

# PT symmetric nonlinear systems and some of their implications in optics

M. Lakshmanan

Centre for Nonlinear Dynamics  
School of Physics  
Bharathidasan University  
Tiruchirappalli – 620024  
India

Collaborators : V. K. Chandrasekar, S. Karthiga & M. Senthilvelan

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## Aim

- To show the occurrence of spontaneous symmetry breaking in nonlinearly damped  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric systems.
- Understanding symmetry breaking from exact solution point of view.
- To illustrate the dynamics and the application of  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetrically coupled systems in the optical context (that is, in the construction of unidirectional optical devices).
- To show the ways to control blow-up responses by nonlinear  $\mathcal{PT}$  couplings.

# Plan

- Introduction
- Nonlinearly damped systems
- A remarkable scalar system- modified Emden equation
- Quantum version
- Bi - $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric systems
- Systems that become  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric through interaction
- Controlling blow-up responses by nonlinear coupling
- Localization of light with linear non-Hermitian defects
- Conclusion

# Introduction

- Recent interest in  $\mathcal{PT}$ -symmetric systems
- $\mathcal{PT}$ -symmetric systems as balanced loss/gain
- Bi- $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetry: Position dependent/ Nonlinear damping

(a) Scalar systems:

$$\mathcal{PT}: x \rightarrow -x, t \rightarrow -t.$$

(b) Coupled systems:

$$\mathcal{PT}-1: x \rightarrow -x, y \rightarrow -y, t \rightarrow -t.$$

$$\mathcal{PT}-2: x \rightarrow -y, y \rightarrow -x, t \rightarrow -t.$$

- Spontaneous symmetry breaking

C. M. Bender, B. K. Berntson, D. Parker and E. Samuel, Am. J. Phys. **81** 173 (2013).

C. M. Bender, M. Gianfreda, S. K. Özdemir, B. Peng, and L. Yang, Phys. Rev. A **88** 062111 (2013).

J. Cuevas, P.G. Kevrekidis, A. Saxena and A. Khare, Phys. Rev. A **88** 032108, (2013).

# Nonlinearly damped systems

## (a) Scalar Case:

$$\ddot{x} + h(x, \dot{x}) + g(x) = 0.$$

$$\text{with } h(x, \dot{x}) = f(x)\dot{x}.$$

$$\Rightarrow \ddot{x} + g(x) = -h(x, \dot{x}) = -f(x)\dot{x}.$$

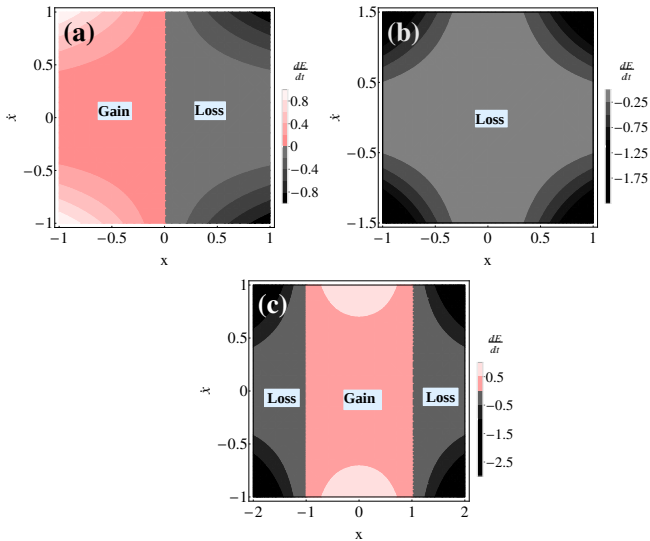
- If  $f(x)$  - odd function: system is  $\mathcal{PT}$ -symmetric

with  $T(\dot{x}) = \frac{1}{2}\dot{x}^2$ ;  $V(x) = \int g(x)dx$ .

$$\Rightarrow E = \frac{1}{2}\dot{x}^2 + \int g(x)dx.$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dE}{dt} = -\dot{x}h(x, \dot{x}) = -f(x)\dot{x}^2.$$

- If  $\frac{dE}{dt} < 0$  - loss,  $\frac{dE}{dt} > 0$  - gain



## Examples:

- 1  $\mathcal{PT}$ -symmetric conservative system - Modified Emden Equation (MEE):

$$\ddot{x} + \alpha x \dot{x} + \beta x^3 + \omega_0^2 x = 0$$

- 2 Non- $\mathcal{PT}$ -symmetric damped system:

$$\ddot{x} + \alpha x^2 \dot{x} + \beta x^3 + \omega_0^2 x = 0$$

- 3 Limit cycle oscillator (van der Pol oscillator):

$$\ddot{x} + (x^2 - 1)\dot{x} + \omega_0^2 x = 0.$$

V. K. Chandrasekar, M. Senthilvelan, and M. Lakshmanan, J. Phys. A: Math. Theor. **40** 4717 (2007).

V. K. Chandrasekar, M. Senthilvelan, and M. Lakshmanan, J. Phys. A: Math. Gen. **37** 4527 (2004).

S. H. Strogatz, *Nonlinear Dynamics and Chaos*, (Perseus Book Publishing, USA, 1994).



- Consider coupled systems:

$$\ddot{x} + h_1(x, \dot{x}) + h_2(x, \dot{x}) + g(x) + \kappa y = 0,$$

$$\ddot{y} + h_1(y, \dot{y}) - h_2(y, \dot{y}) + g(y) + \kappa x = 0,$$

$h_1(x, \dot{x})$  and  $h_2(x, \dot{x})$  are odd and even functions in  $x$ , respectively. Defining

$$E = \frac{1}{2}\dot{x}^2 + \int g(x)dx + \frac{1}{2}\dot{y}^2 + \int g(y)dy + \kappa xy.$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dE}{dt} = -\dot{x}[h_1(x, \dot{x}) + h_2(x, \dot{x})] - \dot{y}[h_1(y, \dot{y}) - h_2(y, \dot{y})].$$

# Modified Emden Equation: $\mathcal{PT}$ symmetry breaking

- Consider the MEE equation

$$\ddot{x} + \alpha x \dot{x} + \beta x^3 + \lambda x = 0, \quad \lambda = \omega_0^2,$$

$\Rightarrow$   $\mathcal{PT}$ -1 symmetric.

Equivalently

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= x_1 \\ \dot{x}_1 &= -\alpha x x_1 - \beta x^3 - \lambda x.\end{aligned}$$

- Equilibrium/fixed points

(a)  $E_0: (x^*, x_1^*) = (0, 0)$

(b)  $E_{1,2}: (\pm \sqrt{\frac{-\lambda}{\beta}}, 0) \quad (\lambda < 0, \beta > 0)$

V. K. Chandrasekar, M. Senthilvelan, and M. Lakshmanan, J. Phys. A: Math. Theor. **40** 4717 (2007).

- Jacobian matrix

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\alpha x_1^* - 3\beta x^{*2} - \omega_0^2 & -\alpha x^* \end{bmatrix}$$

- Eigenvalues of  $J$  for  $E_0$ :

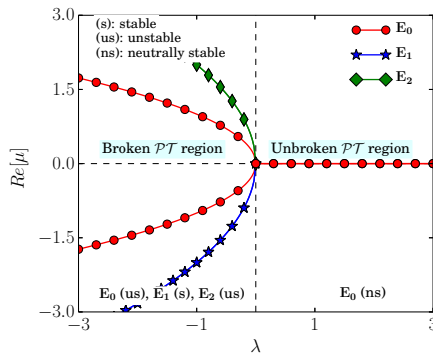
$$\mu_{1,2}^{(0)} = \pm i\sqrt{\lambda}$$

