

**How solid is the  
quantum gravity prediction  
for the Higgs boson mass ?**

# Prediction of mass of Higgs boson

## Asymptotic safety of gravity and the Higgs boson mass

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12 January 2010

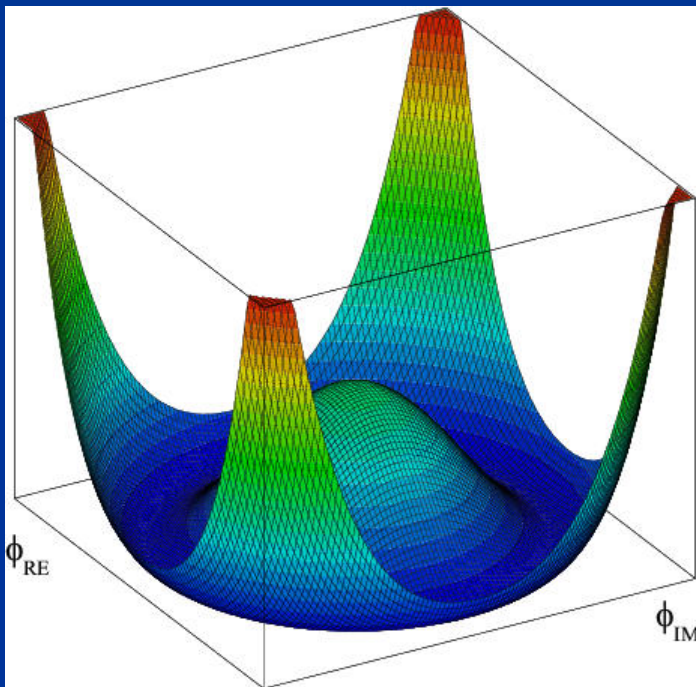
### Abstract

There are indications that gravity is asymptotically safe. The Standard Model (SM) plus gravity could be valid up to arbitrarily high energies. Supposing that this is indeed the case and assuming that there are no intermediate energy scales between the Fermi and Planck scales we address the question of whether the mass of the Higgs boson  $m_H$  can be predicted. For a positive gravity induced anomalous dimension  $A_\lambda > 0$  the running of the quartic scalar self interaction  $\lambda$  at scales beyond the Planck mass is determined by a fixed point at zero. This results in  $m_H = m_{\min} = 126$  GeV, with only a few GeV uncertainty. This prediction is independent of the details of the short distance running and holds for a wide class of extensions of the SM as well.

s in  $m_H = m_{\min} = 126$  GeV, with o

*Why can quantum gravity make  
predictions for particle physics ?*

# Effective potential for Higgs scalar



$$V(\varphi) = -\mu^2 \varphi^\dagger \varphi + \frac{1}{2} \lambda (\varphi^\dagger \varphi)^2$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \lambda (\varphi^\dagger \varphi - \varphi_0^2)^2 + \text{const.})$$

Fermi scale

$$\varphi_0 = 175 \text{ GeV}$$



# Quartic scalar coupling

prediction of mass of Higgs boson

=

prediction of value of quartic scalar coupling  $\lambda$   
at Fermi scale

$$m^2 = 2\lambda\varphi_0^2$$

*Why can quantum gravity make  
predictions for quartic scalar coupling ?*

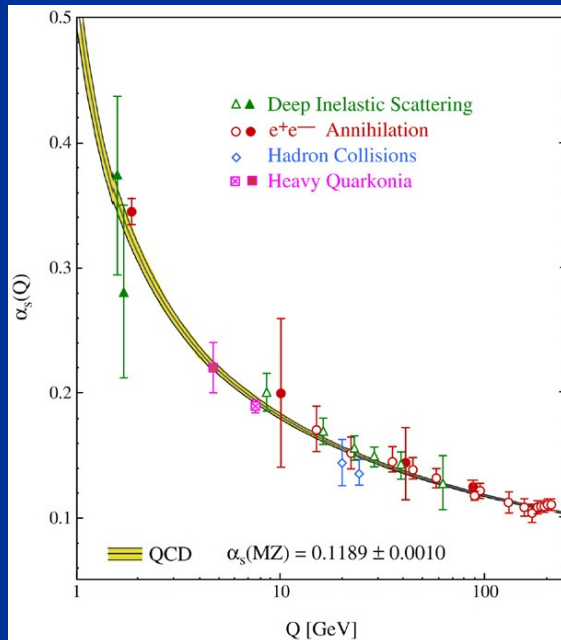
# Mass scales

- Fermi scale  $\varphi_0 \sim 100 \text{ GeV}$
- Planck mass  $M \sim 10^{18} \text{ GeV}$
- Gravity at Fermi scale is very weak : How can it influence the effective potential for the Higgs scalar and the mass of the Higgs boson ?

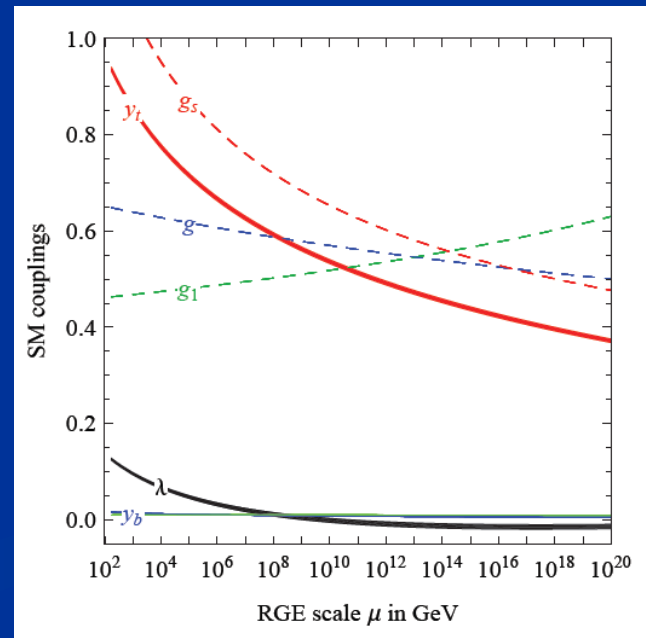
$$\varepsilon = \frac{\varphi_0^2}{M^2} = 5 \cdot 10^{-33}$$

# Quantum fluctuations induce running couplings

- possible violation of scale symmetry
- well known in QCD or standard model



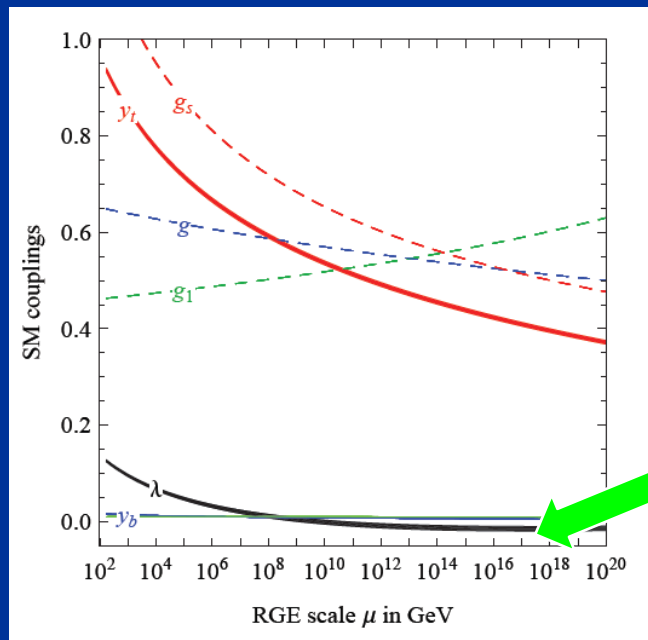
Bethke



Degrassi et al

# Quantum fluctuations induce running couplings

- possible violation of scale symmetry
- well known in QCD or standard model



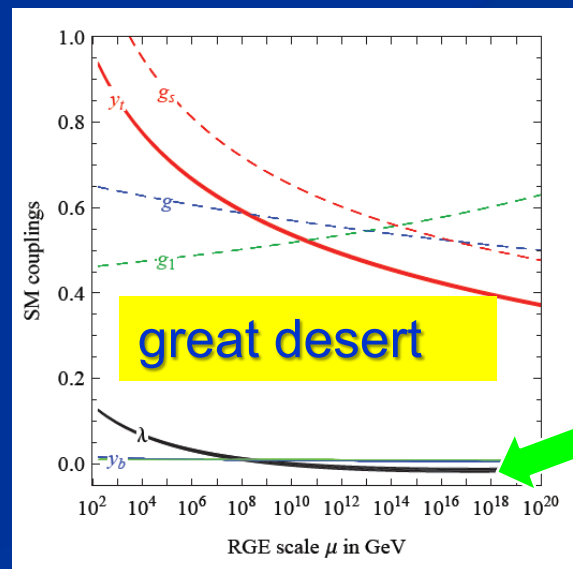
prediction of  
quantum gravity

The mass of the Higgs boson,  
the great desert, and  
asymptotic safety of gravity



