

Quantum gravity (Q.G.)

Space is flat at our distances ($\sim 1\text{m.}$) and on the scale of 'usual particles physics' $\sim 10^{-13} \div 10^{-15}\text{cm.}$

But when we go to much smaller distances ($\sim 10^{-33}\text{cm.}$) the geometry of our space exhibit very large quantum fluctuations

Quantum ^{G.} effects on large ($\Rightarrow l_p$) scales are weak, and are described by tensor gravitons, corresponding to small fluctuation of metric tensor $g_{\mu\nu}(x)$

$$\begin{aligned} 8\pi G &= m_p^{-2} \\ m_p &\approx 2 \cdot 10^{19} \text{ GeV} \sim 10^{25} \text{ g} \\ l_p &\sim \hbar / m_p c \sim 10^{-33} \text{ cm} \\ t_p &\sim l_p / c \sim 10^{-43} \text{ sec} \end{aligned}$$

TeV scale gravity [$10^{-16} \div 10^{-17}\text{cm}$] ?

Plan of lectures

1. Introduction : main goals and problems in QG
2. The perturbative gravity - simplest structures
3. The high-energy behaviour in the perturbative Q.G.
4. What can be measured. Experimental implications of QG.
5. Non perturbative Q.G. An elementary introduction and results.

1. Canonical QG
2. From metrics to connection and holonomies (loops)
3. Gravitational spin nets
4. Quantum geometry
5. Some applications (Black holes, Cosmology)

1. $\int \mathcal{L} \mathcal{Q} ; \mathcal{L} = m_p^2 R + a_2 m_p^4 R^2 + \dots ; x^\mu \rightarrow y^\mu(x)$

2. $O_i(x) = \{ R(x), R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu}, \dots \}$

3. $F_n(i) = \langle O_1(x_1) O_2(x_2) \dots O_n(x_n) \rangle_0$

4. Theory is discrete for invariant $\langle \cdot \rangle_0$

expectation values
 $F_n(i)$ over invariant
 vacuum don't
 depend on x_i^μ

5. Ground state (and space of states based on it) is noninvariant $\rightarrow \langle g_{\mu\nu}(x) \rangle_0 = \eta_{\mu\nu} \neq 0$

6. In this case we have only effective theory valid for small quantum fluctuations $g_{\mu\nu}(x) = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu} m_p^{-1}$
 $|h_{\mu\nu}| \ll |\eta_{\mu\nu}| m_p$

7. Virtual momenta must be cut on a scale $\sim m_p$, because for smaller distances $\langle g_{\mu\nu} \rangle_0$ is unessential and all Green functions freeze on $F_n(i)$

8. All infinities are gauge artifacts

- 1 -

$$\{|\vec{k}_1, \vec{k}_2, \dots, \vec{k}_n\rangle\}$$

n-graviton states

$$\left(\frac{\{g_{ik}(\vec{x})\}}{G_{\text{diff.}}}, \frac{\{e_i^a(\vec{x})\}}{G_{\text{diff.}} \cdot G_L} \right)$$

Space of all metrics
Sym. group

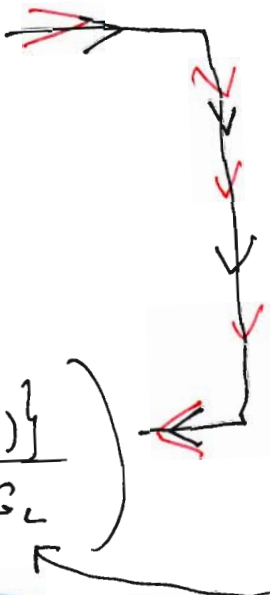
$$\{C_n\}$$

Space of all spin-nets =
= Space of all collections of
quantized space cells

$$\left(\frac{\{\omega_i^{ab}(\vec{x})\}}{G_{\text{diff.}} \cdot G_L}, \frac{\{A_i^a(\vec{x})\}}{G_{\text{diff.}} \cdot G_L} \right)$$

Space of all connections
Sym. Group

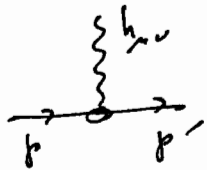
O(3) Gauge fields
Sym. Gr.



