

# Non-commutative geometry and matrix models

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# outline

## 1 Part I: general aspects of NC / matrix geometry

- motivation, some history
- basic examples of noncommutative spaces  
( $S_N^2$ ,  $T_\theta^2$ ,  $\mathbb{R}_\theta^4$  etc.)
- quantization of Poisson / symplectic structures
- basic noncommutative field theory
- spectral aspects, Connes NCG

## 2 Part II: Matrix models and dynamical geometry

- Yang-Mills matrix models,  
noncommutative gauge theory
- general geometry in matrix models (branes, curvature)
- nonabelian gauge fields, fermions, SUSY
- quantization of M.M: heat kernel expansion, UV/IR mixing
- aspects of (emergent) gravity, outlook

## literature:

- review article:  
H.S., “Emergent Geometry and Gravity from Matrix Models: an Introduction”. Class.Quant.Grav. 27 (2010) 133001, arXiv:1003.4134
- brief qualitative intro:  
H. S., “On Matrix Geometry“ arXiv:1101.5003
- ... (later)

issue in quantum mechanics  $\leftrightarrow$  gravity:

the cosmological constant problem

QM predicts vacuum energy (cosm.const.)

$$(E_{\text{vac}})_{\text{QM}} = \pm \int d^3k \frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega(k) \sim \begin{cases} O(10^3 \text{ GeV})^4, & \text{SUSY} \\ O(10^{19} \text{ GeV})^4 & \text{no SUSY} \end{cases}$$

$$(c.c.)_{\text{obs}} = (2 \cdot 10^{-12} \text{ GeV})^4$$

both described by  $\int d^4x \sqrt{g} \Lambda^4 \Rightarrow$  discrepancy

$$\frac{(c.c.)_{\text{QM}}}{(c.c.)_{\Lambda\text{CDM}}} \geq \left( \frac{10^3}{10^{-12}} \right)^4 = 10^{60}$$

$\Rightarrow$  **ridiculous fine-tuning**

... maybe we're missing something !!?

how to adress this in quantum theory of gravity?

- string theory  $\rightarrow$  vast set ( $> 10^{500}$ ) of possible “vacua”
  - $\rightarrow$  “landscape”, lack of predictivity
  - $\rightarrow$  “anthropic principle” (= give up ?)
- loop quantum gravity (?)

try different approach:

- 1 noncommutative (NC) space-time, NC geometry
- 2 dynamical NC space(time):

(Yang-Mills) Matrix models

pre-geometric, BG independent

natural quantization

hopefully large separation of scales  $\Lambda_{\text{Planck}} \leftrightarrow \Lambda_{c.c.}$

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recall:

Q.M. & G.R.  $\Rightarrow$  break-down of classical space-time

measure object of size  $\Delta x$

$$\text{Q.M.} \Rightarrow \text{energy } E \geq \hbar k \sim \frac{\hbar}{\Delta x}$$

$$\text{G.R.} \Rightarrow \Delta x \geq R_{\text{Schwarzschild}} \sim GE \geq \frac{\hbar G}{\Delta x}$$

$$\Rightarrow (\Delta x)^2 \geq \hbar G = L_{Pl}^2, \quad L_{Pl} = 10^{-33} \text{ cm}$$

more precise version: (Doplicher Fredenhagen Roberts 1995)

$$\Delta x^0 (\sum_i \Delta x^i) \geq L_{Pl}^2, \quad \sum_{i \neq j} \Delta x^i \Delta x^j \geq L_{Pl}^2$$

... space-time uncertainty relations, follows from

$$[X^\mu, X^\nu] = i\theta^{\mu\nu} \quad (\text{cf. Q.M.})$$

... noncommutative (quantum) space-time

“fuzzy”, “foam-like” structure of space-time (no singularities?)

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# inspiration: Quantum Mechanics!

class. mechanics

phase space  $\mathbb{R}^2$

functions  $f(q, p) \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}^2)$

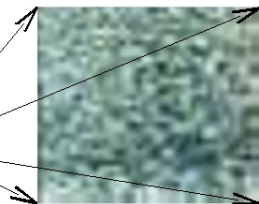
$$[p, q] = 0$$

quantum mechanics

“quantized phase space”

Heisenberg algebra  $f(Q, P)$

$$[P, Q] = i\hbar \mathbf{1}$$



## historical comments:

- old idea (**Heisenberg** 1938 “universal length”)
- **Snyder** 1947: Lorentz-invariant NC space-time algebra
- Mathematik: **von Neumann** “pointless geometry”,  
**Connes** NC (differential) geometry
- first field-theoretical models 199x
  - fuzzy sphere **Madore, Grosse, ...**
  - quantized spaces with quantum group symmetry  
**Wess-Zumino, ...**
- **Connes-Lott**:  $M^4 \times \{1, -1\}$  (standard model, Higgs interpreted as connection in internal NC “2-point space”)
- Matrix Models **BFSS, IKKT 1996**
- NCG on D-branes (string theory) 1998  
(**Chu Ho Douglas Hull Schomerus Seiberg Witten etc 1998 ff**)
- NC QFT, UV/IR mixing, solitons/instantons, new phase transitions (“striped phase”), matrix models, ...

# NC spaces in other physical contexts

- 2D– systems in strong magnetic fields  
projection on lowest Landau level  
⇒ coordinates  $\hat{x}_i$  satisfy  $[\hat{x}_i, \hat{x}_j] = \frac{i}{B} \varepsilon_{ij}$
- Quantum Hall effect      Bellisard 1994
- string theory      (10 dimensions, zoo of objects)

strings end on “D-branes” (=submanifolds)



D-branes in background  $B$ -field    ⇒    strings induce  
**NC field theory (NCFT)** on D-branes (NC gauge theory)  
 (Chu Ho Douglas Hull Schomerus Seiberg Witten etc 1998 ff)  
 ⇒    D-branes = NC space

- 3D quantum gravity      → NC spaces (Freidel etal)

## NC field theory = (quantum) field theory on NC spaces

studied during past 10 – 15 years:

- starting point: NC space & diff. calculus
- Lorentz invariance broken by  $\theta^{\mu\nu}$
- straightforward for scalar FT

quantization  $\Rightarrow$  UV/IR mixing due to  $\Delta x^\mu \Delta x^\nu \geq L_{NC}^2$   
 problem for renormalization  $\dim [\theta^{\mu\nu}] = [L^2]$

- NC gauge theory:
  - straightforward for  $U(n)$
  - less clear for other gauge groups
  - NC standard model proposed (only effective, not quantiz.)
  - new processes ( $Z \rightarrow 2\gamma, \dots$ )
- generalized (quantum group) symmetries:
  - ( $\mathbb{R}_q^4$ ,  $\kappa$ -Poincare, ...)
  - hard to reconcile with “2nd quantization“
  - possibly modified dispersion relations

## Gravity $\leftrightarrow$ NC spaces

many possible approaches:

### 1 deformation of class. GR

- insist on diffeos (Aschieri, Wess et al, ...)
- start with generalized local Lorentz invariance (Chamseddine, ...)
- etc.

problems: extra structure  $\theta^{\mu\nu}$ ? dynamical?  
quantization?

