

Chern-Simons Theory on S^1 -Bundles: Abelianisation and q -deformed Yang-Mills Theory

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SUMMARY

The object of interest to us is the path integral,

$$Z_{k,G}[M] = \int DA \exp \frac{ik}{4\pi} \int_M \text{Tr} \left(AdA + \frac{2}{3} A^3 \right)$$

The path integral is over the connections on $E \rightarrow M$ a G bundle. We will consider special classes of 3-manifold M namely those that are themselves $U(1)$ bundles, of degree p , over Σ_g a Riemann surface of genus g . Denote these by $M_{(g,p)}$.

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4. Pushing the calculations down to the base Σ_g .

$$Z_{k,G}[M] = \Lambda \frac{e^{4\pi i p \Phi_0}}{|W|} \sum_{r \in \mathbb{Z}_p^{\text{rk}}_p} \int_{\mathfrak{t}} T_{S^1}(\phi)^{\chi(\Sigma_g)/2} \exp i \frac{k + c_g}{4\pi} \text{Tr} (p\phi^2 + 4\pi r\phi)$$

Λ is independent of p , $T_{S^1}(\phi) = \det_{\mathfrak{t}} (1 - \text{Ad } e^\phi)$ is the Ray-Singer Torsion on the circle and $\Phi_0 = \dim G/48$.

One can perform the Gaussian integrals and/or the sums but this is the nicest form so I leave it like this.

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2. Exact results also exist.
 - ▶ Surgery prescription combined with CFT techniques allow one to determine the Chern-Simons invariants.
 - ▶ But there are very few exact (i.e. non-perturbative) path integral computations of Chern-Simons theory, the exceptions being on manifolds of the form $\Sigma_g \times S^1$. The technique employed was Abelianisation of the non-Abelian theory.

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- ▶ As Chern-Simons theory on general Seifert manifolds has recently been studied by Beasley and Witten **hep-th/0503126** using the method of non-Abelian localisation one would like to know if the diagonalisation procedure yields results that are manifestly equivalent or comparable to those of BW?

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- ▶ Chern-Simons theory on Lens spaces $L(p, 1) = M_{(0,p)}$ has also recently appeared in the context of black hole partition function calculations via topological string theory **hep-th/0211098** and the methods of Abelianisation were used to argue that this theory is equivalent to a “q-deformed” two-dimensional Yang-Mills theory.

Geometric Set-Up

The $M_{(g,p)}$ are themselves principal $U(1)$ bundles

$U(1) \rightarrow M_{(g,p)} \xrightarrow{\pi} \Sigma_g$ over 2-dimensional surfaces Σ_g of genus g and first Chern (or Euler) class $-p \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Let κ be a connection on the principal $U(1)$ -bundle $M_{(g,p)}$ (a globally defined real-valued 1-form on the total space of the bundle), and denote by K the fundamental vector field on $M_{(g,p)}$, i.e. the generator of the $U(1)$ -action.

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- ▶ For later use we note that

$$\int_M \kappa \wedge d\kappa = p \int_{\Sigma_g} \omega = p .$$

Decomposition

- ▶ As both K and κ are nowhere vanishing we have that $\kappa \wedge \iota_K$ and $(1 - \kappa \wedge \iota_K)$ are projection operators, corresponding to the decomposition

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- ▶ Likewise we can decompose connections on vector bundles E over M , thought of as elements of $\Omega^1(M, \mathfrak{g})$,

$$A = A_\kappa + A_H \equiv \phi \kappa + A_H.$$

Since $\phi \in \Omega^0(M, \mathfrak{g})$ we can think of it as a section of the adjoint bundle $E = M \times \mathfrak{g}$.

The Action Becomes

$$\text{Tr} \int_{M_{(g,p)}} (A_H \wedge \kappa \wedge \mathcal{L}_\phi A_H + 2\phi \kappa \wedge dA_H + \phi^2 \kappa \wedge d\kappa)$$

here

$$\mathcal{L}_\phi B = L_\kappa B + [\phi, B].$$

Things are looking good! The action still has a cubic term but as far as the horizontal fields are concerned we only have Gaussian integration to perform.

Gauge Transformations

Under infinitesimal gauge transformations $\delta A = d_A \Lambda$ is

$$\delta \phi = \mathcal{L}_\phi \Lambda ,$$

with

$$\mathcal{L}_\phi = L_\kappa + [\phi, \cdot].$$

Gauge Choice (partial)

- ▶ Having singled out a particular component of the gauge field A_κ it is tempting to impose the gauge condition $A_\kappa = 0 = \phi$. However, this is not possible since Wilson loops along the fibres of $M_{(g,p)} \rightarrow \Sigma_g$ are gauge invariant and non-trivial.

