Essay about some questions concerning zero energy ontology

September 28, 2021

Matti Pitkänen

Email: matpitka6@gmail.com.
http://tgdtheory.com/public_html/.
Recent postal address: Rinnekatu 2-4 A 8, 03620, Karkkila, Finland.

Abstract

Zero energy ontology (ZEO) gives rise to quantum measurement theory and theory of consciousness. There are several questions without a "final" answer related to ZEO.

At least the following questions related to both TGD proper and TGD inspired theory of consciousness are still waiting for a precise answer.

1. How uniquely does the preferred extremal property of the space-time surface fix the space-time surface inside a given CD = cd$\times CP_2$? The simplest situation is that the data at the intersection of the space-time surface at either boundary of CD fix it completely. Space-time surface would be analogous to Bohr orbit or of a soap film spanned by frame.

   However, the dynamics of soap film is slightly non-deterministic: the frame does not determine the film uniquely. This analogy and $M^8 - H$ duality suggest that the non-determinism is not complete and that this non-determinism serves as a classical correlate for the non-determinism of state function reduction.

2. How unique is the interpretation of zero energy ontology (ZEO)? Here actually 3 options suggest themselves corresponding to western, eastern interpretation and their hybrid.

3. Sub-CDs of CD are correlates of subselves mental images. What is the precise definition of sub-CD and of subself? How subselves, that is sub-CDs, are created?

Contents

1 Introduction

Zero energy ontology (ZEO) [L8] gives rise to quantum measurement theory, which naturally extends to a theory of consciousness. In this article also consciousness aspect is central and my sincere hope is that it would not expel those physicist readers for whom consciousness still remains an unscientific notion.

1.1 Zero energy ontology (ZEO) briefly

ZEO provides a new ontology solving the key problem of the standard quantum measurement theory and quantum theory itself. It must be emphasized that ZEO is not a new interpretation created to put under the rug the logical paradox due to the conflict between non-determinism of state function reduction (SFR) and the determinism of unitary time evolution. Also the problem about the scale in which quantum world becomes classical disappers: the Universe is quantal im all scales and ZEO view about quantum jump makes the Universe to look like classical.

1. At the level of space-time dynamics, the notion of preferred extremal (PE) as a space-time surface is central: PE is an extremal of an action principle, which by general coordinate invariance must be highly unique once its intersection with either boundary of causal CD $= cd \times CP_2$ (cd is the intersection of future and past directed light-cones of M^4) is given. In the ideal situation this implies holography. Space-time surface is an analog of Bohr orbit and classical theory is an exact part of quantum theory.

   There is probably a finite and discrete non-determinism analogous to that associated with soap films spanned by a frame: space-time is indeed a minimal surface as also soap films, and the 3-surfaces at its ends at boundaries of CD are part of the frame. Besides space-time surface is an extermal for Kähler action analogous to Maxwell action. The challenge is to interpret this finite non-determinism.

2. Quantum states, which I call zero energy states, can be interpreted as pairs of analogs of ordinary 3-D quantum states with positive energy. The members of the pair are at the opposite boundaries of CD. The convenient convention used also in quantum field theories (QFTs) is that the conserved quantum numbers at opposite boundaries sum up to zero classically: this brings in nothing new. At quantum level, 4-momenta are conserved only at the limit when CD has infinite size whereas classically the conservation holds true for all CD sizes: this reflects the Uncertainty Principle [L18]. Also in QFTs exact momentum conservation is obtained only at the limit of infinite quantization volume.

   At the space-time level, zero energy states can be regarded also as superpositions of deterministic time evolutions: this is central for the interpretation.

3. SFRs are quantum jumps between zero energy states. SFR does not affect any deterministic time evolution but only replaces their superposition with a new one. This solves the paradox that was one of the key motivations for ZEO.

4. Zeno effect strongly suggests that there are 2 kinds of quantum measurements assignable to SFRs. For "weak measurements", "small" SFRs (SSFRs), the component of zero energy state at the either boundary of CD, to be called passive boundary (PB), is unaffected. Also the PB is unaffected apart from scaling. At the active boundary (AP) state changes and AP is scaled up (at least in statistical sense) and due to the scaling shifts to the geometric future.

The unitary time evolution preceding each SSFR corresponds to a scaling of CD (or rather, its M^4 projection cd) rather than time translation as its counterpart in string models. In A unitary evolution B between two SSFRs a superposition of CDs with varying sizes is formed and SFR localizes CD to a fixed size, which means the measurement of geometric time identifiable as the distance between the tips of CD. This geometric time correlates with the subjective time defined by the sequences of SSFRs. Subjective and geometric times are not identical as in standard ontology but only correlated.

5. "Big" SFRs (BSFRs) are the counterparts of ordinary quantum measurements. In the BSFR the roles of AB and PB of CD change so that the arrow of time changes since CD increases in the opposite direction of time (at least in statistical sense). For an observer with an opposite arrow of time, BSFR looks like an average deterministic time evolution leading to the final state of BSFR as observed experimentally by Minev et al [L5] [L5]. This illusion makes BSFR look classical in all scales although the TGD based dynamics is quantal in all scales due to the hierarchy of Planck constants predicted by TGD.

   The possibility of time reversal forces a generalization of thermodynamics to allow both arrows of time: this kind of generalization was proposed long ago by Fantappie [**?**] with motivation coming from biology. Quite generally, self-organization processes seem to violate the arrow of time. External energy feed explains this partially but BSFR would be an important additional element of self-organization [**?**, L17], especially so in living matter.

   The assignment of "free will" to BSFR allows us to understand how free will can be consistent with the classical non-determinism of physics which would be exact.

ZEO based quantum measurement theory and therefore also physics naturally extends to a theory of consciousness, and one cannot avoid using this word, which is still a cursed word in the physicalistic camp.

1.2 Problems related to the mathematical realization of ZEO

There are several open questions related to ZEO and TGD inspired theory of consciousness and the existing view involves several working hypothesis which should be reduced to deeper principles or shown to be wrong.

At least the following questions related to physical interpretation of ZEO are still waiting for a detailed answer.

1. Preferred extremal (PE) property of space-time surfaces is central for quantum TGD [L12]. It follows from holography forced by general coordinate invariance (GCI), which however need not be ideal. How uniquely does the PE property of the space-time surface fix the space-time surface inside a given CD? The simplest situation is that the data at the end of the space-time surface at either boundary of the CD,fixes it completely. Space-time surface would be an analog of Bohr orbit.

Full determinism would imply that WCW for CD effectively reduces to the space of 3-surfaces assignable to either end of CD. The dynamics of SSFRs would reduces to that in fermionic degrees of freedom assignable to Boolean cognition since WCW degrees of freedom assignable to sensory perception would be fixed.

However, the dynamics of soap films spanned by frames suggests that this is not the case. The 3-D ends of the space-time surface define a frame and also dynamically generated portions of frame are allowed by the variational principle defined by the sum of a volume term and Kähler action as an analog of Maxwell action. The coefficient of the volume term has an interpretation in terms of a length scale dependent cosmological constant Λ.

Outside the frame space-time surface would be at least for a very large portion of extremals an analog of complex surface and therefore a minimal surface [L19] and also an extremal of Kähler action. At the frames only the equations for the entire action (sum of volume term and Kähler action) would be satisfied. The divergences of the conserved isometry currents for the volume term and Kähler action would have delta function type singularities but they would cancel each other. The portions of the frame could be analogous to singularities of analytic functions such as cuts and poles.

2. Number theoretic universality [L3, L4] in turn suggests that the inherent non-determinism of p-adic differential equations [K2] [**?**] proposed to be a correlate of imagination could also relate to this non-determinism. How do the non-determinism of space-time surface, p-adic non-determinism, and non-determinism of the state function reduction relate to each other: could they be even one and the same thing?

ZEO based quantum measurement theory defines a theory of consciousness. How unique is the interpretation of zero energy ontology (ZEO) [L8]? Here 3 options suggest themselves corresponding to "western" and "eastern" world views and their hybrid.

