

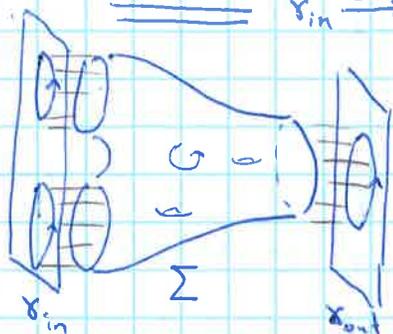
# Introduction to [two-dimensional] conformal field theory

CFT  
1/16/2019  
①

Segal's picture of a (D-dimensional) quantum field theory [G. Segal "The definition of CFT", 1988  
long version: 2002]

a QFT is an assignment:  $\ast$  'closed (D-1)-manifold  $\gamma$   $\rightarrow$  ~~vector~~ Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}_\gamma$  "space of states" over  $\mathbb{C}$

$\ast$  D-<sup>(oriented)</sup> cobordism manifold  $\Sigma$  with boundary  $\partial\Sigma = \gamma_{out} \cup \gamma_{in}$   $\rightarrow$  linear map  $Z_\Sigma: \mathcal{H}_{\gamma_{in}} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\gamma_{out}}$   
= cobordism  $\gamma_{in} \xrightarrow{\Sigma} \gamma_{out}$  reversed orientation - "partition function"



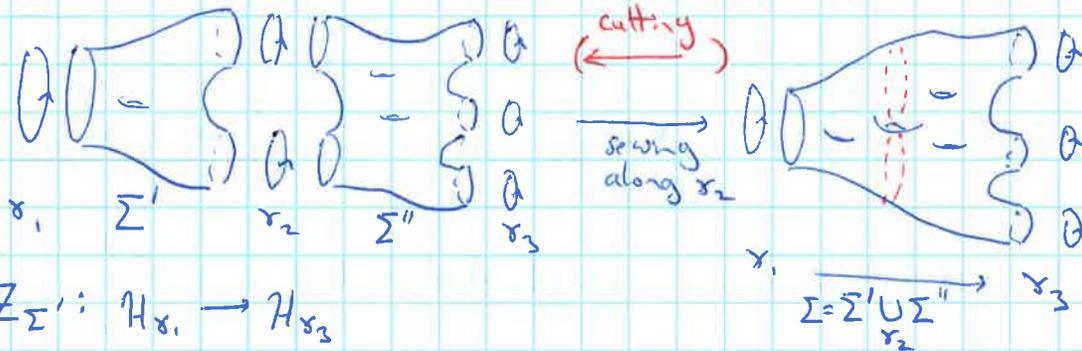
axioms:

• multiplicativity:  $\mathcal{H}_{\gamma_1 \cup \gamma_2} = \mathcal{H}_{\gamma_1} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\gamma_2}$

$Z_{\Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2} = \mathcal{H}_{\gamma_2} \otimes Z_{\Sigma_1} \otimes Z_{\Sigma_2}: \mathcal{H}_{\gamma_{in}^1} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\gamma_{in}^2} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\gamma_{out}^1} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\gamma_{out}^2}$

• sewing axiom:

given two cobordisms



axiom:  $Z_\Sigma = Z_{\Sigma''} \circ Z_{\Sigma'}: \mathcal{H}_{\gamma_1} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\gamma_3}$

• normalization:  $\mathcal{H}_\emptyset = \mathbb{C}$

$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} Z_{S^1 \times [0, \epsilon]} = \text{id} \in \mathcal{H}_S$



- very short cylinder

• symmetry:

$\mathcal{H}_\pi(\gamma_1 \cup \dots \cup \gamma_n) = \pi(\mathcal{H}_{\gamma_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\gamma_n})$

$Z_\pi(\Sigma_1 \cup \dots \cup \Sigma_n) = \pi(Z_{\Sigma_1} \otimes \dots \otimes Z_{\Sigma_n})$

additional data:

\* for each  $\varphi: \gamma \rightarrow \tilde{\gamma}$  diffeomorphism, we have a map  $\rho(\varphi): \mathcal{H}_\gamma \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\tilde{\gamma}}$  } - linear if  $\varphi$  preserves orientation  
- anti-linear otherwise

\* cobordisms are equipped with local geometric data  $\xi_\Sigma \in \text{Geom}_\Sigma$  E.g. - metric  
- conformal structure \*  
- nothing (topological theories - Atiyah)

boundaries also,  $\xi_\gamma \in \text{Geom}_\gamma$  E.g. - Riemannian collar  
- parametrization of a circle \*

> in the sewing axiom, we sew the geom. data

Axioms cont'd:

naturality (Diff-equivariance)

for  $\varphi: \Sigma \rightarrow \tilde{\Sigma}$  a diffeomorphism,

we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_{in}} & \xrightarrow{Z_{\Sigma}} & \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_{out}} \\ \downarrow p(\varphi|_{in}) & \square & \downarrow p(\varphi|_{out}) \\ \mathcal{H}_{\tilde{\Sigma}_{in}} & \xrightarrow{Z_{\tilde{\Sigma}}} & \mathcal{H}_{\tilde{\Sigma}_{out}} \end{array}$$

- commutes

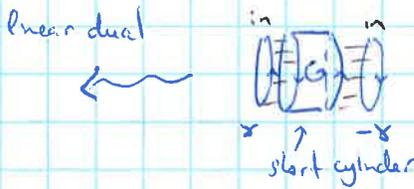
in particular, diffeo preserving  $Z$  are symmetries of the theory

CFT  
1/16/2019

• for  $p: \Sigma \xrightarrow{id} -\Sigma$ , or reversal 

$p(r): \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma} \xrightarrow{c.c.} \mathcal{H}_{-\Sigma}$  - complex conjugation  
 $\psi \mapsto \bar{\psi}$

"crossing axiom"  
 $Z_{\Sigma}: \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_1} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_2} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_{out1}} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_{out2}}$   
 $Z_{-\Sigma}: \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_1} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_2} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_{out1}} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_{out2}}$   
reversing  $\Sigma$  as in  $\Sigma$



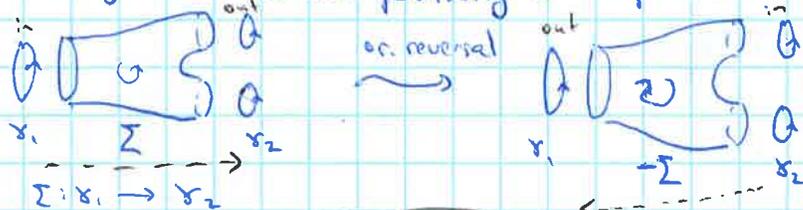
$Z(\dots): \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{-\Sigma} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$   
= canonical pairing  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$

linear dual

Hermitian structure:

$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle: \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{-\Sigma} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$   
 $= (c.c.(-), -) \quad \psi, \chi \mapsto \langle \psi, \chi \rangle = \langle \bar{\psi}, \chi \rangle$

• Unitarity (or "reflection-positivity") - optional!



axiom:  $Z_{-\Sigma} = \overline{Z_{\Sigma}}^*$

$Z(\Sigma: \mathbb{R} \times [0,1]) : \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_1} \xrightarrow{unitary} \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_2}$   
 $\rho: \text{Diff}(\Sigma) \rightarrow \text{End}(\mathcal{H}_{\Sigma})$  - unitary representation

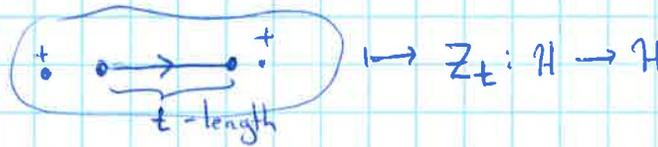
(relative) Euler characteristic  
 $\chi(\Sigma) = \chi(\Sigma) - \chi(\Sigma_{in})$

Example  $D = \text{any} \geq 1 \quad \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma} = \mathbb{C} \quad \forall \Sigma, \quad Z_{\Sigma}: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

(trivial TQFT)  $G_{\text{gen}} = \text{no gauge data}$  multiplicity & sewing follow from additivity of  $\chi$

Example:  $D=1$  - quantum mechanics

- $\bullet \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$
- $\circ \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^*$



$Z_t: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$

$\text{Met}(\cdot, \cdot) / \text{Diff}(\cdot, \cdot) = \mathbb{R}_+$   
length

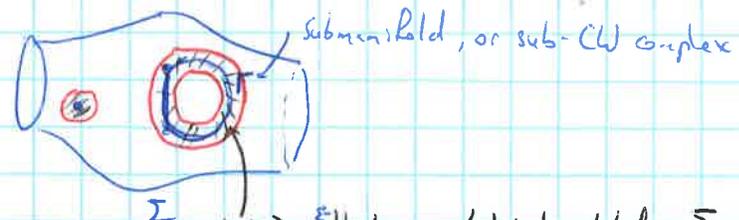
sewing axiom  $\rightarrow$   $Z_{t_1+t_2} = Z_{t_2} \circ Z_{t_1}$  - semi-group law

(strengthened) normalization:  $Z_{\epsilon} = \text{id} + \frac{i}{\hbar} \hat{H} \epsilon + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2)$

$Z_t = e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \hat{H} t}$

- evolution operator (evol. in time  $t$ ) in quantum mechanics, with Hamiltonian  $\hat{H}$

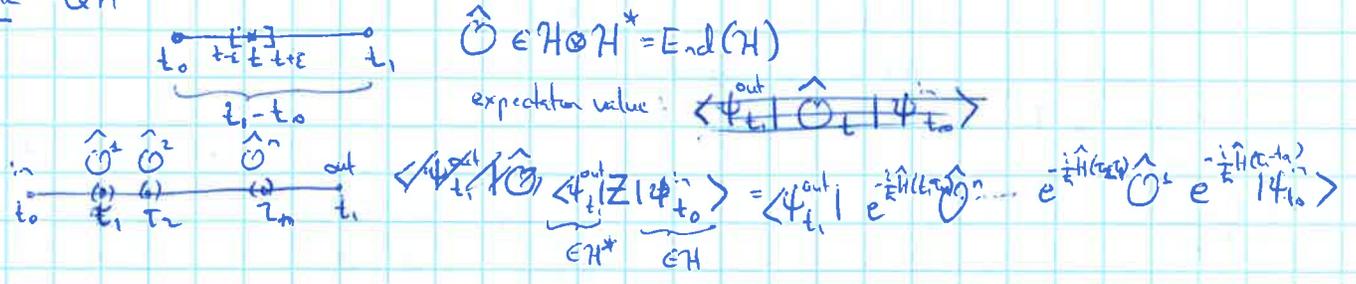
Observables (idea):



family,  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$   
 $\hat{O}_{\Gamma, \epsilon} \in \mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{H}^*$  - (quantum) observable "at  $\Gamma$ "

$U_\epsilon(\Gamma)$  - thickening / tubular nbhd in  $\Sigma$   
 $\langle \hat{O}_\Gamma \rangle_\Sigma = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\Sigma \setminus U_\epsilon(\Gamma)} \hat{O}_{\Gamma, \epsilon}$   
 expectation value / correlator

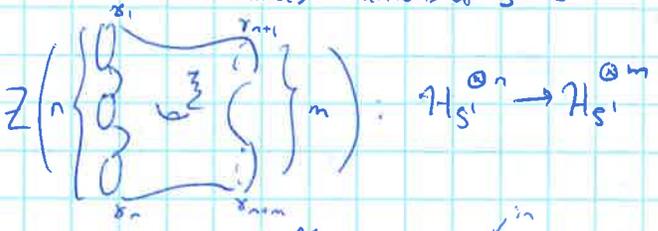
Example - QM



CFT: 2D cobordisms - equipped with conformal structure

= metric  $g / g \sim \Omega \cdot g$   
 positive function

boundaries = unions of  $S^1$ 's



boundary circles are equipped with parametrization

$\mathcal{H}_{S^1}$  carries a projective representation of  $\text{Diff}(S^1)$

• self-sewing: if  $\tilde{\Sigma} = \Sigma$  with  $\sigma_i$  identified with  $\sigma_j$ , then

$Z(\tilde{\Sigma}) = \text{tr}_{\mathcal{H}} Z(\Sigma)$

\* assumption:  $Z(\Sigma)$  is trace-class - "compactness" of CFT

viewed as  $\mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$   $\text{End}(\mathcal{H}) \otimes \text{Hom}(\dots, \dots)$   
 $\mathcal{H}_i \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_j$

genus 1 partition functions

for  $\mathbb{T}_\tau = \mathbb{C} / \mathbb{Z} \oplus \tau \mathbb{Z}$  - torus,  $\tau \in \mathbb{H}$

$Z(\mathbb{T}_\tau) = Z(\mathbb{T}_{-1/\tau})$

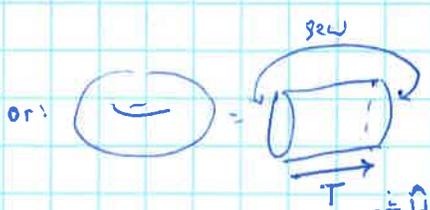
conformally equivalent torus  
 = modular invariance

• conformal anomaly:  $Z(\Sigma, \Omega \cdot g) = e^{iCS_{\text{Liouville}}(\Omega)} \cdot Z(\Sigma, g)$   
 Ricci scalar  
 Liouville number 2-form of  $g$   
 $\int \frac{1}{2} (d\epsilon \wedge d\epsilon + i\epsilon R_g \text{dvol}_g)$   
 - "central charge"

So,  $Z$  depends (mildly) on the particular metric representing a conformal class.

$Z(\Sigma, g/\sim)$  - "line of trace-class operators"

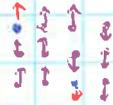
a related point: action  $\text{Diff}(S^1) \curvearrowright \mathcal{H}_{S^1}$  is projective.



$Z_T = \text{tr} e^{-\frac{1}{T} \hat{H} T} = Z_{\mathbb{T}_{1/T}}$  - because it is a conf. equivalent torus

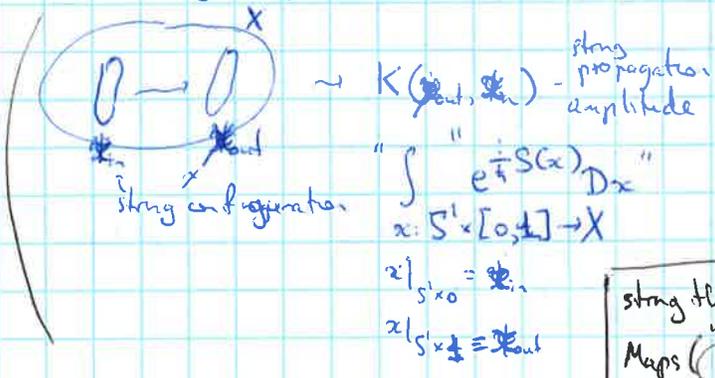
Why care about CFT?

- a "tame" QFT with explicit nontrivial answers
- relation to critical phenomena in statistical physics (Polyakov)

2D Ising model  in the limit of infinite lattice has a 2nd order phase transition. at  $T_{crit}$ , correlation radius  $\rightarrow \infty$  and  $\langle \phi(x)\phi(y) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{|x-y|^{2\Delta}}$  critical exponent

for a 2-point correlator  $\langle \phi(x)\phi(y) \rangle$   
 $\rightarrow$  one can "zoom out" of the lattice and see a scaling-invariant field theory on a plane  $\rightarrow$  improved to conformal invariance

• relation to string theory



$H_{SI} = \text{Func}(LX) \ni \Psi(x) \in LX$  - wave-function

- integral kernel of  $Z(\text{torus}) = \langle \phi_{out} | \phi_{in} \rangle = \int_{x_{in} \in LX} K(x_{out}, x_{in}) \Psi_{in}(x_{in}) D_{x_{in}}$

$\Psi_{in} \rightarrow \langle \phi_{out} | \phi_{in} \rangle = \int_{x_{in} \in LX} K(x_{out}, x_{in}) \Psi_{in}(x_{in}) D_{x_{in}}$

string theory = quantization of a Lagrangian field theory on  $\text{Maps}(S^1, X = \mathbb{R}^N) \rightsquigarrow$  CFT of  $N$  scalar fields on  $\Sigma$ .

• relation to 3D TQFT, especially Wess-Zumino-Witten  $\xrightarrow{2d \text{ CFT}}$  Chern-Simons 3d TQFT on  $\Sigma = \partial M$  on  $M$



• CFT  $\leftrightarrow$  rep. theory of  $\text{Diff}(S^1)$ , Virasoro algebra, affine Lie algebras  $\hat{\mathfrak{g}}$ .

interesting structures on alg, n representations of mapping class group of  $\Sigma$ .



