

On the integrability of the sine-Gordon equation

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Motivation: pseudosphere

$\Sigma \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ open. \exists one to one correspondence (Hilbert):

- (i) Immersion $f : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3, (x, t) \mapsto f(x, t)$ with Gaussian curvature $\equiv -1$ (pseudosphere) and $|\partial_x f| = |\partial_t f| = 1$.
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"(i) \Rightarrow (ii)" the angle $\angle(\partial_x f, \partial_y f) =: u(x, y)$ is a solution of (1).

"(ii) \Rightarrow (i)" $\angle(\partial_x, \partial_y) = u(x, y)$ with $|\partial_x| = |\partial_t| = 1$ characterizes metric on Σ ; integrate Gauss-Mainardi-Codazzi equations to get pseudosphere f .

sine-Gordon Equation

$$(IVP) \begin{cases} \partial_t \partial_x u(x, t) = \sin(u(x, t)) & t \in \mathbb{R}, x \in \mathbb{T} = \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} \\ u(0, x) = u_0(x) & u(x, t) \in \mathbb{T}_{2\pi} = \mathbb{R}/2\pi\mathbb{Z} \end{cases}$$

$u \in H^m(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{T}_{2\pi})$, $m \geq 1$: $\exists \dot{u} \in H^m(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{R})$, $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t.

$$u(x) = \dot{u}(x) + 2\pi kx \pmod{2\pi}.$$

Involution: $u \mapsto \check{u} + \pi$, $\check{u}(x, t) = u(-x, t)$

u solution $\Leftrightarrow \check{u} + \pi$ solution

The phase space

observation: Any C^1 solution $u : t \mapsto u(t, \cdot) \in H^m(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{T}_{2\pi})$ satisfies

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}} \sin(u) \, dx = \int_{\mathbb{T}} \partial_t \partial_x u \, dx = \partial_t 2\pi k = 0.$$

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Introduce for $m \geq 1$:

$$M^m := \left\{ u \in H^m(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{T}_{2\pi}) : \int_{\mathbb{T}} e^{iu} \, dx \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$M^m = M_+^m \cup M_-^m \cup M_0^m$$

$$M_0^m \subset M^m : \int_{\mathbb{T}} e^{iu} \, dx = 0$$

$$M_{\pm}^m \subset M^m : \pm \int_{\mathbb{T}} e^{iu} \, dx \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$$

The phase space

$\forall u \in H^m(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{T}_{2\pi})$ consider the line $u + \mathbb{T}_{2\pi}$ and note,

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}} e^{i(u+c)} dx = e^{ic} \int_{\mathbb{T}} e^{iu} dx \quad \forall c \in \mathbb{T}_{2\pi}.$$

case 1: $\int e^{iu} dx = 0$

$$u + c \in M_0^m \quad \forall c \in \mathbb{T}_{2\pi}$$

case 2: $\int_{\mathbb{T}} e^{iu} dx \neq 0$

$$\exists! c_+ \in \mathbb{T}_{2\pi} \text{ s.t. } u + c_+ \in M_+^m$$

$$\exists! c_- \in \mathbb{T}_{2\pi} \text{ s.t. } u + c_- \in M_-^m$$

where $c_+ = c_- + \pi = -\arg\left(\int_{\mathbb{T}} e^{iu} dx\right) \pmod{2\pi}$

parametrization of M_{\pm}^m

Introduce new variable $v := \frac{1}{2}u_x$

note that $u \in H^m(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{T}_{2\pi}) \rightsquigarrow v \in H^{m-1}(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{R})$

Introduce for $l \geq 0$

$$W^l = \left\{ v \in H^l(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{R}) : \int_{\mathbb{T}} \exp(2i\partial_x^{-1}v) dx \neq 0, \int_{\mathbb{T}} v dx \in \pi\mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

where ∂_x^{-1} is the mean zero anti-derivative.

Definition

$$\Psi^+ : W^l \rightarrow M_+^{l+1}, v \mapsto 2\partial_x^{-1}v + \gamma(v)$$

$$\Psi^- : W^l \rightarrow M_-^{l+1}, v \mapsto (2\partial_x^{-1}v)^\vee + \gamma(v) + \pi$$

where $\check{v}(x) = v(-x)$ and $\gamma(v) = -\arg\left(\int_{\mathbb{T}} e^{2i\partial_x^{-1}v} dx\right)$

Theorem

For any $l \geq 0$, the following holds:

- (i) Ψ^+ [Ψ^-] parametrizes M_+^{l+1} [M_-^{l+1}] real analytically.
Equation (1) in v -coordinates:

$$v_t = \frac{1}{2} \sin(2\partial_x^{-1}v + \gamma(v)) \quad \text{on } W^l. \quad (2)$$

- (ii) Equation (2) is Hamiltonian with respect to the Gardner bracket, i.e. is equivalent to $v_t = \partial_x \partial_v H$, with Hamiltonian

$$H : W^l \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, v \mapsto \frac{1}{4} \int_{\mathbb{T}} \cos(2\partial_x^{-1}v + \gamma(v)) \, dx. \quad (3)$$

- (iii) The Hamiltonian H is in the Poisson algebra of the focusing mKdV equation and hence (2) is an integrable PDE on W^l .

