

# One-loop Effective Action Of Quantum Gravity With Fakeons And Its Phenomenology

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Modena, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
*Avenues of Quantum Field Theory in Curved Spacetime*

# The problem of renormalizability in QG

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Hilbert–Einstein action: unitary but nonrenormalizable theory

$$S_{\text{HE}} = -\frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int \sqrt{-g} R, \quad \kappa^2 = 8\pi G.$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{HE}}^{(\text{ct})} = -\frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int \sqrt{-g} [c_1 R^2 + c_2 R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu} + c_3 R_{\rho\sigma}^{\mu\nu} R_{\alpha\beta}^{\rho\sigma} R_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \underbrace{\dots}_{\infty}].$$

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Stelle action: renormalizable but not unitary theory

$$S_{\text{HD}} = -\frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int \sqrt{-g} [\gamma R + \alpha R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu} + \beta R^2 + 2\Lambda_C].$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{HD}}^{(\text{ct})} = -\frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int \sqrt{-g} [a_\gamma R + a_\alpha R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu} + a_\beta R^2 + 2a_C].$$

# Unitarity

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$$SS^\dagger = 1, \quad S = 1 + iT.$$

Unitarity equation (optical theorem)

$$2\text{Im}T = TT^\dagger.$$

Cutting equations

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Pseudo-unitarity equation

$$2\text{Im}T = THT^\dagger.$$

$$H = \text{diag}(\dots, 1, \dots, 1, -1, \dots, -1, \dots).$$

Prescription for the propagator  $\frac{\pm 1}{k^2 - m^2}$

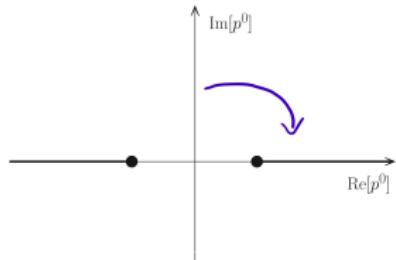
Prescription for the amplitude  $\mathcal{A}(p)$

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Standard particle :  $\frac{1}{k^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon}.$

Ghost :  $\frac{-1}{k^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon}.$

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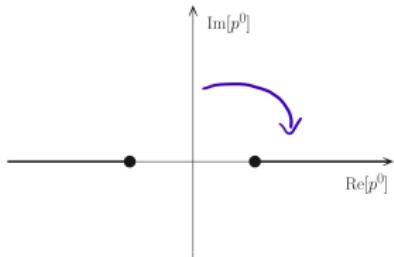
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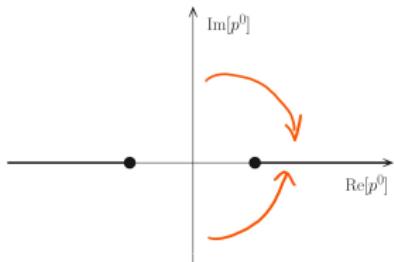
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**Fake particle (fakeon):**

$$\pm \frac{k^2 - m^2}{(k^2 - m^2)^2 + \mathcal{E}^4}.$$

+ integration domain deformations

(see D. Anselmi and MP, JHEP 1706 (2017) 066.)



$$\mathcal{A}_{AV}(p) = \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{A}_+(p) + \mathcal{A}_-(p)].$$

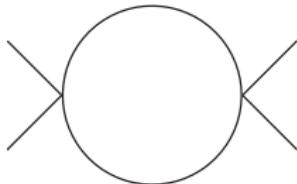
**A theory of particles and fakeons is unitary.**

D. Anselmi and MP, PRD 96 (2017) 045009.

D. Anselmi, JHEP 02 (2018) 141.

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \varphi \partial^\mu \varphi - \frac{\lambda}{4!} \varphi^4.$$

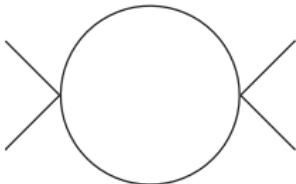
One-loop bubble diagram



Compute the Euclidean amplitude  $\mathcal{A}(p)$  and then use the prescription.

