

# Analytical and numerical study of Weyl and Dirac Quantum Walks

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5th International Conference on New Frontiers in Physics  
Orthodox Academy of Crete, Kolymbari, Crete, Greece  
July, 9th 2016

## Outline:

1. Quantum Walk model
2. Dirac and Weyl QWs
3. Path-integral solution

## Authors:

Giacomo Mauro D'Ariano  
Nicola Mosco  
Paolo Perinotti  
Alessandro Tosini

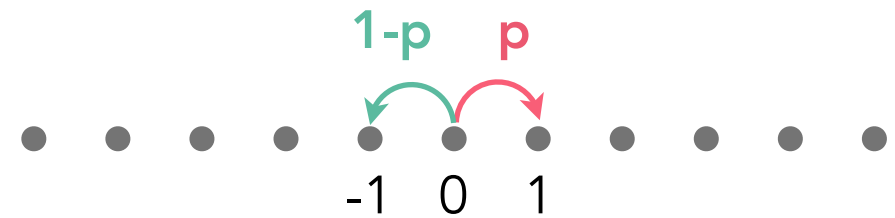
# Quantum Walks

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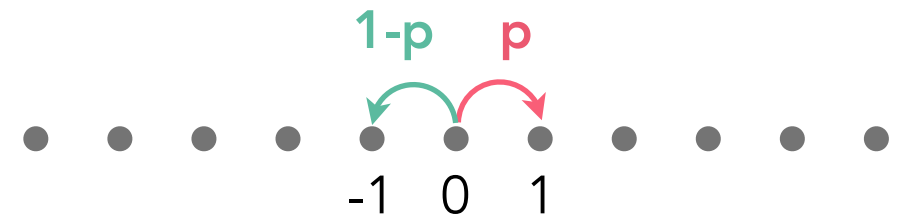
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Random Walk:  
go right or left with some probability

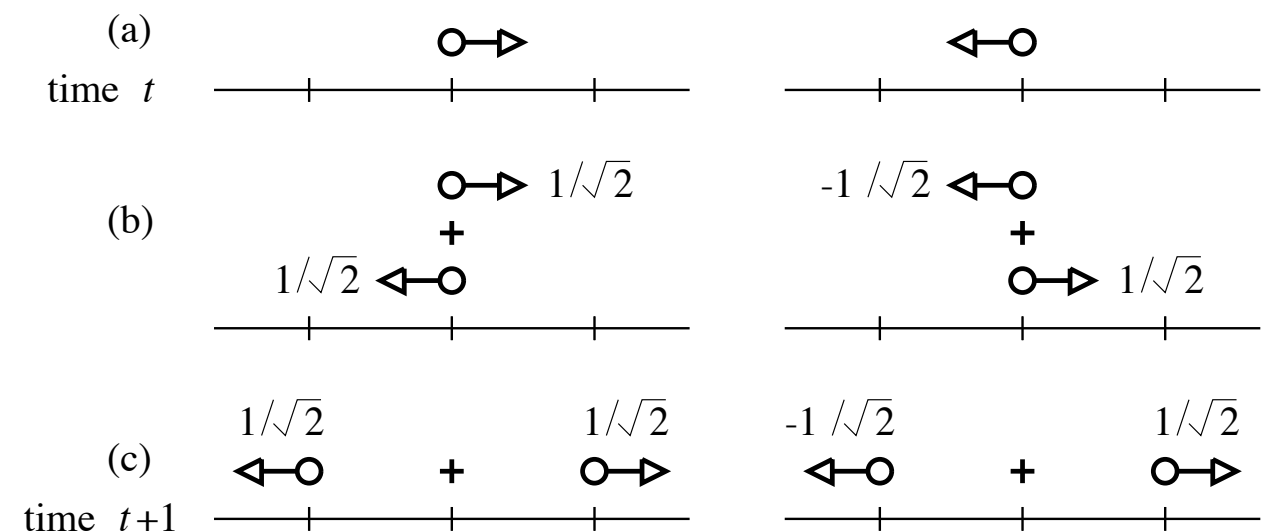


# Quantum Walks

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Y. Aharonov, L. Davidovich, and N. Zagury, Phys. Rev. A 48(2):1687–1690 (1993)



