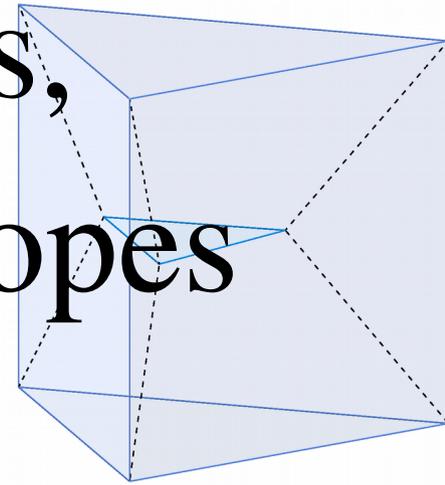
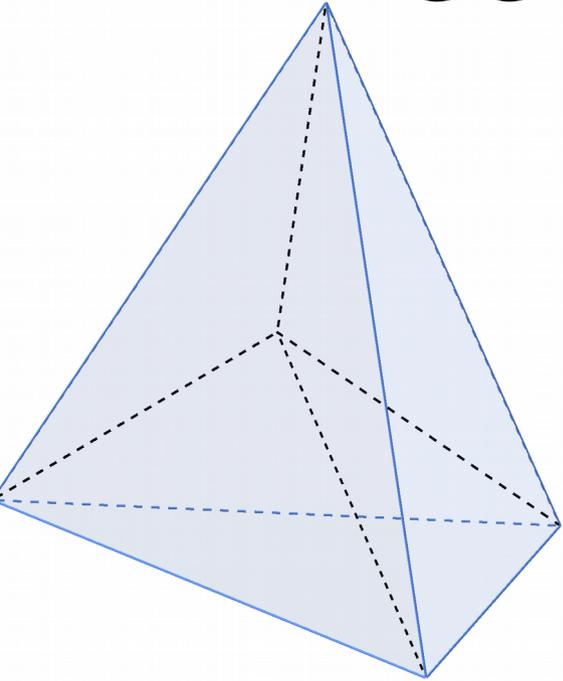
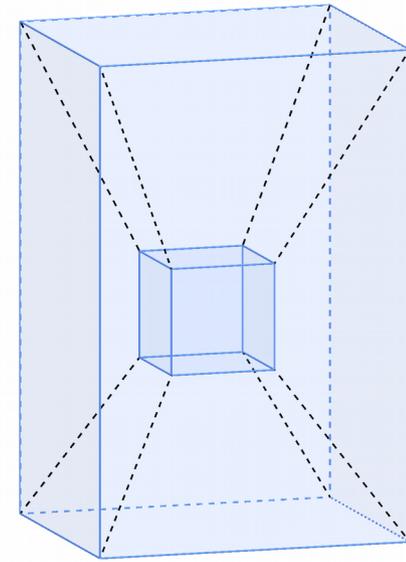


# SU(2) graph invariants, Regge actions and polytopes



Pietro Dona'



Based on [arXiv:1708.01727](https://arxiv.org/abs/1708.01727)

P.D. M. Fanizza, G. Sarno and S. Speziale

ILQG Seminar

10<sup>th</sup> October 2017



**PennState**  
Eberly College  
of Science



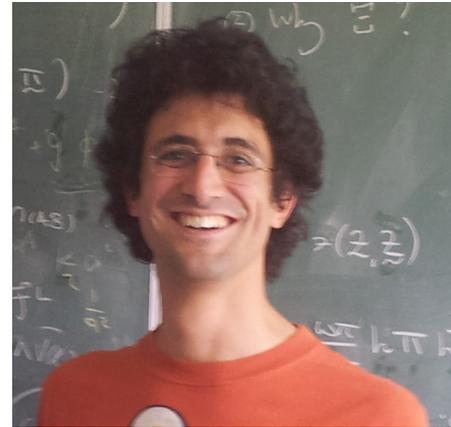
# PennState

## Eberly College of Science

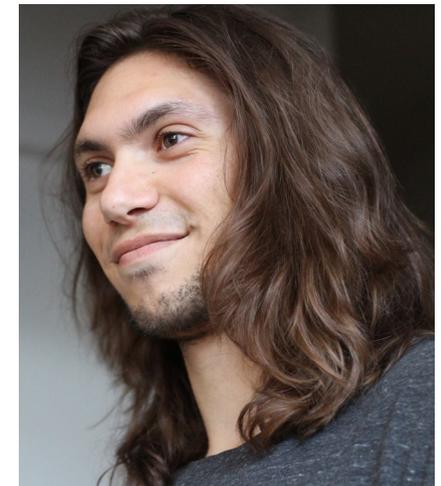
Pietro Dona'



Simone Speziale\*



Giorgio Sarno and Marco Fanizza



SCUOLA  
NORMALE  
SUPERIORE

\*5 years ago

# Motivations

SU(2) invariants are commonly used in a variety of physical problems: quantum optics, nuclear physics or **quantum gravity**.

3D quantum gravity for large spins  
and euclidean tetrahedron  
[Ponzano, Regge - 1968]

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} j_1 & j_2 & j_3 \\ j_4 & j_5 & j_6 \end{array} \right\} \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{12\pi V}} \cos \left( \sum_i \left( j_i + \frac{1}{2} \right) \theta_i + \frac{\pi}{4} \right)$$

Many generalizations: {9j} symbol [Haggard and Littlejohn - 2010], {6j} for non-compact groups SU(1,1) [Davids - 2000], quantum group SU<sub>q</sub>(2) [Taylor and Woodward - 2006]

Motivated by the efforts of the LQG community to find dynamical transition amplitudes in the spin foam formalism the asymptotic of invariants associated with the graph of a 4-simplex has been studied.

SU(2) vertex amplitude [Barrett, Fairbairn and Hellmann - 2010]

SO(4) vertex amplitude [Barrett, Dowdall, Fairbairn, Gomes and Hellmann - 2009]

EPRL vertex amplitude [Barrett, Dowdall, Fairbairn, Hellmann and Pereira - 2010]

Time-like boundary [Kaminski, Kisielowski and Sahlmann - 2017]

Quantum group SL<sub>q</sub>(2,C) [Haggard, Han, Kaminski and Riello - 2016]

The generalization of the Regge action to the 4D Lorentzian geometry is the major achievement of the EPRL model.



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SU(2) invariants are commonly used in a variety of physical problems: quantum optics, nuclear physics or **quantum gravity**.

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Quantum group SL<sub>q</sub>(2,C) [Haggard, Han, Kaminski and Riello - 2016]

Simpler analysis but same saddle point geometry of the Lorentzian models.

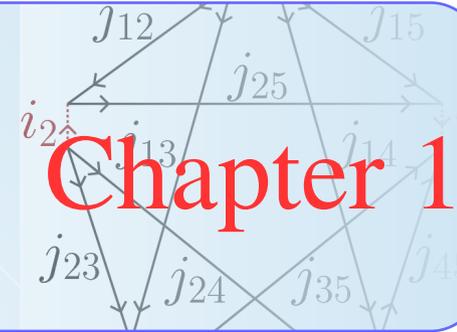
Optimal playground to start doing numerics.

# Outline

## Overview of the SU(2) amplitude asymptotic

with less math but more geometry

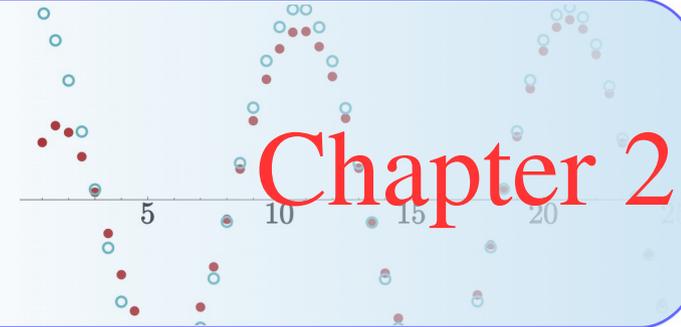
clear interpretation in terms of shape matching constraint



## Numerical results

challenges and applications

first numerical confirmation of the formula



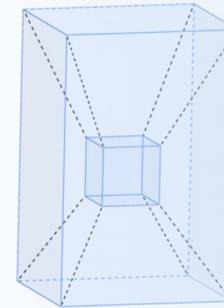
## Extension to arbitrary valence

dynamics to arbitrary spin networks

what is the semi-classical limit in this case?

areas are not enough to characterize polytopes (4C-10)

not all the volume simplicity constraints are imposed [Belov - 2017]



# Definition of the amplitude

The amplitude is a linear combination of  $\{15j\}$  symbols with coefficients constructed from coherent states of the intertwiner space.

$$A_v(j_{ab}, \vec{n}_{ab}) = \sum_{\{i_a\}} \prod_a d_{i_a} \text{Diagram}$$

# Definition of the amplitude

What are the **variables**?

