

# *The status of Group Field Theory*

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I.L.Q.G.S.  
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# Plan

- I. GFT intro
- II. GFT foundations and formal developments
- III. GFT quantum consistency and continuum limit
- IV. GFT and effective continuum physics

# Part I: GFT intro

# Group field theories

(Boulatov, Ooguri, De Pietri, Freidel, Krasnov, Rovelli, Perez, DO, Livine, Baratin, Ryan, .....)

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a QFT for the building blocks of (quantum) space

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Quantum field theories over group manifold  $G$  (or corresponding Lie algebra)  $\varphi : G^{\times d} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

relevant classical phase space for “GFT quanta”:

$$(\mathcal{T}^*G)^{\times d} \simeq (\mathfrak{g} \times G)^{\times d}$$

can reduce to subspaces in specific models depending on conditions on the field

$d$  is dimension of “spacetime-to-be”; for gravity models,  $G$  = local gauge group of gravity (e.g. Lorentz group)

example:  $d=4$   $\varphi(g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4) \leftrightarrow \varphi(B_1, B_2, B_3, B_4) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

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can be defined for any (Lie) group and dimension  $d$ , any signature, .....

very general framework; interest rests on specific models/use  
(most interesting QG models are for Lorentz group in 4d)

# GFT “atom of space” (quantum geometric models)

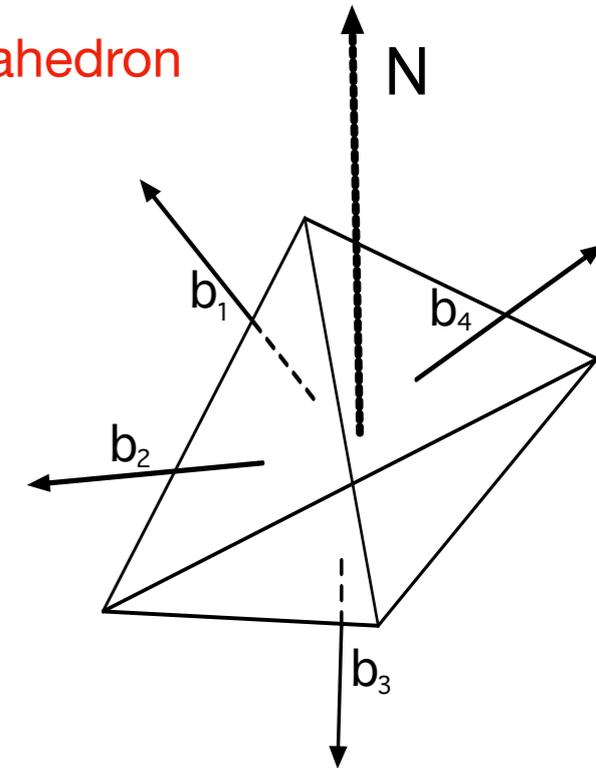
Barbieri '97; Baez, Barrett, '99; Rovelli, Speziale, '06; Bianchi, Dona, Speziale, '10; Baratin, DO, '11; .....

Elementary building block of 3d space: single polyhedron - simplest example: a tetrahedron

Classical geometry in group-theoretic variables

4 vectors normal to triangles that close (lying in hypersurface with normal N)

$$A_i n_i^I = b_i^I \in \mathbb{R}^{3,1} \quad b_i \cdot N = 0 \quad \sum_i b_i = 0$$



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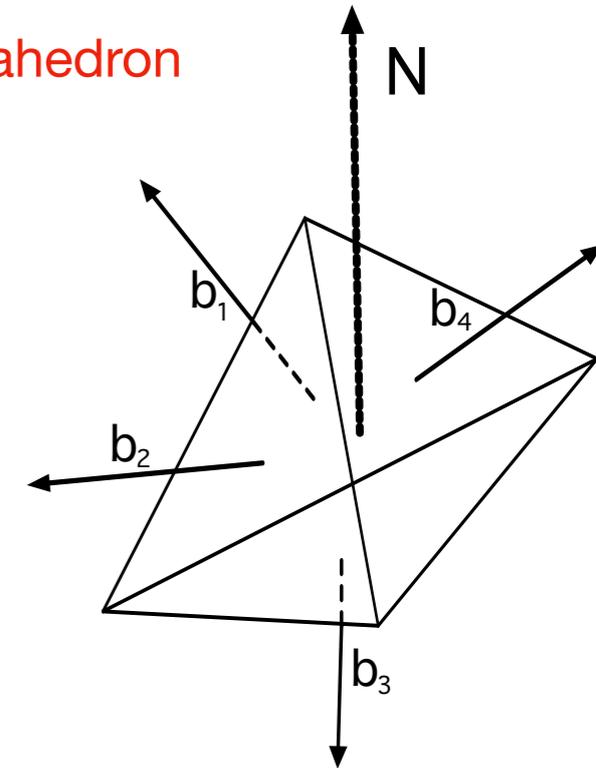
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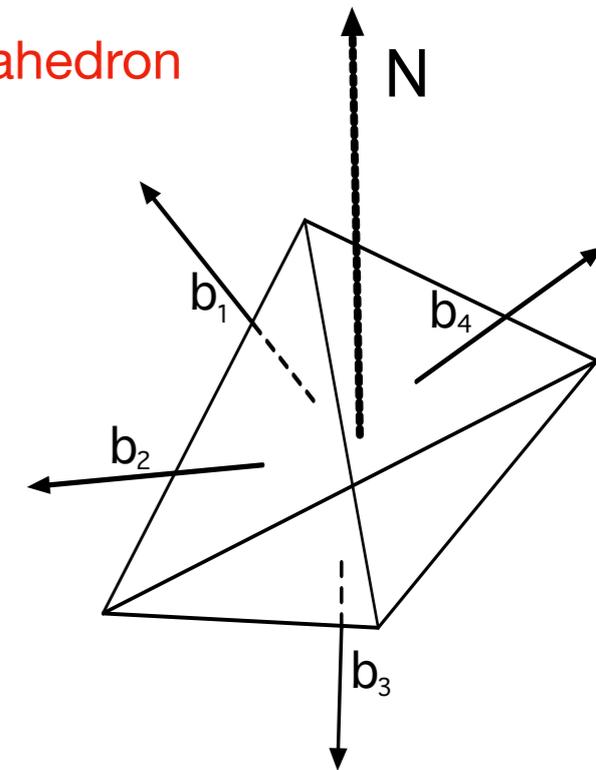
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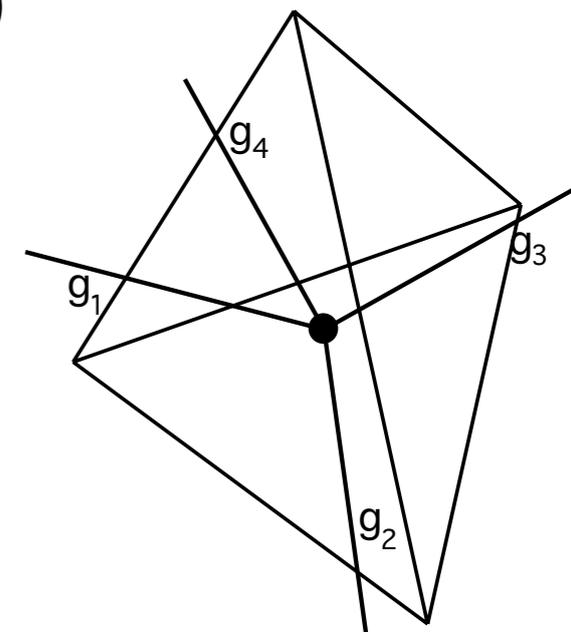
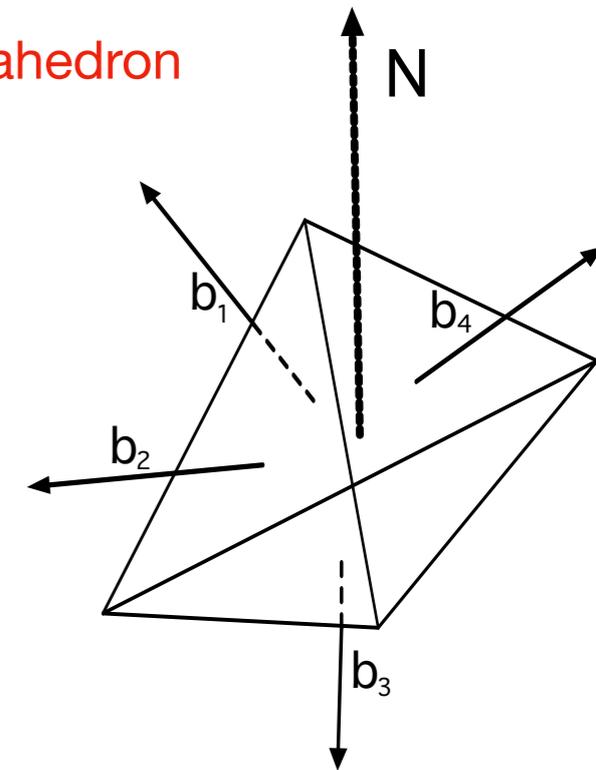
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$$(\mathcal{T}^*SO(3,1))^4 \simeq (\mathfrak{so}(3,1) \times SO(3,1))^4 \supset (\mathfrak{so}(3) \times SO(3))^4 \simeq (\mathcal{T}^*SO(3))^4$$

general:  $(\mathcal{T}^*G)^{\times d} \simeq (\mathfrak{g} \times G)^{\times d}$



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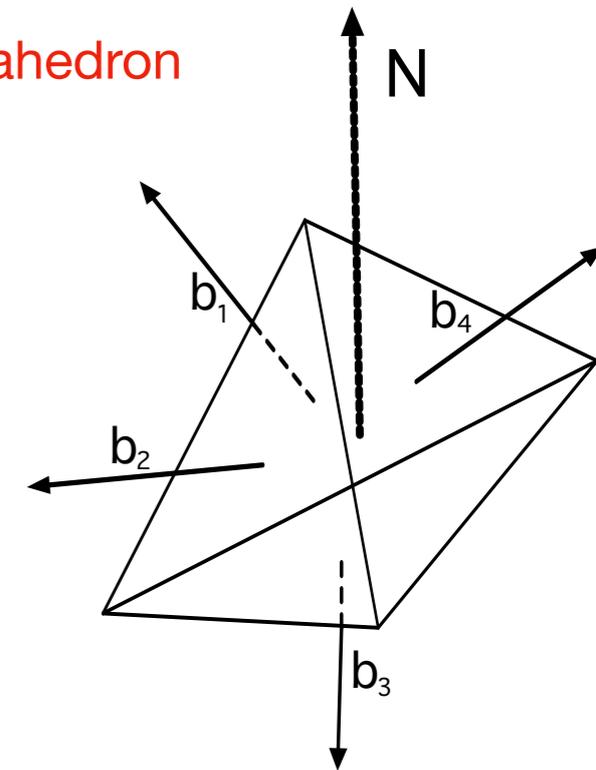
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Quantum geometry in group-theoretic variables

Hilbert space

$$\mathcal{H}_v = L^2(G^d; d\mu_{Haar})$$

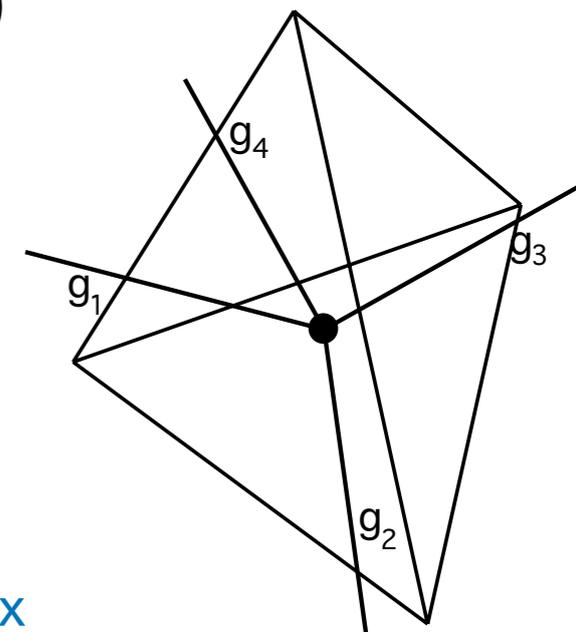
+ constraints on states

$$B_i^{IJ} \rightarrow \hat{J}^{IJ} \in \mathfrak{so}(3,1) \quad b_i^J \rightarrow \hat{J}_N^i \in \mathfrak{su}(2)$$

equivalently, in flux/Lie algebra variables:

$$\mathcal{H}_v = L^2_{\star}(\mathfrak{g}^d; d\mu_{Leb})$$

Hilbert space of spin network vertex



# GFT dynamics of quantum space

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DO, '09; DO, '14

Dynamics governs gluing processes and formation of extended discrete structures

Interactions processes correspond to (simplicial) complexes in one dimension higher

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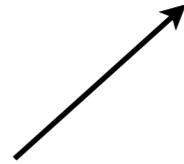
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“combinatorial non-locality”  
in pairing of field arguments



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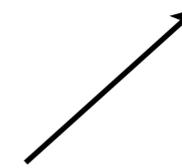
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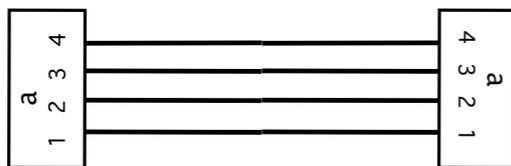
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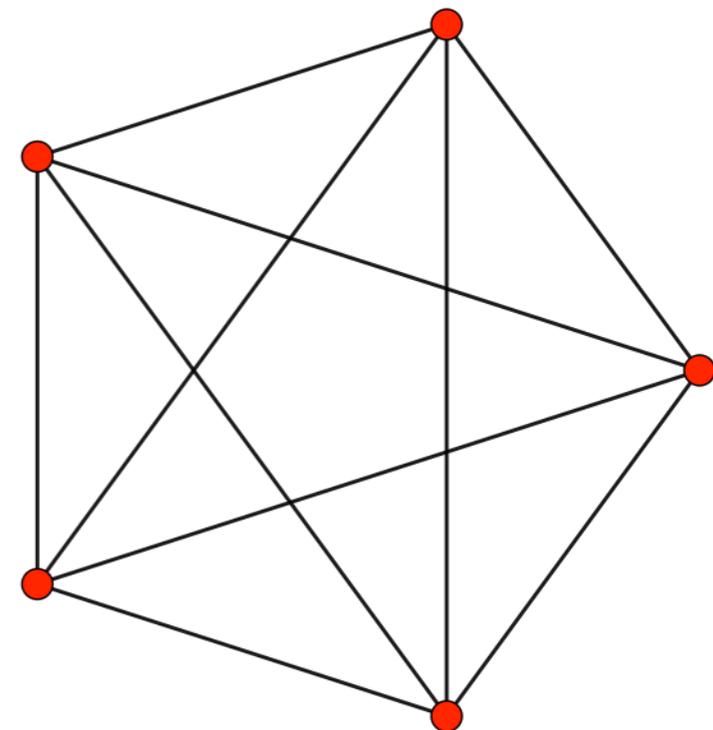
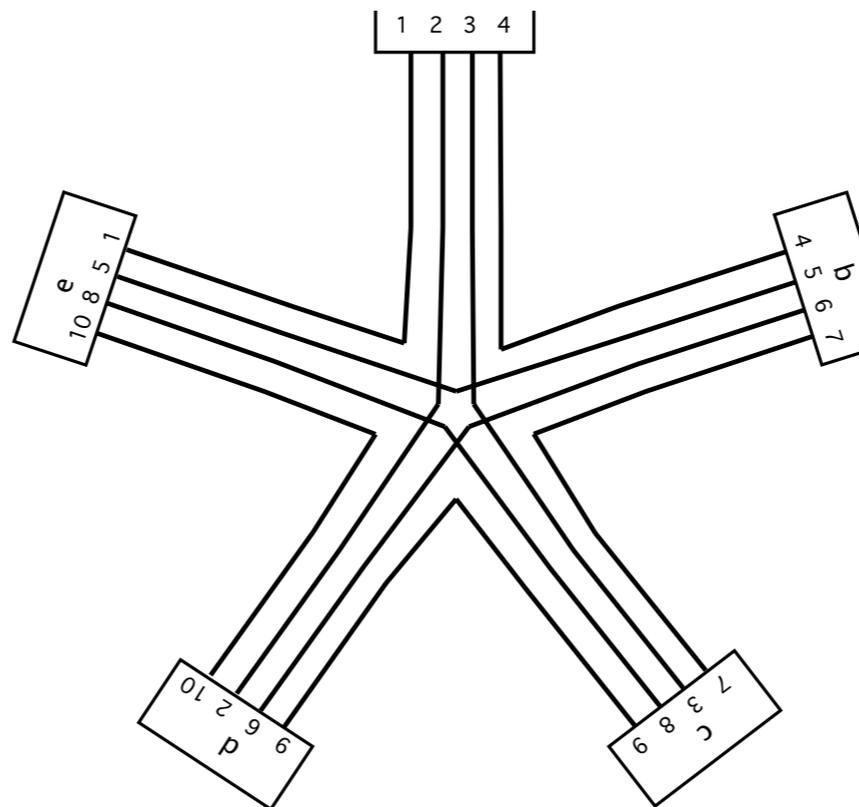


Example: simplicial interactions

GFT propagator = gluing rule  
for pairs of fundamental  
spacetime cells across faces



GFT interactions = fundamental  
polyhedra ("atoms of space") glue  
to form (boundary of) fundamental  
"spacetime" cell (i.e. building block  
of discrete spacetime)



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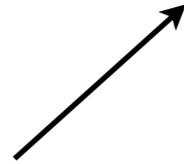
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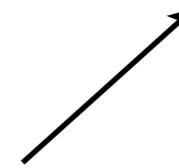
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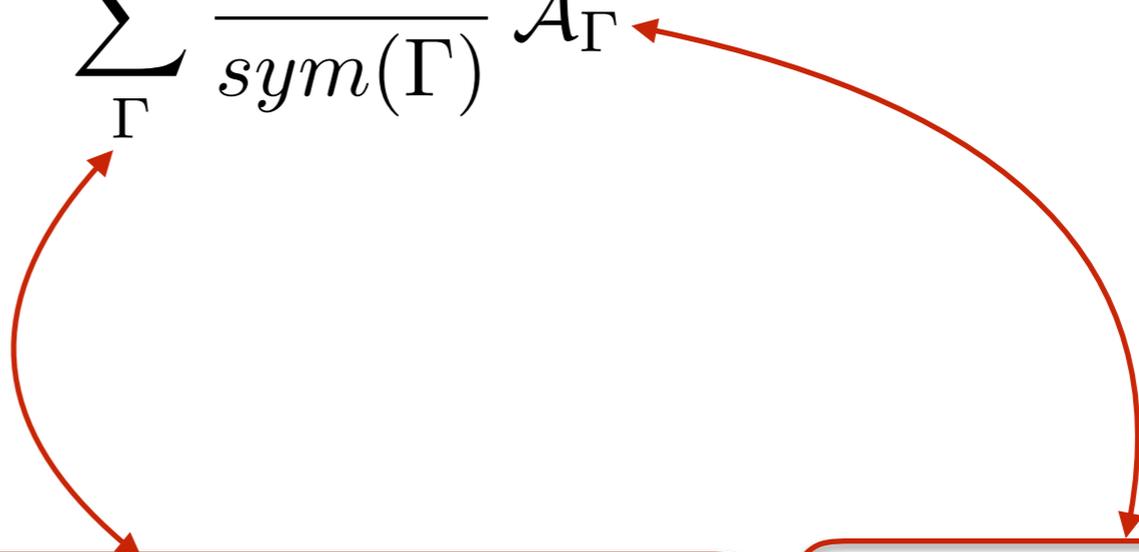


$$\mathcal{Z} = \int \mathcal{D}\varphi \mathcal{D}\bar{\varphi} e^{i S_\lambda(\varphi, \bar{\varphi})} = \sum_{\Gamma} \frac{\lambda^{N_\Gamma}}{\text{sym}(\Gamma)} \mathcal{A}_\Gamma$$