- Eigenvalues of  $E_1, E_2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{1,2}^{(1)} &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\beta}} \left( -\alpha\sqrt{-\lambda} \pm \sqrt{-\lambda(\alpha^2 - 8\beta)} \right), \\ \mu_{1,2}^{(2)} &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\beta}} \left( \alpha\sqrt{-\lambda} \pm \sqrt{-\lambda(\alpha^2 - 8\beta)} \right) \end{aligned}$$

# $Re[\mu]$ vs $\lambda$

$$\mathcal{PT}[E_0] = E_0, \quad \mathcal{PT}[E_1] = E_2, \quad \mathcal{PT}[E_2] = E_1$$



# Integrable case: $\beta = \frac{\alpha^2}{9}$

We have

$$\ddot{x} + \alpha x \dot{x} + \frac{\alpha^2}{9} x^3 + \lambda x = 0$$

or

$$\dot{x} = y,$$

$$\dot{y} = -\alpha xy - \frac{\alpha^2}{9} x^3 - \lambda x.$$

V. K. Chandrasekar, M. Senthilvelan, and M. Lakshmanan, Phys. Rev. E **72** 066203 (2005).

- Nonstandard Lagrangian

$$L = \frac{27\lambda^2}{2\alpha^2} \left( \frac{1}{\alpha\dot{x} + \frac{\alpha^2}{3}x^2 + 3\lambda} \right) + \frac{3\lambda}{2\alpha}\dot{x} - \frac{9\lambda^2}{2\alpha^2}.$$

- Canonically conjugate momentum

$$p = -\frac{27\lambda^3}{2\alpha} \left( \frac{1}{(\alpha\dot{x} + \frac{\alpha^2}{3}x^2 + 3\lambda)^2} \right) + \frac{3\lambda}{2\alpha},$$

- Hamiltonian ('Energy')

$$\begin{aligned} H &= \frac{9\lambda^2}{2} \left( \frac{((\dot{x} + \frac{\alpha}{3}x^2)^2 + \lambda x^2)}{(\alpha\dot{x} + \frac{\alpha^2}{3}x^2 + 3\lambda)^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{9\lambda^2}{2\alpha^2} \left[ 2 - 2 \left( 1 - \frac{2\alpha p}{3\lambda} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{\alpha^2 x^2}{9\lambda} - \frac{2\alpha p}{3\lambda} - \frac{2k^3 x^2 p}{27\lambda^2} \right] \end{aligned}$$

# General solution

$\lambda > 0$

$$x(t) = \frac{A \sin(\omega_0 t + \delta)}{1 - A \frac{\alpha}{3\omega_0} \cos(\omega_0 t + \delta)}, \quad \omega_0 = \sqrt{\lambda}$$

$$\dot{x}(t) = \frac{A\omega_0 \cos(\omega_0 t + \delta)}{1 - A \frac{\alpha}{3\omega_0} \cos(\omega_0 t + \delta)} - \frac{\alpha}{3} x^2(t),$$

so that  $H = \mathcal{E} = \frac{1}{2}\omega_0^2 A^2$ .

# General solution

$$\lambda < 0$$

$$x(t) = \frac{3\sqrt{|\lambda|}(l_1 e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} - e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})}{\alpha(l_1 l_2 + l_1 e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} + e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})}$$

$$\dot{x}(t) = \frac{3|\lambda|(l_1 e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} + e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})}{\alpha(l_1 l_2 + l_1 e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} + e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})} - \frac{\alpha}{3}x^2(t).$$

$$\text{with } H = \mathcal{E} = \frac{18|\lambda|^2}{\alpha^2} \frac{1}{l_1 l_2^2},$$



## (a) $\mathcal{PT}$ invariant solutions for $\lambda > 0$

- Initial value problem obeying  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetry

$$x(0) = 0, \quad \dot{x}(0) = B = \frac{3A\omega_0^2}{3\omega_0 - A\alpha}$$

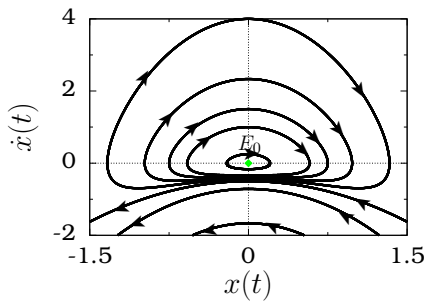
$$x(t) = \frac{A \sin(\omega_0 t)}{(1 - A \frac{\alpha}{3\omega_0} \cos \omega_0 t)}, \quad \omega_0 = \sqrt{\lambda}, \quad 0 \leq A < \frac{3\omega_0}{\alpha},$$

$$\dot{x}(t) = \frac{A\omega_0 \cos \omega_0 t}{(1 - A \frac{\alpha}{3\omega_0} \cos \omega_0 t)} - \frac{\alpha}{3} x^2(t), \quad 0 \leq t < \infty,$$

$$\mathcal{PT}[x(t)] = -x(-t) = x(t),$$

$$\mathcal{PT}[\dot{x}(t)] = \dot{x}(-t) = \dot{x}(t), \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0,$$

# Phase trajectories in the case of $\lambda > 0$



(b)  $\mathcal{PT}$  breaking solutions for  $\lambda < 0$ 

## (i) Symmetric solution

$$\begin{aligned} 1) x(t) &= x_0(t) = -x_0(-t) \equiv \mathcal{PT}[x_0(t)], \\ \dot{x}(t) &= \dot{x}_0(t) = \dot{x}_0(-t) \equiv \mathcal{PT}[\dot{x}_0(t)], \end{aligned}$$

## (ii) Asymmetric solution

$$\begin{aligned} 2) x(t) &= x_1(t), \dot{x}(t) = \dot{x}_1(t) \quad \text{and} \\ 3) x(t) &= x_2(t), \dot{x}(t) = \dot{x}_2(t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{PT}x_1(t) &= -x_1(-t) = x_2(t) \neq x_1(t), \\ \mathcal{PT}\dot{x}_1(t) &= \dot{x}_1(-t) = \dot{x}_2(t) \neq \dot{x}_1(t), \\ \mathcal{PT}x_2(t) &= -x_2(-t) = x_1(t) \neq x_2(t), \\ \mathcal{PT}\dot{x}_2(t) &= \dot{x}_2(-t) = \dot{x}_1(t) \neq \dot{x}_2(t), \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

- Symmetric solution satisfying the initial conditions  $x_0(0) = 0$ ,  $\dot{x}_0(0) = \text{constant}$

$$x_0(t) = \frac{3\sqrt{|\lambda|}(e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} - e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})}{\alpha(l_2 + e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} + e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})}$$

$$\dot{x}_0(t) = \frac{3|\lambda|(e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} + e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})}{\alpha(l_2 + e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} + e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})} - \frac{\alpha}{3}x_0^2(t).$$

- Asymmetric solution from initial condition  $(x_1(0), \dot{x}_1(0)) = (\frac{3\sqrt{|\lambda|}}{\alpha}, \frac{6|\lambda|}{\alpha(l_1-1)})$

$$x_1(t) = \frac{3\sqrt{|\lambda|}(l_1 e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} - e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})}{\alpha(-2 + l_1 e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} + e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})}$$

$$\dot{x}_1(t) = \frac{3|\lambda|(l_1 e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} + e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})}{\alpha(-2 + l_1 e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} + e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})} - \frac{\alpha}{3}x_1^2(t).$$

