

**Some recent advances in Quantum Gravity  
Phenomenology**

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*Black Holes IX*  
Saskatoon, 15 May 2013

Plan:

- Why Quantum Gravity Phenomenology?
- Recent Progress (1994, 1999, 2008-...)
- Robustness
- Results
- Mathematical Aspects
- Proposed Experiments
- Summary and Outlook

## A problem with Quantum Gravity

- **Too many theories:** *String Theory, Loop Quantum Gravity, Non-Commutative Field Theory, Dynamical Triangulations, Causal Sets,...*
- **Too few experiments = Zero**
- **Why?** *Quantum Gravity effects expected at the Planck Scale*  
 $\approx 10^{16} \text{ TeV}$   
Atomic Physics  $\approx 10 \text{ eV} \approx 10^{-11} \text{ TeV}$  . LHC  $\approx 10 \text{ TeV}$
- **Difference of 15 – 27 orders of magnitude**

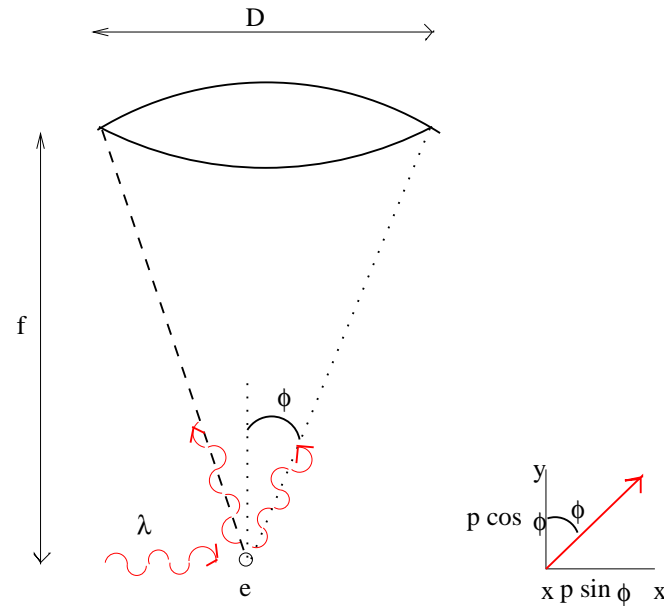
QG  $\rightarrow$  Experimental Signatures?

## Recent Progress

- Generalized/Modified Uncertainty Principle (GUP)
- Black Hole Physics
- String Theory
- Loop Quantum Gravity, via Polymer Quantization
- Non-commutative Geometry
- .....

A meeting ground for various theories?

## Heisenberg's Microscope



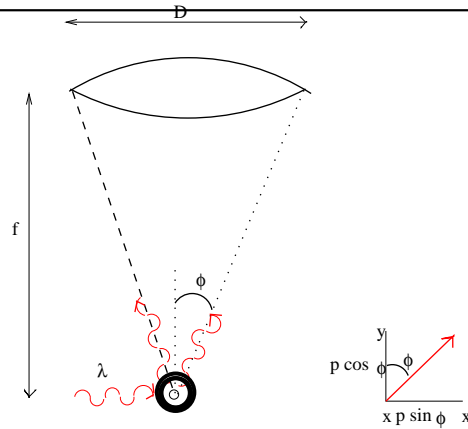
Position uncertainty  $\Delta x \geq f \frac{\lambda}{D} \approx \frac{\lambda}{2\phi}$  (*Minimum Resolving Power*)

Momentum uncertainty  $\Delta p = p \sin \phi = \frac{\hbar}{\lambda} \sin \phi \approx \frac{\hbar \phi}{\lambda}$

$$\Delta p \Delta x \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$$

*Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle*

# Heisenberg's Microscope with a Black Hole (Extremal RN)



$$r_+ = GM + \sqrt{(GM)^2 - GQ^2}$$

$$\Delta x_{new} = r_+(M + \Delta M) - r_+(M)$$

$$= G\Delta M + \sqrt{(GM + G\Delta M)^2 - GQ^2} - \sqrt{(GM)^2 - GQ^2} \geq 2G\Delta M \sim \frac{\ell_{Pl}^2}{\lambda} (\Delta M = \frac{\hbar}{\lambda}, \Delta p = \frac{\hbar \sin \phi}{\lambda})$$

$$\sim \frac{\ell_{Pl}^2 \Delta p}{\hbar \sin \phi} \geq \frac{\ell_{Pl}^2 \Delta p}{\hbar} \rightarrow \Delta x + \Delta x_{new} \geq \frac{\hbar}{\Delta p} + \beta_0 \frac{\ell_{Pl}^2 \Delta p}{\hbar}$$

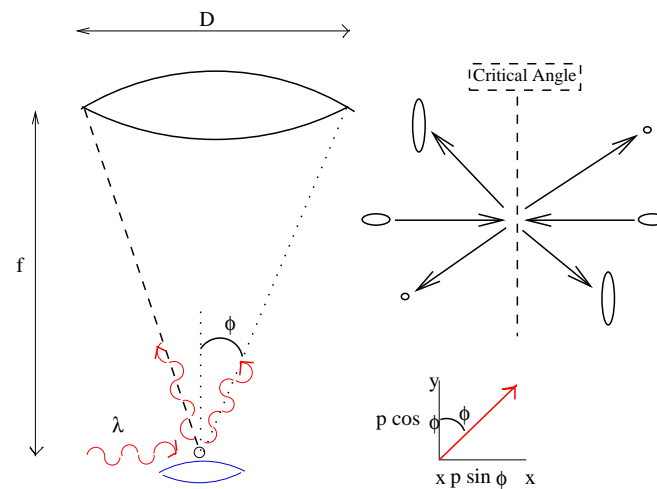
$$\Delta p \Delta x \geq \frac{\hbar}{2} \left[ 1 + \beta_0 \frac{\ell_{Pl}^2}{\hbar^2} \Delta p^2 \right] \leftarrow (M, Q) \text{ independent}$$

*Generalized Uncertainty Principle*

$\ell_{Pl} = \sqrt{\frac{G\hbar}{c^3}} = 10^{-35} m$ . The new term is effective only when  $x \approx \ell_{Pl}$  or  $p \approx 10^{16} TeV/c$

M. Maggiore, Phys. Lett. **B304**, 65 (1993)

## Heisenberg's Microscope with an elementary string



$$\Delta x_{new} \sim \sqrt{E} \sim p \geq \frac{\ell_{Pl}}{\hbar} \Delta p$$

$$\Delta p \Delta x \geq \frac{\hbar}{2} \left[ 1 + \beta_0 \frac{\ell_{Pl}^2}{\hbar^2} \Delta p^2 \right]$$