- 10 spins  $j_{ab}$  with  $a < b$   
 $a, b = 1, \dots, 5$
- 20 unitary vectors  $\vec{n}_{ab}$

geometrical data of 5 tetrahedra\*!

$j_{ab}$  area of the face “shared” between tet  $a$  and  $b$

$\vec{n}_{ab}$  normal to the face  $b$  of the tet  $a$

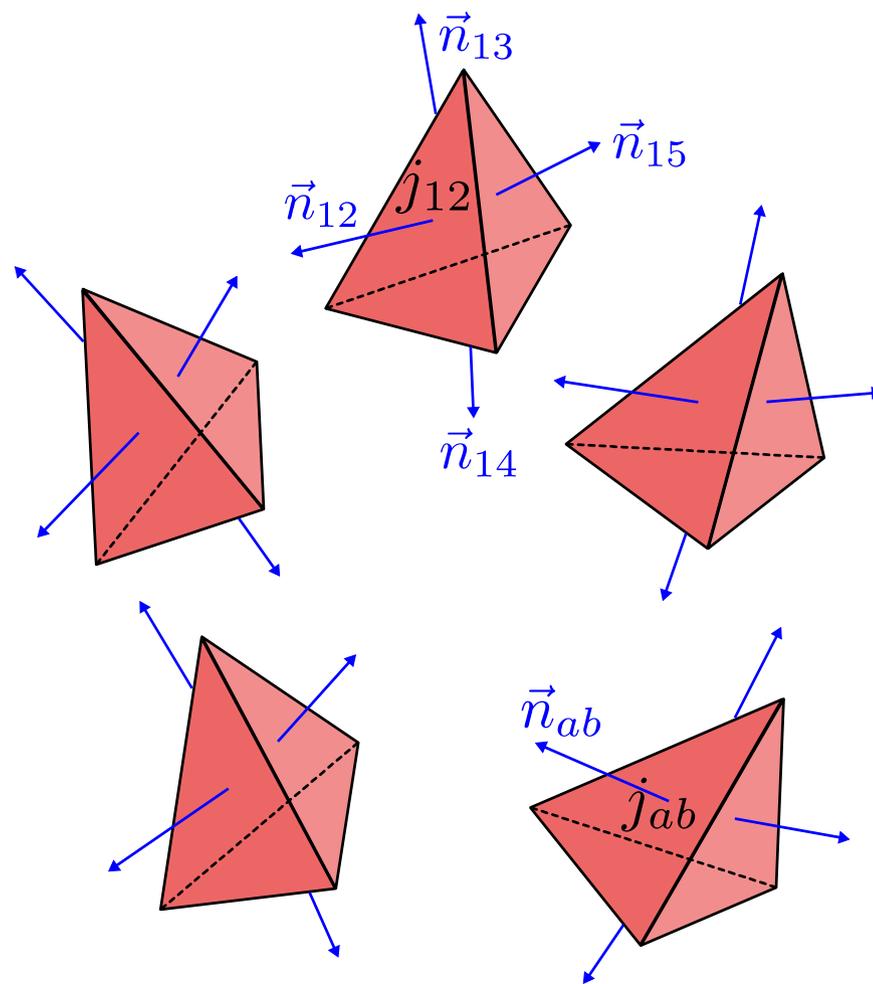
Quantum tetrahedron

- Livine-Speziale **coherent states**

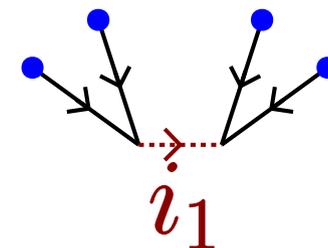
$$||\{j_{ab}, \vec{n}_{ab}\}\rangle := \int dg \bigotimes_{(ab)} g \triangleright |j_{ab}, \vec{n}_{ab}\rangle$$

[Livine and Speziale – 2007]

[Bianchi, D., Speziale – 2011]



$$\langle \{j_{ab}\}, i || \{j_{ab}, \vec{n}_{ab}\} \rangle =$$



\* if closure constraint is satisfied.

# Definition of the amplitude

What are the **variables**? geometrical data of 5 tetrahedra!

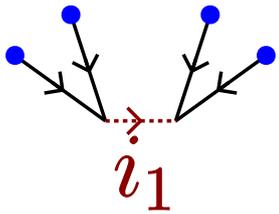
10 spins  $j_{ab}$  (areas) and 20 unitary vectors  $\vec{n}_{ab}$

(5 x 4 normals to the faces)

Quantum tetrahedron

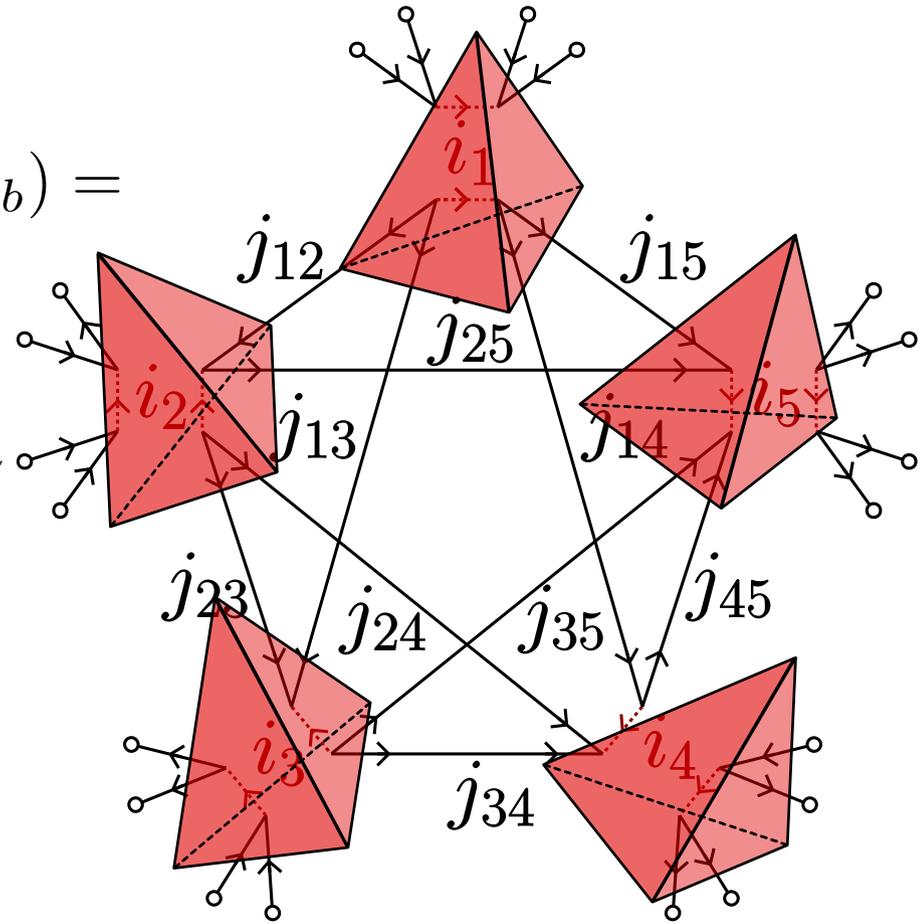
(LS coherent state)

