

Top mass from asymptotic safety

Astrid Eichhorn
University of Heidelberg



October 06, 2017
Online VIA lecture

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recent work with:

Aaron Held ([1705.02342](#), to appear in PRD, [1707.01107](#))
& Jan Pawłowski ([1604.02041](#); Phys.Rev. D94 (2016) no.10, 104027)

Fleur Versteegen ([arXiv:1709.07252](#))

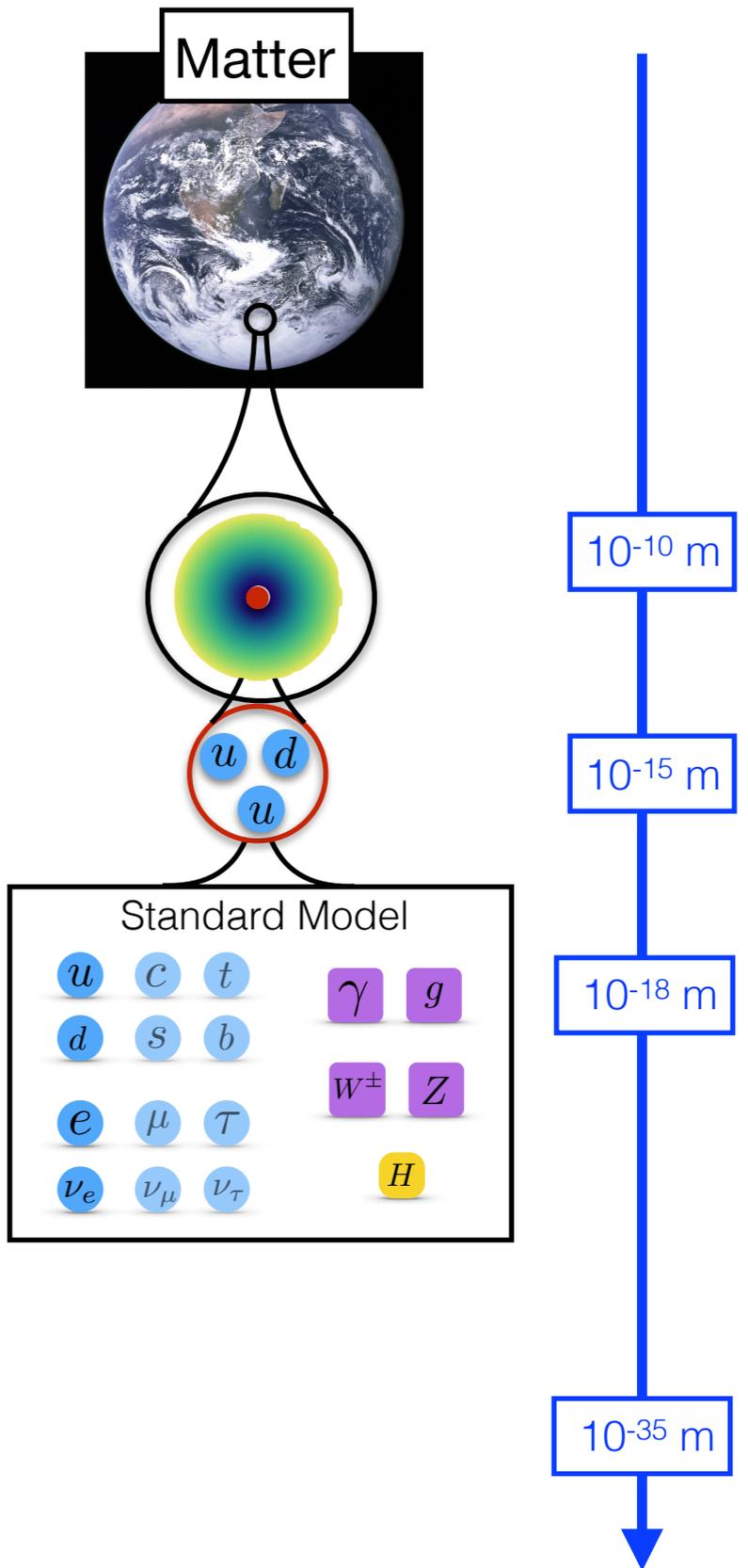
Nic Christiansen ([1702.07724](#); Phys.Lett. B770 (2017) 154-160)

Stefan Lippoldt ([1611.05878](#); Phys.Lett. B767 (2017) 142-146)

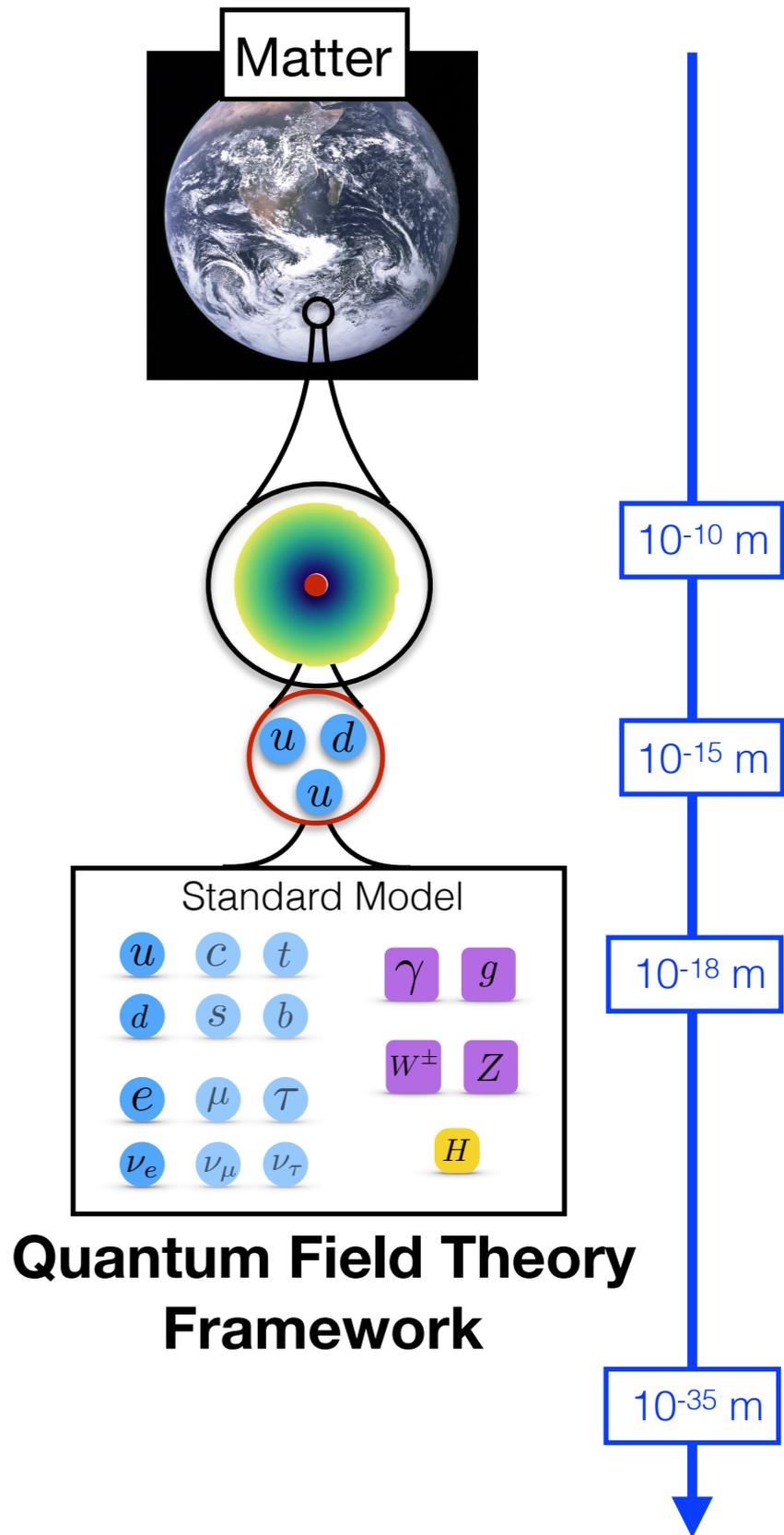
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What are the fundamental building blocks of our universe?



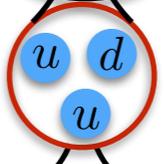
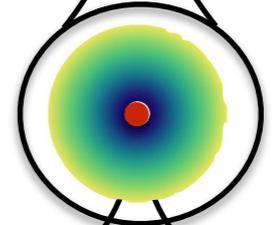
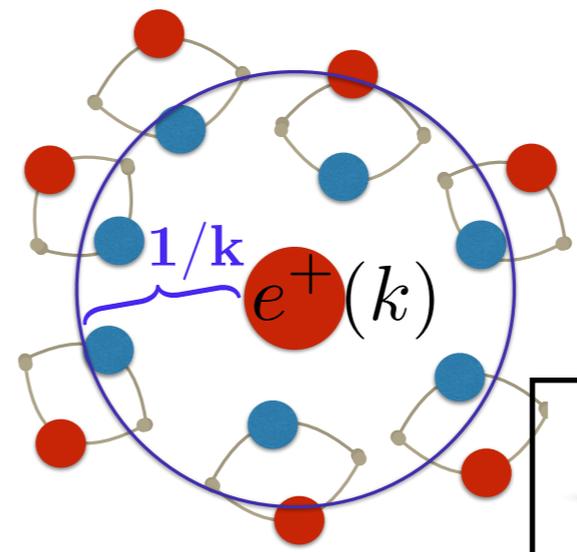
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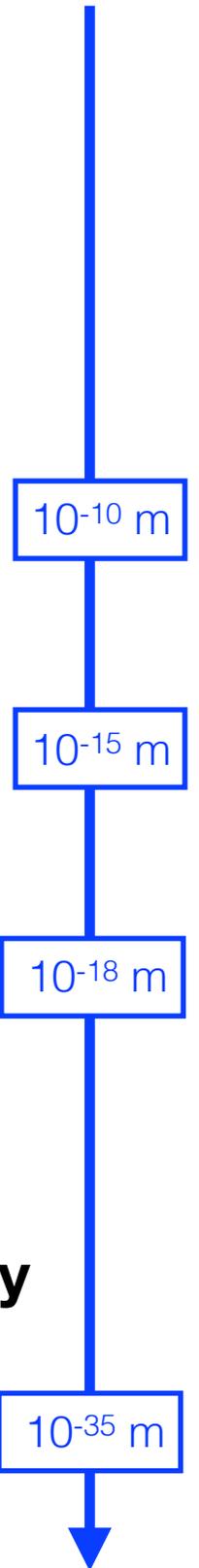
Status of the Standard Model of particle physics

Quantum fluctuations generate running (scale-dependent) couplings



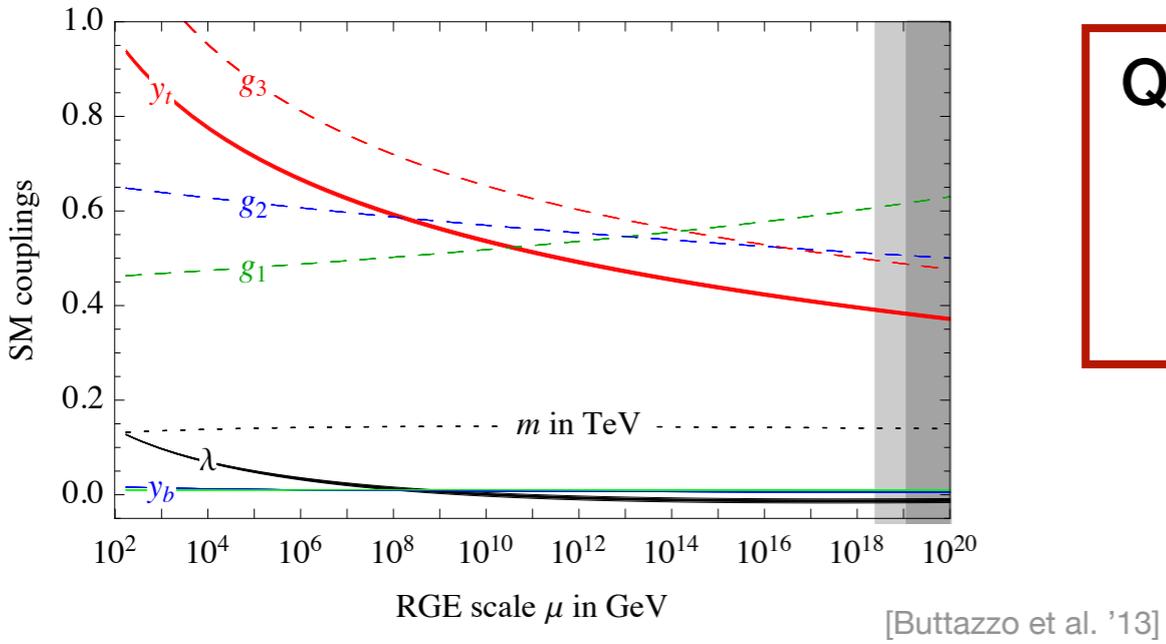
| Standard Model | | | | | | |
|----------------|-----------|------------|----------|-----|--|--|
| u | c | t | γ | g | | |
| d | s | b | | | | |
| e | μ | τ | W^\pm | Z | | |
| ν_e | ν_μ | ν_τ | | H | | |

Quantum Field Theory Framework

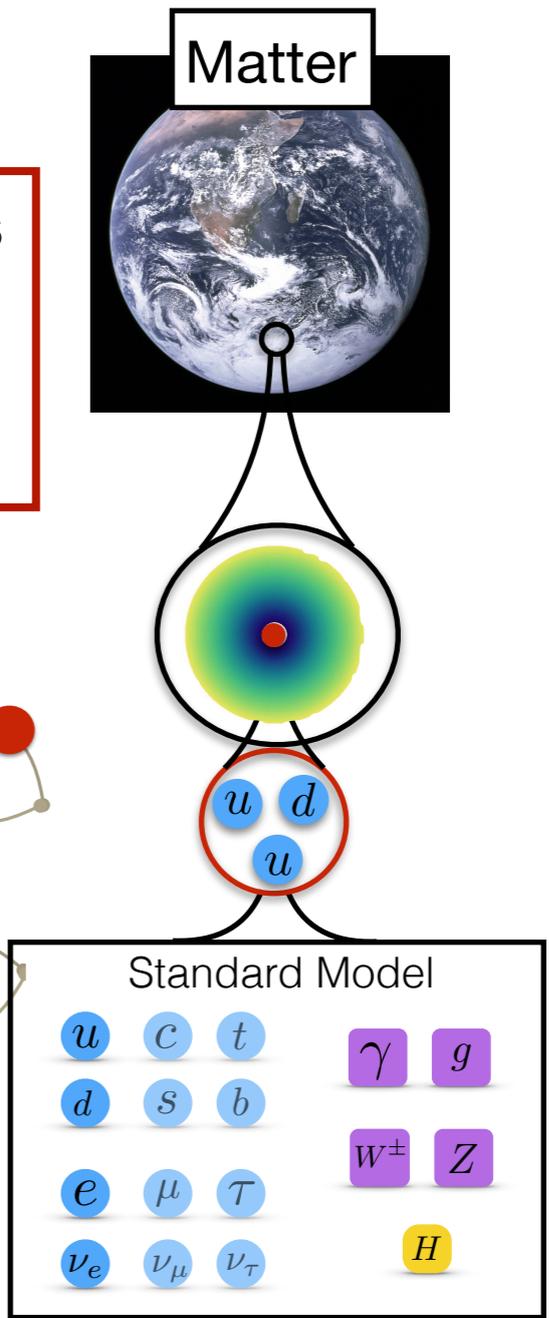
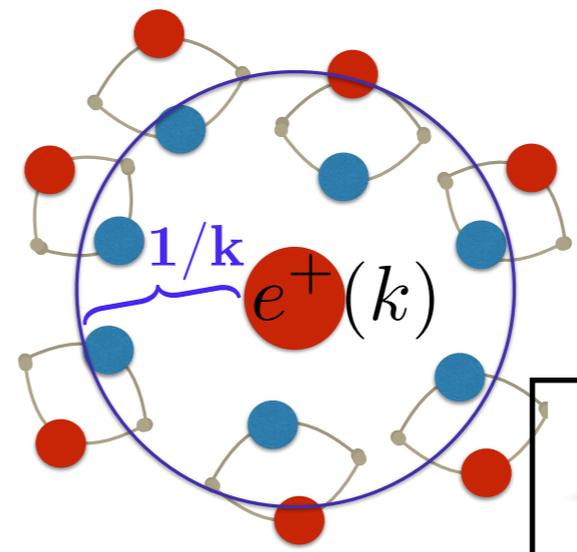


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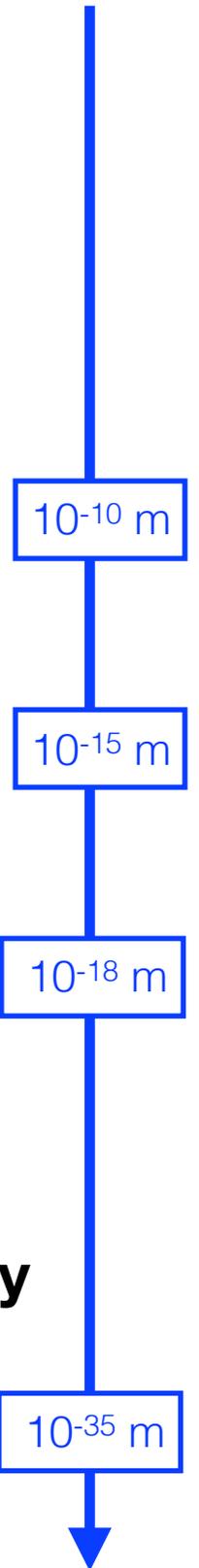
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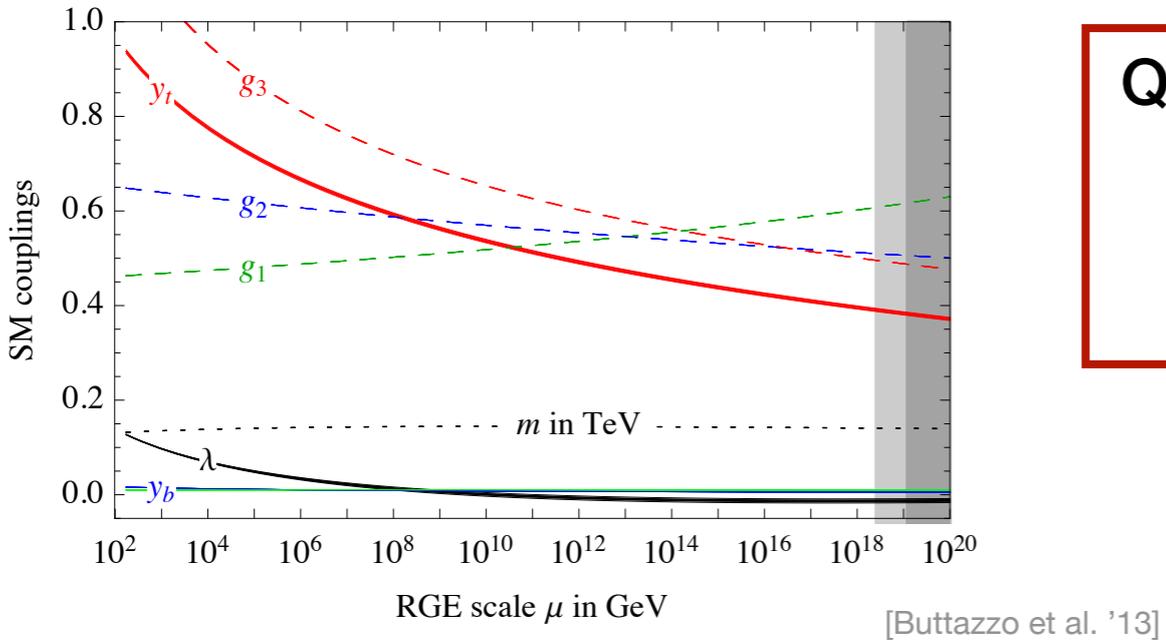


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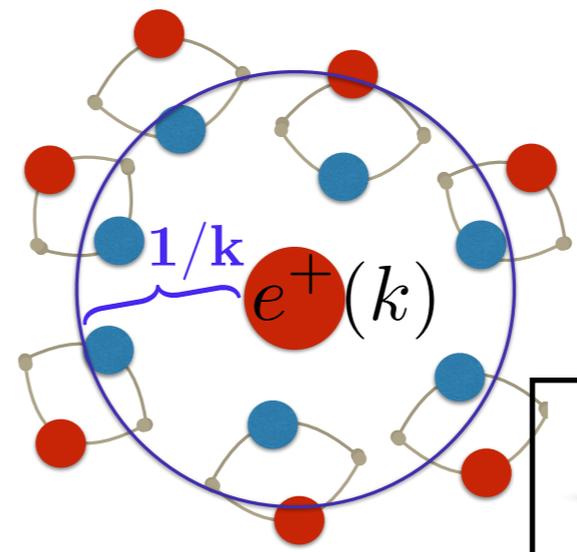
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- breakdown in transplanckian regime (Landau pole/ triviality problem in Abelian hypercharge & Higgs-Yukawa)

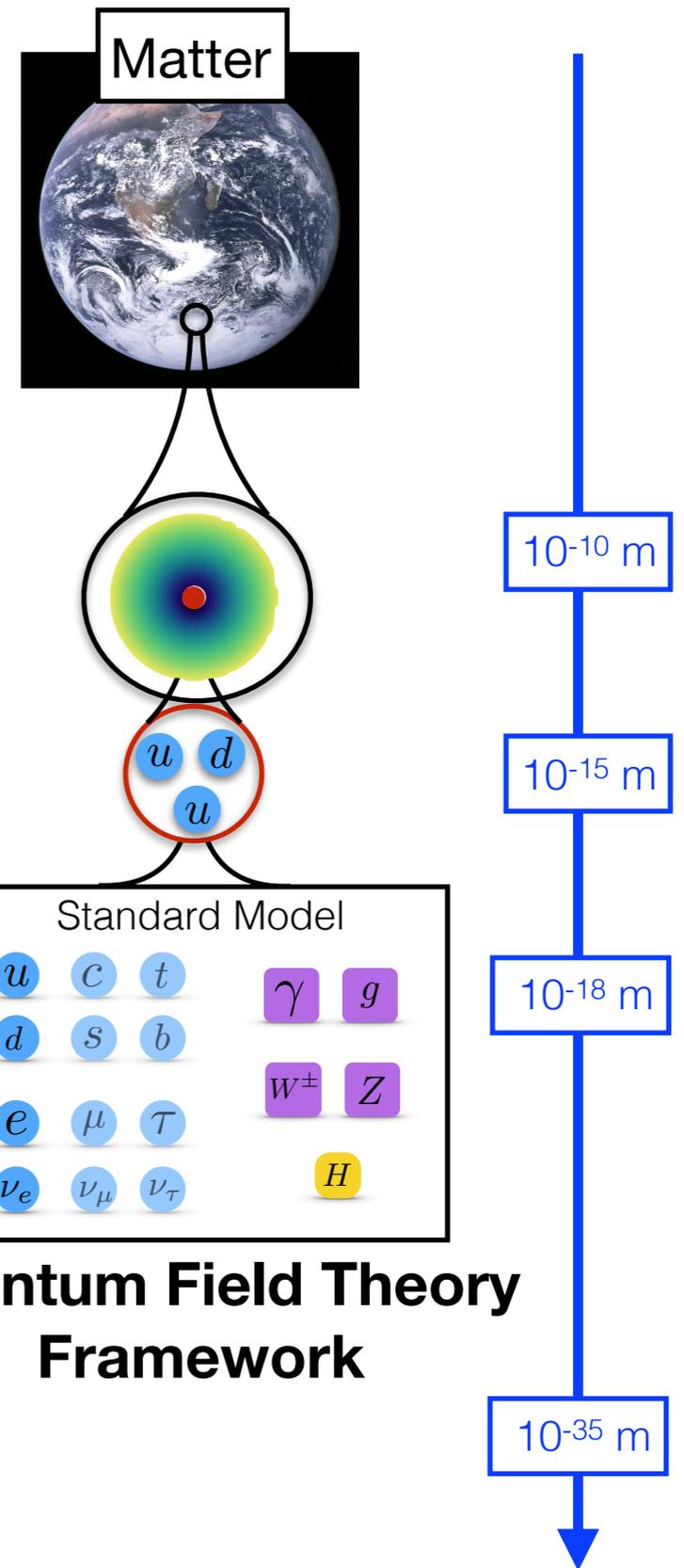
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Standard Model

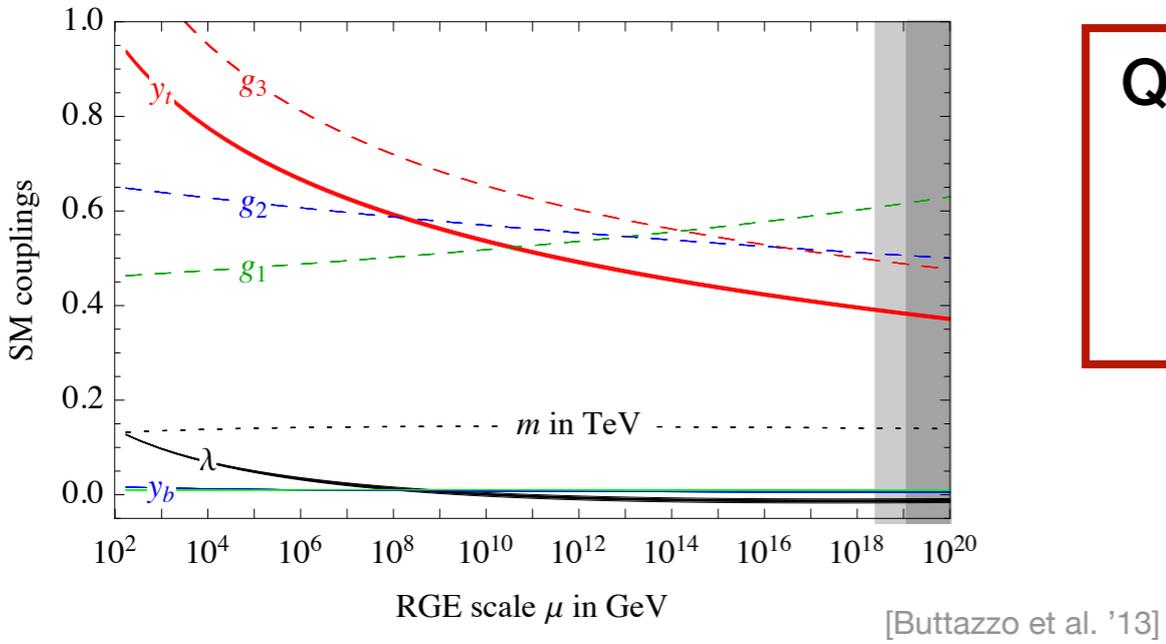
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Quantum Field Theory Framework



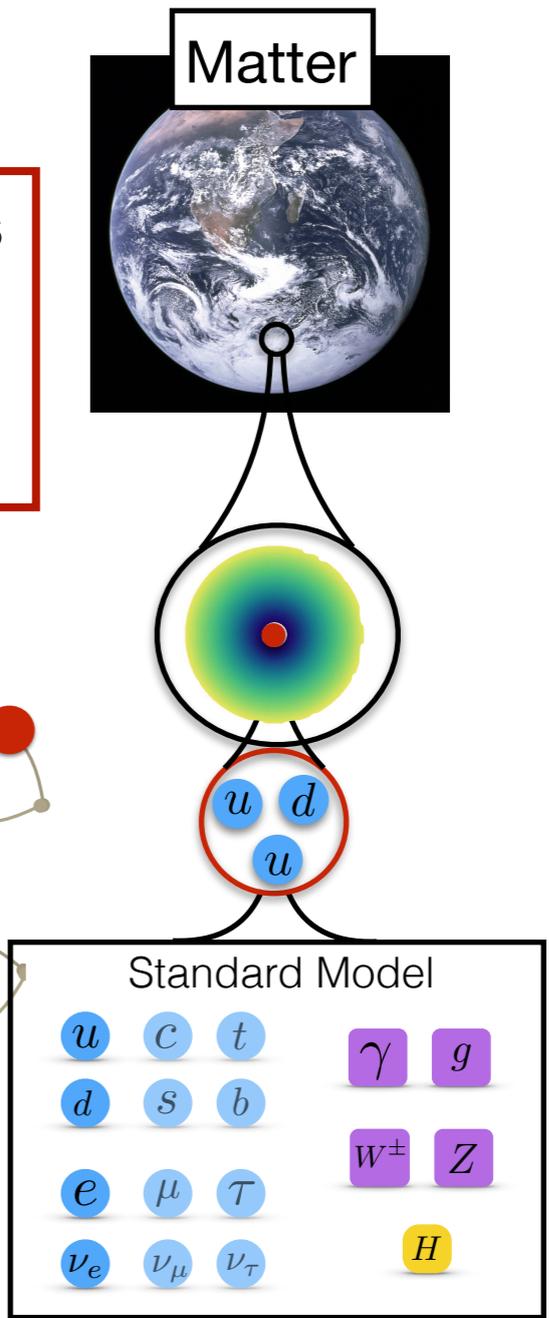
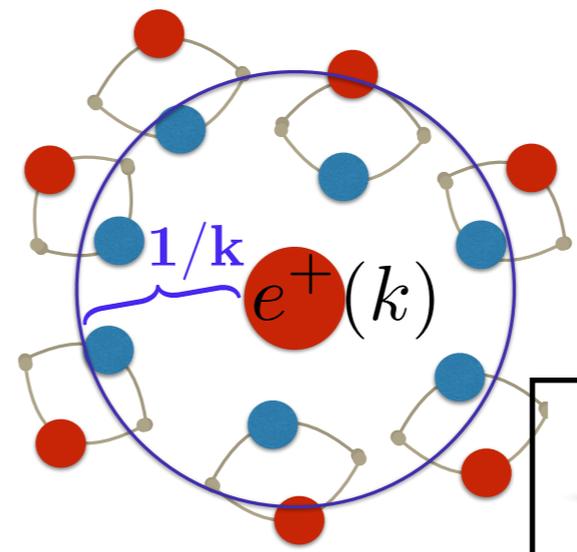
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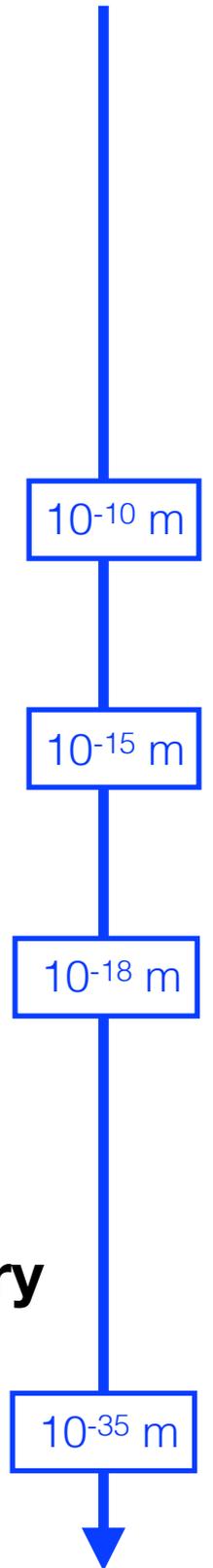


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- fails to include quantum gravity
- 19 free parameters

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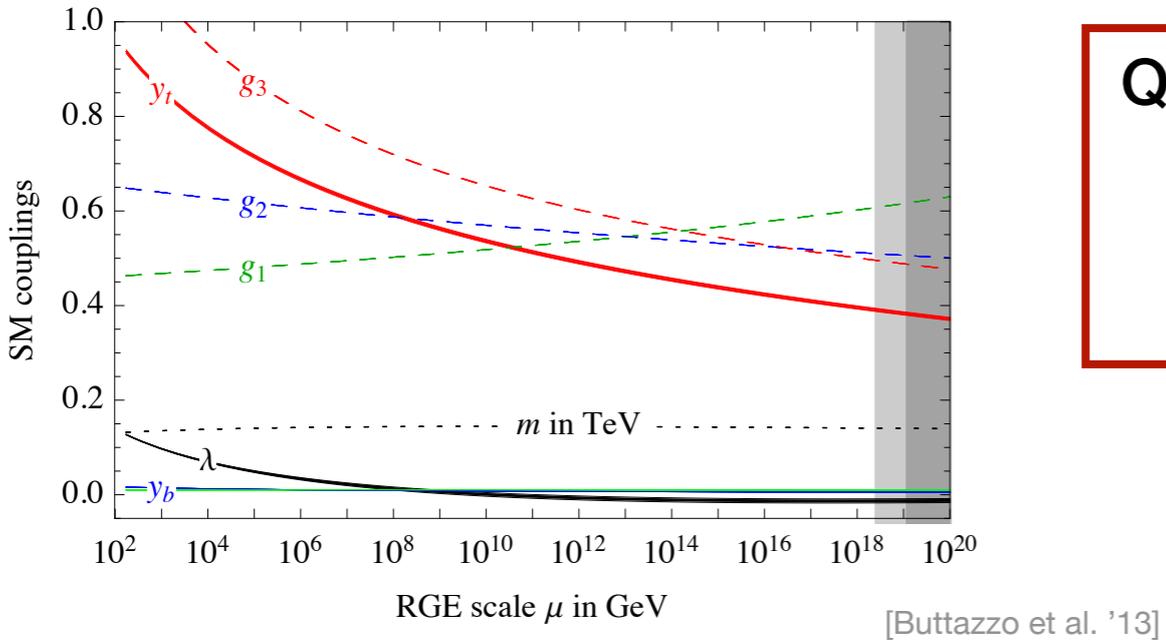


