THE TIME PROBLEM IN PRIMORDIAL PERTURBATIONS*

PhD seminar

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*"The time problem in primordial perturbations"- A.B., P. Peter, P. Małkiewicz, soon on ArXiv



Clock in physics

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Reduction formalism

Clock in physics

Reduction formalism

Canonical model of primordial spacetime

Clock in physics

Quantization and semi-classical approximation Reduction formalism

Canonical model of primordial spacetime

Clock in physics

Results <_____

Quantization and semi-classical approximation

> Canonical model of primordial spacetime

Reduction formalism

Conclusions

Results

Clock in physics

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> Canonical model of primordial spacetime

Reduction formalism



GR is **diffeomorphism** invariant, thus the free choice of internal time variable has no physical consequence.





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Upon passing to **quantum theory**, however, different choices of internal time variables are known to produce unitarily inequivalent quantum models.

The problem of finding the correct interpretation of these non-equivalent models is commonly known as **the time problem**.



"The prime source of the problem of time in quantum gravity is the invariance of classical general relativity under the group Diff(M) of diffeomorphisms of the spacetime 4-manifold M.

This stands against the simple Newtonian picture of a fixed time parameter, and tends to produce quantisation schemes that apparently lack any fundamental notion of time at all.

From this perspective, the heart of the problem is contained in the following questions":



1. How should the notion of time be re-introduced into the quantum theory of gravity?



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The absence of time in a quantum theory might not be a problem after all as any **internal variable** chosen in our theory will give the same prediction in the classical limit.



2. Should attempts to identify time be made at the classical level, i.e., before quantisation, or should the theory be quantised first?



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In our method we choose an **internal time variable** at the **classical level**, **prior to quantisation**, this is called **reduced phase space quantisation**. The problem of time would not change if we were to use the **Dirac quantisation**.



Open question

3. Can 'time' still be regarded as a fundamental concept in a quantum theory of gravity, or is its status purely phenomenological?



Open question

4. If 'time' is only an approximate concept, how reliable is the rest of the quantum-mechanical formalism in those regimes where the normal notion of time is not applicable?

In particular, how closely tied to the concept of time is the idea of probability? This is especially relevant in those approaches to quantum gravity in which the notion of time emerges only after the theory has been quantised.





Internal clock formulation of quantum mechanics- P. Małkiewicz, A. Miroszewski 10.1103/physrevd.96.046003



Lapse:Measures the velocity with which the proper time varies from one sheet to the other

Shift vector:Measures shift of local coordinates

> Lapse function N Shift vector Nⁱ

NOT DYNAMICAL

The evolution from one sheet to the other extremizes the action

$$ds^2 = -N^2 dt^2 + g_{ij}(dx^i + N^i dt)(dx^j + N^j dt)$$

Spatial metric of a hypersurface

Einstein-Hilbert action
$$S_{gravity} = \frac{1}{2\kappa} \int R \sqrt{-g} d^4x$$

$$\delta S_{tot} = \frac{1}{16} \int \left(\pi^{ij} \frac{\delta g_{ij}}{\delta t} - \underbrace{N\mathcal{H}(g_{ij}, \pi^{ij}) - N^i \mathcal{H}_i(g_{ij}, \pi^{ij})}_{\text{Lagrange multipliers}} \right) d^4x + \int \delta \mathcal{L}_{field} d^4x$$

[R. Wald, general relativity]

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Spatial metric of a hypersurface

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Constraints

[R. Wald, general relativity]

Hamiltonian constraint

$$C(q_I, p^J) = 0$$



Assume q_0 varies monotonically with the evolution generated by the constraint

 $\{q_0, C\}_{\rm PB} \neq 0$

we can assign to it the role of the **internal clock** in which the evolution of the remaining variables occurs

The dynamics reads

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}q_I}{\mathrm{d}q_0} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_I} \qquad \qquad \frac{\mathrm{d}p^I}{\mathrm{d}q_0} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q^I}$$

Let's call
$$q_0=t$$

We can define a new clock as function of the old clock and the old canonical variables

