

SPINFOAM

for cosmologists!

Francesca Vidotto

Laboratoire de Physique Subatomique et Cosmologie
Grenoble, France

based on the work in collaboration with Carlo Rovelli and Eugenio Bianchi

AIM OF THE TALK

- *What is a SPINFOAM ?*
- *What is its use in COSMOLOGY ?*

STARTING POINT

• General Relativity



Cosmology

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu} \\ \text{matter} \end{array} \right.$$

$$ds^2 = dt^2 - a^2(t) d^3\vec{x} \\ + \text{perturbations}$$



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Friedmann eq. for } a(t) \\ \text{eq. for perturbations} \end{array} \right.$$

- Hamiltonian quantum theory for $a(t) \longrightarrow \Psi(a) \in \mathcal{H}_{LQC}$

$$H \Psi = 0$$

quantum Friedmann eq.

- quantum theory \longrightarrow effective theory

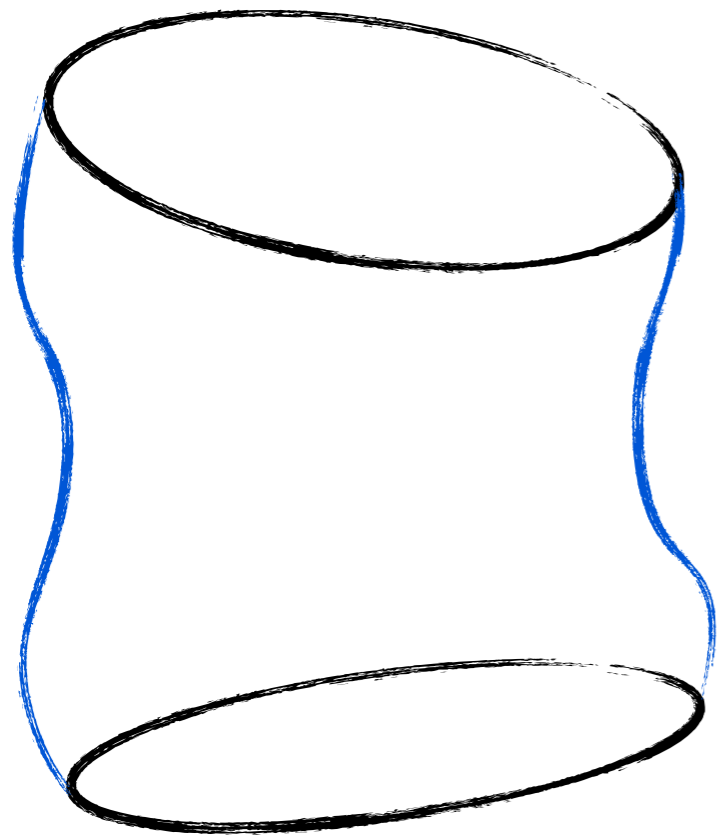
$$\left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{8}{3}\pi G\rho \left(1 - \frac{\rho}{\rho_{cr}}\right)$$

- **Fluctuations** on an effective quantum background

*Mukhanov-Sasaki eq.
for scalar/tensor perturbations*

$$v'' - \left(1 - 2\frac{\rho}{\rho_{cr}}\right) \nabla^2 v - \frac{z''}{z} v = 0$$

COVARIANT QUANTIZATION: LQG



q'_{ij}

the universe at "time" t'



