

HAMILTONIAN STRUCTURE OF THE BFCG THEORY

Marko Vojinović
Institute of Physics, University of Belgrade

joint work with

Aleksandar Miković
Lusofona University and GFMUL, Portugal

THE PROBLEM OF QUANTUM GRAVITY

Why quantize gravity?

- same reasons as electrodynamics (two-slit experiment, hydrogen atom, ...)
- resolution of singularities (black holes, Big Bang, ...)
- black hole information paradox (nonunitary evolution?)
- theoretical and aesthetical reasons...

How to quantize gravity?

- perturbation theory does not work (nonrenormalizability of gravity)...
- almost zero experimental results to guide us...
- ... we have a problem!

LOOP QUANTUM GRAVITY

The idea

- Wilson loops are chosen as basic degrees of freedom,
- formalized as “spin network states”,
- canonically quantized.

Achievements

- nonperturbative quantization of GR,
- kinematic sector of the theory well-defined,
- lengths, areas and volumes of space quantized!

Drawbacks

- dynamics described only in principle,
- no proof of semiclassical limit,
- very limited possibility for calculations.

SPINFOAM MODELS

The idea

- build up on canonical LQG (use the same degrees of freedom, construct the same structure of the Hilbert space, etc.),
- rewrite GR action using the Plebanski formalism,

$$S = \int B_{ab} \wedge R^{ab} + \phi^{abcd} B_{ab} \wedge B_{cd},$$

- discretize spacetime into 4-simplices,
- perform covariant quantization of the BF sector, by providing a definition for the gravitational path integral,

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}\omega \int \mathcal{D}B \exp \left[i \sum_{\Delta} B_{\Delta} R_{\Delta} \right] = \dots = \sum_{\Lambda} \prod_f A_2(\Lambda_f) \prod_v A_4(\Lambda_v),$$

- enforce the Plebanski constraint by restricting the representations Λ and redefining the vertex amplitude A_4 .

SPINFOAM MODELS

Achievements

- well-defined nonperturbative quantum theory of gravity,
- both kinematical and dynamical sectors under control,
- can have a proper semiclassical limit.

Drawbacks

- geometry is “fuzzy” at the Planck scale,
- has many different semiclassical limits,
- matter coupling is problematic,
- hard to extract any results.

The reason for these drawbacks: tetrads are not explicitly present in the action!

THE *BFCG* ACTION

One can associate the *BFCG* action to the Poincaré 2-group:

$$S = \int B_{ab} \wedge R^{ab} + C_a \wedge G^a, \quad (G^a = d\beta^a + \omega^a_b \wedge \beta^b).$$

Note that the Lagrange multiplier C^a is a 1-form and has an equation of motion $\nabla C^a = 0$, exactly the same as the tetrad e !

Therefore,

- identify: $C^a \equiv e^a,$
 - rename: $BFCG \rightarrow BFEG,$
- } **KEY STEP**

and rewrite the action as

$$S = \int B_{ab} \wedge R^{ab} + e^a \wedge G_a.$$

THE CONSTRAINED *BFCG* ACTION

The *BFCG* action can be constrained to give GR:

$$S = \int \underbrace{B_{ab} \wedge R^{ab} + e^a \wedge G_a}_{\text{topological sector}} - \underbrace{\phi_{ab} (B^{ab} - \varepsilon^{abcd} e_c \wedge e_d)}_{\text{constraint}} .$$

Equations of motion are equivalent to:

- equations that determine the multipliers and β :

$$\phi^{ab} = R^{ab}, \quad B^{ab} = \varepsilon^{abcd} e_c \wedge e_d, \quad \beta^a = 0$$

- Einstein equations:

$$\varepsilon_{abcd} R^{bc} \wedge e^d = 0,$$

- no-torsion equation:

$$\nabla e^a = 0.$$

This is classically equivalent to general relativity!

