

2/2

Problem 1

$$1) H = \frac{\dot{x}^2}{2} + \frac{x^2}{2} = \frac{p^2}{2} + \frac{x^2}{2}$$

Define $a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(p - ix)$ and $a^+ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(p + ix)$

Then
$$H = a^+ a + \frac{1}{2}$$

Define the ground state $|0\rangle$ as $a|0\rangle = 0$ with energy $E_0 = \frac{1}{2}$

Then the Hilbert space is spanned by $|n\rangle = (a^+)^m |0\rangle$ with energy $E_n = n + \frac{1}{2}$. (This follows from the fact that

If $|\psi\rangle$ is an energy eigenstate, $H|\psi\rangle = E|\psi\rangle$, then we have $H a^+ |\psi\rangle = (E + 1) a^+ |\psi\rangle$)

$$\begin{aligned} 2) Z(\beta) &= \text{Tr}(e^{-\beta H}) = \sum_{m=0}^{+\infty} e^{-\beta(m + \frac{1}{2})} \\ &= e^{-\beta/2} \frac{1}{1 - e^{-\beta}} \\ &= \frac{1}{e^{\beta/2} - e^{-\beta/2}} \end{aligned}$$

So
$$Z(\beta) = \frac{1}{2 \sinh(\beta/2)}$$

$$3) \text{ We have } Z(\beta) = \int \mathcal{D}X(s) e^{-\beta ds (\frac{1}{2} \dot{x}^2 + \frac{1}{2} x^2)} \\ x(s) = X(s+\beta)$$

$$= \int \mathcal{D}X(s) e^{-\beta ds \left(\frac{1}{2} \times \left(-\frac{d^2}{ds^2} + 1 \right) x \right)}$$

Let $\psi_m(s)$ be the (orthonormal) eigenfunctions of $(-\frac{d^2}{ds^2} + 1)$:

$$\left(-\frac{d^2}{ds^2} + 1 \right) \psi_m(s) = \lambda_m \psi_m(s)$$

Now expand $X(s)$ in this eigenbasis: $X(s) = \sum_n a_n \psi_m(s)$
 and $\mathcal{D}X(s) = \prod_m \frac{da_m}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$ where $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$ is for normalization.

$$\text{Then } Z(\beta) = \int \prod_m \frac{da_m}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{m,m'} \int ds a_m^* \psi_m^*(s) \lambda_m a_m \psi_m(s)}$$

$$= \prod_m \frac{da_m}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \sum_m |a_m|^2 \lambda_m}$$

$$= \prod_m \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_m}}$$

Now, $\psi_m(s) = e^{i 2\pi m s / \beta}$ are the eigenstates of $(-\frac{d^2}{ds^2} + 1)$, with eigenvalues $\left(\frac{2\pi m}{\beta}\right)^2 + 1$.

$$\text{So, } Z(\beta) = \prod_{m=-\infty}^{+\infty} \left(\left(\frac{2\pi m}{\beta} \right)^2 + 1 \right)^{-1/2}$$

$$\text{So } Z(\beta) = \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} \left(\left(\frac{2\pi m}{\beta} \right)^2 + 1 \right)^{-1}, \text{ which needs regularization}$$

$$4) \text{ We use } \prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} \left(1 + \frac{x^2}{m^2}\right) = \frac{\sinh(\pi x)}{\pi x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } Z(\beta) &= \prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} \left(\left(\frac{(2\pi m)^2}{\beta} + 1 \right)^{-1} \right) = \left[\prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} \left(1 + \frac{(\beta/2\pi)^2}{m^2} \right) \right]^{-1} \left[\prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} \left(\frac{2\pi m}{\beta} \right)^{-2} \right] \\ &= \left(\frac{\sinh(\pi\beta/2\pi)}{\pi\beta/2\pi} \right)^{-1} \prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} \left(\frac{2\pi m}{\beta} \right)^{-2} \\ &= \frac{\beta}{2 \sinh(\beta/2)} \prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} \left(\frac{2\pi m}{\beta} \right)^{-2} \end{aligned}$$

