

# Renormalization and a conjecture of Quillen on determinant lines.

*Workshop Mathematics of interacting QFT models, York*

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# Motivation of the talk : copyright to Alex Schenkel.

- 1 QFT is a tool to learn something about geometry, e.g. invariants of manifolds via **differential geometry, analysis**? *What QFT has to say about the geometry of space times.*
- 2 QFT leads to interesting **geometric structures** that are *parametrized* by geometric and functional objects?

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How ?

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How? Understand simple things from free quantum fields *interacting* with *external classical fields*, how they **depend** on the external field.



## Finally, I am a **bad Euclidean guy**.

$(M, g)$  closed, compact, connected Riemannian manifold dimension  $d$ , volume form  $dv$ ,  $\Delta$  Laplace–Beltrami.

Sequence  $\sigma = \{0 = \lambda_0 < \lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_k \rightarrow +\infty\}$  and  $(e_\lambda)_{\lambda \in \sigma}$  **eigenfunctions**

$$\Delta e_\lambda = \lambda e_\lambda.$$

Green kernel :

$$\mathbf{G}(x, y) = \sum_{\lambda \in \sigma, \lambda > 0} \lambda^{-1} e_\lambda(x) e_\lambda(y).$$

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### Example (Circle)

$S^1$  constant metric, volume form  $d\theta$ ,  $\Delta = -\partial_\theta^2$ . Spectrum  $\sigma = \mathbb{N}^2$  and eigenfunctions are usual  $(\cos(nx), \sin(nx))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ .

# Euclidean QFT.

- 1 Constructive fields : Albeverio, Fröhlich, Gallavotti, Gawedzki, Glimm, Guerra, Jaffe, Kupiainen, Magnen, Nelson, Rivasseau, Seiler, Sénéor, Spencer, Simon, Sokal, Symanzik, Wightman just to name a few and many others.
- 2 Euclidean QFT + geometry : Dappiaggi–Drago–Rinaldi, Dimock, Kandel, Pickrell, Segal, Stolz–Teichner...

# Example.

Free quantum fields interacting with external fields :

|   | Free Bosons  |
|---|--|
| Fast                                    | $\phi$ scalar  |
| Slow                                    | (potential $V$ , metric $g$ )                                    |
| Operator                                | $\Delta_g + V$   |
| Action                                  | $S(\phi, V, g) = \frac{1}{2} \int_M \phi (\Delta_g + V) \phi dv$ |
| Partition f.<br>integrate<br>fast field | $Z_g(V) = \int [D\phi] e^{-S(\phi, V, g)}$                       |

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Goal : give a meaning to the functional integrals with emphasis on dependence in *slow field*.

# Cartoon oversimplified picture of TQFT's

## *Topological Field Theories*

$$\text{closed manifold } M \longmapsto \text{partition function } Z(M) \sim \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n \underbrace{F_n(M)}.$$

$F_n(M)$  topological invariant independent of  $C^\infty$  structure of  $M$ .

# Invariants.

**Flat space** : Belkale–Brosnan, Bogner–Weinzierl show Feynman amplitudes are **special numbers** i.e. **periods**. But on **curved space**, QFT numbers should depend on the metric  $g$  and thus could be anything.

More structure on  $M$ , complex, Riemannian, bundles  $E \mapsto M$ , how to get invariants of corresponding structures ?

# Hierarchy of information.

$$\underbrace{C^\infty \text{ Riemannian}}_{C^\infty \text{ metric}} \subset \underbrace{\text{smooth manifold}}_{C^\infty \text{ structure}} \subset \underbrace{\text{topological manifold.}}_{\text{topology}}$$



## Fixed $M$ , metrics, diffeomorphisms and an isometry invariant.

**Fixed**  $M$  smooth compact. Metrics  $\mathbf{Met}(M)$  : open convex cone in symmetric 2-tensors  $C^\infty(S^2 T^*M)$ .  $\mathbf{Diff}(M)$  acts on metrics by pull-back  $g \mapsto \varphi^* g$ .

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Definition (polygon Feynman amplitude)

For  $V \in C^\infty(M, \mathbb{C})$ ,

$$c_n(g, V) = \int_{M^n} \mathbf{G}(x_1, x_n) V(x_1) \dots \mathbf{G}(x_n, x_1) V(x_n) dv_n(g_n) \quad (1)$$

where  $dv_n(g_n)$  volume form on  $(M^n, g_n)$  for  $g_n$  natural metric on  $M^n$ .

