

Integrable \mathcal{E} -models, 4d Chern-Simons theory & affine Gaudin models.

based on [2008.01829] w/ M. Benini & A. Schenkel
& [2011.13809] w/ S. Lacroix

2d Integrable field theories.

A field theory in 2d is classically **integrable** if its equations of motion take the **Lax form**:

$$\text{e.o.m.}(\{\phi_i\}) = 0 \iff \boxed{d\mathcal{L}(z) + \frac{1}{2}[\mathcal{L}(z), \mathcal{L}(z)] = 0}$$

Lax connection $\mathcal{L}(z) = \mathcal{L}(\sigma, \tau, z) d\sigma + \mathcal{M}(\sigma, \tau, z) d\tau$
meromorphic dependence on z .

Example:

Principal chiral model $\partial_+ (\overbrace{g^{-1} \partial_- g}^{j_-}) - \partial_- (\overbrace{g^{-1} \partial_+ g}^{j_+}) = 0$.

Field $g \in C^\infty(\Sigma, G)$. Let $j := g^{-1} dg \in \Omega^1(\Sigma, \mathfrak{g})$,

$$\mathcal{L}(z) = \frac{j - z * j}{1 - z^2} = \frac{j_+ d\sigma^+}{1 - z} + \frac{j_- d\sigma^-}{1 + z}$$

$$\hookrightarrow d\mathcal{L}(z) + \frac{1}{2}[\mathcal{L}(z), \mathcal{L}(z)] = \frac{1}{1 - z^2} (dj + \frac{1}{2}[j, j]) - \frac{z}{1 - z^2} d * j$$

Q: What is the origin of the Lax connection?

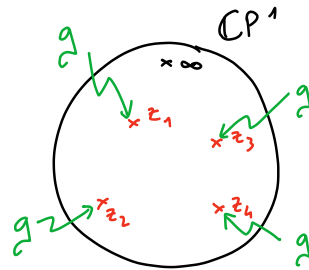
Algebraic/Hamiltonian origin:

* Gaudin models:

\mathfrak{g} semi-simple Lie algebra / \mathbb{C} , dual bases $\{I^a\}, \{I_a\}$.

Lax matrix

$$L(z) := \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{I_a \otimes I^{a(i)}}{z - z_i}$$



satisfies

$$\{L_1(z), L_2(w)\} = \left[\frac{I_a \otimes I^a}{w - z}, L_1(z) + L_2(w) \right]$$

Gaudin Hamiltonians:

$$H_i := \text{res}_{z_i} \langle L(z), L(z) \rangle = \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^N \frac{I_a^{(i)} I^{a(j)}}{z_i - z_j}$$

Many finite dimensional integrable systems are representations of Gaudin models.

Example: Neumann model: $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_2 = \langle E, H, F \rangle$,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{I_a \otimes I^{a(i)}}{z - z_i} + I_a \otimes I^{a(\infty)} \xrightarrow{\text{rep.}} \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{x_i p_i}{z - z_i} & -\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{x_i^2}{z - z_i} \\ 1 + \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{p_i^2}{z - z_i} & -\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{x_i p_i}{z - z_i} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$E^{(i)} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} p_i^2, \quad H^{(i)} \rightarrow x_i p_i, \quad F^{(i)} \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} x_i^2$$

$$E^{(\infty)} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}, \quad H^{(\infty)} \rightarrow 0, \quad F^{(\infty)} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\{x_i, p_j\} = \delta_{ij}$$

* Affine Gaudin models:

$$\tilde{\mathfrak{g}} = \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathbb{C}[t, t^{-1}] \oplus \mathbb{C}k \oplus \mathbb{C}d \quad \text{untwisted affine KM algebra.}$$

$$\text{dual bases } \{I^{\check{\alpha}}\} = \{I^a \otimes t^n, k, d\}, \quad \{I_{\check{\alpha}}\} = \{I_a \otimes t^{-n}, d, k\}$$

