

Naturalness, renormalization, and the cosmological constant problem

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September 10, 2024

4th International FLAG Workshop : The Quantum and Gravity

September 9 - 11, 2024 - Catania

Carlo Branchina, Vincenzo Branchina, Filippo Contino, AP, in preparation

Introduction

Contribution to vacuum energy **from quantum fluctuations**

$$\sim M_P^4$$

Value inferred **from observed accelerated expansion** of the universe $\rho_{\text{vac}} \sim 10^{-123} M_P^4$

CC problem: most severe naturalness problem in physics

Several attempts towards its solution

- * Polyakov ... and later Jackiw ... Moscow zero ...
- * Taylor - Veneziano ... non-local terms : $V \log V$

... “Infinitely” many other attempts ...

One-loop VDW Effective Action cont'd

Let us calculate the **1-loop correction** $\delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1/}$

Take **spherical background** $\bar{g}_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}^{(a)}$ (a radius of the sphere)

(coordinates x angles ; $g_{\mu\nu}^{(a)}$ goes like a^2 ; $\int d^4x \sqrt{g^{(a)}} = \frac{8\pi^2}{3} a^4$, $R(g^{(a)}) = \frac{12}{a^2}$)

Classical Action $S_{\text{grav}}^{(a)} = \frac{\pi\Lambda}{3G} a^4 - \frac{2\pi}{G} a^2$

Add to $S_{\text{grav}} + S_{\text{gf}}$ the corresponding **ghost action** (v_μ vector ghost fields)

$$S_{\text{ghost}} = \frac{1}{32\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{g^{(a)}} g^{(a)\mu\nu} v_\mu^* \left(-\nabla_\rho \nabla^\rho - \frac{3}{a^2} \right) v_\nu$$

Identify **1-loop corrections** to $\frac{\Lambda}{G}$ and $\frac{1}{G}$ with coefficients of a^4 and a^2 in $\delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1/}$

Measure $[Du(h)Dv_\rho^* Dv_\sigma]$

$$[Du(h)Dv_\rho^* Dv_\sigma] \equiv \prod_x [g^{(a)00}(x) (g^{(a)}(x))^{-1} \left(\prod_{\alpha \leq \beta} dh_{\alpha\beta}(x) \right) \left(\prod_\rho dv_\rho^*(x) \right) \left(\prod_\sigma dv_\sigma(x) \right)]$$

$g^{(a)00}(x) (g^{(a)}(x))^{-1}$ from integration over conjugate momenta¹ (Fradkin - Vilkovisky)

Observe: $g_{\mu\nu}^{(a)}$ can be written as $g_{\mu\nu}^{(a)} = a^2 g_{\mu\nu}^{(1)}$

$g_{\mu\nu}^{(1)}$ metric of a sphere of unitary radius, $a = 1$

$$\Rightarrow g^{(a)00}(x) (g^{(a)}(x))^{-1} = a^{-10} g^{(1)00}(x) (g^{(1)}(x))^{-1}$$

with $g^{(1)00}(x) (g^{(1)}(x))^{-1}$ a -independent

¹ original expression in FV is $g^{(a)00}(x) (g^{(a)}(x))^{-\frac{3}{2}}$. Difference due to the fact that here both v and v^* are world vectors, in

FV different choice. $\sqrt{g^{(a)}}$ Jacobian due to the change between these two equivalent functional integration variables (Unz).

Reabsorb $G^{-1/2}a^{-1}$ in $h_{\mu\nu} \implies \hat{h}_{\mu\nu} = (32\pi G)^{-1/2} a^{-1} h_{\mu\nu}$

$S_2 + S_{\text{gf}}$ rewritten as

$$S_2 + S_{\text{gf}} = \int d^4x \sqrt{g^{(1)}} \left[\frac{1}{2} \bar{h}^{\mu\nu} (-\nabla_\rho \nabla^\rho - 2a^2 \Lambda + 8) \hat{h}_{\mu\nu} + \hat{h}^2 - \left(1 - \frac{1}{\xi}\right) \nabla^\rho \bar{h}_{\rho\mu} \nabla^\sigma \bar{h}_\sigma^\mu \right]$$

$$\hat{h} \equiv g_{\mu\nu}^{(1)} \hat{h}^{\mu\nu}, \quad \bar{h}_{\mu\nu} \equiv \hat{h}_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu}^{(1)} \hat{h}$$

indexes raised with $g^{(1)\mu\nu}$; covariant derivatives in terms of $g_{\mu\nu}^{(1)}$

