

Last Time: dynamical variables needed for describing superstrings

$$\psi_{\alpha=1,2}^I$$

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_1^I &= \Psi_1^I(\tau - \sigma) \\ \psi_2^I &= \Psi_2^I(\tau + \sigma)\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{BCs: } \psi_1^I(\tau, \sigma_*) \delta \psi_1^I(\tau, \sigma_*) - \psi_2^I(\tau, \sigma_*) \delta \psi_2^I(\tau, \sigma_*) = 0$$

Suppose: $\psi_1^I(\tau, 0) = 0$ then $\Psi_1^I(\tau) = 0$ by $\psi_1^I = \Psi^I(\tau - \sigma)$. Bad! Instead relate ψ_1 and ψ_2 , assemble full spin or $\Psi^I(\tau, \sigma)$

$$\Psi_I(\tau, \sigma) = \begin{cases} \psi_1^I(\tau, \sigma) & \sigma \in [0, \pi] \\ \psi_2^I(\tau, -\sigma) & \sigma \in [-\pi, 0] \end{cases}$$

Ψ^I continuous at $\sigma = 0$ because of BC $\psi_1^I(\tau, \pi) = \pm \psi_2^I(\tau, \pi)$.

Either periodic or antiperiodic. Take periodic and get Rammond. (Actually more complicated). Take antiperiodic and get Neveu Schwarz BCS (2 years after Rammond)

$$\text{NS BC: } \Psi^I(\tau, \pi) = -\Psi^I(\tau, -\pi). \quad \Psi^I(\tau, \sigma) = \sum_{r \in Z + \frac{1}{2}} b_r^I e^{-ir(\tau - \sigma)}.$$

Creation Operations: $b_{-5/2}^I, b_{-3/2}^I, b_{-1/2}^I$

Destruction Operations: $b_{5/2}^I, b_{3/2}^I, b_{1/2}^I$

Ψ^I is anticommutative, all b_r^I operations anticommutative.

$$b_r^I, b_s^J = \delta_{r+s,0} \delta^{IJ}$$

NS State:

$$\left[\prod_{I=2}^9 \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (\alpha_{-n}^I)^{\lambda_{n,I}} \right] \left[\prod_{J=2}^9 \prod_{r=\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{5}{2}} (b_{-r}^J)^{\rho_{r,I}} \right] \cdot |NS\rangle \otimes p^+, \vec{p}_\tau$$

$$\rho_{r,I} \in \{0, 1\}$$

Recall for open bosonic string, normal ordered:

$$M^2 = \frac{1}{\alpha'} \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{p \in \mathbb{Z}} \alpha_{-p}^I \alpha_p^I \right)$$

Now:

$$M^2 = \frac{1}{\alpha'} \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{p \in \mathbb{Z}} \alpha_{-p}^I \alpha_p^I + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{r \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2}} r b_{-r}^I b_r^I \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{r = -\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{3}{2}} r b_{-r}^I b_r^I &= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{r = \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}} r b_r^I b_{-r}^I \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_r r b_{-r}^I b_r^I \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} (D-2) \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2} + \frac{5}{2} + \dots \right)}_{\frac{1}{12}} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} (D-2) \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{12} \\ &= -\frac{1}{48} (D-2) \end{aligned}$$

For boson, $a_B = -\frac{1}{24}$.

In open bosonic string, $M^2 = \frac{1}{\alpha'} (\dots + 1)$ where $a = -1$ but 24 contributions so $a_B = -\frac{1}{24}$.

Here, $a_{NS} = -\frac{1}{48}$ for antiperiodic fermion.

$$M^2 = \frac{1}{\alpha'} \left(\sum_{p=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{-p}^I \alpha_p^I + \sum_{r = \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}} r b_{-r}^I b_r^I + (D-2)(a_B + a_{NS}) \right)$$

$$M^2 = \frac{1}{\alpha'} \left(N_{tot}^\perp - \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

Add text here.

In early 1970s, confusion over whether these are bosons or fermions. It'll turn out that these are photons.

