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The quench action approach to out-of-equilibrium quantum integrable models

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C

Details of the large- Δ expansion

C.1 Large- Δ expansion of the saddle-point state.

In this appendix we would like to discuss briefly the derivation of the large- Δ expansion for the saddle-point state. In particular, we would like to discuss the derivation of the leading term of the expansion of η_n , which is the non-straightforward point of this calculation. As stated in Section 5.7, we need to expand the GTBA Eqs (5.40) and the BGT Eqs (2.66). We assume the following analytical ansatz for $\{\eta_n(\lambda)\}$

$$\eta_n(\lambda) = z^{\alpha_n} \eta_n^{(0)}(\lambda) \exp[\Phi_n(\lambda)], \quad \Phi_n(\lambda) \equiv \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} z^j \eta_n^{(j)}(\lambda), \quad n \geq 1, \quad (\text{C.1})$$

where $z = e^{-\eta}$, $\Delta = \cosh \eta$, and α_n are integer numbers. The functions $\eta_n^{(j)}(\lambda)$ with $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ characterize the solution at order z^j in the expansion. From the leading behaviors of ρ_1 and of the exact solution (5.18) for $\rho_{1,h}$, we know that $\alpha_1 = 2$. This is the only information about $\rho_{1,h}$ we use in our expansion. The driving terms $\tilde{d}_n(\lambda)$ in Eqs (5.40) have a very simple expansion in z ,

$$\tilde{d}_n(\lambda) = \begin{cases} 4 \log z + \log(4 \sin^2(2\lambda)) + 2 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} \cos(4k\lambda) z^{4k}, & n \text{ odd}, \\ -\log \tan^2(\lambda) - 4 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2k-1} \cos[2(2k-1)\lambda] z^{2(2k-1)}, & n \text{ even}. \end{cases} \quad (\text{C.2})$$

The leading order of the small- z expansion of Eqs (5.40) is a $\log(z)$ -divergence. Since $\rho_{1,h}(\lambda)$ in Eq. (5.18) does not exhibit exponential behavior in λ , we expect (possible) divergencies in $\eta_n(\lambda)$ to be power law. This means that for the convolutions of the right-hand side of Eqs (5.40)

$$s * \log(1 + \eta_n) = s * \log\left(1 + z^{\alpha_n} \eta_n^{(0)}\right) + O(z) = \Theta(-\alpha_n) \alpha_n + O(z^0), \quad (\text{C.3})$$

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where $\Theta(x)$ is the Heaviside step function. This leads to a set of conditions on the parameters α_n ,

$$\begin{aligned} 2\alpha_1 &= 4 + \Theta(-\alpha_2) \alpha_2, \\ 2\alpha_n &= \Theta(-\alpha_{n-1}) \alpha_{n-1} + \Theta(-\alpha_{n+1}) \alpha_{n+1}, \quad n \geq 2 \text{ even}, \\ 2\alpha_n &= 4 + \Theta(-\alpha_{n-1}) \alpha_{n-1} + \Theta(-\alpha_{n+1}) \alpha_{n+1}, \quad n \geq 3 \text{ odd}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.4})$$

Notice that $\alpha_n \leq 0$ for n even, and so from $\alpha_1 = 2$ we have $\alpha_2 = 0$. However, this set of equations does not have a unique solution. The general form of the solution for integers α_n is the following,

$$\begin{aligned} &\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots\} \\ &= \{2, 0, 2, 0, \dots, 2, 0, \alpha_{2k+1} < 2, \alpha_{2k+2}(\alpha_{2k+1}), \alpha_{2k+3}(\alpha_{2k+1}), \dots\}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.5})$$

where k is a positive integer (or infinite), $\alpha_{2k+1} = 1, 0$ and $\alpha_{n>2k+1} < 0$ and they are unequivocally determined by α_{2k+1} . Our intuition is that this freedom in our ansatz is apparent and it disappears when we take into account the BGT Eqs (2.66). Indeed, we checked explicitly that the two $k = 1$ solutions are not consistent with Eqs (2.66). Therefore, the most natural choice is

$$\alpha_n = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{for } n \text{ odd}, \\ 0 & \text{for } n \text{ even}. \end{cases} \quad (\text{C.6})$$