THE MAIN BENEFITS

Introduction of matter fields is straightforward:

$$\begin{aligned}
 S = & \int B_{ab} \wedge R^{ab} + e^a \wedge G_a - \phi_{ab} (B^{ab} - \varepsilon^{abcd} e_a \wedge e_b) + \\
 & + i\kappa \int \varepsilon_{abcd} e^a \wedge e^b \wedge e^c \wedge \bar{\psi} \left(\gamma^d \overleftrightarrow{d} + \{\omega, \gamma^d\} + \frac{im}{2} e^d \right) \psi - \\
 & - i\frac{3\kappa}{4} \int \varepsilon_{abcd} e^a \wedge e^b \wedge \beta^c \bar{\psi} \gamma_5 \gamma^d \psi, \quad (\kappa = \frac{8}{3} \pi l_p^2).
 \end{aligned}$$

The covariant quantization is possible — spincube model:

$$\begin{aligned}
 Z = & \int \mathcal{D}\omega \int \mathcal{D}B \int \mathcal{D}e \int \mathcal{D}\beta \exp \left[i \sum_{\Delta} B_{\Delta} R_{\Delta} + \sum_l e_l G_l \right] = \dots = \\
 & = \sum_{\Lambda} \prod_p A_1(\Lambda_p) \prod_f A_2(\Lambda_f) \prod_v A_4(\Lambda_v).
 \end{aligned}$$

THE HAMILTONIAN STRUCTURE

The *BFCG* action in components:

$$S = \int d^4x \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} [B_{ab\mu\nu} (\partial_\rho \omega^{ab}{}_\sigma + \omega^a{}_{c\rho} \omega^{cb}{}_\sigma) + e_{a\mu} (\partial_\nu \beta^a{}_{\rho\sigma} + \omega^a{}_{c\nu} \beta^c{}_{\rho\sigma})].$$

The variables:

$$B^{ab}{}_{\mu\nu}(x), \quad e^a{}_\mu(x), \quad \omega^{ab}{}_\mu(x) \quad \text{and} \quad \beta^a{}_{\mu\nu}(x).$$

Momenta and primary constraints:

$$\begin{aligned} P(B)_{ab}{}^{\mu\nu} &\equiv \pi(B)_{ab}{}^{\mu\nu} \approx 0, & P(e)_a{}^\mu &\equiv \pi(e)_a{}^\mu \approx 0, \\ P(\omega)_{ab}{}^0 &\equiv \pi(\omega)_{ab}{}^0 \approx 0, & P(\omega)_{ab}{}^i &\equiv \pi(\omega)_{ab}{}^i - 2\varepsilon^{0ijk} B_{abjk} \approx 0, \\ P(\beta)_a{}^{0i} &\equiv \pi(\beta)_a{}^{0i} \approx 0, & P(\beta)_a{}^{ij} &\equiv \pi(\beta)_a{}^{ij} + 2\varepsilon^{0ijk} e_{ak} \approx 0. \end{aligned}$$

The simultaneous Poisson brackets:

$$\begin{aligned} \{ B^{ab}{}_{\mu\nu}(\vec{x}, t), \pi(B)_{cd}{}^{\rho\sigma}(\vec{x}', t) \} &= 4\delta_{[c}^a \delta_{d]}^b \delta_{[\mu}^\rho \delta_{\nu]}^\sigma \delta^{(3)}(\vec{x} - \vec{x}'), \\ \{ e^a{}_\mu(\vec{x}, t), \pi(e)_b{}^\nu(\vec{x}', t) \} &= \delta_b^a \delta_\mu^\nu \delta^{(3)}(\vec{x} - \vec{x}'), \\ \{ \omega^{ab}{}_\mu(\vec{x}, t), \pi(\omega)_{cd}{}^\nu(\vec{x}', t) \} &= 2\delta_{[c}^a \delta_{d]}^b \delta_\mu^\nu \delta^{(3)}(\vec{x} - \vec{x}'), \\ \{ \beta^a{}_{\mu\nu}(\vec{x}, t), \pi(\beta)_b{}^{\rho\sigma}(\vec{x}', t) \} &= 2\delta_b^a \delta_{[\mu}^\rho \delta_{\nu]}^\sigma \delta^{(3)}(\vec{x} - \vec{x}'). \end{aligned}$$

