

# Lecture 4

## Solving Bethe equations

A mini-course “Solvable lattice models and Bethe Ansatz”  
(Ariel University, spring 2021)

Michael Lashkevich

Landau Institute for Theoretical Physics,  
Kharkevich Institute for Information Transmission Problems

Let

$$s(u) = \begin{cases} \sin u & \text{for } |\Delta| < 1; \\ \text{sh } u & \text{for } \Delta < -1; \end{cases} \quad c(u) = \begin{cases} \cos u & \text{for } |\Delta| < 1; \\ \text{ch } u & \text{for } \Delta < -1. \end{cases}$$

The explicit form of the Bethe equations:

$$\left( \frac{s(u_i)}{s(\lambda - u_i)} \right)^N = \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ (j \neq i)}}^n \frac{s(u_i - u_j + \lambda)}{s(u_i - u_j - \lambda)}. \quad (1)$$

Let

$$s(u) = \begin{cases} \sin u & \text{for } |\Delta| < 1; \\ \text{sh } u & \text{for } \Delta < -1; \end{cases} \quad c(u) = \begin{cases} \cos u & \text{for } |\Delta| < 1; \\ \text{ch } u & \text{for } \Delta < -1. \end{cases}$$

The explicit form of the Bethe equations:

$$\left( \frac{s(u_i)}{s(\lambda - u_i)} \right)^N = \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ (j \neq i)}}^n \frac{s(u_i - u_j + \lambda)}{s(u_i - u_j - \lambda)}. \quad (1)$$

Let

$$u_i = \frac{\lambda}{2} + iv_i, \quad e^{ip(v)} = \frac{s(\lambda/2 + iv)}{s(\lambda/2 - iv)}, \quad e^{i\theta(v)} = \frac{s(\lambda + iv)}{s(\lambda - iv)}.$$

The variables  $v_i$  are defined in such a way that  $|z_i| = 1$  for real values of  $v_i$ .

Let

$$s(u) = \begin{cases} \sin u & \text{for } |\Delta| < 1; \\ \text{sh } u & \text{for } \Delta < -1; \end{cases} \quad c(u) = \begin{cases} \cos u & \text{for } |\Delta| < 1; \\ \text{ch } u & \text{for } \Delta < -1. \end{cases}$$

The explicit form of the Bethe equations:

$$\left( \frac{s(u_i)}{s(\lambda - u_i)} \right)^N = \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ (j \neq i)}}^n \frac{s(u_i - u_j + \lambda)}{s(u_i - u_j - \lambda)}. \quad (1)$$

Let

$$u_i = \frac{\lambda}{2} + iv_i, \quad e^{ip(v)} = \frac{s(\lambda/2 + iv)}{s(\lambda/2 - iv)}, \quad e^{i\theta(v)} = \frac{s(\lambda + iv)}{s(\lambda - iv)}.$$

The variables  $v_i$  are defined in such a way that  $|z_i| = 1$  for real values of  $v_i$ . Take logarithm of the Bethe equations:

$$Np(v_i) = 2\pi I_i + \sum_{j=1}^n \theta(v_i - v_j),$$

where  $I_i \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2}$  if  $n \in 2\mathbb{Z}$  and  $I_i \in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $n \in 2\mathbb{Z} + 1$ .

# Solving the Bethe equations for the ground state

Let us obtain the ground state, i.e. the state with the largest eigenvalue of the transfer matrices in the thermodynamic limit. Note that the XXZ one-particle energy

$$\epsilon(v) = 2\Delta - 2 \cos p(v)$$

is an even function,  $\epsilon(-v) = \epsilon(v)$  with an absolute minimum at  $v = 0$  and monotonous for  $0 \leq v < \infty$  if  $|\Delta| < 1$  and for  $0 \leq v \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$  for  $\Delta < -1$ . It means that the ‘Dirac sea’ must be symmetric.

# Solving the Bethe equations for the ground state

Let us obtain the ground state, i.e. the state with the largest eigenvalue of the transfer matrices in the thermodynamic limit. Note that the XXZ one-particle energy

$$\epsilon(v) = 2\Delta - 2 \cos p(v)$$

is an even function,  $\epsilon(-v) = \epsilon(v)$  with an absolute minimum at  $v = 0$  and monotonous for  $0 \leq v < \infty$  if  $|\Delta| < 1$  and for  $0 \leq v \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$  for  $\Delta < -1$ . It means that the ‘Dirac sea’ must be symmetric.

