

Symmetries of quantum potentials:

From \mathcal{PT} - to super-, broken to unbroken

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1. On the effect of symmetries on physical systems

Symmetry \Rightarrow special spectral patterns

What if there are **two** distinct symmetries?

2. Symmetries of quantum mechanical potentials

The basics of \mathcal{PT} symmetry

The basics of **supersymmetric quantum mechanics**

How do they match: **general considerations**

3. Examples from exactly solvable potentials

The basics on potential types: shape-invariant, Natanzon, etc.

Combining unbroken/broken \mathcal{PT} symmetry with unbroken/broken **SUSY**

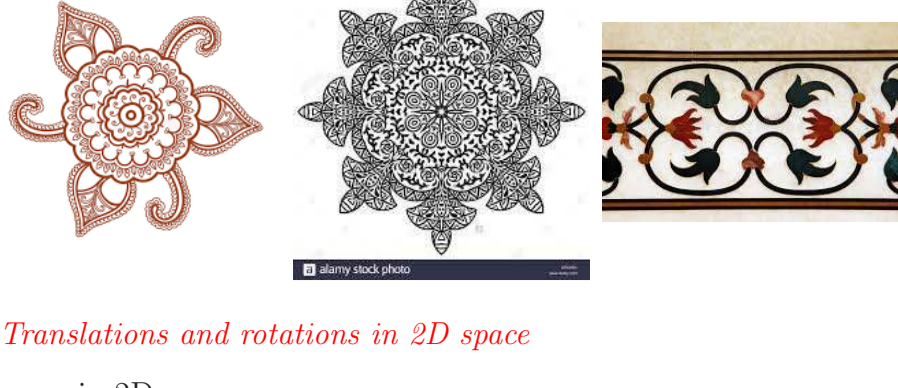
What do we learn from it?

1. On the effect of symmetries on physical systems

A simple example from classical physics

Symmetry No. 1: *Discrete rotations*

C_n : n -fold rotations



Symmetry No. 2: *Translations and rotations in 2D space*

E_2 : Euclidean group in 2D



What about their joint effect?

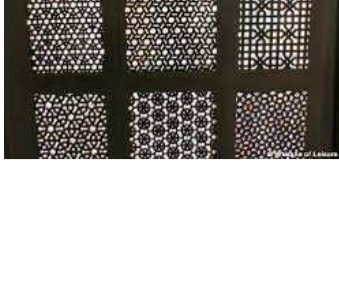
Tile the 2D plane with C_n -symmetric plates

They restrict each other:

Not an n remain allowed

Not all translations and rotations remain allowed

BUT: their combined effect is more spectacular...



(??? But why tile the praeri???)

$$-\frac{d^2\Psi}{dx^2} + V(x)\Psi(x) = E\Psi(x)$$

$$x \in (-\infty, \infty)$$

$$x \in [-a, a], a < \infty$$

$$x \in [0, \infty)$$

x can be shifted to this domain

Radial problems; extended to $x \in (-\infty, \infty)$ in \mathcal{PTQM}

Possible symmetries:

Supersymmetric quantum mechanics (SUSYQM)

Connects different isospectral potentials

Unbroken or broken, depending on the SUSY transformation

\mathcal{PT} -symmetric quantum mechanics

Special type of complex potentials

Unbroken or broken, depending on the potential

Symmetries based on **(Lie) algebras**

Possible after defining further (differential) operators

We combine here **SUSYQM** and **\mathcal{PTQM}**

What are the consequences? What if they are broken?

The basics of \mathcal{PT} symmetry

(only features relevant here)

$$\mathcal{PT} : V(x) \equiv V_R(x) + iV_I(x) \Rightarrow V^*(-x)$$

$$V_R(-x) = V(x), \quad V_I(-x) = -V(x)$$

Energy eigenvalues:

Real with states $\mathcal{PT}\psi_n^{(q)}(x) = \psi_n^{(q)}(x)$

and/or

Complex conjugate with states $\mathcal{PT}\psi_n^{(q)}(x) = \psi_n^{(-q)}(x)$

Real energy eigenvalues can merge to complex conjugate pairs:

Breakdown of \mathcal{PT} symmetry

Merging/re-emerging states carry the quasi-parity $q = \pm 1$ quantum number

Note: The breakdown of \mathcal{PT} symmetry **does not** occur for every potential

Potentials can be defined off the real x axis Reconsidered boundary conditions

A simple case:

Imaginary coordinate shift: $\delta = -ic$ It has no effect on the spectrum

Avoids singularities e.g. at $x = 0$: $[0, \infty) \Rightarrow (-\infty, \infty)$

The basics of supersymmetric quantum mechanics

The superalgebra of $N = 2$ SUSYQM

$$\{Q, Q^\dagger\} = \mathcal{H} \quad Q^2 = (Q^\dagger)^2 = 0$$

$$[Q, \mathcal{H}] = [Q^\dagger, \mathcal{H}] = 0$$

Realization of the **charge operators** and the **SUSY Hamiltonian** in terms of 2×2 matrices:

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ A & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad Q^\dagger = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & A^\dagger \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{H} = \begin{pmatrix} A^\dagger A & 0 \\ 0 & A A^\dagger \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} H_- & 0 \\ 0 & H_+ \end{pmatrix}$$

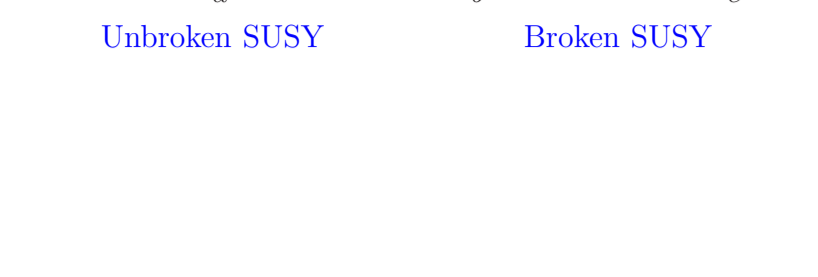
H_- “bosonic” and H_+ “fermionic” components

