

Modern (discrete) 3rd quantization and emergent cosmology

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QFT of spacetime: what does it mean?

- spacetime = events and their geometric (& causal) relations

neglect fact that events \neq manifold points (due to diffeo invariance, have to be defined wrt dynamical fields)

- QFT on spacetime = QFT of physical entities for given spacetime

(including perturbative QG, partially QFT of spacetime if backreaction is considered)



QFT of spacetime = spacetime is fully dynamical

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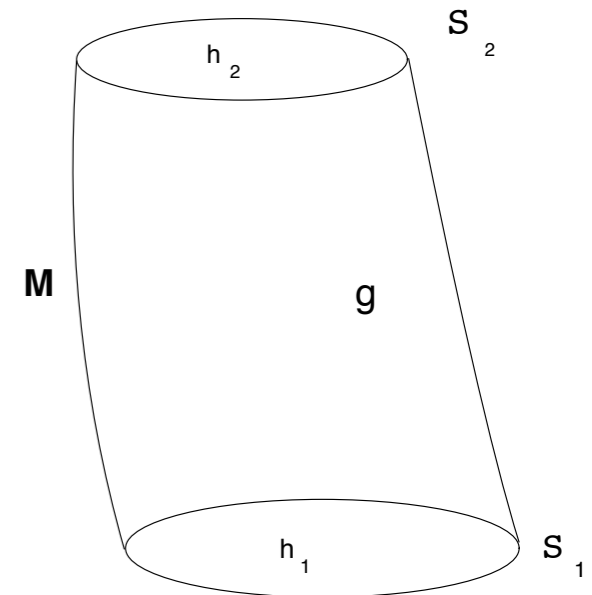


QFT of spacetime = spacetime is fully dynamical

- non-perturbative QG = fully dynamical geometry = background-independence = no spacetime is fixed
- any non-perturbative QG theory is a QFT of spacetime, by definition

example: QG path integral

$$G({}^3g, {}^3g') = \int_{{}^3g}^{{}^3g'} \mathcal{D}^4g e^{-S}$$



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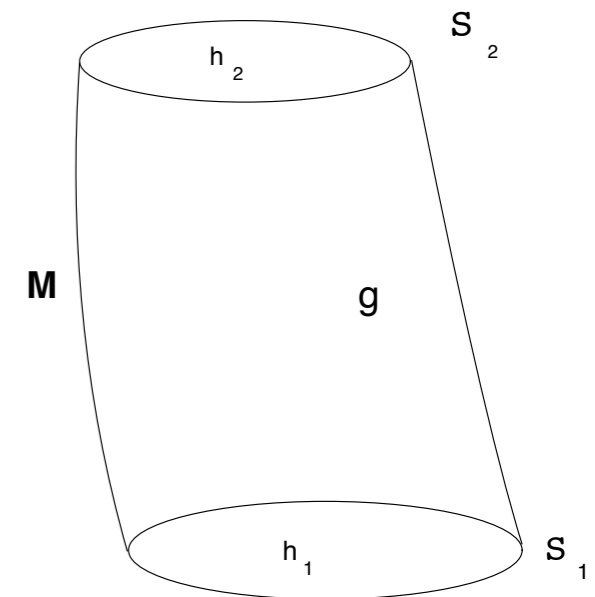
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but spacetime topology is fixed, thus possible geometries are constrained



→ QFT of spacetime = both spacetime geometry and spacetime topology are dynamical

QFT of spacetime: what does it mean?

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plus, maybe "QFT of spacetime" indicates (unconsciously) formulation in which we can still use most standard QFT techniques, e.g. perturbation theory, renormalization (with some notion of scale), and maybe also some sort of reference background for our dynamical fields (even if this cannot be spacetime)

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- available/allowed background structures in GR:
 - spatial topology
 - spacetime topology
 - space of metrics (up to diffeos) + matterfield configurations = superspace
 - signature
 - local gage group (Lorentz)

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plus, can have in mind "emergent spacetime/gravity" scenarios, with continuum gravitational field and spacetime replaced by more abstract non-spatiotemporal (possibly discrete) entities

Quantum gravity = quantum theory of atomic constituents of emergent spacetime

quantum theory of "new" non-spatiotemporal entities

continuum spacetime and geometric quantum observables
reconstructed from collective quantum dynamics of
"atoms of space"



quantum spacetime as a (background-independent) quantum many-body system

extraction of spacetime and cosmology similar to typical problem in condensed matter theory
(from atoms to macroscopic effective continuum physics)

- GR from "hydrodynamic" approximation of fundamental "atomic" quantum theory
- all GR structures and dynamics are to be approximately obtained (in relational language) at effective level
- not just emergent gravity; flat spacetime itself would be emergent, highly excited, collective state of "QG atoms"

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QFT of spacetime with "standard" QFT language and dynamical topology alongside dynamical geometry has been proposed long time ago

3rd quantization of gravity, a QFT of universes

Coleman, Banks, Giddings, Strominger, Caderni, Martellini, Rubakov, McGuigan, Klebanov, Susskind,.....,

- canonical quantum geometrodynamics

see talk by Kiefer

S. Giddings, A. Strominger, '88

globally hyperbolic topology, with given (e.g. spherical) spatial topology

$$S^3 \times R$$

$$S = \int_0^T dt (\pi \cdot \dot{g} - NH)$$

proper time gauge

- Wheeler-DeWitt operator $N \square \Psi({}^3g) = 0$ analogous to D'Alembertian on superspace, with DeWitt supermetric

- canonical QG Hilbert space (solutions of canonical QG constraints)

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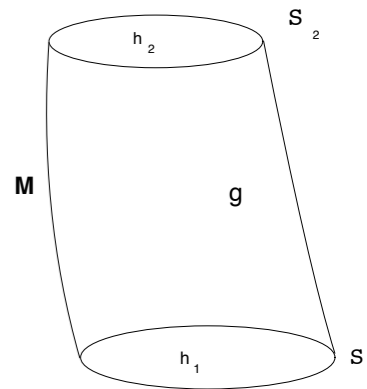
- gravitational path integral as "Feynman propagator" (Green function on superspace)

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$$\square G({}^3g, {}^3g') = \square \int_0^\infty dT K({}^3g, {}^3g'; T) = \frac{1}{N} \delta({}^3g, {}^3g')$$

related discussion in spin foam context

E. Livine, DO, '02; DO, '05;
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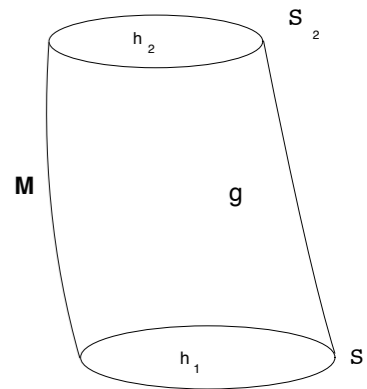
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- issues motivating going beyond canonical geometrodynamics:

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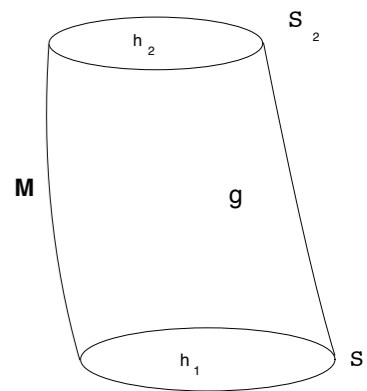
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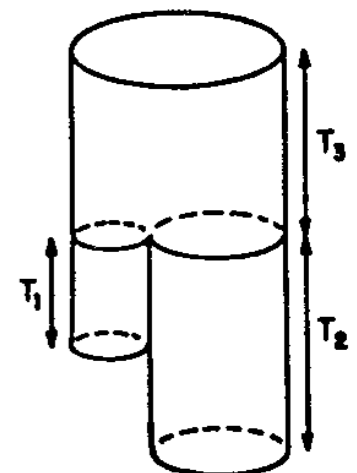


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- path integral can be defined for manifolds with spatial topology change $G({}^3g_1, {}^3g_2, {}^3g_3)$

specifying matching conditions at junctions (ensuring that 4-geometries are counted only once)



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- action $S = S_2 + V[\Phi] = S_2(\Phi) + \lambda_3 S_3(\Phi) + \dots$

S. Giddings, A. Strominger, '88

$$S_2 = -\frac{1}{2} \int \mathcal{D}{}^3g \Phi \square \Phi$$

kinetic term = WdW operator

$$S_3 = \int \mathcal{D}{}^3g_1 \mathcal{D}{}^3g_2 \mathcal{D}{}^3g_3 \Phi[{}^3g_1] \Phi[{}^3g_2] \Phi[{}^3g_3] \delta({}^3g_2, {}^3g_1^-) \delta({}^3g_3, {}^3g_1^+)$$

topology-changing process

encoding matching conditions at junctions

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- classical eqn of motion

$$\frac{\delta S}{\delta \Phi} = 0 = \square \Phi - V'[\Phi]$$

non-linear and non-local (on superspace) correction to WdW eqn

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- quantum effective action

$$\Gamma[\Phi_B] = W[J] - \Phi_B J$$

$$\Phi_B = \frac{\delta W}{\delta J}$$

- quantum eqns of motion

$$\frac{\delta \Gamma}{\delta \Phi_B} = 0$$

quantum corrected non-linear WdW eqn, including topology change

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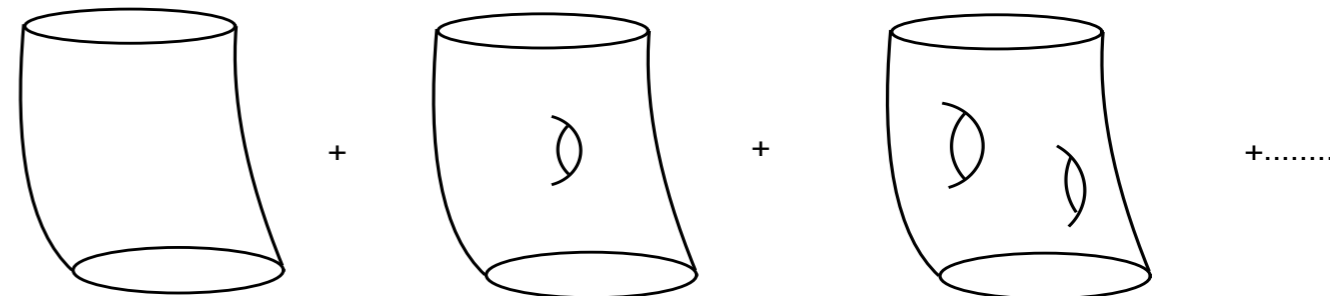
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$$\mathcal{A}[\mathcal{M}] = \int_{\{g|\mathcal{M}\}} \mathcal{D}g e^{-S_{\mathcal{M}}^{EH}(g)}$$



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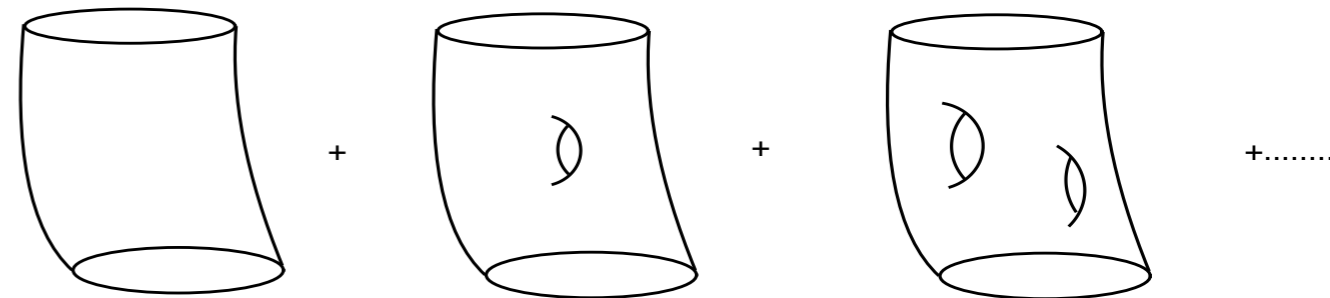
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- Hilbert space:

- canonical Hilbert space (solutions of QG constraints) \longrightarrow "timeless Fock space" of "many universes"
- "deparametrized" many-universes Fock space wrt to "clock field" appearing in 3rd quantized action

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- minisuperspace toy versions

e.g.
$$\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial a^2} - \frac{1}{a^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi_i} - a^2 + a^4 [\lambda + V(\phi_i)] \right) \Phi(a, \phi_i) = 0 \quad a \rightarrow t, \quad \phi_i \rightarrow x_i$$

- action (only indicating dependence on scale factor)

W. Fischler, I. Klebanov, J. Polchinski, L. Susskind, '89

$$S_{\text{cubic}} = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty dt \left[\dot{\Phi}^2(t) + (t^2 - \lambda t^4) \Phi^2(t) \right] + \frac{g}{2} \int_0^\infty dt dt' dt'' \Phi(t) \Phi(t') \Phi(t'') \rho(t, t', t'')$$

classical eqns of motion = non-linear quantum cosmology

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- LQC-minisuperspace version