Segal's axioms formalize the heuristic construction:  $\langle \phi_{out} | Z(\text{torus}) | \phi_{in} \rangle = \int_{\substack{\phi \in \text{Fields}_\Sigma \\ \phi|_{x_{in}} = \phi_{in} \\ \phi|_{x_{out}} = \phi_{out}}} e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S(\phi)} D\phi =: K_\Sigma(\phi_{out}, \phi_{in})$

"matrix element" of  $Z$   $\nearrow$  action functional

$\Gamma(\Sigma, \mathbb{F}) = \text{Fields}_\Sigma$   $\leftarrow$  sheaf of fields

$Z: |\psi\rangle = \int_{\substack{\phi_{in} \text{ wave-function} \\ \in \Gamma(\Sigma, \mathbb{F})}} \langle \phi_{in}(\phi_{in}) | \phi_{in} \rangle \rightarrow \int_{\substack{\phi_{in} \\ \text{Conf}(\Sigma, \mathbb{F}), \\ \phi_{out} \in \Gamma(\Sigma_{out}, \mathbb{F})}} \langle \phi_{out} | K_\Sigma(\phi_{out}, \phi_{in}) \psi(\phi_{in}) | \phi_{out} \rangle$

configuration space

sewing axiom  $\sim$  Fubini theorem for path integrals

\* in quantum mechanics,  $\text{Fields}_{E, I} = \text{Map}(I, X)$   $\phi_{in}, \phi_{out} \in X$

\* in string theory,  $\text{Fields}_\Sigma = \text{Map}(\Sigma, X)$   $\phi_{in}, \phi_{out} \in LX$ .

loops

enrichment by observables:  $Z_{\Sigma, \hat{\mathcal{O}}_X} = \int e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S(\phi)} \underbrace{O(\phi|_X)}_{\text{classical observable}} D\phi$

Example: 1D Segal's QFT - Quantum Mechanics

+ → H  
- → H\*

Z 1-cobordisms equipped with Riemannian metric

$$Z \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \xrightarrow{\text{metric}} \bullet \\ + \quad \quad \quad + \end{array} \right) \in \text{End}(\mathcal{H}) \otimes \text{Fun}(\text{Met})^{\text{Diff}}$$

Denote  $Z_t := Z \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \xrightarrow{t} \bullet \\ t > 0 \end{array} \right)$

t-length of the interval

Sewing axiom:  $Z \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \xrightarrow{t_1} \bullet \xrightarrow{t_2} \bullet \\ t_1 \quad t_2 \end{array} \right) = Z \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \xrightarrow{t_2} \bullet \\ t_2 \end{array} \right) \circ Z \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \xrightarrow{t_1} \bullet \\ t_1 \end{array} \right)$  or  $Z_{t_1+t_2} = Z_{t_2} \circ Z_{t_1}$  Semi-group law

(improved) normalization:  $Z \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \xrightarrow{t} \bullet \\ t \text{ small} \end{array} \right) = \text{id} - \frac{i}{\hbar} \hat{H} t + O(t^2)$   
"quantum Hamiltonian"

$\Rightarrow Z_t = \left( Z_{\frac{t}{N}} \right)^N \underset{(N \rightarrow \infty)}{=} \left( e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \hat{H} \frac{t}{N}} \right)^N$  - evolution operator of QM,  $U(t)$  - another notation.

From Feynman: classical mechanics  $x(t) \in \text{Maps}([0, t], X)$  - parameterized path in X

$$S[x(t)] = \int_0^t \left( \frac{m}{2} \dot{x}(\tau)^2 - V(x(\tau)) \right) d\tau$$

target manifold

- action functional

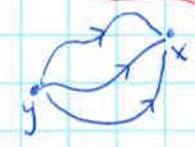
Classical motion:  $x(t)$  s.t.  $\delta S[x(t)] = 0$   
 $L(x, \dot{x})$   
 $x(0) = x_{in}$  ← initial position  
 $x(t) = x_{out}$  ← final position



Quantization states  $\mathcal{H} = L^2(X) \ni \psi(x)$  - wavefunction

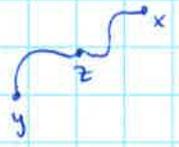
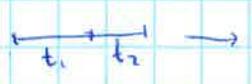
evolution  $U(t): \psi_{in}(x) \mapsto \psi_{out}(x) = \int_{X \ni y} K(t; x, y) \psi_{in}(y)$

where  $K(t; x, y) = \int_{\substack{x(0)=y \\ x(t)=x}} e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S[x(t)]} \mathcal{D}[x(t)]$



$= \langle x | U(t) | y \rangle$   
- "matrix element" of  $U(t)$

composition property  $U(t_1+t_2) = U(t_2) \circ U(t_1) \Rightarrow K(t_1+t_2; x, y) = \int_{X \ni z} K(t_2; x, z) K(t_1; z, y)$



$$\int_P e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S(p)} = \int_X \int_{P_1} e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S(p_1)} \int_{P_2} e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S(p_2)}$$

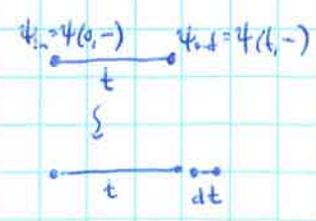
paths  $y \rightarrow x$     paths  $y \rightarrow z$     paths  $z \rightarrow x$

← "Fubini theorem"

Schrödinger equation

$$i\hbar \frac{d}{dt} \psi(t; x) = \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Delta + V(x) \right) \psi(t, x)$$

infinitesimal expresses sewing

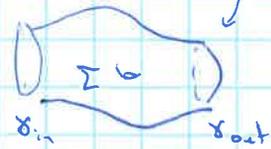


motivation for Segal's axioms

bundle/sheaf over  $\Sigma$

1/18/2019  
2

Field theory on  $\Sigma$  classically;  $\text{Fields}_\Sigma = \Gamma(\Sigma, \mathcal{F}) \ni \varphi$



$$S_\Sigma(\varphi) = \int_\Sigma L(\varphi, d\varphi, \dots) - \text{action}$$

field on  $\Sigma$   
Classical equations of motion

$$\delta S_\Sigma = 0$$

$$\varphi|_{\delta_{in}} = \varphi_{in} \leftarrow \text{fixed}$$

$$\varphi|_{\delta_{out}} = \varphi_{out} \leftarrow \text{b.c.}$$

P.I. quantization

$$\langle \varphi_{out} | Z_\Sigma | \varphi_{in} \rangle = \int e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S_\Sigma(\varphi)} \mathcal{D}\varphi$$

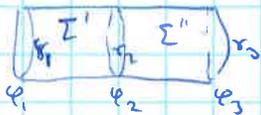
$$\mathcal{H}_\Sigma = L^2(\text{Fields}_\Sigma)$$

$$\ni \int \mathcal{D}\varphi_\Sigma \psi(\varphi_\Sigma) | \varphi_\Sigma \rangle$$

wave function

Sewing:

$$\langle \varphi_3 | Z_\Sigma | \varphi_1 \rangle = \int \mathcal{D}\varphi_2 \int \mathcal{D}\varphi'_2 e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S_{\Sigma'}} \int \mathcal{D}\varphi''_2 e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S_{\Sigma''}} = \int \mathcal{D}\varphi_2 \langle \varphi_3 | Z_{\Sigma'} | \varphi_2 \rangle \langle \varphi_2 | Z_{\Sigma''} | \varphi_1 \rangle$$



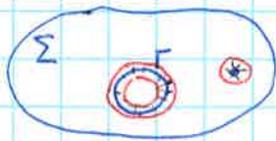
Field on  $\Sigma'$  and  $\Sigma''$

$$\varphi'|_1 = \varphi_1, \quad \varphi''|_2 = \varphi_2$$

$$\varphi'|_2 = \varphi_2, \quad \varphi''|_3 = \varphi_3$$

$$Z_\Sigma = Z_{\Sigma'} \circ Z_{\Sigma''}$$

Observables



$\Gamma \subset \Sigma$  submanifold / sub-CW complex  
 $U_\epsilon(\Gamma)$  -  $\epsilon$ -thickening

quantum observable supported on  $\Gamma$ :  $\hat{O}_\Gamma \in \mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{U_\epsilon(\Gamma)}$

(surface of a thin tube around  $\Gamma$ )

expectation value (correlator)

$$Z_\Sigma, \hat{O}_\Gamma = \langle Z_\Sigma \setminus U_\epsilon(\Gamma), \hat{O}_\Gamma \rangle \in \mathbb{C}$$

" $\langle \hat{O}_\Gamma \rangle_\Sigma$ " if  $\Sigma$  was closed

PI expression:  $\langle \hat{O}_\Gamma \rangle_\Sigma = \int e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S(\varphi)} \hat{O}_\Gamma(\varphi|_\Gamma) \mathcal{D}\varphi$

observables in QM

$$\hat{O} \in \mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{H}^* = \text{End}(\mathcal{H})$$

- operator

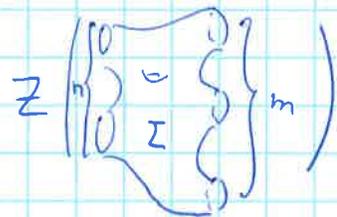
$$Z \left( \begin{matrix} \hat{O}_n \\ \vdots \\ \hat{O}_1 \end{matrix} \right) = \langle \varphi_{out} | e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} \int \mathcal{H}(\varphi, \tau)} \hat{O}_n \dots \hat{O}_1 e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int \mathcal{H}(\varphi, \tau)} | \varphi_{in} \rangle$$

$$= \int e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S[\varphi(\tau)]} \hat{O}_1(\tau_1) \dots \hat{O}_n(\tau_n) \mathcal{D}[\varphi(\tau)]$$

$\chi(\tau_1) = \varphi_{in}$   
 $\chi(\tau_n) = \varphi_{out}$

CFT:  $D=2$ , cobordisms equipped with conformal structure = metric  $g$   
boundary circles equipped with parametrization

1/24/2019  
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$$Z \left( \begin{matrix} m \\ \Sigma \\ m' \end{matrix} \right) : \mathcal{H}_S^{\otimes n} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_S^{\otimes m}$$

$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_S$  is equipped with an action of  $\text{Diff}(S^1)$

self-sewing:  $\Sigma \rightarrow \tilde{\Sigma} = \Sigma / \delta_{in} = \delta_{out}$   
- identify two bdy circles

then  $Z_{\tilde{\Sigma}} = \text{tr}_{\mathcal{H}} Z_\Sigma$   
as  $\text{End}(\mathcal{H}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes n-1}, \mathcal{H}^{\otimes m-1}$

WANT  $Z_\Sigma$  to be trace-class ("compactness")

Corrections to the picture - "conformal anomaly"

1/18/2019  
3  
1/21/2019  
1

• action  $\text{Diff}(S^1) \subset \mathcal{H}$  is projective

•  $Z(\Sigma, \Omega, g) = e^{i \mathcal{S}_{\text{Liouville}}(\sigma)} Z(\Sigma, g)$ ,  $\mathcal{S}_{\text{Liouville}}(\sigma) = \frac{1}{2} \int d\sigma_1 d\sigma_2 + 4\sigma R_g d\sigma_1 d\sigma_2$   
 $c \in \mathbb{R}$  - central charge.

• genus 1 partition function  $Z(\text{torus}) = \text{tr}_{\mathcal{H}} e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \hat{H} t} \in \mathbb{C} = \text{data}$  modular invariance  
 $=: Z(\mathbb{T}_t)$  Then  $Z(\mathbb{T}_t) = Z(\mathbb{T}_{1/t})$   
 conformally equivalent tori

or:  $\mathbb{T}_\tau = \mathbb{C} / (\mathbb{Z} \oplus \tau \mathbb{Z})$ ,  $Z(\mathbb{T}_\tau) = Z(\mathbb{T}_{-1/\tau}) \sim Z(\mathbb{T}_\tau)$  - modular function of  $\tau$ .  
 modular parameter since tori are equivalent

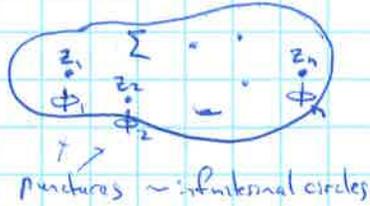
Why CFT?

• Ising model - lattice statistical system at temperature  $T_{\text{crit}}$  - 2<sup>nd</sup> order phase transition 2-point correlation radius  $\rightarrow \infty$ , 2-point correlator becomes  $\langle \sigma(x) \sigma(y) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{|x-y|^{1/2}}$  crit exponent  
 Zooming out of the lattice, the model exhibits scaling invariance  $\rightarrow$  conformal invariance, can be described by a CFT on the plane.

• string theory classically Maps (worldsheet  $\Sigma$ ,  $X = \mathbb{R}^N$  target)  $\rightarrow$  CFT of  $n$  bosons on  $\Sigma$  (+ reparametrization + ghost system)

• relation to 3D TQFT (and to representation theory of  $MCG_\Sigma$ )  
 • interesting structures on  $\text{Alg}_n$ ; reps of  $\widehat{\text{Diff}}(S^1)$ .

CFT as a set of correlators



$$\int \phi_1(z_1) \dots \phi_n(z_n) e^{-S(\varphi)} D\varphi$$

1/18/2019  
1/21/2019

$$\langle \phi_1(z_1) \dots \phi_n(z_n) \rangle \in \mathbb{C}$$

correlator

$$\langle \phi_1 \dots \phi_n \rangle \in \Gamma(\mathcal{M}_{g,n}, \mathcal{L})$$

certain line bundle

$\phi_i \in \bar{V}$  bi-graded by  $(h, \bar{h})$   
 "conformal dimension"  
 space of (conformal) field - admissible decorations of a puncture

- special field: -  $\mathbb{1}$  - trivial (identity) field
- $T$  - stress-energy tensor

primary fields - highest weight vectors of  $\text{Diff}(S^1) \ltimes V$

$$\phi(z) \in \mathbb{B}^{\otimes h} K_z^{\otimes h} \otimes \bar{K}_z^{\otimes \bar{h}}$$

$$K = (T^{1,0})^* \Sigma, \bar{K} = (T^{0,1})^* \Sigma$$

instead of sewing, one studies OPEs (operator product expansions)

governing singularities of correlators as  $z_i \rightarrow z_j$

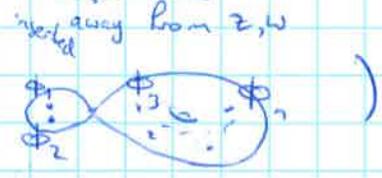
$$\text{OPE: } \phi_1(z) \phi_2(w) \sim \sum_{\tilde{\phi}_3} \underbrace{f_{\phi_1 \phi_2}^{\tilde{\phi}_3}(z, w)}_{\text{real-analytic functions on a nbhd of } \text{Diag} \subset \Sigma \times \Sigma, \text{ singular on } \text{Diag}} \underbrace{\tilde{\phi}_3(w)}_{\text{regular part}} + \text{reg} \quad (*)$$

its meaning: substitution (\*)

can be made inside any correlator

$$\langle \phi_1(z) \phi_2(w) \phi_3 \dots \phi_n \rangle$$

yielding asymptotics, as  $z \rightarrow w$ , nbhd of (nodal point on  $\mathcal{M}_{g,n}$ ,



Idea: we can recover (inductively in \$n\$)

$n$ -point correlators from singular parts of OPEs  
 ( $(n-1)$ -point correlators, using

< similar to recovering a meromorphic rational function from singular parts of its Laurent expansion at poles >

Let  $(M, g)$  - (pseudo-) Riemannian manifold

def a Weyl transformation is  $(M, g) \rightarrow (M, g')$  with  $x \mapsto x$   
 $g'(x) = \underbrace{\Omega(x)}_{\text{everywhere positive function}} \cdot g(x)$

def two (pseudo-) Riemannian mds  $(M, g), (M', g')$  are conformally equivalent if  
 there exists a diffeomorphism  $\varphi: M \rightarrow M'$  s.t.  $(\varphi^* g')(x) = \Omega(x) \cdot g(x)$

then  $\varphi$  is called a conformal map  
 $\Omega$  - the associated conformal factor

\* a composition of conf. maps  $(M, g) \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} (M', g') \xrightarrow{\varphi_2} (M'', g'')$  is a conf. map

\* inverse  $\varphi^{-1}$  of a conf map  $(M, g) \xrightarrow{\varphi} (M', g')$  is a conf. map

def conformal automorphisms of  $(M, g) \rightarrow$  form  $(M, g)$  comprise the conformal group  $\text{Conf}(M, g)$ .

def a conformal structure on  $M$  = a choice of metric modulo Weyl transformations.

\* for  $g \sim g'$  two Weyl-equivalent metrics on  $M$ ,  $\text{Conf}(M, g) = \text{Conf}(M, g')$

thus,  $\text{Conf}(M, \frac{g}{\Omega})$  is well-defined (depends only on conf. structure on  $M$ )  
 - conformal maps are the same (but conf. factors may differ)

~~def~~ {Isometries}  $\hookrightarrow$  {conf. maps} , singled out by the property  $\Omega = 1$

Examples of conformal maps

• translations and  $O(n)$ -rotations of Euclidean  $\mathbb{R}^n$

(or translations and  $O(p, q)$ -rotations of  $\mathbb{R}^{p, q}$  with  $g = (dx_1^2 + \dots + (dx_p^2) - (dx_{p+1}^2) - \dots - (dx_{p+q}^2)^2$ )

thus  $O(n) \times \mathbb{R}^n \subset \text{Conf}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , with  $\Omega = 1$ .

