

Title: The Big Data Approach to Quantum Gravity

Date: Dec 14, 2017 02:30 PM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/17120015>

Abstract: <p>In both Causal Set Quantum Gravity as well as in the String Landscape, we face the challenging tasks of sifting through large state spaces and searching for the set of solutions which best model our physical universe. I demonstrate in this talk how efficient parallel algorithms can give us access to areas of physics previously unstudied due to computational barriers. I first present new methods to accelerate the evolution of causal set Markov chains, which enables us to look for the spontaneous emergence of manifoldlike structure. Then, I use a similar graph theoretic approach to show how a dynamic vacuum selection mechanism naturally emerges in F-Theory and Type IIB String Theory in the context of eternal inflation. We will discuss in detail relevant numerical aspects, including practical limitations and algorithms from graph theory, and how machine learning can be used in future work.</p>

The Big Data Approach to Quantum Gravity

Will Cunningham

Department of Physics
Network Science Institute
Northeastern University

December 14, 2017



1 Introduction to Big Data

- Basic Concepts
- Motivation

2 Causal Sets

- Overview
- Algorithmic Details
- Current Work

3 Vacuum Selection in the String Landscape

- Geometries in F-Theory
- Networks of Geometries
- Relation to Cosmology
- Numerical Details
- The Selection Mechanism

4 Other Work

What is Big Data?

Big Data refers to several problems:

What is Big Data?

Big Data refers to several problems:

- Produce large data sets

What is Big Data?

Big Data refers to several problems:

- Produce large data sets
- Analyze large data sets

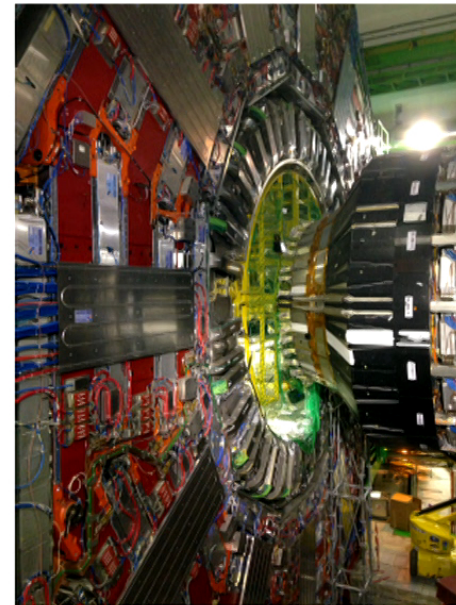


Image: Wikipedia

What is Big Data?

Big Data refers to several problems:

- Produce large data sets
- Analyze large data sets
- Machine learning to find patterns

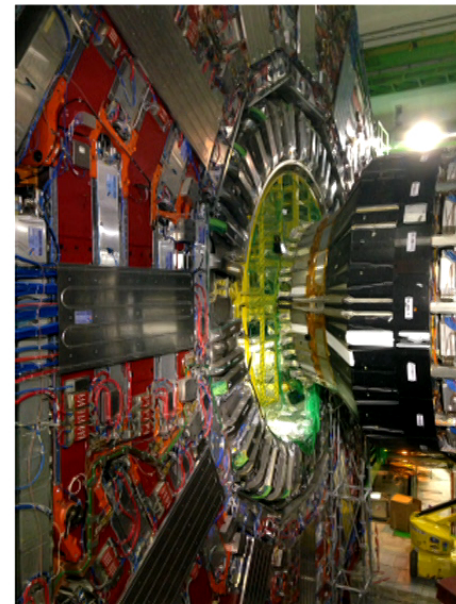


Image: Wikipedia

What is Big Data?

Big Data refers to several problems:

- Produce large data sets
- Analyze large data sets
- Machine learning to find patterns
- 3Vs: Volume, Velocity, and Variety

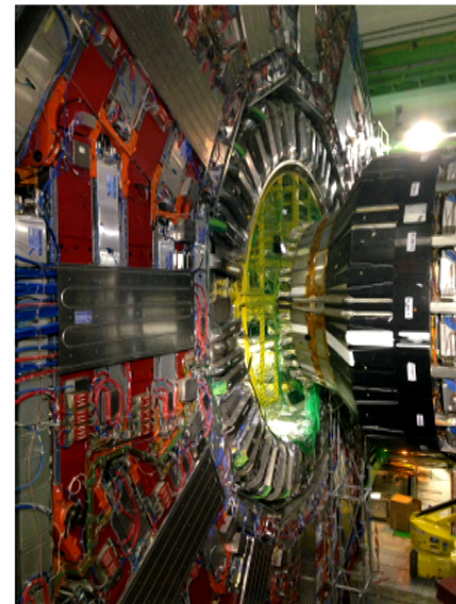


Image: Wikipedia

What is Big Data?

Big Data refers to several problems:

- Produce large data sets
- Analyze large data sets
- Machine learning to find patterns
- 3Vs: Volume, Velocity, and Variety

Big **graphs** are interesting

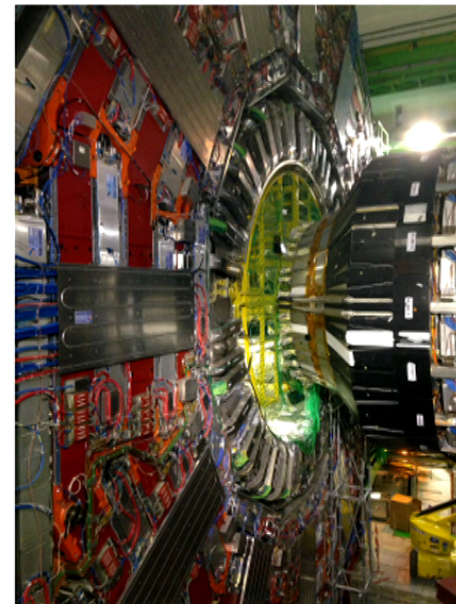


Image: Wikipedia

Why Big Data?

Big Data is all around us

Why Big Data?

Big Data is all around us

- AlphaGo

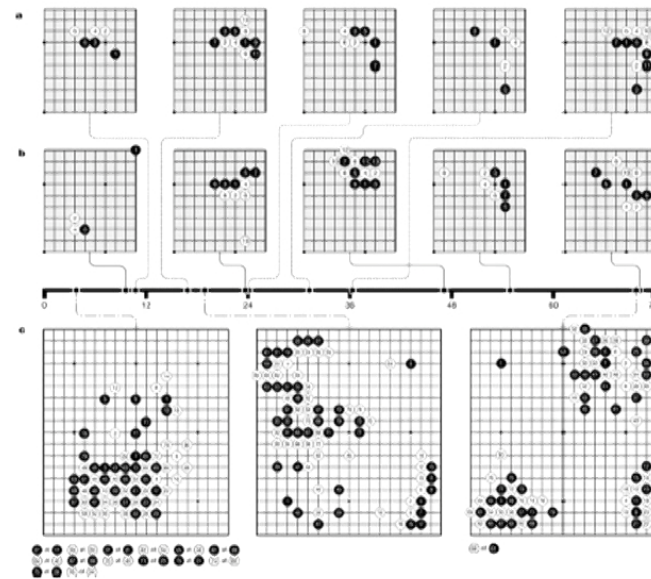


Image: Silver et al. Nature 550, 354 (2017).

Why Big Data?

Big Data is all around us

- AlphaGo
- Tensor Networks

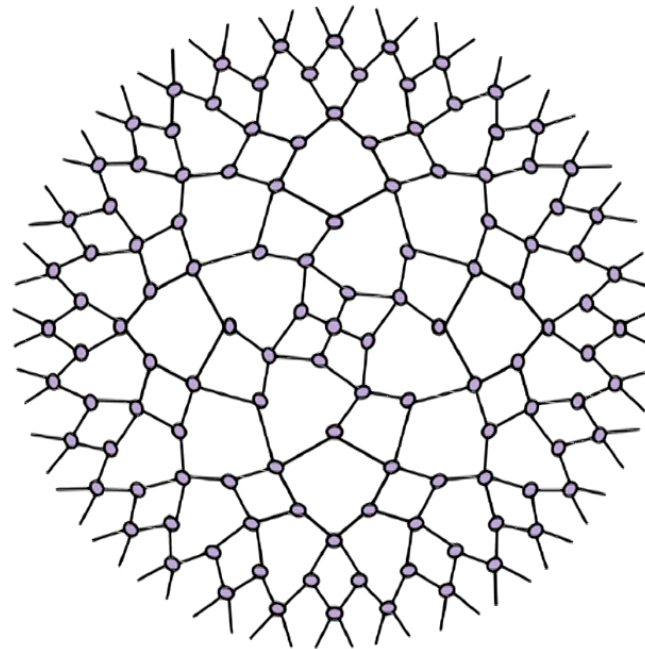


Image: Perimeter Institute

Why Big Data?