# key points

- great desert
- solution of hierarchy problem at high scale
- high scale fixed point
- vanishing scalar coupling at fixed point









# Planck scale, gravity

no multi-Higgs model

no technicolor

no low scale  
higher dimensions

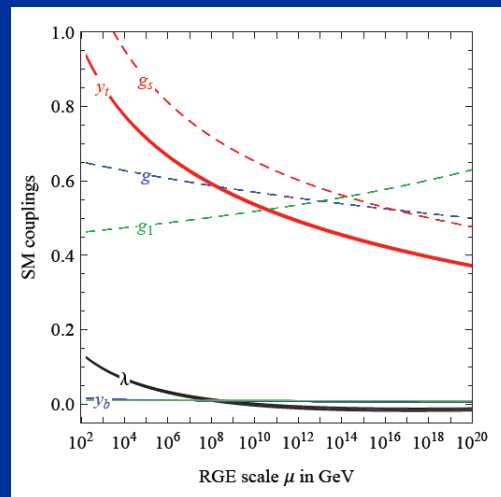
no supersymmetry

# Essential point for prediction of Higgs boson mass:

## Higgs boson mass:

Initial value of quartic scalar coupling near Planck mass is predicted by quantum gravity

Extrapolate perturbatively to Fermi scale



Results in prediction for ratio Higgs boson mass over W- boson mass, or Higgs boson mass over top quark mass

*Near Planck mass gravity is not weak !*

*Predictive power !*

# Great desert

*Big chance  
for understanding of  
quantum gravity !*

# Flowing couplings

Couplings change with momentum scale due to quantum fluctuations.

Renormalization scale  $k$  : Only fluctuations with momenta larger  $k$  are included. The scale  $k$  can be momenta, geometric quantities, or just be introduced “by hand”.

Flow of  $k$  to zero : all fluctuations included, **IR**

Flow of  $k$  to infinity : **UV**

# Renormalization group

*How do couplings or physical laws change  
with scale  $k$  ?*

# Graviton fluctuations erase quartic scalar coupling

Renormalization scale  $k$  : Only fluctuations  
with momenta larger  $k$  are included

$$k \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial k} = A \lambda$$

gravity induced  
anomalous dimension

$$A > 0$$

# Graviton fluctuations erase quartic scalar coupling

for  $k$  beyond Planck scale :

$$k \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial k} = A \lambda$$

gravity induced  
anomalous dimension  
 $A$  : positive constant of  
order one

$$\lambda(k) = \lambda(\mu) \left( \frac{k}{\mu} \right)^A$$

$$k \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow \lambda \rightarrow 0$$



# Fixed point

$$k \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial k} = A \lambda$$

$$\lambda(k) = \lambda(\mu) \left( \frac{k}{\mu} \right)^A$$

The quartic scalar coupling  $\lambda$  has a  
**fixed point** at  $\lambda=0$

It flows towards the fixed point as  $k$  is lowered :  
**irrelevant coupling**

For a UV – complete theory it is predicted to  
assume the fixed point value

# Gravitational contribution to running quartic coupling

$$\partial_t \lambda = A_\lambda \lambda$$

$$A = \frac{1}{48\pi^2 \tilde{M}_p^2} \left[ \frac{20}{(1-v_0)^2} + \frac{1}{(1-v_0/4)^2} \right]$$

$$\partial_t = k \partial_k$$

running Planck mass :

$$M_p^2(k) = M^2 + \tilde{M}_{p*}^2 k^2$$

dimensionless  
squared Planck mass

$$\tilde{M}_p^2 = \frac{M_p^2}{k^2}$$

# UV – fixed point for quartic coupling

Flow equation for  $\lambda$  :  $\partial_t \lambda_H = A \lambda_H - C_H$

$$C_H^{(p)} = -\beta_\lambda^{(SM)}$$

$$\approx -\frac{1}{16\pi^2} \left\{ 12\lambda_H^2 + 12y_t^2 \lambda_H - 12y_t^4 + \frac{9}{4}g_2^2 + \frac{9}{10}g_2^2 g_1^2 + \frac{27}{100}g_1^4 - \left( 9g_2^2 + \frac{9}{5}g_1^2 \right) \lambda_H \right\}$$

Fixed point :  $\lambda = C / A$

$$\lambda(k_{tr}) \approx 0, \beta_\lambda(k_{tr}) \approx 0$$

# Strength of gravity

$$g_{\text{grav}} = 1 / w$$

running gravitational coupling

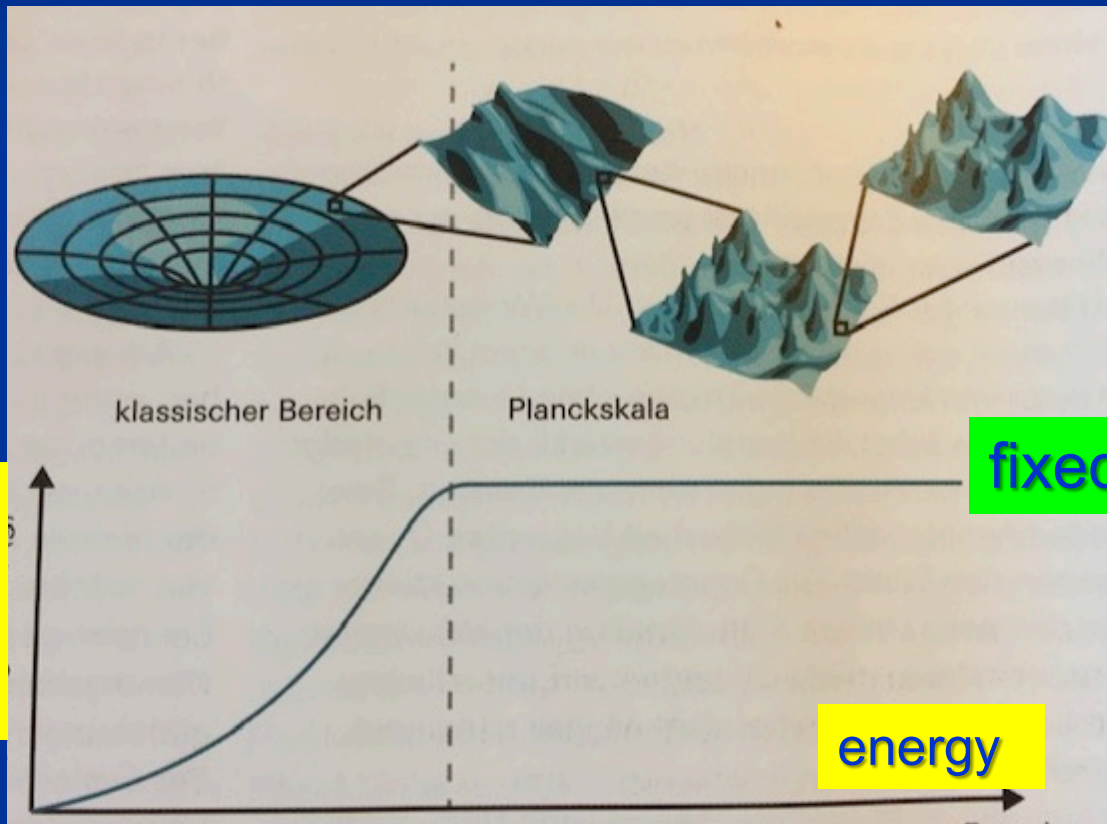
$$w = \frac{M^2}{2k^2}$$

M : Planck mass

# Strength of gravity

classical gravity

quantum gravity



# Flowing dimensionless Planck mass

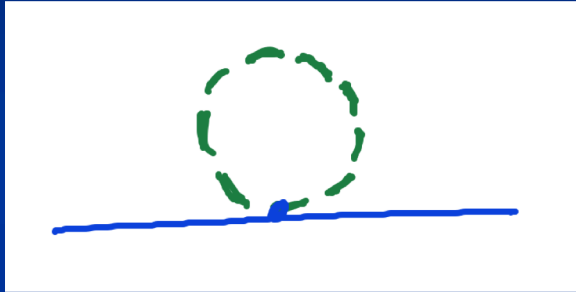
- Renormalization scale  $k$  : Only fluctuations with momenta larger  $k$  are included

