

# Birth and Growth on Causal Sets: Model, Well-Posedness, and

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## Abstract

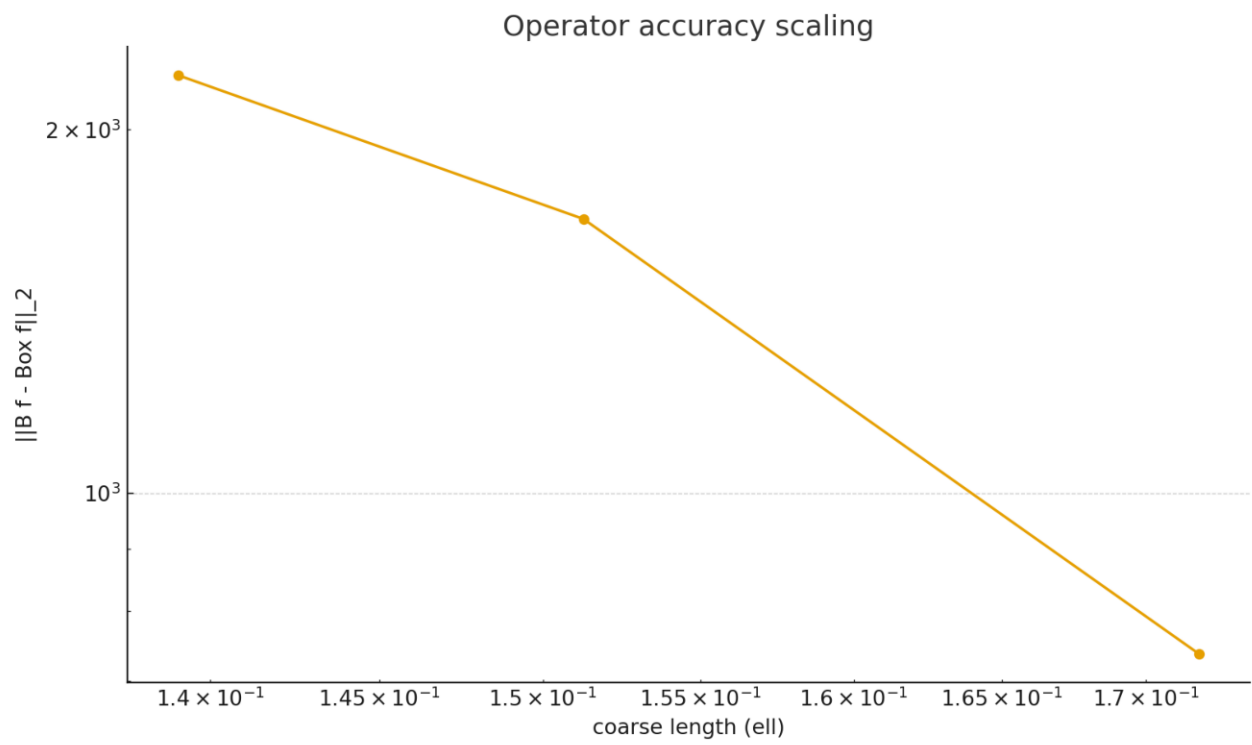
We define a continuous-time birth-death dynamics on causal sets in which event addition/removal rates are driven by a  $\lambda(x) = \lambda_0(x)^2/(1 + \lambda_0(x)^2)$ . The process preserves acyclicity and local finiteness by construction and is label-indifferent. We specify the Markov kernel precisely, introduce scale-diagnostics (Myrheim-Meyer and spectral dimensions), and implement a discrete wave operator  $\Delta$  to test approach to continuum behavior on smooth probes. We prove well-posedness (existence/uniqueness and non-explosion) under normalized and saturated rates, and lay out measurable signatures of approximately four-dimensional behavior. Phenomenological claims (Standard-Model spectra, black-hole thermodynamics, cosmology) are deferred to future work pending calibration and proofs.