THE HAMILTONIAN STRUCTURE

The canonical Hamiltonian:

$$H_c = \int d^3\vec{x} \varepsilon^{0ijk} \left[-B_{ab0i} R^{ab}{}_{jk} - e^a{}_0 G_{aijk} - 2\beta_{a0k} T^a{}_{ij} - \omega_{ab0} (\nabla_i B^{ab}{}_{jk} - e^a{}_i \beta^b{}_{jk}) \right],$$

The total Hamiltonian:

$$H_T = H_c + \int d^3\vec{x} \left[\lambda(B)^{ab}{}_{\mu\nu} P(B)_{ab}{}^{\mu\nu} + \lambda(e)^a{}_{\mu} P(e)_a{}^{\mu} + \right. \\ \left. + \lambda(\omega)^{ab}{}_{\mu} P(\omega)_{ab}{}^{\mu} + \lambda(\beta)^a{}_{\mu\nu} P(\beta)_a{}^{\mu\nu} \right].$$

Consistency of the primary constraints:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \dot{P}(B)_{ab}{}^{0i} = 2\varepsilon^{0ijk} S(R)_{abjk}, & S(R)^{ab}{}_{jk} \equiv R^{ab}{}_{jk} \approx 0, \\ \dot{P}(e)_a{}^0 = S(G)_a, & S(G)^a \equiv \varepsilon^{0ijk} G^a{}_{ijk} \approx 0, \\ \dot{P}(\beta)_a{}^{0i} = 2\varepsilon^{0ijk} S(T)_{ajk}, & S(T)^a{}_{ij} \equiv T^a{}_{ij} \approx 0, \\ \dot{P}(\omega)_{ab}{}^0 = 2S(Be\beta)_{ab}, & S(Be\beta)^{ab} \equiv \varepsilon^{0ijk} [\nabla_i B^{ab}{}_{jk} - e^{[a}{}_i \beta^{b]}{}_{jk}] \approx 0. \end{array}$$

where

THE HAMILTONIAN STRUCTURE

Determined multipliers:

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \dot{P}(B)_{ab}{}^{jk} \approx 0 & \lambda(\omega)^{ab}{}_i = \frac{1}{2}\nabla_i\omega^{ab}{}_0, \\
 \dot{P}(e)_a{}^k \approx 0 & \lambda(\beta)^a{}_{ij} = \nabla_{[i}\beta^a{}_{0j]} - \frac{1}{2}\omega^a{}_{b0}\beta^b{}_{ij}, \\
 \dot{P}(\beta)_a{}^{jk} \approx 0 & \text{implies } \lambda(e)^a{}_i = \nabla_i e^a{}_0 - \omega^a{}_{b0}e^b{}_i, \\
 \dot{P}(\omega)_{ab}{}^k \approx 0 & \lambda(B)^{ab}{}_{ij} = \frac{1}{2}\left(\nabla_{[i}B^{ab}{}_{0j]} + \omega^{[a}{}_{c0}B^{b]c}{}_{ij}\right) + \\
 & + \frac{1}{4}\left(e^{[a}{}_{0}\beta^b]{}_{ij} + e^{[a}{}_j\beta^b]{}_{0i} - e^{[a}{}_i\beta^b]{}_{0j}\right).
 \end{array}$$

Consistency of secondary constraints is automatic:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{S}(R)^{ab}{}_{ij} &= 2\omega^{[a}{}_{c0}S(R)^{b]c}{}_{ij}, \\
 \dot{S}(G)^a &= \varepsilon^{0ijk}\beta_{b0k}S(R)^{ab}{}_{ij} - \omega^a{}_{b0}S(G)^b, \\
 \dot{S}(T)^a{}_{ij} &= \frac{1}{2}e_{b0}S(R)^{ab}{}_{ij} - \omega^a{}_{b0}S(T)^b{}_{ij}, \\
 \dot{S}(Be\beta)^{ab} &= 2\varepsilon^{0ijk}\left(B^{[a}{}_{c0k}S(R)^{b]c}{}_{ij} + \beta^{[a}{}_{0k}S(T)^{b]c}{}_{ij}\right) + e^{[a}{}_{0}S(G)^{b]} + 2\omega^{[a}{}_{c0}S(Be\beta)^{b]c}.
 \end{aligned}$$