1. For the western option, the space-time surface continues outside any CD as external world, in particular sub-CD and sub-CD is a correlate for the perceptive field of self.
2. For the eastern option, space-time ends at the boundary of any CD and sub-CD is not a correlate for the perceptive field of self and there is no constraint from the external world at boundaries of CD.
3. For the hybrid of these two options, conscious entity corresponds to a hierarchy of CD for which the highest level corresponds to CD for which space-time does not continue outside the CD. The highest level represents a God-like entity.

1.3 Problems related to ZEO based theory of consciousness

The new picture about sub-CDs at WCW level raises questions related to the TGD inspired theory of consciousness. This view involves several ad hoc

assumptions related to the notions such as attention, mental image, memory, volition and intentions. Do these assumptions follow from more general assumptions or can some of them be simply wrong?

1. CD is a correlate for the perceptive field of self. Sub-CDs of CD define perceptive fields of subselves identified as mental images. What is the precise definition of sub-CD? Can one say that a sub-CD is created when a mental image is created. How does this happen? What determines the position and size of the sub-CD?

   The sub-CD is defined by the restriction of zero energy state to sub-CDs so that sub-CDs are induced by CD. This condition is analogous to boundary condition in classical physics and freezes WCW degrees of freedom of sub-CD at the passive boundary (PB) but the failure of determinism leaves discrete degrees of freedom at the active boundary (AB) so that the dynamics of SSFRs is restricted to these sub-WCW degrees of freedom and fermionic degrees of freedom.

2. Where sub-CDs and subselves are located? The natural location for a minimal sub-CD and mental images is around 3-surface at which the classical non-determinism fails: the frames of the soap film in soap film analogy. One can develop a rather detailed picture about frames [L19] based on number theoretic vision realized in terms of $M^8 - H$ duality [L10, L11, L14].

3. How sub-selves (sub-CDs) are created? Can they disappear? The notion of attention as generation of sub-CD achieved by a location of WCW ("world of classical worlds") spinor field at spacetime surfaces having their intersection with the PB of CD in a fixed set of 3-surfaces defining the sub-WCW is highly suggestive. This also affects the WCW spinor field of CD.

   The attention can be directed in several manners. Redirection of attention means a movement of the region defining the content of mental images in the interior of a CD. Entanglement and classical communications would be naturally associated with attention defined in this manner. If minimal subselves are associated with the frames as loci of classical non-determinism, the set of targets of attention is discrete and finite.

   This view about attention makes it possible to see also memory, anticipation, and intentions as special cases of attention.

4. The time evolution of CD itself would correspond to a scaling of CD (rather than translation), which by the failure of strict determinism brings in new discrete degrees of freedom related to the new frames becoming into the daylight as space-time surfaces increase. In the new picture, the sub-WCW property poses strong restrictions to the earlier picture about the development of sub-CD. The idea about silent wisdom as mental images preserved from the previous life after BSFR is not lost but is considerably modified.

   In this picture, the small failure of classical determinism would be an absolutely essential element in that it makes possible a non-trivial theory of consciousness at the level of CD and at space-time level. Otherwise would have only fermionic degrees of freedom forgiven sub-CD. What is intriguing is that everything would be finite. SFRs would involve choices

between finitely many alternatives and in this respect the theory would be analogous to the computationalistic approach: in fact, preferred extremals are analogous to computer programs.

2 Some background

In the sequel, some understanding of the basic ideas and notions of TGD proper [L12] is needed. Also ZEO as the target of critical discussion is briefly summarized.

2.1 TGD view briefly

Very concisely, TGD emerges as fusion of special and general relativities and has Poincare invariance of special relativity and General Coordinate Invariance (GCI) and Equivalence Principle (EP) as basic principles. Also the interpretation as a generalization of string models is possible: point-like particles are replaced by 3-surfaces instead of strings and world lines become space-time surfaces.

The notion of induction makes it possible to eliminate classical boson fields as primary dynamical variables and reduce them to the sub-manifold geometry of the space-time surface. For the simplest option, free second quantized quark fields of the embedding space $H = M^4 \times CP_2$ induced to the space-time surface remain as fundamental fermion fields and quarks serve as basic building bricks of both bosons and fermions as elementary particles [L9, L15].

Some understanding of notions such as the "world of classical worlds" (WCW) [K3], preferred extremal (PE) [K4], and various variants of holography [L10, L11] implied by general coordinate invariance (GCI) in TGD framework is assumed. Inclusions of hyperfinite factors of type II_1 (HFFs) [K15, K12] are central elements of quantum TGD proper.

Adelic physics [L4, L3] replacing real number based with number theoretical universal physics based on the hierarchy of adeles defined by extensions of rationals (EQs) and $M^8 - H$ duality (see Appendix A) allowing number theoretic and geometric views about physics dual to each other is also assumed as the background.

Hierarchy of Planck constants $h_{eff} = n \times h_0$, with n identified as dimension of EQ, is the basic implication of adelic physics and central for quantum TGD. The phases labelled by h_{eff} behave like dark matter [K5, K6, K7, K8]. This hierarchy serves as a correlate for quantum criticality in arbitrarily long length scales.

Cognitive representations identified as points of space-time surface for which preferred coordinates of embedding space are in an extension of rationals are also central for the construction of the theory using $M^8 - H$ duality [L10, L11].Galois group of EQ becomes number theoretical symmetry and is central in the description of quantum variants of cognitive representations [L1, L13].

Zero energy ontology (ZEO) [L8] is a key notion of quantum measurement theory. The basic prediction is that time reversal occurs in the ordinary state function reduction (SFR). This has profound implications for the interpretation of the quantum measurement theory [L5].

TGD inspired theory of consciousness can be seen as an extension of quantum measurement theory and relies on Negentropy Maximization Principle (NMP) as a basic dynamical principle [K1] [**?**] implying second law for ordinary entanglement entropy.

2.2 $M^8 - H$ duality as it is towards the end of 2021

The view of $M^8 - H$ duality (see Appendix A) has changed considerably towards the end 2021 [L18] after the realization that this duality is the TGD counterpart of momentum position duality of wave mechanics, which is lost in QFTs. Therefore M^8 and also space-time surface is analogous to momentum space. This forced us to give up the original simple identification of the points $M^4 \subset M^4 \times E^4 = M^8$ and of $M^4 \times CP_2$ so that it respects Uncertainty Principle (UP).

The first improved guess for the duality map was the replacement with the inversion $p^k \to m^k = \hbar_{eff} p^k/p^2$ conforming in spirit with UP but turned out to be too naive.

The improved form [L18] of the $M^8 - H$ duality map takes mass shells $p^2 = m^2$ of $M^4 \subset M^8$ to cds with size $L(m) = \hbar_{eff}/m$ with a common center. The slicing by mass shells is mapped to a Russian doll like slicing by cds. Therefore would be no CDs in M^8 contrary to what I believed first.

Quantum classical correspondence (QCC) inspires the proposal that the point $p^k \in M^8$ is mapped to a geodesic line corresponding to momentum p^k starting from the common center of cds. Its intersection with the opposite boundary of cd with size $L(m)$ defines the image point. This is not yet quite enough to satisfy UP but the additional details [L18] are not needed in the sequel.

The 6-D brane-like special solutions in M^8 are of special interest in the TGD inspired theory of consciousness. They have an M^4 projection which is $E = E_n$ 3-ball. Here E_n is a root of the real polynomial P defining $X^4 \subset M^8_c$ (M^8 is complexified to M^8_c) as a "root" of its octonionic continuation [L10, L11]. E_n has an interpretation as energy, which can be complex. The original interpretation was as moment of time. For this interpretation, $M^8 - H$ duality would be a linear identification and these hyper planes would be mapped to hyperplanes in $M^4 \subset H$. This motivated the term "very special moment in the life of self" for the image of the $E = E_n$ section of $X^4 \subset M^8$ [L6]. This notion does not make sense at the level M^8 anymore.

