

2371-12

**Advanced Workshop on Energy Transport in Low-Dimensional Systems:  
Achievements and Mysteries**

*15 - 24 October 2012*

**The Nonequilibrium, Discrete Nonlinear Schroedinger Equation**

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# The nonequilibrium, discrete nonlinear Schrödinger equation

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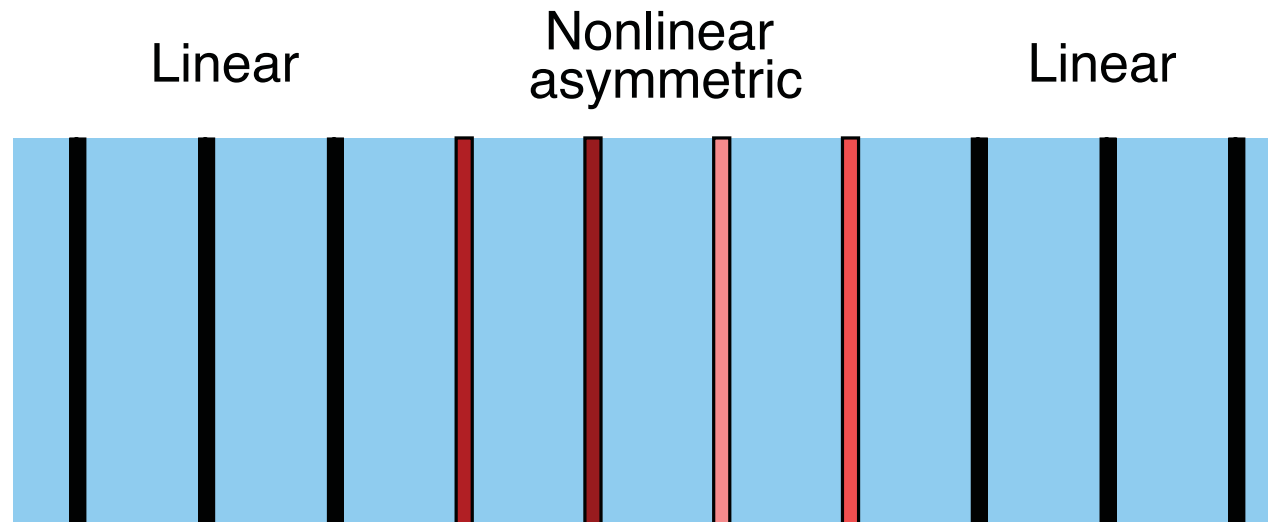
# Outline

The open, one-dimensional DNLS equation

$$i\dot{\phi}_n = V_n\phi_n - \phi_{n+1} - \phi_{n-1} + \alpha_n|\phi_n|^2\phi_n + \dots$$

- **Part I** : Finite-temperature coupled transport  
[S. Iubini, S.L., A. Politi, Phys.Rev E 86, 011108 (2012)]
- **Part II** : Short driven chains, nonreciprocal transmission  
[S.L., G. Casati, Phys. Rev. Lett. 106, 164101 (2011)]

# DNLS for layered photonic or phononic crystal



For linear propagation perpendicular to the layers:

$$\cos k(d_1 + d_2) = \cos\left(\frac{\omega d_1}{c_1}\right) \cos\left(\frac{\omega d_2}{c_2}\right) - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{c_1}{c_2} + \frac{c_2}{c_1} \right) \sin\left(\frac{\omega d_1}{c_1}\right) \sin\left(\frac{\omega d_2}{c_2}\right)$$

# DNLS for layered nonlinear media

- Thin layers  $d_1 \ll d_2$ : "Kronig-Penney model"
- Approximate dispersion for high-frequency bands:  
 $\omega(k) = \omega_0 \pm 2C \cos kd$  (single band approx.)
- Defective layers
- Kerr nonlinearity
- Rescale units, band center at  $\omega = 0$

Altogether:

$$i\dot{\phi}_n = V_n\phi_n - \phi_{n+1} - \phi_{n-1} + \alpha_n|\phi_n|^2\phi_n$$

Conservation of energy and norm, no harmonics.

[A. Kosevich, JETP (2001)]

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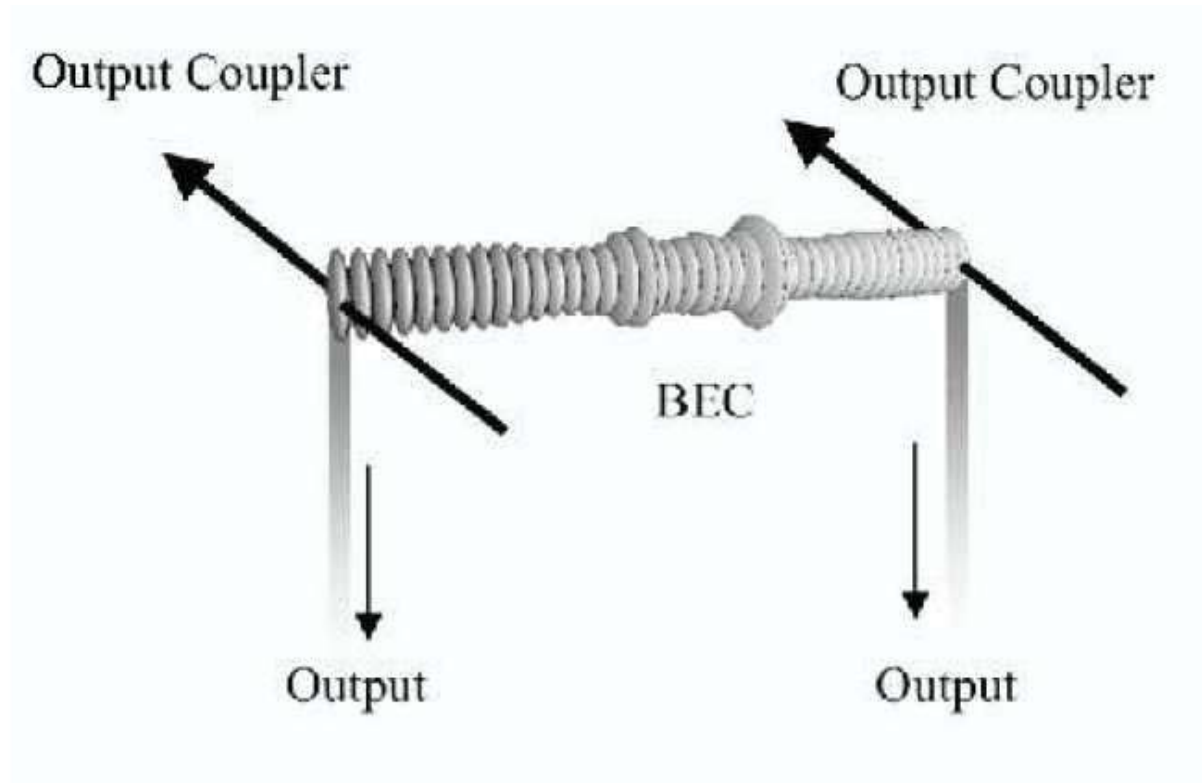
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Conservation of energy and norm, no harmonics.

[A. Kosevich, JETP (2001)]

# DNLS for BEC in optical lattices



Tight-binding + semiclassical approximations  $\rightarrow$  DNLS eq.  
[Franzosi, Livi, Oppo, Politi, Nonlinearity (2011)]



# Part I

## Finite-temperature transport

# Equilibrium: Grand-canonical thermodynamics

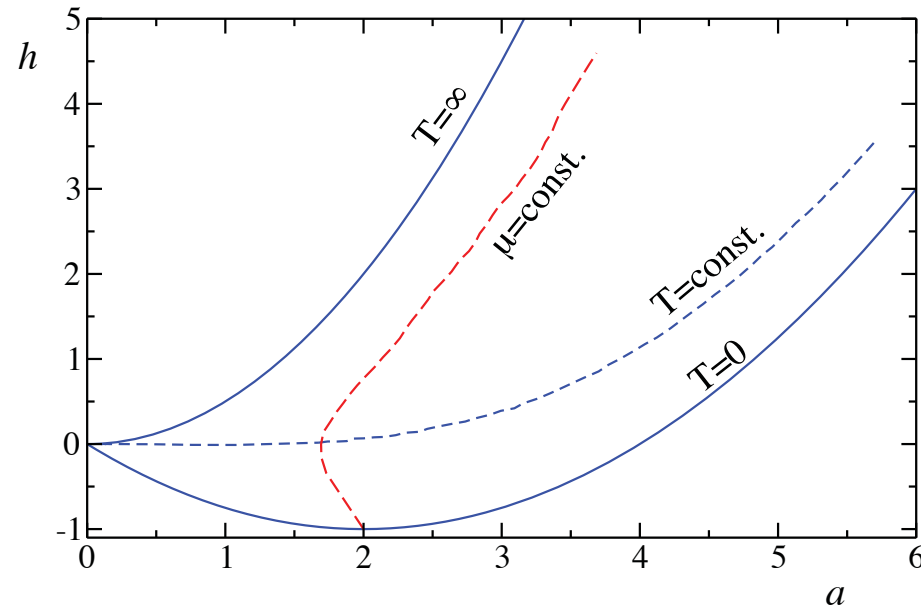
Let  $\phi_n = p_n + iq_n$ , the isolated systems has 2 integrals of motion ( $V_n = 0$ ,  $\alpha_n = \alpha$ ).

$$H = \frac{\alpha}{4} \sum_{i=1}^N (p_i^2 + q_i^2)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} (p_i p_{i+1} + q_i q_{i+1})$$
$$A = \sum_{i=1}^N (p_i^2 + q_i^2) \quad .$$

Statistical weight:  $\exp[-\beta (H - \mu A)]$ .

