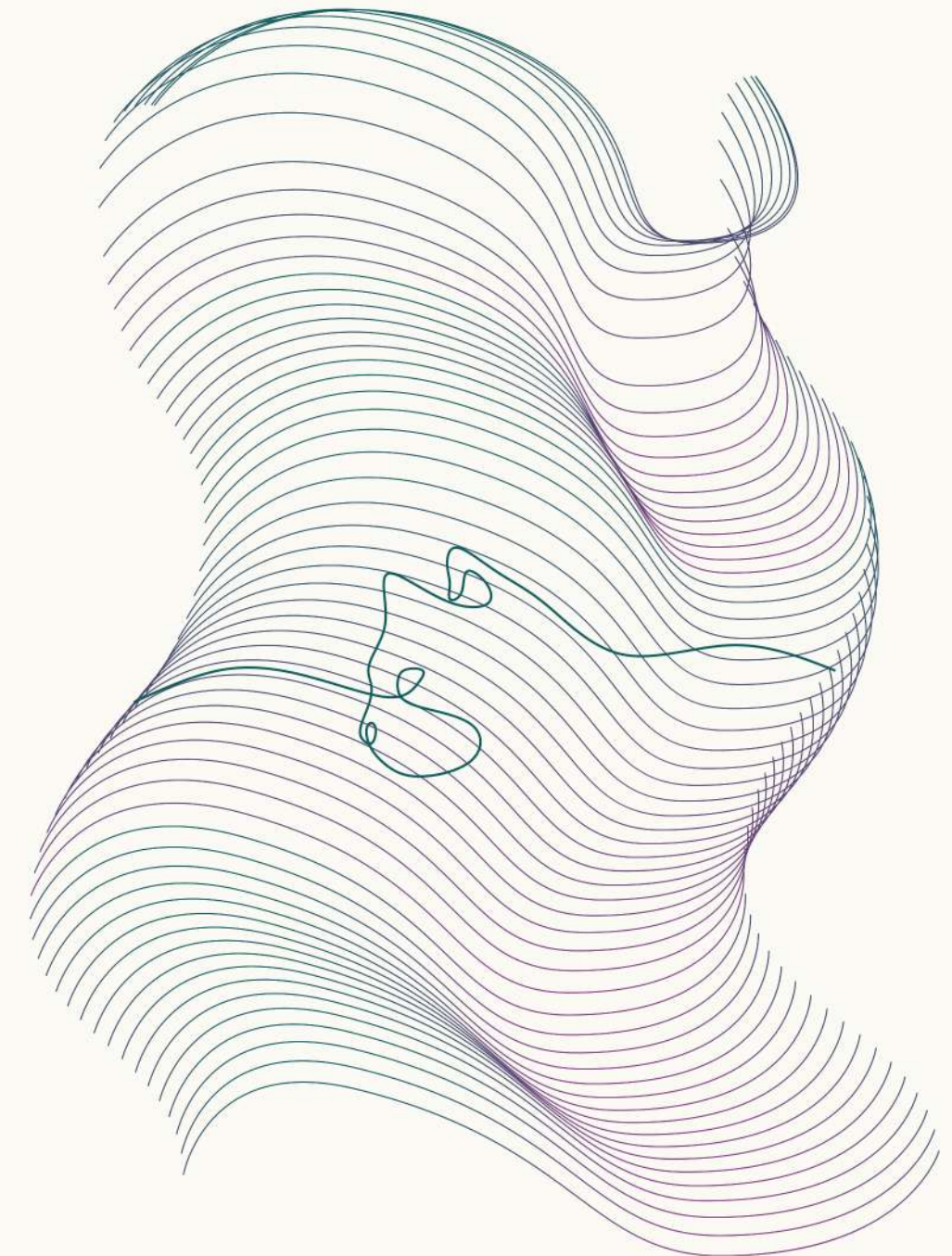


EFFECTIVE GROUP FIELD THEORY METRIC FOR THE UNIVERSE

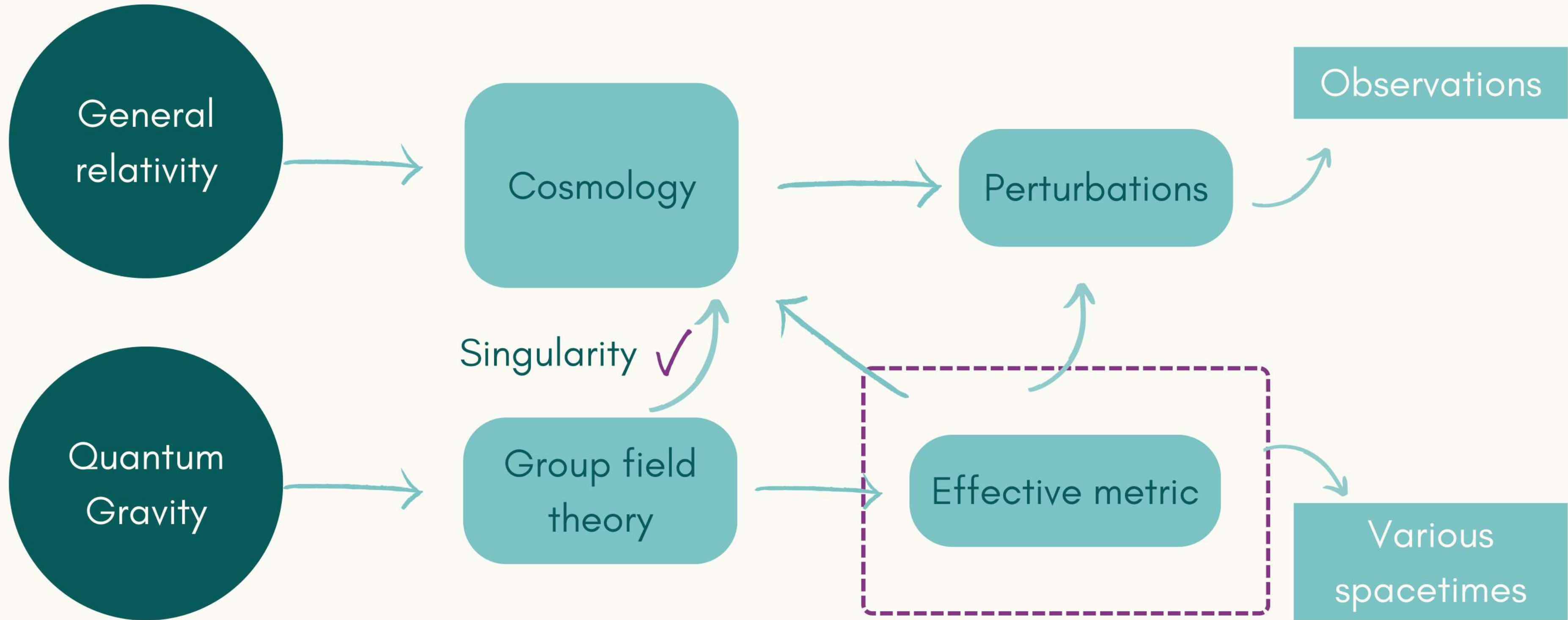
arXiv:2312.10016

Atlantic General Relativity 2024
19th June 2024

Lisa Mickel, University of Sheffield
