

Asymptotically safe gravity-matter systems: functional and lattice perspectives

Quantum Spacetime and the Renormalization Group 2023

Marc Schiffer, Perimeter Institute

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Motivation: towards combining functional and lattice methods

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Use different methods in concerted fashion to extract physical features of asymptotically safe quantum gravity.

- Asymptotically safe gravity and matter

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 - ▶ FRG studies
 - ▶ The weak-gravity bound
 - ▶ The weak-gravity bound for scalars
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 - ▶ Outlook: comparing EDT and FRG studies

The "weak gravity bound"

- Specifically in asymptotically safe gravity:
 - ▶ There exist indications that metric fluctuations must not be too strong.
 - ▶ Interacting nature of gravity induces novel interactions in the matter sector.
[\[Eichhorn and Gies, 2011\]](#), [\[Eichhorn, 2012\]](#), [\[Meibohm and Pawłowski, 2016\]](#), [\[Eichhorn, Held and Pawłowski, 2016\]](#),
[\[Christiansen and Eichhorn, 2017\]](#), [\[Eichhorn and Held, 2017\]](#), [\[Eichhorn, Lippoldt and Skinjar, 2017\]](#)
[\[Eichhorn, Lippoldt and MS, 2018\]](#)
 - ▶ Beyond the weak-gravity regime, metric fluctuations can induce novel divergences in these interactions.

Effect of gravity on matter: Induced interactions

- Example: Shift-symmetric scalar Φ

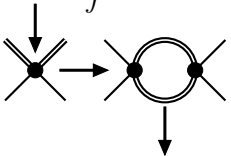
$$X = \frac{Z}{k^4} \frac{1}{2} (D_\mu \Phi) (D^\mu \Phi)$$

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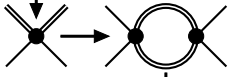
$$\Gamma_k^{\text{kin}} = \int d^4x \sqrt{g} k^4 X$$

$$\Gamma_k^{\text{int}} = K_2 \int d^4x \sqrt{g} k^4 X^2$$

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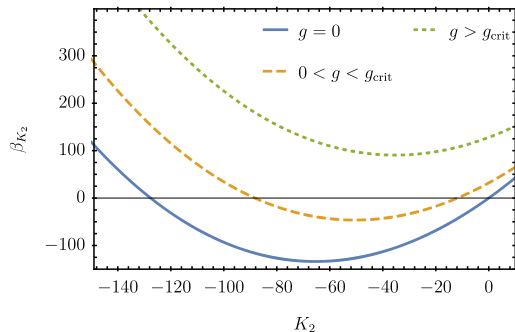
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The diagram shows a four-point vertex with external lines. An arrow points from the kinetic term equation above to this vertex. A second arrow points from the vertex to a loop diagram consisting of two internal lines forming a circle between two of the external lines. A third arrow points from the loop diagram to the interaction term equation below.

$$\Gamma_k^{\text{int}} = K_2 \int d^4x \sqrt{g} k^4 X^2$$

- Schematically:

$$\beta_{K_2} = C_0(g) + C_1(g) K_2 + C_2 K_2^2$$



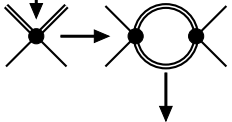
- $K_{2,*} = -\frac{1}{2C_2} \left(C_1(g) \pm \sqrt{C_1^2(g) - 4C_0(g)C_2} \right)$

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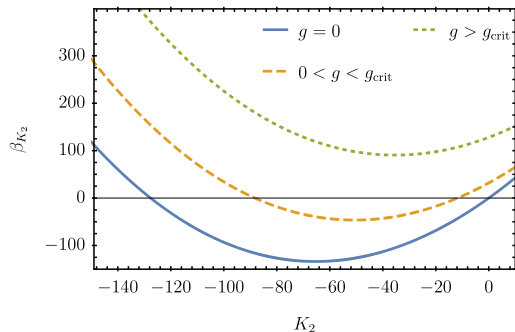
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The diagram shows a four-point vertex with external lines. An arrow points from the equation Γ_k^{kin} to this vertex. A second arrow points from the vertex to a loop diagram consisting of two internal lines forming a circle between two vertices, with two external lines on each vertex. A third arrow points from the loop diagram to the equation Γ_k^{int} .

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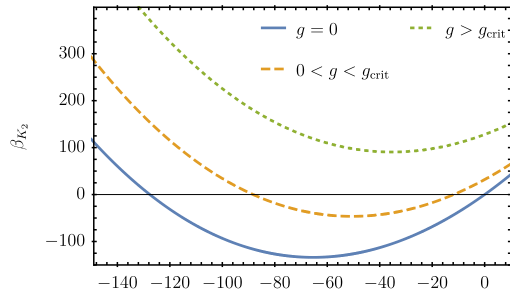
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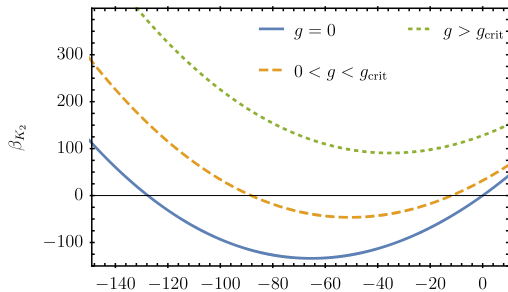
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- WGB from fixed-point collision
[\[Eichhorn; 2012\]](#), [\[Eichhorn, Held; 2017\]](#), ...

