

# Emergent Cosmology from Quantum Gravity

A collective effort: D. Oriti, E. Wilson-Ewing, S. Gielen, M. Sakellariadou, A. Pithis, M. de Cesare, A. Polaczek, A. Jercher, A. Calcinari, R. Dekhil, X. Pang, L. Mickel, T. Ladstätter, P. Fischer, ...

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**Luca Marchetti**

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UNB Fredericton

22 June 2023

Department of Mathematics and Statistics

UNB Fredericton

**Microscopic  
description**

Background independent,  
pre-geometric

**Macroscopic  
description**

**Continuum  
physics**

**Localization  
problem**

**Microscopic  
description**

Background independent,  
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**Continuum limit  
problem**

**Macroscopic  
description**

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**Relationality**

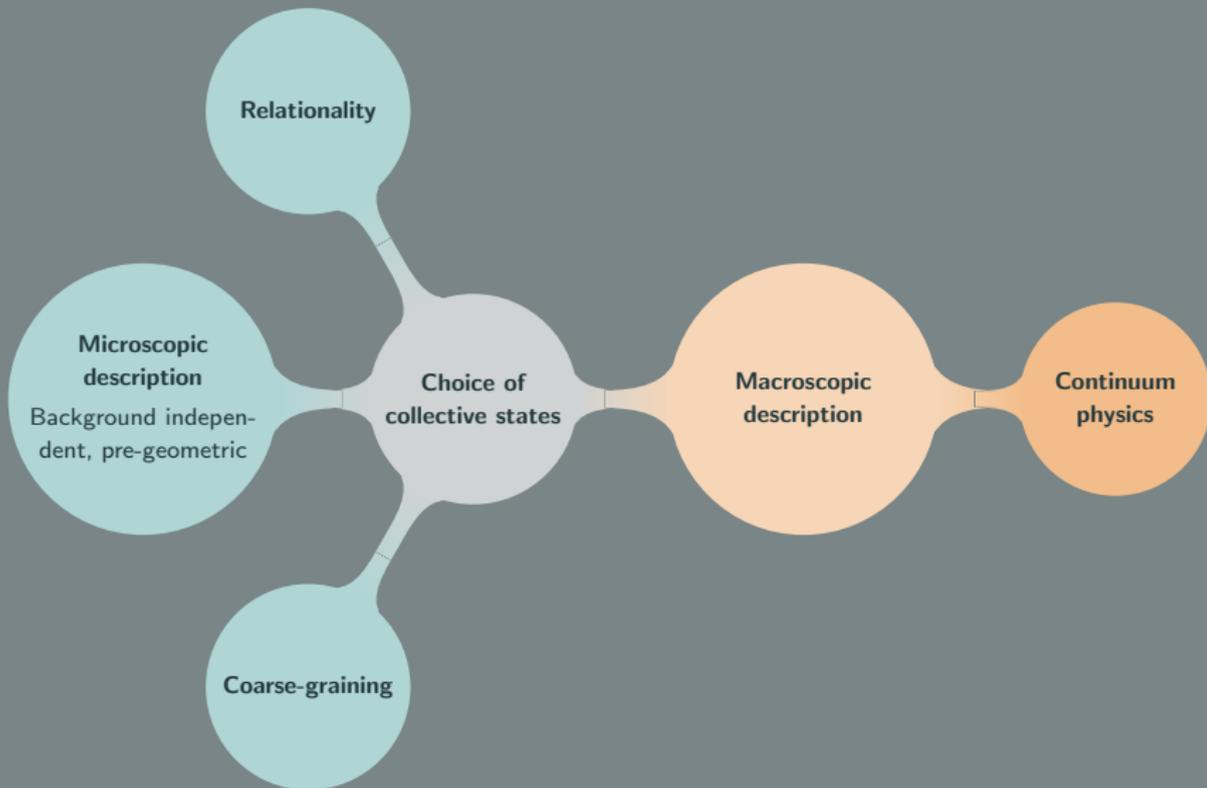
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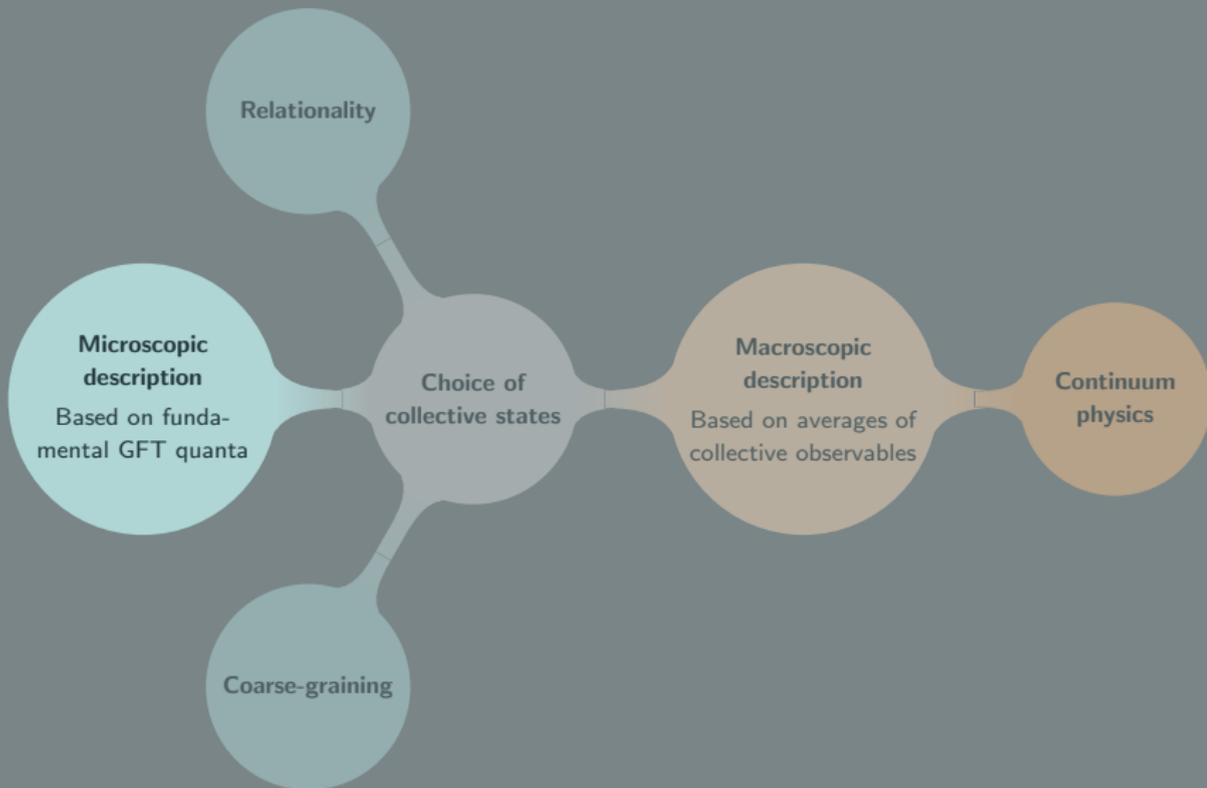
Background independent,  
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**Coarse-graining**

