

The IKKT matrix model as a possible basis for (quantum) gravity & cosmology

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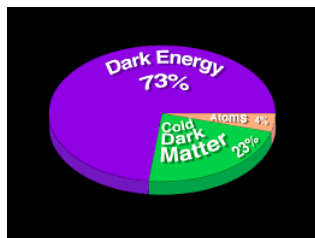
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further motivation for modification of GR:

95 % of the universe is **not understood** !

Λ CDM model:



either

- general relativity is wrong, or
- particle physics is incomplete, or
- both (most likely)

→ expect major change in fundamental physics

sophisticated proposal: string theory

gives 9+1D (quantum) gravity ⚡

→ compactification → landscape 😞

non-perturbative approach defined by **Matrix Models** : IKKT, BFSS

- proposed as constructive def. of (corner of) string theory
- inherit magical properties of string theory (max. SUSY)

here: consider the IKKT = IIB model as **fundamental starting point**

can the IKKT model yield (near-)realistic 3 + 1 dim. physics?

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IKKT = IIB Matrix Model

Ishibashi, Kawai, Kitazawa, Tsuchiya 1996

$$S = \text{Tr}([Y^a, Y^b][Y_a, Y_b] + \bar{\Psi}\Gamma_a[Y^a, \Psi])$$

maximal SUSY, closely related to IIB string theory

Y^a , $a = 0, \dots, 9$ $N \times N$ matrices, hermitian

Ψ ... matrix-valued MW spinor of $SO(1, 9)$

hep-th/9612115

- gauge invariance $Y^a \rightarrow U^{-1} Y^a U$
- solutions / backgrounds = **branes**
space-time = suitable 3+1d brane \bar{Y}^a ("brane-world")
- well-suited for quantization:

$$Z = \int dY d\Psi e^{iS[Y, \Psi]}$$

1-loop \rightarrow **induced** 3+1d gravity

unique model without pathological UV/IR mixing

aside on string theory:

Q: isn't this just string theory in disguise?

A: maybe, but it provides a novel mechanism for gravity!

approach:

weakly coupled gauge theory on 3+1 dim. NC branes

→ novel gauge theory for geometry/gravity (no holography!)

(NC $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM ... unique consistent 4D noncommutative QFT!)

physical modes on brane, nothing escapes into bulk (weak coupling!)

(much of 2000's literature on MM is about bulk physics)

avoids landscape: **no compactification of target space!**

relation with IIB string theory best seen via interactions of D-branes

(1-loop)

IKKT [hep-th/9612115](#)

(holographic dual, unphysical!)

can (and should!) put IKKT model on a computer!

extensive work by group around

Nishimura, Tsuchiya, Anagnostopoulos, etal. cf. 2307.01681

oscillating integral \rightarrow requires sophisticated methods (Langevin, Lefschetz thimble, ...)

some evidence for SSB of $SO(9, 1)$ & lower dimensional space-time brane, not yet conclusive

novel mechanism for 3+1 gravity on branes $\mathcal{M}^{3,1} \times \mathcal{K}_N \subset \mathbb{R}^{9,1}$

- 1-loop \rightarrow induced E-H action on brane
for eff. metric (= open string metric)
- UV finite, reasonable cosmology without fine-tuning
- \mathcal{K}_N finite, gives structure to low-energy gauge theory
- no compactification of target space, no landscape problem

"fuzzy space(time)" = quantized symplectic brane $\mathcal{M}^{3,1}$

(1-loop sugra = weak, short-range r^{-8} interaction on brane)

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outline:

- geometric interpretation of Yang-Mills matrix models
- geometrical structures: frame, metric, torsion
- **quantization**: 1-loop effective action
→ Einstein-Hilbert action (+ extras)
- covariant FLRW quantum space-time $\mathcal{M}_n^{3,1}$ & higher spin

introductory review: [arXiv:1911.03162](https://arxiv.org/abs/1911.03162)

quantization & E-H action: [arXiv:2303.08012](https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.08012), [2110.03936](https://arxiv.org/abs/2110.03936)

book "Quantum Geometry, Matrix Models, and Gravity" (soon)

quantum spaces from matrix models

$$S = \text{Tr}([Y^a, Y^b][Y_a, Y_b] + \dots)$$

expect: dominant configs = “almost-commuting” matrix configurations

$$[Y^a, Y^b] \approx 0$$

= quantized symplectic spaces

Y^a generates algebra of “functions” on \mathcal{M}

$$[Y^a, Y^b] \sim i\{y^a, y^b\} \quad \dots \text{Poisson brackets}$$

semi-classical correspondence (cf. QM!)

$$\text{End}(\mathcal{H}) \sim \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{M})$$

$$\Phi \sim \phi(y)$$

$$[\Phi, \Psi] \sim i\{\phi, \psi\}$$

$$\text{Tr} \Phi \sim \int_{\mathcal{M}} \Omega \phi, \quad \Omega \dots \text{symp. volume}$$

old idea: Schrödinger, Heisenberg, Snyder, ...

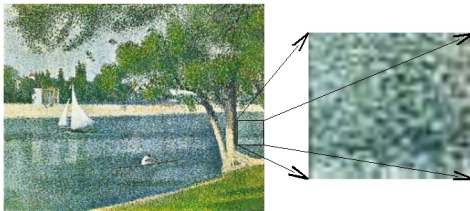
borrow idea from QM:

QM = quantization of phase space $[Q, P] = i\hbar$

$Y^a = \begin{pmatrix} P \\ Q \end{pmatrix}$... QM phase space = "quantum plane" \mathbb{R}_θ^2

$\text{End}(\mathcal{H})$... algebra of observables \cong functions on phase space

quantum spacetime = quantization $[Y^a, Y^b] = i\theta^{ab}(Y)$ of spacetime



inherent uncertainty of space(time)

use Q.M. techniques (coherent states, ...) for spacetime & geometry

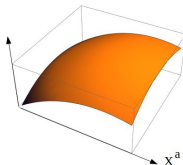
in matrix model:

assume dominant / (meta-) stable

“vacuum” matrix configuration (solution) $Y^a \in \text{End}(\mathcal{H})$

interpreted as embedded symplectic manifold (\mathcal{M}, ω) (“brane”)

$$Y^a \sim y^a : \mathcal{M} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^D$$



physical meaning of Yang-Mills matrix models?

insight 1 (around 2000):

Yang-Mills **gauge theory** arises from **fluctuations** of quantum spaces in **Matrix Models**

$$\begin{aligned}
 [Y^a, Y^b] &= i\theta^{ab}, & Y^a &\rightarrow Y^a + \mathcal{A}^a \\
 [Y^a + \mathcal{A}^a, Y^b + \mathcal{A}^b] &= i\theta^{ab} + i\theta^{aa'}\theta^{bb'} \underbrace{(\partial_a \mathcal{A}_b - \partial_b \mathcal{A}_a + i[A_a, A_b])}_{F_{ab}}
 \end{aligned}$$

simpler than on classical space-time !! (use $[Y^a, A] \sim i\theta^{ab}\partial_b A$)

$$S = \text{Tr}[Y^a, Y^b][Y_a, Y_b] \sim \int F^{ab}F_{ab} + c$$

... **NC gauge theory; pathological** upon quantization (UV/IR mixing, non-renormalizability) (Susskind/Toumbas, Jack, Jones et al) **except**

$\mathcal{N} = 4$ NC SYM \cong IKKT model

contains geometrical theory encoded in $U(1)$ sector

what about gravity?

insight 2:

Matrix Models $S = \text{Tr}[Y^a, Y^b][Y_a, Y_b] \rightarrow$ dynamical quantum spaces

Alekseev-Recknagel-Schomerus, IKKT, HS, ... 1999 ff

\rightarrow “emergent gravity” (cf. Rivelles, HS, Yang, ...)