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- ▶ So ϕ ‘only depends on Σ_g ’.

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$$\phi^{\mathfrak{k}} = 0.$$

- ▶ So ϕ is in the Cartan sub-algebra (i.e. chargeless w.r.t the $U(1)$'s) and we are almost done, or are we?

- ▶ No the diagonal gauge, $\phi^{\mathfrak{k}} = 0$, is junk. Here is the standard counter example.

- ▶ No the diagonal gauge, $\phi^t = 0$, is junk. Here is the standard counter example.
- ▶ Set $\Sigma_g = S^2$, $G = SU(2)$ so that $\mathfrak{g} = \mathbb{R}^3$ and pick ϕ so that $\phi^2 = 1$ Then $\phi : S^2 \rightarrow S^2$ as the identity map. This map then has winding number one. If we could smoothly conjugate this ϕ into diagonal form we would find that we would have smoothly deformed ϕ to $\tilde{\phi} = \sigma_3$ which is a map $\tilde{\phi} : S^2 \rightarrow pt = (0, 0, 1)$. Since $\tilde{\phi}$ has winding number zero this is clearly impossible.

Gauge Invariant Winding Number and Singular Gauge Transformations

- ▶ A gauge invariant winding number is

$$n(\phi, A, \Sigma_g) = - \int_{\Sigma_g} \text{Tr} \left(\frac{1}{2\pi} \phi \wedge F_A + \frac{1}{16\pi} \phi d\phi \wedge d\phi \right)$$

with $n(\phi, 0, \Sigma_g) = \int_{\Sigma_g} \phi^*(\omega)$ the winding number of the map and $n(\phi^h, A^h, \Sigma_g) = n(\phi, A, \Sigma_g)$ its gauge invariance.

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- ▶ Applying this to our favourite map,

$$\text{winding\#} = n(\phi, 0, \Sigma_g) = n(\sigma_3, 0^h, \Sigma_g) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\Sigma_g} da = c_1(L)$$

with $a = -\text{Tr} \sigma_3 h^{-1} dh$.

- ▶ Moral of the story is that if we insist on imposing the diagonal gauge then one must do so using singular gauge transformations and then in turn we produce non-trivial $U(1)$ bundles. If the map has winding number t we will get a $U(1)$ bundle with first Chern class t (we have split $su(2) \rightarrow L \oplus L^{-1}$). Consequently we should sum over all $U(1)$ bundles on Σ_g !

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- ▶ From the 3-dimensional perspective over all T -bundles that one gets by pull back from Σ_g . Since the pull-back $\pi^* M_{(g,p)}$ of the $U(1)$ -bundle $M_{(g,p)} \xrightarrow{\pi} \Sigma_g$ to the total space $M_{(g,p)}$ is (tautologically) trivial, $\pi^* M_{(g,p)} = M_{(g,p)} \times U(1)$, the pull-back of the p -th power of any line bundle on Σ_g to $M_{(g,p)}$ is trivial. Thus the pull-backs of line bundles from Σ_g to $M_{(g,p)}$ are of finite order. All torsion (finite order p) bundles on $M_{(g,p)}$ arise in this way, so that it is precisely these bundles that we should sum over in the path integral.

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- ▶ Sum over all line bundles L of finite order $L^{\otimes p} = M_{(g,p)} \otimes \mathbb{C}$.

Torsion Bundles

- ▶ Consider $G = SU(2)$ and $T = U(1)$: a line bundle L on Σ_g has first Chern class $c_1(L) = r[\omega]$, so that $\pi^*(L)$ has first Chern class

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- ▶ This connection has holonomy in the S^1 direction of $M_{(g,p)}$,

$$\exp\left(i \oint A\right) = \exp\left(2\pi i \frac{r}{p}\right) \in \mathbb{Z}_p$$

and captures the torsion.

- ▶ The curvature 2-form F_H becomes

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- ▶ This argument generalises to higher rank. Normalising the component fields by expanding ϕ and A_H in a basis of simple roots,

$$\phi = \sum_{i=1}^{\text{rk}} \phi^i \alpha_i, \quad A_H = \sum_{i=1}^{\text{rk}} A^i \alpha_i ,$$

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The Calculation (partly done)

- ▶ The action is now

$$\int_M \text{Tr} \left(A_H^t \wedge dA_H^t + A_H^e \wedge \kappa \wedge \mathcal{L}_\phi A_H^e + 2\phi \kappa \wedge F_H^t + \phi^2 \kappa \wedge d\kappa \right)$$

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- ▶ The charged gauge fields enter only through a Gaussian integration and so we can perform the path integral to get a determinant

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- ▶ This ratio of determinants, though almost unity, gives us three things

1. (The absolute value) The Ray-Singer torsion of S^1 (with respect to the flat connection $2\pi i\phi d\theta$), raised to one half of the Euler characteristic of Σ_g , $T_{S^1}(\phi)^{\chi(\Sigma_g)/2}$.