Idea: 2d IFTs with \mathfrak{g} -valued Lax connections as

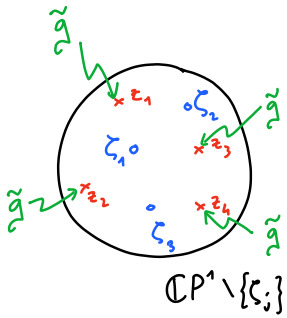
representations of Gaudin models associated with $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$:

[Feigin-Frenkel '07] [BV '17]

$$L(z) dz = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\sum_{\vec{\alpha}} I_{\vec{\alpha}} \otimes I^{\vec{\alpha}(i)}}{z - z_i} dz \xrightarrow{\text{rep.}} \omega \left(\partial_{\sigma} + \mathcal{L}(\sigma, z) \right)$$

$$\sum_{\vec{\alpha}} I_{\vec{\alpha}} \otimes I^{\vec{\alpha}(i)} = k \otimes d^{(i)} + d \otimes k^{(i)} + \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} I_{q, n} \otimes I_n^{a(i)}$$

$$\longrightarrow k_i \partial_{\sigma} + I_a \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{-in\sigma} I_n^{a(i)}$$



where
$$\omega = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{k_i}{z - z_i} dz = \frac{\prod_j (z - \zeta_j)}{\prod_i (z - z_i)} dz$$

$$\mathcal{L}(\sigma, z) = \sum_j \frac{F_j(\sigma)}{z - \zeta_j}$$

$$\{ \mathcal{L}_z(\sigma, z), \mathcal{L}_z(\sigma', w) \} = \left[r_{12}(z, w), \mathcal{L}_z(\sigma, z) + \mathcal{L}_z(\sigma', w) \right] \delta(\sigma - \sigma')$$

$$+ \left[s_{12}(z, w), \mathcal{L}_z(\sigma, z) - \mathcal{L}_z(\sigma', w) \right] \delta(\sigma - \sigma')$$

$$- 2 s_{12}(z, w) \partial_{\sigma} \delta(\sigma - \sigma')$$

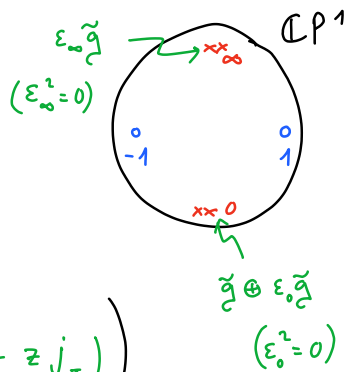
$$\frac{I_a \otimes I^a}{w - z} \varphi(w)^{-1} = r + s$$

$$w = \varphi(z) dz$$

Example: Principal chiral model

$$\left(\frac{I_{\vec{\alpha}} \otimes I^{\vec{\alpha}(0)}}{z^1} + \frac{I_{\vec{\alpha}} \otimes I^{\vec{\alpha}(1)}}{z^2} - \frac{I_{\vec{\alpha}} \otimes I^{\vec{\alpha}(\infty)}}{z^1} \right) dz$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{rep.}} \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{z^2} - 1 \right) dz}_{\omega_{\text{PCM}}} \left(\partial_{\sigma} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{1 - z^2} (j_{\sigma} - z j_z)}_{\mathcal{L}_{\text{PCM}}(\sigma, z)} \right)$$



Geometric / Lagrangian origin:

Start from 4d Chern-Simons action:

$$S_{\omega}(A) = \frac{i}{4\pi} \int_{\Sigma \times \mathbb{C} =: X} \omega \wedge CS(A)$$

[Costello '13]
[Costello-Witten-Yamazaki '17, '18]
[Costello-Yamazaki '19]

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bullet \omega = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{k_i}{z - z_i} dz \\ \bullet A = A_\sigma d\sigma + A_z dz + A_{\bar{z}} d\bar{z} \in \Omega^1(X, \mathfrak{g}) \\ \bullet CS(A) = \left\langle A, dA + \frac{1}{3}[A, A] \right\rangle \end{array} \right.$$

Remark: ω is singular on surface defects:

($\mathbb{Z} = \{\text{poles of } \omega\}$) $D = \bigsqcup_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} \Sigma_x, \quad \Sigma_x := \sum \times \{x\}.$

Nevertheless, $\omega \wedge CS(A)$ is locally integrable near D.

