TR and quantum curves	Spectral curves	TR and loop equations	KZ equations		

## Topological recursion and quantisation of spectral curves

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(based on joint work with B. Eynard, O. Marchal and N. Orantin)



Séminaire Darboux, LPTHE

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TR and quantum curves	Spectral curves	TR and loop equations	KZ equations		Future
Outline					

- Topological recursion and its ramifications
- Example: Witten's conjecture, Kontsevich's theorem and Airy
- Quantum curves, history, context and examples

#### Opectral curves

Topological recursion and loop equations

Perturbative wave function and KZ equations

In Non-perturbative wave functions KZ equations and Lax system

- Link with isomonodromic systems
- Questions and future work

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## Topological recursion (TR, Chekhov–Eynard–Orantin '04-'07)

<u>Goal</u>: "Count surfaces  $S_{g,n}$  of genus g with n boundaries (topology (g, n))."

#### Spectral curve

TR and quantum curves Spectral curves



- x finitely many simple ramification points (Cr(x)) and y holomorphic around a ∈ Cr(x) and dy(a) ≠ 0 ⇒ Local involution σ around every ramification point: x(z) = x(σ(z)).
- $\omega_{0,2}$  symmetric bi-differential on  $\Sigma \times \Sigma$  with only double poles along the diagonal and vanishing residues, that is when  $z_1 \to z_2$



 Terms in correspondence with the ways of cutting a pair of pants (0, 3) from S<sub>q,n</sub>.



## Properties and examples

- Interesting/powerful properties: \u03c6<sub>g,n</sub> are symmetric with poles at ramifications points, controlled deformations along families, dilaton equation, symplectic invariance, loop equations, modularity, integrability...
- For the Lambert curve  $x = ye^{-y}$ , TR provides simple Hurwitz numbers (Eynard–Mulase–Safnuk, '09, arXiv:0907.5224).
- For y = <sup>-sin(2π√x)</sup>/<sub>2π</sub>, TR gives Mirzakhani's recursion for Weil–Petersson volumes (of the moduli space of bordered hyperbolic surfaces), (Eynard–Orantin, '07, arXiv:0705.3600).
- TR on mirror curve of a toric CY3 computes its open Gromov–Witten theory (Bouchard–Klemm–Mariño–Pasquetti, '07, arXiv:0709.1453), (Fang–Liu–Zong, '16, arXiv:1604.07123).
- Chern-Simons theory on S<sup>3</sup> is governed by TR. Gopakumar-Ooguri-Vafa correspondence gives an A-model picture: GW of the resolved conifold, and B-model can be seen as TR on its Hori-Iqbal-Vafa mirror curve. (Brini, '17, hal-01474196).
- Statistical physics models on random maps: 1-hermitian matrix model, Ising model, Potts model, O(n)-loop model (Borot-Eynard, '09, arXiv:0910.5896), (Borot-Eynard-Orantin, '13, arXiv:1303.5808)...
- Semi-simple cohomological field theories and topological recursion (Dunin-Barkowski-Orantin-Shadrin-Spitz, '14, arXiv:1211.4021).
- Reconstruction of formal WKB expansions, integrability, isomonodromic systems (Borot-Eynard, '11, arXiv:1110.4936), (Eynard, '17, arXiv:1706.04938), (Eynard-G-F-Marchal-Orantin, '21, arXiv:2106.04339)...
- Conjecturally, for the A-polynomial of a knot as a spectral curve, TR computes the colored Jones polynomial of the knot (Borot–Eynard, '12, arXiv:1205.2261)).
- Extension to the non-perturbative world, resurgence theory: work in progress!

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Moduli space of curves  $\mathcal{M}_{q,n}$ 

For  $g, n \ge 0$ , with 2g - 2 + n > 0, we define the moduli space:

TR and quantum curves Spectral curves TR and loop equations KZ equations Non-perturbative

$$\mathcal{M}_{g,n} \coloneqq \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \operatorname{curves of genus } g \text{ with } n \\ \operatorname{marked points } x_1, \dots, x_n \end{array} \right\} \middle/ \sim \ .$$

•  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n} \rightsquigarrow$  Deligne–Mumford compactification (including nodal curves).



$$\psi_i \coloneqq c_1(\mathcal{L}_i) \in H^2(\mathcal{M}_{g,n}, \mathbb{Q}),$$
  
 $i = 1, \dots, n.$ 

Intersection numbers or correlators of psi classes:

$$\langle \tau_{d_1} \cdots \tau_{d_n} \rangle_g \coloneqq \int_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}} \psi_1^{d_1} \cdots \psi_n^{d_n} \in \mathbb{Q},$$

which are zero unless  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} d_i = \dim_{\mathbb{C}}(\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}) = 3g - 3 + n.$ 



Generating series of intersection numbers of psi classes:

$$F(t_0, t_1, \ldots) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{(d_1, \ldots, d_n)} \langle \tau_{d_1} \cdots \tau_{d_n} \rangle t_{d_1} \cdots t_{d_n}$$



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**Conjecture:** The series F satisfies the Korteweg-de Vries (KdV) hierarchy, the first equation of which is the classical KdV equation

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t_1} = U \frac{\partial U}{\partial t_0} + \frac{1}{12} \frac{\partial^3 U}{\partial t_0^3} \quad \left( U = \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial t_0^2} \right),$$

and the string equation  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial t_0} = \frac{t_0^2}{2} + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} t_{i+1} \frac{\partial F}{\partial t_i}$ .

Witten's motivation: Two different models of 2D quantum gravity should coincide.

• The conjecture uniquely determines F.

One explicit version of Witten's conjecture

Virasoro operators:

$$V_{-1} = -\frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial t_0} + \frac{1}{2}\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} t_{k+1}\frac{\partial}{\partial t_k} + \frac{t_0^2}{4}, \quad V_0 = -\frac{3}{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial t_1} + \frac{1}{2}\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (2k+1)t_k\frac{\partial}{\partial t_k} + \frac{1}{48},$$

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and for n > 0,

$$V_n = -\frac{(2n+3)!!}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{n+1}} + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(2k+2n+1)!!}{2(2k-1)!!} t_k \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{k+n}} + \sum_{k_1+k_2=n-1} \frac{(2k_1+1)!!(2k_2+1)!!}{4} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t_{k_1}\partial t_{k_2}}.$$

They satisfy the Virasoro relations:

$$[V_m, V_n] = (m-n)V_{m+n}.$$

One explicit version of Witten's conjecture

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Theorem (equivalent to Witten's conjecture ('91))

For every integer  $n \ge -1$ ,  $V_n(\exp F) = 0$ .











TR applied to the Airy curve  $(x,y)=\left(\frac{z^2}{2},z\right)$  produces

$$\omega_{g,n}(z_1,\ldots,z_n) = 2^{2-2g-n} \sum_{\sum_i d_i = 3g-3+n} \left( \int_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}} \psi_1^{d_1} \cdots \psi_n^{d_n} \right) \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{(2d_i+1)!!dz_i}{z_i^{2d_i+2}}.$$

## TR and quantum curves Spectral curves Airy differential equation

• Airy function Ai $(\lambda) \rightsquigarrow \left(\frac{d^2}{d\lambda^2} - \lambda\right)$ Ai $(\lambda) = 0$ . Asymptotic expansion (g.s. of intersection numbers), as  $\lambda \to \infty$ , of the form

$$\log \operatorname{Ai}(\lambda) - S_0(\lambda) - S_1(\lambda) = \sum_{m=2}^{\infty} S_m(\lambda),$$

where  $S_0(\lambda) \coloneqq -\frac{2}{3}\lambda^{\frac{3}{2}}$ ,  $S_1(\lambda) \coloneqq -\frac{1}{4}\log\lambda - \log(2\sqrt{\pi})$  and  $\forall m \ge 2$ 

$$S_m(\lambda) \coloneqq \frac{\lambda^{-\frac{3}{2}(m-1)}}{2^{m-1}} \sum_{\substack{h \ge 0, n > 0\\ 2h-2+n=m-1}} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} \sum_{\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{N}^n} \left\langle \tau_{d_1} \dots \tau_{d_n} \right\rangle_{h,n} \prod_{i=1}^n (2d_i - 1)!! \, .$$

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 Keep track of the Euler characteristics of the surfaces enumerated by introducing a formal parameter  $\hbar$  through a rescaling of  $\lambda \rightsquigarrow \psi^{\mathsf{Kont}}(\lambda, \hbar) \coloneqq \mathsf{Ai}(\hbar^{-\frac{2}{3}}\lambda)$ satisfies

$$\left(\hbar^2 \frac{d^2}{d\lambda^2} - \lambda\right) \psi^{\mathsf{Kont}}(\lambda, \hbar) = 0$$

and admits an asymptotic expansion of the form

$$\log \psi^{\mathsf{Kont}}(\lambda,\hbar) - \hbar^{-1}S_0(\lambda) - S_1(\lambda) = \sum_{m=2}^{\infty} \hbar^{m-1}S_m(\lambda).$$

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• TR on the Airy spectral curve  $y^2 - x = 0$  computes  $Z^{\text{Kont}}(\hbar, \mathbf{t})$  and  $\psi^{\text{Kont}}(\lambda, \hbar)$ . The quantum curve  $(\hbar^2 \frac{d^2}{d\lambda^2} - \lambda)\psi^{\text{Kont}}(\lambda, \hbar) = 0$  can be constructed out of TR. Is this a general phenomenon?

