

# General  $O(D)$ -equivariant fuzzy hyperspheres via **confining potentials and energy cutoffs**

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We summarize our recent construction [\[1](#page-13-0)[–3\]](#page-13-1) of new fuzzy hyperspheres  $S_A^d$  $\Lambda^d$  of arbitrary dimension  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  covariant under the *full* orthogonal group  $O(D)$ ,  $D = d+1$ . We impose a suitable energy cutoff on a quantum particle in  $\mathbb{R}^D$  subject to a confining potential well  $V(r)$  with a very sharp minimum on the sphere of radius  $r = 1$ ; the cutoff and the depth of the well diverge with  $\Lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ . Consequently, the commutators of the Cartesian coordinates  $\bar{x}^i$  are proportional to the angular momentum components  $L_{ij}$ , as in Snyder's noncommutative spaces. The  $\bar{x}^i$  generate the whole algebra of observables  $\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}$  and thus the whole Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}$  when applied to any state.  $H_{\Lambda}$  carries a reducible representation of  $O(D)$  isomorphic to the space of harmonic homogeneous polynomials of degree  $\Lambda$  in the Cartesian coordinates of (commutative)  $\mathbb{R}^{D+1}$ ; the latter carries an irreducible representation  $\pi_{\Lambda}$  of  $O(D+1) \supset O(D)$ . Moreover,  $\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}$  is isomorphic to  $\pi_{\Lambda}$  (Uso(D+1)). We identify the subspace  $C_{\Lambda} \subset \mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}$  spanned by fuzzy spherical harmonics. We interpret  $\{\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}\}_{\Lambda \in \mathbb{N}}$ ,  $\{C_{\Lambda}\}_{\Lambda \in \mathbb{N}}$  as fuzzy deformations of the space  $\mathcal{H}_{s} \equiv \mathcal{L}^{2}(S^{d})$  of square integrable functions and the space  $C(S^d)$  of continuous functions on  $S^d$  respectively,  $\{\mathcal{A}_\Lambda\}_{\Lambda \in \mathbb{N}}$ as fuzzy deformation of the associated algebra  $\mathcal{A}_{s}$  of observables, because they resp. go to  $H_s, C(S^d), \mathcal{A}_s$  as  $\Lambda$  diverges (with fixed  $\hbar$ ). With suitable  $\hbar = \hbar(\Lambda) \stackrel{\Lambda \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} 0$ , in the same limit  $\mathcal{A}_\Lambda$  goes to the (algebra of functions on the) Poisson manifold  $T^*S^d$ ; more formally,  $\{\mathcal{A}_\Lambda\}_{\Lambda \in \mathbb{N}}$ yields a fuzzy quantization of a coadjoint orbit of  $O(D+1)$  that goes to the classical phase space  $T^*S^d$ . These models might be useful in quantum field theory, quantum gravity or condensed matter physics.

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### **1. Introduction and preliminaries**

In the past decades noncommutative space(time) algebras have been introduced and studied as fundamental or effective arenas for regularizing ultraviolet (UV) divergences in quantum field theory (QFT) (see e.g. [\[4\]](#page-13-2)), reconciling Quantum Mechanics and General Relativity in a satisfactory Quantum Gravity (QG) theory (see e.g. [\[5\]](#page-13-3)), unifying fundamental interactions (see e.g. [\[6,](#page-13-4) [7\]](#page-13-5)). Noncommutative Geometry (NCG) [\[8](#page-13-6)[–11\]](#page-13-7), i.e. differential geometry on noncommutative spaces, has become a sophisticated machinery. In particular, fuzzy (noncommutative) spaces have raised a big interest as a non-perturbative technique in QFT based on a finite discretization alternative to the lattice ones. A fuzzy space is a sequence  $\{\mathcal{A}\}_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  of *finite-dimensional* algebras such that  $\mathcal{A}_n \stackrel{n \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} \mathcal{A}$  =algebra of regular functions on an ordinary manifold, with  $\dim(\mathcal{A}_n) \stackrel{n \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} \infty$ . Contrary to lattices,  $\mathcal{A}_n$  can carry representations of Lie, beside discrete, groups. Fuzzy spaces can be used also to discretize internal (e.g. gauge) degrees of freedom (see e.g. [\[12\]](#page-13-8)), or as a new tool in string and  $D$ -brane theories (see e.g. [\[13,](#page-13-9) [14\]](#page-13-10)). In the seminal Madore-Hoppe Fuzzy Sphere (FS) of dimension  $d = 2$  [\[15,](#page-14-0) [16\]](#page-14-1)  $\mathcal{A}_n \simeq M_n(\mathbb{C})$ .  $\mathcal{A}_n$  is generated by coordinates  $x^i$  (*i* = 1, 2, 3) fulfilling

<span id="page-1-1"></span>
$$
[x^{i}, x^{j}] = \frac{2i}{\sqrt{n^{2}-1}} \varepsilon^{ijk} x^{k}, \qquad r^{2} \equiv x^{i} x^{i} = 1, \qquad n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{1\};
$$
 (1)

these are related via  $x^i = 2L_i/\sqrt{2}$  $\sqrt{n^2-1}$  to the standard basis  $\{L_i\}_{i=1}^3$  of  $so(3)$  in the unitary irreducible representation (irrep)  $(\pi^l, V^l)$  of dimension  $n = 2l+1$  [i.e.  $\overline{V^l}$  is the eigenspace of the Casimir  $L^2 = L_i L_i$  with eigenvalue  $l(l + 1)$ . Fuzzy spheres  $S^d$  of dimension  $d = 4$  and any  $d \ge 3$  were introduced resp. in [\[17\]](#page-14-2), [\[18\]](#page-14-3); other versions of  $d = 3$ , 4 or  $d \ge 3$  in [\[19–](#page-14-4)[22\]](#page-14-5). Unfortunately, while for the  $d = 2$  FS [\[15,](#page-14-0) [16\]](#page-14-1)  $\mathcal{A}_n$  admits a basis of spherical harmonics, for the  $d > 2$  fuzzy  $S^d$  a product of spherical harmonics is not a combination thereof, but an element in a larger algebra  $\mathcal{A}_n$ .

The Hilbert space of a (zero-spin) quantum particle on configuration space  $S<sup>d</sup>$  and the space of continuous functions on  $S^d$  carry a (same) *reducible* representation of  $O(D)$ ,  $D \equiv d+1$ ; they decompose into carrier spaces of irreducible representations (irreps) as follows

<span id="page-1-0"></span>
$$
\mathcal{L}^2(S^d) \simeq \bigoplus_{l=0}^{\infty} V_D^l \simeq C(S^d),\tag{2}
$$

where  $V_D^l$  is an eigenspace of the quadratic Casimir  $L^2$  with eigenvalue

$$
E_l \equiv l(l+D-2) \tag{3}
$$

 $(V_3^l)$  $S_3^l \equiv V^l$ );  $C(S^d)$  acts an algebra of bounded operators on  $\mathcal{L}^2(S^d)$ . On the contrary, each of the mentioned fuzzy hyperspheres is based on a sequence parametrized by  $n$  either of irreps of  $Spin(D)$  (so that  $r^2 \propto L^2$  is 1) [\[15](#page-14-0)[–20\]](#page-14-6), or of direct sums of small bunches of such irreps [\[21,](#page-14-7) [22\]](#page-14-5). In either case, even excluding the n's for which the associated representation of  $O(D)$  is only *projective*, the carrier space does not go to [\(2\)](#page-1-0) as  $n \to \infty$ ; hence, interpreting these fuzzy spheres as fuzzy configuration spaces  $S^d$  (and the  $x^i$  as spatial coordinates) becomes questionable. Moreover, relations [\(1\)](#page-1-1) for the Madore-Hoppe FS are equivariant under  $SO(3)$ , but not under the whole O(3), e.g. not under parity  $x^i \mapsto -x^i$ . These difficulties are overcome by our recent fully  $O(D)$ -equivariant fuzzy quantizations [\[1,](#page-13-0) [3\]](#page-13-1)  $S_A^d$  $\Lambda$  of spheres  $S^d$  of arbitrary dimension  $d = D - 1 \in \mathbb{N}$ (thought as configuration spaces) and of  $T^*S^d$  (thought as phase spaces), which we summarize here (the cases  $d = 1, 2$  had been treated in [\[2,](#page-13-11) [23\]](#page-14-8)); in particular, we recover [\(2\)](#page-1-0) as  $\Lambda \to \infty$ .

Our fuzzy quantization uses: 1. the *projection* of a quantum theory  $T$  on  $\mathbb{R}^D$  below an *energy cutoff*; 2. a *dimensional reduction* induced by a *confining potential* on  $S^d \subset \mathbb{R}^D$ . One can apply it to quantize also other submanifolds  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^D$ . Given a generic quantum theory  $\mathcal T$  with Hilbert space H, algebra of observables on H (or with a domain dense in H)  $\mathcal{A} \equiv \text{Lin}(\mathcal{H})$ , Hamiltonian  $H \in \mathcal{A}$ , for any subspace  $\overline{\mathcal{H}} \subset \mathcal{H}$  preserved by H let  $\overline{P}: \mathcal{H} \mapsto \overline{\mathcal{H}}$  be the associated projector and

$$
\overline{\mathcal{A}} \equiv \text{Lin}(\overline{\mathcal{H}}) = \{ \overline{A} \equiv \overline{P} \overline{A} \overline{P} \mid A \in \mathcal{A} \}.
$$

By construction  $\overline{H} = \overline{P}H = H\overline{P}$ . The projected Hilbert space  $\overline{\mathcal{H}}$ , algebra of observables  $\overline{\mathcal{A}}$  and Hamiltonian  $\overline{H}$  provide a new quantum theory  $\overline{\mathcal{T}}$  [\[24\]](#page-14-9); we will ascribe the observable  $\overline{A}$  the same physical meaning of A in T. If  $\overline{H}$ , H are invariant under some group G, then  $\overline{P}$ ,  $\overline{A}$ ,  $\overline{H}$ ,  $\overline{T}$  will be as well. The relations among the generators of  $\overline{A}$  differ from those among the generators of  $A$ . In particular, if  $\mathcal T$  is based on commuting coordinates  $x^i$  (commutative space) this will be in general no longer true for  $\overline{\mathcal{T}}$ :  $[\overline{x}^i, \overline{x}^j] \neq 0$ , and we have generated a quantum theory on a NC space. In particular, if  $\overline{\mathcal{H}} \subset \mathcal{H}$  is characterized by energies  $E \leq \overline{E}$  below a certain cutoff  $\overline{E}$ , then  $\overline{\mathcal{T}}$  is a low-energy approximation of  $\mathcal T$  preserved by the dynamical evolution ruled by H.  $\overline{\mathcal T}$  may be used as an effective theory for  $E \leq \overline{E}$ , or may even help to figure out a new theory  $\mathcal{T}'$  valid for all E if at  $E > \overline{E}$  physics is not accounted for by  $\mathcal T$ . If  $\overline{\mathcal T}$  describes an ordinary (for simplicity, zero-spin) quantum particle in the Euclidean (configuration) space  $\mathbb{R}^D$ , then  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{L}^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ . If  $H = T + V$ , with kinetic energy T and a confining potential  $V(x)$ , then the classical region  $\mathcal{B}_{\overline{F}}$  in phase space fulfilling  $H(x, p) \leq \overline{E}$  and the one  $v_{\overline{E}} \subset \mathbb{R}^D$  in configuration space fulfilling  $V \leq \overline{E}$  are bounded at least for sufficiently small  $\overline{E}$ , and the dimension dim( $\overline{\mathcal{H}}$ )  $\approx$  Vol $(\mathcal{B}_{\overline{E}})/h^D$  of  $\overline{\mathcal{H}}$  is finite. In the sequel we rescale x, p, H, V so that they are dimensionless and, denoting by  $\Delta$  the Laplacian in  $\mathbb{R}^D$ ,

