

Beem Lecture Problems

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PROBLEM I

Part (i)

We can produce a special conformal transformation by inverting, translating, and the inverting again:

$$x^\mu \rightarrow \frac{x^\mu}{x^2} \rightarrow \frac{x^\mu}{x^2} + b^\mu \rightarrow \left(\frac{x^\mu}{x^2} + b^\mu \right) \left[\left(\frac{x^\nu}{x^2} + b^\nu \right) \left(\frac{x^\rho}{x^2} + b^\rho \right) g_{\nu\rho} \right]^{-1} \quad (1)$$

$$= \frac{x^\mu + x^2 b^\mu}{x^2} \left[\frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{2b \cdot x}{x^2} + b^2 \right]^{-1} = \frac{x^\mu + x^2 b^\mu}{1 + 2b \cdot x + x^2 b^2} \quad (2)$$

Part (ii)

The magnitude of a vector x^μ is $\sqrt{x^\mu x_\mu}$, so we can calculate $|x'_1 - x'_2|$ as

$$|x'_1 - x'_2| = \sqrt{\frac{x_1^\mu + b^\mu x_1^2}{\gamma_{x_1}} \frac{x_{1\mu} + b_\mu x_1^2}{\gamma_{x_1}} + \frac{x_2^\mu + b^\mu x_2^2}{\gamma_{x_2}} \frac{x_{2\mu} + b_\mu x_2^2}{\gamma_{x_2}} - \frac{2(x_1^\mu + b^\mu x_1^2)(x_{2\mu} + b_\mu x_2^2)}{\gamma_{x_1} \gamma_{x_2}}} \quad (3)$$

where $\gamma_x = 1 + 2b \cdot x + b^2 x^2$. This simplifies to

$$\sqrt{\frac{x_1^2}{\gamma_{x_1}} + \frac{x_2^2}{\gamma_{x_2}} - \frac{2(x_1 \cdot x_2 + x_1^2(x_2 \cdot b) + x_2^2(x_1 \cdot b) + b^2 x_1^2 x_2^2)}{\gamma_{x_1} \gamma_{x_2}}} \quad (4)$$

After canceling terms in the numerator:

$$|x'_1 - x'_2| = \sqrt{\frac{x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 2(x_1 \cdot x_2)}{\gamma_{x_1} \gamma_{x_2}}} = \frac{\sqrt{(x_1 - x_2)^2}}{\gamma_{x_1}^{1/2} \gamma_{x_2}^{1/2}} = \frac{|x_1 - x_2|}{\gamma_{x_1}^{1/2} \gamma_{x_2}^{1/2}} \quad (5)$$

Part (iv)

By rotation and translation symmetry, we can fix the two point function to be

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{O}_2 \rangle = f(|x_{12}|) \quad (6)$$

Then, since consistency under finite conformal transformations requires that the 2-point function transforms as

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{O}_2 \rangle = \Omega_1^{\Delta_1} \Omega_2^{\Delta_2} \langle \mathcal{O}'_1 \mathcal{O}'_2 \rangle$$

we see that

$$f(|x_{12}|) = \Omega_1^{\Delta_1} \Omega_2^{\Delta_2} f(|x'_{12}|) \quad (7)$$

For the case $\Omega_i = \lambda$ (i.e. a rescaling), this implies

$$f(|x_{12}|) = \lambda^{\Delta_1 + \Delta_2} f(|\lambda x_{12}|) \quad (8)$$

We can easily see that

$$f(|x_{12}|) = \frac{C_{12}}{|x_{12}|^{\Delta_1 + \Delta_2}} \quad (9)$$

is consistent with this. If we instead take $\Omega_i = 1/\gamma_i$ (a special conformal transformation), we find

$$\frac{C_{12}}{|x_{12}|^{\Delta_1 + \Delta_2}} = \frac{f\left(\frac{|x_{12}|}{\gamma_1^{1/2} \gamma_2^{1/2}}\right)}{\gamma_1^{\Delta_1} \gamma_2^{\Delta_2}} = \frac{1}{\gamma_1^{\Delta_1} \gamma_2^{\Delta_2}} \frac{C_{12}}{|x_{12}|^{\Delta_1 + \Delta_2}} (\gamma_1 \gamma_2)^{\frac{\Delta_1 + \Delta_2}{2}} \quad (10)$$

For this equality to hold, we must have

$$\gamma_1^{\frac{\Delta_1 + \Delta_2}{2}} \gamma_2^{\frac{\Delta_1 + \Delta_2}{2}} = \gamma_1^{\Delta_1} \gamma_2^{\Delta_2} \quad (11)$$

which implies that $\Delta_1 = \Delta_2$. The 2-point function is then

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{O}_2 \rangle = \frac{C_{12} \delta_{\Delta_1, \Delta_2}}{|x_{12}|^{\Delta_1 + \Delta_2}} \quad (12)$$