

Matrix Models, Group Singlets, and Scars

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The Early 1990s

- Flourishing of 2D Quantum Gravity: Continuum Path Integral, Matrix Models, Topological Recursion Relations, 2D Black Holes
- Herman and I were very close!
- Jadwin 324 and 326
- Also, Hibben and Magie



- I could not help overhearing many hours of conversations between Erik, Herman and Robbert emanating from Jadwin 324, but I understood **nothing**.



ICTP Spring School 1991

- Herman was an organizer and very good host
- Lectures on large N matrix models and Liouville gravity.
- IRK, hep-th/9108019

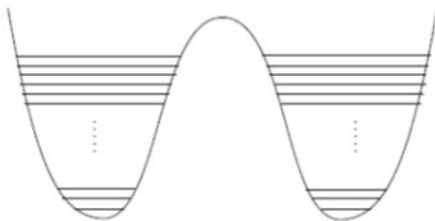


Fig. 3a) N fermions in a double well potential.

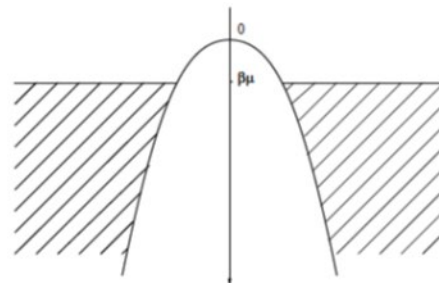
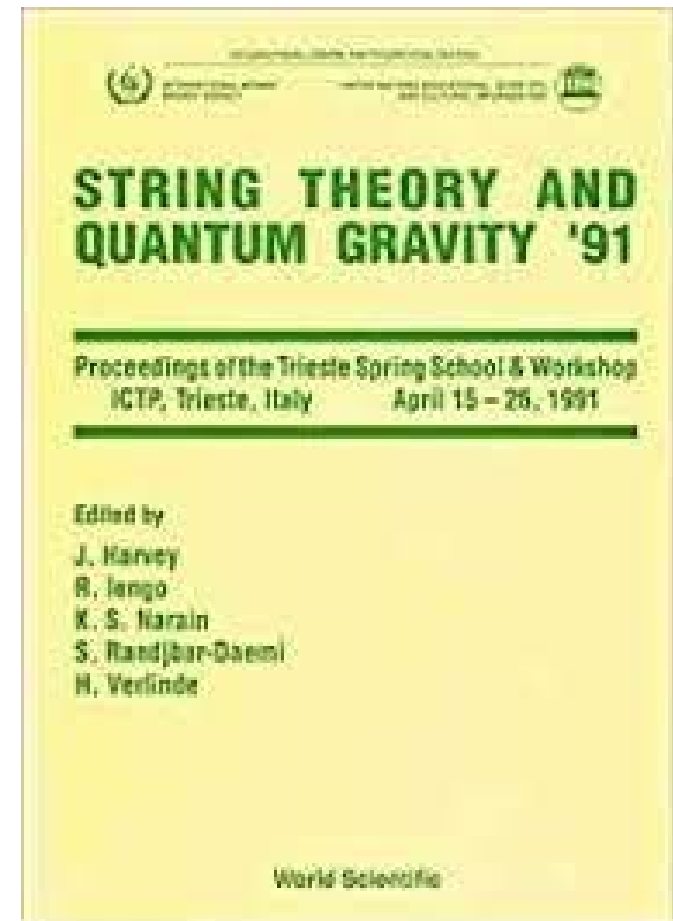


Fig. 3b) The system relevant to the double-scaling limit.