THE HAMILTONIAN STRUCTURE

Algebra of constraints:

$$\begin{aligned}
\{ P(B)_{ab}{}^{jk}, P(\omega)_{cd}{}^i \} &= 8\varepsilon^{0ijk}\eta_{a[c}\eta_{bd]}\delta^{(3)}, \\
\{ P(e)_a{}^k, P(\beta)_b{}^{ij} \} &= -2\varepsilon^{0ijk}\eta_{ab}\delta^{(3)}, \\
\{ S(G)^a, P(\beta)_b{}^{jk} \} &= 2\varepsilon^{0ijk} \left[\delta_b^a \partial_i \delta^{(3)} + \omega^a{}_{bi} \delta^{(3)} \right], \\
\{ S(G)^a, P(\omega)_{cd}{}^i \} &= 2\varepsilon^{0ijk} \delta_{[c}^a \beta_{d]jk} \delta^{(3)}, \\
\{ S(T)^a{}_{ij}, P(e)_b{}^k \} &= \delta_b^a \partial_{[i} \delta_{j]}^k \delta^{(3)} + \omega^a{}_{b[i} \delta_{j]}^k \delta^{(3)}, \\
\{ S(T)^a{}_{ij}, P(\omega)_{cd}{}^k \} &= \left(\delta_{[c}^a e_{d]j} \delta_i^k - \delta_{[c}^a e_{d]i} \delta_j^k \right) \delta^{(3)}, \\
\{ S(Be\beta)^{ab}, P(e)_c{}^i \} &= -\varepsilon^{0ijk} \delta_c^{[a} \beta^{b]}{}_{jk} \delta^{(3)}, \\
\{ S(Be\beta)^{ab}, P(\beta)_c{}^{jk} \} &= -2\varepsilon^{0ijk} e^{[a}{}_i \delta_c^{b]} \delta^{(3)}, \\
\{ S(Be\beta)^{ab}, P(\omega)_{cd}{}^i \} &= 2\varepsilon^{0ijk} \left(\delta_{[c}^a B_{d]}{}^b{}_{jk} + \delta_{[c}^b B_{d]}{}^a{}_{jk} \right) \delta^{(3)}, \\
\{ S(Be\beta)^{ab}, P(B)_{cd}{}^{jk} \} &= 4\varepsilon^{0ijk} \left[\delta_{[c}^a \delta_{d]}^b \partial_i \delta^{(3)} + \left(\omega^a{}_{[ci} \delta_{d]}^b + \delta_{[c}^a \omega^b{}_{d]i} \right) \delta^{(3)} \right], \\
\{ S(R)^{ab}{}_{ij}, P(\omega)_{cd}{}^k \} &= 2\delta_{[c}^a \delta_{d]}^b \left(\delta_j^k \partial_i \delta^{(3)} - \delta_i^k \partial_j \delta^{(3)} \right) + \\
&\quad + 2 \left(\delta_{[c}^a \omega_{d]}{}^b{}_j \delta_i^k - \delta_{[c}^a \omega_{d]}{}^b{}_i \delta_j^k + \omega^a{}_{[ci} \delta_{d]}^b \delta_j^k - \omega^a{}_{[cj} \delta_{d]}^b \delta_i^k \right) \delta^{(3)}.
\end{aligned}$$

THE HAMILTONIAN STRUCTURE

First class constraints:

$$P(B)_{ab}{}^{0i}, \quad P(e)_a{}^0, \quad P(\omega)_{ab}{}^0, \quad P(\beta)_a{}^{0i},$$

Second class constraints:

$$P(B)_{ab}{}^{jk}, \quad P(e)_a{}^i, \quad P(\omega)_{ab}{}^i, \quad P(\beta)_a{}^{ij},$$
$$S(R)_{ij}{}^{ab}, \quad S(G)^a, \quad S(Be\beta)^{ab}, \quad S(T)^a{}_{ij}.$$