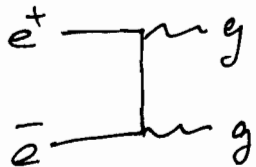
Perturbative gravitons

$$g_{\mu\nu}(x) \simeq \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}(x)/m_p \quad ; \quad \langle g_{\mu\nu}(x) \rangle_0 \stackrel{?}{=} \eta_{\mu\nu}$$

$$\mathcal{L} = m_p^2 R + \mathcal{L}(\psi \dots) \simeq h_{\mu\nu} \square h_{\mu\nu} + \dots + m_p^{-1} h_{\mu\nu} T_{\mu\nu}$$



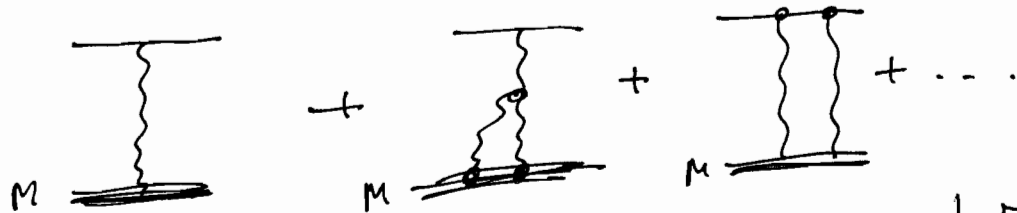
$$\leftrightarrow m_p^{-1} h_{\mu\nu} \langle p' | T_{\mu\nu} | p \rangle \sim m_p^{-1} h_{\mu\nu} (P_\mu P'_\nu + P'_\mu P_\nu)$$



$$\rightarrow \sigma \sim \frac{1}{m_e^2} \left(\frac{s^2}{m_p^4} \right) = \frac{1}{m_e^2} \left(\frac{1 \text{ GeV}}{m_p} \right)^4 \left(\frac{s}{1 \text{ GeV}^2} \right)^2$$

\uparrow
 $10^{-76} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad 10^{-12}$

Strong and weak gravitational fields



$$\varphi = \frac{MG}{r} + \dots = \left(\frac{r_M}{r} \right) \left(\frac{c^2}{2} \right) \left(1 + \frac{r_m}{r} + \dots \right)$$

$$g_{00} \simeq 1 + \varphi \frac{2}{c^2}$$

$r_M = \frac{2GM}{c^2}$ -
 - Gravitational
 radius of
 particle (body)

Higher orders

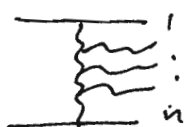


1. Every loop adds the divergent factor $\int \frac{d^4 p}{m_p^2 p^2} \sim \Lambda^2 / m_p^2$
2. If we somehow cut such integrals on $\Lambda \sim m_p$ then all loop corrections are of the same order
↑
↓
3. Nonrenormalizability
4. $\langle g_{\mu\nu}(x) \rangle = \eta_{\mu\nu}$ is unstable
5. Possible cancellations in $N=8$ supergravity?
6. Other approaches to QG (strings, composite gravitons...)

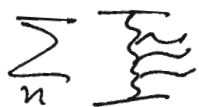
High energy behaviour in perturbative QG.



$$\sigma \sim \frac{1}{m_p^2} \left(\frac{S}{m_p k_{\perp \min}} \right)^2$$



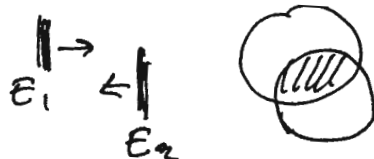
$$\sigma_n \sim \frac{\Delta^n}{m_p^2} \left(\frac{S}{m_p^2} \right)^2 \ln^n \frac{S}{m_p^2}$$



← QG analog
of Pomeron with $d_G(0) \approx 3 + \Delta$

Unitarisation of  → picture of black disks collision

$$R(E_i) \sim E_i / m_p^2 \rightarrow \sigma \sim E_1 E_2 / m_p^2$$




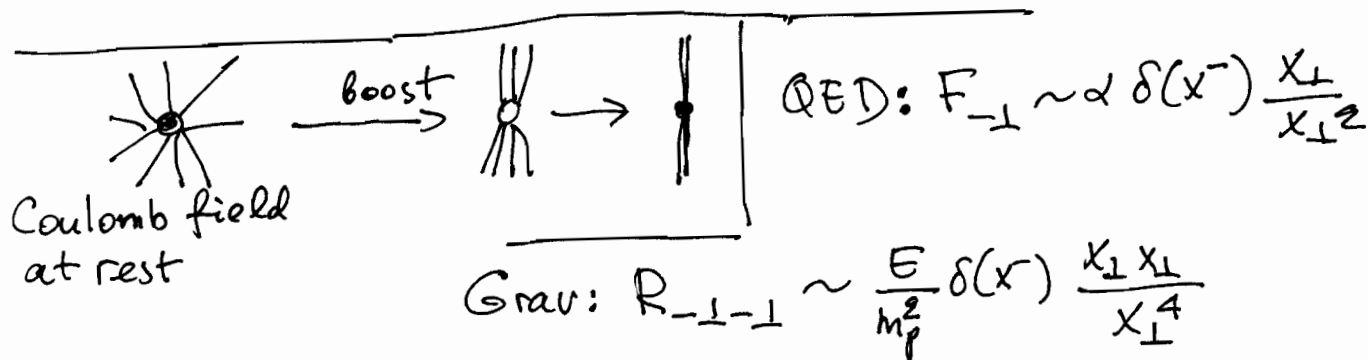
Black holes production as a result of collision at $S > m_p^2$

