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Effective Quantum Spacetime from Functional Renormalization Group

Based on A. Bonanno, M. Cadoni, M. Pitzalis and A. P. Sanna, *in preparation.*

INTRODUCTION

Modern General Relativity has achieved the status of a precision science.

The upcoming statistical data on gravitational wave events will enable precise predictions in the strong field regime.



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Several other problems in black hole physics (information paradox).

We still lack a well-established theory of quantum gravity.

ASYMPTOTIC SAFE SCENARIO

Weinberg's conjecture: a fundamental quantum theory of gravity could perhaps be constructed nonperturbatively by taking the continuum limit as a nonGaussian fixed point (Weinberg (1979,1997)).

Possibility further developed by Reuter (Reuter (1998)) within the functional renormalization group approach (Wilson-type effective average action Γ_k)

- Integrate out all fluctuation modes which have momenta larger than a certain coarse-graining momentum scale *k*.
- The renormalized dynamics in encoded in Γ_k whose dependence from the cutoff is governed by:

$$k\partial_k\Gamma_k = \frac{1}{2}STr\left\{\left(\Gamma_k^{(2)} + \mathcal{R}_k\right)^{-1}k\partial_k\mathcal{R}_k\right\}$$

the exact functional renormalization group equation (Reuter (1998), Bagnus & Bellivier (2001), Morris (1998)).



(A. Platania, Quantum Gravity and All of That, 2024)



Extracting physical information:

- Truncate the theory space by projecting the renormalization group flow into a finite dimensional subspace where the coupling constants are the coordinates (Reuter (1998), Reuter & Saueressig (2002)).
- Suppose that the relevant physical information in encoded in the running of coupling constants (Dittrich & Reuter (1985)).





Applying the same approach to gravity \rightarrow effective quantum geometries (classical solutions are replaced with effective geometries featuring a running of coupling constants, Bonanno & Reuter (2000)).

$$f(r) = 1 - \frac{2G_0M}{r}$$

$$F(r) = 1 - \frac{2G_k M}{r}, G_k = \frac{G_0}{1 + \frac{G_0}{g^*}k^2}$$

 $\frac{\text{Crucial problem: finding } k \text{ in a}}{\text{way that makes the approach}}$ $\frac{\text{consistent.}}{\text{consistent.}}$

- Further investigations including the running of the cosmological constant Λ have encountered various difficulties (Koch & Saueressig (2014)).
- This problem of deforming Schwarzschild solution including quantum corrections consistently has only been partially addressed in subsequent studies (Platania (2019)).

Brief summary of what we did:

- We seek an approximate solution of the quantum-corrected Schwarzschild - de Sitter metric in the ultraviolet and infrared regimes by proposing a cutoff *k* that makes the solution consistent.
- We interpolate the two approximate solutions by a numerical procedure known as shooting such that we obtain the quantum correct metric function in the entire domain

GENERALITIES

We truncate the theory space by considering Einstein-Hilbert action (leading contribution to quantum geometry):

$$\Gamma_k = \frac{1}{16 \pi G_k} \int d^4 x \sqrt{-g} \left[R - 2\Lambda_k \right]$$

We introduce quantum corrections in the Schwarzschild-de Sitter solution promoting the bare constants to running coupling constants

- We are assuming the validity of the Einstein-Hilbert truncation at every momentum scale *k* (we expect that near the nongaussian fixed point also higher curvature terms could play a role).
- The most general way to account for the running of coupling constants is to consider it at the level of the action. A second possibility is to include them in the field equations. Including them in the solution is the simplest way.
- We are assuming that the form of the metric always remains the same at every momentum scale k.
- We are implicitly assuming the existence of an effective description of quantum gravity effects in terms of a smooth geometry.

GENERALITIES

Projecting the flow onto the subspace spanned by the Einstein-Hilbert truncation we obtain for the dimensionless coupling constants $g(k) = G_k k^2$ and $\lambda(k) = \Lambda_k k^{-2}$



(Koch & Saueressig, 2014)

- Gaussian fixed point located at the origin (infrared regime), $g^*=0, \lambda^*=0$
- NonGaussian fixed point located at $\lambda^* = 0.193$, $g^* = 0.707$ acting as an ultraviolet attractor (and giving the Ultraviolet completion of the theory).