But by ζ -function regularization, we have:

$$\prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} \left(\frac{2\pi}{\beta} \right)^{-2} = \left(\frac{2\pi}{\beta} \right)^{-2 \zeta(0)} = \left(\frac{2\pi}{\beta} \right)^{-2 \cdot (-1/2)} = \left(\frac{2\pi}{\beta} \right)$$

$$\text{And } \prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} m^{-2} = e^{-(-2)\zeta'(0)} = e^{+2 \cdot (-1/2) \ln(2\pi)} = \frac{1}{2\pi}$$

$$\text{So } Z(\beta) = \frac{\beta}{2 \sinh(\beta/2)} \left(\frac{2\pi}{\beta} \right) \left(\frac{1}{2\pi} \right) = \boxed{\frac{1}{2 \sinh(\beta/2)}}$$

This is the same as before!

$$2.1) \text{ Eqn of motion } \partial_t \frac{\partial L}{\partial (\partial_t X)} + \partial_\theta \frac{\partial L}{\partial (\partial_\theta X)} = 0$$

$$\therefore \partial_t^2 X - \partial_\theta^2 X = 0 \quad \dots (1)$$

Using "right cone" coord $\xi^\pm \equiv t \pm \theta$,

$$(1): \partial_t^2 X = 0 \Rightarrow X = X_L(\xi^+) + X_R(\xi^-) \quad \begin{matrix} \xi^+ \\ \text{left} \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \xi^- \\ \text{right now} \end{matrix}$$

In order to quantize the theory, it is better to think in Fourier expansion form. $X(t, \theta) = X_0(t) + \sum_{n \neq 0} X_n(t) e^{in\theta}$: mode expansion

(Since $X(t, \theta)$ is a real-valued, $(X_n(t))^* = X_{-n}(t)$)

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow S &= \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d\xi^+ d\xi^- \left((\partial_t X)^2 - (\partial_\theta X)^2 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d\xi^+ d\xi^- \left((X_0 + \sum_{n \neq 0} X_n e^{in\theta})^2 - \left(\sum_{n \neq 0} i n X_n(\xi^+) e^{in\theta} \right)^2 \right) \\ &= \int d\xi^+ \left\{ \frac{1}{2} (X_0)^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (|X_n|^2 - n^2 |X_n|^2) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow \{X_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ are harmonic oscillators w/ frequency n .

(Note that X_0 is real but $X_{n=1,2,\dots}$ are complex)

(So conjugate momenta are

$$P_0 = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{X}_0} = \dot{X}_0 ; \quad P_{n \neq 0} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{X}_n} = \dot{X}_n^*$$

\Rightarrow Commutator relation $[X_n, P_m] = i \delta_{mn}$

$$\underline{n=0}: [X_0, P_0] = i$$

real / imaginary part

$$\text{let } X_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(X_{1n} + iX_{2n}) \text{ for } n \neq 0.$$

$$\text{and define } a_{1n} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left(\frac{P_{1n}}{\sqrt{n}} - i\sqrt{n}X_{1n}\right), \quad a_{1n}^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left(\frac{P_{1n}}{\sqrt{n}} + i\sqrt{n}X_{1n}\right) \quad (i=1,2)$$

$$\Rightarrow [a_{1n}, a_{1n}^\dagger] = \delta_{ii}, \quad [a_{1n}, a_{1m}] = 0, \quad [a_{1n}^\dagger, a_{1m}^\dagger] = 0$$

$$\text{and then define, } a_n = \sqrt{\frac{n}{2}}(a_m + i a_m^\dagger), \quad a_n^\dagger = \sqrt{\frac{n}{2}}(a_m^\dagger - i a_m)$$

$$a_n^\dagger = \sqrt{\frac{n}{2}}(a_m - i a_m^\dagger), \quad a_n = a_n^\dagger = \sqrt{\frac{n}{2}}(a_m^\dagger + i a_m^\dagger)$$

$$\Rightarrow [a_n, a_{-n}] = [\tilde{a}_n, \tilde{a}_{-n}] = n, \quad n > 0$$

$$[a_n, \tilde{a}_m] = 0, \quad n, m \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$$

(usual expansion in string theory)

Together with $[X_0, P_0] = i$ gives us the full commutation relation

2.2 Theory is invariant under translation

\Rightarrow action is invariant under $\delta x = \alpha^M \partial_M x$: infinitesimal trans!

