

# Introductory talk: Legendrian knots and constructible sheaves

SU, Tao , YMSC , 2021-10-12 .

Goal: some background for the main talk.

- microsupport of (constructible) sheaves
- constructible sheaves from Legendrian knots
- microlocal monodromy
- (— irregular Riemann-Hilbert over curves )

Main ref : Shende-Treumann-Zaslaw, Legendrian knots and 2016.

constructible sheaves

## 1- Microsupport

- $M$  = smooth manifold of dim  $n$
- $K$  = base field (more generally, comm ring)
- $\mathcal{F}$  = constructible sheaf on  $M$ .

I.e.:  $\mathcal{F}$  is a cochain complex of sheaves of  $K$ -modules s.t.

- the cohomology sheaf  $H^i(\mathcal{F})$  is bold ( $H^i(\mathcal{F}) \neq 0$ , for  $i \gg 0$ )
- $\exists$  (nice) stratification  $S = \{S_\alpha\}$  of  $M$  s.t.  
 $H^i(\mathcal{F})|_{S_\alpha}$  is wally constant (with perfect stalks),  $\cup S_\alpha$   
( $\forall S_\alpha \rightarrow \overline{S}_\alpha = \bigcup S_\beta$  ).

$$\boxed{\text{Ex 1}}: \quad f = k_m \quad (S = \{m\})$$

$$\underline{\text{Ex 2}}: M = \xrightarrow[S_0]{S_1 \cup S_2} \mathbb{R}$$

$$= S_1 \cup S_0 \cup S_2 \quad (\text{Stratification})$$

$\parallel \quad \parallel \quad \parallel$   
 $(-\infty, 0) \quad S_0 \quad (0, +\infty)$

S

$$f_1 = \underline{k}_{(-\infty, 0]} = \bar{i}_1 k, \text{ where } \bar{i} = (-\infty, 0] \hookrightarrow M = \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (f_1)_\varepsilon \xleftarrow[\varepsilon]{} (f_1)_0 \xrightarrow{} (f_1)_\varepsilon \quad (\varepsilon > 0)$$

$\parallel \quad \parallel \quad \parallel$   
 $k \quad k \quad 0$

$$f_2 = \underline{k}_{(0, \infty)} = \bar{j}_1 k, \quad \bar{j} = (0, \infty) \hookrightarrow M = \mathbb{R}.$$

$$\Rightarrow (f_2)_\varepsilon \xleftarrow[\varepsilon]{} (f_2)_0 \xrightarrow{} (f_2)_\varepsilon$$

$\parallel \quad \parallel \quad \parallel$   
 $k \quad 0 \quad 0$

Slogan: "missupport captures the codirections along which the local sections fail to propagate"

Let  $x \in M$ ,  $s \in T_x^* M$ , say  $s \neq 0$ .

Def. If  $\exists$  a small ball  $B_\varepsilon(x)$  and a smooth

function  $f: B_\varepsilon(x) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with  $f(x)=0$ ,  $df(x)=s$ ,

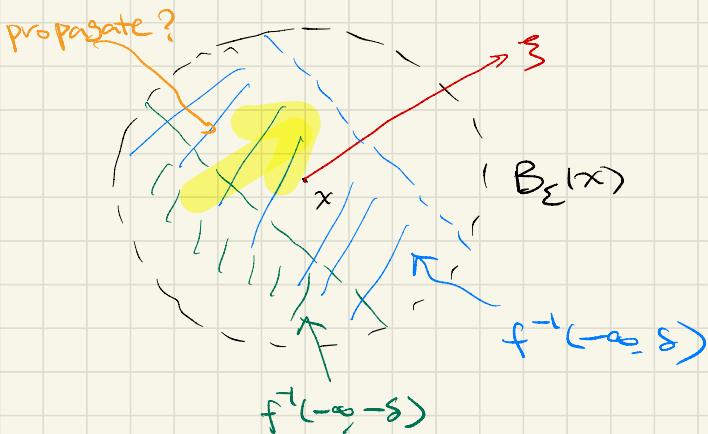
such that

$$RT(f^{-1}(-\alpha, s); f) \longrightarrow RT(f^{-1}(-\alpha, -s); f)$$

is not a quasirect, for some  $0 < \alpha < 1$ .

then we say  $\beta \in T_x^*M$  is characteristic/singular w.r.t  $\mathcal{F}$

picture:



Informal def:

The microsupport / singular support of  $\mathcal{F}$  is

$$\text{ss}(\mathcal{F}) := \overline{\{ \text{characteristic covectors} \}} \cup \text{supp}(\mathcal{F})$$