$\langle \{j_{ab}\}, i \mid \{j_{ab}, \vec{n}_{ab}\} \rangle$



$$A_v(j_{ab}, \vec{n}_{ab}) =$$

$$\sum_{\{i_a\}} \prod_a d_{i_a}$$



# Definition of the amplitude

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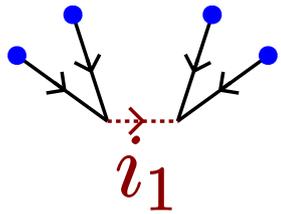
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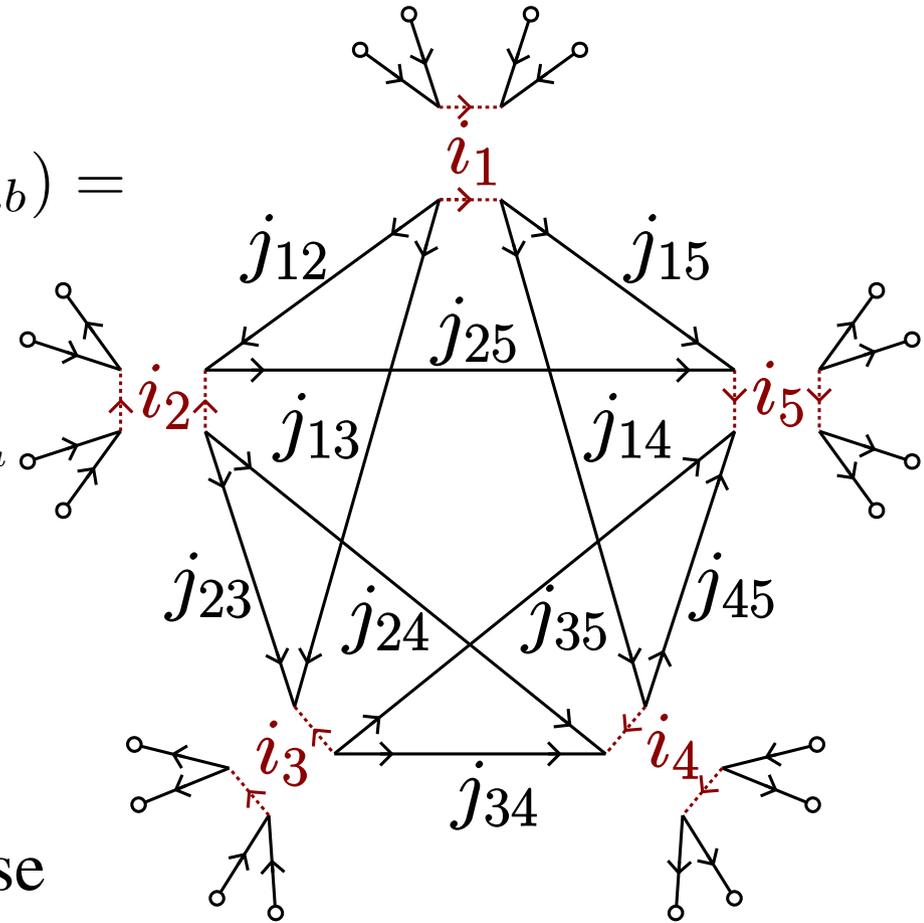
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For our purpose is more convenient to use an integral form

$$A_v(j_{ab}, \vec{n}_{ab}) = \int \prod_a dg_a \prod_{(ab)} \left\langle \frac{1}{2}, -\vec{n}_{ab} \mid g_a^{-1} g_b \mid \frac{1}{2}, \vec{n}_{ba} \right\rangle^{2j_{ab}}$$

# The saddle point approximation

Asymptotic behavior  $j_{ab} \rightarrow \lambda j_{ab}$ ! By **saddle point** approximation.

$$S(g_a; j_{ab}, \vec{n}_{ab}) = \sum_{1 \leq a < b \leq 5} 2j_{ab} \log \langle -\vec{n}_{ab} | g_a^\dagger g_b | \vec{n}_{ba} \rangle$$

**Critical Points (CP)** equations:

[Barrett, Fairbairn and Hellmann - 2010]

$$R_b \vec{n}_{ba} = -R_a \vec{n}_{ab}$$

$$\sum_{b \neq a} j_{ab} \vec{n}_{ab} = 0 \quad \forall a.$$

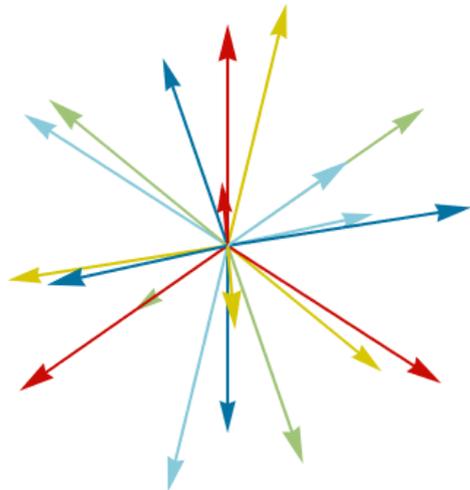
- the first equation comes from extremizing  $\text{Re}[S]$
- the second equation comes from requiring stationary phase
- $R_a$  is the  $\text{SU}(2)$  matrix  $g_a$  in the adjoint representation

# The saddle point approximation

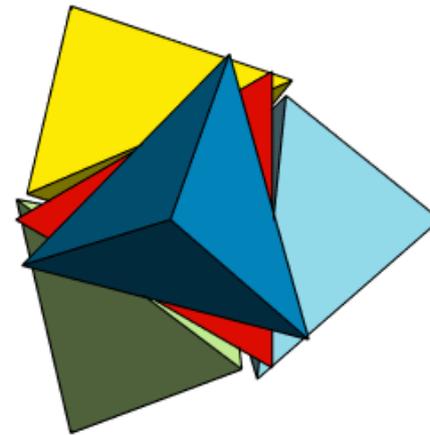
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Is there a convenient gauge? Introducing the *Twisted spike*  $\vec{n}_{ba} = -\vec{n}_{ab}$



the normals of the boundary tetrahedra



A 3D picture of an Euclidean 4Simplex

If the five tetrahedra are the boundary of an Euclidean 4Simplex the twist angle coincide with the 4D dihedral angle\*. Ask if interested/look at the end.

\* analogy with how is encoded extrinsic curvature in Twisted Geometries.

# The saddle point approximation

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One immediate solution

$$R_a = \mathbb{1}$$

*Vector Geometry*

a characterization of the vector geometries space is easy in this gauge. Ask if interested/look at the end

# The saddle point approximation

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Non trivial solutions

$$\begin{aligned} R_1 &= \mathbb{1} \\ R_b &= e^{i2\theta_{1b} \vec{n}_{b1} \cdot \vec{J}} \end{aligned}$$

*Regge Geometry*

$$\cos \theta_{ab} = \cos \theta_{ab}^{(c)}(\varphi) = \frac{\cos \varphi_{ab}^{(c)} + \cos \varphi_{ac}^{(b)} \cos \varphi_{bc}^{(a)}}{\sin \varphi_{ac}^{(b)} \sin \varphi_{bc}^{(a)}}$$

$$\cos \varphi_{bc}^{(a)} := \vec{n}_{ab} \cdot \vec{n}_{ac}$$

**edge independence** = angle matching = shape matching

[Dittrich and Speziale - 2008]

# Asymptotic formula

$$j_{ab} \rightarrow \lambda j_{ab}$$

dofs	Geometry type	Saddle points	Behavior
20	twisted	0	Exponentially decreasing

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$$A_v(j_{ab}, \vec{n}_{ab}) = \left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}\right)^6 \frac{2^4}{(4\pi)^8} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det -H^{(0)}}} + O(\lambda^{-7}).$$

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$$S_R := \sum_{(ab)} j_{ab} \theta_{ab}(\varphi)$$

$$A_v(j_{ab}, \vec{n}_{ab}) = \left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}\right)^6 \frac{2^4}{(4\pi)^8} \frac{e^{i\lambda S_R}}{\sqrt{|\det -H^{(0)}|}} \cos\left(\lambda S_R - \frac{1}{2} \arg \det -H^{(0)}\right) + O(-7)$$

