

KdV charges ride the $T\bar{T}$ flow (and $J\bar{T}$)

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based on 1903.07606 and 1906.04xxx
with Márk Mezei (SCGP, Stony Brook)

$T\bar{T}$ (Do I need to introduce it at a $T\bar{T}$ workshop?)

$$“T\bar{T}” = \det T = T_{00}T_{11} - T_{01}T_{10} = T\bar{T} - \Theta\bar{\Theta} \quad (\text{ignore factors})$$

Universal irrelevant operator (in translation-invariant 2d QFTs)

Only ambiguous by total derivatives (Zamolodchikov)

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Deforming by $\partial_{\lambda_{T\bar{T}}} S = \int dt \int_0^L dx T\bar{T}$ (Smirnov–Zamolodchikov)

- preserves symmetries
- **calculable spectrum** $\partial_{\lambda_{T\bar{T}}} E = \partial_L(E^2 - P^2)/4$ (Burgers eq.)

Related to Jackiw–Teitelboim gravity (Dubovsky, Gorbenko, ...), 2d random geometry (Cardy), AdS₃ holography (McGough, Mezei, Verlinde, Giveon, Kutasov, Guica, ...)

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1. Generalizations of $T\bar{T}$
2. KdV charges upon $T\bar{T}$ deformation (uses Lorentz-invariance)
3. Energies upon $T\bar{T} + J\bar{T}$ deformation (my April Stony Brook talk)

Burgers equation

Definition

$$\epsilon^{\mu\nu} T_{0\mu}(x) T_{1\nu}(y) = (T\bar{T})(y) + \mathbf{derivatives}$$

On $S^1 \times \mathbb{R}$ of circumference L , **factorization**

$$\langle n | T\bar{T} | n \rangle = \epsilon^{\mu\nu} \langle n | T_{0\mu} | n \rangle \langle n | T_{1\nu} | n \rangle$$

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Now deform by $T\bar{T}$:

$$\partial_{\lambda_{T\bar{T}}} E_n = \langle n | \partial_{\lambda_{T\bar{T}}} H | n \rangle = L \underbrace{\langle n | T_{00} | n \rangle}_{-E_n/L} \underbrace{\langle n | T_{11} | n \rangle}_{-\partial_L E_n} - L \underbrace{\langle n | T_{01} | n \rangle}_{iP_n/L} \underbrace{\langle n | T_{10} | n \rangle}_{iP_n/L}$$

In a relativistic theory:

Burgers equation

$$\partial_{\lambda_{T\bar{T}}} E_n = E_n \partial_L E_n + \frac{P_n^2}{L} \quad (\text{if Lorentz-invariance})$$

Current bilinears

Generalize $T\bar{T}$, $J\bar{T}$, $J\bar{J}$

$X_{ab} := \epsilon_{\mu\nu} J_a^\mu J_b^\nu$ (point-split) defined modulo derivatives

Current bilinears

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$$X_{ab} := \epsilon_{\mu\nu} J_a^\mu J_b^\nu \quad (\text{point-split}) \quad \text{defined modulo derivatives}$$

Proof.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x^\rho} \epsilon_{\mu\nu} J_a^\mu(x) J_b^\nu(y) = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y^\nu} \right) \epsilon_{\mu\rho} J_a^\mu(x) J_b^\nu(y)$$

use OPE

$$\epsilon_{\mu\nu} \sum_i \partial_\rho c_i(x-y) O_i^{\mu\nu}(y) = \epsilon_{\mu\rho} \sum_i c_i(x-y) \partial_\nu O_i^{\mu\nu}(y)$$

so any O_i with non-constant $c(x-y)$ must be a total derivative $\partial_\nu(\dots)$ □

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$$\partial_\lambda X_{ab} S = \int d^2x X_{ab} \text{ deformation}$$

Only makes sense if J_a and J_b are still conserved at order $O(\lambda)$ etc.

This happens if and only if $[Q_a, Q_b] = 0$ (see later for "if" direction)

Evolution of energies under deformation by current bilinears

$$X_{ab} := \epsilon_{\mu\nu} J_a^\mu J_b^\nu \longrightarrow \partial_{\lambda^{ab}} \mathcal{S} = \int d^2x X_{ab} \longrightarrow \partial_{\lambda^{ab}} H = \int dx X_{ab}$$

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$$\partial_{\lambda^{ab}} E_n = 2 \underbrace{L \langle n | J_{[a}^0 | n \rangle \langle n | J_{b]}^1 | n \rangle}_{(Q_a)_n}$$

- Compact flavour symmetry $\implies Q_n$ quantized
- Spatial translation $\implies Q_n = iP_n \in (2\pi i/L)\mathbb{Z}$
- Time translation $\implies Q_n = -E_n$
- KdV charges \implies need $\partial_\lambda Q_n$ equation

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$$\partial_{\lambda^{ab}} E_n = 2L \underbrace{\langle n | J_{[a}^0 | n \rangle}_{(Q_a)_n} \underbrace{\langle n | J_{b]}^1 | n \rangle}_{?}$$

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Part I: Playing with commutators

Similar equation for $\partial_{\lambda^{ab}} (Q_c)_n$

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Part I: Playing with commutators

Similar equation for $\partial_{\lambda^{ab}} (Q_c)_n$

Then two case studies (much shorter).

