

Asymptotic Properties of a Family of Solutions of the Painlevé Equation P_{VI}

Ovidiu Costin and Rodica D. Costin

1 Introduction and setting

In analyzing the question whether nonlinear equations can define new functions with good global properties, Fuchs had the idea that a crucial feature now known as the *Painlevé property* (PP) is the absence of movable (meaning their position is solution-dependent) essential singularities, primarily branch-points, see [8]. First order equations were classified with respect to the PP by Fuchs, Briot and Bouquet, and Painlevé by 1888, and it was concluded that they give rise to no new functions. Painlevé and Gambier took this analysis to second order, looking for all equations of the form $u'' = F(u', u, z)$, with F rational in u' , algebraic in u , and analytic in z , having the PP [18, 19]. They found some fifty types with this property and succeeded to solve all but six of them in terms of previously known functions. The remaining six types are now known as the Painlevé equations. Beginning in the 1980s, almost a century after their discovery, these equations were related to linear problems (and thereby solved) by various methods including the powerful techniques of isomonodromic deformation and reduction to Riemann-Hilbert problems [3, 4, 7, 11]. The solutions of the six Painlevé equations play a fundamental role in many areas of pure and applied mathematics due to their integrability properties. In particular, there are numerous physical applications of the Painlevé P_{VI} equation (for some references see, e.g., [6]) among which we mention the problem of construction of self-dual Bianchi-type IX Einstein metrics, [2, 5, 17, 21]

the classification of the solutions of Witten-Dijkgraaf-Verlinde-Verlinde (WDVV) equation in 2D-topological field theories and probability theory, especially random matrix theory (see, e.g., [22, 23]). The connection between determinants and Painlevé equations was established in the early '70s (see [16], [24] and the references therein). The two point correlation functions for holonomic fields on the Poincaré disk are shown to be expressible in terms of P_{VI} [20].

A three parameter family of solutions of the Painlevé equation P_{VI} arises in the context of random matrix theory in a recent work of Borodin and Deift [1].

The asymptotic behavior of the solutions of the Painlevé equations is of utmost importance. The main purpose of this paper is to characterize a family of solutions of P_{VI} for large argument, relevant to the study [1]

In the σ -form these solutions satisfy (see [12, equation (C.61)], with $\nu_1 = \nu_2$)

$$\begin{aligned} u' [u''t(t-1)]^2 + [2u'(tu' - u) - u'^2 - \nu_1^2 \nu_3 \nu_4]^2 \\ = (u' + \nu_1^2)^2 (u' + \nu_3^2) (u' + \nu_4^2), \end{aligned} \quad (1.1)$$

where $\Re \nu_1 > 0$.

Equation (1.1) admits the exact solution

$$u(t) = -\nu_1^2 t + \frac{1}{2}(\nu_1^2 + \nu_3 \nu_4) \quad (1.2)$$

and a one-parameter family of solutions with the behavior for large t

$$u(t) = -\nu_1^2 t + \frac{1}{2}(\nu_1^2 + \nu_3 \nu_4) + Ct^{-2\nu_1} + O(t^{-2\nu_1-1}). \quad (1.3)$$

Proposition 1.1. For any $C \in \mathbb{C}$, equation (1.1) has a unique solution satisfying

$$u(t) = -\nu_1^2 t + \frac{1}{2}(\nu_1^2 + \nu_3 \nu_4) + Ct^{-2\nu_1} + o(t^{-2\nu_1}) \quad (1.4)$$

for $t \rightarrow \infty$ in any fixed sector \mathcal{S} . □

2 Proof of Proposition 1.1

2.1 Notation

Denote by \mathcal{F} the set of functions of the form $a(t) = f(t^{-1}, t^{-\nu_1})$ where f is analytic at $(0, 0)$. Note that the functions in \mathcal{F} are bounded for t large enough.

Let $C \in \mathbb{C}$ and denote

$$u(t) = -\nu_1^2 t + \frac{1}{2}(\nu_1^2 + \nu_3 \nu_4) + Ct^{-2\nu_1} + \Delta(t). \quad (2.1)$$

We only consider Δ such that

$$\Delta(t) = o(t^{-2\nu_1}) \quad (2.2)$$

for large t in \mathcal{S} . Then we also have, as is easy to see by the Cauchy formula,

$$\Delta'(t) = o(t^{-2\nu_1-1}), \quad \Delta''(t) = o(t^{-2\nu_1-2}) \quad (2.3)$$

for large t in the sector.

2.2 Equation for the remainder Δ

Substituting (2.1) in (1.1) we get the equation

$$T_2(\Delta'')^2 + T_1\Delta'' + T_0 = 0, \quad (2.4)$$

where T_j depend on t , Δ , and Δ' and have the form

$$\begin{aligned} T_2 &= a_2(t) - \Delta', \\ T_1 &= t^{-2-2\nu_1} b_1(t) + t^{-2-2\nu_1} a_1(t) \Delta', \\ T_0 &= t^{-5-4\nu_1} c_2(t) + t^{-4-2\nu_1} c_0(t) \Delta + t^{-3-2\nu_1} c_1(t) \Delta' + t^{-2} P, \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

where $a_j, b_j, c_j \in \mathcal{F}$, and

$$\begin{aligned} P &= d_1(t) t^{-2} \Delta' \Delta^2 + t^{-1} d_2(t) \Delta' \Delta + t^{-2} d_3(t) \Delta^2 \\ &+ (\Delta')^2 \left[q_1(t) + t^{-1} q_2(t) \Delta + t^{-2} q_3(t) \Delta^2 + q_4(t) \Delta' \right. \\ &\quad \left. + t^{-1} q_5(t) \Delta \Delta' + q_6(t) (\Delta')^2 \right] \end{aligned} \quad (2.6)$$

with $d_j, q_j \in \mathcal{F}$ (the appendix contains exact formulae). We also have

$$\begin{aligned} a_2(t) &= \nu_1^2 + O(t^{-1}), \\ c_1(t) &= 8\nu_1^4 C(2\nu_1 + 1) + O(t^{-1}), \\ c_0(t) &= -8\nu_1^4 C(2\nu_1 + 1) + O(t^{-1}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

We write (2.4) in normal form, solved for Δ'' , and we separate the dominant terms.

