

Title: The Theory of Shape Dynamics

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Abstract:

# Intro to Shape Dynamics

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May 9, 2012

In collaboration with Tim Koslowski, Sean Gryb and Flavio Mercatti

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## Notational warning!!

This will be a talk focused on 3+1 formulations of gravity.

### 3D vs 4D

Here  $g$  is a 3D Riemannian metric (the spatial metric) that evolves in time. If we ever need to use 4D Lorentzian metric, we'll use  $h$ .

- Over a closed (compact without boundary) 3-dimensional manifold  $\Sigma$ !
- We will avoid indices as much as we can, but they are there!
- When we talk about a conformal transformation, we mean Weyl transformations, as  $g \mapsto \alpha g$ .



# What is Shape Dynamics?

## What it is

A Hamiltonian formulation of gravity with the following prominent features:

- Possesses the same canonical variables as Hamiltonian GR:  $(g, \pi)$ .
- Does *not* possess refoliation invariance (boosts).
- Trades that symmetry for foliation preserving conformal transformations (Weyl) + unique, non-local global Hamiltonian.

## What it is not

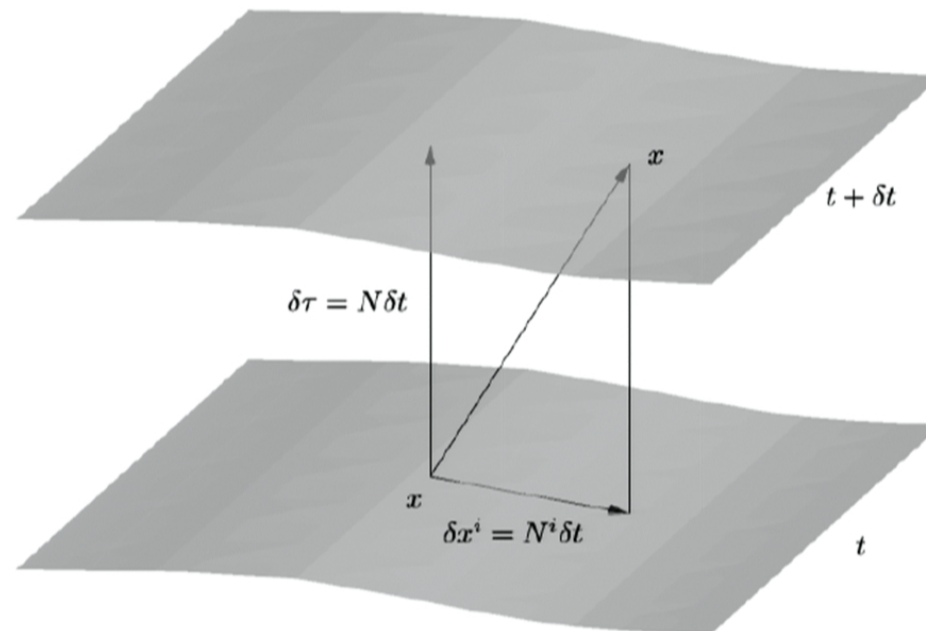
- York's approach to the initial value problem (and its related constant-mean-curvature gauge for GR).
- Barbour et al's CS+V re-derivation of York.

Both very useful and necessary for Shape Dynamics, but neither has conformal symmetry manifest in the dynamics.



## Hypersurface foliation

- Assume global hyperbolic:  $M \simeq \Sigma \times \mathbb{R}$





## Intermezzo: Dirac analysis

Constraints are a convenient way to encode over-parametrization of physical degrees of freedom.

Let  $\phi_i(q, p) = 0, i \in I$  denote constraints. They define surfaces and flow in phase space, and can have different degrees of mutual “conservation”:

- **Compatible.**

These are called first class constraints. They arise when the dynamical flow generated by one constraint conserves the set:

$$\delta_{\phi_i} \phi_j = \{\phi_i, \phi_j\} = a^k \phi_k$$

- **Impose further constraints.** This occurs when the flow is only conserved on some subsurface:

$\delta_{\phi_i} \phi_j = f(p, q) \Rightarrow f = 0$  must now be added to the list of constraints.

- **Second class.** These arise when the two constraints are conjugate.