The SUSY of \mathcal{H} implies **isospectrality** of H_- and H_+

$$H_- \psi^{(-)} = E^{(-)} \psi^{(-)} \quad H_+ \psi^{(+)} = E^{(+)} \psi^{(+)}$$

$$H_+(A\psi^{(-)}) = A A^\dagger (A\psi^{(-)}) = A H_- \psi^{(-)} = E^{(-)} A\psi^{(-)}$$

except when $A\psi^{(-)} = 0$ holds



Take the **differential realization**

$$A = \frac{d}{dx} + W(x), \quad A^\dagger = -\frac{d}{dx} + W(x),$$

$$H_\pm \psi^{(\pm)}(x) = \left(-\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + V_\pm(x) \right) \psi^{(\pm)}(x) = E^{(\pm)} \psi^{(\pm)}(x).$$

where

$$V_\pm(x) = W^2(x) \pm \frac{d}{dx}W(x).$$

For **unbroken SUSY** the $W(x)$ **superpotential** is related to $\psi_0^{(-)}(x)$ as

$$W(x) = -\frac{d}{dx} \ln \psi_0^{(-)}(x)$$

For **broken SUSY** $\psi_0^{(-)}$ is replaced with other eigenfunctions: $H_- \chi = \epsilon \chi$

$\chi(x)$: **unphysical**, but **nodeless**

Case b): unbound at $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$ Case c): unbound at $x \rightarrow +/ -\infty$

ϵ : **factorization energy**

If $\chi(x) = \psi_0^{(-)}(x)\xi(x)$, then

$$W(x) = -\frac{d}{dx} \ln \chi(x) = -\frac{d}{dx} \left[\ln \psi_0^{(-)}(x) + \ln \xi(x) \right] \equiv W_0(x) + \tilde{W}(x).$$

Separate the **even(e)/odd(o)** AND real(R)/imaginary(I) components:

$$V_{\pm}(x) = V_{\pm R}(x) + iV_{\pm I}(x)$$

$$W(x) = W_{Re}(x) + W_{Ro}(x) + iW_{Ie}(x) + iW_{Io}(x)$$

Then

$$V_{-}(x) = \left(W_{Re}^2 + W_{Ro}^2 - W_{Ie}^2 - W_{Io}^2 - W'_{Ro} + \epsilon_R \right) + (2W_{Re}W_{Ro} - 2W_{Ie}W_{Io} - W'_{Re})$$

$$+ i(2W_{Re}W_{Ie} + 2W_{Ro}W_{Io} - W'_{Io} + \epsilon_I) + i(2W_{Re}W_{Io} + 2W_{Ro}W_{Ie} - W'_{Ie})$$

$V_{-}(x)$ is \mathcal{PT} -symmetric, if

$$W'_{Re}(x) - W_{Ro}(x)W_{Re}(x) + 2W_{Ie}(x)W_{Io}(x) = 0$$

$$W'_{Io}(x) - 2W_{Ie}(x)W_{Re}(x) - 2W_{Ro}(x)W_{Io}(x) = \epsilon_I$$

Inhomogeneous system of first-order differential equation for $W_{Re}(x)$ and $W_{Io}(x)$

What about $V_+(x)$?

$$V_+(x) = V_-(x) + 2(W'_{Re}(x) + W'_{Ro}(x) + iW'_{Ie}(x) + iW'_{Io}(x))$$

$V_+(x)$ is \mathcal{PT} -symmetric if $W'_{Re} = 0$ and $W'_{Io} = 0$.

For $W(x) \neq \text{const.}$ this means $W_{Re} = 0$, $W_{Io} = 0$, implying $\epsilon_I = 0$

This implies

$$\mathcal{PT} : W(x) = W_{Ro}(x) + iW_{Re}(x) \Rightarrow -W(x)$$

Therefore,

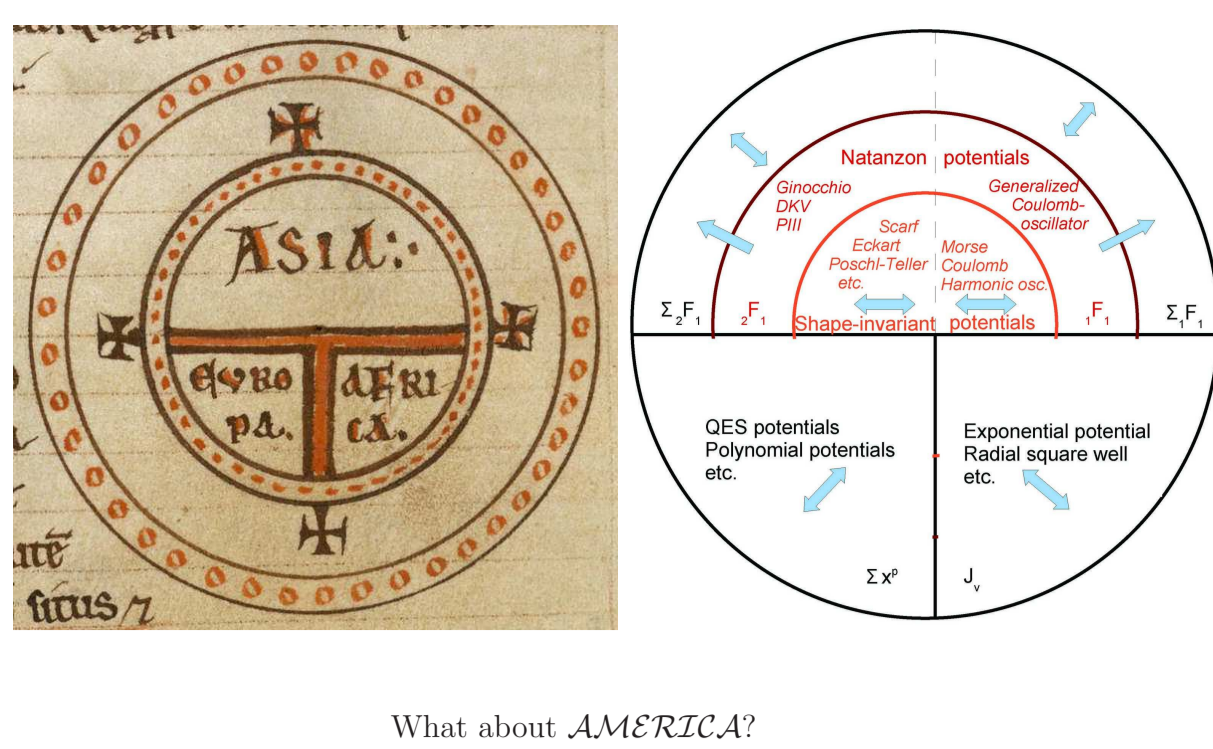
$$\chi(x) \sim \exp\left(-\int^x W(y)dy\right)$$