$$
H = -\Delta + V. \tag{4}
$$

We choose a sequence of pairs  $(V, \overline{E})$  satisfying the following requirements.  $V = V(r)$  has a very sharp minimum, parametrized by a very large  $k \equiv V''(1)/4$ , on the sphere  $S^d \subset \mathbb{R}^D$  of radius  $r = 1$ ; we fix  $V_0 \equiv V(1)$  so that the ground state  $\psi_0$  has zero energy,  $E_0 = 0$ . We choose  $\overline{E}$  fulfilling first of all the condition  $V(r) \simeq V_0 + 2k(r-1)^2$  in  $v_{\overline{E}}$ , so that we can approximate  $v_{\overline{E}}$  by the spherical shell  $|r-1| \leq \sqrt{\frac{\overline{E}-V_0}{2k}}$  $\frac{Z-V_0}{2k}$  and the potential by a harmonic one. If  $\overline{E}-V_0$  and k diverge, while their ratio goes to zero, then in this limit  $v_{\overline{E}} \to S^d$ ,  $dim(\overline{\mathcal{H}}) \to \infty$ , and we recover quantum mechanics on  $S^d$ .

Let  $x = (x^1,...,x^D)$  be Cartesian coordinates of  $\mathbb{R}^D$ ,  $r^2 = x^i x^i$ ,  $\partial_i \equiv \partial/\partial x^i$ ;  $\Delta = \partial_i \partial_i$  decomposes as

$$
\Delta = \partial_r^2 + (D-1)r^{-1}\partial_r - r^{-2}L^2,
$$
\n(5)

where  $\partial_r \equiv \partial/\partial r$  and  $L^2 \equiv L_{ij}L_{ij}/2$  is the square angular momentum (in normalized units), i.e. the quadratic Casimir of  $Uso(D)$  and the Laplacian on the sphere  $S<sup>d</sup>$ , the angular momentum components  $L_{ij} \equiv i(x^j \partial_i - x^i \partial_j)$  are vector fields tangent to all spheres  $r =$ const satisfying

<span id="page-2-0"></span>
$$
[L_{ij}, L_{hk}] = i \left( L_{jk} \delta_{hi} + L_{ih} \delta_{kj} - L_{jh} \delta_{ki} - L_{ik} \delta_{hj} \right), \qquad [L_{ij}, S] = 0,
$$
 (6)

$$
[iL_{ij}, v^h] = v^i \delta^h_j - v^j \delta^h_i, \qquad \varepsilon^{i_1 i_2 i_3 \dots i_D} x^{i_1} L_{i_2 i_3} = 0,\tag{7}
$$

where S is any scalar and  $v^h$  are the components of any vector depending on  $x^h$ ,  $\partial_h$ , in particular  $v^h = x^h$ ,  $\partial_h$ . The Ansatz  $\psi = f(r)Y_l(\theta)$ , with  $f(r) = r^{-d/2}g(r)$  and  $Y_l \in V_D^l$  an  $E_l$ -eigenfunction of  $L^2$ , transforms the Schrödinger PDE  $H\psi = E\psi$  into the Fuchsian ODE in the unknown  $g(r)$ 

<span id="page-3-0"></span>
$$
-g''(r) + \left[V(r) + \frac{D^2 - 4D + 3 + 4l(l+D-2)}{4}r^{-2}\right]g(r) = Eg(r)
$$
\n(8)

(by similar product Ansätze one can reduce numerous different PDEs to ODEs, see e.g. [\[25\]](#page-14-10)). Requiring  $\lim_{r\to 0^+} r^2 V(r) > 0$ ,  $f(0) = 0$ , we make H self-adjoint. As  $V(r)$  is very large outside  $v_{\overline{E}}$ , there g, f,  $\psi$  are negligibly small, and the lowest eigenvalues E are at leading order those of the 1-dimensional harmonic oscillator approximation [\[3\]](#page-13-1) of [\(8\)](#page-3-0)

<span id="page-3-1"></span>
$$
-g''(r) + g(r)k_l(r - \widetilde{r}_l)^2 = \widetilde{E}_l g(r),\tag{9}
$$

obtained neglecting terms  $O((r-1)^3)$  in the Taylor expansions of  $1/r^2$ ,  $V(r)$  about  $r=1$ . Here

$$
\begin{aligned} \widetilde{r}_l &\equiv 1 + \tfrac{b(l,D)}{3b(l,D)+2k}, \quad \widetilde{E}_l \equiv E - V_0 \tfrac{2b(l,D)[k+b(l,D)]}{3b(l,D)+2k}, \\ k_l &\equiv 2k + 3b(l,D), \quad b(l,D) \equiv \tfrac{D^2 - 4D + 3 + 4l(l+D-2)}{4}. \end{aligned}
$$

The square-integrable solutions of [\(9\)](#page-3-1)  $g_{n,l}(r)$  lead to

$$
f_{n,l}(r) = M_{n,l} \ r^{-d/2} \ e^{-\sqrt{k_l}(r-\widetilde{r}_l)^2/2} \cdot H_n\left((r-\widetilde{r}_l)\sqrt[4]{k_l}\right) \quad \text{with } n \in \mathbb{N}_0; \tag{10}
$$

here  $M_{n,l}$  are normalization constants and  $H_n$  are the Hermite polynomials. The corresponding 'eigenvalues' in [\(9\)](#page-3-1)  $\widetilde{E}_{n,l} = (2n+1)\sqrt{k_l}$  lead to energies  $E_{n,l} = (2n+1)\sqrt{k_l} + V_0 + \frac{2b(l,D)[k+b(l,D)]}{3b(l,D)+2k}$  $\frac{1}{3b(l,D)+2k}$ . As said, we fix  $V_0$  requiring that the lowest one  $E_{0,0}$  be zero; this implies  $V_0 = -\sqrt{2k} - b(0, D) - b$  $3b(0,D)$  $\frac{\partial P(0,D)}{\partial \sqrt{2k}} + O(k^{-1/2})$ , and the expansions of  $E_{n,l}$  and  $\tilde{r}_l$  at leading order in k become

$$
E_{n,l} = l(l+D-2) + 2n\sqrt{2k} + O(k^{-2}), \qquad \widetilde{r}_l = 1 + b(l,D)/2k + O(k^{-2}).
$$
 (11)

 $E_{0,l}$  coincide at lowest order with the desired eigenvalues  $E_l$  (coloured blue) of  $L^2$ , while if  $n > 0$  $E_{n,l}$  diverge as  $k \to \infty$  (due to the red part); to exclude all states with  $n > 0$  (i.e., to 'freeze' radial oscillations, so that all corresponding classical trajectories are circles; this can be considered as a *quantum* version of the *constraint*  $r = 1$ ) we impose the energy cutoff

<span id="page-3-3"></span>
$$
E_{n,l} \le \overline{E}(\Lambda) \equiv \Lambda(\Lambda + D - 2) < 2\sqrt{2k}, \qquad \Lambda \in \mathbb{N}.\tag{12}
$$

The right inequality is satisfied prescribing a suitable dependence  $k(\Lambda)$ , e.g.  $k(\Lambda) \equiv [\Lambda(\Lambda + D - 2)]^2$ ; the left one is satisfied setting  $n = 0$  and  $l \leq \Lambda$ . We rename  $\overline{H}, \overline{\mathcal{H}}, \overline{P}, \overline{\mathcal{A}}, \overline{\mathcal{T}}$  as  $H_{\Lambda}, \mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}, P_{\Lambda}, \mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}, \mathcal{T}_{\Lambda}$ .  $\mathcal{T}_{\Lambda}$  is  $O(D)$ -equivariant. We end up with eigenfunctions and eigenvalues (at leading order in  $1/\Lambda$ )

$$
\psi_l(r,\theta) = f_l(r) Y_l(\theta), \qquad H_\Lambda \psi_l = E_l \psi_l, \qquad l = 0, 1, ..., \Lambda,
$$
\n(13)

abbreviating  $f_l \equiv f_{0,l}$ . Hence  $H_\Lambda$  decomposes into irreps of  $O(D)$  (and eigenspaces of  $L^2$ ,  $H_\Lambda$ ) as

<span id="page-3-2"></span>
$$
\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda} = \bigoplus_{l=0}^{\Lambda} \mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}^{l}, \qquad \mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}^{l} \equiv f_{l}(r) \, V_{D}^{l}.
$$
 (14)

As  $\Lambda \to \infty$  the spectrum  $\{E_l\}_{l=0}^{\Lambda}$  of  $H_{\Lambda}$  goes to the whole spectrum  $\{E_l\}_{l \in \mathbb{N}_0}$  of  $L^2$ , and we recover [\(2\)](#page-1-0). We can express the projectors  $P_1^l$  $\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}^l : \mathcal{H}_{\Lambda} \to \mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}^l$  as the following polynomials in  $\overline{L}^2$ :

<span id="page-3-4"></span>
$$
P_{\Lambda}^{l} = \prod_{n=0, n \neq l}^{\Lambda} \frac{\overline{L}^{2} - E_{n}}{E_{l} - E_{n}}.
$$
\n(15)

The space  $V_D^l$  consists of harmonic homogeneous polynomials of degree l in the  $x^i$  restricted to the sphere  $S^d$ . In section [2](#page-4-0) we show: i) how to explicitly determine  $V_D^l$ , as well as the action of  $L_{hk}$ and  $t^h \equiv x^h/r$  on  $V_D^l$ , applying the trace-free completely symmetric projector  $\mathcal{P}^l$  of  $(\mathbb{R}^D)^{\otimes^l}$  to the homogeneous polynomials of degree l in  $x^i$ ; ii) that not only  $H_A$ , but also  $V_{D+1}^A$  decomposes into irreps of  $O(D)$  as follows  $V_{D+1}^{\Lambda} \simeq \bigoplus_{l=0}^{\Lambda} V_D^l$ . In section [3](#page-8-0) we write down the relations fulfilled by  $\overline{x}^i$ ,  $\overline{L}_{hk}$  and point out that: the \*-algebra  $\mathcal{A}_\Lambda$  generated by the latter is also generated by the  $\overline{x}^i$  alone; ii) the unitary irrep of  $\mathcal{A}_\Lambda$  on  $\mathcal{H}_\Lambda$  is isomorphic to the irrep  $\pi_\Lambda$  of  $Uso(D+1)$  on  $V_{D+1}^\Lambda$ . In section [4](#page-10-0) we show in which sense  $H_A$ ,  $H_A$  go to  $H$ ,  $H_A$  as  $\Lambda \to \infty$ , in particular how one can recover the multiplication operator  $f \in C(S^d) \subset \mathcal{A}$  of wavefunctions in  $\mathcal{L}^2(S^d)$  by a continuous function j as the strong limit of a suitable sequence  $f_{\Lambda} \in \mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}$ . In section [5](#page-11-0) we discuss our results and possible developments in comparison with the literature; in particular, we point out that with a suitable  $\hbar(\Lambda)$ our pair  $(\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}, \mathcal{A}_{\Lambda})$  can be seen as a fuzzy quantization of a coadjoint orbit of  $O(D)$  that can be identified with the cotangent space  $T^*S^d$ , the classical phase space over the d-dimensional sphere.

