

The positive equivariant symplectic homology as an invariant for some contact manifolds

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We show that positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology is a contact invariant for a subclass of contact manifolds which are boundaries of Liouville domains. In nice cases, when the set of Conley-Zehnder indices of all good periodic Reeb orbits on the boundary of the Liouville domain is lacunary, the positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology can be computed; it is generated by those orbits. We prove a “Viterbo functoriality” property: when one Liouville domain is embedded into an other one, there is a morphism (reversing arrows) between their positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homologies and morphisms compose nicely.

These properties allow us to give a proof of Ustilovsky’s result on the number of non isomorphic contact structures on the spheres S^{4m+1} . They also give a new proof of a Theorem by Ekeland and Lasry on the minimal number of periodic Reeb orbits on some hypersurfaces in \mathbb{R}^{2n} . We extend this result to some hypersurfaces in some negative line bundles.

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1. Introduction

A *contact structure* on a manifold M of dimension $2n - 1$ is a hyperplane field ξ which is maximally non integrable; i.e. writing locally $\xi = \ker \alpha$, one has $\alpha \wedge (d\alpha)^{n-1} \neq 0$ everywhere. A first natural question is to determine **how many non-diffeomorphic contact structures there are on a given manifold and in particular on the sphere S^{2n-1}** . In this paper we consider only coorientable contact structures, i.e. such that α can be globally defined; α is then called a *contact form*; this form is not unique; for any function $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the 1-form $e^f \alpha$ defines the same contact structure. The *Reeb vector field* R_α associated to a contact form α is the unique vector field on M such that $\iota(R_\alpha)d\alpha = 0$ and $\alpha(R_\alpha) = 1$. Since this vector field does not vanish anywhere, there are no fixed points of its flow. Periodic orbits are thus the most noticeable objects in the flow. If (M, ξ) is a compact contact manifold, can one say something about **the minimal number of geometrically distinct periodic Reeb orbits for any contact form α (eventually in a subclass) defining the contact structure ξ ?** A way to tackle those two questions is to find an invariant of the contact structure built out of the periodic Reeb orbits. To build such an invariant is the aim of contact homology. At the time of this writing, contact homology is still in development and encounters “transversality” problems. Instead we consider positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology which is built from periodic orbits of Hamiltonian vector fields in a symplectic manifold whose boundary is the given contact manifold. In this spirit, Bourgeois and Oancea, in [5], relate, in the case where it can be defined, the linearised contact homology of the boundary to the positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology of the symplectic manifold.

The goal of this paper is to prove that positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology is a contact invariant for a subclass of contact manifolds and that this allows to obtain results about the two questions mentioned earlier.

In Section 2, we recall the definition of positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology, first describing symplectic homology SH , positive symplectic homology SH^+ , and S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology SH^{S^1} . We show in Section 3 that, in nice cases, generators of the positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology $SH^{S^1,+}$ are given by good periodic Reeb orbits. This relies heavily on earlier results from Bourgeois and Oancea [3] and recent results from Zhao [31]. Precisely, we prove

Theorem 1.1. *Let (W, λ) be a Liouville domain. Assume there exists a contact form α on the boundary ∂W such that the set of Conley-Zehnder*

indices of all good periodic Reeb orbits is lacunary¹. Then

$$SH^{S^1,+}(W, \mathbb{Q}) = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in \mathcal{P}(R_\alpha)} \mathbb{Q}\langle \gamma \rangle$$

where $\mathcal{P}(R_\alpha)$ denotes the set of good periodic Reeb orbits on ∂W .

In Section 4, we show that positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology has good functorial properties. In the first part, we construct a “transfer morphism” between all the above mentioned variants of symplectic homology when one Liouville domain is embedded into an other Liouville domain. This construction generalises a construction given by Viterbo ([30]). We prove in Theorem 4.9 that this morphism has nice composition properties. The second part of Section 4 is dedicated to the invariance of the variants of symplectic homology. This is not new, but a complete and self-contained proof is difficult to find in the literature. We prove :

Theorem 1.2. *Let (W_0, λ_0) and (W_1, λ_1) be two Liouville manifolds² of finite type such that there exists a symplectomorphism $f : (W_0, \lambda_0) \rightarrow (W_1, \lambda_1)$. Then*

$$SH^\dagger(W_0, \lambda_0) \cong SH^\dagger(W_1, \lambda_1).$$

where \dagger can be any of the following symbol: $\emptyset, +, S^1, (S^1, +)$.

We prove that the positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology yields an invariant of some contact manifolds in the following sense.

Theorem 1.3. *Let (M_0, ξ_0) and (M_1, ξ_1) be two contact manifolds that are exactly fillable; i.e. there exist Liouville domains (W_0, λ_0) and (W_1, λ_1) such that $\partial W_0 = M_0$, $\xi_0 = \ker(\lambda_0|_{M_0})$, $\partial W_1 = M_1$ and $\xi_1 = \ker(\lambda_1|_{M_1})$. Assume there exists a contactomorphism $\varphi : (M_0, \xi_0) \rightarrow (M_1, \xi_1)$. Assume moreover that ξ_0 admits a contact form α_0 such that all periodic Reeb orbits are non-degenerate and the set of Conley-Zehnder indices of all good periodic Reeb orbits is lacunary. Then*

$$SH^{S^1,+}(W_0, \lambda_0) \cong SH^{S^1,+}(W_1, \lambda_1).$$

¹A set of integer numbers is *lacunary* if it does not contain two consecutive numbers.

²We refer to Definition 4.20 for a precise definition of Liouville manifold.

Note that the isomorphism in Theorem 1.3 is between the graded modules. There can be a shift in the degree of the generators (by even numbers). This Theorem, together with Theorem 1.1, allow us to reformulate in Section 4.5 the proof of Ustilovsky's result on the existence of non diffeomorphic contact structures on the spheres S^{4m+1} . The original proof depends on a theory of cylindrical contact homology, which is not yet rigorously established due to transversality problems. Another proof of this result using Rabinowitz-Floer homology was done independently by Fauck [16].

Theorem 1.4 ([29]). *For each natural number m , there exist infinitely many pairwise non isomorphic contact structures on S^{4m+1} .*

In Section 5 we use positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology to get results about the minimal number of distinct periodic Reeb orbits on some contact manifolds. We first give in Theorem 5.1 a new proof (in the non degenerate case) of a Theorem by Ekeland and Lasry stating that the minimal number of geometrically distinct periodic Reeb orbits on a contact type hypersurfaces Σ in \mathbb{R}^{2n} is at least n when the hypersurface is nicely pinched between two spheres of radius R_1 and R_2 . We then use the techniques developed for this proof to study some hypersurfaces in some negative line bundles. We first get a description for circle bundles.

Proposition 1.5. *Let Σ be a contact type hypersurface in a negative line bundle over a closed symplectic manifold $\mathcal{L} \rightarrow B$ such that the intersection of Σ with each fiber is a circle. The contact form is the restriction of $r^2\theta^\nabla$ where θ^∇ is the transgression form on \mathcal{L} and r is the radial coordinate on the fiber. Then Σ carries at least $\sum_{i=0}^{2n} \beta_i$ geometrically distinct periodic Reeb orbits, where the β_i are the Betti numbers of B .*

We study then hypersurfaces pinched between circles bundles and get:

Theorem 1.6. *Let Σ be a contact type hypersurface in a negative line bundle \mathcal{L} , over a symplectic manifold B . Suppose that there exists a Liouville domain W' (such that its first Chern class vanishes on all tori) whose boundary coincides with the circle bundle of radius R_1 in \mathcal{L} , denoted S_{R_1} . Suppose there exists a Morse function $f : B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that the set of indices of all critical points of f is lacunary. Let α be the contact form on Σ induced by $r^2\theta^\nabla$ on \mathcal{L} (θ^∇ is the transgression form on \mathcal{L} and r is the radial coordinate on the fiber). Assume that Σ is "pinched" between two circle bundles S_{R_1} and S_{R_2} of radii R_1 and R_2 such that $0 < R_1 < R_2$ and $\frac{R_2}{R_1} < \sqrt{2}$. Assume that the minimal period of any periodic Reeb orbit on Σ is bounded below*

by R_1^2 . Then Σ carries at least $\sum_{i=0}^{2n} \beta_i$ geometrically distinct periodic Reeb orbits, where the β_i denote the Betti numbers of B .

Examples of line bundles where this theorem can be applied are given : the tautological bundle over a complex projective space and the tautological bundle over the Grassmannian of oriented 2-planes in \mathbb{R}^{2n} .

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2. Background on symplectic homology

Definition 2.1 (The Setup). Let (W, ω) be a compact *symplectic manifold with contact type boundary* $M := \partial W$. This means that there exists a Liouville vector field X (i.e. a vector field X such that $\mathcal{L}_X \omega = \omega$) defined on a neighbourhood of the boundary M , and transverse to M . In the sequel, we assume that the Liouville vector field has been chosen and we denote by (W, ω, X) such a manifold. We denote by λ the 1-form defined in a neighbourhood of M by $\lambda := \iota(X)\omega$ and by α the *contact 1-form* on M which is the restriction of λ to M :

$$\alpha := (\iota(X)\omega)|_M.$$

We denote by ξ the *contact structure* defined by α ($\xi := \ker \alpha$), and by R_α the *Reeb vector field* on M ($\iota(R_\alpha)d\alpha = 0$, $\alpha(R_\alpha) = 1$). The *action spectrum* of (M, α) is the set of all periods of the Reeb vector field :

$$\text{Spec}(M, \alpha) := \{T \in \mathbb{R}^+ \mid \exists \gamma \text{ periodic orbit of } R_\alpha \text{ of period } T\}.$$

The *symplectic completion* of (W, ω, λ) is the symplectic manifold defined by

$$\widehat{W} := W \bigcup_G (M \times \mathbb{R}^+) := (W \sqcup (M \times [-\delta, +\infty])) / \sim_G$$

with the symplectic form

$$\widehat{\omega} := \begin{cases} \omega & \text{on } W \\ d(e^\rho \alpha) & \text{on } M \times [-\delta, +\infty] \end{cases}.$$

The equivalence \sim_G , between a neighbourhood U of M in W and $M \times [-\delta, 0]$, is defined by the diffeomorphism $G : M \times [-\delta, 0] \rightarrow U : (p, \rho) \mapsto \varphi_\rho^X(p)$ which is induced by the flow of the vector field X .

A *Liouville domain* is a compact symplectic manifold with contact type boundary (W, ω, X) for which the vector field X is globally defined. In that case the symplectic 2-form is exact : $\omega = d\lambda$ where $\lambda = \iota(X)\omega$; a Liouville domain is also called an *exact symplectic manifold with contact type boundary* and is sometimes denoted (W, λ) .

Throughout this paper we assume that W is symplectically atoroidal, i.e the symplectic form and the first Chern class vanish on all tori. This assumption implies that the action of a loop and the Conley-Zehnder index³ of a 1-periodic orbit of a Hamiltonian are well-defined.

Symplectic homology was developed by Viterbo in [30], using works of Cieliebak, Floer, Hofer [10, 17]; it is defined for a compact symplectic manifold W with boundary of contact type, as a direct limit of Floer homologies of the symplectic completion of W , using some special Hamiltonians.

Definition 2.2. The class \mathcal{H}_{std} of *admissible Hamiltonians* consists of smooth functions $H : S^1 \times \widehat{W} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfying the following conditions:

- 1- H is negative and C^2 -small on $S^1 \times W$;
- 2- there exists $\rho_0 \geq 0$ such that $H(\theta, p, \rho) = \beta e^\rho + \beta'$ for $\rho \geq \rho_0$, with $0 < \beta \notin \text{Spec}(M, \alpha)$ and $\beta' \in \mathbb{R}$;
- 3- $H(\theta, p, \rho)$ is C^2 -close to $h(e^\rho)$ on $S^1 \times M \times [0, \rho_0]$, for h a convex increasing function.

We say furthermore that it is non degenerate if all 1-periodic orbits of X_H are nondegenerate (for a time-dependent Hamiltonian $H : S^1 \times \widehat{W} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the time dependent Hamiltonian vector field X_H is defined by the relation $\widehat{\omega}(X_H^\theta, \cdot) = dH(\theta, \cdot)$ for each $\theta \in S^1$).

³For a definition of the Conley-Zehnder index, which will be denoted μ_{CZ} in the following, we refer to [1, 13, 21]

We denote by $\mathcal{P}(H)$ the set of 1-periodic orbits of X_H .

The class \mathcal{J} of admissible $J : S^1 \rightarrow \text{End}(T\widehat{W}) : \theta \mapsto J^\theta$ consists of smooth loops of compatible almost complex structures J^θ on \widehat{W} , such that, at infinity (i.e. for ρ large enough) J is autonomous (i.e. independent of θ), invariant under translations in the ρ variable, and satisfies

$$J^\theta \xi = \xi \quad J^\theta(\partial_\rho) = R_\alpha.$$

Remark 2.3. Condition 1 implies that the only 1-periodic orbits of X_H in W are constants; they correspond to critical points of H .

On $S^1 \times M \times [0, +\infty[$, for a Hamiltonian of the form $H_1(\theta, p, \rho) = h_1(e^\rho)$, one has $X_{H_1}^\theta(p, \rho) = -h_1'(e^\rho)R_\alpha(p)$. Hence, for such a Hamiltonian H_1 , with h_1 increasing, the image of a 1-periodic orbit of X_{H_1} is the image of a periodic orbit of the Reeb vector field $-R_\alpha$ of period $T := h_1'(e^\rho)$ located at level $M \times \{\rho\}$. In particular, condition 2 implies that there is no 1-periodic orbit of X_H in $M \times [\rho_0, +\infty[$ for a Hamiltonian H in \mathcal{H}_{std} . Condition 3 ensures that for any non constant 1-periodic orbit γ_H of X_H for a Hamiltonian H in \mathcal{H}_{std} , there exists a closed orbit of the Reeb vector field R_α of period $T < \beta$ (with β the slope of H “at ∞ ”), such that γ_H is close to this closed orbit of (minus) the Reeb vector field located in $M \times \{\rho\}$ with $T = h'(e^\rho)$.

We can consider a larger class of admissible Hamiltonians, removing conditions 1 and 3.

Definition 2.4 (Symplectic homology). The Floer complex $SC(H, J)$ is the complex generated by 1-periodic orbits of the Hamiltonian vector field X_H , graded by minus their Conley Zehnder index, with boundary ∂ (well defined for a so called regular pair (H, J)) defined by a count with signs of Floer trajectories, i.e maps $u : \mathbb{R} \times S^1 \rightarrow W$ satisfying:

$$(2.1) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial s}(s, \theta) + J^\theta(u(s, \theta)) \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}(s, \theta) - X_H^\theta(u(s, \theta)) \right) = 0.$$

The symplectic homology of (W, ω, X) is defined as the direct limit

$$SH_*(W, \omega, X) := \varinjlim_{H \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{std}}} SH_*(H, J)$$

where, for each $H, J : S^1 \rightarrow \text{End}(\Gamma(T\widehat{W}))$ is chosen so that (H, J) is a regular pair. To define the direct limit one needs a partial order \leq on \mathcal{H}_{std} and morphisms $SH(H_1, J_1) \rightarrow SH(H_2, J_2)$ whenever $H_1 \leq H_2$ are non degenerate. The partial order on \mathcal{H}_{std} is given by $H_1 \leq H_2$ if $H_1(\theta, x) \leq H_2(\theta, x)$

for all $(\theta, x) \in S^1 \times \widehat{W}$ (for more general Hamiltonians, it is enough to have $H_1(\theta, x) \leq H_2(\theta, x)$ for all (θ, x) outside a compact domain).

The morphism $SH(H_1, J_1) \rightarrow SH(H_2, J_2)$ is the *continuation morphism* induced by a smooth increasing homotopy of regular pairs (H_s, J_s) , $s \in \mathbb{R}$ between (H_1, J_1) and (H_2, J_2) , with (H_s, J_s) constant for $|s|$ large, when it is regular. By increasing, we mean $\partial_s H_s \geq 0$ (again for more general H it is enough to consider $\partial_s H_s \geq 0$ outside a compact subset). The continuation morphism is defined by a count with signs of solutions $u : \mathbb{R} \times S^1 \rightarrow \widehat{W}$ of the equation

$$(2.2) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} + J_s^\theta \circ u \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta} - X_{H_s}^\theta \circ u \right) = 0$$

with finite energy $E(u) := \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{S^1} \left\| \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} \right\|^2 d\theta ds$.

The idea of positive symplectic homology is to “remove” the data of constant 1-periodic orbits from symplectic homology. *We assume that (W, ω, X) is a Liouville domain*, in order to identify the set of critical points of a Hamiltonian with its 1-periodic orbits of small action.

Let $H : S^1 \times \widehat{W} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a Hamiltonian in \mathcal{H}_{std} . The Hamiltonian action functional $\mathcal{A}_H : C_{\text{contr}}^\infty(S^1, \widehat{W}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined as

$$\mathcal{A}_H(\gamma) := - \int_{D^2} \sigma^* \widehat{\omega} - \int_{S^1} H(\theta, \gamma(\theta)) d\theta$$

where $\sigma : D^2 \rightarrow \widehat{W}$ is an extension of γ to the disc D^2 . When the symplectic form is exact, $\omega = d\lambda$, the action is $\mathcal{A}_H(\gamma) := - \int_{S^1} \gamma^* \widehat{\lambda} - \int_{S^1} H(\theta, \gamma(\theta)) d\theta$.