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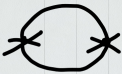

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Claim : if  $V = 1$  and  $c_n(g, 1)$  converges then isometry invariant :

$$\int_{M^n} (\varphi^* \mathbf{G})(x_1, x_n) \dots (\varphi^* \mathbf{G})(x_n, x_1) dv_n(\varphi^* g_n) = \int_{M^n} \mathbf{G}(x_1, x_n) \dots \mathbf{G}(x_n, x_1) dv_n.$$

| Feynman Graph   | Amplitude, $G \in \mathcal{D}'(M \times M)$<br>$\gamma$ potential |
|---|---|
|  | $\int_{M \times M} G(x, y) V(y) G(y, z) V(z) G(z, x) V(x)$        |
|  | $\int_{M \times M} G(x, y) V(y) G(y, x) V(x)$                     |
|  | $\int_M G(x, x) V(x)$   |

## Another cartoon.

$$\text{Riemannian mfd } (M, g), \text{ potential } V \xrightarrow{\text{QFT}} Z_g(\lambda, V) = \left\langle \exp \left( -\frac{\lambda}{2} \int_M V : \phi^2 : dv \right) \right\rangle$$

where

$$Z_g(\lambda, 1) = \exp \left( \sum_{n \geq 2} \frac{(-1)^n \lambda^n}{2} c_n(g, 1) \right)$$

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Two flavors :

- fixed smooth mfd  $M$ , question about metric  $g$ ,
- $M$  has **no fixed diffeo** type ( $C^\infty$  structure), question about **pair**  $(M, g)$ .



# Moduli space of metrics.

**Fixed  $M$ .**

Definition (Moduli space of metrics)

$\mathcal{R}(M) = C^\infty \text{ Metrics } \mathbf{Met}(M) / C^\infty \text{ Diffeos } \mathbf{Diff}(M).$

$[g] \in \mathcal{R}(M)$  called **isometry class** of metric.

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Group  $\mathbf{Diff}(M)$  acts on  $\mathbf{Met}(M)$  **not free** since some metrics have **non trivial isometry groups** :

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In Alex Schenkel's talk these are the self-arrows.

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Theorem (Ebin 1967, Fischer 1970, Bourguignon 1975)

- ①  $\mathcal{R}(M)$  endowed with quotient topology is Hausdorff and distance  $\mathbf{d}$ .
- ②  $\mathcal{R}(M)$  not manifold but rather an orbifold whose **regular points**  $\mathcal{G}(M)$  are isometry classes of metrics  $[g]$  having **no isometries**.
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Moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_g$  from string theory is orbifold because mapping class group does not act freely.

## Subsets of $\mathcal{R}(M)$ .

For  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ ,  $\mathcal{R}(M)_{[-\varepsilon^{-1}, -\varepsilon]}$  moduli space of metrics whose sectional curvatures are contained in  $[-\varepsilon^{-1}, -\varepsilon]$ .



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Singular stratum  $\partial\mathcal{G} \subset \mathcal{R}(M)$  of metric classes  $[g]$  admitting **isometries**. Then

$$\mathcal{G}_{\geq \varepsilon} = \{[g] \in \mathcal{G} \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{d}([g], \partial\mathcal{G}) \geq \varepsilon\}.$$

# Renormalized partition function

## Proposition

$2 \leq d \leq 4$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\phi_\varepsilon = e^{-\varepsilon\Delta}\phi$  heat regularized GFF. :  $\phi_\varepsilon^2(x) := \phi_\varepsilon^2(x) - \langle \phi_\varepsilon^2(x) \rangle$  and the renormalized partition functions :

$$Z_g(\lambda) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \left\langle \exp \left( -\frac{\lambda}{2} \int_M V(x) : \phi_\varepsilon^2(x) : dv \right) \right\rangle, d = (2, 3),$$

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For small  $|\lambda|$ ,  $\|V\|_\infty$  :

$$Z_g(\lambda, V) = \exp \left( P(\lambda, V) + \sum_{n > \frac{d}{2}} \frac{(-1)^n c_n(g, V) \lambda^n}{2n} \right) \quad (3)$$

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and  $Z_g^{-2}$  extends as **entire function** on  $\mathbb{C}$  with zeroes in  $-\sigma(V\Delta^{-1})$ .