*Generalized Uncertainty Principle*

D. Amati, M. Ciafaloni, G. Veneziano, Phys. Lett. **B216** 41 (1989)

## Minimum Observable Length from the GUP

$$\Delta p \Delta x \geq \frac{\hbar}{2} \left[ 1 + \beta_0 \frac{\ell_{Pl}^2}{\hbar^2} \Delta p^2 \right]$$

Invert  $\Delta p \leq \frac{\hbar}{\ell_{Pl}} \left[ 1 \pm \sqrt{\Delta x^2 - \beta_0 \ell_{Pl}^2} \right]$

$$\Delta x \geq \sqrt{\beta_0} \ell_{Pl} \equiv \Delta x_{min}$$

(Min length)

Note:  $\Delta x_{min} \not\Rightarrow$  Space is discrete



$$\Delta p \Delta x \geq | \langle [x, p] \rangle |$$

	HUP	GUP
Principle	$\Delta p_i \Delta x_i \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$	$\Delta p_i \Delta x_i \geq \frac{\hbar}{2} \left[ 1 + \beta_0 \frac{\ell_{Pl}^2}{\hbar^2} \Delta p^2 \right]$
Algebra	$[x_i, p_j] = i\hbar \delta_{ij}$	$[x_i, p_j] = i\hbar \left[ \delta_{ij} + \underbrace{\frac{\beta_0}{\hbar^2} \ell_{Pl}^2 (p^2 \delta_{ij} + 2p_i p_j)}_{New} \right]$

A. Kempf, G. Mangano, R. B. Mann, Phys. Rev. **D52** 1108 (1995)

## Problems

- $10^{16} \text{TeV}$  ,  $10^{-35} \text{ m}$  (Planck scale/QG) in ‘whose frame’??  
→ Problem of *Lorentz Covariance of QG*
- Effects  $\propto \ell_{Pl}^2 \approx 10^{-70} \text{m}^2$  ← *Bad for phenomenology*

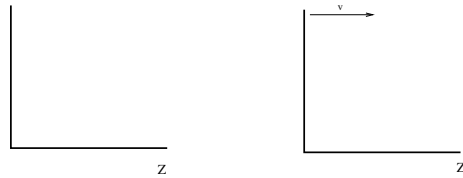
*Is there a GUP linear in  $\ell_{Pl}$ ?*

- Postulate a linear term (Reasonable. May put bounds on QG parameters)
- Look for a linear term

## One motivation: new $[x, p]$ algebra from Doubly Special Relativity Theories

(One way to solve the ‘QG in whose frame’ problem)

$$[J_i, K_j] = \epsilon^{ijk} K_k, \quad [K^i, K^j] = \epsilon^{ijk} J_k \quad \text{But } K^i = L_0^i + \ell_{Pl} p^i p_a \frac{\partial}{\partial p_a}$$



$$p'_0 = \frac{\gamma(p_0 - vp_z)}{1 + \ell_{Pl}(\gamma - 1)p_0 - \ell_{Pl}\gamma vp_z}$$

$$p'_z = \frac{\gamma(p_z - vp_0)}{1 + \ell_{Pl}(\gamma - 1)p_0 - \ell_{Pl}\gamma vp_z}$$

$$p'_x = \frac{\gamma(p_x - vp_y)}{1 + \ell_{Pl}(\gamma - 1)p_0 - \ell_{Pl}\gamma vp_z}$$

$$p'_y = \frac{\gamma(p_y + vp_x)}{1 + \ell_{Pl}(\gamma - 1)p_0 - \ell_{Pl}\gamma vp_z}$$

Minimum (invariant) length:  $\ell_{Pl}$

Maximum (invariant) momentum:  $p_{0Max} = M_{Pl}c = \frac{\hbar}{\ell_{Pl}}$

$$E^2 - \vec{p}^2 \neq m^2$$

$$E^2 f(E, \vec{p}, \ell_{Pl}) - \vec{p}^2 g(E, \vec{p}, \ell_{Pl}) = m^2 \equiv \epsilon^2 - \vec{\pi}^2$$

$$[x_i, p_j] = i\hbar \frac{\partial p_i}{\partial \pi_j}$$

$$f = \frac{|\vec{p}|}{E}, \quad g = \frac{1}{1 - \ell_{Pl} |\vec{p}|} \quad (\text{massless})$$

$$[x_i, p_j] = i\hbar [(1 - \ell_{Pl} |\vec{p}|) \delta_{ij} + \ell_{Pl}^2 p_i p_j]$$

J. Magueijo, L. Smolin, Phys. Rev. Lett. **88** 190403 (2002),

J. L. Cortes, J. Gamboa, Phys. Rev. **D71** 026010 (2005)

So now we have *two* new algebras/GUPs

Most general quadratic in  $p$  algebra: use Jacobi identity

$$- \left[ [x_i, x_j], p_k \right] = \left[ [x_j, p_k], x_i \right] + \left[ [p_k, x_i], x_j \right] = 0$$

$$\left[ x_i, p_j \right] = i\hbar \left[ \delta_{ij} - \alpha \left( p\delta_{ij} + \frac{p_i p_j}{p} \right) + \alpha^2 (p^2 \delta_{ij} + 3p_i p_j) \right]$$

$$\Delta x \geq (\Delta x)_{min} \approx \alpha_0 \ell_{Pl} , \quad \Delta p \leq (\Delta p)_{max} \approx \frac{M_{Pl} c}{\alpha_0}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{\alpha_0}{M_{Pl} c} = \frac{\alpha_0 \ell_{Pl}}{\hbar} . \quad \alpha_0 = \mathcal{O}(1) \text{ (normally)}$$

Although current experiments  $\Rightarrow \alpha_0 \leq 10^{17} \rightarrow \alpha^{-1} \approx 10 \text{ TeV}/c$

## Other approaches

- Non-commutative geometry
- Polymer quantization

A. Kempf, J. Math. Phys. **35** (1994) 4483-4496 (arXiv:9311147)

S. Pramanik, S. Ghosh, arXiv:1301.4042

V. Husain, S. S. Seahra, E. J. Webster, arXiv:1305.2814

## Consequences

$$[x_i, p_j] = i\hbar \left[ \delta_{ij} - \alpha \left( p\delta_{ij} + \frac{p_i p_j}{p} \right) + \alpha^2 \left( p^2 \delta_{ij} + 3p_i p_j \right) \right] \Rightarrow p_j \neq -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \text{ position space}$$