Part II: $T\bar{T}$ deformation of Lorentz-invariant theory,
KdV charges “ride the Burgers flow”

Part III: $T\bar{T} + J\bar{T} + \dots$ deformation
using background gauge fields (non-rigorous)

Maybe I put too many calculations, sorry

Cartan subalgebra: KdV charges P_s

Focus on **commuting subset** $\{P_s\}$ of all charges $\{Q_a\}$:
translations, Cartan of flavour symmetries, KdV charges

Conserved currents $\bar{\partial}T_{s+1} = \partial\Theta_{s-1}$ of spin $s \in \mathbb{Z}$, charges

$$P_s = \frac{1}{2\pi} \oint (T_{s+1}dz + \Theta_{s-1}d\bar{z})$$

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with stress-tensor $\begin{pmatrix} T & \Theta \\ \bar{\Theta} & \bar{T} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} T_2 & \Theta_0 \\ T_0 & \Theta_{-2} \end{pmatrix}$

$[P_1, \mathcal{O}] = -i\partial\mathcal{O}$ and $[P_{-1}, \mathcal{O}] = i\bar{\partial}\mathcal{O}$ with $P_{\pm 1} = -\frac{1}{2}(H \pm P)$

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Example (CFT): $T_2 = T$, $T_4 = :T^2:$, $T_6 = :T^3: + \frac{c+2}{12}:(\partial T)^2:,\dots$
 $\Theta_{-2k} = \bar{T}_{2k}$, $\Theta_0 = \Theta_2 = \Theta_4 = \dots = T_0 = T_{-2} = T_{-4} = \dots = 0$

KdV currents fixed (up to improvements) by spin and $[P_s, P_t] = 0$

The operators A_s^t

Integrating $[P_s, T_{t+1}dz + \Theta_{t-1}d\bar{z}]$ on a contour \mathcal{C} gives $[P_s, P_t^{\mathcal{C}}] = 0$ so the one-form is exact:

$$[P_s, T_{t+1}] = -i\partial A_s^t = [P_1, A_s^t]$$

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In particular $A_1^t = T_{t+1}$ and $A_{-1}^t = -\Theta_{t-1}$ (up to shifts by identity)

Generic A_s^t are **not** in conserved currents

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$$A_1^5 = T_6$$

$$A_3^1 = 3T_4 + \partial(\dots) \quad A_3^3 = 4:T^3: - \frac{c+2}{2}:(\partial T)^2:$$

$$A_5^1 = 5T_6 + \partial(\dots) \quad A_5^3 = \frac{15:T^4:}{2} - \frac{5(13+2c):T(\partial T)^2:}{3} + \frac{5(-47+4c+c^2):(\partial^2 T)^2:}{72}$$

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so the definition is equivalent to $[P_{\pm 1}, A_s^t] = [P_s, A_{\pm 1}^t]$

The symmetry generalizes: $[P_s, A_t^u] = [P_t, A_s^u]$

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$$\text{The symmetry generalizes: } \boxed{[P_s, A_t^u] = [P_t, A_s^u]}$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} & [P_1, [P_{[s}, A_t^u]] \\ &= [P_{[s}, [P_1, A_t^u]] \quad (\text{Jacobi}) \\ &= [P_{[s}, [P_t, A_1^u]] \quad (\text{definition of } A) \\ &= 0 \quad (\text{Jacobi}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Likewise } [P_{-1}, [P_{[s}, A_t^u]] = 0$$

$$\text{so } [P_{[s}, A_t^u] = \text{multiple of identity} = 0 \text{ (because traceless)} \quad \square$$

Deforming by current bilinears preserves symmetries

For two spins u, v consider $\delta H = \int dx X^{u,v}$

with $X^{u,v} = (T_{u+1}\Theta_{v-1} - \Theta_{u-1}\bar{T}_{v+1})_{\text{reg}}$ current bilinear

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Proof. $[P_s, X^{u,v}] = [P_s, T_{u+1}\Theta_{v-1} - \Theta_{u-1}T_{v+1}]$
 $= [P_1, A_s^u]\Theta_{v-1} + [P_{-1}, A_s^u]T_{v+1} - (u \leftrightarrow v)$
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$$\delta P_s = \frac{1}{2} \int dx (X_{s,1}^{u,v} + X_{-1,s}^{u,v})$$

 where $X_{s,t}^{u,v} = (A_s^u A_t^v - A_t^u A_s^v)_{\text{reg}}$

Toward an evolution equation

Goal: $\partial_\lambda \langle n | P_s | n \rangle = \dots$ for states $|n\rangle$ on $S^1 \times \mathbb{R}$

We know $\partial_\lambda P_s = \frac{1}{2} \int dx (X_{s,1}^{u,v} + X_{-1,s}^{u,v})$ so we compute

$$\langle n | X_{s,t}^{u,v} | n \rangle =$$

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Proof summary. Insert complete set of states (eigenstates of all P_\bullet)

$$\langle n | X_{s,t}^{u,v} | n \rangle = \sum_{|m\rangle} \left(\langle n | A_s^u | m \rangle \langle m | A_t^v | n \rangle - \langle n | A_t^u | m \rangle \langle m | A_s^v | n \rangle \right)$$

For any spin r , compute a bit to show

$$\langle n | [P_r, A_s^u] | m \rangle \langle m | A_t^v | n \rangle - \langle n | [P_r, A_t^u] | m \rangle \langle m | A_s^v | n \rangle = 0$$

This is $\langle m | P_r | m \rangle - \langle n | P_r | n \rangle$ times the summand,

so summand = 0 except for $|m\rangle = |n\rangle$ (**assumes nondegenerate spectrum**) □

Side comment on collisions

In fact we can define more **general collisions**

$$k! A_{[s_1]}^{t_1}(x_1) \dots A_{s_k}^{t_k}(x_k) = X_{s_1, \dots, s_k}^{t_1, \dots, t_k}(x) + \sum_i [P_{s_i}, \dots]$$

- defined up to commutators $\sum_i [P_{s_i}, \dots]$
(like $X^{u,v}$ is defined up to derivatives)
- obey factorization

$$\langle n | X_{s_1, \dots, s_k}^{t_1, \dots, t_k} | n \rangle = k! \langle n | A_{[s_1]}^{t_1} | n \rangle \dots \langle n | A_{s_k}^{t_k} | n \rangle$$

- obey

$$[P_{[s_0]}, X_{s_1, \dots, s_k}^{t_1, \dots, t_k}] = 0$$

(but deforming by these operators breaks all symmetries,
so they are most likely not that useful)

