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String Theory Exercise 5 Homework

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$$5 + 5 + 5 + 10 = 25$$

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1) Mass shell condition for a state $|\eta\rangle$: $(L_0 - a) |\eta\rangle = 0$

\uparrow N.O. op. \uparrow const.

Physical states: Mass shell condition + $L_{n \neq 0} |\phi\rangle = 0 \quad \forall n > 0$

Spurious state: orthogonal to all phys. states $\langle \zeta | \phi_i \rangle = 0 \quad \forall i$

Note that if a state is spurious and physical, it has zero norm $\langle \zeta | \zeta \rangle = 0$, because per definition it is orthogonal to all physical states, while being a physical state itself. (\Rightarrow null state)

First excited state in open string theory $|\zeta, k\rangle = \vec{\epsilon} \cdot \alpha_{-1} |0, k\rangle$

\downarrow Ad. vector
 \uparrow vacuum, i.e. unexcited string w/ momentum k^μ

\Rightarrow Mass $M^2 = \frac{1}{\alpha'^2} (N - a)$

$N = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{-n} \cdot \alpha_n$ number operator

1. We calculate

$$[N, \alpha_{-n}^\mu] = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [\alpha_{-n} \cdot \alpha_n, \alpha_{-n}^\mu] = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\eta_{\nu\mu} \alpha_{-n}^\nu [\alpha_n^\mu, \alpha_{-n}^\mu] + \eta_{\nu\mu} [\alpha_{-n}^\mu, \alpha_{-n}^\mu] \alpha_n^\nu \right)$$

\Rightarrow for $n > 0, n_i > 0$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{-n}^\mu \delta_{n-n_i, 0} \cdot n = n_i \alpha_{-n_i}^\mu$$

$\Rightarrow N \alpha_{-n_i}^\mu - \alpha_{-n_i}^\mu N + \alpha_{-n_i}^\mu n_i = \alpha_{-n_i}^\mu (N + n_i)$

Then, it's easy to calculate

$N \alpha_{-n_1}^\mu \dots \alpha_{-n_k}^\nu |0, k\rangle = \alpha_{-n_1}^\mu (N + n_1) \alpha_{-n_2}^\nu \dots \alpha_{-n_k}^\nu |0, k\rangle$

$= \dots = \alpha_{-n_1}^\mu \dots \alpha_{-n_k}^\nu (N + \sum_{i=1}^k n_i) |0, k\rangle$

$\stackrel{N|0, k\rangle = 0}{\Rightarrow} \left(\sum_{i=1}^k n_i \right) \alpha_{-n_1}^\mu \dots \alpha_{-n_k}^\nu |0, k\rangle$

Momentum k and no. of d's also k ?

\Rightarrow yes, but nothing to do w/ each other

No contractions on d's?

\Rightarrow No, for fixed indices

2. Consider $|z\rangle = L_{-1}|0,k\rangle$. We want to show that this state is spurious, i.e. $\langle \phi_i | z \rangle = 0 \forall |\phi_i\rangle$ physical.
(and $(L_0 - a)|z\rangle = 0$).

$$\langle \phi_i | z \rangle = \langle \phi_i | L_{-1} | 0, k \rangle = \langle \phi_i | L_{-1}^+ | 0, k \rangle = 0 \\ = (L_1 | \phi_i \rangle)^* = 0$$

$$L_0 | z \rangle = L_0 L_{-1} | 0, k \rangle = (L_{-1} L_0 + L_{-1}) | 0, k \rangle \\ = L_{-1} (L_0 + 1) | 0, k \rangle = L_{-1} (a + 1) | 0, k \rangle$$

Doesn't satisfy mass-shell condition \rightarrow a "spurious state" w/ respect to different convention

✓
not supposed to show $(L_0 - a)|z\rangle = 0$ for spurious state
depends on def of L_0 and a by Clifford Johnson, Padielli, and w/ Gerson Schwartz-Witten