Behaviour of $S_\omega(A)$ under (finite) gauge transformations

$$A \xrightarrow{g \in C^\infty(X, G)} \mathcal{g}A := -dg g^{-1} + g A g^{-1} \quad ?$$

$$S_\omega(\mathcal{g}A) = S_\omega(A) + \frac{i}{4\pi} \int_X \omega \wedge d \langle g^{-1} dg, A \rangle + \frac{i}{24\pi} \int_X \omega \wedge \langle g^{-1} dg, [g^{-1} dg, g^{-1} dg] \rangle$$

Remark: For usual 3dCS, $S_{3d}(A) = \frac{k}{4\pi} \int_{M_3} CS(A)$ ($k \in \mathbb{Z}$)

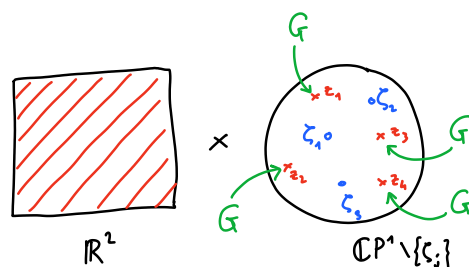
$$S_{3d}(\mathcal{g}A) = S_{3d}(A) + 2\pi k N, \quad \text{for some } N \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Define defect (Lie) group

$$G^{\mathbb{Z}} := \prod_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} G$$

and defect (Lie) algebra

$$\mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{Z}} := \prod_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathfrak{g}$$



with bilinear form $\langle\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle\rangle_\omega : \mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{Z}} \times \mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{Z}} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$:

$$\langle\langle X, Y \rangle\rangle_\omega = \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} k_x \langle X_x, Y_x \rangle \quad X = (X_x), Y = (Y_x) \in \mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{Z}}.$$

Consider embedding

$$\iota : D = \bigsqcup_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} \Sigma_x \hookrightarrow X.$$

Note: Pullback of $g \in C^\infty(X, G)$ & $A \in \Omega^1(X, \mathfrak{g})$ are:

- $\iota^* g \in C^\infty(D, G) = C^\infty(\bigsqcup_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} \Sigma_x, G)$
 $\cong \prod_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} C^\infty(\Sigma_x, G) \cong C^\infty(\Sigma, G^{\mathbb{Z}})$
- $\iota^* A \in \Omega^1(D, \mathfrak{g}) \cong \Omega^1(\Sigma, \mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{Z}})$.

$$S_\omega(\partial A) = S_\omega(A) - \frac{1}{2} \int_\Sigma \langle\langle (\iota^* g)^{-1} d_\Sigma (\iota^* g), \iota^* A \rangle\rangle_\omega$$

$$+ \frac{1}{12} \int_{\Sigma \times [0,1]} \langle\langle \hat{g}^{-1} d\hat{g}, [\hat{g}^{-1} d\hat{g}, \hat{g}^{-1} d\hat{g}] \rangle\rangle_\omega$$

[Localised on or "near" defect D.]

$\hat{g} \in C^\infty(\Sigma \times [0,1], G^{\mathbb{Z}})$
s.t. $\hat{g}|_0 = \iota^* g, \hat{g}|_1 = e.$

Two ways of ensuring gauge invariance:

Let $\mathfrak{k} \subset \mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{Z}}$ be an isotropic Lie subalgebra.