The WGB

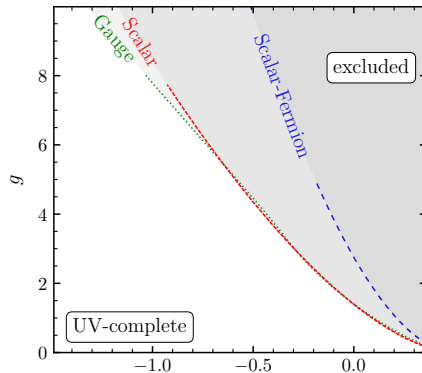


[de Brito, Knorr, MS; 2023] K_2

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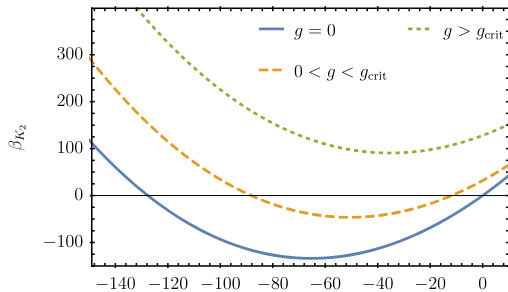
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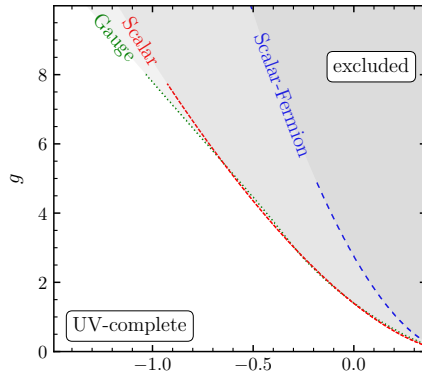
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- ▶ together with gravitational fixed point: might rule out certain scenarios

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- ▶ "non-perturbative effect"; large deviation from canonical mass dimension;
- ▶ might require larger truncations to properly understand

Induced shift-symmetric scalar interactions

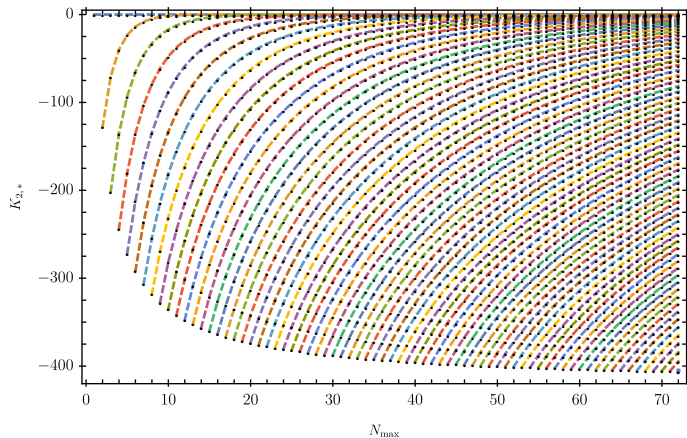
$$\Gamma_k^{\text{scal.}} = \int d^4x \sqrt{g} k^4 K(X), \quad \text{and} \quad K(X) \approx X + \sum_{n=2}^{N_{\text{max}}} K_n X^n ; g = 0$$

[Laporte, Locht, Pereira, Saueressig; 2022], [de Brito, Knorr, MS; 2023]

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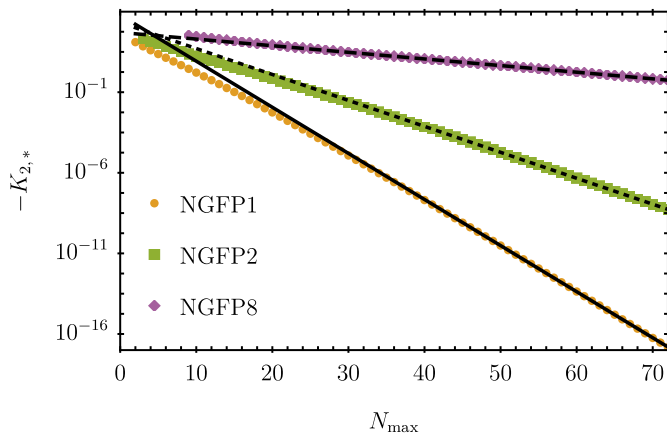