## Main Text

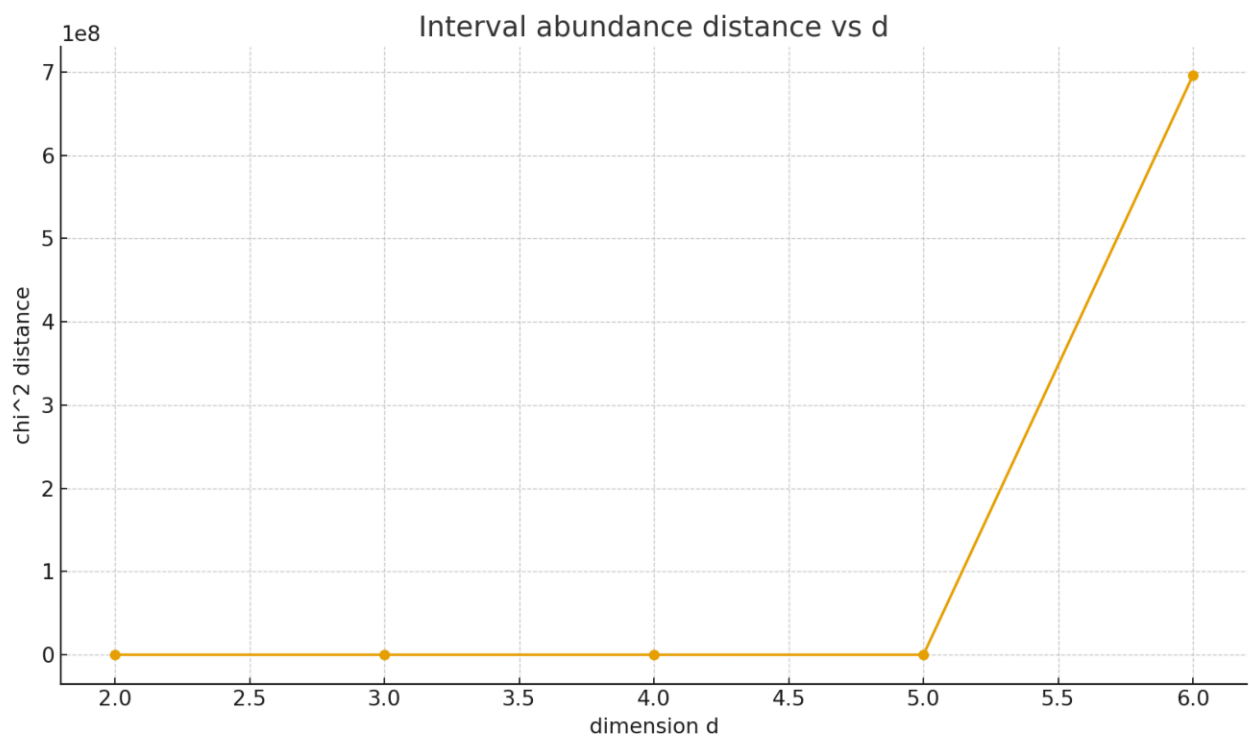
A causal set is a locally finite partially ordered set intended as a kinematic model of spacetime at Planckian scales. We propose a dynamical law in which a scalar “negentropic” field  $\psi : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  influences birth and death events through a fold functional  $\mathcal{F}(\psi)$ , encoding a competition between ordering and dispersion. Our contributions are: [leftmargin=1.2em] a continuous-time pure-jump Markov process on causal sets (Section~) that preserves acyclicity and local finiteness; scale diagnostics: ordering fraction  $\langle r \rangle$  and Myrheim–Meyer dimension  $\langle d_{\text{MM}} \rangle$ , spectral dimension  $\langle d_s \rangle$  from diffusion returns, interval counts  $\langle n_k \rangle$ , and a discrete wave operator  $\Delta$  for probe tests (Section~); a well-posedness theorem ensuring (i) invariance of partial order and local finiteness, (ii) existence/uniqueness, and (iii) non-explosion under normalized/saturated rates (Section~); a clean separation between proved results and hypotheses, forming the basis for subsequent papers on continuum limits and fields on emergent geometry. If  $(\mathcal{C}, \prec)$  is a causal set, write  $\mathcal{C}(x) := \{y : y \prec x\}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}(x) := \{y : x \prec y\}$ . For  $\{x, y\}$ , the Alexandrov interval is  $\mathcal{I}(x, y) := \{z : x \prec z \prec y\}$ . Maximal and minimal elements are denoted  $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{C})$ ,  $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{C})$ . The Hasse diagram edges are the covers of the partial order. We work throughout on causal sets; infinite-volume limits are taken as sequences of expanding finite sets. [Causal Set] A state is a pair  $(\mathcal{C}, \psi)$  where  $(\mathcal{C}, \prec)$  is a locally finite poset (every interval  $\mathcal{I}(x, y)$  is finite) and  $\psi : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a real field. [Negentropic Fold Operator] Given parameters  $(\alpha, \beta > 0)$ , define [equation omitted] We use a functional  $\mathcal{F}(\psi)$  computed on a finite neighborhood of bounded “height”  $\mathcal{H}$ , e.g. [equation omitted] where  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{H}}(x)$  is the induced subposet on elements within graph distance  $\mathcal{H}$  in the Hasse