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One-loop bubble diagram



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After renormalizing the UV divergence

Feynman prescription

$$\mathcal{A}_+(p) = \frac{1}{2(4\pi)^2} \ln \frac{-p^2 - i\epsilon}{\mu^2}.$$

New prescription

$$\mathcal{A}_{AV}(p) = \frac{1}{4(4\pi)^2} \ln \frac{(p^2)^2}{\mu^4}.$$

# The theory of quantum gravity and fakeons

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D. Anselmi, JHEP 1706 (2017) 086.

$$S_{\text{HD}} = -\frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int \sqrt{-g} \left[ 2\Lambda_C + \zeta R + \alpha \left( R_{\mu\nu}R^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{3}R^2 \right) - \frac{\xi}{6}R^2 \right].$$

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The propagator in De Donder gauge ( $\Lambda_C = 0$ ,  $\alpha = \xi$ ,  $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + 2\kappa h_{\mu\nu}$ ) is

$$\langle h_{\mu\nu}(p) h_{\rho\sigma}(-p) \rangle_0 = \frac{i}{2p^2(\zeta - \alpha p^2)} \mathcal{I}_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} = \left\{ \frac{1}{p^2} - \frac{1}{p^2 - \zeta/\alpha} \right\} \frac{i}{2\zeta} \mathcal{I}_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma},$$

$$\mathcal{I}_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \equiv (\eta_{\mu\rho}\eta_{\nu\sigma} + \eta_{\mu\sigma}\eta_{\nu\rho} - \eta_{\mu\nu}\eta_{\rho\sigma}).$$

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With the new prescription it turns into

$$\left\{ \frac{1}{p^2 + i\epsilon} - \frac{p^2 - \zeta/\alpha}{[(p^2 - \zeta/\alpha + i\epsilon)^2 + \mathcal{E}^4]_{\text{AV}}} \right\} \frac{i}{2\zeta} \mathcal{I}_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}.$$

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# Renormalization

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**The fakeon prescription does not spoil renormalizability.**

Using the Batalin-Vilkovisky formalism we computed the beta functions in a new method by renormalizing the sources of the BRST tf's.

D. Anselmi and MP, JHEP 05 (2018) 027.

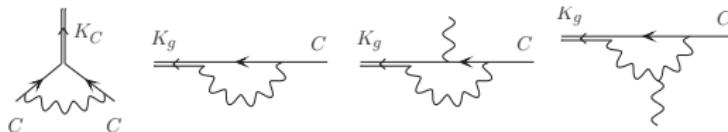
$$S_{\text{count}} = \frac{\mu^{-\varepsilon}}{(4\pi)^2 \varepsilon} \int \sqrt{-g} \left[ 2\Delta\Lambda_C + \Delta\zeta R + \Delta\alpha \left( R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{3} R^2 \right) - \frac{\Delta\xi}{6} R^2 \right] + (S, \mathcal{F}),$$

$$\Delta\alpha = -\frac{133}{10}, \quad \Delta\xi = \frac{5}{6} + \frac{5\xi}{\alpha} + \frac{5\xi^2}{3\alpha^2}, \quad \Delta\zeta = \zeta \left( \frac{5}{6\xi} + \frac{5\xi}{3\alpha^2} + A \right),$$

$$\Delta\Lambda_C = \Lambda_C \left( -\frac{5}{\alpha} + \frac{2}{\xi} - 2A \right) - \frac{5\xi^2}{4\alpha^2} - \frac{\zeta^2}{4\xi^2}.$$