### 2 start with fundamentally different model, s.t. dynamical NC space(time) “emerges”

(Yang-Mills) Matrix Models

- + contains also gauge theory & matter
- + can be quantized (?!)
- + distinct from GR,  $\rightarrow$  hope for c.c. problem
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# Poisson $\leftrightarrow$ symplectic structure

$\{.,.\} : \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathcal{M}) \times \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathcal{M})$  ... **Poisson structure** if

$$\begin{aligned} \{f, g\} + \{g, f\} &= 0, & \text{anti-symmetric} \\ \{f, \{g, h\}\} + \text{cyclic} &= 0 & \text{Jacobi} \end{aligned}$$

$\leftrightarrow$  tensor field  $\theta^{\mu\nu}(x)\partial_\mu \otimes \partial_\nu$  with

$$\theta^{\mu\nu} = -\theta^{\nu\mu}, \quad \theta^{\mu\mu'} \partial_{\mu'} \theta^{\nu\rho} + \text{cyclic} = 0$$

assume  $\theta^{\mu\nu}$  non-degenerate

Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \omega &:= \frac{1}{2} \theta_{\mu\nu}^{-1} dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu & \in \Omega^2 \mathcal{M} & \text{closed,} \\ d\omega &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

... **symplectic form**

# Quantized Poisson (symplectic) spaces

$(\mathcal{M}, \theta^{\mu\nu}(x))$  ...  $2n$ -dimensional manifold with Poisson structure

Its **quantization**  $\mathcal{M}_\theta$  is NC algebra such that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}: \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{M}) &\rightarrow \mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}) \\ f(x) &\mapsto \hat{f}(X) \end{aligned}$$

such that

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{f} \hat{g} &= \mathcal{I}(fg) + O(\theta) \\ [\hat{f}, \hat{g}] &= \mathcal{I}(i\{f, g\}) + O(\theta^2) \end{aligned}$$

(“nice“)  $\Phi \in \text{Mat}(\infty, \mathbb{C}) \leftrightarrow$  quantized function on  $\mathcal{M}$

furthermore:

$$\begin{aligned} (2\pi)^n \text{Tr} \mathcal{I}(\phi) &\sim \int \frac{\omega^n}{n!} \phi = \int d^{2n}x \rho(x) \phi(x) \\ \rho(x) &= \text{Pfaff}(\theta_{\mu\nu}^{-1}) \dots \text{ symplectic volume} \end{aligned}$$

note:  $\dim(\mathcal{H}) \sim \text{Vol}(\mathcal{M})$ , large!! (cf. **Bohr-Sommerfeld**)



Example: quantized phase space  $\mathbb{R}_\hbar^2$

consider  $X^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} Q \\ P \end{pmatrix}$ , Heisenberg C.R.

$$[X^\mu, X^\nu] = i\theta^{\mu\nu} \mathbf{1}, \quad \mu, \nu = 1, \dots, 2, \quad \theta^{\mu\nu} = \hbar \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}) \cong \text{Mat}(\infty, \mathbb{C})$  ... functions on  $\mathbb{R}_\hbar^2$

uncertainty relations  $\Delta X^\mu \Delta X^\nu \geq \frac{1}{2} |\theta^{\mu\nu}|$

Weyl-quantization: Poisson structure  $\{x^\mu, x^\nu\} = \theta^{\mu\nu}$

$$\mathcal{I}: \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}^2) \rightarrow \mathcal{A},$$

$$\phi(x) = \int d^2k e^{ik_\mu x^\mu} \hat{\phi}(k) \mapsto \int d^2k e^{ik_\mu X^\mu} \hat{\phi}(k) =: \Phi(X) \in \mathcal{A}$$

$$(L^2(\mathbb{R}^2) \leftrightarrow \text{Hilbert-Schmidt})$$

interpretation:

$X^\mu \in \mathcal{A} \cong \text{Mat}(\infty, \mathbb{C})$  ... quantiz. coord. function on  $\mathbb{R}_\hbar^2$

$\Phi(X^\mu) \in \text{Mat}(\infty, \mathbb{C})$  ... observables (functions) on  $\mathbb{R}_\hbar^2$

star product

= pull-back of multiplication in  $\mathcal{A}$ :

$$f \star g := \mathcal{I}^{-1}(\mathcal{I}(f)\mathcal{I}(g))$$

Weyl quantization map  $\rightarrow$  explicit formula (for  $\theta^{\mu\nu} = \text{const}$ ):

$$(f \star g)(x) = f(x) e^{\frac{i}{2} \theta^{\mu\nu} \overleftarrow{\partial}_\mu \overrightarrow{\partial}_\nu} g(x)$$

proof:

$$e^{ik_\mu X^\mu} \star e^{ip_\nu X^\nu} = e^{\frac{i}{2} \theta^{\mu\nu} k_\mu p_\nu} e^{i(k_\mu + p_\mu) X^\mu}$$

note:

$$\begin{aligned} X^\mu \star X^\nu &= X^\mu X^\nu + \frac{i}{2} \theta^{\mu\nu} \\ [X^\mu, X^\nu]_\star &= i\theta^{\mu\nu} \end{aligned}$$

... CCR

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remarks:

- $\mathcal{I}$  not unique, **not** Lie-algebra homomorphism
- need quantization of general Poisson structure  $\theta^{\mu\nu}(x)$   
such that

$$[X^\mu, X^\nu] \sim i\{x^\mu, x^\nu\} = i\theta^{\mu\nu}(x)$$

(always assume  $\theta^{\mu\nu}(x)$  non-deg  $\Rightarrow$  symplectic)