$\delta_{\phi_i} \phi_j = 1$ . Must either find a coordinate system where they don't appear, or project dynamics to constraint surface.

## Canonical framework: ADM

- Use Gauss-Codazzi relations + Einstein equations:  ${}^4R \mapsto (R, K)$
- Over-parametrization: relations that extrinsic curvature have to satisfy.
- Legendre:  $(g, \dot{g}) \mapsto (g, \pi)$

- Constraints: ensure relations hold.

$$H_a(x) = \pi_a{}^b{}_{;b} = 0$$

$$S(x) = \text{tr}(\pi \cdot \pi) - \frac{1}{2}(\text{tr}\pi)^2 - R = 0$$

$S(x)$  and  $H_a(x)$  are *first class*. They generate compatible symmetries (on the constraint surface).

Total Hamiltonian:  $H_{\text{ADM}} = \int_{\Sigma} d^3x (N(x)S(x) + \xi^a(x)H_a(x))$

Is “pure constraint”. This is the ADM system.

## Momentum and scalar constraints

- $\mathcal{H}_a(x)$  generates 3-diffeomorphisms.  
True (infinite-dimensional) Lie algebra.
- $S(x)$  generates time refoliation (and thus evolution).

In contrast to the action of 3-diffeomorphisms:

Enormous difficulty in giving meaning to GR's physical degrees of freedom!

Not subalgebra (commutation relations involve 3-diffeomorphisms), and entire constraint algebra is “soft” (structure functions).

Introduces many, many difficulties in quantization.

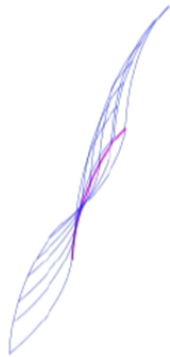
- $S(x)$  quadratic in momenta:  $\frac{\delta}{\delta g(x)} \frac{\delta}{\delta g(x)}$  : ill-defined.
- Constraints imposed at the quantum level:  $\hat{S}\Psi[g] = 0$ . Klein-Gordon type equation. Inner product?



# Outline

- 1 Hamiltonian GR
- 2 Shape Dynamics
- 3 Matter and large volume expansion
- 4 Outlook

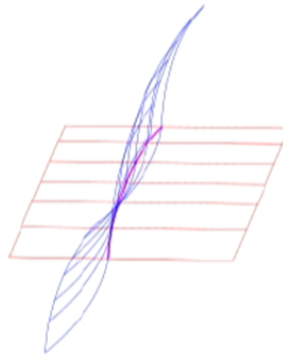
Motivation: “pure constraint” systems such as GR may have observables coinciding with that of systems with different symmetries.



ADM Gravity

$$S(N) = \int N \left( \frac{G(\pi, \pi)}{\sqrt{|g|}} - (R - 2\Lambda)\sqrt{|g|} \right)$$

$$H(v) = \int \pi^{ab} \mathcal{L}_v g_{ab}$$



Shape Dynamics

$$H_{SD} = V - V_0$$

$$Q(\rho) = \int (\pi - \langle \pi \rangle \sqrt{|g|})$$

$$H(v) = \int \pi^{ab} \mathcal{L}_v g_{ab}$$

Refoliation invariance has famous gauge fixing exploring spatial conformal transformations ([York]).

## Preliminary: intrinsic constant mean curvature gauge

What is the constant mean curvature condition?

- The trace of the extrinsic curvature of each leaf is spatially constant.

Roughly, means that observers use the Hubble constant as a clock.

- Mathematically: set  $\text{tr}\pi = \frac{1}{V} \int \text{tr}\pi =: \langle \text{tr}\pi \rangle$ .

Note that  $\text{tr}\pi$  generates conformal transformations. I.e.

- $\{\text{tr}\pi(\epsilon), g\} = \epsilon g$
- $\{\text{tr}\pi(\epsilon), \pi\} = -\epsilon \pi$
- $\text{tr}\pi - \frac{1}{V} \int \text{tr}\pi$  generates **volume-preserving** conformal transformations.