## <span id="page-4-0"></span>**2.** Representations of  $O(D)$  via polynomials in  $x^i$ ,  $t^i \equiv x^i/r$

Let  $\mathbb{C}[x^1, ..., x^D] = \bigoplus_{l=0}^{\infty} W_{D}^l$  be the decomposition of the space of complex polynomial functions on  $\mathbb{R}^D$  into subspaces  $W_D^l$  of homogeneous ones of degree l. If  $l \geq 2$  then  $W_D^l$  carries a reducible representation of  $O(D)$ , as well as  $Uso(D)$ , because by [\(6b](#page-2-0)) the subspace  $r^2W_D^{1-2} \subset W_D^1$ carries a smaller one. The 'trace-free' component  $\check{V}_{D}^l$  in the decomposition  $W_{D}^l = r^2 W_{D}^{l-2} \oplus \check{V}_{D}^l$ carries the irrep  $\pi_D^l$  of  $Uso(D)$  and  $O(D)$  characterized by the highest eigenvalue of  $\overline{L^2}$  within  $W_D^l$ , namely  $E_l$ . In fact, for all  $h, k \in \{1, ..., D\}$   $X_{l, \pm}^{hk} \equiv (x^h \pm ix^k)^l \in W_D^l$  are eigenvectors of  $L^2$ with eigenvalue  $E_l$ , of  $L_{hk}$  with eigenvalue  $\pm l$ , and of  $\Delta$  with eigenvalue 0. Hence  $X_{l,+}^{hk}$ ,  $X_{l,-}^{hk}$  can be used as the highest and lowest weight vectors of  $(\pi_D^l, \check{V}_D^l)$  [\[1\]](#page-13-0). Since all the  $L_{ij}$  commute with Δ,  $\check{V}_D^l$  can be characterized also as the subspace of  $W_D^l$  that is annihilated by Δ. A complete set in  $\check{V}_{D}^{l}$  consists of trace-free homogeneous polynomials  $X_{l}^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_l}$ , which we obtain below applying the completely symmetric trace-free projector  $\mathcal{P}^l$  to the monomials  $x^{i_1}x^{i_2}...x^{i_l}$ . We slightly enlarge  $\mathbb{C}[x^1,...x^D]$  by new scalar generators  $r, r^{-1}$  fulfilling the relations  $r^2 = x^i x^i, rr^{-1} = 1$ . Its elements

$$
t^{i} \equiv r^{-1}x^{i}, \qquad T^{hk}_{l, \pm} \equiv (t^{h} \pm it^{k})^{l} = r^{-l}X^{hk}_{l, \pm}
$$
 (16)

fulfill the following relations: i)  $t^{i}t^{i} = 1$ , which characterizes the coordinates of points of  $S^{d}$ ; hence  $V_D^l \equiv r^{-l} \check{V}_D^l$  can be seen as the restriction of  $\check{V}_D^l$  to  $S^d$ . ii)  $T_{l, \pm}^{hk} \in V_D^l$  are eigenvectors of  $L^2$ with eigenvalue  $E_l$  and of  $L_{hk}$  with eigenvalue  $\pm l$ ; hence  $T_{l,+}^{hk}$ ,  $T_{l,-}^{hk}$  can be used as the highest and lowest weight vectors of  $(\pi_D^l, V_D^l)$ . We denote by  $Pol_D$  the algebra of complex polynomials in the  $t^i$ , by  $Pol_D^{\Lambda}$  the subspace of polynomials of degree  $\Lambda$ , by  $P^{\Lambda}$ :  $Pol_D \to Pol_D^{\Lambda}$  the corresponding projector. Pol<sub>D</sub> endowed with the scalar product  $\langle T, T' \rangle \equiv \int_{S^d} d\alpha T^* T'$  is a pre-Hilbert space, whose completion is  $\mathcal{L}^2(S^d)$ ; here  $d\alpha = \varepsilon^{i_1...i_D} x^{i_1} dx^{i_2}... dx^{i_D}$  is the  $O(D)$ -invariant measure on  $S^d$ . We extend  $P^{\Lambda}$  to all of  $\mathcal{L}^2(S^d)$  by continuity in the norm of the latter. Also  $Pol_D^{\Lambda}, V_D^l$  are Hilbert subspaces of  $\mathcal{L}^2(S^d)$ .  $Pol_D^{\Lambda} = W_D^{\Lambda} r^{-\Lambda} \oplus W_D^{\Lambda-1} r^{1-\Lambda}$  carries a reducible representation of  $O(D)$  [and  $Uso(D)$ ] that splits into irreps as  $Pol_D^{\Lambda} = \bigoplus_{l=0}^{\Lambda} V_D^l$ . One finds  $\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda} \simeq Pol_D^{\Lambda} \simeq V_{D+1}^{\Lambda}$ as  $Uso(D)$  representations. The first isomorphism follows from [\(14\)](#page-3-2), the second from section [2.2.](#page-7-0)

## **2.1** ()**-irreps via trace-free completely symmetric projectors**

Let  $(\pi, \mathcal{E})$  be the fundamental (D-dimensional irreducible unitary) representation of  $Uso(D)$ and  $O(D)$ ; the carrier space E is isomorphic to  $V_D^1$ . As a vector space  $\mathcal{E} \approx \mathbb{R}^D$ ; the set of Cartesian coordinates  $x \equiv (x^1, ...x^D) \in \mathbb{R}^D$  can be seen as the set of components of an element of E with respect to (w.r.t.) an orthonormal basis. The permutator on  $\mathcal{E}^{\otimes^2} \equiv \mathcal{E} \otimes \mathcal{E}$  is defined via  $P(u \otimes v) = v \otimes u$  and linearly extended. In all bases it is represented by the  $D^2 \times D^2$  matrix  $P_{ik}^{hi} = \delta_k^h \delta_i^i$ . The symmetric and antisymmetric projectors  $\mathcal{P}^+$ ,  $\mathcal{P}^-$  on  $\mathcal{E}^{\otimes^2}$  are obtained as

$$
\mathcal{P}^{\pm} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \mathbf{1}_{D^2} \pm \mathsf{P} \right). \tag{17}
$$

Here and below we denote by  $1_{D^l}$  the identity operator on  $\mathcal{E}^{\otimes^l}$ ; in all bases it is represented by the  $D^l \times D^l$  matrix  $\mathbf{1}_{D^l}$ <sub>in in</sub>  $\frac{h_1...h_l}{i_1...i_l} \equiv \delta_{i_1}^{h_1}$  $\lim_{i_1 \to i_1} \frac{h_1}{h_1}$ .  $\mathcal{P}^{-} \mathcal{E}^{\otimes^2}$  carries an irrep under  $O(D)$ , while  $\mathcal{P}^{+} \mathcal{E}^{\otimes^2}$  is the direct sum of two irreps: the 1-dimensional *trace* and the  $\frac{1}{2}(D-1)(D+2)$ -dimensional *trace-free symmetric* ones. The associated projectors  $P^t$ ,  $P^s$  from  $E^{\otimes^2}$  are given by

$$
\mathcal{P}_{kl}^{tij} = \frac{1}{D} \delta^{ij} \delta_{kl}, \qquad \mathcal{P}^s = \mathcal{P}^+ - \mathcal{P}^t = \frac{1}{2} \left( \mathbf{1}_{D^2} + \mathbf{P} \right) - \mathcal{P}^t ; \tag{18}
$$

here and below we adopt an orthonormal basis of  $\mathcal E$  for the matrix representation of  $\mathcal P^t$ . Hence  $\mathcal{P}^{i}{}_{kl}^{i}x^{i}x^{j} = \delta^{ij}r^{2}/D$ . These projectors satisfy the equations  $\mathcal{P}^{\alpha}\mathcal{P}^{\beta} = \mathcal{P}^{\alpha}\delta^{\alpha\beta}$ ,  $\Sigma_{\alpha}\mathcal{P}^{\alpha} = \mathbf{1}_{D^{2}}$ , where  $\alpha, \beta = -, s, t$ . P,  $\mathcal{P}^t$  are symmetric matrices, i.e. invariant under transposition  $^T$ , and therefore also the other projectors are,  $P^T = P$ ,  $P^{\alpha T} = P^{\alpha}$ . In the sequel we abbreviate  $P = P^s$ . Given a (linear) operator M on  $\mathcal{E}^{\otimes^n}$ , for all integers l, h with  $l > n$ , and  $1 \le h \le l+1-n$  we denote by  $M_{h(h+1)...(h+n-1)}$  the operator on  $\mathcal{E}^{\otimes^l}$  acting as the identity on the first  $h-1$  and the last  $l+1-n-h$ tensor factors, and as M in the remaining central ones. For instance, if  $M = P$  and  $l = 3$  we have  $P_{12} = P \otimes 1_D$ ,  $P_{23} = 1_D \otimes P$ . All the projectors  $A = P^+, P^-, P, P^t$  fulfill the relations

<span id="page-5-0"></span>
$$
A_{12} P_{23} P_{12} = P_{23} P_{12} A_{23}, \tag{19}
$$

<span id="page-5-1"></span>
$$
D \, \mathcal{P}_{23}^t \mathcal{P}_{12}^t = P_{12} P_{23} \mathcal{P}_{12}^t, \qquad D P_{12} \mathcal{P}_{23}^t \mathcal{P}_{12}^t = P_{23} \mathcal{P}_{12}^t, \tag{20}
$$

$$
D \, \mathcal{P}_{12}^t \mathcal{P}_{23}^t = \mathsf{P}_{23} \mathsf{P}_{12} \mathcal{P}_{23}^t, \qquad \qquad D \, \mathsf{P}_{23} \mathcal{P}_{12}^t \mathcal{P}_{23}^t = \mathsf{P}_{12} \mathcal{P}_{23}^t,\tag{21}
$$

$$
D \, \mathcal{P}_{23}^{t} \mathcal{P}_{12}^{t} = \mathcal{P}_{23}^{t} \mathsf{P}_{12} \mathsf{P}_{23}, \qquad \qquad D \, \mathcal{P}_{23}^{t} \mathcal{P}_{12}^{t} \mathsf{P}_{23} = \mathcal{P}_{23}^{t} \mathsf{P}_{12}; \qquad (22)
$$

Eq. [\(19-](#page-5-0)[22\)](#page-5-1) hold also for  $l > 3$ , e.g. for all  $2 \le h \le l - 1$ 

$$
A_{(h-1)h} P_{h(h+1)} P_{(h-1)h} = P_{h(h+1)} P_{(h-1)h} A_{h(h+1)}.
$$
 (23)