- existence, precise def. of quantization non-trivial (formal, strict, ... )  
need strict quantization (operators)  
established for Kähler (Schlichenmaier et al),  
almost-Kähler (Uribe et al)
- quantization map  $\rightarrow$  map NCFT  $\iff$  ordinary QFT  
("Seiberg-Witten map")

semi-classical limit:

work with commutative functions (de-quantization map),

replace commutators by Poisson brackets

i.e. replace

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{F} &\rightarrow f = \mathcal{I}^{-1}(F) \\ [\hat{F}, \hat{G}] &\rightarrow i\{f, g\} \quad (+O(\theta^2), \text{ drop})\end{aligned}$$

i.e. keep only leading order in  $\theta$

is **independent of specific quantization**  $\mathcal{I}$

# Noncommutative geometry

## Gelfand-Naimark theorem:

every commutative  $C^*$  - algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  with  $1$  is isomorphic to a  $C^*$  - algebra of continuous functions on compact Hausdorff space  $\mathcal{M}$ .

idea: replace  $\mathcal{A} \Rightarrow$  noncomm. algebra of “functions”  $\mathcal{A}$   
manif.  $\mathcal{M} \rightarrow$  functions  $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow$  NC algebra  $\mathcal{A}$

but: need additional (geometrical) structures

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classical geometry

$$\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{M}) = \{f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}\}, \theta^{\mu\nu}$$

comm. algebra,

metric structure  $g_{\mu\nu}$

diff. calculus

noncomm. geometry

$$\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}) \cong \text{Mat}(\infty, \mathbb{C})$$

NC algebra, e.g.  $[x^\mu, x^\nu] = i\theta^{\mu\nu} \mathbf{1}$

Dirac/Laplace operator  $\not{D}, \Delta$

NC diff. calculus (A. Connes)

field theory:  $\Delta\phi = \lambda\phi$

$$\phi \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathcal{M})$$

NC field theory:  $\Delta\phi = \lambda\phi,$

$$\phi \in \mathcal{A}$$

QFT

$$\int_{\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{M})} d\phi e^{-S(\phi)}$$

NC QFT

$$\int_{\mathcal{A}} d\phi e^{-S(\phi)}$$

(canon.) quantum-gravity

e.g.  $\int_{\text{geometries}} dg_{\mu\nu} e^{-S_{\text{EH}}[g]}$

(?)



classical geometry	noncomm. geometry
$\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{M}) = \{f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}\}, \theta^{\mu\nu}$ comm. algebra, metric structure $g_{\mu\nu}$ diff. calculus	$\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}) \cong \text{Mat}(\infty, \mathbb{C})$ NC algebra, e.g. $[x^\mu, x^\nu] = i\theta^{\mu\nu} \mathbf{1}$ Dirac/Laplace operator $\not{D}, \Delta$ NC diff. calculus (A. Connes) <i>matrix geometry</i> : embedding $x^a : \mathcal{M} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^D$
field theory: $\Delta\phi = \lambda\phi$ $\phi \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathcal{M})$	NC field theory: $\Delta\phi = \lambda\phi$ , $\phi \in \mathcal{A}$
QFT $\int_{\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{M})} d\phi e^{-S(\phi)}$	NC QFT $\int_{\mathcal{A}} d\phi e^{-S(\phi)}$
(canon.) quantum-gravity e.g. $\int_{\text{geometries}} dg_{\mu\nu} e^{-S_{EH}[g]}$	(?)
"emergent" quantum-gravity (other def., $\approx$ GR)	<i>matrix models</i> $\int_{\text{matrices}} dX e^{-S_{\text{YM}}[X]}$

classical geometry	noncomm. geometry
$\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{M}) = \{f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}\}, \theta^{\mu\nu}$ comm. algebra, metric structure $g_{\mu\nu}$ diff. calculus	$\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}) \cong \text{Mat}(\infty, \mathbb{C})$ NC algebra, e.g. $[x^\mu, x^\nu] = i\theta^{\mu\nu} \mathbf{1}$ Dirac/Laplace operator $\not{D}, \Delta$ NC diff. calculus (A. Connes) <b>matrix geometry:</b> embedding $x^a : \mathcal{M} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^D$
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# The fuzzy sphere

classical  $S^2$  :

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x^a : S^2 &\hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \\ x^a x^a &= 1 \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \mathcal{A} = C^\infty(S^2)$$

fuzzy sphere  $S_N^2$  : (Hoppe, Madore)

let  $X^a \in \text{Mat}(N, \mathbb{C})$  ... 3 hermitian matrices

$$\begin{aligned} [X^a, X^b] &= \frac{i}{\sqrt{C_N}} \varepsilon^{abc} X^c, & C_N &= \frac{1}{4}(N^2 - 1) \\ X^a X^a &= \mathbf{1}, \end{aligned}$$

realized as  $X^a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{C_N}} J^a$  ...  $N$ -dim irrep of  $\mathfrak{su}(2)$  on  $\mathbb{C}^N$ ,  
generate  $\mathcal{A} \cong \text{Mat}(N, \mathbb{C})$  ... alg. of functions on  $S_N^2$

$SO(3)$  action:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{su}(2) \times \mathcal{A} &\rightarrow \mathcal{A} \\ (J^a, \phi) &\mapsto [X^a, \phi] \end{aligned}$$

decompose  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Mat}(N, \mathbb{C})$  into irreps of  $SO(3)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A} = \text{Mat}(N, \mathbb{C}) &\cong (N) \otimes (\bar{N}) = (1) \oplus (3) \oplus \dots \oplus (2N-1) \\ &= \{\hat{Y}_0^0\} \oplus \{\hat{Y}_m^1\} \oplus \dots \oplus \{\hat{Y}_m^{N-1}\}. \end{aligned}$$

... fuzzy spherical harmonics (polynomials in  $X^a$ ); **UV cutoff !**

quantization map:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}: \quad \mathcal{C}(S^2) &\rightarrow \mathcal{A} = \text{Mat}(N, \mathbb{C}) \\ Y_m^l &\mapsto \begin{cases} \hat{Y}_m^l, & l < N \\ 0, & l \geq N \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}(fg) &= \mathcal{I}(f)\mathcal{I}(g) + O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right), \\ \mathcal{I}(i\{f, g\}) &= [\mathcal{I}(f), \mathcal{I}(g)] + O\left(\frac{1}{N^2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Poisson structure  $\{x^a, x^b\} = \frac{2}{N} \varepsilon^{abc} x^c$  on  $S^2$

