

# Functional representation of the $S$ -matrix in Liouville theory

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# Motivation

- **Liouville Theory** [Liouville 1853] is one of the most well-studied Conformal Field Theories
  - Scalar field in 1+1d in an exponential potential
$$V(\Phi) = 2\mu^2 e^{2\Phi}, \mu - \text{"Cosmological constant"}$$
  - Possesses conformal symmetry
  - Describes 2D gravity, bosonic strings [Dorn, Otto 1994] [Teschner 2001]

# Setup

- $(\tau, \sigma) \in \mathbb{R}^1 \times \mathbb{S}^1$  - **Cylinder**

$$\partial_\tau^2 \Phi - \partial_\sigma^2 \Phi + 4\mu^2 e^{2\Phi} = 0$$

- Work in **chiral coordinates**

$$x = \tau + \sigma, \quad \bar{x} = \tau - \sigma$$

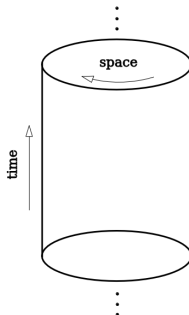


- General solution

$$e^{-\Phi} = e^{-\Phi_{\text{in}}} + e^{-\Phi_{\text{out}}}$$

- **Asymptotic fields**

$$\Phi \xrightarrow{\tau \rightarrow \mp \infty} \Phi_{\text{in/out}}$$



# Classical Solution

- $\Phi_{\text{in/out}}$  satisfy the free field equation  
(zero mode + oscillations)

$$\Phi_{\text{in}}(x, \bar{x}) = q + p \frac{x + \bar{x}}{2} - i \sum_{m>0} \frac{a_m}{m} e^{-imx} - i \sum_{m>0} \frac{\bar{a}_m}{m} e^{-im\bar{x}}$$

- Poisson brackets are given as

$$\{p, q\} = 1 \quad \{a_m, a_n\} = \frac{i}{2} m \delta_{m, -n} \quad \{\bar{a}_m, \bar{a}_n\} = \frac{i}{2} m \delta_{m, -n}$$

- For the out-field  $q \rightarrow \tilde{q}$ ,  $p \rightarrow \tilde{p} = -p$  and  $a_m \rightarrow b_m$

# Classical solution

- Using the general solution and the Poisson brackets we can directly relate in and out fields [Teschner 2001]

$$e^{-\Phi_{\text{out}}(x,\bar{x})} = \mu^2 e^{-\Phi_{\text{in}}(x,\bar{x})} \frac{e^{2\pi p}}{\sinh^2(2\pi p)} \int_0^{2\pi} dy \int_0^{2\pi} d\bar{y} e^{2\Phi_{\text{in}}(x+y,\bar{x}+\bar{y})}$$

- Non-perturbative relation
- Aim:
  - Find a quantum version of this relation
  - Use it to study transition amplitudes

# Quantization

- **Canonical quantization** [Dirac, 1982] maps modes to operators

$$p \rightarrow \hat{p}, \quad q \rightarrow \hat{q}, \quad a_n \rightarrow \hat{a}_n, \quad a_{-n} \rightarrow \hat{a}_n^\dagger \dots$$

and Poisson brackets to **commutators**

$$\{\cdot, \cdot\} \rightarrow \frac{i}{\hbar} [\cdot, \cdot]$$

# Quantization

- Relation between **quantum** in/out fields [Teschner 2001]

$$\begin{aligned}
 : e^{-\Phi_{\text{out}}(x, \bar{x})} : &= \frac{\mu_q^2}{2 \sinh(\pi p)} \int_0^{2\pi} dy \int_0^{2\pi} d\bar{y} \\
 &: e^{-\Phi_{\text{in}}(x, \bar{x})} :: e^{2\Phi_{\text{in}}(x+y, \bar{x}+\bar{y})-2\pi p} : \frac{1}{2 \sinh(\pi p)}
 \end{aligned}$$

- $\mu_q^2 = \mu^2 \frac{\sin(\pi \hbar)}{\pi \hbar}$  - Renormalized cosmological constant
- $:\dots:$  - **Normal ordering**

# Fock Space

- **Asymptotic vacuum states** -  $|\cdot\rangle_{\text{in/out}}$  are defined as

$${}_{\text{out}}\langle\tilde{p}|p\rangle_{\text{in}} = \delta(\tilde{p} + p)R(p)$$

