

Quantum gravity contributions to the gauge and Yukawa couplings in proper time flow

Daniele Rizzo

in collaboration with

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The proper time flow equation

The flow equation for the Wilsonian action in proper time regularization

$$k\partial_k S_k = -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty \frac{ds}{s} \text{Tr} \left[k\partial_k \rho_k e^{-s} S_k'' \right]$$

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Giacometti, **DR**, Zappala (2025)

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The 2-loop beta function and anomalous dimension of the scalar $O(N)$ theory are correct!

$$\beta_{O(N)}^{2L} = \frac{\lambda^2}{(16\pi^2)} \frac{(N+8)}{3} - \frac{\lambda^3}{(16\pi^2)^2} \frac{(10N+44)}{9} + 2\eta_{O(N)}^{2L} \lambda$$

Correctness of the purely local part is expected -- Litim, Pawłowski (2002)

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Using background gauge fixing, the 2-loop beta function of the Yang-Mills SU(N) theory is correct!

$$\beta_{\text{SU(N)}} = -\frac{11}{3} \frac{N}{16\pi^2} g^3 - \frac{34}{3} \frac{N^2}{(16\pi^2)^2} g^5$$

Giacometti, **DR**, Zappala (2025)

Bringing ASQG to particle physics: the SM at high energy

Generic 1-loop running of gauge couplings

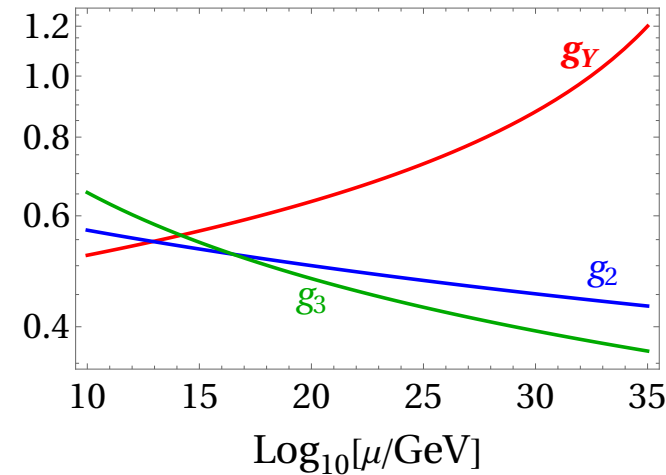
$$\beta(g_1) = +b_{11} g_1^3$$

Always positive, even
with extra gauge groups

$$\beta(g_2) = -b_{22} g_2^3$$

$$\beta(g_3) = -b_{33} g_3^3$$

Can be negative,
but in the SM
they are positive

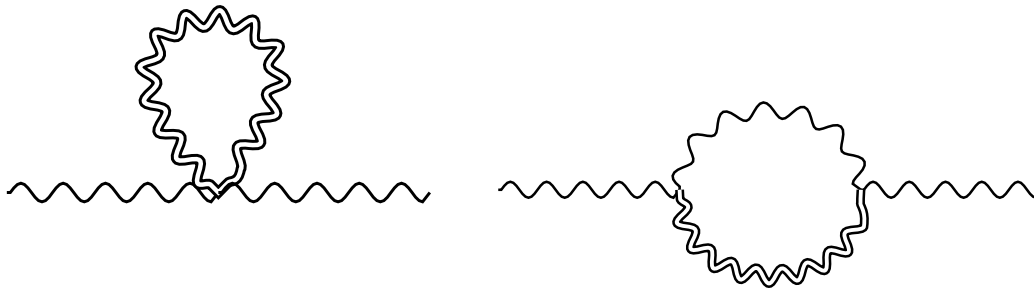


Landau Pole for hypercharge, which however is above the Planck scale

BSM physics (new fermions, new
gauge groups) could realize GUT

But maybe QG ~ Planck scale change
qualitatively the asymptotic behavior

How does gravity influence the running of the gauge sector of the SM?



$$\beta(g_i) \supset -f_g g_i$$

f_g does not depend
on the particular
gauge coupling

Similarly, in the running of Yukawa couplings the quantum gravity contribution is universal, which defines f_y .

Proper time calculations of f_g and f_y : setup

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The bare Wilsonian action is built from Einstein-Hilbert coupled to QED and a Yukawa-like interaction

$$S = -\frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} (R - 2\Lambda) + \frac{1}{32\pi G \alpha} \int d^4x \sqrt{\bar{g}} \bar{g}^{\mu\nu} F_\mu F_\nu + S_{\text{ghost}} \\ + \frac{1}{4} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} g^{\mu\nu} g^{\kappa\lambda} F_{\mu\kappa} F_{\nu\lambda} + \frac{1}{2\xi} \int d^4x \sqrt{\bar{g}} (\bar{g}^{\mu\nu} \bar{D}_\mu a_\nu)^2 + \int d^4x \sqrt{g} y \bar{\psi} \phi \psi$$

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We use background field method

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu} \quad \psi = \tilde{\psi} + \delta\psi \\ A_\mu = \bar{A}_\mu + a_\mu \quad \phi = \tilde{\phi} + \delta\phi$$

Usual De Donder gauge choice

$$F_\mu = \left(\bar{g}^{\alpha\gamma} \delta_\mu^\beta \bar{D}_\gamma - \frac{1}{2} \bar{g}^{\alpha\beta} \bar{D}_\mu \right) h_{\alpha\beta}$$

We extract fg from the gauge propagator rather than from three or four point functions for simplicity

Computations are performed in flat Euclidean background for simplicity

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No need to include matter fields charged under the (electromagnetic) abelian gauge symmetry

Einstein-Hilbert proptime calculation of fg

$$\mathbb{H} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{H}_{hh}^{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} & \mathbb{H}_{ha}^{\alpha\beta\sigma} \\ \mathbb{H}_{ah}^{\rho\mu\nu} & \mathbb{H}_{aa}^{\rho\sigma} \end{pmatrix} = -\mathbb{K}\square + 2\mathbb{V}^\delta \bar{D}_\delta + \mathbb{U} \quad k\partial_k S_k = -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty \frac{ds}{s} \text{Tr} \left[k\partial_k \rho_{k,k_{UV}}(s) e^{-s S_k''} \right]$$

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Diagonalization is a standard procedure:

- 1) Canonicalize the heat kernel
by multiplying for the inverse of K

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}_{aa}^{\rho\sigma} &= (16\pi G)^{-1} \left(g^{\rho\sigma} - (1 - \xi) \frac{p^\rho p^\sigma}{p^2} \right) \\ \mathbb{P}_{hh}^{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} &= g^{\alpha\mu} g^{\beta\nu} + g^{\alpha\nu} g^{\beta\mu} - g^{\alpha\beta} g^{\mu\nu} \\ &\quad - (1 - \alpha) \frac{g^{\alpha\mu} p^\beta p^\nu + g^{\alpha\nu} p^\beta p^\mu + g^{\beta\mu} p^\alpha p^\nu + g^{\beta\nu} p^\alpha p^\mu}{p^2} \end{aligned} \quad \text{Toms (2011)}$$

- 2) Complete the square to remove the
term linear in the covariant derivative

Jackiw (1978)