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integral:  $\frac{4\pi}{N} \text{Tr}(\mathcal{I}(f)) = \int_{S^2} \omega f, \quad \omega = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{abc} x^a dx^b dx^c$

$S_N^2$  ... quantization of  $(S^2, N\omega)$

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$S_N^2$  ... quantization of  $(S^2, N\omega)$

## Coherent states

(Perelomov)

class. geometry: let  $p \in S^2$  ... north pole

$$\begin{aligned} SO(3) &\rightarrow S^2 \\ g &\mapsto g \triangleright p \end{aligned}$$

stabilizer group  $U(1) \subset SO(3) \Rightarrow S^2 \cong SO(3)/U(1)$

fuzzy functions:  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ ,  $\mathcal{H} = |m, L\rangle$ ,  $m = -L, \dots, L$   $N = 2L + 1$

consider group orbit  $(|L, L\rangle \dots \text{highest weight state})$

$$\begin{aligned} SO(3) &\rightarrow \mathcal{H} \\ g &\mapsto |\psi_g\rangle := \pi_N(g)|L, L\rangle \end{aligned}$$

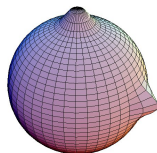
note: projector  $|\psi_g\rangle\langle\psi_g| \in \mathcal{A}$  is independent of  $U(1) \subset SO(3)$

$$\begin{aligned} S^2 \cong SO(3)/U(1) &\rightarrow \mathcal{A} \\ p &\mapsto \Pi_p := |\psi_p\rangle\langle\psi_p| =: 4\pi\delta_N^{(2)}(x - p) \end{aligned}$$

def.  $|p\rangle := |\psi_{g(p)}\rangle \sim |\psi_{g(p)'}\rangle$

can show

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{S^2} |p\rangle\langle p| &= \mathbf{c1} && \text{overcomplete} \\ |\langle p|p'\rangle| &= (\cos(\vartheta/2))^{N-1}, && \vartheta = \angle(p, p') \quad \text{localization } p \approx p' \\ p_a X^a |p\rangle &= |p\rangle \\ \langle p|X^a|p\rangle &= \text{Tr} X^a \Pi_p = p^a \in S^2, \end{aligned}$$



$$X^a \sim x^a : S^2 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

coherent states minimize uncertainty

$$\begin{aligned} (\Delta X^1)^2 + (\Delta X^2)^2 + (\Delta X^3)^2 &= \sum_a \langle p|X^a X^a|p\rangle - \langle p|X^a|p\rangle \langle p|X^a|p\rangle \\ &\geq \frac{N-1}{2C_N} \sim \frac{1}{2N} \end{aligned}$$



## intuition

$S^2 \approx$  "fuzzy common spectrum" of  $X^a \sim x^a : S^2 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$

semi-classical limit:

- $X^a \sim x^a := \langle p | X^a | p \rangle : S^2 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$
- or: replace

$$X^a \rightarrow \mathcal{I}^{-1}(X^a) = x^a, \quad \Phi \rightarrow \mathcal{I}^{-1}(\phi) = \phi(p) \in \mathcal{C}(S^2),$$

$$[\phi, \psi] \rightarrow i\{\phi(p), \psi(p)\}$$

$$\text{error} \sim \frac{1}{N}$$

# local description:

near "north pole"  $|L, L\rangle$ :  $X^3 \approx 1$ ,  $X^1 \approx X^2 \approx 0$

$$X^3 = \sqrt{1 - (X^1)^2 - (X^2)^2}$$

$$[X^1, X^2] = \frac{i}{\sqrt{C_N}} X^3 =: \theta^{12}(X) \approx \frac{2i}{N} \quad \text{cf. Heisenberg algebra!}$$

quantum cell  $\Delta X^1 \Delta X^2 \geq \frac{1}{N}$ , area  $\Delta A \sim \frac{4\pi}{N}$   
 inferred from Poisson structure

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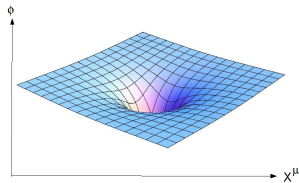
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note: can modify  $X^3 = X^3(X^1, X^2)$

2D submanifolds  $\mathcal{M}^2 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$



# metric structure of fuzzy sphere

$SO(3)$  symmetry  $\Rightarrow$  obviously "round sphere"

metric encoded in NC Laplace operator

$$\square : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}, \quad \square\phi = [X^a, [X^b, \phi]]\delta_{ab}$$

$$SO(3) \text{ invariant: } \square(g \triangleright \phi) = g \triangleright (\square\phi) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \square \hat{Y}_m^l = c_l \hat{Y}_m^l$$

note:  $\square = \frac{1}{C_N} J^a J^a$  on  $\mathcal{A} \cong (N) \otimes (\bar{N}) \cong (1) \oplus (3) \oplus \dots \oplus (2N-1)$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \boxed{\square \hat{Y}_m^l = \frac{1}{C_N} l(l+1) \hat{Y}_m^l}$$

spectrum identical with classical case  $\Delta_g \phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|g|}} \partial_\mu (\sqrt{|g|} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\nu \phi)$

$\Rightarrow$  effective metric of  $\square =$  round metric on  $S^2$

# Symplectomorphisms

$\exists U(N)$  action on  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Mat}(N, \mathbb{C})$ :

$$\phi \rightarrow U\phi U^{-1}$$

infinitesimal version:  $U = e^{i\alpha H}$ ,

$$\phi \rightarrow \phi + i[H, \phi]$$

semi-classical version:

$$\phi \rightarrow \phi + \{H, \phi\}, \quad H \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{M})$$

Hamiltonian VF  $i_X\omega = dH$ , infinites. symplectomorphism on  $(S^2, \omega)$

is area-preserving diffeo:  $dVol = \omega$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_X\omega = (i_X d + d i_X)\omega = 0$

in 2D: all (local ...) APD's

in 4D: special APD's ( $\cong$  action of symplectomorphism group)

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# Scalar field theory on $S_N^2$

consider  $\mathcal{H} := \mathcal{A} = \text{Mat}(N, \mathbb{C})$  ... space of functions on  $S_N^2$

