

Intro to CFT for EE

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Outline

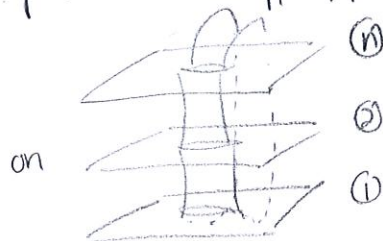
- Review + Motivation
- Conformal Group
- Operator Product Expansion
- Stress Tensor
- Primary Fields
- Conformal Ward Identity

Review + Motivation



$$P_A = \text{Tr}_B P, \quad S_A = -\text{Tr}_A P \ln P = -\lim_{n \rightarrow 1} \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \text{Tr}_A P^n$$

Schematically $\text{Tr}_A P^n = \int \mathcal{D}\phi e^{-S_E}$



$$\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{C}^{\otimes n} / \mathbb{Z}_n$$



w/ $\sigma \theta_i = \theta_{i+1}$

CFT allows you to calculate and obtain $S_A = \frac{c}{3} \ln\left(\frac{l}{a}\right)$

This is done by finding $\text{Tr}_A P^n \propto \langle \sigma_n(U), \bar{\sigma}_n(V) \rangle \propto \frac{1}{|U-V|^{2\Delta}}$

Using the transformation properties of the stress tensor and a conformal ward identity you can identify the scaling dimension.

Conformal Group

- Definition: A coordinate transformation $\xi \mapsto f(\xi)$ is conformal if $g_{\mu\nu} \mapsto \rho(\xi) g_{\mu\nu}$, the metric changes by a factor
- In 2D this condition \Rightarrow CRE $\Rightarrow f(\xi)$ is analytic
- The power of complex analysis gives 2D CFT its power
- $Z \mapsto Z + \epsilon(Z)$, $\epsilon(Z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \epsilon_n Z^{n+1}$
- infinitesimal generators $l_n = Z^{n+1} \frac{d}{dz}$, $e^{\epsilon_n l_n} Z = Z + \epsilon_n Z^{n+1}$
- satisfy $[l_n, l_m] = (n-m) l_{n+m}$
- translations, rotations, Möbius transformations are subgroups

O.P.E.

- A useful concept in QFT, especially CFT is the Operator Product Expansion:

$$A_i(z) A_j(0) = \sum_k C_{ij}^k(z) A_k(0)$$

- $C_{ij}^k(z)$ are complex valued functions
- $\{A_k\}$ is some complete set of functions
- True inside correlation functions; $\langle A_i A_j X_1 \dots X_N \rangle = \sum_k C_{ij}^k \langle A_k X_1 \dots X_N \rangle$
- Why is it so useful in CFT? - Audience answers

Stress Tensor in CFT

$$- \text{If } \xi^N \rightarrow \xi^N + \epsilon^N(\xi), \sum_{k=1}^N \langle A_1(\xi_1) \dots \delta_\epsilon A_k(\xi_k) \dots A_N(\xi_N) \rangle$$

$$= - \int d^2 \xi \partial^\mu \epsilon^\nu(\xi) \langle T_{\mu\nu}(\xi) A_1 \dots A_N \rangle, T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}} \frac{\delta S}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}}$$

- For a theory to be scale invariant we must have $T_N^N = 0$ in flat space.

- Generally consider, holomorphic $T(z)$ and anti-holomorphic $\bar{T}(\bar{z})$ parts of stress tensor. ← actually meromorphic

- Expand $T(z) = \sum \frac{L_n}{z^{n+2}}$, $L_n = \int \frac{dz}{2\pi i} z^{n+1} T(z)$

- coefficients $\{L_n\}$ form the Virasoro algebra

- OPE of stress tensor with itself:

$$T(z)T(w) = \frac{c/2}{(z-w)^4} + \frac{2}{(z-w)^2} T(w) + \frac{1}{z-w} \partial_w T(w) + L_{-2}T(w) + (z-w) + \dots$$

- Infinitesimal form $S_\epsilon T(w) = \int_w d^2z \epsilon(z) T(z) T(w)$
 $= [\epsilon(w)\partial_w + 2\partial_w]T(w) + \frac{c}{12} \partial_w^3 \epsilon(w)$

$\Rightarrow T(z) \rightarrow T(w) - \left(\frac{dz}{dw}\right)^2 T(z) + \frac{c}{12} \{z, w\} \leftarrow \text{Important}$

where $\{z, w\} = (z'z''' - \frac{3}{2}z''^2) / z'^2$

Primary Fields

- $\Phi(z, \bar{z})$ is called primary if $\Phi(w, \bar{w}) = \Phi(z, \bar{z}) \left(\frac{dz}{dw}\right)^h \left(\frac{d\bar{z}}{d\bar{w}}\right)^{\bar{h}}$

- where h, \bar{h} are the eigenvalues of L_0, \bar{L}_0

- $\Delta = h + \bar{h}$ is called "scaling dimension", $s = h - \bar{h}$ is called spin

- infinitesimal form is $S_\epsilon \Phi(z) = [h\partial\epsilon + \epsilon\partial]\Phi(z)$

- Conformal invariance fixes: $\langle \underline{\Phi}_1(z_1) \underline{\Phi}_2(z_2) \rangle = \frac{C_{12}}{|z_{12}|^{2\Delta}} \delta_{h_1, h_2}$

- Can argue on general grounds or by

using $\delta_\epsilon \langle \underline{\Phi}_1(z_1) \underline{\Phi}_2(z_2) \rangle = 0$ and solving the differential eq. setting $\epsilon = 1, z, z^2$

Conformal Ward Identity

$$- T(z) \underline{\Phi}(w) = \frac{h}{(z-w)^2} \underline{\Phi}(w) + \frac{1}{z-w} \partial_w \underline{\Phi}(w) + \underline{\Phi}^{-2}(w) + (z-w) \underline{\Phi}^{-3}(w) + \dots$$

- Fields $\underline{\Phi}^{-n}$ are called secondaries or descendants of $\underline{\Phi}(w)$

$$- \underline{\Phi}^{-n}(w) = L_{-n} \underline{\Phi}(w) = \oint \frac{dz}{2\pi i} (z-w)^{n+1} T(z) \underline{\Phi}(w)$$

- We see that $L_0 \underline{\Phi}(z) = h \underline{\Phi}(z)$, $L_{-1} \underline{\Phi}(z) = \partial_z \underline{\Phi}(z)$
 $L_n \underline{\Phi}(z) = 0$, $n > 0$.

- Primary fields are lowest weight states

- OPE can be used to evaluate $\langle T(z) \underline{\Phi}_1(w_1) \dots \underline{\Phi}_n(w_n) \rangle$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^n \left[\frac{h_j}{(z-w_j)^2} + \frac{1}{z-w_j} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_j} \right] \langle \underline{\Phi}_1(w_1) \dots \underline{\Phi}_n(w_n) \rangle$$

- called Conformal Ward Identity

- The End -