Lemma 2.1. The function Δ satisfies the equation

$$\Delta'' + 2\nu_1 t^{-1} \Delta' - 2\nu_1 t^{-2} \Delta = R, \quad (2.8)$$

where R depends on t , Δ , and Δ' , and gathers smaller terms

$$R = t^{-3-2\nu_1} \tilde{c}_4 + F_{1s} + \tilde{R}_2 - \tau, \quad (2.9)$$

where the terms are given by (A.10), (A.14), (A.15), (A.16), and (2.14). \square

Proof of Lemma 2.1. From (2.4) we have

$$\Delta'' = \frac{-T_1 \pm \sqrt{T_1^2 - 4T_0 T_2}}{2T_2}. \quad (2.10)$$

The minus choice in (2.10) is not consistent with (2.3). Indeed, since $T_0 T_2 / T_2^2 = o(1)$ we have

$$\frac{-T_1 - \sqrt{T_1^2 - 4T_0 T_2}}{2T_2} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{T_1}{T_2} (2 + o(1)) \quad (2.11)$$

which is of order $t^{-2\nu_1-2}$, hence is not $o(t^{-2\nu_1-2})$.

Thus

$$\Delta'' = \frac{-T_1 + \sqrt{T_1^2 - 4T_0 T_2}}{2T_2} = -\frac{2T_0}{T_1} \frac{1}{1 + \sqrt{1 - \frac{4T_0 T_2}{T_1^2}}} \equiv F(t, \Delta, \Delta'). \quad (2.12)$$

To separate the dominant linear part of (2.12) we rewrite F as

$$F(t, \Delta, \Delta') = -\frac{T_0}{T_1} - \tau, \quad (2.13)$$

where

$$\tau = 4 \left(\frac{T_0}{T_1} \right)^2 \frac{T_2}{T_1} \frac{1}{\left(1 + \sqrt{1 - \frac{4T_0 T_2}{T_1^2}} \right)^2}. \quad (2.14)$$

A direct calculation of T_0/T_1 yields (2.8) (see Section A.5 for details). \blacksquare

2.3 Integral equations for Δ and Δ'

The left-hand side of (2.8) has the solutions t and $t^{-2\nu_1}$, hence (2.8) can be written in integral form as

$$\Delta(t) = \frac{1}{2\nu_1 + 1} \left[t \int_{\infty}^t R(s) ds - t^{-2\nu_1} \int_{\infty}^t s^{1+2\nu_1} R(s) ds \right]. \quad (2.15)$$

Denote

$$\Delta_1 = \Delta, \quad \Delta_2 = \Delta'. \quad (2.16)$$

Equation (2.15) becomes the system of first-order integral equations for (Δ_1, Δ_2)

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1(t) &= \frac{1}{2\nu_1 + 1} \left[t \int_{\infty}^t R(s) ds - t^{-2\nu_1} \int_{\infty}^t s^{1+2\nu_1} R(s) ds \right] \equiv J_1(\Delta_1, \Delta_2), \\ \Delta_2(t) &= \frac{1}{2\nu_1 + 1} \left[\int_{\infty}^t R(s) ds + 2\nu_1 t^{-1-2\nu_1} \int_{\infty}^t s^{1+2\nu_1} R(s) ds \right] \equiv J_2(\Delta_1, \Delta_2). \end{aligned} \quad (2.17)$$

2.4 Existence and uniqueness of $\Delta = O(t^{-1-2\nu_1})$

Consider the domain

$$D = \{t \in \mathbb{C}; |t| > \rho, \arg t \in (A, B)\}, \quad (2.18)$$

where ρ will be chosen large enough and $A < B < A + 2\pi$. (Sectors of larger angles can be considered on the Riemann surface above $\mathbb{C} \setminus 0$.)

Let \mathcal{B} be the Banach space of pairs $\Delta = (\Delta_1, \Delta_2)$ of analytic function on D , continuous on \bar{D} with

$$\|\Delta\| \equiv \max \left\{ \sup_{t \in \bar{D}} t^{1+2\nu_1} |\Delta_1(t)|, \sup_{t \in \bar{D}} t^{2+2\nu_1} |\Delta_2(t)| \right\} < \infty. \quad (2.19)$$

We will show that the integral operator $J = (J_1, J_2)$ defined by (2.17) applies a ball of \mathcal{B} into itself and is a contraction there. This implies that (2.17) has a unique solution in \mathcal{B} .

2.4.1 J applies a ball of \mathcal{B} into itself. Let \mathcal{B}_M be the ball of elements of $\Delta \in \mathcal{B}$ of norm at most M , we have $|\Delta_1| \leq Mt^{-1-2\nu_1}$ and $|\Delta_2| \leq Mt^{-2-2\nu_1}$.