Feynman diagrams = stranded diagrams dual to cellular complexes of arbitrary topology

sum over triangulations/complexes

amplitude for each triangulation/complex



# GFT and random Tensor Models

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

## Tensor models

Lie group replaced by finite group or finite set; field remains tensor; combinatorics unchanged

example: d=3

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$$S(T) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j,k} T_{ijk} T_{kji} - \frac{\lambda}{4! \sqrt{N^3}} \sum_{ijklmn} T_{ijk} T_{klm} T_{mjn} T_{nli}$$

Quantum dynamics (purely combinatorial):

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}T e^{-S(T,\lambda)} = \sum_{\Gamma} \frac{\lambda^{V_{\Gamma}}}{\text{sym}(\Gamma)} Z_{\Gamma} = \sum_{\Gamma} \frac{\lambda^{V_{\Gamma}}}{\text{sym}(\Gamma)} N^{F_{\Gamma} - \frac{3}{2} V_{\Gamma}}$$

can be recast in terms of Regge action for gravity discretised on equilateral triangulation  
equivalent to (generating functional for) dynamical triangulations framework

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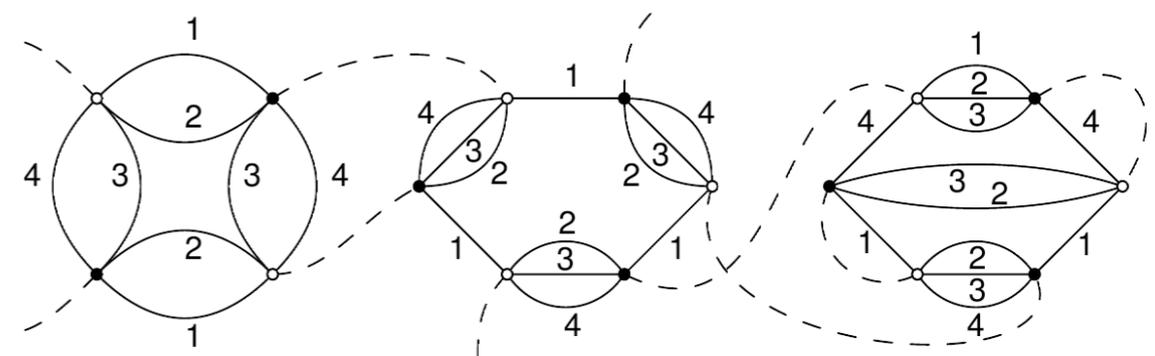
## Tensorial group field theories

Built on unitary (or orthogonal) invariance of the action (dictates interaction terms to be “colored bubbles”)

$U^d$  transformations

$$S(\varphi, \bar{\varphi}) = \sum_{b \in \mathcal{B}} t_b I_b(\varphi, \bar{\varphi})$$

tensorial nature of field is given central role



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most (combinatorial) results of tensor models also apply to GFTs, e.g.:

- use of colors (colored tensors) to encode topology (2-complex not enough)
- large-N expansion
- double scaling
- universality of random tensors
- Virasoro algebra from SD equations

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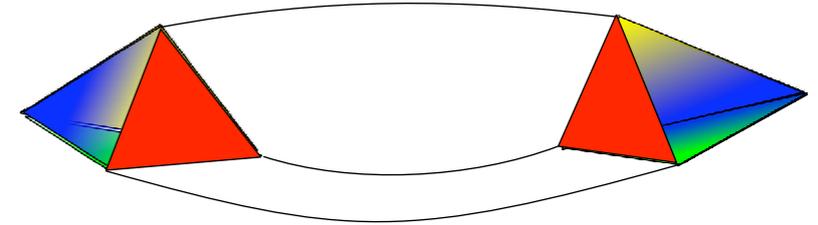


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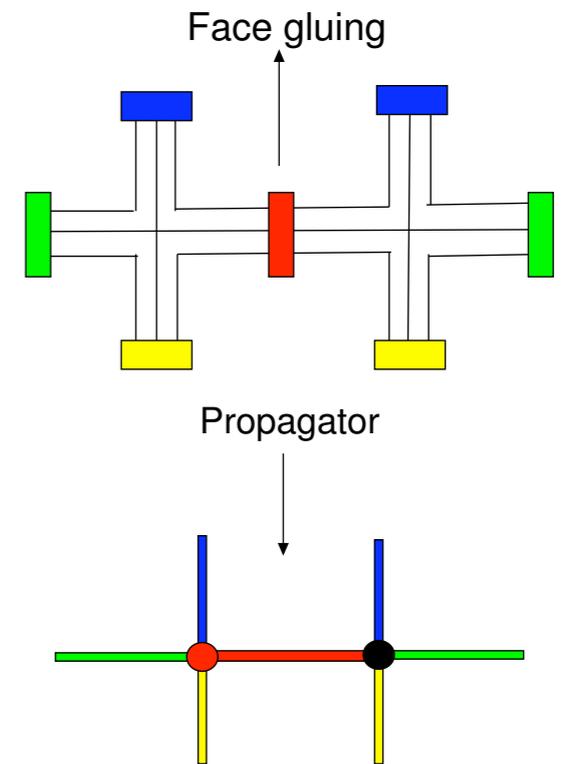
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arguably needed also in spin foam models



*(Every PL d-pseudomanifold M can be represented by a (d+1)-colored graph G)*

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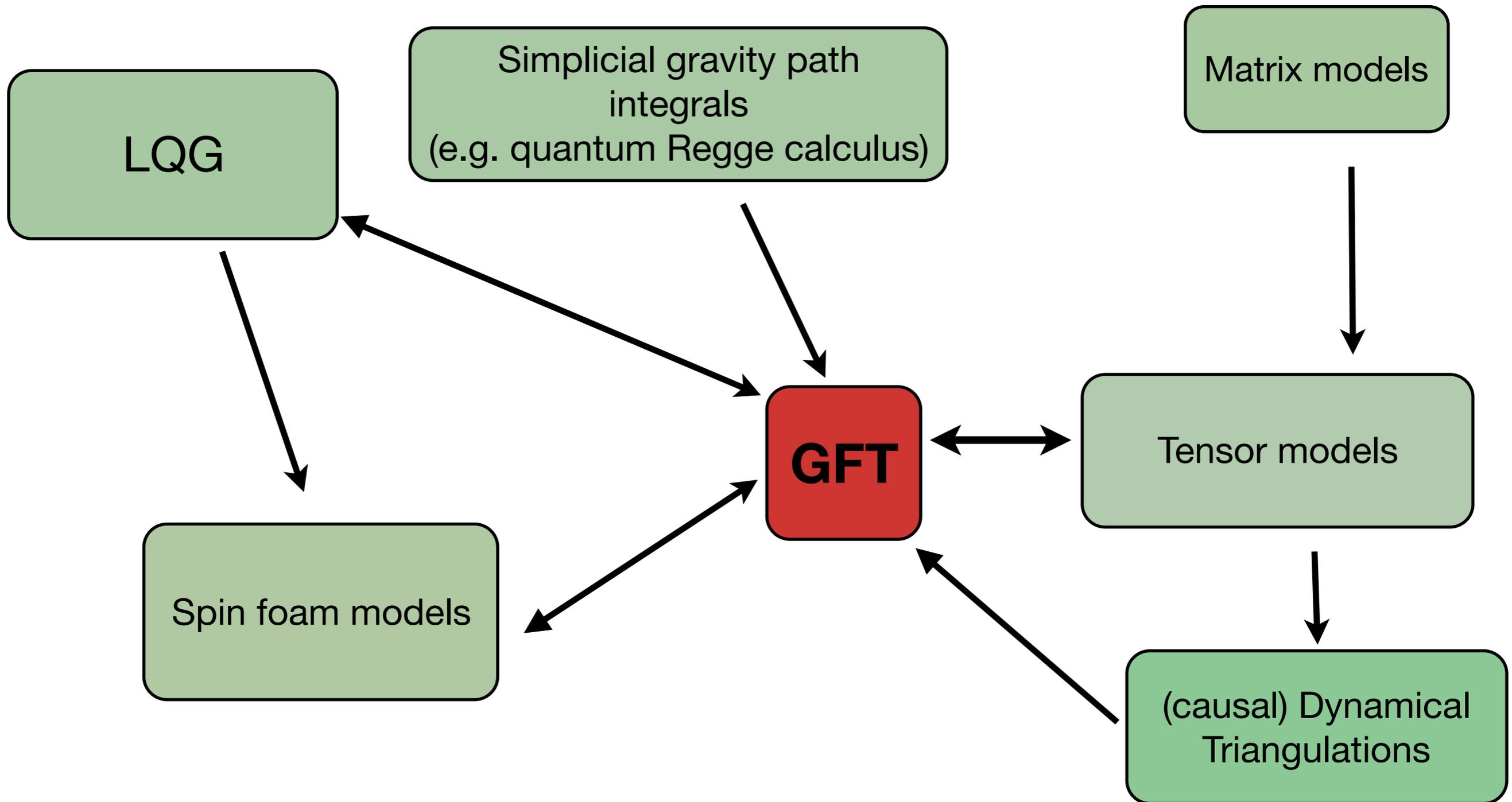
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crucial for GFT renormalization

# Group Field Theory: crossroad of QG formalisms

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# GFT and Loop Quantum Gravity

DO, '13

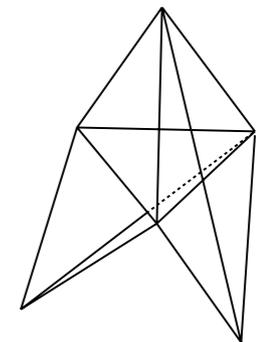
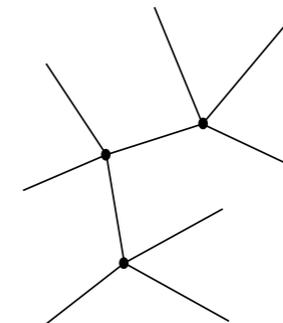
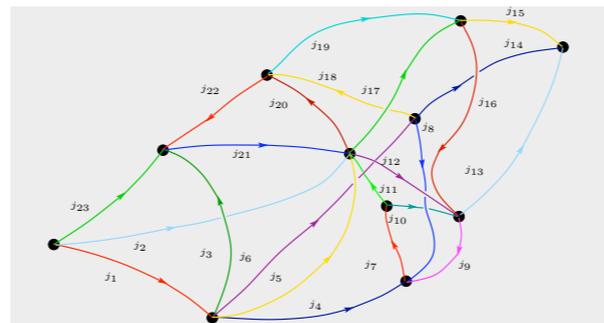
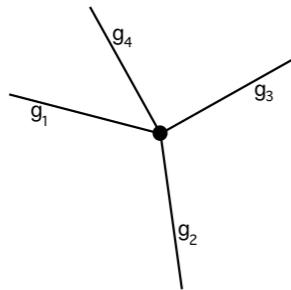
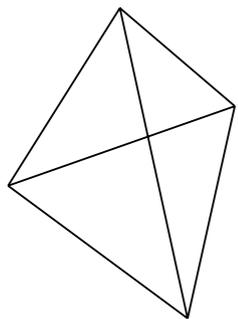
GFT Fock space: many-body Hilbert space for “quantum space”

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

Fock vacuum: “no-space” state  $|0\rangle$

Note: bosonic statistics is assumption

generic quantum state: collection of spin network vertices (incl. glued ones) or tetrahedra (incl. glued ones)



2nd quantised representation for (simplicial) geometric operators, incl. dynamical ones (Hamiltonian constraint)

$$\left[ \hat{\varphi}(\vec{g}), \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(\vec{g}') \right] = \mathbb{I}_G(\vec{g}, \vec{g}') \quad \left[ \hat{\varphi}(\vec{g}), \hat{\varphi}(\vec{g}') \right] = \left[ \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(\vec{g}), \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(\vec{g}') \right] = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{O}}_{n,m}(\hat{\varphi}, \hat{\varphi}^\dagger) = \int [d\vec{g}_i][d\vec{g}'_j] \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(\vec{g}_1) \dots \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(\vec{g}_m) \mathcal{O}_{n,m}(\vec{g}_1, \dots, \vec{g}_m, \vec{g}'_1, \dots, \vec{g}'_n) \hat{\varphi}(\vec{g}'_1) \dots \hat{\varphi}(\vec{g}'_n)$$

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

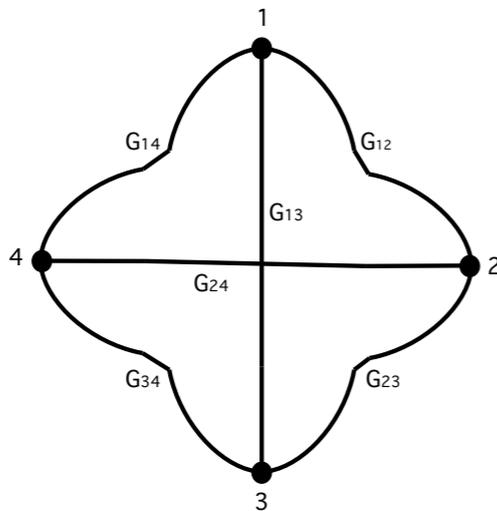
volume of single tetrahedron (from simplicial geometry)

# GFT and Loop Quantum Gravity

LQG Hilbert space from canonical quantum GR:

$$\mathcal{H} = \lim_{\gamma} \frac{\bigcup_{\gamma} \mathcal{H}_{\gamma}}{\approx} = L^2(\bar{\mathcal{A}})$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\gamma} = L^2(G^E/G^V, d\mu = \prod_{e=1}^E d\mu_e^{Haar})$$



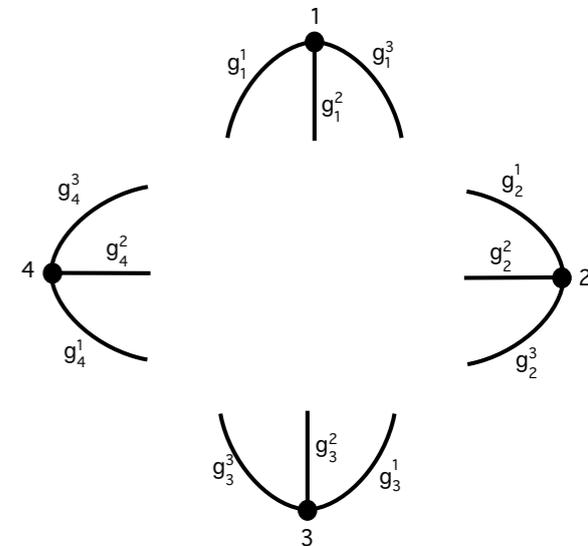
links labelled by  $j=0$  immaterial  
 equivalence classes of graphs  
 orthogonality of equivalence classes  
 space of continuum connection

GFT Hilbert space of discrete pre-geometric structures:

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$$\mathcal{H}_v = L^2(G^{\times d}/G)$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\gamma} \subset \mathcal{H}_V$$



no cylindrical equivalence  
 orthogonality for different #vertices only  
 no immediate continuum interpretation  
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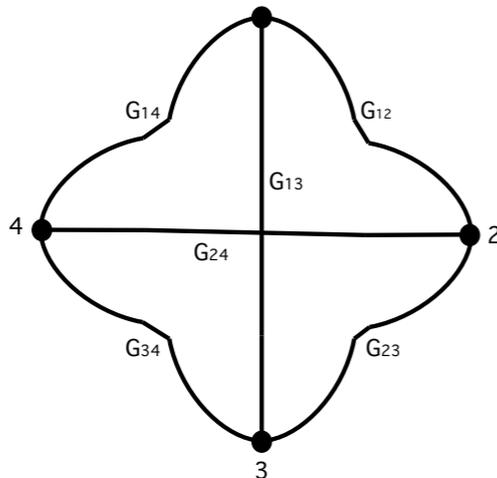
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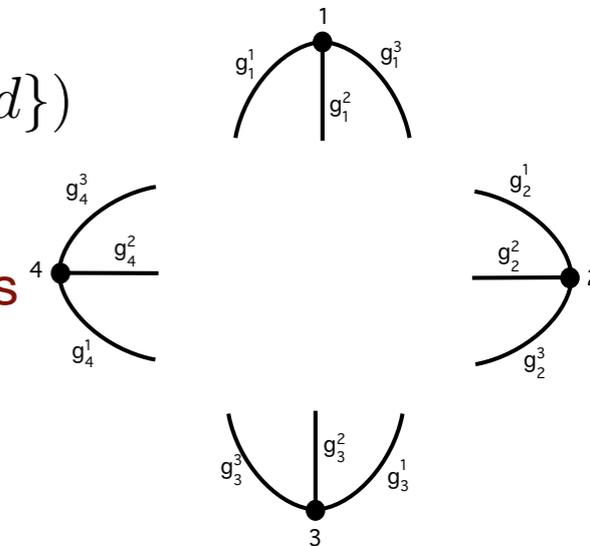
$$\Psi_{\Gamma}(\{G_{ij}^{ab}\}) = \prod_{e \in E(\Gamma)} \int_G d\alpha_{ij}^{ab} \phi_{\Gamma}(\{g_i^a \alpha_{ij}^{ab}; g_j^b \alpha_{ij}^{ab}\}) = \Psi_{\Gamma}(\{g_i^a (g_j^b)^{-1}\}) \quad [(i a)(j b)] \in E(\Gamma)$$

wave function  
for closed graph



wave function for many open spin net vertices

$$E(\Gamma) \subset (\{1, \dots, V\} \times \{1, \dots, d\})$$



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# GFT and spin foam models

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complete definition of SF model: quantum amplitudes for all spin foam complexes + organization principle

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spin foam model with sum over complexes as perturbative expansion of GFT (valid for any SF model)

M. Reisenberger, C. Rovelli, '00

any combinatorics

DO, J. Ryan, J. Thürigen, '14

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$$Z(\Gamma) = \sum_{\{J\}, \{I\} | j, j', i, i'} \prod_f A_f(J, I) \prod_e A_e(J, I) \prod_v A_v(J, I)$$

$$Z(\Gamma) \leftrightarrow \begin{cases} A_f(J) \\ A_e(J, I) \\ A_v(J, I) \end{cases} \longleftrightarrow \begin{cases} \mathcal{K}(J, I) \sim \mathcal{K}(g) \\ \mathcal{V}(J, I) \sim \mathcal{V}(g) \end{cases} \leftrightarrow S(\varphi, \bar{\varphi})$$

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

using local expression of SF amplitudes, needed for composition along (portions of) boundaries

M. Finocchiaro, DO, '18

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

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advantages:

- prescription for combinatorial weights + way to parametrize SF ambiguities
- ways to go beyond spin foams (non-perturbative structure of theory)
- QFT tools for extracting physics

# GFT and simplicial gravity path integrals

GFT Feynman amplitudes are simplicial gravity path integrals

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

not just "heuristically", but, for ALL models based on (constrained) BF theory, literally true in flux representation, without any semi-classical approx. A. Baratin, DO, '10; A. Baratin, DO, '11; M. Finocchiaro, DO, '18

example: Boulatov (Ponzano-Regge) model (3d):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_\Gamma &= \int \prod_l dh_l \prod_f \delta(H_f(h_l)) = \int \prod_l dh_l \prod_f \delta\left(\vec{\prod}_{l \in \partial f} h_l\right) = \\ &= \sum_{\{j_e\}} \prod_e d_{j_e} \prod_\tau \left\{ \begin{matrix} j_1^\tau & j_2^\tau & j_3^\tau \\ j_4^\tau & j_5^\tau & j_6^\tau \end{matrix} \right\} = \int \prod_l [dh_l] \prod_e [d^3 x_e] e^{i \sum_e \text{Tr } x_e H_e} \end{aligned}$$

example: constrained BF models (4d)

$$\mathcal{A}_\Gamma^\beta = \int \left[ \prod_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{d^6 X_f}{(2\pi)^6} \right] \left[ \prod_{e \in \mathcal{E}_{\text{int}}} dk_e \right] \mathcal{D}_\beta^{H_{ve}, k_e}(X_f) \star \prod_{f \in \mathcal{F}} E_{H_f}(X_f)$$

details of measure (incl. simplicity constraints) and action depend on chosen quantization map

$$E_{H_f}(X_f) = \eta(H_f) e^{i S_f^{\text{BF}}[H_f, X_f]}$$

**Part II:**  
**GFT foundations and formal  
developments**

GFT symmetries

# GFT symmetries

"structural" symmetries, affecting combinatorial features

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permutation symmetry

R. De Pietri, C. Petronio, '00

$$\phi_{\alpha_{\tau(1)} \dots \alpha_{\tau(n)}} = \Re[\phi_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}] + i \cdot \text{sgn}(\tau) \cdot \Im[\phi_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}] \quad \tau \in \mathfrak{S}_n \text{ permutation group}$$

permutation of n strands used to define **orientation** of simplicial GFT Feynman (stranded) link

invariance under even permutations: orientable complexes

invariance under any permutations: un-orientable complexes

fixed in colored fields; **colors fix order of GFT arguments and determine orientation of GFT diagrams:**  
orientable complexes dual to bipartite (n+1)-colored Feynman diagrams