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# The (T)GFT approach to quantum gravity



GFTs are QFTs of atoms of spacetime.

- ▶ Take seriously the idea of a microscopic structure of spacetime.
- ▶ Related to canonical and discrete path-integral approaches to QG.
- ▶ Access to powerful field theoretic methods (Fock space, RG... )!

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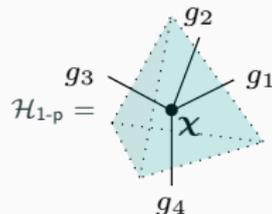


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## Group Field Theory Quanta

- ▶ GFT quanta are atoms of quantum of  $d - 1$ -space, i.e.  $d - 1$ -dimensional simplices.
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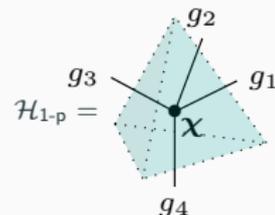


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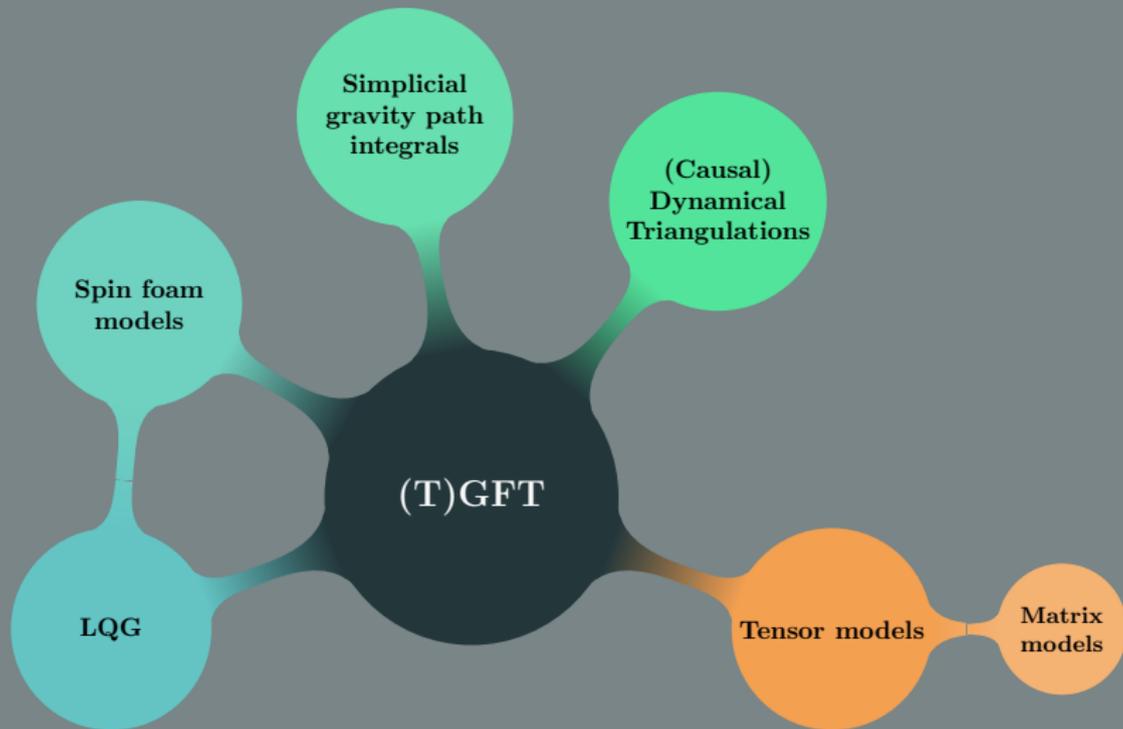
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## Group Field Theory Processes

- ▶ GFT Feynman diagrams (QG processes) are associated to  $d$ -dimensional triangulated manifolds.
- ▶ Data associated to QG processes are field data of  $d$ -dimensional triangulated manifolds.
- ▶  $Z_{\text{GFT}} =$  discrete matter-gravity path-integral.