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 $P \in \mathbb{C}[x, y]$  and  $\Sigma = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{C}^2 \mid P(x, y) = 0\}$  plane curve of genus  $\hat{g}$ .

A quantization of  $\Sigma$  is a differential operator  $\widehat{P}$  of the form

$$\widehat{P}(\widehat{x},\widehat{y};\hbar) = P_0(\widehat{x},\widehat{y}) + O(\hbar),$$

where  $\hat{x} = x \cdot , \hat{y} = \hbar \frac{d}{dx}$ , such that  $P_0(x, y) = P(x, y)Q(x, y)$ , for some  $Q \in \mathbb{C}[x, y]$  (often 1).

• The operators  $\hat{x}$  and  $\hat{y}$  satisfy  $[\hat{y}, \hat{x}] = \hbar$ .

•  $\widehat{P}(\widehat{x}, \widehat{y})\psi(x, \hbar) = 0$ . Schrödinger equation:  $\left(\hbar^2 \frac{d^2}{dx^2} - \widehat{R}(\widehat{x}, \hbar)\right)\psi(z, \hbar) = 0$ . WKB asymptotic expansion  $\rightsquigarrow \log \psi(x, \hbar) = \sum_{k \ge -1} \hbar^k S_k(x) \in \hbar^{-1}\mathbb{C}[[\hbar]].$ 

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Question: Can we construct the operator  $\widehat{P}$  and the solution  $\psi$  from P?

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#### Conjecture

Both  $\hat{P}$  and  $\psi$  can be constructed from  $\Sigma$  using topological recursion.

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Both  $\widehat{P}$  and  $\psi$  can be constructed from  $\Sigma$  using topological recursion.

Subtlety: We want  $\hat{P}$  to have a controlled pole structure, more precisely, to have the same pole structure as P.

## First subtleties and comments

$$\widehat{P}(\widehat{x},\widehat{y})\psi(z,\hbar) = \left(\hbar^2 \frac{d^2}{dx^2} - \widehat{R}(\widehat{x},\hbar)\right)\psi(z,\hbar) = 0,$$
$$\log\psi(x,\hbar) = \sum_{k\geq -1} \hbar^k S_k(z) \in \hbar^{-1}\mathbb{C}[[\hbar]], z \in \Sigma, x = x(z) \in \mathbb{C}P^1.$$

•  $S_k(z)$  meromorphic functions on  $\Sigma$ , where  $S_0(z) = \int^z y dx$  may be multi-valued.

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$$\begin{split} \widehat{P}(\widehat{x},\widehat{y})\psi(z,\hbar) &= \Big(\hbar^2 \frac{d^2}{dx^2} - \widehat{R}(\widehat{x},\hbar)\Big)\psi(z,\hbar) = 0,\\ \log\psi(x,\hbar) &= \sum_{k\geq -1} \hbar^k S_k(z) \in \hbar^{-1}\mathbb{C}[[\hbar]], z \in \Sigma, x = x(z) \in \mathbb{C}P^1 \end{split}$$

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- Semi-classical limit ~> From the quantum curve to the plane curve:

$$\widehat{x} \mapsto x \text{ and } \widehat{y} \mapsto y.$$

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S<sub>k</sub>(z) meromorphic functions on Σ, where S<sub>0</sub>(z) = ∫<sup>z</sup> ydx may be multi-valued.
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• Action of  $\hbar \frac{d}{dx}$  on  $\exp(\hbar^{-1} \int^z y dx)$  is multiplication by y:

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- The differential equation is only satisfied on the plane curve P(x, y) = 0.
- Higher order corrections in  $\hbar$  are needed since  $(\hbar \frac{d}{dx})^2 \mapsto y^2 + O(\hbar)$  when acting on  $\exp(\hbar^{-1}\int^z y dx)$ .



- Proved for many particular cases  $\rightsquigarrow$  genus  $\hat{g} = 0$  spectral curves.
- Bouchard-Eynard '17  $\rightsquigarrow$  spectral curves whose Newton polygon has  $N_I := \#\{\text{interior points}\} = 0$  (Fact:  $\hat{g} \leq N_I$ ).

# TR and guantum curves Spectral curves TR and loop equations KZ equations Non-perturbative Isomonodromic Future

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- Eynard '17  $\rightsquigarrow$  General idea to construct integrable systems and their  $\tau$ -functions from the geometry of the spectral curve.

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## TR and quantum curves Spectral curves TR and loop equations KZ equations Non-perturbative Isomonodromic Future

- History and literature
  - Proved for many particular cases  $\rightsquigarrow$  genus  $\hat{g} = 0$  spectral curves.
  - Bouchard-Eynard '17  $\rightsquigarrow$  spectral curves whose Newton polygon has  $N_I := #\{\text{interior points}\} = 0 \text{ (Fact: } \hat{g} \leq N_I).$
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## TR and quantum curves Spectral curves TR and loop equations KZ equations Non-perturbative Isomonodromic Future

## History and literature

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- Eynard–GF–Marchal–Orantin '21 ~> any algebraic curve with simple ramifications.

TR and quantum curves Spectral curves 00000**000000**0 00000 Beyond Airy: some meaningful generalisations •  $y^2 = x \rightsquigarrow$  Witten (conj) '90, Kontsevich •  $y^2 x = 1 \rightsquigarrow \text{Norbury (conj) '17}$ . [Chidambaram, Giacchetto, G-F, '22], '91, Airy, KW KdV tau function Bessel, BGW KdV tau function  $\int_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{a,n}} \psi_1^{d_1} \cdots \psi_n^{d_n}$  $\int_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}} \Theta_{g,n} \psi_1^{d_1} \cdots \psi_n^{d_n}$  $\left(\hbar^2 \frac{d^2}{dx^2} - x\right)\psi(z,\hbar) = 0$  $\left(\hbar^2 \frac{d}{dx} x \frac{d}{dx} - 1\right) \psi(z,\hbar) = 0$ •  $y^2 = x^3 + tx + V \rightsquigarrow$  Painlevé I, elliptic •  $y^r = x \rightsquigarrow$  Witten '93, Faber-Shadrin-Zvonkine, '10, rAiry, rKdV curve ( $\hat{q} = 1$ )  $\int_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}} W_{g,n}^r(a_1,\ldots,a_n)\psi_1^{d_1}\cdots\psi_n^{d_n}$  $\int_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{a,n+m}} \psi_{n+1}^2 \cdots \psi_{n+m}^2 \psi_1^{d_1} \cdots \psi_n^{d_n}$  $\left(\hbar^2 \frac{d^r}{dx^r} - x\right)\psi(z,\hbar) = 0$  $\left(\hbar^2 \frac{d^2}{dx^2} - \left(x^3 + tx + V + \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right)\right)\psi = 0$ 

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TR and quantum curves	Spectral curves	TR and loop equations	KZ equations		Future
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Outline					

#### Topological recursion and quantum curves

- Topological recursion and its ramifications
- Example: Witten's conjecture, Kontsevich's theorem and Airy
- Quantum curves, history, context and examples

## Opectral curves

Topological recursion and loop equations

Perturbative wave function and KZ equations

Non-perturbative wave functions KZ equations and Lax system

Link with isomonodromic systems



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**Input:** Spectral curve  $S = (\Sigma, x, ydx, B)$ :

- $\Sigma$  Riemann surface of genus  $\hat{g}$ .
- Two meromorphic functions  $x, y: \Sigma \to \mathbb{C} \Rightarrow P(x, y) = 0, \ P \in \mathbb{C}[x, y].$
- Symplectic basis of non-contractible cycles  $(\mathcal{A}_i, \mathcal{B}_i)_{i=1}^{\hat{g}}$  on  $\Sigma$ .
- A symmetric bidifferential  $B = \omega_{0,2}$  on  $\Sigma \times \Sigma$  such that  $\omega_{0,2}(z_1, z_2) \underset{z_2 \to z_1}{\sim} \frac{dz_1 dz_2}{(z_1 z_2)^2}$  + holomorphic with vanishing  $\mathcal{A}$ -periods.