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"structural" symmetries, affecting combinatorial features

## permutation symmetry

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## tensorial unitary (or orthogonal) symmetry

$$\varphi(g_1, \dots, g_d) \rightarrow \int [dg_i] U(g'_1, g_1) \cdots U(g'_d, g_d) \varphi(g_1, \dots, g_d)$$

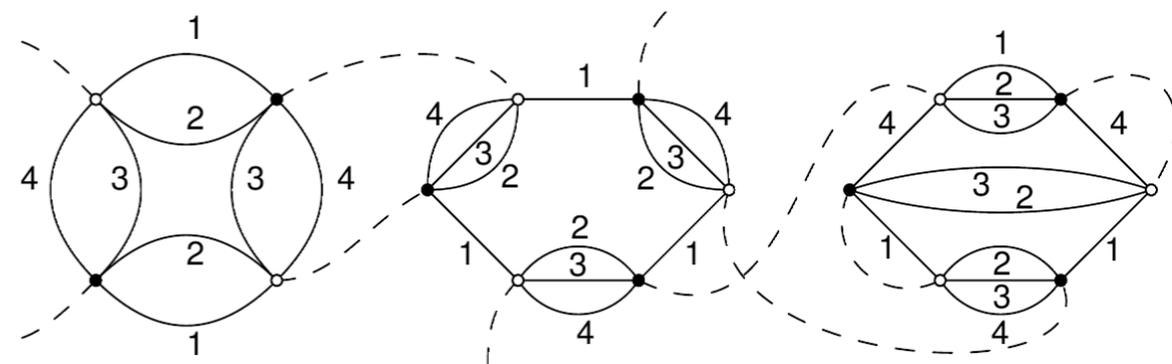
unitary (or orthogonal) group  $U \times d$

requires coloring (thus fixed ordering)  
of GFT fields or arguments

characterizes infinite "tensorial" theory space, with allowed (invariant) interactions in 1-1 correspondence with "bubbles" (d-colored graphs)

$$S(\varphi, \bar{\varphi}) = \sum_{b \in \mathcal{B}} t_b I_b(\varphi, \bar{\varphi})$$

in general does not include simplicial interactions



# GFT symmetries

special symmetries, in models motivated by quantum geometry

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"local" Lorentz or  $SU(2)$  symmetry

e.g. d=3  $\varphi(g_1, g_2, g_3) = \varphi(hg_1, hg_2, hg_3) \quad \forall h \in SU(2)$

equivalently imposed at the level of  
GFT action, rather than GFT fields

or, better (to ensure covariance of simplicity constraints):

L. Freidel, '06

e.g. d=4  $(C \triangleright \phi)(g_1, \dots, g_4; N) = \int dh \phi(hg_1, hg_2, hg_3, hg_4; h^{-1} \triangleright N)$  A. Baratin, DO, '11

produces corresponding gauge symmetry of spin network states and spin foam amplitudes

easily gauge-fixed

A. Perez, C. Rovelli, '00; L. Freidel, E. Livine, '06; J. Engle, R. Pereira, '08

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"simplicial diffeomorphism" (vertex translation) symmetry

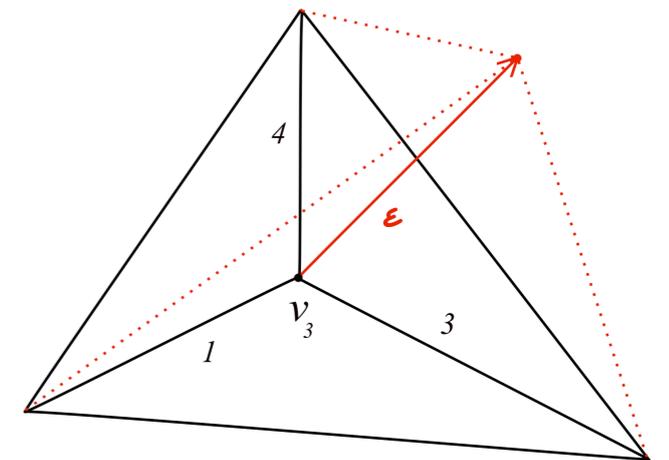
F. Girelli, E. Livine, '10; A. Baratin, F. Girelli, DO, '12

symmetry of BF models

transformation of GFT fields corresponding to vertex translations in triangulations dual to GFT Feynman diagrams

D. Louapre, L. Freidel, '02; B. Dittrich, '08; B. Bahr, R. Gambini, J. Pullin, '11

most easily seen in (non-commutative) flux (discrete triad) variables - quantum group symmetry



$$\mathcal{T}_{\varepsilon_3} \triangleright \widehat{\varphi}_1(x_1, x_2, x_3) := \star_{\varepsilon_3} \widehat{\varphi}_1(x_1 - \varepsilon_3, x_2, x_3 + \varepsilon_3)$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{\varepsilon_3} \triangleright \widehat{\varphi}_2(x_3, x_4, x_5) := \star_{\varepsilon_3} \widehat{\varphi}_2(x_3 - \varepsilon_3, x_4 + \varepsilon_3, x_5)$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{\varepsilon_3} \triangleright \widehat{\varphi}_4(x_6, x_4, x_1) := \star_{\varepsilon_3} \widehat{\varphi}_4(x_6, x_4 - \varepsilon_3, x_1 + \varepsilon_3)$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{\varepsilon_3} \triangleright \widehat{\varphi}_3(x_5, x_2, x_6) := \widehat{\varphi}_3(x_5, x_2, x_6)$$

requires coloring of GFT fields

not proper QFT symmetry (weird action)

# Classical aspects of GFT

# GFT symmetries and classical solutions

general treatment of classical GFT symmetries - generalization of Noether analysis to non-local QFTs

J. Ben Geloun, '11; A. Kegeles, DO, '15, '16

GFT are non-local field theories - action is sum of local terms on different vector bundles

$$S[\phi] = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \phi(x) \Delta \phi(x) + \int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}} \phi(x) V(x-y) \phi(y) + \dots$$

transformations considered: point symmetries (diffeos) of associated vector bundles

generalised "conservation law": akin to continuity eqn with sources

$$\operatorname{div}(J) = \Delta_{\text{NL}}$$

$$J(g) = J_{\text{N}}(g) + J_{\text{NL}}(g)$$

$$\Delta_{\text{NL}}(g) \sim \int \frac{\delta L_{\text{NL}}}{\delta \phi(g)} X^0$$

application to GFT: various models, various symmetries (incl. known ones)

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## classical solutions of various GFT models

GFT equations are, in group/Lie algebra variables, (complicated) integro-differential equations or, in representation variables, (complicated) algebraic equations

many scattered (often very interesting) results - no general scheme or computational tool

mostly for topological or simpler models; mostly simple (highly symmetric) solutions

W. Fairbairn, E. Livine, '07; F. Girelli, E. Livine, DO, '09; DO, L. Sindoni, '10;  
E. Livine, DO, J. Ryan, '11; J. Ben Geloun, A. Kegeles, A. Pithis, '16

# Inequivalent representations of quantum GFT algebra

# Coherent state representations of GFT field algebra

question: what GFT representations, beside Fock one, are possible?

expect that:

A. Kegeles, DO, C. Tomlin, '17

- multitude of inequivalent representations exist (characterized by different symmetries) - different continuum phases
- Fock space representation does not exist for interacting theory (if non-local generalization of Haag's theorem applies)
- other relevant representations correspond to coherent state vacua

from GFT field algebra and smearing to Weyl algebra

$$[\phi(g), \phi^\dagger(\tilde{g})] = \delta(g\tilde{g}^{-1}) \quad \phi(f) := \int d\mu \phi(g)\bar{f}(g) \quad \phi^\dagger(f) := \int d\mu \phi^\dagger(g)f(g)$$

$$W(f)W(g) = W(f+g) e^{-i\mathfrak{S}(f,g)}$$

$$W^*(f) = W(-f)$$

$$W(0) = 1$$

$$W(f) = e^{i(\phi(f)+\phi^\dagger(f))}$$

GFTs with group/  
Lie algebra  
variables only

start with Fock reprs at fixed particle number and finite (group) volume

construct coherent states  $|\alpha\rangle := W_F(\alpha)|\emptyset\rangle \quad \langle N \rangle = \int_V |\alpha(g)|^2$

in the thermodynamic limit  $N \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $V \rightarrow \infty$  (non-compact groups) at finite density:

inequivalent coherent state (condensate) representations with broken symmetry

(compact groups: dual construction (on Lie algebra) gives similar results)

Coupling to scalar fields  
and  
relational GFT dynamics

# GFT models for QG coupled to scalar fields

early work (with different strategies/results): K. Krasnov, '05; L. Freidel, DO, J. Ryan, '05; DO, J. Ryan, '06; R. Dowdall, '09

basic idea: [expand domain of GFT fields](#)

DO, L. Sindoni, E. Wilson-Ewing, '16

$$\hat{\varphi}(g_\nu) \rightarrow \hat{\varphi}(g_\nu, \phi)$$

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basic guideline for model-building (choosing GFT action):

**best done in flux variables**

**GFT Feynman amplitudes = simplicial path integrals for gravity coupled to scalar fields**

Y. Li, DO, M. Zhang, '17

$$Z_{\phi G}^\Delta = \int \prod_{f \in \Delta} \mathcal{D}B_f \prod_{f \in \Delta^*} dg_\ell \prod_{v \in \Delta^*} d\phi_v \delta(S_\gamma(B_f)) e^{\frac{i}{\hbar}(S_\phi^\Delta + S_G^\Delta)}$$

$$S_\phi^\Delta \equiv \left( \sum_{l \in \Delta^*} \tilde{V}_l \left( \frac{\delta_l \phi}{L_l} \right)^2 + \sum_{v \in \Delta^*} V_v \mathbb{V}(\phi_v) \right)$$

geometric coupling
potential

$$\tilde{S}_{\phi G}^{\text{GFT}} = \frac{1}{2} \int [dx^4][dx'^4] d\phi \psi(\vec{x}; \phi) \star \tilde{P}_{\phi G}^{-1}(\vec{x}, \vec{x}'; \partial_\phi^2) \star \psi(\vec{x}'; \phi) +$$

$$\int d\phi \left( \prod_{n=1}^5 [dx_n^4] \right) V_{\phi G}(\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_5; \phi) \star \left( \prod_{n=1}^5 \psi(\vec{x}_n; \phi) \right) + \text{c.c.}$$

$$\tilde{P}_{\phi G}^{-1}(\vec{x}, \vec{x}'; \partial_\phi^2) = P_G^{-1}(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') \star \tilde{P}_\phi^{-1}(\vec{x}'; \partial_\phi^2)$$

$$V_{\phi G}(\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_5; \phi) = V_\phi(\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_5; \phi) \star V_G(\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_5)$$

$$\tilde{P}_\phi^{-1} = \left( \frac{i\pi\hbar L^2}{\tilde{V}} \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-i\frac{\hbar L^2}{4\tilde{V}} \partial_\phi^2}$$

$$V_\phi = e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} V \mathbb{V}(\phi_v)},$$

various discretization & quantum ambiguities; important to capture continuum & classical limit

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$$\int d\phi \left( \prod_{n=1}^5 [dx_n^4] \right) V_{\phi G}(\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_5; \phi) \star \left( \prod_{n=1}^5 \psi(\vec{x}_n; \phi) \right) + \text{c.c.}$$

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$$V_{\phi G}(\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_5; \phi) = V_\phi(\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_5; \phi) \star V_G(\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_5)$$

$$V_\phi = e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} V \mathbb{V}(\phi_v)},$$

various discretization & quantum ambiguities; important to capture continuum & classical limit

in fact, largely captured by symmetries  
and simplified greatly, depending on context

e.g. GFT condensate cosmology

DO, L. Sindoni, E. Wilson-Ewing, '16

# Relational ("deparametrised") GFT dynamics

E. Wilson-Ewing, '18

once massless scalar field is added, GFT action becomes:

$$\mathcal{L}[\varphi] = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,m,\iota} \left( \partial_\chi \varphi_{\vec{m}}^{\vec{j},\iota}(\chi) \right) \mathcal{K}_{\vec{j},\vec{m},\iota}^{(2)} \left( \partial_\chi \varphi_{\vec{m}}^{\vec{j},\iota}(\chi) \right) \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,m,\iota} \varphi_{\vec{m}}^{\vec{j},\iota}(\chi) \mathcal{K}_{\vec{j},\vec{m},\iota}^{(0)} \varphi_{\vec{m}}^{\vec{j},\iota}(\chi) - U[\varphi],$$

$$S[\varphi] = \int d\chi \mathcal{L}[\varphi]$$

e.g.

$$U[\varphi] = \frac{1}{5} \sum_{j,m,\iota} \nu^{j_i,m_i,\iota_i} \prod_{a=1}^5 \varphi_{\vec{m}_a}^{\vec{j}_a,\iota_a}(\chi)$$

# Relational ("deparametrised") GFT dynamics

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"local action in time variable"  $\longrightarrow$  can deparametrise and canonically quantise wrt to scalar field clock

can define "equal (relational) time" commutation relations:  $[\hat{a}_{\vec{j}_1, \vec{m}_1, \iota_1}, \hat{a}_{\vec{j}_2, \vec{m}_2, \iota_2}^\dagger] = \delta_{\vec{j}_1, \vec{j}_2} \delta_{\vec{m}_1, \vec{m}_2} \delta_{\iota_1, \iota_2}$

get standard Hamiltonian evolution:  $\hat{\mathcal{H}} \Psi = i\hbar \frac{d\Psi}{d\chi}$

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = \hbar \sum_{j,m,\iota} M_{\vec{j},\vec{m},\iota} \left( \hat{a}_{\vec{j},\vec{m},\iota}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{j},\vec{m},\iota} + \frac{\omega_{\vec{m}}^{\vec{j},\iota}}{2} \right) + U[\hat{\varphi}] \quad \text{or} \quad \hat{\mathcal{H}} = \hbar \sum_{j,m,\iota} M_{\vec{j},\vec{m},\iota} \left( (\hat{a}_{\vec{j},\vec{m},\iota}^\dagger)^2 + \hat{a}_{\vec{j},\vec{m},\iota}^2 \right) + U[\hat{\varphi}]$$

depending on relative sign of  $K^0$  and  $K^2$

$$M_{\vec{j},\vec{m},\iota} = \pm \sqrt{\left| \frac{\mathcal{K}_{\vec{j},\vec{m},\iota}^{(0)}}{\mathcal{K}_{\vec{j},\vec{m},\iota}^{(2)}} \right|}$$

GFT (quantum) statistical mechanics

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I. Kotecha, DO, '17; G. Chirco,  
I. Kotecha, DO, '18

General problem in background independent (classical and) quantum gravity:  
what is "equilibrium" in absence of preferred temporal direction?

C. Rovelli, '12; G. Chirco, T. Josset,  
C. Rovelli, '15; I. Kotecha, '19

two main strategies for identifying/constructing equilibrium states, then applied to GFT context:

applied to system of quantum tetrahedra (using Fock space)

$$Z_{\mu,\beta} = \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_F} \left[ e^{-\beta(\hat{C} - \mu\hat{N})} \right] = \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_F} \left[ e^{-\beta(\sum_a \frac{\beta_a}{\beta} \hat{C}_a - \frac{\tilde{\mu}}{\beta} \hat{N})} \right]$$

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choices for C: volume operator,  
gluing + simplicity constraints,  
LQG Hamiltonian constraint,  
LQG physical projector

- Effective statistical field theory  $Z \approx Z_{\text{eff}} = \int [D\mu(\psi, \bar{\psi})] e^{-C_{\text{eff}}(\psi, \bar{\psi})}$

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GFT partition function  
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GFT partition function (encodes LQG dynamics) DO, '13

can then be used to define generalised QG thermodynamics

I. Kotecha, '19

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## 2- KMS conditions on algebra of observables ("thermal time")

C. Rovelli, '93; A. Connes, C. Rovelli, '94

· for  $A, B \in \mathcal{B}$ , and normal state  $\rho$ ,

$$\langle A(\alpha_{\lambda+i\beta} B) \rangle_{\rho} = \langle (\alpha_{\lambda} B)A \rangle_{\rho}$$

$$\Rightarrow \rho \propto e^{-\beta \mathcal{G}}$$

· requires existence of a pre-defined  
(continuous) 1-parameter flow  $\alpha_{\lambda}$

· generalised (inverse) temperature  $\beta$   
enters as periodicity in parameter  $\lambda$

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applied to GFT system and (Weyl) algebra of field observables

- with respect to group (rotation) symmetries
- with respect to relational (scalar field) clock variable

I. Kotecha, DO, '17

corresponding equilibrium states constructed - effective GFT quantum statistical framework

# GFT (quantum) statistical mechanics

GFT thermal states and fluctuations

using thermofield double formalism

M. Assianoussi, I. Kotecha, '19, '20

# GFT (quantum) statistical mechanics

GFT thermal states and fluctuations

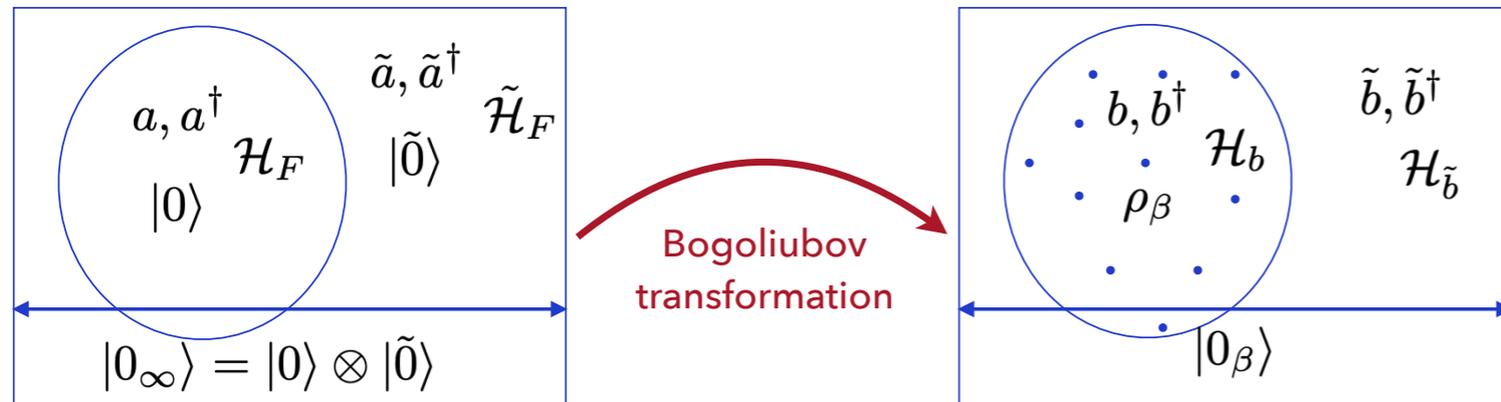
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Thermal vacuum for a given GGS

$$\hat{\rho}_\beta \iff |0_\beta\rangle$$

$$\text{Tr}(\rho_\beta \hat{A})_{\mathcal{H}_F} = \langle 0_\beta | \hat{A} | 0_\beta \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_\beta}$$



defines inequivalent thermal representation

$$|0_\beta\rangle = e^{\sum_{J\alpha} \theta_{J\alpha} (a_{J\alpha}^\dagger \tilde{a}_{J\alpha}^\dagger - a_{J\alpha} \tilde{a}_{J\alpha})} |0_\infty\rangle$$

$$a_{J\alpha} |0_\infty\rangle = \tilde{a}_{J\alpha} |0_\infty\rangle = 0$$

$$\mathcal{H}_\infty = \mathcal{H}_F \otimes \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_F$$

