

Long-time asymptotics for the defocusing integrable discrete nonlinear Schrödinger equation

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Abstract. We investigate the long-time asymptotics for the defocusing integrable discrete nonlinear Schrödinger equation of Ablowitz-Ladik by means of the inverse scattering transform and the Deift-Zhou nonlinear steepest descent method. The leading part is a sum of two terms that oscillate with decay of order $t^{-1/2}$.

1. Introduction.

In this article we study the long-time behavior of the defocusing integrable discrete nonlinear Schrödinger equation (IDNLS) introduced by Ablowitz and Ladik ([4], [5], [7]) on the doubly infinite lattice (i.e. $n \in \mathbb{Z}$)

$$i \frac{d}{dt} R_n + (R_{n+1} - 2R_n + R_{n-1}) - |R_n|^2(R_{n+1} + R_{n-1}) = 0. \quad (1)$$

It is a discrete version of the defocusing nonlinear Schrödinger equation (NLS)

$$iu_t + u_{xx} - 2u|u|^2 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad iv_t - v_{xx} + 2v|v|^2 = 0 \quad (v = \bar{u}). \quad (2)$$

Although there are other ways to discretize (2), we have chosen (1) because of the striking fact that it is *integrable*: it can be solved by the *inverse scattering transform* (IST). Here we employ the Riemann-Hilbert formalism of IST, rather than that based on integral equations. Knowledge of the IDNLS can give insight for the non-integrable versions, especially when one is interested in asymptotics.

Significant works have been done on the long-time behavior of integrable equations, pioneers being [6], [20], [26]. Differential-difference equations were studied in [22], [23]. The epoch-making work by Deift and Zhou in [13] on the MKdV equation studied the long-time asymptotic analysis and established the *nonlinear steepest descent method*¹. This work followed the works of [8] and [24] where the long-time asymptotic analysis was developed by well-known techniques in the physics literature (WKB methods). The formulae are the same. The nonlinear steepest descent method was used to study the defocusing nonlinear Schrödinger equation by Deift, Its and Zhou in [12] and the

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¹An easy-to-read introduction to this method can be found in [11, Chapter 7].

Toda lattice in [16], [17], [18]. A detailed bibliography about the focusing/defocusing nonlinear Schrödinger equations on the (half-)line or an interval is found in [15].

Following the above mentioned results, we employ the Deift-Zhou nonlinear steepest descent method and obtain the long-time asymptotics of (1). Roughly speaking, the result is as follows. (See Section 3 for details.) If $|n/t| < 2$, there exist $C_j = C_j(n/t) \in \mathbb{C}$ and $p_j = p_j(n/t)$, $q_j = q_j(n/t) \in \mathbb{R}$ ($j = 1, 2$) depending only on the ratio n/t such that

$$R_n(t) = \sum_{j=1}^2 C_j t^{-1/2} e^{-i(p_j t + q_j \log t)} + O(t^{-1} \log t) \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow \infty. \quad (3)$$

The quantities C_j and q_j are defined in terms of *the reflection coefficient* that appears in the inverse scattering formalism. The behavior of each term in the sum is *decaying oscillation* of order $t^{-1/2}$. In the case of the continuous defocusing NLS (2), the asymptotic behavior is expressed by a single term, not a sum, with decaying oscillation of order $t^{-1/2}$. Notice that the defocusing NLS and IDNLS are without solitons vanishing rapidly at infinity. (Dark solitons do not vanish at infinity.)

In [21], Michor studied the spatial asymptotics ($n \rightarrow \infty$, t : fixed) of solutions of (1) (and its generalization called the Ablowitz-Ladik hierarchy). She proved that the leading term is a/n^δ ($\delta \geq 0$) in sharp contrast to (3) under a certain assumption on the initial value. A natural remaining problem is to determine the asymptotics in $|n/t| \geq 2$, which will be a subject of future research.

Another interesting problem is to find the long-time asymptotics for the focusing IDNLS. It is more difficult than the defocusing one because the associated Riemann-Hilbert problems may have poles corresponding to solitons vanishing at infinity.

REMARK 1.1. The term $-2R_n$ in (1) can be removed by a simple transformation $e^{2it} R_n(t) = \tilde{R}_n(t)$ and some authors prefer this formulation.

2. Inverse scattering transform for the defocusing IDNLS.

In this section we explain some facts about the inverse scattering transform for the defocusing IDNLS following [7, Chap. 3], which is a refined version of [4], [5].

First we discuss unique solvability of the Cauchy problem for (1).

PROPOSITION 2.1. *Let s be a nonnegative integer. Assume that the initial value $R(0) = \{R_n(0)\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ satisfies*

$$\|R(0)\|_{1,s} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (1 + |n|)^s |R_n(0)| < \infty, \quad (4)$$

$$\|R(0)\|_{\infty} = \sup_n |R_n(0)| < 1 \quad (\text{smallness condition}). \quad (5)$$

Then (1) has a unique solution in $\ell^{1,s} = \{\{c_n\}_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} : \sum (1 + |n|)^s |c_n| < \infty\}$ for $0 \leq t < \infty$.

PROOF. We can regard (1) as an ODE in the Banach space $\ell^{1,s} \subset \ell^\infty$. First we solve it in ℓ^∞ in view of (5). Set $c_{-\infty} = \prod_{n=-\infty}^\infty (1 - |R_n|^2) > 0$, $\rho = (1 - c_{-\infty})^{1/2}$. Since $1 - |R_n(0)|^2 \geq c_{-\infty}$ for each n , we have $\|R(0)\|_\infty \leq \rho$. Set $B := \{R = \{R_n\} \in \ell^\infty; \|R - R(0)\|_\infty \leq \rho\}$. Since the right-hand side is Lipschitz continuous and bounded if $R = \{R_n\} \in B$, (1) can be solved in B locally in time, say up to $t = t_1 = t_1(\rho)$. By a standard argument about ODEs in a Banach space (e.g. [19]), t_1 is determined by ρ only and is independent of $R(0) = \{R_n(0)\}$ as long as $\sup_n |R_n(0)| \leq \rho$. Since it is known that $c_{-\infty}$ and ρ are conserved quantities, we have $\|R(t)\|_\infty = \sup_n |R_n(t)| \leq \rho$ for $0 \leq t < t_1$. Then we solve (1) again with the initial value at $t = t_1/2$. The solution can be extended up to $t = 3t_1/2$. Repetition of this process enables us to extend the solution $\{R_n(t)\} \in \ell^\infty$ up to $t = \infty$ and it satisfies $\sup_n |R_n(t)| \leq \rho$ for $0 \leq t < \infty$. We obtain $\|\frac{d}{dt}R(t)\|_{1,s} \leq \text{const.}\|R(t)\|_{1,s}$. By integrating, we get $\|R(t)\|_{1,s} \leq \|R(0)\|_{1,s} + \text{const.}\int_0^t \|R(\tau)\|_{1,s} d\tau$. By virtue of the Gronwall inequality, $\|R(t)\|_{1,s}$ grows at most exponentially and never blows up in a finite time. \square

Next we explain a concrete representation formula of the solution based on inverse scattering transform. Let us introduce the associated Ablowitz-Ladik scattering problem (a difference equation, not a differential equation)

$$X_{n+1} = \begin{bmatrix} z & \bar{R}_n \\ R_n & z^{-1} \end{bmatrix} X_n. \tag{6}$$

It has no discrete eigenvalues ([7, p. 66], [1, Appendix]) and (1) has no soliton solution vanishing at infinity.

REMARK 2.2. We adopt the formulation of [7]. If one follows that of [12], the matrix on the right-hand side of (6) should be replaced by $\begin{bmatrix} z & R_n \\ \bar{R}_n & z^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$ and it leads to minor changes at many places.

The time-dependence equation is

$$\frac{d}{dt}X_n = \begin{bmatrix} iR_{n-1}\bar{R}_n - (i/2)(z - z^{-1})^2 & -i(z\bar{R}_n - z^{-1}\bar{R}_{n-1}) \\ i(z^{-1}R_n - zR_{n-1}) & -iR_n\bar{R}_{n-1} + (i/2)(z - z^{-1})^2 \end{bmatrix} X_n \tag{7}$$

and (1) is equivalent to the compatibility condition $(d/dt)X_{n+1} = ((d/dt)X_m)_{m=n+1}$.

The conditions (4) and (5) are preserved for $t < \infty$. We can construct eigenfunctions ([7, pp. 49–56]) satisfying (6) for any fixed t . More specifically, one can define the eigenfunctions (depending on t) $\phi_n(z, t), \psi_n(z, t) \in \mathcal{O}(|z| > 1) \cap \mathcal{C}^0(|z| \geq 1)$ and $\psi_n^*(z, t) \in \mathcal{O}(|z| < 1) \cap \mathcal{C}^0(|z| \leq 1)$ such that

$$\phi_n(z, t) \sim z^n \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow -\infty, \tag{8}$$

$$\psi_n(z, t) \sim z^{-n} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \psi_n^*(z, t) \sim z^n \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty. \tag{9}$$

On the circle $C: |z| = 1$, there exist unique functions $a(z, t)$ and $b(z, t)$ for which

$$\phi_n(z, t) = b(z, t)\psi_n(z, t) + a(z, t)\psi_n^*(z, t) \tag{10}$$

holds. They can be represented as Wronskians of the eigenfunctions. The characterization equation

$$|a(z, t)|^2 - |b(z, t)|^2 = c_{-\infty} > 0 \tag{11}$$

implies $a(z, t) \neq 0$. Hence one can define the *reflection coefficient*²

$$r(z, t) = \frac{b(z, t)}{a(z, t)}. \tag{12}$$

It has the property $r(-z, t) = -r(z, t)$, $0 \leq |r(z, t)| < 1$, the latter being a consequence of (11).

If $\{R_n(0)\}$ is rapidly decreasing in the sense that (4) holds ($\{R_n(0)\} \in \ell^{1,s}$) for any $s \in \mathbb{N}$, then $\{R_n(t)\}$ is also rapidly decreasing for any t . Then, due to the construction in [7, pp. 49–56], the eigenfunctions ϕ_n, ψ_n and ψ_n^* are smooth on $C: |z| = 1$. Hence a, b and $r = r(z, t)$ are also smooth there.

The time evolution of $r(z, t)$ according to (7) is given by

$$r(z, t) = r(z) \exp(it(z - z^{-1})^2) = r(z) \exp(it(z - \bar{z})^2), \tag{13}$$

where $r(z) = r(z, 0)$.

Let us formulate the following Riemann-Hilbert problem:

$$m_+(z) = m_-(z)v(z) \text{ on } C: |z| = 1, \tag{14}$$

$$m(z) \rightarrow I \text{ as } z \rightarrow \infty, \tag{15}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v(z) = v(z, t) &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 - |r(z, t)|^2 & -z^{2n}\bar{r}(z, t) \\ z^{-2n}r(z, t) & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= e^{-(it/2)(z-z^{-1})^2 \text{ ad } \sigma_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 - |r(z)|^2 & -z^{2n}\bar{r}(z) \\ z^{-2n}r(z) & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

Here m_+ and m_- are the boundary values from the *outside* and *inside* of C respectively of the unknown matrix-valued analytic function $m(z) = m(z; n, t)$ in $|z| \neq 1$. We employ the usual notation $\sigma_3 = \text{diag}(1, -1)$, $a^{\text{ad } \sigma_3} Q = a^{\sigma_3} Q a^{-\sigma_3}$ (a : a scalar, Q : a 2×2 matrix). The inconsistency with the usual counterclockwise orientation (the inside being the plus side) is irrelevant because later we will choose different orientations on different parts of the circle for a technical reason.

The uniqueness of the solution to the problem above is derived by a Liouville argu-

²It is denoted by ρ in the notation of [7].

ment. If m and m' are solutions, then mm'^{-1} is equal to I because it is entire and tends to I as $z \rightarrow \infty$. The existence of the solution follows from the Fredholm argument in [25].

The solution $\{R_n\} = \{R_n(t)\}$ to (1) can be obtained from the $(2, 1)$ -component of $m(z)$ by the reconstruction formula ([7, p. 69]) $m(z)_{21} = -zR_n(t) + O(z^2)$, i.e.,

$$R_n(t) = -\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{z} m(z)_{21} = -\frac{d}{dz} m(z)_{21} \Big|_{z=0} \quad (\text{NB: } z \rightarrow 0, \text{ not } \infty). \tag{17}$$

Summing up, the inverse scattering procedure is as follows:

- The initial value $\{R_n(0)\}$ determines $r(z) = r(z, 0)$.
- $m(z)$ is determined by $r(z)$ as the solution to (14)–(16).
- $\{R_n(t)\}$ is derived from $m(z)$ by (17).

Set

$$\varphi = \varphi(z) = \varphi(z; n, t) = \frac{1}{2}it(z - z^{-1})^2 - n \log z,$$

so that the jump matrix $v(z)$ in (14) is given by

$$v = v(z) = e^{-\varphi \text{ ad } \sigma_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 - |r(z)|^2 & -\bar{r}(z) \\ r(z) & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \tag{18}$$

This representation is useful in that the saddle points of φ play important roles in the method of nonlinear steepest descent.

REMARK 2.3. Explicit expressions of some solutions are discussed in [1], [10].

3. Main result.

In the following, we will deal with the asymptotic behavior of $R_n(t)$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$ in the region defined by

$$|n| \leq (2 - V_0)t, \quad V_0 \text{ is a constant with } 0 < V_0 < 2. \tag{19}$$

We have $d\varphi/dz = 0$ if and only if $z = S_j \in C$ ($j = 1, 2, 3, 4$), where

$$S_1 = e^{-\pi i/4}A, \quad S_2 = e^{-\pi i/4}\bar{A}, \quad S_3 = -S_1, \quad S_4 = -S_2, \tag{20}$$

$$A = 2^{-1}(\sqrt{2 + n/t} - i\sqrt{2 - n/t}), \tag{21}$$

and we set $S_{j\pm 4} = S_j$ by convention.

Set

$$\delta(0) = \exp\left(\frac{-1}{\pi i} \int_{S_1}^{S_2} \log(1 - |r(\tau)|^2) \frac{d\tau}{\tau}\right), \tag{22}$$

$$\beta_1 = \frac{-e^{\pi i/4} A}{2(4t^2 - n^2)^{1/4}}, \quad \beta_2 = \frac{e^{\pi i/4} \bar{A}}{2(4t^2 - n^2)^{1/4}}, \tag{23}$$

$$D_1 = \frac{-iA}{2(4t^2 - n^2)^{1/4}(A - 1)}, \quad D_2 = \frac{i\bar{A}}{2(4t^2 - n^2)^{1/4}(\bar{A} - 1)}. \tag{24}$$

Moreover we define, for $j = 1, 2$,

$$\chi_j(S_j) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\exp(-\pi i/4)}^{S_j} \log \frac{1 - |r(\tau)|^2}{1 - |r(S_j)|^2} \frac{d\tau}{\tau - S_j}, \tag{25}$$

$$\nu_j = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \log(1 - |r(S_j)|^2), \tag{26}$$

$$\hat{\delta}_j(S_j) = \exp \left(\frac{1}{2\pi} \left[(-1)^j \int_{e^{-\pi i/4}}^{S_{3-j}} - \int_{-S_1}^{-S_2} \right] \frac{\log(1 - |r(\tau)|^2)}{\tau - S_j} d\tau \right), \tag{27}$$

$$\delta_j^0 = S_j^n e^{-it(S_j - S_j^{-1})^2/2} D_j^{(-1)^{j-1}i\nu_j} e^{(-1)^{j-1}\chi_j(S_j)} \hat{\delta}_j(S_j), \tag{28}$$

where the contours are minor arcs $\subset C$. We have $\text{Re } D_j > 0$ and $z^{(-1)^{j-1}i\nu_j}$ has a cut along the negative real axis. See (33), (73) and (82) for $\delta(z)$, $\chi_j(z)$ and $\hat{\delta}_j(z)$ at a general point z (not only for $j = 1, 2$ but also for $j = 3, 4$). Another expression of δ_j^0 is given in (84). We have $\delta(0) \geq 1$ and $\nu_j \geq 0$ since $|r| < 1$. Notice that $A, S_j, \delta(0), \chi_j(S_j), \nu_j$ and $\hat{\delta}_j(S_j)$ are functions in n/t and that β_j and D_j are of the form $t^{-1/2} \times$ (a function in n/t). As $t \rightarrow \infty$, β_j is decaying and δ_j^0 is oscillatory if n/t is fixed.