The *completely symmetric trace-free* projectors  $\mathcal{P}^l$  generalize  $\mathcal{P}^2 \equiv \mathcal{P}$  to all  $l > 2$ .  $\mathcal{P}^l$  projects  $\mathcal{E}^{\otimes^l}$ to the carrier space of the *l*-fold completely symmetric irrep of  $Uso(D)$ , isomorphic to  $\check{V}_D^l$ ,  $V_D^l$ , therein contained. It is uniquely characterized by the following properties: for  $n = 1, ..., l-1$ ,

<span id="page-5-2"></span>
$$
\mathcal{P}^l \mathcal{P}^-_{n(n+1)} = 0, \qquad \mathcal{P}^-_{n(n+1)} \mathcal{P}^l = 0,
$$
\n(24)

$$
\mathcal{P}^l \mathcal{P}^t_{n(n+1)} = 0, \qquad \mathcal{P}^t_{n(n+1)} \mathcal{P}^l = 0,
$$
\n
$$
(25)
$$

$$
\left(\mathcal{P}^l\right)^2 = \mathcal{P}^l,\tag{26}
$$

Eq.s [\(25\)](#page-5-2) amount to  $\mathcal{P}^{l i_1...i_l}$  $j_1...j_l \delta^{j_n j_{n+1}} = 0, \quad \delta_{i_n i_{n+1}} \mathcal{P}^{l i_1...i_l}_{j_1...j_l}$  $j_1...j_l = 0$ . Proposition 3.2 of [\[1\]](#page-13-0) yields a recursive construction of the projectors  $\mathcal{P}^l$  (mimicking that of the quantum group  $U_qso(D)$ covariant symmetric projectors of Proposition 1 of [\[26\]](#page-14-11)):  $\mathcal{P}^{H1}$  can be expressed as a polynomial in the permutators  $P_{12},..., P_{(l-1)l}$  and trace projectors  $\mathcal{P}_{12}^{t},..., \mathcal{P}_{(l)}^{t}$  $_{(l-1)l}^{t}$  through either recursive relation

$$
\mathcal{P}^{H1} = \mathcal{P}^I_{12...l} M_{l(H1)} \mathcal{P}^I_{12...l}, \qquad (27)
$$

$$
= \mathcal{P}_{2... (H1)}^l M_{12} \mathcal{P}_{2... (H1)}^l, \tag{28}
$$

 $M \equiv M(l+1) = \frac{1}{l+1} \left[ 1_{D^2} + lP - \frac{2DL}{D+2l-2} \mathcal{P}^t \right]$ . All  $\mathcal{P}^l$  are symmetric,  $(\mathcal{P}^l)^T = \mathcal{P}^l$ . Let

<span id="page-6-1"></span>
$$
X_l^{i_1...i_l} \equiv \mathcal{P}_{j_1...j_l}^{l i_1...i_l} x^{j_1}... x^{j_l}, \qquad T_l^{i_1 i_2...i_l} \equiv r^{-l} X_l^{i_1 i_2...i_l} = \mathcal{P}_{j_1...j_l}^{l i_1...i_l} t^{j_1}... t^{j_l}.
$$
 (29)

Using [\(25\)](#page-5-2) one easily shows that  $\Delta X_l^{i_1...i_l} = 0$ : the harmonic homogeneous  $x^i$ -polynomials  $X_l^{i_1...i_l}$ make up a complete set of  $\check{V}_{D}^{l}$  (not a basis, because they are invariant under permutations of  $(i_1...i_l)$  and fulfill  $\delta_{i_n i_{n+1}} X_l^{i_1...i_l} = 0$ ,  $n = 1, ..., l-1$ ). Similarly, the  $t^i$ -polynomials  $T_l^{i_1...i_l}$  make up a complete set  $\mathcal{T}_l$  (but not a basis) of  $V_D^l$  that is easier to work with than the basis of spherical harmonics. Moreover,  $L^2$ ,  $iL_{hk}$  and the multiplication operators  $t^h$  act on the  $T_l^{i_1...i_l}$  as follows:

<span id="page-6-0"></span>
$$
L^2 T_l^{i_1...i_l} = E_l T_l^{i_1...i_l},\tag{30}
$$

$$
iL_{hk}T_l^{i_1...i_l} = (l+1) \frac{D+2l-2}{D+2l} \left( \mathcal{P}^{l+1}{}_{k j_1...j_l}^{h i_1...i_l} - \mathcal{P}^{l+1}{}_{k j_1...j_l}^{k i_1...i_l} \right) T_l^{j_1...j_l},
$$
  

$$
= l \mathcal{P}^{l i_1...i_l}{}_{j_1...j_l} \left( \delta^{k j_1} T_l^{h j_2...j_l} - \delta^{h j_1} T_l^{k j_2...j_l} \right),
$$
 (31)

$$
t^{h} T_{l}^{i_{1}...i_{l}} = T_{l+1}^{hi_{1}...i_{l}} + \frac{l}{D+2l-2} \mathcal{P}_{hj_{2}...j_{l}}^{l i_{1}i_{2}...i_{l}} T_{l-1}^{j_{2}...j_{l}} \in V_{D}^{l+1} \oplus V_{D}^{l-1},
$$
\n(32)

$$
t^{i}T_{l}^{ii_{2}...i_{l}} = \frac{1}{D+2l-2} \left[ D+l-1-\frac{2l-2}{D+2l-4} \right] T_{l-1}^{i_{2}...i_{l}} \in V_{D}^{l-1}.
$$
 (33)

These formulae immediately follow from analogous ones for the  $X_l^{i_1...i_l}$  . More generally, the product  $T_l^{i_1...i_l} T_m^{j_1...j_m}$  decomposes as follows into  $V_D^n$  components:

<span id="page-6-2"></span>
$$
T_l^{i_1...i_l} T_m^{j_1...j_m} = \sum_{n \in \mathcal{I}^{lm}} S_{k_1...k_n}^{i_1...i_l,j_1...j_m} T_n^{k_1...k_n},\tag{34}
$$

where  $\mathcal{I}^{lm} \equiv \{ |l-m|, |l-m|+2, ..., l+m \}$  and, defining  $s = \frac{l+m-n}{2}$  $\frac{n-n}{2} \in \{0, 1, ..., m\},\$ 

<span id="page-6-3"></span>
$$
S_{k_1...k_n}^{i_1...i_l,j_1...j_m} = N_n^{lm} V_{k_1...k_n}^{i_1...i_l,j_1...j_m}, \t N_n^{lm} = \frac{(D+2n-2)!! \, l! \, m!}{(D+2n+2s-2)!! \, (l-s)! \, (m-s)!}
$$
  

$$
V_{k_1...k_n}^{i_1...i_l,j_1...j_m} = \mathcal{P}_{a_1...a_s c_1...c_{l-s}}^{l_1...l_l} \mathcal{P}_{a_1...a_s c_{l-s+1}...c_n}^{mj_1...j_s j_{s+1}...j_m} \mathcal{P}_{a_1...a_n}^{n_{k_1...k_n}}
$$
 (35)

Thus the  $S_{k_1 \ldots k_l}^{i_1 \ldots i_l, j_1 \ldots j_m}$  $\sum_{k_1...k_n} p_{\text{lay}}$  the role of Clebsch-Gordon coefficients in the decomposition of a product of spherical harmonics. Finally,  $\langle T_l^{i_1...i_l}, T_n^{j_1...j_n} \rangle \propto \delta_{ln} {\cal P}^{l j_1...j_l}$  $j_1...j_l$  w.r.t. the scalar product of  $\mathcal{L}^2(S^d)$ .

## <span id="page-7-0"></span>**2.2** Embedding in  $\mathbb{R}^{D+1}$ , isomorphism  $\text{End}(Pol_D^{\Lambda}) \simeq \pi_{D+1}^{\Lambda} [Uso(D+1)]$

Henceforth we abbreviate  $D \equiv D + 1$ . We naturally embed  $\mathbb{C}[\mathbb{R}^D] \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{R}^D]$ ; we use real Cartesian coordinates  $(x^i)$  for  $\mathbb{R}^D$  and  $(x^I)$  for  $\mathbb{R}^D$ ;  $h, i, j, k \in \{1, ..., D\}$ ,  $H, I, J, K \in \{1, ..., D\}$ . We naturally embed  $O(D) \hookrightarrow SO(D)$  identifying  $O(D)$  as the subgroup of  $SO(D)$  that is the little group of the **D**-th axis; its Lie algebra, isomorphic to  $so(D)$ , is generated by the  $L_{hk}$ . We shall add **D** as a subscript to distinguish objects in dimension **D** from their counterparts in dimension  $D$ , e.g. the distance  $r_D$  from the origin in  $\mathbb{R}^D$ , from its counterpart  $r \equiv r_D$  in  $\mathbb{R}^D$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_\Gamma^D$  $\mathbf{p}^l$  from  $\mathcal{P}^l \equiv \mathcal{P}^l_D$ , and so on. Setting  $t^I \equiv r_D^{-1} x^I$ , for  $\Lambda \in \mathbb{N}_0$   $\check{V}_{D}^{\Lambda}$ ,  $V_{D}^{\Lambda} = r_D^{-\Lambda} \check{V}_{D}^{\Lambda}$  are respectively spanned by the

$$
X_{\mathbf{D},\Lambda}^{I_1...I_{\Lambda}} = \mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{D},I_1...I_{\Lambda}}^{\Lambda I_1...I_{\Lambda}} x^{J_1}...x^{J_{\Lambda}}, \qquad T_{\mathbf{D},\Lambda}^{I_1...I_{\Lambda}} = r_{\mathbf{D}}^{-\Lambda} X_{\mathbf{D},\Lambda}^{I_1...I_{\Lambda}} = \mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{D},I_1...I_{\Lambda}}^{\Lambda I_1...I_{\Lambda}} t^{J_1}...t^{J_{\Lambda}}.
$$
 (36)