Clearly $\hat{h}_{\mu\nu}$ defined on a sphere of unitary radius

Redefine $v_\mu \rightarrow (32\pi G)^{\frac{1}{2}} v_\mu$ (covariant derivatives in terms of $g_{\mu\nu}^{(1)}$)

$$S_{\text{ghost}} = \int d^4x \sqrt{g^{(1)}} g^{(1)\mu\nu} v_\mu^* (-\nabla_\rho \nabla^\rho - 3) v_\nu$$

Same as $\hat{h}_{\mu\nu}$: v_μ defined on a sphere of unitary radius

\implies when written in terms of $\hat{h}_{\mu\nu}$ and v_μ , $\delta S^{(2)} = S_2 + S_{\text{gf}} + S_{\text{ghost}}$ contains only
dimensionless fluctuation operators ...

... and then ...

$$[\mathcal{D}u(h)\mathcal{D}v_\rho^* \mathcal{D}v_\sigma] \equiv \prod_x \left[a^{-10} g^{(1)00}(x) \left(g^{(1)}(x) \right)^{-1} \left(\prod_{\alpha \leq \beta} dh_{\alpha\beta}(x) \right) \left(\prod_\rho dv_\rho^*(x) \right) \left(\prod_\sigma dv_\sigma(x) \right) \right]$$

⊕

$$\widehat{h}_{\mu\nu} = (32\pi G)^{-1/2} a^{-1} h_{\mu\nu} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \prod_{\alpha \leq \beta} dh_{\alpha\beta}(x) = (32\pi G)^5 a^{10} \prod_{\alpha \leq \beta} d\widehat{h}_{\alpha\beta}(x)$$

⇓

$$[\mathcal{D}u(h)\mathcal{D}v_\rho^* \mathcal{D}v_\sigma] = \mathcal{N} \prod_x \left[\left(\prod_{\alpha \leq \beta} d\widehat{h}_{\alpha\beta}(x) \right) \left(\prod_\rho dv_\rho^*(x) \right) \left(\prod_\sigma dv_\sigma(x) \right) \right]$$

***a*-independent terms** as $\prod_x g^{(1)00}(x) \left(g^{(1)}(x) \right)^{-1}$ included in **harmless constant \mathcal{N}**

Since $\widehat{h}_{\mu\nu}$ and v_μ fields on a **sphere of radius $a = 1$** \implies

bases for symmetric tensors and vectors with eigenfunctions of the

Dimensionless Laplace-Beltrami operator $-\square_{a=1}^{(s)} \equiv -a^2 \square_a^{(s)}$

$-\square_a^{(s)}$ Laplace-Beltrami for sphere of radius a ; s spins: $s = 0, 1, 2$

Dimensionless eigenvalues $\lambda_n^{(s)}$ and corresponding degeneracies $D_n^{(s)}$

$$\lambda_n^{(s)} = n^2 + 3n - s \quad ; \quad D_n^{(s)} = \frac{2s+1}{3} \left(n + \frac{3}{2}\right)^3 - \frac{(2s+1)^3}{12} \left(n + \frac{3}{2}\right)$$

where $n = s, s+1, \dots$

Expanding $\widehat{h}_{\mu\nu}$, v_ρ^* and v_σ for $\delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1l}$ we have (backup slides)

$$\delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1l} = -\frac{1}{2} \log \frac{\det_1[-\square_{a=1}^{(1)} - 3] \det_2[-\square_{a=1}^{(0)} - 6]}{\det_0[-\square_{a=1}^{(2)} - 2a^2\Lambda + 8] \det_2[-\square_{a=1}^{(0)} - 2a^2\Lambda]} + \frac{1}{2} \log(2a^2\Lambda) + \mathcal{B}$$

\mathcal{B} inessential a -independent term ; index i in \det_i signals that product of eigenvalues starts from $\lambda_{s+i}^{(s)}$

$$\delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1/} = -\frac{1}{2} \log \frac{\det_1[-\square_{a=1}^{(1)} - 3] \det_2[-\square_{a=1}^{(0)} - 6]}{\det_0[-\square_{a=1}^{(2)} - 2a^2\Lambda + 8] \det_2[-\square_{a=1}^{(0)} - 2a^2\Lambda]} + \frac{1}{2} \log(2a^2\Lambda) + \mathcal{B}$$

$\frac{1}{2} \log(2a^2\Lambda)$ (from integration over one of the modes in $\hat{h}_{\mu\nu}$ (backup slides)) and \mathcal{B} : irrelevant for our scopes

Truly important term: **first one** in the right hand side

* **Peculiarity:** written in terms of **automatically dimensionless determinants** \implies

