

Resurgence and Phase Transitions

Gerald Dunne

University of Connecticut

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GD & Mithat Ünsal, review: [1603.04924](#)

A. Ahmed & GD: [arXiv:1710.01812](#)

GD, [arXiv:1901.02076](#)

O.Costin & GD, [1904.11593](#), ...

[DOE Division of High Energy Physics]

- non-perturbative definition of QFT
- Minkowski vs. Euclidean QFT
- "sign problem" in finite density QFT
- dynamical & non-equilibrium physics in path integrals
- phase transitions (Lee-Yang and Fisher zeroes)
- **common thread: analytic continuation of path integrals**

- question: does resurgence give (useful) new insight?

The Big Question

- Can we make physical, mathematical and computational sense of a Lefschetz thimble expansion of a path integral?

$$Z(\hbar) = \int \mathcal{D}A \exp\left(\frac{i}{\hbar} S[A]\right)$$

$$= \sum_{\text{thimble}} \mathcal{N}_{\text{th}} e^{i\phi_{\text{th}}} \int_{\text{th}} \mathcal{D}A \times (\mathcal{J}_{\text{th}}) \times \exp\left(\mathcal{R}e\left[\frac{i}{\hbar} S[A]\right]\right)$$

- $Z(\hbar) \rightarrow Z(\hbar, \text{masses, couplings, } \mu, T, B, \dots)$
- $Z(\hbar) \rightarrow Z(\hbar, N)$, and $N \rightarrow \infty$ for a phase transition
- since we need complex analysis and contour deformation to make sense of oscillatory ordinary integrals, it is natural to explore similar methods for path integrals
- resurgence and Stokes transitions: transmutation of trans-series structures across phase transitions

Resurgence: Implications for QFT

- the physics message from Écalle's resurgence theory: different critical points are related in subtle and powerful ways



Borel summation: extracting physics from asymptotic series

Borel transform of series, where $c_n \sim n!$, $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$f(g) \sim \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n g^n \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{B}[f](t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_n}{n!} t^n$$

new series typically has a **finite** radius of convergence

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Borel summation of original asymptotic series:

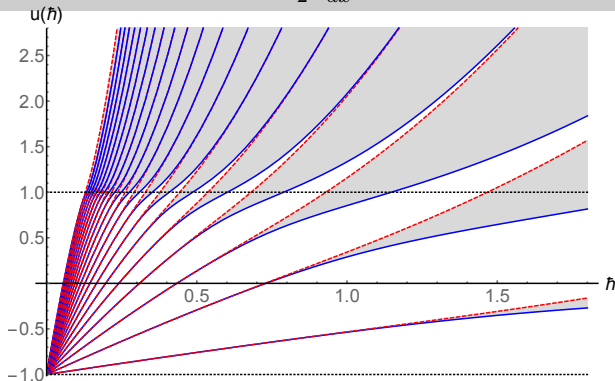
$$\mathcal{S}f(g) = \frac{1}{g} \int_0^{\infty} \mathcal{B}[f](t) e^{-t/g} dt$$

- the singularities of $\mathcal{B}[f](t)$ provide a physical encoding of the global asymptotic behavior of $f(g)$, which is also much more mathematically efficient than the asymptotic series

- **Borel singularities** \leftrightarrow **non-perturbative physical objects**

- **resurgence**: isolated poles, algebraic & logarithmic cuts

Mathieu Equation Spectrum: $-\frac{\hbar^2}{2} \frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} + \cos(x) \psi = u \psi$