**Simplicial  
gravity path  
integrals**

**(Causal)  
Dynamical  
Triangulations**

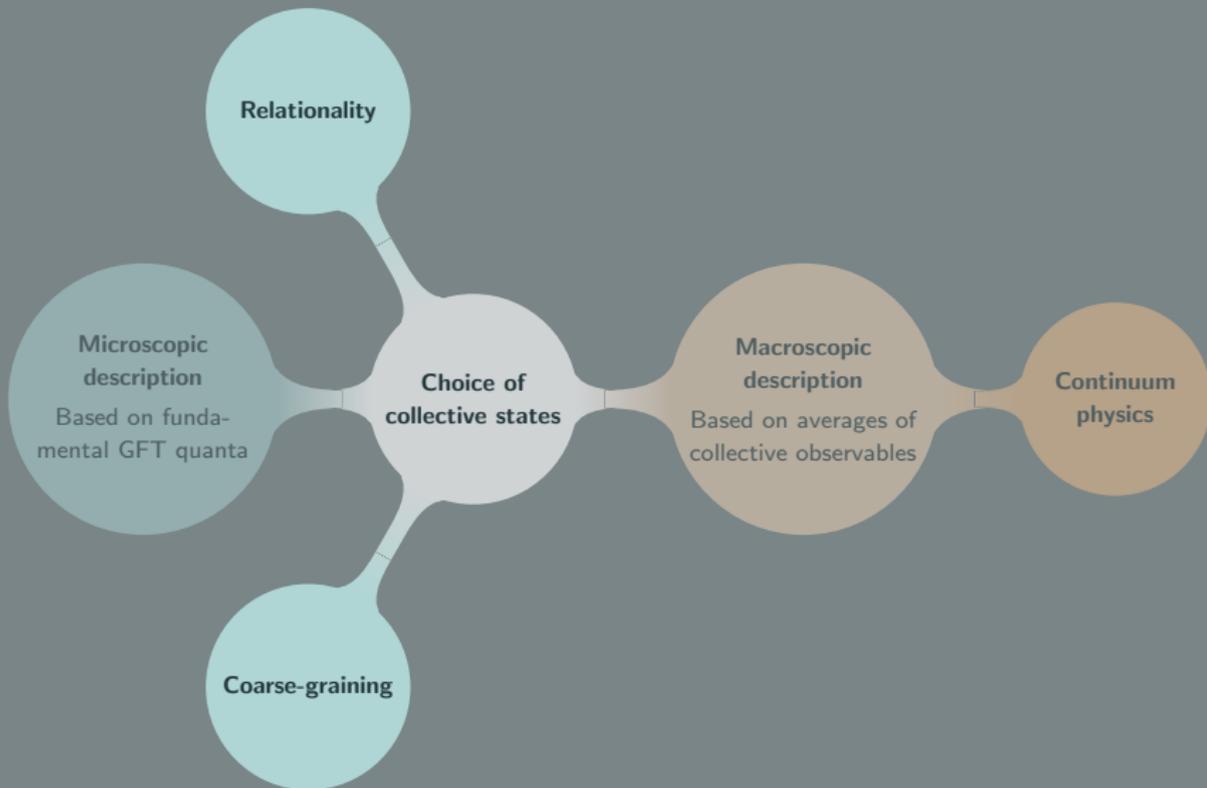
**Spin foam  
models**

**(T)GFT**

**Tensor models**

**Matrix  
models**

**LQG**



## GFT condensates

- ▶ From the GFT perspective, continuum geometries are associated to large number of quanta.
- ▶ The simplest states that can accommodate infinite number of quanta are condensate states:

$$|\sigma\rangle = \mathcal{N}_\sigma \exp \left[ \int d^d \chi \int d\mathbf{g}_a \sigma(\mathbf{g}_a, \chi^\alpha) \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(\mathbf{g}_a, \chi^\alpha) \right] |0\rangle.$$

# The main ingredients

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## Effective dynamics

### Mean-field approximation

- ▶ When interactions are small (certainly satisfied in an appropriate regime) the dynamics of  $\sigma$  is:

$$\left\langle \frac{\delta S[\hat{\varphi}, \hat{\varphi}^\dagger]}{\delta \hat{\varphi}(\mathbf{g}_l, \chi^\alpha)} \right\rangle_\sigma = \int d\mathbf{h}_a \int d\chi \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{g}_a, \mathbf{h}_a, (\chi^\alpha - \chi^\alpha)^2) \sigma(\mathbf{h}_a, \chi^\alpha) + \lambda \frac{\delta V[\varphi, \varphi^*]}{\delta \varphi^*(\mathbf{g}_a, \chi^\alpha)} \Big|_{\varphi=\sigma} = 0.$$

- ▶ Equivalent to **mean-field** (saddle-point) approx. of  $Z_{\text{GFT}}$  (reliable for physical models).