Now we present our main result. Its proof will be given at the end of Section 12.

THEOREM 3.1. *Let V_0 be a constant with $0 < V_0 < 2$. Assume that the initial value satisfies the rapid decrease condition $\{R_n(0)\} \in \bigcap_{s=0}^\infty \ell^{1,s}$ (i.e. (4) holds for any $s \in \mathbb{N}$) and the smallness condition (5). Then in the region $|n| \leq (2 - V_0)t$, the asymptotic behavior of the solution to (1) is*

$$R_n(t) = -\frac{\delta(0)}{\pi i} \sum_{j=1}^2 \beta_j (\delta_j^0)^{-2} S_j^{-2} M_j + O(t^{-1} \log t) \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty, \tag{29}$$

where

$$M_j = \frac{\sqrt{2\pi} \exp((-1)^j 3\pi i/4 - \pi\nu_j/2)}{\bar{r}(S_j) \Gamma((-1)^{j-1}i\nu_j)} \quad \text{if } r(S_j) \neq 0$$

and $M_j = 0$ if $r(S_j) = 0$. The symbol O represents an asymptotic estimate which is uniform with respect to (t, n) satisfying $|n| \leq (2 - V_0)t$. Each term in the summation exhibits a behavior of decaying oscillation of order $t^{-1/2}$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$ while n/t is fixed.

Notice that δ_j^0 has three oscillatory factors $S_j^n, e^{-it(S_j - S_j^{-1})^2/2}$ and $D_j^{(-1)^{j-1}i\nu_j}$. We claim that S_j^n is oscillatory because n tends to infinity together with t if the ratio n/t is

fixed. Set $\theta_j = \arg S_j \in (-\pi/2, 0)$, $a_j = \text{Im } S_j$. Then we have

$$S_j^n e^{-it(S_j - S_j^{-1})^2/2} D_j^{(-1)^{j-1} i\nu_j} = \exp\left(in\theta_j + 2ia_j^2 t - \frac{(-1)^{j-1}}{2} i\nu_j \log t\right) \times (\text{a function in } n/t).$$

Therefore $\beta_j(\delta_j^0)^{-2}$ in (29) behaves like $\text{const. } t^{-1/2} \exp(i(p_j t + q_j \log t))$ ($p_j, q_j \in \mathbb{R}$). This is an analogue of the Zakharov-Manakov formula concerning the continuous defocusing NLS ([12], [14], [20], [26]). See also [22], [23], in which one encounters sums of this kind of terms. Notice that $p_j = p_j(n/t)$ can be either positive or negative depending on the ratio n/t . This kind of change of sign is not observed in the case of the continuous NLS.

REMARK 3.2. A careful inspection of the proof of Theorem 3.1 shows that it is enough to assume $\{R_n(0)\} \in \ell^{1,10}$, i.e.(4) with $s = 10$. It implies that the eigenfunctions and r are in C^{10} on $C: |z| = 1$. Therefore k and q in Section 5 can be so chosen that $k = 9$, $q = 2$ and we can set $\ell = 1$ in Proposition 7.3. We have chosen not to specify the values of s, k, q and ℓ since it makes it easy to compare the estimates in the present paper with those in [13].

4. A new Riemann-Hilbert problem.

The solution $\{R_n\}$ to the Cauchy problem of (1) can be recovered from the Riemann-Hilbert problem (14)–(16). In this section, we rewrite it into a new, equivalent problem. Its jump matrix admits a nice lower/upper factorization. The factors have different expressions on different parts of the circle $C: |z| = 1$.

Each S_j is a saddle point of φ with $|S_j| = 1$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi''(S_1) &= \varphi''(S_3) = 2\bar{A}^2 \sqrt{4t^2 - n^2} = 2A^{-2} \sqrt{4t^2 - n^2}, \\ \varphi''(S_2) &= \varphi''(S_4) = -2A^2 \sqrt{4t^2 - n^2} = -2\bar{A}^{-2} \sqrt{4t^2 - n^2} = -\overline{\varphi''(S_1)}. \end{aligned}$$

For $z = re^{i\theta}$, we have $\text{Re } \varphi = (-1/2)t(r^2 - r^{-2}) \sin 2\theta - n \log r$. It vanishes for any θ if $r = 1$. For any other positive value of r , the equation $\text{Re } \varphi = 0$ gives four branches of $\theta = \theta(r) \in [0, 2\pi[$ and represents a curve with certain symmetry. It is shown in the Figure 1, together with the sign of $\text{Re } \varphi$ in each region.

Let $\delta(z)$, analytic in $|z| \neq 1$, be the solution to the Riemann-Hilbert problem

$$\delta_+(z) = \delta_-(z)(1 - |r(z)|^2) \text{ on } \text{arc}(S_1S_2) \text{ and } \text{arc}(S_3S_4), \tag{30}$$

$$\delta_+(z) = \delta_-(z) \text{ on } \text{arc}(S_2S_3) \text{ and } \text{arc}(S_4S_1), \tag{31}$$

$$\delta(z) \rightarrow 1 \text{ as } z \rightarrow \infty, \tag{32}$$

where $\text{arc}(S_jS_k)$ is the minor arc $\subset C$ joining S_j and S_k and the *outside* of C is the plus side. On the singular locus $\text{arc}(S_1S_2) \cup \text{arc}(S_3S_4)$, $\delta_{\pm}(z)$ are the boundary values

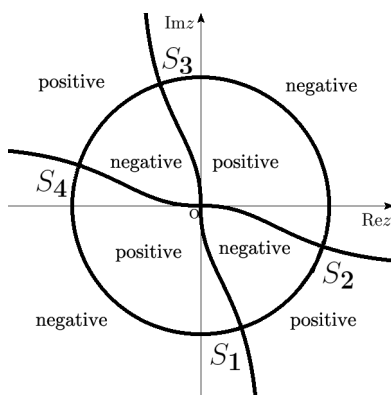


Figure 1. Signs of $\text{Re } \varphi$.

from $\pm \text{Re } \varphi > 0$ respectively, and there is no distinction between them on $\text{arc}(S_2S_3) \cup \text{arc}(S_4S_1)$.

This problem can be uniquely solved by the formula

$$\delta(z) = \exp \left(\frac{-1}{2\pi i} \left[\int_{S_1}^{S_2} + \int_{S_3}^{S_4} \right] (\tau - z)^{-1} \log(1 - |r(\tau)|^2) d\tau \right), \tag{33}$$

where the contours are the arcs $\subset C$. We have $\delta(-z) = \delta(z)$ and $\delta'(0) = 0$ because $r(-\tau) = -r(\tau)$.

Conjugating our original Riemann-Hilbert problem (14)-(16) by

$$\Delta(z) = \begin{bmatrix} \delta(z) & 0 \\ 0 & \delta^{-1}(z) \end{bmatrix} = \delta^{\sigma_3}(z)$$

leads to the factorization problem for $m\Delta^{-1}$,

$$(m\Delta^{-1})_+(z) = (m\Delta^{-1})_-(z)(\Delta_- v \Delta_+^{-1}), \quad z \in C, \tag{34}$$

$$m\Delta^{-1} \rightarrow I \quad (z \rightarrow \infty). \tag{35}$$

Now, we rewrite (34)–(35) by choosing the counterclockwise orientation (the *inside* being the plus side) on $\text{arc}(S_2S_3)$ and $\text{arc}(S_4S_1)$ and the clockwise orientation (the *outside* being the plus side) on $\text{arc}(S_1S_2)$ and $\text{arc}(S_3S_4)$. The circle $|z| = 1$ with this new orientation is denoted by \tilde{C} and the new Riemann-Hilbert problem on it is

$$(m\Delta^{-1})_+(z) = (m\Delta^{-1})_-(z)\tilde{v}, \quad z \in \tilde{C}, \tag{36}$$

$$m\Delta^{-1} \rightarrow I \quad (z \rightarrow \infty), \tag{37}$$

for the 2×2 matrix \tilde{v} . We have, by (30) and (31),

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{v} &= e^{-\varphi \operatorname{ad} \sigma_3} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ r\delta_-^{-2}/(1-|r|^2) & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\bar{r}\delta_+^2/(1-|r|^2) \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) && \text{on } S_1S_2 \cup S_3S_4, \\ &= e^{-\varphi \operatorname{ad} \sigma_3} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -r\delta_-^{-2} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \bar{r}\delta_+^2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) && \text{on } S_2S_3 \cup S_4S_1. \end{aligned}$$

Set

$$\rho = -\bar{r}/(1-|r|^2) \quad \text{on } S_1S_2 \cup S_3S_4, \tag{38}$$

$$= \bar{r} \quad \text{on } S_2S_3 \cup S_4S_1, \tag{39}$$

then \tilde{v} admits a unified expression

$$\tilde{v} = e^{-\varphi \operatorname{ad} \sigma_3} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\bar{\rho}\delta_-^{-2} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \rho\delta_+^2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

on any of the arcs, where $\delta_+ = \delta_- = \delta$ on $S_2S_3 \cup S_4S_1$. We have a lower/upper factorization

$$\tilde{v} = b_-^{-1}b_+, \tag{40}$$

$$b_+ := \delta_+^{\operatorname{ad} \sigma_3} e^{-\varphi \operatorname{ad} \sigma_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \rho \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \delta_+^2 e^{-2\varphi} \rho \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \tag{41}$$

$$b_- := \delta_-^{\operatorname{ad} \sigma_3} e^{-\varphi \operatorname{ad} \sigma_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \bar{\rho} & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \delta_-^{-2} e^{2\varphi} \bar{\rho} & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \tag{42}$$

5. Decomposition, analytic continuation and estimates.

The function ρ , defined in (38) and (39), and its complex conjugate $\bar{\rho}$ are decomposed in a certain way. Only the dominant parts, denoted by R or \bar{R} , will contribute to the leading term in (29). The remaining parts are shown to be small, possibly on newly introduced segments and arcs.

From now on we assume $0 < n \leq (2 - V_0)t$ so that $-\pi/4 < \arg A < 0$. Minor modifications are required in the construction of the contour Σ (Figure 2 below) if $-(2 - V_0)t \leq n \leq 0$. See Remark 6.1.

Set

$$\psi = \varphi/(it) = 2^{-1}(z - z^{-1})^2 + int^{-1} \log z.$$

It is real-valued on $|z| = 1$. For $z = e^{i\theta}$ ($\theta \in \mathbb{R}$), we have $\psi = \cos 2\theta - nt^{-1}\theta - 1$ and ψ is monotone on any of $S_1S_2, S_2S_3, S_3S_4, S_4S_1$. The monotonicity also follows from the fact that there are no other stationary points of φ on $|z| = 1$ than S_j 's.

5.1. Decomposition on an arc and some estimates.

We seek a decomposition $\rho = R + h_I + h_{II}$ with each term having a certain estimate. Set $\vartheta = \theta + \pi/4, \vartheta_0 = \arg \bar{A} = \arctan \sqrt{(2t - n)/(2t + n)}$. Then $\operatorname{arc}(S_1S_2)$ corresponds

to $-\vartheta_0 \leq \vartheta \leq \vartheta_0$. We regard the function ρ on $\text{arc}(S_1S_2)$ as a function in ϑ and denote it by $\rho(\vartheta)$ by abuse of notation. We have $\rho(\vartheta) = H_e(\vartheta^2) + \vartheta H_o(\vartheta^2)$ ($-\vartheta_0 \leq \vartheta \leq \vartheta_0$) for smooth functions H_e and H_o . By Taylor's theorem, they are expressed as follows:

$$H_e(\vartheta^2) = \mu_0^e + \cdots + \mu_k^e(\vartheta^2 - \vartheta_0^2)^k + \frac{1}{k!} \int_{\vartheta_0^2}^{\vartheta^2} H_e^{(k+1)}(\gamma)(\vartheta^2 - \gamma)^k d\gamma,$$

$$H_o(\vartheta^2) = \mu_0^o + \cdots + \mu_k^o(\vartheta^2 - \vartheta_0^2)^k + \frac{1}{k!} \int_{\vartheta_0^2}^{\vartheta^2} H_o^{(k+1)}(\gamma)(\vartheta^2 - \gamma)^k d\gamma.$$

Here k can be any positive integer, but we assume $k = 4q + 1$, $q \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ for convenience of later calculations.

We set

$$R(\vartheta) = R_k(\vartheta) = \sum_{i=0}^k \mu_i^e(\vartheta^2 - \vartheta_0^2)^i + \vartheta \sum_{i=0}^k \mu_i^o(\vartheta^2 - \vartheta_0^2)^i,$$

$$\alpha(z) = (z - S_1)^q(z - S_2)^q,$$

$$h(\vartheta) = \rho(\vartheta) - R(\vartheta)$$

and, by abuse of notation,

$$\alpha(\vartheta) = \alpha(e^{i(\vartheta - \pi/4)}) = [e^{i(\vartheta - \pi/4)} - e^{i(-\vartheta_0 - \pi/4)}]^q [e^{i(\vartheta - \pi/4)} - e^{i(\vartheta_0 - \pi/4)}]^q.$$

Notice that we have $R(\pm\vartheta_0) = \rho(\pm\vartheta_0)$. The function R extends analytically from $\text{arc}(S_1S_2)$ to a fairly large complex neighborhood. Its singularity comes only from that of $\log z$. By abuse of notation, $R(z)$ denotes the analytic function thus obtained, so that $R(\vartheta) = R(e^{i(\vartheta - \pi/4)})$ and $R(S_j) = \rho(S_j)$.

We have $d\psi/d\vartheta = 2 \cos 2\vartheta - n/t$ and it has a zero of order 1 at $\vartheta = \pm\vartheta_0$. Since $[-\vartheta_0, \vartheta_0] \ni \vartheta \mapsto \psi \in \mathbb{R}$ is strictly increasing, we can consider its inverse $\vartheta = \vartheta(\psi)$, $\psi(-\vartheta_0) \leq \psi \leq \psi(\vartheta_0)$. We set

$$(h/\alpha)(\psi) = h(\vartheta(\psi))/\alpha(\vartheta(\psi)) \quad \text{in } \psi(-\vartheta_0) \leq \psi \leq \psi(\vartheta_0),$$

$$= 0 \quad \text{otherwise.}$$

Then $(h/\alpha)(\psi)$ is well-defined for $\psi \in \mathbb{R}$, and it can be shown that $h/\alpha \in H^{(3q+2)/2}(-\infty < \psi < \infty)$ and that its norm is uniformly bounded with respect to (n, t) with (19). This argument is a 'curved' version of [13, (1.33)]. Notice that ϑ_0 , the counterpart of z_0 of [13], is trivially bounded.