# Numerical results

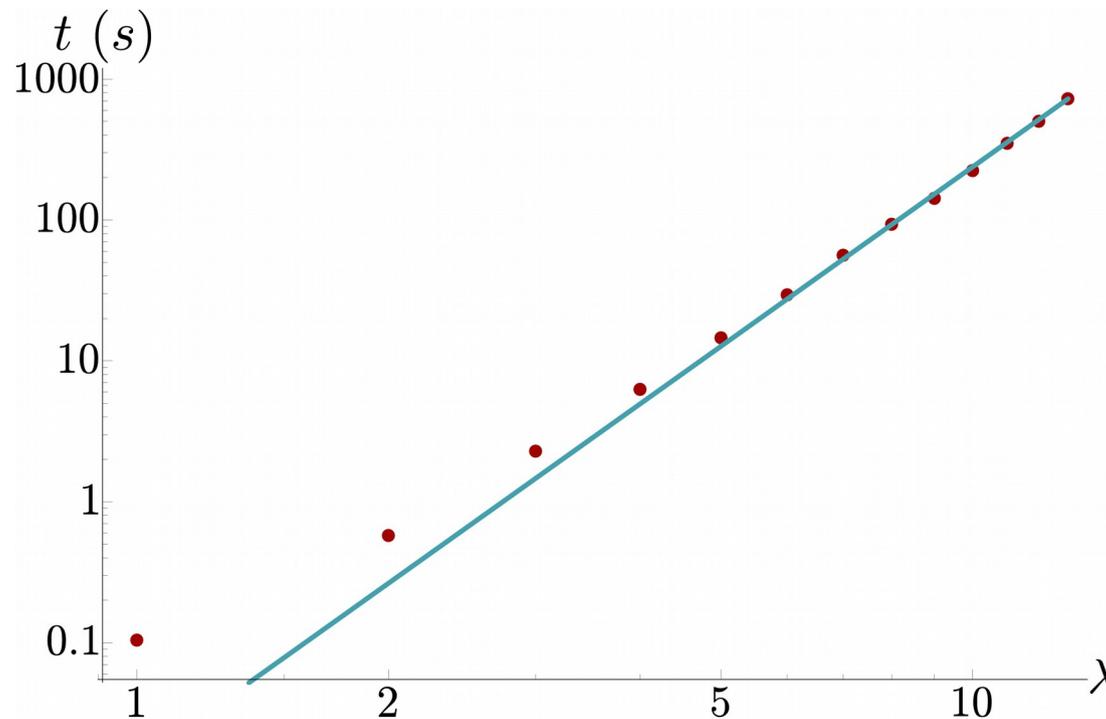
Two available paths:

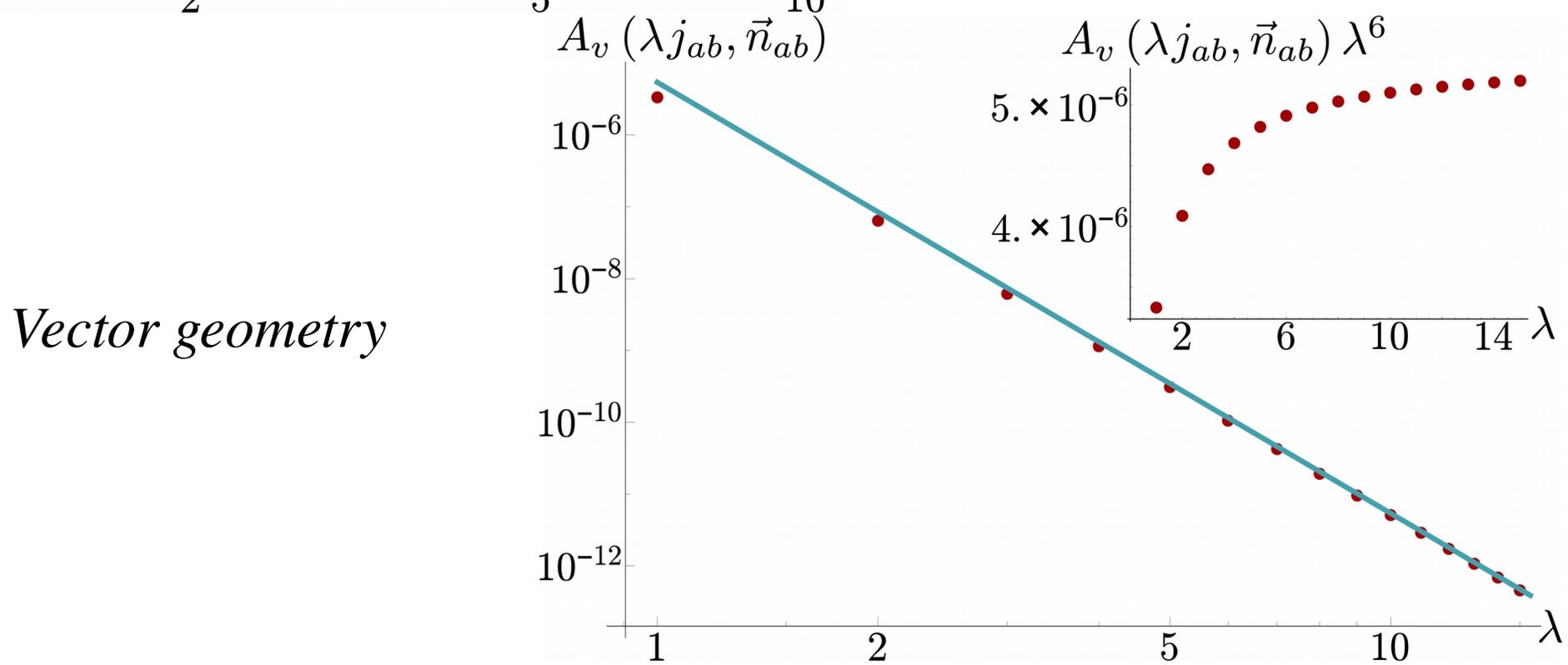
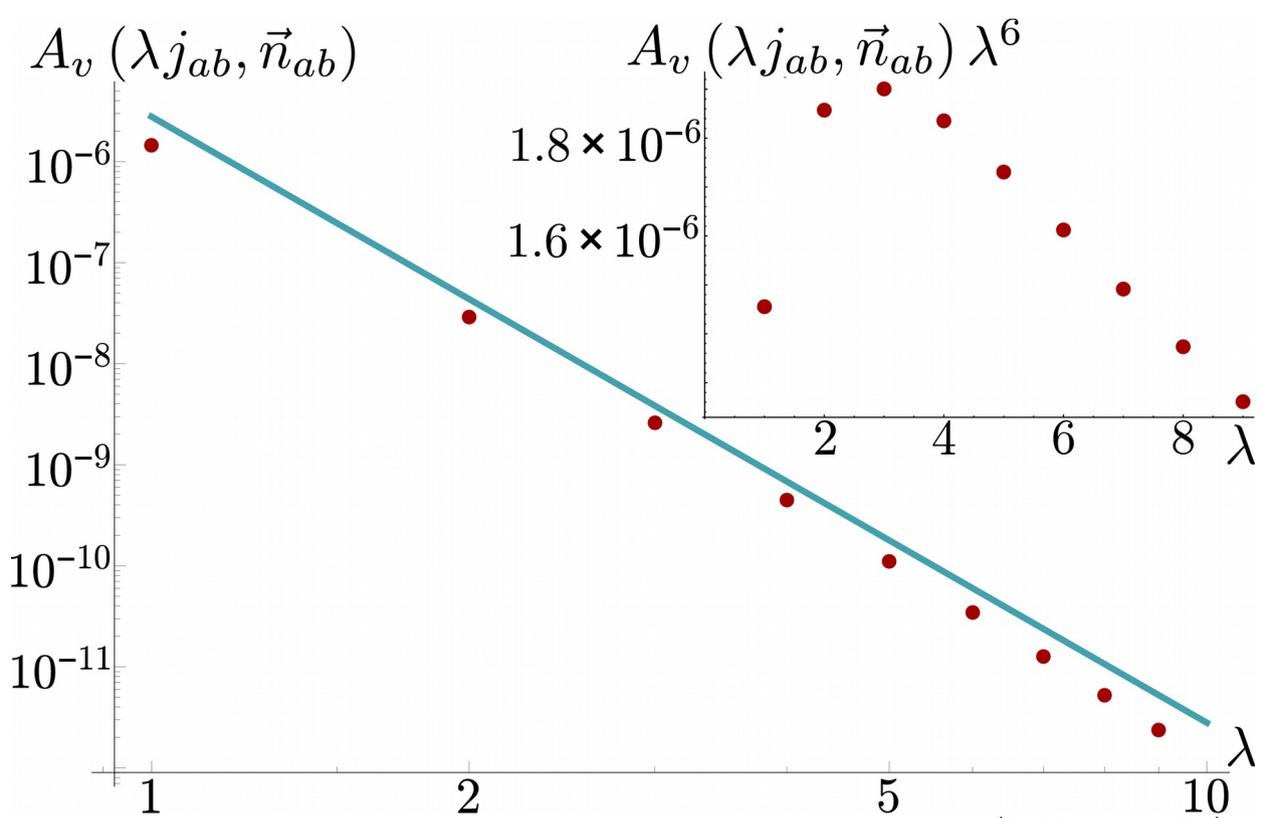
Numerical integration,  
MonteCarlo techniques