This means that the leading scaling exponent of $\eta_n(\lambda)$ is only due to the $\log(z)$ part of the driving term (C.2). At order z^0 , the convolutions on the right-hand side of Eqs (5.40) are independent of λ , and therefore the functional behavior of $\eta_n^{(0)}$ is determined by the driving terms only, *i.e.*,

$$\eta_n^{(0)}(\lambda) = \begin{cases} c_n \sin^2(2\lambda), & \text{for } n \text{ odd}, \\ c_n \tan^{-2}(\lambda), & \text{for } n \text{ even}, \end{cases} \quad (\text{C.7})$$

where $c_n \geq 0$ on physical grounds (densities cannot be negative). The convolutions $s * \log(1 + \eta_n)$ at order z^0 are zero if n is odd and $2 \log(1 + \sqrt{c_n}) + O(z)$ if n is even. Substituting this into Eqs (5.40), we have

$$c_n = \begin{cases} 4(1 + \sqrt{a_{n-1}})(1 + \sqrt{a_{n+1}}), & \text{for } n \text{ odd}, \\ 1, & \text{for } n \text{ even}, \end{cases} \quad (\text{C.8})$$

where by convention $a_0 = 0$. We find that

$$\eta_n^{(0)}(\lambda) = \begin{cases} 8 \sin^2(2\lambda), & \text{for } n = 1, \\ 16 \sin^2(2\lambda), & \text{for } n \geq 3 \text{ odd}, \\ \tan^{-2}(\lambda), & \text{for } n \text{ even}, \end{cases} \quad (\text{C.9})$$

The functions $\eta_n^{(j)}$ for $j > 0$ can then be computed. Up to $j = 3$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_1(\lambda) &= 2z \cos(2\lambda) + z^2 \left[\cos(4\lambda) + \frac{1}{2} \right] \\ &\quad + z^3 \left[\frac{2}{3} \cos(6\lambda) - 3 \cos(2\lambda) \right] + O(z^4), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.10a})$$

$$\Phi_2(\lambda) = z^2 [-8 \cos(2\lambda) + 6] + O(z^4), \quad (\text{C.10b})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_3(\lambda) &= 4z \cos(2\lambda) + z^2 \left[2 \cos(4\lambda) + \frac{3}{2} \right] \\ &\quad + z^3 \left[\frac{4}{3} \cos(6\lambda) - 5 \cos(2\lambda) \right] + O(z^4), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.10c})$$

$$\Phi_n(\lambda) = z^2 [-8 \cos(2\lambda) + 8] + O(z^4), \quad n \geq 4 \text{ even}, \quad (\text{C.10d})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_n(\lambda) &= 4z \cos(2\lambda) + z^2 [2 \cos(4\lambda) + 2] \\ &\quad + z^3 \left[\frac{4}{3} \cos(6\lambda) - 4 \cos(2\lambda) \right] + O(z^4), \quad n \geq 3 \text{ odd}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.10e})$$

Using this expansion and the BGT Eqs (2.66), the expansion for the densities [Eqs (5.80) and (5.81)] can then be computed as well.

C.2 Large- Δ expansion of the GGE state

In this appendix we would like to discuss briefly the derivation of the large- Δ expansion for the GGE. In particular, we derive the leading terms of the expansion, making the computation of the next-leading terms straightforward.