Main evolution equation

Denoting $\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle := \langle n | \mathcal{O} | n \rangle$, we end up with

$$2\partial_{\lambda_{u,v}} \langle P_s \rangle = \langle P_u \rangle \langle A_s^v \rangle - \langle P_v \rangle \langle A_s^u \rangle$$

Sadly, $\partial_{\lambda_{u,v}} \langle A_s^t \rangle =$ nothing in general

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Part II: $(u, v) = (1, -1)$, arbitrary s

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Part III: $|u|, |v|, |s| \leq 1$, combine different deformations

$T\bar{T} + J\bar{T} + \dots$ deformation

using background gauge fields (non-rigorous)

Part II: Deforming by $T\bar{T}$

$$2\partial_{\lambda_{T\bar{T}}}\langle P_s \rangle = \langle P_1 \rangle \langle A_s^{-1} \rangle - \langle P_{-1} \rangle \langle A_s^1 \rangle$$

Need to understand $A_s^{\pm 1}$. Two steps.

- Understand ∂_L
- Relate $A_s^{\pm 1}$ to $A_{\pm 1}^s$ in Lorentz-invariant theories

Changing the length

$$\text{We know } \partial_L H = \int dx T_{xx} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int dx (A_1^1 - A_1^{-1} + A_{-1}^1 - A_{-1}^{-1})$$

Changing the length

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For states with zero momentum ($\langle P_1 - P_{-1} \rangle = 0$), we're done:

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In fact, for zero momentum ($\langle P_1 - P_{-1} \rangle = 0$),

$$\partial_\lambda \langle P_s \rangle = \langle Q \rangle \partial_L \langle P_s \rangle \quad \text{under } \epsilon^{\mu\nu} J_\mu T_{\nu\rho} \text{ deformation}$$

The deformation “scales space according to $\langle Q \rangle$ ”

$\overline{T\overline{T}}$ -like deformations

KdV charges under $\overline{T\overline{T}}$ flow

Energy levels of CFT + $J\overline{T}$ + $T\overline{T}$ + ...

Relating A_s^t and A_t^s

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Example (CFT): $T_2 = T$, $T_4 = :T^2:$, $T_6 = :T^3: + \frac{c+2}{12}:(\partial T)^2:$

$$\begin{aligned} A_1^1 &= T_2 & A_1^3 &= T_4 & A_1^5 &= T_6 \\ A_3^1 &= 3T_4 + \partial(\dots) & A_3^3 &= \dots & A_3^5 &= \frac{3}{5}A_5^3 + \dots \\ A_5^1 &= 5T_6 + \partial(\dots) & A_5^3 &= \dots & & \end{aligned}$$

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Observe $t A_s^t = s A_t^s$ up to improvements of currents T_4, T_6, \dots

This selects preferred improvements of higher-spin currents:

$T_{s+1} = \frac{1}{s} A_s^1$ is uniquely defined (up to shifts by the identity)

More generally true in Lorentz-invariant theories

Evolution of KdV charges under $T\bar{T}$ deformation

Combining (up to factors)

$$\langle n | A_s^1 - A_s^{-1} | n \rangle = \partial_L \langle n | P_s | n \rangle$$

$$\langle n | A_s^1 + A_s^{-1} | n \rangle = \frac{S}{L} \langle n | P_s | n \rangle$$

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we get

$$\partial_\lambda \langle P_s \rangle = \langle H \rangle \partial_L \langle P_s \rangle + \frac{S}{L} \langle P \rangle \langle P_s \rangle$$

All charges propagate along the same characteristics

Starting from a CFT we can solve

$$\langle P_s \rangle = \begin{cases} \# \langle P_1 \rangle^s & \text{for holomorphic currents} \\ \# \langle P_1 \rangle^{-s} & \text{for antiholomorphic currents} \end{cases}$$

Energy levels of CFT + $J\bar{T}$ + $T\bar{T}$ + ...

$$T\bar{T} = \epsilon^{\mu\nu} T_{0\mu} T_{1\nu},$$

$$J\bar{T} = \epsilon^{\mu\nu} J_{\mu} T_{\bar{z}\nu},$$

$$J\bar{J} = \epsilon^{\mu\nu} J_{\mu} \bar{J}_{\nu}$$

Let's do all of them

Energy levels of CFT + $J\bar{T}$ + $T\bar{T}$ + ...

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$$J\bar{J} = \epsilon^{\mu\nu} J_{\mu} \bar{J}_{\nu}$$

Let's do all of them

Why?

- To explore possible UV behaviours
- To find if we get new deformations by commuting these

$$\partial_{\lambda_{AB}} E_n = 2 L \underbrace{\langle n | J_0^{[A]} | n \rangle}_{Q_n^A} \langle n | J_1^{[B]} | n \rangle$$

- Compact flavour symmetry $\implies Q_n$ quantized
- Spatial translation $\implies Q_n = iP_n \in (2\pi i/L)\mathbb{Z}$
- Time translation $\implies Q_n = -E_n$
- KdV charges \implies need $\partial_\lambda Q_n$ equation

$$\partial_{\lambda_{AB}} E_n = 2 L \underbrace{\langle n | J_0^{[A} | n \rangle}_{Q_n^A} \underbrace{\langle n | J_1^{B]} | n \rangle}_{?}$$

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Space component of current $\langle n | J_1 | n \rangle$

- Failed attempt: write

$$\partial_\lambda \langle n | J_1 | n \rangle = \underbrace{\left(\partial_\lambda \langle n | \right) J_1 | n \rangle}_{\text{nonzero because } J_1 | n \rangle \not\propto | n \rangle} + \langle n | \underbrace{\left(\partial_\lambda J_1 \right) | n \rangle}_{\text{non-universal (see later)}} + \langle n | J_1 \left(\partial_\lambda | n \rangle \right)$$

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- **Successful method:** turn on background gauge fields

$$H \rightarrow H + a_A \int dx J_1^A \quad \implies \quad \langle n | J_1^A | n \rangle = \frac{1}{L} \partial_{a_A} E_n$$

In particular $\langle n | T_{11} | n \rangle = -\partial_L E_n$ and $\langle n | T_{01} | n \rangle = i \partial_b E_n$
where $b :=$ background for time translation.