Quantum Field Theory Framework



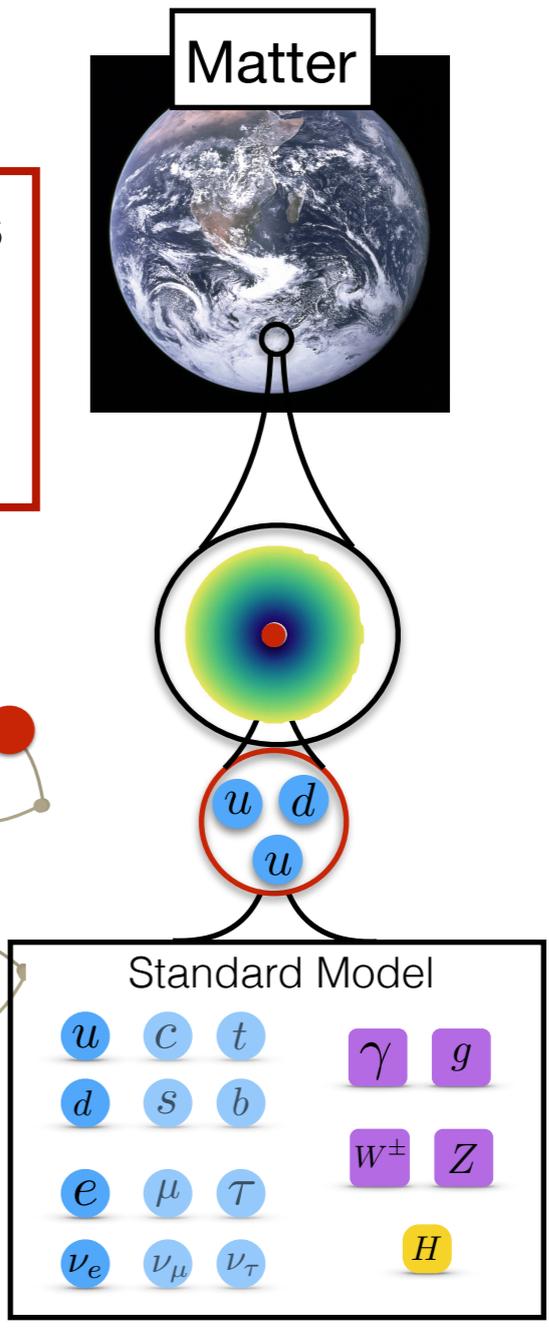
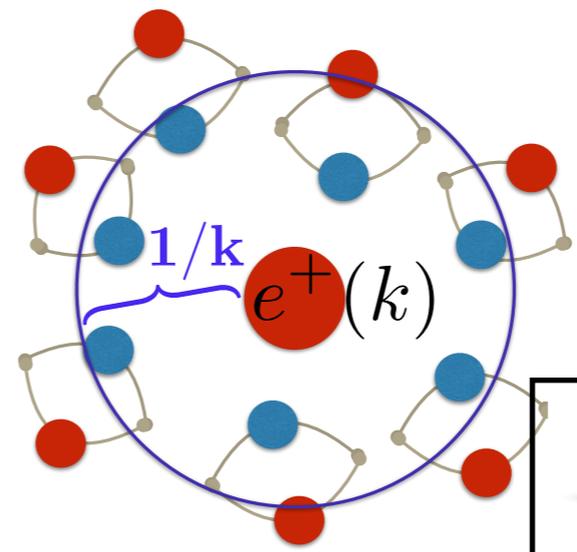
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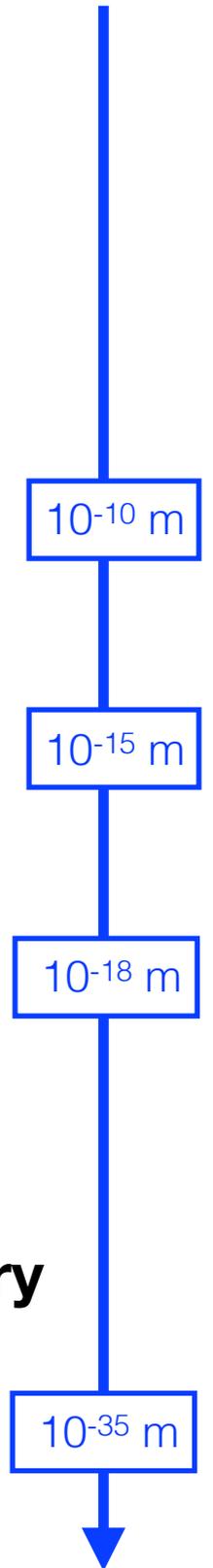


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- breakdown in transplanckian regime (Landau pole/ triviality problem in Abelian hypercharge & Higgs-Yukawa)
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- 19 free parameters
 - highly successful effective field theory
 - new physics (quantum gravity?!) required beyond M_{Pl}

Quantum fluctuations generate running (scale-dependent) couplings

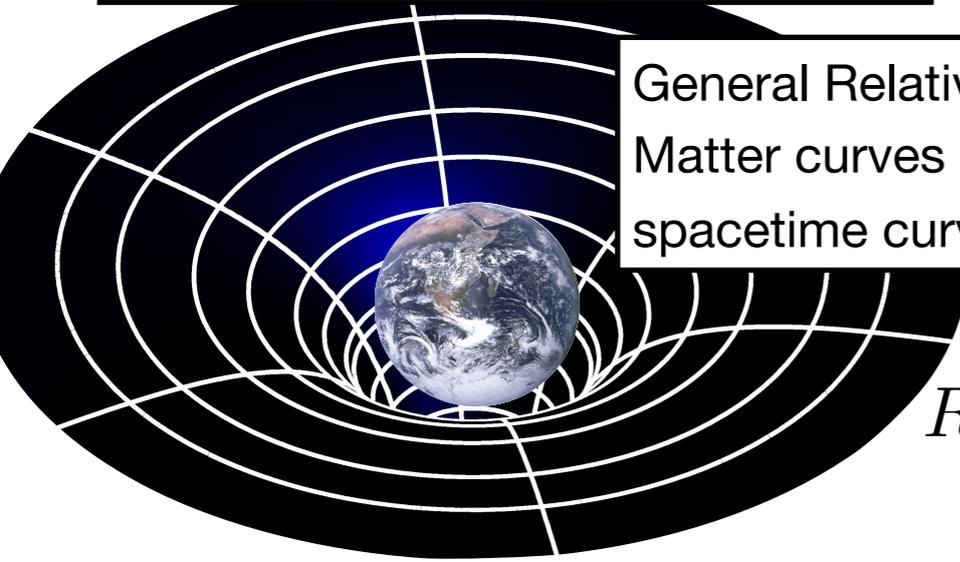


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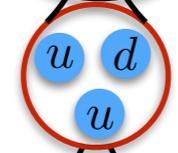
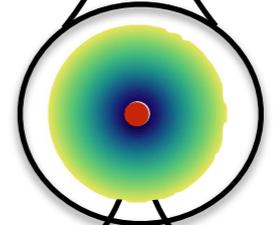
What are the fundamental building blocks of our universe?

Gravity = Spacetime geometry



General Relativity:
Matter curves spacetime &
spacetime curvature tells matter how to move

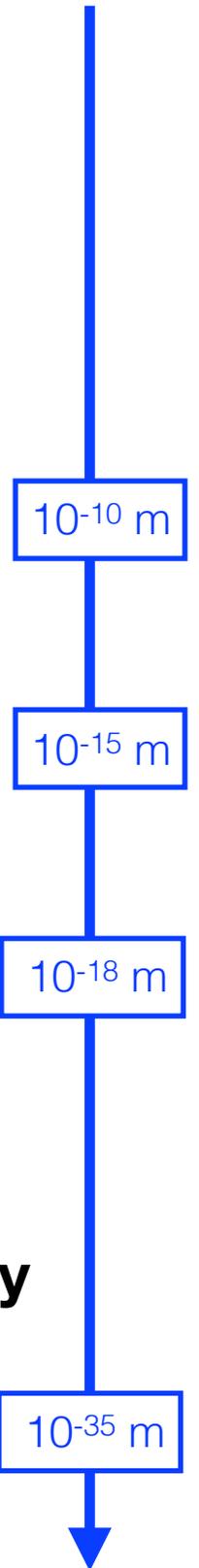
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Standard Model

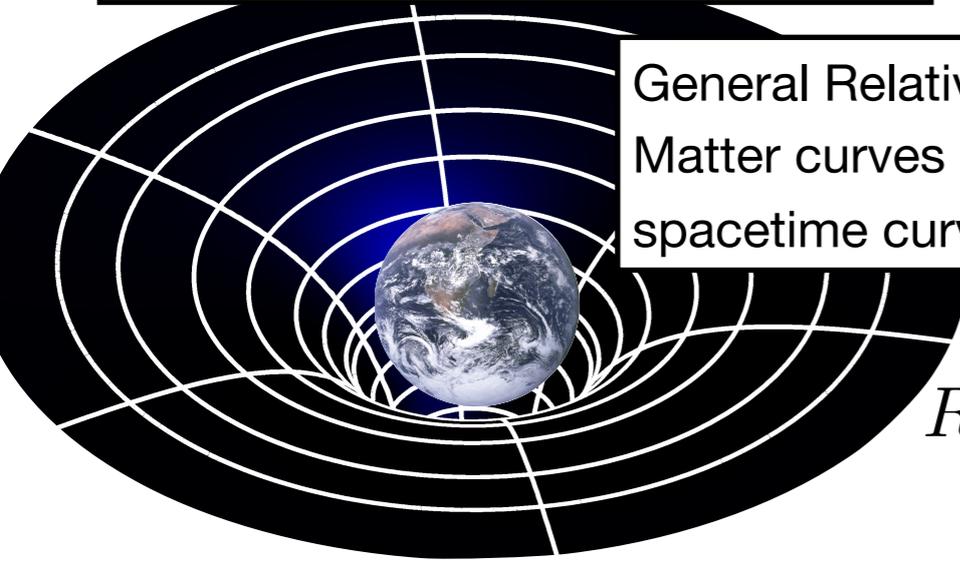
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Quantum Field Theory
Framework



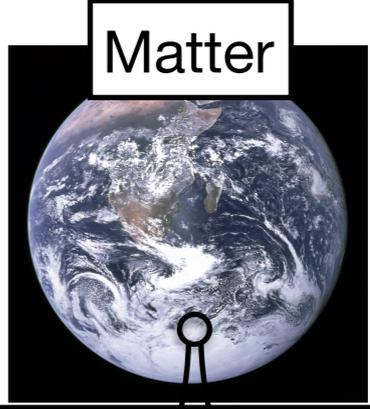
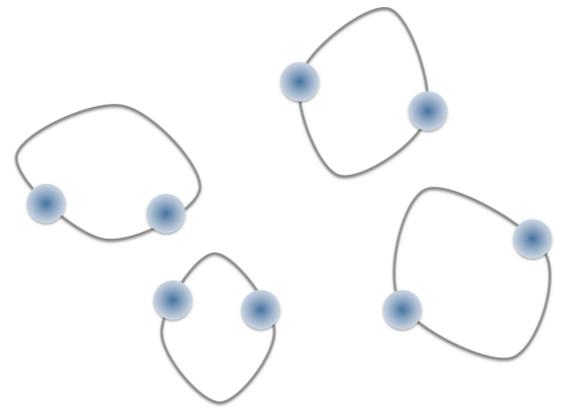
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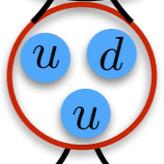
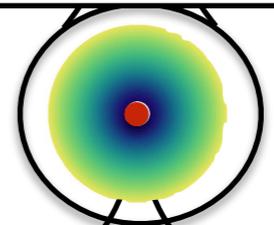


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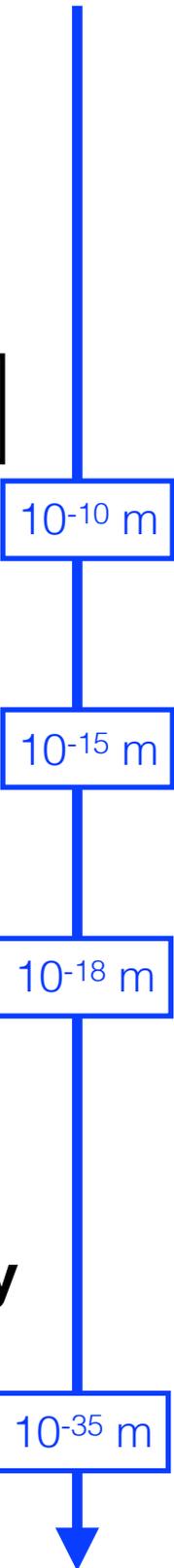
Quantum properties



Standard Model

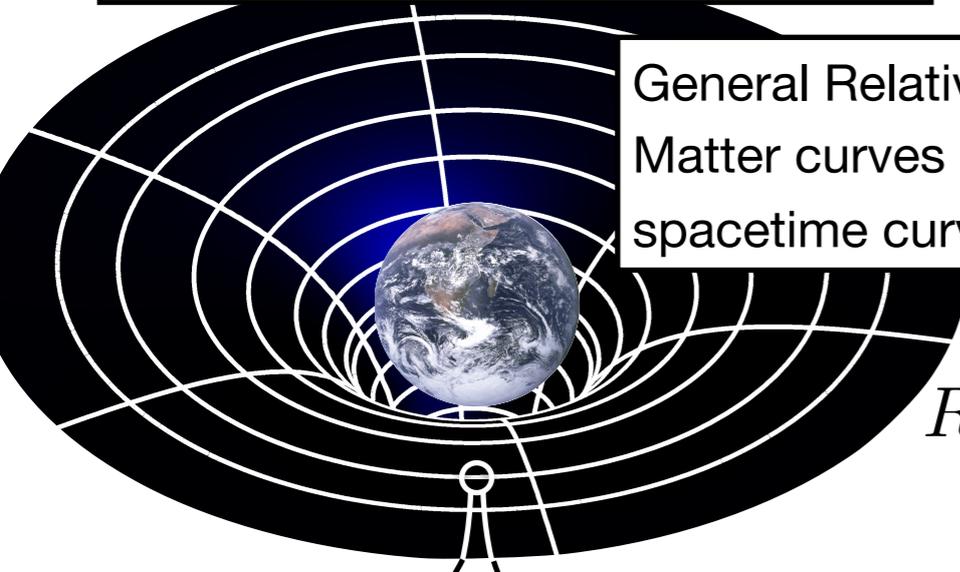
| | | | | |
|----------|-----------|------------|----------|----------|
| <i>u</i> | <i>c</i> | <i>t</i> | γ | <i>g</i> |
| <i>d</i> | <i>s</i> | <i>b</i> | W^\pm | <i>Z</i> |
| <i>e</i> | μ | τ | | <i>H</i> |
| ν_e | ν_μ | ν_τ | | |

Quantum Field Theory
Framework



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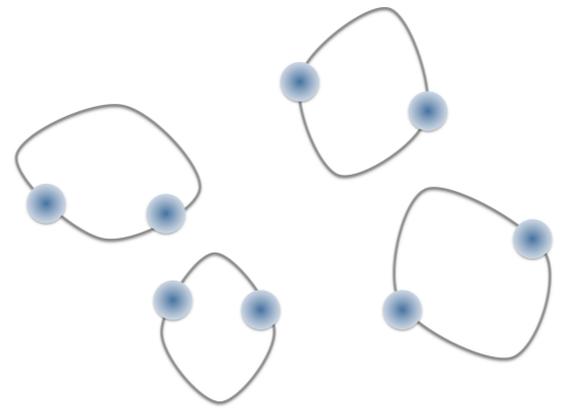
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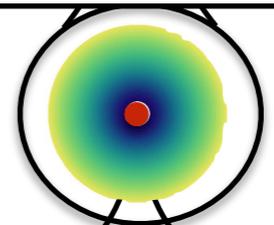
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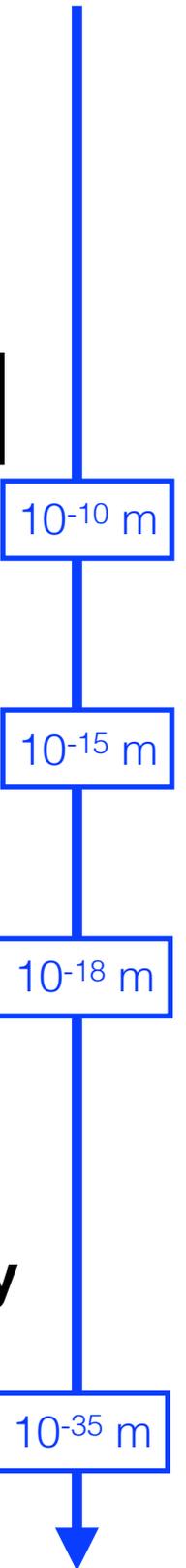
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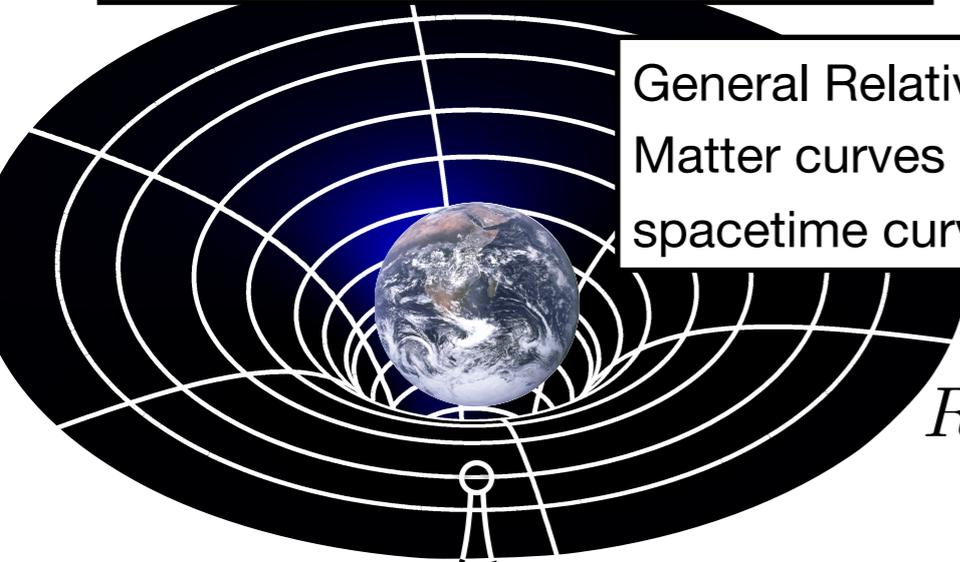
Quantum Field Theory Framework



- **asymptotically safe gravity**
- local QFT framework
 - works for all other forces
- degrees of freedom: metric
 - good description of gravity at low energies
- could induce predictive UV completion of SM

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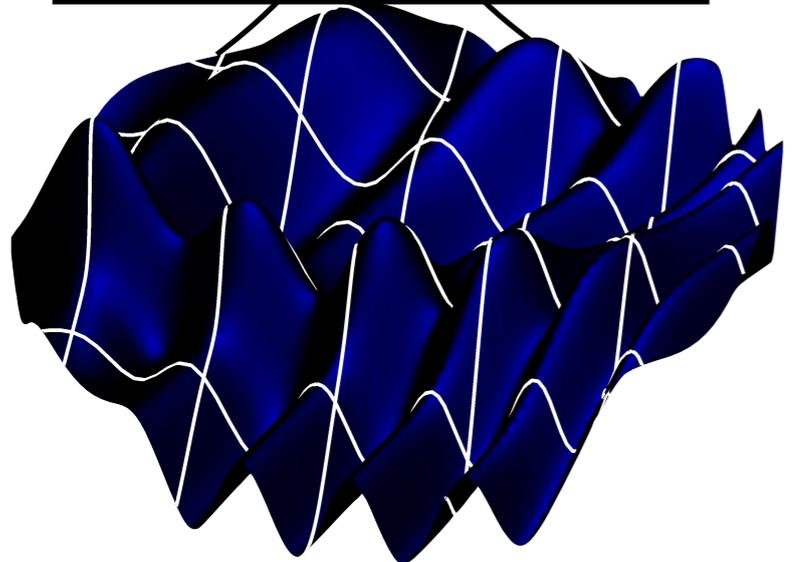
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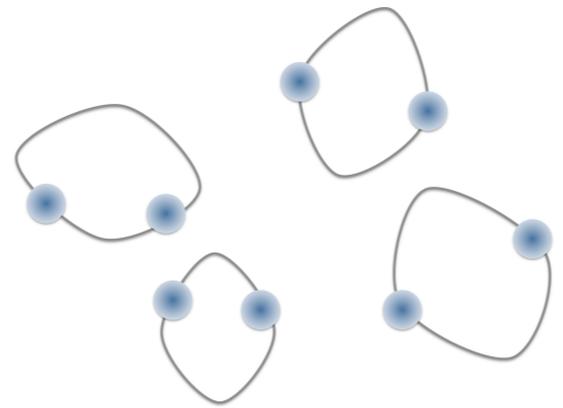
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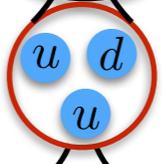
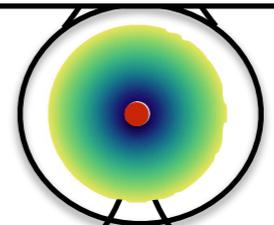
Quantum properties



$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}g_{\mu\nu} e^{iS[g_{\mu\nu}]}$$



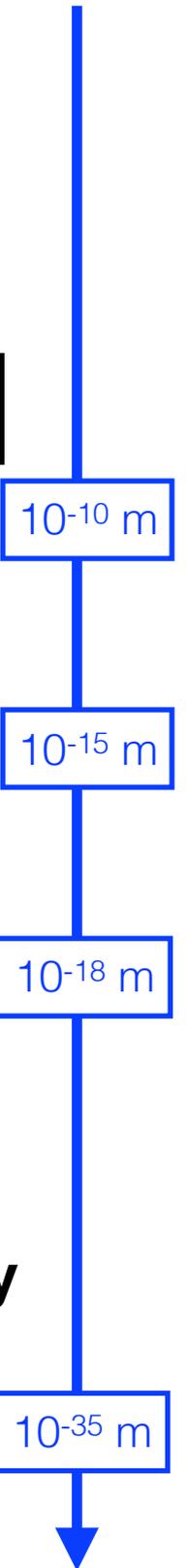
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| e | μ | τ | H | |
| ν _e | ν _μ | ν _τ | | |

Quantum Field Theory Framework



Quantum field theory for gravity

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}g_{\mu\nu} e^{-S[g_{\mu\nu}]}$$

Which microscopic action?

Einstein-Hilbert action & perturbative quantisation: $S = -\frac{1}{16\pi G_N} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} R$

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \sqrt{16\pi G_N} h_{\mu\nu}$$

spin-2-field on flat background

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counterterms:

1-loop: $R^2, R_{\mu\nu}R^{\mu\nu}$ 't Hooft, Veltman '74;
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2-loop: $C_{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}C^{\kappa\lambda\rho\sigma}C_{\rho\sigma}{}^{\mu\nu}$ Goroff, Sagnotti '86;
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...

breakdown of predictivity

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consistent choice of S with finite number of free parameters?

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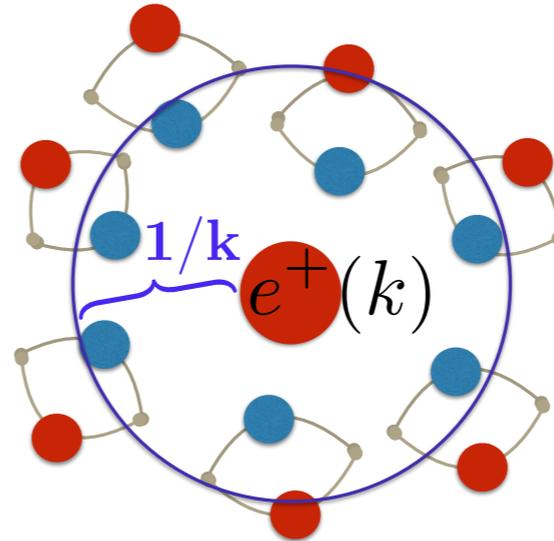
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running couplings



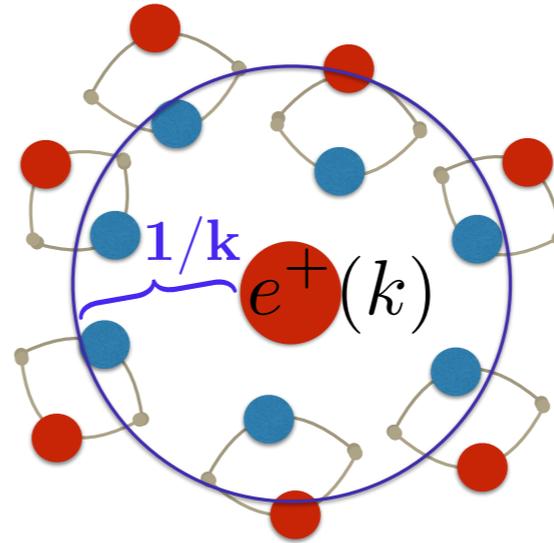
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Quantum fluctuations of **gravity** drive
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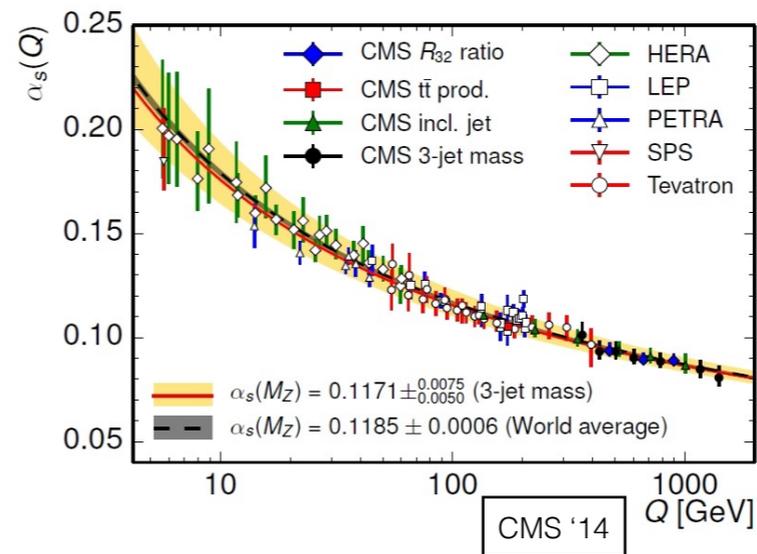
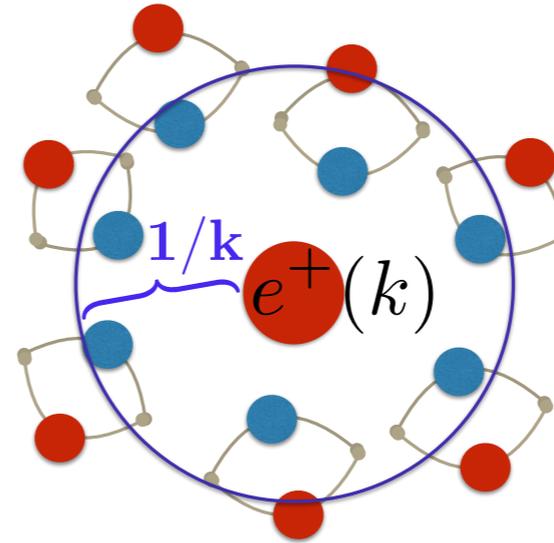
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Quantum fluctuations of **gravity** drive running **gravitational** couplings

Asymptotic freedom in non-Abelian gauge theories

[Gross, Wilczek '73; Politzer '73]



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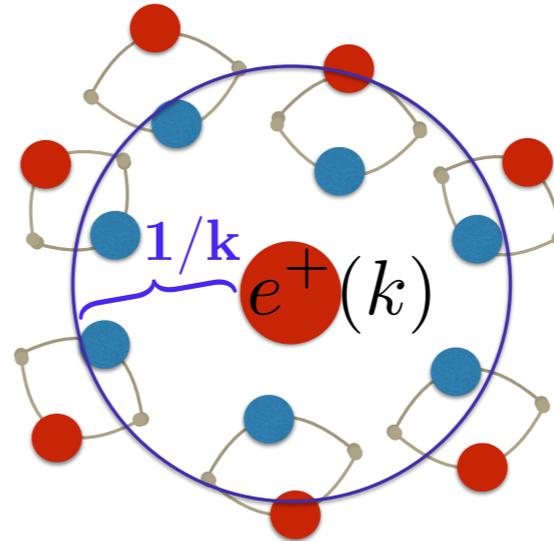
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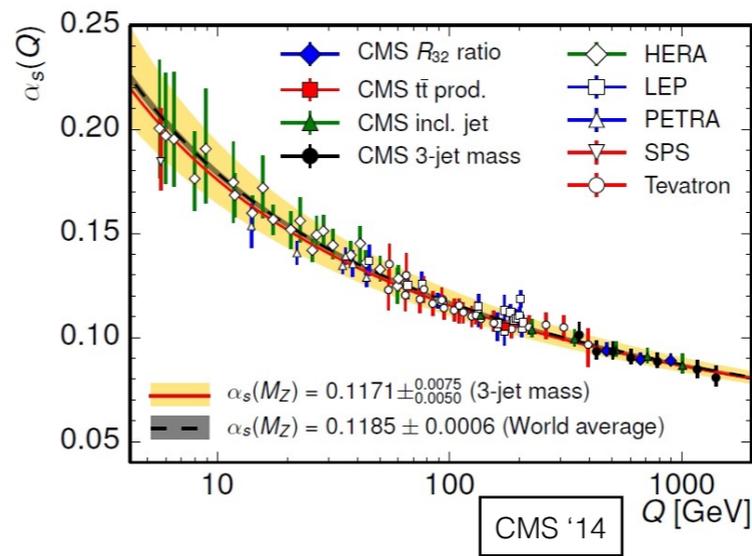
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Asymptotic freedom in non-Abelian gauge theories

[Gross, Wilczek '73; Politzer '73]



microscopic regime in fundamental theory (viable w/o "new physics"): scale-invariance



$$\beta_{\alpha_s} = -\frac{7}{2\pi} \alpha_s^2 + \dots$$

quark+ gluon fluctuations (universal @ 1loop)

$$\alpha_s^* = 0$$

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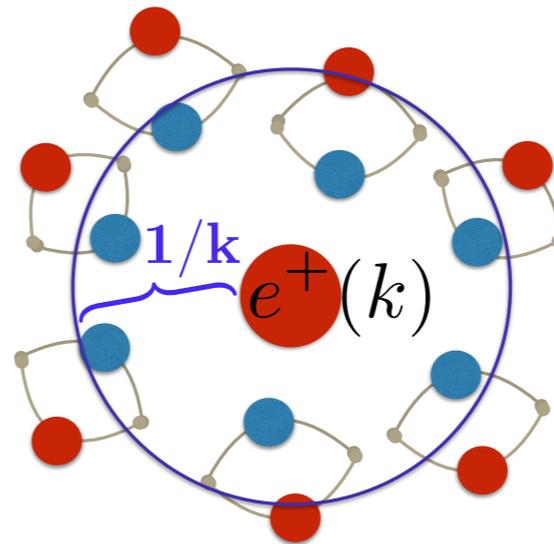
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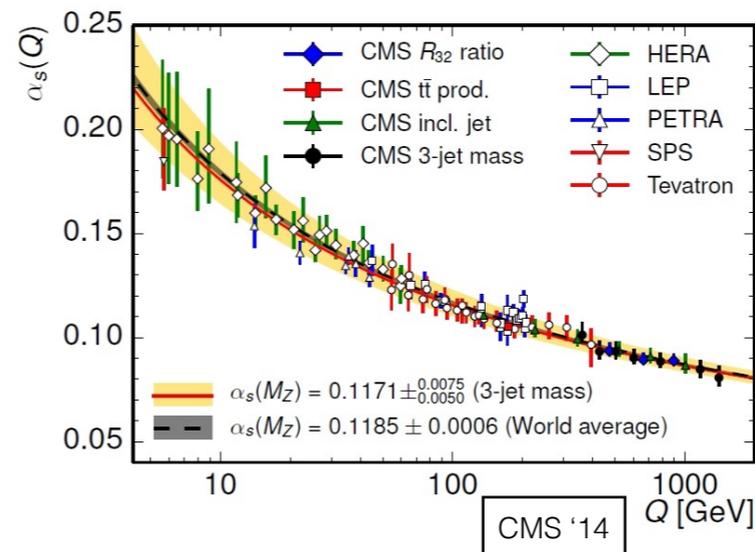
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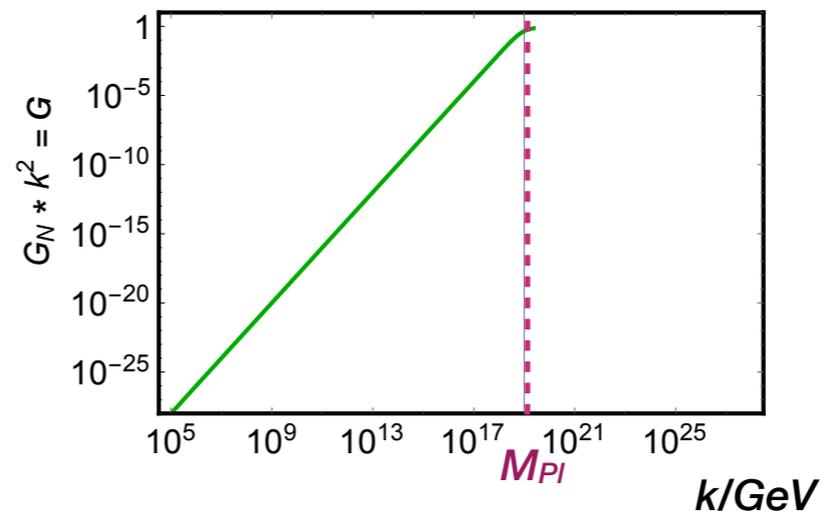
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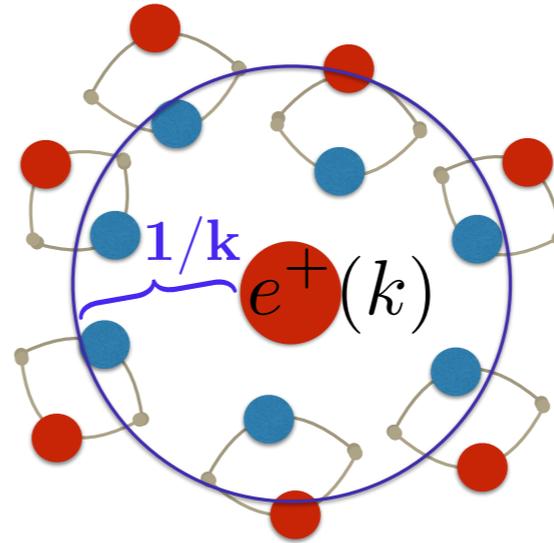
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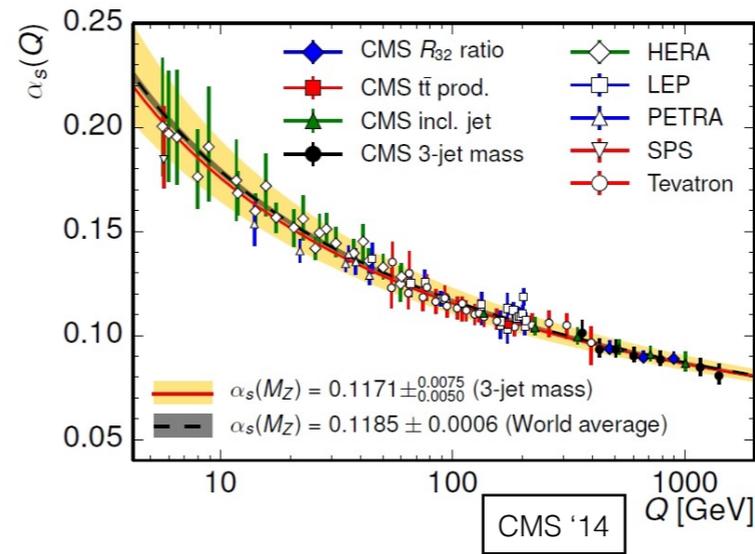
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asymptotically safe beyond M_{Pl}