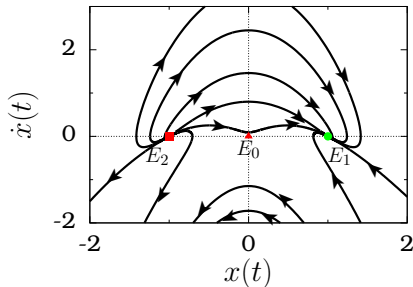
- Asymmetric solution from initial condition  $(x_2(0), \dot{x}_2(0))$   
 $= \left( -\frac{3\sqrt{|\lambda|}}{\alpha}, \frac{6|\lambda|}{\alpha} \frac{l_1}{l_1-1} \right)$

$$x_2(t) = \frac{3\sqrt{|\lambda|}(l_1 e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} - e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})}{\alpha(-2l_1 + l_1 e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} + e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})}$$

and

$$\dot{x}_2(t) = \frac{3|\lambda|(l_1 e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} + e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})}{\alpha(-2l_1 + l_1 e^{\sqrt{|\lambda|}t} + e^{-\sqrt{|\lambda|}t})} - \frac{\alpha}{3} x_2^2(t).$$

- Phase trajectories



- Confirmation of fixed point analysis:  
 $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetry  $\Rightarrow$   $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric neutrally stable centre type fixed point.

# Quantum version of Integrable MEE equation

- Classical Hamiltonian:

$$H(x, p) = \frac{x^2}{2 m(p)} + U(p), \quad -\infty < p \leq \frac{3\omega^2}{2k},$$

where

$$m(p) = \frac{1}{\omega^2 \left(1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p\right)} \text{ and } U(p) = \frac{9\omega^4}{2k^2} \left( \sqrt{1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p} - 1 \right)^2.$$

- Quantum Hamiltonian

$$H(\hat{x}, \hat{p}) = \frac{1}{4} \left[ m^\alpha(\hat{p}) \hat{x} m^\beta(\hat{p}) \hat{x} m^\gamma(\hat{p}) + m^\gamma(\hat{p}) \hat{x} m^\beta(\hat{p}) \hat{x} m^\alpha(\hat{p}) \right] + U(\hat{p}),$$

- Time independent Schrödinger equation

$$H(\hat{x}, \hat{p})\psi(x, p) = E\psi(x, p),$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{-\hbar^2}{2m} \left[ \psi'' - \frac{m'}{m} \psi' \right] + \left( \frac{1+\beta}{2} \right) \left( 2 \frac{m'^2}{m^2} - \frac{m''}{m} \right) \psi \\ + \frac{\alpha(\alpha + \beta + 1)m'^2}{m^2} \psi + U(p)\psi = E\psi, \end{aligned}$$

where prime stands for differentiation with respect to  $p$ .

V. Chithiika Ruby, M. Senthilvelan and M. Lakshmanan, J. Phys. A: Math. Theor. **45** 382002 (2012).

V. Chithiika Ruby, V. K. Chandrasekar, M. Senthilvelan and M. Lakshmanan, J. Math. Phys. **56** 012103 (2015).



# Boundary conditions:

$$\psi = 0, \quad \text{for } p \geq \frac{3\omega^2}{2k}$$

$$\psi(-\infty) = \psi\left(\frac{3\omega^2}{2k}\right) = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} \psi'' &- \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} \frac{1}{\left(1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p\right)} \psi' + \frac{4k^2 \alpha(\alpha + \beta + 1)}{9\omega^4 \left(1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p\right)^2} \psi \\ &- \frac{2Ek^2 - 9\omega^4 \left(\sqrt{1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p} - 1\right)^2}{\hbar^2 \omega^2 k^2 \left(1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p\right)} \psi = 0, \quad -\infty < p \leq \frac{3\omega^2}{2k}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dy^2} + \frac{1}{y} \frac{d\psi}{dy} + \left( \tilde{E} + \frac{4\alpha(\alpha + \beta + 1)}{y^2} - a(y - 1)^2 \right) \psi = 0,$$

$$0 \leq y < \infty,$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\psi(y) = e^{-\frac{\sqrt{a}}{2}y^2 + \sqrt{a}y} \phi(y)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2\phi}{dy^2} + \left( 2\sqrt{a} - 2\sqrt{a}y + \frac{1}{y} \right) \frac{d\phi}{dy} \\ + \left( \frac{4\alpha(\alpha + \beta + 1)}{y^2} + \frac{\sqrt{a}}{y} + \tilde{E} - 2\sqrt{a} \right) \phi = 0. \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Singular solution

# Non-Hermitian Hamiltonian ( $\mathcal{PT}$ symmetric)

$$H(\hat{x}, \hat{p}) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ m^{-1/4}(\hat{p}) \hat{x} m^{-1/2}(\hat{p}) \hat{x} m^{-1/4}(\hat{p}) \right] + U(\hat{p}),$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{H} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} H \sqrt{m} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ m^{-3/4}(\hat{p}) \hat{x} m^{-1/2}(\hat{p}) \hat{x} m^{1/4}(\hat{p}) \right] + U(\hat{p}), \\ &= -\frac{\hbar^2}{2} \omega^2 \left( 1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p \right) \left[ \frac{d^2}{dp^2} + \frac{k^2}{12\omega^4} \frac{1}{\left( 1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p \right)^2} \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{9\omega^4}{2k^2} \left( \sqrt{1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p} - 1 \right)^2. \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Schrödinger equation

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\hbar^2 \omega^2}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p \right) \Phi'' - \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{24\omega^2 \left( 1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p \right)} \Phi \\ + \frac{9\omega^4}{2k^2} \left( \sqrt{1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p} - 1 \right)^2 \Phi = E\Phi, \quad \left( ' = \frac{d}{dp} \right). \end{aligned}$$

# Bound state ( $\mathcal{PT}$ -invariant solution)

$$\Phi_n(p) = \begin{cases} \tilde{N}_n \left(1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p\right)^{1/4} \exp\left(-\frac{9\omega^3}{2\hbar k^2} \left(1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p - 2\sqrt{1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p}\right)\right) \\ \quad \times H_n\left[\frac{3\omega^{3/2}}{\sqrt{\hbar} k} \left(\sqrt{1 - \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p} - 1\right)\right], & -\infty < p \leq \frac{3\omega^2}{2k}, \\ 0, & p \geq \frac{3\omega^2}{2k}, \end{cases}$$

and Energy eigenvalues

$$E_n = \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \hbar \omega, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (3)$$

- Normalization.

# The $p > \frac{3\omega_0^2}{2k}$ sector: Broken Symmetry

$$\Phi_n(p) = \begin{cases} \tilde{\mathcal{N}}_n \left( \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p - 1 \right)^{1/4} \exp \left( -\frac{9\omega^3}{2\hbar k^2} \left( \frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p - 1 + i 2 \sqrt{\frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p - 1} \right) \right) \\ \quad \times H_n \left[ \frac{3\omega^{3/2}}{\sqrt{\hbar} k} \left( \sqrt{\frac{2k}{3\omega^2} p - 1} + i \right) \right], & p \geq \frac{3\omega^2}{2k}, \\ 0, & -\infty < p \leq \frac{3\omega^2}{2k}, \end{cases}$$

and

$$E_n = -\left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)\hbar\omega, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (4)$$

# A Bi- $\mathcal{PT}$ symmetric system

- Consider

$$\ddot{x} + \alpha x \dot{x} + \beta x^3 + \omega_0^2 x + \kappa y = 0,$$

$$\ddot{y} + \alpha y \dot{y} + \beta y^3 + \omega_0^2 y + \kappa x = 0.$$

$\Rightarrow$  Bi- $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric.