No need to introduce any **arbitrary mass scale** (μ)

In **typical calculations** of $\delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1/}$: dimensionful determinants \implies arbitrary μ introduced

* Although calculation is performed for a **sphere of radius a** , **Laplace-Beltrami operators** are those **for sphere of unitary radius**

* **a** only comes in the combination **$a^2\Lambda$**

Calculation of the fluctuation determinants

Two different strategies

- 1 - **direct calculation in terms of eigenvalues** of Laplace-Beltrami ops.
- 2 - **proper-time**, as usually done

Anticipating: both calculations show that **quartically and quadratically divergent contributions to the vacuum energy** usually present in the literature are actually **absent**

1 - Calculation in terms of the eigenvalues $\lambda_n^{(s)}$

$$\delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1/} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=2}^{N-2} \left[D_n^{(2)} \log \left(\lambda_n^{(2)} - 2a^2 \Lambda + 8 \right) + D_n^{(0)} \log \left(\lambda_n^{(0)} - 2a^2 \Lambda \right) \right. \\ \left. - D_n^{(1)} \log \left(\lambda_n^{(1)} - 3 \right) - D_n^{(0)} \log \left(\lambda_n^{(0)} - 6 \right) \right] + \frac{1}{2} \log(2a^2 \Lambda) + \mathcal{B}$$

* **UV cutoff** introduced as a **numerical cut** ^(*) N on the number of eigenvalues ($N - 2$ rather than N simplifies the expression)

* De Sitter solution for the classical action

$$a_{\text{ds}} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}}}$$

a_{ds} size of the universe \implies connection between N and physical cutoff scale $\Lambda_{\text{cut}} \sim M_P$ given by

$$\Lambda_{\text{cut}} \sim M_P = \frac{N}{a_{\text{ds}}} = N \sqrt{\frac{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}}{3}}$$

(*) Numerical cut also introduced in Becker, Reuter, Phys.Rev.D 102 (2020) 12, 125001 and Phys.Rev.D 104 (2021) 12, 125008 ;

Ferrero, Percacci, e-Print: 2404.12357, but: different perspective, different conclusions

Calculation in terms of the $\lambda_n^{(s)}$ cont'd

- * $N - 2$: number of modes retained in the calculation of the determinants
- * Since the eigenvalues $\tilde{\lambda}_n^{(s)}$ of $-\square_a^{(s)}$ go like $\tilde{\lambda}_n^{(s)} \equiv \frac{\lambda_n^{(s)}}{a^2} \sim \frac{n^2}{a^2}$, the requirement $n \leq N - 2$ **is not equivalent** to require $\tilde{\lambda}_n^{(s)} \leq \Lambda_{\text{cut}}^2$
- * This latter choice **might seem natural**, since it would amount to require that the **maximal eigenvalue** $\tilde{\lambda}_{\text{max}}^{(s)}$ is $\tilde{\lambda}_{\text{max}}^{(s)} \sim \Lambda_{\text{cut}}^2$
- * **But misleading reasoning**: since $\tilde{\lambda}_n^{(s)}$ go like $a^{-2} \implies$ introduction of **unphysical a -dependence** (on the BG $g_{\mu\nu}^{(a)}$) in the implementation of the cutoff

Fundamental observation to get the correct result for $\delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1/}$, and to see that there are

No quartic and quadratic divergences in the vacuum energy

Calculation in terms of the $\lambda_n^{(s)}$ cont'd

Remarkably, sum in $\delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1/}$ obtained in closed form (backup slides)

Expanding for $N \gg 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1/} = & - \left(\Lambda_{\text{cc}}^2 \log N^2 \right) a^4 + \Lambda_{\text{cc}} \left(-N^2 + 8 \log N^2 \right) a^2 \\ & + \frac{N^4}{24} \left(-1 + 2 \log N^2 \right) + \frac{N^2}{36} \left(203 - 75 \log N^2 \right) - \frac{779}{90} \log N^2 + \mathcal{B} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \log \left(2a^2 \Lambda_{\text{cc}} \right) + \mathcal{F}(a^2 \Lambda_{\text{cc}}) + \mathcal{O} \left(N^{-2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathcal{F}(a^2 \Lambda)$ contains only UV-finite terms (no dependence on N)