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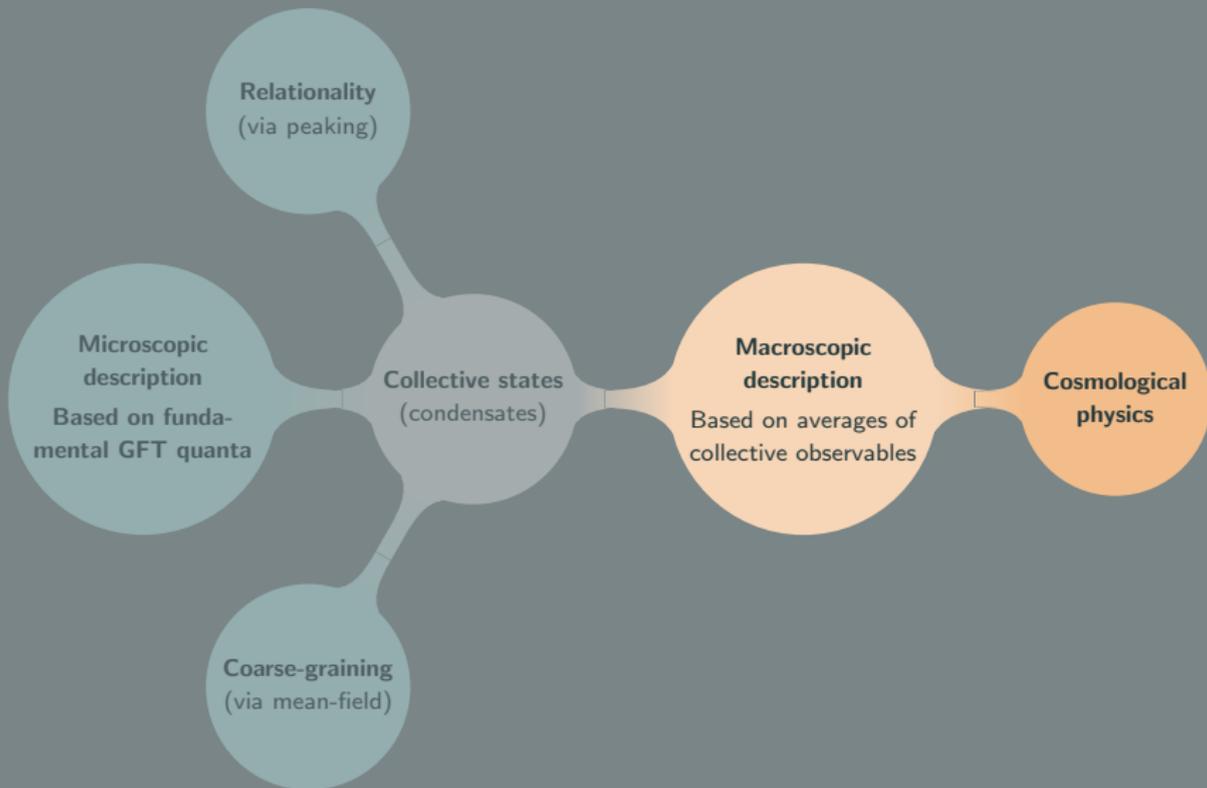
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- ▶ Constructing relational observables in full QG is difficult (QFT with no continuum intuition).
- ▶ Relational localization implemented at an **effective** level on observable **averages** on condensates.
- ▶ If  $\chi^\mu$  constitute a physical reference frame, this can be achieved by assuming

$$\sigma = (\text{fixed peaking function } \eta) \times (\text{dynamically determined reduced wavefunction } \tilde{\sigma})$$



# Group Field Theory Cosmology

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# Homogeneous (non-symmetry-reduced) sector

No interactions

Modified Friedmann dynamics

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## Modified Friedmann dynamics

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- ⚠ Insights on renormalization?
- ⚠ Connection with asymptotic safety?

# Inhomogeneous (scalar and isotropic) sector

Setting

## Classical

- ▶ 4 MCMF **reference** fields  $(\chi^0, \chi^i)$ ,
- ▶ 1 MCMF **matter** field  $\phi$  dominating e.m. budget and **relationally inhomog.** wrt.  $\chi^i$ .

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- ▶ Two-sector GFT: timelike and spacelike tetrahedra.

