

Dimensional Interface Model (DIM)

We propose a **Dimensional Interface Model (DIM)** as a unified mathematical framework bridging discrete informational states and continuous physical manifolds, and **Projection Rendering Theorem (PRT)** as its guiding principle. The PRT asserts that any observed lower-dimensional physical phenomena can be regarded as the image of a projection (or functor) from a higher-dimensional or more fundamental state space. Concretely, one introduces a projection operator or functor π that maps a high-dimensional state (e.g. a section of a fiber bundle or a vector in a Hilbert space) onto a lower-dimensional manifold or data structure, preserving relevant physical observables. The DIM is thus formulated in precise terms using fiber bundles, category theory, and operator algebras, ensuring compatibility with both smooth spacetime geometry and quantum Hilbert spaces.

Fundamental Structures and Categories

- **Fiber Bundles:** We model the joint classical-quantum state as a fiber bundle $\pi: E \rightarrow B$, where the base B is a classical spacetime manifold and the fiber is a (possibly infinite-dimensional) vector space or Hilbert space of quantum/internal states ¹. For example, a principal G -bundle over spacetime encodes gauge degrees of freedom and an associated Hermitian line bundle (with connection) yields quantum states as its sections. In gauge theory, the connection one-form A on the bundle has curvature $F = dA + A \wedge A$, whose components correspond to field strengths ². In the DIM, the fiber bundle formalism unifies continuous geometry (base manifold with metric $g_{\mu\nu}$) and discrete/information structures (fiber states and transition functions).
- **Hilbert Bundle and Sections:** Equivalently, one may consider a Hilbert bundle $\mathcal{H} \rightarrow M$ over a manifold M , whose fiber \mathcal{H}_x at each point $x \in M$ is a Hilbert space of local quantum states. A *global section* of this bundle is a field of quantum states over M . In practice, we often require local trivializations so that sections can be locally identified with functions $M \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ satisfying transition rules. The space of all sections forms an (infinite-dimensional) vector space, and observables act fiberwise. This construction generalizes the usual picture of quantum fields as operator-valued functions on spacetime.
- **Category Theory:** The DIM uses a categorical viewpoint in which physical systems are objects and processes are morphisms. In quantum theory, the category **Hilb** has Hilbert spaces as objects and bounded linear operators as morphisms ³ ⁴. In contrast, classical geometry can be organized in the category **nCob**, whose objects are $(n-1)$ -dimensional manifolds (“space”) and whose morphisms are n -dimensional cobordisms (“spacetime”) ³. A key insight is that **Hilb** and **nCob** share monoidal and duality structures (they are both compact symmetric monoidal categories) ³. In our framework, we therefore consider functors between such categories. For instance, a Topological Quantum Field Theory (TQFT) is a symmetric monoidal functor $Z: \mathrm{nCob} \rightarrow \mathrm{Hilb}$ ³, assigning a vector space to each $(n-1)$ -manifold and a linear map to each cobordism. The DIM extends this idea: we can postulate a “*Dimensional Interface Functor*” \mathcal{Z}

$\mathcal{F}: \mathbf{Manifolds} \rightarrow \mathbf{Hilb}$ that assigns to each smooth manifold M a state space (Hilbert space or algebra of states) and to each embedding or fibration a corresponding operator. In particular, morphisms in geometry (such as embeddings of lower-dimensional branes into higher-dimensional bulk) correspond under \mathcal{F} to **projections or embeddings** of state spaces.

- **Discrete Structures as Categories:** Discrete informational states (e.g. bit strings, spin networks, tensor networks) form categories such as **Set**, **Graph**, or **TVec** (tensor network configurations) with structure-preserving maps. The DIM posits *adjoint functors* between discrete and continuous categories. For example, there is a forgetful functor from **Hilb** to **Set** that “dequantizes” by selecting basis states, and a free-vector-space functor from **Set** to **Hilb** that promotes discrete data to superposition states ⁴. By exploiting such adjunctions, one can systematically translate between discrete models (e.g. digital simulations, combinatorial manifolds, spin foam models) and continuous fields.