Equilibrium states: identified by  $(\mu, T)$  or by the densities  $h = H/N$ ,  $a = A/N$ .

# Phase diagram



$T = 0$ : Ground state (for  $\alpha > 0$ )  $\phi_n = \sqrt{a}e^{-i\mu t}$

$$h = -2a + \frac{\alpha}{2}a^2$$

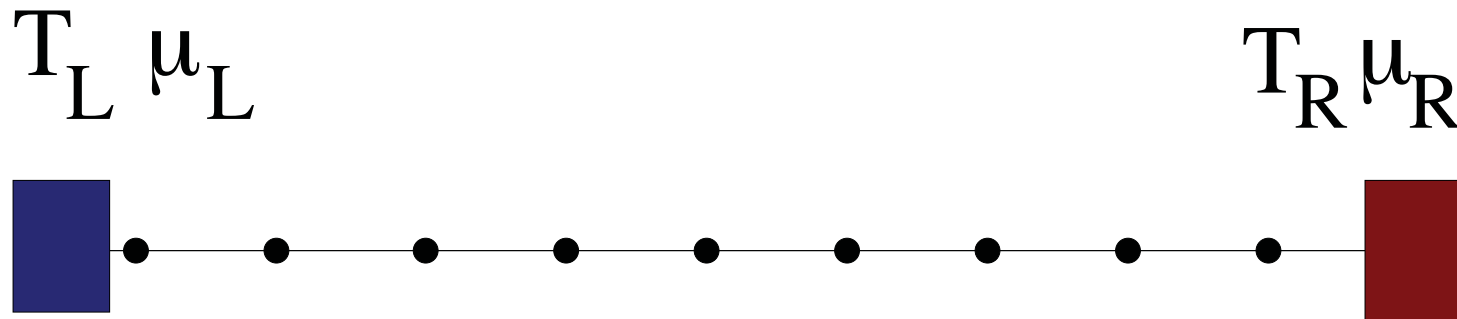
$T = \infty$ : random phases (almost uncoupled oscillators)

$$h = \alpha a^2$$

[Rasmussen et al, PRL 2001]

## The usual game ...

Put DNLS chain in contact with two thermostats at the edges:



Not trivial! for instance: "naive" Langevin will not work!  
Dissipation must preserve the ground state.

# Monte-Carlo heat baths

- 1 At random time intervals (distributed in  $[t_{min}, t_{max}]$ ), let

$$p_1 \rightarrow p_1 + \delta p; \quad q_1 \rightarrow q_1 + \delta q$$

$\delta p$  and  $\delta q$  are i.i.d. random variables uniformly distributed in  $[-R, R]$ .

- 2 If  $(\Delta H - \mu_L \Delta A) < 0$  accept the move, otherwise accept with probability

$$\exp \{ -T_L^{-1} (\Delta H - \mu_L \Delta A) \}$$

- 3 Evolve the Hamiltonian dynamics till the next collision

# Moves for conservative Monte-Carlo heat baths

- *Norm conserving thermostat*- Random change of the phase:

$$\theta_1 \rightarrow \theta_1 + \delta\theta \pmod{2\pi}$$

$\delta\theta$  i.i.d., uniform in  $[0, 2\pi]$ . The total norm  $A$  is conserved.

- *Energy conserving thermostat*- Consider the local energy

$$h_1 = |\phi_1|^4 + 2|\phi_1||\phi_2| \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \quad . \quad (1)$$

Two steps:

- 1  $|\phi_1|$  is randomly perturbed. As a result, both the local amplitude and the local energy change.
- 2 Then, by inverting, Eq. (1), a value of  $\theta_1$  that restores the initial energy is sought. If no such solution exists, choose a new perturbation for  $|\phi_1|$ .

## Microscopic expressions for $T$ and $\mu$

For nonseparable Hamiltonians kinetic temperature is not simply  $\langle p^2 \rangle$ !

$$\frac{1}{T} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{S}}{\partial H}, \quad \frac{\mu}{T} = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{S}}{\partial A},$$

where  $\mathcal{S}$  is the thermodynamic entropy.

[Franzosi, PRE 2011] For a system with two conserved quantities  $C_1, C_2$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{S}}{\partial C_1} = \left\langle \frac{W \|\vec{\xi}\|}{\vec{\nabla} C_1 \cdot \vec{\xi}} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \left( \frac{\vec{\xi}}{\|\vec{\xi}\| W} \right) \right\rangle_{mic}$$

where

$$\vec{\xi} = \frac{\vec{\nabla} C_1}{\|\vec{\nabla} C_1\|} - \frac{(\vec{\nabla} C_1 \cdot \vec{\nabla} C_2) \vec{\nabla} C_2}{\|\vec{\nabla} C_1\| \|\vec{\nabla} C_2\|^2}$$
$$W^2 = \sum_{\substack{j,k=1 \\ j < k}}^{2N} \left[ \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial C_2}{\partial x_k} - \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial C_2}{\partial x_j} \right]^2,$$

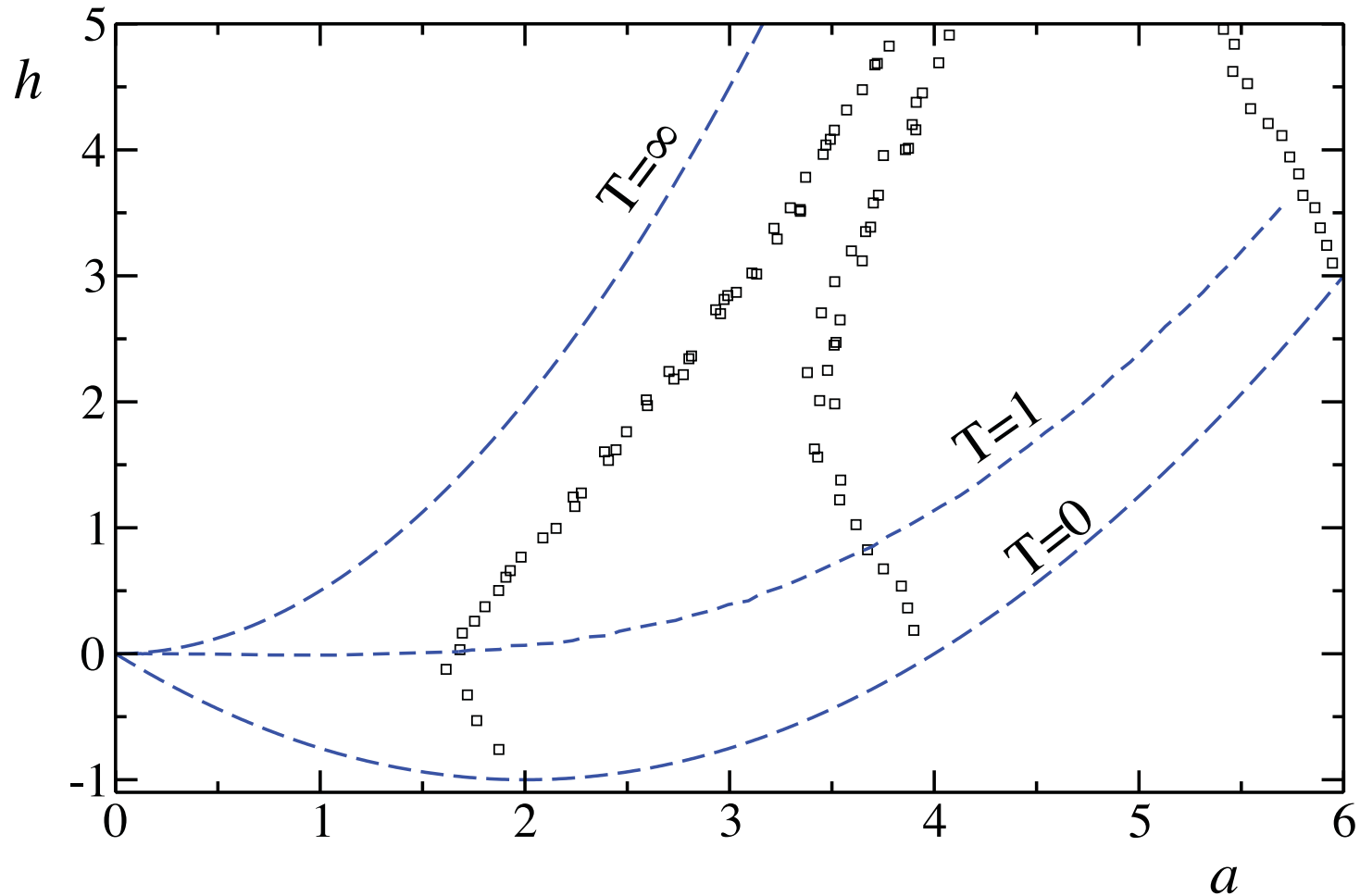
and  $x_{2j} = q_j, x_{2j+1} = p_j$ .