But define:

$$p_j = p_{0j} \left( 1 - \alpha p_0 + 2\alpha^2 p_0^2 \right) \quad \text{with } [x_i, p_{0j}] = i\hbar \delta_{ij}, \quad p_{0j} = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}$$

$[x_i, p_j] = \dots$  is satisfied

Consider any Hamiltonian

$$\begin{aligned} H &= \frac{p^2}{2m} + V(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{2m} \left( p_{0j} \left( 1 - \alpha p_0 + 2\alpha^2 p_0^2 \right) \right)^2 + V(r) \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{p_0^2}{2m} + V(\vec{r})}_{H_0} \underbrace{- \frac{\alpha}{m} p_0^3 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)}_{H_1} = \frac{p_0^2}{2m} + V(\vec{r}) \underbrace{- \frac{i\hbar^3 \alpha}{m} \frac{d^3}{dx^3}}_{\text{position space}} \end{aligned}$$

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Quantum gravity effect in any quantum system!

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## Schrödinger Equation

$$[H_0 + H_1]\psi = \left[ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + V(x) - i \frac{\alpha \hbar^3}{m} \frac{d^3}{dx^3} \right] \psi = i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t}$$

*Two Consequences*

### 1. New Perturbed Solutions *and* New Conserved Current

$$J = \frac{\hbar}{2mi} \left( \psi^* \frac{d\psi}{dx} - \psi \frac{d\psi^*}{dx} \right) + \frac{\alpha \hbar^2}{m} \left( \frac{d^2 |\psi|^2}{dx^2} - 3 \frac{d\psi}{dx} \frac{d\psi^*}{dx} \right)$$

$$\rho = |\psi|^2, \quad \frac{\partial J}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = 0 \rightarrow \text{New Reflection/Transmission Currents}$$

2. New Non-Perturbative solution  $\sim e^{ix/\ell_{Pl}}$   $\rightarrow$  *Discreteness of space*

*Also - Dirac equation...*



## Applications to Quantum Mechanical Systems

- Simple Harmonic Oscillator
- Landau Levels
- Lamb Shift
- Scanning Tunneling Microscope
- Particle in a box
- Superconductivity
- Quantum Hall Effect
- $(g - 2)$  of muon
- Black Holes in LHC (A. F. Ali)

Precision required to test GUP: 1 part in  $10^{12} - 10^{25}$

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S. Das, E. C. Vagenas, Phys. Rev. Lett. **101**, 221301 (2008), arXiv:0810.5333

A. F. Ali, S. Das, E. C. Vagenas, Phys. Rev. **D84** (2011) 044013

S. Das, R. B. Mann, Phys. Lett. **B704** (2011) 596-599, arXiv:1109.3258

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## Simple Harmonic Oscillator)

$$H = \underbrace{\frac{p_0^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}m\omega x^2}_{H_0} + \underbrace{\frac{\alpha}{m}p^3 + \frac{3\alpha^2}{2}p^4}_{H_1}$$

$$\left[ \psi_n = \frac{1}{2^n n!} \left( \frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} e^{-\frac{m\omega x^2}{2\hbar}} H_n \left( \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{\hbar}} x \right) \right]$$

$$\Delta E_{GUP} = \langle \psi_n | H_1 | \psi_n \rangle \text{ (} p^4 \text{ term)} + \sum_{k \neq n} \frac{|\langle k^0 | H_1 | n^0 \rangle|^2}{E_n^0 - E_k^0} \text{ (} p^3 \text{ term)}$$

$$\frac{\Delta E_{GUP(0)}}{E_0} = \frac{9}{2} \hbar^2 \omega^2 m \alpha^2 + 4 \hbar \omega m \alpha^2$$

$$\Delta E_{GUP(0)} \sim \alpha^2$$

## Landau Levels

Particle of mass  $m$ , charge  $e$  in constant  $\vec{B} = B\hat{z}$ , i.e.  $\vec{A} = Bx\hat{y}$ ,  $\omega_c = eB/m$

$$H_0 = \frac{1}{2m} (\vec{p}_0 - e\vec{A})^2 = \frac{p_{0x}^2}{2m} + \underbrace{\frac{p_{0y}^2}{2m}}_{\hbar^2 k^2 / 2m} - \frac{eB}{m} x p_{0y} + \frac{e^2 B^2}{2m} x^2 = \frac{p_{0x}^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega_c^2 \left( x - \frac{\hbar k}{m \omega_c} \right)^2$$

$$H = \frac{1}{2m} (\vec{p}_0 - e\vec{A})^2 - \frac{\alpha}{m} (\vec{p}_0 - e\vec{A})^3 = H_0 - \sqrt{8m\alpha} H_0^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$\frac{\Delta E_{n(GUP)}}{E_n} = -\sqrt{8m\alpha} (\hbar\omega_c)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \approx -10^{-27} \alpha \quad (B = 10 \text{ T})$$

### Conclude

- $\alpha \sim 1$  and  $\frac{\Delta E_{n(GUP)}}{E_n}$  is too small, *or*
- Measurement accuracy of 1 in  $10^3$  in STM  $\rightarrow \alpha_0 < 10^{24}$

## Lamb Shift

$$H_0 = \frac{p_0^2}{2m} - \frac{k}{r}, H_1 = -\frac{\alpha}{m} p_0^3 = (\alpha\sqrt{8m}) \left[ H_0 + \frac{k}{r} \right] \left[ H_0 + \frac{k}{r} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\Delta E_n = \frac{4\alpha^2}{3m^2} \left( \ln \frac{1}{\alpha} \right) |\psi_{nlm}(0)|^2 \quad (\text{Lamb Shift})$$

$$\frac{\Delta E_{n(GUP)}}{\Delta E_n} = 2 \frac{\Delta |\psi_{nlm}(0)|}{\psi_{nlm}(0)}$$