Corollary

For any $l \geq 0$, equation (2) admits Birkhoff coordinates near 0. In particular, near 0, the Hamiltonian H is a function of the actions alone.

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sketch of the proof

- (i) [KST08]: global real analytic Birkhoff coordinates for defocusing mKdV
- (ii) \Rightarrow existence of Birkhoff coordinates near 0 for focusing mKdV
- (iii) all Hamiltonians in the Poisson algebra of focusing mKdV, when expressed in Birkhoff coordinates are in normal form.

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Lemma

$\forall m \geq 1$ M_0^m is a codimension 2 submanifold of $H^m(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{T}_{2\pi})$

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Lemma

$\forall m \geq 1$ M_0^m is a codimension 2 submanifold of $H^m(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{T}_{2\pi})$

Definition

For all $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ introduce

$$M_0^{m,k} = \{ u \in M_0^m : \exists \dot{u} \in H^m(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{R}) \text{ s.t.} \\ u(x) = \dot{u}(x) + 2\pi kx \pmod{2\pi} \}$$

Then

$$M_0^m = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} M_0^{m,k} \quad (\text{disjoint union})$$

Second main result

Theorem

$\forall k \in \mathbb{Z} \exists U \subset M_0^{1,k}$ open s.t. $\forall u_0 \in U, \forall T > 0$ the initial value problem

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \partial_x u = \sin(u) \\ u(0) = u_0 \end{cases}$$

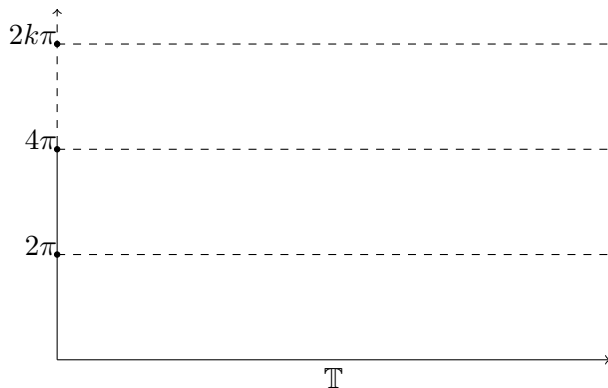
admits no C^1 solution u in $C^1([0, T], M^1)$.

Remark.

Note that there are elements in U which are C^∞ .

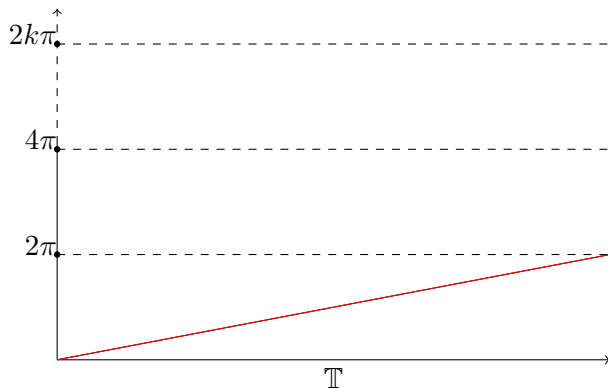
4. Illposed

Examples of elements in M_0^1
($M_0^1 = \{u \in H^1(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{T}_{2\pi}), \int_{\mathbb{T}} e^{iu} dx = 0\}$)



