



Operator Spin Foam models: Coarse graining and entanglement entropy

Warsaw
18th September 2019
Jurekfest

Benjamin Bahr

Institute for Theoretical Physics
Friedrich-Alexander University
Erlangen-Nuremberg &

II. Institute for Theoretical Physics
University of Hamburg

I Motivation

II Operator Spin Foam Models

- a. Definition
- b. Coarse graining

III Toy model: hypercuboidal OSFM

- a. RG flow & fixed point
- b. Entanglement entropy

IV Summary

I Motivation

1990's: Construction of LQG Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}_{\text{kin}} = L^2(\overline{\mathcal{A}}, d\mu_{\text{AL}})$

ONBasis: Spin network functions (quantised 3-geometry) $\psi_{\Gamma, \vec{j}, \tau}$

Dynamics: Constraints (canonical) $C(N), \vec{C}(\vec{N})$

kinematical Hilbert space → physical Hilbert space ?

physical inner product?

I Motivation

1990's: Construction of LQG Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}_{\text{kin}} = L^2(\overline{\mathcal{A}}, d\mu_{\text{AL}})$

ONBasis: Spin network functions (quantised 3-geometry) $\psi_{\Gamma, \vec{j}, \tau}$

Dynamics: Constraints (canonical) $C(N), \vec{C}(\vec{N})$

kinematical Hilbert space \rightarrow physical Hilbert space ?

physical inner product?

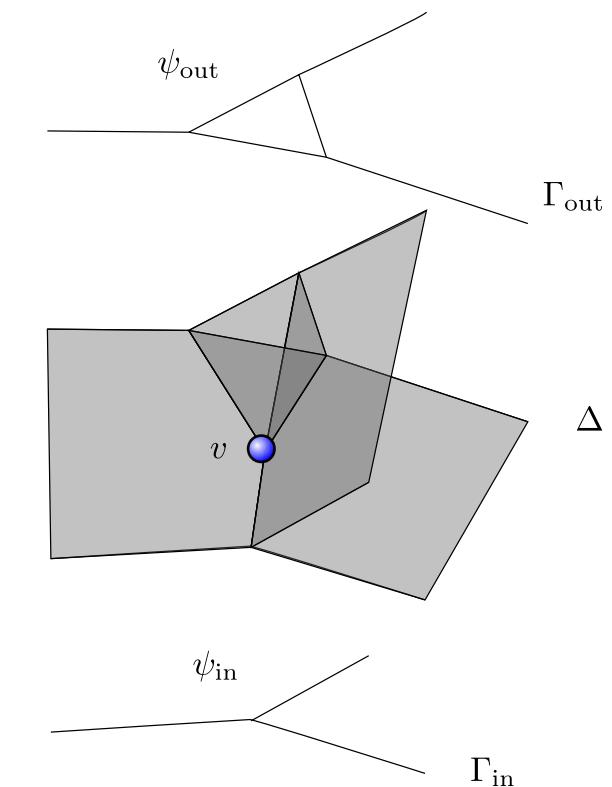
Spin Foam models as “histories of 3-geometries”

1997: Barrett Crane spin foam model

2007: Livine Speziale, EPRL-model, FK-model (4-simplex)

2008: Baratin, Flori, Thiemann (cubulation)

2009: KKL-extension of EPRL-FK (arbitrary 2-complex)



I Motivation

1990's: Construction of LQG Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}_{\text{kin}} = L^2(\overline{\mathcal{A}}, d\mu_{\text{AL}})$

ONBasis: Spin network functions (quantised 3-geometry) $\psi_{\Gamma, \vec{j}, \tau}$

Dynamics: Constraints (canonical) $C(N), \vec{C}(\vec{N})$

kinematical Hilbert space \rightarrow physical Hilbert space ?

physical inner product?

Spin Foam models as “histories of 3-geometries”

1997: Barrett Crane spin foam model

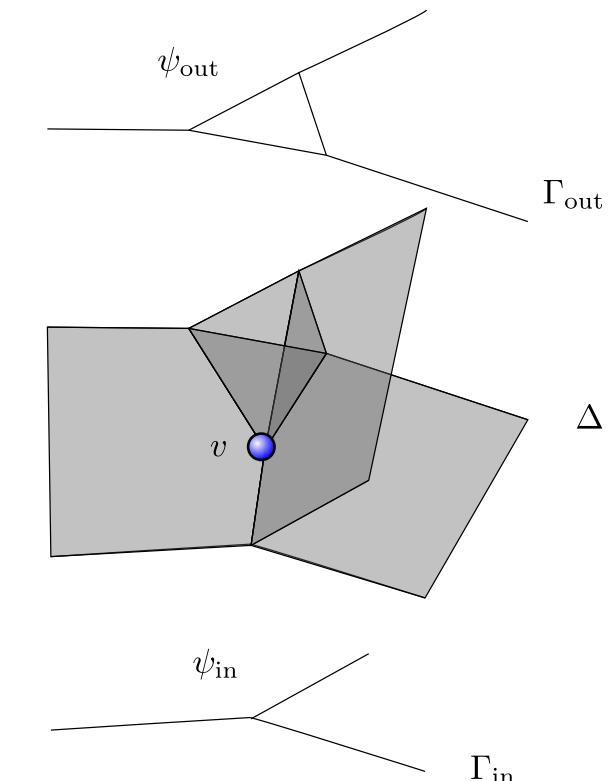
2007: Livine Speziale, EPRL-model, FK-model (4-simplex)

2008: Baratin, Flori, Thiemann (cubulation)

2009: KKL-extension of EPRL-FK (arbitrary 2-complex)

2010: General class: Operator Spin Foam models

\rightarrow useful for renormalisation





"renormalisation"



"renormalisation"



"cylindrical
consistency"

I Motivation

II Operator Spin Foam Models

- a. Definition
- b. Coarse graining

III Toy model: hypercuboidal OSFM

- a. RG flow & fixed point
- b. Entanglement entropy

IV Summary

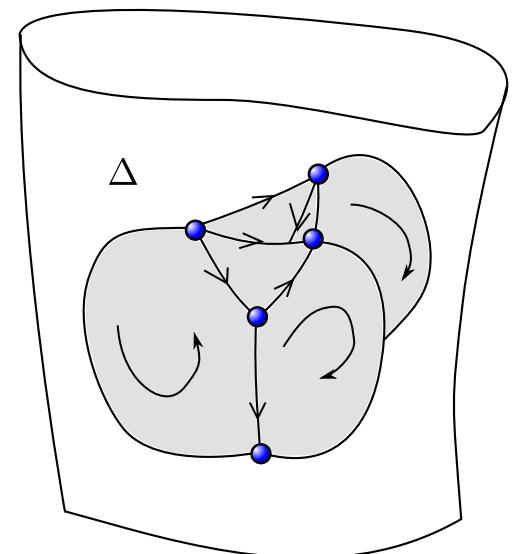
II Operator Spin Foam Models: Definition

Ingredients:

- Oriented 2-complex Δ
- Compact gauge group G
- Class function $w : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$
- For each tensor product

$$\rho_1 \otimes \rho_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes \rho_k \otimes \rho_{k+1}^* \otimes \cdots \otimes \rho_n^*$$

of irreducible representations (and duals) :
an operator



$$P : V_{\rho_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes V_{\rho_k} \otimes V_{\rho_{k+1}^*} \otimes \cdots \otimes V_{\rho_n^*} \longrightarrow V_{\rho_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes V_{\rho_k} \otimes V_{\rho_{k+1}^*} \otimes \cdots \otimes V_{\rho_n^*}$$