Naive transport equation

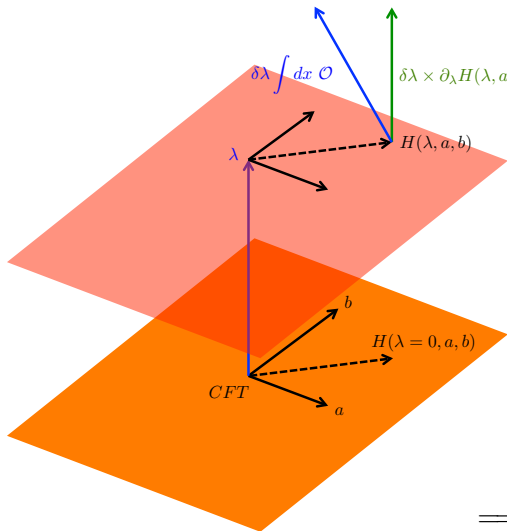
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial E_n}{\partial \lambda_{AB}} &\stackrel{\text{naive}}{=} 2 L \underbrace{\langle n | J_0^A | n \rangle}_{Q_n^A} \underbrace{\langle n | J_1^B | n \rangle}_{\partial E_n / \partial a_B} \\ &\stackrel{\text{naive}}{=} Q_n^A \frac{\partial E_n}{\partial a_B} - Q_n^B \frac{\partial E_n}{\partial a_A} \end{aligned}$$

More generally all charges **would** obey

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda_{AB}} - Q_n^A \frac{\partial}{\partial a_B} + Q_n^B \frac{\partial}{\partial a_A} \right) Q_n^C \stackrel{\text{naive}}{=} 0$$

solved by the **method of characteristics**

Deformations don't commute



We want

$$\partial_a E_n \simeq \langle J_1 \rangle$$

$$\partial_b E_n \simeq \langle T_{01} \rangle$$

everywhere so define

Theory(λ, a, b)

by deforming

first by λ

then by a and b

$$\implies \partial_\lambda T_{00} = J_\mu^A J_\nu^B \epsilon^{\mu\nu} + \dots$$

Example: $J\bar{T}$

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_\lambda T_{00}(\lambda, a, b) = & -2\pi i J_{[0|T_{\bar{z}|1}]} - \pi b J_{[0|T_{0|1}]} \\ & - 2\pi^2 i a T_{\bar{z}1} - \pi^2 a b T_{01} + \frac{\pi^2 a^2}{2} J_1 + \text{derivatives}\end{aligned}$$

(Origin explained later)

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(Origin explained later)

- For $a = b = 0$ get original deformation
- No λ on RHS
- All terms bilinear (antisymmetric) or linear in currents
- Finitely many terms because $[a] = 1, [b] = 0$
Analogue with KdV charges has infinitely many terms?

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Deduce evolution of energies

$$\partial_\lambda E_n = (\dots)\partial_a E_n + (\dots)\partial_b E_n + (\dots)\partial_L E_n$$

To solve, need initial data $E_n(\lambda = 0|a, b, L)$

Strategy

- Get initial data $E_n(\lambda = 0|a, b, L)$
Doable for chiral flavour currents and stress tensor of CFT
Doable for some currents of free scalars/fermions
- Write evolution equation $\partial_\lambda E_n$
Doable for flavour symmetries and stress tensor ($J\bar{J}$, $J\bar{T}$, $J\bar{\Theta}$, $T\bar{J}$, $\Theta\bar{J}$, $T\bar{T}$)
- Solve using method of characteristics
(actually just used Ansatz and checked)

Initial data

Goal: deform CFT by $\partial_b T_{00} = iT_{01}$

Recall **we keep momentum and charges fixed** so $T_{10} = T_{10}^{\text{CFT}}$

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Ansatz

$$\begin{aligned}T_{00} &= f(b)T_{00}^{\text{CFT}} + ig(b)T_{10}^{\text{CFT}} \\ iT_{01} &= f'(b)T_{00}^{\text{CFT}} + ig'(b)T_{10}^{\text{CFT}}\end{aligned}$$

Conservation $[\int T_{00}, T_{00}] = \partial_1 T_{01}$ translates to differential equations $f'(b) = 2f(b)g(b)$ and $g'(b) = f(b)^2 + g(b)^2$:

$$\begin{aligned}T_{00} &= \frac{1}{1-b^2} T_{00}^{\text{CFT}} + \frac{b}{1-b^2} iT_{10}^{\text{CFT}} \\ iT_{01} &= \frac{2b}{(1-b^2)^2} T_{00}^{\text{CFT}} + \frac{1+b^2}{(1-b^2)^2} iT_{10}^{\text{CFT}}\end{aligned}$$

Initial data

Recall **we keep momentum and charges fixed** so

$$T_{10} = T_{10}^{\text{CFT}}, \quad J_0 = J_0^{\text{CFT}}, \quad \bar{J}_0 = \bar{J}_0^{\text{CFT}}$$

We want the deformation

$$T_{01} = -i\partial_b T_{00}, \quad J_1 = i\partial_a T_{00}, \quad \bar{J}_1 = -i\partial_{\bar{a}} T_{00}$$