Poincaré group

• dilatations  $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  for  $\lambda > 0$  (also  $\mathbb{R}^{p, q} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{p, q}$ )  
 $\vec{x} \mapsto \lambda \vec{x}$   
 $\vec{x} \mapsto \lambda \vec{x}$

- conf. factor  $\Omega = \lambda^2$

~~stereographic projection~~

Stereographic projection

1/21/2019  
4



$\mathbb{R}^{n+1} \supset S^n \setminus \{\text{North pole}\} \xrightarrow{\varphi} \mathbb{R}^n$   
 $(x^0, x^1, \dots, x^n)$  s.t.  $\sum_{i=0}^n (x^i)^2 = 1$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $\frac{1}{1-x^0} (x^1, \dots, x^n)$

Exercise: show that  $\varphi$  is conformal with  $\Omega = \frac{1}{(1-x^0)^2}$

• Any diffeo  $\varphi: \mathbb{R}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$  with  $g = (dx)^2$ ,  $\Omega = \left(\frac{d\varphi}{dx}\right)^2$

• inversion  $\varphi: \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$   
 $\vec{x} \mapsto \frac{\vec{x}}{\|\vec{x}\|^2}$   
 an orientation-reversing is conformal map,  $\Omega = \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|^4}$  ← Exercise

• Any (bi)holomorphic map  $\varphi: D \xrightarrow{\sim} D'$  with  $g = (dx)^2 + (dy)^2 = dz \cdot d\bar{z} = \frac{1}{2}(dz \odot d\bar{z} + d\bar{z} \odot dz)$   
 $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$   
 $z = x+iy$  - complex coordinate on  $\mathbb{C}$

Then  $\varphi^* g = \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^2 dx^2 + \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial y}\right)^2 dy^2 + 2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} dx dy$   
 $\varphi^* g = \underbrace{(u_x^2 + v_x^2)}_{du^2 + dv^2} dx^2 + \underbrace{(u_y^2 + v_y^2)}_{dy^2} dy^2 + \underbrace{(u_x v_y + u_y v_x)}_{0 \text{ by CR}} dx dy$   
 Cauchy-Riemann eq.:  $u_x = v_y, u_y = -v_x$   
 by CR

$\varphi^* g = \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial z} dz + \frac{\partial w}{\partial \bar{z}} d\bar{z}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{\partial \bar{w}}{\partial z} dz + \frac{\partial \bar{w}}{\partial \bar{z}} d\bar{z}\right) = \left|\frac{dw}{dz}\right|^2 dz d\bar{z} \rightarrow \varphi \text{ is conformal}$   
 $\Omega = \left|\frac{dw}{dz}\right|^2$   
 since  $\varphi$  holomorphic

• Möbius transformations  $PSL_2(\mathbb{C}) \subset \overline{\mathbb{C}} = \mathbb{CP}^1$

$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} : z \mapsto \frac{az+b}{cz+d} = z'$  with  $ad-bc=1$   
 $\Omega = \left|\frac{dz'}{dz}\right|^2 = \frac{1}{|cz+d|^4}$

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  translation by  $b \in \mathbb{C}$   
 $\begin{pmatrix} e^{i\varphi} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-i\varphi} \end{pmatrix}$  rotation by angle  $\varphi$   
 $\begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$  dilatation by factor  $\lambda$ ,  $\lambda > 0$   
 $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ c & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  "special conformal transform"  
 $z \mapsto \frac{z}{cz+1} = \frac{1}{c+1/z}$   
 maps  $-1/c \rightarrow \infty$   
 $\infty \rightarrow 1/c$

•  $\mathbb{C}/2\pi i \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{\text{exp}} \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  - find  $\Omega$

# "Infinitesimal conf. maps"

1/21/2019  
5  
1/23/2019  
1

a conformal (Killing) vector field on  $(M, g)$  (pseudo-)Riem. mfd is a v.f.  $v \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$  satisfying

(\*)  $\mathcal{L}_v g = \omega \cdot g$

Lie derivative along  $v$  of the metric

$\omega \in C^\infty(M)$  - infinitesimal conf. factor.

- Properties:
- if  $u, v$  are v.f. w/ conf. factors  $\omega_u, \omega_v$ , then
    - $u+v$  is a c.v.f. with  $\omega = \omega_u + \omega_v$
    - $[u, v]$  is a c.v.f. with  $\omega = \mathcal{L}_u \omega_v - \mathcal{L}_v \omega_u$

• c.v.f.s form a Lie subalgebra  $\text{conf}(M, g) \subset \mathfrak{X}(M)$

• if  $M$  compact, then  $\text{conf}(M, g) = \text{Lie Conf}(M, g)$

with exp:  $\text{conf} \rightarrow \text{Conf}$

$v \mapsto \text{Flow}_t(v)$  - flow in unit time

## Conformal vector fields on $\mathbb{R}^{p,q}$

$g = g_{ij}(x) dx^i dx^j$        $g_{ij}(x) = \eta_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & \ddots \\ & & & & -1 \\ & & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

looking for  $\xi = \xi^k(x) \partial_k$  a c.v.f.

$p+q = n$

(\*)  $\mathcal{L}_\xi g = \omega g \Rightarrow \partial_i \xi_j + \partial_j \xi_i = \omega \eta_{ij}$ ,  $\xi_i = \eta_{ij} \xi^j$

Solving ①: (i)  $\rightarrow$  contract with  $\eta^{ij}$   $\partial_i \xi^i = \frac{n}{2} \omega$  ②  
 i.e.  $\text{div } \xi = \frac{n}{2} \omega$

①  $\rightarrow \partial_j (\partial_i \xi^i) + \Delta \xi_i = \partial_i \omega \Rightarrow \Delta \xi_i = (1 - \frac{n}{2}) \partial_i \omega$  ③

③  $\rightarrow$  apply  $\partial_i$  and symmetrize  $i \leftrightarrow j$ , use ①  $\frac{1}{2} \eta_{ij} \Delta \omega = (1 - \frac{n}{2}) \partial_i \partial_j \omega$  ④

③  $\rightarrow \Delta (\frac{n}{2} \omega) = (1 - \frac{n}{2}) \Delta \omega \Rightarrow (n-1) \Delta \omega = 0$  ⑤

④, ⑤  $\rightarrow$  for  $n \neq 1, 2$   $\partial_i \partial_j \omega = 0$  ⑥  $\rightarrow \omega$  at most linear in coord.

deriving ①  $\rightarrow \begin{cases} \partial_i \partial_j \xi_k + \partial_i \partial_k \xi_j = \partial_i \omega \eta_{jk} & i \leftrightarrow j \\ \partial_j \partial_i \xi_k + \partial_j \partial_k \xi_i = \partial_j \omega \eta_{ik} & j \leftrightarrow k \\ \partial_k \partial_i \xi_j + \partial_k \partial_j \xi_i = \partial_k \omega \eta_{ij} \end{cases}$

$2 \partial_i \partial_j \xi_k = \partial_i \omega \eta_{jk} + \partial_j \omega \eta_{ik} - \partial_k \omega \eta_{ij}$  ⑦

⑥, ⑦  $\rightarrow$  for  $n \neq 1, 2$   $\partial_i \partial_j \partial_k \xi_l = 0 \Rightarrow \xi$  at most quadratic in coord.

Ansatz:  $\xi_i(x) = a_i + b_{ij} x^j + c_{ijk} x^j x^k$   
 $\omega(x) = \mu + \nu_i x^i$

① - no restriction  
 $b_{ij} + b_{ji} = 2\mu \eta_{ij} \Rightarrow b_{ij} = \beta_{ij} + \mu \eta_{ij}$  (anti-sym in  $i \leftrightarrow j$ )  
 $c_{ijk} + c_{jik} = 2\nu_k \eta_{ij} \Rightarrow c_{ijk} = \nu_j \eta_{ik} + \nu_k \eta_{ij} - \nu_i \eta_{jk}$  ⑧

Thm (Liouville)

$$\text{conf}(\mathbb{R}^{p,q}) = \{ \text{translations} \} \oplus \{ \text{rotations} \} \oplus \{ \text{dilations} \} \oplus \{ \text{special conformal transformations} \}$$

$$\cong \mathbb{R}^n \oplus \text{so}(p,q) \oplus \mathbb{R} \oplus \mathbb{R}^n$$

1/21/2019  
1/23/2019  
2

	conf. v.f.	$\omega$	Conf. map	$\Omega$
translation	$\varepsilon^i(x) = a^i$	0	$x^i \mapsto x^i + a^i, \vec{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{p,q}$	1
rotation	$\varepsilon^i(x) = \beta^i_j x^j$ , with $\beta^i_j = -\beta^j_i$	0	$\vec{x}^i \mapsto O^i_j x^j, O^i_j \in \text{SO}(p,q)$	1
dilatation	$\varepsilon^i(x) = \mu x^i$	$2\mu$	$x^i \mapsto \lambda x^i, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+$	$\lambda^2$
SCT	$\varepsilon^i(x) = 2(\vec{x}, \vec{b})x^i - \ \vec{x}\ ^2 \vec{b}^i$	$4(\vec{b}, \vec{x})$	$x^i \mapsto \frac{x^i - 2(\vec{x}, \vec{b})x^i}{1 - 2(\vec{b}, \vec{x}) + \ \vec{b}\ ^2 \ \vec{x}\ ^2}, \vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^{p,q}$	$(1 - 2(\vec{b}, \vec{x}) + \ \vec{b}\ ^2 \ \vec{x}\ ^2)^{-2}$

Rem: finite SCT = (inversion)  $\circ$  (translation)  $\circ$  (inversion)  
by  $-\vec{b}$

$$\vec{x} \mapsto \vec{x}'$$

$$\frac{\|\vec{x}'\|^2}{\|\vec{x}\|^2} = \frac{\|\vec{x}\|^2}{\|\vec{x}\|^2} - \vec{b}$$

finite SCT is not everywhere defined as a map  $\mathbb{R}^{p,q} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{p,q}$   
can find a "conformal compactification"  $N^{p,q} \supset \mathbb{R}^{p,q}$  s.t. SCT are everywhere well-defined on  $N^{p,q}$   
compact

Thm for  $p+q > 2$ ,  $\text{conf}(\mathbb{R}^{p,q}) \cong \text{so}(p+1, q+1)$  as a Lie algebra

$\text{Conf}_0(\mathbb{R}^{p,q}) \cong \text{SO}_0(p+1, q+1)$  [or  $\text{SO}_0(p+1, q+1)/\mathbb{Z}_2$  if  $-1$  is a connected component of  $\mathbb{1}$ ]

proof: see M. Schottenloher "A mathematical introduction to CFT"

\* dimension counting

$$\text{conf}(\mathbb{R}^{p,q}) = \{ \text{translations} \} \oplus \{ \text{rotations} \} \oplus \{ \text{dilations} \} \oplus \{ \text{SCTs} \}$$

$$\dim: \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2} = n + \frac{n(n-1)}{2} + 1 + n$$

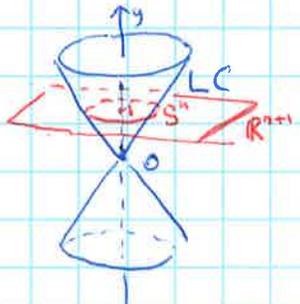
$$\dim \text{so}(p+1, q+1)$$

Action of  $\text{SO}(p+1, q+1)$  on  $\mathbb{R}^{p,q}$

Case of  $\mathbb{R}^n$   $\text{SO}(n+1, 1)$  acts on  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1, 1}$  by linear isometries and preserves the light cone  $LC = \{ (x^0)^2 + \dots + (x^n)^2 - y^2 = 0 \}$

$\text{SO}(n+1, 1) \curvearrowright LC \supset \mathbb{R}^* = \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$  - commuting actions  $\rightarrow \text{SO}(n+1, 1)$  acts on  $LC \setminus \mathbb{R}^*$   
dilations

$LC$  inherits a degenerate metric from  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1, 1}$ ; its kernel is killed by quotienting over  $\mathbb{R}^*$



$\rightarrow LC - \{0\} / \mathbb{R}^* \cong S^n$  inherits a conformal structure [and  $\text{SO}(p+1, 1)$  acts by conf. maps]

and  $S^n \setminus \{ \text{north pole} \} \xrightarrow{\text{stereographic proj}} \mathbb{R}^n$  So:  $S^n$  - conformal compactification of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  
c.v.f.s on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  extend to  $S^n$ .

finite conf. maps are everywhere defined on  $S^n$ .

General  $p, q: \mathbb{R}^{p+1, q+1} \supset LC = \{ (x_0^2 + \dots + x_p^2 - y^2 - \sum_{j=1}^q y_j^2 = 0 \} \supset \text{SO}(p+1, q+1)$

$\text{SO}(p+1, q+1) \curvearrowright LC - \{0\} \supset \mathbb{R}^*$  denote  $N^{p,q} = \text{im } \pi$ . - it has conf. str. inherited from  $\mathbb{R}^{p+1, q+1}$ ,  $\text{SO}(p+1, q+1)$  acts by conf. maps

$\mathbb{R}^{p,q} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{p,q}$  (injective, with image open-dense)

$$(x_1, \dots, x_p, y_1, \dots, y_q) \mapsto \left( \frac{1 - \sum_{i=1}^p (x_i)^2 + \sum_{j=1}^q (y_j)^2}{2}; x_1, \dots, x_p, \frac{1 + \sum_{i=1}^p (x_i)^2 - \sum_{j=1}^q (y_j)^2}{2}; y_1, \dots, y_q \right)$$

1/25/2019  
3

- $\mathbb{N}^{p,q}$  = conf. compactification
- $S^p \times S^q \xrightarrow{2:1} \mathbb{N}^{p,q}$  - double cover
- $S^p \times S^q / \{\pm 1\}$

Conformal vector symmetry of  $\mathbb{R}^2$

eg. for c.v.f.  $\xi = \xi_i(x,y) \partial_i$  :  $\partial_i \xi_j + \partial_j \xi_i = \omega \delta_{ij} \iff \begin{cases} \partial_x \xi_x = \partial_y \xi_y = \frac{1}{2} \omega \\ \partial_x \xi_y = -\partial_y \xi_x \end{cases} \iff \xi_x + i \xi_y \text{ satisfies Cauchy-Riemann eq.}$

$\iff \xi_i \partial_i$  is of the form  $\xi(z) \frac{\partial}{\partial z} + \bar{\xi}(\bar{z}) \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}}$ ,  $\omega = 2\xi + \bar{2}\bar{\xi}$

holom. v.f.      conjugate anti-hol. v.f.

notations:  $z = x+iy, \bar{z} = x-iy$   
 $\partial = \partial_z = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x - i\partial_y), \bar{\partial} = \partial_{\bar{z}} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_x + i\partial_y)$

So:  $\text{conf}(\mathbb{R}^2) \cong \begin{cases} \text{holom. v.f.} \\ \text{on } \mathbb{C} \end{cases}$

$\xi_x \partial_x + \xi_y \partial_y \iff (\xi_x + i \xi_y) \partial_z$   
 $(\text{Re } \xi) \partial_x + (\text{Im } \xi) \partial_y \iff i \xi \partial_z$

Finite version: a diffeo  $\varphi: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}'$  is conformal if it is either holomorphic or anti-holomorphic

Indeed:  $\varphi^* g = \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial z} \frac{\partial \bar{\varphi}}{\partial \bar{z}} (dz)^2 + \underbrace{\left( \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial z} \frac{\partial \bar{\varphi}}{\partial \bar{z}} + \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial \bar{z}} \frac{\partial \bar{\varphi}}{\partial z} \right)}_{\omega} dz d\bar{z} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial \bar{\varphi}}{\partial \bar{z}} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial z}}_{\omega} (d\bar{z})^2 = \Omega dz d\bar{z}$

and  $\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial z} = 0$  or  $\frac{\partial \bar{\varphi}}{\partial \bar{z}} = 0$  or  $\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial \bar{z}} = 0$  or  $\frac{\partial \bar{\varphi}}{\partial z} = 0$

$\rightarrow \frac{\partial \bar{\varphi}}{\partial \bar{z}} = 0, \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial z} \neq 0$  either  $\bar{\partial} \varphi = 0$ , then  $\Omega = |\partial \varphi|^2$   
 or  $\partial \varphi = 0$ , then  $\Omega = |\bar{\partial} \varphi|^2$        $\square$

$\text{conf}(\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{real parts of merom. v.f. fields} \\ \text{on } \mathbb{C} \text{ with pole at } 0 \text{ allowed} \end{array} \right\}$

Introduce  $\mathfrak{d} := \left\{ \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n l_n \mid c_n \in \mathbb{C} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{merom. v.f. on } \mathbb{C} \\ \text{with pole at } 0 \text{ allowed} \end{array} \right\}$  - Witt algebra

$l_n = -z^{n+1} \frac{\partial}{\partial z}$

Generators  $l_n$  obey  $[l_m, l_n] = (m-n) l_{m+n}$

$\text{conf}(\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}) \hookrightarrow \mathfrak{d} \oplus \bar{\mathfrak{d}} \leftarrow l_n = -z^{n+1} \frac{\partial}{\partial z}, \bar{l}_n = -\bar{z}^{n+1} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}}$

$\parallel$   $\text{Span}_{\mathbb{R}} \{l_n, \bar{l}_n\}$   $\text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}} \{l_n\}$

$\text{Span}_{\mathbb{R}} \{l_n + \bar{l}_n, i(l_n - \bar{l}_n)\}_{n=-\infty}^{\infty}$

$\text{conf}(\mathbb{C}) = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{R}} \{l_n + \bar{l}_n, i(l_n - \bar{l}_n)\}_{n \geq -1}$

