

# C-map as C=1 string

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S.A. [arXiv:1201.2761](https://arxiv.org/abs/1201.2761)

**sine-Liouville perturbation:**  
time-dependent background with  
a non-trivial tachyon condensate

Quaternion-Kähler geometry of  
the universal hypermultiplet at  
tree level  
(local c-map in 4d)

A perturbed solution of  
Matrix Quantum Mechanics  
in the classical limit  
(c=1 string theory)

Toda equation

NS5-brane instantons

Baker-Akhiezer function

$$\longleftrightarrow \delta\pi k = \hbar^{-1}$$

# Plan of the talk

1. Toda hierarchy in the Lax formalism
2. Matrix formulation of  $c=1$  string and its exact solution
3. Four-dimensional QK spaces: twistors vs. Toda
4. C-map and duality
5. NS5-barne instantons and the Baker-Akhiezer function

# Toda hierarchy I

Lax operators:

$$L = r(s)\hat{\omega} + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} u_k(s)\hat{\omega}^{-k}$$

$$\bar{L} = \hat{\omega}^{-1}r(s) + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \hat{\omega}^k \bar{u}_k(s)$$

shift operator  
 $\hat{\omega} = e^{\hbar\partial/\partial s}$

Evolution laws:

$$\hbar \frac{\partial L}{\partial t_{\pm k}} = [H_{\pm k}, L]$$

$$\hbar \frac{\partial \bar{L}}{\partial t_{\pm k}} = [H_{\pm k}, \bar{L}]$$

Hamiltonians:

$$H_k = (L^k)_{>} + \frac{1}{2}(L^k)_0$$

$$H_{-k} = (\bar{L}^k)_{<} + \frac{1}{2}(\bar{L}^k)_0$$



Discrete Toda equation:

$$\hbar^2 \frac{\partial^2 \log r^2(s)}{\partial t_1 \partial t_{-1}} = 2r^2(s) - r^2(s + \hbar) - r^2(s - \hbar)$$

# Toda hierarchy II

Orlov-Shulman operators:

$$M = \sum_{k \geq 1} kt_k L^k + s + \sum_{k \geq 1} v_k L^{-k} \quad \bar{M} = - \sum_{k \geq 1} kt_{-k} \bar{L}^k + s - \sum_{k \geq 1} v_{-k} \bar{L}^{-k}$$

$$[L, M] = \hbar L$$

$$[\bar{L}, \bar{M}] = -\hbar \bar{L}$$

$$[\hat{\omega}, s] = \hbar \hat{\omega}$$

Three ways to encode the solution:

- One can show

$$\frac{\partial v_k}{\partial t_l} = \frac{\partial v_l}{\partial t_k} \quad \longrightarrow \quad v_k(s, t) = \hbar^2 \frac{\partial \log \tau_s[t]}{\partial t_k}$$

←  $\tau$ -function of Toda hierarchy

- Baker-Akhiezer function

$$x\Psi = L\Psi \quad \hbar x \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} = M\Psi \quad \hbar \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t_k} = H_k \Psi$$

- String equations

$$\bar{L} = f(L, M) \quad \bar{M} = g(L, M)$$

# Dispersionless Toda hierarchy

Classical limit:  $\hbar \rightarrow 0$

$\hat{\omega} \rightarrow \omega$  :

$$\{\omega, s\} = \omega$$

phase space



•  $\mathcal{T}$ -function:  $\log \tau = \sum_{n \geq 0} \hbar^{-2+2n} F_n$

$F_0$  — dispersionless  
free energy



Continuous Toda  
equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 F_0}{\partial t_1 \partial t_{-1}} + \exp\left(\frac{\partial^2 F_0}{\partial s^2}\right) = 0$$

• Baker-Akhiezer  
function:

$$\Psi \sim \exp\left\{\frac{1}{\hbar} \int^{\log x} M d \log L\right\}$$

# 2D string theory in MQM formulation

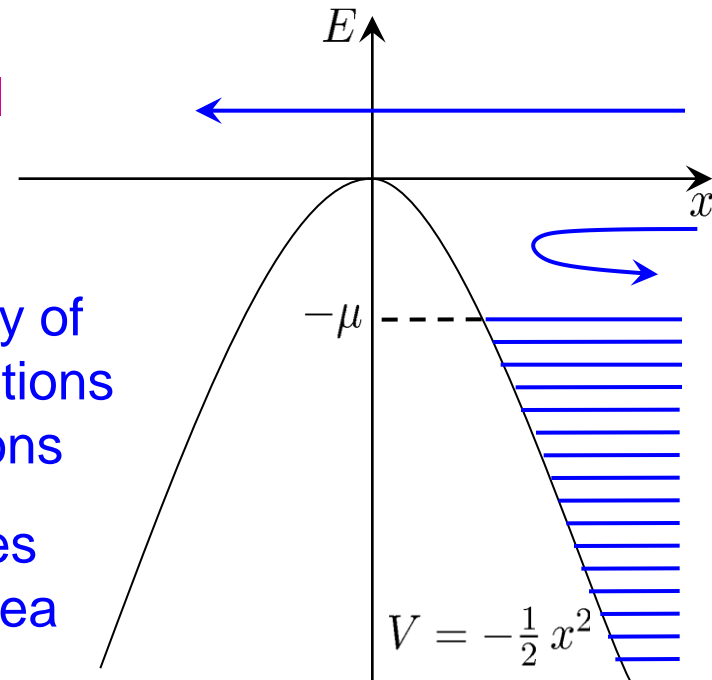
$$Z_N = \int \mathcal{D}M(t) \exp \left[ -N \text{tr} \int dt \left( \frac{1}{2} \dot{M}^2 + V(M) \right) \right],$$

- diagonalize  $M(t) = \Omega^\dagger(t)x(t)\Omega(t)$ ,  $x = \text{diag}(x_1, \dots, x_N)$   
and integrate out the angular degrees of freedom  $\Omega(t) \in U(N)$
- take the double scaling limit:  $N \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\lambda \rightarrow \lambda_c$



*Free fermions in the inverse oscillator potential*

$$V(x) = -\frac{1}{2} x^2$$



Target space description  
of 2d string theory



Effective theory of  
collective excitations  
of free fermions

Different backgrounds



Different states  
of the Fermi sea

# Light-cone representation of MQM

S.A.,Kazakov,  
Kostov '01

$$x_{\pm} = \frac{x \pm p}{\sqrt{2}} \quad \text{--- light-cone coordinates in the phase space} \quad \{x_+, x_-\} = 1$$

$$H_0 = -\frac{1}{2} (\hat{x}_+ \hat{x}_- + \hat{x}_- \hat{x}_+) \quad \text{--- light-cone hamiltonian}$$

$$\psi_{\pm}^E(x_{\pm}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} x_{\pm}^{\pm \frac{i}{\hbar} E - \frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{--- one-fermion eigenfunctions}$$

The classical (string tree level) limit is encoded in the profile of the Fermi sea in the phase space

Example: ground state

$$x_+ x_- = \mu$$



linear dilaton background

the only static configuration

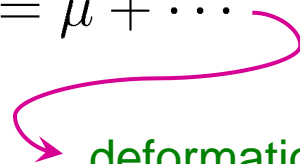


more general states

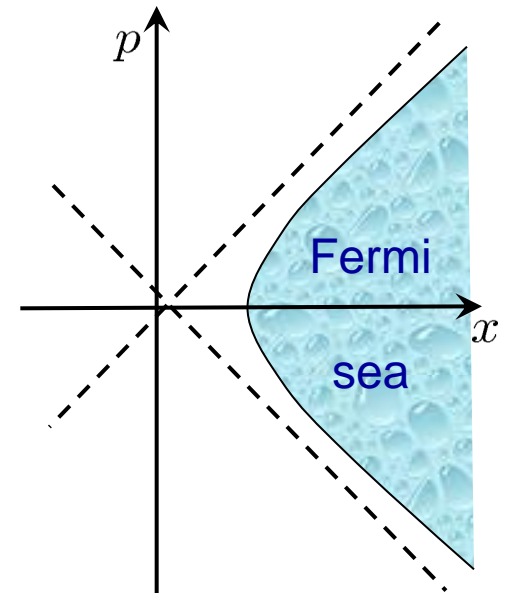
$$x_+ x_- = \mu + \dots$$



time-dependent backgrounds with a tachyon condensate



deformations corresponding to vertex operators of c=1 string theory





# Perturbed backgrounds

Perturbed wave functions

vertex operators

$$\Psi_{\pm}^E(x_{\pm}) = e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \sum_{k \geq 1} t_{\pm k} x_{\pm}^{k/R}} + \dots \psi_{\pm}^E(x_{\pm})$$

$$V_k = \int d^2 \sigma e^{ikX/R} e^{(|k|/R-2)\phi}$$



$$x_+ x_- = M_{\pm}(x_{\pm}) = \pm \frac{1}{R} \sum_{k \geq 1} k t_{\pm k} x_{\pm}^{k/R} + \mu \pm \frac{1}{R} \sum_{k \geq 1} v_{\pm k} x_{\pm}^{-k/R}$$