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathbb{W}}_{hh}^{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} &= \mathbb{W}_{hh}^{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} + \mathbb{Y}_{ha}^{\alpha\beta\kappa} \mathbb{Y}_{ah\kappa}^{\tau\mu\nu} \left(\frac{4p_\lambda p_\tau}{p^2} \right) \\ \tilde{\mathbb{W}}_{aa}^{\rho\sigma} &= \mathbb{W}_{aa}^{\rho\sigma} + \mathbb{Y}_{ah}^{\rho\mu\nu} \mathbb{Y}_{ha\mu\nu}^{\tau\sigma} \left(\frac{4p_\lambda p_\tau}{p^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Sunset
Tadpole

- 3) The obtained hessian is block diagonal

$$\tilde{\mathbb{H}} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\mathbb{H}}_{hh}^{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} & 0 \\ 0 & \tilde{\mathbb{H}}_{aa}^{\rho\sigma} \end{pmatrix} = -\square + \tilde{\mathbb{W}}$$

$$f_g = \frac{3m\tilde{G}}{2\pi(m-1)} (1 + \alpha)$$

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- Contribution only from 1st term of (photon) heat kernel
- No cosmological constant
- No exp suppression

Einstein-Hilbert proptime calculation of f_y

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$$\mathcal{O}^{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} = -\left(g^{\alpha\mu} g^{\beta\nu} + g^{\alpha\nu} g^{\beta\mu} \right) + \frac{\alpha - 1}{p^2} \left[2g^{\mu\nu} p^\alpha p^\beta - \left(g^{\beta\nu} p^\alpha p^\mu + g^{\alpha\nu} p^\beta p^\mu + g^{\beta\mu} p^\alpha p^\nu + g^{\alpha\mu} p^\beta p^\nu \right) \right]$$

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$$f_y = -\frac{2\tilde{G}}{\pi} \frac{m}{m-1} \left[3 \left(1 - 2\frac{\tilde{\Lambda}}{m} \right)^{1-m} + 2\alpha \left(1 - 2\alpha\frac{\tilde{\Lambda}}{m} \right)^{1-m} \right]$$

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- **Always negative!**

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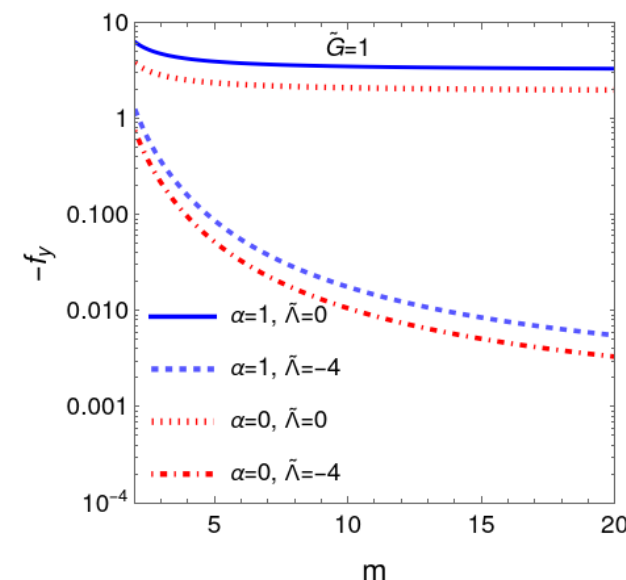
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The running on Newton and cosmological constants:

Donà, Eichhorn, Percacci (2014)

$$\beta_{\tilde{\Lambda}} = (\eta_G - 2) \tilde{\Lambda} + \Phi + \frac{\tilde{G}}{4\pi} (N_S - 4N_D + 2N_V) + \frac{\tilde{G}\tilde{\Lambda}}{6\pi} (2N_D + N_S - 4N_V)$$

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 Number of real scalars

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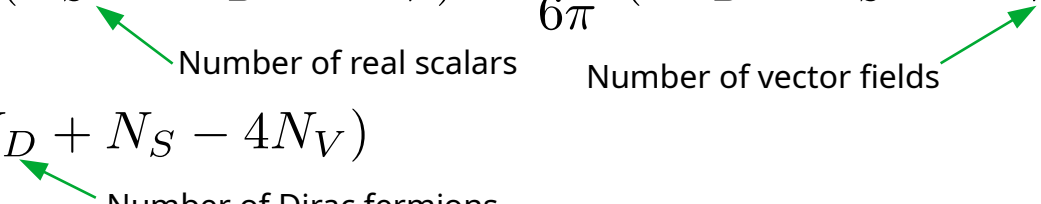

 Number of vector fields

$$\beta_{\tilde{G}} = 2\tilde{G} + \eta_G\tilde{G} + \frac{\tilde{G}^2}{6\pi} (2N_D + N_S - 4N_V)$$

The running on Newton and cosmological constants:

Donà, Eichhorn, Percacci (2014)

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Einstein-Hilbert proptime calculation of QG fixed point

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 Number of Dirac fermions

In PTRG, in sharp cutoff limit, the anomalous dimensions are

$$\eta_G(m \rightarrow \infty) = \frac{\tilde{G}}{6\pi} \left(e^{-\frac{4\tilde{\Lambda}}{\alpha-3}} + \frac{(7\alpha-9)e^{-\frac{4\alpha\tilde{\Lambda}}{\alpha-3}}}{\alpha-3} + \frac{54-14\alpha}{\alpha-3} + (6-9\alpha)e^{2\alpha\tilde{\Lambda}} - 25e^{2\tilde{\Lambda}} \right)$$

$$\Phi(m \rightarrow \infty) = \frac{\tilde{G}}{2\pi} \left(e^{-\frac{4\tilde{\Lambda}}{\alpha-3}} + 3e^{2\alpha\tilde{\Lambda}} + e^{-\frac{4\alpha\tilde{\Lambda}}{\alpha-3}} + 5e^{2\tilde{\Lambda}} - 8 \right)$$

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Number of real scalars

Number of vector fields

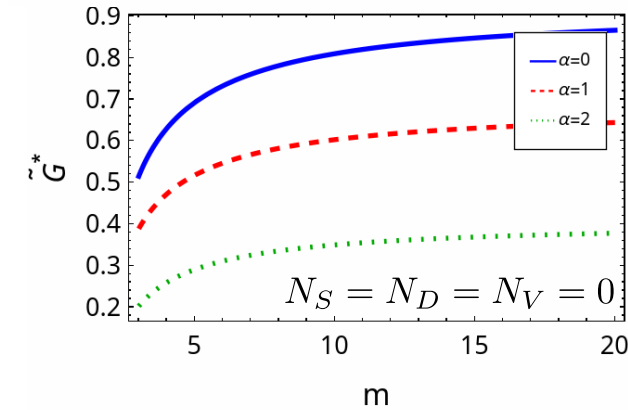
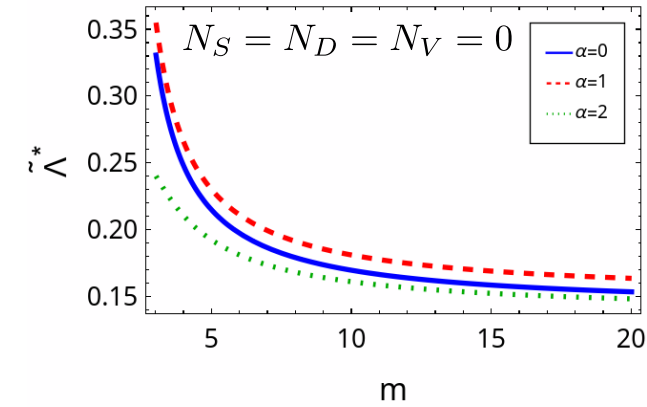
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Numerical Results: Minimal Matter Model

