The Mesh Model vs. Causal Set Theory: +70 Category Comparison

Thomas Lock

Purpose

This table offers a structured comparison between the Mesh Model and Causal Set Theory (CST) across over seventy key dimensions. It is designed to:

- Provide conceptual clarity for researchers evaluating discrete models of spacetime,

- Highlight the unique structural and dynamical features of the Mesh Model relative to causal order-based approaches,

- Situate coherence-regulated geometry alongside order-theoretic foundations in the quest for quantum gravity.

Category	Mesh Model	Causal Set Theory (CST)
1. Structural Foundations		
Foundational Metaphor	Interlaced Tension Mesh	Locally Finite Partially Ordered Set
Geometry Origin	Emergent from Curvature Response to Coherence	Order + Number = Geometry (Causal Order + Counting)
Spacetime Definition	Region of Mesh Coupling	Discrete Events with Causal Order
Causality	Ripple-Coherence Defines Lightcones	Built-in Partial Order (Reflexive, Transitive, Antisymmetric)
Time Emergence	From Directional Coherence Spread	Implicit in Ordering; Events Born Sequentially (Growth Dynamics)
Vacuum Structure	Structured Curvature Substrate	Vacuous Set or Empty Causal Predecessors
Particle Identity	Defined by Stability in Coherence Phase Space	Not Explicitly Modeled; Fields or Labels May Be Added to Events
Field Quantization Origin	Ripple Locking in Mesh Structure	Fields Defined on Causal Sets; Propagators Constructed via Causal Paths
Antimatter Mechanism	Curvature Inversion / Ripple Destruction	Not Intrinsically Defined; CPT Symmetry Requires Extra Structure
Mass Generation	Emergent from Standing Wave Tension Structures	Not Built-In; Mass Must Be Introduced via Field Behavior
2. Field Theory & Dynamics		
Quantum Behavior	Arises from Mesh Phase Geometry	Modeled via Sum Over Histories or Quantum Measure Approaches

Superposition	Real Harmonic Mesh Modes	Quantum Amplitudes over Causal Set Histories
Entanglement	Phase-Locked Coherence	Not Modeled; Lorentz-Invariant Sprinklings Preserve Causal Independence
Born Rule	Derived from Resonance Collapse	Requires Extension; Quantum Measure Theory Proposed
Gauge Interactions	Emergent from Mesh Coupling Modes	Not Built-In; May Require Parallel Transport or Field Decoration
Gravitational Origin	Curvature from Stiffness + Coherence	Geometry Emerges from Order + Volume; Dynamics via BD Action
Fermion Origin	Coherence Structures with Ripple Memory	Not Yet Realized; Fermions on Causal Sets Under Exploration
Boson Origin	Propagating Mesh Ripples	Scalar Fields on Causal Sets Well Studied
Spin Origin	Vortex/Ripple Structures	Not Intrinsic; Requires Additional Spin Structure
Charge Origin	Ripple Asymmetry / Mesh Topology	Not Intrinsic; May Be Modeled via Field Decorations
Interaction Mediation	Field Deformation and Tension Response	Propagation via Discrete Operators (e.g., D'Alembertian)
Decay	Loss of Coherence and Structure	Not Built-In; Requires Modeling of Field Evolution or Collapse
Field Equations	Lagrangians from Coupled Mesh Tensors	Discrete Action via Benincasa–Dowker (BD) Formulation
Curved-Spacetime QFT Support	Fully implemented via Mesh–Field Transformer	Approximate Recovery via Sprinkled Causal Sets
Geometry Source Equation	$g^{\mu\nu}(x) \propto \sum \phi_i \phi_j \partial^\mu \psi_i \partial^\nu \psi_j$	Global Geometry from Order and Volume; No Local Metric
Feynman Diagram Support	Fully supported via mesh-derived QFT	Scalar Propagators Constructed; Full Diagrammatics Challenging
Scattering Amplitudes	Derivable from mesh interactions	Requires Modeling on Sprinkled Sets; No General Framework Yet
3. Observational & Experimental Alignment		
Testability	Built for Lab	Indirect; Some Cosmological Phenomenology Proposed
Low-Mass Gravity Suppression	Predicts Deviation Below 1 mg	No Low-Mass Prediction; Gravity from Order Statistics
Vacuum Energy	Curvature Substrate = Dark Energy	May Fluctuate; Stochastic Λ Models Proposed
Dark Matter Candidates	Stable Mesh Solitons in CPS Zones	Not Modeled Directly; Hypothetical Structures Possible
Early Universe Behavior	Inflation = Phase Locking	Simulated via Fast Sequential Growth
Cosmic Expansion	Ongoing Coherence Spread	Emergent Expansion from Growth Dynamics