As stated in Section 5.7, we need to expand the GTBA Eqs (5.16) for $n \geq 2$ and the BGT Eqs (2.66) for $n \geq 1$, and use the exact formula (5.18) for $\rho_{1,h}$. All information about the expectation values of the local charges is thus encoded in $\rho_{1,h}$, and we do not need to compute the chemical potentials that appear only in the driving term of the $n = 1$ GTBA Eq. (5.16). Two useful sum rules to check the correctness of our assumptions are

$$2 \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} d\lambda \rho_m(\lambda) = 1 - \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} d\lambda \rho_{1,h}(\lambda), \quad (\text{C.11a})$$

$$2 \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} m \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} d\lambda \rho_m(\lambda) = 1. \quad (\text{C.11b})$$

The first one is a consequence of the BGT Eqs (2.66), while the second one expresses the conservation of the total magnetization. Our analytical ansatz is

$$\eta_m(\lambda) = z^{\alpha_n} \eta_m^{(0)}(\lambda) e^{\Phi_n(\lambda)}, \quad \Phi_n(\lambda) = \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} z^l \eta_m^{(l)}(\lambda), \quad (\text{C.12a})$$

$$\rho_{n,h}(\lambda) = z^{\gamma_n} \rho_{n,h}^{(\gamma_n)}(\lambda) \left[1 + \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} z^l \rho_{n,h}^{(l+\gamma_n)}(\lambda) \right], \quad (\text{C.12b})$$

where $\gamma_n \in \mathbb{N}$. Since $z = 0$ corresponds to the quenchless point, we have $\rho_1(\lambda) = 1/(2\pi) + O(z)$. Since $\rho_{1,h}(\lambda) = 4z^2 \sin^2(2\lambda)/\pi + O(z^3)$ [Eq. (5.18)], we have

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$\gamma_1 = \alpha_1 = 2$. Inserting the ansatz (C.12a) into the GTBA Eqs (5.16) for $n \geq 2$ and isolating the terms proportional to $\log(z)$, we obtain

$$2\alpha_n = \theta(-\alpha_{n-1})\alpha_{n-1} + \theta(-\alpha_{n+1})\alpha_{n+1}, \quad n \geq 2. \quad (\text{C.13})$$

From here it follows that, for $n \geq 2$, $\alpha_n \leq 0$ and hence $\alpha_n = (n-1)\alpha_2$. Let us now expand the BGT Eqs (2.66) for $n \geq 2$. The leading term of the l.h.s. is proportional to $z^{\gamma_n} + z^{\gamma_n - \alpha_n} \sim z^{\gamma_n}$, while the r.h.s is proportional to $z^{\gamma_{n-1}} + z^{\gamma_{n+1}}$. Notice that the term proportional to z^{γ_n} in $s * \rho_{n,h}$ is always strictly positive as $\rho_{n,h}$ is always positive while $s(\lambda) = 1/(2\pi) + O(z)$. Therefore, we can conclude that $\gamma_n = \gamma_2 \leq 2$ for $n \geq 2$. Because of our analyticity hypothesis $\gamma_n \in \mathbb{N}$, there are three possible values for γ_2 : 0, 1 and 2. Let us now expand the $n = 1$ BGT Eq. (2.66) up to the second order. The case $\gamma_2 = 0$ can be excluded because $\rho_1(\lambda) = 1/(2\pi) + O(z)$. Similarly, $\gamma_2 \neq 1$ because if $\gamma_2 = 1$ we would have that $\int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} d\lambda \rho^{(1)}(\lambda) > 0$, in contradiction with the sum rules (C.11). Therefore, we conclude that $\gamma_n = \gamma_2 = 2$. Moreover, we can conclude that $\alpha_{n \geq 2} = \alpha_2 = 0$, because otherwise $\rho_n \rightarrow +\infty$ for $z \rightarrow 0$ and n sufficiently large.

