

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](#))

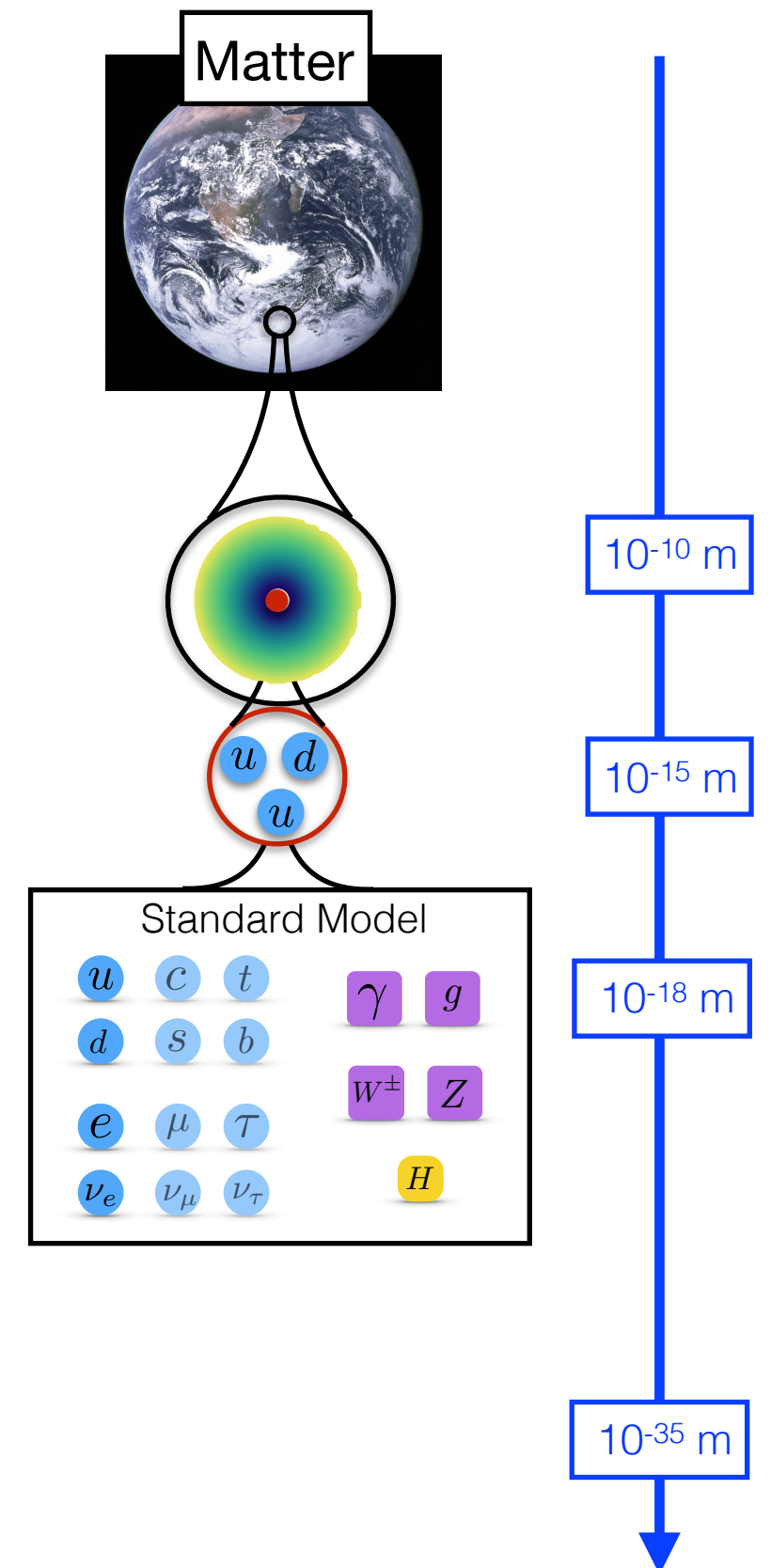
Nic Christiansen ([1702.07724](#); Phys.Lett. B770 (2017) 154-160)

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

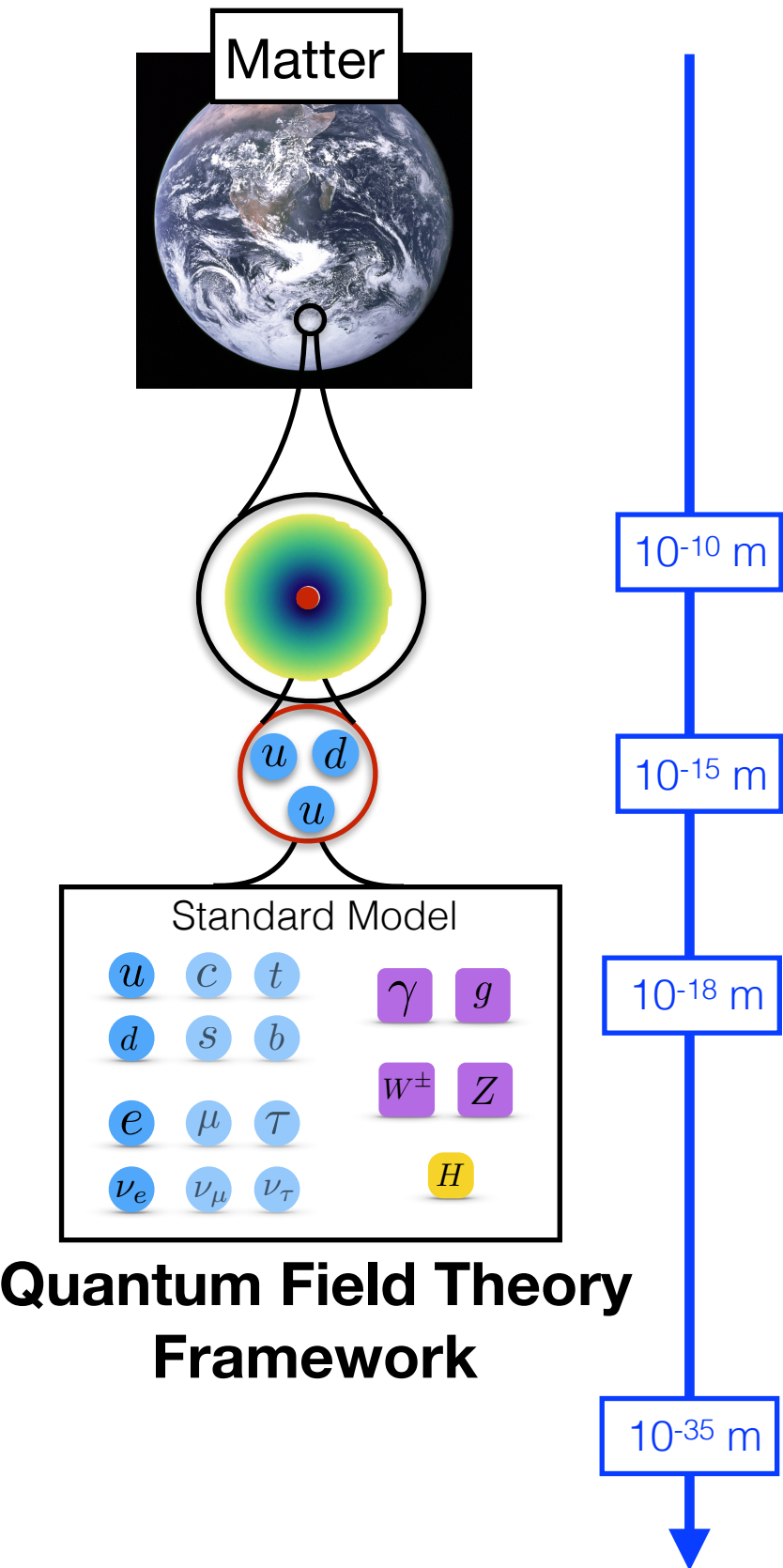
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What are the fundamental building blocks of our universe?



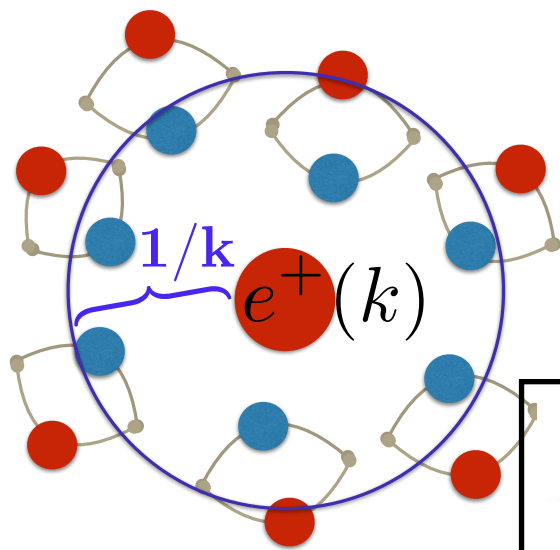
What are the fundamental building blocks of our universe?



What are the fundamental building blocks of our universe?

Status of the Standard Model of particle physics

Quantum fluctuations
generate running
(scale-dependent)
couplings



10^{-10} m

10^{-15} m

10^{-18} m

Standard Model

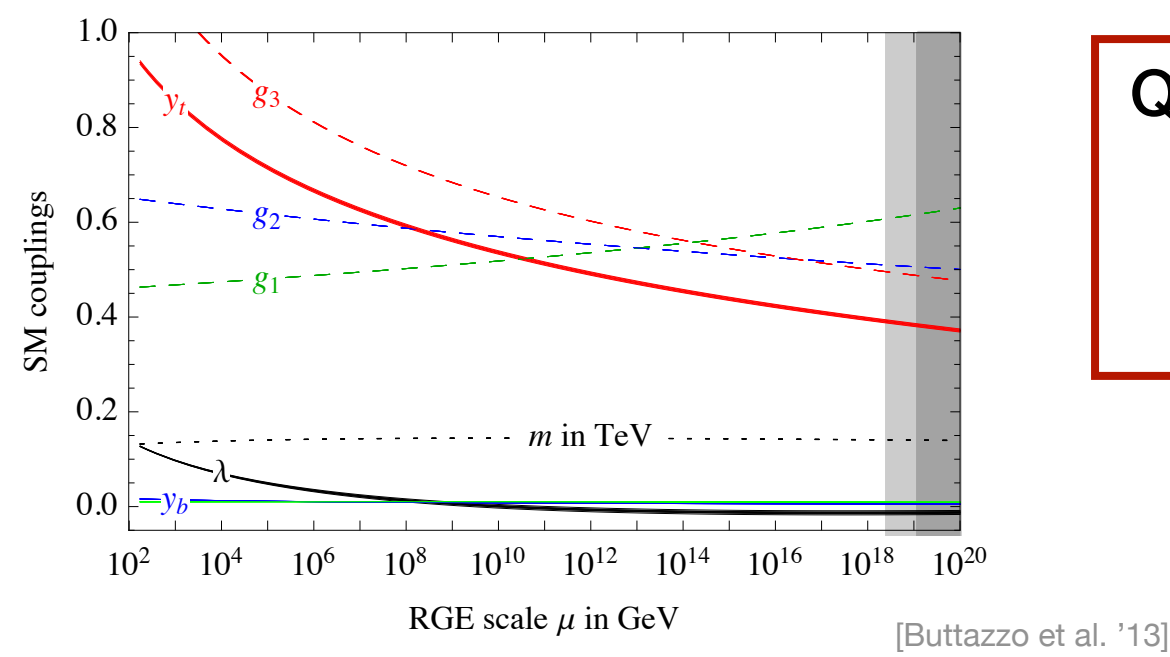
u	c	t	γ	g
d	s	b		
e	μ	τ	W^\pm	Z
ν_e	ν_μ	ν_τ		H

Quantum Field Theory
Framework

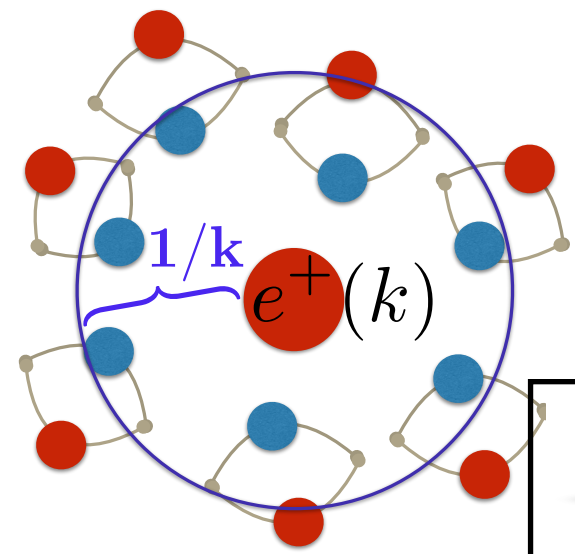
10^{-35} m

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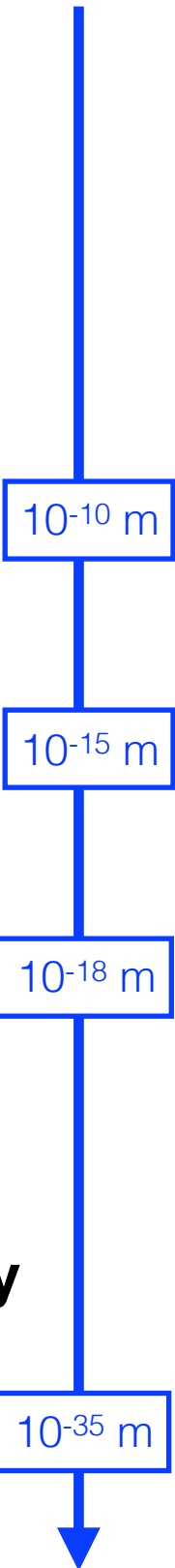
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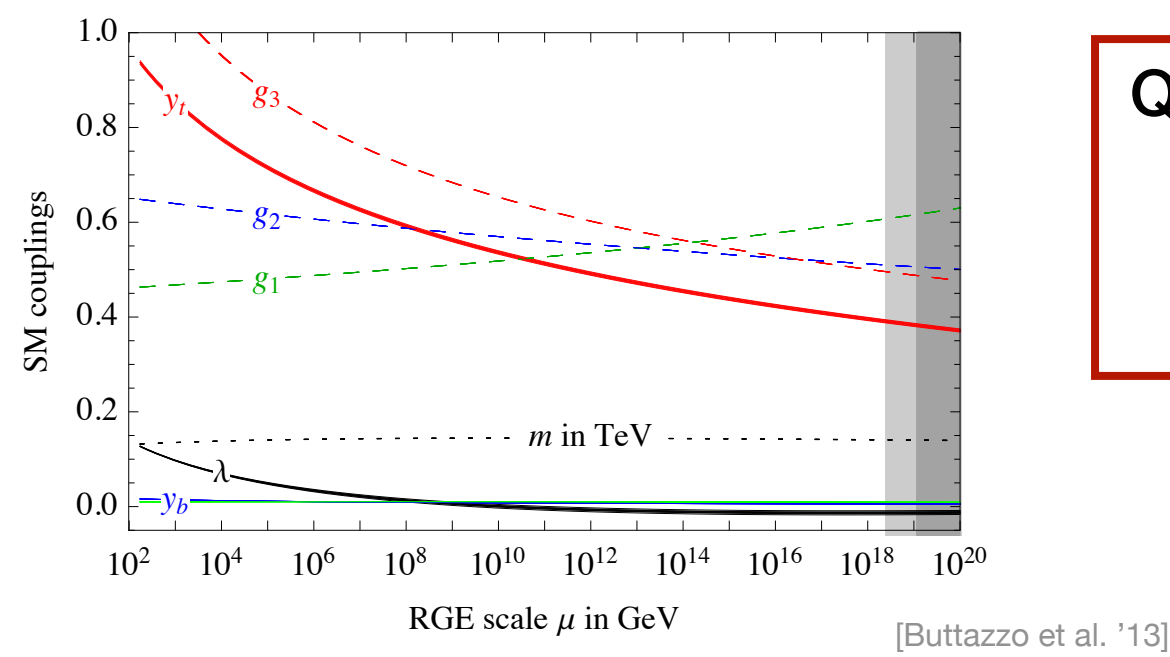
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Quantum Field Theory Framework



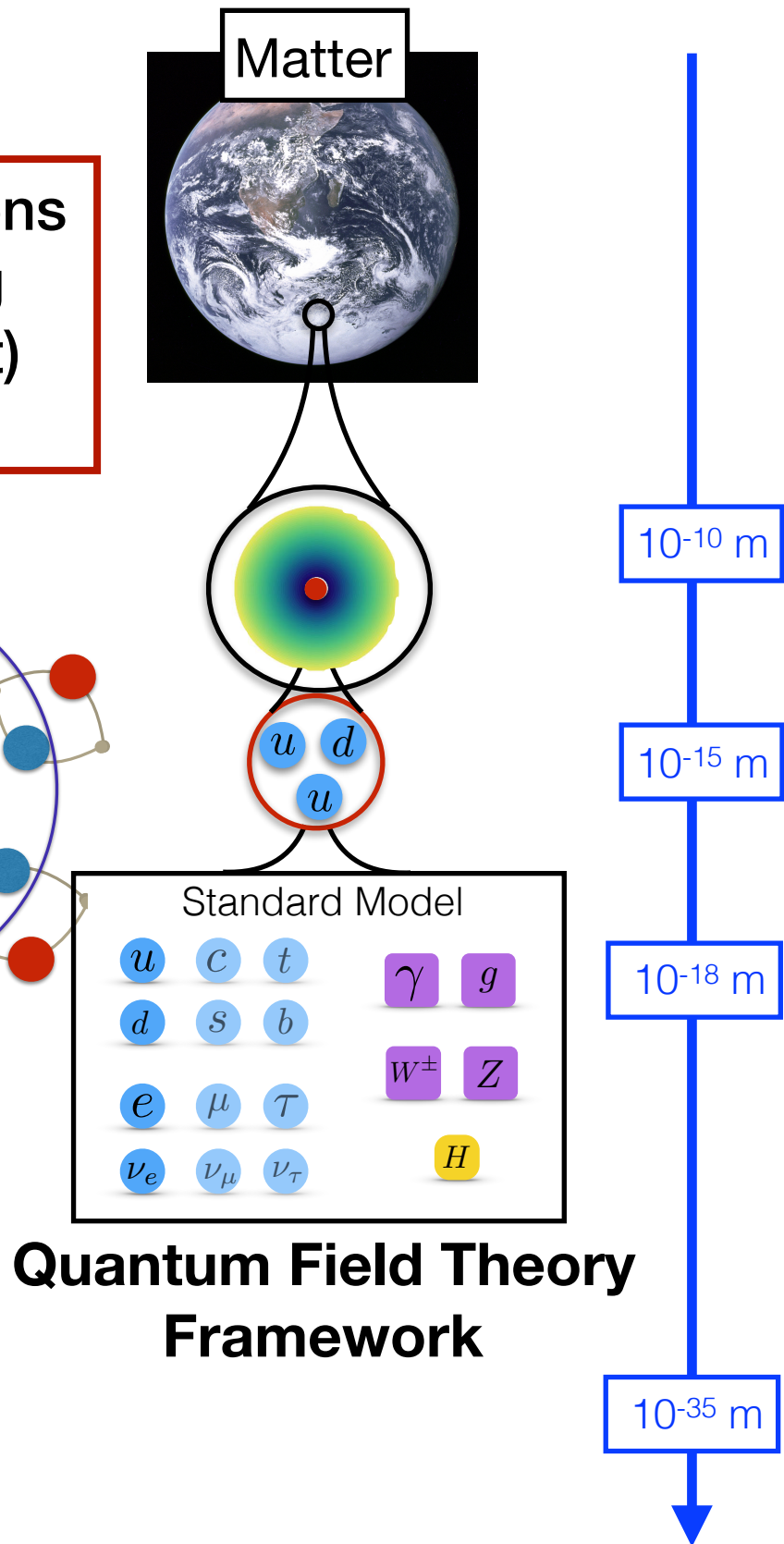
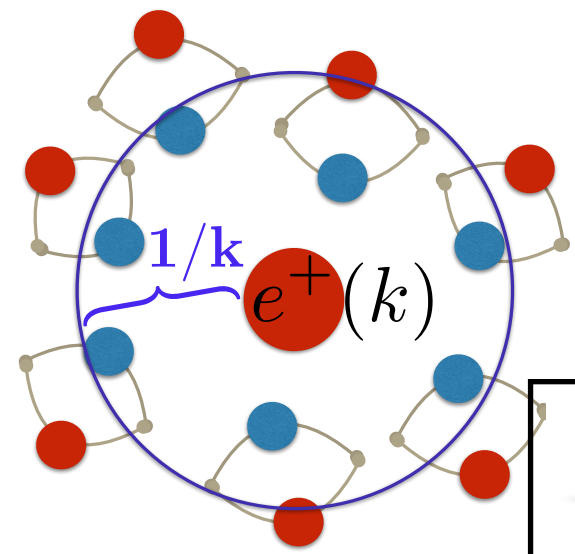
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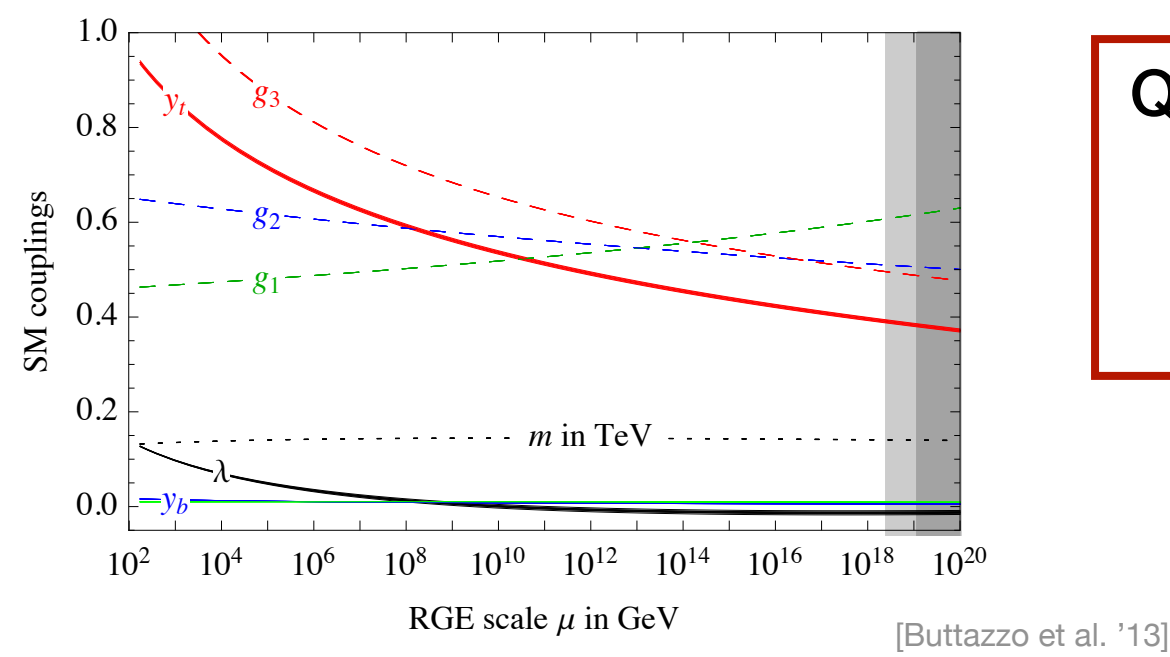
- can extend up to M_{Pl} (@ $M_h \sim 125$ GeV)
- breakdown in transplanckian regime (Landau pole/ triviality problem in Abelian hypercharge & Higgs-Yukawa)

Quantum fluctuations generate running (scale-dependent) couplings



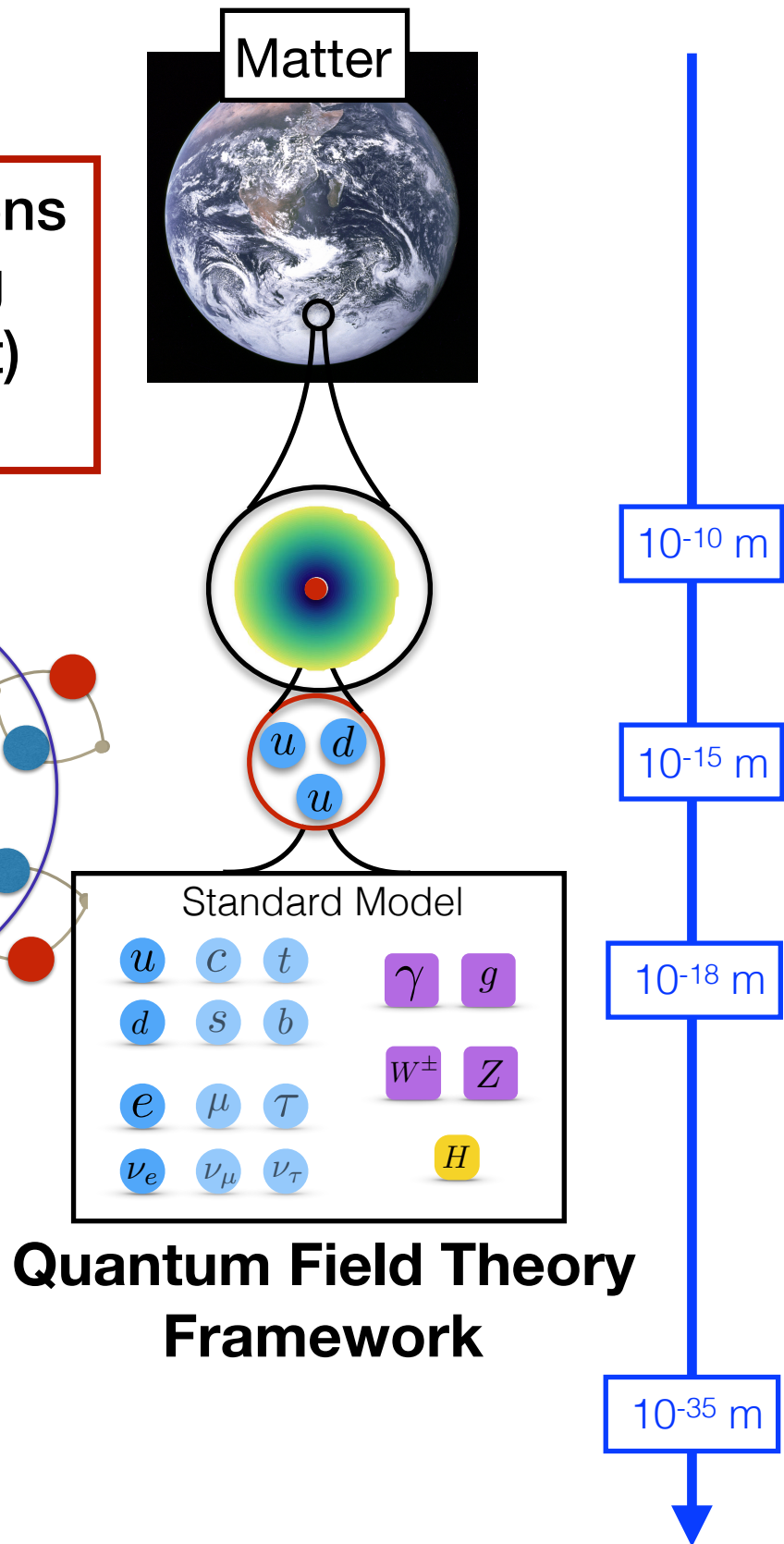
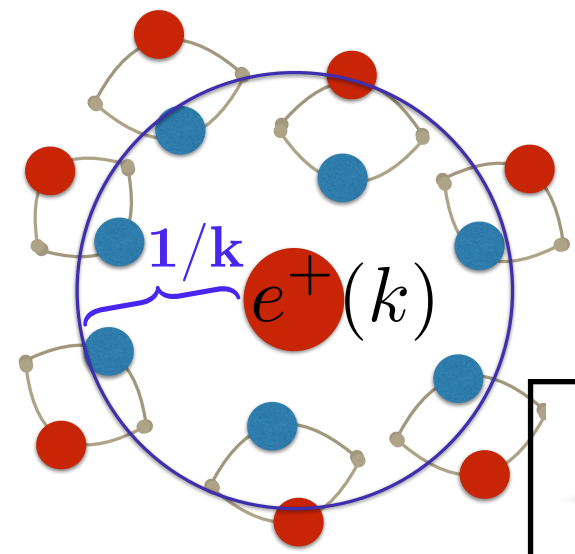
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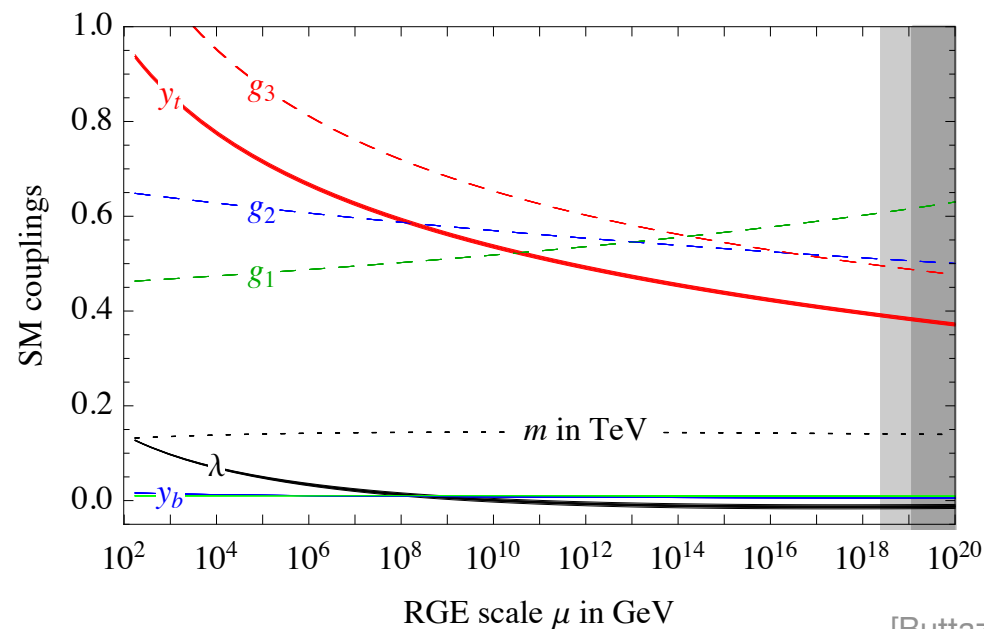
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- fails to include quantum gravity
- 19 free parameters