Thus formulate the conjectures:

- 1 In the ground state all Bethe roots  $v_i$  are real and, in the thermodynamic limit, densely fill a region  $-v_F < v < v_F$ .

Let us obtain the ground state, i.e. the state with the largest eigenvalue of the transfer matrices in the thermodynamic limit. Note that the XXZ one-particle energy

$$\epsilon(v) = 2\Delta - 2 \cos p(v)$$

is an even function,  $\epsilon(-v) = \epsilon(v)$  with an absolute minimum at  $v = 0$  and monotonous for  $0 \leq v < \infty$  if  $|\Delta| < 1$  and for  $0 \leq v \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$  for  $\Delta < -1$ . It means that the ‘Dirac sea’ must be symmetric.

Thus formulate the conjectures:

- 1 In the ground state all Bethe roots  $v_i$  are real and, in the thermodynamic limit, densely fill a region  $-v_F < v < v_F$ .
- 2 In the ground state all values of  $I_i$  are consecutive.

Let us obtain the ground state, i.e. the state with the largest eigenvalue of the transfer matrices in the thermodynamic limit. Note that the XXZ one-particle energy

$$\epsilon(v) = 2\Delta - 2 \cos p(v)$$

is an even function,  $\epsilon(-v) = \epsilon(v)$  with an absolute minimum at  $v = 0$  and monotonous for  $0 \leq v < \infty$  if  $|\Delta| < 1$  and for  $0 \leq v \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$  for  $\Delta < -1$ . It means that the ‘Dirac sea’ must be symmetric.

Thus formulate the conjectures:

- 1 In the ground state all Bethe roots  $v_i$  are real and, in the thermodynamic limit, densely fill a region  $-v_F < v < v_F$ .
- 2 In the ground state all values of  $I_i$  are consecutive.
- 3 In the ground state  $S^z/N \rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

# Solving the Bethe equations for the ground state

Let us obtain the ground state, i.e. the state with the largest eigenvalue of the transfer matrices in the thermodynamic limit. Note that the XXZ one-particle energy

$$\epsilon(v) = 2\Delta - 2 \cos p(v)$$

is an even function,  $\epsilon(-v) = \epsilon(v)$  with an absolute minimum at  $v = 0$  and monotonous for  $0 \leq v < \infty$  if  $|\Delta| < 1$  and for  $0 \leq v \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$  for  $\Delta < -1$ . It means that the ‘Dirac sea’ must be symmetric.

Thus formulate the conjectures:

- 1 In the ground state all Bethe roots  $v_i$  are real and, in the thermodynamic limit, densely fill a region  $-v_F < v < v_F$ .
- 2 In the ground state all values of  $I_i$  are consecutive.
- 3 In the ground state  $S^z/N \rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

Taking the thermodynamic limit in a usual way, we obtain the integral equations

$$p'(v) = \rho(v) + \int_{-v_F}^{v_F} \frac{dv'}{2\pi} \theta'(v - v') \rho(v'), \quad \int_{-v_F}^{v_F} \frac{dv}{2\pi} \rho(v) = \frac{n}{N}, \quad (2)$$

where  $\rho(v) = \frac{2\pi dI}{N dv}$  is the density of particles = density of states.

# Solving the Bethe equations for the ground state

Let us obtain the ground state, i.e. the state with the largest eigenvalue of the transfer matrices in the thermodynamic limit. Note that the XXZ one-particle energy

$$\epsilon(v) = 2\Delta - 2 \cos p(v)$$

is an even function,  $\epsilon(-v) = \epsilon(v)$  with an absolute minimum at  $v = 0$  and monotonous for  $0 \leq v < \infty$  if  $|\Delta| < 1$  and for  $0 \leq v \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$  for  $\Delta < -1$ . It means that the 'Dirac sea' must be symmetric.

Thus formulate the conjectures:

- 1 In the ground state all Bethe roots  $v_i$  are real and, in the thermodynamic limit, densely fill a region  $-v_F < v < v_F$ .
- 2 In the ground state all values of  $I_i$  are consecutive.
- 3 In the ground state  $S^z/N \rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

Taking the thermodynamic limit in a usual way, we obtain the integral equations

$$p'(v) = \rho(v) + \int_{-v_F}^{v_F} \frac{dv'}{2\pi} \theta'(v - v') \rho(v'), \quad \int_{-v_F}^{v_F} \frac{dv}{2\pi} \rho(v) = \frac{n}{N}, \quad (2)$$

where  $\rho(v) = \frac{2\pi dI}{N dv}$  is the density of particles = density of states.