II Operator Spin Foam Models: Definition

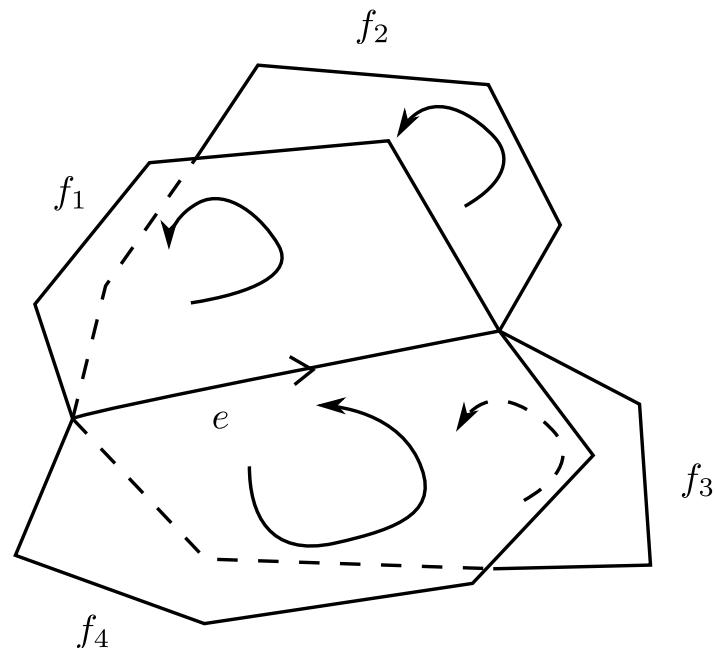
A “state” on Δ :

Distribution of irreps of G
To 2-cells (“faces”) of Δ

$$f : \longrightarrow \rho_f$$

→ “edge-Hilbert space”

$$\mathcal{H}_e := \bigotimes_{[e,f]=1} V_{\rho_f} \otimes \bigotimes_{[e,f]=-1} V_{\rho_f^*}$$



where $[e, f] = \pm 1$ iff respective orientations agree / disagree

→ “edge-operator”

$$P_e : \mathcal{H}_e \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}_e$$

II Operator Spin Foam Models: Definition

Vertex-trace:

$$P : V_{\rho_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes V_{\rho_k} \otimes V_{\rho_{k+1}^*} \otimes \cdots V_{\rho_n^*} \longrightarrow V_{\rho_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes V_{\rho_k} \otimes V_{\rho_{k+1}^*} \otimes \cdots V_{\rho_n^*}$$

Contraction of all indices of edge operators $P_e : \mathcal{H}_e \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_e$
on edges meeting at a 0-cell (“vertex”): v

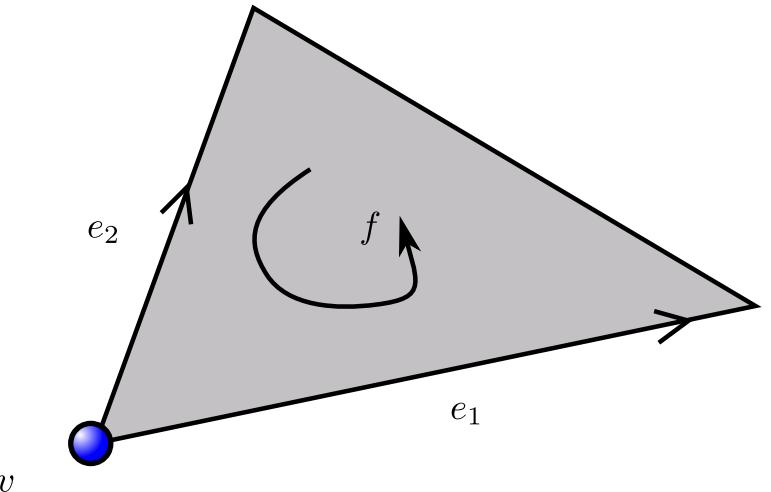
$$(P_{e_1})_{m_1 \dots m_k}{}^{m_{k+1} \dots m_f \dots m_N} | {}^{n_1 \dots n_k}{}_{n_{k+1} \dots n_N}$$

$$\delta^{r_f}{}_{m_f}$$

$$(P_{e_2})_{r_1 \dots r_f \dots r_k}{}^{r_{k+1} \dots r_M} | {}^{s_1 \dots s_k}{}_{s_{k+1} \dots s_N}$$

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{Z}[\Delta, \{\rho_f\}, w, P] = \prod_f \hat{w}_{\rho_f} \prod_v \text{tr}_v (\otimes_e P_e)$$

$$\text{Where } w(g) = \sum_{\rho} \hat{w}_{\rho} \chi_{\rho}(g)$$



$$\text{And (if it converges): } \mathcal{Z}[\Delta, w, P] = \sum_{\rho_f} \mathcal{Z}[\Delta, \{\rho_f\}, w, P] \quad \text{“Spin Foam State Sum”}$$

(can be written as sum over irreps and intertwiners of amplitudes)

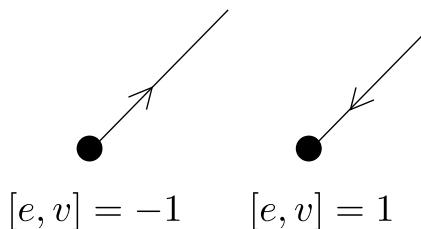
II Operator Spin Foam Models: Definition

2-complex with boundary: (not necessarily connected) subgraph, $\Gamma \subset \Delta$
 e.g. all edges with only one face (“link”), all vertices with only one edge (“node”)

→ orientation of links determined by that of their respective faces

Boundary Hilbert space: $\mathcal{H}_\Gamma = \bigotimes_{[e,v]=1} V_{\rho_e} \otimes \bigotimes_{[e,v]=-1} V_{\rho_e^*}$

$$\sim L^2(G^L, d\mu_H)$$

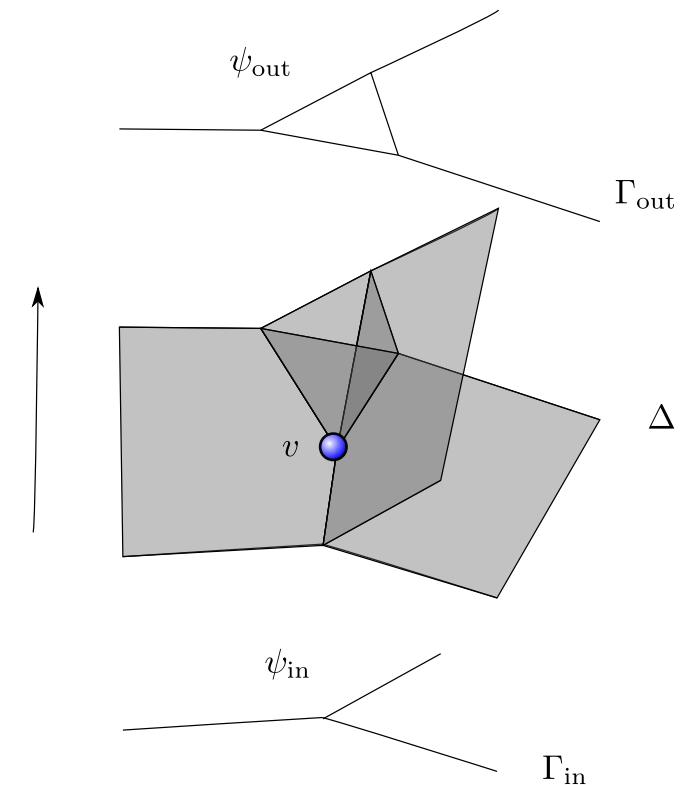


Spin foam state sum: linear form
 on boundary Hilbert space

$$\mathcal{Z}[\Delta, w, P] : \mathcal{H}_\Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$\mathcal{Z}[\Delta, w, P]\psi := \sum_{\rho_f} \prod_{f:\partial\Delta} \hat{w}_{\rho_f}^{\frac{1}{2}} \prod_{f:\Delta^\circ} \hat{w}_{\rho_f} \prod_v \text{tr}_v \left(\bigotimes_{e:\partial\Delta} P_e \otimes \psi \right)$$

→ Boundary decomposes in “in” and “out” part: sesquilinear form on $\mathcal{H}_{\Gamma_{\text{in}}}^\dagger \times \mathcal{H}_{\Gamma_{\text{out}}}$



II Operator Spin Foam Models: Definition

Properties:

- Operators P_e Hermitean and $\rho \sim \rho^* : \mathcal{Z}[\Delta, w, P]$ independent of orientations of Δ
- Additionally: $\text{Img}(P_e) \subset \text{Inv}_G(\mathcal{H}_e)$: linear form $\mathcal{Z}[\Delta, w, P]$ gauge-invariant
 - sum over invariant elements (“intertwiners”): $P_e = \sum_{n,m} P_{nm} \iota_n^\dagger \otimes \iota_m$
 - $\mathcal{Z}[\Delta, w, P]$ invariant under trivial subdivisions of faces
- Idempotent: $P_e^2 = P_e$
 - $\mathcal{Z}[\Delta, w, P]$ invariant under trivial subdivisions of edges
- Composition: $\mathcal{Z}[\Delta_1, \{\rho_f\}, w, P] \mathcal{Z}[\Delta_2, \{\rho_f\}, w, P] = \mathcal{Z}[\Delta_1 \#_\Gamma \Delta_2, \{\rho_f\}, w, P]$

II Operator Spin Foam Models: Definition

Examples:

- Lattice Yang-Mills theory: 2-complex Δ dual to cubic lattice,

Gauge group $G = SU(N)$

Haar projectors: $P_e = P_{\text{Haar}}$

Wilson action: $w \sim e^{-\beta S_{\text{Wilson}}}$

- BF-theory: (unregularised) TQFT, Class function $w \rightarrow \delta_G$ formally (finite for finite groups, or non-TARDIS-complexes) $P_e = P_{\text{Haar}}$

$$\mathcal{Z}[\Delta, \delta_G, P_{\text{Haar}}] = \int_{G^E} dg \prod_f \delta(H_f) \quad H_f := \overrightarrow{\prod}_{e \supset f} g_e^{[e,f]}$$

- Euclidean Barrett-Crane model: 2-complex dual to 4d triangulation

gauge group $G = SU(2) \times SU(2)$ class function $w \rightarrow \delta_G$

operators $P_e = \iota_{\text{BC}}^\dagger \otimes \iota_{\text{BC}}$ projectors on 1-dim subspace,

spanned by BC-intertwiner $\iota_{\text{BC}} \in \mathcal{H}_e = V_{(j_1^+, j_1^-)} \otimes V_{(j_2^+, j_2^-)} \otimes V_{(j_3^+, j_3^-)} \otimes V_{(j_4^+, j_4^-)}$ $j_i^+ = j_i^-$

- KKL-extension of (Euclidean) EPRL-FK-model: $G = SU(2) \times SU(2)$

operators $P_e = P_V$ maps onto $\mathcal{V} \subset \mathcal{H}_e = V_{(j_1^+, j_1^-)} \otimes \cdots V_{(j_n^+, j_n^-)}$

→ “solutions to simplicity constraints”

$$j_i^\pm = \frac{|1 \pm \gamma|}{2} k_i$$

→ $\gamma \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, \pm 1\}$ Barbero-Immirzi parameter

II Operator Spin Foam Models: Definition

Further developments / generalisations:

- Feynman-diagrammatic approach
- Dual holonomy formulation (HSFM)
- Non-compact groups (e.g. Lorentzian signature for BC, EPRL-FK)
→ careful removal of divergencies
- Vertex trace: contraction with non-trivial operators (\sim cosm. const. Λ)
- Group → Quantum Group (\sim cosm. const Λ , finiteness)
- different state spaces (spin networks → fusion networks, 2-groups, ...)
- Sum over Δ : group field theories, tensor field theories
- Cosine issue: proper vertex
- Non-localities (e.g. volume simplicity constraint implementation)

I Motivation

II Operator Spin Foam Models

- a. Definition
- b. Coarse graining

III Toy model: hypercuboidal OSFM

- a. RG flow & fixed point
- b. Entanglement entropy

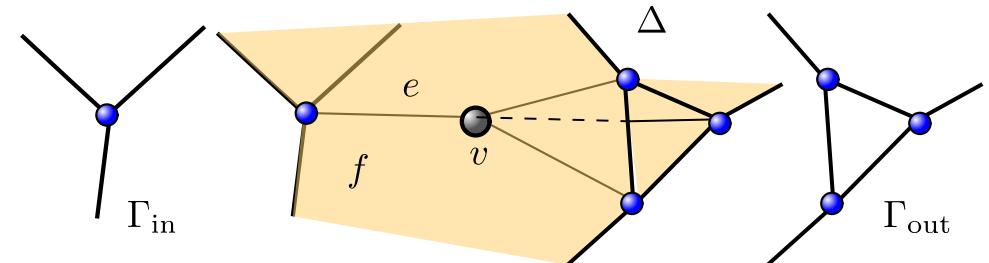
IV Summary

II Operator Spin Foam Models: Coarse graining

Spin foam operator so far depends on 2-complex Δ : discretisation (d.o.f. cutoff)

$$\mathcal{Z}[\Delta, w P] \psi_{\text{in}}^\dagger \otimes \psi_{\text{out}} \simeq \langle \psi_{\text{in}} | \psi_{\text{out}} \rangle_{\text{phys}}$$

$$\psi_{\text{in/out}} \in \mathcal{H}_{\Gamma_{\text{in/out}}}$$



Physical Hilbert space: contain information about all graphs Γ : continuum limit

Coarse graining / refinement of graphs: directed set $\Gamma \leq \Gamma'$

Choice of embedding maps: $\phi_{\Gamma' \Gamma} : \mathcal{H}_\Gamma \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\Gamma'}$

→ Relation between OSFM on Δ and Δ'

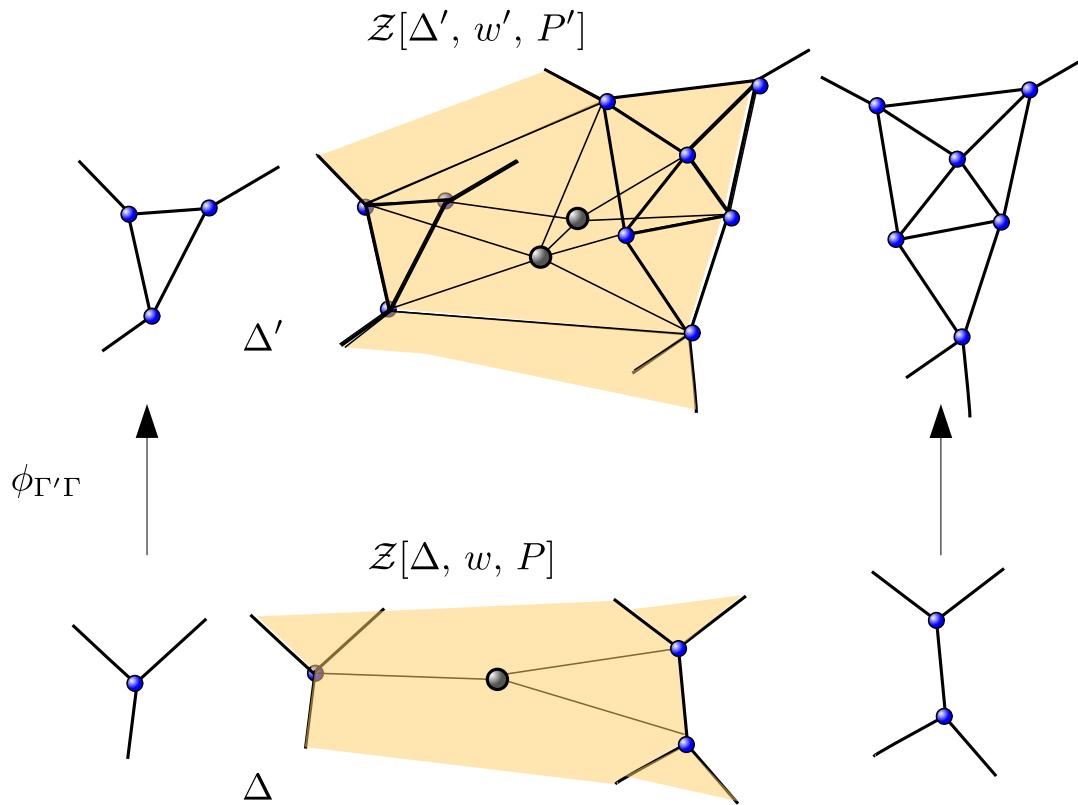
condition: $\mathcal{Z}[\Delta', w', P'] \circ \phi_{\Gamma' \Gamma} = \mathcal{Z}[\Delta, w, P]$