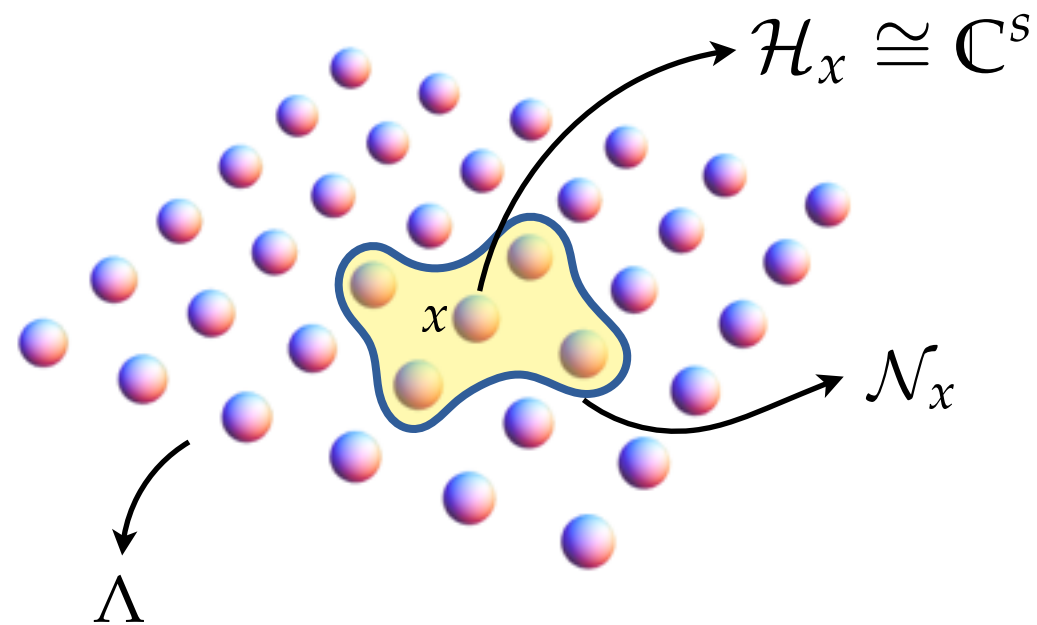


# Quantum Walks on graphs

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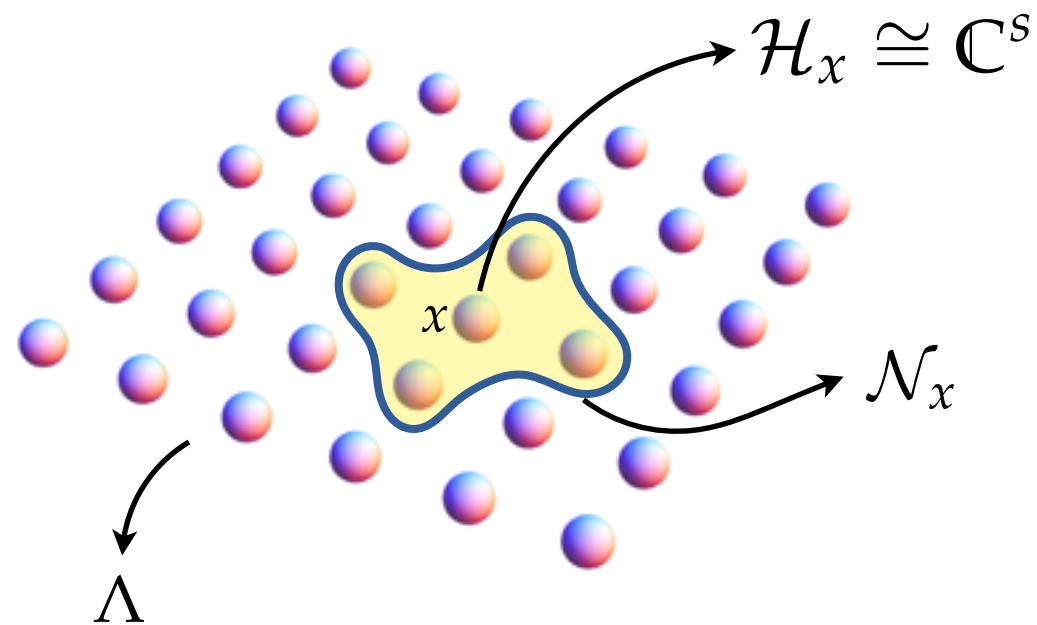
Lattice  $\Lambda$

Locality



Finite neighbourhood scheme  $\mathcal{N}_x$

# Quantum Walks on graphs



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Locality



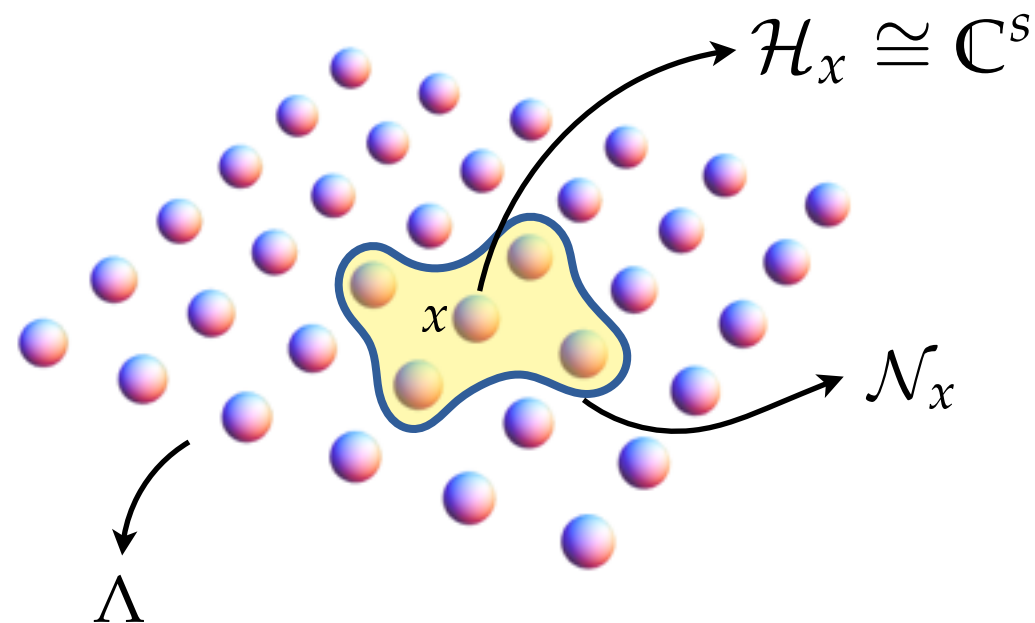
Finite neighbourhood scheme  $\mathcal{N}_x$

$$\mathcal{H} = \bigoplus_{x \in \Lambda} \mathcal{H}_x \cong \ell^2(\Lambda) \otimes \mathbb{C}^s$$

$$U: \mathcal{H}_x \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{y \in \mathcal{N}_x} \mathcal{H}_y$$

Unitary local evolution

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Unitary local evolution

Translational invariance:

$$U = \sum_{h \in S} T_h \otimes U_h$$

Translation operators

Transition matrices

# Dirac and Weyl Quantum Walks

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Assumptions on dynamics:  
unitarity, locality, homogeneity, isotropy

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1+1 dimensions: 

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1+1 dimensions: 

Dirac QW

$$U_R = \begin{pmatrix} n & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad U_L = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & n \end{pmatrix}$$
$$U_M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & im \\ im & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad n^2 + m^2 = 1$$