G. Calcagni, S. Gielen, DO, '12; M. Bojowald et al., '12;

$$\hat{\mathcal{K}} \psi(\nu, \phi) := -B(\nu) (\Theta + \partial_\phi^2) \psi(\nu, \phi) = 0$$

difference eqn wrt to volume eigenvalues + (massless) scalar field

$$S_i[\Psi] = \frac{1}{2} \sum_\nu \int d\phi \Psi(\nu, \phi) \hat{\mathcal{K}} \Psi(\nu, \phi) + \sum_{j=2}^n \frac{\lambda_j}{j!} \sum_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_j} \int d\phi_1 \dots d\phi_j f_j(\nu_i, \phi_i) \prod_{k=1}^j \Psi(\nu_k, \phi_k)$$

different choices of interaction terms (conserved quantities and matching quantities) are possible

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$$S_i[\Psi] = \frac{1}{2} \sum_\nu \int d\phi \Psi(\nu, \phi) \hat{\mathcal{K}} \Psi(\nu, \phi) + \sum_{j=2}^n \frac{\lambda_j}{j!} \sum_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_j} \int d\phi_1 \dots d\phi_j f_j(\nu_i, \phi_i) \prod_{k=1}^j \Psi(\nu_k, \phi_k)$$

different choices of interaction terms (conserved quantities and matching quantities) are possible

- in fact, two possible interpretations of 3rd quantized minisuperpace QG:

- spatial topology change - universe creation/annihilation - wormholes
- merging/splitting of homogeneous patches of inhomogeneous universe ("separate universe" cosmology)

classical eqns of motion = non-linear quantum cosmology

3rd quantization of gravity, a QFT of universes

Coleman, Banks, Giddings, Strominger, Caderni, Martellini, Rubakov, McGuigan, Klebanov, Susskind,....., Marolf, Maxfield,

- enormous (mathematical) difficulties - entirely formal very limited results

- minisuperspace toy versions

e.g.
$$\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial a^2} - \frac{1}{a^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi_i} - a^2 + a^4 [\lambda + V(\phi_i)] \right) \Phi(a, \phi_i) = 0 \quad a \rightarrow t, \quad \phi_i \rightarrow x_i$$

- action (only indicating dependence on scale factor)

W. Fischler, I. Klebanov, J. Polchinski, L. Susskind, '89

$$S_{\text{cubic}} = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty dt \left[\dot{\Phi}^2(t) + (t^2 - \lambda t^4) \Phi^2(t) \right] + \frac{g}{2} \int_0^\infty dt dt' dt'' \Phi(t) \Phi(t') \Phi(t'') \rho(t, t', t'')$$

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- LQC-minisuperspace version

G. Calcagni, S. Gielen, DO, '12; M. Bojowald et al., '12;

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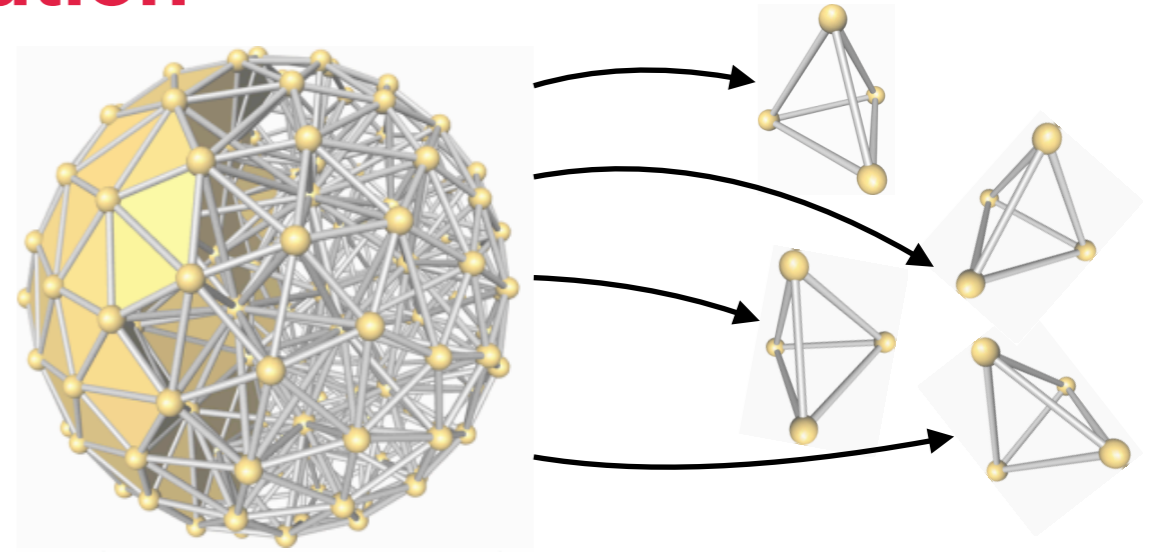
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way forward? going discrete

general idea of discrete 3rd quantization

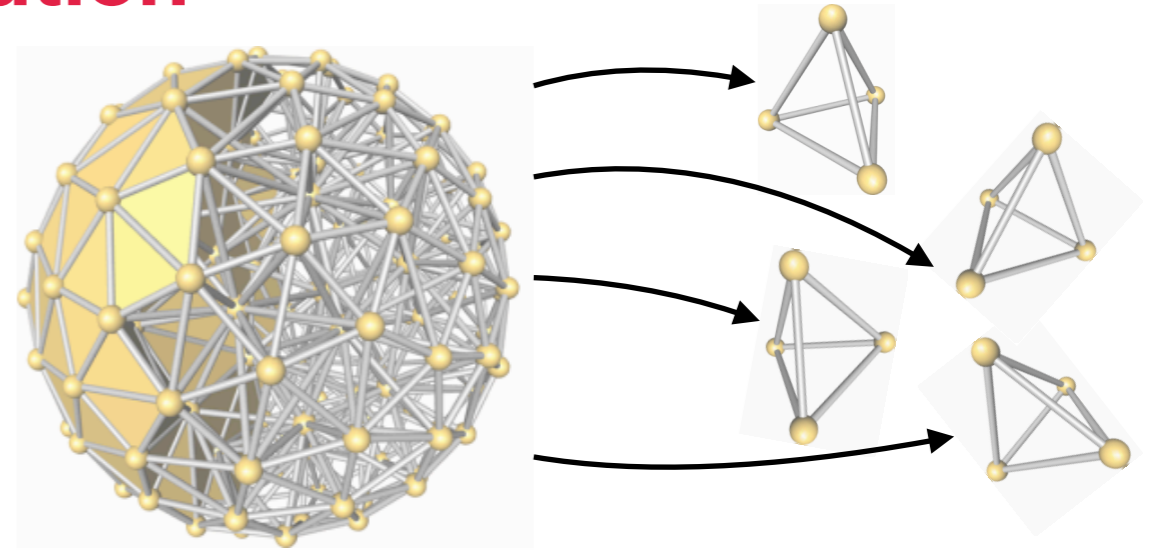
- chop universe into building blocks



result: discrete gravity path integral replacing continuum one in Feynman expansion

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$$Z_\lambda = \int \mathcal{D}\varphi(q) e^{-S[\varphi(q)]} = \sum_{\mathcal{M}} \mathcal{A}[\mathcal{M}]$$

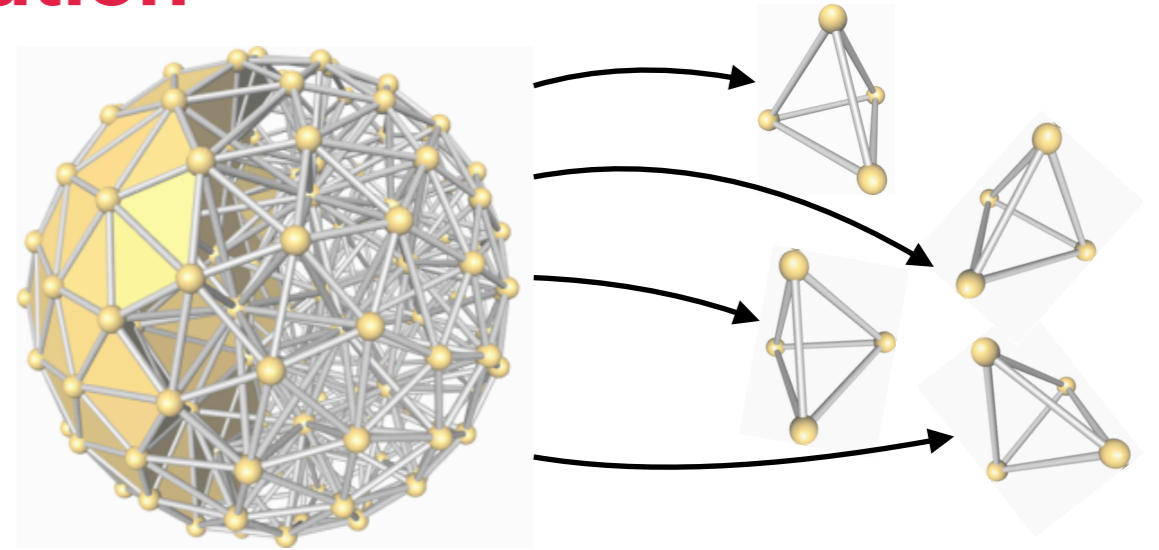
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$$= \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \sum_{\Delta} \mu(a, \Delta) e^{-S_R^\Delta(\{L_e=a\})}$$

or sum over lattices + sum over discrete geometric data

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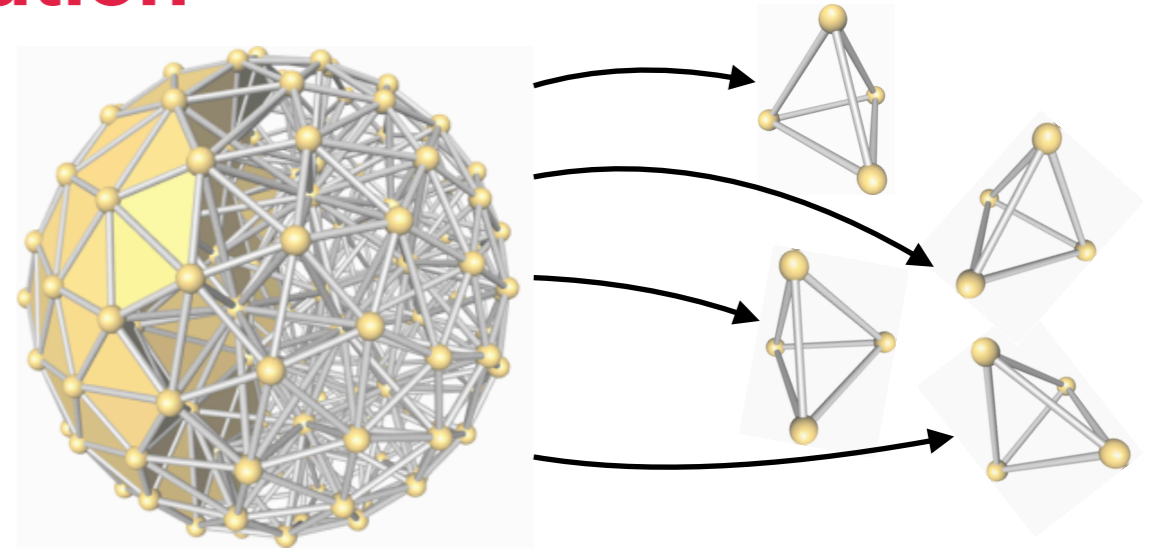
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issue: • identify 3rd quantized action that produces sum over whole discretized manifolds

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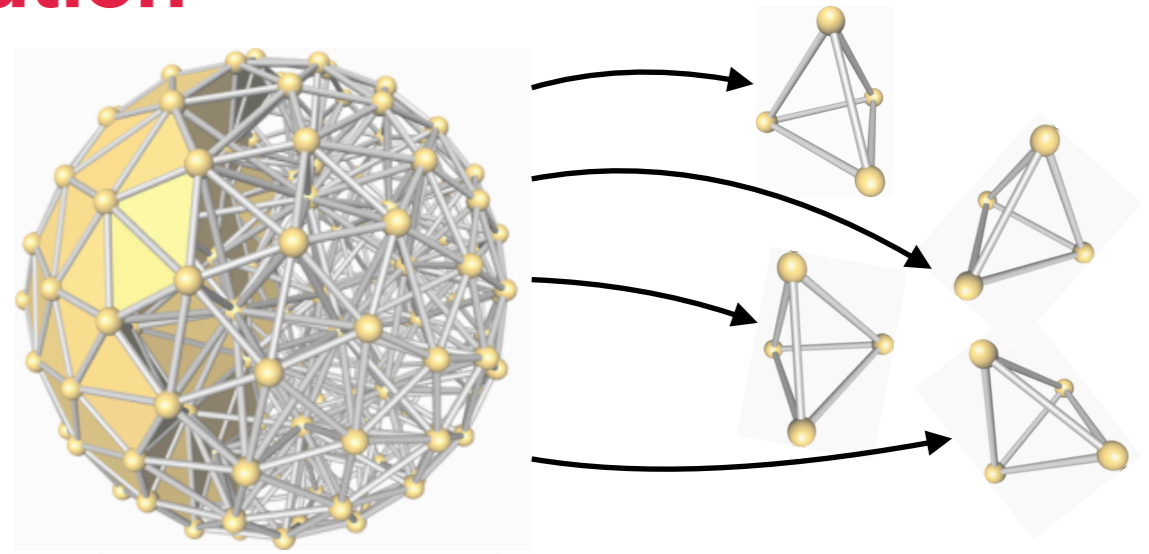
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no example of such "global discrete" 3rd quantization

except 2d cases, reconstructed from generalised 2d CDT

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J. Ambjorn et al, '09, '15, '21