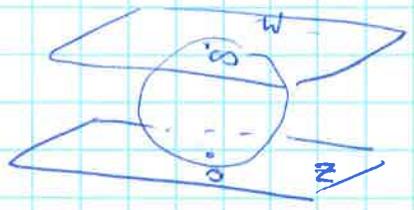
$\{\text{c.v.f. on } \mathbb{C} \text{ vanishing at } 0\} = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{R}} \{ \dots \}_{n \geq 0}$

1/23/2019  
4

$\text{Conf}(\mathbb{C}P^1) = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{R}} \{ \ell_n, \bar{\ell}_n, i(\ell_n - \bar{\ell}_n) \}_{n \in \{-1, 0, 1\}} \cong \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}) \cong \mathfrak{so}(3, 1)$

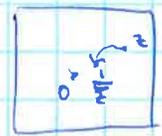
$\text{Conf}(\mathbb{C} \setminus \{\infty\}) = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{R}} \{ -z^{n+1} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \}_{n \leq 1} \cong \mathbb{C}$

conf. v. fields extending to  $\{\infty\}$   
 $-z^{n+1} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \xrightarrow{w=z^{-1}} = w^{-n+1} \frac{\partial}{\partial w}$   
 - coord. at  $\{\infty\}$



So e.g.  $-z^3 \frac{\partial}{\partial z} = w^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial w}$   
 - singular at  $\infty$

Inversion II:  $z \mapsto \frac{1}{z}$  maps  $\ell_n \mapsto -\bar{\ell}_n$



1/28/2019  
1

$-i(\ell_{-1} + \bar{\ell}_{-1}) = \partial_x$   
 $-i(\ell_{-1} - \bar{\ell}_{-1}) = \partial_y$  } translations

$-(\ell_0 + \bar{\ell}_0) = x \partial_x + y \partial_y$  dilatation  
 $-i(\ell_0 - \bar{\ell}_0) = -y \partial_x + x \partial_y$  rotation

$-(\ell_1 + \bar{\ell}_1) = (x^2 - y^2) \partial_x + 2xy \partial_y$   
 $-i(\ell_1 - \bar{\ell}_1) = -2xy \partial_x + (x^2 - y^2) \partial_y$  } special conformal transformations

$\text{Conf}_{\text{or}}(\mathbb{C}P^1) = \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C}) \cong \text{SO}_+(3, 1)$   
 or-preserving part Möbius transformations

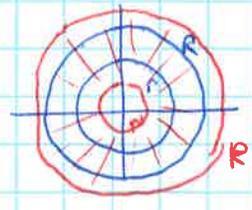
- $\text{Conf}(\mathbb{C})$  is  $\infty$ -dimensional, but global conformal automorphisms of  $\bar{\mathbb{C}}$  comprise only a finite-dim. group
- $\mathbb{C}$  does not have a conformal compactification (a compact mfd  $M \xrightarrow{\text{dense}} \mathbb{C}$  to which any c.v.f. on  $\mathbb{C}$  can be extended)

- naively,  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{\infty\}$ ,  $\mathbb{D} \setminus \{\infty\} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid 0 < |z| < 1\}$  and annulus  $\text{Ann}_r^R = \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid r < |z| < R\}$

have same  $\text{Conf}(-) \cong \mathfrak{d} = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}} \{ \ell_n \}_{n=-\infty}^{\infty}$

In fact,  $\text{Conf}(\text{Ann}_{r_1}^{R_1}) \subsetneq \text{Conf}(\text{Ann}_r^R)$   
 if  $\text{Ann}_{r_1}^{R_1} \not\cong \text{Ann}_r^R$

Subtlety: different convergence restrictions  
 on  $\{ \ell_n \}$  in  $E(z) \frac{\partial}{\partial z} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n \ell_n$



$c_n^p = O(n^{-p})$  for  $p \in \mathbb{R}$ , at  $n \rightarrow +\infty$   
 $c_n^p = O(\ln n^{-p})$  for  $p > r$  at  $n \rightarrow -\infty$

vector fields on  $S^1$  vs. Witt algebra  $v = f(\theta) \partial_\theta = \sum a_n e^{in\theta} \partial_\theta$ ,  $a_n = \bar{a}_{-n}$   
 - real vector field tangent to  $S^1$

$e^{in\theta} \partial_\theta = -i(\ell_n - \bar{\ell}_n)$  - tangent v.f. to  $S^1$   
 $e^{in\theta} \partial_r = -(\ell_n + \bar{\ell}_n)$  - normal v.f. to  $S^1$

$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n \ell_n \mapsto \text{Re} \sum c_n (\ell_n - \bar{\ell}_n)$   
 $\mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{T}(S^1, \mathcal{T}(S^1))$  - vector fields on  $S^1$   
 - tangent + normal  
 $\{ \sum c_n \ell_n \mid c_{-n} = \bar{c}_n \} \rightarrow$  tangent v. fields

Thus,  $\mathcal{A} = \underline{\text{complexification of } \mathfrak{X}(S^1) = \text{Lie Diff}(S^1)}$

1/25/2019  
5

1/28/2019  
2

•  $\text{Conf}(\mathbb{H}) = \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$



$$z \mapsto \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$$

$a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$

•  $\text{Conf}(D) = \text{PSU}(1,1)$



$$z \mapsto e^{i\varphi} \frac{z-a}{\bar{a}z-1}, \quad \varphi \in S^1, |a| < 1$$

conjugate in  $\text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C})$

← holds for closed and open disks

• which vector fields on  $S^1$  extend to c.v.f. on  $D$ ?

- only v.f.  $\left\{ \sum_{n=-1}^1 c_n \rho_n \right\} \cong \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{R})$

if we want v.f. to be tangent to  $S^1$

- co-dim algebra  $\left\{ \sum_{n=-1}^1 c_n \rho_n \right\}$

if we allow to move the boundary in normal directions

Recall: Riemann mapping theorem:

any two simply-connected domains  $D, D' \subset \mathbb{C}$  are conformally equivalent

\* Conformal symmetry of  $\mathbb{R}^1$  (trivial case)

$$\frac{\mathbb{R}^1}{g=(dx)^2}$$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{conf. diffeos} \\ \varphi: \mathbb{R}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1 \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{all diffeos} \\ \varphi: \mathbb{R}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1 \end{array} \right\}$

conf. factor  $\Omega = \left( \frac{d\varphi}{dx} \right)^2$

$\text{conf}(\mathbb{R}^1) = \mathfrak{X}(\mathbb{R}^1)$  v.f.  $\varepsilon(x)\partial_x$  has conf. factor  $\omega = 2\partial_x \varepsilon(x)$

$\text{Conf}(S^1) = D; \mathfrak{X}(S^1) \supset \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \cong \text{SO}_+(2,1)$  - "restricted conformal group"  
 $\mathbb{R}^1$  Möbius trans of  $S^1$

$S^1$  is a conf. compactification for a subalgebra of  $\text{conf}(\mathbb{R}^1)$  - v.f. well-behaved at  $\infty$ .

\* Conf. symmetry of Minkowski plane  $\mathbb{R}^{1,1}$

$g=(dx)^2 - (dy)^2 = \eta_{ij} dx^i dx^j$   $\eta_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

switch to light-cone coordinates  $\begin{cases} x_+ = x+y \\ x_- = x-y \end{cases}$  (then:  $x = \frac{x_+ + x_-}{2}$ ,  $y = \frac{x_+ - x_-}{2}$ ,  $\partial_+ = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_+} = \frac{\partial_x + \partial_y}{2}$ ,  $\partial_- = \frac{\partial_x - \partial_y}{2}$ ,  $\partial_x = \partial_+ + \partial_-$ ,  $\partial_y = \partial_+ - \partial_-$ )

$g = dx_+ dx_-$   $\eta_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

equation  $\partial_i \varepsilon_j + \partial_j \varepsilon_i = \omega \eta_{ij}$  for c.v.f. becomes  $\varepsilon^i \partial_i = \varepsilon_+(x_+, x_-) \partial_+ + \varepsilon_-(x_+, x_-) \partial_-$  becomes:

$\partial_- \varepsilon_+ = 0$

$\partial_+ \varepsilon_- = 0$

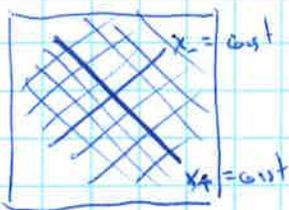
$\partial_+ \varepsilon_+ + \partial_- \varepsilon_- = \omega$

$\Rightarrow$  generic c.v.f. on  $\mathbb{R}^{1,1}$  is of form  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_+(x_+) \partial_+ + \varepsilon_-(x_-) \partial_-$ ,  $\omega = \partial_+ \varepsilon_+ + \partial_- \varepsilon_-$  - conf. factor

So:  $\text{conf}(\mathbb{R}^{1,1}) = \underbrace{\mathfrak{X}(\mathbb{R})}_{\varepsilon_+ \partial_+} \oplus \underbrace{\mathfrak{X}(\mathbb{R})}_{\varepsilon_- \partial_-}$

functions of  $x_+$  - "right-movers"  
 $x_-$  - "left-movers"

which convention?



Conformal maps  $\mathbb{R}^{1,1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{1,1}$ ;  $(x_+, x_-) \mapsto (\varphi_+, \varphi_-)$

1/28/2019  
1/28/2019  
3

- ①  $\varphi_+ = \varphi_+(x_+)$   
 $\varphi_- = \varphi_-(x_-)$  i.e.  $\varphi \in \text{Diff}(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{Diff}(\mathbb{R})$  - reparametrization of  $x_+$  and  $x_-$  independently  $\leftarrow \Omega = \varphi_+ \varphi_- \varphi_+$
- ②  $\varphi_+ = \varphi_+(x_-)$   
 $\varphi_- = \varphi_-(x_+)$  i.e.  $\varphi = (\text{reparam of } x_+, x_-) \circ (\text{reflection } (x, y) \rightarrow (x, -y))$   $\leftarrow \Omega = \varphi_+ \varphi_- \varphi_+$

So:  $\text{Conf}_0(\mathbb{R}^{1,1}) = \text{Diff}_+(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{Diff}_+(\mathbb{R})$  (the whole  $\text{Conf}(\mathbb{R}^{1,1})$  has 8 connected components)

$\overline{\mathbb{R}^{1,1}} = S^1 \times S^1$  - compactification for a subgroup of  $\text{Conf}(\mathbb{R}^{1,1})$

$\text{Conf}_0(\overline{\mathbb{R}^{1,1}}) = \text{Diff}_+(S^1) \times \text{Diff}_+(S^1) \supset \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) = \text{SO}(2, 2)$   
Möbius<sub>+</sub>      Möbius<sub>-</sub>      "restricted conformal group"

def A (pseudo-) Riemannian mfd  $(M, g)$  is conformally flat if one can choose coord. charts on  $M$  s.t.

in each chart  $g = \Omega(x) \eta_{ij} dx^i dx^j$  with  $\eta_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \dots & & \\ & & -1 & \\ & & & \dots & -1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\Omega(x) > 0$

<being conformally flat is a local property>

- for  $\dim M = 1, 2$  all mfd's are conformally flat (for  $\dim M = 1$  in fact globally flat)
- for  $\dim M \geq 3$ ,  $(M, g)$  is conformally flat iff certain tensor (Weyl curvature (0,4)-tensor for  $D \geq 4$ , Cotton (0,3)-tensor for  $D=3$ ) vanishes

def Moduli space of conformal structures on  $M$ :  $\mathcal{M}_M = \{ \text{conf. structures on } M \} / \text{Diff}(M)$

Action of  $\text{Diff}(M)$  can be non-free; its stabilizer of  $(M, \xi)$  is  $\text{Conf}(M, \xi)$

↓ ~~conf~~

\* Case  $M = \Sigma$  a surface

$\Sigma_{g, n, m}$  - 2d smoothly oriented mfd  
↑ ↑ ↑  
gus # punctures # bdy circles  
 $\Sigma_{g, n} := \Sigma_{g, n, 0}$

$\left. \begin{matrix} (2,0)\text{-} \\ \text{conformal} \\ \text{structures} \\ \text{on } \Sigma_{g, n, m} \end{matrix} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{Complex} \\ \text{structures} \\ \text{on } \Sigma \end{matrix} \right\}$   
<compatible with orientation>

Recall: almost complex structure on  $M$  is  $J \in \Gamma(M, \text{End}(TM))$  s.t.  $J_x^2 = -1$  for all  $x \in M$ .

then  $T_{\mathbb{C}}M = T_{\mathbb{R}}^{1,0}M \oplus T_{\mathbb{R}}^{0,1}M$   
↑ ↑  
±i eigenspaces of  $J$

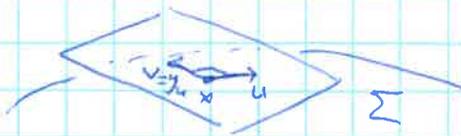
Complex structure = additional integrability condition, automatic for  $\dim M = 2$ .  
( $\bar{\partial}^2 = 0$ )

induces a splitting  $\Omega = \bigoplus_{p, q} \Omega^{p, q}$

$\bar{\partial}: \Omega^{p, q} \rightarrow \Omega^{p, q+1}$   
- component of  $d$

on  $\Sigma$ :  
 Conf. structure  $g = g/\sim \xrightarrow{(*)} \text{cc str. } \gamma: T_x \Sigma \rightarrow T_x \Sigma$

- $\vec{v}$  s.t.  $v$  is orthog to  $u$
- $\|v\| = \|u\|$  w.r.t.  $g$
- $(u, v)$  - positively oriented pair



given a cc str.  $\gamma \longrightarrow$  choose  $\sigma \in \Omega^2(\Sigma)$  vol. form,  
 set  $g_x(\vec{u}, \vec{v}) = \sigma_x(\vec{u}, \gamma \vec{v})$  then:

- conf. class  $g/\sim$  does not depend on  $\sigma$
- $g$  is symmetric and non-deg
- this construction inverts  $(*)$

Also, equivalences are the same:  $(diffeo(\Sigma, \Sigma') \xrightarrow{\varphi} (\Sigma', g')) \iff (\Sigma, g) \xrightarrow{\varphi} (\Sigma', g')$   
 is a conf. equiv.  $\iff$  is a biholom. map



Goursat

Deformations of an (almost) complex structure on  $M$

$\bar{\partial} \mapsto \bar{\partial} + \mu$  with  $\mu \in \Omega^{0,1}(M, T^{1,0}M)$  - "Beltrami differential"

$d = \partial + \bar{\partial}$   
 $\Omega^{p,q} \xrightarrow{\partial} \Omega^{p,q+1}$   
 $\Omega^{p,q} \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} \Omega^{p,q+1}$

(and  $\partial \mapsto \partial + \bar{\mu}$ ) acts as 1st order (corresponds to deforming  $\gamma_x \mapsto \gamma_x + (\mu_x + \bar{\mu}_x)$ )  
 so,  $\bar{\partial} = d\bar{z}^j (\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}^i} - \mu^i_{\bar{z}^j} \frac{\partial}{\partial z^i})$  locally

for  $\mu$  to define a deformation of (strict) cc structure,

we need  $\bar{\partial}^2 \mu = 0 \iff \bar{\partial} \mu - \frac{1}{2} [\mu, \mu]_{\text{KS}} = 0$  - "Kodaira-Spencer equation"

thus: deformations of a cc structure are governed by Maurer-Cartan elements of the dgl  $\Omega^{0,1}(M, T^{1,0}M), \bar{\partial}, [, ]$

In case  $M = \mathbb{C}P^1$  surface, KS equation  $(*)$  is satisfied trivially (no  $(0,2)$ -form)

wedge product of forms  $\oplus$  Lie bracket of vector fields

$T_{\mathbb{C}P^1} \cong \Omega^{0,1}(\mathbb{C}P^1, T^{1,0}\mathbb{C}P^1)$  - tangent to the moduli space = {Beltrami differentials},  $T_{\mathbb{C}P^1} \cong H^0(\mathbb{C}P^1, T^{1,0}\mathbb{C}P^1)$   
 $T_{\mathbb{C}P^1} \cong T(\mathbb{C}P^1, (T^{1,0})^*) \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$  - cotangent space = holom. quadratic differentials  
 $T^* \mathbb{C}P^1 = \{ \text{holom. quadratic differentials } f(z) dz^2 \}$

Cross-ratio

In  $\mathbb{R}^D$  (or  $\mathbb{R}^{p,q}$ ): considers functions on  $C_n(\mathbb{R}^D) = \{(\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n) \in \mathbb{R}^D \mid \vec{x}_i \neq \vec{x}_j\}$  invariant under  $Conf(\mathbb{R}^D)$   
 Invariants under translations = functions of  $\vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_j$   
 Invariants under translations + rotations = functions of distances  $\|\vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_j\|$   
 translations + rotations + dilations = functions of ratios of distances  $\frac{\|\vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_j\|}{\|\vec{x}_k - \vec{x}_l\|}$   
 translations + rotations + dilations + SCTs = functions of cross-ratios  $[\vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_2, \vec{x}_3, \vec{x}_4] = \frac{\|\vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_3\| \cdot \|\vec{x}_2 - \vec{x}_4\|}{\|\vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_4\| \cdot \|\vec{x}_2 - \vec{x}_3\|}$

open conf space

Given 4 points  $z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4$  on  $\mathbb{C}P^1$ , one can form the

cross-ratio:  $[z_1, z_2; z_3, z_4] := \frac{(z_1 - z_3)(z_2 - z_4)}{(z_1 - z_4)(z_2 - z_3)} = \frac{z_1 - z_3}{z_1 - z_4} \cdot \frac{z_2 - z_4}{z_2 - z_3}$

it is invariant under  $PSL_2(\mathbb{C})$ , thus defines a function on  $C_4(\mathbb{C}P^1)/PSL_2(\mathbb{C})$

Exercise!

