Old and new lessons from the Gross-Neveu model

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1) Introduction

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{k=1}^{N} \bar{\psi}_k i \partial \!\!\!/ \psi_k + \frac{g^2}{2} \left(\sum_{k=1}^{N} \bar{\psi}_k \psi_k \right)^2$$

Gross, Neveu (1974)

- renormalizable in 1+1 dimensions $\left[g^2\right] = 1$
- 't Hooft limit $N \to \infty$, $Ng^2 = \text{const.}$
- asymptotic freedom
- discrete chiral symmetry $\psi \to \gamma_5 \psi, \quad \bar{\psi} \psi \to -\bar{\psi} \psi$
- dynamical fermion mass m, no confinement

• marginally bound scalar meson with $M_{\sigma} = 2m$

• solitonic baryons (kink, kink-antikink)

• non-trivial phase diagram as a function of (μ, T) three phases (massive and massless Fermi gas, kink crystal) meeting at a tricritical point

 applications to quasi-one-dimensional condensed matter systems (conducting polymers, carbon nanotubes, superconductors)

various generalizations

Principal tool in the large *N* limit: Semi-classical methods – relativistic version of time-dependent Hartree-Fock (TDHF) also applicable at finite temperature and chemical potential

Basic mathematical problem

TDHF
$$(i\partial -S)\psi_{\alpha} = 0, \qquad S = -g^2 \sum_{\alpha}^{\text{occ}} \bar{\psi}_{\alpha}\psi_{\alpha}$$

 $\textsc{Dirac}\sc{sea} \rightarrow \textsc{Infinite}\sc{system}\sc{of}\sc{coupled}, \sc{non-linear}\sc{PDEs}$

• vacuum: homogeneous condensate - trivial

$$S = m = \Lambda \exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{Ng^2}\right)$$

Dimensional transmutation

- baryons, dense matter: inhomogeneous condensates non-trivial
- mesons: quantized fluctuations of Hartree-Fock solution (relativistic RPA)

Surprisingly, exact analytical solutions can be found in all cases

2) Kink at rest



Dirac equation \rightarrow effective Schrödinger equation with 1/cosh² potential (reflectionless). Set m = 1 from now on.

Contribution to condensate from continuum- and discrete states

$$\bar{\psi}_k \psi_k = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{k^2 + 1}} \tanh x, \qquad \bar{\psi}_0 \psi_0 = 0$$

Key to solution of self-consistency problem: All occupied states give contribution $\sim S$ Example of "type I" solution of TDHF equation All known analytical solutions of the Gross-Neveu model are type I or type II – only one or two functions enter in $\bar{\psi}_{\alpha}\psi_{\alpha}$ In this talk we focus on type I solutions.

Kink has non-trivial fermion number (n valence fermions)

$$N_f = n - \frac{N}{2} = -\frac{N}{2} \dots \frac{N}{2}$$

Related to topology (Jackiw, Rebbi)

Kink mass independent of N_f

$$M_K = \frac{N}{\pi}$$

3) Kink crystal

Ground state at finite density: kink crystal favored due to Peierls effect



type I solution

$$\bar{\psi}_{\alpha}\psi_{\alpha} = -\frac{\kappa \operatorname{dn}(\alpha,\kappa)}{\operatorname{dn}^{2}(\alpha,\kappa) - \mathsf{E}/\mathsf{K}}S$$

At finite temperature, same functional form of S, but type II solution.

4) Boosted kink and structure functions

Lorentz boost

$$S(x) \to S(\gamma(x - vt)), \qquad \gamma = (1 - v^2)^{-1/2}$$

TDHF gives covariant energy-momentum relation for the kink baryon

$$E = \gamma M_K, \qquad P = \gamma v M_K$$

Fermion (quark) and antifermion (antiquark) momentum distribution in arbitrary frame

$$W_{q}(k) = \langle HF | a_{k}^{\dagger} a_{k} | HF \rangle$$

$$W_{\bar{q}}(k) = 1 - \langle HF | b_{-k}^{\dagger} b_{-k} | HF \rangle$$

Free, massive fermion operators a_k, b_k . Rescaling

$$k = x\hat{P}_B = x\frac{P_B}{N}, \qquad w_{q,\bar{q}}(x) = \hat{P}_B W_{q,\bar{q}}(x\hat{P}_B)$$

Infinite momentum frame

$$x\in [0,N]\to [0,\infty]$$

Kink structure functions (fully occupied valence level)

$$w_{\overline{q}}(x) = \int_0^\infty dq \frac{2}{(\pi^2 + 4q^2)\sinh^2(x+q)}$$
$$w_q(x) = \frac{1}{\cosh^2 x} + w_{\overline{q}}(x)$$

