



# Large $\theta$ angle in two-dimensional large $N$ $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$ model

Tsubasa Sugeno (Tohoku University, DI)

Based on [2503.07012] with [T. Yokokura](#) and [K. Yonekura](#)

# Yang-Mills theory and $\theta$ angle

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The action of 4d pure Yang-Mills theory (in Euclidean spacetime) is given as

$$S[A] = \int d^4x \left[ \frac{1}{4g^2} F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{a\mu\nu} - i \frac{\theta}{64\pi^2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} F_{\mu\nu}^a F_{\rho\sigma}^a \right]$$

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Topological  $\theta$  term

$\theta$  angle is a  $2\pi$ -periodic parameter  $\theta \sim \theta + 2\pi$  and it gives interesting non-perturbative effects.

# Yang-Mills theory and $\theta$ angle

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You may think that considering only the small  $\theta$  region is sufficient, since

- We can take  $-\pi < \theta < \pi$  using  $2\pi$  periodicity of  $\theta$ .
- Physical QCD  $\theta$  angle is extremely small.

However, it is meaningful and important to consider the large  $\theta$  region beyond  $\theta = \pi$ .

# Vacuum energy

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We consider 4d  $SU(N)$  Yang-Mills theory as a concrete example.

The vacuum energy (density)  $V(\theta)$  is defined as

$$V(\theta) = - \lim_{\text{Vol} \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\text{Vol}} \log Z(\theta)$$

$$Z(\theta) = \int \mathcal{D}A e^{-S[A](\theta)} : \text{Partition function,}$$

Vol : Space-time volume

# Vacuum energy

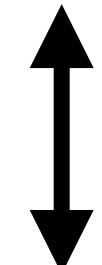
Properties (under some assumptions)

$$V(\theta) = V(\theta + 2\pi), \quad V(\theta = 0) \leq V(\theta), \quad V(\theta) = V(-\theta)$$

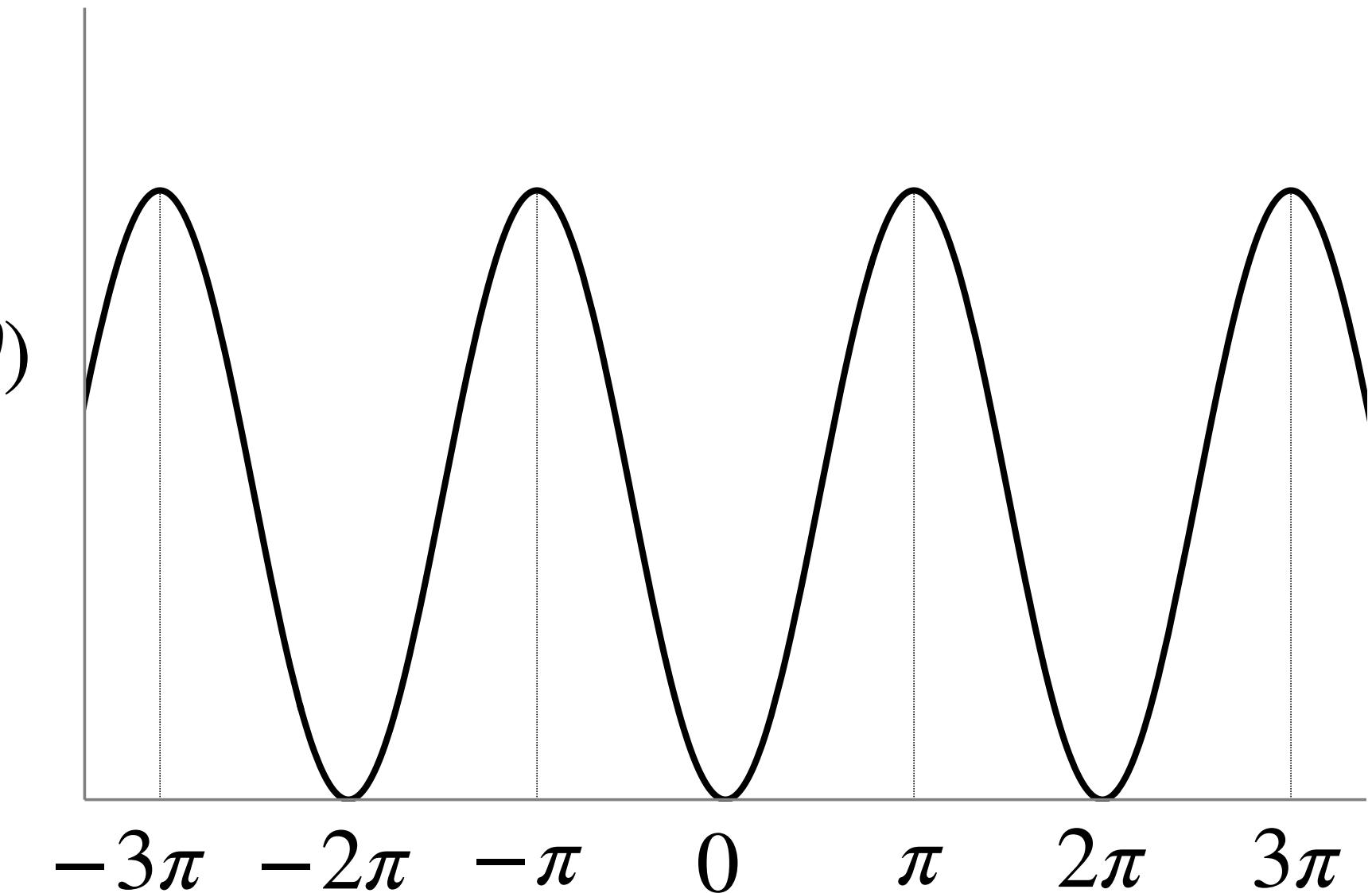
Dilute instanton gas approximation

(weak coupling/high  $T$ ) gives

$$V(\theta) \sim -\cos \theta.$$



$V(\theta)$  takes more complicated structure  
in strong-coupling regime.



# Large $N$ limit [Witten, 1980, 1998]

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We consider **the large  $N$  limit** to see the structure of  $V(\theta)$ .

We take  $N$  large with fixed  $g^2 N$  and  $\theta/N$ .

