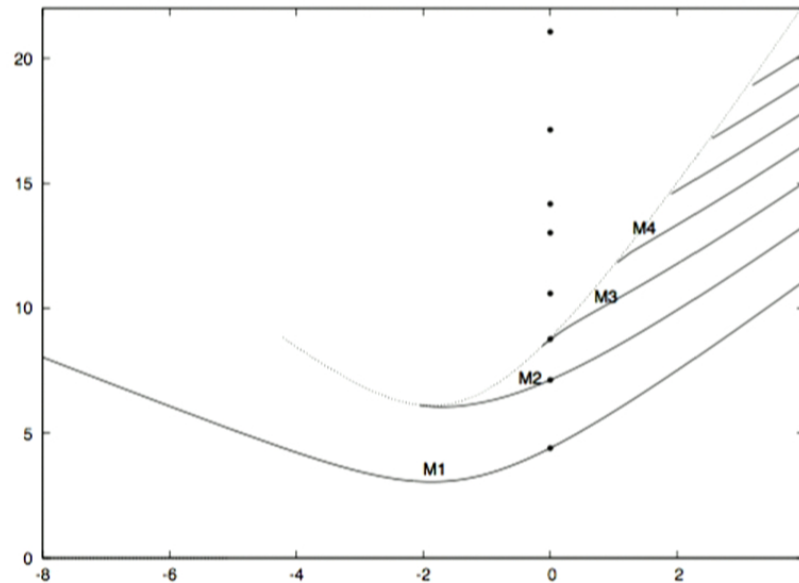


"McCoy-Wu scenario" (1978): The mass spectrum interpolates between the infinite tower of "mesons" at $\eta \rightarrow +\infty$ (Low-T regime) and one stable particle at $\eta \rightarrow -\infty$ (High-T regime).

E.g. for $G(k^2) = f.t. \langle \sigma(x) \sigma(0) \rangle$ ($k^2 = \omega^2 - p^2$)



Particle masses M_n (measured in the units of $|h|^{8/15}$), as the functions of η . Numerical results (via TCSA), and exact mass spectrum at integrable point $\eta = 0$.



I will refer to the stable particle as A_n , and their masses (measured in the units of $|h|^{8/15}$) as $M_n = M_n(\eta)$.

Questions:

What happens to the particle masses when they leave the spectrum of stable particles? (\rightarrow resonances?)

The resonance states may also disappear. How this happens?

Analytic continuations of $M_n(\eta)$ as the functions of η ?

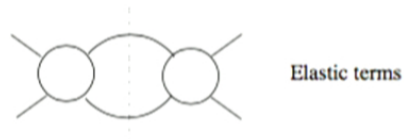
It is useful to discuss in terms of the elastic $A_1 + A_1 \rightarrow A_1 + A_1$ scattering amplitude $S(\theta)$, defined as usual

$$|A_1(\theta_1)A_1(\theta_2)\rangle_{in} = S(\theta_1 - \theta_2) |A_1(\theta_1)A_1(\theta_2)\rangle_{out} + \\ + \text{inelastic terms}$$

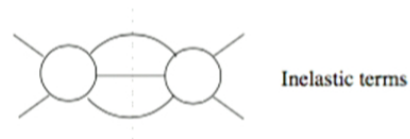
$$s = E_{CM}^2 = 4M_1 \cosh^2(\theta/2).$$

- $S(\theta)$ is analytic in the θ -plane with the branching singularities at $\theta = \pm\theta_X + i\pi\mathbb{Z}$, associated with the inelastic thresholds $A_1 + A_2 \rightarrow X$

Unitarity $SS^\dagger = I$:



Elastic terms



Inelastic terms

$$\log S(\theta + i0) - \log S(\theta - i0) = \frac{\log(1 - \sigma_{\text{tot}}(\theta))}{\sinh \theta}$$

$\sigma_{\text{tot}}(\theta)$ = total probability of all inelastic events in $A_1 + A_1 \rightarrow X$ scattering.

$S(\theta)$ satisfies

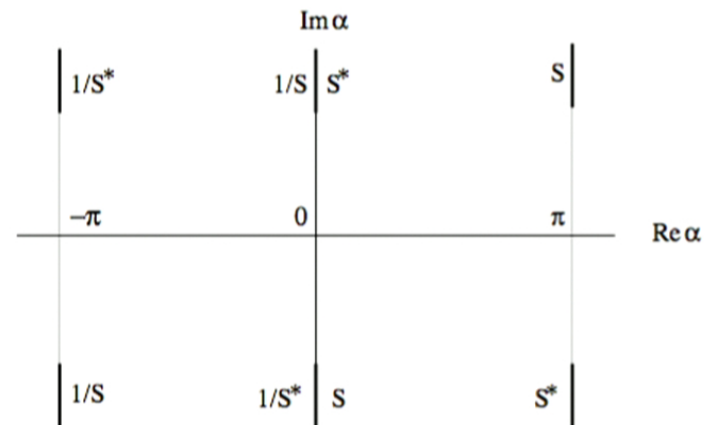
$$S(\theta)S(-\theta) = 1, \quad S(\theta) = S(i\pi - \theta)$$

and hence periodicity,

$$S(\theta) = S(2\pi i + \theta).$$

I'll limit attention to the strip $-\pi < \Im m \theta < \pi$ ("Principal strip").

