

Coarse-graining: Holonomy operators and spin network entanglement

Based on the work 2205.11205

Qian Chen
qian.chen@ens-lyon.fr

Laboratoire de Physique,
ENS de Lyon

July 19, 2022

Motivation

(General) Coarse-graining: a kind of compressing information, to study complicated problem with fewer variables.

Why we study coarse-graining?

- To recover classical limit: How to go from LQG to the classical [[Borissova,Dittrich,2022](#)].
- To figure out locality: How to localize a subsystem in the presence of diffeomorphism? If we can't, what about relational perspective [[Martin-Dussaud,Rovelli,Zalamea,2018](#)]?
- Toward holography: Bulk information is reflected on boundary. What is the role of boundaries [[Dittrich,Goeller,Livine,Riello,2018](#)], [[Freidel,Geiller,Pranzetti,2020](#)]? How to count the LQG's d.o.fs [[Livine,2017](#)]?

Coarse-graining: to simplify graphs

In particular, we are going to coarse-grain spin networks, i.e., to simplify the graphs.

- fined spin networks \rightarrow coarse-grained spin networks.

Objective: In case of absence of locality, we follow the relational perspective and quasi-local boundaries, to investigate

“Geometry emerges from quantum information”.

Coarse-graining and open spin networks

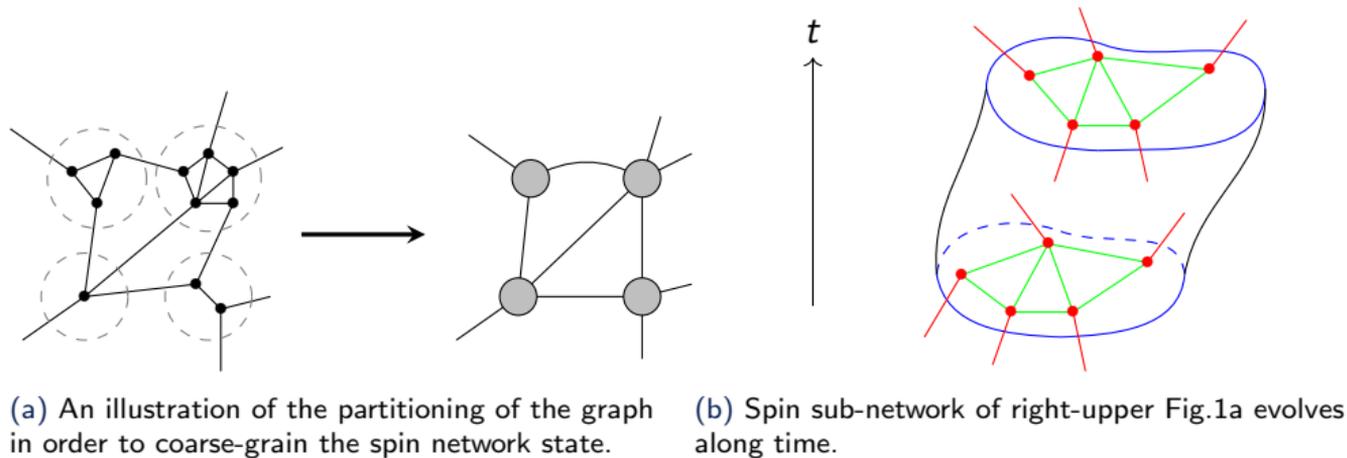


Figure: Coarse-graining emphasizes the relation between coarse-grained vertices instead of fined structure inside sub-graphs.

Bulk-boundary maps

Tensoring boundary representations, notice that

- Coarse-grained vertex carries a non-zero total angular momentum (because gauge symmetry is broken down due to the boundary).
- Spin network is glued from 'open spin networks' with gluers (i) 'bulk holonomies' and (ii) spin-matching, i.e. $|\psi_\Gamma\rangle \neq |\psi_{\Gamma_1}\rangle \otimes |\phi_{\Gamma_2}\rangle$ but

$$|\psi_\Gamma\rangle = \sum \alpha_{12}(\mathbf{g}) |\psi_{\Gamma_1}\rangle \otimes |\phi_{\Gamma_2}\rangle$$

We adopt bulk-to-boundary perspective [\[QC,Livine,Colafranceschi,Chirco,Oriti,2021\]](#)

- Spin network: functional from bulk to boundary

$$\psi_\Gamma : \{\mathbf{g}_{e \in \Gamma^\circ}\} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\partial\Gamma}, \quad \{\mathbf{g}_{e \in \Gamma^\circ}\} \mapsto |\psi_\Gamma(\{\mathbf{g}_{e \in \Gamma^\circ}\})\rangle.$$