Sum rules

$$1 = \int_0^\infty dx \left(w_q(x) - w_{\bar{q}}(x) \right)$$

$$1 = \int_0^\infty dx x \left(w_q(x) + w_{\bar{q}}(x) \right)$$

Logarithmic infrared divergence in the number of quarks and antiquarks from low x region

$$w_q(x) \approx w_{\overline{q}}(x) \approx \frac{2}{\pi^2 x} \qquad (x \to 0)$$

Momentum distribution $xw_{q,\overline{q}}(x)$ well behaved



Quark (thick line), antiquark (thin line) and valence quark (dotted line) structure functions for the kink baryon

Infinite momentum frame: Fraction of baryon momentum carried by

- valence quarks: $\frac{\ln 2}{2} = 35\%$
- sea quarks: $\frac{1}{2} = 50\%$
- antiquarks: $\frac{1-\ln 2}{2} = 15\%$

5) Kink-antikink scattering

Dashen, Hasslacher, Neveu (1975): kink-antikink breather, guessed by analogy with sine-Gordon breather

According to our classification: type II solution of TDHF

Analytic continuation $\epsilon \rightarrow i/v$: Kink-antikink scattering

Result actually simpler than the breather due to different boundary conditions in scattering problem

Self-consistent potential

$$S = \frac{v \cosh 2\gamma x - \cosh 2\gamma v t}{v \cosh 2\gamma x + \cosh 2\gamma v t}$$

describes repulsive kink-antikink encounter with asymptotic velocities $\pm v$ in cm frame

Properties of the solution

• continuum states
$$\sim {
m e}^{i(kx-\omega t)}, \omega = -\sqrt{k^2+1}$$
 (reflectionless)

• two bound states do not contribute to condensate, but lead to exchange of valence fermions between kink and antikink

• type I solution

$$\bar{\psi}_k \psi_k = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{k^2 + 1}} S, \qquad \bar{\psi}_0 \psi_0 = 0$$

• time delay

$$\Delta t = \frac{\ln v}{v} \sqrt{1 - v^2} < 0$$

• kink and antikink interchange fermion number during the collision

$$K(n - N/2) + \overline{K}(\overline{n} - N/2) \longrightarrow K(\overline{n} - N/2) + \overline{K}(n - N/2)$$

A Maple animation

6) Effective bosonic theory

Static solutions: Non-linear Schrödinger equation (ϕ^4 theory)

$$S'' - 2S^3 + cS = 0$$

- c depends on particular solution
- kink-antikink scattering fails (no solitons in ϕ^4 theory)

For type I solutions: TDHF equivalent to N = 1 classical Gross-Neveu model

Neveu and Papanicolaou (1978): Proof of integrability for N = 1, 2

TDHF equation

$$(i\partial - S)\psi = 0$$

Dirac matrices

$$\gamma^0 = \sigma_1, \quad \gamma^1 = i\sigma_2, \quad \gamma_5 = -\sigma_3$$

Light-cone coordinates

$$z = x - t, \quad \overline{z} = x + t$$

Dirac equation

$$\begin{array}{rcl} -2i\psi_{1,z} &=& S\psi_2\\ 2i\psi_{2,\overline{z}} &=& S\psi_1 \end{array}$$

Self-consistency for type I solutions

$$S = \ell \bar{\psi} \psi = \ell \left(\psi_1^* \psi_2 + \psi_2^* \psi_1 \right)$$

What about the other derivatives $\psi_{1,\overline{z}}, \psi_{2,z}$? Identities

$$S\psi_{1,\overline{z}} - S_{,\overline{z}}\psi_1 = -ih_1\ell\psi_2$$

$$S\psi_{2,z} - S_{,z}\psi_2 = -ih_2\ell\psi_1$$

Have introduced

$$egin{array}{rcl} h_1 &=& i \left(\psi_1^* \psi_{1, \overline{z}} - \psi_1 \psi_{1, \overline{z}}^*
ight) \ h_2 &=& i \left(\psi_2^* \psi_{2, z} - \psi_2 \psi_{2, z}^*
ight) \end{array}$$

with

$$h_{1,z} = 0 = h_{2,\overline{z}} \longrightarrow h_{1,2} = \text{const.}$$

Express all derivatives of $\psi_{1,2}$ through $\psi_{1,2}$

$$\psi_{,\bar{z}} = C_1 \psi, \quad \psi_{,z} = C_2 \psi$$

with

$$C_1 = \begin{pmatrix} S_{,\bar{z}}S^{-1} & -ih_1\ell S^{-1} \\ -iS/2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad C_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & iS/2 \\ -ih_2\ell S^{-1} & S_{,z}S^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