No Froissart bound
on QG - because
gravitons are
massless

Graviton-parton bremsstrahlung spectra

in QED:  $dn \sim d_{\text{QED}} \cdot \frac{d\omega}{\omega} \frac{dk_{\perp}^2}{k_{\perp}^2}$

in QG:  $dn \sim \left(\frac{E}{m_p}\right)^2 \frac{d\omega}{\omega} \frac{dk_{\perp}^2}{k_{\perp}^2}$



Do we at all need QG. What can be measured

1. Non conservation of all global quantum numbers ?
2. Induced operators. Grav. proton decay $\tau \sim m_h^{-1} \left(\frac{m_p}{m_h}\right)^4 \sim 10^{46} \text{ y}$
3. CP and CPT breaking
4. $E^2 = m^2 + \vec{p}^2 + \frac{c}{m_p^2} \vec{p}^4 + \dots$; $c \sim \pm 1$; $\sim 1/m_p^2 k^2$?
5. Decoherence on Planck scale
6. Quant. corrections to BH. evaporations
7. Relict gravitons and gravitino
8. Tracks in CMB

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{relict BH} \\ m_{\text{BH}} \gtrsim 10^{10} \text{ g} \\ R \sim 10^{-19} \text{ cm} \\ T_H \lesssim 10^4 \text{ GeV} \end{array} \right.$$

TeV scale QG.

Non perturbative QG

Canonical
Loop QG

Quantum geometry



No new degrees of freedom
are introduced.

Quantization of standard
general relativity

① Diff. invariance \leftrightarrow Background independence

② $g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\lambda$ - Now the main variables are special
connections $A_i^a = \omega_i^a + \gamma K_i^a$, and not the
metrics $g_{\mu\nu}$

Then the conjugated variables $\sim -i \frac{\partial}{\partial A_i^a}$
are E_a^i - space repers

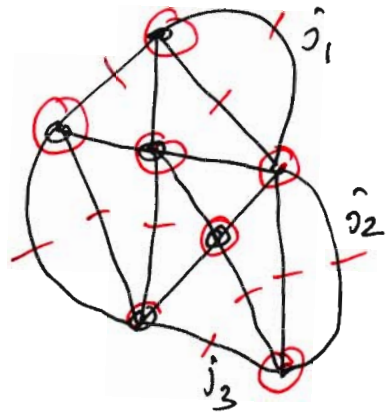
③ Then one can find that states in $\mathcal{Q}\mathcal{G}$ are described by the spin-nets: samples of connected quantized space cells.

④ Areas and volumes of such cells are quantized

$$S \sim l_p^2 \gamma \sum_{\text{edges}} \sqrt{j(j+1)}$$

$$V \sim l_p^3 \gamma^{3/2} \sum_{\text{nodes}} f(j_1, j_2, \dots)$$

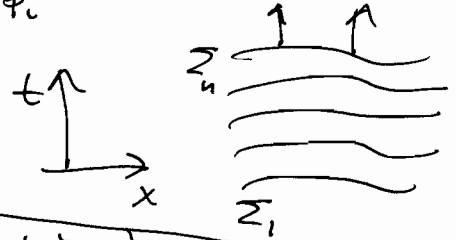
$$j = 1, 2, \dots$$



Quantum gravity (nonperturbative)

$$I = m_p^2 \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \cdot R + I_\Phi[\phi_i, g_{\mu\nu}] \rightarrow \frac{\delta I}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} = 0; \frac{\delta I}{\delta \phi_i} = 0$$

$$\mathcal{L}_g = m_p^2 R + c m_p^2 R^2 + c' m_p^{-4} R^4 + \dots$$



① Functional integral approach (Misner... Hawking)

$$\langle (g_{\mu\nu}, \Phi)_{\text{out}} | (g_{\mu\nu}, \Phi)_{\text{in}} \rangle \sim \int_{C_{\text{in}}}^{C_{\text{out}}} \mathcal{D}\phi_i \mathcal{D}g_{\mu\nu} \exp(i I[g, \phi_i])$$

② Canonical quantization (Dirac, ...)

