Proposed Project: Finite-gap integration of monopole systems.

Background: Magnetic monopoles, or the topological soliton solutions of Yang-Mills-Higgs gauge theories in three space dimensions, have been objects of fascination for over a quarter of a century. BPS monopoles in particular have been the focus of much research. In a seminal paper, Ercolani and Sinha [ES89] sought to bring methods from integrable systems to bear upon the construction of solutions to Nahm's equations for the gauge group SU(2). They showed how one could solve (a gauge transform of) the Nahm equations in terms of a Baker-Akhiezer function. Their approach complements the twistor theoretic approach of Hitchin [Hit83] but remains remarkably challenging to implement. Recently the proposer and V.Z. Enolski have developed this approach further [BE06].

Aims: To further develop the finite gap integration of monopole systems. In particular

- To pursue the reconstruction of the gauge and Higgs fields directly using integrable systems methods.
- To express the monopole moduli space and its metric in terms of finite-gap data.
- To consider the situation when the monopole spectral curve itself covers another curve.
- To better understand the number theoretic constraints arising on the periods of the spectral curve in the particular example of charge 3 monopoles.

SISSA staff have great experience with many aspects of this project: finite gap integration, algebro-geometric expertise in coverings and explicit calculations. In addition I look forward to wider ranging discussions.

References

- [BE06] H.W. Braden and V.Z. Enolski, Remarks on the complex geometry of the 3-monopole, math-ph/0601040
- [ES89] N. Ercolani and A. Sinha, Monopoles and Baker Functions, Commun. Math. Phys. 125 (1989), 385–416.
- [Hit83] N. J. Hitchin, On the Construction of Monopoles, Commun. Math. Phys. 89 (1983), 145–190.

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