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PT-symmetry breaking in complex nonlinear wave equations and their deformations

Andreas Fring

Quantum Physics with Non-Hermitian Operators
Max Planck Institute, Dresden 15-25 June 2011

based on arXiv:1103.1832 (accepted for publ. in J. Phys. A.)
Andrea Cavaglia (City University), Bijan Bagchi (Calcutta University)



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8th UK meeting on Integrable Models, Conformal Field Theory and Related Topics

Edinburgh, 16 & 17 April 2004

[Scientific Programme & Timetable](#) | [Meeting Arrangements](#) | [Registration Form](#) | [Participants List](#)

The proposed meeting is to be the eighth in a series of annual one-day meetings on this topic. The main aims of the meeting are:

- The dissemination, explanation and discussion of recent exciting results in this field.
- To promote communication and collaboration within the UK Integrable Models and Conformal Field Theory community, and to bring mathematicians and physicists working in this area together.
- To act as a forum for young researchers to present their work and to become known and integrated into the community.

Speakers:

Carl Bender (Washington)

Richard Blythe (Manchester)

Alexandre Caldeira (Oxford)

Vladimir Dobrev (Newcastle)

Andreas Fring (City)

Yiannis Papadimitriou (Amsterdam)

Ulf Schramm (Göteborg)

Integrable models and PT-symmetry

● Calogero-Moser-Sutherland models

- A. Fring, Mod. Phys. Lett. A21 (2006) 691
- A. Fring, Acta Polytechnica 47 (2007) 44
- A. Fring, M. Znojil, J. Phys. A41 (2008) 194010
- P. Assis, A. Fring, J. Phys. A42 (2009) 425206
- P. Assis, A. Fring, J. Phys. A42 (2009) 105206
- A. Fring, Pramana J. of Physics 73 (2009) 363
- A. Fring, M. Smith, J. Phys. A43 (2010) 325201
- A. Fring, M. Smith, Int. J. of Theor. Phys. 50 (2011) 974
- talk by M.Smith Thursday 23/06 11:45

● Quantum spin chains

- O. Castro-Alvaredo, A. Fring, J. Phys. A42 (2009) 465211

● Nonlinear-wave equations (KdV)

- A. Fring, J. Phys. A40 (2007) 4215
- B. Bagchi, A. Fring, J. Phys. A41 (2008) 392004
- P. Assis, A. Fring, Pramana J. of Physics 74 (2010) 857

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What is the behaviour of standard quantities in dynamical systems when they are complexified?

Three different scenarios:

- \mathcal{PT} -symmetry

$$[\mathcal{PT}, H] = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{PT}\Phi = \Phi$$

- spontaneously broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetry

$$[\mathcal{PT}, H] = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{PT}\Phi \neq \Phi$$

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Quantities of interest:

- energy

$$E = \int_{-a}^a \mathcal{H}[u(x)] dx = \oint_{\Gamma} \mathcal{H}[u(x)] \frac{du}{u_x}$$

- fixed points
- asymptotic behaviour
- k-limit cycles
- bifurcations
- chaos

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The KdV system:

Hamiltonian:

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{KdV}} = -\frac{\beta}{6}u^3 + \frac{\gamma}{2}u_x^2 \quad \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{C}$$

equation of motion:

$$u_t + \beta uu_x + \gamma u_{xxx} = 0$$

Antilinear symmetries:

$$\mathcal{PT}_+ : x \mapsto -x, t \mapsto -t, i \mapsto -i, u \mapsto u \quad \text{for } \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$$

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- Integrating twice:

$$u_\zeta^2 = \frac{2}{\gamma} \left(\kappa_2 + \kappa_1 u + \frac{c}{2} u^2 - \frac{\beta}{6} u^3 \right) =: \lambda P(u)$$

with integration constants $\kappa_1, \kappa_2 \in \mathbb{C}$

- traveling wave: $u(x, t) = u(\zeta)$ with $\zeta = x - ct$
- view this as a 2 dimensional dynamical systems:

$$u_\zeta^R = \pm \operatorname{Re} \left[\sqrt{\lambda} \sqrt{P(u^R + iu^I)} \right]$$

$$u_\zeta^I = \pm \operatorname{Im} \left[\sqrt{\lambda} \sqrt{P(u^R + iu^I)} \right]$$