Hilbert space structure:

$$\langle \phi, \phi' \rangle = \frac{4\pi}{N} \text{Tr}(\phi^\dagger \phi) \sim \int_{S^2} \phi^\dagger \phi \quad \text{cf. } \mathcal{H} \approx L^2(S^2)$$

action for free real scalar field  $\phi = \phi^\dagger$ :

$$\begin{aligned} S[\phi] &= \frac{4\pi}{N} \text{Tr}(\phi \square \phi + \mu^2 \phi + \lambda \phi^4) \\ &= \frac{4\pi}{N} \text{Tr}(-[X^a, \phi][X^a, \phi] + \mu^2 \phi + \lambda \phi^4) \\ &\sim \int_{S^2} (\phi \Delta_g \phi + \mu^2 \phi + \lambda \phi^4) \end{aligned}$$

... deformation of classical FT on  $S^2$ , built-in UV cutoff

# scalar QFT on $S_N^2$

most natural: "functional" (matrix) integral approach

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}\phi e^{-S[\phi]}$$

$$\langle \phi_{l_1 m_1} \cdots \phi_{l_n m_n} \rangle = \frac{\int [\mathcal{D}\phi] e^{-S[\phi]} \phi_{l_1 m_1} \cdots \phi_{l_n m_n}}{\int [\mathcal{D}\phi] e^{-S[\phi]}}, \quad [\mathcal{D}\phi] = \prod d\phi_{lm}$$

$$\phi = \sum \phi_{lm} \hat{Y}_m^l$$

... deformation & regularization of (euclid.) QFT on  $S^2$ , UV cutoff

propagator: as usual,  $\langle \phi_{lm} \phi_{l'm'} \rangle = \delta_{l'm'} \frac{1}{l(l+1)+\mu^2}$

vertices:  $V = \lambda \sum \phi_{l_1 m_1} \cdots \phi_{l_n m_n} \text{Tr}(\hat{Y}_{m_1}^{l_1} \cdots \hat{Y}_{m_n}^{l_n})$

perturb. expansion, Gaussian integrals  $\Rightarrow$  Wick's theorem,  
distinction planar  $\leftrightarrow$  nonplanar diagrams



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central feature of NC QFT, obstacle for perturb. renormalization

Note: "functional integral"  $\int \mathcal{D}\phi \exp(\mathcal{S}[\phi])$  very natural:

- $\exists U(N)$  action on  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Mat}(N, \mathbb{C})$ :

$$\phi \rightarrow U\phi U^{-1}$$

( $\cong$  action of symplectomorphism group)

- can diagonalize  $\phi = U^{-1} \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N) U$ , decompose

$$\int \mathcal{D}\phi = \int dU \prod_{i=1}^N d\lambda_i \Delta^2(\lambda_i),$$

$$\Delta(\lambda_j) = \prod_{i < j} (\lambda_i - \lambda_j)$$

- action for scalar field theory NOT invariant under  $U(N)$   
(cf. M.M. approach to 2D gravity)

BUT

- action for gauge theory IS invariant under  $U(N)$  !!! (later)

## scales

$$\boxed{[x, x] \approx \theta \quad \dots \text{ NC length scale,}} \quad \text{e.g. } \theta \sim \frac{R^2}{N} \quad \text{on } S_N^2$$

$$\text{UV cutoff: } \Lambda_{UV} = \frac{N}{R}, \quad \text{IR cutoff: } \Lambda_{IR} = \frac{1}{R}$$

⇒ **3 scales:**

$$\boxed{\Lambda_{IR} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N\theta}} \ll \Lambda_{NC} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\theta}} \ll \Lambda_{UV} = \sqrt{\frac{N}{\theta}}}$$

$$\text{in particular: } \Lambda_{IR} \Lambda_{UV} = \Lambda_{NC}^2 \quad (= \frac{1}{\Delta A})$$

very general: for compact NC spaces:  $\dim \mathcal{H} \sim \text{Vol} < \infty$

⇒ NC implies naturally **large separation of scales!**

product  $\phi_k \phi_l$  semi-classical  $\Leftrightarrow pq \leq \Lambda_{NC}^2$  (uncertainty rel.n)

# "anomalous" aspects in scalar QFT on $S_N^2$

- 1-loop effective action does **NOT** reduce to commutative result for  $N \rightarrow \infty$
- interaction vertices rapidly oscillating, unless  $pq \ll \Lambda_{\text{NC}}^2$   
(loop effects probe area quantum  $\Delta A \sim 1/N$ )
- new physics!

## scaling limits:

- commutative sphere limit  $S_N^2 \rightarrow S^2$

$$X^a \rightarrow RX^a, \quad R = \text{fixed}, \quad N \rightarrow \infty$$

- quantum plane limit:  $S_N^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\theta^2$

$$R = \sqrt{N\theta}, \quad \theta = \text{fixed:}$$

$$z^a = J^a \sqrt{\frac{\theta}{N}} \sim \sqrt{N} X^a$$

consider “north pole” of  $S_N^2$ :

$$[z^1, z^2] = i \frac{\theta}{N} J_3 \quad \stackrel{N \rightarrow \infty}{\approx} i\theta$$

therefore:  $S_N^2$  can be used as regularization of  $\mathbb{R}_\theta^2$

similarly:

compactification of  $\mathbb{R}_\theta^{2n}$  using e.g.  $CP_N^n$ ,  $S_N^2 \times S_N^2$ , etc.

# additional structure on $S_N^2$

- embedding sequence

$$S_N^2 \subset S_{N+1}^2 \subset \dots$$

(map  $\hat{Y}_m^I \rightarrow \hat{Y}_m^I$ ),  $S^2$  recovered in inductive limit

- Dirac operator:

$$\begin{aligned} \not{D}\Psi &= \sqrt{C_N} (\sigma_a[X^a, \cdot] + 1)\Psi, & \chi &= \frac{1}{2}\sigma_a\{X^a, \cdot\} \\ \{\not{D}, \chi\} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

but  $\chi^2 \approx 1$ ,  $\exists$  top mode with  $\chi = 0$

- Jordan-Schwinger:  $X^a = a_\alpha^+ (\sigma^a)_{\alpha\beta}^{\beta} a_\beta$  on  $\mathcal{F}_N = (a^+ \dots a^+ |0\rangle)_N$
- differential calculus:  
differential forms  $\Omega^*(S_N^2)$ , Leibnitz rule etc.