Big Data is all around us

- AlphaGo
- Tensor Networks
- Causal Sets

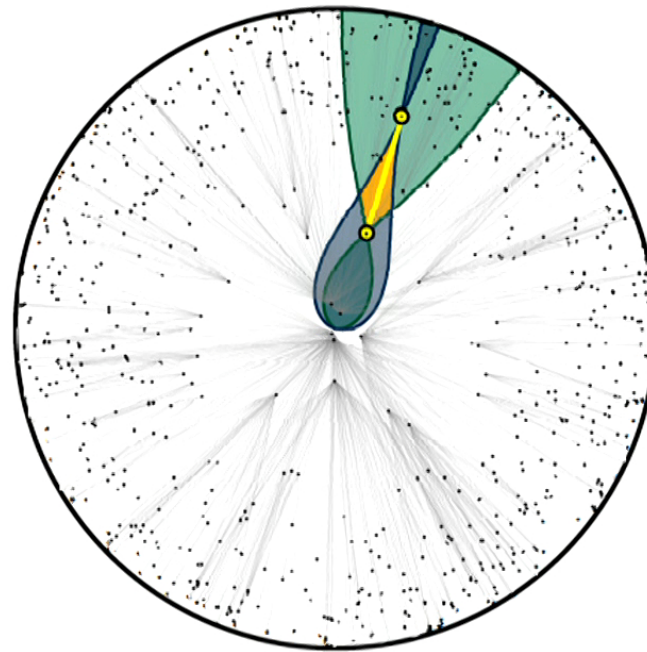


Image: Cunningham et al. *Sci. Rep.* 7, 8699 (2017).



Why Big Data?

Big Data is all around us

- AlphaGo
- Tensor Networks
- Causal Sets
- String Landscape

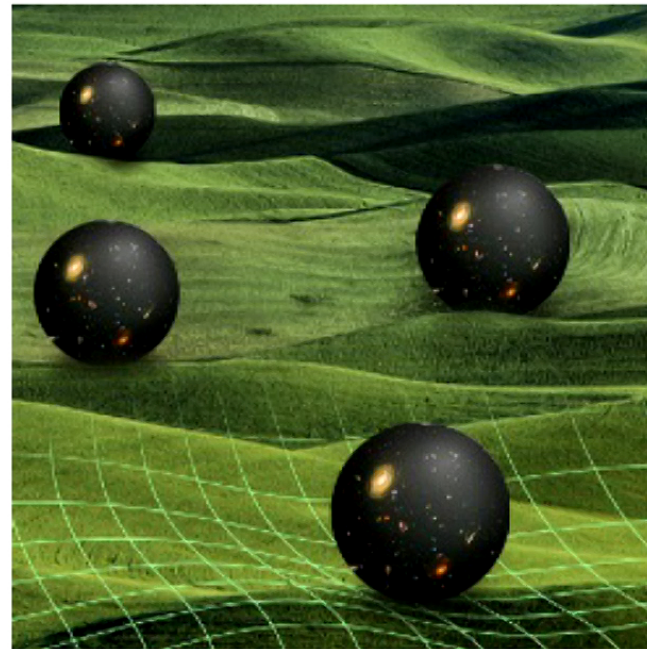


Image: *Huffington Post*

Why Big Data?

Big Data is all around us

- AlphaGo
- Tensor Networks
- **Causal Sets**
- **String Landscape**

We need efficient algorithms to study large complex systems

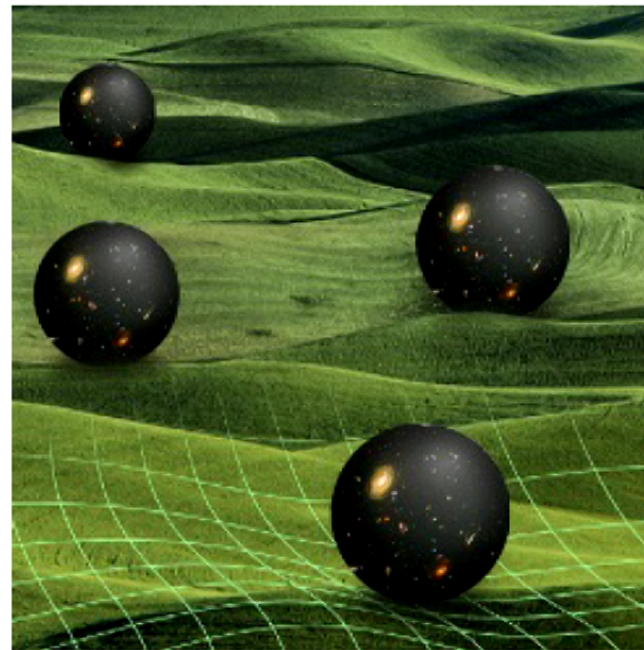


Image: *Huffington Post*

- 1 Introduction to Big Data
 - Basic Concepts
 - Motivation
- 2 Causal Sets**
 - Overview
 - Algorithmic Details
 - Current Work
- 3 Vacuum Selection in the String Landscape
 - Geometries in F-Theory
 - Networks of Geometries
 - Relation to Cosmology
 - Numerical Details
 - The Selection Mechanism
- 4 Other Work

Causal Set Quantum Gravity

Premise: Discrete spacetime with causal relations

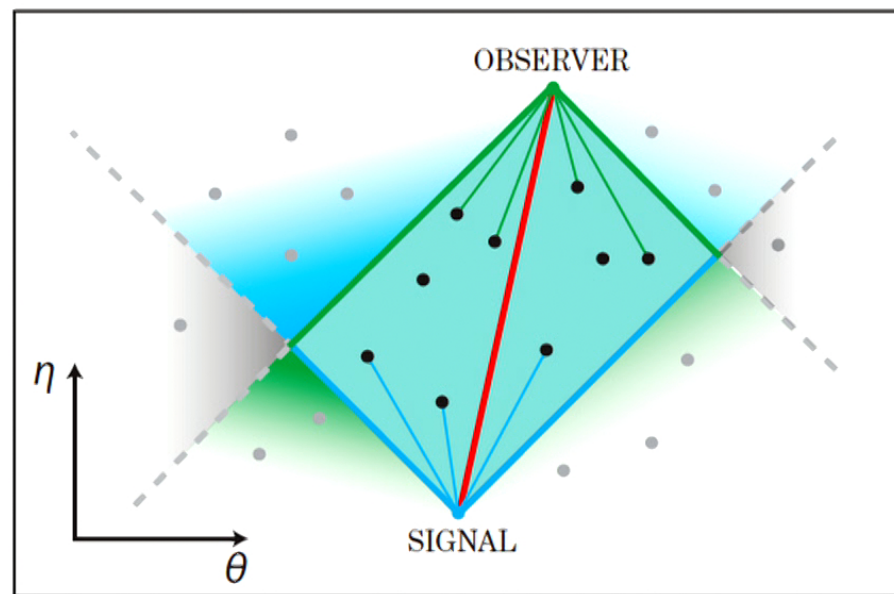


Image: Cunningham & Krioukov, arXiv:1709.03013 (2017).

Path Integral Approach

Problem: How do we measure observables?

$$Z \sim \int \mathcal{D}[g_{\mu\nu}] e^{iS[g_{\mu\nu}]/\hbar}$$

Path Integral Approach

Problem: How do we measure observables?

$$Z \sim \int \mathcal{D}[g_{\mu\nu}] e^{iS[g_{\mu\nu}]/\hbar}$$

$$\text{Causal Sets: } \int \mathcal{D}[g_{\mu\nu}] \rightarrow \sum_{\mathcal{C}}$$

$$Z = \sum_{\mathcal{C}} e^{iS(\mathcal{C})/\hbar}$$

Path Integral Approach

Problem: How do we measure observables?

$$Z \sim \int \mathcal{D}[g_{\mu\nu}] e^{iS[g_{\mu\nu}]/\hbar}$$

$$\text{Causal Sets: } \int \mathcal{D}[g_{\mu\nu}] \rightarrow \sum_{\mathcal{C}}$$

$$Z = \sum_{\mathcal{C}} e^{iS(\mathcal{C})/\hbar}$$

New Problems:

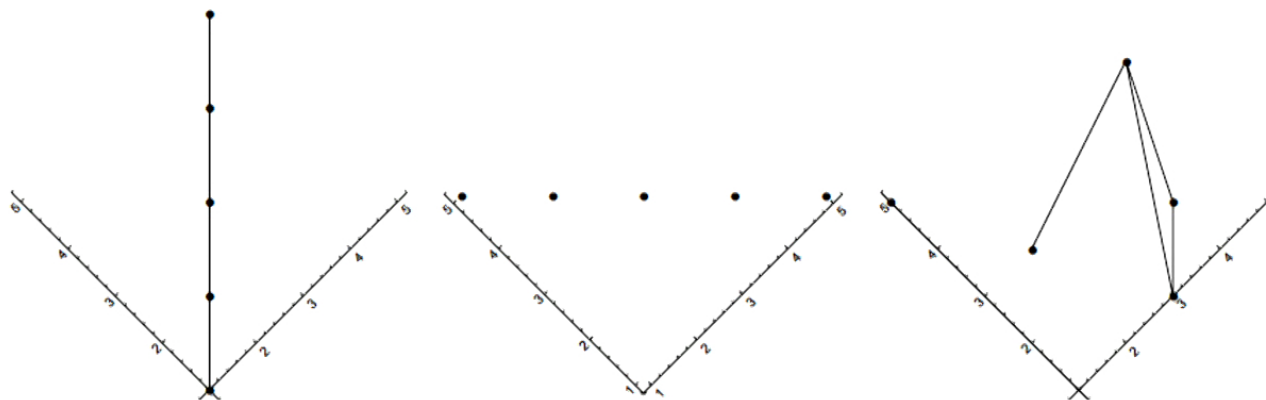
- 1) How do we deal with $\sum_{\mathcal{C}}$?
- 2) What is $S(\mathcal{C})$ for a causal set?

Overview

2D Orders in \mathbb{M}^2

Consider 2D partial orders built from total orders U, V

$$U = \{u_1, \dots, u_N\} \quad V = \{v_1, \dots, v_N\}$$



$\Omega(N)$: All permutations of U and V

$$\sum_{\mathcal{C}} e^{iS(\mathcal{C})/\hbar} \rightarrow \sum_{\mathcal{C}} e^{-\beta S(\mathcal{C})}$$

Brightwell, Henson & Surya, *Class. Quantum Grav.* 25 (2008).

The Causal Set Action

The Benincasa-Dowker action S_{BD} converges to the Einstein-Hilbert action S_{EH} as $N \rightarrow \infty$

- There's a different expression for each dimension
- S_{BD} is a function of subgraphs in \mathcal{C}
- Computation is $O(N^3)$
- Boundary terms not included

$$2D: S_{BD} = 2(N - 2n_1 + 4n_2 - 2n_3)$$

Benincasa & Dowker, Phys. Rev. Lett. 104, 181301 (2010).

Benincasa, Ph.D. Thesis, Imperial College London (2013).

Phase Transitions

Metropolis Monte Carlo → first order phase transition

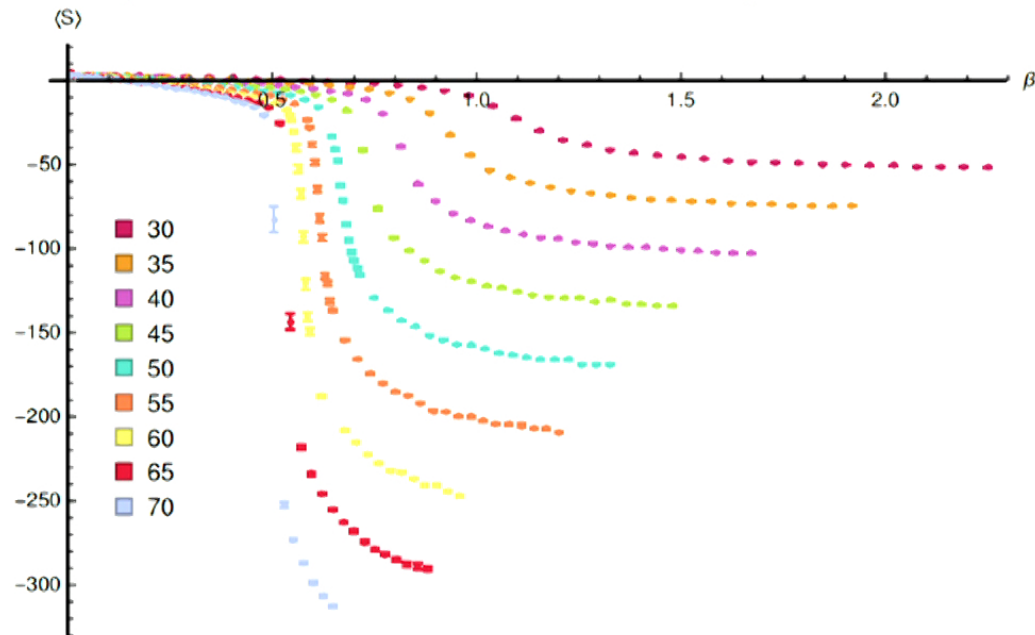


Image: Glaser, O'Connor & Surya, arXiv:1706.06432 (2017).

Phase Transitions

Metropolis Monte Carlo → first order phase transition

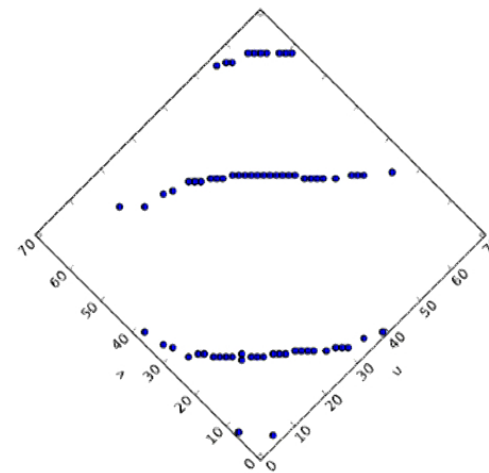
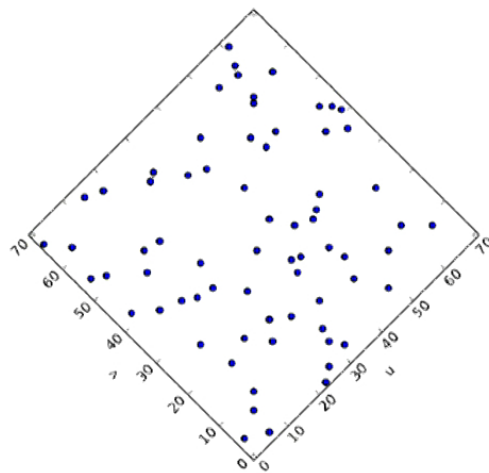
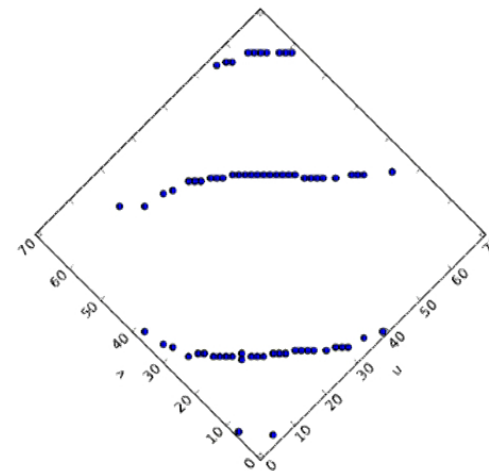
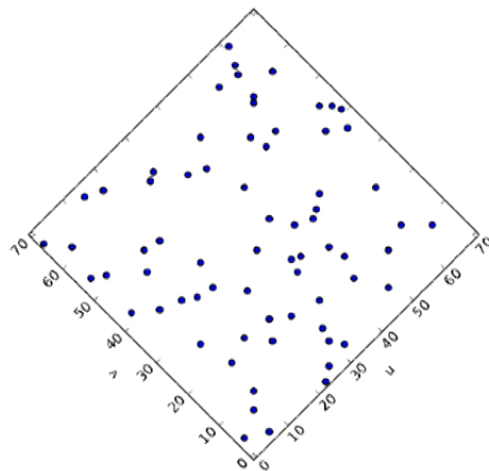


Image: Glaser, O'Connor & Surya, arXiv:1706.06432 (2017).

Phase Transitions

Metropolis Monte Carlo → first order phase transition



Claim: $\bar{\beta}_c \equiv \beta_c N = \text{constant}$

Image: Glaser, O'Connor & Surya, arXiv:1706.06432 (2017).