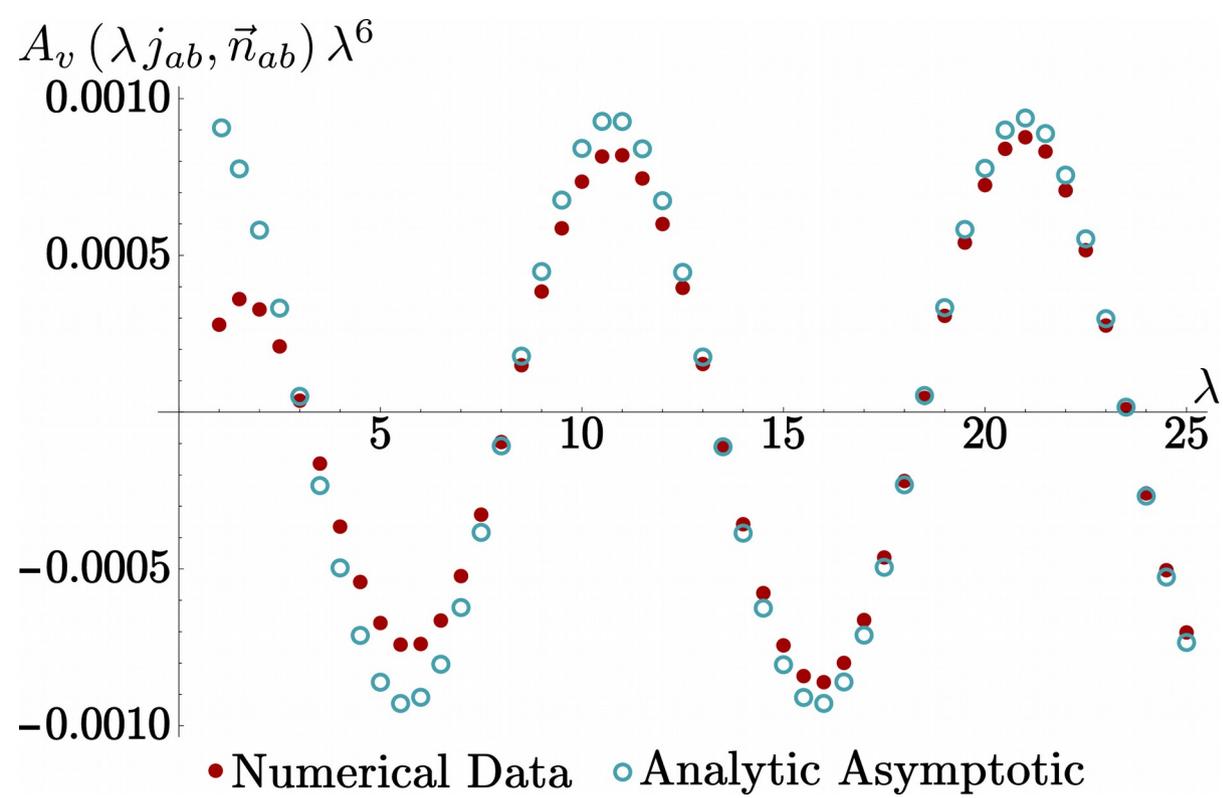
Explicit summation of  
the  $\{15j\}$  symbols

- Oscillatory integrals requires adaptive methods with **slow convergence**
- Warm-up **exercise** for Lorentzian EPRL

- [Johansson and Forssen - 2016]
- **Efficient** way to compute invariants is a problem solved by mathematicians
  - Strategy: **consider reducible  $\{15j\}$**