→ “Flow of coupling constants”: $w, P \sim$ parameters of the OSF

$\Delta' \rightarrow \Delta$ results in $w', P' \rightarrow w, P$

II Operator Spin Foam Models: Coarse graining

Schematically:



Change of $\Delta' \rightarrow \Delta$ results in $w', P' \rightarrow w, P$ → “renormalisation”

I Motivation

II Operator Spin Foam Models

- a. Definition
- b. Coarse graining

III Toy model: hypercuboidal OSFM

- a. RG flow & fixed point
- b. Entanglement entropy

IV Summary

III Toy model: hypercuboidal OSF

OSF toy model: (modified) EPRL-FK model truncated to hypercuboids

class function: $\hat{w}_{j^+, j^-} = \left((2j^+ + 1)(2j^- + 1) \right)^\alpha$

→ coupling constant α

2-complex Δ : dual to 4d hypercubic lattice

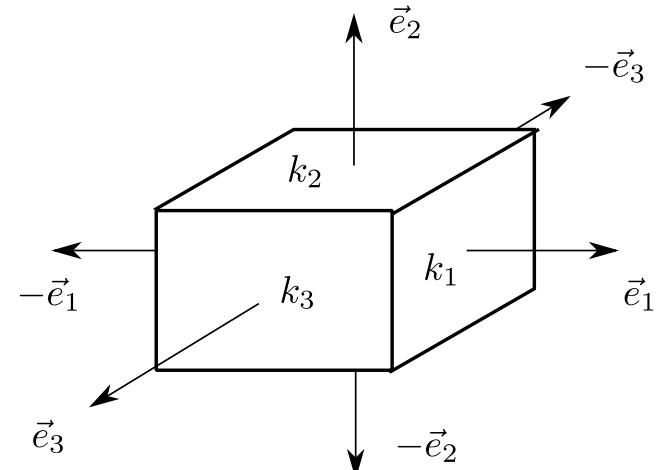
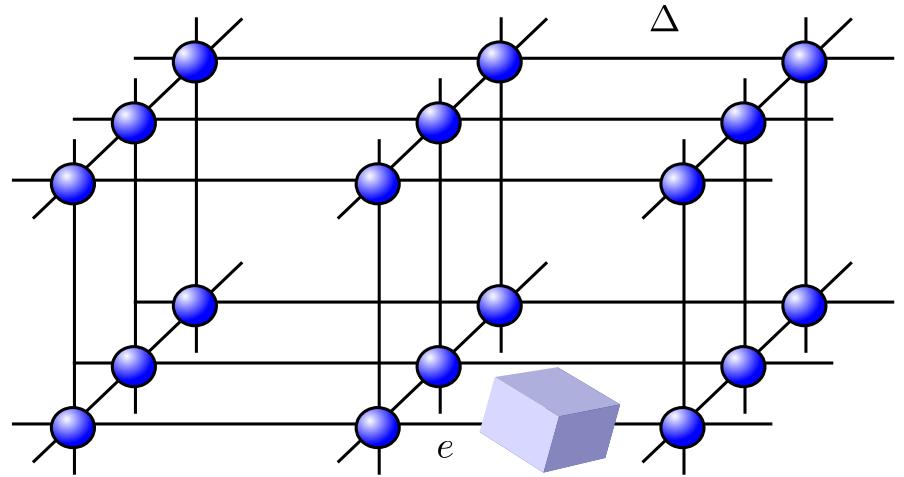
Operators: $P_e = \iota_{k_1, k_2, k_3}^\dagger Y_e^\dagger \otimes Y_e \iota_{k_1, k_2, k_3}$

$$\iota_{k_1, k_2, k_3} := \int_{SU(2)} dg g \triangleright [|k_1, \vec{e}_1\rangle \otimes \dots \otimes \langle k_3, \vec{e}_3|]$$

k_i = irreps of $SU(2)$

$$Y_e = \text{EPRL "boosting map"} \quad j_i^\pm = \frac{|1 \pm \gamma|}{2} k_i$$

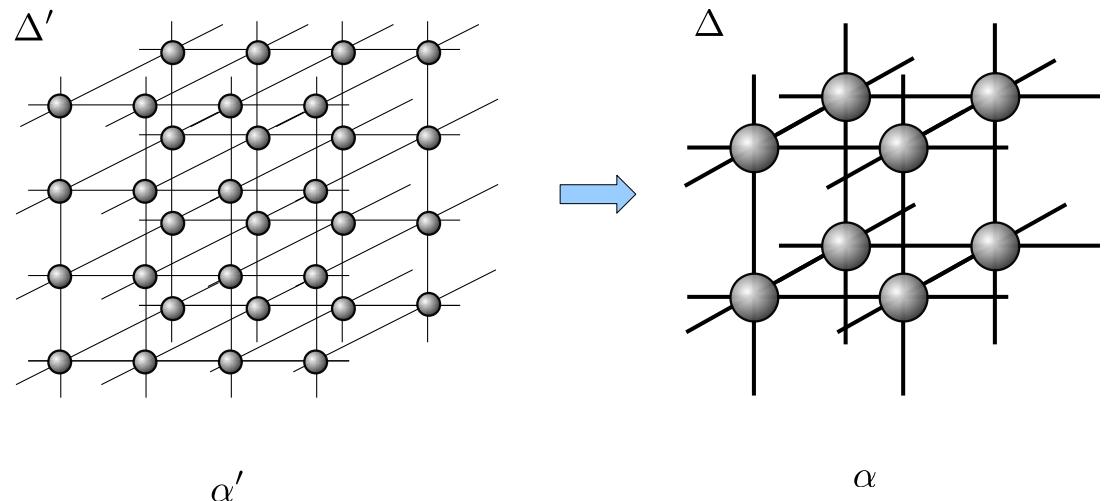
- sum over spins and intertwiners truncated to sum over quantum cuboids
- much simpler than EPRL-FK-KKL, but retains some interesting features



III Toy model: renormalisation

Coarse graining step:
 $2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \rightarrow 1$ hypercuboid

→ iterate



embedding map (not dynamical):

$$\phi_{\Gamma'\Gamma} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{box} \\ K \end{array} \right) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k_i} \delta(K - k_1 - k_2 - k_3 - k_4)$$

EPRL-FK model amplitudes, large spin-asymptotic formula
 → α the only coupling constant in this case