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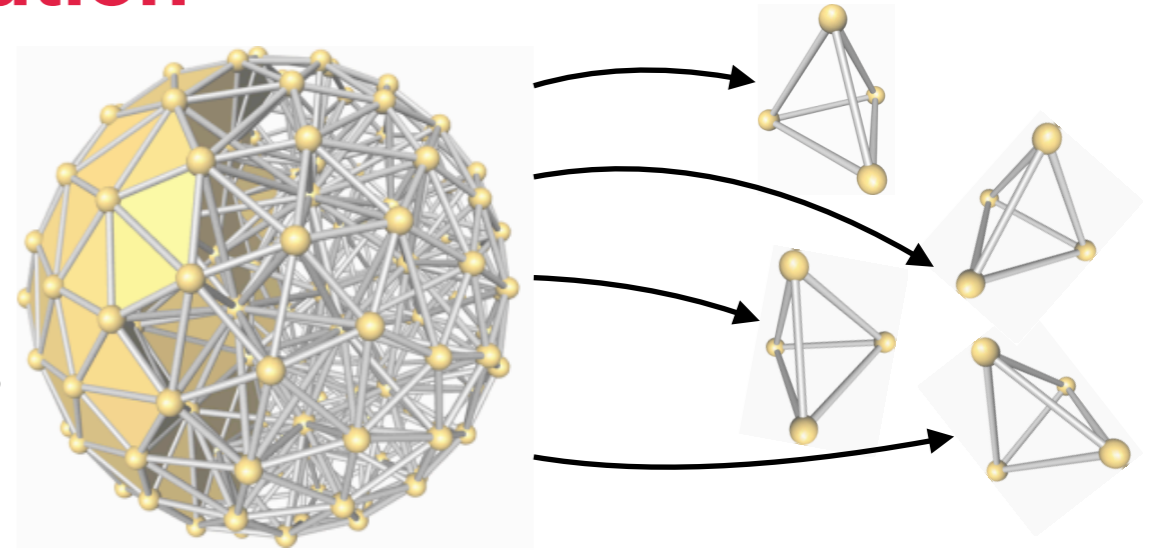
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- chop universe into building blocks

- write field theory for building blocks

states = generic assemblies of building blocks, including glued ones

interactions = discrete spacetime structures



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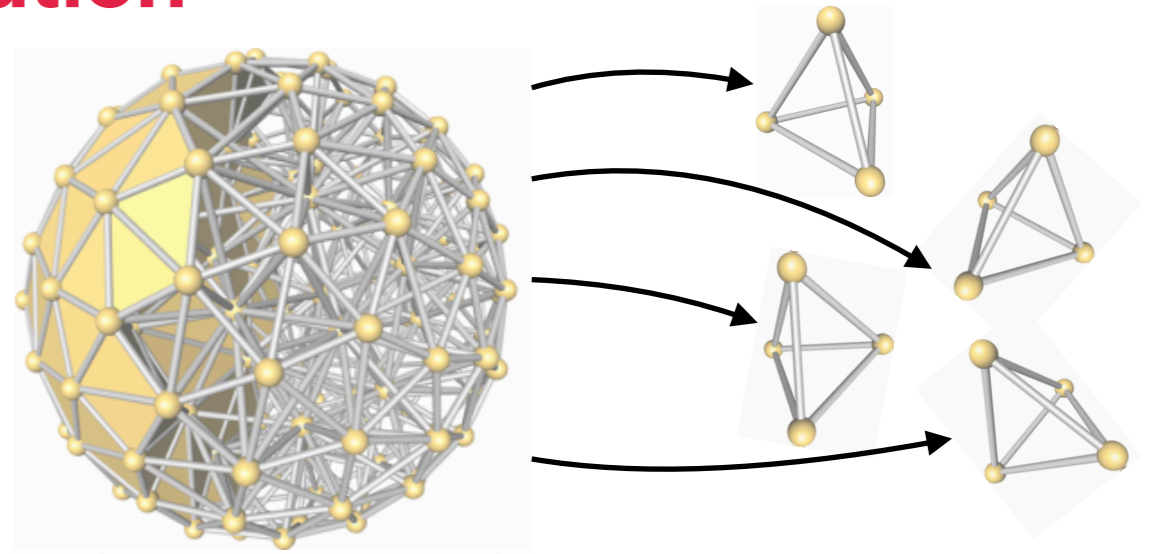
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more in spirit of emergent spacetime scenarios

Quantum gravity = quantum theory of atomic constituents of emergent spacetime

quantum theory of "new" non-spatiotemporal entities

continuum spacetime and geometric quantum observables
reconstructed from collective quantum dynamics of
"atoms of space"



quantum spacetime as a (background-independent) quantum many-body system

extraction of spacetime and cosmology similar to typical problem in condensed matter theory
(from atoms to macroscopic effective continuum physics)

- GR from "hydrodynamic" approximation of fundamental "atomic" quantum theory
- all GR structures and dynamics are to be approximately obtained (in relational language) at effective level
- not just emergent gravity; flat spacetime itself would be emergent, highly excited, collective state of "QG atoms"

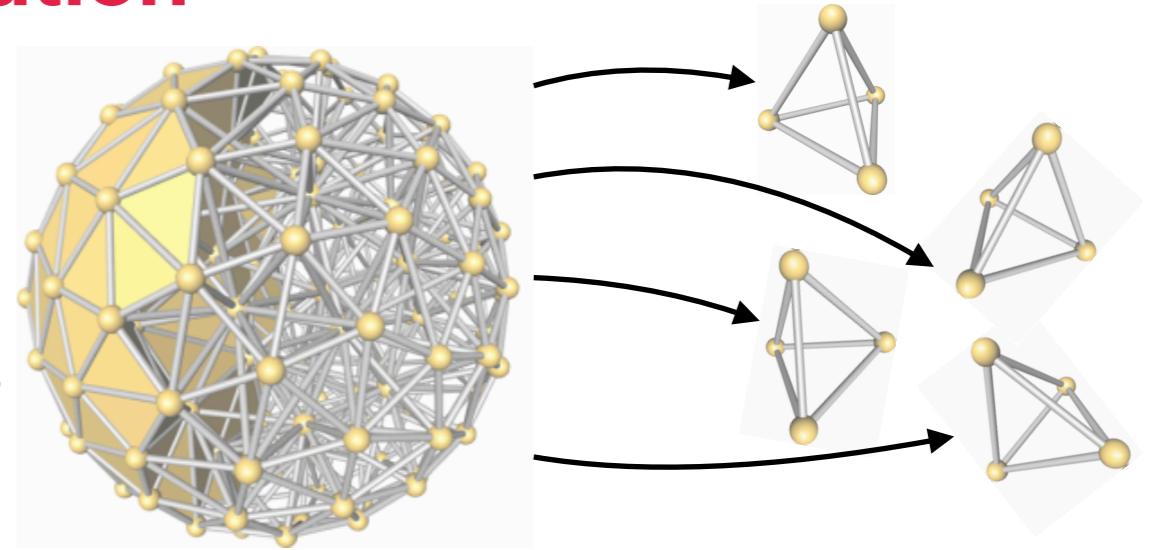
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we have successful examples

and promising generalizations of it

random matrix models for 2d (euclidean) QG

- matrices ~ 1d simplices (building blocks of 1d space)

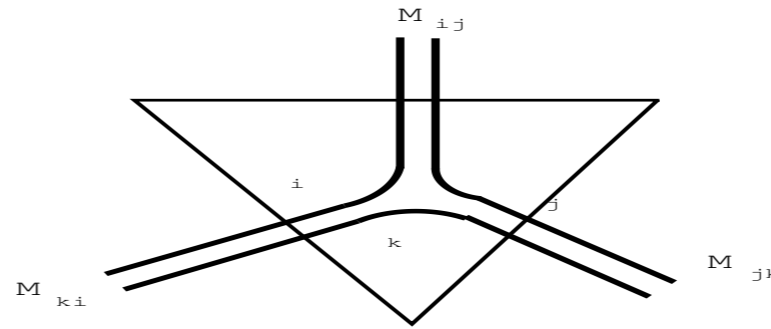
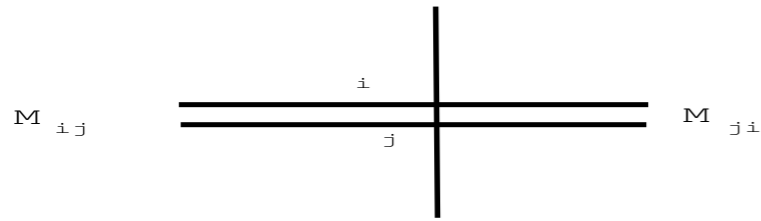
links/matrices

$$M^i_j \quad i, j = 1, \dots, N$$



- action example: $S(M) = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} M^2 - \frac{g}{\sqrt{N}} \text{tr} M^3 = \frac{1}{2} M^i_j K^{jl}_{ki} M^k_l - \frac{g}{\sqrt{N}} M^i_j M^m_n M^k_l V^{jnl}_{mki}$

$$K^{jl}_{ki} = \delta^j_k \delta^l_i \quad V^{jnl}_{mki} = \delta^j_m \delta^n_k \delta^l_i$$



- partition function:

$$Z = \sum_{\Gamma} \left(\frac{g}{\sqrt{N}} \right)^{V_{\Gamma}} Z_{\Gamma} = \sum_{\Gamma} g^{V_{\Gamma}} N^{F_{\Gamma} - \frac{1}{2} V_{\Gamma}} = \sum_{\Gamma} g^V N^{\chi} = \sum_{\Delta} e^{+\frac{4\pi}{G} \chi(\Delta) - \frac{a\Lambda}{G} t_{\Delta}}$$

- Feynman diagrams = (ribbon graphs dual to) 2d cellular complexes (here, simplicial) of arbitrary topology
- Feynman amplitudes = 2d discrete gravity path integral on equilateral lattice

discrete "locally generated" 3rd quantization: sum over (discrete) geometries + sum over topologies

topologies ~wormholes (2d setting is crucial)

control over random matrix models

$$S(M) = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} M^2 - \frac{g}{\sqrt{N}} \text{tr} M^3 = \frac{1}{2} M^i_j K^{jl}_{ki} M^k_l - \frac{g}{\sqrt{N}} M^i_j M^m_n M^k_l V^{jnl}_{mki}$$

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- in large-N limit, planar (spherical) diagrams dominate, i.e. trivial topology
- continuum limit = phase transition (condensation) to theory of large continuum surfaces

expectation value for the total area of surface, for large number of vertices, is:

$$\langle A \rangle = a \langle t_{\Delta} \rangle = \langle V_{\Gamma} \rangle = a \frac{\partial}{\partial g} \ln Z_0(g) \simeq \frac{a}{g - g_c}$$

- which continuum theory does it correspond to? 2d quantum Liouville gravity

- double scaling limit:

defining: $\kappa^{-1} = N (g - g_c)^{\frac{(2-\beta)}{2}}$ we get: $Z \simeq \sum_h \kappa^{2h-2} f_h = \kappa^{-2} f_0 + f_1 + \kappa^2 f_2 + \dots$

can take combined limit $N \rightarrow \infty$ and $g \rightarrow g_c$ holding κ fixed \Rightarrow continuum limit to which all topologies contribute!