The 1-periodic orbits of $H \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{std}}$ fall into two classes: critical points in W , whose action is strictly less than some small positive constant ϵ (indeed, if (θ, x) is a critical point of H , the action of the constant orbit is equal to $-H(\theta, x)$) and non-constant periodic orbits lying in $\widehat{W} \setminus W$ whose action is strictly greater than ϵ (indeed, the action of such an orbit is close, for a given ρ in $[0, \rho_0]$ with $T = h'(e^\rho)$ in $\text{Spec}(M, \alpha)$, to the action of the orbit of the vector field $-h'(e^\rho)R_\alpha$ located in $M \times \{\rho\}$; this is given by $-\int_{S^1} e^\rho \alpha(-h'(e^\rho)R_\alpha) d\theta - \int_{S^1} h(e^\rho) d\theta = e^\rho h'(e^\rho) - h(e^\rho) = e^\rho T - h(e^\rho)$; it is positive since h is convex).

The ϵ above is chosen (for instance) as half the minimal value of the periods of closed orbits of the Reeb vector field on $M = \partial W$. Functions H are chosen so that the value of $|H|$ in $S^1 \times W$ is less than ϵ , so that $h(e^\rho)$ is less than $\frac{1}{2}\epsilon$ (hence $e^\rho T - h(e^\rho)$ is greater than $\frac{3}{2}\epsilon$) and the C^2 -closeness to an autonomous function is such that the actions differ at most by $\frac{1}{2}\epsilon$.

Definition 2.5 (positive symplectic homology). Let (W, ω, X) be a Liouville domain and let H be in \mathcal{H}_{std} . Let $SC^{\leq \epsilon}(H, J)$ be the complex generated by the 1-periodic orbits of action no greater than ϵ . It is built out of critical points of H and it is a subcomplex of $SC(H, J)$, since the action decreases along Floer trajectories. The *positive Floer complex* is defined as the quotient of the total complex by the subcomplex of critical points;

$$SC^+(H, J) := SC(H, J) / SC^{\leq \epsilon}(H, J)$$

The differential induces a differential on the quotient which is still denoted ∂ . The continuation morphisms mentioned above descend to the quotient since the action decreases along a solution of (2.2) (when the homotopy is increasing everywhere). The *positive symplectic homology* of (W, ω) is defined as a direct limit over non degenerate $H \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{std}}$ of the homology of $SC^+(H, J)$

$$SH^+(W, \omega, X) := \varinjlim_{H \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{std}}} H_*(SC^+(H, J), \partial).$$

2.1. S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology

Let X be a topological space endowed with an S^1 -action. If the S^1 -action is free, X/S^1 is a topological space. The aim of S^1 -equivariant homology is to build on the space X a homology which coincides, when the action is free, with the singular homology of the quotient. One considers the universal principal S^1 -bundle $ES^1 \rightarrow BS^1$. The diagonal action on $X \times ES^1$ is free and one denotes by $X \times_{S^1} ES^1$ the quotient $(X \times ES^1)/S^1$. Following Borel, the *S^1 -equivariant homology of X* with \mathbb{Z} -coefficients is defined as $H_*^{S^1}(X) := H_*(X \times_{S^1} ES^1, \mathbb{Z})$. For symplectic homology, one defines in a similar way the S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology for any compact symplectic manifold with contact type boundary (W, ω, X) ; the S^1 -action one is referring to is the reparametrization action on the loop space (not an action on W)

$$\varphi \cdot \gamma(\theta) = \gamma(\theta - \varphi).$$

This homology was first introduced by Viterbo in [30]; we present here a different approach, which was sketched by Seidel in [28] and which was studied in detail by Bourgeois and Oancea in [4–6]. It has the advantage to use a special class of Hamiltonians and simplified equations for Floer trajectories, so that computations are often doable. The important point is that this S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology coincides with the one defined by Viterbo.

The model of ES^1 is given as a limit of spheres S^{2N+1} for N going to ∞ with the Hopf S^1 -action. To provide S^1 -invariant functionals, we use S^1 -invariant Hamiltonians $H : S^1 \times \widehat{W} \times S^{2N+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$H(\theta + \varphi, x, \varphi z) = H(\theta, x, z) \quad \forall \theta, \varphi \in S^1, \forall z \in S^{2N+1}.$$

The *parametrised action functional* $\mathcal{A} : C_{\text{contr}}^\infty(S^1, \widehat{W}) \times S^{2N+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, is defined as

$$(2.3) \quad \mathcal{A}(\gamma, z) := - \int_{D^2} \sigma^* \widehat{\omega} - \int_{S^1} H(\theta, \gamma(\theta), z) d\theta$$

where $\sigma : D^2 \rightarrow \widehat{W}$ is an extension of γ to the disc D^2 . It is invariant under the diagonal S^1 -action on $C^\infty(S^1, \widehat{W}) \times S^{2N+1}$.

The *critical points* of the parametrised action functional are pairs (γ, z) such that

$$(2.4) \quad \gamma \in \mathcal{P}(H_z) \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{S^1} \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial z}(\theta, \gamma(\theta)) d\theta = 0,$$

where H_z is the function on $S^1 \times \widehat{W}$ defined by $H_z(\theta, x) := H(\theta, x, z)$ and where $\mathcal{P}(H_z)$ denote, as before, the set of 1-periodic orbits of X_{H_z} . The set $\mathcal{P}^{S^1}(H)$ of critical points of \mathcal{A} is S^1 -invariant. If $q = (\gamma, z) \in \mathcal{P}^{S^1}(H)$, we denote by S_q the S^1 -orbit of q . Such an S_q is called *nondegenerate* if the Hessian $d^2\mathcal{A}(\gamma, z)$ has a 1-dimensional kernel for some (and hence any) $(\gamma, z) \in S_q$.

The data : We consider a compact symplectic manifold with compact type boundary (W, ω, X) . We fix a sequence of C^2 -small perfect Morse functions $f_N : \mathbb{C}P^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, together with a Riemannian metric \bar{g}_N on $\mathbb{C}P^N$ for which the gradient flow of f_N has the Morse-Smale property. We shall take the standard metric and

$$f_N([w^0 : \dots : w^N]) = C \frac{\sum_{j=0}^N (j+1) |w^j|^2}{\sum_{j=0}^N |w^j|^2} \quad \text{with } C < 0 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

We denote by $\tilde{f}_N : S^{2N+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ their S^1 -invariant lift, and by $\text{Crit}(\tilde{f}_N)$ the set of critical points of \tilde{f}_N (which is a union of circles). We choose a point z_j on the critical circle which projects on the critical point of $-f_N$ of index $2j$. In our example, $z_j = (w^0, \dots, w^N) \in S^{2N+1}$ with $w^i = \delta_j^i$. We fix a local slice T_{z_j} transverse in S^{2N+1} to the circle in $\text{Crit}(\tilde{f}_N)$ at z_j ; again in our example $T_{z_j} = \{(w^0, \dots, w^N) \in S^{2N+1} \mid w^j \in \mathbb{R}^+\}$. We consider U_N a neighbourhood

of $Crit(\tilde{f}_N)$ and $\check{\rho}_N : S^{2N+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a S^1 invariant cut-off function on U_N which is equal to 1 in a neighbourhood $U'_N \subset U_N$ of $Crit(\tilde{f}_N)$ and 0 outside U_N . We set

$$\epsilon_N := \min_{z \in S^{2N+1} \setminus U'_N} \left\| \vec{\nabla} \tilde{f}_N(z) \right\| > 0.$$

Definition 2.6 (Class of admissible Hamiltonians). An S^1 -invariant Hamiltonian H is admissible if H_z is in \mathcal{H}_{std} (as in Definition 2.2) with constant slope independent of z for all $z \in S^{2N+1}$ and if for any critical point $q \in \mathcal{P}^{S^1}(H)$, the S^1 -orbit S_q is non degenerate. Let $\mathcal{H}^{S^1,N}$ be the family of such Hamiltonians. We look at the subfamily $\mathcal{H}^{S^1,N}(f_N) \subset \mathcal{H}^{S^1,N}$ consisting of Hamiltonians of the form $H + \tilde{f}_N$ with $H : S^1 \times \widehat{W} \times S^{2N+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ in $\mathcal{H}^{S^1,N}$ such that

1. Each critical point (γ, z) of the parametrized action functional $\mathcal{A}_{H+\tilde{f}_N}$ defined by $H + \tilde{f}_N$ lies over a z which is a critical point of \tilde{f}_N ;
2. For every $z \in Crit(\tilde{f}_N)$, $H(\cdot, \cdot, z)$ has non degenerate periodic orbits;
3. $H + \tilde{f}_N$ has nondegenerate S^1 -orbits;
4. $\left\| \vec{\nabla}_z H(\theta, x, z) \right\| < \epsilon$, for all $z \in S^{2N+1} \setminus U'$;
5. For all $z \in U'$, $\vec{\nabla}_z H \cdot \vec{\nabla} \tilde{f}_N(z) = 0$.

Remark 2.7. Condition 3 can be replaced by the following : near every critical orbit of \tilde{f}_N , we have $H(\theta, x, z) = H'(\theta - \phi_z, x)$, where $\phi_z \in S^1$ is the unique element such that the action of its inverse brings z into T_{z_0} , i.e. $\phi_z^{-1} \cdot z \in T_{z_0}$ and $H' \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{std}}$. We shall consider elements H which are built from an $H' : S^1 \times \widehat{W} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ in \mathcal{H}_{std} as in Definition 2.2, close to an autonomous Hamiltonian; we shall develop this in next section.

Definition 2.8 (The chains). Given an admissible $H + \tilde{f}_N$, the set denoted $\mathcal{P}^{S^1}(H + \tilde{f}_N)$ of critical points (γ, z) of the parametrized action functional $\mathcal{A}_{H+\tilde{f}_N}$ is a union of circles

$$\left\{ S_{(\gamma,z)} := S^1 \cdot (\gamma, z) = \{ \varphi \cdot (\gamma, z) = (\varphi \cdot \gamma, \varphi z) \mid \varphi \in S^1 \} \right\}.$$

Each of those circle gives a generator of the chain complex. The index of the generator $S_{(\gamma,z)}$ is defined to be

$$\mu(S_{\gamma,z}) := -\mu_{CZ}(\gamma) + \mu_{Morse}(z; -\tilde{f}_N).$$

The *chain complex* is defined as:

$$S\widetilde{C}_*^{S^1, N}(H, f_N) := \bigoplus_{S_p \subset \mathcal{P}^{S^1}(H + \tilde{f}_N)} \mathbb{Z}\langle S_p \rangle.$$

Definition 2.9 (The differential). A *parametrized loop* of almost complex structures $J : S^1 \times S^{2N+1} \rightarrow \text{End}(T\widehat{W})$, $(\theta, z) \mapsto J_z^\theta$ is S^1 -invariant if $J_{\varphi z}^{\theta+\varphi} = J_z^\theta, \forall \theta, \varphi \in S^1, \forall z \in S^{2N+1}$ and is *admissible* if for all z in S^{2N+1} , the loop of almost complex structures J_z is in \mathcal{J} as defined in Definition 2.2.

Let (J_z^θ) be an S^1 -invariant family of almost complex structures independent of z along each local slice. Let $p^- = (\gamma^-, z^-)$ and $p^+ = (\gamma^+, z^+)$ be two critical points of $\mathcal{A}_{H+\tilde{f}_N}$. We denote by $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}(S_{p^-}, S_{p^+}; H, f_N, J_z^\theta, g)$ the space of solutions $(u, z), u : \mathbb{R} \times S^1 \rightarrow \widehat{W}, z : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow S^{2N+1}$ to the system of equations

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_s u + J_{z(s)}^\theta \circ u(\partial_\theta u - X_{H_{z(s)}} \circ u) = 0 \\ \dot{z} - \vec{\nabla} \tilde{f}_N(z) = 0 \end{cases}$$

such that $\lim_{s \rightarrow -\infty} (u(s, \cdot), z(s)) \in S_{p^-}$ and $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} (u(s, \cdot), z(s)) \in S_{p^+}$.

If $S_{p^-} \not\cong S_{p^+}$, we denote by $\mathcal{M}(S_{p^-}, S_{p^+}; H, f_N, J_z^\theta, g)$ the quotient of the space $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}(S_{p^-}, S_{p^+}; H, f_N, J_z^\theta, g)$ by the reparametrization \mathbb{R} -action. This quotient $\mathcal{M}(S_{p^-}, S_{p^+}; H, f_N, J_z^\theta, g)$ carries a free S^1 -action and we denote by $\mathcal{M}^{S^1}(S_{p^-}, S_{p^+}; H, f_N, J_z^\theta, g)$ the quotient of $\mathcal{M}(S_{p^-}, S_{p^+}; H, f_N, J_z^\theta, g)$ by this S^1 -action. For generically chosen J_z^θ and g , it is proven in [5] that the spaces $\mathcal{M}^{S^1}(S_{p^-}, S_{p^+}; H, f_N, J_z^\theta, g)$ are smooth manifolds of dimension equal to $-\mu(S_{p^-}) + \mu(S_{p^+}) - 1$.

The *differential* $\tilde{\partial}^{S^1} : S\widetilde{C}_*^{S^1, N}(H, f_N) \rightarrow S\widetilde{C}_{*-1}^{S^1, N}(H, f_N)$ is defined by

$$\tilde{\partial}^{S^1}(S_{p^-}) := \sum_{\substack{S_p^+ \subset \mathcal{P}^{S^1}(H + \tilde{f}_N) \\ \mu(S_{p^-}) - \mu(S_{p^+}) = 1}} \# \mathcal{M}^{S^1}(S_{p^-}, S_{p^+}; H, f_N, J_z^\theta, g) S_{p^+}$$

where $\#$ is a count with signs defined in [5]. *Continuation maps* are defined as usual, using the space of solutions (u, s) of

$$(2.6) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_s u + J_{s, z(s)}^\theta \circ u(\partial_\theta u - X_{H_{s, z(s)}} \circ u) = 0 \\ \dot{z} - \vec{\nabla} \tilde{f}_N(z) = 0 \end{cases}$$

with $H_s + \tilde{f}_N$ an increasing homotopy between $H_0 + \tilde{f}_N$ and $H_1 + \tilde{f}_N$.

Definition 2.10 (S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology).

The S^1 -equivariant Floer homology groups are

$$SH_*^{S^1,N}(H, f_N, J, g) := H_*(SC_*^{S^1,N}(H, f_N), \tilde{\partial}^{S^1}).$$

The S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology groups of W are

$$SH_*^{S^1}(W, \omega, X) := \varinjlim_N \varliminf_{H \in \mathcal{H}^{S^1,N}(f_N)} SH_*^{S^1,N}(H, f_N, J, g).$$

The direct limit over N is taken with respect to the S^1 -equivariant embeddings $S^{2N+1} \hookrightarrow S^{2N+3}$ which induce maps

$$SH_*^{S^1,N}(W, \omega, X) \rightarrow SH_*^{S^1,N+1}(W, \omega, X) \quad \text{for each } N.$$

We show here below that the action decreases along these continuation maps. This allows to define $SH^{S^1,+}$ in the context of Liouville domains.

Proposition 2.11. *Let $H_0 + \tilde{f}_N$ and $H_1 + \tilde{f}_N$ be Hamiltonians in $\mathcal{H}^{S^1,N}(f)$ and let $\tilde{H}_s := H_s + \tilde{f}_N$ be an increasing homotopy between $H_0 + \tilde{f}_N$ and $H_1 + \tilde{f}_N$. If (u, z) , $u : \mathbb{R} \times S^1 \rightarrow \widehat{W}$ and $z : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow S^{2N+1}$ is a solution of equations (2.6) satisfying the conditions $\lim_{s \rightarrow -\infty} (u(s, \cdot), z(s)) = (\gamma^-(\cdot), z^-)$ and $\lim_{s \rightarrow +\infty} (u(s, \cdot), z(s)) = (\gamma^+(\cdot), z^+)$, then*

$$\mathcal{A}(\gamma^-, z^-) \geq \mathcal{A}(\gamma^+, z^+).$$

Proof. The parametrized action for the Hamiltonian $H_s + \tilde{f}$ on the pair $(u(s, \cdot), z(s))$ is given by

$$- \int_{D^2} \sigma_s^* \widehat{\omega} - \int_{S^1} (H_s + \tilde{f}_N)(\theta, u(s, \theta), z(s)) d\theta$$

where $\sigma_s : D^2 \rightarrow \widehat{W}$ is an extension of $\gamma_s = u(s, \cdot)$ to the disc D^2 . By the asphericity condition, $\int_{D^2} \sigma_s^* \widehat{\omega} = \int_{D^2} \sigma_{s_0}^* \widehat{\omega} + \int_{S^1 \times [s_0, s]} u^* \widehat{\omega}$ so that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \mathcal{A}_{H_s + \tilde{f}_N}(u(s, \cdot), z(s)) \\ &= - \int_{S^1} \omega(\partial_s u, \partial_\theta u) d\theta - \int_{S^1} \frac{\partial}{\partial u} H_s(\theta, u(s, \theta), z(s)) \frac{\partial}{\partial s} u(s, \theta) d\theta \\ & \quad - \int_{S^1} \vec{\nabla}_z (H_s + \tilde{f}_N)(\theta, u(s, \theta), z(s)) \cdot \dot{z}(s) d\theta \\ & \quad - \int_{S^1} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial s} (H_s + \tilde{f}_N) \right) (\theta, u(s, \theta), z(s)) d\theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= - \int_{S^1} \omega(\partial_s u, \partial_\theta u) d\theta - \int_{S^1} dH_{s,z(s)}(\partial_s u) d\theta \\
 &\quad - \int_{S^1} \vec{\nabla}_z(H_s + \tilde{f}_N)(s, \theta, u(s, \theta), z(s)) \cdot \vec{\nabla} f_N(z) d\theta \\
 &\quad - \int_{S^1} \frac{\partial}{\partial s}(H_s + \tilde{f}_N)(\theta, u(s, \theta), z(s)) d\theta.
 \end{aligned}$$

The last term is ≤ 0 since the homotopy is increasing. The first line can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned}
 - \int_{S^1} \omega(\partial_s u, \partial_\theta u) d\theta - \int_{S^1} \omega(X_{H_{s,z(s)}}, \partial_s u) d\theta &= - \int_{S^1} \omega(\partial_s u, \partial_\theta u - X_{H_{s,z(s)}}) d\theta \\
 &= - \int_{S^1} \omega(\partial_s u, J_{z(s)}^\theta \partial_s u) d\theta \\
 &= - \|\partial_s u\|_{g_{J_{z(s)}^\theta}}^2 \leq 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

The first term in the second line is ≤ 0 by conditions 4 and 5 in Definition 2.6 and by the definition of ϵ . □

Remark 2.12. With the assumptions of Proposition 2.11, it appears in the proof above that $\int \|\partial_s u\|_{g_{J_{z(s)}^\theta}}^2 ds d\theta \leq \mathcal{A}(\gamma^-, z^-) - \mathcal{A}(\gamma^+, z^+)$.