Bulk-boundary maps make up a dual Hilbert space $(\mathcal{H}_\partial)^*$, with the scalar product same as spin networks:

$$\langle \phi_{\partial\Gamma} | \psi_{\partial\Gamma} \rangle := \int \prod_{e \in \Gamma^\circ} d\mathbf{g}_e \langle \phi_\Gamma(\{\mathbf{g}_{e \in \Gamma^\circ}\}) | \psi_\Gamma(\{\mathbf{g}_{e \in \Gamma^\circ}\}) \rangle.$$

Let us coarse-grain

There are two manners to do coarse-graining:

- Trace over bulk holonomies (G -twirling operation [[Bartlett, Rudolph, Spekkens, 2007](#)], [Höhn's talk](#)), then obtain a $SU(2)$ -invariant state [[QC, Livine, 2021](#)],

$$\rho_{\partial} = \int \prod_{e \in \Gamma^{\circ}} dg_e |\psi_{\Gamma}(\{g_e\}_{e \in \Gamma^{\circ}})\rangle \langle \psi_{\Gamma}(\{g_e\}_{e \in \Gamma^{\circ}})| \in \text{End}(\mathcal{H}_{\partial\Gamma}), \quad \rho_{\partial} = g \rho_{\partial} g^{-1}.$$

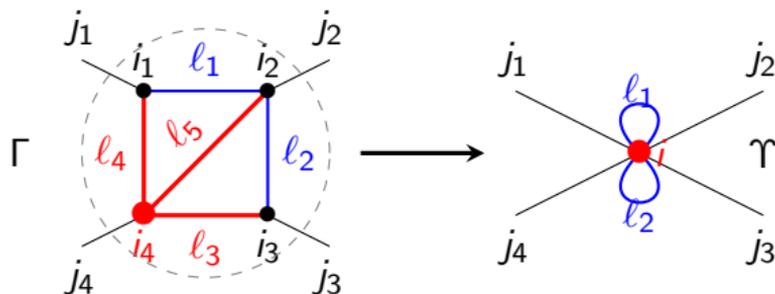
- Gauge-fix bulk holonomies, then obtain a loopy spin network [[Freidel, Livine, 2002](#)].

Coarse-graining via gauge-fixing

In this talk, we focus on the ‘coarse-graining via gauge-fixing’.

Procedure $\Gamma \rightarrow \Upsilon$:

- Choose a ‘root vertex’ (in red) and a ‘maximal tree’ in bulk (in red): connect all vertices by a path that doesn’t form a loop.
- Implement gauge transformation $g_e \rightarrow h_t g_e h_s^{-1}$ along the maximal tree to set these holonomies $g_e \mapsto 1$.
- Contract the maximal tree to the root vertex. Edges out of the maximal tree become self-loops (in blue).
- Studying spin sub-networks via loopy spin networks [Charles, Livine, 2016].



Coarse-graining via gauge-fixing

Remarks:

- Gauge-fixing actually defines a unitary for dual boundary Hilbert space $(\mathcal{H}_{\partial\Gamma})^*$.

$$\langle \phi_{\partial\Gamma} | \psi_{\partial\Gamma} \rangle = \langle \phi_{\partial\Upsilon} | \psi_{\partial\Upsilon} \rangle .$$

- Density matrix: $\rho_\Gamma = |\psi_\Gamma\rangle\langle\psi_\Gamma| \in \text{End}(\mathcal{H}_\Gamma)$. Reduced density matrix: $\rho_{\Gamma_1} = \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_{\Gamma_2}} \rho_\Gamma = \sum_{\{\phi'\}} \langle \phi'_{\Gamma_2} | \rho_\Gamma | \phi'_{\Gamma_2} \rangle$. It turns out that ρ_{Γ_1} and ρ_{Υ_1} are equivalent up to boundary holonomies — ‘local unitary’ w.r.t $(\mathcal{H}_{\partial\Gamma_1})^*$.
- Spin network entanglement is preserved under ‘coarse-graining via gauge-fixing’.

Entanglement coarse-graining: kinematical level

The spin network entanglement has well coarse-graining behavior.

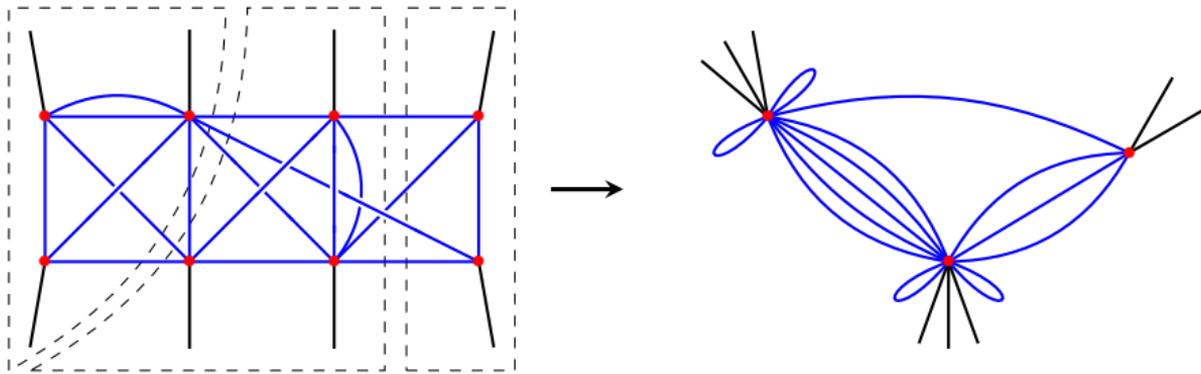


Figure: The illustration for coarse-graining.

