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Cosmological Constant in LQG Vertex Amplitude

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A new q -deformation of the Euclidean EPRL/FK vertex amplitude is proposed by using the evaluation of the Vassiliev invariant associated with a 4-simplex graph (related to two copies of quantum $SU(2)$ group at different roots of unity) embedded in a 3-sphere. We show that the large- j asymptotics of the q -deformed vertex amplitude gives the Regge action with a cosmological constant. In the end we also discuss its relation with a Chern-Simons theory on the boundary of 4-simplex.

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I. INTRODUCTION:

The spinfoam formalism is currently understood as a covariant formulation of Loop Quantum Gravity (LQG) [1–5]. In LQG community, it was commonly conjectured that one should make a q -deformation of the spinfoam amplitude (with quantum group) in order to implement the cosmological constant term in the theory [3, 6, 7]. Such a conjecture was suggested by the lesson from 3d gravity and 4d topological field theory. In 3d gravity, the Turaev-Viro model [8] is a deformation of the Ponzano-Regge model [9] by the quantum group $SU_q(2)$ (q is a root of unity). The partition function of the Turaev-Viro model is finite, and its large spin asymptotics give the 3d Regge action with a positive cosmological constant [10]. In 4d, the Crane-Yetter model [11] is a deformation of 4d $SU(2)$ BF theory (the Ooguri model [12]) by $SU_q(2)$ (q is a root of unity). The partition function of the Crane-Yetter model is finite and shown to be the partition function of 4d $SU(2)$ BF theory with a cosmological constant [13].

For 4d quantum gravity, there are early pioneer works for q -deformed LQG [6]. In the spinfoam formulation, there are several proposals to make q -deformed spinfoam models, which are hoped to give the cosmological constant term in the semiclassical limit [14–17]. In this paper, we propose a new q -deformation of the Euclidean EPRL/FK vertex amplitude by using the evaluation of the Vassiliev invariant associated with a 4-simplex graph (relates to the quantum group $SU_{q^+}(2) \otimes SU_{q^-}(2)$ with q^\pm roots of unity). We also show that the large- j asymptotics of the q -deformed vertex amplitude gives the Regge action with cosmological constant. This result can be considered as an evidence supporting that the q -deformation of spinfoam amplitude implements the cosmological constant term in the framework of covariant LQG.

II. HEURISTIC DEFORMATION:

Before we come to the systematic q -deformation of the amplitude, we first present a heuristic deformation of EPRL/FK

vertex amplitude, to give an idea for obtaining the cosmological constant term in the spinfoam vertex amplitude.

Given a 4-simplex σ , we label by $a, b = 1, \dots, 5$ the five tetrahedra on the boundary of the 4-simplex, and denote by the pair (a, b) the triangle shared by two tetrahedra a and b . We assume the Barbero-Immirzi parameter $0 < \gamma < 1$, the Euclidean EPRL/FK vertex amplitude can be written in coherent state representation [18] (\pm stands for the self-dual/anti-self-dual contribution):

$$A_\sigma(k_{ab}, n_{ab}) := (-1)^\chi \int \prod_{a=1}^5 dg_a^\pm \prod_{a<b} P_{ab}^\pm(k_{ab}, g_a^\pm, n_{ab}) \quad (1)$$

where $(-1)^\chi$ is a sign defined by the diagrammatic calculus of $SU(2)$ spin-network, P_{ab}^\pm is a coherent propagator

$$P_{ab}^\pm := \langle j_{ab}^\pm, -n_{ab} | (g_a^\pm)^{-1} g_b^\pm | j_{ab}^\pm, n_{ba} \rangle \quad (2)$$

g_a ($a = 1, \dots, 5$) are 2×2 $SU(2)$ matrices, and $|j, n\rangle$ is a coherent state in the spin- j representation of $SU(2)$ [19]. Here $\{k_{ab}, n_{ab}\}$ with $j_{ab}^\pm = \frac{1 \pm \gamma}{2} k_{ab}$ and $n_{ab} \in S^2$ is a set of boundary data for a vertex amplitude. The vector $j_{ab} n_{ab}$ is an oriented area vector of the triangle (a, b) viewed at the tetrahedron a . The coherent state representation of EPRL/FK vertex amplitude is the starting point for the asymptotic analysis, and it turns out also to be useful in the analysis of quantum group spinfoam vertex.

