

Plebanski sectors of the new spin-foam models

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Spin-foams:

Original goal: define *path integral dynamics for loop quantum gravity*. [Rovelli-Reisenberger 1996]

'New' spin-foam models:

[Freidel, Krasnov, 2007; E., Pereira, Livine, Rovelli 2007; Kaminski, Kisielowski, Lewandowski 2009; Conrady, Hnybida 2010; Han, Thiemann, 2010]

	Euclidean	Lorentzian	State space summed over
"Master constraint" approach to 2 nd class constraints	EPRL, KKL (arbitrary cells)	EPRL, CH (time-like tetrahedra)	=LQG states
Coh. State approach to 2 nd class constraints	FK (= EPRL for $\gamma < 1$)		For $\gamma > 1$, >LQG
"Commuting B fields"	HT(=FK for large j)		Seems >LQG (?)

New basic element common to all of these models:

The use of **linear simplicity constraints** [E., Pereira, Rovelli 2007]

 (will define later)

Spin-foam models are arrived at via the *Plebanski formulation* of gravity:

Gravity = BF theory + simplicity constraints

BF theory: $B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ}, \omega_{\mu}^{IJ}$, $S = \int \left(B + \frac{1}{\gamma} \star B \right) \wedge F$.

Plebanski constraint: $\epsilon_{IJKL} (B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ} B_{\rho\sigma}^{KL} - \frac{1}{4!} \eta_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \eta^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} B_{\alpha\beta}^{IJ} B_{\gamma\delta}^{KL}) = 0$

Solutions are in 5 sectors:

$$(\mathbf{I}\pm) \quad B^{IJ} = \pm e^I \wedge e^J \text{ for some } e_{\mu}^I$$

$$(\mathbf{II}\pm) \quad B^{IJ} = \pm \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{IJ}{}_{KL} e^K \wedge e^L \text{ for some } e_{\mu}^I$$

$$(\mathbf{deg}) \quad \epsilon_{IJKL} \eta^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ} B_{\rho\sigma}^{KL} = 0 \text{ (degenerate case).}$$

In sector (II+), BF action reduces to *Holst action of gravity*:

$$S_{Holst} = \frac{1}{4\kappa} \int \left(\epsilon_{IJKL} e^K \wedge e^L + \frac{2}{\gamma} e_I \wedge e_J \right) \wedge F^{IJ}$$

the Legendre transform of which is the basis of *LQG*.

What we will show, #1: Linear simplicity imposes restriction to $(II\pm)$, (deg).

That is: its better than original Plebanski constraint, but *the theory still includes more than grav. sector.*

Many of us were aware of these different sectors at some level, but it was never made **precise**.

Basic variables:	Tension	Definition of Plebanski sectors:
<i>Discrete</i>		<i>Continuum</i>

Most precise is probably in **Conrady and Freidel** 2008 “On the semiclassical limit of 4d spin-foam models”, but even there, one has only a discrete **analogue** of the Plebanski sectors. **There is still a gap.**

In this talk we will bridge this gap.

Furthermore:

The asymptotics of the EPRL model [Barrett et al., 2009] :

$$Ae^{iS_{grav}} + Ae^{-iS_{grav}} + Be^{\frac{i}{\gamma}S_{grav}} + Ce^{-\frac{i}{\gamma}S_{grav}}$$

But $e^{iS_{grav}}$ by itself is required for the correct classical limit! Whence come the other terms?

What we will show, #2: These extra terms **are caused precisely** by the non-(II+) sectors **allowed by linear simplicity.**

That is: We will show that the simplicity constraints **being too weak is the reason** for the wrong semiclassical limit.

What we will show, #3: How to modify EPRL vertex amplitude to restrict to only (II+).

Resulting vertex amplitude still has ***all the properties we like about EPRL*** (LQG boundary states, linear in the boundary state, SU(2) gauge-invariant), ***plus***

- Only a ***single*** term $e^{iS_{\text{Regge}}}$ in the asymptotics
- Degenerate configurations are ***exponentially suppressed***

I.
Discrete Plebanski Sectors
Defined

Consider oriented **4-simplex S**. Number **tetrahedra a=0, ... 4**.

t_a with orientation as part of S .