Set

$$(\widehat{h/\alpha})(s) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-is\psi} (h/\alpha)(\psi) \frac{d\psi}{\sqrt{2\pi}},$$

$$h_I(\vartheta) = \alpha(\vartheta) \int_t^\infty e^{is\psi(\vartheta)} (\widehat{h/\alpha})(s) \frac{ds}{\sqrt{2\pi}},$$

$$h_{II}(\vartheta) = \alpha(\vartheta) \int_{-\infty}^t e^{is\psi(\vartheta)} (\widehat{h/\alpha})(s) \frac{ds}{\sqrt{2\pi}},$$

then $h(\vartheta) = h_I(\vartheta) + h_{II}(\vartheta)$, $|\vartheta| \leq \vartheta_0$ and

$$|e^{-2it\psi} h_I(\vartheta)| \leq C/t^{(3q+1)/2} \tag{43}$$

for some $C > 0$ on $\text{arc}(S_1 S_2)$. See [13, (1.36)]. The symbol C always denotes a generic positive constant.

Set $p = \sqrt{2(2t-n)}/(\sqrt{2t+n} - \sqrt{2t-n}) > 0$. We consider the contour $L_{12} = l_{12} \cup l_{21} \subset \{\text{Re } \varphi \geq 0\} = \{\text{Re } i\psi \geq 0\}$, where

$$l_{12}: z(u) = S_1 + (p-u)A \quad (0 \leq u \leq p),$$

$$l_{21}: z(u) = S_2 - iu\bar{A} \quad (0 \leq u \leq p).$$

We have chosen p so that $S_1 + pA = S_2 - ip\bar{A}$, that is, l_{12} and l_{21} are joined at a single point.

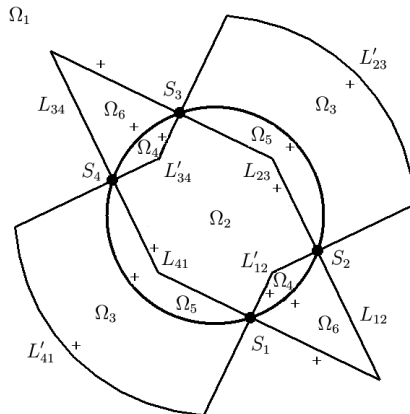


Figure 2. The contour Σ .

We can show that $h_{II}(\vartheta)$ can be analytically continued to $\{\text{Re } \varphi > 0\} = \{\text{Re } i\psi > 0\}$. The extension is denoted by $h_{II}(z)$ so that $h_{II}(e^{i(\vartheta-\pi/4)}) = h_{II}(\vartheta)$ by abuse of notation. On l_{12} , we have for $v = p - u$ (= the distance from S_1),

$$|\alpha(z(u))| \leq v^q |S_1 - S_2 + vA|^q \leq C^q v^q,$$

$$|e^{-2it\psi(z(u))} h_{II}(z(u))|$$

$$\leq \frac{C^q v^q e^{-t \text{Re } i\psi}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\int_{-\infty}^t \frac{ds}{1+s^2} \right)^{1/2} \left(\int_{-\infty}^t (1+s^2) |(\widehat{h/\alpha})(s)|^2 ds \right)^{1/2}.$$

We have

$$\operatorname{Re} i\psi \geq C'v^2 \tag{44}$$

for some $C' > 0$, because $v = 0$ corresponds to the saddle point S_1 . On l_{12} ,

$$|e^{-2it\psi(z(u))}h_{II}(z(u))| \leq C v^q e^{-C' tv^2} = C t^{-q/2} (tv^2)^{q/2} e^{-C' tv^2} \leq C/t^{q/2}.$$

We have a similar estimate on l_{21} . Therefore, all over L_{12} , we have

$$|e^{-2it\psi(z)}h_{II}(z)| \leq C/t^{q/2}. \tag{45}$$

For a small constant $\varepsilon > 0$, let $l_{12}^\varepsilon \subset l_{12}$ and $l_{21}^\varepsilon \subset l_{21}$ be the segments given by

$$\begin{aligned} l_{12}^\varepsilon : z(u) &= S_1 + (p - u)A & (0 \leq u \leq p - \varepsilon), \\ l_{21}^\varepsilon : z(u) &= S_2 - iu\bar{A} & (0 < \varepsilon \leq u \leq p). \end{aligned}$$

The segment l_{jk}^ε is obtained by removing the ε -neighborhood of S_j from l_{jk} . On $l_{12}^\varepsilon \cup l_{21}^\varepsilon \subset L_{12}$, we have $\operatorname{Re} i\psi \geq C_\varepsilon \varepsilon^2$ for some $C_\varepsilon > 0$. It implies

$$|e^{-2it\psi(z)}R(z)| \leq C e^{-C_\varepsilon \varepsilon^2 t}. \tag{46}$$

5.2. Decomposition of another function on the same arc.

The function $\bar{\rho}$ on $\operatorname{arc}(S_1 S_2)$ can be decomposed as $\bar{\rho} = \bar{R} + \bar{h}_I + \bar{h}_{II}$.

Set $p' = \sqrt{2(2t - n)}/(\sqrt{2t + n} + \sqrt{2t - n}) > 0$. We construct the contour $L'_{12} = l'_{12} \cup l'_{21}$ in $\{\operatorname{Re} \varphi \leq 0\} = \{\operatorname{Re} i\psi \leq 0\}$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} l'_{12} : z(u) &= S_1 + (p' - u)iA & (0 \leq u \leq p'), \\ l'_{21} : z(u) &= S_2 - u\bar{A} & (0 \leq u \leq p'). \end{aligned}$$

We have chosen p' so that l'_{12} and l'_{21} are joined at a single point $S_1 + ip'A = S_2 - p'\bar{A}$.

In the same way as (43) and (45), we can show

$$|e^{2it\psi} \bar{h}_I(\vartheta)| \leq C/t^{(3q+1)/2} \text{ on } \operatorname{arc}(S_1 S_2), \tag{47}$$

$$|e^{2it\psi(z)} \bar{h}_{II}(z)| \leq C/t^{q/2} \text{ on } L'_{12}. \tag{48}$$

Set

$$\begin{aligned} l'^\varepsilon_{12} : z(u) &= S_1 + (p' - u)iA & (0 \leq u \leq p' - \varepsilon), \\ l'^\varepsilon_{21} : z(u) &= S_2 - u\bar{A} & (\varepsilon \leq u \leq p'). \end{aligned}$$

In the same way as (46), we can show that

$$|e^{2it\psi(z)}\bar{R}(z)| \leq C e^{-C_\varepsilon \varepsilon^2 t} \text{ on } l_{12}^\varepsilon \cup l_{21}^\varepsilon. \tag{49}$$

5.3. Decomposition on another arc.

On $\text{arc}(S_2 S_3)$, the functions $R, h_I, h_{II}, \bar{R}, \bar{h}_I, \bar{h}_{II}$ are constructed from ρ and $\bar{\rho}$ in the same way as above. We have

$$|e^{-2it\psi} h_I| \leq C/t^{(3q+1)/2}, \quad |e^{2it\psi} \bar{h}_I| \leq C/t^{(3q+1)/2}.$$

Set $p'' = \sqrt{2(2t+n)}/(\sqrt{2t+n} + \sqrt{2t-n}) > 0$. Let L_{23} be the contour obtained by joining

$$\begin{aligned} l_{23}: z(u) &= S_2 + iu\bar{A} & (0 \leq u \leq p''), \\ l_{32}: z(u) &= S_3 + (p'' - u)A & (0 \leq u \leq p''). \end{aligned}$$

The segments $l_{jk}^\varepsilon \subset l_{jk}$, $(j, k) = (2, 3), (3, 2)$ consist of points whose distance from S_j is not less than ε . Notice that $S_2 + ip''\bar{A} = S_3 + p''A$ is inside the circle $|z| = 1$. Then we can show in the same way as (45) and (46) that

$$\begin{aligned} |e^{-2it\psi(z)} h_{II}(z)| &\leq C/t^{q/2} \text{ on } L_{23}, \\ |e^{-2it\psi(z)} R(z)| &\leq C e^{-C_\varepsilon \varepsilon^2 t} \text{ on } l_{23}^\varepsilon \cup l_{32}^\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Next, let L'_{23} be the contour obtained by joining

$$\begin{aligned} l'_{23}: z(u) &= S_2 + u\bar{A} & (0 \leq u \leq 1), \\ \hat{l}'_{23}: &\text{Arc}(S_2 + \bar{A}, S_3 + iA), \\ l'_{32}: z(u) &= S_3 + i(1 - u)A & (0 \leq u \leq 1). \end{aligned}$$

Here $\text{Arc}(S_2 + \bar{A}, S_3 + iA)$ is the minor arc $\subset \{|z| = (2 + \sqrt{2})^{1/2}\}$ from $S_2 + \bar{A}$ to $S_3 + iA$. Then we have estimates on $l'_{23} \cup l'_{32}$ similar to (48). The arc \hat{l}'_{23} is away from the saddle points and we have exponential decay of $e^{2it\psi} \bar{h}_{II}$ on it. Therefore we get an estimate like (48) on L'_{23} . Moreover, we obtain an estimate like (49) if we exclude the ε -neighborhood of S_2 and S_3 .

5.4. Decomposition on the remaining arcs.

We construct L_{jk} and L'_{jk} for $(j, k) = (3, 4), (4, 1)$ by symmetry and get relevant estimates. The results in this section lead to Lemma 7.1 below.

6. A Riemann-Hilbert problem on a new contour.

In this section, we introduce a new contour and formulate a new Riemann-Hilbert problem, which is equivalent to the original problem (14)–(16). The new jump matrix admits a certain lower/upper factorization which will be the basis of the integral repre-

sentation given in Section 7.

Set $L = \cup_{(j,k)} L_{jk} \subset \{\operatorname{Re} \varphi \geq 0\}$, $L' = \cup_{(j,k)} L'_{jk} \subset \{\operatorname{Re} \varphi \leq 0\}$, $\Sigma = \tilde{C} \cup L \cup L'$. We define six open sets $\Omega_1, \dots, \Omega_6$ as in Figure 2. The + signs indicate the plus sides of the curves. If j is odd (resp. even), $\operatorname{arc}(S_j S_{j+1})$ is oriented clockwise (resp. counterclockwise) and $L \cup L'$ is oriented inward (resp. outward) near S_j .

REMARK 6.1. If $n \leq 0$, the contour Σ should be slightly modified.

- (i) If $n = 0$, we should replace L_{12} and L_{23} with curves like L'_{23} and L'_{41} in Figure 2, each made up of two segments and an arc.
- (ii) If n is negative, the argument of A is between $-\pi/4$ and $-\pi/2$. The parts L'_{23} and L'_{41} should each be made up of two segments, while L_{12} and L_{34} of two segments and an arc.

The expansion in Theorem 3.1 is uniform with respect to the ratio $n/t \in [-(2 - V_0), 2 - V_0]$. The uniformity can be proved by considering the following three cases ($\epsilon > 0$ is small): (a) $\epsilon \leq n/t \leq 2 - V_0$, (b) $-\epsilon < n/t < \epsilon$, (c) $-(2 - V_0) \leq n/t \leq -\epsilon$. The uniformity in (a) follows from the calculations explicitly given in the present paper. The contour of the type in (i) [resp. (ii)] is useful in (b) [resp. (c)]. In dealing with each part of the contour, one has only to follow the Subsection 5.1 (two segments) or 5.3 (two segments and an arc).

One can show the uniformity in $-(2 - V_0) \leq n/t \leq 2 - V_0$ by using only one multipurpose contour of the type in (i). See Figure 3. We have chosen to use the contour as in Figure 2 in order to simplify the presentation in the case (a).

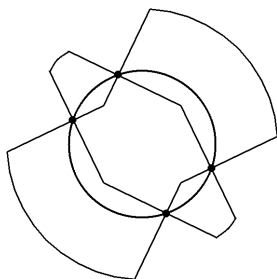


Figure 3. Σ (multipurpose version).

Notice that each of $\Omega_3, \dots, \Omega_6$ has two connected components and that Ω_1 is unbounded. We introduce the following matrices:

$$\begin{aligned}
 b_+^0 &= \delta_+^{\operatorname{ad} \sigma_3} e^{-\varphi \operatorname{ad} \sigma_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & h_I \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, & b_+^a &= \delta_+^{\operatorname{ad} \sigma_3} e^{-\varphi \operatorname{ad} \sigma_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & h_{II} + R \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \\
 b_-^0 &= \delta_-^{\operatorname{ad} \sigma_3} e^{-\varphi \operatorname{ad} \sigma_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \bar{h}_I & 1 \end{bmatrix}, & b_-^a &= \delta_-^{\operatorname{ad} \sigma_3} e^{-\varphi \operatorname{ad} \sigma_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \bar{h}_{II} + \bar{R} & 1 \end{bmatrix}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Then (40), (41) and (42) imply that $b_{\pm} = b_{\pm}^0 b_{\pm}^a$, $\tilde{v} = (b_-^a)^{-1} (b_-^0)^{-1} b_+^0 b_+^a$. Define a new unknown matrix m^\sharp by

$$m^\sharp = m\Delta^{-1}, \quad z \in \Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2, \tag{50}$$

$$= m\Delta^{-1}(b_-^a)^{-1}, \quad z \in \Omega_3 \cup \Omega_4, \tag{51}$$

$$= m\Delta^{-1}(b_+^a)^{-1}, \quad z \in \Omega_5 \cup \Omega_6. \tag{52}$$

By (36), (37) and (40) it is the unique solution to the Riemann-Hilbert problem

$$m_+^\sharp(z) = m^\sharp(z)_- v^\sharp(z), \quad z \in \Sigma, \tag{53}$$

$$m^\sharp(z) \rightarrow I \quad \text{as } z \rightarrow \infty. \tag{54}$$

Here $v^\sharp = v^\sharp(z) = v^\sharp(z; n, t)$ is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} v^\sharp(z) &= (b_-^0)^{-1} b_+^0, & z \in \tilde{C}, \\ &= b_+^a, & z \in L, \\ &= (b_-^a)^{-1}, & z \in L'. \end{aligned}$$

Set $b_-^\sharp = b_-^0, I, b_-^a$ and $b_+^\sharp = b_+^0, b_+^a, I$ on \tilde{C}, L, L' respectively. Then, on Σ , we have

$$v^\sharp = v^\sharp(z) = (b_-^\sharp)^{-1} b_+^\sharp.$$

In the next section, we shall employ $w_\pm^\sharp = \pm(b_\pm^\sharp - I), w^\sharp = w_+^\sharp + w_-^\sharp$. We have $v^\sharp = (I - w_-^\sharp)^{-1}(I + w_+^\sharp) = (I + w_-^\sharp)(I + w_+^\sharp)$.

7. Reconstruction and resolvents.

We introduce a kind of integral operators following [9], kernels being factors of jump matrices, which enables us to solve Riemann-Hilbert problems. The advantage of this approach is that one can derive estimates on operators from those on jump matrices. The solution of a Riemann-Hilbert problem is stable under small perturbations of the jump matrix. Therefore we can replace the jump matrix by an easier one, obtained by removal of insignificant terms.