We have

$$p'(v) = \frac{s(\lambda)}{s(\frac{\lambda}{2} + iv)s(\frac{\lambda}{2} - iv)}, \quad \theta'(v) = \frac{2s(2\lambda)}{s(\lambda + iv)s(\lambda - iv)}.$$

# Solving the Bethe equations for the ground state

For which values  $\bar{v}_F$  of  $v_F$  the equation is solvable analytically?

# Solving the Bethe equations for the ground state

For which values  $\bar{v}_F$  of  $v_F$  the equation is solvable analytically?

- If  $|\Delta| < 1$  the functions  $p'(v), \theta'(v) \sim e^{-2|v|}$  as  $v \rightarrow \pm\infty$ . Hence,  $\bar{v}_F = \infty$ .

# Solving the Bethe equations for the ground state

For which values  $\bar{v}_F$  of  $v_F$  the equation is solvable analytically?

- If  $|\Delta| < 1$  the functions  $p'(v), \theta'(v) \sim e^{-2|v|}$  as  $v \rightarrow \pm\infty$ . Hence,  $\bar{v}_F = \infty$ .  
Hence,

$$\rho(v) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dk \rho_k e^{-ikv}, \dots \quad (3)$$

# Solving the Bethe equations for the ground state

For which values  $\bar{v}_F$  of  $v_F$  the equation is solvable analytically?

- If  $|\Delta| < 1$  the functions  $p'(v), \theta'(v) \sim e^{-2|v|}$  as  $v \rightarrow \pm\infty$ . Hence,  $\bar{v}_F = \infty$ .  
Hence,

$$\rho(v) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dk \rho_k e^{-ikv}, \dots \quad (3)$$

- If  $\Delta < -1$  the functions  $p'(v), \theta'(v)$  are periodic with the period  $\pi$ . Hence,  $\bar{v}_F = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .

# Solving the Bethe equations for the ground state

For which values  $\bar{v}_F$  of  $v_F$  the equation is solvable analytically?

- If  $|\Delta| < 1$  the functions  $p'(v), \theta'(v) \sim e^{-2|v|}$  as  $v \rightarrow \pm\infty$ . Hence,  $\bar{v}_F = \infty$ . Hence,

$$\rho(v) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dk \rho_k e^{-ikv}, \dots \quad (3)$$

- If  $\Delta < -1$  the functions  $p'(v), \theta'(v)$  are periodic with the period  $\pi$ . Hence,  $\bar{v}_F = \frac{\pi}{2}$ . Hence,

$$\rho(v) = 2 \sum_{k \in 2\mathbb{Z}} \rho_k e^{-ikv}, \dots \quad (4)$$

# Solving the Bethe equations for the ground state

For which values  $\bar{v}_F$  of  $v_F$  the equation is solvable analytically?

- If  $|\Delta| < 1$  the functions  $p'(v), \theta'(v) \sim e^{-2|v|}$  as  $v \rightarrow \pm\infty$ . Hence,  $\bar{v}_F = \infty$ . Hence,

$$\rho(v) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dk \rho_k e^{-ikv}, \dots \quad (3)$$

- If  $\Delta < -1$  the functions  $p'(v), \theta'(v)$  are periodic with the period  $\pi$ . Hence,  $\bar{v}_F = \frac{\pi}{2}$ . Hence,

$$\rho(v) = 2 \sum_{k \in 2\mathbb{Z}} \rho_k e^{-ikv}, \dots \quad (4)$$

Then

$$\rho_k = p'_k - \theta'_k \rho_k,$$

# Solving the Bethe equations for the ground state

For which values  $\bar{v}_F$  of  $v_F$  the equation is solvable analytically?

- If  $|\Delta| < 1$  the functions  $p'(v), \theta'(v) \sim e^{-2|v|}$  as  $v \rightarrow \pm\infty$ . Hence,  $\bar{v}_F = \infty$ . Hence,

$$\rho(v) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dk \rho_k e^{-ikv}, \dots \quad (3)$$

- If  $\Delta < -1$  the functions  $p'(v), \theta'(v)$  are periodic with the period  $\pi$ . Hence,  $\bar{v}_F = \frac{\pi}{2}$ . Hence,

$$\rho(v) = 2 \sum_{k \in 2\mathbb{Z}} \rho_k e^{-ikv}, \dots \quad (4)$$

Then

$$\rho_k = p'_k - \theta'_k \rho_k,$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} p'_k &= \frac{\operatorname{sh} \frac{(\pi-\lambda)k}{2}}{\operatorname{sh} \frac{\pi k}{2}}, & \theta'_k &= \frac{\operatorname{sh} \frac{(\pi-2\lambda)k}{2}}{\operatorname{sh} \frac{\pi k}{2}} & (|\Delta| < 1); \\ p'_k &= e^{-\lambda|k|/2}, & \theta'_k &= e^{-\lambda|k|} & (\Delta < -1). \end{aligned}$$

# Solving the Bethe equations for the ground state

For which values  $\bar{v}_F$  of  $v_F$  the equation is solvable analytically?