- the fixed points are the zeros of $P(u)$:

$$u_\zeta^R = 0$$

$$u_\zeta^I = 0$$

\mathcal{PT} -symmetric, spontaneously broken and broken solutions

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Linearisation at the fixed point u_f :

$$\begin{pmatrix} u_\zeta^R \\ u_\zeta^I \end{pmatrix} = J(u^R, u^I) \Big|_{u=u_f} \begin{pmatrix} u_\zeta^R \\ u_\zeta^I \end{pmatrix}$$

with Jacobian matrix

$$J(u^R, u^I) \Big|_{u=u_f} = \begin{pmatrix} \pm \frac{\partial \operatorname{Re}[\sqrt{\lambda} \sqrt{P(u)}]}{\partial u^R} & \pm \frac{\partial \operatorname{Re}[\sqrt{\lambda} \sqrt{P(u)}]}{\partial u^I} \\ \pm \frac{\partial \operatorname{Im}[\sqrt{\lambda} \sqrt{P(u)}]}{\partial u^R} & \pm \frac{\partial \operatorname{Im}[\sqrt{\lambda} \sqrt{P(u)}]}{\partial u^I} \end{pmatrix} \Big|_{u=u_f}$$

Linearisation theorem: *Consider a nonlinear system which possesses a simple linearisation at some fixed point. Then in a neighbourhood of the fixed point the phase portraits of the linear system and its linearisation are qualitatively equivalent, if the eigenvalues of the Jacobian matrix have a nonzero real part, i.e. the linearized system is not a centre.*

\mathcal{PT} -symmetric, spontaneously broken and broken solutions (trigonometric)

assume: $P(u) = (u - A)^2(u - B)$, which is possible for

$$\lambda = -\frac{\beta}{3\gamma}, \quad \kappa_1 = \frac{A}{2}(\beta A - 2c), \quad \kappa_2 = \frac{A^2}{6}(3c - 2\beta A), \quad B = \frac{3c}{\beta} - 2A$$

then (with one free parameter):

$$u(\zeta) = B + (A - B) \tanh^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{A - B} \sqrt{\lambda} (\zeta - \zeta_0) \right]$$

linearisation: $(A - B = r_{AB} e^{i\theta_{AB}}, \lambda = r_\lambda e^{i\theta_\lambda})$

$$J(A) = \begin{pmatrix} \pm \sqrt{r_{AB} r_\lambda} \cos \left[\frac{1}{2}(\theta_{AB} + \theta_\lambda) \right] & \mp \sqrt{r_{AB} r_\lambda} \sin \left[\frac{1}{2}(\theta_{AB} + \theta_\lambda) \right] \\ \pm \sqrt{r_{AB} r_\lambda} \sin \left[\frac{1}{2}(\theta_{AB} + \theta_\lambda) \right] & \pm \sqrt{r_{AB} r_\lambda} \cos \left[\frac{1}{2}(\theta_{AB} + \theta_\lambda) \right] \end{pmatrix}$$

with eigenvalues ($\in i\mathbb{R}$ for $A < B$, $\lambda > 0$ or $A > B$, $\lambda < 0$)

$$j_1 = \pm \sqrt{r_{AB} r_\lambda} \exp \left[\frac{i}{2}(\theta_{AB} + \theta_\lambda) \right]$$

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Energy for the periodic motion for one period:

$$E_T = \oint_{\Gamma} \mathcal{H}[u(\zeta)] \frac{du}{u_{\zeta}} = \oint_{\Gamma} \frac{\mathcal{H}[u]}{\sqrt{\lambda} \sqrt{u-B}(u-A)} du = -\pi \sqrt{\frac{\beta\gamma}{3}} \frac{A^3}{\sqrt{A-B}}$$

In general:

- $E_T \in \mathbb{R}$ for \mathcal{PT} -symmetric solution
- $E_T \in \mathbb{C}$ for spontaneously broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetric solution
- $E_T \in \mathbb{C}$ for broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetric solution

But:

$$E_T \in \mathbb{R} \quad \text{for } A = \frac{\sin \theta_{\gamma}}{|\beta| \sin(\theta_{\gamma} - 2\theta_{\beta}/3)} \exp\left(-i \frac{\theta_{\beta}}{3}\right).$$