Dynamical variables $(g_{\mu\nu}, P_{\mu\nu} = \delta \mathcal{L} / \delta \partial_t g_{\mu\nu}) \rightarrow H = \dot{g}_{\mu\nu} P_{\mu\nu} - \mathcal{L}$

One must define:

a) Commutation relations $[g_{\mu\nu}(x), P_{\alpha\beta}(y)] \sim i \delta^\mu_\alpha \delta^\nu_\beta \delta^3(x, y)$

b) Space of states \rightarrow (all 3-metrics), ...

c) Action of H and other operators in this space

Due to (diff.) symmetry of I

$$x_\mu \rightarrow x'_\mu(x_\nu)$$

variables p_μ are not well defined (constrained)

It is convenient to choose coordinates and $g_{\mu\nu}$ in such a way that constraints takes simple form $p_{\mu,0} = 0$

$$(ADM): ds^2 = -(Ndt)^2 + g_{ik}(dx^i + N^i dt)(dx^k + N^k dt)$$

$$I = \int dt \int d^3x \left[N \sqrt{g_3} (K_{ij} K^{ij} - K^2 + R_3) + \partial_i (\quad)_i \right]$$

$$K_{ij} = (\nabla_i N_j + \nabla_j N_i - \dot{g}_{ij}) / 2N = \nabla_i^{(4)} n_j$$

$$p^0 = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{N}} = 0, \quad p^i = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{N}^i} = 0$$

$$p_{ij} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{g}_{ij}} = -\sqrt{g_3} (K^{ij} - g^{ij} K)$$

Hamiltonian: $H = \int d^3x [p^0 \dot{N} - p^i \dot{N}_i + N \mathcal{H} + N_i \mathcal{H}^i]$.

where

$$\mathcal{H} = \sqrt{g_3} (K_{ij} K^{ij} - K^2 - R_3^2); \quad \mathcal{H}^i = -2 p^{ij}{}_{,j}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} p^\mu = 0 \rightarrow [p^\mu, H] = 0 \rightarrow \begin{cases} \mathcal{H}^i = 0 \\ \mathcal{H} = 0 \end{cases}$$

Quantization:

$\Psi[g_{ij}(\vec{x})]$ - space of all functions of $g_{ij}(\vec{x})$

with operators $p^{ij} = -i \frac{\delta}{\delta g_{ij}}; p^i = -i \frac{\delta}{\delta N_i}; p = -i \frac{\delta}{\delta N}; [g_{ij}(x), p^{kl}(y)] = i \delta^3(x,y) \delta_{ij}^{kl}$

$$\mathcal{H}^i = 0 \rightarrow \nabla_j \left(\frac{\delta \Psi}{\delta g_{ij}} \right) = 0 \quad ; \quad \mathcal{H} \Psi = 0 \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi = 0$$

↑
space diff. constraint

↑
Hamilton constraint

$\mathcal{F} = \{g_{ik}(\vec{x})\}$ - Space of all 3-metrics

Λ = Space of all local diffeomorphisms

The space of states for QG can be

defined as factorspace $(\frac{\mathcal{F}}{\Lambda}) = \underline{\Phi}$

with additional hamiltonian constraint

$$\mathcal{H}\underline{\Phi} = 0$$

Is it possible to find some simple system of base vectors in this space $[\underline{\Phi}, \mathcal{H}\underline{\Phi} = 0]$

Possible strategy:

- 1) Find a simple base in $\underline{\Phi}$
- 2) Apply the constraint $\mathcal{H}\underline{\Phi} = 0$

Metric \rightarrow Vierbein (repers)

$$g_{\mu\nu}(x) = e_{\mu}^a(x) e_{\nu}^b(x) \eta_{ab}$$

$$D_{\mu} e_{\nu}^a = \nabla_{\mu} e_{\nu}^a - \omega_{\mu}^{ab} e_{\nu}^b$$

$$\nabla_{\mu} e_{\nu}^i = \partial_{\mu} e_{\nu}^i - \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha} e_{\alpha}^i$$

$$\omega_{\mu ab} = e_{\nu}^c \nabla_{\mu} e_{\nu}^b = \frac{1}{2} [-\Omega_{cab} - \Omega_{abc} + \Omega_{bca}] e_{\mu}^c$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \sqrt{-g} R \rightarrow e \cdot e^{\mu a} [\nabla_{\mu}, \nabla_{\nu}] e_{\nu}^a = e (\omega_{\mu a}^c \omega_{\nu c}^a - \omega_{\mu ab} \omega_{\nu ab}) + \partial_{\mu} (\dots)_{\nu}$$

$$p_{\mu}^a = \frac{\delta \mathcal{L}}{\delta e_{\mu}^a} = \frac{1}{2} e e_{\nu}^b (K_{ab} - \delta_{ab} K)$$

$$K_{ab} = e_{\nu}^c e_{\mu}^d \nabla_{\mu} e_{\nu}^c = \underline{\underline{\Omega}}_{\underline{\underline{0}} ab}$$

extrinsic curvature

Symmetry becomes larger:

1. Diff invariance
2. Local $O(3,1)$ invariance

coefficients of anholonomy

Hamiltonian

$$H = p_a^{\mu} \dot{e}_a^{\mu} - \mathcal{L} \Rightarrow N \mathcal{H} + N^i \mathcal{H}_i$$