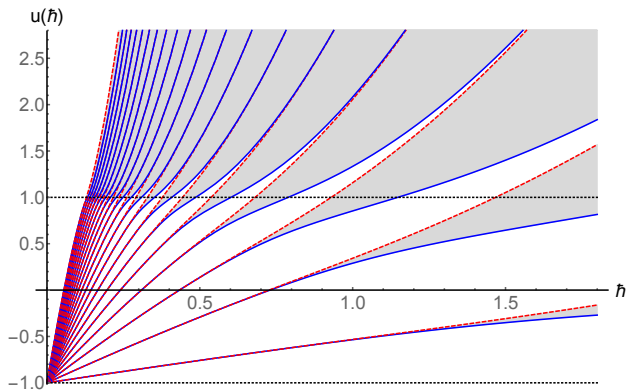
$$u_{\pm}(\hbar, N) = u_{\text{pert}}(\hbar, N) \pm \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{1}{N!} \left(\frac{32}{\hbar}\right)^{N+\frac{1}{2}} \exp\left[-\frac{8}{\hbar}\right] \mathcal{P}_{\text{inst}}(\hbar, N) + \dots$$

$$\mathcal{P}_{\text{inst}}(\hbar, N) = \frac{\partial u_{\text{pert}}(\hbar, N)}{\partial N} \exp\left[S \int_0^{\hbar} \frac{d\hbar}{\hbar^3} \left(\frac{\partial u_{\text{pert}}(\hbar, N)}{\partial N} - \hbar + \frac{(N + \frac{1}{2}) \hbar^2}{S}\right)\right]$$

all non-perturbative effects encoded in perturbative expansion

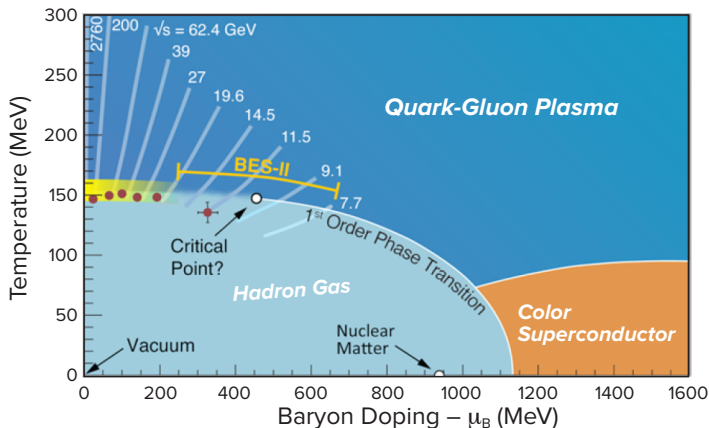
GD & Ünsal (2013); Başar, GD & Ünsal (2017): applies to bands & gaps

Mathieu Equation Spectrum: $-\frac{\hbar^2}{2} \frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} + \cos(x) \psi = u \psi$



- phase transition at $\hbar N = \frac{8}{\pi}$: narrow bands vs. narrow gaps
- real vs. complex instantons (Dykhne, 1961; Başar/GD)
- phase transition = "instanton condensation"
- maps to $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SUSY QFT (Nekrasov et al, Mironov et al; Başar/GD)

Physical Motivation: QCD phase diagram



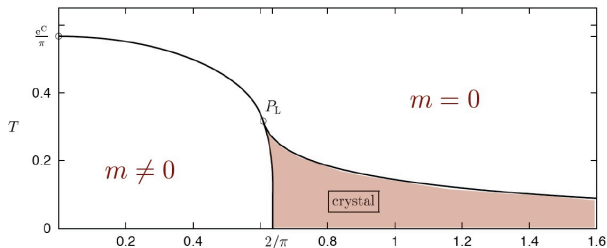
- sign problem: "complex probability" at finite baryon density?

$$\int \mathcal{D}A e^{-S_{YM}[A] + \ln \det(\not{D} + m + i\mu\gamma^0)}$$

Phase Transition in 1+1 dim. Gross-Neveu Model

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi}_a i \not{\partial} \psi_a + \frac{g^2}{2} (\bar{\psi}_a \psi_a)^2$$

- asymptotically free; dynamical mass; chiral symmetry
- large N_f chiral symmetry breaking phase transition
- physics = (relativistic) Peierls instability in 1 dimension



- saddles from inhomogeneous gap ^{μ} eqn. (Basar, GD, Thies, 2011)

$$\sigma(x; T, \mu) = \frac{\delta}{\delta \sigma(x; T, \mu)} \ln \det (i \not{\partial} - \sigma(x; T, \mu))$$