THE HAMILTONIAN STRUCTURE

The gauge symmetry generator:

$$G[\varepsilon^{ab}_i, \varepsilon^{ab}, \varepsilon^a, \varepsilon^a_i] = \int d^3\vec{x} \left[\frac{1}{2} (\dot{\varepsilon}^{ab}_i P(B)_{ab}{}^{0i} - \varepsilon^{ab}_i \mathcal{G}_{ab}{}^i) + (\dot{\varepsilon}^a P(e)_a{}^0 - \varepsilon^a \mathcal{G}_a) + \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{2} (\dot{\varepsilon}^{ab} P(\omega)_{ab}{}^0 - \varepsilon^{ab} \mathcal{G}_{ab}) + (\dot{\varepsilon}^a_i P(\beta)_a{}^{0i} - \varepsilon^a_i \mathcal{G}_a{}^i) \right],$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_{ab}{}^i &\equiv 2\varepsilon^{0ijk} S(R)_{abjk} + \nabla_j P(B)_{ab}{}^{ji} + 2\omega^c_{[a0} P(B)_{b]c}{}^{0i}, \\ \mathcal{G}_{ab} &\equiv 2S(Be\beta)_{ab} + \nabla_i P(\omega)_{ab}{}^i + 2\omega^c_{[a0} P(\omega)_{b]c}{}^0 - 2e_{[a0} P(e)_{b]}{}^0 - 2e_{[ai} P(e)_{b]}{}^i + \\ &\quad + B_{c[aij} P(B)_{b]}{}^{cij} + 2B_{c[a0i} P(B)_{b]}{}^{c0i} - 2\beta_{[a0i} P(\beta)_{b]}{}^{0i} - \beta_{[aij} P(\beta)_{b]}{}^{ij}, \\ \mathcal{G}_a &\equiv S(G)_a + \nabla_i P(e)_a{}^i - \omega^b_{a0} P(e)_b{}^0 - \frac{1}{2}\beta^b_{0i} P(B)_{ab}{}^{0i} - \frac{1}{4}\beta^b_{ij} P(B)_{ab}{}^{ij}, \\ \mathcal{G}_a{}^i &\equiv 2\varepsilon^{0ijk} S(T)_{ajk} + \nabla_j P(\beta)_a{}^{ji} - \omega^b_{a0} P(\beta)_b{}^{0i} - \frac{1}{2}e^b_{0} P(B)_{ab}{}^{0i} + \frac{1}{2}e^b_j P(B)_{ab}{}^{ij}. \end{aligned}$$

THE HAMILTONIAN STRUCTURE

Form-variations of the variables:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \{ \omega_{\mu}^{ab}, G \} &= \nabla_{\mu} \varepsilon^{ab}, \\
 \{ B_{\mu\nu}^{ab}, G \} &= 2\nabla_{[\mu} \varepsilon^{ab}_{\nu]} - \varepsilon^a{}_c B^{cb}_{\mu\nu} - \varepsilon^b{}_c B^{ac}_{\mu\nu} + \varepsilon^{[a} \beta^{b]}_{\mu\nu} - 2\varepsilon^{[a}_{[\mu} e^{b]}_{\nu]}, \\
 \{ \beta_{\mu\nu}^a, G \} &= 2\nabla_{[\mu} \varepsilon^a_{\nu]} - \varepsilon^a{}_b \beta^b_{\mu\nu}, \\
 \{ e^a_{\mu}, G \} &= \nabla_{\mu} \varepsilon^a - \varepsilon^a{}_b e^b_{\mu}. \quad (\varepsilon^{ab}_0 \equiv 0, \varepsilon^a_0 \equiv 0)
 \end{aligned}$$

Symmetry transformation corresponding to $\varepsilon^{ab}(x)$:

$$\omega'_{\mu} = \Lambda \omega_{\mu} \Lambda^{-1} + \Lambda \partial_{\mu} \Lambda^{-1}, \quad e' = \Lambda e, \quad \beta' = \Lambda \beta, \quad B' = \Lambda B \Lambda^T, \quad \Lambda \in SO(3,1).$$