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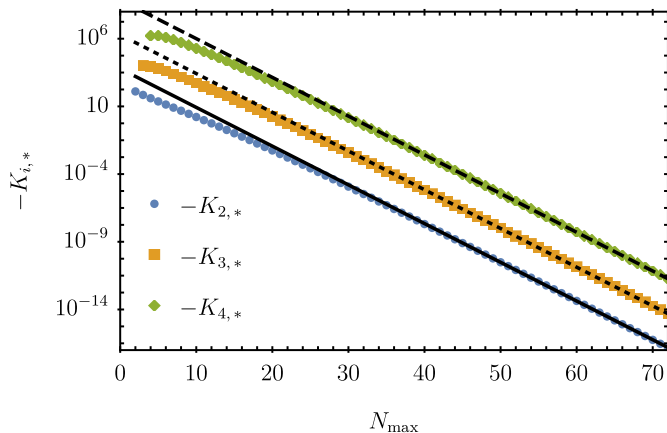
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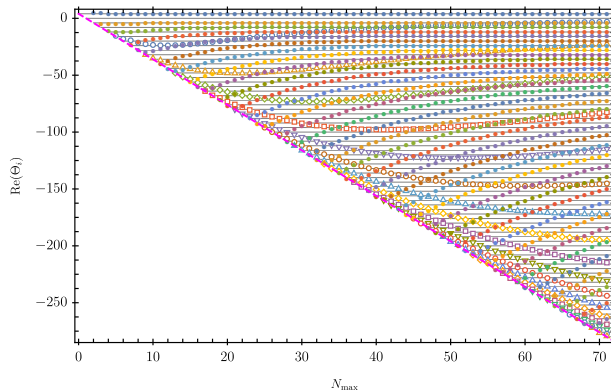
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Pure scalar system: Critical exponents

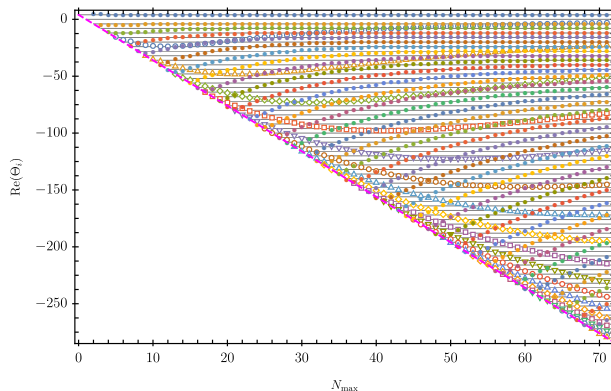
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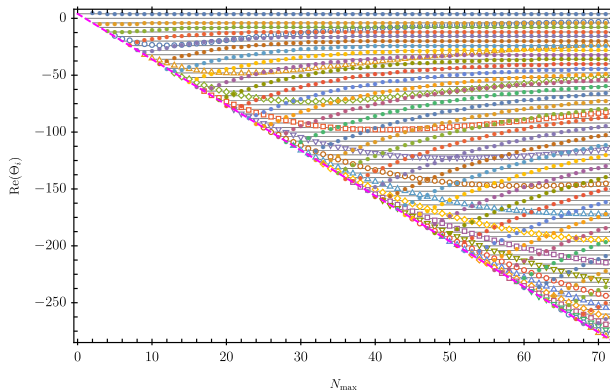
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- Key properties:
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Key Conclusion

All interacting pure scalar fixed points seem spurious and artefacts of finite-order truncations

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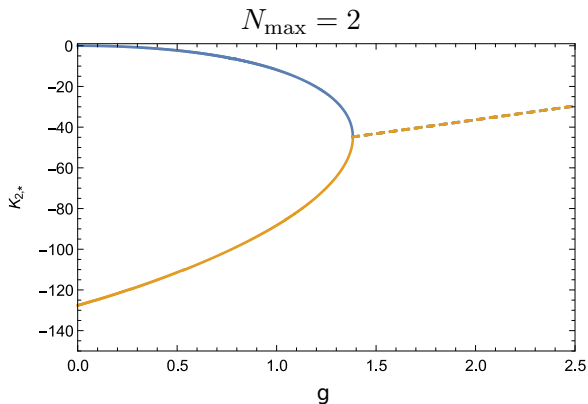
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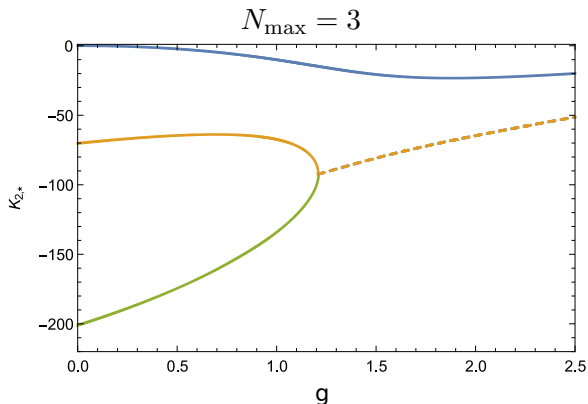


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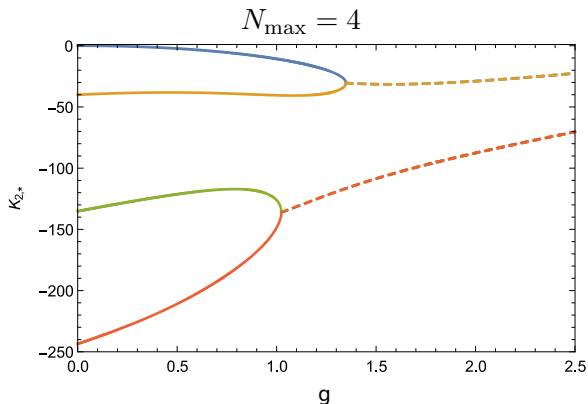