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$$f_g = \frac{3m\tilde{G}}{2\pi(m-1)}(1+\alpha) \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} f_g = \frac{3\tilde{G}}{2\pi}(1+\alpha)$$

$$f_y = -\frac{2\tilde{G}}{\pi} \frac{m}{m-1} \left[3 \left(1 - 2\frac{\tilde{\Lambda}}{m} \right)^{1-m} + 2\alpha \left(1 - 2\alpha\frac{\tilde{\Lambda}}{m} \right)^{1-m} \right]$$

$$\downarrow m \rightarrow \infty$$
$$f_y = -\frac{2\tilde{G}}{\pi} \left(3e^{2\tilde{\Lambda}} + 2\alpha e^{2\alpha\tilde{\Lambda}} \right)$$

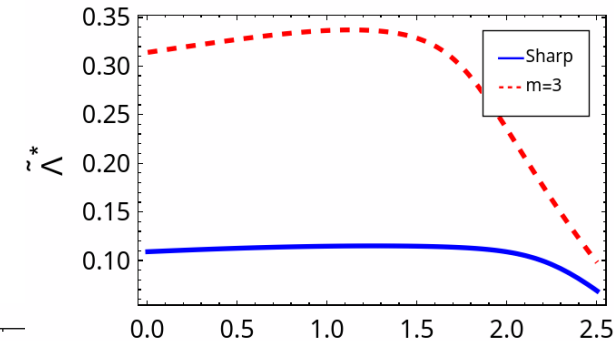
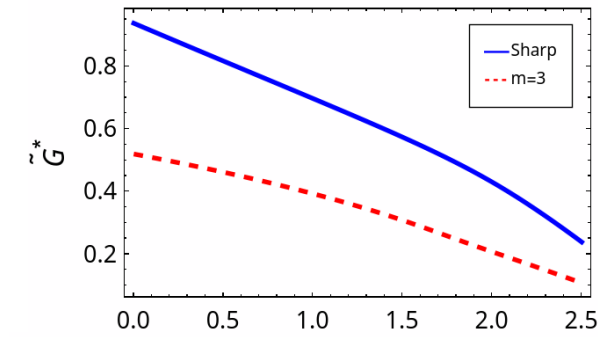
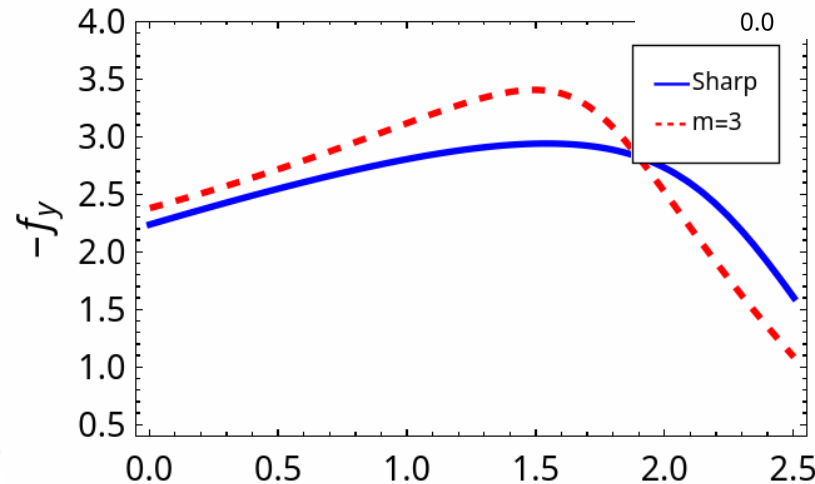
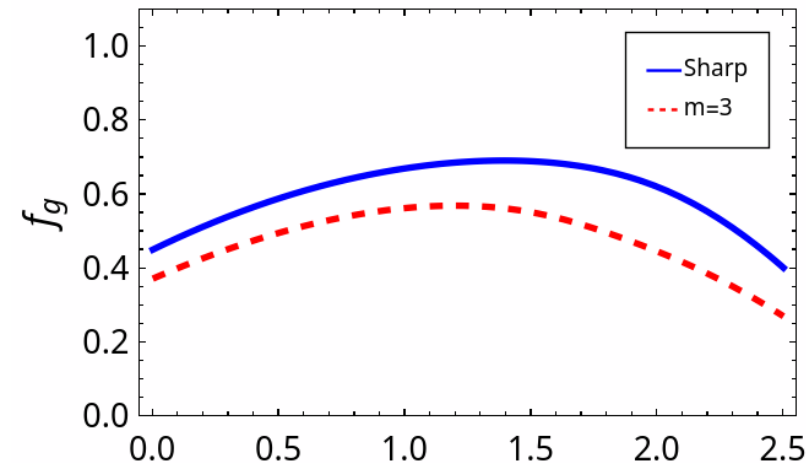
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$$\xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} f_y = -\frac{2\tilde{G}}{\pi} \left(3e^{2\tilde{\Lambda}} + 2\alpha e^{2\alpha\tilde{\Lambda}} \right)$$

$$N_S = N_D = N_V = 1$$



On the x-axis
it is always α

Numerical Results: Standard Model

$$f_g = \frac{3m\tilde{G}}{2\pi(m-1)}(1+\alpha) \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} f_g = \frac{3\tilde{G}}{2\pi}(1+\alpha)$$

$$f_y = -\frac{2\tilde{G}}{\pi} \frac{m}{m-1} \left[3 \left(1 - 2\frac{\tilde{\Lambda}}{m} \right)^{1-m} + 2\alpha \left(1 - 2\alpha\frac{\tilde{\Lambda}}{m} \right)^{1-m} \right]$$