## Correspondence with the Toda hierarchy

- lattice parameter  $s \leftrightarrow$  Fermi level  $\mu$
- Lax operators  $\leftrightarrow$  light-cone coordinates
 
$$L = x_+^{1/R} \quad \bar{L} = x_-^{1/R}$$
- Orlov-Shulman operators  $\leftrightarrow M_{\pm}(x_{\pm})$
- Baker-Akhiezer function  $\leftrightarrow \Psi_{\pm}(x_{\pm})$
- string equations  $\leftrightarrow$  equations for the profile of the Fermi sea

## Solution for the sine-Liouville perturbation

$$(t_{\pm 1} \neq 0 \quad R = 1)$$

Free energy

$$F_0 = \frac{1}{2} \mu^2 \left( \log \mu - \frac{3}{2} \right) - \mu t_1 t_{-1}$$

Profile of the Fermi sea

$$x_{\pm} = \sqrt{\mu} \omega^{\pm 1} \mp t_{\mp}$$

# 4D QK spaces: Toda description

Quaternion-Kähler manifold

=

Holonomy group

$$Sp(n) \times SU(2)$$

Four-dimensional  
quaternion-Kähler manifold

=

Self-dual Einstein space  
with  $\Lambda \neq 0$

In the presence of one isometry

$$ds_{\mathcal{M}}^2 = -\frac{3}{\Lambda} \left[ \frac{P}{\rho^2} (d\rho^2 + 4e^T dz d\bar{z}) + \frac{1}{P\rho^2} (d\theta + \Theta)^2 \right]$$

where  $\Theta$  — a one-form,  $P = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \rho \partial_\rho T$  and

$$\partial_z \partial_{\bar{z}} T + \partial_\rho^2 e^T = 0$$

Toda equation

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$$\partial_z \partial_{\bar{z}} T + \partial_\rho^2 e^T = 0$$



$$\partial_{t_1} \partial_{t_{-1}} F_0 + e^{\partial_s^2 F_0} = 0$$



$$z, \bar{z} \leftrightarrow t_{\pm 1} \quad \rho \leftrightarrow s \quad T \leftrightarrow \partial_s^2 F_0$$

# 4D QK spaces: twistor space

Quaternionic structure:

quaternion algebra of *almost* complex structures

$$J^i J^j = \varepsilon^{ijk} J^k - \delta^{ij}$$

$\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{M}}$

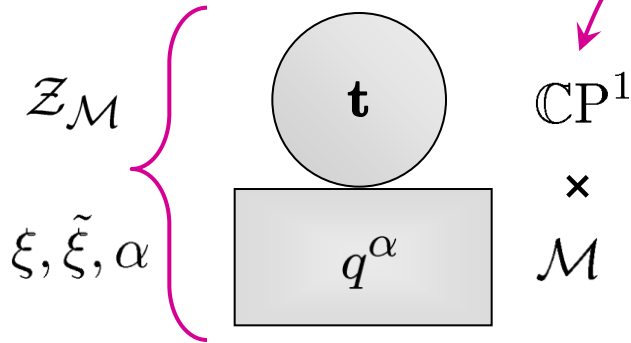
is a *complex* space and carries

*holomorphic contact structure*

$$\mathcal{X} = \frac{2}{t} e^{\phi} (dt + p^+ - ip^3 t + p^- t^2)$$

contact potential (dilaton)

Twistor space



Locally

$$\mathcal{X}^{[i]} = d\alpha^{[i]} + \xi^{[i]} d\tilde{\xi}^{[i]}$$

complex Darboux coordinates

gluing conditions

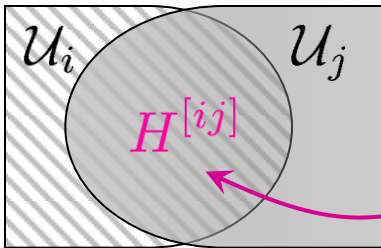
$$\xi_{[i]} = \xi_{[j]} + \partial_{\tilde{\xi}_{[j]}} H^{[ij]} - \xi_{[j]} \partial_{\alpha_{[j]}} H^{[ij]}$$