→  $\theta/N$  (not  $\theta$ ) is a natural parameter in large  $N$  theories.

$$S[A] = N \int d^4x \left[ \frac{1}{4g^2 N} F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{a\mu\nu} - i \frac{\theta}{N} \frac{1}{64\pi^2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} F_{\mu\nu}^a F_{\rho\sigma}^a \right] = N \bar{S}[A]$$

$$(\bar{S}[A] \sim \mathcal{O}(N^0))$$

# Large $N$ limit [Witten, 1980, 1998]

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The vacuum energy has the form

$$V(\theta) = N^2 \bar{V} \left( \frac{\theta}{N} \right) \quad \bar{V} : \text{function in } \mathcal{O}(N^0)$$

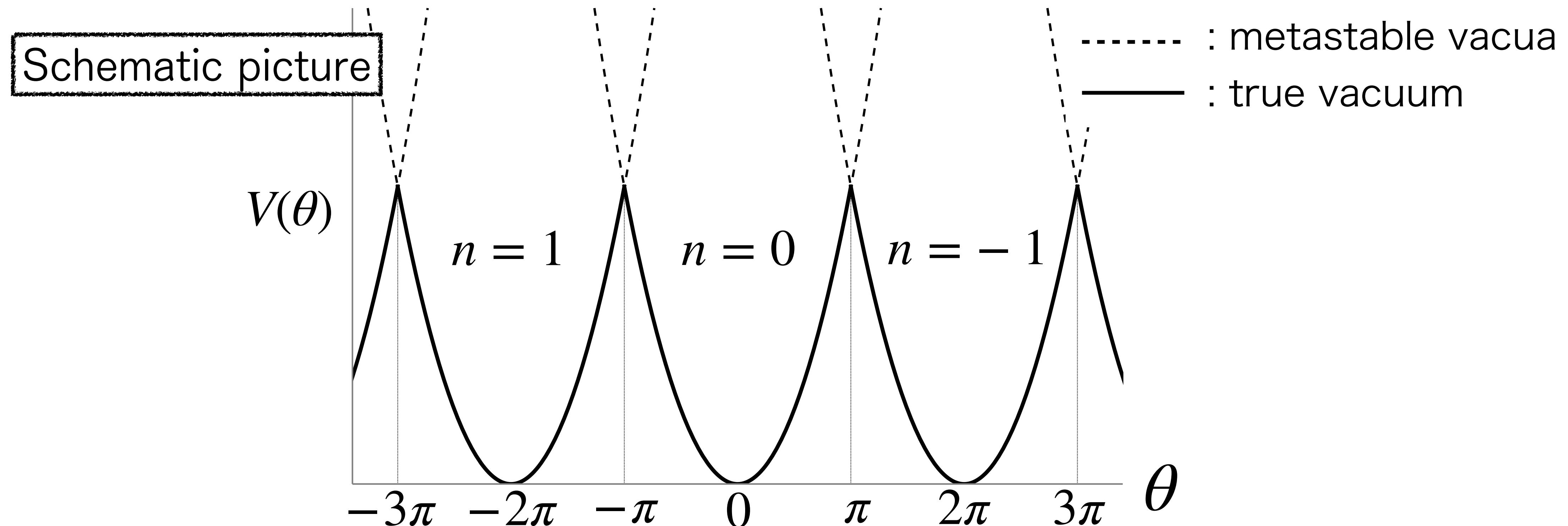
On the other hand,  $V(\theta) = V(\theta + 2\pi)$  must be satisfied.

Consistent form : **Multi-branch structure**

$$V(\theta) = \min_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} V_n(\theta), \quad V_n(\theta) = N^2 \bar{V}(\bar{\theta}_n), \quad \bar{\theta}_n = \frac{\theta + 2\pi n}{N}$$

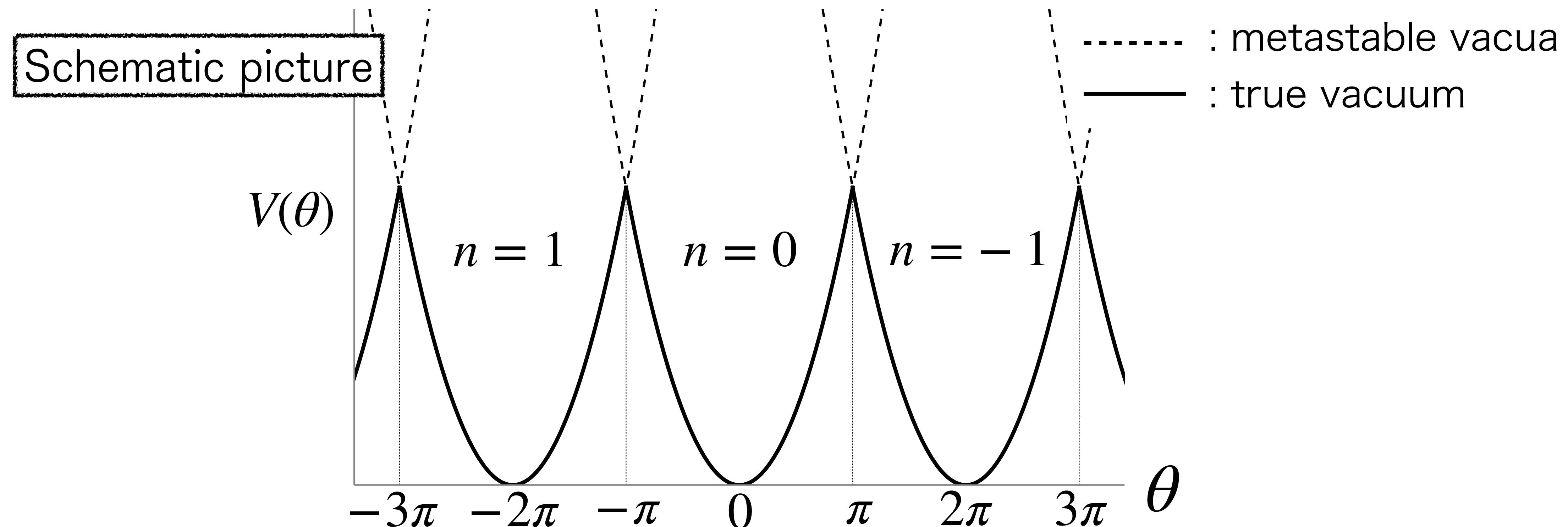
# Multi-branch structure of $V(\theta)$

$$V(\theta) = \min_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} V_n(\theta), \quad V_n(\theta) = N^2 \bar{V}(\bar{\theta}_n), \quad \bar{\theta}_n = \frac{\theta + 2\pi n}{N}$$



# Multi-branch structure of $V(\theta)$

- ▶ CP symmetry is **spontaneously broken** at  $\theta = \pi$ .
- ▶ Each vacua labeled by integer  $n$  is not  $2\pi$ -periodic.
- ▶ Many **metastable vacua** appear.