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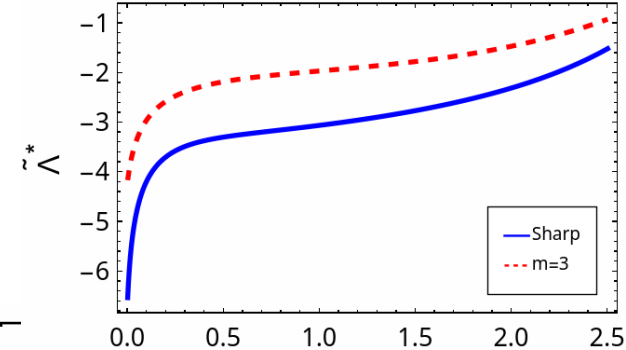
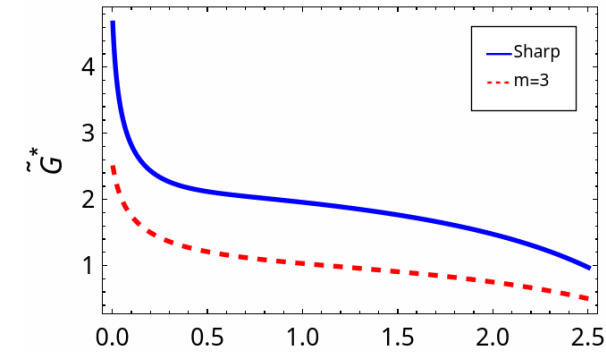
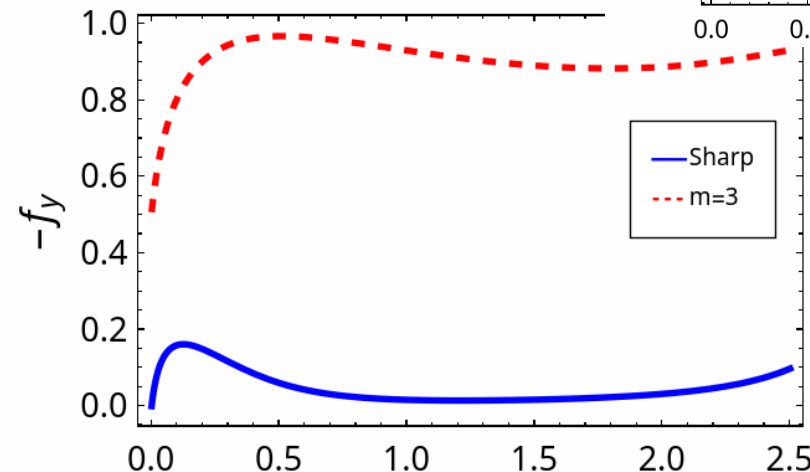
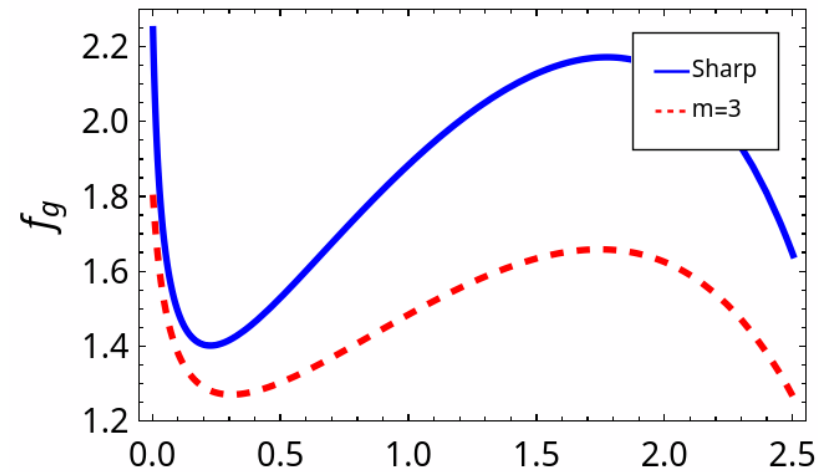
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$$\xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} f_y = -\frac{2\tilde{G}}{\pi} \left(3e^{2\tilde{\Lambda}} + 2\alpha e^{2\alpha\tilde{\Lambda}} \right)$$

$$N_S = 4, N_D = 45/2, N_V = 12$$



On the x-axis
it is always α

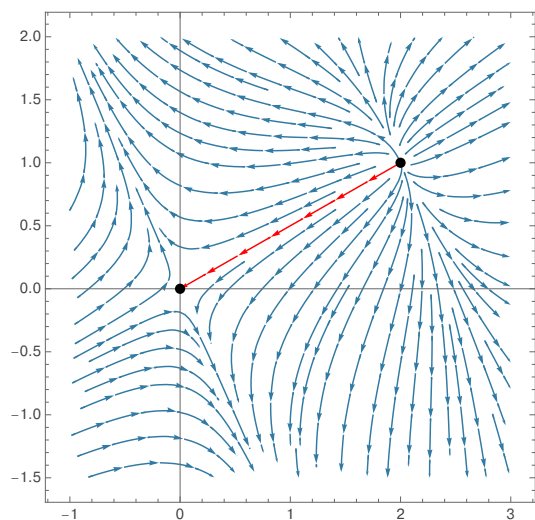
The heuristic approach to ASQG

Renormalization Group Equations in the Sub-Planckian regime

$$\beta_g = \beta_g^{\text{SM+NP}}$$

$$\beta_y = \beta_y^{\text{SM+NP}}$$

f_g and f_y are determined by matching the low-energy data.

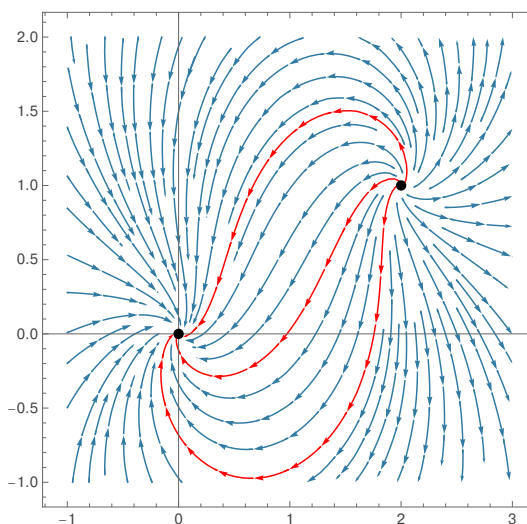


Relevant → Free parameter

Renormalization Group Equations in the Trans-Planckian regime

$$\beta_g = \beta_g^{\text{SM+NP}} - g f_g$$

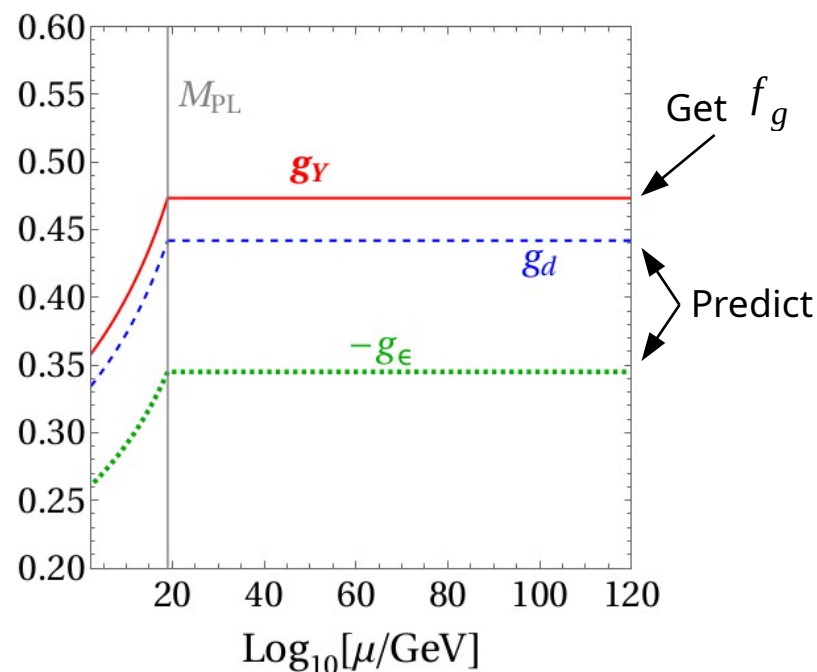
$$\beta_y = \beta_y^{\text{SM+NP}} - y f_y$$



Irrelevant → Prediction

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} B_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4} X_{\mu\nu} X^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\epsilon}{2} B_{\mu\nu} X^{\mu\nu}$$