Label **triangles by unordered pair (ab)** of tetrahedra on either side:

Δ_{ab} , with orientation as part of ∂t_a .

S and each tetrahedron has its own 'frame'.

Variables:

$Spin(4) \ni G_a$: Parallel transport from 'a'-frame to 'S'-frame.

$\mathfrak{so}(1,3) \ni B_{ab} = (\mathbf{B}_{ab}^-, \mathbf{B}_{ab}^+)$ ' $= \int_{\Delta_{ab}} B^{IJ}$ in the 'a'-frame.'

$B_{ab}(S) := G_a \triangleright B_{ab}$: Transported to the 'S'-frame.

Constraint (Part of def. of var.s): $|\mathbf{B}_{ab}^\pm|^2 = |\mathbf{B}_{ba}^\pm|^2$

Constraints (consistency):

Orientation: $B_{ab}^{IJ} = -B_{ba}^{IJ}$

Closure: $\sum_{b \neq a} B_{ab}^{IJ} = 0, a = 0, \dots, 4.$

Necessary b/c we reconstruct $B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ}$ as **constant** in the 4-simplex:

$$\sum_{b \neq a} B_{ab}^{IJ} = \oint_{\partial t_a} B^{IJ} = \int_{t_a} dB^{IJ} = 0$$

Definition. A *discrete Plebanski field* is a set of bivectors $\{B_{ab}^{IJ}\}$, $a, b = 0, \dots, 4$, such that

(i.) $B_{ab}^{IJ} = -B_{ba}^{IJ}$

(ii.) $\sum_{b \neq a} B_{ab}^{IJ} = 0$

- Let $M := \mathbb{R}^4$, as *oriented affine manifold* with standard ϵ, ∂_a
- ∂_a defines notion of straight line segments
- ∂_a lets us identify $T_p M$ for all p , and lets us identify each $T_p M$ with space of constant vector fields.

Definition. A *geometrical 4-simplex* in M is the convex hull of five points in M , not all of which lie in same 3-plane.

Definition. An *ordered 4-simplex* σ is

- a geometrical 4-simplex in M with an assignment of $0, \dots, 4$ to each of its 5 vertices ordered such that $(\vec{01}, \vec{02}, \vec{03}, \vec{04})$ has positive orientation.
- Each tetrahedron is labeled by the number of the vertex it does not contain.

Definition. Let $\Delta_{ab} = \Delta_{ab}(\sigma)$ denote triangle between tetrahedra a and b , with orientation

$$\epsilon_{[ab]}^{\alpha\beta} := \epsilon^{\gamma\delta\alpha\beta} (N_a)_\gamma (N_b)_\delta$$

where $(N_a)_\alpha, (N_b)_\alpha$ are any covariant outward normals to tetrahedra a and b , respectively.

(same as orientation as part of ∂t_a , where t_a has orientation as part of $\partial\sigma$.)

Lemma 1. Given a discrete Plebanski field $\{B_{ab}^{IJ}\}$ and any choice of ordered 4-simplex σ in M , **there exists a unique** constant $\mathfrak{so}(1,3)$ -valued 2-form $B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ}$ such that [Barrett, Fairbairn, Hellmann, 2009]

$$B_{ab}^{IJ} = \int_{\Delta_{ab}} B^{IJ}$$

Heuristic counting argument:

- Each B_{ab}^{IJ} is skew 4×4 : 6 vars
- B/c $B_{ab} = -B_{ba}$, only one indep. B per triangle
- 10 triangles $\times 6 = 60$
- Closure: $\sum_{b \neq a} B_{ab}^{IJ} = 0, \forall a$: Each eq'n has 6 compts. 5 eq'ns – but only 4 of them are indep. \therefore # of indep. closure constraint compts $= 4 \times 6 = 24$
- $60 - 24 = 36$ indep. compts.