# Multi-branch structure of $V(\theta)$

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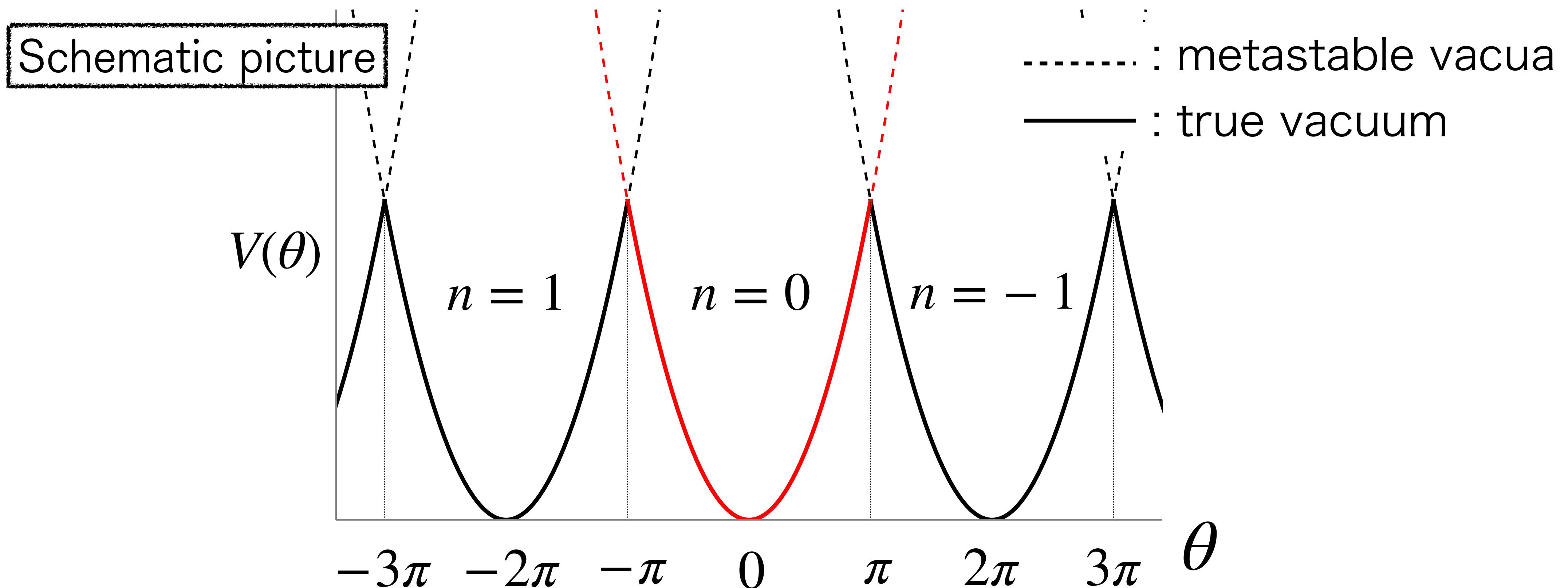
The multi-branch structure of  $V(\theta)$  has been confirmed even at finite  $N$  cases.

- ▶ Numerical simulations (For SU(2) YM e.g., [Kitano-Yamada-Matsudo-Yamazaki, 2021], [Hirasawa-Honda-Matsumoto-Nishimura-Yosprakob, 2024])
- ▶ 't Hooft anomaly (Mixed anomaly between  $\mathbb{Z}_N$  center symmetry and  $2\pi$  periodicity of  $\theta$ .) [Gaiotto-Kapustin-Komargodski-Seiberg, 2017][Cordova-Freed-Lam-Seiberg, 2019]

# Single branch of $V(\theta)$

The behavior in large  $\theta$  region has not been known yet.

$V_{n=0}(\theta) = ?$  in large  $\theta$  region  $\leftarrow$  Our target



# Why large $\theta$ region?

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- ▶ A vacuum branch might have  $2\pi N$  periodicity (not prohibited by 't Hooft anomalies).
  - e.g., softly-broken  $\mathcal{N} = 1$   $SU(N)$  super Yang-Mills theory (YM with adjoint fermion) has  $2\pi N$ -periodic vacua.
    - Does this periodicity hold more generally?
- ▶ Application for axion cosmology
  - e.g., [Yonekura, 2014], [Nomura-Watari-Yamazaki, 2017],

# 2d $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$ model

[D'Adda-Lusher-Di Vecchia 1979]  
 [Witten, 1979]

- ✓ A sigma model with target space  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^{N-1} \simeq S^{2N-1}/U(1)$ .

We realize this set up using auxiliary fields.

$$S = \int d^2x \left[ \frac{1}{g^2} |(\partial_i - iA_i)\phi|^2 + \frac{1}{g^2} D(\phi^\dagger \phi - 1) + i \frac{\theta}{2\pi} E \right]$$

- $\phi^a$  ( $a = 1, \dots, N$ ) :  $N$  complex scalar fields
- $A_i$  : (Auxiliary)  $U(1)$  gauge field  $\longrightarrow$  gauge symmetry  $\phi \rightarrow e^{i\alpha} \phi$
- $D$  : (Auxiliary) scalar field  $\longrightarrow$  a constraint  $\phi^\dagger \phi = 1$
- $E = -F_{12} = -(\partial_1 A_2 - \partial_2 A_1)$  : Field strength (Electric field)

# 2d $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$ model

[D'Adda-Lusher-Di Vecchia 1979]  
 [Witten, 1979]

2d  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$  model is solvable in the large  $N$  limit and has similar properties to 4d  $SU(N)$  Yang-Mills theory.

$$S = N \int d^2x \left[ \frac{1}{g^2 N} |(\partial_i - iA_i)\phi|^2 + \frac{1}{g^2} D(\phi^\dagger \phi - 1) + i \frac{\theta}{N} \frac{1}{2\pi} E \right] = N \bar{S}$$

(  $\bar{S} \sim \mathcal{O}(N^0)$  )

## Properties

Asymptotic freedom, Confinement of charges, Mass gap ⋯  
 → good toy model of 4d Yang-Mills theories.