See also Dappiaggi–Drago–Rinaldi.

$$d = 4$$

$$\log \det(\mathbb{I} + \Delta^{-2} V) =$$

diverge  $\nearrow$

$$- \frac{1}{2} \text{ (tadpole)} - \frac{1}{2} \text{ (bubble)}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{3} \text{ (triangle)} - \frac{1}{4} \text{ (square)} + \dots$$

nice

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When  $d = (2, 3)$ , Riemannian rigidity in **negative curvature** where fluctuations of  $\int_M : \phi^2(x) : dv$  are encoded by probability distribution of random variable  $\int_M : \phi^2(x) : dv$  or partition function  $Z_g$ .

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When  $d = 4$ ,  $\int_M : \phi^2(x) : dv$  no longer random variable! Only renormalized  $Z_g$  well-defined and similar rigidity result fixing  $Z_g$ .

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Sequence  $(M_i, g_i)_i$  with given  $Z_g$  plus condition on curvature.  $\exists$  **finite number of manifolds**  $(M'_1, \dots, M'_k)$  and on each  $M'_j$  a **compact family of metrics**  $\mathcal{M}'_j$  such that each of the manifolds  $M_j$  is diffeomorphic to one of the  $M'_i$  and isometric to an element of  $\mathcal{M}'_i$ .

# Main result, $\dim (2, 3)$ .

## Theorem (D 2019)

- ①  $N$  **finite dimensional** submfd of  $\mathcal{G} \subset \mathcal{R}(M)$  s.t.  $\partial N \subset \partial \mathcal{G}$ .  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ , the set of classes of metrics  $[g] \in N \cap \mathcal{R}(M)_{\leq -\varepsilon} \cap \mathcal{G}_{\geq \varepsilon}$  s.t.  $\int_M : \phi^2(x) : dv$  has **given probability distribution is finite**.
- ② When  $d = 2$ , the genus and diffeo type determined.
- ③ When  $d = 3$ , for a sequence  $(M_i, g_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  of Riemannian 3-mfds of negative curvature s.t.  $\int_M : \phi^2(x) : dv$  has **given probability distribution**,  $(M_i)_i$  contains **finitely many diffeo types** and one can extract a subsequence s.t.  $M_i$  has **fixed diffeo type** and  $g_i \rightarrow g$ .

# Main result, dim 4

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- ② For a sequence  $(M_i, g_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  of Riemannian 4-mfds of negative curvature bounded in some compact interval s.t.  $Z_g$  **is given**,  $(M_i)_i$  contains **finitely many diffeo types** and one can extract a subsequence s.t.  $M_i$  has **fixed diffeo type** and  $(M_i, g_i) \rightarrow (M, g)$ .

## Chiral fermions.

Example (Chiral fermions coupled to external YM)

Chiral fermions on  $\mathbb{S}^4$  coupled to external YM potential  $(A_\mu)_\mu$ .

$$D_A = i\sigma^\mu (\nabla_\mu + eA_\mu) \quad (4)$$

where  $\sigma_\mu$  obey the Weyl algebra  $\sigma_\mu \sigma_\nu^\dagger + \sigma_\nu \sigma_\mu^\dagger = 2\delta_{\mu\nu}$ .



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Example (Quillen 1985)

Hermitian bundle  $B \mapsto M$  on Riemann surface. Affine space

$$\mathcal{A} = \bar{\partial} + \omega, \quad \omega \in \Omega^{0,1}(M, \text{End}(B)) \quad (5)$$

parametrizes complex structures on  $B$  hence  $E_+ = B$ ,  $E_- = \Lambda^{0,1} T^*M \otimes B$ .

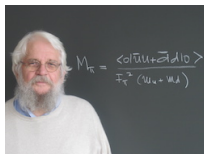
# Example.

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| Fast                                    | $(\Psi_{\pm})$ spinor  |
| Slow                                    | (gauge potential $A$ , metric $g$ )                                    |
| Operator                                | $\underbrace{D + A}_{\text{twisted Dirac}}$                            |
| Action                                  | $S(\Psi, A, g) = \int_M \langle \Psi_-, (D + A) \Psi_+ \rangle$        |
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# Example.

|   | Chiral Fermions   |
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Goal : give a meaning to the functional integrals with emphasis on dependence in *slow field*.