Principal strip ($\alpha = -i\theta$):



Real analyticity

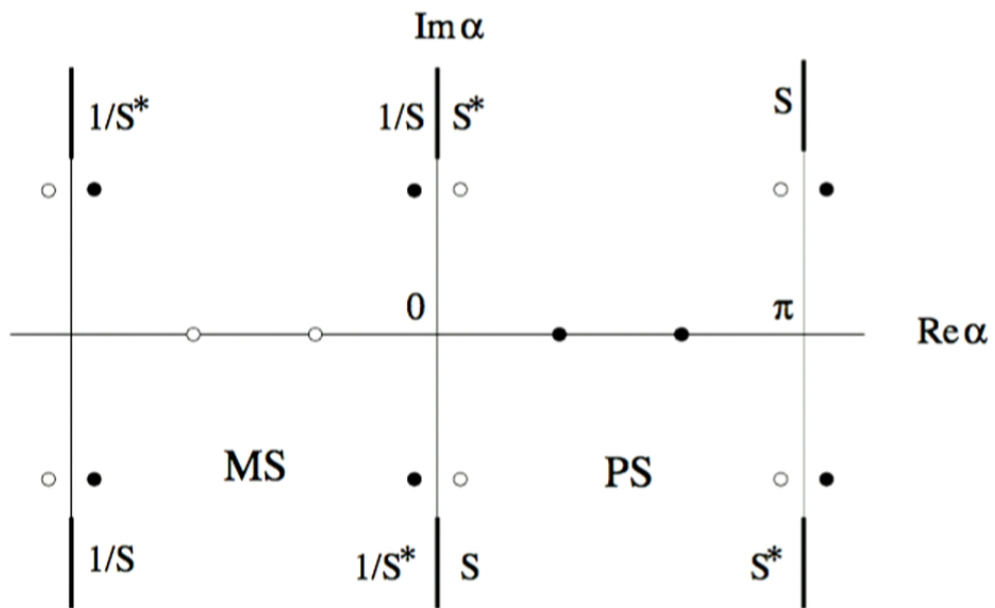
$$S(i\alpha^*) = S^*(i\alpha)$$

Poles: $\theta = i\alpha_p, i(\pi - \alpha_p)$, with α_p either real (bound states, virtual states), or complex-conjugated pairs (α_p, α_p^*) .

Zeros: Are at $\theta = -i\alpha_p, i(-\pi + \alpha_p)$

"Physical Strip" (PS): $0 < \Im m \theta < \pi$. Poles in PS correspond to stable particles (s -channel, or u -channel). There can be no complex poles in PS.

"Mirror Strip" (MS): $-\pi < \Im m \theta < 0$. Poles = virtual or resonance states.



Possible poles ● and zeros ○ on the principal sheet

Residues

$$S(\theta) \simeq \frac{ir_p}{\theta - i\alpha_p}.$$

Stable particle – real $\alpha_p \in PS$, with **positive** r_p

$$M_p = 2M_1 \cos \frac{\alpha_p}{2},$$

" φ^3 property": A_1 appears as a "bound state pole" in $A_1 A_1$ scattering \Rightarrow Fixed-position poles at

$$\alpha_1 = 2\pi/3, \quad \pi - \alpha_1 = \pi/3.$$

Resonances Have complex masses

$$M_p = \bar{M}_p - i\Gamma_p, \quad \Gamma_p > 0$$

and the residues at the associated poles are also complex.

Integrable points of IFT

(a) $\eta = 0$ ($h \neq 0, m = 0$). Eight particles A_1, A_2, \dots, A_8 , with purely elastic S-matrix ("E₈ structure").

$$(M_1, M_2, \dots, M_8) \simeq \text{Perron-Frobenius vector of } C(E_8)$$

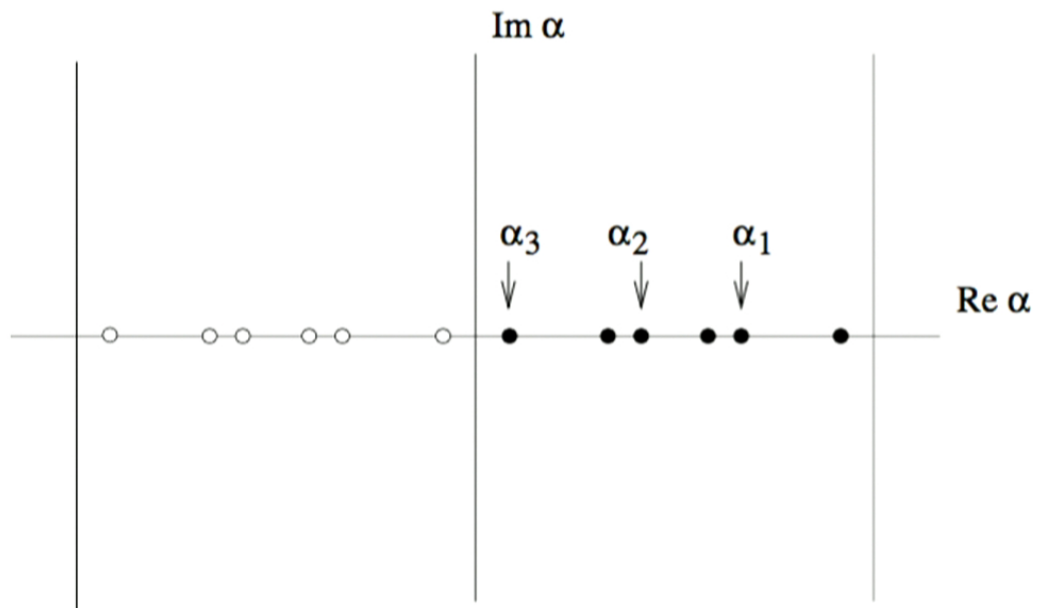
For $A_1 A_1 \rightarrow A_1 A_1$

$$S(\theta) = \frac{\sinh \theta + i \sin(2\pi/3) \sinh \theta + i \sin(2\pi/5) \sinh \theta + i \sin(\pi/15)}{\sinh \theta - i \sin(2\pi/3) \sinh \theta - i \sin(2\pi/5) \sinh \theta - i \sin(\pi/15)}.$$

Three pairs of poles $\alpha_p, \pi - \alpha_p$

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{2\pi}{3}, \quad \alpha_2 = \frac{2\pi}{5}, \quad \alpha_3 = \frac{\pi}{15}.$$

correspond to A_1, A_2, A_3 (A_4, \dots, A_8 appear as poles in higher amplitudes)