$$\tilde{\xi}^{[i]} = \tilde{\xi}^{[j]} - \partial_{\xi_{[i]}} H^{[ij]}$$

$$\alpha^{[i]} = \alpha^{[j]} - H^{[ij]} + \xi_{[i]} \partial_{\xi_{[i]}} H^{[ij]}$$

holomorphic transition functions

$$H^{[ij]}(\xi, \tilde{\xi}, \alpha)$$



twistor lines

$$\xi_{[i]}(q^\alpha, t), \tilde{\xi}^{[i]}(q^\alpha, t), \alpha^{[i]}(q^\alpha, t)$$

metric on  $\mathcal{M}$

# Dictionary

Expansion in the patches around the north and south poles:

$$\xi^{[\pm]}(t) = \mathcal{R}t^{\mp 1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \xi_n^{[\pm]} t^{\pm n}$$

$$\tilde{\xi}^{[\pm]}(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \tilde{\xi}_n^{[\pm]} t^{\pm n}$$

$$\alpha^{[\pm]}(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_n^{[\pm]} t^{\pm n}$$

Relation with the Toda description:

$$\rho = e^{\phi} \quad z = \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\xi}_0^{[+]} \quad \theta = \frac{1}{2} \text{Im} \alpha_0^{[+]}$$

$$T = 2 \log \mathcal{R}$$



## Correspondence with the Lax formalism

$$\omega^{-1} \longleftrightarrow t$$

$$\text{lattice parameter } s \longleftrightarrow \rho = e^{\phi}$$

$$t_{\pm 1} \longleftrightarrow z, \bar{z}$$

$$L, \bar{L} \longleftrightarrow \xi^{[\pm]}$$

$$M/L, \bar{M}/\bar{L} \longleftrightarrow \tilde{\xi}^{[\pm]}$$

$$\text{string equations} \longleftrightarrow \text{gluing conditions}$$

# String compactifications and Hypermultiplets

Type II superstring theory compactified on a Calabi-Yau



$\mathcal{N}=2$  supergravity in 4d coupled to matter



Vector multiplets

Hypermultiplets

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{VM}} = \mathcal{G}_{a\bar{b}}(z) \partial_\mu z^a \partial^\mu \bar{z}^{\bar{b}} + \mathcal{N}_{\Lambda\Sigma}(z) F_{\mu\nu}^\Lambda F^{\Sigma,\mu\nu}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{HM}} = g_{\alpha\beta}(q) \partial_\mu q^\alpha \partial^\mu \bar{q}^\beta$$

given by

*holomorphic prepotential*  $F(z)$

non-linear  $\sigma$ -model

no corrections in string coupling  $g_s$

- $g_{\alpha\beta}$  describes a QK manifold
- receives all types of  $g_s$ -corrections



well-known

one-loop

D-brane  
instantons

NS5-brane  
instantons

Robles-Llana, Saueressig, Vandoren '06  
S.A. '07

S.A., Pioline, Saueressig,  
Vandoren '09

not well  
understood

# C-map

Special Kähler manifold



QK manifold

holomorphic prepotential

classical HM moduli space

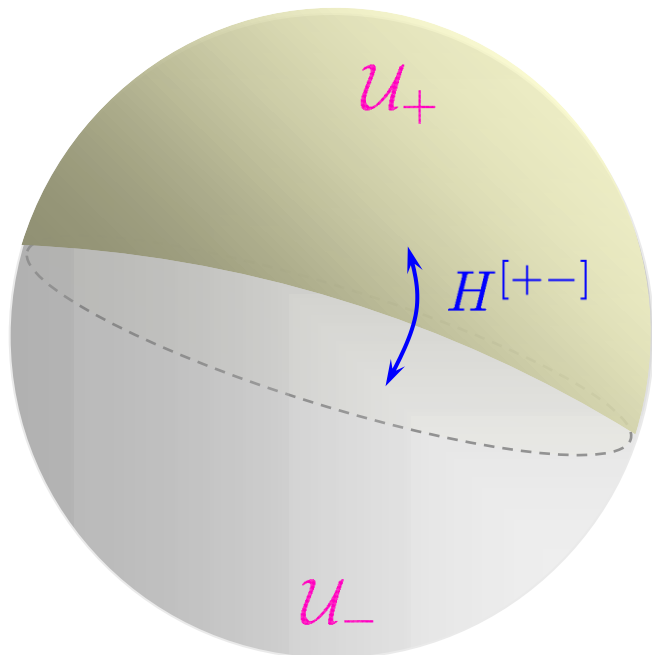
Twistor description

In four dimensions ( $h_{2,1}(\mathfrak{Q}) = 0$ ):

$$H^{[+-]} = -4\text{Im}F(\xi)$$

- prepotential  $F(X) = -\frac{i}{4} X^2$

- twistor lines



$$\xi^{[+]} = -(z + \bar{z}) + \sqrt{\rho}(t^{-1} - t)$$

$$\tilde{\xi}^{[+]} = 2(z + \sqrt{\rho}t)$$

$$\alpha^{[+]} = i\theta - \left[ \rho - \frac{(z + \bar{z})^2}{2} - 2\sqrt{\rho}(z + \bar{z})t - \rho t^2 \right]$$



