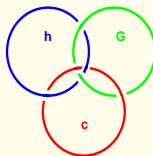


# LQG Dynamics

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Zakopane 2010



# Contents

- **Reduced Phase Space Quantisation**
- Physical Coherent States
- Semiclassical Volume
- Spin Foams on Cubulations
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## Status of Operator Constraint Approach to LQG. I.

- **Hamiltonian Constraint Operator must be non – anomalous**
- $\Rightarrow$  Operator necessarily modifies graph on which it acts
- All semiclassical tools developed so far insufficient to establish correctness of semiclassical limit
- Group averaging of Hamiltonian constraints too difficult due to  $\infty$  no. of constraints
- $\Rightarrow$  physical HS not under sufficient control
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- Use suitable matter in order to gauge fix  $\Leftrightarrow$  pass to the reduced phase space (**Higgsing the diffeo group**)
- Quantise directly the reduced phase space
- No constraints, no anomalies, no group averaging any more
- All phase space variables are Dirac observables
- The chosen HS rep. **is the physical HS**
- Automatically get physical, true Hamiltonian
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## Words of Caution:

- In order to obtain manageable expressions, scalar fields are preferred (using geometrical scalars leads to spatially non local expressions)
- While physical Higgs/SUSY/Dark Matter offer scalar fields, may not be realised in nature
- On the other hand, anyway Higgsed away, only influences the algebraic form of physical Hamiltonian, see next talk
- Have to make consistent restrictions on the phase space of the matter field in order that gauge fixing well defined
- In particular, scalar field must fill all spacetime (never and nowhere vanishing energy density)
- Despite these restrictions, this is a relatively small price to pay compared to the complications associated with operator constraint
- Strategy: Use mathematically convenient matter model to begin with to establish in – principle – proof, later refine physics of matter model

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# Brown – Kuchař Scalars

- Imagine universe filled with test observers (non interacting point particles) in geodesic motion
- Specifying metric tensor (and observable matter fields) relative to these observers are Dirac observables
- Problem: test observers are mathematical idealisation, hence must couple point particles to gravity
- Solution: Brown – Kuchař Lagrangian

$$L_{\text{BK}} = \sqrt{|\det(g)|} \rho [g^{\mu\nu} U_\mu U_\nu + 1], \quad U_\mu = -\nabla_\mu T + W_j \nabla_\mu S^j$$

- Consistent (gauge invariant) restriction:  $\det(\partial S/\partial x) \neq 0$

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## Summary of a long analysis:

- Reduced phase space coordinatised by usual gravitational conjugate pair  $(A_a^j, E_j^a)$  (and standard matter) subject only to Gauß constraint **but no longer to spatially diffeo constraint and Hamiltonian constraint!**
- Physical Hamiltonian

$$H = \int d^3x \sqrt{|C^2 - q^{ab} C_a C_b|}$$

- Is invariant under **active diffeos, no gauge diffeos**
- Motivates to choose AIL representation as **Physical Hilbert space**
- H can be quantised using standard techniques

$$H T_\gamma = \sum_{v \in V(\gamma)} H_{\gamma,v} T_\gamma; \quad H_{\gamma,v} = \sqrt{|C_{\gamma,v}^2 - [C_{\gamma,v}^j]^2|}$$

- Since  $H\mathcal{H}_\gamma \subset \mathcal{H}_\gamma$ , can establish semiclassical limit [Giesel's talk]
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- Perelomov coherent states for  $SU(2)$  [Livine, Speziale 07] and partly  $SU(1,1)$  [Conrady, Hnybida 10] enter FK model
- Hall coherent states for  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  [Bianchi, Magliaro, Perrini 10] for twisted geometries [Freidel, Krasnov, Livine 09], [Freidel, Speziale 10]
- Hall coherent states were used 15y before already in LQG to provide Segal – Bargmann representation [Ashtekar, Lewandowski, Marolf, Mourão, TT 95]
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## The LQG coherent states were severely criticised by SF researchers eg

- In [Bianchi, Magliaro, Perrini 10]  
“However, the geometric interpretation of the  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  labels [of the STW states] and the relation with semiclassical states used in Spin Foams has largely remained unexplored.”
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“However, [the STW states] also have significative limitations, which in particular include difficulties with projecting them at the gauge invariant level [Bahr, TT 08], as well as severe restrictions on the topology of the graph [Flori, TT 08]. Another open point, of interest to us, is the lack of a direct geometric interpretation of the labels at the gauge-invariant level.”
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  - Complexifier Machine precisely tells precisely the geometric interpretation of the  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  labels involved
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# Complexifier Machine