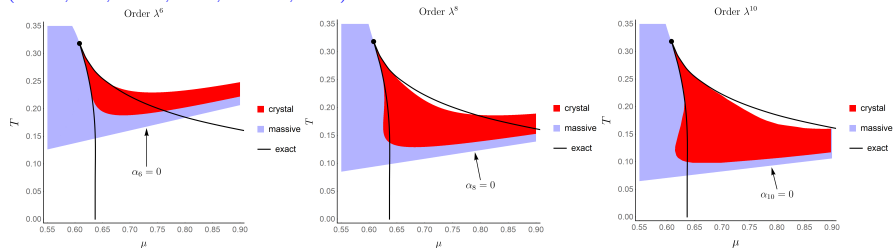
Phase Transition in 1+1 dim. Gross-Neveu Model

- thermodynamic potential

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi[\sigma; T, \mu] &= -T \int dE \rho(E) \ln \left(1 + e^{-(E-\mu)/T} \right) \\ &= \sum_n \alpha_n(T, \mu) f_n[\sigma(x; T, \mu)]\end{aligned}$$

- (divergent) Ginzburg-Landau expansion = mKdV
- saddles: $\sigma(x) = \lambda \operatorname{sn}(\lambda x; \nu)$
- successive orders of GL expansion reveal the full crystal phase

(Basar, GD, Thies, 2011; Ahmed, 2018)



Phase Transition in 1+1 dim. Gross-Neveu Model

- most difficult point: $\mu_c = \frac{2}{\pi}$, $T = 0$
- high density expansion at $T = 0$: (convergent !)

$$\mathcal{E}(\rho) \sim \frac{\pi}{2} \rho^2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{32(\pi\rho)^4} + \frac{3}{8192(\pi\rho)^8} - \dots \right)$$

- low density expansion at $T = 0$: (non-perturbative !)

$$\mathcal{E}(\rho) \sim -\frac{1}{4\pi} + \frac{2\rho}{\pi} + \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-k/\rho}}{\rho^{k-2}} \mathcal{F}_{k-1}(\rho) \quad (\text{Thies; 2004; GD, 2018})$$

- resurgent trans-series
- analogous expansions at fixed T/μ

Phase Transition in 2d Lattice Ising Model

- diagonal correlation function: $C(s, N) = \langle \sigma_{0,0} \sigma_{N,N} \rangle(s)$
- $C(s, N) =$ tau function for Painlevé VI ([Jimbo, Miwa, 1980](#))
- simple Toeplitz det representation ("linearizes")
- scaling limit: $N \rightarrow \infty$ & $T \rightarrow T_c$: PVI \rightarrow PIII ([McCoy et al](#))

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- **convergent and resurgent (!)** conformal block expansions at high and low T (Jimbo; Lisovsky et al; Bonelli et al; GD)

$$\tau(t) \sim \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} s^n C(\vec{\theta}, \sigma+n) \mathcal{B}(\vec{\theta}, \sigma+n; t)$$

$$\mathcal{B}(\vec{\theta}, \sigma; t) \propto t^{\sigma^2} \sum_{\lambda, \mu \in \mathcal{Y}} \mathcal{B}_{\lambda, \mu}(\vec{\theta}, \sigma) t^{|\lambda|+|\mu|}$$

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- resurgence applies also to convergent expansions (!)

Other Examples: Phase Transitions

- particle-on-circle: sum over spectrum versus sum over winding (saddles) (Schulman, 1968)
- Bose gas (Cristoforetti et al, Alexandru et al)
- Thirring model (Alexandru et al)
- Hubbard model (Tanizaki et al; ...)
- Hydrodynamics: short/late-time (Heller et al; Aniceto et al; Basar/GD)
- Large N matrix models (Mariño, Schiappa, Couso, Putrov, Russo, ...)
- Painlevé (Jimbo et al; Its et al; Lisovyy et al; Litvinov et al; Costin, GD)
- Gross-Witten-Wadia model (Mariño; Ahmed, GD)
- resurgence and superconductors (Mariño, Reis)
- ...