- Equivalently

$$\dot{x} = x_1,$$

$$\dot{x}_1 = -\alpha x x_1 - \beta x^3 - \omega_0^2 x - \kappa y,$$

$$\dot{y} = y_1,$$

$$\dot{y}_1 = -\alpha y y_1 - \beta y^3 - \omega_0^2 y - \kappa x.$$

S. Karthiga, V. K. Chandrasekar, M. Senthilvelan and M. Lakshmanan, Phys. Rev. A **93**, 012102 (2016)

- Fixed points

(i)  $e_0: (x^*, x_1^*, y^*, y_1^*) = (0, 0, 0, 0).$

(ii)  $e_{1,2}: (x^*, x_1^*, y^*, y_1^*) = (\pm a_1^*, 0, \mp a_1^*, 0),$  where  $a_1^* = \sqrt{\frac{\kappa - \omega_0^2}{\beta}}.$

(iii)  $e_{3,4}: (x^*, x_1^*, y^*, y_1^*) = (\pm a_2^*, 0, \pm a_2^*, 0),$  where  $a_2^* = \sqrt{\frac{-\kappa - \omega_0^2}{\beta}}.$

|                           | $\kappa < -\omega_0^2$ | $-\omega_0^2 \leq \kappa \leq \omega_0^2$ | $\kappa > \omega_0^2$  |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| $\Omega = \omega_0^2 > 0$ | $e_0, e_3, e_4$        | $e_0$                                     | $e_0, e_1, e_2$        |
| $\Omega = \omega_0^2 = 0$ | $e_0, e_3, e_4$        | $e_0$                                     | $e_0, e_1, e_2$        |
|                           | $\kappa < \omega_0^2$  | $\omega_0^2 \leq \kappa \leq -\omega_0^2$ | $\kappa > -\omega_0^2$ |
| $\Omega = \omega_0^2 < 0$ | $e_0, e_3, e_4$        | $e_0, e_1, e_2$<br>$e_3, e_4$             | $e_0, e_1, e_2$        |

## (a) Case $\Omega = \omega_0^2 > 0$

- We use the condition for  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetry

$$\mathcal{PT}e_i = e_i$$

from which  $\mathcal{PT}$  region is identified if the fixed point is neutrally stable.

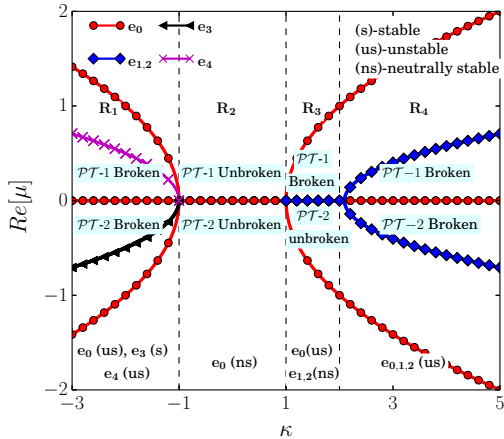
- Linear stability analysis

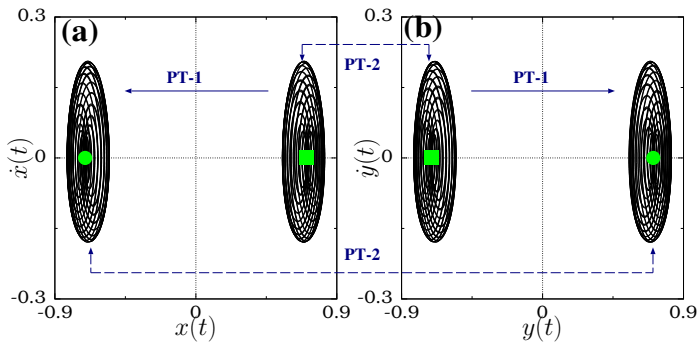
$$\text{Jacobian } J = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ c_{21} & -\alpha x^* & -\kappa & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -\kappa & 0 & c_{43} & -\alpha y^* \end{bmatrix}, \quad (5)$$

where  $c_{21} = -\alpha x_1^* - 3\beta x^{*2} - \omega_0^2$ ,  $c_{43} = -\alpha y_1^* - 3\beta y^{*2} - \omega_0^2$

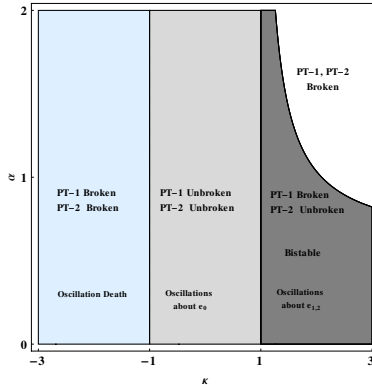


- Calculate the eigenvalues



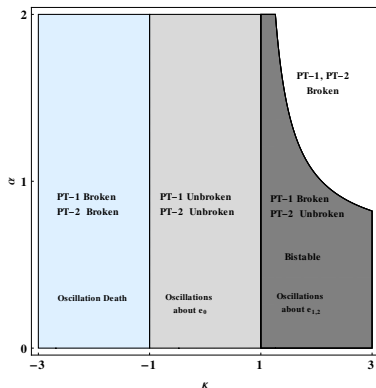


- Dynamics in the  $(\kappa, \alpha)$  parameter space



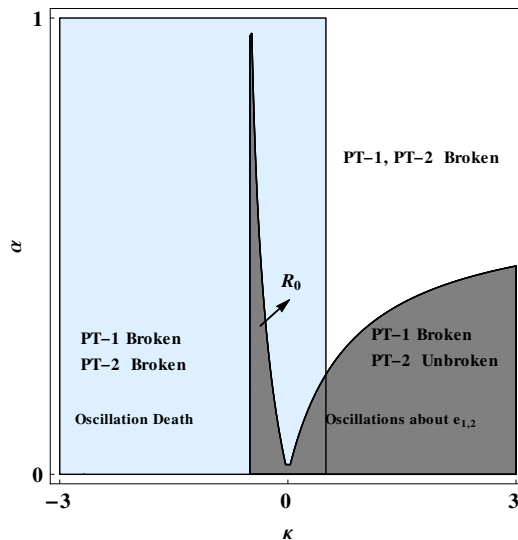
- In the range  $-1 < \kappa < 1$ , the  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetry remains unbroken by increasing the nonlinear loss/gain strength  $\alpha$ .

- Dynamics in the  $(\kappa, \alpha)$  parameter space



- But, in the range  $\kappa > 1$ , the  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetry is broken by increasing the nonlinear loss/gain strength  $\alpha$ .