\Rightarrow conserved current: $T^M{}_N =$

$$\Rightarrow T^c_c = \frac{1}{2} \{(\partial_c x)^2 + (\partial_0 x)^2 \},$$

$$T^c_0 = \partial_c x \partial_0 x$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Hamiltonian } H = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta T^c_c = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \{(\partial_c x)^2 + (\partial_0 x)^2 \} d\theta$$

$$\text{Momentum: } P = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta T^c_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \partial_c x \partial_0 x d\theta$$

So far, this is a classical Hamilton / momentum

Using our quantized theory,

$$4) \text{ We use } \prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} \left(1 + \frac{x^2}{m^2}\right) = \frac{\sinh(\pi x)}{\pi x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } Z(\beta) &= \prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} \left(\left(\frac{(2\pi m)^2}{\beta} + 1 \right)^{-1} \right) = \left[\prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} \left(1 + \frac{(\beta/2\pi)^2}{m^2} \right) \right]^{-1} \left[\prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} \left(\frac{2\pi m}{\beta} \right)^{-2} \right] \\ &= \left(\frac{\sinh(\pi\beta/2\pi)}{\pi\beta/2\pi} \right)^{-1} \prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} \left(\frac{2\pi m}{\beta} \right)^{-2} \\ &= \frac{\beta}{2 \sinh(\beta/2)} \prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} \left(\frac{2\pi m}{\beta} \right)^{-2} \end{aligned}$$

But by ζ -function regularization, we have:

$$\prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} \left(\frac{2\pi}{\beta} \right)^{-2} = \left(\frac{2\pi}{\beta} \right)^{-2 \zeta(0)} = \left(\frac{2\pi}{\beta} \right)^{-2 \cdot (-1/2)} = \left(\frac{2\pi}{\beta} \right)$$

$$\text{And } \prod_{m=1}^{+\infty} m^{-2} = e^{-(-2)\zeta'(0)} = e^{+2 \cdot (-1/2) \ln(2\pi)} = \frac{1}{2\pi}$$

$$\text{So } Z(\beta) = \frac{\beta}{2 \sinh(\beta/2)} \left(\frac{2\pi}{\beta} \right) \left(\frac{1}{2\pi} \right) = \boxed{\frac{1}{2 \sinh(\beta/2)}}$$

This is the same as before!

$$\hat{H} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int d\theta (\partial_\theta \hat{x})^2 + (\partial_\theta \hat{x})^2 = \int d\theta \left((\dot{x}_0 + \sum_{n \neq 0} x_n e^{in\theta})^2 + \left(\sum_{n \neq 0} i n x_n e^{in\theta} \right)^2 \right) \frac{1}{4\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \hat{p}_0^2 + \sum_{n \neq 1}^\infty (|\dot{x}_n|^2 + n^2 x_n^2)$$

change variables

$$x_n \rightarrow \alpha_n, \bar{\alpha}_n \quad \hat{\theta} = \frac{1}{2} \hat{p}_0^2 + \sum_{n=1}^\infty (\alpha_n \bar{\alpha}_n + \bar{\alpha}_n \alpha_n + n)$$

$$\text{by } x_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}in} (\bar{\alpha}_n - \alpha_n)$$

$$\dot{x}_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}in} (\dot{\bar{\alpha}}_n + \dot{\alpha}_n) \quad = \frac{1}{2} \hat{p}_0^2 + \sum_{n=1}^\infty \hat{\alpha}_n \bar{\alpha}_n + \sum_{n=1}^\infty \hat{\alpha}_n \bar{\alpha}_n + \sum_{n=1}^\infty n \quad \text{(-1)}$$

zofaktur regularization

$$= \frac{1}{2} \hat{p}_0^2 + \sum_{n=1}^\infty \hat{\alpha}_n \bar{\alpha}_n + \sum_{n=1}^\infty \hat{\alpha}_n \bar{\alpha}_n - \frac{1}{12}$$

$$\hat{p} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \partial_\theta X \partial_\theta \hat{x} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta (\dot{x}_0 + \sum_{n \neq 0} x_n e^{in\theta}) (\sum_{m \neq 0} i m x_m e^{im\theta})$$

$$= \sum_{n \neq 0} i n x_{-n} x_n$$

$$x_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}in} (\bar{\alpha}_n - \alpha_n) \quad = - \sum_{n=1}^\infty \hat{\alpha}_n \bar{\alpha}_n + \sum_{n=1}^\infty \hat{\alpha}_n \bar{\alpha}_n$$

$$\dot{x}_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}in} (\dot{\bar{\alpha}}_n + \dot{\alpha}_n)$$

$$\therefore \text{Hamilton operator: } \hat{H} = \frac{1}{2} \hat{p}_0^2 + \sum_{n=1}^\infty \hat{\alpha}_n \bar{\alpha}_n + \sum_{n=1}^\infty \hat{\alpha}_n \bar{\alpha}_n - \frac{1}{12}$$

$$\text{Momentum operator: } \hat{p} = - \sum_{n=1}^\infty \hat{\alpha}_n \bar{\alpha}_n + \sum_{n=1}^\infty \hat{\alpha}_n \bar{\alpha}_n$$