Gross-Witten-Wadia Unitary Matrix Model

$$Z(g^2, N) = \int_{U(N)} DU \exp \left[\frac{1}{g^2} \text{tr} (U + U^\dagger) \right]$$

- one-plaquette matrix model for 2d lattice Yang-Mills
- two variables: g^2 and N ('t Hooft coupling: $t \equiv g^2 N/2$)
- 3rd order phase transition at $N = \infty$, $t = 1$ (universal!)
- double-scaling limit: Painlevé II
- physics of phase transition = condensation of instantons
- random matrix theory/orthogonal polynomials result:

$$Z(g^2, N) = \det (I_{j-k}(x))_{j,k=1,\dots,N} \quad , \quad x \equiv \frac{2}{g^2}$$

3rd order transition: kink in the specific heat

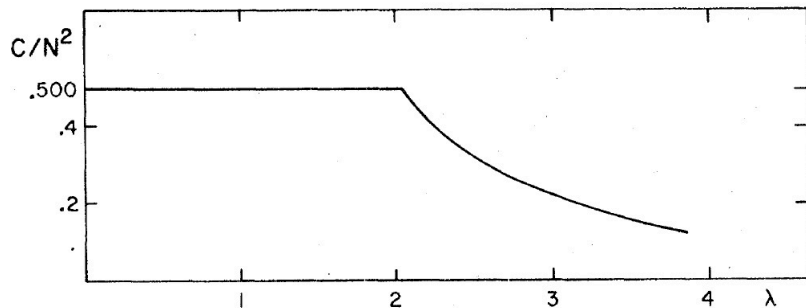


FIG. 2. The specific heat per degree of freedom, C/N^2 , as a function of λ (temperature).

D. Gross, E. Witten, 1980

- what about non-perturbative large N effects?

- “order parameter”: with 't Hooft coupling $t \equiv \frac{1}{2} N g^2$

$$\Delta(t, N) \equiv \langle \det U \rangle = \frac{\det [I_{j-k+1} (\frac{N}{t})]_{j,k=1,\dots,N}}{\det [I_{j-k} (\frac{N}{t})]_{j,k=1,\dots,N}}$$

- for any N , $\Delta(t, N)$ satisfies a Painlevé III equation:

$$t^2 \Delta'' + t \Delta' + \frac{N^2 \Delta}{t^2} (1 - \Delta^2) = \frac{\Delta}{1 - \Delta^2} \left(N^2 - t^2 (\Delta')^2 \right)$$

- weak-coupling expansion is a divergent series:
→ trans-series non-perturbative completion
- strong-coupling expansion is a convergent series:
but it still has a non-perturbative completion !
- N is now a parameter, not necessarily integer !

Resurgence: Large N 't Hooft limit at Weak Coupling

- large N trans-series at weak-coupling ($t \equiv N/x < 1$)

$$\Delta(t, N) \sim \sqrt{1-t} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{d_n^{(0)}(t)}{N^{2n}} - \frac{i}{2\sqrt{2\pi N}} \sigma_{\text{weak}} \frac{t e^{-NS_{\text{weak}}(t)}}{(1-t)^{1/4}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{d_n^{(1)}(t)}{N^n} + \dots$$

- large N weak-coupling action

$$S_{\text{weak}}(t) = \frac{2\sqrt{1-t}}{t} - 2 \operatorname{arctanh}(\sqrt{1-t})$$

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- large-order growth of perturbative coefficients ($\forall t < 1$):

$$d_n^{(0)}(t) \sim \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}(1-t)^{3/4}\pi^{3/2}} \frac{\Gamma(2n - \frac{5}{2})}{(S_{\text{weak}}(t))^{2n - \frac{5}{2}}} \left[1 + \frac{(3t^2 - 12t - 8)}{96(1-t)^{3/2}} \frac{S_{\text{weak}}(t)}{(2n - \frac{7}{2})} + \dots \right]$$

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- (parametric) resurgence relations, for all t :

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{d_n^{(1)}(t)}{N^n} = 1 + \frac{(3t^2 - 12t - 8)}{96(1-t)^{3/2}} \frac{1}{N} + \dots$$