 $\tilde{t} = \tilde{t}(q_I, p^I, t)$

There must exist an invertible map between the old and the **new** variables. We find a complete set of **canonical constants** of motion, denoted by

$$D_I = D_I(q_J, p^J, t)$$

KEY FORMULA

$$\tilde{t} = \tilde{t}(q_I, p^I, t), \quad D_I(q_J, p^J, t) = D_I(\tilde{q}_J, \tilde{p}^J, \tilde{t})$$

$$ds^{2} = -N^{2}(t)dt^{2} + a^{2}(t)(\delta_{ij} + h_{ij}(x,t))dx^{i}dx^{j}$$

Flat Friedmann universe filled with radiation (w=1/3) and perturbed by gravitational waves

$$H = H^{(0)} + \sum_{k} H_{k}^{(2)}$$

$$H^{(0)} = \frac{1}{2} p_{a}^{2}$$

$$H^{amiltonian in reduced phase space
$$H^{(2)} = -\frac{1}{2} |\pi_{\pm}(\vec{k})|^{2} - \frac{1}{2} \left(k^{2} - \frac{\ddot{a}}{a}\right) |\mu_{\pm}(\vec{k})|^{2}$$$$

Expansion of the gravitational constraint up to second order

$$ds^{2} = -N^{2}(t)dt^{2} + a^{2}(t)(\delta_{ij} + h_{ij}(x,t))dx^{i}dx^{j}$$

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$$H_{k}^{(2)} = -\frac{1}{2}|\pi_{\pm}(\vec{k})|^{2} - \frac{1}{2}\left(k^{2} - \frac{\ddot{a}}{a}\right)\mu_{\pm}(\vec{k})|^{2}$$
Expansion of the gravitational constraint up to second order
$$\mu_{+} = ah_{+}$$











The Dirac observables are invariant under the clock transformation

The dynamical varaibles are not invariant, i.e.

$$\tilde{a} = a + p\Delta, \quad \tilde{p} = p,$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mu}_k \\ k^{-1}\tilde{\pi}_k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos k\Delta & -\sin k\Delta \\ \sin k\Delta & \cos k\Delta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mu_k \\ k^{-1}\pi_k \end{bmatrix}$$

The two classical frameworks generate the same physical dynamics of the system

Semi-classical background Hamiltonian $H_{\rm sem} = \frac{1}{2} \left(p^2 + \frac{\hbar^2 \Re}{a^2} \right)$

Physical perturbation Hamiltonian

$$H_k^{(2)} = -\frac{1}{2} |\pi(\vec{k})|^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left(k^2 - \frac{\ddot{a}}{a}\right) |\mu(\vec{k})|^2$$



Hamilton equations

QUANTIZATION AND SEMI-CLASSICAL APPROXIMATION

Quantization of the perturbation

$$\mu_{\boldsymbol{k}} \mapsto \widehat{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{k}} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2}} \left[a_{\boldsymbol{k}} \bar{\mu}_{k}(\tau) + a^{\dagger}_{-\boldsymbol{k}} \mu_{k}(\tau) \right] \quad \pi_{\boldsymbol{k}} \mapsto \widehat{\pi}_{\boldsymbol{k}} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2}} \left[a_{\boldsymbol{k}} \dot{\bar{\mu}}_{k}(\tau) + a^{\dagger}_{-\boldsymbol{k}} \dot{\mu}_{k}(\tau) \right]$$

Equation of motion in Heisenberg picture

$$\frac{d^2\mu_k}{d\tau^2} + \left(k^2 + \frac{\hbar^2\Re}{a^4}\right)\mu_k = 0$$









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RESULTS



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CONCLUSIONS

The expectation value of the dynamical variables is invariant under clock transformations away from the bounce where the behavior of the expectation values becomes classical.

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For asymptotically large universes the dynamical predictions of quantum gravity do not depend on the clock

CLOCK TRANSFORMATIONS

Hamiltonian constraint

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Hamiltonian constraint

$$C \propto p_0 + H$$

Reduced Hamiltonian formalism

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}q_I}{\mathrm{d}q_0} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_I} \qquad \frac{\mathrm{d}p^I}{\mathrm{d}q_0} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q^I}$$

 $\Omega\Big|_{C=0} = \left(\mathrm{d}q_I \wedge \mathrm{d}p^I + \mathrm{d}t \wedge \mathrm{d}p^0 \right) \Big|_{C=0}$ = $\mathrm{d}q_I \wedge \mathrm{d}p^I - \mathrm{d}t \wedge \mathrm{d}H$