Definition 2.13 (Positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology). Let $H \in \mathcal{H}^{S^1, N}(f_N)$ be a Hamiltonian. The *positive S^1 -equivariant complex* is defined as

$$SC^{\tilde{S}^1, N, +}(H, f_N) := SC^{\tilde{S}^1, N}(H, f_N) / SC^{\tilde{S}^1, N, \leq \epsilon}(H, f_N)$$

where $SC^{\tilde{S}^1, N, \leq \epsilon}(H, f_N)$ is the set of critical points of $\mathcal{A}_{H+\tilde{f}_N}$ of action less than ϵ . The differential passes to the quotient where we still denote it $\tilde{\partial}^{S^1}$ and the positive S^1 -equivariant Floer groups are defined as

$$SH^{S^1, N, +}(H, f_N) := H(SC^{\tilde{S}^1, N, +}(H, f_N), \tilde{\partial}^{S^1}).$$

The *positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology* is defined by

$$SH_*^{S^1, +}(W, \omega, X) := \varinjlim_N \varinjlim_{H \in \mathcal{H}^{S^1, N}(f_N)} SH_*^{S^1, N, +}(H, f_N).$$

We assume (W, ω, X) to be exact and we assume the function f_N to be small in order to identify 1-periodic orbits of small action with a pair (p, z) , p a critical points of H .

3. $SH^{S^1,+}$ and periodic Reeb orbits

The goal of this section is prove Theorem 1.1 which relates the positive S^1 -equivariant homology of a Liouville domain (W, λ) to the Reeb orbits on $(M = \partial W, \alpha = \lambda|_M)$.

3.1. The multicomplex defining positive S^1 -equivariant homology

We use the nice subclass of Hamiltonians introduced in [5]; they are constructed using elements in \mathcal{H}_{std} which are small perturbations of autonomous Hamiltonians.

Definition 3.1 (Construction of admissible Hamiltonians from elements in \mathcal{H}_{std}). For $H' \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{std}}$, we define an S^1 -invariant Hamiltonian $H_N : S^1 \times \widehat{W} \times S^{2N+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ as follows. Define $\widetilde{H}_N : S^1 \times \widehat{W} \times U_N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $\widetilde{H}_N(\theta, x, z) := H'(\theta - \phi_z, x)$ where $\phi_z \in S^1$ is the unique element such that $\phi_z^{-1} \cdot z \in T_{z_j}$ when z is close to the critical circle including z_j , and extend \widetilde{H}_N to $H_N : S^1 \times \widehat{W} \times S^{2N+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, by

$$(3.1) \quad H_N(\theta, x, z) := \check{\rho}_N(z)\widetilde{H}_N(\theta, x, z) + (1 - \check{\rho}_N(z))\beta(x)H'(\theta, x)$$

using the cutoff function $\check{\rho}_N$ on S^{2N+1} and a function $\beta : \widehat{W} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ which is 0 where H' is time-dependent and equal to 1 outside a compact set. The element H_N is automatically in $\mathcal{H}^{S^1,N}(f_N)$, when $H' \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{std}}$ is a small perturbation of some autonomous functions as developed further in this section.

The complex for a subclass of special Hamiltonians.

Let $H' : S^1 \times \widehat{W} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ in \mathcal{H}_{std} be fixed, with non degenerate 1-periodic orbits, and consider a sequence $H_N \in \mathcal{H}^{S^1,N}, N \geq 1$ such that

$$H_N(\theta, x, z) = H'(\theta - \phi_z, x) \quad \text{for every } z \in \text{Crit}(\widetilde{f}_N)$$

(for instance by the construction above) and a sequence $J_N \in \mathcal{J}^{S^1,N}$ such that J_N is regular for H_N .

Let $i_0 : \mathbb{C}P^N \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}P^{N+1} : [w^0 : \dots : w^{N-1}] \mapsto [w^0 : \dots : w^{N-1} : 0]$ and let $i_1 : \mathbb{C}P^N \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}P^{N+1} : [w^0 : \dots : w^{N-1}] \mapsto [0 : w^0 : \dots : w^{N-1}]$ and denote by $\tilde{i}_0 : S^{2N+1} \rightarrow S^{2N+3} : z \mapsto (z, 0)$ and $\tilde{i}_1 : S^{2N+1} \rightarrow S^{2N+3} : z \mapsto (0, z)$ their lifts. Observe that $\text{Im}(i_0)$ and $\text{Im}(i_1)$ are invariant under the gradient flow of f_{N+1} , $f_N = f_{N+1} \circ i_0 = f_{N+1} \circ i_1 + cst$ and $i_1^* \bar{g}_{N+1} = i_0^* \bar{g}_{N+1} = \bar{g}_N$. We

assume furthermore that $H_{N+1}(\cdot, \cdot, \tilde{i}_1(z)) = H_{N+1}(\cdot, \cdot, \tilde{i}_0(z)) = H_N(\cdot, \cdot, z)$, and also that $J_{N+1, \tilde{i}_1(z)} = J_{N+1, \tilde{i}_0(z)} = J_{N, z}$. The critical points of $\mathcal{A}_{H_N + \tilde{f}_N}$ are pairs (γ_z, z) where z is a critical point of \tilde{f}_N and where γ_z is a ϕ_z -translation of a 1-periodic orbit γ of H' in \widehat{W} (i.e $\gamma_z(\theta) = \gamma(\theta - \phi_z)$) which writes $\gamma_z = \phi_z \cdot \gamma$). There is thus a natural identification (with gradings)

$$\begin{aligned} SC_*^{\tilde{S}^1, N}(H_N, f_N) &\simeq \mathbb{Z}[u]/u^{N+1} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} SC_*(H', J) \\ S^1 \cdot (\gamma_{z_j}, z_j) &\mapsto u^j \otimes \gamma =: u^j \gamma \end{aligned}$$

where z_j is the chosen critical point of $-\tilde{f}_N$ of index $2j$ and u is a formal variable of degree 2.

The differential, under this identification of complexes, writes

$$(3.2) \quad \tilde{\partial}^{S^1}(u^l \otimes \gamma) = \sum_{j=0}^l u^{l-j} \otimes \varphi_j(\gamma).$$

for maps $\varphi_j : SC_*(H') \rightarrow SC_{*+2j-1}(H')$ defined by counting with signs the elements of the space $\mathcal{M}^{S^1}(S_{(\gamma_{z_j}^-, z_j)}, S_{(\gamma_{z_0}^+, z_0)}; H_N, f_N, J_N, g_N)$ which is the quotient by the \mathbb{R} and the S^1 -action of the space of solutions of

$$\begin{cases} \partial_s u + J_{z(s)}^\theta \circ u(\partial_\theta u - X_{H_N, z(s)} \circ u) = 0 \\ \dot{z} - \vec{\nabla} \tilde{f}_N(z) = 0 \end{cases}$$

going from $S^1 \cdot (\gamma_{z_j}^-, z_j)$ to $S^1 \cdot (\gamma_{z_0}^+, z_0)$.

It follows from the assumptions that for a fixed j , the maps φ_j obtained for varying values of $N \geq j$ coincide. Therefore the limit as $N \rightarrow \infty$ of all the $SC_*^{\tilde{S}^1, N}(H_N, f_N)$ is encoded into a complex denoted

$$S\widehat{C}_*^{S^1}(H') := \mathbb{Z}[u] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} SC_*(H')$$

with differential induced by (3.2) that we can formally write as

$$\widehat{\partial}^{S^1} = \varphi_0 + u^{-1}\varphi_1 + u^{-2}\varphi_2 + \dots$$

As before, there are well-defined continuation maps induced by increasing homotopies of Hamiltonians.

Proposition 3.2. [5] *The S^1 equivariant homology of W is given by:*

$$SH_*^{S^1}(W) := \varinjlim_{H \in \mathcal{H}_{std}} H\left(S\widehat{C}_*^{S^1}(H'), \widehat{\partial}^{S^1}\right).$$

Definition 3.3 (Perturbation of Morse-Bott Hamiltonians). [3] Let (W, λ) be a Liouville domain. The set of Morse-Bott Hamiltonians \mathcal{H}_{MB} consists of Hamiltonians $H : \widehat{W} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ so that

1. $H|_W$ is a negative C^2 -small Morse function;
2. $H(p, \rho) = h(\rho)$ outside W , where h is a strictly increasing function, and $h(\rho) = \beta e^\rho + \beta'$ for $\rho > \rho_0$, where $\beta, \beta' \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\beta \notin \text{Spec}(M, \alpha)$, and we assume that $h'' - h' > 0$ on $[0, \rho_0)$.

The 1-periodic orbit of X_H are either critical points of H in W or non constant 1-periodic orbits, located on levels $M \times \{\rho\}, \rho \in (0, \rho_0)$, which are in correspondence with periodic $-R_\alpha$ -orbits of period $e^\rho h'(\rho)$. Since H is autonomous, every 1-periodic orbit, γ_H of X_H , corresponding to the periodic Reeb orbit γ , gives birth to a S^1 family of 1-periodic orbits of X_H , denoted by S_γ .

An element $H \in \mathcal{H}_{MB}$ is deformed, as in [11], into a time-dependent Hamiltonian H_δ with only non degenerate 1-periodic orbits in the following way. We choose a perfect Morse function on the circle, $\check{f} : S^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. For each 1-periodic orbit γ_H of X_H , we consider the integer l_{γ_H} so that γ_H is a l_{γ_H} -fold cover of a simple periodic orbit; l_{γ_H} is constant on S_γ and we set $l_\gamma = l_{\gamma_H} = \frac{1}{T}$ where T is the period of γ . We choose a symplectic trivialization $\psi := (\psi_1, \psi_2) : U_\gamma \rightarrow V \subset S^1 \times \mathbb{R}^{2n-1}$ from $U_\gamma \subset \partial W \times \mathbb{R}^+ \subset \widehat{W}$, open neighborhood of the image of γ_H , to V , open neighborhood of $S^1 \times \{0\}$, such that $\psi_1(\gamma_H(\theta)) = l_\gamma \theta$. Here $S^1 \times \mathbb{R}^{2n-1}$ is endowed with the standard symplectic form. Let $\check{g} : S^1 \times \mathbb{R}^{2n-1} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ be a smooth cutoff function supported in a small neighborhood of $S^1 \times \{0\}$ such that $\check{g}|_{S^1 \times \{0\}} \equiv 1$. We denote by \check{f}_γ the function defined on S_γ by $\check{f} \circ \psi_1|_{S_\gamma}$.

For $\delta > 0$ and $(\theta, p, \rho) \in S^1 \times U_\gamma$, we define

$$(3.3) \quad H_\delta(\theta, p, \rho) := h(\rho) + \delta \check{g}(\psi(p, \rho)) \check{f}(\psi_1(p, \rho) - l_\gamma \theta).$$

The Hamiltonian H_δ coincides with H outside the open sets $S^1 \times U_\gamma$.

Lemma 3.4 ([3, 11]). *The 1-periodic orbits of H_δ , for δ small enough, are either constant orbits (the same as those of H) or nonconstant orbits which are non degenerate and form pairs $(\gamma_{\min}, \gamma_{\max})$ which coincide with the orbits in S_γ starting at the minimum and the maximum of \check{f}_γ respectively, for each Reeb orbit γ such that S_γ appears in the 1-periodic orbits of H . Their Conley-Zehnder index is given by $\mu_{CZ}(\gamma_{\min}) = \mu_{CZ}(\gamma) - 1$ and $\mu_{CZ}(\gamma_{\max}) = \mu_{CZ}(\gamma)$.*

3.2. Computing $SH^{S^1,+}$

We consider now the symplectic homologies with coefficients in \mathbb{Q} , denoted $SH^\dagger(W, \mathbb{Q})$ on a Liouville domain (W, λ) . We consider a Hamiltonian denoted $H_{\delta,N}$ which is a S^1 -equivariant lift, as given by formula 3.1, of a Hamiltonian H_δ which is a perturbation, as in fomula 3.3, of a Hamiltonian H in \mathcal{H}_{MB} such that the slope a is big and ρ_0 is small. The non constant critical points of $\mathcal{A}_{H_{\delta,N} + \tilde{f}_N}$ are pairs (γ_z, z) where z is a critical point of \tilde{f}_N and where γ_z is a ϕ_z -translation of a non constant 1-periodic orbit γ' of H_δ in \widehat{W} . Such a γ' is of the form γ_{min} or γ_{Max} , located on a level $M \times \{\rho\}$, $\rho \in (0, \rho_0)$ corresponding to a periodic orbit of $-R_\alpha$ of period $T = e^\rho h'(\rho)$.

Remark 3.5. The action of this critical point (γ_z, z) is given by $-\int_{S^1} \gamma_z^* \widehat{\lambda} - \int_{S^1} (H_N + \tilde{f}_N)(\theta, \gamma_z(\theta), z) d\theta$. With our assumptions (f small, ρ_0 small), the second term is close to zero. The first term is equal to $-\int_{S^1} (\gamma')^* \widehat{\lambda} = e^\rho T$. Hence the action of this critical point is close to T .

We now prove Theorem 1.1; (W, λ) is a Liouville domain and α a contact form on ∂W such that the set of Conley-Zehnder indices of the set $\mathcal{P}(R_\alpha)$ of all good periodic Reeb orbits is lacunary. We shall show that

$$SH^{S^1,+}(W, \mathbb{Q}) = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in \mathcal{P}(R_\alpha)} \mathbb{Q}\langle \gamma \rangle.$$

Proof. Let H be a Hamiltonian in \mathcal{H}_{MB} such that the action is distinct for S^1 -families of orbits corresponding to Reeb orbits of different period. This is possible by Remark 3.5. We consider, as mentioned above, the S^1 -equivariant functions $H_{\delta,N}$ which are lifts of a perturbation H_δ of H . We use the natural identification, described in Section 3.1:

$$S\widetilde{C}^{S^1,N,+}(H_{\delta,N}, f_N) \simeq \mathbb{Z}[u]/u^{N+1} \otimes SC^+(H_\delta)$$

and the description of $SC^+(H_\delta)$ given by Lemma 3.4.

Remark 3.6. The energy $E(u) = \int \|\partial_s u\|_{g_{J_\theta}}^2 dsd\theta$ of all Floer trajectories involved in the definition of the boundary operator which are linking elements (γ_z, z) corresponding to distinct γ 's, say γ_- and γ_+ , is bounded below by some positive constant E depending only on H . Indeed⁴, the result follows from the two following facts:

⁴this argument is borrowed from [20]

First, $\|\partial_s u\|_{g_{J_z(s)}}^2$ is bounded above ([26]) since, otherwise, there would be some “bubbling off” which is prevented by exactness of the symplectic form. Secondly $\int_{S^1} \|\partial_\theta u(s, \theta) - X_{H_{\delta, N_{z(s)}}}(u(s, \theta))\|_{g_{J_z(s)}}^2 d\theta$ is bounded below by an ϵ valid for any smooth loop $u(s, \cdot) : S^1 \rightarrow \widetilde{W} : \theta \mapsto u(s, \theta)$ with some values outside a neighborhood of the critical orbits [27, Exercice 1.22]. This is proven by contradiction, using Arzela-Ascoli Theorem to prove that every sequence $u_n : S^1 \rightarrow \widetilde{W}$ with $\|\dot{u}_n(t) - X_t(u_n)\|_{L^2} \mapsto 0$ has a subsequence which converges uniformly to a 1-periodic orbit of the Hamiltonian vector field.