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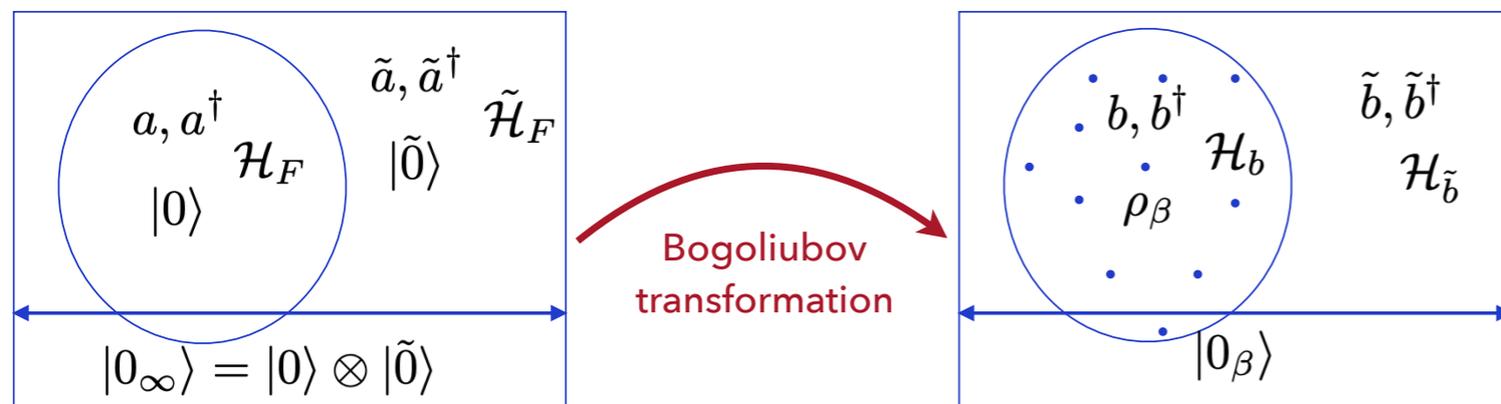
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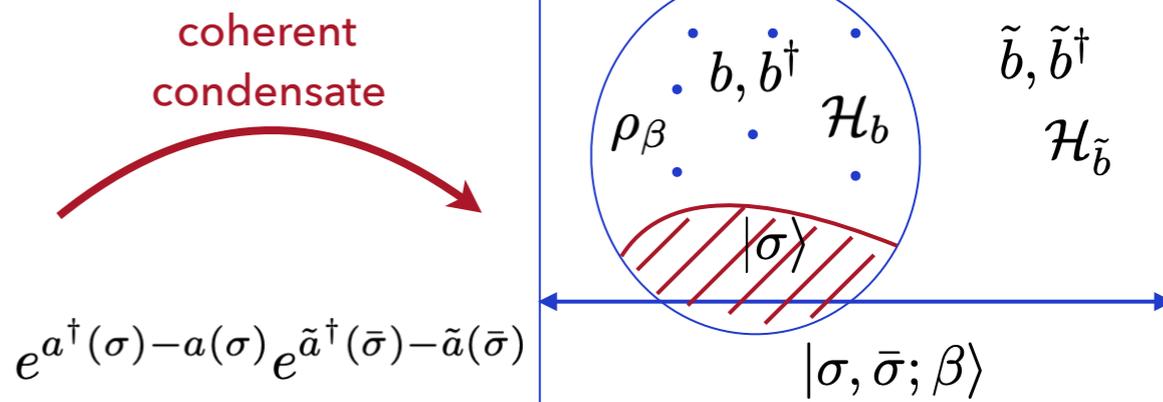
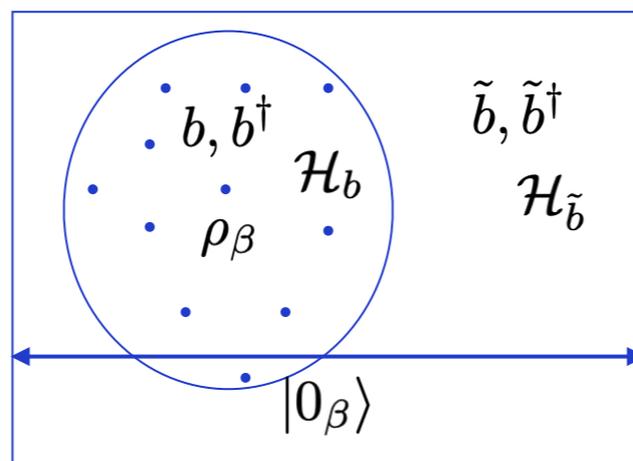
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using thermal representation, can define further condensate (coherent) states (from one at zero temperature)



$$b_{J\alpha} |\sigma, \bar{\sigma}; \beta\rangle = (\cosh \theta_{J\alpha} - \sinh \theta_{J\alpha}) \sigma_{J\alpha} |\sigma, \bar{\sigma}; \beta\rangle$$

$$e^{a^\dagger(\sigma) - a(\sigma)} e^{\tilde{a}^\dagger(\bar{\sigma}) - \tilde{a}(\bar{\sigma})}$$

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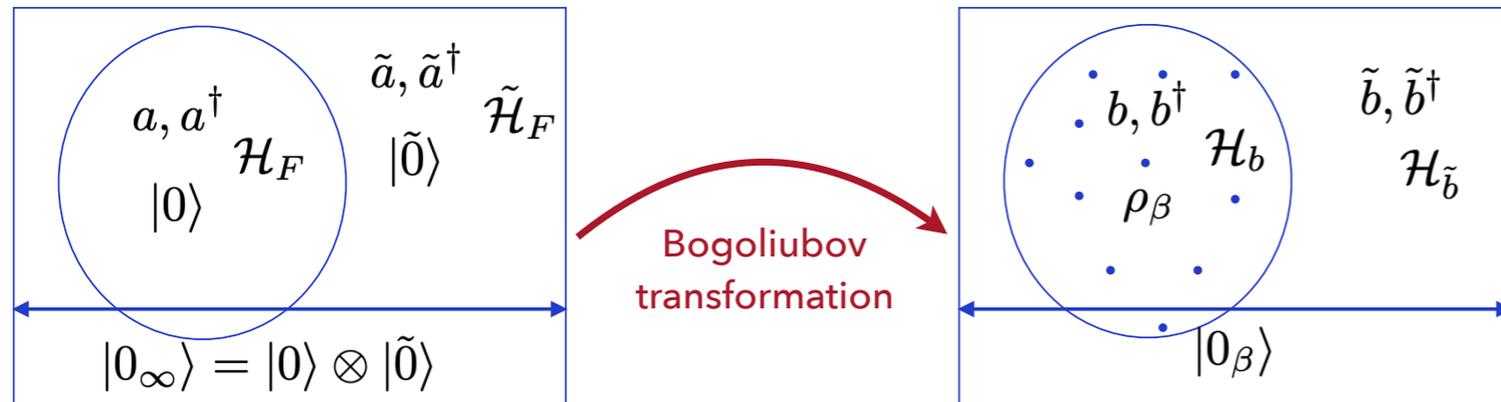
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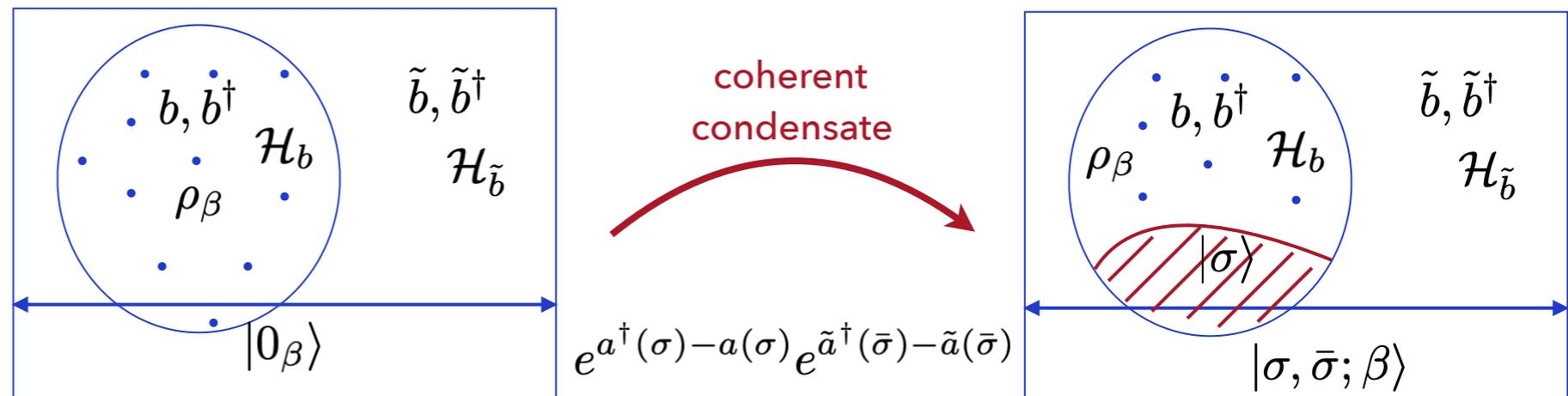
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and compute thermal fluctuations of geometric observables in such condensate state

applications in GFT  
condensate cosmology

e.g. number operator:  $\langle a_{J\alpha}^\dagger a_{J\alpha} \rangle_{\sigma, \bar{\sigma}; \beta} = |\sigma_{J\alpha}|^2 + \sinh^2 \theta_{J\alpha}(\beta)$

**Part III:**  
**GFT quantum consistency**  
**and continuum limit**

# Quantum consistency of GFT models

$$\mathcal{Z} = \int \mathcal{D}\varphi \mathcal{D}\bar{\varphi} e^{i S_\lambda(\varphi, \bar{\varphi})} = \sum_{\Gamma} \frac{\lambda^{N_\Gamma}}{\text{sym}(\Gamma)} \mathcal{A}_\Gamma$$
$$S(\varphi, \bar{\varphi}) = \frac{1}{2} \int [dg_i] \overline{\varphi}(g_i) \mathcal{K}(g_i) \varphi(g_i) + \frac{\lambda}{D!} \int [dg_{ia}] \varphi(g_{i1}) \dots \varphi(\bar{g}_{iD}) \mathcal{V}(g_{ia}, \bar{g}_{iD}) + c.c.$$

quantum consistency

=

quantum dynamics is valid for all  
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**GFT perturbative renormalizability**

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**GFT perturbative renormalizability**

GFT model building mostly based on their Feynman amplitudes, i.e. lattice gravity path integrals and spin foam amplitudes

these present several ambiguities, e.g.:

- exact way of imposing simplicity constraints
- generalisations at combinatorial level (which spin foam complexes?)
- quantisation ambiguities (choice of quantisation map)
- quantum corrections and stability of spin foam amplitudes
- “measure” terms
- quantization/construction ambiguities in LQG Hamiltonian constraint

A. Perez, '07

quantum consistency implies taming such ambiguities

(not so much issue of divergences or existence of physical cut-offs)

# Continuum limit of GFT models

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

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

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physics of few d.o.f. is very different from physics of many d.o.f. !

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expect different phases

and phase transitions

as result of quantum dynamics

(what are the phases of LQG?)

which ones are “geometric”

in which one does spacetime emerge?

Koslowski, '07; DO, '07

A. Ashtekar, J. Lewandowski, '94    T. Koslowski, H. Sahlmann, '10    B. Dittrich, M. Geiller, '14; B. Bahr, B. Dittrich, M. Geiller, '16; S. Gielen, DO, L. Sindoni, '13  
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controlling the continuum limit

=

evaluating full GFT partition function (in non-perturbative regime)



this means: evaluating full lattice gravity path integral, complete spin foam model (all complexes), whole LQG quantum dynamics

**GFT non-perturbative renormalization group flow**

A. Ashtekar, J. Lewandowski, '94    T. Koslowski, H. Sahlmann, '10    B. Dittrich, M. Geiller, '14; B. Bahr, B. Dittrich, M. Geiller, '16; S. Gielen, DO, L. Sindoni, '13  
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GFT renormalization

# GFT renormalisation - general scheme

---

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general strategy:

treat GFTs as ordinary QFTs defined on Lie group manifold

use group structures (Killing form, topology, etc) to define notion of scale and to set up mode integration

scales:

defined by propagator: e.g. spectrum of Laplacian on G = indexed by [group representations](#)

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^d j_\ell (j_\ell + 1) \lesssim \Lambda^2$$

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- need to have control over “theory space” (e.g. via symmetries)      missing in simplicial GFT models
- technical difficulties:      most work done for tensorial GFT models
  - controlling the combinatorics of GFT Feynman diagrams
  - need to adapt/redefine many QFT notions: connectedness, subgraph contraction, Wick ordering, .....

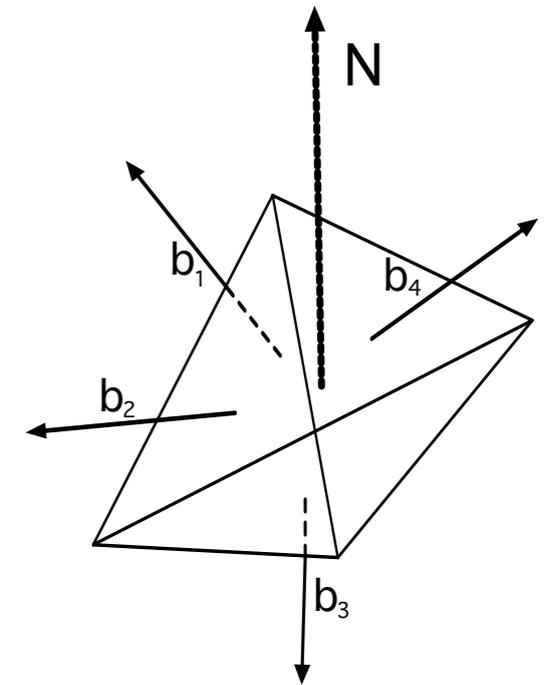
# GFT Renormalization: geometric interpretation?

arguments of GFT field:  $b_i \in \mathfrak{su}(2)$  gravity case:  $d=4$

$|b| \sim J = \text{irrep of } \text{SU}(2) \sim \text{“area of triangles”}$

“geometric” interpretation?

RG flow from large areas to small areas?

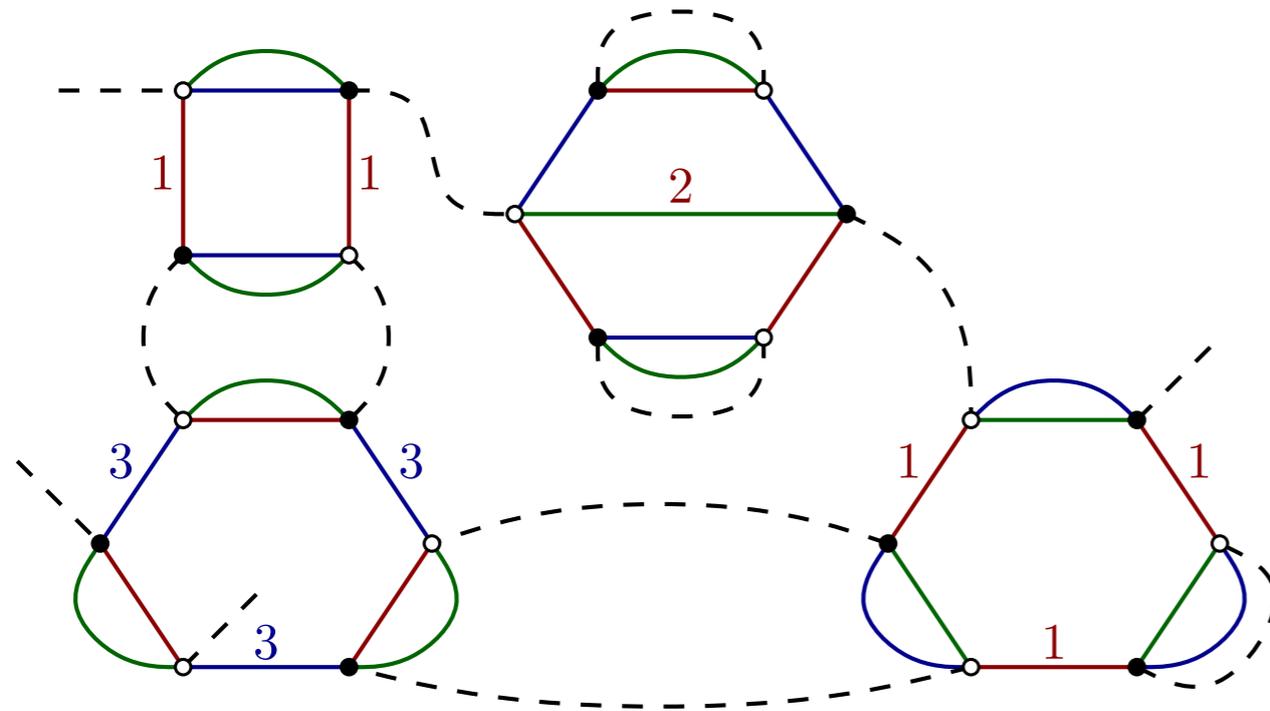


continuum geometric interpretation?

from LQG  
from Regge calculus

- CAUTION in interpreting things geometrically outside continuum geometric approx.
- expect “physical” continuum areas  $A \sim \langle J \rangle \langle n \rangle$ , for  $\langle n \rangle$  large
- expect proper continuum geometric interpretation (and effective metric field)  
for  $\langle J \rangle$  small,  $\langle n \rangle$  large,  $A$  finite (not too small)
- from continuum geometric perspective, large areas are result of coarse graining of microscopic dofs

# GFT Renormalization: combinatorics of FDs



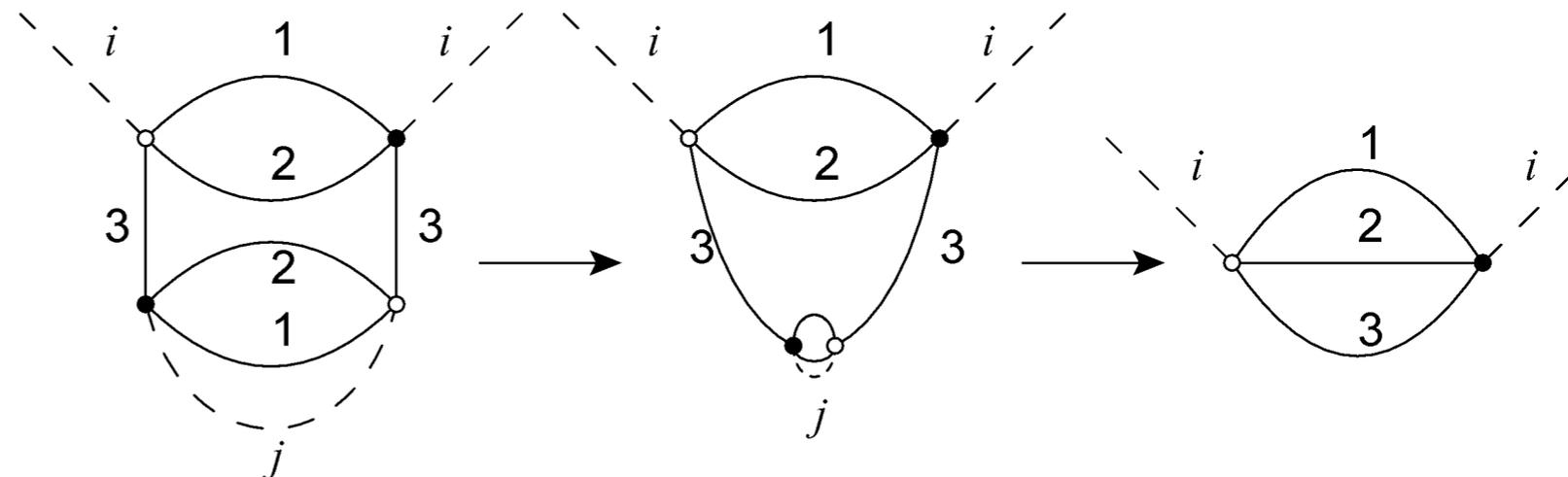
example of Feynman diagram in 4d (interaction process of tetrahedra  $\sim$  4d complex)