The following combinations of the latter factorize into  $X_l^{i_1...i_l}$  (resp.  $T_l^{i_1...i_l}$ ) times a  $O(D)$ -scalar:

$$
\check{F}_{\mathbf{D},\Lambda}^{i_1\ldots i_l} \equiv \mathcal{P}_{j_1\ldots j_l}^{l_1\ldots l_l} X_{\mathbf{D},\Lambda}^{j_1\ldots j_l} \mathbf{D}\ldots \mathbf{D} = \check{p}_{\Lambda,l} X_l^{i_1\ldots i_l}, \qquad F_{\mathbf{D},\Lambda}^{i_1\ldots i_l} \equiv r_{\mathbf{D}}^{-\Lambda} \check{F}_{\mathbf{D},\Lambda}^{i_1\ldots i_l} = p_{\Lambda,l} T_l^{i_1\ldots i_l}
$$
(37)

where  $\check{p}_{\Lambda,l}$  is the homogeneous polynomial of degree  $\Lambda - l$  in  $x^{\mathbf{D}}$ ,  $r_{\mathbf{D}}$ 

$$
\check{p}_{\Lambda,l} = \left(x^{\mathbf{D}}\right)^{\Lambda-l} + \left(x^{\mathbf{D}}\right)^{\Lambda-l-2} r_{\mathbf{D}}^2 b_{\Lambda,l+2} + \left(x^{\mathbf{D}}\right)^{\Lambda-l-4} r_{\mathbf{D}}^4 b_{\Lambda,l+4} + \dots \,, \tag{38}
$$

$$
b_{\Lambda, l+2k} = (-)^k \frac{(\Lambda - l)!(2\Lambda - 4 - 2k + \mathbf{D})!!}{(\Lambda - l - 2k)!(2k)!!(2\Lambda - 4 + \mathbf{D})!!}, \qquad k = 1, 2, .... \left[\frac{\Lambda - l}{2}\right],
$$
 (39)

and  $p_{\Lambda,l} \equiv \check{p}_{\Lambda,l}(x^{\mathbf{D}}, r_{\mathbf{D}}) r_{\mathbf{D}}^{l-\Lambda}$  $\frac{l-\Lambda}{D}$  is a polynomial of degree  $h = \Lambda - l$  in  $t^D$  only. Hence the  $F_{D,\Lambda}^{i_1...i_l}$  $\sum_{n=1}^{n}$  are eigenvectors of  $L^2$  with eigenvalue  $E_l$ , transform under  $L_{hk}$  as the  $T_l^{i_1...i_l}$  and under  $L_{hD}$  as follows:

$$
iL_{hD}F_{\mathbf{D},\Lambda}^{i_1...i_l} = (\Lambda - l) F_{\mathbf{D},\Lambda}^{hi_1...i_l} - \frac{l(\Lambda + l + D - 2)}{D + 2l - 2} \mathcal{P}_{hj_2...j_l}^{li_1i_2...i_l} F_{\mathbf{D},\Lambda}^{j_2...j_l}.
$$
 (40)

These relations follow from exactly the same relations for the  $\check{F}_{\mathbf{D}^{\Lambda}}^{i_1...i_l}$  $\check{\mathbf{v}}_{\mathbf{D},\Lambda}^{i_1...i_l}$ . As a consequence,  $\check{V}_{\mathbf{D}}^{\Lambda}$ ,  $V_{\mathbf{D}}^{\Lambda}$ decompose into irreducible components of  $Uso(D)$  as follows:

$$
\check{V}_{\mathbf{D}}^{\Lambda} = \bigoplus_{l=0}^{\Lambda} \check{V}_{D,\Lambda}^{l}, \qquad V_{\mathbf{D}}^{\Lambda} = \bigoplus_{l=0}^{\Lambda} V_{D,\Lambda}^{l}, \qquad (41)
$$

where  $\check{V}_{D,\Lambda}^l \simeq V_D^l$ ,  $V_{D,\Lambda}^l \simeq V_D^l$  are resp. spanned by the  $\check{F}_{D,\Lambda}^{i_1...i_l}$  $\overline{\mathbf{D}}$ , $\Lambda$ ,  $F_{\mathbf{D}, \Lambda}^{i_1...i_l}$  $\mathbf{D}^{i_1...i_l}_{\mathbf{D},\Lambda}$ . For  $\Lambda = 0, 1, 2$  we have:  $\check{V}_{\mathbf{D}}^0 \simeq V_{\mathbf{D}}^0 \simeq \mathbb{C} \simeq V_{\mathbf{D}}^0$ ,  $\check{V}_{\mathbf{D},1}^0$ ,  $V_{\mathbf{D},1}^0$  are isomorphic to  $V_{\mathbf{D}}^0$  and resp. spanned by  $x^{\mathbf{D}}, t^{\mathbf{D}}$ ;  $\check{V}_{\mathbf{D},1}^1$ ,  $V_{\mathbf{D},1}^1$  are isomorphic to  $V_D^1$  and resp. spanned by the  $x^i$ ,  $t^i$ .  $\check{V}_{D,2}^0$ ,  $V_{D,2}^0$  are isomorphic to  $V_D^0$  and resp. spanned by  $X_{D,2}^{DD} = x^D x^D - r_D^2/D$ ,  $F_{D,2} = T_{D,2}^{DD} = t^D t^D - 1/D = D/D - \sum_{h=0}^D t^h t^h$ ;  $\check{V}_{D,2}^1, \check{V}_{D,2}^1$  are isomorphic to  $V_{D}^{0}$  and resp. spanned by the  $\check{F}_{D,2}^{i} = X_{D,2}^{iD} = x^{i}x^{D}$ ,  $F_{D,2}^{i} = T_{D,2}^{iD} = t^{i}t^{D}$ ;  $\check{V}_{D,2}^{2}$ ,  $\check{V}_{D,2}^{2}$  are isomorphic to  $V_D^2$  and resp. spanned by the  $\check{F}_D^{ij}$  $\sum_{D,2}^{i,j} = X_{D}^{i,j}$  $\sum_{\mathbf{D},2}^{i,j} + X_{\mathbf{D},2}^{\mathbf{DD}} \delta^{i,j} / D = X_2^{i,j}$  $\overline{\begin{matrix}i,j\2},F_D^{ij}\end{matrix}}$  $\overrightarrow{I}_{D,2}^{ij} = T_{D,2}^{ij}$  $\frac{d^2j}{D}$ ,  $\frac{\delta^{ij}}{D}$  $\frac{\delta^{ij}}{D}T_{\mathbf{D},2}^{\mathbf{DD}}=T_2^{ij}$  $i_2^{\prime\prime}$ ; the last equalities follow from  $X_2^{ij}$  $i j = x^i x^j - r^2 \frac{\delta^{ij}}{D}$  $\frac{\delta^{ij}}{D}$ ,  $X_{\mathbf{D}}^{ij}$  $\frac{ij}{\mathbf{D},2} = x^i x^j - r_{\mathbf{D}}^2$  $\delta^{ij}$  $\overline{\frac{\delta^{ij}}{D}}, \overline{T_2^{ij}}$  $\frac{d^i j}{2} = t^i t^j - \frac{\delta^{ij}}{D}$  $\frac{\delta^{ij}}{D}$ ,  $T_{\mathbf{D}}^{ij}$  $\frac{di}{\mathbf{D},2} = t^i t^j - \frac{\delta^{ij}}{\mathbf{D}}$  $\frac{\partial^{i,j}}{\partial}$ .

## <span id="page-8-0"></span>3. Relations among the  $\bar{x}^i$  ,  $\overline{L}_{hk}$ , isomorphisms of  $\mathcal{H}_\Lambda$  ,  $\mathcal{A}_\Lambda$ ,  $*$  -automorphisms of  $\mathcal{A}_\Lambda$

The functions  $\psi_l^{i_1 i_2...i_l} = T_l^{i_1 i_2...i_l} f_l$  with fixed *l* make up a complete set  $S_{D,\Lambda}^l$  in the eigenspace  $H^l_{\Lambda}$  of H,  $L^2$  with eigenvalues  $E_{0,l}$ ,  $E_l$ .  $S_{D,\Lambda} \equiv \bigcup_{l=0}^{\Lambda} S^l_{D,\Lambda}$  is complete in  $H_{\Lambda}$ . The  $\overline{L}_{hk}$ ,  $\overline{x}^i$  act as

<span id="page-8-1"></span>
$$
i\overline{L}_{hk}\psi_l^{i_1i_2...i_l} = l\mathcal{P}_{j_1...j_l}^{l_1...i_l} \left( \delta^{k j_1} \psi_l^{h j_2...j_l} - \delta^{h j_1} \psi_l^{k j_2...j_l} \right), \qquad (42)
$$

$$
\overline{x}^{i} \psi_{l}^{i_{1}i_{2}...i_{l}} = c_{l+1} \psi_{l+1}^{i i_{1}...i_{l}} + \frac{c_{l} l}{D+2l-2} \mathcal{P}_{ij_{2}...j_{l}}^{l i_{1}i_{2}...i_{l}} \psi_{l-1}^{j_{2}...j_{l}},
$$
\n(43)

where 
$$
c_l \equiv \begin{cases} \sqrt{1 + \frac{(2D-5)(D-1)}{2k} + \frac{(l-1)(hD-2)}{k}} & \text{if } 1 \le l \le \Lambda, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}
$$

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Eq. [\(42\)](#page-8-1) follows from [\(31\)](#page-6-0), while [\(43\)](#page-8-1) holds up to  $O(k^{-3/2})$  corrections that depend on the terms proportional to  $(r-1)^k$ ,  $k > 2$ , in the Taylor expansion of V and could be made vanish by suitably choosing V. Henceforth we adopt [\(42-43\)](#page-8-1) as exact *definitions* of  $\overline{L}_{hk}$ ,  $\overline{x}^i$ . By Proposition 4.1 in [\[1\]](#page-13-0), the  $\overline{L}_{hk}$ ,  $\overline{x}^i$  defined by [\(42-43\)](#page-8-1) are self-adjoint operators generating the  $N^2$ -dimensional  $*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}_\Lambda$  ≡  $End(\mathcal{H}_\Lambda) \simeq M_N(\mathbb{C})$  of observables on  $\mathcal{H}_\Lambda$ ; here  $N = \frac{(D \nmid \Lambda - 2)...(\Lambda + 1)}{(D-1)!}$  $\frac{(Δ-2)...(Δ+1)}{(D-1)!} (D+2Δ-1).$ Abbreviating  $\bar{x}^2 \equiv \bar{x}^i \bar{x}^i$ ,  $\bar{L}^2 \equiv \bar{L}_{ij} \bar{L}_{ij}/2$ ,  $B \equiv (2D-5)(D-1)/2$ , they fulfill the relations

<span id="page-8-2"></span>
$$
\left[i\overline{L}_{ij}, \overline{x}^h\right] = \overline{x}^i \delta^h_j - \overline{x}^j \delta^h_i,\tag{44}
$$

$$
\left[i\overline{L}_{ij}, i\overline{L}_{hk}\right] = i\left(\overline{L}_{ik}\delta_h^j - \overline{L}_{jk}\delta_h^i - \overline{L}_{ih}\delta_k^j + \overline{L}_{jh}\delta_k^i\right),\tag{45}
$$

$$
\varepsilon^{i_1 i_2 i_3 \dots i_D} \overline{x}^{i_1} \overline{L}_{i_2 i_3} = 0, \qquad D \ge 3,
$$
\n(46)

$$
(\bar{x}^h \pm i\bar{x}^k)^{2\Lambda + 1} = 0, \quad (\bar{L}^{hj} + i\bar{L}^{kj})^{2\Lambda + 1} = 0, \quad \text{if } h \neq j \neq k \neq h,
$$
 (47)

$$
\left[\overline{x}^i, \overline{x}^j\right] = i\overline{L}_{ij}\left(-\frac{I}{k} + K P_{\Lambda}^{\Lambda}\right), \qquad K \equiv \frac{1}{k} + \frac{1}{D \cdot 2\Lambda - 2} \left[1 + \frac{B}{k} + \frac{(\Lambda - 1)(\Lambda + D - 2)}{k}\right],\tag{48}
$$

$$
\overline{x}^2 = 1 + \frac{\overline{L}^2}{k} + \frac{B}{k} - \frac{\Lambda + D - 2}{2\Lambda + D - 2} \left[ 1 + \frac{B}{k} + \frac{\Lambda(\Lambda + D - 1)}{k} \right] P_{\Lambda}^{\Lambda} =: \chi(L^2). \tag{49}
$$