From (A.14)

$$|F_{1s}| \leq \text{const } |t|^{-4} \left(|t|^{-2\nu_1} |\Delta| + |t|^{-2\nu_1-1} |\Delta'| \right), \quad (2.20)$$

hence for $(\Delta, \Delta') \in \mathcal{B}_M$,

$$|F_{1s}| \leq \text{const } |t|^{-4-2\nu_1} M. \quad (2.21)$$

To estimate \tilde{R}_2 from (A.15) we note that for $(\Delta, \Delta') \in \mathcal{B}_M$ we have $|S_{1,2}| \leq |t|^{-1}$ (see (A.8) for notations) and we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\tilde{R}_2| &\leq \text{const } |t|^{-4-2\nu_1} M^2 \left[1 + M|t|^{-2-2\nu_1} + (M|t|^{-2-2\nu_1})^2 \right] \\ &\quad \times (1 - M|t|^{-2-2\nu_1})^{-1}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.22)$$

From (2.9), (2.21), (2.22), (A.22), (A.25), and (A.27) we get

$$|R| \leq K|t|^{-3-2\nu_1} (1 + t^{-1} \Phi(M, t)), \quad (2.23)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(M, t) &= M + M^2 \left[1 + M|t|^{-2-2\nu_1} + (M|t|^{-2-2\nu_1})^2 \right] (1 - M|t|^{-2-2\nu_1})^{-1} \\ &\quad + \left[1 + M + M^2 t^{-1} + (M^3 + M^4) t^{-3-2\nu_1} \right]^2 \\ &\quad \times (1 + M t^{-2-2\nu_1}) (1 - M t^{-2-2\nu_1})^{-3} \end{aligned} \quad (2.24)$$

and K is independent of M .

For $|t| > \rho$, (2.23) implies

$$|R| \leq K|t|^{-3-2\nu_1} (1 + \rho^{-1} \Phi(M, \rho)) \quad (2.25)$$

therefore, from (2.17) we get

$$\begin{aligned} |J_1(\Delta_1, \Delta_2)| &\leq K' t^{-1-2\nu_1} (1 + \rho^{-1} \Phi(M, \rho)), \\ |J_2(\Delta_1, \Delta_2)| &\leq K' t^{-2-2\nu_1} (1 + \rho^{-1} \Phi(M, \rho)). \end{aligned} \quad (2.26)$$

Choosing $M > K'$ and then ρ_0 large enough, it follows that for any $\rho > \rho_0$ the operator J applies the ball \mathcal{B}_M into itself.

2.4.2 J is a contraction on \mathcal{B}_M . The parameter M is now fixed by [Section 2.4.1](#) (hence the constants in the estimates of the present section may depend on M); ρ will be chosen large enough.

Let $\Delta^{[1]}, \Delta^{[2]}$ be two elements in \mathcal{B}_M .

From [\(A.14\)](#) we see that

$$\left| \tilde{F}_{1s}(\Delta^{[1]}) - \tilde{F}_{1s}(\Delta^{[2]}) \right| \leq \text{const } t^{-4-2\nu_1} \left\| \Delta^{[1]} - \Delta^{[2]} \right\| \quad (2.27)$$

and, from [\(A.15\)](#) we get

$$\left| \tilde{R}_2(\Delta^{[1]}) - \tilde{R}_2(\Delta^{[2]}) \right| \leq \text{const } t^{-4-2\nu_1} \left\| \Delta^{[1]} - \Delta^{[2]} \right\| \quad (2.28)$$

(see [Section A.6](#) for details).

We also have

$$\left| \tau(\Delta^{[1]}) - \tau(\Delta^{[2]}) \right| \leq \text{const } t^{-4-2\nu_1} \left\| \Delta^{[1]} - \Delta^{[2]} \right\|. \quad (2.29)$$

The details are in [Section A.7](#).

Then from [\(2.17\)](#)

$$\left\| J(\Delta^{[1]}) - J(\Delta^{[2]}) \right\| \leq \kappa t^{-1} \left\| \Delta^{[1]} - \Delta^{[2]} \right\| \quad (2.30)$$

which shows that J is a contraction on \mathcal{B}_M if ρ is large enough.

Then [\(2.17\)](#) has a unique solution in \mathcal{B}_M .

2.5 Uniqueness of $\Delta = o(t^{-2\nu_1})$

Let Δ be a solution of [\(2.8\)](#) satisfying $\Delta = o(t^{-2\nu_1})$ for large t in a sector. We now show that, in fact, $\Delta = O(t^{-1-2\nu_1})$ which completes the proof of [Proposition 1.1](#).

Note that we have $\Delta' = o(t^{-1-2\nu_1})$.

For any $\epsilon > 0$ there exists $\rho > 0$ such that

$$|\Delta| \leq \epsilon |t|^{-2\nu_1}, \quad |\Delta'| \leq \epsilon |t|^{-1-2\nu_1}, \quad (2.31)$$

for $|t| > \rho$ in the sector.

From [\(A.13\)](#) we get

$$|F_{1s}| \leq \text{const } \epsilon |t|^{-3-2\nu_1}. \quad (2.32)$$

From (A.15) and the estimates of Section A.8.1 we get

$$|\tilde{\mathbb{R}}_2| \leq \text{const } \epsilon (|t^{-2}\Delta| + |t^{-1}\Delta'|) + \text{const } \epsilon^2 |t^{-3}\mathbb{T}^{-4}|. \quad (2.33)$$

Using (A.22), (A.31), and the estimates detailed in Section A.8.2 we get that also τ has an upper bound of the form of the right-hand side of (2.33).

