

Abstract Submitted  
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**Quantum Field Theory on a Growing Lattice** BRENDAN Z. FOSTER, TED JACOBSON, University of Maryland — We construct the classical and canonically quantized theories of a massless scalar field on a background lattice in which the number of points—and hence the number of modes—may grow in time. To obtain a well-defined theory certain restrictions must be imposed on the lattice. Growth-induced particle creation is studied in a two-dimensional example. The results suggest that local mode birth of this sort injects too much energy into the vacuum to be a viable model of cosmological mode birth, at least if only a small number of points is born at each time step.

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