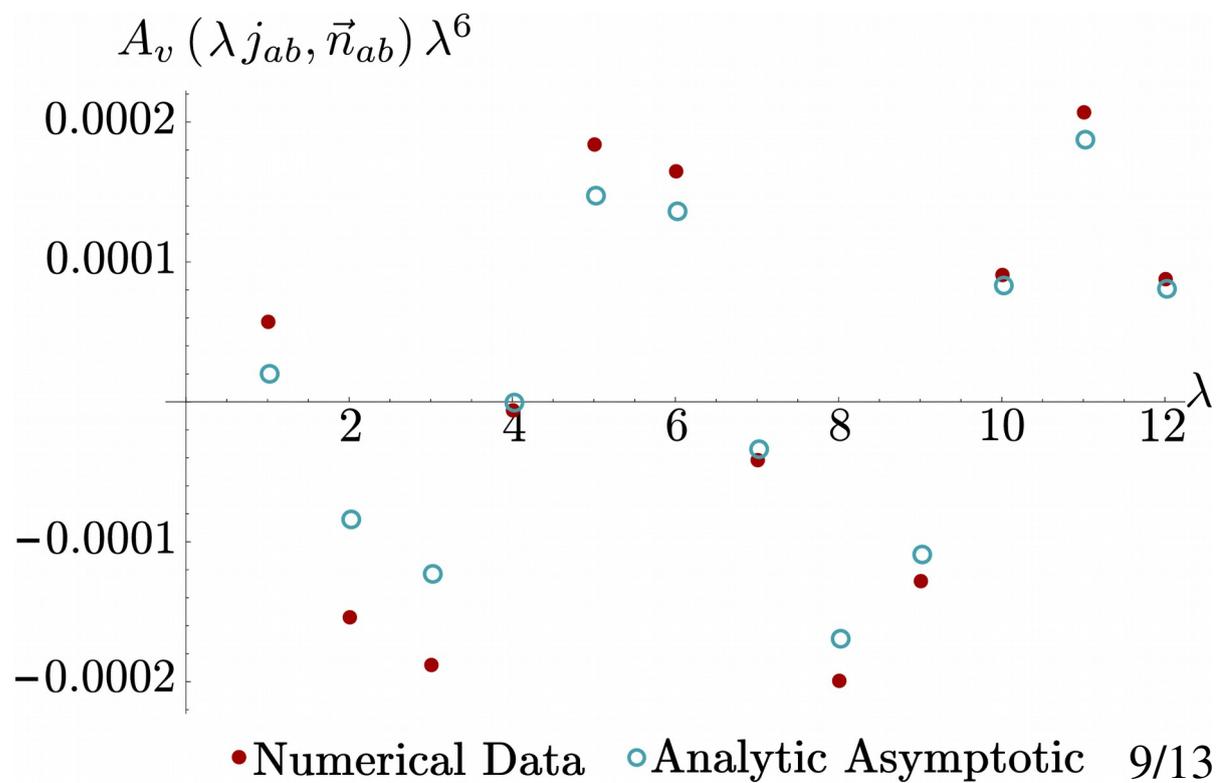




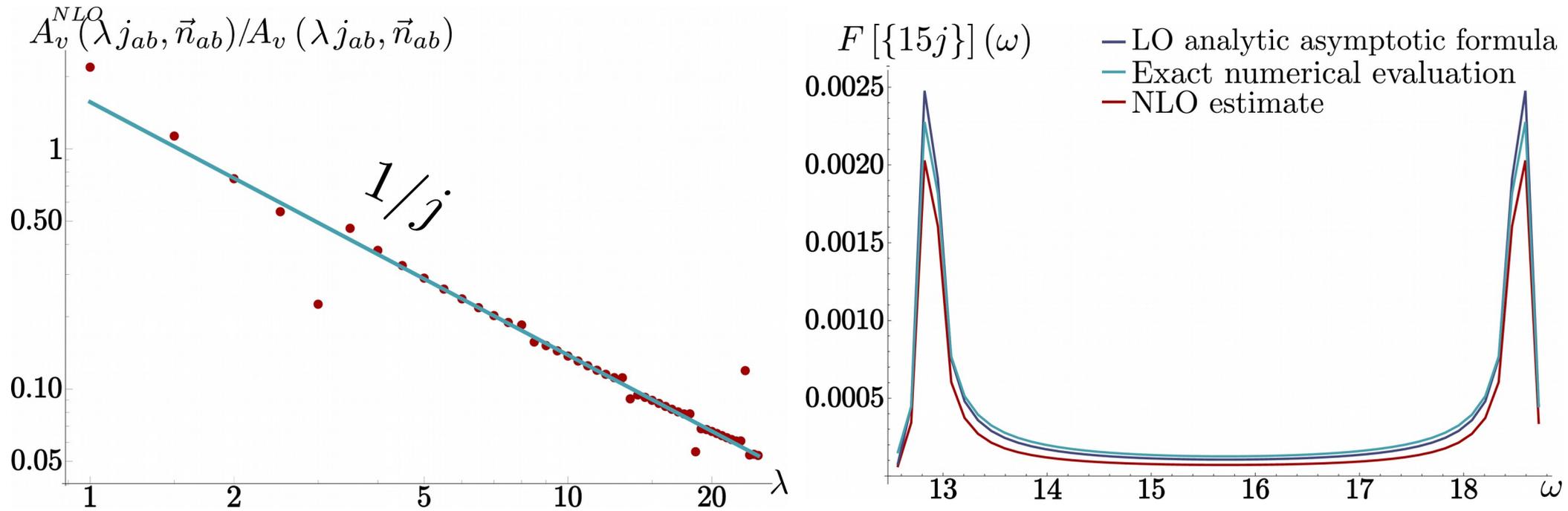
*Equilateral 4-Simplex*

Semi-classical region for relatively small spins

*Isosceles 4-Simplex*



# Next to leading order



**Expected** by the saddle point approximation

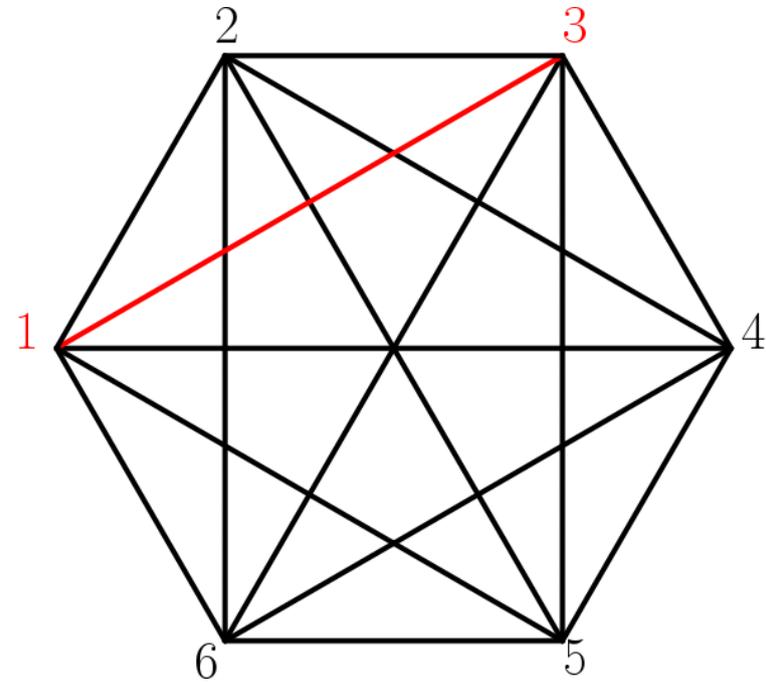
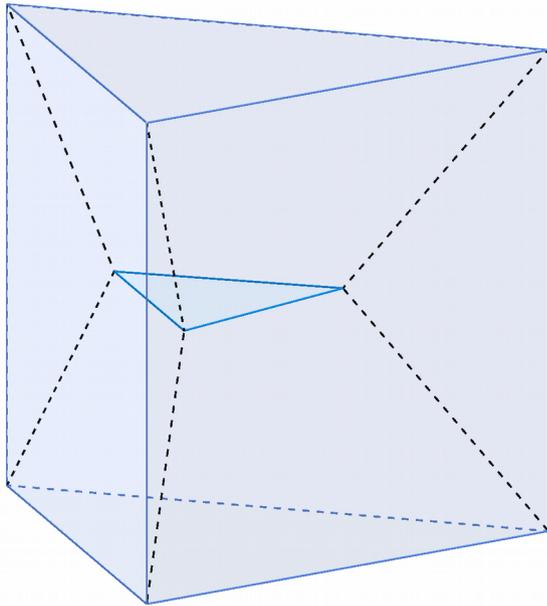
Unknown **amplitude and phase** make it difficult – different kind of analysis

**Correction** to semi-classical regime are numerically accessible

Careful interpretation – NO higher curvature terms

# Higher valence and polytopes

The action is “**local**”, leads to the same critical points equations.

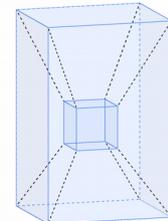
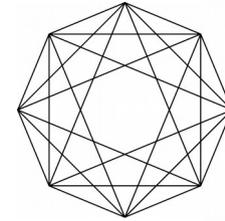
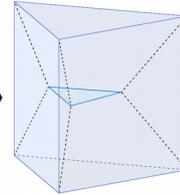
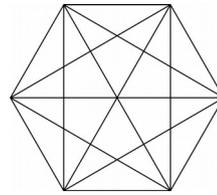


$$A_v(j_{ab}, \vec{n}_{ab}) = \int \prod_a dg_a \prod_{(ab)} \left\langle \frac{1}{2}, -\vec{n}_{ab} \left| g_a^{-1} g_b \right| \frac{1}{2}, \vec{n}_{ba} \right\rangle^{2j_{ab}}$$

The main difference is in the treatment of nodes not first-neighbours, but our procedure, which does not rely on Bivector reconstruction theorem, extends naturally.

# Higher valence and polytopes

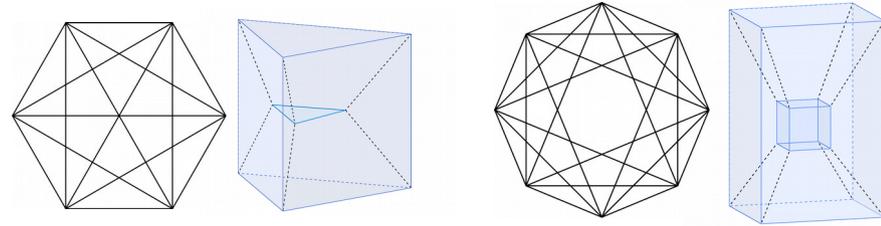
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Dofs	Geometry type	Saddle points	Behavior
5L-6N	twisted	0	Exponentially decreasing
3L-3N	vector ( <i>anti-parallel</i> )	1	Power law decreasing without oscillations

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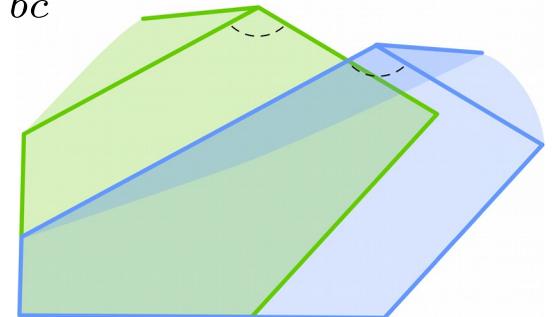


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Looking for a second equation: (same conditions before)

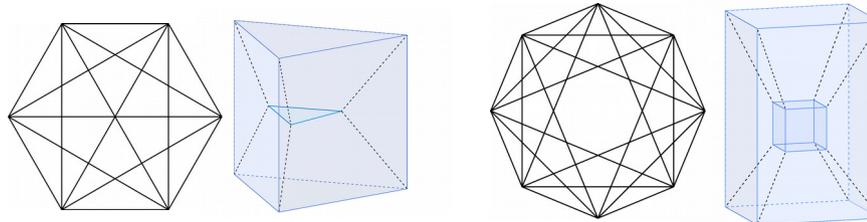
$$\cos \theta_{ab} = \cos \theta_{ab}^{(c)}(\varphi) = \frac{\cos \varphi_{ab}^{(c)} + \cos \varphi_{ac}^{(b)} \cos \varphi_{bc}^{(a)}}{\sin \varphi_{ac}^{(b)} \sin \varphi_{bc}^{(a)}}$$

edge independence is equivalent to **angle matching** but not shape matching!