But $B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ}$ has *also* $6 \times 6 = 36$ compts. '■'

Definition. We call $B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ}$ so-det. the ‘2-form of $\{B_{ab}^{IJ}\}$ adapted to σ ’.

Recall: (I \pm) $B^{IJ} = \pm e^I \wedge e^J$ for some e_μ^I

(II \pm) $B^{IJ} = \pm \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{IJ}{}_{KL} e^K \wedge e^L$ for some e_μ^I

(deg) $\epsilon_{IJKL} \eta^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ} B_{\rho\sigma}^{KL} = 0$ (degenerate case).

If $\{B_{ab}^{IJ}\}$ has 2-form adapted to σ in Pleb. sector (I \pm), (II \pm), or (deg), *we say that $\{B_{ab}^{IJ}\}$ is in Plebanski sector (I \pm), (II \pm), or (deg) relative to σ .*

Lemma 2. If a discrete Plebanski field B_{ab}^{IJ} is in a given Plebanski sector relative to a given ordered 4-simplex σ , then it is in the *same* Plebanski sector relative to *any* ordered 4-simplex.

Sketch of proof:

- Let a disc. Pleb. field $\{B_{ab}^{IJ}\}$, and two ordered 4-simplices σ, σ' be given, and let ${}^\sigma B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ}, {}^{\sigma'} B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ}$ denote corresp. 2-forms.
- $\exists! G \in IGL(4)$ mapping each vertex of σ into the corresp. vertex of σ' , in order.
- Because of the positive orientation condition on the vertices of σ and σ' , $G \in IGL(4)^+$ (preserves orientation of M).
- Only structure used in constructing ${}^\sigma B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ}$ from σ and $\{B_{ab}^{IJ}\}$: orient. of M and ∂_a . \therefore construction is $IGL(4)^+$ covariant.
- As $G \cdot \sigma = \sigma'$, it follows $G \triangleright {}^\sigma B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ} = {}^{\sigma'} B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ}$.
- But action of G is via a specific orient. preserving diffeo. Plebanski sectors are invariant under orient. preserving diffeos.
- Hence ${}^\sigma B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ}$ and ${}^{\sigma'} B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ}$ are in the same Plebanski sector. ■

Thus, notion of discrete Pleb. field $\{B_{ab}^{IJ}\}$
being in a given Plebanski sector
is *independent* of 4-simplex used.

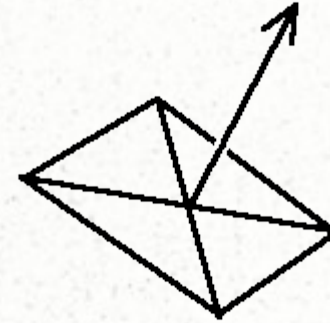
II.

Sectors of Linear Simplicity

Linear simplicity

(1.) For each a , $\exists N_a^I$ such that
 $(\star B_{ab}(S))^{IJ}(N_a)_J = 0$ for all b .

(One condition per tetrahedron.)



(1.) will be applied in the *4-simplex frame* S . In the *frame of each tetrahedron* a , we will impose a *gauge-fixed* version of (1.) with $N^I = \mathcal{N}^I := (1, 0, 0, 0)$:

$$C_{ab}^i := \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{jk}^i B_{ab}^{jk} \approx 0 \text{ for all } a \neq b$$

Solution parameterized by ‘reduced boundary data’
 $(\mathbf{n}_{ab}, A_{ab}, A_{ba})$:

$$B_{ab} = (\mathbf{B}_{ab}^-, \mathbf{B}_{ab}^+) = \frac{1}{2} A_{ab} (-\mathbf{n}_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab})$$

In 4-simplex frame S :

$$\begin{aligned} B_{ab}(S) &:= G_a \triangleright B_{ab} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} A_{ab} (-X_a^- \triangleright \mathbf{n}_{ab}, X_a^+ \triangleright \mathbf{n}_{ab}) =: B_{ab}^{\text{phys}}(A_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}, X_a^\pm). \end{aligned}$$

We have defined

- Meaning of Plebanski sectors for $\{B_{ab}(S)\}$.
- Consequences of linear simplicity for $\{B_{ab}(S)\}$.