SM field strength BSM field strength Kinetic mixing



Universality of f_g + the assumption of a FP gives **unique prediction** of 2 BSM couplings

g_f and y_f values that give FP and BSM predictions

fg and fy values that give FP and BSM predictions

Safe = interactive

Free = Gaussian relevant

Zero = Gaussian irrelevant

Model	f_g	predictions	f_y	predictions
SM [58, 59, 61]	$f_g = 0.0096$ $f_g > 0.0096$	g_Y safe g_Y free	$[-10^{-4}, 10^{-3}]$ $[-10^{-4}, 10^{-4}]$	y_t safe y_b safe
$B - L$ [64, 106]	$f_g = 0.0097$ [0.0097, 0.05]	g_Y, g_X, g_ϵ safe g_Y free; g_X, g_ϵ safe	$f_y = 0.002$ [-0.004, 0.005]	y_t, y_ν, y_N safe y_t safe; y_N safe/zero
SU(6) GUT [71]	$f_g \geq 0$	g_6 free	[0.003, 0.04]	y_t safe GUT Yukawa sect. safe/zero

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Potential gravitational
waves signatures

Emergence of
Dark Matter

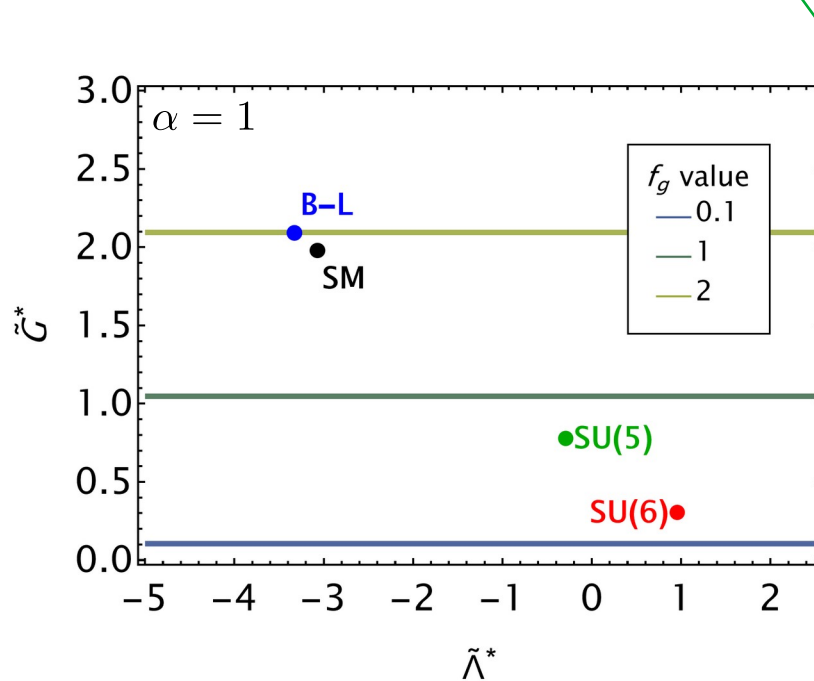
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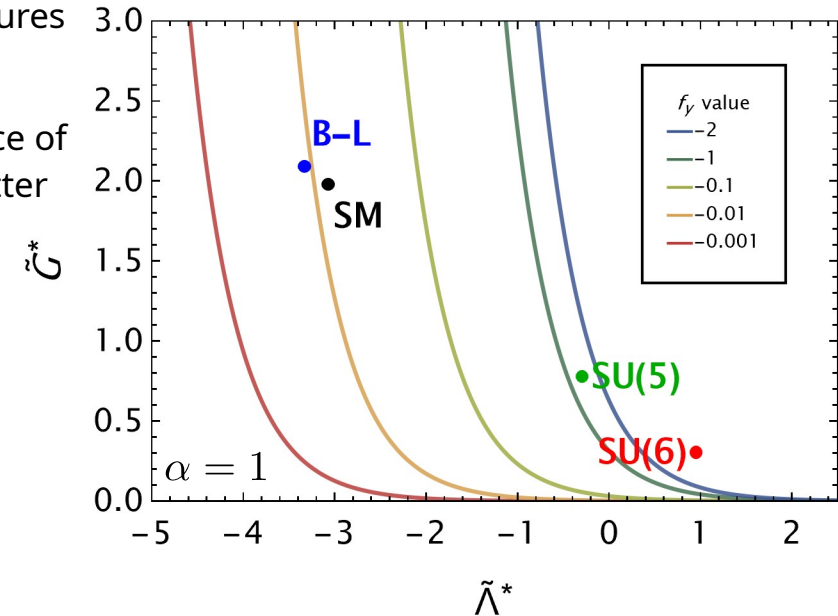
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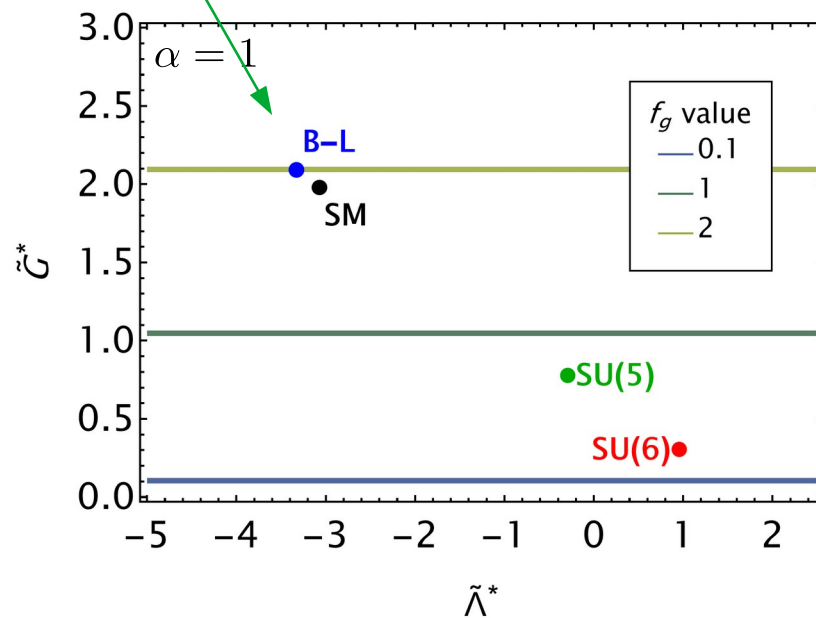


fg and fy values that give FP and BSM predictions

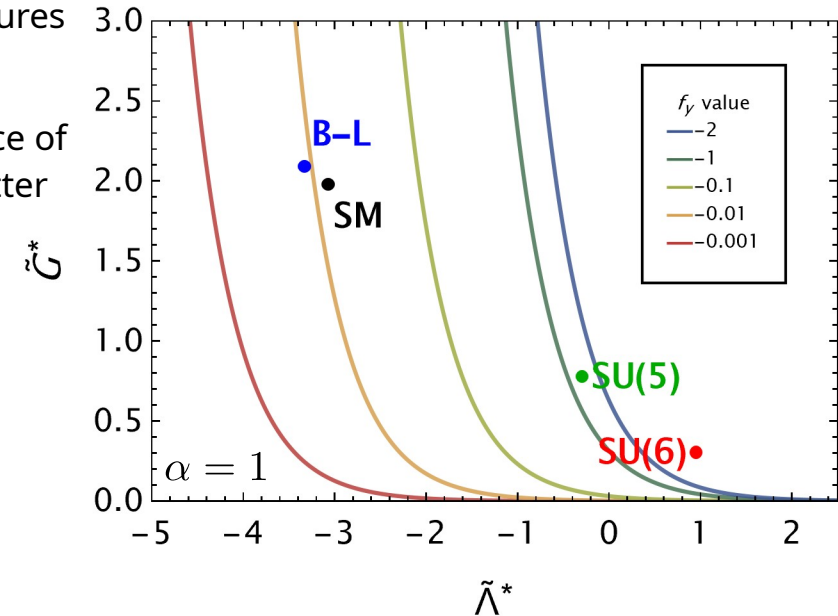
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fg is too big
 to generate
 an interactive
 fixed point