## Microscopic expressions for $T$ and $\mu$

- Setting  $C_1 = H$  and  $C_2 = A$ : expression for  $T$
- Setting  $C_1 = A$  and  $C_2 = H$ : expression for  $\mu$
- Both expressions are (ugly and) nonlocal (involve several neighbouring  $p_n$  and  $q_n$ )
- In practice: time-average expressions on short subchains around site  $n$  to obtain local values  $T_n$  and  $\mu_n$ .
- Check in equilibrium conditions  $T_L = T_R$ ,  $\mu_L = \mu_R$



# Equilibration



Computation of the isochemicals  $\mu = 0$ ,  $\mu = 1$  and  $\mu = 2$

# Microscopic Currents

The expressions for the local energy- and particle-fluxes are derived in the usual way from the continuity equations for norm and energy densities, respectively

$$j_a(n) = 2(p_{n+1}q_n - p_nq_{n+1})$$
$$j_h(n) = -(\dot{p}_n p_{n-1} + \dot{q}_n q_{n-1})$$

Steady state :  $\overline{j_a(n)} = j_a$  and  $\overline{j_h(n)} = j_h$ . Moreover it is also checked that  $j_a$  and  $j_h$  are respectively equal to the average energy and norm exchanged per unit time with the reservoirs.

# Linear irreversible thermodynamics

For small applied gradients:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{j}_a &= -L_{aa} \frac{d(\beta\mu)}{dy} + L_{ah} \frac{d\beta}{dy} \\ \dot{j}_h &= -L_{ha} \frac{d(\beta\mu)}{dy} + L_{hh} \frac{d\beta}{dy} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where we have introduced the continuous variable  $y = i/N$ ,  $\mathbf{L}$  is the symmetric, positive definite,  $2 \times 2$  Onsager matrix.

$$\det \mathbf{L} = L_{aa}L_{hh} - L_{ha}^2 > 0.$$

In energy-density representation the thermodynamic forces are  $\nabla(-\beta\mu)$  and  $\nabla\mu$ .

# Thermodiffusion

The particle ( $\sigma$ ) and thermal ( $\kappa$ ) conductivities

$$\sigma = \beta L_{aa}; \quad \kappa = \beta^2 \frac{\det \mathbf{L}}{L_{aa}}.$$

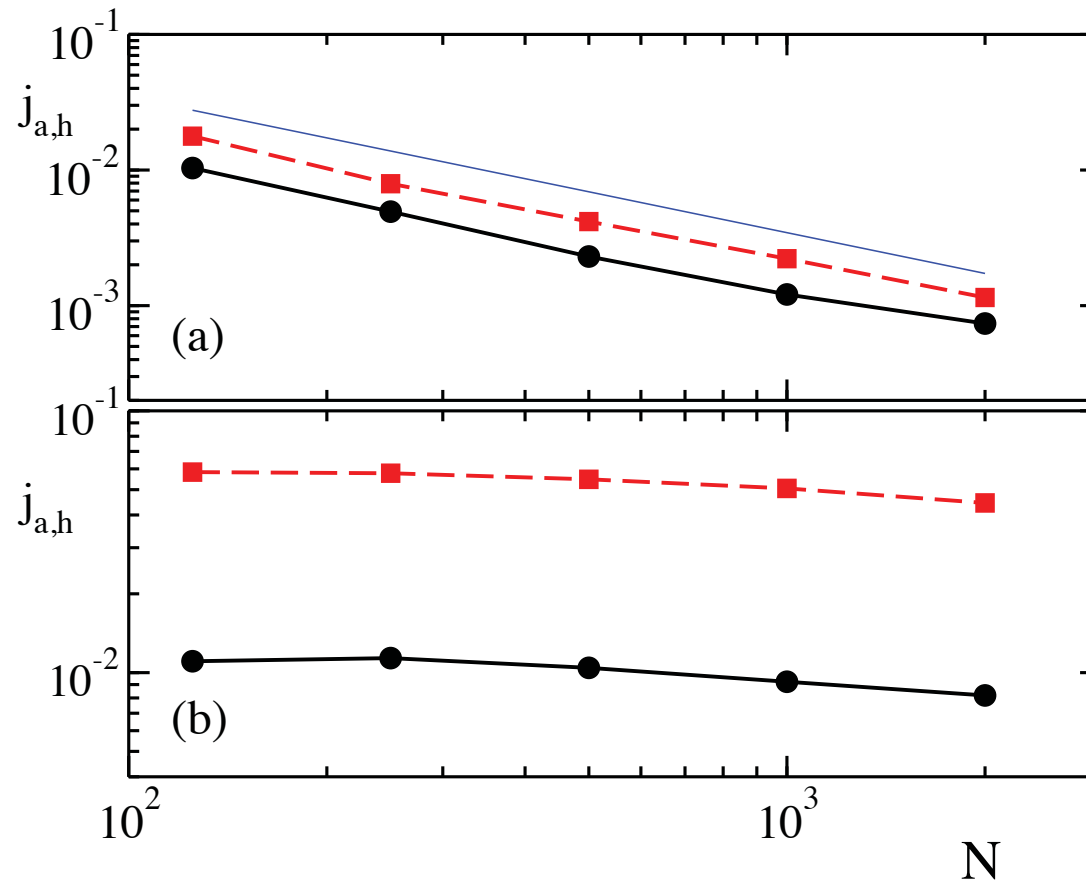
"Seebeck coefficient" ( $j_a = 0$ )

$$S = \beta \left( \frac{L_{ha}}{L_{aa}} - \mu \right),$$

Figure of merit

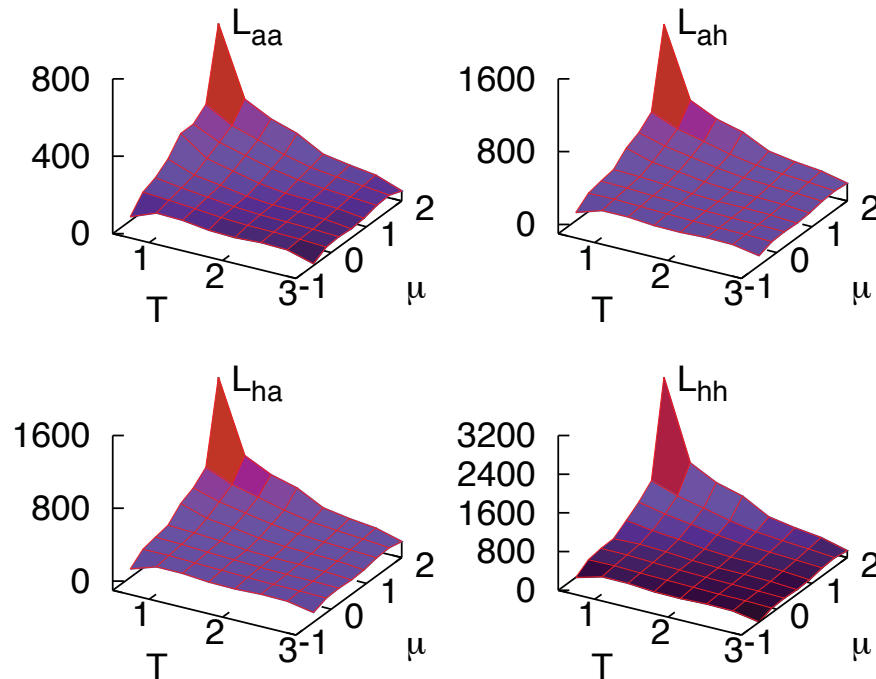
$$ZT = \frac{\sigma S^2 T}{\kappa} = \frac{(L_{ha} - \mu L_{aa})^2}{\det L};$$