 $\underbrace{ \text{Output:}}_{\omega_{\mathbf{g},\mathbf{n}}(\mathbf{z}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{z}_n) \in \mathrm{H}^0(\Sigma^n, (K_{\Sigma}(*\mathrm{Cr}(x)))^{\boxtimes n})^{\mathfrak{S}_n}, \text{ for all } g,n \geq 0.$ 

Important properties: For 2g - 2 + n > 0, the  $\omega_{g,n}$  are symmetric meromorphic differentials with poles at ramifications points.

**Regularity condition:**  $x: \Sigma \to \mathbb{C}$  meromorphic function with finitely many and simple ramification points (denoted  $\mathcal{R}(x)$ ), and  $y: \Sigma \to \mathbb{C}$  holomorphic on a neighborhood of every  $a \in \mathcal{R}(x)$  and  $dy(a) \neq 0 \Rightarrow$  Existence of a local involution  $\sigma$  around every ramification point:  $x(z) = x(\sigma(z))$ .



N distinct points  $\Lambda_1, \ldots, \Lambda_N \in \mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{\infty\}$ . Let  $\mathcal{H}_d(\Lambda_1, \ldots, \Lambda_N, \infty)$  be the Hurwitz space of degree d ramified coverings  $x \colon \Sigma \to \mathbb{P}^1$ , where  $\Sigma$  is the Riemann surface:

$$\Sigma \coloneqq \overline{\left\{ (\lambda, y) \mid P(\lambda, y) = 0 \right\}}$$

of genus  $\hat{g}$ , where  $x(\lambda, y) := \lambda$  and

$$P(\lambda, y) = \sum_{l=0}^{d} (-1)^{l} y^{d-l} P_{l}(\lambda), \ P_{0}(\lambda) = 1,$$

 $P_l$  being a rational function with possible poles at  $\lambda \in \mathcal{P} \coloneqq \{\Lambda_i\}_{i=1}^N \bigcup \{\infty\}$ .

Classical spectral curve:  $\rightsquigarrow (\Sigma, x)$ .



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Classical spectral curve:  $\rightsquigarrow (\Sigma, x)$ .

• Local coordinates (in the base):  $\{\xi_q(\lambda)\}_{q\in\mathcal{P}}$  around  $q\in\mathcal{P}$  are defined by

$$\forall i \in \llbracket 1, N \rrbracket \, : \, \xi_{\Lambda_i}(\lambda) \coloneqq (\lambda - \Lambda_i) \qquad \text{and} \qquad \xi_\infty(\lambda) \coloneqq \lambda^{-1}.$$

• Local coordinates (in the cover): near any  $p \in x^{-1}(q)$ , let  $d_p \coloneqq \operatorname{ord}_p(\xi_q)$ 

$$\zeta_p(z) = \xi_q(x(z))^{\frac{1}{d_p}}.$$

 $\{d_p\}_{p \in x^{-1}(q)}$  is called the ramification profile of q. We have  $\sum_{p \in x^{-1}(P)} d_p = d$ .

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# TR and guantum curves Spectral curves TR and loop equations KZ equations Non-perturbative Isomonodromic Future

Expansion of the 1-form  $\omega_{0,1} = ydx$  around any pole  $p \in x^{-1}(\mathcal{P})$ :

$$ydx = \sum_{k=0}^{r_p-1} t_{p,k} \zeta_p^{-k-1} d\zeta_p + \text{analytic at } p.$$

The  $t_{p,k}$ 's are called the spectral times (or *KP* times). Ramification points:  $\mathcal{R}_0 \coloneqq \{p \in \Sigma \mid 1 + \operatorname{order}_p dx \neq \pm 1\},\$ 

$$\mathcal{R} \coloneqq \left\{ p \in \Sigma \mid dx(p) = 0 , \ x(p) \notin \mathcal{P} \right\} = \mathcal{R}_0 \setminus x^{-1}(\mathcal{P}).$$

Critical values:  $x(\mathcal{R})$ .

## TR and loop equations KZ equations Non-perturbative Isomonodromic Future

## Admissible spectral curves

Expansion of the 1-form  $\omega_{0,1} = ydx$  around any pole  $p \in x^{-1}(\mathcal{P})$ :

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Critical values:  $x(\mathcal{R})$ .

#### Definition (Admissible classical spectral curves)

A classical spectral curve  $(\Sigma, x)$  is *admissible* if:

- P(λ, y) = 0 is an irreducible algebraic curve;
- $a \in \mathcal{R}$  are simple, i.e. dx has only a simple zero at  $a \in \mathcal{R}$ ;
- $\forall (a_i, a_j) \in \mathcal{R} \times \mathcal{R} \text{ with } a_i \neq a_j, \ x(a_i) \neq x(a_j);$
- $\forall a \in \mathcal{R}, dy(a) \neq 0;$
- $\forall p \in x^{-1}(\mathcal{P})$  ramified, the 1-form ydx has a pole of degree  $r_p \geq 3$  at p and  $t_{p,r_p-2} \neq 0$ .

For any symplectic basis  $(\mathcal{A}_i, \mathcal{B}_i)_{i=1}^g$  of  $H_1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z})$ , let

$$B^{(\mathcal{A}_i,\mathcal{B}_i)_{i=1}^g} \in H^0(\Sigma^2, K_{\Sigma}^{\boxtimes 2}(2\Delta))^{\mathfrak{S}_2} \subset \mathcal{M}_2(\Sigma^2)$$

be the unique symmetric bidifferential on  $\Sigma^2$  with a unique double pole on the diagonal  $\Delta,$  without residue, bi-residue equal to 1 and normalized on the A-cycles by

$$\forall i \in \llbracket 1, g \rrbracket, \ \oint_{z_1 \in \mathcal{A}_i} B^{(\mathcal{A}_i, \mathcal{B}_i)_{i=1}^g}(z_1, z_2) = 0.$$

## Remark

Choice of Torelli marking can be thought of as a choice of polarisation from a geometric quantisation point of view.

Let  $((\Sigma, x), (\mathcal{A}_i, \mathcal{B}_i)_{i=1}^g)$  be some admissible initial data. We define the tuple  $(\epsilon_i)_{i=1}^g$  of *filling fractions* by

$$\forall i \in \llbracket 1, g \rrbracket, \quad \epsilon_i \coloneqq \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathcal{A}_i} y dx.$$

TR and quantum curves	Spectral curves	TR and loop equations	KZ equations	Non-perturbative	Isomonodromic	Future
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Spectral curves

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- $\omega_{g,n}$  are invariant under permutations of their *n* arguments.
- $\omega_{0,1}(z_1)$  may only have poles at  $x^{-1}(\mathcal{P})$ .  $\omega_{0,2}(z_1, z_2)$  may only have poles at  $z_1 = z_2$ . For  $(h, n) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}^* \setminus \{(0, 1), (0, 2)\}$ ,  $\omega_{h,n}(z_1, \ldots, z_n)$  may only have poles at  $z_i \in \mathcal{R}$ , for  $i \in [\![1, n]\!]$ .
- For all  $i \in \llbracket 1, \hat{g} \rrbracket$ ,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \epsilon_i} \omega_{h,n}(z_1,\ldots,z_n) = \oint_{z \in \mathcal{B}_i} \omega_{h,n+1}(z,z_1,\ldots,z_n).$$



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## Ramification points at poles:

- In the definition of TR, residues at  $a \in \mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}_0 \setminus x^{-1}(\mathcal{P})$ .
- But the points of  $\mathcal P$  could also be ramified (many interesting examples, like the Airy curve  $y^2 = x$ ).
- Bouchard-Eynard ('17) noticed that to derive the quantum curve, one should also include residues at the ramification points in  $x^{-1}(\mathcal{P})$ .



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#### Lemma (Ramified poles don't contribute for admissible curves)

Let  $\omega'_{h,n}$  be the topological recursion differential forms defined by taking residues at all  $a \in \mathcal{R}_0$  (including  $a \in x^{-1}(\mathcal{P})$ ). If  $\forall p \in x^{-1}(\mathcal{P})$ , we have  $r_p \geq 3$  and  $t_{p,r_p-2} \neq 0$ , then  $\omega'_{h,n} = \omega_{h,n}$ , and  $\omega_{h,n}$  with  $(h, n) \neq (0, 1), (0, 2)$  have poles only at  $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}_0 \setminus x^{-1}(\mathcal{P})$ .

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For  $(h, n, l) \in \mathbb{N}^3$ ,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{P}^1$  and  $\mathbf{z} \coloneqq (z_1, \dots, z_n) \in \Sigma^n$ ,

$$Q_{h,n+1}^{(l)}(\lambda;\mathbf{z}) \coloneqq \sum_{\substack{\beta \subseteq x^{-1}(\lambda) \ \mu \in \mathcal{S}(\beta) \\ l}} \sum_{\substack{l(\mu) \\ \downarrow = \\ J_i = \mathbf{z}}} \sum_{\substack{l(\mu) \\ i = 1}} \sum_{g_i = h + l(\mu) - l} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^{l(\mu)} \omega_{g_i, |\mu_i| + |J_i|}(\mu_i, J_i) \right],$$

differential with possible poles at  $\lambda \in \mathcal{P} \cup x(\mathcal{R})$ ,  $z_i \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $z_i \in x^{-1}(\lambda)$ .

$$Q_{h,n+1}^{(l)}(\lambda;\mathbf{z}) = 0, \text{ for } l \ge d+1.$$

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, for  $l \ge d+1$ .