7.1. Reconstruction.

Since $\delta'(0) = 0$, (17) and (50) imply

$$R_n(t) = -\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{z} (m_{21}^\sharp \delta) = -\frac{d}{dz} (m_{21}^\sharp \delta) \Big|_{z=0} = -\delta(0) \frac{dm_{21}^\sharp}{dz} (0). \tag{55}$$

Let

$$(C_\pm f)(z) = \int_\Sigma \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z_\pm} \frac{d\zeta}{2\pi i} = \lim_{\substack{z' \rightarrow z \\ z' \in \{\pm\text{-side of } \Sigma\}}} \int_\Sigma \frac{f(\zeta)}{\zeta - z'} \frac{d\zeta}{2\pi i}, \quad z \in \Sigma$$

be the Cauchy operators on Σ . Define $C_{w^\sharp} = C_{w^\sharp}^\Sigma : L^2(\Sigma) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma)$ by

$$C_{w^\sharp} f = C_{w^\sharp}^\Sigma f = C_+(fw_-^\sharp) + C_-(fw_+^\sharp) \tag{56}$$

for a 2×2 matrix-valued function f . Later we will define similar operators by replacing the pair (Σ, w^\sharp) with others. Even if a kernel, say w_\pm , is supported by a subcontour Σ_1 of Σ_2 , it is necessary to distinguish between $C_{w^\sharp}^{\Sigma_1}$ and $C_{w^\sharp}^{\Sigma_2}$.

Let μ^\sharp be the solution to the equation

$$\mu^\sharp = I + C_{w^\sharp} \mu^\sharp. \tag{57}$$

Then we have $\mu^\sharp = (1 - C_{w^\sharp})^{-1} I$ (the resolvent exists), and

$$m^\sharp(z; n, t) = I + \int_\Sigma \frac{\mu^\sharp(\zeta; n, t) w^\sharp(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} \frac{d\zeta}{2\pi i}, \quad z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \Sigma \tag{58}$$

is the unique solution to the Riemann-Hilbert problem (53), (54). By substituting (58) into (55), we find that

$$R_n(t) = -\delta(0) \int_\Sigma \zeta^{-2} [\mu^\sharp(\zeta; n, t) w^\sharp(\zeta)]_{21} \frac{d\zeta}{2\pi i} \tag{59}$$

$$= -\delta(0) \int_\Sigma z^{-2} [(1 - C_{w^\sharp})^{-1} I](z) w^\sharp(z)]_{21} \frac{dz}{2\pi i}. \tag{60}$$

In Section 9, we will prove that the resolvent $(1 - C_{w^\sharp})^{-1} : L^2(\Sigma) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma)$ indeed exists for any sufficiently large t and that its norm is uniformly bounded.

7.2. Partition of the matrices.

We set, for $0 < \varepsilon < \inf_{(n,t)} p'$,

$$L_\varepsilon = \{z \in L; |z - S_j| > \varepsilon \text{ for all } j = 1, 2, 3, 4\},$$

$$L'_\varepsilon = \{z \in L'; |z - S_j| > \varepsilon \text{ for all } j = 1, 2, 3, 4\}.$$

Set $w_\pm^a = w_\pm^a|_{\tilde{C}}$ (consisting of quantities of type h_I or \bar{h}_I together with δ and $e^{\pm i t \psi} = e^{\pm i t \psi}$) on \tilde{C} and $w_\pm^a = 0$ on $\Sigma \setminus \tilde{C}$. Let w_\pm^b be equal to the contribution to w_\pm^a from the quantities involving h_{II} or \bar{h}_{II} on $L \cup L'$ and set $w_\pm^b = 0$ on $\Sigma \setminus (L \cup L')$. Additionally, let w_\pm^c be equal to the contribution to w_\pm^a from the quantities involving R or \bar{R} on $L_\varepsilon \cup L'_\varepsilon$ and set $w_\pm^c = 0$ on $\Sigma \setminus (L_\varepsilon \cup L'_\varepsilon)$. Finally, we set $w_\pm^e = w_\pm^a + w_\pm^b + w_\pm^c$ and $w'_\pm = w_\pm^a - w_\pm^e$. These matrices are all upper or lower triangular and their diagonal elements are zero. We will show that w_\pm^e are small in a certain sense and that the main contribution is by w'_\pm .

We define $w^* = w^*_+ + w^*_-$ for $* = a, b, c, e$. Then $w^e = w^a + w^b + w^c$ and set $w' = w^\sharp - w^e$. Set $\Sigma' = \{\Sigma \setminus (\tilde{C} \cup L_\varepsilon \cup L'_\varepsilon)\} \cup \{S_1, S_2, S_3, S_4\} = (L \cup L') \cap \bigcup_{j=1}^4 \{|z - S_j| \leq \varepsilon\}$, then it is a union of four small crosses and $\text{supp } w'_\pm \subset \text{supp } w' \subset \Sigma'$. As is shown in Figure 4, each cross is oriented inward or outward. We have

$$w'_+ = \delta^{\text{ad}} \sigma_3 e^{-\varphi^{\text{ad}} \sigma_3} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & R \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \delta^2 e^{-2it\psi} R \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{on } L \cap \Sigma', \quad (61)$$

$$w'_- = \delta^{\text{ad}} \sigma_3 e^{-\varphi^{\text{ad}} \sigma_3} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -\bar{R} & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -\delta^{-2} e^{2it\psi} \bar{R} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{on } L' \cap \Sigma' \quad (62)$$

and they vanish elsewhere.

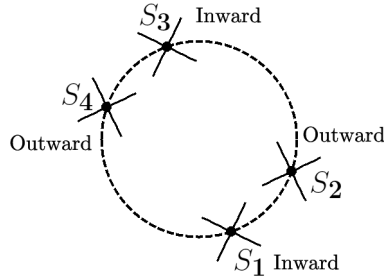


Figure 4. Σ' : four small crosses.

LEMMA 7.1. For any positive integer ℓ , there exist positive constants C and γ_ε such that

$$|w_\pm^a|, |w^a| \leq Ct^{-\ell} \quad \text{on } \tilde{C}, \quad (63)$$

$$|w_\pm^b|, |w^b| \leq Ct^{-\ell} \quad \text{on } L \cup L', \quad (64)$$

$$|w_\pm^c|, |w^c| \leq Ce^{-\gamma_\varepsilon t} \quad \text{on } L_\varepsilon \cup L'_\varepsilon. \quad (65)$$

L^p estimates are easily obtained since the length of Σ is bounded uniformly with respect to (n, t) satisfying (19). Moreover we have

$$\|w'_\pm\|_{L^2(\Sigma)} \leq Ct^{-1/4}, \quad \|w'\|_{L^2(\Sigma)} \leq Ct^{-1/4}, \quad (66)$$

$$\|w'_\pm\|_{L^1(\Sigma)} \leq Ct^{-1/2}, \quad \|w'\|_{L^1(\Sigma)} \leq Ct^{-1/2}. \quad (67)$$

PROOF. The boundedness of δ and δ^{-1} will be proved in Section 8. The inequality (63) follows from (43), (47) and their analogues. The inequalities (64) and (65) are consequences of (45), (46), (48), (49) and their analogues. Finally in order to derive (66) and (67), we employ (44) and its analogues. Since $R, \bar{R}, \delta, \delta^{-1}$ are bounded, we have only to calculate the Gauss type integral $\int_0^\infty e^{-\text{const. } tv^2} dv$. \square

We define the integral operators $C_{w'}$ and C_{w^ε} from $L^2(\Sigma)$ to itself of the type (56). We have $C_{w^\sharp} = C_{w'} + C_{w^\varepsilon}$.

Later in Section 9 we will prove that $(1 - C_{w'})^{-1}$ and $(1 - C_{w^\sharp})^{-1}$ exist and are uniformly bounded for any sufficiently large t . We proceed assuming this assertion.

7.3. Resolvents and estimates.

By the second resolvent identity, or rather by (72) below, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Sigma} z^{-2}((1 - C_{w^{\sharp}})^{-1}I)(z)w^{\sharp}(z) \\ &= \int_{\Sigma} z^{-2}((1 - C_{w'})^{-1}I)(z)w'(z) + \text{I} + \text{II} + \text{III} + \text{IV}, \end{aligned} \tag{68}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \text{I} &= \int_{\Sigma} z^{-2}w^e, & \text{II} &= \int_{\Sigma} z^{-2}(1 - C_{w'})^{-1}(C_{w^e}I)w^{\sharp}, \\ \text{III} &= \int_{\Sigma} z^{-2}(1 - C_{w'})^{-1}(C_{w'}I)w^e, \\ \text{IV} &= \int_{\Sigma} z^{-2}(1 - C_{w'})^{-1}C_{w^e}(1 - C_{w^{\sharp}})^{-1}(C_{w^{\sharp}}I)w^{\sharp}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $|z^{-2}|$ is uniformly bounded on Σ , (63), (64) and (65) imply

$$|\text{I}|, |\text{II}|, |\text{III}|, |\text{IV}| \leq Ct^{-\ell} \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow \infty. \tag{69}$$

PROPOSITION 7.2. *We have*

$$R_n(t) = -\delta(0) \int_{\Sigma} z^{-2} [((1 - C_{w'})^{-1}I)(z)w'(z)]_{21} \frac{dz}{2\pi i} + O(t^{-\ell}). \tag{70}$$

PROOF. Use (60), (68) and (69). □

PROPOSITION 7.3. *We have*

$$R_n(t) = -\delta(0) \int_{\Sigma'} z^{-2} [((1 - C_{w'}^{\Sigma'})^{-1}I)(z)w'(z)]_{21} \frac{dz}{2\pi i} + O(t^{-\ell}). \tag{71}$$

Here $C_{w'}^{\Sigma'}$ is an integral operator on $L^2(\Sigma')$ whose kernel is $w'_{\pm}|_{\Sigma'}$. Notice that $C_{w'}$ is an integral operator on $L^2(\Sigma)$ whose kernel is w'_{\pm} , matrices of functions on $\Sigma \supset \Sigma'$.

PROOF. Since $\text{supp } w'_{\pm} \subset \Sigma'$, we can replace \int_{Σ} by $\int_{\Sigma'}$. Apply [13, (2.61)]. □

REMARK 7.4. In deriving (68), we used the following formula: if the operators A, B, C and the matrices f, g, h are such that $A = B + C$, $f = g + h$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \{(1 - A)^{-1}I\}f &= \{(1 - B)^{-1}I\}g + h + \{(1 - B)^{-1}(CI)\}f \\ &+ \{(1 - B)^{-1}(BI)\}h + \{(1 - B)^{-1}C(1 - A)^{-1}(AI)\}f. \end{aligned} \tag{72}$$

In (68), f, g, h involve the factor z^{-2} , which is absent in the calculation of [13]. Its

presence complicates matters, and it will be dealt with in (97).

8. Saddle points and scaling operators.

We introduce scaling operators with respect to the saddle points. By scaling (and rotation), we can normalize crosses and the phase function φ , the results being the cross $e^{\pi i/4}\mathbb{R} \cup e^{-\pi i/4}\mathbb{R}$ and the function $\exp(\pm iz^2/4)$. The former gives the steepest descent path of the latter.

8.1. Some functions characterizing arcs and their boundedness.

Set $T_1 = T_2 = e^{-\pi i/4}$, $T_3 = T_4 = e^{3\pi i/4}$ and

$$\chi_j(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{T_j}^{S_j} \log \frac{1 - |r(\tau)|^2}{1 - |r(S_j)|^2} \frac{d\tau}{\tau - z}, \tag{73}$$

$$\ell_j(z) = \int_{T_j}^{S_j} \frac{d\tau}{\tau - z}, \tag{74}$$

$$\nu_j = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \log(1 - |r(S_j)|^2) \geq 0 \tag{75}$$

for $j = 1, 2, 3, 4$. The integral $\int_{T_j}^{S_j}$ is performed along the minor arc from T_j to S_j , which we denote by $\text{arc}(T_j S_j)$. The integral $\chi_j(S_j)$ is well-defined because the logarithm vanishes at S_j . Moreover, χ_j and ℓ_j are analytic in the complement of $\text{arc}(T_j S_j)$, in particular near S_k ($k \neq j$). We have $\nu_1 = \nu_3$, $\nu_2 = \nu_4$ and

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{T_j}^{S_j} \log(1 - |r(\tau)|^2) \frac{d\tau}{\tau - z} = i\nu_j \ell_j(z) + \chi_j(z). \tag{76}$$

Set

$$\delta_j(z) = \exp((-1)^{j-1}(i\nu_j \ell_j(z) + \chi_j(z))) \tag{77}$$

$$= \left(\frac{z - S_j}{z - T_j} \right)^{(-1)^{j-1} i\nu_j} e^{(-1)^{j-1} \chi_j(z)}, \tag{78}$$

where $w^{i\nu_j}$ is cut along \mathbb{R}_- and is positive on \mathbb{R}_+ . It is analytic in the complement of $\text{arc}(T_j S_j)$ and satisfies a Riemann-Hilbert problem similar to (30)–(32). The function $\delta(z)$ in (33) is decomposed as

$$\delta(z) = \prod_{j=1}^4 \delta_j(z).$$

Since $\text{Im} \ell_j(z) = \arg[(z - S_j)/(z - T_j)]$, we see that $\exp(\pm i\nu_j \ell_j(z))$ is bounded. Let $V_j, U_j \subset \text{arc}(T_j S_j)$ be sufficiently small neighborhoods of T_j and S_j respectively. Then $\chi_j(z)$ and its boundary values on $\text{arc}(T_j S_j) \setminus \{U_j, V_j\}$ are bounded as is proved

by the Plemelj formula ([2], [3]). This formula involves a principal value integral. Its boundedness in $U_j \setminus \{S_j\}$ (as z approaches S_j) is derived from the above-mentioned fact that the logarithm in (73) vanishes at $\tau = S_j$.

The well-definedness of $\chi_j(S_j)$ has been explained above. The points T_j 's have been chosen just for simplicity, not for necessity, and can be replaced by any other points on $\text{arc}(S_1S_2)$ or $\text{arc}(S_3S_4)$ (it results in another decomposition of δ). Since there is nothing special about them as far as the product $\delta(z)$ is concerned, it is well-defined and bounded on each V_j . Hence $\delta(z)$, $\delta^{-1}(z)$ and their boundary values are bounded everywhere.

REMARK 8.1. If $j \neq k$, then $r(-\tau) = -r(\tau)$ implies $\chi_{j+2}(S_{j+2}) = \chi_j(S_j)$, $\delta_{j+2}(S_{k+2}) = \delta_j(S_k)$ for $j = 1, 2$ and $k = 1, 2, 3, 4$ with the convention $S_5 = S_1$, $S_6 = S_2$.

8.2. Scaling operators.

In a neighborhood of each saddle point S_j , we have

$$\varphi(z) = \varphi(S_j) + \frac{\varphi''(S_j)}{2}(z - S_j)^2 + \varphi_j(z), \quad \varphi_j(z) = O(|z - S_j|^3) \tag{79}$$

for some function $\varphi_j(z)$. Set

$$\beta_j = (-1)^j 2^{-1} i(4t^2 - n^2)^{-1/4} S_j$$

so that $\varphi''(S_j)\beta_j^2 = (-1)^{j-1}i/2$. See (81).