\longrightarrow 3rd quantization of 2d Liouville (euclidean) QG

Tensor models

(Ambjorn, Durhuus, Sasakura, ..., Gurau, Rivasseau, Bonzom, Ryan, Benedetti, Ben Geloun, Tanasa,

Construction generalized to D dimensions (tensor models generating D -dimensional simplicial complexes)

$T_{i_1 \dots i_D}$ corresponding to a $(D-1)$ -simplex
real rank- D tensor

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 ← pattern of gluing of $D+1$ $(D-1)$ -simplices to form boundary of D -simplex

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Feynman diagrams dual to simplicial D-complexes of any topology

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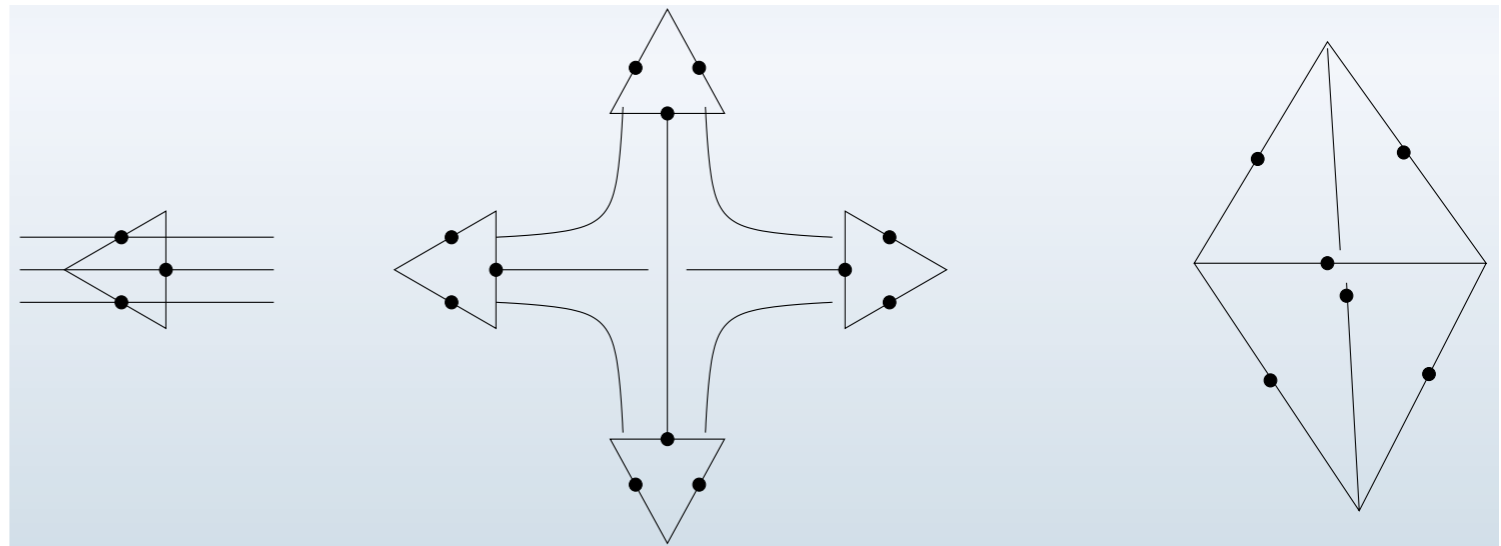
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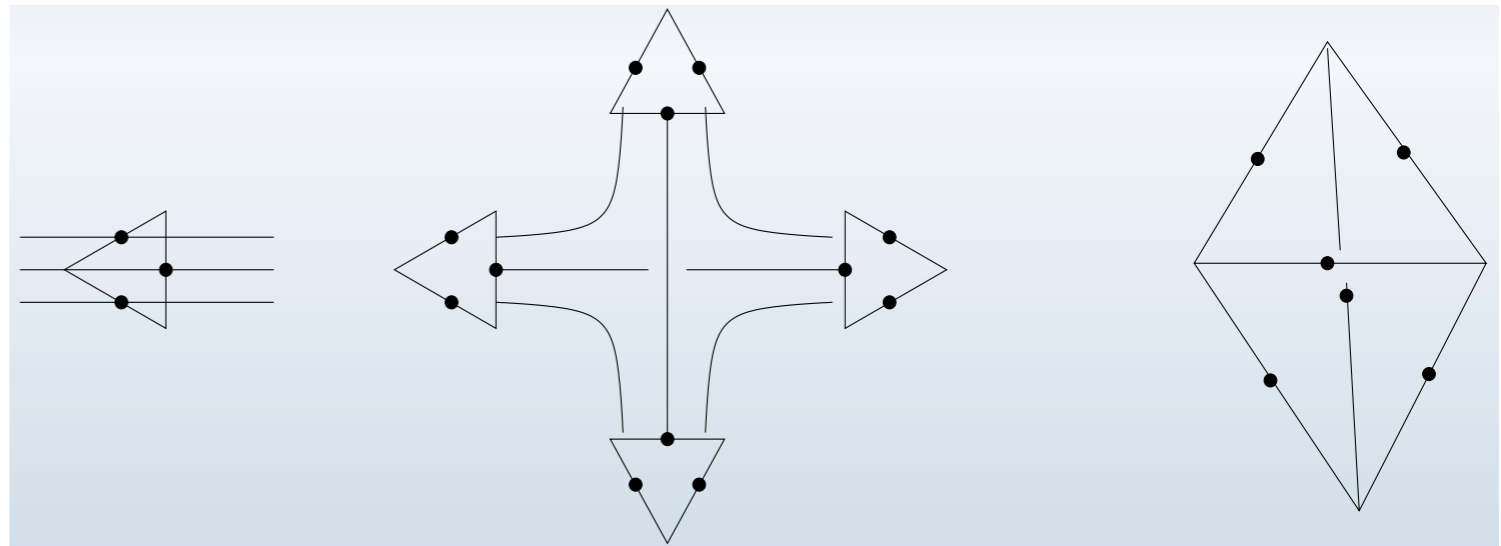
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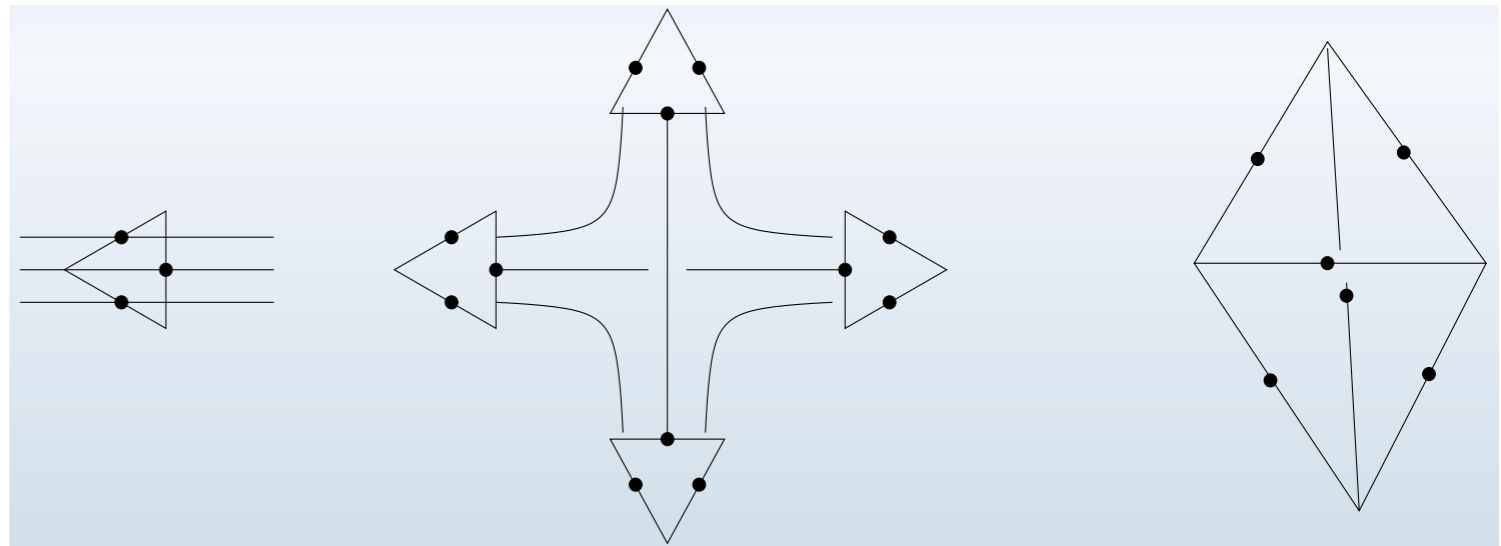
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- purely combinatorial 3rd quantization
- all topologies (not just wormholes) included in perturbative sum
- also spatial topologies can be dynamical
- finite system - correspondence to gravity to be looked for in continuum large-N limit

adding data to the tensors: tensorial group field theories

toward a full 3rd quantization picture (i.e. richer field domain & quantum geometry)

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$$T_{i_1, \dots, i_D} \longrightarrow \varphi(g_1, \dots, g_D) \quad \varphi : G^D \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

G = Lie group

(can extend to quantum groups)

domain can be extended to include local directions

$$\varphi(g_1, \dots, g_D; \vec{\chi}) \quad \varphi : G^D \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

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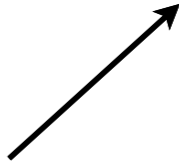
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- field theory action with non-local interactions, describing how simplices connect to form higher-cells

details depend on (class of) models

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“combinatorial non-locality”
in pairing of field arguments



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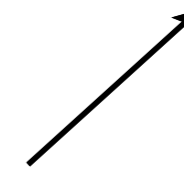
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“combinatorial non-locality”
in pairing of field arguments



- Feynman diagrams are dual to cellular complexes of any topology
- perturbative expansion of quantum dynamics gives sum over cellular complexes of all topologies

$$\mathcal{Z} = \int \mathcal{D}\varphi \mathcal{D}\bar{\varphi} e^{i S_\lambda(\varphi, \bar{\varphi})} = \sum_{\Gamma} \frac{\lambda^{N_\Gamma}}{\text{sym}(\Gamma)} \mathcal{A}_\Gamma$$

proper QFT (on group manifold)

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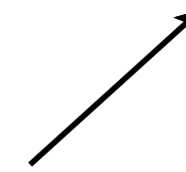
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- field theory action with non-local interactions, describing how simplices connect to form higher-cells

details depend on (class of) models

$$S(\varphi, \bar{\varphi}) = \frac{1}{2} \int [dg_i] \overline{\varphi(g_i)} \mathcal{K}(g_i) \varphi(g_i) + \frac{\lambda}{D!} \int [dg_{ia}] \varphi(g_{i1}) \dots \varphi(\bar{g}_{iD}) \mathcal{V}(g_{ia}, \bar{g}_{iD}) + c.c.$$

“combinatorial non-locality”
in pairing of field arguments



- Feynman diagrams are dual to cellular complexes of any topology
- perturbative expansion of quantum dynamics gives sum over cellular complexes of all topologies

$$\mathcal{Z} = \int \mathcal{D}\varphi \mathcal{D}\bar{\varphi} e^{i S_\lambda(\varphi, \bar{\varphi})} = \sum_{\Gamma} \frac{\lambda^{N_\Gamma}}{\text{sym}(\Gamma)} \mathcal{A}_\Gamma$$

proper QFT (on group manifold)

which data? which dynamics (action, Feynman amplitudes)? -----> quantum geometric models

TGFTs: well defined, controllable QFTs?

fully quantum geometric TGFTs --> more involved quantum amplitudes

simpler TGFT models --> more mathematical control

- control over topology/combinatorics of TGFT diagrams

- techniques from crystallization theory (colored graphs, ...) are crucial

Gurau, Rivasseau, Bonzom, Ben Geloun, Tanasa, Riello, Carrozza, Kaminski, Ryan,

- large-N limit and melonic regime (N ~size of tensors ~ cut-off in irrep labels)

- perturbative renormalizability

Benedetti, Ben Geloun, Carrozza, Tanasa, DO, Rivasseau, Gurau, Lahoche, Ousmane-Samary,

- many renormalizable TGFT models
 - different dimensions (rank), abelian & non-abelian groups, various conditions (e.g. gauge invariance)

- quantum geometric 4d TGFT models (GFTs) more challenging

- results on scaling of amplitudes (for some diagrams) ~ radiative corrections
 - (including all those obtained from spin foam perspective)

T. Krajewski et al., '10; A. Riello, '13; V. Bonzom, B. Dittrich, '15; P. Dona, '17; P. Dona et al, '19; M. Finocchiaro, DO, '20; P. Dona et al. '22

- constructive aspects

Benedetti, Gurau, Rivasseau,

TGFTs: well defined, controllable QFTs?

fully quantum geometric TGFTs --> more involved quantum amplitudes

simpler TGFT models --> more mathematical control

- **Functional Renormalization Group analysis**

- different dimensions (rank), abelian & non-abelian groups, various conditions (e.g. gauge invariance)
- flows beyond melonic sector, studies of asymptotic safety/freedom

Ben Geloun, Carrozza, Tanasa, Toriumi, Krajewski, Martini, DO, Rivasseau, Gurau, Lahoche, Ousmane-Samary, Benedetti, Pithis, Thürigen, ..

- **critical behaviour**

- under analytic control for tensor models and simple TGFTs
- analysis of critical behaviour and phase transitions in IR, via FRG, for TGFTs

- **Landau-Ginzburg mean field analysis**

Marchetti, DO, Pithis, Thurigen, ...