- If  $|\Delta| < 1$  the functions  $p'(v), \theta'(v) \sim e^{-2|v|}$  as  $v \rightarrow \pm\infty$ . Hence,  $\bar{v}_F = \infty$ . Hence,

$$\rho(v) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dk \rho_k e^{-ikv}, \dots \quad (3)$$

- If  $\Delta < -1$  the functions  $p'(v), \theta'(v)$  are periodic with the period  $\pi$ . Hence,  $\bar{v}_F = \frac{\pi}{2}$ . Hence,

$$\rho(v) = 2 \sum_{k \in 2\mathbb{Z}} \rho_k e^{-ikv}, \dots \quad (4)$$

Then

$$\rho_k = p'_k - \theta'_k \rho_k,$$

We have

$$p'_k = \frac{\text{sh} \frac{(\pi-\lambda)k}{2}}{\text{sh} \frac{\pi k}{2}}, \quad \theta'_k = \frac{\text{sh} \frac{(\pi-2\lambda)k}{2}}{\text{sh} \frac{\pi k}{2}} \quad (|\Delta| < 1);$$

$$p'_k = e^{-\lambda|k|/2}, \quad \theta'_k = e^{-\lambda|k|} \quad (\Delta < -1).$$

We have for the density

$$\rho_k = \frac{p'_k}{1 + \theta'_k} = \frac{1}{2 \text{ch} \frac{\lambda k}{2}}$$

in both cases.

# Solving the Bethe equations for the ground state

For which values  $\bar{v}_F$  of  $v_F$  the equation is solvable analytically?

- If  $|\Delta| < 1$  the functions  $p'(v), \theta'(v) \sim e^{-2|v|}$  as  $v \rightarrow \pm\infty$ . Hence,  $\bar{v}_F = \infty$ . Hence,

$$\rho(v) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dk \rho_k e^{-ikv}, \dots \quad (3)$$

- If  $\Delta < -1$  the functions  $p'(v), \theta'(v)$  are periodic with the period  $\pi$ . Hence,  $\bar{v}_F = \frac{\pi}{2}$ . Hence,

$$\rho(v) = 2 \sum_{k \in 2\mathbb{Z}} \rho_k e^{-ikv}, \dots \quad (4)$$

Then

$$\rho_k = p'_k - \theta'_k \rho_k,$$

We have

$$p'_k = \frac{\text{sh} \frac{(\pi-\lambda)k}{2}}{\text{sh} \frac{\pi k}{2}}, \quad \theta'_k = \frac{\text{sh} \frac{(\pi-2\lambda)k}{2}}{\text{sh} \frac{\pi k}{2}} \quad (|\Delta| < 1);$$

$$p'_k = e^{-\lambda|k|/2}, \quad \theta'_k = e^{-\lambda|k|} \quad (\Delta < -1).$$

We have for the density

$$\rho_k = \frac{p'_k}{1 + \theta'_k} = \frac{1}{2 \text{ch} \frac{\lambda k}{2}}$$

in both cases. Then

$$\frac{n}{N} = \int_{-\bar{v}_F}^{\bar{v}_F} \frac{dv}{2\pi} \rho(v) = \rho_0 = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \frac{S^z}{N} \rightarrow 0.$$

Recall the expression for the eigenvalue

$$\Lambda(u; u_1, \dots, u_n) = a^N(u) \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{a(u_i - u)}{b(u_i - u)} + b^N(u) \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{a(u - u_i)}{b(u - u_i)}. \quad (??)$$

Recall the expression for the eigenvalue

$$\Lambda(u; u_1, \dots, u_n) = a^N(u) \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{a(u_i - u)}{b(u_i - u)} + b^N(u) \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{a(u - u_i)}{b(u - u_i)}. \quad (??)$$