Quantum fluctuations generate running (scale-dependent) couplings



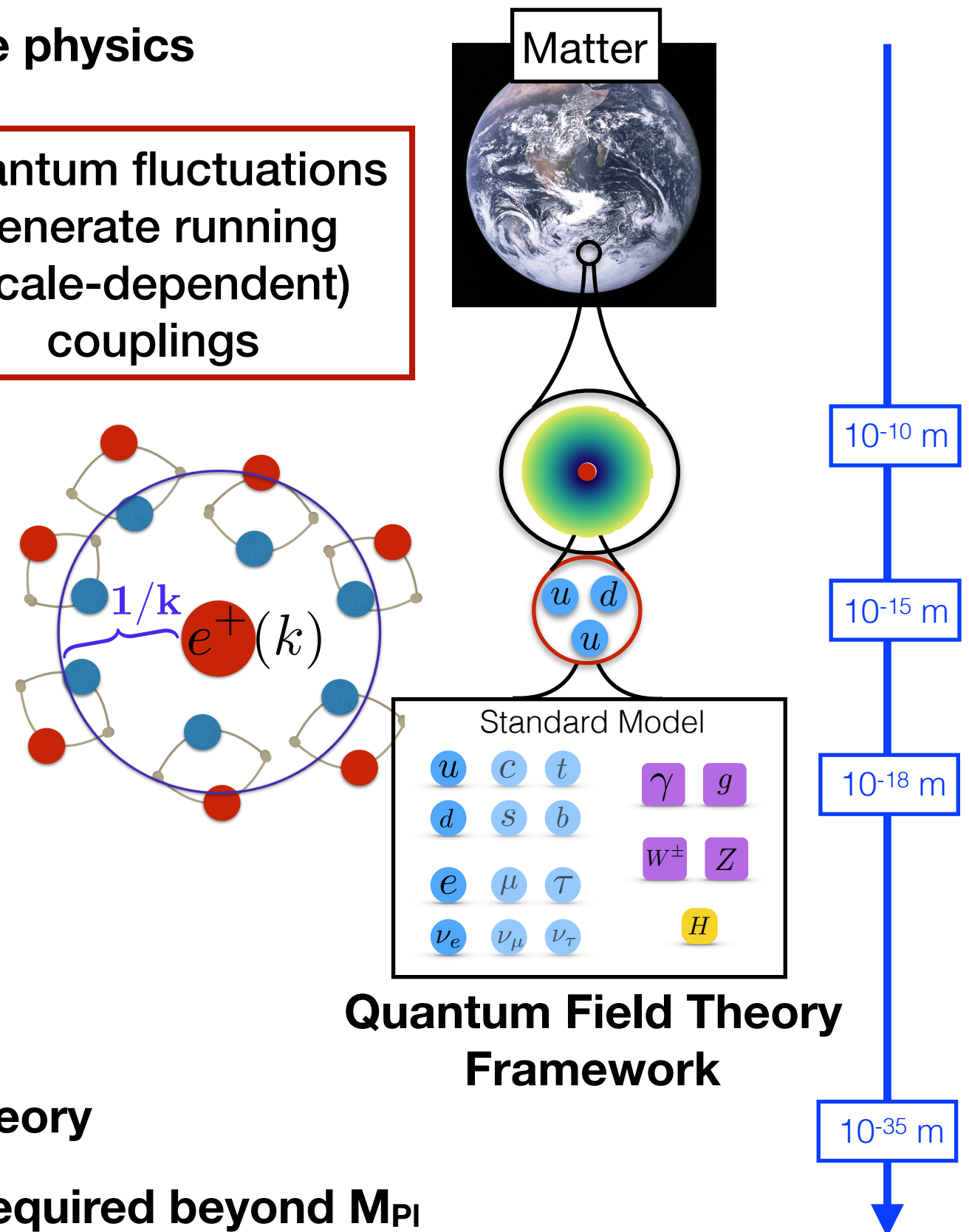
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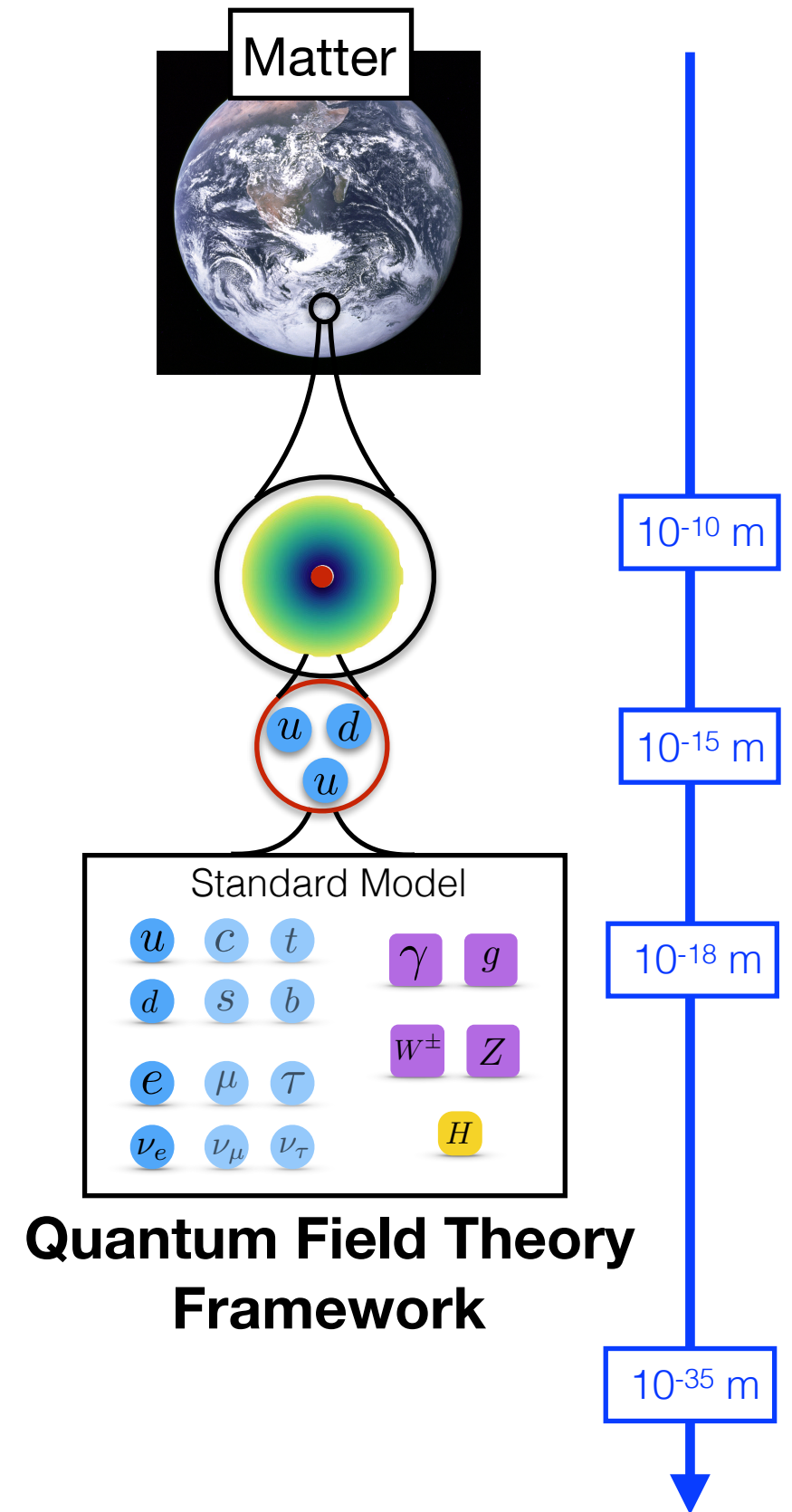
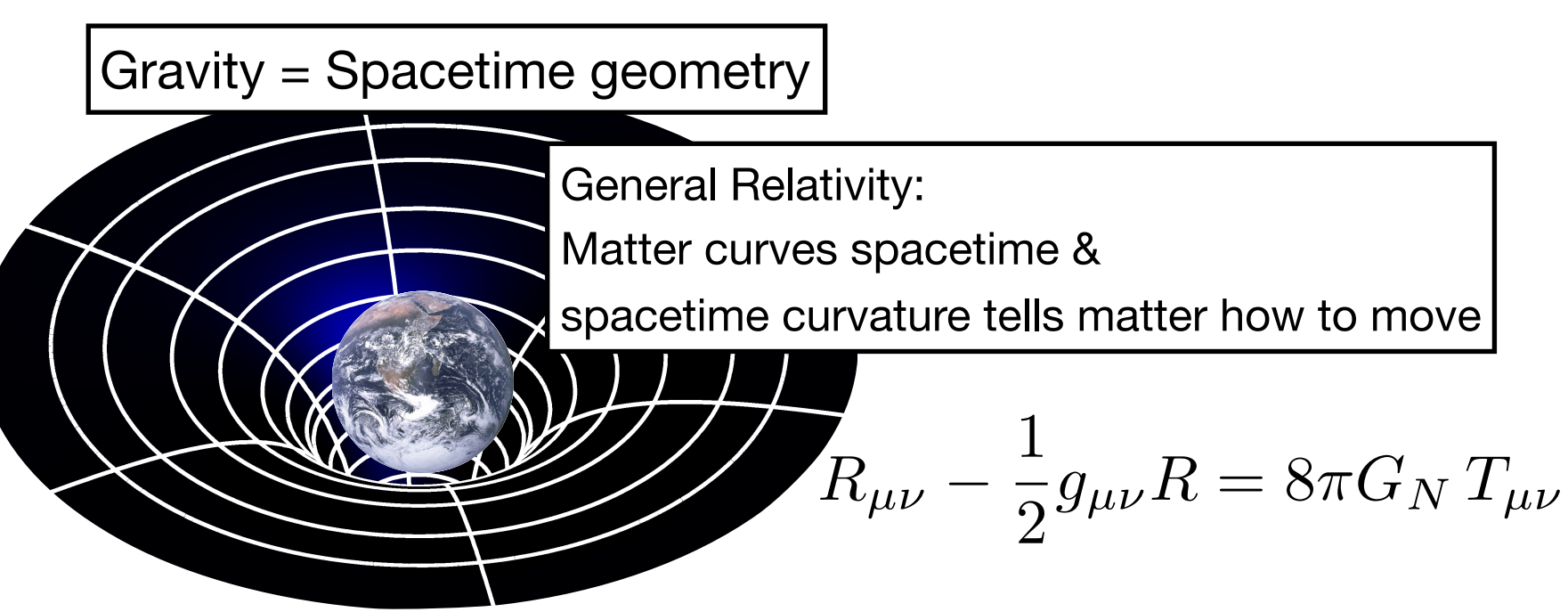


Quantum fluctuations
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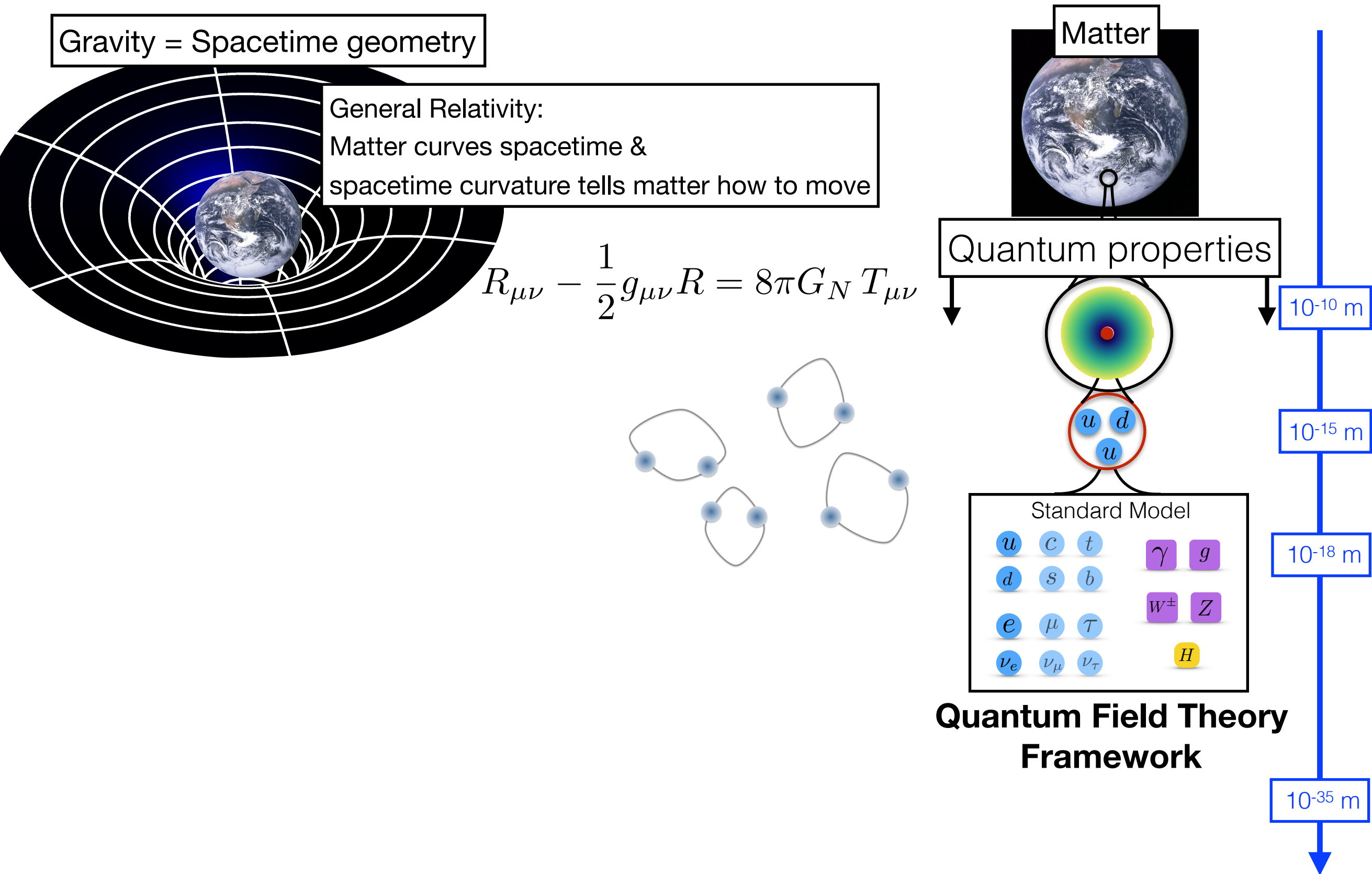
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- fails to include quantum gravity
- 19 free parameters
 - highly successful effective field theory
 - new physics (quantum gravity?!) required beyond M_{Pl}



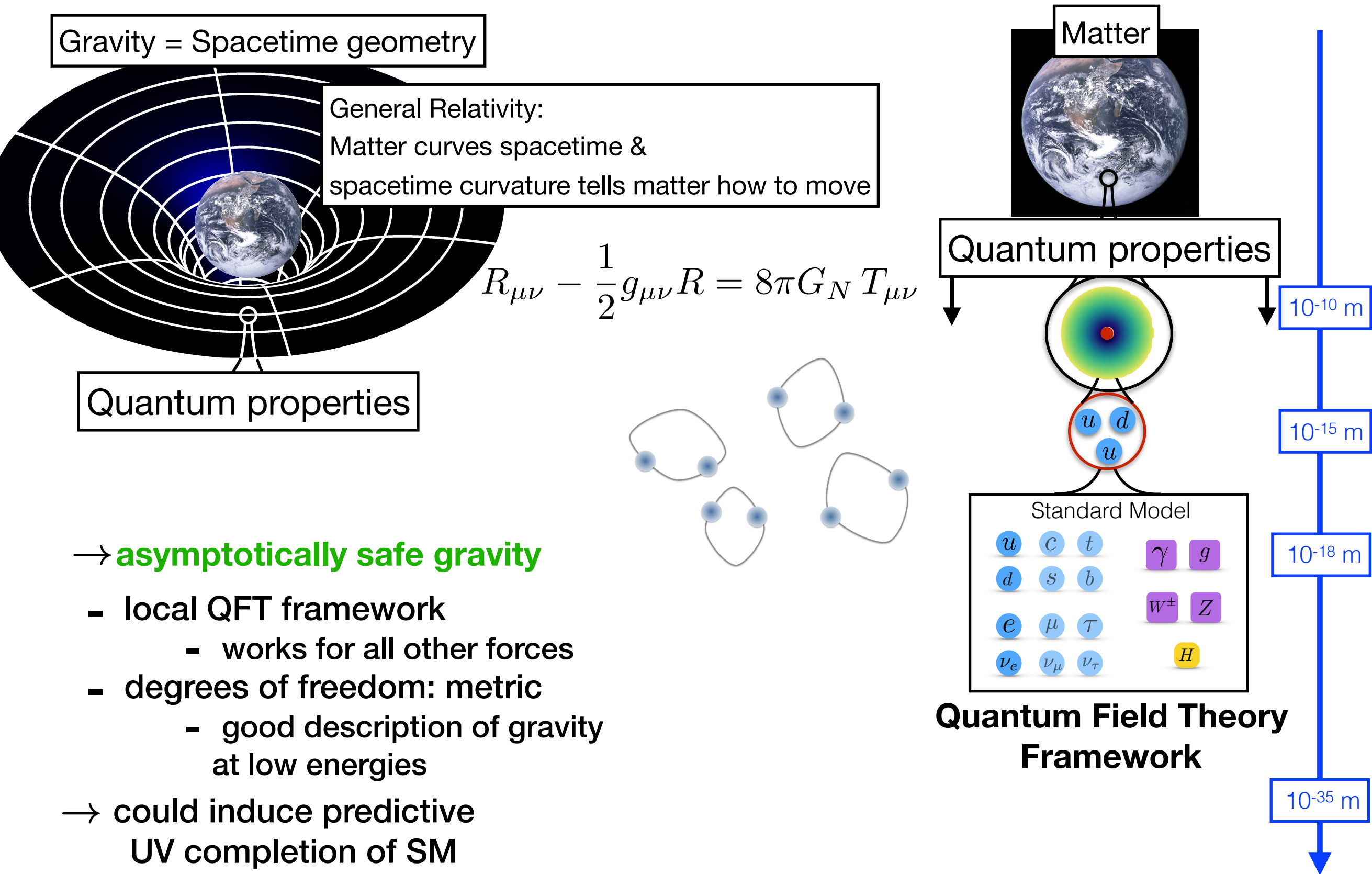
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What are the fundamental building blocks of our universe?



- **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

What are the fundamental building blocks of our universe?

Gravity = Spacetime geometry

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

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R = 8\pi G_N T_{\mu\nu}$$

Quantum properties

Matter

Quantum properties

 10^{-10} m 10^{-15} m 10^{-18} m 10^{-35} m

Standard Model

The diagram illustrates the Standard Model of particle physics, categorized into fermions and bosons.

Fermions (Blue Circles):

- Quarks:** u (up), c (charm), t (top) in the first row; d (down), s (strange), b (bottom) in the second row.
- Leptons:** e (electron), μ (muon), τ (tauon) in the third row; ν_e (electron neutrino), ν_μ (muon neutrino), ν_τ (tauon neutrino) in the fourth row.

Bosons (Purple Squares):

- γ (photon) and g (gluon) in the first row.
- W^\pm (W boson) and Z (Z boson) in the second row.

Higgs Boson (Yellow Circle):

- H (Higgs boson) in the third row.

Quantum Field Theory Framework

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

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;
Deser, Nieuwenhuizen '74

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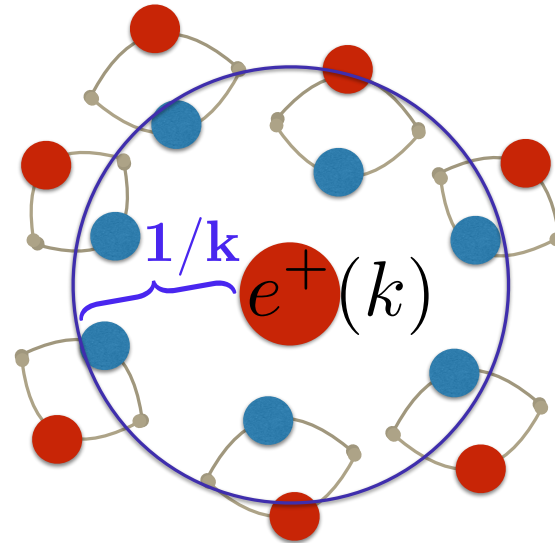
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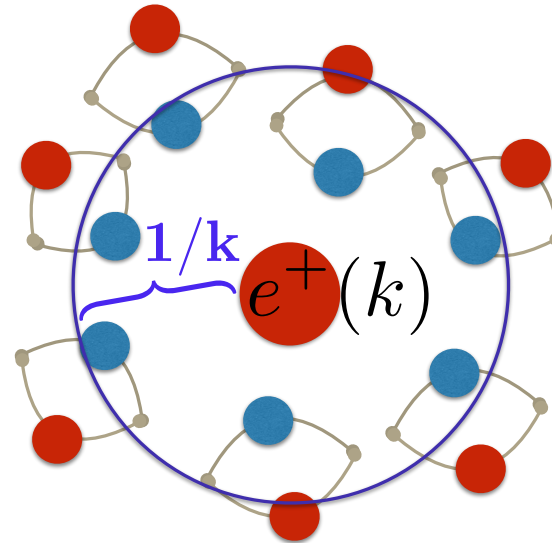
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Quantum fluctuations of **gravity** drive
running **gravitational** couplings



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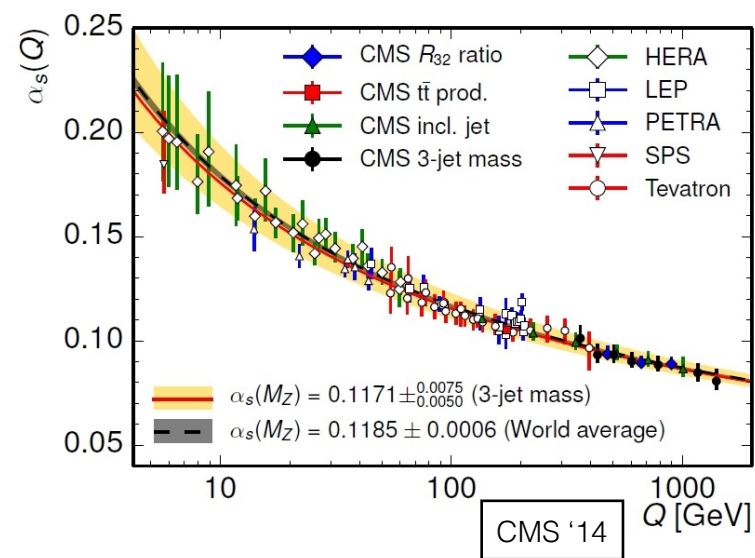
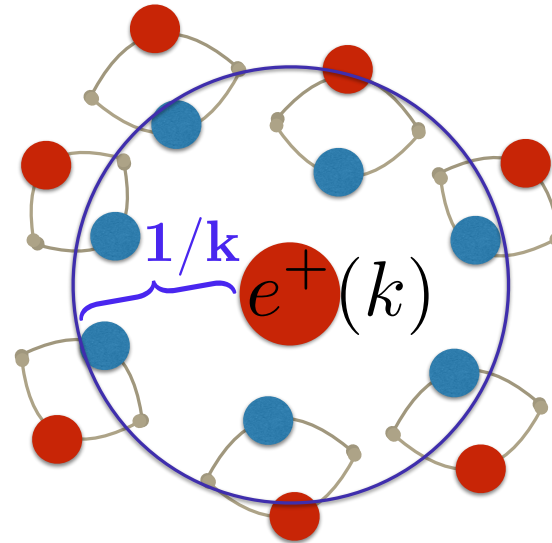
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Asymptotic freedom in non-Abelian gauge theories

[Gross, Wilczek '73; Politzer '73]



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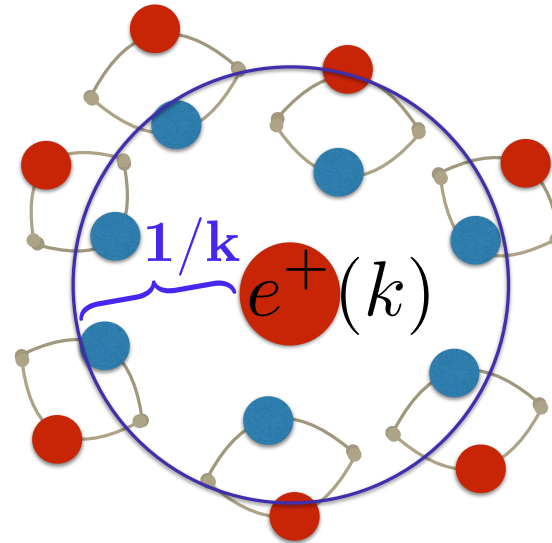
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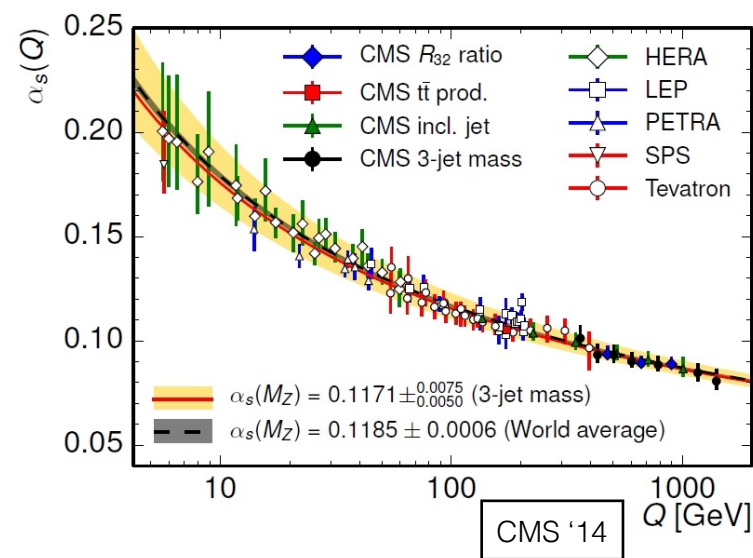
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Asymptotic freedom in non- Abelian gauge theories

[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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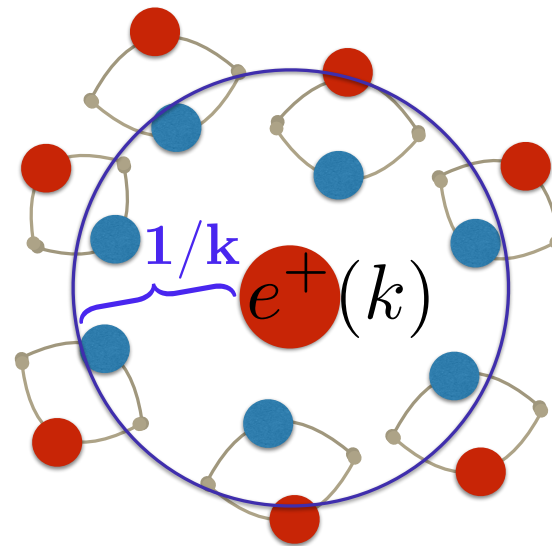
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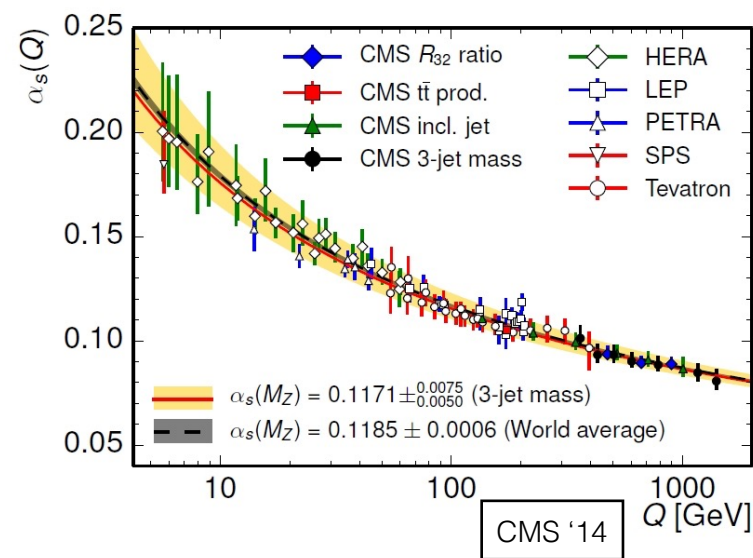
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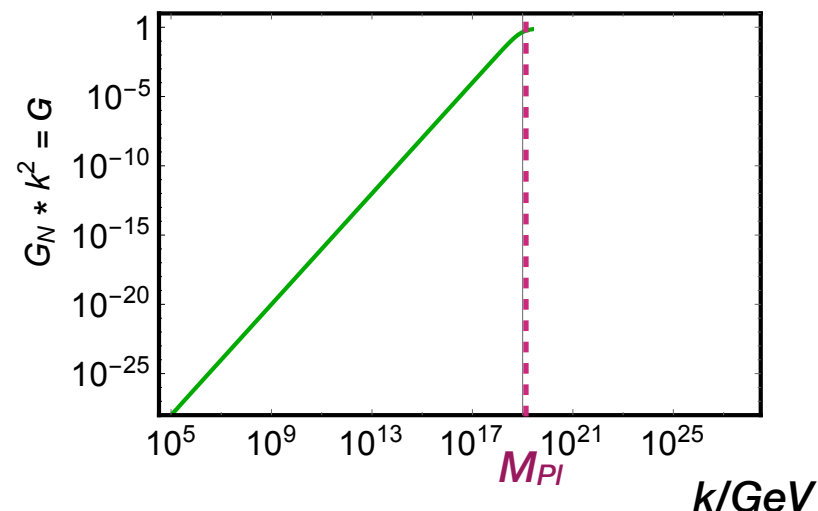
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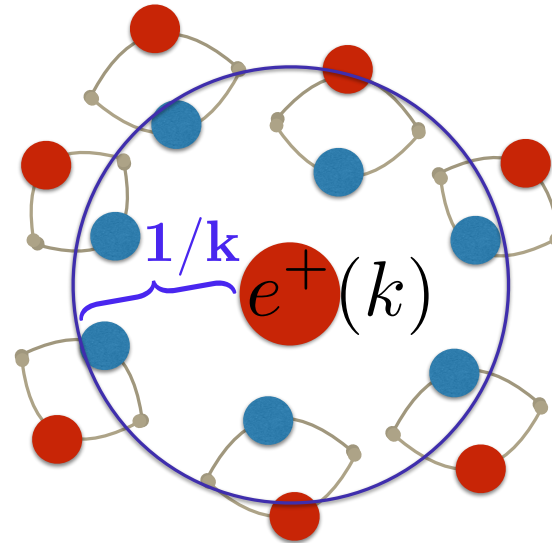
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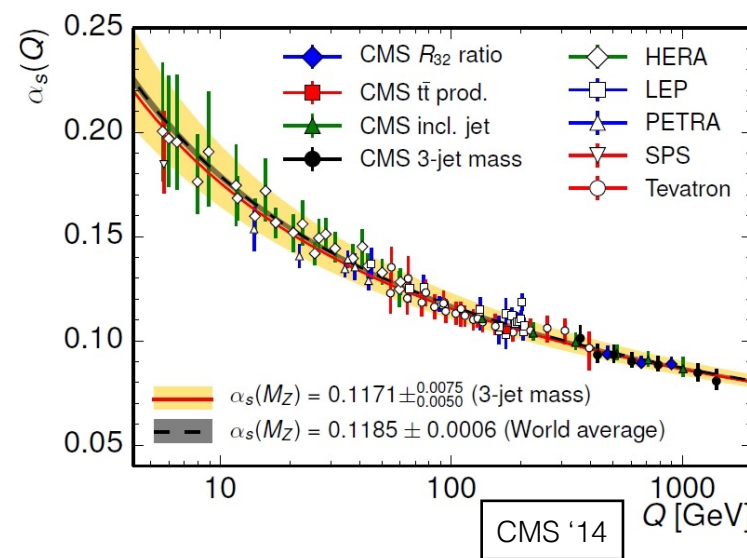
Quantum gravity:
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asymptotically safe beyond M_{Pl}