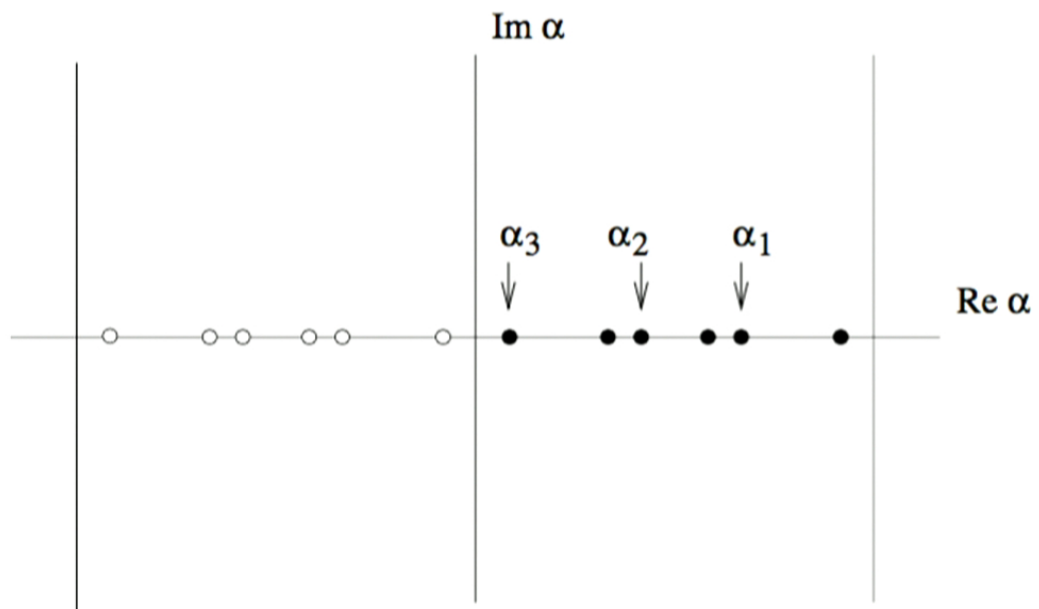
$$\eta = 0.00$$

(b) $\eta = -\infty$ ($h = 0, m < 0$) Free particle A_1 , of mass $M_1 = -m$

$$S(\theta) = -1.$$

How the pattern at $\eta = 0$ evolves into the trivial pattern corresponding to this free theory?

High-T domain $\eta < 0$



$$\eta = 0.00$$

(b) $\eta = -\infty$ ($h = 0, m < 0$) Free particle A_1 , of mass $M_1 = -m$

$$S(\theta) = -1.$$

How the pattern at $\eta = 0$ evolves into the trivial pattern corresponding to this free theory?

High-T domain $\eta < 0$

Small nonzero η : Perturbation theory in m

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{IFT}} = \mathcal{A}_{c=1/2 \text{ CFT}} + h \int \sigma(x) d^2x + \frac{m}{2\pi} \int \varepsilon(x) d^2x.$$

- $M_n(\eta) = M_n^{(0)} + M_n^{(1)} \eta + \dots$

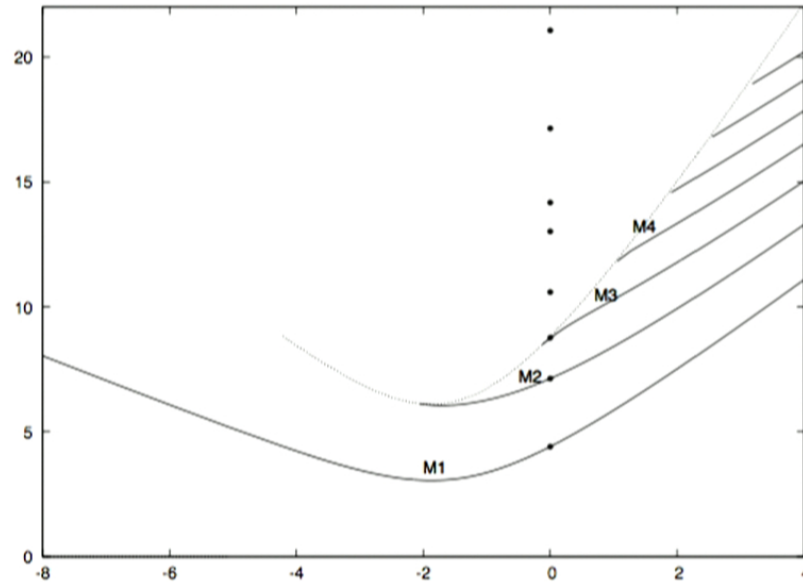
First order PT (G. Delfino, G. Mussardo, P. Simonetti, 1996)