Singlet Sector Simplification

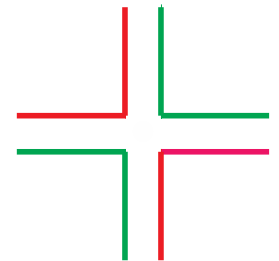
- The $SU(N)$ invariant sector of the Hermitian matrix quantum mechanics is described by the free fermions. Brezin, Itzykson, Parisi and Zuber
- This is the secret of the exact solvability of the model.
- The non-singlet sectors are related to the BKT vortices or, alternatively, long strings. Gross, IRK; Maldacena

The $c=1$ Matrix Reloaded

- A dozen years later, in 2003, the Hermitian matrix quantum mechanics was given a new interpretation as describing N unstable D0-branes. J. McGreevy, H. Verlinde; Polyakov
- **Linear dilaton holography:** String theory in two dimensions is dual to the large N matrix quantum mechanics on ZZ D0-branes.
- **A new hat for the $c=1$ matrix model.** The double-scaled, double-well matrix quantum mechanics is dual to the type 0B NSR string theory in 2D, which has worldsheet fermions. Takayanagi, Toumbas; Douglas, IRK, Kutasov, Maldacena, Martinec, Seiberg

$O(N) \times O(N)$ Matrix Model

- Theory of real matrices ϕ^{ab} with distinguishable indices, i.e. in the bi-fundamental representation of $O(N)_a \times O(N)_b$ symmetry.
- The interaction is at least quartic: $g \text{tr} \phi \phi^T \phi \phi^T$
- Propagators are represented by colored double lines, and the interaction vertex is
- In $d=0$ or 1 special limits describe two-dimensional quantum gravity.



From Bi- to Tri-Fundamentals

- For a 3-tensor with distinguishable indices the propagator has index structure

$$\langle \phi^{abc} \phi^{a'b'c'} \rangle = \delta^{aa'} \delta^{bb'} \delta^{cc'}$$

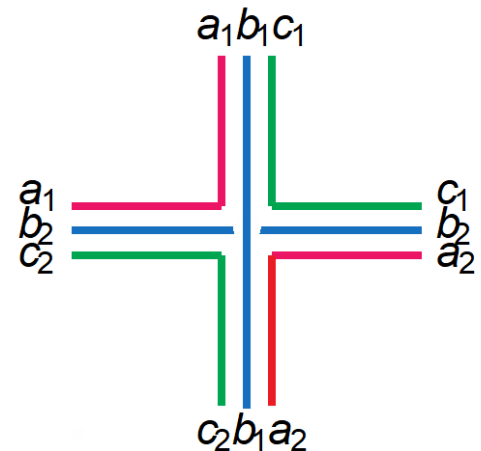
- It may be represented graphically by 3 colored wires



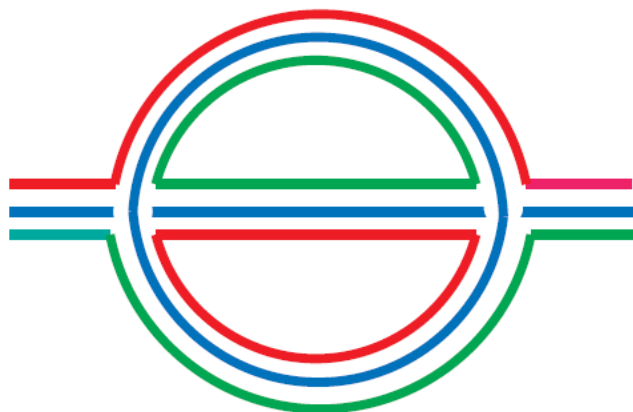
- Tetrahedral** interaction with $O(N)_a \times O(N)_b \times O(N)_c$ symmetry

Carrozza, Tanasa; IK, Tarnopolsky

$$\frac{1}{4} g \phi^{a_1 b_1 c_1} \phi^{a_1 b_2 c_2} \phi^{a_2 b_1 c_2} \phi^{a_2 b_2 c_1}$$



- Leading correction to the propagator has 3 index loops



- Requiring that this “melon” insertion is of order 1 means that $\lambda = gN^{3/2}$ must be held fixed in the large N limit.
- **Melonic graphs** obtained by iterating