$\cap$   
 $T^*M$

of  $\mathcal{F}$

Fact:  $\mathcal{F}$  constructible sheaf on  $M$

$\Rightarrow \text{ss}(\mathcal{F}) \subset T^*M$  is a conic closed Lagrangian  
subset. (possibly singular)

conic:  $\mathbb{R}_{>0} \curvearrowright T^*M = t \cdot (x, \xi) \mapsto (x, t\xi)$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{>0} \cdot \text{ss}(\mathcal{F}) = \text{ss}(\mathcal{F})$$

$\Rightarrow \text{ss}(\mathcal{F}) \cap S^*M$  is a closed Legendrian subset  
possibly singular  
microsupport at infinity.  $(n-dim)$

Here:  $S^*M = (T^*M - \{0\}) / \mathbb{R}_{>0} \cong S^*M$

$\uparrow$  orientation       $\uparrow$  unit cotangent bundle

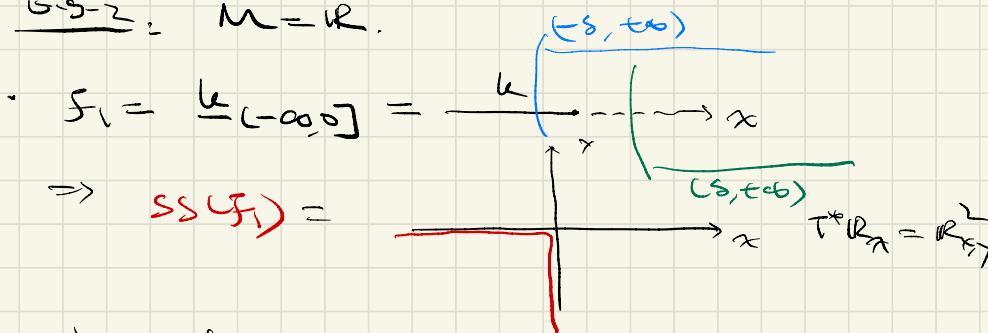
- $\Lambda \hookrightarrow S^*M$  is Legendrian if pick a Riemann metric on  $M$ .
- $\mathcal{L}_{\text{sum}} = 0$ , where  $\mathcal{L} = \sum p_i dq_i$  is the Liouville 1-form restricted to  $S^*M$  ( $\approx$  contact 1-form).

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Ex-1.  $f = \underline{k}_m \Rightarrow SS(f) = 0_M \hookrightarrow T^*M$  Lagrangian.

$SS(f) \cap S^*M = \emptyset$ .

Ex-2.  $M = \mathbb{R}$ .



For instance:  $f = -x \Rightarrow df(\omega) = -dx$

$$\rightsquigarrow RT(f^{-1}(-\infty, s); f_1) \longrightarrow RT(f^{-1}(-\infty, -s); f_1)$$

$\parallel$   $(-\infty, +\infty)$                            $\parallel$   $(s, +\infty)$   
 $k$                                                             0

not a framing

$$\Rightarrow (\omega, -dx) \in SS(f).$$

$$\boxed{\cdot \mathcal{F}_2 = \underline{k}_{(-\infty, 0)} = \frac{\underline{k}_{(-\infty, s)}}{(-\infty, -s)}} \xrightarrow{x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{ss}(\mathcal{F}_2) = \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \quad T^*k_x = \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$$

For instance:  $f = x$

$$\rightsquigarrow Rf \left( \underline{f^{-1}(-\infty, s)}; \mathcal{F}_2 \right) \longrightarrow Rf \left( \underline{f^{-1}(-\infty, -s)}; \mathcal{F}_2 \right)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \parallel \\ \parallel \\ 0 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \parallel \\ \parallel \\ 0 \end{array}$$

not a quasidam

$$\Rightarrow (0, dx) \in \text{ss}(\mathcal{F}_2).$$

$$\boxed{\text{Ex-3: (draw the microsupport)}}$$

$$1. \underline{z} = \text{closed} \quad \hookrightarrow M = \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{ss}(\underline{k}_z) = \text{closed} \quad \hookrightarrow T^*\mathbb{R}^2 \simeq \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$2. \underline{v} = \text{open} \quad \hookrightarrow M = \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{ss}(\underline{k}_v) = \text{open} \quad \hookrightarrow T^*\mathbb{R}^2 \simeq \mathbb{R}^2.$$

(\*) suggests the following definition:

Given a (smooth) Legendrian submanifold

$$\Lambda \hookrightarrow S^*M.$$

Def.  $\text{sh}_\Lambda(M; k)$  = the dg category  
of constructible sheaves  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $M$   
s.t.  $\text{SS}(\mathcal{F}) \cap S^*M \subset \Lambda$ , "localized"  
at quasi-isomorphisms.