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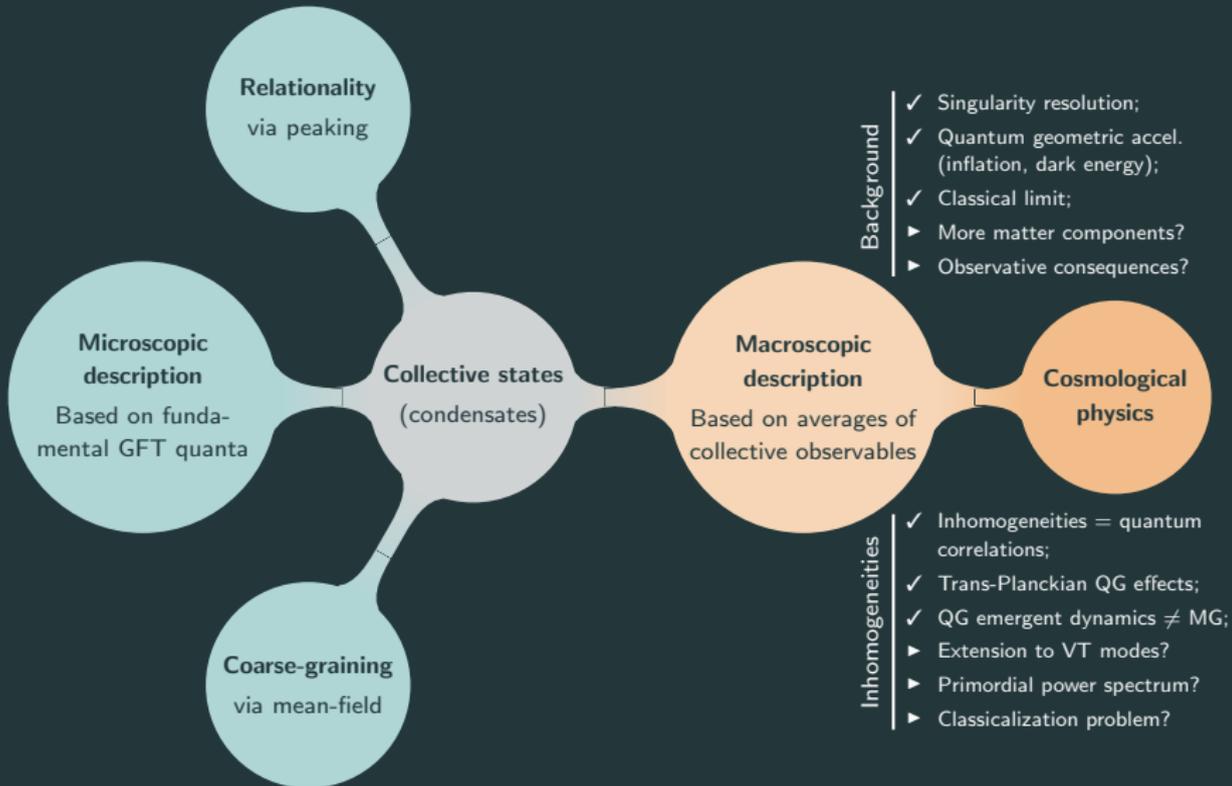
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# Backup

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# Group Field Theory and spinfoam models

## Definition

**Group Field Theories:** theories of a field  $\varphi : G^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  defined on  $d$  copies of a group manifold  $G$ .

$d$  is the dimension of the “spacetime to be” ( $d = 4$ ) and  $G$  is the local gauge group of gravity,  $G = \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})$  or, in some cases,  $G = \text{SU}(2)$ .

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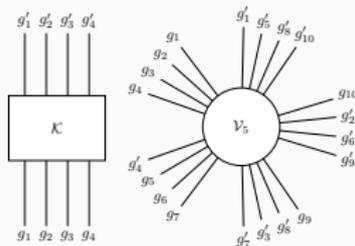
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Action

$$S[\varphi, \bar{\varphi}] = \int dg_a \bar{\varphi}(g_a) \mathcal{K}[\varphi](g_a) + \sum_{\gamma} \frac{\lambda_{\gamma}}{n_{\gamma}} \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{V}_{\gamma}}[\varphi] + \text{c.c.}$$

- ▶ Interaction terms are **combinatorially non-local**.
- ▶ Field arguments convoluted pairwise following the combinatorial pattern dictated by the graph  $\gamma$ :

$$\text{Tr}_{\mathcal{V}_{\gamma}}[\varphi] = \int \prod_{i=1}^{n_{\gamma}} dg_a \prod_{(a,i;b,j)} \mathcal{V}_{\gamma}(g_a^{(i)}, g_b^{(j)}) \prod_{i=1}^{n_{\gamma}} \varphi(g_a^{(i)}).$$



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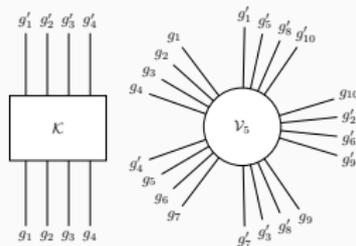
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Partition function

$$Z[\varphi, \bar{\varphi}] = \sum_{\Gamma} w_{\Gamma}(\{\lambda_{\gamma}\}) A_{\Gamma}$$

- ▶  $\Gamma$  = stranded diagrams dual to  $d$ -dimensional cellular complexes of arbitrary topology.
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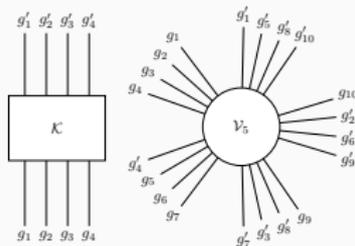
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## Partition function

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- ▶  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\mathcal{V}_{\gamma}$  chosen to match the desired spinfoam model.