Particular cases:

• 
$$Q_{0,1}^{(l)}(\lambda) = \sum_{\substack{\beta \subseteq x^{-1}(\lambda) \\ \overline{l}}} \prod_{z \in \beta} \omega_{0,1}(z) = P_l(\lambda) (d\lambda)^l$$
.  
•  $Q_{0,2}^{(l)}(\lambda; z_1) = \sum_{\substack{\beta \subseteq x^{-1}(\lambda) \\ \overline{l}}} \sum_{z \in \beta} \omega_{0,2}(z, z_1) \prod_{\substack{z \in \beta \\ \overline{z} \neq z}} \omega_{0,1}(\tilde{z})$ 

For  $(h,n,l)\in\mathbb{N}^3$ ,  $\lambda\in\mathbb{P}^1$  and  $\mathbf{z}\coloneqq(z_1,\ldots,z_n)\in\Sigma^n$ ,

$$Q_{h,n+1}^{(l)}(\lambda;\mathbf{z}) := \sum_{\substack{\beta \subseteq x^{-1}(\lambda) \\ l}} \sum_{\mu \in \mathcal{S}(\beta)} \sum_{\substack{l(\mu) \\ \downarrow = 1 \\ j = \mathbf{z}}} \sum_{\substack{l(\mu) \\ i = 1}} \sum_{g_i = h + l(\mu) - l} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^{l(\mu)} \omega_{g_i, |\mu_i| + |J_i|}(\mu_i, J_i) \right],$$

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.

• 
$$Q_{0,2}^{(\iota)}(\lambda;z_1) = \sum_{\substack{\beta \subseteq x^{-1}(\lambda) \\ \overline{i}}} \sum_{z \in \beta} \omega_{0,2}(z,z_1) \prod_{\substack{\tilde{z} \in \beta \\ \tilde{z} \neq z}} \omega_{0,1}(\tilde{z}).$$

## Theorem (Loop equations)

The function 
$$\lambda \mapsto \frac{Q_{h,n+1}^{(l)}(\lambda;\mathbf{z})}{(d\lambda)^l}$$
 has no poles at  $\lambda \in x(\mathcal{R})$ ,  $\forall \mathbf{z} \in (\Sigma \setminus \mathcal{R})^n$ .

• 
$$Q_{h,n+1}^{(1)}(\lambda;\mathbf{z}) = \sum_{z \in x^{-1}(\lambda)} \omega_{h,n+1}(z,\mathbf{z}) = \delta_{n,0}\delta_{h,0}P_1(\lambda)d\lambda + \delta_{n,1}\delta_{h,0}\frac{d\lambda\,dx(z_1)}{(\lambda - x(z_1))^2} \,.$$

Loop constitute					
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TR and quantum curves	Spectral curves	TR and loop equations	KZ equations		Future

$$\hat{Q}_{h,n+1}^{(l)}(z;\mathbf{z}) \coloneqq \sum_{\substack{\beta \subseteq (x^{-1}(x(z)) \setminus \{z\}) \\ i = 1}} \sum_{\mu \in \mathcal{S}(\beta)} \sum_{\substack{l(\mu) \\ i = 1 \\ j_i = z}} \sum_{\substack{l(\mu) \\ j_i = z}} \sum_{\substack{l(\mu) \\ j_i = 1}} \prod_{i=1}^{l(\mu)} \omega_{g_i,|\mu_i|+|J_i|}(\mu_i, J_i)$$

Possible poles  $\rightsquigarrow z$  with  $x(z) \in x(\mathcal{R}), z \in x^{-1}(\mathcal{P})$ , and  $z_i \in \mathcal{R} \cup (x^{-1}(x(z)) \setminus \{z\})$ .

#### Lemma

For  $\mathbf{z} \coloneqq (z_1, \dots, z_n) \in \Sigma^n$  such that  $x(z_i) \neq x(z_j)$  for any  $i \neq j$ , the functions

$$\widetilde{Q}_{h,n+1}^{(l)}(\lambda;\mathbf{z}) \coloneqq \frac{Q_{h,n+1}^{(l)}(\lambda;\mathbf{z})}{(d\lambda)^l} - \sum_{j=1}^n d_{z_j} \left( \frac{1}{\lambda - x(z_j)} \frac{\hat{Q}_{h,n}^{(l-1)}(z_j;\mathbf{z} \setminus \{z_j\})}{(dx(z_j)^{l-1})} \right)$$

are rational functions of  $\lambda$  with no poles at  $\lambda \in x(\mathcal{R})$  and at  $\lambda \in \bigcup_{i=1}^{n} \{x(z_i)\}$ .

For  $z \in \Sigma \setminus \left(\mathcal{R} \bigcup x^{-1}(\mathcal{P})\right)$  and  $\mathbf{z} \in \left[\Sigma \setminus \left(\mathcal{R} \bigcup x^{-1}(x(z))\right)\right]^n$ , we have  $\begin{aligned} Q_{h;n+1}^{(l)}(x(z);\mathbf{z}) &= \hat{Q}_{h;n+1}^{(l)}(z;\mathbf{z}) + \hat{Q}_{h-1;n+2}^{(l-1)}(z;z,\mathbf{z}) \\ &+ \sum_{A \sqcup B = \mathbf{z}} \sum_{h_1+h_2=h} \hat{Q}_{h_1,|A|+1}^{(l-1)}(z;A)\omega_{h_2,|B|+1}(z,B). \end{aligned}$ 

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## Perturbative wave function over a divisor

$$D = \sum_{i=1}^{s} \alpha_i[p_i] \text{ a generic divisor (of degree} = \sum_i \alpha_i = 0) \text{ on } \widetilde{\Sigma_{\mathcal{P}}}, \Sigma_{\mathcal{P}} := \Sigma \setminus x^{-1}(\mathcal{P}).$$
Perturbative wave function  $\psi(D, \hbar) = \psi_{0,i}(D, \hbar)$  associated to  $D$ :

$$\exp\left(\sum_{h\geq 0}\sum_{n\geq 0}\frac{\hbar^{2h-2+n}}{n!}\int_{D}\cdots\int_{D}\left(\omega_{h,n}(z_{1},\ldots,z_{n})-\delta_{h,0}\delta_{n,2}\frac{dx(z_{1})dx(z_{2})}{(x(z_{1})-x(z_{2}))^{2}}\right)\right).$$
$$e^{-\hbar^{-2}\omega_{0,0}}e^{-\hbar^{-1}\int_{D}\omega_{0,1}}\psi(D,\hbar)\in\mathbb{C}[[\hbar]].$$

Perturbative wave function over a divisor

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$$e^{-\hbar^{-2}\omega_{0,0}}e^{-\hbar^{-1}\int_{D}\omega_{0,1}}\psi(D,\hbar)\in\mathbb{C}[[\hbar]].$$

$$\forall\,i\in [\![1,s]\!]\,,\,l\geq 1\,:\,\psi_{l,i}(D,\hbar)\coloneqq \Big[\sum_{h\geq 0}\sum_{n\geq 0}\frac{\hbar^{2h+n}}{n!}\overbrace{\int_D\cdots\int_D}^n\frac{\hat{Q}_{h,n+1}^{(l)}(p_i;\cdot)}{(dx(p_i))^l}\Big]\psi(D,\hbar).$$

Perturbative partition function  $Z(\hbar) = \psi(D = \emptyset, \hbar)$ :

$$Z(\hbar) \coloneqq \exp\left(\sum_{h \ge 0} \hbar^{2h-2} \omega_{h,0}\right), \text{ with } e^{-\hbar^{-2}\omega_{0,0}} Z(\hbar) \in \mathbb{C}[[\hbar]]$$

## Remark

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Wave functions are meant to be solutions to a differential equation; the partition function is expected to play the role of an associated tau function from the point of view of isomonodromic or integrable systems.