# 2d $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$ model

[D'Adda-Lusher-Di Vecchia 1979]  
 [Witten, 1979]

## ► Multi-branch vacuum

$$V(\theta) = \min_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} V_n(\theta), \quad V_n(\theta) = N \bar{V}(\bar{\theta}_n), \quad \bar{\theta}_n = \frac{\theta + 2\pi n}{N}$$

- Large  $N$  argument
- Numerical simulation : e.g., [Azcoiti-Carlo-Galante-Laliena, 2003]
- 't Hooft anomaly : [Nguyen-Tanizaki-Unsal, 2022]

There is a mixed anomaly between  $\text{PSU}(N) = \text{SU}(N)/\mathbb{Z}_N$  symmetry and  $2\pi$  periodicity of  $\theta$ .

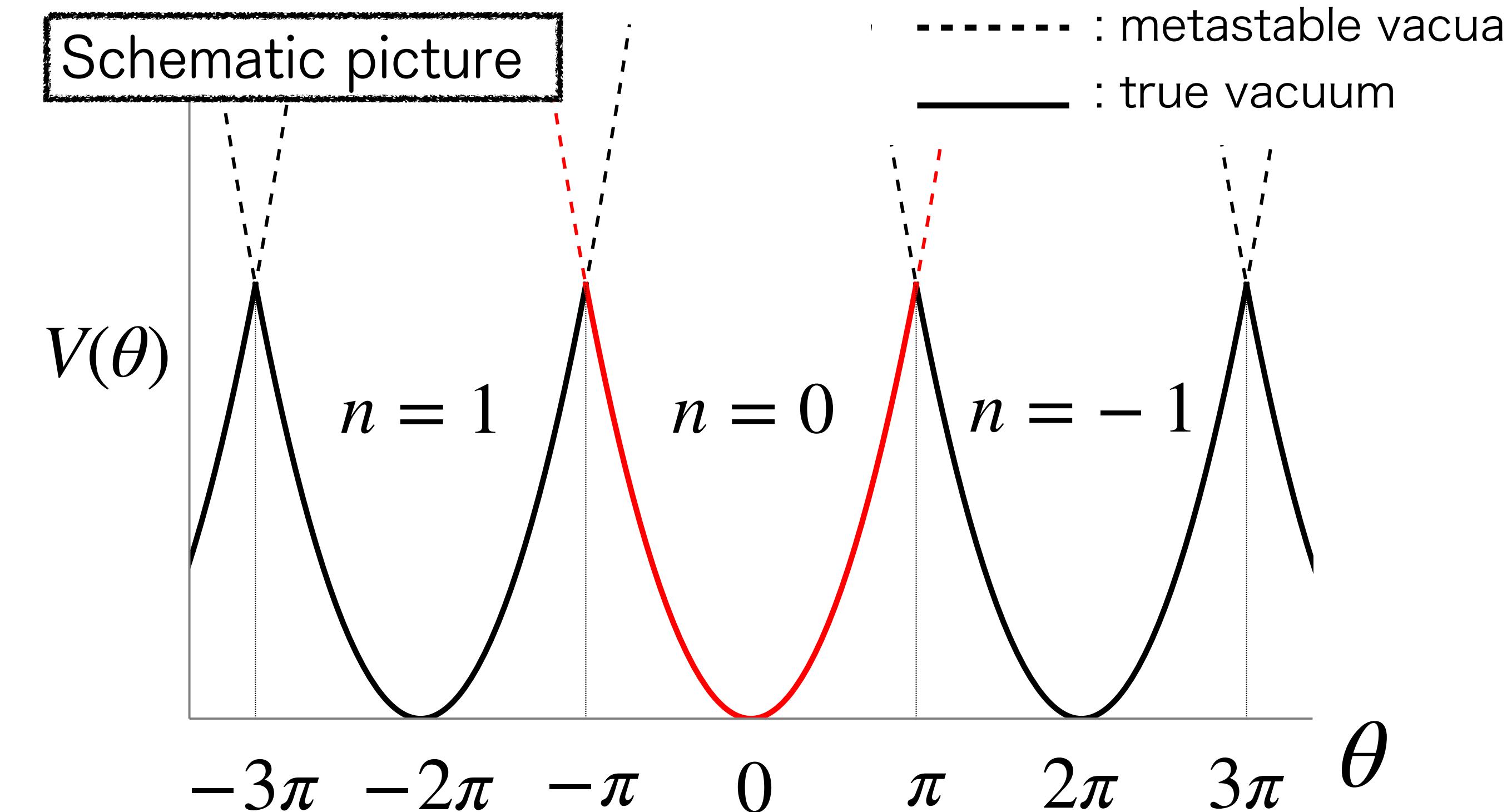
# 2d $\mathbb{CP}^{N-1}$ model

[D'Adda-Lusher-Di Vecchia 1979]  
 [Witten, 1979]

## ► Multi-branch vacuum

$$V(\theta) = \min_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} V_n(\theta), \quad V_n(\theta) = N \bar{V}(\bar{\theta}_n), \quad \bar{\theta}_n = \frac{\theta + 2\pi n}{N}$$

- ✓ We computed  $V_{n=0}(\theta)$  including the large  $\theta$  region ( $\theta \sim \mathcal{O}(N)$ ) in the 2d large  $N$   $\mathbb{CP}^{N-1}$  model.



# Computation of the partition function

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$$Z(\theta) = \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{i\theta m} Z_m = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx e^{i(\theta + 2\pi n)x} Z_x$$


  
**Poisson resummation**

- $n \in \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow$  label of vacuum (We focus on  $n = 0$ )
- $m = -\text{Vol}(T^2) \cdot E/2\pi = x \leftarrow \text{assume}$  to be extended as a continuous variable.

Vacuum energy  $V_n(\theta)$  and decay rate  $\Gamma_n(\theta)$  for the  $n$ -th vacuum:

$$V_n(\theta) - i\frac{\Gamma_n(\theta)}{2} = - \lim_{\text{Vol}(T^2) \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\text{Vol}(T^2)} \log \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx e^{i(\theta + 2\pi n)x} Z_x$$

# Computation of the partition function

We use the saddle point method in the large  $N$  limit.