Given a phase space  $\mathcal{M} = T^*(Q)$ :

- Choose some function  $C(q, p)$  s.t. i.  $C \geq 0$  and  $C = 0 \Leftrightarrow \|p\| = 0$  ii.  $\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} C/\|p\| = \infty$  iii.  $[C/\hbar]$  dimensionfree

- Define complex polarisation of phase space

$$z(q, p) := \exp(-i X_C) \cdot q$$

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### Theorem

- annihilation operator eigenstates  $z \psi_{q,p} = z(q,p) \psi_{q,p}$
- Unquenched, minimal uncertainty states for  
 $x = [z + z^\dagger]/2, y = -i[z - z^\dagger]/2$
- Peaked at  $x(p,q) = \Re(z(p,q)), y(p,q) = \Im(z(p,q))$
- Ehrenfest property  $\langle [z, z^\dagger] \rangle_{p,q} = i\hbar \{z, z^*\}(q,p)$
- Resolution of identity

$$\mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{H}} = \int_{\mathcal{M}} d\nu(z, z^*) |\psi_z\rangle \langle \psi_z|$$

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Harmonic oscillator:  $C \propto p^2/2$   
Hall model  $C \propto \text{Tr}(p^2)/2$   
KG field:  $C \propto \int d^3x \pi \sqrt{-\Delta + (m/c\hbar)^2}^{-1} \pi$   
Maxwell field  $C \propto \int d^3x E_{\perp}^a \sqrt{-\Delta}^{-1} E_{\perp}^a$   
Varadarajan r-Fock states  $C \propto \int d^3x E_{fr\perp}^a \sqrt{-\Delta}^{-1} E_{fr\perp}^a$
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- Let us also make this Ansatz and see what we get!

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- Fix partition  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $\Sigma$  into polyhedra  $p$  with faces  $S$
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$$C := \frac{1}{2\kappa} \sum_{S \in \partial \mathcal{P}} \frac{1}{L_S^2} [E^j(S)]^2$$

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$$\delta_A = \sum_s T_s(A) \langle T_s, \cdot \rangle$$

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$$Z[A, E](x) = e^{-iX_C} \cdot A(x)$$

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$$\psi_{A,E} = [e^{-C/\hbar} \delta_{A'}]_{A' \rightarrow Z(A,E)}$$

- Notice: Coherent state depends on phase space point  $(A,E)$  of classical continuum phase space
- Problem:  $\|\psi_{A,E}\| = \infty$  since  $\mathcal{H}_{AIL}$  not separable, however  $\|\psi_{\gamma;A,E}\| < \infty$  where cut – off states (shadow states [Ashtekar, Lewandowski 01])

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- $\psi_{\gamma;A,E}$  quite involved for general  $\gamma$ , but simplifies for  $\gamma$  dual to  $\mathcal{P}$
- In particular, for any  $e \in E(\gamma)$  get **explicit interpretation of  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  labels**

$$g_e := [A'(e)]_{A' \rightarrow Z(A,E)} =: Z[A, E](e) = A(e_1) \exp(E(S_e)/L_{S_e}^2) A(e_2)$$

- Notice: Do not need to **guess** interpretation of  $g_e$ , follows unambiguously from C! Compare with [Freidel, Speziale 10]
- $g_e = g_e(A, E)$  function on **phase space of the continuum, not some discretisation thereof**. To compute PB between  $g_e$ 's use continuum. Of course: compatible with holonomy flux algebra



- Notice: Interpretation of  $z(q, p)$  crucial, otherwise coherent st. useless
- Example: Take harm. osc. coherent states

$$|z\rangle_1 = e^{-|z|^2/2} \sum_n \frac{z^n}{\sqrt{n!}} |n\rangle_1, \quad l^2 = \frac{\hbar}{m\omega}$$

- Correct interpretation  $z(q, p) = q - ip l^2/\hbar$
- Suppose you do not know  $C_l$  and choose random interpretation  $z'(q, p) = q^3/l^2 - ip l^2/\hbar$
- Then violate Ehrenfest property (wrong symplectic structure)

$$\langle \psi_{z'(q,p)}, q \psi_{z'(q,p)} \rangle = \frac{q^3}{l^2}, \quad \langle \psi_{z'(q,p)}, p \psi_{z'(q,p)} \rangle = \frac{l^2}{12} p$$

$$\langle \psi_{z'(q,p)}, \frac{[p, q]}{i\hbar} \psi_{z'(q,p)} \rangle = 1 \neq \{ \langle p \rangle, \langle q \rangle \} = 3 \frac{q^2}{l^2}$$