is the eigenfunction of \mathcal{PT} : $\mathcal{PT}\chi(x) \sim \chi(x)$

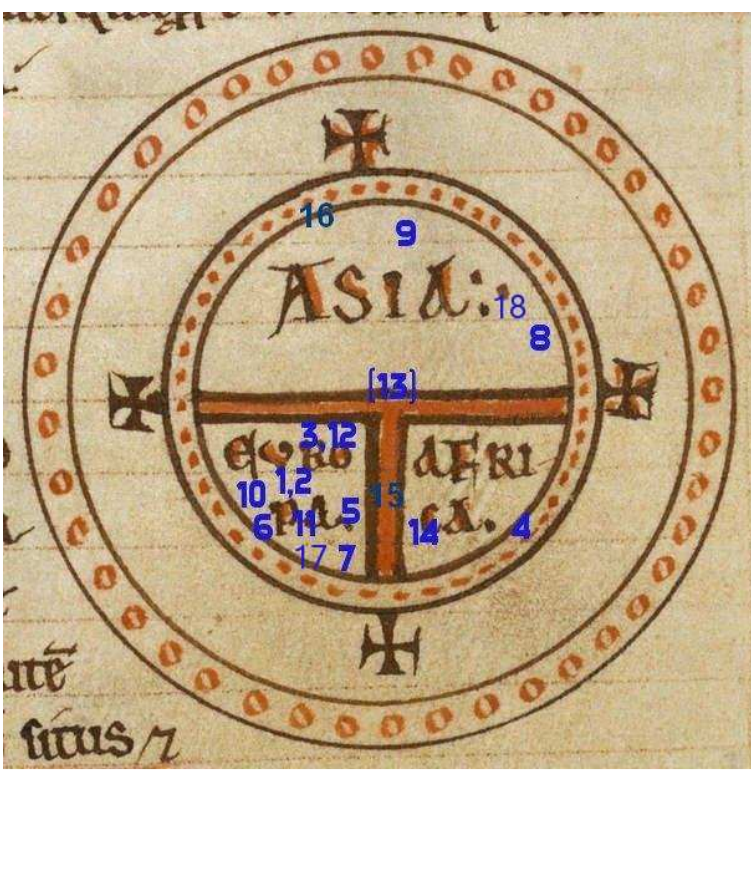
The \mathcal{PT} symmetry of $V_+(x)$ requires **real factorization energy** ϵ

3. Examples from exactly solvable potentials

The world map of solvable potentials



What about *AMERICA*?



- 1 Prague
- 2 Prague
- 3 Istanbul
- 4 Stellenbosch
- 5 Bologna
- 6 London
- 7 Benasque
- 8 Mumbai
- 9 Hangzhou
- 10 Dresden
- 11 Paris
- 12 Istanbul
- 13 Jerusalem
- 14 Sétif
- 15 Palermo
- 16 Kyoto
- 17 Bad Honnef
- 18 Bengaluru

The main territories in the map

${}_2F_1$: [Natanzon class](#), solved by ${}_2F_1$ in general, by $P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(z)$ for bound states

${}_1F_1$: [Natanzon confluent class](#), solved by ${}_1F_1$ in general, by $L_n^{(\alpha)}(z)$ for bound states

[Shape-invariant](#): Natanzon (confluent) subclass, **closed** under a SUSY transformation

$\Sigma_2 F_1$ and $\Sigma_1 F_1$: solutions in terms of the [linear combination](#) of several
(confluent) hypergeometric functions

Non-SI SUSY partners of Natanzon (confluent) potentials

Potentials solved by **exceptional orthogonal polynomials**, a new type of SI
 \implies **AMERICA?**

Solutions containing **both independent solutions** gen. Woods–Saxon

J_ν : potentials solved by [Bessel functions](#)

Σx^p : [Quasi-exactly](#) solvable potentials: exact solutions up to a finite n

Outside the world: solvable by [semi-analytically](#) solvable potentials, etc.

A reminder on the exact solutions of the Schrödinger equation

An old **variable transformation** method

Bhattacharjie and Sudarshan 1962

Schrödinger eq. \implies differential equation of special function F

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} + (E - V(x))\psi(x) = 0 \quad \text{insert} \quad \psi(x) = \mathbf{f}(x)F(\mathbf{z}(x))$$

and compare with

$$\frac{d^2F}{dz^2} + Q(\mathbf{z})\frac{dF}{dz} + R(\mathbf{z})F(\mathbf{z}) = 0$$

to get

$$E - V(x) = \frac{\mathbf{z}''(x)}{2\mathbf{z}'(x)} - \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{\mathbf{z}''(x)}{\mathbf{z}'(x)} \right)^2 + (\mathbf{z}'(x))^2 \left(R(\mathbf{z}(x)) - \frac{1}{2} \frac{dQ(\mathbf{z})}{d\mathbf{z}} - \frac{1}{4} Q^2(\mathbf{z}(x)) \right).$$

Schwartzian derivatve terms E and the **main potential terms**

Connection to

SUSYQM:

$$W(x) = -\frac{1}{2}Q(z(x))z'(x) + \frac{z''(x)}{2z'(x)}$$

Apply the method to the Jacobi polynomials: $F(z) = P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(z)$

$$V(x) = -\frac{z''(x)}{2z'(x)} + \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{z''(x)}{z'(x)} \right)^2 + \frac{C}{\phi(z)} [s_I(1-z^2(x)) + s_{II} + s_{III}z(x)] .$$

$z(x)$ obtained from

$$\left(\frac{dz}{dx} \right)^2 \phi(z) \equiv \left(\frac{dz}{dx} \right)^2 \frac{p(1-z^2) + p_1 + p_{II}z}{(1-z^2)^2} = C .$$

by direct integration

$$\int \phi^{1/2}(z) dz = C^{1/2} x + \varepsilon .$$

ε : integration constant, coordinate shift, **imaginary** in \mathcal{PTQM} : $\varepsilon = -ic$

The solutions are

$$\psi(x) \sim [\phi(z(x))]^{\frac{1}{4}} (1+z(x))^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} (1-z(x))^{\frac{\beta}{2}} P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(z(x)) .$$

$$\left(n + \frac{1}{2} + \omega \right)^2 - \frac{1}{4} + s_I - p_{II} \frac{E_n}{C} = 0$$

$$(1 - \omega^2 - \rho^2) + s_{II} - p_{II} \frac{E_n}{C} = 0$$

$$-2\omega\rho + s_{III} - p_{III} \frac{E_n}{C} = 0$$

$$\omega = (\alpha + \beta)/2 \text{ and } \rho = (\alpha - \beta)/2$$

Solving the problem: chose $p_i \Rightarrow$ get $z(x) \Rightarrow$ get $V(x) \Rightarrow$ express E_n

The \mathcal{PT} -symmetrization of $z(x)$

...is related to the \mathcal{PT} -symmetrization of $z'(x) = C^{1/2}(1-z^2)[\phi(x)]^{-1/2}$...