We are now in the position to compute all $\eta_n^{(0)}$. As we can see by expanding Eq. (5.16), they are actually constant and obey the recursive relations

$$\log(\eta_2^{(0)}) = \frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \eta_3^{(0)}), \quad (\text{C.14a})$$

$$\log(\eta_n^{(0)}) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\log(1 + \eta_{n-1}^{(0)}) + \log(1 + \eta_{n+1}^{(0)}) \right]. \quad (\text{C.14b})$$

The solution

$$\eta_{n \geq 2}^{(0)} = n^2 - 1 \quad (\text{C.15})$$

is the only one consistent with the sum rules (C.11). Expanding now the BGT Eqs (2.66) for $n \geq 2$ up to the second order, we have

$$\rho_{2,h}^{(0)} \left(1 + (\eta_2^{(0)})^{-1} \right) = \frac{1}{\pi} + \frac{1}{2} \rho_{3,h}^{(0)}, \quad (\text{C.16a})$$

$$\rho_{n,h}^{(0)} \left(1 + (\eta_n^{(0)})^{-1} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\rho_{n-1,h}^{(0)} + \rho_{n+1,h}^{(0)} \right]. \quad (\text{C.16b})$$

The only solution to this system of recursion relations is $\rho_{n \geq 2,h} = 2/(\pi n) + c(n^2 - 1)$, where c is an arbitrary constant. The only value of c consistent with the sum rules (C.11) is $c = 0$. Summarizing, we have

$$\eta_n = (n^2 - 1) + O(z), \quad n \geq 2, \quad (\text{C.17a})$$

$$\rho_{n,h} = \frac{2z^2}{\pi n} + O(z^3), \quad n \geq 2, \quad (\text{C.17b})$$

Therefore,

$$\rho_n = \frac{2z^2}{\pi n(n^2 - 1)} + O(z^3), \quad n \geq 2, \quad (\text{C.18})$$

while ρ_1 can be computed using the $n = 1$ BGT Eq. (2.66)

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_1(\lambda) &= s(\lambda) + (s * \rho_{2,h})(\lambda) - \rho_{1,h}(\lambda) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left\{ 1 + 4z \cos(2\lambda) + z^2 [8 \cos(4\lambda) - 3] \right\} + \mathcal{O}(z^3). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.19})$$

Similarly, we can compute subleading orders of the expansion. The next-leading order vanishes for $n \geq 2$, while the next-next-leading order terms are reported in Eqs (5.82). As for the leading term, computing the GGE expansion involves the solutions of a set of recursion relations (one for η_n , another for $\rho_{n,h}$). Hence, the large- Δ expansion is technically more involved than the one for the quench action saddle-point state.

C.3 Large- Δ expansion for local correlators

In this appendix, we would like to summarize the basic formulas for computing the local correlators $\langle \sigma_1^z \sigma_2^z \rangle$ and $\langle \sigma_1^z \sigma_3^z \rangle$ as well as some intermediate results of their large- Δ expansion.

C.3.1 The nearest-neighbors correlator $\langle \sigma_1^z \sigma_2^z \rangle$

Recall that the correlator $\langle \sigma_1^z \sigma_2^z \rangle$ can be computed thanks to the Hellmann-Feynman theorem [4, 196]. We have (see Section 5.6)

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \rho | \sigma_1^z \sigma_2^z | \rho \rangle &= 1 + 4 \left\{ \frac{\cosh \eta}{\sinh^2 \eta} \langle \rho | \hat{Q}_2 / N | \rho \rangle \right. \\ &\quad + \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} |k| \left[\frac{e^{-|k|\eta}}{2 \cosh k\eta} + \tanh(|k|\eta) \left(\frac{e^{-|k|\eta} - \hat{\rho}_{1,h}(k)}{2 \cosh k\eta} \right) \right] \\ &\quad \left. - \pi \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} d\lambda \rho_{1,h}(\lambda) h_1(\lambda) \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} s(\lambda) \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.20})$$

where $\langle \rho | \hat{Q}_2 / N | \rho \rangle$ is proportional to the energy density of the state, $\hat{\rho}_{1,h}$ is the Fourier transform of $\rho_{1,h}$, while s is defined in Eq. (2.66b). The auxiliary function σ_1 satisfies the following set of equations

$$(\rho_n + \rho_{n,h}) \sigma_n = [d_n - s * (d_{n-1} + d_{n+1})] + s * (\sigma_{n-1} \rho_{n-1,h} + \sigma_{n+1} \rho_{n+1,h}), \quad (\text{C.21a})$$

with $\sigma_0 = d_0 = 0$. Here, d_n is defined as

$$d_n(\lambda) = \tilde{a}_n(\lambda) - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \tilde{a}_{nm} * \rho_m, \quad (\text{C.21b})$$