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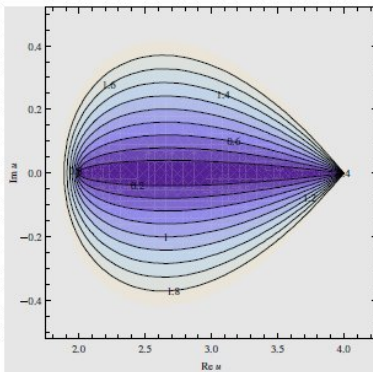
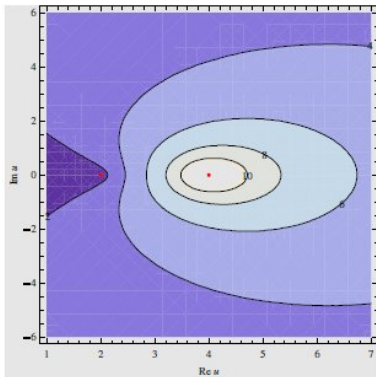
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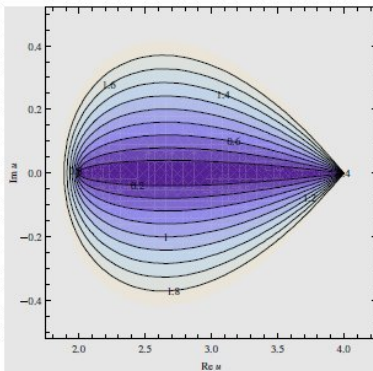
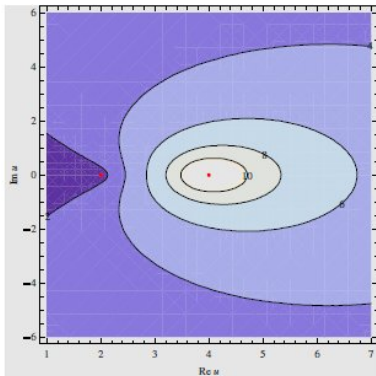
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\mathcal{PT} -symmetric solution:

(a) periodic: $c = 1$, $\beta = 3/10$, $\gamma = 3$, $A = 4$, $B = 2$, $T = 2\sqrt{15}\pi$

(b) asympt. constant: $c = 1$, $\beta = 3/10$, $\gamma = -3$, $A = 4$, $B = 2$

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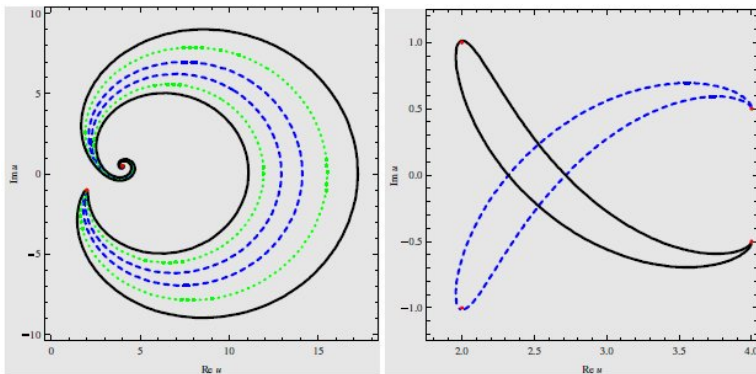
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\mathcal{PT} -symmetric, spontaneously broken and broken solutions (trigonometric)

spontaneously broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetric solution:



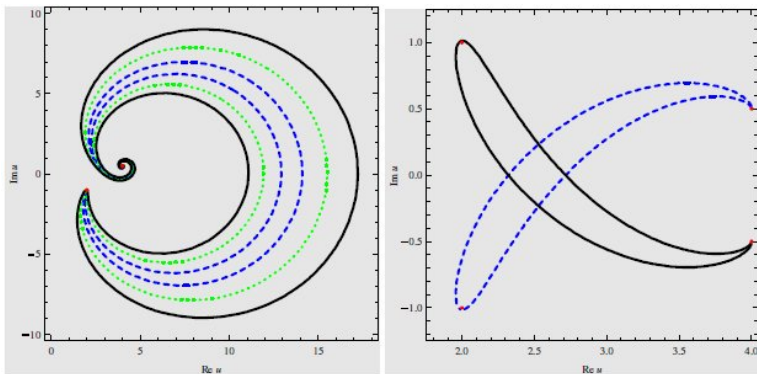
(a) periodic: $c = 1$, $\beta = \frac{3}{10}$, $\gamma = 3$, $A = 4 + \frac{i}{2}$ and $B = 2 - i$ for
 $\text{Im } \zeta_0 = 0.5$ black, $\text{Im } \zeta_0 = 0.3$ green $\text{Im } \zeta_0 = 0.1$ blue