The modified $M^8 - H$ duality forces us to modify the original interpretation [L18]. The point $(E_n, p = 0)$ is mapped $(t_n = \hbar_{eff}/E_n, 0)$. The momenta (E_n, p) in $E = E_n$ plane are mapped to the boundary of cd and correspond to a continuous time interval at the boundary of CD: "very special moment" becomes a "very special time interval".

The quantum state however corresponds to a set of points corresponding to quark momenta, which belong to a cognitive representation and are therefore algebraic integers in the extension determined by the polynomial. These active points in E_n are mapped to a discrete set at the boundary of cd(m). A "very special moment" is replaced with a sequence of "very special moments".

So called Galois confinement [L14] forces the total momenta for bound states of quarks and antiquarks to be rational integers invariant under Galois group of extension of rationals determined by the polynomial P [L18]. These

states correspond to states at boundaries of sub-CDs so that one obtains a hierarchy. Galois confinement provides a universal number theoretic mechanism for the formation of bound states.

2.3 ZEO

The TGD based view of consciousness relies on ZEO solving the basic paradox of quantum measurement theory. First, a brief summary of the recent view of ZEO [L8] is required. Some aspects of this view will be challenged in the sequel for sub-CDs.

1. The notion of a causal diamond (CD) (see **Fig. ??**) is a central concept. Its little cousin "cd" can be identified as a union of two half-cones of M^4 glued together along their bottoms (3-D balls). The half-cones are mirror images of each other. CD=$cd \times CP_2$ is the Cartesian product of cd with CP_2 and obtained by replacing the points of cd with CP_2. The notion of CD emerges naturally in the number theoretic vision of TGD (adelic physics [L3])via the $M^8 - H$ duality [L7, L10, L11].

2. In the ZEO, quantum states are not 3-dimensional if the classical determinism does not fail as it actually does, but superpositions of 4-dimensional deterministic time evolutions connecting ordinary 3-dimensional states. By holography forced by general coordinate invariance, time evolutions are equivalent to pairs of ordinary 3-D states identified as initial and final states of time evolution.

   Quantum jumps replace this state with a new one: a superposition of deterministic time evolutions is replaced by a new superposition. The classical determinism of individual time evolution is not violated. This solves the basic paradox of quantum measurement theory. There are two kinds of SFRs: BSFRs (counterparts of ordinary SFRs) changing the arrow of time (AT) and SSFRs (analogs of "weak" measurements) preserving the arrow of time that give rise to an analog of the Zeno effect (`https://cutt.ly/yl7oIUy`) [L8]. The findings of Minev et al [L5] provide strong support for ZEO [L5].

To avoid confusion, one may emphasize some aspects of ZEO.

1. ZEO does not mean that the physical states identified in standard quantum theory as 3-D time= constant snapshots - and assigned in ZEO to the opposite boundaries of a causal diamond (CD) - would have zero energy. Rather, these 3-D states have the same conserved quantities, such as energy. Conservation laws allow us to adopt the convention that the values of conserved quantities are opposite for these states so that their sum vanishes.

   This is not new: in quantum field theories (QFTs), one speaks, instead of incoming and outgoing particles, external particles arriving from the geometric past and future and having opposite signs of energy. That conserved quantities vanish in the *4-D* sense, expresses only the content of conservation laws. A weaker form of this condition [L16] states that the total conserved Poincare charges are opposite only at the limit of infinitely large CD. CD would be an analog of quantization volume in QFTs, whose finiteness implies a small conservation of momentum.

2. ZEO implies *two* times: subjective time as a sequence of quantum jumps and geometric time as a space-time coordinate: for instance, the proper time of the observer. Since subjective time does not correspond to a real continuum, these times are not identifiable but are strongly correlated. This correlation has led to their identification although they are different.

3 How uniquely PE property fixes the space-time surface?

How uniquely the PE property fixes the space-time surface if its 3-D intersections with the boundaries of CD are given? This is the key question in this section.

3.1 Various variants of holography

General coordinate invariance (GCI) forces holography in the TGD framework. One can however consider several variants of holography [L10, L11, **?**].

1. Holography in the standard sense would fix the space-time surface from the data of its intersection with either boundary of CD or the data associated with the light-like 3-surfaces at which the signature of the induced metric changes.
2. Strong form of holography (SH) states that 2-D data at the intersections of the light-like 3-surfaces and boundary of CD are enough to determine the space-time surface.
3. The strongest form of holography inspired by $M^8 - H$ duality [L10, L11, L16] states that space-time region is determined by a rational value coefficients of a real polynomial extended to an octonionic polynomials, whose "root" is the space-time surface in M^8. The n roots of a real polynomial would determine a 4-D region in M^8 and its image in $H = M^4 \times CP_2$ would be interpreted as space-time surface.
4. There is a variant of holography, which gives up the full determinism of classical field equations and gives rise to what look like classical topological analogs of Feynman diagrams.
   (a) Consider first the particle level at the level of H. Particle lines generalized to 4-D orbits of 3-D surfaces representing particles. Particles as 4-D orbits of 3-surfaces contain light-line 3- D orbits of partonic 2-surfaces.
   (b) Partons as building bricks of particles in the information theoretic sense, and correspond to partonic 2-surfaces at which the orbits of partonic 2-surfaces meet. Their orbits are 3-D light-like surfaces at which the signature of the induced metric of the space-time surface changes.
   The partonic 2-D surfaces defining topological vertices belong to the 3-D sections of space-time surface with a constant value of M^4 time coordinate t to which one can map the 6-D brane-like entities of M^8 predicted by $M^8 - H$ duality [**?**]

This picture suggests that, besides the data at the boundaries of CD, also the data at the partonic 2-surfaces in the interior of CD are needed. This failure of classical determinism brings in the failure of the strongest form of holography. There would be a large number of PEs connecting the 3-surfaces at the ends of CD and they would correspond to the analogs of Feynman diagrams.

Zero energy state as a scattering amplitude would be a superposition over these diagrams. This superposition would not be however predetermined as in the path integral but the zero energy state would define the superposition of paths in question.

3.2 Is the failure of classical determinism possible?

The possibility of classical non-determinism is suggested by the interpretation of space-time surfaces as generalized Feynman diagrams. These Feynman diagram entities would not however define an analog of path integral in TGD framework. Classical non-determinis would be a space-time correlate for the non-nondetermism at quantum level.

In this framework partonic 2-surfaces or equivalently the 3-D sections of the space-time surfaces with constant value of M^4 time would act as 3-surfaces at which the deterministic time evolution as a minimal surface would fail.

Another option is that light-like 3-surfaces containing the partonic 2-surfaces at very special moments of M^4 time define frames. These special values $t = t_n$ of M^4 time would be associated with 6-D branes predicted by M^8 picture as universal special solutions and their images in H would define "very special moments in the life of self" defined by the sequences of SSFRs defining the self.

1. The first hint comes from the dynamics of soap films. Soap films are minimal surfaces. The soap films spanned by 1-D frames consist of minimal surfaces glued together at the frames and this dynamics is non-deterministic in the sense that it allows several soap film configurations due to the different branchings at frames. At frames the minimal surface equations fail.

2. In TGD framework space-time surfaces as PEs are both minimal surfaces and extremals of Kähler action. In this case the 3-surfaces associated with "very special moments of time" $t = t_n$ could define an analog of a dynamically generated frame defining a 4-D soap film. The 3-surfaces at the ends of the CD would be fixed frames like those for soap films.

   This realizes quantum criticality in the sense that the field equations outside frame do not involve the parameters of the action which sum of volume term and Kähler action. The interpretation as a non-linear analog of massless free field theory outside the frame conforms with the basic spirit of quantum field theory. These solutions of field equations rely on a a generalization of holomorphy to 4-D situation so that field equations reduce to purely algebraic conditions involving only the first derivatives of embedding space coordinates. The analogy is defined by the solution of 2-D Laplacian equation in terms of real or imaginary part of an analytic function.