Example: when internal scales  $j \gg$  external scales  $i$

contraction of (divergent) subgraphs  
+ absorption in effective vertices is  
coarse-graining of simplicial lattices

(perturbative) GFT renormalization =  
renormalization of lattice gravity path integral

spin foam amplitude consistency under coarse graining  
= RG consistency of GFT Feynman amplitudes



# GFT perturbative renormalisation

S, Carrozza, '16

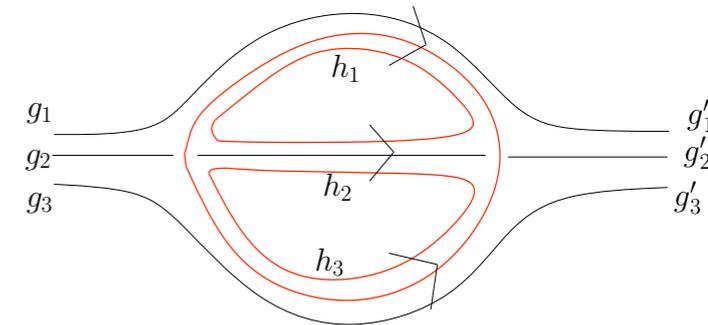
towards renormalizable 4d gravity simplicial GFT models:

- calculation of **radiative corrections and basic divergences**

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

- finiteness results in 3d simplicial models (Boulatov with Laplacian kinetic term)

Ben Geloun, Bonzom, '11; Ben Geloun, '13



key goals: identify theory space, characterize divergent configurations

- **renormalizable TGFT models** (3d, 4d, and higher - multi scale analysis) - Laplacian + tensorial interactions

Ben Geloun, Rivasseau, '11  
Carrozza, DO, Rivasseau, '12. '13

$$S(\varphi, \bar{\varphi}) = \sum_{b \in \mathcal{B}} t_b I_b(\varphi, \bar{\varphi})$$

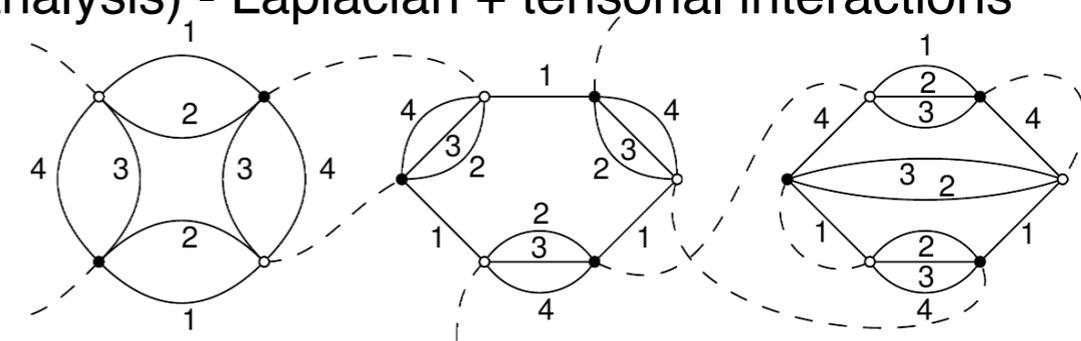
—> with gauge invariance

—> non-abelian ( SU(2) )

—> on homogeneous spaces (towards TGFTs for 4d QG): first steps

— — — —> generic asymptotic freedom/safety

Ben Geloun, '12; Carrozza, '14; Carrozza, Lahoche, '16

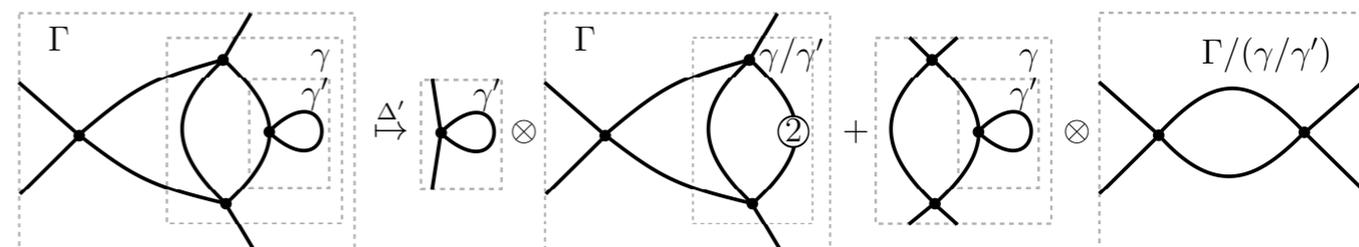


LaHoche, DO, '15

key (most divergent, renormalizable) diagrams:  
melonic diagrams

- **Hopf algebra methods** in TGFT renormalization

M. Raasakka, A. Tanasa, '13; R. Cocho, V. Rivasseau, A. Tanasa, '17



# GFT non-perturbative renormalisation

S, Carrozza, '16

- **GFT constructive analysis** Freidel, Louapre, Noui, Magnen, Smerlak, Gurau, Rivasseau, Tanasa, Dartois, Delpouve, .....

non-perturbative resummation of perturbative (spin foam) series

variety of techniques:

- intermediate field method (loop-vertex expansion)
- Borel summability
- proof of existence of phase transition

- **FRG analysis of (discrete gravity) tensor models and SYK-like tensor models/QFTs**

Eichhorn, Koslowski, Duarte Pereira, ....

Benedetti, Ben Geloun, Carrozza, Gurau, Rivasseau, Sfondrini, Tanasa, Wulkenhaar, ....



comparison with results from resummation of matrix models (FRG counterpart of double scaling limit)

- **TGFT non-perturbative renormalization (e.g. FRG analysis ala Wetterich-Morris)**

Benedetti, Ben Geloun, DO, Martini, Lahoche, Carrozza, Ousmane-Samary, Duarte Pereira, ....

# GFT non-perturbative renormalisation

S, Carrozza, '16

## recent results:

### FRG for (tensorial) GFT models

(similar to matrix/tensor models but distinctively field-theoretic)

- Polchinski formulation based on SD equations      Krajewski, Toriumi, '14      Eichhorn, Koslowski, '14
- general set-up for Wetterich-Morris formulation based on effective action
  - RG flow and phase diagram for:      Benedetti, Ben Geloun, DO, '14 ; Ben Geloun, Martini, DO, '15, '16, Benedetti, Lahoche, '15; Lahoche, Ousmane-Samary, '16; .....
  - TGFT on compact  $U(1)^d$  (with gauge invariance)
  - TGFT on non-compact  $R^d$  (with gauge invariance)
  - TGFT on  $SU(2)^3$  (with gauge invariance)      Carrozza, Lahoche, '16
  - non-melonic TGFT on  $SU(2)^4$  with gauge invariance      S. Carrozza, V. Lahoche, DO, '17
  - TGFT on  $U(1)^3$  in full quartic truncation  
    J. Ben Geloun, T. Koslowski, A. Duarte Pereira, DO, '18
- consequences of Ward identities on RG flow  
    V. Lahoche, D. Ousmane-Samary, '17, '18, '19, '20
- epsilon-expansion      Carrozza, '14

## challenges:

- scaling dimensions of couplings (depend on combinatorics of corresponding interactions)
- non-autonomous systems of flow equations
- more subtle thermodynamic limit
- combinatorics
- .....



**Part IV:**  
**effective continuum physics**  
**from GFT**

GFT and (quantum) many-body systems

# GFT, tensor models & (quantum) many-body systems

- recently, large body of work applying GFTs & tensor models to SYK systems

- **Sachdev-Ye-Kitaev** models = disordered systems of  $N$  Majorana fermions

[Sachdev, Ye, George, Parcollet '90s...; Kitaev '15, Maldacena, Stanford, Polchinski, Rosenhaus...]

$$H_{\text{int}} \sim J_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} \psi_{i_1} \psi_{i_2} \psi_{i_3} \psi_{i_4}, \quad \langle J_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} \rangle \sim 0, \quad \langle J_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4}^2 \rangle \sim \frac{J^2}{N^3}$$

many related models have been constructed (bosonic, supersymmetric, different dimension, etc)

- Many interesting properties:

- solvable at large  $N$
- emergent **conformal symmetry** at **strong coupling**
- maximal **quantum chaos**
- holography in low dimension: " $N\text{AdS}_2/\text{NCFT}_1$ "

Witten, Gurau, Klebanov, Tarnopolsky,  
Benedetti, Bonzom, Carrozza, Tanasa,  
Ben Geloun, Rivasseau, Ferrari, .....

same large- $N$  behaviour of simple GFT/tensor models - melonic diagrams

related TGFT/tensor models - abelian with extra real direction (time)

e.g. 
$$S[\bar{\psi}, \psi] = \int dt \left( i\bar{\psi}_{abc} \partial_t \psi_{abc} - \frac{g}{2} \epsilon_{bg} \epsilon_{dh} \bar{\psi}_{abc} \bar{\psi}_{fge} \psi_{ade} \psi_{fhc} \right)$$

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- other applications to statistical systems on random lattices

- Ising model

- dimer models

Bonzom, Gurau, Smerlak, Rivasseau,  
Lahoche, Ousmane-Samary, .....

- .....

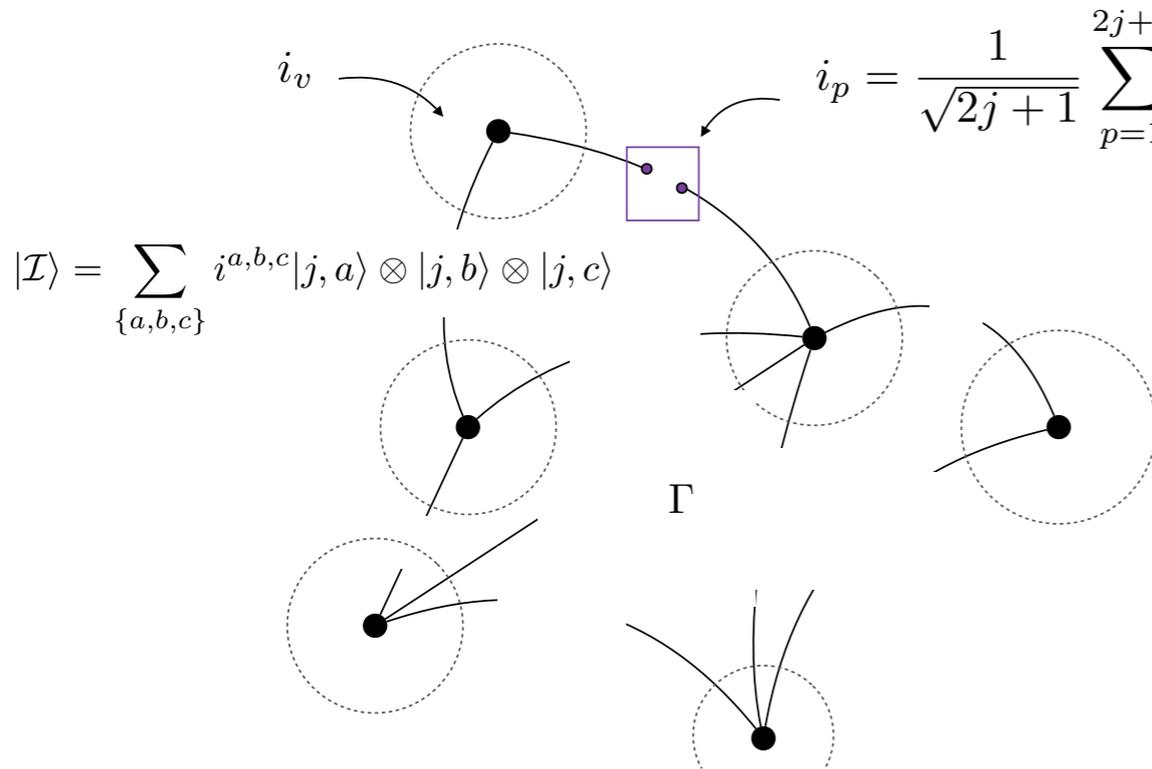
# GFT, entanglement, tensor networks and holography

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entanglement at the foundations of GFT/LQG description of quantum space

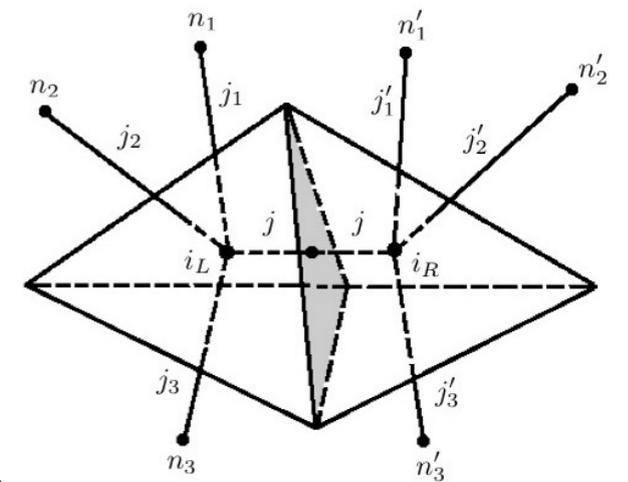
Donnelly, '12; Livine, Terno, '08; DO '13; Chirco, Mele, DO, Vitale, '17; .....

gluing = discrete space connectivity = entanglement between "atoms of space"



entanglement across link  $\sim j$   
 $\sim$  area of dual surface

gauge invariance/closure at vertices  $\sim$   
 entanglement of link dofs  $\sim$  volume information

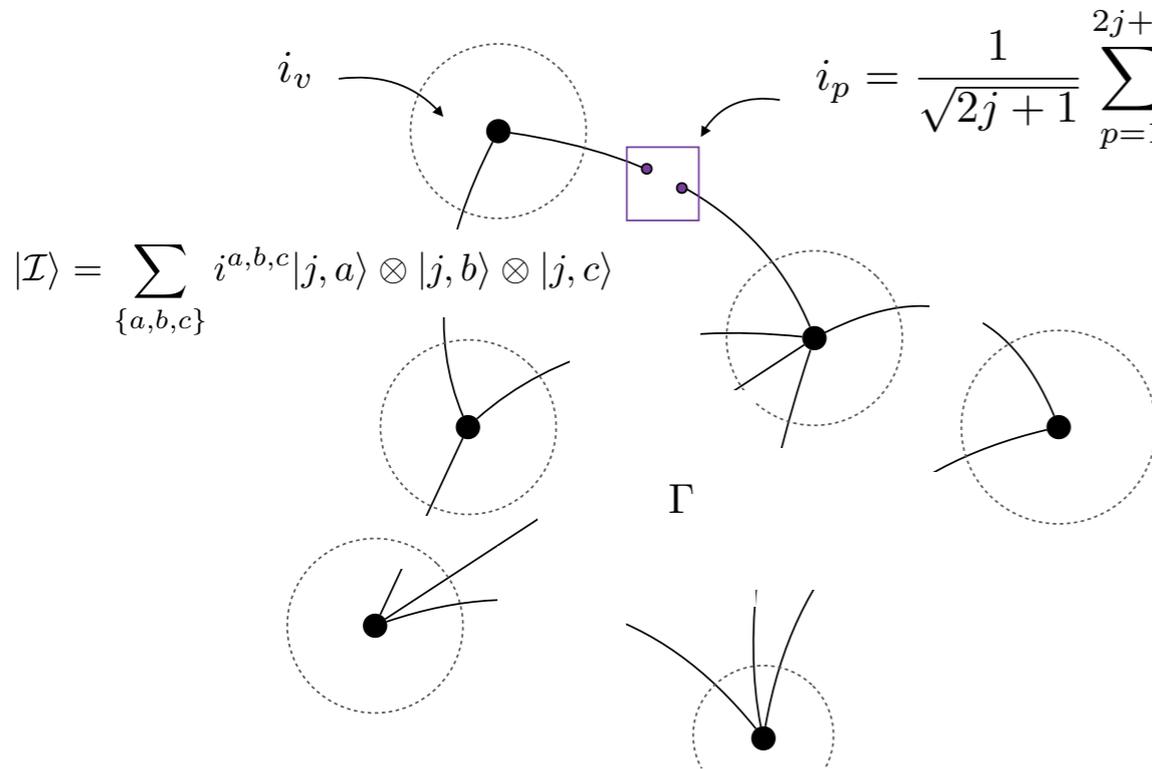


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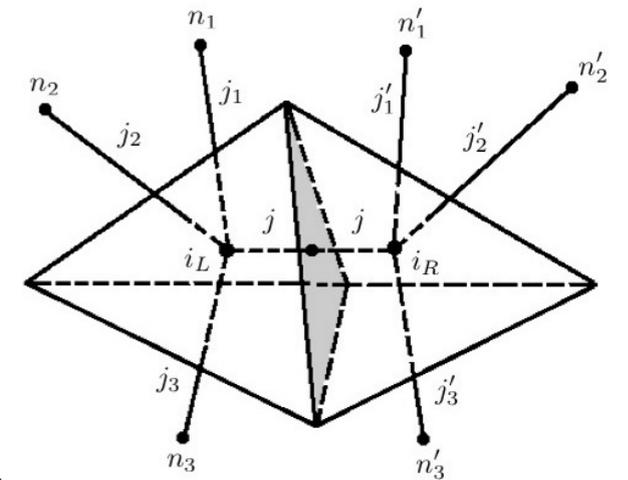
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- entanglement and other QI properties of spin network states**

Livine, Terno, '06; Bianchi et al. '18; Chirco et al '14, '15; Hamma et al. '15; Anzà, Chirco, '16, Han et al. '16

- more calculations of entanglement entropy in spin network states and conditions for area law
- more evidence for “entanglement = spatial connectivity” idea
- typicality criteria for spin network states, in terms of boundary/bulk separation of 3d regions
- information-theoretic definition of horizons and entanglement-based “collapse” for spin network states

- spin foams as tensor networks and their renormalization**

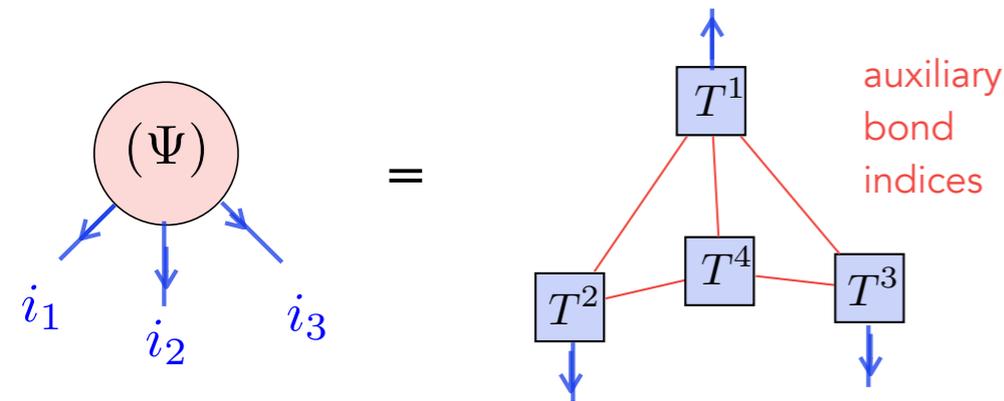
Dittrich, Martin-Benito, Steinhaus, Bahr, Livine, ....