A. Bisio, G. M. D'Ariano, and  
A. Tosini, Ann. Phys. 354(0):244  
– 264 (2015)

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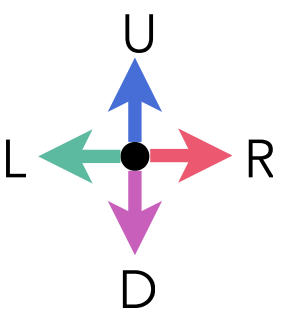
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2+1 dimensions: 

Weyl QW

$$U_R = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\nu & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad U_L = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \nu^* \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$U_U = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \nu & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad U_D = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\nu^* \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

A. Bisio, G. M. D'Ariano, and  
A. Tosini, Ann. Phys. 354(0):244  
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G. M. D'Ariano and P. Perinotti, Phys.  
Rev. A 90(6):062106 (2014)

# Dirac and Weyl Quantum Walks

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$$k \in \mathcal{B} \quad U_k = \sum_{h \in S} e^{-ik \cdot h} U_h = e^{-i \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{Walk Hamiltonian}}}{H(k)}} \quad U_k |u_r(k)\rangle = e^{-i \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{Walk dispersion relation}}}{\omega(k)}} |u_r(k)\rangle$$

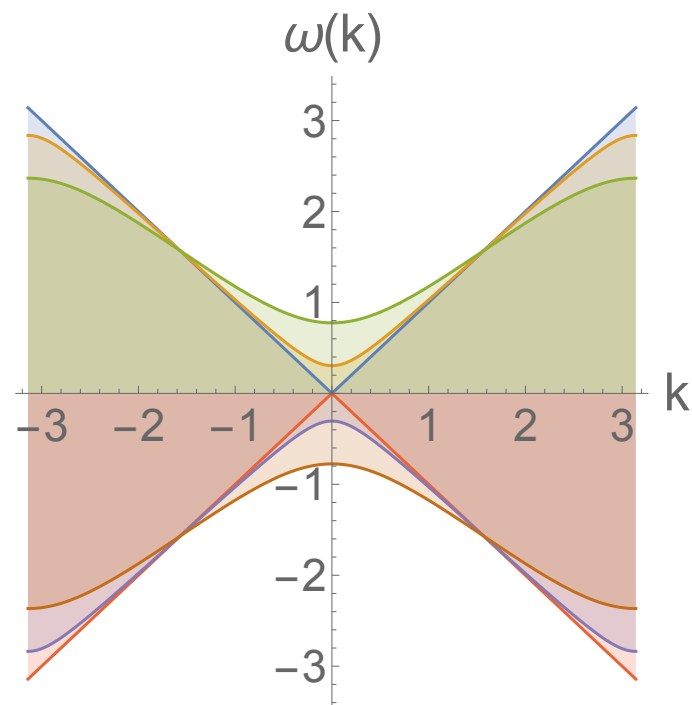
Power expansion for small momenta  $\|k\| \ll 1 \implies H(k) = \gamma_0 \gamma \cdot k + m \gamma_0 + \mathcal{O}(m^2) + \mathcal{O}(\|k\|^2)$

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Dirac QW dispersion relation 1+1 dim