(b) asympt. constant: $c = 1$, $\beta = \frac{3}{10}$, $\gamma = -3$ for $A = 4 - \frac{i}{2}$,
 $B = 2 + i$ $\text{Im } \zeta_0 = -0.5$ black; $A = A^*$, $B = B^*$, $\text{Im } \zeta_0 = 0.5$ blue

$E_T \in \mathbb{C}$

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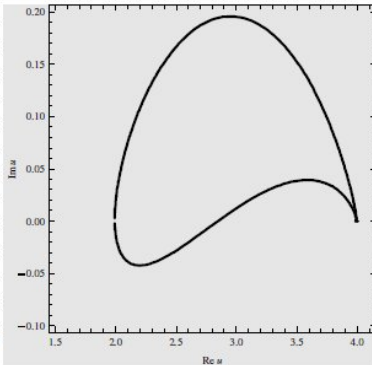
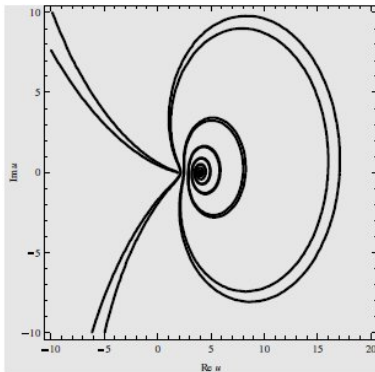
(a) periodic: $c = 1$, $\beta = \frac{3}{10}$, $\gamma = 3$, $A = 4 + \frac{i}{2}$ and $B = 2 - i$ for $\text{Im } \zeta_0 = 0.5$ black, $\text{Im } \zeta_0 = 0.3$ green $\text{Im } \zeta_0 = 0.1$ blue

(b) asympt. constant: $c = 1$, $\beta = \frac{3}{10}$, $\gamma = -3$ for $A = 4 - \frac{i}{2}$, $B = 2 + i$ $\text{Im } \zeta_0 = -0.5$ black; $A = A^*$, $B = B^*$, $\text{Im } \zeta_0 = 0.5$ blue

$E_T \in \mathbb{C}$

\mathcal{PT} -symmetric, spontaneously broken and broken solutions (trigonometric)

broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetric solution:



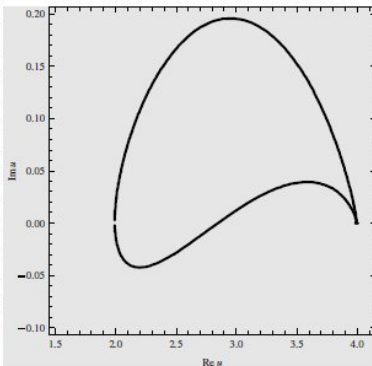
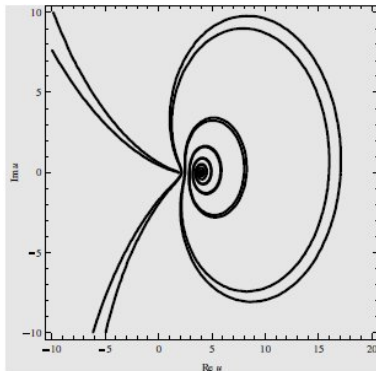
(a) periodic: $A = 4$, $B = 2$, $c = 1$, $\beta = \frac{3}{10}$, $\gamma = 3 + \frac{i}{2}$, $\text{Im } \zeta_0 = 6$

(b) asympt. constant: $A = 4$, $B = 2$, $c = 1$, $\beta = \frac{3}{10}$, $\gamma = -3 + \frac{i}{2}$,
 $\text{Im } \zeta_0 = 1/2$

$E_T \in \mathbb{C}$

\mathcal{PT} -symmetric, spontaneously broken and broken solutions (trigonometric)

broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetric solution:

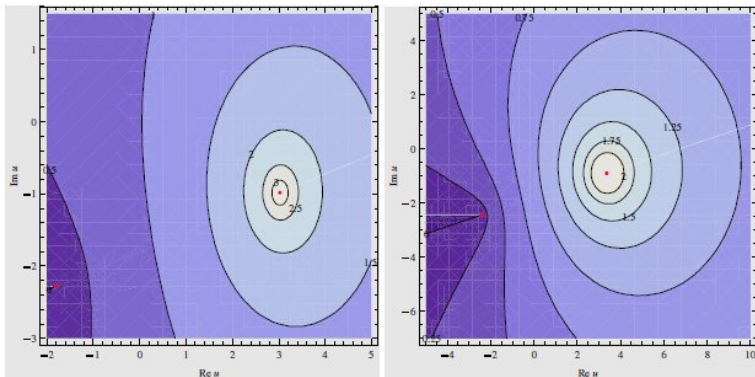


(a) periodic: $A = 4$, $B = 2$, $c = 1$, $\beta = \frac{3}{10}$, $\gamma = 3 + \frac{i}{2}$, $\text{Im } \zeta_0 = 6$

(b) asympt. constant: $A = 4$, $B = 2$, $c = 1$, $\beta = \frac{3}{10}$, $\gamma = -3 + \frac{i}{2}$,
 $\text{Im } \zeta_0 = 1/2$

$E_T \in \mathbb{C}$

broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetric solution:



- (a) periodic solution with complex energy $E_T = -10.52 + i1.67$
 (b) periodic solution with real energy $E_T = -4\pi$

assume: $P(u) = (u - A)(u - B)(u - C)$, which is possible for

$$\lambda = -\frac{\beta}{3\gamma}, \quad \kappa_1 = \frac{1}{6} [\beta(A^2 + AC + C^2) - 3c(A - C)]$$

$$\kappa_2 = \frac{AC}{6} [3c - \beta(A + C)] \quad \text{and} \quad B = \frac{3c}{\beta} - (A + C)$$

then (with two free parameter):

$$u(\zeta) = A + (B - A) \operatorname{ns}^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{B - A} \sqrt{\lambda} (\zeta - \zeta_0) \middle| \frac{A - C}{A - B} \right]$$

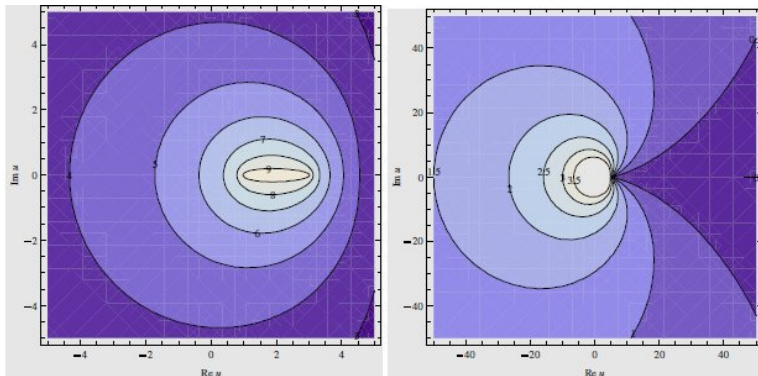
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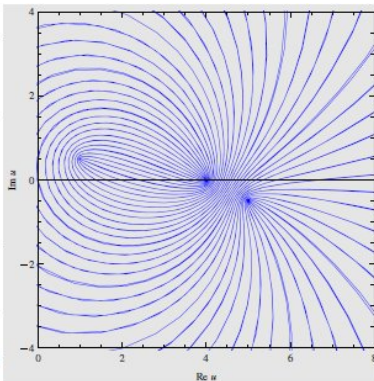
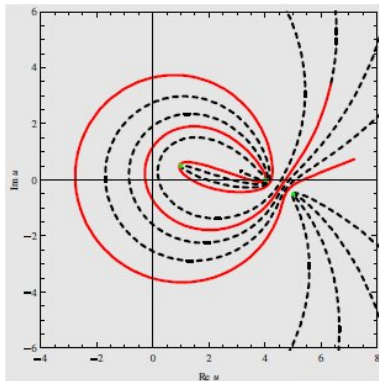
then (with two free parameter):

$$u(\zeta) = A + (B - A) \operatorname{ns}^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{B - A} \sqrt{\lambda} (\zeta - \zeta_0) \left| \frac{A - C}{A - B} \right. \right]$$

