Macroscopic Microscopic Effects

Quantum Gravity and the Event Horizon Telescope

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Quadratic Gravity

 $S_{QG} = \int d^4 x \sqrt{g} \left[\frac{1}{16\pi G} R - \alpha \, C_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} C^{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} + \, \beta \, R^2 \, \right]$

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- Generic action for all terms quadratic in curvature
- These terms are predicted to be there by several Quantum Gravity theories
- Provides Leading order correction to GR
- Is itself Perturbatively Renormalizable

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The motivation is Quantum, but the treatment is Classical

The Planck scale regime: $M = 10 m_{\rm pl}$

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Naked Singularity

Wormhole

$$ds^{2} = -h(r) dt^{2} + rac{1}{f(r)} dr^{2} + r^{2} d\Omega^{2}$$

The Planck scale regime: $M = 10m_{\rm pl}$









$$rac{r_{
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...



Potential claim: Corrections of this size are enough to prevent event horizon from being formed

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 $f(r) = 1 - \frac{2M}{r} + \text{tiny correction}$

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Think like numerical integrator:

1 f(r) close to Schwarzschild

 $f(r) = 1 - \frac{2M}{r} + \text{tiny correction}$

2 Solve EoM for highest order derivative

$$f^{(3)}(r) = \frac{12M}{r^4} + \frac{1}{(r-2M)^4} * \text{tiny factor}$$

3 Update, decrease *r*, and go to step one if correction term is small

Prediction

 Based on tiny factor = tiny factor (α, β, S₀, S₂, M), can predict the type of the solution!

Sign $(f^{(3)}) = + :$

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Upshot

Of the parameters α , β , S_2 , S_0 the EHT images can potentially rule out the parameters for which

$$(6 \beta - 1) \left[m_0^2 S_0 e^{-2 m_0 M} - S_2 e^{-2 M} \right] < 0$$

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Of the parameters α , β , S_2 , S_0 the EHT images can potentially rule out the parameters for which

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• If ... and if ...

... then the EHT may be able to rule out Planck-sized, Quantum Gravity induced parameters

Open Questions

- What about stability?
- Do images of these spacetimes really not posses a shadow?
- How general is this blow-up mechanism?

 \rightarrow Interesting enough to find out for sure!

Shadow



The shadow is a consequence of General Relativity!