GENERALITIES

Approximated analytic form of the Renormalization Group trajectories



The observed (infrared) present value of Λ_0 is quite small and can be set to zero whenever one is considering black holes.

APPROXIMATE SOLUTIONS





APPROXIMATE SOLUTIONS



To get a well-defined spacetime geometry we need to exploit the dependence from the cutoff in the dressed metric function.

k must respect the symmetries of the classical solution.

k must be invariant under coordinate transformations.

$$k(r) = \frac{\xi}{\mathcal{L}(r)}$$

$$\mathcal{L}(r) = \int ds = \int \frac{dr}{f_d(r)}$$

$$\overleftarrow{}$$

$$\mathbf{L}'^{(r)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{f_d(r)}}$$

We solve this differential equation in an approximate way.

k(r) depends on the form of the dressed metric function which in turns depends on the form of g(k) and $\lambda(k)$ which is a backreaction between the dressed metric function and the cutoff (Until now completely neglected).

APPROXIMATE SOLUTIONS -ULTRAVIOLET REGIME

Ultraviolet approximate solutions can be found from a series expansion (Frobenius method)

$$k(r) = \frac{\beta}{r^2} + \frac{\gamma}{r} + \delta + \mathcal{O}(r) \quad \bigoplus \qquad k(r) = \frac{\xi}{\mathcal{L}(r)} \quad \bigoplus \qquad \mathcal{L}(r)' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{f_d(r)}}$$

$$f_d(r) = 1 \xrightarrow{\sigma} (\Lambda_{eff} r^2) + \mathcal{O}(r^3) \qquad \bigtriangledown \qquad \sigma = \beta \lambda^*$$

$$\omega = \frac{4\mathcal{M}(\sigma-3)}{\sigma(\sigma-6)}, \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}g^* \lambda^*$$

$$R \sim \frac{\sigma}{r^2} \qquad R \sim \frac{\omega}{r}$$

$$\Lambda_{eff} = 9\mathcal{M}^2 \frac{(3 - \sigma)(24 - 5\sigma)}{\sigma^2(\sigma - 6)^2(9 - 2\sigma)} - \frac{7\mathcal{M}_p^2}{2} \frac{3 - \sigma}{9 - 2\sigma}$$

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}g^* \lambda^*, \mathcal{M}_p^2 = m_p^2 g^* \lambda^*$$

• The flow of G_k generates a curvature singularity (linear term) «milder than the usual Schwarzschild one $(\sqrt{R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}} = 1/r^3)$ », while the flow of Λ generates a new conical singularity term (extensive origin).

• The functional form of the metric is rather similar to that derived by Mannheim and Kazanas in the context of Weyl gravity (Mannheim & Kazanas (1998)).

APPROXIMATE SOLUTIONS – UV REGIME

We can try to remove the singularity coming from the linear term (ωr) by translating the radial coordinate $r \rightarrow r + \ell$:

$$ds_{d}^{2} = -f_{d}(r) dt^{2} + \frac{dr^{2}}{f_{d}(r)} + (r+\ell)^{2} d\Omega^{2}, f_{d}(r) = 1 - \mathcal{C} - \underbrace{(\Lambda_{eff})^{2}}_{3}$$

$$\ell = -\frac{3\omega}{2\Lambda_{eff}} \mathcal{C} = \frac{\sigma}{3} - \frac{3\omega^2}{4\Lambda_{eff}}$$

The form of the UV geometry depends crucially on the sign of Λ_{eff} :

$$\Lambda_{eff} = \mathbf{0}
ightarrow M_t^2 = rac{1}{g^* \lambda^*} rac{7}{18} rac{(\sigma-6)^2 \sigma^2}{24-5\sigma} m_p^2$$

We avoid the conical singularity by cutting the spacetime to a finite geodesic length, therefore:

 $M < M_t$

• $\Lambda_{eff} < 0 \rightarrow AdS_2 \times S^2$ (appearance of an AdS_2 phase of quantum gravity (widely used for addressing black hole information paradox and microscopic origin of black hole entropy, Cadoni et al (2023), Bonanno & Reuter (2007))

$$M > M_t$$

• $\Lambda_{eff} > 0 \rightarrow dS_2 \times S^2$

Phase transition at Planck scale geometrically as $AdS_2 \times S^2 \rightarrow dS_2 \times S^2$ (first predicted by Polyakov (1993))

APPROXIMATE SOLUTIONS – IR REGIME

The same differential equation is solved in the infrared regime, i.e. where $\frac{r}{R_{\perp}} \gg 1$.

$$F_{d}^{(IR)} = 1 - \frac{R_s}{r} \left(-\frac{\zeta^4 G_0 \lambda}{8g_* r^2} + \frac{\zeta^2 G_0 R_s}{g_* r^3} + \frac{\partial \zeta^4 G_0 \lambda}{2g_* r^3} + \frac{\partial \zeta^4 G_0 \lambda}{2g_* r^3} + \mathcal{O}\left[\frac{\ln^2 \left(\sqrt{\frac{r}{R_s}}\right)}{r^4} \right]$$

Long range infrared terms induced by quantum corrections.

- Long range gravitational contribution of vacuum polarization of conformal field theory degrees of freedom ($\rho_v = -\frac{\zeta^4}{32 \pi} \frac{\lambda_*}{g_*} \frac{1}{r^4}$, typical vacuum energy density expected for conformal fields in 4D)
- Other mass polarization effects $\rho_1 = \frac{\zeta^2}{4\pi g_*} \frac{R_s}{r^5}$ $\rho_2 = \frac{\lambda_* \zeta^4}{8\pi g_*} \left(\frac{R_s ln(\sqrt{\frac{r}{R_s}})}{r^5} + \frac{d}{r^5} \right)$
- The general scaling of the $1/r^3$ long range quantum corrections behave as $\sim G_0^2 M$ implying for naturalness arguments that $d \sim R_s$ (we cannot exclude a "superplanckian" coming from an infrared term that in the effective average action goes to zero in the limit $k \to 0$)

NUMERICAL SOLUTIONS

NUMERICAL SOLUTIONS

To determine the form of the metric function in the whole domain interpolating between the two asymptotic solutions we employ a numerical method called shooting. By defining some adimensional quantities:

$$\rho = \frac{r}{R_s}, \quad \mathcal{G} = \frac{G_0}{R_s^2} = \frac{m_p^2}{4M^2}, \quad \mu = g_* \lambda_* M R_s = 2g_* \lambda_* \frac{M^2}{m_p^2}, \quad \mu = \frac{g_* \lambda_*}{2} \frac{1}{\mathcal{G}}$$
$$\mathcal{D}(\rho) = \frac{\mathcal{L}(\rho)}{R_s} \left(\frac{d\mathcal{D}(\rho)}{d\rho} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{f_d(\rho)}} \right) \quad d = \chi R_s/2 \qquad \qquad \text{In the junction point we ensure to have a continuous}$$



NUMERICAL SOLUTIONS



Anti de Sitter – de Sitter transition (lowering $G \rightarrow$ «raising object's mass» (naked singularity))

Formation of horizons above critical mass $M_c^2 = rac{1}{4 \mathcal{G}_c} m_p^2$

FINAL REMARKS

The running of the coupling constants obtained by truncating the effective action to the Einstein-Hilbert action, although including the 'backreaction' of the metric, does not eliminate the curvature singularity, makes the Schwarzschild one milder and generates a conical singularity.

The non-linearity of the coupling constant flow equations gives rise to a phase transition from a regime with a negative effective cosmological constant, linked to the Planck mass and corresponding to the vacuum energy domain, to a regime with a positive cosmological constant in which matter excitations, controlled by the mass of the black hole, dominate. This is correlated with a change in the topology of spacetime in the vicinity of the fixed point, i.e. $AdS_2 \times S^2 \rightarrow dS_2 \times S^2$.

We shows the appearance of an AdS_2 phase of quantum gravity near the nonGaussian fixed point.

The effective quantum spacetimes we obtained from the running of the coupling constants show, above a critical mass value very close to the Planck mass, the formation of event horizons.

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