Resurgence: Large N 't Hooft limit at Strong Coupling

- large N transseries at strong-coupling: $\Delta(t, N) \approx \sigma J_N \left(\frac{N}{t} \right)$

$$\Delta(t, N) = \sum_{k=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} (\sigma_{\text{strong}})^k \Delta_{(k)}(t, N)$$

- "Debye expansion" for Bessel function: $J_N(N/t)$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(t, N) \sim & \frac{\sqrt{t} e^{-N S_{\text{strong}}(t)}}{\sqrt{2\pi N} (t^2 - 1)^{1/4}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{U_n(t)}{N^n} \\ & + \frac{1}{4(t^2 - 1)} \left(\frac{\sqrt{t} e^{-N S_{\text{strong}}(t)}}{\sqrt{2\pi N} (t^2 - 1)^{1/4}} \right)^3 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{U_n^{(1)}(t)}{N^n} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

- large N strong-coupling action: $S_{\text{st}}(t) = \text{arccosh}(t) - \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{t^2}}$

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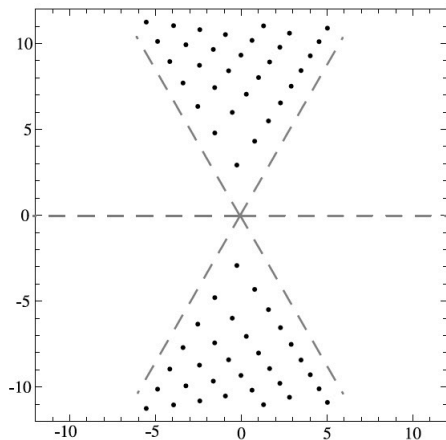
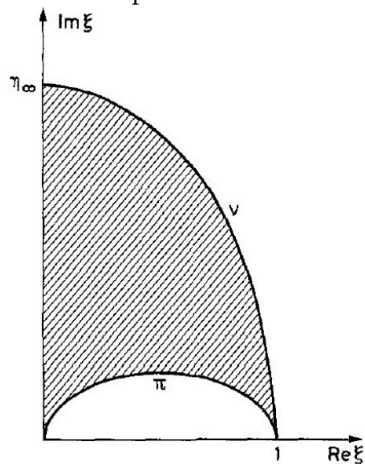
- large N strong-coupling action: $S_{\text{st}}(t) = \text{arccosh}(t) - \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{t^2}}$

- large-order/low-order (parametric) resurgence relations:

$$U_n(t) \sim \frac{(-1)^n (n-1)!}{2\pi (2S_{\text{strong}}(t))^n} \left(1 + U_1(t) \frac{(2S_{\text{strong}}(t))}{(n-1)} + U_2(t) \frac{(2S_{\text{strong}}(t))^2}{(n-1)(n-2)} + \dots \right)$$

Gross-Witten-Wadia Phase Transition and Lee-Yang zeros

Lee-Yang: complex zeros of Z pinch the real axis at the phase transition point in the thermodynamic limit



GWW zeros (Kolbig)

Painlevé II (Novokshenov; Huang)

- resurgence suggests that local analysis of perturbation theory encodes global information
- **Questions:**
How much global information can be decoded from a FINITE number of perturbative coefficients ?
How much information is needed to see and to probe phase transitions ?
- resurgent functions have orderly structure in Borel plane
⇒ develop extrapolation and summation methods that take advantage of this!
- high precision test for Painlevé I (but integrability is not important for the method)
- general & explicit large N estimates (Costin, GD; to appear)

Perturbative Expansion of Painlevé I Equation

- Painlevé I equation (double-scaling limit of 2d quantum gravity)

$$y''(x) = 6y^2(x) - x$$

- large x expansion:

$$y(x) \sim -\sqrt{\frac{x}{6}} \left(1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \left(\frac{30}{(24x)^{5/4}} \right)^{2n} \right), \quad x \rightarrow +\infty$$