Constraints:

① Lorentz constraint: $L_{ab} \equiv e_{\mu} [a P_b^{\mu}] \approx 0$

② Diff. constr: $\mathcal{H}_a \equiv D_m P_a^m \approx 0$

③ Hamilt. constr. $\mathcal{H} = \frac{e}{4} (K_{ab} K^{ab} - \text{~~scribble~~ } K^2) - e R^{(3)} \approx 0$

Quantisation

$$[e_{ma}(x), P_b^n(y)]_- = i \delta_{ab} \delta_n^m \delta^3(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) \quad ; \quad P_b^n = -i \frac{\delta}{\delta e_n^a(x)}$$

$$L_{ab} \Psi(e) = 0 \quad ; \quad \mathcal{H}_a \Psi(e) = 0 \quad ; \quad \mathcal{H} \Psi(e) = 0$$

New (Ashtekar-Sen) variables

$$\omega_i^{ab} \rightarrow \omega_i^a = \omega_i^{ab} e^{abc}$$

New variables are connections

$$A_i^a = \omega_i^a + \gamma K_i^a$$

γ -Barbero-Immirzi parameter

Conjugate momenta:

$$E_a^i \equiv \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial A_i^a} \iff -i \frac{\delta}{\delta A_i^a}$$

$$E_a^i = \frac{1}{\gamma} e^i_{a_j} \cdot e \leftarrow \text{inverse dreibein}$$

$$A_i^a \rightarrow F_{ij}^a = \partial_i A_j^a - \partial_j A_i^a - \epsilon^{abc} A_i^b A_j^c$$

all indices
in 3 space Σ

γ -similar to
 θ param in QCD

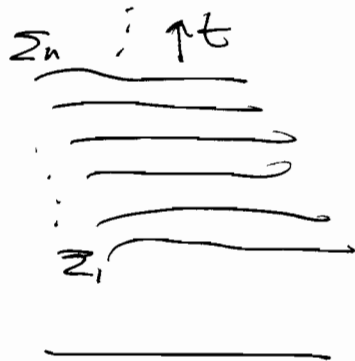
$$I = \int R \dots g'' g'' \sqrt{-g} + \dots$$

A_i^a - $SU(2) \leftrightarrow O(3)$
gauge field

$$A_i^{ab} \leftrightarrow A_i^{ab} e^{abc}$$

Kinematical space of states

$$\mathcal{C} = \frac{[\text{Space of connections } A_i^a(\vec{x}) \text{ on } \Sigma]}{\mathcal{G}(\text{diff. on } \Sigma) \cup \mathcal{L}(\text{local 3 rotations})}$$



Constraints:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \textcircled{1} D_i E^i = 0 \quad [\text{Gauss (Lorentz) constr.}] \\ \textcircled{2} \text{Tr}(F_{ij} E^i) = 0 \quad [\text{Diff. constr.}] \end{array} \right\} \text{Kinem. constr.}$$

E, A, F -
- $SU(2)$ or $SO(3)$
matrices

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \textcircled{3} \text{Tr}(E^i E^j (F_{ij} + \frac{1}{2}(\gamma^2 + 1) K_{[i} K_{j]} + \lambda \epsilon_{ije} E^e + \dots)) = 0 \end{array} \right\} \text{Dynam. constr.}$$

Simple case $\gamma = i \leftrightarrow$ complex connection ?

Speciale case $\gamma = \pm i$

A_m^a - multiplication operator

$$E_a^m = -i \frac{\delta}{\delta A_m^a}$$

Hamilt. constr. :

$$\epsilon_{abc} \frac{\delta^2}{\delta A_m^a \delta A_n^b} \left(F_{mnc} - i \Lambda \epsilon_{mnc} \frac{\delta}{\delta A_k^c} \right) \Psi[A] = 0$$

Chern-Simons
Lagrangian.

$$\mathcal{L}_{CS} = \epsilon^{mnc} \left(A_m^a \partial_n A_k^a + i A_m^a A_n^b A_k^c \epsilon^{abc} \right)$$

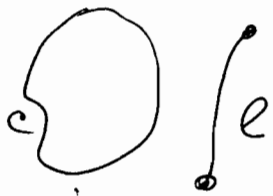
Kodama state $\Psi_K \sim \exp\left(\frac{i}{\Lambda} \int d^3x \mathcal{L}_{CS}\right)$

Quasi Class: $F_{mnc} = \Lambda \epsilon_{mnc} E_c^i$

$$A_{ia} = \Lambda^{1/2} f \delta_{ia} ; E_{ia} \sim f^2 \delta_{ia} \leftarrow \leftarrow \text{De-Sitter space}$$