Flowing  
Planck mass  $M^2(k)$

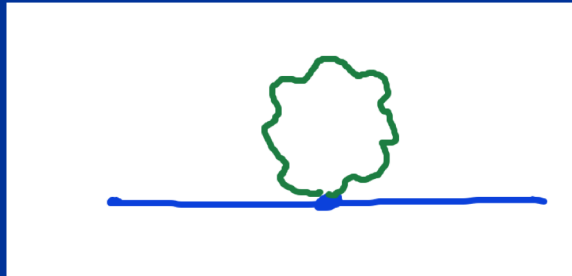
$$\partial_t M^2 = 4ck^2$$

$$\partial_t = k\partial_k$$

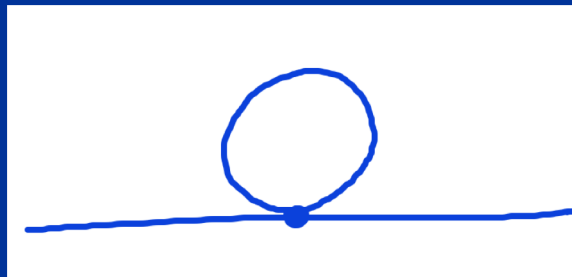
# Universality of gravity



scalar loop,  
fermion loop

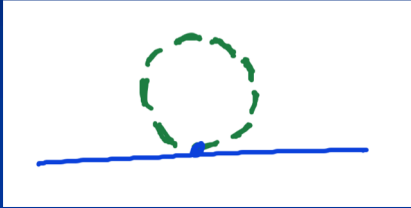


gauge boson  
loop

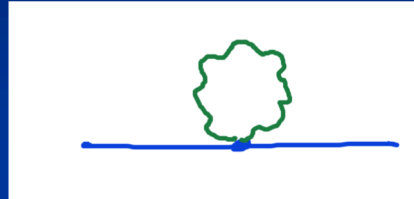


graviton  
loop

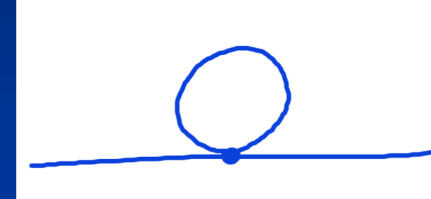
# Universality of gravity



scalar loop,  
fermion loop



gauge boson  
loop



graviton  
loop

for massless particles :  
c is independent of coupling constants

$$\partial_t M^2 = 4ck^2$$



# Flowing dimensionless Planck mass

- Renormalization scale  $k$  : Only fluctuations with momenta larger  $k$  are included

Flowing  
Planck mass  $M^2(k)$

$$\partial_t M^2 = 4ck^2$$

$$\partial_t = k\partial_k$$

matter  
contribution

$$c_M = \frac{\mathcal{N}_M}{192\pi^2}$$

$$\mathcal{N}_M = 4 N_V - N_S - N_F$$

with graviton  
contribution

$$c_M = \frac{1}{192\pi^2} \left( \mathcal{N}_M + \frac{43}{6} + \frac{75(1 - \eta_g/6)}{2(1 - v)} \right)$$

# Flowing dimensionless Planck mass

Flowing  
Planck mass  $M^2(k)$

$$\partial_t M^2 = 4c_M k^2$$

$$\partial_t = k \partial_k$$

solution :

$$M^2(k) = M^2 + 2c_M k^2$$

# Flowing dimensionless Planck mass

Flowing  
Planck mass  $M^2(k)$

$$\partial_t M^2 = 4ck^2$$

Dimensionless  
squared Planck mass

$$w = \frac{M^2}{2k^2}$$

$$\partial_t w = -2w + 2c$$

**solution :**

$$w = c + \frac{\bar{M}^2}{2k^2}$$

$$M^2(k) = M^2 + 2c_M k^2$$

# Fixed point and flow away from fixed point

UV - fixed point

$$w_* = c$$

$$\partial_t w = -2w + 2c$$

approached  
for  $k \rightarrow \infty$

$$w = c + \frac{\bar{M}^2}{2k^2}$$

$$M^2(k) = M^2 + 2c_M k^2$$

Near UV – fixed point :  $M \sim k$

$$\tilde{M}_{p*}^2 = 2c$$

*Transition to constant  $M$  for small  $k$ ,  
gravity gets weak,  $w^{-1}$  decreases to zero*

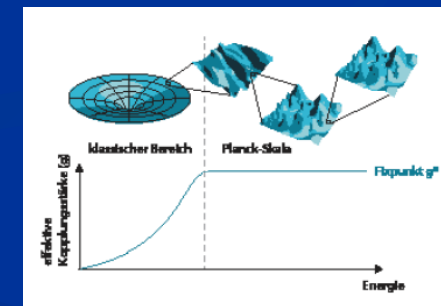
*$M$  is relevant parameter, cannot be predicted*

# Weak and constant gravity

$$M_p^2(k) = \begin{cases} \tilde{M}_{p*}^2 k^2 & \text{for } k > k_t \\ M^2 & \text{for } k < k_t \end{cases}$$

$$k_t^2 = \frac{M^2}{\tilde{M}_{p*}^2}$$

$$M_p^2(k) = M^2 + \tilde{M}_{p*}^2 k^2$$



Two regimes for the  
( inverse ) strength  
of gravity

$$\tilde{M}_p^2 = \frac{M_p^2}{k^2} = \tilde{M}_{p*}^2 \left[ \left( \frac{k_t}{k} \right)^2 + 1 \right]$$

# Gravitational contribution to running quartic coupling

$$\partial_t \lambda = A_\lambda \lambda$$

$$A = \frac{1}{48\pi^2 \tilde{M}_p^2} \left[ \frac{20}{(1 - v_0)^2} + \frac{1}{(1 - v_0/4)^2} \right]$$

$$\partial_t = k \partial_k$$

running Planck mass :

$$M_p^2(k) = M^2 + \tilde{M}_{p*}^2 k^2$$

dimensionless  
squared Planck mass

$$\tilde{M}_p^2 = \frac{M_p^2}{k^2} = \tilde{M}_{p*}^2 \left[ \left( \frac{k_t}{k} \right)^2 + 1 \right]$$

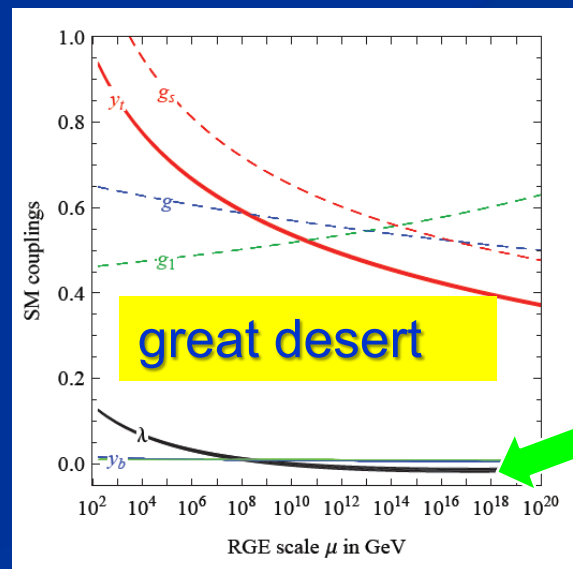
$$k_t^2 = \frac{M^2}{\tilde{M}_{p*}^2}$$

large  $k$  : constant  $A$   
small  $k$ :  $A \sim k^2 / M^2$

transition at  
 $k_t \sim 10^{19}$  GeV

# Prediction for quartic Higgs coupling

- great desert
- high scale fixed point
- quartic scalar coupling predicted to be very small at transition scale where gravity decouples