Supervisor: Steffen Gielen



OVERVIEW

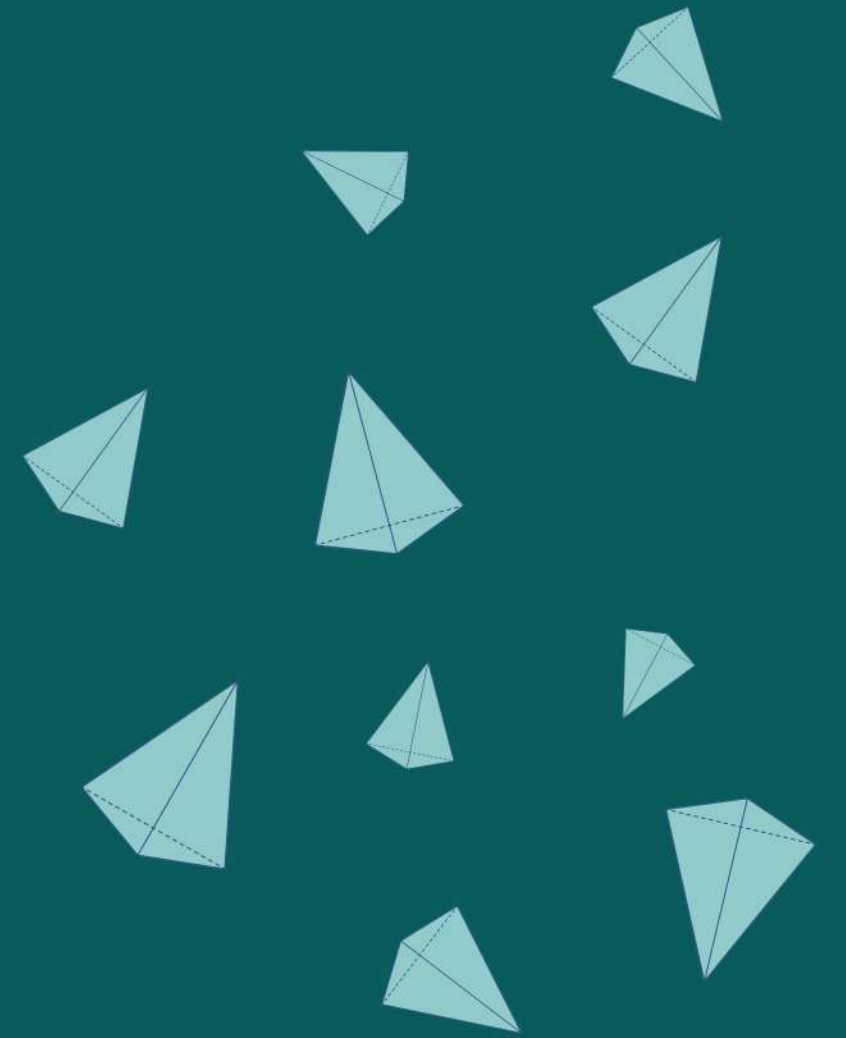


CONTENT

- Group field theory, relational coordinate system
- GFT operators for an effective metric
- Application to cosmology
 - background
 - perturbations