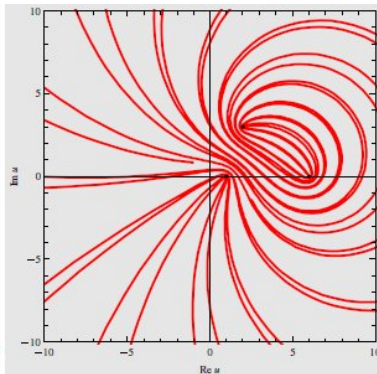
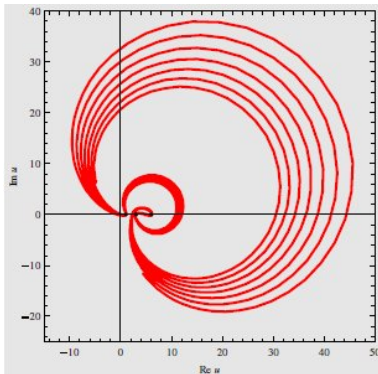
\mathcal{PT} -symmetric solution:

$$A = 1, B = 3, C = 6, c = 1, \beta = 3/10, \gamma = -3$$

spontaneously broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetric solution:



- (a) $-64 \leq \zeta \leq 18$ solid (red) and $18 < \zeta \leq 200$ dashed (black)
 (b) $-200 < \zeta < 1400$

broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetric solution:

(a) $A = 1$, $B = 3$, $C = 6$, $c = 1$, $\beta = 3/10$ and $\gamma = 3 + 2i$ for $-200 \leq \zeta \leq 200$;

(b) $A = 1$, $B = 2 + 3i$, $C = 6$, $c = 1$, $\beta = 3/10 - i/10$ and $\gamma = 3$ for $-200 \leq \zeta \leq 200$

Reduction to quantum mechanical Hamiltonians:

For instance:

$$u \rightarrow x, \quad \zeta \rightarrow t, \quad \kappa_1 = 0, \quad \kappa_2 = \gamma E, \quad \beta = 6cg, \quad \gamma = -c$$

converts

$$u_\zeta^2 = \frac{2}{\gamma} \left(\kappa_2 + \kappa_1 u + \frac{c}{2} u^2 - \frac{\beta}{6} u^3 \right)$$

into Newton's equations for

$$H = E = \frac{1}{2} p^2 + \frac{1}{2} x^2 - gx^3$$

treated in

[C. Bender, D. Brody, D. Hook, Phys. A41 (2008) 352003]

Soliton solutions:

Hirota's bilinear method ($u(x, t) = \frac{12\gamma}{\beta} (\ln \tau)_{xx}$)

$$\frac{6\gamma}{\beta} \left(\gamma D_x^4 + D_x D_t \right) \tau \cdot \tau = 0$$

one soliton solution:

$$u(x, t) = \frac{3\gamma p_1^2}{\beta \cosh^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} (p_1 x - \gamma p_1^3 t + \phi_1) \right]}$$

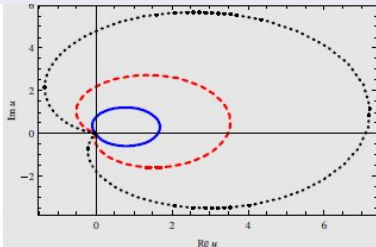
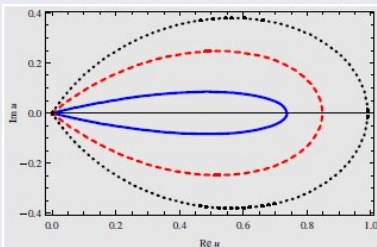
two soliton solution:

$$u(x, t) = \frac{24\gamma \sum_{k=0}^6 c_k (-1)^k p_2^k p_1^{6-k}}{\beta (p_1 + p_2)^4 \left[2 \cosh \left(\frac{1}{2} (\eta_1 - \eta_2) \right) + e^{-\frac{\eta_1}{2} - \frac{\eta_2}{2}} \left(\frac{e^{\eta_1 + \eta_2} (p_1 - p_2)^4}{(p_1 + p_2)^4} + 1 \right) \right]^2}$$

where we abbreviated $\eta_i = p_i x - \gamma p_i^3 t + \phi_i$ for $i = 1, 2$ with

$$c_0 = 1 + \cosh \eta_2, \quad c_1 = 4 \sinh \eta_2, \quad c_2 = \cosh \eta_1 + 6 \cosh \eta_2 - 1, \quad c_3 = 4 (\sinh \eta_1 + \sinh \eta_2)$$

and $c_i(\eta_1, \eta_2) = c_{6-i}(\eta_2, \eta_1)$

\mathcal{PT} -symmetric complex one-soliton solution

(a) \mathcal{PT} -symmetric solution with $\beta = 6$, $\gamma = 1$, $p_1 = 1.2$ for $\phi = i0.3$ blue, $\phi = i0.8$ red, $\phi = i1.1$ black, $t = -2$