q_{ij}

the universe at "time" t

$$W(q'_{ij}, q_{ij}) \sim \int_{\partial g = q', q} Dq e^{iS}$$

graph = discretization of space

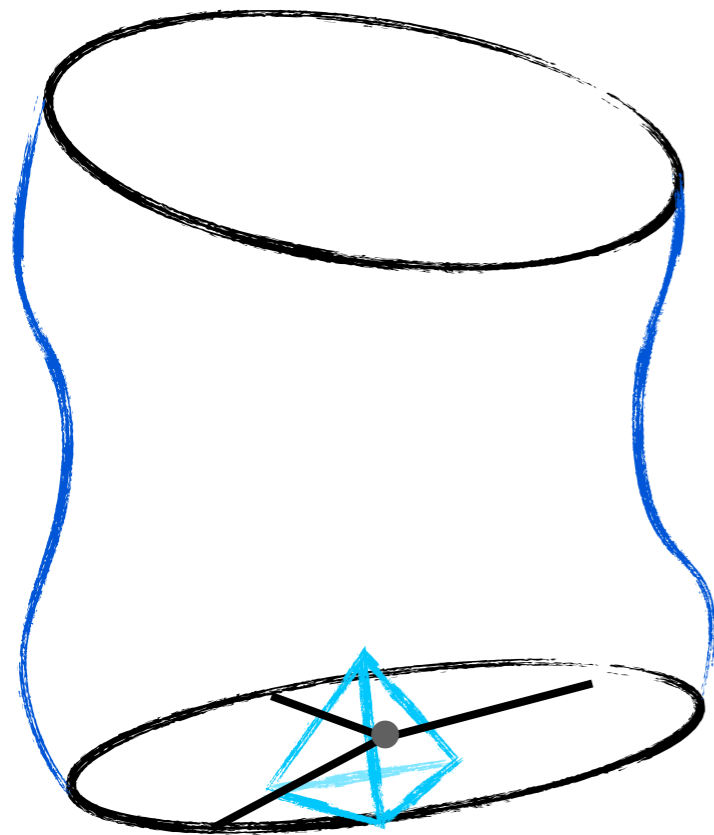
● **expansion:** *discretization of spacetime*

4d \longleftrightarrow 2-complex

\mathcal{C}

{
- vertices
- edges
- faces

COVARIANT QUANTIZATION: LQG



q'_{ij}

the universe at "time" t'



q_{ij}

the universe at "time" t

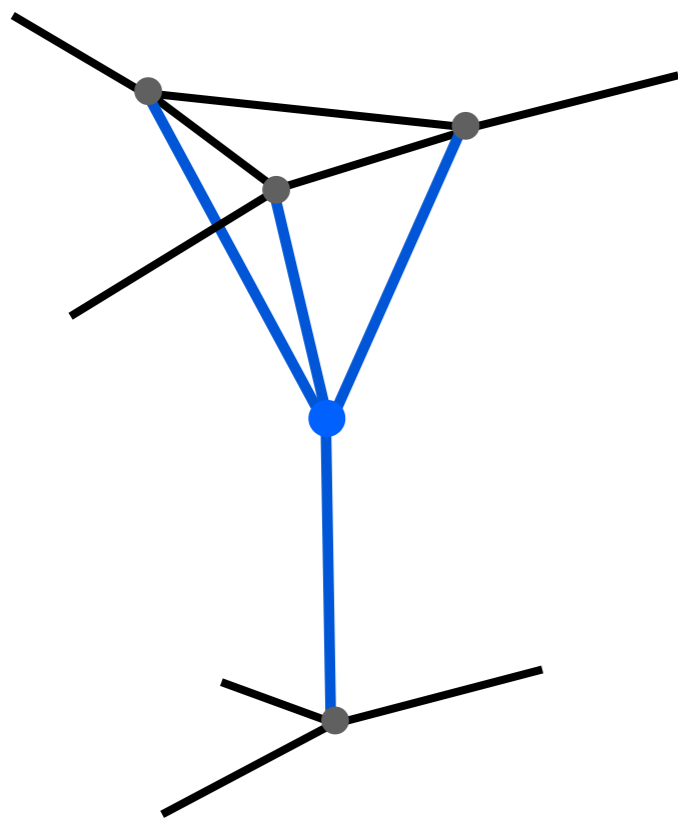
$$W(q'_{ij}, q_{ij}) \sim \int_{\partial g = q', q} Dq e^{iS}$$

graph = discretization of space

● **expansion:** *discretization of spacetime*

4d \longleftrightarrow 2-complex $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} - \text{vertices} \\ - \text{edges} \\ - \text{faces} \end{array} \right.$
 \mathcal{C}