INTRODUCTION

Group field theory



GROUP FIELD THEORY

- Field theory on a group manifold

- bosonic group field $\varphi(g_i, \chi^A)$ e.g. $\varphi : \text{SU}(2)^4 \times \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

real valued functions

group elements

- Field excitations: building blocks of spacetime

- tetrahedron or spin network vertex



GROUP FIELD THEORY

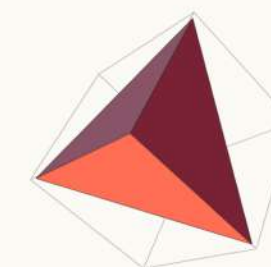
- Field theory on a group manifold

- bosonic group field $\varphi(g_i, \chi^A)$

real valued functions

group elements
 - e.g. $\varphi : \text{SU}(2)^4 \times \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

- Field excitations: building blocks of spacetime



- tetrahedron or spin network vertex

- Mode decomposition $\varphi(g_i, \chi^A) = \sum_J \varphi_J(\chi^A) D_J(g_i)$

$J = (\vec{j}, \vec{m}, \iota)$

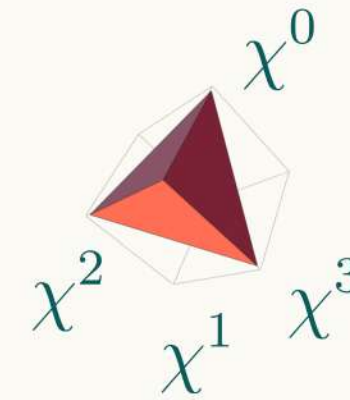
- Action $S[\varphi] = \mathcal{K}[\varphi] + V[\varphi]$

- here: second order kinetic term $\mathcal{L} = \sum_J \left(\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{K}_J^{(0)} \varphi_J - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{K}_J^{(2)} (\partial_A \varphi_J)^2 \right)$

$\partial_A = \frac{\partial}{\partial \chi^A}$

RELATIONAL COORDINATE SYSTEM

- Couple four massless scalar fields $\varphi : \text{SU}(2)^4 \times \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 - relate to coordinate system in which $\partial_\mu \chi^A = \delta_\mu^A$
 - one clock field χ^0 , three 'spatial' fields $\chi^1 \chi^2 \chi^3$



[Gielen ('18)]

[Kotecha, Oriti ('18)]

[Marchetti, Oriti ('21), ('22)]

- Deparametrised approach

- single out clock field χ^0
- introduce canonical momentum $\pi_J = -\mathcal{K}^{(2)} \partial_0 \varphi_J$

- Fourier decomposition w.r.t. spatial fields $\varphi_J(\chi^A) = \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{k}\vec{\chi}} \varphi_{J,k}(\chi^0)$

[Wilson-Ewing ('18)], [Gielen, Polaczek ('20), ('21)]

QUANTIZATION

[Gielen, Polaczek (21)]

- Equal time commutation relations

$$[\varphi_{J,k}(\chi^0), \pi_{J',k'}(\chi^0)] = i \delta_{JJ'} (2\pi)^3 \delta(\vec{k} + \vec{k}')$$

- Hamiltonian

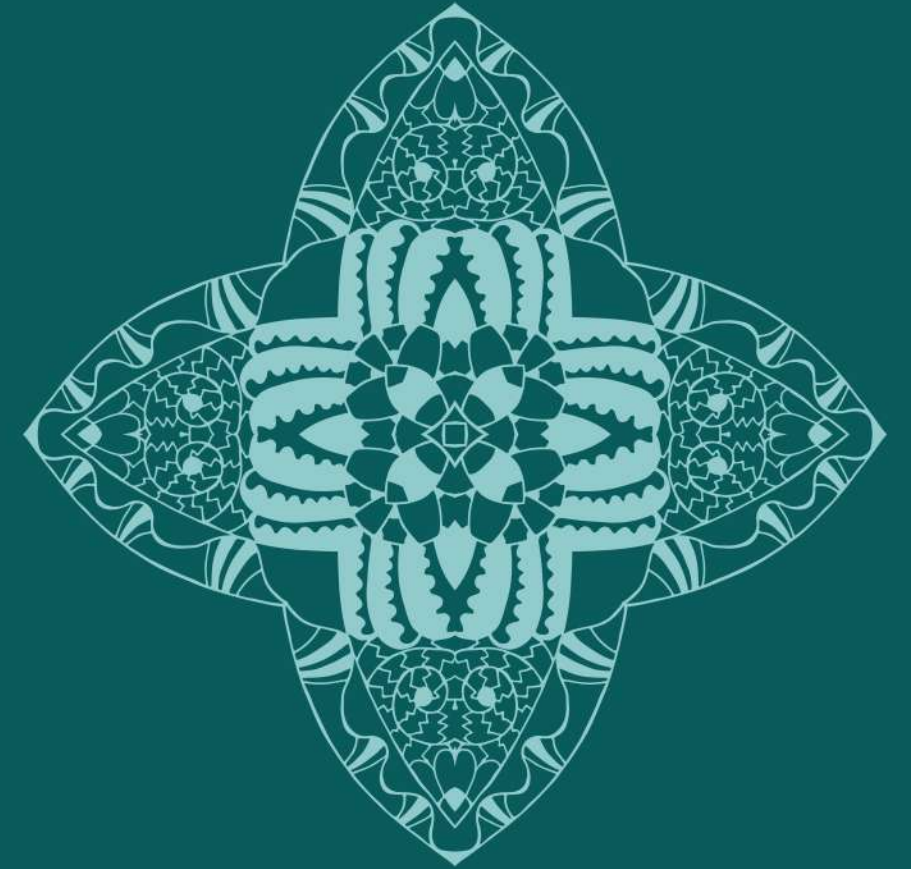
$$H = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_J \frac{\mathcal{K}_J^{(2)}}{2} \left(-\frac{1}{|\mathcal{K}_J^{(2)}|^2} \pi_{J,-k}(\chi^0) \pi_{J,k}(\chi^0) + \omega_{J,k}^2 \varphi_{J,-k}(\chi^0) \varphi_{J,k}(\chi^0) \right)$$