From $M_p/M_1 = 2 \cos(\alpha_p/2)$

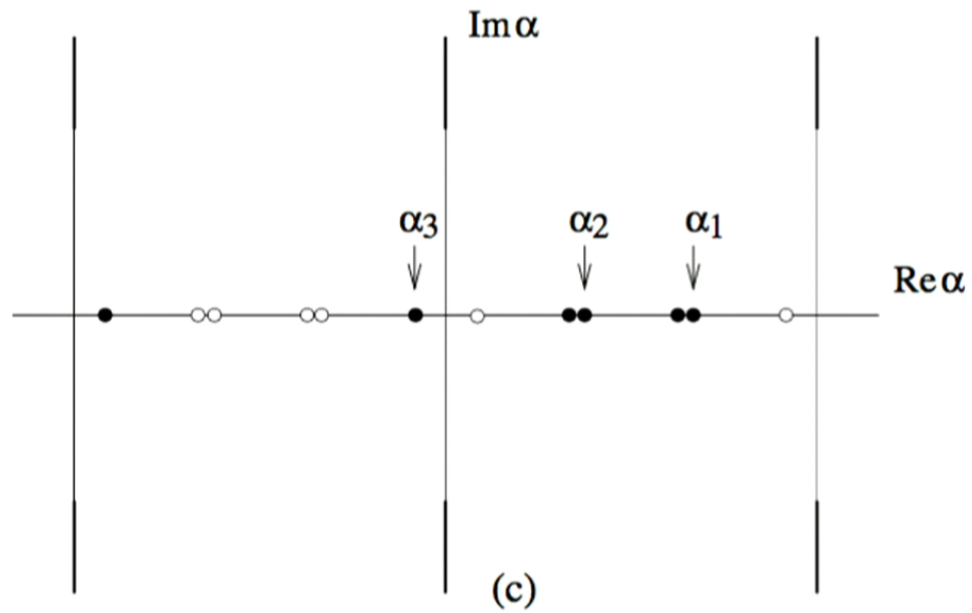
$$\alpha_2 = \frac{2\pi}{5} + \alpha_2^{(1)} \eta + \dots, \quad \alpha_3 = \frac{\pi}{15} + \alpha_3^{(1)} \eta + \dots,$$

$$\alpha_2^{(1)} = 0.378325\dots, \quad \alpha_3^{(1)} = 1.35226\dots,$$

Particle masses M_n (measured in the units of $|h|^{8/15}$), as the functions of η .



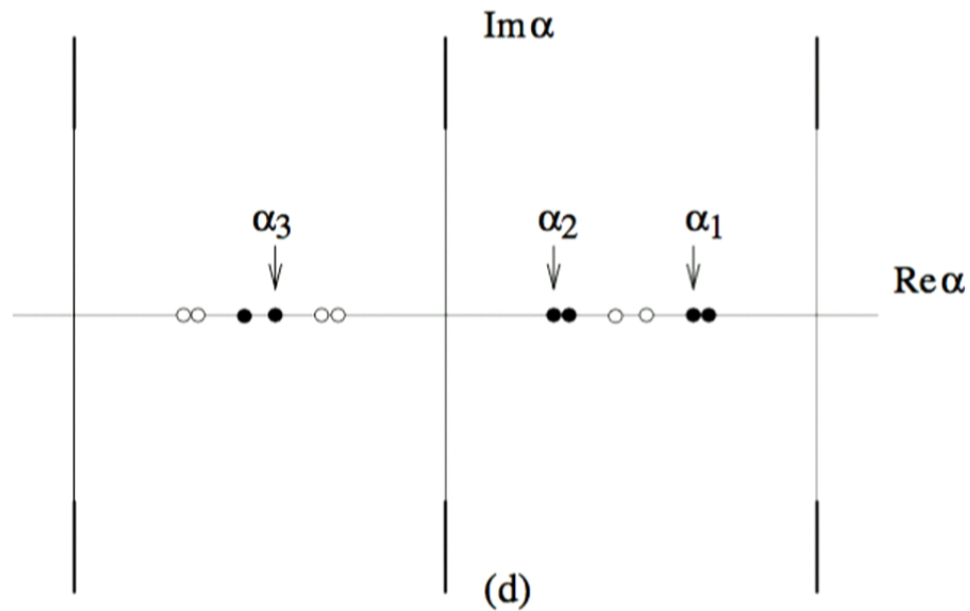
At certain $\eta_3 \approx -0.138$ α_3 leaves PS, and enters MS. A_3 disappears as a stable particle



$$\eta = -0.27$$

At $\eta_{12} \approx -0.477$ α_2 crosses $\pi - \alpha_1 = \pi/3$. Simultaneously, α_3 must cross $-\pi/3$, which happens when $M_2/M_1 = \sqrt{3}$. I.e.

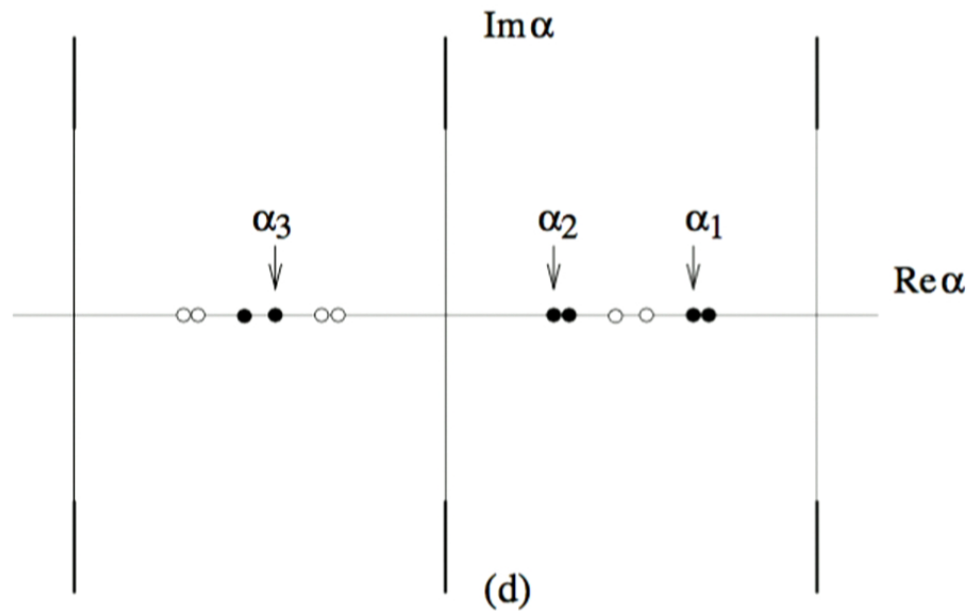
$$\eta_{12} : M_3/M_1 = M_2/M_1 = \sqrt{3}$$