# Quantum Gravity

*Quantum Gravity is a  
renormalisable quantum field theory*

Asymptotic safety



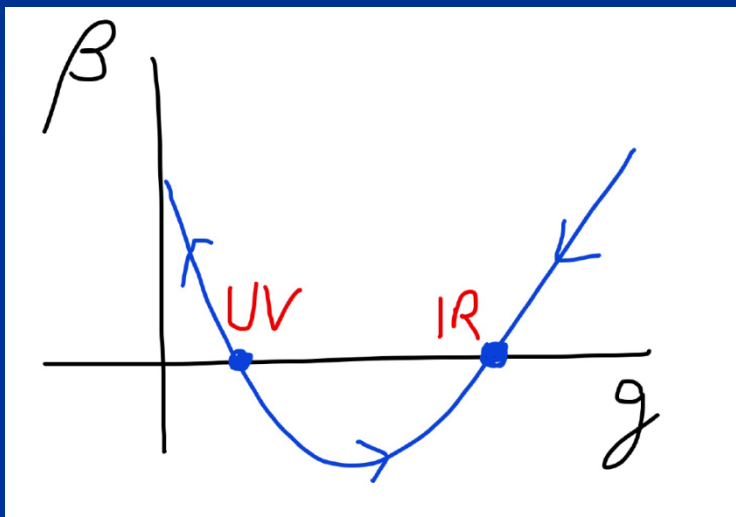
# Asymptotic safety of quantum gravity

if UV fixed point exists :

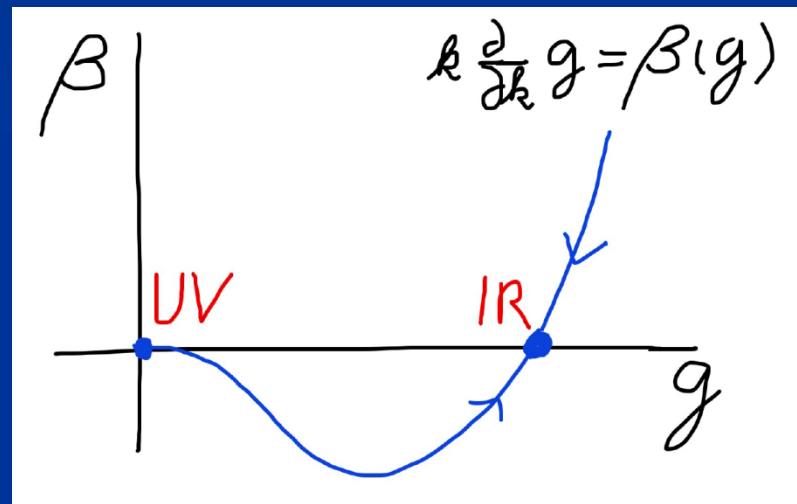
*quantum gravity is  
non-perturbatively renormalizable !*

S. Weinberg , M. Reuter

## Asymptotic safety

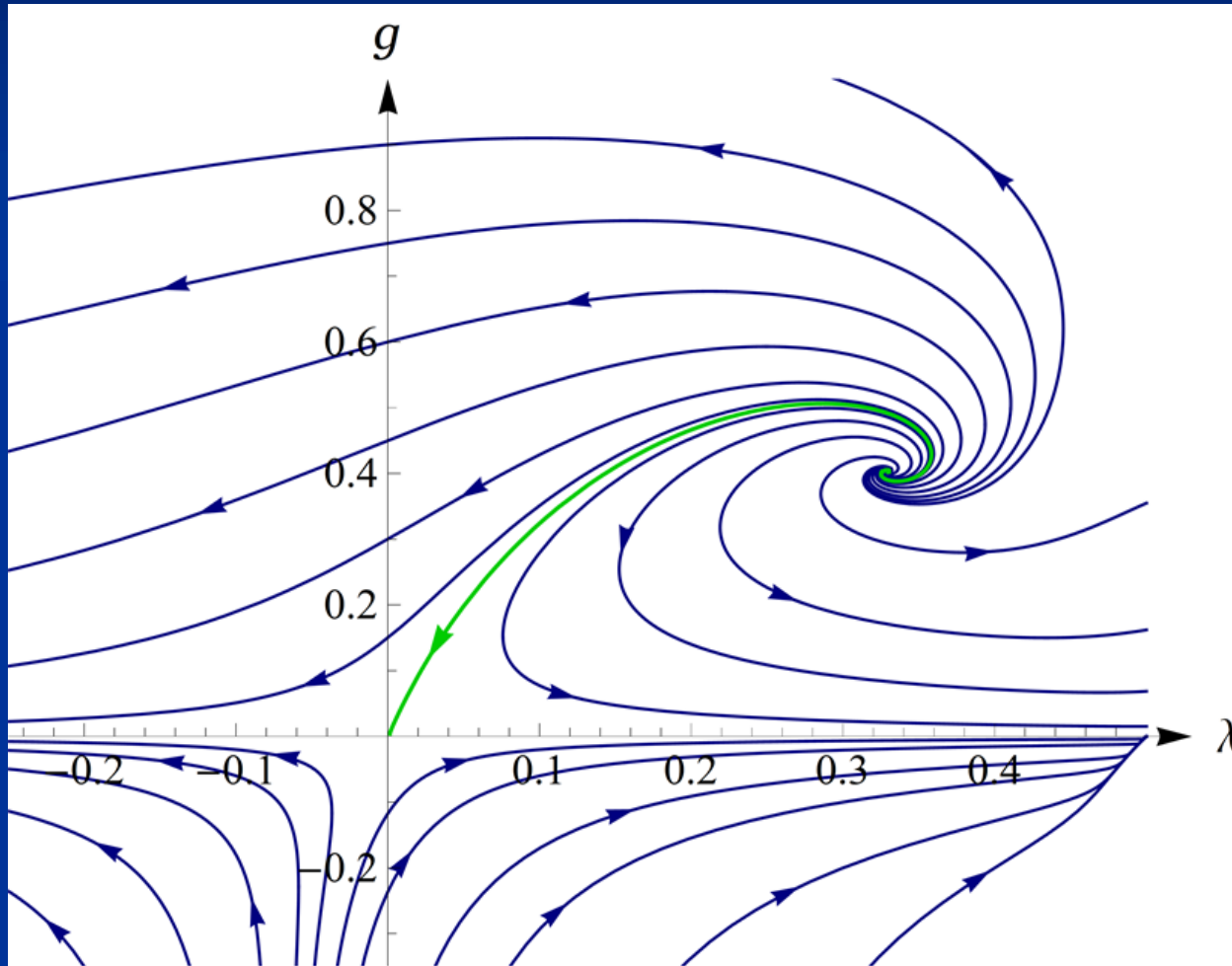


## Asymptotic freedom



Relevant parameters yield undetermined couplings. Quartic scalar coupling is not relevant and can therefore be predicted.

# UV- fixed point for quantum gravity



Wikipedia

# Enhanced predictivity for UV – fixed point

- Free parameters of a theory correspond to relevant parameters for small deviations from fixed point.
- If the number of relevant parameters at the UV-fixed point is smaller than the number of free parameters ( renormalizable couplings ) in the standard model:
- Relations between standard model parameters become predictable !

# Fixed points

$$g = \{g_1, \dots, g_i, \dots\}$$

couplings

$$\tilde{g}_i = g_i k^{-d_i}$$

dimensionless

Flow equation

$$\partial_t \tilde{g}_i = \beta_i(\tilde{g})$$

Fixed points: zeros of beta-function

No running  No scale

Quantum scale symmetry

# Stability matrix

$$g = \{g_1, \dots, g_i, \dots\}$$

couplings

$$\tilde{g}_i = g_i k^{-d_i}$$

dimensionless

Flow equation

$$\partial_t \tilde{g}_i = \beta_i(\tilde{g}) = -d_i \tilde{g}_i + f_i(\tilde{g})$$

Expand in  
vicinity of  
fixed point

$$\partial_t \tilde{g}_i = \sum_j \left. \frac{\partial \beta_i}{\partial \tilde{g}_j} \right|_{\tilde{g}=\tilde{g}_*} (\tilde{g}_j - \tilde{g}_{j*}) = -T_{ij} (\tilde{g}_j - \tilde{g}_{j*})$$

**T** : stability matrix

# Critical exponents

$$\partial_t \tilde{g}_i = \sum_j \left. \frac{\partial \beta_i}{\partial \tilde{g}_j} \right|_{\tilde{g}=\tilde{g}_*} (\tilde{g}_j - \tilde{g}_{j*}) = -T_{ij}(\tilde{g}_j - \tilde{g}_{j*})$$

$\theta_l$  : Eigenvalues of stability matrix T  
= Critical exponents

Linearized  
solution

$$\tilde{g}_i = \tilde{g}_{i*} + \sum_l C_l V_i^l \left( \frac{k}{\mu} \right)^{-\theta_l}$$