$$\omega_{J,k}^2 = m_J^2 + \vec{k}^2$$
$$m_J^2 = -\frac{\mathcal{K}^{(0)}}{\mathcal{K}^{(2)}}$$

- Two types of Hamiltonian: 'squeezing' $\omega_{J,k}^2 > 0$ and 'oscillating' $\omega_{J,k}^2 < 0$
- Restrict to single J mode

EFFECTIVE METRIC

Construction



CONSERVATION LAWS FROM SYMMETRY

- Shift symmetry $\chi^A \mapsto \chi^A + \epsilon^A$

- Classically conserved current from free scalar field action

$$(j^\mu)^A = -\sqrt{-g}g^{\mu\nu}\partial_\nu\chi^A = -\sqrt{-g}g^{\mu A}$$

- Klein Gordon equation $\partial_\mu(j^\mu)^A = 0$

- GFT stress energy tensor

$$T^{AB} := -\frac{\partial\mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_A\varphi)}\partial_B\varphi + \delta^{AB}\mathcal{L}$$

- Conservation law $\partial_A T^{AB} = 0$

CONSERVATION LAWS FROM SYMMETRY

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$$T^{AB} := -\frac{\partial\mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_A\varphi)}\partial_B\varphi + \delta^{AB}\mathcal{L}$$

- Conservation law $\partial_A T^{AB} = 0$

- Define

$$j^{AB} := (j^A)^B = \sqrt{-g}g^{AB}$$

- Construct operators

$$T^{AB} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}^{AB}$$

- Identify in relational coordinate system

$$j^{AB} = \langle \mathcal{T}^{AB} \rangle$$

QUANTIZE GFT ENERGY MOMENTUM TENSOR

$$T^{AB}$$

↓

$$T_k^{AB}$$

↓

$$\mathcal{T}_k^{AB}$$

↓

$$:\mathcal{T}_k^{AB}:$$

- Fourier decomposition

- Replace φ_k, π_k with operators

- Impose normal ordering for a_k, a_k^\dagger

- E.g.
$$T_k^{00} = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^3\gamma}{(2\pi)^3} \left[\frac{\pi_\gamma \pi_{k-\gamma}}{\mathcal{K}^{(2)}} - \mathcal{K}^{(2)} \left(m^2 - \vec{\gamma} \cdot (\vec{k} - \vec{\gamma}) \right) \varphi_\gamma \varphi_{k-\gamma} \right]$$

- Conservation law $\partial_0 : \mathcal{T}_k^{0B} : + i \sum_a k_a : \mathcal{T}_k^{aB} : = 0$ holds at operator level

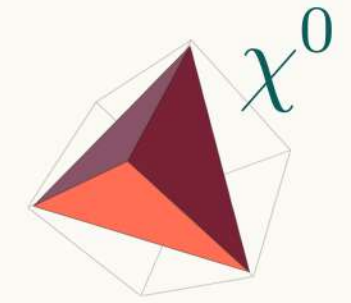
EFFECTIVE METRIC

Application to cosmology



GROUP FIELD THEORY COSMOLOGY

- Single massless scalar field χ^0 as a clock
- Condensate phase: state determined by single particle wavefunction



- Effective scale factor from volume operator $\langle \hat{V} \rangle = a^3$
- Single J mode dominates at late times

[Gielen ('16)], ...]

- Effective Friedmann equation
 - bounce
 - recover GR at late times

- Phenomenology

- interactions, multiple modes, anisotropy, perturbations

[Oriti, Pang, ('21)]
[Gielen, Calcinari, ('23)]
[de Cesare, Pithis, Sakellariadou, ('16)]
[Marchetti, Oriti ('21) ('22)], [Jercher, Marchetti, Pithis ('23)]

EFFECTIVE FLRW METRIC FROM GFT I

- Recall: $j^{AB} = \langle \mathcal{T}^{AB} \rangle = \sqrt{-g} g^{AB}$
- Fock coherent state is sufficiently semiclassical

[Gielen, Polaczek ('20)]

$$a_{\vec{k}}|\sigma\rangle = \sigma(\vec{k})|\sigma\rangle$$

- State determines physical scenario

- flat FLRW metric

$$ds^2 = -N^2(t)dt^2 + a^2(t)dx^i dx^j$$

- Gaussian peaked around homogeneous background

mode $\vec{k}_0 = 0$

$$\sigma(\vec{k}) = \frac{\mathcal{A} + i\mathcal{B}}{c_\sigma} e^{-\frac{(\vec{k}-\vec{k}_0)^2}{2s^2}}$$