Then from (2.9), (2.32), and (2.33) it follows that

$$|\mathbb{R}| \leq \text{const} \left(|t^{-3-2\nu_1}| + \epsilon |t^{-2}\Delta| + \epsilon |t^{-1}\Delta'| + \epsilon^2 |t^{-3}\mathbb{T}^{-4}| \right). \quad (2.34)$$

This shows that (in the notations (2.16)) the integrals in (2.17) are convergent, so the solution Δ of (1.1) satisfies (2.17).

Denote

$$\|(\Delta_1, \Delta_2)\| = \sup_t \{|\Delta_1|, |t\Delta_2|\}. \quad (2.35)$$

Using (2.34) in (2.17) we get

$$\begin{aligned} |\Delta_1| &\leq \text{const} \left(|t^{-1-2\nu_1}| + \epsilon \|(\Delta_1, \Delta_2)\| \right), \\ |\Delta_2| &\leq \text{const} \left(|t^{-2-2\nu_1}| + \epsilon |t|^{-1} \|(\Delta_1, \Delta_2)\| \right), \end{aligned} \quad (2.36)$$

hence

$$\|(\Delta_1, \Delta_2)\| \leq \text{const} \sup |t^{-1-2\nu_1}| \quad \text{for } |t| > \rho, \quad (2.37)$$

so that $\Delta = O(t^{-1-2\nu_1})$ and the proof of Proposition 1.1 is complete.

Appendix

A.1 Notation

$$\mathbb{T} = t^{\nu_1}. \quad (A.1)$$

A.2 The expression of \mathbb{T}_2

$$\mathbb{T}_2 = -\Delta'(t) - \frac{\nu_1(2\nu_1 t - t^2\nu_1 - \nu_1 - 2t^{-1-2\nu_1}C + 4Ct^{-2\nu_1} - 2t^{1-2\nu_1}C)}{(t-1)^2}. \quad (A.2)$$

A.3 The expression of T_1

$$\begin{aligned}
(t-1)^2 T_1 &= 4C\nu_1(2\nu_1+1)\left(-t^{-2\nu_1} - t^{-2-2\nu_1} + 2t^{-1-2\nu_1}\right)\Delta'(t) + 4C\nu_1^2(2\nu_1+1) \\
&\quad \times \left[t^{-2-2\nu_1}\nu_1 + t^{-2\nu_1}\nu_1 - 2t^{-1-2\nu_1}\nu_1 + 2t^{-1-4\nu_1}C \right. \\
&\quad \left. - 4t^{-2-4\nu_1}C + 2t^{-3-4\nu_1}C \right].
\end{aligned} \tag{A.3}$$

A.4 The expression of T_0

$$T_0 = L_{00} + L_{01}\Delta + L_{02}\Delta' + R_{em}, \tag{A.4}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
L_{00} &= -4\nu_1^3 C^2 \left[(4\nu_1^3 + 6\nu_1^2 + 4\nu_1\nu_3\nu_4 + 2\nu_3\nu_4 + 2\nu_1)t \right. \\
&\quad \left. - 4\nu_1^2 - \nu_1 + \nu_1\nu_4^2 - 4\nu_1^3 - 2\nu_1\nu_3\nu_4 + \nu_1\nu_3^2 \right] \frac{1}{t^4(t-1)^2 T^4} \\
&\quad - 8C^3\nu_1^2 \left((4\nu_1^2 + 4\nu_1^3 + \nu_1)t^2 + (2\nu_1 + 4\nu_1^2 + 4\nu_1\nu_3\nu_4 + 2\nu_3\nu_4)t \right. \\
&\quad \left. - 4\nu_1^2 - \nu_1 + \nu_1\nu_4^2 - 4\nu_1^3 - 2\nu_1\nu_3\nu_4 + \nu_1\nu_3^2 \right) \frac{1}{t^5(t-1)^2 T^6} \\
&\quad - 16 \frac{(1+2\nu_1)C^4\nu_1^2((1+2\nu_1)t-2\nu_1)}{t^5(t-1)^2 T^8}, \\
L_{01} &= -8 \frac{C\nu_1^3((\nu_1+2\nu_1^2)t+\nu_3\nu_4-\nu_1^2)}{t^3(t-1)^2 T^2} \\
&\quad - 16 \frac{\nu_1^2 C^2((2\nu_1+4\nu_1^2)t-2\nu_1^2+\nu_3\nu_4)}{t^4(t-1)^2 T^4} - 32 \frac{C^3\nu_1^2((1+2\nu_1)t-\nu_1)}{t^5(t-1)^2 T^6}.
\end{aligned} \tag{A.5}$$