$O(N)^3$ Tensor QM

- Quantum Mechanics of N^3 Majorana fermions

IRK, Tarnopolsky

$$\{\psi^{abc}, \psi^{a'b'c'}\} = \delta^{aa'} \delta^{bb'} \delta^{cc'}$$

$$H = \frac{g}{4} \psi^{abc} \psi^{ab'c'} \psi^{a'bc'} \psi^{a'b'c} - \frac{g}{16} N^4$$

- Has $O(N)_a \times O(N)_b \times O(N)_c$ symmetry under

$$\psi^{abc} \rightarrow M_1^{aa'} M_2^{bb'} M_3^{cc'} \psi^{a'b'c'}, \quad M_1, M_2, M_3 \in O(N)$$

- The $SO(N)$ symmetry charges are

$$Q_1^{aa'} = \frac{i}{2} [\psi^{abc}, \psi^{a'bc}], \quad Q_2^{bb'} = \frac{i}{2} [\psi^{abc}, \psi^{ab'c}], \quad Q_3^{cc'} = \frac{i}{2} [\psi^{abc}, \psi^{abc'}]$$

$O(N)^3$ vs. SYK Model

- Using composite indices $I_k = (a_k b_k c_k)$

$$H = \frac{1}{4!} J_{I_1 I_2 I_3 I_4} \psi^{I_1} \psi^{I_2} \psi^{I_3} \psi^{I_4}$$

The couplings take values $0, \pm 1$

$$J_{I_1 I_2 I_3 I_4} = \delta_{a_1 a_2} \delta_{a_3 a_4} \delta_{b_1 b_3} \delta_{b_2 b_4} \delta_{c_1 c_4} \delta_{c_2 c_3} - \delta_{a_1 a_2} \delta_{a_3 a_4} \delta_{b_2 b_3} \delta_{b_1 b_4} \delta_{c_2 c_4} \delta_{c_1 c_3} + 22 \text{ terms}$$

- The number of distinct terms is

$$\frac{1}{4!} \sum_{\{I_k\}} J_{I_1 I_2 I_3 I_4}^2 = \frac{1}{4} N^3 (N-1)^2 (N+2)$$

- Much smaller than in SYK model with $N_{\text{SYK}} = N^3$

$$\frac{1}{24} N^3 (N^3 - 1)(N^3 - 2)(N^3 - 3)$$

Gauged Model

- To eliminate large degeneracies, gauge the symmetry. Witten
- Focus on the states invariant under $SO(N)^3$.
- Their number can be found by gauging the free theory IRK, Milekhin, Popov, Tarnopolsky

$$\#\text{singlet states} = \int d\lambda_G^N \prod_{a=1}^{M/2} 2 \cos(\lambda_a/2)$$

$$d\lambda_{SO(2n)} = \prod_{i < j}^n \sin\left(\frac{x_i - x_j}{2}\right)^2 \sin\left(\frac{x_i + x_j}{2}\right)^2 dx_1 \dots dx_n$$

- No singlets for odd N due to a QM anomaly.
- The number grows very rapidly for even N