## KZ equations

Loop equations  $\Rightarrow$  Knizhnik–Zamolodchikov (KZ) equations:

Theorem (General KZ equations)

For  $i \in \llbracket 1, s \rrbracket$  and  $l \in \llbracket 0, d - 1 \rrbracket$ ,

$$\begin{split} \frac{\hbar}{\alpha_i} \frac{d\psi_{l,i}(D,\hbar)}{dx(p_i)} &= -\psi_{l+1,i}(D,\hbar) - \hbar \sum_{j \in \llbracket 1,s \rrbracket \setminus \{i\}} \alpha_j \frac{\psi_{l,i}(D,\hbar) - \psi_{l,j}(D,\hbar)}{x(p_i) - x(p_j)} \\ &+ \sum_{h \ge 0} \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{\hbar^{2h+n}}{n!} \int_{z_1 \in D} \cdots \int_{z_n \in D} \widetilde{Q}_{h,n+1}^{(l+1)}(x(p_i);\mathbf{z}) \ \psi(D,\hbar) \\ &+ \left(\frac{1}{\alpha_i} - \alpha_i\right) \left[ \sum_{(h,n) \in \mathbb{N}^2} \frac{\hbar^{2h+n+1}}{n!} \overbrace{\int_D \cdots \int_D}^n \frac{d}{dx(p_i)} \left( \frac{\hat{Q}_{h,n+1}^{(l)}(p_i;\cdot)}{(dx(p_i))^l} \right) \right] \psi(D,\hbar). \end{split}$$

If  $\alpha_i = \pm 1$ ,

$$\begin{split} \frac{\hbar}{\alpha_i} \frac{d\psi_{l,i}(D,\hbar)}{dx(p_i)} &= -\psi_{l+1,i}(D,\hbar) - \hbar \sum_{j \in [\![1,s]\!] \setminus \{i\}} \alpha_j \frac{\psi_{l,i}(D,\hbar) - \psi_{l,j}(D,\hbar)}{x(p_i) - x(p_j)} \\ &+ \sum_{h \ge 0} \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{\hbar^{2h+n}}{n!} \int_{z_1 \in D} \cdots \int_{z_n \in D} \widetilde{Q}_{h,n+1}^{(l+1)}(x(p_i);\mathbf{z}) \ \psi(D,\hbar). \end{split}$$

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## Regularised KZ equations

Let  $z \in \widetilde{\Sigma_{\mathcal{P}}}$  be a generic point and  $x^{-1}(\infty) = \{\infty^{(\alpha)}\}_{\alpha \in [\![1, \ell_{\infty}]\!]}$ . When  $D = [z] - [p_2]$ ,  $\psi(D, \hbar)$  has an essential singularity as  $p_2 \to \infty^{(\alpha)}$ . Need to regularise the wave functions:  $\psi_l^{\text{reg}}(D = [z] - [\infty^{(\alpha)}], \hbar)$ .

## Theorem (KZ equations for regularized wave functions)

For  $\alpha \in [1, \ell_{\infty}]$ ,  $l \in [0, d-1]$ , the regularised wave functions satisfy

$$\begin{split} &\hbar \frac{d}{dx(z)} \psi_l^{\text{reg}}(D = [z] - [\infty^{(\alpha)}], \hbar) + \psi_{l+1}^{\text{reg}}(D = [z] - [\infty^{(\alpha)}], \hbar) \\ &= \bigg[ \sum_{h \ge 0} \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{\hbar^{2h+n}}{n!} \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}} \sum_{k \in S_P^{(l+1)}} \xi_P(x(z))^{-k} \operatorname{Res}_{\lambda \to P} \xi_P(\lambda)^{k-1} d\xi_P(\lambda) \\ &\int_{z_1 = \infty}^{z_1 = z} \cdots \int_{z_n = \infty}^{z_n = z} \frac{Q_{h,n+1}^{(l+1)}(\lambda; \mathbf{z})}{(d\lambda)^{l+1}} \bigg] \psi^{\text{reg}}(D = [z] - [\infty^{(\alpha)}], \hbar). \end{split}$$

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## Regularised KZ equations

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- RHS of KZ equations uses residues, i.e. integrals.
- Can be re-written using generalised integrals, i.e. linear operators  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{C}_{n,k}}$ .
- $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{C}_{p,k}}$  is expected to correspond to  $\partial_{t_p,k}$ . Valid for d=2.
- Action of these operators defined only on a sub-algebra generated by  $\int_{\mathcal{C}_1} \cdots \int_{\mathcal{C}_1} \omega_{h,n}$ : algebra of symbols.
- Need to check that these operators never act on something else.
- Avoid the technicality of defining the action on all differentials on  $\Sigma$ .

Generalised cycles and algebra of symbols

Generalized cycles:  $\mathcal{E} \coloneqq \{\mathcal{C}_{p,k}\}_{p \in \Sigma, k \in \mathbb{Z}} \cup \{\mathcal{C}_{o}^{p}\}_{p \in \Sigma} \cup \{\mathcal{A}_{i}, \mathcal{B}_{i}\}_{i=1}^{g}$ , where the integration of a meromorphic form  $\omega$  along such cycles is defined as:

• 
$$\forall \ p \in \Sigma$$
, and  $\forall \ k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,

$$\int_{\mathcal{C}_{p,k}} : \quad \omega \mapsto \operatorname{Res}_p \zeta_p^{-k} \omega.$$

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• Let  $\gamma$  be a Jordan arc from a point  $o \in \Sigma$  to a point  $p \in \Sigma$ .

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$$\int_{\mathcal{C}^p_o} : \quad \omega \mapsto \int_{\gamma} \omega$$

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Commutative algebra freely generated by a set of symbols consisting of a pair (h, n) and a symbol  $\int_{C_1} \cdots \int_{C_n}$ , labeled by generalised cycles  $C_i \in \mathcal{E}$ :

$$\check{\mathcal{W}} = \mathbb{C}\left[\left\{\int_{C_1} \cdots \int_{C_n} \omega_{h,n}\right\}_{h,n \geq 0}\right] \quad / \text{ (cycle linearity relations)}.$$

Evaluation map:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} {\rm ev}: & \check{\mathcal{W}} & \to & \mathbb{C} \\ & & \int_{C_1} \cdots \int_{C_n} \omega_{h,n} & \mapsto & \int_{z_1 \in C_1} \cdots \int_{z_n \in C_n} \omega_{h,n}(z_1,\ldots,z_n). \end{array}$$

 $\mathcal{W} \rightsquigarrow$  extension to formal Laurent power series in  $\hbar$ , exponentials and inverses.

KZ equations with linear operators

Operators  $(\mathcal{I}_C)_{C \in \mathcal{E}}$  acting on  $\mathcal{W}$ :

$$\forall (h,n) \in \mathbb{N}^2 \, : \, \mathcal{I}_C \left[ \int_{C_1} \cdots \int_{C_n} \omega_{h,n} \right] \coloneqq \int_{C_1} \cdots \int_{C_n} \int_C \omega_{h,n+1}$$

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Re-writing the RHS of the KZ equations with a multi-linear operator  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_l(x(z))$  that uses  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{C}_{n,k}} \rightsquigarrow$  new system of KZ equations, for  $\alpha \in [\![1, \ell_{\infty}]\!]$ ,  $l \in [\![0, d-1]\!]$ :

$$\begin{split} &\hbar \frac{d}{dx(z)} \psi_l^{\text{reg}}([z] - [\infty^{(\alpha)}]) + \psi_{l+1}^{\text{reg}}([z] - [\infty^{(\alpha)}]) \\ &= \text{ev.} \ \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}_l(x(z)) \left[ \psi^{\text{reg symbol}}([z] - [\infty^{(\alpha)}]) \right]. \end{split}$$

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Degree 2 case (hyperelliptic):

$$P(x,y)=R(x)-y^2=0$$
, with  $R(x)\in\mathbb{C}(x)$ 

 $x:\Sigma\to \mathbb{C}\mathrm{P}^1$  is a double cover and we have a global involution

$$(x,y)\mapsto (x,-y).$$

## Remark

In degree 2, the operators  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{C}_{p,k}}$  can be interpreted as derivatives with respect to the moduli of the classical spectral curve  $\partial_{t_{p,k}}$ .

Theorem (Eynard–GF,'19)

For 
$$k = 1, 2$$
,  

$$\hbar^2 \left( \frac{d^2}{dx_k^2} + \sum_{i \neq k} \frac{\frac{d}{dx_k} - \frac{d}{dx_i}}{x_k - x_i} \right) \psi = \left( R(x_k) + \mathcal{L}(x_k) \right) \psi.$$

 $\zeta_{\infty} \in x^{-1}(\infty)$  and  $\zeta_l \in x^{-1}(\Lambda_l)$  poles of  $\omega_{0,1}$  of orders  $m_{\infty}$  and  $m_l$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, N$ , respectively. Let  $d_{\infty} := \operatorname{ord}_{\zeta_{\infty}}(x)$ . Operator  $\mathcal{L}(x) = \mathcal{L}_{\infty}(x) + \mathcal{L}_{\Lambda}(x)$ :

$$\mathcal{L}_{\infty}(x) = \sum_{j=1-2d_{\infty}}^{m_{\infty}} t_{\zeta_{\infty},j} \sum_{k=0}^{\frac{1-j}{d_{\infty}}-2} x^{k} \Big( -\frac{j}{d_{\infty}} - k - 2 \Big) \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{\zeta_{\infty},j+d_{\infty}(k+2)}},$$
$$\mathcal{L}_{\Lambda}(x) = \sum_{l=1}^{N} \Big( \frac{1}{x - \lambda_{l}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda_{l}} + \sum_{j=1}^{m_{l}-1} t_{\zeta_{l},j} \sum_{k=1}^{j} (x - \lambda_{l})^{-(k+1)} (j+1-k) \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{\zeta_{l},j+1-k}} \Big).$$

## Example

In the Airy case,  $y^2 = x$ , we have only one pole, at  $\zeta_i = \infty$ , of degree  $m_i = 3$ , with  $d_i = -2$ . The sum is empty and  $\mathcal{L}(x) = 0$ .