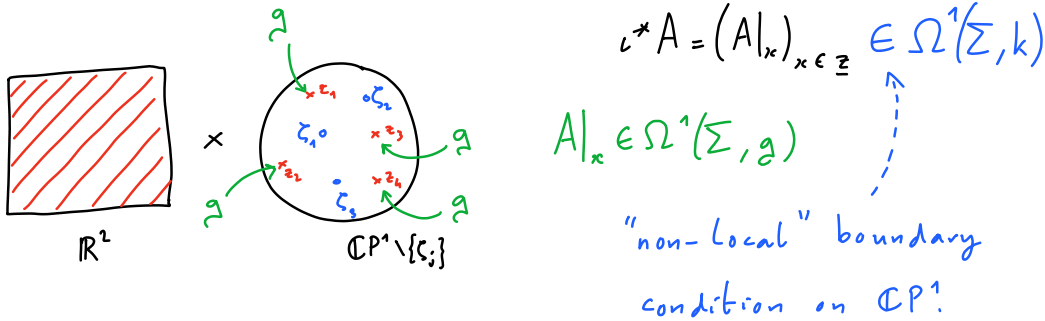
$$\langle\langle X, Y \rangle\rangle_\omega = 0 \quad \forall X, Y \in \mathfrak{k}.$$

Let $K \subset G^{\mathbb{Z}}$ corresponding connected Lie subgroup.

1) Strict boundary conditions

Consider bulk fields $A \in \Omega^1(X, \mathfrak{g})$ and gauge transformations $g \in C^\infty(X, G)$ satisfying

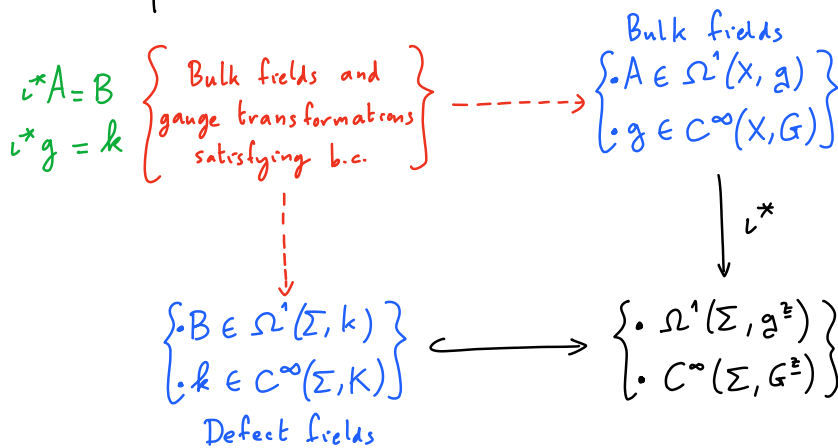
- $\iota^* A \in \Omega^1(\Sigma, k) \subset \Omega^1(\Sigma, \mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{Z}})$
- $\iota^* g \in C^\infty(\Sigma, K) \subset C^\infty(\Sigma, G^{\mathbb{Z}})$



Theorem (Benini-Schenkel-BV)

$S_\omega(A)$ is gauge invariant.

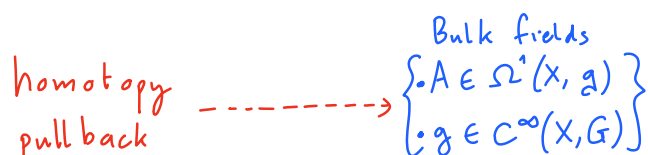
Summary: Strict boundary conditions imposed via a pullback construction:



2) Homotopical boundary conditions

Gauge fields are not compared by equality but rather via gauge transformations.

\rightsquigarrow Impose boundary conditions via homotopy pullback (i.e. impose them up to gauge transformations):



$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \begin{array}{c} \text{h} \\ \downarrow \text{dashed} \end{array} & \\
 & \text{h} & \\
 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bullet B \in \Omega^1(\Sigma, k) \\ \bullet k \in C^\infty(\Sigma, K) \end{array} \right\} & \longleftrightarrow & \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bullet \Omega^1(\Sigma, \mathfrak{g}^\mathbb{Z}) \\ \bullet C^\infty(\Sigma, \mathfrak{G}^\mathbb{Z}) \end{array} \right\} \\
 \text{Defect fields} & & \downarrow \iota^*
 \end{array}$$