Algorithmic Details

Details of the Action

$$Z(N, d, T) = \sum_C e^{-\beta S_d(C)/\hbar}$$

$$S_2(C) = 2(N - 2n_1 + 4n_2 - 2n_3)$$

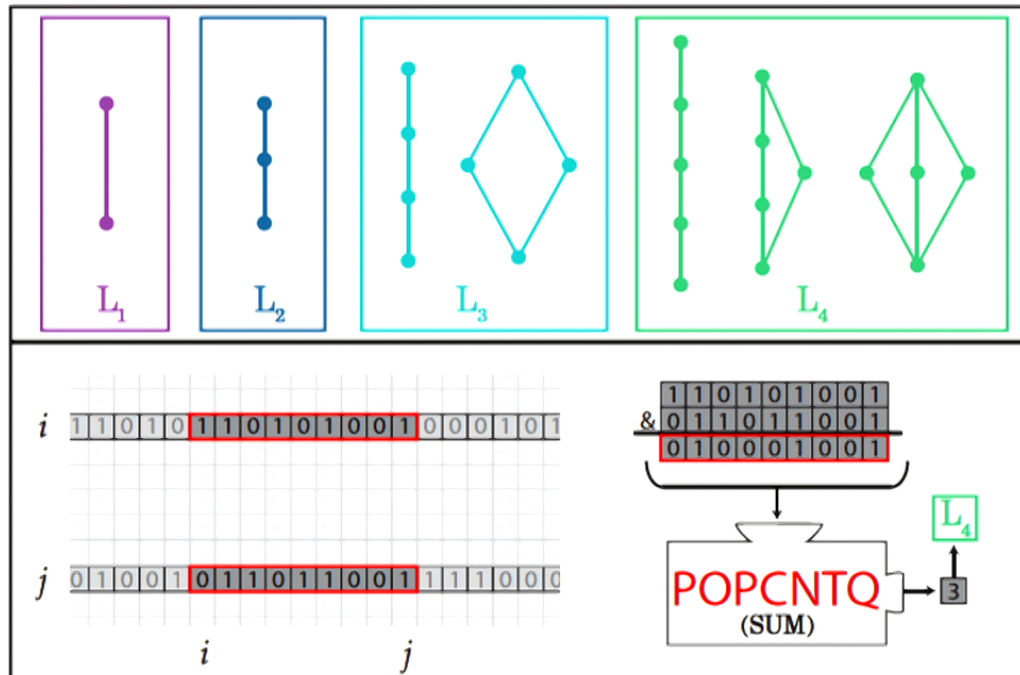


Image: Cunningham & Krioukov, arXiv:1709.03013 (2017).

Algorithmic Details

Details of the Action

$$Z(N, d, T) = \sum_C e^{-\beta S_d(C)/\hbar}$$

$$S_2(C) = 2(N - 2n_1 + 4n_2 - 2n_3)$$

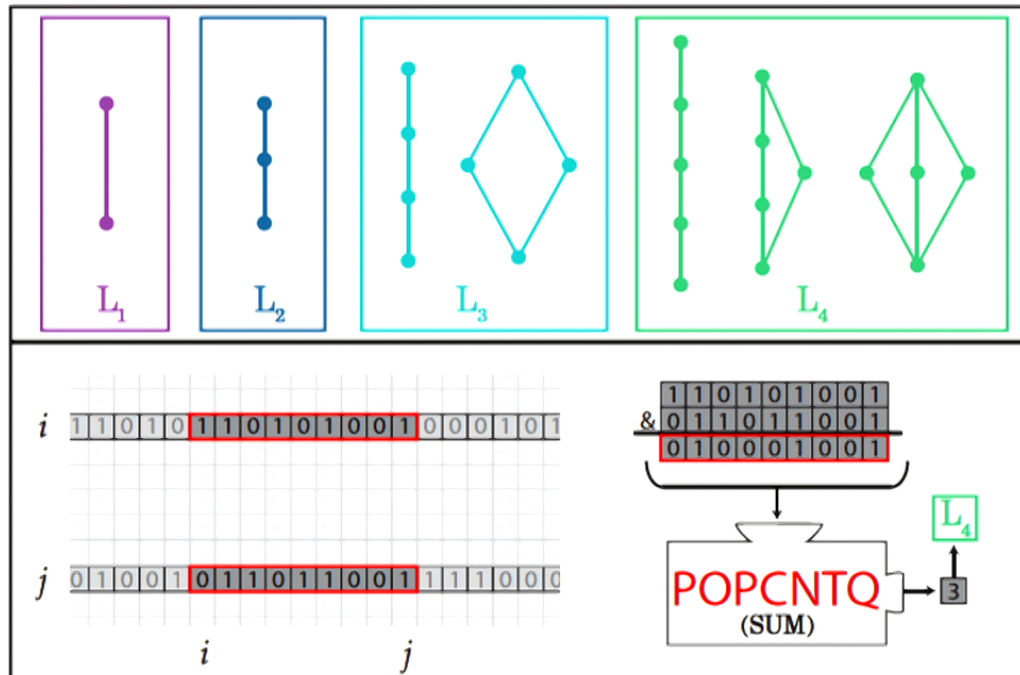


Image: Cunningham & Krioukov, arXiv:1709.03013 (2017).

Algorithmic Details

Details of the Action

$$Z(N, d, T) = \sum_C e^{-\beta S_d(C)/\hbar}$$

$$S_2(C) = 2(N - 2n_1 + 4n_2 - 2n_3)$$

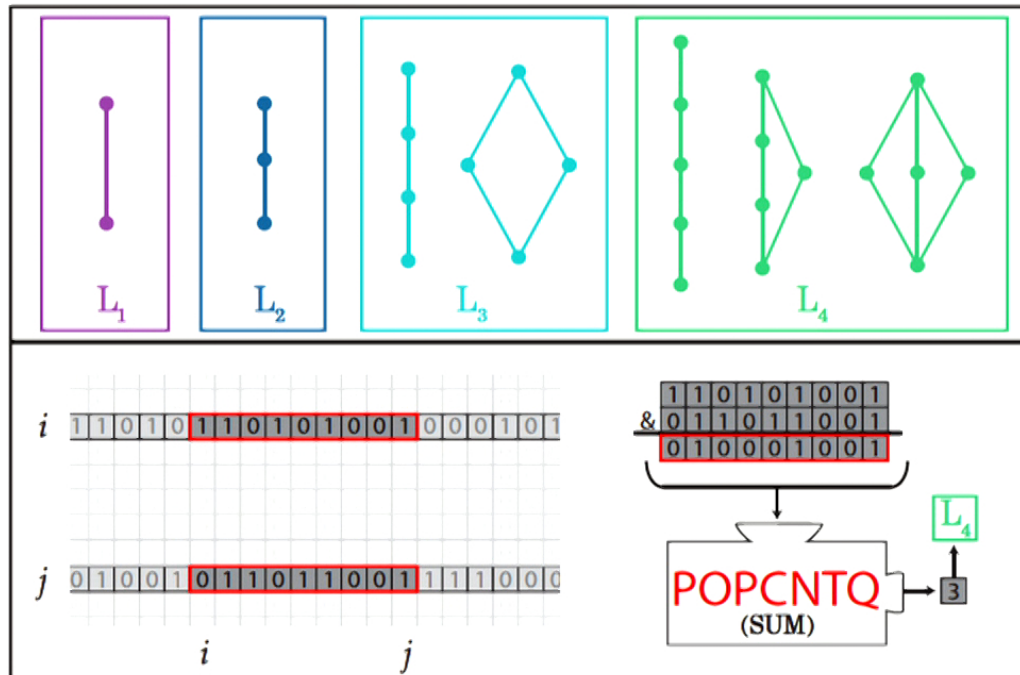


Image: Cunningham & Krioukov, arXiv:1709.03013 (2017).

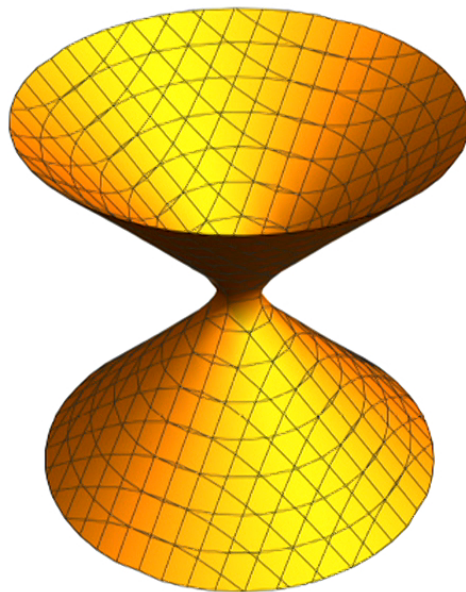
Graphs with Known Properties

Causal sets can be constructed as **random geometric graphs** in a compact region of spacetime

Graphs with Known Properties

Causal sets can be constructed as **random geometric graphs** in a compact region of spacetime

