What Shape Dynamics Is

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What is Shape Dynamics?

Intro •OO



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Firstly

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But also,

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In a word...



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In a word...

... Shape Dynamics is the world one shape after another.



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- The hell of it...



Old Observation (1970s)

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• Fix foliation (CMC) ⇒ initial data is conformal



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- York '72:

"An increasing amount of evidence shows that the true dynamical degrees of freedom of the gravitational field can be identified directly with the conformally invariant geometry of three-dimensional spacelike hypersurfaces embedded in spacetime."



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Global Differences:

- Physically different classical solutions (black holes, cosmological toy models,...).
- New scenarios for quantum theory (theory space, observable/evolution split,...).



Canonical GR

3+1 decomposition

$g_{\mu u} ightarrow$

- (g_{ab}, \dot{g}_{ab}) : dynamic variables
- \bullet (N, N^a): embedding variables



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 \Rightarrow Hamilton vector field: $v_g(f) = \{f, g\}$ (directional derivative).



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Non-invertible Legendre transform

Constraints:

• Diff: $g_{ab}\mathcal{L}_{N^c}\pi^{ab}=0 \ \forall \ N^c$. $\Rightarrow v_{\text{Diff}} = \text{infinitesimal 3-diff.}$



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- Ham: $K(\pi^{ab}, g_{ab}) + V(g_{ab}, \nabla g, ...) = 0$ $\Rightarrow v_{\text{Ham}} = \text{hypersurface deformations AND evolution}$



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- Hamiltonian: $H_{SD}(\tau) = \int d^3x \, e^{6\phi(g_{ab},\pi^{ab},\tau)} \sqrt{g}$ where $\phi(g_{ab},\pi^{ab},\tau) = \text{solution to elliptic PDE.}$ $\Rightarrow v_{H_{SD}} = \text{time evolution}$



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Note: clean observable/dynamics split (hence, "Shape Dynamics").



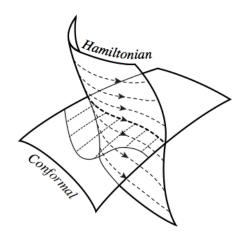
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Duality: When $\phi = 0$ and $N = N_{\rm CMC}$, then $v_{H_{\rm SD}} = v_{\rm Ham}$.



Iconic Diagram





Shape Dynamics versus GR

Classical

• Shape Dynamics black holes are Einstein-Rosen bridges.



Shape Dynamics versus GR

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- N-body cosmology ⇒ Arrow of Time, typicality (Julian's talk).



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• New theory space.



SD vs GR

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- N-body cosmology ⇒ Arrow of Time, typicality (Julian's talk).

Quantum (?)

- New theory space.
- Split between observables and evolution.



Summary/Outlook

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- Ambitions for quantum theory.



Thank You!