Contrast to
standard
cosmology: No
clear split into
background and
perturbations

EFFECTIVE FLRW METRIC FROM GFT II

- Classical currents

$$j^{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} |\pi_0| & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{a^4}{|\pi_0|} \delta^{ab} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{clock field conjugate momentum}$$

- Identification with operator expectation values

$$|\pi_0| = \langle \mathcal{T}_0^{00} \rangle = |m|(\mathcal{B}^2 - \mathcal{A}^2), \quad \langle \mathcal{T}_0^{0b} \rangle = 0, \quad \langle \mathcal{T}_0^{ab} \rangle = 0$$

$$a^4 = -|\pi_0| \langle \mathcal{T}_0^{aa} \rangle = m^2(\mathcal{B}^2 - \mathcal{A}^2) ((\mathcal{A}^2 + \mathcal{B}^2) \cosh(2|m|\chi^0) - 2\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B} \sinh(2|m|\chi^0))$$

- Spatially flat metric, Lorentzian signature dependent on initial conditions $\mathcal{B}^2 > \mathcal{A}^2$

EFFECTIVE FRIEDMANN EQUATION

- Resulting Friedmann equation $H^2 = \frac{1}{4}m^2 \left(1 - \frac{|\pi_0|^4}{a^8} \right) \xrightarrow{\text{late times}} \frac{1}{4}m^2$

- Classical Friedmann equation with a single scalar field $H^2 = \frac{\kappa}{6}$ $\leftarrow \kappa = 8\pi G$

- GFT with a clock field $H^2 = \frac{\kappa}{6} \left(1 + \frac{v_0}{a^3} + \frac{\mathcal{Y}}{a^6} \right)$ \leftarrow negative constant (initial condition) [Gielen, Polaczek ('20)]

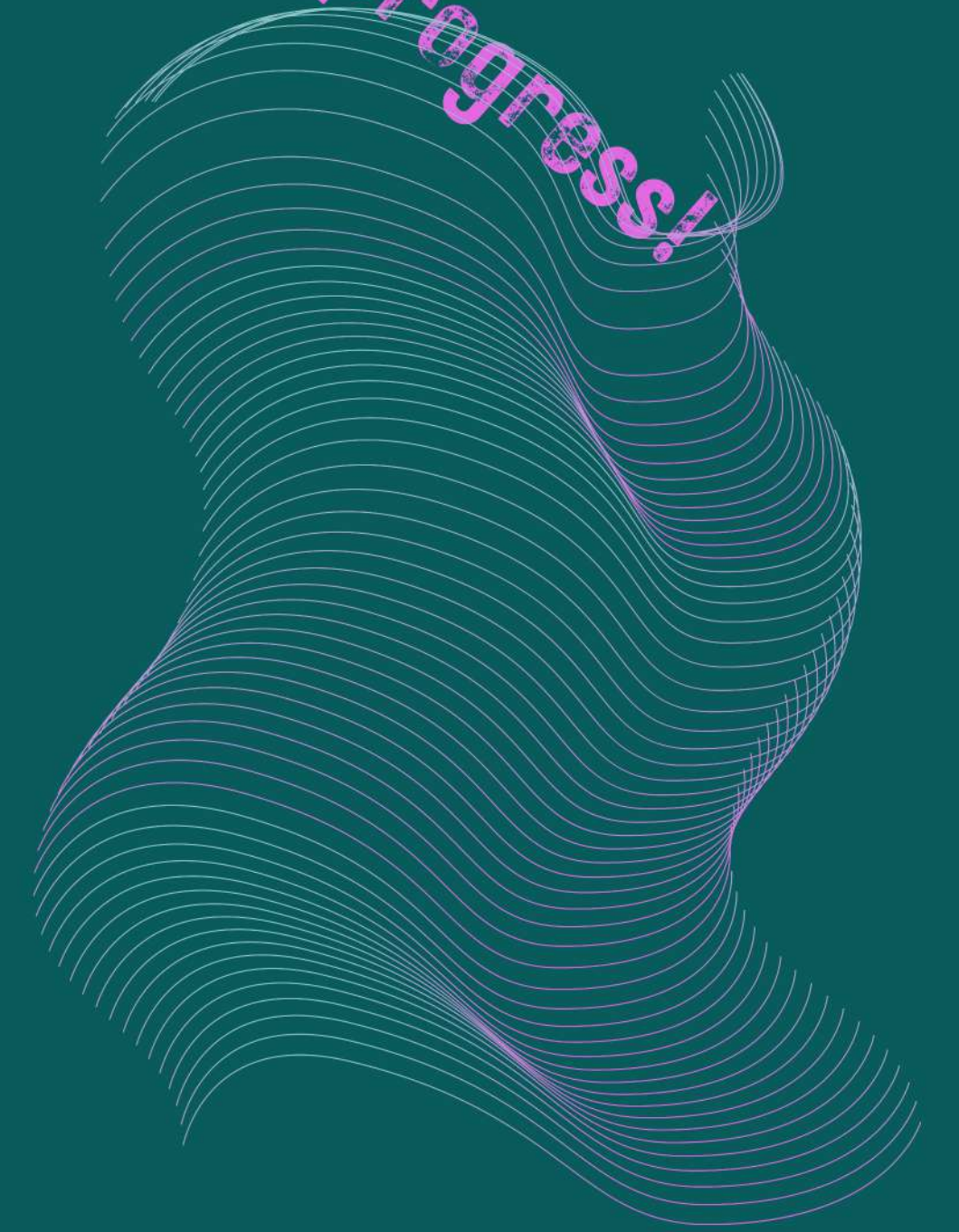
- Effective Friedmann equation from volume operator $a^3 = \langle \sigma | V | \sigma \rangle \propto \langle \sigma | N | \sigma \rangle$

- Here: $a^4 \propto \langle \sigma | N | \sigma \rangle$

THE NEXT STEP...