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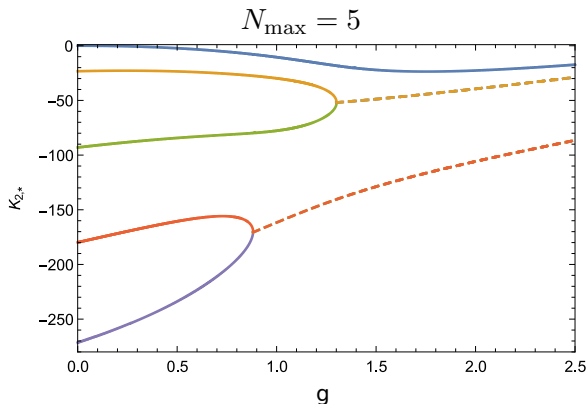


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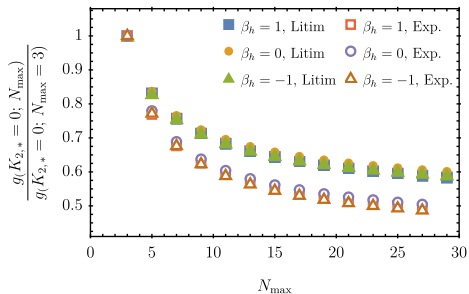
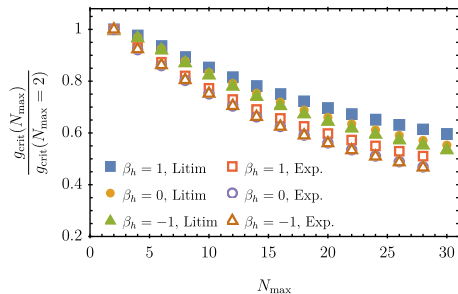
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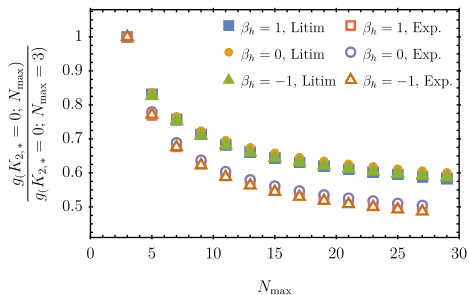
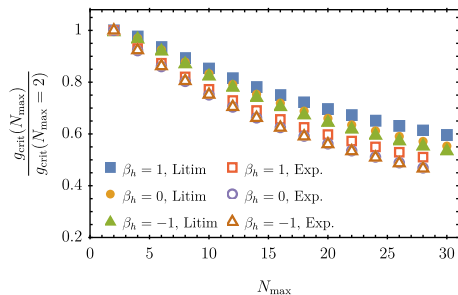
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- No apparent convergence of g_{crit}
- For odd N_{max} : convergent and stable SGFP up to (at least) $g \approx 2$.
- WGB as result of FP collision: likely spurious
- New notion of WGB based on number of relevant directions

Induced matter interactions: Summary and outlook

- Study of induced interaction-structure in scalar-tensor theories
- Interacting fixed points of pure scalar system: likely spurious
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- Extend study to $U(1)$ gauge fields [\[de Brito, Knorr, MS; WIP\]](#)
- Couple charged matter, investigate induced interactions at $e_* \neq 0$ [\[MS; WIP\]](#)

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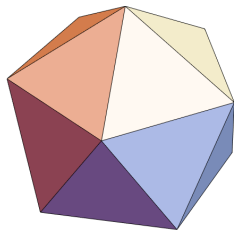
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Evidence for asymptotic safety from Euclidean Dynamical Triangulations