Potential gravitational
 waves signatures
 Emergence of
 Dark Matter



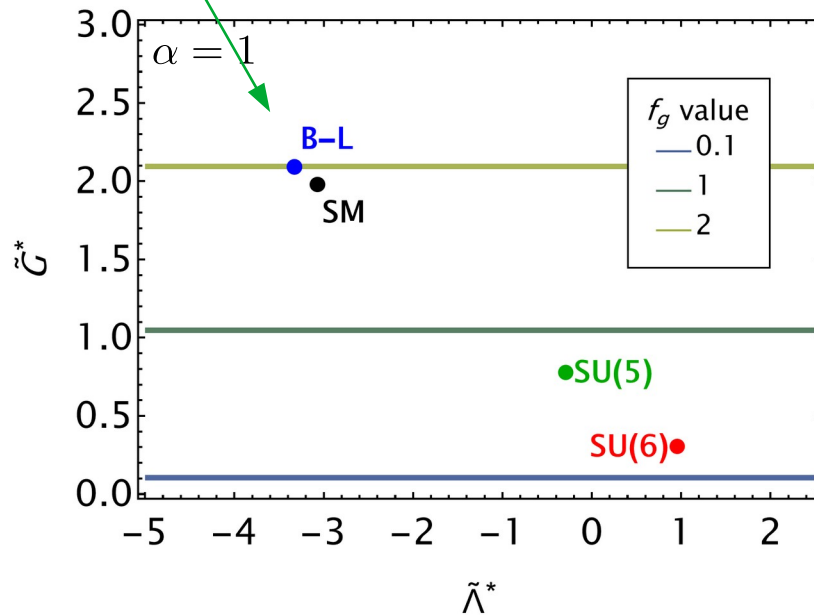
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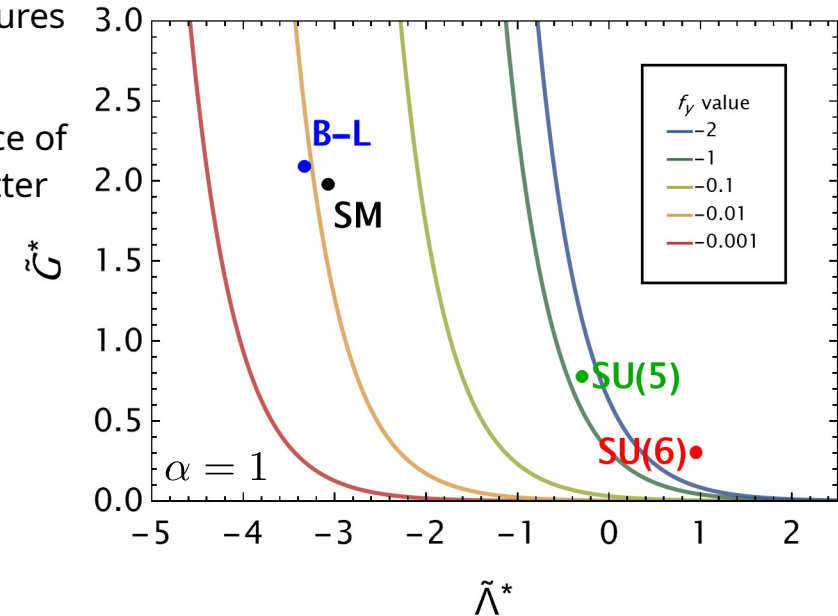
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Asymptotic
 freedom,
 not safety



Potential gravitational
 waves signatures

Emergence of
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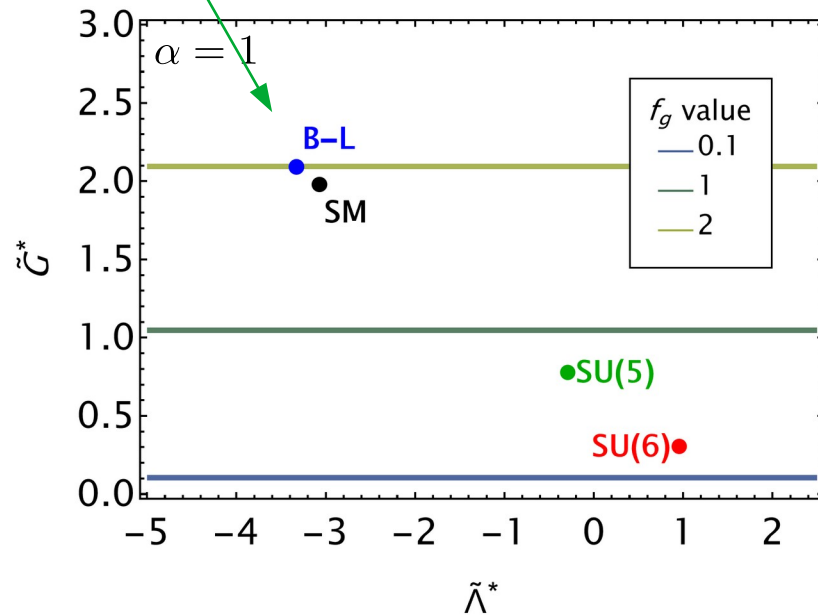
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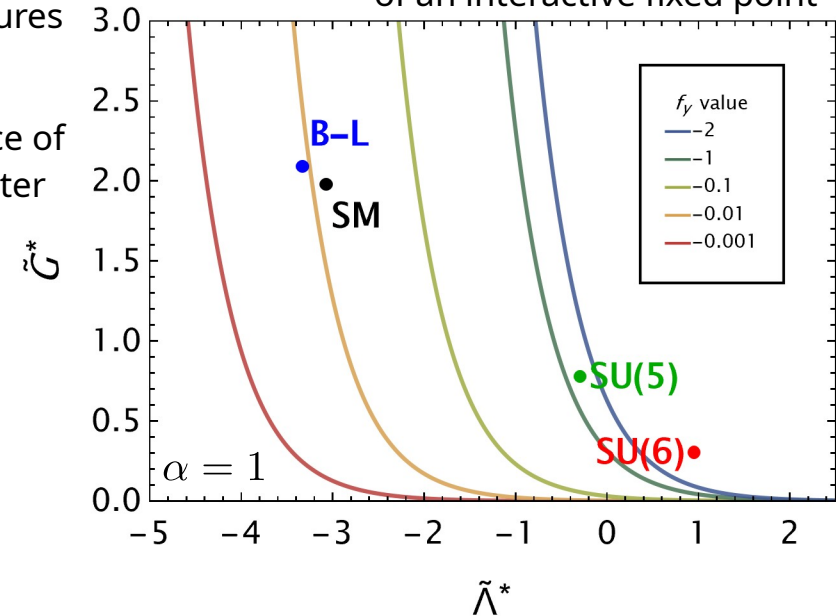
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Asymptotic
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Potential gravitational
 waves signatures
 Emergence of
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fy is compatible with the assumption
 of an interactive fixed point