A fuzzy sphere is obtained choosing k as a function  $k(\Lambda)$  fulfilling [\(12\)](#page-3-3), e.g.  $k = \Lambda^2 (\Lambda + D - 2)^2 / 4$ ; the commutative limit is  $\Lambda \rightarrow \infty$ . We remark that:

- 3.a Eq. [\(46\)](#page-8-2) is the analog of [\(7b](#page-2-0)). By [\(48\)](#page-8-2), it can be reformulated also as  $\varepsilon^{i_1 i_2 i_3 \dots i_D} \overline{x}^{i_1} \overline{x}^{i_2} \overline{x}^{i_3} = 0$ .
- 3.b By [\(49\)](#page-8-2),  $(15)_{l=\Lambda} \ \overline{x}^2$  $(15)_{l=\Lambda} \ \overline{x}^2$  is not a constant, but can be expressed as a polynomial  $\chi$  in  $\overline{L}^2$  only, with the same eigenspaces  $\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}^l$ . All its eigenvalues  $r_l^2$ , except  $r_{\Lambda}^2$ , are close to 1, slightly (but strictly) grow with *l* and collapse to 1 as  $\Lambda \to \infty$ . Conversely,  $\overline{L}^2$  can be expressed as a polynomial  $\nu$  in  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}^2$ , via  $\bar{\mathbf{L}}^2 = \sum_{l=0}^{\Lambda} E_l P_{l}^l$  $\frac{l}{\Lambda}$  and  $P_{\Lambda}^{l}$  $\frac{d}{dt} = \prod_{n=0}^{\Lambda} \frac{\bar{x}^2 - r_n^2}{r_l^2 - r_n^2}$ .
- 3.c By [\(48\)](#page-8-2),  $(15)_{l=\Lambda}$  $(15)_{l=\Lambda}$  the commutators  $[\bar{x}^i, \bar{x}^j]$  are Snyder-like, i.e. of the form  $\alpha \bar{L}_{ij}$ ; also  $\alpha$ depends only on the  $\overline{L}_{hk}$ , more precisely can be expressed as a polynomial in  $\overline{L}^2$ .

3.d Using [\(44\)](#page-8-2), [\(45\)](#page-8-2), [\(48\)](#page-8-2), all polynomials in  $\bar{x}^i$ ,  $\bar{L}_{hk}$  can be expressed as combinations of monomials in  $\bar{x}^i$ ,  $\bar{L}_{hk}$  in any prescribed order, e.g. in the natural one

<span id="page-9-1"></span>
$$
(\overline{x}^{1})^{n_{1}}...(x^{D})^{n_{D}}(\overline{L}_{12})^{n_{12}}(\overline{L}_{13})^{n_{13}}...(x^{D})^{n_{dD}}, \qquad n_{i}, n_{ij} \in \mathbb{N}_{0}; \qquad (50)
$$

the coefficients, which can be put at the right of these monomials, are complex combinations of 1 and  $P_{\Lambda}^{\Lambda}$ . Also  $P_{\Lambda}^{\Lambda}$  can be expressed as a polynomial in  $\overline{L}^2$  via  $(15)_{l=\Lambda}$  $(15)_{l=\Lambda}$ . Hence a suitable subset of such ordered monomials makes up a basis of the  $N^2$ -dim vector space  $\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}$ .

- 3.e Actually,  $\bar{x}^i$  *generate* the ∗-algebra  $\mathcal{A}_\Lambda$ , because also the  $\bar{L}_{ij}$  can be expressed as *non-ordered* polynomials in the  $\bar{x}^i$ : by [\(48\)](#page-8-2)  $\bar{L}_{ij} = [\bar{x}^j, \bar{x}^i]/\alpha$ , and also  $1/\alpha$ , which depends only on  $P^{\Lambda}_{\Lambda}$ , can be expressed itself as a polynomial in  $\bar{x}^2$ , as shown above.
- 3.f Eq. [\(44-49\)](#page-8-2) are equivariant under the whole group  $O(D)$ , including the inversion  $\overline{x}^i \mapsto -\overline{x}^i$ of one axis, or more (e.g. parity), contrary to Madore's and Hoppe's FS.

We slightly enlarge  $Uso(D)$  by introducing the new generator  $\lambda = \left[\sqrt{(D-2)^2 + 4L^2} - D + 2\right]/2$ , which fulfills  $\lambda(\lambda + D - 2) = L^2$ , so that  $V_D^l$  is a  $\lambda = l$  eigenspace, and  $\lambda F_{D,\Lambda}^{i_1...i_l} = l F_{D,\Lambda}^{i_1...i_l}$ . Theorem 5.1 in [\[1\]](#page-13-0) states that there exist a  $O(D)$ -module isomorphism  $\varkappa_{\Lambda} : H_{\Lambda} \to V_{D}^{\Lambda}$  and a  $O(D)$ -equivariant algebra map  $\kappa_A : \mathcal{A}_A \equiv \text{End}(\mathcal{H}_A) \to \pi_D^{\Lambda} [Uso(\mathbf{D})]$ ,  $\mathbf{D} \equiv D+1$ , such that

$$
\varkappa_{\Lambda}(a\psi) = \varkappa_{\Lambda}(a)\varkappa_{\Lambda}(\psi), \qquad \forall \psi \in \mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}, \quad a \in \mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}.
$$
 (51)

On the  $\psi_l^{i_1...i_l}$  (spanning  $\mathcal{H}_\Lambda$ ) and on generators  $L_{hi}$ ,  $\bar{x}^i$  of  $\mathcal{H}_\Lambda$  they respectively act as follows:

<span id="page-9-0"></span>
$$
\kappa_{\Lambda}(\psi_l^{i_1...i_l}) \equiv a_{\Lambda,l} F_{\mathbf{D},\Lambda}^{i_1...i_l} = a_{\Lambda,l} p_{\Lambda,l} T_l^{i_1...i_l}, \qquad l = 0, 1, ..., \Lambda,
$$
 (52)

$$
\kappa_{\Lambda}(\overline{L}_{hi}) \equiv \pi_{\mathbf{D}}^{\Lambda}(L_{hi}), \qquad \kappa_{\Lambda}(\overline{x}^i) \equiv \pi_{\mathbf{D}}^{\Lambda}[m_{\Lambda}^*(\lambda) \, X^i \, m_{\Lambda}(\lambda)], \qquad (53)
$$

where  $X^i \equiv L_{\text{Di}}$ ,  $A \equiv \sqrt{k + (D-1)(D-3)3/4}$ ,  $\Gamma$  is Euler gamma function, and

$$
a_{\Lambda,l} = a_{\Lambda,0} i^l \sqrt{\frac{\Lambda(\Lambda - 1) \dots (\Lambda - l + 1)}{(\Lambda + D - 1)(\Lambda + D) \dots (\Lambda + l + D - 2)}},\tag{54}
$$

$$
m_{\Lambda}(s) = \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{\Lambda+s+d}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{\Lambda-s+1}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{s+1+d/2+iA}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{s+1+d/2-iA}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{\Lambda+s+D}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{\Lambda-s}{2}+1\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{s+d/2+iA}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{s+d/2-iA}{2}\right)\sqrt{k}}.
$$
(55)

Finally, \*-automorphisms  $\omega$  of  $\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda} \simeq M_N(\mathbb{C})$  are inner and make up a group  $G \simeq SU(N)$ , i.e.

$$
\omega: a \in M_N(\mathbb{C}) \mapsto g \, a \, g^{-1} \in M_N(\mathbb{C}) \tag{56}
$$

for some unitary  $N \times N$  matrix g with det  $g = 1$ . Consider the G-subgroup  $G' \equiv \{g = \pi_{D}^{\Lambda} | e^{i\alpha} \} | \alpha \in$  $so(D)$ } ≃  $SO(D)$ . Choosing  $\alpha \in so(D) \subset so(D)$  the automorphism amounts to a  $SO(D) \subset$  $SO(D)$  transformation, i.e. a rotation in the  $x \equiv (x^1, ..., x^D) \in \mathbb{R}^D$  space. The  $O(D) \subset SO(D)$ transformations with determinant –1 keep the same form also in the  $\overline{X} \equiv (X^1, ..., X^D)$  and [by [\(53\)](#page-9-0)] in the  $\bar{x} = (\bar{x}^1, ..., \bar{x}^D)$  spaces. In particular, those inverting one or more axes of  $\mathbb{R}^D$  (i.e. changing the sign of one or more  $x^i$ , and thus also of  $X^i$ ,  $\overline{x}^i$ ), e.g. parity, can be also realized as  $SO(D)$ transformations, i.e. rotations in  $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbf{D}}$ . This shows that [\(53\)](#page-9-0) is equivariant under the whole  $O(D)$ , which plays the role of isometry group of this fuzzy sphere.

### <span id="page-10-0"></span>**4. Fuzzy spherical harmonics, and limit**  $\Lambda \to \infty$

It's simpler to work with the  $T_l^{i_1...i_l}$  than spherical harmonics, their combinations. In  $H_s$  =  $\mathcal{L}^2(S^d)$  we have  $\psi_l^{i_1...i_l} \propto T_l^{i_1...i_l}$ ,  $\psi_0 \propto 1$ . The  $T_l^{i_1...i_l} \in C(S^d)$  act on  $\mathcal{H}_s$  as multiplication operators fulfilling  $T_l^{i_1...i_l} \cdot \psi_0 \propto \psi_l^{i_1...i_l}$ . We define their  $\Lambda$ -th fuzzy analogs replacing  $t^i \mapsto \overline{x}^i$  in [\(29b](#page-6-1)), i.e.