... that is to that of $\phi(x) = p_I(1-z^2) + p_{II} + p_{III}z(1-z^2)^2$...

...that depends on p_I , p_{II} and p_{III}

$\phi(z(x))$ is \mathcal{PT} -even if $\begin{cases} z(x) \text{ is } \mathcal{PT}\text{-even,} & \text{i.e. } p_i \text{ are real} \\ z(x) \text{ is } \mathcal{PT}\text{-odd,} & \text{i.e. } p_I \text{ and } p_{II} \text{ are real, } p_{III} \text{ imaginary} \end{cases}$

$$V(x) = -\frac{z'''(x)}{2z'(x)} + \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{z''(x)}{z'(x)} \right)^2 + \frac{C}{\phi(z)} [s_I(1-z^2(x)) + s_{II} + s_{III}z(x)]$$

$V(x)$ is \mathcal{PT} -even if $\begin{cases} z(x) \text{ is } \mathcal{PT}\text{-even,} & \text{i.e. } s_i \text{ are real} \\ z(x) \text{ is } \mathcal{PT}\text{-odd,} & \text{i.e. } s_I \text{ and } s_{II} \text{ are real, } s_{III} \text{ imaginary} \end{cases}$

Note: The Schwartzian derivative is \mathcal{PT} -even if $z(x)$ has definite \mathcal{PT} -parity

The \mathcal{PT} -transformation properties and normalizability of

$$\psi(x) \sim [\phi(z(x))]^{\frac{1}{4}}(1+z(x))^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}(1-z(x))^{\frac{\beta}{2}}P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(z(x)).$$

depend on $z(x)$, $\phi(z)$, α and β

The list of (real) **shape-invariant potentials** ($a = 1, C = \pm 1$)

$(z')^2 =$ (Class)	$V(x)$	$x \in$	Name
$C(1 - z^2)$ (PI)	$(B^2 - A^2 - A)\operatorname{sech}^2(x) + B(2A + 1)\operatorname{sech}(x)\tanh(x)$ $(B^2 + A^2 + A)\operatorname{cosech}^2(x) - B(2A + 1)\operatorname{cosech}(x)\coth(x)$ $(B^2 + A^2 - A)\operatorname{cosec}^2(x) - B(2A - 1)\operatorname{cosec}(x)\cot(x)$ $A(A - 1)\sec^2(x) + B(B - 1)\operatorname{cosec}^2(x)$ $-A(A + 1)\operatorname{sech}^2(x) + B(B - 1)\operatorname{cosech}^2(x)$	$(-\infty, \infty)$ $[0, \infty)$ $[0, \pi]$ $[0, \pi/2]$ $[0, \infty)$	Scarf II gen. Pöschl-Teller Scarf I (Pöschl-Teller I) (Pöschl-Teller II)
$C(1 - z^2)^2$ (PII)	$-A(A + 1)\operatorname{sech}^2(x) + 2B\tanh(x)$ $A(A - 1)\operatorname{cosech}^2(x) - 2B\coth(x)$ $A(A + 1)\operatorname{cosec}^2(x) - 2B\cot(x)$	$(-\infty, \infty)$ $[0, \infty)$ $[0, \pi]$	Rosen-Morse II Eckart Rosen-Morse I
C_z (LI)	$\frac{1}{4}\omega^2 x^2 + \frac{l(l+1)}{x^2} - (l + \frac{3}{2})\omega$	$[0, \infty)$	3d harmonic oscillator
C (LII)	$\frac{e^x}{4(l+1)^2} - \frac{e^x}{x} + \frac{l(l+1)}{x^2}$	$[0, \infty)$	Coulomb
Cz^2 (LIII)	$A^2 - B(2A + 1)\exp(-x) + B^2\exp(-2x)$	$(-\infty, \infty)$	Morse
C (III)	$-\frac{1}{2}\omega + \frac{1}{4}\omega^2 x^2$	$(-\infty, \infty)$	1d harmonic oscillator

Obtained by selecting [certain single terms](#) on the right handside of $E - V(x) = \dots$

The Scarf II potential

$$p_I = 1, p_{II} = p_{III} = 0, s_I = 1/4, s_{II}, s_{III}$$

$$V(x) = -\frac{1}{\cosh^2 x} \left[\left(\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\alpha - \beta}{2} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{4} \right] + \frac{i \sinh x}{\cosh^2 x} 2 \left(\frac{\beta + \alpha}{2} \right) \left(\frac{\beta - \alpha}{2} \right)$$

$$z(x) = i \sinh(x)$$

\mathcal{PT} -even

s_{II}

s_{III}

\mathcal{PT} symmetry: $\implies \alpha, \beta$ are **real or imaginary**

$\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta$: $\implies V(x) \leftrightarrow V(-x)$

$V(x)$ invariant under $\alpha \leftrightarrow -\alpha \implies q\alpha \equiv \pm\alpha$ **quasi-parity**

$$\psi_n^{(q)}(x) = C_n^{(q)} (1 - i \sinh(x + i\epsilon))^{\frac{q}{2} + \frac{1}{4}} (1 + i \sinh(x + i\epsilon))^{\frac{q}{2} + \frac{1}{4}} P_n^{(q, \alpha, \beta)}(i \sinh(x + i\epsilon))$$