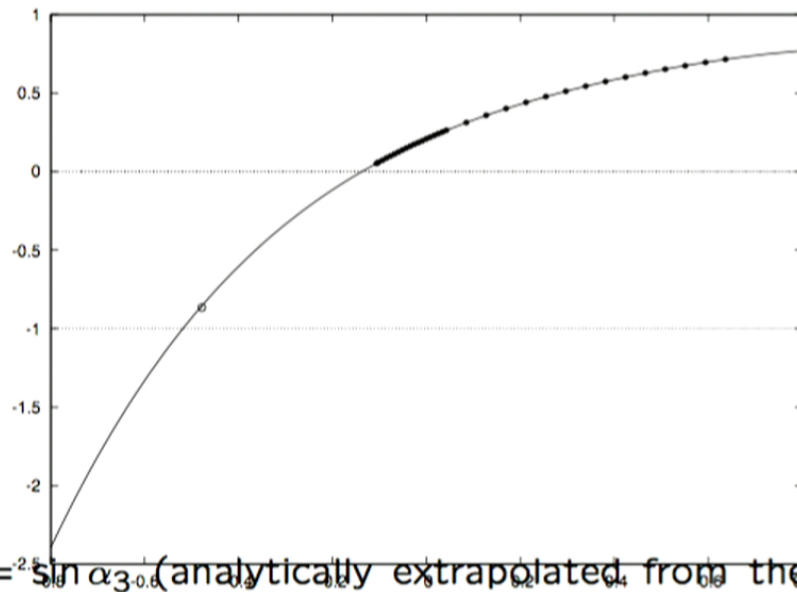
$$\eta = -0.49$$

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$$\eta_{12} : M_3/M_1 = M_2/M_1 = \sqrt{3}$$



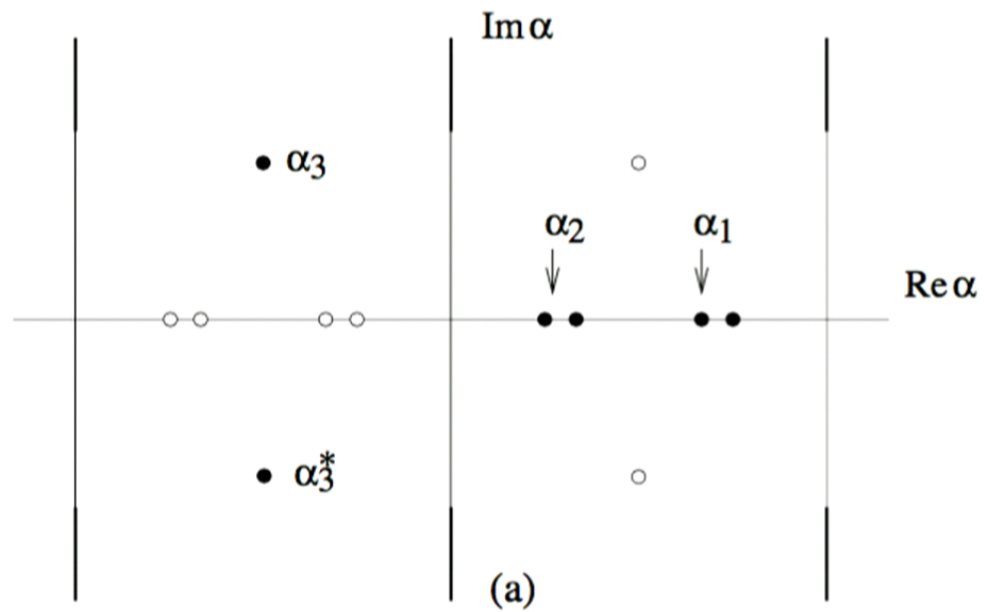
$$\eta = -0.49$$



$B_3 = \sin \alpha_3$ (analytically extrapolated from the domain $\eta > \eta_3$, where M_3/M_1 is directly available through TCSA)

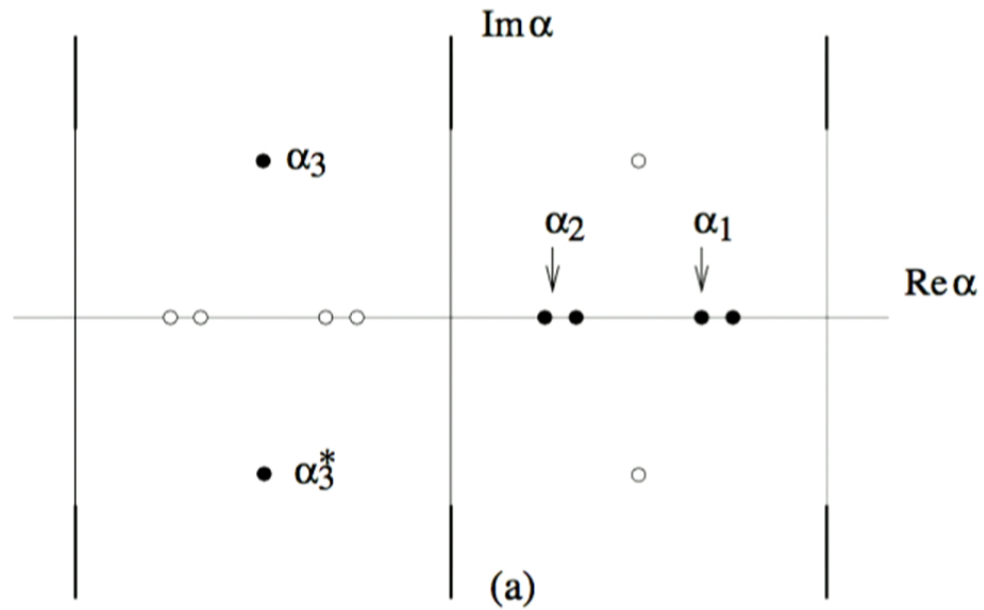
$B_3 < -1$ (α_3 is complex) at $\eta < \eta_{33} \approx -0.55$