# Transport



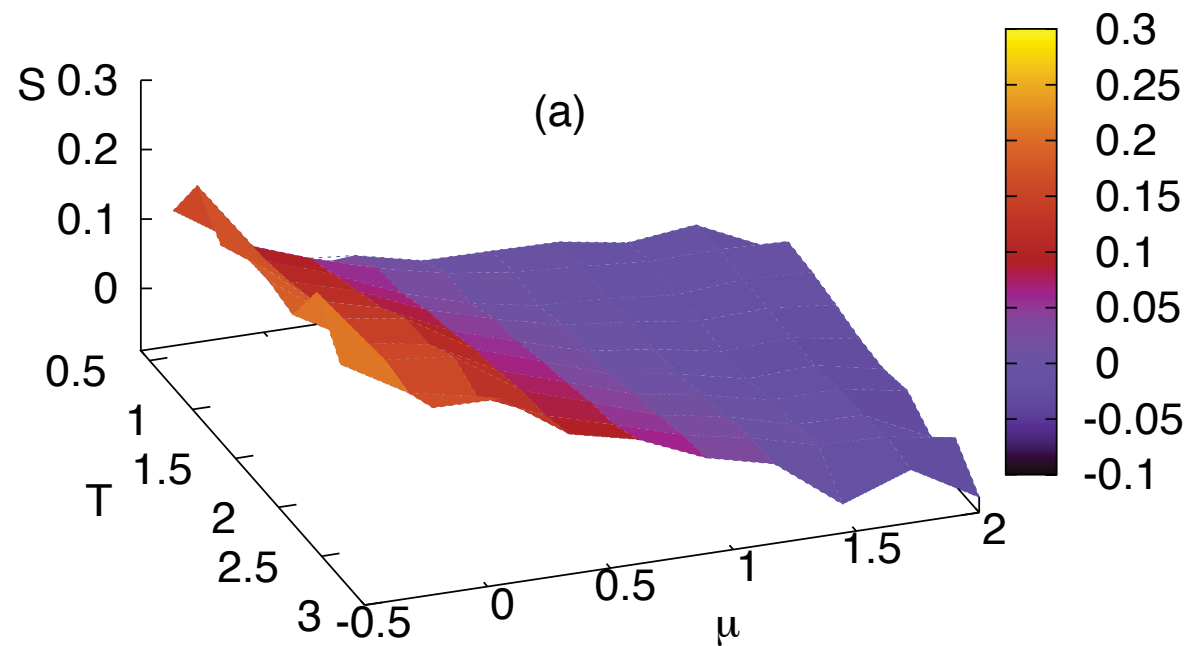
- (a) High-temperature regime  $T_L = 2, T_R = 4, \mu = 0$   
(b) Low-temperature regime  $T_L = 0.3, T_R = 0.7, \mu = 1.5$

# Linear response: Onsager coefficients



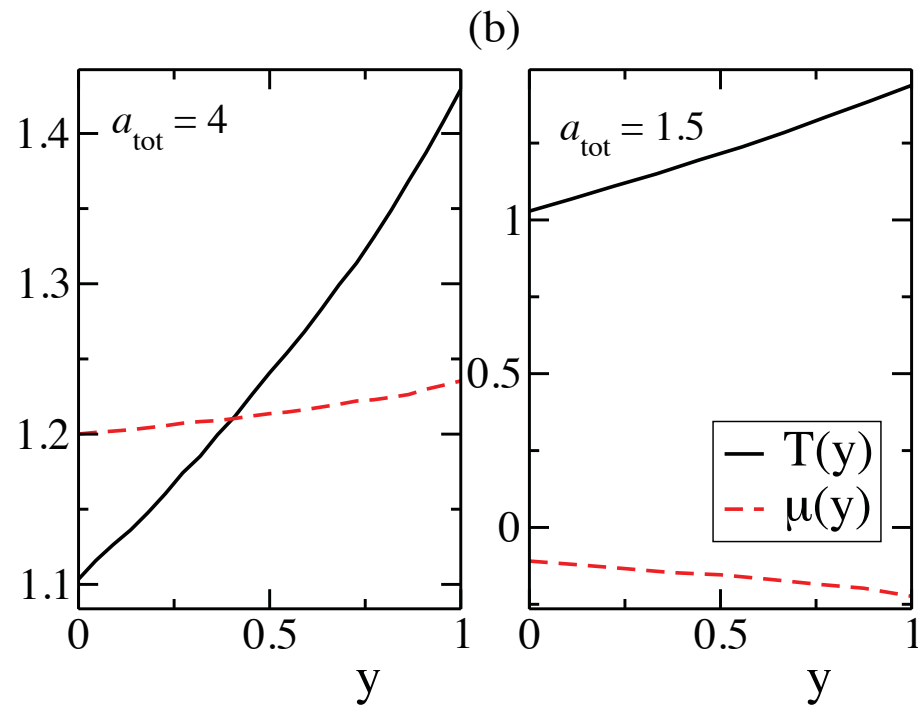
$$N = 500; \Delta T = 0.1, \Delta \mu = 0.05$$