Also

$$\begin{aligned}
L_{02} &= \frac{4}{t^3(t-1)^2 T^2} \nu_1^2 C \left[(2\nu_1^2 + 4\nu_1^3)t^2 + (-\nu_1^2 + 4\nu_1\nu_3\nu_4 + \nu_3\nu_4 - 4\nu_1^3)t \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \nu_1\nu_3^2 - 2\nu_1\nu_3\nu_4 + \nu_1\nu_4^2 \right] \\
&\quad + \frac{4}{t^4(t-1)^2 T^4} \nu_1 C^2 \left((12\nu_1^2 + \nu_1 + 20\nu_1^3)t^2 \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (12\nu_1\nu_3\nu_4 - 16\nu_1^3 + 4\nu_3\nu_4 + 2\nu_1)t \right. \\
&\quad \left. + 3\nu_1\nu_3^2 - 4\nu_1^3 - 4\nu_1^2 + 3\nu_1\nu_4^2 - \nu_1 - 6\nu_1\nu_3\nu_4 \right) \\
&\quad + \frac{16}{t^4(t-1)^2 T^6} \nu_1 C^3 \left((6\nu_1 + 1 + 8\nu_1^2)t - 8\nu_1^2 - 3\nu_1 \right).
\end{aligned} \tag{A.6}$$

Finally

$$\begin{aligned}
R_{em} = & -4 \frac{\Delta'^4}{(t-1)t} + \frac{(8t-4)\Delta'^3\Delta}{t^2(t-1)^2} \\
& + \left(\frac{8t^2\nu_1^2 + 4\nu_3\nu_4t - 2\nu_3\nu_4 + \nu_4^2 - 8\nu_1^2t + \nu_3^2}{t^2(t-1)^2} \right. \\
& \quad \left. + 4 \frac{C(-8\nu_1 + 2t + 8\nu_1t - 1)}{t^2(t-1)^2T^2} \right) \Delta'^3 - 4 \frac{\Delta'^2\Delta^2}{t^2(t-1)^2} \\
& + \left(-2 \frac{C(24\nu_1t - 12\nu_1 + 4t)}{t^3(t-1)^2T^2} - \frac{16\nu_1^2t + 4\nu_3\nu_4 - 8\nu_1^2}{t^2(t-1)^2} \right) \Delta'^2\Delta \\
& + \left(-2 \frac{1}{t^3(t-1)^2T^2} C(2\nu_3\nu_4t + 8t^2\nu_1^2 - 6\nu_1\nu_3\nu_4 + 12\nu_1\nu_3\nu_4t \right. \\
& \quad \left. - 24\nu_1^3t + 3\nu_1\nu_3^2 + 24\nu_1^3t^2 + 3\nu_1\nu_4^2 - 4\nu_1^2t) \right. \\
& \quad \left. - 4 \frac{C^2(t + 12\nu_1t - 24\nu_1^2 - 6\nu_1 + 24\nu_1^2t)}{t^3(t-1)^2T^4} \right. \\
& \quad \left. - \frac{-4\nu_1^4t - 2\nu_1^2\nu_3\nu_4 + 4\nu_1^2\nu_3\nu_4t + \nu_1^2\nu_4^2 + \nu_3^2\nu_1^2 + 4\nu_1^4t^2}{t^2(t-1)^2} \right) \Delta'^2 \\
& + \left(8 \frac{\nu_1^2}{t^2(t-1)^2} + 16 \frac{C\nu_1}{t^3(t-1)^2T^2} \right) \Delta'\Delta^2 \\
& + \left(16 \frac{C^2\nu_1(2t - 3\nu_1 + 6\nu_1t)}{(t-1)^2t^4T^4} + 4 \frac{\nu_1^2(-\nu_1^2 + 2\nu_1^2t + \nu_3\nu_4)}{t^2(t-1)^2} \right. \\
& \quad \left. + 16 \frac{C\nu_1(4\nu_1^2t + \nu_3\nu_4 - 2\nu_1^2 + \nu_1t)}{t^3(t-1)^2T^2} \right) \Delta'\Delta \\
& - 4 \frac{\nu_1^4\Delta^2}{t^2(t-1)^2} - 16 \frac{\Delta^2\nu_1^3C}{t^3(t-1)^2T^2} - 16 \left(\frac{\Delta\nu_1C}{(t-1)t^2T^2} \right)^2.
\end{aligned} \tag{A.7}$$

A.5 Splitting of terms of T_0/T_1

We introduce the notations

$$S_1 = t^{2\nu_1}\Delta, \quad S_2 = t^{1+2\nu_1}\Delta'. \tag{A.8}$$

Note that in the assumptions of [Proposition 1.1](#) we have $S_1, S_2 = o(1)$, and for $(\Delta, \Delta') \in \mathcal{B}$ we have $S_1, S_2 = O(t^{-1})$.

Separating the terms of T_0/T_1 by degree and dominance we have

$$\frac{T_0}{T_1} = F_0 + F_{1d} + F_{1s} + \tilde{R}_2, \quad (\text{A.9})$$

where

$$F_0 = \frac{c_2}{b_1 t^3 T^2} \equiv \tilde{c}_4 t^{-3-2\nu_1}. \quad (\text{A.10})$$

The linear terms are

$$F_{1d} + F_{1s} = \frac{c_0 \Delta}{b_1 t^2} + \left(\frac{c_1}{b_1} + \frac{c_2 a_1}{t^2 T^2 b_1^2} \right) \Delta' t^{-1} \quad (\text{A.11})$$

and noting that

$$\frac{c_0}{a_1} = 2\nu_1 + t^{-1} \tilde{c}_5, \quad \frac{c_1}{a_1} = -2\nu_1 + t^{-1} \tilde{c}_6, \quad \tilde{c}_{5,6} \in \mathcal{F}, \quad (\text{A.12})$$

we separate the dominant linear terms and write

$$F_{1d} = 2\nu_1 t^{-2} \Delta - 2\nu_1 t^{-1} \Delta', \quad (\text{A.13})$$

$$F_{1s} = t^{-3} \tilde{c}_5 \Delta + t^{-2} \tilde{c}_6 \Delta'. \quad (\text{A.14})$$