III Toy model: RG fixed point

Isochoric RG flow: $32 \rightarrow 2$ vertices

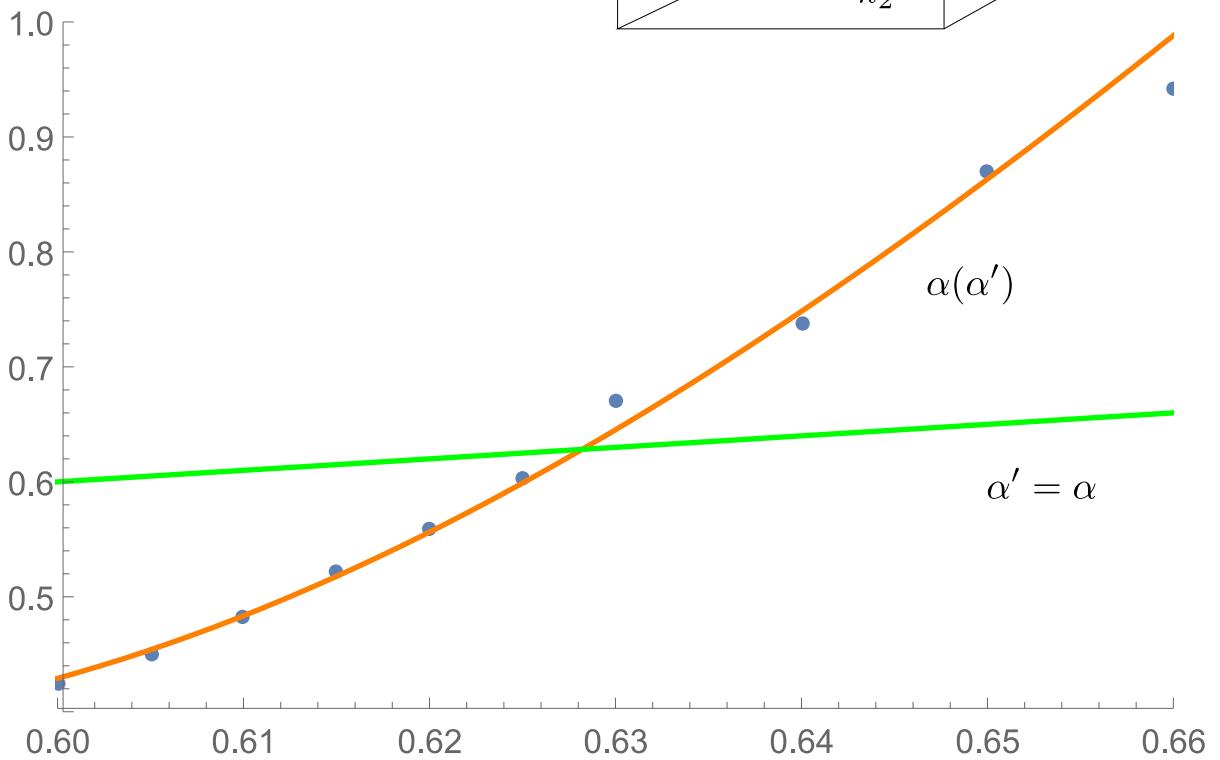
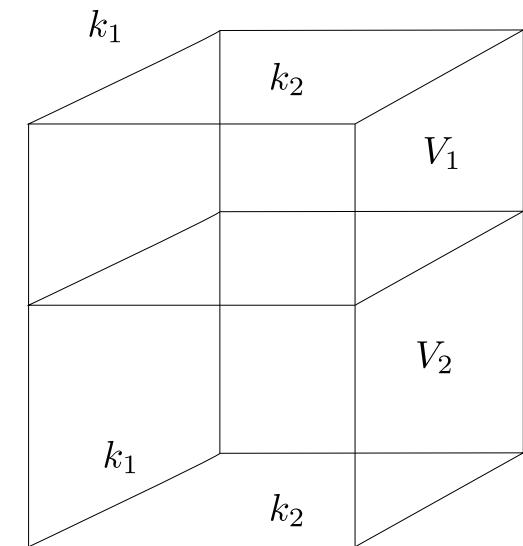
boundary state $k_1, k_2, k_3 = \text{const}$
4-volume $V_{\text{tot}} = V_1 + V_2 = \text{const}$

flow: $\alpha' \mapsto \alpha(\alpha')$

flow has a fixed point!

$$\alpha^* \approx 0.63$$

- unstable (UV-attractive)
- splits phase diagram into two regions
- beyond hypercuboids non-gaussian!



III Toy model: fluctuations at NGFP

Finite size scaling: fluctuations ΔV_{red}^2 are similar for different lattice sizes N :
 reduced coupling constant:

$$\bar{\alpha} := \frac{\alpha - \alpha_0}{\alpha_0}$$

$$\alpha_0 \approx 0.59$$

fluctuations for different lattice sizes:

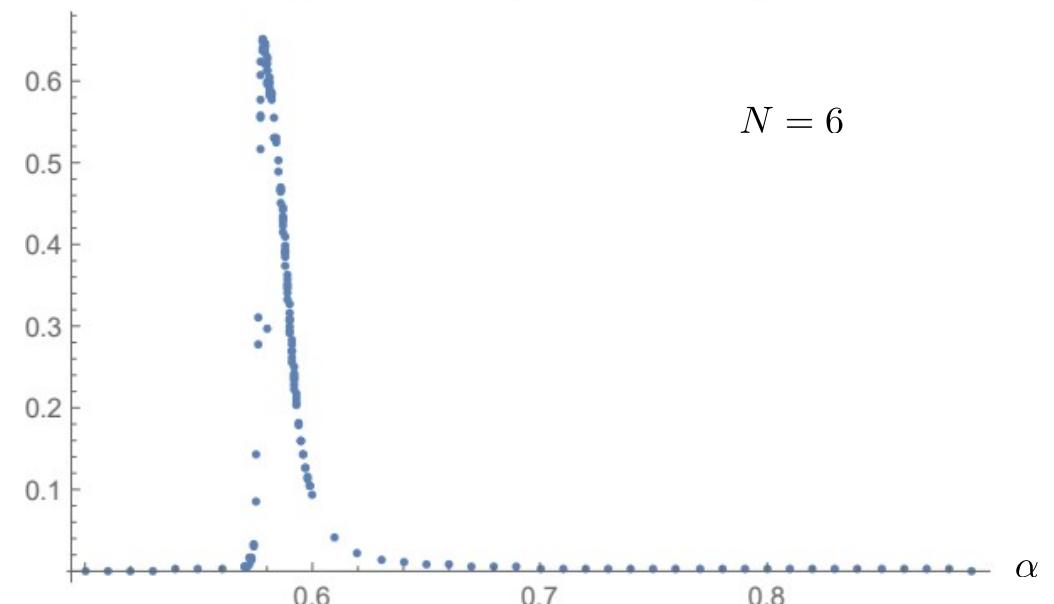
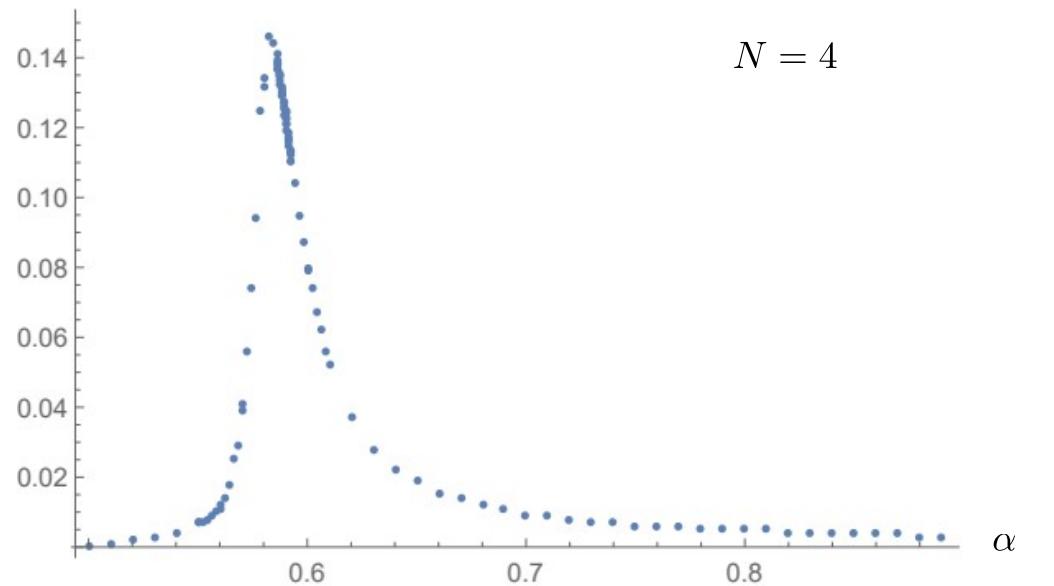
$$\Delta V_{\text{red}}^{(N)}(\bar{\alpha}) = N^{\frac{\gamma}{\nu}} \Delta V_{\text{red}}^{(0)}(N^{\frac{1}{\nu}} \bar{\alpha})$$

$$\Delta V_{\text{red}}^2$$

read off critical exponents ν, γ
 by collapsing data for different N

$$\nu = 0.33 - 0.40$$

$$\gamma = 1.35 - 1.50$$



I Motivation

II Operator Spin Foam Models

- a. Definition
- b. Coarse graining

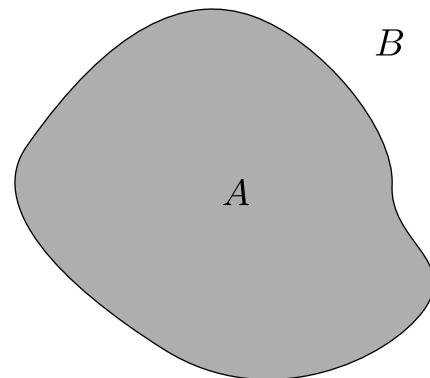
III Toy model: hypercuboidal OSFM

- a. RG flow & fixed point
- b. Entanglement entropy

IV Summary

III Entanglement entropy

States → entanglement property between complementary regions A, B



- Measures entanglement of d.o.f. inside A with those inside B .
- Generically scales with #d.o.f. in region (~volume law),
ground states: area law
- Interesting quantity in LQG (BH entropy?).