# Linear response: Seebeck coefficient



$$S = 0 \text{ for } L_{ha}/L_{aa} = \mu$$

# Linear response

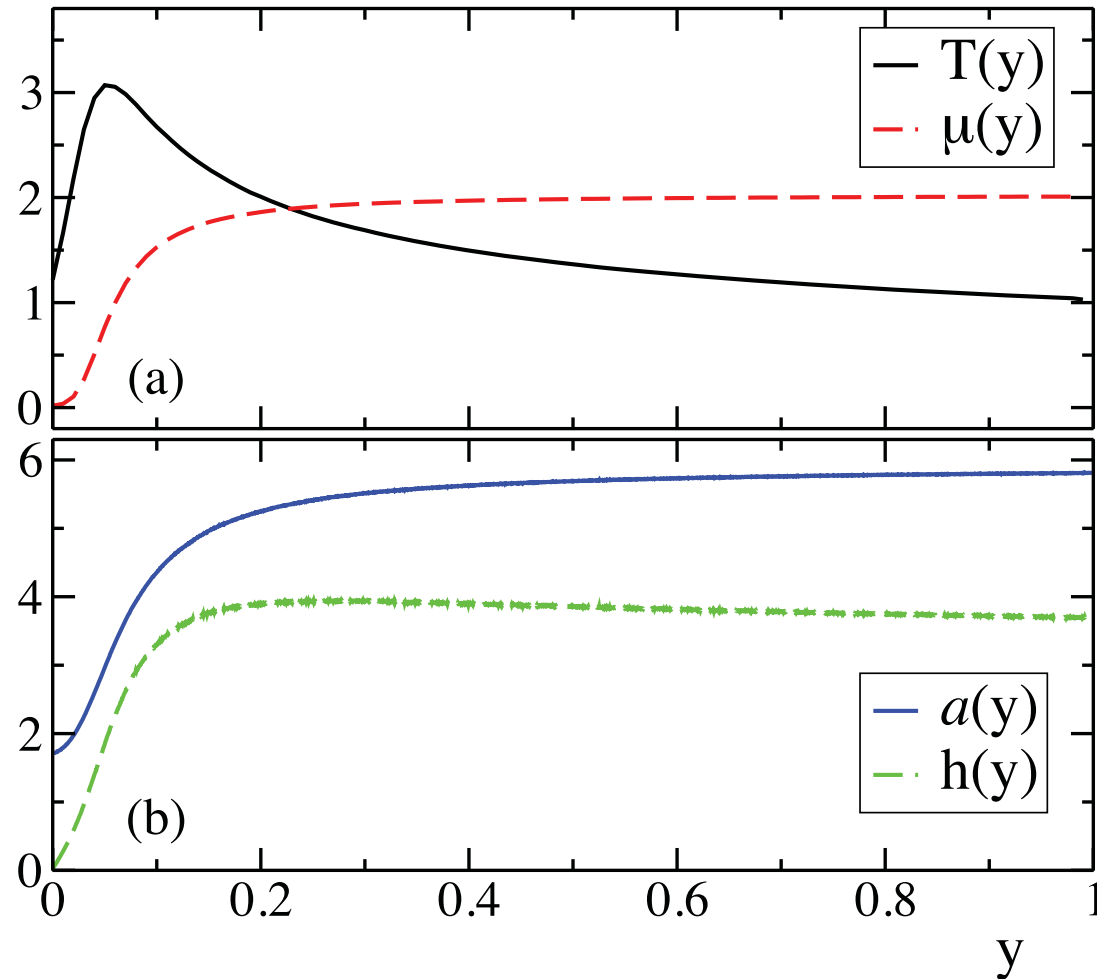


$T_L = 1, T_R = 1.5$ ; norm-conserving thermostats



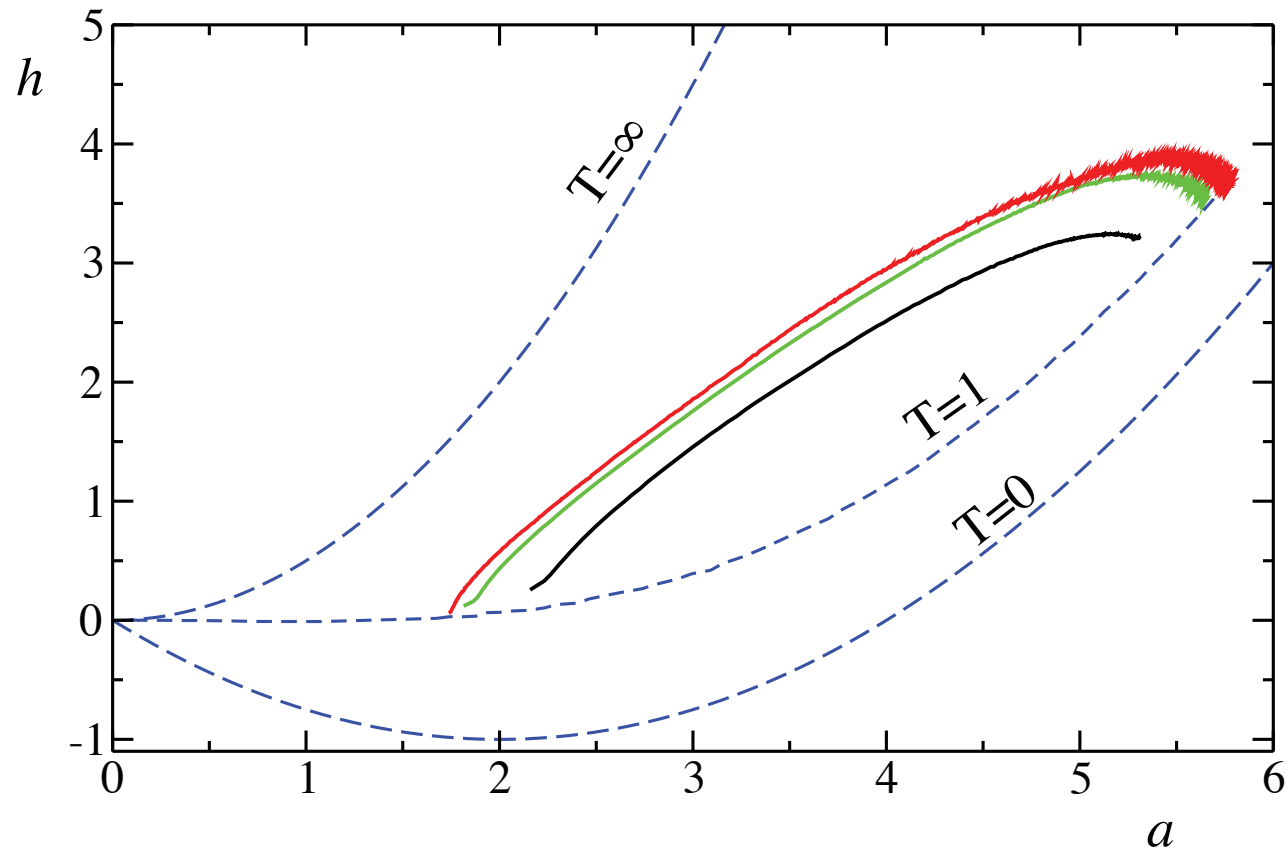
# Nonlinear regimes

Nonmonotonous profiles:



$N = 3200$  sites and  $T_L = T_R = 1$ ,  $\mu_L = 0$ ,  $\mu_R = 2$

# Nonlinear regimes



$N = 200, 800, 3200$ ,  $(a(y), h(y))$  “pushed” away from the  $T = 1$  isothermal.

# Profile reconstruction

- 1 Rewrite constitutive equations as

$$\begin{pmatrix} j_a \\ j_h \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{A}(\mu, T) \frac{d}{dy} \begin{pmatrix} \mu \\ T \end{pmatrix}$$

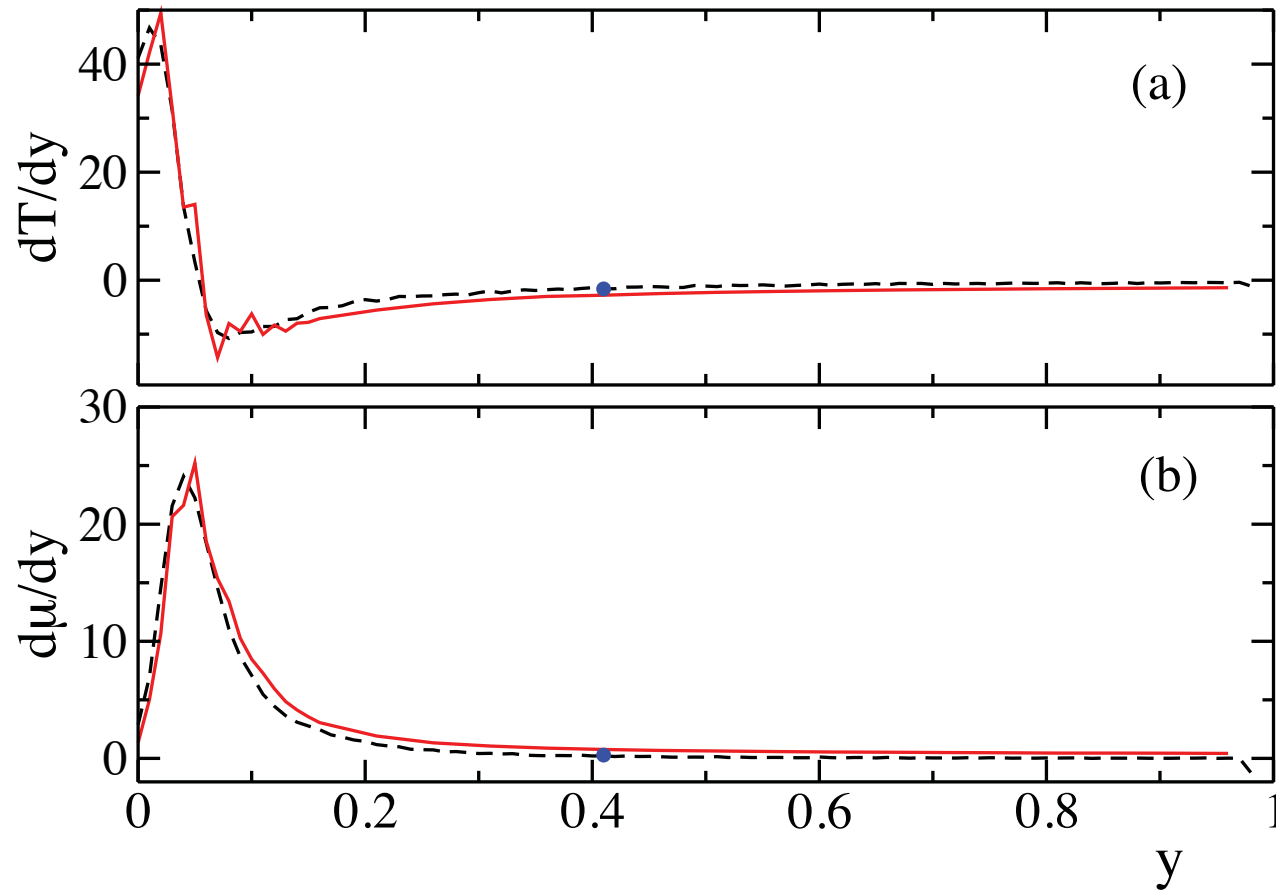
$\mathbf{A}$  is expressed in terms of  $\mathbf{L}$ ,  $T$  and  $\mu$  (e.g.  $A_{11} = -L_{aa}/T$ ).