A model for the homotopy pullback:

$$\bullet \text{Fields: } \left. \begin{array}{l} A \in \Omega^1(X, \mathfrak{g}) \\ h \in C^\infty(\Sigma, \mathfrak{g}^\mathbb{Z}) \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{h} \\ \iota^* A = B \in \Omega^1(\Sigma, k) \end{array}$$

↪ edge mode

$$\bullet \text{Gauge transformations: } (g \in C^\infty(X, G), h \in C^\infty(\Sigma, K))$$

$$A \mapsto g A = -dg g^{-1} + g A g^{-1}$$

$$h \mapsto k h (\iota^* g)^{-1}$$

Couple edge mode to gauge field:

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_\omega^{\text{ext}}(A, h) := & S_\omega(A) - \frac{1}{2} \int_\Sigma \ll h^{-1} d_\Sigma h, \iota^* A \gg_\omega \\
 & + \frac{1}{12} \int_{\Sigma \times [0,1]} \ll \hat{h}^{-1} d\hat{h}, [\hat{h}^{-1} d\hat{h}, \hat{h}^{-1} d\hat{h}] \gg_\omega \\
 & \hat{h} \in C^\infty(\Sigma \times [0,1]) \\
 & \text{s.t. } \hat{h}|_0 = h, \hat{h}|_1 = e.
 \end{aligned}$$

Theorem (Benini-Schenkel-BV)

Extended action $S_\omega^{\text{ext}}(A, h)$ is gauge invariant.

From 4d CS + edge mode to 2d IFTs

Want to turn 4d CS gauge field

$$A = A_\sigma(\sigma, \tau, z) d\sigma + A_\tau(\sigma, \tau, z) d\tau + A_{\bar{z}}(\sigma, \tau, z) d\bar{z}$$

into the 2d IFT Lax connection

$$L(z) = \mathcal{L}(\sigma, \tau, z) d\sigma + \mathcal{M}(\sigma, \tau, z) dz$$

- Step 1: Restrict attention to

$$L := A = A_\sigma(\sigma, \tau, z) d\sigma + A_\tau(\sigma, \tau, z) dz \in \Omega^{1,0,0}(X, \mathfrak{g})$$

and $g \in C^\infty(X, \mathfrak{G})$ such that $\bar{\partial} g g^{-1} = 0$.

Extended action now reads:

$$S_\omega^{\text{ext}}(L, h) = \frac{i}{4\pi} \int_X \omega \wedge \langle L, \bar{\partial} L \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \int_\Sigma \ll h^{-1} d_\Sigma h, i^* L \gg_\omega$$

$$+ \frac{1}{12} \int_{\Sigma \times [0,1]} \ll \hat{h}^{-1} d\hat{h}, [\hat{h}^{-1} d\hat{h}, \hat{h}^{-1} d\hat{h}] \gg_\omega$$

$[h(i^* L) \in \Omega^1(\Sigma, \mathfrak{k})]$

Equations of motion:

* Bulk e.o.m.: $\bar{\partial} L = 0$ on $X = \Sigma \times (\mathbb{C}P^1 \setminus \{e_j\})$

* Defect e.o.m.: $d_\Sigma(i^* L) + \frac{1}{2} [i^* L, i^* L] = 0$ on Σ .

[N.B.: Flatness of $i^* L \in \Omega^1(\Sigma, \mathfrak{G}^{\mathbb{Z}})$
and not of $L \in \Omega^1(X, \mathfrak{G})$.]

- Step 2: Restrict attention to particular solutions of bulk e.o.m.:

Call $L \in \Omega^{1,0,0}(X, \mathfrak{g})$ *admissible* if it is:

(a) meromorphic on $\mathbb{C}P^1$ with poles at $\underline{\zeta}$ (zeros of ω)

(b) such that $\omega \wedge L$ is bounded near $\underline{\zeta}$,

(c) and $\omega \wedge (d_\Sigma L + \frac{1}{2} [L, L])$ is bounded near $\underline{\zeta}$.