The complex $\widetilde{SC}^{S^1, N,+}(H_{\delta, N}, f_N)$ is filtered by the action thanks to Proposition 2.11. We take the filtration by the action, i.e. by the period; we define $F_p \widetilde{SC}^{S^1, N,+}(H_{\delta, N}, f_N), p \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that for every $p \in \mathbb{Z}$, the quotient

$$F_{p+1} \widetilde{SC}^{S^1, N,+}(H_{\delta, N}, f_N) / F_p \widetilde{SC}^{S^1, N,+}(H_{\delta, N}, f_N)$$

is a union of sets

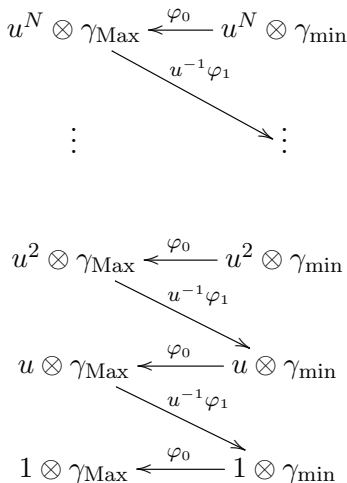
$$\{1 \otimes \gamma_{\text{Max}}, \dots, u^N \otimes \gamma_{\text{Max}}, 1 \otimes \gamma_{\text{min}}, \dots, u^N \otimes \gamma_{\text{min}}\}$$

corresponding to underlying Reeb orbits γ of the same period T .

We consider the zero page of the associated spectral sequence.

$$E_{p,q}^{0,N} := F_{p+1} \widetilde{SC}_{p+q}^{S^1, N,+}(H_{\delta, N}, f_N) / F_p \widetilde{SC}_{p+q}^{S^1, N,+}(H_{\delta, N}, f_N)$$

We have “twin towers of generators”, one tower corresponding to each periodic Reeb orbit of period T on ∂W ,



with induced differential as in the above diagram with the notation of Section 3.1. The differential between two elements in distinct towers of the same period vanishes, since for any Floer trajectory involved in the differential and linking the two towers, by Remarks 2.12 and 3.6,

$$E < \int \|\partial_s u\|_{g_{J^\theta, z(s)}}^2 dsd\theta \leq \mathcal{A}(\gamma^-, z^-) - \mathcal{A}(\gamma^+, z^+)$$

and the last can be chosen to be less than E (choosing small δ and f_N).

To study any given tower, we use the explicit description of φ_0 and φ_1 . It was first described by Bourgeois and Oancea but in their computation, they assumed transversality of contact homology. It was then computed without this assumption by Zhao.

- 1) [31, Proposition 6.2], [3, Lemma 4.28] Let γ_{\min} , γ_{\max} and H_δ be as above. For δ small enough, the moduli space $\mathcal{M}(\gamma_{\min}, \gamma_{\max}; H_\delta, J)/\mathbb{R}$ consists of two elements; they have opposite signs, due to the choice of a system of coherent orientations, if and only if the underlying Reeb orbit γ is good. This implies that,

$$\varphi_0(\gamma_{\min}) \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \gamma \text{ is good,} \\ \pm 2 \gamma_{\max} & \text{if } \gamma \text{ is bad.} \end{cases}$$

Recall that a Reeb orbit is called bad if its Conley-Zehnder index is not of the same parity as the Conley-Zehnder index of the simple Reeb orbit with same image, and an orbit γ_H is bad if the underlying Reeb orbit is bad.

- 2) [31, Proposition 6.2], [5, Lemma 3.3] With the same notations, the map $\varphi_1 : SC_*(H_\delta) \rightarrow SC_{*+1}^+(H_\delta)$ acts by

$$\varphi_1(\gamma_{\max}) = \begin{cases} k_\gamma \gamma_{\min} & \text{if } \gamma \text{ is good,} \\ 0 & \text{if } \gamma \text{ is bad} \end{cases}$$

where k_γ is the multiplicity of the underlying Reeb orbit γ i.e. γ is a k_γ -fold cover of a simple periodic Reeb orbit.

The complex in $E_{p,q}^{0;N}$ defined by the twin tower corresponding to a good orbit yields

$$\mathbb{Q} \xrightarrow{0} \mathbb{Q} \xrightarrow{(\times k_\gamma)} \dots \xrightarrow{(\times k_\gamma)} \mathbb{Q} \xrightarrow{0} \mathbb{Q} \xrightarrow{(\times k_\gamma)} \mathbb{Q} \xrightarrow{0} \mathbb{Q}$$

and thus, in the homology $E_{p,q}^{1;N}$, it gives one copy of \mathbb{Q} in degree $-\mu_{CZ}(\gamma)$ and one copy of \mathbb{Q} in degree $-\mu_{CZ}(\gamma) + 2N$. The first page is given by

$$E^{1;N} = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in \mathcal{P}(H_\delta)} \mathbb{Q}\langle \gamma_{\text{Max}} \rangle \oplus \mathbb{Q}\langle u^N \otimes \gamma_{\text{min}} \rangle.$$

There are no bad orbits in the generators of the S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology. Indeed the complex in $E_{p,q}^{0;N}$ defined by the twin tower over a bad orbit is :

$$\mathbb{Q} \xrightarrow{\times(\pm 2)} \mathbb{Q} \xrightarrow{0} \dots \xrightarrow{0} \mathbb{Q} \xrightarrow{\times(\pm 2)} \mathbb{Q} \xrightarrow{0} \mathbb{Q} \xrightarrow{\times(\pm 2)} \mathbb{Q}$$

and the corresponding homology gives 0 in $E_{p,q}^{1;N}$.

The differential on the first page of the spectral sequence vanishes because of the lacunarity of the set of Conley-Zehnder indices; therefore, for N large enough, it gives the homology :

$$SH^{S^1,N,+}(H_{\delta,N}) = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in \mathcal{P}(H_\delta)} \mathbb{Q}\langle \gamma_{\text{Max}} \rangle \oplus \mathbb{Q}\langle u^N \otimes \gamma_{\text{min}} \rangle.$$

The morphism induced by a regular homotopy between two such Hamiltonians (built from standard Hamiltonians close to Morse Bott Hamiltonians) respects the filtration, thanks to Proposition 2.11. We can therefore take the direct limit on the pages over those Hamiltonians which form a cofinal family. The inclusion $S^{2N+1} \hookrightarrow S^{2N+3}$ induces a map

$$E^{1;N} = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in \mathcal{P}(R_\alpha)} \mathbb{Q}\langle \gamma_{\text{Max}} \rangle \oplus \mathbb{Q}\langle u^N \otimes \gamma_{\text{min}} \rangle \rightarrow E^{1;N+1}.$$

which is the identity on the first factor and zero on the second factor. Taking the direct limit over the inclusion $S^{2N+1} \hookrightarrow S^{2N+3}$ we have

$$SH^{S^1,+}(W; \mathbb{Q}) = \varinjlim_N E^{1;N} = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in \mathcal{P}(R_\alpha)} \mathbb{Q}\langle \gamma \rangle.$$

□

Remark 3.7. *Stricto sensu*, in the proof of the above Theorem, we have assumed that the orbits are contractible. Nonetheless Theorem 1.1 is true after extending the definition of $SH^{S^1,+}(H)$ to all 1-periodic orbits of H . To deal with non contractible orbits, one chooses for any free homotopy class of loops a , a representative l_a and one chooses a trivialisation of the tangent

space along that curve. For the free homotopy class of a contractible loop, l_0 is chosen to be constant loop with constant trivialisation. One ask moreover that $l_{a^{-1}}$ is l_a in the reverse order and with the corresponding trivialisation. The action functional induced by a Hamiltonian H becomes

$$\mathcal{A}(\gamma) := - \int_{[0,1] \times S^1} u^* \omega - \int_{S^1} H(\theta, \gamma(\theta)) d\theta$$

where $u : [0, 1] \times S^1 \rightarrow W$ is a homotopy from l_a to γ . For any loop γ belonging to the free homotopy class a , one chooses a homotopy $u : [0, 1] \times S^1 \rightarrow W$ from l_a to γ and one considers the trivialisation of TW on γ induced by u and by the choice of the trivialisation along l_a . Let us observe that any Floer trajectory can only link two orbits in the same free homotopy class and as before, the action decreases along Floer trajectories. As before, the Floer complex is generated by the 1-periodic orbits of H graded by minus their Conley-Zehnder index. The differential “counts” Floer trajectories between two orbits whose difference of grading is 1. The positive version of symplectic homology is defined as before since the set of critical points of H is still a subcomplex : Floer trajectories can only link a critical point to a contractible orbit. All the results stated above extend to this framework.

Corollary 3.8. *The only generators that may appear in the positive S^1 -equivariant homology are of the form $u^0 \otimes \gamma_{\text{Max}}$ with γ_{Max} a good orbit.*

Corollary 3.9. *The number of good periodic Reeb orbits of periods $\leq T$ is bounded below by the rank of the positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology of action $\leq T$.*

4. Structural properties of symplectic homology

4.1. Transfer morphism for symplectic homology

In this section, we prove that symplectic homology, positive symplectic homology, S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology and positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology are functors (reversing the arrows) defined on the category where objects are Liouville domains, and morphisms are embeddings. Precisely, we construct a morphism between the (S^1 -equivariant positive) symplectic homologies when one Liouville domain is embedded in another one, and we show that those morphisms compose nicely. Such a morphism, called a transfer morphism, has been studied by Viterbo [30] in the case of the symplectic homology. We adapt his construction to extend it to all the

variants of the symplectic homology considered above. We consider a Liouville domain (W, λ) and its completion $\widehat{W} = W \cup (\partial W \times \mathbb{R}^+)$ built from the flow of the Liouville vector field X as in Definition 2.1. We denote by $\widehat{\lambda}$ the 1-form on \widehat{W} defined by λ on W and by $e^\rho \alpha$ on $\partial W \times \mathbb{R}^+$ with $\alpha := \lambda|_{\partial V}$. We denote by $SH^\dagger(W, \lambda)$ its symplectic homology $SH^\dagger(W, d\lambda, X)$.

Definition 4.1. Let (V, λ_V) and (W, λ_W) be two Liouville domains. A *Liouville embedding* $j : (V, \lambda_V) \rightarrow (W, \lambda_W)$ is a symplectic embedding $j : V \rightarrow W$ with V and W of codimension 0 such that $j^* \lambda_W = \lambda_V$. (One can consider, more generally, a symplectic embedding j of codimension 0 such that λ_W coincides in a neighbourhood of $j(\partial V)$ in W with $\widehat{\lambda}_V + df$.)

To construct transfer morphisms, we introduce a special class of Hamiltonians $\mathcal{H}_{stair}(V, W)$ and we use, as in [30], increasing homotopies between $H_1 : S^1 \times \widehat{W} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \in \mathcal{H}_{std}(W)$ and an $H_2 : S^1 \times \widehat{W} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ in $\mathcal{H}_{stair}(V, W)$.

Definition 4.2. We fix a neighbourhood U of ∂V in $W \setminus \overset{\circ}{V}$ so that (U, ω_W) is symplectomorphic to $(\partial V \times [0, \delta], d(e^\rho \alpha_V))$.

A Hamiltonian $H_2 : S^1 \times \widehat{W} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is in $\mathcal{H}_{stair}(V, W)$ if and only if

- on $S^1 \times V$, H_2 is negative and C^2 -small;
- on $S^1 \times U \cong S^1 \times \partial V \times [0, \delta]$, with ρ the last coordinate, H_2 is of the following form
 - there exists $0 < \rho_0 \ll \delta$ such that $H_2(\theta, p, \rho) = \beta e^\rho + \beta'$ for $\rho_0 \leq \rho \leq \delta - \rho_0$, with $0 < \beta \notin \text{Spec}(\partial V, \alpha) \cup \text{Spec}(\partial W, \alpha)$ and $\beta' \in \mathbb{R}$;
 - $H_2(\theta, p, \rho)$ is C^2 -close on $S^1 \times \partial V \times [0, \rho_0]$ to a convex increasing function of e^ρ which is independent of θ and p ;
 - $H_2(\theta, p, \rho)$ is C^2 -close on $S^1 \times \partial V \times [\delta - \rho_0, \delta]$ to a concave increasing function of e^ρ which is independent of θ and p ;
- on $S^1 \times W \setminus (V \cup U)$, H_2 is C^2 -close to a constant;
- on $S^1 \times \partial W \times [0, +\infty[$, with ρ' the \mathbb{R}^+ coordinate on $\partial W \times \mathbb{R}^+$, H_2 is of the following form
 - there exists $\rho'_1 > 0$ such that $H_2(\theta, p, \rho') = \mu e^{\rho'} + \mu'$ for $\rho' \geq \rho'_1$, with $0 < \mu \notin \text{Spec}(\partial V, \alpha) \cup \text{Spec}(\partial W, \alpha)$, $\mu < \frac{\beta(e^\delta - 1)}{e^\delta}$, $\mu' \in \mathbb{R}$;
 - $H_2(\theta, p, \rho')$ is C^2 -close on $S^1 \times \partial W \times]0, \rho'_1]$ to a concave increasing function of $e^{\rho'}$ which is independent of θ and p ;
- all 1-periodic orbits of $X_{H_2}^\theta$ are non-degenerate, i.e the Poincaré return map has no eigenvalue equal to 1.

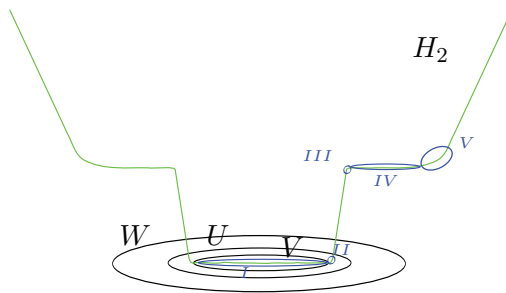


Figure 1: Example of H_2 on \widehat{W} .

A representation of H_2 is given in Figure 1.

The 1-periodic orbits of H_2 lie either in the interior \mathring{V} (which we call region I), either in $\partial V \times [0, \rho_0]$ (region II), either in $\partial V \times [\delta - \rho_0, \delta]$ (region III), either in $W \setminus (V \cup U)$ (region IV) or in $\partial W \times [0, \rho_1]$ (region V). We consider their action (using the obvious fact that if H and \tilde{H} are two C^2 -close Hamiltonians and if $\gamma \in \mathcal{P}(H)$ and $\tilde{\gamma} \in \mathcal{P}(\tilde{H})$ are C^2 -close, then $\mathcal{A}(\gamma)$ is close to $\mathcal{A}(\tilde{\gamma})$.)

I. In region I, there are only critical points so the action of the critical point q is non negative and small ($< \epsilon$).

II. In region II, H_2 is C^2 -close to a convex function $H = h(r)$ (with $r = e^\rho$); since $\omega_W = d(r\alpha_V)$, we have $X_H = -h'(r)R_{\alpha_V}$ where R_{α_V} is the Reeb vector field on ∂V associated to the contact form $\alpha_V = \lambda_V|_{\partial V}$. An orbit of X_H lies on a constant level for r and its action is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}(\gamma) &= - \int_{S^1} \gamma^*(r\alpha_V) - \int_{S^1} H(\gamma(\theta))d\theta = - \int_{S^1} r\alpha_V(-h'(r)R_{\alpha_V}) - h(r) \\ &= h'(r)r - h(r). \end{aligned}$$

Since ρ_0 is small we have $e^{\rho_0} \sim 1$ and $h(e^{\rho_0}) \sim 0$, so the actions of 1-periodic orbits of H_2 in this region are close to the periods of closed orbits of the Reeb vector field on the boundary of V of periods $T < \beta$ and they are greater than ϵ .

III. In region III, the computation is similar to the case of region II: $\mathcal{A}(\gamma_{H_2})$ is equal to $h'(r)r - h(r)$ which is less than $e^\delta \beta - (e^\delta \beta - \beta) = \beta^5$.

⁵The author is grateful to Oleg Lazarev who pointed out a mistake in an earlier computation

- IV.** In region IV, there are only critical points so the action of the critical point q is given by $-H_2(q)$ which is close to $-(e^\delta\beta - \beta)$.
- V.** In region V, the computation of the action is similar to the case of region II: $\mathcal{A}(\gamma)$ is close to $h'(r)r - h(r)$ with $r = e^{\rho'}$. Observe that here the 1-periodic orbits are close to 1-periodic orbits of $-h'(r)R_{\alpha_W}$ where now R_{α_W} is the Reeb vector field on ∂W . The action of any 1-periodic orbit of H_2 in this region is close to $e^{\rho'}T' - h(e^{\rho'})$ where T' is the period of a closed orbit of the Reeb vector field on the boundary of W with $T' < \mu$ and thus the action is $< \mu e^\delta - \beta(e^\delta - 1) < 0$.

So, for nice parameters (for instance $\rho'_1 < \delta$), we have

$$\mathcal{A}(IV) < \mathcal{A}(V) < 0 < \mathcal{A}(I) < \epsilon < \mathcal{A}(II).$$

There are no Floer trajectories from III to I or II by [12, Lemma 2.3]. We denote by $C^{IV,III,V,I}(H_2, J)$ the subcomplex of the Floer complex for H_2 generated by critical orbits lying in regions IV, III, V, and I and by $C^{IV,III,V}(H_2, J)$ the subcomplex of the Floer complex for H_2 generated by critical orbits lying in regions IV, III and V. We have the identifications:

$$\begin{aligned} C^{I,II}(H_2, J) &= C^{IV,III,V,I,II}(H_2, J) / C^{IV,III,V}(H_2, J) \\ C^{II}(H_2, J) &= C^{IV,III,V,I,II}(H_2, J) / C^{IV,III,V,I}(H_2, J) \end{aligned}$$

We have subcomplexes using the fact that the action decreases along Floer trajectories, and using [12, Lemma 2.3]. The Floer differential passes to the quotient where we still denote it ∂ . Remark that the function H_2 is not in $\mathcal{H}_{std}(V)$. We want to relate the homology of $(C^{I,II}(H_2, J), \partial)$ to the homology of a function in $\mathcal{H}_{std}(V)$.