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



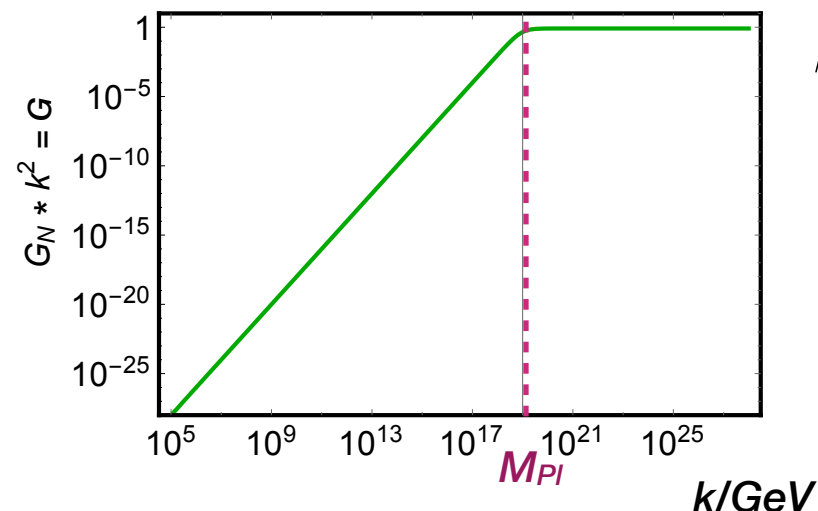
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$$\beta_G = 2G \left(-\frac{23 G^2}{3\pi} \right) + \dots$$

metric fluctuations

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

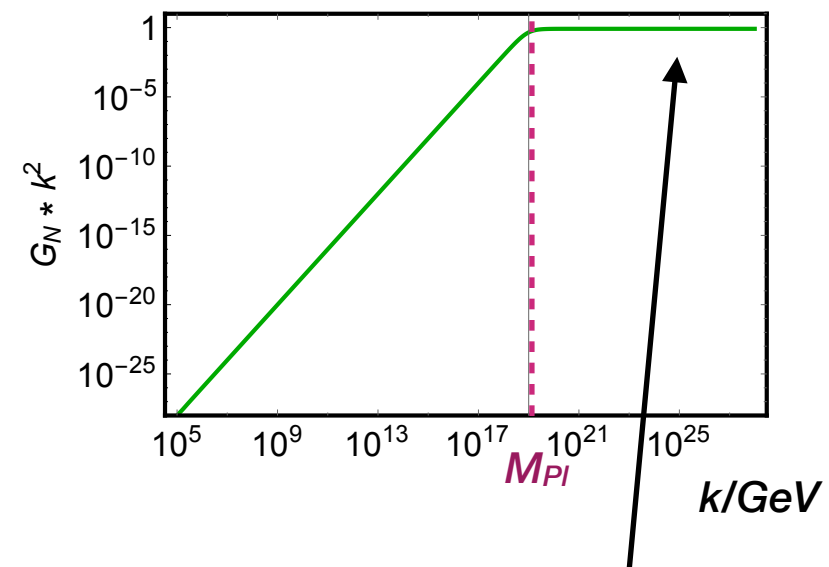
[Codello, Percacci, Rahmede '08]

Asymptotic safety

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scale invariant
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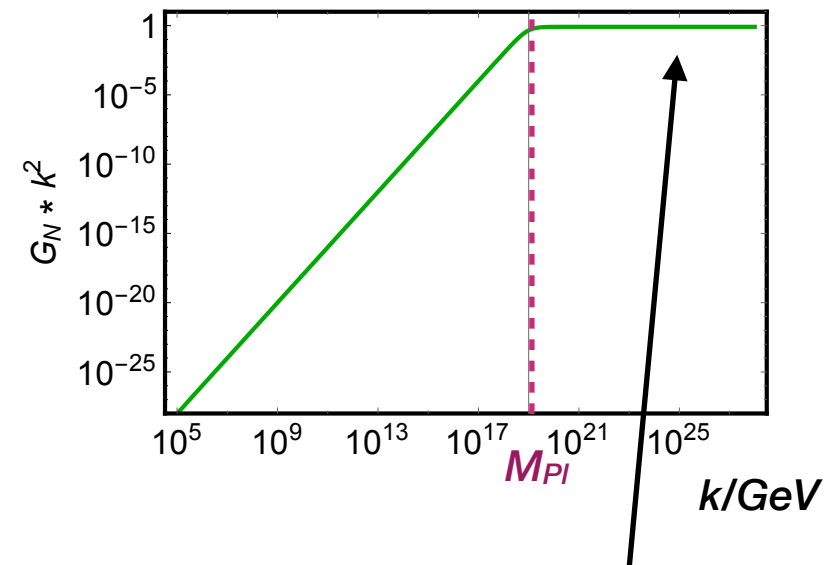
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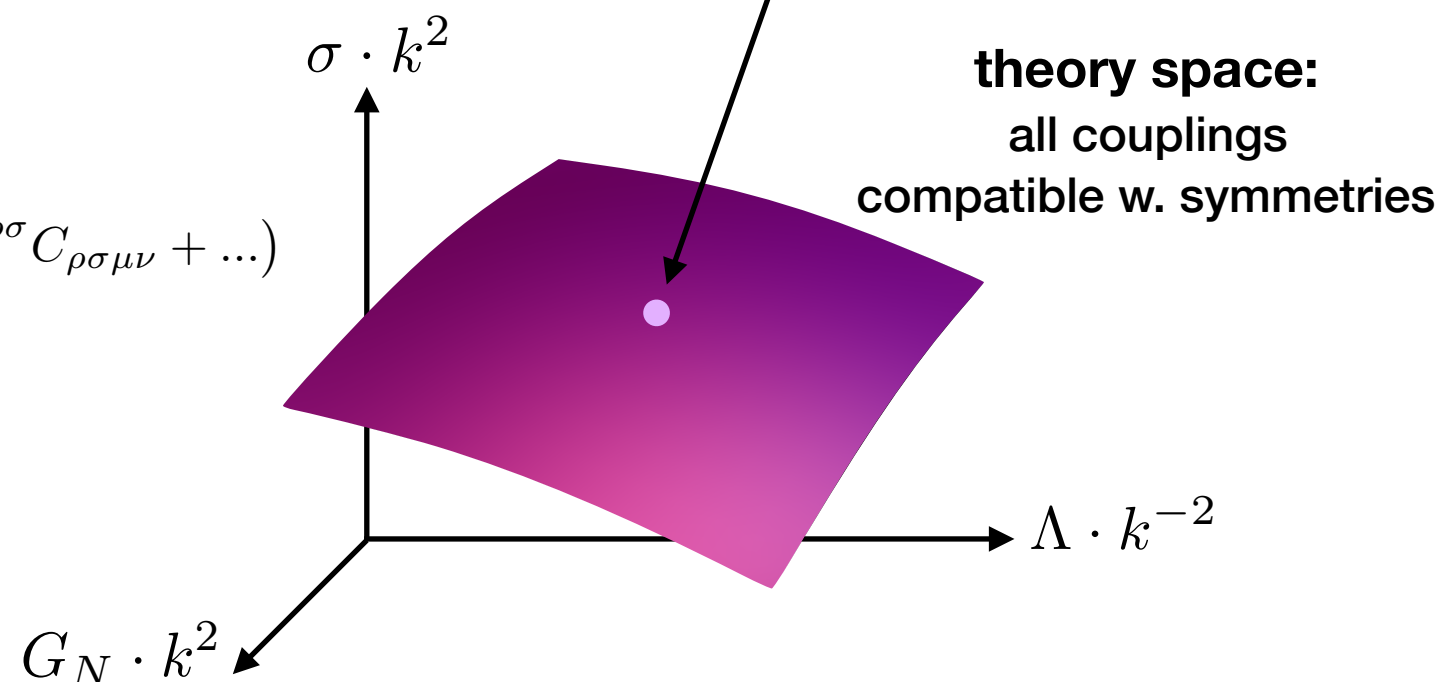
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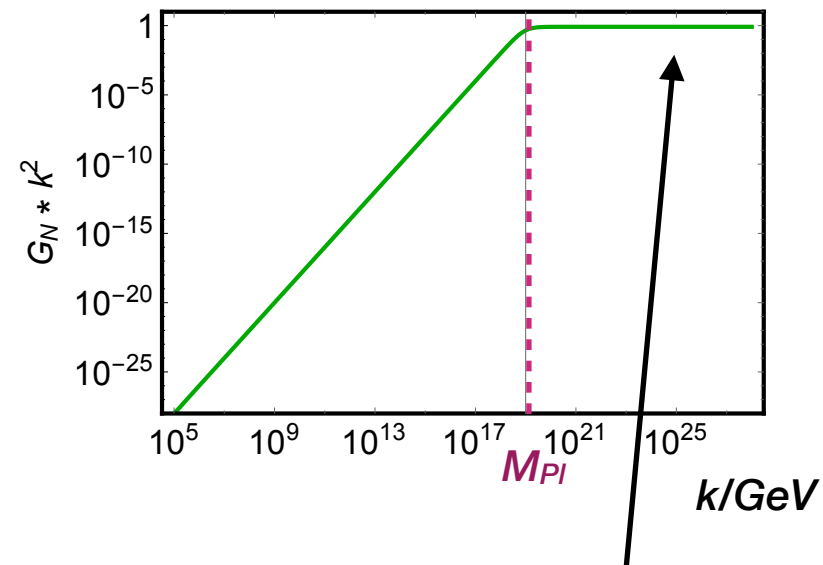


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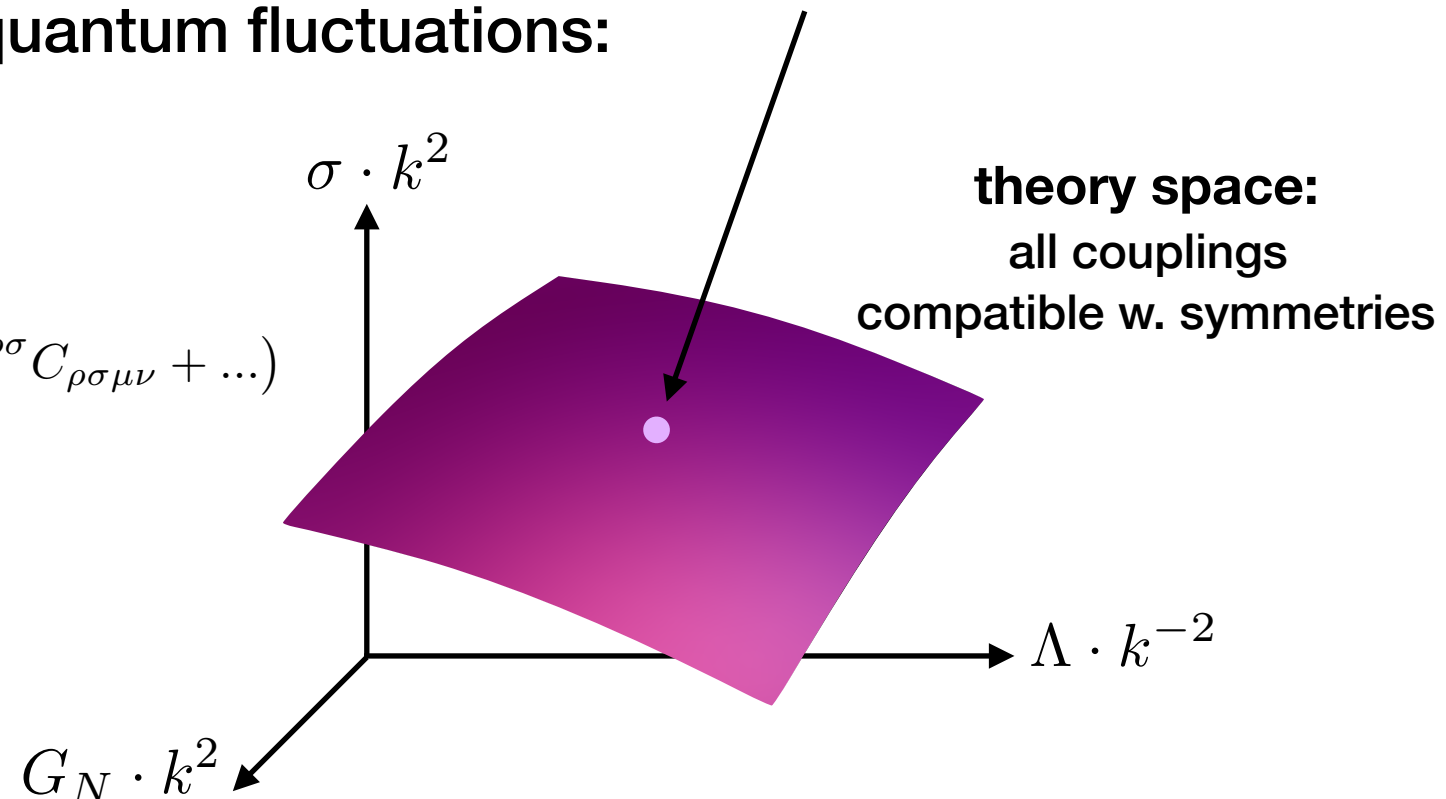


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But at large scales our world
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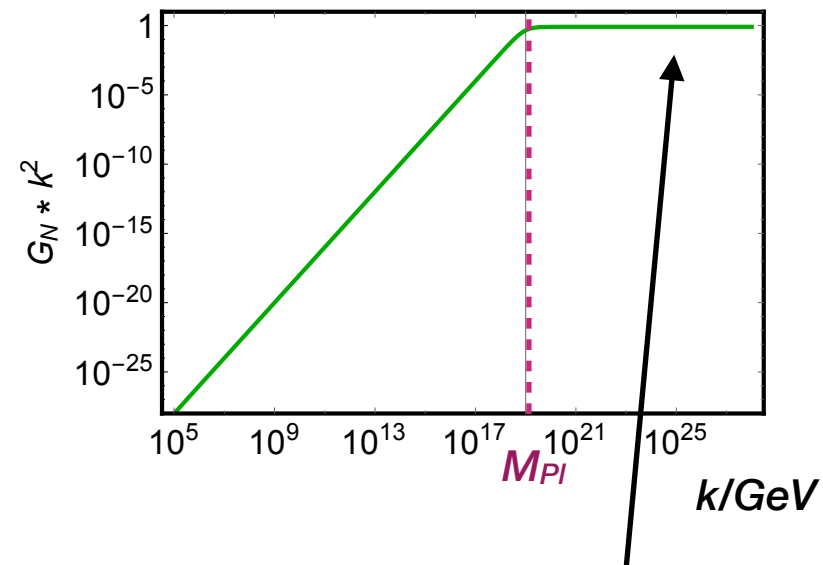


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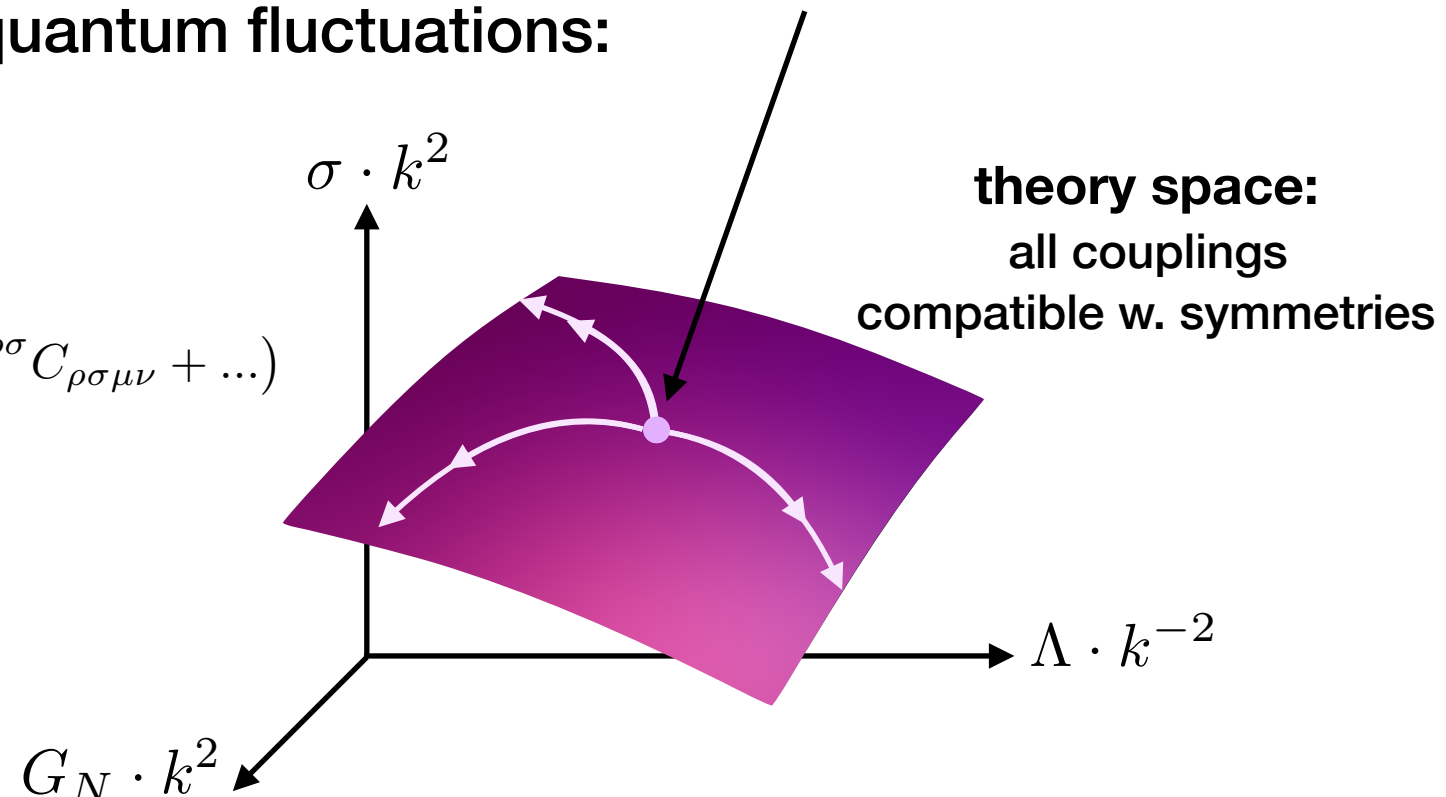
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→ Flow away from fixed point

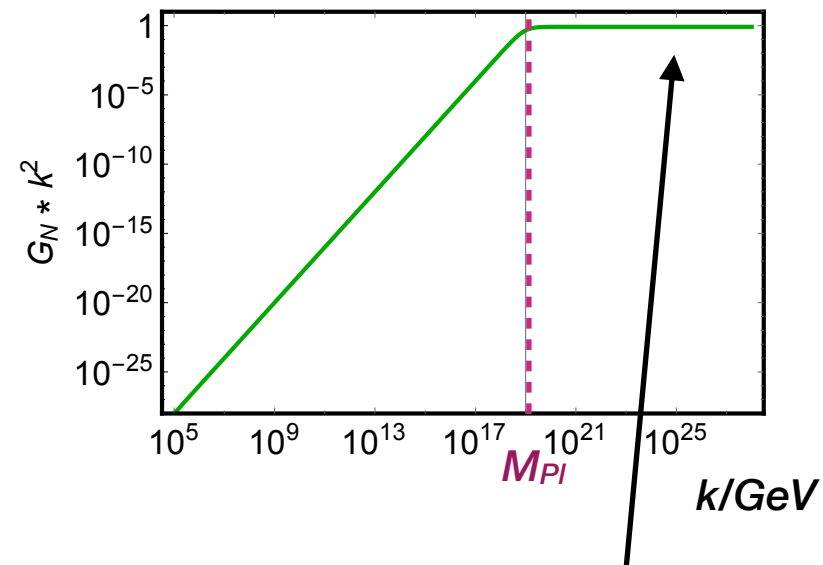


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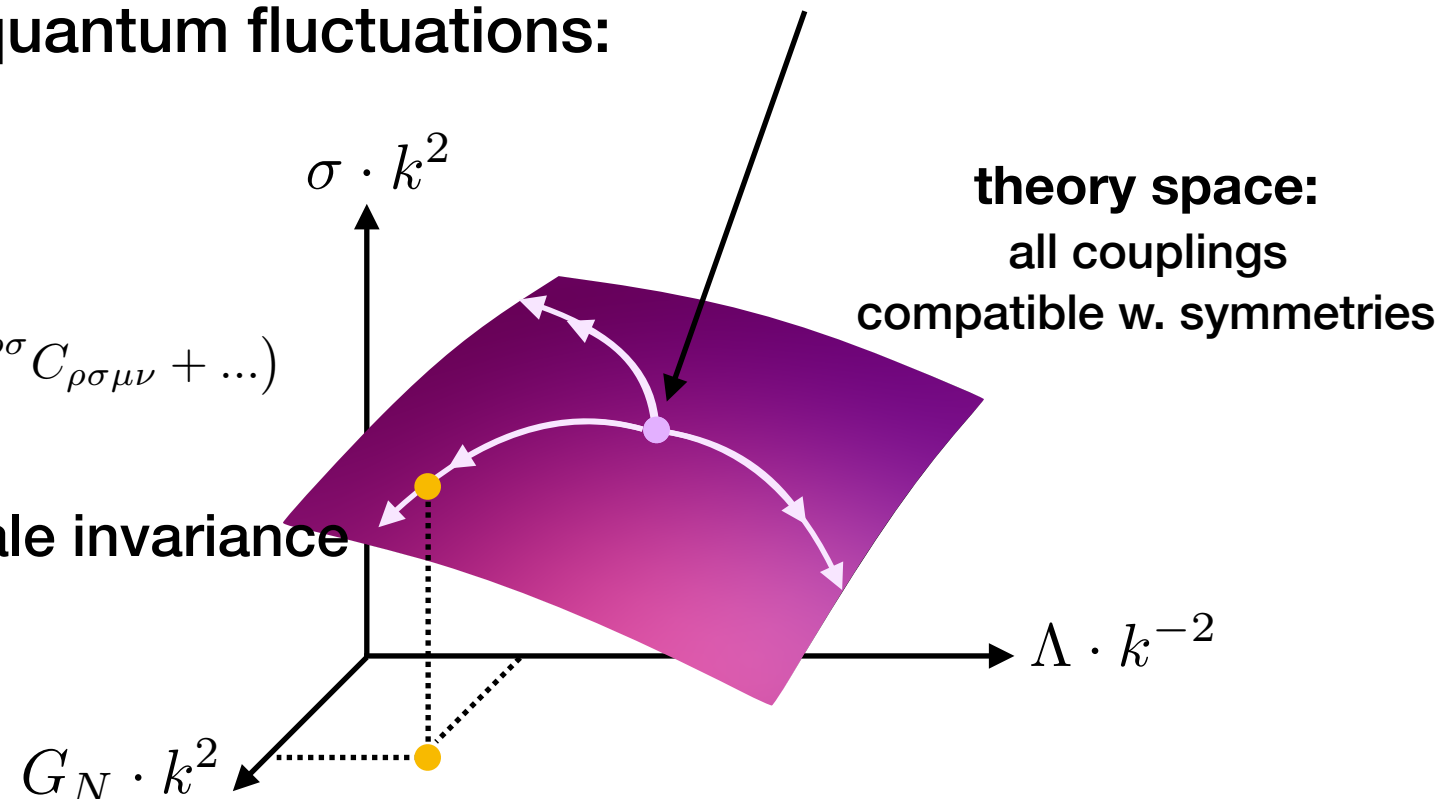
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low-energy dynamics:

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

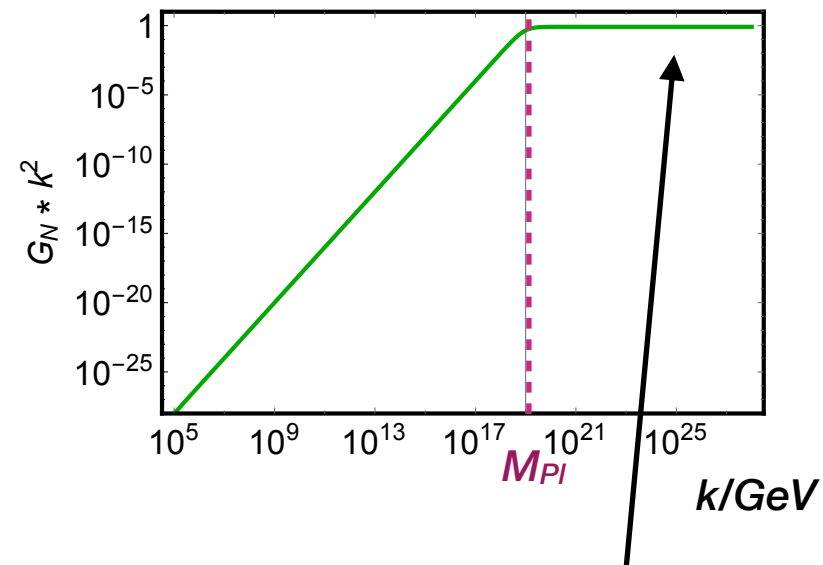


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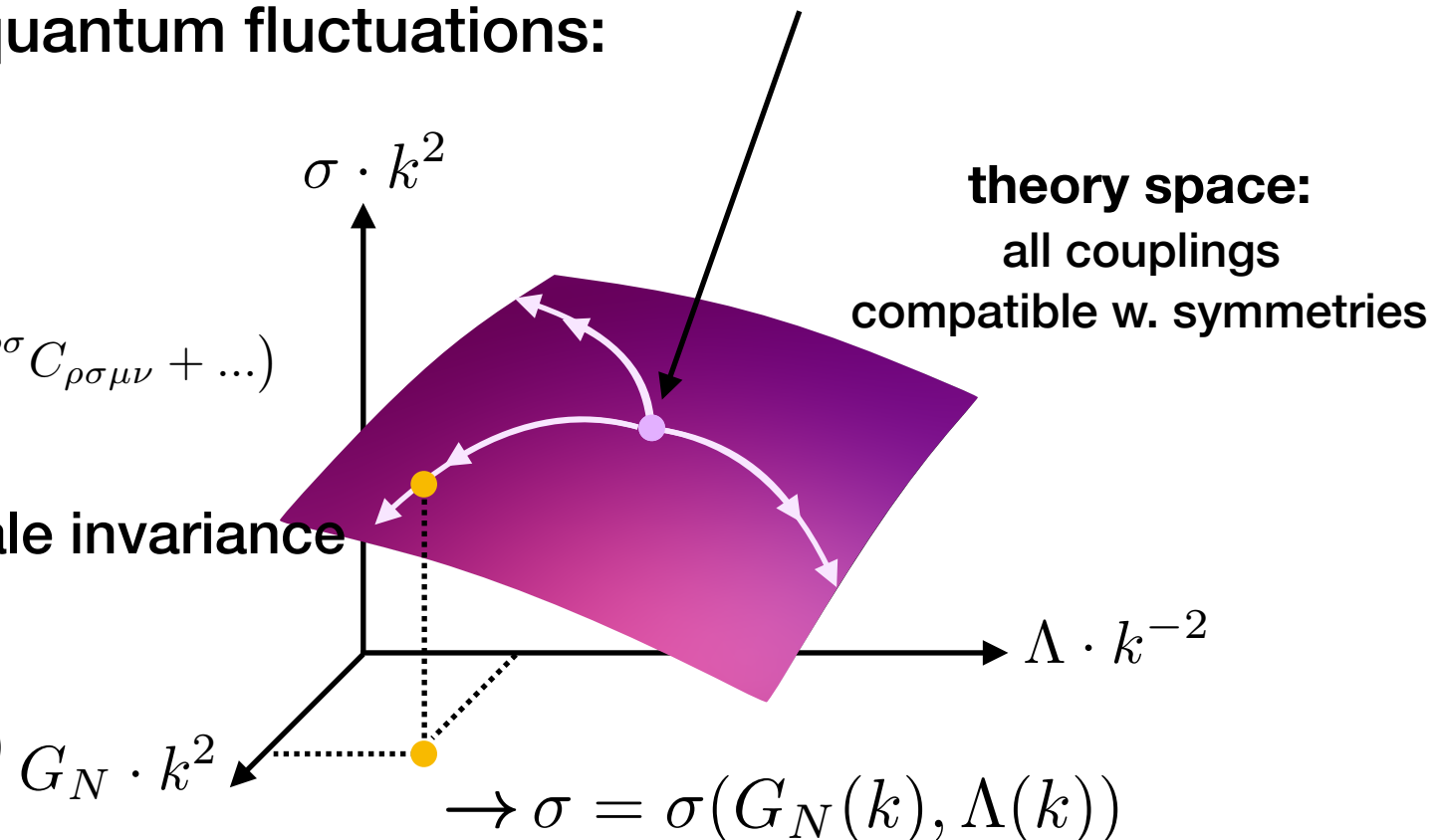
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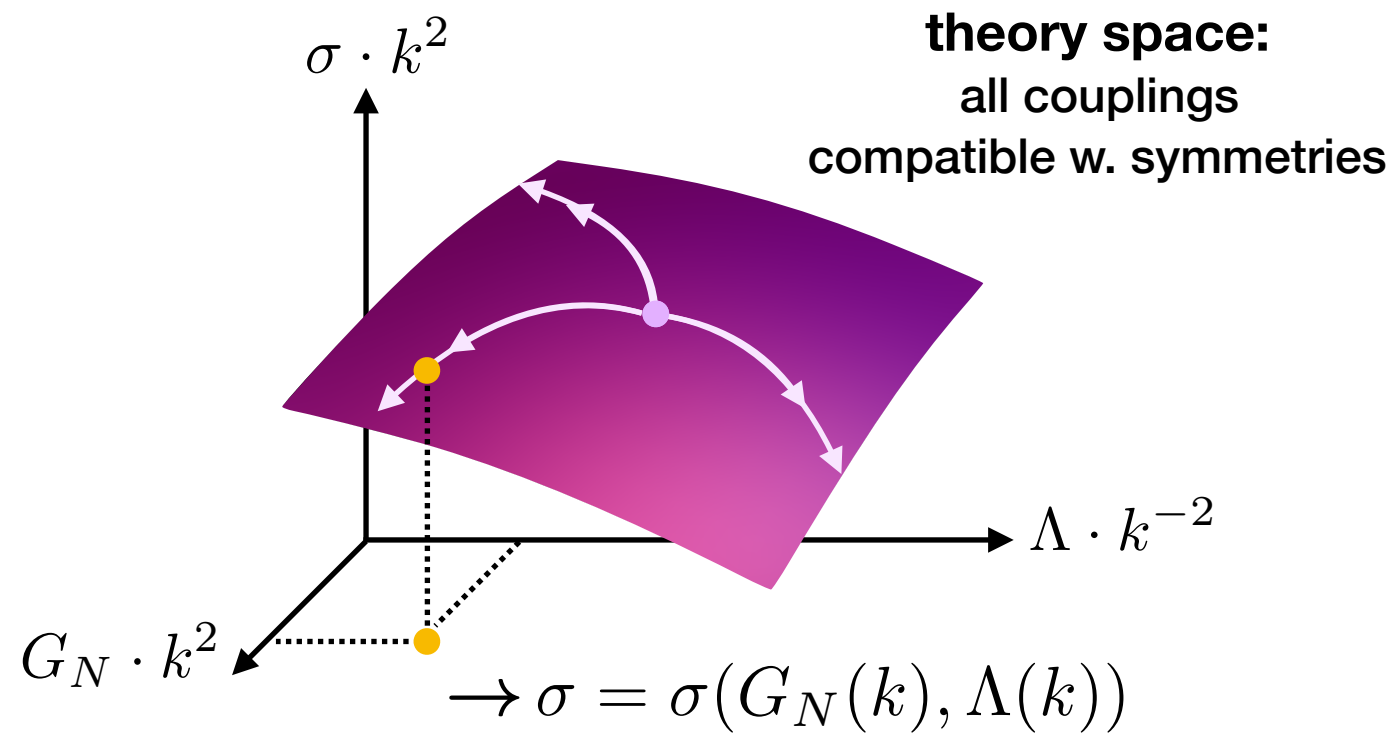
- free parameters encode deviation from scale invariance (relevant couplings)
- irrelevant couplings **predicted** (qm fluc's force flow to stick to **critical hypersurface**)



Asymptotic safety in a nutshell



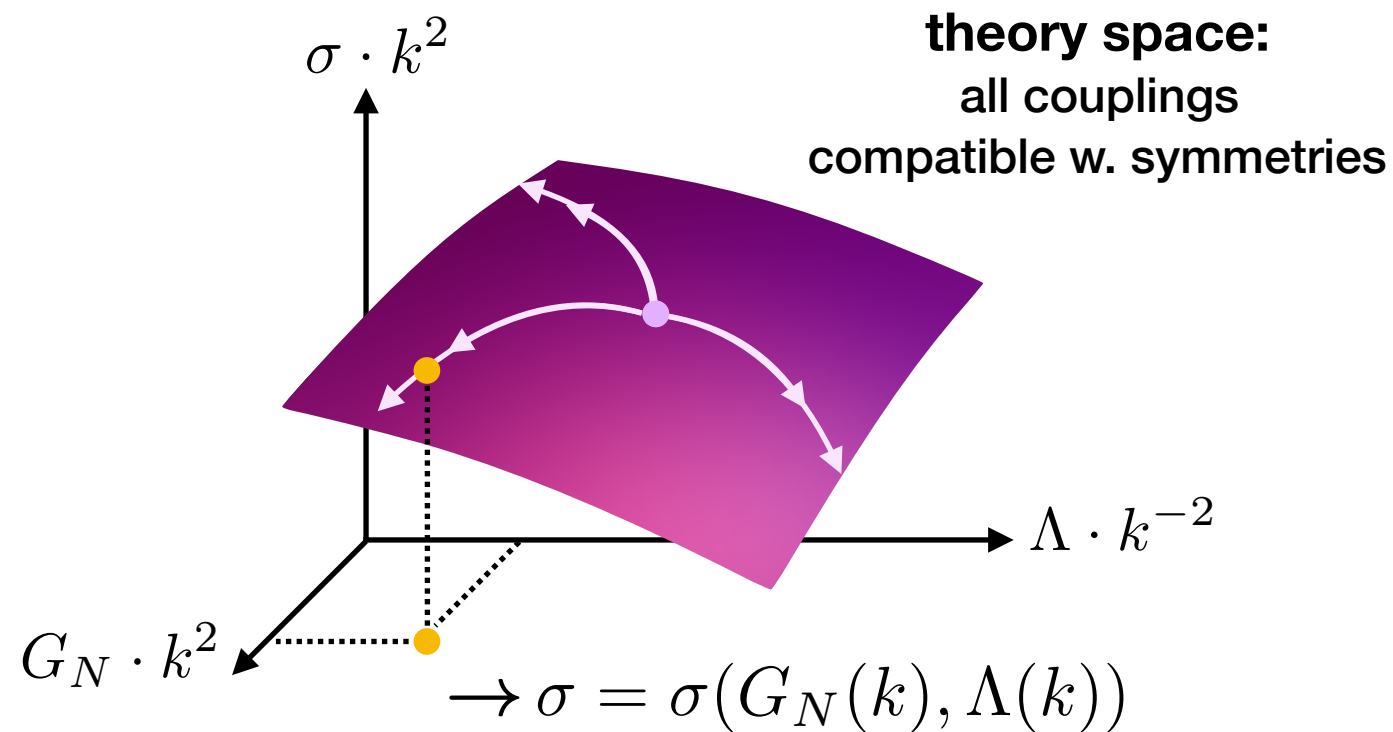
Asymptotic safety in a nutshell



Theory space features an interacting fixed point

\rightarrow UV complete

Asymptotic safety in a nutshell

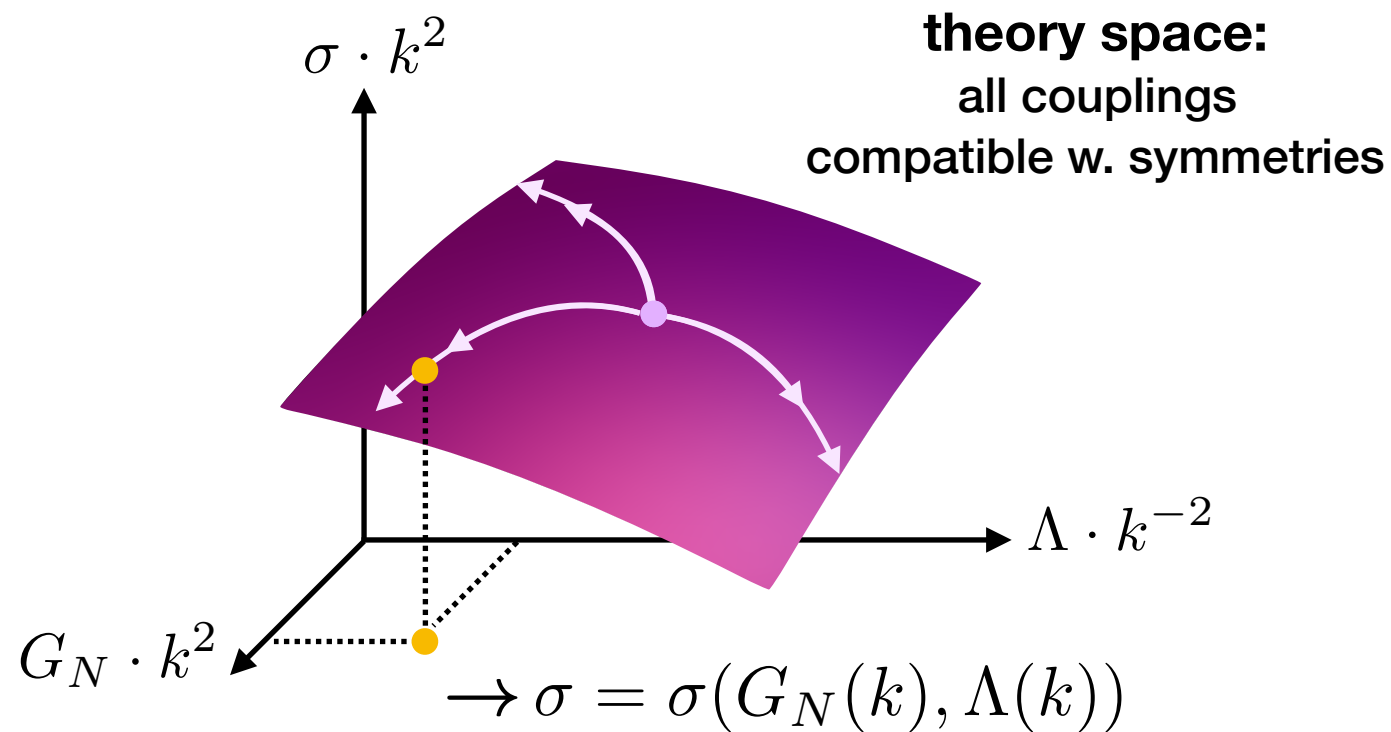


**Theory space features an interacting fixed point
with a finite number of relevant directions.**

\rightarrow UV complete

\rightarrow predictive
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Asymptotic safety in a nutshell



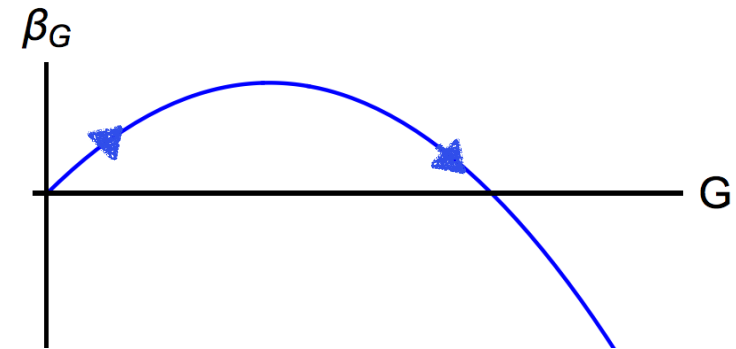
**Theory space features an interacting fixed point
with a finite number of relevant directions.
(At least) one trajectory emanating from the fixed point
reaches a phenomenologically viable IR regime.**

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

Hints for asymptotic safety of gravity?

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

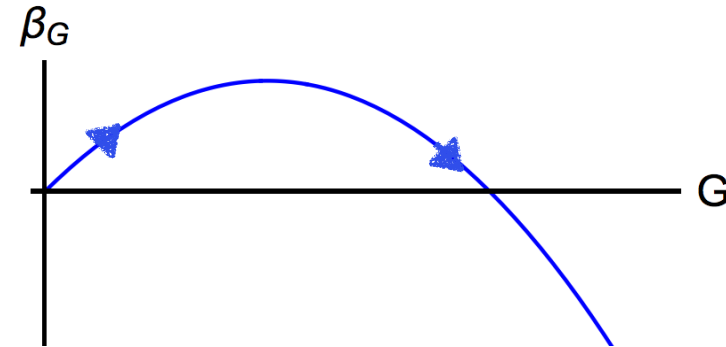
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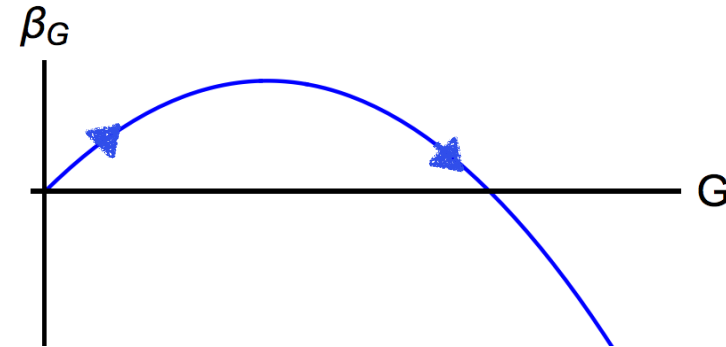
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continuum limit not conclusively established

Ambjorn, Jurkiewicz, Loll '01, '04...
Coumbe, Laiho '11, '17

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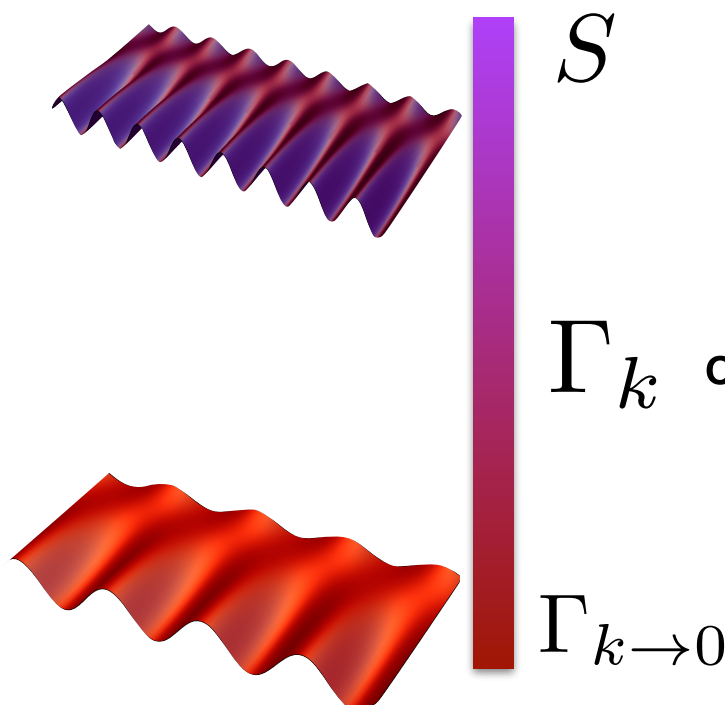
Ambjorn, Jurkiewicz, Loll '01, '04...
Coumbe, Laiho '11, '17

- **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

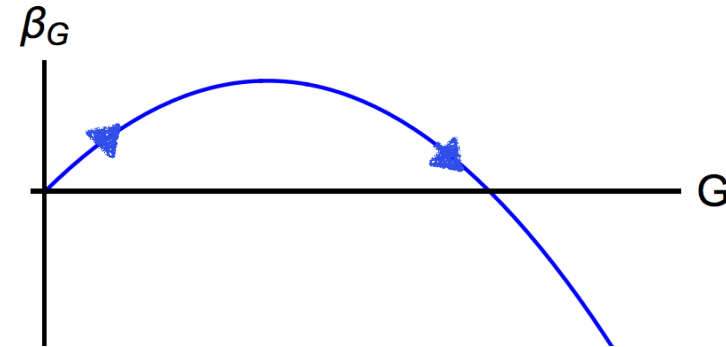
scale- and momentum-
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Hints for asymptotic safety of gravity?

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

Weinberg '76; Christensen, Duff '78
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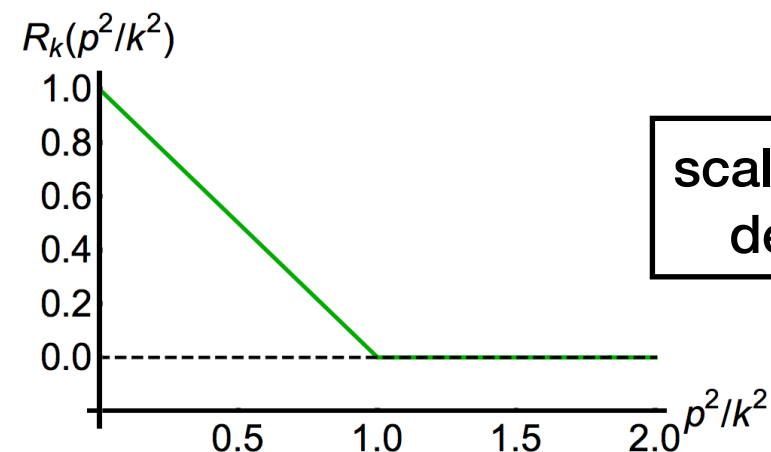
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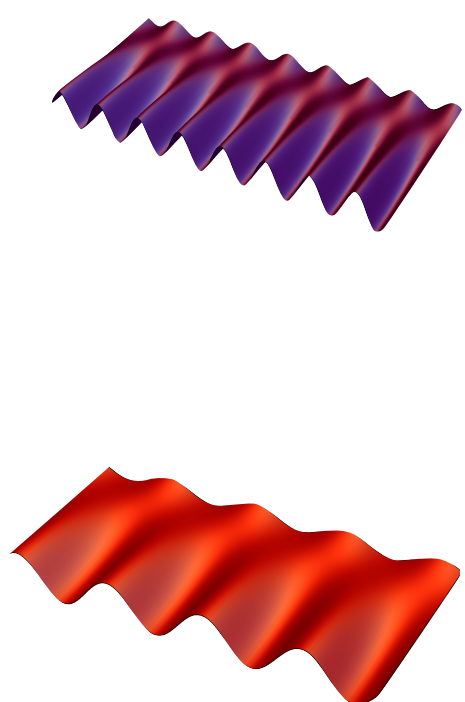
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S

Γ_k

contains effect of quantum fluctuations above k

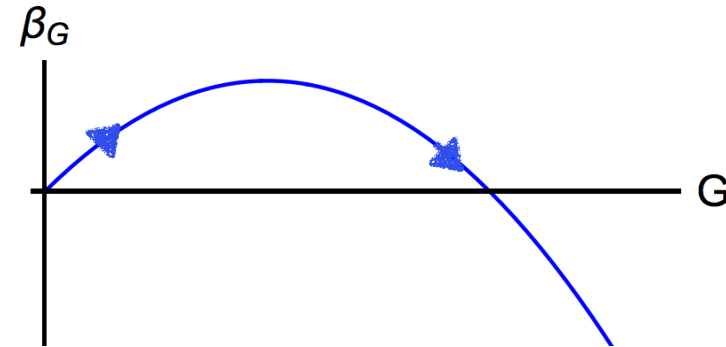
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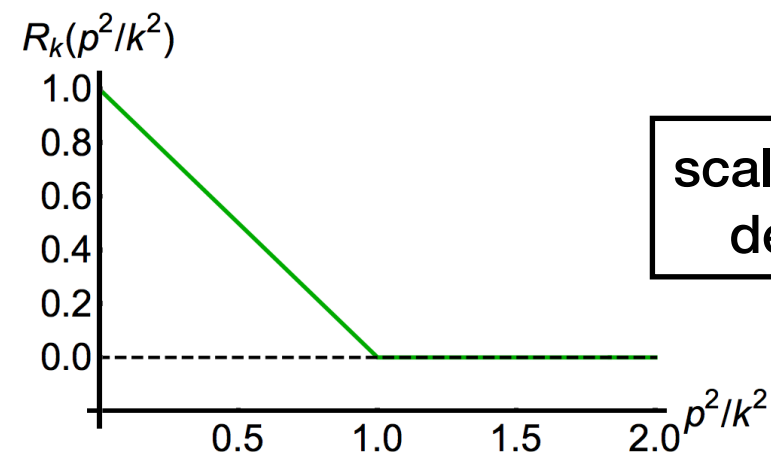
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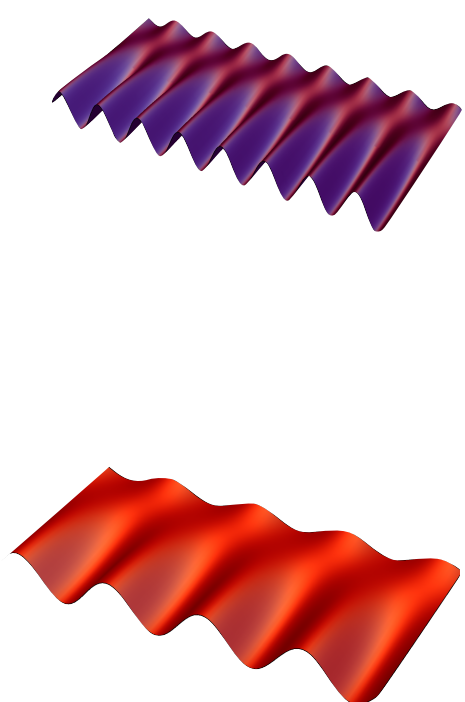
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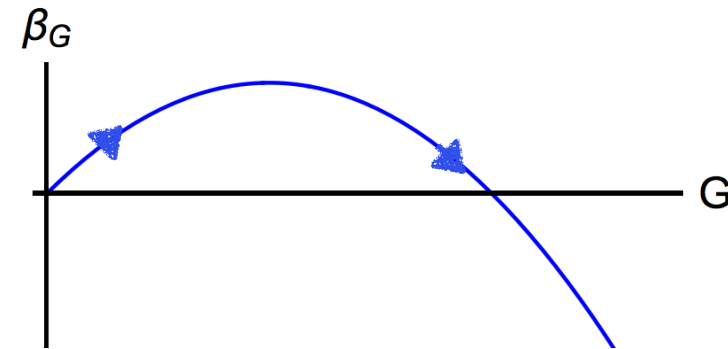
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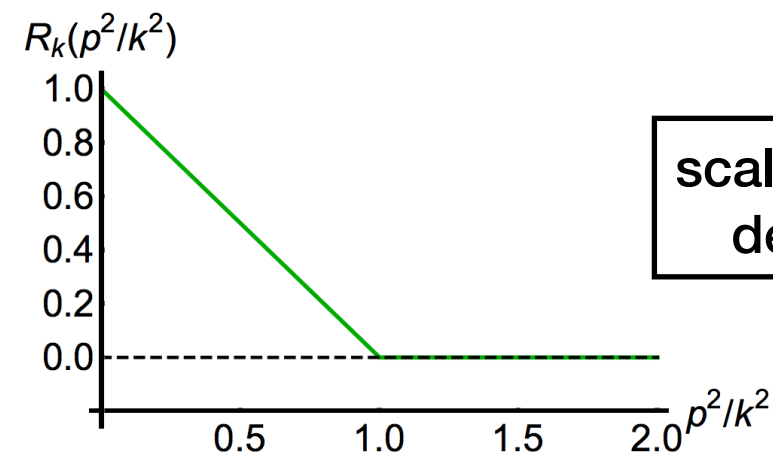
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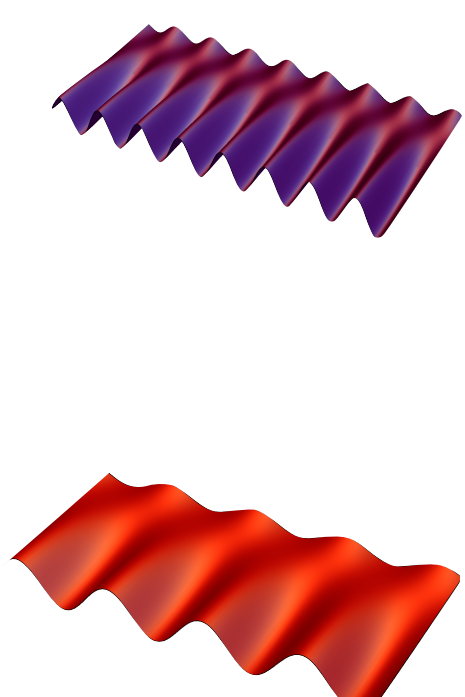
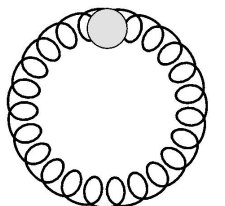
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Wetterich equation: $\partial_k \Gamma_k = \frac{1}{2} \text{STr} \left(\Gamma_k^{(2)} + R_k \right)^{-1} \partial_k R_k =$

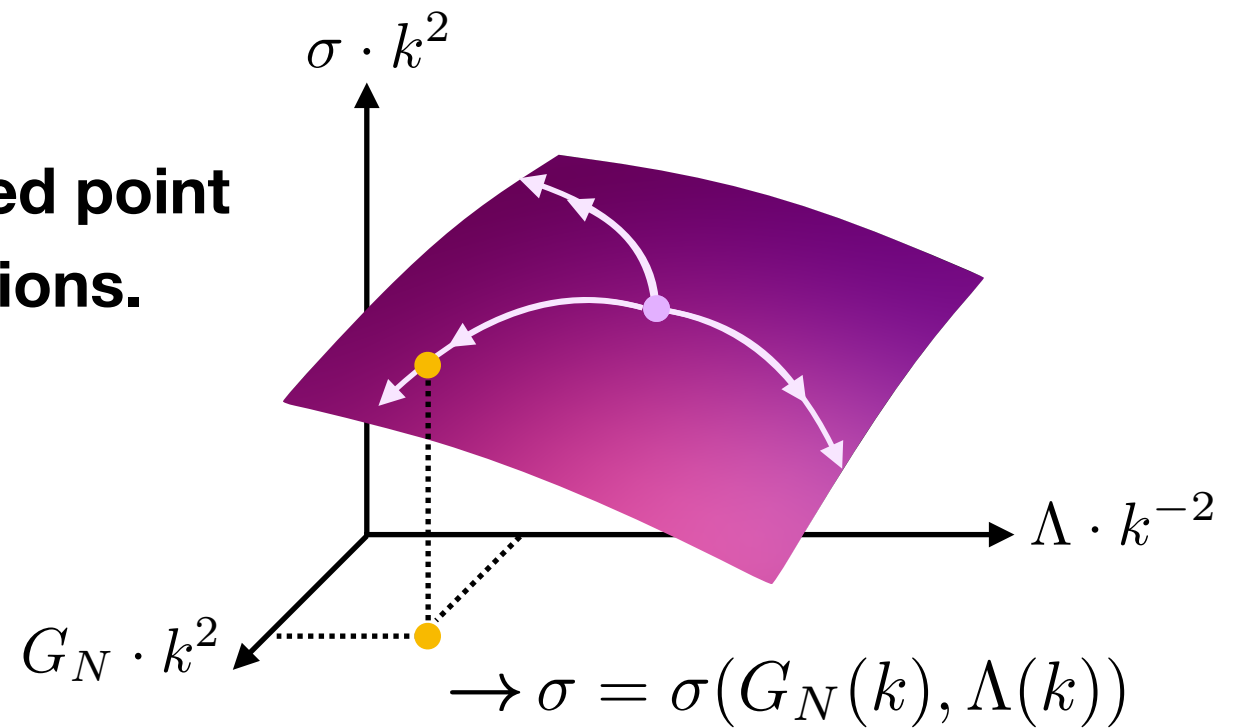


Hints for asymptotic safety of gravity

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

→ UV complete

→ predictive



**tool: functional RG equation
in truncations of theory space
(well-tested for interacting fixed points)**

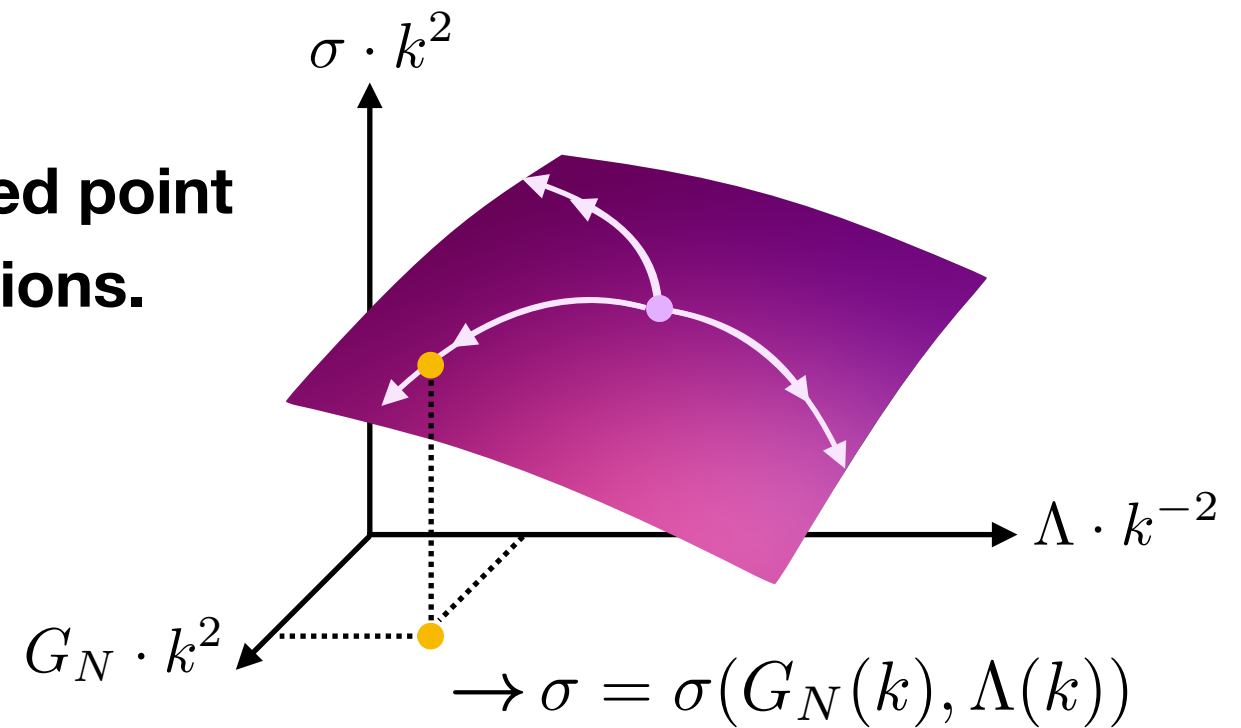
[Wetterich '93, Reuter '96]