# (b) Case $\Omega = \omega_0^2 < 0$



# Nonlinear Plus Linear Damping

- Adding linear damping term

$$\begin{aligned}\ddot{x} + \gamma\dot{x} + \alpha x\dot{x} + \beta x^3 + \omega_0^2 x + \kappa y &= 0, \\ \ddot{y} - \gamma\dot{y} + \alpha y\dot{y} + \beta y^3 + \omega_0^2 y + \kappa x &= 0,\end{aligned}\quad (6)$$

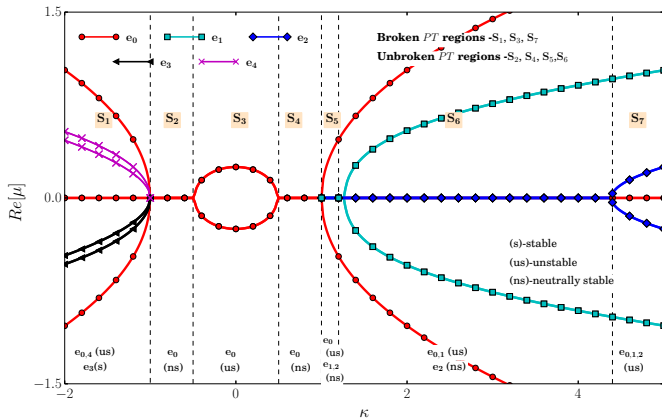
- $\mathcal{PT}$ -1 symmetry:  $x \rightarrow -x$ ,  $y \rightarrow -y$ ,  $t \rightarrow -t$  (absent)
- $\mathcal{PT}$ -2 symmetry:  $x \rightarrow -y$ ,  $y \rightarrow -x$ ,  $t \rightarrow -t$  (existing)

- Fixed points: same as that of the previous case

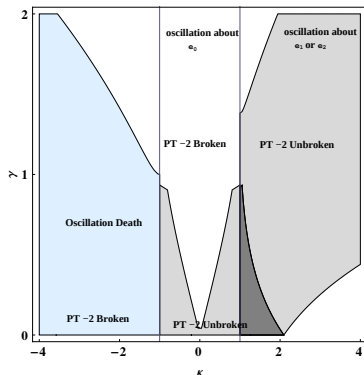
$$\text{Jacobian } J = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ c_{21} & -\gamma - \alpha x^* & -\kappa & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -\kappa & 0 & c_{43} & \gamma - \alpha y^* \end{bmatrix}, \quad (7)$$

where,  $c_{21} = -\alpha x_1^* - 3\beta x^{*2} - \omega_0^2$ ,  $c_{43} = -\alpha y_1^* - 3\beta y^{*2} - \omega_0^2$ .

# $Re[\mu]$ vs $\kappa$



# $\mathcal{PT}$ restoration at higher loss/gain strength



**Figure:** Dynamics in  $(\kappa, \gamma)$  space: For  $\alpha = 1.0$ ,  $\omega = 1$  and  $\beta = 1$

- In the range  $\kappa > 2$ , the  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetry is broken for lower  $\gamma$  and becomes unbroken by increasing  $\gamma$ .



# $\mathcal{PT}$ restoration at higher loss/gain strength

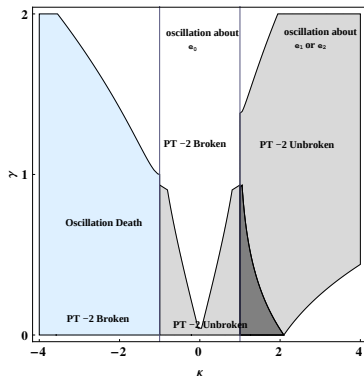
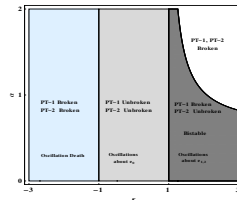
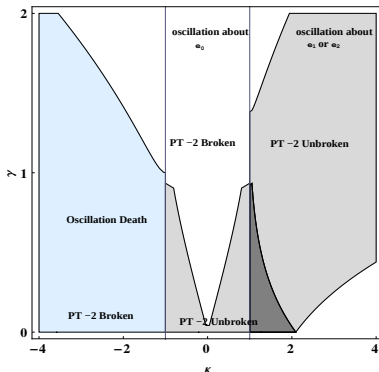


Figure: Dynamics in  $(\kappa, \gamma)$  space: For  $\alpha = 1.0$ ,  $\omega = 1$  and  $\beta = 1$

- The above  $\mathcal{PT}$  restoration at higher loss/gain strength arises due to the competition between the linear and nonlinear damping terms.

# $\mathcal{PT}$ restoration at higher loss/gain strength



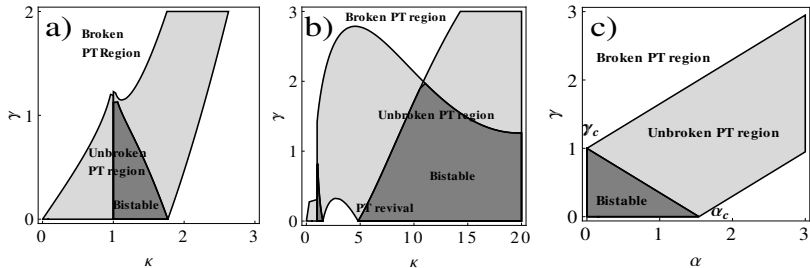
- The above behavior is absent when the nonlinear damping alone present in the system.

# General case

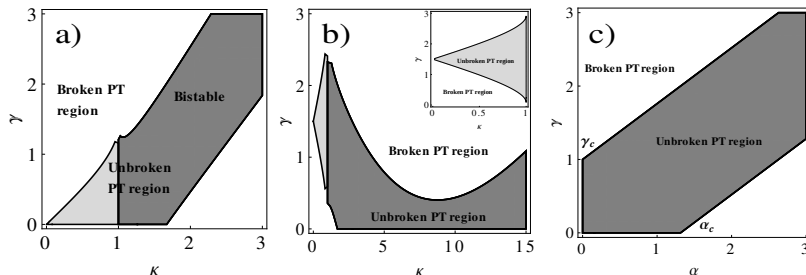
$$\begin{aligned}\ddot{x} + \gamma\dot{x} + (-1)^n \alpha f(x)\dot{x} + \beta x^3 + \omega_0^2 x + \kappa y &= 0, \\ \ddot{y} - \gamma\dot{y} + \alpha f(y)\dot{y} + \beta y^3 + \omega_0^2 y + \kappa x &= 0,\end{aligned}\tag{8}$$

- $n = 0$  if  $f(x)$  is an odd function in  $x$
- $n = 1$  if  $f(x)$  is an even function in  $x$
- Bi- $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric: when  $\gamma = 0$  and  $f(x) \rightarrow \text{odd}$ .
- Tailoring the form of  $f(x)$ ,  $\mathcal{PT}$  regions can be tailored.

## (a) Case $f(x)$ : odd



**Figure:** Phase diagram in  $(\kappa, \gamma)$  space: (a)  $f(x) = x^3$ , (b)  $f(x) = \sin x$  for  $\alpha = 1.5$ . (c): Phase diagram in  $(\alpha, \gamma)$  space corresponding to  $f(x) = \sin x$  and  $\kappa = 1.5$

(b) Case  $f(x)$ : even

**Figure:** Phase diagram in  $(\kappa, \gamma)$  space: (a)  $f(x) = x^2$  and (b)  $f(x) = \cos x$  with  $\alpha = 1.5$ . (c): Phase diagram in  $(\alpha, \gamma)$  space:  $f(x) = \cos x$  with  $\kappa = 1.5$

# Systems that become $\mathcal{PT}$ symmetric through interaction

- Optical systems : Normally by introducing loss, gain terms - very delicate as they have to match exactly
- We are interested in identifying alternate  $\mathcal{PT}$ -symmetric systems  $\Rightarrow$  through coupling & study the dynamics
- $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric (loss/gain)  $\Rightarrow$  special cases of dissipative systems & lie at the boundary between conservative & dissipative cases.
- What about  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetry coupling systems?  
Both dissipative and conservative systems!
- Nonreciprocal nature of  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric loss/gain systems  $\Rightarrow$  for unidirectional propagation of light
- Present case: Both in conservative & dissipative
  - Requirement for non-reciprocity : self-trapping nonlinearity.
  - Spontaneous symmetry breaking also occurs here
    - Pitchfork type bifurcation : Reciprocal light propagation
    - Tangent type bifurcation : Non-reciprocal & unidirectional light propagation