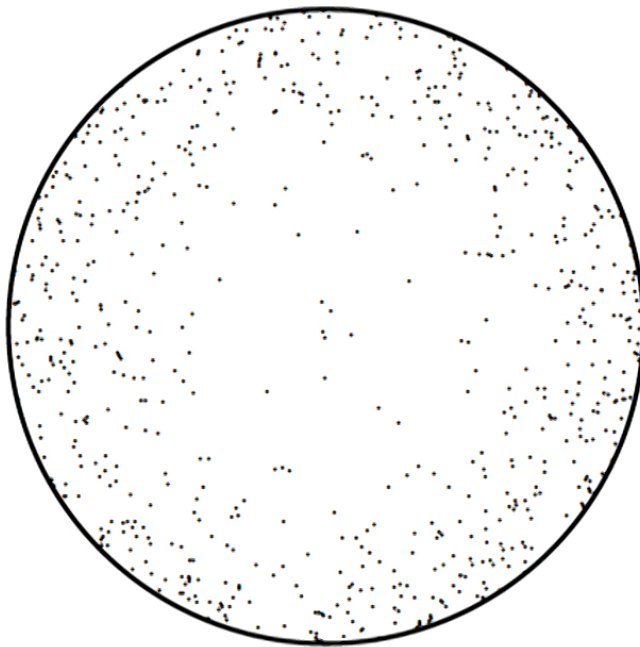
1+1 De Sitter Slab



- 1 Pick manifold, dimension, and compact region

Graphs with Known Properties

Causal sets can be constructed as **random geometric graphs** in a compact region of spacetime



- 1 Pick manifold, dimension, and compact region
- 2 Poisson sprinkle elements

Graphs with Known Properties

Causal sets can be constructed as **random geometric graphs** in a compact region of spacetime

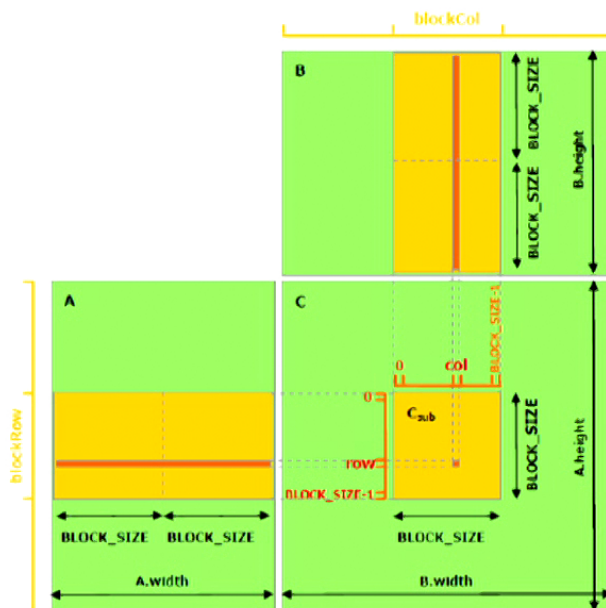
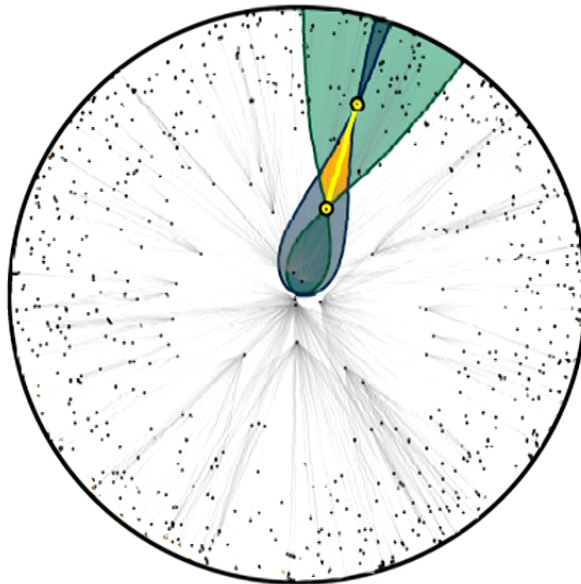


Image: NVIDIA

- 1 Pick manifold, dimension, and compact region
- 2 Poisson sprinkle elements
- 3 Identify links (CUDA)
(Use 48KB L1 cache for 10x speedup)

Graphs with Known Properties

Causal sets can be constructed as **random geometric graphs** in a compact region of spacetime

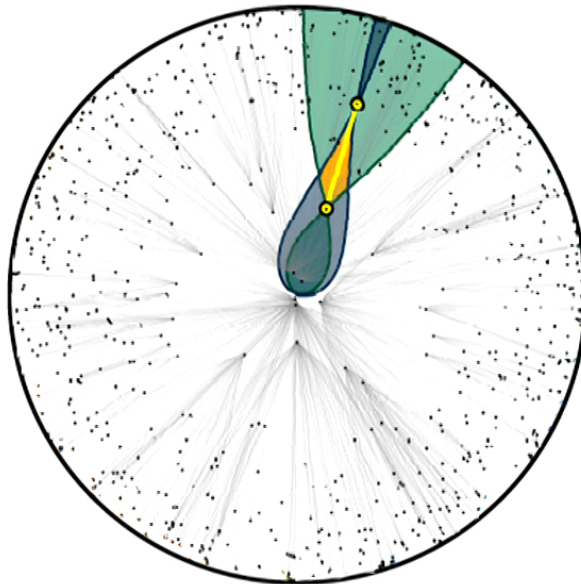


- 1 Pick manifold, dimension, and compact region
- 2 Poisson sprinkle elements
- 3 Identify links (CUDA)
- 4 Discard coordinates

Image: Cunningham et al. *Sci. Rep.* 7, 8699 (2017).

Graphs with Known Properties

Causal sets can be constructed as **random geometric graphs** in a compact region of spacetime



- 1 Pick manifold, dimension, and compact region
- 2 Poisson sprinkle elements
- 3 Identify links (CUDA)
- 4 Discard coordinates

This is the control group

Image: Cunningham et al. Sci. Rep. 7, 8699 (2017).

Algorithmic Details

Performance

GPU + OpenMP + SIMD (AVX) + Assembly

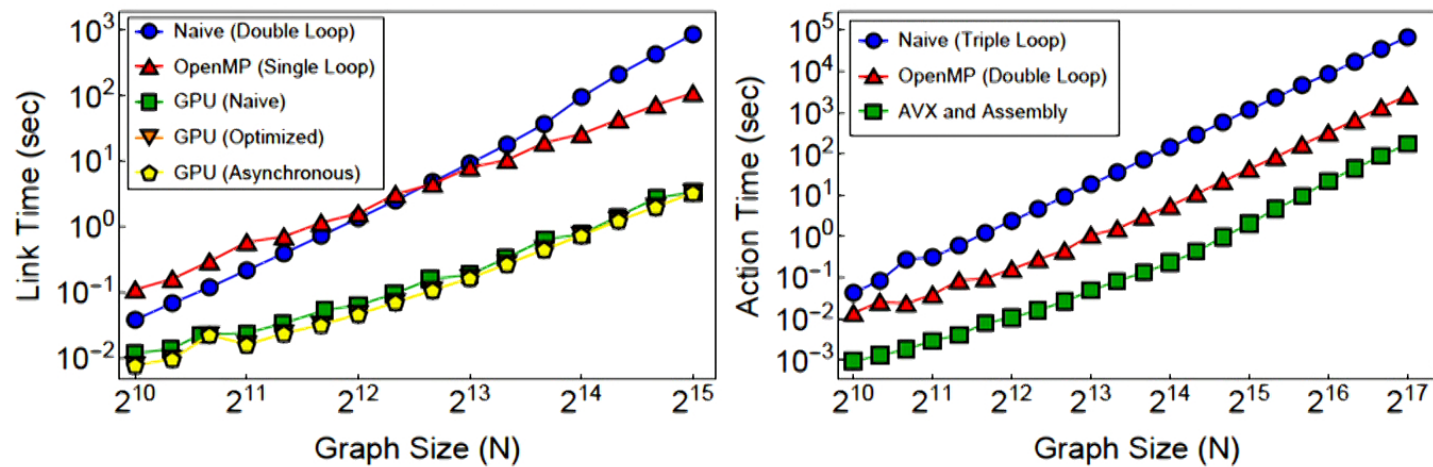
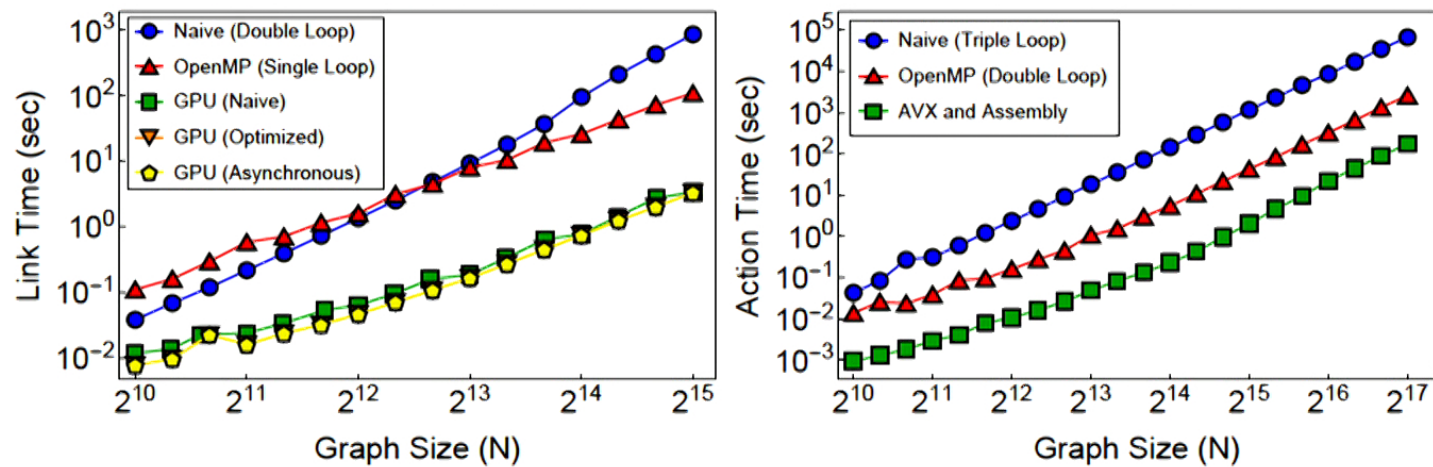


