

# Reduced Dynamics of General Relativity & Semiclassical Limit of Reduced Quantum Dynamics

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## Part I: Reduced Dynamics of GR

- Reduced phase space for GR by means of four massless Klein – Gordon scalar fields
- (Naive) LQC generalisation
- One massive scalar field & Dirac quantisation for diffeo [\[Domagala's talk\]](#)
- More general action involving scalar fields, Dirac quantisation techniques [\[Kuchar, Torre\]](#)
- Similarities and differences to BK dust Model

## Part II: Semiclassical Limit

- Quantum dynamics generated by physical Hamiltonian
- How to compute semiclassical expectation values
- Idea of Semiclassical perturbation theory

- Part I: Reduced Dynamics of GR
  1. Choose reference matter fields
  2. Derive equivalent set of constraints adapted to reference fields
  3. Construct observables and physical Hamiltonian  $H_{\text{phys}}$
- This can then be used as starting point for quantisation

## Dynamics in General Relativity

- Dynamics in GR at gauge invariant level: Relational formulation
- Introduction of reference fields maps GR into a true Hamiltonian system
- $H_{\text{can}} \approx 0$  whereas  $H_{\text{phys}} \neq 0$
- Conceptual clearer way to make contact to sectors where dynamical effects of (quantum) gravity is negligible
- This allows to access directly the physical Hilbert space in the QT

## Matter reference fields

- Complete quantum model for GR coupled to BK dust exist [K.G., T.Thiemann 0711.0119]
- Current LQC models use K.G. scalar field clock
- Also standard Higgs mechanism uses scalar fields, however with Mexican hat potential
- The reference fields can be used to reduce the constraints of GR classically (Goldstone bosons)
- Will BK mechanism also work?
- Deparametrisation: Generator of evolution is time independent
- How does the corresponding  $H_{\text{phys}}$  look like for full GR?

## GR coupled to four scalar fields

- Action

$$S = S^g + S^m + S^{\text{cl}} = S^g + S^m + \int d^4X \sum_{J=0}^3 \sqrt{|\det(g_{\mu\nu})|} g^{\mu\nu} \varphi_\mu^J \varphi_\nu^J$$

- Perform (3+1) split, then we have  $(p_A, q^A)$  and  $(\pi_J, \varphi^J)$
- Constraints:

$$c^{\text{tot}} = c^g + c^m + c^{\varphi^J} =: c + \sum_{J=0}^3 \frac{\pi_J^2}{2\sqrt{\det(q)}} + \frac{\sqrt{\det(q)}}{2} \varphi_a^J \varphi_b^J q^{ab}$$

$$c_a^{\text{tot}} = c_a^g + c_a^m + c_a^{\varphi^J} =: c_a + \sum_{J=0}^3 \pi_J \varphi_{,a}^J$$

- Solve constraints for clock momenta, then  $\tilde{c}_J = \pi_J + h_J \quad J = 0, \dots, 3$

## Reference system

- $\varphi^j$  good reference system if  $\det(\varphi_\mu^J) \neq 0 \quad J, \mu = 0, \dots, 3$
- Diffeo:  $\varphi_j^a \varphi_b^j = \delta_b^a \quad j = 1, 2, 3$

$$\pi_j = \varphi_{,a}^j (c_a + \pi_0 \varphi_{,a}^0)$$

- Reinsert  $\pi_j$  into  $c^{\text{tot}}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \pi_0^2 + \sum_j \varphi_j^a \varphi_j^b (c_b + \pi_0 \varphi_{,b}^0)(c_a + \pi_0 \varphi_{,a}^0) + 2\sqrt{\det(q)}c \\ &\quad + \det(q) \sum_J q^{ab} \varphi_{,a}^J \varphi_{,b}^J \end{aligned}$$

- quadratic equation for  $\pi_0$

# Solving constraints for the momenta

## Equivalent set of constraints



$$c^{\text{tot}} = \pi_0 + h(q, p, \varphi^J) \quad c_j^{\text{tot}} = \pi_j + h_j(q, p, \varphi^J)$$

$$h_j = \varphi_{,a}^j (c_a + \pi_0 \varphi_{,a}^0)$$

$$h = -\frac{a}{2c} \pm \frac{1}{2c} \sqrt{a^2 - 4c^2 b}$$

$$a = \sum_j \varphi_b^0 \varphi_j^b \varphi_j^a c_a, \quad c = 1 + \sum_j \varphi_a^0 \varphi_b^0 \varphi_j^a \varphi_j^b$$

$$b = 2\sqrt{\det(q)}c + \sum_j \varphi_j^a \varphi_j^b c_a c_b + \det(q) q^{ab} \sum_J \varphi_{,a}^J \varphi_{,b}^J$$