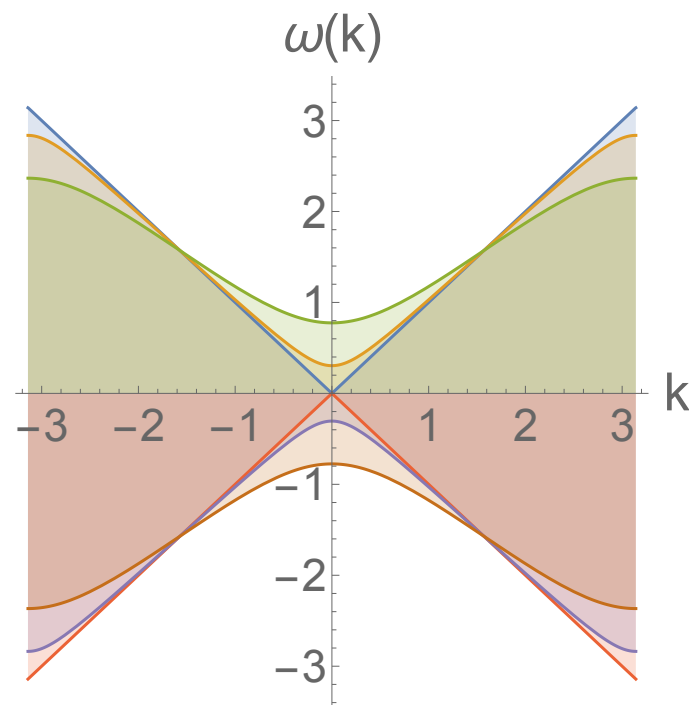


# Dirac and Weyl Quantum Walks

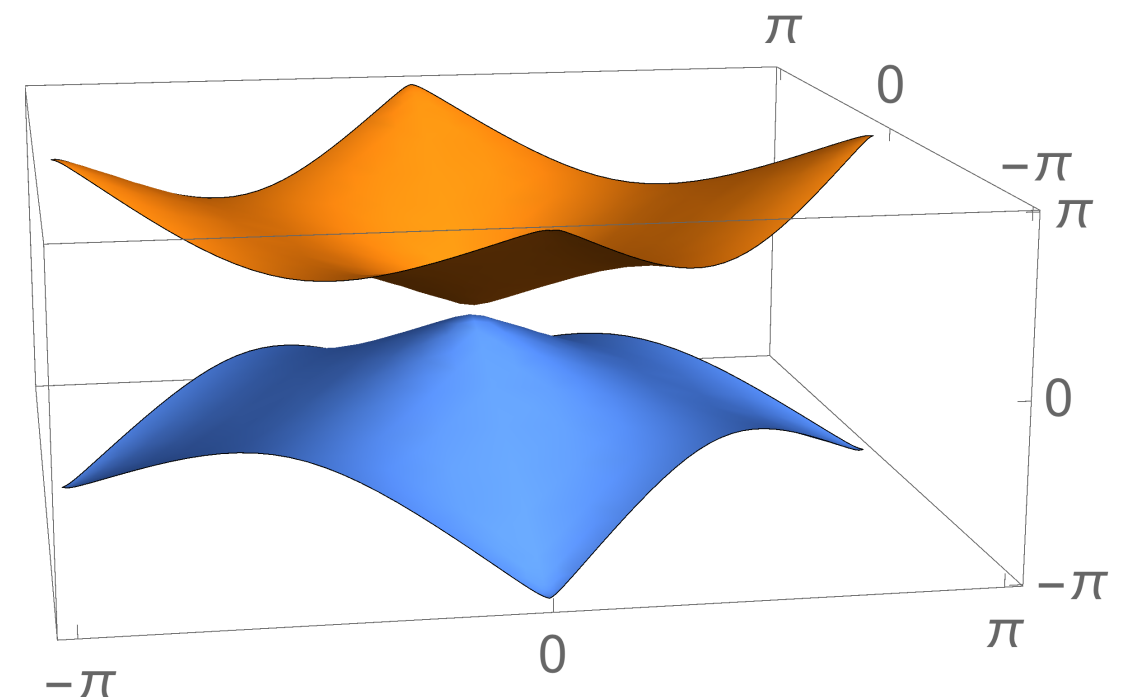
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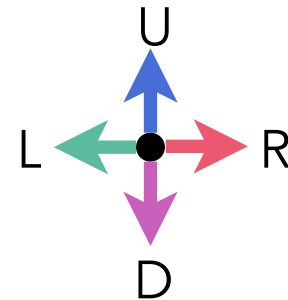
Paths with  $t$  steps  
 $\sigma = h_1 h_2 \cdots h_t$

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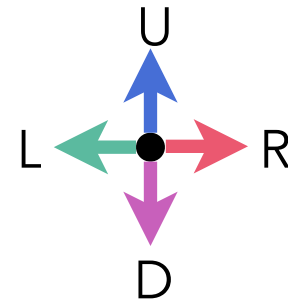


$$h = \text{R,L,U,D}$$

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$h = R, L, U, D$

$$\psi_x(t) = \sum_{x'} \sum_{\sigma} U_{h_t} \cdots U_{h_2} U_{h_1} \psi_{x'}(0)$$

Points in the past  
causal cone of  $x$

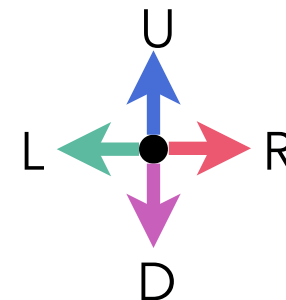
Admissible paths



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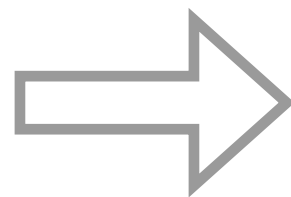
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For Dirac and Weyl:

$$U_{h_t} \cdots U_{h_2} U_{h_1} = \varphi(\sigma) U_{h(h_1, h_t)}$$

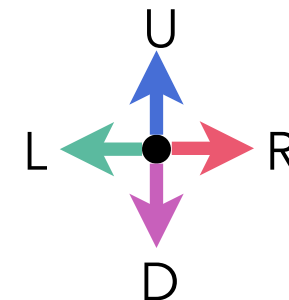


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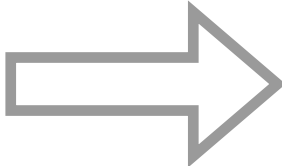
Phase depends on the full path!

# Discrete path-integral for QWs

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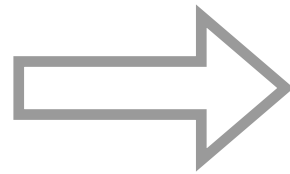
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Idea: binary encoding of paths  Topology of paths translated  
in properties of binary strings

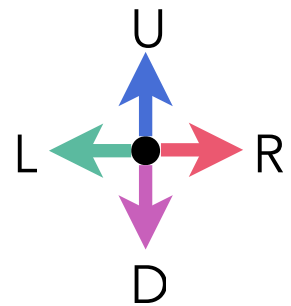
# Discrete path-integral for QWs

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Idea: binary encoding of paths



Topology of paths translated  
in properties of binary strings



$$h = R, L, U, D$$

$$R=00, L=11,$$

$$U=10, D=01$$

$$h = ab$$

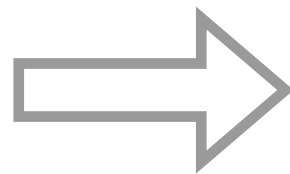
$$\sigma = (w^{(1)}, w^{(2)})$$

$$w^{(1)} = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_t$$

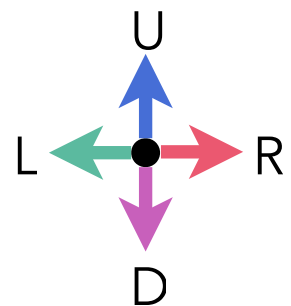
$$w^{(2)} = b_1 b_2 \cdots b_t$$

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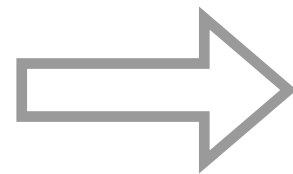
$$(x', y', 0) \longrightarrow (x, y, t)$$