Count states of a given N^\perp

Given:

$$a_1^+ : f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{a(n)}_{\text{number of states with } N^\perp=n} x^n$$

$$|0N^\perp = 0, a_1^+|0N^\perp = 1, (a_1^+)^2|0N^\perp = 2$$

$$f_1(x) = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots = \frac{1}{1-x}$$

Given:

$$a_2^+ : f_2(x) = 1 + x^2 + x^4 + \dots = \frac{1}{1-x^2}$$

$$|0N^\perp = 0, a_2^+|0N^\perp = 2, (a_2^+)^2|0N^\perp = 4$$

$$f_1(x) = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots = \frac{1}{1-x}$$

Given:

$$a_1^+, a_2^+ : f_1(x)f_2(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \cdot \frac{1}{1-x^2}$$

Now can do full open bosonic string with $a_1^+, a_2^+, a_3^+, \dots$

Generating Function:

$$f_{os} = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1-x^n)}$$

$$f_{os} = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1-x^n)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{p(n)}_{\text{partitions of } n} x^n$$

Partitions of 4: ($\{4\}, \{3, 1\}, \{2, 2\}, \{2, 1, 1\}, \{1, 1, 1, 1\}$) = number of ways to get $N^\perp = 4$

$$\ln p(N) \approx 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{N}{6}}$$

$$p(N) \approx \frac{1}{4N\sqrt{3}} \exp\left(2\pi \sqrt{\frac{N}{6}}\right) M$$

For full open string:

$$f_{os} = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1-x^n)^{24}}$$

This gives you degeneracy of any level of open string.

Given b_1^+ : $f_1(x) = 1 + x$

Given b_2^+ : $f_2(x) = 1 + x^2$

Given b_1^+, b_2^+ : $f_{12}(x) = f_1(x)f_2(x) = (1+x)(1+x^2)$

Given $b_{\frac{1}{2}}^+$: $f_{\frac{1}{2}}(x) = 1 + \sqrt{x}$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{NS}(x) &= \sum_r \underbrace{a(r)}_{\# \text{ of states with } \alpha' M^2=r} x^r = 1^{-\frac{1}{2}} + 8 \cdot x^0 + 36 \cdot x^{\frac{1}{2}} + (\#)x^1 \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1+x^{n-1}}{1-x^n} \right)^8 \end{aligned}$$

Ramond: $\Psi^I(\tau, \sigma) = \sum d_n^I \exp(-in(\tau - \sigma))$. $d_m^I, d_n^I = \delta_{m+n,0} \delta^{IJ}$.

$d_0^I \rightarrow 8$: 4 creation and 4 destruction = $\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \xi_4$

Vacuum State: $|0\rangle$

$|0\rangle$: 1

$\xi^I \xi^J |0\rangle$: 6

$\xi_1 \xi_2 \xi_3 \xi_4 |0\rangle$: 1

This yields 8, $|R_1^a\rangle$.

$\xi^I |0\rangle$: 4

$\xi^I \xi^J \xi^K |0\rangle$: 4

This yields 8, $|R_2^a\rangle$.

$8 + 8 = 16$ ground states. Total set of vacua states: $|R^A\rangle$, $A = 1 \dots 16$, split into 2 types.

Ramond mass formula:

$$M^2 = \frac{1}{\alpha'} \left(\sum_{p=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{-p}^I \alpha_p^I + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n d_{-n}^I d_n^I \right)$$

Subtraction constant is equal to zero since $a_R = \frac{1}{24}$

$$\begin{array}{l} \alpha' M^2 = 0 \quad |R_1^a\rangle \\ \alpha' M^2 = 1 \quad \alpha_{-1}^I |R_1^a\rangle, d_{-1}^I |R_2^a\rangle \end{array} \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} |R_2^a\rangle \\ \alpha_{-1}^I |R_2^a\rangle, d_{-1}^I |R_1^a\rangle \end{array} \right.$$

Why is this supersymmetry? Left and right columns have opposite fermionic states. Don't know if R_1^a is a boson or a fermion, but know R_2^a is the opposite.

No bosons that look like $|R_1^a\rangle$ in real world

Partition function in Raman Sector

$$f_R(x) = 16 \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1+x^n}{1-x^n} \right)^8$$

To get supersymmetry, throw out half of the states from each sector and put them together.

$$f_{NS}^{\text{truncated}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} \left[\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1+x^{n-\frac{1}{2}}}{1-x^n} \right)^8 - \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1-x^{n-\frac{1}{2}}}{1-x^n} \right)^8 \right]$$

Anything with an odd number of fermions will change the sign.

$$f_{NS} \stackrel{?}{=} 8 \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1+x^n}{1-x^n} \right)^8$$

Do we or don't we have supersymmetry?

1829: German Mathematician Jacobi wrote treatise on elliptic function with this identity, labelled "a very strange identity". Critical dimension $D = 10$ for supersymmetry.