At $\eta_{33} \approx -0.51$ the poles α_3 and $-\pi - \alpha_3$ collide at $-\pi/2$, and become complex poles



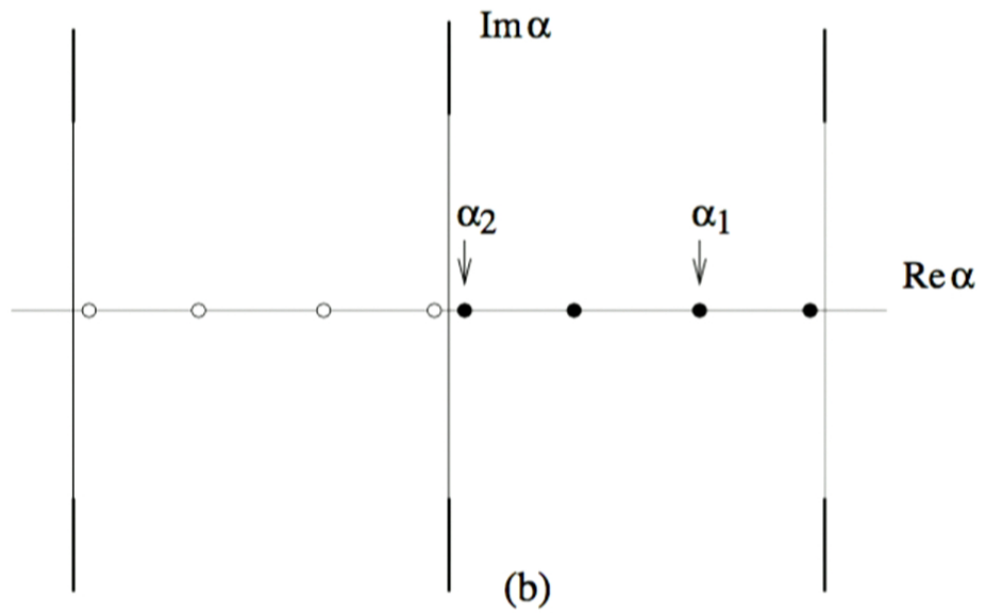
$$\eta = -0.94$$

At $\eta_{33} \approx -0.51$ the poles α_3 and $-\pi - \alpha_3$ collide at $-\pi/2$, and become complex poles



$$\eta = -0.94$$

At $\eta \rightarrow \eta_2 + 0$, $\eta_2 \approx -2.08$ the pole α_2 approaches zero

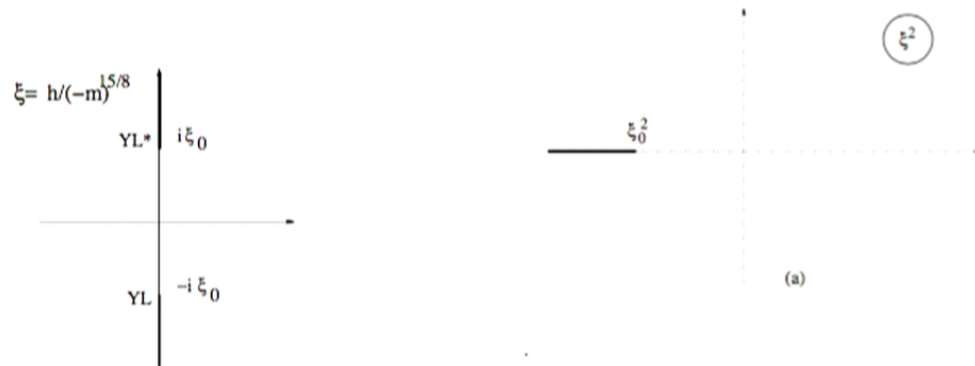


$$\eta = -1.87$$

Pure imaginary h at $m < 0$.

IFT remains "real" at pure imaginary h , below the Yang-Lee singularity

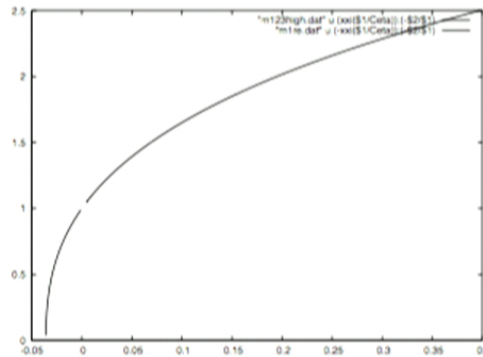
$$\xi^2 \equiv h^2/(-m)^{15/4} > -\xi_0^2 \approx -0.035846$$



$\xi^2 = \frac{h^2}{(-m)^{15/4}}$ Page 36 of 55 / 4

- YL = critical point. CFT = $\mathcal{M}_{2/5}$, with $c = -22/5$ (J.Cardy, 1985),