# differential calculus on $S_N^2$

graded bimodule  $\Omega_N^*$  over  $\mathcal{A} = S_N^2$  with

- $d^2 = 0$
- graded Leibnitz rule  $d(\alpha\beta) = d\alpha\beta + (-1)^{|\alpha|}\alpha d\beta$

turns out: radial one-form does not decouple,

$$df = [\omega, f], \quad \omega = -C_N X^a dX^a \quad (\text{cf. Connes})$$

$$\Omega_N^* = \bigoplus_{n=0}^3 \Omega_N^n, \quad \text{need} \quad \Omega_N^3 = f_{abc}(X) dX^a dX^b dX^c$$

can introduce frame:

$$\xi^a = \Omega X^a + \sqrt{C_N} \epsilon^{abc} X^b dX^c, \quad [f(X), \xi^a] = 0 \quad \text{Madore}$$

most general one-form:

$$\begin{aligned} A &= A_a \xi^a \in \Omega_N^1, & A_a &\in \mathcal{A} = \text{Mat}(N, \mathbb{C}) \\ F &= dA + AA = (B_a B_b + i \epsilon_{abc} B_c) \xi^a \xi^b \in \Omega_N^2, \\ B &= \omega + A = (X^a + A^a) \xi^a \in \Omega_N^1 \end{aligned}$$



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# Fuzzy torus $T_N^2$

$$\text{def. } U = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ & & \ddots & & \\ 0 & & \dots & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ & e^{2\pi i \frac{1}{N}} & & & \\ & & e^{2\pi i \frac{2}{N}} & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & e^{2\pi i \frac{N-1}{N}} \end{pmatrix}$$

satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} UV &= qVU, & U^N &= V^N = 1, & q &= e^{2\pi i \frac{1}{N}} \\ [U, V] &= (q-1)VU \end{aligned}$$

generate  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Mat}(N, \mathbb{C})$  ... quantiz. algebra of functions on  $T_N^2$

$\mathbb{Z}_N \times \mathbb{Z}_N$  action:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{Z}_N \times \mathcal{A} &\rightarrow \mathcal{A} && \text{similar other } \mathbb{Z}_N \\ (\omega^k, \phi) &\mapsto U^k \phi U^{-k} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{A} = \bigoplus_{n,m=0}^{N-1} U^n V^m \quad \dots \text{ harmonics}$$

quantization map:

$$\mathcal{I}: \mathcal{C}(T^2) \rightarrow \mathcal{A} = \text{Mat}(N, \mathbb{C})$$

$$e^{in\varphi} e^{im\psi} \mapsto \begin{cases} U^n V^m, & |n|, |m| < N/2 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}(fg) &= \mathcal{I}(f)\mathcal{I}(g) + O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right), \\ \mathcal{I}(i\{f, g\}) &= [\mathcal{I}(f), \mathcal{I}(g)] + O\left(\frac{1}{N^2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Poisson structure  $\{e^{i\varphi}, e^{i\psi}\} = \frac{2}{N} e^{i\varphi} e^{i\psi}$  on  $T^2$  ( $\Leftrightarrow \{\varphi, \psi\} = -\frac{2}{N}$ )

integral:

$$\frac{4\pi^2}{N} \text{Tr}(\mathcal{I}(f)) = \int_{T^2} \omega f, \quad \omega = d\varphi d\psi$$

$T^2_N$  ... quantization of  $(T^2, N\omega)$

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$T^2_N$  ... quantization of  $(T^2, N\omega)$

metric on  $T_N^2$  ? ... “obvious”, need extra structure:

embedding  $T^2 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^4$  via  $x^1 + ix^2 = e^{i\varphi}$ ,  $x^3 + ix^4 = e^{i\psi}$

quantization of embedding maps  $x^a \sim X^a$  : 4 hermitian matrices

$$X^1 + iX^2 := U, \quad X^3 + iX^4 := V$$

satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} [X^1, X^2] &= 0 = [X^3, X^4] \\ (X^1)^2 + (X^2)^2 &= 1 = (X^3)^2 + (X^4)^2 \\ [U, V] &= (q-1)VU \end{aligned}$$

Laplace operator:

$$\begin{aligned} \square\phi &= [X^a, [X^b, \phi]]\delta_{ab} \\ &= [U, [U^\dagger, \phi]] + [V, [V^\dagger, \phi]] = 2\phi - U\phi U^\dagger - U^\dagger\phi U - (qV) \end{aligned}$$

$$\square(U^n V^m) = -([n]_q^2 + [m]_q^2) U^n V^m \sim -(n^2 + m^2) U^n V^m$$

where

$$[n]_q = \frac{q^{n/2} - q^{-n/2}}{q^{1/2} - q^{-1/2}} = \frac{\sin(n\pi/N)}{\sin(\pi/N)} \sim n \quad (\text{“q-number”})$$

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$$\text{spec} \square \approx \text{spec} \Delta_{T^2} \quad \text{below cutoff}$$

therefore:

geometry of (embedded) fuzzy torus  $T_N^2 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^4 = \text{flat}$   
 momentum space is compactified!  $[n]_q$

note: could have started with

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{U}V &= qV\tilde{U}, & \tilde{U}^N = V^N = 1, & & \tilde{q} = e^{2\pi i \frac{k}{N}} \\ [\tilde{U}, V] &= (\tilde{q} - 1)V\tilde{U} \end{aligned}$$

related via  $\tilde{U} = U^k$

generate same  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Mat}(N, \mathbb{C})$  ... quantiz. algebra of functions on  $\tilde{T}_N^2$   
different embedding:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{X}^1 + i\tilde{X}^2 &:= \tilde{U} = U^k = (X^1 + iX^2)^k, \\ X^3 + iX^4 &:= V \end{aligned}$$

related to previous by “winding” map  $\tilde{Z} = Z^k$



compare: noncommutative torus  $T_\theta^2$

Connes

$$UV = qVU, \quad q = e^{2\pi i\theta}$$

$$U^\dagger = U^{-1}, \quad V^\dagger = V^{-1}$$

generate  $\mathcal{A}$  ... algebra of functions on  $T_\theta^2$

note: all  $U^n V^m$  independent,  $\mathcal{A}$  infinite-dimensional

in general non-integral (spectral) dimension, ...

for  $\theta = \frac{p}{q} \in \mathbb{Q}$ :  $\infty$ -dim. center  $\mathcal{C} = \langle U^{nq} V^{mq} \rangle$

fuzzy torus  $T_N^2 \cong T_\theta^2 / \mathcal{C}, \quad \theta = \frac{1}{N}$

center  $\mathcal{C}$  ... infinite sector (“winding modes”)

