

CONTENTS

Preface	v
Lecture 1	1
1.1. The Lie algebra \mathfrak{d} of complex vector fields on the circle	1
1.2. Representations $V_{\alpha, \beta}$ of \mathfrak{d}	4
1.3. Central extensions of \mathfrak{d} : the Virasoro algebra	7
Lecture 2	11
2.1. Definition of positive-energy representations of Vir	11
2.2. Oscillator algebra \mathcal{A}	12
2.3. Oscillator representations of Vir	15
Lecture 3	19
3.1. Complete reducibility of the oscillator representations of Vir	19
3.2. Highest weight representations of Vir	21
3.3. Verma representations $M(c, h)$ and irreducible highest weight representations $V(c, h)$ of Vir	23
3.4. More (unitary) oscillator representations of Vir	26
Lecture 4	33
4.1. Lie algebras of infinite matrices	33
4.2. Infinite wedge space F and the Dirac positron theory	35
4.3. Representation of GL_{∞} and gl_{∞} in F . Unitarity of highest weight representations of gl_{∞}	38
4.4. Representation of \mathfrak{a}_{∞} in F	43
4.5. Representations of Vir in F	45
Lecture 5	49
5.1. Boson-fermion correspondence	49
5.2. Wedging and contracting operators	51
5.3. Vertex operators. The first part of the boson-fermion correspondence	53
5.4. Vertex representations of gl_{∞} and \mathfrak{a}_{∞}	56

Lecture 6	59
6.1. Schur polynomials	59
6.2. The second part of the boson-fermion correspondence	61
6.3. An application: structure of the Virasoro representations for $c = 1$	64
Lecture 7	69
7.1. Orbit of the vacuum vector under GL_∞	69
7.2. Defining equations for Ω in $F^{(0)}$	69
7.3. Differential equations for Ω in $\mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, \dots]$	71
7.4. Hirota's bilinear equations	72
7.5. KP hierarchy	74
7.6. N -soliton solutions	77
Lecture 8	81
8.1. Degenerate representations and the determinant $\det_n(c, h)$ of the contravariant form	81
8.2. The determinant $\det_n(c, h)$ as a polynomial in h	83
8.3. The Kac determinant formula	85
8.4. Some consequences of the determinant formula for unitarity and degeneracy	88
Lecture 9	93
9.1. Representations of loop algebras in \bar{a}_∞	93
9.2. Representations of \hat{g}'_n in $F^{(m)}$	96
9.3. The invariant bilinear form on \hat{g}'_n . The action of \tilde{G}'_n on \hat{g}'_n	97
9.4. Reduction from a_∞ to $\hat{\delta}\hat{g}'_n$ and unitarity of highest weight representations of $\hat{\delta}\hat{g}'_n$	100
Lecture 10	105
10.1. Nonabelian generalization of Virasoro operators: the Sugawara construction	105
10.2. The Goddard-Kent-Olive construction	113
Lecture 11	117
11.1. $\hat{\delta}\hat{g}'_2$ and its Weyl group	117
11.2. The Weyl-Kac character formula and Jacobi-Riemann theta functions	119

11.3. A character identity	124
Lecture 12	129
12.1. Preliminaries on $\hat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2$	129
12.2. A tensor product decomposition of some representations of $\hat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2$	130
12.3. Construction and unitarity of the discrete series representations of $V\hat{\mathfrak{u}}$	132
12.4. Completion of the proof of the Kac determinant formula	137
12.5. On non-unitarity in the region $0 \leq c < 1, h \geq 0$	138
References	141