Cosmological perturbations

Work in progress!



PERTURBATIONS FROM OPERATORS

- General relativity: add small inhomogeneous perturbations on homogeneous background

$$ds^2 = -N^2(1 + 2\tilde{\Phi})dt^2 + 2Na \partial_i B dt dx^i + a^2 ((1 - 2\psi)\delta_{ij} + 2\partial_i \partial_j E) dx^i dx^j$$

- Perturbation of effective quantity $f = \langle \hat{f} \rangle$ given by $\delta f_k = \langle \hat{f}_k \rangle - \delta_{0,k} \langle \hat{f}_0 \rangle$
- Effective metric identification gives ($k \neq 0$)

$$T_k^{00} = |\pi_0| (\tilde{\Phi} + 3\psi + k^2 E)$$

$$T_k^{a \neq b} = 2 \frac{a^4}{|\pi_0|} k_a k_b E$$

$$T_k^{aa} = \frac{a^4}{|\pi_0|} (\tilde{\Phi} - \psi - k^2 E + 2k_a^2 E)$$

$$T_k^{0b} = ia^2 k_b B$$

Access to all
perturbative
quantities

EXAMPLE DYNAMICS OF PERTURBATIONS

- Focus on

$$E = \frac{|\pi_0|}{2a^4} \frac{T^{a \neq b}}{k_a k_b} = -\text{sgn}(\mathcal{K}^{(2)}) \frac{|\pi_0|}{16\omega_{k/2} a^4} (C_k + 2N_k)$$

- GFT equation of motion

- late times

$$E'' - k^2 E = 0$$

- agreement with GR for $k \rightarrow 0$
- Euclidean signature

- Classical equation of motion

- single field

$$\frac{(\pi^0)^2}{a^4} E'' + k^2 E = 0$$

- Previous studies of GFT perturbations: perturbed volume

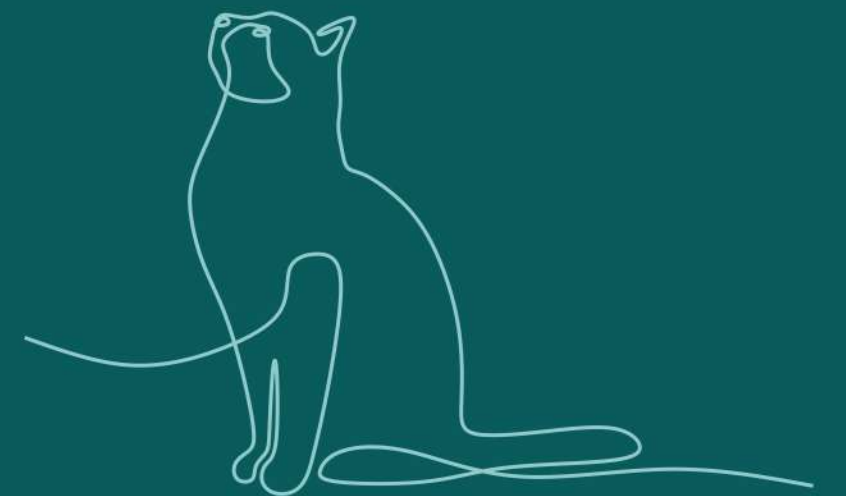
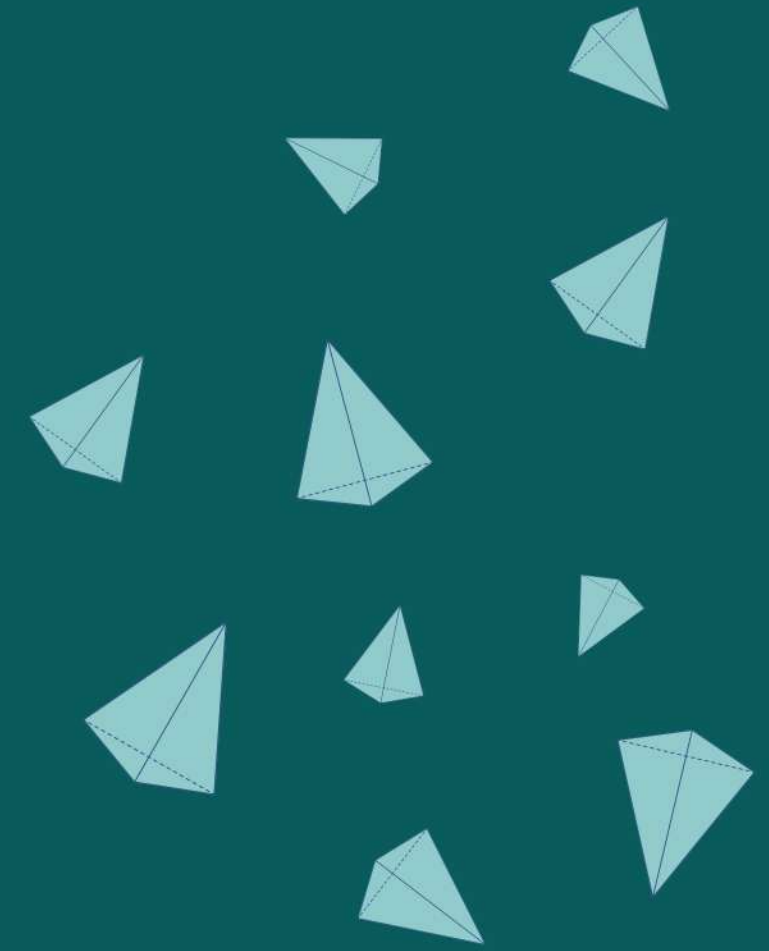
[Gielen ('18)], [Marchetti, Oriti ('21) ('22)]