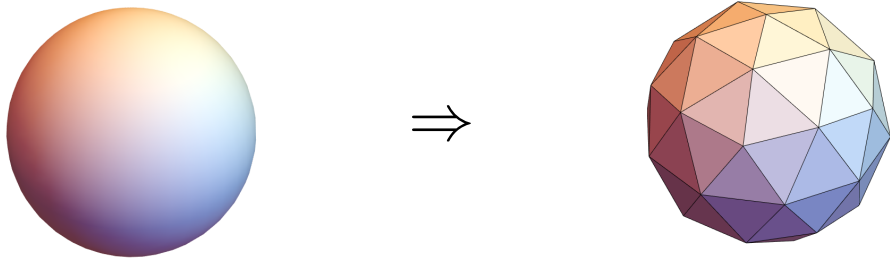
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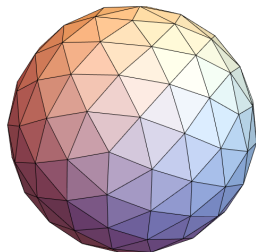
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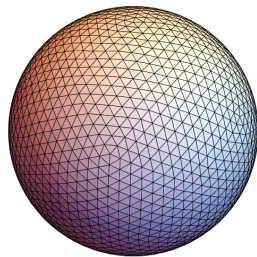
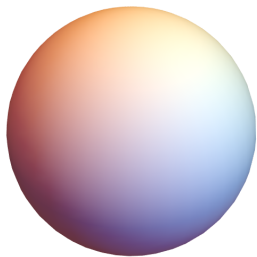
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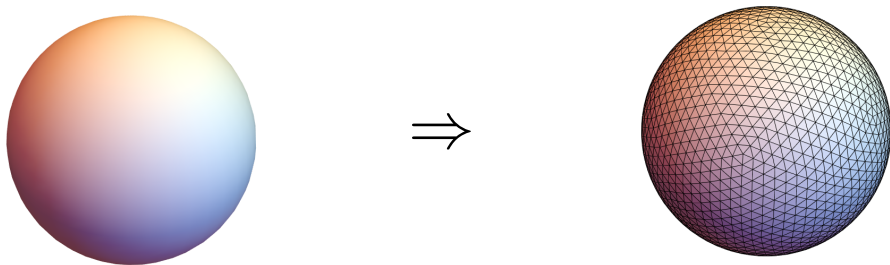
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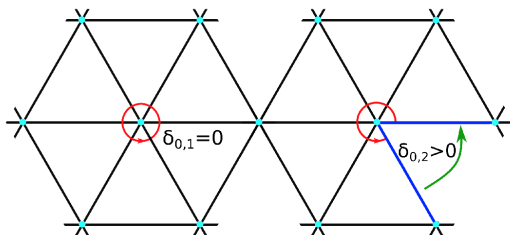
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[Ambjørn and Jurkiewicz, 1992], [Agishtein and Migdal, 1992], . . .

$$\int \mathcal{D}g e^{-S[g]} \rightarrow \sum_{\mathcal{T}} \frac{1}{C_{\mathcal{T}}} e^{-S_{\text{ER}}}$$

with Euclidean Einstein-Regge action $S_{\text{ER}} = -\kappa_2 N_2 + \kappa_4 N_4$ [Regge, 1961]

The Einstein-Regge action



- starting point: Einstein-Hilbert action

$$S_{\text{EH}} = -\frac{1}{16\pi G_{\text{N}}} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} (R - 2\Lambda)$$

- Einstein-Regge action: [\[Regge, 1961\]](#)

$$S_{\text{ER}} = -\frac{1}{8\pi G_{\text{N}}} \left(\sum_{s_2} V_{s_2} \delta_{s_2} - \Lambda \sum_{s_4} V_{s_4} \right) = \kappa_4 N_4 - \kappa_2 N_2$$

Lattice quantum gravity in $d = 4$

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[Ambjørn, Jain, Jurkiewicz, Kristjansen, 1993], [Bakker, Smit, 1994]

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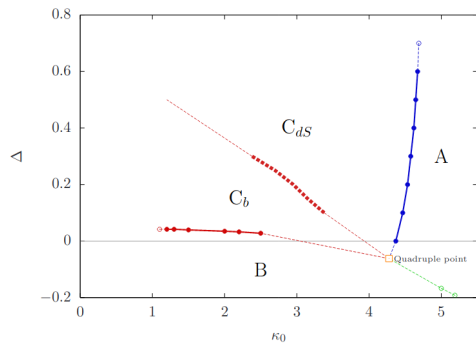
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- CDT: impose causal structure

[Ambjørn, Loll, 1998], [Ambjørn, Jurkiewicz, Loll, 2000], ...



Taken from [Loll, 2020]

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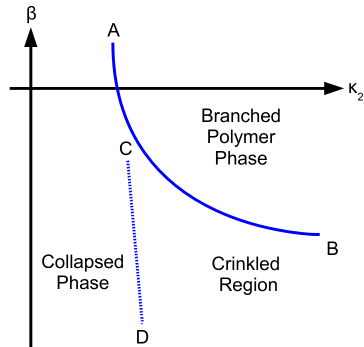
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Lattice quantum gravity in $d = 4$

- Discretization of spacetime in terms of triangulations

$$\int \mathcal{D}g e^{-S[g]} \rightarrow \sum_{\mathcal{T}} \frac{1}{C_{\mathcal{T}}} \left[\prod_{j=1}^{N_2} \mathcal{O}(t_j)^\beta \right] e^{-S_{\text{ER}}}$$

- in $d = 4$: no physical phase, no indications for higher-order transition in κ_2 - κ_4 - space

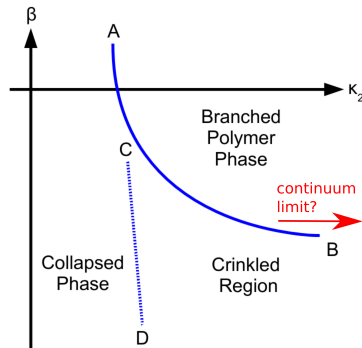
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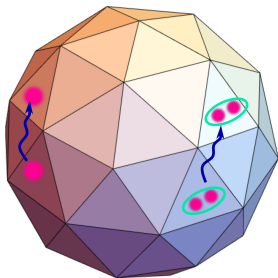
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Newtonian binding energy from EDT