Definition 4.3. Let $H_2 \in \mathcal{H}_{stair}(V, W)$; we denote by β the slope of the linear part close to ∂V , as in Definition 4.2. We associate to H_2 the function denoted $H = \iota_V(H_2) \in \mathcal{H}_{std}(V)$, defined on $S^1 \times \widehat{V}$, which coincides with H_2 on $V \cup (\partial V \times [0, \delta - \rho_0])$ and which is linear with slope β “further” in the completion: $H(\theta, e^\rho) = \beta\rho + \beta'$ for all $\rho \geq \delta - \rho_0$.

Proposition 4.4. *Let H_2 be an function in \mathcal{H}_{stair} and let $H = \iota_V H_2$ be the associated function in $\mathcal{H}_{std}(V)$ as defined above. We assume furthermore that the Hamiltonians are generic in the sense that the homologies are well-defined for a good choice of J 's. Then*

$$H(C^{I,II}(H_2, J), \partial) = H(SC(H, J)) \text{ and } H(C^{II}(H_2, J), \partial) = H(SC^+(H, J)).$$

Proof. We need to check that there is no Floer trajectory $u : \mathbb{R} \times S^1 \rightarrow \widehat{W}$ going from an orbit in $C^{I,II}$ (resp. C^{II}) to an orbit in $C^{I,II}$ (resp. C^{II}) with points in $\widehat{W} \setminus (U \cup V)$. We prove it by contradiction, as a direct application of Abouzaid maximum principle which we prove below as Theorem 4.5. Assume that $u : \mathbb{R} \times S^1 \rightarrow \widehat{W}$ is a Floer trajectory whose image intersects $\widehat{W} \setminus (U \cup V)$. We consider the intersection of the image with a slice $\partial V \times \{\rho\}$ for any $\rho_0 < \rho < \delta - \rho_0$ and we choose a regular value $\rho_0 + \epsilon$ of $\rho \circ u$. The manifold $W' := \widehat{W} \setminus (V \cup (\partial V \times [0, \rho_0 + \epsilon]))$ is symplectic with contact type with boundary $\partial V \times \{\rho_0 + \epsilon\}$ and Liouville vector field pointing inwards. Let S be the inverse image of W' under the map u ; it is a compact Riemann surface with boundary; the complex structure j is the restriction to S of the complex structure j on the cylinder defined by $j(\partial_s) = \partial_\theta$. We define β to be the restriction of $d\theta$ to S . The fact that u is a Floer trajectory is equivalent to $(du - X_H \otimes \beta)^{0,1} := \frac{1}{2}((du - X_H \otimes \beta) + J(du - X_H \otimes \beta)j) = 0$, where du is the differential of the map u viewed as a section of $T^*S \otimes u^*TW'$. Then part a of Theorem 4.5, which is slight generalisation of a theorem of Abouzaid, concludes. \square

Theorem 4.5 (Abouzaid, [25]). *Let $(W', \omega' = d\lambda')$ be an exact symplectic manifold with contact type boundary $\partial W'$, such that the Liouville vector field points inwards. Let ρ be the coordinate near $\partial W'$ defined by the flow of the Liouville vector field starting from the boundary and let $r := e^\rho$; near the boundary the symplectic form writes $\omega' = d(r\alpha)$ with α the contact form on $\partial W'$ given by the restriction of λ' . Let J be a compatible almost complex structure such that $J^*\lambda' = dr$ on the boundary.*

a) *Let $H : W' \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be non negative, and such that $H = h(r)$ where h is a convex increasing function near the boundary. Let S be a compact Riemann surface with boundary and let β be a 1-form such that $d\beta \geq 0$. Then any solution $u : S \rightarrow W'$ of $(du - X_H \otimes \beta)^{0,1} = 0$ with $u(\partial S) \subset \partial W'$ is entirely contained in $\partial W'$.*

b) *Let $H : \mathbb{R} \times S^1 \times W' \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be an increasing homotopy, such that $H(s, \theta, p, \rho) = H_s^\theta(p, \rho) = h_s(r)$ where h_s are convex increasing functions near the boundary. Let S be a compact Riemann surface with boundary embedded in the cylinder $(\mathbb{R} \times S^1)$ with the standard structure. Then any solution $u : S \rightarrow W'$ of $(du - X_{H_s} \otimes d\theta)^{0,1} = 0$ with $u(\partial S) \subset \partial W'$ is entirely contained in $\partial W'$.*

Proof. Proof of part a. The energy of a map $u : S \rightarrow W'$ is defined as $E(u) := \frac{1}{2} \int_S \|du - X_H \otimes \beta\|^2 vol_S$ where du is viewed as a section of $T^*S \otimes u^*TW'$. If $s + it$ is a local holomorphic coordinate on S , so that $j(\partial_s) = \partial_t$ and

$vol_S = ds \wedge dt$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \|du - X_H \otimes \beta\|^2 vol_S \\ &= \omega'(\partial_s u - X_H \beta(\partial_s), \partial_t u - X_H \beta(\partial_t)) ds \wedge dt \\ &= (\omega'(\partial_s u, \partial_t u) - dH(\partial_t u)\beta(\partial_s) + dH(\partial_s u)\beta(\partial_t)) ds \wedge dt \\ &= u^* \omega' + u^*(dH) \wedge \beta. \end{aligned}$$

It is obviously non negative for any path. Since $d(u^*H\beta) = u^*(dH) \wedge \beta + \underbrace{u^*Hd\beta}_{\geq 0}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} E(u) &= \int_S u^* d\lambda' + u^*(dH) \wedge \beta \\ &\leq \int_S d(u^* \lambda') + d(u^* H\beta) \leq \int_{\partial S} u^* \lambda' - \lambda'(X_H)\beta \\ &\text{since } H = h(r) \leq rh'(r) = r\alpha(h'(r)R_\alpha) = -\lambda'(X_H) \text{ on } u(\partial S) \subset \partial V \\ &= \int_{\partial S} \lambda'(du - X_H \otimes \beta) \\ &= \int_{\partial S} -\lambda' J(du - X_H \otimes \beta)j \quad \text{since } (du - X_H \otimes \beta)^{0,1} = 0 \\ &= \int_{\partial S} -dr(du - X_H \otimes \beta)j \quad \text{since } J^* \lambda' = dr \text{ along } u(\partial S) \subset \partial W' \\ &= \int_{\partial S} -dr du j \quad \text{since } dr \text{ vanishes on } X_H \text{ on } u(\partial S) \subset \partial W'. \end{aligned}$$

Let ν be the outward normal direction along ∂S . Then $(\nu, j\nu)$ is an oriented frame, so ∂S is oriented by $j\nu$. Now $dr(du)j(j\nu) = d(r \circ u)(-\nu) \geq 0$ since in the inward direction, $-\nu$, $r \circ u$ can only increase because r is minimum on $\partial W'$. So $E(u) \leq 0$ hence $E(u) = 0$. This implies that $du - X_H \otimes \beta = 0$ which shows that the image of du is in the span of X_H which is the span of $R_\alpha \in T\partial W'$ on $\partial W'$. Hence the image of u is entirely in contained in $\partial W'$.

Proof of part b. The proof starts as above. The energy of u is non negative and given by

$$E(u) := \frac{1}{2} \int_S \|du - X_{H_s} \otimes d\theta\|^2 vol_S = \int_S u^* \omega' + u^*(dH_s^\theta) \wedge d\theta.$$

We have $u^*(dH_s^\theta) \wedge d\theta = d(u'^*H) \wedge d\theta - \underbrace{u^* \partial_s H_s^\theta ds \wedge d\theta}_{\geq 0}$, for $u' : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \times S^1 \times W'$ which maps an element $(\theta, s) \in S$ to the element $(s, \theta, u'(\theta, s))$.

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(u) &= \int_S u^* d\lambda' + u^*(dH) \wedge d\theta \\
 &\leq \int_S d(u^*\lambda') + d(u'^*Hd\theta) \\
 &\leq \int_{\partial S} u^*\lambda' - \lambda'(X_{H_s})d\theta \\
 &\quad \text{using Stokes's theorem and} \\
 &\quad H = h_s(r) \leq r\alpha(h'_s(r)R_\alpha) = -\lambda'(X_{H_s}) \text{ on } u(\partial S) \subset \partial V \\
 &= \int_{\partial S} \lambda'(du - X_{H_s} \otimes d\theta)
 \end{aligned}$$

and the proof proceeds as in part a. □

For any element $H_1 \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{std}}(W)$, one can consider an element in $H_2 \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{stair}}(V, W)$ such that H_1 and H_2 coincide “far in the completion”, i.e. on $\partial W \times [\rho'_2, +\infty[\subset \widehat{W}$. Let $H = \iota_V(H_2) \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{std}}(V)$. We want to build a morphism from the homology defined by H_1 to the homology defined by H . We shall first construct a morphism in the homology defined by H_2 . With $H_1 \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{std}}(W)$ and $H_2 \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{stair}}(V, W)$ as above, we can consider an increasing homotopy $H_s, s \in \mathbb{R}$, between H_1 and H_2 , i.e. $\frac{d}{ds}H_s \geq 0$, with the property that there exists s_0 such that $H_s \equiv H_1$ for $s \leq -s_0$ and $H_s \equiv H_2$ for $s \geq s_0$. We define a morphism $SC(H_1, J_1) \rightarrow SC(H_2, J_2)$ by counting Floer trajectories for the homotopy. Denote by $\mathcal{M}(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, H_s, J_s)$ the space of Floer trajectories from γ_1 to γ_2 i.e maps $u : \mathbb{R} \times S^1 \rightarrow \widehat{W}$ such that:

$$(4.1) \quad \partial_s u + J_s^\theta \circ u(\partial_\theta u - X_{H_s}^\theta \circ u) = 0$$

with $\lim_{s \rightarrow -\infty} u(s, \cdot) = \gamma_1(\cdot)$ and $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} u(s, \cdot) = \gamma_2(\cdot)$. It is proven in [18, 24] that for a generic choice of the pair (H_s, J_s) , the spaces $\mathcal{M}(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, H_s, J_s)$ are manifolds of dimension $\mu_{CZ}(\gamma_2) - \mu_{CZ}(\gamma_1)$ for any γ_1 in $\mathcal{P}(H_1)$ and γ_2 in $\mathcal{P}(H_2)$. Let us observe that there is no general \mathbb{R} -action on this space. The homotopy H_s gives rise to a morphism

$$\phi_{H_s} : SC(H_1, J_1) \rightarrow SC(H_2, J_2) : \gamma_1 \mapsto \sum_{\substack{\gamma_2 \in \mathcal{P}(H_2) \\ \mu_{CZ}(\gamma_2) = \mu_{CZ}(\gamma_1)}} \# \mathcal{M}(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, H_s, J_s) \gamma_2$$

where the count involves, as always, signs. The study of the boundary of a space of Floer trajectories $\mathcal{M}(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, H_s, J_s)$ for $\gamma_1 \in \mathcal{P}(H_1)$ and $\gamma_2 \in \mathcal{P}(H_2)$ such that $\mu_{CZ}(\gamma_1) = \mu_{CZ}(\gamma_2) + 1$ shows that the morphism ϕ_{H_s} is

a chain map, hence induces a morphism in homology, still denoted $\phi_{H_s} : SH(H_1, J) \rightarrow SH(H_2, J)$. The homotopy of homotopies theorem shows that ϕ_{H_s} is independent of the choice of the homotopy; hence we denote it by ϕ_{H_1, H_2} .

Definition 4.6. Given an element H_1 in $\mathcal{H}_{\text{std}}(W)$, consider an element $H_2 \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{stair}}(V, W)$ such that H_1 and H_2 coincide “far in the completion”, and let $H = \iota_V(H_2) \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{std}}(V)$. We define the *transfer morphism*

$$\begin{aligned} SH(H_1, J) \rightarrow SH(H, J') &= SH(H_2, J) / SH^{\leq -\eta}(H_2, J) \\ &= H(C^{I, II}(H_2, J), \partial) \end{aligned}$$

which is the composition of ϕ_{H_1, H_2} followed by the natural projection.

The action decreases along Floer trajectories, so this maps $SH^{\leq \epsilon}(H_1, J)$ to

$$SH^+(H, J') = SH^{\leq \epsilon}(H_2, J, \partial) / SH^{\leq -\eta}(H_2, J, \partial) = H(C^{II}(H_2, J), \partial)$$

and induces a *transfer morphism* for the positive homology

$$SH^+(H_1, J) \rightarrow SH^+(H, J') = H(C^{II}(H_2, J), \partial).$$

With our identification, the map is obtained by counting solutions of equation (4.1) going from a 1-periodic orbit of X_{H_1} to a 1-periodic orbit of X_{H_2} lying in region I or II .

The homotopy of homotopies theorem shows that the map does not depend on the choice of stair function H_2 such that $\iota_V H_2 = H$ and such that H_1 and H_2 coincide far in the completion; we shall denote it $\phi_{H_1}^H$. It also shows that the map ϕ_{H_1, H_2} commutes with continuation, i.e if $\rho_1 : SH(H_1) \rightarrow SH(H'_1)$ is a continuation for H_1 and $\rho_2 : SH(H_2) \rightarrow SH(H'_2)$ is a continuation for H_2 then $\phi_{H'_1, H'_2} \circ \rho_1 = \rho_2 \circ \phi_{H_1, H_2}$.

Proposition 4.7. *The transfer map $\phi_{H_1}^H : SH(H_1, J) \rightarrow SH(H, J')$ commutes with continuations.*

Proof. To show this, we still have to show that a continuation map built in W from $SH(H_2, J)$ to $SH(H'_2, J')$, defined by an increasing homotopy $H_s : S^1 \times \widehat{W} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, induces a continuation map in V from $SH(H = \iota_V(H_2), J)$ to $SH(H' = \iota_V(H'_2), J')$. For this, it is enough to check that there is no Floer trajectory corresponding to the homotopy, i.e. $u : \mathbb{R} \times S^1 \rightarrow \widehat{W}$ solution of

(4.1) going from an orbit in $C^{I,II}(H_2, J)$ (resp. $C^{II}(H_2, J)$) to an orbit in $C^{I,II}(H'_2, J')$ (resp. $C^{II}(H'_2, J')$) with points in $\widehat{W} \setminus (U \cup V)$. We prove it by contradiction, proceeding as in the proof of Proposition 4.4, using the generalized Abouzaid maximum principle proven in part b of Theorem 4.5. Assume that $u : \mathbb{R} \times S^1 \rightarrow \widehat{W}$ is a Floer trajectory whose image intersects $\widehat{W} \setminus (U \cup V)$. We consider the intersection of the image with a slice $\partial V \times \{\rho\}$ for any $\rho_0 < \rho < \delta - \rho_0$ and we choose a regular value $\rho_0 + \epsilon$ of $\rho \circ u$. The manifold $W' := \widehat{W} \setminus (V \cup (\partial V \times [0, \rho_0 + \epsilon]))$ is symplectic with contact type with boundary $\partial V \times \{\rho_0 + \epsilon\}$ and the Liouville vector field pointing inwards. Let S be the inverse image of W' under the map u ; it is a compact Riemann surface embedded in the cylinder with boundary; the complex structure j is the restriction to S of the complex structure j on the cylinder defined by $j(\partial_s) = \partial_\theta$. The fact that u is a Floer trajectory is equivalent to $(du - X_{H_s} \otimes d\theta)^{0,1} := \frac{1}{2} ((du - X_{H_s} \otimes d\theta) + J(du - X_{H_s} \otimes d\theta)j) = 0$, where du is the differential of the map u viewed as a section of $T^*S \otimes u^*TW'$. Then part b of Theorem 4.5 concludes. \square

Corollary 4.8. *The maps $\{\phi_{H_1}^H\}$ induce a transfer map: $\phi_{W,V} : SH(W, \lambda_W) \rightarrow SH(V, \lambda_V)$ and, on the quotient, the morphism $\phi^+ = \phi_{W,V}^+ : SH^+(W, \lambda_W) \rightarrow SH^+(V, \lambda_V)$.*

Theorem 4.9 (Composition). *Let $(V_1, \lambda_{V_1}) \subseteq (V_2, \lambda_{V_2}) \subseteq (V_3, \lambda_{V_3})$ be Liouville domains with Liouville embeddings. Then the following diagram commutes:*

$$(4.2) \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} SH^+(V_3, \lambda_{V_3}) & \xrightarrow{\phi_{V_3, V_2}^+} & SH^+(V_2, \lambda_{V_2}) & \xrightarrow{\phi_{V_2, V_1}^+} & SH^+(V_1, \lambda_{V_1}) \\ & & \searrow \phi_{V_3, V_1}^+ & & \nearrow \end{array}$$

Proof. The proof results from the comparison of a count of Floer trajectories. On one hand, one counts Floer trajectories corresponding to an increasing homotopy H_{13} , going from a 1-periodic orbit of X_{H_1} for an admissible Hamiltonian H_1 on $S^1 \times \widehat{V}_3$ to the $C^{II,I}$ part of a stair Hamiltonian H_3 with two “steps”. On the other hand, one counts trajectories relative to the composition of two increasing homotopies, H_{12} going from H_1 to H_2 (a stair Hamiltonian with one step) and H_{23} going from H_2 to H_3 . The property is a consequence of the composition of homotopies. \square

4.2. Transfer morphism for S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology

We extend the definition of the transfer morphisms of the previous section to S^1 -equivariant and positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology. We consider two embedded Liouville domains $(V, \lambda_V) \subset (W, \lambda_W)$ and we want to define a morphism $SH^{S^1}(W, \lambda_W) \rightarrow SH^{S^1}(V, \lambda_V)$. We start with autonomous Hamiltonians H in \mathcal{H}_{std} , we do small Morse Bott type deformations H_δ and then lift those to S^1 -equivariant functions H_δ^N . In this setting, the S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology can be computed by the simplified complex as described in Sections 3.1 and 3.2 :

$$S\widehat{C}_*^{S^1}(H_\delta) := \mathbb{Z}[u] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} SC_*(H_\delta)$$

with differential $\widehat{\partial}^{S^1} = \varphi_0 + u^{-1}\varphi_1 + u^{-2}\varphi_2 + \dots$ where the maps φ_j counts Floer trajectories for parametrized Hamiltonians going from $S^1 \cdot (\gamma^-, z_j)$ to $S^1 \cdot (\gamma^+, z_0)$ with z_j the critical point of f of index $-2j$.