## Shape Dynamics: Main message (words)

- On a certain region in phase space, there exists a very special system dynamically equivalent to ADM.
  - Region is that of constant-mean curvature (CMC) foliable Einstein spacetimes (with closed  $\Sigma$ ). (see Isenberg's talk for counter-examples)
- System is one that does not possess refoliation symmetry.
  - Instead it possesses local 3D scale invariance. [Symmetry trading!](#)
  - All constraints linear in momenta.
  - Individual sets of constraints form subalgebras. Easy to quotient. Physical degrees of freedom clear.
  - Exists in the original ADM phase space  $(g, \pi)$  with the canonical Poisson bracket.
  - Possesses [one global](#) Hamiltonian which depends only on  $(g, \pi)$  (no explicit "time" dependence).



# Shape Dynamics: Main message

## ADM ( $\Sigma \times \mathbb{R}$ )

Local 1st class constraints:

- 3-diffeomorphisms
- refoliations

$$H_{\text{ADM}} = \int d^3x (N(x)S(x) + \xi^a(x)H_a(x))$$

## Shape Dynamics

Local 1st class constraints

- 3-diffeomorphisms
- Conformal transformations

$$H_{\text{dual}} = \mathcal{H}_{\text{gl}} + \int d^3x [\lambda(x)D(x) + \xi^a(x)H_a(x)]$$

- $H_a(x)$ : momentum constraint (one per  $x$ ).
- $S(x)$ : Scalar constraint (one per  $x$ ).
- $D(x) = 4(\pi - \langle \pi \rangle \sqrt{g})(x)$ : conformal constraint (one per  $x$ ).
- $\mathcal{H}_{\text{gl}}$ : Global Shape Dynamics Hamiltonian.



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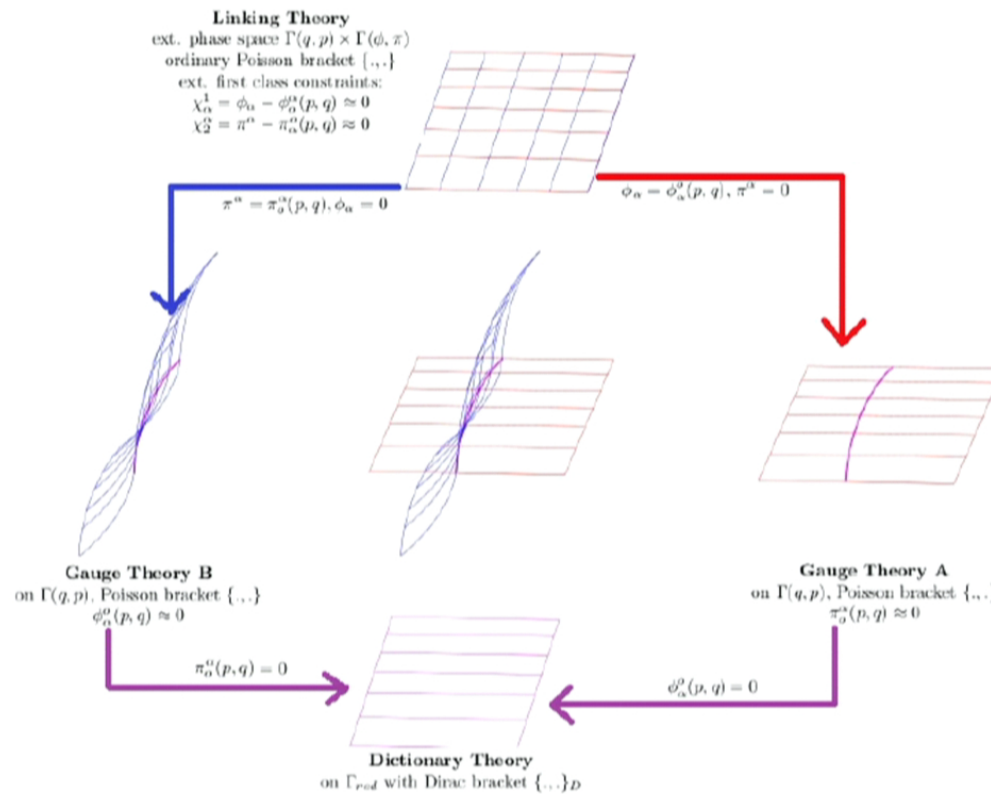
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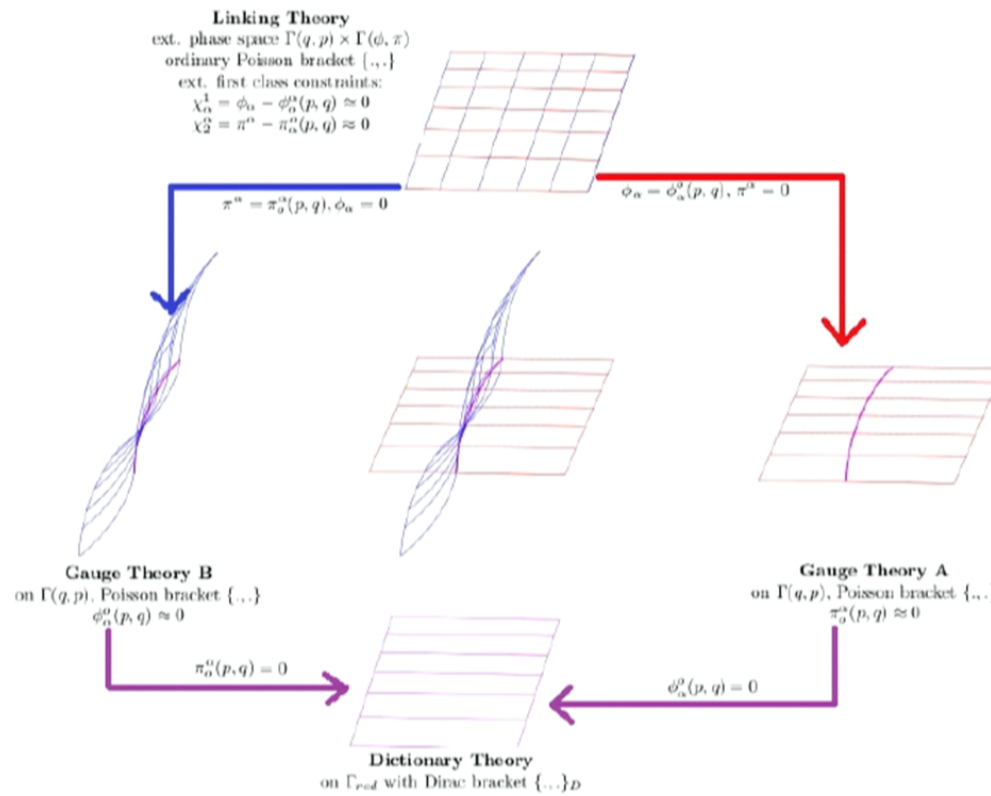
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- 1 Introduce artificial symmetry (Stuckelberg) and extend phase space (and functions)
- 2 Extra constraint arises (constrains functions on extended phase space to represent original functions: no extra physical degrees of freedom).