# GFT, entanglement, tensor networks and holography

$$|\Psi\rangle \equiv \bigotimes_{\langle ij \rangle} \langle M_{ij} | \bigotimes_v^N |T_v\rangle$$

Spin networks (for fixed and equal spins) are a special case of tensor networks (with local gauge symmetry)

S. Singh, R. Pfeifer, G. Vidal, '09; G. Evenbly, G. Vidal, '11; S. Singh, G. Vidal, '12; S. Singh, N. McMahon, G. Brennen, '17



Group field theory states are a field-theoretic generalization of random tensor networks - GFT dynamics is probability measure for tensor

probability measure (GFT dynamics):  $\frac{1}{Z} d\nu(\varphi)$

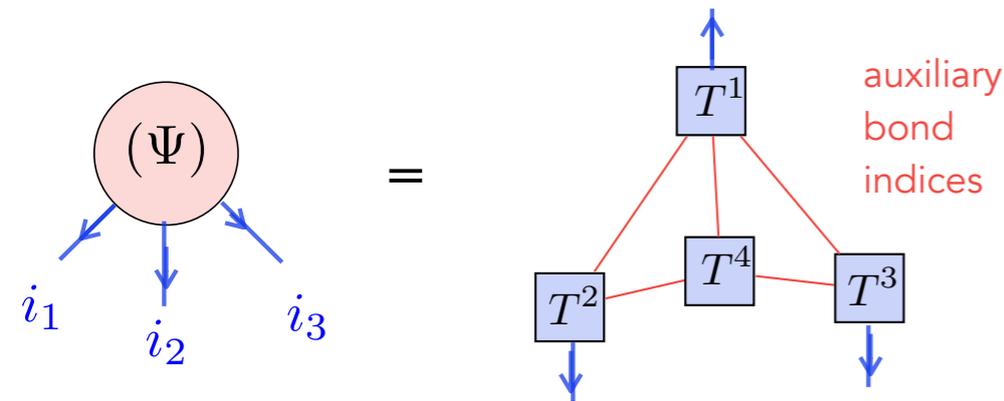
Table B	GFT network	Spin Tensor Network	Tensor Network	
node	$\varphi(\vec{g})$ $\equiv \varphi(g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4)$	$\varphi_{\{m\}}^{\mathbf{j}}$ $\propto \sum_{\{k\}} \hat{\varphi}_{\{m\}\{k\}}^{\mathbf{j}} i^{\mathbf{j}\{k\}}$	$T_{\{\mu\}}$	G. Chirco, DO, M. Zhang, '17; '18; G. Chirco, A. Goessmann, DO, M. Zhang, '19
link	$M(g_1^\dagger g_\ell g_2)$	$M_{mn}^j$	$M_{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}$	
sym	$\varphi(h\vec{g}) = \varphi(\vec{g})$	$\prod_s D_{m_s m'_s}^j(g) i_{m'_1 \dots m'_v}^i$ $= i_{m_1 \dots m_v}^i$	$\prod_s U_{\mu_s \mu'_s} T_{\mu'_1 \dots \mu'_v} =$ $T_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_v}$	
state	$ \Phi_\Gamma^{g_\ell}\rangle \equiv$ $\bigotimes_\ell \langle M_{g_\ell}   \bigotimes_n  \psi_n\rangle$	$ \Psi_\Gamma^{\mathbf{j}^i}\rangle \equiv$ $\bigotimes_\ell \langle M^{j_\ell}   \bigotimes_n  \phi_n^{\mathbf{j}^n i_n}\rangle$	$ \Psi_{\mathcal{N}}\rangle \equiv$ $\bigotimes_\ell^L \langle M_\ell   \bigotimes_n^N  T_n\rangle$	
indices	$g_i \in G,$ $ g_i\rangle \in \mathbb{H} \simeq L^2[G]$	$m_i \in \mathbb{H}_j, \text{SU}(2) \text{ spin-}j$ irrep.	$\mu_i \in \mathbb{Z}_n, n\text{th}$ cyclic group	
dim	$\infty$	$\dim \mathbb{H}_j = 2j + 1$	$\dim \mathbb{Z}_n = n$	

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G. Chirco, DO, M. Zhang, '17; '18;  
G. Chirco, A. Goessmann, DO, M. Zhang, '19

opportunity to:

study TN holographic properties and encoding of entanglement, in full QG, incl. fundamental dynamics

control efficiently entanglement properties of dynamical QG states

# Towards Ryu-Takanayagi formula in full QG

Hayden et al. '16

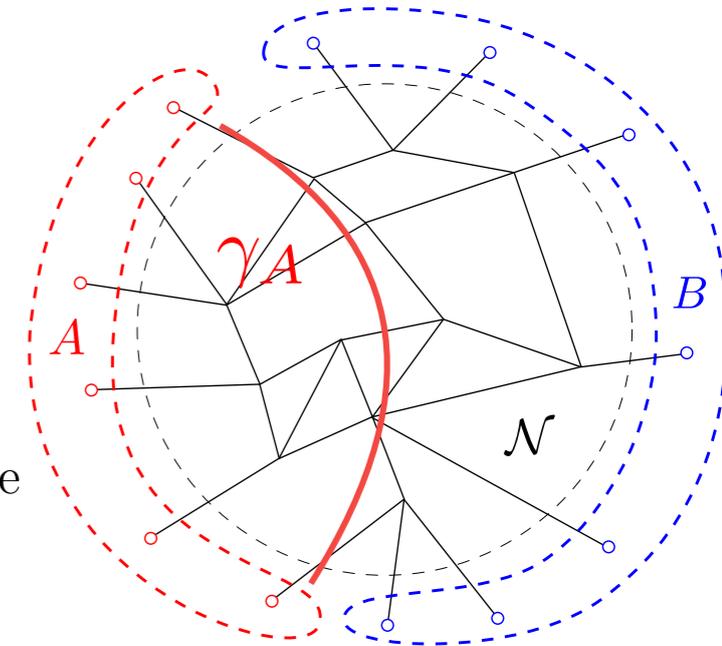
Chirco, DO, Zhang, '17

Goal: compute entanglement entropy for QG (GFT) state defined by generalised Tensor Network

1. Tensors are generalized to group fields, from a finite dimensional object to a square integrable  $L^2$  function, mapping from group manifolds to the complex numbers  $\mathbb{C}$ .
2. A gauge symmetry of the group field associated to each vertex as a vertex wave function is introduced in order to fit our setup more to the context of the quantum gravity theory.
3. The average over the  $N$ -replica of the wave functions (generalised tensors) associated to each network vertex is reinterpreted as a  $N$ -point correlation function of a (simple) GFT model, which turns the averaged Rényi entropy into an amplitude in GFT.

(topological BF)

entanglement entropy defined via Renyi entropy, and computed using replica trick



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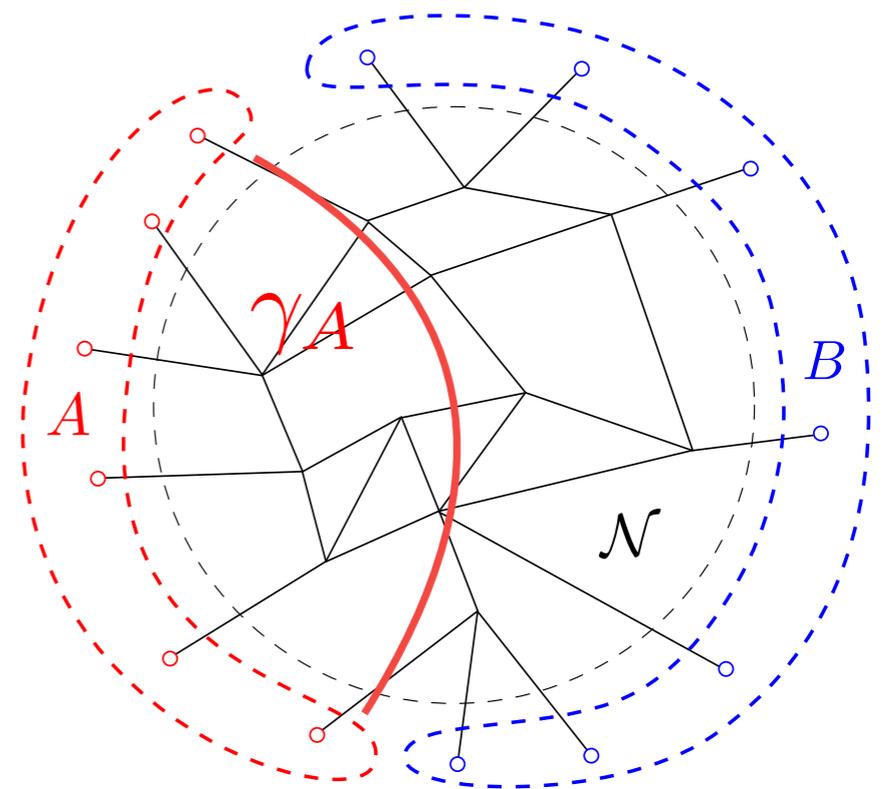
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- —> entropy from evaluation of sum over lattice BF amplitudes (on “bulk lattices”)
- ~ GFT Feynman amplitudes - result dominated by most divergent ones

! this results from choice of specific GFT dynamics/model!

Freidel, Gurau, DO '09, Bonzom, Smerlak '10-'12



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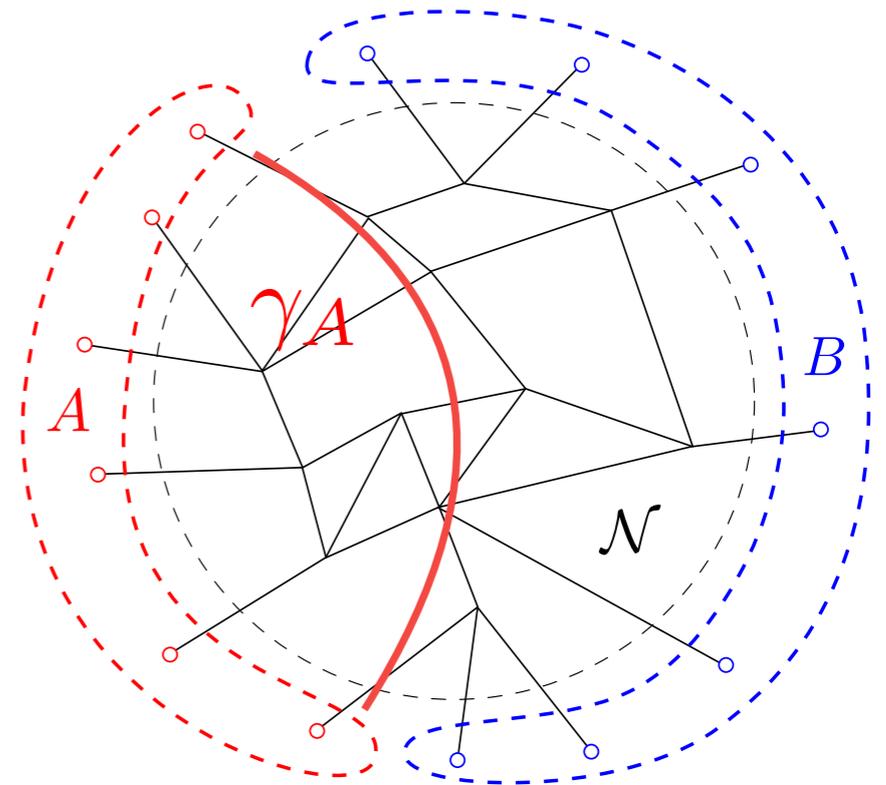
Freidel, Gurau, DO '09, Bonzom, Smerlak '10-'12

result:

$$S_{EE} = \min(\#\ell \in \partial_{AB}) \ln \delta(\mathbb{1})$$

entropy proportional to area of minimal “bulk” surface (number of crossing links) (it is surface in 3d region associated to spin network, though)

(Ryu-Takanayagi-like formula)



# Towards Ryu-Takanayagi formula in full QG

Hayden et al. '16

Chirco, DO, Zhang, '17

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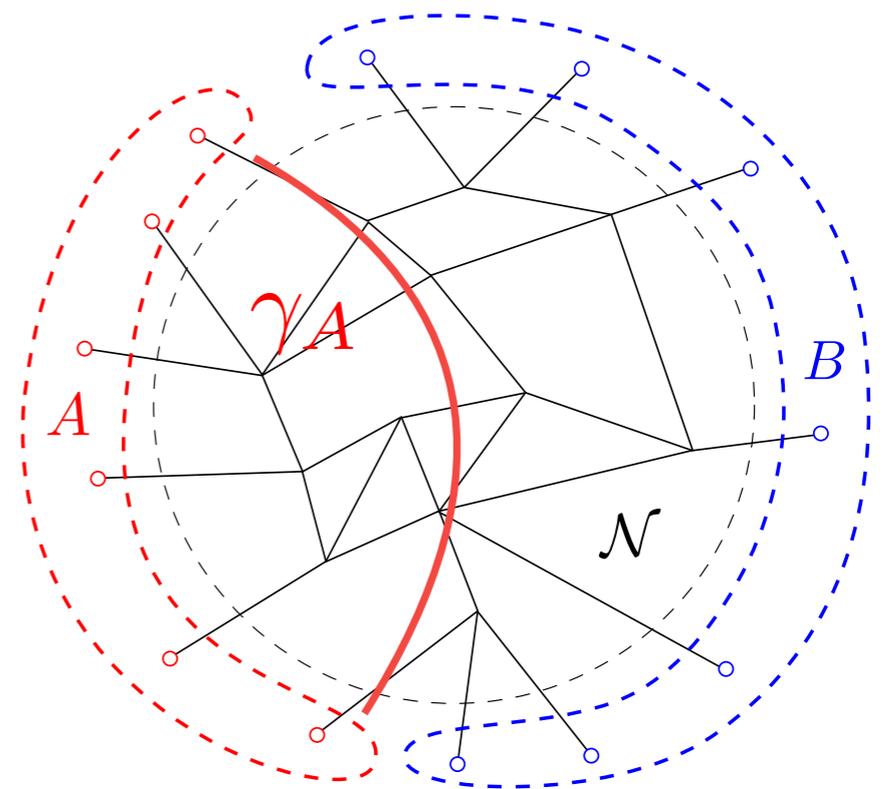
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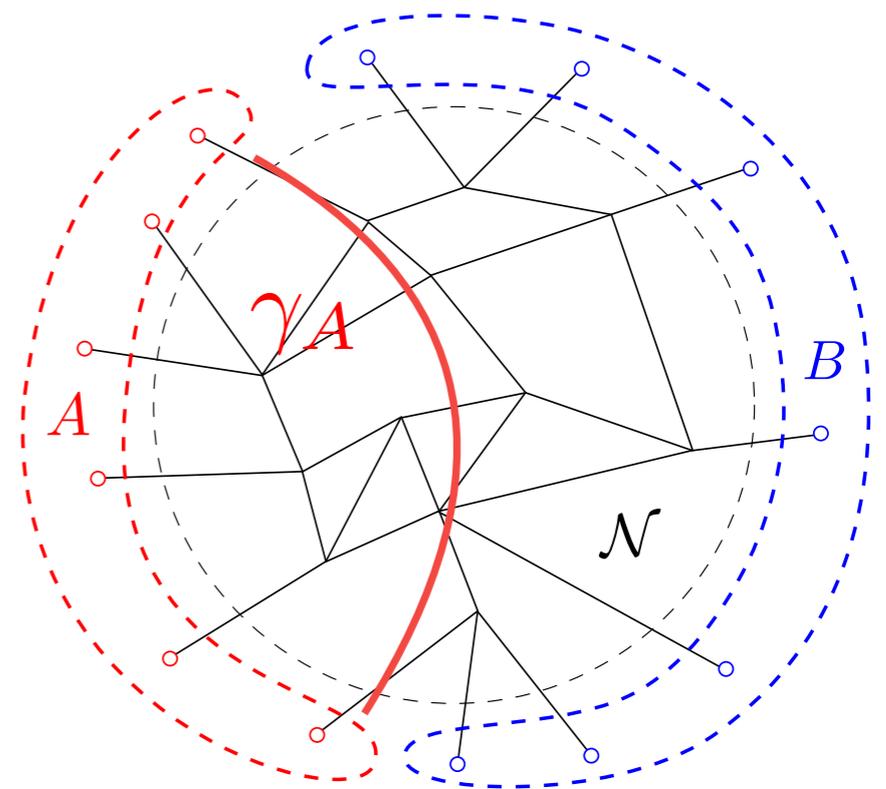
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key points remain: 1) potential of formalism to compute entanglement entropy including QG dynamics; 2) entanglement entropy is measure of connectivity between two regions, via “bulk” geometry



GFT condensate cosmology

# GFT (condensate) cosmology

S. Gielen, DO, L. Sindoni, G. Calcagni, M. Sakellariadou,  
E. Wilson-Ewing, A. Pithis, M. De Cesare, .....

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Quantum GFT condensates are continuum homogeneous (quantum) spaces

described by **single collective wave function** (“**wave-function homogeneity**”)  
(depending on homogeneous anisotropic geometric data)

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

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is  
non-linear extension of (loop) quantum cosmology equation for collective wave function

no perturbative (spin foam) expansion -  
infinite superposition of Feynman diagrams  
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**cosmology as QG hydrodynamics**

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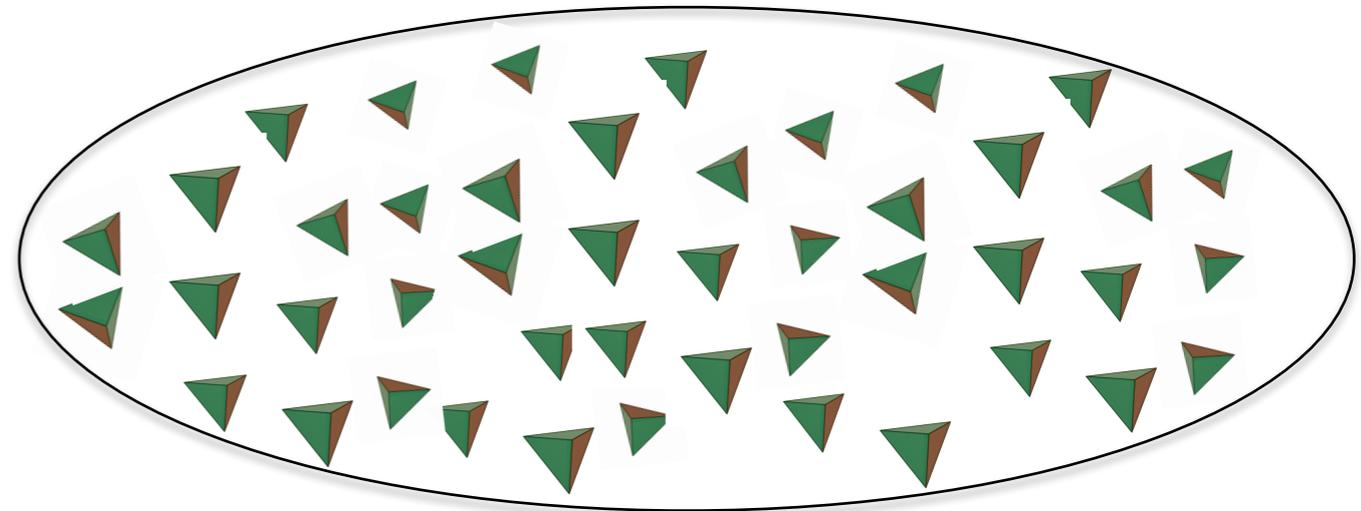
Gielen, DO, Sindoni, '13; Calcagni, De Cesare,  
Gielen, DO, Pithis, Sakellariadou, Sindoni,  
Wilson-Ewing, ...