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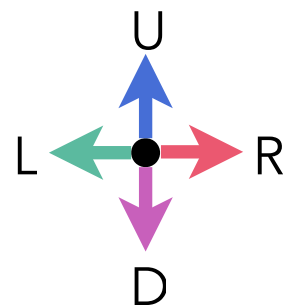
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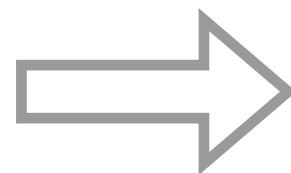
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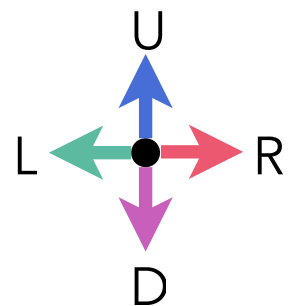
Phase is then a binary  
function



Solve combinatorial problem

# Discrete path-integral for QWs

Idea: binary encoding of paths  $\Rightarrow$  Topology of paths translated in properties of binary strings



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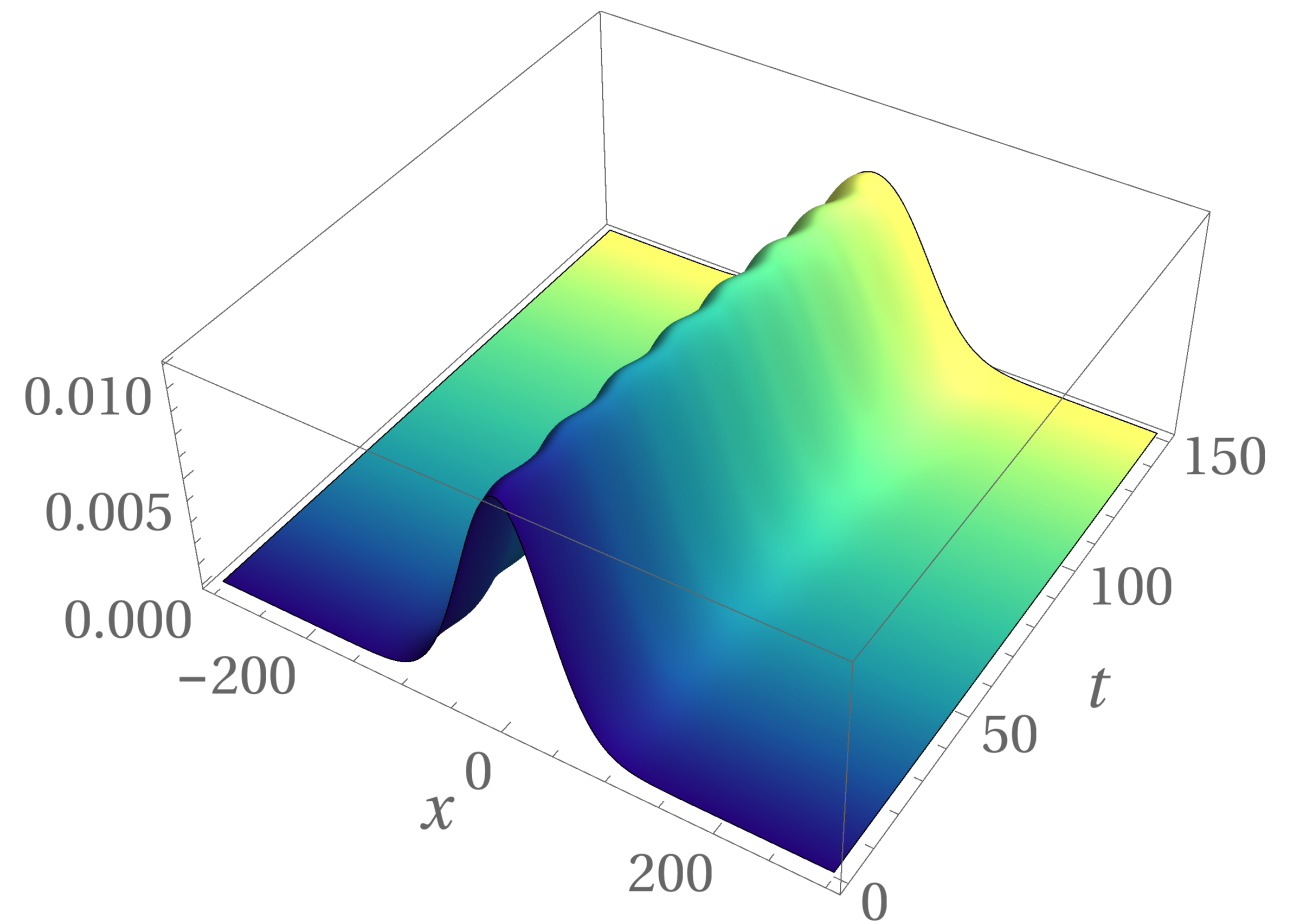
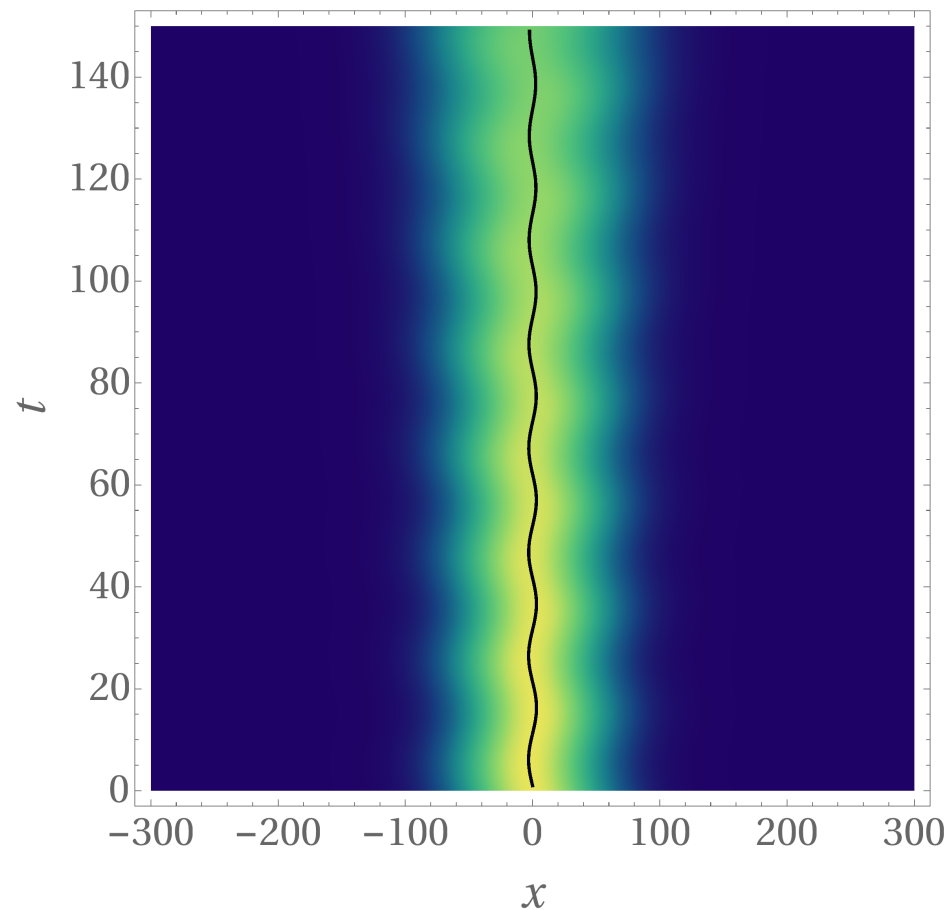
$$c_{ab} = \sum_p \sum_{a'} \sum_k (-1)^{k+(a \oplus a')b}$$