## One-particle Hilbert space

---

The one-particle Hilbert space is  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{tetra}} \subset \otimes_{a=1}^4 \mathcal{H}_{\Delta_a}$  (subset defined by the imposition of constraints)

# Group Field Theory and Loop Quantum Gravity

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### Lie algebra (metric)

$$\mathcal{H}_{\Delta_a} = L^2(\mathfrak{g})$$

### Constraints

Geometricity constraints (appropriately encoded in  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\mathcal{V}_\gamma$ ) allow for a  $d - 1$ -simplicial interpretation of the fundamental quanta:

#### Closure

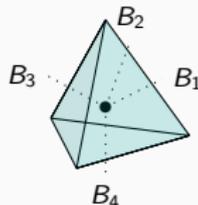
$$\sum_a B_a = 0$$

(faces of the tetrahedron close).

#### Simplicity

$$\blacktriangleright X \cdot (B - \gamma \star B)_a = 0 \text{ (EPRL);}$$

$$\blacktriangleright X \cdot B_a = 0 \text{ (BC).}$$



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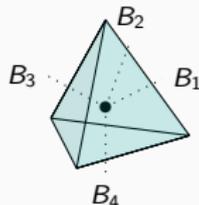
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# Group Field Theory and Loop Quantum Gravity

## One-particle Hilbert space

The one-particle Hilbert space is  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{tetra}} \subset \otimes_{a=1}^4 \mathcal{H}_{\Delta_a}$  (subset defined by the imposition of constraints)

**Lie algebra (metric)**

$$\mathcal{H}_{\Delta_a} = L^2(\mathfrak{g})$$

Non-comm.

FT

**Lie group (connection)**

$$\mathcal{H}_{\Delta_a} = L^2(G)$$

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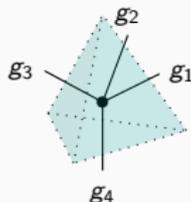
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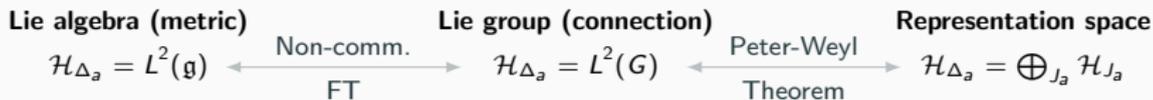
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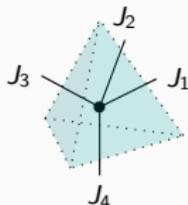
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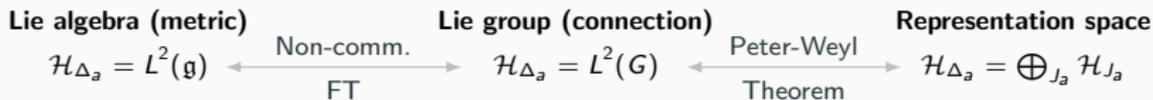
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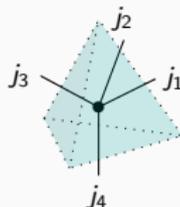
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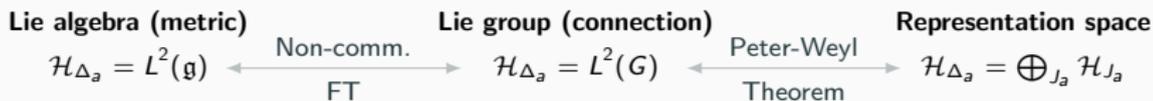


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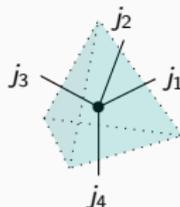
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$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{tetra}} = \bigoplus_{\vec{j}} \text{Inv} \left[ \otimes_{a=1}^4 \mathcal{H}_{j_a} \right]$$

= open spin-network vertex space

# The Group Field Theory Fock space

**Tetrahedron wavefunction**

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- ▶  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{GFT}}$  generated by action of  $\hat{\varphi}^\dagger(g_a)$  on  $|0\rangle$ , with  $[\hat{\varphi}(g_a), \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(g'_a)] = \mathbb{I}_G(g_a, g'_a)$ .
- ▶  $\mathcal{H}_\Gamma \subset \mathcal{F}_{\text{GFT}}$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_\Gamma$  space of states associated to connected simplicial complexes  $\Gamma$ .
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Operators