Field equations consist of two terms, which are divergences for the conserved currents (4-momentum currents plus color currents) defined by the induced metric in the case of volume term. In the interior of the space-time surface these divergences vanish separately for the volume term and Kähler action but not at the frame.

3. The field equations must hold true also at the 3-D frame but this need not be true for both volume term and Kähler action separately. The coupling parameters of the theory make themselves visible only via the frame. For the volume action the divergences of the conserved currents are orthogonal to the space-time surface. For K "ahler action, the divergences of the conserved currents contain to terms. The first term is proportional to the energy momentum tensor of Kähler action and orthogonal to the space-time surface.

   Second term is not orthogonal to the space-time surface. For twistor lift the Kähler also has an M^4 part with a similar decomposition.

   The sums of the parts of divergences orthogonal to the space-time surface and parallel to it must sum up to zero separately. This gives 8 conditions altogether so that the number of field equations is doubled at the frame.

4. Could it happen that the divergences of these two isometry currents are singular and proportional to 3-D delta function but that their sum vanishes and conservation laws are respected? The part of the frame in the space-time interior would be dynamically generated whereas the part of the frame at the ends of CD would be fixed.

5. The restriction to 3-D frames is not the most general option. The delta function singularities could be located also at 2-D partonic 2-surfaces, at light-like 3-surfaces at which the induced metric changes its signature, and at string world sheets which connect these light-like 3-surfaces and have 1-D light-like boundaries at them. The light-like 3-D surfaces would be analogs of the cuts for analytic functions. Partonic 2-surfaces at the ends of light-like 3-surfaces could be analogs for the ends of the cuts. String world sheets could serve as analogs of poles.

6. The non-determinism associated with the soap films and with frames suggests that there is a large number of 4-D "soap films with a given frame", which is fixed at the boundaries of CD but not in the interior of CD.

4 Questions related to the theory of consciousness

At the level of TGD inspired theory of consciousness theory, causal diamond (CD) defines a correlate of self or of its perceptive field. CD has sub-CDs which correspond to subselves experienced by self as mental images [L8, **?**].

Concerning the evolution of self, the basic notions of "small" state function reduction (SSFR) as an analog of "weak measurement" and "big" SFR (BSFR) as an analog of ordinary SFR.

1. The first deviation from the standard ontology is that BSFR changes the arrow of time defined by the selection of PB of CD at which 3-D

part of zero energy states remains unchaged during SSFRs.

2. The second deviation is that either boundary of CD and states at it remain unaffected in SSFRs whose sequence defines self as a conscious entity. This is the TGD counterpart for the Zeno effect of ordinary quantum theory in which repeated measurements of the same observable leave the state unaffected.

The details of the evolution of self are not fully understood and the proposed general view can be criticized.

1. How the constraint that sub-CD serves as a correlate for a classical perceptive field can be taken into account?
2. What is the precise definition of mental images as subselves? Are they at some special positions inside space-time surface?
3. What are the precise definitions of memories and conscious memory recall? The same question applies to the notions of intention, anticipation and attention.
4. Can the mental images be destroyed or do they only experience BSFR and continue to live with an opposite arrow of time and become unconscious to self? If a mental image can completely disappear, what could be the physical mechanism leading to its disappearance?
5. One can challenge the detailed picture of the notion of time evolution by SSFRs. The assumption about the drift of mental images towards future in the second half-cone of CD is ad hoc. Should it be replaced with a deeper assumption. Could one simply assume that they are stationary.

4.1 Three ontological options

The basic problem of ZEO is whether the causal diamond (CD) represents a perceptive field in the sense that the space-time surface continues outside the CD or whether CD is an independent entity in the sense that space-time surfaces do not continue outside CD. Conservation laws do not exclude either option.

ZEO allows 3 ontological options which might be called easter, western, and intermediate views.

Option I: Space-time surfaces are restricted inside CDs. Quantum universe is a collection of CDs containing space-time surfaces, which have ends at the boundaries of CD.

In this framework, space-time in cosmological scales is an idealization and could be perhaps explained in terms of the correlations between CDs. CDs do not form a fractal atlas of something unless one says that the atlas *is* the territory. CD is an independent entity rather than a perceptive field of sub-self.

One can argue that for sub-CDs this picture is problematic since it seems that one loses totally the notion of objective reality as something existing outside CD. There are no sensory perceptions. Could the overlaps with other CDs create the experience about the existence of the external world?

Cosmology would be a mental construct and correspond to a very large CD. One would have a multiverse but only at the level of conscious experience.

Option I is consistent with the eastern view that only subjective experience exists but not with the western view.

Option II: Space-time surface continues always outside all CDs and CDs can be interpreted always as perceptive fields. Option II conforms with the westerm option and implies that cosmology is something real.

Option III: Self is a hierarchy of CDs such that for sub-CDs the space-time surfaces continue outside the CD but for the largest CD this would not be the case. Sub-CDs would represent perceptive fields but the largest CD would be a God-like entity experiencing itself as the entire cosmos.

Meditators report altered states of consciousness in which the separation to self and external world ceases and the mind is empty. Also the experience of timelessness is mentioned. Could these states correspond to experiences without mental images (sub-CDs) created by SFRs at this highest level?

Option III is roughly consistent with both western and eastern views about consciousness. If one requires the notion of the external world as objective reality and accepts the proposed explanation of altered states of consciousness, option III remains the only possible option.

4.2 A general picture about the dynamics of sub-CDs

The ZEO based view of quantum measurement theory and the theory of consciousness inspired by it have not been precisely formulated for sub-CDs. In particular, the question of how sub-CDs as mental images are created, has remained unanswered.

The following proposal provides such a formulation and is consistent with Options I and III.

1. CDs form a fractal atlas of conscious maps but the map would be the territory since in general the space-time surfaces need not continue outside the CD. There would be no external particles as 4-D lines for generalized Feynman diagrams outside CD.
2. Sub-CDs correspond to mental images of CD as a conscious entity. From the point of view of consciousness theory, there are only experiencers (CDs) which can have experiences as mental images (have sub-CDs), be mental images of experiencers (be sub-CDs) and share mental images (intersecting CDs with common sub-CDs).
3. Consistency conditions for the quantum dynamics of CDs and sub-CDs and for the overlapping CDs give rise to correlations between the regions of the map. The shared regions are geometrically analogs for the intersections of the intersections of a covering of a manifold by open sets.
4. For sub-CD the interpretation of sub-CD as a perceptive field would be natural.

The first question is what does one really mean with sub-CD at the level of space-time surfaces.

1. Do the space-time surfaces of sub-CD continue outside sub-CD as space-time surfaces of CD? Does this imply that the quantum dynamics of sub-CDs in ZEO is completely dictated by that of CD? This is certainly

not the case. Fermionic zero energy states associated with the sub-CD are possible and are analogous to quantum fluctuations. Note that in the TGD framework all elementary particles can be constructed from fundamental fermions (quarks).

2. If the PE (PE) property fixes completely the space-time surface, its intersections with the boundary of CD, this seems to be the case. If the classical dynamics is not completely deterministic, as suggested by the analogy with minimal surfaces spanned by frames, the situation changes.

   Sub-CD defines a subsystem of CD with boundary conditions at the boundary of CD which do not completely fix the quantum dynamics of sub-CD. Quantum states as WCW spinor fields inside sub-CD could change in SFRs of sub-CD.

   The tensor product of sub-CD with CD would not be ordinary tensor product but much more restricted one and Connes tensor product, related to inclusions of HFFs, would be a possible identification. A subsystem would be like an included hyper-finite factor of type II_1 (HFF).

Suppose that the classical dynamics is indeed non-deterministic and sub-CDs are defined in the proposed manner. How the view about WCW spinor fields changes as one restricts the consideration to sub-WCW.