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- ② Extra constraint arises (constrains functions on extended phase space to represent original functions: no extra physical degrees of freedom).
- ③ Impose specific (natural) gauge fixings and separate first and second class parts of constraints.
- ④ Will get that  $S(x)$  separates into 1 first class constraint (evolution) and the rest second class.
- ⑤ Solve 2nd class constraints *for extra Stuckelberg variables*.
- ⑥ Get back to *original phase space  $g, \pi$  with canonical Poisson bracket*.

Leftover constraints first class, generating diffeomorphisms, local 3d conformal transformations, and global evolution.



$$\pi_\psi = 0$$

$$C = \pi_\psi - 4 (\pi - \langle \pi \rangle \sqrt{g})$$

$$\{C, g_{ab}\} =$$

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# Take away message from SD.

## ADM

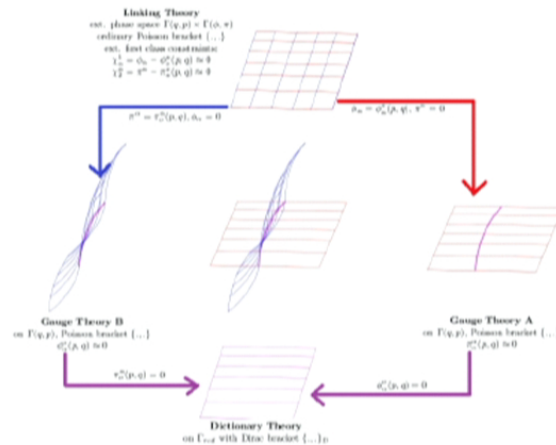
Local symmetries:

- 3-diffeomorphisms
- refoliations

## Shape Dynamics

One Hamiltonian + local symmetries:

- 3-diffeomorphisms
- Conformal transformations



Shape Dynamics is to York CMC  
 as Electromagnetism is to  
 transverse gauge of vector potential.