Divisor  $D = [z_1] - [z_2]$ : • PDEs for Airy curve:  $y^2 = x$ . We had  $\mathcal{L}(x) = 0$ .

$$\begin{cases} \hbar^2 \Big( \frac{d^2}{dx_1^2} + \frac{\frac{d}{dx_1} - \frac{d}{dx_2}}{x_1 - x_2} \Big) \psi &= x_1 \psi, \\ \hbar^2 \Big( \frac{d^2}{dx_2^2} + \frac{\frac{d}{dx_1} - \frac{d}{dx_2}}{x_1 - x_2} \Big) \psi &= x_2 \psi. \end{cases}$$

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More generally, admissible curves considered in Bouchard–Eynard, '17 (empty Newton polygon) are those for which  $\mathcal{L}(x) = 0$ .

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More generally, admissible curves considered in Bouchard–Eynard, '17 (empty Newton polygon) are those for which  $\mathcal{L}(x) = 0$ .

• PDEs for elliptic curve:  $R(x(z)) = y(z)^2 = x^3 + tx + V$ , with

$$-V = \int_{\mathcal{B}_{\infty,1}} \omega_{0,1} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{\infty,1}} \omega_{0,0} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \omega_{0,0}$$

 $\Rightarrow R(x(z)) = x^3 + tx + \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\omega_{0,0}.$ We have  $\mathcal{L}(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t}.$ 

$$\left(\hbar^2 \frac{d^2}{dx_k^2} + \hbar^2 \frac{\frac{d}{dx_1} - \frac{d}{dx_2}}{x_1 - x_2}\right)\psi = \left(x_k^3 + tx_k + V + \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right)\psi,$$

for k = 1, 2.

Problem for genus  $\hat{g} > 0$ :  $\int_{o}^{z} \cdots \int_{o}^{z} \omega_{g,n}$  are not invariant after z goes around a cycle. Very bad monodromies when z goes around a  $\mathcal{B}_i$  (first type cycle).

#### Lemma

$$\forall p \in x^{-1}(\mathcal{P}) : \psi_l([z + \mathcal{C}_p] - [\infty^{(\alpha)}], \hbar) = (-1)^{\delta_{p,\infty}(\alpha)} e^{\frac{2\pi i t_{p,0}}{\hbar}} \psi_l([z] - [\infty^{(\alpha)}], \hbar),$$

$$\forall j \in \llbracket 1, \hat{g} \rrbracket : \psi_l([z + \mathcal{A}_j] - [\infty^{(\alpha)}], \hbar) = e^{\frac{2\pi i \epsilon_j}{\hbar}} \psi_l([z] - [\infty^{(\alpha)}], \hbar)$$

where  $C_p$  (=  $C_{p,0}$ ) is a small circle around p, and

$$\psi(D+\mathcal{B}_j,\hbar) = \exp\left(\sum_{(h,n,m)\in\mathbb{N}^3} \frac{\hbar^{2h-2+n+m}}{n!m!} \underbrace{\int_D \cdots \int_D \int_{\mathcal{B}_j} \cdots \int_{\mathcal{B}_j} \omega_{h,n+m}}_{\mathcal{B}_j}\right).$$

Since the  $\mathcal{B}_j$  period of  $\omega_{h,n+1}$  is equal to the variation of  $\omega_{h,n}$  wrt  $\epsilon_j \coloneqq \oint_{\mathcal{A}_j} \omega_{0,1}$ ,

$$\psi(D+\mathcal{B}_j,\hbar) = \exp\left(\sum_{(h,n)\in\mathbb{N}^2} \frac{\hbar^{2h-2+n}}{n!} \int_D \cdots \int_D \sum_{m\geq 0} \frac{1}{m!} \left(\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \epsilon_j}\right)^m \omega_{h,n}\right) \Rightarrow$$

 $\psi_l([z+\mathcal{B}_j]-[\infty^{(\alpha)}],\hbar) = e^{\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial\epsilon_j}}\psi_l([z]-[\infty^{(\alpha)}],\hbar) = \psi_l([z]-[\infty^{(\alpha)}],\hbar,\epsilon_j\to\epsilon_j+\hbar).$ 

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Outline						

Topological recursion and quantum curves

- Topological recursion and its ramifications
- Example: Witten's conjecture, Kontsevich's theorem and Airy
- Quantum curves, history, context and examples

Opectral curves

Topological recursion and loop equations

Perturbative wave function and KZ equations

In Non-perturbative wave functions KZ equations and Lax system

Link with isomonodromic systems

Questions and future work

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Summing over	the lattice					
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## Remark

Our KZ equations do not depend on  $z \in \widetilde{\Sigma}$  but only on its image  $x(z) \Rightarrow$ For any finite family of  $c_{\gamma}$ , the following sum satisfies the same KZ equations

$$\psi_l([z] - [\infty^{(\alpha)}], \hbar, \{c_\gamma\}) \coloneqq \sum_{\gamma \in \pi_1(\Sigma \setminus x^{-1}(\mathcal{P}))} c_\gamma \ \psi_l([z] + \gamma - [\infty^{(\alpha)}], \hbar).$$

Goal: Build solutions to the same KZ equations but with better monodromies along the  $B_i$ -cycles.

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Goal: Build solutions to the same KZ equations but with better monodromies along the  $\mathcal{B}_i$ -cycles.

Strategy: Sum over  $\gamma = \sum_{i=1}^{g} n_i \mathcal{B}_i$ , i.e.  $\epsilon_i \to \epsilon_i + \hbar$ . Formally  $\rightsquigarrow$  discrete Fourier transform of the perturbative wave function:

$$\psi_l^{\infty^{(\alpha)}}(z,\hbar;\epsilon,\boldsymbol{\rho}) \coloneqq \sum_{\mathbf{n}\in\mathbb{Z}^g} e^{\frac{2\pi i}{\hbar}\sum_{j=1}^g \rho_j n_j} \psi_l([z] - [\infty^{(\alpha)}],\hbar,\epsilon + \hbar \mathbf{n}).$$

## Trans-series with special ordering

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## Remark (Limitations)

- Filling fraction ε = (ε<sub>1</sub>,..., ε<sub>g</sub>) → not a global coordinate on the space of classical spectral curves with fixed spectral times (only a local coordinate).
- Not a finite sum  $\rightsquigarrow$  not necessarily defined in  $\mathcal{W}$ .

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We need a special ordering of the trans-monomials:

$$\sum_{r\geq 0}\sum_{\mathbf{n}\in\mathbb{Z}^g}F_{\mathbf{n},r}\hbar^r e^{\frac{1}{\hbar}\sum_{j=1}^g n_j v_j}.$$

The partial sums  $\sum_{\mathbf{n}\in\mathbb{Z}^g} F_{\mathbf{n},r}e^{\frac{1}{\hbar}\sum\limits_{j=1}^g n_j v_j}$  will give rise to theta functions (through convergent series in the spirit of the trans-asymptotics of Costin–Costin, '10). Equalities: coefficient by coefficient in the trans-monomials.