1. The failure of the classical determinism forces to replace each 3-surface at PB with a discrete tree-like structure consisting of all PEs connecting it to AB. Sub-WCW as the space of PEs is larger than the space of 3-surfaces X^3 at PB. Zero energy states are defined in this sub-WCW and assign to a given X^3 a wave function in this discrete set allowing interpretation as wave function in a set of paths of the tree.

   One cannot avoid the association with cognitive representations of adelic physics involving the number theoretic degrees of freedom characterized by Galois group of the extension of rationals associated with the polynomial defining the space-time region [L2, L13].

2. The activation of sub-WCW would mean an SFR selecting in WCW of CD such sub-WCW for which the space-time surfaces are such that their ends at sub-CD are fixed. This would correspond to SFR creating a sub-CD and corresponding mental image. This would answer the long standing question whether and how mental images can appear as if from scratch. This SFR would also represent a third kind of SFR having interpretation as a partial localization in WCW associated with CD. This also suggest that mental images could disappear suddenly. This "activation" could be seen as a directed attention.

3. WCW degrees of freedom at the boundaries of sub-CD are fixed. Also sub-WCW spinor fields make sense. One can allow the tensor product of Fock spaces of many-fermion states associated with the boundaries of CD. One would have a QFT like picture with sub-WCW degrees of freedom fixed at boundaries of sub-CD.

4. The tensor product of fermionic state spaces at the boundaries of sub-WCW makes sense and one can define zero energy states in the same manner as proposed hitherto. The only difference is that WCW degrees of freedom are frozen at the boundaries of sub-CD. At the level

of conscious experience this means that the subself experiences the external world as fixed. This would be by definition the meaning of being subself.

The fermionic Fock state basis has an interpretation as a Boolean algebra so that fermionic zero energy states have an interpretation as Boolean statements of form $A \rightarrow B$. This would mean that consciousness of the subself would be Boolean, cognitive consciousness, thinking. This conforms with the Eastern view that ordinary consciousness is essentially thinking and that the higher level of consciousness as that associated with the highest level of the CD hierarchy of self is pure consciousness. Thinking assignable to the fermionic degrees of freedom would be seen as an endless generation of illusions. "Reality" in this interpretation would correspond to WCW degrees of freedom.

What restrictions must one pose on the quantum dynamics of CDs in the case of sub-CDs? Does the subjective evolution of sub-CD states by SSFRs and BSFRs make sense for sub-CDs?

1. The increase of the size of sub-CD makes sense and the proposed subjective evolution by scalings and SSFRs makes sense. The time evolution is also now induced by the increase of the perceptive field of a subself defined by the WCW associated with increasing sub-CD bringing in new 4-surfaces due to the classical non-determinism.
2. What about the interaction between CD and sub-CDs. Does this time evolution respect the condition that the space-time surfaces meet the fixed 3-surfaces at boundaries of sub-CD or is it possible that the SSFRs of CD destroy the subself by delocalization so that sub-CD as a mental images must be regenerated by localization in WCW.
3. Also the interaction between overlapping CDs and the sharing of mental images can be understood in this framework.

5 Comparison of the revised view of self with the earlier one

The revised view about TGD inspired theory of consciousness relies on the definition of subself at the level of WCW unlike the older view. In the following the new view is compared with the old view.

5.1 The view about SSFRs

5.1.1 Earlier picture

The earlier view about SSFRs was inspired by the M^8 picture.

1. The dynamics was assumed to involve both scaling of CD with respect to either tip of CD. The lower half-cone was only scaled whereas the upper half-cone was also shifted as required by the stationarity of the passive boundary. Dynamics at PB was passive in the sense that only a portion of the space-time surface became visible making also new states visible at it (Zeno effect) in the sequence of SSFRs . The idea about scaling

leads to a rather concrete proposal for the S-matrix characterizing the scalings of CD.

2. The surfaces inside CD (or sub-CD) were assumed to be mirror symmetric with respect to the middle plane of CD. This assumption does not conform with the assumption that these surfaces define a perceptive field in the sense that they are parts of large space-times and continue outside CD.

The old view had several ad hoc features.

1. The creation of mental images was implicitly assumed without specifying what this could mean mathematically. These mental images were assumed to be created in the upper half-cone just above the $t = T$ mid-plane of CD and shift to the geometric future with the upper half-cone of CD. The asymmetry between upper and half-cone could be seen as reflecting geometrically the future-past asymmetry but was ad hoc.
2. One can criticize the assumption that the memories about the events of the subjective past are located in the geometric future with respect to the mid-plane of CD.
3. Whether mental images can disappear or only die and reincarnate by BSFR, was not specified.

5.1.2 New picture

In the new picture the situation is the following.

1. Also in the new picture, the time evolution by SSFRs would be a sequence of scalings of CD. The assumption about reflection symmetry of space-time surfaces is given up since it is inconsistent with the identification of sub-CD as a perceptive field. Also now the time evolution is passive in the sense that only a new portion of the space-time surface extending outside sub-CD is revealed at each step.
2. As in the previous picture, new discrete WCW degrees of freedom appear during the sequence of SSFRs and complexity increases. For both options only fermionic degrees of freedom remain if full determinism is assumed and if QCC is required also at the level of SFRs.
3. In the new view both directed attention, memory, and intention correspond to a generation of sub-CD by a localization in WCW fixing a subset of 3-surfaces at the PB of CD. Redirecting of attention would allow apparent movement of the sub-CD in the interior of CD and as a special case shifting the mental images in the time direction assumed in the earlier picture.
4. In the new view the loci of mental images are naturally associated with the loci of classical non-determinism that is 3-surfaces at the 4-D minimal surface branches.
5. $M^8 - H$ duality suggests that the branchings occur at H image points of the M^8 cognitive representation defined by the quark momenta which are algebraic integers for the extension of rationals defined by the polynomial defining $X^4 \subset M^8$. The non-determinism at $X^4 \subset H$ point set would

correspond to non-determinism assignable to a bound state of quarks at corresponding point of M^8.

Note that physical states correspond to total quark momenta which are rational integers, one can speak of Galois confinement meaning that physical states are Galois singlets. This gives an infinite hierarchy of bound states formed by a universal, purely number theoretical mechanism. All bound states could be formed in this manner.

The non-determinism at $X^4 \subset H$ point which corresponds to a subset of points as images of quark momenta composing the bound state would correspond to non-determinism assignable to a bound state of quarks at corresponding point of M^8. There would be a hierarchy of CDs within CDs and hierarchy of mental images corresponding to the hierarchy of bound states.

The bound state momenta are mapped to $X^4 \subset H$ by $M^8 - H$ duality already described. In particular, the positions of quarks contained in 6-branes X^6 with a constant energy $E = E_n$ are mapped to a sequence of points at the boundary of cd of the system by M^8-duality and it can be said to represent the positions of these quarks. These point sets define sequences of "very special moments in the life of self".

The targets of attention would therefore form a discrete set assignable to bound states of quarks and antiquarks. Note however that each 3-surface X^3 in the superposition defining the WCW spinor field at the PB of CD has its own discrete set loci of non-determinism. BSFRs can change the superposition of these 3-surfaces. The selection between branches is possible in BSFR but not in SSFRs.

6. An attractive idea motivated by ZEP is that volitional action could be interpreted in the new view as an SFR selecting one path at the node of a tree characterizing the non-determinism. Single deterministic time evolution analogous to a computer program would be selected rather than modifying the deterministic time evolution as in standard ontology. In the M^8 picture, the very special moments $t = r_n$ in the life of self correspond to the roots of a real polynomial. What happens when all roots have been experienced? Does NMP force the BSFR to occur since nothing new can be learned?

5.2 Comparison of the views about BSFR

Those aspects of BSFR in which old and new views differ are of special interest.

5.2.1 Earlier view

The fact that the notion of sub-CD and mental image were not properly formulated led to several ad hoc assumptions.