# $\mathcal{PT}$ symmetric loss-gain system

$$\begin{aligned} i \frac{d\phi_1}{dz} &= i\gamma\phi_1 - k\phi_2 + \alpha G(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_1^*, \phi_2^*), \\ i \frac{d\phi_2}{dz} &= -i\gamma\phi_2 - k\phi_1 + \alpha G(\phi_2, \phi_1, \phi_2^*, \phi_1^*). \end{aligned}$$

- $k \Rightarrow$  Coupling due to evanescent fields
- $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetry:  $\phi_1 \rightarrow -\phi_2$ ,  $\phi_2 \rightarrow -\phi_1$ ,  $i \rightarrow -i$ ,  $z \rightarrow -z$

$$G(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_1^*, \phi_2^*) = -G(-\phi_1, -\phi_2, -\phi_1^*, -\phi_2^*)$$

# Linear $\mathcal{PT}$ symmetric coupling

We consider

$$\begin{aligned} i \frac{d\phi_1}{dz} &= ia\phi_2 - k\phi_2 + \alpha G(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_1^*, \phi_2^*), \\ i \frac{d\phi_2}{dz} &= -ia\phi_1 - k\phi_1 + \alpha G(\phi_2, \phi_1, \phi_2^*, \phi_1^*), \end{aligned}$$

$a \Rightarrow$  magneto-optic coupling

## Simple conservative case

$$\begin{aligned} i \frac{d\phi_1}{dz} &= -\beta|\phi_1|^2\phi_1 - k\phi_2 + ia\phi_2, \\ i \frac{d\phi_2}{dz} &= -\beta|\phi_2|^2\phi_2 - k\phi_1 - ia\phi_1. \end{aligned}$$

- Conservative:  $\frac{dP}{dz} = 0$ ,  $P = |\phi_1|^2 + |\phi_2|^2$   
(Total power is conserved  $\Rightarrow$  Conservative.)



# Light beam propagation: Comparison

- Light beam propagation with respect to propagation distance & compare with  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric system with loss and gain

- **Linear case:**

$$i \frac{d\phi}{dz} = \mathcal{H}\phi,$$

$$\mathcal{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -k + ia \\ -k - ia & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \zeta = \pm \sqrt{k^2 + a^2}.$$

such that the modes evolve as  $e^{\pm i\zeta z}$ .

- Real eigenvalues  $\Rightarrow$  always unbroken symmetry.
- In the linear  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric system with loss-gain

$$\zeta = \pm \sqrt{k^2 - \gamma^2}.$$

- Real eigenvalues for  $k > \gamma \Rightarrow$  unbroken symmetry for  $k > \gamma$ .

# Nonlinear case

With

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_1(z) &= R_1 e^{i(\omega z + \theta_1)}, \\ \phi_2(z) &= R_2 e^{i(\omega z + \theta_2)}\end{aligned}$$

and  $\delta = \theta_1 - \theta_2$

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{R}_1 &= (k + \alpha_1 R_1^2) R_2 \sin \delta + a R_2 \cos \delta, \\ \dot{R}_2 &= -(k + \alpha_1 R_2^2) R_1 \sin \delta - a R_1 \cos \delta, \\ \dot{\delta} &= (\beta R_1 R_2 - k \cos \delta + a \sin \delta) \frac{R_1^2 - R_2^2}{R_1 R_2}, \quad \delta = \theta_1 - \theta_2.\end{aligned}$$

(i) Symmetric Nonlinear Modes:

$$M_1 : R_1 \equiv R_1^* = \sqrt{P/2}, \quad \cos \delta^* = \frac{-k}{\sqrt{a^2 + k^2}}, \quad P = R_1^2 + R_2^2$$

$$M_2 : R_1 \equiv R_1^* = \sqrt{P/2}, \quad \cos \delta^* = \frac{k}{\sqrt{a^2 + k^2}},$$

$$\sin \delta^* = \frac{-a \cos \delta^*}{k}$$

(ii) Asymmetric Nonlinear Modes:

$$M_3 : R_1 \equiv R_1^* = \sqrt{\frac{P\beta + \sqrt{P^2\beta^2 - 4(a^2 + k^2)}}{2\beta}},$$

$$M_4 : R_1 \equiv R_1^* = \sqrt{\frac{P\beta - \sqrt{P^2\beta^2 - 4(a^2 + k^2)}}{2\beta}}.$$

$$\sin \delta^* = \frac{-a}{\sqrt{a^2 + k^2}} \text{ and } \cos \delta^* = \frac{k}{\sqrt{a^2 + k^2}}.$$

# Linear stability

## Eigenvalues

$$M_1 : \lambda = \pm i 2 \sqrt{\sqrt{a^2 + k^2} \left( \frac{\beta P}{2} + \sqrt{a^2 + k^2} \right)},$$

$$M_2 : \lambda = \pm i 2 \sqrt{\sqrt{a^2 + k^2} \left( \frac{\beta P}{2} - \sqrt{a^2 + k^2} \right)},$$

$$M_3 : \lambda = \pm i \sqrt{P^2 \beta^2 - 4(a^2 + k^2)},$$

$$M_4 : \lambda = \pm i \sqrt{P^2 \beta^2 - 4(a^2 + k^2)},.$$

## Stability results

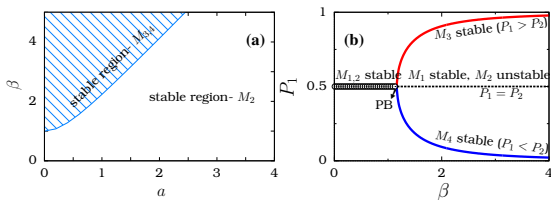
$M_1$ : always stable

$M_2$ : stable when  $\beta < \frac{2\sqrt{a^2+k^2}}{P}$

$M_3$  &  $M_4$ : stable when  $\beta > \frac{2\sqrt{a^2+k^2}}{P}$

Stability & Pitchfork bifurcation at  $\beta = \frac{2\sqrt{a^2+k^2}}{P}$

Stabilizes the asymmetric modes  $M_3$  &  $M_4$  & breaks the  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetry ( $R_1^* \neq R_2^*$ )



**Figure:** (a) Stable regions of symmetric as well as asymmetric modes for  $P(0) = P = 1.0$ ,  $k = 0.5$ . Note that in the entire region,  $M_1$  is stable. Fig. (b) Pitchfork bifurcation for  $k = 0.5$ ,  $P = 1.0$  and  $a = 0.3$ .

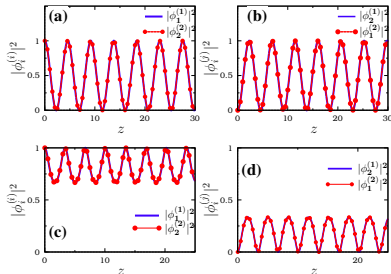
# Reciprocal nature

Time reversibility  $\Rightarrow$  Consider two input situations

$$(a) |\phi_1^{(1)}|^2(0) = 1, |\phi_2^{(1)}|^2(0) = 0$$

$$(b) |\phi_1^{(2)}|^2(0) = 0, |\phi_2^{(2)}|^2(0) = 1$$

Integrating the considered equations:



**Figure:** Reciprocal dynamics in the system for  $k = 0.5$ ,  $a = 0.5$ . Figs. (a) and (b):  $\beta = 1.0$ . Figs. (c) and (d):  $\beta = 3.0$ .

# General Case

Do non-reciprocity is always absent in conservative systems?