**Quillen's Conjecture**

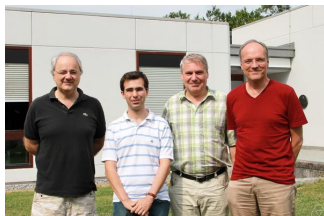
- For a group  $G$ ,  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .
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Commutative Diagram 1:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z} & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{Z} & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z} \end{array}$$

Commutative Diagram 2:

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# General framework

Chiral Dirac  $D : C^\infty(E_+) \mapsto C^\infty(E_-)$  on pair  $E_\pm$  of Hermitian bundles s.t.  
 $\text{Ind}(D) = 0, \ker(D) = \{0\}$  and  $D^*D : C^\infty(E_+) \mapsto C^\infty(E_+)$  generalized Laplacian.

Affine space :

$$\mathcal{A} = D + C^\infty(\text{Hom}(E_+, E_-)) \quad (6)$$

of perturbations of  $D$ .

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Chiral Dirac operator acts on spinors of different chirality.



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April 30, 1989

According to Stora the BRS analysis of anomalies can be understood in the case, where the gauge field is treated as an external field, and only the fermion field is a quantum field.

Consider then the quadratic Lagrangian  $\int \bar{\psi} \not{D}_A \psi$  where  $\psi$  is a "chiral" fermion. Here  $\not{D}_A$  stands for half the Dirac operator from + spinors to - spinors. We know the functional integrals attached to this Lagrangian are equivalent to things associated to the determinant line of  $\not{D}_A$ . More precisely, one gives a meaning to the functional integrals

$$(*) \int \mathcal{D}\psi \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} e^{\int \bar{\psi} \not{D}_A \psi}$$

by trivializing the determinant line.

If one expands around a gauge field  $A_0$  with  $\not{D}_{A_0}$  non-singular the diagrams have only vertices



and the propagator is given by a geometric series. The infinities arise from loops. We have:

$$\det(\not{D}_A) = \det(\not{D}_{A_0}) \exp\left\{-\sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{1}{n} \text{tr}(K^n)\right\}$$

finite value for them.

In renormalized perturbation theory there is a technique of adding counter-terms to the Lagrangian to remove the infinities. Problem: Explain what these counter terms are in the present situation.

Here is an attempt to make some sense out of the above situation:

First of all we have the determinant line bundle  $L$  over the space  $\mathcal{A}$  of gauge fields  $A$ . The functional integrals  $(\star)$  are canonical sections of  $L$ , or better perhaps is to think of  $(\star)$  as linear maps on  $L^{-1}$ , so that picking a nonzero elts of  $L^{-1}$  gives a meaning to these integrals as numbers.

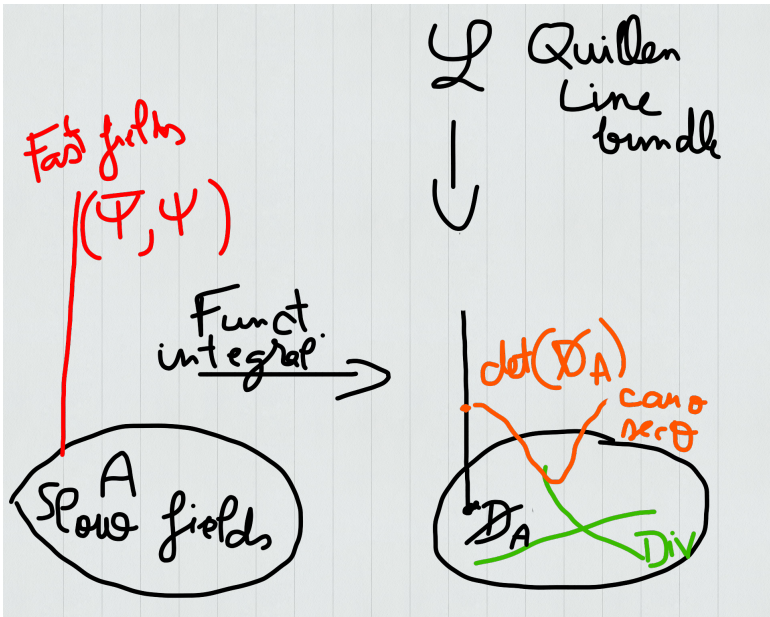
The issue in making sense of this QFT is just to construct a trivialization of the determinant line bundle.