Let the *infinite* crosses $\Sigma(S_j)$'s and $\Sigma(0)_j$'s be defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma(S_j) &= (S_j + \mathbb{R}) \cup (S_j + i\mathbb{R}), \text{ oriented inward} & (j = 1, 3), \\ &= (S_j + \bar{\mathbb{A}}\mathbb{R}) \cup (S_j + i\bar{\mathbb{A}}\mathbb{R}), \text{ oriented outward} & (j = 2, 4), \\ \Sigma(0)_j &= e^{\pi i/4}\mathbb{R} \cup e^{-\pi i/4}\mathbb{R}, \text{ oriented inward} & (j = 1, 3), \\ &= \text{the same set as above, oriented outward} & (j = 2, 4). \end{aligned}$$

Note that $\Sigma(S_j)$ is obtained by extending one of the four small crosses forming Σ' and that the cut of δ_j , namely $\text{arc}(S_jT_j)$, is between two rays of $\Sigma(S_j)$.

We introduce the scaling operators with rotation

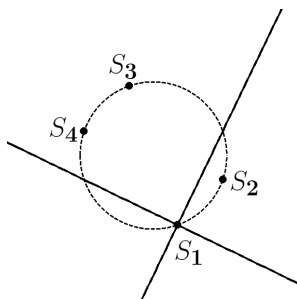


Figure 5. $\Sigma(S_1)$: an infinite cross.

$$N_j : (\mathcal{C}^0 \cup L^2)(\Sigma(S_j)) \rightarrow (\mathcal{C}^0 \cup L^2)(\Sigma(0)_j),$$

$$f(z) \mapsto (N_j f)(z) = f(\beta_j z + S_j).$$

It is the pull-back by the mapping $M_j : \Sigma(0)_j \rightarrow \Sigma(S_j)$, $z \mapsto \beta_j z + S_j$. The real axis is mapped by M_j to the tangent line of the circle at S_j . The positive imaginary axis is mapped to the outer ($j = 1, 3$) or inner ($j = 2, 4$) normal. Hence the singularity of $\delta(z)$ is, if seen through M_j , to the left of 0 either j is even or odd.

By (78) and (79) we have

$$\begin{aligned} (N_j \delta_j)(z) &= \left(\frac{\beta_j z}{\beta_j z + S_j - T_j} \right)^{(-1)^{j-1} i \nu_j} e^{(-1)^{j-1} N_j \chi_j(z)} \\ &= \left(\frac{\beta_j}{S_j - T_j} \right)^{(-1)^{j-1} i \nu_j} z^{(-1)^{j-1} i \nu_j} \left(\frac{S_j - T_j}{\beta_j z + S_j - T_j} \right)^{(-1)^{j-1} i \nu_j} \\ &\quad \times e^{(-1)^{j-1} \chi_j(S_j)} e^{(-1)^{j-1} \{N_j \chi_j(z) - \chi_j(S_j)\}}, \end{aligned} \tag{80}$$

$$(N_j e^{-\varphi})(z) = S_j^n e^{-it(S_j - S_j^{-1})^2/2} e^{(-1)^j i z^2/4} e^{-(N_j \varphi_j)(z)}. \tag{81}$$

Here the arguments of $\beta_j/(S_j - T_j)$ and of $(S_j - T_j)/(\beta_j z + S_j - T_j)$ (at least for a large positive z) are between $-\pi/2$ and $\pi/2$.

Originally, $N_j \delta_j$ has a cut along the preimage under M_j of $\text{arc}(S_j T_j)$. It is an arc³ with central angle not exceeding $\pi/4$ which is tangent to the real line at the endpoint $0 = M_j^{-1}(S_j)$. See Figure 6. It is in the region $\pi \leq \arg z \leq 5\pi/4$ (if j is odd) or $3\pi/4 \leq \arg z \leq \pi$ (if j is even). The factor $z^{i\nu_j}$ is originally cut along the union of the preimage and the half-line $C_j : z(u) = \beta_j^{-1}(-S_j + T_j) - u$, $u \in \mathbb{R}_+$. See Figure 6. Since we consider $z^{i\nu_j}$ only on the cross $\Sigma(0)_j$, the cut can be moved homotopically as long as it is away from the cross. Hence the cut of $z^{i\nu_j}$ is moved to \mathbb{R}_- for $j = 1, 2, 3, 4$. Another factor $\{(S_j - T_j)/(\beta_j z + S_j - T_j)\}^{i\nu_j}$ is cut along the half-line C_j , but its singularity eventually disappears as $t \rightarrow \infty$, $\beta_j \rightarrow 0$.

Set

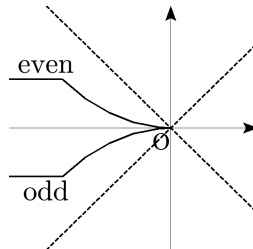


Figure 6. Cut of $N_j \delta_j$ and the cross.

³Here we are assuming $0 < n \leq (2 - V_0)t$. If $-(2 - V_0)t \leq n \leq 0$, the central angle is not less than $\pi/4$ but it is less than $\pi/2$. The consideration about the homotopic movement requires no change at all.

$$\widehat{\delta}_j(z) = \delta(z)/\delta_j(z) = \prod_{k \neq j} \delta_k(z). \tag{82}$$

By (80) and (81), we have

$$N_j[\delta e^{-\varphi}] = N_j[\delta e^{-it\psi}](z) = \delta_j^0 \delta_j^1(z), \tag{83}$$

where

$$\delta_j^0 = S_j^n e^{-it(S_j - S_j^{-1})^2/2} \left(\frac{\beta_j}{S_j - T_j} \right)^{(-1)^{j-1} i\nu_j} e^{(-1)^{j-1} \chi_j(S_j)} \widehat{\delta}_j(S_j), \tag{84}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_j^1(z) &= z^{(-1)^{j-1} i\nu_j} e^{(-1)^j iz^2/4} \left(\frac{S_j - T_j}{\beta_j z + S_j - T_j} \right)^{(-1)^{j-1} i\nu_j} \\ &\times e^{(-1)^{j-1} \{N_j \chi_j(z) - \chi_j(S_j)\} - (N_j \varphi_j)(z)} \frac{(N_j \widehat{\delta}_j)(z)}{\widehat{\delta}_j(S_j)}. \end{aligned} \tag{85}$$

We choose the branch of the logarithm which is real on \mathbb{R}_+ and cut along \mathbb{R}_- . The imaginary powers in the definitions of δ_j^0 and $\delta_j^1(z)$ should be interpreted accordingly. We have at least pointwise convergence $\delta_j^1(z) \rightarrow z^{(-1)^{j-1} i\nu_j} e^{(-1)^j iz^2/4}$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$. In Proposition 10.1 we shall show that this convergence is uniform in a certain sense.

REMARK 8.2. We have $\widehat{\delta}_{j+2}(S_{j+2}) = \widehat{\delta}_j(S_j)$, $\delta_{j+2}^0 = (-1)^n \delta_j^0$ ($j = 1, 2$) because of Remark 8.1. Since $T_1 = T_2 = \exp(-\pi i/4)$, the ratio $\beta_j/(S_j - T_j)$ in the definition of δ_j^0 can be represented by

$$\frac{\beta_1}{S_1 - T_1} = \frac{-iA}{2(4t^2 - n^2)^{1/4}(A - 1)}, \quad \frac{\beta_2}{S_2 - T_2} = \frac{i\bar{A}}{2(4t^2 - n^2)^{1/4}(\bar{A} - 1)}. \tag{86}$$

These quantities are nothing but D_1 and D_2 in (24).

The cross $\Sigma(S_j)$ is the union of the two lines $\Sigma(S_j, L)$ and $\Sigma(S_j, L')$ defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma(S_j, L) &= S_j + e^{\pi i/4} S_j \mathbb{R} = S_j + A\mathbb{R} & (j = 1, 3), \\ &= S_j + e^{-\pi i/4} S_j \mathbb{R} = S_j + i\bar{A}\mathbb{R} & (j = 2, 4), \\ \Sigma(S_j, L') &= S_j + e^{-\pi i/4} S_j \mathbb{R} = S_j + iA\mathbb{R} & (j = 1, 3), \\ &= S_j + e^{\pi i/4} S_j \mathbb{R} = S_j + \bar{A}\mathbb{R} & (j = 2, 4). \end{aligned}$$

Notice that each $\Sigma(S_j, L)$ [resp. $\Sigma(S_j, L')$] shares some segment with L [resp. L'], but is not included in it. We have $M_j^{-1}\Sigma(S_j, L) = e^{-\pi i/4}\mathbb{R}$ ($j = 1, 3$), the direction of steepest descent of $e^{-iz^2/4}$, and $M_j^{-1}\Sigma(S_j, L) = e^{\pi i/4}\mathbb{R}$ ($j = 2, 4$), the direction of steepest descent of $e^{iz^2/4}$. Therefore $\Sigma(S_j, L)$ is in the direction of steepest descent of $e^{-\varphi}$ for

any $j = 1, 2, 3, 4$ in view of (81). Similarly, $\Sigma(S_j, L')$ ($j = 1, 2, 3, 4$) is in the direction of steepest descent of e^φ .

We introduce some sets each of which is in a neighborhood of a saddle point. (In contrast, L_ε and L'_ε to be introduced later are away from the saddle points.)

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma(S_j, L)_\varepsilon &= \{z \in \Sigma(S_j, L); |z - S_j| \leq \varepsilon\} && \text{(a short segment),} \\ \Sigma(S_j, L')_\varepsilon &= \{z \in \Sigma(S_j, L'); |z - S_j| \leq \varepsilon\} && \text{(another short segment),} \\ \Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon &= \Sigma(S_j, L)_\varepsilon \cup \Sigma(S_j, L')_\varepsilon && \text{(a small cross).} \end{aligned}$$

Then $\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon = \{z \in \Sigma(S_j); |z - S_j| \leq \varepsilon\}$, $\Sigma' = \cup_{j=1}^4 \Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon$, $\text{supp } w'_+ \subset \Sigma' \cap L = \cup_{j=1}^4 \Sigma(S_j, L)_\varepsilon$ and $\text{supp } w'_- \subset \Sigma' \cap L' = \cup_{j=1}^4 \Sigma(S_j, L')_\varepsilon$.

9. Crosses.

In Proposition 7.3, we have shown that the main contribution to $R_n(t)$ can be written in terms of a resolvent on $L^2(\Sigma')$, where Σ' is the union of four small crosses. In this section, we derive a formula involving four resolvents, each being defined on one of the small crosses.

Split Σ' into four disjoint small crosses: $\Sigma' = \cup_{j=1}^4 \Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon$. We decompose w'_\pm into the form

$$w'_\pm = \sum_{j=1}^4 w^j_\pm, \tag{87}$$

where $\text{supp } w^j_+ \subset \Sigma(S_j, L)_\varepsilon$ and $\text{supp } w^j_- \subset \Sigma(S_j, L')_\varepsilon$. Set $w^j = w^j_+ + w^j_-$. Define the operators $A_j = C_{w^j}$ ($j = 1, 2, 3, 4$) on $L^2(\Sigma')$ as in (56). We have $w' = \sum_j w^j$ and $C_{w'}^{\Sigma'} = \sum_j A_j$. See Proposition 7.3 for the distinction between $C_{w'}^{\Sigma'}$ and $C_{w'}$.

LEMMA 9.1. *If $j \neq k$, we have*

$$\|A_j A_k\|_{L^2(\Sigma')} \leq Ct^{-1/2}, \quad \|A_j A_k\|_{L^\infty(\Sigma') \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma')} \leq Ct^{-3/4}. \tag{88}$$

PROOF. Follow the proof of [13, Lemma 3.5]. Use Lemma 7.1 and the fact that $\text{dist}(\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon, \Sigma(S_k)_\varepsilon)$ is bounded from below. □

In Section 11 we will prove the existence and boundedness of $(1 - A_j)^{-1}: L^2(\Sigma') \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma')$ ($j = 1, 2, 3, 4$). In view of Lemma 9.1 and [13, Lemma 3.15], it leads to that of $(1 - C_{w'}^{\Sigma'})^{-1}: L^2(\Sigma') \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma')$. By [13, Lemma 2.56], we find that $(1 - C_{w'})^{-1}: L^2(\Sigma) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma)$ exists and is bounded. Finally $(1 - C_{w^\sharp})^{-1}: L^2(\Sigma) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma)$ also exists and is bounded because of the smallness of $C_{w^\sharp} - C_{w'} = C_{w^\varepsilon}$ and the second resolvent identity $(1 - A)^{-1} = \{(1 - B)^{-1}(B - A) + 1\}^{-1}(1 - B)^{-1}$.

We have

$$\|A_j A_k (1 - A_k)^{-1} I\|_{L^2(\Sigma')} \leq \|A_j A_k I\|_{L^2(\Sigma')} + \|A_j A_k (1 - A_k)^{-1} A_k I\|_{L^2(\Sigma')}. \tag{89}$$

Here $\|A_j A_k I\|_{L^2(\Sigma')} \leq C t^{-3/4}$ follows from the second inequality of Lemma 9.1. On the other hand, we have $\|A_k I\|_{L^2(\Sigma')} \leq \|w^k\|_{L^2(\Sigma')} \leq \|w'\|_{L^2(\Sigma')} \leq C t^{-1/4}$ by (66). This estimate, together with the first inequality of Lemma 9.1 and the boundedness of $(1 - A_j)^{-1}$, yields

$$\|A_j A_k (1 - A_k)^{-1} I\|_{L^2(\Sigma')} \leq C t^{-3/4}. \tag{90}$$

Following (repeatedly) [13, pp. 338–339], we obtain by (90) and Lemma 9.1

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Sigma'} z^{-2} ((1 - C_{w'}^{\Sigma'})^{-1} I) w' &= \int_{\Sigma'} z^{-2} \left(\left\{ 1 + \sum_j A_j (1 - A_j)^{-1} \right\} I \right) w' + O(t^{-1}) \\ &= \int_{\Sigma'} z^{-2} w' + \sum_{j,k=1}^4 z^{-2} (A_j (1 - A_j)^{-1} I) w^k + O(t^{-1}). \end{aligned} \tag{91}$$

We have sixteen quantities involving the pairs $(A_j (1 - A_j)^{-1}, w^k)$ ($j, k \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$). We claim that the main contribution is by the ‘diagonal’ pairs ($j = k$). Let us estimate the ‘off diagonal’ terms.

Since $(1 - A_j)^{-1} = 1 + (1 - A_j)^{-1} A_j$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \int_{\Sigma'} z^{-2} (A_j (1 - A_j)^{-1} I) w^k \right| \\ &\leq \left| \int_{\Sigma'} z^{-2} (A_j I) w^k \right| + \left| \int_{\Sigma'} z^{-2} \{ A_j (1 - A_j)^{-1} A_j I \} w^k \right|. \end{aligned} \tag{92}$$

Notice that the distance of $z \in \Sigma(S_k)_\varepsilon$ and $\eta \in \Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon$ and that of $z \in \Sigma'$ and 0 are bounded from below. These facts, combined with (67), lead to the following Fubini type estimate of the iterated integral in the first term:

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_{\Sigma'} z^{-2} (A_j I) w^k \right| &= \left| \int_{\Sigma(S_k)_\varepsilon} z^{-2} \left(\int_{\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon} \frac{w^j(\eta) d\eta}{\eta - z} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \right) w^k(z) dz \right| \\ &\leq C \|w^j(\eta)\|_{L^1(\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon)} \|w^k(z)\|_{L^1(\Sigma(S_k)_\varepsilon)} \leq C t^{-1}. \end{aligned} \tag{93}$$

The second term in (92) is estimated in a slightly different way. By (66), (67) and the Schwarz inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \int_{\Sigma'} z^{-2} \{ A_j (1 - A_j)^{-1} A_j I \} w^k \right| \\ &= \left| \int_{\Sigma(S_k)_\varepsilon} \left\{ \int_{\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon} \frac{((1 - A_j)^{-1} A_j I)(\eta) w^j(\eta) d\eta}{\eta - z} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \right\} z^{-2} w^k(z) \right| \\ &\leq C \|(1 - A_j)^{-1} A_j I\|_{L^2(\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon)} \|w^j(\eta)\|_{L^2(\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon)} \|z^{-2} w^k(z)\|_{L^1(\Sigma(S_k)_\varepsilon)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq C \|w^j\|_{L^2(\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon)}^2 \|w^k\|_{L^1(\Sigma(S_k)_\varepsilon)} \leq Ct^{-1}. \tag{94}$$

By using (91)–(94) and $w' = \sum_{j=1}^4 ((1 - A_j)(1 - A_j)^{-1}I)w^j$, we get

$$\int_{\Sigma'} z^{-2} ((1 - C_{w'}^\Sigma)^{-1}I)w' = \sum_{j=1}^4 \int_{\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon} z^{-2} [(1 - A_j)^{-1}I]w^j + O(t^{-1}).$$

Owing to [13, (2.61)], $A_j = C_{w^j} : L^2(\Sigma') \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma')$ in the above formula can be replaced by $C_{w^j}^\varepsilon : L^2(\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon)$, which is defined as in (56) for the pair $(\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon, w^j)$. Combining this fact with Proposition 7.3 ($\ell \geq 1$), we get the following result, which shows that the contributions of the four small crosses can be separated out.