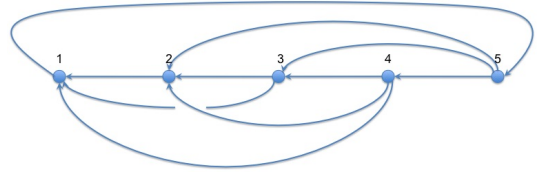


FIG. 1: The Γ_5^+ graph with one crossing between l_{31} and l_{42} .

Now we make a heuristic modification of the EPRL/FK vertex amplitude: We consider a 4-simplex graph Γ_5^+ (FIG.1). In FIG.1 we order the 5 nodes on the paper from left to right, and connect the nodes by oriented links. A link oriented from the node a to the node b is denoted by l_{ab} . We notice that there is a crossing between the links l_{31} and l_{42} , which motivate us to make the following modification of the coherent propagator

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P_{31}^\pm and P_{42}^\pm . We define two operators R^\pm on the $SU(2)$ tensor representations $V_{j_{31}}^\pm \otimes V_{j_{42}}^\pm$ respectively¹:

$$R^\pm := \exp \left[\frac{\pm 4i}{(1 \pm \gamma)^2} \omega \sum_{j=1}^3 X_j^\pm \otimes X_j^\pm \right] \quad (3)$$

where ω is a real dimensionless parameter (a deformation parameter), and X_j^\pm are self-dual/anti-self-dual generators of $\text{Spin}(4)$ with commutator $[X_j^\pm, X_k^\pm] = i\epsilon_{jkl}X_l^\pm$. We write formally that $R^\pm \equiv \sum_{R^\pm} R_{31}^\pm \otimes R_{42}^\pm$, and insert them by hand into the coherent propagators, i.e. we modify $P_{13}^\pm P_{24}^\pm$ by

$$\begin{aligned} \omega P_{31}^\pm \omega P_{42}^\pm &= \sum_{R^\pm} \langle j_{31}^\pm, -n_{31} | (g_3^\pm)^{-1} R_{31}^\pm g_1^\pm | j_{31}^\pm, n_{13} \rangle \\ &\times \langle j_{42}^\pm, -n_{42} | (g_4^\pm)^{-1} R_{42}^\pm g_2^\pm | j_{42}^\pm, n_{24} \rangle \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

while we leave the other coherent propagators unchanged as Eq.(2). The modified (deformed) vertex amplitude is defined in the same way as Eq.(1) but with modified coherent propagator. We denote the modified vertex amplitude by $A_\sigma^\omega(k_{ab}, n_{ab})$, which can be written by

$$A_\sigma^\omega(k_{ab}, n_{ab}) = \int \prod_{a=1}^5 d g_a^\pm \mathcal{K}_{31,42}^\omega \prod_{a < b} P_{ab}^\pm \quad (5)$$

where $\mathcal{K}_{31,42}^\omega$ is a ratio

$$\mathcal{K}_{31,42}^\omega = \frac{\prod_{\epsilon=\pm} \omega P_{31}^\epsilon \omega P_{42}^\epsilon}{\prod_{\epsilon=\pm} P_{13}^\epsilon P_{24}^\epsilon}. \quad (6)$$

We can then expand Eq.(3) into power series of ω , which results in a power expansion of $\mathcal{K}_{31,42}^\omega$ in terms of the deformation parameter ω . A building block for constructing the power expansion of $\mathcal{K}_{31,42}^\omega$ is

$$\prod_{ab=31,42} \frac{\langle j_{ab}^\pm, -n_{ab} | (g_a^\pm)^{-1} X_{k_1}^\pm \cdots X_{k_n}^\pm g_b^\pm | j_{ab}^\pm, n_{ba} \rangle}{\langle j_{ab}^\pm, -n_{ab} | (g_a^\pm)^{-1} g_b^\pm | j_{ab}^\pm, n_{ba} \rangle}, \quad (7)$$

which contributes the power expansion at the order ω^n .

