

Unitary vertex algebras and Wightman fields.

1. Conformal net on S^1

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A mathematical approach to 2d Conformal field theory.

~~Let~~ $S^1 \supset I \mapsto A(I) \subset B(\mathcal{H})$ von Neumann alg.

$U: \text{Mob} = \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow U(\mathcal{H})$. unitary rep. $\Omega \in \mathcal{H}$.

satisfying isotony, locality, covariance, positive energy, vacuum.

$\Rightarrow$ representation theory, subfactors, tensor categories.

Examples? Vertex algebras, Wightman fields (c.f. Gelfand-Kazhdan, Longo-Wehner).

2. Wightman fields on S^1

ϕ : operator-valued distributions on $\mathcal{Q} \subset \mathcal{H}$.

U : rep of Mob. $\Omega \in \mathcal{Q}$.

Locality: If $f, g \in C^\infty(S^1)$, $\text{supp } f \cap \text{supp } g = \emptyset$, then $[\phi(f), \phi(g)] = 0$.

Covariance ($\phi(f)\Omega$ gives an irrep of Mob), positive energy, vacuum.

3. Vertex algebras.

V : vector space, $\{L_1, L_0, L_{-1}\}$: rep of $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$ $[L_n, L_m] = (m-n)L_{n+m}$.

For $v \in V$, there is a formal series $Y(v, z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} v_n z^{-n-1}$,

$v_n \in \text{End}(V)$. Satisfying covariance,

spectrum condition $V = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (\ker(L_0 - n))$.

vacuum, locality: for $v, w \in V$,

there is $N \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $(z-w)^N [Y(v, z)Y(w, w)] = 0$

as a formal series.



We say that $Y(v, z)$ is a quasi-primary field if

$Y(v, 0)\Omega$ is a lowest-weight vector for $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$.

dv: the lowest weight (conformal dimension).

Example $U(1)$ -current/Heisenberg alg / free massless field.

Consider the Lie alg $\{J_n | n \in \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{C}\}$, $[J_m, J_n] = m \delta_{m+n}$.

This admits the "vacuum rep" (Fock space/Verma module with trivial rep)

$$V \ni \Omega, J_1 \Omega, J_2 \Omega, \dots, J_1 J_1 J_2 \Omega, \dots, J_n \Omega = 0, n \geq 0.$$

~~$J_0 \Omega = 0$~~ Wightman field: Take $f \in C^\infty(S^1)$. $\hat{f}_n = \int_{S^1} f(e^{i\theta}) e^{-in\theta} d\theta$.

$$J(f) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} J_n \hat{f}_n, \text{ converges on } V. \subset \mathcal{H} = \text{span} \{J(f) - J(g)\}$$

$$\textcircled{L} L_n = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} :J_m J_{n-m}:, \text{ where } :J_k J_\ell: = \begin{cases} J_k J_\ell & \text{if } k > \ell \\ J_\ell J_k & \text{if } k \leq \ell \end{cases}$$

$\Rightarrow V$.
(J, V, Ω) is a Wightman field on S^1 .

Vertex alg We have $\{L_n\}$. First, $J(z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} J_n z^{-n-1}$.

$$\text{Then } Y(J, \Omega, z) = J(z), Y(L_{-1} J, \Omega, z) = J(J_2 \Omega, z) = dJ(z).$$

$$Y(J_1 J_{-1}, z) = :J(z)^2: = J_+(z) J(z) + J(z) J_-(z).$$

$$J_+(z) = \sum_{n \leq 0} J_n z^{-n-1}, J_-(z) = \sum_{n > 0} J_n z^{-n-1}.$$

Wightman fields: collection of good (quasi-primary) fields

Vertex alg = collection of all (non-primary/descendant) fields.

Thm There is a one-to-one correspondence between
 $\{\phi_i\}$: ~~collection of (all)~~ a collection of non Wightman fields + (UBO).
 V : vertex alg.

UBO: For $v, u \in V = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \ker(L_0 - n)$, $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_k$, there is
a polynomial $P_{u,v, \{\phi_i\}}$, s.t. $|\langle \phi_1, u, \dots, \phi_k, v, u, v \rangle| \leq P_{u,v, \{\phi_i\}}(|u|, |v|)$
 $\phi_i(z) = \int e^{in\theta} \phi_i(e^{i\theta}) d\theta$, $P_{u,v, \{\phi_i\}}$'s degree does not depend
on u, v .

proof of locality) // ~~Wightman~~ Wightman + UBO $\Rightarrow$ VA.

$\gamma(u, z)$ can be constructed from $\{\phi_j\}$ as before.

By Wightman locality, $\Delta_{u,v}(f, g) = \langle u, [\phi_1(f), \phi_2(g)] v \rangle$ is a distribution, supported on $z=w$. By UBO, the order of the distribution does not depend on u, v .

$$\Rightarrow (z-w)^N \langle u, [\phi_1(f), \phi_2(g)] v \rangle = 0 \text{ for all } u, v \in V$$

$$\Rightarrow (z-w)^N [\phi_1(f), \phi_2(g)] = 0.$$

VA $\Rightarrow$ UBO + Wightman.

Lemma (commutator formula). Let $a, b \in V$, $\gamma(a, z), \gamma(b, w)$ are given by $[a_m, b_n] = \sum_{j \geq 0} \binom{m}{j} (a_j b)_{(m+n-j)}.$

Estimate $\langle u, \phi_{1,n_1} - \phi_{k,n_k}, v \rangle$ by induction in k :

$k=1$. $\langle u, \phi_{1,n_1}, v \rangle$ has only finitely many terms. $\leq C_{u,v}$.

k . $\langle u, \phi_{1,n_1} - \phi_{k,n_k}, v \rangle$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^k \langle u, \phi_{k,n_k} [\phi_{1,n_1}, \phi_{j,n_j}] - \phi_{k,n_k} v \rangle + \langle u, \phi_{2,n_2} - \phi_{k,n_k}, \phi_{1,n_1} v \rangle$$

Terms without $[\cdot]$ are finite in n , so by induction $\leq P_{u,v} \{ \phi_2 - \phi_k \}$.

Terms with $[\cdot]$ have $k-1$ fields. $\leq P_{u,v} \{ \phi_2, \dots, \phi_k(a \otimes b) \} \cdot (u, v)^{m+1}$

We get UBO. $\Rightarrow \langle u, \phi_1(f) - \phi_k(f), v \rangle$ converge.

$\Rightarrow$ Wightman locality. //

Remark. UBO may be automatic (Campi).