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- Only interpretation on a single graph dual to some polyhedral (simplicial) partition (which one?)
- Only interpretation in terms of discretised phase space (no continuum)
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$$g_e = n_{e,b(e)} \exp([j_e - i\xi_e] \sigma_3 / 2) n_{e,f(e)}^{-1}, \quad n_{e,p} = n_{e,p}^j \sigma_j, \quad [n_{e,p}^j]^2 = 1$$

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**Theorem** [Sahlmann, TT, Winkler 00]

i. Let  $\gamma$  be dual to  $\mathcal{P}$  then with  $t_e = \ell_p^2 / L_e^2$

$$\psi_{\gamma;A,E} = \otimes_e \psi_{e;A,E}, \quad \psi_{e;A,E} = \sum_j d_j e^{-t_e j(j+1)/2} \chi_j(\mathbf{g}_e(A, E) \cdot)$$

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- Notice: in [Freidel, Speziale 10] PB for local coordinates  $\xi_e, \mathbf{j}_e, \mathbf{n}_{e,b(e)}, \mathbf{n}_{e,f(e)}$  derived from PB for  $X_e, \mathbf{h}_e$  (precise match)
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- **There is really nothing new! All the theorems and calculations from STW can be literally copied.**
- In particular: **literally all** the calculations in [Bianchi, Magliaro, Perrini 10] have already been done (and much, much more)
- Gauß group averaging carried out explicitly in [Bahr, TT 07] does not get simplified by switching to new variables
- At this stage, there is no restriction at all on  $\gamma$ , it may not even be dual to any triangulation
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No **Regge constraints** [Dittrich, Ryan 07] arise in LQG because we are not on a fixed (dual) triangulation, all graphs and all surfaces must be allowed to obtain closed holonomy flux algebra like in the classical theory, there is no overcounting of dof



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## Recall

- Volume operator plays pivotal role to define quantum dynamics of LQG and LQC (**singularity avoidance!**), in particular to define co-triad – like operators
- Two volume operators have been proposed [Rovelli, Smolin 95], [Ashtekar, Lewandowski 95]
- Only AL Volume passes the triad test [Giesel, TT 05]

$$V(R) = \int_R d^3x \sqrt{|\det(E)|} \Leftrightarrow E(S) = \int_S \text{sgn}(\det(E)) \{A, V\} \wedge \{A, V\}$$

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- **Want to consider graphs of arbitrary valence  $n$**
- Coherent states manageable only when graph dual to partition
- Choose regular partition in terms of tetrahedra  $n=4$ , cubes  $n=6$ , octahedra  $n=8$
- Compute expectation value to zeroth order in  $\hbar$
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- Let  $P_0$  standard polyhedron in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with standard faces  $S_0$  and  $Y : P_0 \rightarrow P$  embedding
- Classical volume for sufficiently small polyhedra

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- Likewise classical flux

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- Accordingly

$$\langle V(P) \rangle \approx \sqrt{|\det([Y^* E_j](v_P))|} \times \sqrt{\frac{1}{8} \sum_{1 \leq A < B < C \leq n} \sigma(e_A, e_B, e_C) \epsilon^{IJK} F_I(S_0^A) F_J(S_0^B) F_K(S_0^C)}$$



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- One expects  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \kappa_n = \infty$  **too many triples contribute, overcounting**
- Cubic graphs dynamically preferred in the semiclassical limit
- One cannot temper with  $1/48$  (co-triad test)
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Based on [Baratin, Flori, TT 08]

- Big issue in SFM: correct implementation of simplicity constraint
- In principle easy: Integrate over Plebanski Lagrange multiplier

$$Z := \int [DA DB D\lambda] e^{i \int [\text{Tr}(B \wedge F) + \lambda^\alpha S_\alpha(B)]} = \int [DA DB] \delta[S(B)] e^{i \int [\text{Tr}(B \wedge F)]}$$

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## Idea:

- If we honestly want to impose the simplicity constraint we must keep  $\delta[S(B)]$
- Solving the  $\delta$  distribution leads back to the Palatini – Holst action modulo measure factors, see next topic
- Might as well start with Holst PI

$$Z = \int [DA De] e^{i \int \text{Tr}(F_\gamma \wedge e \wedge e)}$$

- As pointed out in [Mikovic 05]: integral over  $e$  is **oscillatory Gaussian**, can be performed
- Care is due, since result depends critically on signature of  $16 \times 16$  matrix  $F_\gamma$
- One ends up with a final integral of the form

$$Z = \int [DA] \left[ \frac{e^{i\pi \text{ind}(F_\gamma)/4}}{\sqrt{|\det(F_\gamma)|}} \right]$$