$$\binom{K_1 - 1}{p - 1} \binom{t - K_1 - 1}{p - a - a'} \binom{\mu}{k} \binom{t - \mu - 1}{K_2 - k - b}$$

$$\mu = 2p - a - a'$$



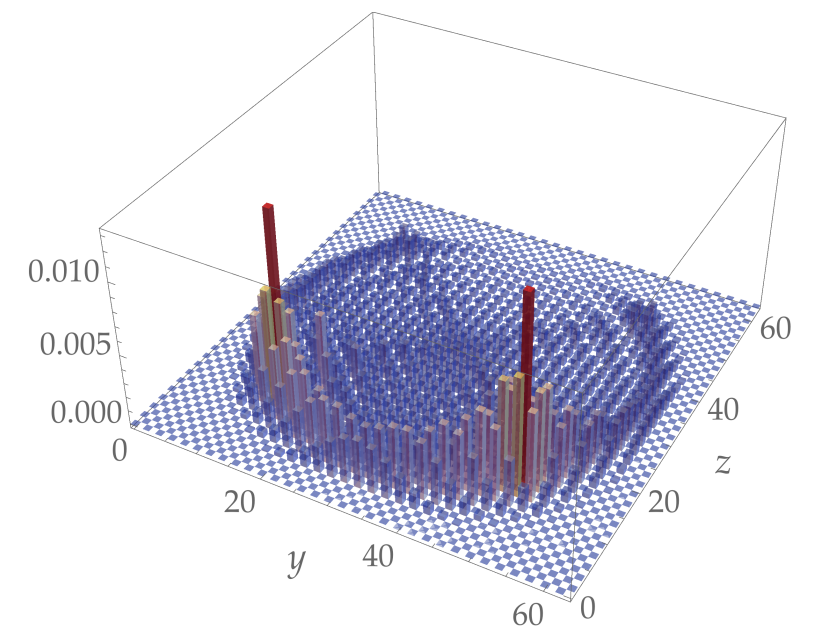
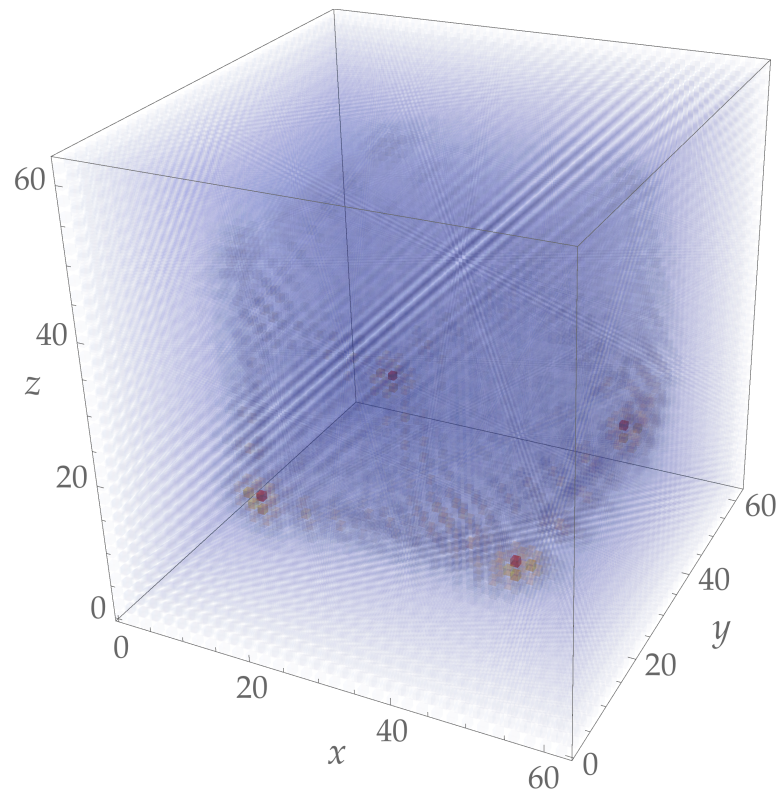
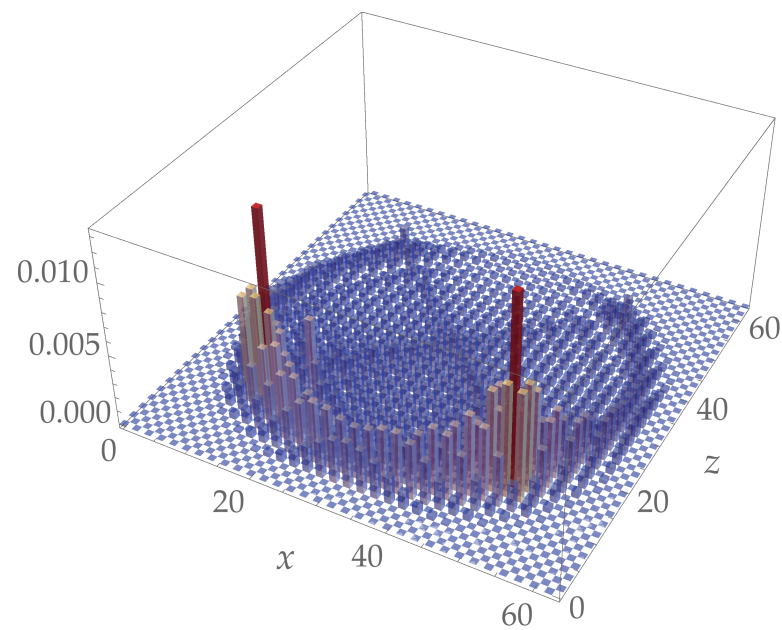
# Dirac QW in 1+1 dimensions



