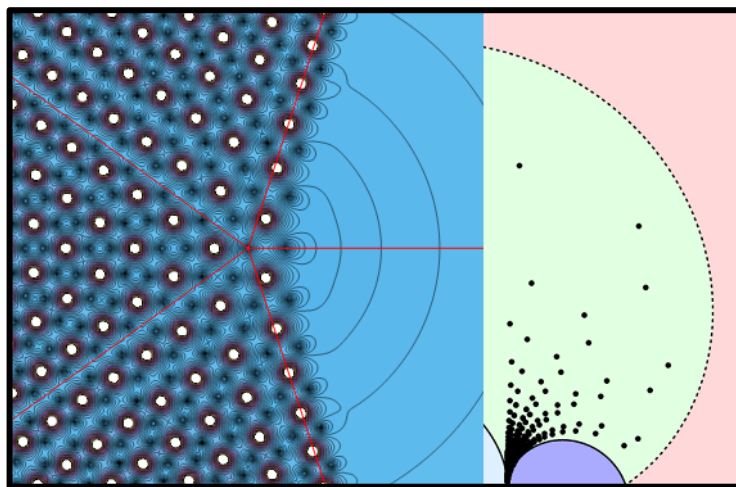


# Physics and Mathematics of 2d Gravity

*From movability to modularity in Painlevé I*



Marcel Vonk (University of Amsterdam)  
*Resurgence in Gauge and String Theory*  
KITP Santa Barbara, 31 October 2017

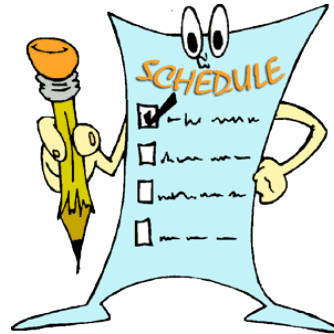
This talk and Inês Aniceto's talk go together and form an overview of recent work with Ricardo Schiappa.



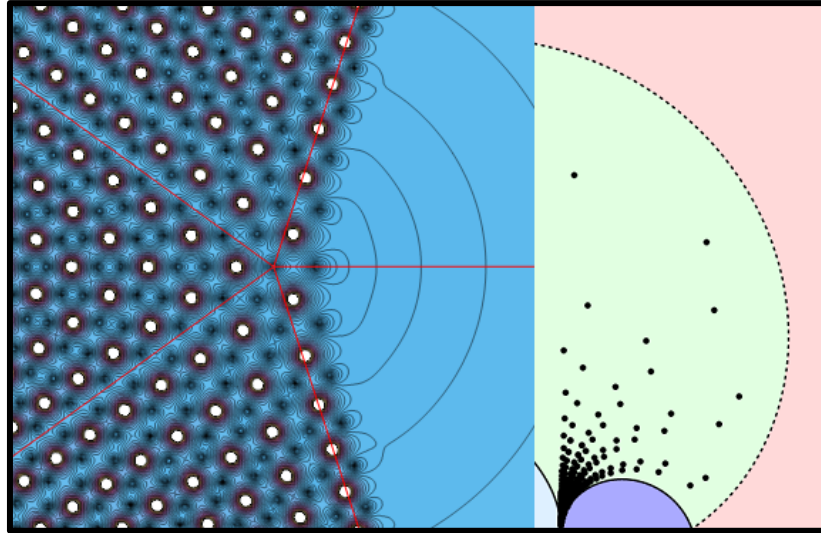
**Goal:** in a tractable setting, get a **full** understanding of the physics and mathematics encoded in resurgent asymptotic (trans)series.

Aniceto, Schiappa, Vonk – to appear

# Outline



1. Motivation: 2D quantum gravity and Painlevé I
2. Painlevé I: properties
3. Transseries solution
4. Analytic transseries summation: linear case
5. Analytic transseries summation: quadratic case
6. The second parameter
7. Conclusion and outlook



# 1. Motivation: 2D quantum gravity and Painlevé I

# 2D quantum gravity

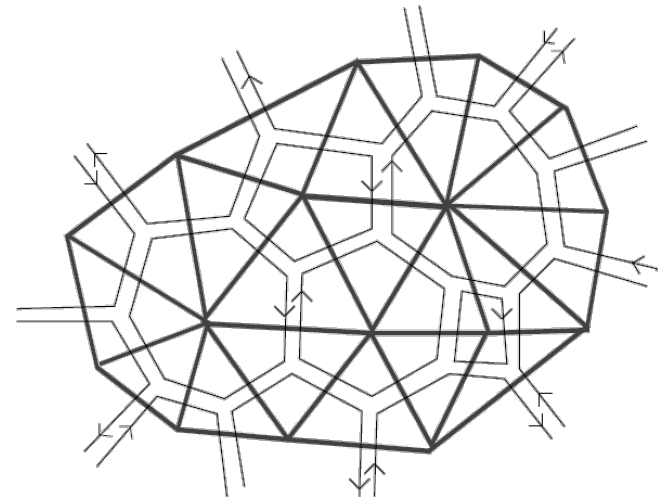
Some physics background on the problem we study. A (more than) 25-year-old story!

- A good candidate to investigate quantum gravity is **string theory**.
- What is the simplest string theory one can study?
- Discretize world sheet: **matrix models!**

Douglas, Shenker – 1990

Brézin, Kazakov – 1990

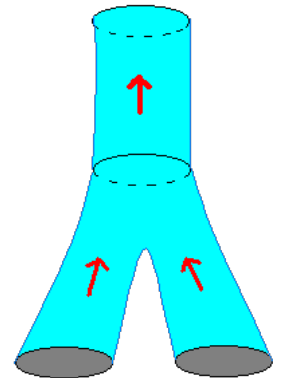
Gross, Migdal – 1990



(Image: Ginsparg/Moore)

# 2D quantum gravity

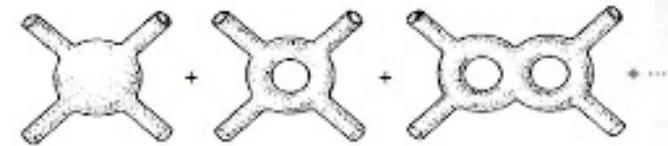
- Choice and scaling determines which **target space** theory we study.
- $1/N$  (size of the matrix) is related to the **string coupling constant**. Interested in a large  $N$  expansion.
- Strict large  $N$  limit: **tree level strings** in 0D. But one can do more!
- Scale matrix couplings too: pure gravity coupled to minimal CFTs. Simplest nontrivial case: **(2,3) minimal model**.