III Entanglement entropy

General framework:

Factorising Hilbert space: $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$

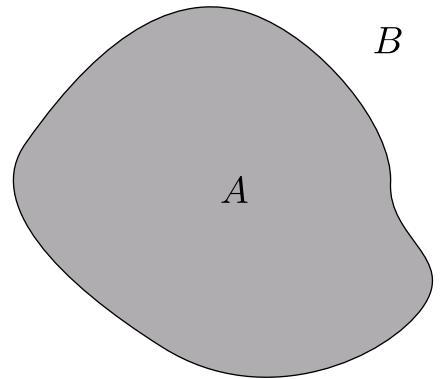
State: $\psi \in \mathcal{H}$ \rightarrow reduced density matrix $\hat{\rho}_A := \text{tr}_B(\psi^\dagger \otimes \psi)$

\rightarrow entanglement entropy: $S_{\text{EE}}(\psi) = -\text{tr}_A(\hat{\rho}_A \ln \hat{\rho}_A)$

Non-factorising Hilbert space: $\mathcal{H} = \bigoplus_i \mathcal{H}_A^i \otimes \mathcal{H}_B^i$

State: $\psi = \sum_i q_i \psi_i$

\rightarrow entanglement entropy: $S_{\text{EE}}(\psi) := \sum_i p_i S_{\text{EE}}(\psi_i) - \sum_i p_i \ln p_i$ $p_i := |q_i|^2$



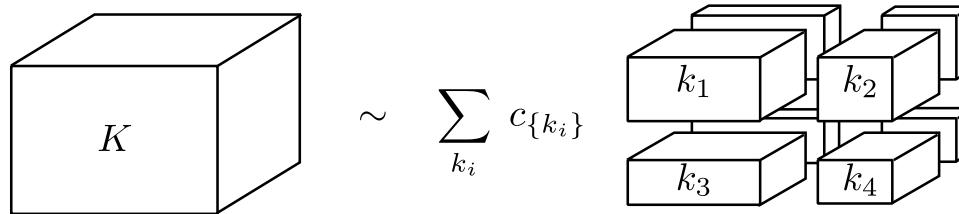
III Entanglement entropy of physical states in hypercuboidal OSFM

In the following:

entanglement entropy of physical states in hypercuboidal OSFM

In the physical Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}_{\text{phys}}$, due to cylindrical consistency, several kinematical states on different graphs are identified.

One quantum cuboid equivalent to several ones:



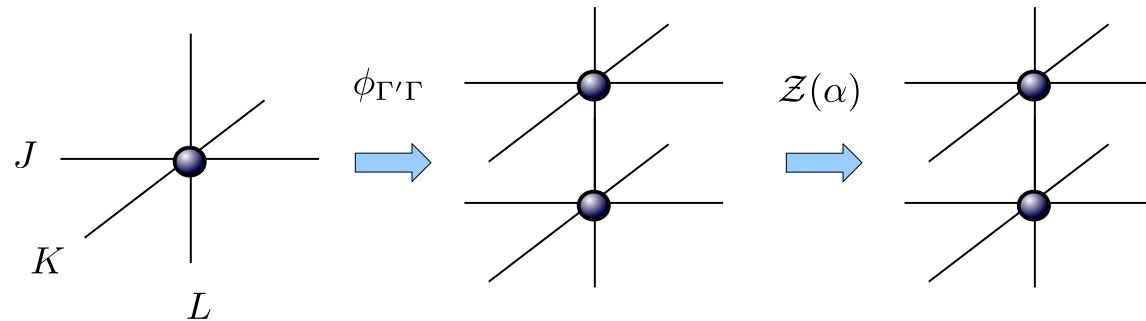
Coefficient is the physical inner product $\psi \sim \sum_{k_i} c_{\{k_i\}} \psi_{\{k_i\}}$ $c_{\{k_i\}} = \langle \psi | \psi_{\{k_i\}} \rangle_{\text{phys}}$

Embedding map + spin foam transition \rightarrow “physical embedding map”

III Entanglement entropy of physical states in hypercuboidal OSFM

Simple case: subdivision of one quantum cuboid into two:

Coarse state: $\psi_{\text{in}} = \iota_{J,K,L}$



Fine state: $\psi_{\text{out}} = \sum_{j_i} c_{j_i}^{(\alpha)} \iota_{j_1,j_2,j_3} \otimes \iota_{j_4,j_5,j_3}$

(graphs toroidally compactified)

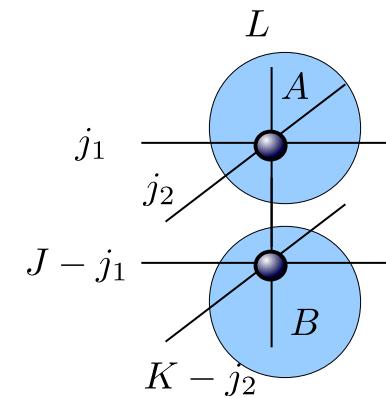
III Entanglement entropy of physical states in hypercuboidal OSFM

Bipartition of the system:

Coarse state: $\psi_{\text{in}} = \iota_{J,K,L}$

Hypercuboidal symmetries

$$\rightarrow J = j_1 + j_3, K = j_2 + j_4, L = j_3$$



Additional condition: Volume-simplicity constraint

$$\rightarrow j_1(K - j_2) = j_2(J - j_1)$$

(excludes non-metric degrees of freedom)

Isochoric transition: 4-volume V constant

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{\text{out}} &= \sum_{j_i} c_{j_i}^{(\alpha)} \iota_{j_1, j_2, j_3} \otimes \iota_{j_4, j_5, j_3} \\ &= \sum_{j_1} c_{j_1}^{(\alpha)} \iota_{j_1, j_1 K/J, L} \otimes \iota_{J-j_1, (J-j_1)K/J, L} \end{aligned}$$

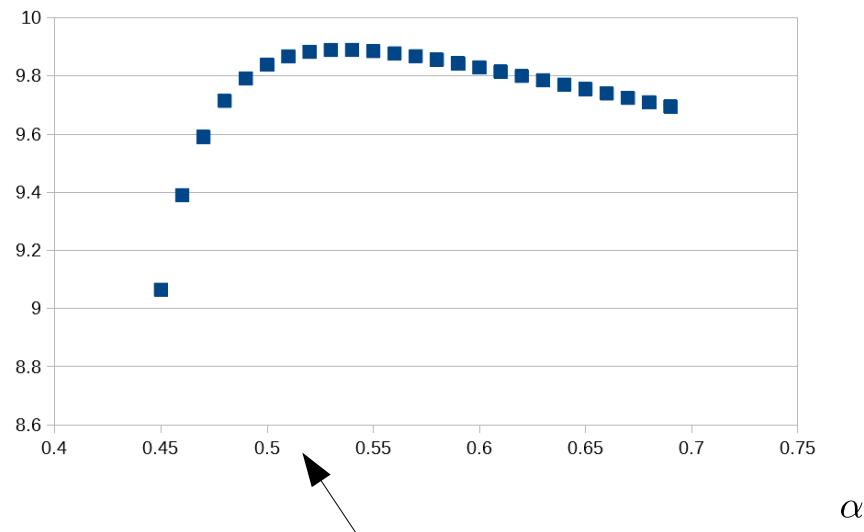
III Entanglement entropy of physical states in hypercuboidal OSFM