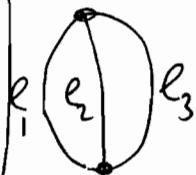
From Connections A_i^a to holonomies

$$A_i^{ab} \rightarrow h_c[A] = \mathbb{P} \exp \left(\int_c A_i dx^i \right) = \lim (1 + dx_1^i A_i) (1 + dx_2^i A_i) \dots (\dots)$$



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} W_c[A] = \text{Tr } h_c[A] \\ h_{n_1}^{m_1}(e_1) h_{n_2}^{m_2}(e_2) h_{n_3}^{m_3}(e_3) \in_{m_1 m_2 m_3} \in^{n_1 n_2 n_3} \\ \dots \\ f(h(e_1), \dots, h(e_n)) \end{array} \right.$$

invariant under
 $G(\text{diff. } \Sigma) \circ \mathcal{U}(\text{loc. rot.})$



$$\Psi[A] \leftrightarrow \widetilde{\Psi}[c] = \int \mathcal{D}A \Psi[A] W_c[A]$$

loop 'Fourier' transformation

Generalization: $h(e) \rightarrow h_j(e) = \mathbb{P} \exp \left(\int_e A_m^{(ij)} dx^m \right)$
 Now $A^{(ij)}$ is 'j' representation of $O(3)$

$$[h(e)]_m^n \rightarrow [h_j(e)]_{m_1 \dots m_j}^{n_1 \dots n_j}$$

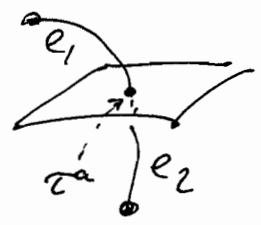
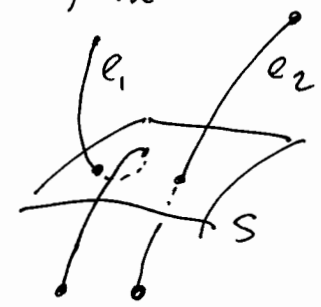
Variables conjugate to holonomies

$\begin{matrix} dx^p \\ \nearrow \\ dx^n \end{matrix}$
 $dE_a = E_a^m dx^n dx^p \epsilon_{mnp} \leftarrow \text{flux of } E_a^m \text{ through area } dx^n dx^p$

$E^a[S] = \int_S dE^a \leftarrow \text{flux of } E \text{ through surface } S$

Poisson brackets (commutators):

$[h_{e_1}, E^a[S]]_- = i\gamma I(e_1, S) (h_{e_1} \tau^a h_{e_2})$



Excursion in QCD

[lattice 3+1]

$$| \text{Space of physical states} \rangle = \frac{\text{Space of all } \vec{A}(x)}{\text{local } SU(3)}$$

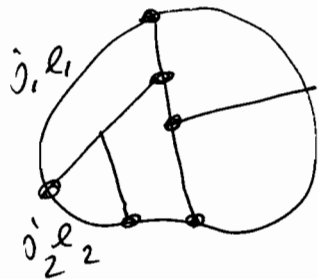


$$W_C = \text{Tr} \left(\mathcal{P} \exp \left(i \oint_C \vec{A} dx^\mu \right) \right)$$

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{c_i} a(c_1 \dots c_n) (W_{c_1} \cdot W_{c_2} \dots W_{c_n}) |0\rangle$$

$$W_C^j = \left[\mathcal{P} \exp \left(i \int_C \vec{A} dx^\mu \right) \right]_{a_1 \dots a_j}^{b_1 \dots b_j}$$

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{c, j} a(c) (W^{j_1} W^{j_2} \dots W^{j_n}) |0\rangle$$



spin-net state

Spin net states in gravity (LQG)

- Use j -holonomies $h_j(\ell) = \mathcal{P} \exp(\int A_m^{(j)} dx^m)$
- Build various spin net states

$$\Psi_{\underbrace{j_1 \dots j_n}_{\text{lines}}}(\underbrace{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n}_{\text{vertexes}}) \sim [h_{j_1}(\ell_1) h_{j_2}(\ell_2) \dots h_{j_n}(\ell_n)] |0\rangle$$

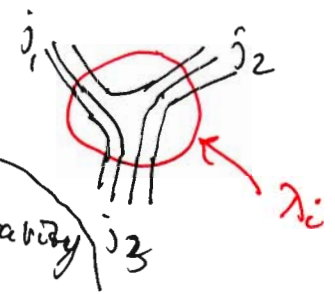
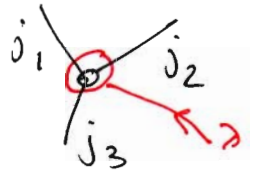
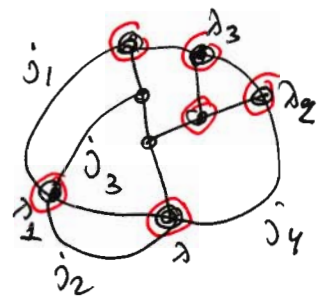
λ_i - intertwiners -
 - generalizing
 Clebsch-Gordan
 coefficients