(b) Broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetric solution $\beta = 6$, $\gamma = 1 + i0.4$, $p_1 = 1.2$ for $\phi = i0.3$ blue, $\phi = i0.8$ red, $\phi = i1.1$ black $t = -2$

\mathcal{PT} -symmetric complex one-soliton solution

$$\beta = 6, \gamma = 1, p_1 = 1.2, \phi = i0.3,$$

Complex one-soliton solution with broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetry

$$\beta = 6, \gamma = 1 + i0.4, p_1 = 1.2, \phi = i0.3,$$

We obtain a breather regaining its shape when:

$$u(x + \Delta_x, t) = u(x, t + \Delta_t)$$

with

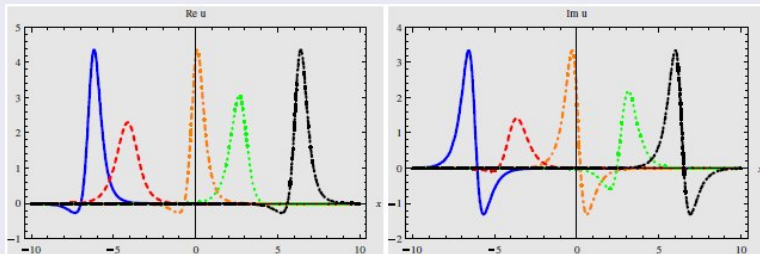
$$\Delta_t = \frac{2\pi p_r}{(p_i^4 - p_r^4) \gamma_i - 2p_i p_r (p_i^2 + p_r^2) \gamma_r}$$

$$\Delta_x = 2\pi \frac{p_i (3p_r^2 - p_i^2) \gamma_i + 2\pi p_r (3p_i^2 - p_r^2) \gamma_r}{(p_i^4 - p_r^4) \gamma_i - 2p_i p_r (p_i^2 + p_r^2) \gamma_r}$$

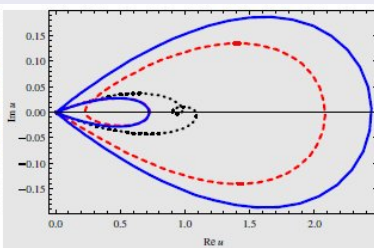
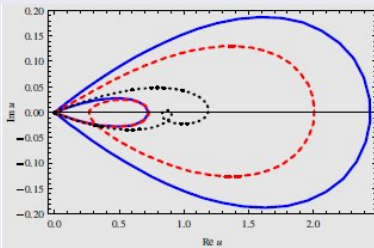
speed of the soliton:

$$v = -\frac{\Delta_x}{\Delta_t} = (3p_i^2 - p_r^2) \gamma_r - \frac{p_i (p_i^2 - 3p_r^2) \gamma_i}{p_r}$$

Complex one-soliton solution with broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetry

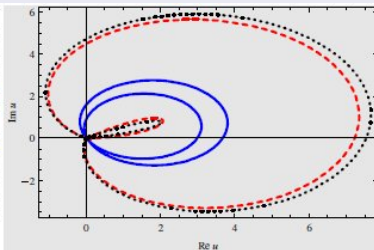
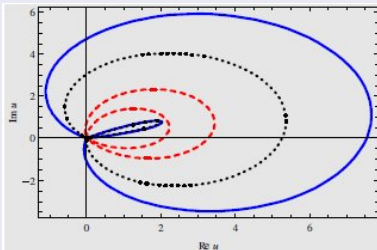


$\beta = 6$, $\gamma = 1 + i/2$, $p_1 = 2$, $\phi = i0.8$ and $\Delta_t = -\pi/2$ for different times $t = -\pi/2$ solid (blue), $t = -1$ dashed (red), $t = 0$ dasheddot (orange), $t = 0.7$ dotted (green), and $t = \pi/2$ dasheddotdot (black) (a) real part; (b) imaginary part

\mathcal{PT} -symmetric two soliton solution

$\beta = 6$, $\gamma = 1$, $p_1 = 1.2$, $p_2 = 2.2$, $\phi_1 = i0.1$ and $\phi_2 = i0.2$. (a) $t = -2$ solid (blue), $t = -0.2$ dashed (red), $t = 0.2$ dotted (black); (b) $t = 0.3$ dotted (black), $t = 0.8$ dashed (red), $t = 2.0$ solid (blue)