- 2 If  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  exists

$$\frac{d}{dy} \begin{pmatrix} \mu \\ T \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}(\mu, T) \begin{pmatrix} j_a \\ j_h \end{pmatrix}$$

- 3 Compute  $\mathbf{A}$  in the linear response regime
- 4 Integrate the two "nonautonomous" linear differential equations with the numerical values  $(j_a, j_h)$  to reconstruct the profile.

# Profile reconstruction



$N = 250$ ,  $N = 1000$  (dot)

## Part II

# Driven DNLS: Nonreciprocal transmission

# A DNLS chain embedded in a linear lattice

$$i\dot{\phi}_n = V_n\phi_n - \phi_{n+1} - \phi_{n-1} + \alpha_n|\phi_n|^2\phi_n$$

Infinite lattice ,  $V_n, \alpha_n \neq 0$  only for  $1 \leq n \leq N$

Integrate out the  $\phi_n$  for  $n \leq 0$  and  $n > N$ :

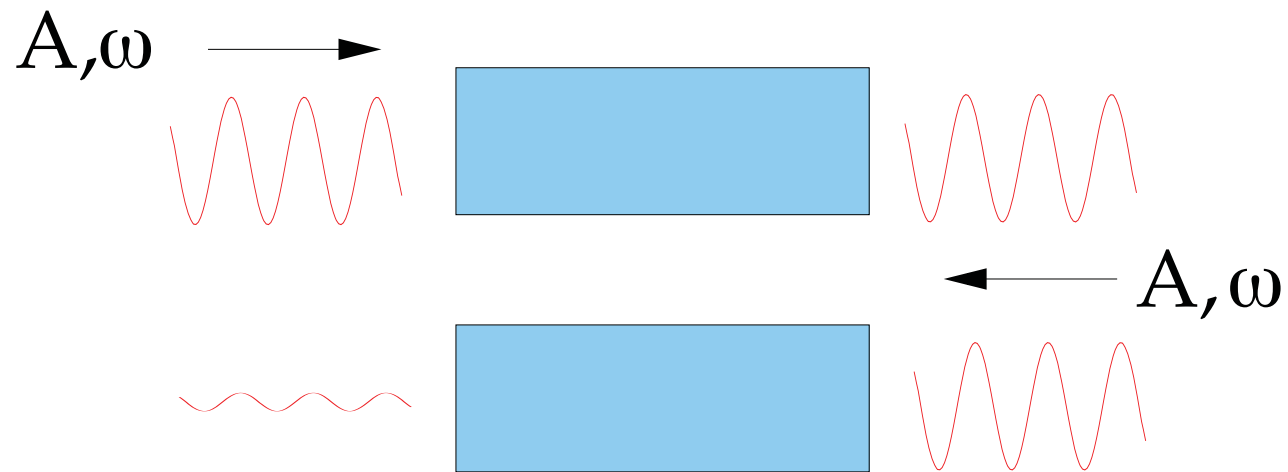
$$\phi_0(t) = F_0(t) - i \int_0^t G(t-s)\phi_1(s)ds$$

$$\phi_{N+1}(t) = F_{N+1}(t) - i \int_0^t G(t-s)\phi_N(s)ds$$

Memory term  $G(t) = J_1(2t)/t$ .

From Hamiltonian problem to *driven, dissipative*

# Motivation: the (ideal) “wave diode”

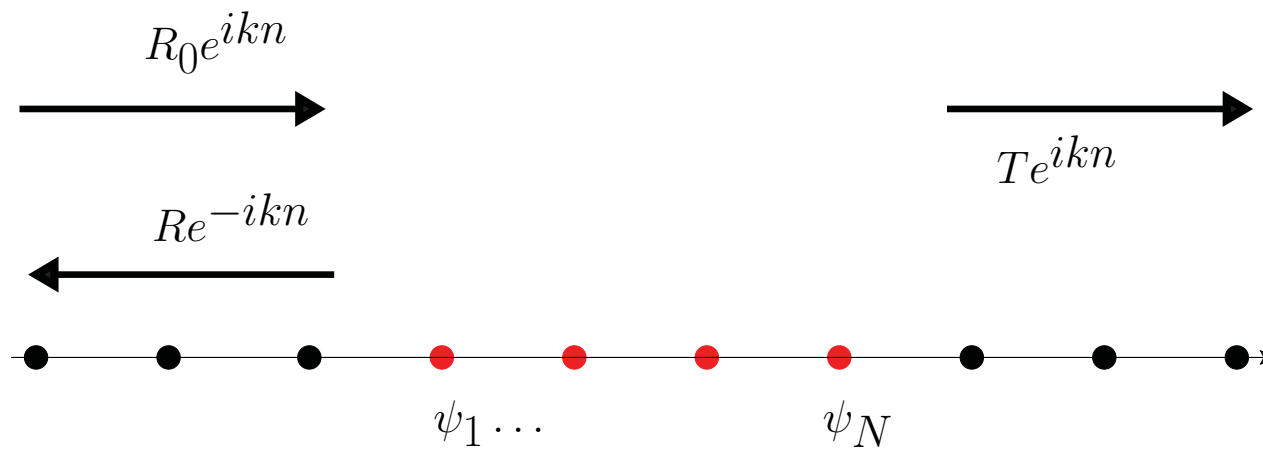


To violate the *reciprocity theorem* (without breaking time-reversal) both **asymmetry** *and* **nonlinearity** are necessary !

# Transmission problem

Stationary DNLS,  $\phi_n = \psi_n e^{-i\omega t}$ ,  $V_n \neq 0$  and  $\alpha_n \neq 0$  for  $1 \leq n \leq N$

$$\omega \psi_n = V_n \psi_n - \psi_{n+1} - \psi_{n-1} + \alpha_n |\psi_n|^2 \psi_n$$



$$\omega = -2 \cos k, \quad 0 \leq k \leq \pi$$



# Transmission problem

Look for complex solutions such that:

$$\psi_n = \begin{cases} R_0 e^{ikn} + R e^{-ikn} & n \leq 1 \\ T e^{ikn} & n \geq N \end{cases}$$

- $\psi_n$  complex, current  $J = 2|T|^2 \sin k$
- Non-mirror symmetric couplings:  $V_n \neq V_{N-n+1}$  and/or  $\alpha_n \neq \alpha_{N-n+1}$
- Convention:  $k < 0$  is for  $(V_n, \alpha_n) \longrightarrow (V_{N-n+1}, \alpha_{N-n+1})$  (“flipped sample”)
- For  $\alpha_n = 0$ : reciprocity for any  $V_n$

# Reduction to nonlinear map

Let  $u_n = \psi_n$  and  $v_n = \psi_{n+1}$ . Back iterating from  $u_N = T \exp(ikN)$ ,  
 $v_N = T \exp(ik(N + 1))$

$$u_{n-1} = -v_n + (V_n - \omega + \alpha_n |u_n|^2)u_n, \quad v_{n-1} = u_n$$

Map is area preserving.

For given  $T$  and  $k$

$$R_0 = \frac{\exp(-ik)u_0 - v_0}{\exp(-ik) - \exp(ik)}, \quad R = \frac{\exp(ik)u_0 - v_0}{\exp(ik) - \exp(-ik)}$$

Transmission coefficient

$$t(k, |T|^2) = \frac{|T|^2}{|R_0|^2}$$

## The simplest case: the dimer $N = 2$

For  $k > 0$ :

$$t = \left| \frac{e^{ik} - e^{-ik}}{1 + (\nu - e^{ik})(e^{ik} - \delta)} \right|^2$$

$$\delta = V_2 - \omega + \alpha_2 T^2, \quad \nu = V_1 - \omega + \alpha_1 T^2 [1 - 2\delta \cos k + \delta^2].$$