Normalizable if $n^{(q)} < -[\text{Re}(q\alpha + \beta) + 1]/2$

$$E_n^{(q)} = - \left(n + \frac{q\alpha + \beta + 1}{2} \right)^2$$

Complex conjugate pairs if α is **imaginary**

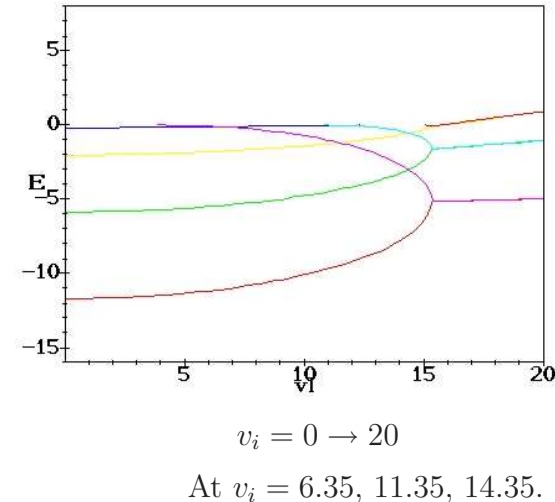
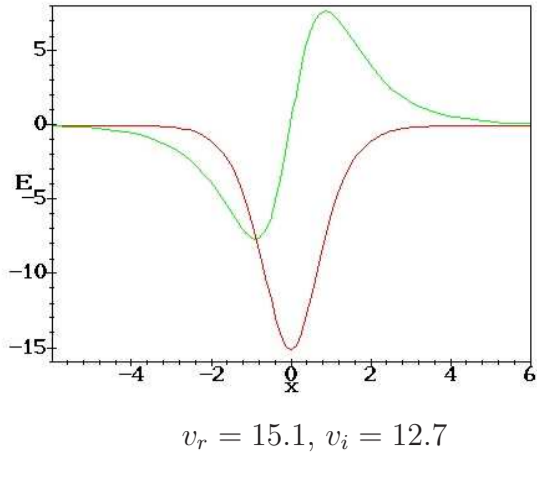
Breakdown of \mathcal{PT} symmetry

“**Sudden**” mechanism: all the $E_n^{(q)}$ turn complex at the same time

Note: spectral singularity for $\beta = -2n - 1$

The transition to complex energy eigenvalues

Reparametrize to $V(x) = -v_r V_R(x) + i v_i V_I(x)$, v_r fixed, v_i varied



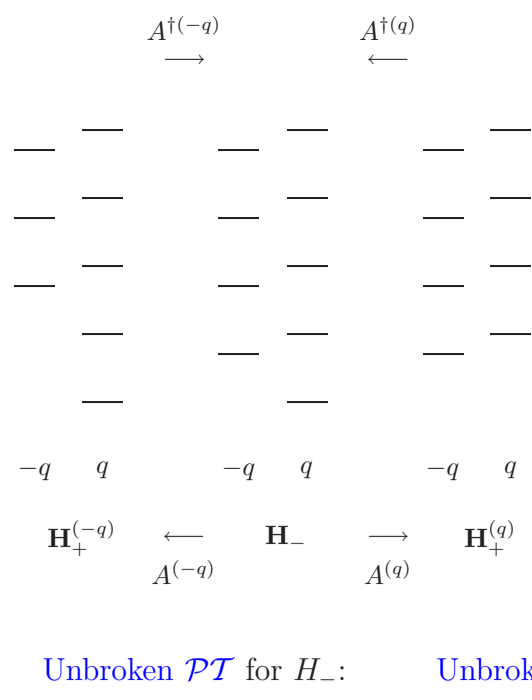
At $v_i = 6.35, 11.35, 14.35$.

Complexification occurs for $|v_i| = v_r + 1/4 = 15.35$ for all n

Sudden mechanism of \mathcal{PT} symmetry breaking

Normalizability:

$\psi_0^{(-)}(x)$ for $v_i \geq 3.886$; $\psi_1^{(-)}(x)$, $v_i \geq 10.858$; $\psi_2^{(-)}(x)$, $v_i \geq 15.803$; $\psi_3^{(+)}(x)$, $v_i \leq 12.325$.



Unbroken \mathcal{PT} for H_- : Unbroken \mathcal{PT} for $H_+^{(\pm q)}$

Broken \mathcal{PT} for H_- : NO \mathcal{PT} symmetry for $H_+^{(\pm q)}$

$$p_I = -C/(4\gamma^4), \quad p_{II} = -p_{III} = -C(\gamma - 1)/(2\gamma^4), \quad s_I = 1/4, \quad s_{II}, s_{III}$$

$$V(r) = -\frac{\gamma^4(s(s+1) + 1 - \gamma^2)}{\gamma^2 + \sinh^2 u} + \gamma^4\lambda(\lambda - 1)\frac{\coth^2 u}{\gamma^2 + \sinh^2 u} - \frac{3\gamma^4(\gamma^2 - 1)(3\gamma^2 - 1)}{4(\gamma^2 + \sinh^2 u)^2} + \frac{5\gamma^6(\gamma^2 - 1)^2}{4(\gamma^2 + \sinh^2 u)^3},$$

where the **Implicit** $u(x)$ function is

$$r \equiv x - ic = \frac{1}{\gamma^2} \left[\tanh^{-1} \left((\gamma^2 + \sinh^2 u)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sinh u \right) + (\gamma^2 - 1)^{\frac{1}{2}} \tan^{-1} \left((\gamma^2 - 1)^{\frac{1}{2}} (\gamma^2 + \sinh^2 u)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sinh u \right) \right].$$

$c \neq 0$ to **avoid singularity** at $x = 0$ $z(x) = \cosh(2u(x))$ is **\mathcal{PT} -even**

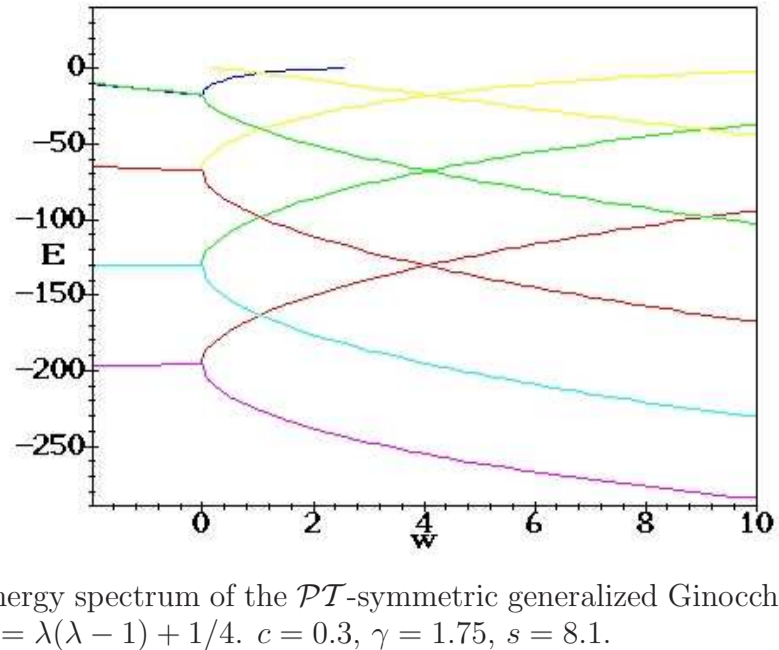
$\gamma = 1$: generalized Pöschl–Teller limit

