# The Toda lattice, billiards and symplectic geometry 

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## Symplectic topology

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## Question 2

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The existence of a normalized symplectic capacity is equivalent to Gromov's nonsqueezing theorem.

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- First embedded contact homology capacity $c_{1}^{E C H}$ (Hutchings 2011) - only in dimension 4.


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Moreover equality holds if, and only if, $X$ is symplectomorphic to a ball.

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In particular $M(K)=\operatorname{vol}(K) \cdot \operatorname{vol}\left(K^{\circ}\right)$ is preserved.

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Conjecture (Mahler 1939)
For each $n, M(K)$ attains its minimum when $K$ is a hypercube.

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M(K) \geq \frac{c^{n}}{n!}, \text { for some } c>0
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Theorem (Greg Kuperberg 2008)

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M(K) \geq \frac{\pi^{n}}{n!}
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## The Mahler conjecture

Conjecture (Mahler 1939)

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M(K)=\operatorname{vol}(K) \cdot \operatorname{vol}\left(K^{\circ}\right) \geq \frac{4^{n}}{n!}
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Theorem (Iriyeh-Shibata 2020)
The Mahler conjecture holds for $n=3$.

## Hanner polytopes

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Conjecture
$M(K)$ is minimized precisely by the Hanner polytopes.

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## Lagrangian products

$$
\text { Let } K \times T=\left\{(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p}) \in \mathbb{R}^{2 n} \mid \mathbf{q} \in K \text { and } \mathbf{p} \in T\right\} .
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## Lagrangian products

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## The Toda lattice

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H(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p})=\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} p_{i}^{2}+\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} e^{q_{i}-q_{i+1}}
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=a_{i}^{2}-a_{i-1}^{2} \\
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## Lax pair formulation

There exists a Lax pair $(L, B)$ such that the Hamiltonian system above is equivalent to $\dot{L}=[L, B]$,

$$
L=\left(\begin{array}{ccccc}
b_{1} & a_{1} & 0 & \ldots & a_{n+1} \\
a_{1} & b_{2} & a_{2} & \ldots & 0 \\
0 & a_{2} & b_{3} & \ldots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
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Theorem (Toda)
The spectrum of $L$ is invariant under the flow.

## Toric domains

## Definition

A toric domain $\mathbb{X}_{\Omega} \subset \mathbb{C}^{n}$ is a set of the form $\mathbb{X}_{\Omega}=\mu^{-1}(\Omega)$, where $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^{n}$ is an open set and

$$
\mu: \mathbb{C}^{n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n} \quad \mu\left(z_{1}, \ldots, z_{n}\right)=\left(\pi\left|z_{1}\right|^{2}, \ldots, \pi\left|z_{n}\right|^{2}\right)
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Example (Ellipsoid)
$\pi\left|z_{2}\right|^{2}$


$$
E(a, b):=\left\{\left(z_{1}, z_{2}\right) \in \mathbb{C}^{2} \left\lvert\, \frac{\pi\left|z_{1}\right|^{2}}{a}+\frac{\pi\left|z_{2}\right|^{2}}{b} \leq 1\right.\right\}
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## Monotone toric domains

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A toric domain $X_{\Omega} \subset \mathbb{R}^{2 n}$ is called monotone if for each point $p \in \partial \Omega \backslash\left\{x_{i}=0\right.$, for some $\left.i\right\}$, the normal vector $\nu=\left(\nu_{1}, \ldots, \nu_{n}\right)$ satifies $\nu_{i} \geq 0$ for every $i$.

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## The Arnold-Liouville theorem

Fix $\left(M^{2 n}, \omega\right)$ and let $F=\left(H_{1}, \ldots, H_{n}\right): M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n}$ such that $\left\{H_{i}, H_{j}\right\}=0$ for all $i, j$.

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## Action-angle coordinates

There is a difference equation related to $L$ :

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a_{k-1} y_{k-1}(\lambda)+b_{k} y_{k}(\lambda)+a_{k} y_{k+1}(\lambda)=\lambda y_{k}(\lambda) .
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Theorem (Flaschka-McLaughlin, van Moerbeke, Moser)
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Theorem (Flaschka-McLaughlin, van Moerbeke, Moser)
Let $\lambda_{1} \leq \lambda_{2} \leq \cdots \leq \lambda_{2 n+2}$ be the roots of $\Delta(\lambda)^{2}-4$.
Then the action coordinates $\phi=\left(I_{1}, \ldots, I_{n}\right)$ are given by

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I_{i}=(n+1) \int_{\lambda_{2 i}}^{\lambda_{2 i+1}} \cosh ^{-1}\left|\frac{\Delta(\lambda)}{2}\right| d \lambda
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## Action-angle coordinates

There is a difference equation related to $L$ :

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and they induce a symplectomorphism

$$
\Phi:\left\{(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p}) \in \mathbb{R}^{2 n+1} \mid \sum_{i} q_{i}=\sum_{i} p_{i}=0\right\} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2 n}
$$

## A deformation of the Toda lattice

For $c>0$, let

$$
H_{c}(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p})=\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} p_{i}^{2}+e^{-c} \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} e^{c\left(q_{i}-q_{i+1}\right)}
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The flow of $X_{H_{c}}$ converges to the billiard flow in

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## The symplectomorphism

Theorem (Ostrover-R.-Sepe)
$\mathcal{S}^{n} \times\left\{\sum_{i} p_{i}=0\right\}$ admits a toric action whose moment map is given by

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## Corollary

The ball is symplectomorphic to $\mathcal{S}^{n} \times \mathcal{R}^{n}$.

## Open questions

## Question 1

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## Question 2

Do other root systems $B_{n}, C_{n}, D_{n}, G_{2}$, etc, give rise to interesting symplectomorphisms?

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- The Lagrangian product of a simplex $\mathcal{S}^{n}$ and a symmetric region in $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ is symplectomorphic to a toric domain. (Ostrover- R.- Sepe, 2023)