- $R(p)$  is known as **reflection amplitude** and we can write

$$|p\rangle_{\text{in}} = R(p)|-p\rangle_{\text{out}}$$



# Fock Space

- **Asymptotic coherent states** are defined using vacuum states

$$|p, a_k\rangle_{\text{in}} = \exp\left(\frac{2}{\hbar} \sum_{k>0} \frac{a_k}{k} \hat{a}_k^\dagger\right) |p\rangle_{\text{in}}$$

$$\text{out}\langle\tilde{p}, b_l^*| = \text{out}\langle\tilde{p}| \exp\left(\frac{2}{\hbar} \sum_{l>0} \frac{b_l^*}{l} \hat{b}_l\right)$$

- Coherent states are **eigenstates** of the creation operators

$$\hat{a}_k |p, a_k\rangle_{\text{in}} = a_k |p, a_k\rangle_{\text{in}}$$

$$\text{out}\langle\tilde{p}, b_l^*| b_l^\dagger = \text{out}\langle\tilde{p}, b_l^*| b_l^*$$

# S-Matrix

- Definition of the **S-Matrix** as the transition amplitude

$$\text{out} \langle \tilde{p}, b_l^* | p, a_k \rangle_{\text{in}} = \delta(\tilde{p} + p) R(p) S_p(b_l^*, a_k)$$

- *Note:*

$$\exp \left( \frac{2}{\hbar} \sum_{l>0} \frac{b_l^*}{l} \hat{b}_l \right) |p\rangle_{\text{in}} = |p\rangle_{\text{in}} \Rightarrow S_p(b_l^*, 0) = 1$$

and similarly  $S_p(0, a_k) = 1$

# Solution

- Aim: Find expressions for  $S_p(b_l^*, a_k)$  and  $R(p)$
- By projecting the asymptotic field relation between the coherent states we derive a **recurrence** in  $a_k$  and  $b_l^*$
- By setting  $a_k = b_l^* = 0$  we get **function equation** for  $R(p)$

$$R(p) = \frac{\pi^2 \mu_q^2 \gamma_p^2}{\sinh(\pi p) \sinh(\pi p - i\pi \hbar)} R(p - i\hbar)$$

with

$$\gamma_p = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{dy}{2\pi} e^{(p-i\hbar)(y-\pi)} (1 - e^{iy})^\hbar = \frac{\Gamma(1 + \hbar)}{\Gamma(1 - ip)\Gamma(1 + \hbar + ip)}$$

# Reflection Amplitude

- This recurrence is solved to get

$$R(p) = -(\mu_q^2 \Gamma^2(\hbar))^{-\frac{ip}{\hbar}} \frac{\Gamma(ip/\hbar)\Gamma(ip)}{\Gamma(-ip/\hbar)\Gamma(-ip)}$$

- The result is in excellent agreement with the well known DOZZ formula  
[Dorn, Otto 1994]  
[Zamolodchikov, Zamolodchikov 1996]

# First Level Transition

- Using the expression for  $R(p)$  recursion for the  $S$ -matrix is derived
- In the case of  $b_l^* = 0$  it simplifies to

$$S_p \left( -\frac{i\hbar}{2} e^{-ikx}, a_k \right) = \exp \left( -i \sum_{m>0} \frac{a_m}{m} e^{-imx} \right) \times$$

$$\frac{1}{\gamma_p} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{dy}{2\pi} e^{(p-i\hbar)(y-\pi)} (1 - e^{iy})^\hbar \exp \left( 2i \sum_{m>0} \frac{a_m}{m} e^{-im(x+y)} \right)$$

# First Level Transition

- $S$  is **holomorphic**  $\Rightarrow$  Expand and collect terms linear in  $a_1$  to get the **First level transition**

$$S_{-1,1}(p) = \frac{2}{\hbar} \frac{1 + \hbar - ip}{1 + \hbar + ip}$$

- Similar to  $R(p)$  this also agrees with the results in [Zamolodchikov, Zamolodchikov 1996]

# Solution

- To continue we define

$$U_p(b_l^*, a_k) = \exp\left(-\frac{2}{\hbar} \sum_{m>0} \frac{b_m^* a_m}{m}\right) S_p(b_l^*, a_k)$$