# 2D quantum gravity

- Partition function can be expressed in terms of a simple **function**  $u(z)$ .
- The scaled version of the string coupling constant is  $z^{-5/4}$  : **large z** expansion.

- Asymptotic expansion, formally satisfies the **Painlevé I** ODE.



(Image: Green/Schwarz/Witten)

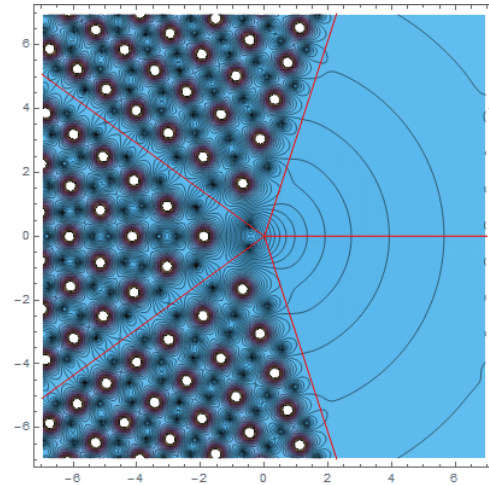
- Can one **sum this** into an actual function?
- This talk: Painlevé I. Inês Aniceto's talk: also matrix model.



# The Painlevé I equation

In mathematics, the story is even older: 100-year-old problem.

- Paul Painlevé (1863-1933) studied second order ODEs whose only moveable singularities are poles.
- 6 classes found: **Painlevé transcendants**. We are interested in Painlevé I.
- Boutroux classified its solutions in 1913.

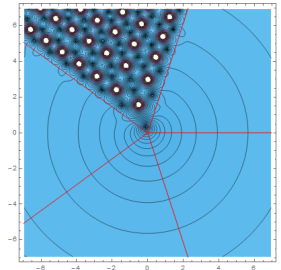
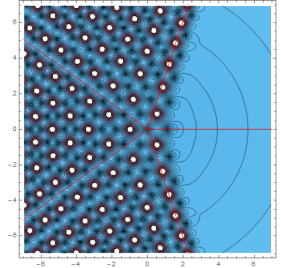
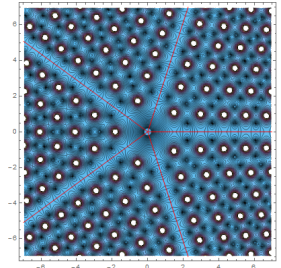




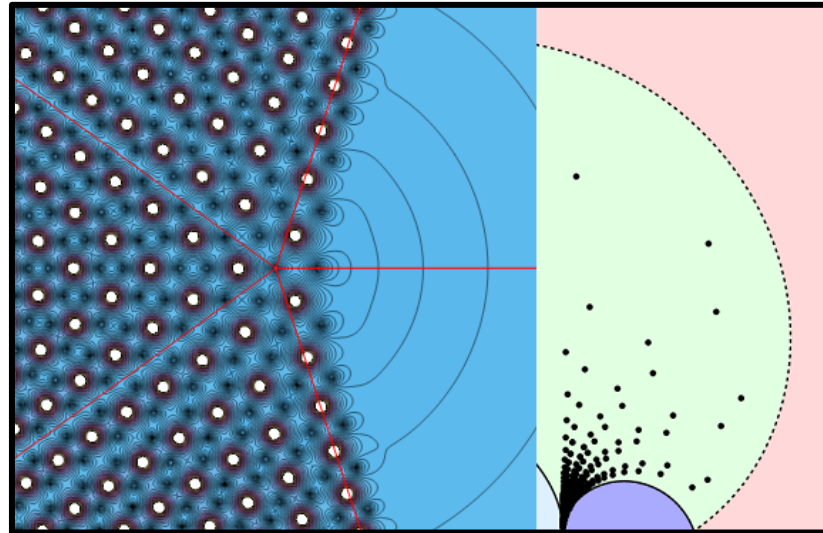
# The Painlevé I equation

2<sup>nd</sup> order ODE: 2 integration parameters.

- A **generic solution** has poles throughout the complex plane.
- The ***tronquées* solutions** (1 parameter) have two “empty quintants”.
- The ***tritronquées* solutions** (discrete set) have four empty quintants.



How does this relate to formal solutions?



## 2. Painlevé I: properties

# The Painlevé I equation

Painlevé I: 
$$u^2(z) - \frac{1}{6}u''(z) = z$$

Some **properties**:

1) The equation has the symmetry

$$z \rightarrow e^{2\pi i/5} z, \quad u \rightarrow e^{-4\pi i/5} u$$

As a result, there is a  $\mathbf{Z}_5$ -action on the space of solutions. Moreover, the  $z$ -plane can be divided into **five sectors** where the solutions may have different asymptotics.

# The Painlevé I equation

$$u^2(z) - \frac{1}{6}u''(z) = z$$

2) All poles are **double poles** with the same leading coefficient:

$$u(z) = \frac{1}{(z - z_0)^2} + \frac{3z_0}{5}(z - z_0)^2 + (z - z_0)^3 + h(z - z_0)^4 + \mathcal{O}((z - z_0)^5)$$

Note the second parameter,  $h$ .

Generic solution has **infinitely many poles** throughout the complex  $z$ -plane.

# The Painlevé I equation

$$u(z) = \frac{1}{(z - z_0)^2} + \frac{3z_0}{5}(z - z_0)^2 + (z - z_0)^3 + h(z - z_0)^4 + \mathcal{O}((z - z_0)^5)$$

In physics, one is often interested in the associated **free energy** and **partition function**:

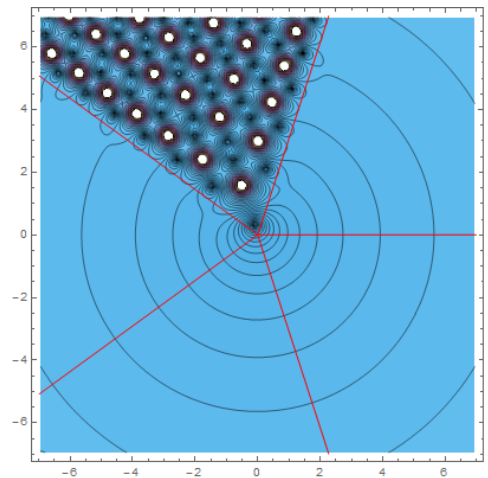
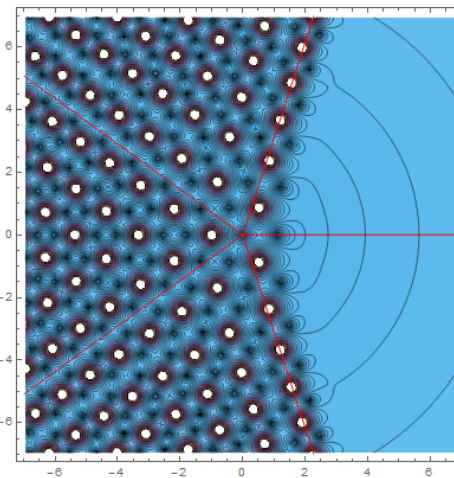
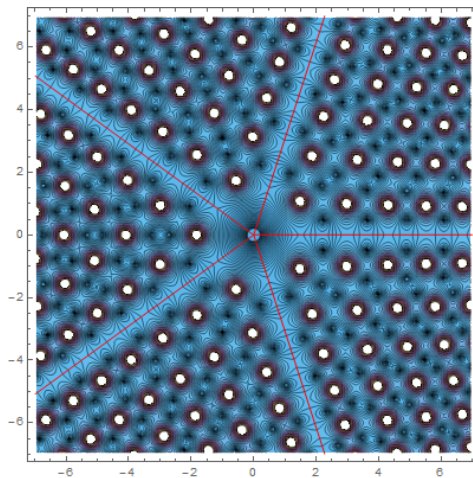
$$F''(z) = -u(z), \quad Z(z) = e^{F(z)}$$

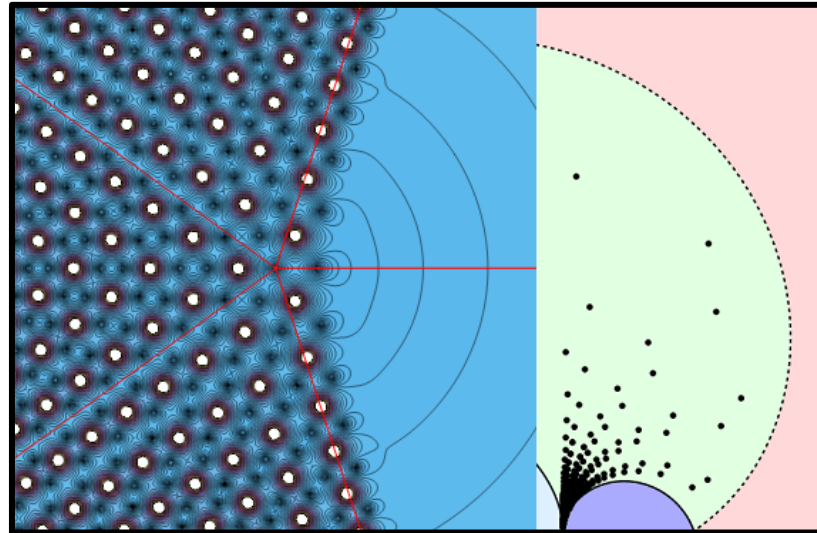
Note: double pole of  $u \leftrightarrow$  single zero of  $Z$ .

# The Painlevé I equation

$$u^2(z) - \frac{1}{6}u''(z) = z$$

3) Special solutions: **tronquées** and **tritronquées**.





### 3. Transseries solution



# Transseries solution

At the formal level, a generic 2-parameter solution can be found: **transseries** solution.

Garoufalidis, Its, Kapaev, Mariño – 2010  
Aniceto, Schiappa, Vonk - 2011

- Transseries: multiple series expansion in different **transmonomials**, e.g.  $x$ ,  $e^{-A/x}$ .
- These transmonomials have an **ordering**, e.g.  $e^{-A/x} \ll x$ . (Painlevé I:  $x = g_s = z^{-5/4}$ .)

**Q1:** “Sum” transseries into a function?

**Q2:** What is the underlying physics and mathematics?

# Transseries solution

In the pole-free regions, Painlevé I solutions behave asymptotically as  $u \sim \sqrt{z}$ .

Perturbative **asymptotic** expansion:

$$u_{\text{pert}}(z) \simeq \sqrt{z} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{48} z^{-\frac{5}{2}} - \frac{49}{4608} z^{-5} - \frac{1225}{55296} z^{-\frac{15}{2}} - \dots \right)$$

Coefficients grow as  $(2g)!$

Physical interpretation:  $z^{-5/4}$  is the **string coupling**  $g_s$ .

# Transseries solution

To find the integration parameters, we must extend the perturbative series to a **resurgent transseries**.

Naïve way (use  $x = z^{-5/4}$ ):

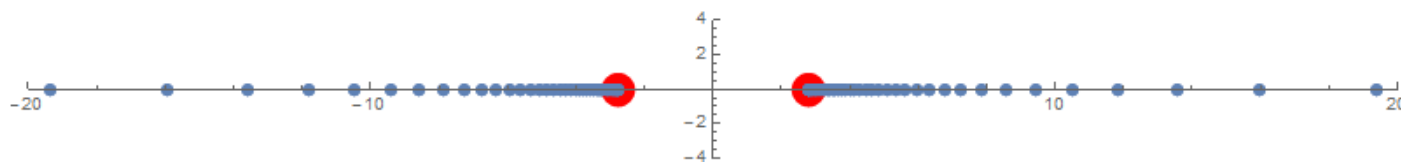
$$u(x; \sigma) = x^{-\frac{2}{5}} \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} \sigma^n e^{-\frac{nA}{x}} x^{n\beta} \sum_{g=0}^{+\infty} u_g^{(n)} x^g$$

This does provide a **1-parameter family** of formal solutions, but not all!

# Transseries solution

Indications that there should be more:

- Painlevé I is a **2<sup>nd</sup> order** ODE, so we expect two constants of integration
- Instanton action can be  **$A = \pm 8\sqrt{3/5}$**
- Borel plane has positive and negative branch points at these values



So at least formally, we expect to have a 2-parameter transseries solution.

# Transseries solution

Indeed, such a solution can be found:

$$u(x; \sigma_1, \sigma_2) = x^{-\frac{A}{x}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} L_{nm}(x; \sigma_1, \sigma_2) \sigma_1^n \sigma_2^m e^{\frac{(m-n)A}{x}} x^{\beta_{nm}} \Phi^{(n|m)}(x)$$

$$\Phi^{(n|m)}(x) = \sum_{g=0}^{\infty} u_g^{(n|m)} x^g$$

$$L_{nm}(x; \sigma_1, \sigma_2) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} \left( \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} (m-n) \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \log x \right)^k$$

- Four **transmonomials**:  
 $e^{-A/x} \ll x \ll \log(x) \ll e^{+A/x}$ .
- Two **parameters**  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$ .