Irrelevant parameters: eigenvectors in  
coupling constant space with  $\theta_l < 0$

flow **towards** fixed point values as k is  
lowered

# Irrelevant parameters

- “Forget” information about initial values
- Central ingredient for  
predictivity of quantum field theories
- For UV – complete theories : irrelevant parameters have to take precisely the fixed point values
- **Relevant parameters** flow away from fixed point as  $k$  is lowered – they are the only free parameters



# Predictivity at fixed point

- Irrelevant parameters are predicted to take fixed point values
- Only relevant parameters are free
- Number of free parameters of a renormalizable quantum field theory = number of relevant parameters at the fixed point

# a prediction...

## Asymptotic safety of gravity and the Higgs boson mass

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### Abstract

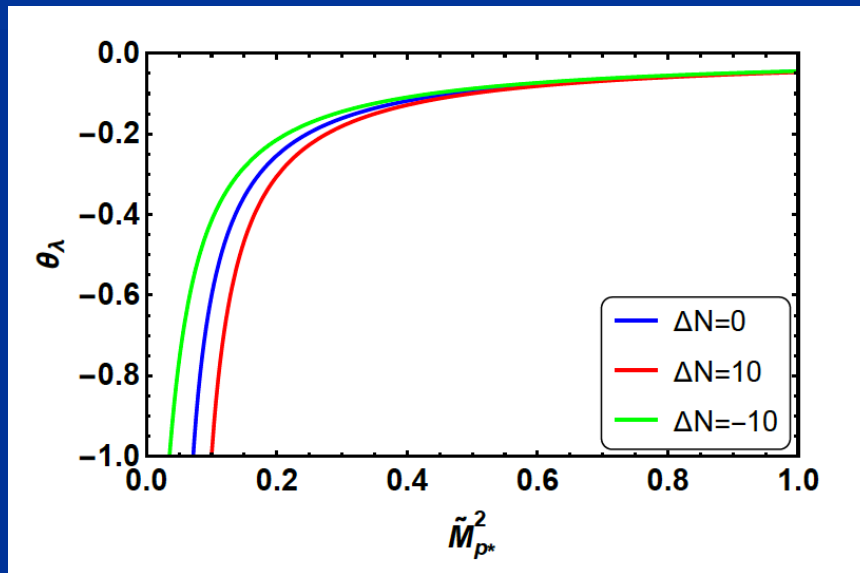
There are indications that gravity is asymptotically safe. The Standard Model (SM) plus gravity could be valid up to arbitrarily high energies. Supposing that this is the case and assuming that there are no intermediate energy scales between the Fermi and Planck scales we consider the question of whether the mass of the Higgs boson  $m_H$  can be predicted. For a positive gravity induced anomalous dimension  $\gamma_\lambda > 0$  the running of the quartic scalar self interaction  $\lambda$  at scales beyond the Planck mass is determined by its value at zero. This results in  $m_H = m_{\min} = 126$  GeV, with only a few GeV uncertainty. This prediction is independent of the details of the short distance running and holds for a wide class of extensions of the SM as well.

Quartic scalar coupling is irrelevant coupling

... in  $m_H = m_{\min} = 126$  GeV, with o

# Quartic scalar coupling is irrelevant parameter

R. Percacci et al



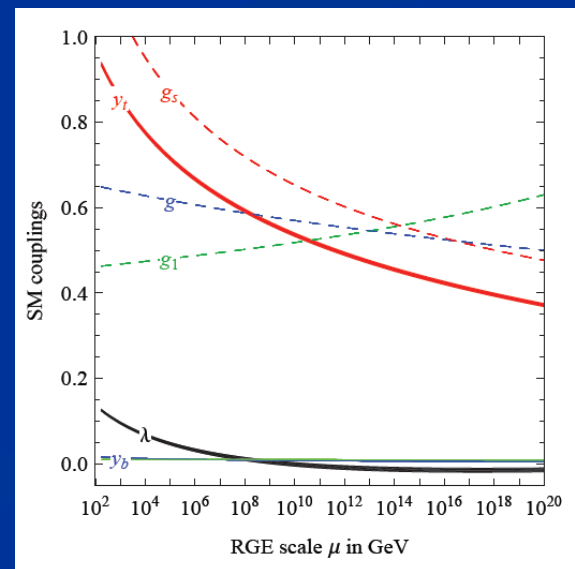
Pawłowski,  
Reichert,  
Yamada,...

Quartic couplings can be predicted !

# Prediction of Higgs boson mass:

- Value of quartic scalar coupling near Planck mass is predicted by UV- fixed point
- Gravity decouples below Planck mass , resulting in perturbative flow

Extrapolate perturbatively to Fermi scale :



*How to compute non-perturbative  
quantum gravity effects ?*

# Quantum gravity computation by functional renormalization

*Introduce infrared cutoff with scale  $k$ ,  
such that only fluctuations with  
(covariant) momenta larger than  $k$   
are included.*

*Then lower  $k$  towards zero*

# Exact renormalization group equation

Exact flow equation

for scale dependence of average action

$$\partial_k \Gamma_k[\varphi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left\{ \left( \Gamma_k^{(2)}[\varphi] + R_k \right)^{-1} \partial_k R_k \right\}$$

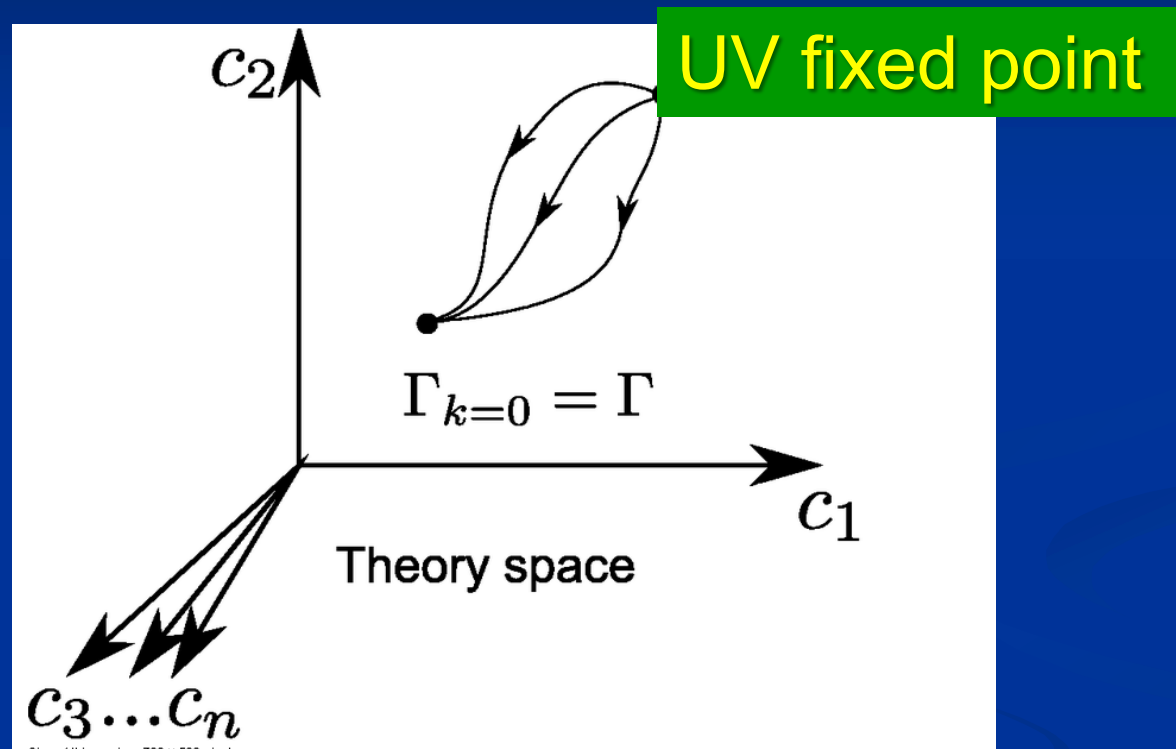
'92

$$\left( \Gamma_k^{(2)} \right)_{ab}(q, q') = \frac{\delta^2 \Gamma_k}{\delta \varphi_a(-q) \delta \varphi_b(q')}$$

$$\text{Tr} : \sum_a \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d}$$

(fermions : STr)