By using the resolution of identity for coherent state $\dim(j) \int_{S^2} dn |j, n\rangle \langle j, n| = 1_j$, we can compute

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{\langle j_{ab}, -n_{ab} | g_a^{-1} X_{k_1} \cdots X_{k_n} g_b | j_{ab}, n_{ba} \rangle}{\langle j_{ab}, -n_{ab} | g_a^{-1} g_b | j_{ab}, n_{ba} \rangle} \\ &= \frac{\dim(j_{ab})^{n-1}}{\langle j_{ab}, -n_{ab} | g_a^{-1} g_b | j_{ab}, n_{ba} \rangle} \int_{(S^2)^n} dn_1 \cdots dn_n \\ &\times \exp \left[2j_{ab} \left(\ln \langle -n_{ab} | g_a^{-1} | n_1 \rangle + \cdots + \ln \langle n_n | g_b | n_{ba} \rangle \right) \right] \\ &\times j_{ab} \frac{\langle -n_{ab} | g_a^{-1} \sigma_{k_1} | n_1 \rangle}{\langle -n_{ab} | g_a^{-1} | n_1 \rangle} \cdots j_{ab} \frac{\langle n_n | \sigma_{k_n} g_b | n_{ba} \rangle}{\langle n_n | g_b | n_{ba} \rangle} \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

where we have used the following identity:

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle j, -n_1 | g_1^{-1} X_k g_2 | j, n_2 \rangle \\ &= j \langle -n_1 | g_1^{-1} \sigma_k g_2 | n_2 \rangle \langle -n_1 | g_1^{-1} g_2 | n_2 \rangle^{2j-1} \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

We scale the spin $j_{ab} \mapsto \lambda j_{ab}$ and study the large- j asymptotic behavior of the integral in Eq.(8) as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$. The leading asymptotics is determined by the critical point of the action

$$S_0 = 2j_{ab} \left[\ln \langle -n_{ab} | g_a^{-1} | n_1 \rangle + \cdots + \ln \langle n_n | g_b | n_{ba} \rangle \right] \quad (10)$$

The condition $\text{Re}S_0 = 0$ gives the critical equations

$$-g_a n_{ab} = n_1 = n_2 = \cdots = n_n = g_b n_{ba}. \quad (11)$$

The variations of the action $\delta S_0 / \delta n_k$ vanishes automatically, once the above critical equations are satisfied. The asymptotics of Eq.(8) is given by the integrand evaluated at the critical point (critical equations). By using the following relation

$$\frac{\langle -n_{ab} | g_a^{-1} \vec{\sigma} g_b | n_{ba} \rangle}{\langle -n_{ab} | g_a^{-1} g_b | n_{ba} \rangle} = \frac{\tilde{n}_{ba} - \tilde{n}_{ab} + i \tilde{n}_{ab} \times \tilde{n}_{ba}}{1 - \tilde{n}_{ab} \cdot \tilde{n}_{ba}} \quad (12)$$

where $\tilde{n}_{ab} = g_a n_{ab}$, we obtain the following asymptotic formula:

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{\langle \lambda j_{ab}, -n_{ab} | g_a^{-1} X_{k_1} \cdots X_{k_n} g_b | \lambda j_{ab}, n_{ba} \rangle}{\langle \lambda j_{ab}, -n_{ab} | g_a^{-1} g_b | \lambda j_{ab}, n_{ba} \rangle} \\ &\sim \lambda j_{ab} (g_b n_{ba})^{k_1} \cdots \lambda j_{ab} (g_b n_{ba})^{k_n} [1 + o(1/\lambda)] \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

Since Eq.(7) is a product of two factors with $ab = 31$ and $ab = 42$, the building block in Eq.(7) scales as λ^{2n} as its leading large- j asymptotics. Moreover Eq.(7) contributes the expansion at the order ω^n , thus $[\omega^n \times \text{Eq}(7)]$ doesn't scale asymptotically if we propose a scaling of ω by $\omega \mapsto \omega/\lambda^2$.

From Eq.(13) we see that the asymptotic formula of a coherent state expectation value for $X_{k_1} \cdots X_{k_n}$ is given by simply replacing each \vec{X} by $\lambda j_{ab} (g_b \vec{n}_{ba})$. Then we find that under the scaling $j_{ab} \mapsto \lambda j_{ab}$ and $\omega \mapsto \omega/\lambda^2$, the asymptotic formula for $\mathcal{K}_{31,42}^\omega$ as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ is obtained by considering the product $R^+ R^-$ and replacing each \vec{X}^\pm in $R^+ R^-$ by $\lambda j_{ab}^\pm \vec{n}_{ba}^\pm$ ($\vec{n}_{ba}^\pm = g_b^\pm \vec{n}_{ba}$):

$$\mathcal{K}_{31,42}^\omega \sim e^{i\omega V_{31,42}} [1 + o(1/\lambda)] \quad (14)$$

where we denote

$$V_{31,42} := k_{31} \vec{n}_{13}^+ \cdot k_{42} \vec{n}_{24}^+ - k_{31} \vec{n}_{13}^- \cdot k_{42} \vec{n}_{24}^-. \quad (15)$$

recall that $j_{ab}^\pm = \frac{1 \pm \gamma}{2} k_{ab}$.