$PSL_2(\mathbb{C})$  acts on  $\mathbb{C}P^1$

8-transitively\* (translations = 1-transitive, transl+rotation+dil = 2-transitive)

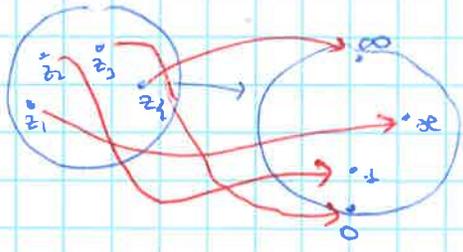
where  $C_n(M) = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in M^n \mid x_i \neq x_j\}$  - open configuration space of  $n$  points

thus one can map  $\{z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4\} \rightarrow \{0, 1, \infty, \lambda\}$

Mobius transf.

Then  $[z_1, z_2; z_3, z_4] = \frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda}$

or  $\rightarrow \{2, 1, 0, \infty\} \rightarrow [\dots] = \lambda$



$S_4$  acts on the cross-ratios by permuting the 4 points:

$\lambda \sim \frac{1}{\lambda} \sim 1-\lambda \sim \frac{\lambda}{\lambda-1} \sim \frac{1}{1-\lambda} \sim \frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda}$

order 2                      order 3

(without boundary)

$1 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow S_4 \rightarrow S_3 \rightarrow 1$

Symmetries of the cross-ratio  
 $[z_2, z_3; z_4, z_1] = [z_1, z_2; z_3, z_4]$   
 $[z_1, z_4; z_2, z_3]$   
 $[z_1, z_3; z_2, z_4]$

Or: every simply-connected Riem. surface  $\Sigma$  is conformal to either - open unit disk - complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  - Riem. sphere  $\mathbb{C}P^1$

Uniformization Theorem (Klein-Koebe - Poincaré)

- \*  $\text{class } \text{For}(\Sigma_{g,m,n}, \frac{\chi}{2})$
- (a) if  $\chi > 0$  (i.e.  $\Sigma = S^2$ ), there is a unique metric representative of  $\chi$  with  $R = +1$
- (b) if  $\chi = 0$ , there is a unique up to boundary flat ( $R=0$ ) metric
- (c) if  $\chi < 0$  unique complete hyperbolic metric

$\mathbb{C}P^1 \cong S^2$  \*\* a Riem. surface  $(\Sigma_{g,m,n}, \frac{\chi}{2})$  is conf. equivalent to one of the following:

(a)  $\mathbb{C}P^1$

(b)  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ , annulus  $\sim$  finite cylinder, infinite cylinder  $\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}$ , strip  $\{0 < \text{Im} z < 1\}/\mathbb{Z}$ , punctured disk  $\sim$  semi-infinite cylinder, torus  $\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}$

(c)  $\mathbb{H}^2/\Gamma$ , for some  $\Gamma \subset PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$  "Fuchsian group" a discrete subgroup,  $\Gamma \cong \Pi_1 \Sigma$   
 with standard conf structure

(c)  $\mathbb{H}^2$  with  $g = \frac{1}{y^2}(dx^2 + dy^2)$ ,  $R = -1$

(c)  $\mathbb{C}P^1$  with  $g = \frac{4dzd\bar{z}}{(1-z\bar{z})^2}$  - Fubini-Study metric  $R = +1$

(b) admits flat metric s.t. - geodesic does not run into puncture in a finite time - boundaries are geodesics

or  $\mathbb{D}$  with  $g = \frac{4dzd\bar{z}}{(1-z\bar{z})^2}$

$\mathcal{M}_{g,n} = \{ \text{ex. str. on } \Sigma_{g,n} \} / \text{Diff}_+(\Sigma_{g,n})$

point wires are not allowed to move

$\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$  - with ordered punctures

Idea: do this quotient in steps:  $\text{MCG}(\Sigma_{g,n}) \rightarrow \text{Diff}_+(\Sigma_{g,n})$

$\text{Diff}_+(\Sigma_{g,n}) \{ \text{ex. str. on } \Sigma_{g,n} \}$

mapping class group

$\text{Diff}_+(\Sigma_{g,n}) \rightarrow \text{Diff}_+(\Sigma_{g,n})$

conn. comp. of 1

$\text{MCG}(\Sigma_{g,n}) \cong \pi_0 \text{Diff}_+$

- mapping class gp.

$\text{MCG}(\Sigma_{g,n}) \{ \text{ex. str. on } \Sigma_{g,n} \} / \text{Diff}_+ = \mathcal{T}_{g,n}$  "Teichmüller space"

$\cong \mathbb{R}^{6g-6+2n}$

= equiv. classes of orb. structures on  $\Sigma_{g,n}$  endowed with a "marking"  
(- a diffeo  $\Sigma_{g,n}^{\text{stand}} \xrightarrow{\phi} \Sigma_{g,n}$  up to homology)

↑ here = not permuting the punctures  
 $S_n$   $G$



Ex:  $\mathcal{M}_{0,3}$  a pt



$S^2 \setminus n$  points with orb. structure  $\rightarrow$  uniformization of  $S^2$

$(\mathbb{C}P^1 \setminus \{z_1, \dots, z_n\}) / \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C})$

a point in  $\mathcal{M}_{0,n}$

For  $n \leq 3$ ,  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{0,3} = \text{pt}$  since we can move the points into  $0, 1, \infty$   
(in fact, similarly for  $n \leq 3$ ,  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{0,3} = \text{pt}$ )

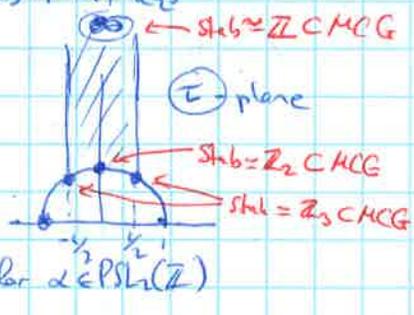
$\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{0,3} \cong \mathbb{C}P^1 \setminus \{0, 1, \infty\}$

coordinate = cross-ratio  $(z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4)$



DM compactification: gluing in points  $x=0, 1, \infty$  ~ "radial curves"

$\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{0,4} = \{ (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{C}P^1 \setminus \{0, 1, \infty\} \mid x_1 \neq x_2 \}$   
two cross-ratios



Also:  $\mathcal{M}_{1,1} \cong \mathcal{M}_{1,0}$  has conf. automorphisms (preserving the puncture)  
↑ has conf. automorphisms  
↑ has no conf. auto (preserving the puncture)

$\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{1,0} \cong \mathbb{H} / \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$   
 $\text{MCG} = \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$   
[torus  $\mathbb{C} / \mathbb{Z} \oplus \tau \mathbb{Z}$ ]  
 $\pi_1 \cong \mathbb{Z} \oplus \tau \mathbb{Z}$  for  $\alpha \in \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$

notation:  $\text{MCG}_{g,n} = \Gamma_{g,n}$  modular group

ref: Farb, Margalit "Primer on MCGs"

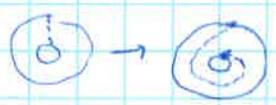
\* Mapping class group examples:  $\text{MCG}_{g,0} = \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$  (linear) - automorphisms of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  preserving the lattice  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  or  $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$   $\mathbb{Z} \oplus \tau \mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{C}$

$\text{MCG}_{0,n}$  = "spherical braid group on n strands" =  $\pi_1 C_n(S^2)$  (non-ordered)

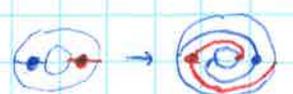
$\text{PMCG}_{0,n}$  = "pure" =  $\pi_1 C_n^{\text{open}}(S^2)$  (ordered) =  $\pi_1 C_n^{\text{ordered}}(S^2)$  (open config. space of n points)

$\text{MCG}(\text{torus}) = \mathbb{Z}$

generator: Dehn twist



generally,  $\text{MCG}_{g,n}$  is generated by Dehn twists around cycles and  $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -twists for pairs of punctures



# Symmetries in classical field theory

2/6/2019 2/4/2019

## Class. mechanics

$S: \text{Maps}([t_0, t_1], X) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
 "configuration space"

$[x(t)]_{t_0}^{t_1} \mapsto \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt L(x(t), \dot{x}(t))$  - action

$L \in C^\infty(TX)$   
 - Lagrangian

variation of  $S$ :

$$\delta S = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial x^i} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^i} \right) \delta x^i + \left. \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^i} \delta x^i \right|_{t_0}^{t_1}$$

Fréchet derivative

no (obvious) Noether, apparently!

Noether 1-form

$\alpha = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^i} dx^i \in \Omega^1(TX)$

classical trajectories  $[x(t)]_{t_0}^{t_1}$

= extremals of  $S$  with fixed b.c.  $\delta x^i|_{t_0, t_1} = 0$

= solutions of Euler-Lagrange eq.

$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x^i} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^i} = 0$

Ex:  $X = \mathbb{R}^n$  a particle of mass  $m$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n = X$  in a potential  $U \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$L = \frac{m|\dot{x}|^2}{2} - U(x)$

E-L eq:  $m\ddot{x}^i + \partial_i U(x) = 0$

- Newton's eq. of motion in a force field  $F(x) = -\partial_i U(x)$

free particle on

$\alpha = m\dot{x}^i dx^i$

Ex:  $(X, g)$  - Riem. mfd

$L = \frac{m}{2} \langle v, v \rangle_g = \frac{m}{2} g_{ij} v^i v^j$

then, EL eq:

$\ddot{x}^i + \Gamma_{jk}^i(x) \dot{x}^j \dot{x}^k = 0$

- eq. of geodesic motion

← Exercise!

Christoffel symbol for  $g$

$\alpha = \langle m\dot{v}, dx \rangle_g$   
 - canonical 1-form on  $T^*X$

pulled back to  $TX$  by  $\mathcal{G}: TX \xrightarrow{\cong} T^*X$   
 $\mathcal{G}(p, dx)$

## Symmetries & conserved quantities (integrals of motion) - in class. med.

target symmetry (continuous)

- group action  $F: RG \times X$

$z \mapsto F_z \in D: \mathcal{P}(X)$

$F$  is a symmetry

$(F_z)_* : \text{Maps}([t_0, t_1], X) \rightarrow \text{Maps}([t_0, t_1], X)$   
 $[x(t)] \mapsto [F_z x(t)]$

$F$  is a symmetry if  $S$  is invariant under  $F_*$ .

infinitesimally:

$f = f^i(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \in \mathfrak{X}(X)$

- symmetry if  $\delta_f S = 0$

$$\delta_f S = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial x^i} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^i} \right) f^i(x(t)) + \left. \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^i} f^i \right|_{t_0}^{t_1} = 0 \text{ mod EL}$$

$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{t_0}^{t_1} S[F_z(x(t))] dt$

tangent lift of  $f$ ,  $\tilde{f} = f^i(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} + \dot{x}^j f^j(x) v^k \frac{\partial}{\partial v^k}$   
 Noether 1-form

Notation: change  $\sum, \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{1}$   
 parameter of the 1-parameter group of symmetries

Thus:  $f \in \mathfrak{X}(X)$  a symmetry  $\Rightarrow$

$I_f := \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^i} f^i = L_{\tilde{f}} \alpha \in C^\infty(TX)$

is an integral of motion

i.e.  $\frac{d}{dt} I_f(x(t), \dot{x}(t)) = 0$  if  $[x(t)]$  is a class trajectory.

Ex: free particle in  $\mathbb{R}^D = X$

$L = \frac{m|\dot{v}|^2}{2}$

$F_{z, \vec{u}}: \vec{x} \mapsto \vec{x} + z\vec{u}$  - translation  
 $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^D$  fixed vector

$\rightarrow I_{\vec{u}} = m \langle \dot{v}, \vec{u} \rangle$  - integral of motion  $\forall \vec{u}$

$\rightarrow m\dot{v}$  - vector-valued integral of motion - momentum

Ex:  $n$  particles in  $\mathbb{R}^D$

$X = \mathbb{R}^D \times \dots \times \mathbb{R}^D$ ,  $L = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{m_i |\dot{x}_i|^2}{2} - \sum_{i < j} U(|\vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_j|)$

$F_{z, \vec{u}}: (\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n) \mapsto (\vec{x}_1 + z\vec{u}, \dots, \vec{x}_n + z\vec{u})$   
 - simultaneous translation

$\rightarrow I_{\vec{u}} = \left\langle \sum m_i \dot{x}_i, \vec{u} \right\rangle$  - total momentum

Source symmetry

$R_z: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  - family of diffeos  
 $[t_0, t_1] \mapsto [R_z(t_0), R_z(t_1)]$

$(R_z^{-1})^*$ : Maps  $([t_0, t_1], X) \rightarrow \text{Maps}([R_z(t_0), R_z(t_1)], X)$   
 $[\text{sect}]_{t_0}^{t_1} \mapsto [\alpha'(t) = \alpha(t)]_{t_0' = R_z(t_0)}^{t_1' = R_z(t_1)}$

- right action of  $R$  on trajectories

$R$  is a symmetry if  $S$  is  $(R_z^{-1})^*$ -invariant

Infinitesimally  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=R_z^{-1}(t)}$   
 $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Big|_{z=0} R_z \in \mathfrak{X}(\mathbb{R})$

$t \mapsto t' = t + r(t)$

$-r^* \cdot \text{sect} \mapsto \alpha'(t) = \alpha(t - r(t)) = \alpha(t) - r(t) \dot{\alpha}(t)$  (\*)

$0 = \delta_r S = \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{x=R_z^{-1}(t)} S[x(R_z^{-1}(t))]_{R_z(t_0)}^{R_z(t_1)}$   
 $= \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt \cdot r \cdot \dot{x}^i \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial z^i} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{z}^i} \right) - \left[ r \left( \dot{x}^i \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{z}^i} - L \right) \right]_{t_0}^{t_1}$  (E)

$\ominus - \left[ r H(x, \dot{x}) \right]_{t_0}^{t_1}$  with  $H = \dot{x}^i \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{z}^i} - L \in C^\infty(TX)$  - Hamiltonian

\* since constant  $r$  is a symmetry,  $H$  is an int. of motion.

\*  $H=0 \Leftrightarrow$  any  $r$  is a symmetry  $\Leftrightarrow$  theory is diff-invariant.   
 <topological mechanics>

Ex:  $X = \mathbb{R}^D$

$L = \frac{m}{2} |\dot{v}|^2 - U(x) \rightarrow H = \frac{m}{2} v^2 + U(x)$

Ex ("relativistic particle")  $X, g$  - (pseudo) Riemannian

$L = m \sqrt{(\dot{v}, \dot{v})_g} \rightarrow \int m \sqrt{\left( \frac{dx}{dt}, \frac{dx}{dt} \right)_g} dt$  - diff-invariant  $\rightarrow H=0$

\* One can consider mixed source-target symmetries  $(F_z)_{\#} (R_z^{-1})^*$ :  $\text{Maps}([t_0, t_1], X) \rightarrow \text{Maps}([R_z(t_0), R_z(t_1)], X)$

infinitesimally:  $\alpha'(t) = \alpha'(t) - r(t) \dot{\alpha}(t) + \beta^i(\alpha(t)) \cdot \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial z^i}$

$\mathcal{I}_{r, \beta} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{z}^i} \beta^i - H_r$  - conserved int. of motion

Ex:  $X = \mathbb{R}^D, L = \frac{m}{2} |\dot{v}|^2$

$R_z: t \mapsto e^z t$   
 $F_z: \vec{x} \mapsto e^{\alpha z} \vec{x}$

Exercise: find  $\mathcal{I}_{r, \beta}$

\* In Hamiltonian mechanics:

$(\Phi, \omega)$  - symplectic mfd (phase space),  $H \in C^\infty(\Phi)$  - Hamiltonian  $\rightarrow H = \{H, \cdot\} \in \mathfrak{X}(\Phi)$  - Hamilton v.f. (s.t.  $L_H \omega = -dH$ )

time-evolution = flow of  $H$   
 $\xrightarrow{\text{time } t}$   $\xrightarrow{\text{time } t}$

for  $\{Y^a\}$  coord. functions on  $\Phi$ ,  $\{H, Y^a\}$  Hamilton's eq. of motion

phase-space symmetry: a 1-param. family of symplectomorphisms  $\Phi_t: \Phi \rightarrow \Phi$  commuting with Flow( $H$ )

assume:  $\frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{z=0} \Phi = \{\psi, \cdot\}$ . Then symmetry condition:  $[\dot{\psi}, H] = 0 \Leftrightarrow \{\psi, H\} = \text{Const}$

assume  $\text{Const} = 0$ . Then  $\psi$  is an integral of motion;  $\frac{d}{dt} \psi(Y^a) = \{H, \psi\} = 0$

if  $\{H, \psi\} = 0$ , then  $\psi - Ct$  is an int. of motion

Ex: particle in a linear magnetic field potential (= constant vector field)  $H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \mu x \rightarrow \dot{\psi} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x}, \psi = p$   $(p + \mu t)$  = int. of motion

Classical (Lagrangian) Field theory (possibly also higher derivatives)