# Higher valence and polytopes

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	Conformal twisted ( <i>angle-matching</i> )	2	Power law decreasing <b>generalized</b> Regge oscillations

$$S_{\Gamma}[j_{ab}, \varphi_{bc}^{(a)}, \lambda_{a,b}, \mu_{ab,cd}] = \sum j_{ab} \theta_{ab}(\varphi) + \sum \lambda_{a,b} C_{a,b}(j, \varphi) + \sum \mu_{ab,cd} C_{ab,cd}(\varphi)$$

uniquely defined

closure

angle matching

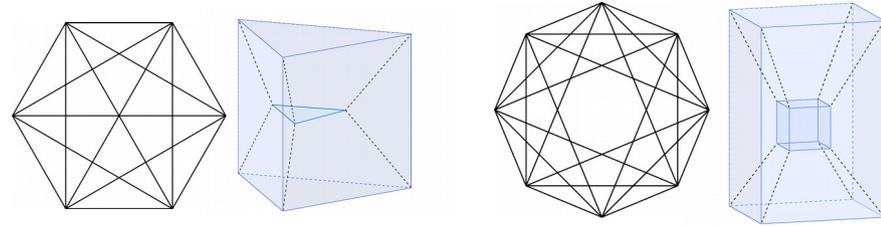
Easy to glue!

Not enough constraints to write lengths in terms of Areas and Angles

Does it have a well-defined continuum limit?

# Higher valence and polytopes

The action is “**local**”, leads to the same critical points equations.

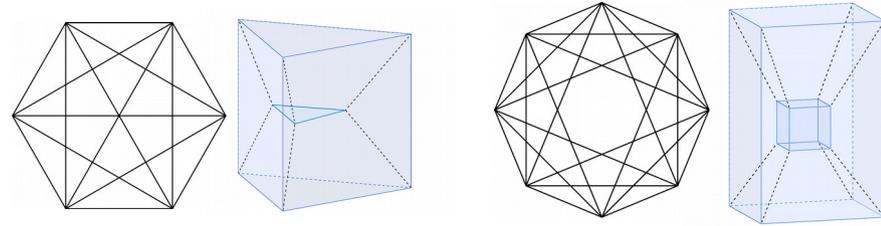


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2L-2N	Regge ( <i>shape-matching</i> )	2	Power law decreasing <b>generalized</b> Regge oscillations

We can restrict to full shape matched subspace. In general not flatly embeddable. Curved bulk is allowed. Classical limit to be studied.

# Higher valence and polytopes

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2L-2N	Regge <i>(shape-matching)</i>	2	Power law decreasing <b>generalized</b> Regge oscillations
4N-10	polytope <i>(flat embedding)</i>	2	Power law decreasing Regge oscillations

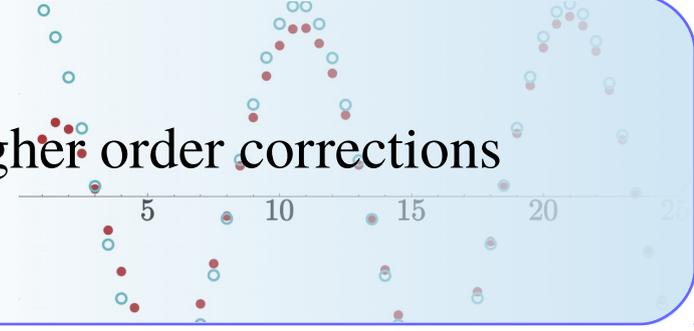
*We have a  
criterion*

# Conclusion and Outlook

## Numerical results

High accuracy already at low spins, and insights on higher order corrections

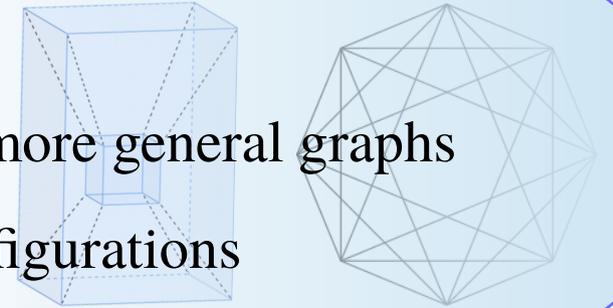
Gathered expertise to attack the EPRL problem



## Extension to arbitrary valence

The analytic results of the asymptotic analysis extend to more general graphs

Two distinct saddle points appears for angle matched configurations

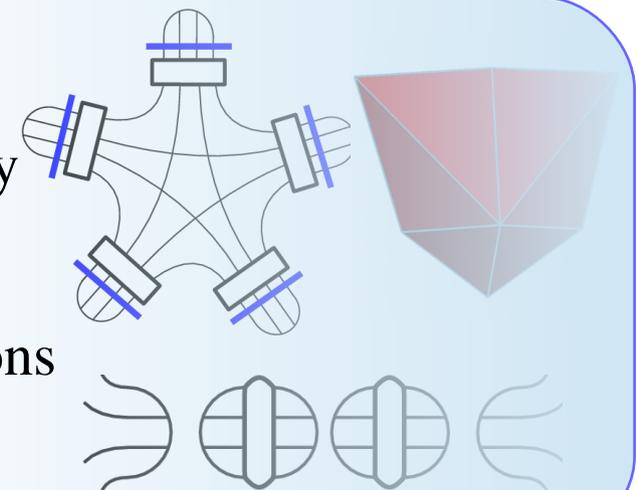


## Extensions to EPRL model (work in progress)

Our results apply to  $SU(2)$  graph invariants and BF theory but they are relevant also for constrained BF models

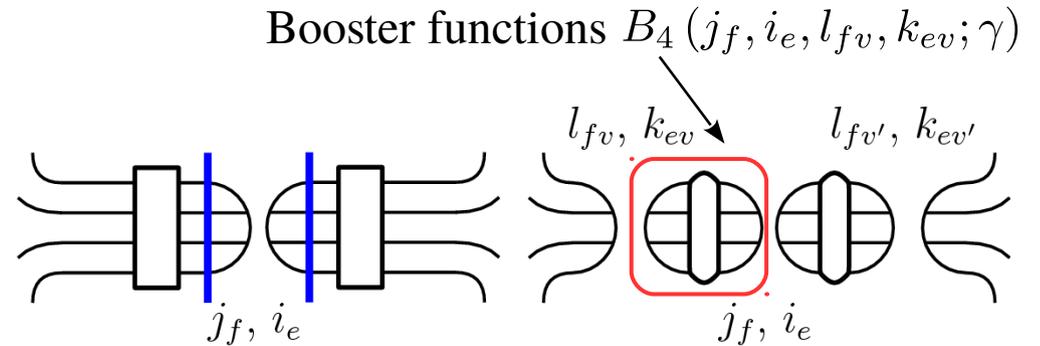
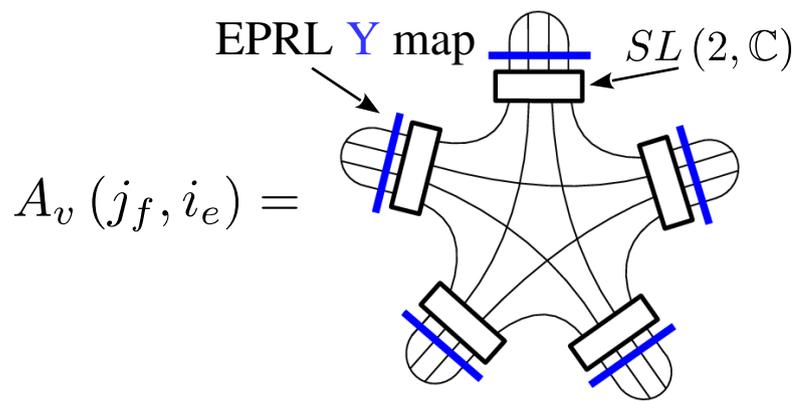
Generalized vertices (KKL) and extended 4D triangulations