PROPOSITION 9.2. *We have*

$$R_n(t) = -\delta(0) \sum_{j=1}^4 \int_{\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon} z^{-2} [((1 - C_{w^j}^\varepsilon)^{-1}I)(z)w^j(z)]_{21} \frac{dz}{2\pi i} + O(t^{-1}).$$

10. Infinite crosses and localization.

The integral in Proposition 9.2 involves values of R and \bar{R} on the crosses $\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon$ ($j = 1, 2, 3, 4$). In this section, we derive some estimates that compare their values on the crosses with those at the saddle points. The differences are so small that the former can be replaced by the latter as will be proved in Section 12.

We introduce \hat{w}_\pm^j and \hat{w}^j on the infinite cross $\Sigma(S_j)$ given by

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{w}_\pm^j &= w_\pm^j, & z \in \Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon, \\ \hat{w}_\pm^j &= 0, & z \in \Sigma(S_j) \setminus \Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon, \\ \hat{w}^j &= \hat{w}_+^j + \hat{w}_-^j, & z \in \Sigma(S_j). \end{aligned}$$

Define the operator $\hat{A}_j : L^2(\Sigma(S_j)) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma(S_j))$ as in (56) with the kernel \hat{w}_\pm^j . Set $\Delta_j^0 = (\delta_j^0)^{\sigma_3}$, $\tilde{\Delta}_j^0 \phi = \phi \Delta_j^0$. The operator $\tilde{\Delta}_j^0$ and its inverse are bounded. Define $\alpha_j : L^2(\Sigma(0)_j) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma(0)_j)$ by

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_j &= C_{(\Delta_j^0)^{-1}(N_j \hat{w}^j) \Delta_j^0} \\ &= C_+(\bullet (\Delta_j^0)^{-1}(N_j \hat{w}_-^j) \Delta_j^0) + C_-(\bullet (\Delta_j^0)^{-1}(N_j \hat{w}_+^j) \Delta_j^0). \end{aligned} \tag{95}$$

Then we have

$$\alpha_j = \tilde{\Delta}_j^0 N_j \hat{A}^j N_j^{-1} (\tilde{\Delta}_j^0)^{-1}, \quad \hat{A}^j = N_j^{-1} (\tilde{\Delta}_j^0)^{-1} \alpha_j \tilde{\Delta}_j^0 N_j. \tag{96}$$

On $M_j^{-1}\Sigma(S_j, L)_\varepsilon \setminus \{0\} \subset \Sigma(0)_j$, we have

$$((\Delta_j^0)^{-1}(N_j[z^{-2}\hat{w}_+]^j)\Delta_j^0)(z) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & (\beta_j z + S_j)^{-2}R(\beta_j z + S_j)\delta_j^1(z)^2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

by (61), and the left-hand side is zero on $\Sigma(0)_j \setminus M_j^{-1}\Sigma(S_j, L)_\varepsilon$.

On $M_j^{-1}\Sigma(S_j, L')_\varepsilon \subset \Sigma(0)_j$, we have

$$((\Delta_j^0)^{-1}(N_j[z^{-2}\hat{w}_-^j]\Delta_j^0)(z) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -(\beta_j z + S_j)^{-2}\bar{R}(\beta_j z + S_j)\delta_j^1(z)^{-2} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

by (62), and the left-hand side is zero on $\Sigma(0)_j \setminus M_j^{-1}\Sigma(S_j, L')_\varepsilon$.

Assume that j is odd ($j = 1, 3$). We have $M_j^{-1}\Sigma(S_j, L)_\varepsilon = e^{-\pi i/4}\mathbb{R} \cap \{|\beta_j z| \leq \varepsilon\}$ and it is the union of the lower right ($z/e^{-\pi i/4} \geq 0$) and upper left ($-z/e^{-\pi i/4} \geq 0$) parts. Recall that the positive imaginary axis is mapped by M_j to the *outer* normal at S_j if j is odd.

PROPOSITION 10.1. *Assume $j = 1$ or 3 . Fix an arbitrary constant γ with $0 < 2\gamma < 1$. Then on $M_j^{-1}\Sigma(S_j, L)_\varepsilon \cap \{z; \pm z/e^{-\pi i/4} > 0\}$ respectively, we have*

$$\begin{aligned} & |(\beta_j z + S_j)^{-2}R(\beta_j z + S_j)\delta_j^1(z)^2 - S_j^{-2}R(S_j \pm)z^{2i\nu_j}e^{-iz^2/2}| \\ & \leq Ct^{-1/2} \log t \cdot |e^{-(i\gamma z^2)/2}|, \end{aligned} \tag{97}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & |R(\beta_j z + S_j)\delta_j^1(z)^2 - R(S_j \pm)z^{2i\nu_j}e^{-iz^2/2}| \\ & \leq Ct^{-1/2} \log t \cdot |e^{-(i\gamma z^2)/2}|. \end{aligned} \tag{98}$$

We choose $R(S_j+) = \bar{r}(S_j)$ on the lower right part and $R(S_j-) = -\bar{r}(S_j)/(1 - |r(S_j)|^2)$ on the upper left part. The analytic functions $z^{\pm 2i\nu_j}$ and $\delta_j^1(z)$ have cuts along \mathbb{R}_- .

PROOF. We show only (97) because (98) is just an easier version of it. Moreover we can assume $j = 1$ by symmetry. On $M_1^{-1}\Sigma(S_1, L)_\varepsilon$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |e^{(i\gamma z^2)/2}| |(\beta_1 z + S_1)^{-2}R(\beta_1 z + S_1)\delta_1^1(z)^2 - S_1^{-2}R(S_1 \pm)z^{2i\nu_1}e^{-iz^2/2}| \\ & = \left| e^{-(i\gamma z^2)/2} \left[R(\beta_1 z + S_1)FE_1E_2 \frac{N_1\hat{\delta}_1(z)^2}{\hat{\delta}_1(S_1)^2} - S_1^{-2}R(S_1 \pm)z^{2i\nu_1}e^{i(-1+2\gamma)(z^2/2)} \right] \right|, \end{aligned} \tag{99}$$

where

$$F = (\beta_1 z + S_1)^{-2} \left(\frac{S_1 - T_1}{\beta_1 z + S_1 - T_1} \right)^{2i\nu_1}, \tag{100}$$

$$E_1 = z^{2i\nu_1} \exp \left(i(-1 + 2\gamma) \frac{z^2}{2} - 2N_1\varphi_1(z) \right), \tag{101}$$

$$E_2 = \exp(2\{N_1\chi_1(z) - \chi_1(S_1)\}). \tag{102}$$

Each factor in (99) is uniformly bounded with respect to (n, t) .

Since $ze^{-i\gamma z^2/2}$ is bounded and $\beta_1 = O(t^{-1/2})$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &|e^{-(i\gamma z^2)/2}[R(\beta_1 z + S_1) - R(S_1 \pm)]| \\ &\leq |e^{-(i\gamma z^2)/2}||\beta_1 z| \sup_{|w| \leq \varepsilon} |R'(w + S_1)| \leq C|\beta_1| \leq Ct^{-1/2}. \end{aligned} \tag{103}$$

Similarly, we obtain

$$|e^{-(i\gamma z^2)/2}(F - S_1^{-2})| \leq Ct^{-1/2}, \tag{104}$$

$$\left| e^{-(i\gamma z^2)/2} \left[\frac{N_1 \hat{\delta}_1(z)^2}{\hat{\delta}_1(S_1)^2} - 1 \right] \right| \leq Ct^{-1/2}. \tag{105}$$

Moreover, $N_1\varphi_1(z) = O(|\beta_1 z|^3)$ and the boundedness of $z^{2i\nu_1}$ and $z^3 e^{-i\gamma z^2/2}$ imply

$$\begin{aligned} &|e^{-i\gamma z^2/2}[E_1 - z^{2i\nu_1} \exp(i(-1 + 2\gamma)z^2/2)]| \\ &\leq |e^{-i\gamma z^2/2}| \sup_{0 \leq s \leq 1} \left| \frac{d}{ds} \exp\left(i(-1 + 2\gamma)\frac{z^2}{2} - 2sN_1\varphi_1(z)\right) \right| \\ &\leq C|e^{-i\gamma z^2/2}||\beta_1 z|^3 \leq C|\beta_1|^3 \leq Ct^{-3/2} \leq Ct^{-1/2}. \end{aligned} \tag{106}$$

Four $t^{-1/2}$ type estimates (103)–(106) have been obtained.

Lastly we derive a $t^{-1/2} \log t$ type estimate involving E_2 . We have

$$|e^{-i\gamma z^2/2}(E_2 - 1)| \leq \sup_{0 \leq s \leq 1} |e^{2s\{N_1\chi_1(z) - \chi_1(S_1)\}}| \cdot |2e^{-i\gamma z^2/2}(N_1\chi_1(z) - \chi_1(S_1))|. \tag{107}$$

Since the supremum is bounded, we have only to derive a $t^{-1/2} \log t$ type estimate of the second factor in (107). Integration by parts yields

$$2\pi i[N_1\chi_1(z) - \chi_1(S_1)] = \int_{T_1}^{S_1} \log \frac{1 - |r(\tau)|^2}{1 - |r(S_1)|^2} d \log \frac{\tau - (\beta_1 z + S_1)}{\tau - S_1} = -L_1 - L_2, \tag{108}$$

where

$$L_1 = \log \frac{1 - |r(T_1)|^2}{1 - |r(S_1)|^2} \log \frac{T_1 - (\beta_1 z + S_1)}{T_1 - S_1}, \tag{109}$$

$$L_2 = \int_{T_1}^{S_1} \log \frac{\tau - (\beta_1 z + S_1)}{\tau - S_1} g(\tau) d\tau, \tag{110}$$

$$g(\tau) = \frac{d}{d\tau} \log(1 - |r(\tau)|^2). \tag{111}$$

The first logarithm in L_1 is bounded. The second logarithm can be estimated in the same way as (103) etc. and we get

$$|e^{-i\gamma z^2/2} L_1| \leq Ct^{-1/2}. \quad (112)$$

We express the integral L_2 as the sum of two terms:

$$L_2 = L_2^1 + L_2^2, \quad (113)$$

$$L_2^1 = \int_{T_1}^{S_1} \{g(\tau) - g(S_1)\} \log \frac{\tau - (\beta_1 z + S_1)}{\tau - S_1} d\tau,$$

$$L_2^2 = g(S_1) \int_{T_1}^{S_1} \log \frac{\tau - (\beta_1 z + S_1)}{\tau - S_1} d\tau. \quad (114)$$

We have $|\log(1+w)| = |\int_0^w (1+z)^{-1} dz| \leq C|w|$ in any sector that is away from the negative real axis. For τ and z in L_2^1 , the ratio $-\beta_1 z/(\tau - S_1)$ is in such a sector and

$$\left| \log \frac{\tau - (\beta_1 z + S_1)}{\tau - S_1} \right| = \left| \log \left(1 - \frac{\beta_1 z}{\tau - S_1} \right) \right| \leq C \left| \frac{\beta_1 z}{\tau - S_1} \right|. \quad (115)$$

It implies

$$|e^{-i\gamma z^2/2} L_2^1| \leq C |e^{-i\gamma z^2/2}| |\beta_1 z| \int_{T_1}^{S_1} \left| \frac{g(\tau) - g(S_1)}{\tau - S_1} \right| |d\tau| \leq Ct^{-1/2}. \quad (116)$$

Next we consider L_2^2 . An elementary calculation shows

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{T_1}^{S_1} \log \frac{\tau - (\beta_1 z + S_1)}{\tau - S_1} d\tau \\ &= [(\tau - \beta_1 z - S_1) \log(\tau - \beta_1 z - S_1) - (\tau - S_1) \log(\tau - S_1)]_{\tau=T_1}^{\tau=S_1} \\ &= -\beta_1 z \log(-\beta_1 z) - [(T_1 - S_1 - w) \log(T_1 - S_1 - w)]_{w=0}^{w=\beta_1 z}. \end{aligned} \quad (117)$$

The product of $e^{-i\gamma z^2/2}$ and the second term in the right-hand side of (117) can be dealt with in the usual way, as in (103) etc. The product of $e^{-i\gamma z^2/2}$ and the first term enjoys an estimate involving $t^{-1/2} \log t$. Indeed, if t is sufficiently large,

$$\begin{aligned} |e^{-i\gamma z^2/2} \beta_1 z \log(-\beta_1 z)| &\leq |e^{-i\gamma z^2/2} \beta_1 z \log z| + |e^{-i\gamma z^2/2} z| |\beta_1 \log(-\beta_1)| \\ &\leq Ct^{-1/2} + Ct^{-1/2} \log t \leq Ct^{-1/2} \log t. \end{aligned} \quad (118)$$

By (117) and these estimates, we get

$$|e^{-i\gamma z^2/2} L_2^2| \leq Ct^{-1/2} \log t. \tag{119}$$

Combining (107), (108), (112), (116) and (119), we obtain

$$|e^{-i\gamma z^2/2} (E_2 - 1)| \leq Ct^{-1/2} \log t. \tag{120}$$

Finally (97) follows from (99), (103), (104), (105), (106) and (120). □

If j is odd ($j = 1, 3$), we have $M_j^{-1}\Sigma(S_j, L')_\varepsilon = e^{\pi i/4}\mathbb{R} \cap \{|\beta_j z| \leq \varepsilon\}$ and it is the union of the upper right ($z/e^{\pi i/4} \geq 0$) and lower left ($-z/e^{\pi i/4} \geq 0$) parts.

PROPOSITION 10.2. *Assume $j = 1$ or 3 . Fix an arbitrary constant γ with $0 < 2\gamma < 1$. Then on $M_j^{-1}\Sigma(S_j, L')_\varepsilon \cap \{z; \pm z/e^{\pi i/4} > 0\}$, we have*

$$\begin{aligned} & |(\beta_j z + S_j)^{-2} \bar{R}(\beta_j z + S_j) \delta_j^1(z)^{-2} - S_j^{-2} \bar{R}(S_j \pm) z^{-2i\nu_j} e^{iz^2/2}| \\ & \leq Ct^{-1/2} \log t \cdot |e^{(i\gamma z^2)/2}|, \end{aligned} \tag{121}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & |\bar{R}(\beta_j z + S_j) \delta_j^1(z)^{-2} - \bar{R}(S_j \pm) z^{-2i\nu_j} e^{iz^2/2}| \\ & \leq Ct^{-1/2} \log t \cdot |e^{(i\gamma z^2)/2}|. \end{aligned} \tag{122}$$

We choose $\bar{R}(S_j+) = r(S_j)$ on the upper right part and $\bar{R}(S_j-) = -r(S_j)/(1 - |r(S_j)|^2)$ on the lower left part.