- We chose  $\pm$  for  $\pi_0$  such that  $0 \leq \dot{\varphi}^0 = \frac{N\pi_0}{\sqrt{\det(q)}}$ ,  $\pi_0 \geq 0$ , hence  $N \geq 0$



# Comparison with BK dust model

## BK dust model

- Recall four scalar fields  $(P, T), (P_j, S^j) \quad j = 1, \dots, 3$

$$c^{\text{tot}} = P + h(q, p) \quad c_j^{\text{tot}} = P_j + h_j(q, p, T, S^j)$$

- Here all dust field dependence cancels in  $h$ , mainly due to the fact that  $P_j = W_j P$
- Deparametrisation: time independent physical Hamiltonian  $H_{\text{phys}}$

## Scalar field model

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$$c^{\text{tot}} = \pi_0 + h(q, p, \varphi^0, \varphi^j) \quad c_j^{\text{tot}} = \pi_j + h_j(q, p, \varphi^0, \varphi^j)$$

- Here clock fields occur in  $h$  and  $h_j$
- However, only in form of spatial derivative, this helps, different for instance for massless scalar fields

## 1.) Spatial diff'-invariant quantities

- Pull back from coord. manifold  $\mathcal{M}$  to scalar field manifold  $\mathcal{S}$

$$q_{ab} \rightarrow q_{ij} := q_{ab} \varphi_i^a \varphi_j^b, \quad p^{ab} \rightarrow p^{ij} := \det(\partial \varphi^j / \partial x^i) p^{ab} \varphi_a^i \varphi_b^j$$

- $\tilde{q}_{ij}(\sigma, t) = \int_{\mathcal{M}} d^3x |\det(\partial \varphi^j(x) / \partial x^i)| \delta(\varphi^j(x), \sigma^j) q_{ab}(x) \varphi_i^a(x) \varphi_j^b(x)$
- local in  $\sigma$  but non - local in  $x$
- $\varphi_a^k \rightarrow \delta_j^k$  and  $\varphi_a^0 \rightarrow \tilde{\varphi}_j^0$
- Hence  $\tilde{h} = h(\tilde{q}, \tilde{p}, \tilde{\varphi}^0)$  and  $\tilde{h}_j = h_j(\tilde{q}, \tilde{p}, \tilde{\varphi}^0)$
- again only spatial derivative of the clock field  $\varphi^0$  are involved

## 2.) Full Observables

- $Q_{ij}(\sigma, \tau) = \exp(\int_S d^3\sigma \beta \{ \tilde{c}^{\text{tot}}, \cdot \}) \cdot \tilde{q}_{ij}(t, \sigma) \Big|_{\beta=\tau-\varphi^0}$
- More complicated than in the dust case due to  $\varphi_j^0$  terms in  $\tilde{h}$
- Similar situation here: Physical Hamiltonian

$$H_{\text{phys}} = \int_S d^3\sigma H(\sigma) \quad \text{with}$$

$$H(\sigma) = \sqrt{-\left(2\sqrt{\det(Q)}C + C_j C_k \delta^{jk} + \det(Q)Q^{ij}\delta_{ij}\right)}$$

# Comparison of dynamics with BK dust model

## BK dust model



$$H_{\text{phys}} = \int_S d^3\sigma H(\sigma) \quad \text{with} \quad H(\sigma) = \sqrt{C^2 - Q^{ij}C_i C_j}$$

## Scalar field model



$$H_{\text{phys}} = \int_S d^3\sigma H(\sigma) \quad \text{with}$$

$$H(\sigma) = \sqrt{-\left(2\sqrt{\det(Q)}C + C_j C_k \delta^{jk} + \det(Q)Q^{ij}\delta_{ij}\right)}$$

## Quantisation using LQG techniques

- Hamiltonian density

$$H(\sigma) = \sqrt{-\left(2\sqrt{\det(Q)}C + C_j C_k \delta^{jk} + \det(Q)Q^{ij}\delta_{ij}\right)}$$

- In LQG representation finite diffeos  $\hat{U}(\phi)$  are not weakly continuous
- Consequently, infinitesimal diffeos  $\hat{C}_j$  cannot be implemented
- $H_{\text{phys}}$  for scalar field clocks cannot be promoted to an operator in  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{LQG}}$
- Is this a problem? No
- Because One could also use Dirac quantisation for diffeos [[Domagala's talk](#)]
- However, it shows that they are classical clocks that are not allowed in QG if LQG representation is used

