



# Renormalizable Tensorial Field Theories as Models of Quantum Geometry

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Universität Potsdam, 8/02/2016

"Paths to, from and in renormalization"

Give you an impression of what are Tensorial Field Theories, and why people study them.



Figure : "Potsdamer Platz bei Nacht", Lesser Ury, 1920s

- 1 Research context and motivations
- 2 Tensorial locality and combinatorial representation of pseudo-manifolds
- 3 Tensorial Group Field Theories
- 4 Perturbative renormalizability
- 5 Summary and outlook

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- The group manifold is **auxiliary**: should not be interpreted as space-time!
- Rather, **the Feynman amplitudes** are thought of as describing **space-time processes** → QFT *of* space-time rather than *on* space-time.
- Specific non-locality: determines the **combinatorial structure** of space-time processes (graphs, 2-complexes, triangulations...).

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Recommended reviews:

L. Freidel, "Group Field Theory: an overview", 2005

D. Oriti, "The microscopic dynamics of quantum space as a group field theory", 2011

# General structure of a GFT and long-term objectives

Typical form of a GFT: field  $\varphi(g_1, \dots, g_d)$ ,  $g_\ell \in G$ , with partition function

$$Z = \int [\mathcal{D}\varphi]_\Lambda \exp \left( -\varphi \cdot \mathcal{K} \cdot \varphi + \sum_{\{\mathcal{V}\}} t_{\mathcal{V}} \mathcal{V} \cdot \varphi^{n_{\mathcal{V}}} \right) = \sum_{k_{\mathcal{V}_1}, \dots, k_{\mathcal{V}_i}} \prod_i (t_{\mathcal{V}_i})^{k_{\mathcal{V}_i}} \{\text{SF amplitudes}\}$$

Main objectives of the GFT research programme:

- 1 Model building: define the **theory space**.  
e.g. *spin foam models + combinatorial considerations (tensor models)*  $\rightarrow d, G, \mathcal{K}$  and  $\{\mathcal{V}\}$ .
- 2 Perturbative definition: prove that the spin foam expansion is **consistent** in some range of  $\Lambda$ .  
e.g. *perturbative multi-scale renormalization*.
- 3 Systematically explore the theory space: **effective continuum regime reproducing GR** in some limit?  
e.g. *functional RG, constructive methods, condensate states...*



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- Partition function for  $N \times N$  symmetric matrix:

$$\mathcal{Z}(N, \lambda) = \int [dM] \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} M^2 + \frac{\lambda}{N^{1/2}} \text{Tr} M^3 \right)$$

- Large  $N$  expansion  $\rightarrow$  ensembles of combinatorial maps:

$$\mathcal{Z}(N, \lambda) = \sum_{\text{triangulation } \Delta} \frac{\lambda^{n_\Delta}}{s(\Delta)} \mathcal{A}_\Delta(N) = \sum_{g \in \mathbb{N}} N^{2-2g} \mathcal{Z}_g(\lambda)$$

- Continuum limit of  $\mathcal{Z}_0$ : tune  $\lambda \rightarrow \lambda_c \Rightarrow$  very refined triangulations dominate.  
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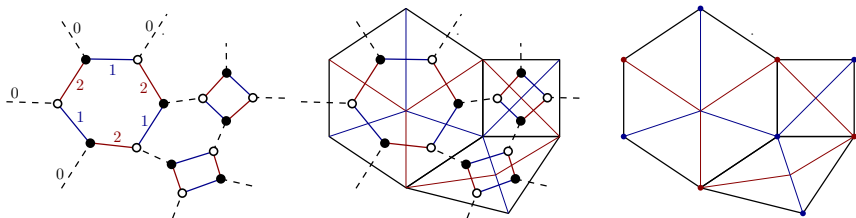
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$\Rightarrow$  definition of **universal 2d random geometries**:

- do not depend on the details of the discretization, i.e. on the type of trace invariants used in the action;
- similarly, **Brownian map** rigorously constructed as a scaling limit of infinite triangulations and  $2p$ -angulations of the sphere. [Le Gall, Miermont '13]

## Gluing of $2p$ -angles:



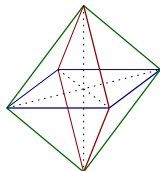
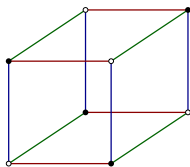
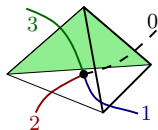
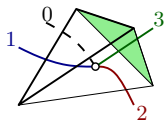
## Duality:

3-colored graph	$\longleftrightarrow$	colored triangulation
node	$\longleftrightarrow$	triangle
line	$\longleftrightarrow$	edge
bicolored cycle	$\longleftrightarrow$	vertex

**Any orientable surface** with boundaries can be represented by such a **3-colored graph**.

# Colored cell decompositions of pseudo-manifolds

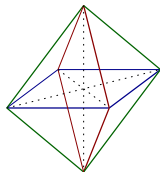
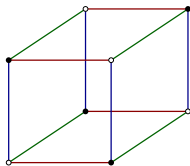
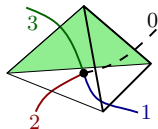
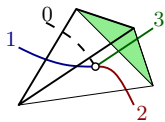
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Colored structure  $\Rightarrow$  unambiguous prescription for how to glue  $d$ -simplices along their sub-simplices.

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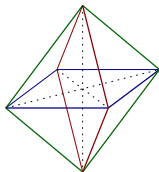
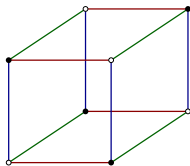
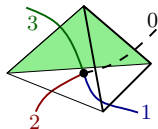
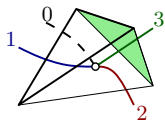
$(d + 1)$ -colored graph  $\longleftrightarrow$  colored triangulation of dimension  $d$

node  $\longleftrightarrow$   $d$ -simplex

connected component with  $k$  colors  $\longleftrightarrow$   $(d - k)$ -simplex

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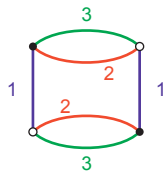
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**Theorem:** [Pezzana '74] Any PL manifold can be represented by a colored graph. In general, a  $(d + 1)$ -colored graph represents a triangulated **pseudo-manifold** of dimension  $d$ .

$\Rightarrow$  **Crystallisation theory** [Cagliardi, Ferri et al. '80s]

Only recently introduced in GFTs / tensor models [Gurau '09...]

Trace invariants of fields  $\varphi(g_1, g_2, \dots, g_d)$  labelled by  $d$ -colored bubbles  $b$ :

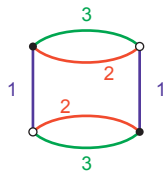


$$\mathrm{Tr}_b(\varphi, \bar{\varphi}) = \int [dg_i]^6 \bar{\varphi}(g_6, g_2, g_3) \varphi(g_1, g_2, g_3) \\ \varphi(g_6, g_4, g_5) \bar{\varphi}(g_1, g_4, g_5)$$



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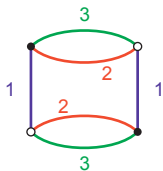
$(d = 2)$



...

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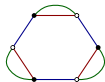
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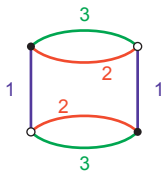
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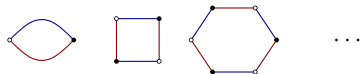
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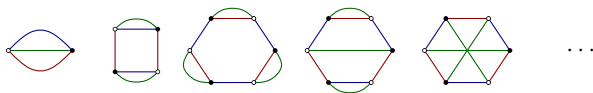


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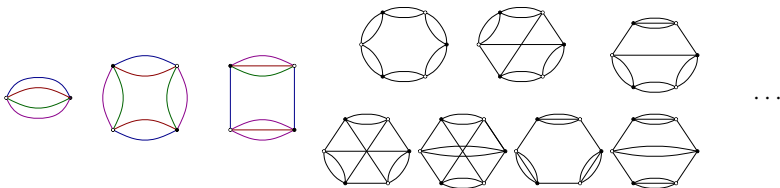
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$(d = 4)$