1. The possible failure of a strict determinism was realized. The failure of strict determinism was assigned to "very special moments in the life of self" associated with the images $E = E_n$ planes of $M^4 \subset M^8$ at which the partonic vertices as loci of non-determinism were assigned.
2. The mental images of previous life near the AB of CD were assumed to be inherited as "silent wisdom". Their contents was from the early

period of life with opposite arrow of time and one can of course ask whether they were really "wisdom".

3. There were also assumptions about the change of the size scale of CD in BSFR. The idea that the reduction of the size scale guarantees that reincarnate has childhood was considered. This assumption also prevents unlimited increase of the size scale of sub-CD.

5.2.2 New view

The new view makes it possible to develop a more detailed picture of what happens in BSFR.

1. The WCW localization at the AB of CD selects one of the branches of the space-time surface beginning at the PB. This selection of the branch happens to each 3-surface in the superposition of 3-surfaces at the PB defined by the WCW spinor field before BSFR.
2. The future directed tree becomes a past directed tree beginning from one particular branch at the AB. The initial and final space-time surface share a common space-time surface connecting the roots of the old and new trees. This is essential for having a non-trivial transition amplitude for BSFR at WCW level.

In the earlier view, the mental images interpreted as memory mental images and located near the boundary of CD were assumed to be inherited as "silent wisdom" by the time-reversed reincarnate. What happens now?

The notion of "silent wisdom" as inherited information still makes sense.

1. The new space-time surfaces originate from 3-surface which was selected by WCW localization in BSFR. Therefore the new space-time surfaces carry classical information about previous life.
2. The space-time surfaces originating from the new root are near to the space-time surface connecting the old and new roots. The WCW spinor field before and after BSFR musthave a strong overlap in order to make the transition amplitude large. This implies that information about previous life is transferred to the new life.
3. The nearness property could imply that they are easily re-created as perceptions by directed attention so that they would indeed be "silent" wisdom. These mental images are from the later part of the life cycle rather than from the early life as in the earlier picture. If aging means getting wisdom, then silent wisdom would be in question.

Does the notion of "silent wisdom" as mental images make sense?

1. Mental images - this includes both sensory and memory mental images and intentions) are naturally assignable to the loci of classical non-determinism at the images of the planes $E = E_n$ of the branched space-time surfaces associated with the new root ("very special moments in the life of self").

   For the special space-time surface connecting the roots of old and new space-time surface, the surfaces $E = E_n$ in M^8 would not change and the mental images would carry information about previous life. Could one talk about potentially conscious "silent wisdom".

2. What happens to the mental images of self in BSFR? Can they be preserved or do they disappear or do they reincarmate by BSFR? The idea about preservation makes sense only for space-time surfaces connecting the roots.

3. What can happen to the size scale of CD in BSFR? The extreme option that CD decreases in size by shift of the formerly PB such that the time evolutions are fully determinimistic in the superposition of 3-surfaces. There would be no inherited silent wisdom and the self would start from scratch, live a chilhood. Otherwise these loci would define candidate for inherited silent wistom.

In the earlier picture the mental images corresponding to sub-CD could not disappear although it could die by BSFR and reincarnate with a reversed arrow of time. Can the mental image disappear now? Creation of mental image require metabolic energy feed: this explains 7 ± 2rule for the number of simultaneous mental images. Could this happen when attention is redirected? Therefore one could argue that mental image must totally disappear when the attention is redirected.

On the other hand, time reversed mental image apparently feeds energy to the environment in the original arrow of time, i.e. apparently dissipates. Could this dissipation be interpreted as an energy feed for its time reversal.

Note that the total disappearance of the mental image means delocalization at the level of WCW and seems possible. The new view clearly challenges the idea about the Karma's cycle of self. This cycle appears in many applications of BSFR.

6 Conclusions

Also the article *Some comments related to Zero Energy Ontology (ZEO)*" [L8] written for few years ago challenged the basic assumptions of ZEO. One tends to forget the unpleasant questions but now it was clear that it is better to face the fear that there might be something badly wrong. ZEO however survived and several ad hoc assumptions were eliminated.

6.1 Progress at the level of basic TGD

The basic goal is to improve the understanding about quantum-classical correspondence. The dynamics of soap films serves as an intuitive starting point.

1. In TGD frame 3-surfaces at the boundaries of CD define the analog of frame for a 4-D soap film as a minimal surface outside frame. This minimal surface would be an analog of a holomorphic minimal surface and simultaneous exremal of Kähler action except at the frame where one would have delta function singularities analogous to sources for massless d'Alembert equation.

2. There is also a dynamically generated part of the frame since the action contains also Kähler action. The dynamically generated parts of the frame would mean a failure of mimimal surface property at frame and also the failure of complete determinism localized at these frames.

3. At the frame only the equations for the entire action containing both volume term and Kähler term would be satisfied. This guarantees conservation laws and gives very strong constraints to what can happen at frames.

   The frame portions with various dimensions are analogous to the singularities of analytic functions at which the analyticity fails: cuts and poles are replaced with 3-, 2-, and 1-D singularities acting effectively as sources for volume term or equvavelently Kähler term. The sum of volume and Kähler singularities vanish by field equations. This gives rise to the interaction between volume and Kähler term at the loci of non-determinism.

4. H-picture suggests that the frames as singularities correspond to 1-D core for the deformations of CP_2 type extremals with light-like geodesic as M^4 projection, at partonic 2-surfaces and string world sheets, and at 3-D $t = t_n$ balls of CD as "very special moments in the life of self" which integrate to an analog of catastrophe. T

   Deformations of Euclidean CP_2 type extremals, the light-like 3-surfaces as partonic orbits at which the signature of the induced metric changes, string world sheets, and partonic 2-surfaces at $r = t_n$ balls taking the role of vertices give rise to an analog of Feynman (or twistor -) diagram. The external particles arriving the vertex correspond to different roots of the polynomial in M^8 picture co-inciding at the vertex.

The proposed picture at the level of $H = M^4 \times CP_2$ has dual at the level of (complexified) M^8 identifiable as complexified octonions. The parts of frame correspond to loci at which the space-time as a covering space with sheet defined by the roots of a polynomial becomes degenerate, i.e. touch each other.

Concerning the physical interpretation, a crucial step of progress was the interpretation of M^8 as analog of momentum space allowing to interpret $M^8 - H$ duality as an analog of momentum-position duality and of complementarity principle of wave mechanics [L18]. This forced to modify $M^8 - H$ duality in M^4 degrees of freedom to satify the constraints posed by UP.

There is a nice analogy with the catastrophe theory of Thom [A2, A1]. The catastrophe graph for cusp catastrophe serves as an intuitive guide line. embedding space coordinates serve as behaviour variables and space-time coordinates as control variables. One obtains a decomposition of space-time surface to regions of various dimension characterized by the degeneracy of the root.

6.2 Progress in the understanding of TGD inspired theory of consciousness

The improved view about ZEO makes it possible to define the basic notions like self, sub-self, BSFR and SSFR at the level of WCW. Also the WCW correlates for various aspects of consciousness like attention, volition, memory, memory recall, anticipation are proposed. Attention is the basic process: attention creates sub-CD and subself by a localization in WCW and projects WCW spinor field to a subset of WCW. This process is completely analogous

to position measurement at the level of H. At the level of M^8 it is analogous to momentum measurement.

One can distinguish between the Boolean aspects of cognition assignable to WCW spinors as fermionic Fock states (WCW spinor field restricted to given 3-surface). Fermionic consciousness is present even in absence of non-determinism. The non-determinism makes possible sensory perceptions and spatial consciousness.

A precise definition of sub-CD as a correlate of perceptive field at WCW level implies that the space-time surfaces associated with sub-CDs continue outside it. This gives powerful boundary conditions on the dynamics. For the largest CD in the hierarchy of CDs of a given self, this constraint is absent, and it is a God-like entity in ZEO. This leads to a connection between the western and eastern views about consciousness.