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3. (The phase) The phase $\Phi_0 = \frac{1}{48} \dim G$

1. (The absolute value) The Ray-Singer torsion of S^1 (with respect to the flat connection $2\pi i\phi d\theta$), raised to one half of the Euler characteristic of Σ_g , $T_{S^1}(\phi)^{\chi(\Sigma_g)/2}$.
 2. (The phase) The famous shift $k \rightarrow k + c_g$
 3. (The phase) The phase $\Phi_0 = \frac{1}{48} \dim G$
- ▶ Only those A_H^t that are not constant on the S^1 , $L_K A_H^t \neq 0$, appear in the first term of the action (and they appear nowhere else). Integrating these out gives rise to a determinant which is precisely cancelled by a similar (chargeless) ghost determinant.

Two Dimensional Theory

- ▶ Having integrated out all the \mathfrak{k} -valued fields as well as all the \mathfrak{t} -valued modes which are not $U(1)$ invariant, the Chern-Simons path integral essentially reduces to the path integral of an Abelian 2-dimensional gauge theory on Σ_g ,

$$Z_k[M_{(g,p)}, G] \sim e^{4\pi i p \Phi_0} \int D\phi DA_H^t T_{S^1}(\phi)^{\chi(\Sigma_g)/2} \cdot \exp\left(i \frac{k + c_g}{4\pi} S_M\right).$$

The action is

$$S_M = \int_M \text{Tr} (2\phi \kappa \wedge F_H + \phi^2 \kappa \wedge d\kappa),$$

- ▶ Since the path integral is only over invariant modes, we can push the action S_M down to Σ_g ,

$$S_M \rightarrow S_\Sigma[A_H, \phi] = \frac{k + c_g}{4\pi} \int_{\Sigma_g} \text{Tr}(2\phi F_H + p\phi^2\omega) ,$$

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where $A_H = A_H^t$ and $\phi = \phi^t$.

- ▶ We must sum over all torus on M . We should therefore sum over all allowed values of $r^i = 0, \dots, p-1$. But how does the path integral know that $r^i = 0$ is the same as $r^i = p$? Shifting the r^i by multiples of p , $r^i \rightarrow r^i + p\gamma^i$, $\gamma^i \in \mathbb{Z}$ is tantamount to shifting F_H by an element $2\pi\gamma = 2\pi\gamma^i\alpha_i$ of the integral lattice $I = 2\pi\mathbb{Z}[\alpha_i]$ of G and happily the transformation

$$F_H \rightarrow F_H + 2\pi d\kappa\gamma \quad \phi \rightarrow \phi - 2\pi\gamma .$$

is a symmetry of the theory.

Reduction to Finite Dimensional Integrals

- ▶ The path integral over A_H^t imposes a (delta function) condition on ϕ , namely

$$\iota_K d(\kappa \phi) = 0 .$$

This delta function constraint on ϕ together with the gauge condition imply that ϕ is actually constant,

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- ▶ With ϕ constant we have that

$$\int_M \text{Tr } \kappa \wedge d\kappa \phi^2 = p \text{Tr } \phi^2$$

- ▶ The partition function has reduced to the finite-dimensional integral

$$Z_k[M_{(g,p)}, G] \sim e^{4\pi i p \Phi_0} \sum_{r \in \mathbb{Z}_p^{\text{rk}}_p} \int_{\mathfrak{t}} T_{S^1}(\phi)^{\chi(\Sigma_g)/2} \cdot \exp i \frac{k + c_g}{4\pi} \text{Tr}(p\phi^2 + 4\pi r\phi)$$

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- ▶ The formulae above are invariant under the action of the Weyl group W which is part of the original gauge group. We thus need to divide by the “volume” (or mod out by the action) of W .
- ▶ The Ray-Singer torsion has zeros at the boundary of the Weyl chamber, which means that for genus $g > 1$ the integrals diverge. The way around this is to regularise by giving a small mass term to the connection, while preserving the residual $U(1)^{\text{rk}}$ invariance.

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