[Weinberg '76, '79; Reuter '96]



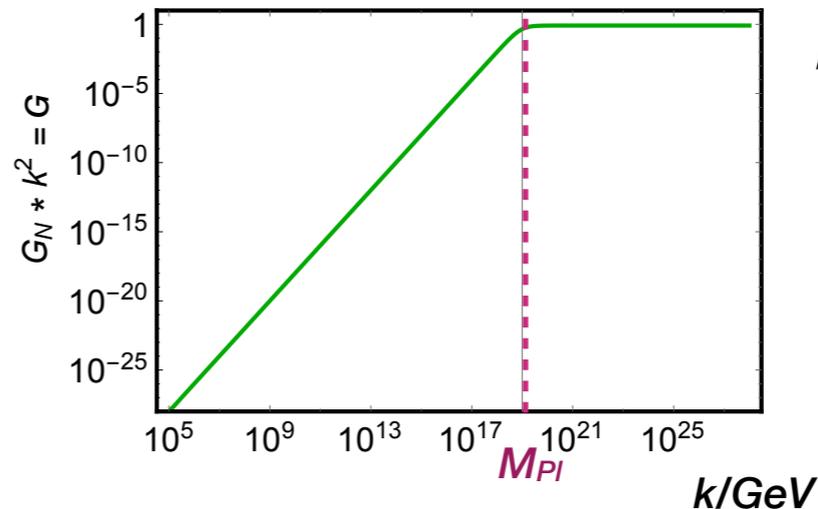
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quark+ gluon fluctuations (universal @ 1loop)

$$\alpha_s^* = 0$$



$$\beta_G = 2G \left(-\frac{23 G^2}{3\pi} + \dots \right)$$

metric fluctuations

$$G^* = \frac{6\pi}{23}$$

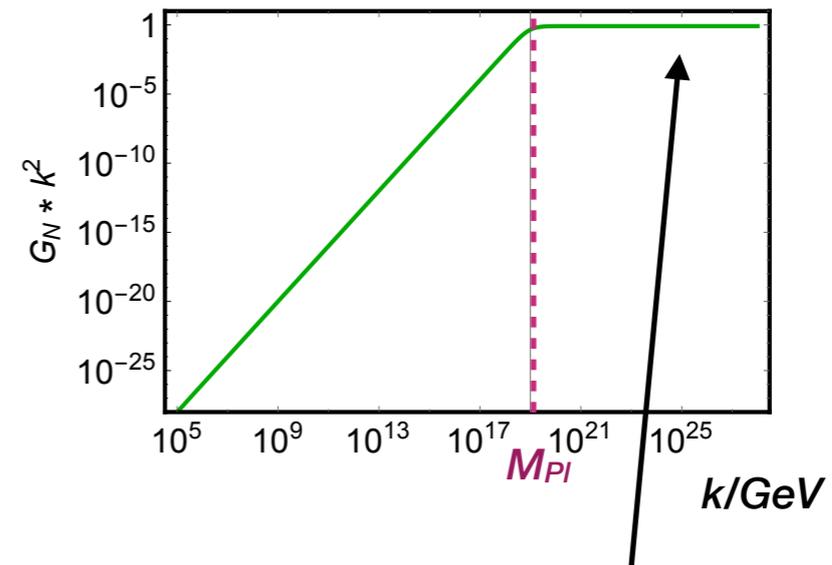
[Codello, Percacci, Rahmede '08]

Asymptotic safety

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scale invariant
fixed-point regime
(microscopic dynamics @ $k \rightarrow \infty$)

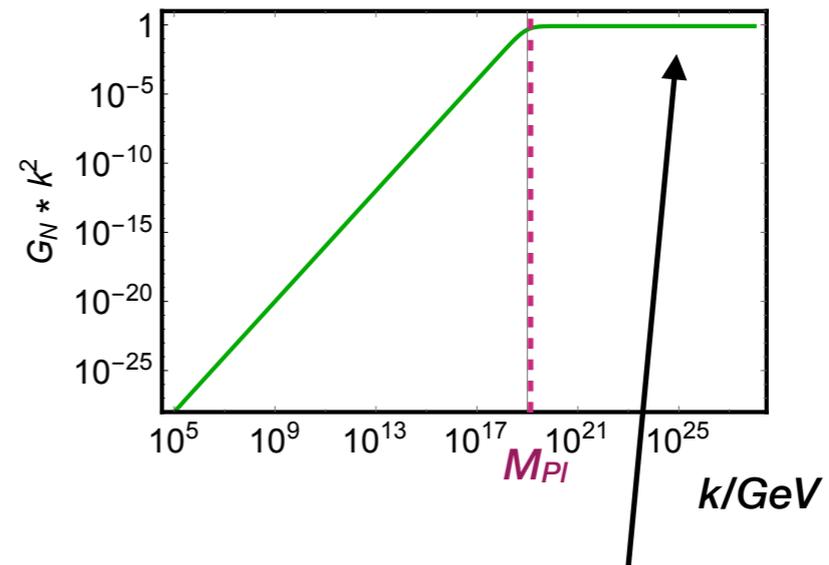
higher-order interactions generated by quantum fluctuations:

Asymptotic safety

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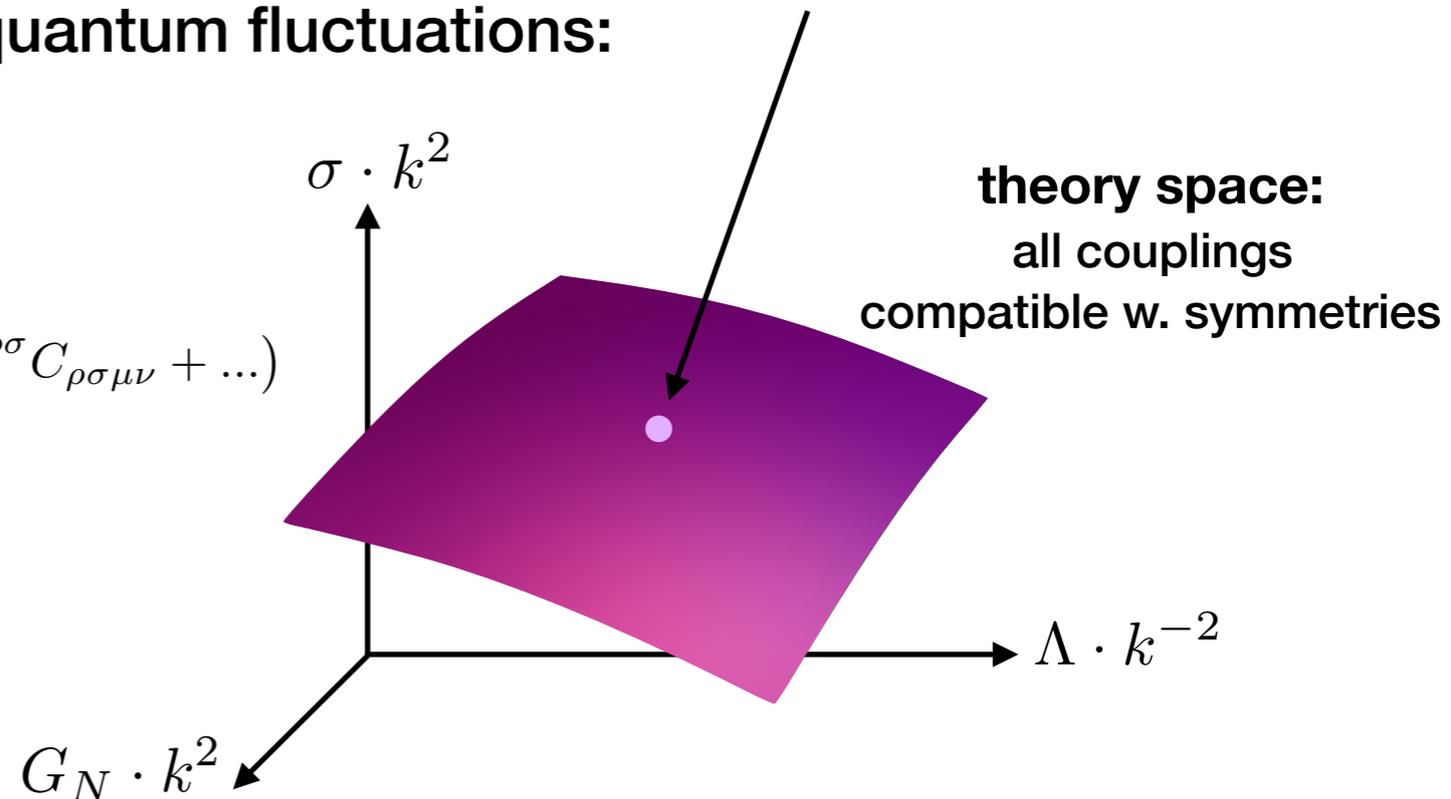
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scale invariant
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$$\Gamma_k = -\frac{1}{16\pi G_N} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} (R - 2\Lambda) + \int d^4x \sqrt{g} (a_1 R^2 + a_2 R^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu} + \sigma C^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} C_{\kappa\lambda}{}^{\rho\sigma} C_{\rho\sigma\mu\nu} + \dots)$$

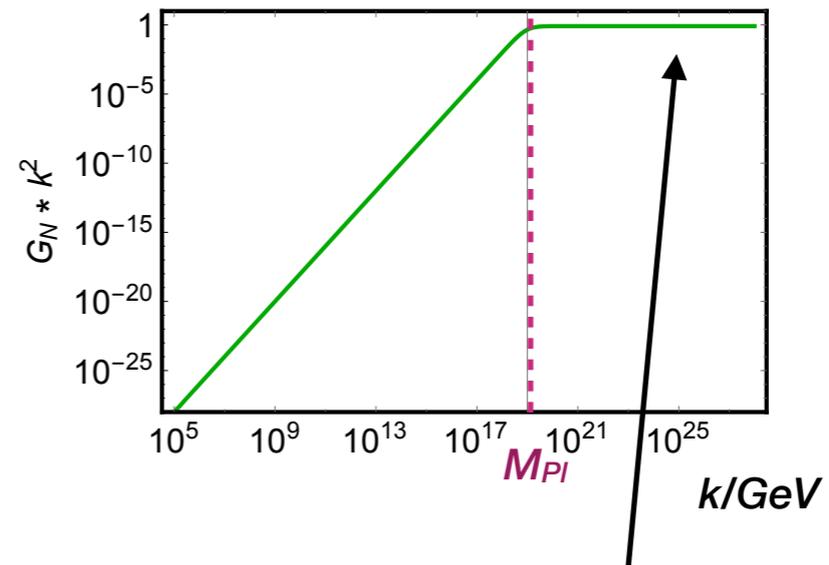


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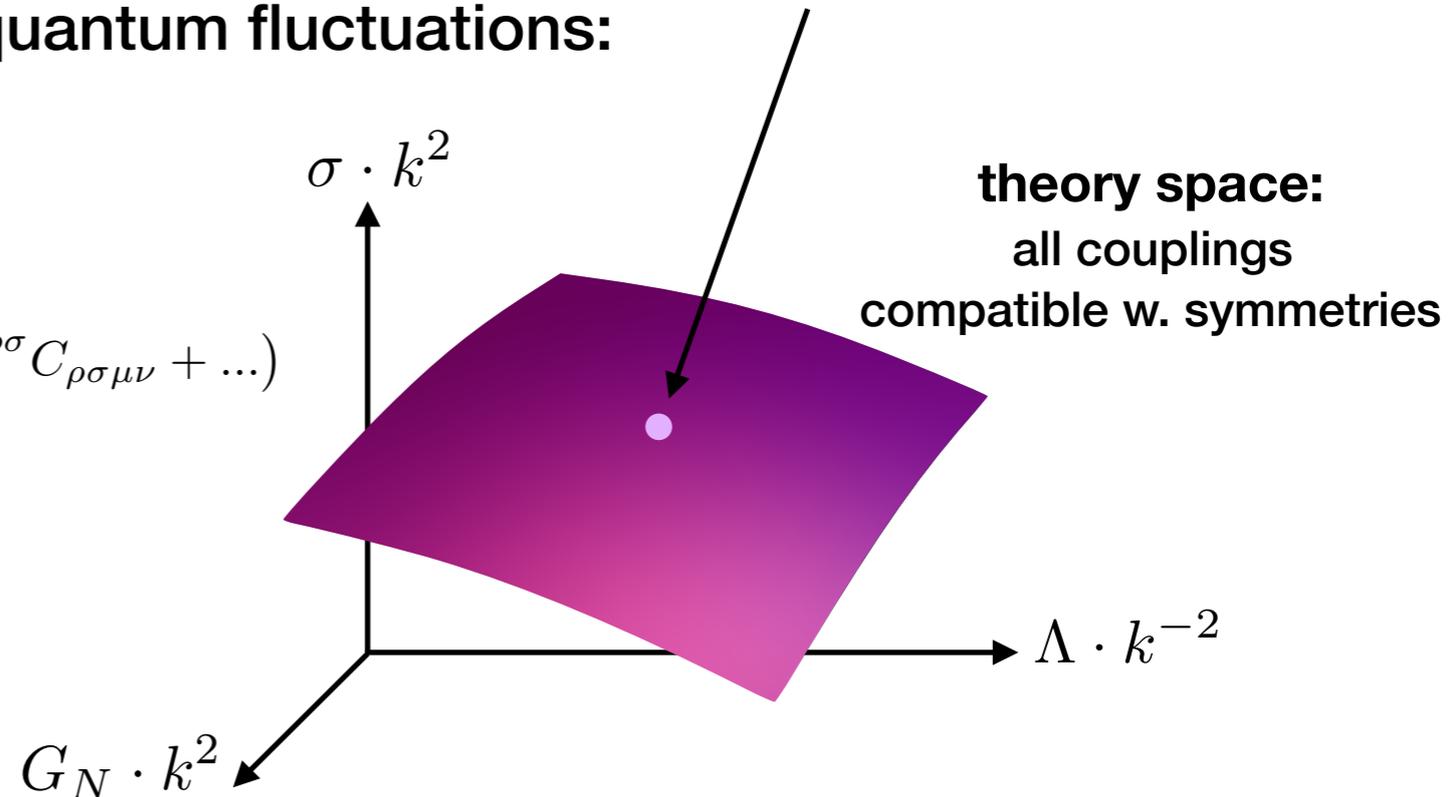


scale invariant
fixed-point regime
(microscopic dynamics @ $k \rightarrow \infty$)

higher-order interactions generated by quantum fluctuations:

$$\Gamma_k = -\frac{1}{16\pi G_N} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} (R - 2\Lambda) + \int d^4x \sqrt{g} (a_1 R^2 + a_2 R^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu} + \sigma C^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} C_{\kappa\lambda}{}^{\rho\sigma} C_{\rho\sigma\mu\nu} + \dots)$$

But at large scales our world
is clearly not scale-invariant?!

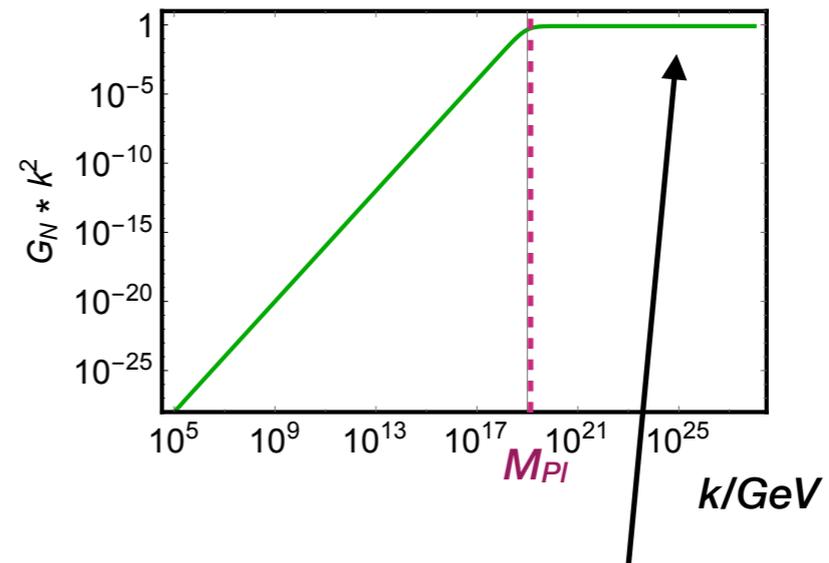


Asymptotic safety

Quantum gravity:
Newton coupling grows towards UV

asymptotically safe beyond M_{Pl}

[Weinberg '76, '79; Reuter '96]



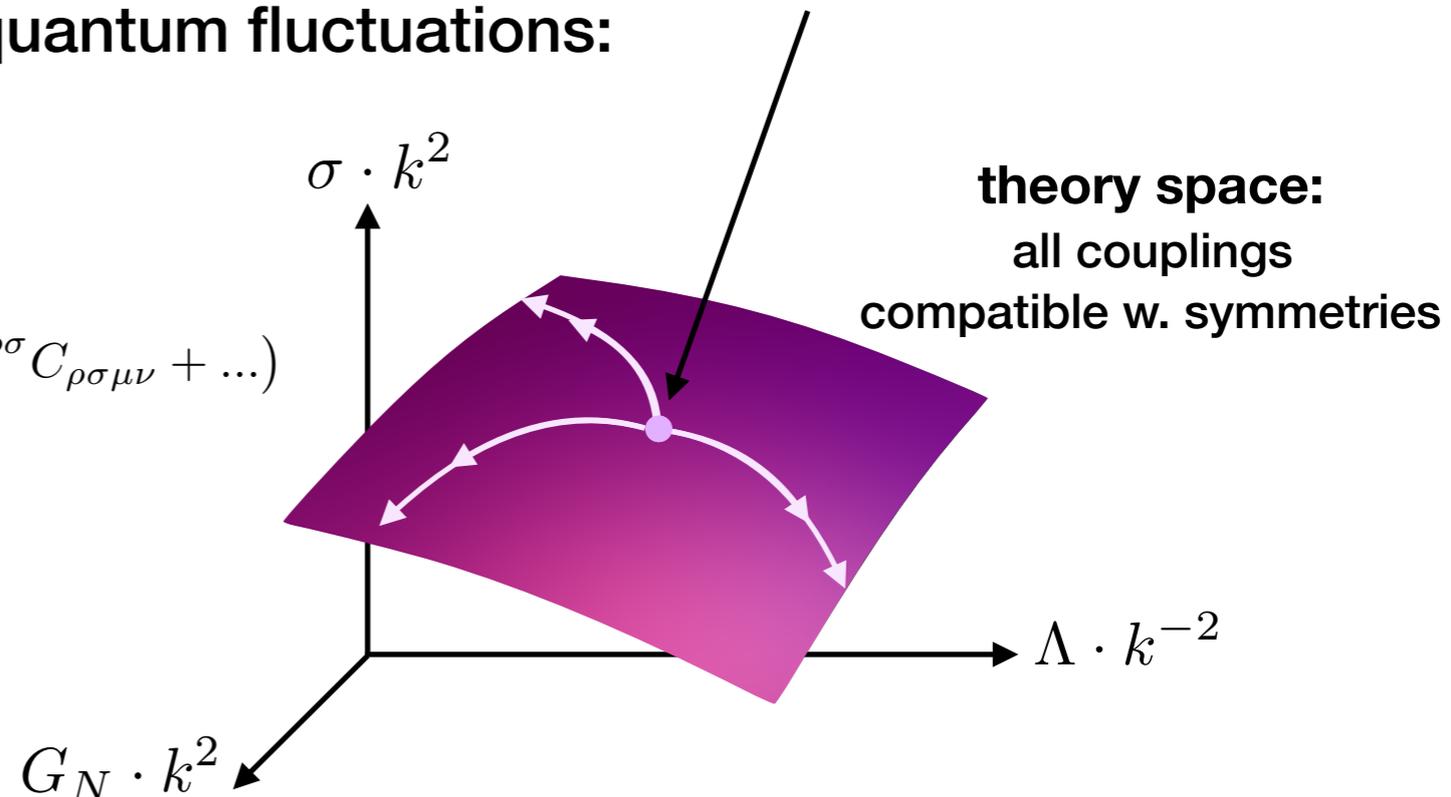
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→ Flow away from fixed point

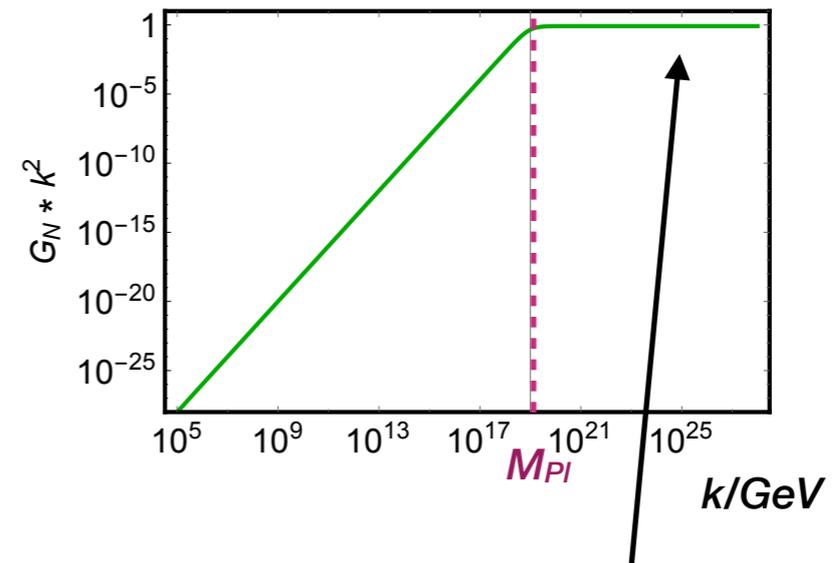


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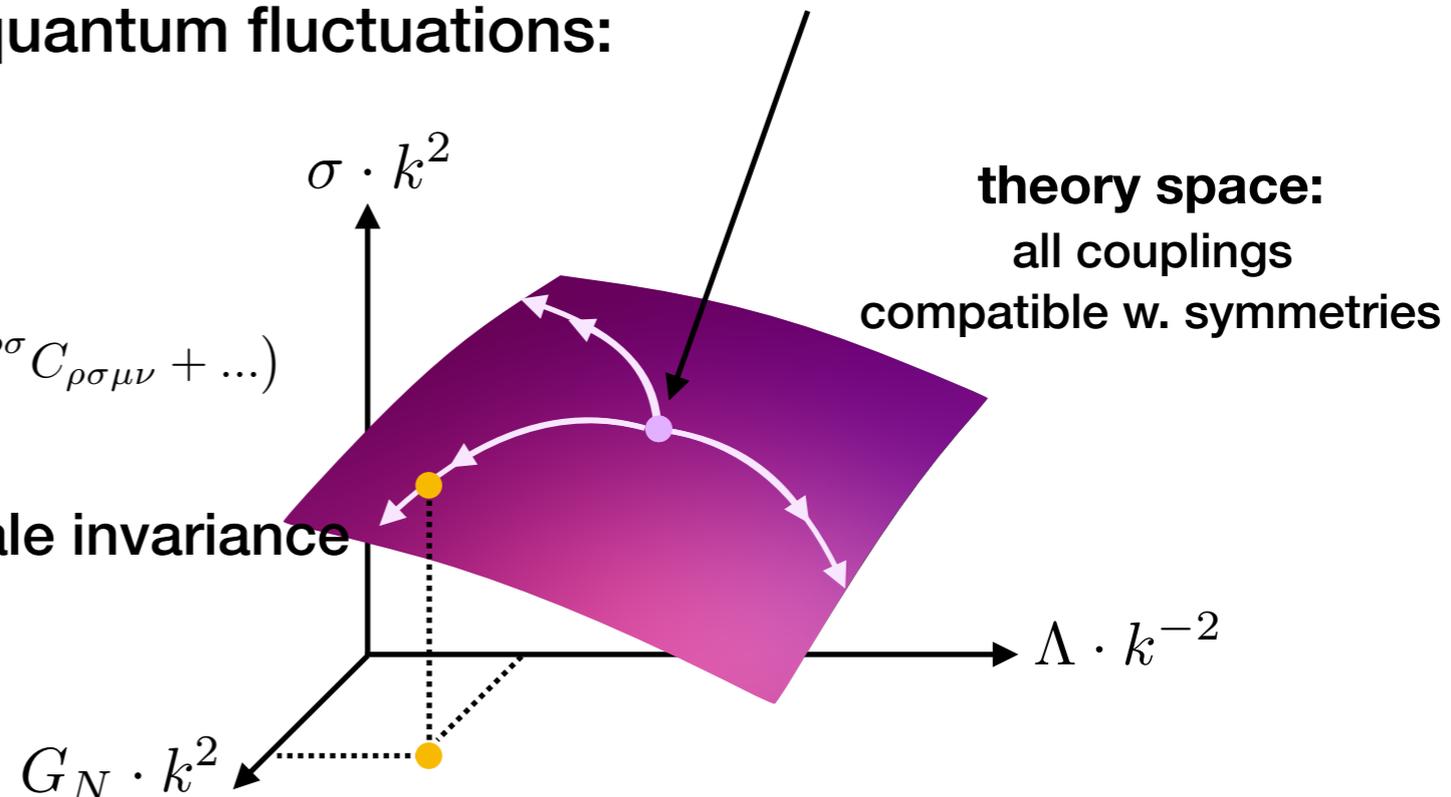
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low-energy dynamics:

- free parameters encode deviation from scale invariance (relevant couplings)

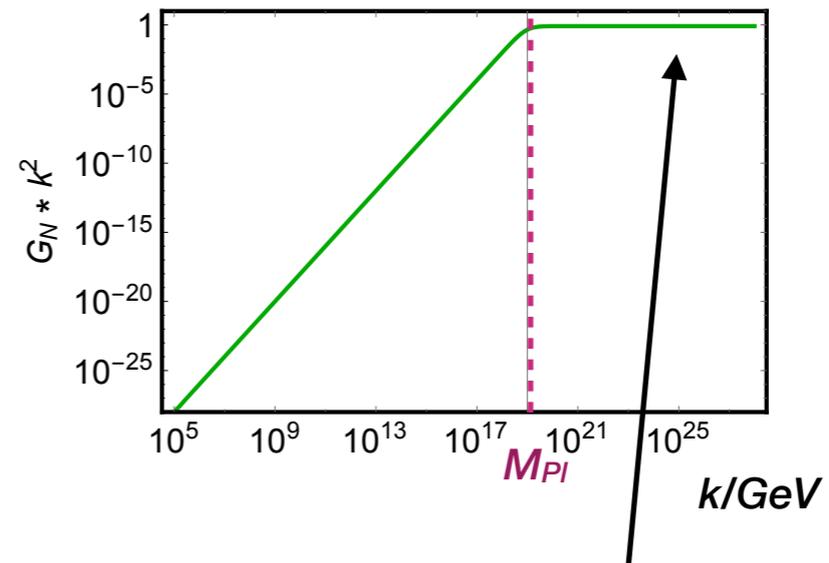


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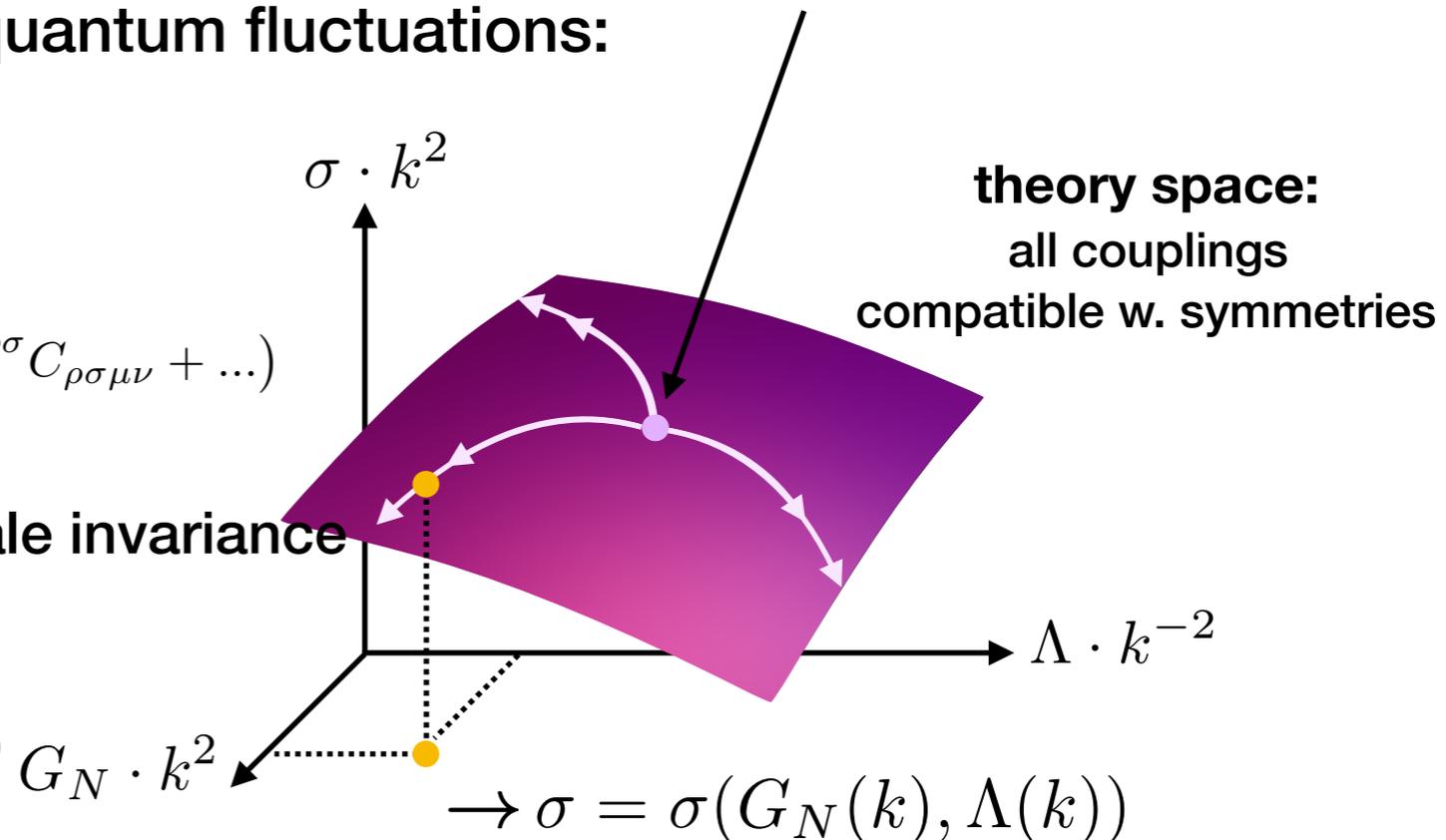
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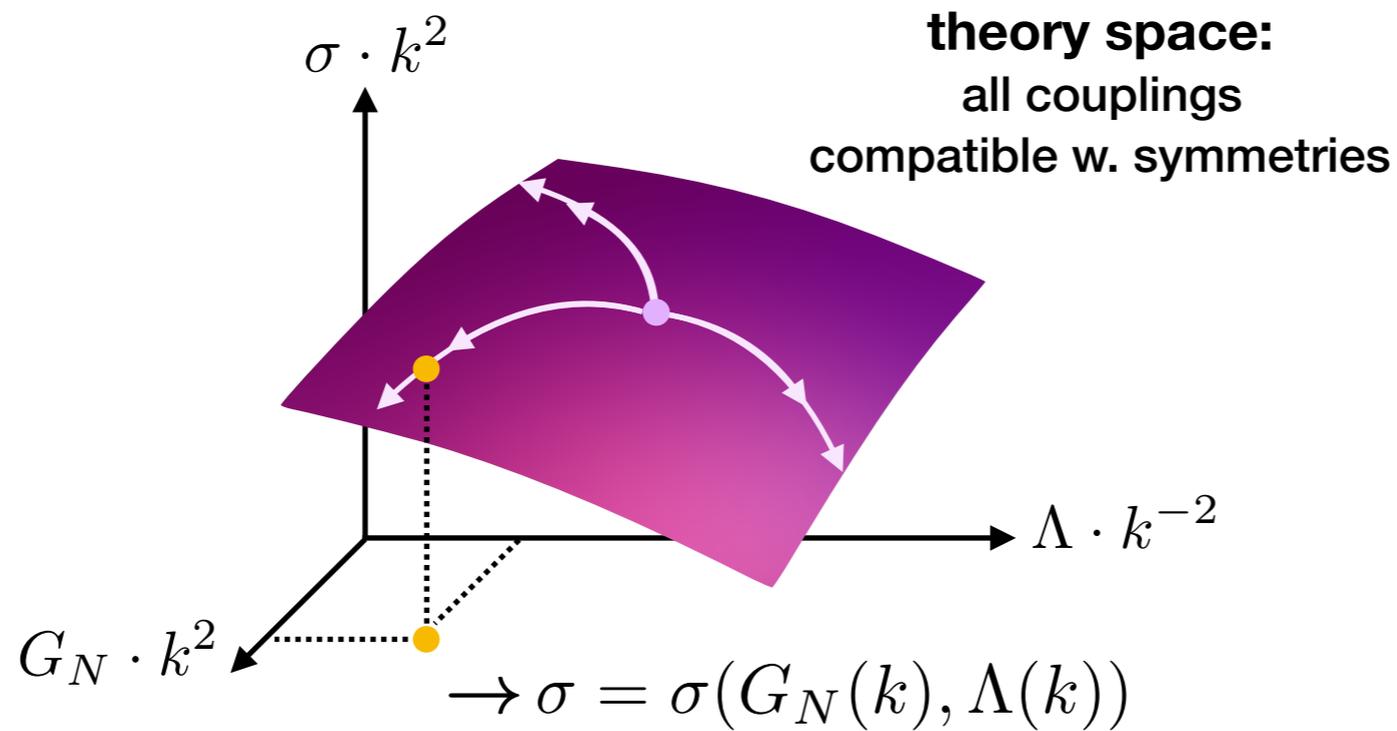
- free parameters encode deviation from scale invariance (relevant couplings)
- irrelevant couplings **predicted** (qm fluc's force flow to stick to **critical hypersurface**)