Image: Cunningham & Krioukov, arXiv:1709.03013 (2017).

Algorithmic Details

Performance

GPU + OpenMP + SIMD (AVX) + Assembly



This gives a 1000x speedup!

Image: Cunningham & Kriukov, arXiv:1709.03013 (2017).

Algorithmic Details

Strong & Weak Scaling

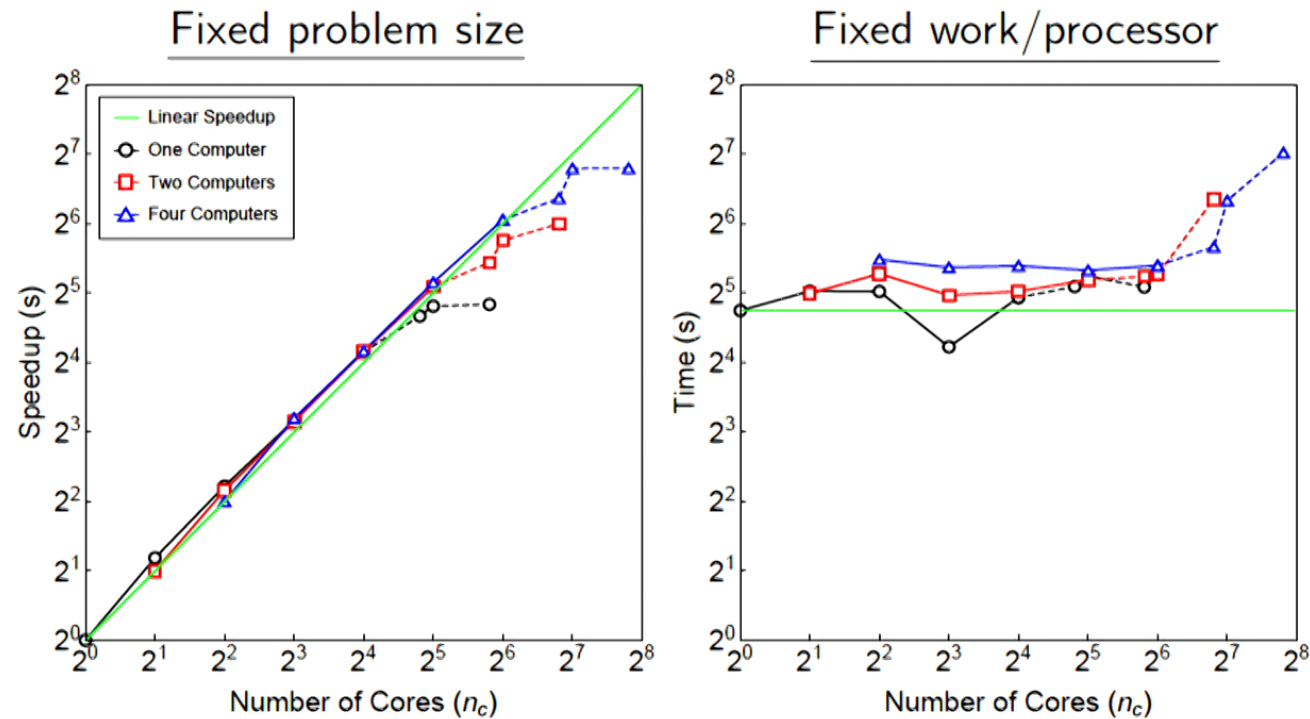


Image: Cunningham & Krioukov, arXiv:1709.03013 (2017).

Some Open Questions

What are we currently investigating?

Some Open Questions

What are we currently investigating?

- What happens to $\bar{\beta}_c$ at larger N ?

Some Open Questions

What are we currently investigating?

- What happens to $\bar{\beta}_c$ at larger N ?
- How “manifoldlike” are causal sets in the high-temperature phase? How do we even answer this question?

Some Open Questions

What are we currently investigating?

- What happens to $\bar{\beta}_c$ at larger N ?
- How “manifoldlike” are causal sets in the high-temperature phase? How do we even answer this question?
- Do we find transitions for different topologies - e.g. cylinder?

Some Open Questions

What are we currently investigating?

- What happens to $\bar{\beta}_c$ at larger N ?
- How “manifoldlike” are causal sets in the high-temperature phase? How do we even answer this question?
- Do we find transitions for different topologies - e.g. cylinder?
- What is the scaling relation for $\bar{\beta}_c$ in different dimensions?

Some Open Questions

What are we currently investigating?

- What happens to $\bar{\beta}_c$ at larger N ?
- How “manifoldlike” are causal sets in the high-temperature phase? How do we even answer this question?
- Do we find transitions for different topologies - e.g. cylinder?
- What is the scaling relation for $\bar{\beta}_c$ in different dimensions?
- What is the largest subset of all causal sets which are manifoldlike? How do we sample from these (think path integral formulation!)

Some Open Questions

What are we currently investigating?

- What happens to $\bar{\beta}_c$ at larger N ?
- How “manifoldlike” are causal sets in the high-temperature phase? How do we even answer this question?
- Do we find transitions for different topologies - e.g. cylinder?
- What is the scaling relation for $\bar{\beta}_c$ in different dimensions?
- What is the largest subset of all causal sets which are manifoldlike? How do we sample from these (think path integral formulation!)

Cannot answer these without high performance algorithms to compute the action!

Machine Learning

Newer: Classification of Geometric Structure

Supervised Learning:

- Training data → Random geometric graphs
- Construct a deep neural network (DNN)
- Classify according to spacetime dimension in \mathbb{M}^d
- Use DNN to monitor Markov chain properties efficiently

Reinforcement Learning:

- Grow causal sets while minimizing the action
- Use SL network to monitor growth
- Relate to Classical Sequential Growth
- Develop equations of motion

Collaboration: Benincasa, [Charles River Analytics], [Evans], [Northeastern]

What is F-Theory?

F-Theory is a generalization of Type IIB Superstring Theory

What is F-Theory?

F-Theory is a generalization of Type IIB Superstring Theory

- 12-D algebraic variety compactified on a 2-torus \rightarrow 10-D Type IIB String Theory
- This leaves 6 compactified spatial dimensions (Calabi-Yau elliptic fibrations over toric 3-fold)

$$y^2 = x^3 + f(z_1, z_2)x + g(z_1, z_2)$$

What is F-Theory?

F-Theory is a generalization of Type IIB Superstring Theory

- 12-D algebraic variety compactified on a 2-torus \rightarrow 10-D Type IIB String Theory
- This leaves 6 compactified spatial dimensions (Calabi-Yau elliptic fibrations over toric 3-fold)

$$y^2 = x^3 + f(z_1, z_2)x + g(z_1, z_2)$$

- 3-folds (\mathbb{C}^3) are triangulated 3-D reflexive polytopes (4319)

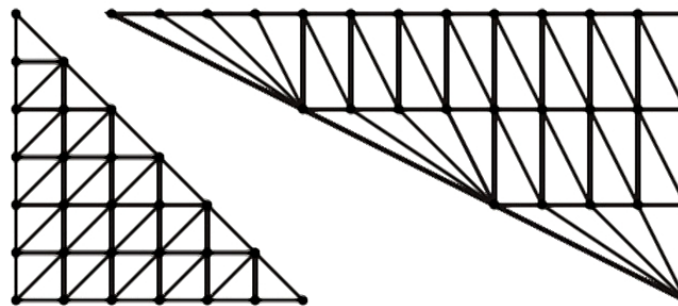
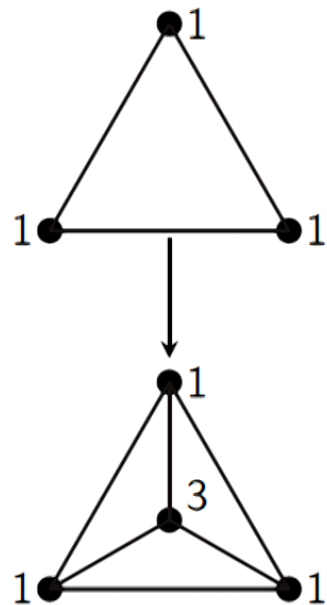


Image: Halverson et al. [arXiv:1706.02299](https://arxiv.org/abs/1706.02299) (2017).