The bound-state solutions depend on the $q = \pm 1$ **quasi-parity**

$$\psi_n^{(q)}(x) = N_n^{(q)} (\gamma^2 + \sinh^2 u)^{1/4} (\cosh u)^{-2n-1-\mu_n q} (\lambda - \frac{1}{2}) (\sinh u)^{\frac{1}{2} + q(\lambda - \frac{1}{2})} \times P_n^{(q(\lambda - \frac{1}{2}), -2n-1-\mu_n q, q(\lambda - \frac{1}{2}))}(\cosh(2u)).$$

Complexification of the energy eigenvalues $E_n^{(q)} = -\gamma^4 \mu_{nq}^2$

$$\mu_{nq} = \frac{1}{\gamma^2} \left[-\left(2n+1+q\left(\lambda-\frac{1}{2}\right)\right) + \left[\gamma^2\left(s+\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + (1-\gamma^2)\left(2n+1+q\left(\lambda-\frac{1}{2}\right)\right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \right]$$

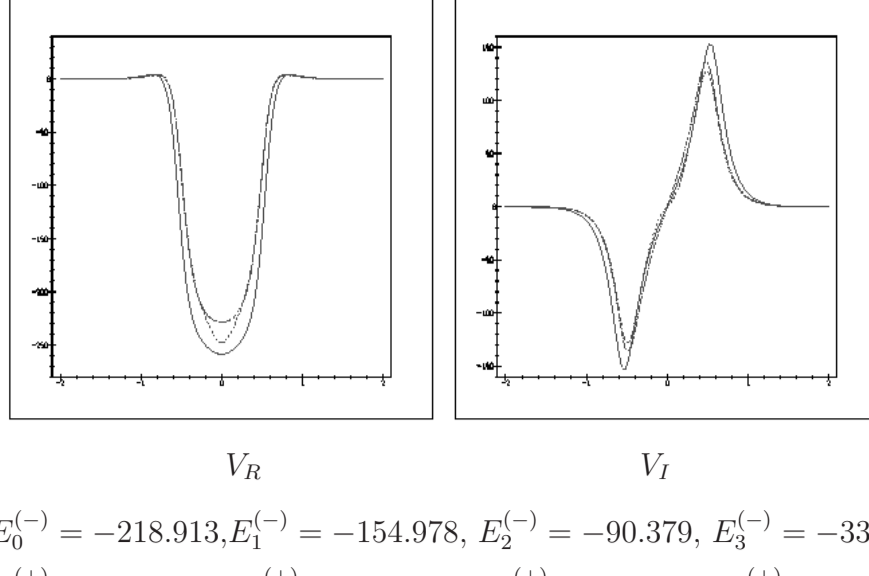


Energy spectrum of the \mathcal{PT} -symmetric generalized Ginocchio potential as the function of $w = \lambda(\lambda - 1) + 1/4$. $c = 0.3$, $\gamma = 1.75$, $s = 8.1$.

Unbroken SUSY, unbroken \mathcal{PT} symmetry: real μ_{qn} , s , λ

$c = 0.3$, $\gamma = 1.75$, $s = 8.1$, $\lambda = 1.25$

$V_-(x)$: solid line, $V_+^{(q=+)}(x)$: dashed line, $V_+^{(q=-)}(x)$: dotted line



$E_0^{(-)} = -218.913, E_1^{(-)} = -154.978, E_2^{(-)} = -90.379, E_3^{(-)} = -33.993, E_4^{(-)} = -1.061.$

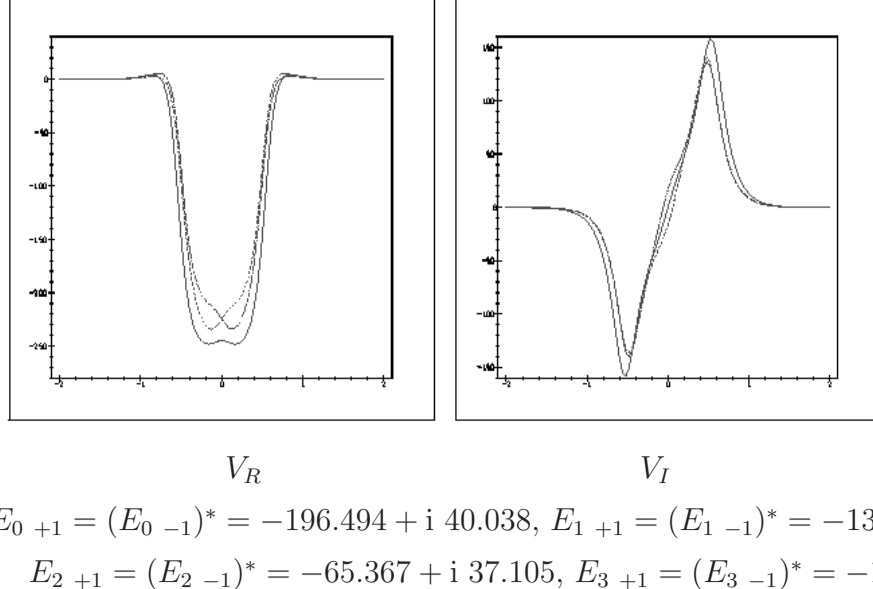
$E_0^{(+)} = -171.313, E_1^{(+)} = -106.160, E_2^{(+)} = -46.679, E_3^{(+)} = -5.666;$

The spectrum of $V_+^{(q)}(x)$ is the same, except for the missing $E_0^{(q)}$ level

Unbroken SUSY, broken \mathcal{PT} symmetry: complex μ_{qm} , $\lambda = \frac{1}{2} - i\lambda$

$c = 0.3$, $\gamma = 1.75$, $s = 8.1$, $\lambda = 0.5 + 1.25i$

$V_-(x)$: solid line, $V_+^{(q=+)}(x)$: dashed line, $V_+^{(q=-)}(x)$: dotted line



$E_{0+1} = (E_{0-1})^* = -196.494 + i 40.038$, $E_{1+1} = (E_{1-1})^* = -130.023 + i 41.130$,
 $E_{2+1} = (E_{2-1})^* = -65.367 + i 37.105$, $E_{3+1} = (E_{3-1})^* = -11.833 + i 25.161$.