## • Tensor Models:

$$T_{i_1 \dots i_d}, i_k \in \{1, \dots, N\}$$

- **1/N expansion** dominated by spheres [Gurau '11...];
- **continuum limit** of the leading order [Bonzom, Gurau, Riello, Rivasseau '11]  $\rightarrow$  'branched polymer' [Gurau, Ryan '13];
- **double-scaling limit** [Dartois, Gurau, Rivasseau '13; Gurau, Schaeffer '13; Bonzom, Gurau, Ryan, Tanasa '14];
- **Schwinger-Dyson** equations [Gurau '11 '12; Bonzom '12];
- **non-perturbative** results [Gurau '11 '13; Delepouve, Gurau, Rivasseau '14];
- **'multi-orientable'** models [Tanasa '11, Dartois, Rivasseau, Tanasa '13; Raasaakka, Tanasa '13; Fusy, Tanasa '14],  $O(N)^{\otimes d}$ -**invariant** models [SC, Tanasa '15], and **new scalings** [Bonzom '12; Bonzom, Delepouve, Rivasseau '15];
- **symmetry breaking** to matrix phase [Benedetti, Gurau '15];
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$$\varphi(g_1, \dots, g_d), g_l \in G.$$

- **Derivative operators** and non-trivial renormalization [Ben Geloun, Rivasseau '11...]
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**Mathematical objective:** step-by-step generalization of standard renormalization techniques, until we are able to tackle 4d quantum gravity proposals.

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- Ansatz akin to a **'local potential approximation'**:

$$S_\Lambda(\varphi, \bar{\varphi}) = \bar{\varphi} \cdot \left( -\sum_\ell \Delta_\ell \right) \cdot \varphi + S_\Lambda^{\text{int}}(\varphi, \bar{\varphi})$$

- Subtlety: invariance properties on  $\varphi$  imposed by **spin foam constraints**.
- **Partition function**: (cut-off  $\sum_{\ell=1}^d p_\ell^2 \lesssim \Lambda^2$ )

$$\mathcal{Z}_\Lambda = \int d\mu_{\mathcal{C}_\Lambda}(\varphi, \bar{\varphi}) e^{-S_\Lambda^{\text{int}}(\varphi, \bar{\varphi})}.$$

- $S_\Lambda^{\text{int}}(\varphi, \bar{\varphi})$  is **local**:

$$S_\Lambda^{\text{int}}(\varphi, \bar{\varphi}) = \sum_{b \in \mathcal{B}} t_b^\Lambda \text{Tr}_b(\varphi, \bar{\varphi}) \stackrel{d=3}{=} t_2^\Lambda \text{ (loop) } + t_4^\Lambda \text{ (cylinder) } + t_6^\Lambda \text{ (hexagon) } + \dots$$

- Gaussian measure  $d\mu_{\mathcal{C}}$  with possibly degenerate covariance:

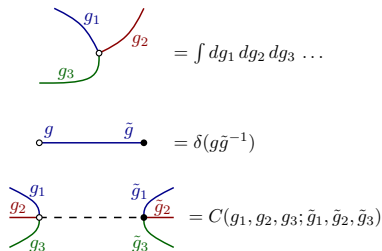
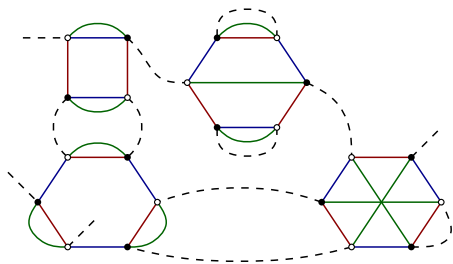
$$\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{P} \left( -\sum_\ell \Delta_\ell \right)^{-1} \mathcal{P}$$

where  $\mathcal{P}$  is a **projector** implementing the relevant constraints on the fields.

- Perturbative expansion in the coupling constants  $t_b$ :

$$\mathcal{Z} = \sum_{\mathcal{G}} \left( \prod_{b \in \mathcal{B}} (-t_b)^{n_b(\mathcal{G})} \right) \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{G}}$$

- Feynman graphs  $\mathcal{G}$ :



- **Covariances** associated to the dashed, color-0 lines.
- **Face of color  $\ell$**  = connected set of (alternating) color-0 and color- $\ell$  lines.



- **Gauge invariance condition**

$$\forall h \in G, \quad \varphi(g_1, \dots, g_d) = \varphi(g_1 h, \dots, g_d h)$$

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$$\{g_{\ell}\} \bullet \overset{h}{\text{---}} \circ \{g'_{\ell}\}$$

where  $K_{\alpha}$  is the **heat kernel** on  $G$  at time  $\alpha$ .