COVARIANT QUANTIZATION: LQG



q'_{ij}
the universe at "time" t'



q_{ij}
the universe at "time" t

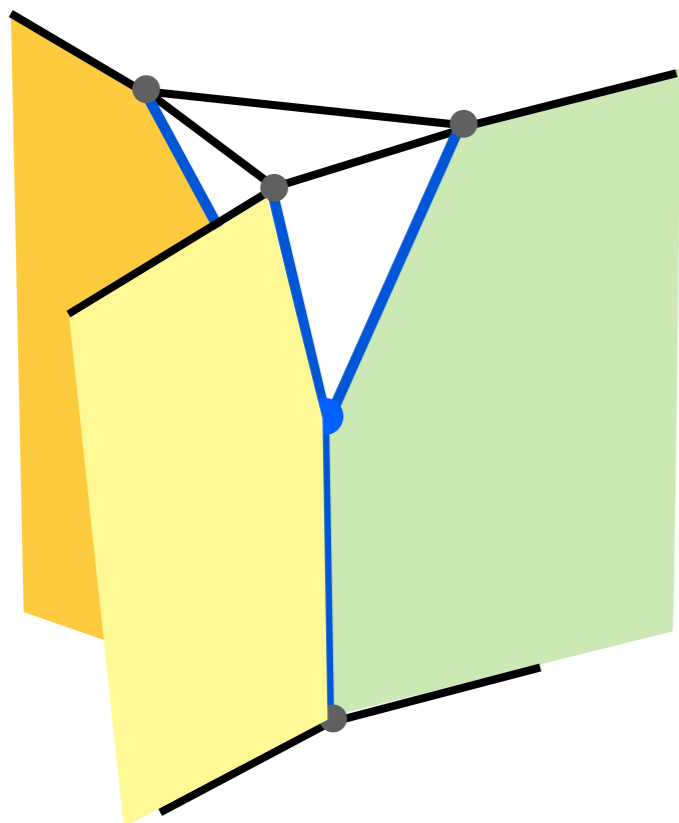
$$W(q'_{ij}, q_{ij}) \sim \int_{\partial g = q', q} Dq e^{iS}$$

graph = discretization of space

● **expansion:** *discretization of spacetime*

4d \longleftrightarrow 2-complex
 \mathcal{C} $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} - \text{vertices} \\ - \text{edges} \\ - \text{faces} \end{array} \right.$

COVARIANT QUANTIZATION: LQG



q'_{ij}

the universe at "time" t'



q_{ij}

the universe at "time" t

$$W(q'_{ij}, q_{ij}) \sim \int_{\partial g = q', q} Dq e^{iS}$$

graph = discretization of space

● **expansion:** *discretization of spacetime*

4d \longleftrightarrow 2-complex

\mathcal{C}

{
- vertices
- edges
- faces

concretely...

● *the states on the graph are well defined in full LQG* *Bianchi Magliaro Perini (Ashtekar...Thiemann...)*

● *transition amplitudes* *Engle Pereira Rovelli Livine.. Freidel... Alesci,.. Lewandowski, Kaminski, Kisielowski*

● *classical limit* *Barrett, Dowall, Fairbairn, Gomes Hellmann, Alesci...*

● *idea*

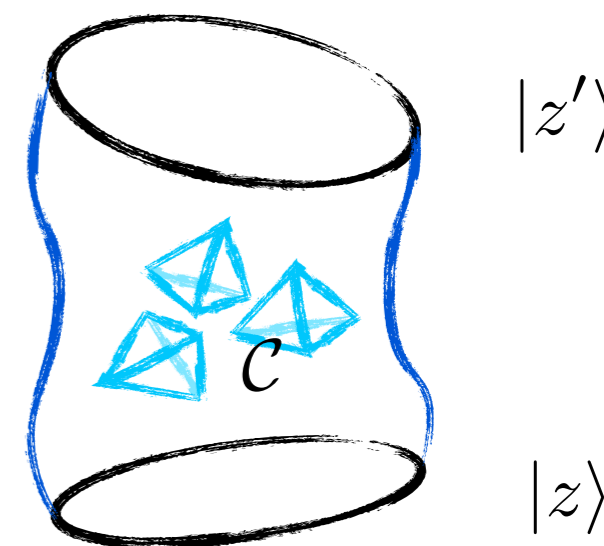
● *coherent states*

$$|a, \dot{a}\rangle = \sum_{j_\ell, v_n} C_{j_\ell, v_n} |\Gamma, j_\ell, v_n\rangle$$

● **RLRW** $|a, \dot{a}\rangle \longrightarrow |z\rangle \quad z = \alpha \dot{a} + i\beta a$