Secondly there are the ideas from Witten's paper on pseudo-particles, which are based on the Fredholm determinant theory. These ideas suggest that there ~~is a~~ complex analytic trivializations of  $L$  ~~is~~ unique up to a factor of the form  $\exp\{\text{polynomial on } \mathcal{A}\}$ , where the degree is bounded by the traces which have to be regularized.

We saw this is true over a Riemann surface. Here the ambiguity was  $\exp\{\text{linear fn. on } \mathcal{A}\}$ .

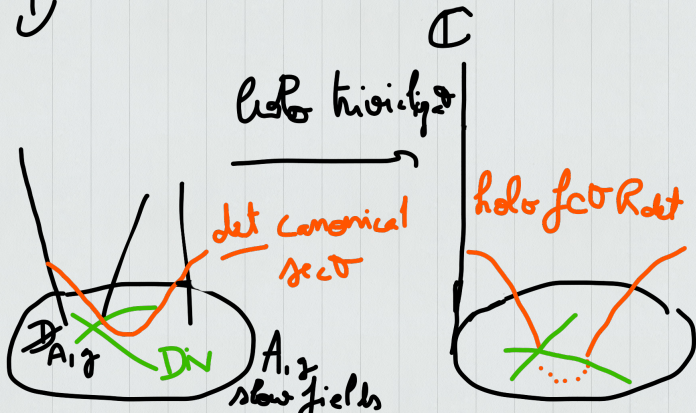
$\square$  caused by the presence of  $289$   
 zero modes. However Fredholm  
 really showed how to represent  $\frac{1}{\det \Delta - \lambda K}$   
 as the meromorphic <sup>operator</sup> function  $\frac{\text{Cof}}{\det}$ , and  
 $\square$  I have the example of Kiemann surfaces.

These considerations lead to the following  
 conjectural picture. Over the space  $\mathcal{A}$  of  
 gauge fields, there should be a principal  
 bundle for the additive group of polynomial functions of  
 degree  $\leq d$ ,  $\square$  where  $d$  bounds the traces which  
 have to be regularized. The idea is that  
 near each  $A$  we should have a well-defined  
 trivialization of  $\mathcal{L}$  up to exp of such a polynomial.  
 Moreover we should have a flat connection on  
 this bundle.





$\mathcal{Y}$  Quillen  
line bundle



## Digression on determinants.

Complexity of entire function :

- **Order**  $\rho(f) \geq 0$  of  $f$ ,  $\inf \rho$  s.t.  $|f(z)| \leq Ae^{K|z|^\rho}$ . Controls **growth** at infinity.
- **Divisor** of  $f$ , set of zeros  $\{a_n | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  of  $f$  counted with multiplicity. **Critical exponents** of  $|a_n| \rightarrow +\infty$ ,  $\inf \alpha > 0$  s.t.  $\sum_n \frac{1}{|a_n|^\alpha} < +\infty$ .

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Theorem (Hadamard's factorization Theorem)

$a_n$  sequence s.t.  $\sum_n |a_n|^{-(p+1)} < +\infty$  but  $\sum_n |a_n|^{-p} = \infty$ . Then any entire function s.t.  $Z(f) = \{a_n | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  and  $\rho(f) = p$  has **unique representation** :

$$f(z) = z^m e^{P(z)} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} E_p \left( \frac{z}{a_n} \right) \quad (7)$$

where  $P$  polynomial of deg  $p$ ,  $E_p(z) = (1 - z)e^{z + \frac{z^2}{2} + \dots + \frac{z^p}{p}}$  Weierstrass factor of order  $p$  and  $m$  vanishing order at 0.

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Finding  $f$  with prescribed divisor **non unique** when critical exponent  $> 0$ , **polynomial ambiguity**  $P$

# Locality.

## Definition (Local polynomial functionals)

$P : A \mapsto P(A)$ ,  $C^\infty$ , local polynomial functional iff  $P(A) = \int_M \Lambda(j^k A(x)) dv$ ,  $dv$   $C^\infty$  density,  $\Lambda$  polynomial in jets of  $A$ . Denote  $\mathcal{O}_{loc}$ .