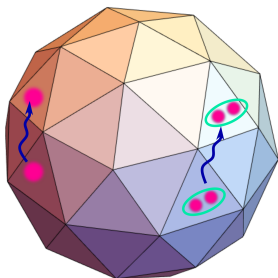


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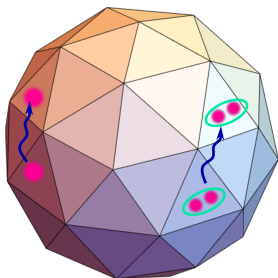
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- Renormalized mass from two-point functions
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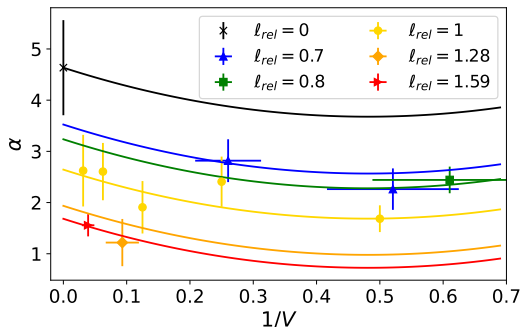
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EDT might feature well-behaved non-relativistic limit! [Laiho, MS, Unmuth-Yockey; 2021]



[Dai, Laiho, MS, Unmuth-Yockey; 2021]

- Continuum, non-relativistic limit:

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- EDT fit: $\alpha = 4.6 \pm 0.9$

$$\Rightarrow d = 3.9 \pm 0.2$$

Rejection free algorithm for EDT

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acceptance rate p drops:

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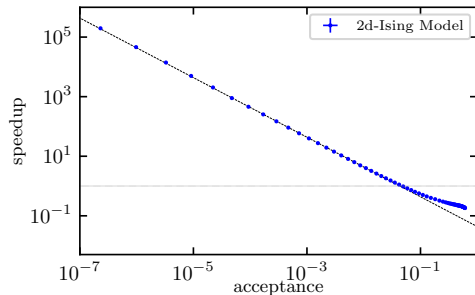
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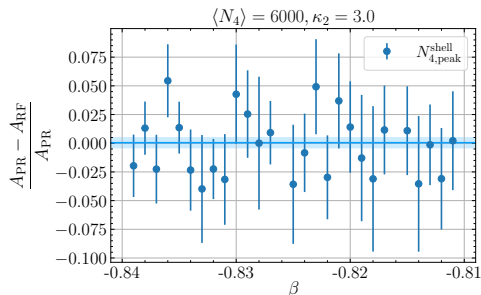
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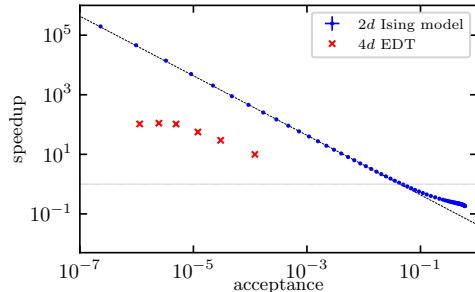
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Significant speedup: allows to simulate efficiently at larger κ_2 (finer lattices)

Towards a de Sitter universe in EDT?

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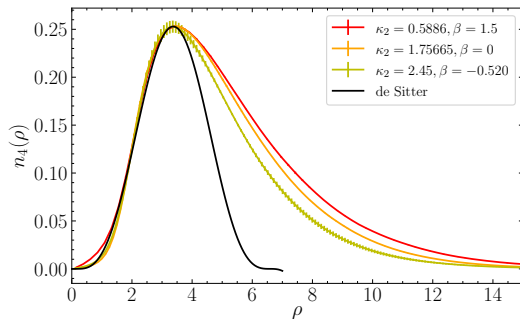
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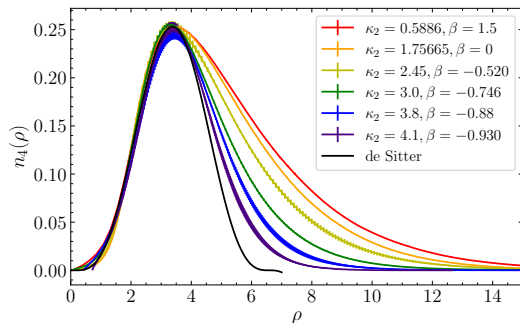


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Lattice volume profiles: approximate de Sitter profile better for larger κ_2

Summary and Outlook

- Evidence that EDT might be suitable tool to discover asymptotic safety
 - ▶ Emergence of non-relativistic limit consistent with $d = 4$
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$$\theta_m \sim \frac{d \ln (m^2/m_0^2)}{d \ln a}$$

and compare with FRG results

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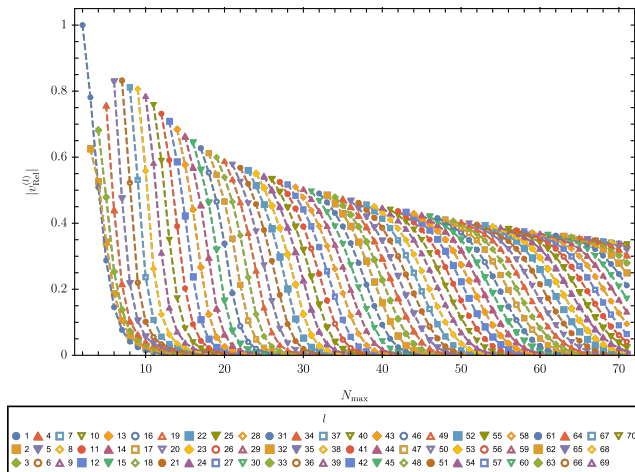
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Stay tuned! Thank you for your attention!

