

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 .

Examples:

1) Sinh-Gordon $\partial_\sigma^2 \phi - \partial_\tau^2 \phi - m^2(e^{2\phi} - e^{-2\phi}) = 0$

$$\mathcal{L}(z) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \partial_z \phi & \frac{m}{2}(ze^\phi + z^{-1}e^{-\phi}) \\ \frac{m}{2}(ze^{-\phi} + z^{-1}e^\phi) & -\frac{1}{2} \partial_z \phi \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{M}(z) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \partial_\sigma \phi & -\frac{m}{2}(ze^\phi - z^{-1}e^{-\phi}) \\ -\frac{m}{2}(ze^{-\phi} - z^{-1}e^\phi) & -\frac{1}{2} \partial_\sigma \phi \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\hookrightarrow d\mathcal{L}(z) + \frac{1}{2}[\mathcal{L}(z), \mathcal{L}(z)] \propto \begin{pmatrix} \text{e.o.m.} & 0 \\ 0 & \text{e.o.m.} \end{pmatrix} d\sigma \wedge d\tau.$$

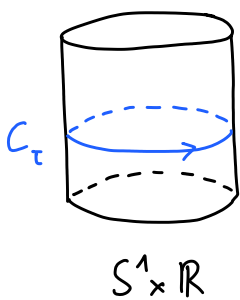
2) Principal chiral model $\partial_+ \underbrace{(g^{-1} \partial_- g)}_{j_-} - \partial_- \underbrace{(g^{-1} \partial_+ g)}_{j_+} = 0.$

Current $j := g^{-1} dg$

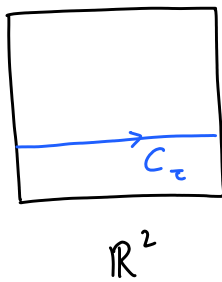
$$\mathcal{L}(z) = \frac{j - z * j}{1 - z^2} = \frac{j_+ d\sigma^+}{1 - z} + \frac{j_- d\sigma^-}{1 + z}$$

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

Infinitely many integrals of motion:



or



$$\partial_\tau \text{tr} \left(P \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{C_\tau} \mathcal{L}(z) \right) = 0$$

Q: What is the origin of the Lax connection?

Algebraic/Hamiltonian origin:

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

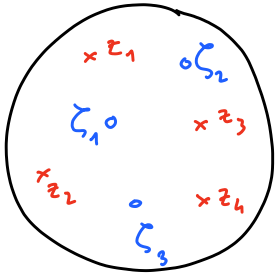
$$\text{dual bases } \{I^{\check{\alpha}}\} = \{I^a \otimes t^n, k, d\}, \{I_{\check{\alpha}}\} = \{I_a \otimes t^{-n}, d, k\}$$

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

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

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

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



$\mathbb{CP}^1 \setminus \{\zeta_j\}$

Where

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

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

Example: Principal chiral model

Gaudin Lax matrix

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

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

Geometric/Lagrangian origin:

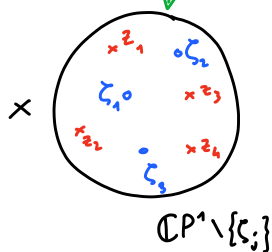
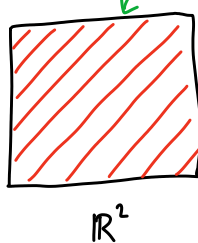
Start from 4d Chern-Simons action:

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

[Costello '13]

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

[Costello-Yamazaki '19]



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

Remark: ω is singular on surface defects:

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

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

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

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

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

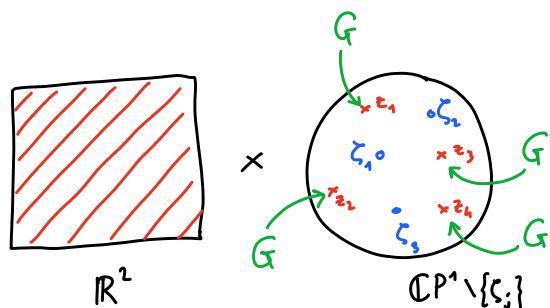
$$\left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Remark: For usual 3dCS, } S_{3d}(A) = \frac{k}{4\pi} \int_{M_3} CS(A) \quad (k \in \mathbb{Z}) \\ S_{3d}(gA) = S_{3d}(A) + 2\pi k N, \text{ for some } N \in \mathbb{Z} \end{array} \right]$$