Finally, the terms which are at least quadratic are

$$\tilde{R}_2 = \frac{N}{a_1 \Delta' + b_1}, \quad (\text{A.15})$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} N = & \frac{q_3 S_1^2 S_2^2}{T^6 t^4} + \frac{q_2 S_2^2 S_1}{T^4 t^3} + \frac{q_5 S_1 S_2^3}{T^6 t^4} + \frac{d_1 S_2 S_1^2}{T^4 t^3} + \left(-\frac{c_0 a_1}{b_1 t^3 T^4} + \frac{d_2}{T^2 t^2} \right) S_2 S_1 \\ & + \frac{q_6 S_2^4}{T^6 t^4} + \frac{q_4 S_2^3}{T^4 t^3} + \frac{d_3 S_1^2}{T^2 t^2} + \left(-\frac{c_1 a_1}{b_1 t^3 T^4} + \frac{c_2 a_1^2}{t^5 T^6 b_1^2} + \frac{q_1}{T^2 t^2} \right) S_2^2. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.16})$$

A.6 Estimate of $\tilde{R}_2(\Delta^{[1]}) - \tilde{R}_2(\Delta^{[2]})$

The estimate is straightforward; below we provide details. Denote, for simplicity,

$$\begin{aligned} N(\Delta^{[j]}) &= N^{[j]}, & S_k(\Delta^{[j]}) &= S_k^{[j]}, & S^{[j]} &= \max \{ |S_1|^{[j]}, |S_2|^{[j]} \}, \\ S &= \max \{ S^{[1]}, S^{[2]} \}, & |\Delta| &= \max \{ |\Delta_1|, |\Delta_2| \}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.17})$$

We write

$$\left| \tilde{R}_2(\Delta^{[1]}) - \tilde{R}_2(\Delta^{[2]}) \right| \leq \frac{|N^{[1]} - N^{[2]}|}{|a_1 \Delta_2^{[1]} + b_1|} + \frac{|N^{[2]}| |a_1| |\Delta_2^{[1]} - \Delta_2^{[2]}|}{|a_1 \Delta_2^{[1]} + b_1| |a_1 \Delta_2^{[2]} + b_1|}. \quad (\text{A.18})$$

We have

$$|N^{[1]} - N^{[2]}| \leq \text{const} |S^{[1]} - S^{[2]}| \left(t^{-2} T^{-2} S + t^{-3} T^{-4} S^2 + t^{-4} T^{-6} S^3 \right) \quad (\text{A.19})$$

(where the constant depends on ρ_0) and since $\|\Delta\| = \sup_t |tS|$ we get

$$|N^{[1]} - N^{[2]}| \leq \text{const} t^{-4} T^{-2} \|\Delta^{[1]} - \Delta^{[2]}\|. \quad (\text{A.20})$$

Also

$$\left| N^{[2]} \right| \leq \text{const} t^{-2} T^{-2} S^2 + t^{-3} T^{-4} S^3 + t^{-4} T^{-6} S^4. \quad (\text{A.21})$$

The estimate (2.28) follows from (A.18), (A.20), and (A.21).

A.7 Estimate of τ

A direct calculation shows that (see (2.9) for the definition of τ)

$$\tau = Q^2 F, \quad (\text{A.22})$$

where

$$F = \frac{\alpha_2 - \Delta'}{(\alpha_1 + b_1 \Delta')^3} \frac{1}{\left(1 + \sqrt{1 - \frac{4T_0 T_2}{T_1^2}} \right)^2}, \quad (\text{A.23})$$

$$Q = \frac{q_4 S_2^3}{T^3 t^2} + \frac{q_3 S_1^2 S_2^2}{T^5 t^3} + \frac{q_6 S_2^4}{T^5 t^3} + \frac{d_3 S_1^2}{T t} + \frac{c_1 S_2}{T t} + \frac{c_2}{T t^2} + \frac{c_0 S_1}{T t} \\ + 2 \frac{d_1 S_2 S_1^2}{T^3 t^2} + \frac{q_2 S_2^2 S_1}{T^3 t^2} + \frac{d_2 S_2 S_1}{T t} + \frac{q_1 S_2^2}{T t}. \quad (\text{A.24})$$

Note that on \mathcal{B}_M we have

$$|Q| \leq K T^{-1} t^{-2} A(M, t), \quad (\text{A.25})$$

where

$$A(M, t) = 1 + M + M^2 t^{-1} + (M^3 + M^4) T^{-2} t^{-3}, \quad (\text{A.26})$$

and

$$|F| \leq KB(M, t), \quad (\text{A.27})$$

where

$$B(M, t) = (1 + MT^{-2} t^{-2})(1 - MT^{-2} t^{-2})^{-3}, \quad (\text{A.28})$$

and K is a constant independent of M .

We use the notations of [Section A.6](#).