- Part II: Semiclassical Limit

- Once we have an operator  $\hat{H}_{\text{phys}}$  we would like to analyse its semiclassical limit,  $\langle \psi, \hat{H}_{\text{phys}} \psi \rangle$
- Details on coherent states [[Bahr's talk](#)]
- $H_{\text{phys}}$  involves Volume operator
- Semiclassical Computation not possible analytically, approximation techniques necessary  
→ Semiclassical perturbation theory
- Discuss semiclassical perturbation theory for the example of  $\hat{H}_{\text{phys}}$  in the dust model

## Operator for $\hat{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{phys}}$

- Physical Hamiltonian  $\hat{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{phys}}$ ,  $\tau_{\mu} = (1, \tau_j)$

$$\hat{\mathbf{H}}_{\text{phys}} = \frac{\hbar}{\ell_{\text{P}}^4} \sum_{v \in V(\alpha)} \sqrt{\left| \sum_{\mu=0}^4 \eta^{\mu\mu} \left[ \sum_{a=1}^3 \text{Tr} \left( \tau_{\mu} \mathbf{A}(\alpha_v^a) \mathbf{A}(e_v^a) [\mathbf{A}(e_v^a)^{-1}, \mathbf{V}_v] \right) \right] \right|^2}$$

- Volume operator:

$$\mathbf{V}_v = \sqrt{|\epsilon_{abc} \text{Tr}(\mathbf{E}(S_v^a) \mathbf{E}(S_v^b) \mathbf{E}(S_v^c))|}$$

- Here two problems:
  1. Square root
  2. Volume operator

## Problem 1. and 2.

- Discuss problem 2. related to Volume operator
- Problem 1. is then just a special application of the techniques developed for volume operator
- Problem 2. also occurs for Master constraint operator



## Problem with SU(2) Calculations

- $H_{\text{phys}}$  involves  $\sqrt{|\hat{O}_v|}$

We want to calculate

$$\langle \psi, \hat{\mathbf{M}}_v \psi \rangle \sim \langle \psi, \mathfrak{h}_\alpha \mathfrak{h}[h^{-1}, \sqrt{\mathbf{V}_v}] \psi, \mathfrak{h}_\alpha \mathfrak{h}[h^{-1}, \sqrt{\mathbf{V}_v}] \psi \rangle$$

$$\langle \psi, \hat{O}_v \psi \rangle \sim \langle \psi, \mathfrak{h}_\alpha \mathfrak{h}[h^{-1}, \mathbf{V}_v] \psi, \mathfrak{h}_\alpha \mathfrak{h}[h^{-1}, \mathbf{V}_v] \psi \rangle$$

- of general form  $\langle \psi, p_1(h) F_1(\mathbf{V}_v) p_2(h) F_2(\mathbf{V}_v) p_3(h) \psi \rangle$
- Volume operator

$$V_v := \ell_p^3 \sqrt{\left| \frac{1}{48} \sum_{e_1 \cap e_2 \cap e_3 = v} \epsilon_v(e_1, e_2, e_3) \epsilon^{ijk} E_i(e_1) E_j(e_2) E_k(e_3) \right|}$$

- $V_v := \sqrt{|Q_v|}$ , then  $V_v = (Q_v^2)^{\frac{1}{4}}$ ,  $\sqrt{V_v} = (Q_v^2)^{\frac{1}{8}}$   
in general  $F_I(V_v) := (Q_v^2)^{q_I}$
- **Problem:** We cannot calculate  $\langle \psi (Q_v^2)^{q_I} \psi \rangle$  analytically

## Naive Idea for approximation

- red not computable, green computable
- Define:

$$x_I := \frac{Q_v^2}{\langle \psi, Q_v \psi \rangle^2} - 1$$

- The operator  $x_I$  is bounded from below,  $x_I \geq -1$
- $\langle \psi, Q_v \psi \rangle$ ,  $\langle \psi, Q_v^n \psi \rangle$  can be computed exactly [Winkler, Thiemann]
- Functions of volume operator

$$F_I(V_v) = (Q_v^2)^{q_I} = |\langle \psi, Q_v \psi \rangle|^{2q_I} f_I(x_I), \quad f_I(x_I) = (1 + x_I)^{q_I}$$