“Simple” Topological Transitions

Two 3-folds are related by a **blowup**; # cones ± 2

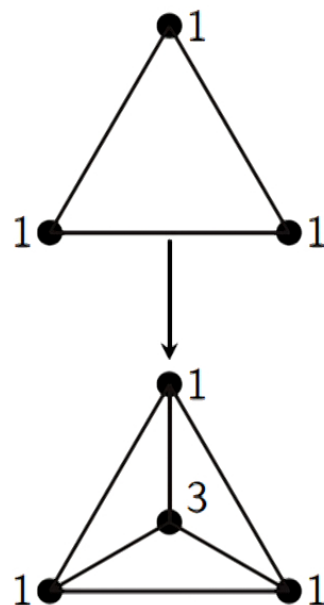
Face Blowup



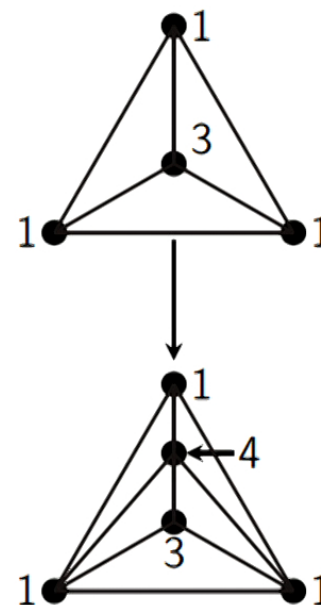
“Simple” Topological Transitions

Two 3-folds are related by a **blowup**; # cones ± 2

Face Blowup



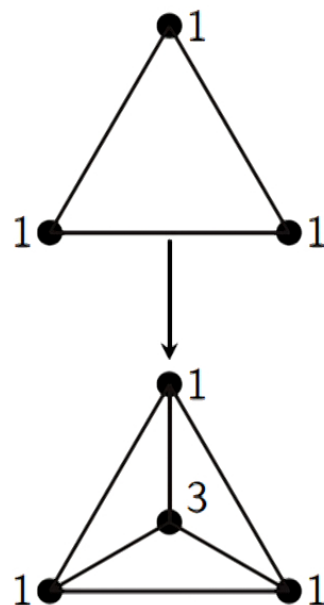
Edge Blowup



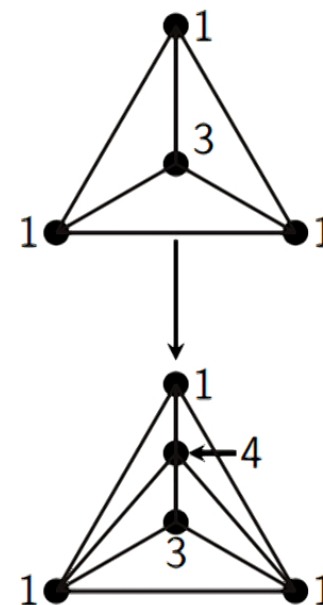
“Simple” Topological Transitions

Two 3-folds are related by a **blowup**; # **cones** ± 2

Face Blowup



Edge Blowup



Height Restriction: $H \leq 6$

Networks of Geometries

We can define a graph G of geometries!

Networks of Geometries

We can define a graph G of geometries!

- A single face permits 41,873,645 geometries (3-folds)

Networks of Geometries

We can define a graph G of geometries!

- A single face permits 41,873,645 geometries (3-folds)
- An edge between faces permits 82 geometries

Networks of Geometries

We can define a graph G of geometries!

- A single face permits 41,873,645 geometries (3-folds)
- An edge between faces permits 82 geometries
- Combinatorics implies $\frac{4}{3} \times 2.96 \times 10^{755}$ is the lower bound¹

¹Halverson, Long & Sung, *arXiv:1706.02299* (2017)

Networks of Geometries

We can define a graph G of geometries!

- A single face permits 41,873,645 geometries (3-folds)
- An edge between faces permits 82 geometries
- Combinatorics implies $\frac{4}{3} \times 2.96 \times 10^{755}$ is the lower bound¹
- The entire network is a **cartesian product** of smaller ones

¹Halverson, Long & Sung, *arXiv:1706.02299* (2017)

Networks of Geometries

We can define a graph G of geometries!

- A single face permits 41,873,645 geometries (3-folds)
- An edge between faces permits 82 geometries
- Combinatorics implies $\frac{4}{3} \times 2.96 \times 10^{755}$ is the lower bound¹
- The entire network is a **cartesian product** of smaller ones
- Our adjacency matrix \mathbf{A} contains transition rates $\mathbf{\Gamma}$
- Transitions make sense when we think about bubble cosmology in eternal inflation

¹Halverson, Long & Sung, arXiv:1706.02299 (2017)

Relation to Cosmology

Bubble Cosmology

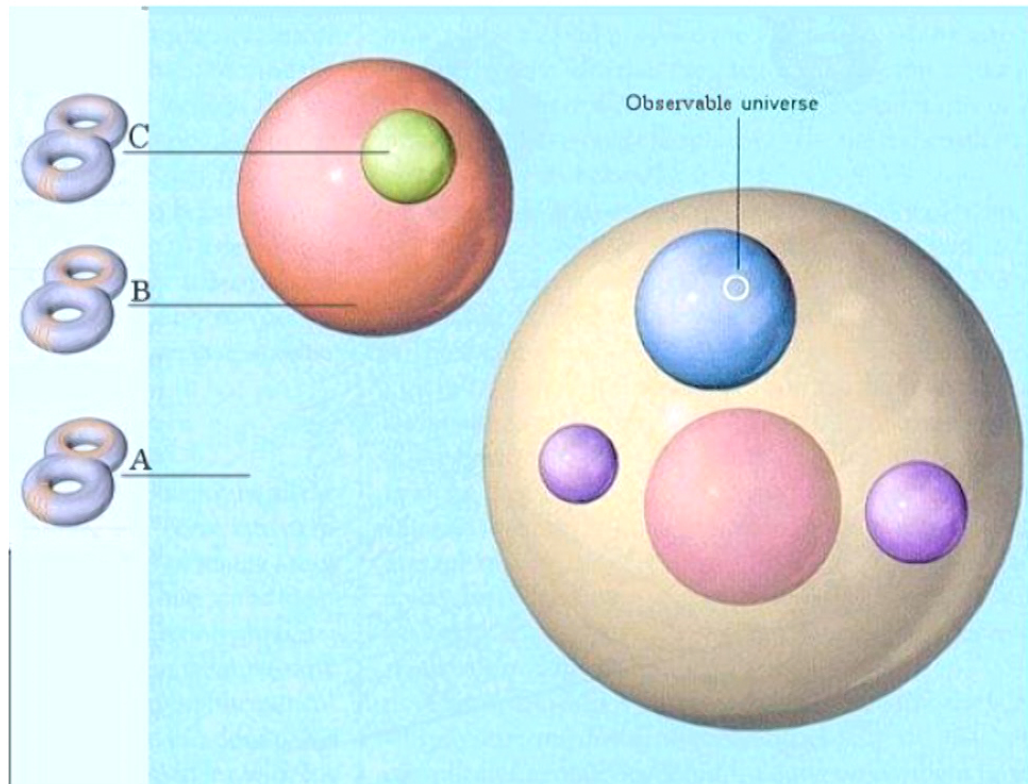


Image: universe-review.ca

Modeling Bubble Nucleation

Question: What is the distribution of vacua at $t \rightarrow \infty$?