Geometric Quantization and Classical-Quantum Bridge

A core part of the DIM is a **quantization/dequantization correspondence** between classical and quantum descriptions. Geometric quantization provides a rigorous path: a classical phase space (M, ω) (a symplectic manifold) can be quantized by choosing a Kähler structure and a Hermitian line bundle $L \rightarrow M$ whose curvature is (proportional to) ω . The space of quantum states is then the space of holomorphic sections of L ⁵:

$$\mathcal{H} \cong H^0(M, L),$$

with $\dim \mathcal{H} < \infty$ in the compact case. Conversely, every finite-dimensional quantum system (\mathcal{H}) can be seen as coming from a classical Kähler manifold (projective space) with appropriate structure ⁶. Thus the DIM uses geometric quantization to identify a **smooth Kähler manifold of quantum states** with its dual classical interpretation. In formulas, one may write

$$\text{Quantize} : (M, \omega) \mapsto \mathcal{H} = \Gamma_{\text{hol}}(L),$$

$$\text{Dequantize} : \mathcal{H} \mapsto (\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{H}), \omega_{\text{FS}}),$$

where ω_{FS} is the Fubini–Study form on projective Hilbert space. This embodies the principle that “*classical phase space and quantum Hilbert space are dual to each other*”.

Environment-induced decoherence further enforces the classical-quantum interface. In DIM terms, interactions with an environment select a preferred “pointer basis” of states in \mathcal{H} so that only these states (and their probability distributions) become stable, effectively collapsing the system onto an emergent classical phase space. As Zurek emphasizes, “*classical structure of phase space emerges from the quantum Hilbert space in the appropriate macroscopic limit*” ⁷. In practice, the DIM incorporates decoherence by viewing classical states as equivalence classes of quantum states under environmental superselection, which can be modeled via a positive projection map Π_{decoh} onto a commutative subalgebra of operators.

Dimensional Transitions and Interface Embeddings

The DIM formalizes transitions between different dimensions using embeddings, fiberings, and categorical adjunctions:

- **Kaluza–Klein and Brane Embeddings:** Classical phenomena in D dimensions may be understood as arising from a higher $(D+1)$ -dimensional theory via compactification or brane localization. For example, Kaluza–Klein theory embeds a 4-dimensional spacetime M^4 into a 5-dimensional space $M^5 = S^1 \times M^4$ with a small circle [extra dimension]. Under this, a 5-dimensional metric yields a 4-dimensional metric plus a $U(1)$ gauge field. Likewise, Randall–Sundrum (RS) models describe our $(3+1)$ -dimensional world as a “brane” in a 5-dimensional *warped* Anti-de-Sitter bulk ⁸. We can encapsulate these by a smooth embedding $f: M^4 \hookrightarrow M^5$ and a corresponding restriction functor on fields:

$$f^* : \Gamma(E_{5D}) \rightarrow \Gamma(f^*E_{5D}),$$

where E_{5D} is a bundle of fields in 5D and f^*E_{5D} is its pullback to the brane. The DIM treats such embeddings as morphisms between categories of manifolds, linking high-dimensional and low-dimensional physics.

- **Holographic Duality (AdS/CFT):** As a concrete example of dimension-changing correspondence, the Anti-de Sitter/Conformal Field Theory (AdS/CFT) duality posits an equivalence between a $(d+1)$ -dimensional gravitational theory on AdS_{d+1} and a d -dimensional CFT living on its boundary ⁹. Categorically, one can view this as a pair of functors between the category of bulk spacetimes and boundary field theories. In DIM language, the bulk category object Σ^{d+1} (with its geometric data) maps to the boundary object $\partial\Sigma^d$ (with a quantum state space), preserving structures such as locality and symmetry.
- **Tensor Networks and Emergent Geometry:** Discrete tensor network states (e.g. MERA) exhibit an emergent continuous geometry that unifies discrete entanglement and smooth metric concepts. For instance, the Multi-scale Entanglement Renormalization Ansatz (MERA) defines a tensor network whose layers can be interpreted as slices of a higher-dimensional space. Nozaki–Ryu–Takayanagi showed that the *continuum MERA* (*cMERA*) defines an emergent holographic metric purely from quantum data ¹⁰. In formulas, the MERA establishes a correspondence

$$\{\text{quantum spins at scale } u\} \longleftrightarrow \{\text{discrete slices of an emergent metric space with coordinate } u\},$$

such that entanglement entropy (a discrete measure) coincides with areas of minimal surfaces in the emergent continuum ¹⁰. This illustrates a DIM principle: a discrete informational network can be “rendered” as a continuous geometry via a functor that assigns a Riemannian metric $g_{ab}(u)$ to each renormalization scale u .