Asymptotic safety in a nutshell



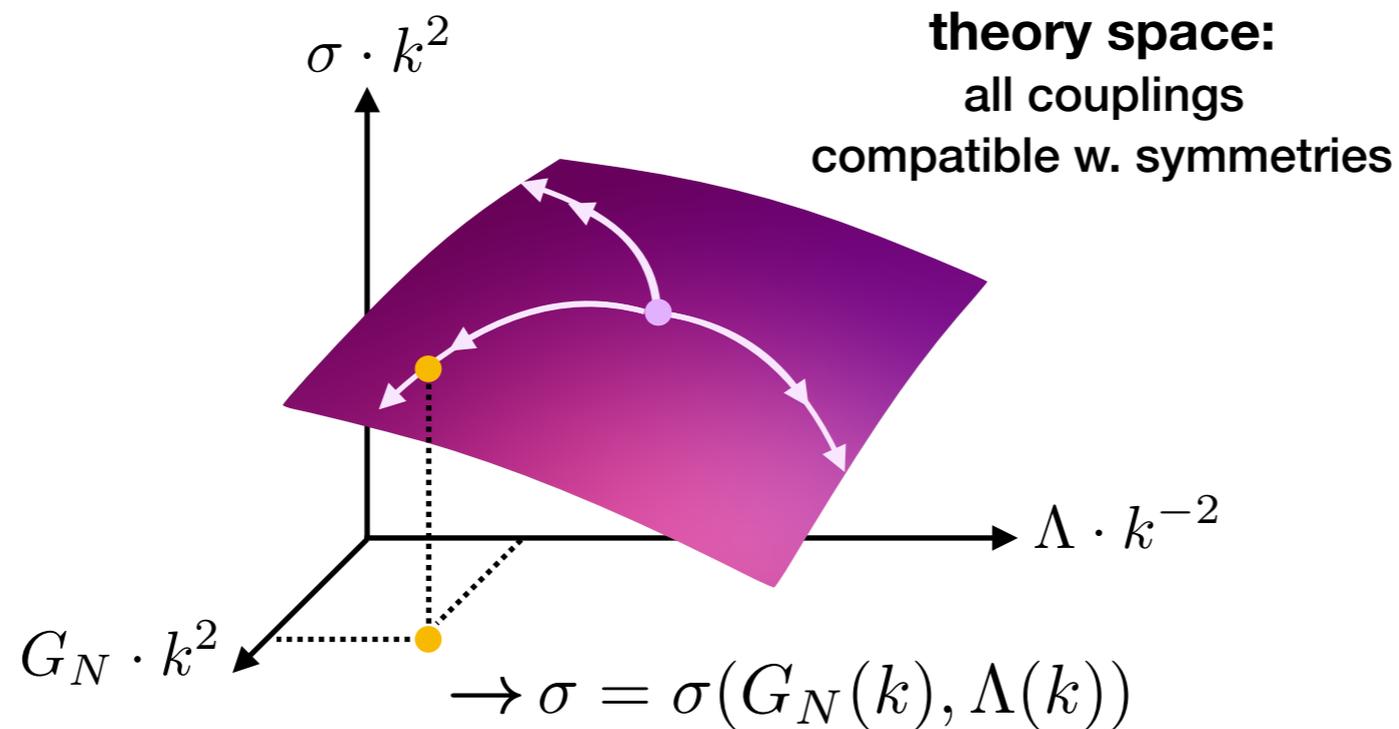
Asymptotic safety in a nutshell



Theory space features an interacting fixed point

\rightarrow UV complete

Asymptotic safety in a nutshell

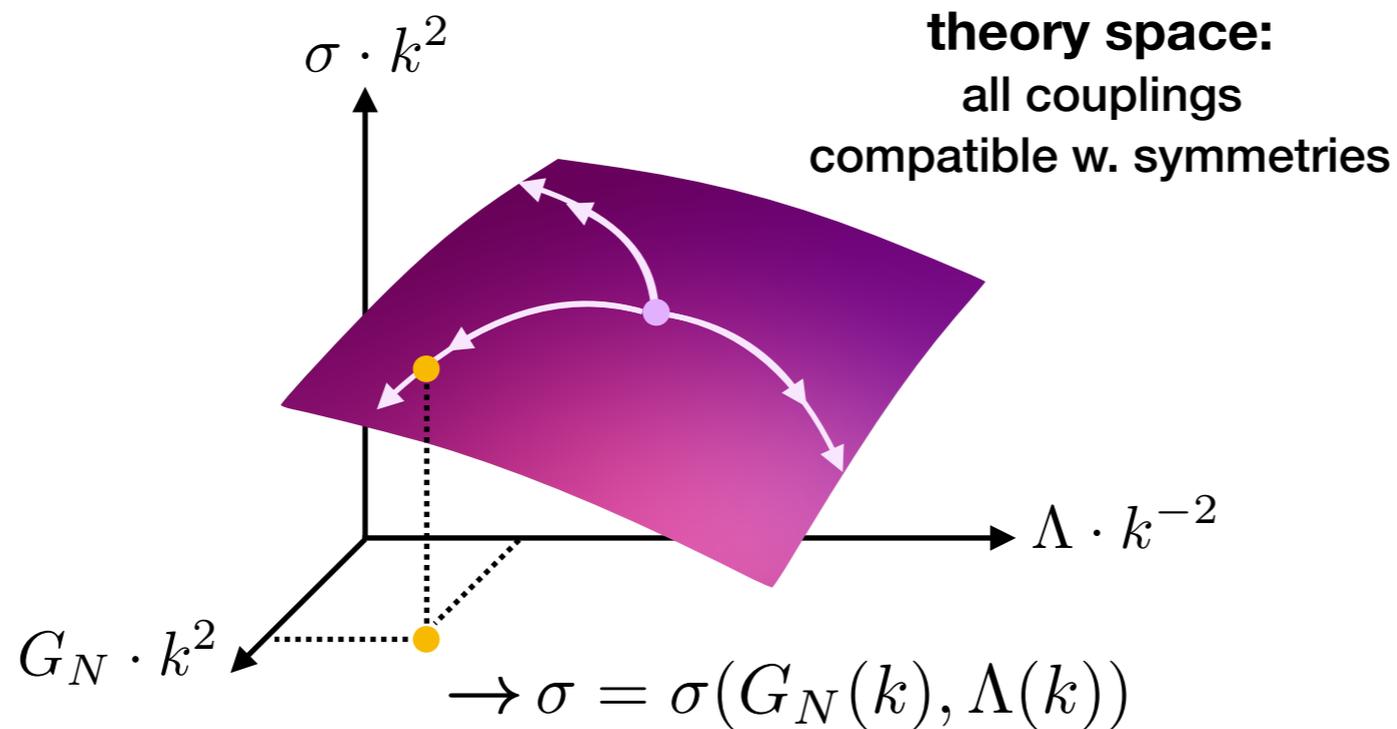


**Theory space features an interacting fixed point
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\rightarrow UV complete

\rightarrow predictive
(finite # free parameters)

Asymptotic safety in a nutshell



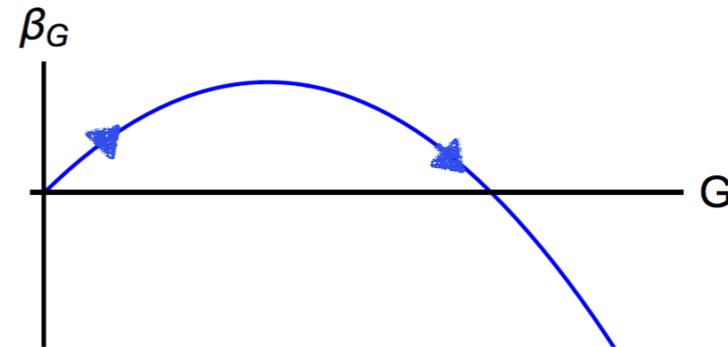
Theory space features an interacting fixed point with a finite number of relevant directions. (At least) one trajectory emanating from the fixed point reaches a phenomenologically viable IR regime.

- \rightarrow UV complete
- \rightarrow predictive (finite # free parameters)
- \rightarrow predictions for irrelevant couplings match observations

Hints for asymptotic safety of gravity?

- ϵ expansion in $d=2+\epsilon$ $\beta_G = \epsilon G - \frac{38}{3} G^2$

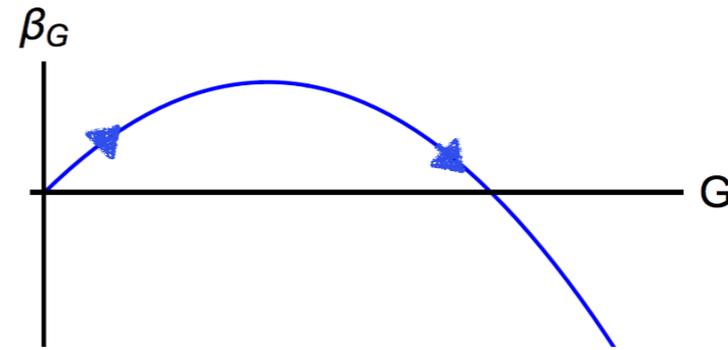
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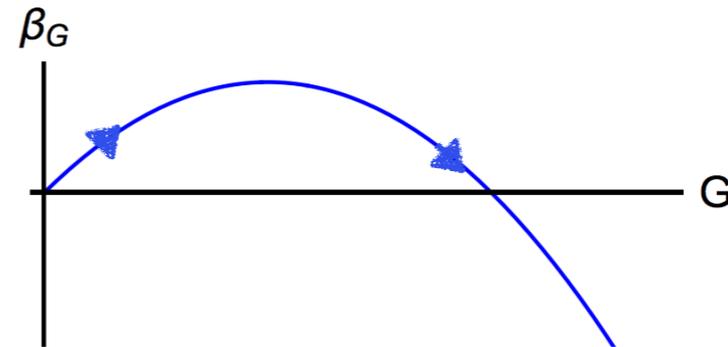
- **lattice simulations (Euclidean/Causal Dynamical Triangulations)**
continuum limit not conclusively established

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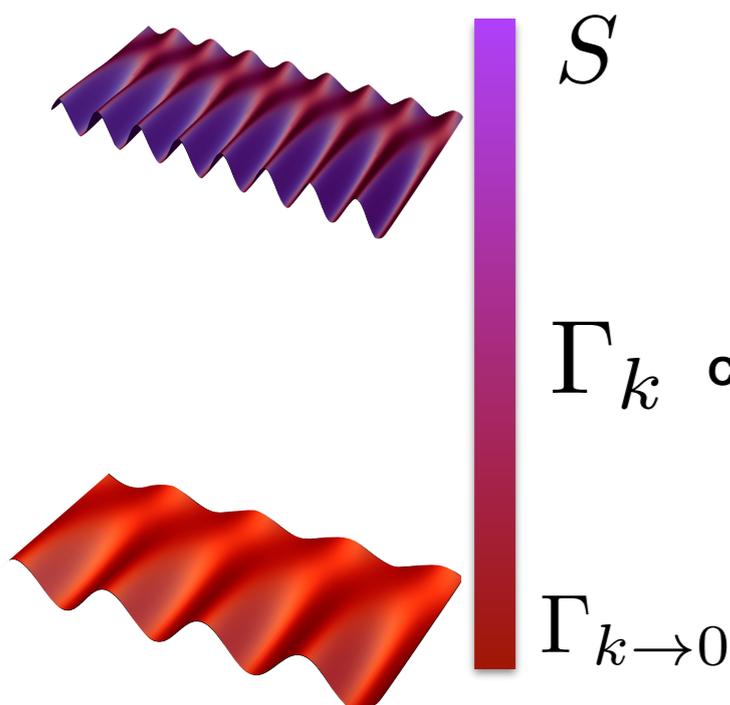
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- **Functional Renormalization Group**
probe scale dependence of QFT

$$e^{-\Gamma_k[\phi]} = \int \mathcal{D}\varphi e^{-S[\varphi] - \frac{1}{2} \int \varphi(-p) R_k(p) \varphi(p)}$$

Wetterich '93, Reuter '96

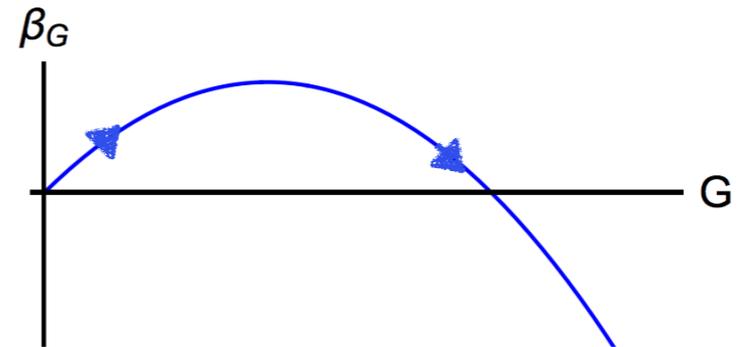
scale- and momentum-dependent "mass"



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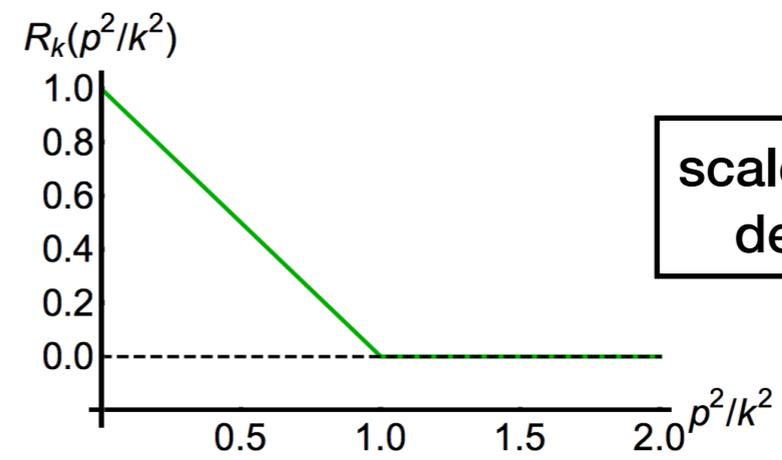
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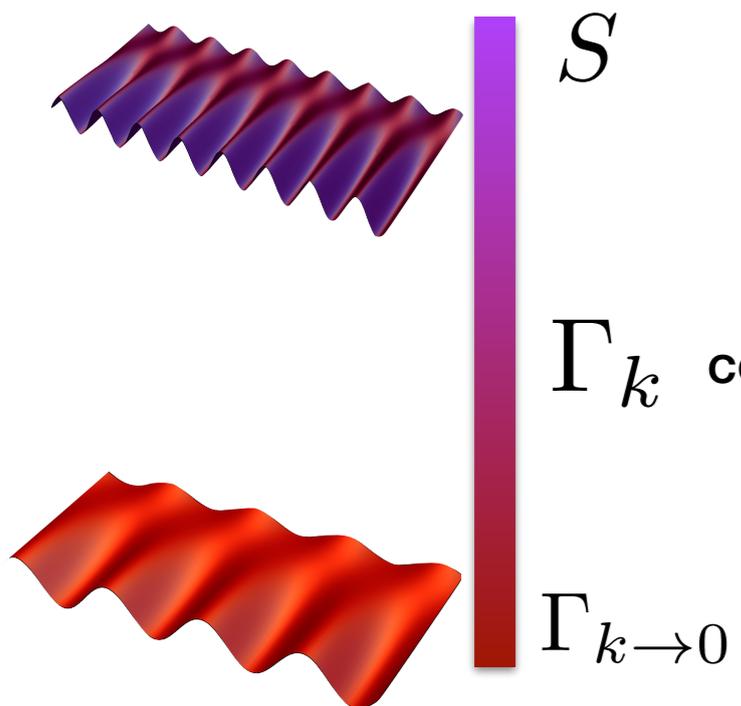
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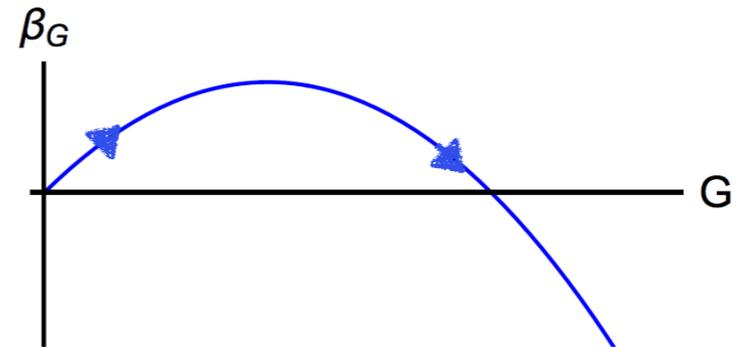
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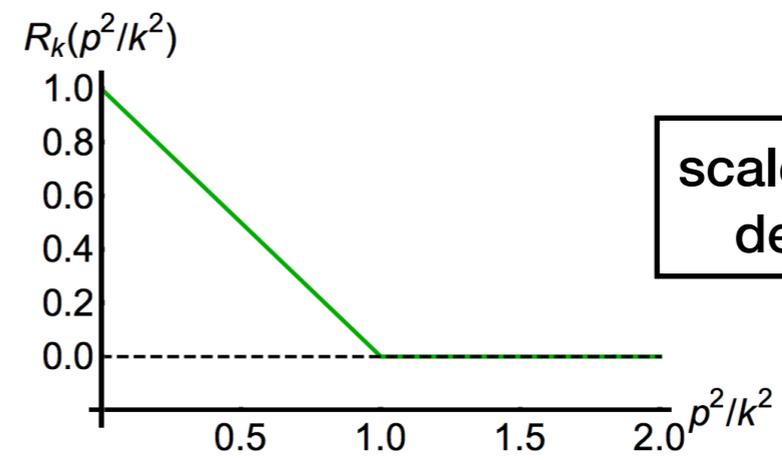
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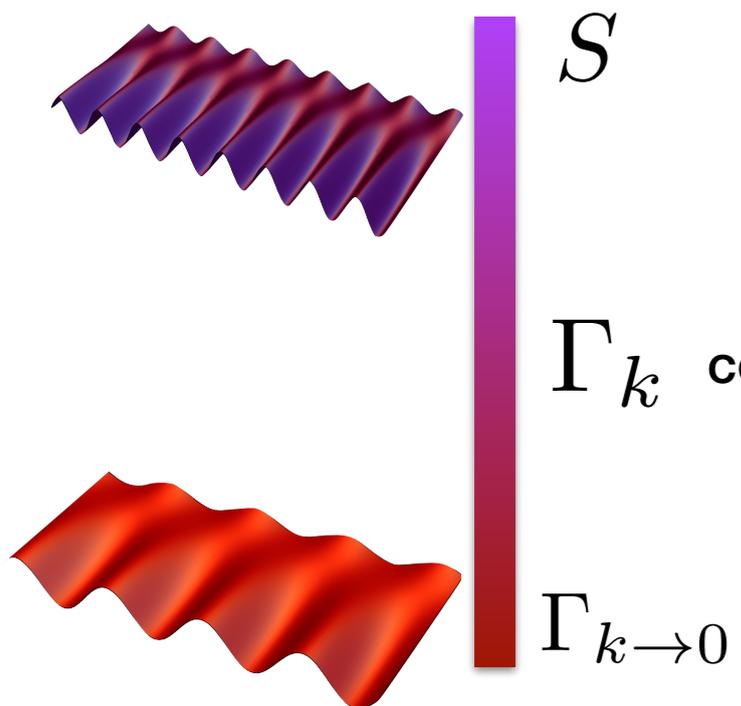
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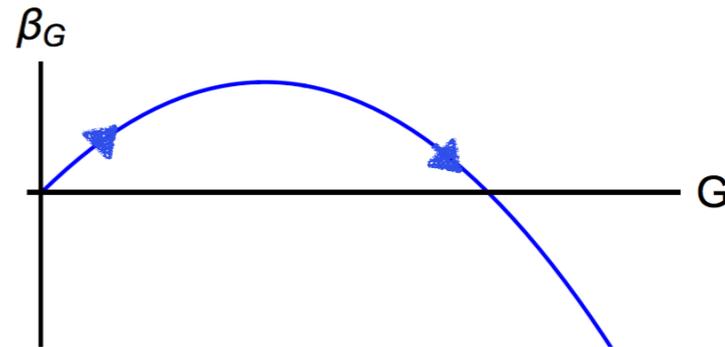
Γ_k contains effect of quantum fluctuations above k

$$\Gamma_k = \sum_i g_i(k) \int d^d x \mathcal{O}^i \quad \rightarrow \quad k \partial_k \Gamma_k = \sum_i \beta_{g_i} \int d^d x \mathcal{O}^i$$

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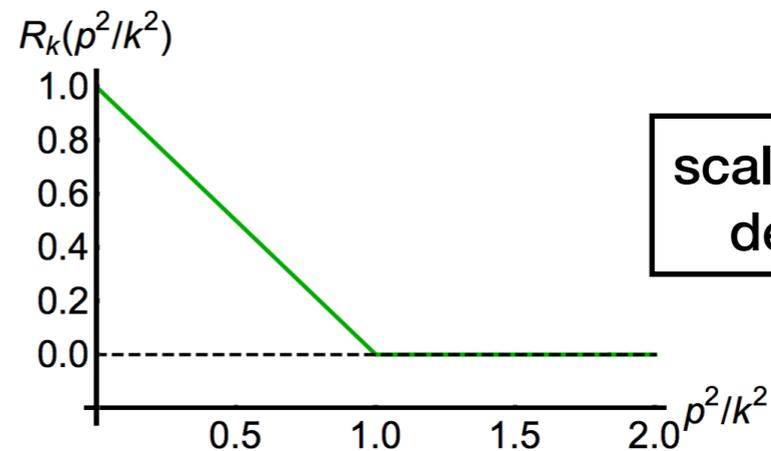
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scale- and momentum-
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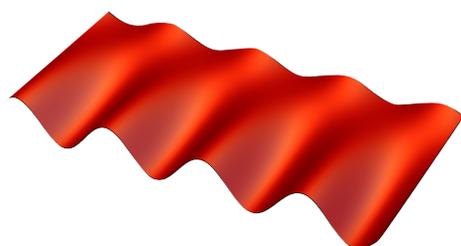
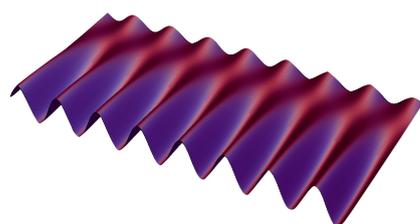
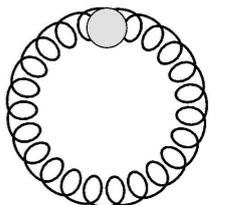
Γ_k

$\Gamma_{k \rightarrow 0}$

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Wetterich equation: $\partial_k \Gamma_k = \frac{1}{2} \text{STr} \left(\Gamma_k^{(2)} + R_k \right)^{-1} \partial_k R_k =$

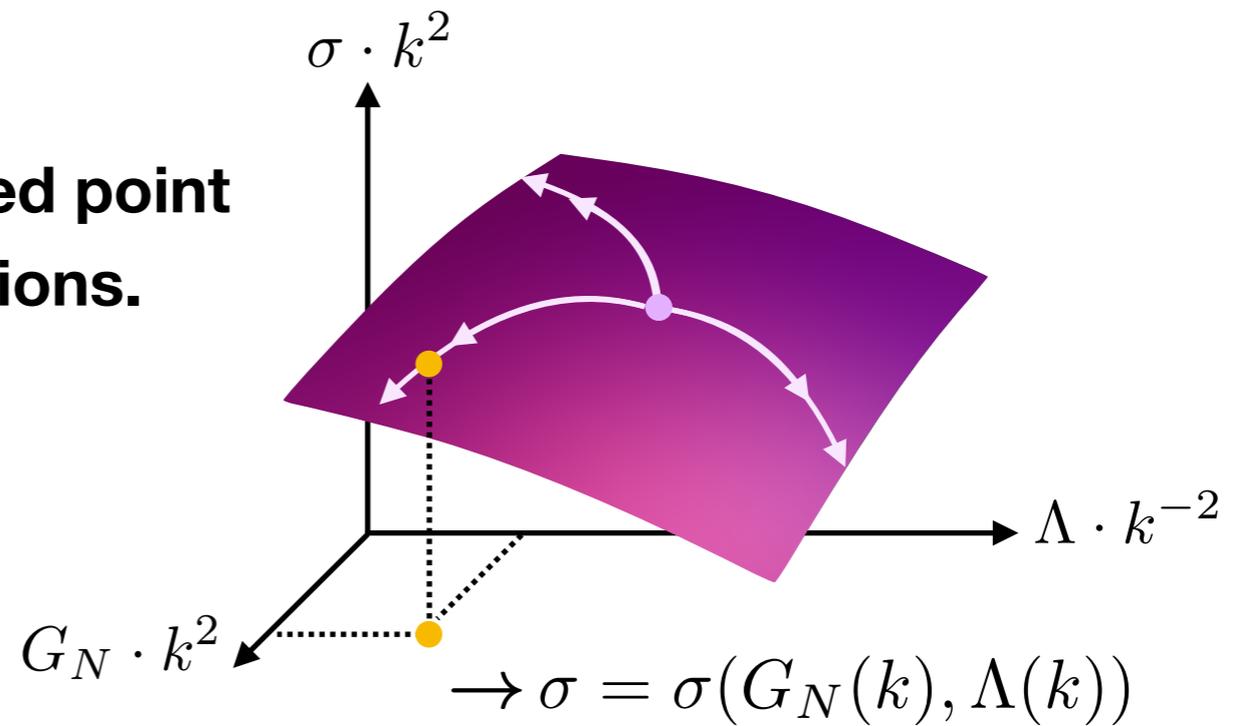


Hints for asymptotic safety of gravity

Theory space features an interacting fixed point with a finite number of relevant directions.