complementary / consistent with string theory

The effective metric in matrix models

consider transversal fluctuations = scalar fields $\phi \in \text{End}(\mathcal{H})$

$$\begin{aligned} S[\phi] &= -\text{Tr} \eta_{ab} [Y^a, \phi] [Y^b, \phi] \\ &\sim \int \rho_M \eta_{ab} E^{a\mu} \partial_\mu \phi E^{b\nu} \partial_\nu \phi \sim \int \sqrt{|G|} G^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi \end{aligned}$$

semi-classical frame & metric:

$$E^{a\mu} = \{Y^a, x^\mu\} \sim -i[Y^a, x^\mu]$$

divergence constraint $\nabla_\nu(\rho^{-2} E_a{}^\nu) = 0$ (Jacobi identity)

$$G^{\mu\nu} = \rho^{-2} \eta_{ab} E^{a\mu} E^{b\nu} = \rho^{-2} \gamma^{\mu\nu}$$

$$\rho^2 = \rho_M \sqrt{|\gamma^{\mu\nu}|} \quad \dots \text{dilaton}$$

governs **all** fluctuations in M.M, universal \Rightarrow **gravity** !

no local Lorentz transformation of the frame!

Weitzenböck connection:

$$\nabla^{(W)} E_{\dot{a}} = 0 \quad (\text{Weitzenböck}) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \nabla^{(W)} G^{\mu\nu} = 0$$

flat but **torsion**:

$$T_{\dot{a}\dot{b}} \equiv T[E_{\dot{a}}, E_{\dot{b}}] = \nabla_{\dot{a}} E_{\dot{b}} - \nabla_{\dot{b}} E_{\dot{a}} - [E_{\dot{a}}, E_{\dot{b}}]$$

can show (Jacobi):

$$T_{\dot{a}\dot{b}}{}^{\mu} = \{\hat{\Theta}_{\dot{a}\dot{b}}, x^{\mu}\}, \quad \hat{\Theta}_{\dot{a}\dot{b}} := -\{Y_{\dot{a}}, Y_{\dot{b}}\}$$

$$T_{\dot{a}} = dE_{\dot{a}}, \quad E_{\dot{a}} = E_{\mu\dot{a}} dx^{\mu} \quad \dots \text{coframe}$$

torsion tensor encodes field strength of the NC gauge theory

(HS arXiv:2002.02742 , cf. Langmann Szabo hep-th/0105094)

geometric form of the matrix eom $\{X^a, \{X_a, X^b\}\} = m^2 X^b$

Weitzenböck connection:

$$\nabla_{\nu}^{(W)} T^{\nu}_{\rho\mu} + T^{\sigma}_{\nu\mu} T^{\nu}_{\sigma\rho} = -m^2 \gamma_{\rho\mu}$$

HS arXiv:2002.02742 , cf. Hanada-Kawai-Kimura hep-th/0508211

Levi-Civita connection:

$$\nabla^{(G)\nu} (\rho^2 T_{\nu\mu}^{\dot{a}}) + \frac{1}{2} T^{(AS)\nu\sigma}_{\mu} T_{\nu\sigma}^{\dot{a}} = -m^2 E^{\dot{a}}_{\mu}$$

and

$$\star T^{(AS)} = \tilde{T}_{\mu} dx^{\mu}, \quad \tilde{T}_{\mu} = \rho^{-2} \partial_{\mu} \tilde{\rho}$$

...“gravitational axion”

Fredenhagen, HS arXiv: 2101.07297

- E-H action in terms of torsion: identity

$$\int d^4x \sqrt{|G|} \mathcal{R} = - \int d^4x \sqrt{|G|} \left(\frac{7}{8} T^\mu_{\sigma\rho} T_{\mu\sigma'}{}^\rho G^{\sigma\sigma'} + \frac{3}{4} \tilde{T}_\nu \tilde{T}_\mu G^{\mu\nu} \right)$$

(cf. teleparallel gravity)