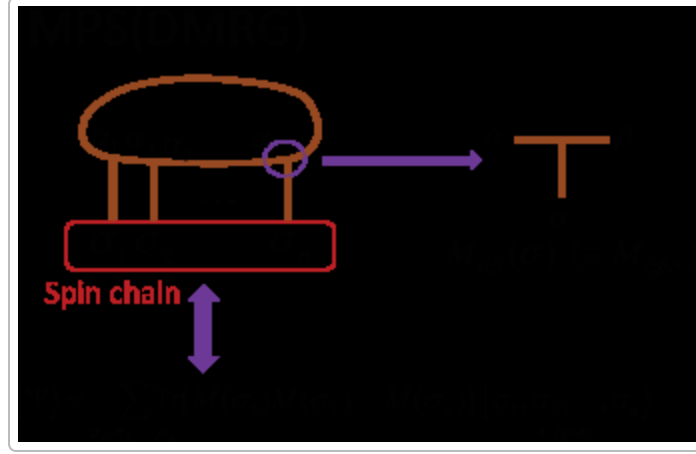


Figure 1: Example of a tensor network (Matrix Product State) representation of a 1D quantum chain ¹¹. Here each tensor (triangle) connects physical indices (bottom legs) to internal indices (horizontal legs) to form a state $|\Psi\rangle$ via Eq. (2) in the text. In the DIM, such networks serve as discrete analogs of continuous states on a manifold.

- **Field-Particle Duality:** In field theory, the classical-quantum interface also involves particle interpretations. A classical field (section of a bundle) and its quantum excitations (particles) are related by second quantization. The DIM formalism treats a classical field $\phi(x)$ as a point in an infinite-dimensional configuration space and its quanta as elements of a Fock space. Operator algebras on the manifold M (e.g. $\hat{\phi}(x)$, $\hat{\pi}(x)$) obey commutation relations $[\hat{\phi}(x), \hat{\pi}(y)] = i\hbar \delta^{(D)}(x-y)$, and field quanta correspond to creation operators acting on a vacuum. Topological solitons in a classical field (e.g. vortices, skyrmions) map to particle excitations in the quantum theory. The DIM can incorporate this via a correspondence functor from classical configuration space to a category of Fock spaces, respecting symmetries and conservation laws.

Geometric and Topological Tools

The DIM harnesses advanced mathematics to encode dimensional structures:

- **Differential Geometry:** Classical spacetime is modeled as a smooth Lorentzian manifold $(M, g_{\mu\nu})$ with Riemann curvature $R^{\rho}_{\sigma\mu\nu}$. The DIM requires that M be a fiber bundle base or an embedded submanifold (by Nash's theorem any Riemannian M embeds isometrically into \mathbb{R}^N ¹²). Geometric flows (Ricci flow, mean curvature flow) can model transitions in geometry or emergent smoothing of discrete structures. Connections ∇ on bundles yield covariant derivatives, and curvature 2-forms measure field strengths, unifying gauge and gravity fields. In symbols, the **Einstein equation**

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}R g_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}$$

holds on the base manifold M and constrains how matter/energy (including projected quantum stress) backreacts on geometry. The DIM imposes consistency between this smooth curvature and any induced geometry from discrete states.

- **Category of Bordisms (Cobordism):** In topology, cobordisms between manifolds capture processes. For example, a 3D manifold evolving into another is a 4D cobordism. An **extended TQFT** assigns algebraic data (Hilbert spaces, vector spaces) to manifolds and linear maps to cobordisms. This is realized as a functor

$$Z : (d-1)\text{Cob} \rightarrow \text{Hilb},$$

satisfying $Z(\Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2) = Z(\Sigma_1) \otimes Z(\Sigma_2)$ and $Z(\emptyset) = \mathbb{C}$ (monoidal axioms). The DIM uses TQFT as a blueprint: dimensional interfaces (boundaries, defects, branes) are objects in a cobordism category, and their interactions are morphisms. For instance, a boundary between a 4D bulk and 3D brane is a cobordism that Z assigns a “boundary state” in Hilbert space, analogous to holographic duality.