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fixed
point



operators

$$\sqrt{g}$$

[Reuter '96, Lauscher, Reuter '01;

Reuter, Saueressig '02;

Becker, Reuter '14;

$$\sqrt{g}R$$

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

relevant

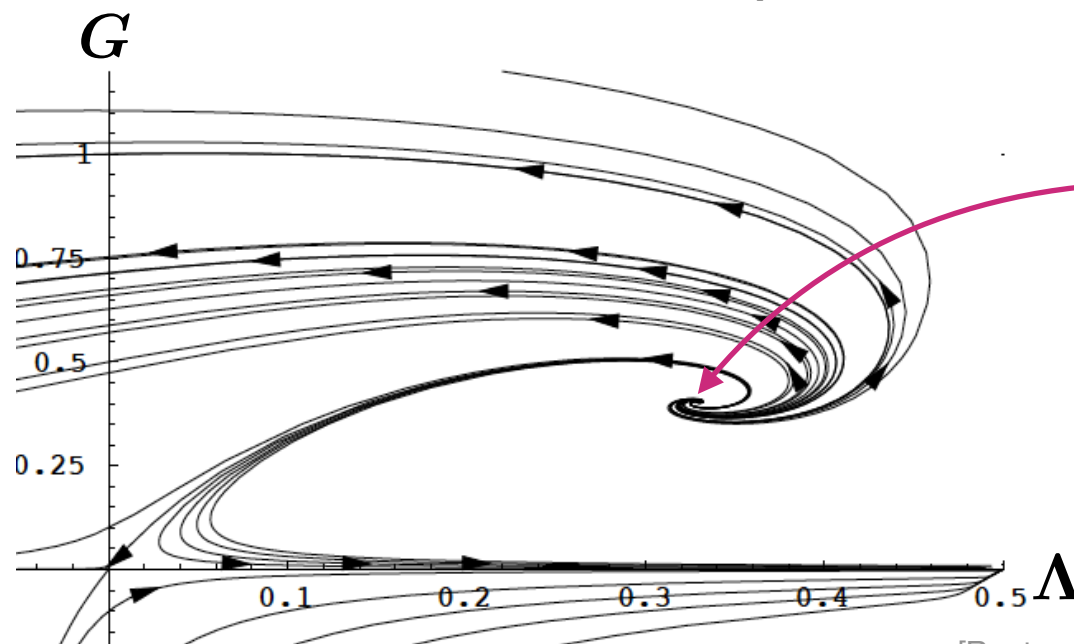
x

irrelevant

x

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UV fixed point

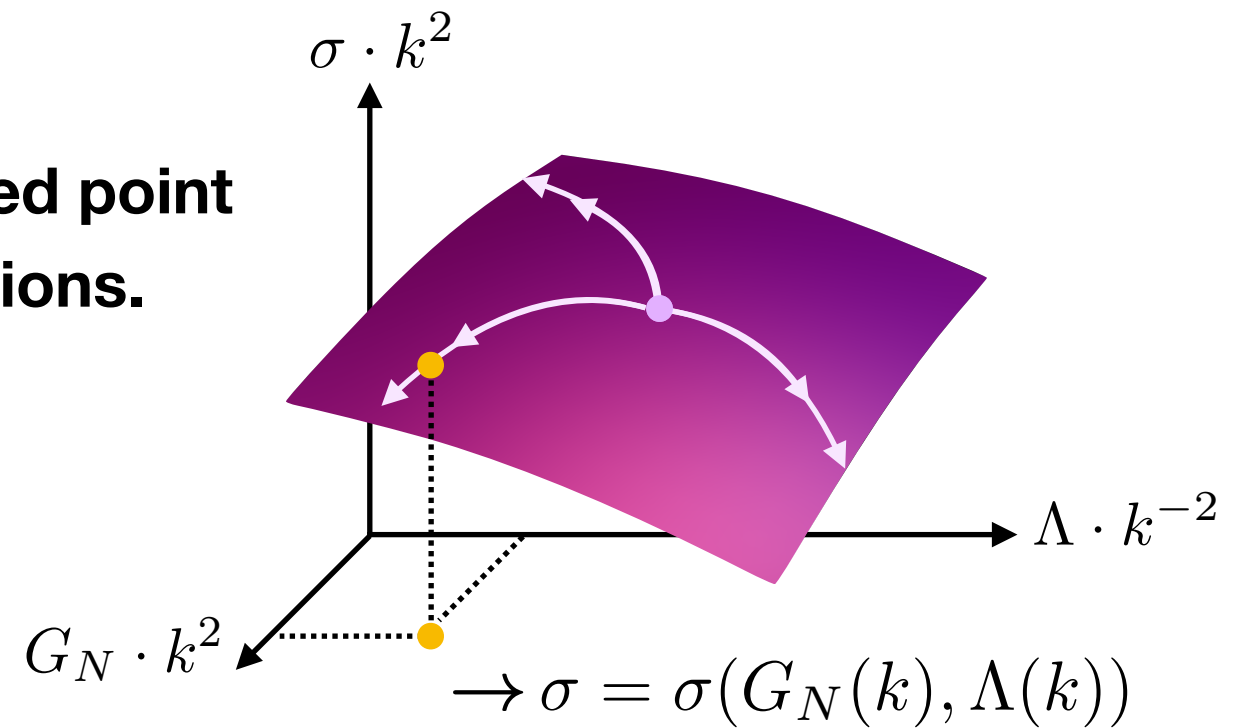
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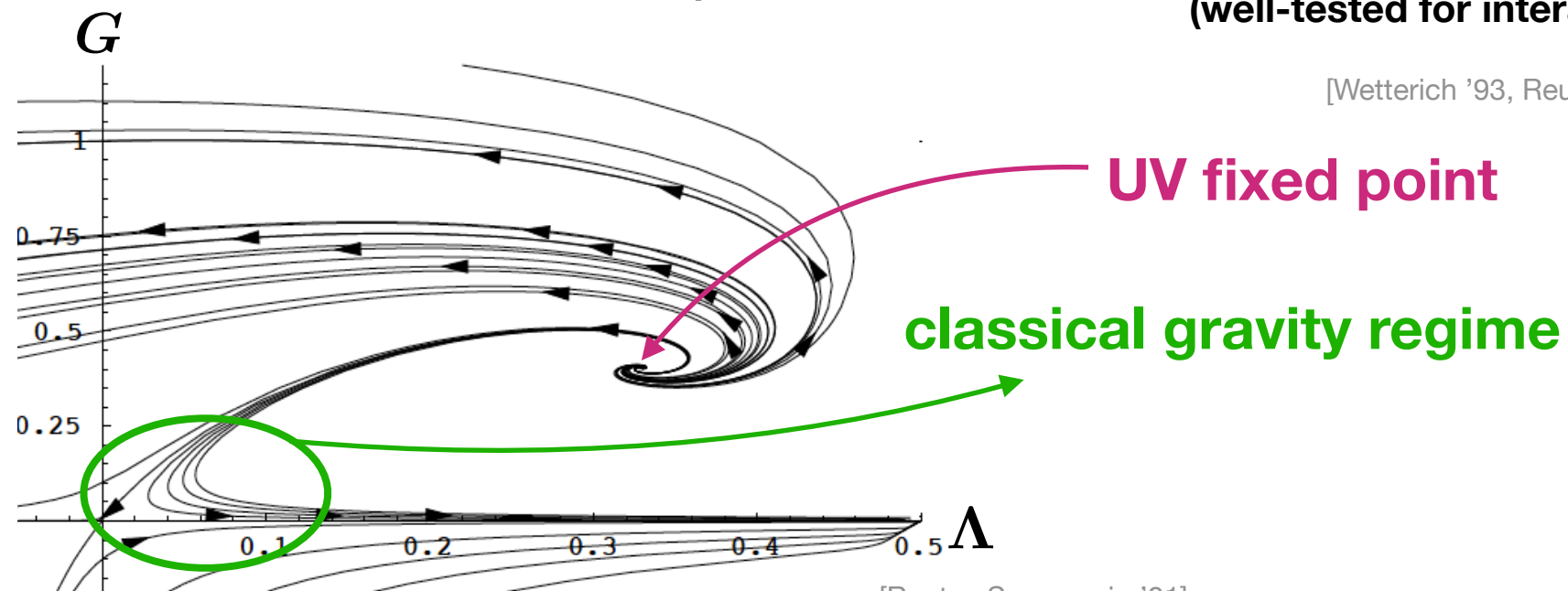
X

irrelevant

X

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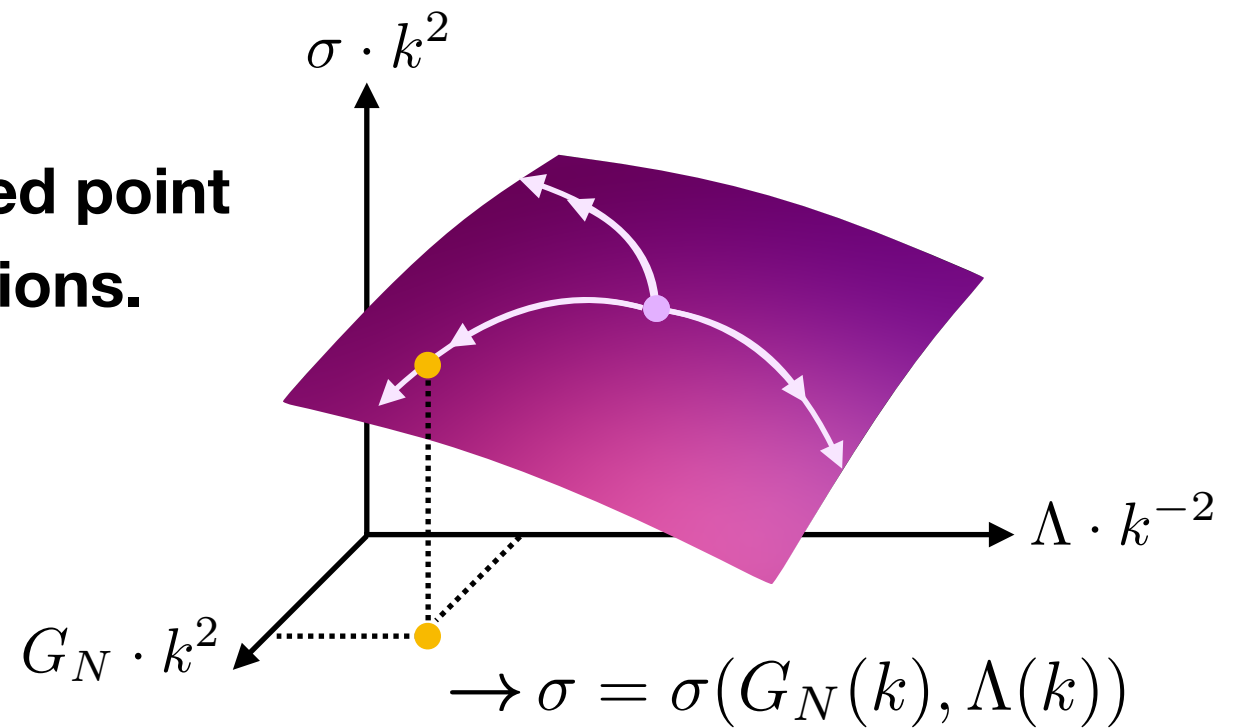
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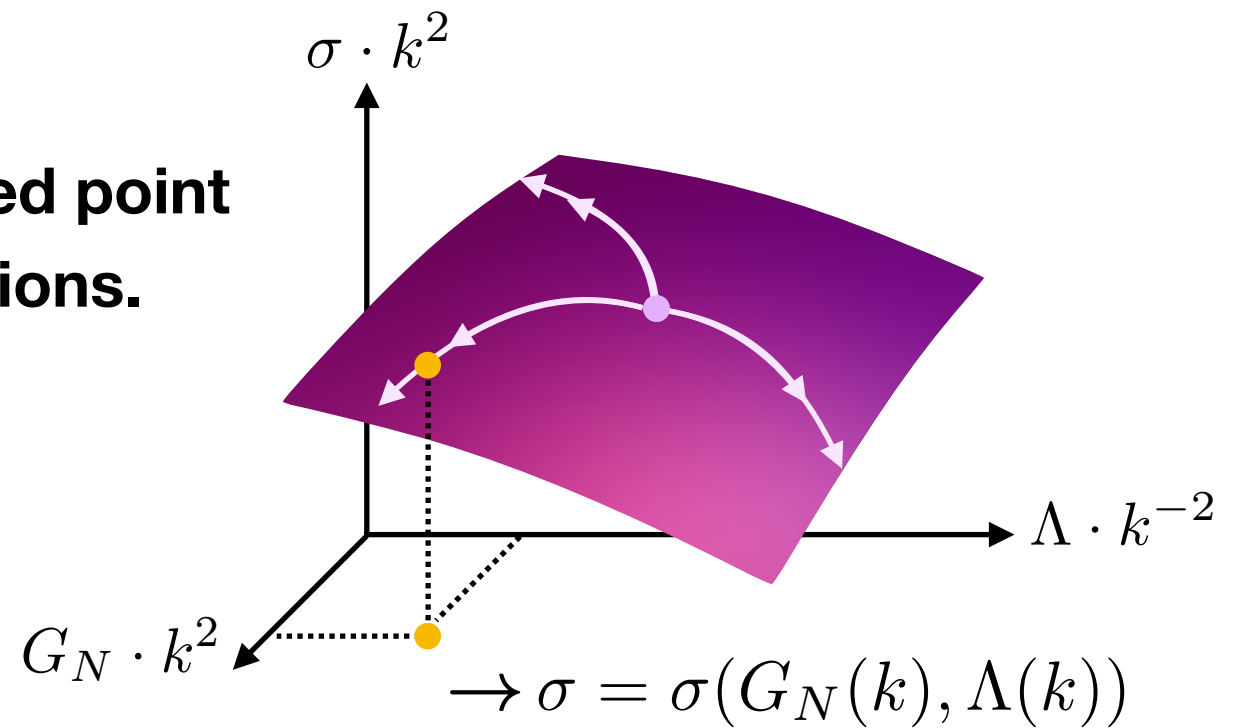
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X

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[Wetterich '93, Reuter '96]



$\sqrt{g}R^3$

[Codello, Percacci, Rahmede '07, '08
Machado, Saueressig '07;
Eichhorn '15]

X

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

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

X

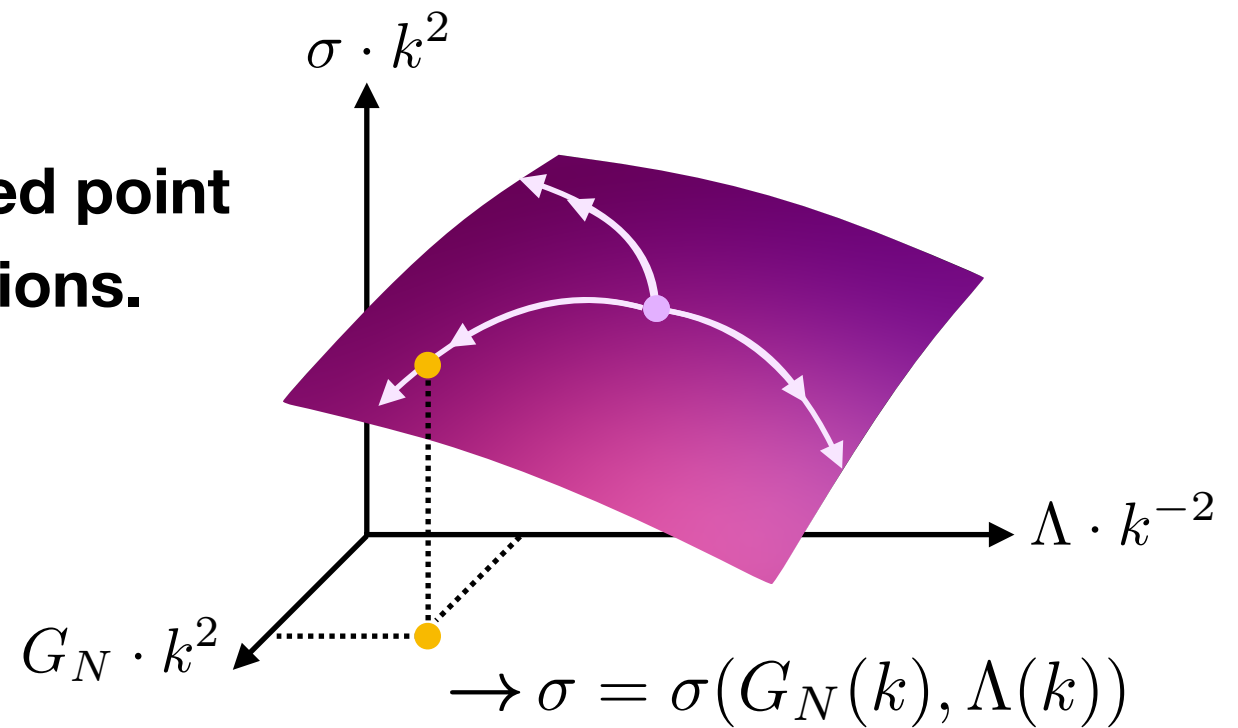
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X

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X

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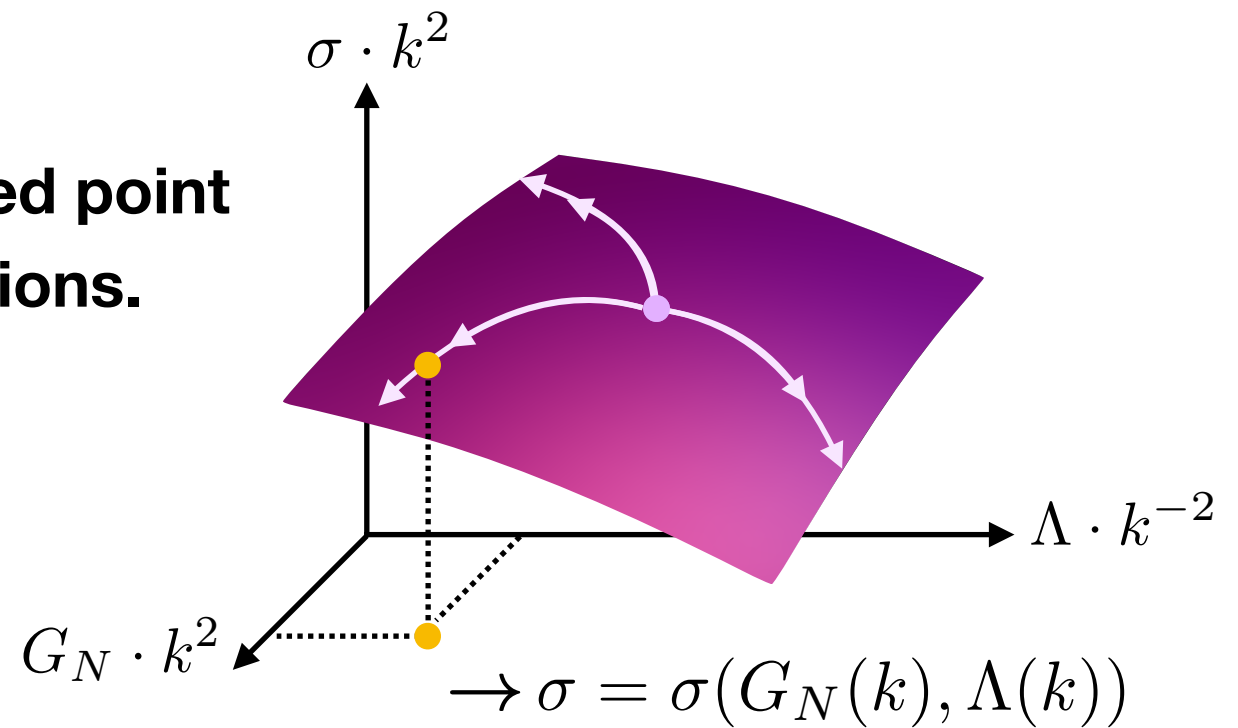
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$\sqrt{g}R^3$

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X

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**tool: functional RG equation
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**ordering principle:
canonical mass dimension
of couplings**

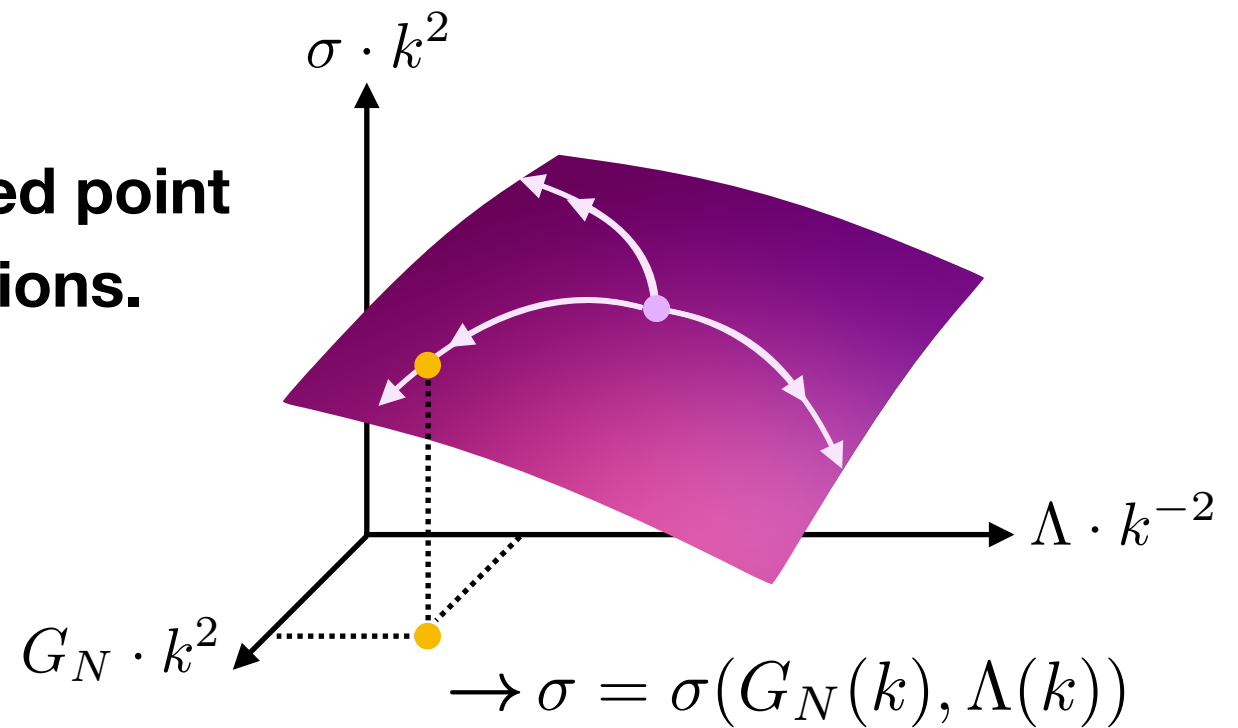
→ **control over approximations
with finitely many couplings**

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X

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$\sqrt{g}R^3$

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X

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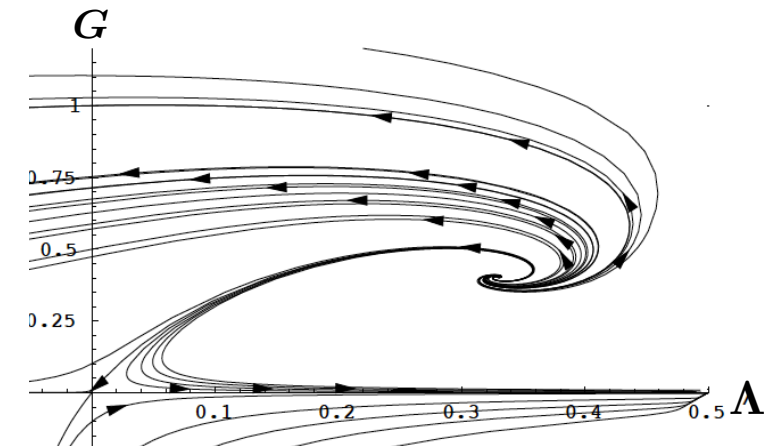
**status: compelling hints
for asymptotic safety
in pure gravity**

→ what about matter?