Using $\Lambda_{\text{cut}} \sim M_P = \frac{N}{a_{\text{ds}}} = N \sqrt{\frac{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}}{3}}$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1/} = & - \left(\Lambda_{\text{cc}}^2 \log \frac{3\Lambda_{\text{cut}}^2}{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}} \right) a^4 + \left(-3\Lambda_{\text{cut}}^2 + 8\Lambda_{\text{cc}} \log \frac{3\Lambda_{\text{cut}}^2}{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}} \right) a^2 \\ & + \frac{3\Lambda_{\text{cut}}^4}{8\Lambda_{\text{cc}}^2} \left(-1 + 2 \log \frac{3\Lambda_{\text{cut}}^2}{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}} \right) + \frac{\Lambda_{\text{cut}}^2}{12\Lambda_{\text{cc}}} \left(203 - 75 \log \frac{3\Lambda_{\text{cut}}^2}{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}} \right) - \frac{779}{90} \log \frac{3\Lambda_{\text{cut}}^2}{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}} + \mathcal{B} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \log \left(2a^2 \Lambda_{\text{cc}} \right) + \mathcal{F}(a^2 \Lambda_{\text{cc}}) + \mathcal{O} \left(\Lambda_{\text{cut}}^{-2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

2 - Calculation with proper-time

Being $(-\square_{a=1}^{(s)} - \alpha)$ dimensionless \implies determinants regularized in terms of a **dimensionless proper-time** τ (lower cut: **number** $N_{pt} \gg 1$)

$$\det_i(-\square_{a=1}^{(s)} - \alpha) = e^{-\int_{1/N_{pt}^2}^{+\infty} \frac{d\tau}{\tau} K_i^{(s)}(\tau)} \quad ; \quad K_i^{(s)}(\tau) = \sum_{n=s+i}^{+\infty} D_n^{(s)} e^{-\tau(\lambda_n^{(s)} - \alpha)}$$

After integration over τ , sum over n performed with **EML** sum formula

$$\sum_{n=n_i}^{n_f} f(n) = \int_{n_i}^{n_f} dx f(x) + \frac{f(n_f) + f(n_i)}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^p \frac{B_{2k}}{(2k)!} (f^{(2k-1)}(n_f) - f^{(2k-1)}(n_i)) + R_{2p}$$

p is an integer, B_m are Bernoulli numbers, R_{2p} is the rest given by

$$R_{2p} = \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} \frac{B_{2k}}{(2k)!} (f^{(2k-1)}(n_f) - f^{(2k-1)}(n_i)) = \frac{(-1)^{2p+1}}{(2p)!} \int_{n_i}^{n_f} dx f^{(2p)}(x) B_{2p}(x - [x])$$

$B_n(x)$ are the Bernoulli polynomials, $[x]$ the integer part of x , and $f^{(i)}$ the i -th derivative of f with respect to its argument

Calculation with proper-time cont'd

Expanding for $N_{\text{pt}} \gg 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1/} = & - \left(\Lambda_{\text{cc}}^2 \log N_{\text{pt}}^2 \right) a^4 + \Lambda_{\text{cc}} \left(-N_{\text{pt}}^2 + 8 \log N_{\text{pt}}^2 \right) a^2 \\ & - \frac{N_{\text{pt}}^4}{12} + \frac{17}{3} N_{\text{pt}}^2 - \frac{1859}{90} \log N_{\text{pt}}^2 + \mathcal{B} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \log(2a^2 \Lambda_{\text{cc}}) + \mathcal{G}(a^2 \Lambda_{\text{cc}}) + \mathcal{O}(N_{\text{pt}}^{-2}) \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{G}(a^2 \Lambda)$ contains UV-finite terms (no dependence on N_{pt}). As before, **connection between N_{pt} and dimensionful cutoff Λ_{pt}** given by

$$\Lambda_{\text{pt}} \equiv \frac{N_{\text{pt}}}{a_{\text{ds}}} = \sqrt{\frac{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}}{3}} N_{\text{pt}} \quad \implies$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1/} = & - \left(\Lambda_{\text{cc}}^2 \log \frac{3\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^2}{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}} \right) a^4 + \left(-3\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^2 + 8\Lambda_{\text{cc}} \log \frac{3\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^2}{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}} \right) a^2 \\ & - \frac{3\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^4}{4\Lambda_{\text{cc}}^2} + \frac{17\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^2}{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}} - \frac{1859}{90} \log \frac{3\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^2}{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}} + \mathcal{B} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \log(2a^2 \Lambda_{\text{cc}}) + \mathcal{G}(a^2 \Lambda_{\text{cc}}) + \mathcal{O}(\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^{-2}) \end{aligned}$$

The two methods give the same result
... to be compared with ...