Proposition: If $L \in \Omega^{1,0,0}(X, \mathfrak{g})$ is admissible then

$$d_\Sigma(i^* L) + \frac{1}{2} [i^* L, i^* L] = 0 \text{ on } \Sigma \iff d_\Sigma L + \frac{1}{2} [L, L] = 0 \text{ on } X.$$

(defect e.o.m.)

Extended action now reads:

$$S_\omega^{\text{ext}}(\mathcal{L}, h) = -\frac{1}{2} \int_\Sigma \langle\langle h^{-1} d_\Sigma h, i^* \mathcal{L} \rangle\rangle_\omega + \frac{1}{12} \int_{\Sigma \times [0,1]} \langle\langle \hat{h}^{-1} d\hat{h}, [\hat{h}^{-1} d\hat{h}, \hat{h}^{-1} d\hat{h}] \rangle\rangle_\omega$$

$$\left[h(i^* \mathcal{L}) \in \Omega^1(\Sigma, \mathfrak{k}) \right]$$

and equations of motion now read:

$$d_\Sigma \mathcal{L} + \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{L}] = 0 \quad \text{on } X.$$

- Step 3: Solve the constraint

$$h(i^* \mathcal{L}) \in \Omega^1(\Sigma, \mathfrak{k})$$

for admissible \mathcal{L} in terms of $h \in C^\infty(\Sigma, G^{\mathbb{Z}})$.

We assume ω has a double pole at ∞ , and partially fix gauge invariance to fix components of $h \in C^\infty(\Sigma, G^{\mathbb{Z}})$ at ∞ : $(\mathbb{Z}' := \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{\infty\})$

$$h \in C^\infty(\Sigma, G^{\mathbb{Z}}) \rightsquigarrow \ell \in C^\infty(\Sigma, G^{\mathbb{Z}'})$$

$$\iota: D = \bigsqcup_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} \Sigma_x \hookrightarrow X \rightsquigarrow j: D' = \bigsqcup_{x \in \mathbb{Z}'} \Sigma_x \hookrightarrow X$$

$$h(i^* \mathcal{L}) \in \Omega^1(\Sigma, \mathfrak{k}) \rightsquigarrow \ell(j^* \mathcal{L}) \in \Omega^1(\Sigma, \mathfrak{k}')$$

$$k = \varepsilon_\infty \mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{k}' \subset \mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{Z}}$$

To satisfy admissibility conditions (a) & (b), take:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{y \in \underline{\mathbb{Z}}} \frac{\mathcal{L}_y}{z - y}$$

- $\underline{\mathbb{Z}}$ set of zeroes of ω
- $\mathcal{L}_y \in \Omega^1(\Sigma, \mathfrak{g})$

To satisfy admissibility condition (c), require

$$\mathcal{E}(j^* \mathcal{L}) = * (j^* \mathcal{L}) \quad [\check{\text{Severa '16}]}$$

where $\mathcal{E}: \mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{Z}'} \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{Z}'}$ is defined by $(\underline{\mathbb{Z}} = \underline{\mathbb{Z}}^+ \cup \underline{\mathbb{Z}}^-)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{Z}'} \ni X & \xleftarrow{\cong \substack{(|\Sigma| = |\mathbb{Z}'|)} \\ j^*}} & \sum_{y \in \Sigma^+} \frac{f_y}{z-y} + \sum_{y \in \Sigma^-} \frac{f_y}{z-y} \\
 \downarrow \Sigma & & \downarrow \\
 \mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{Z}'} \ni \Sigma X & \xleftarrow{\cong} & \sum_{y \in \Sigma^+} \frac{f_y}{z-y} - \sum_{y \in \Sigma^-} \frac{f_y}{z-y}
 \end{array}$$

We have (under mild assumptions)

$$\mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{Z}'} = \text{Ad}_\ell^{-1} k' \oplus \Sigma \text{Ad}_\ell^{-1} k' \quad \forall \ell \in G^{\mathbb{Z}'}$$

Define $P_\ell: \mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{Z}'} \rightarrow \Sigma \text{Ad}_\ell^{-1} k'$ projector with $\ker P_\ell = \text{Ad}_\ell^{-1} k'$.