Conclusions

- The running of gauge and Yukawa couplings in the SM and simple extensions is well described perturbatively up to Planck scale, where quantum gravity contributions must be considered.
- At leading order these corrections are linear in the coupling itself, through universal coefficients called fg/fy . Calculations using Wetterich equation show that $fg > 0$ while the sign of fy is unclear.
- In our work, we have computed for the first time fg and fy in proptertime RG flow within the most simple Einstein-Hilbert truncation, and studied the gauge-fixing and regulator dependency.
- fg is $O(1)$, with no dependency on the cosmological constant, because only the 1st coefficient of the HK is non-zero. Moreover, fg is photon gauge-fixing independent.
- fy is always negative, in agreement with the FRG calculations, and cosmological constant suppressed.
- For both fg and fy the dependency on regulator and graviton gauge-fixing is small for minimal matter content and becomes more relevant for higher number of particles in the theory, e.g. the SM.
- Comparing our results with the phenomenological studies, we find that proptertime RG favours asymptotic freedom for the abelian gauge coupling of the SM, and fixed points for the Yukawa sector are not yet accessible and should be studied in a richer truncation of gravity.

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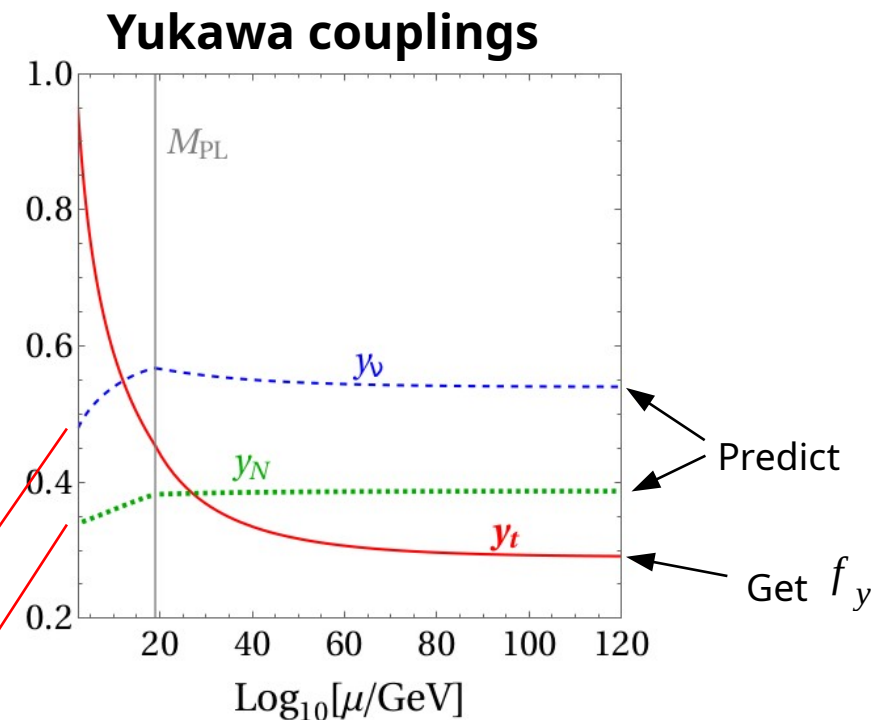
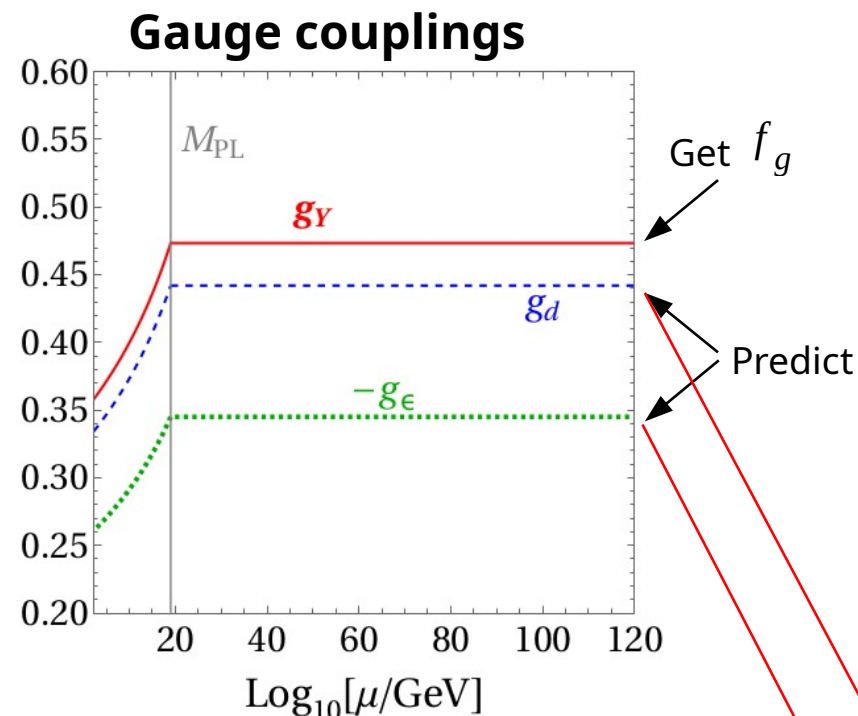
Thank you for the attention!

Backup

How the heuristic approach is used in BSM pheno

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4}B_{\mu\nu}B^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4}X_{\mu\nu}X^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\epsilon}{2}B_{\mu\nu}X^{\mu\nu}$$

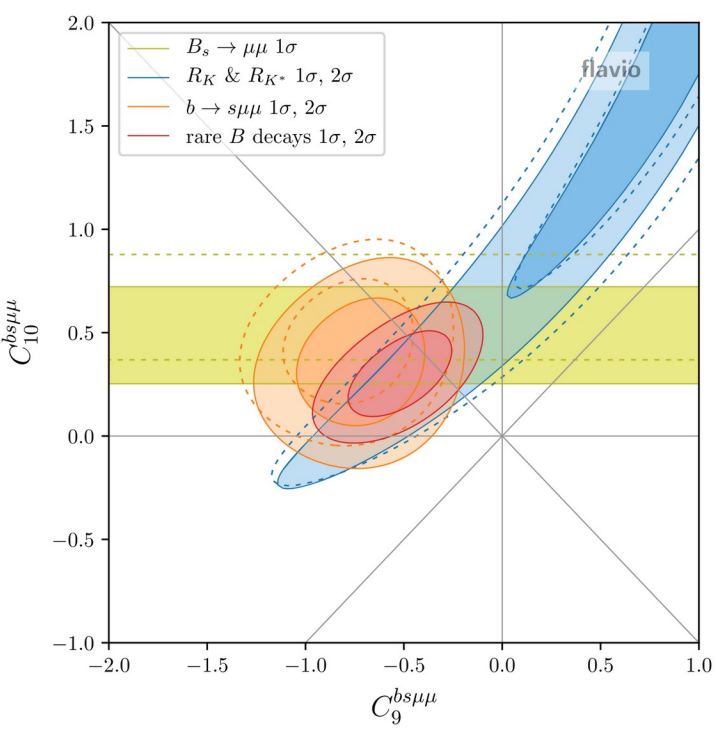
$$\mathcal{L} \supset -Y_\nu N (\tilde{\epsilon} H^*)^\dagger L - \frac{1}{2}Y_N S N N + \text{H.c.}$$