$$M_1 \sim (\xi^2 + \xi_0^2)^{5/12}$$

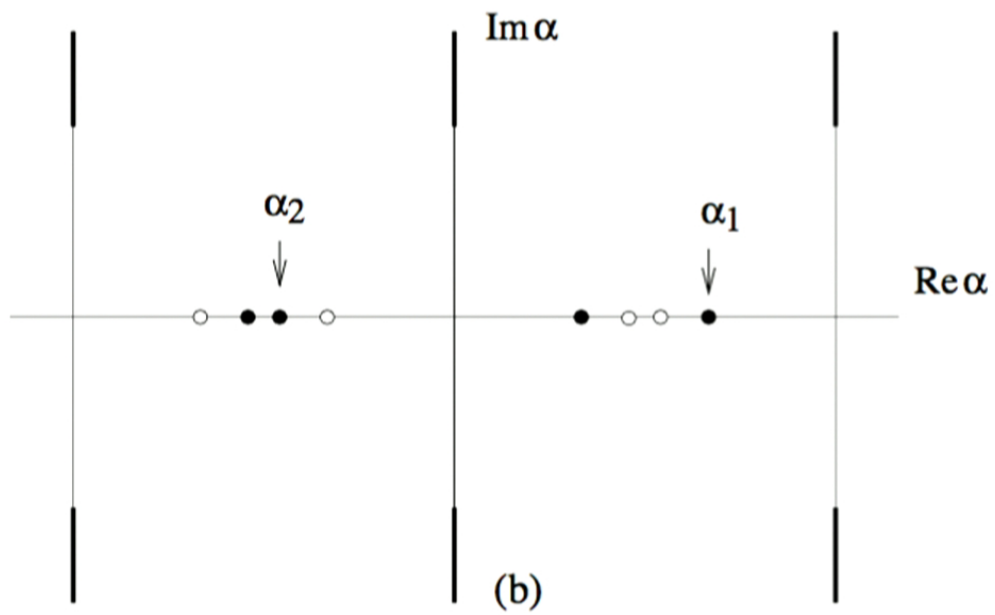


- Integrable at $\xi^2 \rightarrow -\xi_0^2$, with one particle, and

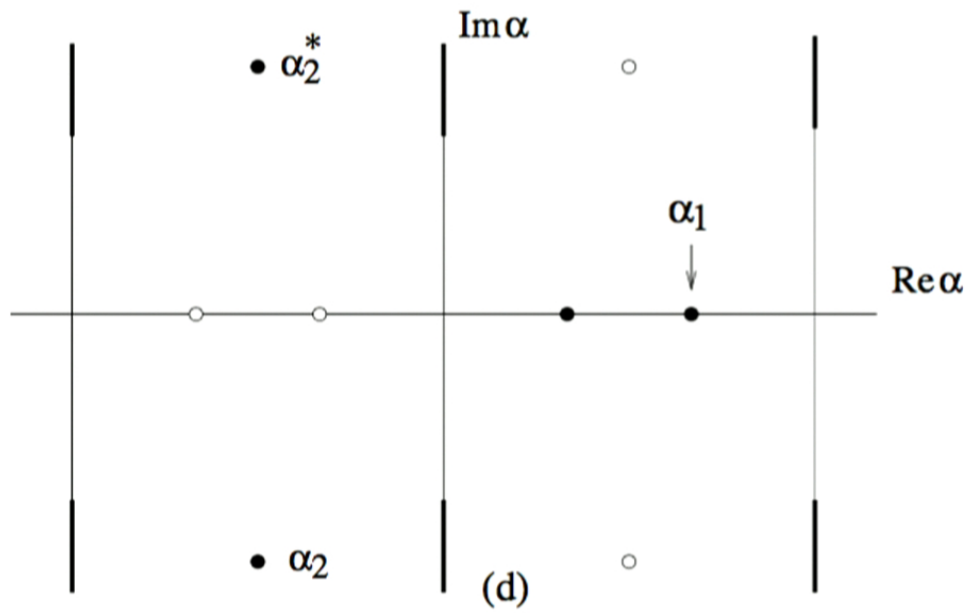
$$S(\theta) = \frac{\sinh \theta + i \sin \alpha_1}{\sinh \theta - i \sin \alpha_1}, \quad \alpha_1 = \frac{2\pi}{3}.$$

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(J. Cardy, G. Mussardo, 1989)



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$$S_{YL}(\theta) = \frac{\sinh \theta + i \sin 2\pi/3}{\sinh \theta - i \sin 2\pi/3}.$$

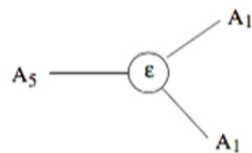
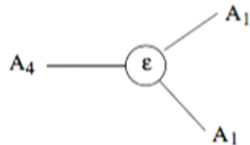
Resonances

As $\xi^2 = 1/(-\eta)^{15/4}$ decreases from $+\infty$ to $-\xi_0^2$, first A_3 , and then A_2 , become resonances. But there are many more resonances ...

- $\eta = 0$: Eight stable particles, with $M_4, M_5, \dots, M_8 > 2M_2$. At $\eta \neq 0$ integrability is violated \Rightarrow decay channels open

Perturbation theory in η : $A_n \rightarrow A_m A_k$ decay amplitude \sim the form-factor

$$\langle A_n(0) | \varepsilon(0) | A_m(\theta_1) A_k(\theta_2) \rangle \neq 0$$



$$\Gamma_4 = \begin{array}{c} \Lambda_4 \text{---} \textcircled{\varepsilon} \text{---} \textcircled{\varepsilon} \text{---} \Lambda_4 \\ \text{A}_1 \text{ (top arc)} \\ \text{A}_1 \text{ (bottom arc)} \end{array}$$

$$\Gamma_5 = \begin{array}{c} \Lambda_5 \text{---} \textcircled{\varepsilon} \text{---} \textcircled{\varepsilon} \text{---} \Lambda_5 \\ \text{A}_1 \text{ (top arc)} \\ \text{A}_1 \text{ (bottom arc)} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \Lambda_5 \text{---} \textcircled{\varepsilon} \text{---} \textcircled{\varepsilon} \text{---} \Lambda_5 \\ \text{A}_1 \text{ (top arc)} \\ \text{A}_2 \text{ (bottom arc)} \end{array}$$

$$\Gamma_4 = (0.047587 \eta^2) M_1, \quad \Gamma_5 = (0.011000 \eta^2) M_1,$$

(G. Delfino, P. Grinza, G. Mussardo, 2005).

Away from $\eta = 0$ all five "heavy" particles A_4, A_5, \dots, A_8 become resonances.

What happens to A_4, A_5, \dots, A_8 when η decreases from zero?