<span id="page-10-3"></span>
$$
\widehat{T}_l^{i_1...i_l} \equiv \mathcal{P}_{j_1...j_l}^{l i_1...i_l} \overline{x}^{j_1}...\overline{x}^{j_l}, \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad \widehat{T}_l^{i_1...i_l} \psi_0 \propto \psi_l^{i_1...i_l}
$$
\n
$$
\tag{57}
$$

for  $l \leq \Lambda$ . Since  $\psi_0$  is a scalar,  $\psi_l^{i_1...i_l}$ ,  $\widehat{T}_l^{i_1...i_l}$ ,  $T_l^{i_1...i_l}$  transform under  $O(D)$  exactly in the same way, consistently with  $H_{\Lambda} \simeq Pol_{D}^{\Lambda}$ . As  $\Lambda \to \infty$  the decomposition of  $H_{\Lambda} \simeq Pol_{D}^{\Lambda}$  into irreducible components under  $O(D)$  becomes isomorphic to the decomposition of  $H_s \simeq Pol_D$ . We define the  $O(D)$ -equivariant embedding  $I : H_A \hookrightarrow H_s$  by setting  $I(\psi_l^{i_1...i_l}) \equiv T_l^{i_1...i_l}$  and applying the linear extension. Below we drop *I* and identify  $\psi_l^{i_1...i_l} = T_l^{i_1...i_l}$  as elements of the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}_s$ . For all  $\phi \equiv \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \phi_{i_1...i_l}^l T_l^{i_1...i_l} \in \mathcal{L}^2(S^2)$  and  $\Lambda \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $\phi_{\Lambda} \equiv P_{\Lambda} \phi = \sum_{l=0}^{\Lambda} \phi_{i_1...i_l}^l T_l^{i_1...i_l}$  be its projection to  $H_{\Lambda}$  (or  $\Lambda$ -th truncation). Clearly  $\phi_{\Lambda} \to \phi$  in the  $H_s$ -norm  $\|\cdot\|$ : in this simplified notation,  $H_{\Lambda}$  'invades'  $H_s$  as  $\Lambda \to \infty$ . *I* induces the  $O(D)$ -equivariant embedding of operator algebras  $\mathcal{J}$ :  $\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda} \hookrightarrow B(\mathcal{H}_{s})$  by setting  $\mathcal{J}(a)$   $I(\psi) \equiv I(a\psi)$ ; here  $B(\mathcal{H}_{s})$  stands for the \*-algebra of bounded operators on  $H_s$ . By construction,  $\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}$  annihilates  $\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}^{\perp}$ . In particular,  $\mathcal{J}(\overline{L}_{hk}) = L_{hk}P^{\Lambda}$ ,

and  $\overline{L}_{hk} \phi \stackrel{\Lambda \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} L_{hk} \phi$  for all  $\phi \in D(L_{hk})$  = the domain of  $L_{hk}$ . More generally,  $f(\overline{L}_{hk}) \to f(L_{hk})$ strongly on  $D[f(L_{hk})] \subset \mathcal{H}_s$ , for all measurable functions  $f(s)$ . Continuous functions f on  $S^d$ , acting as multiplication operators  $f \colon \mathfrak{p} \in \mathcal{H}_s \mapsto f \phi \in \mathcal{H}_s$ , make up a subalgebra  $C(S^d)$  of B (H<sub>s</sub>). Clearly, f belongs also to H<sub>s</sub>. Since  $Pol_D$  is dense in both  $H_s$ ,  $C(S^d)$ ,  $f_N$  converges to f as  $N \to \infty$  in both the  $H_s$  and the  $C(S^d)$  norm. Identifying  $\psi_l^{i_1...i_l} \equiv T_l^{i_1...i_l}$ , eq. [\(32\)](#page-6-0), [\(43\)](#page-8-1) become

$$
t^{h} T_{l}^{i_{1}...i_{l}} = T_{l+1}^{hi_{1}...i_{l}} + d_{l} \mathcal{P}_{hj_{2}...j_{l}}^{l i_{1}i_{2}...i_{l}} T_{l-1}^{j_{2}...j_{l}}, \qquad d_{l} \equiv \frac{l}{D+2l-2}
$$
(58)

$$
\overline{x}^{h}T_{l}^{i_{1}i_{2}...i_{l}} = c_{l+1}T_{l+1}^{hi_{1}...i_{l}} + c_{l} d_{l} \mathcal{P}_{hj_{2}...j_{l}}^{li_{1}i_{2}...i_{l}} T_{l-1}^{j_{2}...j_{l}}.
$$
\n(59)

Theorem 6.1 in [\[1\]](#page-13-0) states that the action of the  $\hat{T}_l^{i_1...i_l}$  on  $\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}$  is determined by

$$
\widehat{T}_{l}^{i_{1}...i_{l}}T_{m}^{j_{1}...j_{m}} = \sum_{n \in L} \widehat{N}_{n}^{lm} \mathcal{P}_{a_{1}...a_{r}c_{1}...c_{l-r}}^{i_{1}...i_{l}} \mathcal{P}_{a_{1}...a_{r}c_{l-r+1}...c_{n}}^{m j_{1}...j_{r}j_{r+1}...j_{m}} \mathcal{P}_{c_{1}...c_{n}}^{n k_{1}...k_{n}} T_{n}^{k_{1}...k_{n}},
$$
(60)

with suitable coefficients  $\widehat{N}_n^{lm}$ , cf. [\(34](#page-6-2)[-35\)](#page-6-3). As a fuzzy analog of the vector space  $C(S^d)$  we adopt

<span id="page-10-2"></span>
$$
C_{\Lambda} \equiv \left\{ \hat{f}_{2\Lambda} \equiv \sum_{l=0}^{2\Lambda} f_{i_1...i_l}^l \widehat{T}_l^{i_1...i_l} \mid f_{i_1...i_l}^l \in \mathbb{C} \right\} \subset \mathcal{A}_{\Lambda} \subset B(\mathcal{H}_s); \tag{61}
$$

here the highest *l* is 2Λ because the  $\hat{T}_l^{i_1...i_l}$  annihilate  $H_\Lambda$  if  $l > 2\Lambda$ . By construction,

<span id="page-10-1"></span>
$$
C_{\Lambda} = \bigoplus_{l=0}^{2\Lambda} \widehat{V}_{D}^{l}, \qquad \qquad \widehat{V}_{D}^{l} \equiv \left\{ f_{i_{1}...i_{l}}^{l} \widehat{T}_{l}^{i_{1}...i_{l}} , f_{i_{1}...i_{l}}^{l} \in \mathbb{C} \right\}
$$
(62)

is the decomposition of  $C_{\Lambda}$  into irreducible components under  $O(D)$ .  $\widehat{V}_{D}^{l}$  is trace-free for all  $l > 0$ . In the limit  $\Lambda \to \infty$  [\(62\)](#page-10-1) becomes the decomposition of  $C(S^d)$ . As a fuzzy analog of  $f \in C(S^d)$  we adopt the sum  $\hat{f}_{2\Lambda}$  appearing in [\(61\)](#page-10-2) with the coefficients of the expansion  $f = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_l} f_{i_1 \dots i_l}^l T_l^{i_1 \dots i_l}$  up to  $l = 2\Lambda$ . Theorem 6.2 in [\[1\]](#page-13-0) states that for all  $f, g \in C(S^d)$ the following strong  $\Lambda \to \infty$  limits hold:  $\hat{f}_{2\Lambda} \to f \cdot \widehat{f_{2\Lambda}}_{2\Lambda} \to fg$  and  $\hat{f}_{2\Lambda} \hat{g}_{2\Lambda} \to fg$ . However  $\hat{f}_{2\Lambda}$  *does not* converge to f in operator norm, because the operator  $\hat{f}_{2\Lambda}$  (a polynomial in the  $\bar{x}^i$ ) annihilates  $H_\Lambda^{\perp}$  (the orthogonal complement of  $H_\Lambda$ ), since so do the  $\bar{x}^i = P^\Lambda x^i \cdot P^\Lambda$ .

#### <span id="page-11-0"></span>**5. Discussion and conclusions**

We have obtained a sequence  $\{(\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}, \mathcal{A}_{\Lambda})\}_{\Lambda \in \mathbb{N}}$  of  $O(D)$ -equivariant approximations of quantum mechanics of a particle on  $S^d$ ;  $H_\Lambda$  is the Hilbert space of states,  $\mathcal{A}_\Lambda \equiv End(\mathcal{H}_\Lambda)$  is the associated  $*$ -algebra of observables,  $H_Λ ∈ ΒΛ$  is the free Hamiltonian (this may be modifed by adding interaction terms  $H_I \in \mathcal{A}_\Lambda$ , so that the new Hamiltonian still maps  $\mathcal{H}_\Lambda$  into iself).  $\mathcal{A}_\Lambda$  is spanned by ordered monomials [\(50\)](#page-9-1) in  $\bar{x}^i$ ,  $\bar{L}_{ij}$  (of appropriately bounded degrees), in the same way as the algebra  $\mathcal{A}_s$  of observables on  $\mathcal{H}_s$  is spanned by ordered monomials in  $t^i, L_{ij}$ . However, while  $\overline{x}^i$  generate the whole  $\mathcal{A}_\Lambda$  because  $[\overline{x}^i, \overline{x}^j] \propto \overline{L}_{ij}$  (as in Snyder spaces [\[4\]](#page-13-2)), this has no analog in  $\mathcal{A}_s$ , because  $[t^i, t^j] = 0$ . The square distance  $\bar{x}^2$  from the origin is not 1, but a function of  $L^2$ with a spectrum very close to 1, collapsing to 1 as  $\Lambda \to \infty$ . Each pair  $(\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}, \mathcal{A}_{\Lambda})$  is isomorphic to  $(V_{\mathbf{D}}^{\Lambda}, \pi_{\Lambda}[Uso(\mathbf{D})])$ ,  $\mathbf{D} \equiv D+1$ , also as  $O(D)$ -modules;  $\pi_{\Lambda}$  is the irrep of  $Uso(\mathbf{D})$  on the space  $V_{\mathbf{D}}^{\Lambda}$  of harmonic polynomials of degree  $\Lambda$  on  $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbf{D}}$ , restricted to  $S^D$ . We have also described (section [4\)](#page-10-0) the subspace  $C_\Lambda \subset \mathcal{A}_\Lambda$  of completely symmetrized trace-free polynomials in the  $\bar{x}^i$ ; this is also spanned by the fuzzy analogs of spherical harmonics.  $H_A$ ,  $H_A$ ,  $C_A$  carry reducible representations of  $O(D)$ ; as  $\Lambda \to \infty$  their decompositions into irreps respectively go to the decompositions of  $H_s \equiv \mathcal{L}^2(S^d)$ , of  $\mathcal{A}_s$  and of  $C(S^d) \subset \mathcal{A}_s$  (the continuous functions on  $S^d$  act on  $\mathcal{H}_s$  as multiplication operators). There are natural embeddings  $H_A \hookrightarrow H_s$ ,  $C_A \hookrightarrow C(S^d)$  and  $\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_s$  such that  $\mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_s$  in the norm of  $H_s$ , while  $C_\Lambda \to C(S^d)$ ,  $\mathcal{A}_\Lambda \to \mathcal{A}_s$  strongly as  $\Lambda \to \infty$ .