Nuclear Physics B234 (1984) 509–523
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ON THE NEW DEFINITION OF OFF-SHELL EFFECTIVE ACTION

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Received 16 May 1983

...

$$\Gamma_\infty = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} L^4 B_0 + L^2 B_2 + B_4 \log(L^2/\mu^2) \right), \quad L \rightarrow \infty,$$

$$B_p = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} b_p, \quad b_0 = 2, \quad b_2 = \rho_1 R + \rho_2 \Lambda_0,$$

Nuclear Physics B345 (1990) 210–230
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QUANTUM GRAVITY AT LARGE DISTANCES AND THE COSMOLOGICAL CONSTANT

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$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{I}_1 = & r^4 \left[-\frac{1}{12} (\alpha')^{-2} - \Lambda (\alpha')^{-1} + \Lambda^2 \log(\alpha' M^2) \right] \\ & + r^2 \left[\frac{17}{3} (\alpha')^{-1} - 8\Lambda \log(\alpha' M^2) \right] + \frac{1679}{90} \log(\alpha'/r^2) \\ & + \frac{257}{15} \log(M^2 r^2) + \frac{1}{2} \log(r^2 \Lambda) + \mathcal{O}(1), \end{aligned} \quad (3.35)$$

quartically divergent contribution to the cosmological constant (of order $\mathcal{O}[(\alpha')^{-2}]$) has to be disregarded in a theory where there is a protection (e.g. from broken supersymmetry) of the cosmological constant making $\Lambda \ll (\alpha')^{-1}$.

Coefficients of a^4 and a^2 identify the one-loop corrections to $\frac{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}}{G}$ and $\frac{1}{G}$

$$\frac{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}^{1/}}{G^{1/}} = \frac{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}}{G} \left(1 - \frac{3G\Lambda_{\text{cc}}}{\pi} \log \frac{3\tilde{\Lambda}^2}{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}} \right) + \text{finite}$$

$$\frac{1}{G^{1/}} = \frac{1}{G} \left[1 + \frac{G}{2\pi} \left(3\tilde{\Lambda}^2 - 8\Lambda_{\text{cc}} \log \frac{3\tilde{\Lambda}^2}{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}} \right) \right] + \text{finite}$$

* $\tilde{\Lambda}$ is equivalently either Λ_{cut} or Λ_{pt} ($\sim M_P$)

* **Unexpected result:** *only logarithmic corrections* to $\rho = \frac{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}}{8\pi G}$

* Taking for G the **natural value** $G \sim M_P^{-2}$ we see that **quantum corrections do not spoil the naturalness** of this relation

No naturalness problem with the renormaliz. of the Newton constant

$$G \sim G^{1/} \sim \frac{1}{M_P^2}$$

Vacuum energy

$$\frac{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}^{1/}}{G^{1/}} = \frac{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}}{G} \left(1 - \frac{3G\Lambda_{\text{cc}}}{\pi} \log \frac{3\tilde{\Lambda}^2}{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}} \right)$$

Quantum correction to the vacuum energy $\rho = \frac{\Lambda_{\text{cc}}}{8\pi G}$ goes like

$\log M_P$ rather than M_P^4

* Usual result: $\rho \sim M_P^4 \implies$ bare value of $\rho \sim M_P^4$ with a coefficient that must be **enormously fine-tuned** for it to cancel (quite exactly) the one-loop generated M_P^4 correction

* Our result: **loop corrections** \rightarrow only mild (log) correction to $\rho \implies$

In **pure gravity no naturalness problem arises**: the bare cosmological constant Λ_{cc} does not need to be $\sim M_P^2$. We may **naturally** have $\Lambda_{\text{cc}} \ll M_P^2$, and so

$$\Lambda_{\text{cc}}^{1/} \sim \Lambda_{\text{cc}}$$

Incorrect identification of the cutoff

What is at the origin of our unexpected result?

Why usually quartic^(*) and quadratic divergences found?

$$\delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1l} = - \left(\Lambda_{\text{cc}}^2 \log N_{\text{pt}}^2 \right) a^4 + \Lambda_{\text{cc}} \left(-N_{\text{pt}}^2 + 8 \log N_{\text{pt}}^2 \right) a^2 - \frac{N_{\text{pt}}^4}{12} + \frac{17}{3} N_{\text{pt}}^2 - \frac{1859}{90} \log N_{\text{pt}}^2$$

Connect for a moment N_{pt} and Λ_{pt} through

$$\Lambda_{\text{pt}} = \frac{N_{\text{pt}}}{a} \quad \left(\text{rather than through } \Lambda_{\text{pt}} = \frac{N_{\text{pt}}}{a_{\text{ds}}} \right)$$

which corresponds to the (incorrect) identification of Λ_{pt} with the maximal eigenvalue