→ UV complete

→ predictive



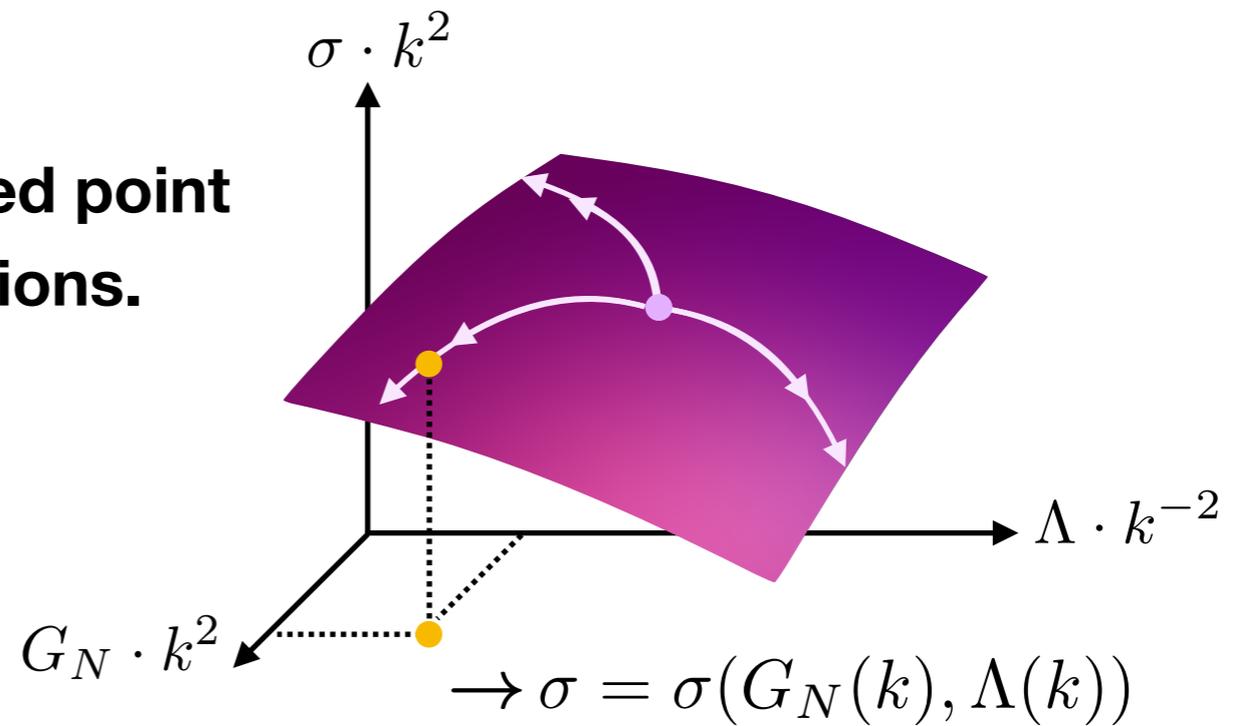
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fixed point



operators

$$\sqrt{g}$$

[Reuter '96, Lauscher, Reuter '01;
Reuter, Saueressig '02;
Becker, Reuter '14;

X

$$\sqrt{g}R$$

Christiansen, Knorr, Meibohm, Pawłowski, Reichert '15]

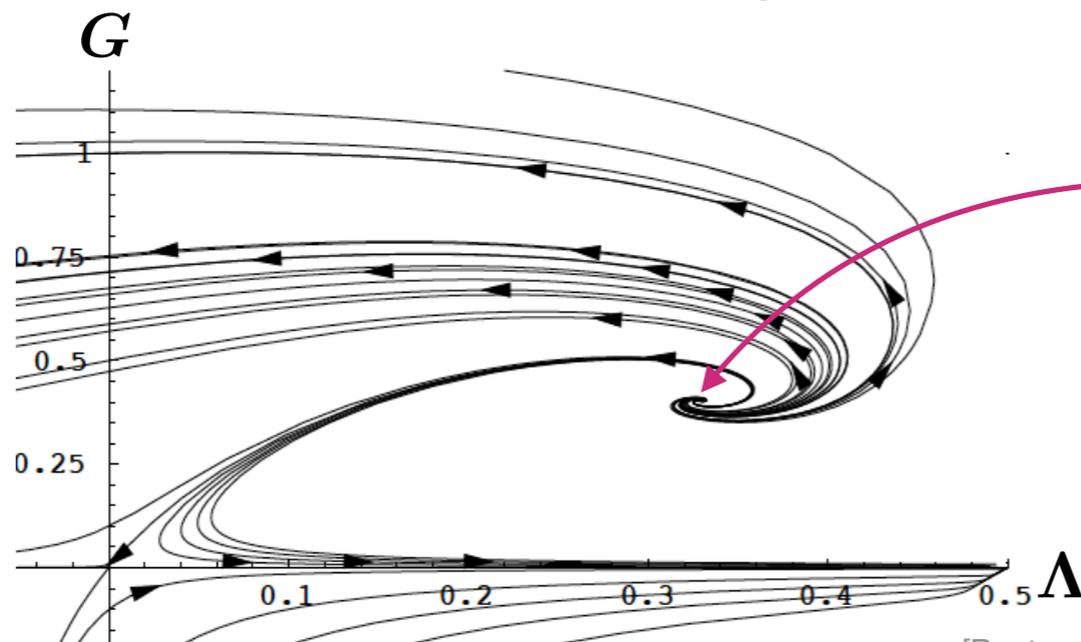
X

relevant

irrelevant

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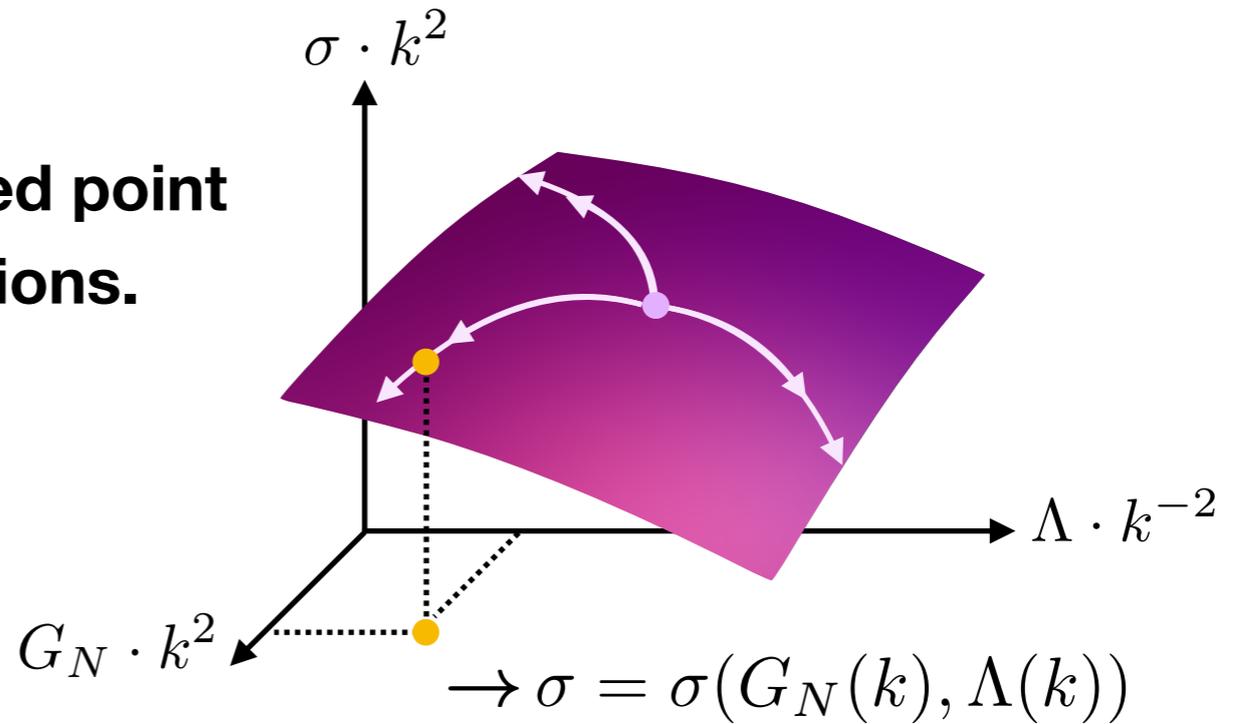
UV fixed point

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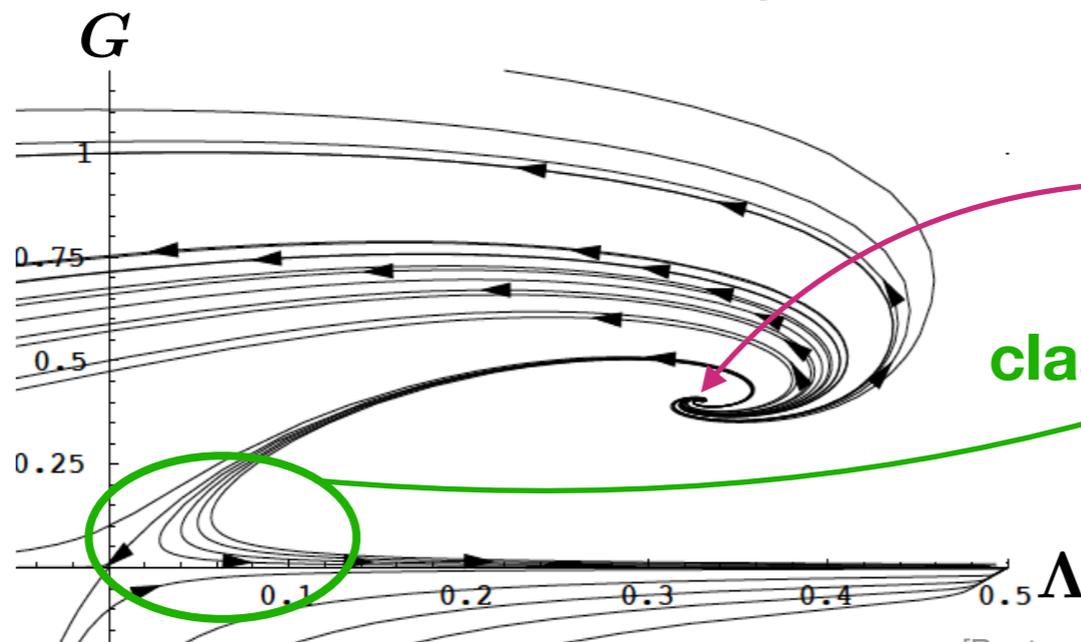
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UV fixed point

classical gravity regime

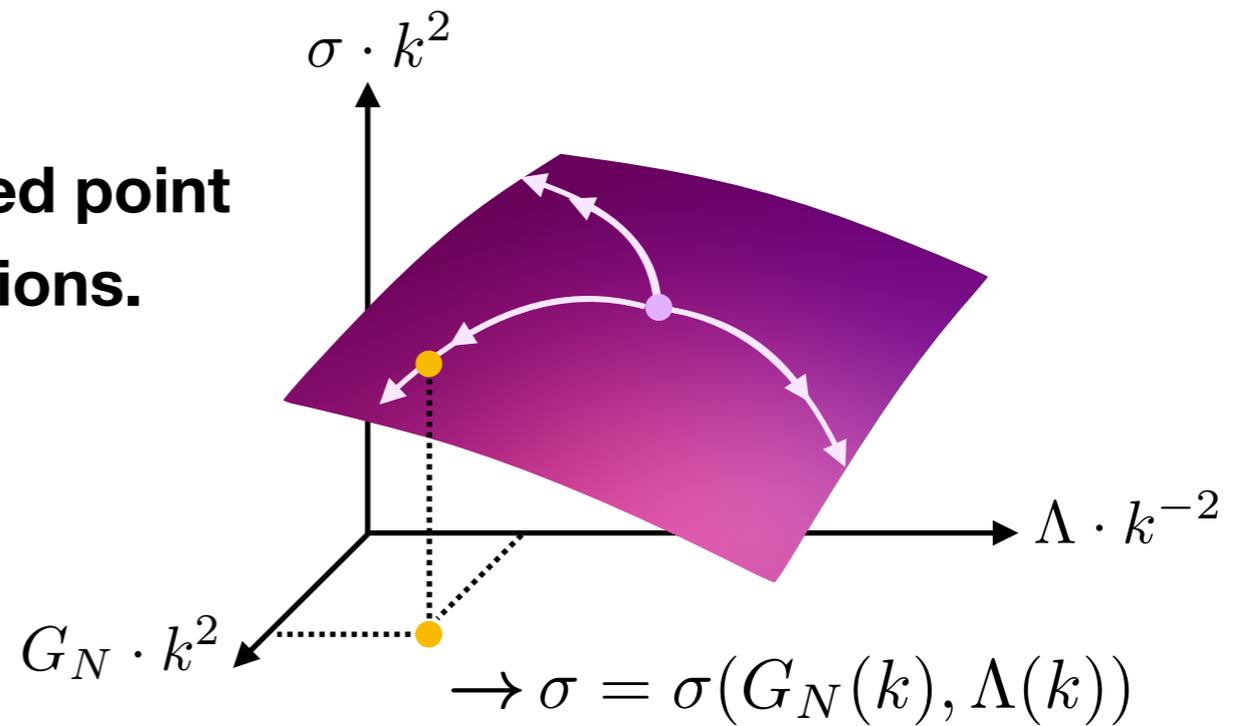
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$$\sqrt{g}R^2, \sqrt{g}R^{\mu\nu}R_{\mu\nu}$$

[Benedetti, Machado, Saueressig '09;
Denz, Pawłowski, Reichert '17]

relevant

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X

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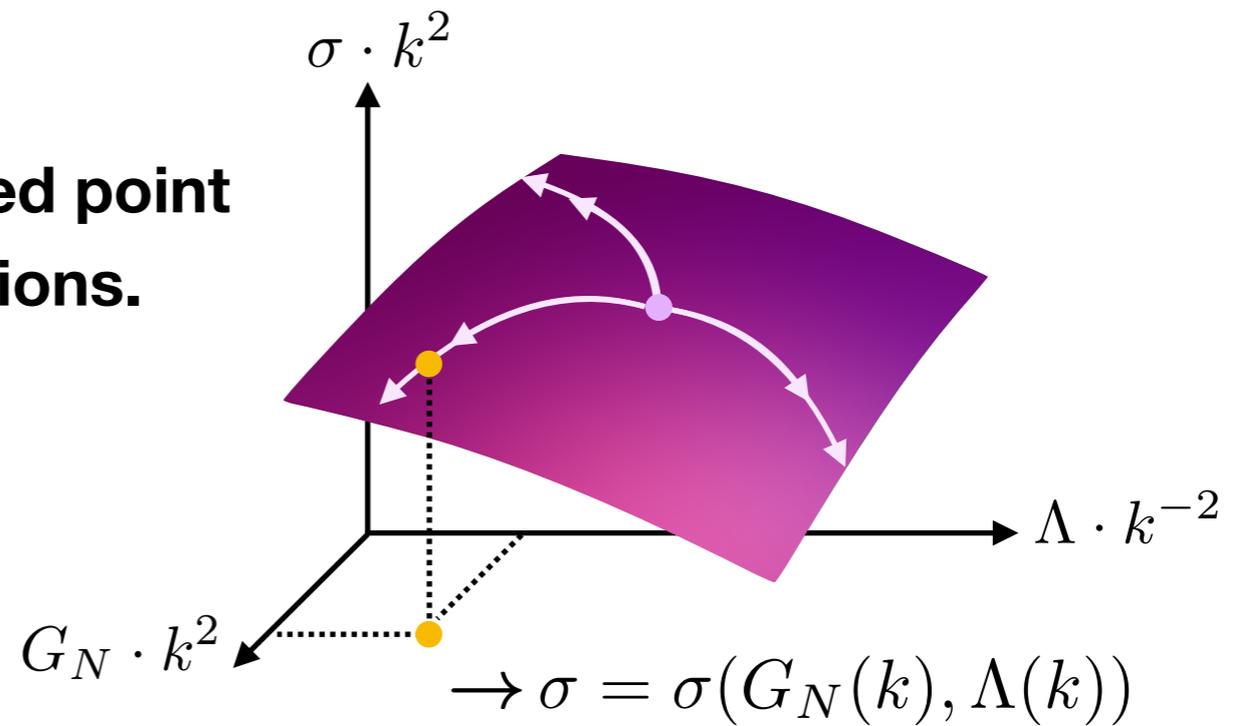
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| | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|
| ✓ | \sqrt{g} | [Reuter '96, Lauscher, Reuter '01; Reuter, Saueressig '02; Becker, Reuter '14; | X | |
| ✓ | $\sqrt{g}R$ | Christiansen, Knorr, Meibohm, Pawłowski, Reichert '15] | X | |
| ✓ | $\sqrt{g}R^2, \sqrt{g}R^{\mu\nu}R_{\mu\nu}$ | [Benedetti, Machado, Saueressig '09; Denz, Pawłowski, Reichert '17] | X | X |
| ✓ | $\sqrt{g}R^3$ | [Codello, Percacci, Rahmede '07, '08; Machado, Saueressig '07; Eichhorn '15] | | X |
| | ⋮ | | | ⋮ |
| | ⋮ | | | ⋮ |
| ✓ | $\sqrt{g}R^{34}$ | [Falls, Litim, Nikolakopoulos, Rahmede '13 '14] | | X |

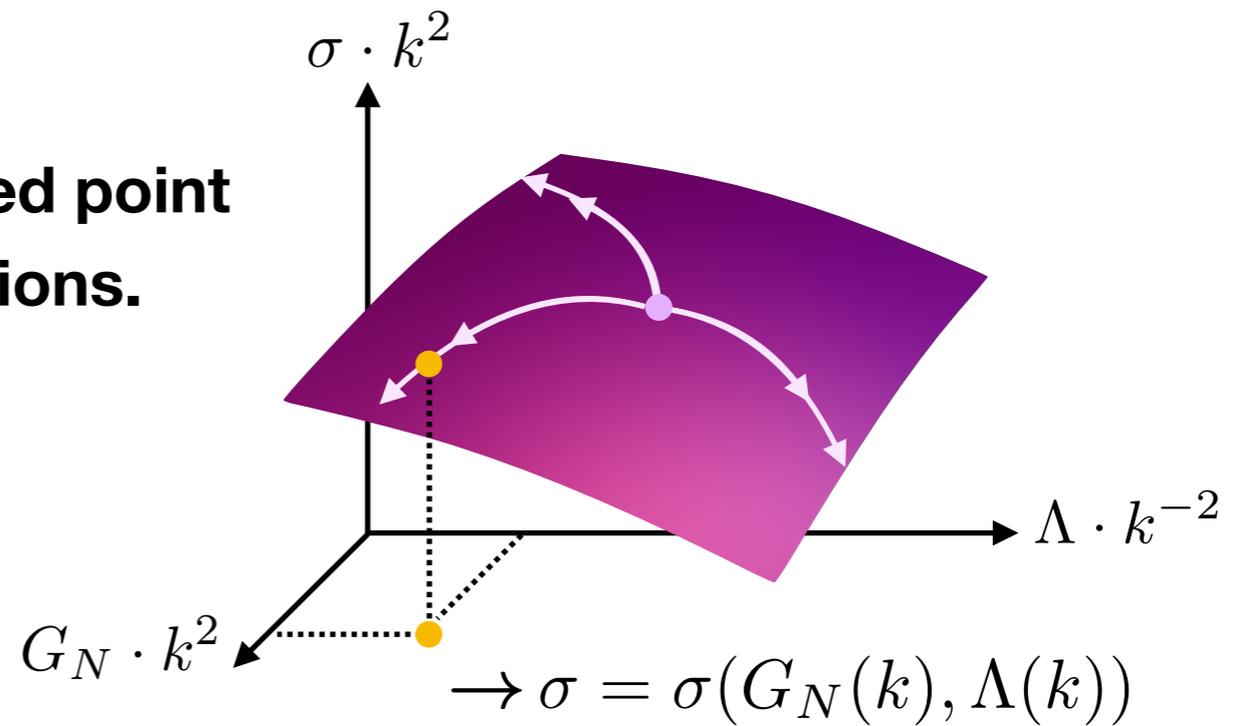
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$\sqrt{g}R^{34}$

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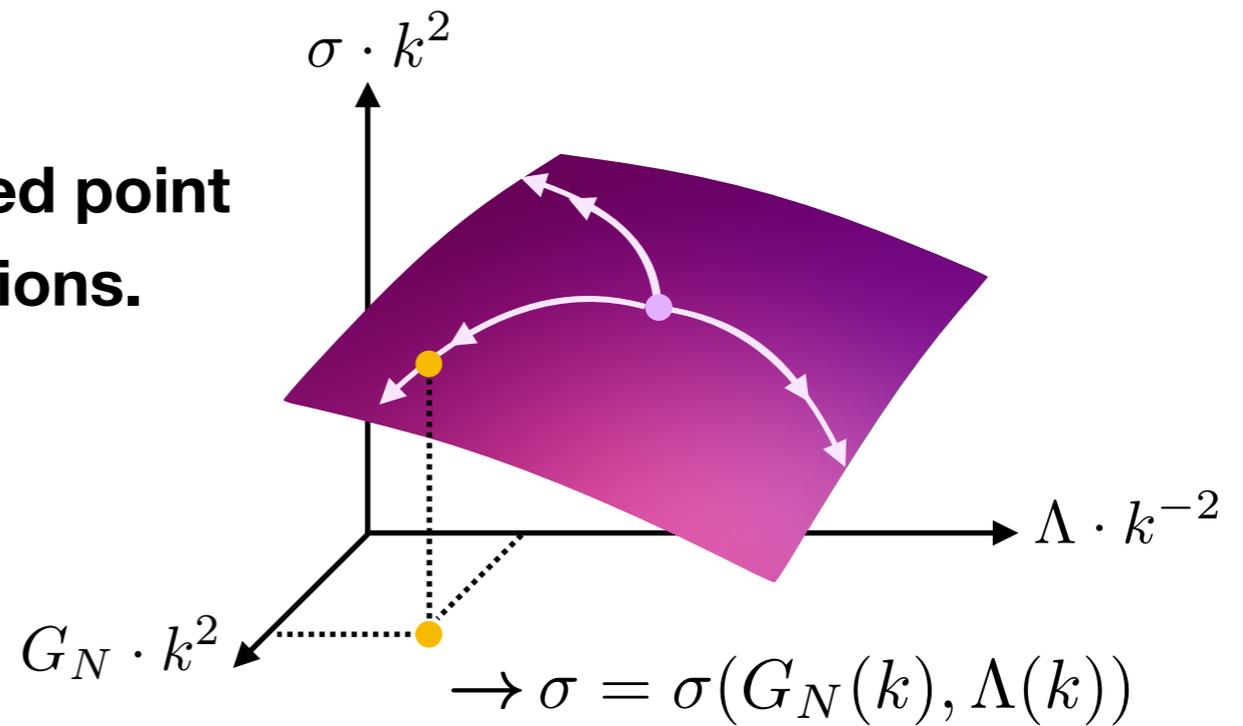
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relevant irrelevant



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Christiansen, Knorr, Meibohm, Pawłowski, Reichert '15]

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[Wetterich '93, Reuter '96]



$\sqrt{g}R^3$

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X

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X

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X



$\sqrt{g}R^{34}$

[Falls, Litim, Nikolakopoulos, Rahmede '13 '14]

→ control over approximations with finitely many couplings



$\sqrt{g}C^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}C_{\kappa\lambda}^{\rho\sigma}C_{\rho\sigma\mu\nu}$

[Gies, Knorr, Lippoldt, Saueressig '16]

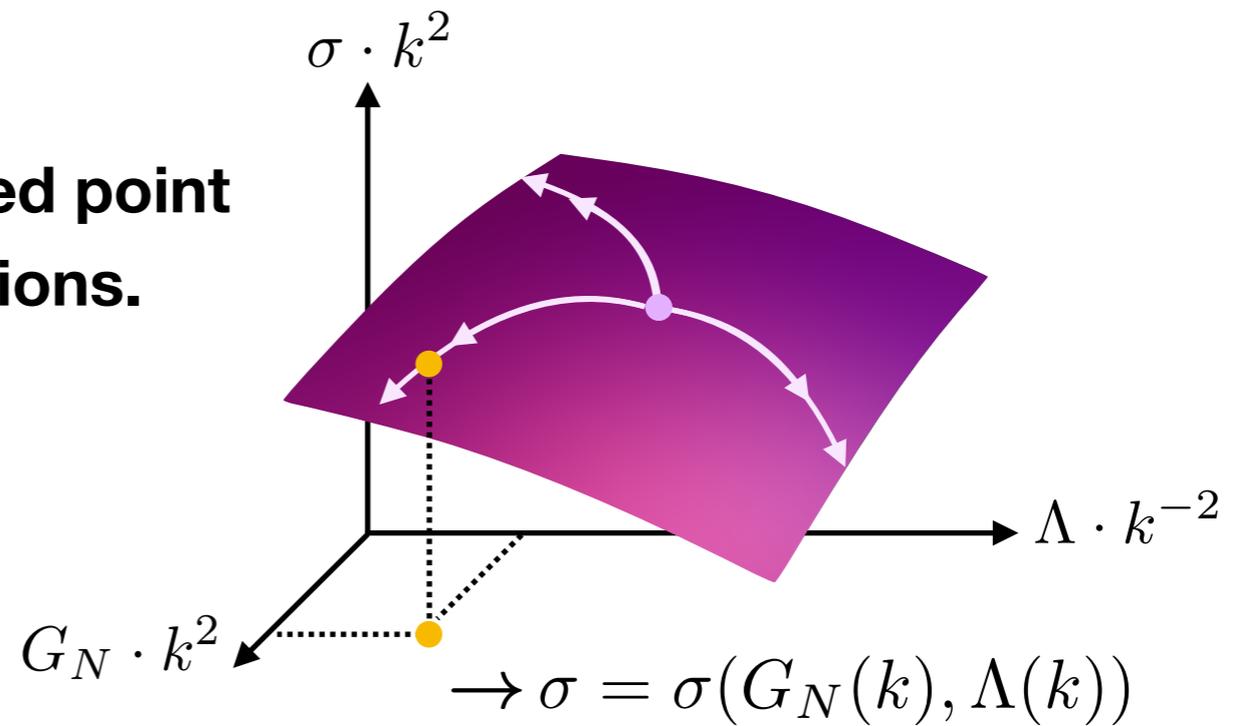
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X

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X

status: compelling hints for asymptotic safety in pure gravity

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$\sqrt{g}R^{34}$

[Falls, Litim, Nikolakopoulos, Rahmede '13 '14]

X

→ **what about matter?**



$\sqrt{g}C^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}C_{\kappa\lambda}^{\rho\sigma}C_{\rho\sigma\mu\nu}$

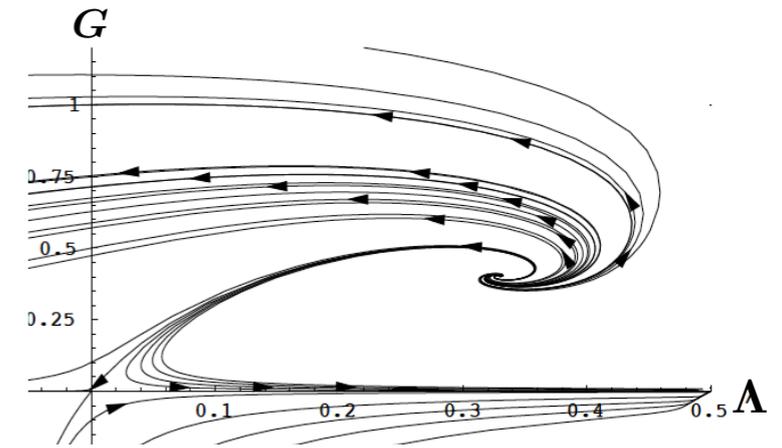
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X

Asymptotic safety for gravity & matter

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Can quantum fluctuations of matter destroy a consistent quantum gravity model?

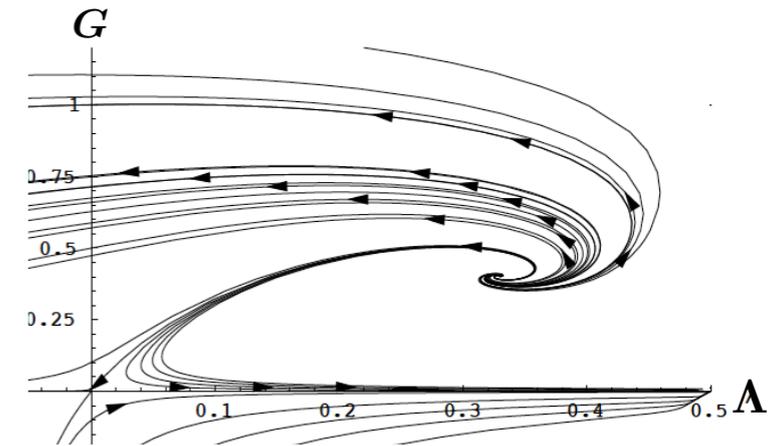


quantum gravity dynamics

matter dynamics

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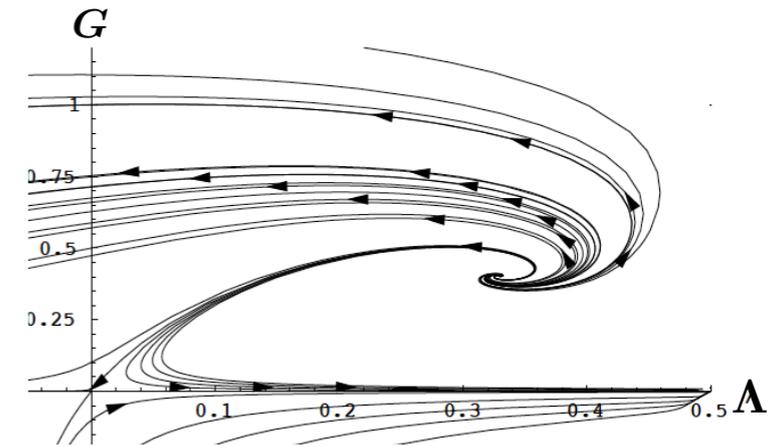
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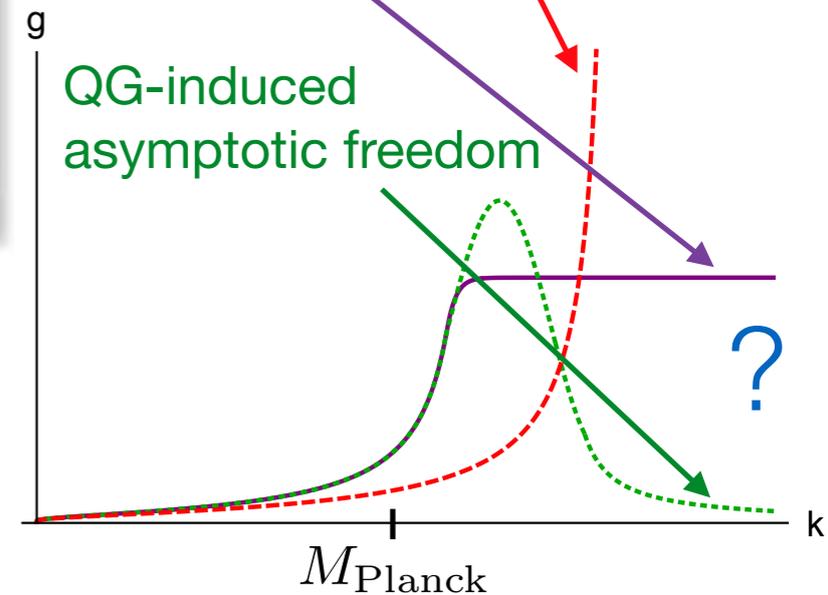
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triviality in Higgs-Yukawa & U(1)

QG-induced asymptotic safety

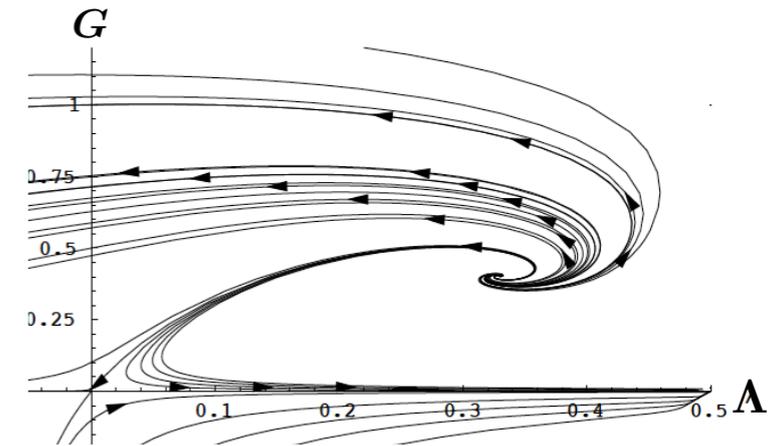
QG-induced asymptotic freedom

QG generated fixed point



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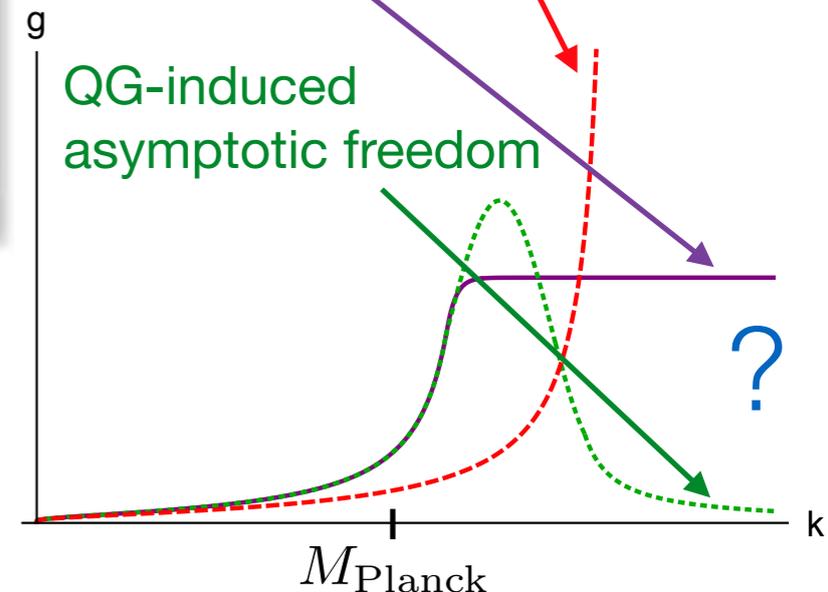
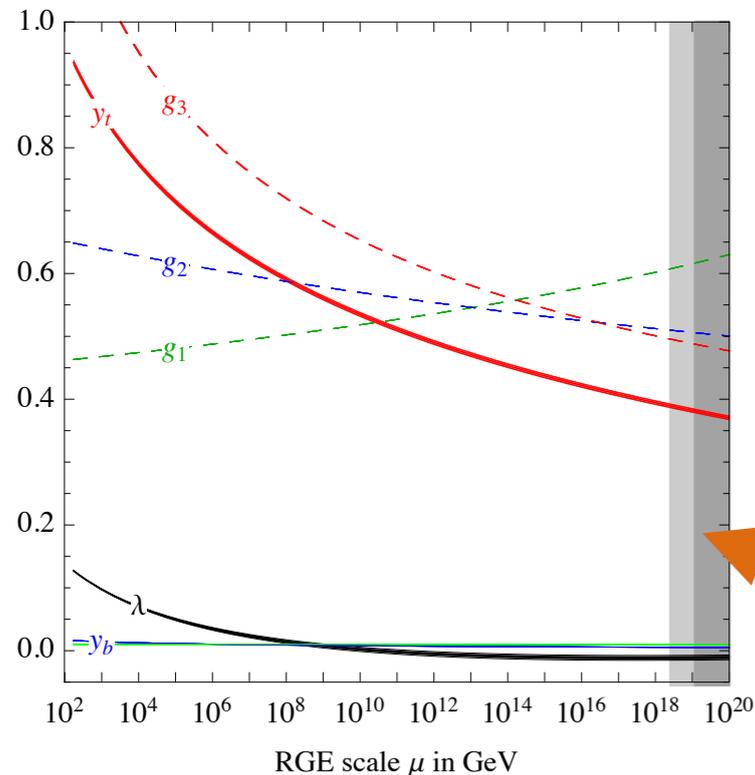
QG-induced asymptotic safety

QG-induced asymptotic freedom

?

match onto SM at Planck scale

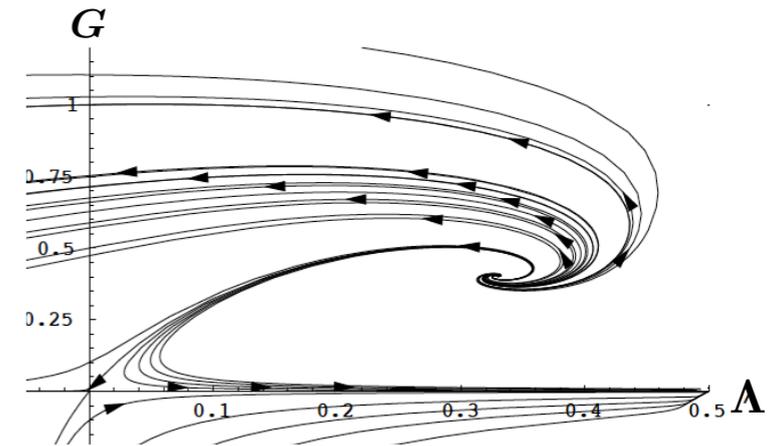
QG generated fixed point



Buttazzo et al. '13

Asymptotic safety for gravity & matter

Can quantum fluctuations of matter destroy a consistent quantum gravity model?