2.3. Our Hamiltonian consists of free part: $\frac{1}{2} \hat{p}_0^2$ plus H.O. parts

$$\Rightarrow \text{let } |k\rangle = |k\rangle_0 \bigotimes_{n=1}^\infty |\alpha_n\rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Hilbert space } \mathcal{H} = \left\{ \prod_{n=1}^\infty (\alpha_n)^{m_n} (\bar{\alpha}_n)^{\bar{m}_n} |k\rangle \mid m_n, \bar{m}_n \geq 0 \right\}_{k \in \mathbb{R}}$$

$$\left\langle \text{when } \prod_{n=1}^\infty (\alpha_n)^{m_n} (\bar{\alpha}_n)^{\bar{m}_n} |k\rangle \text{ has energy } E = \frac{k^2}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^\infty n(m_n + \bar{m}_n) - \frac{1}{12} \right.$$

$$\left. \text{and momentum } P = \sum_{n=1}^\infty n(-m_n + \bar{m}_n) \right\rangle$$

$$2.4 \quad H_R = \frac{1}{2}(H-P) = \frac{1}{4}P_0^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} d_n d_n - \frac{1}{2q} : \text{ involves only right movers}$$

$$H_L = \frac{1}{2}(H+P) = \frac{1}{4}P_0^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \tilde{d}_n \tilde{d}_n - \frac{1}{2q} : \text{ "Left")}$$

2.5. $Z(\tau_1, \tau_2) = \text{tr}_{\mathcal{H}} e^{-2\pi T_2 H} e^{-2\pi T_1 P} \rightarrow$ geometric meaning of partition function is that it is a path integral over torus

$$\begin{aligned} \text{letting } \tau = \tau_1 + i\tau_2 \Rightarrow Z = Z(\tau, \bar{\tau}) &= \text{tr}_{\mathcal{H}} q^{H_L} q^{H_R} \\ &= (q\bar{q})^{-\frac{1}{24}} \text{tr}_{\mathcal{H}_0} (q\bar{q})^{\frac{P_0^2}{4}} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \text{tr}_{\mathcal{H}_n} q^{d_n d_n} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \text{tr}_{\mathcal{H}_n} \bar{q}^{\tilde{d}_n \tilde{d}_n} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{tr}_{\mathcal{H}_n} q^{d_n d_n} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^{nk} = \frac{1}{1-q^n}$$

$$\text{tr}_{\mathcal{H}_n} \bar{q}^{\tilde{d}_n \tilde{d}_n} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \bar{q}^{nk} = \frac{1}{1-\bar{q}^n}$$

$$\text{tr}_{\mathcal{H}_0} (q\bar{q})^{\frac{P_0^2}{4}} = \text{tr}_{\mathcal{H}_0} e^{-2\pi T_2 H_0} = V \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dp_0}{2\pi} e^{-2\pi T_2 \left(\frac{1}{2}p_0^2\right)} = \frac{V}{2\pi T_2}$$

$$\Rightarrow Z(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = (q\bar{q})^{-\frac{1}{24}} \frac{V}{2\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{T_2}} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left| \frac{1}{1-q^n} \right|^2$$

$$= \frac{V}{2\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{T_2}} |\eta(\tau)|^2$$

when $\eta(\tau) = q^{1/24} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1-q^n)$ is a Dedekind eta function

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$$

2.6 $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ action on T^2 : $\tilde{z} \mapsto \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$ is qu'd

by $z \mapsto z+1, z \mapsto -\frac{1}{z}$

$$\text{Since } \eta(z+1) = e^{\pi i/12} \eta(z) \text{ & } \eta\left(-\frac{1}{z}\right) = \left(\frac{1}{z}\right)^{1/2} \eta(z)$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{z}(z+1, \bar{z}+1) = \tilde{z}(z, \bar{z}) \text{ and } \tilde{z}\left(-\frac{1}{z}, -\frac{1}{\bar{z}}\right) = \tilde{z}(z, \bar{z})$$