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where

$$\tilde{a}_n(\lambda) = -\frac{n}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sin(2k\lambda) z^{nk}, \quad (\text{C.21c})$$

$$\tilde{a}_{nm}(\lambda) = (1 - \delta_{nm}) \tilde{a}_{|n-m|}(\lambda) + 2\tilde{a}_{|n-m|+2}(\lambda) + \dots \\ \dots + 2\tilde{a}_{n+m-2}(\lambda) + \tilde{a}_{n+m}(\lambda). \quad (\text{C.21d})$$

The large- Δ expansion of the auxiliary functions σ_n does not present any difficulty. The first difference between the saddle-point state and the GGE manifests itself at the z^3 order in σ_1 , as it can be seen by the expansions

$$\sigma_1^{\text{SP}}(\lambda) = -2 \sin(2\lambda)z + 2 \sin(4\lambda)z^2 - 2 \sin(6\lambda)z^3 + \frac{3}{2} \sin(2\lambda)z^3 + O(z^4), \quad (\text{C.22a})$$

$$\sigma_1^{\text{GGE}}(\lambda) = -2 \sin(2\lambda)z + 2 \sin(4\lambda)z^2 - 2 \sin(6\lambda)z^3 + O(z^4). \quad (\text{C.22b})$$

This leads to a difference in the correlators only at the z^6 order, as stated in Eq. (5.88).

C.3.2 The next-to-nearest-neighbors correlator $\langle \sigma_1^z \sigma_3^z \rangle$

The correlator $\langle \sigma_1^z \sigma_3^z \rangle$ can be computed thanks to a conjecture proposed in Ref. [196]. However, it is necessary to compute two sets of auxiliary functions, and not only one as for $\langle \sigma_1^z \sigma_2^z \rangle$. Given $\eta_n = \rho_{n,h}/\rho_n$, let us define the functions $\rho_{n,h}^{(a)}$ and $\rho_n^{(a)} = \rho_{n,h}^{(a)}/\eta_n$ ($a = 0, 1, 2, \dots$), determined by the set of equations

$$\rho_{n,h}^{(a)}(\lambda) [1 + \eta_n^{-1}(\lambda)] = \delta_{n,1} \frac{d^a}{d\lambda^a} s(\lambda) + \left[s * \left(\rho_{n-1,h}^{(a)} + \rho_{n+1,h}^{(a)} \right) \right] (\lambda), \quad (\text{C.23})$$

where $\rho_{0,h}^{(a)}(\lambda) = 0$. Notice that $\rho_{n,h}^{(0)} = \rho_{n,h}$ and $\rho_n^{(0)} = \rho_n$. Now, we are ready to introduce the functions $\sigma_n^{(a)}$ satisfying

$$(\rho_n + \rho_{n,h}) \sigma_n^{(a)} = \left[d_n^{(a)} - s * \left(d_{n-1}^{(a)} + d_{n+1}^{(a)} \right) \right] + s * \left[\sigma_{n-1}^{(a)} \rho_{n-1,h} + \sigma_{n+1}^{(a)} \rho_{n+1,h} \right], \quad (\text{C.24})$$

where $\sigma_0^{(a)}(\lambda) = d_0^{(a)}(\lambda) = 0$ and $d_n^{(a)}(\lambda) = \partial_\lambda^a \tilde{a}_n(\lambda) - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (\tilde{a}_{nm} * \rho_m^{(a)})(\lambda)$. For $a = 0$, $\sigma_n^{(a)}$ reduces to the function σ_n defined in Eq. (C.21a). Given these sets of auxiliary functions, $\langle \sigma_1^z \sigma_3^z \rangle$ can be expressed as

$$\langle \sigma_1^z \sigma_3^z \rangle = \langle \sigma_1^z \sigma_2^z \rangle - \tanh(\eta) \frac{4\Omega_{0,0} - \Omega_{0,2} + 2\Omega_{1,1}}{4} + \frac{\sinh^2(\eta)}{4} \Gamma_{1,2}. \quad (\text{C.25})$$