Conservation of $T_{\mu\nu}$, J_ν , \bar{J}_ν is solved by

$$T_{00} = \frac{1}{1-b^2} T_{00}^{\text{CFT}} + \frac{ib}{1-b^2} T_{10}^{\text{CFT}} - \frac{1}{1-b} a J_0^{\text{CFT}} - \frac{1}{1+b} \bar{a} \bar{J}_0^{\text{CFT}}$$

$$\left\langle n \left\| H = -\frac{P_+^{\text{CFT}} + aQ}{1-b} - \frac{P_-^{\text{CFT}} + \bar{a}\bar{Q}}{1+b} \right\| n \right\rangle$$

Ambiguities

- Improvements $J_\mu \rightarrow J_\mu + \epsilon_{\mu\nu} \partial^\nu \phi$ (with ϕ local)
- Mixing $J_\mu^A \rightarrow \Lambda^A_B J_\mu^B$ (linear combinations)
- Shifts $J_\mu^A \rightarrow J_\mu^A + (\# \times 1)$

Fixing time components (J_0, \bar{J}_0, T_{10} and the evolution of T_{00})
 $\implies \partial_1 J_1$ known and J_1 local $\implies J_1$ fixed up to shifts by 1

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Boils down to ambiguous f_1, f_2, f_3 in

$$T_{00} = \frac{1}{1-b^2} T_{00}^{\text{CFT}} + \frac{ib}{1-b^2} T_{10}^{\text{CFT}} - \frac{1}{1-b} a J_0^{\text{CFT}} - \frac{1}{1+b} \bar{a} \bar{J}_0^{\text{CFT}} \\ + f_1(b) a^2 + f_2(b) a \bar{a} + f_3(b) \bar{a}^2$$

Evolution equation

Goal: find universal evolution equation

$$\partial_\lambda T_{00}(\lambda|a, b, L) = \underbrace{\mathcal{O}_1(\lambda|a, b, L)}_{\text{e.g. } J\bar{T}} + b\mathcal{O}_2(\lambda|a, b, L) + a\mathcal{O}_3(\lambda|a, b, L) + \dots$$

Universal \implies holds classically so **pick a classical theory**

Classical scalar with shift symmetry

Hamiltonian $H = \int dx \mathcal{H}(\partial_x \phi, \Pi)$

- Translation symmetry $t \rightarrow t + \dots$ and $x \rightarrow x + \dots$
- Shift symmetry $\phi(t, x) \rightarrow \phi(t, x) + \dots$ splits into two symmetry currents J_μ and \bar{J}_μ

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Noether currents

$$J_0 = -\frac{1}{2}(\partial_x \phi - 4\pi\Pi),$$

$$J_1 = 2\pi i \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial(\partial_x \phi)} - \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \Pi} \right),$$

$$\bar{J}_0 = -\frac{1}{2}(\partial_x \phi + 4\pi\Pi),$$

$$\bar{J}_1 = -2\pi i \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial(\partial_x \phi)} + \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \Pi} \right),$$

$$T_{00} = -\mathcal{H},$$

$$T_{01} = -i \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \Pi} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial(\partial_x \phi)},$$

$$T_{10} = -i \Pi \partial_x \phi,$$

$$T_{11} = \Pi \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \Pi} + \partial_x \phi \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial(\partial_x \phi)} - \mathcal{H}.$$

Input at $a = b = 0$: $\partial_\lambda \mathcal{H} = F\left(\mathcal{H}, \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial(\partial_x \phi)}, \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \Pi}, \partial_x \phi, \Pi\right)$

Wanted output: $\partial_\lambda \mathcal{H} = F\left(a, b, \mathcal{H}, \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial(\partial_x \phi)}, \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \Pi}, \partial_x \phi, \Pi\right)$

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Recall \mathcal{H} is defined by first turning on λ then a, b so we know nothing about $\partial_\lambda \mathcal{H}$ at non-zero a, b . But

$$\partial_a \partial_\lambda \mathcal{H} = \partial_\lambda \partial_a \mathcal{H} = \partial_\lambda iJ_1 = -2\pi \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial(\partial_x \phi)} - \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\partial}{\partial \Pi} \right) \partial_\lambda \mathcal{H}$$

Namely $D_1 \partial_\lambda \mathcal{H} = 0$ (likewise, $D_2 \partial_\lambda \mathcal{H} = 0$) where

$$D_1 := -\partial_a - 2\pi \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial(\partial_x \phi)} - \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\partial}{\partial \Pi} \right)$$

$$D_2 := -\partial_b - \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial(\partial_x \phi)} \frac{\partial}{\partial \Pi} + \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \Pi} \frac{\partial}{\partial(\partial_x \phi)} \right)$$

$\partial_\lambda \mathcal{H}$ known at $a = b = 0$, and $D_1 \partial_\lambda \mathcal{H} = 0$ and $D_2 \partial_\lambda \mathcal{H} = 0$
 \implies unique solution

$$\partial_\lambda \mathcal{H} = \sum_{m,n \geq 0} \frac{1}{m!n!} a^m b^n D_1^m D_2^n F\left(\mathcal{H}, \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial(\partial_x \phi)}, \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \Pi}, \partial_x \phi, \Pi\right)$$

where $\partial_a, \partial_b, \frac{\partial}{\partial(\partial_x \phi)}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \Pi}$ inside D_1, D_2 act on the \mathcal{H} arguments too

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where $\partial_a, \partial_b, \frac{\partial}{\partial(\partial_x \phi)}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \Pi}$ inside D_1, D_2 act on the \mathcal{H} arguments too

Explicit calculations show D_1 and D_2 map currents to currents

	J_t	J_x	\bar{J}_t	\bar{J}_x	T_{tt}	T_{tx}	T_{xt}	T_{xx}
D_1	2π	0	0	0	0	0	iJ_t	iJ_x
\bar{D}_1	0	0	2π	0	0	0	$-i\bar{J}_t$	$-i\bar{J}_x$
D_2	iJ_x	0	$i\bar{J}_x$	0	iT_{tx}	0	$-i(T_{tt} - T_{xx})$	$-iT_{tx}$

and (bi)linears to (bi)linears

(We also found this for more general classical scalars)