Simple GFT condensates as homogeneous continuum geometries (not encoding any topological information)

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

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

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

Gielen, '14

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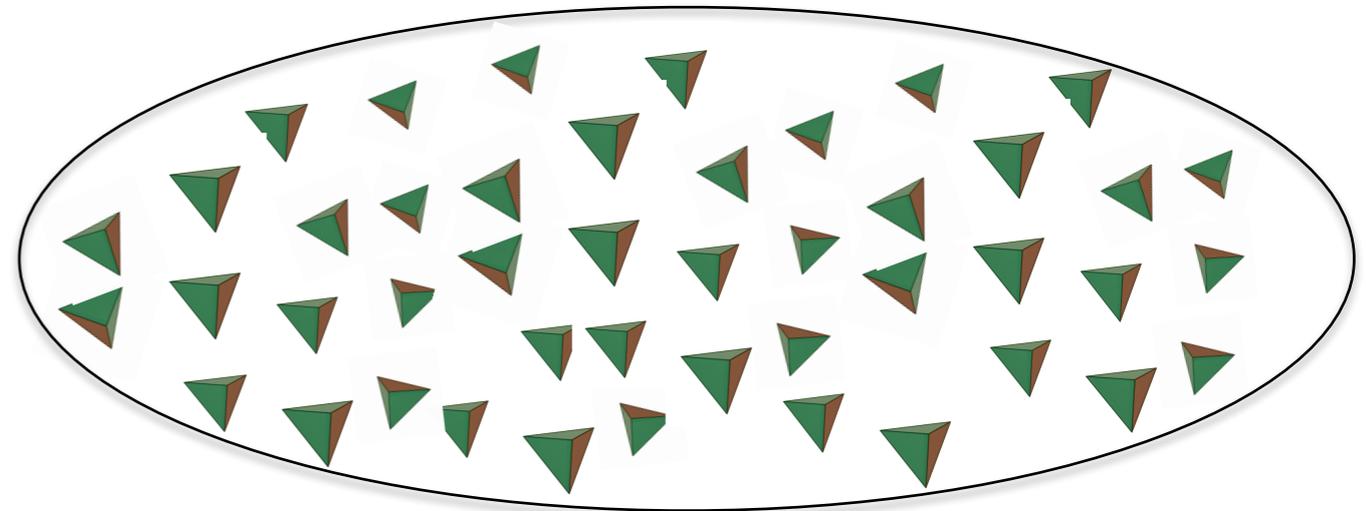
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Gielen, '14

Effective dynamics (from inserting state in fundamental quantum eqns: GFT eqns of motion

$$\int [dg'_i] \tilde{\mathcal{K}}(g_i, g'_i) \sigma(g'_i) + \lambda \frac{\delta \tilde{\mathcal{V}}}{\delta \varphi(g_i)} \Big|_{\varphi \equiv \sigma} = 0 \quad \text{i.e. mean field (Gross-Pitaevskii) hydrodynamics}$$

non-linear and non-local extension of quantum cosmology-like equation for “collective wave function”

no perturbative (spin foam) expansion -

infinite superposition of Feynman diagrams  
(infinite sum over discrete “spacetime” lattices)

formally similar to quantum cosmology, but:

no Hilbert space structure (no superposition of “states of universe”, no “collapse of cosmological wave function

# Emergent bouncing cosmology from full QG

DO, Sindoni, Wilson-Ewing, '16

- (generalised) EPRL model for 4d Lorentzian QG with  $SU(2)$  data, coupled to (discretised) (pre-)scalar field

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- coupling of free massless scalar field

$$\hat{\varphi}(g_v) \rightarrow \hat{\varphi}(g_v, \phi) \quad |\sigma\rangle \sim \exp\left(\int dg_v d\phi \sigma(g_v, \phi) \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(g_v, \phi)\right) |\mathbf{0}\rangle$$

want to use effective scalar field variable as “physical clock” to define “time”

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$$S = K^{(0)} + K^{(2)} + V + V^\dagger$$

$$K^{(0)} = \int d\phi \sum_{j_i, m_i, \ell} \bar{\varphi}_{m_v}^{j_v \ell}(\phi) \varphi_{m_v}^{j_v \ell}(\phi) (\mathcal{K}_2^{(0)})_{m_v}^{j_v \ell}$$

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$$V = \sum_{j_i, m_i, \ell_i} \left[ \varphi_{m_1 m_2 m_3 m_4}^{j_1 j_2 j_3 j_4 \ell_1}(\phi) \varphi_{m_4 m_5 m_6 m_7}^{j_4 j_5 j_6 j_7 \ell_2}(\phi) \varphi_{m_7 m_3 m_8 m_9}^{j_7 j_3 j_8 j_9 \ell_3}(\phi) \varphi_{m_9 m_6 m_2 m_{10}}^{j_9 j_6 j_2 j_{10} \ell_4}(\phi) \varphi_{m_{10} m_8 m_5 m_1}^{j_{10} j_8 j_5 j_1 \ell_5}(\phi) \right. \\ \left. \times \tilde{\mathcal{V}}_5(j_1, \dots, j_{10}; \ell_1, \dots, \ell_5) \right], \quad (3)$$

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- reduction to isotropic condensate configurations (depending on single variable j):  $\sigma(g_v, \phi) \rightarrow \sigma_j(\phi)$

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DO, Sindoni, Wilson-Ewing, '16

- **effective condensate hydrodynamics** (non-linear quantum cosmology):

$$A_j \partial_\phi^2 \sigma_j(\phi) - B_j \sigma_j(\phi) + w_j \sigma_j(\phi)^4 = 0$$

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consistent with (even necessary for) spin foam dynamics  
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focus first on dynamics  
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- key **relational** observables (expectation values in condensate state) with scalar field as clock:

universe volume (at fixed “time”)

$$V(\phi) = \sum_j V_j \bar{\sigma}_j(\phi) \sigma_j(\phi) = \sum_j V_j \rho_j(\phi)^2 \quad V_j \sim j^{3/2} \ell_{\text{Pl}}^3$$

momentum of scalar field (at fixed “time”)

$$\pi_\phi = \langle \sigma | \hat{\pi}_\phi(\phi) | \sigma \rangle = \hbar \sum_j Q_j$$

energy density of scalar field (at fixed “time”)

$$\rho = \frac{\pi_\phi^2}{2V^2} = \frac{\hbar^2 (\sum_j Q_j)^2}{2(\sum_j V_j \rho_j^2)^2}$$

observables defined in fundamental Hilbert space; intuition comes from discrete geometric interpretation of fundamental dofs; full continuum geometric interpretation emerges at collective, hydrodynamic level

# Emergent bouncing cosmology from full QG

DO, Sindoni, Wilson-Ewing, '16

effective dynamics for volume - generalised Friedmann equations: (GFT interaction terms sub-dominant)

$$\left(\frac{V'}{3V}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{2 \sum_j V_j \rho_j \sqrt{E_j - \frac{Q_j^2}{\rho_j^2} + m_j^2 \rho_j^2}}{3 \sum_j V_j \rho_j^2}\right)^2$$

$$\frac{V''}{V} = \frac{2 \sum_j V_j [E_j + 2m_j^2 \rho_j^2]}{\sum_j V_j \rho_j^2}$$

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approx. classical Friedmann eqns if  $m_j^2 \approx 3G_N$

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→  $\left(\frac{V'}{3V}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{2 \sum_j V_j m_j \rho_j^2}{3 \sum_j V_j \rho_j^2}\right)^2$   $\frac{V''}{V} = \frac{4 \sum_j V_j m_j^2 \rho_j^2}{\sum_j V_j \rho_j^2}$  approx. classical Friedmann eqns if  $m_j^2 \approx 3G_N$

→  $\exists j / \rho_j(\phi) \neq 0 \forall \phi$  →  $V = \sum_j V_j \rho_j^2$   
remains positive at all times  
(with single turning point)

generic quantum bounce (solving classical singularity)!

# Special case: single spin condensate

cosmological dynamics entirely due to growth (in relational time) of number of “atoms of space”

simple condensate:

$$\sigma_j(\phi) = 0, \text{ for all } j \neq j_o$$



$$\left(\frac{V'}{3V}\right)^2 = \frac{4\pi G}{3} \left(1 - \frac{\rho}{\rho_c}\right) + \frac{V_{j_o} E_{j_o}}{9V}$$
$$\rho_c = 6\pi G \hbar^2 / V_{j_o}^2 \sim (6\pi / j_o^3) \rho_{\text{Pl}}$$

LQC-like  
modified  
dynamics!

DO, Sindoni, Wilson-Ewing, '16

interactions are also much simpler to study, for such simple condensates

dominance of single-spin condensate realised in several contexts:

A. Pithis, M. Sakellariadou, P. Tomov, '16

- mean field analysis of static GFT models in isotropic restriction: vacua strongly peaked on single spin
- mean field analysis of evolution (in relational time) of isotropic models: single spin dominates at late times

S. Gielen, '16

A. Pithis, M. Sakellariadou, '16

# Assorted recent results in GFT cosmology

- effect of GFT interactions:

# effect of fundamental GFT interactions

M. De Cesare, A. Pithis, M. Sakellariadou, '16

for phenomenological isotropic model with: simplified interaction kernels and only single spin component

one gets effective GFT hydro equations:

$$\partial_{\phi}^2 \rho - \frac{Q^2}{\rho^3} - \frac{B}{A} \rho - \frac{w}{A} \rho^{n-1} - \frac{w'}{A} \rho^{n'-1} = 0$$

$$w' > 0.$$

for stability of underlying GFT

compatibility with late time cosmology:  $\mu \equiv -\frac{w'}{A} > 0$       compatibility with free case:  $m^2 \equiv \frac{B}{A} > 0$   
 $A < 0$

from this, one gets **effective dynamics of universe volume**:

$$H^2 = \frac{8\hbar^2 Q^2}{9} \left[ \frac{\varepsilon_m}{V^2} + \frac{\varepsilon_E}{V^3} + \frac{\varepsilon_Q}{V^4} + \frac{\varepsilon_{\mu}}{V^{3-n'/2}} \right]$$

depending from various parameters in the model

$$\varepsilon_E = V_j E,$$

$$\varepsilon_m = \frac{m^2}{2},$$

$$\varepsilon_Q = -\frac{Q^2}{2} V_j^2,$$

$$\varepsilon_{\mu} = -\frac{\mu}{n'} V_j^{1-n'/2}.$$



**quite some room for model building, but embedded in fundamental theory**

# Accelerated phase after bounce: QG inflation?

following the bounce, we have accelerated expansion

issue is: number of e-folds

$$N = \frac{2}{3} \log \left( \frac{\rho_{\text{end}}}{\rho_{\text{bounce}}} \right)$$

M. De Cesare, M. Sakellariadou, '16

M. De Cesare, A. Pithis, M. Sakellariadou, '16

- in effective cosmological dynamics neglecting GFT interactions:

$$0.119 \lesssim N \lesssim 0.186$$

acceleration is too short-lived to be physically useful

- including effects of GFT interactions (in phenomenological way):

$$\sigma = \rho e^{i\theta}$$

$$\partial_{\phi}^2 \rho - m^2 \rho - \frac{Q^2}{\rho^3} + \lambda \rho^{n-1} + \mu \rho^{n'-1} = 0$$

one finds:

- bounce
- accelerated expansion following bounce
- decelerated phase and recollapse

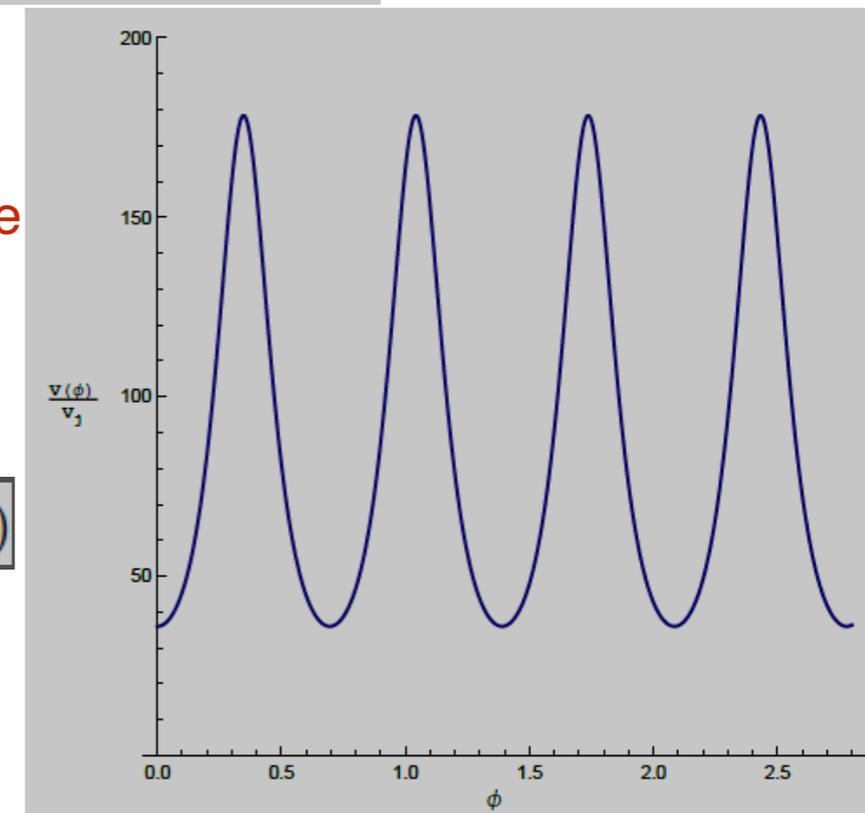
→ cyclic universe

moreover:

- N at least ~ 60
- no intermediate deceleration between beginning and end of accelerated phase

$$\lambda < 0 \text{ and } n \geq 5 \text{ (} n' > n \text{)}$$

QG-inflation from GFT condensates



# Assorted recent results in GFT cosmology

- effect of GFT interactions

M. De Cesare, A. Pithis, M. Sakellariadou, '16

new cosmological terms modifying background dynamics, QG-inflation, ...

- anisotropies

A. Pithis, M. Sakellariadou, '16

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

anisotropies (using non-equilateral tetrahedra) only play role close to quantum bounce

- effective cosmological dynamics = specific limiting curvature mimetic gravity

M. De Cesare, '18, '19

potentially useful also for QG explanation of cosmological dark sector

- effective Friedmann from generalised hydrodynamics (beyond mean field)

S. Gielen, A. Polaczek, '19

effective cosmological dynamics can be derived under more general conditions from relational Hamiltonian evolution, with very similar features

- cosmological perturbations

S. Gielen, DO, '17

S. Gielen, '18

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

formalism can be extended to inhomogeneities; extension of general GFTs to include matter rods; separate universe approach; scale invariant power spectrum follows in some generality, and corrections can be computed

# Cosmological perturbations from full QG

S. Gielen, DO, '17

GFT for 4d gravity coupled to 4 free massless scalar fields used as clock and rods

+  
isotropic reduction of geometric sector

$$\sigma(g_I, \phi^J) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \sigma_j(\phi^J) \mathbf{D}^j(g_I)$$

GFT hydrodynamics equation for  
isotropic condensates (weak coupling)

$$\left(-B_j + A_j \partial_{\phi^0}^2 + C_j \Delta_{\phi^i}\right) \sigma_j(\phi^J) = 0$$

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small perturbations around homogeneous condensate universes

$$\sigma_j(\phi^J) = \sigma_j^0(\phi^0) (1 + \epsilon \psi_j(\phi^J))$$

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volume fluctuations and cosmological power spectrum (similarly for matter density fluctuations)

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta V(\phi_0, k_i; \Phi_0, K_i) &\equiv \langle \hat{V}(\phi^0, k_i) \hat{V}(\Phi^0, K_i) \rangle - \langle \hat{V}(\phi^0, k_i) \rangle \langle \hat{V}(\Phi^0, K_i) \rangle \\ &= \delta(\phi^0 - \Phi^0) \sum_j V_j^2 |\sigma_j^0(\phi^0)|^2 [(2\pi)^3 \delta^3(k_i + K_i) + \epsilon (\tilde{\psi}_j(\phi^0, k_i + K_i) + \overline{\tilde{\psi}_j}(\phi^0, -k_i - K_i))] \end{aligned}$$

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$$\sigma_j(\phi^J) = \sigma_j^0(\phi^0) (1 + \epsilon \psi_j(\phi^J))$$

volume fluctuations and cosmological power spectrum (similarly for matter density fluctuations)

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta V(\phi_0, k_i; \Phi_0, K_i) &\equiv \langle \hat{V}(\phi^0, k_i) \hat{V}(\Phi^0, K_i) \rangle - \langle \hat{V}(\phi^0, k_i) \rangle \langle \hat{V}(\Phi^0, K_i) \rangle \\ &= \delta(\phi^0 - \Phi^0) \sum_j V_j^2 |\sigma_j^0(\phi^0)|^2 [(2\pi)^3 \delta^3(k_i + K_i) + \epsilon (\tilde{\psi}_j(\phi^0, k_i + K_i) + \overline{\tilde{\psi}_j}(\phi^0, -k_i - K_i))] \end{aligned}$$

naturally approximate scale invariance

- dominant part (homogeneous condensate) exactly scale invariant
- deviations suppressed as universe expands and when inhomogeneities are small

# Cosmological perturbations from full QG

S. Gielen, DO, '17

GFT for 4d gravity coupled to 4 free massless scalar fields used as clock and rods

+  
isotropic reduction of geometric sector

$$\sigma(g_I, \phi^J) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \sigma_j(\phi^J) \mathbf{D}^j(g_I)$$

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- dominant term  $\sim 1/N \sim 1/V$
- perturbations further suppressed as universe expands
- if accelerated phase, further suppression of deviations from scale invariance

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different approximation (same starting point):  
separate universe framework

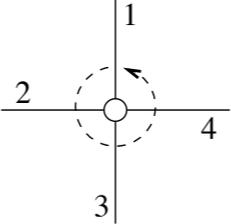
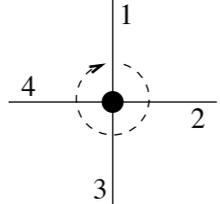


QG-corrected eqns for long-wavelength perturbations

GFT microscopic description of  
spherically symmetric geometries  
and horizons

# GFT microstates for spherically geometries/horizons

DO, Pranzetti, Sindoni, '15-'18

- **basic operators:**  $\hat{\varphi}_W^\dagger(g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4) |0\rangle =$    $\hat{\varphi}_B^\dagger(g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4) |0\rangle =$  
- colored GFT tensors, to control topology, with simplicial geometric variables, to control geometric properties

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Strategy:

1. Start with a (combinatorially simple) seed state for the desired topology
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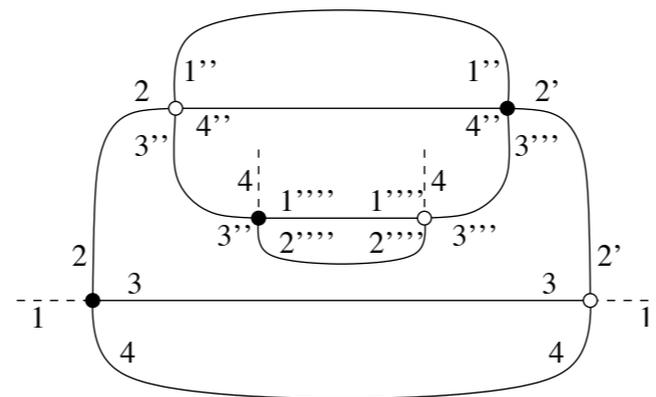
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**Spherical shell:**

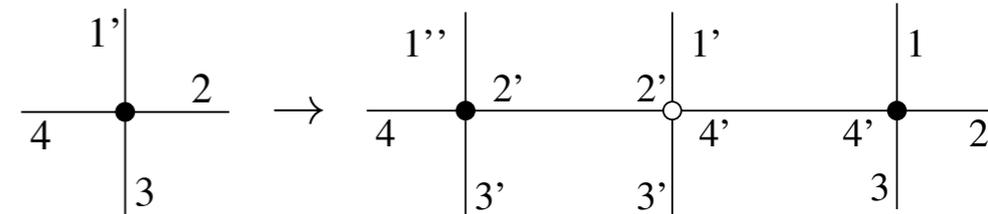
Simple seed state with two boundaries:



Refinement operator (dipole insertion):

$$\widehat{\mathcal{M}}_{r,B+} \equiv \int dk_2 dk_3 dk_4 dh'_2 dh'_3 dh'_4$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_{r,B+}^\dagger(e, h'_2, h'_3, k_4) \hat{\sigma}_{r,W+}^\dagger(e, h'_2, h'_3, h'_4) \hat{\sigma}_{r,B+}^\dagger(e, k_2, k_3, h'_4) \hat{\sigma}_{r,B+}(e, k_2, k_3, k_4)$$