3. $M^2 |z, k\rangle = \frac{1}{\alpha'^2} (N - a) \zeta \cdot \alpha_{-1} | 0, k \rangle = \frac{1}{\alpha'^2} (N - a) \zeta^\mu \alpha_{-1}^\nu \eta_{\mu\nu} | 0, k \rangle$
 $[N, \alpha_{-1}^\nu] = \alpha_{-1}^\nu$ from 1.1)

$$N | 0, k \rangle = \frac{1}{\alpha'^2} \alpha_{-1}^\nu (N + 1 - a) \zeta^\mu \eta_{\mu\nu} | 0, k \rangle \\ \rightarrow \frac{1}{\alpha'^2} \alpha_{-1}^\nu (1 - a) \zeta^\mu \eta_{\mu\nu} | 0, k \rangle \\ = \frac{1}{\alpha'^2} (1 - a) \zeta \cdot \alpha_{-1} | 0, k \rangle$$

$\alpha < 1$: $\alpha > 1$: $\alpha = 1$: $\alpha > 1$: $\alpha < 1$:
 negative mass state, tachyon zero mass mode positive mass

Consider for $m \geq 0$, $(L_0 - a) L_{-1} | 0, k \rangle = (-k^2 + 1 - a) L_{-1} | 0, k \rangle$

$$L_m | z \rangle = L_m L_{-1} | 0, k \rangle = (L_{-1} L_m + (m+1) L_{m-1} + \frac{D}{12} (m^3 - m) \delta_{m,-1}) | 0, k \rangle$$

$$L_m | 0, k \rangle = 0 \\ \rightarrow (m+1) L_{m-1} | 0, k \rangle = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } m \neq 1 \\ 2L_0 | 0, k \rangle = 2a | 0, k \rangle & \text{for } m = 1 \end{cases}$$

For a massless vector in the spectrum, we need $a = 1$.
 Then $|z\rangle$ not physical.

But the state is not physical then and thus not in the spectrum?

4. $L_n |S, k\rangle \stackrel{!}{=} 0$ for $n > 0$

We first calculate (with $L_m = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_{m-n} \alpha_n$):

$$\begin{aligned}
 [L_m, \alpha_{-i}^\nu] &= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [\alpha_n \alpha_{m-n}, \alpha_{-i}^\nu] + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [\alpha_{m-n} \alpha_n, \alpha_{-i}^\nu] \right\} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_n^\dagger \eta_{jk} [\alpha_{m-n}^k, \alpha_{-i}^\nu] + \eta_{jk} \underbrace{[\alpha_n^\dagger, \alpha_{-i}^\nu]}_{=0 \text{ for } n < 0} \alpha_{m-n}^k \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{m-n}^\dagger [\alpha_n^k, \alpha_{-i}^\nu] \eta_{jk} + [\alpha_{m-n}^\dagger, \alpha_{-i}^\nu] \alpha_n^k \eta_{jk} \right\} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_n^\dagger \eta_{jk} \eta^{kr} \delta_{m-n-i, 0} (m-n) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{m-n}^\dagger \eta_{jk} \eta^{kr} \delta_{n-i, 0} n + \eta_{jk} \eta^{kr} \delta_{m-n-i, 0} (m-n) \alpha_n^k \right\} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \alpha_{m-i}^\nu (m-i) + \alpha_{m-i}^\nu + \alpha_{m-i}^\nu (m-i) \right\} \\
 &= \alpha_{m-i}^\nu \cdot m - \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{m-i}^\nu = \alpha_{m-i}^\nu (m - \frac{1}{2})
 \end{aligned}$$

Then $L_n |S, k\rangle = L_n \sum \alpha_{-i}^\nu \eta_{\mu\nu} |0, k\rangle$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum \alpha_{-i}^\nu (L_n + \alpha_{m-i}^\nu (n - \frac{1}{2})) \eta_{\mu\nu} |0, k\rangle \\
 &= \sum \alpha_{-i}^\nu \underbrace{L_n |0, k\rangle}_{=0 \text{ for } n > 1} + \sum \alpha_{m-i}^\nu (n - \frac{1}{2}) \underbrace{|0, k\rangle}_{=0 \text{ for } n > 1} \\
 &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } n > 1 \\ \frac{1}{2} \sum \alpha_{-i}^\nu |0, k\rangle \approx \sum \hat{\alpha}_{-i}^\nu |0, k\rangle & \text{for } n = 1 \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

Is it $|0, x\rangle$ or just $|x\rangle$?