Consider more general coupling:

$$\begin{aligned} i \frac{d\phi_1}{dz} &= -\beta|\phi_1|^2\phi_1 - k\phi_2 + ia\phi_2 + \alpha G(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_1^*, \phi_2^*), \\ i \frac{d\phi_2}{dz} &= -\beta|\phi_2|^2\phi_2 - k\phi_1 - ia\phi_1 + \alpha G(\phi_2, \phi_1, \phi_2^*, \phi_1^*), \end{aligned}$$

- Physically relevant nonlinearities satisfy

$$G(\phi_1 e^{i\chi}, \phi_2 e^{i\chi}, \phi_1^* e^{-i\chi}, \phi_2^* e^{-i\chi}) = e^{i\chi} G(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_1^*, \phi_2^*).$$

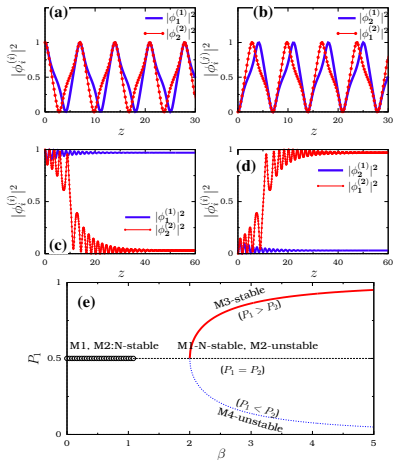
- The possible physically relevant nonlinearities preserving total power conservation are identified.
- Nonlinearities that can support reciprocal dynamics - pitchfork type symmetry breaking bifurcation

$$G(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_1^*, \phi_2^*) = |\phi_2|^2\phi_1, \phi_2^2\phi_1^*, \phi_2^3\phi_1^{*2}, |\phi_1|^4\phi_1, |\phi_2|^4\phi_1, |\phi_1|^2|\phi_2^2|\phi_1,$$

- Nonlinearities that can support non-reciprocal dynamics - tangent type symmetry breaking bifurcation

$$G(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_1^*, \phi_2^*) = |\phi_1|^2|\phi_2^2|\phi_2, |\phi_2|^2\phi_1^2\phi_2^*.$$

Non-reciprocal dynamics in the conservative case for  $G(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_1^*, \phi_2^*) = |\phi_1|^2 |\phi_2|^2 \phi_2$



Tangent like bifurcation occurs!



Tangent like bifurcation occurs!

- For low values of  $\beta$ , both  $M_1$  &  $M_2$  stable and then  $M_2$  becomes unstable. In addition, at critical value of  $\beta$ ,  $M_3$  is stable,  $M_4$  is unstable.
- Localization of light in the first waveguide regardless of whether the input beam is injected in the first waveguide or in the second waveguide.
- Unidirectional transport of light occurs due to tangent like symmetry breaking bifurcation.

# Addition of non-conservative terms (like four wave mixing)

- Now include  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric nonconservative forms in  $G$ :

$$G(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_1^*, \phi_2^*) = \phi_1^2 \phi_2^*, |\phi_1|^2 \phi_2, |\phi_2|^2 \phi_2, |\phi_1|^4 \phi_2, \\ |\phi_2|^4 \phi_2, \phi_1^3 \phi_2^{*2}, |\phi_1|^2 \phi_1^2 \phi_2, |\phi_1|^2 \phi_2^2 \phi_1^*, |\phi_2|^2 \phi_2^2 \phi_1^*.$$

- If we consider nonlinearities upto cubic order:

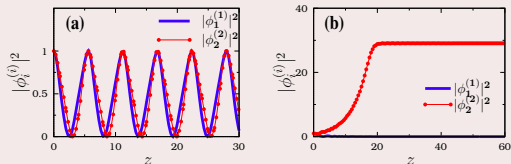
$$\alpha G(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_1^*, \phi_2^*) = \alpha_1 \phi_1^2 \phi_2^* + \alpha_2 |\phi_1|^2 \phi_2 + \alpha_3 |\phi_2|^2 \phi_2.$$

$$\frac{dP}{dz} = (-\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 - \alpha_3) S_2 (P_1 - P_2) \neq 0.$$

one of the Stoke's variables  $S_2 = i(\phi_1 \phi_2^* - \phi_1^* \phi_2)$  and  $P_{1,2} = |\phi_{1,2}|^2$

What about the non-reciprocal nature of the non-conservative cases?

- All non-conservative cases are non-reciprocal and show unidirectional light transport in the symmetry broken region.
- Self trapping nonlinearity - essential for unidirectional light transport.



**Figure:** (Non-reciprocal dynamics in the unbroken and broken  $\mathcal{PT}$  regions for the case  $\alpha G = \alpha_1 \phi_1^2 \phi_2^*$ )

# Nonlinear $\mathcal{PT}$ symmetric coupling

$$i \frac{d\phi_1}{dz} = -\beta |\phi_1|^2 \phi_1 - k\phi_2 + i\eta G(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_1^*, \phi_2^*),$$

$$i \frac{d\phi_2}{dz} = -\beta |\phi_2|^2 \phi_2 - k\phi_1 - i\eta G(\phi_2, \phi_1, \phi_2^*, \phi_1^*),$$

- Except the cases  $G = |\phi_2|^4 \phi_1$  and  $|\phi_1|^2 \phi_1^2 \phi_2^*$ , all the other conservative and non-conservative cases are non-reciprocal and show unidirectional light transport in the presence of self-trapping nonlinearity ( $\beta$ ).
- An interesting case which support unidirectional light transport even in the absence of self-trapping nonlinearity

$$i\dot{\phi}_1 = -\beta |\phi_1|^2 \phi_1 - k\phi_2 + i\eta |\phi_2|^2 \phi_1,$$

$$i\dot{\phi}_2 = -\beta |\phi_2|^2 \phi_2 - k\phi_1 - i\eta |\phi_1|^2 \phi_2.$$

- The above nonlinear coupling is also useful in controlling blow-up responses in  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric systems with loss-gain.

# Controlling blow-up responses with nonlinear coupling

## Model

Coupled waveguide system under consideration

$$\begin{aligned} i \frac{d\phi_1}{dz} &= \omega_1 \phi_1 - i\gamma \phi_1 + i\alpha |\phi_1|^2 \phi_1 - k\phi_2 - i\chi_1 |\phi_2|^2 \phi_1, \\ i \frac{d\phi_2}{dz} &= \omega_2 \phi_2 + i\gamma \phi_2 - i\alpha |\phi_2|^2 \phi_2 - k\phi_1 + i\chi_2 |\phi_1|^2 \phi_2, \end{aligned}$$

$\gamma \Rightarrow$  linear loss-gain strength

$\alpha \Rightarrow$  nonlinear loss-gain strength

$\chi_1, \chi_2 \Rightarrow$  coupling induced by stimulated Raman scattering,  $\chi_1 = \frac{\omega_1}{\omega_2} \chi$  and  $\chi_2 = \chi$   
 $\omega_1 > \omega_2$ ,  $\omega_1 \Rightarrow$  Pump frequency,  $\omega_2 \Rightarrow$  Stokes frequency.