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx e^{i\theta x} Z_x \sim \int dE dD \exp(-N \bar{S}_{\text{eff}}[E, D, \theta/N]) \simeq \exp(-N \bar{S}_{\text{eff}}[E, D, \theta/N]_{\text{saddle}})$$

## Assumptions

- $\bar{S}_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^2x \bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}}$  ( $\phi$  is integrated out) is a function of constant  $D$  and  $E$  (Non-constant fluctuations are negligible).
- Subleading terms in  $1/N$  expansion are negligible.

$$\longrightarrow V_{n=0}(\theta) = \frac{N}{4\pi} \text{Re} \bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}}(\theta/N) \Big|_{\text{saddle}}, \quad \Gamma_{n=0}(\theta) = -2 \frac{N}{4\pi} \text{Im} \bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}}(\theta/N) \Big|_{\text{saddle}}$$

# Small $\bar{\theta} = \theta/N$ ( $\bar{\theta} \ll 1$ )

The vacuum energy  $V_{n=0}(\theta)$  and the decay rate  $\Gamma_{n=0}(\theta)$  is

$$V_{n=0}(\theta) - V_{n=0}(0) \simeq N \frac{3\Lambda^2}{2\pi} \bar{\theta}^2, \quad \Gamma_{n=0}(\theta) \simeq \frac{3\Lambda^2}{\pi} \bar{\theta} \exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{6} \frac{1}{\bar{\theta}}\right)$$

## Physical interpretation

- Electric field  $E \sim \bar{\theta}$  generates the energy  $V(\theta) \sim E^2 \sim \bar{\theta}^2$ .
- Vacuum decay via **Schwinger pair production** of  $\phi$  and  $\phi^\dagger$ .

These results seem sensible. How about large  $\theta$  region ( $\bar{\theta} \sim 1$ )?

# General $\bar{\theta} = \theta/N$

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We need to seek the saddle point of the effective Lagrangian.

$$\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}} = -2E \log \Gamma \left( \frac{D}{2E} + \frac{1}{2} \right) + E \log 2\pi - D \log \frac{2E}{\Lambda^2} + 2i\bar{\theta}E$$

$\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}}$  has **infinitely many saddle points** for fixed  $\bar{\theta}$ .

We can completely classify all saddle points by carefully considering the analytic structure of  $\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}}$  (details omitted).

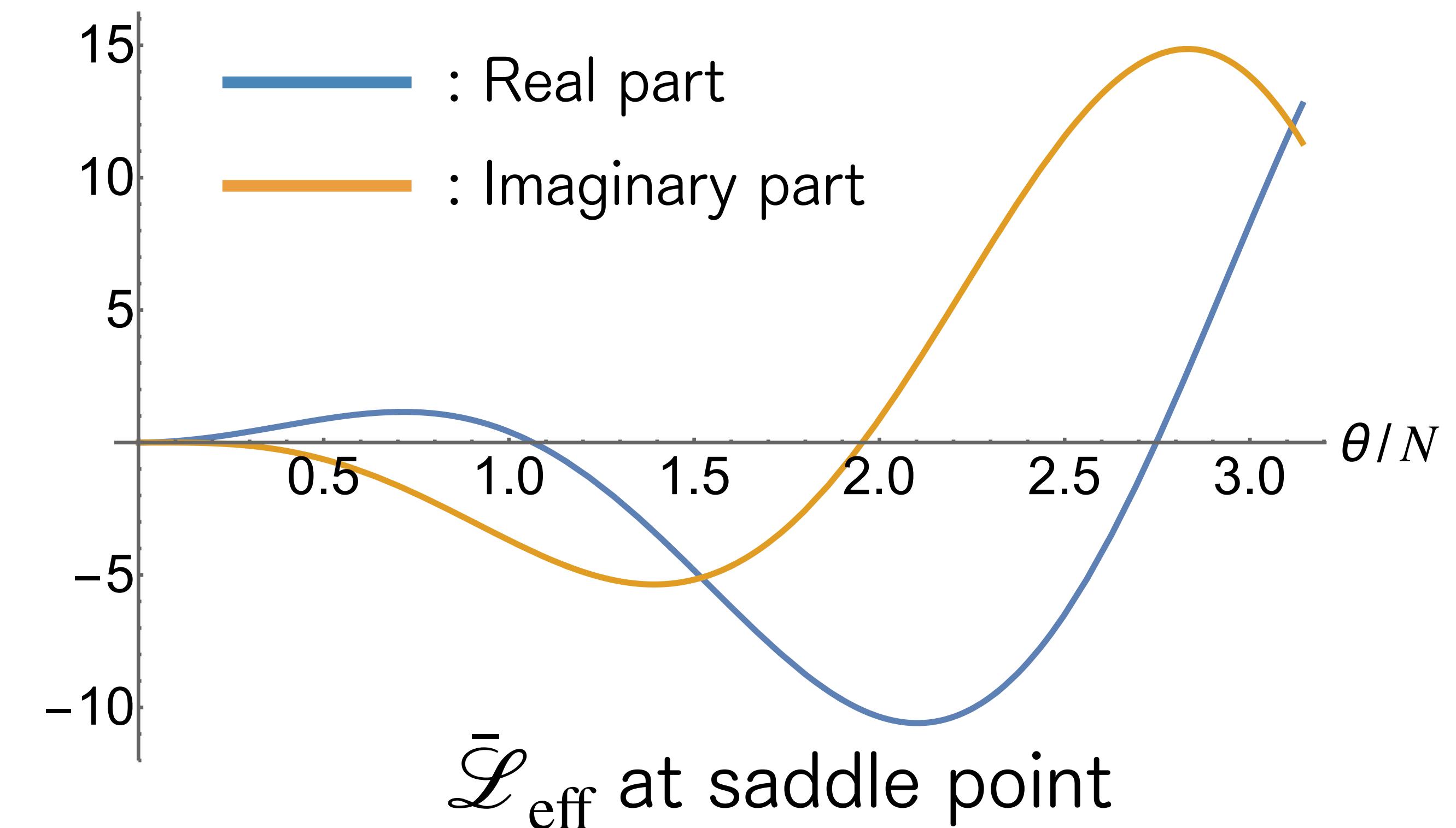
However, it is non-trivial to determine **which** saddle points contributes to the path integral (appropriate contour  $n_a J_a$ ).

# General $\bar{\theta} = \theta/N$

Natural saddle point to consider :

Saddle point obtained by continuously increasing the fixed value of  $\theta/N$  from the saddle point that gives sensible results in small  $\theta/N$ .