$\tilde{\lambda}_{\text{max}}^{(s)}$... then for $\delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1l}$ we obtain

$$\delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1l} = - \left[\Lambda_{\text{cc}}^2 \log \left(\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^2 a^2 \right) \right] a^4 + \Lambda_{\text{cc}} \left[-\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^2 a^2 + 8 \log \left(\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^2 a^2 \right) \right] a^2 - \frac{\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^4}{12} a^4 + \frac{17}{3} \Lambda_{\text{pt}}^2 a^2 - \frac{1859}{90} \log \left(\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^2 a^2 \right)$$

(*) absence of quartic divergences also noted in Donoghue, Phys.Rev.D 104 (2021) 4, 045005

Trivially rewritten as

$$\delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1/} = - \left[\frac{\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^4}{12} + \Lambda_{\text{cc}} \Lambda_{\text{pt}}^2 + \Lambda_{\text{cc}}^2 \log (\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^2 a^2) \right] a^4 + \left[\frac{17}{3} \Lambda_{\text{pt}}^2 + 8 \Lambda_{\text{cc}} \log (\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^2 a^2) \right] a^2 - \frac{1859}{90} \log (\Lambda_{\text{pt}}^2 a^2) .$$

known result found with **heat-kernel** (Taylor, Veneziano ; Fradkin, Tseytlin)

* Implementing the cut in the fluctuation determinants **taking as physical cutoff the maximal eigenvalues** $\tilde{\lambda}_{\text{max}}^{(s)}$ introduces in $\delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1/}$ **spurious, unphysical dependence on** $g_{\mu\nu}^{(a)}$

* Connection between N_{pt} and Λ_{pt} must be realised through a_{ds} (**size of the universe**)

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THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Why Fadkin-Vilkovisky measure? Cont'd

For generic metric $g_{\mu\nu}$

(Donoghue, PRD 104 (2021) 4)

$$\mathcal{D}u(\phi) = \prod_x (-\det g_{\mu\nu}(x))^{1/8} d\phi(x)$$

Measure we use (from **integration over conjugate momenta**)

(Fradkin-Vilkovisky, Unz)

$$\mathcal{D}u(\phi) = \prod_x \left[(g^{00}(x))^{1/2} (-\det g_{\mu\nu}(x))^{1/4} d\phi(x) \right]$$

Fujikawa measure

$$\mathcal{D}u(\phi) = \prod_x \left[(-\det g_{\mu\nu}(x))^{1/4} d\phi(x) \right]$$

* $g_{\mu\nu} = (1 + h(x)) \eta_{\mu\nu} \Rightarrow (-\det g_{\mu\nu}(x))^{1/8} = (g^{00}(x))^{1/2} (-\det g_{\mu\nu}(x))^{1/4} = (1 + h(x))^{1/2}$

$(-\det g_{\mu\nu}(x))^{1/4} = 1 + h(x)$ **DIFFERENT!**

* Sphere $g_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}^{(a)} \Rightarrow (-\det g_{\mu\nu}^{(a)}(x))^{1/8}$ and $(g^{(a)00}(x))^{1/2} (-\det g_{\mu\nu}^{(a)}(x))^{1/4}$ both $\sim a$

$(-\det g_{\mu\nu}(x))^{1/4} \sim a^2$

Additional comments

$\frac{1}{2} \log(2a^2\Lambda_{\text{cc}})$ and $\mathcal{G}(a^2\Lambda_{\text{cc}})$ are negligible $\mathcal{O}(1)$ contributions to $\delta S_{\text{grav}}^{1/}$

The constant terms (proportional to a^0) in principle could be interpreted as corrections to $\int d^4x \sqrt{g} R^2$ rather than as constants to be discarded

... Due to the high symmetry of the background considered (sphere), it is impossible to distinguish between constant terms and corrections to R^2

... since our universe seems to be well described by the Einstein-Hilbert action (with cosmological constant) even at large energy scales, we rather expect these terms to be interpreted as inessential constants ...

This question should be further investigated ...