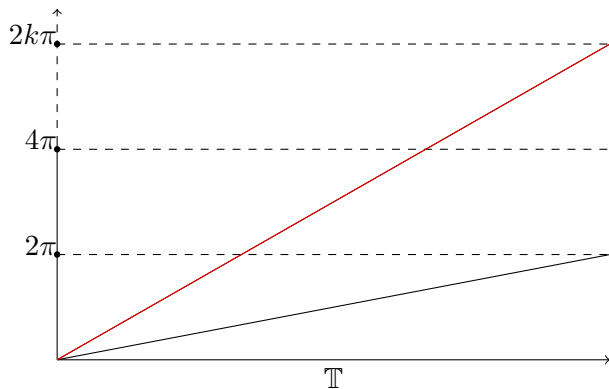
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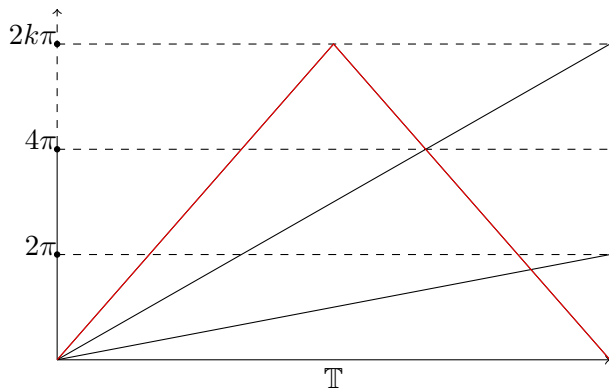
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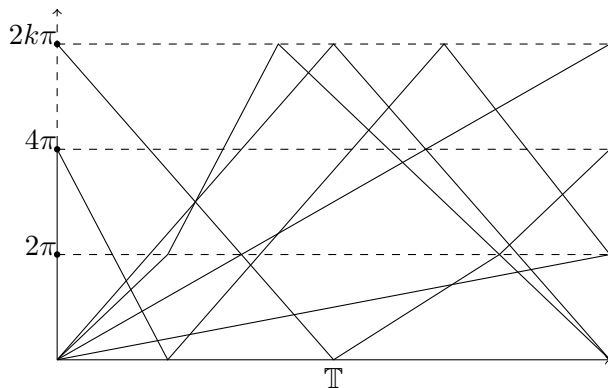
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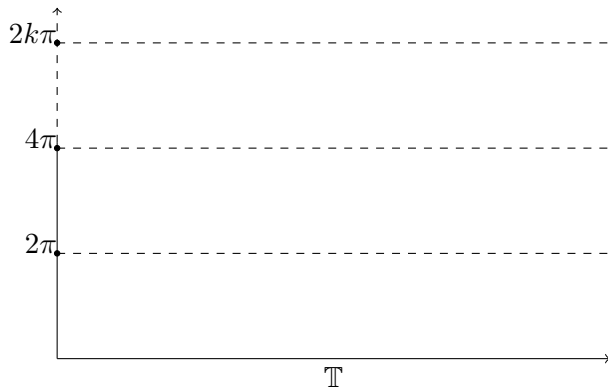
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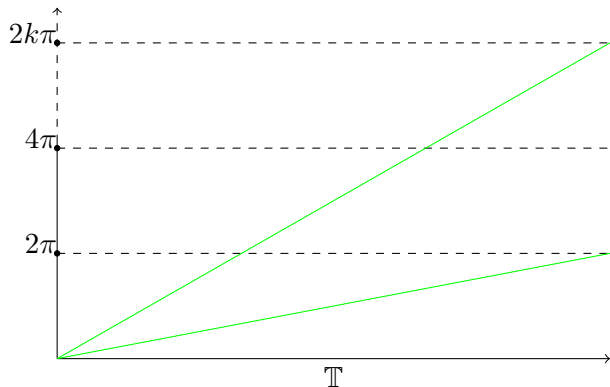
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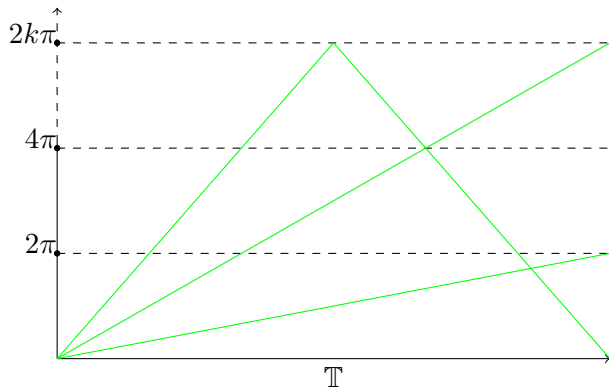
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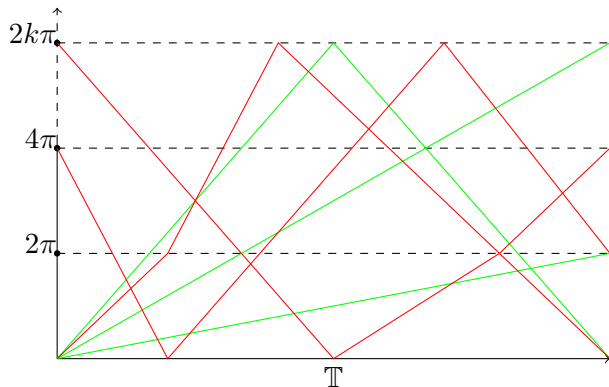
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T Kappeler, B Schaad, and P Topalov, *mKdV and its Birkhoff coordinates*, *Physica D: Nonlinear Phenomena* **237** (2008), no. 10, 1655–1662.