Solution of Toda:

$$T = \log \rho$$

# Duality

4D c-map space and c=1 string theory with sine-Liouville perturbation at R=1 are described by the same solution of Toda hierarchy

$$\log \mu = \partial_{\mu}^2 F_0 \leftrightarrow T = \log \rho$$

Identifications:

- uniformization parameter  $\omega^{-1} \leftrightarrow \mathbb{CP}^1$  variable  $t$
- couplings  $t_{\pm 1} \leftrightarrow$  RR-fields  $z, \bar{z}$
- MQM chiral coords.  $\leftrightarrow$  Lax & OV ops.  $\leftrightarrow$  Darboux coords.

$$x_+ = L = \xi^{[+]} + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\xi}^{[+]}, \quad x_- = \bar{L} = -\xi^{[-]} + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\xi}^{[-]}$$

$$ML^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\xi}^{[+]}, \quad \bar{M}\bar{L}^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\xi}^{[-]}$$

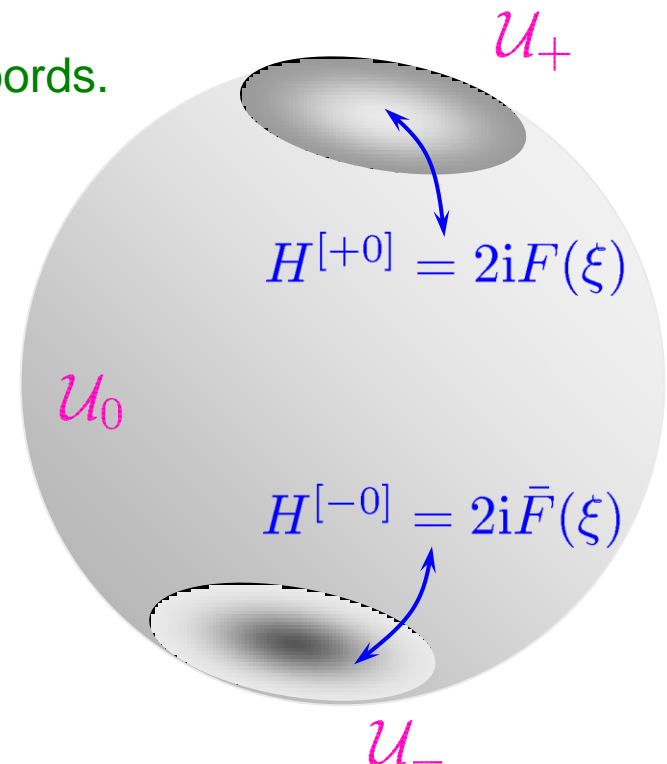
- profile of the Fermi sea  $\leftrightarrow$  gluing conditions

$$\tilde{\xi}^{[+]} - \tilde{\xi}^{[-]} = -2\xi^{[\pm]}$$

In  $\mathcal{U}_0$  :

$$\xi = x_+ - x_- = \sqrt{2}p$$

$$\tilde{\xi} = x_+ + x_- = \sqrt{2}x$$





# NS5-brane instantons and BA-function

What about  $\alpha$ ?

Quasiclassical Baker-Akhiezer function:  $\Psi \sim \exp \left\{ \frac{1}{\hbar} \int x_- dx_+ \right\}$

NS-axion  $\curvearrowright$

$$-\frac{i}{8} \sigma + \hbar \log \Psi(x_+) = \frac{1}{8} \left( -i\tilde{\alpha} + \tilde{\xi}^2 - \xi^2 \right) - \rho \log t$$

the phase of the Baker-Akhiezer function  $\longleftrightarrow$  Darboux coordinate  $\alpha$

holomorphic function incorporating  
NS5-brane instantons  
S.A., Pioline, Vandoren '09

$$H_k^{\text{NS5}} \sim e^{-\pi i k \tilde{\alpha} + \pi k (\tilde{\xi}^2 - \xi^2)}$$