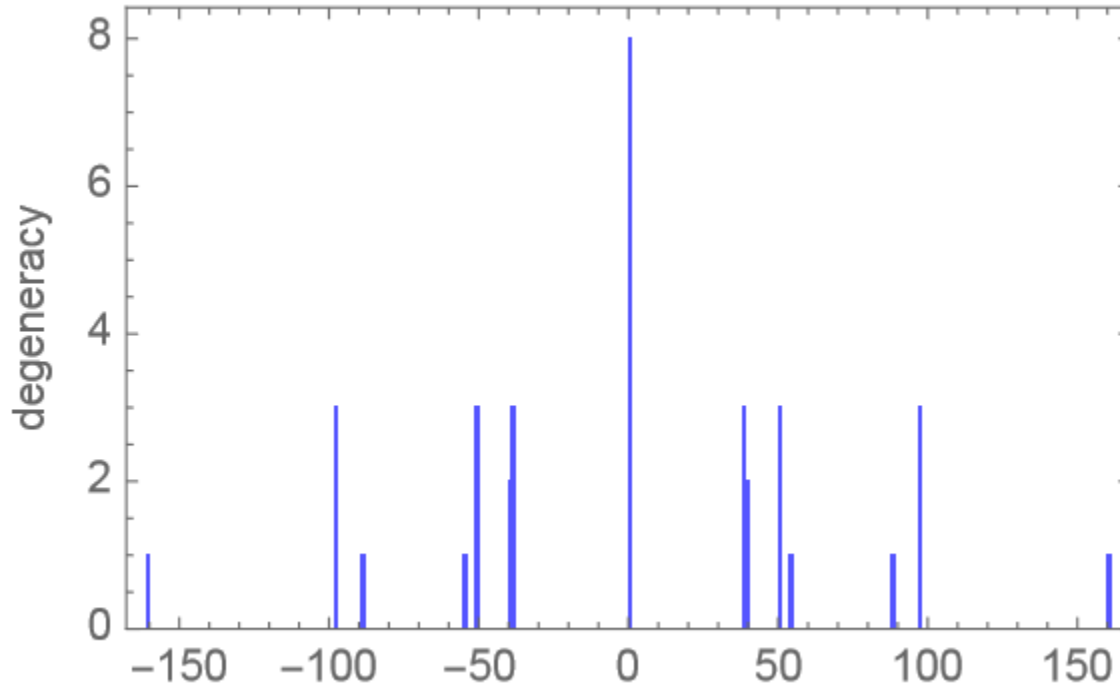
N	# singlet states
2	2
4	36
6	595354780

Table 1: Number of singlet states in the $O(N)^3$ model

$$\# \text{singlet states} \sim \exp \left(\frac{N^3}{2} \log 2 - \frac{3N^2}{2} \log N + O(N^2) \right)$$

- Large N dynamics in the singlet sector is similar to SYK. **Same melonic Dyson-Schwinger eqns.**
- The large low-temperature entropy suggests tiny gaps for singlet excitations $\sim c^{-N^3}$

Singlet Energies for N=4



- For N=6 there will be over 595 million states packed into energy interval <1932 . So, the gaps should be tiny. Pakrouski, IRK, Popov, Tarnopolsky

Spectra of Energy Eigenstates

- Generalize the Majorana tensor model to have $O(N_1) \times O(N_2) \times O(N_3)$ symmetry

- The traceless Hamiltonian is

$$H = \frac{g}{4} \psi^{abc} \psi^{ab'c'} \psi^{a'bc'} \psi^{a'b'c} - \frac{g}{16} N_1 N_2 N_3 (N_1 - N_2 + N_3)$$

$$\{\psi^{abc}, \psi^{a'b'c'}\} = \delta^{aa'} \delta^{bb'} \delta^{cc'}$$

$$a = 1, \dots, N_1; b = 1, \dots, N_2; c = 1, \dots, N_3$$

- The Hilbert space has dimension $2^{[N_1 N_2 N_3 / 2]}$
- The eigenstates of H form irreducible representations of the symmetry.

Energy Bounds

- The bound on the singlet ground state energy

IRK, Milekhin, Popov, Tarnopolsky

$$|E| \leq E_{bound} = \frac{g}{16} N^3 (N + 2) \sqrt{N - 1}$$

- In the melonic limit, this correctly scales as N^3 .
- The gap to the lowest non-singlet state scales as $1/N$.
- For unequal ranks the bound is

$$|E| \leq \frac{g}{16} N_1 N_2 N_3 (N_1 N_2 N_3 + N_1^2 + N_2^2 + N_3^2 - 4)^{1/2}$$

A Fermionic Matrix Model

- For $N_3=2$ the bound simplifies to

$$|E|_{N_3=2} \leq \frac{g}{8} N_1 N_2 (N_1 + N_2)$$

- Saturated by the ground state.
- This is a fermionic matrix model with symmetry

$$O(N_1) \times O(N_2) \times U(1)$$

$$\bar{\psi}_{ab} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\psi^{ab1} + i\psi^{ab2}), \quad \psi_{ab} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\psi^{ab1} - i\psi^{ab2})$$

$$\{\bar{\psi}_{ab}, \bar{\psi}_{a'b'}\} = \{\psi_{ab}, \psi_{a'b'}\} = 0, \quad \{\bar{\psi}_{ab}, \psi_{a'b'}\} = \delta_{aa'} \delta_{bb'}$$