The question is *now well-defined*:

1. Does linear simplicity imply $\{B_{ab}(S)\}$ is in a Plebanski sector?
2. Which Plebanski sectors does linear simplicity isolate?

We show the answers are

(1.) **Yes** and (2.) **(II+), (II-), (deg)**

Sketch of Proof:

Definition: $(B_{ab}^{\text{geom}})(\sigma)^{IJ} := A(\Delta_{ab}) \frac{(N_a \wedge N_b)^{IJ}}{|N_a \wedge N_b|}$

where N_a is outward pointing normal to tetrahedron a in σ .

Lemma: $\{(B_{ab})(\sigma)^{IJ}\}$ is always in Plebanski sector (II+)

Definition: If $\exists Y \in SU(2)$ and five signs ϵ_a such that

$$U_a^2 = \epsilon_a Y U_a^1$$

we write $\{U_a^2\} \sim \{U_a^1\}$.

Lemma: If $\{X_a^-\} \sim \{X_a^+\}$ then $\{B_{ab}^{\text{phys}}(A_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}, X_a^\pm)\}$ is in (deg).

Reconstruction Theorem [Barrett et al., 2009]:

- If
- If linear simplicity is satisfied
 - $\{A_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}\}$ is non-degenerate satisfying closure.
 - $\{X_a^\pm\}$ satisfies orientation constraint
 - $\{X_a^+\} \not\sim \{X_a^-\}$

Then $\exists \sigma$ such that

$$B_{ab}^{\text{phys}}(A_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}, X^\pm) = \mu B_{ab}^{\text{geom}}(\sigma)$$

where $\mu = \pm 1$ is indep. of ambig. in σ .

Theorem: If $\{A_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}\}$ is non-deg. and satisfies closure and $\{X_a^\pm\}$ satisfies orientation,

- (i.) if $\{X_a^-\} \not\sim \{X_a^+\}$, then $\{B_{ab}^{\text{phys}}\}$ is in **(II+)** or **(II-)**, dep. on μ .
- (ii.) if $\{X_a^-\} \sim \{X_a^+\}$, then B_{ab}^{phys} is in **(deg)**.

Summary:

	<i>Condition</i>	<i>Way imposed in EPRL vertex</i>
If:	• Tetrahedron non-degeneracy	Not imposed !
	• Closure	} Imposed by asymptotics of EPRL
	• Orientation	
	• Linear simplicity	} Directly imposed
Then: (II+), (II-), (deg)		

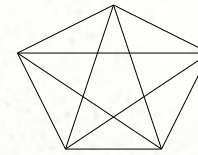
Possible cleaner result:

- Can we prove **tetrahedron degeneracy** implies **(deg)**?
(In fact this is what happens in EPRL vertex due to asymptotics!)
- If so, then first condition above can be dropped.

III.
***Vertex amplitude and
interpretation of the asymptotics***

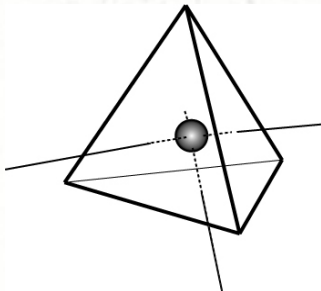
$SU(2)$ spin-nets on ∂S :

- V_k — spin- k $SU(2)$ rep.
- one k_{ab} and two $\psi_{ab}, \psi_{ba} \in V_{k_{ab}}$ per triangle (ab)
- one $SU(2)$ argument per triangle (ab)
- $\epsilon : V_k \times V_k \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ — bilinear, skew symm. ‘ ϵ inner product’ constructed from ϵ_{AB} .



$$\Psi_{\{k_{ab}, \psi_{ab}\}}(\{g_{ab}\}) := \prod_{a < b} \epsilon(\psi_{ab}, \rho_{k_{ab}}(g_{ab})\psi_{ba})$$

$$\iota : \mathcal{H}_{\partial S}^{LQG} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\partial S}^{Spin(4)}$$



<i>(Triangulation)</i>	<i>(Spinnet graph)</i>
triangle	link
tetrahedron	node

$$\begin{aligned}
A_v(\{k_{ab}, \psi_{ab}\}) &:= A_v(\Psi_{\{k_{ab}, \psi_{ab}\}}) \\
&= \int_{Spin(4)^5} \prod_a dG_a \left(\iota \Psi_{\{k_{ab}, \psi_{ab}\}} \right) (G_{ab})
\end{aligned}$$

where $G_{ab} := G_a^{-1} G_b$.