- Power expansion of  $t \mapsto f(t) = (1 + t)^q$ ,  $-1 \leq t < \infty$

$$f(t) := 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \binom{q}{n} t^n, \quad \binom{q}{n} = (-1)^{n+1} \frac{q(1-q) \dots (n-1+q)}{n!}$$

Expansion in terms of  $x_I$  operator

- Use the spectral theorem for operator valued function  $f_I(x_I)$

$$\begin{aligned} f_I(x_I) &= \int_{-1}^{\infty} f_I(t) dE(t) = \int_{-1}^{\infty} \left[ 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \binom{q}{n} t^n \right] dE(t) \\ &= \left[ 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \binom{q}{n} x_I^n \right] \end{aligned}$$

where  $E$  is the projection valued measure associated with  $x_I$ .

- Coherent state matrix elements of  $x_I, x_I^n$  are computable  
[Winkler, Thiemann]
- Of course, the second equality is wrong if  $t \notin (-1, 1)$  !
- Naive idea false, must be substituted by a rigorous argument.

## Rigorous Argument

- For each  $k \geq 0$  there exists  $0 < \beta_k < \infty$ , such that

$$f_I^- := f_{2k+1}(t) - \beta_k t^{2k+2} \leq f(t) \leq f_{2k+1}(t) =: f_I^+$$

for  $-1 \leq t < \infty$  where  $f_k(t)$  denotes the partial Taylor series of  $f(t) = (1+t)^q$ ,  $0 < q \leq \frac{1}{4}$  up to to order  $t^k$ .

- Polarisation identity

$$\Re(\langle \psi_1, f_I \psi_2 \rangle) = \frac{1}{4} (\underbrace{\langle \psi_1 + \psi_2, f_I \psi_1 + \psi_2 \rangle}_{\psi_+} - \underbrace{\langle \psi_1 - \psi_2, f_I \psi_1 - \psi_2 \rangle}_{\psi_-})$$

- Estimation ( $f_I^\pm$  are computable!)

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{4} \langle \psi_+, f_I^- \psi_+ \rangle - \langle \psi_-, f_I^+ \psi_- \rangle \\ & \leq \Re(\langle \psi_1, f_I \psi_2 \rangle) \leq \frac{1}{4} (\langle \psi_+, f_I^+ \psi_+ \rangle - \langle \psi_-, f_I^- \psi_- \rangle) \end{aligned}$$

- Define

$$\bar{f} := \frac{1}{2}(f_+ + f_-), \quad \Delta f := \frac{1}{4}(f_+ - f_-)$$

- $\Delta f$  is proportional to fluctuation of operator  $Q$  with  $f := (Q^2)^q$
- Then one can show

$$\left| \Re \langle \psi_1, (f - \bar{f}) \psi_2 \rangle \right| \leq \langle \psi_+, \Delta f \psi_+ \rangle - \langle \psi_-, \Delta f \psi_+ \rangle$$

- Idea: Even if we cannot compute  $\langle \psi, f \psi \rangle$ ,  $\bar{f}$  is good approximation provided matrix elements of  $\Delta f$  are small
- If necessary iterative use of above estimation, these terms are of higher order in  $\hbar$

## Application of estimation

- Consider  $f := (Q^2)^q$

$$f = \lambda^q (1 + (Q^2 - \lambda)/\lambda)^q = \lambda^q (1 + x)^q, \quad \lambda^q := \langle \psi Q^2 \psi \rangle$$

- Define (k=0) case:

$$f_+ := \lambda^q (1 + qx), \quad f_- := \lambda^q (1 + qx - (1 - q)x^2)$$

- Consider coherent state  $\psi$ , then

$$\langle \psi f_+ \psi \rangle = \lambda^q \quad \text{and} \quad \langle \psi f_- \psi \rangle = \lambda^q (1 - (1 - q)[(1/\lambda^2) \langle \psi Q^4 \psi \rangle - 1])$$

- Hence  $\langle \psi, f \psi \rangle = \langle \psi, Q^2 \psi \rangle^q + o(\hbar)$
- Means: If we are interested only in lowest order we can simply replace  $\langle \psi, (Q^2)^q \psi \rangle$  by  $\langle \psi, Q^2 \psi \rangle^q$

## Iteration for more complicated matrix elements

- Start with  $\langle \psi, p_1(h) F_1(V) p_2(h) F_2(V) p_3(h) \psi \rangle$
- Use  $F_1(V) \sim f_1$

$$\langle \psi, p_1(h) f_1 p_2(h) f_2 p_3(h) \psi \rangle$$



$$R := \langle \psi, p_1(h) f_1 p_2(h) f_2 p_3(h) \psi \rangle = \langle \psi_1, f_1 \psi_2 \rangle \quad \psi_1 := p_1 \psi, \psi_2 := f_2 p_3 \psi$$