- **Algebraic Structures:** The classical category of commutative C^* -algebras is dual to the category of compact Hausdorff spaces (Gelfand–Naimark theorem). The DIM extends this to noncommutative algebras for quantum spaces. States on a commutative algebra $C^*(M)$ correspond to probability distributions on M , whereas states on a noncommutative algebra \mathcal{B} (\mathcal{H}) correspond to density matrices on Hilbert space. A key idea is that “geometry = algebra”; thus, we can describe a manifold by a spectral triple $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{H}, D)$ (Connes’ noncommutative geometry) and transition to a discrete “space” by deforming \mathcal{A} . The DIM can exploit such dualities to move between continuum and discrete representations.

Tensor Networks, Entanglement and Geometry

Tensor network states (TNS) provide an explicit link between discrete information and emergent geometry. In the DIM, a TNS defines a discrete combinatorial geometry, and its continuum limit recovers a classical manifold. Two paradigmatic examples are:

- **Matrix Product States (MPS):** A 1D quantum chain wavefunction $\Psi_{s_1 \dots s_N}$ is represented as a product of matrices $M(s_i)$ (Eq. (2) below). Graphically, each tensor (a “tripod”) has one physical leg s_i and two auxiliary legs. Connecting auxiliary legs contracts indices to form the state ¹³ :

$$\Psi_{s_1 \dots s_N} = \sum_{a_1, \dots, a_{N-1}} M_{a_1}^{(1)}(s_1) M_{a_1, a_2}^{(2)}(s_2) \cdots M_{a_{N-1}}^{(N)}(s_N).$$

In DIM terms, the MPS is a functor from the category of 1D lattices to the category of vector spaces. Its entanglement entropy scales with the number of cuts of auxiliary bonds, reflecting an “area law” for 1D partitions ¹⁴ .

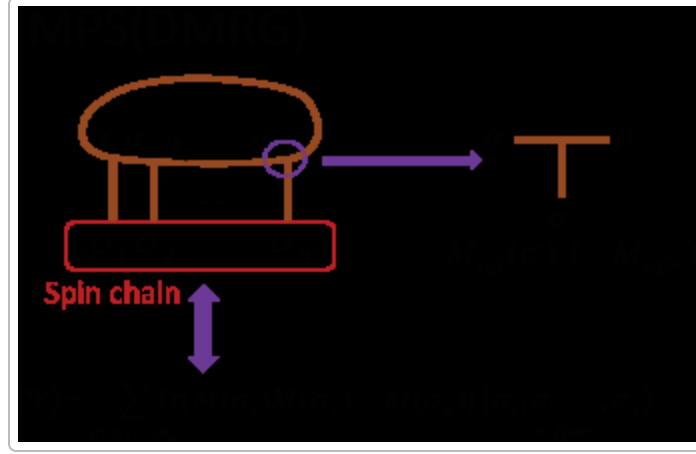


Figure 2: (Reproduced from [34]) The MERA tensor network for a 1D critical chain. Disentanglers (red) and isometries (orange) act on spins at each scale. The network has a tree-like causal structure, and minimal cut surfaces (blue) compute entanglement entropy as in holographic duality ¹⁵.

- **MERA (Multi-scale Entanglement Renormalization Ansatz):** The MERA introduces additional “disentangler” tensors to remedy the limited entanglement of simple trees. Its network (Fig. 2) has a hierarchical, hyperbolic-like geometry. In the continuum limit (cMERA), one obtains a metric $g_{\mu\nu}(x)$ in an extra dimension u from the renormalization scale. This emergent metric satisfies properties of AdS spaces at criticality ¹⁰. Thus a purely discrete optimization algorithm yields a continuous Riemannian metric, exemplifying how DIM renders geometry from information.

Tensor networks can be generalized to higher dimensions (PEPS, MERA in $d > 1$) and to quantum error-correcting codes. They define **functorial maps** from graphs or lattices to spaces of quantum states, preserving topological features. In particular, holographic codes (e.g. HaPPY code) implement an AdS/CFT-like correspondence via tensor networks. The DIM embraces these as constructive examples: a high-dimensional quantum state (tensor network) is projected to a boundary or lower-dimensional effective theory via contraction.

Compatibility with General Relativity and QFT

The DIM is explicitly constructed to be consistent with the smooth geometry of General Relativity (GR) and the Hilbert space/operator-algebraic structure of Quantum Field Theory (QFT):

- **General Relativity (Classical Side):** The base manifold M of DIM is a smooth Lorentzian manifold with a metric g solving Einstein’s equations $R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}$. Matter/energy tensor $T_{\mu\nu}$ may include projections of quantum stress from the fiber. The manifold carries differential-topological data (tangent bundle, spin structure, orientation) that underlie both gravity and gauge fields. Geodesic flows, curvature invariants (e.g. Ricci scalar R), and topological invariants (Euler class, Chern classes of bundles) all appear in DIM as parameters of the interface. Crucially, any embedding or projection must preserve diffeomorphism invariance at the classical level, so that the DIM respects general covariance: different coordinate representations yield equivalent projections.