$S[\varphi] = \int_M \frac{d\text{vol}_g}{\sqrt{|g|} d^n x} \mathcal{L}(\varphi, d\varphi)$

↑  
"field" on  $(M, g)$   
metric

↑  
"covariance": For a diffeo  $m: M \rightarrow M'$ , we have a map  $(m^*)^*: \text{Fields}_M \rightarrow \text{Fields}_{M'}$  and  $S_{M, g}(\varphi) = S_{M', (m^*)^*g}((m^*)^*\varphi)$

↑  
 $\varphi \in \text{Fields}_M = \Gamma(M, \text{Fields})$   
sheaf of fields

For simplicity:  
Fields = Maps  $(M, X) = \mathbb{R}^N$

Structure:  
 $SS = \int_M \dots \int_{EL} S\varphi + \int_{\partial M} \alpha$

Variation:  $\delta S = \int_M \sqrt{|g|} d^n x \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \varphi^a} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{|g|}} \partial_\mu \left( \sqrt{|g|} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \varphi^a)} \right) \right) \delta \varphi^a + \int_{\partial M} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \varphi^a)} \iota_{\partial_\mu} (\sqrt{|g|} d^n x) \delta \varphi^a(x)$

↑  
 $\nabla_\mu \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \varphi^a)} = \text{div} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \varphi^a)} \right)$   
- covariant divergence

↑  
 $\alpha \in \Omega^1_{loc}(\text{Fields}, \Omega^{n-1}(M))$

EL equation:  $\left( \frac{\delta S}{\delta \varphi^a} \right) = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \varphi^a} - \nabla_\mu \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \varphi^a)} = 0$

↑  
 $\frac{d}{ds} \Big|_{s=0} S[\varphi + s \delta \varphi] = 0$   
completely supported fluctuation

↑  
PDE determining class dynamics

↑  
notation  $\vec{P}_a = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \varphi^a)} \partial_\mu$

↑  
flux of the v. field  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \varphi^a)} \delta \varphi^a \partial_\mu$  through  $\partial M$

$\mathbb{E}_x$ : free (massive) scalar field  
Fields $_M = C^\infty(M)$   
 $S_{M, g}[\varphi] = \int_M \sqrt{|g|} d^n x \left( \frac{1}{2} \langle d\varphi, d\varphi \rangle_{g_1} + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2 \right) = \int_M \frac{1}{2} d\varphi_1 * d\varphi + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi_1 * \varphi$

EL eq:  $\Delta \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{|g|}} \partial_\mu \sqrt{|g|} \partial^\mu \varphi - m^2 \varphi \right) = 0$  "Klein-Gordon eq." (for  $M = \mathbb{R}^{3,1}$ )  
 $\Delta = *d*d$

$SS = \int_M \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{2} (d\varphi_1 * d\varphi - m^2 \varphi_1 * \varphi)$   
 $= \int_M (-1)^{n+1} \delta \varphi (d + d\varphi - m^2 \varphi) + \int_{\partial M} (-1)^{n+1} \delta \varphi * d\varphi$

\* non-free scalar field:  $S = \int_M \frac{1}{2} d\varphi_1 * d\varphi + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi_1 * \varphi + U(\varphi) \text{dvol}$   
EL eq:  $\Delta \varphi - U'(\varphi) = 0$  - non-linear PDE!  
↑  
- polynomial of deg  $\geq 3$

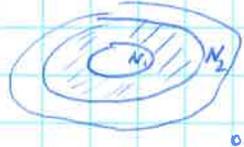
Symmetries:  
Assume we have a vector field  $V \in \mathcal{X}(\text{Fields}_M)$  such that  $\varphi^a(x) \mapsto \varphi^a(x) + V^a(\varphi^a, \partial_\mu \varphi^a(x))$   
↑  
infinitesimal symmetry  
↑  
inf. transformation

$L_V S$   
 $\delta_V S = \int_{\partial M} \Delta$  - boundary term  
or:  $L_V \mathcal{L}^{\text{dens}} = d\Lambda$   
field-dependent  $(n-1)$ -form on  $M$

then  $\mathcal{J} = L_V \alpha + (-1)^n \Lambda \in \Omega^0_{loc}(\text{Fields}, \Omega^{n-1}(M))$   
- Noether current associated to the symmetry

Noether theorem:  $d\mathcal{J} \sim 0 \text{ mod. EL equation.}$

Thus, for  $N_1, N_2$  two cobordant codim=1 submanifolds in  $M$ ,



we have  $\oint_{N_1} \mathcal{J} = \oint_{N_2} \mathcal{J}$  on a classical field configuration allowed

Proof:  $L_V S = \oint_M L_V S = L_V \int_M EL S \varphi + d\alpha = \int_M \pm EL L_V S \varphi + (-1)^n L_V d\alpha$   
 $= \int_M d\Lambda$   
- true for any NCM submanifold  $\Rightarrow d\Lambda \sim_{EL} -(-1)^n d L_V \alpha$   
 $\Rightarrow d(L_V \alpha + (-1)^n \Lambda) \sim 0$

$\oint \mathcal{J} \sim$  "Noether charge"

Ex:  $S = \int \frac{1}{2} d\varphi_1 * d\varphi$  symmetry:  $\varphi \rightarrow \varphi + \alpha$

Noether current:  $\mathcal{J} = L_v \alpha = \int_{\mathbb{S}^1} (-1)^{n+1} \delta \varphi * d\varphi = (-1)^{n+1} * d\varphi$  - closed form modulo EL.

note that for  $m \neq 0$ , EL is:  $\Delta \varphi = m^2 \varphi$  and is not covered!

for Mixed symmetry:

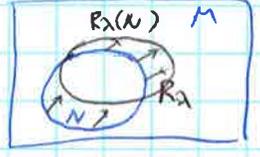
$x' = R_\lambda(x)$  or  $\varphi(x) \mapsto F_\lambda(\varphi(R_\lambda^{-1}(x)))$  infinitesimally:  $\varphi^a(x) \mapsto \varphi^a(x) + \lambda (f^a(\varphi(x)) - \rho^a(x) \partial_\mu \varphi^a(x))$

$V \in \mathcal{X}(\text{Fields})$

then symmetry condition:

for any  $N \subset M$  submanifold

$S_N[\varphi] = S_{R_\lambda(N)} [F_\lambda(\varphi \circ R_\lambda^{-1})]$



$\nabla_\mu J^\mu \sim 0$  mod EL

with  $J^\mu_{f,r} = \rho^\nu (L \delta \varphi^\nu - \frac{\partial L}{\partial \partial_\mu \varphi^a} \partial_\nu \varphi^a) + \frac{\partial L}{\partial \partial_\mu \varphi^a} f^a$

Noether current:

from  $\frac{d}{dt} \int_{M \times \mathbb{R}^0} \dots = \int_{M \times \mathbb{R}^0} EL \dots + \int_{\partial M} L_v \alpha + \int_{\partial M} L \frac{\partial L}{\partial \partial_\mu \varphi^a} (\nabla_\mu d^i x)$  from shift of integration domain

vector field  $J^\mu \partial_\mu \iff (n-1)$ -form  $\mathcal{J} = L_{\nabla_\mu \partial_\mu} (\sqrt{g} d^n x)$

conservation:

$\nabla_\mu J^\mu = 0$  mod EL  $\iff d\mathcal{J} = 0$  mod EL  
or  $\text{div}_{\sqrt{g} d^n x} \mathcal{J} = 0$

Noether charge:

flux of  $\mathcal{J}$  through  $N \subset M \iff \oint_N \mathcal{J}$

Ex: for a field theory on (flat)  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , translation symmetry (on the source!)  $x^\mu \rightarrow x^\mu + a^\mu$

- symmetry due to covariance, since translations are isometries

$J^\mu_{x \rightarrow x+a} = -T^\mu_\nu a^\nu$

with  $T^\mu_\nu := \frac{\partial L}{\partial \partial_\mu \varphi^a} \partial_\nu \varphi^a - L \delta^\mu_\nu$

$\partial_\mu T^\mu_\nu = 0$  mod EL by Noether thm

- the "canonical" stress-energy tensor (or energy-momentum)

$P_\mu(x^0) = \int T^\mu_\nu(x)$   
 $x^0$ : fixed slice of  $\mathbb{R}^n$

conserved energy-momentum, i.e.  $\frac{d}{dx^0} P_\mu(x^0) \sim 0$  EL

$T^\mu_\nu \partial_\mu \otimes dx^\nu = \vec{p}_a \otimes d\varphi^a - L \cdot id \in \Gamma(M, E \otimes TM)$

Ex: for a scalar field,  $L = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \varphi \partial^\mu \varphi + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2 \rightarrow T^\mu_\nu = \partial^\mu \varphi \partial_\nu \varphi - \delta^\mu_\nu (\frac{1}{2} \partial_\alpha \varphi \partial^\alpha \varphi + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2)$

or:  $T := (d\varphi)^\# \otimes d\varphi - (\frac{1}{2} \langle d\varphi, d\varphi \rangle_g + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2) id$

check the conservation:  $\partial_\mu T^\mu_\nu = \Delta \varphi \partial_\nu \varphi + \partial^\mu \varphi \partial_\mu \partial_\nu \varphi - \partial_\nu \partial_\alpha \varphi \partial^\alpha \varphi - m^2 \varphi \partial_\nu \varphi = (\Delta \varphi - m^2 \varphi) \partial_\nu \varphi \sim 0$  EL

# Hilbert stress-energy tensor

2/6/2019

5

$$T^{\mu\nu} := -\frac{2}{\sqrt{g}} \frac{\delta S_g}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}}$$

or:  $\delta_g S = -\frac{1}{2} \int_M \sqrt{g} d^n x T^{\mu\nu} \delta g_{\mu\nu}$

variation w.r.t  
variation of metric

$$\Pi = T^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \partial_\nu \in \Omega_{loc}^0(\text{Fields}, \Gamma(M, \text{Sym}^2 TM))$$

it is symmetric,  $T^{\mu\nu} = T^{\nu\mu}$

conserved:  $\nabla_\mu T^{\mu\nu} \stackrel{EL}{\sim} 0$  ← Idea: let  $R_\lambda$  - family of diffeos of  $M$  (rel.  $\partial M$ )

$$S_{M,g}(\varphi) = S_{M,(R_\lambda^{-1})^*g}((R_\lambda^{-1})^*\varphi) \text{ by covariance}$$

→ apply  $\frac{d}{d\lambda}|_{\lambda=0}$  →  $0 = -\frac{1}{2} \int_M \sqrt{g} d^n x T^{\mu\nu} (\nabla_\mu \nu^\lambda + \nabla_\nu \mu^\lambda) + \underbrace{\left( \frac{\delta S}{\delta \varphi} \right)}_{\sim 0 \text{ mod EL}} \nu^\lambda$  (∞)

← cov. from variation of fields

→ Stokes'  $\nabla_\mu T^{\mu\nu} \stackrel{EL}{\sim} 0$

$T^{\mu\nu}$  does not necessarily coincide with  $T_{can}$  on flat spacetimes

by (28),  $\int_{S_r} T^{\mu\nu} \nu_\mu dx^\nu \sim \int \sqrt{g} d^n x T^{\mu\nu} \nabla_\mu \nu^\nu \approx \int \text{div } T$  if  $r$  is a source symmetry, then  $J = T^{\mu\nu} \nu_\mu dx^\nu$  is conserved.

Thus,  $T^{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu \in \Gamma(M, \text{End } TM)$  - tensor transforming source-symmetries  $r$  into conserved currents  $J = T^{\mu\nu} \nu_\mu dx^\nu$

Ex: for free massive scalar field:  $T^{\mu\nu}_{Hilb} = \partial^\mu \varphi \partial^\nu \varphi - (g^{-1})^{\mu\nu} \left( \frac{1}{2} \partial_\alpha \varphi \partial^\alpha \varphi + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2 \right) = T^{\mu\nu}_{canon}$  for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

## Classically conformally invariant field theories

Consider  $S_{M,g}$  invariant under Weyl transformations,  $S_{M,g}[\varphi] = S_{M,\Omega g}[\varphi] \quad \forall \Omega(x) > 0$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \delta_{g \rightarrow (1+\epsilon)g} S = -\frac{1}{2} \int \sqrt{g} d^n x T^{\mu\nu}(x) g_{\mu\nu}(x) \epsilon(x) \quad \forall \epsilon(x) \Rightarrow \boxed{\text{tr } T = T^\mu{}_\mu = T^{\mu\nu}(x) g_{\mu\nu}(x) = 0}$$

i.e. theory is conformally invariant  $\Leftrightarrow \boxed{\text{tr } T = 0}$

Weyl-invariance  $\Leftrightarrow \int_{S_r} T^{\mu\nu} \nu_\mu dx^\nu = 0$  for any  $r \in \text{conf}(M, g)$  → for any conf v.f.  $r^\mu = T^\mu{}_\nu r^\nu dx^\nu$  is a conserved current

$T^{\mu\nu}$  depends on the metric; Weyl transf. act by  $g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \Omega g_{\mu\nu}$   
 $T^{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \Omega^{-\frac{n}{2}} T^{\mu\nu}$   
 or  $T_\mu{}^\nu \rightarrow \Omega^{1-\frac{n}{2}} T_\mu{}^\nu$

In particular, for  $n=2$ ,  $T_{\mu\nu}$  is Weyl-invariant (CFT)

Ex ① scalar field  $S = \int \frac{1}{2} dx^\mu dx^\nu + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2 dvol$ ,  $T^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu \varphi \partial^\nu \varphi - (g^{-1})^{\mu\nu} \left( \frac{1}{2} \partial_\alpha \varphi \partial^\alpha \varphi + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2 \right)$   
 $\text{tr } T = \frac{2-n}{2} \partial_\mu \varphi \partial^\mu \varphi - n \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2$

So:  $\text{tr } T = 0$  iff  $n=2, m=0$  → only massless 2D scalar field is conformal

Explicitly:  $S_{\Omega g} = \int \Omega^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \frac{1}{2} dx^\mu dx^\nu + \Omega^{\frac{n}{2}} \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2 dvol = S_g$  iff  $(n=2), m=0$

② Electromagnetic field

$S[A] = \frac{1}{2} \int F \wedge *F$ ; EL:  $d^*F = 0$ ;  $T^{\mu\nu} = g_{\alpha\beta} F^{\alpha\mu} F^{\beta\nu} - \frac{1}{4} F_{\alpha\beta} F^{\alpha\beta} (g^{-1})^{\mu\nu}$   
 $\text{tr } T = \frac{4-n}{4} F_{\alpha\beta} F^{\alpha\beta} \rightarrow \text{tr } T = 0 \Leftrightarrow (n=4)$

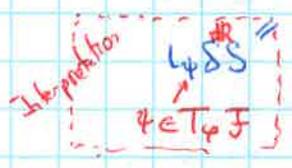
Explicitly:  $S_{\Omega g} = \frac{1}{2} \int \Omega^{\frac{n}{2}-2} F \wedge *F$

Classical (Lagrangian) field theory

action:  $S_{M,g}[\varphi] = \int_M d\text{vol}_g L(\varphi, \partial\varphi|g)$   
 Riemannian mfd (possibly with boundary) "field" on  $M$ ,  $\varphi \in \Gamma(M, \text{Fields}) = \mathcal{F}_M$

We assume "covariance":  
 For  $m: M \rightarrow M'$  diffeo,  
 $S_{M,g}[\varphi] = S_{M'(m^*)^*g}[(m^*)^*\varphi]$   
 transform both  $g$  and  $\varphi$  by  $m$   
 PDE on  $\varphi$  "equation of motion"

Euler-Lagrange equation:  $\langle \delta S \rangle$   
 $\frac{d}{d\lambda} S[\varphi + \lambda\psi] \Big|_{\lambda=0} = 0$  (\*)  
 variation of the field supported away from  $\partial M$



Ex: free (massive) scalar field  $S[\varphi] = \int_M \frac{1}{2} d\varphi \wedge *d\varphi + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2 d\text{vol}_g$   
 $\varphi \in C^\infty(M)$

$$\delta S = \int_M (-1)^{n+1} d\delta\varphi \wedge *d\varphi + (-1)^n m^2 \delta\varphi d\text{vol}_g = \int_M (-1)^{n+1} \delta\varphi (\Delta - m^2)\varphi + d((-1)^{n+1} \delta\varphi *d\varphi)$$

$d(\delta\varphi \wedge *d\varphi) + \delta\varphi d(*d\varphi)$

$\alpha \in \Omega^{n-1}(M, \Omega^1(\mathcal{F}))_{loc}$   
 density of the Noether 1-form  
 $\Omega_{loc}^{p,q}(M \times \mathcal{F}) \ni \omega$   
 $\omega_x$  depends on the jet of fields  $(\varphi, \partial\varphi, \partial^2\varphi, \dots)$  at  $x$

EL eq:  $(\Delta - m^2)\varphi = 0$  - linear PDE

non-free scalar field  $S[\varphi] = \int_M \frac{1}{2} d\varphi \wedge *d\varphi + U(\varphi) d\text{vol}_g$   
 polynomial in  $\varphi$ , of degree  $\geq 3$

EL eq:  $\Delta\varphi - U'(\varphi) = 0$  non-linear PDE

Yang-Mills theory field  $A \in$  - connection in a  $G$ -bundle  $P$  over  $M$

$$S[A] = \int_M \frac{1}{2} \langle F_A, *F_A \rangle_{\text{Killing}}, F_A = \text{curvature of } A \in \Omega^2(M, \text{ad}(P))$$

E-L eq:  $d_A *F_A = 0$  ← Yang-Mills equation  
 $\Omega^p(M, \text{ad}(P)) \rightarrow \Omega^{p+1}(M, \text{ad}(P))$

# Symmetries & Noether currents

2/11/2019  
2

assume we have an infinitesimal (local) symmetry

$$\varphi(x) \mapsto \varphi(x) + \delta V(\varphi(x), \partial\varphi(x)) \quad (**)$$

$$V \in \mathcal{X}(F)_{loc}$$

infinitesimal parameter

such that

$$L_V S_M^{(F)} = \int_{\mathcal{M}} \Lambda$$

in  $\Omega^{n-1}(M, \text{Fun}(F))_{loc}$

or:  $L_V \varphi_{class} = d\Lambda \quad (**)$

Note (\*\*\*) implies that ~~transformation~~ <sup>symmetry</sup> (\*) transforms a sol. of EL into a solution of EL.