- The traceless Hamiltonian is

$$H = \frac{g}{2} (\bar{\psi}_{ab} \bar{\psi}_{ab'} \psi_{a'b} \psi_{a'b'} - \bar{\psi}_{ab} \bar{\psi}_{a'b} \psi_{ab'} \psi_{a'b'}) + \frac{g}{8} N_1 N_2 (N_2 - N_1)$$

- Describes qubits on $N_1 \times N_2$ lattice with non-local couplings.

- May be expressed in terms of quadratic Casimirs

$$-\frac{g}{2} \left(4C_2^{SU(N_1)} - C_2^{SO(N_1)} + C_2^{SO(N_2)} + \frac{2}{N_1} Q^2 + (N_2 - N_1)Q - \frac{1}{4} N_1 N_2 (N_1 + N_2) \right)$$

- $SU(N_1) \times SU(N_2)$ is not a symmetry here but an enveloping algebra. Some states have enhanced symmetry: they are $SU(N)$ invariant.

Complete Spectrum

- The singlets “scar” the energy distribution.

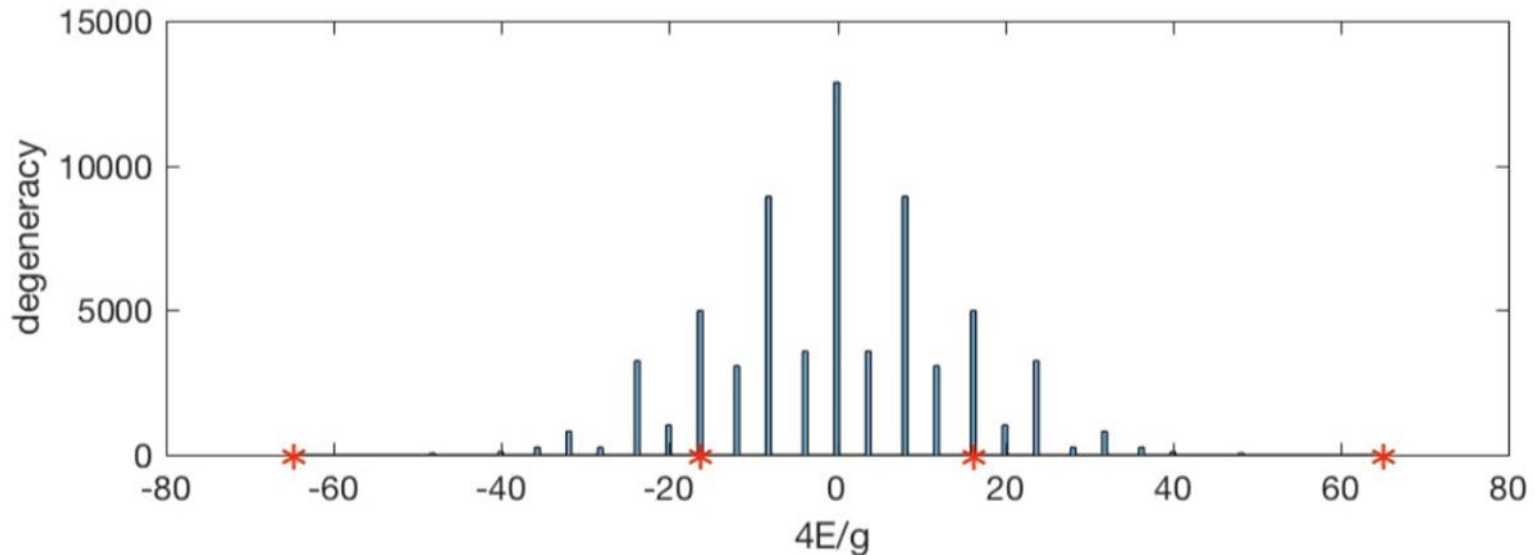


Figure 1: Spectrum of the $O(4)^2 \times O(2)$ model. There are four singlet states, and the stars mark their energies.