Nucleation Rate: $\frac{d\mathbf{N}}{dt} = \mathbf{\Gamma}\mathbf{N}$

Solution: $\mathbf{N} = e^{\mathbf{\Gamma}t}\mathbf{N}_0 = \sum_p a_p e^{\gamma_p t} \mathbf{v}_p$

Late-Time Solution: $\mathbf{N} \rightarrow a_0 e^{\gamma_0 t} \mathbf{v}_0$ Normalize: $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{N}/|\mathbf{N}|$

Toy Model: $\mathbf{\Gamma} = \mathbf{A}$

Perron-Frobenius Theorem: $p_i > 0 \forall i$ if G is connected

Modeling Bubble Nucleation

Question: What is the distribution of vacua at $t \rightarrow \infty$?

Nucleation Rate: $\frac{d\mathbf{N}}{dt} = \mathbf{\Gamma}\mathbf{N}$

Solution: $\mathbf{N} = e^{\mathbf{\Gamma}t}\mathbf{N}_0 = \sum_p a_p e^{\gamma_p t} \mathbf{v}_p$

Late-Time Solution: $\mathbf{N} \rightarrow a_0 e^{\gamma_0 t} \mathbf{v}_0$ Normalize: $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{N}/|\mathbf{N}|$

Toy Model: $\mathbf{\Gamma} = \mathbf{A}$

Perron-Frobenius Theorem: $p_i > 0 \forall i$ if G is connected

But to use \mathbf{A} would require ~ 210 TB memory...

Data Stratification

There are only 100,036,155 edges in $G...$

Data Stratification

There are only 100,036,155 edges in G ...

Conditions for a transition:

- 1 Number of cones must change by 2

Data Stratification

There are only 100,036,155 edges in G ...

Conditions for a transition:

- 1 Number of cones must change by 2
- 2 Vertex sets differ by a single element

Numerical Details

Data Stratification

There are only 100,036,155 edges in $G...$

Conditions for a transition:

- 1 Number of cones must change by 2
- 2 Vertex sets differ by a single element
- 3 Outer vertices modified appropriately

Data Stratification

There are only 100,036,155 edges in G ...

Conditions for a transition:

- ① Number of cones must change by 2
- ② Vertex sets differ by a single element
- ③ Outer vertices modified appropriately
- ④ Allowed blowups stored in a lookup table

Data Stratification

There are only 100,036,155 edges in G ...

Conditions for a transition:

- ① Number of cones must change by 2
- ② Vertex sets differ by a single element
- ③ Outer vertices modified appropriately
- ④ Allowed blowups stored in a lookup table

Speedup using C with OpenMP + AVX + Assembly: **Over 100x**
3.5 months → 22 hours for the largest subset of data (20%)

Data Stratification

There are only 100,036,155 edges in $G...$

Conditions for a transition:

- 1 Number of cones must change by 2
- 2 Vertex sets differ by a single element
- 3 Outer vertices modified appropriately
- 4 Allowed blowups stored in a lookup table

Speedup using C with OpenMP + AVX + Assembly: **Over 100x**
3.5 months → 22 hours for the largest subset of data (20%)

Same low-level code used here and for the causal set action!

The Selection Mechanism

The Eigenvector Centrality

We compute the eigenvector centralities of the (sparse) graph

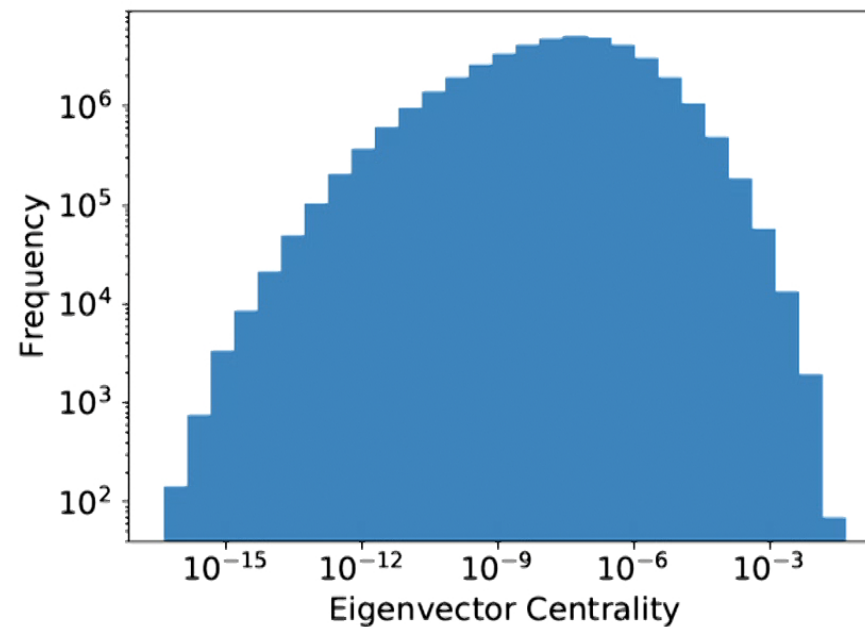
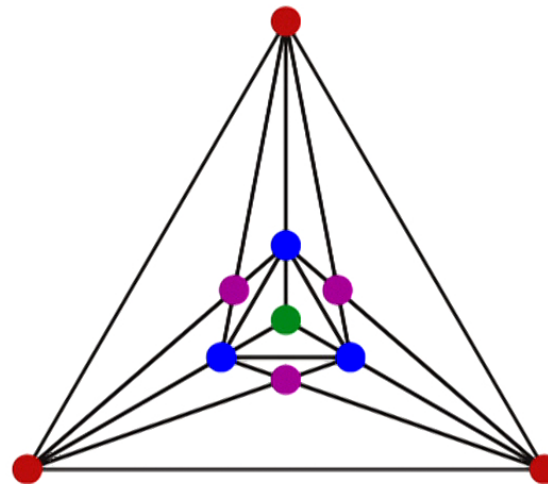


Image: Carifio, Cunningham, Halverson, Krioukov, Long & Nelson, [arXiv:1711.06685](https://arxiv.org/abs/1711.06685) (2017)

The Selection Mechanism

The Selected Vacuum State



Selected Gauge Group: $E_8^3 \times G_2 \times SU(2)^3$
 Full 10^{755} Network: $E_8^{37} \times F_4^{85} \times G_2^{220} \times SU(2)^{320}$

Image: Carifio, Cunningham, Halverson, Krioukov, Long & Nelson, *arXiv:1711.06685* (2017)

Current Work

How good is a toy model?

- It doesn't exclude the MSSM
- The emphasis is on the **selection mechanism**, evidenced by a **non-uniform eigenvector centrality distribution**

Current Work

How good is a toy model?

- It doesn't exclude the MSSM
- The emphasis is on the **selection mechanism**, evidenced by a **non-uniform eigenvector centrality distribution**
- We want to include information about fluxes to get real physical answers

Current Work

How good is a toy model?

- It doesn't exclude the MSSM
- The emphasis is on the **selection mechanism**, evidenced by a **non-uniform eigenvector centrality distribution**
- We want to include information about fluxes to get real physical answers
- The full solution requires new work in math and physics... we can still add information about the number of fluxes – possibly up to $10^{272,000}$ [Taylor & Wang, JHEP 12(2015)164]

Current Work

How good is a toy model?

- It doesn't exclude the MSSM
- The emphasis is on the **selection mechanism**, evidenced by a **non-uniform eigenvector centrality distribution**
- We want to include information about fluxes to get real physical answers
- The full solution requires new work in math and physics... we can still add information about the number of fluxes – possibly up to $10^{272,000}$ [Taylor & Wang, JHEP 12(2015)164]
- We might also want to consider bubble collisions/decays

Current Work

How good is a toy model?

- It doesn't exclude the MSSM
- The emphasis is on the **selection mechanism**, evidenced by a **non-uniform eigenvector centrality distribution**
- We want to include information about fluxes to get real physical answers
- The full solution requires new work in math and physics... we can still add information about the number of fluxes – possibly up to $10^{272,000}$ [Taylor & Wang, JHEP 12(2015)164]
- We might also want to consider bubble collisions/decays
- This is the *biggest* Big Data problem ever

Current Work

How good is a toy model?

- It doesn't exclude the MSSM
- The emphasis is on the **selection mechanism**, evidenced by a **non-uniform eigenvector centrality distribution**
- We want to include information about fluxes to get real physical answers
- The full solution requires new work in math and physics... we can still add information about the number of fluxes – possibly up to $10^{272,000}$ [Taylor & Wang, JHEP 12(2015)164]
- We might also want to consider bubble collisions/decays
- This is the *biggest* Big Data problem ever
- We can use deep neural networks to search for the MSSM (Ruehle, Halverson & Nelson)

- 1 Introduction to Big Data
 - Basic Concepts
 - Motivation
- 2 Causal Sets
 - Overview
 - Algorithmic Details
 - Current Work
- 3 Vacuum Selection in the String Landscape
 - Geometries in F-Theory
 - Networks of Geometries
 - Relation to Cosmology
 - Numerical Details
 - The Selection Mechanism
- 4 Other Work