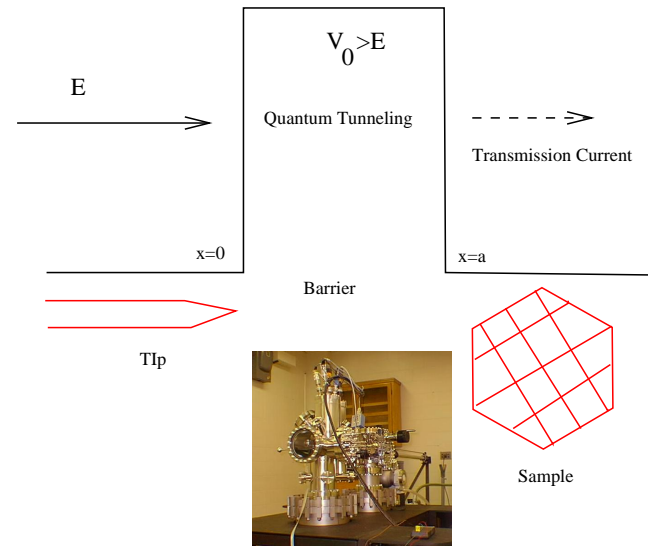
$$\Delta \psi_{100}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\{n'l'm'\} \neq \{nlm\}} \frac{\langle n'l'm' | H_1 | nlm \rangle}{E_n - E_{n'}} \langle \vec{r} | n'l'm' \rangle = 10^3 \alpha E_0 \psi_{200}(\vec{r})$$

$$\frac{\Delta E_{n(GUP)}}{\Delta E_n} = 2 \frac{\Delta |\psi_{nlm}(0)|}{\psi_{nlm}(0)} \approx \alpha_0 \frac{4.2 \times 10^4 E_0}{27 M_{Pl} c^2} \approx 10^{-24} \alpha_0$$

## Conclude

- $\alpha \sim 1$  and  $\frac{\Delta E_{n(GUP)}}{E_n}$  is too small, *or*
- Measurement accuracy of 1 in  $10^{12} \rightarrow \alpha_0 < 10^{12}$  (*better!*)

## Potential Barrier (Scanning Tunneling Microscope)



$$[H_0 + H_1]\psi = E\psi$$

$$[H_0 + H_1]\psi = -(V_0 - E)\psi$$

$$[H_0 + H_1]\psi = E\psi$$

$$\psi_1 = Ae^{ik'x} + Be^{-ik''x} + Pe^{\frac{ix}{2\alpha\hbar}}$$

$$\psi_2 = Fe^{k'_1x} + Ge^{-k''_1x} + Qe^{\frac{ix}{2\alpha\hbar}}$$

$$\psi_3 = Ce^{ik'x} + Re^{\frac{ix}{2\alpha\hbar}}$$

$$k = \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}}, \quad k_1 = \sqrt{\frac{2m(V_0 - E)}{\hbar^2}}$$

$$k' = k(1 + \alpha\hbar k), \quad k'' = k(1 - \alpha\hbar k), \quad k'_1 = k_1(1 - i\alpha\hbar k_1), \quad k''_1 = k_1(1 + i\alpha\hbar k_1)$$

## Take into account

- Continuity of  $\psi, \psi', \psi''$  at each boundary (cannot set  $P, Q, R = 0$ )
- New current

## Transmission Current

$$T = \frac{J_R}{J_L} = \left| \frac{C}{A} \right|^2 - 2\alpha\hbar k \left| \frac{B}{A} \right|^2 .$$

$$= T_0 \left[ 1 + 2\alpha\hbar k (1 - T_0^{-1}) \right], \quad T_0 = \frac{16E(V_0 - E)}{V_0^2} e^{-2k_1 a} = \text{usual}$$

$$m = m_e = 0.5 \text{ MeV}/c^2, \quad E \approx V_0 = 10 \text{ eV}, \quad a = 10^{-10} \text{ m}, \quad I = 10^{-9} \text{ A}, \quad \mathcal{G} = 10^9,$$

$$I \propto T$$

$$\frac{\delta I_{GUP}}{I_0} = \frac{\delta T_{GUP}}{T_0} = 10^{-26},$$

$$\delta \mathcal{I}_{GUP} = \mathcal{G} \delta I_{GUP} = 10^{-26} \text{ A}, \quad \alpha_0 = 1, \quad T_0 = 10^{-3}$$

$$\tau = \frac{e}{\delta \mathcal{I}_{GUP}} = 10^5 - 10^7 \text{ s} \approx \text{a day - a month}$$

## Superconductivity

$$\vec{J} = \frac{\hbar}{2mi} \left[ \psi^* \vec{\nabla} \psi - \psi \vec{\nabla} \psi^* \right] + \frac{5a^2 \hbar^3 e}{2mi} \left[ \left( \psi^* \vec{\nabla} \nabla^2 \psi - \psi \vec{\nabla} \nabla^2 \psi^* \right) + \left( \nabla^2 \psi^* \vec{\nabla} \psi - \nabla^2 \psi \vec{\nabla} \psi^* \right) \right]$$

$$\equiv \vec{J}_0 + \vec{J}_1, \quad \text{Charge} = -2e, \quad \text{Mass} = 2m, \quad \psi = |\psi| e^{i\phi}, \quad \vec{\nabla} |\psi| = 0$$

$$\vec{J}_0 = - \left[ \frac{2e^2}{mc} \vec{A} + \frac{e\hbar}{m} \vec{\nabla} \phi \right] |\psi|^2 \quad (\text{usual SC current})$$

$$\vec{J}_1 = - \frac{80a^2 e^4}{mc^3} \vec{A} |\vec{A}|^2 |\psi|^2 \quad (\text{QG effect})$$

$$\oint \vec{J} \cdot d\vec{l} = \oint \vec{J}_0 \cdot d\vec{l} + \oint \vec{J}_1 \cdot d\vec{l} = 0$$

$$\Phi = n \left( \Phi_0 + \alpha^2 \Phi_1 \right)$$

$$\Phi_0 = \frac{hc}{2e}, \quad \Phi_1 = \frac{40e^2 |\vec{B}|^2 L^2}{c^2} \Phi_0 \quad (\text{Flux quantization})$$

$$\alpha_0 < \frac{10^{-n/2}}{\sqrt{40}} \frac{M_{Pl} c^2}{eBL} < 10^{19-n/2} \quad (\text{experimental precision of 1 part in } 10^n)$$

## Quantum Hall Effect

$$e\mathcal{E}_y = evB$$

$$\mathcal{E}_y = \frac{j_x B}{ne}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_y = \rho_{xy} j_x$$

$$\rho_{xy} = \frac{B}{ne}$$

Landau levels  $E_n = \hbar\omega_c \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$   $\omega_c = eB/mc =$  cyclotron frequency

$$n_H = \frac{B}{\Phi_0 + \alpha^2 \Phi_1}$$

Fermi energy  $E_F$  lies between the energy levels  $E_k$  and  $E_{k+1}$ , all states  $E_i$ ,  $i \leq k$  are occupied, resulting in the carrier density  $n = kn_H$

$$\rho_{xy} = \frac{hc}{ke^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{10 \alpha^2 e^2 |\vec{B}|^2 L^2}{c^2} \right]$$