Rovelli Vidotto Bianchi Marciandò Magliaro Perini

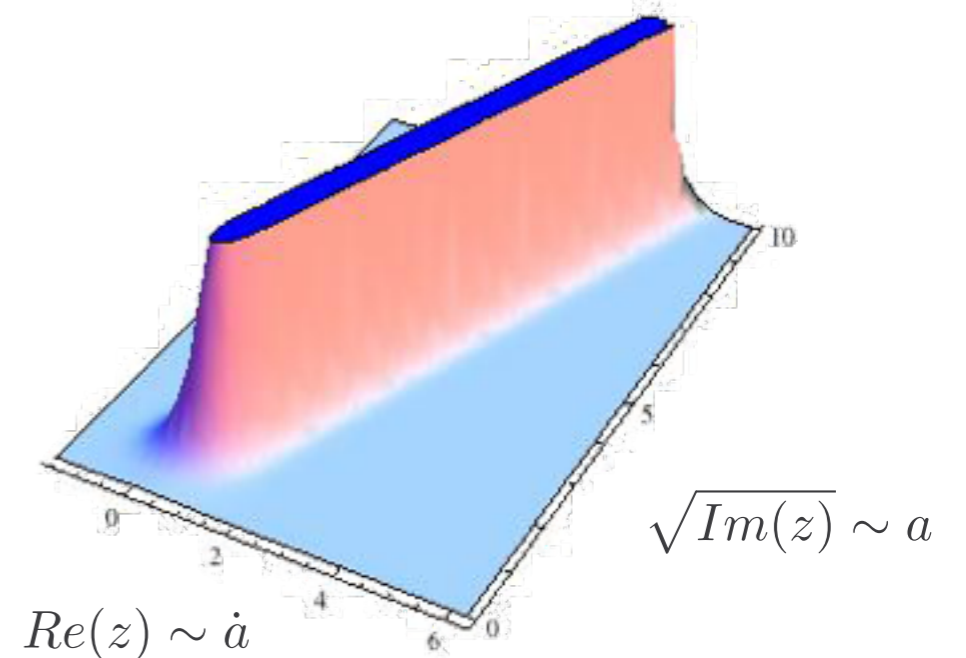
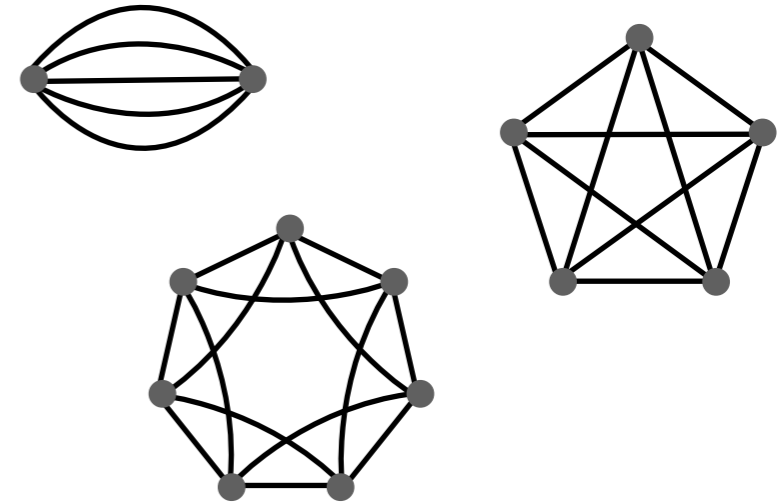
$$\langle W_C | z, z' \rangle$$



WHAT HAS BEEN DONE

- *Regular graphs (same #link attached to each node)*
- *Asymptotic for large scale factor*
- *Analytic evaluation*
- *Numerical evaluation*
- *Euclidean and Lorentzian*
- *Cosmological constant: $\Lambda = 0$ and $\Lambda > 0$*

} *Friedmann eq.*



WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

- *Exploit different graphs*
- *Study the deep quantum regime*
- *Cosmological constant: quantum groups*
- *Coupling of matter*
- *Perturbations*

SUMMARY

- *Covariant LQG provides a framework for cosmology*
- *A tool to explore the deep quantum regime*
- *Study of fluctuations from the full quantum theory*

THANKS !

references: 1003.3483, 1011.4705, 1101.4049, 1107.2633.