Integrability condition

$$C_{1,z} - C_{2,\bar{z}} + [C_1, C_2] = 0$$

reminiscent of non-Abelian field strength tensor

Equivalently

$$SS_{,z\bar{z}} - S_{,z}S_{,\bar{z}} - \frac{1}{4}S^4 = h_1h_2\ell^2 = -\frac{1}{4}$$

Change of variables

$$S = e^{\theta/2} \longrightarrow \theta_{z,\overline{z}} = \sinh \theta$$

 C_1, C_2 Lax pair of sinh-Gordon equation

Discussion

• Kink, kink-crystal and kink-antikink satisfy classical sinh-Gordon equation after the singular transformation $S = e^{\theta/2}$ or $\theta = \ln S^2$

• Linearized equation in ordinary coordinates

$$\partial_{\mu}\partial^{\mu}\theta + 4\sinh\theta \approx (\partial_{\mu}\partial^{\mu} + 4)\theta = 0$$

yields Klein-Gordon equation for scalar meson with mass 2

• Relation to ϕ^4 theory for static case? Functional separable solution of sinh-Gordon equation

 $\theta(x,t) = 4 \operatorname{artanh} [f(t)g(x)]$

 $f_{,t}^2 = Af^4 + Bf^2 + C, \quad -g_{,x}^2 = Cg^4 + (B+4)g^2 + A$

• General N soliton solution known for sinh-Gordon equation – candidate for TDHF solution of the Gross-Neveu model with N kinks and antikinks

 Soliton theory provides us with self-consistent potential and TDHF wave functions if Lax pair is known

• Relation between kink, σ meson and sinh-Gordon equation in massless Gross-Neveu model analogous to baryon, π meson and sine-Gordon equation in massive NJL₂ model close to chiral limit (derivative expansion). Picture of baryons reminiscent of Skyrme model.

7) Relation to string theory

Strings in AdS₃ related to sinh-Gordon equation (Jevicki, Jin et al 2007-2010). Start from Lax pair of σ model (Pohlmeyer reduction)

$$\phi_{,\overline{z}} = A_1\phi, \quad \phi_{,z} = A_2\phi \psi_{,\overline{z}} = B_1\psi, \quad \psi_{,z} = B_2\psi$$

Integrability condition for both pairs of equations

$$\alpha_{,z\bar{z}} = \sinh \alpha$$

Normalization,

$$1 = \phi_1^* \phi_1 - \phi_2^* \phi_2 = \psi_1^* \psi_1 - \psi_2^* \psi_2$$

String coordinates

$$Z_{1} = Y_{-1} + iY_{0} = \phi_{1}^{*}\psi_{1} - \phi_{2}^{*}\psi_{2}$$

$$Z_{2} = Y_{1} + iY_{2} = \phi_{2}^{*}\psi_{1}^{*} - \phi_{1}^{*}\psi_{2}^{*}$$

Satisfy Virasoro constraints and string equation in conformal gauge.

Every solution of sinh-Gordon equation can be transformed into a classical solution of string rotating in AdS₃; solitons \cong spikes. \rightarrow Examples

Relationship between Gross-Neveu model and string theory

• type I solutions of TDHF

 $\lim_{N \to \infty} \text{ quantum Gross-Neveu } \leftrightarrow N = 1 \text{ classical Gross-Neveu}$

• Neveu and Papanicolaou

N = 1 classical Gross-Neveu \leftrightarrow classical sinh-Gordon

• Jevicki et al

classical sinh–Gordon $\leftrightarrow~$ classical strings in AdS3

Relate quantum Gross-Neveu model in the large N limit to classical strings in AdS₃. Basic structural element

$$C_{1,z} - C_{2,\bar{z}} + [C_1, C_2] = 0$$

Similar to (vanishing) non-Abelian field strength tensor – " pure gauge". Therefore both mappings involve non-Abelian "gauge transformations". Jevicki et al find the gauge transformation from the sinh-Gordon model to the string-related σ model

$$A_1 = \Omega_1 (U - \overline{\partial}) \Omega_1^{-1}, \quad A_2 = \Omega_1 (V - \partial) \Omega_1^{-1}$$

Neveu and Papanicolaou find the gauge transformation from the sinh-Gordon model to the Gross-Neveu model

$$C_1 = \Omega_2(U - \overline{\partial})\Omega_2^{-1}, \quad C_2 = \Omega_2(V - \partial)\Omega_2^{-1}$$

Type I solutions of the large N Gross-Neveu model can therefore be mapped to string theory by the gauge transformation $\Omega = \Omega_1 \Omega_2^{-1}$



 Ω_1 and Ω_2 are fairly complicated. How bad is $\Omega = \Omega_1 \Omega_2^{-1}$?