- Net states $\Psi_{j_1 \dots j_n}(\lambda_i)$ fulfill Gauss and diff. constraint

- Ψ_{\dots} - Don't depend on the shape of contours ℓ_i

$$\Psi = \sum_{G, j, \lambda} a(j; G, \lambda) \Psi_{j, \dots}^{(G)}(\lambda) \leftarrow \text{Kinematical space of state in gravity}$$

- A_i, F_{ij}, h_j act on Ψ as multiplication operators



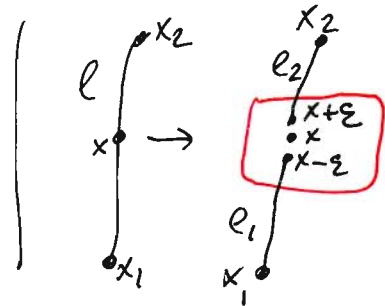
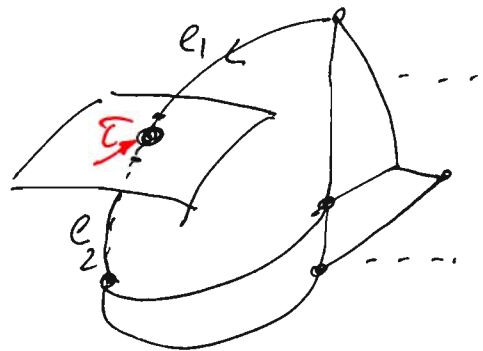
The action of Flux operator on a spin net state

$$E^a(s) = \int_S E^{am} \epsilon_{mne} dx^m dx^n$$

$$E^a(s) |h(e)\rangle = i\gamma \mathcal{I}(e, s) |h(e_1) \tau^a h(e_2)\rangle$$

$$[A_a^i(x), E_j^b(y)] = i\delta_a^b \delta_j^i \delta^3(x, y)$$

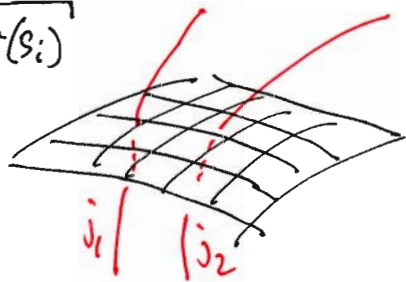
$$h(e) = \underbrace{\mathcal{P}\exp\left(\int_{x_1}^{x_2} dx^m A_m\right)}_{h(e_1)} \left(1 + 2 \int dx^m A_m(x) \tau^a\right) \cdot \underbrace{\mathcal{P}\exp\left(\int_{x_2}^{x_1} dx^m A_m\right)}_{h(e_2)}$$



The area operator and its eigenvalues on spin net states

$$A_S = \int_S d^2x \sqrt{g_2} = \gamma \int \sqrt{dE_i^a dE_j^a g^{ij}} = \gamma \sum_{S_i} \sqrt{E^a(S_i) E^a(S_i)}$$

↑
det of the induced
2-metrics on S



$$E^a(S) E^a(S) |h^j(e)\rangle = (8\pi) l_p^2 \gamma |h(e_1) \tau^a \tau^a h(e_2)\rangle =$$

$$= 8\pi l_p^2 \gamma [j(j+1)] |h^j(e)\rangle$$

↑
On line with
momentum j

$$\hat{A}_S \Psi = \left(8\pi l_p^2 \gamma \sum_K \sqrt{j_K(j_K+1)} \right) \Psi$$

The Volume operator

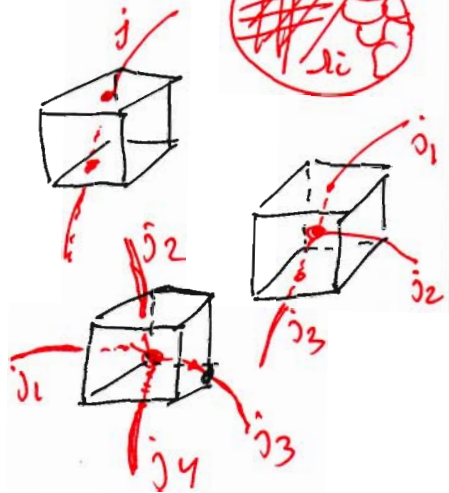
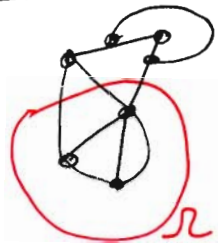
$$V_{\Omega} = \frac{1}{3!} \int_{\Omega} d^3x \left[E_m^a E_n^b E_k^c \epsilon^{mnk} \epsilon_{abc} \right]^{1/2} =$$