Pure scalar system: Eigenvectors

- Focus on relevant direction v_{Rel} of NGFP1
- $v_{\text{Rel}}^{(l)}$ points in direction of K_{l+1}



- Procedure: [\[Kluth, Litim; 2020\]](#)
 - ▶ Rescale couplings s.t. rows and columns of matrix of EV's are normalized
 \Rightarrow all K_n contribute equally to system of EV's
- Key properties:
 - ▶ Overlap with $K_{l < N_{\text{max}}}$: decreases rapidly
 - ▶ Most dominant overlap with v_{Rel} : $K_{N_{\text{max}}}$
 - ▶ If existent: FP is highly non-perturbative

Pure scalar system: Eigenperturbations

- Since $K_{2,*} \rightarrow 0$:
understand Eigenperturbations of NGFP1 by perturbing around GFP;

$$K(X) = X + \epsilon e^{-\Theta t} \delta K, \quad \eta_\Phi = 0 + \epsilon e^{-\Theta t} \delta \eta_\Phi.$$

At order ϵ : Flow equation is inhomogeneous differential equation for δK

- Absorb $\delta \eta_\Phi$ by shift $\delta \tilde{K} = \delta K - \delta \eta_\Phi (a + bX)$ (for $\Theta \neq 0$ and $\Theta \neq 4$).
- Bring in Sturm-Liouville form (with $y \sim X$):

$$\partial_y \left[p(y) \delta \tilde{K}'(y) \right] = -\lambda w(y) \delta \tilde{K}(y),$$

$$\text{with } p(y) = y^2 e^{-y} \geq 0, \quad w(y) = y e^{-y} \geq 0, \quad \lambda = 1 - \frac{\Theta}{4}.$$

- Expect discrete Eigenspectrum for λ , which is bounded from below;
Corresponding Eigenfunctions: square integrable with respect to measure $w(y)$.

Pure scalar system: Eigenperturbations II

- Solutions (for $\Theta \neq 0$ and $\Theta \neq 4$):

$$\delta\tilde{K}(y) = c_1 {}_1F_1\left(\frac{\Theta}{4} - 1; 2 \middle| y\right) + c_2 G_{1,2}^{2,0}\left(y \middle| \begin{matrix} 2 - \frac{\Theta}{4} \\ -1, 0 \end{matrix}\right),$$

- Regularity at $y = 0 \Rightarrow c_2 = 0$
- Normalisability w.r.t $w(y)$:

investigate asymptotic behavior of $\delta\tilde{K}(y)$:

$$\delta\tilde{K}(y) \sim \frac{c_1}{\Gamma\left(\frac{\Theta}{4} - 1\right)} y^{\frac{\Theta}{4} - 3} e^y, \quad y \rightarrow \infty.$$

Not normalisable w.r.t. $w(y)$, except if $\Theta = 4 - 4n$, $n \in \mathbb{N}, n > 1$.

► Similarly,

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \Theta = 0: \quad \delta\tilde{K}(y) \sim \frac{4c_1}{(5-2\gamma)y^3} e^y, \quad y \rightarrow \infty, \\ \Theta = 4: \quad \delta\tilde{K}(y) \sim \frac{c_1}{y^2} e^y, \quad y \rightarrow \infty, \end{array} \right\} \text{Not normalisable w.r.t. } w(y).$$

- $\Theta = 4$ can arise as eigenperturbation of GFP,
but is not normalisable, hence should be discarded.

Gravity-scalar system: Expansion in g

- Alternative expansion ($\tilde{X} = \frac{3}{2}(16\pi)^2 X$):

$$K(X) \approx X + \left(\frac{1}{16\pi}\right)^2 \sum_{n=1}^{N_{\max}} \left(\frac{g}{16\pi}\right)^n L_n(\tilde{X}), \quad \text{and} \quad \eta_\phi = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{\max}} \left(\frac{g}{16\pi}\right)^n \eta_n.$$

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$$L_{2,*}(\tilde{X}) = -\frac{32}{9}\tilde{X}^2, \quad \eta_{2,*} = -128, \quad \text{generally} \quad L_{n,*}(\tilde{X}) = \sum_{i=2}^n \ell_{n,i}\tilde{X}^i.$$

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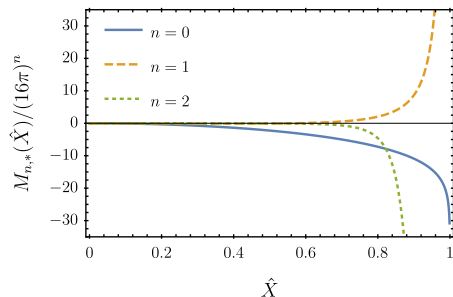
- **Unfortunately, no global X -information**
- But: Regularity + non-exponential growth fixes **all** constants of integration

Gravity-scalar system: Combined expansion

- Use combined expansion to capture global X dependence:

$$K(X) \approx X + \sum_{n=0}^{N_{\max}} \left(\frac{g}{16\pi}\right)^n M_n(\hat{X}), \quad \text{with } \hat{X} = 16\pi g X.$$

- Rather complicated expression;
Only achieved up to M_2 .



