

3. Liouville theory

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1. Let's assume that $\phi(x) \rightarrow \phi'(x) = \alpha^\Delta \phi(\alpha x)$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \mathcal{I}' &= \int d^2 x \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} \phi'(x) \right)^2 - a e^{b\phi'(x)} \right] \\ &= \int d^2 x \left[\frac{1}{2} \alpha^{2(\Delta+1)} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial(\alpha x^\mu)} \phi(\alpha x) \right)^2 - a e^{\alpha^\Delta b \phi(\alpha x)} \right] \end{aligned}$$

changing variables to $y^\mu = \alpha x^\mu$,

$$\mathcal{I}' = \int d^2 y \left[\frac{1}{2} \alpha^{2\Delta} (\partial_\mu \phi(y))^2 - a \alpha^{-2} e^{\alpha^\Delta b \phi(y)} \right]$$

We notice that the kinetic term is invariant provided that $\Delta = 0$.

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{I}' = \int d^2 y \left[\frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi(y))^2 - a \alpha^{-2} e^{b\phi(y)} \right]$$

However, the potential part is not invariant.

But, what may save the day, is the fact that we have an exponential, so if say we shift ϕ by a constant, the change in the potential will be multiplicative.

Indeed, let's assume that

$$\phi \rightarrow \phi'' = \phi + c, \text{ with } c = \text{constant}$$

$$\rightarrow \int L'' = \int d^2y \left[\frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi(y))^2 - a \alpha^{-2} e^{b\phi(y) + bc} \right] \quad (10/10)$$

$$= \int d^2y \left[\frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi(y))^2 - a \underbrace{\alpha^{-2} e^{bc}}_{=1} e^{b\phi(y)} \right]$$

$$\rightarrow c = \frac{2 \log \alpha}{b}$$

Therefore, "dilatations" in the two dimensional Liouville model correspond to:

$$\phi(x) \rightarrow \phi'(x) = \phi(\alpha x) + \frac{2 \log \alpha}{b}$$

2. For $\alpha = 1 + \varepsilon$, $\varepsilon \ll 1$,

$$\delta \phi \approx \varepsilon \left(x^\mu \partial_\mu \phi + \frac{2}{b} \right) + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^2)$$

Thus, from Noether's theorem:

$$j_\mu = x^\nu \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi + \frac{2}{b} \partial_\mu \phi - x_\mu \mathcal{L}$$

$$= x^\nu \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - x_\mu \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\nu \phi)^2 + a x_\mu e^{b\phi} + \frac{2}{b} \partial_\mu \phi$$

$$\rightarrow \partial_\mu j^\mu = \dots = \underbrace{\left(x^\mu \partial_\mu \phi + \frac{2}{b} \right)}_{\text{eq. of motion!}} (\partial^2 \phi + a b e^{b\phi}) = 0$$

1. Maxwell theory

① Dimensional analysis:

$$[d^4x] = [M]^{-4}, \quad [F] = [\partial][A] = [M]^1 [M]^\alpha$$

$\rightarrow [F^2] = [M]^{2+2\alpha}$. Thus for the action to be dimensionless, we should require that $2+2\alpha-4=0 \rightarrow \boxed{\alpha=1} \rightarrow [A] = [M]^1$.

② We start from

$$S = \int d^4x \left(-\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + A_\mu j^\mu \right)$$

and vary with respect to the vector field:

$$\delta A S^\dagger = \int d^4x \left(-F^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \delta A_\nu + j^\mu \delta A_\mu \right) = 0 \quad \forall A_\mu.$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} = -j^\nu}$$

③ We first notice that the kinetic term for A_μ , i.e. $F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu$ is manifestly invariant under $A_\mu \rightarrow A'_\mu = A_\mu + \partial_\mu \alpha$.

For the source term, we observe that 2/7

$$\mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}' = \int d^4x \left(-\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + A_\mu j^\mu + j^\mu \partial_\mu \alpha \right)$$

Integrating the last term by parts & dropping the boundary contribution, we see that

for $\mathcal{L}' = \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \partial_\mu j^\mu = 0$, i.e. the source has to be conserved.