Entanglement entropy: depends on α

$$S_{\text{EE}}^{(\alpha)} = - \sum_j |c_j^{(\alpha)}|^2 \ln |c_j^{(\alpha)}|^2$$

$$c_j^{(\alpha)} = \prod_v \hat{\mathcal{A}}_v^{(\alpha)}$$

$$S_{\text{EE}}^{(\alpha)}$$



Dressed EPRL-FK amplitude: $\hat{A}_v^{(\alpha)} = \mathcal{A}_v \left(\prod_e \mathcal{A}_e \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\prod_f \mathcal{A}_f \right)^{\frac{1}{4}}$
 (face-, edge- and vertex amplitudes $\mathcal{A}_f, \mathcal{A}_e, \mathcal{A}_v \sim w, P$)

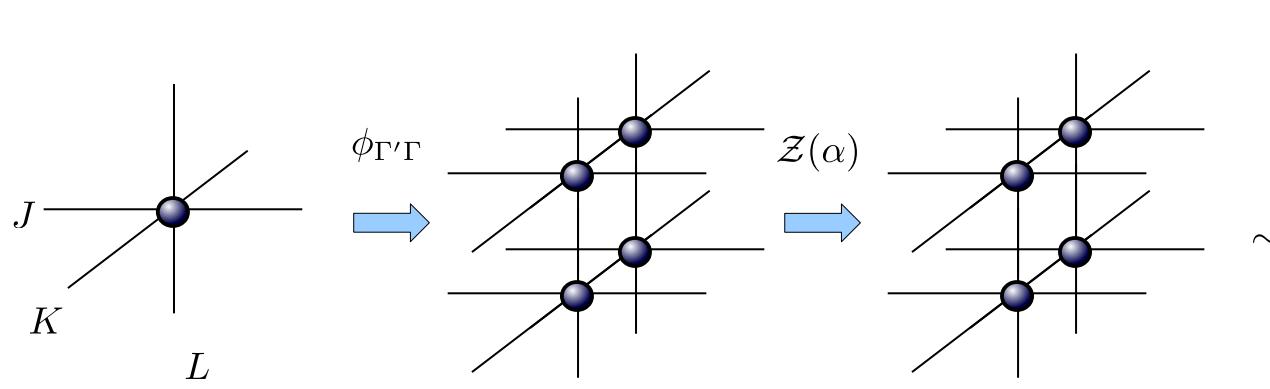
→ Maximum of entanglement entropy!

Example: $J = K = 2 \cdot 10^5, L = 10^5, V/\ell_P^4 \sim 10^{10}$ →

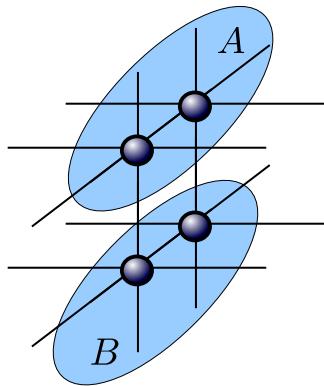
$$\alpha_{\max} \approx 0.51$$

III Entanglement entropy of physical states in hypercuboidal OSFM

More complicated case: subdivision into 4 quantum cuboids



Bipartition of system: $\psi_{\text{out}} = \sum_{j_1, j_2} c_{j_1, j_2}^{(\alpha)} \nu_{j_1, j_2, j_5} \otimes \nu_{j_1, j_4, j_6} \otimes \nu_{j_2, j_3, j_7} \otimes \nu_{j_3, j_4, j_8}$



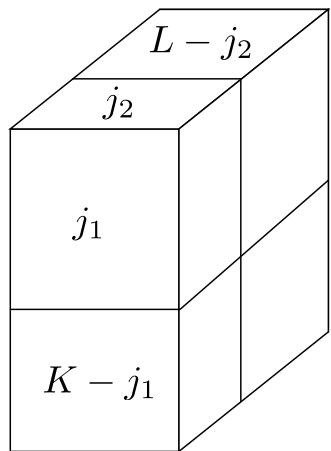
isochoric flow & geometricity: relations among spins
→ only j_1, j_2 remain as variables

$$S_{\text{EE}}^{(\alpha)} = - \sum_{j_1, j_2} |c_{j_1, j_2}|^2 \ln |c_{j_1, j_2}|^2$$

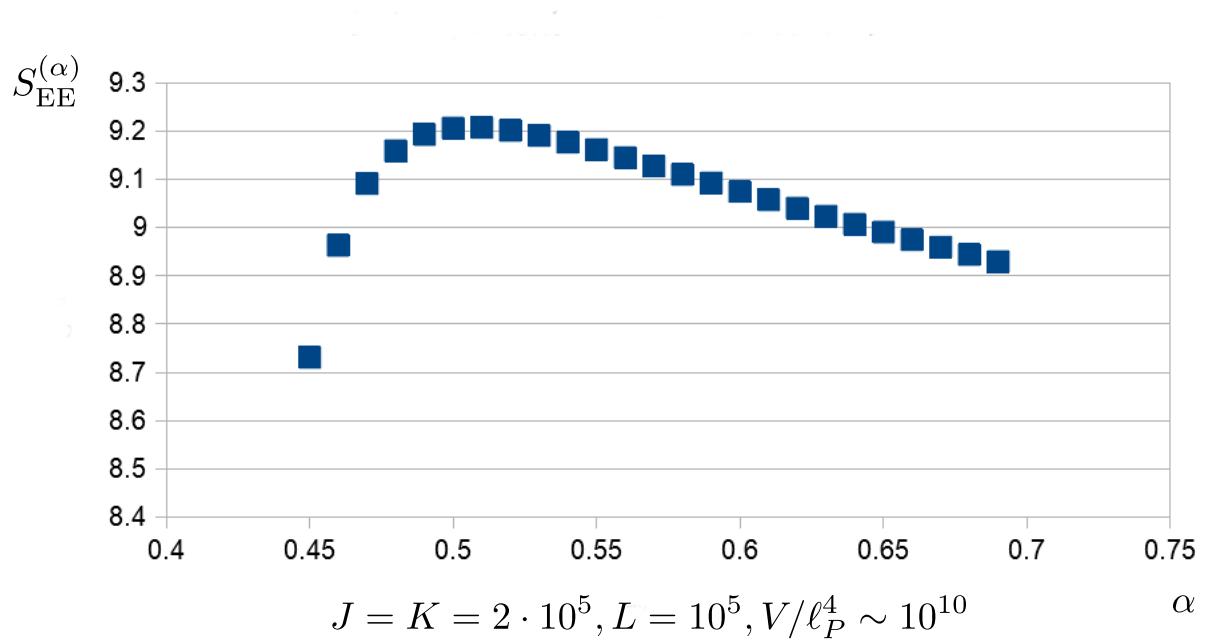
III Entanglement entropy of physical states in hypercuboidal OSFM

Isochoric model: fix 4-volume, & volume-simplicity constraints (~geometricity):

$$S_{\text{EE}}^{(\alpha)} = \sum_{j_1, j_2} |c_{j_1, j_2}^{(\alpha)}|^2 \ln |c_{j_1, j_2}^{(\alpha)}|^2$$



α



Again, EE maximal for specific value of coupling constant: RG fixed point!

- RG fixed point characterised by maximum of entanglement entropy of physical states!
- Effect expected to be more pronounced on larger lattices

III Entanglement entropy of physical states: interpretation

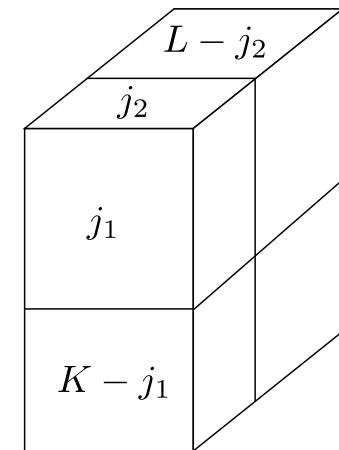
Vertex translation symmetry:

→ Change of spins according to deformation of flat polytopes.