Proposition. (Lacroix-BV) There is a unique solution of the constraint ${}^\ell(j^* \mathcal{L}) \in \Omega^1(\Sigma, k')$ such that $\Sigma(j^* \mathcal{L}) = * (j^* \mathcal{L})$, given by

$$j^* \mathcal{L} = (1 - P_\ell) \Sigma(\ell^{-1} * d_\Sigma \ell) + P_\ell(\ell^{-1} d_\Sigma \ell).$$

Resulting 2d integrable σ -model on $K' \setminus G^{\mathbb{Z}'}$,

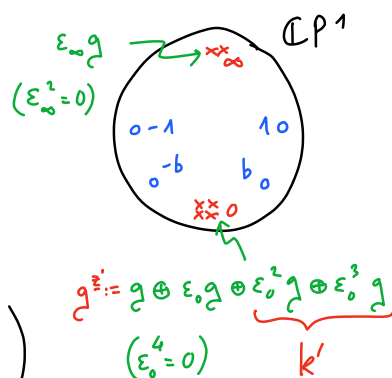
$$\begin{aligned}
 S_\omega^{\text{ext}}(\ell) = & -\frac{1}{2} \int_\Sigma \langle \ell^{-1} d_\Sigma \ell, (1 - P_\ell) \Sigma(\ell^{-1} * d_\Sigma \ell) + P_\ell(\ell^{-1} d_\Sigma \ell) \rangle_\omega \\
 & + \frac{1}{12} \int_{\Sigma \times [0,1]} \langle \hat{\ell}^{-1} d\hat{\ell}, [\hat{\ell}^{-1} d\hat{\ell}, \hat{\ell}^{-1} d\hat{\ell}] \rangle_\omega
 \end{aligned}$$

known as an Σ -model. [Klimčik - Ševera '95]

Example: $\omega = \frac{(z^2 - 1)(b^2 - z^2)}{z^4} dz \quad (1 > b > 0)$

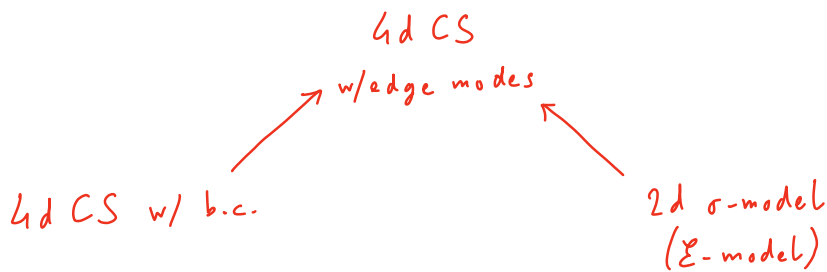
$$\begin{aligned}
 S_\omega^{\text{ext}}(g, u) = & \int_\Sigma \left(\frac{1}{2} (1-b) \langle dg g^{-1}, * dg g^{-1} \rangle \right. \\
 & + \frac{1}{2} b (1-b) \langle du, * du \rangle \\
 & - b \langle dg g^{-1}, du \rangle \\
 & \left. - \frac{1}{6} b^2 \langle u, [du, du] \rangle \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$g \in C^\infty(\Sigma, G)$
 $u \in C^\infty(\Sigma, \mathfrak{g})$



Conclusions:

- Passage from 4d to 2d via edge modes:



* Edge modes via homotopy pull back.

[Mathieu-Murray-Schenkel-Teh '20]

* Generalises to higher order poles in w .

* More general solution to constraint?

- Hamiltonian analysis?

* Hamiltonian integrability (r -matrix, ...)

* Affine Gaudin model description? [BV'19]

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{boundary conditions} \\ \text{in 4d CS theory} \end{array} \right\} \overset{?}{\longleftrightarrow} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{representations} \\ \text{of } \tilde{\mathfrak{g}} \end{array} \right\}$

- Quantization

* Relationship between quantum 4dCS & 2dQIFT?

* Quantum 4dCS vs. affine quantum Gaudin model?

* ...