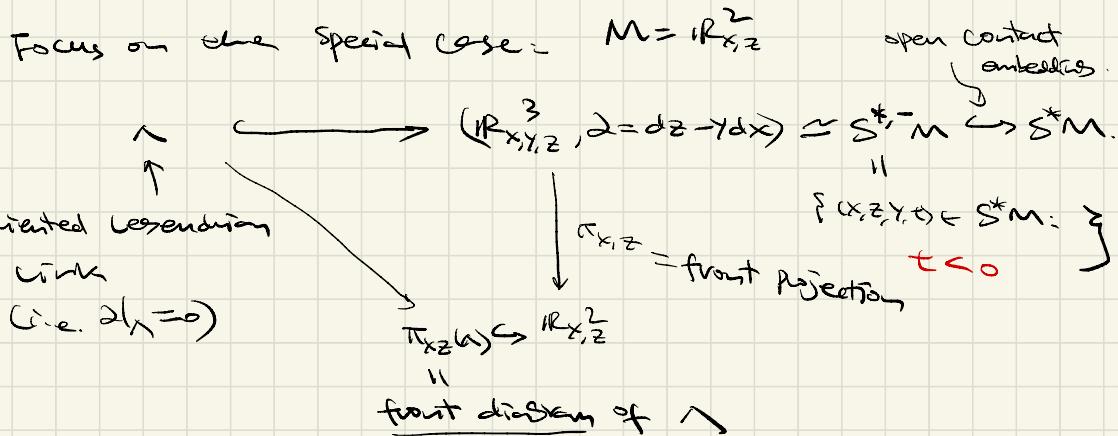
Then (Guillemin-Kashiwara-Schapira 2012).

$\text{sh}_\Lambda(M; k)$  is a categorical Legendrian isotopy invariant  
of  $\Lambda$ .

Interesting ex:  $M = \Sigma$  is a surface.

$\Lambda \hookrightarrow S^*\Sigma$  is a Legendrian link  
→ get computable Legendrian invariants

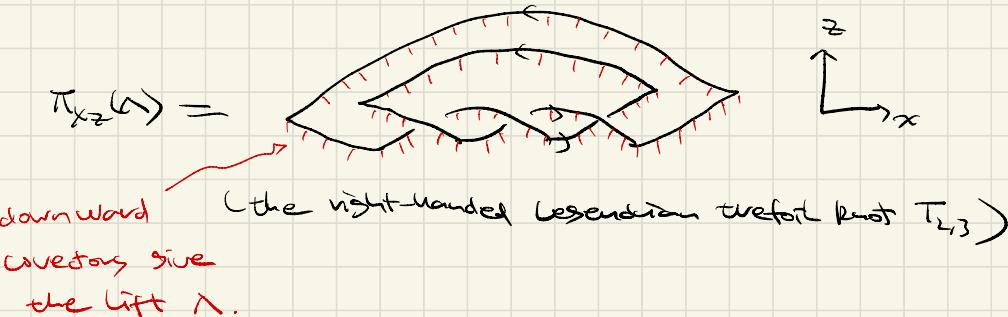
## 2- conservative sheaves from Legendrian knots



Note:  $dz - ydx = 0$  on  $\Lambda \Rightarrow y = \frac{dz}{dx}$

$\Rightarrow \Lambda$  can be recovered from  $\pi_{xz}(\Lambda)$ .

g.g. of a front diagram:



Q: Given a Legendrian link  $\Lambda \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}_{x,y,z}^3 \cong S^* \mathbb{R}_{x,z}^2$ ,  
what does  $f \in Sh_\Lambda(\mathbb{R}_{x,z}^2; k)$  look like?

A: reduce to local problems  $\rightsquigarrow \exists$  a combinatorial description via quiver representations.

Local models ( $S\Gamma Z$ ) :  $M = D_{x,z}^{\omega} = \text{[Diagram of a small neighborhood]} \text{, then:}$

$$\textcircled{1} - \Lambda = \text{[Diagram of a small neighborhood with boundary]} \Rightarrow$$

$$sh_{\Lambda}(M; h) \approx \text{[Diagram of a small neighborhood with boundary labeled B and A]} = \text{Rep}(A_2)$$

Idea:  $f \in sh_{\Lambda}(M; h) \rightsquigarrow s \in f \cap S^*M \subset \Lambda$

$\Rightarrow f$  is constructible wrt  $\Sigma_{\Lambda} = \text{[Diagram of a small neighborhood with boundary labeled S1 and S2]}$