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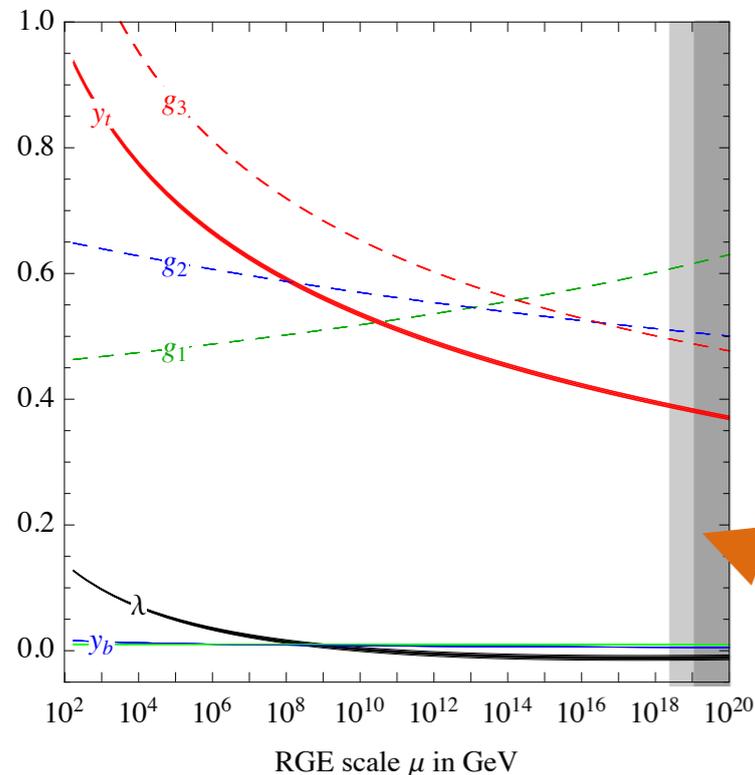
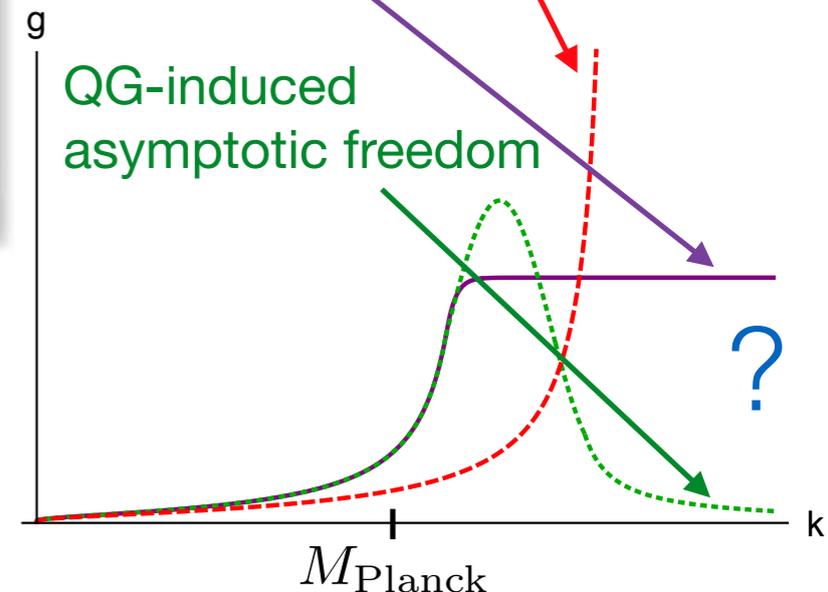
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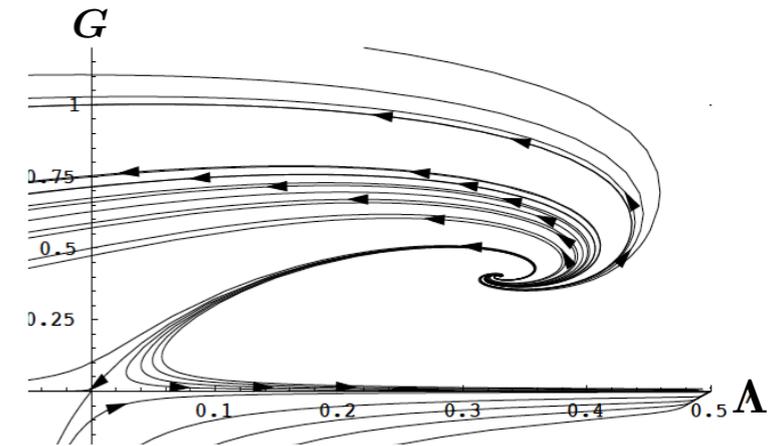
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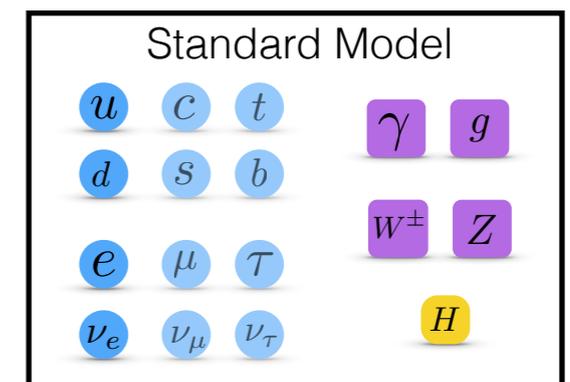
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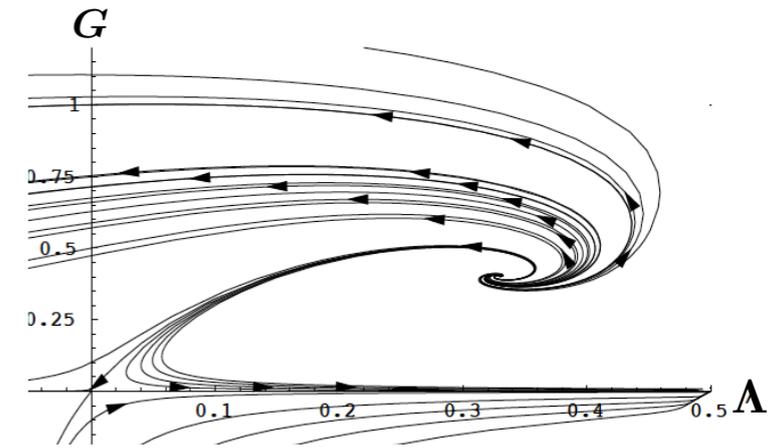


**minimally
coupled
SM fields**

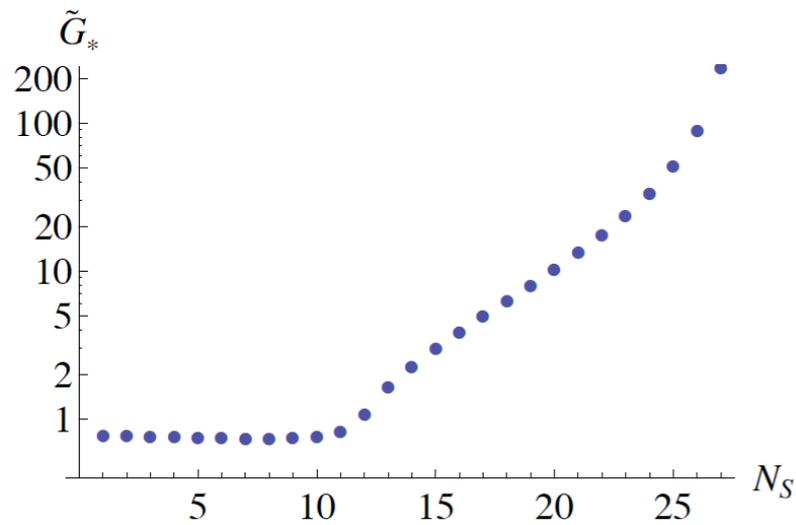


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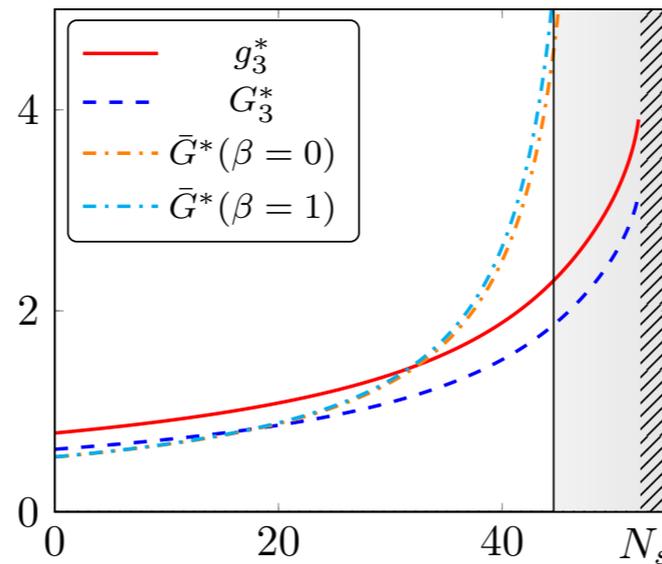
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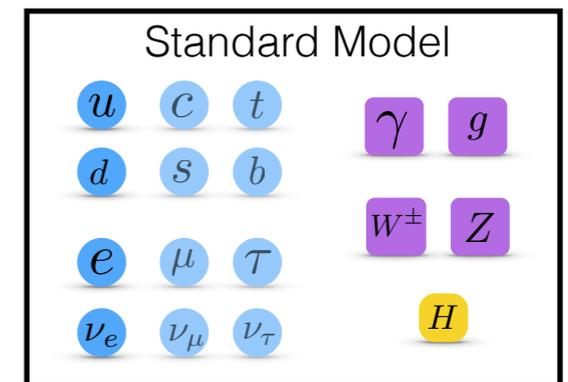


[Dona, AE, Percacci '13]



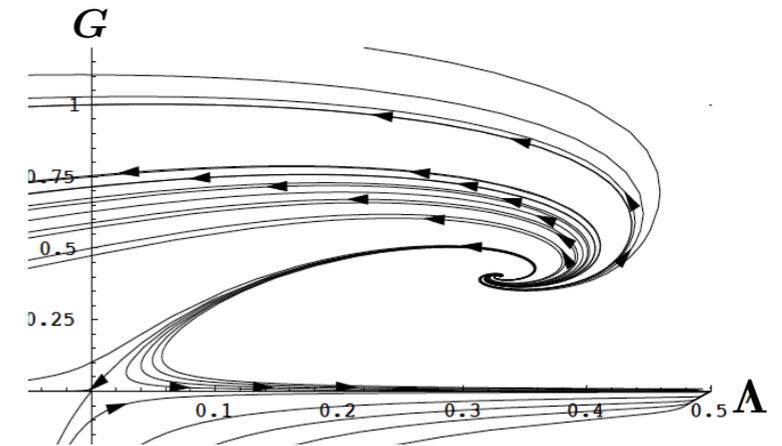
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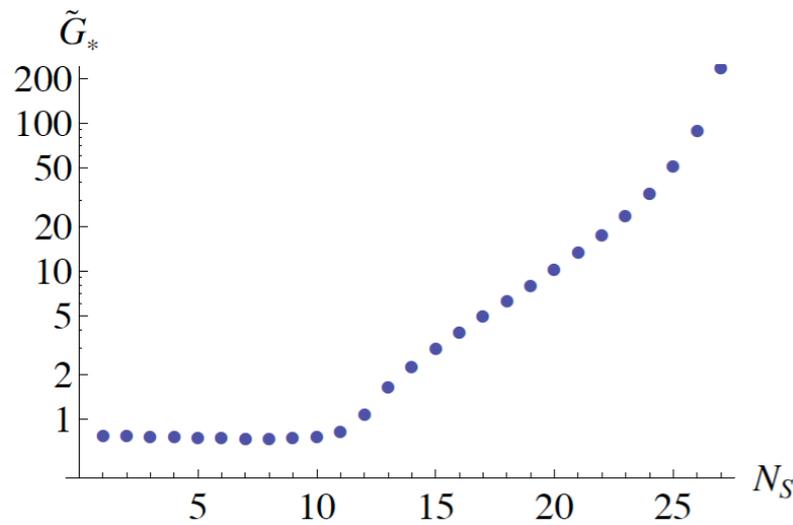


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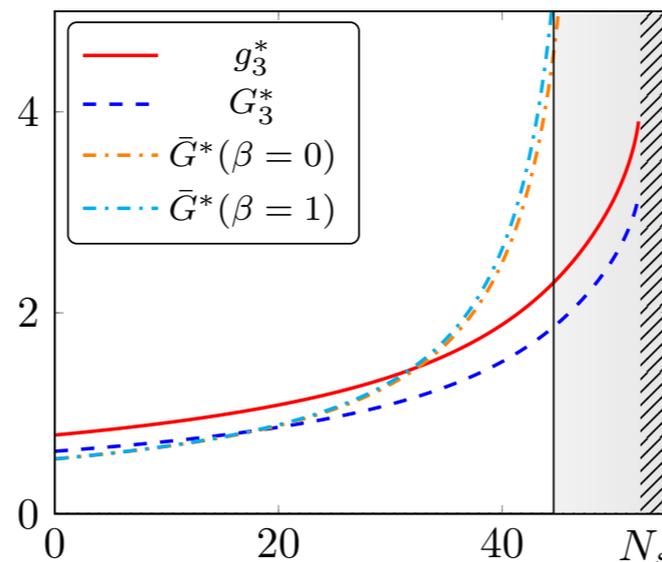
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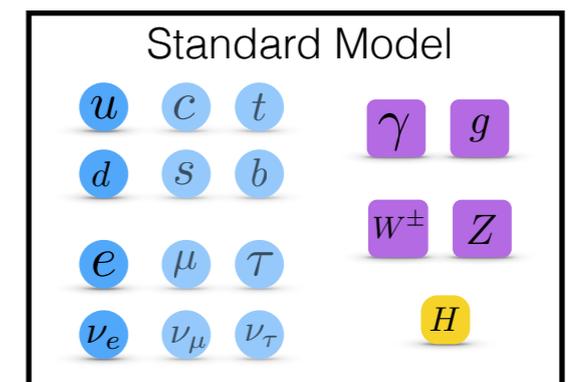


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minimally coupled SM fields



matter content of SM (& small extensions) admits a gravity fixed point in Einstein-Hilbert truncation

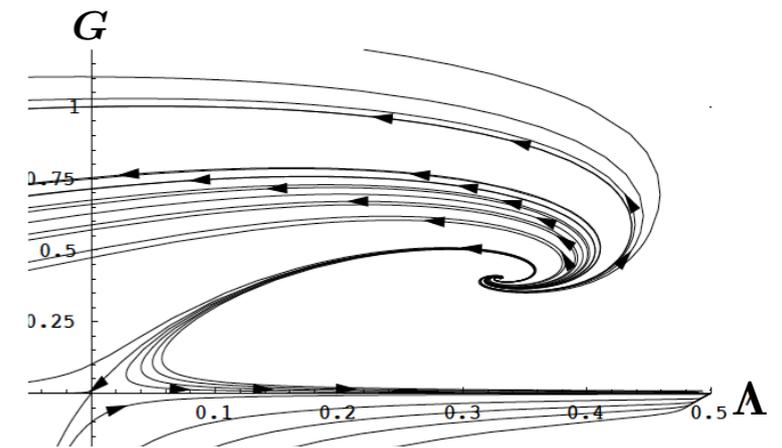
[Dona, AE, Percacci '13, '14]

[Meibohm, Pawlowski, Reichert '15
Dona, AE, Labus, Percacci '15
Biemans, Platania, Saueressig '17]

strong hint: asymptotically safe gravity could pass a critical observational consistency test

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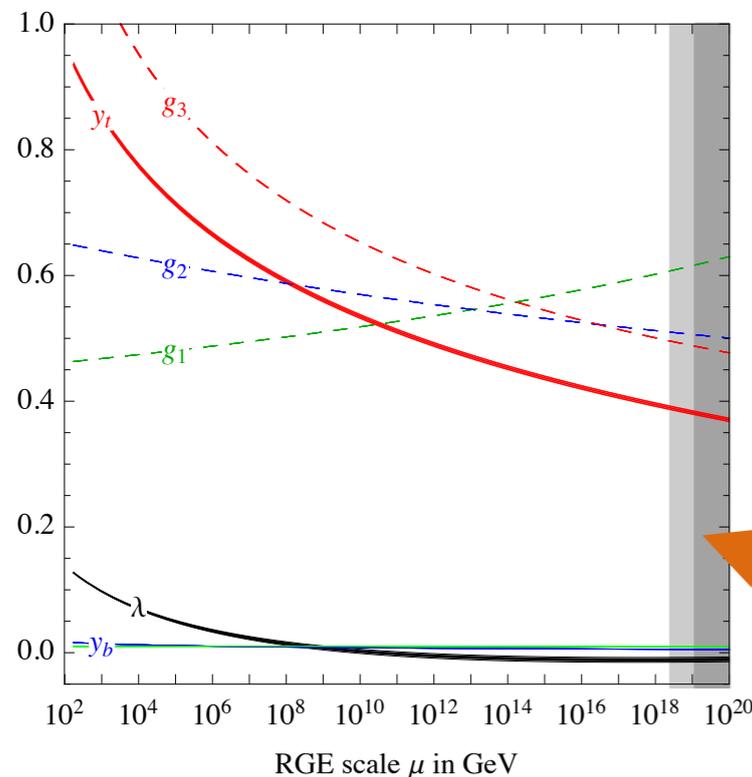
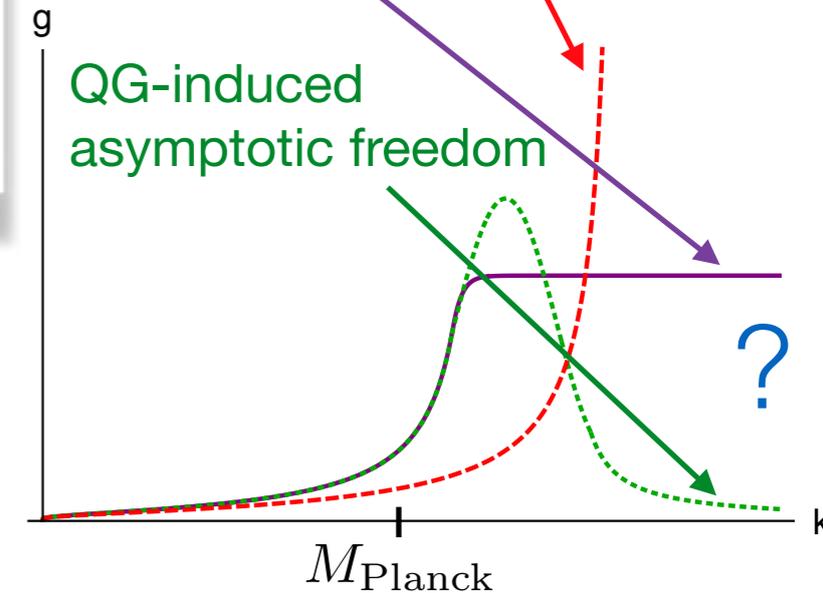
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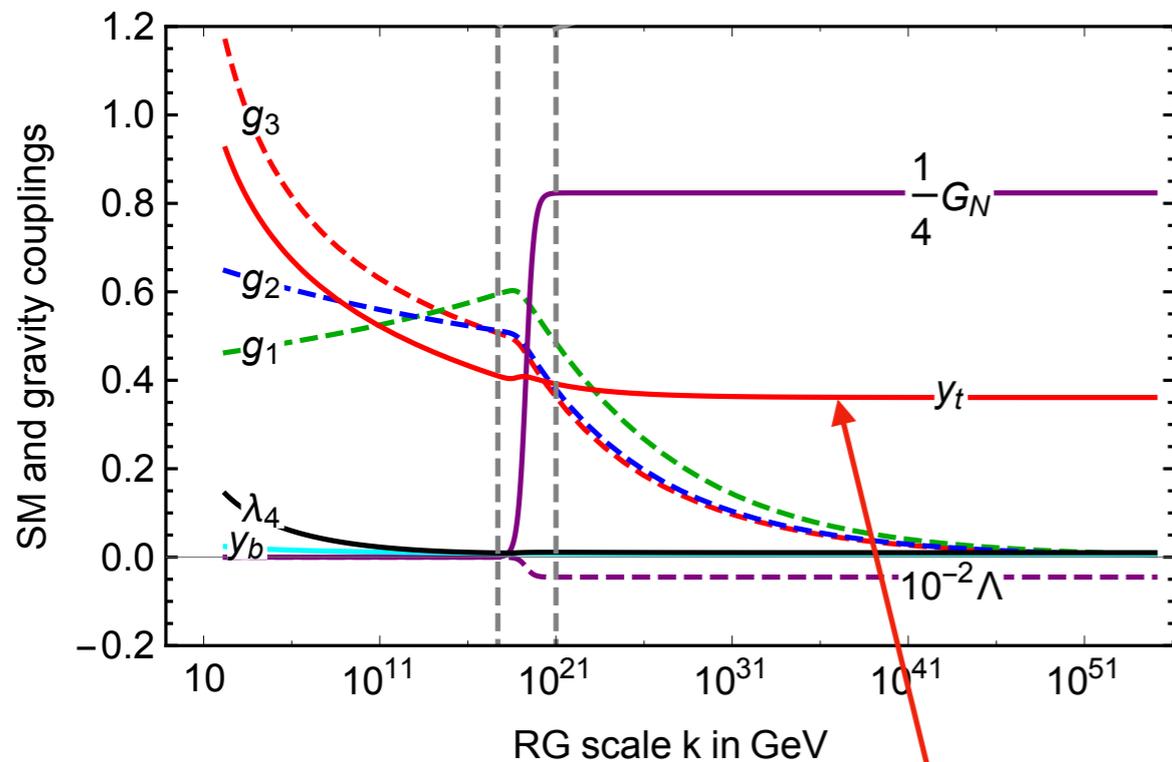
Quantum-gravity induced UV completion for the SM



results within simple truncations

→ **convergence of results in extended truncations:
stay tuned...**

Quantum-gravity induced UV completion for the SM



within simple truncations:

- **asymptotic freedom in all gauge couplings (incl. Abelian hypercharge)**

[Daum, Harst, Reuter '10; Folkerts, Litim, Pawłowski '11; Harst, Reuter '11, Christiansen, AE '17, AE, Versteegen '17]

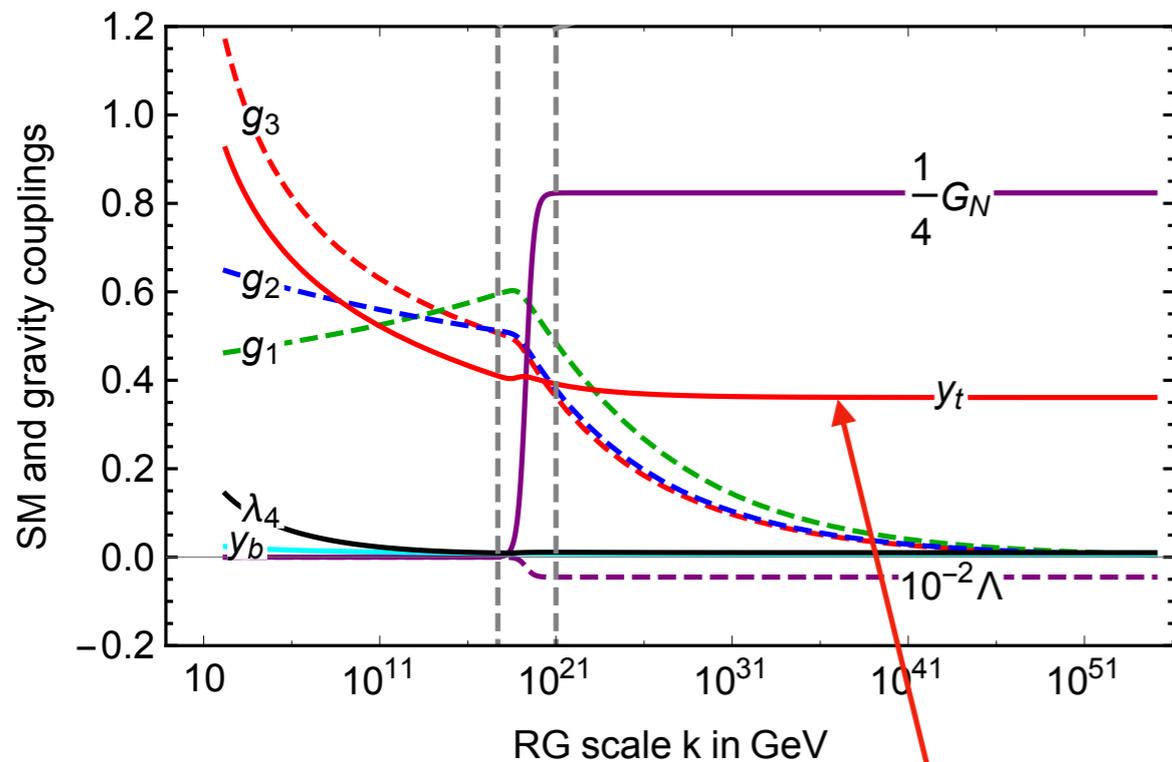
- **asymptotic safety in top Yukawa coupling with $M_t \gg M_b$ fixed uniquely**

[AE, Held, Pawłowski '16; AE, Held 05/17, 07/17]

$M_t \approx 170 \text{ GeV}$ fixed uniquely

Standard Model: M_t is a free parameter

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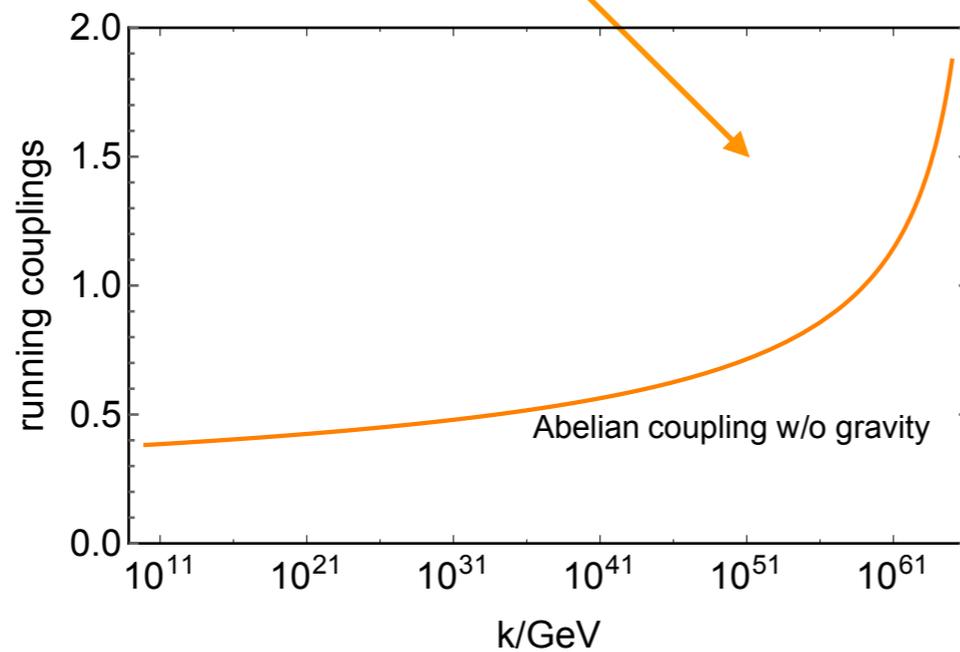
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Gauge-gravity interplay

Abelian gauge theory:

$$\beta_{g_1} = \frac{g_1^3}{16\pi^2} \frac{41}{10}$$

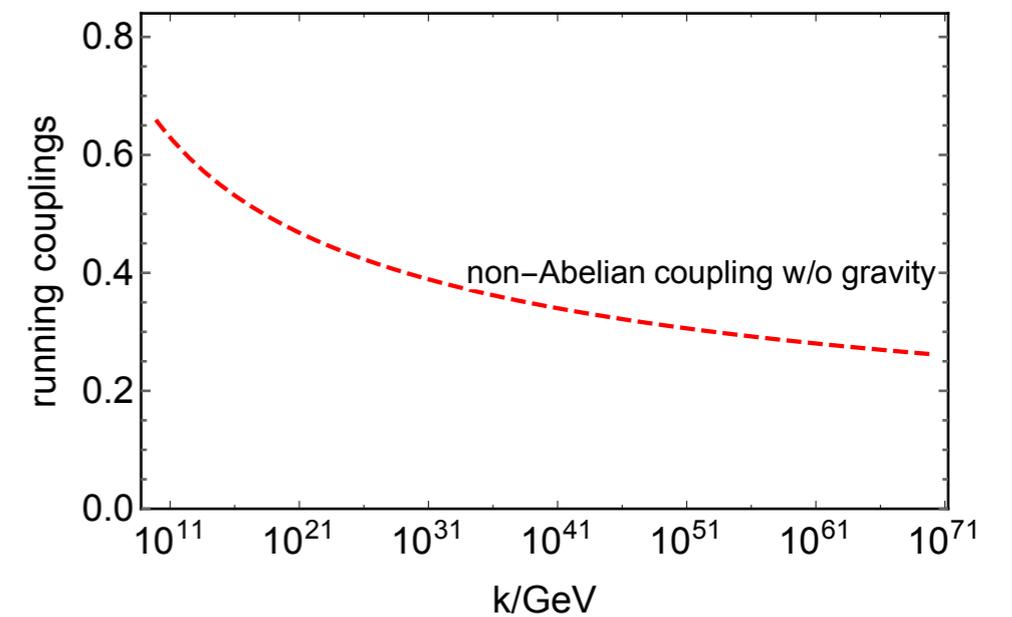
screening
-> triviality problem



Non-Abelian gauge theory:

$$\beta_{g_3} = -\frac{g_3^3}{16\pi^2} 7$$

antiscreening
-> asymptotic freedom



Gauge-gravity interplay

switch on gravity:
metric fluctuations
in Einstein-Hilbert
approximation:
parameterized by G, Λ

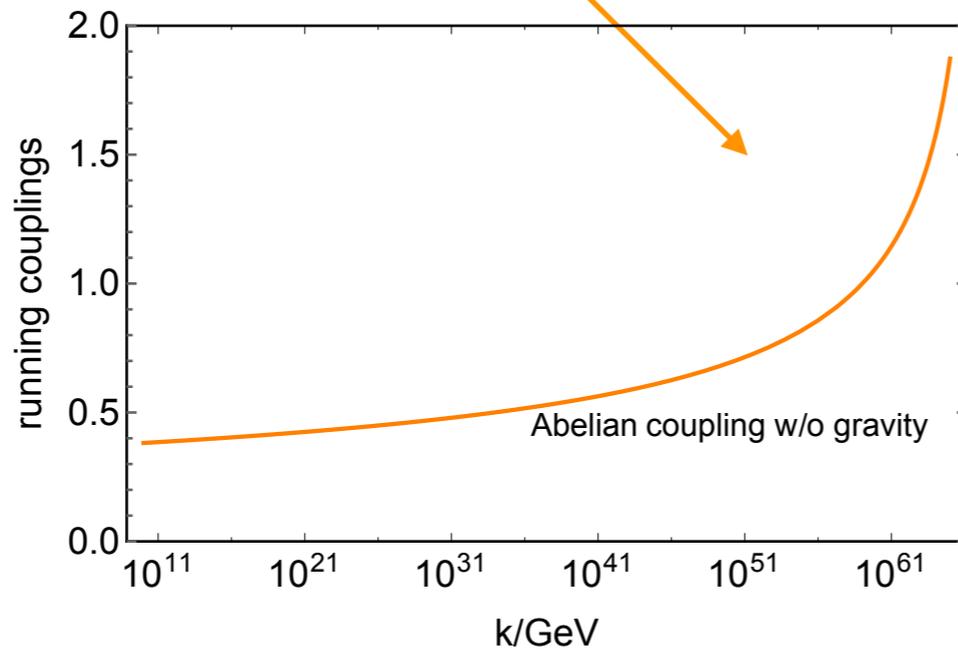
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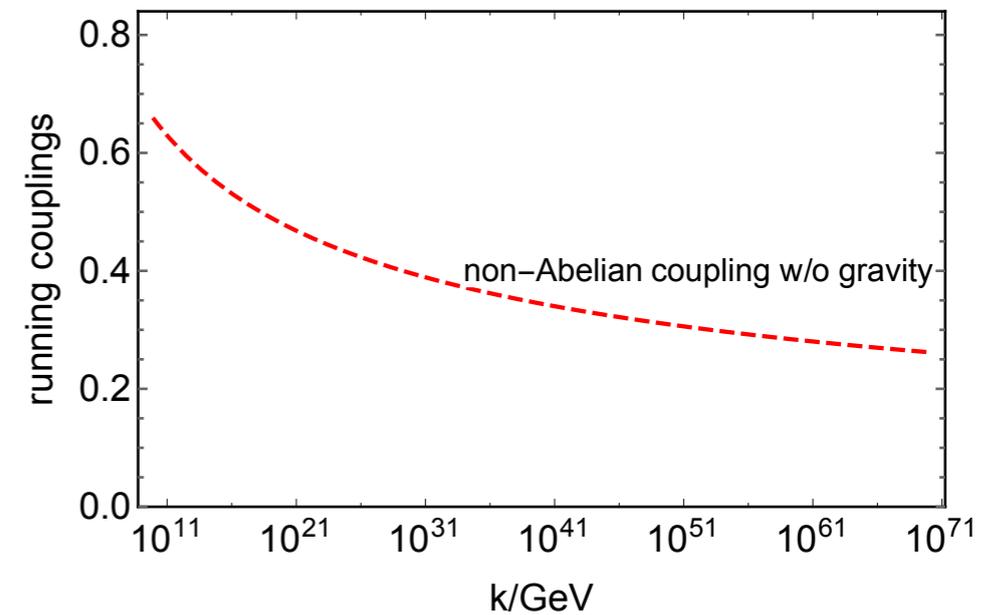