## Anomalous magnetic moment of the muon: Dirac equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 i\hbar \frac{\partial \chi_1}{\partial t} = & \left[ \left( \frac{1}{2m} - c\alpha \right) |\vec{\Pi}|^2 - \frac{\alpha}{(2m)^2 c} \Pi^4 + e\phi \chi_1 \right. \\
 & - 2 \frac{e\hbar}{2mc} \left( 1 - 2\alpha cm - \frac{\alpha}{mc} \Pi^2 \right) \vec{S} \cdot \vec{B} - \frac{\alpha e^2 \hbar^2}{(2m)^2 c^3} |\vec{B}|^2 \\
 & \left. - \frac{ie\hbar\alpha}{2(mc)^2} \left( \vec{\nabla}(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{B}) \cdot \vec{\Pi} - \frac{e}{c} \vec{A} \cdot \vec{\nabla}(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{B}) + i\hbar \nabla^2(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{B}) \right) \right] \chi_1 \\
 g = & 2 \left( 1 - 2\alpha cm - \frac{\alpha}{mc} \Pi^2 \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\left( \frac{g-2}{2} \right)_{GUP} = - \left[ 2\alpha cm + \frac{\alpha \Pi^2}{mc} \right].$$

$$\alpha_0 < 10^{-n} \frac{m_{Pl}}{m_\mu} < 10^{20-n},$$

GUP effects on

Atomic/Molecular/Condensed Matter Systems

*Stark Effect, Zeeman Effect, Berry's Phase, Bohm-Aharonov effect, Dirac Quantization, Anomalous Magnetic Moment of Electron, Anderson Localization, Coherent States, Lasers,...*

Statistical Mechanical Systems

*Bose-Einstein Condensation, Fermi Levels, Chandrasekhar Limit,...*

Normally forbidden processes

*Atomic Transitions*

## Cosmology: Post Inflation Preheating

$$\mathcal{L} \propto \varphi \chi^2 \quad (\varphi = \text{inflaton}, \chi = \text{matter})$$

$$\ddot{\chi} + \underbrace{\omega_0^2 (1 + h \cos [(2\omega_0 + \epsilon)t])}_{\phi(t)} \chi = \alpha f(\chi, \dot{\chi}) \quad (\text{RHS=GUP})$$

$$\chi(t) = a(t) \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}t\right) + b(t) \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}t\right), \quad a \sim e^{st}, b \sim e^{st}$$

*Parametric Resonance*

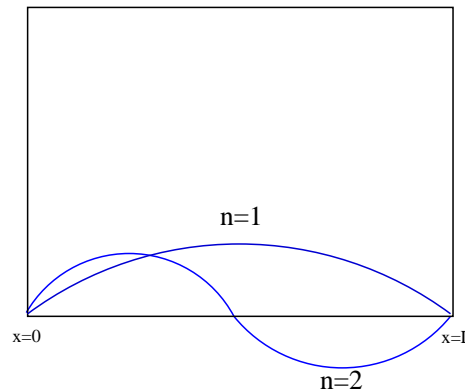
	sign of $\Delta s_{GUP}$ ( $\alpha > 0$ )	sign of $\Delta s_{GUP}$ ( $\alpha < 0$ )
$b/a = 1$	+	-
$b/a = 0$	+	-
$b/a = \infty$	+	-
$b/a \neq 1$	$\pm$	$\pm$

Instability region

$$\Delta\epsilon = h\omega_0 [1 - 2\alpha\theta\lambda a^2] \quad (\text{Depends on sign of } \alpha)$$

Look at *New Non-perturbative* solution of the *Cubic*  
Schrödinger Equation

## Particle in a Box



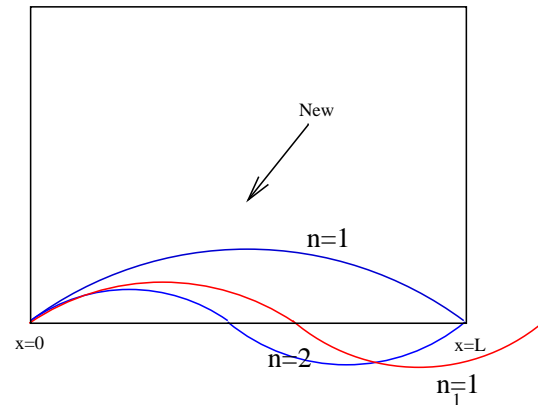
$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} = E\psi$$

$$\psi(x) = Ae^{ikx} + Be^{-ikx} \quad (k \equiv \sqrt{2mE/\hbar^2})$$

$$\psi(0) = 0 \rightarrow A + B = 0 \rightarrow \psi(x) = 2iA \sin(kx)$$

$$\psi(L) = 0 \rightarrow kL = n\pi \rightarrow E_n = \frac{k^2\hbar^2}{2m} = \frac{n^2\pi^2\hbar^2}{2mL^2}$$

# Particle in a Box with GUP



$$\left[ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} - i \frac{\alpha \hbar^3}{m} \frac{d^3}{dx^3} \right] = E\psi$$

$$\psi(x) = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{Choose Real}}}{A} e^{ik'x} + B e^{-ik''x} + \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{New Solution} \\ \text{(Cannot just set it to zero!)}}}{C} e^{\frac{ix}{2\alpha\hbar}}$$

$$k' = k(1 + k\alpha\hbar) , \quad k'' = k(1 - k\alpha\hbar)$$

$$\psi(0) = 0 \rightarrow A + B + C = 0 \rightarrow$$

$$\psi = 2iA \sin(kx) + C \left[ -e^{-ikx} + e^{ix/2\alpha\hbar} \right] - \alpha\hbar k^2 x \left[ i C e^{-ikx} + 2A \sin(kx) \right]$$

$$\psi(L) = 0 \rightarrow$$

$$2iA \sin(kL) = |C| \left[ e^{-i(kL+\theta_C)} - e^{i(L/2\alpha\hbar-\theta_C)} \right] + \underbrace{\alpha\hbar k^2 L \left[ i |C| e^{-i(kL+\theta_C)} + 2A \sin(kL) \right]}_{\mathcal{O}(\alpha \text{ higher power})}$$

$$= |C| \left[ e^{-i(kL+\theta_C)} - e^{i(L/2\alpha\hbar-\theta_C)} \right]$$

$$C = |C| e^{-i\theta_C} \text{ etc}$$

Take real parts of both sides (A = Real)