[Jercher, Marchetti, Pithis ('23)]

→ Recover GR

$$k^2 E - 3\psi = \frac{\delta V_k}{V}$$

CONCLUSION



CONCLUSION

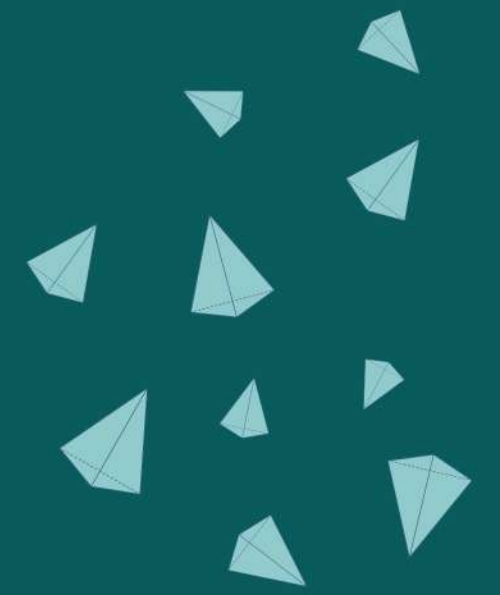
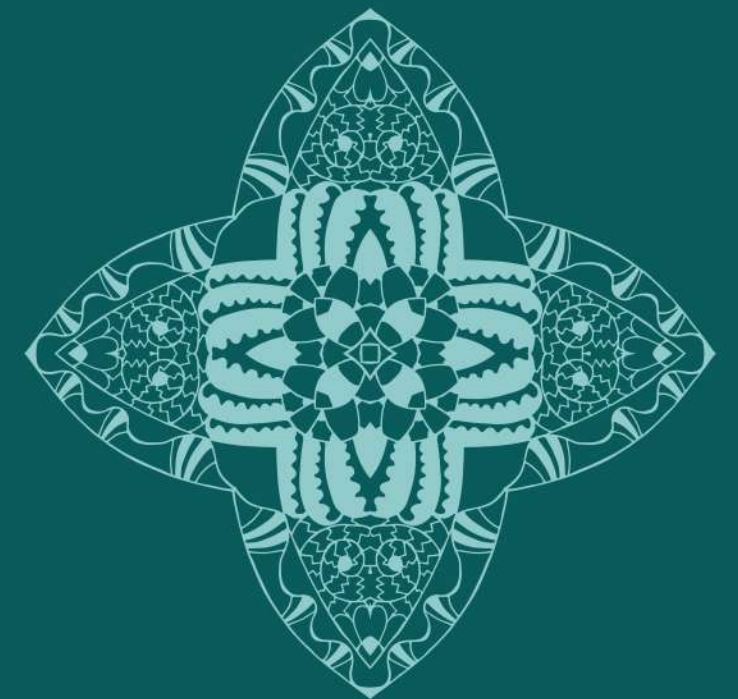
- We introduce new GFT operators that allow to reconstruct an effective metric in a relational coordinate system for suitable states
- Background cosmology
 - recover Friedmann equation for single scalar field in GR
 - different relation between scale factor and number operator $a^4 \propto \langle \sigma | N | \sigma \rangle$
- Cosmological perturbations
 - can be reconstructed explicitly
 - mismatch with GR dynamics

OUTLOOK

- Metric properties
- Application to other spacetimes
 - state choice
- Cosmological phenomenology
 - correct GR limit
 - connection to observables: study gauge invariant variables

THANK YOU!

Questions...?