The beta functions are

$$\beta_\alpha = -\frac{2\kappa^2}{(4\pi)^2} \Delta\alpha, \quad \beta_\xi = -\frac{2\kappa^2}{(4\pi)^2} \Delta\xi, \quad \beta_\zeta = -\frac{2\kappa^2}{(4\pi)^2} \Delta\zeta, \quad \beta_{\Lambda_C} = -\frac{2\kappa^2}{(4\pi)^2} \Delta\Lambda_C.$$



## Absorptive part of graviton self energy (part I)

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$\Lambda_C = 0$ , massless matter

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{abs}} = \text{Im}\mathcal{M} \quad \mathcal{D}_{\text{abs}} = -\text{Re}\mathcal{D}, \quad \mathcal{M} = \text{amplitude}, \quad \mathcal{D} = \text{diagram}.$$

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$$\langle h_{\mu\nu}(p)h_{\rho\sigma}(-p) \rangle_0 = \langle h_{\mu\nu}(p)h_{\rho\sigma}(-p) \rangle_{0\text{grav}} + \langle h_{\mu\nu}(p)h_{\rho\sigma}(-p) \rangle_{0\text{fake}}.$$

Possible cases in the diagram (pure gravity case)

- i) **Fake-Fake:** AV continuation  $\rightarrow$  purely imaginary;

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- i) **Fake-Fake:** AV continuation  $\rightarrow$  purely imaginary;
- ii) **Grav-Fake:** AV continuation  $\rightarrow$  purely imaginary;
- iii) **Grav-Grav:** Standard Wick rotation  $\rightarrow$  nontrivial real part.

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The contributions of type iii) can be evaluated by using

$$\langle h_{\mu\nu}(p)h_{\rho\sigma}(-p) \rangle_0 = \langle h_{\mu\nu}(p)h_{\rho\sigma}(-p) \rangle_{0\text{grav}}.$$

In the case of pure gravity the absorptive part can be written as

$$\Gamma_{\text{abs}} = - \int \frac{\delta S_{\text{HD}}}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} \Delta g_{\mu\nu}, \quad \Delta g_{\mu\nu} \text{ piecewise local function of } h_{\mu\nu}.$$

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Adding (massless) matter fields of all types the absorptive part is

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{\text{abs}} &= \frac{i\mu^{-\varepsilon}}{16\pi} \int \sqrt{-g} \left[ C \left( R_{\mu\nu} \theta(-\square_c) R^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{3} R \theta(-\square_c) R \right) + \frac{N_s \eta^2}{36} R \theta(-\square_c) R \right] \\ &\quad - \int \frac{\delta S_{\text{HD}}}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} \Delta g_{\mu\nu}, \end{aligned}$$

$$C = \frac{1}{120} (N_s + 6N_f + 12N_v),$$

$\eta$  = nonminimal coupling for scalar fields.

## Absorptive part of graviton self energy (part II)

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$\Lambda_C = 0$ , massive matter

D. Anselmi and MP, JHEP 11 (2018) 021.

Equivalent action:  
auxiliary fields  $\phi$ ,  $\chi_{\mu\nu}$  + Weyl transformation + field redefinitions.

## Absorptive part of graviton self energy (part II)

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$\Lambda_C = 0$ , massive matter

D. Anselmi and MP, JHEP 11 (2018) 021.

Equivalent action:  
auxiliary fields  $\phi$ ,  $\chi_{\mu\nu}$  + Weyl transformation + field redefinitions.

$$S_{\text{QG}}(g, \phi, \chi, \Phi) = S_{\text{H}}(g) + S_{\chi}(g, \chi) + S_{\phi}(\tilde{g}, \phi) + S_m(\tilde{g}e^{\kappa\phi}, \Phi),$$
$$\tilde{g}_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu} + 2\chi_{\mu\nu}.$$