Time's Arrow	Irreversible Entanglement Growth	Implied by Growth Ordering; Non-Invertible Causet Extension
Black Hole Radiation	Tunneling Through Vacuum Gradient	Active Research Area; Causal Horizons May Obey Area Law
Black Hole Core	Supercooled, Structured, Finite	No Singularities; Finite Element Set
Gravitational Wave Echoes	Predicts Reflection off Shells	Not Yet Modeled
Higgs Decay Behavior	No Gravitational Coupling = Confirmed	Not Modeled; Higgs Sector Absent
Entropy Origin	Coherence Modes at Boundary	Link-Based Entropy Bounds
Gravitational Coupling Constant	Emergent from Mesh Stiffness	Appears via Action Density; Scale Set by Discreteness
Curvature Limit	Defined by Structure Saturation	No Defined Limit; Curvature from Link Density
Amplitude-Level Predictions	Mesh excitations produce measurable $\mathcal{M}$ and σ values	No General Amplitude Framework
4. Cosmology & Quantum Gravity		
Singularity Resolution	No Singularities, Just Saturated Core	Avoided via Element Finiteness
Remnant Problem	Avoided by Smooth Radiation + Full Evaporation	Open Question; Some Models Suggest Finite Causal Region
Inflation Mechanism	Rapid Coherence Locking	Can Be Mimicked by Rapid Growth
Dark Energy Identity	Zone VI Curvature Substrate	Fluctuating Λ from Causet Accumulation
Time Dilation Origin	Extreme Ripple Slowdown in Shell	Emergent Redshift from Causal Order Depth
Radiation Pathway	Quantum Tunneling Across Gradient	Not Yet Modeled; Field Paths Under Exploration
Information Recovery	Structured Phase Return + Page Curve	Under Development via Quantum Measure
Horizon Structure	Apparent Horizon Only (No True Barrier)	Link-Based Causal Boundaries
Page Curve	Matches Hawking Before Turning Over Smoothly	Some Models Approximate Page Behavior
Coherence Phase Space	Structural Classification of All Particles	No Analogous Structural Classification
5. Teaching, Math, & Scientific Philosophy		
Mathematical Transparency	Geometry + Mechanics + Field Theory	Simple Order-Based Foundation; Abstract in Dynamics
Dimensional Assumptions	3+1 Only	Dimension Emerges from Scaling of Intervals
Engineering Compatibility	Real Design Pathways (Mesh Drive)	No Engineering Model Proposed
Computation Readiness	Simulatable via Tension Networks	Well-Suited for MCMC and Sprinkling Simulations
Student Accessibility	Teachable from First Principles	Easy Conceptual Entry; Deep Dynamics Require Expertise

Scientific Philosophy	Structure First, Observation Bound	Causality First, Geometry Emergent
Experimental Anchoring	Built to Connect with Data	Cosmological Observables and Stochastic Gravity Effects
Future Vision	Tool for Spacetime Engineering	Discrete Quantum Gravity Completion Framework
Metric Reconstruction	Geometry is emergent and testable from mesh coherence	Reconstructed from Order + Volume Globally
6. Causality, Collapse, and Coherence Structure		
Causal Structure Source	Derived from field-level coherence, tension, and resistance	Fundamental Axiom: Partial Order Structure
Light Cone Definition	Emergent from effective cone: $\text{Cone}_{\text{eff}} = f(\vec{C}, \vec{v}, \mathcal{R})$	No Lightcone; Causal Precedence Encodes Reachability
Collapse Mechanism	$\Gamma(x) = \nabla \cdot \vec{C}(x)$ governs attenuation	Not Modeled; Some Work on Decoherence
Interference Criteria	$\vec{C}_L \cdot \vec{C}_R > 0$ and $\mathcal{R} < \infty$	Not Modeled; Interference Requires Field Structures
Mass Emergence	$m_{\text{eff}}^2(x) \propto \Gamma(x) + \mathcal{R}(x)$	Not Emergent; Must Be Assigned to Fields
Dark Matter Interpretation	Causal isolation phase of coherence field	Not Explicitly Modeled; Theoretical Possibility
Dark Energy Interpretation	High-Coherence Field; No Collapse or Curvature	Modeled as Fluctuating Λ from Counting
Decay Law Derivation	$P(t) = 1 - e^{-\int \Gamma(x(t)) dt}$	No Formal Decay Law Defined
Entropy Bound Origin	$S_{\text{max}} \leq \frac{1}{4} \int_{\Sigma} |\nabla \cdot \vec{C}| \, dA$	Derived via Link-Based Area Estimates
Causal Horizon Type	Horizon = Resistance Divergence $\mathcal{R} \to \infty$	Defined via Maximal Antichains / Future Sets
7. Particle Structure and Internal Geometry		
Spin-$\frac{1}{2}$ Origin	Topological phase winding: $\Psi = e^{i\theta/2}$	Not Defined Intrinsically; Spin Requires Extensions
Flavor Oscillation Mechanism	Coherence field superposition: $\phi^a = \sum_b U^{ab}(x)\psi^b$	Field Superpositions Possible; Not Yet Modeled
CP Violation Source	Phase offset in coherence vectors: $\delta_a - \delta_b$	Not Modeled; Requires Additional Structure
Sterile Neutrino Realization	Causally isolated coherence mode $\vec{C}^s \approx 0$	No Neutrino Sector Defined
Quark Triplet Binding	Cone neutrality condition: $\sum_a \vec{C}^a(x) = 0$	Not Modeled; Color Not Encoded
Fractional Charge Origin	Topological winding density: $Q_a = \frac{n_a}{k_a}$	Not Defined; No Charge Framework
Gluon Dynamics	$\mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}^{ab} = \partial_\mu C_\nu^a - \partial_\nu C_\mu^a + f^{abc} C_\mu^b C_\nu^c$	No Gauge Fields Implemented; Active Research
Field Current Source	$J_\nu^a = \phi^b \partial_\nu \phi^c f^{abc}$	Noether Currents Not Yet Developed