S. Fredenhagen, H.S. arxiv:2101.07297

- on-shell Ricci tensor

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}_{\nu\mu} &= \frac{1}{4} T^{(AS)\sigma}{}_{\rho\mu} T^{(AS)\rho}{}_{\sigma\nu} - T_{\mu\sigma}{}^\rho T_\nu{}^\sigma{}_\rho + 2\rho^{-2} \partial_\nu \rho \partial_\mu \rho \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{4} G_{\nu\mu} \left(T^\sigma{}_{\nu\delta} T_\sigma{}^\nu{}_\rho G^{\delta\rho} - \frac{1}{3} T^{(AS)\sigma}{}_{\rho\mu} T^{(AS)\rho}{}_{\sigma\nu} G^{\mu\nu} \right) \end{aligned}$$

quadratic in T and $\partial\rho \Rightarrow$ **linearized** on-shell metric fluctuations on flat background are **Ricci-flat**

pre-gravity from classical matrix model:

dynamical geometry, lin. Ricci-flat, differs from GR at non-lin level

- bare action: $S \sim \int \frac{1}{g^2} \Theta_{\dot{a}\dot{b}} \Theta^{\dot{a}\dot{b}} \dots$ 2 derivatives **less** than E-H

$$\int d^4x \sqrt{|G|} \mathcal{R} = \int d^4x \sqrt{|G|} \left(-\frac{3}{4} \tilde{T}_\nu \tilde{T}_\mu G^{\mu\nu} - \frac{7}{8} T^\mu_{\sigma\rho} T_{\mu\sigma'}{}^\rho G^{\sigma\sigma'} \right)$$

since

$$T^{\dot{a}\dot{b}\mu} = \{ \Theta^{\dot{a}\dot{b}}, x^\mu \} \sim \partial \Theta^{\dot{a}\dot{b}} \quad (\Theta^{\dot{a}\dot{b}} = \{ Y^{\dot{a}}, Y^{\dot{b}} \})$$

\Rightarrow **different** from GR, expected to dominate on **large scales**
quantization is well-behaved!

- on covariant quantum spaces (later):

- all gravitational dof, no ghosts, lin. Schwarzschild etc.

Sperling, HS 1901.03522, HS 1905.07255 ff

- “reasonable” cosmology without any fine-tuning

BBounce, $a(t) \sim \frac{3}{2}t$ at late times

- Feynman propagator

Karczmarek, HS 2207.00399; Battista, HS 2207.01295

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1-loop effective action and induced gravity

SUSY \rightarrow mild quantum effects:

Idea:

Einstein-Hilbert action (+ extra) in the 1-loop effective action on $\mathcal{M}^{3,1}$
(cf. Sakharov '67)

$$\Gamma_{1\text{-loop}} \ni \int_{\mathcal{M}} T_{\nu\lambda}{}^{\mu} T_{\nu\lambda}{}^{\mu} + \dots \sim \int_{\mathcal{M}} d^4x \sqrt{G} m_{\mathcal{K}}^2 \mathcal{R}[G] + \dots$$

requires presence of fuzzy extra dimensions \mathcal{K}

finite, no UV divergence / cutoff !!

nonperturbative quantization of MM:

$$Z = \int dY d\Psi e^{iS[Y, \Psi]}, \quad S = S_{\text{IKKT}} + i\epsilon Y^a Y^b \delta_{ab}$$

cf. numerical work (Nishimura, Tsuchiya, Anagnostopoulos et al.)

1-loop effective action

$$e^{i\Gamma_{\text{1-loop}}[Y]} = \int_{\text{1 loop}} d\mathcal{A} d\Psi e^{iS[Y+\mathcal{A}, \Psi]}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{\text{1-loop}}[Y] &= \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left(\log(\square - M_{ab}[\Theta^{ab}, .]) - \frac{1}{2} \log(\square - M_{ab}^{(\psi)}[\Theta^{ab}, .]) - 2 \log(\square) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left(\sum_{n=4}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \left((\square^{-1} M_{ab}[\Theta^{ab}, .])^n - \frac{1}{2} (\square^{-1} M_{ab}^{(\psi)}[\Theta^{ab}, .])^n \right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

UV-finite on 4D backgrounds due to max. SUSY !!