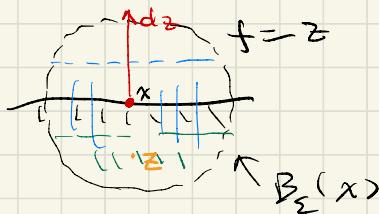
so  $f \Rightarrow$

$$\begin{array}{c} f_y \\ \uparrow \\ f_x \\ \downarrow \\ f_z \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} S1 \\ \nearrow \\ S2 \\ \searrow \\ S1 \end{array}$$

Moreover,  $\Lambda \subset S^*M \Rightarrow$  upward covectors  $\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow$  are smooth wrt  $f$

$\Rightarrow f_x$  is quas-iso.

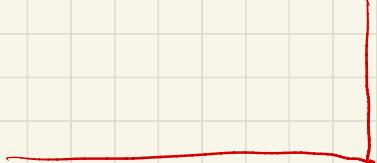


$\rightsquigarrow$  "can assume"

$$\begin{array}{c} f_x \\ \downarrow id \\ f_z \end{array}$$

so  $f \Leftrightarrow$

$$\begin{array}{c} f_y = B \\ \uparrow \\ f_z = A \end{array}$$



(2)  $\Lambda =$   $\Rightarrow$

$$sh_{\Lambda}(M; k) \simeq$$

s.t.   
 difference  
 Tot ( $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow D$ )  
 is acyclic.

Idea for the acyclic condition:

$$\Lambda_v \hookrightarrow S^*_v M \Rightarrow \text{the downward vector}$$

$S \in sh_{\Lambda}(M; k)$

$$\dots \hookrightarrow S'$$

$$\Rightarrow$$

proposes:  $RF(\Lambda; S) \simeq RF(\Lambda'; S')$

$\Lambda$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B & \xrightarrow{S} & C \\ \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow \\ D & \rightarrow & C \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ B & \rightarrow & D \end{array}$$

(3)  $\Lambda =$   $\Rightarrow$

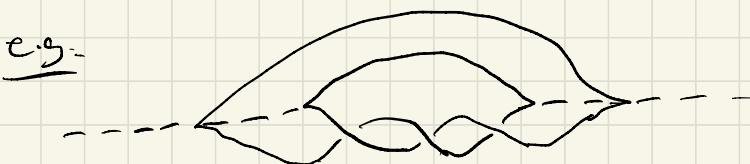
$$sh_{\Lambda}(M; k) \simeq$$

s.t.   
 quasi-isom. 4

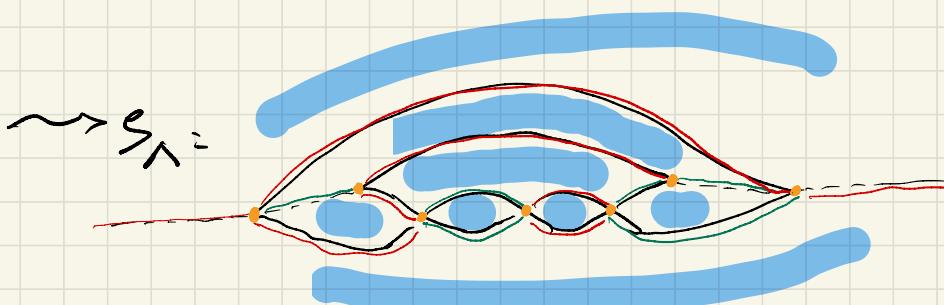
Global case:  $\Lambda \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}_{x,y,z}^3 \simeq S^* M \hookrightarrow S^* M$ ,  $M = \mathbb{R}_{x,z}^2$ .

$\pi_{xz}(\Lambda)$  induces a stratification  $S$  of  $M = \mathbb{R}_{x,z}^2$ :

e.g.-



\* Add a few horizontal dashed lines connecting the cusps, if necessary.



]. 0-dim strata of  $S$  = •'s

= singularities (cusps, crossings)

. 1-dim strata of  $S$  = — or — (arcs)

. 2-dim strata of  $S$  = 's. (regions)

\* ensures that  $S$  is a regular cell complex:

↳ each stratum of  $S$  is contractible

↳ the star of each stratum is contractible.