# Transseries solution

$$u(x; \sigma_1, \sigma_2) = x^{-\frac{2}{5}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} L_{nm}(x; \sigma_1, \sigma_2) \sigma_1^n \sigma_2^m e^{\frac{(m-n)A}{x}} x^{\beta_{nm}} \Phi^{(n|m)}(x)$$

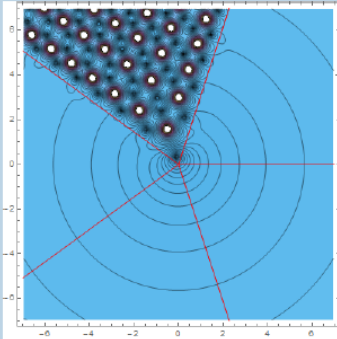
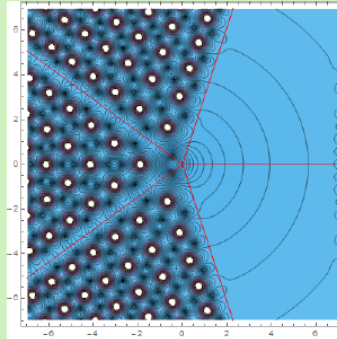
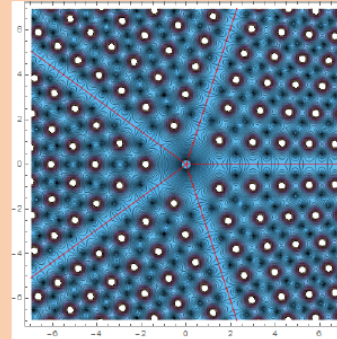
$$\Phi^{(n|m)}(x) \simeq \sum_{g=0}^{\infty} u_g^{(n|m)} x^g$$

$$L_{nm}(x; \sigma_1, \sigma_2) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} \left( \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} (m-n) \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \log x \right)^k$$

- Coefficients of **log terms** are multiples of those of non-log terms. They can always trivially be included; ignore them for now.
- Note the appearance of a different **starting order**  $\beta_{nm}$  for each sector.

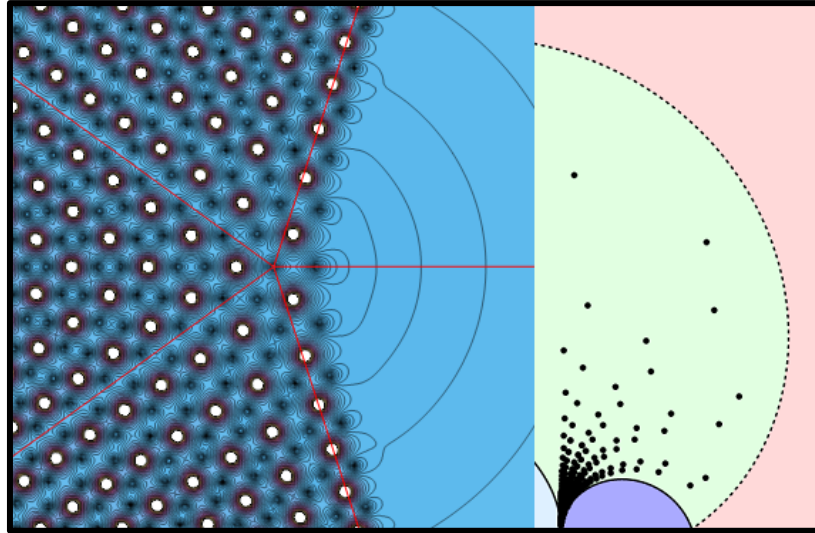
# Transseries solution

Using clever numerics, one can resum the transseries for small parameters  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2$ :

	0 parameter	1 parameter	2 parameter
	Tritronquée	Tronquée	General
Painlevé I			
Quartic MM	?	?	?

See Inês Aniceto's talk for the second row!





## 4. Analytic transseries summation *linear case*

# Borel-Padé-Écalle summation

How do we turn a formal transseries into a **function**? Given values for  $x$ ,  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$ , how do we compute a value for  $u(x; \sigma_1, \sigma_2)$ ?

$$u(x; \sigma_1, \sigma_2) = x^{-\frac{2}{5}} \sum_{n,m=0}^{\infty} \sigma_1^n \sigma_2^m e^{\frac{(m-n)A}{x}} x^{\beta_{nm}} \sum_{g=0}^{\infty} u_g^{(n|m)} x^g$$

## Borel-Padé-Écalle:

1. Use **Borel summation** for the asymptotic series using Padé approximants.
2. Do the other sums **order by order**.



# Borel-Padé-Écalle summation

## Remarks:

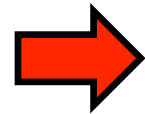
- Note that  $\sigma_2 e^{+A/x}$  can be made **small**, so makes sense numerically.
- On the other hand: restricted to regimes where  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  are small.
- Does this make sense when  $e^{-A/x}$  becomes of order 1?
- Mathematically: **anti-Stokes line**.
- Physically: **phase transition!**

*Can we do better?*

# Linear summation

Let us look at the starting orders  $\beta_{nm}$  for the ***u-transseries***:

m	6	6	7	6	7	6	7	12
	5	5	6	5	6	5	10	7
	4	4	5	4	5	8	5	6
	3	3	4	3	6	5	6	7
	2	2	3	4	3	4	5	6
	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	0	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		n						



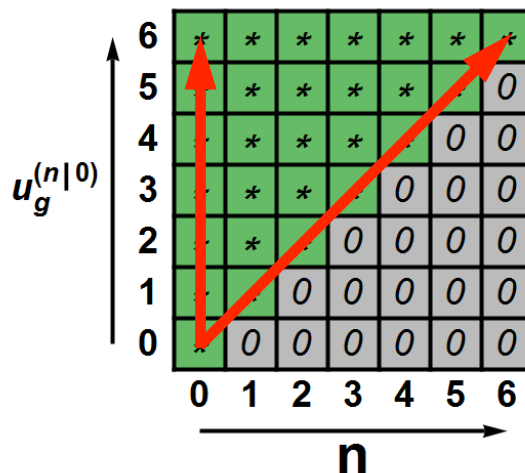
m	6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
	4	*	*	*	*	*	0	0
	3	*	*	*	*	0	0	0
	2	*	*	*	0	0	0	0
	1	*	*	0	0	0	0	0
	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		n						

( $\sigma_2 = 0$ )

Note the **linear** growth.

For simplicity, let us set  **$\sigma_2 = 0$**  and focus on the  $m=0$  sectors.

# Linear summation



Borel-Padé-Écalle: sum “vertically”.

