

Operator Product Expansion of a Vertex Operator

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Consider:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle X^\alpha(z) X^\beta(w) \rangle &= -\eta^{\alpha\beta} \ln(z-w), \\ \langle \partial_z X^\alpha(z) X^\beta(w) \rangle &= -\eta^{\alpha\beta} \frac{1}{z-w}, \\ \langle \partial_z X^\alpha(z) \partial_w X^\beta(w) \rangle &= -\eta^{\alpha\beta} \frac{1}{(z-w)^2}.\end{aligned}$$

Then:

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_z X^\alpha(z) : e^{ik_\beta X^\beta(w)} : &= \partial_z X^\alpha(z) : 1 : + \partial_z X^\alpha(z) (ik_\beta) : X^\beta(w) : + \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \partial_z X^\alpha(z) (i^2 k_\beta k_\gamma) : X^\beta(w) X^\gamma(w) : + \dots = \\ &= \partial_z X^\alpha(z) : 1 : + ik_\beta \langle \partial_z X^\alpha(z) X^\beta(w) \rangle - \\ &- \frac{1}{2} k_\beta k_\gamma (\langle \partial_z X^\alpha(z) X^\beta(w) \rangle X^\gamma(w) + \langle \partial_z X^\alpha(z) X^\gamma(w) \rangle X^\beta(w)) + \dots = \\ &= \partial_z X^\alpha(z) + \frac{ik^\alpha}{z-w} - \frac{k^\alpha}{z-w} k \cdot X(w) + \dots = \\ &= \frac{ik^\alpha}{z-w} : \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} \frac{(ik \cdot X(w))^n}{n!} = \\ &= \frac{ik^\alpha}{z-w} : e^{ik \cdot X(w)} : .\end{aligned}$$

Therefore:

$$\partial_z X^\alpha(z) : e^{ik \cdot X(w)} : = \frac{ik^\alpha}{z-w} : e^{ik \cdot X(w)} : .$$