- also for fully quantum geometric models
- mean field approx appears more reliable for more physical GFTs

see talk by A. Pithis

GFTs: basics

4d case - specific class of models

Barrett, Crane, De Pietri, Freidel, Krasnov,
Rovelli, Perez, DO, Livine,

see talk by H. Haggard

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atoms of space ~ quantum 3-simplices with extra scalar dofs

see talk by H. Haggard

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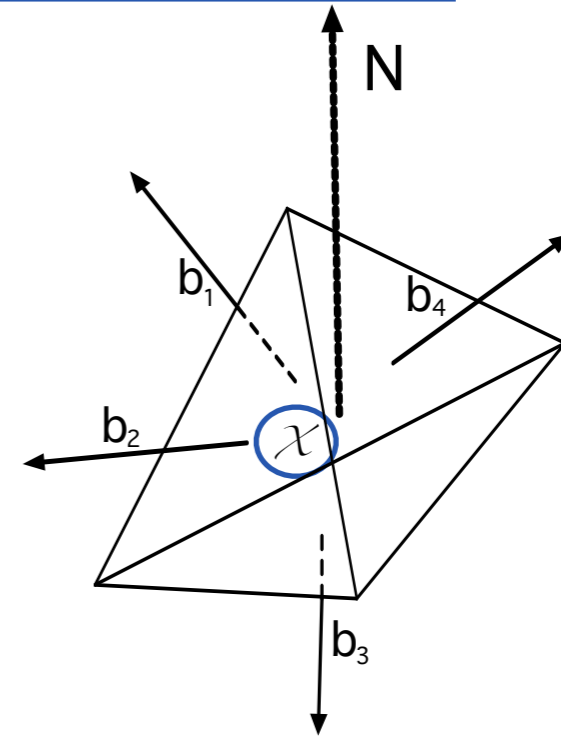
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- **geometric variables:** triangle vectors ~ $\mathfrak{su}(2)$ Lie algebra elements

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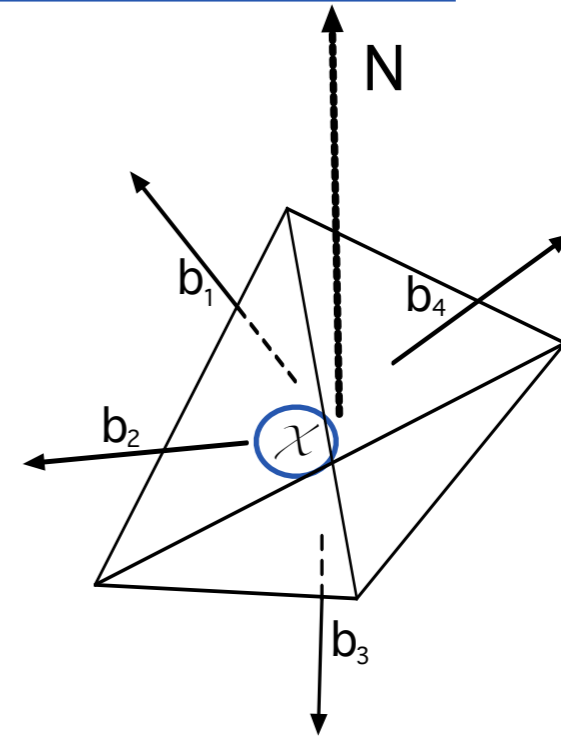
see talk by H. Haggard

- **geometric variables:** triangle vectors ~ su(2) Lie algebra elements

- **observables:** e.g. triangle areas, volume

$$A_i = |b_i| \quad V = \frac{1}{6} \sqrt{b_1 \cdot b_2 \times b_3}$$

become operators: $b_i \rightarrow \hat{J}_i$



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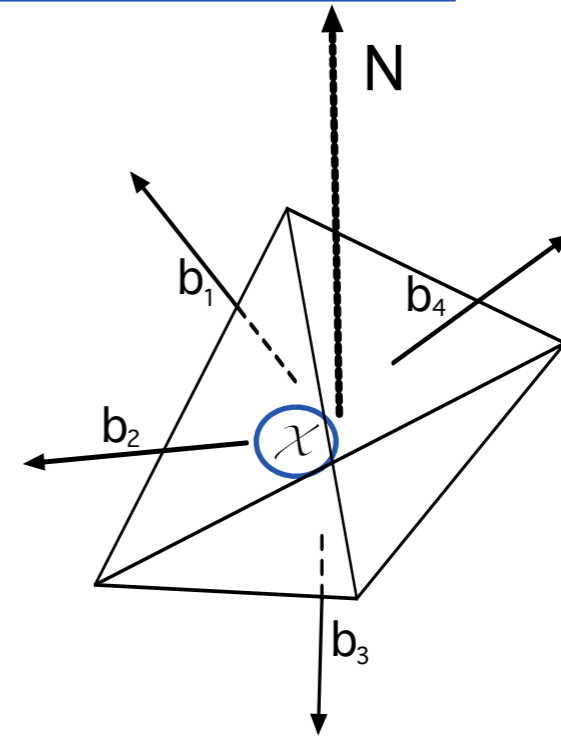
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Hilbert space of quantum tetrahedron

(in terms of SU(2) irreps)

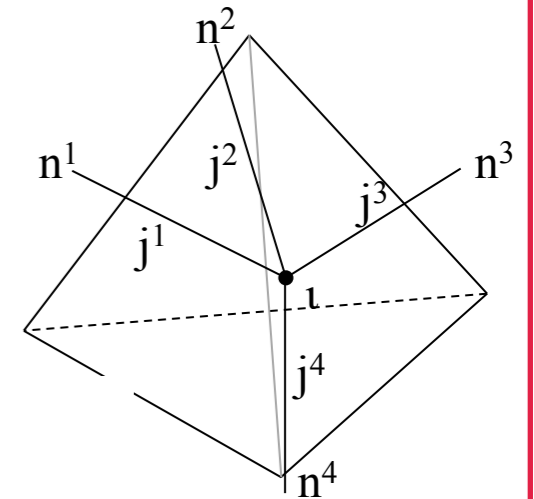
spin network vertex ~ quantum tetrahedron

$$\mathcal{H}_v = \bigoplus_{\vec{j}_v} \left(\bigotimes_{i=1}^d \underbrace{V^{j_v^i}}_{\text{repr. space}} \otimes \underbrace{\mathcal{I}^{\vec{j}_v}}_{\text{intertwiner space}} \right)$$

quantum geometric operators act on this Hilbert space:

$|j^i n^i\rangle \in V^{j^i}$ diagonalises area operator

$|\vec{j}\rangle \in \mathcal{I}^{\vec{j}} = \text{Inv}_G [V^{j^1} \otimes \dots \otimes V^{j^d}]$ diagonalises volume operator



+ scalar dofs $\otimes L^2(\mathbb{R} \times \dots \times \mathbb{R})$

GFTs: basics

4d case - specific class of models

Barrett, Crane, De Pietri, Freidel, Krasnov,
Rovelli, Perez, DO, Livine,

• equivalent representation: $\Psi(g_1, \dots, g_4) = \Psi(g_1 h, \dots, g_4 h) = \sum_{\{j_i, m_i; I\}} \Psi_{m_1 \dots m_4}^{j_1 \dots j_4; I} D_{m_1 n_1}^{j_1}(g_1) \dots D_{m_4 n_4}^{j_4}(g_4) C_{n_1 \dots n_4}^{j_1 \dots j_4; I}$

thus

$L^2(SU(2)^4 / SU(2))$ (quantum geometry dofs)

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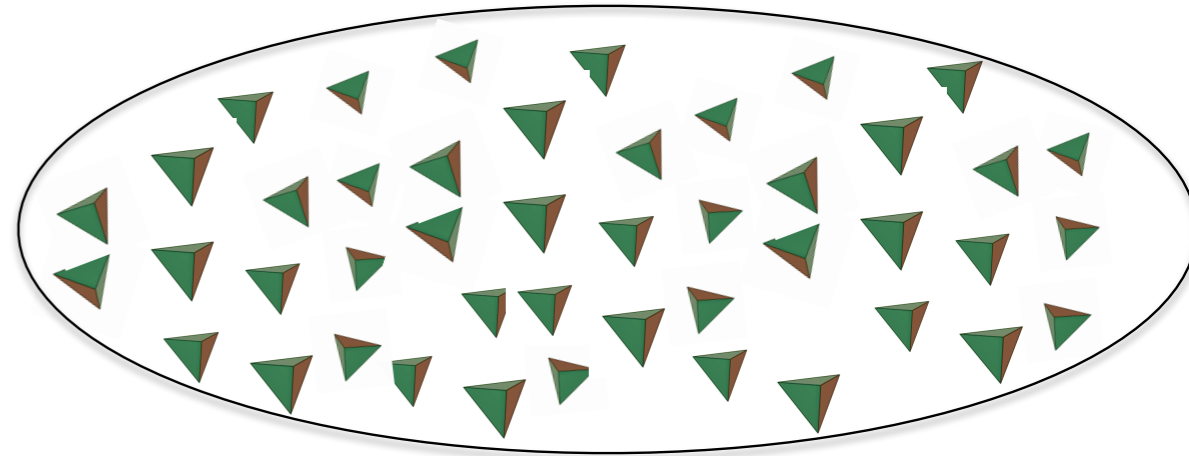
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- Fock space

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H}_v) = \bigoplus_{V=0}^{\infty} \text{sym} \left\{ \left(\mathcal{H}_v^{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{H}_v^{(2)} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{H}_v^{(V)} \right) \right\}$$



- GFT field operators (creating/annihilating tetrahedra):

$$\hat{\varphi}(g_I, \chi^a) \equiv \hat{\varphi}(g_I, \chi^1, \dots, \chi^n) \quad \left[\hat{\varphi}(\vec{g}), \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(\vec{g}') \right] = \mathbb{I}_G(\vec{g}, \vec{g}') \quad \left[\hat{\varphi}(\vec{g}), \hat{\varphi}(\vec{g}') \right] = \left[\hat{\varphi}^\dagger(\vec{g}), \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(\vec{g}') \right] = 0$$

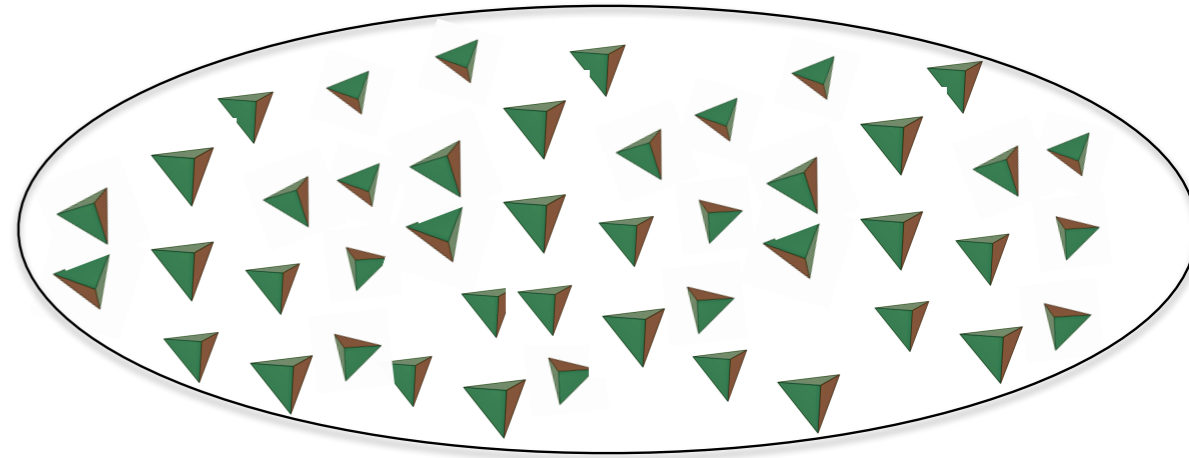
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- discrete (collective) quantum geometric observables

e.g. volume $\hat{V}_{tot} = \int [dg_i][dg'_j] \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(g_i) V(g_i, g'_j) \hat{\varphi}(g'_j) = \sum_{J_i} \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(J_i) V(J_i) \hat{\varphi}(J_j)$