Define defect (Lie) group

$$G^{\underline{z}} := \prod_{x \in \underline{z}} G$$

and defect (Lie) algebra

$$\mathfrak{g}^{\underline{z}} := \prod_{x \in \underline{z}} \mathfrak{g}$$



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:

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

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

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

[Localised on or
"near" defect D.]

$$\hat{g} \in C^\infty(\Sigma \times [0,1], G^{\mathbb{Z}})$$

$$\text{s.t. } \hat{g}|_0 = \iota^* g, \hat{g}|_1 = e.$$

Two ways of ensuring gauge invariance:

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

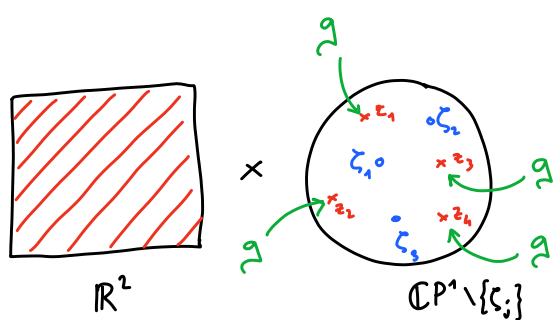
$$\langle\langle X, Y \rangle\rangle_\omega = 0 \quad \forall X, Y \in \mathfrak{k}.$$

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

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



$$\iota^* A = (A|_x)_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} \in \Omega^1(\Sigma, \mathfrak{k})$$

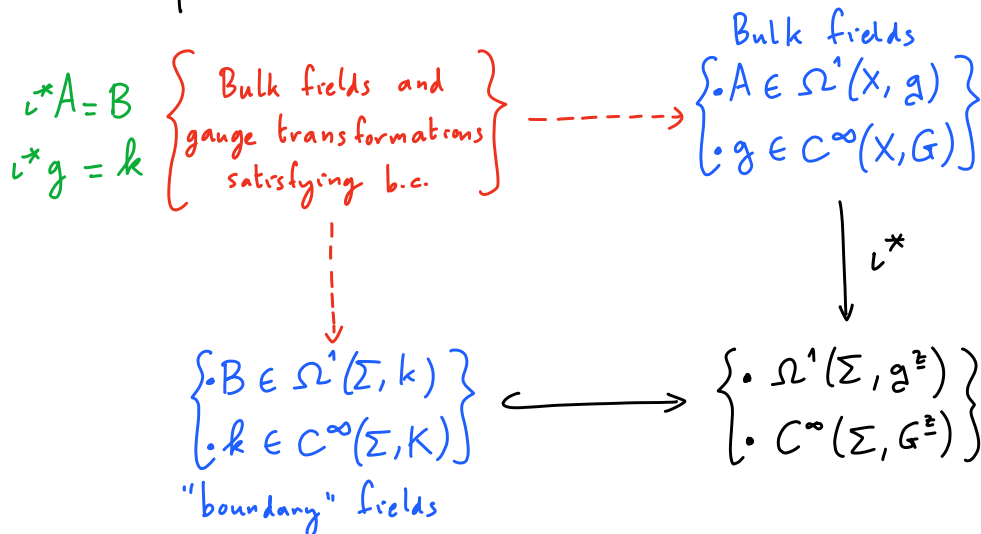
$$A|_x \in \Omega^1(\Sigma, \mathfrak{g})$$

"non-local" boundary condition on \mathbb{CP}^1 .

Theorem (Benini-Schenkel-BV)

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

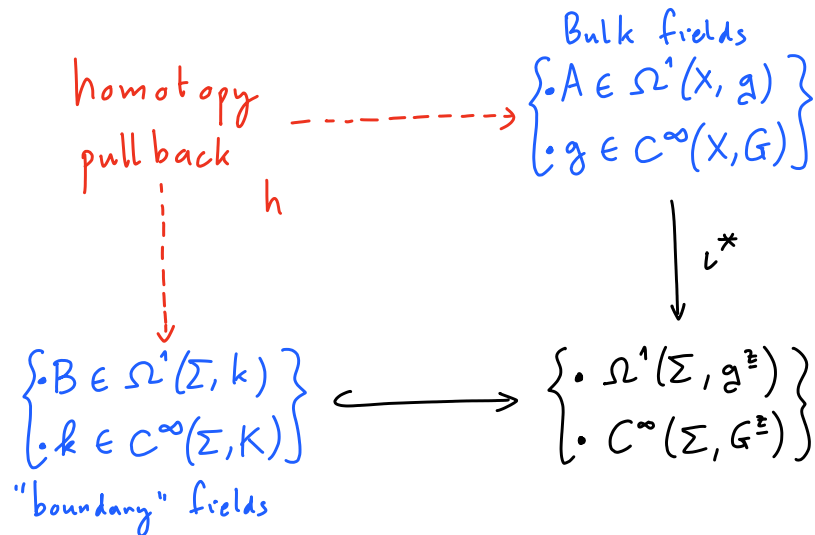
Summary: Strict boundary conditions imposed via a pullback construction:



2) Homotopical boundary conditions

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

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



A model for the homotopy pullback:

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

↙ edge mode

• Gauge transformations: $(g \in C^\infty(X, G), h \in C^\infty(\Sigma, K))$

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

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

Couple edge mode to gauge field:

$$S_\omega^{\text{ext}}(A, h) := S_\omega(A) - \frac{1}{2} \int_\Sigma \ll h^{-1} d_\Sigma h, i^*A \gg_\omega$$

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

$\hat{h} \in C^{\infty}(\Sigma \times [0,1])$
 s.t. $\hat{h}|_0 = h, \hat{h}|_1 = e.$

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

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

• Step 1: Restrict attention to

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

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

Extended action now reads:

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

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

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

Equations of motion:

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

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

[N.B.: Flatness of $\iota^* \mathcal{L} \in \Omega^1(\Sigma, \mathbb{G}^{\frac{3}{2}})$
and not of $\mathcal{L} \in \Omega^1(X, \mathbb{G})$.]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(defect e.o.m.)

Extended action now reads:

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

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

and equations of motion now read:

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

• Step 3: Solve the constraint

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

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 ∞ : $(\mathbb{Z}' := \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{\infty\})$

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

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

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

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

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

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

To satisfy admissibility condition (c), require

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

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

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

We have (under mild assumptions)

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

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

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

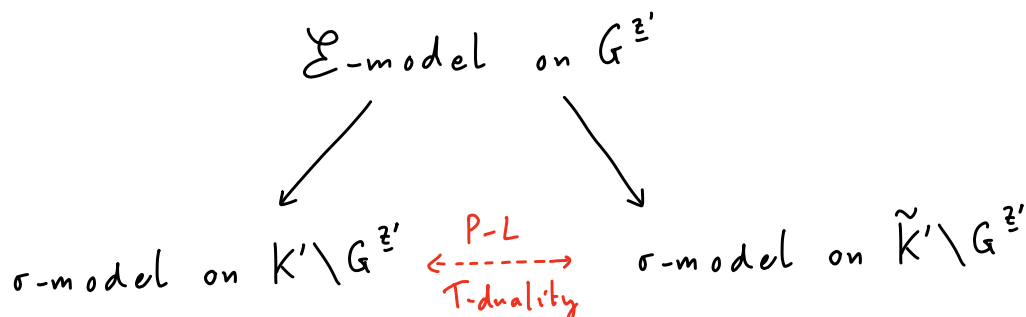
$$j^* \mathcal{L} = (1 - P_\ell) \mathfrak{E}(\ell^{-1} * d_\Sigma \ell) + P_\ell(\ell^{-1} d_\Sigma \ell).$$

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

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

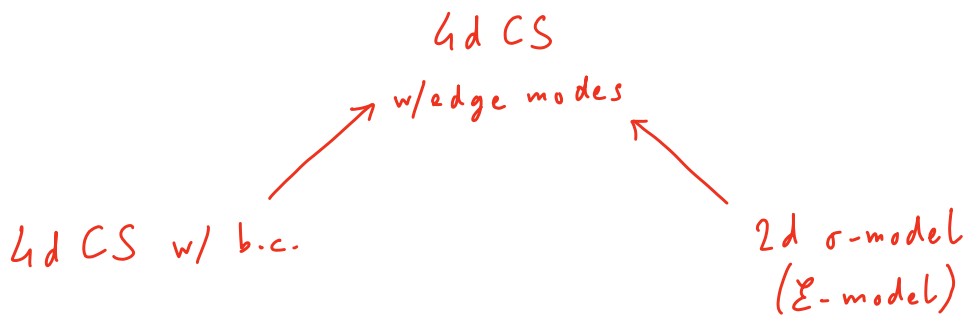
known as an \mathfrak{E} -model.

[Klimčík - Ševera '95]



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?

* ...