Asymptotic safety for gravity & matter

Asymptotic safety for gravity & matter

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

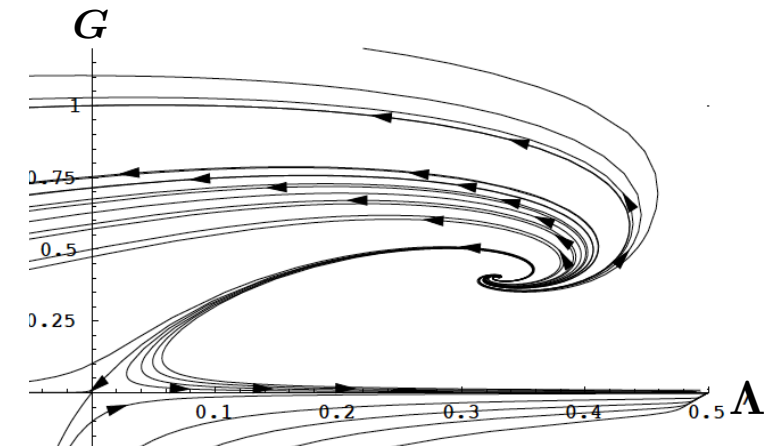


quantum gravity dynamics

matter dynamics

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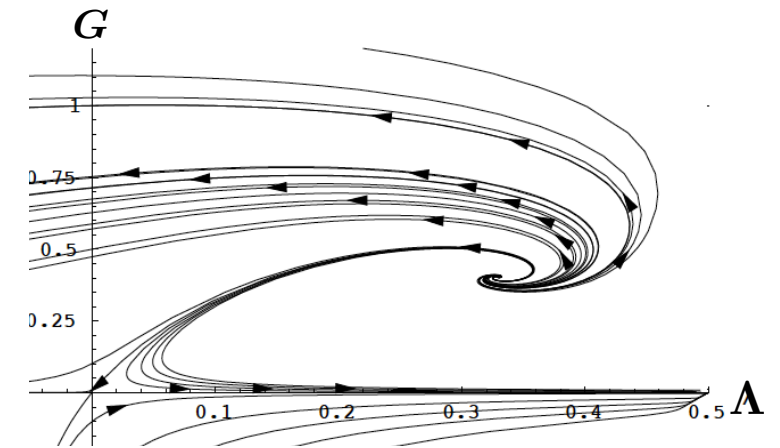
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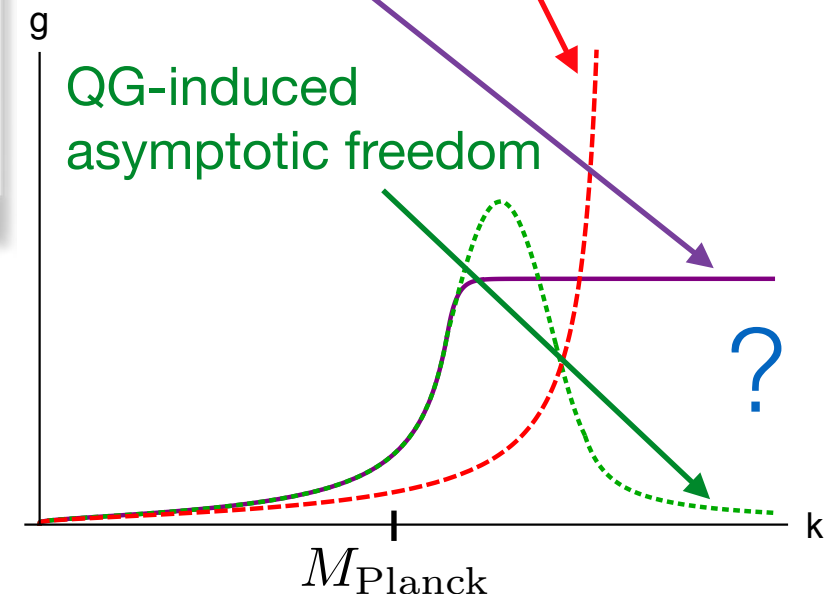
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triviality in Higgs-Yukawa & U(1)

QG-induced asymptotic safety

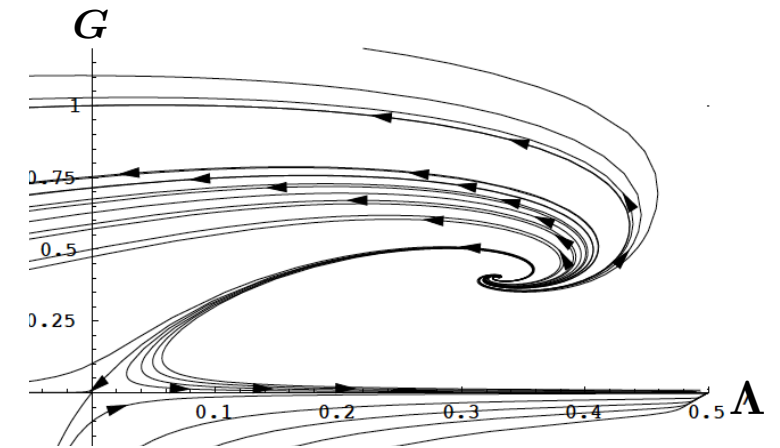
QG-induced asymptotic freedom

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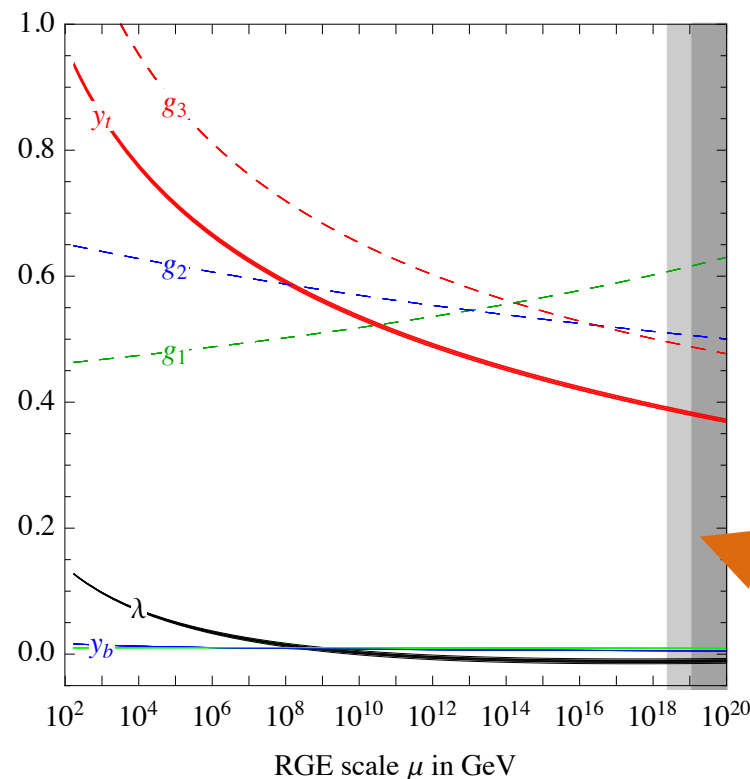
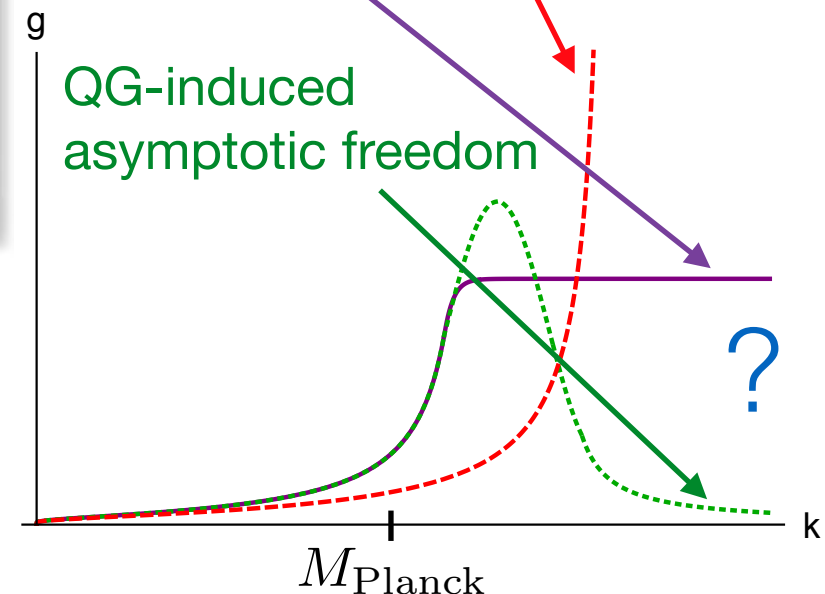
match onto SM at Planck scale

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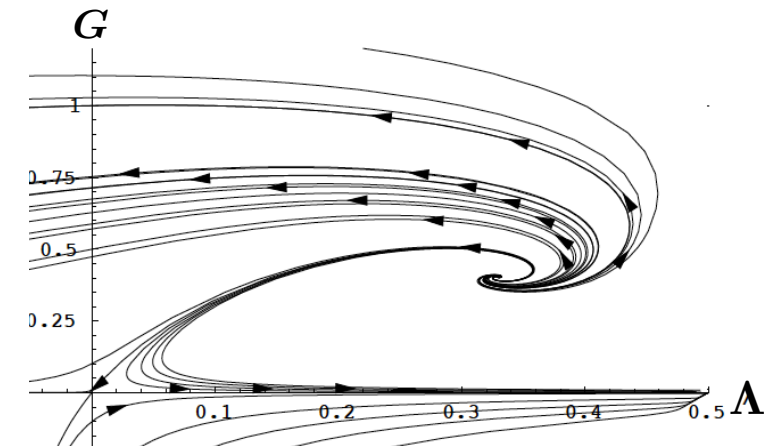
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Buttazzo et al. '13

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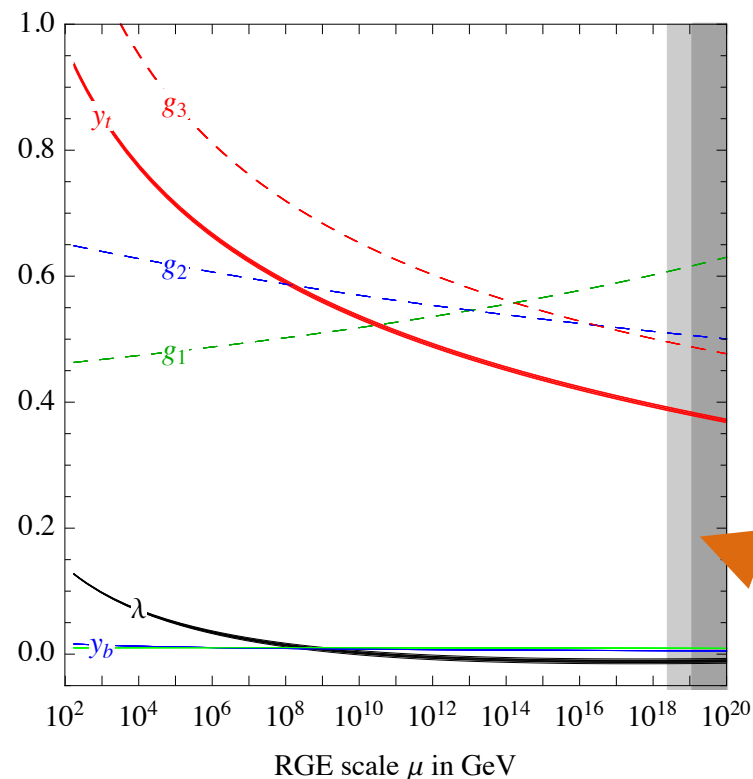
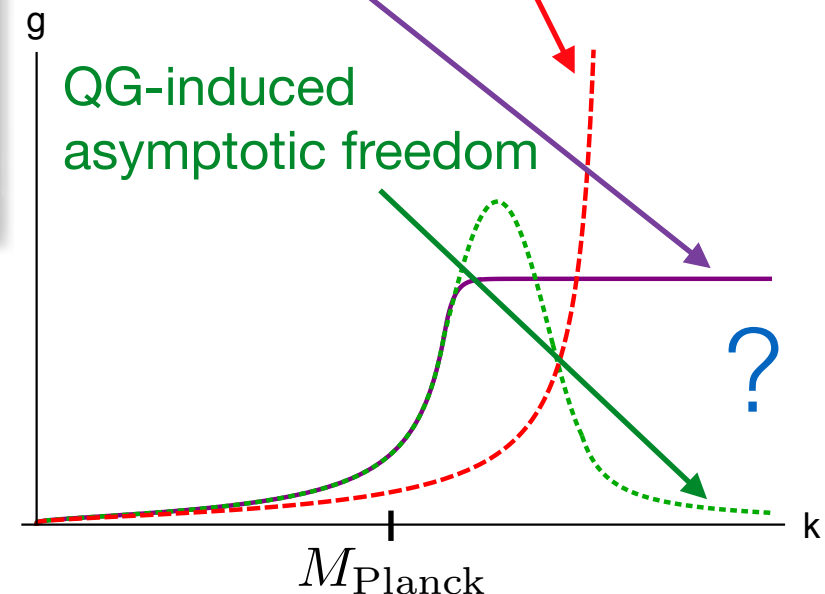
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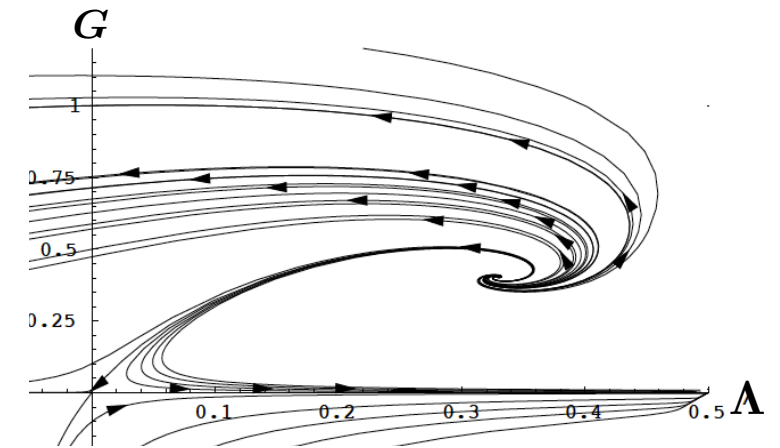
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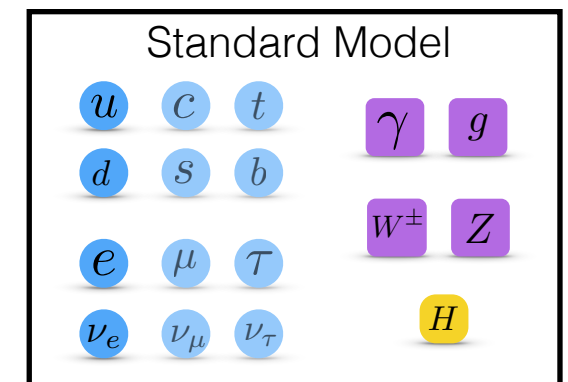
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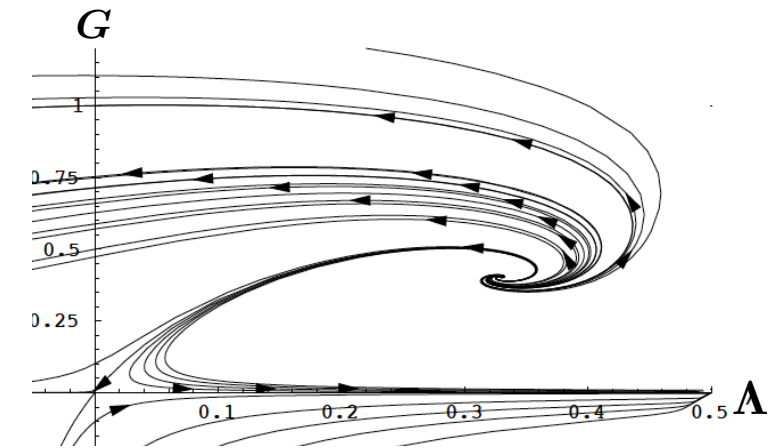


**minimally
coupled
SM fields**

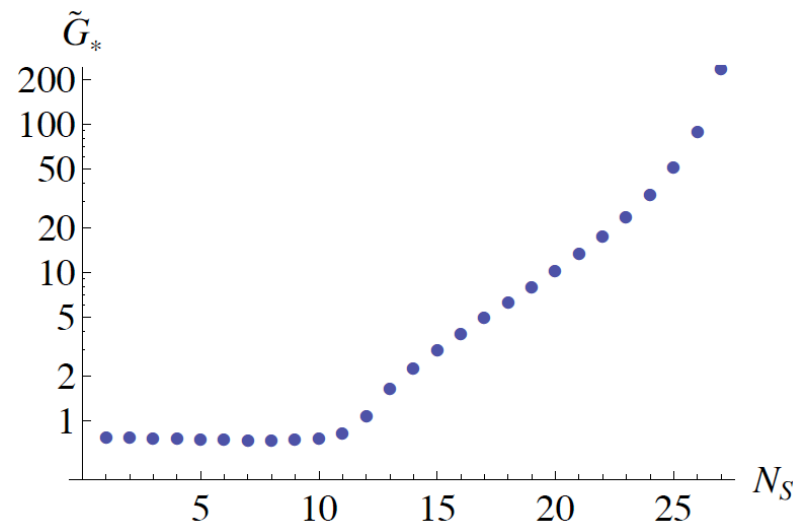


Asymptotic safety for gravity & matter

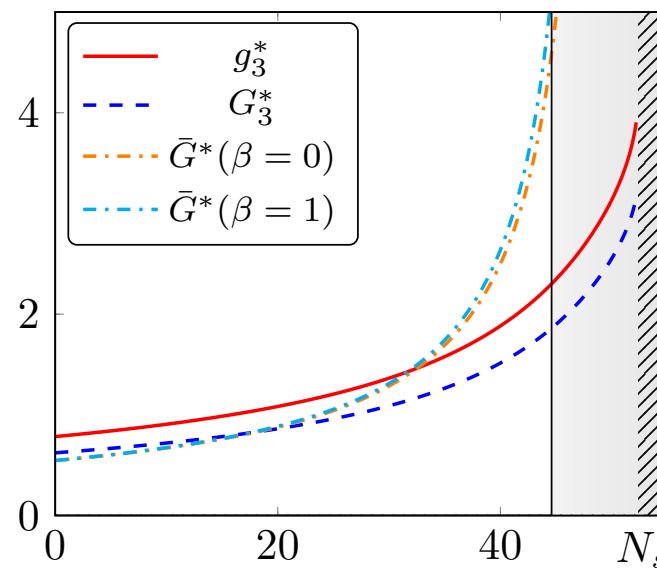
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matter matters:

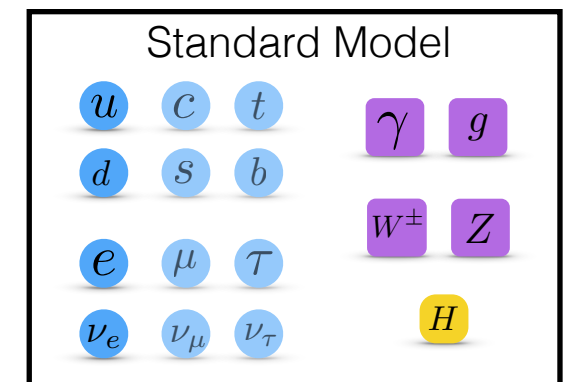


[Dona, AE, Percacci '13]



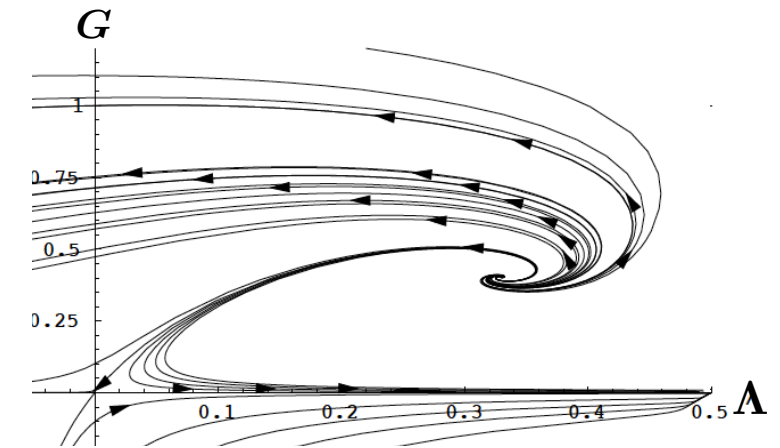
[AE, Labus, Pawłowski, Reichert to appear]

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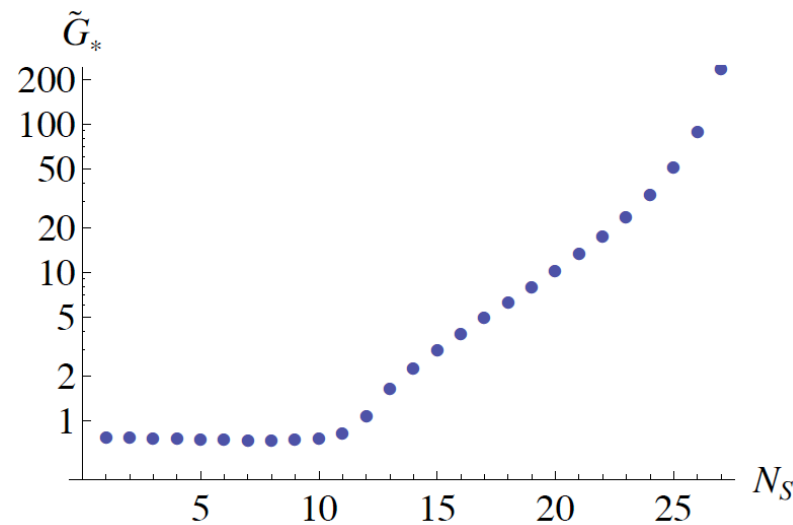


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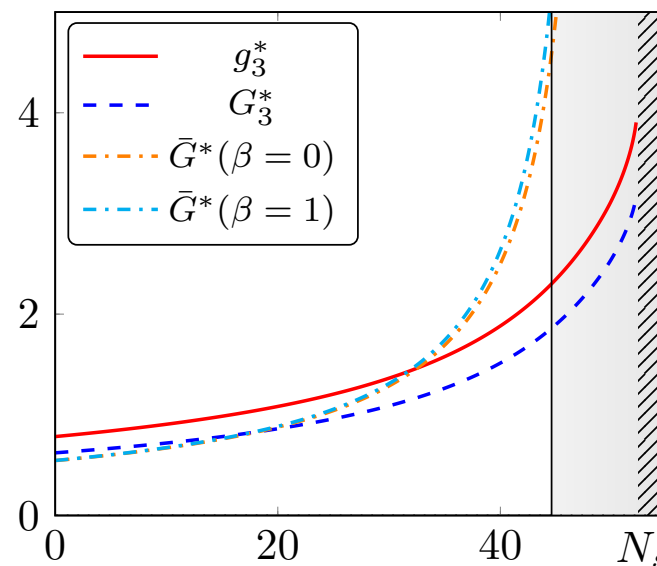
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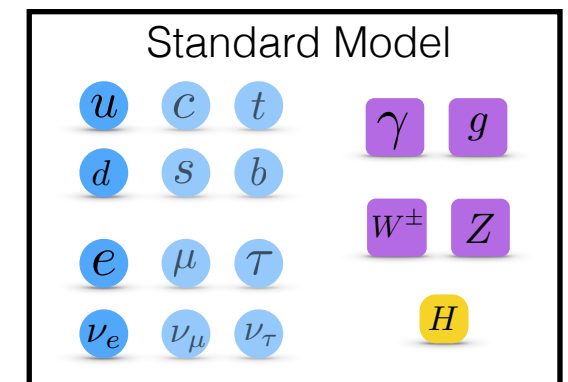


[Dona, AE, Percacci '13]



[AE, Labus, Pawłowski, Reichert to appear]

minimally coupled SM fields



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

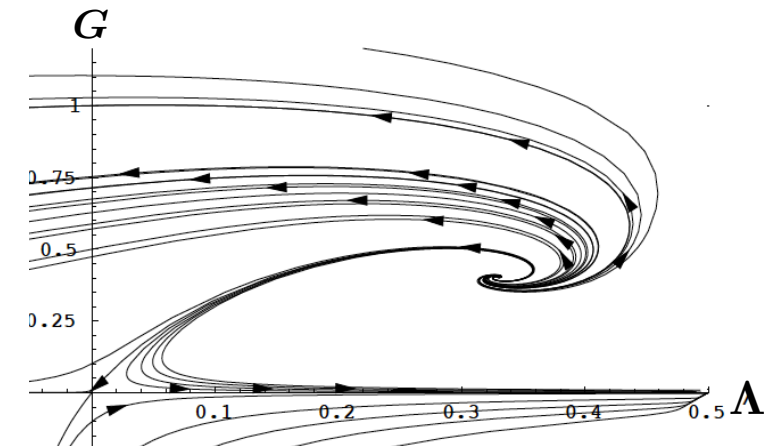
[Dona, AE, Percacci '13, '14]

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

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

Asymptotic safety for gravity & matter

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



quantum gravity dynamics

matter dynamics

triviality in Higgs-Yukawa & U(1)

QG-induced asymptotic safety

QG-induced asymptotic freedom

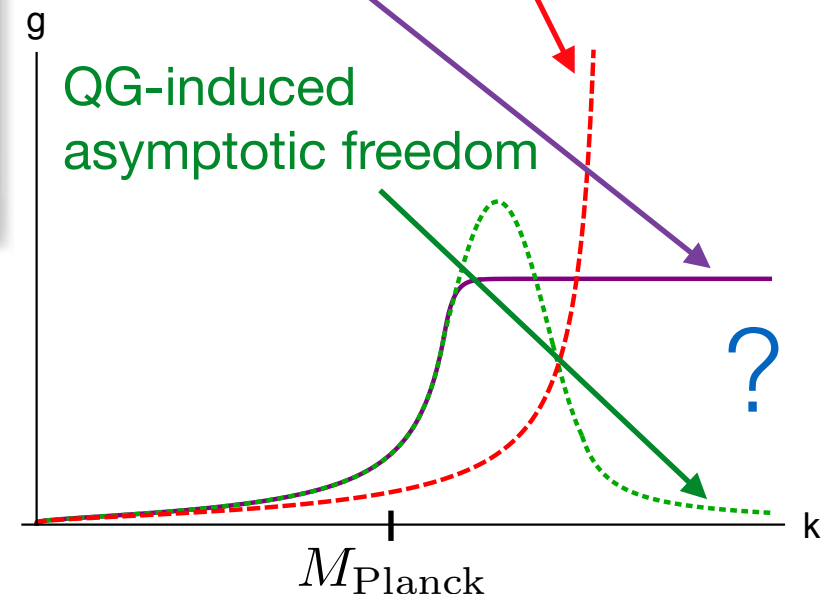
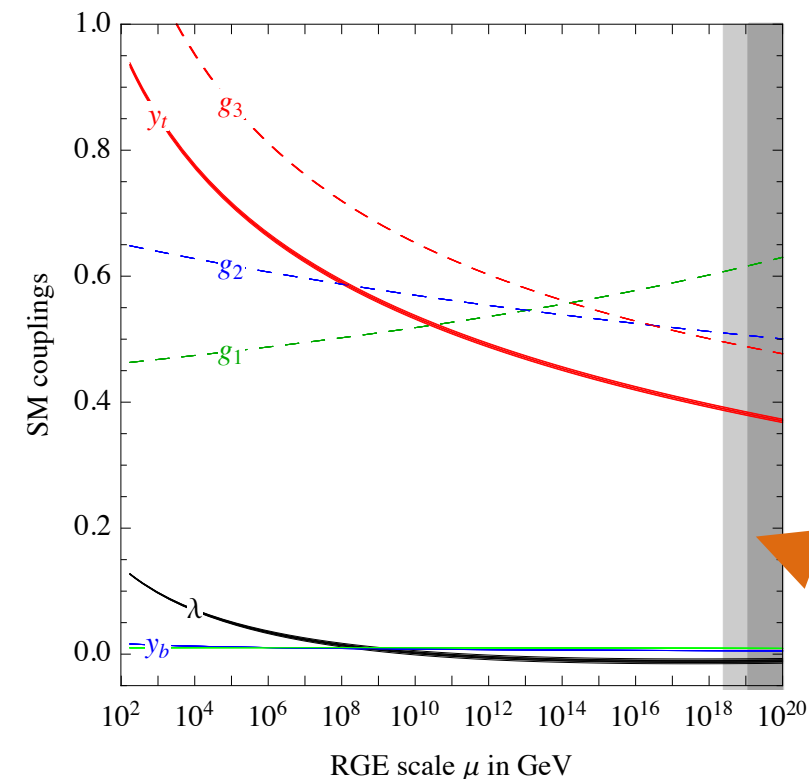
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match onto SM at Planck scale

QG generated fixed point

Buttazzo et al. '13



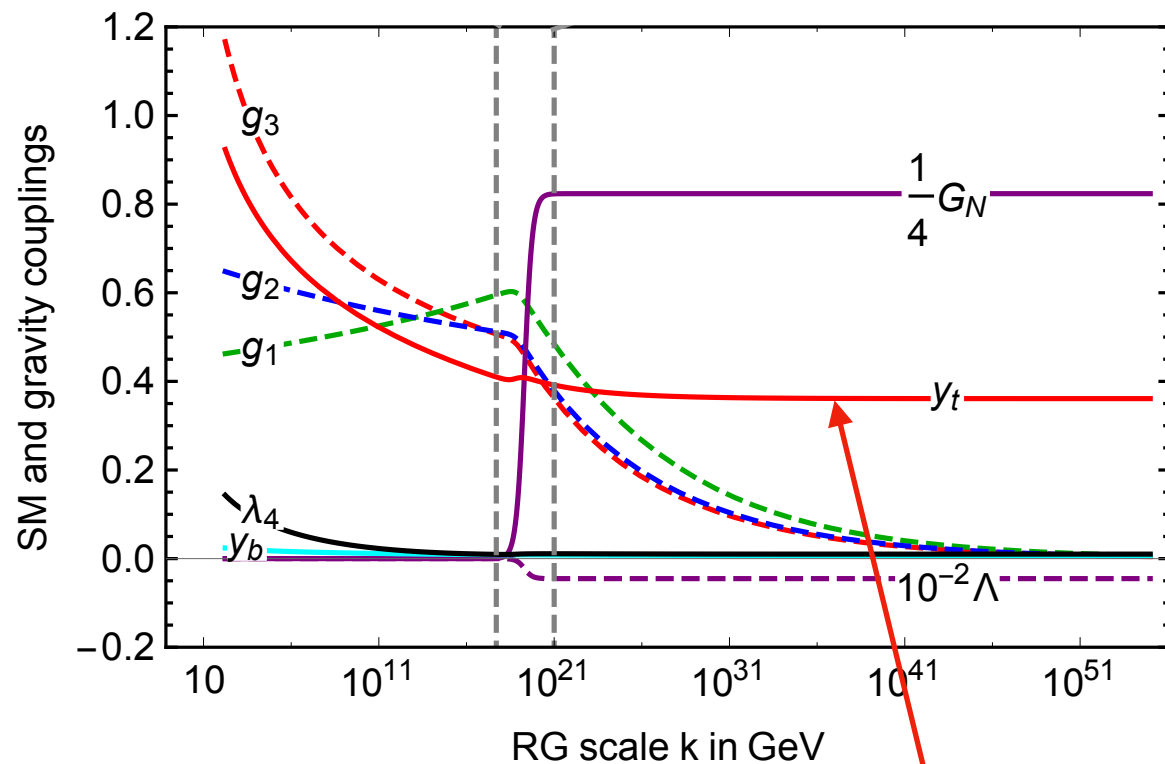
Quantum-gravity induced UV completion for the SM



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]