## Non-perturbative wave functions

Riemann matrix of periods of  $\Sigma$ :  $\tau_{i,j} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\mathcal{B}_i} \int_{\mathcal{B}_j} \omega_{0,2}, \forall (i,j) \in [\![1,\hat{g}]\!]^2$ . Riemann theta function (analytic function of  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{C}^{\hat{g}}$ ) and its derivatives:

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$$\Theta^{(i_1,\ldots,i_k)}(\mathbf{v},\tau) = \sum_{(n_1,\ldots,n_g)\in\mathbb{Z}^{\hat{g}}} e^{2\pi\mathrm{i}\sum_{i=1}^g n_i v_i} e^{\pi\mathrm{i}\sum_{(i,j)\in[\![1,\hat{g}]\!]^2} n_i\tau_{i,j}n_j} \prod_{j=1}^k n_{i_j}.$$

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For  $D = [z] - [\infty^{(\alpha)}]$ , we define the non-perturbative wave function

$$\psi_{\rm NP}(D;\hbar,\rho) \coloneqq e^{\hbar^{-2}\omega_{0,0}+\omega_{1,0}}e^{\hbar^{-1}\int_D\omega_{0,1}}\frac{1}{E(D)} \quad \sum_{r=0}^{\infty}\hbar^r G^{(r)}(D;\rho),$$

where E is the prime form on  $\Sigma$ ,

$$G^{(r)}(D; \boldsymbol{\rho}) := \sum_{k=0}^{3r} \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_k \in [\![1, \hat{g}]\!]^k} \Theta^{(i_1, \dots, i_k)}(\mathbf{v}, \tau) G^{(r)}_{(i_1, \dots, i_k)}(D)$$

and where  $v_j\coloneqq rac{
ho_j+arphi_j}{\hbar}+\mu_j^{(lpha)}(z)$ ,  $\mathbf{v}=(v_1,\ldots,v_{\hat{g}})$ , with

$$\varphi_j \coloneqq \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathcal{B}_j} \omega_{0,1} \quad \text{ and } \quad \mu_j^{(\alpha)}(z) \coloneqq \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_D \oint_{\mathcal{B}_j} \omega_{0,2}.$$
# Same KZ equations and good monodromies

 Non-perturbative wave functions satisfy the same KZ equations as their perturbative partners.

$$\begin{split} \hbar \frac{d\psi_{l,\mathrm{NP}}^{\infty^{(\alpha)}}(z,\hbar,\boldsymbol{\rho})}{dx(z)} + \psi_{l+1,\mathrm{NP}}^{\infty^{(\alpha)}}(z,\hbar,\boldsymbol{\rho}) = \\ \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}} \sum_{k \in S_P^{(l+1)}} \xi_P^{-k}(x(z)) \mathrm{ev.} \left[ \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}_{P,k,l} \, \psi_{0,\mathrm{NP}}^{\infty^{(\alpha)},\,\mathrm{symbol}}(z,\hbar,\boldsymbol{\rho}) \right]. \end{split}$$

 $\bullet$  Non-perturbative wave functions  $\leadsto$  simple monodromy properties. For  $j\in [\![1,\hat{g}]\!],$  we have

$$\begin{split} \psi_{l,\mathrm{NP}}^{\infty^{(\alpha)}}(z+\mathcal{A}_{j},\hbar,\boldsymbol{\rho}) &= e^{\frac{2\pi i\epsilon_{j}}{\hbar}}\psi_{l,\mathrm{NP}}^{\infty^{(\alpha)}}(z,\hbar,\boldsymbol{\rho}),\\ \psi_{l,\mathrm{NP}}^{\infty^{(\alpha)}}(z+\mathcal{B}_{j},\hbar,\boldsymbol{\rho}) &= e^{-\frac{2\pi i\rho_{j}}{\hbar}}\psi_{l,\mathrm{NP}}^{\infty^{(\alpha)}}(z,\hbar,\boldsymbol{\rho})\\ \text{and }\forall \ p\in x^{-1}(\mathcal{P}) \end{split}$$

$$\psi_{l,\mathrm{NP}}^{\infty^{(\alpha)}}(z+\mathcal{C}_p,\hbar,\boldsymbol{\rho}) = (-1)^{\delta_{p,\infty^{(\alpha)}}} e^{\frac{2\pi i t_{p,0}}{\hbar}} \psi_{l,\mathrm{NP}}^{\infty^{(\alpha)}}(z,\hbar,\boldsymbol{\rho}).$$



For  $l \ge 0$ , we define

$$\psi_{l,\mathrm{NP}}^{\infty^{(\alpha)}}(z,\hbar,\boldsymbol{\rho}) \coloneqq \mathrm{ev}. \sum_{\substack{\beta \subseteq \left(x^{-1}(x(z)) \setminus \{z\}\right)}} \frac{1}{l!} \left(\prod_{j=1}^{l} \mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{C}_{\beta_{j}},1}\right) \ \psi_{\mathrm{NP}}^{\mathrm{symbol}}(D;\hbar,\boldsymbol{\rho}).$$



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We use them to define a  $d\times d$  matrix

$$\widehat{\Psi}_{\mathrm{NP}}(\lambda,\hbar,oldsymbol{
ho})\coloneqq \left[\psi_{l-1,\mathrm{NP}}^{\infty^{(lpha)}}(z^{(eta)}(\lambda),\hbar,oldsymbol{
ho})
ight]_{1< l,eta< d}$$

where  $z^{(\beta)}(\lambda)$  denotes the  $\beta^{\text{th}}$  preimage by x of  $\lambda$ .

### Lax systems

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}_l(x(z)) = \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}} \sum_{k \in S_P^{(l+1)}} \xi_P(x(z))^{-k} \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}_{P,k,l}, \ \mathcal{L}_{P,k,l} \coloneqq \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}_{P,k,l} - P_{P,k}^{(l+1)}.$$

### Theorem (ODE and Lax system)

Let 
$$\hat{L}(\lambda,\hbar) \coloneqq -\widehat{P}(\lambda) + \hbar \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \xi_P^{-k}(\lambda) \widehat{\Delta}_{P,k}(\lambda,\hbar)$$
. Then,

$$\hbar \frac{d \bar{\Psi}_{\rm NP}(\lambda,\hbar)}{d\lambda} = \hat{L}(\lambda,\hbar) \widehat{\Psi}_{\rm NP}(\lambda,\hbar),$$

where

$$\widehat{P}(\lambda) \coloneqq \begin{bmatrix} -P_1(\lambda) & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0\\ -P_2(\lambda) & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0\\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & dots & \vdots\\ -P_{d-1}(\lambda) & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1\\ -P_d(\lambda) & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

For any  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $l \in [\![0, d-1]\!]$ , one has the auxiliary systems

$$\hbar^{-1} \text{ev.} \mathcal{L}_{P,k,l} \widehat{\Psi}_{\text{NP}}^{\text{symbol}}(\lambda,\hbar) = \widehat{A}_{P,k,l}(\lambda,\hbar) \widehat{\Psi}_{\text{NP}}(\lambda,\hbar)$$

where  $\hat{L}(\lambda, \hbar)$  and  $\widehat{A}_{P,k,l}(\lambda, \hbar)$  are  $\hbar$ -trans-series functions that are rational functions of  $\lambda$ , with no poles at critical values  $\lambda \in x(\mathcal{R})$ .

TR and quantum curves	Spectral curves	TR and loop equations	KZ equations	Non-perturbative	Isomonodromic	Future
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#### Lax systems

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. Then,  

$$\hbar \frac{d\widehat{\Psi}_{NP}(\lambda,\hbar)}{d\lambda} = \hat{L}(\lambda,\hbar)\widehat{\Psi}_{NP}(\lambda,\hbar), \tag{1}$$

where

$$\widehat{P}(\lambda) := \begin{bmatrix} -P_1(\lambda) & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ -P_2(\lambda) & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & dots & \vdots \\ -P_{d-1}(\lambda) & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \\ -P_d(\lambda) & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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- (1) → linear differential system of size d × d whose formal fundamental solution can be computed by TR, with poles at the poles of the leading WKB term...
- $\hat{L}(\lambda,\hbar)$  has poles only at  $\lambda \in \mathcal{P}$  and at zeros of the Wronskian det  $\widehat{\Psi}_{NP}(\lambda,\hbar)$ , apparent singularities of the system (can be computed thanks to the KZ eqns).

		Non-perturbative	
Lax systems			

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where

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- Most technical proof ~> by induction on the order of the transseries.
- Proof uses admissibility conditions (distinct critical values, smooth simple ramification points) → should adapt without them but involving more technical computations.



None of the gauge transformations modify the first line of the wave functions matrix (used to define the quantum curve).

- Gauge  $\widehat{\Psi}$ : Natural gauge coming from KZ equations and provides compatible auxiliary systems  $(\mathcal{L}_{P,k,l})_{P \in \mathcal{P}, l \in [0,d-1], k \in S_{P}^{(l+1)}}$ .
- Gauge  $\widetilde{\Psi}$  ( $\hbar^0$  gauge transformation from  $\widehat{\Psi}$ ): Leading order in  $\hbar$  of  $\widetilde{L}$  is companion-like  $\rightsquigarrow$  the classical spectral curve is directly recovered from its last line.
- Gauge  $\Psi$ : Corresponding Lax matrix L is companion-like at all orders in  $\hbar \rightsquigarrow$ both the quantum and classical curves are directly read from the last line of Land its  $\hbar \rightarrow 0$  limit. Natural framework for Darboux coordinates and isomonodromic deformations.
- Gauge  $\underline{\Psi}$ : Lax matrix  $\underline{L}$  has no apparent singularities. This allows to interpret  $\overline{\underline{L}}(\lambda, \hbar)d\lambda$  as an  $\hbar$ -familly of Higgs fields giving rise to a flow in the corresponding Hitchin system.