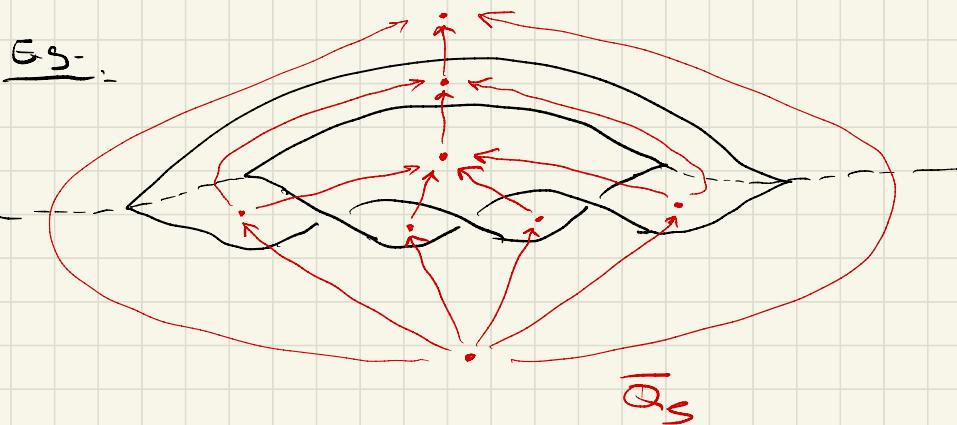
$$\Gamma (S_\alpha \subset S, \text{star}(S_\alpha) = \bigcup_{S_\beta \subset S_\alpha} S_\beta) \quad ]$$

$\rightsquigarrow$  quiver with relations  $\overline{Q}_S =$

• Vertices = regions in  $S$

• Arrows =  $\begin{matrix} N \\ \nearrow \\ S \end{matrix} \xrightarrow{\quad} e_S \uparrow \begin{matrix} N \\ \searrow \\ S \end{matrix}$  (upward arrow)  
↓-dotted  
stratum

• relations: all "spines" commute.



Prop (STZ): There exists a natural dg equivalence:

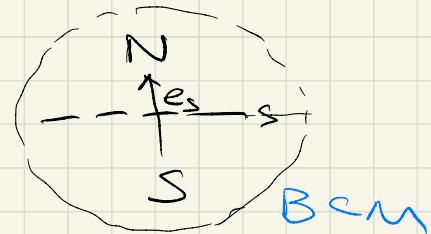
$$\overline{F}_S = \text{Sh}_{\wedge}(M_{jk}) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Rep}_{\wedge}(\overline{Q}_S) \hookrightarrow \text{Rep}(\overline{Q}_S)$$

where:

•  $\text{Rep}(\overline{Q}_S)$  is the dg category of representations of  $\overline{Q}_S$  (with values in perfect complexes of  $k$ -modules), "localized" at quasi-isomorphisms.

•  $\text{Rep}_{\wedge}(\overline{Q}_S)$  is the full dg subcategory of  $\text{Rep}(\overline{Q}_S)$  consisting of  $F \in \text{Rep}(\overline{Q}_S)$  s.t.

① Near a dashed arc



$$\Rightarrow F(es) = F(s) \simeq F(N),$$

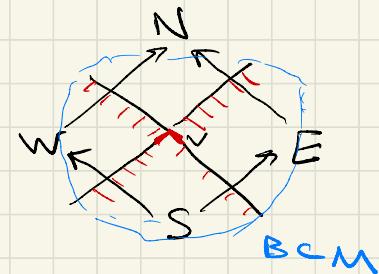
$$(SSU(B) \cap S^*B = \emptyset)$$

② Near a crossing v:

$$\Rightarrow \begin{array}{c} F(W) \\ F(W) \curvearrowleft \curvearrowright \\ F(S) \end{array}$$

difference

& Tot  $(F(S) \rightarrow F(W) \oplus F(E) \xrightarrow{\downarrow} F(N))$  is acyclic



Proof: Use local models.

□

### 3. Microlocal monodromy ( $=$ microlocal stalk up to a ~~log~~ shift)

Slogan: "microlocal stalk refines the micro-support

by measuring how much the local sections fail to propagate along a given singular vector".

$M$  = smooth mfld of dim  $n$ .

$\Lambda \hookrightarrow S^*M$  smooth Legendrian.

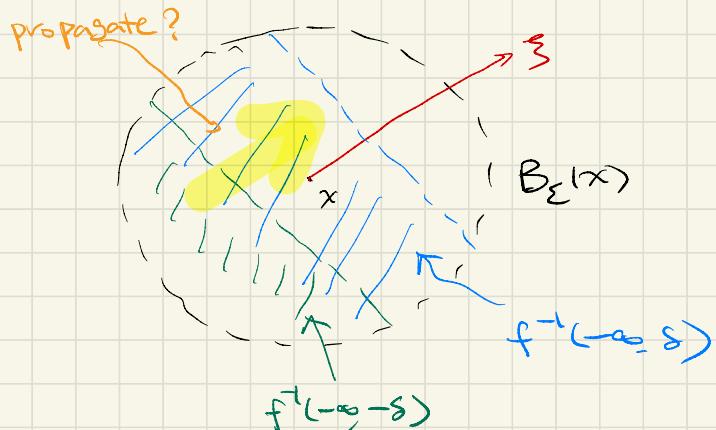
$f \in sh_\Lambda(M; k)$ .