To estimate the difference $\tau^{[1]} - \tau^{[2]}$ of values of τ on two elements $\Delta^{[1]}, \Delta^{[2]}$ of \mathcal{B}_M we write

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| (Q^{[1]})^2 F^{[1]} - (Q^{[2]})^2 F^{[2]} \right| \\ &= \left| (Q^{[1]} - Q^{[2]}) (Q^{[1]} + Q^{[2]}) F^{[1]} + (Q^{[2]})^2 (F^{[1]} - F^{[2]}) \right| \\ &\leq 2QF |Q^{[1]} - Q^{[2]}| + Q^2 |F^{[1]} - F^{[2]}|. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.29})$$

Since

$$|Q| \leq \text{const} \left(t^{-2} T^{-1} + t^{-1} T^{-1} (S + S^2) + t^{-2} T^{-3} S^3 + t^{-3} T^{-5} S^4 \right), \quad (\text{A.30})$$

then on \mathcal{B}_M we have $|Q| \leq \text{const} t^{-2} T^{-1}$. Also

$$|F| \leq \text{const}. \quad (\text{A.31})$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| Q^{[1]} - Q^{[2]} \right| \leq \text{const} t^{-2} T^{-1} \left\| \Delta^{[1]} - \Delta^{[2]} \right\|, \\ & \left| F^{[1]} - F^{[2]} \right| \leq \text{const} \left(\left| \Delta_2^{[1]} - \Delta_2^{[2]} \right| + t^{-1} \left| \Delta_1^{[1]} - \Delta_1^{[2]} \right| \right) \leq t^{-3} T^{-2} \left\| \Delta^{[1]} - \Delta^{[2]} \right\|. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.32})$$

The estimate [\(2.29\)](#) follows.

A.8 Estimates under the assumptions of [Section 2.5](#)

Note that in the assumptions of [Section 2.5](#) we have $|S_{1,2}| \leq \epsilon$.

A.8.1 *Estimate of N.* We split (A.16) in the form

$$N = N_{\text{dom}} + \delta_N, \quad (\text{A.33})$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} N_{\text{dom}} &= \frac{d_2 S_2 S_1 + d_3 S_1^2 + q_1 S_2^2}{t^2 \Gamma^2} = \frac{(d_2 S_2 + d_3 S_1) \Gamma^2 \Delta + q_1 S_2 t \Gamma^2 \Delta'}{t^2 \Gamma^2}, \\ \delta_N &= \frac{c_2 a_1^2 S_2^2}{t^5 \Gamma^6 b_1^2} + \frac{S_2 (-c_0 S_1 a_1 + q_4 S_2^2 b_1 + q_2 S_2 S_1 b_1 + d_1 S_1^2 b_1 - c_1 a_1 S_2)}{t^3 b_1 \Gamma^4} \\ &\quad + \frac{S_2^2 (q_5 S_2 S_1 + q_6 S_2^2 + q_3 S_1^2)}{\Gamma^6 t^4}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.34})$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{\text{dom}}| &\leq \text{const } \epsilon (|t^{-2} \Delta| + |t^{-1} \Delta'|), \\ |\delta_N| &\leq \text{const } \epsilon^2 |t^{-3} \Gamma^{-4}|. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.35})$$

A.8.2 *Estimate of Q.* We split (A.24) in the form

$$Q = \frac{d_3 S_1^2 + c_1 S_2 + c_0 S_1 + d_2 S_2 S_1 + q_1 S_2^2}{t \Gamma} + \frac{c_2}{t^2 \Gamma} + \delta, \quad (\text{A.36})$$

where

$$\delta = \frac{S_2 (q_4 S_2^2 + q_2 S_2 S_1 + d_1 S_1^2)}{\Gamma^3 t^2} + \frac{S_2^2 (q_6 S_2^2 + q_5 S_2 S_1 + q_3 S_1^2)}{\Gamma^5 t^3}. \quad (\text{A.37})$$

Hence from (A.36) we get

$$Q^2 = Q_{\text{dom}} + \delta_Q, \quad (\text{A.38})$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{\text{dom}} &= \frac{1}{t^2 \Gamma^2} \left[d_3^2 S_1^4 + 2d_3 (d_2 S_2 + c_0) S_1^3 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (d_2^2 S_2^2 + 2c_0 d_2 S_2 + c_0^2 + 2d_3 q_1 S_2^2 + 2d_3 c_1 S_2) S_1^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 2S_2 (d_2 S_2 + c_0) (q_1 S_2 + c_1) S_1 + q_1^2 S_2^4 + c_1^2 S_2^2 + 2c_1 S_2^3 q_1 \right], \\ \delta_Q &= \frac{c_2^2}{t^4 \Gamma^2} + \frac{\delta^2}{t^4 \Gamma^6} + 2 \frac{\delta (q_1 S_2^2 + c_0 S_1 + d_2 S_2 S_1 + d_3 S_1^2 + c_1 S_2)}{t^3 \Gamma^4} \\ &\quad + 2 \frac{c_2 (q_1 S_2^2 + c_0 S_1 + d_2 S_2 S_1 + d_3 S_1^2 + c_1 S_2)}{\Gamma^2 t^3} + 2 \frac{c_2 \delta}{t^4 \Gamma^4}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.39})$$

Since we can rewrite

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{\text{dom}} = \frac{1}{t^2 T^2} \{ & [d_3^2 S_1^3 + 2d_3(d_2 S_2 + c_0) S_1^2 \\ & + (d_2^2 S_2^2 + 2c_0 d_2 S_2 + c_0^2 + 2d_3 q_1 S_2^2 + 2d_3 c_1 S_2) S_1 \\ & + 2S_2(d_2 S_2 + c_0)(q_1 S_2 + c_1)] T^2 \Delta \\ & + (q_1^2 S_2^3 + c_1^2 S_2 + 2c_1 S_2^2 q_1) t T^2 \Delta' \}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.40})$$

we see that

$$|Q_{\text{dom}}| \leq \text{const } \epsilon (|t^{-2} \Delta| + |t^{-1} \Delta'|). \quad (\text{A.41})$$

Also, clearly

$$|\delta_Q| \leq \text{const } \epsilon^2 |t^{-2} T^{-3}|. \quad (\text{A.42})$$

Acknowledgments

The authors are indebted to Professors P. Deift and A. Borodin for suggesting the problem and for many useful comments. The authors also acknowledge the National Science Foundation (NSF) support from grants 0100495 (OC) and 0074924 (RDC).