$\text{Re}\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}} < 0$  in some range of  $\theta/N$  at a saddle point.



# Problem : Evaluation of the partition function

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We used the Poisson resummation :

$$Z(\theta) = \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{i\theta m} Z_m = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx e^{i(\theta + 2\pi n)x} Z_x \sim e^{-V_{\text{true}}(\theta) \cdot \text{Vol}}$$

The largest contribution to the sum = **true vacuum**

Saddle point with  $\text{Re } S_{\text{eff}} < 0$  gives larger contribution than the true vacuum.

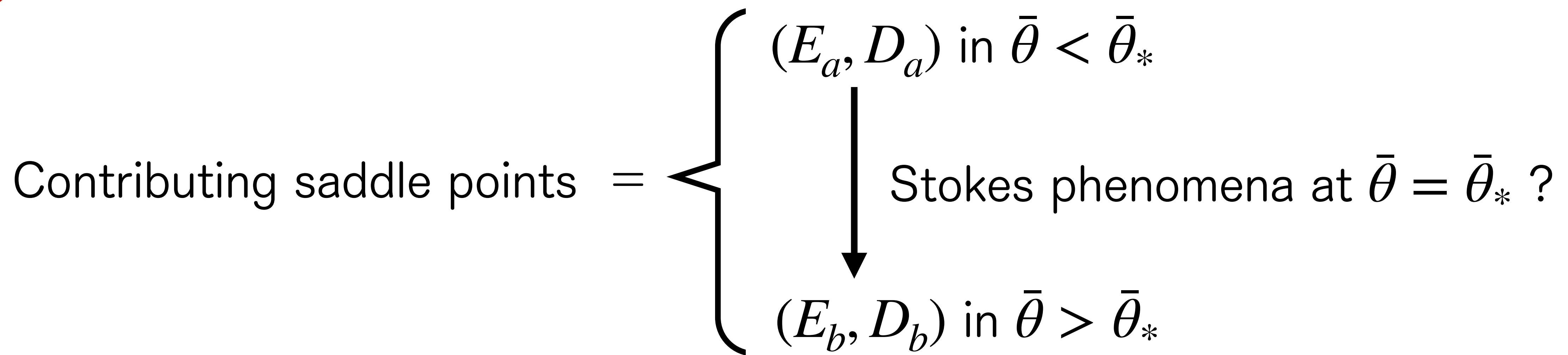
$$\left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx e^{i\theta x} Z_x \right| \sim \left| \exp \left[ -S_{\text{eff}}[D, E](\theta) \Big|_{\text{saddle}} \right] \right| > 1$$

**How can we evaluate the partition function?**

# Problem : Evaluation of the partition function

One of the possible resolutions : **Stokes phenomena**

When we continuously vary parameters (in our case  $\bar{\theta}$ ), the set of saddle points contributing to the integral may discontinuously change.



(It is not easy to understand how the Stokes phenomena occurs.

Completely different resolution may be needed. )

# Summary

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- Strongly-coupled field theories have **the non-trivial vacuum structures as functions of  $\theta$ .**
- **2d  $\mathbb{CP}^{N-1}$  model** is a good toy model of 4d  $SU(N)$  Yang-Mills theory and it might give some implications for strongly-coupled dynamics.
- We studied the  $\theta$  dependence in 2d large  $N$   $\mathbb{CP}^{N-1}$  model and we encountered **saddle points that give larger contributions to the partition function than the true vacuum**. The **Stokes phenomenon** is a plausible resolution, but the situation is not fully understood.



# 2d $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$ model

[D'Adda-Lusher-Di Vecchia 1979]  
 [Witten, 1979]

2d  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$  model is solvable in the large  $N$  limit and has similar properties to 4d  $SU(N)$  Yang-Mills theory.

$$S = N \int d^2x \left[ \frac{1}{g^2 N} |(\partial_i - iA_i)\phi|^2 + \frac{1}{g^2} D(\phi^\dagger \phi - 1) + i \frac{\theta}{N} \frac{1}{2\pi} E \right] = N \bar{S}$$

$$(\bar{S} \sim \mathcal{O}(N^0))$$

- Asymptotic freedom

$$\beta(g) = \mu \frac{dg}{d\mu} = -\frac{N}{4\pi} g^3 < 0$$

# 2d $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$ model

[D'Adda-Lusher-Di Vecchia 1979]  
 [Witten, 1979]

- Confinement and Mass gap

We consider  $\theta = 0$ .

We first perform the path integral of  $\phi$  and  $\phi^\dagger$  and obtain the effective action  $S_{\text{eff}}[A, D]$ .

$$S_{\text{eff}}[A, D] = N \left[ \log \det(-(\partial_i - iA_i)^2 + D) - \frac{1}{g^2 N} \int d^2x D \right]$$

# 2d $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$ model

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- Confinement and Mass gap

$$S_{\text{eff}}[A, D] = N \left[ \log \det(-(\partial_i - iA_i)^2 + D) - \frac{1}{g^2 N} \int d^2x D \right]$$

In the path integral over  $A$  and  $D$ , we use the **saddle point method**.

In the large  $N$  limit, the saddle point of  $S_{\text{eff}}[A, D]$  gives the dominant contribution to the partition function.

Saddle points :  $A = 0, D = \Lambda^2$

( $\Lambda$  : dynamical mass scale for  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$  model)

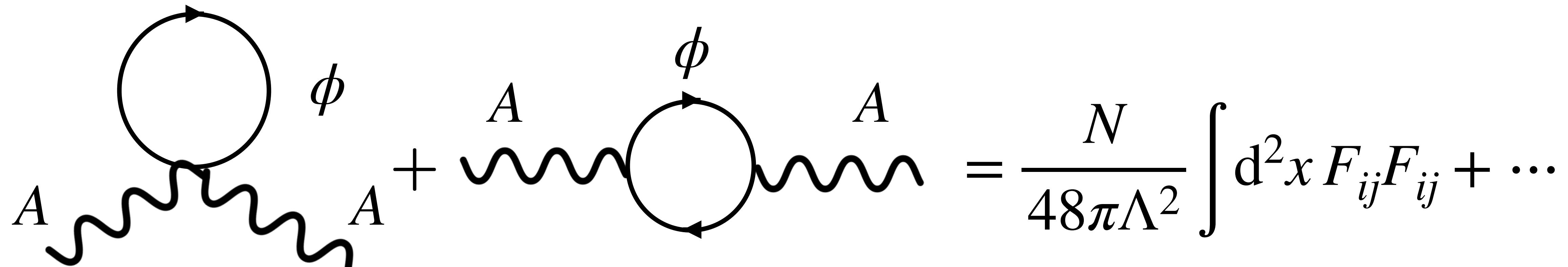
# 2d $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$ model