Would it be possible to sum the leading terms for all of the  $n$ -sectors?

Amazingly: yes, with an **exact** answer!

# Linear summation

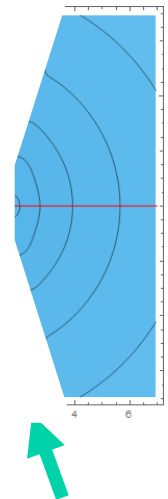
This procedure (*transasymptotic summation*) was first carried out by Costin and collaborators.

Costin – 1995/1998  
Costin, Costin – 2001  
Costin, Costin, Huang – 2013

$$u_0(x; \sigma_1) = \frac{1 + 10\tau + \tau^2}{(1 - \tau)^2}$$

$$\tau = \frac{\sqrt{x}}{12} \sigma_1 e^{-A/x}$$

$\tau = 1$ : array of **poles**!  
This allows to “go inside  
the filled sectors”.

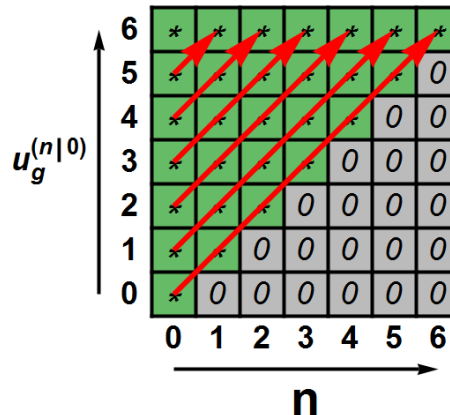


# Linear summation

$$u_0(x; \sigma_1) = \frac{1 + 10\tau + \tau^2}{(1 - \tau)^2} \quad \tau = \frac{\sqrt{x}}{12} \sigma_1 e^{-A/x}$$

**Remark:** we have exchanged our transmonomials  $x \ll e^{-A/x}$  for  $x \ll \tau$ .

**Question:** can we continue this process and sum subleading terms?





# Linear summation

Costin et al.: **yes**, and this gives  $O(x)$  corrections ( $g_s$ -corrections) to the locations of the poles.

However, there is an even better way to look at this: study the **partition function** instead!

6	36	25	16	9	4	1	-12
5	25	16	9	4	1	-10	1
4	16	9	4	1	-8	1	4
3	9	4	1	-6	1	4	9
2	4	1	-4	1	4	9	16
1	1	-2	1	4	9	16	25
0	0	1	4	9	16	25	36
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

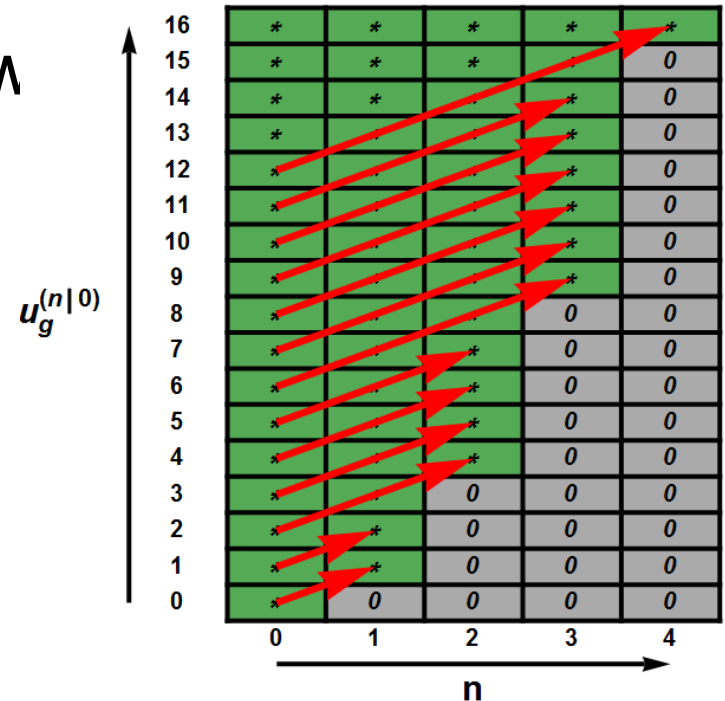
Again, set  $\sigma_2 = 0$  for simplicity.

# Linear summation

The diagonal sums now become **finite sums**!

In particular, the leading order gives

$$Z_0(x; \tau) = 1 - \tau$$



As expected, we find **zeroes** for  $Z$  at  $\tau = 1$ , where we found **poles** for  $u$ .

What about  $x$ - (or  $g_s$ -) corrections?

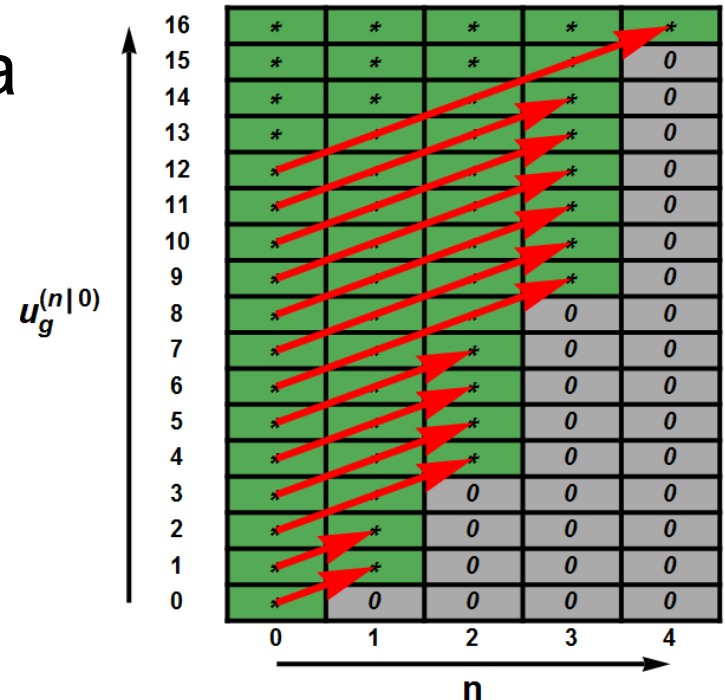
# Linear summation

At third order, we find a **quadratic polynomial** in  $\tau$ .