Limiting case:  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric case

$$\begin{aligned} i \frac{d\phi_1}{dz} &= \omega \phi_1 - i\gamma \phi_1 + i\alpha |\phi_1|^2 \phi_1 - k\phi_2 - i\chi |\phi_2|^2 \phi_1, \\ i \frac{d\phi_2}{dz} &= \omega \phi_2 + i\gamma \phi_2 - i\alpha |\phi_2|^2 \phi_2 - k\phi_1 + i\chi |\phi_1|^2 \phi_2. \end{aligned}$$

## Equation of amplitude and phase

$$\phi_1 = R_1 e^{-i\tilde{\omega}z + i\theta_1} \quad \text{and} \quad \phi_2 = R_2 e^{-i\tilde{\omega}z + i\theta_2}.$$

$$\dot{R}_1 = -\gamma R_1 + \alpha R_1^3 + k R_2 \sin \delta - \chi R_2^2 R_1,$$

$$\dot{R}_2 = \gamma R_2 - \alpha R_2^3 - k R_1 \sin \delta + \chi R_1^2 R_2,$$

$$\dot{\delta} = -\frac{k(R_1^2 - R_2^2)}{R_1 R_2} \cos \delta,$$

⇒ Symmetric mode

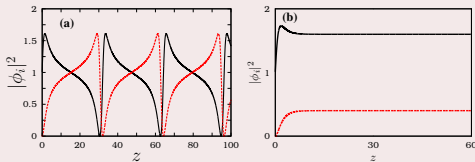
$$R_1^* = R_2^* = R^*, \quad \sin \delta^* = \frac{\gamma - (\alpha - \chi)R^{*2}}{k}$$

⇒ Asymmetric modes

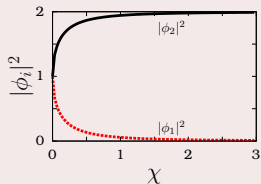
$$(i) \quad R_1^* = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{\alpha} - \Delta}, \quad R_2^* = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{\alpha} + \Delta},$$

$$(ii) \quad R_1^* = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{\alpha} + \Delta}, \quad R_2^* = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{\alpha} - \Delta}, \quad \delta = \frac{(2n+1)\pi}{2}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

where  $\Delta = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma^2}{\alpha^2} - \frac{4k^2}{(\alpha+\chi)^2}}$ . If  $k < \frac{\gamma(\alpha+\chi)}{2\alpha}$ , asymmetric state is stable. Otherwise symmetric state is stable.

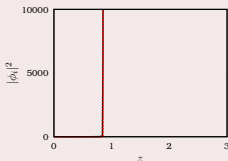


**Figure:** Dynamics of  $|\phi_1|^2$  (red curve) and  $|\phi_2|^2$  (black curve) in the (a) unbroken  $\mathcal{PT}$  region ( $\chi = 0.0$  and  $k = 0.51$ ) and (b) broken  $\mathcal{PT}$  region ( $\chi = 0.0$  and  $k = 0.4$ ). In both the figures  $\gamma = 1.0$  and  $\alpha = 0.5$



**Figure:** Power in the first and second waveguides for different values of  $\chi$  and for  $k = 0.5$ ,  $\gamma = 1.0$  and  $\alpha = 0.5$ . From the figure, we can observe the isolation of light in the second waveguide with increase of  $\chi$ .

Besides the above stable dynamics, the system also shows blow-up responses for certain higher input powers. Linear stability analysis is a local analysis that does not evidence the existence of such blow-up responses.



**Figure:** Blow-up response for  $\phi_1(0) = \sqrt{2.5}$ ,  $\phi_2(0) = 0.0$  and for  $\chi = 0.0$ ,  $k = 0.4$ ,  $\gamma = 1.0$  and  $\alpha = 0.5$

We use integrable nature of the system to show the ability of the nonlinear coupling in controlling blow-up responses.



### Dynamical equations in Stokes variables

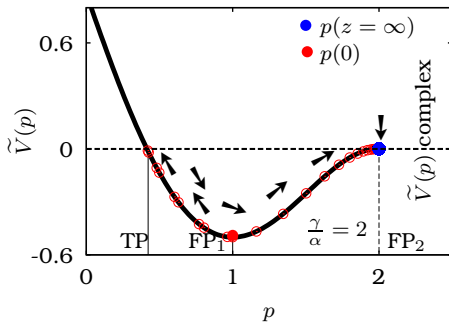
$$p = |\phi_1|^2 + |\phi_2|^2, \quad s_0 = |\phi_1|^2 - |\phi_2|^2, \quad s_1 = \phi_1 \phi_2^* + \phi_1^* \phi_2, \quad s_2 = i(\phi_1 \phi_2^* - \phi_1^* \phi_2) \text{ and} \\ p^2 = s_0^2 + s_1^2 + s_2^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{p} &= -2(\gamma - \alpha p)s_0, \\ \dot{s}_0 &= -2(\gamma - \alpha p)p - [(\alpha + \chi)s_1]s_1 - [(\alpha + \chi)s_2 + 2k]s_2, \\ \dot{s}_1 &= [(\alpha + \chi)s_1]s_0, \\ \dot{s}_2 &= [(\alpha + \chi)s_2 + 2k]s_0. \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

The above set of equations has two integrals of motion ( $I_1, I_2$ ). With two integrals of motion and using  $p^2 = s_0^2 + s_1^2 + s_2^2$ , the problem can be reduced to the particle in a potential problem

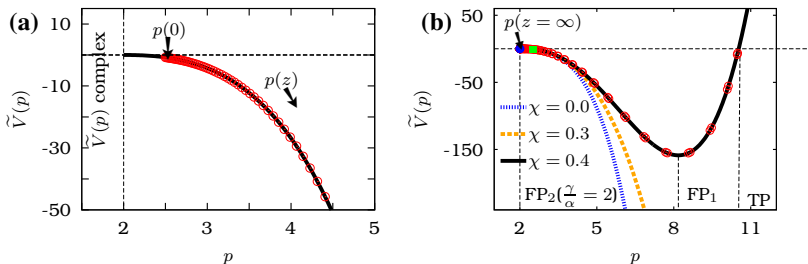
$$\frac{\dot{p}^2}{2} + V(p, E) = 0,$$

$$V(p, E) = \tilde{V}(p) = V(p) - E = 2(\gamma - \alpha p)^2 [s_1^2(p) + s_2^2(p) - p^2]. \tag{10}$$



**Figure:** Dynamics (stable dynamics) in the broken  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric region for  $\chi = 0.0$ : Figure shows the potential curve of  $\tilde{V}(p)$  for  $\gamma = 1.0$ ,  $\alpha = 0.5$ ,  $k = 0.4$ , and  $\chi = 0.0$ . It is obtained for the initial condition  $\phi_1 = 1.0 + 0.0i$  and  $\phi_2 = 0.0$ . The empty circles along the  $\tilde{V}(p)$  curve represent the dynamics of  $p$  with respect to  $z$ .

# Control of blow-up responses by $\chi$



**Figure:** Blow-up responses in the broken  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric region: Fig. (a) is plotted for the same values of parameters as that of previous figure but for initial conditions  $\phi_1 = \sqrt{2.5}$  and  $\phi_2 = 0.0$  and it also shows the existence of blow-up solution for certain input power configurations. Fig. (b) shows the curves of  $\tilde{V}(p)$  for different values of  $\chi$ , namely, 0.0, 0.3 and 0.4, for the same initial conditions and parametric values as considered in Fig. (a).

# Conclusion

- $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetry breaking in the interesting class of nonlinear/position dependently damped systems have been studied.
- The existence of Bi- $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric systems is shown. Tailoring of  $\mathcal{PT}$  regions for proper choice of position dependent damping is also discussed.
- The possibilities to achieve unidirectional light transport with loss-gain free systems, that is, in the  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetrically coupled systems are shown.
- The ability to control blow-up responses in a  $\mathcal{PT}$  symmetric system with a nonlinear coupling is demonstrated.

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