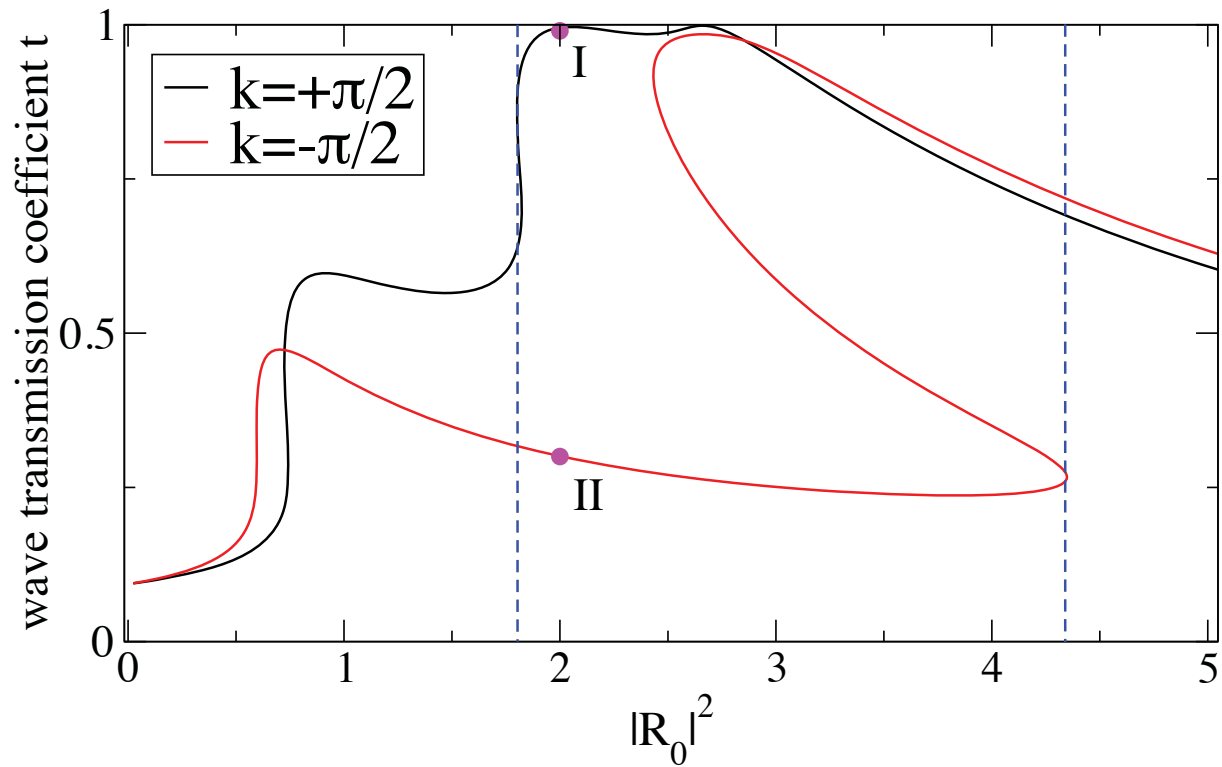
For  $k < 0$ : exchange the subscripts 1 and 2

Symmetric case ( $V_{1,2} = V_0, \alpha_{1,2} = \alpha$ ): two **nonlinear resonances**

$$V_0 + \alpha T^2 = 0 \quad (V_0 < 0)$$

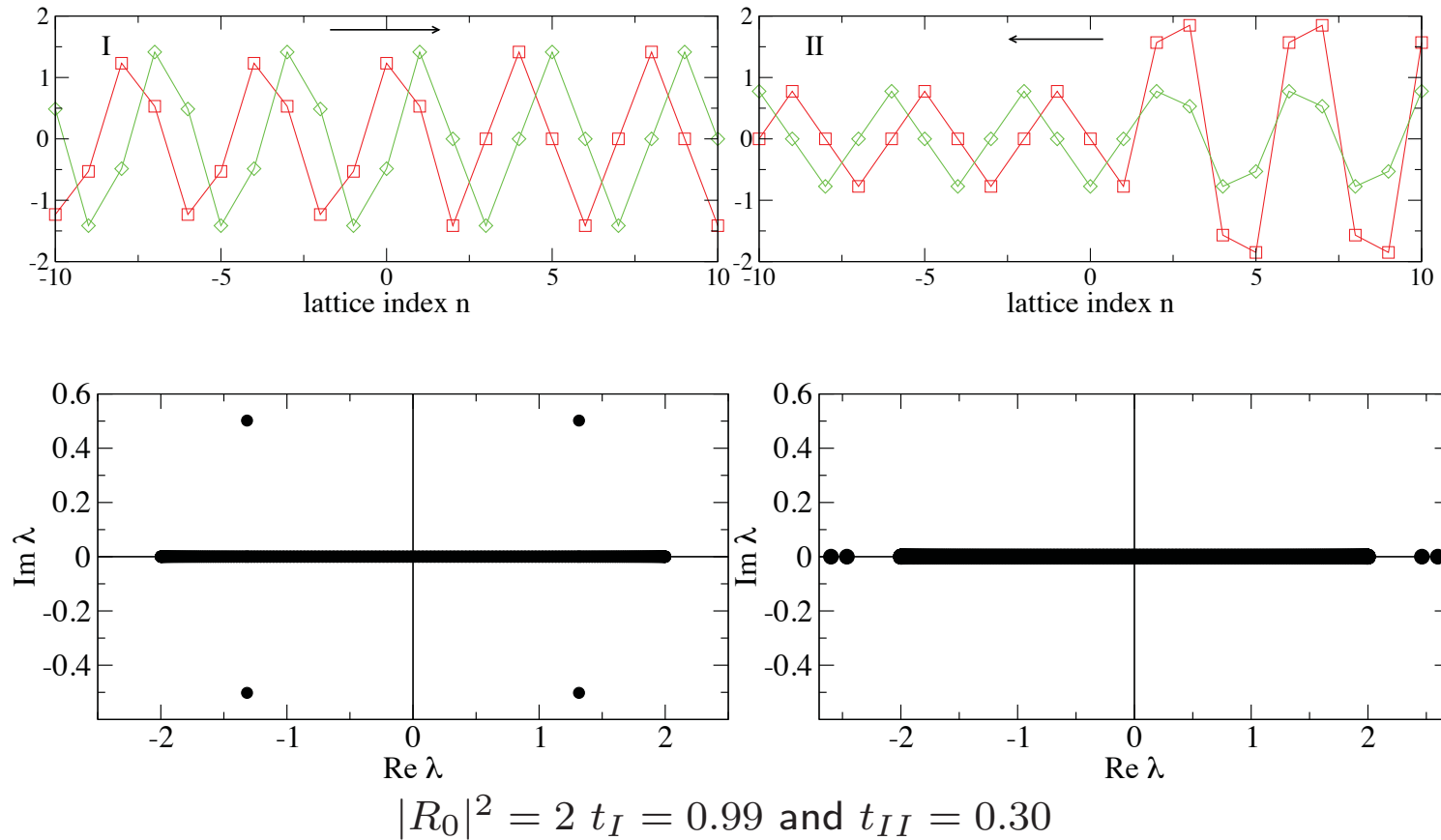
$$V_0 + \alpha T^2 = \omega \quad (V_0 < \omega)$$

# The dimer $N = 2$ : transmission curves

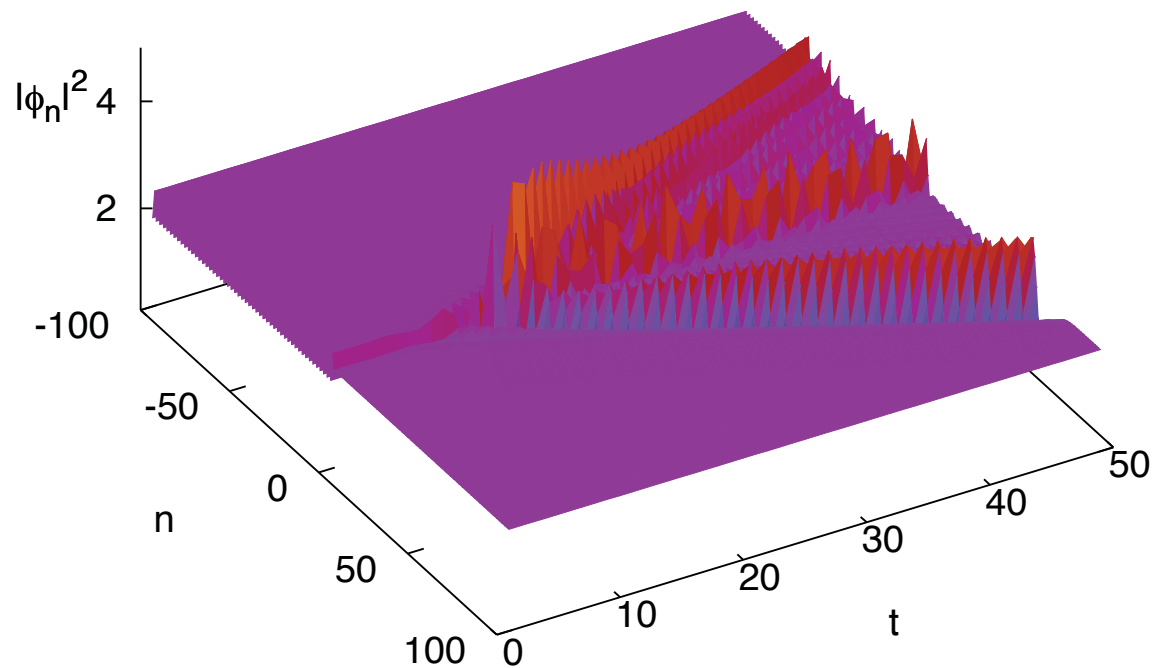


$$k = \pi/2, \alpha_n = 1, V_{1,2} = V_0(1 \pm \varepsilon) \quad V_0 = -2.5 \quad \varepsilon = 0.05.$$