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## Spectral curves from integrable systems

### Definition

Let  $\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \Psi(x, \hbar) = \mathcal{L}(x, \hbar) \Psi(x, \hbar)$  be a  $(2 \times 2)$  differential system (with  $\det \Psi = 1$ ). We define the classical spectral curve associated to it by

$$P(x, y) \coloneqq \lim_{\hbar \to 0} \det(y \mathrm{Id} - \mathcal{L}(x, \hbar)) = 0,$$

which gives a polynomial equation. For a non-zero genus curve, this must be completed with a choice of symplectic basis of cycles and a bidifferential *B*.

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### Different approach:

- *ħ*-differential system.
- Define the classical spectral curve associated to it.
- Show that interesting quantities from the point of view of the differential system may be reconstructed from topological recursion applied to this classical spectral curve.
- Proof by showing that the differential system satisfies the topological type property (Bergère-Borot-Eynard '15).

# Isomonodromic deformations

We consider isomonodromic deformations of the linear differential equation  $\partial_x - \mathcal{L}(x)$ , which depend on a number of continuous parameters  $t_k$  (times):

$$\begin{cases} \hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \Psi(x, t_k; \hbar) = \mathcal{L}(x, t_k; \hbar) \Psi(x, t_k; \hbar), \\ \hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t_k} \Psi(x, t_k; \hbar) = \mathcal{R}_k(x, t_k; \hbar) \Psi(x, t_k; \hbar) \end{cases}$$

We call such a (compatible integrable) system an isomonodromic system.

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t_k \partial x} \Psi = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial t_k} \Psi \Leftrightarrow \hbar \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial t_k} - \hbar \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_k}{\partial x} + [\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{R}_k] = 0 \text{ (zero-curvature equation)}.$$

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Consider the deformed spectral curve

$$P(x, y; \hbar) = \det(y \operatorname{Id} - \mathcal{L}(x, t_k; \hbar)) = P_0(x, y) + \sum_{m \ge 1} \hbar^m P_m(x, y).$$

Classical spectral curve  $\rightsquigarrow P_0(x, y)$  (family of curves parametrized by  $t_k$ 's).

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### Remark

Painlevé equations  $\rightsquigarrow$  Isomonodromic deformations. Painlevé property  $\rightsquigarrow$  Solutions have no movable singularities other than poles. Classification of all second order differential equations with the Painlevé property  $\rightsquigarrow$  50 solutions and only 6 which could not be integrated from already known functions.

## Painlevé I

In the family of elliptic curves  $y^2 = x^3 + tx + V$ , taking  $t = -3u_0^2$  and  $V = 2u_0^3$ , amounts to pinching the *B*-cycle (first kind). So in this case, we have genus  $\hat{g} = 0$  and the spectral curve admits a rational parametrization:

$$\begin{cases} \Sigma = \mathbb{C}P^1, & x(z) = z^2 - 2u_0, \ y(z) = z^3 - 3u_0 z, \\ ydx = (z^3 - 3u_0 z)2zdz, & B(z_1, z_2) = \frac{dz_1 dz_2}{(z_1 - z^2)^2}. \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{split} & \text{TR: Witten-Kontsevich intersection numbers} \rightsquigarrow \omega_{g,n}(z_1, \dots, z_n) = \\ & \sum_{d_1,\dots,d_n} \frac{6^{2-2g-n} u_0^{5-5g-2n}}{(3g-3+n-\sum_i d_i)!} \langle \tau_2^{3g-3+n-\sum_i d_i} \tau_{d_1} \cdots \tau_{d_n} \rangle_g \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{u_0^{d_i}(2d_i+1)!! d_i}{z_i^{2d_i+1}}. \\ & n = 0 \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{F}_g = \omega_{g,0} = u_0^{5-5g} \frac{6^{2-2g}}{(3g-3)!} \langle \tau_2^{3g-3} \rangle_g = (-t/3)^{\frac{5-5g}{2}} \frac{6^{2-2g}}{(3g-3)!} \langle \tau_2^{3g-3} \rangle_g. \end{split}$$

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Then  $U(t) = u_0 + \frac{\hbar^2}{48t^2} + \sum_{g \ge 2} \hbar^{2g} \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{F}_g}{\partial t^2}$  satisfies the Painlevé I equation  $\frac{\hbar^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} U + 3U^2 = -t$ , which is the compatibility equation of the Lax pair

$$\mathcal{L}(x,t;\hbar) \coloneqq \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\hbar}{2}\dot{U} & x-U\\ (x-U)(x+2U) + \frac{\hbar^2}{2}dotU & -\frac{\hbar}{2}\dot{U} \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathcal{R}(x,t;\hbar) \coloneqq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1\\ x+2U & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

From the PDE found we can get that  $\psi_{\pm}(x) = e^{\sum_{g,n} \frac{(\pm 1)^n \hbar^{2g-2+n}}{n!} \int \dots \int \omega_{g,n}}$ :

$$\left(\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial x} - \mathcal{L}(x,t;\hbar)\right) \begin{pmatrix} \psi_+\\ \psi_- \end{pmatrix} = 0 , \quad \left(\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \mathcal{R}(x,t;\hbar)\right) \begin{pmatrix} \psi_+\\ \psi_- \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

## Practical computations to quantise a classical spectral curve

- **O** Write down the KZ equations satisfied by the non-perturbative wave function.
- ② Expand these KZ equations around each pole  $\lambda \rightarrow P \in \mathcal{P} \rightsquigarrow$  expression of the coefficients of the asymptotic expansion of  $\psi_{0,\text{NP}}^{(\infty^{(\alpha)})}$  in terms of the action of the operators  $\mathcal{I}_C$ .
- Use the latter expressions to compute the Wronskian of the system thanks to its expansion around its poles. This allows to compute the position of the apparent singularities (q<sub>i</sub>(ħ))<sup>d</sup><sub>i=1</sub>.
- Write down the linear system and the associated quantum curve, and use the compatibility of the system to recover its properties.

### Example

- Reconstruction via TR of a 2-parameter family of formal transseries solutions to Painlevé 2 and quantisation. Classical spectral curve:  $y^2 P_1(\lambda)y + P_2(\lambda) = 0$ , where  $P_1(\lambda) = P_{\infty,2}^{(1)}\lambda^2 + P_{\infty,1}^{(1)}\lambda + P_{\infty,0}^{(1)}$  and  $P_2(\lambda) = P_{\infty,4}^{(2)}\lambda^4 + P_{\infty,3}^{(2)}\lambda^3 + P_{\infty,2}^{(2)}\lambda^2 + P_{\infty,1}^{(2)}\lambda + P_{\infty,0}^{(2)}$ .
- Quantisation of a degree 3, genus 1 classical spectral curve with a single singularity at infinity:  $y^3 (P_{\infty,1}^{(1)}\lambda + P_{\infty,0}^{(1)})y^2 + (P_{\infty,2}^{(2)}\lambda^2 + P_{\infty,1}^{(2)}\lambda + P_{\infty,0}^{(2)})y P_{\infty,3}^{(3)}\lambda^3 P_{\infty,2}^{(3)}\lambda^2 P_{\infty,1}^{(3)}\lambda P_{\infty,0}^{(3)} = 0.$

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### Questions and future work

TR and quantum curves	Spectral curves	TR and loop equations	KZ equations		Future
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Future work					

- Ongoing: More conceptual proof of the QC conjecture?
- Explore the connection with summability, exact WKB, Stokes phenomenon and resurgence. Conjecture: There exist values of  $\varepsilon$  and  $\hbar$  making the transseries involved summable.
- Conjecture: The non-perturbative partition function is a tau function.
- How does the connection built as  $d \mathcal{L}(x,\hbar)dx/\hbar$  depend on the choice of cycles  $(\mathcal{A}_i, \mathcal{B}_i)$ ?
- Upgrade to trans-algebraic spectral curves (essential singularities) with the work of Bouchard–Kramer–Weller?
- Interesting enumerative geometry in higher genus TR problems?
- Get rid of admissibility conditions?
- Relation to the topological type property approach (can that be proved for higher genus spectral curves?).
- Extend the result to a ramified covering of surfaces other than  $\mathbb{C}P^1$ .
- Generalization to difference equations? (Subtleties including  $K_2$  condition of Gukov–Sułkowski '12?). Non-algebraic curves, such as  $P(e^x, e^y)$  (important for volume conjecture).
- General relation between Virasoro constraints (or even Kontsevich–Soibelman '17, ABCD of Andersen–Borot–Chekhov–Orantin '17) and quantum curves.

# Merci beaucoup pour votre attention!



### Articles:

- From topological recursion to wave functions and PDEs quantizing hyperelliptic curves, with B. Eynard, arXiv:1911.07795 (2019)
- *Quantizing generic algebraic spectral curves via topological recursion*, with B. Eynard, O. Marchal, N. Orantin, arXiv:2106.04339 (2021)