5. Having $0 = \langle \psi | \mathcal{L}_F | \psi \rangle = \int d^d x \langle \psi | \mathcal{L}_F | \psi \rangle = \int d^d x \langle \psi | i \mathcal{L}_F (\partial_\mu e^{-ikx}) | \psi \rangle$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \int d^d x \langle \psi | \mathcal{L}_F e^{-ikx} | \psi \rangle = \int d^d x i \mathcal{L}_F (\partial_\mu e^{-ikx}) | \psi \rangle \\
 &\stackrel{\text{int. by parts}}{\sim} -i \int d^d x \mathcal{L}_F (\partial_\mu | \psi \rangle) e^{-ikx}
 \end{aligned}$$

$\leadsto \mathcal{L}_F \partial_\mu | \psi \rangle = 0$ or $\mathcal{L}_F \partial_\mu = 0$

$\approx \sum \xi^\mu(x)$

$\pm i$ in exp.?

$$6. L_{-1} |0, k\rangle = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n \neq 0} \alpha_{-1-n} \alpha_n |0, k\rangle = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_n \alpha_{-1-n} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{-1-n} \alpha_n \right\} |0, k\rangle$$

$\left. \begin{array}{l} -1-n \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow -1 \leq n \\ n \leq 0 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} n = -1 \wedge n = 0 \text{ possible} \end{array}$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \{ \alpha_0 \alpha_{-1} + \alpha_{-1} \alpha_0 \} |0, k\rangle = \alpha_0 \alpha_{-1} |0, k\rangle$$

\uparrow $[\alpha_0, \alpha_{-1}] = 0$

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} \alpha_0 p = \sqrt{2\alpha'} k_f \\ = \sqrt{2\alpha'} k_f \alpha_{-1}^{\dagger} |0, k\rangle \end{array} \right.$$

Before,
 $k_f = \frac{1}{2} \alpha_0 p$
 and $l_s = 2\alpha' k_f^2$
 Where is π^2 ?

$$7. \text{ Having } |\phi\rangle = \int d^d x \phi(x) |0, x\rangle.$$

$$\sim |\phi\rangle + |\eta\rangle = \int d^d x (\phi(x) + \eta(x)) |0, x\rangle \text{ For } |\eta\rangle \text{ null state}$$

$$\leadsto \int d^d x \eta(x) |0, x\rangle = 0 \quad \times$$

Insert (11)?
 \leadsto See tutorial

$$|\phi\rangle \sim |\phi\rangle + |\eta\rangle$$

$$\star \int \xi^{\mu} \sim \int \xi^{\mu} + \int \lambda k^{\mu}$$

$$\int \xi^{\mu}(x) \sim \int \xi^{\mu}(x) + \int \lambda k^{\mu}$$

2) Consider $|z\rangle = L_{-1}|x_1\rangle$ where $(L_0 - a + 1)|x_1\rangle = 0$
 $L_m|x_1\rangle = 0, m > 0$

1. Physical state condition $L_m|z\rangle = 0$ for $m > 0$

why $(L_0 - a + 1)|x_1\rangle = 0$ in particular for $m=1$:

$$L_1|z\rangle = L_1 L_{-1}|x_1\rangle = (L_{-1}L_1 + 2L_0 + \underbrace{\frac{D}{12}(m^3 - m)}_{=0})|x_1\rangle$$

$$\stackrel{L_1|x_1\rangle=0}{=} 2(a-1)|x_1\rangle \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 1$$

Why demand for especially these constructed state(s) that they are physical?