A connection with the minimal surface dynamics emerges [L19]. The sub-CDs to which mental image as subselves are assigned would be naturally associated with portions of dynamically generated frames as loci of non-determinism. If one identifies partonic 2-surfaces as vertices, one can interpret the collection of possible space-time surfaces for a fixed 3-surface at PB as a tree. All paths along the tree are possible time-evolutions of subself. The dynamics of consciousness for fixed 3-surface at PB becomes discrete and provides discrete correlate for a volitional action as selection of a path or a subset of paths in the tree. The reduction of dynamics of mental imagines to discrete dynamics would mean a huge simplification and conforms with the discreteness of cognitive representations.

6.3 Challenges

There are many challenges to be faced. The discrete dynamics of sub-self consciousness certainly correlates with the notion of cognitive representation based on adelic physics [L4, L3] and implying a discretization at both space-time level and WCW level. The Galois group for the extension of rationals acting on the roots of the polynomial plays a key role in this dynamics [L13, L14].

One teaser question remains. Localization requires energy quite generally and this conforms with the fact that mental images demand metabolic energy feed. It is possible to redirect attention and it remains unclear whether the mental image disappears totally or suffers BSFR.

This relates directly to the question whether consciousness continues after the physical death. If mental images (and corresponding sub-CDs) can disappear, the same can happen to us since we are mental images of some higher level self. If this cannot happen, BSFR means death and reincarnation with an opposite arrow of time in a completely universal sense. For instance, sleep period could correspond to a kind of death at some level of the personal self hierarchy generalizing the Id-ego-superego hierarchy of Freud. This would explain why we have no memories of the sleep period.

A Appendix: M^8- and H views about classical non-determinism and particle reactions

A.1 M^8 picture and $M^8 - H$ duality

In M^8 picture, space-time surfaces correspond to real projections of 4-D complex "roots" of octonionic polynomials obtained from real polynomials with rational coefficients by algebraic continuation, i.e. by replacing real coordinate by complexified octonion coordinate [K9, K10, K11] [**?**, **?**]. The interested reader finds a rather detailed summary of $M^8 - H$ duality in Appendix A.

$M^8 - H$ duality maps the point of $M^4 \times E^4$ to a point of $M^4 \times CP_2$ such that the point of $M^4 \subset M^4 \times E^4$ is mapped to some point of $M^4 \subset M^4 \times CP_2$. $M^8 - H$ duality is not a local map. Rather, the normal space of a $x \in X^4 \subset M^8$ goes to a point of CP_2 characterizing its quaternionic normal space.

1. To be a 4-D "root" in the complex sense means that the real part of a complexified octonionic polynomial determining the space-time surfaces vanishes. The number theoretic content of this condition is that the normal space of the space-time surface is quaternionic and therefore associative. The second option would be that the tangent space is associative but this gives only M^4 as a solution.

2. At a given point there are n roots and some of them can coincide in some regions of the space-time surface. These regions correspond to the branchings of the space-time surface at which particle-like entities identified as space-time surfaces meet and interact.

   The quaternionic normal plane at this intersection is not unique so that several CP_2 points of $X^4 \subset H$ correspond to a single point of $X^4 \subset M^8$. The extreme situation is encountered in a point-like singularity when the normal plane at a given point of M^4 is a sub-manifold of CP_2.

   The interpretation is as particle vertices. The intuitive expectation is that they correspond to partonic 2-surfaces and perhaps also string world sheets. These surfaces are mapped to those in $M^4 \times CP_2$ by $M^8 - H$ correspondence.

3. Also 6-D brane like entities are predicted as universal "roots" they correspond to 6-spheres in M^8 with M^4 projection which is a 3-ball with constant value $E = E_n$ of energy as counterpart of the Minkowski time coordinate such that E_n is the root of the real polynomial defining the octonionic polynomial. The momenta $(E_n, p = 0)$ are mapped to points $t_n = (\hbar_{eff}/E_n, 0)$ and define "very special moments of time in the life of self".

   The points with $p \neq 0$, in particular the points corresponding to quark momentum, however correspond to $t < t_n$ at the boundary of cd with size $L(p) = \hbar_{ef}/\sqrt{E_n^2 - p^2}$. To these moments the failure of classical determinism giving rise to one particular kind of quantum non-determinism is concentrated. Note that points of double hyperboloid of M^4 with opposite energies are mapped to opposite boundaries of cd.

4. The intersections of 4-D "roots" with 6-D brane-like entities are 2-D and it might be possible to interpret them as analogs of either partonic 2-surfaces or string world sheets at which several roots become degenerate

of octonionic polynomial co-incide. Outside the singularity, the roots do not coincide and define separate space-time sheets and it is natural to interpret them as external particles of a particle reaction.

5. At the light-like orbits of partonic 2-surfaces the induced metric for the H-image of the space-time surface becomes degenerate since its signature changes. Could one say that the Minkowskian and Euclidean roots coincide at the partonic orbits?

   One can also wonder what the M^8 interpretation of wormhole contacts having two throats could be. Do the two throats correspond to two coincing roots at the level of M^8 having different normal spaces and mapped to separate 2-surfaces in H?

A.2 Catastrophe theoretic analogy

Consider the analogy with the catastrophe theory of Thom [A2] in more detail.

1. Catastrophe map is the graph of solutions for the vanishing of the gradient of a potential function as a function of control parameters. One considers only real roots as function of variable control parameters and the number of real roots varies as a function of parameters and one obtains lower-dimensional regions at which the number of roots to catastrophe polynomial changes as roots become degenerate [A2, A1]. Cusp catastrophe serves as the school example.

2. In the recent case, space-time surfaces correspond to roots of complexified octonionic polynomials and the coefficients of the polynomial appear as control parameters. Also complex roots are allowed and real 4-D space-time surface is obtained as a real projection and mapped to H by $M^8 - H$ duality and conjectured to correspond to a preferred extremal of an action determined by the twistor lift of TGD.

3. The basic motivations for this assumption are quantum criticality requiring preferred extremal property, which requires at the level of H the independence of the dynamics on coupling parameters of the twistor lift of Kähler action outside the loci of non-determinism demanded by M^8 level.

A.3 Connection between singularities and preferred extremals of various types

The above picture suggests the characterization of the space-time surfaces in terms of their singularities as surfaces of M^8.

At the level of H one can consider 4 kinds of very simple preferred extremals, which give rise to prototype singularities.

1. Einsteinian spacetime $X^4 \subset M^8$ with a 4-D M^4 projection and a unique normal space as a point of CP_2. $X^4 = M^4$ defines a prototype.

2. Cosmic string extremal $X^2 \times Y^2$ with Y^2 a complex surface in CP_2 and defining a set of normal spaces assignable to a point of X^2. $M^2 \times S^2$, S^2 a geodesic sphere defines a proto type. S^2 can be either homological trivial or non-trivial.

3. $X^3 \times S^1 \subset M^4 \times CP_2$, where S^1 is a geodesic circle of CP_2, is a candidate for a preferred extremal and singular surface. Both $M^3 \times S^1$ and $E^3 \times S^1$ are minimal surfaces and vacuum extremals of Kähler action.

   For the Euclidean signature, X^3 could be space-like and define a 3-ball compactifying to S^3 as a sub-manifold of the S^6 brane. The very special moments t_n would be singular in the sense that the normal space at a given point of $X^3 \subset M^4 \subset M^8$ would not be unique and would give rise S^1 singularity.

4. CP_2 type extremal with light-like geodesic as $M^4 \subset H$ projection and corresponding to a light-like geodesic in M^8 with normal spaces forming a 3-D surface in CP_2. Also $M^1 \times Y^3 \subset M^4 \times CP_2$ can be considered but is probably not a preferred extremal.

The intuitive picture is that these 4 types of preferred extremals correspond to singularities of the normal space of $X^4 \subset M^8$ of dimension $d = 0, 1, 2, 4$ and codimension $d_c = 4 - d$.