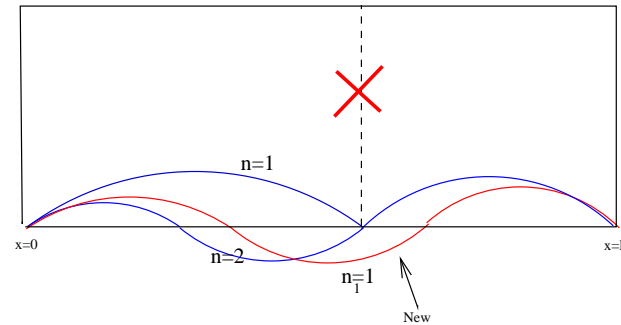
$$\cos\left(\frac{L}{2\alpha\hbar} - \theta_C\right) = \cos(kL + \theta_C) = \cos(n\pi + \theta_C + \epsilon)$$

Solution

$$\frac{L}{2\alpha\hbar} = \frac{L}{2\alpha_0 \ell_{Pl}} = n\pi + 2q\pi + 2\theta_C \equiv n_1\pi + 2\theta_C$$

$$\frac{L}{2\alpha\hbar} = \frac{L}{2\alpha_0 \ell_{Pl}} = -n\pi + 2q\pi \equiv n_1\pi$$

$$n_1 \equiv 2q \pm n \in N.$$



Only certain  $L$ s can fit both  $\sin(kL)$  and  $\cos(\frac{L}{2\alpha\hbar})$

Box Length is Quantized!

Need at least one particle for measuring lengths

Perhaps all measured lengths are quantized?

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A. Ali, S. Das, E. C. Vagenas, Phys. Lett. **B678**, 497-499 (2009), arXiv:0906.5396

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## Relativistic Wave Equations

- Klein-Gordon

For Stationary States:  $2mE \rightarrow E^2 - m^2$ ,  $k \rightarrow k\sqrt{\frac{E}{2mc^2} - \frac{mc^2}{2E}}$

$L$  Quantization Unchanged

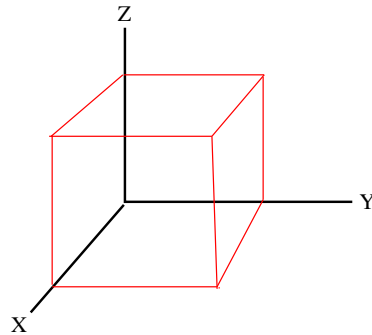
### Problems with KG

- Most elementary particles are fermions
- How to generalize to 2 and 3 dimensional box?

$$\vec{p} = \vec{p}_0 - \alpha p_0 \vec{p} = \vec{p}_0 - \alpha \sqrt{p_{0x}^2 + p_{0y}^2 + p_{0z}^2} \vec{p}$$

$$\rightarrow \vec{p}_0 - \alpha \hbar \underbrace{\sqrt{-\frac{d^2}{dx^2} - \frac{d^2}{dy^2} - \frac{d^2}{dz^2}}}_{\text{Non-local}} \vec{p}$$

## Dirac Equation



- $p_0 \rightarrow \vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{p}$

$$H\psi = (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{p} + \beta mc^2) \psi = (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{p}_0 - \alpha(\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{p}_0)(\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{p}_0) + \beta mc^2) \psi = E\psi$$

$$\psi \equiv e^{i\vec{t} \cdot \vec{r}} \begin{pmatrix} \chi \\ \vec{\rho} \cdot \vec{\sigma} \chi \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow H\psi = e^{i\vec{t} \cdot \vec{r}} \begin{pmatrix} ((m - \alpha t^2) + \vec{t} \cdot \vec{r} + i\vec{\sigma} \cdot (\vec{t} \times \vec{\rho}))\chi \\ (\vec{t} - (m + \alpha^2 t^2)\vec{\rho}) \cdot \vec{\sigma} \chi \end{pmatrix} = E\psi ,$$

$$\psi = e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} \begin{pmatrix} \chi \\ r\hat{k} \cdot \vec{\sigma} \chi \end{pmatrix} , \quad \psi = e^{i\frac{\hat{q} \cdot \vec{r}}{\alpha \hbar}} \begin{pmatrix} \chi \\ \hat{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma} \chi \end{pmatrix}$$

## Confining Wavefunction

Superposition of  $2^d + 1$  eigenfunctions  
( $d=1,2,3$ )

$$\psi = \left( \begin{array}{l} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^d \left( e^{ik_i x_i} + e^{-i(k_i x_i - \delta_i)} \right) + F e^{i \frac{\hat{q} \cdot \vec{r}}{\alpha \hbar}} \right] \chi \\ \sum_{j=1}^d \left[ \prod_{i=1}^d \left( e^{ik_i x_i} + (-1)^{\delta_{ij}} e^{-i(k_i x_i - \delta_i)} \right) r \hat{k}_j \right. \\ \left. + F e^{i \frac{\hat{q} \cdot \vec{r}}{\alpha \hbar}} \hat{q}_j \right] \sigma_j \chi \end{array} \right)$$

## MIT Bag Boundary Conditions

(Zero flux through boundaries)

$$\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \psi = 0 \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \pm i \beta \alpha_l \psi = \psi$$

$$e^{i\delta_k} (1 + ir\hat{k}_k) = (ir\hat{k}_k - 1) + f_{\bar{k}}^{-1} F'_k e^{-i\theta_k} \quad (x_k = 0)$$

$$e^{i(2k_k L_k - \delta_k)} (1 + ir\hat{k}_k) = (ir\hat{k}_k - 1) + f_{\bar{k}}^{-1} F'_k e^{i\left(\frac{\hat{q}_k L_k}{\alpha\hbar} + \theta_k\right)} e^{i(k_k L_k - \delta_k)} \quad (x_k = L_k)$$

$$\left[ F'_k \equiv \sqrt{1 + |\hat{q}_k|^2} F, \quad \theta_k \equiv \arctan \hat{q}_k \right]$$

Comparing

$$k_k L_k = \delta_k = \arctan \left( -\frac{\hbar k_k}{mc} \right) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha)$$

$$\boxed{\frac{L_k}{\alpha_0 \ell_{Pl}} = (2p_k \pi - 2\theta_k) \sqrt{d}, \quad p_k \in N}$$

$$\left[ |\hat{q}_k| = 1/\sqrt{d} \right]$$

$$A_N \equiv \prod_{k=1}^N \frac{L_k}{\alpha_0 \ell_{Pl}} = d^{N/2} \prod_{k=1}^N (2p_k \pi - 2\theta_k), \quad p_k \in N.$$