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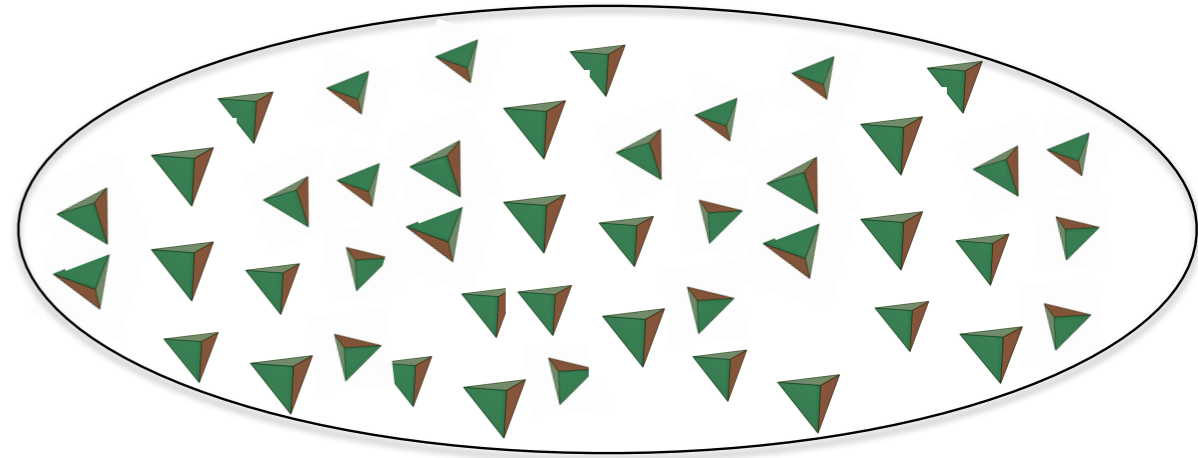
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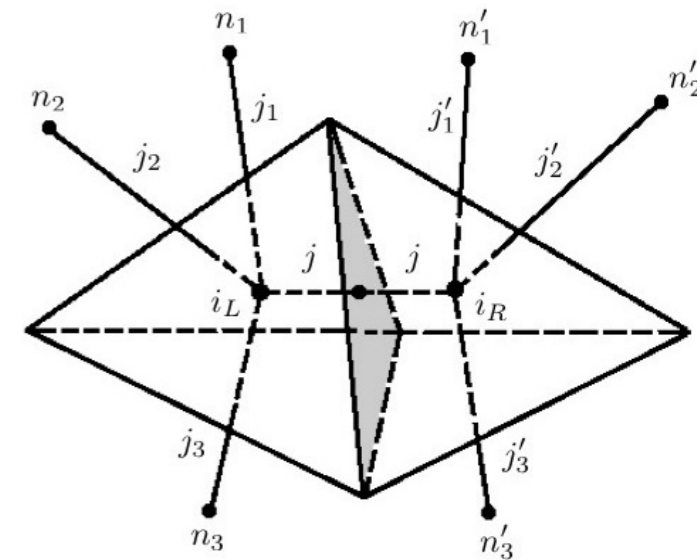
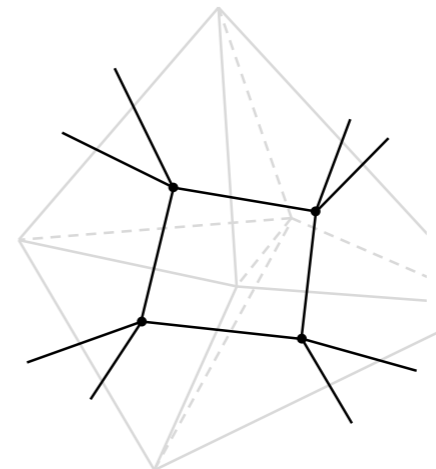
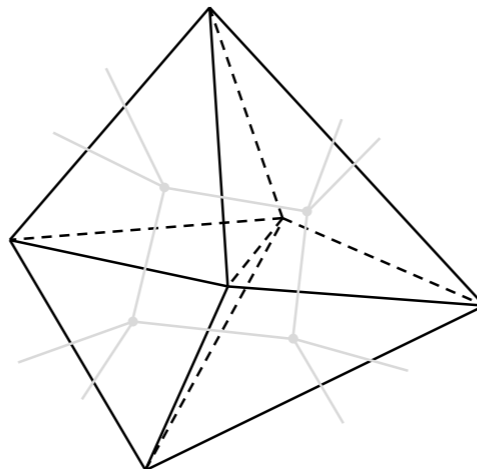
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- maximal entanglement of "triangle dofs" ~ gluing of tetrahedra across triangle

entangled states ~ extended simplicial complexes

see talks by S. Langenscheidt & G. Chirco



dynamics of quantum atomic geometry

GFT action = prescription for weights associated to building blocks of 4d lattice in sum over discrete geometries

$$S(\varphi, \bar{\varphi}) = \frac{1}{2} \int [dg_i] \overline{\varphi(g_i)} \mathcal{K}(g_i) \varphi(g_i) + \frac{\lambda}{D!} \int [dg_{ia}] \varphi(g_{i1}) \dots \varphi(g_{iD}) \mathcal{V}(g_{ia}, \bar{g}_{iD}) + c.c.$$
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De Pietri, Petronio, '00; R. Gurau, '10; ...

labelled by group-theoretic data (group elements, group irreps, ...)

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basic guideline for choosing action:

quantum geometric input from canonical LQG, simplicial geometry

- GFT Feynman amplitudes = lattice gravity path integrals = spin foam models

Reisenberger, Rovelli, '00

A. Baratin, DO, '11

M. Finocchiaro, DO, '18

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fully discrete and quantum geometric 3rd quantization: QFT for quantum "atoms of space"

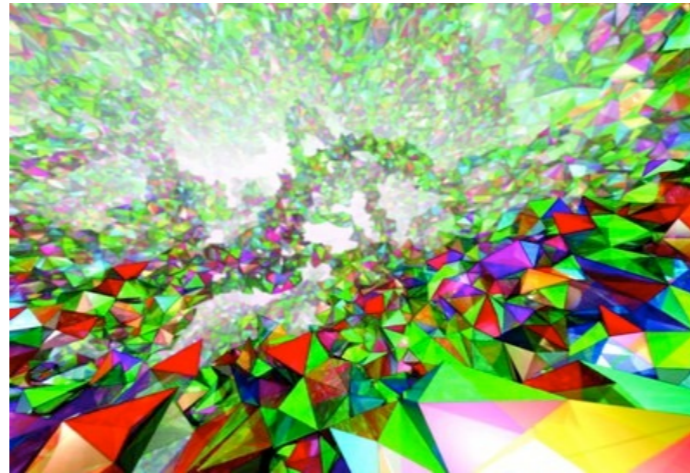
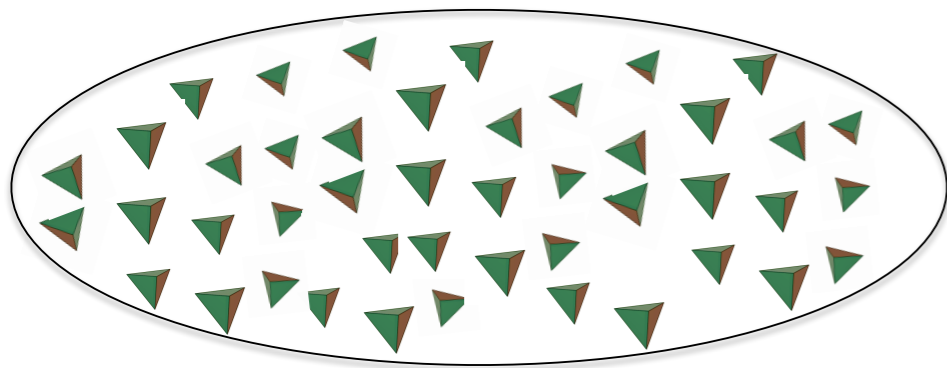
- GFT quanta ~ quantum tetrahedra ~ spin network vertices
- entangled GFT many-body states ~ (2nd quantized) spin networks
- GFT (perturbative) amplitudes = spin foam amplitudes ~ simplicial gravity path integrals

GFT (condensate) cosmology: general strategy

from perspective of fundamental QG atoms of space:

continuum geometry = coarse-grained description of discrete geometry of many (infinite) QG atoms

GR dynamics = approximate description of collective quantum dynamics of many (infinite) QG atoms

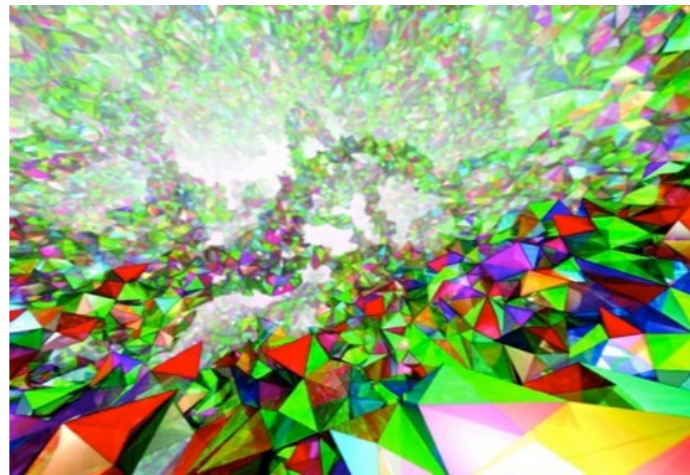
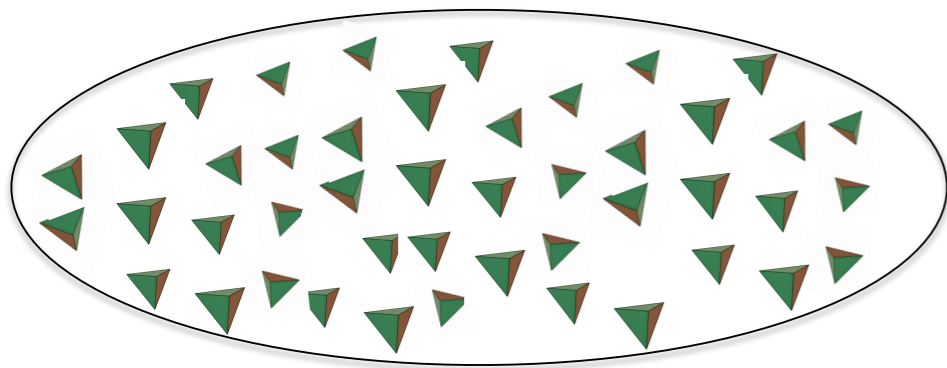


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extracting effective continuum dynamics from QG ~ typical problem of quantum many-body physics

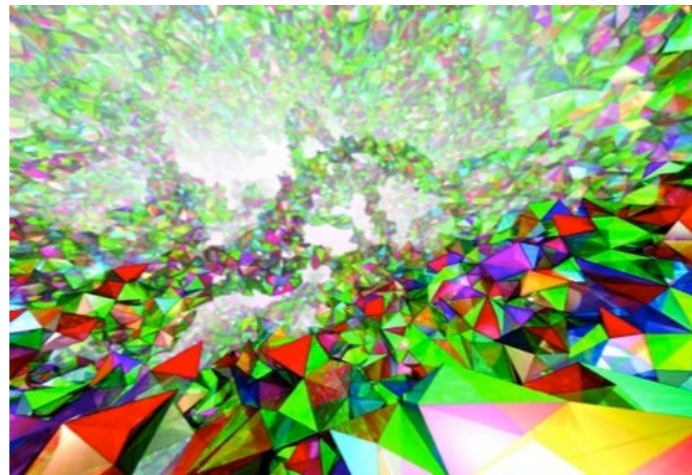
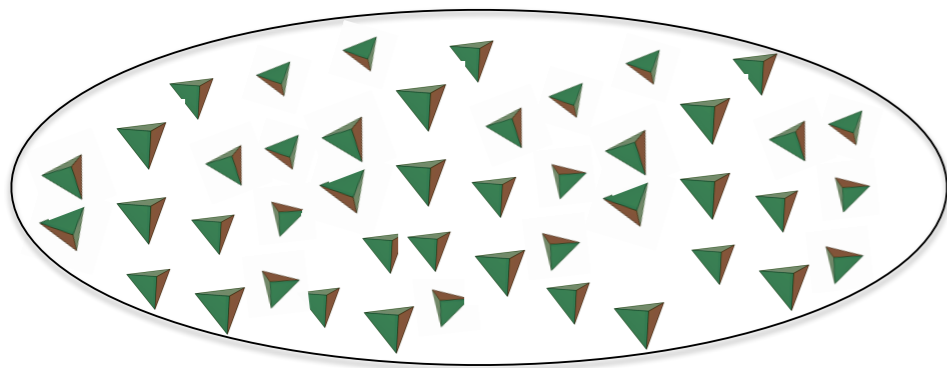
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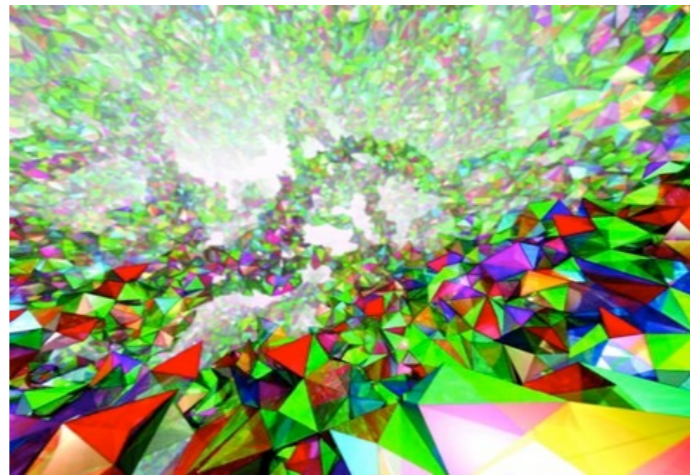
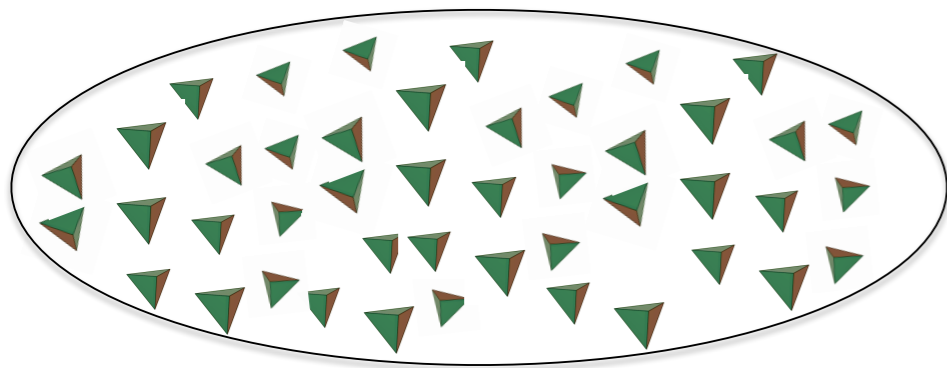
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note: this is main outstanding issue of all non-perturbative QG approaches

cosmology expected to correspond to "most coarse-grained" dynamics



in other words: effective dynamics of special (global) observables of full theory