## Particle state *Zitterbewegung*

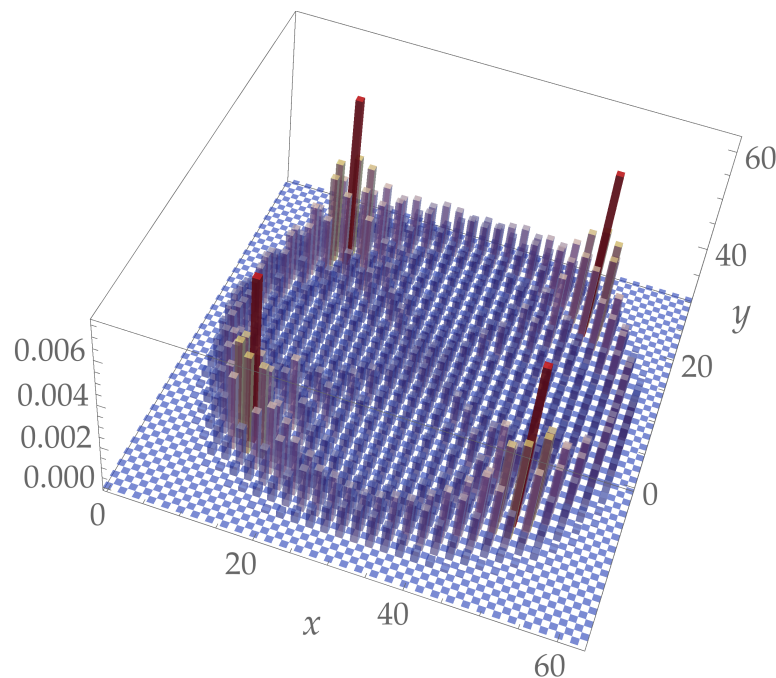
- mass  $m = 0.15$
- width  $\sigma = 40^{-1}$
- mean wave-vector  $k_0 = 0.01\pi$
- spinor components  $c_+ = c_- = 1/\sqrt{2}$