We write $\prod_{a < b} P_{ab}^\pm = e^S$ in the deformed vertex amplitude A_σ^ω in Eq.(5), where S is a ‘‘spinfoam action’’ used in the spinfoam asymptotic analysis [18]

$$S = \sum_{a < b} \sum_{\epsilon=\pm} 2j_{ab}^\epsilon \log \langle -n_{ab} | (g_a^\epsilon)^{-1} g_b^\epsilon | n_{ba} \rangle \quad (16)$$

The spinfoam action S doesn't depend on ω . Thus under the scaling $k \mapsto \lambda k$, $\omega \mapsto \omega/\lambda^2$ and $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$, the e^S part of the

¹ The original EPRL/FK amplitude doesn't know about the embedding of the 4-simplex spin-network, i.e. it doesn't depend on whether l_{31} is over-crossing or under-crossing l_{42} . However the deformed amplitude does know about the embedding, thanks to the operators R^\pm .

integrand is affected only by the scaling of the spins k_{ab} . The critical point of the action S under $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ is analyzed in [18]. The critical equations from S

$$\sum_b k_{ab} n_{ab} = 0, \quad g_a^\pm n_{ab} = -g_b^\pm n_{ba} \quad (17)$$

imply that (i) the closure of each tetrahedron and (ii) two neighboring tetrahedron are glued with each other at a triangle. Note that the critical equations Eq.(17) from S are consistent with the critical equations Eq.(11) from S_0 . Suppose we fix a set of boundary data $\{k_{ab}, n_{ab}\}$ corresponding to a non-degenerated flat 4-simplex Regge geometry, and also fix the dihedral angles between each pairs of neighboring tetrahedra (e.g. via imposing boundary state [20]), then there is a unique solution (g_a^+, g_a^-) for the above critical equations. The solution specifies uniquely a bivector geometry of the 4-simplex up to an inversion. The bivector (at the center of 4-simplex) for each triangle (a, b) is given by

$$B_{ab}(\sigma) = (B_{ab}^+, B_{ab}^-) = \pm k_{ab} (g_a^+, g_a^-) (n_{ab}, n_{ab}) \quad (18)$$

Then one can see immediately the above $V_{31,42}$ evaluated at the critical point (g_a^+, g_a^-) gives precisely the 4-volume of the 4-simplex σ (up to an overall constant)

$$V_{31,42}|_{\text{critical}} = B_{31}^+ \cdot B_{42}^+ - B_{31}^- \cdot B_{42}^- = V_\sigma \quad (19)$$

For a geometrical 4-simplex, this expression of 4-volume doesn't depend on the choice of triangle (3, 1) and (4, 2).

The asymptotics of the deformed vertex amplitude A_σ^ω is given by its integrand $\mathcal{K}_{31,42}^\omega e^S$ evaluated at the critical point satisfying both Eqs.(11) and (17) from both actions S and S_0 . We have seen that the two critical equations Eqs.(11) and (17) are consistent with each other. The action S evaluated at the critical point gives the 4-simplex Regge action $iS_{\text{Regge}} = i\ell_p^2 \sum_{a<b} \gamma k_{ab} \Theta_{ab}$ without cosmological constant. Eq(14) gives the asymptotic behavior of $\mathcal{K}_{31,42}^\omega$. Therefore we have the following large- j asymptotics

$$A_\sigma^\omega \sim \left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}\right)^{\frac{D}{2}} \frac{e^{\text{ind}H}}{\sqrt{|\det H|}} e^{i\lambda \sum_{a<b} \gamma k_{ab} \Theta_{ab}} e^{i\omega V_\sigma} [1 + o(1/\lambda)] \quad (20)$$

under $k_{ab} \mapsto \lambda k_{ab}$, $\omega \mapsto \omega/\lambda^2$ and $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$, where H is the Hessian matrix of the spinfoam action S and D is the dimension of the integral. The above asymptotic formula manifests that the deformation parameter ω is proportional to the cosmological constant Λ in Regge gravity. Note that the above Regge action with Λ

$$S_{\text{Regge}, \Lambda} = \ell_p^2 \sum_{a<b} \gamma k_{ab} \Theta_{ab} + \Lambda V_\sigma \quad (21)$$

corresponds to the Regge calculus approximation of continuous curved geometry with flat 4-simplices.