- **Quantum Field Theory (Quantum Side):** Each slice or region of M is assigned a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} and an algebra of local observables $\mathcal{A}(U)$. Fields $\hat{\phi}(x)$ are operator-valued distributions on M . The DIM requires that quantum states vary smoothly over M (no abrupt jumps as if M were emergent). Moreover, quantum states on different regions must entangle consistently; the entanglement structure (e.g. area-law entropy for QFT ground states) must match the geometric predictions of M 's metric. The interface also accounts for *renormalization*: going from high-energy (short distance) to low-energy (long distance) corresponds to “flowing” from discrete to continuum descriptions. Formally, this is captured by a renormalization group functor $\mathcal{R}: \mathrm{Hilb} \rightarrow \mathrm{Hilb}$ that coarsens states. The DIM demands compatibility: applying \mathcal{R} and then projecting to geometry should equal projecting first then coarse-graining the geometry (an intertwining relation).
- **Topological Quantum Field Theory (TQFT) as a Bridge:** A useful subcase is to consider topological or semi-topological limits of GR/QFT. For example, in a limit where local excitations are gapped, the theory reduces to a TQFT. In this regime the DIM reduces to a functor $Z: \mathrm{Cob} \rightarrow \mathrm{Hilb}$ (Atiyah's axioms). The DIM extends this to include non-topological metrics and local degrees of freedom by relaxing topological invariance to diffeomorphism invariance and allowing path-dependent holonomies.
- **Operator Algebras and Probability:** On the quantum side, observables form (typically noncommutative) operator algebras \mathcal{A} (e.g. a *C-algebra* or *von Neumann algebra*). *On the classical side, one has commutative algebras of functions. The DIM prescribes a mapping between them: roughly, $\Pi(\mathcal{A}_{\mathrm{quantum}}) = \mathcal{A}$ where Π is a positive linear map (like taking expectation or dephasing). Probabilistic states (density operators) map to probability measures on phase space under this projection. Notably, Gelfand–Naimark duality implies every commutative C-algebra corresponds to a topological space, so the DIM naturally treats quantum algebras as “quantized geometries” that reduce to classical spaces when commuting.*

Field–Particle Correspondence and Observable Projections

The DIM must encode how fields in one description become particles or quanta in another. Mathematically, classical fields are sections $\phi: M \rightarrow E$ of vector bundles (e.g. the electromagnetic potential A_μ is a section of the cotangent bundle). Quantum mechanically, one expands such fields in mode functions with creation/annihilation operators:

$$\hat{\phi}(x) = \sum_k (a_k u_k(x) + a_k^\dagger u_k^*(x)).$$

Particles correspond to Fock states $|n_k\rangle$. The DIM formalizes this as a correspondence functor \mathcal{Q} from the category of classical field configurations to the category of Fock space representations. Conversely, collective excitations (particles) can back-react as effective classical fields (e.g. a condensate). Topological defects in fields (e.g. vortices in a fluid) behave as particle-like objects; the DIM captures this by mapping homotopy classes of field configurations to particle excitations.

Probabilistic and Statistical Methods

Since physical states are ultimately probabilistic, the DIM includes measure-theoretic tools. Classical configurations have probability measures (Liouville measures, Boltzmann weights) and quantum states have density matrices (or Wigner functions). The bridge uses **path integrals** and **coarse-graining**: one can represent the projection as an integral kernel $\Pi(x, y)$ such that

$$\phi_{\text{classical}}(x) = \int \Pi(x, y) \psi_{\text{quantum}}(y) dy,$$

mapping a wavefunctional $\psi[y]$ to a classical field $\phi(x)$. Statistical field theory (partition functions $Z[J]$) plays a role: turning on sources J in d dimensions can generate effective actions in $d-1$ dimensions (holographic RG). The DIM also employs probabilistic graphical models (belief networks) as analogs of tensor networks, treating inference on a graph as a projection of a global joint distribution.