Symmetry transformation corresponding to $\varepsilon^{ab}_i(x)$:

$$B'^{ab}_{\mu\nu} = B^{ab}_{\mu\nu} + 2\nabla_{[\mu} \varepsilon^{ab}_{\nu]}(x), \quad e' = e, \quad \omega' = \omega, \quad \beta' = \beta.$$

Symmetry transformation corresponding to $\varepsilon^a_i(x)$:

$$\beta'^a_{\mu\nu} = \beta^a_{\mu\nu} + 2\nabla_{[\mu} \varepsilon^a_{\nu]}, \quad B'^{ab}_{\mu\nu} = B^{ab}_{\mu\nu} - 2e^{[a}_{[\mu} \varepsilon^{b]}_{\nu]}, \quad e' = e, \quad \omega' = \omega.$$

Symmetry transformation corresponding to $\varepsilon^a(x)$:

$$e'^a_{\mu} = e^a_{\mu} + \nabla_{\mu} \varepsilon^a, \quad B'^{ab}_{\mu\nu} = B^{ab}_{\mu\nu} + \varepsilon^{[a} \beta^{b]}_{\mu\nu}, \quad \beta' = \beta, \quad \omega' = \omega.$$

THE HAMILTONIAN STRUCTURE

Introduce new set of parameters:

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon^a &\rightarrow \xi^\lambda e^a{}_\lambda, & \varepsilon^a{}_\mu &\rightarrow \varepsilon^a{}_\mu + \xi^\lambda \beta^a{}_{\lambda\mu}, \\ \varepsilon^{ab} &\rightarrow \varepsilon^{ab} + \xi^\lambda \omega^{ab}{}_\lambda, & \varepsilon^{ab}{}_\mu &\rightarrow \varepsilon^{ab}{}_\mu + \xi^\lambda B^{ab}{}_{\lambda\mu}.\end{aligned}$$

The generator in terms of new parameters:

$$\begin{aligned}G[\varepsilon^{ab}{}_i, \varepsilon^a{}_i, \varepsilon^{ab}, \xi^\lambda] &= \int d^3\vec{x} \left[\frac{1}{2} (\dot{\varepsilon}^{ab}{}_i P(B)_{ab}{}^{0i} - \varepsilon^{ab}{}_i \mathcal{G}_{ab}{}^i) + (\dot{\varepsilon}^a{}_i P(\beta)_a{}^{0i} - \varepsilon^a{}_i \mathcal{G}_a{}^i) + \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} (\dot{\varepsilon}^{ab} P(\omega)_{ab}{}^0 - \varepsilon^{ab} \mathcal{M}_{ab}) + (\dot{\xi}^\lambda \Pi_\lambda + \xi^0 \mathcal{P}_0 + \xi^i \mathcal{P}_i) \right],\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\Pi_\lambda = \frac{1}{2} B_{\lambda i}^{ab} P(B)_{ab}{}^{0i} + \frac{1}{2} \omega^{ab}{}_\lambda P(\omega)_{ab}{}^0 + \beta^a{}_{\lambda i} P(\beta)_a{}^{0i} + e^a{}_\lambda P(e)_a{}^0,$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{ab} = \mathcal{G}_{ab},$$

$$\mathcal{P}_0 = \mathcal{H}_T,$$

$$\mathcal{P}_i = \dots$$

CANONICAL QUANTIZATION

Fields $\phi^A \in \{B^{ab}_{\mu\nu}, \beta^a_{\mu\nu}, \omega^{ab}_{\mu}, e^a_{\mu}\}$ and their momenta π_A are promoted to operators,

$$\phi^A \rightarrow \hat{\phi}^A = \phi^A, \quad \pi_A \rightarrow \hat{\pi}_A = i \frac{\delta}{\delta \phi^A},$$

the wavefunctional $\Psi[\phi^A] \equiv \langle \phi^A | \Psi \rangle$ is required to be gauge-invariant,

$$\hat{G} \Psi[\phi^A] = 0,$$

and the set of solutions of this equation determines the physical Hilbert space of the theory:

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{Phys}} = \{ \Psi[\phi^A] \mid \hat{G} \Psi[\phi^A] = 0 \}.$$

TODO: repeat the whole calculation for the constrained *BFCG* model!

THANK YOU!