

Problems in Supersymmetry

Sheet 3

Problem 11: Pauli-Ljubanski vector

The Pauli-Ljubanski vector is defined by

$$W_\mu = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} P^\nu M^{\rho\sigma}, \quad \epsilon_{0123} = 1$$

where $\{P^\nu, M^{\rho\sigma}\}$ generate the Poincaré algebra. Prove that $W^2 = W_\mu W^\mu$ commutes with all generators of the Poincaré algebra. Compute $[W^\mu, M^{\rho\sigma}]$ for this end.

Problem 12: Polyakov action and symmetries

Consider the Polyakov action of a string moving in D -dimensional Minkowski space

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \frac{T}{2} \int_\Sigma d^2\sigma \sqrt{|h|} h^{\alpha\beta}(\sigma) \partial_\alpha X^\mu \partial_\beta X_\mu \\ \sigma^\alpha &= \{\tau, \sigma\}, \quad X^\mu = X^\mu(\sigma^\alpha), \quad \tau \in \mathbb{R}, \sigma \in [0, \pi] \end{aligned}$$

We discuss the symmetries and corresponding conservation laws of the bosonic string. Show

- Invariance under parameterizations: $\sigma^\alpha \longrightarrow \tilde{\sigma}^\beta = \tilde{\sigma}^\beta(\sigma^\alpha)$
- Invariance under Weyl transformations: $h_{\alpha\beta} \longrightarrow \Omega^2(\sigma^\gamma) h_{\alpha\beta}$
- Compute the energy momentum tensor $T_{\alpha\beta}$
- Invariance under global Poincaré transformations $X^\mu \rightarrow \Lambda^\mu_\nu X^\nu + a^\mu$
- Compute the conserved Noether currents J_α^μ and $J_\alpha^{\mu\nu}$ for the global Poincaré transformations,

$$\delta S = \int d^2\sigma \partial^\alpha (J_\alpha^\mu a_\mu + J_\alpha^{\mu\nu} \omega_{\mu\nu}),$$

where the infinitesimal translations and Lorentz transformations are parametrized by a_μ and $\omega_{\mu\nu}$.

Hint: A symmetric and conserved energy-momentum tensor can be defined via

$$T_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{|h|}} \frac{\delta S}{\delta h^{\alpha\beta}(\sigma)}.$$

It is useful to know

$$\delta\sqrt{|h|} = -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{|h|} h_{\alpha\beta} \delta h^{\alpha\beta}.$$