Pathways to Simulation and Experiment

The DIM framework is structured to be testable and simulable:

- **Lattice and Discrete Simulations:** Lattice gauge theory already bridges discrete and continuous physics via taking continuum limits. The DIM formalizes this: any lattice simulation is a section of a fiber bundle over discretized spacetime, with the continuum limit corresponding to refining the bundle. Tensor network methods and quantum Monte Carlo are naturally expressed in DIM by viewing the network as discretizing the fiber bundle.
- **Quantum Simulation of Field Theories:** Digital quantum computers can simulate QFTs (using, e.g., Hamiltonian encoding of fields). The DIM suggests encoding both space and gauge degrees into qubits (a discrete fiber) whose evolution (quantum circuit) realizes a projection of a continuum field theory. Conversely, analog gravity experiments (BECs simulating black hole horizons) implement continuous phenomena in discrete atomic media; the DIM models these as bidirectional functors between continuum equations and discrete lattices.
- **Dimensional Crossover Experiments:** Materials and metamaterials can have effective dimensionality (e.g. 2D electron gases, photonic crystals emulating higher dimensions). The DIM could model how electronic or photonic states in a material (fiber degrees of freedom) yield effective lower- or higher-dimensional behavior. For instance, experiments on layered materials simulate extra-dimensional physics; in DIM we would represent each layer as a manifold M_d and the coupling as an embedding into M_{d+1} .
- **Analog Topology and Geometry:** The study of optical/photonic metasurfaces with engineered metric analogs can realize curved spaces in the lab. The DIM provides a mathematical mapping from the surface geometry to the effective refractive index or Hamiltonian that photons experience. Similarly, discrete circuits can realize topological quantum field theories; the DIM describes how these circuits (graphs with unitary gates) implement continuum invariants.

Summary and Outlook

In summary, the **Dimensional Interface Model** is a fibered, category-theoretic framework uniting discrete and continuous, classical and quantum representations. Its main components are:

- A **fiber bundle** $\pi: E \rightarrow M$ combining spacetime M and internal state spaces, with connections encoding gauge/entanglement.
- **Functorial maps** between categories of manifolds and Hilbert spaces, implementing the Projection Rendering Theorem.
- Unification of **geometric quantization**, **TQFT** functors, and **tensor networks** as bridges between dimensions.
- Embedding of **classical GR** (Riemannian geometry) and **QFT** (operator algebras, Hilbert spaces) into a single coherent language.

Mathematically, the DIM might be formalized as a 2-category or fibration of categories where objects are dimensional theories (e.g. pairs (M, \mathcal{H})) and morphisms are projections/embeddings. At each stage, consistency conditions (commuting diagrams) ensure the same physical content emerges whether one moves in spacetime or changes description regime. Symbolically, one demands that for any diagram of embeddings and projections the corresponding square of functors commutes. For example, coarse-graining then projecting yields the same result as projecting then integrating out degrees of freedom.

This framework is rich enough to suggest explicit simulations (using tensor networks or lattice models) and to propose experiments (e.g. quantum simulators of gravitational duals). For instance, one could simulate a simple DIM by encoding a 2D conformal field on a lattice and demonstrating its equivalence to a 3D discrete gravity model via the specified functor. Similarly, one could test the geodesic networks predicted by a MERA-based DIM against analytical solutions of AdS metrics.

In conclusion, the DIM realizes a **mathematically rigorous multi-faceted bridge**:
$$\begin{matrix} \text{Smooth manifold } M & \xrightarrow{\text{fiber bundle}} & \text{embedding} & \xrightarrow{E} & \text{Quantum state category (Hilb)} \\ & & & & \downarrow \\ & & & & \text{Hilbert spaces/operators} \end{matrix}$$
 where the composite functors and projections respect geometry, topology, and probability. By merging tools from differential geometry (fiber bundles, connections, curvature) with those of category theory (TQFT functors, monoidal categories) and probability (measure/projective limits), the DIM offers a complete blueprint for how dimensionality, both of space and state, can emerge, transform, and be consistently mapped across classical and quantum domains ³ ⁵.

¹ ² Gauge theory - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gauge_theory

³ ⁴ math.ucr.edu

<https://math.ucr.edu/home/baez/rosetta.pdf>

⁵ ⁶ Geometric Quantization (Part 1) | Azimuth

<https://johncarlosbaez.wordpress.com/2018/12/01/geometric-quantization-part-1/>

⁷ [quant-ph/0105127] Decoherence, einselection, and the quantum origins of the classical

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