- "Experimental" observation: Some of the resonances, e.g. A_5 (but not A_4), remain very narrow when η is not too far from zero (As seen from numerics). Why?
- At $\eta = 0$ M_n are given by components of Perron-Frobenius vector of the cartan matrix of E_8 , e.g.

$$A_2 : \quad M_2 = 2M_1 \cos \frac{\pi}{5} = 1.61803 M_1$$
$$A_3 : \quad M_3 = 2M_1 \cos \frac{\pi}{30} = 1.98904 M_1$$

A_3 can be understood as weakly coupled $A_1 A_1$ bound state

$$\varepsilon_2 \equiv 2M_1 - M_3 = 4M_1 \sin^2 \frac{\pi}{60} \approx 0.0109562 M_1$$

Then one expects to have three- and four- and multi-particle bound states:

In 1+1, particles in weakly bound states are well approximated by non-relativistic QM with δ -function attraction:

$$\hat{H} = - \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{d^2}{dx_i^2} - u \sum_{i < j} \delta(x_i - x_j), \quad u > 0$$

$$\varepsilon_k \simeq \frac{k^3 - k}{3!} \varepsilon_2.$$

Indeed, we have

$$M_5 = 4M_1 \cos \frac{\pi}{5} \cos \frac{2\pi}{15} = 2.95629 M_1 = 3M_1 - \text{small}$$

$$M_7 = 8M_1 \cos^2 \frac{\pi}{5} \cos \frac{7\pi}{30} = 3.89115 M_1 = 4M_1 - \text{small}$$

$$M_8 = 8M_1 \cos^2 \frac{\pi}{5} \cos \frac{2\pi}{15} = 4.78338 M_1 = 5M_1 - \text{small}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
3M_1 - M_5 &= 0.043704 M_1, & \varepsilon_3 &= 0.043824 M_1, \\
4M_1 - M_7 &= 0.108843 M_1, & \varepsilon_4 &= 0.109562 M_1, \\
5M_1 - M_8 &= 0.216613 M_1, & \varepsilon_5 &= 0.219124 M_1.
\end{aligned}$$

Here M_5, M_7, M_8 are exact, but ε_k are given by the approximation

$$\varepsilon_k = \frac{k^3 - k}{3!} \varepsilon_2.$$

Remarkably, the PF vector of $C(E_8)$ "knows" about weakly interacting particles!

- At $\eta = 0$ there are weakly coupled multi-particle bound states

$$\begin{aligned}
A_3 &= (A_1 A_1), & A_5 &= (A_1 A_1 A_1), \\
A_7 &= (A_1 A_1 A_1 A_1), & A_8 &= (A_1 A_1 A_1 A_1 A_1)
\end{aligned}$$

Predictions:

- When η is small negative, the "binding energy" of A_3

$$\varepsilon_2 \equiv 3M_1 - M_3 = 4M_1 \sin^2 \frac{\alpha_3}{2}$$

becomes even smaller $\Rightarrow A_5, A_7, A_8$ (now resonances) are even better approximated as the weakly coupled 3, 4, 5 particle bound states.

The approximation

$$M_5 = 3M_1 - \varepsilon_3, \quad M_7 = 4M_1 - \varepsilon_4, \quad M_8 = 5M_1 - \varepsilon_5$$

is expected to work even better. Also, the imaginary parts ($\Gamma_n = -\Im m M_n$) are expected to be small

$$\Gamma_5, \Gamma_7, \Gamma_8 \sim \varepsilon_2^2$$

(Analog of tetra-quark and higher exotic states in QCD?)

- At $\eta < \eta_3$ the resonances A_5, A_7, A_8 disappear (poles leave the principal sheet)

These predictions are at least consistent with numerical data.

Q:

- What about six-, seven-, and higher multi-particle bound states at small η ? $\varepsilon_5 \approx 0.219 M_1 \sim M_1$

Interference with another particle channels? At $\eta = 0$

$$6M_1 - \varepsilon_6 \approx 5.617 M_1, \quad M_4 + M_6 \approx 5.623 M_1$$

- What about "missing" resonances A_4 and A_6 ?

At $\eta = 0$

$$M_4 = 4M_1 \cos \frac{\pi}{5} \cos \frac{7\pi}{30} = 2.404867 M_1,$$
$$M_6 = 4M_1 \cos \frac{\pi}{5} \cos \frac{\pi}{30} = 3.218340 M_1$$

As η approaches η_2

$$2M_1 - M_2 = 4M_1 \sin^2 \frac{\alpha_2}{2}$$

becomes small. Now A_2 becomes weakly coupled (A_1A_1), and again, one expects to see weakly-coupled multi-particle bound states. It is plausible that as $\eta \rightarrow \eta_2 + 0$

$$A_4 \approx (A_1A_1A_1), \quad A_6 \approx (A_1A_1A_1A_1)$$

There may be many more resonances

(a) Do not stem from any stable particles at integrable points

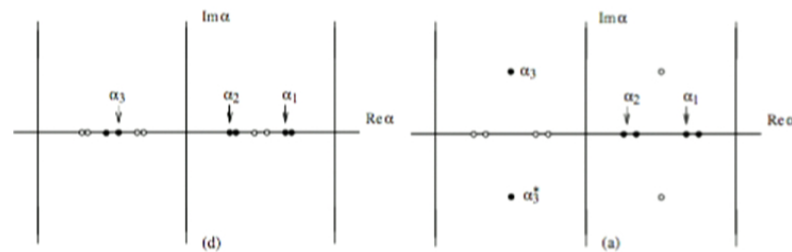
(b) Wide ($\Gamma > M_1$)

(c) High energy ($\bar{M} \gg M_1$)

Because of (b) and (c) - difficult/impossible to extract from existing numerics.

High energy scattering?

The "parity" is violated when η crosses η_3 :



At some η between $-\infty$ and η_3 some resonance(s) has to escape to infinity.

"Summary":

Particle theory of IFT is interesting testground for non-perturbative QFT. In which

Theoretical results can be tested against numerical (and even lab!) experiment

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