Noether theorem: Let  $J := (-1)^{n+1} L_V \varphi - \Lambda$   
in  $\Omega^{n-1}(M, \text{Fun}(F))_{loc}$

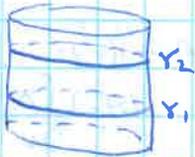
← Noether current associated to a <sup>sym.</sup> symmetry

then  $dJ \sim 0 \text{ mod EL}$

Proof:  $L_V S_N = L_V \int_N S = \int_N (S \circ \mathcal{L} + d\Lambda) = \int_N \pm (L_V S) \cdot EL + (-1)^n L_V d\varphi \sim \int_N (-1)^{n+1} dL_V \varphi$   
 any  $N \subset M$  submersed sub-fld  $\xrightarrow{(\text{iii})}$   $\int_N d\Lambda$  thus  $\int_N d(\Lambda + (-1)^n L_V \varphi) \sim 0 \text{ mod EL}$   $\square$

If we have a symmetry  $V$  and the associated Noether current  $J$ ,

then for  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2$  two cobordant codim=1 submanifolds in  $M$ , we have



$$\int_{\gamma_1} J \sim \int_{\gamma_2} J \text{ mod EL}$$

↑ conserved Noether charge

Example: free massless <sup>scalar field</sup> boson  $S[\varphi] = \int_M \frac{1}{2} d\varphi \wedge *d\varphi$

symmetry:  $\varphi \mapsto \varphi + \lambda$  (constant shift of the value of the field) - preserves  $S$  (and EL) (thus  $\Lambda=0$ )

Noether current:  $J = (-1)^{n+1} \left[ \frac{\partial S}{\partial \varphi} \right] \varphi = *d\varphi$

check:  $d(*d\varphi) \sim 0 \text{ mod EL}$  since EL reads  $\Delta\varphi=0$ .

note:  $*d\varphi$  is not conserved (closed mod EL)  $\Rightarrow$  for a massive scalar field.

Example: massive <sup>scalar field</sup> boson on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $S[\varphi] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{1}{2} d\varphi \wedge *d\varphi + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2 d\text{vol}_g$

symmetry: space-translation  $R_{\vec{a}}: \vec{x} \mapsto \vec{x} + \vec{a} = \vec{x}'$  i.e.  $\varphi(\vec{x}) \mapsto \varphi'(\vec{x}') = \varphi(\vec{x})$   
 fixed vector or  $\varphi'(\vec{x}) = \varphi(\vec{x} - \vec{a})$

$S_N[\varphi] = S_{R_{\vec{a}}N}[(R_{\vec{a}})^* \varphi]$  ← action is conserved but on a shifted domain



$\Rightarrow$  we get a non-trivial  $\Lambda$  in (\*\*\*)!  $\leftarrow$  conserved current:  $J_{\vec{a}} = *d\varphi \langle \vec{a}, d\varphi \rangle - \frac{1}{2} L_{\vec{a}} \left( \frac{1}{2} d\varphi \wedge *d\varphi + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2 d\text{vol}_g \right)$

Exercise: obtz this, write  $T_{can}$ , check conservation mod EL

- a contraction of  $\vec{a}$  with  $T_{can} \in \Omega_M^{n-1} \otimes \Omega_M^1 \leftarrow$  "canonical" stress-energy tensor

Rem: Noether current as a vector field  
 $\vec{j} = g^{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu}$   
 $\in \mathcal{X}(M)$

as an (n-1)-form  
 $\int_{\partial M} j \in \Omega^{n-1}(M)$

(congruent) stress-energy tensor - can be understood as

local  $\begin{cases} T_{con} \in \Omega^{n-1} \otimes \Omega^1 \\ T_{con}^\circ \in \Gamma(M, \text{End } TM) \end{cases}$

$T_{con}^\circ$   $\rightarrow$  raising/lowering indices using the metric

conservation:  $\text{div } \vec{j} = \nabla_\mu j^\mu \stackrel{EL}{=} 0$

Noether charge: Flux of  $\vec{j}$  through  $\Sigma \subset M$   
 $\int_\Sigma j$

(Hilbert) stress-energy tensor:

variation w.r.t. variation of the metric

$T = T^{\mu\nu}(x) \partial_\mu \otimes \partial_\nu$  with  $T^{\mu\nu}(x) := -\frac{2}{\text{vol}_g} \frac{\delta S}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}(x)}$   $\Leftrightarrow \delta_g S = -\frac{1}{2} \int \text{vol}_g \langle T, \delta g \rangle$   
 $\in \Gamma(M, \text{Sym}^2 TM)$

\* T is conserved  $\begin{cases} \nabla_\mu T^{\mu\nu} \stackrel{EL}{=} 0 \\ \text{or } (\text{div} \circ \text{id}) T \sim 0 \end{cases}$

IDEA:  $R_\lambda$  - family of diffeos of M (rel.  $\partial M$ )  
 "Flow" vector field

$\frac{d}{d\lambda} \Big|_{\lambda=0} S_{M,g}[\varphi] = \int_{\partial M} (R_\lambda^{-1})^* g [(R_\lambda^{-1})^* \varphi]$   
 (invariance)

$\rightarrow 0 = -\frac{1}{2} \int_M \text{vol}_g T^{\mu\nu} (\nabla_\mu r_\nu + \nabla_\nu r_\mu) + \left( \int_{\partial M} \text{flux } S \right)$   
 (\*) From change of the metric  $\xrightarrow{\text{using Stokes' rel.}} \nabla_\mu T^{\mu\nu} \stackrel{EL}{=} 0$   
 $\frac{d}{d\lambda} S_{R_\lambda(\omega), g} [(R_\lambda^{-1})^* \varphi] \sim$  surface term

\* If  $\vec{r} \in \mathcal{X}(M)$  is a source-symmetry,  
 (i.e.  $\frac{d}{d\lambda} S_{R_\lambda(\omega), g} [(R_\lambda^{-1})^* \varphi] = S_{\omega, g}[\varphi]$ )  $\rightarrow$  then  $\vec{j}_r = \int T^{\mu\nu} r_\nu \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu}$  is conserved:  $\text{div } \vec{j}_r \stackrel{EL}{=} 0$

IDEA: by (\*),  $0 = \int_M \text{vol}_g \left[ \nabla_\mu (T^{\mu\nu} r_\nu) - \underbrace{(\nabla_\mu T^{\mu\nu}) r_\nu}_{\stackrel{EL}{=} 0} \right]$  for  $r$  source-symmetry

Thus  $T^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \otimes dx^\nu \in \Gamma(M, \text{End } TM)$   
 is a tensor transforming source-symmetries into conserved currents  $\vec{j}_r = \langle T^\circ, r \rangle$

Ex:  $\vec{T}$  for a scalar field,

$T_{Hilb} = (d\varphi)^\# \otimes (d\varphi)^\# - g^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{2} \langle d\varphi, d\varphi \rangle_{g^{-1}} + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2 \right) = T_{con}^\circ$   
 $\in \Gamma(M, \text{Sym}^2 TM)$

Ex: Electromagnetic field (Yang-Mills with  $G=\mathbb{R}$ ):  $A \in \Omega^1(M)$

$S = \frac{1}{4} \int \text{vol}_g F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$   $\rightarrow T^{\mu\nu} = g_{\rho\sigma} F^{\mu\alpha} F^{\nu\beta} - \frac{1}{4} F_{\alpha\beta} F^{\alpha\beta} (g^{-1})^{\mu\nu}$   
 $(dA)_{\mu\nu}$

Ex: Chern-Simons:  $\dim M=3$

A-connection in a trivial  $G$ -bundle over  $M$   $S[A] = \int_M \text{tr} \left[ \frac{1}{2} A \wedge dA + \frac{1}{6} A \wedge [A, A] \right] \rightarrow T \equiv 0$

2/13/2019  
2

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1~~

### Classically conformally invariant field theories

Consider  $S_{M,g}$  invariant under Weyl transformations:  $S_{M,g}[\varphi] = S_{M,\Omega g}[\varphi], \forall \Omega(x) > 0$

Then  $\delta = \frac{d}{d\lambda} \Big|_{\lambda=0} S_{M,g_{\lambda}}((1+\lambda)\omega)_{\varphi} = -\frac{1}{2} \int_M \text{dvol}_g \underbrace{T^{\mu\nu}}_{\text{tr } T = T^{\mu}_{\mu}(x)} g_{\mu\nu}(x) \omega(x) \quad \forall \omega(x) \Leftrightarrow \boxed{\text{tr } T = 0}$

So theory is conformally invariant iff  $\text{tr } T = 0$

Weyl invariance  $\Leftrightarrow$  by covariance  $\int_r^{(g \text{ fixed})} S_N = 0 \Rightarrow$  for any conf. v.p.,  $\vec{J}_r = \langle T, r \rangle$  is a conserved current  $\forall r \in \text{conf}(M,g)$

$T^{\mu\nu}$  depends on the metric  $g \rightarrow \Omega g$   
 $T^{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \Omega^{-1-\frac{n}{2}} T^{\mu\nu}$   
 $T_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \Omega^{-\frac{n}{2}} T_{\mu\nu}$   $\rightarrow$  so, for  $n=2$ ,  $T_{\mu\nu}$  is Weyl-invariant CFT

Ex: scalar field  $S = \int \frac{1}{2} d\varphi \wedge *d\varphi + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2 \text{dvol}_g \quad T^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu \varphi \partial^\nu \varphi - (g^{-1})^{\mu\nu} (\frac{1}{2} \partial_\rho \varphi \partial^\rho \varphi + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2)$   
 $\text{tr } T = \frac{2-n}{2} \partial^\mu \varphi \partial_\mu \varphi - n \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2$   
So  $\text{tr } T = 0$  iff  $n=2$  and  $m=0 \rightarrow$  only massless 2D scalar is conformal

Another way to see this:  $S_{M,\Omega g}[\varphi] = \int \frac{1}{2} \Omega^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \frac{1}{2} d\varphi \wedge *d\varphi + \Omega^{\frac{n}{2}} \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2 \text{dvol}_g = S_{M,g}[\varphi]$  iff  $n=2$  and  $m=0$

### Ex electromagnetic field

$S[A] = \frac{1}{2} \int_{dA} F \wedge *F \quad \text{tr } T = \frac{4-n}{4} F_{\alpha\beta} F^{\alpha\beta} \rightarrow \text{tr } T = 0$  iff  $n=4$

Alternatively:  $S_{\Omega g}[A] = \frac{1}{2} \int \Omega^{\frac{n}{2}-2} F \wedge *F = S_g[A]$  iff  $\frac{n}{2} - 2 = 0$

### Class. CFT on $\mathbb{R}^2 \simeq \mathbb{C}$

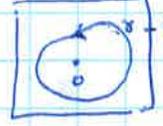
Symmetry +  $\text{tr } T = 0 \Rightarrow T_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} T_{11} & T_{12} \\ T_{12} & -T_{11} \end{pmatrix}$

Conservation:  $\partial^\mu T_{\mu\nu} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \partial_1 T_{12} = \partial_2 T_{11}$

$\Rightarrow T_{..} = T_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = T_{11} (dx^2 - dy^2) + T_{12} 2dx dy = \frac{T_{11} - iT_{12}}{2} (dz)^2 + \frac{T_{11} + iT_{12}}{2} (d\bar{z})^2 = \boxed{T_{zz} (dz)^2 + T_{\bar{z}\bar{z}} (d\bar{z})^2}$   
Weyl-invariant  $\uparrow$   $\frac{1}{2} (dx^2 + dy^2) \quad \frac{1}{2i} (dx^2 - dy^2)$   $\frac{T_{zz}}{2} \quad \frac{T_{\bar{z}\bar{z}}}{2}$   $\rightarrow$  no mixed  $dz d\bar{z}$  term! (due to  $\text{tr } T = 0$ )

conservation (\*):  $\partial_{\bar{z}} T_{zz} \stackrel{EL}{\sim} 0$  (so,  $T_{zz} (dz)^2$  - holom. quadratic differential)  $\partial_z T_{\bar{z}\bar{z}} \stackrel{EL}{\sim} 0$  Standard notation:  $T_{z\bar{z}} = :T:$ ,  $\partial_z = \partial$ ,  $T_{\bar{z}z} = :\bar{T}:$ ,  $\partial_{\bar{z}} = \bar{\partial}$  So:  $\bar{\partial} T \sim 0$ ,  $\partial \bar{T} \sim 0$

for  $\bar{E} = E\partial + \bar{E}\bar{\partial}$  a conf. v.p., the assoc. Noether charge current:  $\vec{J}_z = \frac{1}{2} T_{..} = \boxed{E T dz + \bar{E} \bar{T} d\bar{z}}$  - closed 1-form (for  $E$  holom.)

Noether charge: assoc. to conf. sym. on  $\mathbb{C}$  (not)   $C_{\bar{z}} = \oint_{\gamma} \vec{J}_z$  on a sol. of EL,  $C_{\bar{z}}$  does not depend on  $\delta$  by Cauchy thm.

2/18/2019  
1

massless scalar field on  $\mathbb{C}$

$$S[\varphi] = \int g_{\alpha\beta} dx^\alpha dy^\beta \frac{1}{2} (\partial^\alpha \varphi)^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \varphi \partial_\nu \varphi = \int \frac{1}{2} d^2x d\bar{z} \partial \varphi \bar{\partial} \varphi$$

EL eq:  $\Delta \varphi = 0 \Leftrightarrow \partial \bar{\partial} \varphi = 0$  i.e.  $\varphi$  is harmonic  
switch to  $z, \bar{z}$  coordinates

• For a general metric  $g$  on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , EL eq.  $0 = \Delta \varphi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}} \partial_\mu \sqrt{g} (\partial^\mu \varphi) = \square_g \varphi$  is Weyl-invariant  
 $\sim \partial^2 \varphi + \dots \Omega^2 \varphi$

• stress-energy tensor:  $T = \partial \varphi \cdot \partial \varphi$   
 $\bar{T} = \bar{\partial} \varphi \cdot \bar{\partial} \varphi$

[Quantum free scalar field]

Harmonic oscillator

In Classical Mechanics (Hamiltonian formalism):

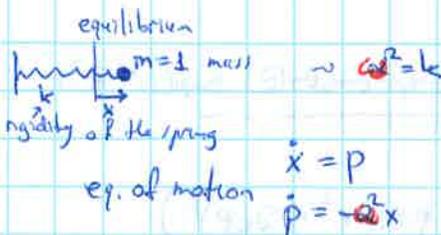
phase space  $\Phi = T^*\mathbb{R}$

$\omega = dp \wedge dx$

~~$\{p, x\} = 1$~~   
 $\{p, x\} = 1$

$H = \frac{p^2}{2} + \omega^2 \frac{x^2}{2}$

$\omega =$  "frequency"



Lagrangian formalism:  $S[x(t)] = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt \left( \frac{1}{2} \dot{x}^2 - \frac{\omega^2}{2} x^2 \right)$   
 EL eq:  $\ddot{x} + \omega^2 x = 0$

Canonical quantization:

$x \mapsto \hat{x}$   
 $p \mapsto \hat{p}$  } operators on  $\mathcal{H}$   
 satisfying  $[\hat{p}, \hat{x}] = -i\hbar$

$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2} + \frac{\omega^2}{2} \hat{x}^2$  - quantum Hamiltonian

Schrödinger representation  $\mathcal{H} = L^2(\mathbb{R})$

$\hat{x} \psi(x) \mapsto x \psi(x)$   
 $\hat{p} \psi(x) \mapsto -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \psi(x)$

Spectral problem  $\hat{H} \psi = E \psi$   
 $\left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\omega^2}{2} x^2 \right) \psi$

can be solved explicitly, with

$E_n = \hbar \omega \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$   
 $\psi_n = C_n e^{-\frac{\omega x^2}{2\hbar}} H_n \left( \sqrt{\frac{\omega}{\hbar}} x \right), n \geq 0$   
normalization constant  $\int \psi_n \psi_n = 1$   
Hermite polynomials  $H_n(x) = (-1)^n e^{x^2} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} e^{-x^2}$

Creation/annihilation operators

$\hat{a} = \sqrt{\frac{\omega}{2\hbar}} \left( \hat{x} + \frac{i}{\omega} \hat{p} \right)$   
 $\hat{a}^\dagger = \sqrt{\frac{\omega}{2\hbar}} \left( \hat{x} - \frac{i}{\omega} \hat{p} \right)$  }  $\Leftrightarrow$   $\hat{x} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2\omega}} (\hat{a}^\dagger + \hat{a})$   
 $\hat{p} = i \sqrt{\frac{\hbar\omega}{2}} (\hat{a}^\dagger - \hat{a})$  ,  $\hat{H} = \hbar\omega \left( \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \frac{1}{2} \right)$

then:  $[\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger] = 1$  ,  $[\hat{H}, \hat{a}] = -\hbar\omega \hat{a}$   
 $[\hat{H}, \hat{a}^\dagger] = \hbar\omega \hat{a}^\dagger$

$\Rightarrow$  if  $\hat{H} \psi = E \psi$ , then  $\hat{H}(\hat{a} \psi) = (E - \hbar\omega) \hat{a} \psi$   
 $\hat{H}(\hat{a}^\dagger \psi) = (E + \hbar\omega) \hat{a}^\dagger \psi$

Heis = Span  $\{ \hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger, \mathbb{1} \}$  - Heisenberg-Lie algebra  
central element

so  $\hat{a}^\dagger$  raises energy by  $\hbar\omega$   
 $\hat{a}$  lowers —

$(V, \omega)$  - symplectic v. space  $\rightarrow$  Heis  $(V, \omega) = V \oplus \mathbb{R} \cdot K$ ,  
 $[\hat{u}, \hat{v}] = K \omega(u, v)$   ~~$\hat{u}, \hat{v}$~~   
 $\uparrow \uparrow$   
 $u, v$  viewed as elements of Heis

note:  
 Heis  $(T^*\mathbb{R}) \cong \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$   
 stands sym plane  
 Lie algebra of  $3 \times 3$  upper-triangular matrices

$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \text{Heis} \rightarrow V \rightarrow 0$   
 as abelian Lie alg - SES of Lie alg.