## Coupling other fields.

Question: how should fields scale  $\psi \rightarrow e^{n\hat{\phi}}\psi$ ?

Two problems:

- ❶ Foliation depends on the field for scaling  $n \neq 0$ , not geometric (or worse, for YM depends on the gauge)

Solution: only metric variables scale ("neutral coupling")

- ❷ Uniqueness of global Hamiltonian: involves invertibility of elliptic 2nd order diff. op. Requires:

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\delta H_m}{\delta g_{ab}} g_{ab} - \frac{1}{2} H_m \right) \leq \frac{1}{12} \langle \pi \rangle^2 + \sigma^2$$

- Both issues solved with neutral coupling for Yang-Mills (and gauge invariance respected) and massless scalars.

But invertibility (point 2) doesn't work always for massive scalars: bound on the field magnitude (e.g. bound on the cosmological constant).

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But invertibility (point 2) doesn't work always for massive scalars: bound on the field magnitude (e.g. bound on the cosmological constant).



## Tractability: Large-volume expansion.

- Global Hamiltonian is non-local. Solve order by order in a large volume expansion. First few terms:

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{gl}} = 2(\Lambda - \frac{1}{12} \langle \pi \rangle^2) - \frac{R_o}{V^{2/3}} + \frac{1}{V^2} \langle \sigma^2 \rangle + \mathcal{O}(V^{-8/3})$$

Here  $R_o$  is the unique constant scalar curvature in the conformal class of  $R$  (Yamabe gauge).

Global Hamiltonian can be seen as reparametrization constraint: for large volume reparam. invariance implies **full conformal invariance**.

- Also a Hamilton-Jacobi expansion for the on-shell action:

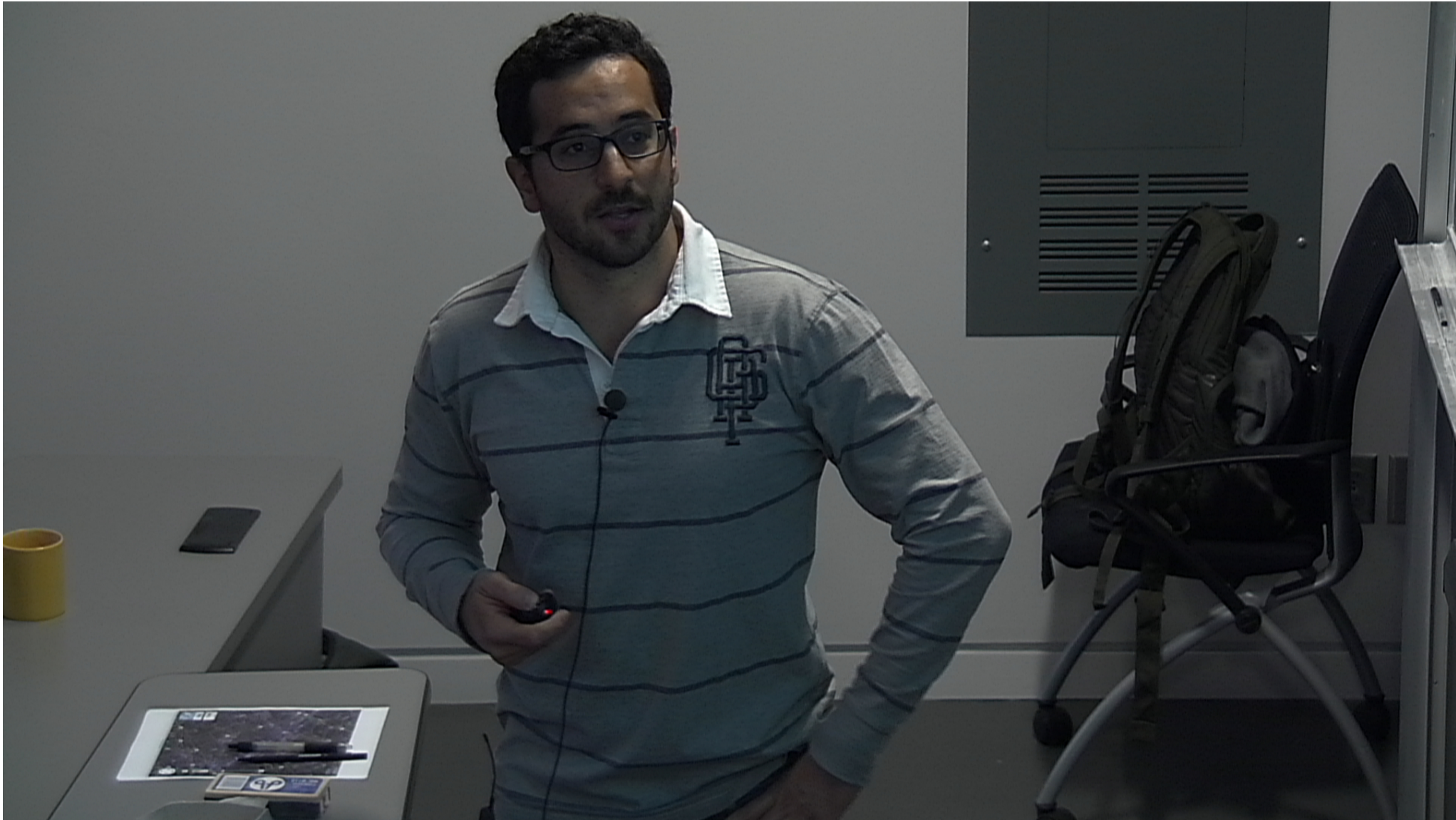
$$\langle \pi \rangle \rightarrow \frac{\delta S}{\delta V}, \quad \pi^{ab} \rightarrow \frac{\delta S}{\delta g_{ab}}$$