- Now apply lemma

$$\left| \Re(R) - R_2 \right| \leq R_3 + R_4$$

- Now apply the lemma to  $R_2, R_3$  and  $R_4$  etc.
- Each iteration term will produce new terms  $R_5, R_6, \dots$  for which the order of  $\hbar$  is increased for non – computable terms

- Start with  $\langle \psi, p_1(\hbar) F_1(V) p_2(\hbar) F_2(V) p_3(\hbar) \psi \rangle$
- 1. Decide up to which order in  $\hbar$  we want to calculate expectation value, assume  $\hbar^k$
- 2. Check how many  $f$  are involved
- 3. Then number of iterations is known in order to ensure that non-computable terms of  $o(\hbar^k)$  In general more than two  $f$ 's

$$\langle \psi, p_1(\hbar) F_1(V) p_2(\hbar) F_2(V) p_3(\hbar) \psi \rangle = R(f_1, f_2)$$

- We can show that (also for general case)

$$\begin{aligned} R(f_1, f_2) &= \langle \psi, p_1 \bar{f}_1 p_2(\hbar) \bar{f}_2 p_3(\hbar) \psi \rangle + o(\hbar^k) \\ &= \langle \psi, p_1 f_1^+ p_2(\hbar) f_2^+ p_3(\hbar) \psi \rangle + o(\hbar^k) \end{aligned}$$

- Explicit expression for  $\beta$  is not needed
- We can reexpress  $R(f_1, f_2)$  in terms of computable quantities  $f_1^+, f_2^+$  + corrections of higher order than  $\hbar^k$



## Back to the start of part II

- We want to calculate  $\langle \psi \hat{H}_{\text{phys}} \psi \rangle$  to zero order in  $\hbar$
- $\langle \psi \hat{H}_{\text{phys}} \psi \rangle$  is of the form  $\langle \psi \sqrt{|\hat{O}|} \psi \rangle$
- Problem 1.: Square root: Use Semiclassical perturbation theory for  $q = 1/4$
- Then  $\langle \psi \sqrt{|\hat{O}|} \psi \rangle = \langle \psi \hat{O} \psi \rangle^{2q} + o(\hbar) = \sqrt{\langle \psi \hat{O} \psi \rangle} + o(\hbar)$
- Now  $\langle \psi, \hat{\mathbf{M}}_{\mathbf{v}} \psi \rangle \sim \langle h_{\alpha} h[h^{-1}, \sqrt{\mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{v}}}] \psi, h_{\alpha} h[h^{-1}, \sqrt{\mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{v}}}] \psi \rangle$   
 $\langle \psi, \hat{O}_{\mathbf{v}} \psi \rangle \sim \langle h_{\alpha} h[h^{-1}, \mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{v}}] \psi, h_{\alpha} h[h^{-1}, \mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{v}}] \psi \rangle$
- Hence for terms involved in  $\hat{O}$  apart from  $q = 1/2$  instead of  $q = 1/4$  similar calculation for  $\hat{\mathbf{M}}$
- For  $\hat{\mathbf{M}}$  we know already that semiclassical limit ( $\hbar^0$ ) is correct
- So  $\langle \psi \hat{H}_{\text{phys}} \psi \rangle = H_{\text{phys}} + o(\hbar)$

## Part I: Reduced Dynamics of GR

- Reduced phase space for GR by means of four Klein – Gordon scalar fields
- Compared with dust model
- It turns out that GR & massless scalar fields cannot be quantised in  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{LQG}}$
- Requirements for choice of clocks wrt form how diffeos enter  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{phys}}$

## Part II: Semiclassical Limit

- Discussed computational problems that occur for  $SU(2)$  case
- Introduced Semiclassical perturbation theory
- Allows to approximate non – computable terms by computable ones
- Error due to substitution is of higher order in  $\hbar$
- Can be used to show that semiclassical limit of  $\widehat{\mathbf{M}}$  and  $\widehat{H}_{\text{phys}}$  for dust model is correct
- Also interesting for quantum spacetimes in full theory (for LQC [Ashtekar, Kaminski, Lewandowski])
- Since  $\langle \psi, \widehat{N} \psi \rangle$  and  $\langle \psi, \widehat{N}^a \psi \rangle$  will also involve similar terms