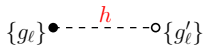
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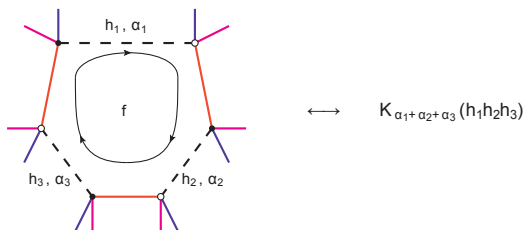
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- The amplitudes are best expressed in terms of the **faces** of the Feynman graphs:



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  - '**combinatorial**' models on  $U(1)^D \rightarrow$  non-trivial propagators, but group structure otherwise auxiliary;  
[Ben Geloun, Rivasseau '11; Ben Geloun, Ousmane Samary '12; Ben Geloun, Livine '12...]
  - models with '**gauge invariance**' on  $U(1)^D$  and  $SU(2) \rightarrow$  non-trivial propagators + one key dynamical ingredient of spin foam models.  
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- Methods:
  - **multiscale analysis**: allows to rigorously prove renormalizability at **all orders in perturbation theory**;
  - **Connes–Kreimer** algebraic methods [Raasakka, Tanasa '13; Avouhou, Rivasseau, Tanasa '15];
  - **loop-vertex expansion**: non-perturbative method allowing to resum the perturbative series [Gurau, Rivasseau,... '13].

# Power-counting theorem

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## Theorem

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$$\omega(\mathcal{H}) \geq 0,$$

where  $\omega$  is defined by

- $\omega = -2L + D F$  in a model without gauge inv. condition; [Ben Geloun, Rivasseau '11]
- $\omega = -2L + D(F - R)$  in a model with gauge inv. condition; [Orti, Rivasseau, SC '12]

and  $R(\mathcal{H})$  is the rank of the **incidence matrix** between lines and faces of  $\mathcal{H}$ .



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Idea of proof: Multiscale analysis

- Decompose propagators:

$$C = \int d\alpha \dots = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \int_{M^{-2i}}^{M^{-2(i-1)}} d\alpha \dots = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} C_i$$

- Decompose amplitudes according to  $\mu = \{i_e\}$ :  $\mathcal{A}_G = \sum_{\mu} \mathcal{A}_{G,\mu}$ .
- Optimize single-slice bounds according to  $\mu \rightarrow$  tree-like inclusion structure of divergent subgraphs of  $\mathcal{A}_{G,\mu}$ .

# TGFTs with gauge invariance condition: classification

**Power-counting** analysis  $\Rightarrow$  **classification** of allowed interacting models:

[Orti, Rivasseau, SC '13]

$d = \text{rank}$	$D = \dim(G)$	order	explicit examples
3	3	6	$G = \text{SU}(2)$ [Orti, Rivasseau, SC '13]
3	4	4	$G = \text{SU}(2) \times \text{U}(1)$ [SC '14]
4	2	4	
5	1	6	$G = \text{U}(1)$ [Ousmane Samary, Vignes-Tourneret '12]
6	1	4	$G = \text{U}(1)$ [Ousmane Samary, Vignes-Tourneret '12]
3	2	any	
4	1	any	$G = \text{U}(1)$ [Orti, Rivasseau, SC '12]
3	1	any	

**Power-counting** analysis  $\Rightarrow$  **classification** of allowed interacting models:

[Orti, Rivasseau, SC '13]

$d = \text{rank}$	$D = \text{dim}(G)$	order	explicit examples
3	3	6	$G = \text{SU}(2)$ [Orti, Rivasseau, SC '13]
3	4	4	$G = \text{SU}(2) \times \text{U}(1)$ [SC '14]
4	2	4	
5	1	6	$G = \text{U}(1)$ [Ousmane Samary, Vignes-Tourneret '12]
6	1	4	$G = \text{U}(1)$ [Ousmane Samary, Vignes-Tourneret '12]
3	2	any	
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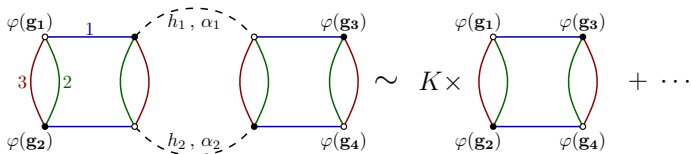
- $d = D = 3$  with  $G = \text{SU}(2)$  is the only case for which a geometric interpretation is possible.
- Analogy with ordinary scalar field theory: at fixed  $d = 3$ 
  - $\varphi^6$  model in  $D = 3$ ;
  - $\varphi^4$  model in  $D = 4$ .