The spectrum of $V_+^{(q)}(x)$ is the same, except for the missing $E_0^{(q)}$ level

The \mathcal{PT} symmetry of the SUSY partner potentials is manifestly broken.

Beyond the Natanzon-class: the rationally extended Scarf II potential

Solved by the X_1 type exceptional Jacobi polynomials

Gomez-Ullate et al. 2010

$$\hat{P}_{n+1}^{(\alpha,\beta)}(z) = \left[-\frac{z}{2} + \frac{\beta + \alpha}{\beta - \alpha} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\alpha + \beta + 2n} \right) \right] P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(z) - \frac{P_{n-1}^{(\alpha,\beta)}(z)}{\alpha + \beta + 2n}.$$

They satisfy a differential equation similar to ordinary Jacobi polynomials

They form an orthogonal basis, but start with degree $\nu = n + 1 > 0$

Linear combinations of **two Jacobi polynomials**

The potential:

Quesne 2008, Bagchi et al. 2009

$$V(x) = -\frac{(\beta - \alpha)^2 + (\beta + \alpha)^2 + 1}{4 \cosh^2 x} + \frac{i(\beta + \alpha)(\beta - \alpha) \sinh x}{2 \cosh^2 x} - \frac{2(\beta + \alpha)}{\beta + \alpha - i(\beta - \alpha) \sinh x} + \frac{2[(\beta + \alpha)^2 - (\beta - \alpha)^2]}{(\beta + \alpha - i(\beta - \alpha) \sinh x)^2}.$$

Bound-state eigenfunctions:

$$\psi_n = N_n [1 - i \sinh(x)]^{\frac{\alpha}{2} - \frac{1}{4}} [1 + i \sinh(x)]^{\frac{\beta}{2} - \frac{1}{4}} [\alpha + \beta - i(\beta - \alpha) \sinh x]^{-1} \hat{P}_{n+1}^{(\alpha,\beta)}[i \sinh(x)]$$

Energy eigenvalues:

$$E_n = -\left[n + \frac{1}{2}(\alpha + \beta - 1) \right]^2$$

This potential is related to the Scarf II potential by **SUSYQM**

And it can be **\mathcal{PT} -symmetrized**

Bagchi and Quesne 2010
also, Mandal, Yadav, Kumari

Take the Scarf II potential and a SUSY transformation with

$$\chi(x) = [1 - i \sinh(x)]^{-(\beta+\alpha-1)/4} [1 + i \sinh(x)]^{-(\beta-\alpha)/4} (c + i \sinh x),$$

and factorization energy

$$\epsilon = -\frac{1}{4}(\beta + \alpha - 3)^2$$

$V_+(x)$ becomes the rationally extended Scarf II potential for

$$c = -(\beta - \alpha)/(\beta + \alpha - 2)$$

The transformation introduces a **new ground state** at $E = \epsilon$

It can be **\mathcal{PT} -symmetrized** as usual: α, β real

With $\alpha \Rightarrow q\alpha$ **two SUSY partners** are generated

In fact, $V_+(x)$ can be **non-singular** only in the **\mathcal{PT} -symmetric** setting:

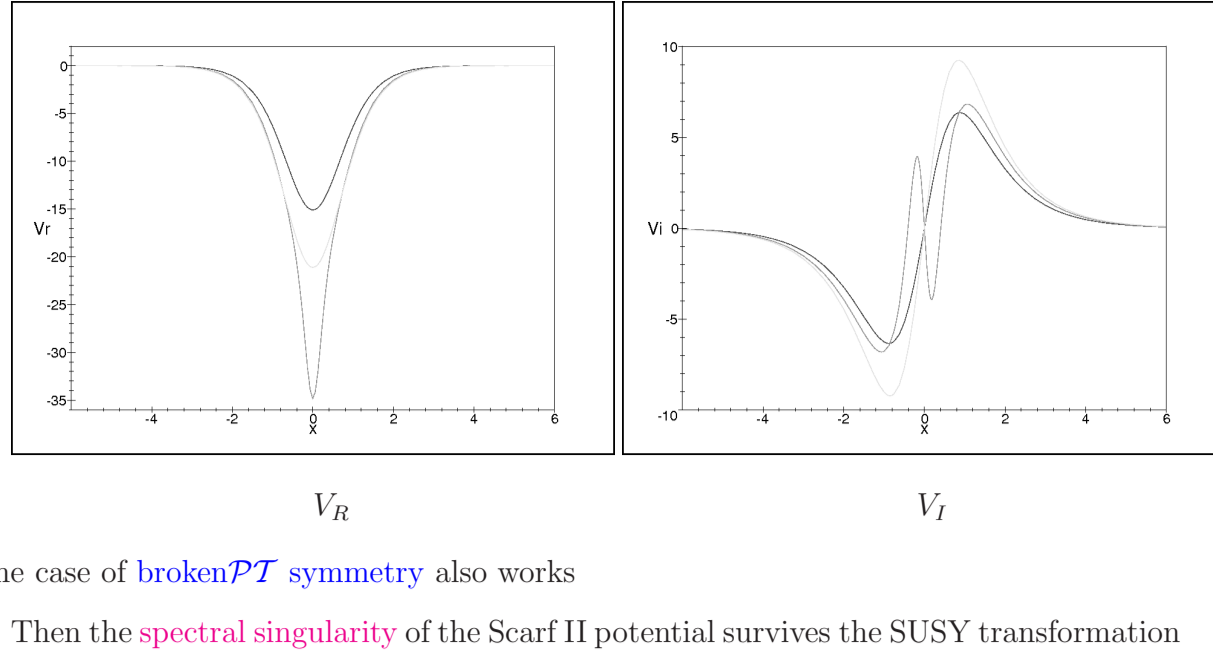
$\chi(x)$ cannot be nodeless in the real case

The rationally extended Scarf II potential from **broken SUSY** and **unbroken \mathcal{PT} symmetry**:

The \mathcal{PT} -symmetric Scarf II potential and its partners with $\alpha = -1.628$, $\beta = -5.296$

$V_+^{(+)}(x)$: New ground state at $E = -24.621$

$V_+^{(-)}(x)$: New ground state at $E = -11.116$



The case of **broken \mathcal{PT} symmetry** also works

Then the **spectral singularity** of the Scarf II potential survives the SUSY transformation

Extended to $x \in (-\infty, \infty)$ by an **imaginary coordinate shift**

$$V(x) = \frac{1}{4}\omega^2(x - ic)^2 + (\alpha^2 - \frac{1}{4})(x - ic)^{-2}.$$

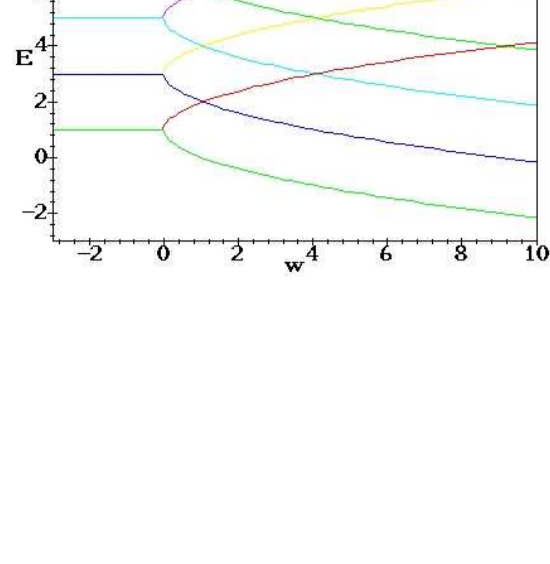
\mathcal{PT} -symmetric for real ω and α^2

Two sets of eigenstates discriminated by **quasi-parity** q

$$\psi_n^{(q)}(x) = N_n^{(q)} \exp[-\frac{1}{4}\omega(x - ic)^2](x - ic)^{\alpha-1/2} L_n^{(q\alpha)}[\frac{1}{2}\omega(x - ic)^2]$$

$$E_n^{(q)} = \omega(2n + 1 + q\alpha).$$

Unbroken/broken \mathcal{PT} symmetry:
 real/imaginary α ($w = \alpha^2$)



Unbroken SUSY: ground state $\psi_n^{(q)}$ eliminated

With superpotential

$$\begin{aligned}
 W^{(q)}(x) &= \frac{\omega}{2}(x - ic) + \frac{q\alpha + 1/2}{x - ic} + \frac{2\omega(x - ic)}{2q\alpha + 2 + \omega(x - ic)^2} \\
 v_+(x) &\equiv V_+^{(q)}(x) - q\alpha\omega = \frac{\omega^2}{4}(x - ic)^2 + \frac{\alpha^2 - 1/4}{(x - ic)^2} + 3\omega \\
 v_-^{(q)}(x) &\equiv V_-^{(q)}(x) - q\alpha\omega = \frac{\omega^2}{4}(x - ic)^2 + \frac{(q\alpha + 1/2)(q\alpha + 3/2)}{(x - ic)^2} + 2\omega \\
 &\quad + \frac{4\omega}{2q\alpha + 2 + \omega(x - ic)^2} - \frac{8\omega(2q\alpha + 2)}{(2q\alpha + 2 + \omega(x - ic)^2)^2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that technically, the inverse transformation was used, with the \mathcal{PT} HO as target

But, the transformation corresponds to inserting new ground state to the \mathcal{PT} HO

Energy eigenvalues:

$$E_{n,+}^{(q)} = \omega(2n + 4 + q\alpha) \quad \text{and} \quad E_{n,-}^{(q)} = \omega(2n + 2 + q\alpha)$$

Bound-state wavefunctions, $n > 0$:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{n,-}^{(q)}(x) &= N_{n,-}^{(q)} e^{-\omega(x-ic)^2/4} (x-ic)^{q\alpha-\frac{1}{2}} \left\{ -2(n+1)L_{n+1}^{(q\alpha)} \frac{1}{2}\omega(x-ic)^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \left[2n + 2q\alpha + 4 - \frac{4(q\alpha+1)}{2q\alpha+2+\omega(x-ic)^2} \right] L_n^{(q\alpha)} \left[\frac{1}{2}\omega(x-ic)^2 \right] \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

The new ground state:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{0,-}^{(q)}(x) &= N_{0,-}^{(q)} \exp \left[- \int W^{(q)}(x) dx \right] \\ &= N_{0,-}^{(q)} e^{-\omega(x-ic)^2/4} (x-ic)^{-q\alpha-\frac{1}{2}} [2q\alpha+2+\omega(x-ic)^2]^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Similar to generating the [rationally extended harmonic oscillator](#) *Quesne 2008*

The wave functions there contain [X₁ type exceptional Laguerre polynomials](#)

(Unfortunately, these were not known in 2004)

Name	V_- Type	\mathcal{PT}	SUSY	Name	V_+ Type	\mathcal{PT}
Scarf II	SI (PI)	U	U	Scarf II	SI (PI)	U
		B	U		SI (PI)	NO
		U	B	RE Scarf II	Non-Nat. SI	U
		B	B		SI	NO
Gen. Ginocchio	Natanzon	U	U	“GG-SUSY”	Non-Nat.	U
		B	U			NO
HO	SI (LI)	U	U	HO	SI (LI)	U
		B	U		SI (LI)	NO
		U	B	RE HO	Non-Nat. SI	U
		B	B		SI	NO

Summary and outlook

- The combination of \mathcal{PT} symmetry and $SUSY$ leads to characteristic results
- The breakdown of \mathcal{PT} symmetry in V_- destroys the \mathcal{PT} symmetry of V_+
⇒ There can be no **broken \mathcal{PT}** symmetry in rationally extended potentials
- The isospectrality induced by $SUSYQM$ restricts \mathcal{PT}
The \mathcal{PT} symmetry of V_- restricts the $SUSY$ transformations
Yet the results are inspiring
- $SUSYQM$ determines scattering too
The spectrum can also be determined from $T(k)$ and $R(k)$
- Many more potentials could be considered
- $SUSYQM$ has many more realizations (matrix sizes, differential operators) that could be combined with \mathcal{PT} symmetry
- Connection with algebras: e.g. **potential algebra**

The combination of symmetries is always fascinating