# Ultraviolet fixed point

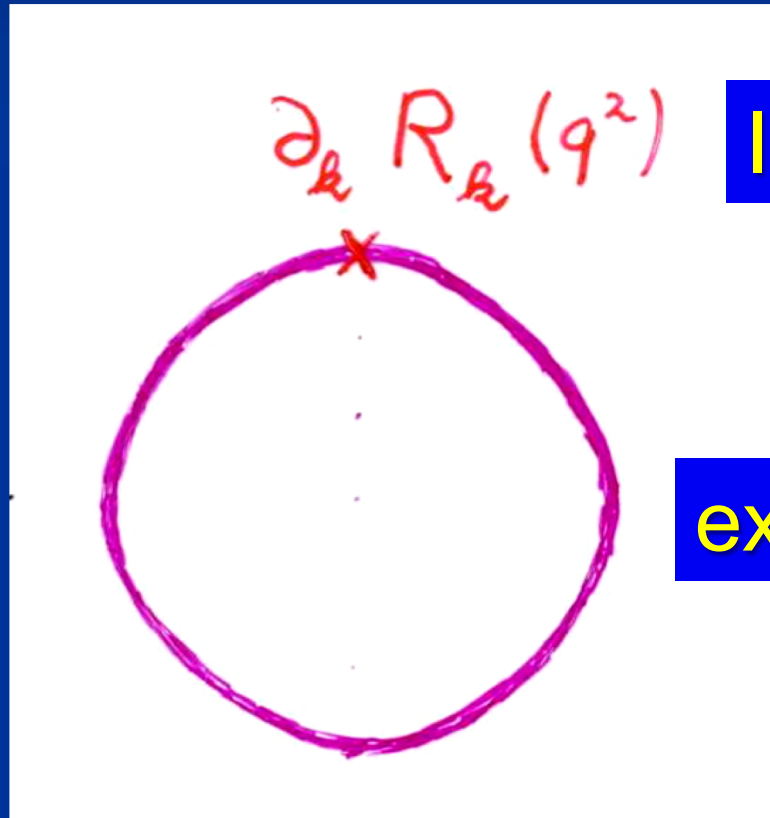


Extrapolation of microscopic law to infinitely short distances is possible.

**Complete theory**



# Functional flow equation for scale dependent effective action



IR cutoff

exact propagator

# Gauge invariant flow equation involves projection on physical fluctuations

$$k\partial_k\bar{\Gamma} = \zeta_k = \pi_k + \delta_k - \epsilon_k$$

$$\pi_k = \frac{1}{2} \text{Str}(k\partial_k \bar{R}_P G_P)$$

$G_P$  : propagator for  
physical fluctuations

$$P G_P = G_P P^T = G_P$$

$$\delta_\xi \bar{g} = (1 - P)\delta_\xi \bar{g}$$

measure contributions  
on effective action

$$\delta_k - \epsilon_k$$

do not depend

# Closed flow equation

projection on physical fluctuations  
makes second functional derivative  
invertible

$$\bar{\Gamma}_P^{(2)} = P^T \bar{\Gamma}^{(2)} P$$

$$\bar{\Gamma}^{(2)ij} = \frac{\partial^2 \bar{\Gamma}}{\partial \bar{g}_i \partial \bar{g}_j}$$

$$\left( \bar{\Gamma}_P^{(2)} + \bar{R}_P \right) G_P = P^T$$

# Gauge invariant flow equation

- similar to background field method with physical gauge
- for gravity : block diagonal form for physical modes and gauge modes
- gauge mode contribution together with regularization of Faddeev – Popov determinant ( or equivalently ghosts ) takes simple universal form

*Prediction of mass of Higgs boson ?*

*Quartic scalar coupling irrelevant ?*

needs  $\theta_t < 0$  or  $A > 0$

# Flow equation for dimensionless effective potential and field dependent Planck mass

M. Yamada, ...

truncation: (  $K=1$  )

$$\bar{\Gamma}_k = \int_x \sqrt{g} \left\{ -\frac{F}{2} R + U + \sum_{i=1}^{N_S} \frac{K_i}{2} \partial^\mu \varphi_i \partial_\mu \varphi_i \right\}$$

dimensionless  
fields and functions

$$\tilde{\rho} = \rho/k^2$$

$$u(\tilde{\rho}) = U/k^4$$

$$w(\tilde{\rho}) = F/2k^2$$

effective potential

$$k\partial_k u = 2\tilde{\rho} \partial_{\tilde{\rho}} u - 4u + \frac{1}{32\pi^2} \left( N_S - 2N_F + 2N_V - \frac{8}{3} \right) + \frac{5}{24\pi^2} \left( 1 - \frac{u}{w} \right)^{-1}, \quad (5)$$

gravitational  
coupling

$$k\partial_k w = 2\tilde{\rho} \partial_{\tilde{\rho}} w - 2w + \frac{1}{96\pi^2} \left( -N_S - N_F + 4N_V + \frac{43}{6} \right) + \frac{25}{64\pi^2} \left( 1 - \frac{u}{w} \right)^{-1}. \quad (6)$$

# scaling solution for massless particles

$$\partial_t u(\tilde{\rho}) = 2\tilde{\rho} \partial_{\tilde{\rho}} u - 4 \left[ u - \frac{1}{128\pi^2} \left( \tilde{\mathcal{N}}_U + \frac{20}{3(1-v)} \right) \right],$$

$$\partial_t w(\tilde{\rho}) = 2\tilde{\rho} \partial_{\tilde{\rho}} w - 2 \left[ w - \frac{1}{192\pi^2} \left( \tilde{\mathcal{N}}_M + \frac{75}{2(1-v)} \right) \right]$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{N}}_U = \mathcal{N}_U - \frac{8}{3} = N_S + 2N_V - 2N_F - \frac{8}{3},$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{N}}_M = \mathcal{N}_M + \frac{43}{6} = -N_S + 4N_V - N_F + \frac{43}{6}$$

$$v = \frac{u}{w}$$

scaling solution: r.h.s. vanishes

# constant scaling solution

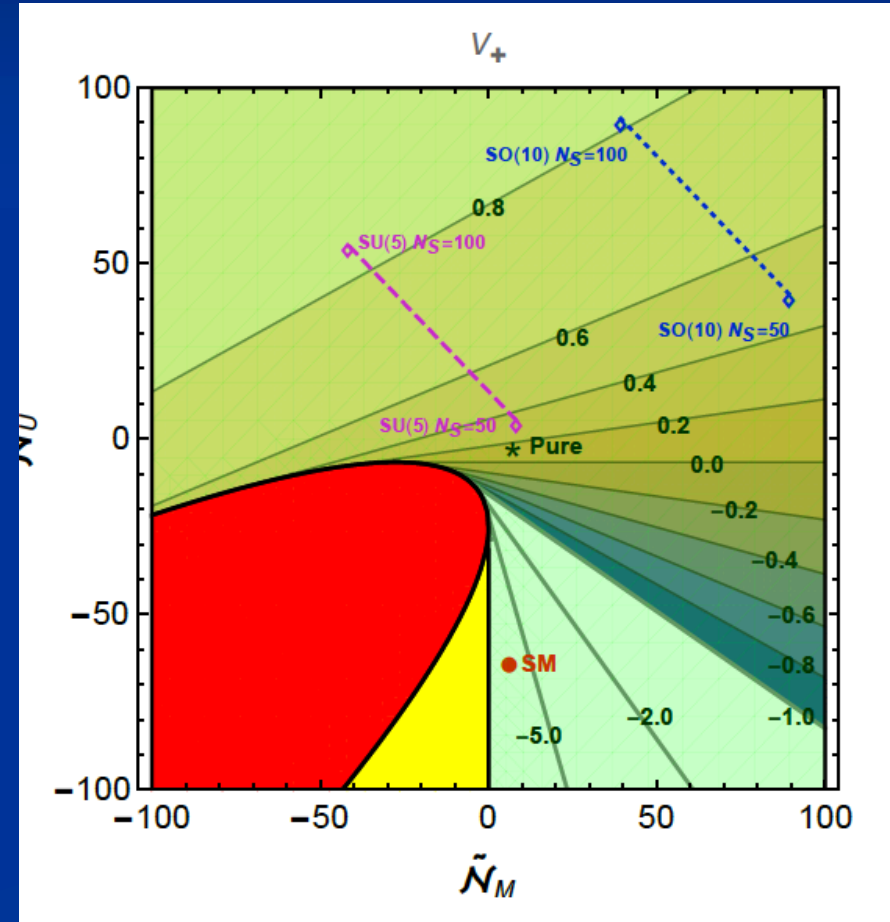
$$u_* = \frac{1}{128\pi^2} \left( \tilde{\mathcal{N}}_U + \frac{20}{3(1-v_*)} \right)$$

$$w_* = \frac{1}{192\pi^2} \left( \tilde{\mathcal{N}}_M + \frac{75}{2(1-v_*)} \right)$$

$$v_* = \frac{u_*}{w_*} = \frac{3\tilde{\mathcal{N}}_U(1-v_*) + 20}{2\tilde{\mathcal{N}}_M(1-v_*) + 75}$$