Computation of divergences for any Spin Foam diagram

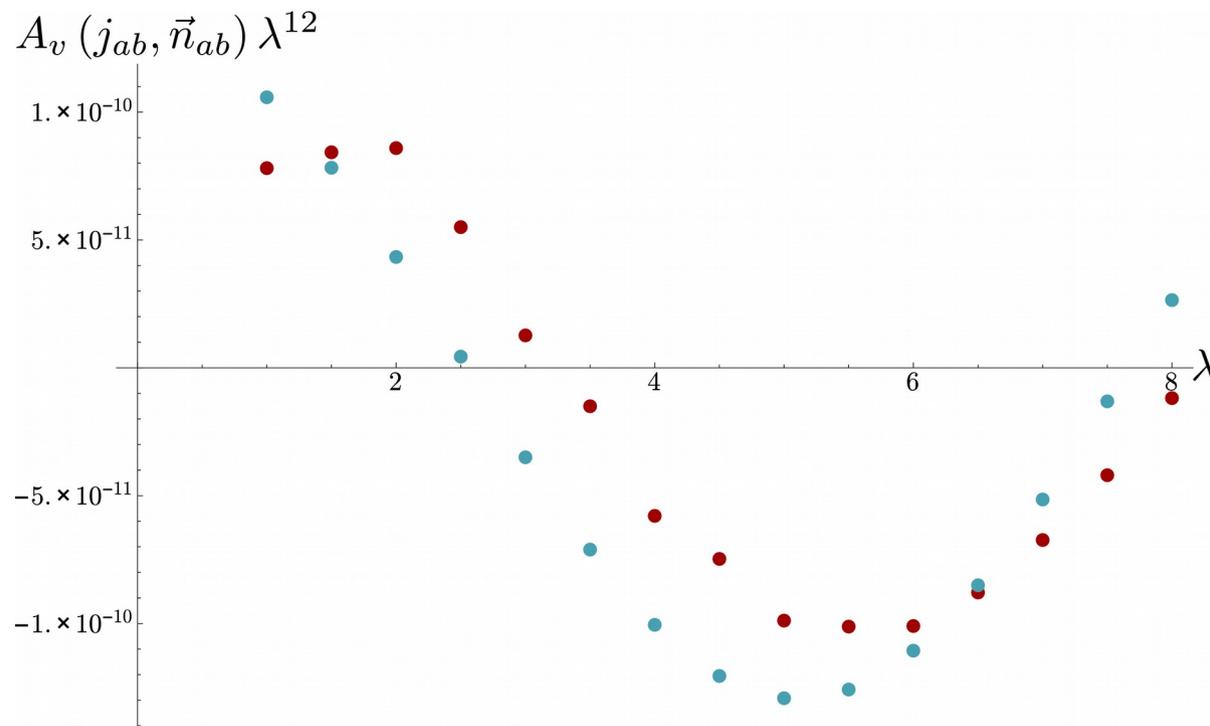


Thanks for your  
attention!

# A glance at EPRL & Booster Functions



Decompose the EPRL vertex amplitude into a superposition of  $SU(2)$  ones weighted by the Boosters (one per half-edge).



# Vector Geometry

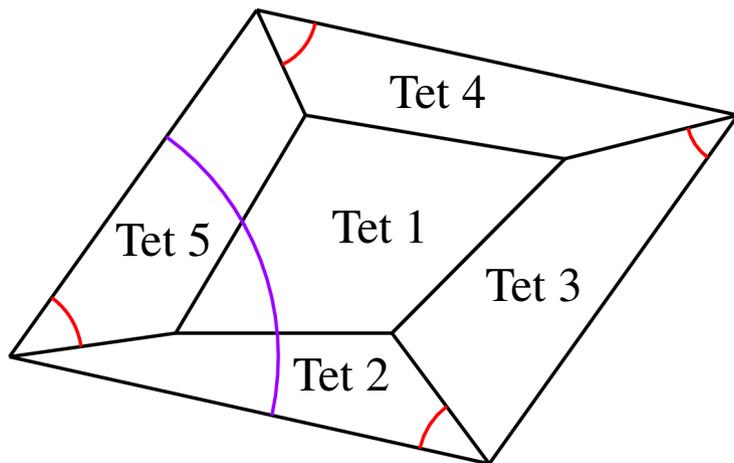
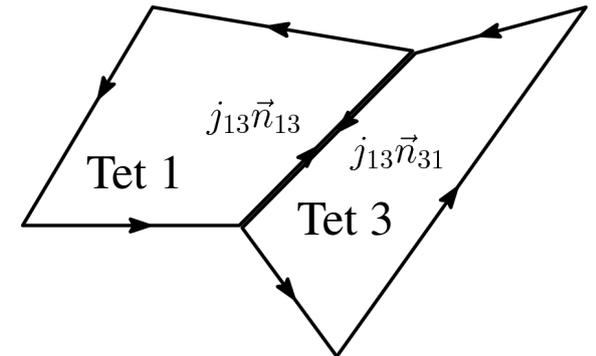
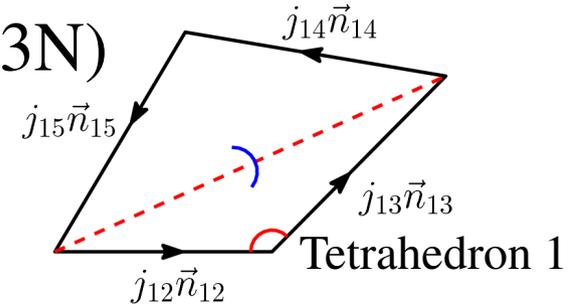
A collection of tetrahedra (polyhedra) with anti-parallel normals  
(up to a  $SO(3)$  rotation per polyhedron)  $\vec{n}_{ba} = -\vec{n}_{ab}$

We want to find a parametrization of the 15 dof ( $3L - 3N$ )

Visualization in the Kapovich-Millson dual space as  
a three dimensional polygon (2 d.o.f.)

Anti-parallel normals means you can glue  
two polygons together by superimposing normals

Iterating you obtain the following picture



fully characterized by 15 numbers

10 areas  $j_{ab}$

4 gauge invariant **angles** (3D dihedral)

1 non gauge invariant **angle**

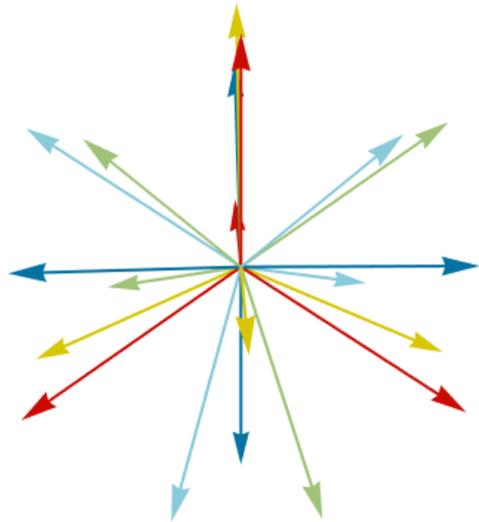
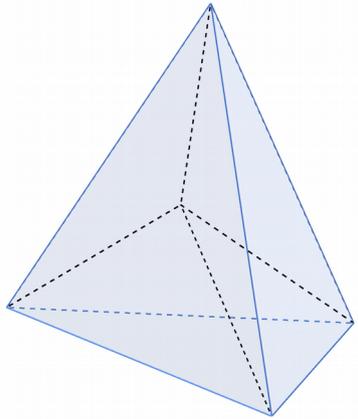
# Twisted Spike from a 4 simplex

(how to build boundary data from four dimensional geometry)

Denote with  $N_a$  the four dimensional normals to the tetrahedra

Pick a tetrahedron (e.g. tet 1) as reference, and rotate in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  the remaining tetrahedra as to align their normals to  $N_1$ .

These transformations leaves invariant the shared faces with the reference tetrahedron.



Rotate each tetrahedron in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  around the normal of the face shared with the reference tetrahedron  $\vec{n}_{1a}$  of an angle equal to the 4D dihedral angle  $\arccos N_1 \cdot N_a$  to obtain the twisted spike configuration