The quantities Ω_{ab} and Γ_{ab} are defined as

$$\Omega_{ab} = 4\pi \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} d\mu s^{(b)}(-\mu) \left[(-1)^a a_1(\mu) + (-1)^{b+1} \rho_{1,h}^{(a)} \right], \quad (\text{C.26a})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{ab} = (-)^b 4\pi \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} d\mu \left[s^{(a+b)}(-\mu) \tilde{a}_1(\mu) + g^{(a+b)}(-\mu) \tilde{a}_1(\mu) \right. \\ \left. + \tilde{g}^{(b)}(-\mu) \rho_{1,h}^{(a)}(\mu) - s^{(b)}(-\mu) \rho_{1,h}(\mu) \sigma_1^{(1)}(\mu) \right], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.26b})$$

where the superscript (a) stands for the a -th derivative with respect to λ , and

$$g(\lambda) = \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\tanh(k\eta)}{2 \cosh(k\eta)} \cos(2k\lambda), \quad (\text{C.27a})$$

$$\tilde{g}(\lambda) = \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\tanh(k\eta)}{2 \cosh(k\eta)} \sin(2k\lambda). \quad (\text{C.27b})$$

In order to compute $\langle \sigma_1^z \sigma_3^z \rangle$ we need $\rho_n^{(1)}$ (to compute $d_n^{(a)}$), $\rho_{1,h}^{(1)}$ and $\sigma_1^{(1)}$. For $\rho_{n,h}^{(1)}$ leading behavior is

$$\rho_{n,h}^{(1)\text{sp}}(\lambda) \sim -32 6^{\frac{n-1}{2}} z^{2n+1} \sin^3(2\lambda) + O(z^{2n+2}), \quad n \text{ odd}, \quad (\text{C.28a})$$

$$\rho_{n,h}^{(1)\text{sp}}(\lambda) \sim -48 6^{\frac{n}{2}-1} z^{2n} \cos^3(\lambda) \sin(\lambda) + O(z^{2n+1}), \quad n \text{ even}, \quad (\text{C.28b})$$

$$\rho_{1,h}^{(1)\text{GGE}}(\lambda) \sim -\frac{32}{\pi} z^3 \sin^3(2\lambda) + O(z^4), \quad (\text{C.28c})$$

$$\rho_{n,h}^{(1)\text{GGE}}(\lambda) \sim -\frac{12}{\pi} \frac{n+1}{n} z^{n+2} \sin(2\lambda) + O(z^{n+3}), \quad n \geq 2. \quad (\text{C.28d})$$

and the resulting expansion for $\sigma_1^{(1)}$ is thus

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_1^{(1)\text{,sp}}(\lambda) = -4z \cos(2\lambda) + 8z^2 - 4z^3 \left[\frac{5}{2} \cos(2\lambda) + \cos(6\lambda) \right] \\ - z^4 [2 \cos(4\lambda) - 7] + O(z^5), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.29a})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_1^{(1)\text{,GGE}}(\lambda) = -4z \cos(2\lambda) + 8z^2 - 4z^3 [2 \cos(2\lambda) + \cos(6\lambda)] \\ - z^4 [8 \cos(4\lambda) + 2] + O(z^5). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.29b})$$

Knowing the small- z expansions of the functions $\rho_{1,h}^{(a)}$, $a = 0, 1$, and $\sigma_1^{(1)}$, plugging them into Eqs (C.26), and afterwards the results into Eq. (C.25), gives finally the large- Δ expansions (5.87c) and (5.87d) of the next-to-nearest neighbor correlator.