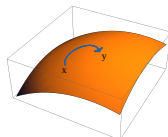


evaluate **trace** use **string** mode **formalism**

$$\mathrm{Tr}_{\mathrm{End}(\mathcal{H})} \mathcal{O} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^m} \int_{\mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M}} dx dy \, \langle y | \mathcal{O} | x \rangle$$

string modes:

$$\boxed{|_y^x) := |x\rangle\langle y|} \in \text{End}(\mathcal{H})$$



$|x\rangle$... coherent state on \mathcal{M}

... “string” from x to y , extreme UV but **non-local** on any NC space

H.S. arXiv:1606.00646, cf. Iso Kawai Kitazawa hep-th/0001027

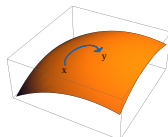
H.S., J. Tekel arXiv:2203.02376

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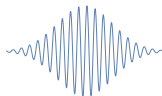
\approx diagonalize kinetic operators:

$$\begin{aligned} [Y^a, |^x_y\rangle] &\approx (x^a - y^a) |^x_y\rangle \\ \square |^x_y\rangle &\approx (|x - y|^2 + 2\Delta^2) |^x_y\rangle \end{aligned}$$

evaluation of 1-loop trace of IKKT model using string modes:

max. SUSY, UV-finite \Rightarrow short string modes \cong plane wave packets dominate:

$$\psi_{k;y}^{(L)} := \int d^4z e^{-|y-z|^2/L^2} \left| \frac{z+\frac{k}{2}}{z-\frac{k}{2}} \right) \cong e^{ikx} e^{-|x-y|^2/L^2}$$



locally diagonalize kinetic operators in IR:

$$\begin{aligned} \square \psi_{k;y}^{(L)} &\approx \gamma^{\mu\nu}(x) k_\mu k_\nu \psi_{k;y}^{(L)} \\ [\theta^{ab}, \psi_{k;y}^{(L)}] &\approx -\{\theta^{ab}, x^\mu\} k_\mu \psi_{k;y}^{(L)} \end{aligned}$$

trace formula for UV-finite traces on NC spaces:

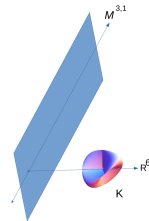
$$\text{Tr} \mathcal{O} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^m} \int_{\mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M}} \Omega_x \Omega_y \langle x| \mathcal{O} |y \rangle \approx \frac{1}{(2\pi)^m} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \sqrt{G} dx \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{G}} dk \langle \psi_{k,x}^{(L)}, \mathcal{O} \psi_{k,x}^{(L)} \rangle$$

use this to evaluate 1-loop eff. action

a priori: 4-derivative action ☺

however: brane $\mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{K} \subset \mathbb{R}^{9,1}$ with **fuzzy extra dim.**

from 6 transversal directions $\langle \phi^i \rangle \neq 0$



mixed term $(\delta\Theta^{\alpha\beta}\delta\Theta^{\alpha\beta})(\delta\Theta^{ij}\delta\Theta^{ij})$ leads to induced E-H action ☺

$$\begin{aligned} \{\theta^{\alpha\beta}, \{\theta^{\alpha\beta}, \psi_{k;y}\}\} &\approx -\{\theta^{\alpha\beta}, x^\mu\}\{\theta^{\alpha\beta}, x^\nu\}k_\mu k_\nu \psi_{k;y} \\ &= -T^{\alpha\beta\mu}k_\mu T^{\alpha\beta\nu}k_\nu \psi_{k;y} \\ &\quad (\text{torsion } T^{\alpha\beta\mu} = \{\theta^{\alpha\beta}, x^\mu\}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{\text{1loop}} &\sim - \int_{\mathcal{M}} d^4x \sqrt{G} c_K^2 m_K^2 T^\rho_{\sigma\mu} T_{\rho'}^{\sigma\mu} G^{\mu\mu'} \\ &\sim \int d^4x \sqrt{G} c_K^2 m_K^2 \left(8\mathcal{R}[G] + 6\tilde{T}_\nu \tilde{T}_\mu G^{\mu\nu} \right) \end{aligned}$$

where

m_K^2 ... KK scale on \mathcal{K}

bottom line:

- Γ_{1loop} includes Einstein-Hilbert action, eff. Newton constant

$$G_N \sim \frac{\rho^2}{c_K^2 m_K^2}$$

set by Kaluza-Klein mass scale on \mathcal{K}

- large vacuum energy

$$\Gamma_{\text{1loop}}^{\mathcal{K}} \sim - \int_{\mathcal{M}} \Omega \rho^{-2} m_K^4 \sum_{\Lambda s} \frac{V_{4,\Lambda}}{\mu_\Lambda^4} + \dots$$

not c.c., leads to stabilization of m_K at one loop !

HS 2303.08012

- \mathcal{K} also leads to interesting low-energy gauge theory
(e.g. self-intersecting brane & chiral Ψ , 1803.07323)

$$S \sim \int \Theta^{ab} \Theta^{ab} + S_{E-H}$$

two scaling regimes:

- cosmic scale: bare M.M. $S \sim \int \Theta^{ab} \Theta^{ab}$ dominates, stabilizes FLRW space-time irrespective of matter

M. Sperling, HS 1901.03522

- “intermediate” scale: 1-loop term dominates, expect to recover \approx GR + extra modes

4D covariant quantum spaces & \hbar

issues on “basic” NC branes:

- Poisson structure $\theta^{\mu\nu}$ breaks Lorentz / rotation invariance
- enough dof for metric, frame ?

quantized twistor space as brane:

$$\mathbb{C}P_N^{1,2} \stackrel{loc}{\cong} S^2 \times \mathcal{M}^{3,1} \subset \mathbb{R}^{9,1}$$

... sympl. equivariant S^2 - bundle over space(time) $\mathcal{M}^{3,1}$

- $\langle \theta^{\mu\nu} \rangle_{\mathcal{M}} = 0$!
- price to pay: higher-spin theory, all dof for metric on $\mathcal{M}^{3,1}$
- **vol.-preserving diffeos** on $\mathcal{M} \subset$ higher-dim symplectomorphisms

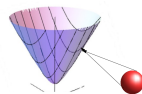
HS : 1606.00769 , M. Sperling, HS 1806.05 ff, HS , T. Tran 2203.05436

MM description: 2-step procedure

● MM background


$$Y^a := \frac{1}{R} \mathcal{M}^{a5}, \quad a = 0, \dots, 4$$

for \mathcal{H}_n ... doubleton unitary irrep of $\mathfrak{so}(4, 2)$
 $\cong \mathbb{CP}_n^{1,2} =$ quantized S_n^2 -bundle over H_n^4



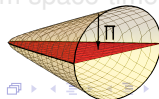
harmonics:

$$\text{End}(\mathcal{H}_n) \cong \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{CP}^{1,2}) \cong \bigoplus_{s=0}^n \mathcal{C}^s$$

would-be KK modes \rightarrow spin s modes on H^4 in $\mathfrak{hs} = \oplus$ 

matrix model \rightarrow higher spin gauge theory, truncated at n

- further projection $H^4 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}^{3,1}$... FLRW quantum space-time
 manifest homogeneous & isotrop, Big Bounce

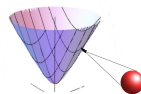


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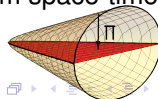
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summary & outlook

gravity arises as quantum effect on 3+1-dim. quantum space-time
in the IKKT matrix model

- MM = "pre-gravity", suitable for quantization
- quantization \rightarrow **induced Einstein-Hilbert action**,
no c.c. problem (?)
- cross-over GR \leftrightarrow cosm. regime
- covariant quantum spaces = twisted S^2 bundles over $\mathcal{M}^{3,1}$
 \rightarrow **higher spin gauge theory**
rotation invariance manifest
- new physics (**axion, dilaton, \hbar s ...**)