What happen if some dynamics come?

Loop holonomy operator and its coarse-graining

We consider loop holonomy operator, because

- It is a non-local operator that can create entanglement [QC,Livine,2022] and corresponds to Ashtekar-Barbero curvature.
- It is a basic block for Euclidean Hamiltonian in the framework of AQG [Giesel,Thiemann,2006], changing the spins associated to intertwiners.

We can derive transformation rules between loop holonomy on fined and coarse-grained graphs which can be proven by Biedenharn-Elliott identity.

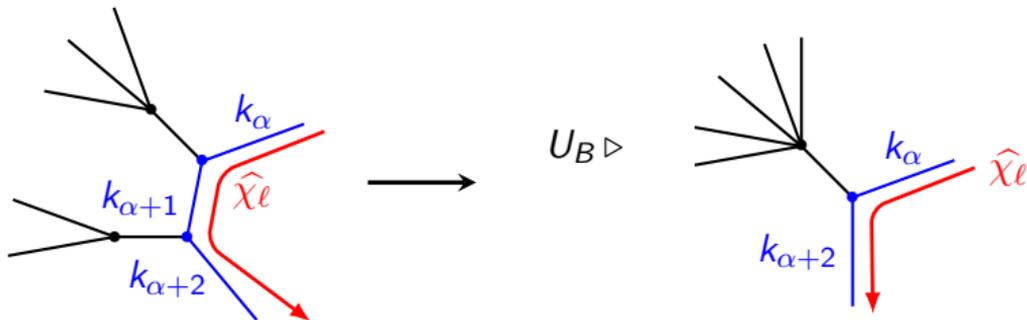


Figure: Gauge-fix the holonomy associated with spin $k_{\alpha+1}$ into \mathbb{I} in the left side, then coarse-grain $k_{\alpha+1}$. What matter to the dynamics are spins $k_{\alpha+2}$, k_{α} and recoupled spin J .

Entanglement coarse-graining: dynamical level

The spin network entanglement is still preserved under coarse-graining.

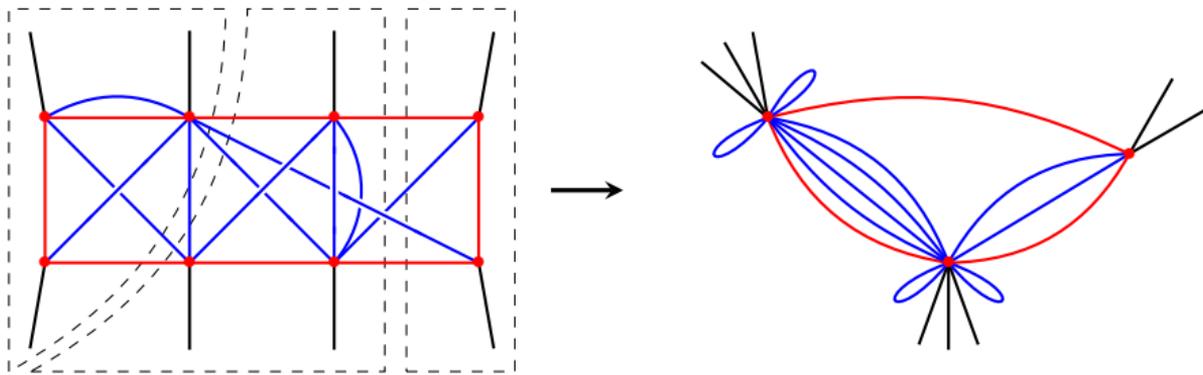


Figure: The illustration for coarse-graining.

Outlook & Perspective

Summary:

- The entanglement between spin sub-networks is preserved under coarse-graining.
- The transformation rules between loop holonomy operators on fined and coarse-grained graph are produced.
- The loop holonomy dynamics of entanglement between spin sub-networks is preserved under coarse-graining.

What are the next?

- What about the full dynamics of LQG? → Consider a true LQG Hamiltonian.
- Can we recover entanglement entropic area law? → Study 2-vertex model [Borja, Freidel, Diaz-Polo, Garay, Livine, 2010].

Thank you for your attention!