diagram, and the bar denotes the arithmetic mean. [Noise] Let  $\{(\xi_x)_x\}$  be i.i.d. mean-zero real random variables with variance  $\langle \xi^2 \rangle < \infty$  and compact tails. Noise enters only through local  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{H}}(x)$ . [Label Indifference] Transition rates depend only on isomorphism-invariant data of finite neighborhoods (e.g. counts of intervals up to height  $\mathcal{H}$ ), statistics of  $\psi$  on those intervals). Thus the law of the process is invariant under relabelings of  $\mathcal{C}$ . Let  $\langle N \rangle = |\mathcal{C}|$ ,  $\langle R \rangle$  be the number of comparable unordered pairs. The ordering fraction is  $\langle r \rangle := 2R / (N(N-1))$ . The Myrheim–Meyer dimension  $\langle d_{\text{MM}} \rangle$  is defined by numerically inverting the known map  $\langle d_r \rangle$  for Minkowski sprinklings; we denote this numerical inverse by  $\langle d_{\text{MM}} \rangle = \langle d_r^{-1} \rangle(r)$ . We report interpolation uncertainty. Let  $\langle G \rangle$  be the undirected skeleton of the Hasse diagram. Start simple random walks at uniformly chosen vertices and estimate the return probability  $\langle P(\mathcal{C}) \rangle$  after  $\langle \ell \rangle$  steps. Fit  $\langle P(\mathcal{C}) \rangle = \langle \ell^{-d_s} \rangle + c$  on a predeclared scaling window to obtain  $\langle d_s \rangle$  with confidence intervals. For  $\langle k \rangle$ , let  $\langle n_k \rangle$  be the number of  $\langle k \rangle$ -element intervals in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Compare the empirical vector  $\langle (n_k) \rangle$  with flat-space benchmarks via a suitable distance (e.g. chi-square). We implement a linear operator  $\Delta$  on functions  $\psi : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with a finite kernel supported on bounded-height neighborhoods, consistent with the standard causal-set d’Alembertian in flat space. Convergence diagnostics: for smooth probes  $\psi$ , study  $\langle \|\psi - \psi|_{\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{H}}} \|_{L^2} \rangle$  versus coarse length. We define a pure-jump Markov process  $\{(\mathcal{C}_t, \psi_t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  with two event types: and . All events preserve the partial order and local finiteness. Given a current state  $(\mathcal{C}, \psi)$ , define the birth intensity at an