We now discuss the physical meaning of the scaling $k_{ab} \mapsto \lambda k_{ab}$, $\omega \mapsto \omega/\lambda^2$ and $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$, which leads us to the asymptotic formula Eq.(20). Given a cosmological constant $\Lambda = 1/\ell_c^2$ where ℓ_c is the cosmological length, the dimensionless parameter ω has to be interpreted as $\omega = \Lambda \ell_p^2 = \ell_p^2/\ell_c^2$ from

the asymptotic formula Eq.(20). The spins k_{ab} relate to the area A_{ab} of the triangle shared by tetrahedra a and b by the relation $\gamma k_{ab} = A_{ab}/\ell_p^2$. Then the scaling $k_{ab} \mapsto \lambda k_{ab}$ can be understood as a scaling of the Planck length by $\ell_p^2 \mapsto \lambda^{-1} \ell_p^2$ while keeping the area A_{ab} fixed. The other scaling $\omega \mapsto \omega/\lambda^2$ combined with $\ell_p^2 \mapsto \lambda^{-1} \ell_p^2$ results in the scaling of the cosmological length $\ell_c^2 \mapsto \lambda \ell_c^2$. As $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$, we see that the asymptotic formula Eq.(20) is valid in the regime where the area A_{ab} is much larger than the Planck area ℓ_p^2 but much smaller than the cosmological area ℓ_c^2 . The assumption that the cosmological length ℓ_c is much larger than the physical scale of the 4-simplex is the reason why we can approximate the local geometry with a flat 4-simplex given by the critical equations Eq.(17) and the boundary data $\{k_{ab}, n_{ab}\}$.

III. Q-DEFORMATION AND VASSILIEV INVARIANTS:

From the above derivation, we have seen that the expected cosmological constant term comes from the insertion of the operator R^\pm in the vertex amplitude, which is responsible for the crossing in the spin-network graph Γ_S^+ . Here we present a more systematic deformation of the EPRL/FK vertex amplitude by using the evaluation of Vassiliev invariants [21] (see also [13] for a brief introduction). The resulting q-deformed vertex amplitude gives has the same asymptotic behavior as the above heuristic deformation.

Let's recall Eq.(1) and carry out the integration over g_a^\pm , we obtain

$$A_\sigma(k_{ab}, n_{ab}) = \sum_{\{i_a^\pm\}} \{15j\}_{i_a^\pm}^\pm \prod_{a=1}^5 f_{i_a^\pm}(j_{ab}^\pm, n_{ab}) \quad (22)$$

where $\{15j\}_{i_a^\pm}^\pm$ denotes two copies of SU(2) 15j symbol with spins j_{ab}^\pm and intertwiners i_a^\pm , and $f_{i_a^\pm}(j_{ab}^\pm, n_{ab})$ denotes two copies of SU(2) intertwiner i_a^\pm in the coherent state representation.

We define a deformation of the vertex amplitude by simply replace the 15j symbols in Eq.(22) by two q-deformed 15j symbols with q^\pm at *different* roots of unity. Therefore we define the q-deformed EPRL/FK vertex amplitude by

$$A_\sigma^q(k_{ab}, n_{ab}) := \sum_{\{i_a^\pm\}} \{15j\}_{i_a^\pm, q^\pm}^\pm \prod_{a=1}^5 f_{i_a^\pm}(j_{ab}^\pm, n_{ab}) \quad (23)$$

The q-deformed 15j symbols are obtained from the evaluation of a 4-simplex spin-network with the corresponding Vassiliev invariant. Here we briefly describe the procedure for the construction.