$$S_{\text{H}} = -\frac{\zeta}{2\kappa^2} \int \sqrt{-g} R, \quad S_{\phi}(g, \phi) = \frac{3\zeta}{4} \int \sqrt{-g} \left[ \nabla_{\mu}\phi \nabla^{\mu}\phi - \frac{m_{\phi}^2}{\kappa^2} (1 - e^{\kappa\phi})^2 \right].$$
$$S_{\chi}(g, \chi) = S_{\text{H}}(\tilde{g}) - S_{\text{H}}(g) - 2 \int \chi_{\mu\nu} \frac{\delta S_{\text{H}}(\tilde{g})}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} + \frac{\zeta^2}{2\alpha\kappa^2} \int \sqrt{-g} (\chi_{\mu\nu}\chi^{\mu\nu} - \chi^2) \Big|_{g \rightarrow \tilde{g}}.$$
$$S_m = \text{Standard Model},$$

Graviton multiplet:       $G_A = \{h_{\mu\nu}, \phi, \chi_{\rho\sigma}\}.$

$\{G, F, F\},$        $\{G, S, F\},$        $\{G, S, Gh\}.$

Computation of the absorptive parts  $M_{AB} = \langle G_A G_B \rangle_{\text{abs}}^{\text{1-loop}}$

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$$\Gamma_{\text{abs}}^{\Phi} = \frac{i}{16\pi} \int \sqrt{-g} R_{\mu\nu} \theta(r_\Phi) \theta(1-r_\Phi) \sqrt{1-r_\Phi} \left[ P_\Phi(r_\Phi) \left( R^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{3} g^{\mu\nu} R \right) + Q_\Phi(r_\Phi) g^{\mu\nu} R \right],$$

$$r_\Phi = -4m_\Phi^2/\square, \quad P_\Phi, \quad Q_\Phi = \text{polynomials.}$$

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Contributions to the absorptive part

$$\Gamma_{\text{abs}}^{\text{GFF}} = \Gamma_{\text{abs}}^{hh} + \Gamma_{\text{abs}}^m,$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{abs}}^{\text{GSF}} = \Gamma_{\text{abs}}^{hh} + \Gamma_{\text{abs}}^{\phi h} + \Gamma_{\text{abs}}^{\phi\phi} + \Gamma_{\text{abs}}^m,$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{abs}}^{\text{GSGh}} = \Gamma_{\text{abs}}^{\text{GSF}} + \Gamma_{\text{abs}}^{\chi h} + \Gamma_{\text{abs}}^{\chi\phi} + \Gamma_{\text{abs}}^{\chi\chi}.$$

## Violation of microcausality

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Resumming the self energies the corrected  $\chi$  propagator at the peak  $m_\chi$  is

$$\langle \chi_{\mu\nu}(p) \chi_{\rho\sigma}(-p) \rangle_{s \sim \bar{m}_\chi^2} = -\frac{i\kappa^2}{\zeta} \frac{Z_\chi}{s - \bar{m}_\chi^2 + i\bar{m}_\chi \Gamma_\chi} \Pi_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}^{(2)}(p, s),$$

$$\Gamma_\chi = -\frac{m_\chi^3}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} C, \quad C = \frac{N_s + 6N_f + 12N_v}{120}, \quad \Gamma_\chi < 0.$$

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Breit-Wigner distribution

$$\frac{i}{E - m + i\frac{\Gamma}{2}} \longrightarrow \text{sgn}(t)\theta(\Gamma t)\exp\left(-imt - \frac{\Gamma t}{2}\right).$$

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$$\text{Duration} \sim 1/|\Gamma_\chi|$$

If  $m_\chi \sim 10^{11} \text{ GeV}$  then  $1/|\Gamma_\chi| \sim 7 \cdot 10^{-17} \text{ s}$

If  $m_\chi \sim 10^{12} \text{ GeV}$  then  $1/|\Gamma_\chi| \sim 4 \cdot 10^{-20} \text{ s}$