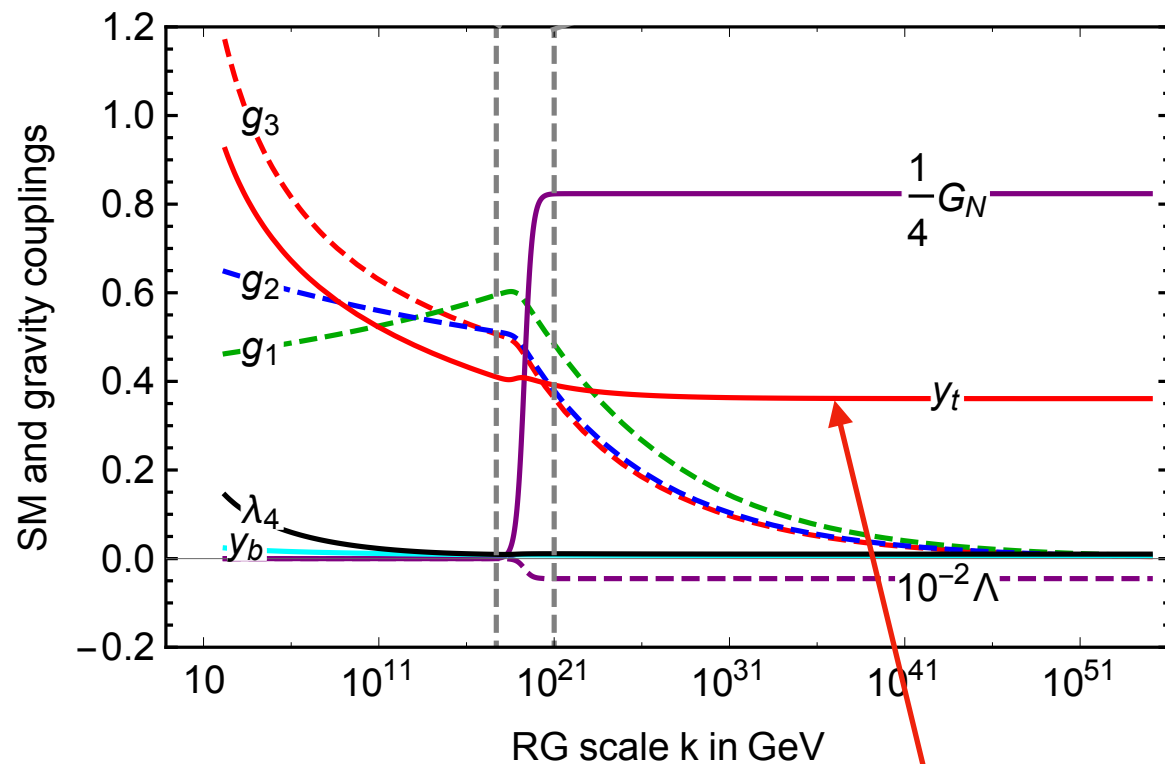
- **asymptotic safety in top Yukawa coupling with $M_t \gg M_b$ fixed uniquely**

[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

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**

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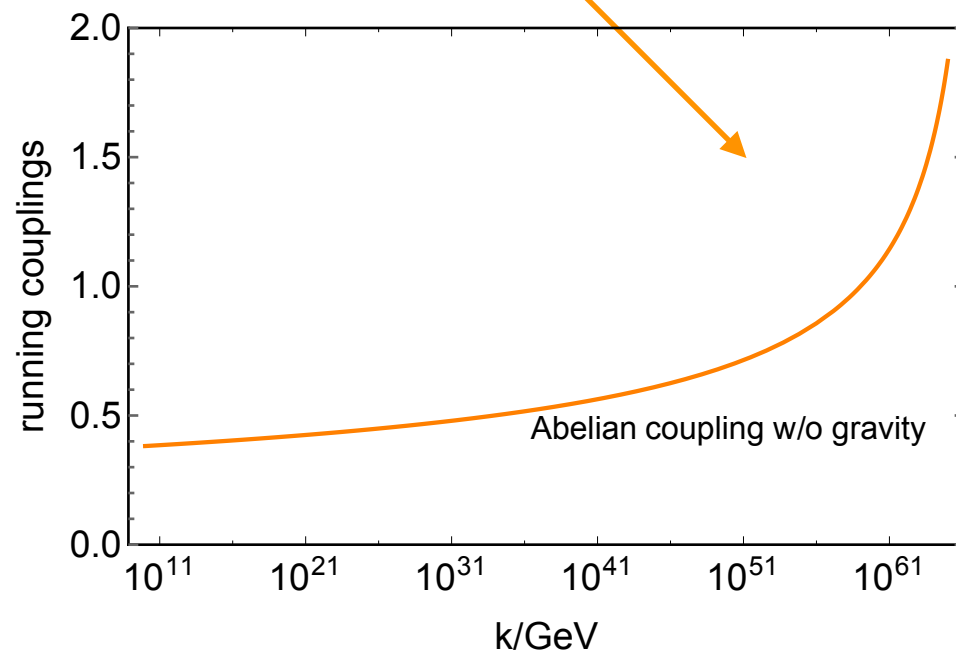
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Gauge-gravity interplay

Abelian gauge theory:

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

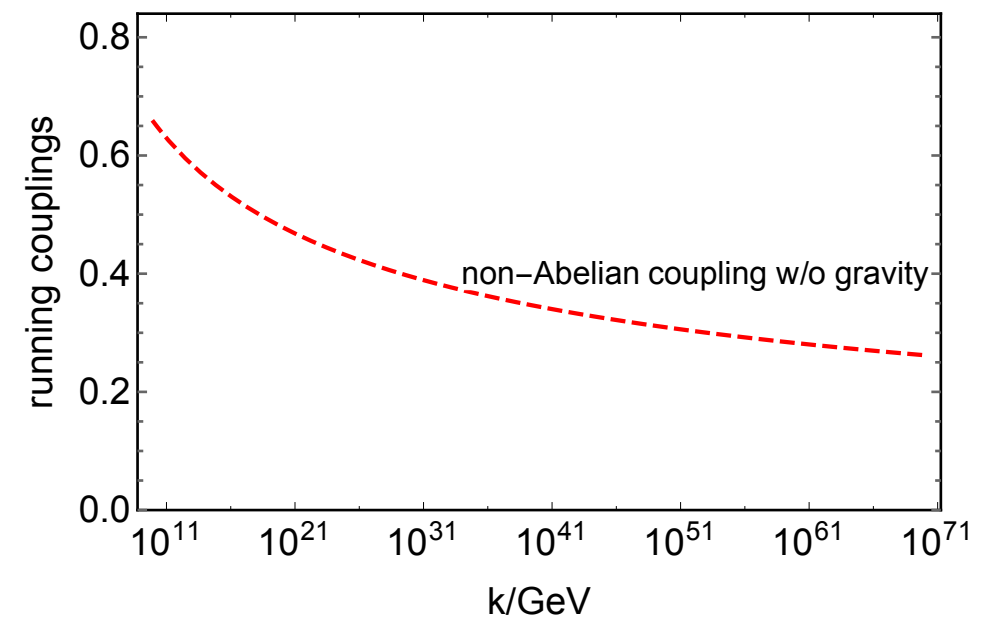
screening
-> **triviality problem**



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

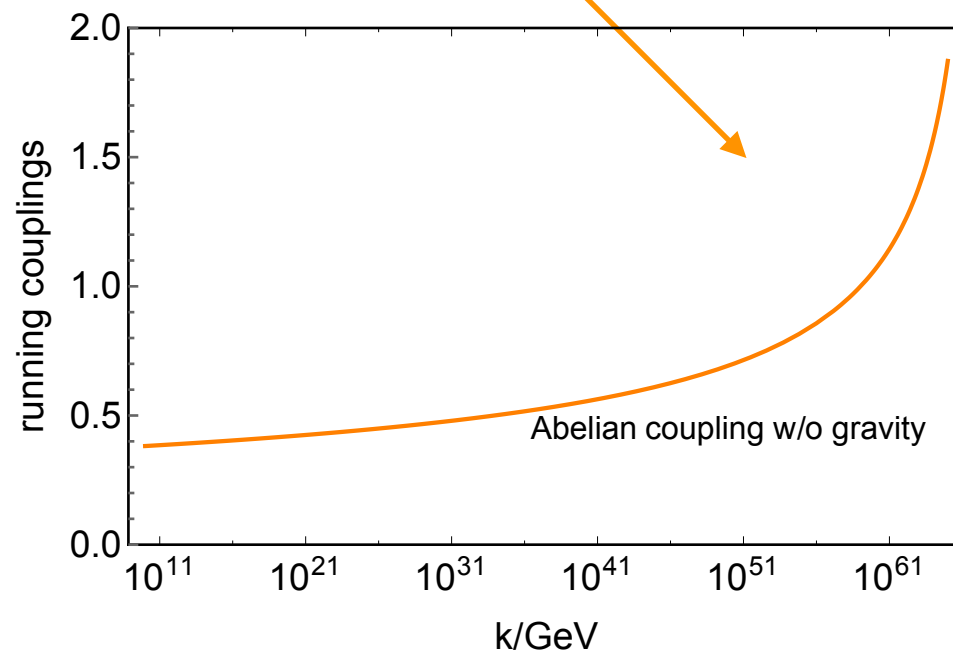
Abelian gauge theory:

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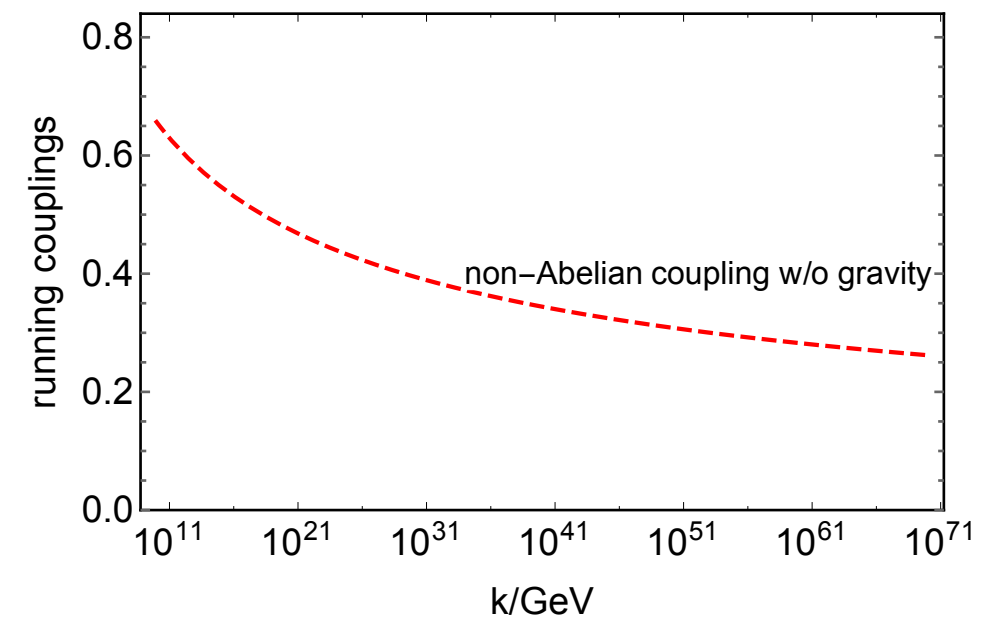


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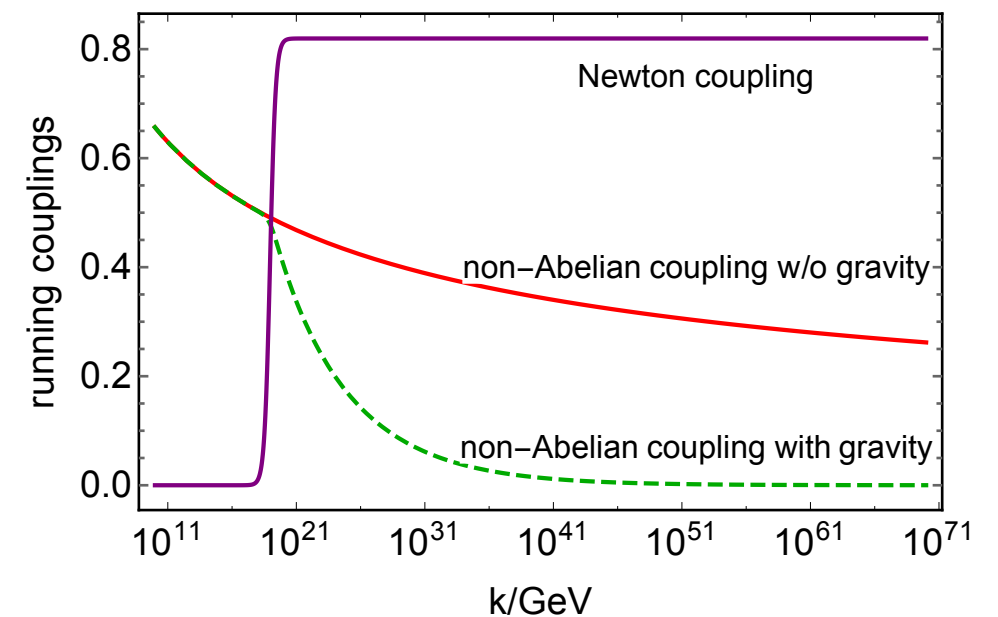
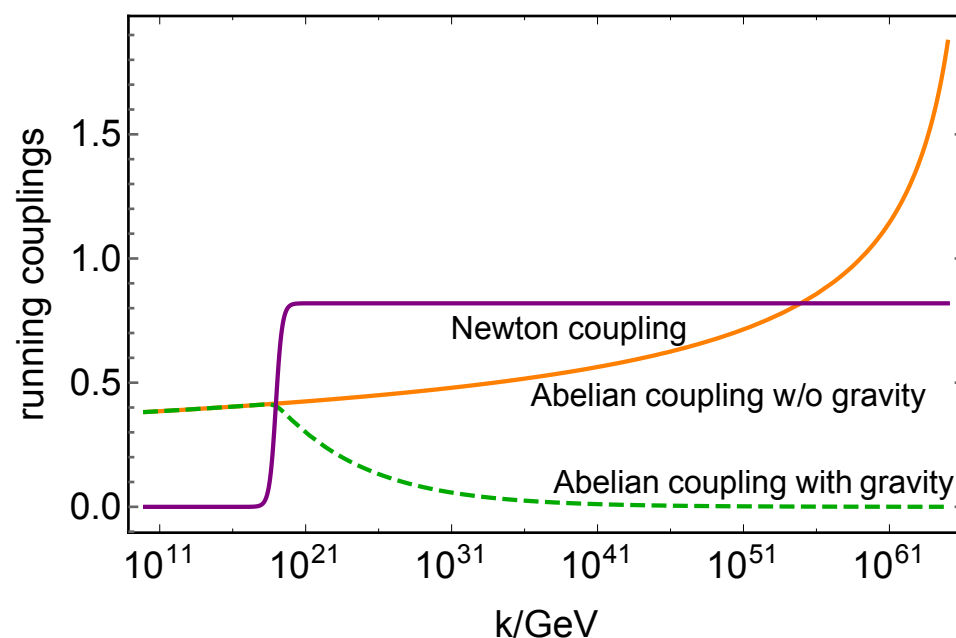
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**beyond the Planck scale:
power-law running towards asymptotic freedom**



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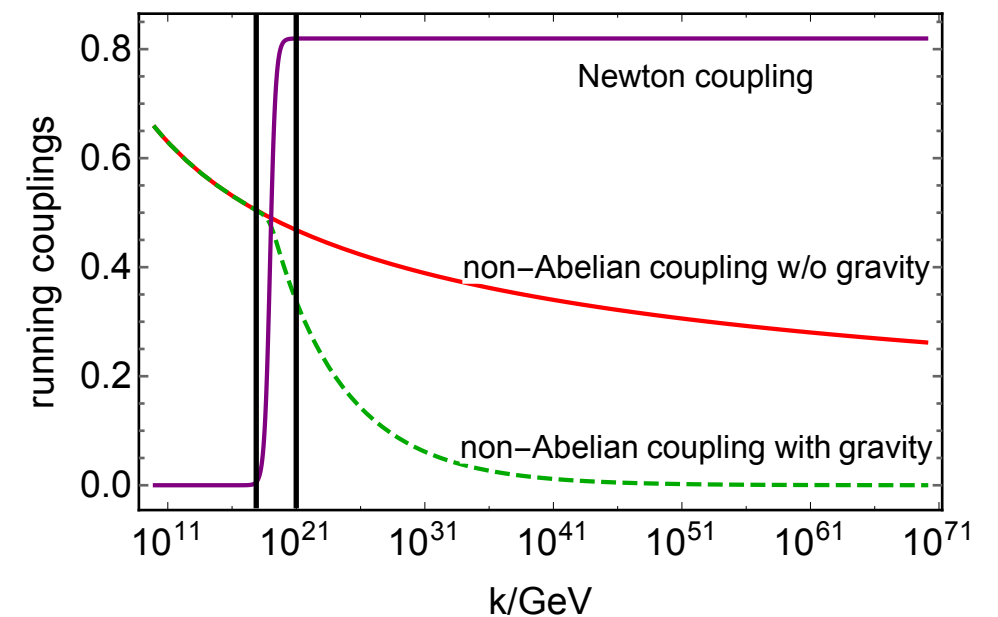
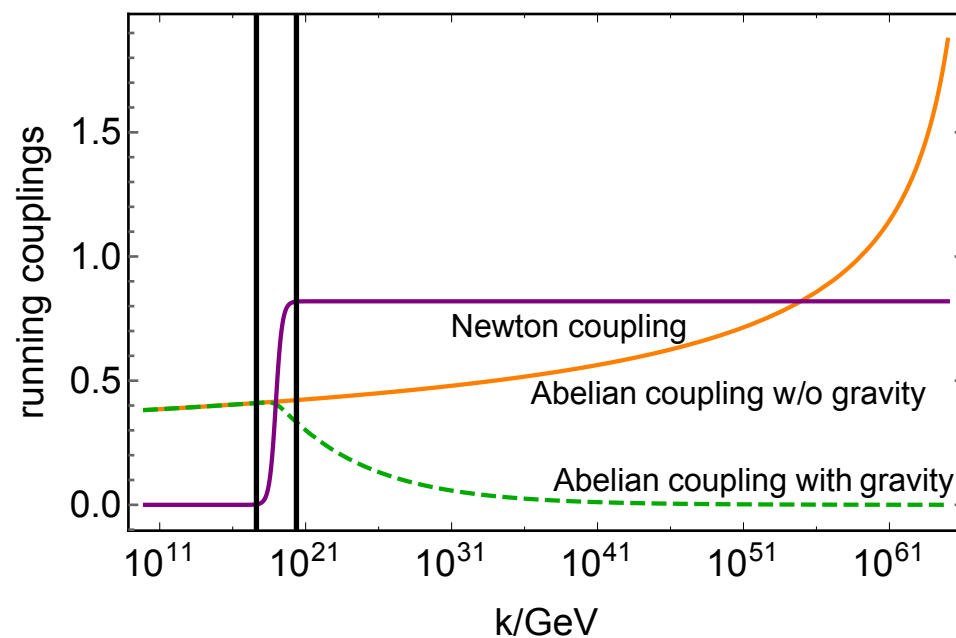
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smooth transition from classical to quantum gravity



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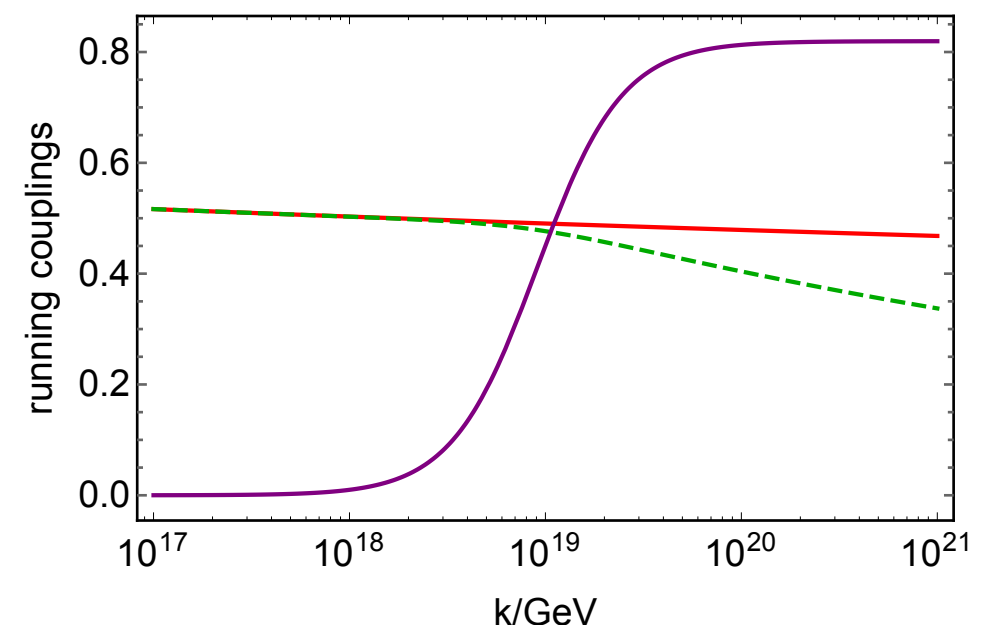
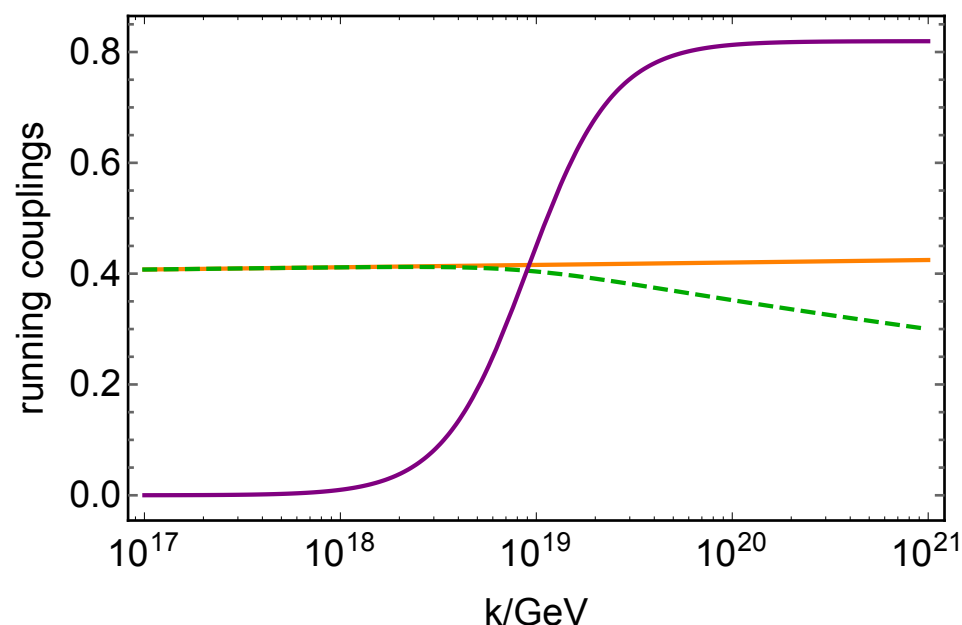
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[Daum, Harst, Reuter '10; Folkerts, Litim, Pawłowski '11; Harst, Reuter '11, Christiansen, AE '17, AE, Versteegen '17]

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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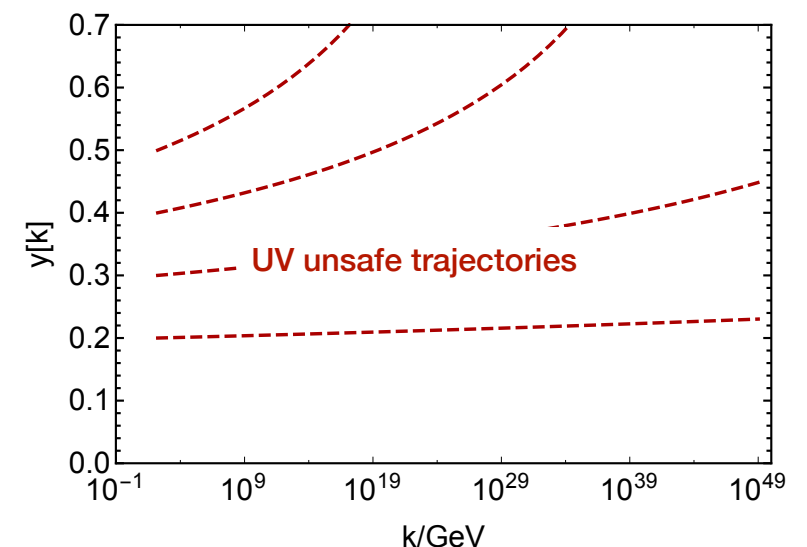
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drive the coupling to increasing values
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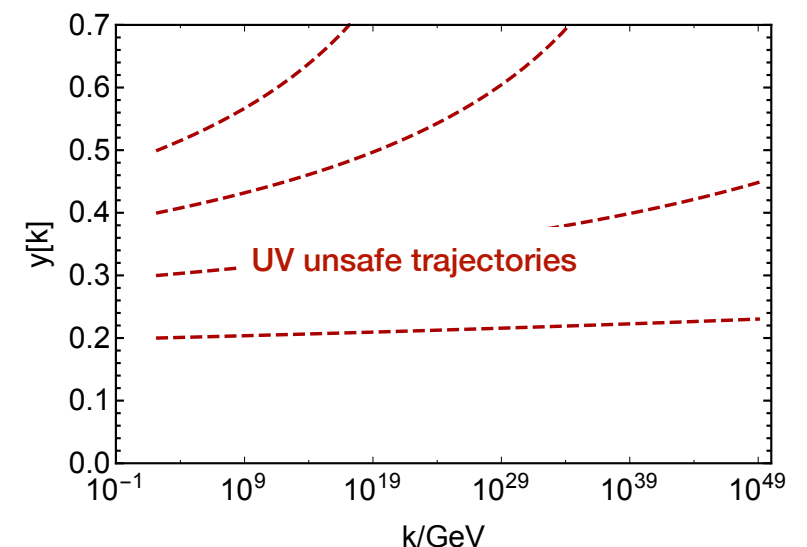
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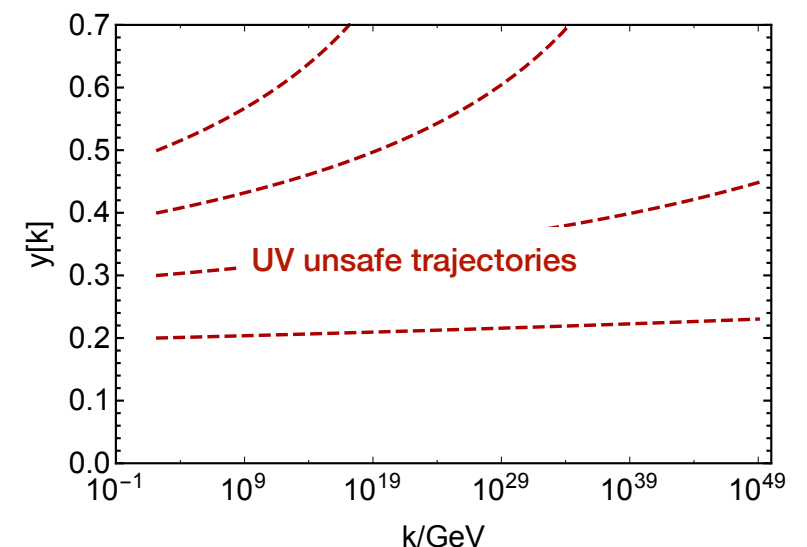
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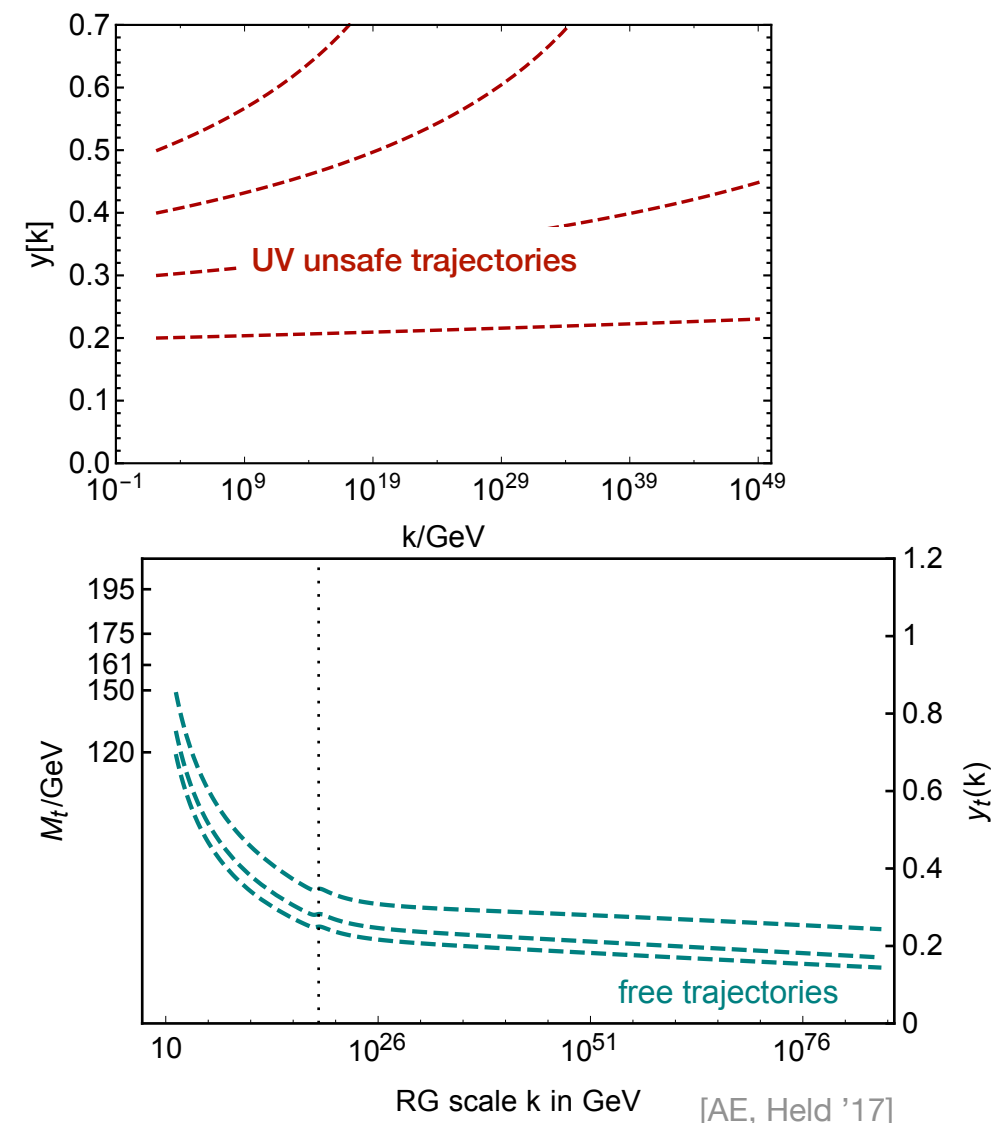
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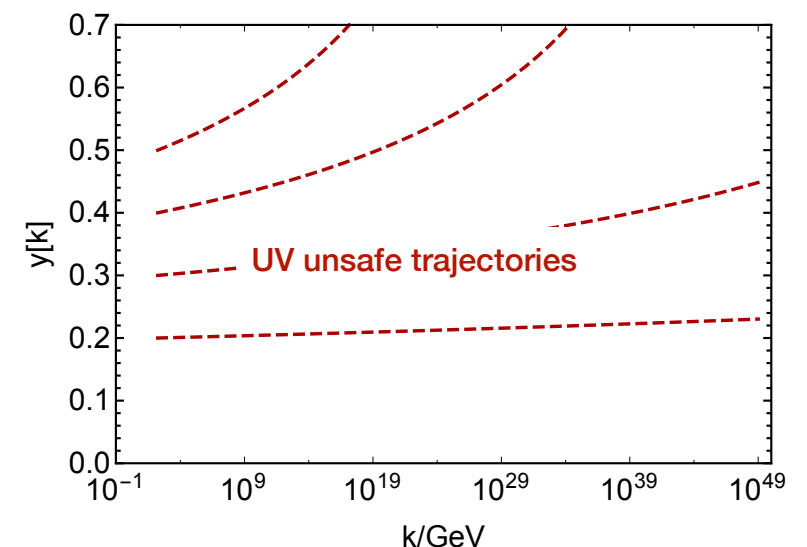
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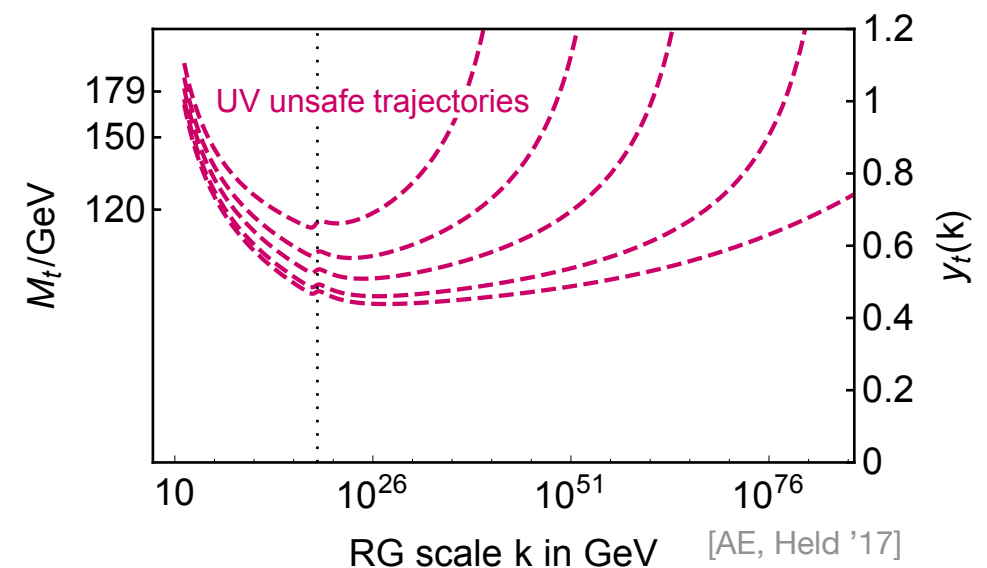


