# Gravity and the cosmological constant as superconducting phenomena 

Gianluca Calcagni



August 28th, 2008

## Based on

(1) S. Alexander, G.C., Superconducting loop quantum gravity and the cosmological constant [0806.4382].
(2) S. Alexander, G.C., Quantum gravity as a Fermi liquid [0807.0225].

## Aims of the talk

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- To throw a rock.


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- Not to hide the hand.

The rock

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- Assumption: Deform the topological sector (then $\Lambda$ becomes dynamical).
- Result 1: spacetime degenerate ( $1+1$ dimensions), Hamiltonian modified by a quantum counterterm.
- Result 2: Gravity behaves as a Fermi liquid, in particular BCS.


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(5) Matter is 'hidden' in gravity?

## Nonlocal degrees of freedom on dS horizons



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- Different sectors of Euclidean gravity $(\theta \rightarrow i \theta)$ connected by large gauge transformations.

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- The only sectors compatible with this step and the Gauss constraint are degenerate: $\operatorname{det} E=0$, no metric!

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A model for $V$ interactions and physical interpretation naturally emerge at quantum level.

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- Quantizing $\psi$ as a Majorana fermion,

$$
\mathcal{H} \propto \mathcal{H}_{\mathrm{BCS}}=\sum_{k, \sigma} \mathcal{E}_{k} c_{k \sigma}^{\dagger} c_{k \sigma}-\sum_{k, k^{\prime}} V_{k k^{\prime}} c_{k+}^{\dagger} c_{k-}^{\dagger} c_{k^{\prime}-} c_{k^{\prime}+}
$$

- Correspondence made rigorous using a deformed CFT (WZW model at critical level).