$$S = S_0 V + S_1 V^{1/3} + S_2 V^{-1/3} + \mathcal{O}(V^{-1})$$

$$= \pm \left( \sqrt{\frac{16\Lambda}{3}} V - \sqrt{\frac{3}{\Lambda}} R_o V^{1/3} + \left(\frac{3}{\Lambda}\right)^{3/2} (R_o^2 - \frac{8}{3} \langle R_o^{ab} R_{ab}^o \rangle) V^{-1/3} + \dots \right)$$









$$\pi_\psi = 0$$

$$C = \pi_\psi - 4(\pi - \langle \pi \rangle \sqrt{g})$$

$$\{C, g_{ab}\} =$$

$$\frac{\delta R}{\delta g_0} = R_{ab} - \frac{1}{2} R_0 g_{ab}$$

## Possible advantages

Classically matches GR over  $(g, \pi)$  that satisfy  $\text{tr}\pi = c$  (gauge choices in each) but

- Advantage over CMC gauge-fixed ADM in that variables *and* constraints on the dofs are “local”.
- Different method to find solutions. Different symmetries. Different gauges.
  - Maybe find different solutions and go back to ADM gauge ( and covariantize)?
  - First try: finding a solution for “KSdS” without imposing the ADM constraints.
- ADM cosmological perturbation theory complicated (because we can't separate evolution from constraints). Perturbations must satisfy all constraints at each level.
  - Here, introduce perturbations that only need to satisfy the local constraints, and use unperturbed global Hamiltonian to evolve?



## Issues and outlook

The elephant in the room: global Hamiltonian is non-local.

- We saw some ways around it: large-volume expansions. Other expansions?
- Theory is non-local because we include a volume-preserving condition on conformal transfs.
  - This is necessary to have a non-trivial leftover Hamiltonian in Shape Dynamics. I.e. to match ADM trajectories with Shape Dynamics trajectories (to just match Cauchy data for a conformal theory and ADM, no such problem arises).
- If we are interested in the pure quantum theory, so what if we don't match trajectories?
  - BRST: A modification of Shape Dynamics possesses full Weyl and special conformal symmetry (no diffeos) and serves as a complete gauge-fixing fermion for the BRST-extended ADM.
  - The gauge-fixed ADM BRST-extended Hamiltonian possesses a hidden symmetry: "symmetry doubling". (Koslowski's talk)