NC torus  $T_\theta^2$  very subtle, “wild”

fuzzy torus  $T_N^2$  “stable” under deformations

Fuzzy  $\mathbb{C}P^n$ 

(Grosse &amp; Strohmaier, Balachandran et al)

consider

$$\mathbb{C}P^2 = \{g^{-1}\lambda_8 g, \quad g \in SU(3)\} \subset su(3) \cong \mathbb{R}^8 \quad \dots \text{(co)adjoint orbit}$$

$$\lambda_8 = \text{diag}(1, 1, -2)$$

fuzzy version:

$$\mathcal{A} := \mathbb{C}P_N^2 := \mathcal{L}(V_N, \mathbb{C}) = \text{Mat}(d_N, \mathbb{C})$$

 $V_N$  ... irrep of  $su(3)$  w. highest weight  $(N, 0)$ ,  $d_N = \dim V_N$ 

$$X^a = c_N \pi_N(T_a), \quad c_N \approx \frac{R}{N}$$

satisfy the relations

$$[X^a, X^b] = i c_N f^{abc} X^c$$

$$\delta_{ab} X^a X^b = R^2, \quad d^{abc} X^a X^b = R \frac{2N/3+1}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{3}N^2+N}} X^c.$$

again:

- $X^a \sim x^a : \mathbb{C}P^2 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^8$       quantiz. embedding map
- $\exists SU(3)$  action on  $\mathcal{A} \Rightarrow \mathcal{A} \cong \bigoplus_{k=1}^N (k, k)$     (harmonics)  
 $\Rightarrow$  quantization map  $\mathcal{I} : \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{C}P^2) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$   
 ... quantiz. of  $(\mathbb{C}P^2, \omega)$ ,  $\omega$  ... Kirillov–Kostant symplectic form  
 intrinsic UV cutoff
- $\square = [X^a, [X^b, \cdot]] \delta_{ab}$       ...same spectrum as  $\Delta_g$  on  $\mathbb{C}P^2$
- ... goes through for any (compact) coadjoint orbit

# the Moyal-Weyl quantum plane $\mathbb{R}_\theta^2$

$$[X^\mu, X^\nu] = i\theta^{\mu\nu} \mathbf{1}, \quad \mu, \nu = 1, \dots, 2, \quad \theta^{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \theta \\ -\theta & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Heisenberg alg.  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , coord.- functions on  $\mathbb{R}_\theta^2$

uncertainty relations  $\Delta X^\mu \Delta X^\nu \geq |\theta^{\mu\nu}|$

Weyl-quantization:  $\mathcal{I} : \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}^2) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ , Poisson structure  $\theta^{\mu\nu}$

$$\phi(x) = \int d^2k e^{ik_\mu x^\mu} \hat{\phi}(k) \leftrightarrow \int d^2k e^{ik_\mu X^\mu} \hat{\phi}(k) =: \Phi(X) \in \text{Mat}(\infty, \mathbb{C})$$

interpretation:

$X^\mu \in \mathcal{A} \cong \text{Mat}(\infty, \mathbb{C})$  ... quantiz. coord. function on  $\mathbb{R}_\theta^2$   
 $\Phi(X^\mu) \in \text{Mat}(\infty, \mathbb{C})$  ... function ("scalar field") on  $\mathbb{R}_\theta^2$

$$(2\pi) \text{Tr}(\mathcal{I}(\phi)) \sim \int \rho \phi(x), \quad \rho = \sqrt{|\theta_{\mu\nu}^{-1}|}$$

note:

- $\partial_\mu \phi(X) := -i\theta_{\mu\nu}^{-1} [X^\nu, \phi(X)] \sim \partial_\mu \phi(X)$

... inner derivations

- translations:  $U_p := e^{ip_\mu X^\mu},$

$$U\phi(X^\nu)U^{-1} = \phi(X^\nu - \theta^{\mu\nu} p_\mu)$$

translations (**symplectomorphisms!**) are **inner!**

- Laplace operator:  $\square = [X^\mu, [X^\nu, \phi]]\delta_{\mu\nu} \sim -G^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \partial_\nu \phi$

$$G^{\mu\nu} = \theta^{\mu\mu'} \theta^{\nu\nu'} \delta_{\mu'\nu'} \quad (!!)$$

- star product:

$$f \star g := \mathcal{I}^{-1}(\mathcal{I}(f)\mathcal{I}(g)) \quad \dots \quad \text{pull-back algebra}$$

$$(f \star g)(x) = f(x) e^{\frac{i}{2} \theta^{\mu\nu} \overleftarrow{\partial}_\mu \overrightarrow{\partial}_\nu} g(x)$$

... can work on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (will not)

- generalizes immediately to  $\mathbb{R}_\theta^{2n}$

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## Hopf fibration, fuzzy spheres

consider  $\mathbb{R}_\theta^4$ ,  $[y_\mu, y_\nu] = i\theta_{\mu\nu}$ . nondeg  $\rightarrow$  redefine

$$z_1 = y_1 + iy_2, \quad z_2 = y_3 + iy_4$$

$$[z_\alpha, \bar{z}_\beta] = i\delta_{\alpha\beta} \mathbf{1}, \quad [z, z] = 0 = [\bar{z}, \bar{z}] \quad \text{CCR}$$

define

$$X^a = \frac{1}{2} \bar{z}_\alpha \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^a z_\beta, \quad X^0 = \frac{1}{2} \bar{z}_\alpha \sigma^0 z_\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \hat{N}$$

satisfy

$$[X^a, X^b] = i\epsilon^{abc} X^c, \quad [X^0, X^a] = 0$$

$$X^0 = \bar{z}_\alpha z_\alpha, \quad X^a X^a = \frac{1}{4} X^0 (X^0 + 1)$$

rescale  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{C_N}} \rightarrow$  recover  $S_N^2$ :

$$X^a \in \text{End}(\mathcal{H}_N) \cong \text{Mat}(N, \mathbb{C}) \quad \text{on} \quad \mathcal{H}_N = \underbrace{\{a^\dagger \dots a^\dagger | 0\rangle\}}_N \subset \mathcal{F}$$

essentially Hopf fibration  $S^2 \cong \mathbb{C}P^1 \cong S^3/U(1)$

# scalar field theory on $\mathbb{R}_\theta^2$

real scalar field  $\phi = \phi^+ \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$

action functional: e.g.