Now let us calculate the free energy per vertex of the six-vertex model:

$$f = - \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \Lambda_{\max}(u)}{N} = - \max \left( \log a(u) + \int_{-v_F}^{v_F} \frac{dv}{2\pi} \rho(v) \log \frac{a(iv - u + \lambda/2)}{b(iv - u + \lambda/2)}, \right. \\ \left. \log b(u) + \int_{-v_F}^{v_F} \frac{dv}{2\pi} \rho(v) \log \frac{a(u - iv - \lambda/2)}{b(u - iv - \lambda/2)} \right).$$

Recall the expression for the eigenvalue

$$\Lambda(u; u_1, \dots, u_n) = a^N(u) \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{a(u_i - u)}{b(u_i - u)} + b^N(u) \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{a(u - u_i)}{b(u - u_i)}. \quad (??)$$

Now let us calculate the free energy per vertex of the six-vertex model:

$$f = - \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \Lambda_{\max}(u)}{N} = - \max \left( \log a(u) + \int_{-v_F}^{v_F} \frac{dv}{2\pi} \rho(v) (-i) p(iu + v), \right. \\ \left. \log b(u) + \int_{-v_F}^{v_F} \frac{dv}{2\pi} \rho(v) (-i) p(i(\lambda - u) + v) \right).$$

Recall the expression for the eigenvalue

$$\Lambda(u; u_1, \dots, u_n) = a^N(u) \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{a(u_i - u)}{b(u_i - u)} + b^N(u) \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{a(u - u_i)}{b(u - u_i)}. \quad (??)$$

Now let us calculate the free energy per vertex of the six-vertex model:

$$f = - \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \Lambda_{\max}(u)}{N} = - \max \left( \log a(u) + \int_{-v_F}^{v_F} \frac{dv}{2\pi} \rho(v) (-i) p(iu + v), \right. \\ \left. \log b(u) + \int_{-v_F}^{v_F} \frac{dv}{2\pi} \rho(v) (-i) p(i(\lambda - u) + v) \right).$$

For  $v_F = \bar{v}_F$  we can use the Fourier transform. For  $|\Delta| < 1$  we have

$$f = \min \left( -\log a(u) - \int \frac{dk}{k} \rho_{-k} p'_k e^{ku}, -\log b(u) - \int \frac{dk}{k} \rho_k p'_k e^{k(\lambda - u)} \right).$$

Recall the expression for the eigenvalue

$$\Lambda(u; u_1, \dots, u_n) = a^N(u) \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{a(u_i - u)}{b(u_i - u)} + b^N(u) \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{a(u - u_i)}{b(u - u_i)}. \quad (??)$$

Now let us calculate the free energy per vertex of the six-vertex model:

$$f = - \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \Lambda_{\max}(u)}{N} = - \max \left( \log a(u) + \int_{-v_F}^{v_F} \frac{dv}{2\pi} \rho(v) (-i) p(iu + v), \right. \\ \left. \log b(u) + \int_{-v_F}^{v_F} \frac{dv}{2\pi} \rho(v) (-i) p(i(\lambda - u) + v) \right).$$

For  $v_F = \bar{v}_F$  we can use the Fourier transform. For  $|\Delta| < 1$  we have

$$f = \min \left( -\log a(u) - \int \frac{dk}{k} \rho_{-k} p'_k e^{ku}, -\log b(u) - \int \frac{dk}{k} \rho_k p'_k e^{k(\lambda - u)} \right).$$

By symmetrizing the we find that the two alternatives coincide, so that

$$f = -\log a(u) - \int_0^\infty \frac{dk}{k} \frac{\operatorname{sh} uk \operatorname{sh} \frac{\pi - \lambda}{2} k}{\operatorname{sh} \frac{\pi}{2} k \operatorname{ch} \frac{\lambda}{2} k} \\ = -\log b(u) - \int_0^\infty \frac{dk}{k} \frac{\operatorname{sh}(\lambda - u)k \operatorname{sh} \frac{\pi - \lambda}{2} k}{\operatorname{sh} \frac{\pi}{2} k \operatorname{ch} \frac{\lambda}{2} k}. \quad (5)$$

In the case  $\Delta < -1$  the free energy reads

$$f = \min \left( -\log a(u) - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k \in 2\mathbb{Z}} \frac{1}{k} \rho_{-k} p'_k e^{ku}, -\log b(u) - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k \in 2\mathbb{Z}} \frac{1}{k} \rho_k p'_k e^{k(\lambda-u)} \right).$$