QUANTIZATION

[Gielen, Polaczek ('21)]

- Equal time commutation relations

$$[\varphi_{J,k}(\chi^0), \pi_{J',k'}(\chi^0)] = i \delta_{JJ'} (2\pi)^3 \delta(\vec{k} + \vec{k}')$$

- Hamiltonian

$$H = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_J \frac{\mathcal{K}_J^{(2)}}{2} \left(-\frac{1}{|\mathcal{K}_J^{(2)}|^2} \pi_{J,-k}(\chi^0) \pi_{J,k}(\chi^0) + \omega_{J,k}^2 \varphi_{J,-k}(\chi^0) \varphi_{J,k}(\chi^0) \right)$$

- Squeezing Hamiltonian:

$$\omega_{J,k}^2 > 0 \quad H_{J,k} = \text{sgn}(\mathcal{K}_J^{(2)}) \frac{|\omega_{J,k}|}{2} \left(a_{J,k} a_{J,-k} + a_{J,k}^\dagger a_{J,-k}^\dagger \right)$$

- Restrict to single J mode

$$\omega_{J,k}^2 = m_J^2 + \vec{k}^2$$

$$m_J^2 = -\frac{\mathcal{K}^{(0)}}{\mathcal{K}^{(2)}}$$

$$\varphi_{J,k}(\chi^0) = \frac{1}{2\alpha_{J,k}} (A_{J,k} + A_{J,-k}^\dagger)$$

$$\pi_{J,k}(\chi^0) = -i\alpha_{J,k} (A_{J,k} - A_{J,-k}^\dagger)$$

$$\alpha_{J,k} = \sqrt{\frac{|\omega_{J,k}| |\mathcal{K}^{(2)}|}{2}}$$

QUANTIZE GFT ENERGY MOMENTUM TENSOR

- Fourier decomposition
- Replace φ_k, π_k with operators
- Impose normal ordering for a_k, a_k^\dagger

$$T^{AB} \rightarrow T_k^{AB} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_k^{AB} \rightarrow : \mathcal{T}_k^{AB} :$$

- E.g.

$$T_k^{00} = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^3\gamma}{(2\pi)^3} \left[\frac{\pi_\gamma \pi_{k-\gamma}}{\mathcal{K}^{(2)}} - \mathcal{K}^{(2)} \left(m^2 - \vec{\gamma} \cdot (\vec{k} - \vec{\gamma}) \right) \varphi_\gamma \varphi_{k-\gamma} \right]$$

$$: \mathcal{T}_k^{00} : = \int \frac{d^3\gamma}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\text{sgn}(\mathcal{K}^{(2)})}{4\sqrt{|\omega_\gamma| |\omega_{k-\gamma}|}} \left[2\beta_{k,\gamma}^+ : A_{-\gamma}^\dagger A_{k-\gamma} : + \beta_{k,\gamma}^- \left(: A_{-\gamma}^\dagger A_{\gamma-k}^\dagger : + : A_\gamma A_{k-\gamma} : \right) \right]$$

- Conservation law $\partial_0 : \mathcal{T}_k^{0B} : + i \sum_a k_a : \mathcal{T}_k^{aB} : = 0$ holds at operator level

GR IN RELATIONAL FRAMEWORK

- GFT Friedmann equation:
$$H^2 = \frac{1}{4}m^2 \left(1 - \frac{|\pi_0|^4}{a^8} \right) \xrightarrow{\text{late times}} \frac{1}{4}m^2$$

- Classically, the gradients of spatial fields change background Friedmann equation

$$H^2 = \left(\frac{a'}{a} \right)^2 = \frac{\kappa}{6} \left(1 + 3 \frac{a^4}{\pi_0^2} \right), \quad \frac{a''}{a} = \frac{\kappa}{6} \left(1 + 9 \frac{a^4}{\pi_0^2} \right)$$

- GFT bounce at $a^4 = \pi_0^2$
 - Can only reproduce GR with single massless scalar field at late times
- Gradient terms absent also in other GFT approaches
 - Consistency with GFT literature

↪ Conflict between homogeneity on GFT side and relational coordinate system

CLASSICAL PERTURBATIONS

- Perturbed stress energy tensor

$$\begin{aligned}({x})\delta T_0^0 &= \frac{\pi_0^2}{a^6} \tilde{\Phi} + \frac{1}{a^2} (-3\psi + \nabla^2 E) \\({x})\delta T_i^i &= -\frac{\pi_0^2}{a^6} \tilde{\Phi} + \frac{1}{a^2} (-\psi + (\nabla^2 - 2\partial_i^2) E)\end{aligned}$$

Needs to vanish for adiabatic perturbations: $\frac{\delta P}{\delta \rho} = \frac{P'}{\rho'}$

- Non-adiabatic perturbations in GR with relational coordinate system
 - Additional terms not negligible, as bounce happens at $a^4 = \pi_0^2$

EFFECTIVE FLRW METRIC FROM GFT II

- Classical currents

$$j^{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} |\pi_0| & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{a^4}{|\pi_0|} \delta^{ab} \end{pmatrix} \quad \leftarrow \text{clock field conjugate momentum}$$

- Background quantities given by k=0 mode, use saddle point approximation

$$\int dx e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2s^2}} f(x) \approx f(\mu) \int dx e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2s^2}}$$

- Identification with operator expectation values

$$|\pi_0| = \langle \mathcal{T}_0^{00} \rangle = |m|(\mathcal{B}^2 - \mathcal{A}^2), \quad \langle \mathcal{T}_0^{0b} \rangle = 0, \quad \langle \mathcal{T}_0^{ab} \rangle = 0$$

$$a^4 = -|\pi_0| \langle \mathcal{T}_0^{aa} \rangle = m^2(\mathcal{B}^2 - \mathcal{A}^2) ((\mathcal{A}^2 + \mathcal{B}^2) \cosh(2|m|\chi^0) - 2\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B} \sinh(2|m|\chi^0))$$

- Spatially flat metric , Lorentzian signature dependent on initial conditions $\mathcal{B}^2 > \mathcal{A}^2$