- G_a integral can be viewed as **integration over discrete connection** leading to the initial BF spin-foam sum.
- In the **asymptotic analysis** [Barrett, et. al. 2009], the G_a behave *exactly* like the parallel transports from tetrahedra to the 4-simplex frame.

Perelomov coherent states: $|k, \mathbf{n}\rangle \in V_k, \mathbf{n} \cdot \hat{L}|k, \mathbf{n}\rangle = k|k, \mathbf{n}\rangle$

Boundary coherent state:

$$\Psi_{\{k_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}\}} := \Psi_{\{k_{ab}, \psi_{ab}\}} \quad \text{with } |\psi_{ab}\rangle = |k_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}\rangle$$

Is coherent boundary state corresponding to *classical* reduced boundary data:

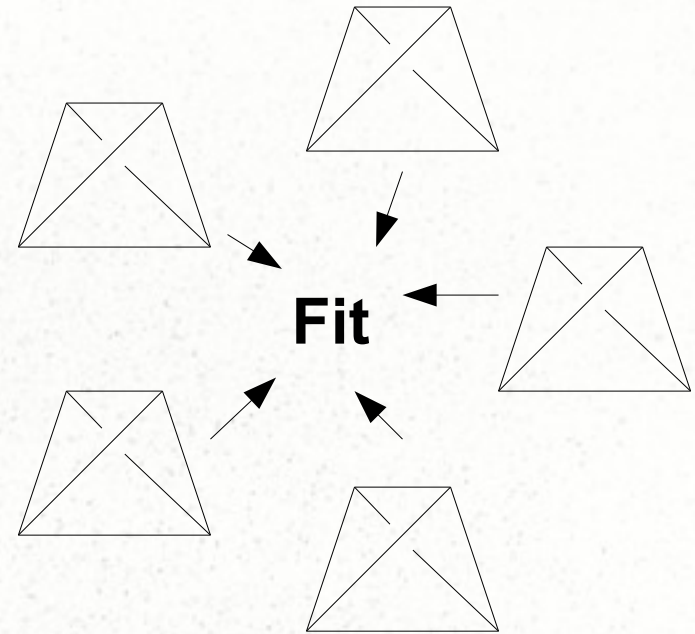
$$A_{ab} = A(k_{ab}) := 8\pi G\gamma k_{ab}, \quad \mathbf{n}_{ab}$$

(Note overall phase ambiguity in $\Psi_{\{k_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}\}}$)

If $\{k_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}\}$ satisfies

- Tetrahedron non-degeneracy
- Closure
- Gluing constraint

then $\{k_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}\}$ is *Regge-like*



For Regge-like boundary data $\{k_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}\}$, global phase ambiguity in $\Psi_{\{k_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}\}}$ can be *fixed* [Barrett et al., 2009] — yields the **Regge state** $\Psi_{\{k_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}\}}^{\text{Regge}}$.

$\{k_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}\}$ is a **vector geometry** if it satisfies *closure*, and (roughly speaking) **data from different tetrahedra still ‘fit’**, but *data in each tetrahedron can be degenerate*.

Strategy:

- Write the vertex as integral over the G_a 's

$$A_v(\{k_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}\}) = \int_{Spin(4)} \prod_a dG_a e^{S[G_a]}$$

- **Critical points:** stationary S and maximal $\text{Re}S$

Critical point equations:

- Closure ($\sum_{b \neq a} k_{ab} \mathbf{n}_{ab} = 0$)
- Orientation ($X_a^\pm \triangleright \mathbf{n}_{ab} = -X_b^\pm \triangleright \mathbf{n}_{ba}$).