Towards Hubbard Model

- Can also think of the first index as labeling the lattice site, and the second as labeling spin. When $N_2=2$, there are two spin states, up and down. The model is beginning to resemble a non-local Hubbard model, but need to add quadratic hopping terms. Pakrouski, Pallegar, Popov, IRK

- Imaginary hopping terms are $SO(N)$ generators

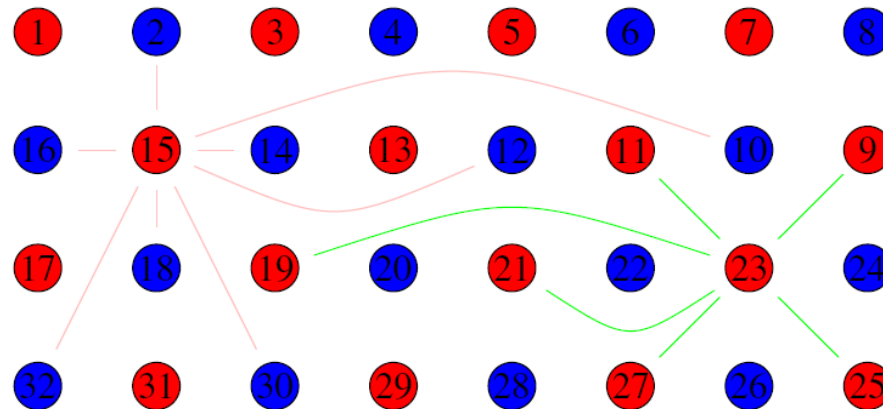
$$T_{kl}^O = i \sum_{\sigma} (c_{k\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{l\sigma} - c_{l\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{k\sigma}) \quad \sigma = \uparrow, \downarrow$$

- Adding them to H keeps singlets as eigenstates but mixes up the non-singlets.

- A simple transformation leads to a model with a **real** nearest neighbor hopping parameter:

$$H_{nn} = t \sum_{\langle ij \rangle \sigma} (c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + h.c.)$$

- This transformation is possible on a bi-partite lattice



SO(N) Singlets as Scars

- For the eigenstates that are SO(N) singlets, the energy is independent of the hopping parameter t . Pakrouski, Pallegar, Popov, IRK
- This is the kind of simplification characteristic of the **Quantum Many-Body Scars**, that have been an active area in Condensed Matter Physics and Quantum Information.
- Scars form an “**integrable subsector**” in a Hamiltonian that is in general not integrable.

Group Theoretic Approach to Scars

- There are Hamiltonians that are not symmetric under a Lie group G , yet some of their eigenstates are invariant. **These are the quantum many-body scars!**

- A class of such Hamiltonians is

$$H = H_0 + \sum_j O_j T_j^G$$

- Includes local lattice systems like the tJU model

$$H^{tJU} = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle \sigma} (t c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + h.c.) + J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j + U \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow} - \mu Q$$

Pseudospin

- An example is provided by C.N. Yang's eta-pairing states in the Hubbard model.
- The pseudospin group $SU(2)_\eta$ is generated

by

$$\eta^+ = \sum_j c_{j\uparrow}^\dagger c_{j\downarrow}^\dagger = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,\sigma,\sigma'} c_{j\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma'}^\dagger \epsilon_{\sigma\sigma'}$$

$$\eta^- = (\eta^+)^\dagger, \quad \eta^3 = \frac{1}{2}(Q - N) \quad Q = \sum_{i=1}^N n_i$$

$$n_{i\uparrow} = c_{i\uparrow}^\dagger c_{i\uparrow}, \quad n_{i\downarrow} = c_{i\downarrow}^\dagger c_{i\downarrow}, \quad n_i = n_{i\uparrow} + n_{i\downarrow}$$

- It commutes with the rotation group and with the $O(N)$ that acts on the lattice index.