References

- [1] A. Borodin and P. Deift, *Fredholm determinants, Jimbo-Miwa-Ueno tau-functions, and representation theory*, preprint, <http://arxiv.org/abs/math-ph/0111007>.
- [2] S. Chakravarty, *A class of integrable conformally self-dual metrics*, Classical Quantum Gravity **11** (1994), no. 1, L1–L6.
- [3] P. Deift, A. Its, A. Kapaev, and X. Zhou, *On the algebro-geometric integration of the Schlesinger equations*, Comm. Math. Phys. **203** (1999), no. 3, 613–633.
- [4] P. Deift and X. Zhou, *A steepest descent method for oscillatory Riemann-Hilbert problems. Asymptotics for the MKdV equation*, Ann. of Math. (2) **137** (1993), no. 2, 295–368.
- [5] B. Dubrovin, *Geometry of 2D topological field theories*, Integrable Systems and Quantum Groups (Montecatini Terme, 1993), Lect. Notes Math., vol. 1620, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1996, pp. 120–348.
- [6] B. Dubrovin and M. Mazzocco, *Monodromy of certain Painlevé-VI transcendents and reflection groups*, Invent. Math. **141** (2000), no. 1, 55–147.
- [7] H. Flaschka and A. C. Newell, *Monodromy- and spectrum-preserving deformations. I*, Comm. Math. Phys. **76** (1980), no. 1, 65–116.

- [8] L. Fuchs, *Sur quelques équations différentielles linéaires du second ordre*, C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris **141** (1905), 555–558 (French).
- [9] B. Gambier, *Sur les équations différentielles du second ordre et du premier degré dont l'intégrale générale est à points critiques fixes*, Acta Math. **33** (1910), 1–55 (French).
- [10] E. L. Ince, *Ordinary Differential Equations*, Dover Publications, New York, 1944.
- [11] A. R. Its, A. S. Fokas, and A. A. Kapaev, *On the asymptotic analysis of the Painlevé equations via the isomonodromy method*, Nonlinearity **7** (1994), no. 5, 1291–1325.
- [12] M. Jimbo and T. Miwa, *Monodromy preserving deformation of linear ordinary differential equations with rational coefficients. II*, Phys. D **2** (1981), no. 3, 407–448.
- [13] S. Kowalevski, *Sur le problème de la rotation d'un corps solide autour d'un point fixe*, Acta Math. **12** (1889), no. H.2, 177–232 (French).
- [14] ———, *Mémoire sur un cas particulier du problème de la rotation d'un corps pesant autour d'un point fixe, où l'intégration s'effectue à l'aide de fonctions ultraelliptiques du temps*, Mém. Sav. Étr. **31** (1890), 1–62 (French).
- [15] M. D. Kruskal and P. A. Clarkson, *The Painlevé-Kowalevski and poly-Painlevé tests for integrability*, Stud. Appl. Math. **86** (1992), no. 2, 87–165.
- [16] B. M. McCoy, C. A. Tracy, and T. T. Wu, *Painlevé functions of the third kind*, J. Mathematical Phys. **18** (1977), no. 5, 1058–1092.
- [17] S. Okumura, *The self-dual Einstein-Weyl metric and classical solution of Painlevé VI*, Lett. Math. Phys. **46** (1998), no. 3, 219–232.
- [18] P. Painlevé, *Mémoire sur les équations différentielles dont l'intégrale générale est uniforme*, Bull. Soc. Math. France **28** (1900), 201–261 (French).
- [19] ———, *Sur les équations différentielles du second ordre et d'ordre supérieur dont l'intégrale générale est uniforme*, Acta Math. **25** (1901), 1–85 (French).
- [20] J. Palmer, M. Beatty, and C. A. Tracy, *Tau functions for the Dirac operator on the Poincaré disk*, Comm. Math. Phys. **165** (1994), no. 1, 97–173.
- [21] K. P. Tod, *Self-dual Einstein metrics from the Painlevé VI equation*, Phys. Lett. A **190** (1994), no. 3–4, 221–224.
- [22] C. A. Tracy and H. Widom, *Random unitary matrices, permutations and Painlevé*, Comm. Math. Phys. **207** (1999), no. 3, 665–685.
- [23] ———, *On the distributions of the lengths of the longest monotone subsequences in random words*, Probab. Theory Related Fields **119** (2001), no. 3, 350–380.
- [24] T. T. Wu, B. M. McCoy, C. A. Tracy, and E. Barouch, *Spin-spin correlation functions for the two-dimensional Ising model: exact theory in the scaling region*, Phys. Rev. B **13** (1976), 316–374.

Ovidiu Costin: Department of Mathematics, Hill Center, 110 Frelinghuysen Road, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Piscataway, NJ 08854-8019, USA

E-mail address: costin@math.rutgers.edu

Rodica D. Costin: Department of Mathematics, Hill Center, 110 Frelinghuysen Road, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Piscataway, NJ 08854-8019, USA

E-mail address: costin@math.rutgers.edu