Two soliton solution with broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetry



$\beta = 6$, $\gamma = 1 + i\pi/8$, $p_1 = 2(2/3)^{1/3}$, $p_2 = 2$, $\phi_1 = i0.1$ and $\phi_2 = i0.2$. (a) $t = -4$ solid (blue), $t = -3.5$ dashed (red), $t = -2$ dotted (black); (b) $t = 0.7$ solid (blue), $t = 2$ dashed (red), $t = 8$ dotted (black)

$\Delta_t^1 = -3$, $\Delta_t^2 = -2$,

\mathcal{PT} -symmetric complex two-soliton solution

Real part for: $\beta = 6$, $\gamma = 1$, $p_1 = 1.2$, $p_2 = 2.2$, $\phi_1 = i0.1$,
 $\phi_2 = i0.2$

Complex two-soliton solution with broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetry

Real part for: $\beta = 6$, $\gamma = 1 + i\pi/8$, $p_1 = 2(2/3)^{1/3}$, $p_2 = 2$,
 $\phi_1 = i0.1$ and $\phi_2 = i0.2$

Energy for the one-soliton:

$$E_{1s} = -\frac{36\gamma^3 p_1^5}{5\beta^2}$$

Energy for the two-soliton:

- \mathcal{PT} -symmetric case:

$$E_{2s} \approx -10.8049 = E_{1s}(p_1) + E_{1s}(p_2)$$

- Broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetric case:

$$E_{2s} \approx -7.8876 - i9.4327 = E_{1s}(p_1) + E_{1s}(p_2)$$

The $\mathcal{H}_\varepsilon^-$ -models

Integrating twice gives now:

$$u_\zeta^2 = \frac{2}{\gamma} \left(\kappa_2 + \kappa_1 u + \frac{c}{2} u^2 - \beta \frac{i^\varepsilon}{(1+\varepsilon)(2+\varepsilon)} u^{2+\varepsilon} \right) =: \lambda Q(u)$$

where

$$\lambda = -\frac{2\beta i^\varepsilon}{\gamma(1+\varepsilon)(2+\varepsilon)}$$

For $\kappa_1 = \kappa_2 = 0$

$$u(\zeta) = \left(\frac{c(\varepsilon+1)(\varepsilon+2)}{i^\varepsilon \beta \left[\cosh \left(\frac{\sqrt{c\varepsilon}(\zeta-\zeta_0)}{\sqrt{\gamma}} \right) + 1 \right]} \right)^{1/\varepsilon}$$

- \mathcal{H}_2^- :
≡ complex version of the modified KdV-equation
- \mathcal{H}_4^- :
assume $Q(u) = u^2(u^2 - B^2)(u^2 - C^2)$, possible for

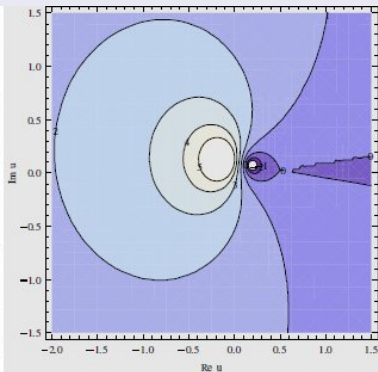
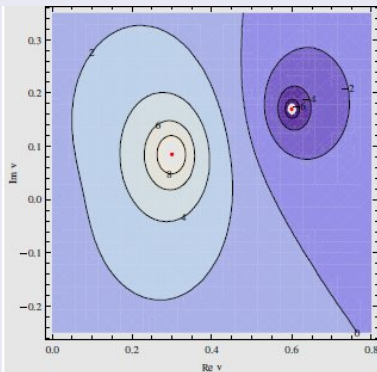
$$\kappa_1 = \kappa_2 = 0, \quad B = iC \quad \text{and} \quad C^4 = \frac{15c}{\beta}$$

eigenvalues of Jacobian:

$$j_1 = \pm i\sqrt{r_\lambda} r_B^2 \exp\left[\frac{i}{2}(4\theta_B + \theta_\lambda)\right]$$

$$j_2 = \mp i\sqrt{r_\lambda} r_B^2 \exp\left[-\frac{i}{2}(4\theta_B + \theta_\lambda)\right]$$

Periodic trajectories for type II broken \mathcal{PT} -symmetry



$$E_{T_A} \approx -0.4275$$

(a) v -field

(b) u -field

Thank you for your attention