Defn/prop :  $\forall (x, \xi) \in \Lambda$ . Take any smooth function  $f : B_\xi(x) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

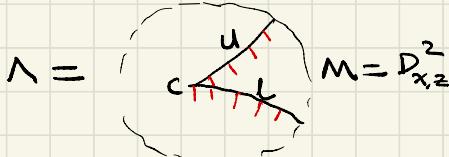
s.t.  $f(x) = 0, df(x) = \xi$ , then the microlocal stalk :

$$S|_{(x, \xi)} := \text{cone}(RT(f'|_{(-\infty, \delta)}; f)) \longrightarrow RT(f'|_{(-\infty, -\delta)}; f), \quad 0 < \delta \ll 1$$

is independent of the choices of  $\varepsilon, f, \delta$ .

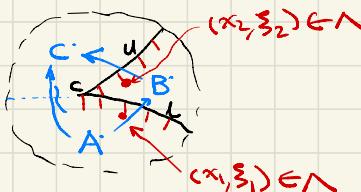


observe:



$$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{F} \in \text{sh}_\lambda(M; k) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\mathcal{F} =$$



$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{F}|_{(x_1, z_1)} = \text{cone}(A \rightarrow B)$$

↖ (← the octahedral axiom)

$$\mathcal{F}|_{(x_2, z_2)}[-] = \text{cone}(B \rightarrow C)[-].$$

Defn:  $\Lambda \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}_{xz}^3 \cong S^* M$  Legendrian link,  $M = \mathbb{R}_{xz}^2$ .

$$\rightsquigarrow \text{front diagram } \pi_{xz}(\mathcal{W}) \hookrightarrow M = \mathbb{R}_{xz}^2$$

A Z-valued Master potential is:

$$\mu : \left\{ \underbrace{\text{connected components of } \pi_{xz}(\mathcal{W}) - \{\text{cusps}\}}_{\text{strands.}} \right\} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}.$$

s.t. (or )  $\Rightarrow \mu(u) = \mu(l) + 1$ .

Assume such a  $\mu$  exists ( $\Leftrightarrow r(\Lambda) = 0$ )

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{F}|_{(x_1, z_1)}[-\mu(l)] \cong \mathcal{F}|_{(x_2, z_2)}[-\mu(u)]$$

Defn/prop:  $\exists$  a natural dg functor (microlocal monodromy):

$$\mu_{\text{mon}} : \text{sh}_\lambda(M; k) \longrightarrow \text{Loc}(\Lambda) = \text{Rep}(\pi_1(\Lambda))$$

$$\mathcal{F} \longmapsto \left( (x, z) \mapsto \mathcal{F}|_{(x, z)}[-\mu(x)] \right)_{\text{genus } \zeta}$$

Defn: The dg category of microlocal rank 1 constructible sheaves in  $\text{sh}_{\Lambda}(M; k)$  is:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \mathcal{C}_1(\Lambda; k) & \hookrightarrow & \text{sh}_{\Lambda}(M; k) & \hookrightarrow & \text{sh}_{\Lambda}(M; k) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \mu_{\text{non}} & & \uparrow \text{compact support} \\
 \{k\} & \hookrightarrow & \text{Loc}(\Lambda) & &
 \end{array}$$

Fact:  $\mathcal{C}_1(\Lambda; k)$  is a categorical Legendrian isotopy in  $(\Lambda, \mu)$ .

Defn: the STZ moduli stack  $M_1(\Lambda)$  is the (underived) moduli stack of objects in  $\mathcal{C}_1(\Lambda; k)$

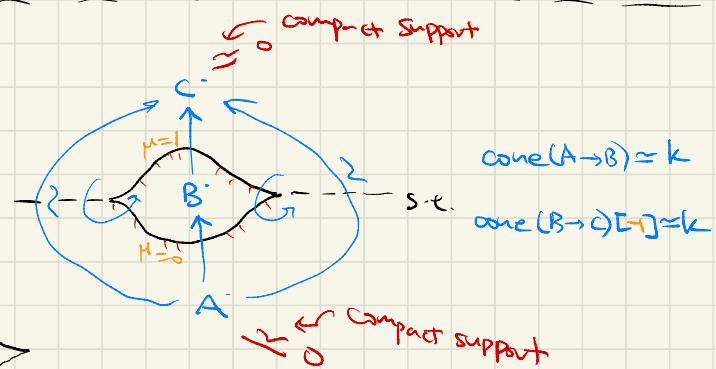
→ associated moduli space (suitably defined)  $M_1(\Lambda)$ .