Restriction on boundary data
for critical points to *exist*.

Just as in classical discrete theory!

Is consistent with interp. of $G_a = (X_a^-, X_a^+)$
as parallel transports to 4-simplex frame .

Theorem (EPRL asymptotics) (Barrett et al., 2009). Suppose $\mathcal{B} = \{k_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}\}$ satisfies closure. Then in the limit $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$,

1. If \mathcal{B} is Regge-like, then

$$A_v(\Psi_{\{\lambda k_{ab}, n_{ab}\}}^{\text{Regge}}) \sim \lambda^{-12} \left[A e^{i S_{\text{Regge}}} + A e^{-i S_{\text{Regge}}} + B e^{\frac{i}{\gamma} S_{\text{Regge}}} + C e^{-\frac{i}{\gamma} S_{\text{Regge}}} \right] \quad (1)$$

2. If \mathcal{B} is not Regge-like, but is a vector geometry, then

$$A_v(\Psi_{\{\lambda k_{ab}, n_{ab}\}}) \sim \lambda^{-12} N \quad (2)$$

3. If \mathcal{B} is not a vector geometry, then $A_v(\Psi_{\{\lambda k_{ab}, n_{ab}\}})$ decays exponentially with λ .

- **Each term** corresponds to a critical point in the G_a integral of the vertex, and therefore a particular value of the $\{G_a\}$'s.
- Can now ask: At each critical point, *to what Plebanski sector does $\{B_{ab}^{phys}(A(k_{ab}), \mathbf{n}_{ab}, G_a)\}$ belong?*

1st two terms
for Regge-like \mathcal{B} \vdots (II+), (II-),
respectively

All other
non-exponentially
suppressed terms \vdots (deg)
in all cases

Proper EPRL vertex amplitude

Can give an **explicit** expression for the **geometrical bivectors** of σ guaranteed by Reconstruction Thm!:

$$B_{ab}^{\text{phys}}(\sigma) = A(k_{ab})\beta_{ab}(\{G_{a'b'}\})(G_a \cdot \mathcal{N}) \wedge (G_b \cdot \mathcal{N})$$

where $\mathcal{N}^I := (1, 0, 0, 0)$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_{ab}(\{G_{a'b'}\}) := & -\text{sgn}[\epsilon_{ijk}(G_{ac} \cdot \mathcal{N})^i (G_{ad} \cdot \mathcal{N})^j (G_{ae} \cdot \mathcal{N})^k \cdot \\ & \cdot \epsilon_{lmn}(G_{bc} \cdot \mathcal{N})^l (G_{bd} \cdot \mathcal{N})^m (G_{be} \cdot \mathcal{N})^n] \end{aligned}$$

where $\{c, d, e\} = \{0, \dots, 4\} \setminus \{a, b\}$ in any order, and $\text{sgn}(0) := 0$.

In terms of $G_{ab} = (X_{ab}^-, X_{ab}^+)$: $(G_{ab} \cdot \mathcal{N})^i = \text{tr}(\tau^i X_{ab}^- X_{ba}^+)$
where $\tau^i := \frac{-i}{2} \sigma^i$

4-dim. closure of $B_{ab}^{\text{geom}}(\sigma)$ was
key in deriving signs!

$$\sum_a V_a N_a^I = 0$$

Recall $B_{ab}^{\text{phys}}(k_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}, G_a) = \mu B_{ab}^{\text{geom}}(\sigma)$

We now have an explicit expression for both sides and hence for μ !

$$\begin{aligned}\mu &= B_{ab}^{\text{geom}}(\sigma)_{IJ} B_{ab}^{\text{phys}}(k_{ab}, \mathbf{n}_{ab}, G_a)^{IJ} \\ &= (\text{pos. const.}) \beta_{ab}(\{G_{a'b'}\}) \text{tr}(\tau_i X_{ab}^- X_{ba}^+) n_{ab}^i\end{aligned}$$

Thus, condition for (II+):

$$\beta_{ab}(\{G_{a'b'}\}) \text{tr}(\tau_i X_{ab}^- X_{ba}^+) n_{ab}^i > 0$$

Is sufficient to also impose non-degeneracy!