The action of the element represented by $u^k \otimes \gamma$ is very close to the action of γ . To define transfer morphisms, we start with an autonomous Hamiltonian H_1 in $\mathcal{H}_{\text{std}}(W)$ and an autonomous H_2 in $\mathcal{H}_{\text{stair}}(W)$, and we do small Morse Bott type deformations $H_{1\delta}$ et $H_{2\delta}$. We define as in the previous section the subcomplex $\mathbb{Z}[u] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} (C^{III,IV,V}(H_{2\delta}))$ corresponding to points with negative action and elements in region III , and we identify the quotient $\mathbb{Z}[u] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} SC_*(H_{2\delta})/\mathbb{Z}[u] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} (C^{III,IV,V}(H_{2\delta}))$ to $\mathbb{Z}[u] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} C^{I,II}(H_{2\delta})$. We consider the Hamiltonian $\iota_V H_{2\delta}$ in $\mathcal{H}_{\text{std}}(W)$.

Proposition 4.10. *For δ small enough, the S^1 equivariant homology of the quotients coincide with the S^1 equivariant homology of the small domain:*

$$\begin{aligned} H(\mathbb{Z}[u] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} C^{I,II}(H_{2\delta}), \partial) &= H(SC(\mathbb{Z}[u] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} SC(\iota_V H_{2\delta}))) \\ H(\mathbb{Z}[u] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} C^{II}(H_{2\delta}), \partial) &= H(SC^+(\mathbb{Z}[u] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} SC(\iota_V H_{2\delta}))) \end{aligned}$$

Proof. What remains to be checked is again there is no parametrized Floer trajectory $u : \mathbb{R} \times S^1 \rightarrow \widehat{W}$ going from an orbit in $C^{I,II}(H_{2\delta})$ to an orbit in $C^{I,II}(H_{2\delta})$ with points in $\widehat{W} \setminus (U \cup V)$; this is due to the decomposition of $\widehat{\partial}^{S^1}$ mentioned above. This is proven by contradiction. If there was a parametrized trajectory going from an orbit in $C^{I,II}(H_{2\delta})$ to an orbit in $C^{I,II}(H_{2\delta})$ with points in $\widehat{W} \setminus (U \cup V)$ for all δ 's, then, by a theorem of Bourgeois and Oancea [3, Proposition 4.7], there would be such a broken trajectory for the autonomous Hamiltonian and we have proven in Proposition 4.4 that this can not exist. □

To get a transfer map, we use an autonomous increasing homotopy between H_1 and H_2 and we deform it into an increasing homotopy between $H_{1\delta}$ and $H_{2\delta}$; this induces a map

$$\mathbb{Z}[u] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} SC_*(H_{1\delta}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[u] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} SC_*(H_{2\delta}).$$

This map decreases the action (which is defined on the second factor) and commutes with the differential so it induces a map on the quotient

$$H((\mathbb{Z}[u] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} SC_*(H_{1\delta}), \partial)) \rightarrow H(\mathbb{Z}[u] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} C^{II}(H_{2\delta}), \partial).$$

This commutes with continuation maps.

Proposition 4.11. *For δ small enough, a continuation map in the homology defined from an $H_{2\delta}$ induces a continuation map in the homology defined from $\iota_V H_{2\delta}$.*

Proof. One checks again that there is no parametrized Floer trajectory, corresponding to a homotopy, going from an orbit in $C^{I,II}(H_{2\delta})$ to an orbit in $C^{I,II}(H'_{2\delta})$ with points in $\widehat{W} \setminus (U \cup V)$. This is done as in the former proposition, using the fact that the existence of such a trajectory for all δ 's would imply the existence of such a broken trajectory for the autonomous Hamiltonian and we have proven in Proposition 4.7 that this can not exist. □

We thus get a transfer morphism

$$\phi_{W,V}^{S^1} : SH^{S^1}(W, \lambda_W) \rightarrow SH^{S^1}(V, \lambda_V).$$

and, on the quotient, the morphism

$$\phi^{S^1,+} = \phi_{W,V}^{S^1,+} : SH^{S^1,+}(W, \lambda_W) \rightarrow SH^{S^1,+}(V, \lambda_V).$$

By the same arguments as before, those morphisms compose nicely.

Theorem 4.12 (Composition). *Let $(V_1, \lambda_{V_1}) \subseteq (V_2, \lambda_{V_2}) \subseteq (V_3, \lambda_{V_3})$ be Liouville domains with Liouville embeddings. Then the following diagram commutes:*

$$(4.3) \quad SH^{S^1,+}(V_3, \lambda_{V_3}) \xrightarrow{\phi_{V_3,V_2}^{S^1,+}} SH^{S^1,+}(V_2, \lambda_{V_2}) \xrightarrow{\phi_{V_2,V_1}^{S^1,+}} SH^{S^1,+}(V_1, \lambda_{V_1}).$$

4.3. Invariance of symplectic homology

In this section, we study the invariance of the (S^1 -equivariant) positive symplectic homology with respect to the choice of the Liouville vector field in a neighbourhood of the boundary. This has been studied by Viterbo [30], Cieliebak [8] and Seidel [28] in the case of the symplectic homology.

Lemma 4.13. *Let (W, ω, X) be a compact symplectic manifold with contact type boundary and let k be a positive real number. Then $SH^\dagger(W, \omega, X) = SH^\dagger(W, k\omega, X)$, where \dagger denotes any of the variants that we have considered $\emptyset, +, S^1$ or $(S^1, +)$.*

Proof. The symplectic completions are $(\widehat{W}, \widehat{\omega})$ and $(\widehat{W}, k\widehat{\omega})$; the chain complexes for a pair (H, J) on $(\widehat{W}, \widehat{\omega})$ and the pair (kH, J) on $(\widehat{W}, k\widehat{\omega})$ are the same, since the 1 periodic orbits are the same, and the Floer trajectories satisfy the same equations; indeed $X_H^\omega = X_{kH}^{k\omega}$. Similarly, continuation maps are equivalent taking as homotopies H_s and kH_s . The result follows, observing that kH form a cofinal family. □

For positive or S^1 -equivariant positive homology, we assume that (W, ω, X) is a Liouville domain.

Lemma 4.14. *Let (W, ω, X) and (W', ω', X') be two compact symplectic manifolds with contact type boundary. If there exists a symplectomorphism $\varphi : W \rightarrow W'$ such that $\varphi(\partial W) = \partial W'$, and such that $\varphi_\star(X) = X'$ on a neighbourhood of ∂W then $SH^\dagger(W, \omega, X) \cong SH^\dagger(W', \omega', X')$.*

Proof. We can extend φ to a symplectomorphism $\widehat{\varphi} : \widehat{W} \rightarrow \widehat{W}'$ of the completions. For J' an almost complex structure on \widehat{W}' , we take the corresponding almost complex structure J on \widehat{W} defined by $J_x := \widehat{\varphi}_{\star_x}^{-1} \circ J'_{\widehat{\varphi}(x)} \circ \widehat{\varphi}_{\star_x}$ and if H' is a Hamiltonian on \widehat{W}' , we take the Hamiltonian H on \widehat{W} defined by $H := \widehat{\varphi}^\star H'$. Then the 1 periodic orbits are in bijection and so are the Floer trajectories. The subfamily $\{\widehat{\varphi}^\star H'\}$ of Hamiltonians is cofinal hence the conclusion. □

Lemma 4.15. *Let (W, λ) be a Liouville domain. Then for all $R \in \mathbb{R}^+$, we have*

$$SH^\dagger(W, \lambda) \cong SH^\dagger(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, R]), \lambda')$$

where the 1-form λ' on $\partial W \times [0, R]$ is the restriction of the 1-form $\widehat{\lambda}$, thus $(e^{\rho}\alpha)$ with $\alpha := \lambda|_{\partial W}$.

Proof. Denote by φ_t^X the flow of X ; since $\mathcal{L}_X\lambda = \lambda$ we have $\varphi_t^{X^*}\lambda = e^t\lambda$. This gives a symplectomorphism

$$\varphi_R^X : (W, e^R\omega) \rightarrow (W \cup (\partial W \times [0, R]), \omega')$$

mapping the boundary ∂W to the boundary $\{R\} \times \partial W$ and such that $\varphi_R^{X^*}\lambda = e^R\lambda$. One concludes by the two lemmas above.

Explicitly, the diffeomorphism $\varphi_R^X : \widehat{W} \rightarrow \widehat{W}$ maps Hamiltonian vector fields as follows : $(\varphi_R^X)_*(X_{H'}) = X_H$ when $H' = e^{-R}(\varphi_R^X)^*H$; hence φ_R^X gives a bijection between 1-periodic orbits of $X_{H'}$ and 1-periodic orbits of X_H , and, with suitable choices of J 's, a bijection between Floer trajectories between 1-periodic orbits of $X_{H'}$ and Floer trajectories between 1-periodic orbits of X_H . Hence it yields an isomorphism

$$SH^\dagger(W, e^{-R}(\varphi_R^X)^*H) \cong SH^\dagger(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, R]), H).$$

Furthermore, the diffeomorphism φ_R^X intertwines a continuation morphism defined by a homotopy H'_s to the corresponding continuation morphism defined by H_s when again $H'_s = e^{-R}(\varphi_R^X)^*H_s$. This yields the isomorphism mentioned above. □

Lemma 4.16. *The transfer morphism*

$$SH^\dagger(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, R]), \lambda') \mapsto SH^\dagger(W, \lambda)$$

is an isomorphism; it coincides with the natural identification of Lemma 4.15.

Proof. Let H be an admissible Hamiltonian for $W \cup (\partial W \times [0, R])$. Consider the homotopy $H_s^1 := e^{-f(s)}\varphi_{f(s)}^{X^*}H$ with $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, R]$ a smooth function so that $H_s^1 = H$ for large negative s and $H_s^1 = \widetilde{H} := e^{-R}(\varphi_R^X)^*H$ for large positive s . The set of 1 periodic orbits for H_s^1 is constant (since, as in the Lemma above, the diffeomorphism $\varphi_{f(s)}^{X^*}$ of the completion is a bijection between 1-periodic orbits of $X_{H_s^1}$ and 1-periodic orbits of X_H). This homotopy defines the “transfer morphism”

$$\phi : SH(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, R]), H) \rightarrow SH(W, \widetilde{H}).$$

Let $\{H_s^\eta\}_{\eta \in [0,1]}$ be a family of homotopies (with non fixed endpoint) such that H_s^0 is the constant homotopy $H_s^0 = H$ for all s , and such that all H_s^η are of the form $e^{-f'(s,\eta)}\varphi_{f'(s,\eta)}^{X^*}H$ with $f'(\cdot, \eta) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, \eta R]$ and $f'(\cdot, 1) = f$.

We have $H_{+\infty}^\eta = e^{-\eta R} \varphi_{\eta R}^{X^*} H = H_{f^{-1}(\eta R)}^1$. The set of 1-periodic orbits of H_s^η is in bijection with the set of orbits of H . We consider, for a given η , the space of Floer trajectories

$$\mathcal{M}(H_s^\eta, J_s^\eta) := \bigcup_{\substack{(\gamma_-^\eta, \gamma_+^\eta) \in \mathcal{P}(H_{-\infty}^\eta) \times \mathcal{P}(H_{+\infty}^\eta) \\ \mu_{CZ}(\gamma_-^\eta) = \mu_{CZ}(\gamma_+^\eta)}} \mathcal{M}(\gamma_-^\eta, \gamma_+^\eta, H_s^\eta, J_s^\eta)$$

and the parametrized moduli space $\mathcal{M}(\{H_s^\eta, J_s^\eta\}) := \bigcup_{\eta \in [0,1]} \mathcal{M}(H_s^\eta, J_s^\eta)$, which could have boundaries for some $\eta \neq 0, 1$. It defines a cobordism between $\mathcal{M}(H_s^0, J_s^0)$ and $\mathcal{M}(H_s^1, J_s^1)$. Now $\mathcal{M}(H_s^0, J_s^0) = \mathcal{M}(H, J)$ is the space of constant trajectories $\{u(s, \cdot) = \gamma_0(\cdot) \mid \gamma_0 \in \mathcal{P}(H)\}$. Thus for small η 's, say $\eta \leq \eta_0$, the cobordism is a bijection, $\mathcal{M}(H_s^\eta, J_s^\eta)$ consists of exactly one Floer trajectory starting from each orbit in $\mathcal{P}(H)$ and arriving at the corresponding orbit in $\mathcal{P}(H_{+\infty}^\eta)$. The morphism induced by $H_s^{\eta_0}$ is thus the natural identification of periodic orbits. Hence the transfer

$$\phi : SH(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, R]), H) \rightarrow SH(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, R - \epsilon]), e^\epsilon \varphi_\epsilon^{X^*} H)$$

is the natural identification for $\epsilon = \eta_0 R$. Now we use the flow of the Liouville vector field, φ_ϵ^X , to carry all this construction further and we get the natural identification as the transfer morphism

$$\begin{aligned} \phi &: SH(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, R - \epsilon]), e^\epsilon \varphi_\epsilon^{X^*} H) \\ &\rightarrow SH(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, R - 2\epsilon]), e^{2\epsilon} \varphi_{2\epsilon}^{X^*} H). \end{aligned}$$

By induction and functoriality, we get the result. □

Lemma 4.17. *Let W be a compact symplectic manifold with contact type boundary. Let $\lambda_t, t \in [0, 1]$ be an isotopy of Liouville forms on W such that in a neighbourhood U of the boundary, $\lambda_t = \lambda_0$. Then $SH^\dagger(W, \lambda_0) \cong SH^\dagger(W, \lambda_1)$.*

Proof. Remark that we do not require the $d\lambda_t$ to be equal. We define the time dependent vector field X_t by $\iota(X_s)(d\lambda_s) = -(\frac{d}{dt} \lambda(t)|_s)$ and we denote by φ_t its flow. In the neighbourhood U , the vector field vanishes, $X_s = 0$, and so $\varphi_1^* \lambda_1 = \lambda_1 = \lambda_0$ on U . Furthermore $\varphi_1^* d\lambda_1 = d\lambda_0$ because $\frac{d}{dt} \varphi_t^* \lambda_t \Big|_s = \varphi_s^* \left(\frac{d\lambda_t}{dt} \Big|_s \right) + \varphi_s^* \mathcal{L}_{X_s} \lambda_s = d\left(\varphi_s^* (\lambda_s(X_s)) \right)$. This implies that the completions for λ_0 and $\varphi_1^* \lambda_1$ are the same, therefore, by Lemma 4.14, $SH^\dagger(W, \lambda_1) = SH^\dagger(W, \varphi_1^* \lambda_1) = SH^\dagger(W, \lambda_0)$. □

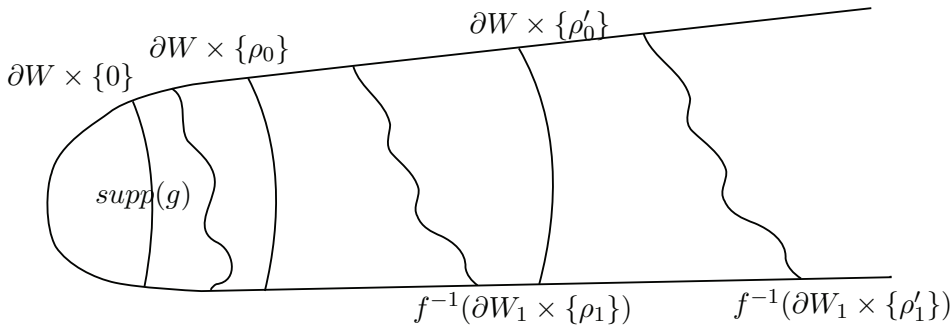


Figure 2: The choice of ρ_0, ρ_1, ρ'_0 and ρ'_1 .