( $\varepsilon$ -expansion [SC '14])

Divergent subgraphs must be **quasi-local**, i.e. **look like trace invariants** at high scales. Always the case in known models, but non-trivial!

# Quasi-locality of the interactions

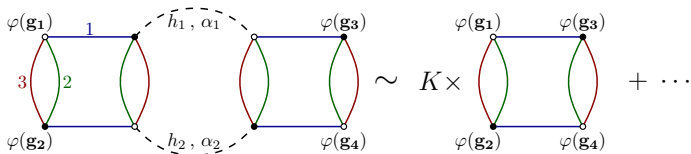
Divergent subgraphs must be **quasi-local**, i.e. **look like trace invariants** at high scales. Always the case in known models, but non-trivial!



$$\int d\alpha_1 d\alpha_2 \int dh_1 dh_2 [K_{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2}(h_1 h_2)]^2 \int [\prod_{i < j} dg_{ij}] K_{\alpha_1}(g_{11} h_1 g_{31}^{-1}) K_{\alpha_2}(g_{21}^{-1} h_2 g_{41})$$

$$\delta(g_{12} g_{22}^{-1}) \delta(g_{13} g_{22}^{-1}) \delta(g_{42} g_{32}^{-1}) \delta(g_{43} g_{33}^{-1}) \varphi(\mathbf{g}_1) \bar{\varphi}(\mathbf{g}_2) \bar{\varphi}(\mathbf{g}_3) \varphi(\mathbf{g}_4)$$

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This property is not generic in TGFTs  $\rightarrow$  **"traciality" criterion**:

- flatness condition: the parallel transports must peak around  $\mathbf{1}$  (up to gauge);
- combinatorial condition: connected boundary graph.

Nice interplay between structure of divergences and **topology**  $\rightarrow$  renormalizable interactions are **spherical**.

Definition of renormalized amplitudes la Bogoliubov:

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{G}}^{ren} := \left( \sum_{\mathcal{F} \subset D(\mathcal{G})} \prod_{m \in \mathcal{F}} (-\tau_m) \right) \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{G}}$$

- $D(\mathcal{G})$ : set of **connected** divergent subgraphs;
- $\mathcal{F}$ : **inclusion forests** of connected divergent subgraphs;
- $\tau_m$ : **contraction operator** associated to the divergent subgraph  $m \rightarrow$  extracts its 'local' divergent part.

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Idea of proof:

- Use multi-scale representation of the amplitudes;
- within each  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{G}, \mu}$ , **no overlapping divergences**  $\rightarrow$  finiteness from well-identified counter-terms;
- show that the sum over  $\mu$  converges.

- 1 Research context and motivations
- 2 Tensorial locality and combinatorial representation of pseudo-manifolds
- 3 Tensorial Group Field Theories
- 4 Perturbative renormalizability
- 5 Summary and outlook**

- Summary:
  - **Colored graphs** → convenient representations of pseudo-manifolds in arbitrary  $d$ .
  - **Tensor models** and **tensorial field theories** generate such colored graphs in perturbative expansion → generalizations of matrix models in arbitrary dimension.
  - **Perturbative renormalizability** well-understood, despite the complications introduced by the new notion of locality (and non-commutative group structures).
  - Not explained in this talk: **Asymptotic freedom** quite generic, especially for quartic models → UV complete GFTs. [Ben Geloun '12... Rivasseau '15])

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  - Not explained in this talk: **Asymptotic freedom** quite generic, especially for quartic models → UV complete GFTs. [Ben Geloun '12... Rivasseau '15]
- On-going efforts:
  - **Non-perturbative** aspects:
    - **constructive methods** [Gurau, Rivasseau '13; Lahoche '15]
    - **functional renormalization group**: Wetterich [Benedetti, Ben Geloun, Oriti '14...] and Polchinski [Krajewski, Toriumi '15] equations.
  - Hints of **non-trivial fixed points**, similar to Wilson-Fisher fixed point → **phase transitions** in quantum gravity? [Oriti '09...]
  - 4d geometric data → further constraints. Renormalizable models with Euclidean signature (group:  $\text{Spin}(4)$ )? [Lahoche, Oriti, SC wip]  
Generalization to Lorentzian signature (group:  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})$ ): we need other methods!



**Thank you for your attention**