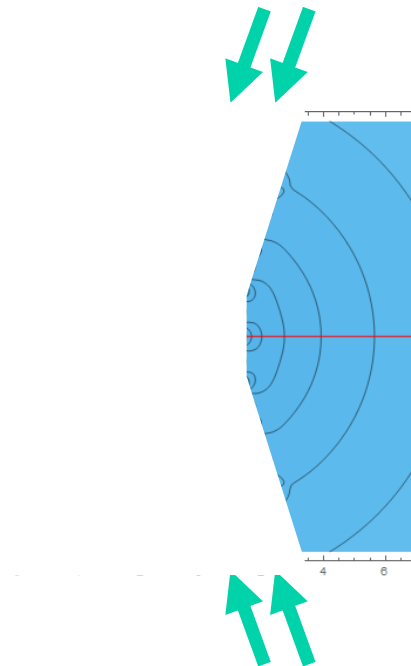
Therefore, we find two zeroes!

One is the  $g_s$ -corrected version of the zero at  $\tau = 1$ .

Other one is **new**; location scales as  $1/g_s$ .



# Linear summation

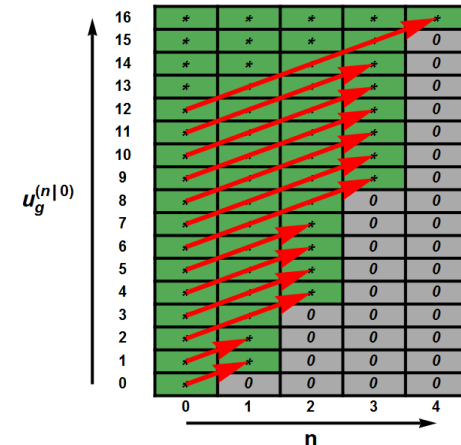


Indeed, this gives us the correct **second line** of poles/zeros. Continuing, we can go as deep into the pole region as we wish.

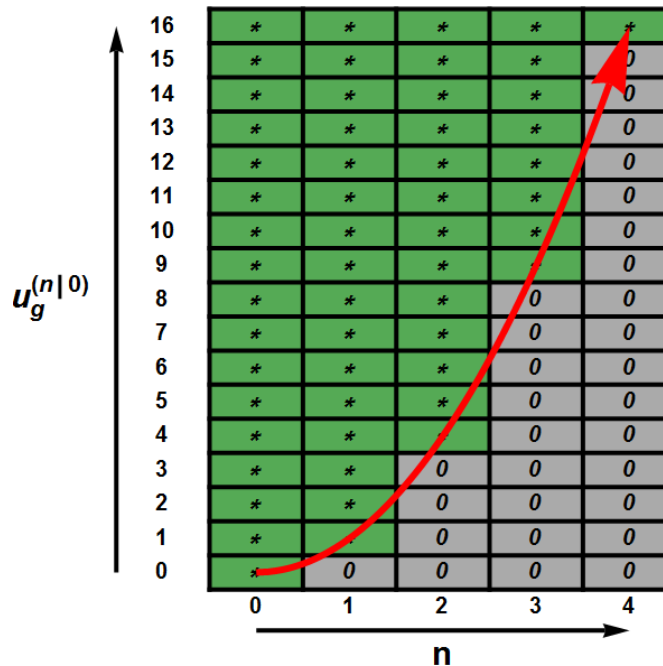
# Linear summation

So **linear summation** provides:

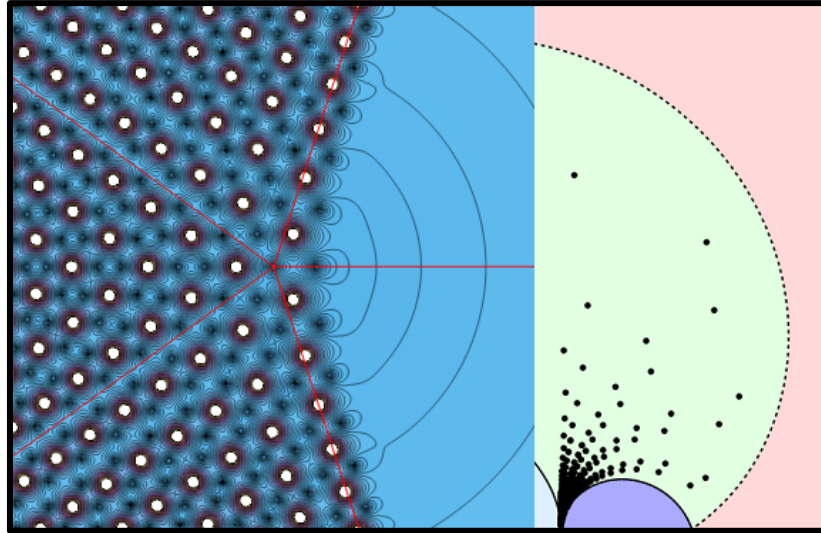
$$\begin{aligned}
 \tau_{\text{arr. 1}} &= 1 + \# x + \# x^2 + \# x^3 + \dots \\
 \tau_{\text{arr. 2}} &= \# x^{-1} + \# + \# x + \# x^2 + \dots \\
 \tau_{\text{arr. 3}} &= \# x^{-2} + \# x^{-1} + \# + \# x + \dots \\
 \tau_{\text{arr. 4}} &= \# x^{-3} + \# x^{-2} + \# x^{-1} + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$



# Linear summation



But. Shouldn't we use "list queue" to calculate? problem is telling us? Why sum linearly?



## 5. Analytic transseries summation *quadratic case*



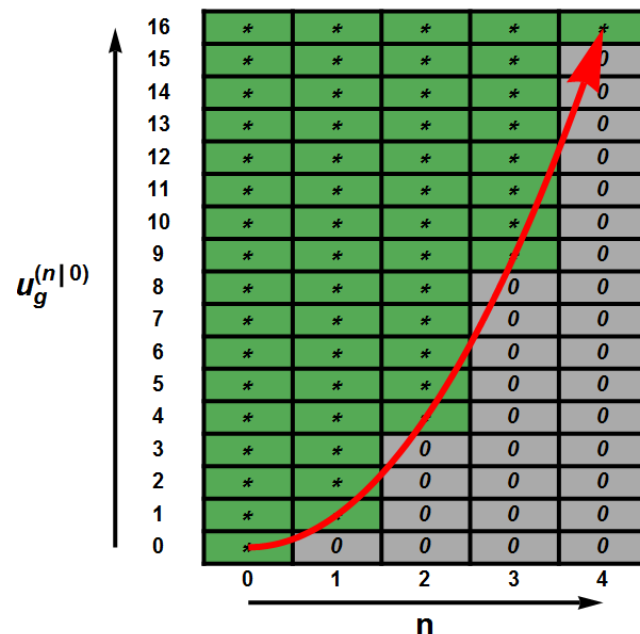
# Quadratic summation

Again, one can find a closed form for the leading coefficients. This gives the sum

$$Z_0(\zeta, q) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_2(n+1) \zeta^n q^{n^2}$$

Here,  $G_2$  is the Barnes function (“superfactorial”) and

$$\zeta \equiv i \frac{2^{\frac{1}{2}}}{3^{\frac{1}{4}}} \sigma_1 e^{-A/x}, \quad q \equiv i \frac{1}{2^{\frac{5}{2}} 3^{\frac{3}{4}}} \sqrt{x}$$



# Quadratic summation

For the **1-parameter case**, this and similar  $q^2$ -expansions (and their  $g_s$ -corrections) have appeared in the literature before.