- At  $b_l^* = a_l^*$  introduce new notation  $U_p(a_n)$  which coincides with the **normal symbol for the S-matrix** with  $n \neq 0$

# Solution

- At  $p = i\hbar N$  where  $N \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  we can write a recursive relation

$$U_{i\hbar N}(a_n) = \frac{1}{\gamma i\hbar N} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{dy}{2\pi} e^{i(N-1)\hbar(y-\pi)} \exp\left(2i \sum_{m>0} \frac{a_m}{m} e^{-im(x+y)}\right) \\ \times U_{i\hbar(N-1)}\left(a_n + \frac{i\hbar}{2} e^{inx} - i\hbar\theta_n e^{in(x+y)}\right)$$

- With

$$\theta_n = \begin{cases} 0 & n < 0 \\ 1 & n > 0 \end{cases}$$



# Solution

- Assuming no scattering at  $p = 0$  i.e.  $U_0(a_n) = 1$  we get the same result as from the path integral representation of the  $S$ -matrix [Jorjadze, Theisen 2021]

$$U_{ih}(a_n) = 1 + \sum_{\nu \geq 2} \frac{1}{\nu!} \sum_{n_1 \dots n_\nu} \frac{j_{n_1} \dots j_{n_\nu}}{|n_1| \dots |n_\nu|} \delta_{n_1 \dots n_\nu}, \quad j_n = 2i\epsilon(n)a_n$$

# Solution

- We can analytically write the solution of  $U_{i\hbar N}(a_n)$  in the form of an  **$N$ -dimensional integral**

$$U_N(a_n) = \prod_{\alpha=1}^N \frac{1}{\gamma_{i\hbar\alpha}} \oint \frac{d\zeta_1}{2\pi i\zeta_1} \cdots \oint \frac{d\zeta_N}{2\pi i\zeta_N} \exp\left(2i \sum_{n>0} \frac{a_n}{n} (\zeta_1^{-n} + \cdots \zeta_N^{-n})\right) \prod_{1 \leq \alpha < \beta \leq N} (\zeta_\alpha \zeta_\beta)^{\hbar} (\zeta_\alpha - \zeta_\beta)^{-2\hbar}$$

- These are **Dotsenko-Fateev** - type integrals
- The results can be **analytically continued** to  $N \notin \mathbb{Z}^+$

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# Thank You!

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# Quantum Fields

$$: e^{-\Phi_{\text{out}}(x, \bar{x})} : = e^{-q_{\text{out}} + p\tau} \bar{E}_{\text{out}}^{(-1)\dagger}(\bar{x}) E_{\text{out}}^{(-1)\dagger}(x) E_{\text{out}}^{(-1)}(x) \bar{E}_{\text{out}}^{(-1)}(\bar{x})$$

$$: e^{-\Phi_{\text{in}}(x, \bar{x})} : = e^{-q_{\text{in}} + p\tau} \bar{E}_{\text{in}}^{(-1)\dagger}(\bar{x},) E_{\text{in}}^{(-1)\dagger}(x) E_{\text{in}}^{(-1)}(x) \bar{E}_{\text{in}}^{(-1)}(\bar{x})$$

$$: e^{2\Phi_{\text{in}}(z, \bar{z})} : = e^{2q_{\text{in}} + p(z + \bar{z} - 2\pi)} \bar{E}_{\text{in}}^{(2)\dagger}(\bar{z}) E_{\text{in}}^{(2)\dagger}(z) E_{\text{in}}^{(2)}(z) \bar{E}_{\text{in}}^{(2)}(\bar{z})$$

$$E_{\text{in}}^{(-1)}(x) = \exp \left( -i \sum_{m>0} \frac{a_m}{m} e^{-imx} \right)$$

$$E_{\text{in}}^{(2)}(z) = \exp \left( 2i \sum_{m>0} \frac{a_m}{m} e^{-imz} \right)$$

# Quantum Fields

$$\text{out} \langle \tilde{p}, b_l^* | : e^{-\Phi_{\text{out}}(x, \bar{x})} : | p, a_k \rangle_{\text{in}} = \delta(\tilde{p} + p - i\hbar) e^{(p - i\hbar/2)\tau} R(p) \\ \exp \left( i \sum_{m>0} \frac{b_m^*}{m} e^{imx} \right) S_p \left( b_m^* - \frac{i\hbar}{2} e^{-ilx}, a_k \right)$$