REMARK 10.3. If j is even, we have $M_j^{-1}\Sigma(S_j, L)_\varepsilon = e^{\pi i/4}\mathbb{R} \cap \{|\beta_j z| \leq \varepsilon\}$ and $M_j^{-1}\Sigma(S_j, L')_\varepsilon = e^{-\pi i/4}\mathbb{R} \cap \{|\beta_j z| \leq \varepsilon\}$. The positive imaginary axis is mapped by M_j to the inner normal at S_j . Roughly speaking, we have the following:

- On $M_j^{-1}\Sigma(S_j, L)_\varepsilon$ ($j = 2, 4$);
 $(\beta_j z + S_j)^{-2} R(\beta_j z + S_j) \delta_j^1(z)^2$ tends to $S_j^{-2} R(S_j \pm) z^{-2i\nu_j} e^{iz^2/2}$ and $R(\beta_j z + S_j) \delta_j^1(z)^2$ tends to $R(S_j \pm) z^{-2i\nu_j} e^{iz^2/2}$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$. Here we choose $R(S_j+) = \bar{r}(S_j)$ on the upper right part and $R(S_j-) = -\bar{r}(S_j)/(1 - |r(S_j)|^2)$ on the lower left part.
- On $M_j^{-1}\Sigma(S_j, L')_\varepsilon$ ($j = 2, 4$);
 $(\beta_j z + S_j)^{-2} \bar{R}(\beta_j z + S_j) \delta_j^1(z)^{-2}$ tends to $S_j^{-2} \bar{R}(S_j \pm) z^{2i\nu_j} e^{-iz^2/2}$ and $\bar{R}(\beta_j z + S_j) \delta_j^1(z)^{-2}$ tends to $\bar{R}(S_j \pm) z^{-2i\nu_j} e^{iz^2/2}$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$. Here we choose $\bar{R}(S_j+) = r(S_j)$ on the lower right part and $\bar{R}(S_j-) = -r(S_j)/(1 - |r(S_j)|^2)$ on the upper left part.

11. Boundedness of inverses.

Recall that A_j is an operator on $L^2(\Sigma')$ with the kernel w^j supported by $\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon$ and that $\Sigma' = \cup_{j=1}^4 \Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon$. In this section, we prove that $(1 - A_j)^{-1}$ exists and is bounded as an operator on $L^2(\Sigma')$. This fact was used in Section 9. We make three steps of reduction (which will be followed by still other steps later in this section). It is enough to prove the existence and boundedness of:

- (i) $(1 - C_{w_j^\varepsilon}^\varepsilon)^{-1}: L^2(\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma(S_j)_\varepsilon)$.
- (ii) $(1 - \hat{A}_j)^{-1}: L^2(\Sigma(S_j)) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma(S_j))$.
- (iii) $(1 - \alpha_j)^{-1}: L^2(\Sigma(0)_j) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma(0)_j)$.

The first two steps of reduction are due to [13, Lemma 2.56]. The third is due to a scaling argument. Indeed, (96) implies

$$(1 - \hat{A}^j)^{-1} = N_j^{-1}(\tilde{\Delta}_j^0)^{-1}(1 - \alpha_j)^{-1}\tilde{\Delta}_j^0 N_j \tag{123}$$

and the boundedness of $(1 - \hat{A}^j)^{-1}$ follows from that of $(1 - \alpha_j)^{-1}$, since $N_j, \tilde{\Delta}_j^0$ and their inverses are bounded.

Set

$$\omega_\pm^j = (\Delta_j^0)^{-1}(N_j \hat{w}_\pm^j) \Delta_j^0 = (\delta_j^0)^{-\text{ad } \sigma_3} N_j \hat{w}_\pm^j, \tag{124}$$

so that by (95)

$$\alpha_j = C_{\omega_j} = C_+(\bullet \omega_-^j) + C_-(\bullet \omega_+^j).$$

The cross $\Sigma(0)_j$ consists of four rays:

$$\Sigma(0)_j = \cup_{k=1}^4 \Sigma(0)_j^k, \quad \Sigma(0)_j^k = e^{is_k \pi/4} \mathbb{R}_+,$$

where $s_1 = 1, s_2 = 3, s_3 = 5, s_4 = 7$. Each ray is oriented inward if j is odd and outward if j is even. Set

$$\omega_\pm^{j,\infty} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \omega_\pm^j. \tag{125}$$

By (98), (122) and Remark 10.3, (125) holds in L^p ($1 \leq p \leq \infty$). The concrete forms of $\omega_\pm^{j,\infty}$ are given below.

11.1. Case A.

Assume that j is odd ($j = 1, 3$). The contour $\Sigma(0)_j$ is oriented inward. Notice that $r(S_1) = -r(S_3), \nu_1 = \nu_3$. By virtue of (61), (87) and (124) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_+^{j,\infty} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\frac{\bar{r}(S_j)}{1 - |r(S_j)|^2} z^{2i\nu_j} e^{-iz^2/2} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, & z \in \Sigma(0)_j^2, \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \bar{r}(S_j) z^{2i\nu_j} e^{-iz^2/2} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, & z \in \Sigma(0)_j^4, \\ &= 0, & z \in \Sigma(0)_j^1 \cup \Sigma(0)_j^3 \end{aligned}$$

and (62), (87) and (124) imply

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_{-}^{j,\infty} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -r(S_j)z^{-2i\nu_j}e^{iz^2/2} & 0 \end{bmatrix}, & z \in \Sigma(0)_j^1, \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \frac{r(S_j)}{1-|r(S_j)|^2}z^{-2i\nu_j}e^{iz^2/2} & 0 \end{bmatrix}, & z \in \Sigma(0)_j^3, \\ &= 0, & z \in \Sigma(0)_j^2 \cup \Sigma(0)_j^4. \end{aligned}$$

For each j , either $\omega_{+}^{j,\infty}$ or $\omega_{-}^{j,\infty}$ is 0 and the associated jump matrix is

$$(I - \omega_{-}^{j,\infty})^{-1}(I + \omega_{+}^{j,\infty}) = (I + \omega_{-}^{j,\infty})(I + \omega_{+}^{j,\infty}) = I + \omega_{+}^{j,\infty} \text{ or } I + \omega_{-}^{j,\infty}. \tag{126}$$

Set $\omega^{j,\infty} = \omega_{+}^{j,\infty} + \omega_{-}^{j,\infty}$ and

$$\alpha^{j,\infty} = C_{\omega^{j,\infty}} = C_{+}(\bullet \omega_{-}^{j,\infty}) + C_{-}(\bullet \omega_{+}^{j,\infty}) : L^2(\Sigma(0)_j) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma(0)_j).$$

By (98), (122) and Remark 10.3, we find that the boundedness of $(1 - \alpha_j)^{-1}$ can be derived from that of $(1 - \alpha^{j,\infty})^{-1} : L^2(\Sigma(0)_j) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma(0)_j)$ if t is sufficiently large. The proof of the boundedness of $(1 - \alpha^{j,\infty})^{-1}$ (at least for $j = 1, 3$) can be found in [12], [14]. Indeed, the matrices $\omega_{\pm}^{j,\infty}$ are the same (up to inversion in the case of different orientations) as those in [12, p.198] and [14, p.46]. The presentation in the former is sketchy. A complete proof is given in the latter, but probably it is not easy to find, especially at libraries outside Japan. So here we repeat key steps of the calculation in [14]. The method is basically the same as that in [13], which can be referred to for some details.

Reorient and extend $\Sigma(0)_j$ to Σ^e (we do without the subscript j for simplicity) which is defined as follows:

- $\Sigma^e = \Sigma(0)_j \cup \mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R} \cup e^{\pi i/4}\mathbb{R} \cup e^{-\pi i/4}\mathbb{R}$ as sets.
- \mathbb{R} is unconventionally oriented from the right to the left, $e^{\pi i/4}\mathbb{R}$ from the lower left to the upper right, $e^{-\pi i/4}\mathbb{R}$ from the upper left to the lower right.

We have $\Sigma^e = \cup_{k=1}^6 \Sigma_k^e$, $\Sigma_k^e = e^{ia_k\pi/4}\mathbb{R}_+$ ($a_1 = 1, a_2 = 3, a_3 = 4, a_4 = 5, a_5 = 7, a_6 = 8$). Let $\Omega_k^e (k = 1, 2, \dots, 6)$ be the sector between Σ_{k-1}^e and Σ_k^e (here $\Sigma_0^e = \Sigma_6^e$). The rays are so oriented that $C_{+}^{\Sigma^e} f$ and $C_{-}^{\Sigma^e} f$ are analytic in the even- and odd-numbered sectors respectively for $f \in L^2(\Sigma^e)$.

From $\omega_{\pm}^{j,\infty}$, we obtain the renewed jump matrix

$$v^e = v^e(z) = (b_{-}^e)^{-1}b_{+}^e = (I - \omega_{-}^e)^{-1}(I + \omega_{+}^e) = (I + \omega_{-}^e)(I + \omega_{+}^e),$$

where

$$b_{+}^e = B_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ r(S_j)z^{-2i\nu_j}e^{iz^2/2} & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b_{-}^e = I \quad \text{on } \Sigma_1^e,$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 b_+^e = B_2 &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{\bar{r}(S_j)}{1 - |r(S_j)|^2} z^{2i\nu_j} e^{-iz^2/2} \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b_-^e = I && \text{on } \Sigma_2^e, \\
 b_\pm^e &= I && \text{on } \Sigma_3^e, \\
 b_+^e = I, \quad b_-^e = B_3 &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{r(S_j)}{1 - |r(S_j)|^2} z^{-2i\nu_j} e^{iz^2/2} & 1 \end{bmatrix} && \text{on } \Sigma_4^e, \\
 b_+^e = I, \quad b_-^e = B_4 &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \bar{r}(S_j) z^{2i\nu_j} e^{-iz^2/2} \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} && \text{on } \Sigma_5^e, \\
 b_\pm^e &= I && \text{on } \Sigma_6^e, \\
 \omega_\pm^e &= \pm(b_\pm^e - I) && \text{on } \Sigma^e.
 \end{aligned}$$

Notice that we have changed orientations on $\Sigma_1^e \cup \Sigma_5^e = \Sigma(0)_j^1 \cup \Sigma(0)_j^4$, where $\omega_\pm^e = -\omega_\mp^{j,\infty}$. The operator $\alpha^{j,\infty} = C_{\omega^j, \infty}$ of type (56) associated with $(\Sigma(0)_j, \omega_\pm^{j,\infty})$ coincides with that associated with $(\Sigma_1^e \cup \Sigma_2^e \cup \Sigma_4^e \cup \Sigma_5^e, \omega_\pm^e|_{\Sigma_1^e \cup \Sigma_2^e \cup \Sigma_4^e \cup \Sigma_5^e})$. By [13, Lemma 2.56], in order to prove the boundedness of $(1 - \alpha^{j,\infty})^{-1} : L^2(\Sigma(0)_j) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma(0)_j)$, we have only to prove that of $(1 - C_{\omega^e})^{-1}$, where C_{ω^e} is the operator associated with (Σ^e, ω_\pm^e) .

Define a piecewise analytic matrix function $\phi(z)$ on $\mathbb{C} \setminus \Sigma^e$ as follows:

	Ω_1^e	Ω_2^e	Ω_3^e	Ω_4^e	Ω_5^e	Ω_6^e	(127)
$\phi(z)$	$z^{-i\nu_j \sigma_3} B_1^{-1}$	$z^{-i\nu_j \sigma_3}$	$z^{-i\nu_j \sigma_3} B_2^{-1}$	$z^{-i\nu_j \sigma_3} B_3^{-1}$	$z^{-i\nu_j \sigma_3}$	$z^{-i\nu_j \sigma_3} B_4^{-1}$	

On Σ^e , set $v^{e,\phi}(z) = \phi_-(z)v^e(z)\phi_+^{-1}(z)$. Then we have $v^{e,\phi}(z) = I$ on $\Sigma_1^e \cup \Sigma_2^e \cup \Sigma_4^e \cup \Sigma_5^e$. On Σ_6^e , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 v^{e,\phi}(z) &= (z^{-i\nu_j \sigma_3} B_1^{-1})(z^{-i\nu_j \sigma_3} B_4^{-1})^{-1} = z^{-i\nu_j \text{ ad } \sigma_3} (B_1^{-1} B_4) \\
 &= e^{-((iz^2)/4) \text{ ad } \sigma_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \bar{r}(S_j) \\ -r(S_j) & 1 - |r(S_j)|^2 \end{bmatrix}.
 \end{aligned}$$

On $\Sigma_3^e = \mathbb{R}_-$, its orientation implies $(z^{-i\nu_j})_- / (z^{-i\nu_j})_+ = e^{2\pi\nu_j} = (1 - |r(S_j)|^2)^{-1}$ and

$$\begin{aligned}
 v^{e,\phi}(z) &= e^{-((iz^2)/4) \text{ ad } \sigma_3} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \bar{r}(S_j) \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} (z^{-i\nu_j \sigma_3})_- (z^{i\nu_j \sigma_3})_+ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -r(S_j) & 1 - |r(S_j)|^2 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \\
 &= e^{-((iz^2)/4) \text{ ad } \sigma_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \bar{r}(S_j) \\ -r(S_j) & 1 - |r(S_j)|^2 \end{bmatrix}.
 \end{aligned}$$

We set

$$\omega_{\pm}^{e,\phi} = 0 \text{ on } \Sigma_1^e \cup \Sigma_2^e \cup \Sigma_4^e \cup \Sigma_5^e, \tag{128}$$

$$\omega_-^{e,\phi} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -r(S_j)e^{iz^2/2} & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \omega_+^{e,\phi} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \bar{r}(S_j)e^{-iz^2/2} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ on } \mathbb{R}, \tag{129}$$

$$\omega^{e,\phi} = \omega_+^{e,\phi} + \omega_-^{e,\phi} \text{ on } \Sigma^e. \tag{130}$$

We have $v^{e,\phi} = (I - \omega_-^{e,\phi})^{-1}(I + \omega_+^{e,\phi})$ on Σ^e . By [13, Lemma 2.56], the boundedness of $(1 - C_{\omega^{e,\phi}})^{-1}$ on $L^2(\Sigma^e)$ follows from that of $(1 - C_{\omega^{e,\phi}|_{\mathbb{R}}})^{-1}$ on $L^2(\mathbb{R})$. The latter is an immediate consequence of $|r(S_j)| < 1$.

By means of the process of [13, pp.344–346] and the several steps of reduction in this section, we can derive the boundedness of $(1 - C_{\omega^e})^{-1}$, $(1 - \alpha^{j,\infty})^{-1} = (1 - C_{\omega^{j,\infty}})^{-1}$, $(1 - \alpha^j)^{-1} = (1 - C_{\omega^j})^{-1}$, $(1 - \hat{A}_j)^{-1}$, $(1 - C_{\omega^j}^\varepsilon)^{-1}$ and $(1 - A_j)^{-1}$.