④ Since $F_{\mu\nu}$ is gauge-invariant object, so is its dual $\tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} F^{\rho\sigma}$,

Let's add to the action $\delta\mathcal{L} = c \int d^4x F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$, which we can rewrite as:

$$\int d^4x \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} F_{\mu\nu} F_{\rho\sigma} \propto \int d^4x \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \partial_\mu A_\nu \partial_\rho A_\sigma$$

$$\propto \int d^4x \partial_\mu (\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} A_\nu \partial_\rho A_\sigma) = \text{total derivative}$$

→ it doesn't contribute to the equations of motion

2. Chern-Simons theory

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$$S' = \int d^3x \left[\underbrace{-\frac{1}{4} G_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}}_{\mathcal{L}_1} + \underbrace{g \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} B_\mu \partial_\nu B_\rho}_{\mathcal{L}_2} \right]$$

① As in the previous exercise, we do dimensional analysis:

$$[d^3x] = [M]^{-3}$$

$$[G] = [\partial][B] = [M]^1 \cdot [M]^\alpha$$

$$\rightarrow [G^2] = [M]^2 [M]^{2\alpha} \rightarrow 2\alpha + 2 - 3 = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \alpha = \frac{1}{2} \rightarrow [B] = [M]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + 1 - 3 + \beta = 0 \quad ([g] = [M]^\beta)$$

$$\rightarrow \beta = 1.$$

$$\rightarrow [g] = [M]$$

② Under $B_\mu \rightarrow B'_\mu = B_\mu + \partial_\mu \alpha$, we observe that

$$\otimes \int_1' = \int_1$$

$$\textcircled{\ast} \int_2^1 = g \int d^3x \epsilon^{m\nu\lambda} B'_m \partial_\nu B'_\lambda$$

$$= g \int d^3x \epsilon^{m\nu\lambda} (B_m + \partial_m \alpha) \partial_\nu (B_\lambda + \partial_\lambda \alpha)$$

$$= g \int d^3x \epsilon^{m\nu\lambda} (B_m \partial_\nu B_\lambda + \cancel{B_m \partial_\nu \partial_\lambda \alpha} + \partial_m \alpha \partial_\nu B_\lambda + \cancel{\partial_m \alpha \partial_\nu \partial_\lambda \alpha})$$

$$= g \int d^3x [\epsilon^{m\nu\lambda} B_m \partial_\nu B_\lambda + \epsilon^{m\nu\lambda} \partial_m \alpha \partial_\nu B_\lambda]$$

Now, $\partial_m (\epsilon^{m\nu\lambda} \alpha \partial_\nu B_\lambda) = \epsilon^{m\nu\lambda} \partial_m \alpha \partial_\nu B_\lambda + \cancel{\epsilon^{m\nu\lambda} \alpha \partial_m \partial_\nu B_\lambda}$
 $= \epsilon^{m\nu\lambda} \partial_m \alpha \partial_\nu B_\lambda$

$$\int_2^1 = g \int d^3x [\epsilon^{m\nu\lambda} B_m \partial_\nu B_\lambda + \partial_m (\epsilon^{m\nu\lambda} \alpha \partial_\nu B_\lambda)]$$

$$= \int_2^1 + \underbrace{g \oint d^3x \epsilon^{m\nu\lambda} \alpha \partial_\nu B_\lambda}$$

= 0 at the boundaries.

(3) Eom:

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$$\delta S = \int d^3x \left[-G^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \delta B_\nu + g \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} (\delta B_\mu \partial_\nu B_\lambda + B_\mu \partial_\nu \delta B_\lambda) \right]$$

$$= \int d^3x \left[\partial_\mu G^{\mu\nu} \delta B_\nu + g \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} (\partial_\nu B_\lambda \delta B_\mu - \partial_\nu B_\mu \delta B_\lambda) \right]$$

$$= \int d^3x \left[\partial_\mu G^{\mu\nu} \delta B_\nu + g \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} \partial_\nu B_\lambda \delta B_\mu - g \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} \partial_\nu B_\mu \delta B_\lambda \right]$$

$$= \int d^3x \left[\partial_\alpha G^{\alpha\beta} \delta B_\beta - g \varepsilon^{\beta\gamma\alpha} \partial_\alpha B_\gamma \delta B_\beta - g \varepsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma} \partial_\alpha B_\gamma \delta B_\beta \right]$$

$$= \int d^3x \left[\partial_\alpha G^{\alpha\beta} - 2g \varepsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma} \partial_\alpha B_\gamma \right] \delta B_\beta.$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{\partial_\alpha G^{\alpha\beta} - 2g \varepsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma} \partial_\alpha B_\gamma = 0}.$$

We can do better though:

$$\varepsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma} G_{\alpha\gamma} = \varepsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma} (\partial_\alpha B_\gamma - \partial_\gamma B_\alpha) = 2\varepsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma} \partial_\alpha B_\gamma$$

\rightarrow eom equivalently written as:

$$\boxed{\partial_\alpha G^{\alpha\beta} - g \varepsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma} G_{\alpha\gamma} = 0} \quad \text{⊗}$$

Since $G_{\mu\nu}' = G_{\mu\nu}$, the eom are trivially gauge-invariant.

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④ consider now $\tilde{G}_\mu = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda} G^{\nu\lambda}$

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon^{\mu\alpha\beta} \tilde{G}_\mu &= \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon^{\mu\alpha\beta} \varepsilon_{\nu\lambda\gamma} G^{\nu\lambda} = \frac{1}{2} (\delta_{\alpha\nu} \delta_{\beta\lambda} - \delta_{\alpha\lambda} \delta_{\beta\nu}) G^{\nu\lambda} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (G_{\alpha\beta} - G_{\beta\alpha}) = G_{\alpha\beta}. \end{aligned}$$

Plugging this result into $\textcircled{3}$, we find:

$$\rightarrow \varepsilon^{\mu\alpha\beta} \partial_\alpha \tilde{G}_\mu + \tilde{g} \tilde{G}_\beta = 0, \textcircled{**} \text{ with } \tilde{g} = 2g$$

Let's now act on the above with $\varepsilon_{\nu\lambda\beta}$

$$\rightarrow \varepsilon_{\nu\lambda\beta} (\varepsilon^{\mu\alpha\beta} \partial_\alpha \tilde{G}_\mu + \tilde{g} \tilde{G}_\beta) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \partial_\lambda \tilde{G}_\nu - \partial_\nu \tilde{G}_\lambda + \tilde{g} \varepsilon_{\nu\lambda\alpha} \tilde{G}^\alpha = 0$$

Hitting this expression with ∂^λ , we find:

$$\partial^\lambda \tilde{G}_\nu - \cancel{\partial_\nu \partial^\lambda \tilde{G}^\lambda} + \tilde{g} \varepsilon_{\nu\lambda\alpha} \partial^\lambda \tilde{G}^\alpha = 0,$$

where the second term vanishes by virtue of the Bianchi identity $\partial_\lambda \tilde{G}^\lambda = 0$ (it follows from $\textcircled{**}$)

$$\rightarrow \partial^\lambda \tilde{G}_\nu + \tilde{g} \varepsilon_{\nu\lambda\alpha} \partial^\lambda \tilde{G}^\alpha = 0$$

using ~~(*)~~ to replace the second term in ~~(7)~~ the above, we finally find:

$$\partial^2 \tilde{G}_\nu + \tilde{g}^2 \tilde{G}_\nu = 0$$

→ eom for massive vector field, with $m_G^2 = \tilde{g}^2 = 4g^2$.

⑤ The counting of degrees of freedom goes as follows:

- Initially we have 3 dof in B_μ .
 - Due to the $U(1)$ invariance $B_\mu \rightarrow B'_\mu = B_\mu + d\alpha$ 1 is killed.
 - On top of that, we also have yet another constraint, the Bianchi identity $\partial_\mu \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu} = 0$. Thus, another dof is killed.
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