Need three cases $\zeta = -\lambda/2, \pm i\lambda/2$ where $\zeta = (k - \omega)/2$ is the spectral parameter of the TDHF fermion spinor

Simplified notation: $\vartheta = \theta(z, \overline{z})/4, \ \eta = \lambda^{-1}$

$$\Omega_1(\text{Jevicki})$$
 $\Omega_2^{-1}(\text{Neveu}) = \Omega$

$$\frac{\sqrt{i}}{2} \begin{pmatrix} e^{\vartheta} - e^{-\vartheta} & -e^{\vartheta} - e^{-\vartheta} \\ -ie^{\vartheta} - ie^{-\vartheta} & ie^{\vartheta} - ie^{-\vartheta} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -\eta & e^{-2\vartheta} \\ -\eta & -e^{-2\vartheta} \end{pmatrix} = \sqrt{i}e^{-\vartheta} \begin{pmatrix} \eta & 1 \\ i\eta & -i \end{pmatrix}$$
$$-\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} ie^{\vartheta} - e^{-\vartheta} & -ie^{\vartheta} - e^{-\vartheta} \\ e^{\vartheta} - ie^{-\vartheta} & -e^{\vartheta} - ie^{-\vartheta} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -i\eta & e^{-2\vartheta} \\ -i\eta & -e^{-2\vartheta} \end{pmatrix} = -ie^{-\vartheta} \begin{pmatrix} \eta & 1 \\ i\eta & -i \end{pmatrix}$$
$$-\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} e^{\vartheta} - ie^{-\vartheta} & -e^{\vartheta} - ie^{-\vartheta} \\ -ie^{\vartheta} + e^{-\vartheta} & ie^{\vartheta} + e^{-\vartheta} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} i\eta & e^{-2\vartheta} \\ i\eta & -e^{-2\vartheta} \end{pmatrix} = -e^{-\vartheta} \begin{pmatrix} \eta & 1 \\ i\eta & -i \end{pmatrix}$$

As a result, the construction of AdS₃ string solution Z_1, Z_2 from Gross-Neveu TDHF type I solution $\Psi(\zeta)$ and vice versa is very simple.

Define

$$\psi_a = \sqrt{i}\Psi(\zeta = -\lambda/2), \quad \psi_b = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\Psi(\zeta = -i\lambda/2) + i\Psi(\zeta = i\lambda/2)\right]$$

Normalization conditions

$$1 = \phi_{1}^{*}\phi_{1} - \phi_{2}^{*}\phi_{2} = \frac{2}{\lambda S}\bar{\psi}_{a}\psi_{a}$$

$$1 = \psi_{1}^{*}\psi_{1} - \psi_{2}^{*}\psi_{2} = \frac{2}{\lambda S}\bar{\psi}_{b}\psi_{b}$$

String coordinates

$$Z_{1} = Y_{-1} + iY_{0} = \phi_{1}^{*}\psi_{1} - \phi_{2}^{*}\psi_{2} = \frac{2}{\lambda S}\bar{\psi}_{a}\psi_{b} = \frac{\psi_{a}\psi_{b}}{\bar{\psi}_{a}\psi_{a}}$$
$$Z_{2} = Y_{1} + iY_{2} = \phi_{2}^{*}\psi_{1}^{*} - \phi_{1}^{*}\psi_{2}^{*} = -\frac{2}{\lambda S}\bar{\psi}_{a}i\gamma_{5}\psi_{b}^{*} = -\frac{\bar{\psi}_{a}i\gamma_{5}\psi_{b}^{*}}{\bar{\psi}_{a}\psi_{a}}$$

Example

Vacuum of Gross-Neveu model

$$(i\partial -m)\Psi = 0, \qquad m = 1$$

Plane wave solution

$$\Psi(\zeta) = \begin{pmatrix} \zeta \\ -1/2 \end{pmatrix} e^{i(\bar{z}\zeta - z/4\zeta)}$$

Plug it in \rightarrow rotating string

$$Z_1 = -e^{iA_-} \cosh A_+, \quad Z_2 = ie^{iA_-} \sinh A_+, \quad A_{\pm} = \frac{\overline{z}\lambda}{2} \pm \frac{z}{2\lambda}$$

AdS₃ embedding

$$-|Z_1|^2 + |Z_2|^2 = -1$$

Conformal gauge equation of motion and Virasoro constraints

$$|Z_{1,z}|^2 - |Z_{2,z}|^2 = 0, \quad |Z_{1,\overline{z}}|^2 - |Z_{2,\overline{z}}|^2 = 0$$

satisfied