Expansion of $\hat{h}_{\mu\nu}$, v_ρ^* and v_σ

We indicate with $h_n^{\mu\nu(i)}$ (transverse-traceless), $\xi_n^{\mu(i)}$ (transverse) and $\phi_n^{(i)}$ the pure spin-2, spin-1 and spin-0 eigenfunctions of the Laplace-Beltrami operator on the sphere of unitary radius that are normalized as

$$\delta^{ij} \delta_{nm} = \int d^4x \sqrt{g^{(1)}} h_n^{\mu\nu(i)}(x) h_{\mu\nu}^{m(j)}(x) = \int d^4x \sqrt{g^{(1)}} \xi_n^{\mu(i)}(x) \xi_\mu^{m(j)}(x) = \int d^4x \sqrt{g^{(1)}} \phi_n^{(i)}(x) \phi_m^{(j)}(x) \quad (1)$$

corresponding to the eigenvalues $\lambda_n^{(2)}$, $\lambda_n^{(1)}$ and $\lambda_n^{(0)}$ respectively. The modes $\{h_n^{\mu\nu}, v_n^{\mu\nu}, w_n^{\mu\nu}, z_n^{\mu\nu}\}$, with

$$\begin{aligned} v_n^{\mu\nu} &= \left[\frac{1}{2} (\lambda_n^{(1)} - 3) \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} \nabla^{(\mu} \xi_n^{\nu)}, \quad n = 2, \dots, \\ w_n^{\mu\nu} &= \left[\lambda_n^{(0)} \left(\frac{3}{4} \lambda_n^{(0)} - 3 \right) \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left(\nabla^\mu \nabla^\nu - \frac{1}{4} g^{(1)\mu\nu} \square \right) \phi_n, \quad n = 2, \dots, \\ z_n^{\mu\nu} &= \frac{1}{2} g^{(1)\mu\nu} \phi_n, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

of which we do not write explicitly the degeneracy indexes form the orthonormal basis for symmetric tensors.

Moreover, defining the longitudinal vector modes

$$l_n^\mu = \left(\lambda_n^{(0)}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \nabla^\mu \phi_n, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, \quad (3)$$

the latter, together with the transverse modes ξ_n^μ , form the orthonormal basis for vectors.

Expand the graviton field $\widehat{h}^{\mu\nu}$ as [8]

$$\widehat{h}^{\mu\nu} = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n h_n^{\mu\nu} + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} b_n v_n^{\mu\nu} + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} c_n w_n^{\mu\nu} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e_n z_n^{\mu\nu} \quad (4)$$

$$\widehat{h} \equiv g_{\mu\nu}^{(1)} \widehat{h}^{\mu\nu} = 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e_n \phi_n, \quad (5)$$

and the ghost field v^μ as

$$v^\mu = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n \xi_n^\mu + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n l_n^\mu \quad (6)$$

so that we have

$$\begin{aligned}
64\pi G (S_2 + S_{\text{gf}}) &= \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n^2 \left[\lambda_n^{(2)} - 2a^2\Lambda + 8 \right] \\
&+ \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} b_n^2 \left[\xi^{-1} (\lambda_n^{(1)} - 3) - 2a^2\Lambda + 6 \right] \\
&+ \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} c_n^2 \left[\xi^{-1} \left(\frac{3}{4} \lambda_n^{(0)} - 6 \right) - \frac{\lambda_n^{(0)}}{2} - 2a^2\Lambda + 6 \right] \\
&+ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e_n^2 \left[\frac{-3 + \xi^{-1}}{2} \lambda_n^{(0)} + 2a^2\Lambda \right] \\
&+ \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} 2e_n c_n (\xi^{-1} - 1) \left[\lambda_n^{(0)} \left(\frac{3}{4} \lambda_n^{(0)} - 3 \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \tag{7}
\end{aligned}$$

$$32\pi G S_{\text{ghost}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n^* g_n (\lambda_n^{(1)} - 3) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n^* f_n (\lambda_n^{(0)} - 6) . \tag{8}$$

Therefore, the functional measure in (??) can be written as (defined as)

$$\widehat{\mathcal{D}h_{\mu\nu}} \mathcal{D}v_\rho^* \mathcal{D}v_\sigma \equiv \frac{1}{V_{SO(5)}} \prod_{n=2}^{\infty} da_n \prod_{n=2}^{\infty} db_n \prod_{n=2}^{\infty} dc_n \prod_{n=0}^{\infty} de_n \prod_{n=2}^{\infty} dg_n^* \prod_{n=2}^{\infty} dg_n \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} df_n^* \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} df_n, \quad (9)$$








Notice that there is no integration over the zero modes g_1^* and g_1 of S_{ghost} [16]. The corresponding ghost fields are proportional to the ten Killing vectors ξ_1^μ . These zero eigenmodes correspond to residual gauge invariances which are not eliminated by gauge fixing in the presence of an $SO(5)$ spherical symmetry. Overcounting has been compensated by inserting the explicit group-volume factor $V_{SO(5)}$ in Eq. (9) (see, e.g., [17]).