Theorem 4.18. *Let W be a compact symplectic manifold with contact type boundary. Let $\lambda_t, t \in [0, 1]$ be a homotopy of Liouville forms on W . Then*

$$SH^\dagger(W, \lambda_0) \cong SH^\dagger(W, \lambda_1).$$

To prove this Proposition, we use the following Proposition from Cieliebak and Eliashberg:

Proposition 4.19 ([9], Proposition 11.8). *Let W be a compact symplectic manifold with contact type boundary. Let $\lambda_t, t \in [0, 1]$ be a homotopy of Liouville forms on W . Then there exists a diffeomorphism of the completions $f : \widehat{W}_0 \rightarrow \widehat{W}_1$ such that $f^*\widehat{\lambda}_1 - \widehat{\lambda}_0 = dg$ where g is a compactly supported function.*

Proof of Theorem 4.18. There exists a real $\rho_0 > 0$ such that $supp(g) \subset W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho_0])$. We choose positive real numbers ρ_1, ρ'_0 and ρ'_1 such that $f^{-1}(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho_1]))$ contains $W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho_0])$,

$$f^{-1}(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho_1])) \subset W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho'_0]) \quad \text{and} \\ W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho'_0]) \subset f^{-1}(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho'_1])).$$

The situation is represented in Figure 2. The diffeomorphism f and the flow of X_1 on \widehat{W}_1 give

$$(f^{-1}(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho_1])), f^*\widehat{\lambda}_1) \cong (W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho_1]), \widehat{\lambda}_1) \cong (W, e^{\rho_1} \lambda_1).$$

The completion of $(f^{-1}(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho_1])), f^*\widehat{\lambda}_1)$ coincides with $(\widehat{W}_0, \widehat{\lambda}_0)$ since close to the boundary $f_*X_0 = X_1$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} SH(W, \lambda_1) &\cong SH(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho_1]), \widehat{\lambda}_1) \quad \text{by Lemma 4.15} \\ &\cong SH(f^{-1}(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho_1])), f^*\widehat{\lambda}_1) \quad \text{by Lemma 4.14} \\ &\cong SH(f^{-1}(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho_1])), \widehat{\lambda}_0 + dg) \quad \text{by Proposition 4.19} \\ &\cong SH(f^{-1}(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho_1]))) =: W_1, \widehat{\lambda}_0) \quad \text{by Lemma 4.17.} \end{aligned}$$

Denoting by $\varphi_t^{X_0}$ the flow of X_0 and by W_0 the manifold $W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho_0])$, we have $\varphi_{\rho'_1 - \rho_1}^{X_0}(W_1) = f^{-1}(W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho'_1]))$ and $\varphi_{\rho'_0 - \rho_0}^{X_0}(W_0) = W \cup (\partial W \times [0, \rho'_0])$. Using the functoriality of the transfer morphism, we get

$$SH(\varphi_{\rho'_1 - \rho_1}^{X_0}(W_1), \widehat{\lambda}_0) \xrightarrow{\cong} SH(\varphi_{\rho'_0 - \rho_0}^{X_0}(W_0), \widehat{\lambda}_0) \xrightarrow{\cong} SH(W_1, \widehat{\lambda}_0) \xrightarrow{\cong} SH(W_0, \widehat{\lambda}_0);$$

therefore $SH(W, \lambda_1) \cong SH(W_1, \widehat{\lambda}_0) \cong SH(W_0, \widehat{\lambda}_0) \cong SH(W, \lambda_0)$. □

Seidel in [28] has extended the definition of symplectic homology (and all its variants) to Liouville manifolds.

Definition 4.20 (see for instance [9]). A *Liouville manifold* is an exact symplectic manifold (W, ω, X) , where the vector field X is an expanding Liouville vector field, i.e $\mathcal{L}_X\omega = \omega$ and $\varphi_t^X\omega = e^t\omega$ such that the vector field X is complete and the manifold is convex in the sense that there exists an exhaustion $W = \bigcup_{k=1}^\infty W^k$ by compact domains $W^k \subset W$ with smooth boundaries along which X is outward pointing.

In the following we will denote a Liouville manifold either by (W, ω, X) or by $(W, \lambda := \iota(X)\omega)$. The set $\text{Skel}(V, \omega, X) := \bigcup_{k=1}^\infty \bigcap_{t>0} \varphi_{-t}^X(W^k)$ is called the *skeleton* of the Liouville manifold (W, ω, X) . It is independent of the choice of the exhausting sequence of compact sets W^k . A Liouville manifold (W, ω, X) is said to be of *finite type* if its skeleton is compact. Every finite type Liouville manifold is the completion of a Liouville domain⁶.

Definition 4.21 ([28]). Let (W, ω, X) be a Liouville manifold non necessarily of finite type and let W^k be an exhaustion by compact domains $W^k \subset W$ with smooth boundaries along which X is outward pointing such

⁶We refer to the book by Cieliebak and Eliashberg for more details, [9, Chapter 11]

that $W^k \subset W^{k+1}$. The symplectic homology (and its variants) of (W, λ) is defined as the inverse limit of the symplectic homologies of $(W^k, \lambda|_{W^k})$

$$SH^\dagger(W, \lambda) := \varprojlim SH^\dagger(W^k, \lambda|_{W^k}).$$

The morphisms appearing in this inverse limit are the transfer morphisms. This definition is independent of the chosen exhaustion. Remark that in the case of finite type Liouville manifolds, this definition coincides with the previous one.

Proposition 4.22. *Let (W_0, λ_0) and (W_1, λ_1) be two Liouville manifolds not necessarily of finite type. Assume there exists an exact symplectomorphism $f : W_0 \rightarrow W_1$ i.e. such that $f^*\lambda_1 - \lambda_0 = dg$ with g a function on W_0 . Then $SH^\dagger(W_0, \lambda_0) \cong SH^\dagger(W_1, \lambda_1)$.*

Proof. Let W_0^k be an exhaustion for W_0 and W_1^k be an exhaustion for W_1 such that for all k ,

$$W_0^k \subset f^{-1}(W_1^k) \subset W_0^{k+1}$$

where the inclusion at each level means the inclusion in the interior of the next compact space. Let η be a smooth function $\eta : W_0 \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that $\eta = 1$ in a neighbourhood of $\cup_{k=1}^\infty f^{-1}(\partial W_1^k)$ and $\eta = 0$ in a neighbourhood of $\cup_{k=1}^\infty \partial W_0^k$. We define the 1-form $\lambda := \lambda_0 + d(\eta g)$ on W_0 . We have

$$SH(W_0^k, \lambda_0) \cong SH(W_0^k, \lambda) \quad \text{and} \quad SH(W_1^k, \lambda_1) \cong SH(f^{-1}(W_1^k), \lambda).$$

The functoriality of the transfer morphism implies that the following diagram is commutative:

$$\dots \rightrightarrows SH(f^{-1}(W_1^{k+1}), \lambda) \rightrightarrows SH(W_0^{k+1}, \lambda) \rightrightarrows SH(f^{-1}(W_1^k), \lambda) \rightrightarrows SH(W_0^k, \lambda) \rightrightarrows \dots$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} SH(W_0, \lambda_0) &\cong \varprojlim SH(W_0^k, \lambda_0) \cong \varprojlim SH(W_0^k, \lambda) \\ &\cong \varprojlim SH(f^{-1}(W_1^k), \lambda) \cong \varprojlim SH(W_1^k, \lambda_1) \\ &\cong \varprojlim SH(W_1^k, \lambda_1) \cong SH(W_1, \lambda_1). \end{aligned}$$

□

The above result may be extended thanks to the following Lemma:

Lemma 4.23 ([2], see also [9], Lemma 11.2). *Any symplectomorphism between finite type Liouville manifolds $f : (W_0, \lambda_0) \rightarrow (W_1, \lambda_1)$ is diffeotopic to an exact symplectomorphism.*

We have thus proven the invariance Theorem 1.2 stated in the introduction.

4.4. Invariance of the homology of contact fillings

In this section we shall prove Theorem 1.3 giving an invariant of the contact structure.

Lemma 4.24 ([8]). *Let $(\alpha_t)_{t \in [0,1]}$ be a smooth family of contact forms on a closed manifold M of dimension $2n - 1$. Then there exists $R > 0$ and a non-decreasing function $f : [0, R] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that $f \equiv 0$ close to $\rho = 0$ and $f \equiv 1$ close to $\rho = R$ and $d(e^\rho \alpha_{f(\rho)})$ is symplectic on $M \times [0, R]$.*

Proof. The proof is a computation:

$$d(e^\rho \alpha_{f(\rho)}) = e^\rho d\rho \wedge \alpha_{f(\rho)} + e^\rho d\alpha_{f(\rho)} + e^\rho f'(\rho) d\rho \wedge \dot{\alpha}_{f(\rho)} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\left(d(e^\rho \alpha_{f(\rho)})\right)^n = ne^{n\rho} \left(d\rho \wedge (\alpha_{f(\rho)} + f'(\rho)\dot{\alpha}_{f(\rho)}) \wedge (d\alpha_{f(\rho)})^{n-1}\right);$$

thus $d(e^\rho \alpha_{f(\rho)})$ is symplectic if and only if $(\alpha_{f(\rho)} + f'(\rho)\dot{\alpha}_{f(\rho)})(R_{\alpha_{f(\rho)}}) > 0$. This is true if f' is small. □

Lemma 4.25. *If (M, ξ) is a compact contact manifold which is exactly fillable by a Liouville domain (W, λ_0) (i.e. $\partial W = M$ and $\xi = \ker \alpha_0$ where $\alpha_0 = \lambda_0|_M$) then, for any contact form α_1 such that $\xi = \ker \alpha_1$ (and α_1 defines the same orientation on M), there exists a homotopy of Liouville form $\lambda_s, s \in [0, 1]$ on W such that $\lambda_1|_M = \alpha_1$.*

Proof. Since $\alpha_1 = e^g \alpha_0$, for a smooth function g on M , we consider the smooth family of contact forms $\alpha_t = e^{tg} \alpha_0, t \in [0, 1]$.

We define on $W \cup M \times [0, R] \subset \widehat{W}$ the 1-form $\tilde{\lambda}$ such that $\tilde{\lambda} = \lambda_0$ on M and $\tilde{\lambda} = e^\rho \alpha_{f(\rho)}$ on $M \times [0, R]$ with f as in Lemma 4.24, so that $d\tilde{\lambda}$ is symplectic. The flow $\varphi_{-r}^{X_0}$ of the vector field X_0 , where $\iota(X_0)d\lambda_0 = \lambda_0$, induces a diffeomorphism from $W \cup M \times [0, r]$ to W . The pull-back by this flow of $e^{-r}\tilde{\lambda}$ gives the desired $\lambda_{f(r)}$. □

Combining with Theorem 4.18 and Theorem 1.1, this yields

Lemma 4.26. *Let (M_0, ξ_0) be a contact manifold that is exactly fillable by the Liouville domains (W_0, λ_0) . Assume that there exists a (oriented) contact form $\tilde{\alpha}_0$ on M_0 such that all periodic Reeb orbits are nondegenerate and their Conley-Zehnder index have all the same parity. Then*

$$SH^{S^1,+}(W_0, \lambda_0) = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in \mathcal{P}(R_{\tilde{\alpha}_0})} \mathbb{Q}\langle \gamma \rangle$$

where $\mathcal{P}(R_{\tilde{\alpha}_0})$ denotes the set of periodic Reeb orbits on $(M_0, \tilde{\alpha}_0)$.

Proof of Theorem 1.3. Given the contactomorphism $\varphi : (M_0, \xi_0) \rightarrow (M_1, \xi_1)$ and the contact form $\tilde{\alpha}_0$, we define the form $\tilde{\alpha}_1 := (\varphi^{-1})^* \tilde{\alpha}_0$; it is a contact form on M_1 and its periodic orbits are non degenerate, in bijection with those of $\tilde{\alpha}_0$. The isomorphism preserves the Conley-Zehnder index if the orbit is null-homologous in the boundary but, in general, the isomorphism sends the framing (trivialisation) chosen for the orbit of $R_{\tilde{\alpha}_0}$ on a framing for the orbit of $R_{\tilde{\alpha}_1}$. There is a \mathbb{Z} -action on the framings (corresponding to the number of twists). For any integer number, the Conley-Zehnder index will change by an even number (see [13, 21, 23]). We apply twice Lemma 4.26; once for $(W_0, \lambda_0, \tilde{\alpha}_0)$ and for $(W_1, \lambda_1, \tilde{\alpha}_1)$. We have therefore an isomorphism between the two graded modules with eventually shifts of degree of the generators given by the choice of framings. □

4.5. Application : Non isomorphic contact structures on S^{4m+1} .

A first application of our results is to give a proof of Ustilovskiy’s Theorem.

Definition 4.27 (The Brieskorn spheres). The Brieskorn manifold, denoted $\Sigma(a_0, \dots, a_n)$, with all $a_i \geq 2$ positive integers, is defined as the intersection of the unit sphere $S^{2n+1} \subset \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$ with the singular hypersurface $\{(z_0, \dots, z_n) \in \mathbb{C}^{n+1} \mid z_0^{a_0} + \dots + z_n^{a_n} = 0\}$ in \mathbb{C}^{n+1} .

It is a smooth $2n - 1$ -dimensional manifold which admits a contact form $\alpha = \frac{i}{8} \sum_{j=0}^n a_j (z_j d\bar{z}_j - \bar{z}_j dz_j)$ with corresponding Reeb vector field $R_\alpha = \left(\frac{4i}{a_0} z_0, \dots, \frac{4i}{a_n} z_n \right)$. For any odd number $n = 2m + 1$ and any $p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod 8$, the Brieskorn manifold $\Sigma(p, 2, \dots, 2)$ is diffeomorphic to the standard sphere S^{4m+1} [7]. One defines the contact structures ξ_p on S^{4m+1} defined as the kernel of the contact form α_p with

$$\alpha_p := \frac{ip}{8} (z_0 d\bar{z}_0 - \bar{z}_0 dz_0) + \frac{i}{4} \sum_{j=1}^n (z_j d\bar{z}_j - \bar{z}_j dz_j).$$

The fact that the Brieskorn spheres are exactly fillable can be found, for instance, in the book of Geiges [19].

Proposition 4.28. *For $p_1 \neq p_2$, the positive S^1 equivariant homologies of symplectic fillings of the Brieskorn spheres are different.*

Proof. We consider the description of the chain complex for those homologies in terms of good periodic orbits of the Reeb vector field, graded by minus their Conley indices. We shall show that all Conley-Zehnder indices are even. To compute them, the first thing to do is to build an explicit perturbation of the contact form so that all periodic Reeb orbits are non degenerate. We proceed as in [29]. We make the change of coordinates

$$w_0 = z_0, w_1 = z_1 \begin{pmatrix} w_{2j} \\ w_{2j+1} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & i \\ 1 & -i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z_{2j} \\ z_{2j+1} \end{pmatrix}, \text{ for } j \geq 1;$$

then

$$\Sigma(p, 2, \dots, 2) = \left\{ w \in \mathbb{C}^{n+1} \mid w_0^p + w_1^2 + 2 \sum_{j=1}^m w_{2j} w_{2j+1} = 0, |w|^2 = 1 \right\}.$$

Consider the real positive function $f : \Sigma(p, 2, \dots, 2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by

$$f(w) = |w|^2 + \sum_{j=1}^m \epsilon_j (|w_{2j}|^2 - |w_{2j+1}|^2), \quad \text{where } 0 < \epsilon_j < 1.$$

The contact form $f\alpha$ defines the same contact structure on $\Sigma(p, 2, \dots, 2)$ as α and its associated Reeb vector field is given by

$$R_{f\alpha}(w) = \left(\frac{4i}{p} w_0, 2i w_1, 2i(1 + \epsilon_1) w_2, 2i(1 - \epsilon_1) w_3, \dots, 2i(1 + \epsilon_m) w_{n-1}, 2i(1 - \epsilon_m) w_n \right).$$

If all the ϵ_j are irrational and linearly independent over \mathbb{Q} , the only periodic orbits are

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_0(t) &= \left(r e^{\frac{4it}{p}}, i r^{\frac{p}{2}} e^{2it}, 0, \dots, 0 \right), \text{ for } r > 0, r^p + r^2 = 1, 0 \leq t \leq p\pi, \\ \gamma_j^+(t) &= \left(0, \dots, 0, \underbrace{e^{2it(1+\epsilon_j)}}_{2j}, 0, \dots, 0 \right), \text{ for } 0 \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{1 + \epsilon_j}, j = 1, \dots, m; \\ \gamma_j^-(t) &= \left(0, \dots, 0, \underbrace{e^{2it(1-\epsilon_j)}}_{2j+1}, 0, \dots, 0 \right), \text{ for } 0 \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{1 - \epsilon_j}, j = 1, \dots, m \end{aligned}$$

and all their iterates, $\gamma_0^N, \gamma_j^{+N}, \gamma_j^{-N}$, for all $N \geq 1$. Their Conley-Zehnder index is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{CZ}(\gamma_0^N) &= 2Np(n-2) + 4N; \\ \mu_{CZ}(\gamma_j^{\pm N}) &= 2 \left\lfloor \frac{2N}{p(1 \pm \epsilon_j)} \right\rfloor + 2 \left\lfloor \frac{N}{1 \pm \epsilon_j} \right\rfloor \\ &\quad + 2 \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq j}}^m \left(\left\lfloor \frac{N(1 + \epsilon_k)}{1 \pm \epsilon_j} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{N(1 - \epsilon_k)}{1 \pm \epsilon_j} \right\rfloor \right) + n - 1. \end{aligned}$$

All indices have the same parity, thus applying Theorem 1.1, the S^1 -equivariant positive symplectic homologies are generated by the periodic orbits of the Reeb vector field graded by their Conley indices. If $p_1 \neq p_2$, those positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homologies are different as proven in [29]. \square

A more complete description of Brieskorn manifolds and computations of the symplectic homologies can be found in the paper by Kwon and van Koert [22].