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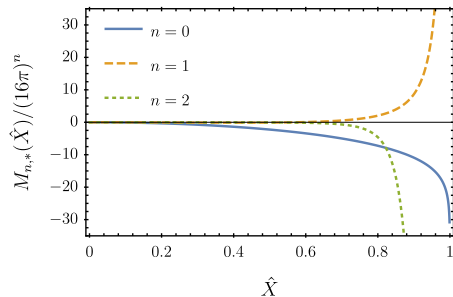
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Only achieved up to M_2 .
- Common feature:
divergence at $\hat{X} = 1$

$$M_{n,*}^{\text{pole}}(\hat{X}) \sim \frac{\sqrt{2}(-6)^{n+1}\mathcal{B}_n}{(1-\hat{X})^{3(n-1)+3/2}}.$$

- Nature of pole: likely off-shell

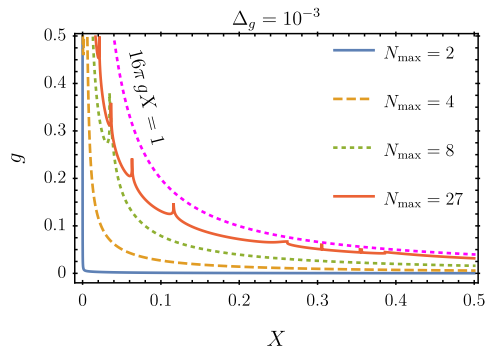
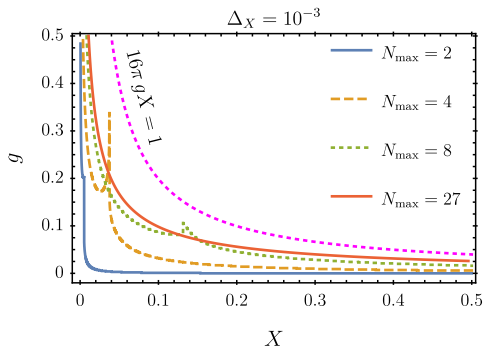


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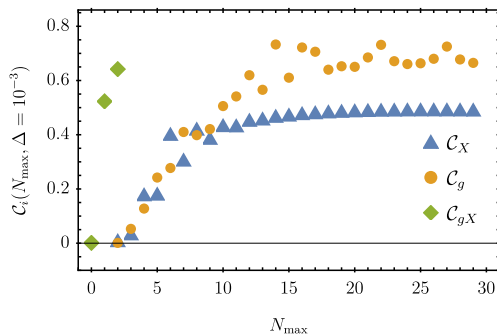
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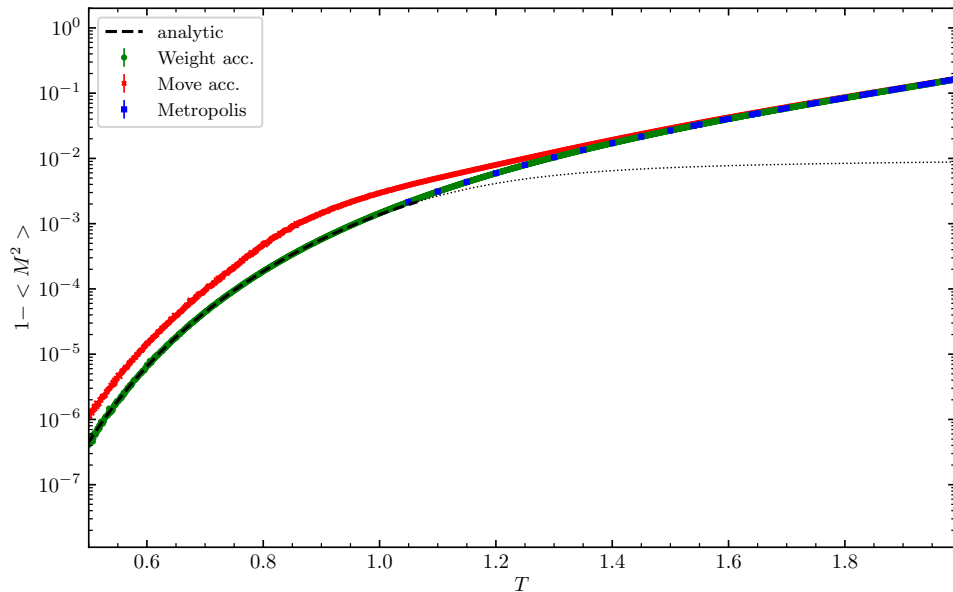
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Ising validation I



Ising validation II