↔ remnant of diffeomorphism symmetry in Regge calculus

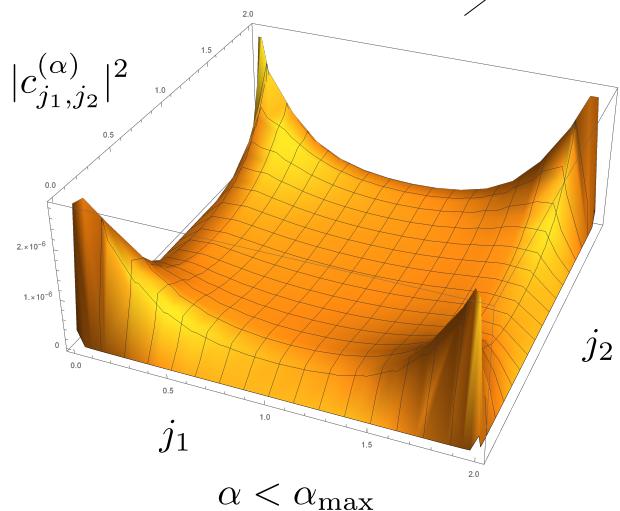
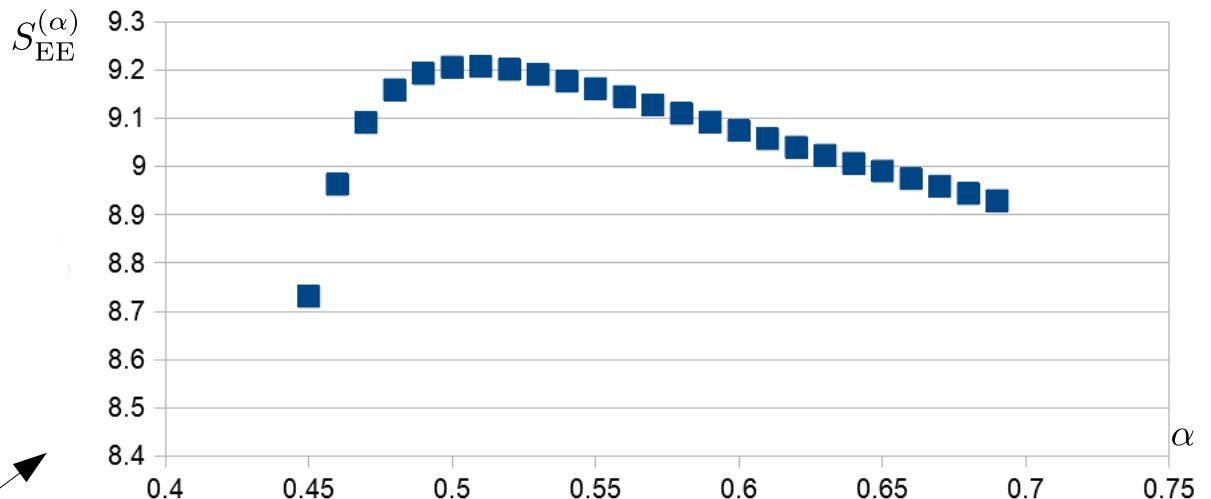
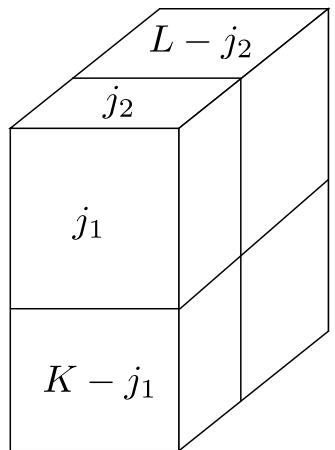
All final kinematic states for different j_1, j_2 can be related by Vertex translations (different subdivisions of the same cuboid)

Summation ↔ gauge orbit of vertex translation symmetry

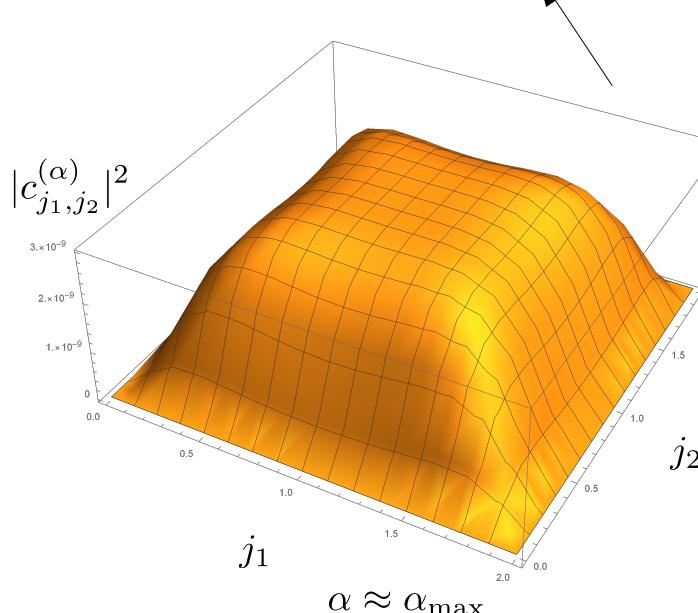


III Entanglement entropy of physical states: interpretation

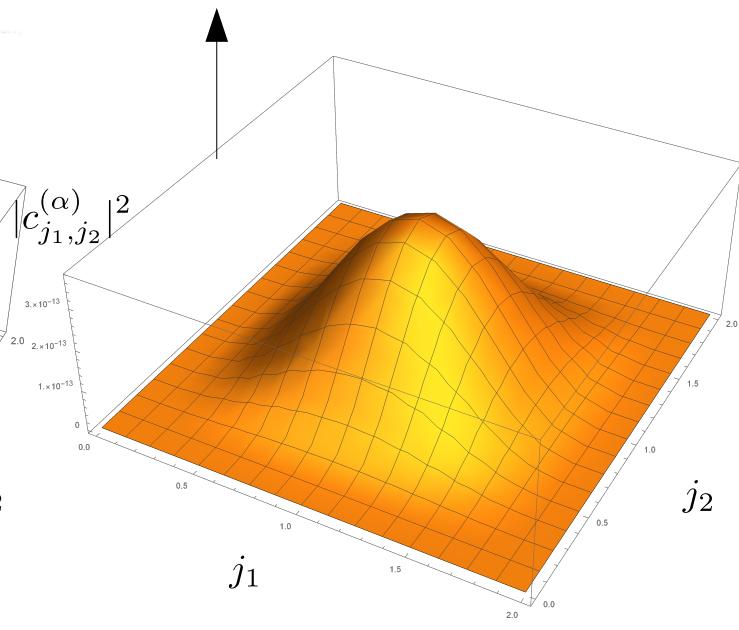
Interpretation:



$\alpha < \alpha_{\text{max}}$



$\alpha \approx \alpha_{\text{max}}$



$\alpha > \alpha_{\text{max}}$

→ Diffeomorphically equivalent d.o.f. are getting entangled at RG fixed point!

I Motivation

II Operator Spin Foam Models

- a. Definition
- b. Coarse graining

III Toy model: hypercuboidal OSFM

- a. RG flow & fixed point
- b. Entanglement entropy

IV Summary

IV Summary

Review of operator spin foam models:

- Class of models to construct transitions between (spin) network states
- → KKL-extension of EPRL-FK model is an example
- → suitable for coarse graining: cylindrical consistency \leftrightarrow RG flow of model

Example: hypercuboidal OSF \rightarrow toy model for EPRL-FK model

- Large spin \rightarrow only one coupling constant α
 \rightarrow related to face amplitude
$$\hat{w}_{j^+, j^-} = \left((2j^+ + 1)(2j^- + 1) \right)^\alpha$$
- Flow in α : UV fixed point.
- \rightarrow at FP: restoration of broken diffeo-symmetry in SFM
- Feature of FP: Entanglement Entropy increases: diffeo-d.o.f. become entangled
 - Feature chances to remain in the full EPRL-FK model
 - Sign of restoration of broken diffeo symmetry at FP
 - Neat new method to identify interesting points in parameter space



Happy birthday Jurek!