Corollary 4.29 (Ustilovsky, [29]). *For each natural number m , there exist infinitely many pairwise non isomorphic contact structures on S^{4m+1} .*

Proof. We see that one can build contact structures on S^{4m+1} , which are exactly fillable, but which do not yield isomorphic $SH^{S^1,+}$ homologies of the filling. The result then follows from Theorem 1.3. The contact structures in question are those defined by the Brieskorn spheres as above. The fact that the homologies are different follows from Proposition 4.28. \square

5. On the minimal number of periodic Reeb orbits

We now use the properties of positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology to get results on the minimal number of geometrically distinct periodic Reeb orbits on some contact manifolds.

5.1. Minimal number of periodic Reeb orbits on a hypersurface in \mathbb{R}^{2n}

We use the transfer morphism to give an alternative proof of a result by Ekeland and Lasry concerning the number of simple periodic Reeb orbits

on a hypersurface in \mathbb{R}^{2n} , pinched between two spheres, endowed with the restriction of the standard contact form on \mathbb{R}^{2n} .

Theorem 5.1 (Ekeland, Lasry, [14, 15]). *Let Σ be a contact type hypersurface in \mathbb{R}^{2n} . Let $\xi = \ker \alpha$ be the contact structure induced by the standard contact form on \mathbb{R}^{2n} . Assume there exist numbers $0 < R_1 \leq R_2$ such that:*

$$\forall x \in \Sigma, \quad R_1 \leq \|x\| \leq R_2 \quad \text{with} \quad \frac{R_2}{R_1} < \sqrt{2}$$

Assume also that $\forall x \in \Sigma, T_x \Sigma \cap B_{R_1}(0) = \emptyset$. Assume moreover that all periodic Reeb orbits are non degenerate. Then Σ carries at least n geometrically distinct periodic Reeb orbits.

Remark 5.2. The assumption $\forall x \in \Sigma, T_x \Sigma \cap B_{R_1}(0) = \emptyset$ (which is weaker than convexity) can be stated as

$$(5.1) \quad \langle \nu_\Sigma(z), z \rangle > R_1, \quad \forall z \in \Sigma$$

where $\nu_\Sigma(z)$ is the exterior normal vector of Σ at point z and $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denotes the Euclidean scalar product on \mathbb{R}^{2n} .

Proof. We consider ellipsoids, very close to the spheres,

$$S'_{R_1} = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^{-1} ((x^i)^2 + (y^i)^2) = R_1^2 \right\} \quad \text{and}$$

$$S'_{R_2} = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^{-1} ((x^i)^2 + (y^i)^2) = R_2^2 \right\},$$

with $a_1 < \dots < a_n$ real numbers arbitrarily close to 1 and rationally independent, and we denote by $\widetilde{S'_{R_1}}$, $\widetilde{\Sigma}$ and $\widetilde{S'_{R_2}}$ the compact regions in \mathbb{R}^{2n} bounded respectively by S'_{R_1} , Σ and S'_{R_2} , endowed with the restriction of the standard symplectic form ω on \mathbb{R}^{2n} . We take the parameters a_i sufficiently close to 1 so that we have the inclusion

$$\widetilde{S'_{R_1}} \subset \widetilde{\Sigma} \subset \widetilde{S'_{R_2}}$$

of Liouville domains. The contact form on the boundaries is the one induced by $\iota(X_{rad})\omega$, where X_{rad} is the radial vector field $X_{rad} = \frac{1}{2} \sum x^i \partial_{x^i} + y^i \partial_{y^i}$.

The completion of those Liouville domain is $(\mathbb{R}^{2n}, \omega)$. By Theorem 4.12, the transfer morphisms yields the following commutative diagram:

$$(5.2) \quad SH^{S^1,+}(\widetilde{S'_{R_2}}, \omega) \xrightarrow{\phi} SH^{S^1,+}(\widetilde{\Sigma}, \omega) \longrightarrow SH^{S^1,+}(\widetilde{S'_{R_1}}, \omega).$$

We can consider the positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology truncated by the action at level $\leq T$, $SH^{S^1,+T}$. Since all Floer trajectories inducing the morphisms lower the action, we still have the commutative diagram for the truncated positive invariant symplectic homology:

$$(5.3) \quad SH^{S^1,+T}(\widetilde{S'_{R_2}}, \omega) \xrightarrow{\phi} SH^{S^1,+T}(\widetilde{\Sigma}, \omega) \longrightarrow SH^{S^1,+T}(\widetilde{S'_{R_1}}, \omega).$$

where we have chosen a number T such that

$$(5.4) \quad \pi a_n R_2^2 < T < 2\pi a_1 R_1^2.$$

This is possible thanks to the “pinching” hypothesis $\frac{R_2}{R_1} < \sqrt{2}$.

By Theorem 1.1, $SH^{S^1,+T}(\widetilde{S'_{R_2}}, \omega)$ is generated by n elements

$$u^0 \otimes \gamma_{\text{Max}}^1, \dots, u^0 \otimes \gamma_{\text{Max}}^n$$

corresponding to n simple periodic Reeb orbits on S'_{R_2} , $\gamma^1, \dots, \gamma^n$, of action $\pi a_1 R_2^2, \dots, \pi a_n R_2^2$. The analogous is true for $SH^{S^1,+T}(\widetilde{S'_{R_1}}, \omega)$ with actions $\pi a_1 R_1^2, \dots, \pi a_n R_1^2$.

By (5.3), $SH^{S^1,+T}(\widetilde{\Sigma}, \omega)$ is thus of rank at least n . All applications in the above diagrams decrease the action thus the action of each of those n generators in $SH^{S^1,+T}(\widetilde{\Sigma}, \omega) \cap \text{Im}(\phi)$ is pinched between $\pi a_1 R_1^2$ and $\pi a_n R_2^2 < 2\pi a_1 R_1^2$.

By Corollary 3.8, the only generators that may appear in $SH^{S^1,+T}(\widetilde{\Sigma}, \omega)$ are elements of the form $u^0 \otimes \gamma_{\text{Max}}$ with γ a good Reeb orbit on Σ .

It remains to prove that the n elements in the image of ϕ are geometrically distinct. By the pinching condition on their action, we know that they are not iterate one from another but we still need to prove that two of them can not be the iterates of a same orbit of smaller action. This we do by proving that the smallest possible action for any periodic Reeb orbit on Σ is greater than $\pi a_1 R_1^2$. Let $\gamma : [0, T] \rightarrow \Sigma$ be a simple periodic Reeb orbit.

We have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (5.5) \quad 2T &= 2 \int_0^T \alpha_{\gamma(t)}(\dot{\gamma}(t)) dt \\
 &= \int_0^T \langle \dot{\gamma}(t), J\gamma(t) \rangle dt \quad \text{since } \alpha_x(X_x) = \frac{1}{2} \langle X_x, Jx \rangle \\
 &= \int_0^T \langle \dot{\gamma}(t), J\bar{\gamma}(t) \rangle dt \quad \text{with } \bar{\gamma}(t) := \gamma(t) - \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \gamma(t) dt \\
 &\leq \|\dot{\gamma}\|_{L^2} \|\bar{\gamma}\|_{L^2} \\
 &\leq \|\dot{\gamma}\|_{L^2}^2 \frac{T}{2\pi} \quad \text{via the Wirtinger's inequality} \\
 &= \frac{T}{2\pi} \int_0^T \|\dot{\gamma}(t)\|^2 dt = \frac{T}{2\pi} \int_0^T \|(R_\alpha)_{\gamma(t)}\|^2 dt
 \end{aligned}$$

For any point x in Σ , the norm of the Reeb vector field is bounded by $\|(R_\alpha)_x\| \leq \frac{2}{R_1}$. Indeed, R_α is proportional to $J\nu_\Sigma$ since $\iota(J\nu_\Sigma)d\alpha = 0$ because $\iota(J\nu_\Sigma)d\alpha(Y) = \omega(J\nu_\Sigma, Y) = -\langle \nu_\Sigma, Y \rangle = 0$ for all $Y \in T\Sigma$. Thus $R_\alpha = cJ\nu_\Sigma$ with $|c| = \|R_\alpha\|$. But $\alpha_x(R_{\alpha x}) = 1 = \frac{1}{2} \langle c_x J\nu_\Sigma(x), Jx \rangle = \frac{c_x}{2} \langle \nu_\Sigma(x), x \rangle$. Therefore, by assumption (5.1), $c_x = \frac{2}{\langle \nu_\Sigma(x), x \rangle} \leq \frac{2}{R_1}$. And thus (5.5) $\leq \frac{4}{R_1^2} T \frac{T}{2\pi}$. Then $2T \leq 2T \frac{T}{\pi R_1^2}$ and we reach the conclusion

$$T \geq \pi R_1^2.$$

Hence the conclusion of the Theorem. □

We have to assume here that all periodic Reeb orbits are non degenerate; this hypothesis is not needed in the original proof. The original proof of Theorem 5.1 uses variational methods that work only in \mathbb{R}^{2n} .

5.2. Reeb orbits on hypersurfaces in negative line bundles

Our framework here is a complex line bundle $\mathcal{L} \xrightarrow{\pi} B^{2n}$ over a closed symplectic manifold (B^{2n}, ω_B) , endowed with a Hermitian structure h and a connection ∇ . We assume \mathcal{L} to be *negative* i.e. $c_1(\mathcal{L}) = -\kappa[\omega_B]$ for a real number $\kappa > 0$. The *transgression 1-form*, $\theta^\nabla \in \Omega^1(\mathcal{L} \setminus O_{\mathcal{L}}, \mathbb{R})$ is defined by

$$(5.6) \quad \begin{cases} \theta_u^\nabla(u) = 0, & \theta_u^\nabla(iu) = \frac{1}{2\pi} & u \in \mathcal{L} \setminus O_{\mathcal{L}} \\ \theta^\nabla|_{H^\nabla} \equiv 0 & \text{where } H^\nabla \text{ is the horizontal distribution.} \end{cases}$$

We have

$$d\theta^\nabla = \kappa\pi^*\omega_B.$$

We denote by $r : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : u \mapsto h_{\pi(u)}(u, u)^{\frac{1}{2}} =: |u|$ the radial function on the fiber. Observe that $d(r^2\theta^\nabla)$ is symplectic except on the zero section $O_{\mathcal{L}}$. We want to have information about the minimal number of periodic orbits of the Reeb vector field on a hypersurface in $\mathcal{L} \setminus O_{\mathcal{L}}$ endowed with the contact form defined by the restriction of $(r^2\theta^\nabla)$ to Σ .

Proof of Proposition 1.5. We start by determining Reeb orbits on the circle bundle with varying radius. Let $f : B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a smooth function. Define the contact hypersurface

$$\left(S_{ef} = \{u \in \mathcal{L} \mid |u| = e^{f(\pi(u))}\}, \alpha := (r^2\theta^\nabla)|_{S_{ef}} \right).$$

The Reeb vector field on S_{ef} is given by:

$$(5.7) \quad R_\alpha = e^{-2f(\pi(u))} \left(2\pi\partial_\theta + \frac{2}{\kappa}\bar{X}_f \right)$$

where ∂_θ is the infinitesimal rotation in the fiber (∂_θ at the point u identifies with iu), where X_f is the Hamiltonian vector field on B corresponding to the function f (i.e. $\iota(X_f)\omega_B = df$) and where \bar{X} denotes the horizontal lift of a vector $X \in TB$. Periodic Reeb orbits correspond to the critical points of f . Thus, using Morse’s inequalities, we have: if Σ is a contact type hypersurface in \mathcal{L} such that the intersection of Σ with each fiber is a circle, and if the contact form is the restriction of $r^2\theta^\nabla$, then Σ carries at least $\sum_{i=0}^{2n} \beta_i$ geometrically distinct periodic Reeb orbits, where β_i denote the Betti numbers of B . □

We are now ready to prove Theorem 1.6 for a contact type hypersurface Σ in a negative line bundle \mathcal{L} over a symplectic manifold B , when it is “pinched” between two circle bundles S_{R_1} and S_{R_2} of radii R_1 and R_2 such that $0 < R_1 < R_2$ and $\frac{R_2}{R_1} < \sqrt{2}$, and when there exists a Liouville domain W' (such that its first Chern class vanishes on all tori) whose boundary coincides with the circle bundle S_{R_1} . We endow Σ with the contact form α induced by $r^2\theta^\nabla$ on \mathcal{L} . We assume that the minimal action of any periodic Reeb orbit on Σ is bounded below by R_1^2 . We also assume that there exists a Morse function $f : B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that the set of indices of all critical points of f is lacunary. We want to prove that Σ carries at least $\sum_{i=0}^{2n} \beta_i$ geometrically distinct periodic Reeb orbits.

Proof of Theorem 1.6. The proof is the same as for Theorem 5.1 using transfer morphisms for Liouville domains. We see the hypersurfaces as lying in the completion of the Liouville domain W' which we assumed to exist. We

find a small ϵ so that the convex domain $\widetilde{\Sigma}$ bounded by the hypersurface Σ is such that

$$\widetilde{S}_{R_1 e^{\epsilon f}} \subset \widetilde{\Sigma} \subset \widetilde{S}_{R_2 e^{\epsilon f}} \subset \widehat{W}'$$

where \widetilde{S}_f is the domain bounded by S_f . We can compute the positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology, which is spanned by periodic orbits of the Reeb vector field by Theorem 1.1. This is possible by the pinching condition. One uses then the transfer morphisms with truncated action. We have seen that there are $\sum_{i=0}^{2n} \beta_i$ simple periodic orbits on $S_{R_1 e^{\epsilon f}}$ whose actions are very close to R_1^2 and the same number of simple periodic orbits on $S_{R_2 e^{\epsilon f}}$ whose actions are very close to R_2^2 . The transfer morphism imply the existence of at least $\sum_{i=0}^{2n} \beta_i$ periodic orbits on Σ with action between R_1^2 et R_2^2 . Since we have assumed here that the minimal action of any periodic Reeb orbit on Σ is bounded below by R_1^2 , those orbits are geometrically distinct. \square

In this Theorem, the assumption on the existence of a Morse function all of whose critical points have Morse indices of the same parity is of a technical nature. Its purpose is to bring the situation within the scope of Theorem 1.1, which is our tool for computing the positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology. The lower bound on the period of any periodic Reeb orbit is semi-technical; it is now the only way we have to distinguish the images of the orbits. The “pinching” assumption is more conceptual, its main implication is that the “ n first generators” of the positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic homology are simple orbits.

Example 5.3 (Tautological complex line bundle over $\mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$). We consider the tautological complex (negative) line bundle over $\mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$, $\mathcal{O}(-1) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$. The corresponding disk bundle, which is the canonical disk bundle over $\mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$, is canonically isomorphic to the ball blown up at the origin, $\widehat{B}^{2n} := \left\{ (z, [t]) \in \mathbb{C}^n \times \mathbb{C}P^{n-1} \mid z \in [t] \quad |z| \leq 1 \right\}$. Its boundary is the sphere, which is the boundary of the ball in $\mathbb{C}^n \simeq \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ which is a Liouville domain. The basis $B = \mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$ admits the Morse function f_{n-1} defined earlier, whose critical points have even Morse indices.

Example 5.4 (Tautological complex line bundle over the Grassmannian $G_{2,n}^+$). We consider the tautological complex negative line bundle over the Grassmannian of oriented 2-planes in \mathbb{R}^n (an oriented real 2-plane being considered as a complex 1-dimensional space). The circle bundle, which is the boundary of the corresponding disk bundle, is canonically isomorphic to the unit sphere bundle in the cotangent bundle T^*S^{n-1} to the sphere S^{n-1} ; indeed any element z above an oriented 2-plane π in this circle

bundle represents two oriented orthonormal vectors u, v in \mathbb{R}^n spanning π ; this can be viewed as an element u in S^{n-1} and an element v in $T_u^*(S^{n-1})$. This unit bundle in the cotangent bundle T^*S^{n-1} is also the boundary of the Liouville domain defined by all cotangent vectors of length at most 1 in T^*S^{n-1} . The basis of our tautological complex line bundle is the Grassmannian $G_{2,n}^+$; when n is even, it admits the Morse function [32]

$$f(\pi) = c_1(u^1v^2 - u^2v^1) + c_2(u^3v^4 - u^4v^3) + \cdots + c_n(u^{2n-1}v^{2n} - u^{2n}v^{2n-1})$$

with $c_1 > c_2 > \cdots > c_n > 0$, where the oriented 2-plane π is generated by the oriented orthonormal vectors $u = \sum_{i=1}^{2n} u^i e_i$ and $v = \sum_{j=1}^{2n} v^j e_j$ in \mathbb{R}^{2n} . The critical points of f are the planes spanned by the oriented basis $\{e_1, e_2\}$, $\{e_3, e_4\}$, \dots , $\{e_{2n-1}, e_{2n}\}$ and $\{e_{2n}, e_{2n-1}\}$, \dots , $\{e_4, e_3\}$, $\{e_2, e_1\}$; they have Morse indices $0, 2, \dots, 2n-2, 2n-2, \dots, 4n-6, 4n-4$ respectively. These are all even integers.

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