Let X be a 1-dimensional oriented compact manifold (an oriented graph). A chord diagram with support X is defined by the union $C = D \cup X$, where D (dash lines) is a (non-planar) graph with end points on X , and the graph D has only univalent and trivalent vertices. The degree of the chord diagram C is defined by the half of the number of vertices in D . We define a vector space $\mathcal{A}_n(X)$ generated by all the chord diagrams with degree n , subject to the some relations [13, 21, 22]

the previous analysis of heuristic deformation A_σ^ω , i.e. under the scaling $k_{ab} \mapsto \lambda k_{ab}$, $\omega \mapsto \omega/\lambda^2$ and $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$, A_σ^q and A_σ^ω have the same asymptotic behavior. Thus we can write down the asymptotic formula of the q-deformed vertex amplitude with a given Regge boundary data:

$$A_\sigma^q \sim \left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}\right)^{\frac{D}{2}} \frac{e^{\text{ind}H}}{\sqrt{|\det H|}} e^{i\lambda \sum_{a<b} \gamma^{k_{ab}} \Theta_{ab}} e^{i\omega V_\sigma} [1 + o(1/\lambda)]. \quad (27)$$

Before conclusion, we would like to point out an interesting fact: there is another possibility to obtain the same asymptotics from another q-deformation. We use the deformation parameter $h^\pm = \frac{8}{(1\pm\gamma)^2} \omega$ instead of Eq.(24), but evaluate the self-dual and anti-self-dual 15j symbols on different graphs, i.e. we evaluate the self-dual sector on the Γ_5^+ graph as before but evaluate the anti-self-dual sector on the Γ_5^- graph FIG.5 with the opposite crossing (with braiding R^{-1}) to the one in Γ_5^+ . Then it is not hard to see that the resulting q-deformed vertex amplitude has the same asymptotic behavior as the above up to higher order in λ^{-1} .

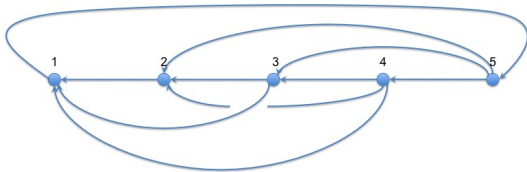


FIG. 5:

IV. CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION:

To summarize, in this paper we propose a new q-deformation of the Euclidean EPRL/FK spinfoam vertex amplitude. The concrete construction uses the evaluation of the Vassiliev invariant from 4-simplex graph. We also show that the asymptotics of the q-deformed vertex amplitude gives the Regge gravity with a cosmological constant (from Regge calculus using flat 4-simplices) in the regime that the physical scale of the 4-simplex is much greater than the Planck scale ℓ_p but much smaller than the cosmological area ℓ_c .

The Vassiliev invariants of links come from the Feymann diagrams of perturbative Chern-Simons theory, for evaluating the link observables [22, 24]. The q-deformation of the 15j symbol employed above can be viewed as a Chern-Simons expectation value of a 4-simplex spin-network. Moreover we suppose the boundary of the 4-simplex under consideration is a 3-sphere S^3 , then the q-deformed vertex amplitude for this 4-simplex is given by the following expectation value of a Chern-Simons theory (with gauge group $\text{Spin}(4) = \text{SU}(2) \times \text{SU}(2)$) on the boundary 3-manifold:

$$A_\sigma^q = \int \Psi[A^\pm] e^{\frac{2\pi i}{h^\pm} S_{CS}[A^+] + \frac{2\pi i}{h^\pm} S_{CS}[A^-]} DA^\pm \quad (28)$$

where $S_{CS}[A]$ is the $\text{SU}(2)$ Chern-Simons action, and $\Psi[A^\pm]$ is a projective spin-network functions on $\text{Spin}(4)$ holonomies [26] associated with a 4-simplex graph Γ_5^+ (or two graphs Γ_5^\pm) imbedded in the boundary 3-sphere. Interestingly, this result also relates to an old idea by L. Smolin et al (see [6]).

In addition, although all the discuss in this paper concerns only a single 4-simplex, the asymptotic analysis can be done also for a triangulation with arbitrary many 4-simplices, which results in a Regge action with a cosmological constant (from the Regge calculus with flat simplices) on the triangulation. The detailed analysis will be reported in [27].

Finally we note that the scaling $k_{ab} \mapsto \lambda k_{ab}$, $\omega \mapsto \omega/\lambda^2$ used in this paper leads us to the Regge calculus with flat 4-simplex, which is an approximation of curved geometry in presence of a cosmological constant. It would be interesting to find the relation between the q-deformed vertex amplitude and a curved 4-simplex with constant curvature, in analogy with the 3d case (see e.g. [28]). We leave this point to the future research.

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