(→ the Betti moduli space in the second talk)

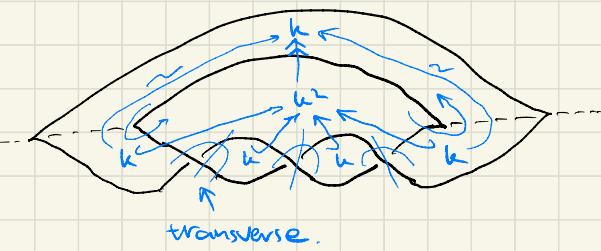
E.g.:  $\Lambda =$

$f \in \mathcal{C}_1(\Lambda; k) \iff$

$C^i = 0$   
 $\uparrow$   
 $B^i = k = \sqrt{\|f\|_k^2}$   
 $\uparrow$   
 $A^i = 0$



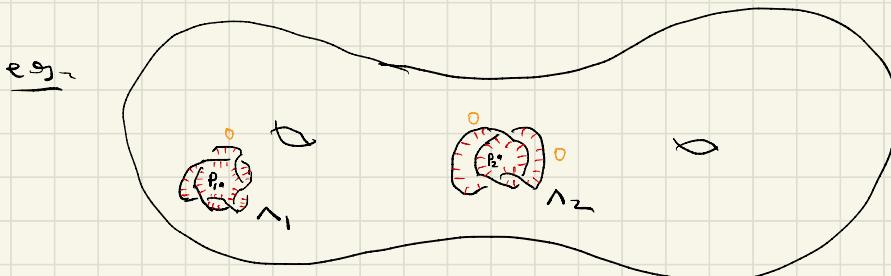
Ex:  $\Lambda \approx$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{C}_1(\Lambda; k) \iff$



#### 4. Irregular Riemann-Hilbert correspondence over curves

$M = \text{Riemann surface } \Sigma \text{ with punctures } p_1, \dots, p_k.$

$\Lambda = \cup \Lambda_i$ : Legendrian links with  $\Lambda_i$  near  $p_i$  in  $S^*M$ .



$\Lambda = \Lambda_1 \cup \Lambda_2, M = \Sigma_2 \text{ with 2 punctures } p_1, p_2.$

→ the same construction above gives

$$\mu_{\text{mon}} : C_B(\Sigma, \{p_i\}, \{\Lambda_i\}) := \text{sh}_{\cup \Lambda_i}(\sum \{p_i\}; f) \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{Loc}(\Lambda) = \pi \text{Loc}(\Lambda_i)$$

$\xrightarrow{h}$

$$C_B(\Sigma, \{p_i\}, \{\Lambda_i\}) \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{Loc}(\Lambda) = \pi \text{Loc}(\Lambda_i)$$

local systems in deg 0

A microlocal formulation of irregular RTI over curves:

irregular connections

$$C_{\text{df}}(\Sigma, \{p_i\}, \{\tau_i\}) \xrightarrow{\sim} C_B(\Sigma, \{p_i\}, \{\Lambda_i\})$$

$\xleftarrow{\quad \text{St} \quad}$  local solution sheaf with Stokes filtration

stokes Legendrian defined by  $\tau_i$

$\downarrow \pi_i F_i$  formal completion at  $p_i$

$\xrightarrow{\quad \pi_i \overline{\text{St}}_i \quad}$

μ<sub>mon</sub>

$\pi_i \text{Loc}(\Lambda_i)$

$\Pi_i$  (formal connections over  $C((u))$  with prescribed formal type  $\tau_i$ )

de Rham side      Betti side

→ slogan: "Betti moduli space / wild character variety"

= moduli space of constructible sheaves with controlled micro-support."

### Illustration by example:

$$\Sigma = \text{cpl}, k=1, p_1 = \infty.$$

formal type of irregular singularity

$$\tau_1 = \left\{ g_1(x) = -\frac{2}{5}x^{-\frac{5}{2}}, g_2(x) = \frac{2}{5}x^{-\frac{5}{2}} \right\} \subset \bar{x}^{\frac{1}{N}} \oplus [\bar{x}^{-\frac{1}{N}}], N=2.$$

$$\text{E.g. } (\nu = \cup_{\text{cpl}}^{\oplus 2}, \nabla) \in \mathcal{C}_{\text{dp}}(\text{cpl}, \Sigma_\infty, \{\tau_i\}) \text{ with}$$

$$\nabla = d - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ z^3 & 0 \end{pmatrix} dz$$

where  $z$  = the standard coordinate on  $\text{cpl}$  centered at  $0$

&  $x = z^{-1}$  is the standard coord. centered at  $p_1 = \infty$ .