$$= \frac{1}{3!} \int_{\Omega} \sqrt{dE^a dE^b dE^c \epsilon_{abc}} = \frac{1}{3!} \int_n \sqrt{E^a(\Omega_n) E^b E^c \epsilon_{abc}}$$

$$\epsilon_{abc} E^a E^b E^c |h^{j_1}(e_1) h^{j_2}(e_2) \dots \rangle \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \ell_p^3 \gamma^{3/2} \sum_{j_1 j_2 j_3} \tau^a |j_1\rangle \tau^b |j_2\rangle \tau^c |j_3\rangle \otimes |h_{j_i}(e_i) \dots \rangle$$

Volumes are concentrated only on nodes with 'valence' ≥ 4 , and take discrete values

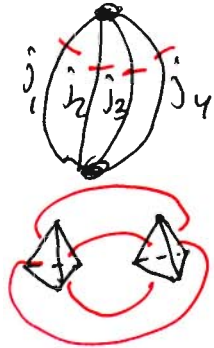


$$\left(\widehat{\text{Volume of}} \right) \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{Spin} \\ \text{Net state} \end{array} \right. \left. \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 1} \end{array} \right\rangle = \left(\sum_{\text{nodes}} V_i \right) \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 2} \end{array} \right\rangle$$

$$V(j_1, \dots, j_n) = \ell_p^3 \gamma^{3/2} \psi(j_1, \dots, j_n)$$

Large and 'smooth' spin-nets \approx
 \approx continuous 3 space

Like a big piece of solid (liquide) state
 containing many atoms



Hamiltonian constraint (time evolution operator)

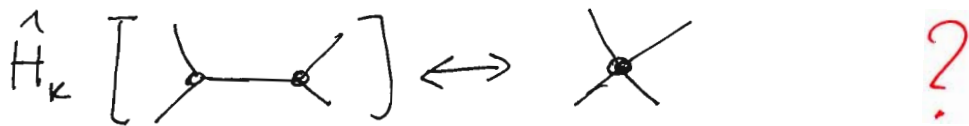
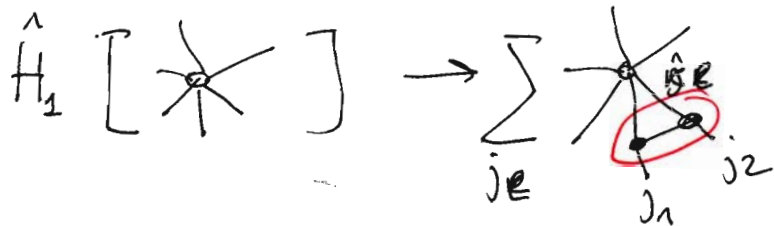
$$0 = \hat{H} = \int_{\Sigma} d^3x N(x) \frac{E_a^i E_b^j}{\sqrt{\det E}} \left(\epsilon^{abc} F_{ijc} - \frac{1}{2} (1 + \gamma^2) K_{ci}^a K_{j}^b + \dots \right)$$

Regularization (Thiemann (1998))

$$\epsilon^{abc} \epsilon_{ije} \frac{E_a^i E_b^j}{\sqrt{\det E}} = \frac{1}{4\gamma} \left[A_e^c(x), \int d^3x \sqrt{\det E} \right]$$

$$K_a^i \equiv \gamma^{-1} (A_a^i - \Gamma_a^i) \sim \left[A_a^i, \left[\int d^3x F_{ab}^l \frac{E_j^a E_k^b \epsilon^{lijk}}{\sqrt{\det E}}, \int d^3x \sqrt{\det E} \right] \right]$$

Action of \hat{H} on spin-net states | $H = H_1 + H_K + H_M$



Splitting and joining of space cells

Spin Foam models of QG

Inclusion of matter fields

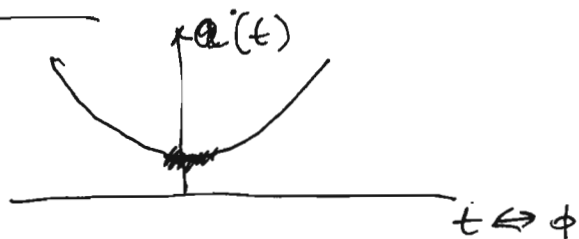
Scalars, fermions... on nodes.
Gauge fields are situated on links

Quantization of cross-sections (all) $\sim n l_p^2$

- Spin nets with boundary (external!)
- Boundary with fixed area $S = \sum \sigma_i$
has $\neq 0$ entropy $\sim \frac{S}{e_p^2}$



Cosmology
Inflation



$\Psi(a, \phi)$