**Measurable Lengths, Areas and Volumes are Quantized!**

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A. Ali, S. Das, E. C. Vagenas, Phys. Lett. **B690** (2010) 407-412, arXiv:1005.3368  
P. Alberto, S. Das, E. C. Vagenas, Phys. Lett. **A375** (2011) 1436-1440, arXiv:1102.3192

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## Generalizations in curved spacetimes

- Work in progress with S. Deb

## Self-adjointness of GUP modified operators

Operator  $\hat{A}$

$$\mathcal{K}_+ = \ker(i - \hat{A}^\dagger)$$

$$\mathcal{K}_- = \ker(i + \hat{A}^\dagger)$$

$$n_+ = \dim [\mathcal{K}_+] \ \& \ n_- = \dim [\mathcal{K}_-]$$

(Deficiency indices)

### von-Neumann's Theorem

Let  $\hat{A}$  be a closed symmetric operator with deficiency indices  $n_+$  and  $n_-$ . Then,

- $\hat{A}$  is self-adjoint if and only if  $(n_+, n_-) = (0, 0)$
- $\hat{A}$  has self-adjoint extensions if and only if  $n_+ = n_-$ . These extensions are parametrized by an  $n \times n$  unitary matrix
- If  $n_+ \neq n_-$ , the  $\hat{A}$  has no self-adjoint extensions

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V. Bala et al (2011-)

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## Appendix 3A

### 3.3.5 Momentum Operator: Quadratic in $\alpha$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{p} &= \hat{p}_0 + 2\alpha^2 \hat{p}^3 \\ &= i2\alpha^2 \hbar^3 \frac{d^3}{dx^3} - i\hbar \frac{d}{dx}\end{aligned}\quad (3.3.12)$$

### 3.3.6 Deficiency Indices: $n_+ = \dim [\ker (\frac{i}{\alpha} - \hat{p}^\dagger)], \psi_+(x)$

Equation

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{p}^\dagger \psi_+(x) &= \frac{i}{\alpha} \psi_+(x) \\ i2\alpha^2 \hbar^3 \frac{d^3 \psi_+(x)}{dx^3} - i\hbar \frac{d\psi_+(x)}{dx} - \frac{i}{\alpha} \psi_+(x) &= 0 \\ 2\alpha^3 \hbar^2 \frac{d^3 \psi_+(x)}{dx^3} - \frac{d\psi_+(x)}{dx} - \frac{1}{\alpha} \psi_+(x) &= 0\end{aligned}\quad (3.3.13)$$

Characteristic Equation

$$2\alpha^2 \hbar^2 m^3 - m - \frac{1}{\alpha} = 0 \quad (3.3.14)$$

Roots

$$m_1 = \frac{1}{\alpha \hbar} \quad (3.3.15)$$

$$m_2 = \frac{1}{\alpha \hbar} \left( \frac{-1}{2} + \frac{i}{2} \right) \quad (3.3.16)$$

$$m_3 = \frac{1}{\alpha \hbar} \left( \frac{-1}{2} - \frac{i}{2} \right) \quad (3.3.17)$$

Linearly independent solutions:

$$\psi_+^1(x) \propto \exp\left(\frac{x}{\alpha \hbar}\right) \quad (3.3.18)$$

$$\psi_+^2(x) \propto \exp\left[\left(\frac{-1}{2} + \frac{i}{2}\right) \frac{x}{\alpha \hbar}\right] \quad (3.3.19)$$

$$\psi_+^3(x) \propto \exp\left[\left(\frac{-1}{2} - \frac{i}{2}\right) \frac{x}{\alpha \hbar}\right] \quad (3.3.20)$$

Deficiency Index,  $n_+$

Table 2.1: Results: GUP modified Momentum operator

Operator	$\psi_+(x)$	$\psi_-(x)$	$(n_+, n_-)$		
			$(-\infty, \infty)$	$[0, \infty)$	$[a, b]$
$\hat{p}_0$	$A_1 \exp[-\frac{x}{d}]$	$A_2 \exp[\frac{x}{d}]$	(0, 0)	(1, 0)	(1, 1)
$\hat{p}_0(1 - \alpha\hat{p}_0)$	$B_1 \exp[\gamma_1 x]$	$B_3 \exp[\gamma_3 x]$	(0, 0)	(1, 1)	(2, 2)
	$B_2 \exp[\gamma_2 x]$	$B_4 \exp[\gamma_4 x]$			
$\hat{p}_0(1 + 2\alpha^2\hat{p}_0^2)$	$C_1 \exp[\beta_1 x]$	$C_4 \exp[\beta_4 x]$	(0, 0)	(2, 1)	(3, 3)
	$C_2 \exp[\beta_2 x]$	$C_5 \exp[\beta_5 x]$			
	$C_3 \exp[\beta_3 x]$	$C_6 \exp[\beta_6 x]$			
$\hat{p}_0(1 - \alpha\hat{p}_0^2 + 2\alpha^2\hat{p}_0^3)$	$D_1 \exp[\lambda_1 x]$	$D_4 \exp[\lambda_4 x]$	(0, 0)	(2, 1)	(3, 3)
	$D_2 \exp[\lambda_2 x]$	$D_5 \exp[\lambda_5 x]$			
	$D_3 \exp[\lambda_3 x]$	$D_6 \exp[\lambda_6 x]$			



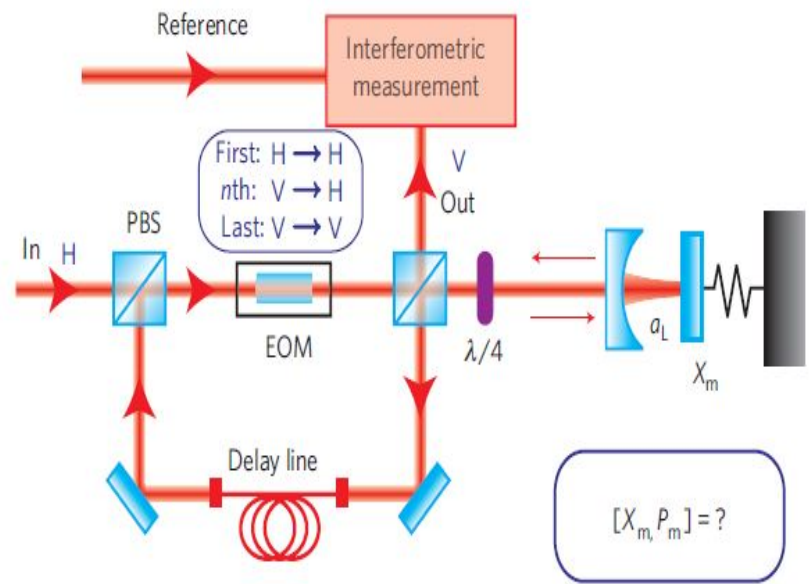
Table 2.2: Results: GUP modified Hamiltonian operator