In the case  $\Delta < -1$  the free energy reads

$$f = \min \left( -\log a(u) - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k \in 2Z} \frac{1}{k} \rho_{-k} p'_k e^{ku}, -\log b(u) - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k \in 2Z} \frac{1}{k} \rho_k p'_k e^{k(\lambda-u)} \right).$$

Finally, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f &= -\log a(u) - u - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-\lambda m} \operatorname{sh} 2um}{m \operatorname{ch} \lambda m} \\ &= -\log b(u) - (\lambda - u) - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-\lambda m} \operatorname{sh} 2(\lambda - u)m}{m \operatorname{ch} \lambda m}. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

In the case  $\Delta < -1$  the free energy reads

$$f = \min \left( -\log a(u) - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k \in 2Z} \frac{1}{k} \rho_{-k} p'_k e^{ku}, -\log b(u) - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k \in 2Z} \frac{1}{k} \rho_k p'_k e^{k(\lambda-u)} \right).$$

Finally, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f &= -\log a(u) - u - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-\lambda m} \operatorname{sh} 2um}{m \operatorname{ch} \lambda m} \\ &= -\log b(u) - (\lambda - u) - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-\lambda m} \operatorname{sh} 2(\lambda - u)m}{m \operatorname{ch} \lambda m}. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Why are these two cases so different?

In the case  $\Delta < -1$  the free energy reads

$$f = \min \left( -\log a(u) - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k \in 2\mathbb{Z}} \frac{1}{k} \rho_{-k} p'_k e^{ku}, -\log b(u) - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k \in 2\mathbb{Z}} \frac{1}{k} \rho_k p'_k e^{k(\lambda-u)} \right).$$

Finally, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f &= -\log a(u) - u - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-\lambda m} \operatorname{sh} 2um}{m \operatorname{ch} \lambda m} \\ &= -\log b(u) - (\lambda - u) - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-\lambda m} \operatorname{sh} 2(\lambda - u)m}{m \operatorname{ch} \lambda m}. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

**Why are these two cases so different?** Because in the case  $|\Delta| < 1$  there is a **gapless** spectrum, while in the case  $\Delta < -1$  there is a **gap** between the two largest eigenvalues of  $T(u)$  and all other eigenvalues.

In the case  $\Delta < -1$  the free energy reads

$$f = \min \left( -\log a(u) - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k \in 2\mathbb{Z}} \frac{1}{k} \rho_{-k} p'_k e^{ku}, -\log b(u) - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k \in 2\mathbb{Z}} \frac{1}{k} \rho_k p'_k e^{k(\lambda-u)} \right).$$

Finally, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f &= -\log a(u) - u - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-\lambda m} \operatorname{sh} 2um}{m \operatorname{ch} \lambda m} \\ &= -\log b(u) - (\lambda - u) - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-\lambda m} \operatorname{sh} 2(\lambda - u)m}{m \operatorname{ch} \lambda m}. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Why are these two cases so different? Because in the case  $|\Delta| < 1$  there is a **gapless** spectrum, while in the case  $\Delta < -1$  there is a **gap** between the two largest eigenvalues of  $T(u)$  and all other eigenvalues.

What if  $v_F < \bar{v}_F$ ?

In the case  $\Delta < -1$  the free energy reads

$$f = \min \left( -\log a(u) - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k \in 2\mathbb{Z}} \frac{1}{k} \rho_{-k} p'_k e^{ku}, -\log b(u) - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k \in 2\mathbb{Z}} \frac{1}{k} \rho_k p'_k e^{k(\lambda-u)} \right).$$

Finally, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f &= -\log a(u) - u - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-\lambda m} \operatorname{sh} 2um}{m \operatorname{ch} \lambda m} \\ &= -\log b(u) - (\lambda - u) - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-\lambda m} \operatorname{sh} 2(\lambda - u)m}{m \operatorname{ch} \lambda m}. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

**Why are these two cases so different?** Because in the case  $|\Delta| < 1$  there is a **gapless** spectrum, while in the case  $\Delta < -1$  there is a **gap** between the two largest eigenvalues of  $T(u)$  and all other eigenvalues.

**What if  $v_F < \bar{v}_F$ ?** This case corresponds to general homogeneous six-vertex model with arbitrary  $a, a', b, b', c, c'$ . The ratio  $c/c'$  is inessential, but nonunit ratios  $a/a', b/b'$  correspond to an **external field**. They can be related to  $v_F$ . The integral equations do not have an analytic solution, but can be solved numerically. The two alternatives for the free energy are different.