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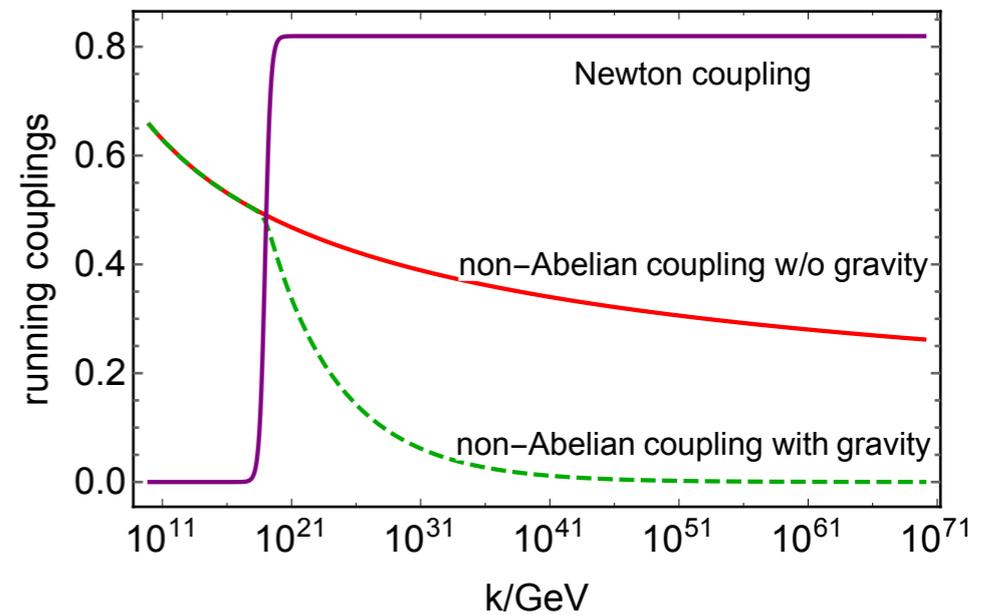
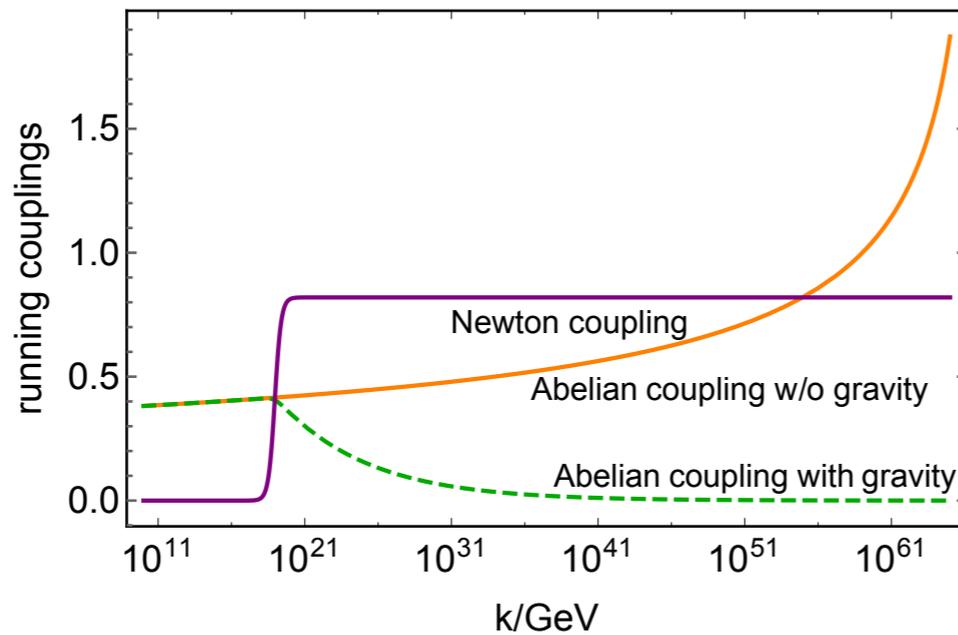
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**beyond the Planck scale:
power-law running towards asymptotic freedom**



Gauge-gravity interplay

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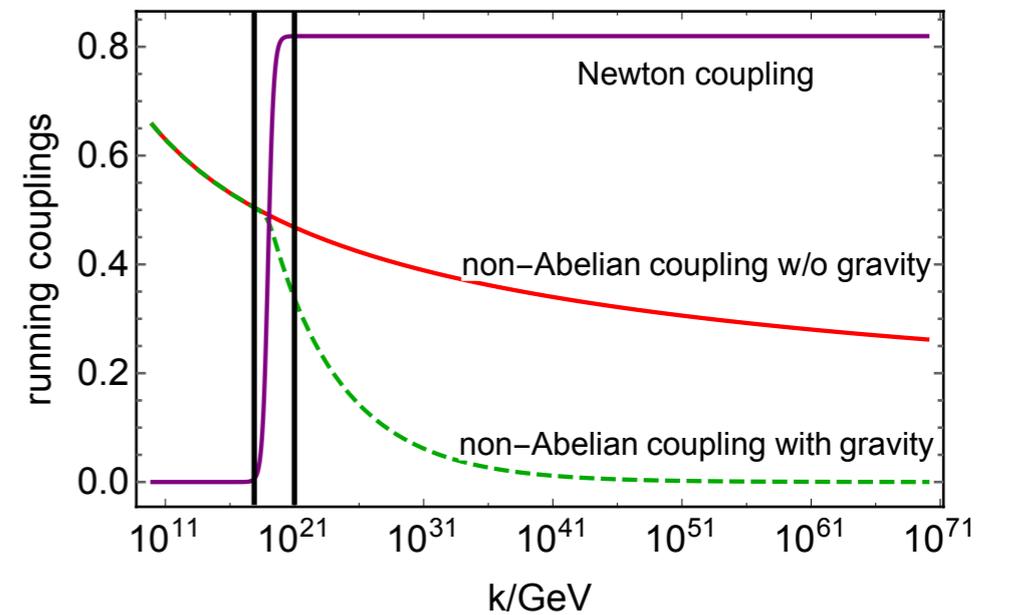
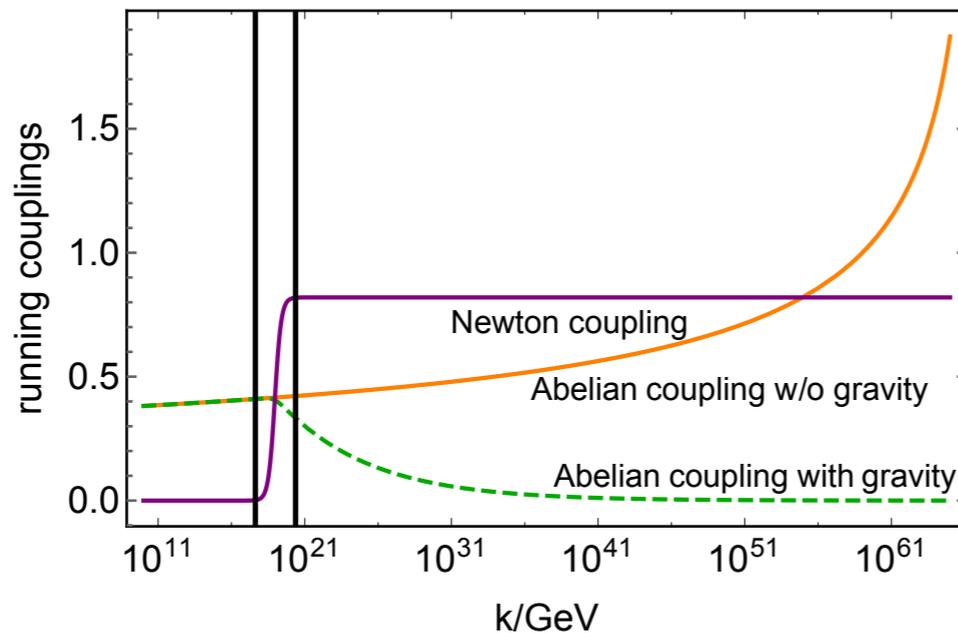
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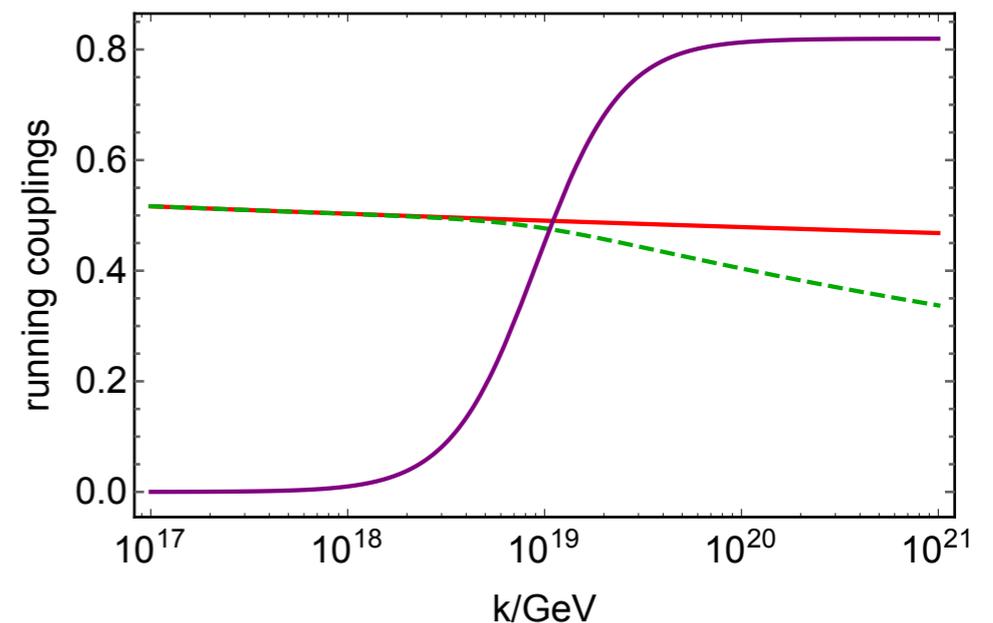
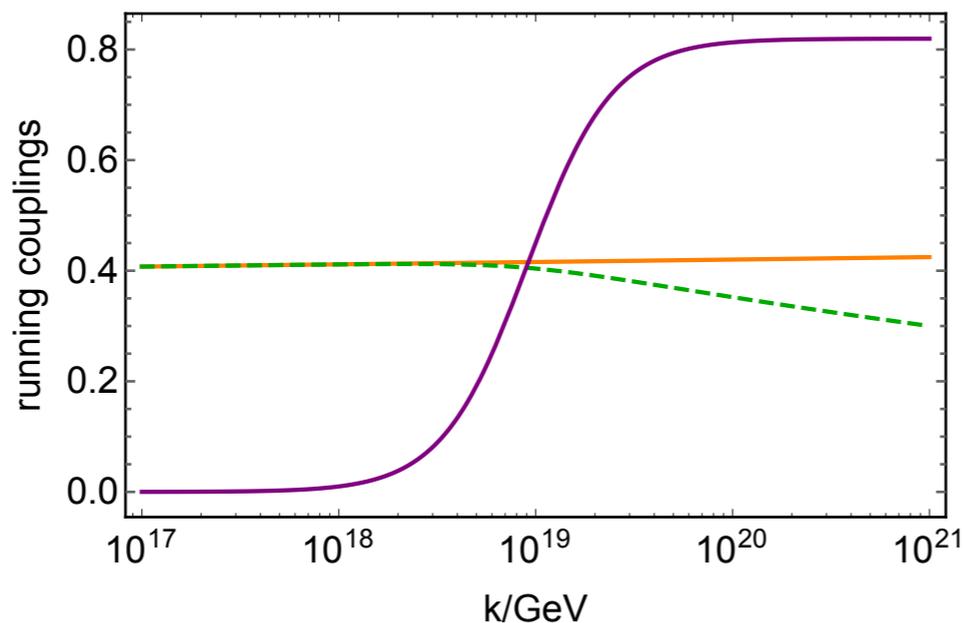
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=> asymptotic freedom in all gauge couplings



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Top mass from asymptotic safety

reminder: y_t = free parameter in SM $M_t \approx 172.4 \text{ GeV}$ [CMS '16]

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vanish in UV

two regimes in gravitational coupling space:

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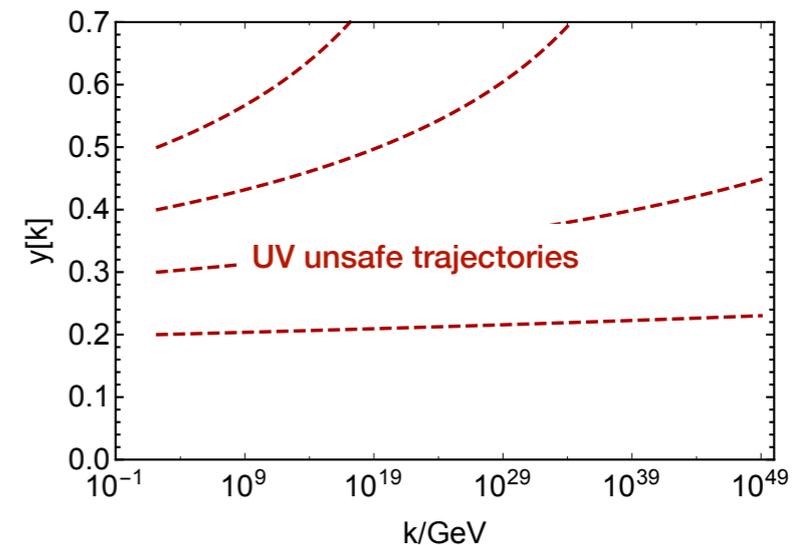
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drive the coupling to increasing values
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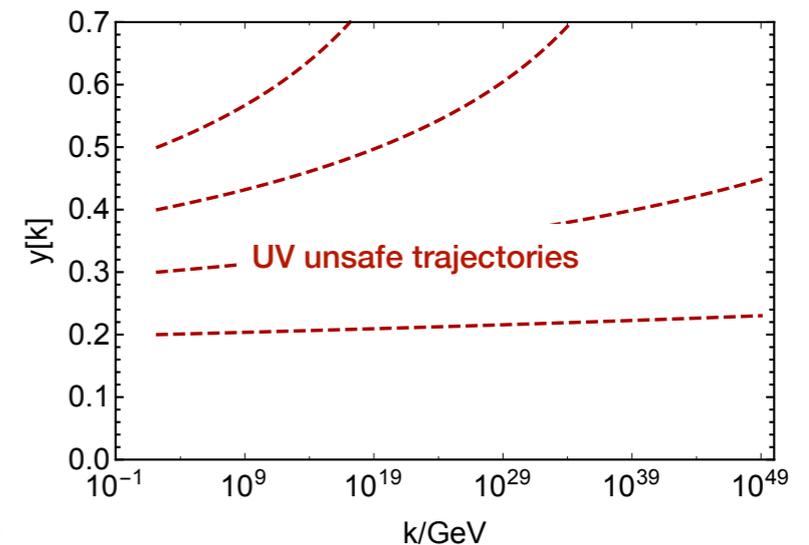
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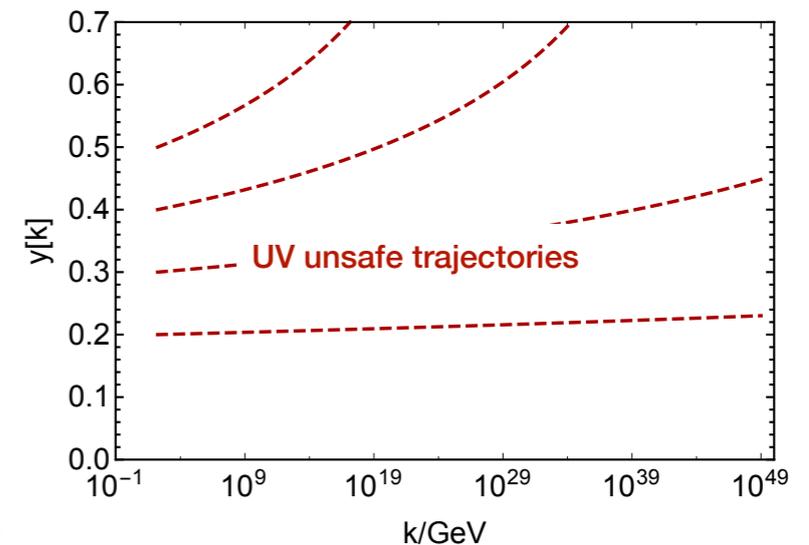
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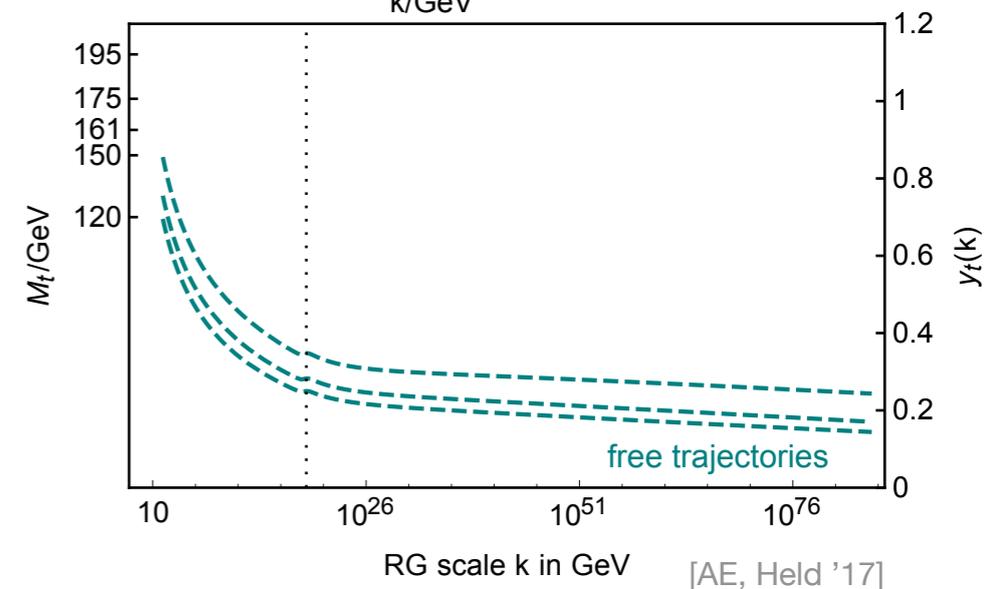
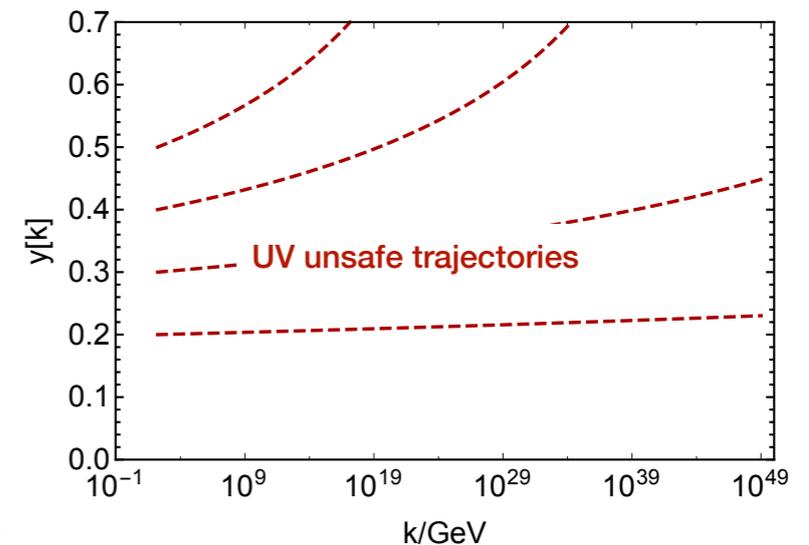
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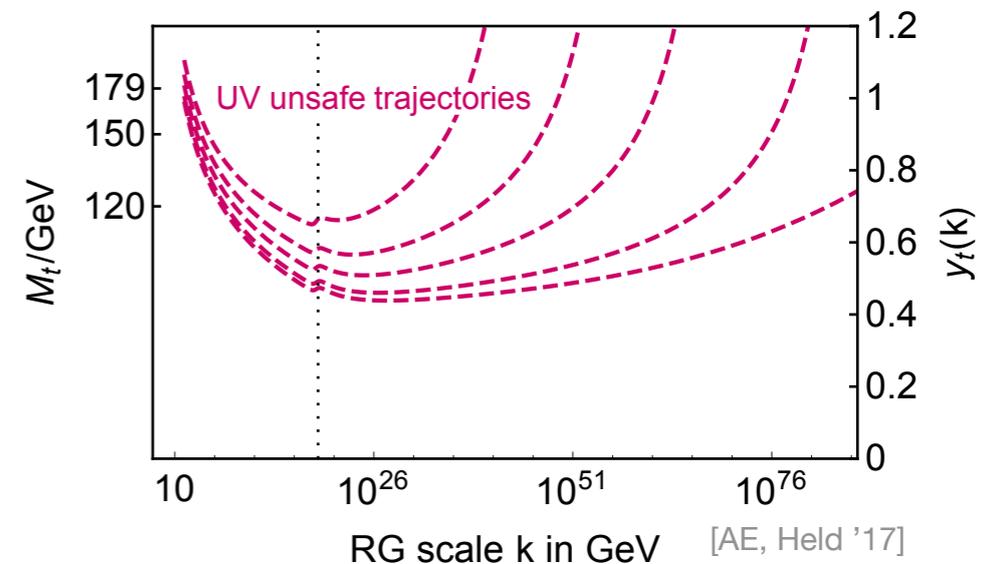
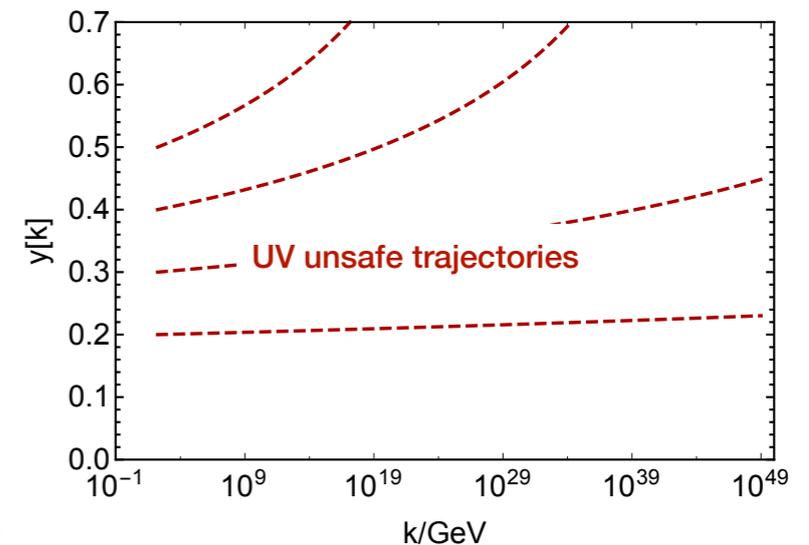
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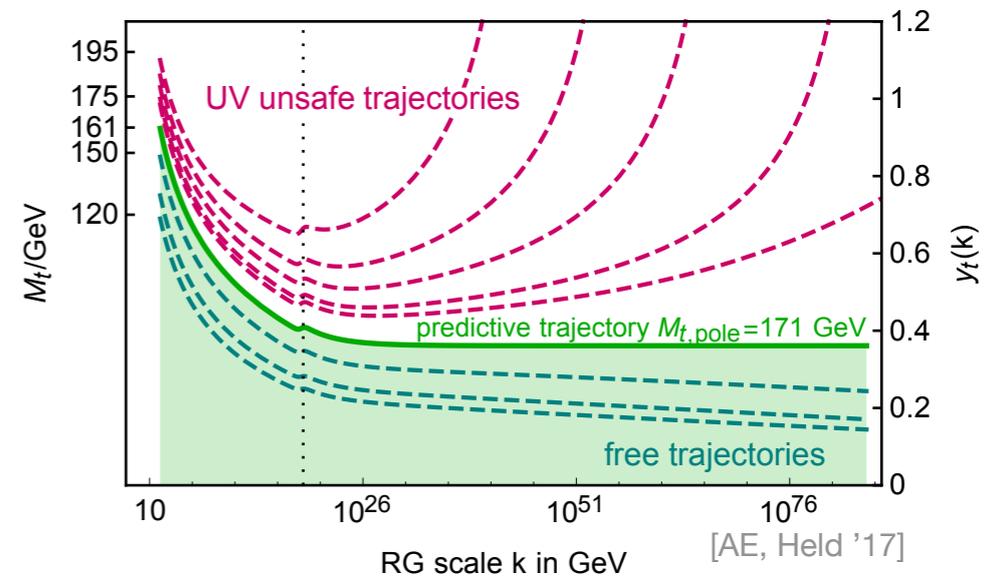
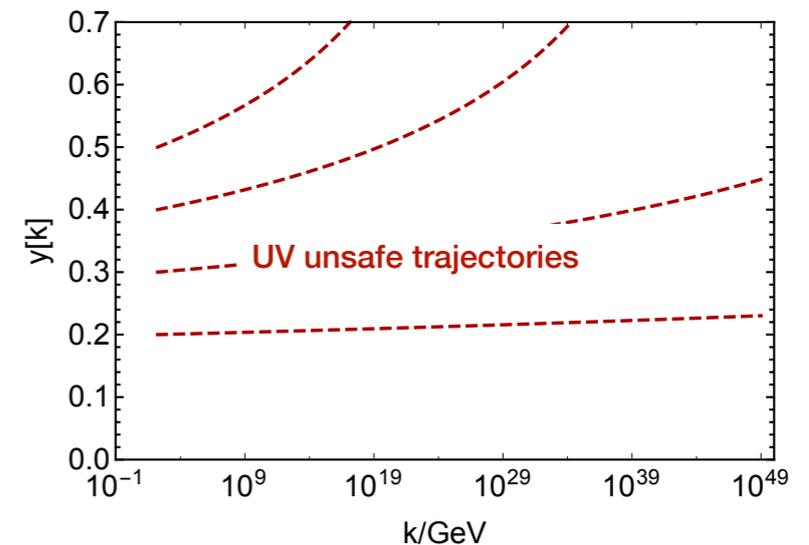
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Top-bottom mass difference from asymptotic safety

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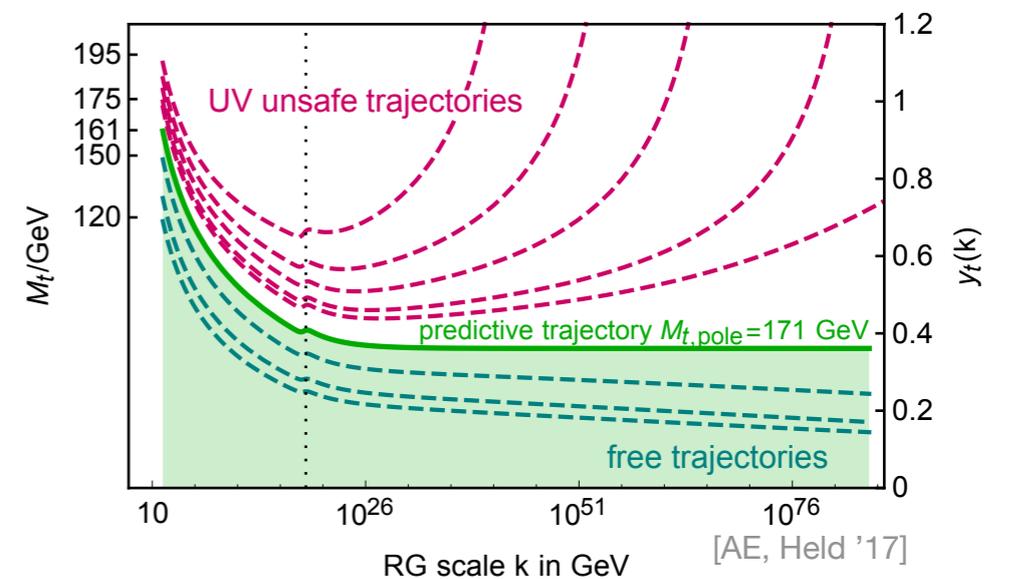
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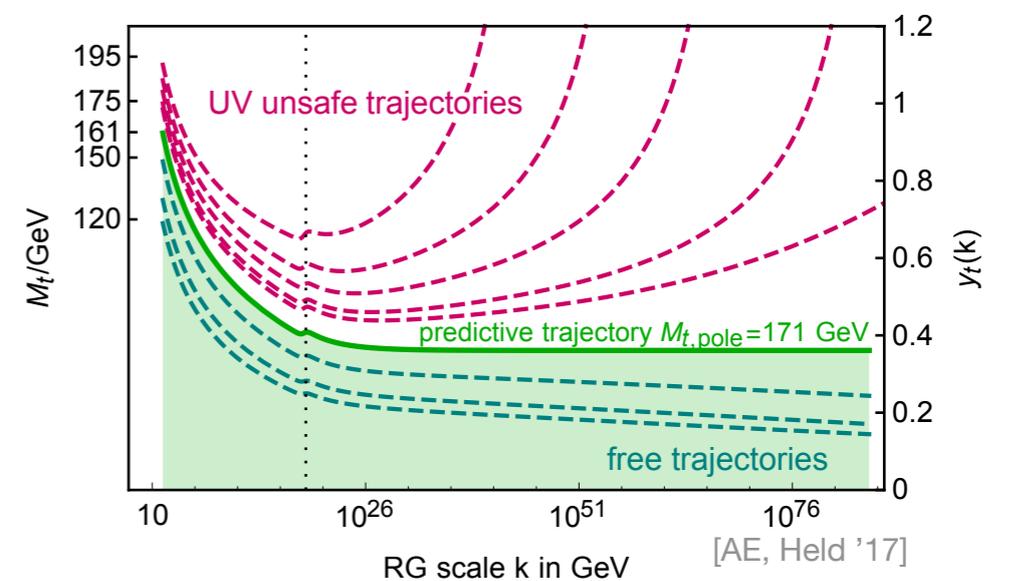
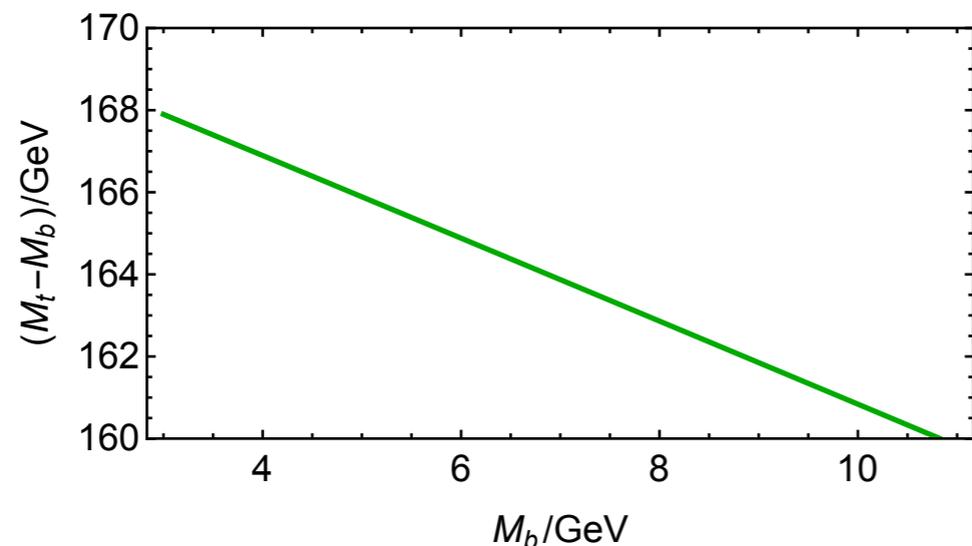
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y_b becomes asymptotically free
 $\rightarrow M_b < M_t$

y_t becomes asymptotically safe



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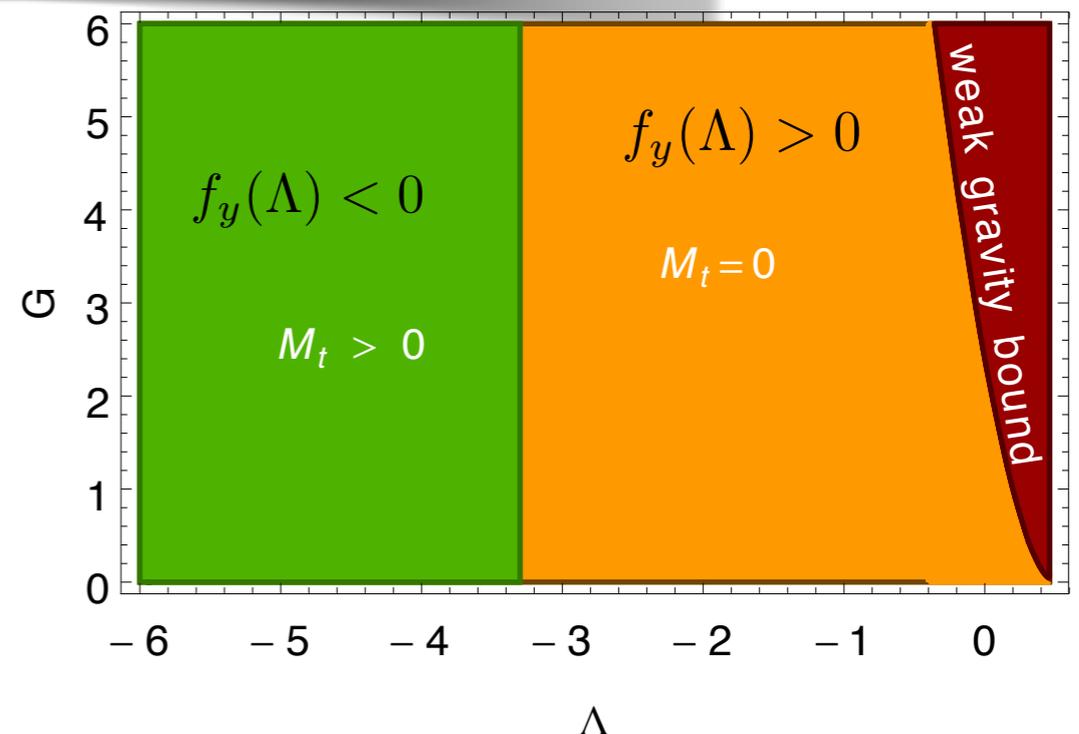
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two regimes in gravitational coupling space:

$$f_y(\Lambda) > 0$$

**Which regime do the
microscopic gravitational couplings fall into?**

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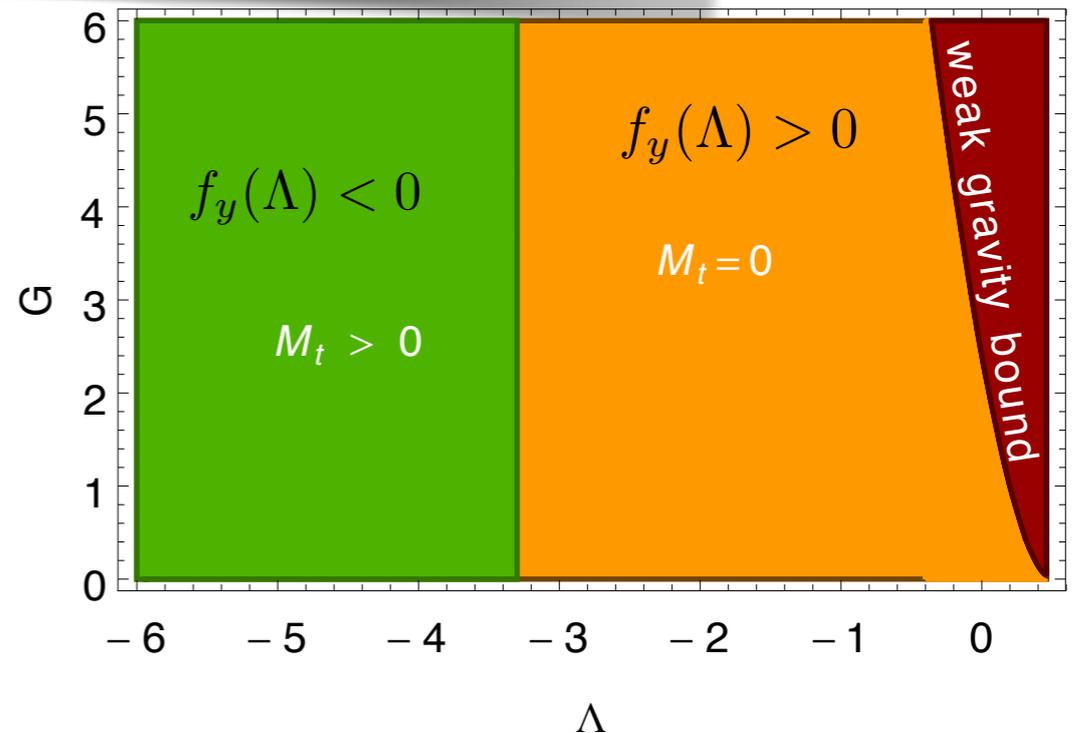
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pure gravity case:

$$f_y(\Lambda) > 0 \quad [\text{see table in AE, Held 05/17}]$$

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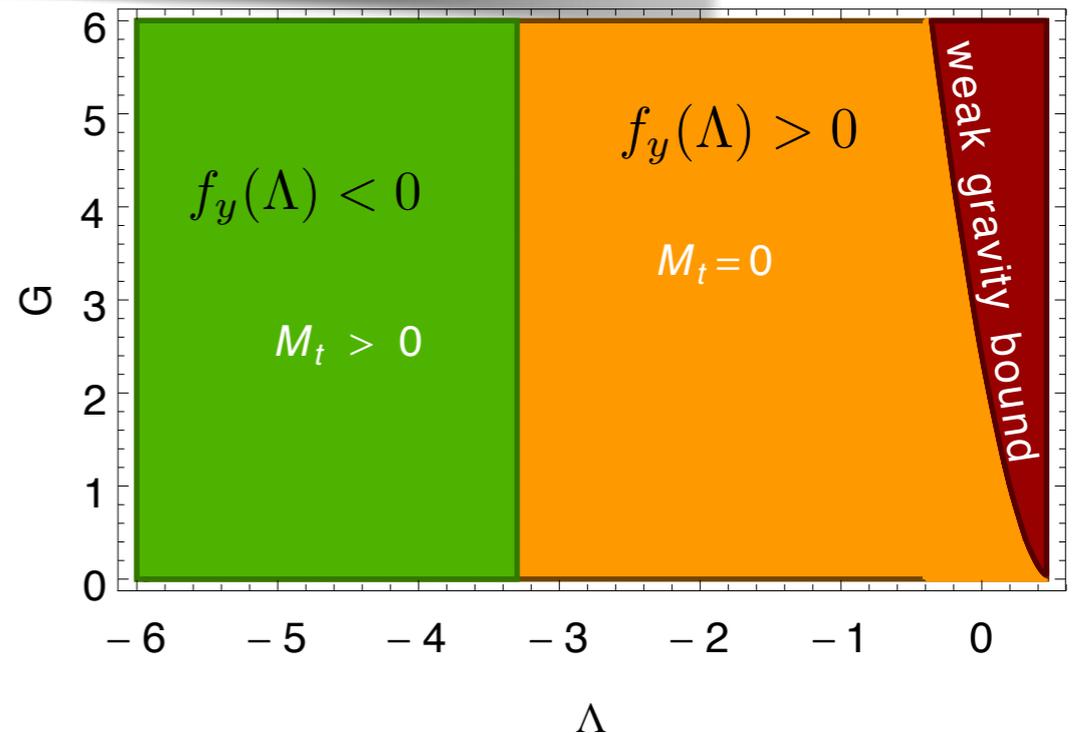
pure gravity case:

$$f_y(\Lambda) > 0 \quad [\text{see table in AE, Held 05/17}]$$

$$f_y(\Lambda) < 0$$

Einstein-Hilbert gravity & minimally coupled Standard Model matter:

$$f_y(\Lambda) < 0 \quad [\text{Dona, AE, Percacci '13}]$$



warning: simple approximation convergence to be checked!

Top mass from asymptotic safety

reminder: $y_t = \text{free parameter in SM}$ $M_t \approx 172.4 \text{ GeV}$ [CMS '16]

$$\beta_{y_t} = \frac{1}{32\pi^2} \left(9y_t^3 + 3y_b^2 y_t + \text{gauge-boson fluctuations} \right) + G y_t f_y(\Lambda)$$

[AE, Held, Pawłowski '16, AE, Held '17]

vanish in UV

two regimes in gravitational coupling space:

$$f_y(\Lambda) > 0$$

**Which regime do the
microscopic gravitational couplings fall into?**

pure gravity case:

$$f_y(\Lambda) > 0$$

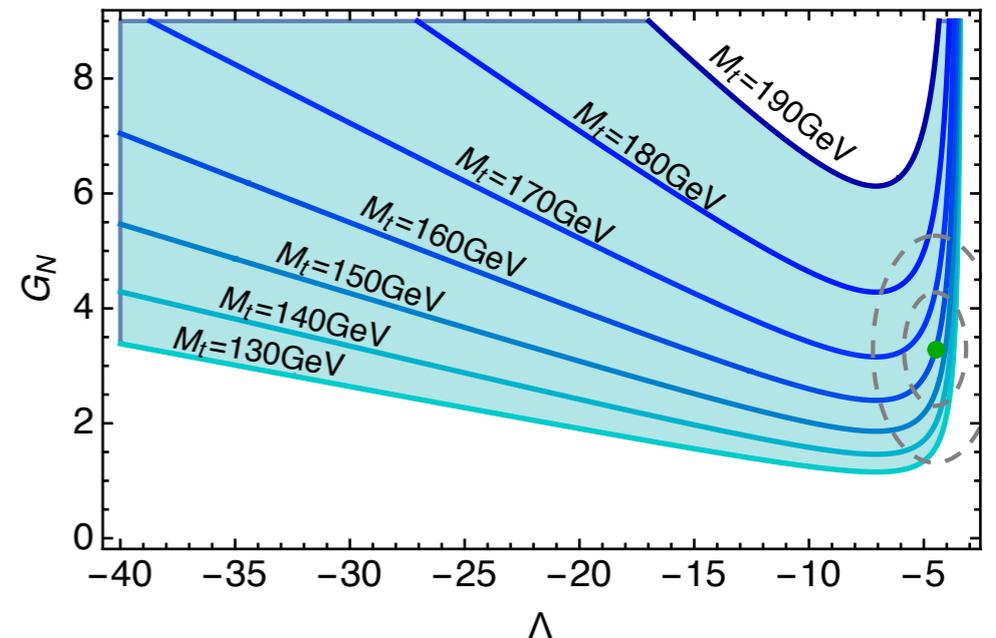
[see table in AE, Held 05/17]

**Einstein-Hilbert gravity
& minimally coupled
Standard Model matter:**

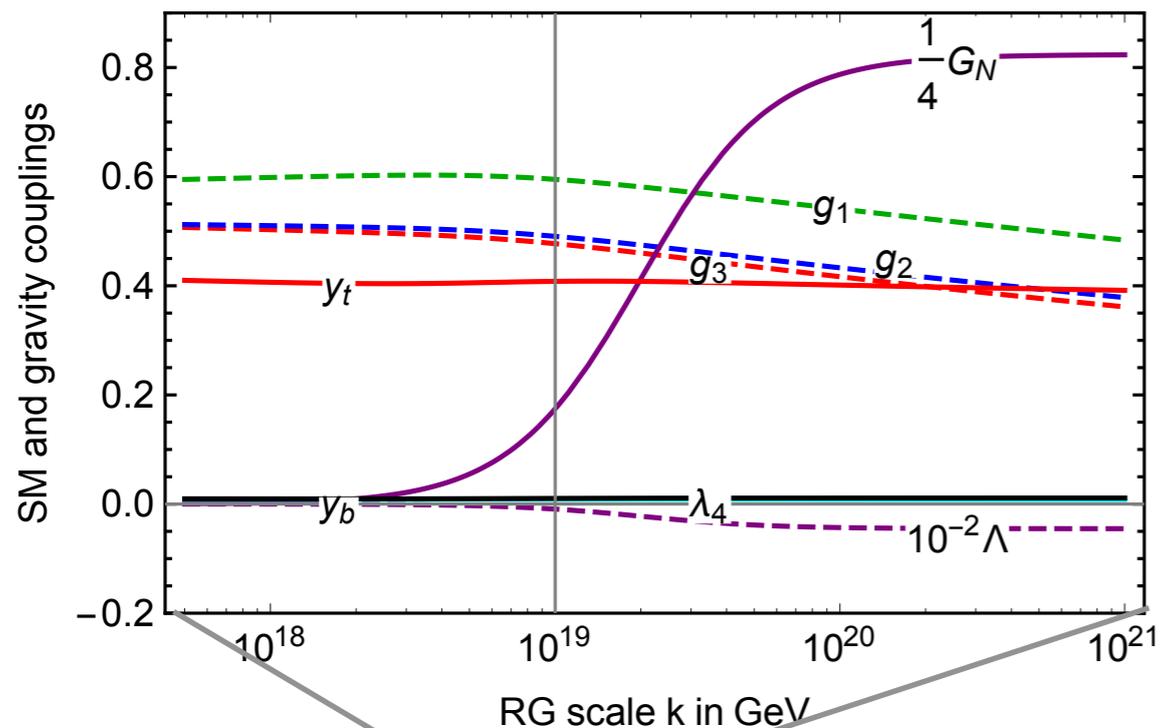
$$f_y(\Lambda) < 0$$

[Dona, AE, Percacci '13]

warning:
simple approximation
convergence to be checked!



Top mass from asymptotic safety - the full picture



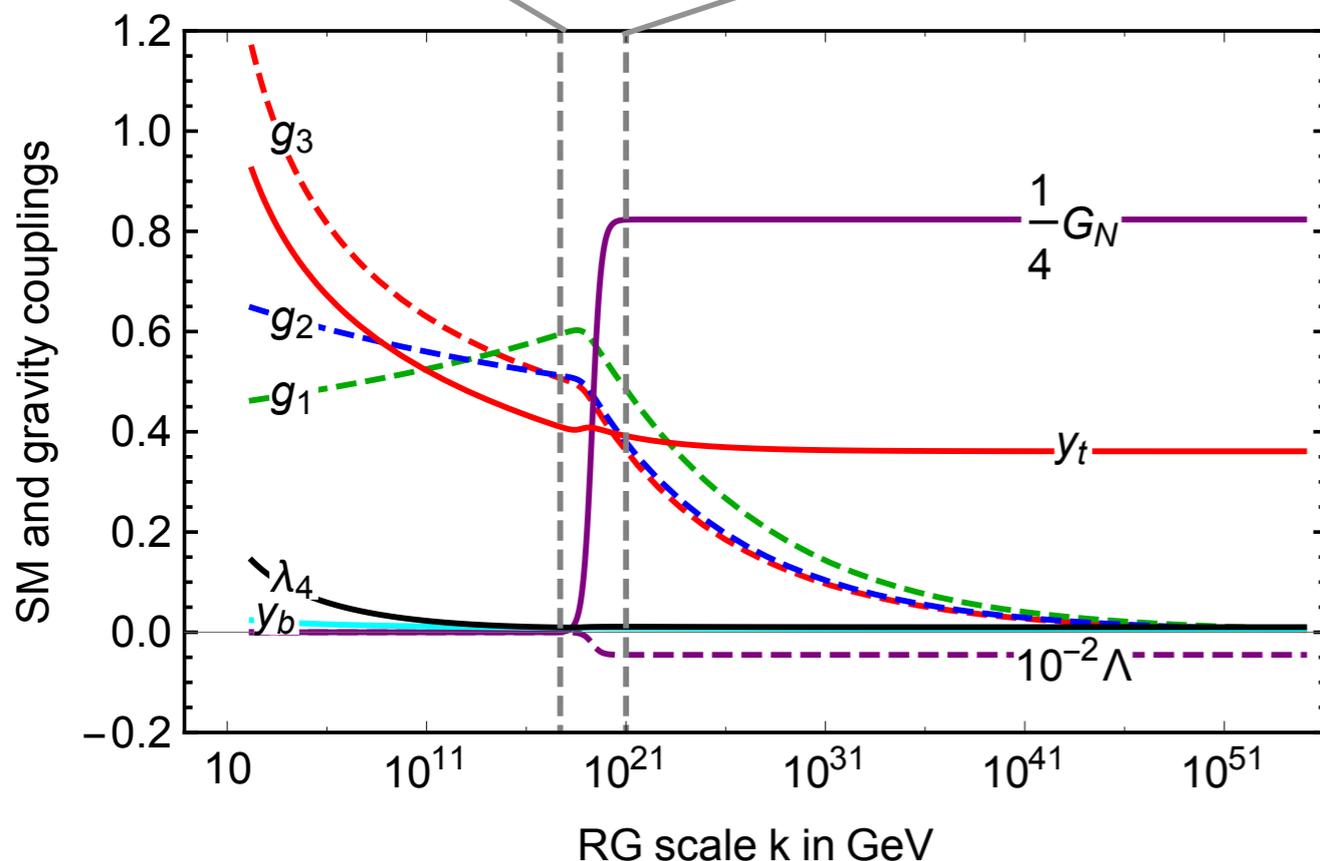
within simple truncations:

- asymptotic freedom in all gauge couplings (incl. Abelian hypercharge)

[Daum, Harst, Reuter '10; Folkerts, Litim, Pawłowski '11; Harst, Reuter '11, Christiansen, AE '17, AE, Versteegen '17]

- asymptotic safety in top Yukawa coupling with $M_t \gg M_b$ fixed uniquely: $M_t \approx 170$ GeV

[AE, Held, Pawłowski '16; AE, Held 05/17, 07/17]



- Higgs mass: fixed uniquely [Shaposhnikov, Wetterich '09] here: simple truncation w. stable vacuum

$$M_h \gtrsim 130 \text{ GeV}$$

- outlook: vacuum stability from asymptotic safety?

Learning about the dark sector from asymptotic safety

dark sector might only couple gravitationally

→ direct detection very challenging

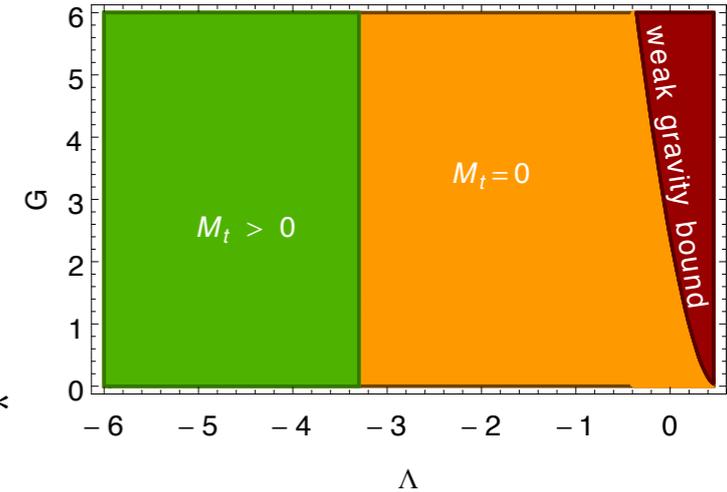
Learning about the dark sector from asymptotic safety

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Learning about the dark sector from asymptotic safety

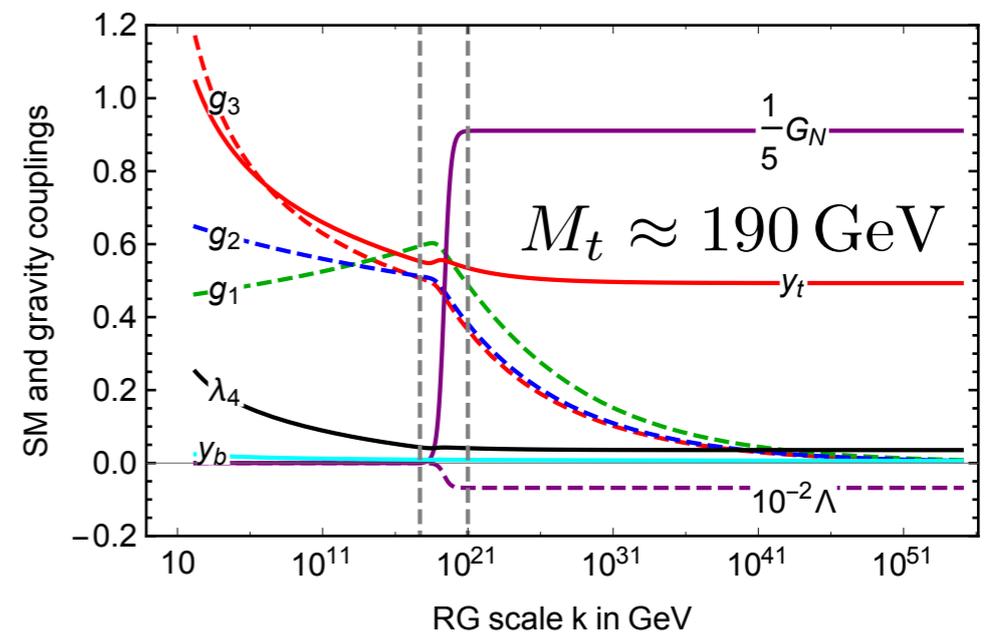
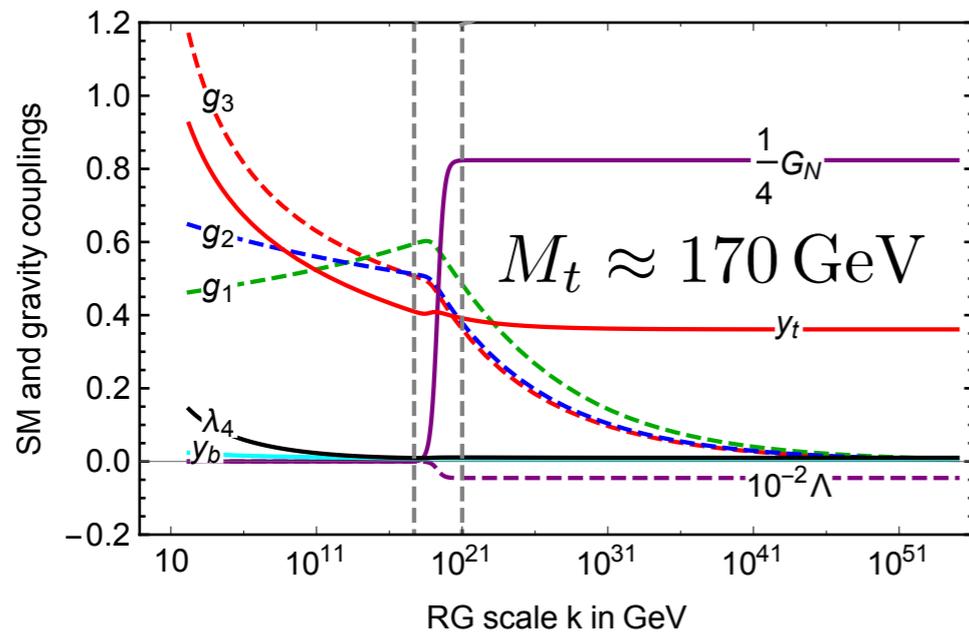
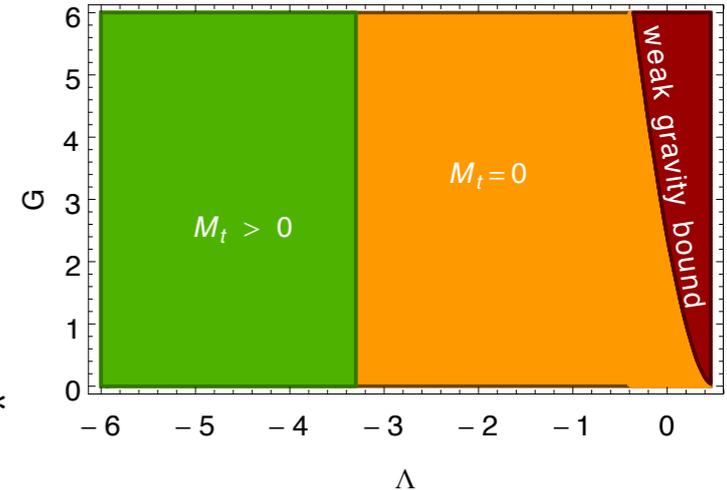
dark sector might only couple gravitationally

→ direct detection very challenging

asymptotic safety: ALL degrees of freedom affect G^* , Λ^*

→ top-mass value depends on dark sector! only gravitationally coupled

toy examples: convergence in fixed-point results: to be tested! SM + 3 Weyl fermions + 1 scalar

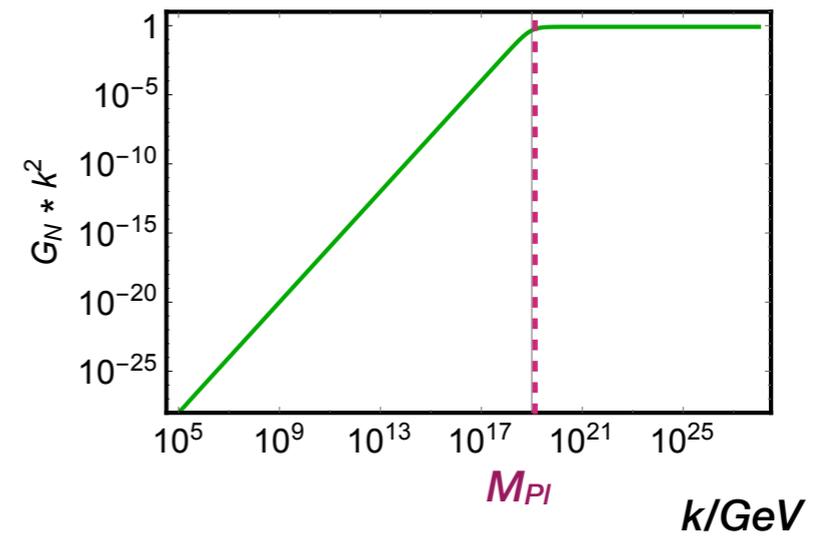


outlook: constrain dark sector by matching top-mass value from AS to measured value...

Conclusions

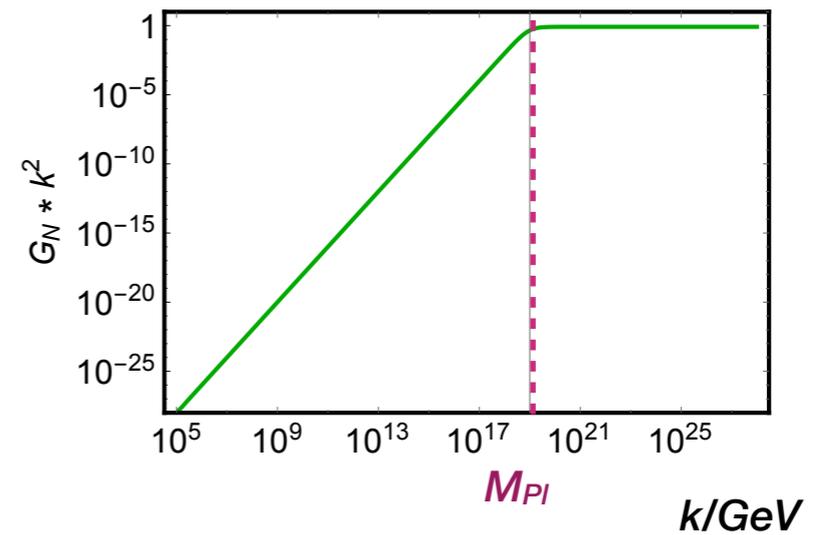
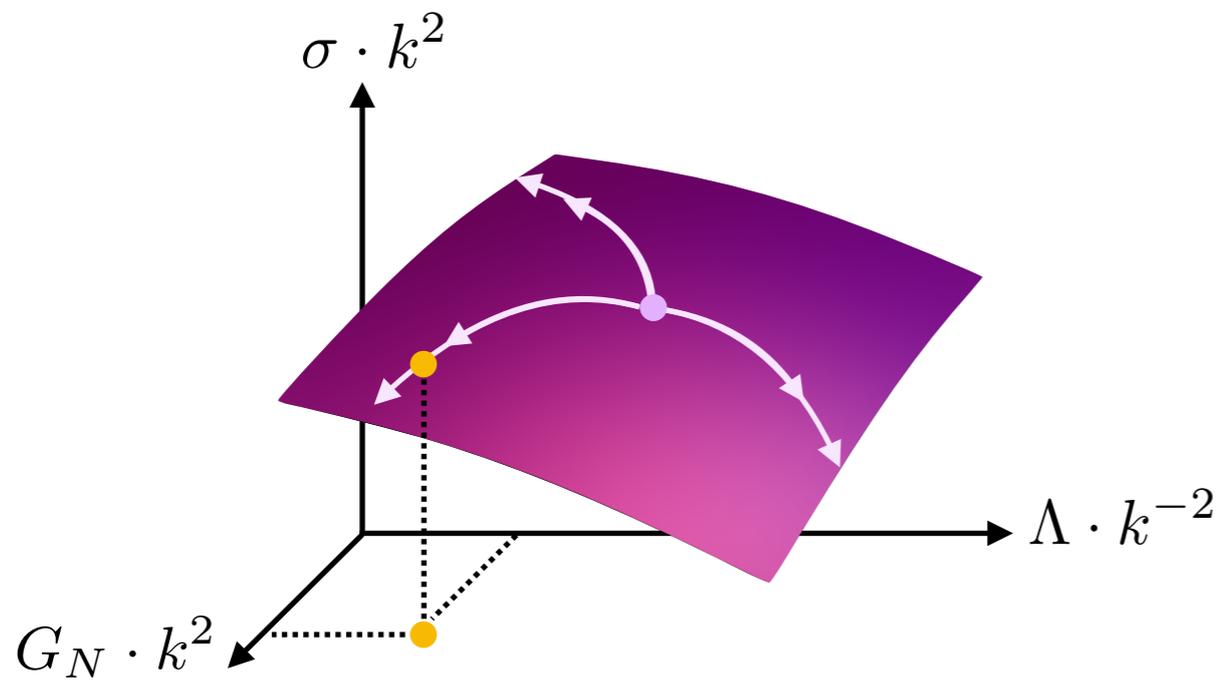
Conclusions

**Asymptotic safety:
Quantum field theory for gravity & matter
on all scales**



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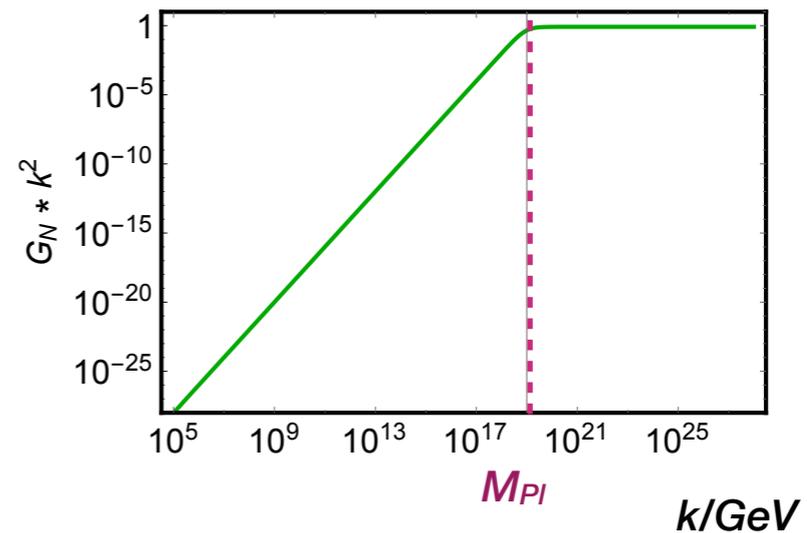
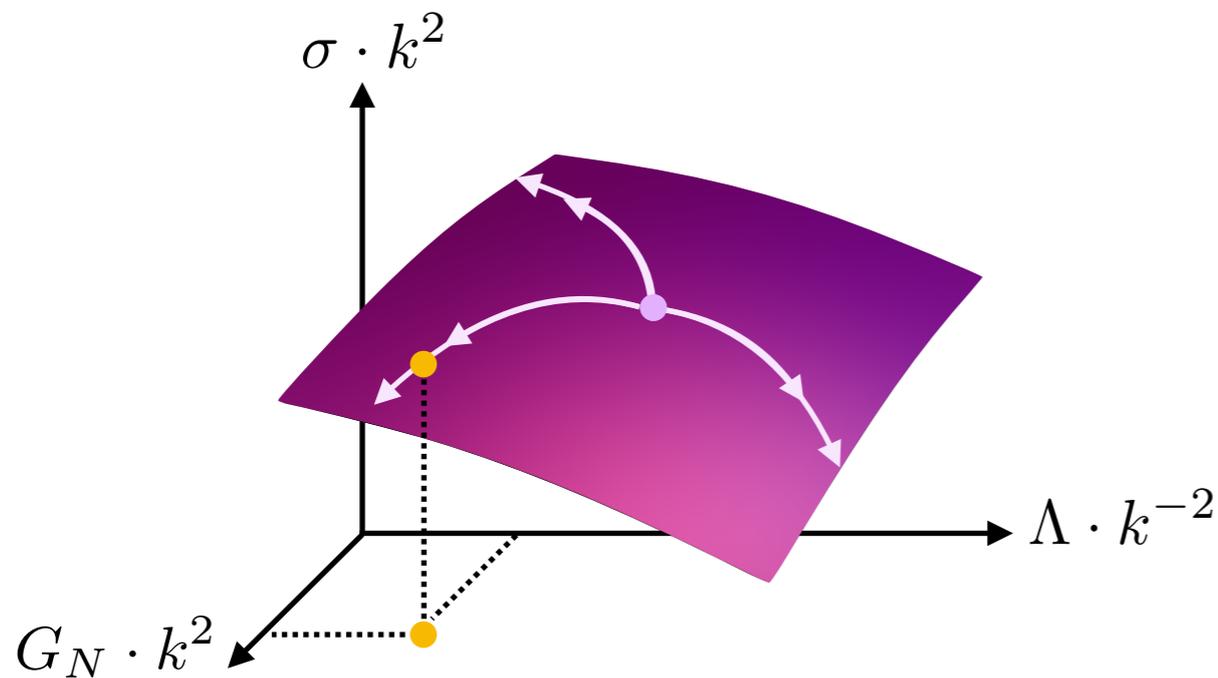


**microscopically:
quantum scale- invariance**

**macroscopically:
predictions for irrelevant couplings**

Conclusions

**Asymptotic safety:
Quantum field theory for gravity & matter
on all scales**



**microscopically:
quantum scale- invariance**

**macroscopically:
predictions for irrelevant couplings**

**potential consequences:
UV completion for Standard Model
with fewer free parameters:
top-mass value explained,
mass-difference to bottom generated**

- outlook:**
- quantitative convergence
 - what about the other parameters of the SM?
 - global stability of Higgs potential & link to Higgs inflation