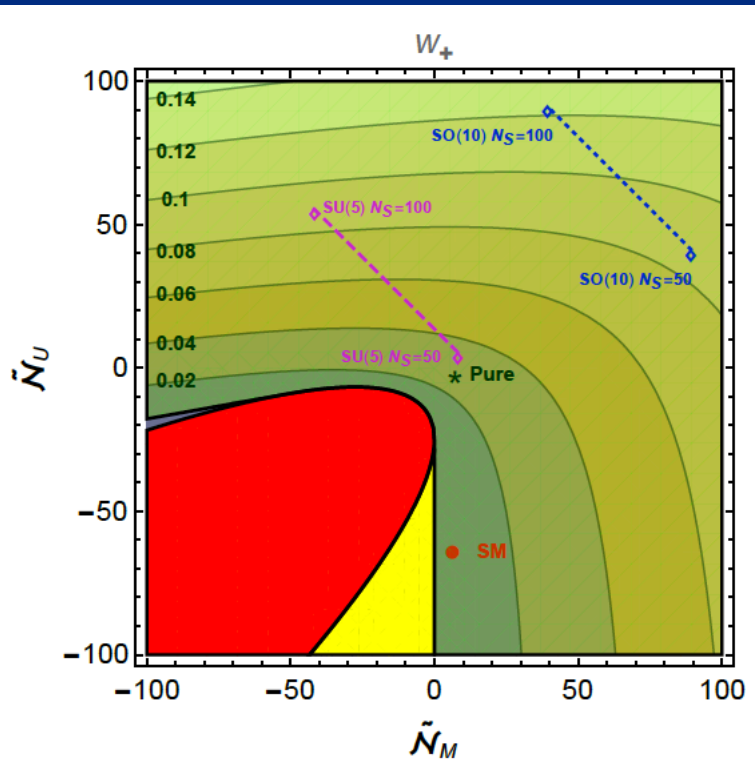
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$$\partial_t w(\tilde{\rho}) = 2\tilde{\rho} \partial_{\tilde{\rho}} w - 2 \left[ w - \frac{1}{192\pi^2} \left( \tilde{\mathcal{N}}_M + \frac{75}{2(1-v)} \right) \right]$$

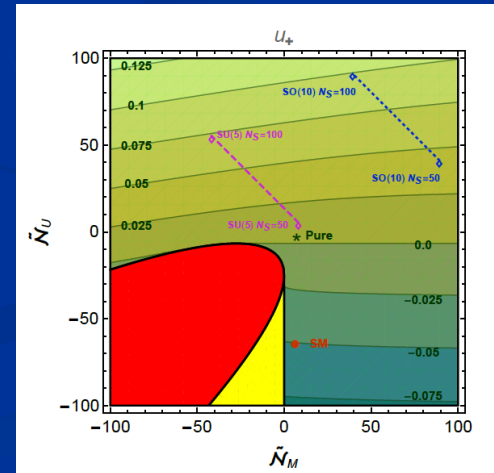
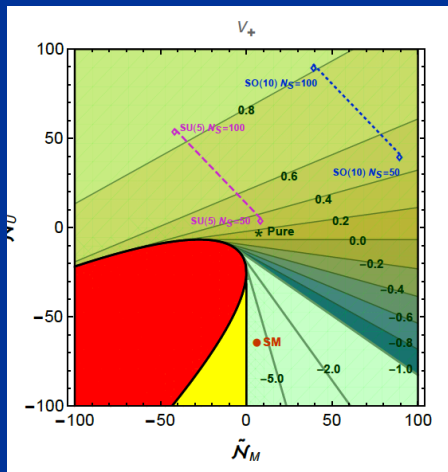




# stable gravity : $w > 0$



red region : no solution  
 yellow region :  $w < 0$



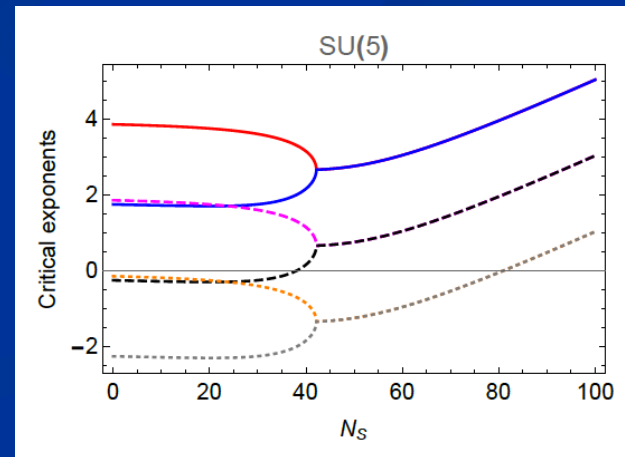
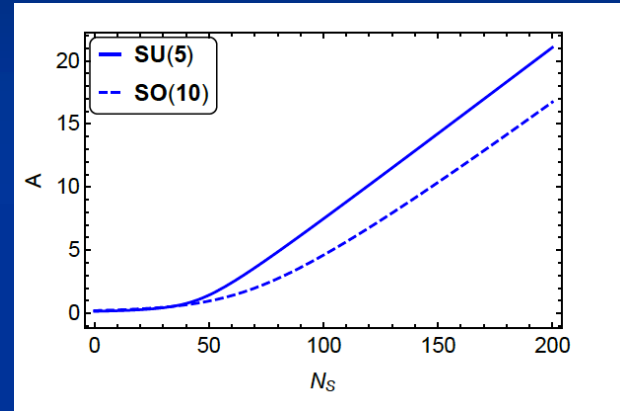
# Critical exponents

$$\partial_t \tilde{g}_i = -T_{ij}(\tilde{g}_j - \tilde{g}_{j*})$$

$$\tilde{g}_i = (u_0, w_0, \tilde{m}_H^2, \xi_H, \tilde{\lambda}_H, w_2)$$

$$T_{ij} = - \left. \frac{\partial \beta_i}{\partial g_j} \right|_{g_j = g_{j*}}$$

$$T^{(56)} = \begin{pmatrix} -A & Av \\ -\frac{15A}{8} & -2 + \frac{15Av}{8} \end{pmatrix}$$



*Quartic scalar couplings are  
irrelevant couplings  
for all models  
( within range of validity of truncation )*

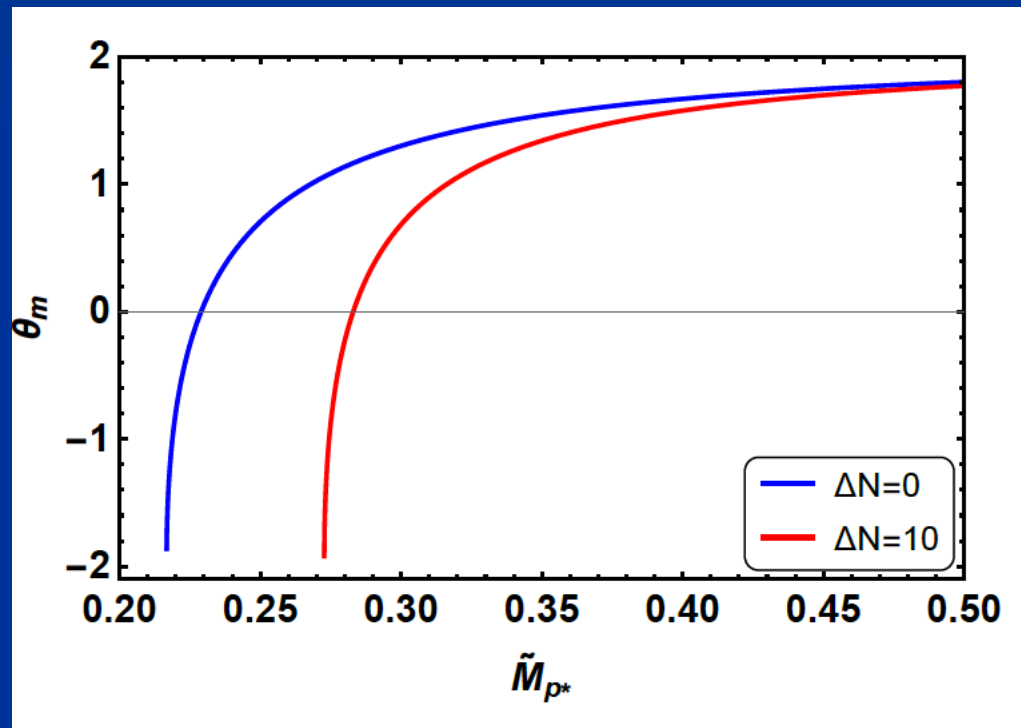
*Quartic scalar couplings are predicted  
for given quantum field theories  
with gravity*