Example of $J\bar{T}$:

$$\partial_\lambda \mathcal{H} = 2\pi i J_{[t|} T_{\bar{z}|x]} + \pi b J_{[t|} T_{t|x]} + 2\pi^2 i a T_{\bar{z}x} + \pi^2 a b T_{tx} - \frac{\pi^2 a^2}{2} J_x$$

More generally, given in the table

	$J\bar{J}$	$J\bar{T}$	$J\Theta$	$\bar{J}T$	$\bar{J}\Theta$	$T\bar{T}$	J_t	J_x	\bar{J}_t	\bar{J}_x	T_{tt}	T_{tx}	T_{xt}	T_{xx}
$J\bar{J}$	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	$i\pi\bar{a}$	0	$-i\pi a$	0	0	0	0
$J\bar{T}$	$i\pi\bar{a}$	$1 - \frac{b}{2}$	$-\frac{b}{2}$	0	0	0	0	$-\frac{\pi^2}{2}(a^2 + \bar{a}^2)$	0	$\pi^2 a\bar{a}$	0	$-\pi^2 a(1-b)$	0	$i\pi^2 a$
$J\Theta$	$-i\pi\bar{a}$	$\frac{b}{2}$	$1 + \frac{b}{2}$	0	0	0	0	$\frac{\pi^2}{2}(a^2 + \bar{a}^2)$	0	$-\pi^2 a\bar{a}$	0	$-\pi^2 a(1+b)$	0	$-i\pi^2 a$
$\bar{J}T$	$-i\pi a$	0	0	$1 + \frac{b}{2}$	$\frac{b}{2}$	0	0	$\pi^2 a\bar{a}$	0	$-\frac{\pi^2}{2}(a^2 + \bar{a}^2)$	0	$-\pi^2 \bar{a}(1+b)$	0	$-i\pi^2 \bar{a}$
$\bar{J}\Theta$	$i\pi a$	0	0	$-\frac{b}{2}$	$1 - \frac{b}{2}$	0	0	$-\pi^2 a\bar{a}$	0	$\frac{\pi^2}{2}(a^2 + \bar{a}^2)$	0	$-\pi^2 \bar{a}(1-b)$	0	$i\pi^2 \bar{a}$
$T\bar{T}$	0	$-i\pi a$	$-i\pi a$	$i\pi\bar{a}$	$i\pi\bar{a}$	1	0	0	0	0	0	$i\pi^3(a^2 - \bar{a}^2)$	0	0

RHS has no λ . Finitely-many terms, all (bi)linears of currents

$$\begin{aligned} "J\bar{J}" &\equiv -iJ_{[t|}\bar{J}_{x]}, & "J\bar{T}" &\equiv 2\pi iJ_{[t|}T_{\bar{z}|x]}, & "J\Theta" &\equiv -2\pi iJ_{[t|}T_{z|x]} \\ "\bar{J}T" &\equiv -2\pi i\bar{J}_{[t|}T_{z|x]}, & "\bar{J}\Theta" &\equiv 2\pi i\bar{J}_{[t|}T_{\bar{z}|x]}, & "T\bar{T}" &\equiv -2\pi^2 T_{t[t|}T_{x|x]} \end{aligned}$$

Back to quantum

Conjecture that **universal** classical equation holds quantumly

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_{\lambda_{J\overline{T}}} \mathcal{H} = & 2\pi i J_{[t|} T_{\overline{z}|x]} + \pi b J_{[t|} T_{t|x]} \\ & + 2\pi^2 i a T_{\overline{z}x} + \pi^2 ab T_{tx} - \frac{\pi^2 a^2}{2} J_x + \text{derivatives} \end{aligned}$$

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Use factorization $\langle n | J_{[t|} T_{\bar{z}|x]} | n \rangle = \langle n | J_{[t|} | n \rangle \langle n | T_{\bar{z}|x]} | n \rangle$ then write time-components as charges and space-components as a, b, L derivatives to get

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = & \frac{2L}{i\pi} \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda_{J\bar{T}}} E_n + \left(-\bar{a} \hat{Q}_n - \pi(a^2 - \bar{a}^2)L - (1-b)E_n + P_n \right) \partial_a E_n \\ & - \bar{a} \hat{Q}_n \partial_{\bar{a}} E_n + (1-b) \hat{Q}_n \partial_b E_n + L \hat{Q}_n \partial_L E_n, \end{aligned}$$

where $\hat{Q} \equiv Q + 2\pi aL$ and $\hat{\bar{Q}} \equiv \bar{Q} + 2\pi \bar{a}L$

Solution

Turn on $J\bar{T}$, $J\Theta$, $\bar{J}T$, $\bar{J}\Theta$, $T\bar{T}$ with a single coupling μ

$$\epsilon_n \equiv E_n \hat{L} = \frac{1+b}{2} \epsilon + \frac{1-b}{2} \bar{\epsilon} + \frac{-B - \sqrt{B^2 - 4AC}}{2A},$$

$$\epsilon \equiv \epsilon_0 + p + 2aL(\hat{Q} - \pi aL), \quad \bar{\epsilon} \equiv \epsilon_0 - p + 2\bar{a}L(\hat{\bar{Q}} - \pi \bar{a}L),$$

$$\hat{L} \equiv (1-b^2)L, \quad \hat{Q} \equiv Q + 2\pi aL, \quad \hat{\bar{Q}} \equiv \bar{Q} + 2\pi \bar{a}L,$$

$$A = \left(\frac{\pi}{2} (G_{J\bar{T}}^2 + G_{\bar{J}T}^2) + \hat{G}_{T\bar{T}} \right) \mu^2,$$

$$B = -1 - (G_{J\bar{T}} \hat{Q} + G_{\bar{J}T} \hat{\bar{Q}}) \mu + \left((\pi G_{J\bar{T}}^2 + \hat{G}_{T\bar{T}}) \epsilon + (\pi G_{\bar{J}T}^2 + \hat{G}_{T\bar{T}}) \bar{\epsilon} \right) \mu^2,$$