QG hydrodynamics

GFT (condensate) cosmology: general strategy

- hypothesis: universe as QG quantum fluid (condensate)
- extract approximate hydrodynamic eqns for QG fluid (density and phase)
- compute relational cosmological observables in hydrodynamic approximation
- translate hydrodynamic eqns into eqns for cosmological observables

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$$F_\lambda(J) = \ln Z_\lambda[J] \quad \Gamma[\phi] = \sup_J (J \cdot \phi - F(J)) \quad \langle \varphi \rangle = \phi$$

* simplest approximation:
mean field hydrodynamics

$$\Gamma[\phi] \approx S_\lambda(\phi)$$

mean field ~ condensate wavefunction

- corresponding quantum states:

(simplest): GFT field coherent state

$$|\sigma\rangle := \exp(\hat{\sigma}) |0\rangle$$

superposition of infinitely many spin networks dofs,
“gas” of tetrahedra, all associated with same state

$$\hat{\sigma} := \int d^4g \sigma(g_I) \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(g_I) \quad \sigma(g_I k) = \sigma(g_I)$$

condensate wavefunction (also incl. scalar dofs)

GFT (condensate) cosmology: general features

- immediate cosmological interpretation of (domain of) condensate wavefunction:

isomorphism between domain of TGFT condensate wavefunction and minisuperpsace

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(\mathcal{D}) \quad \mathcal{D} &\simeq \{ \text{geometries of tetrahedron} \} \simeq \\ &\simeq \{ \text{continuum spatial geometries at a point} \} \simeq \\ &\simeq \text{minisuperspace of homogeneous geometries} \end{aligned}$$

S. Gielen, DO, L. Sindoni, '13

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A. Jercher, DO, A. Pithis, '21

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- general form of resulting (Gross-Pitaevskii) equations of motion for condensate wavefunction (mean field):

$$\int [dg'] d\chi' \mathcal{K}(g, \chi; g', \chi') \sigma(g', \chi') + \lambda \frac{\delta}{\delta \varphi} \mathcal{V}(\varphi) |_{\varphi \equiv \sigma} = 0$$

Gielen, DO, Sindoni, '13; DO, Sindoni, Wilson-Ewing, '16

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Gielen, DO, Sindoni, '13; DO, Sindoni, Wilson-Ewing, '16

cosmology as QG hydrodynamics ~ non-linear extension of (loop) quantum cosmology

GFT (condensate) cosmology: general features

- immediate cosmological interpretation of (domain of) condensate wavefunction:

isomorphism between domain of TGFT condensate wavefunction and minisuperspace

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(\mathcal{D}) \quad \mathcal{D} &\simeq \{ \text{geometries of tetrahedron} \} \simeq \\ &\simeq \{ \text{continuum spatial geometries at a point} \} \simeq \\ &\simeq \text{minisuperspace of homogeneous geometries} \end{aligned}$$

S. Gielen, DO, L. Sindoni, '13

S. Gielen, '15

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that is, in isotropic restriction and with just one matter field:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(a, \phi) & \quad \text{"wavefunction" on minisuperspace} \\ \mathcal{K}(a, \partial_a, \phi, \partial_\phi) \sigma(a, \phi) + \mathcal{V}'[\sigma(a, \phi)] &= 0 \quad \text{hydrodynamic (non-linear, possibly non-local) eqn on minisuperspace} \end{aligned}$$

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like in minisuperspace 3rd quantization, but:

- kinetic term is not WdW operator
- interaction term dictated by simplicial quantum geometry, not continuum topology change or separate universe cosmology

Derivation of effective cosmological dynamics: main steps

quantum geometric EPRL model with 4 scalar dofs (1 clock+ 3 rods + 1 matter scalar field)

$$S_{\text{GFT}} = K + U + U^*$$

$$K = \int dg_I dh_I \int d^d \chi d^d \chi' d\phi d\phi' \bar{\varphi}(g_I, \chi) \mathcal{K}(g_I, h_I; (\chi - \chi')_\lambda^2, (\phi - \phi')^2) \varphi(h_I, (\chi')^\mu, \phi')$$

$$U = \int d^d \chi d\phi \int \left(\prod_{a=1}^5 dg_I^a \right) \mathcal{U}(g_I^1, \dots, g_I^5) \prod_{\ell=1}^5 \varphi(g_I^\ell, \chi^\mu, \phi)$$

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restriction to "good clock+rods" condensate states - peakedness properties on clock/rod values

peaked functions (e.g. Gaussians)

$$\sigma_{\epsilon, \delta, \pi_0, \pi_x; x^\mu}(g_I, \chi^\mu, \phi) = \eta_\epsilon(\chi^0 - x^0; \pi_0) \eta_\delta(|\boldsymbol{\chi} - \mathbf{x}|; \pi_x) \tilde{\sigma}(g_I, \chi^\mu, \phi)$$

L. Marchetti, DO, '20, '21

$$|\boldsymbol{\chi} - \mathbf{x}|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^d (\chi^i - x^i)^2 \quad \mathbb{C} \ni \delta = \delta_r + i\delta_i \quad \delta_r > 0 \quad \epsilon, |\delta| \ll 1 \quad z_0 \equiv \epsilon \pi_0^2 / 2 \quad z \equiv \delta \pi_x^2 / 2$$

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- **isotropy:** condensate wavefunction depends on single j (plus clock/rods/matter)

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L. Marchetti, DO, '20, '21

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resulting (free) mean field hydrodynamics eqn:

$$\partial_0^2 \tilde{\sigma}_j(x, \pi_\phi) - i\gamma \partial_0 \tilde{\sigma}_j(x, \pi_\phi) - {}^{(\lambda)}E_j^2(\pi_\phi) \tilde{\sigma}_j(x, \pi_\phi) + \alpha^2 \nabla^2 \tilde{\sigma}_j(x, \pi_\phi) = 0$$

dependence on
parameters of
model and state

$$\gamma \equiv \frac{\sqrt{2\epsilon z_0}}{\epsilon z_0^2}$$

$${}^{(\lambda)}E_j^2 \equiv \frac{1}{\epsilon z_0^2} - r_{j;2}(\pi_\phi) (1 + 3\lambda\alpha^2)$$

$$\alpha^2 \equiv \frac{1}{3} \frac{\delta z^2}{\epsilon z_0^2}$$

$$r_s^{(\lambda)} \equiv \frac{\tilde{K}_\lambda^{(s)}}{\tilde{K}_\lambda^{(0)}}$$

Fourier mode of matter
field variable

Derivation of effective cosmological dynamics: main steps

quantum geometric EPRL model with 4 scalar dofs (1 clock+ 3 rods + 1 matter scalar field)

using: $\tilde{\sigma}_j \equiv \rho_j \exp[i\theta_j]$ rewrite in standard hydrodynamic form (fluid density, phase)

homogeneous background + inhomogeneous perturbations (spacetime localization defined in relational terms)

$$\rho_j = \bar{\rho}_j + \delta\rho_j \quad \theta_j \equiv \bar{\theta}_j + \delta\theta_j \quad \bar{\rho} = \bar{\rho}(x^0, \pi_\phi) \quad \bar{\theta} = \bar{\theta}(x^0, \pi_\phi)$$

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background eqns:

$$\bar{\rho}_j''(x^0, \pi_\phi) - \left[(\bar{\theta}_j'(x^0, \pi_\phi))^2 + {}^{(\lambda)}\eta_j^2(\pi_\phi) - \gamma\bar{\theta}_j'(x^0, \pi_\phi) \right] \bar{\rho}_j(x^0, \pi_\phi) = 0$$

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now, need to obtain equations for physical observables

• universe volume

$$\hat{V} = \int d^n \chi \int dg_I dg_I' \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(g_I, \chi^a) V(g_I, g_I') \hat{\varphi}(g_I', \chi^a)$$

• value of clock/rods scalar fields

$$\hat{X}^b \equiv \int d^n \chi \int dg_I \chi^b \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(g_I, \chi^a) \hat{\varphi}(g_I, \chi^a)$$

• momentum of clock/rods scalar fields

$$\hat{\Pi}_b = \frac{1}{i} \int d^n \chi \int dg_I \left[\hat{\varphi}^\dagger(g_I, \chi^a) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \chi^b} \hat{\varphi}(g_I, \chi^a) \right) \right]$$

• value of matter scalar field

$$\hat{\Phi} = \frac{1}{i} \int dg_I \int d^4 \chi \int d\pi_\phi \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(g_I, \chi^\mu, \pi_\phi) \partial_{\pi_\phi} \hat{\varphi}(g_I, \chi^\mu, \pi_\phi)$$

• momentum of matter scalar field

$$\hat{\Pi}_\phi = \int dg_I \int d^4 \chi \int d\pi_\phi \pi_\phi \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(g_I, \chi^\mu, \pi_\phi) \hat{\varphi}(g_I, \chi^\mu, \pi_\phi)$$

Derivation of effective cosmological dynamics: main steps

- expectation values of fundamental observables in peaked states: relational spacetime-localized interpretation

$$\begin{aligned} N(x^0, x^i) &\equiv \langle \sigma_{\epsilon, \delta, \pi_0, \pi_x, x^\mu} | \hat{N} | \sigma_{\epsilon, \delta, \pi_0, \pi_x, x^\mu} \rangle & V(x^0, x^i) &\equiv \langle \sigma_{\epsilon, \delta, \pi_0, \pi_x, x^\mu} | \hat{V} | \sigma_{\epsilon, \delta, \pi_0, \pi_x, x^\mu} \rangle \\ X^\mu(x^0, x^i) &\equiv \langle \sigma_{\epsilon, \delta, \pi_0, \pi_x, x^\mu} | \hat{V} | \sigma_{\epsilon, \delta, \pi_0, \pi_x, x^\mu} \rangle \simeq x^\mu & \Pi(x^0, x^i) &\equiv \langle \sigma_{\epsilon, \delta, \pi_0, \pi_x, x^\mu} | \hat{\Pi}_\nu | \sigma_{\epsilon, \delta, \pi_0, \pi_x, x^\mu} \rangle \\ \phi(x^0, x^i) &\equiv \langle \sigma_{\epsilon, \delta, \pi_0, \pi_x, x^\mu} | \hat{\Phi} | \sigma_{\epsilon, \delta, \pi_0, \pi_x, x^\mu} \rangle & \Pi_\phi(x^0, x^i) &\equiv \langle \sigma_{\epsilon, \delta, \pi_0, \pi_x, x^\mu} | \hat{\Pi}_\phi | \sigma_{\epsilon, \delta, \pi_0, \pi_x, x^\mu} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

observables of effective continuum gravitational physics = collective observables, averages in suitable QG states

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background volume dynamics:

L. Marchetti, DO, '21

A. Jercher, DO, A. Pithis, 21

$$\left(\frac{V'}{3V} \right)^2 \simeq \left(\frac{2 \sum_j \int d\pi_\phi V_j \operatorname{sgn}(\rho') \rho_j \sqrt{\mathcal{E}_j - Q_j^2 / \rho_j^2 + \mu_j^2 \rho_j^2}}{3 \sum_j \int d\pi_\phi V_j \rho_j^2} \right)^2$$

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- derivatives with respect to "clock time" = expectation value of "clock scalar field"
- depend on conserved quantities associated to choice of condensate state

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- now we can analyse the emergent cosmological dynamics in different regimes

GFT cosmology

some results
(among many....)

M. Assanioussi, G. Calcagni, A. Calcinari, M. De Cesare, G. Chirco, R. Dekhil, F. Gerhardt, S. Gielen, A. Jercher, I. Kotecha, S. Liberati, L. Marchetti, DO, X. Pang, A. Pithis, A. Polaczek, M. Sakellariadou, L. Sindoni, A. Tomov, Y. Wang, E. Wilson-Ewing,

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- very early times: very small volume - QG interactions subdominant

for large class of states:

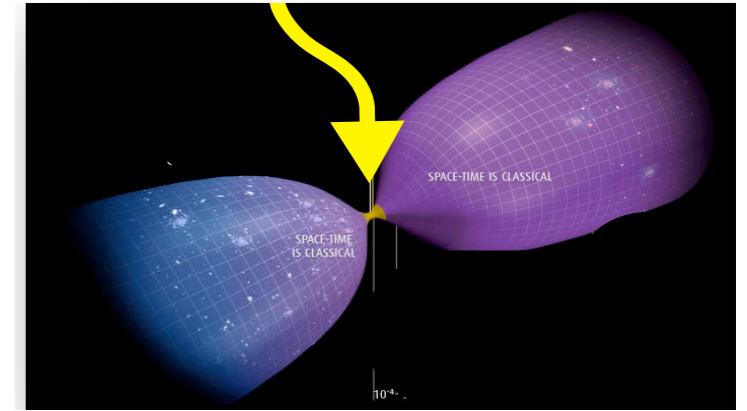
$$\exists j / \rho_j(\chi) \neq 0 \forall \chi \longrightarrow$$

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remains positive at all times
(with single turning point)

DO, L. Sindoni, E. Wilson-Ewing, '16;
L. Marchetti, DO, '20, '21

quantum bounce
(no big bang singularity)!