2. Now consider $|z\rangle = (L_{-2} + \gamma L_{-1}^2)|\bar{x}\rangle$

where $(L_0 + 1)|\bar{x}\rangle = 0; L_m|\bar{x}\rangle = 0, m > 0$
 $(L_0 - a + m)$

then with $X_{in} = \frac{D}{12}(m^3 - m)$ only use this when fulfilled

$$0 \stackrel{!}{=} L_1|z\rangle = L_1(L_{-2} + \gamma L_{-1}^2)|\bar{x}\rangle$$

$$= (L_{-2}L_1 + 3L_{-1})|\bar{x}\rangle + \gamma(L_{-1}L_1 + 2L_0 + X_1)L_1|\bar{x}\rangle$$

$$\stackrel{L_1|\bar{x}\rangle=0}{=} 3L_{-1}|\bar{x}\rangle + \gamma(L_{-1}^2L_1 + L_{-1}(2L_0 + X_1) + 2L_{-1}L_0 + 2L_{-1})|\bar{x}\rangle$$

$$\stackrel{X_1=0}{=} 3L_{-1}|\bar{x}\rangle + \gamma(-2L_{-1} + 2L_{-1} - 2L_{-1})|\bar{x}\rangle$$

$$\stackrel{L_1|\bar{x}\rangle=0}{=} 3L_{-1}|\bar{x}\rangle - 2\gamma L_{-1}|\bar{x}\rangle$$

$$= (3 - 2\gamma)L_{-1}|\bar{x}\rangle \Rightarrow \gamma = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$L_2|z\rangle = L_2(L_{-2} + \gamma L_{-1}^2)|\bar{x}\rangle$$

$$= (L_{-2}L_2 + 4L_0 + X_2)|\bar{x}\rangle$$

$$+ \gamma(L_{-1}L_2 + 3L_{-1})L_1|\bar{x}\rangle$$

$$\stackrel{L_2|\bar{x}\rangle=0}{=} (4L_0 + X_2)|\bar{x}\rangle + \gamma(L_{-1}^2L_2 + L_{-1}(3L_1) + 3L_{-1}L_1 + 3(2L_0 + X_1))|\bar{x}\rangle$$

$$\stackrel{X_2=0}{=} (4L_0 + X_2)|\bar{x}\rangle + \gamma L_0|\bar{x}\rangle = -13|\bar{x}\rangle + \frac{D}{12}(6)$$

$$\stackrel{L_1|\bar{x}\rangle=0}{=} \left(\frac{D}{12} - 13\right)|\bar{x}\rangle$$

In order for $L_2|z\rangle = 0 \Rightarrow D = 26$



3) $\zeta(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s}$, $\text{Re } s > 1$ Can be analytically continued to a meromorphic function on the whole complex plane with $\zeta(-1) = -\frac{1}{12}$



Meromorphic?

a) Looking at the not-N.O. L_0 , we find,

In L_0 summed over i ? Metric for $i=1, \dots, d-2$ only positive modes?

Sum only over $i=1, \dots, d-2$ where metric $\epsilon_{ij} = +1$

$$L_0 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n \neq 0} \alpha_{-n}^i \alpha_n^i = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \sum_{n=-\infty}^0 \alpha_{-n}^i \alpha_n^i + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{-n}^i \alpha_n^i \right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\alpha_n^i \alpha_{-n}^i + [\alpha_{-n}^i, \alpha_n^i] \delta_{ij}) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{-n}^i \alpha_n^i \right\}$$

Term to (-) term because of the n in term from comm.?

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_{-n}^i \alpha_n^i + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=-\infty}^0 [\alpha_{-n}^i, \alpha_n^i] \delta_{ij}$$

$n \rightarrow -n$

$$= L_0^{N.O.} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [\alpha_n^i, \alpha_{-n}^i] \delta_{ij}$$

or $[p_i, p_j] = 0$

$$= L_0^{N.O.} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [\alpha_n^i, \alpha_{-n}^i] \delta_{ij}$$

$$= L_0^{N.O.} - a \quad \rightarrow a = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [\alpha_n^i, \alpha_{-n}^i] \delta_{ij}$$

Why is this now $-a$? Starting from $L_0^{N.O.}$ we find the opposite?

or could repeat the step? \rightarrow Yes; want to express L_0 in terms of $L_0^{N.O.}$; so start from L_0 .

b) Calculating

$$a = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [\alpha_n^i, \alpha_{-n}^i] \delta_{ij} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \delta^{ij} \delta_{ij}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} (d-2) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \quad \text{as only } d-2 \text{ oscillation modes in light cone gauge quantization}$$

But $\alpha_- \neq 0$?