Sum over the eigenvalues in closed form




$$\begin{aligned}
 F(a^2\Lambda) = & 9\Lambda a^2 - \frac{1}{6}\Lambda\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2 + 9}\log\Gamma\left(\frac{7}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2 + 9}\right) a^2 - 5\Lambda\psi^{(-2)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{8a^2\Lambda - 15} + 7\right)\right) a^2 \\
 & - 5\Lambda\psi^{(-2)}\left(\frac{7}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{8a^2\Lambda - 15}\right) a^2 - \Lambda\psi^{(-2)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2 + 9} + 7\right)\right) a^2 \\
 & - \Lambda\psi^{(-2)}\left(\frac{7}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2 + 9}\right) a^2 + \frac{1}{6}\Lambda\log\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2 + 9} + 7\right)\right) \sqrt{8\Lambda a^2 + 9} a^2 \\
 & - 5\log(120) + \frac{49\log(A)}{3} - 2\sqrt{\frac{11}{3}}\log\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{33} + 7\right)\right) \\
 & - \frac{5}{6}\left(a^2\Lambda - 5\right)\sqrt{8a^2\Lambda - 15}\log\Gamma\left(\frac{7}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{8a^2\Lambda - 15}\right) \\
 & - \frac{1}{6}\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2 + 9}\log\Gamma\left(\frac{7}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2 + 9}\right) + 3\psi^{(-4)}(1) + 3\psi^{(-4)}(6) + \psi^{(-4)}\left(\frac{7}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{33}}{2}\right) \\
 & + \psi^{(-4)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{33} + 7\right)\right) - 5\psi^{(-4)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{8a^2\Lambda - 15} + 7\right)\right) - 5\psi^{(-4)}\left(\frac{7}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{8a^2\Lambda - 15}\right) \\
 & - \psi^{(-4)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2 + 9} + 7\right)\right) - \psi^{(-4)}\left(\frac{7}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2 + 9}\right) + \frac{15\psi^{(-3)}(1)}{2} - \frac{15\psi^{(-3)}(6)}{2} \\
 & - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{33}\psi^{(-3)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{33} + 7\right)\right) - \frac{5}{2}\sqrt{8a^2\Lambda - 15}\psi^{(-3)}\left(\frac{7}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{8a^2\Lambda - 15}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2+9}\psi^{(-3)}\left(\frac{7}{2}-\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2+9}\right)+\frac{33\psi^{(-2)}(1)}{4}+\frac{33\psi^{(-2)}(6)}{4} \\
& +\frac{49}{12}\psi^{(-2)}\left(\frac{7}{2}-\frac{\sqrt{33}}{2}\right)+\frac{49}{12}\psi^{(-2)}\left(\frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{33}+7)\right)+\frac{175}{12}\psi^{(-2)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{8a^2\Lambda-15}+7\right)\right) \\
& +\frac{175}{12}\psi^{(-2)}\left(\frac{7}{2}-\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{8a^2\Lambda-15}\right)-\frac{13}{12}\psi^{(-2)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2+9}+7\right)\right) \\
& -\frac{13}{12}\psi^{(-2)}\left(\frac{7}{2}-\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2+9}\right)+\frac{1}{2}\psi^{(-3)}\left(\frac{7}{2}-\frac{\sqrt{33}}{2}\right)\sqrt{33}+2\log\Gamma\left(\frac{7}{2}-\frac{\sqrt{33}}{2}\right)\sqrt{\frac{11}{3}} \\
& +\frac{5}{6}\left(a^2\Lambda-5\right)\log\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{8a^2\Lambda-15}+7\right)\right)\sqrt{8a^2\Lambda-15} \\
& +\frac{5}{2}\psi^{(-3)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{8a^2\Lambda-15}+7\right)\right)\sqrt{8a^2\Lambda-15} \\
& +\frac{1}{6}\log\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2+9}+7\right)\right)\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2+9} \\
& +\frac{1}{2}\psi^{(-3)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2+9}+7\right)\right)\sqrt{8\Lambda a^2+9}+\frac{7\zeta(3)}{4\pi^2}-\frac{2}{3}\zeta'(-3)-\frac{20801}{1080}
\end{aligned}$$

$$g_{\mu\nu}^{(a)} = \begin{pmatrix} a^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a^2 \sin^2 \theta_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a^2 \sin^2 \theta_1 \sin^2 \theta_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a^2 \sin^2 \theta_1 \sin^2 \theta_2 \sin^2 \theta_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

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