GFT cosmology

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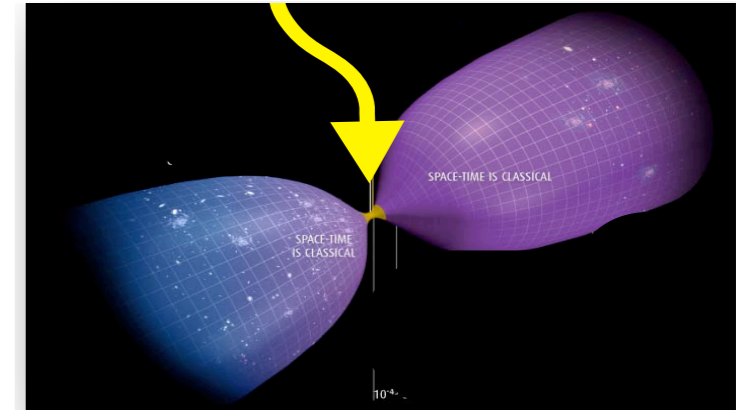
DO, L. Sindoni, E. Wilson-Ewing, '16;
L. Marchetti, DO, '20, '21

- intermediate times: large volume - QG interactions still subdominant

(here written neglecting matter contribution)

$$\left(\frac{V'}{V}\right)^2 = \frac{V''}{V} = 12\pi\tilde{G}$$

quantum bounce
(no big bang singularity)!



classical Friedmann dynamics in GR
(wrt relational clock, with effective
Newton constant) - flat FRW

GFT cosmology

some results
(among many....)

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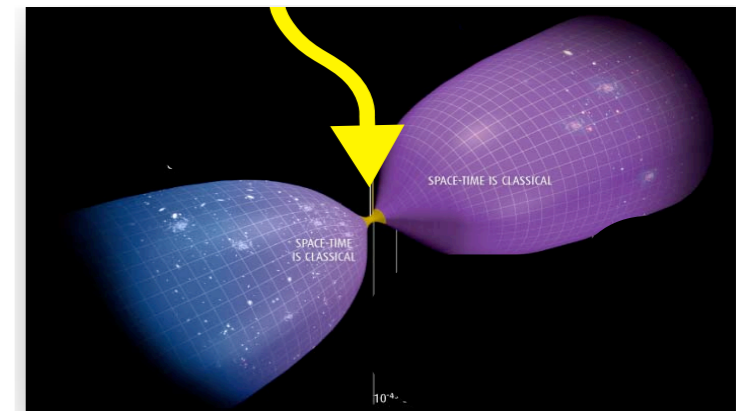
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$$V = \sum_j V_j \rho_j^2$$

remains positive at all times
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X. Pang, DO, '21

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$$w = 3 - \frac{2VV''}{(V')^2}$$

for "emergent matter"
component (of QG origin)

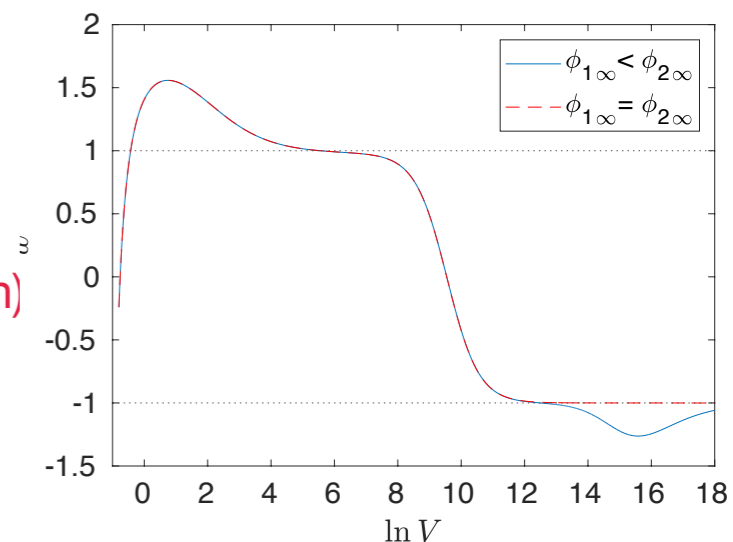
order-6 interactions

2 modes

→ effective phantom-like dark energy (of pure QG origin)

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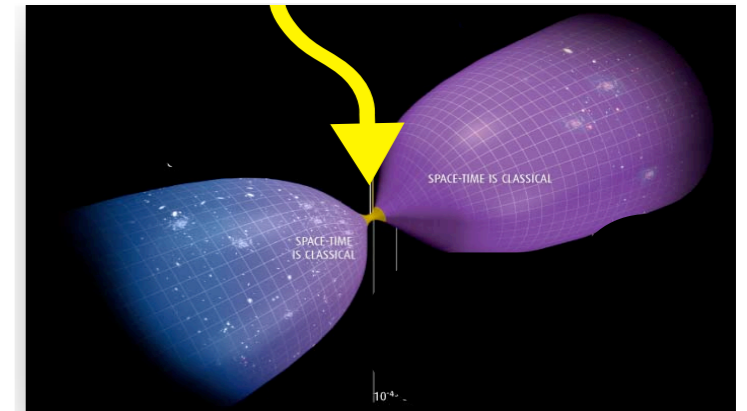
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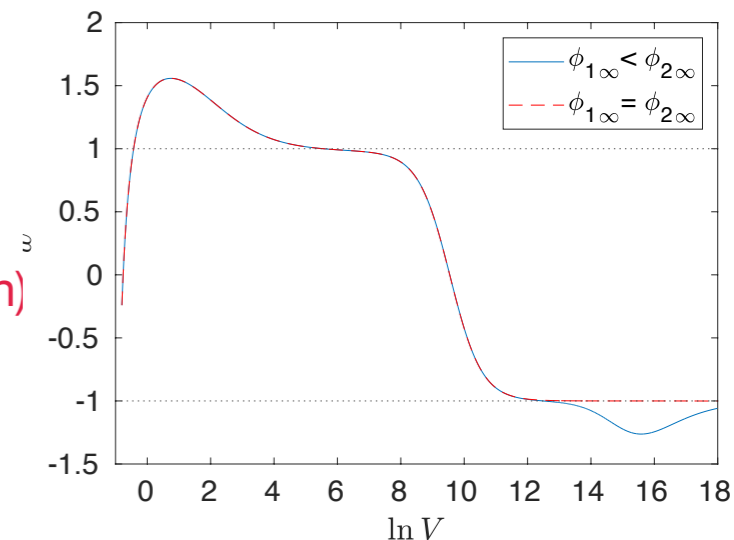
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- value of cosmological constant linked to value of critical density at quantum bounce

(both depending on volume eigenvalue of dominant mode and state-dependent constant)

DO, X. Pang, to appear

$$\Lambda = \frac{4Q_1^2}{3V_1^2}(-\lambda_1)$$

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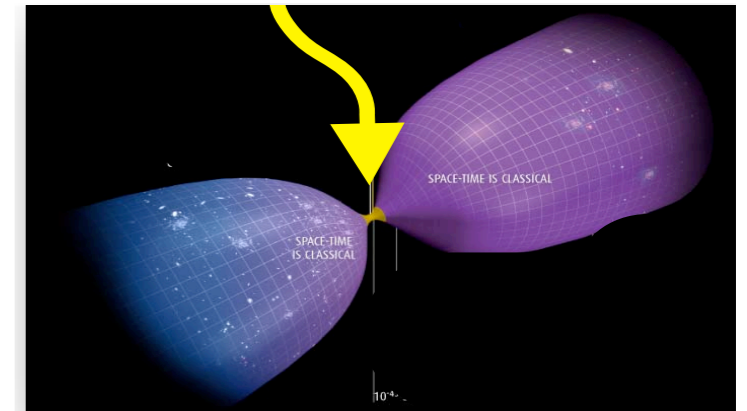
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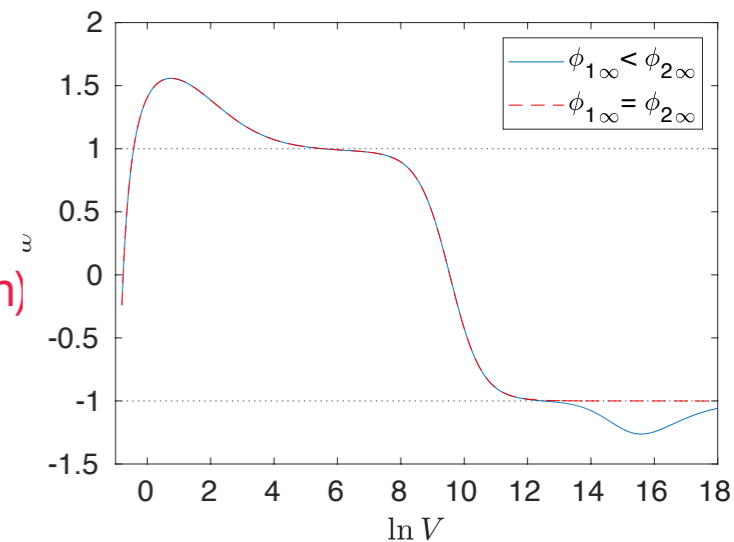
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- QG-produced early-time acceleration possible

M. De Cesare, A. Pithis, M. Sakellariadou, '17;

T. Landstätter, L. Marchetti, DO, to appear; P. Fischer, L. Marchetti, DO, to appear

GFT cosmology

many other results

- GFT (deparametrized) quantization wrt scalar field clock E. Wilson-Ewing, '18; S. Gielen, A. Polaczek, E. Wilson-Ewing, '19
- relation between "frozen" and deparametrized formalism S. Gielen, '21
- cosmological perturbations
 - localization fully relational, analysis still in mean field approx.
 - dynamics of cosmological perturbations
 - cosmological perturbations in GFT models including timelike tetrahedra A. Jercher, L. Marchetti, A. Pithis, to appear
 - effective field theory for scalar matter (QG signatures?) R. Dehnil, S. Liberati, DO, to appear
- other approaches to cosmological perturbations S. Gielen, DO, '17 S. Gielen, '18 F. Gerhardt, DO, E. Wilson-Ewing, '18
- reduction to LQC (as special sector of GFT cosmology) DO, L. Sindoni, E. Wilson-Ewing, '16; S. Gielen, '17; L. Marchetti, DO, '20, '21; G. Calcagni,
- anisotropies A. Pithis, M. Sakellariadou, '16; M. De Cesare, DO, A. Pithis, M. Sakellariadou, '17; A. Calcinari, S. Gielen, '22; Y. Wang, DO, in prog
- thermal fluctuations (of QG observables) during cosmological evolution M. Assanioussi, I. Kotecha, '19, '20
 - requires extension of GFT formalism to thermal states - concrete proposal for covariant quantum statistical mechanics I. Kotecha, '20; I. Kotecha, DO, '18; G. Chirco, I. Kotecha, DO, '18
- cosmological dynamics from generalised (squeezed) GFT states S. Gielen, A. Polaczek, '19
- analysis of quantum fluctuations of observables during cosmic evolution S. Gielen, A. Polaczek, '19; L. Marchetti, DO, '21
- many free scalar fields S. Gielen, A. Polaczek, '20

see talk by L. Marchetti

L. Marchetti, DO, '21

A. Jercher, L. Marchetti, A. Pithis, to appear

R. Dehnil, S. Liberati, DO, to appear

S. Gielen, DO, '17

S. Gielen, '18

F. Gerhardt, DO, E. Wilson-Ewing, '18

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S. Gielen, A. Polaczek, '19

S. Gielen, A. Polaczek, '19; L. Marchetti, DO, '21

S. Gielen, A. Polaczek, '20

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Main messages

- modern discrete version of 3rd quantization formalism for QG, incorporating topology change, exist
- **tensorial group field theory** as combinatorial generalization and quantum geometric enrichment of 2d matrix models
- candidate definition of simplicial gravity path integrals, including their continuum limit
- candidate definition of spin foam models, including their continuum limit
- **can be controlled** (sum over topologies, renormalizability, etc) - level of control depends on complexity of model
- **continuum cosmological dynamics can be extracted from their (mean field) hydrodynamics**
- **emergent cosmological dynamics shows quantum bounce (and late-time acceleration)**

Thank you for your attention