# Stability

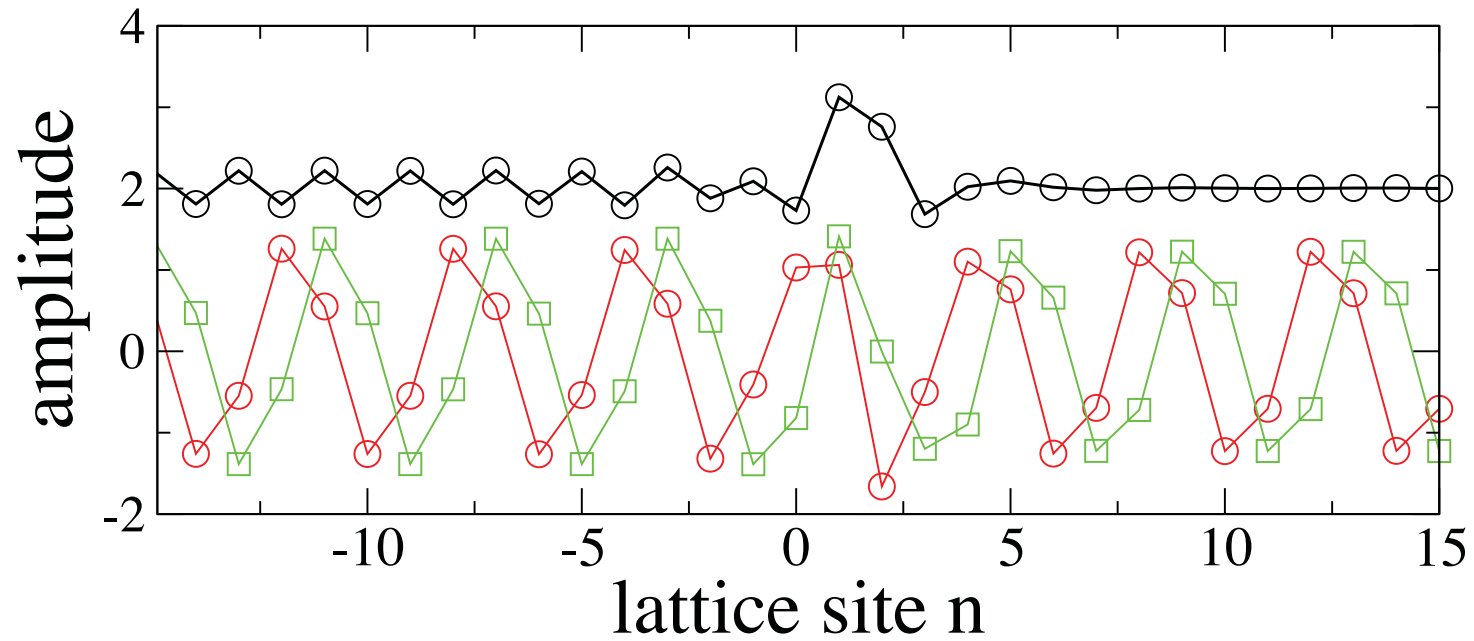


# Oscillatory instability



Radiation and birth of localized mode (with frequency outside of the phonon band) on a plane-wave background.

# Quasiperiodic solution



# Wavepacket transmission

Numerical simulation on a finite lattice  $|n| < M$

$$i\dot{\phi}_n = V_n\phi_n - \phi_{n+1} - \phi_{n-1} + \alpha_n|\phi_n|^2\phi_n$$

Initial condition: Gaussian

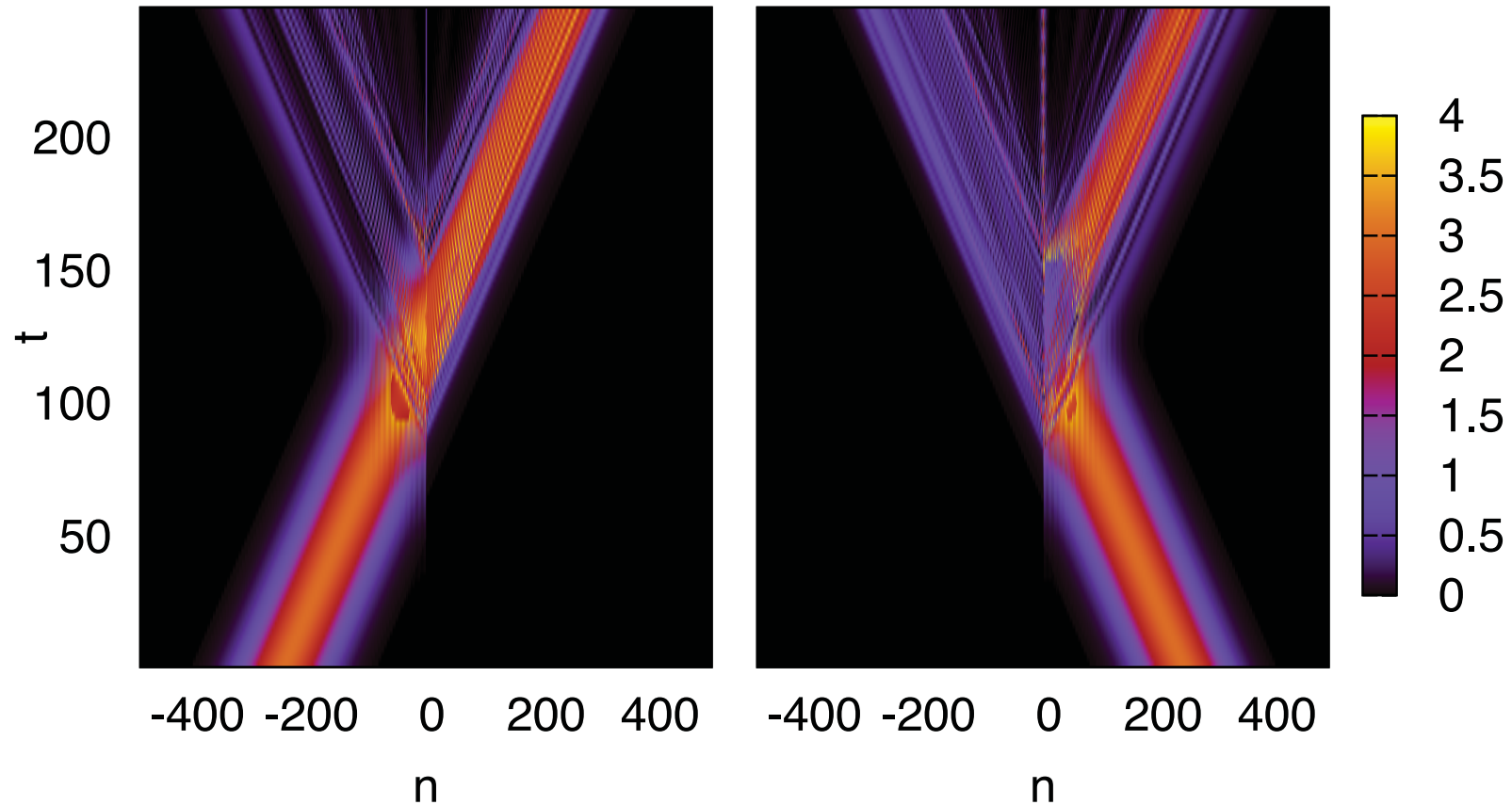
$$\phi_n(0) = I \exp \left[ -\frac{(n - n_0)^2}{w^2} + ik_0n \right]$$

Transmission coefficient (for  $n_0 < 0$ )

$$t_p = \frac{\sum_{n>N} |\phi_n(t_{fin})|^2}{\sum_{n<0} |\phi_n(0)|^2}$$



# Wavepacket transmission



# Summary

## ① Steady coupled transport

- ▶ Monte Carlo thermostats
- ▶ Normal transport, except at very low  $T$
- ▶ Nonmonotonous energy and density profiles
- ▶  $S$  changes sign increasing the interaction

## ② Driven chains: nonreciprocal transmission

- ▶ Simple modeling of “wave diode”
- ▶ Nonlinear resonances and multistability
- ▶ Oscillatory instabilities
- ▶ Nonreciprocal wavepacket transmission