Reason: local horizontal sections near  $p_1 = \infty$  are solutions to

$$\nabla \begin{pmatrix} f \\ g \end{pmatrix} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{df}{dz} = g \\ \frac{dg}{dz} = z^3 f \end{cases}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left( \frac{d^2}{dz^2} - z^3 \right) f = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow Lf = 0, \quad L = S^2 + S - \frac{x^{-5}}{\uparrow \text{Wronskian}}, \quad S = x \frac{d}{dx} = -z \frac{d}{dz}$$

~ linearly indep formal solutions

$$f_{1,2} = \exp\left(\mp \frac{2}{5}x^{-\frac{5}{2}}\right) x^{\frac{3}{4}} \sum_{m \geq 0} a_m^{\pm} x^{\frac{m}{2}}, \text{ for some } a_m^{\pm} \in \mathbb{C}.$$

$$\left\{ \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \{g_1, g_2\} \\ \cap \tau_1 \end{matrix} \right. \text{ at most polynomial growth rate as } x \rightarrow 0.$$

the growth rate is controlled by

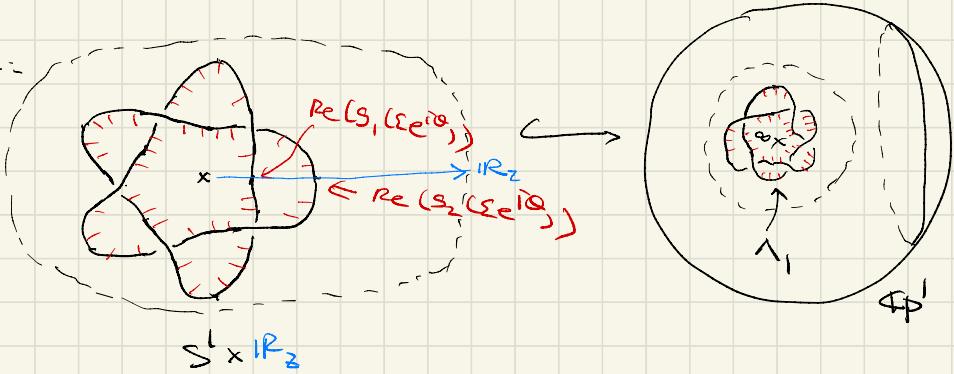
$$\text{Re}(g_1), \text{Re}(g_2).$$

• Stokes Legendrian knot  $\Lambda_1$

Fix  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ , the graphs of the multivalued functions

$$S^1 \ni \theta \longmapsto \operatorname{Re}(g_i(\varepsilon e^{i\theta})) \in \mathbb{R}_z$$

give:



st( $V, \gamma$ ) = ?

Away from the disk:  $st(V, \gamma) = \text{sol}(V, \gamma)$

$\uparrow$   
solution sheet of

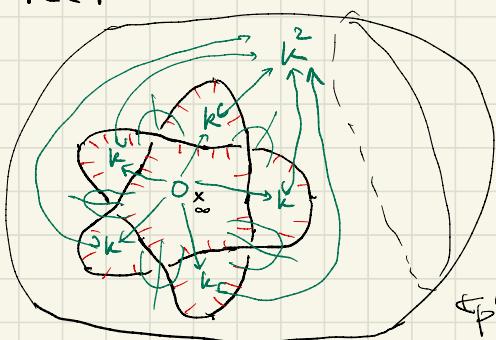
local horizontal sections.

Inside the disk:

$$st(V, \gamma)_{0, z} := \bigoplus_{\operatorname{Re}(g_i(\varepsilon e^{i\theta})) \subset z} f_i$$

$\operatorname{Re}(g_i(\varepsilon e^{i\theta})) \subset z$

$\rightsquigarrow st(V, \gamma) \Leftrightarrow$



$$\rightsquigarrow st(V, \gamma) \in \mathcal{E}_1(\Omega_p^1(\{a\}), \Lambda_1) \hookrightarrow \operatorname{sh}_{\Lambda_1}(\Omega_p^1(\{a\}); \gamma).$$

$\nwarrow$  microlocal rank 1.

observe:  $st(V, \gamma) \Leftrightarrow$  some  $f \in \mathcal{E}_1(\Lambda_1; f)$  in EX !