$$C = - \left(G_{J\bar{T}} \hat{\bar{Q}} \epsilon + G_{\bar{J}T} \hat{Q} \bar{\epsilon} \right) \mu + \left(\frac{\pi}{2} G_{J\bar{T}}^2 \epsilon^2 + \hat{G}_{T\bar{T}} \epsilon \bar{\epsilon} + \frac{\pi}{2} G_{\bar{J}T}^2 \bar{\epsilon}^2 \right) \mu^2,$$

$$G_{J\bar{T}} \equiv (1-b)g_{J\bar{T}}, \quad G_{\bar{J}T} \equiv (1+b)g_{\bar{J}T},$$

$$\hat{G}_{T\bar{T}} \equiv (1-b^2) \left(g_{T\bar{T}} + \frac{\pi}{2} (g_{J\bar{T}} g_{J\Theta} + g_{\bar{J}T} g_{\bar{J}\Theta}) \right).$$

Square-root singularity

$$\epsilon_n = \dots - \frac{1}{2A} \sqrt{B^2 - 4AC}$$

$$B^2 - 4AC$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left(1 + (G_{J\bar{T}} \hat{Q} + G_{J\bar{T}} \hat{\bar{Q}}) \mu\right)^2 - \mu^2 (\epsilon - \bar{\epsilon}) (\pi G_{J\bar{T}}^2 - \pi G_{J\bar{T}}^2) \\ &\quad + 2\mu^3 (\epsilon - \bar{\epsilon}) \left(G_{J\bar{T}} \hat{\bar{Q}} (\pi G_{J\bar{T}}^2 + \hat{G}_{T\bar{T}}) - G_{J\bar{T}} \hat{Q} (\pi G_{J\bar{T}}^2 + \hat{G}_{T\bar{T}})\right) \\ &\quad + \mu^4 (\epsilon - \bar{\epsilon})^2 (\hat{G}_{T\bar{T}}^2 - \pi^2 G_{J\bar{T}}^2 G_{J\bar{T}}^2) - 4A \frac{\epsilon + \bar{\epsilon}}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Here $\epsilon - \bar{\epsilon} \sim$ momentum while $\epsilon + \bar{\epsilon} \sim$ energy

Whether low-lying or high-energy modes are lost (become complex) is controlled by

$$A = \left(\frac{\pi}{2} (G_{J\bar{T}}^2 + G_{J\bar{T}}^2) + \hat{G}_{T\bar{T}}\right) \mu^2 \geq 0,$$

Matching with “holomorphic” $J\bar{T}$

In other works, $J\bar{T}$ is solved by preserving holomorphy of J

Instead we keep J_t fixed

We determine $\langle n|J_x|n\rangle$ using background fields rather than holomorphy

Are the deformations the same? Yes,

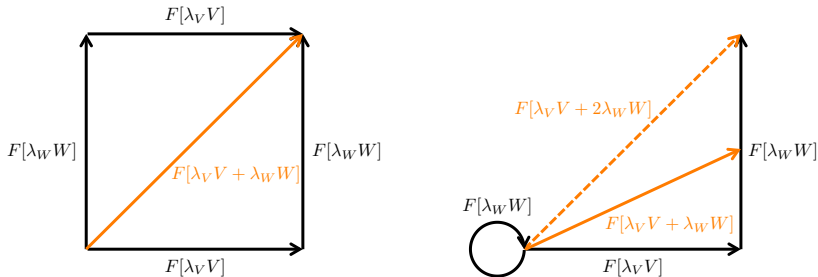
$$J_{\mu}^{\text{holomorphic}} = J_{\mu}^{\text{us}} - 2\pi^2 \lambda T_{\bar{z}\mu}$$

so

$$J^{\text{hol}}\bar{T} = \epsilon^{\mu\nu} J_{\mu}^{\text{hol}} T_{\bar{z}\nu} = \epsilon^{\mu\nu} J_{\mu}^{\text{us}} T_{\bar{z}\nu} - 2\pi^2 \lambda \underbrace{\epsilon^{\mu\nu} T_{\bar{z}\mu} T_{\bar{z}\nu}}_{0 \text{ by antisymmetry}}$$

Deformations one after another

Doing the deformations one after the other typically commutes, except for $V = J\bar{T}$ and $W = J\Theta$ (or complex conjugates)



Nothing too exciting: stay in the same space of deformations

Work in progress

- Interpret of $\partial_\lambda E_n = \dots$ as transport along characteristics, compare with Turino group (Tateo, Negro, Conti, ...)
- Commutator of $J\bar{J}$, $J\bar{T}$, $J\bar{\Theta}$, $T\bar{J}$, $\Theta\bar{J}$, $T\bar{T}$ deformations
- Prove evolution equation, generalize to KdV charges to get control of $\langle n | A_s^t | n \rangle$
- Massive free scalar: get initial data, solve evolution equation

Thank you!