IKKT = distinguished model for emergent near-realistic (?) physics
string theory without compactification

modified Einstein equation at one loop:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}_{\mu\lambda} - \frac{1}{2} G_{\mu\lambda} \mathcal{R} &= 8\pi G_N \left[T_{\mu\lambda}^{(m)} - \rho^{-4} G_{\mu\lambda} (2\rho^2 \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{K}}^2 m_{\mathcal{K}}^4 - C_1 m_{\mathcal{K}}^4 + \frac{C_2}{R^4} + 3 \frac{C_3}{R^8 m_{\mathcal{K}}^4}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 4(C_{\mu\lambda} - \frac{1}{2} G_{\mu\lambda} C) \right] \\ &\quad + 2(\partial_{\mu}\sigma\partial_{\lambda}\sigma - \partial_{\mu}\partial_{\lambda}\sigma + G_{\mu\lambda}(\square_G\sigma - \frac{3}{2}\partial\sigma\cdot\partial\sigma)) \end{aligned}$$

$C_{\mu\nu}$... "anharmonicity"

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Fuzzy extra dimensions \mathcal{K}

consider backgrounds with product structure

$$\mathcal{M}^{3,1} \times \mathcal{K} \quad (\subset \mathbb{R}^{9,1}!)$$

\mathcal{K} ... quantized compact symplectic space, e.g. S_N^2, \dots

realized by

$$Y^{\dot{a}} \sim y^{\dot{a}} : \quad \mathcal{M} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{3,1}, \quad \dot{a} = 0, \dots, 3$$

$$Y^i \sim y^i : \quad \mathcal{K} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^6, \quad i = 4, \dots, 9$$

matrix d'Alembertian decomposes as

$$\square = [Y^{\dot{a}}, [Y_{\dot{a}}, \cdot]] + [Y^i, [Y_i, \cdot]] = \square_{\mathcal{M}} + \square_{\mathcal{K}}.$$

internal $\square_{\mathcal{K}}$ has a positive spectrum

$$\square_{\mathcal{K}} \lambda_{\Lambda} = m_{\Lambda}^2 \lambda_{\Lambda}$$

hence

$$\square \phi_{\Lambda} = (\square_{\mathcal{M}} + m_{\Lambda}^2) \phi_{\Lambda}, \quad [\Theta^{ij}, [\Theta^{ij}, \lambda_{\Lambda}]] = m_{\Lambda}^4 C_{\Lambda}^2 \lambda_{\Lambda}$$

(= Higgs mechanism!)

gauge transformations as diffeos

... arise from $Y^a \rightarrow U^{-1} Y^a U$ on NC branes \mathcal{M}

scalar fields:

$$\delta_\Lambda \phi = \{\Lambda, \phi\} = \xi^\mu \partial_\mu \phi = \mathcal{L}_\xi \phi, \quad \xi^\mu = \{\Lambda, x^\mu\}$$

vector fields (frame!):

$$\delta_\Lambda Y_{\dot{\alpha}} = \{\Lambda, Y_{\dot{\alpha}}\}$$

$$\delta_\Lambda E_{\dot{\alpha}} = \{\Lambda, \{Y_{\dot{\alpha}}, \cdot\}\} - \{Y_{\dot{\alpha}}, \{\Lambda, \cdot\}\} = \mathcal{L}_\xi E_{\dot{\alpha}} \quad (\text{Jacobi})$$

hence

$$\delta_\Lambda E_{\dot{\alpha}}{}^\mu = \mathcal{L}_\xi E_{\dot{\alpha}}{}^\mu, \quad \delta_\Lambda G^{\mu\nu} = \mathcal{L}_\xi G^{\mu\nu}$$

diffeos from NC gauge trafos!

$\{\Lambda, \cdot\}$... Hamiltonian VF

on covariant quantum space $\mathcal{M}^{3,1}$: all dof for vol-preserving diffeos

more precisely:

semi-classical correspondence:

approximate isometry in IR regime

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{End}(\mathcal{H}) & & \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{M}) \\ \cup & & \cup \\ \text{Loc}(\mathcal{H}) & \cong & \mathcal{C}_{\text{IR}}(\mathcal{M}) \end{array}$$

“almost-commutative” = sufficiently large semi-classical IR regime