admissible site  $(u)$  by [equation omitted] where  $([x]_+ := (x, 0))$  and  $(\_L(x) := \{[x]_+, \_, L\})$  is a saturating positive-part with level  $(L_b > 0)$ . A birth at  $(u)$  proceeds as follows: [label= ., leftmargin=1.4em] Sample a finite ancestor set  $(A)$  via a label--indifferent kernel  $(K_h)$  on the height-- $(h)$  neighborhood of  $(u)$ , enforcing down--set closure (if  $(x \in A)$  and  $(y \leq x)$ , then  $(y \in A)$ ). Add a new element  $(z)$  with  $(x \leq z)$  for all  $(x \in A)$ ; set  $(z)$  by a local rule (e.g. Gaussian around the neighborhood mean). Let  $(v)$  be minimal or maximal. Define [equation omitted] A death removes  $(v)$  and incident Hasse edges, leaving the induced order.  $(\_, \_) := \_b(u) + \_d(v)$ . Next event time is exponential with mean  $(1/)$ ; select event/site proportionally to intensity. [Boundary choice] Births may be restricted to maximal elements (future growth) or include minimal anchors; the kernel  $(K_h)$  remains label--indifferent and local. [Acyclicity preserved] Births add above a down--set; deaths remove extremals; the poset property is preserved. [Local finiteness preserved] Finite ancestors and single--element removals keep all  $(\_)$  finite. [Uniform total rate bound] With --,  $(\_, \_) \leq L_b + \_d L_d$  for every finite state. [Well--posedness] Under --, the pure--jump process on finite labeled causal sets with fields is a conservative CTMC with càdlàg paths and is non--explosive: only finitely many events occur in any finite time interval almost surely. [Proof sketch] Lemma~ gives a uniform exit-rate bound, implying a conservative -matrix and standard CTMC construction; non--explosion follows since waiting times with parameter sum to infinity a.s. [Label indifference] Isomorphic labeled states have identical event laws. })).} Compute  $(r)$ , invert numerically using a monotone calibration table  $(\{(r_d, d)\})$  from high--density Minkowski sprinklings (extrapolated in  $(1/N)$ ). Report interpolation uncertainty. On the undirected Hasse skeleton, run a random walk; estimate  $(P(\_))$ ; select a window by AIC and fit  $(P(\_) - (d_s/2) + c)$ . Bootstrap CIs. For  $(k \in \_)$ , count  $(n_k)$ . Compare to flat--space benchmarks via normalized  $(\^2)$ . With layers  $(L_i(x) = \{y : |l(y, x)| = i - 1\})$  and scale  $(\_, \_ \^{\{d\}} f(x) = \_ \^2 \_d f(x) + \_ \_{i=1}^{\{d/2 + 2\}} C_i^{\{d\}} \_ L_i(x) f(y))$ ,  $\_$  with closed--form  $(\_d, \_d, C_i^{\{d\}})$ . Validate by  $(\|f - f\|)$  vs coarse length; mean tends to  $(-12 R)$  in weak curvature. (i) Phase diagram in  $((\_, \_))$  (fixed  $(\_)$ ); (ii) Dual plateaus:  $(d_s)$  vs scale and  $(d_{\_})$  vs size; (iii) Operator accuracy:  $(\|f - f\|_{L^2})$  vs coarse length; (iv) Interval--distance curves  $(\^2(d))$ ; (v) Ablations. \*{Appendix A: Closed-Form Coefficients for } Let and . The Benincasa--Dowker--Glaser operator is  $(\^{\{d\}} f(x) \_ = \_ \^2 \_d f(x) + \_ \_{i=1}^{\{n_d\}} C_i^{\{d\}} \_ L_i(x) f(y))$ . Define and . The prefactors are  $(\_d = -, c_d^{\{2/d\}}, \_! (1 + \{d\})^{\{-1\}} \_!^2, \& d, \_!^2, \& d, \_d = \{(\{d\}), (d)\}^2, (d^2 + 2), (d^2 + 1), \& d, \_!^2, (\{2\}), (\{2\}), \& d)$ . For the layer coefficients are finite sums  $(C^{\{d, \_ \}}_i = \_{k=0}^{\{i-1\}} \{k\} (-1)^k \_, \{(\{d^2 + 2\}), (1 + d^2 k)\}, C^{\{d, \_ \}}_i = \_{k=0}^{\{i-1\}} \{k\} (-1)^k \_, \{2\}) \{(\{2\}), (1 + d^2 k)\})$ . These closed forms reproduce the known continuum limits: on 4D curved backgrounds, as .

# Operator accuracy



# Interval distance



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