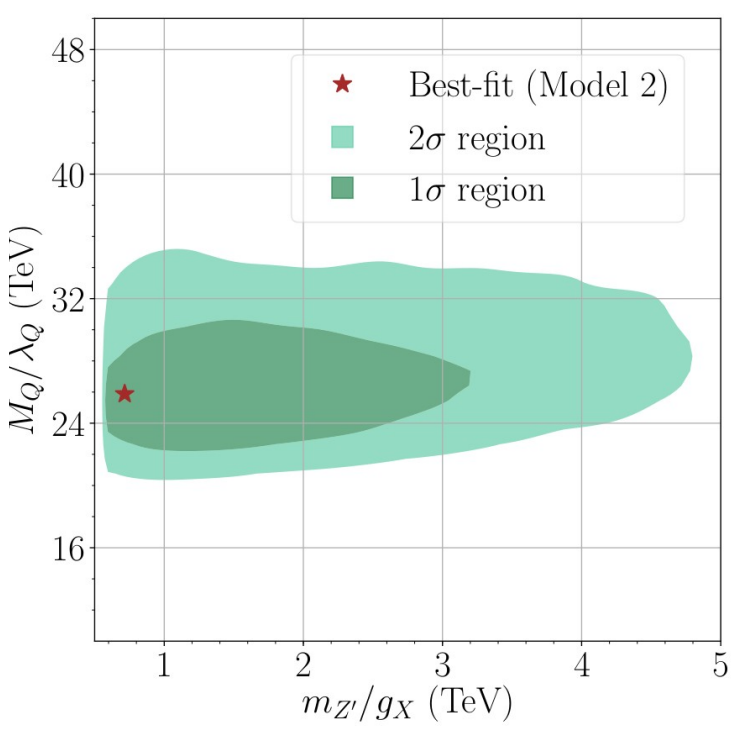
Phenomenology!

Source: Kamila Kowalska & Enrico Sessolo

Heuristic ASQG on Z' solutions to the flavor anomalies



Altmannshofer, Stangl, Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021)



Kowalska, Kumar, Sessolo, Eur. Phys. J. C (2019)

At 2 TeV:

	FP _{1A,a}	FP _{1A,b}
g_D	0.305	0.305
g_ϵ	0	0
$\lambda_{Q,3}$	-0.381	0.034
$\lambda_{Q,2}$	0.016	0.803
$\lambda_{L,2}$	0.823	0.606

	FP _{1B,a}	FP _{1B,b}
g_D	0.318	0.318
g_ϵ	0.110	0.110
$\lambda_{Q,3}$	-0.612	0.004
$\lambda_{Q,2}$	0.296	0.874
$\lambda_{L,2}$	0.652	0.499

Chikkaballi, Kotlarski, Kowalska, **DR**, Sessolo JHEP 01 (2023) 164

How robust are particle physics predictions in ASQG?

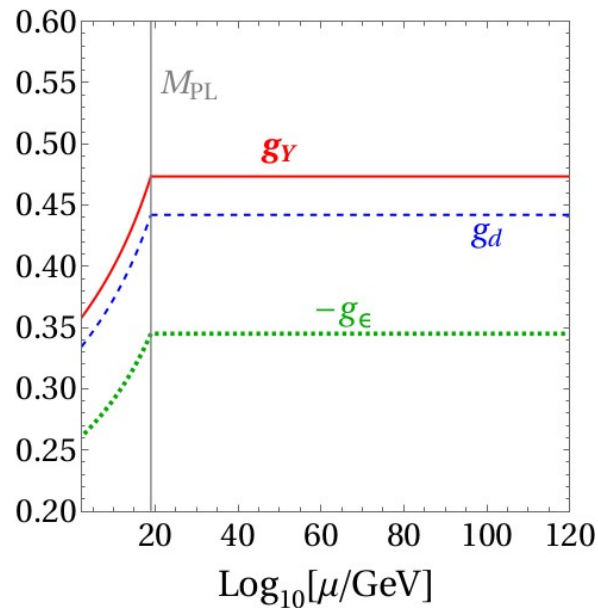
The heuristic approach to ASQG has assumptions. What happens when we relax them?

Sources of uncertainties →

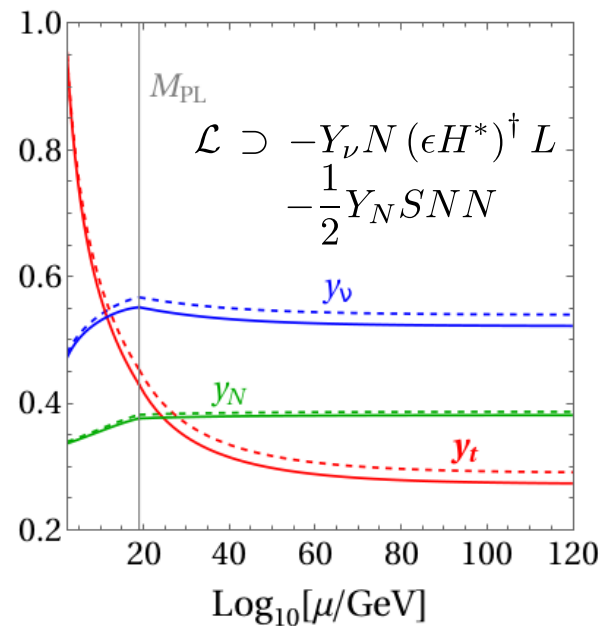
1 - Computations of the beta functions are performed at 1-loop level.

2 - Planck scale is set arbitrarily at 10^{19} GeV.

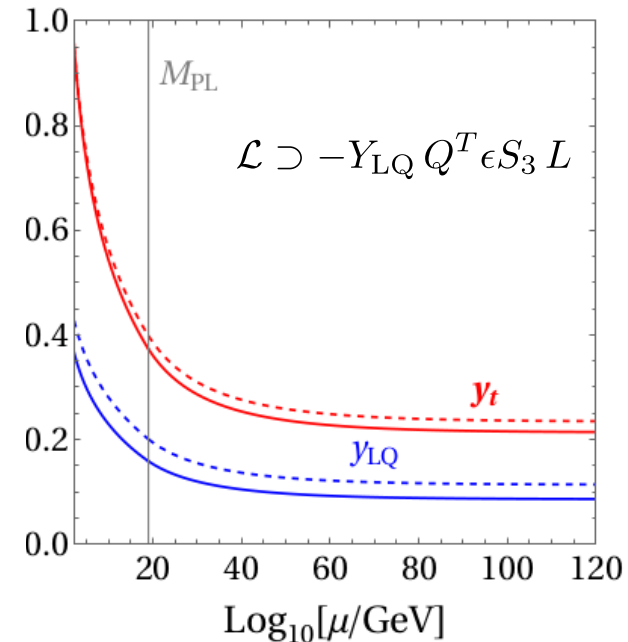
3 - Gravity decouples instantaneously at the Planck scale.



Shifting g_Y shifts the new-physics → $\sim 0.1\%$



New-physics Yukawa big → $\sim 1\%$



New-physics Yukawa small → $\sim 10\%$

Kotlarski, Kowalska, **DR**, Sessolo (2023)