Eta-pairing states

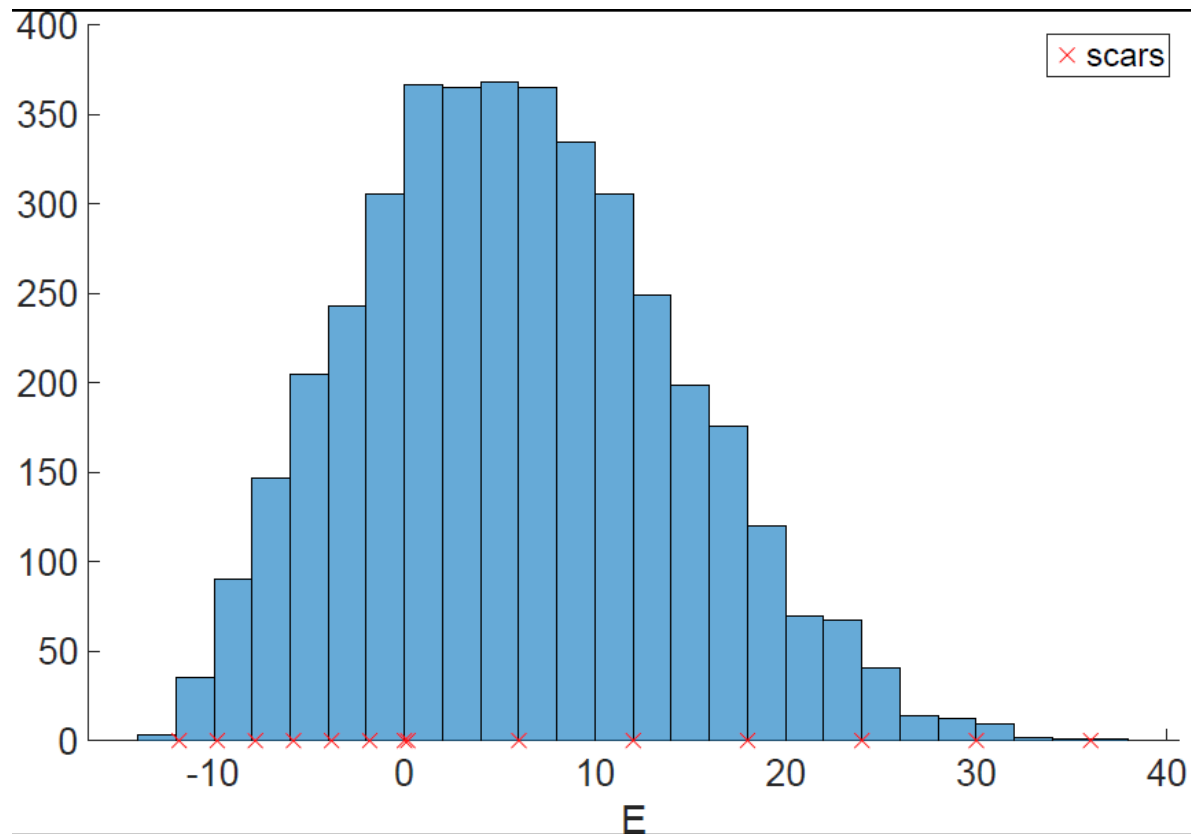
- There are $N+1$ $SO(N)$ invariant states that form a multiplet of pseudospin $N/2$

$$|n^\eta\rangle = \frac{(\eta)^n}{\sqrt{\frac{N!n!}{(N-n)!}}} |0\rangle, \quad n = 0, \dots, N$$

- They are the highly excited, equally spaced states that play the role of scars in the Hubbard model and its deformations. Moudgalya et al.; Mark, Motrunich; Pakrouski et al.