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- Confinement and Mass gap

$$S_{\text{eff}}[A, D] = N \left[ \log \det(-(\partial_i - iA_i)^2 + D) - \frac{1}{g^2 N} \int d^2x D \right]$$

Quadratic terms for  $A$  is generated by the diagrams



$$A \phi + A = \frac{N}{48\pi\Lambda^2} \int d^2x F_{ij} F_{ij} + \dots$$

Kinetic term for  $A$

# 2d $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$ model

[D'Adda-Lusher-Di Vecchia 1979]  
 [Witten, 1979]

- Confinement and Mass gap

The low energy effective action becomes

$$S_{\text{eff}}[\phi, A, D] = \int d^2x \left[ \frac{1}{g^2} \left( (D_i \phi)^\dagger (D_i \phi) + \Lambda^2 \phi^\dagger \phi \right) + \frac{N}{48\pi\Lambda^2} F_{ij} F_{ij} \dots \right]$$

- ✓  $\phi$  obtained mass  $\Lambda \rightarrow$  **Mass gap**
- ✓  $A$  obtained kinetic term and it gives Coulomb potential  $V(r)$  between charged particles.
- ✓ In 2d,  $V(r)$  is linear potential ( $V(r) \propto r$ ).  $\rightarrow$  **Confinement**

# More about saddle point method [Witten, 2010]

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$$\int dE dD \exp(-N\bar{S}_{\text{eff}}[E, D, \theta/N]) \simeq \exp(-N\bar{S}_{\text{eff}}[E, D, \theta/N]_{\text{saddle}})$$

- We extend  $E$  and  $D$  to **complex variables** and we seek **complex saddle points** of  $\bar{S}_{\text{eff}}$ .
- For each saddle point  $(E_a, D_a)$ , there is a contour called **Lefschetz thimble**  $J_a$  ( $=$  steepest descent path for  $-\text{Re}\bar{S}_{\text{eff}}$ ).
- We deform the integration contour  $C$  using Cauchy theorem as

$$C \rightarrow n_a J_a, \quad n_a \in \mathbb{Z}$$

- \* It is not easy to determine the appropriate contour  $n_a J_a$  completely.

# Effective action

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The explicit form of the effective action : (see also [Rossi 2016])

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bar{S}_{\text{eff}} &= \log \text{Det} \left( -(\partial_i - iA_i)^2 - D \right) - \frac{1}{g^2 N} \int d^2x D + i \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\theta}{N} \int d^2x E \\
 &= \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^2x \left[ - \int_{\epsilon}^{\infty} \frac{dt}{t} \frac{E e^{-Dt}}{\sinh Et} - \frac{4\pi}{g^2 N} D + 2i \frac{\theta}{N} E \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^2x \left[ -2E \log \Gamma \left( \frac{D}{2E} + \frac{1}{2} \right) + E \log 2\pi - D \log \frac{2E}{\Lambda^2} + 2i \frac{\theta}{N} E \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

$\Gamma(z)$  : the Gamma function,  $\Lambda$  : mass scale for  $\mathbb{CP}^{N-1}$  model.

# Small $\theta/N$ ( $\theta/N \ll 1$ )

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Saddle point at  $\theta = 0$  :  $(D, E) = (\Lambda^2, 0)$

→ For small  $\bar{\theta} \equiv \theta/N$  ( $\bar{\theta} \ll 1$ ),  $|E|$  is small.

$$\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}} \simeq D \left( 1 - \log \frac{D}{\Lambda^2} \right) + \frac{E^2}{6D} + 2i\bar{\theta}E$$

Saddle point equation for  $E$  and  $D$  give

$$D \simeq \Lambda^2 (1 + 6\bar{\theta}^2), \quad E \simeq -6i\bar{\theta}\Lambda^2$$

$$\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}}(\bar{\theta}) \Big|_{\text{saddle}} = D \simeq \Lambda^2(1 + 6\bar{\theta}^2)$$

# Small $\theta/N$ ( $\theta/N \ll 1$ )

---

$$\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}} = - \int_{\epsilon}^{\infty} \frac{dt}{t} \frac{E e^{-Dt}}{\sinh Et} - \frac{4\pi}{g^2 N} D + 2i\bar{\theta}E$$

Poles at  $t = \frac{n\pi}{6\Lambda^2\bar{\theta}}$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ )

(At the saddle point,  $E = -6i\bar{\theta}\Lambda^2$ .)

Avoiding these poles in the  $t$  integral,  $\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}}$  acquires the imaginary part

$$\text{Im} \bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}}(\bar{\theta})|_{\text{saddle}} \simeq -6\Lambda^2 \frac{\theta}{N} \log \left( 1 + \exp \left( -\frac{\pi N}{6\theta} \right) \right)$$

# General $\theta/N$

---

We need to seek the saddle point of the effective Lagrangian.

$$\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}} = -2E \log \Gamma \left( \frac{D}{2E} + \frac{1}{2} \right) + E \log 2\pi - D \log \frac{2E}{\Lambda^2} + 2i\bar{\theta}E$$

We can completely classify all saddle points by carefully considering the analytic structure of  $\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}}$

Labels of saddle points : ①  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , ②  $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}$ , ③  $o = \pm$

These labels comes from the structure of  $\log \Gamma(z)$ .

# General saddle point equations

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We treat  $D$  and  $z = D/E$  as independent variables.

Then, the saddle point equations give

$$2i\bar{\theta} = 2 \log \Gamma\left(\frac{z+1}{2}\right) - z\psi\left(\frac{z+1}{2}\right) + z - \log 2\pi = f(z)$$

$$\frac{D}{\Lambda^2} = z \exp\left(-\psi\left(\frac{z+1}{2}\right)\right)$$

$$\psi(z) = \frac{d}{dz} \log \Gamma(z) : \text{The digamma function}$$

✓  $f(z)$  is a complex-valued function. But since  $\bar{\theta}$  ( $= \theta/N$ ) is a real parameter, the solution must satisfy  $\text{Im } f(z) = 0$ .