\Rightarrow Theory is invariant under $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ action

As for $\tau \mapsto -\tau^{-1}$, we first compute the q dependence of the integral appearing in the expression for Z . First of all, note that

$$|q| = e^{2\pi i \tau} e^{-2\pi i \tau^*} = e^{2\pi i (\tau - \tau^*)} = e^{\pi \tau_2},$$

so

$$\int dp |q|^{-\frac{1}{2}p^2} = \int dp e^{-\frac{1}{2}\pi \tau_2 p^2} \propto \left(\frac{2\pi}{\pi \tau_2} \right)^{D/2}. \quad (8)$$

In particular, Z will be invariant iff

$$|q|^{1/12} (\tau_2)^{-1/2} |\eta(q)|^{-2}$$

is invariant. However,

$$\text{Im}[-\tau^{-1}] = \text{Im}[\tau]/|\tau|^2. \quad (9)$$

Furthermore, it is well-known that

$$\eta(q(-\tau^{-1})) = \sqrt{-i\tau} \eta(q(\tau)). \quad (10)$$

Unfortunately, however, something has gone wrong; as it stands, Z will not be invariant under this transformation. However, we recall that the quantum hamiltonian and total momentum were defined only up to a constant. We see now that we may take this constant to be such that

$$Z(q) = \left(\int dp |q|^{-\frac{1}{2}p^2} \right) |\eta(q)|^{-2D}.$$

However, given (8) and the transformation laws (9) and (10), this is invariant under $\tau \mapsto -\tau^{-1}$.

Problem 3. In light-cone gauge quantization, let α_m^i , $1 \leq i \leq 24$, be the physical excitation modes of the open string, and similarly for the closed string with $\tilde{\alpha}_m^i$ denoting the corresponding left-moving modes. In the open case, at level $N - 3$, we have the possible states generated from the vacuum:

$$\alpha_{-3}^i |0\rangle; \alpha_{-1}^i \alpha_{-2}^j |0\rangle; \alpha_{-1}^i \alpha_{-2}^i |0\rangle; \alpha_{-1}^i \alpha_{-1}^j \alpha_{-1}^k |0\rangle; \alpha_{-1}^i \alpha_{-1}^i \alpha_{-1}^j |0\rangle; \alpha_{-1}^i \alpha_{-1}^i \alpha_{-1}^i |0\rangle$$

(i, j , and k are always taken to be distinct). For the closed string, we obtain a state for any choice of two of the above states (one for the right-moving and one for the left-moving). Counting using the above list, we see that there are

$$24 + 24 \cdot 23 + 24 + \frac{24 \cdot 23 \cdot 22}{3!} + 24 \cdot 23 + 24 = 3200$$

states for the open string at this level. It follows that there are $3200^2 = 10240000$ states for the closed string at this level.

All these states a priori transform in representations of $SO(24)$, but as they are massive, they should transform in representations of $SO(25)$. If we wish to put these states into representations of $SO(25)$, we should first decompose the representations that appear in the states above into irreps of $SO(24)$. In this list of irreps, we should obtain the trivial representation, the fundamental representation v^i , the symmetric trace-less representation s^{ij} , the anti-symmetric trace-less representation a^{ij} , the symmetric trace-less representation s^{ijk} , and the anti-symmetric representation a^{ijk} . The trivial representation of $SO(24)$ also obviously transforms as an irrep of $SO(25)$, namely the trivial representation again. We can put the remaining components into representations of $SO(25)$ by defining

$$S^{000} := 0, S^{i00} := v^i, S^{ij0} := s^{ij}, S^{ijk} := s^{ijk} \text{ and } A^{i00} := v^i, A^{ij0} := a^{ij}, A^{ijk} := a^{ijk},$$

and symmetrizing and anti-symmetrizing respectively (so that, for example, we have $S^{0i0} = v^i$ as well, etc.). As the indices on the S^{ijk} and A^{ijk} actually run from 0 to 24, we see that that furnish representations of $SO(25)$. To get irreps of $SO(25)$, we need only decompose these representations; however, if we did our job right, S^{ijk} and A^{ijk} (along with the trivial representation of course) should already be irreducible.