Bonnet, David, Eynard – 2000  
Mariño, Schiappa, Weiss – 2008  
Eynard, Mariño – 2008

In fact, close relations to **modularity**; more about this in the conclusions.

However, as we will see later, using the correct strategy it now becomes easy to include the **second parameter**!

# Quadratic summation

Including  $x$ - (or  $g_s$ -) corrections then gives an expression of the form

$$Z(x; \zeta, q) = Z_0(\zeta, q) + xZ_1(\zeta, q) + x^2Z_2(\zeta, q) + \dots$$

Note the philosophy:

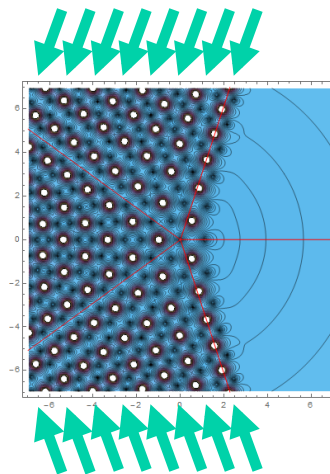
1. Introduce **additional** transmonomial  $q \sim x^{1/2}$ ,
2. The ordering is now  $x < q \ll \zeta$ ,
3. Judiciously **re-express** terms in  $q$ ,  $\zeta$  and  $x$ ,
4. Sum  $(q, \zeta)$ -expressions **exactly**.

***Analytic transseries summation***

# Quadratic summation

Now, we find (to first order in  $x$ ) the locations of **all** zeroes just from the first order analytic transseries summation!

$$Z_0(\zeta, q) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_2(n+1) \zeta^n q^{n^2}$$

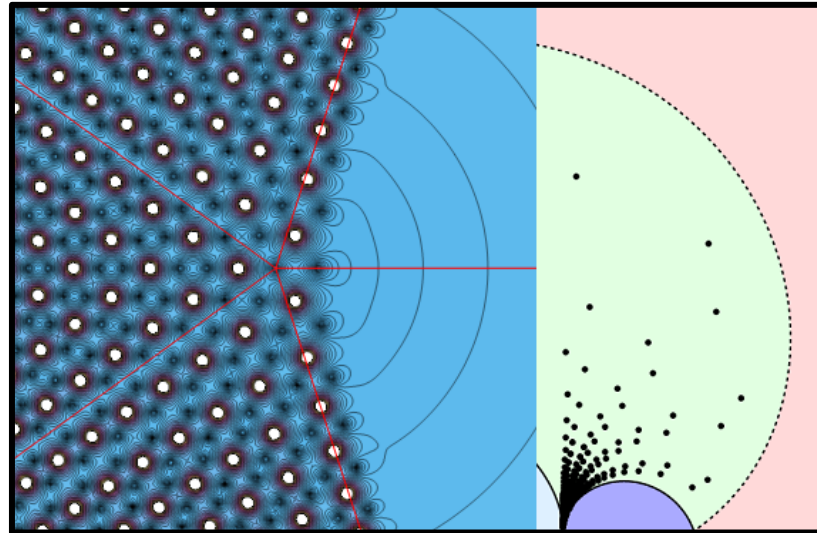


*Small print: this only works in the two adjoining sectors. To get into the fifth sector, we need a Stokes transition – see Inês Aniceto's talk.*

# Quadratic summation

Thus, in the **quadratic** case we have this:

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_{\text{arr. 1}} &= 1 + \# x + \# x^2 + \# x^3 + \dots \\ \tau_{\text{arr. 2}} &= \# x^{-1} + \# + \# x + \# x^2 + \dots \\ \tau_{\text{arr. 3}} &= \# x^{-2} + \# x^{-1} + \# + \# x + \dots \\ \tau_{\text{arr. 4}} &= \# x^{-3} + \# x^{-2} + \# x^{-1} + \# + \dots\end{aligned}$$



## 6. The second parameter

# The first parameter revisited

Summing higher  $g_s$  (or  $x$ -) corrections:

$$\mathcal{O}(g_s^0) : \quad Z_0^{(0)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_2(n+1) q^{n^2} \zeta^n$$

$$\mathcal{O}(g_s^1) : \quad Z_1^{(0)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_2(n+1) q^{n^2} \zeta^n p_1(n)$$

$$\mathcal{O}(g_s^1) : \quad Z_2^{(0)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_2(n+1) q^{n^2} \zeta^n p_2(n) \quad u_g^{(n|0)}$$

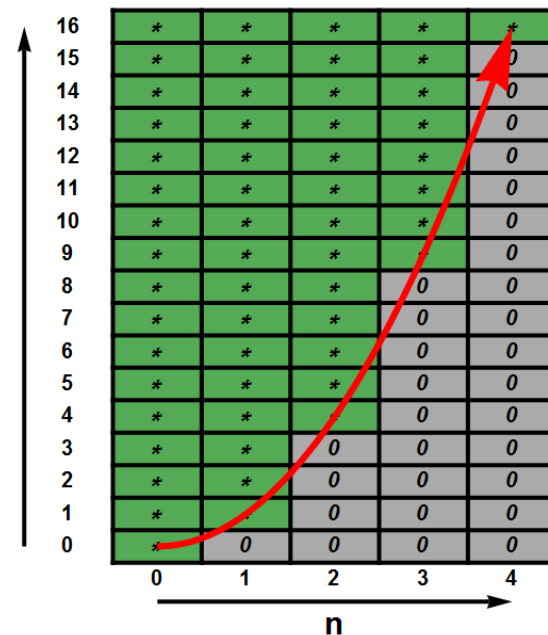
$\vdots$

with

$$p_1(n) = -\frac{1}{192\sqrt{3}} (94n^3 + 17n)$$

$$p_2(n) = -\frac{1}{1105920} (44180n^6 + 170320n^4 + 74985n^2 + 1344)$$

$\vdots$



# The second parameter

Summing leading  $\sigma_2$ -corrections:

$$\mathcal{O}(\sigma_2 g_s^0) : \quad Z_0^{(1)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_2(n+1) q^{n^2} \zeta^n \phi_1(n)$$

$$\mathcal{O}(\sigma_2 g_s^1) : \quad Z_1^{(1)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_2(n+1) q^{n^2} \zeta^n \left( \phi_1(n) p_1(n) + p_1'(n) \right) \quad \mathbf{m}$$

$$\mathcal{O}(\sigma_2 g_s^2) : \quad Z_2^{(1)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_2(n+1) q^{n^2} \zeta^n \left( \phi_1(n) p_2(n) + p_2'(n) \right)$$