# Classification of saddle points

---

$$2i\bar{\theta} = 2 \log \Gamma\left(\frac{z+1}{2}\right) - z\psi\left(\frac{z+1}{2}\right) + z - \log 2\pi = f(z)$$

①  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,

As we increase the value of fixed  $\bar{\theta}$ , the saddle point  $(E(\bar{\theta}), D(\bar{\theta}))$  continuously moves on complex  $(E, D)$  planes.

When taking  $\bar{\theta} \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $(E(\bar{\theta}), D(\bar{\theta}))$  approaches to

$$z = \frac{D}{E} \rightarrow -2k-1, \quad (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots)$$

↑  
Poles of  $\log \Gamma\left(\frac{D}{2E} + \frac{1}{2}\right)$

# Classification of saddle points

---

$$2i\bar{\theta} = 2 \log \Gamma\left(\frac{z+1}{2}\right) - z\psi\left(\frac{z+1}{2}\right) + z - \log 2\pi = f(z)$$

②  $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,

$\log \Gamma(z)$  is a multi-valued function due to the logarithmic branch structure.

→ Saddle points  $(E, D)$  for  $\bar{\theta}$  are also saddle points for  $\bar{\theta} + 2\pi\ell$ .

In other words, there are many saddle points  $(E, D)$  for fixed  $\bar{\theta}$  (and for the fixed first label  $k$ ) corresponding to an integer  $\ell$ .

# Classification of saddle points

---

$$2i\bar{\theta} = 2\log\Gamma\left(\frac{z+1}{2}\right) - z\psi\left(\frac{z+1}{2}\right) + z - \log 2\pi = f(z)$$

③  $o = \pm$

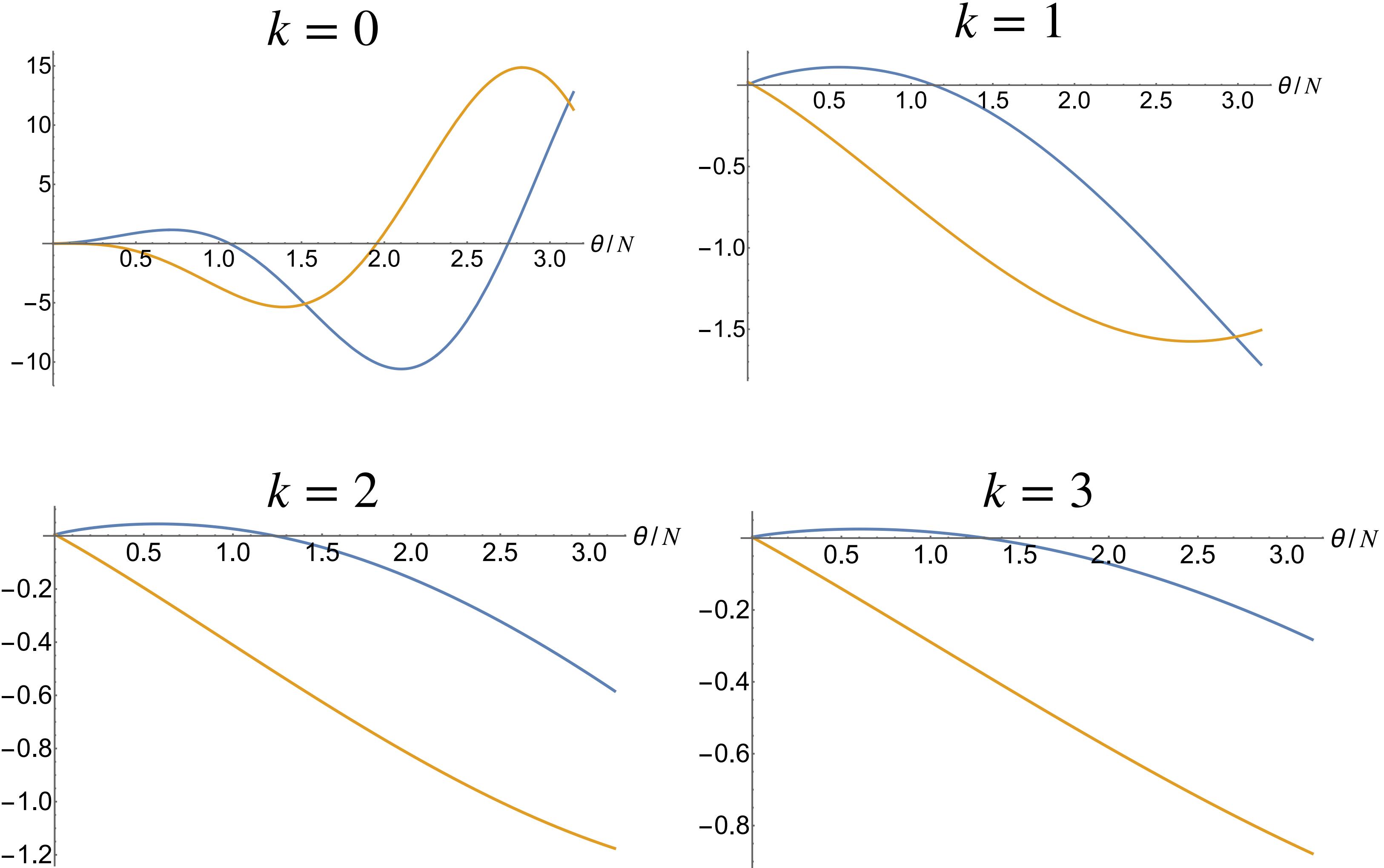
We need to specify the direction of the analytic continuation of  $\log\Gamma(z)$ .

For  $z = Ae^{i\alpha}$ ,  $0 < \alpha < \pi \rightarrow o = +$  and  $-\pi < \alpha < \pi \rightarrow o = -$ .

※ The information of saddle points labeled by  $(k, \ell, o)$  can be obtained by  $(k, \ell = 0, o = +)$ .

# General $\theta/N$

— :  $\text{Re } \bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}}$   
— :  $\text{Im } \bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}}$   
 $k$ : label of saddles  
 $(\ell = 0, o = +)$



$k = 0, 1, 2, 3$ -th saddles  
give  $\text{Re } \bar{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{eff}} < 0$  at  
some  $\theta/N$  (e.g.  $\theta \simeq 2$ ).