- Upon discretisation, a new spin foam model is born **with no manifest similarity to EPR or FK**

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## Details

- As motivated by previous topic, discretise on cubulation, works for either signature
- Every manifold can be cubulated
- For sufficiently nice manifolds (admitting finite atlas) choose an atlas and consider its stratification
- Choose a regular cubulation (like in lattice gauge theory) in the interior of any chart (away from lower dimensional strata) and invent some gluing cubulation in the neighbourhood of the lower dimensional strata
- Non – regular “boundary” cubes contribute little as compared “bulk” cubes
- Use naive continuum limit as in lattice gauge theory rather than sum over cubulations
- Discretise both tetrads and connections on 1 – skeleton of cubulation  
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- Regular cubulation: vertices  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{Z}^4$ , directions  $\mu = 0, 1, 2, 3$ , links  $l_\mu(\mathbf{v})$ , plaquettes

$$\partial f_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{v}) = l_\mu(\mathbf{v}) \circ l_\nu(\mathbf{v} + \mu) \circ l_\mu(\mathbf{v} + \nu)^{-1} \circ l_\nu(\mathbf{v})^{-1}$$

- Discrete variables

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$$S = \frac{1}{2\kappa} \sum_{\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{Z}^4} e_\mu^I(\mathbf{v}) e_\nu^J(\mathbf{v}) G^{\mu\nu}{}_{IJ}(\mathbf{v})$$

- Use compound index  $A = (\mu, I)$ ,  $B = (\nu, J)$  then **block diagonal**

$$\frac{S}{\hbar} = \frac{1}{2\ell_p^2} \sum_{\mathbf{v}} e^T(\mathbf{v}) G(\mathbf{v}) e(\mathbf{v})$$

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$$Z(j) = \int \left[ \prod_{v, \mu} [d\mu_H(A(I_\mu(v))) [d^4 e_\mu(v)]] \right] e^{\frac{i}{2\ell_P^2} \sum_v e^T(v) G(v) e(v)} e^{i \sum_v j^T(v) e(v)}$$

- Integrating out tetrad yields

$$Z(j) = \int \left[ \prod_{v, \mu} [d\mu_H(A(I_\mu(v)))] \right] \left[ \prod_v \frac{e^{i\pi \text{ind}(G(v))/4}}{\sqrt{|\det(G)(v)|}} \right] e^{-i \frac{\ell_P^2}{2} \sum_v j^T(v) G^{-1}(v) j(v)}$$

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## Remarks:

- Looks like generating functional for free field theory
- But not a quasi – free “state” because of averaging over G
- Wick identities hold in averaged sense, all odd n – point functions vanish
- “Graviton propagator” from 4 – point function

$$\langle g_{\mu_1\nu_1}(v_1) g_{\mu_2\nu_2}(v_2) \rangle = \ell_P^4 \langle \text{Tr}([G(v_1)^{-1}]_{\mu_1\nu_1} [G(v_2)^{-1}]_{\mu_2\nu_2}) \rangle'$$

- If wanted, can formally expand in terms of irreps  
⇒ octagon diagramme (involves 48 irreps of Spin(4) or Spin(1,3))
- To make contact with LQG HS have to gauge fix (time gauge)
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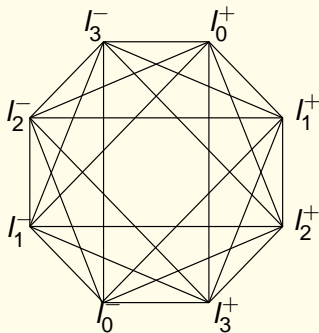
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Octagon diagramme for vertex amplitude:  
8 corners = adjacent edges, 24 lines between corners = plaquettes using those edges



# Path Integrals from Canonical Quantisation

- The only safe route to a path integral formulation with manifest relation to canonical theory starts from the reduced phase space
- Studied by Field theorists in great detail, e.g. [Henneaux, Teitelboim 95]
- Special care for gauge theories with 2nd class constraints
- It is possible to unfold the path integral to the kinematical phase space, but generically this leads to corrections to the naive measure, formally ( $q', p'$  kinematical phase space coordinates not including Lagrange multipliers)

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- Gauge fixing conditions  $G$  (clocks and rods) select preferred true degrees of freedom  $Q$  (Dirac observables)
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## Results for Holst action

- Explicit computation of  $\rho$  performed for Holst action [Engle, Han, TT 09] to make contact with new spin foam models
- Result (full phase space variables: tetrad and connection)

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- As expected, measure factor  $\rho$  **not covariant**
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