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \zeta(-1) &= -\frac{1}{12} \\ &= \frac{1}{24} (d-2) \end{aligned} \right\}$$

We already found $a = 1 \rightarrow d = 26!$



4) Open bosonic string theory: $(L_0 - a)|\phi\rangle = 0$ (NN B.C.)

$$\alpha' M^2 = 2p^+ p^- - \sum_{i=1}^{24} p_i^2 = N - 1$$

Closed bosonic string theory: $(L_0 - a)|\phi\rangle = 0$
 $(\bar{L}_0 - a)|\phi\rangle = 0$

$$\alpha' M^2 = 4(N - 1) = 4(\bar{N} - 1)$$

where $N = \sum_{i=1}^{24} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{-n}^i \alpha_n^i$, $\bar{N} = \sum_{i=1}^{24} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \bar{\alpha}_{-n}^i \bar{\alpha}_n^i$

a) For the open bosonic string spectrum, the first three levels are:

$N=0$: $|0, p\rangle$, the ground state. It's a ~~1-dimensional~~ scalar (ii)

Corresponding to their $SO(24)$ rep. α^i ?

$N=1$: $\alpha_{-1}^i |0, p\rangle$, first excited state, ~~24-dim.~~ as $i=1, \dots, d-2$ with $d=26$, i.e. 24 states ~~vector~~ $\square_{24} \rightsquigarrow \underline{\underline{24}}$

$N=2$: $\alpha_{-2}^i |0, p\rangle \rightsquigarrow \square_{24}$

$\alpha_{-1}^i \alpha_{-1}^j |0, p\rangle$ is δ^{ij} symmetric tensor of rank 2. Splits in

sym. traceless tensor + trace (ii)

$$\frac{24 \cdot 25}{2} \overset{\text{max}}{\rightarrow} \underline{\underline{276}} = 300 = 299 + 1 \rightsquigarrow \underline{\underline{324}}$$

Why split in $i=j$ and $i \neq j$ in lecture?

$N=3$: $\alpha_{-3}^i |0, p\rangle \rightsquigarrow \square_{24} \rightsquigarrow \underline{\underline{24}}$

$\alpha_{-2}^i \alpha_{-1}^j |0, p\rangle$ is mixed symmetric tensor of rank 2. This

splits into sym. and antisym. part.

$$\frac{24 \cdot 23}{2} \hat{=} \underline{\underline{276}} + \frac{24 \cdot 23}{2} \hat{=} 300 = 299 + 1$$

What about $\alpha_{-2}^i \alpha_{-1}^j$ - not the same state?

$\alpha_{-1}^i \alpha_{-1}^j \alpha_{-1}^k |0, p\rangle$ symmetric tensor of rank 3

$$\frac{24 \cdot 23 \cdot 22}{6} \hat{=} \underline{\underline{2600}} \rightsquigarrow \underline{\underline{3200}} \text{ total}$$

So e.g. 276 is the dim. of the rep. for the antisym. tensor in $SO(24)$!

b) For the masses, we use $\alpha' M^2 = N-1$ and that massless states fall into $SO(24)$, while massive into $SO(25)$.

$N=0$, $\alpha' M^2 = -1 \Rightarrow M^2 < 0 \Rightarrow$ LG $SO(25)$

$N=1$, $\alpha' M^2 = 0 \Rightarrow M^2 = 0 \Rightarrow$ LG $SO(24)$

$N=2$, $\alpha' M^2 = 1 \Rightarrow M^2 > 0 \Rightarrow$ LG $SO(25)$

$N=3$, $\alpha' M^2 = 2 \Rightarrow M^2 > 0 \Rightarrow$ LG $SO(25)$

What LG for neg. M^2 ?

For the number of states corresponding to their LG rep., we find

$N=0$: trivial rep., 1-dim. \Rightarrow 1 \square $SO(25)$

$N=1$: 24-dim. rep. as it's in $SO(24)$, equal to before \Rightarrow 24 \square $SO(24)$

$N=2$: $\dim SO(25)$: $\frac{25 \cdot 24}{2} \hat{=} 325 = \underline{324} + 1 \Rightarrow$ 324

Symmetric and traceless

$N=3$: $\dim SO(25)$: $\frac{25 \cdot 24 \cdot 23}{6} + \frac{25}{2} \hat{=} 2925 + 300$

$= \underline{(2900 + 25)} + \underline{300}$

Symmetric, traceless and antisymmetric \uparrow rank 2 \Rightarrow trace \times dim

\Rightarrow 3200 total

No antysym possible for $N=2$?