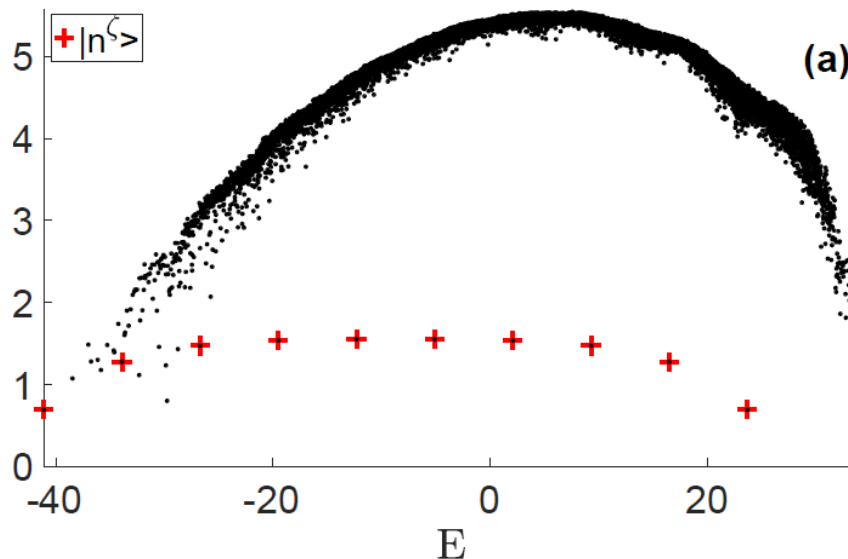
Histogram of the Energy Levels

- A typical distribution for the tJU model deformed by OT terms



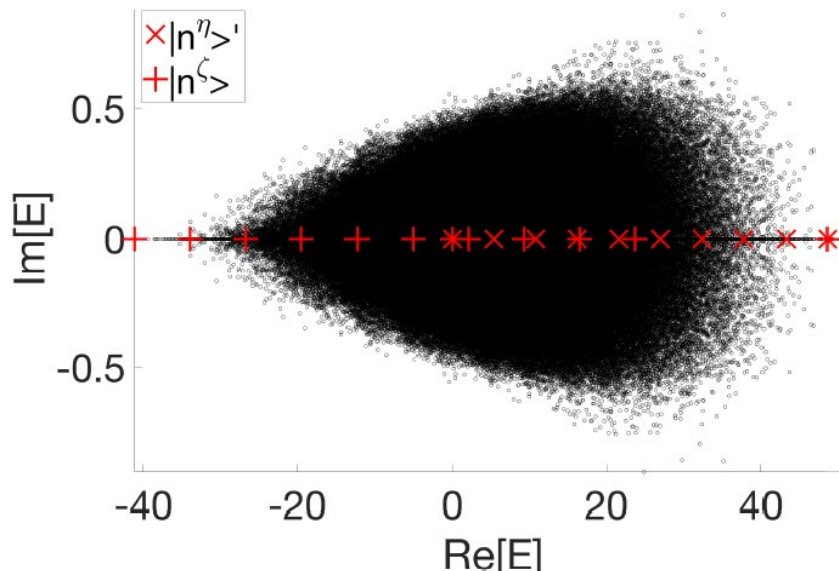
Low Entanglement

- The scar states are distinguished by their low entanglement entropy when the system is divided into two parts:



Non-Hermitian Hamiltonians

- The group theoretic approach to scars continues to work when non-Hermitian terms are added to the Hamiltonians, e.g. the tJU model.
- The energies of scars continue to be real



Comments

- The **scar states**, which are **invariant under the large Lie group acting on the lattice sites**, are **decoupled from all the non-singlet states**. Only the latter thermalize.
- This decoupling survives the OT perturbations and may approximately survive some other perturbations.
- The Group theoretic approach to scars applies to non-Hermitian Hamiltonians.
- Scar states in QFT? In AdS/CFT?

- Happy Birthday, Erik and Herman!
- Gelukkige verjaardag!