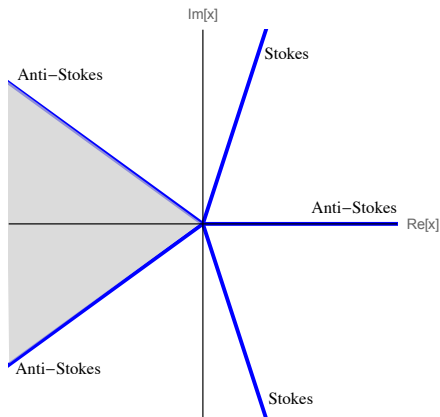
- perturbative input data: $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_N\}$

$$\left\{ \frac{4}{25}, -\frac{392}{625}, \frac{6272}{625}, -\frac{141196832}{390625}, \frac{9039055872}{390625}, \dots, a_N \right\}$$

- this expansion defines the *tritronquée* solution to PI

Reconstruct global behavior from limited $x \rightarrow +\infty$ data?

- Painlevé I equation has inherent five-fold symmetry



- do our input coefficients (from $x = +\infty$) “know” this ?
- most interesting/difficult directions: phase transitions

- resurgence & Padé-Conformal-Borel transform
- “weak coupling to strong coupling” extrapolation
- $N = 50$ terms and Padé-Conformal-Borel input:

$$y(0) \approx -0.18755430834049489383868175759583299323116090976213899693337265167\dots$$

$$y'(0) \approx -0.30490556026122885653410412498848967640319991342112833650059344290\dots$$

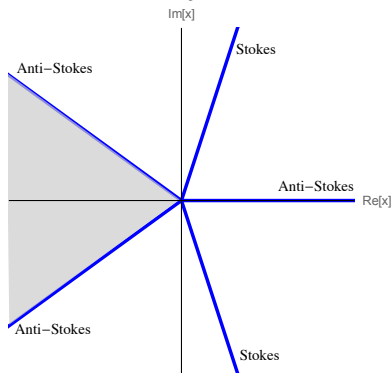
$$y''(0) \approx 0.21105971146248859499298968451861337073253247206264082468899143841\dots$$

$$[y''(x) - 6y^2(x) + x]_{x=0} = O(10^{-65})$$

- best numerical integration algorithms $\rightarrow \approx O(10^{-15})$
- WHY?
- Resurgent extrapolation method encodes global information about the function throughout the entire complex plane, not just along the positive real axis

Nonlinear Stokes Transition: the Tritronquée Pole Region

- Boutroux (1913): asymptotically, general Painlevé I solution has poles with 5-fold symmetry
- Dubrovin conjecture (2009): this asymptotic solution to Painlevé I only has poles in a $\frac{2\pi}{5}$ wedge



- proof: Costin-Huang-Tanveer (2012)

Stokes Transition: Mapping the Tritronquée Pole Region

- non-linear Stokes transitions crossing $\arg(x) = \pm \frac{4\pi}{5}$

O.Costin & GD, 1904.11593

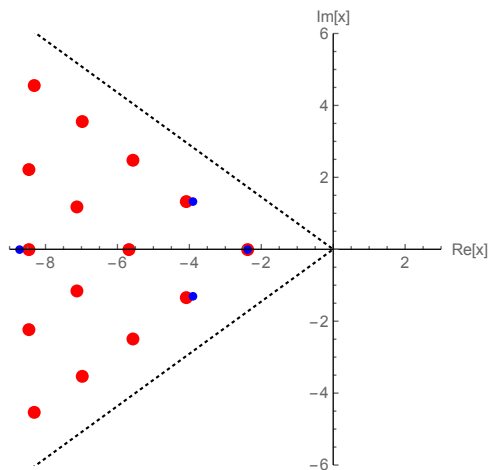


Figure: Complex poles: $N = 10$ (blue); $N = 50$ (red).

- **Resurgence** systematically unifies perturbative and non-perturbative analysis, via **trans-series**, which ‘encode’ analytic continuation information
- phase transitions \leftrightarrow Stokes phenomenon
- QM, matrix models, differential/integral eqns
- numerical Lefschetz thimbles
- non-perturbative effects exist even for convergent series (e.g. periodic potential; Ising model; unitary matrix model; ...)
- resurgent extrapolation: non-perturbative information can be decoded from surprisingly little perturbative data

Applicable resurgent asymptotics: towards a universal theory

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