Operator	$\psi_+(x)$	$\psi_-(x)$	$(n_+, n_-)$		
			$(-\infty, \infty)$	$[0, \infty)$	$[a, b]$
$\frac{1}{2m}\hat{p}_0^2$	$a_+ \exp[k_+x]$	$a_- \exp[k_-x]$	(0, 0)	(1, 1)	(2, 2)
	$b_+ \exp[-k_+x]$	$b_- \exp[-k_-x]$			
$\frac{1}{2m}\hat{p}_0^2 - \frac{\alpha}{m}\hat{p}_0^3$	$\tilde{B}_1 \exp[m_1x]$	$\tilde{B}_4 \exp[m_4x]$	(0, 0)	(1, 2)	(3, 3)
	$\tilde{B}_2 \exp[m_2x]$	$\tilde{B}_5 \exp[m_5x]$			
	$\tilde{B}_3 \exp[m_3x]$	$\tilde{B}_6 \exp[m_6x]$			
$\frac{1}{2m}\hat{p}_0^2 + \frac{5\alpha^2}{2m}\hat{p}_0^4$	$\tilde{C}_1 \exp[\kappa_1x]$	$\tilde{C}_5 \exp[\kappa_5x]$	(0, 0)	(2, 2)	(4, 4)
	$\tilde{C}_2 \exp[\kappa_2x]$	$\tilde{C}_6 \exp[\kappa_6x]$			
	$\tilde{C}_3 \exp[\kappa_3x]$	$\tilde{C}_7 \exp[\kappa_7x]$			
	$\tilde{C}_4 \exp[\kappa_4x]$	$\tilde{C}_8 \exp[\kappa_8x]$			
$\frac{\hat{p}_0^2}{2m} - \frac{\alpha}{m}\hat{p}_0^3 + \frac{5\alpha^2}{2m}\hat{p}_0^4$	$\tilde{D}_1 \exp[\eta_1x]$	$\tilde{D}_5 \exp[\eta_5x]$	(0, 0)	(2, 2)	(4, 4)
	$\tilde{D}_2 \exp[\eta_2x]$	$\tilde{D}_6 \exp[\eta_6x]$			
	$\tilde{D}_3 \exp[\eta_3x]$	$\tilde{D}_7 \exp[\eta_7x]$			
	$\tilde{D}_4 \exp[\eta_4x]$	$\tilde{D}_8 \exp[\eta_8x]$			

## Proposed Experiments

- Quantum Optomechanics, Gravity Bar Detectors
- Superplanckian *quantum* centre-of-mass mode:  
 $[x, p] = i\hbar (1 + \dots) \leftarrow \text{GUP}$
- Cryogenic

# Proposed Experiment 1: Quantum Optics



**Figure 3** | Proposed experimental set-up to probe deformations of the canonical commutator of a macroscopic mechanical resonator. An

Experiment and figure: I. Pikovski et al, **Nature Physics**, Vol.8 (2012), 393-397 (*U Vienna, Blackett Laboratory*)

## Displacement operator

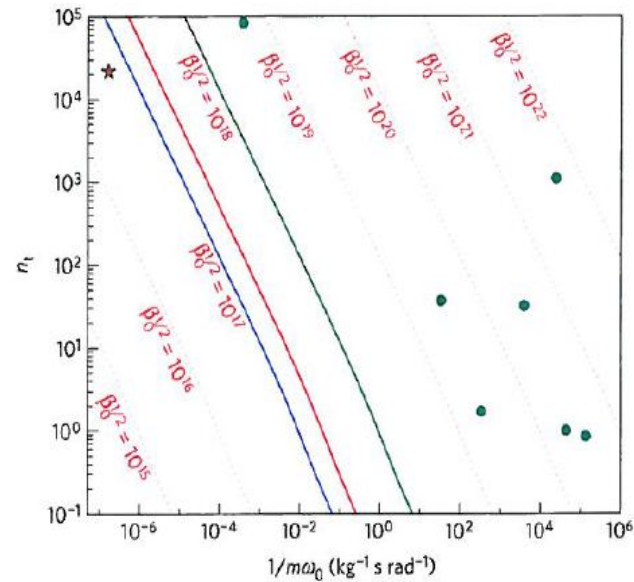
$$\xi = e^{i\lambda n_L P_m} e^{-i\lambda n_L X_m} e^{-i\lambda n_L P_m} e^{i\lambda n_L X_m}$$

$$\exp\left(-i\lambda n_L \sum_k (\lambda n_L)^k C_k/k\right)$$

$$[X_m, P_n] = iC_1, \quad iC_k = [X_m, C_{k-1}] \quad \leftarrow \text{GUP}$$

$$\text{Mean optical field } \langle a_L \rangle \propto \exp\left(-\frac{4}{3}\beta N_p^3 \lambda^4 e^{-i6\lambda^2}\right)$$

## Proposed Experiment 2: Gravity Bar Detectors



**Figure 1 |** Upper limits to the parameter  $\beta_0$  that quantifies the deformation of the standard uncertainty relation in equation (2). The star corresponds to the AURIGA experiment discussed in the main text, and

Experiment and figure: F. Marin et al, **Nature Physics**, Vol.9 (2013), 71-73 (Italy, Netherlands)

$$E_{min} = \frac{\hbar\omega_0}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{\beta^2}{4}} + \frac{\beta}{2} \right]$$

## Summary and Conclusions

- One GUP seems to fit Black Holes, String Theory, DSR,...
- GUP affects all QM Hamiltonians. At least 1 part in  $10^{12}$  precision required for measuring effects
- Space Quantized near the Planck scale. *But*, Discreteness at  $10^{-35} m \rightarrow$  observable effects at  $10^{-20} m$ ?
- Applications to cosmology: B. Majumdar (many papers), Palma & Patil, Zhu, Ren & Li
- Keplerian orbits, Thermodynamics, Holography, Equivalence Principle, Electroweak Theory, Black Holes, Information Problem, Higher dimensions, LHC
- Further applications: theory and experiments
- Proposed experiments to measure modified  $[x, p]$  commutator
- **Optimistic Scenario: A Low Energy Window to Quantum Gravity Phenomenology?**