**Volume operator**  $\hat{V} = \int dg_a^{(1)} dg_a^{(2)} V(g_a^{(1)}, g_a^{(2)}) \hat{\varphi}^\dagger(g_a^{(1)}) \hat{\varphi}(g_a^{(2)}) = \sum_{j_a, m_a, \ell} V_{j_a, \ell} \hat{\varphi}_{j_a, m_a, \ell}^\dagger \hat{\varphi}_{j_a, m_a, \ell}$

- ▶ Generic second quantization prescription to build a  $m + n$ -body operator: sandwich matrix elements between spin-network states between  $m$  powers of  $\hat{\varphi}^\dagger$  and  $n$  powers of  $\hat{\varphi}$ .

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**Number**, **volume** (determined e.g. by the mapping with LQG) and **matter** operators (notation:  $(\cdot, \cdot) = \int d\chi^0 d\bar{g}_a$ ):

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## Relationality

► Averaged evolution wrt  $x^0$  is physical:

$$\text{Intensive} \longleftarrow \langle \hat{X}^0 \rangle_{\sigma_{x^0}} \equiv \langle \hat{X}^0 \rangle_{\sigma_{x^0}} / \langle \hat{N} \rangle_{\sigma_{x^0}} \simeq x^0$$

► Emergent effective relational description:

- Small clock quantum fluctuations.
- Effective Hamiltonian  $H_{\sigma_{x^0}} \simeq \langle \hat{\Pi}^0 \rangle_{\sigma_{x^0}}$ .

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Wavefunction  
 $\xrightarrow{\text{isotropy}}$

$$\langle \hat{V} \rangle_{\sigma_{x^0}} = \sum_v V_v |\tilde{\sigma}_v|^2(x^0)$$

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►  $v = j \in \mathbb{N}/2$  (EPRL);

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Volume operator captures the relevant physics:

### Isotropy

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### Bounce

- ▶ A **non-zero volume bounce** happens for a large range of initial conditions (at least one  $Q_v \neq 0$  or one  $\mathcal{E}_v < 0$ ).
- ▶ The average singularity resolution may still be spoiled by quantum effects on geometric and clock variables.

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Simplest (slightly) relationally inhomogeneous system

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- ▶ CPSs around  $\chi^\mu = x^\mu$ , with
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  - ▶ Decoupling for a range of values of CPSs and large  $N$  (late times).
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## Background

- ✓ Matching with GR possible.
- ▶ Macro. couplings defined in terms of GFT ones.

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## States

- ▶ CPSs around  $\chi^\mu = x^\mu$ , with
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## Late times volume and matter dynamics

- ▶ Averaged q.e.o.m. (no interactions)  $\longrightarrow$  coupled eqs. for  $(\rho, \theta)$ .
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## Background

- ✓ Matching with GR possible.
- ▶ Macro. couplings defined in terms of GFT ones.

## Perturbations

- ✓ Large scales ("super-horizon") GR matching.

# Scalar perturbations from GFT condensates

Mat. Vol. Frame

## Observables

notation:  $(\cdot, \cdot) = \int d^4\chi d\phi d\mathbf{g}_a$

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- ▶ **Unphysical behavior** of spatial derivative terms.

# Super-horizon scalar perturbations

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## Modified gravity

- ▶ Dynamics of super-horizon scalar perturbations can be obtained generically for **any** MG theory.
- ▶ **No matching** at early times with effective GFT volume dynamics.

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## Perturbing background dynamics

- ▶ Study super-horizon scalar perturbations by perturbing background QG volume equation.
- ▶ **No matching** at early times with full effective GFT volume dynamics.

# Scalar perturbations from quantum correlations

## Two-body correlations

Including timelike tetrahedra allows to better couple the physical frame: **two-sector** (+, -) GFT!

$$|\psi\rangle = \mathcal{N}_\psi \exp(\hat{\sigma} \otimes \mathbb{I}_- + \mathbb{I}_+ \otimes \hat{\tau} + \hat{\delta\Phi} \otimes \mathbb{I}_- + \hat{\delta\Psi} + \mathbb{I}_+ \otimes \hat{\delta\Xi}) |0\rangle$$

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- ▶ 2 mean-field eqs. for 3 variables ( $\delta\Phi, \delta\Psi, \delta\Xi$ ):

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### Late times volume perturbations

- ▶ QG corrections to trans-Planckian modes dynamics.
- ▶ GR matching at larger scales.