11.2. Case B.

Assume that j is even ($j = 2, 4$). The contour $\Sigma(0)_j$ is oriented outward. Notice that $r(S_2) = -r(S_4), \nu_2 = \nu_4$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_+^{j,\infty} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \bar{r}(S_j)z^{-2i\nu_j}e^{iz^2/2} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, & z \in \Sigma(0)_j^1, \\ \omega_+^{j,\infty} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\frac{\bar{r}(S_j)}{1 - |r(S_j)|^2}z^{-2i\nu_j}e^{iz^2/2} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, & z \in \Sigma(0)_j^3, \\ \omega_+^{j,\infty} &= 0, & z \in \Sigma(0)_j^2 \cup \Sigma(0)_j^4, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_-^{j,\infty} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \frac{r(S_j)}{1 - |r(S_j)|^2}z^{2i\nu_j}e^{-iz^2/2} & 0 \end{bmatrix}, & z \in \Sigma(0)_j^2, \\ \omega_-^{j,\infty} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -r(S_j)z^{2i\nu_j}e^{-iz^2/2} & 0 \end{bmatrix}, & z \in \Sigma(0)_j^4, \\ \omega_-^{j,\infty} &= 0, & z \in \Sigma(0)_j^1 \cup \Sigma(0)_j^3. \end{aligned}$$

Define $\omega^{j,\infty}$ and $\alpha^{j,\infty}$ in the same way as in Case A. Here again we want to show the boundedness of $(1 - \alpha^{j,\infty})^{-1}: L^2(\Sigma(0)_j) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma(0)_j)$.

Denote $\omega_{\pm}^{j,\infty}$ by $\omega_{\pm}^{\text{even},\infty}$ or $\omega_{\pm}^{\text{odd},\infty}$ when j is even or odd respectively. Replace $r(S_j)$ with $\bar{r}(S_j)$ (hence $\bar{r}(S_j)$ with $r(S_j)$) in the definition of $\omega_{\pm}^{\text{odd},\infty}$, and denote by $\bar{\omega}_{\pm}^{\text{odd},\infty}$ the matrix thus obtained. For example, when $j = 2$, we have

$$\bar{\omega}_+^{\text{odd},\infty} = 0, \quad \bar{\omega}_-^{\text{odd},\infty} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -\bar{r}(S_2)z^{-2i\nu_2}e^{iz^2/2} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ on } \Sigma(0)_2^1.$$

Notice that \bar{r} is evaluated at $j = 2$ (an even number), although the form of the matrix is borrowed from the odd j 's and the superscript contains the word 'odd'.

The problem concerning $\bar{\omega}_{\pm}^{\text{odd},\infty}$ can be solved in the same way as that concerning $\omega_{\pm}^{\text{odd},\infty}$. We find that

$$\omega_{\pm}^{\text{even},\infty} = -t\bar{\omega}_{\mp}^{\text{odd},\infty} = -\sigma_1\bar{\omega}_{\mp}^{\text{odd},\infty}\sigma_1, \quad \sigma_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \tag{131}$$

We denote $\alpha^{j,\infty} = C_{\omega^{j,\infty}}$ by $\alpha^{\text{even},\infty}$ or $\alpha^{\text{odd},\infty}$ when j is even or odd respectively, and let $\bar{\alpha}^{\text{odd},\infty}$ be the operator obtained by replacing $\omega_{\pm}^{\text{odd},\infty}$ with $\bar{\omega}_{\pm}^{\text{odd},\infty}$ in $\alpha^{\text{odd},\infty}$. Let $\hat{\sigma}_1$ be the right multiplication by σ_1 , namely $\hat{\sigma}_1(f) = f\sigma_1$. Then (131) implies

$$\alpha^{\text{even},\infty} = \hat{\sigma}_1 \circ \bar{\alpha}^{\text{odd},\infty} \circ \hat{\sigma}_1, \tag{132}$$

because the cross $\Sigma(0)_j$ changes orientation in accordance with the parity of j . It cancels out the negative sign in the right-hand side of (131). Moreover it exchanges the positive and negative sides of the rays, as is compatible with the \pm and \mp signs in (131). Therefore the boundedness of $(1 - \alpha^{\text{odd},\infty})^{-1}$ proved in the previous subsection implies that of $(1 - \bar{\alpha}^{\text{odd},\infty})^{-1}$ and $(1 - \alpha^{\text{even},\infty})^{-1}$.

12. Reconstruction via scaling.

12.1. Reduction to infinity.

We defined the operator $\hat{A}_j: L^2(\Sigma(S_j)) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma(S_j))$ with the kernel \hat{w}_{\pm}^j at the beginning of Section 10. By Proposition 9.2 and [13, Lemma 2.56], we obtain

$$R_n(t) = -\delta(0) \sum_{j=1}^4 [R_n^j(t)]_{21} + O(t^{-1}), \tag{133}$$

where the *matrix* $R_n^j(t)$ is defined by

$$R_n^j(t) = \int_{\Sigma(S_j)} ((1 - \hat{A}_j)^{-1}I)(z)z^{-2}\hat{w}^j(z)\frac{dz}{2\pi i}. \tag{134}$$

By (123) and $\tilde{\Delta}_j^0 N_j I = \Delta_j^0$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} R_n^j(t) &= \int_{\Sigma(S_j)} (N_j^{-1}(\tilde{\Delta}_j^0)^{-1}(1 - \alpha_j)^{-1}\tilde{\Delta}_j^0 N_j I)(z)z^{-2}\hat{w}^j(z)\frac{dz}{2\pi i} \\ &= \int_{\Sigma(S_j)} ((1 - \alpha_j)^{-1}\Delta_j^0)(z')(\Delta_j^0)^{-1}(N_j[\bullet^{-2}\hat{w}^j])(z')\frac{dz}{2\pi i} \end{aligned}$$

with $z' = M_j^{-1}(z) = (z - S_j)/\beta_j \in \Sigma(0)_j$.

The change of variables $z = \beta_j z' + S_j$ leads to

$$R_n^j(t) = \beta_j \int_{\Sigma(0)_j} ((1 - \alpha_j)^{-1} \Delta_j^0)(z') (\Delta_j^0)^{-1} (N_j[\bullet^{-2} \hat{w}^j])(z') \frac{dz'}{2\pi i}.$$

The operator α_j is basically right action. It commutes with the left multiplication by $\Delta_j^0 = (\delta_j^0)^{\sigma_3}$ and so does $(1 - \alpha_j)^{-1}$. We get by (124)

$$R_n^j(t) = \beta_j (\delta_j^0)^{\text{ad } \sigma_3} \int_{\Sigma(0)_j} ((1 - \alpha_j)^{-1} I)(z) (\beta_j z + S_j)^{-2} \omega^j(z) \frac{dz}{2\pi i}. \tag{135}$$

By using Propositions 10.1, 10.2 and Remark 10.3, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Sigma(0)_j} ((1 - \alpha_j)^{-1} I)(z) (\beta_j z + S_j)^{-2} \omega^j(z) dz \\ &= \int_{\Sigma(0)_j} ((1 - \alpha_j^\infty)^{-1} I)(z) S_j^{-2} \omega^{j,\infty}(z) dz + O(t^{-1/2} \log t). \end{aligned} \tag{136}$$

We substitute (136) into (135). Then (133) and $\beta_j = O(t^{-1/2})$ yield the following proposition.

PROPOSITION 12.1.

$$\begin{aligned} R_n(t) &= -\frac{\delta(0)}{2\pi i} \sum_{j=1}^4 \beta_j (\delta_j^0)^{-2} S_j^{-2} \left[\int_{\Sigma(0)_j} ((1 - \alpha_j^\infty)^{-1} I)(z) \omega^{j,\infty}(z) dz \right]_{21} \\ &+ O(t^{-1} \log t). \end{aligned} \tag{137}$$

The integral in (137) can be calculated by using a Riemann-Hilbert problem. For $\mathbb{C} \setminus \Sigma(0)_j$, set

$$m^j(z) = I + \int_{\Sigma(0)_j} \frac{((1 - \alpha_j^\infty)^{-1} I)(\zeta) \omega^{j,\infty}(\zeta)}{\zeta - z} \frac{d\zeta}{2\pi i}.$$

Then $m^j(z)$ solves (uniquely) the Riemann-Hilbert problem

$$m_+^j(z) = m_-^j(z) v^j(z), \quad z \in \Sigma(0)_j, \tag{138}$$

$$m^j(z) \rightarrow I \quad \text{as } z \rightarrow \infty, \tag{139}$$

with $v^j(z) = (I - \omega_-^{j,\infty})^{-1} (I + \omega_+^{j,\infty})$. As $z \rightarrow \infty$, $m^j(z)$ behaves like $m^j(z) = I - z^{-1} m_1^j + O(z^{-2})$, where

$$m_1^j = \int_{\Sigma(0)_j} ((1 - \alpha_j^\infty)^{-1} I)(\zeta) \omega^{j,\infty}(\zeta) \frac{d\zeta}{2\pi i} \tag{140}$$

is nothing but the integral in (137). It implies the following proposition.

PROPOSITION 12.2. *We have*

$$R_n(t) = -\frac{\delta(0)}{2\pi i} \sum_{j=1}^4 \beta_j (\delta_j^0)^{-2} S_j^{-2} (m_1^j)_{21} + O(t^{-1} \log t). \tag{141}$$

The integral m_1^j is calculated in two steps depending on the parity of j .

12.2. Case A.

Assume that j is odd. We introduce the contour $\hat{\Sigma}$ in the following way:

- $\hat{\Sigma} = \Sigma^e$ as sets.
- Set $\hat{\Sigma}_k = \Sigma_k^e, \hat{\Omega}_k = \Omega_k^e$ for $k = 1, 2, \dots, 6$. Orient each $\hat{\Sigma}_k$ from the (upper/lower) left to the (upper/lower) right. In other words, the orientation of $\hat{\Sigma}$ differs from that of Σ^e on \mathbb{R} .

Set $H = m^j \phi^{-1}$, where ϕ is as in (127). Its jump matrix on $\hat{\Sigma} \setminus \mathbb{R}$ is $\phi_- v^j \phi_+^{-1} = \phi_- v^e \phi_+^{-1} = v^{e,\phi} = I$. Denote by \hat{v} its jump matrix on $\mathbb{R} = \Sigma_3^e \cup \Sigma_6^e$. We have

$$H_+ = H_- \hat{v} \text{ on } \mathbb{R}, \tag{142}$$

$$H z^{-i\nu_j \sigma_3} = I - z^{-1} m_1^j + O(z^{-2}) \text{ as } z \rightarrow \infty. \tag{143}$$

We can show that

$$\hat{v} = v^{e,\phi}(z)^{-1}|_{\mathbb{R}} = e^{-((iz^2)/4) \text{ ad } \sigma_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 - |r(S_j)|^2 & -\bar{r}(S_j) \\ r(S_j) & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

REMARK 12.3. If $r(S_j) = 0$, then we have $\nu_j = 0, \hat{v} = I$. It follows that $H = I, m_1^j = 0$. Hence M_j in Theorem 3.1 vanishes.

Assume $r(S_j) \neq 0$. Our formulas (142) and (143) are just the counterparts of [13, (4.18), (4.19)]. We can follow the calculation in [13, pp. 349–352] and get

$$(m_1^j)_{21} = -\frac{i\sqrt{2\pi}e^{-i\pi/4}e^{-\pi\nu_j/2}}{\bar{r}(S_j)\Gamma(i\nu_j)}, \quad (m_1^j)_{12} = \frac{i\sqrt{2\pi}e^{i\pi/4}e^{-\pi\nu_j/2}}{r(S_j)\Gamma(-i\nu_j)}. \tag{144}$$

It follows from $r(S_1) = -r(S_3)$ that

$$(m_1^3)_{21} = -(m_1^1)_{21}, \quad (m_1^3)_{12} = -(m_1^1)_{12}.$$

12.3. Case B.

Before calculating m_1^j when j is even, we give a general argument. Let us consider a pair of Riemann-Hilbert problems on a common contour:

$$M_+ = M_-v, \quad M \rightarrow I \text{ as } z \rightarrow \infty, \tag{145}$$

$$\tilde{M}_+ = \tilde{M}_-(\sigma_1 v \sigma_1), \quad \tilde{M} \rightarrow I \text{ as } z \rightarrow \infty. \tag{146}$$

The latter implies

$$\sigma_1 \tilde{M}_+ \sigma_1 = (\sigma_1 \tilde{M}_- \sigma_1)v, \quad \sigma_1 \tilde{M} \sigma_1 \rightarrow I \text{ as } z \rightarrow \infty$$

and $\sigma_1 \tilde{M} \sigma_1$ satisfies (145). Therefore, if (145) is uniquely solvable, so is (146) and we have $\sigma_1 \tilde{M} \sigma_1 = M$, hence

$$\tilde{M} = \sigma_1 M \sigma_1, \quad \tilde{M}_{21} = M_{12}, \quad \tilde{M}_{12} = M_{21}. \tag{147}$$

Now we come back to our specific situation. Recall that

$$\omega_{\pm}^{\text{even},\infty} = -\sigma_1 \bar{\omega}_{\mp}^{\text{odd},\infty} \sigma_1. \tag{148}$$

We are almost in the situation described in (145) and (146). On the right-hand side of (148), there is a negative sign and the subscript \mp replaces \pm . These deviations from (146) are canceled out by the fact that $\Sigma(0)_j$ is oriented differently in accordance with the parity of j . See (149) below.

When j is even, we reverse the orientation of $\Sigma(0)_j$. Then the orientation is now inward and the new jump matrix is $v_{\text{even}} = v^j(z)^{-1} = (I + \omega_+^{\text{even},\infty})^{-1}(I - \omega_-^{\text{even},\infty})$.

Set $v_{\text{odd}}(\bar{r}(S_j)) = (I - \bar{\omega}_-^{\text{odd},\infty})^{-1}(I + \bar{\omega}_+^{\text{odd},\infty})$, then (148) implies

$$v_{\text{even}} = \sigma_1 v_{\text{odd}}(\bar{r}(S_j)) \sigma_1. \tag{149}$$

Therefore the solution in Case A with $r(S_j)$ and $\bar{r}(S_j)$ interchanged gives that in Case B by the procedure in (147). If j is even, (144) and (147) lead to

$$(m_1^j)_{21} = \frac{i\sqrt{2\pi}e^{i\pi/4}e^{-\pi\nu_j/2}}{\bar{r}(S_j)\Gamma(-i\nu_j)}. \tag{150}$$

It follows that $(m_1^4)_{21} = -(m_1^2)_{21}$.

PROPOSITION 12.4. *We have*

$$R_n(t) = -\frac{\delta(0)}{\pi i} \sum_{j=1}^2 \beta_j (\delta_j^0)^{-2} S_j^{-2} (m_1^j)_{21} + O(t^{-1} \log t). \tag{151}$$

PROOF. In (141), the third and the fourth terms are identical with the first and the second respectively, because $\beta_{j+2} = -\beta_j$, $(\delta_{j+2}^0)^2 = (\delta_j^0)^2$, $S_{j+2}^2 = S_j^2$ and $(m_1^{j+2})_{21} = -(m_1^j)_{21}$. Notice that $(m_1^j)_{21}$ is referred to as M_j in Theorem 3.1. \square

12.4. Proof of Theorem 3.1.

Substitute (144) and (150) into (151). Then we get Theorem 3.1 in view of (84) and (86). See Remark 12.3 for the case $r(S_j) = 0$.

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