NS5-brane charge

NS5-brane instanton as a fermion wave function

$$\hbar^{-1} = 8\pi k \quad H_k^{\text{NS5}} \sim t^{8\pi k \rho} \Psi(x_+) e^{-\pi i k \sigma}$$

# Integration contour

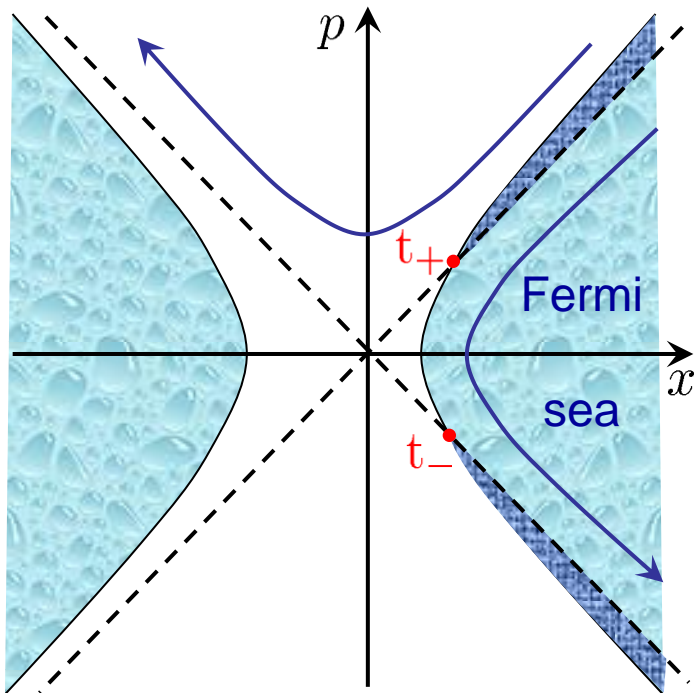
The holomorphic function  $H_k^{\text{NS5}}$  is associated with a contour  $C_+$  :

it joins the two points

$$t = 0 \Leftrightarrow \xi = \infty$$

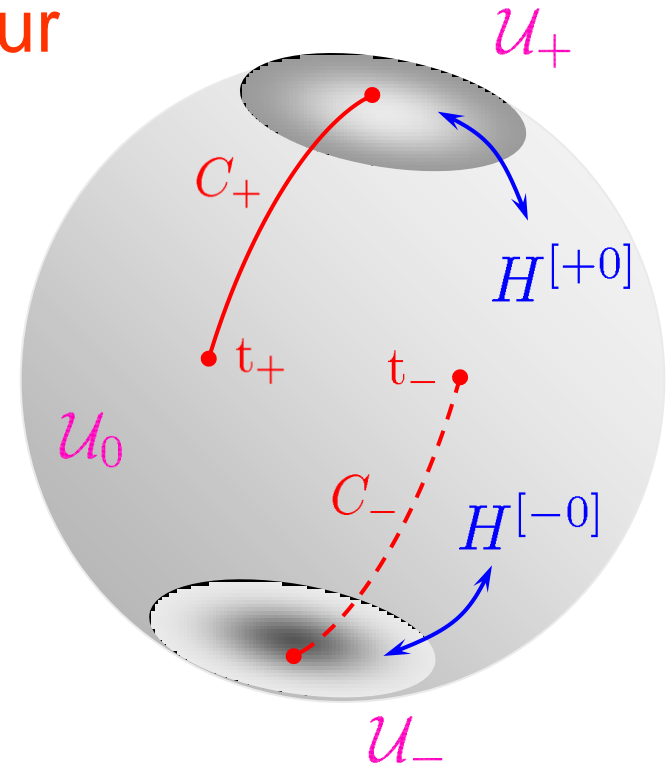
$$t = t_+ \equiv -\frac{z}{\sqrt{\rho}} \Leftrightarrow \xi = \tilde{\xi}$$

What is its meaning?



$$x_+ = 0$$

$t_+$  is the intersection point of the Fermi level with the line of the perturbative stability



# Conclusions

## Results

- Duality between 4d local c-map and perturbed 2d string
- NS5-brane charge is associated with the inverse Planck constant, whereas the NS5-brane appears as a free fermion
- Interesting interpretation of the integration contours

## Some questions

- Extension to higher dimensions?
- D-brane instantons?
- ZZ and FZZ-branes on the hypermultiplet side?
- Quantum Toda — inclusion of NS5-branes?