Hamiltonian quantum perturbation theory ($T\bar{T}$ case)

Set $\ell_n = L_n - \delta_{n,0} \frac{c}{24}$ and $\bar{\ell}_n = \bar{L}_n - \delta_{n,0} \frac{c}{24}$. Using conservation,

$$P = \ell_0 - \bar{\ell}_0$$

$$H = \ell_0 + \bar{\ell}_0 + \mu \sum_m \ell_m \bar{\ell}_m + O(\mu^2)$$

$$T_{00} = \frac{-1}{2\pi} \sum_k e^{ikx} \left(\ell_k + \bar{\ell}_{-k} + \mu \sum_m \ell_{k+m} \bar{\ell}_m + O(\mu^2) \right)$$

$$T_{01} = \frac{i}{2\pi} \sum_k e^{ikx} \left(1 - \mu \frac{c}{12} k^2 \right) (\ell_k - \bar{\ell}_{-k}) + O(\mu^2)$$

$$T_{10} = \frac{i}{2\pi} \sum_k e^{ikx} (\ell_k - \bar{\ell}_{-k}) \quad \text{exactly (by definition)}$$

$$T_{11} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_k e^{ikx} \left(\left(1 + \mu \frac{c}{12} k^2 \right) (\ell_k + \bar{\ell}_{-k}) + 3\mu \sum_m \ell_{m+k} \bar{\ell}_m + O(\mu^2) \right)$$

Next want $T_{00}(x) T_{11}(y) - T_{01}(x) T_{10}(y)$ OPE

Hamiltonian quantum perturbation theory ($T\bar{T}$ case)

Practice OPE's in CFT:

$$T(y + \epsilon)T(y) = \sum_{k,m} e^{ik\epsilon + i(k+m)y} l_k l_m = \sum_s e^{isy} \sum_k e^{ik\epsilon} l_k l_{s-k}$$

Notice that $\sum_k l_k l_{s-k}$ is singular: e.g. $\langle 0 | \sum_k l_k l_{-k} | 0 \rangle = \infty$.
Need to commute l 's to put lowering operators right so when acting on $|0\rangle$ only finitely many terms remain

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Need to commute ℓ 's to put lowering operators right so when acting on $|0\rangle$ only finitely many terms remain

After deformation, ℓ_k , $k > 0$ don't kill the new vacuum but

$$\Lambda_k = \ell_k + \mu \left(\frac{c}{24} k^2 \bar{\ell}_{-k} + \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{n-k}{2n} \ell_{k+n} \bar{\ell}_n \right) + O(\mu^2)$$

$$\bar{\Lambda}_k = \bar{\ell}_k + \mu \left(\frac{c}{24} k^2 \ell_{-k} + \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{n-k}{2n} \ell_n \bar{\ell}_{k+n} \right) + O(\mu^2)$$

do! And $[\Lambda_k, \Lambda_m] = (k-m)\Lambda_{k+m} + \frac{c}{12} k^3 \delta_{k+m} + O(\mu^3), \dots$

Deformed Virasoro algebra ($T\bar{T}$ case)

Both $\ell_k, \bar{\ell}_k$ and $\Lambda_k, \bar{\Lambda}_k$ obey the same algebra
 but $\Lambda_k, \bar{\Lambda}_k$ map energy eigenstates to eigenstates, and

$$H = \Lambda_0 + \bar{\Lambda}_0 + \mu\Lambda_0\bar{\Lambda}_0 + \mu^2\Lambda_0\bar{\Lambda}_0(\Lambda_0 + \bar{\Lambda}_0) + O(\mu^3)$$

Define $\Lambda_k, \bar{\Lambda}_k$ as $\ell_k, \bar{\ell}_k$ “conjugated” by the deformation:

$$\Lambda_k|n\rangle_\mu = (\ell_k|n\rangle)_\mu \text{ and } \bar{\Lambda}_k|n\rangle_\mu = (\bar{\ell}_k|n\rangle)_\mu$$

so $\Lambda_0 \pm \bar{\Lambda}_0$ measure eigenvalues of $\ell_0 \pm \bar{\ell}_0$ acting on $|n\rangle$,
 i.e. initial energy and momentum of $|n\rangle$, so expect

$$H = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - 2\mu(\Lambda_0 + \bar{\Lambda}_0) + \mu^2(\Lambda_0 - \bar{\Lambda}_0)^2}}{\mu}$$

Spectrum-generating operators

Define $\Lambda_k, \Upsilon_k, \bar{\Lambda}_k, \bar{\Upsilon}_k$ as $\ell_k, j_k, \bar{\ell}_k, \bar{j}_k$ conjugated by deformation

- $\Lambda_0|n\rangle_\lambda = (\ell_0|n\rangle)_\lambda = h|n\rangle_\lambda$ and so on so $\Lambda_0 \pm \bar{\Lambda}_0, \Upsilon_0, \bar{\Upsilon}_0$ acting on $|n\rangle_\lambda$ measure initial energy, momentum, charges
- Charges fixed $\implies \Upsilon_0 = j_0, \bar{\Upsilon}_0 = \bar{j}_0, \Lambda_0 - \bar{\Lambda}_0 = \ell_0 - \bar{\ell}_0$
- Same Virasoro and Kač–Moody algebra as $\ell_k, j_k, \bar{\ell}_k, \bar{j}_k$, e.g.,

$$[\Lambda_k, \Lambda_m] = (k - m)\Lambda_{k+m} + \frac{c}{12}k^3\delta_{k+m,0}$$

- $\Lambda_k, \Upsilon_k, \bar{\Lambda}_k, \bar{\Upsilon}_k$ times eigenstate $|n\rangle_\lambda$ gives eigenstate. “Spectrum generating” or “raising and lowering” operators

Expect energy of $|n\rangle_\lambda$ only depends on initial energy, momentum, charges so

$$H|n\rangle_\lambda = H(\lambda; h^0, q^0, \bar{h}^0, \bar{q}^0)|n\rangle_\lambda = H(\lambda; \Lambda_0, \Upsilon_0, \bar{\Lambda}_0, \bar{\Upsilon}_0)|n\rangle_\lambda$$

e.g. for the $J\bar{T}$ -deformed CFT we expect

$$H \stackrel{\text{prediction}}{=} \frac{2\pi}{L} \left(\Lambda_0 - \bar{\Lambda}_0 - \frac{L^2}{2\pi^4\lambda^2} \left(1 - \frac{2\pi^2 i\lambda}{L} \Upsilon_0 - \sqrt{\left(1 - 2\pi^2 i(\lambda/L)\Upsilon_0 \right)^2 - 2\left(2\pi^2 i\lambda/L \right)^2 \bar{\Lambda}_0} \right) \right)$$