# GFT microstates for spherically geometries/horizons

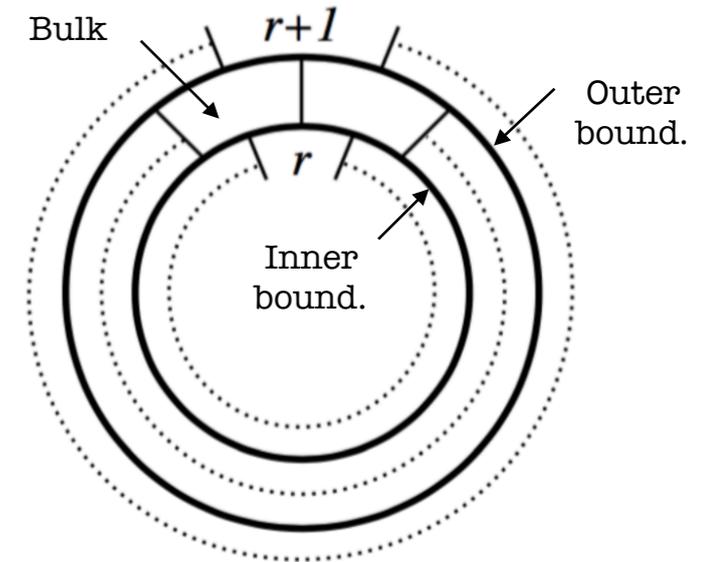
DO, Pranzetti, Sindoni, '15-'18

Quantum state for (approximately) continuum homogeneous spherical shell:

(for some high-order polynomial operator function F)

$$|\Psi_r\rangle = F_r(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}_{r, B_s}, \widehat{\mathcal{M}}_{r, W_s})|\mathcal{T}\rangle$$

large (infinite) superpositions of arbitrarily complex spin network states



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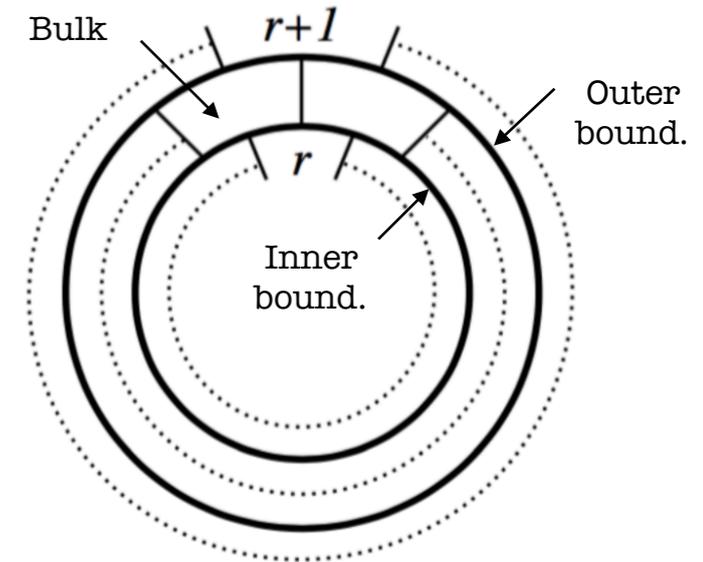
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Quantum state obtained by product of shell states, sharing boundary data, refined in a coordinated way - large (potentially infinite) superposition of spherically symmetric cellular complexes, from gluing homogeneous shells



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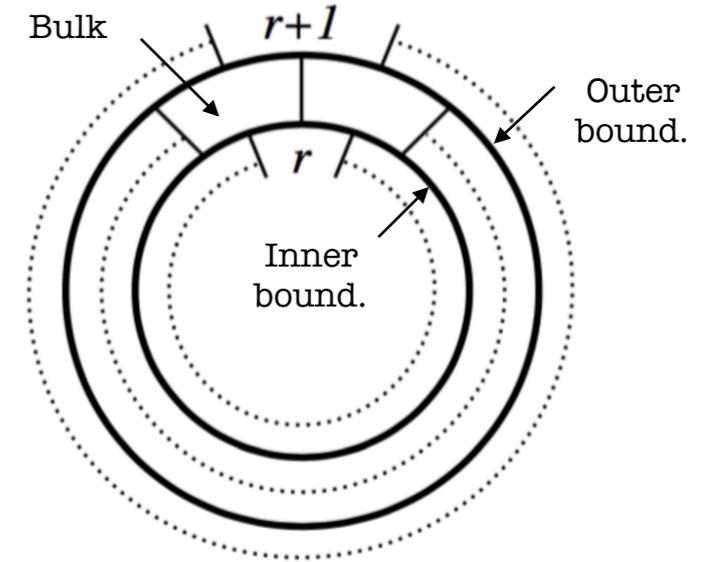
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can define and compute geometric quantities e.g. area operator (for shell r and boundary s)

$$\hat{A}_{Jr,s} \equiv \sum_{t=B,W} \int (dg)^4 \hat{\sigma}_{r,ts}^\dagger(g_I) \sqrt{E_J^i E_J^j \delta_{ij}} \hat{\sigma}_{r,ts}(g_I) \quad \text{where} \quad E_J^i \triangleright f(g_I) := \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} i \frac{d}{d\epsilon} f(g_1, \dots, e^{-i\epsilon\tau^i} g_J, \dots, g_4)$$

$$\langle \hat{A}_{Jr,s} \rangle = \langle \hat{n}_{r,s} \rangle a_{Jr,s}$$

expectation value of the area for a single dual J-link

number operator :  $\hat{n}_{r,s} = \sum_{t=B,W} \int dh_I \hat{\sigma}_{r,ts}^\dagger(h_I) \hat{\sigma}_{r,ts}(h_I)$

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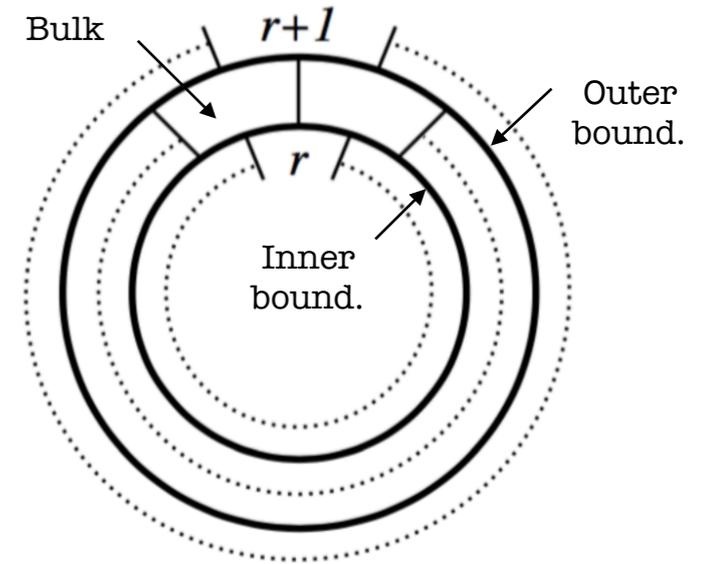
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horizon density matrix (by tracing over all other shells (inside and outside)):

$$\rho_{red-tot}^{(n)} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \sum_{s=1}^{\mathcal{N}} \rho_{red}^{(n)}(\Gamma_s)$$

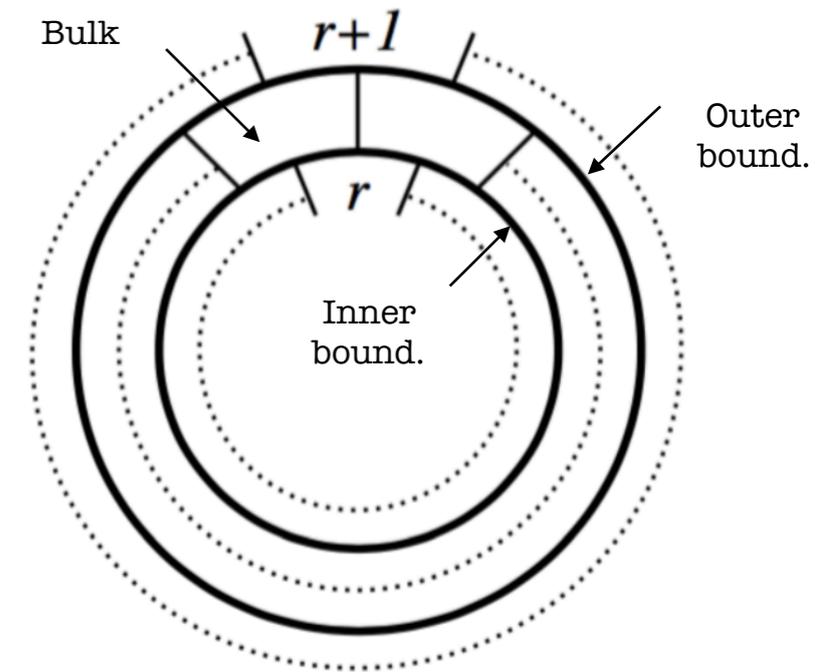
nice features of our GFT states (“weak holographic principle”):

all information about traced-out shells is lost; complete set of eigenstates can be found, labelled by total number of graphs at given number of vertices

# Horizon entropy calculation

DO, Pranzetti, Sindoni, '15-'18

- large area, small shell volume, **small fluctuations** (many vertices)
- **require maximal entropy**  $\longrightarrow$  “proxy” for “horizon conditions”

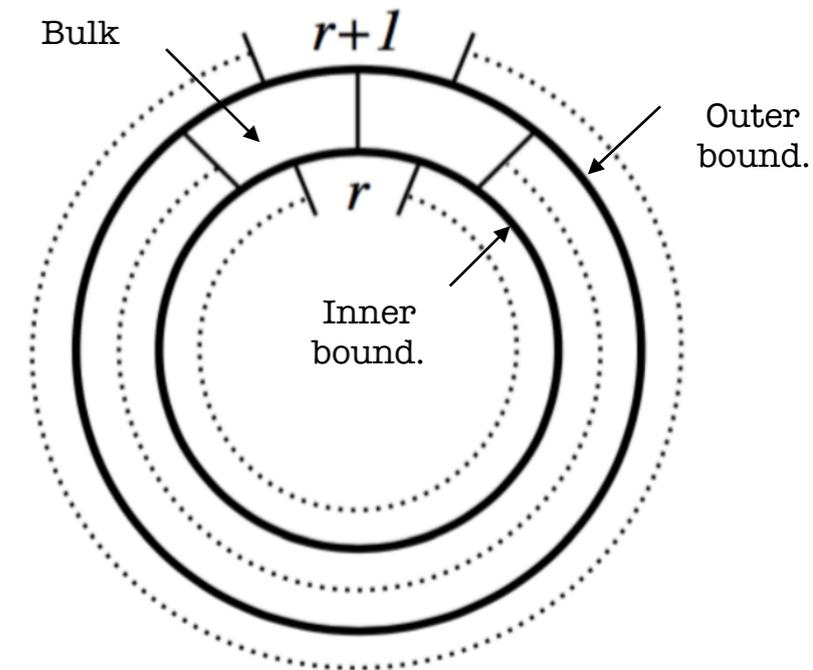


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Entanglement (von Neumann) entropy = Boltzmann entropy  
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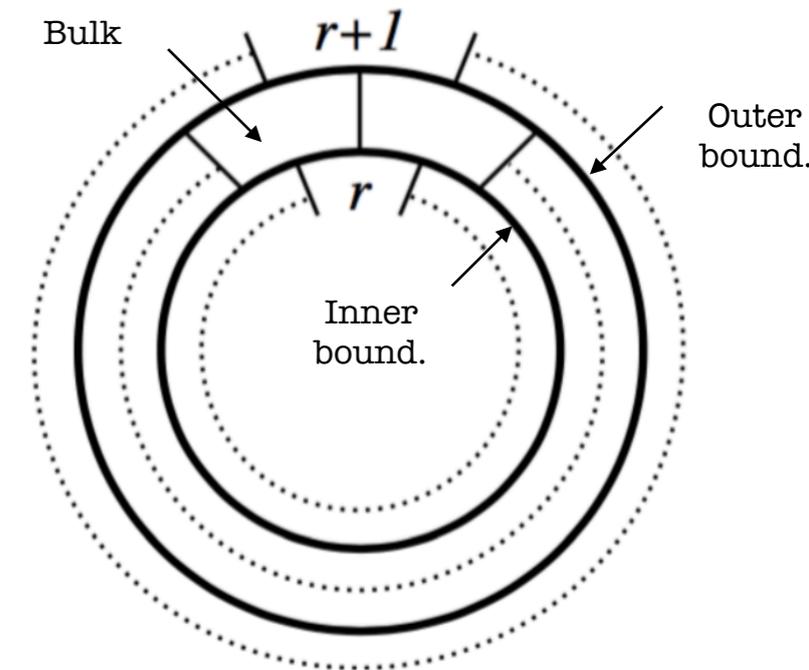


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degeneracy of the single vertex Hilbert space

number of components independently refined



$$S(n, a) = \log (\mathcal{N}(n) \Delta(a)) \approx 2 n l \log (2) + \log (\Delta(a)) - \frac{l}{2} \log (n)$$

fixed (large) number  $n$  of vertices

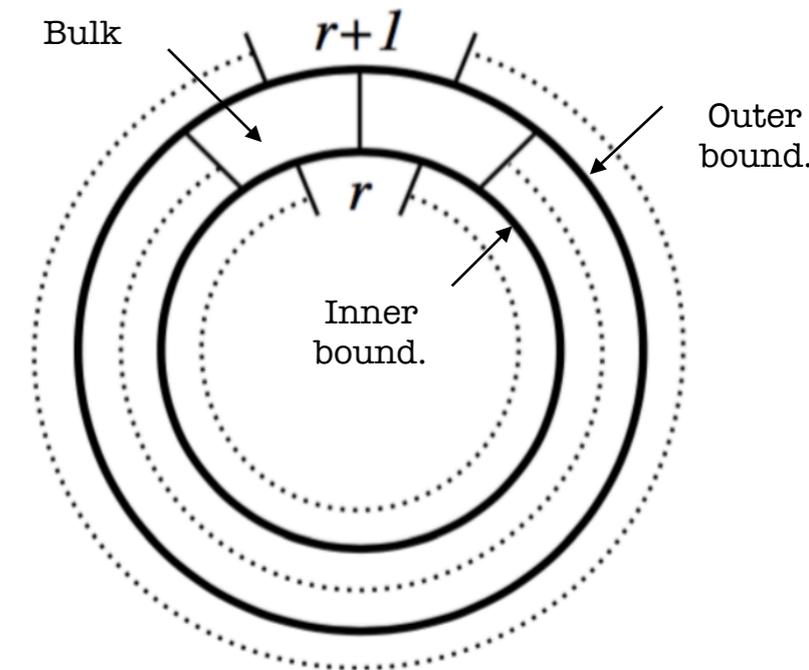
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maximize entropy for given total (average) area:

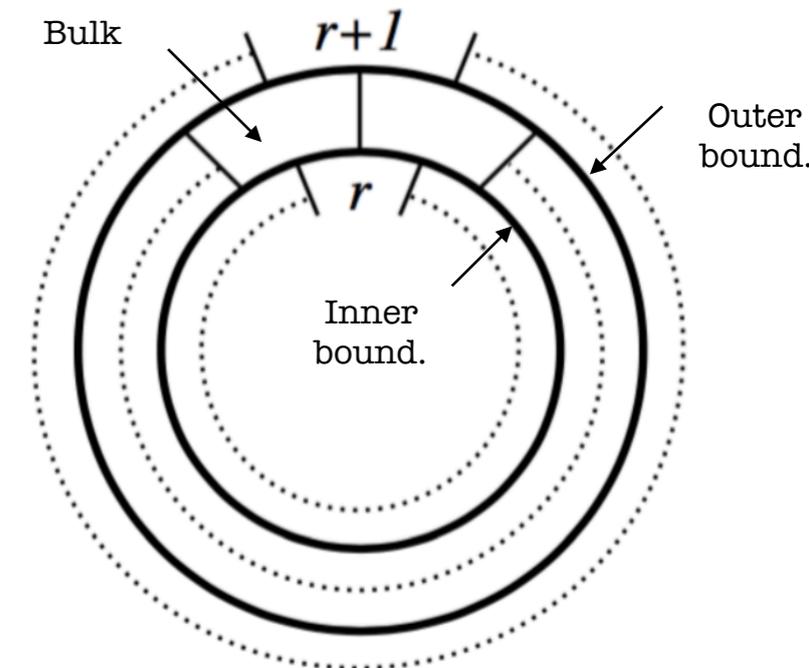
$$\Sigma(n, a, \lambda) = S(n, a) + \lambda(\mathcal{A}_{IH}/\ell_P^2 - 2an)$$

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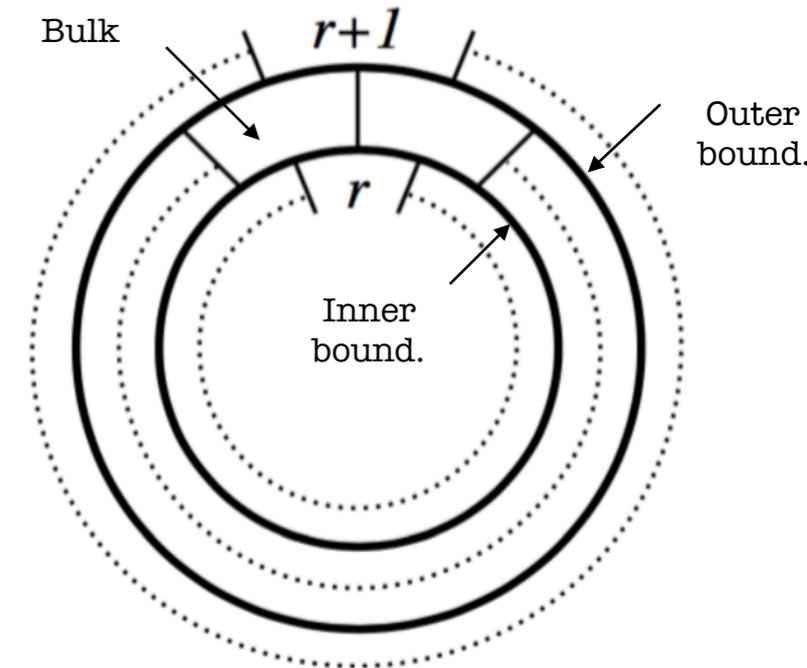
Area law  
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consistency with local horizon thermodynamics:  $2\lambda = 1/4$

Frodden, Ghosh, Perez, '11; Pranzetti, '13

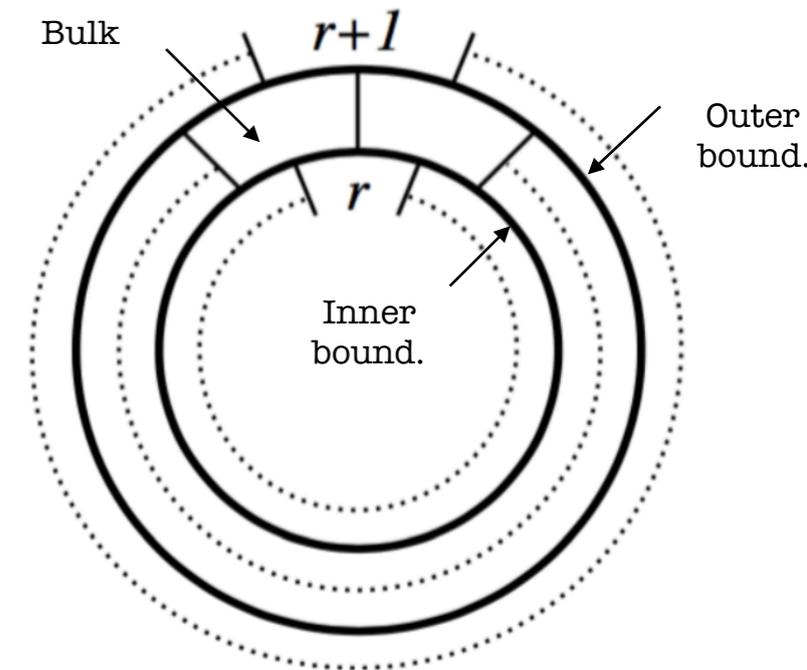
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no dependence on Immirzi parameter

**Bekenstein-Hawking entropy from full QG!**

Thank you for your attention