We will partially quantize this condition and insert it into the vertex amplitude.

Rewrite in terms of spatial rotation generators.

Spin(4) generators:

$$\begin{aligned} J_{ab} &:= \frac{1}{8\pi G} \left(B_{ab} + \frac{1}{\gamma} {}^* B_{ab} \right) = \frac{1}{8\pi G \gamma} ((\gamma - 1) \mathbf{B}_{ab}^-, (\gamma + 1) \mathbf{B}_{ab}^+) \\ &= \frac{A_{ab}}{16\pi G \gamma} ((1 - \gamma) \mathbf{n}_{ab}, (1 + \gamma) \mathbf{n}_{ab}) = \frac{k_{ab}}{2} ((1 - \gamma) \mathbf{n}_{ab}, (1 + \gamma) \mathbf{n}_{ab}) \end{aligned}$$

SU(2) spatial rotation generators:

$$L_{ab}^i := (J_{ab}^-)^i + (J_{ab}^+)^i = k_{ab} n_{ab}^i$$

$$\beta_{ab}(\{G_{a'b'}\}) \text{tr}(\tau_i X_{ab}^- X_{ba}^+) L_{ab}^i > 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \iota_k : V_k &\rightarrow V_{j^-, j^+} \equiv V_{j^-} \otimes V_{j^+} \\ |k, m\rangle &\mapsto |j^+, j^-, k, m\rangle \end{aligned} \quad \text{where } s^\pm := \frac{1}{2}(1 \pm \gamma)k .$$

$$\epsilon : V_{j^-, j^+} \times V_{j^-, j^+} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \quad \epsilon(\alpha^- \otimes \alpha^+, \beta^- \otimes \beta^+) := \epsilon(\alpha^-, \beta^-) \epsilon(\alpha^+, \beta^+).$$

$$(\iota \Psi_{\{k_{ab}, \psi_{ab}\}})(G_{ab}) = \prod_{a < b} \epsilon(\iota_{k_{ab}} \psi_{ab}, \rho(G_{ab}) \iota_{k_{ab}} \psi_{ba})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\hat{L}_{ab}^i \iota \Psi_{\{k_{cd}, \psi_{cd}\}} \right) (G_{cd}) &= \epsilon \left(\iota_{k_{ab}} \hat{L}^i \psi_{ab}, \rho(G_{ab}) \iota_{k_{ab}} \psi_{ba} \right) \\ &\quad \prod_{c < d, (cd) \neq (ab)} \epsilon(\iota_{k_{cd}} \psi_{cd}, \rho(G_{cd}) \iota_{k_{cd}} \psi_{dc}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\hat{L}_{ba}^i \iota \Psi_{\{k_{cd}, \psi_{cd}\}} \right) (G_{cd}) &= \epsilon \left(\iota_{k_{ab}} \psi_{ab}, \rho(G_{ab}) \iota_{k_{ab}} \hat{L}^i \psi_{ba} \right) \\ &\quad \prod_{c < d, (cd) \neq (ab)} \epsilon(\iota_{k_{cd}} \psi_{cd}, \rho(G_{cd}) \iota_{k_{cd}} \psi_{dc}) \end{aligned}$$

Original vertex expression

$$\begin{aligned}
 A_v(\{k_{ab}, \psi_{ab}\}) &:= A_v(\Psi_{\{k_{ab}, \psi_{ab}\}}) \\
 &= \int_{Spin(4)^5} \prod_a dG_a \left(\iota \Psi_{\{k_{ab}, \psi_{ab}\}} \right) (G_{ab}) \\
 &= \int_{Spin(4)^5} \prod_a dG_a \prod_{a < b} \epsilon(\iota_{k_{ab}} \psi_{ab}, \rho(G_{ab}) \iota_{k_{ab}} \psi_{ba}) \\
 &\quad (G_{ab} := G_a^{-1} G_b)
 \end{aligned}$$