Reintroducing the physical angular momentum components  $l_{ij} \equiv \hbar L_{ij}$ , then in the  $\hbar \to 0$  limit  $\mathcal{A}_s$  endowed with the usual quantum Poisson bracket  $\{f, g\} = [f, g]/i\hbar$  goes to the (commutative) Poisson algebra  $\mathcal F$  of (polynomial) functions on the classical phase space  $T^*S^d$ , generated by  $t^i$ ,  $l_{ij}$ . We can directly obtain  $\mathcal F$  from  $\mathcal A_\Lambda$  adopting a suitable  $\Lambda$ -dependent  $\hbar$  going to zero as  $\Lambda \to \infty^1$  $\Lambda \to \infty^1$ . More formally, we can regard  $\{\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}\}_{\Lambda \in \mathbb{N}}$  as a fuzzy quantization of a coadjoint orbit of  $O(\mathbf{D})$  that goes to the classical phase space  $T^*S^d$ . We recall that coadjoint orbits  $O_\lambda = Ad_G^* \lambda$  of a Lie group G are orbits of the coadjoint action  $Ad<sub>G</sub><sup>*</sup>$  inside the dual space  $\mathfrak{g}^*$  of the Lie algebra g of G passing through  $\lambda \in \mathfrak{g}^*$ , or equivalently homogeneous spaces  $G/G_{\lambda}$ , where  $G_{\lambda}$  is the stabilizer of  $\lambda$  w.r.t. Ad<sup>\*</sup><sub>G</sub>. They have a natural symplectic structure. If G is compact semisimple, identifying  $\mathfrak{g}^* \simeq \mathfrak{g}$  via the (nondegenerate) Killing form, we can resp. rewrite these definitions in the form

$$
O_{\lambda} \equiv \left\{ g \lambda g^{-1} \mid g \in G \right\} \subset \mathfrak{g}^*, \qquad O_{\lambda} \equiv G/G_{\lambda} \quad \text{where } G_{\lambda} \equiv \left\{ g \in G \mid g \lambda g^{-1} = \lambda \right\}. \tag{63}
$$

Clearly,  $G_{\Lambda\lambda} = G_{\lambda}$  for all  $\Lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ . Denoting as  $\mathcal{H}_{\lambda}$  the (necessarily finite-dimensional) carrier space of the irrep with highest weight  $\lambda$ , one can regard (see e.g. [\[27\]](#page-14-12)) the sequence of  $\{\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}\}_{\Lambda \in \mathbb{N}}$ , with  $\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}$  = End ( $\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda\lambda}$ ), as a fuzzy quantization of the symplectic space  $O_{\lambda} \simeq G/G_{\lambda}$ . The Killing form *B* of  $so(\mathbf{D})$  gives  $B(L_{HI}, L_{JK}) = 2(\mathbf{D} - 2) \left( \delta_J^H \delta_K^I - \delta_K^H \delta_J^I \right)$  for all  $H, I, J, K \in \{1, 2, ..., \mathbf{D}\}.$ As a basis of the Cartan subalgebra h of  $so(D)$  we pick  $\{H_a\}_{a=1}^{\infty}$ , where  $\sigma \equiv \left[\frac{D}{2}\right]$  $\left[\frac{\mathbf{D}}{2}\right]$  = rank of so(**D**),

$$
H_{\sigma} \equiv L_{D\mathbf{D}}, \quad H_{\sigma-1} \equiv L_{(d-1)d}, \quad \dots, \quad H_1 = \begin{cases} L_{12} & \text{if } \mathbf{D} = 2\sigma, \\ L_{23} & \text{if } \mathbf{D} = 2\sigma + 1. \end{cases} \tag{64}
$$

We choose the irrep of  $Uso(\mathbf{D})$  on  $V_{\mathbf{D}}^{\Lambda} \simeq H_{\Lambda}$  and  $\Omega_{\mathbf{D}}^{\Lambda} \equiv (t^D + it^D)^{\Lambda} \in V_{\mathbf{D}}^{\Lambda}$  as the highest weight vector. The joint spectrum  $\Lambda = (0, ..., 0, \Lambda)$  of  $H \equiv (H_1, ..., H_{\sigma})$  is the weight associated to the

<span id="page-11-1"></span><sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>It suffices that  $\hbar(\Lambda) k(\Lambda)$  diverges; if e.g.  $k = \Lambda^2 (\Lambda + D - 2)^2/4$ , then  $\hbar(\Lambda) = O(\Lambda^{-\alpha})$  with  $0 < \alpha < 4$  is enough.

h-basis. Identifying  $\lambda \in \mathfrak{h}^*$  with  $H_\lambda \in \mathfrak{h}$  via the Killing form, we find that  $H_\Lambda \propto H_\sigma = L_{D\mathbf{D}}$ . The stabilizer of  $H_{\Lambda}$  in  $SO(D)$  is  $SO(2)\times SO(d)$ , where  $so(2)$ ,  $so(d)$  are resp. spanned by  $H_{\Lambda}$ , the  $L_{ij}$ with *i*, *j* < *D*. Thus the coadjoint orbit  $O_{\Lambda} = SO(D)/(SO(2) \times SO(d))$  has the dimension of  $T^*S^d$ ,

$$
\frac{D(D+1)}{2} - 1 - \frac{(D-2)(D-1)}{2} = 2(D-1) = 2d,
$$

consistently with the interpretation of  $\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}$  as the algebra of observables (quantized phase space) on the fuzzy sphere. It would have not been the case with some other irrep of  $U<sub>SO</sub>(D)$ ;  $O<sub>\lambda</sub>$  would have been some other equivariant bundle over  $S<sup>d</sup>$  [\[27\]](#page-14-12). For instance, the fuzzy spheres of dimension  $d > 2$  of [\[17–](#page-14-2)[20\]](#page-14-6) are based on  $End(V^{\Lambda})$ , where the spaces  $V^{\Lambda}$  carry *irreps* of both  $Spin(D)$  and  $Spin(D)$ , hence of both  $Uso(D)$  and  $Uso(D)$ . Then: i) for some  $\Lambda$  these may be only *projective* representations of  $O(D)$ ; ii) in general [\(46\)](#page-8-2) will not be satisfied; iii) as  $\Lambda \to \infty V^{\Lambda}$  does not go to  $\mathcal{L}^2(S^d)$  as a representation of  $Uso(D)$ , in contrast with our  $\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda} \simeq V_{\mathbf{D}}^{\Lambda}$ ; iv) the central  $\mathbf{x}^2 \equiv X^i X^i$ can be normalized to  $x^2 = 1$ . Here  $L_i$ **p** play the role of fuzzy coordinates  $X^i$ . In [\[21,](#page-14-7) [22\]](#page-14-5)  $d = 4$  and  $O_{\lambda} = \mathbb{C}P^3$ , which has dimension 6 and can be seen as a  $so(5)$ -equivariant  $S^2$  bundle over  $S^4$ . Ref. [\[21,](#page-14-7) [22\]](#page-14-5) constructs also a fuzzy 4-sphere  $S_N^4$  based on based on a sequence of  $End(V)$ , where each V carries an irrep  $\pi$  of  $Uso(6)$  which splits into the direct sum of a small number  $m > 1$  of irreps of  $Uso(5)$ ; the  $O(5)$ -scalar  $x^2 = X^i X^i$  is no longer central, but its spectrum is still very close to 1 provided. The associated coadjoint orbit is 10-dimensional and can be seen as a  $so(5)$ -equivariant  $\mathbb{C}P^2$  bundle over  $\mathbb{C}P^3$ , or a so(5)-equivariant twisted bundle over either  $S_N^4$  or  $S_n^4$ .

 $\mathcal{A}_s$  is generated by all the  $t^h$ ,  $L_{ij}$  with  $h \le D$ ,  $i < j \le D$  (subject to the relations  $t^i t^h = t^h t^i$ ,  $t^i t^i = 1$ ,  $[iL_{ij}, t^h] = t^i \delta_i^h - t^j \delta_i^h$ , etc.), and  $C(S^d)$  is generated by the  $t^h$  alone. On the contrary, by Remark [3.](#page-8-0)e the  $\bar{x}^i$  alone generate the whole  $\mathcal{A}_\Lambda \simeq \pi_\mathbf{D}^{\Lambda} [Uso(\mathbf{D})]$ , which contains  $C_\Lambda$  as a *proper* subspace, albeit not as a subalgebra; also the simpler generators  $X^i = L_{D_i}$  alone generate  $\mathcal{A}_\Lambda \simeq \pi_\mathbf{D}^{\Lambda} [Uso(\mathbf{D})]$ , because of  $L_{ij} = i[X^j, X^i]$  and [\(53\)](#page-9-0). Thus the Hilbert-Poincaré series of the algebra generated by the  $\bar{x}^i$  (or  $X^i$ ),  $\mathcal{A}_\Lambda$ , is larger than that of  $Pol_D^{\Lambda}$  and  $C_\Lambda$ . If by a "quantized space" we understand a noncommutative deformation of the *algebra* of functions on that space *preserving the Hilbert-Poincaré series*, then  $\{\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}\}_{\Lambda \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a  $(O(D))$ -equivariant, fuzzy) quantization of  $T^*S^d$ , the phase space on  $S^d$ , while  $\{C_\Lambda\}_{\Lambda \in \mathbb{N}}$  is not a quantization of  $S^d$ , nor are the other fuzzy spheres, except the Madore-Hoppe fuzzy 2-dimensional sphere: all the others, as ours, have the same Hilbert-Poincaré series of a suitable equivariant bundle on  $S^d$ , i.e. a manifold with a dimension  $n > d$  (in our case,  $n = 2d$ ). (Incidentally, in our opinion also for the Madore-Hoppe fuzzy sphere the most natural interpretation is of a quantized phase space, because the  $\hbar \rightarrow 0$  limit of the quantum Poisson bracket endows its algebra with a nontrivial Poisson structure.)

We understand  $H_{\Lambda}$ ,  $C_{\Lambda}$  as fuzzy "quantized"  $S^d$  in the following weaker sense.  $H_{\Lambda}$ ,  $C_{\Lambda}$  are the quantizations of  $\mathcal{L}^2(S^d)$ ,  $C(S^d)$ , because, by [\(57b](#page-10-3)), the whole  $\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}$  is obtained applying to the ground state  $\psi_0$  the polynomials in the  $\bar{x}^i$  alone (or the subspace  $C_\Lambda$ ), or equivalently [by [\(53\)](#page-9-0)] the polynomials in the  $X^i = L_{\text{D}i}$  alone, in the same way as  $\mathcal{L}^2(S^d)$  is obtained (modulo completion) by applying  $C(S^d)$  or  $Pol_D$ , i.e. the polynomials in the  $t^i = x^i/r$ , to the ground state (the constant function on  $S^d$ ). These quantizations are  $O(D)$ -equivariant because  $\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda}$  (resp.  $C_{\Lambda}$ ) carries the same reducible representation of  $O(D)$  as the space  $Pol_D^{\Lambda}$  (resp.  $Pol_D^{2\Lambda}$ ) of polynomials of degree  $\Lambda$  (resp. 2 $\Lambda$ ) in the  $t^i = x^i/r$ . Identifying  $H_{\Lambda}$ ,  $C_{\Lambda}$  with  $Pol_D^{\Lambda}$ ,  $Pol_D^{2\Lambda}$  as  $O(D)$ -modules, as  $\Lambda \to \infty$ the latter become dense in  $\mathcal{L}^2(S^d)$ ,  $C(S^d)$ , and their decompositions into irreps of  $O(D)$  become that [\(2\)](#page-1-0) of both  $\mathcal{L}^2(S^d)$ ,  $C(S^d)$ . This is not the case for the other fuzzy spheres.

We expect that space uncertainties and optimally localized/coherent states for  $d = 1, 2$  [\[28\]](#page-14-13) generalize to  $d > 2$ . It is also worth investigating about: distances between optimally localized states (as e.g. in [\[29\]](#page-14-14)); extending our construction to particles with spin; QFT on  $S^d$  $\Lambda^d$ ; their application to problems in quantum gravity, or condensed matter physics; etc. Finally, we mention that by using Drinfel'd twists one can construct [\[30,](#page-14-15) [31\]](#page-14-16) a different kind of noncommutative submanifolds of noncommutative  $\mathbb{R}^D$ , equivariant with respect to a 'quantum group' (twisted Hopf algebra).

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