A.4 Analogy with knot theory

In knot theory a knot in 3-D space is projected to 2-plane where one obtains a diagram containing crossings. Knot invariants can be constructed in terms of this diagram. A knot theory inspired intuition is that space-time surfaces near to these special cases are projected to these special surfaces to get the toy model.

1. Canonically embedded $M^4 \subset M^8$ (or $M^4 \subset M^4 \times CP_2$) is an analog of the plane to which the knot is projected. One can project the space-time regions with 4-D $M4$ projection to M^4. In particular, those with a Minkowskian signature of the induced metric.

2. The M^4 projection of CP_2 type extremal is 1-D light-like geodesic. One must project the deformations of CP_2 type extermals to CP_2 type extremal at the level of H. At the level of H, CP_2 type extremal could correspond to a light-like geodesic of M^8 such that each point of the geodesic is singular point such that the union of quaternionic normal spaces defines a 3-D quaternionic surface in CP_2.

   A puncture in E^3 as an infinitesimal hole serves as an analogy. At the puncture, one can say that all normal spaces labelled by points of S^2 are realized.

   At the given point of the light-like geodesic, the quaternionic normal space of point is not unique but a 3-D union of normal spaces and defines a 3-D subset CP_2.

3. For the $X^2 \times Y^2 \subset M^4 \times CP_2$ type cosmic string extremals and their small deformations, one must project to $M^2 \times S^2 \subset CP_2$. For a point of X^2 the normal spaces define $Y^2 \subset CP_2$ so that the singularity is milder. For $X^3 \times S^1 \subset M^4 \times CP_2$ the normal spaces at a point of X^3 would define $S^1 \subset CP_2$. If X^3 is Euclidean, these 3-D singularities could correspond to the $t = t_n$ planes associated with the branes. The small deformations of these surfaces would project to $M^3 \times S^1$. This picture would integrate all 3 kinds of singularities and various types of preferred extremals to a single unified picture.

A.5 A toy model for the singularities

The following toy model for the singularities in the case of CP_2 type extremals generalizes also to other singularities.

1. A rather general class of CP_2 type extremals can be represented as a map $M^4 \to CP_2$ given by

   $$m^k = p^k f(r) \ ,$$

   where p^k is light-like momentum and r is radial $U(2)$ invariant CP_2 coordinate labelling 3-spheres of CP_2 such that $r = \infty$ gives homologically non-trivial geodesic 2-sphere instead of 3-sphere.

   If $f(r)$ approaches constant value for $r \to \infty$, one can say that M^4 time stops at this limit, and one obtains a homologically non-trivial geodesic sphere instead of 3-D surface identifiable as an intersection with 6-D brane. Various external particles of the vertex would correspond to $m^k = p_k f_i(r)$ such that their values at $r = \infty$ co-incide.

   It is not possible to obtainh omologically trivial 2-sphere in this manner.

2. Outside the vertex, the CP_2 type space-time sheets have distinct light-like geodesics as M^4 projections and they can be continued to distinct regions of M^4 in the toy model.

   The analog of the knot diagram would be a set of M^4:s with different constant values of CP_2 coordinates. The CP_2 type extremals would be glued along light-like geodesics to various M^4s.

   The CP_2 points of M^4:s meeting at the same geodesic sphere must belong to the same geodesic sphere S^2. The S^2:s associated with different vertices are different. Note that any two geodesic spheres must have common points.

3. In the toy model for the string world sheets $X^2 \times Y^2$ would be projected to a piece of $M^2 \times S^2$ connecting two partonic vertices with the same S^2. S^2:s would be at the ends of the string, whose orbit is a piece of M^2.

   $B^3 \times S^1$ could be interpreted as a subset of 6-D brane with B^3 identified as the $t = t_n$ cross section of M^4 light-cone.

This picture would suggest that the singularities could be indeed located to $t = t_n$ planes and integrated together to form a rough analog of catastrophe map.

A.6 Some examples of minimal surfaces with 1-D CP_2 projection

This subsection is not directly relevant to the basic topic and is added to give ideas about the possible role of volume term.

The original proposal was that preferred extremals are extremals of Kähler action but the twistor lift introduced the volume term as an additional term. This removed the huge vacuum degeneracy of Kähler action meaning that any 4-surface for which CP_2 projection was so called Lagrange manifold with the

property that induced Kähler form vanishes, was a solution of field equations. For these surface induced Kähler potential is pure gauge.

The addition of the volume term removes this degeneracy and only minimal surfaces of this kind are possible as extremals. It is however not clear whether they are preferred extremals (are they analogs of complex surfaces?).

These solutions have not been studied previously [K4]. Space-time surfaces representing a warped embedding of M^4 with a flat metric represent the simplest example.

1. Denoting the angle coordinate of the geodesic sphere S^1 byΦ and the metric of S^1 by $ds^2 = -R^2 d\Phi^2$ the ansatz reads in linear Minkowski coordinates as $\Phi = k \cdot m$, where k is analog of four-momentum. The induced metric is flat and the second fundamental form vanishes by the linearity of Φ in m so that the field equations are satisfied.

   Boundary conditions require the vanishing of the normal components of momentum currents and give $(\eta^{\alpha\beta} - R^2 p^\alpha p^\beta) n_\beta = 0$ .This condition cannot be satisfied so that these solutions should have infinite size, which looks unphysical.

   The presence of the volume term in the action implies that the induced metric appears in the boundary conditions and this represents a problem quite generally. The only way to overcome the problem is that there are no boundaries. The many-sheetedness indeed makes this possible.

   The warped extremals could represent a reasonable approximation of the space-time surface in the regions which are almost empty.

2. The light velocity defined in terms of time taken to get from the M^4 position A to B, is reduced to $c_1 = \sqrt{1 - |k \cdot k|}$. If k is light-like this does not happen.

   Although the analog of gravitational force is vanishing in warped metric, the deviation the flat metric from M^4 metric given by $|k \cdot k|$ in flat case could it be interpreted as gravitational potential and the gravitational potential energy of test mass would be given by by $E_{gr} = -m|k \cdot k|$.

   Could Nature provide a kind of cognitive representation or toy model of a gravitational field as a piecewise constant function in terms of CDs with which warped vacuum extremals would be associated? The representation would contain length scale dependent Λ as second parameter assigning momentum 4-momentum proportional to $\Lambda\ p^k$ to the CD. The volume energy would include its gravitational potential energy represented in terms of warping?

   For warped solutions the space-time light cone - to be distinguished from its embedding space counterpart - would be defined by $c_1^2 t^2 - r^2 = 0$ and space-time CD would be modified accordingly.

Only single extremal - canonically embedded M^4 - remains from the spectrum of cosmological vacuum extremals for Kähler action having 1-D CP_2 projection and defined by $\Phi = f(a)$, where f is an arbitrary function of light-cone proper time coordinate $a = \sqrt{t^2 - r_M^2}$.

At QFT-GRT limit, the many-sheeted space-time is approximated with Einsteinian cosmology with the deviation of the induced metric from M^4 metric defined by the sum of the corresponding deviations for the sheets.

Since the value of Λ becomes large in short p-adic length scales, a cosmology resembling GRT type cosmology could emerge and Einstein's equations would be a remnant of Poincare symmetry.

The induced metric for the solutions has very little to do with the metric appearing at the Einsteininian limit. The models of cosmology as space-time surfaces based on Kähler action with vanishing Λ could however make sense in very long scales for which Λ approaches zero.

For string dominated cosmology, the comoving mass is proportional to a [K14, K4, K13]. One has a silent whisper amplified to a Big bang in GRT sense. Also critical cosmology [K4] as an analog of inflationary cosmology for which curvature scalar as dimensional quantity vanishes can be regarded as a silent whisper amplified to a Big Bang and also it becomes Euclidean for a critical value $a = a_0$ of cosmic time.

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