$\vdots$

6	36	25	16	9	4	1	-12
5	25	16	9	4	1	-10	1
4	16	9	4	1	-8	1	4
3	9	4	1	-6	1	4	9
2	4	1	-4	1	4	9	16
1	1	-2	1	-4	9	16	25
0	0	1	4	9	16	25	36
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

$\mathbf{n}$

with the **same** polynomials  $p_i(n)$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_1(n) &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{k}{n-k} \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} n \left( \psi^{(0)}(n+1) - \psi^{(0)}(1) - 1 \right) \end{aligned}$$



# The second parameter

Summing subleading  $\sigma_2$ -corrections:

$$\mathcal{O}(\sigma_2^2 g_s^0) : \quad Z_0^{(2)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_2(n+1) q^{n^2} \zeta^n \phi_2(n)$$

$$\mathcal{O}(\sigma_2^2 g_s^0) : \quad Z_1^{(2)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_2(n+1) q^{n^2} \zeta^n \left( \phi_2(n) p_1(n) + \phi_1(n) p_1'(n) + \frac{1}{2} p_1''(n) \right)$$

$$\mathcal{O}(\sigma_2^2 g_s^0) : \quad Z_2^{(2)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_2(n+1) q^{n^2} \zeta^n \left( \phi_2(n) p_2(n) + \phi_1(n) p_2'(n) + \frac{1}{2} p_2''(n) \right)$$

$\vdots$

where now

$$\phi_2(n) = \frac{2}{3} \left( n \left( \psi^{(1)}(n+1) - \psi^{(1)}(1) \right) + \left( \psi^{(0)}(n+1) - \psi^{(0)}(1) \right) + \phi_1(n)^2 \right)$$

We get a closed form for **any** order in  $\sigma_2$ !

# The second parameter

It appears (as for adding  $g_s$ -corrections) we can add a single “enhanced instanton” ( $e^{+nA/x}$ ) sector by acting with a **derivation**:

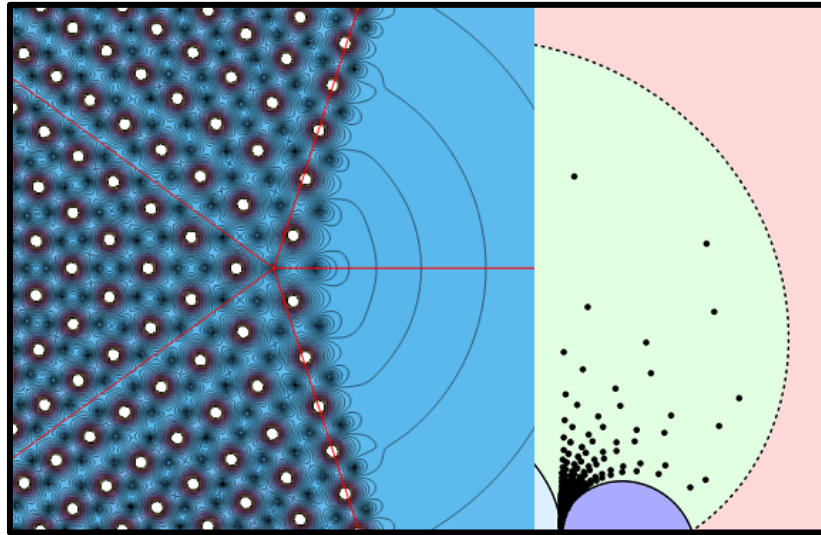
$$Z^{(n)} = \frac{1}{n!} \delta^n \left[ Z^{(0)} \right]$$

As a result, we can write the **full** partition function in cartoon form as:

$$Z(x; \sigma_1, \sigma_2) = Z_{\text{diag}}(x; \sigma_1 \sigma_2) \times e^{\sigma_2 \delta} \left[ Z^{(0)}(x; \sigma_1) \right] \times e^{\sigma_1 \hat{\delta}} \left[ \hat{Z}^{(0)}(x; \sigma_2) \right]$$

Here, hatted quantities refer to the upper diagonal sectors.

6	36	25	16	9	4	1	-12
5	25	16	9	4	1	-10	1
4	16	9	4	1	-8	1	4
3	9	4	1	-6	1	4	9
2	4	1	-4	1	4	9	16
1	1	-2	1	4	9	16	25
0	0	1	4	9	16	25	36
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6



## 7. Conclusion and outlook

# Conclusion

- Problems become tractable when the correct (here: quadratic) **analytic transseries summation** is used.
- Can sum the **full** transseries this way.
- In particular, this immediately gives us all poles for Painlevé I. In physics terms, we can study **phase transitions** where nonperturbative effects start competing with perturbative ones. (See Inês Aniceto's talk for much more on this.)

# Topological strings

The **topological string** would be an interesting system to apply these techniques to – compare the morning talks by Grassi and Mariño.

HAE: Couso-Santamaría, Edelstein, Schiappa, Vonk – 2013, 2014  
Couso-Santamaría – 2015

SC: Couso-Santamaría, Mariño, Schiappa – 2016  
Codesido, Mariño, Schiappa – to appear

Here: no nonperturbative definition, but instead a family of solutions. Start from transseries; turn it into a function for yet undetermined  $\sigma_i$ . “**Semiclassics recoded**”.

# Remarks on modularity

$$Z_0(\zeta, q) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_2(n+1) \zeta^n q^{n^2}$$

The  $q^2$ -expansions have a modularity flavor. In “filled cuts” matrix model, theta functions appear. Here, a related object appears to be the Weierstrass  $\sigma$ -function.

Very divergent coefficients, but

- Sum for **small  $q$**  can be done,
- Looks like a closed form for **zeroes** can be found.

# Further open questions

- Extension to **matrix models**: in progress.
- Can the **diagonal sector** be written as  $e^{\delta \sigma^1 \sigma^2} [Z_{\text{pert}}]$  ?
- Can we **classify** problems according to linear, quadratic, (cubic, ...?) analytic transseries summation?

**Thank you!**