Moduli spaces, integrable systems and applications to surface theory

Lynn Heller

(joint work with S. Heller and N. Schmitt, pictures by N. Schmitt and U. Wagner)

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f is determined by induced metric, mean curvature H, and Hopf differential Q.

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Theorem

. . .

f has constant mean curvature (CMC) in $\mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{S}^3, \mathbb{H}^3$ iff its Gauß map is harmonic.

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- ▶ What are their properties (area, embeddedness,..)?
- Characterize the moduli space of (compact, embedded) CMC surfaces!

Results for compact CMC surfaces:

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- non-abelian fundamental group (genus \geq 2):
 - ▶ few examples (Lawson, Karcher-Pinkall-Sterling, Kapouleas)
 - no systematic methods for CMC surfaces of higher genus

The space of embedded CMC tori in \mathbb{S}^3



 $f: M \to S^3$ via Maurer-Cartan form $\omega = f^{-1}df \in \Omega^1(M, \mathfrak{su}(2))$

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associated family of $SL(2,\mathbb{C})$ -connections on $M \times \mathbb{C}^2$:

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$$\Phi - \Phi^* = f^{-1}df$$
 and $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}_*$
 $\nabla^{\lambda} = d + \frac{1}{2}(1 + \lambda^{-1})(1 + iH)\Phi - \frac{1}{2}(1 + \lambda)(1 - iH)\Phi^*$

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- $abla^{\lambda}$ is unitary for $\lambda \in S^1$
- special asymptotic behavior for $\lambda \to 0$
- ▶ reconstruction of f as gauge between $\nabla^{\lambda_{1,2}}$, $\lambda_{1/2} \in S^1$, Sym point conditions

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 Spectral curve $\Sigma: \xi^2 = \lambda \Pi_i (\lambda - \lambda_i)$

- (χ, α) globally well-defined and meromorphic on Σ
 → finite dimensional problem
- (Σ, χ, α) are algebraic and determine f up to dressing (λ-dependent gauge)

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- no parallel eigenline bundles
- no straight forward generalization of the spectral curve theory
- gauge equivalence classes $[\nabla^{\lambda}]$ determine the surface

Reduction to Fuchsian Systems

Observation: \mathbb{Z}_{g+1} symmetric CMC surface (4 fixed points) \Rightarrow Fuchsian systems ∇ on $M/\mathbb{Z}_{g+1} \cong \mathbb{C}P^1$



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Eigenvalue $\pm \rho_i$ of $A_i \rightsquigarrow$ local monodromies conjugated to

$$\begin{pmatrix} \exp(2\pi i
ho_i) & 0 \\ 0 & \exp(-2\pi i
ho_i) \end{pmatrix}$$

Generic Fuchsian system ∇ with $\rho_i \in]-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}[$ gauge equivalent to

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- $d\omega = \frac{dz}{y}$ holomorphic 1-form on $T^2: y^2 = z(z-1)(z-m)$
- ▶ for immersed \mathbb{Z}_{g+1} symmetric CMC surfaces $\rho_i = \rho = \frac{g}{2g+2}$

How to obtain CMC surfaces

In order to construct CMC surfaces we need to satisfy:

- Unitarity condition for $abla^{\lambda}$ along $\lambda \in S^1$,
- Asymptotic at $\lambda \rightarrow 0$,
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Family of Fuchsian systems determined by spectral data (Σ, χ, α) induces CMC surface with boundary $f : T^2 \setminus I_1 \cup I_2 \to S^3$.



Construction of spectral data

arXiv:1501.01929, joint work with S. Heller, N. Schmitt

Idea: deform spectral data of known surfaces (CMC tori) towards higher genus using $t = 2\rho - \frac{1}{2}$ as parameter!

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Geometric visualisation:

- cut torus along curvature lines
- open the angle $4\pi t$ between curvature lines



t-deformation induces deformation of spectral data:

 consider χ + x: Σ⁰ → Jac(T²) ≅ C/Γ, x in a Banach space of hol. functions on an open RS Σ⁰

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- application of implicit function theorem for Banach spaces

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Theorem (H., S. Heller, N. Schmitt, 2015)

For small rational t there exists (new) families of compact (branched) CMC surfaces.

If the flow exits until $\rho = \frac{g}{2g+2}$, we obtain closed immersed CMC surfaces of genus g with 4 umbilics of order g - 1.

Experimental flows from 2-lobed Delaunay tori



Figure: Deformation of 2-lobed CMC tori in stable direction

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Experimental moduli space of embedded CMC surfaces

arXiv: 1503.07838, joint work with S. Heller, N. Schmitt



Lawson $\xi_{k,l}$ surfaces

arXiv: 1503.00969, joint work with S. Heller, N. Schmitt