## Example

$$P(\varphi) = \int_{\mathbb{S}^1} \varphi^4(\theta) d\theta.$$

# Reformulation of defining functional integrals.

Find **analytic map**

$$A \in C^\infty(\text{Hom}(E_+, E_-)) \mapsto \mathcal{R} \det(D_A)$$

vanishing over  $Z = \{A \text{ s.t. } \ker(D_A) \neq 0\}$ , of minimal **order**, obtained by **local renormalization**.

Regularize  $\Psi$  by heat operator, set  $\Psi_\varepsilon = e^{-\varepsilon D^* D} \Psi$  :

$\exists$  **local counterterm**  $P_\varepsilon \in \mathcal{O}_{loc} \otimes \mathbb{C}[\varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{2}}, \log(\varepsilon)]$ , s.t.

$$\mathcal{R} \det(D_A) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int [D\bar{\Psi}][D\Psi] e^{\int_M \langle \bar{\Psi}, D\Psi \rangle + \langle \bar{\Psi}_\varepsilon, A\Psi_\varepsilon \rangle} dv - P_\varepsilon(A).$$

**Classify all solutions.**

# Local renormalization.

How to ensure that a renormalized determinant  $\mathcal{R} \det$  comes from **local renormalization** ?

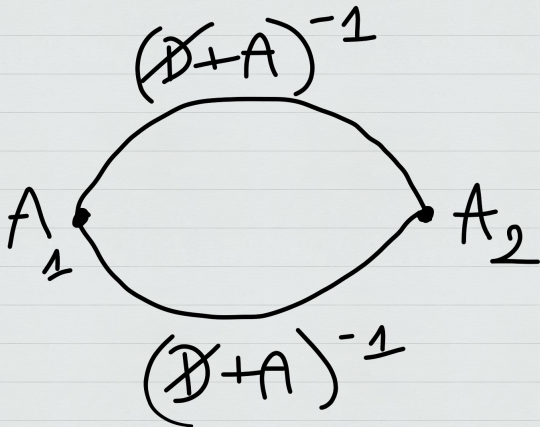
## Definition (Axioms)

$\mathcal{R} \det$  renormalized determinant on  $\mathcal{A} = D + C^\infty(\text{Hom}(E_+, E_-))$  if

- $\mathcal{R} \det$  **vanishes exactly on noninvertible elements**
- **Complexity order  $d + 1$**  :  $|\mathcal{R} \det(D_A)| \leq C e^{K \|A\|_{C^m}^{d+1}}$  for some norm  $\|\cdot\|_{C^m}$ .
- **Local renorm**  $\mathcal{R} \det$  satisfies equation (attributed to Witten by Kontsevich–Vishik) :  $\delta_{A_1} \delta_{A_2} \log \mathcal{R} \det(D_A) = \text{Tr}_{L^2}(D_A^{-1} A_1 D_A^{-1} A_2)$  if  $\text{supp}(A_1) \cap \text{supp}(A_2)$  **disjoint**
- **Smoothness counterterms**, wave front of the second derivative is contained in the conormal bundle :

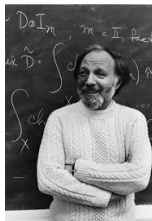
$$(WF(\delta^2 \log \mathcal{R} \det(D_A)) \cap T_{d_2}^\bullet M^2) \subset N^*(d_2 \subset M^2).$$

## Identity from Kontsevich–Vishik





# Suggestion from Singer (1985).



Observe  $D^*D_A : E_+ \mapsto E_+$  elliptic with Laplace type principal symbol.

$$A \mapsto \det_{\zeta}(D^*D_A) = \exp\left(-\frac{d}{ds}\Big|_{s=0} \underbrace{\sum_{\lambda \in \sigma(D^*D_A)} \lambda^{-s}}_{\text{spectral zeta}}\right)$$

# Renorm group

## Theorem (D 2019)

- Every  $\mathcal{R} \det$  renormalized by subtraction of local counterterms.
- The zeta determinant  $\det_{\zeta}(D^* D_A)$  is a renormalized determinant.
- Group  $(\mathcal{O}_{loc, \leq d}, +)$  acts **freely and transitively** on renormalized determinants :

$$P \in \mathcal{O}_{loc, \leq d} \mapsto \exp(P(A)) \mathcal{R} \det(D_A). \quad (8)$$

- *Bijection* : holomorphic trivializations of  $\mathcal{L} \simeq$  solutions  $\mathcal{R} \det$ .

Thanks for your attention !