$N=2$ in $SO(25)$ a 324 dim rep. now?

Note: The question only asks the first 3 levels. Beyond that, I haven't checked. Sorry

Including $(0, k)$.

3) $(L_0 - a)|\phi\rangle = (\bar{L}_0 - a)|\phi\rangle = 0$ implies that $N = \bar{N}$ for the closed string.

But only in total, not for each state

d) For the closed string, the first two levels are:

$N = \bar{N} = 0$, $|0, p\rangle$, the ground state $\begin{matrix} \text{0} \\ \text{1} \end{matrix} \rightsquigarrow \underline{\underline{1}}$

$N = \bar{N} = 1$, $\alpha_{-1}^i \tilde{\alpha}_{-1}^j |0, p\rangle$ can be obtained by the tensor product of two 24-dim reps., resulting in a sym and antisym. tensor as follows,

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \boxed{24} \otimes \boxed{24} \Rightarrow \boxed{24} \oplus \boxed{24} \hat{=} 300 + 276 \\
 \uparrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \uparrow \\
 \text{Sym. rank 2} \qquad \text{antisym.} \\
 \text{tensor} \qquad \qquad \text{rank 2 tensor} \\
 \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \\
 \text{splits into} \qquad \text{traceless sym tensor + trace: } \boxed{24} + 0
 \end{array}$$

$N = \bar{N} = 2$, $\alpha_{-2}^i \tilde{\alpha}_{-2}^j |0, p\rangle \rightsquigarrow \boxed{24} \otimes \boxed{24} = \boxed{\quad} + \boxed{\quad} = 300 + 276$

$\alpha_{-2}^i \tilde{\alpha}_{-1}^j \alpha_{-1}^k |0, p\rangle \rightsquigarrow \frac{\boxed{24}}{300} \otimes \frac{\boxed{24}}{24} = \left(\frac{\boxed{24}}{299} + \text{0} \right) \times \frac{\boxed{24}}{24}$

Also w/ $\alpha_{-1}^i \tilde{\alpha}_{-1}^j$ exchanged?

Why in lecture 324 and 300?

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e) For the closed bosonic string, the mass formula reads
 $\alpha' M^2 = 4(N - \tilde{N}) = 4(\tilde{N} - 1)$ with massless states being in the
 $SO(24)$ and massive states in the $SO(25)$ representation.

$N = \tilde{N} = 0$: $\alpha' M^2 = -4 \Rightarrow M^2 < 0 \Rightarrow$ LG $SO(25)$

$N = \tilde{N} = 1$: $\alpha' M^2 = 0 \Rightarrow M^2 = 0 \Rightarrow$ LG $SO(24)$

$N = \tilde{N} = 2$: $\alpha' M^2 = 4 \Rightarrow M^2 > 0 \Rightarrow$ LG $SO(25)$

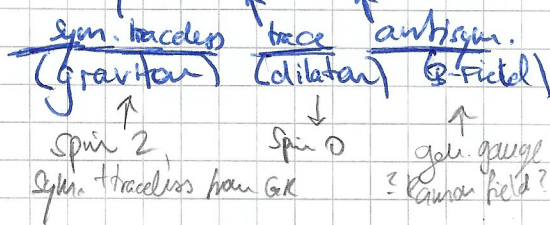
For the number of states corresponding to their LG rep., we find:

$N = \tilde{N} = 0$: trivial rep., 1-dim. \Rightarrow 1 (1) $SO(25)$

$N = \tilde{N} = 1$: 24×24 -dim. rep., equal to before \Rightarrow $\square_{24} \times \square_{24}$ $SO(24)$

$= \square + \square \hat{=} 200 + 276$

$= \square + (1) + \square \hat{=} 259 + 1 + 276$ ✓



why no phys. interpretation for open string? \Rightarrow photon tachyon

$N = \tilde{N} = 2$: in $SO(25)$