Modification

- Would like to insert

$$\Theta \left(\beta_{ab}(\{G_{a'b'}\}) \text{tr}(\tau_i X_{ab}^- X_{ba}^+) L_{ab}^i \right)$$

- But L_{ab}^i is not in path integral! Instead ψ_{ab} , a vector in an irrep of \hat{L}_{ab}^i : **Quantize** L_{ab}^i .
- \hat{L}_{ab}^i acts on ψ_{ab} via the $SU(2)$ generators \hat{L}^i . \therefore we insert into **each face factor**

$$\hat{P}_{ab}(\{G_{a'b'}\}) := P_{(0,\infty)} \left(\beta_{ab}(\{G_{a'b'}\}) \text{tr}(\tau_i X_{ab}^- X_{ba}^+) \hat{L}^i \right)$$

Yields 'Proper EPRL vertex amplitude'

$$A_v^{II+}(\{k_{ab}, \psi_{ab}\}) := \int_{Spin(4)^5} \prod_a dG_a \prod_{a < b} \epsilon(\iota_{k_{ab}} \psi_{ab}, \rho(G_{ab}) \iota_{k_{ab}} P_{ba}(\{G_{a'b'}\}) \psi_{ba})$$

Note: Projector can be put anywhere in each face factor (P_{ab} if on left of $\rho(G_{ab})$, P_{ba} if on right), and vertex is the *same*.

Properties:

- SU(2) Spin-net data on boundary: can use to define SF dynamics **for LQG**
- **Linear in the boundary state** --- needed for final transition amplitude to be **linear in initial and antilinear in final state**

$$\langle P_{\text{phys}} \Psi_f, P_{\text{phys}} \Psi_i \rangle_{\text{phys}}$$

- One can show: **SU(2) gauge-invariant**
- One can show: In asymptotics
 - Only **single term** $e^{iS_{\text{Regge}}}$.
 - All **deg. configurations exp. suppressed**.

Final Message

By defining the continuum 2-form assoc. to $\{B_{ab}\}$ via $B_{ab} = \int_{\Delta_{ab}} B$, we have proven that

- Linear simplicity allows Plebanski sectors $(II+)$, $(II-)$, and (deg) . Only $(II+)$ is usual GR.
- In the asymptotics of EPRL: The config. at the critical point for the term $e^{iS_{\text{Regge}}}$ is in $(II+)$. *For all other terms they are in $(II-)$ or (deg) .*

That is, non-GR asymptotics of EPRL is due to linear simplicity being too weak!

By supplementing Linear Simplicity *precisely* by imposing (II+), we obtain a **new vertex amplitude** not only with

- *Same desirable properties of the EPRL model* (LQG boundary states, $SU(2)$ inv., linearity in the boundary state), **but also**
- *Correct asymptotics ($\exp(iS_{\text{Regge}})$)!!*

Outlook

- **Lorentzian case:** expected to be straightforward (if anyone is motivated to work with me on this, let me know.)
- **General 4-cell (a la KKL):** Basic ideas need to be rethought.
 - $B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ}$ is over-constrained: More free components of $\{B_{ab}^{IJ}\}$ than of $B_{\mu\nu}^{IJ}$.
 - In existing definition of $\beta_{ab}(\{G_{a'b'}\})$, that there are 5 tetrahedra per 4-simplex is used in key way.

Sum over orientations of the 4-simplex

Before this work, it was sometimes said that (II+) and (II-) terms in asymptotics correspond to sum over orientations of 4-simplex.

The above arguments lead to a different interpretation.

Difficulties I have regarding 'sum over orientation interp.':

- (1.)
 - Orientation is usually fixed once and for all just to be able to integrate
 - In a path integral, one sums over dynamical variables
 - Orientation is a dynamical variable in neither GR nor BF theory
∴ why does it make physical sense for there to be a sum over orientations in the path integral?
- (2.) What about (deg) sector terms? Does the 4-simplex have no orientation in this sector? We can still integrate forms, so it seems it must have an orientation.