Weyl  $(\mathbb{R}^n) := \mathbb{C}[\hat{x}^1, \dots, \hat{x}^n, \hat{p}_1, \dots, \hat{p}_n] / \left[ \begin{matrix} [\hat{x}^i, \hat{x}^j] = 0 \\ [\hat{p}_i, \hat{p}_j] = 0 \\ [\hat{x}^i, \hat{p}_j] = \delta_{ij} (-i\hbar) \end{matrix} \right]$  - poly. of diff op  
 $\cong \cup \text{Heis}(T^*\mathbb{R}^n) / \mathbb{C} \cdot \mathbb{1} \oplus \mathbb{C} \cdot \mathbb{1} = -i\hbar \mathbb{1}$

Hermitic polynomials

- $H_0(x) = 1$
- $H_1(x) = 2x$
- $H_2(x) = 4x^2 - 2$
- $H_3(x) = 8x^3 - 12x$
- $H_4(x) = 16x^4 - 48x^2 + 12$
- ...

$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx e^{-x^2} H_n(x) H_m(x) = \sqrt{\pi} 2^n n! \delta_{nm}$

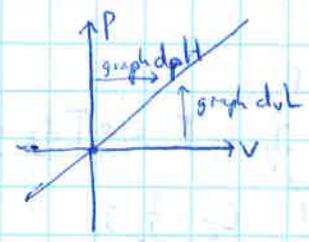
central extension of  $\mathfrak{g} \cong \mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{C}}^2(\mathfrak{g})$

$S = \int \sqrt{\det g} d^n x \left( \frac{1}{2} (g^{-1})^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \varphi \partial_\nu \varphi + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2 \right)$   
 $\delta_g S = \int \sqrt{\det g} d^n x \left\{ \underbrace{\delta_{g_{\mu\nu}} (g^{-1})^{\mu\nu} \partial_\alpha \varphi \partial_\beta \varphi + (g^{-1})^{\mu\nu} \left( \frac{1}{2} \delta_{g^{-1}}^{\mu\nu} \partial_\alpha \varphi \partial_\beta \varphi + \frac{m^2}{2} \varphi^2 \right)}_{T^{\mu\nu}} \right\}$   
 $\sqrt{\det g} = e^{\frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \log g}$   
 $\delta_g \sqrt{\det g} = \sqrt{\det g} \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} (g^{-1} \delta g)$   
 $\delta_g (g^{-1})^{\mu\nu} = -(g^{-1} \delta g g^{-1})^{\mu\nu}$

extremal of  $S[x(t)] = \int dL \iff$  Flow of  $\check{H}$  on  $T^*X$

$L \in C^\infty(TX) \xrightleftharpoons{\text{Legendre transform}} H \in C^\infty(T^*X)$

graph  $(\text{dvert } L)$   
 graph  $d_v L = \text{graph } d_p H \subset (T \oplus T^*)X$



Legendre transform is a fibrewise diffeomorphism (in good cases)  
 $TX \xrightarrow{L} T^*X$  - diffeo in good cases.  
 defined by  $L$  such that  
 $\mu(x, 0) = (x, d_v L|_{(x,0)})$   
 or:  $(x_i, v_i) \mapsto (x_i, p_i = \frac{\partial L}{\partial v_i})$

"vacuum state"  $|0\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$  s.t.  $\hat{a}|0\rangle = 0 \Rightarrow \hat{H}|0\rangle = \frac{\hbar\omega}{2}|0\rangle$

~~2/13/2019~~

excited states  $|n\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$  s.t.  $|n\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}} (\hat{a}^\dagger)^n |0\rangle \Rightarrow \hat{H}|n\rangle = (n + \frac{1}{2})\hbar\omega |n\rangle$

2/13/2019  
2

$\mathcal{H} = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}} \{|0\rangle, |1\rangle, |2\rangle, \dots\}$

Rem: we can calculate norms of states; e.g. normalized  $|0\rangle$  s.t.  $\| |0\rangle \|^2 = 1$   
 $= \langle 0|0\rangle$

then  $\langle 1|1\rangle = \langle \hat{a}^\dagger |0\rangle, \hat{a}^\dagger |0\rangle \rangle = \langle \hat{a} |0\rangle, |0\rangle \rangle = \langle 0| \hat{a} \hat{a}^\dagger |0\rangle = \langle 0| \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} |0\rangle + \langle 0|0\rangle = 1$   
 $\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + 1$  by  $[\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger] = 1$

In fact,  $\| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}} (\hat{a}^\dagger)^n |0\rangle \|^2 = n!$  ← Exercise!  
 $\Rightarrow$  basis  $\{|n\rangle\}$  is orthonormal in  $\mathcal{H}$

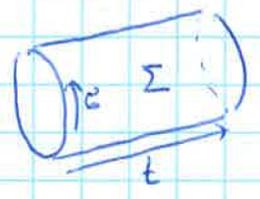
Evolution operator  $\hat{U}(t) = e^{-\frac{i\hat{H}t}{\hbar}} = \sum_{n \geq 0} c_n |n\rangle \langle n| \mapsto \sum_{n \geq 0} c_n e^{-i(n+\frac{1}{2})\omega t} |n\rangle \langle n|$

2/22/2019  
1

\* normal ordering: word in  $a, a^\dagger \mapsto$  reshuffled word, where all  $a$ 's are on the right  
 $\text{Heis}^{\otimes n} \mapsto \text{Heis}^{\otimes n}$  (does not descend to  $U(\text{Heis})$ )

In particular,  $:\hat{H}: = \frac{\hbar\omega}{2} \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}$  ( $n_0 + \frac{1}{2}$ )  
 so that  $:\hat{H}: |n\rangle = n\hbar\omega |n\rangle$ , in particular  $:\hat{H}: |0\rangle = 0$

Free boson on Minkowski cylinder



$\sigma \in \mathbb{R}/2\pi\mathbb{Z}$  "space coordinate"  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  "time"  $g_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

$S[\varphi] = \frac{\hbar c}{2} \int dt d\sigma (\dot{\varphi}^2 - (\partial_\sigma \varphi)^2)$  ← normalization, choose later constant  
 = class. mechanics with config. space  $X = C^\infty(S^1)$  and Lagrangian  $L = \frac{\hbar c}{2} \int d\sigma (\dot{\varphi}^2 - (\partial_\sigma \varphi)^2)$

- can expand  $\varphi$  in Fourier modes:

$\varphi(\sigma, t) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \varphi_n(t) e^{in\sigma}$  (with  $\varphi_n(t) = \overline{\varphi_{-n}(t)}$  - reality condition)

Then:  $L = \frac{\hbar c}{2} \int d\sigma \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} (\dot{\varphi}_n \dot{\varphi}_{-n} - n^2 \varphi_n \varphi_{-n})$

Hamiltonian for

# Hamiltonian formalism

phase space  $\Phi = T^*X$

2/12/2019 / 2  
2/18/2019 / 3

with coordinates  $\varphi(\sigma), \pi(\sigma)$ ;  $\{\varphi(\sigma), \pi(\sigma')\} = \delta_{\text{per}}(\sigma - \sigma')$   
"momentum"

Legendre transform:  $\pi(\sigma) = \frac{\delta L}{\delta \dot{\varphi}(\sigma)} = x \dot{\varphi}(\sigma)$

Hamiltonian:  $H = \int d\sigma \left( \frac{\pi(\sigma)^2}{2x} + \frac{x}{2} (\partial_\sigma \varphi)^2 \right)$

Ham. eq.:  $\dot{\varphi} = \frac{1}{x} \pi$   
 $\dot{\pi} = -x \partial_\sigma^2 \varphi$

Rem: in terms of  $T_{\mu\nu}$ :  $T_{00} = T_{11} = \frac{x}{2} (\dot{\varphi}^2 + (\partial_\sigma \varphi)^2)$   
 $T_{01} = T_{10} = x \dot{\varphi} \partial_\sigma \varphi$

$H = \int d\sigma T_{00}$  - total energy  
 $P = \int d\sigma T_{01}$  - total momentum

Fourier modes:  $\varphi(\sigma, t) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \varphi_n(t) e^{in\sigma}$

$\pi(\sigma, t) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \pi_n(t) e^{in\sigma} \frac{1}{2\pi i}$ ,  $\{\varphi_n, \pi_m\} = -\delta_{n, -m}$

reality:  $\varphi_{-n} = \bar{\varphi}_n, \pi_{-n} = \bar{\pi}_n$

$H = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2\pi x} \pi_n \pi_{-n} + \frac{1}{2} 2\pi x n^2 \varphi_n \varphi_{-n}$

$= (\pi_0)^2 + 2 \sum_{n > 0} \left( \frac{1}{2} \pi_n^2 + \frac{n^2}{2} |\varphi_n|^2 \right)$

choose  $x = \frac{1}{4\pi}$   
Ham. eq.:  $\begin{cases} \dot{\varphi}_n = \frac{1}{2\pi x} \pi_n \\ \dot{\pi}_n = -2\pi x n^2 \varphi_n \end{cases} (*)$

$(\varphi_0, \pi_0)$  - free particle ( $m = \frac{1}{2}$ )  
 $(\varphi_n, \pi_{-n}), n \neq 0$  - harmonic oscillator with  $\varphi_n = |n|$

\* Real oscillators: set  $\varphi_n = \varphi_n^{(1)} + i \varphi_n^{(2)}$   
 $\pi_n = \frac{1}{2} \pi_n^{(1)} + i \pi_n^{(2)}$  for  $n > 0$

$\{ \varphi_n^{(\omega)}, \pi_m^{(\omega')} \} = -\delta_{n, -m} \delta_{\omega, \omega'}$   
 $H = \pi_0^2 + \sum_{n > 0} \sum_{\omega=1,2} \left( \frac{(\pi_n^{(\omega)})^2}{2} + \frac{n^2}{2} (\varphi_n^{(\omega)})^2 \right)$   
 $= H_{\text{free particle } m=\frac{1}{2}} + \sum_{n > 0} \sum_{\omega=1,2} H_{\text{harmonic oscillator, } \omega=n}$

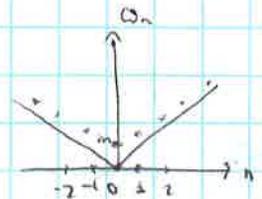
Also:  $P = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} i n \pi_{-n} \varphi_n$

Solution of (\*):  $\varphi(\sigma, t) = \sum_{n \neq 0} \underbrace{(A_n e^{in(t+\sigma)} + B_n e^{in(-t+\sigma)})}_{\varphi_n(t) e^{in\sigma}} + \underbrace{Ct + D}_{\varphi_0(t)}$ ,  $\pi(\sigma, t) = \dots$

\* massive scalar field:

$H = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \left( \pi_n \pi_{-n} + \frac{1}{4} \omega_n^2 \varphi_n \varphi_{-n} \right)$  ← collection of oscillators, for each  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\omega_n = \sqrt{n^2 + m^2}$

for  $m \rightarrow 0$ ,  $n \neq 0$  oscillator becomes a free particle.



# Canonical quantization

2/22/2019  
3

Promote  $\varphi_n, \pi_n$  to operators  $\hat{\varphi}_n, \hat{\pi}_n$  s.t.  $[\hat{\varphi}_n, \hat{\varphi}_m] = -i\delta_{n,-m}$  (we set  $\hbar=1$ )

introduce creation/annihilation operators  $a_n, \bar{a}_n, n \neq 0$ :

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \hat{\varphi}_n &= \frac{i}{n} (-\hat{a}_{-n} + \hat{a}_n) \\ \hat{\pi}_n &= \frac{\hat{a}_{-n} + \hat{a}_n}{2} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{with } \left. \begin{aligned} [\hat{a}_n, \hat{a}_m] &= n\delta_{n,-m} \\ [\hat{a}_n, \hat{a}_m] &= n\delta_{n,-m} \\ [\hat{a}_n, \hat{a}_m] &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} (*)$$

$$\hat{H} = \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{\hat{a}_{-n}\hat{a}_n + \hat{a}_n\hat{a}_{-n}}{2} + (\frac{\pi_0}{2})^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\hat{a}_n)^\dagger &= \hat{a}_{-n} \\ (\hat{\bar{a}}_n)^\dagger &= \hat{\bar{a}}_{-n} \end{aligned}$$

may define  $\hat{a}_0 = \hat{\bar{a}}_0 = \frac{\pi_0}{2}$   
 then  $\hat{H} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} (\hat{a}_{-n}\hat{a}_n + \hat{\bar{a}}_{-n}\hat{\bar{a}}_n)$ , total momentum operator  $\hat{P} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} (\hat{a}_{-n}\hat{a}_n - \hat{\bar{a}}_{-n}\hat{\bar{a}}_n)$

• Lie algebra  $\text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}}(\{\hat{a}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}, \mathbb{K})$  with comm. rel.  $[\hat{a}_n, \hat{a}_m] = n\delta_{n,-m}$   
 "Heisenberg algebra"  $[\hat{a}_n, \mathbb{K}] = 0$   
 = central extension of the abelian Lie alg. of formal Laurent series  $\{f(z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} f_n z^{-n}\}$   
 with  $[f, g] = \mathbb{K} \cdot \text{res}_{z=0}(f dg)$  (coeff. of  $z^{-1} dz$ )

we have

$[\hat{H}, \hat{a}_n] = -n\hat{a}_n$	$[\hat{P}, \hat{a}_n] = -n\hat{a}_n$	for $n > 0$ :	annihilation operator	creation operator
$[\hat{H}, \hat{\bar{a}}_n] = -n\hat{\bar{a}}_n$	$[\hat{P}, \hat{\bar{a}}_n] = +n\hat{\bar{a}}_n$		right mover	$\hat{a}_n$
		left mover	$\hat{\bar{a}}_n$	$\hat{a}_{-n}$

Space of states:  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_{\text{free particle}} \otimes \bigotimes_{n \neq 0} \mathcal{H}_{\text{Herm. osc.}}$  ( $\omega_n = |n|$ )

$$= \text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}} \left\{ \prod_{i=1}^s \hat{a}_{n_i} \prod_{j=1}^s \hat{\bar{a}}_{-\bar{n}_j} |\pi_0\rangle \mid \begin{aligned} &1 \leq n_1 \leq n_2 \leq \dots \leq n_s \\ &1 \leq \bar{n}_1 \leq \bar{n}_2 \leq \dots \leq \bar{n}_s \\ &\pi_0 \in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

← "(s)-particle state"

$$= \text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}} \left\{ \prod_{n \geq 1} (\hat{a}_{-n})^{k_n} (\hat{\bar{a}}_{-n})^{\bar{k}_n} |\pi_0\rangle \right\}$$

occupation numbers

• normally-ordered operators  $: \hat{H} :$ ,  $: \hat{P} :$  - put annihilation operators  $a_{>0}, \bar{a}_{>0}$  to the right, creation operators  $a_{<0}, \bar{a}_{<0}$  to the left.  
 $\dots : \mathbb{C} \text{ Free Assoc Alg}(\{\hat{a}_n, \hat{\bar{a}}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}})$   
 $0 \mapsto : 0 :$

We have:

$$: \hat{H} : |\pi_0, \{n_i\}, \{\bar{n}_j\}\rangle = \left( \pi_0^2 + \sum_i n_i + \sum_j \bar{n}_j \right) |\pi_0, \{n_i\}, \{\bar{n}_j\}\rangle$$

$$: \hat{P} : |\pi_0, \{n_i\}, \{\bar{n}_j\}\rangle = \left( \sum_i n_i - \sum_j \bar{n}_j \right) |\pi_0, \{n_i\}, \{\bar{n}_j\}\rangle$$