# Dirac QW in 3+1 dimensions



Perfectly localised state

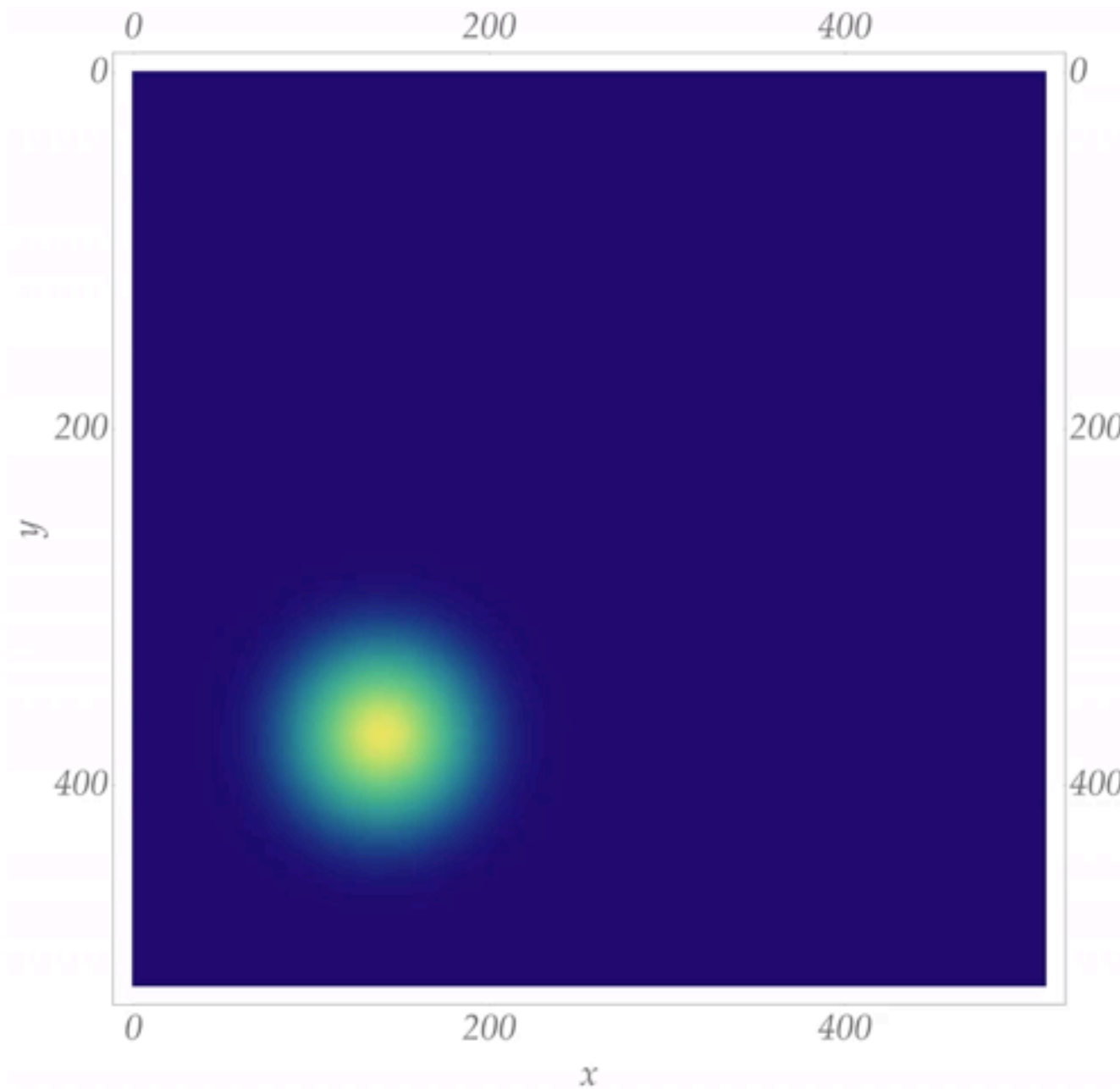
mass  $m = 0.03$



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Entropy 18(6) (2016)

# Dirac QW in 3+1 dimensions

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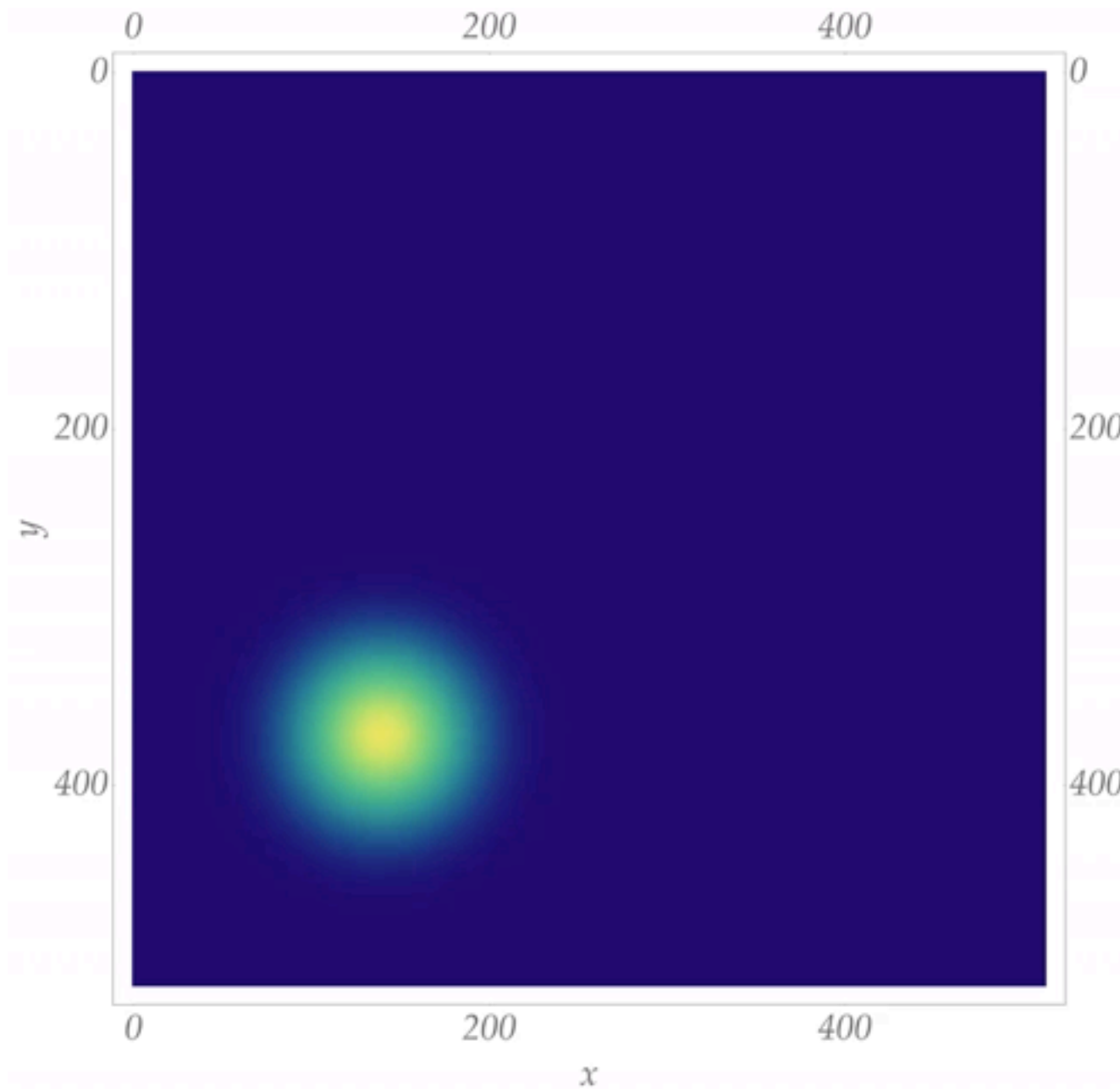
## Particle state *Zitterbewegung*

- size: 512
- steps: 1200
- mass: 0.002
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- Closed algebra of transition matrices
- Solution in position representation in terms of a discrete path-integral
- Binary encoding of paths and study of binary functions

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