$$\begin{aligned} S[\phi] &= \text{Tr} \left( \frac{1}{2} [X^\mu, \phi] [X^\nu, \phi] \delta_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} \phi^4 \right) \\ &\sim \int \left( \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{G}^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi + \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} \phi^4 \right) \end{aligned}$$

equations of motion:  $\frac{\delta S}{\delta \phi} = 0$

$$\Delta \phi := -[X^\mu, [X^\nu, \phi]] \delta_{\mu\nu} = m^2 \phi + \lambda \phi^3$$

... see [Grosse's](#) lectures



# lessons

- algebra  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  ... quantized algebra of functions on  $(\mathcal{M}, \omega)$   
no geometrical information (not even **dim**)  
 $\dim(\mathcal{H}) =$  number of “quantum cells”,  $(2\pi)^n \text{Tr } \mathcal{I}(f) \sim \text{Vol}_\omega \mathcal{M}$   
finite-dim.  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Mat}(N, \mathbb{C})$  sufficient for local physics
- every non-deg. fuzzy space locally  $\approx \mathbb{R}_\theta^{2n}$

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contained e.g. in matrix Laplacian  $\square = [X^a, [X^b, \cdot]] \delta_{ab}$

Poisson/symplectic structure encoded in C.R.

how to extract it? general geometries?

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# some spectral geometry

... extract geometric info from Laplace / Dirac op

recall: fuzzy Laplacian  $\square = [X^a, [X^b, \cdot]] \delta_{ab}$

classical case: heat kernel expansion of  $\Delta_g$  on  $(\mathcal{M}, g)$  (compact)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr} e^{-\alpha \Delta_g} &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \alpha^{(n-d)/2} \int_{\mathcal{M}} d^d x \sqrt{|g|} a_n(x) \\ a_0(x) &\sim 1 \\ a_2(x) &\sim -\frac{1}{6} R[g] \end{aligned}$$

$a_n(x)$  ... Seeley-de Witt coefficients (cf. [Gilkey](#))  
physically valuable information on  $\mathcal{M}$ , e.g. 1-loop eff. action

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{1\text{-loop}} &= \text{Tr} \log \Delta_g = -\text{Tr} \int_0^\infty \frac{d\alpha}{\alpha} e^{-\alpha \Delta_g} \rightarrow -\text{Tr} \int_{1/\Lambda^2}^\infty \frac{d\alpha}{\alpha} e^{-\alpha \Delta_g} \\ &= -\sum_{n \geq 0} \int_{1/\Lambda^2}^\infty d\alpha \alpha^{(n-d-2)/2} \int_{\mathcal{M}} d^d x \sqrt{|g|} a_n(x) \\ &= -\sum_{n \geq 0} \int_{\mathcal{M}} d^d x \sqrt{|g|} \left( \frac{1}{2} \Lambda^4 a_0(x) + \Lambda^2 a_2(x) + \log \Lambda^2 a_3 + \dots \right) \end{aligned}$$

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In particular,

$$\mathcal{N}_\Delta(\Lambda) := \#\{\mu^2 \in \text{spec}\Delta_g; \mu^2 \leq \Lambda^2\}.$$

Weyls asymptotic formula

$$\mathcal{N}_\Delta(\Lambda) \stackrel{\Lambda \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} c_d \text{vol}\mathcal{M} \Lambda^d, \quad c_d = \frac{\text{vol}\mathbf{S}^{d-1}}{d(2\pi)^d}.$$

→ (spectral) dimension  $d$  of  $\mathcal{M}$

However:  $\text{spec}\Delta_g$  does not quite determine  $g_{\mu\nu}$  uniquely

works if replace  $\Delta_g \rightarrow$  spectral triple  $(\mathcal{A} = C^\infty(\mathcal{M}), \not{D}, \mathcal{H})$  (Connes)

suitable for generalization to NC space

# Connes Noncommutative Geometry

spectral triple:  $\mathcal{A} \dots \star$  - algebra with

- $\star$ - representation  $\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  on separable Hilbert space
- unbounded selfadjoint operator  $\not{D}$  on  $\mathcal{A}$  with  $(\not{D} - \lambda)^{-1}$  compact such that  $[\not{D}, a]$  bounded  $\forall a \in \mathcal{A}$

Then  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{H}, \not{D}) \dots$  “spectral triple”

$\exists$  various refinements (real spectral triple, ...)

commutative case:  $\not{D} \dots$  standard Dirac op on  $L^2$  spinors

can define differential calculus using  $d = [\not{D}, \cdot]$  (over-simplified)

$\rightarrow$  Connes-Lott interpretation of S.M (Higgs  $\leftrightarrow$  NC 2-point space)

spectral action:  $S_{\text{eff}} := \text{Tr}(\chi(\not{D}^2/\Lambda^2))$

symplectic structure,  $\Lambda_{\text{NC}}$ ,  $\text{Tr} \leftrightarrow \int$  etc. plays no role

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Then  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{H}, \not{D})$  ... “spectral triple”

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for fuzzy spaces:

- $\exists$  intrinsic UV cutoff  $\Lambda_{UV} \sim \frac{N}{R}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  no asymptotic limit:  $\mathcal{N}_\Delta(\Lambda) \sim \Lambda^0$  but

$$\mathcal{N}_\Delta(\Lambda) \sim \text{vol}\mathcal{M} \Lambda^d \quad \text{for } \Lambda < \Lambda_{UV}$$

gives correct dimension  $d = 2$

- $\dim = 0$  in the Connes sense
- chirality operator for  $\not{D} = \sigma_a[X^a, \cdot] + \frac{1}{R}$  problematic
- heat kernel expansion problematic for NC spaces (Gayral et al.)  
 ok if put finite cutoff  $\Lambda = O(\Lambda_{NC})$  (Blaschke-H.S.-Wohlgemant 2010)

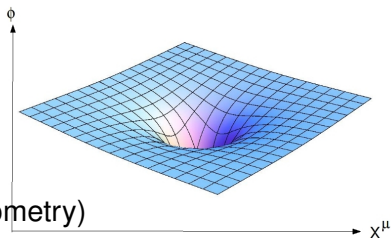
$\rightarrow$  need **Matrix ("fuzzy") geometry:**

# abstraction & generalization:

Q: how to obtain generic matrix (fuzzy) geometries?

A: consider generic *embedded fuzzy spaces*:

$$X^a \sim x^a : \mathcal{M} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^D$$



- inherits pull-back metric (geometry)
- (quantized) Poisson / symplectic structure via  $[X^\mu, X^\nu] = i\theta^{\mu\nu}$
- easy to work with
- noncommutativity **essential**