*Predictivity for Fermi scale ?*

*Scalar mass term irrelevant ?*

# Higgs mass term is irrelevant for strong enough gravity ?

Neglecting mixing with other couplings :



# Gauge hierarchy

Possible explanation of small parameter : distance from second order vacuum electroweak phase transition is

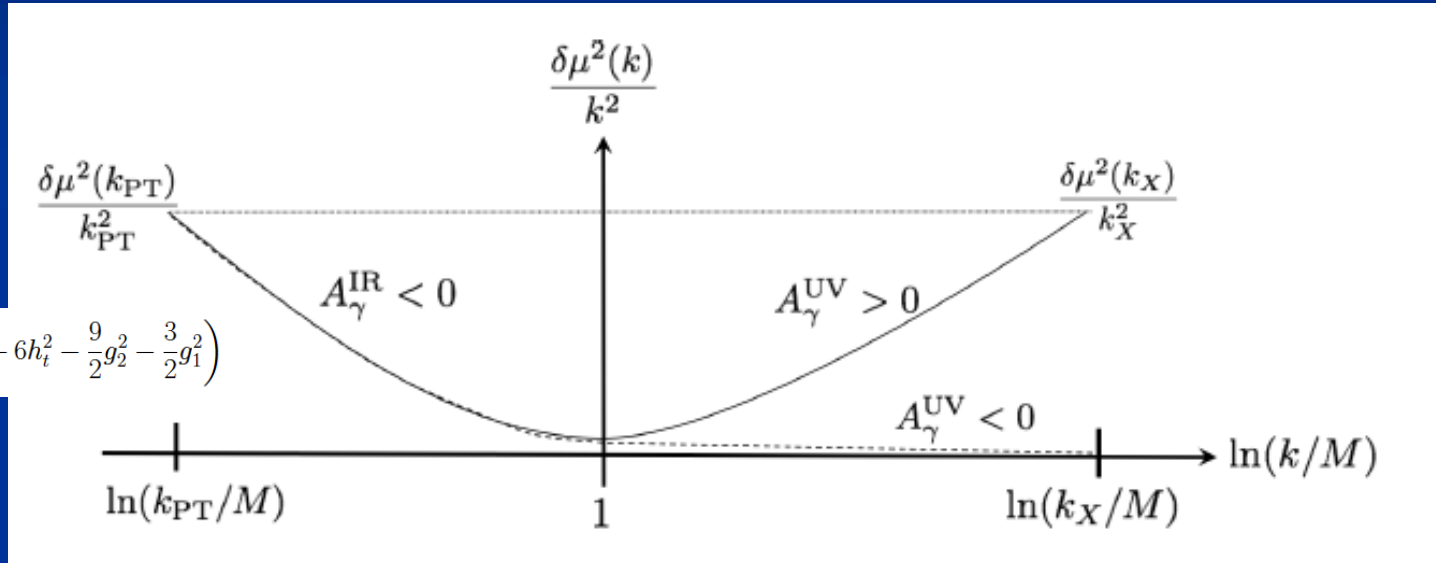
**irrelevant parameter**

at UV – fixed point

# Possible explanation of gauge hierarchy

$$A_\gamma^{\text{IR}} = -2 + A$$

$$A = \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \left( 2\lambda_H + 6h_t^2 - \frac{9}{2}g_2^2 - \frac{3}{2}g_1^2 \right)$$



Gauge hierarchy problem in asymptotically safe gravity  
–the resurgence mechanism

Christof Wetterich<sup>1</sup> and Masatoshi Yamada<sup>1</sup>

Phys.Lett. B770 (2017) 268-271



# Prediction of Fermi scale

- If scalar mass term is irrelevant and vacuum electroweak phase transition would be precisely second order:
- The Fermi scale would be predicted to be zero !
- Running gauge and Yukawa couplings in standard model imply that vacuum electroweak phase transition is not precisely second order. Small effect.
- Small Fermi scale and huge gauge hierarchy expected.
- May be a couple of orders too small as compared to observation ? Not known definitely.

# Predictions of quantum gravity ?

Simple approximation for graviton contribution to scalar potential:

- Predicts mass of Higgs scalar
- Solves Gauge Hierarchy problem ?
- Solves cosmological constant problem

# Conclusions

- Quantum gravity is a renormalizable quantum field theory, realized by UV - fixed point of running couplings or flowing effective action
- Quantum gravity is predictive :
  - Mass of the Higgs boson ( and more ...? )
  - Properties of inflation
  - Properties of dark energy

end

*Quantum gravity prediction for the  
cosmological “constant” ?*

# Variable Gravity

$$\Gamma = \int_x \sqrt{g} \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \chi^2 R + \mu^2 \chi^2 + \frac{1}{2} (B(\chi/\mu) - 6) \partial^\mu \chi \partial_\mu \chi \right\}$$

quantum effective action,  
variation yields field equations

# Asymptotically vanishing cosmological „constant“

- What matters : Ratio of potential divided by fourth power of Planck mass

$$\frac{V}{\chi^4} = \frac{\mu^2 \chi^2}{\chi^4} = \frac{\mu^2}{\chi^2}$$

- vanishes for  $\chi \rightarrow \infty$  !

# small dimensionless number ?

- needs two intrinsic mass scales
- standard approach :  $V$  and  $M$  ( cosmological constant and Planck mass )
- variable gravity : Planck mass moving to infinity , with fixed  $V$   $\rightarrow$  ratio vanishes asymptotically !



# Variable Gravity in scaling frame

$$\Gamma = \int_x \sqrt{g} \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \chi^2 R + \mu^2 \chi^2 + \frac{1}{2} (B(\chi/\mu) - 6) \partial^\mu \chi \partial_\mu \chi \right\}$$

# Variable gravity in Einstein frame

Weyl scaling :

$$g'_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\chi^2}{M^2} g_{\mu\nu} , \quad \varphi = \frac{2M}{\alpha} \ln \left( \frac{\chi}{\mu} \right)$$

effective action in Einstein frame :

$$\Gamma = \int_x \sqrt{g'} \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} M^2 R' + V'(\varphi) + \frac{1}{2} k^2(\varphi) \partial^\mu \varphi \partial_\mu \varphi \right\}$$

$$V'(\varphi) = M^4 \exp \left( -\frac{\alpha \varphi}{M} \right)$$

$$k^2 = \frac{\alpha^2 B}{4}$$

# Quintessence

Dynamical dark energy ,  
generated by scalar field (cosmon )

C.Wetterich,Nucl.Phys.B302(1988)668, 24.9.87  
P.J.E.Peebles,B.Ratra,ApJ.Lett.325(1988)L17, 20.10.87

## Prediction :

homogeneous dark energy  
influences recent cosmology

- of same order as dark matter -

Original models do not fit the present observations  
.... modifications  
( different growth of neutrino mass )

*Quantum gravity restricts the increase of  
scalar potential for large fields*

*In quantum gravity,  
the graviton fluctuations can  
play an important role on  
distances as large as the  
size of the Universe*

- for long range scalar fields and dynamical dark energy
- not for all quantities

# Graviton barrier

Quantum gravity computation :

For  $\chi \rightarrow \infty$

$V$  cannot increase stronger than  $M^2$  !

Instability of graviton propagator is avoided

# Graviton barrier and solution of the cosmological constant problem

$V$  cannot increase stronger than  $M^2$  !

If  $M$  increases with  $\chi$ , and for cosmological solutions where  $\chi$  asymptotically diverges for time going to infinity:

Effective cosmological constant vanishes in infinite future

$$M = \chi \quad : \quad V = \mu^2 \chi^2$$



# Asymptotically vanishing cosmological „constant“

- What matters : Ratio of potential divided by fourth power of Planck mass

$$\frac{V}{\chi^4} = \frac{\mu^2 \chi^2}{\chi^4} = \frac{\mu^2}{\chi^2}$$

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