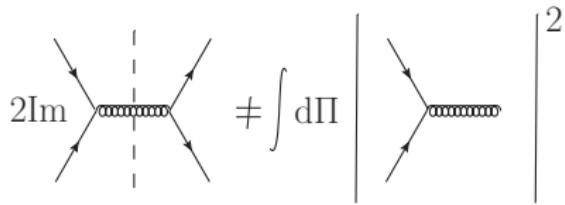
For time intervals of the order  $1/|\Gamma_\chi|$  past, present and future, as well as cause and effect lose meaning.

$$2\text{Im} \left[ i \langle \chi_{\mu\nu}(p) \chi_{\rho\sigma}(-p) \rangle_{s \sim \bar{m}_\chi^2} \right] \xrightarrow[\Gamma_\chi \rightarrow 0^-]{} \frac{2\pi\kappa^2}{\zeta} Z_\chi \delta(s - \bar{m}_\chi^2) \Pi_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}^{(2)}(p, s) \geq 0.$$

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In the case of the Stelle theory (GSGh) at tree level

$$\begin{aligned} 2\text{Im} \left[ i \langle \chi_{\mu\nu}(p) \chi_{\rho\sigma}(-p) \rangle_0 \right] &= \frac{2\kappa^2}{\zeta} \text{Im} \left[ \frac{1}{p^2 - m_\chi^2 + i\epsilon} \right] \Pi_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}^{(2)}(p, s) \\ &= -\frac{2\pi\kappa^2}{\zeta} \delta(s - m_\chi^2) \Pi_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}^{(2)}(p, s) \leq 0. \end{aligned}$$



## The classical limit

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Example: HD particle in an external force

$$m\ddot{x} + m\tau^2\dddot{x} = \left(1 + \tau^2 \frac{d^2}{dt^2}\right) m\ddot{x} = F_{\text{ext}}(t).$$

⇓

$$m\ddot{x} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G_F(t - t') F_{\text{ext}}(t') dt' \equiv \langle F_{\text{ext}} \rangle.$$

## The classical limit

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At classical level the fakeon prescription is just

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Analogously the classical limit of QG leads to

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R = 8\pi G \langle T_{\mu\nu} \rangle.$$

For the explicit case of FLRW metric see D. Anselmi, JHEP 1904 (2019) 061.

## Consistent projection

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Perturbative unitarity: the projection  $W \rightarrow V$  is consistent

## HD Harmonic oscillator

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$$S(x, \dot{x}, \ddot{x}) = \int dt \left[ \frac{1}{2} m (\dot{x}^2 - \tau^2 \ddot{x}^2 - \omega^2 x^2) \right].$$

↓

$$S'(q, \dot{q}, Q, \dot{Q}) = \frac{m}{2} \int dt \left[ \dot{q}^2 - \dot{Q}^2 + \frac{Q^2}{\tau^2} - \omega^2 (q + Q)^2 \right].$$

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$$H'(p, q, P, Q) \rightarrow H_W(u, p_u, v, p_v) = \Omega \left( a_u^\dagger a_u - \frac{1}{2} \right) - \tilde{\Omega} \left( a_v^\dagger a_v + \frac{1}{2} \right),$$

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{\tau\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{1 - \sqrt{1 - 4\tau^2\omega^2}}, \quad \tilde{\Omega} = \frac{1}{\tau\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{1 + \sqrt{1 - 4\tau^2\omega^2}}.$$

Projected Hamiltonian

$$H_W(u, p_u, v, p_v) \longrightarrow H_V(u, p_u) = \Omega a_u^\dagger a_u + \frac{1}{2} (\Omega - \tilde{\Omega}).$$

Space fourier transform of quantum cosmological perturbations have same quadratic actions but with the substitutions

$$m \rightarrow m(t), \quad \omega \rightarrow \omega(t), \quad dt \rightarrow a(t)^3 dt.$$

## Summary

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- A new quantization prescription gives a unitary and renorm. QFT of gravity.
  - Predictive and possibly testable in the near future.
  - Quantization of cosmological perturbations (E. Bianchi and MP, in preparation).
- New type of degrees of freedom (fakeons).
- New phenomenology due to the presence of fakeons.