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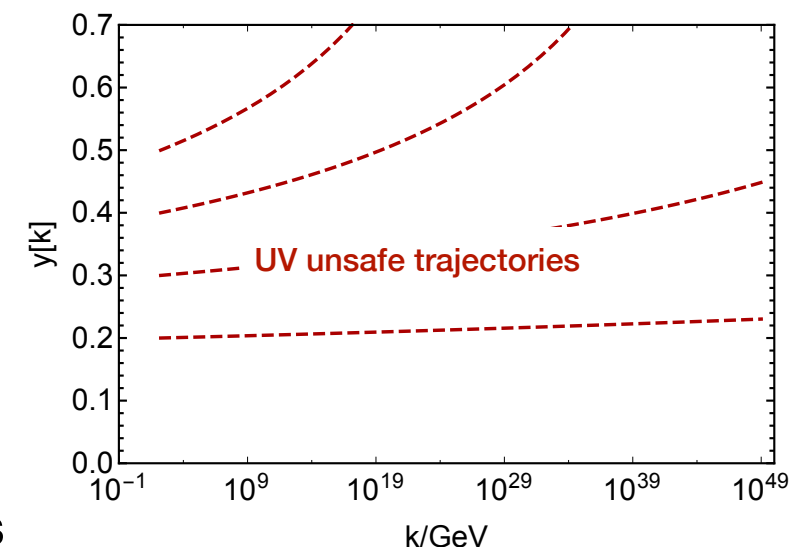
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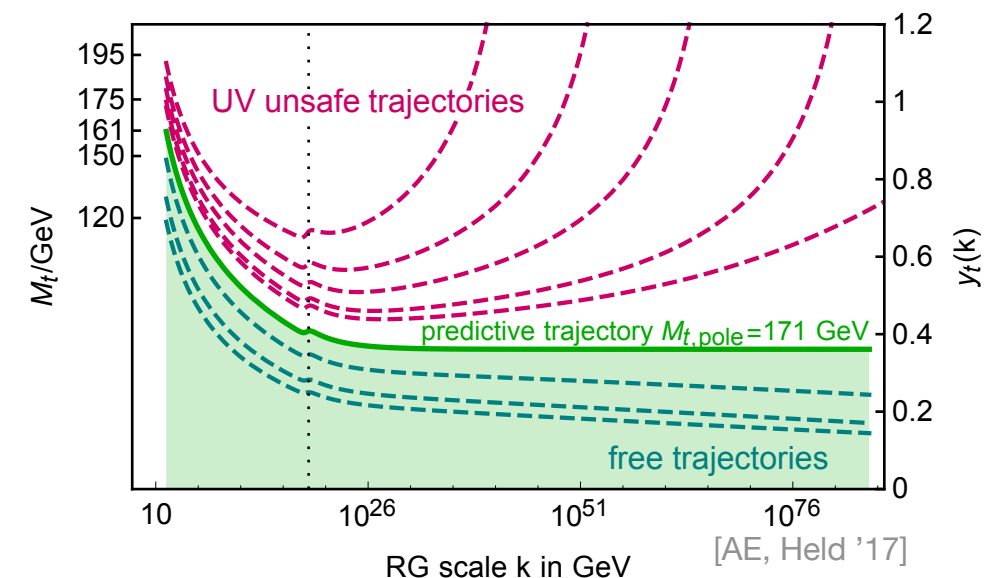
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Top-bottom mass difference from asymptotic safety

Top-bottom mass difference from asymptotic safety

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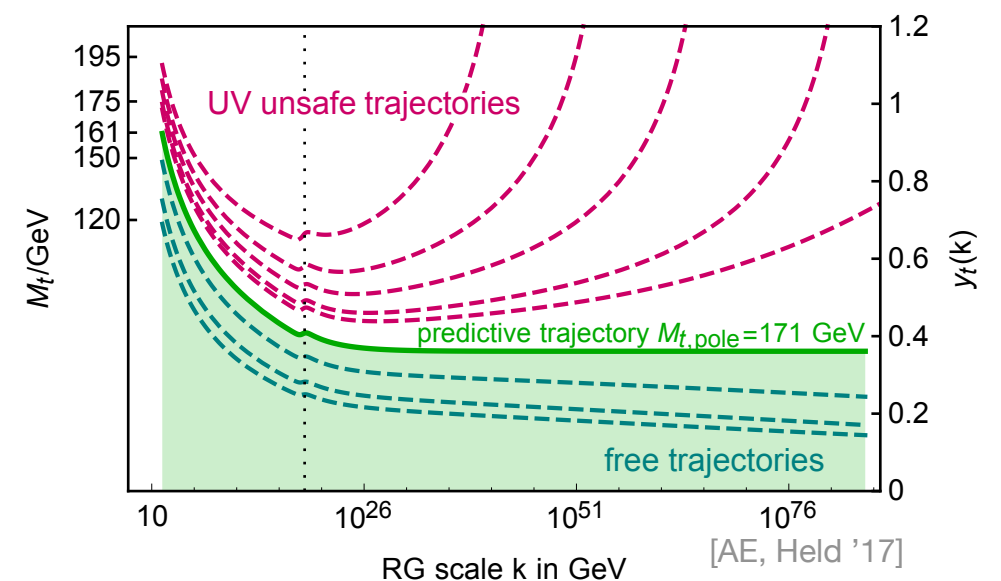
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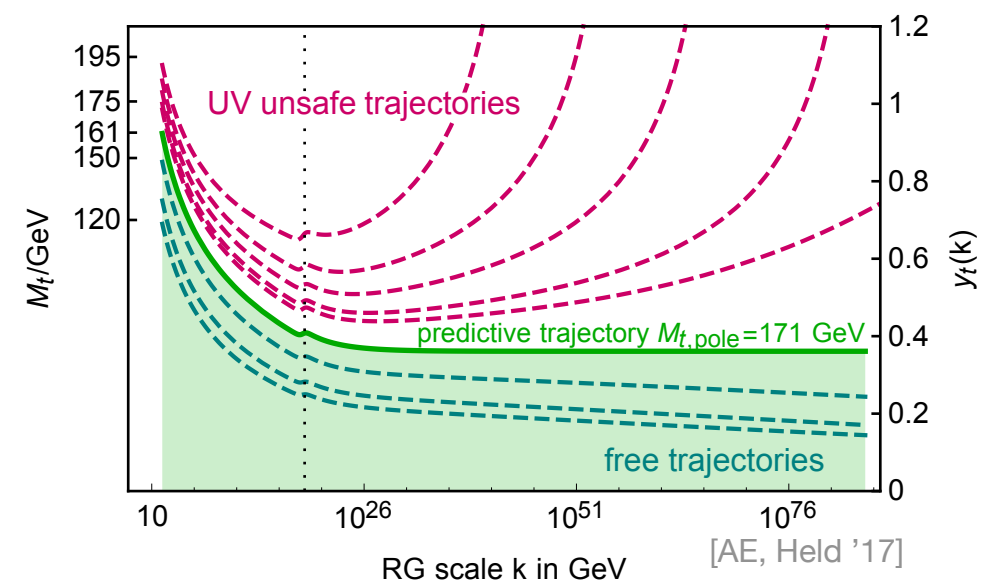
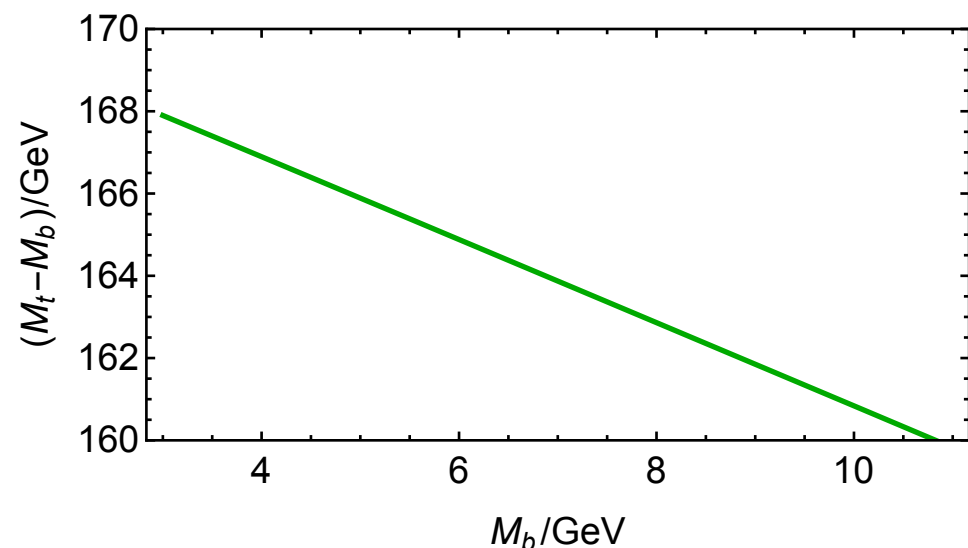
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y_b becomes asymptotically free
 $\rightarrow M_b < M_t$

y_t becomes asymptotically safe



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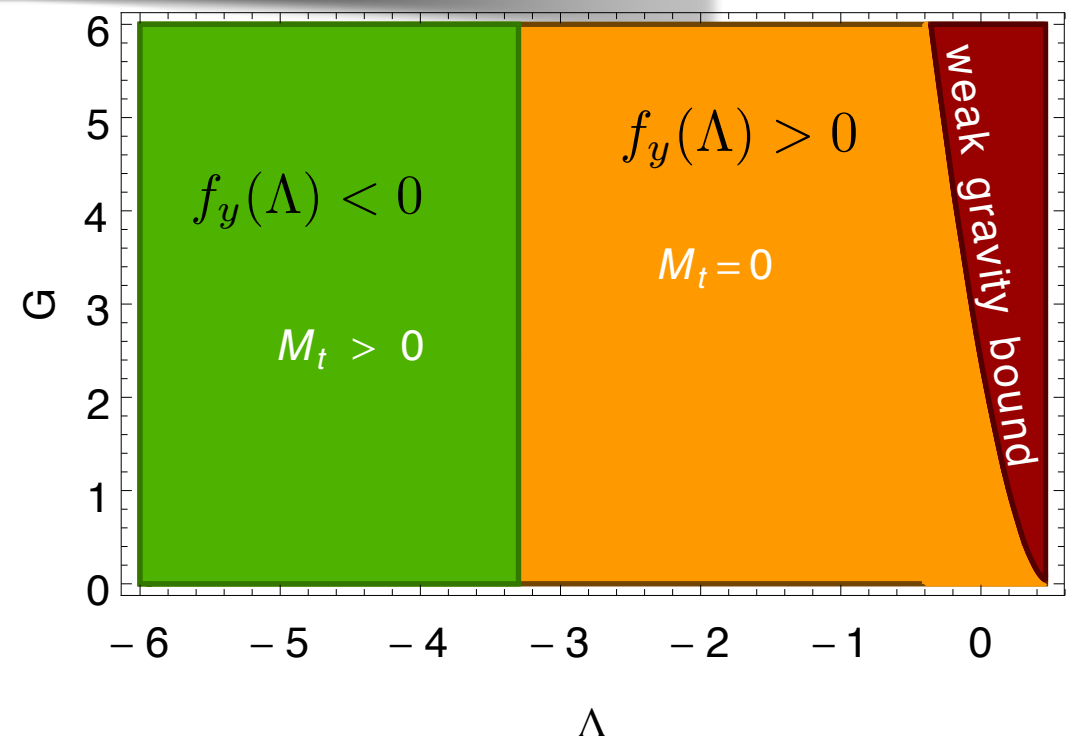
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two regimes in gravitational coupling space:

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**Which regime do the
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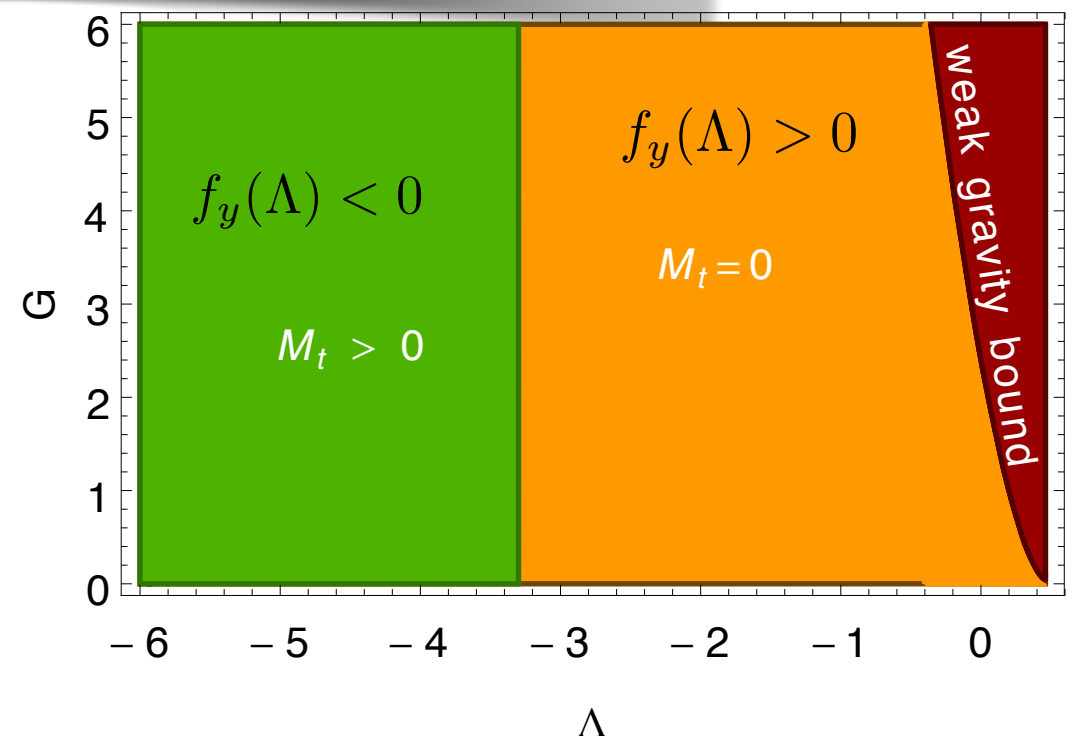
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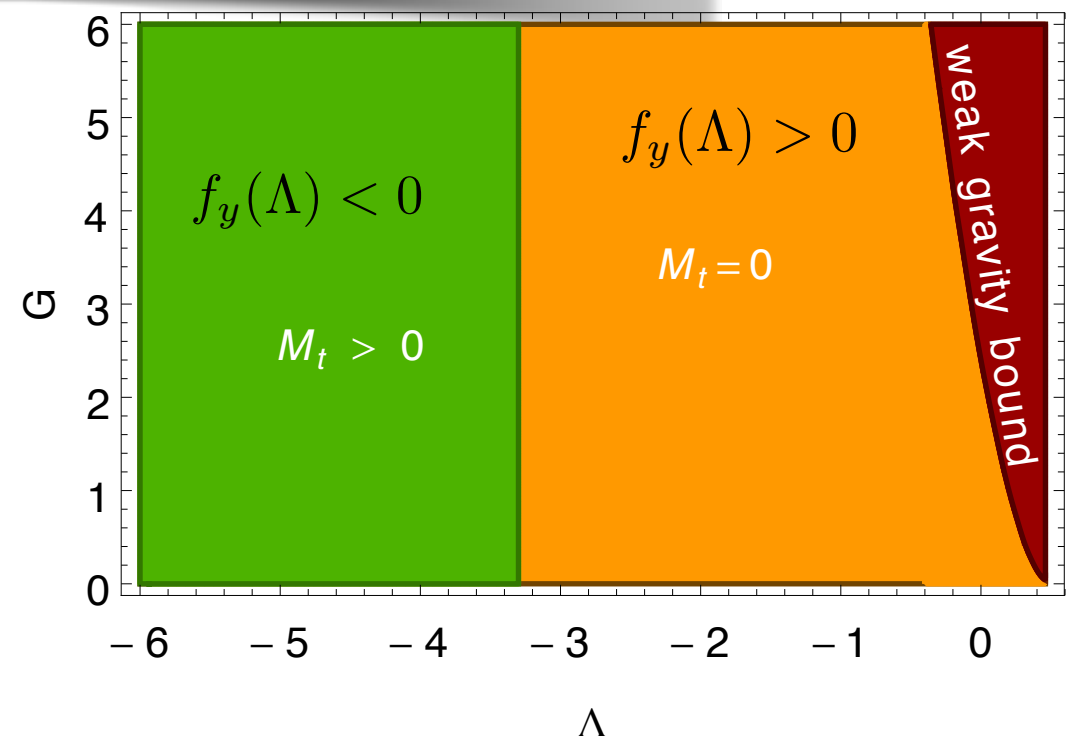
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**Einstein-Hilbert gravity
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**warning:
simple approximation
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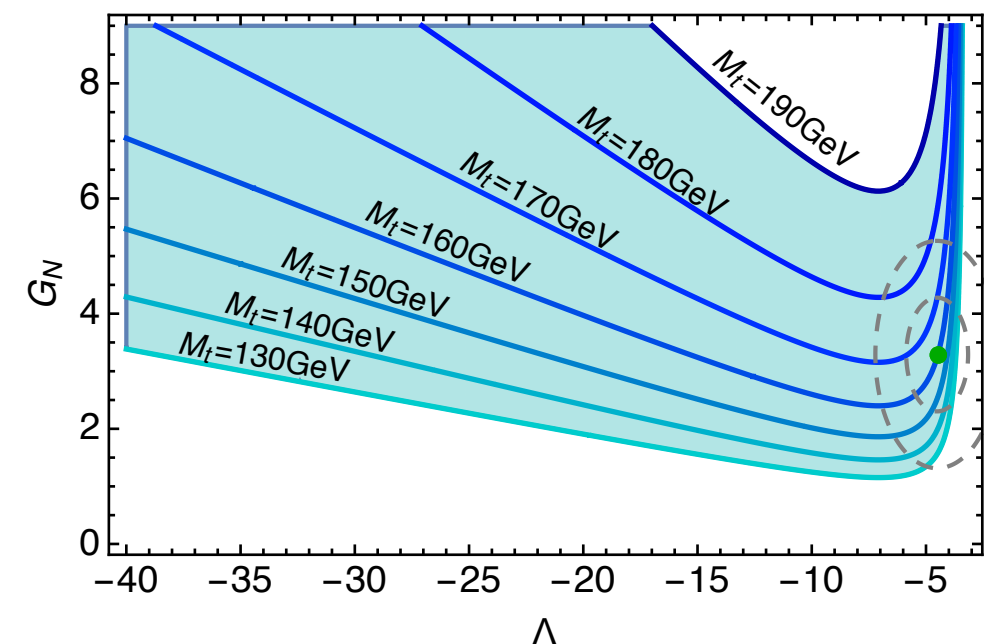
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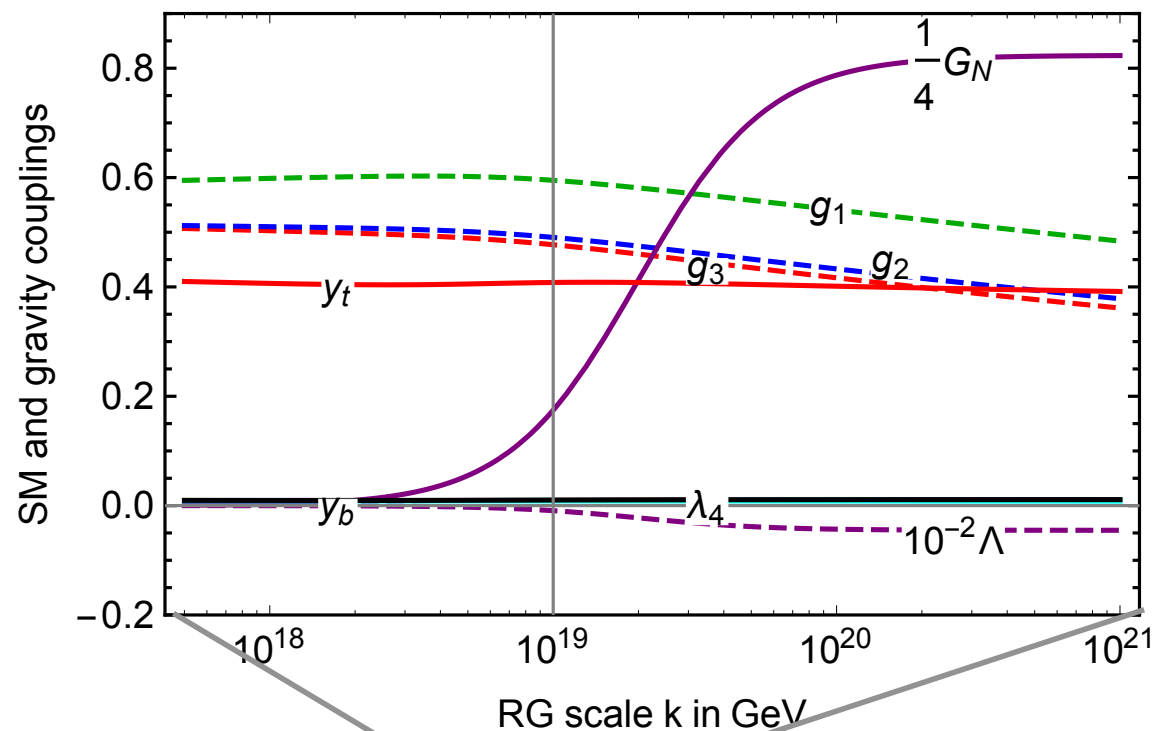
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Top mass from asymptotic safety - the full picture



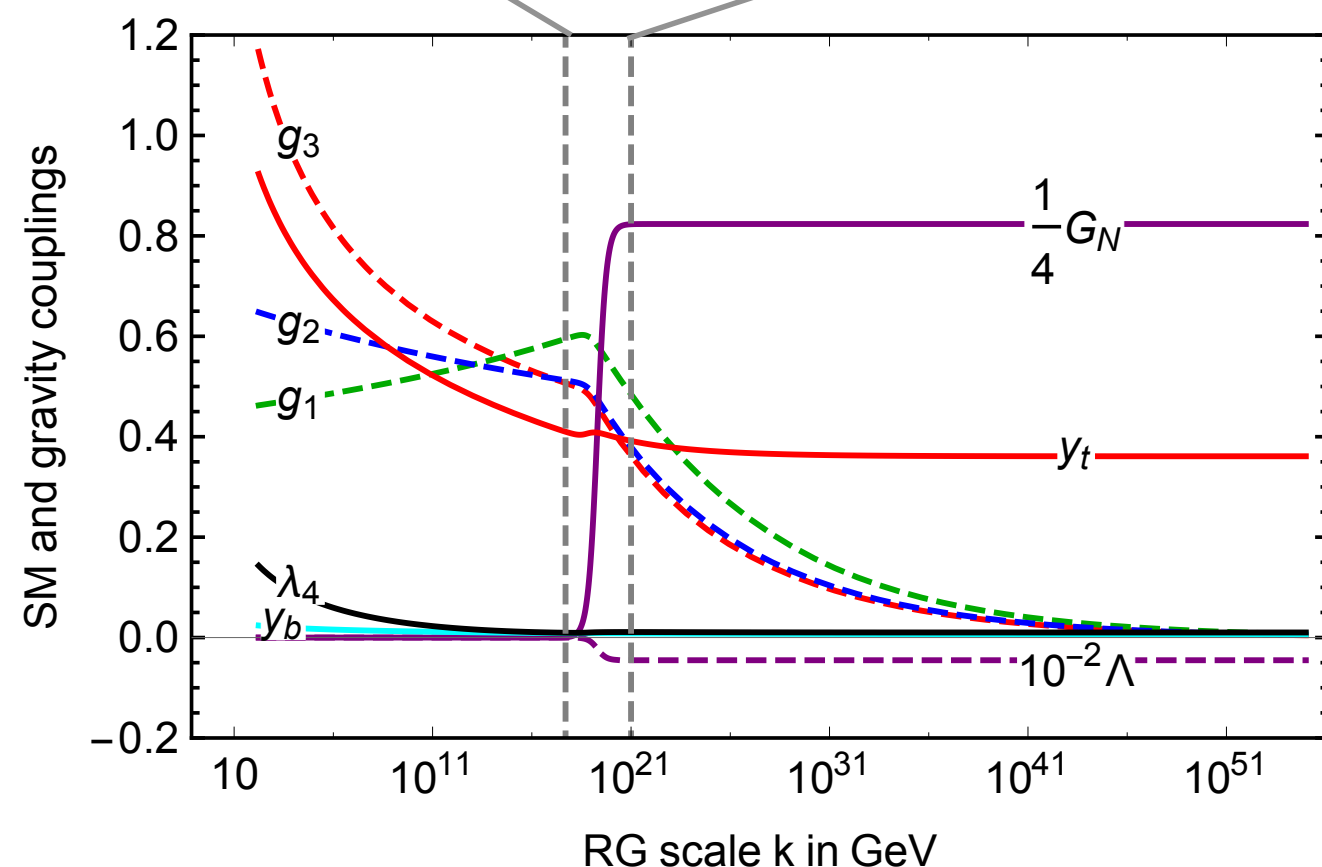
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- **Higgs mass: fixed uniquely** [Shaposhnikov, Wetterich '09]
here: simple truncation w. stable vacuum

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

outlook: vacuum stability from asymptotic safety?

Learning about the dark sector from asymptotic safety

dark sector might only couple gravitationally

→ direct detection very challenging

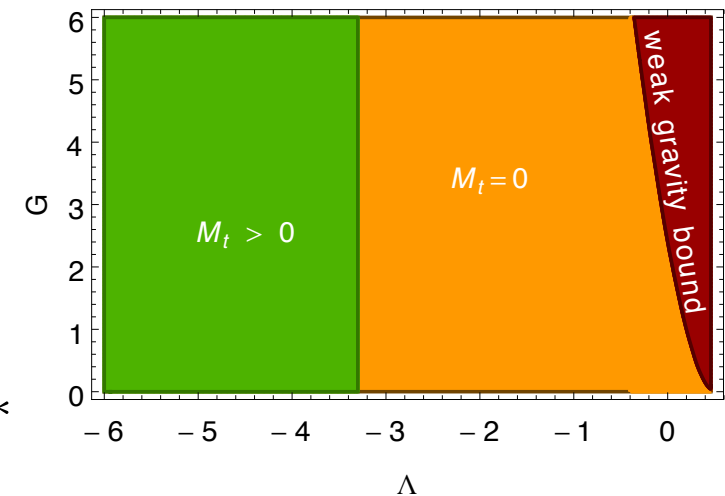
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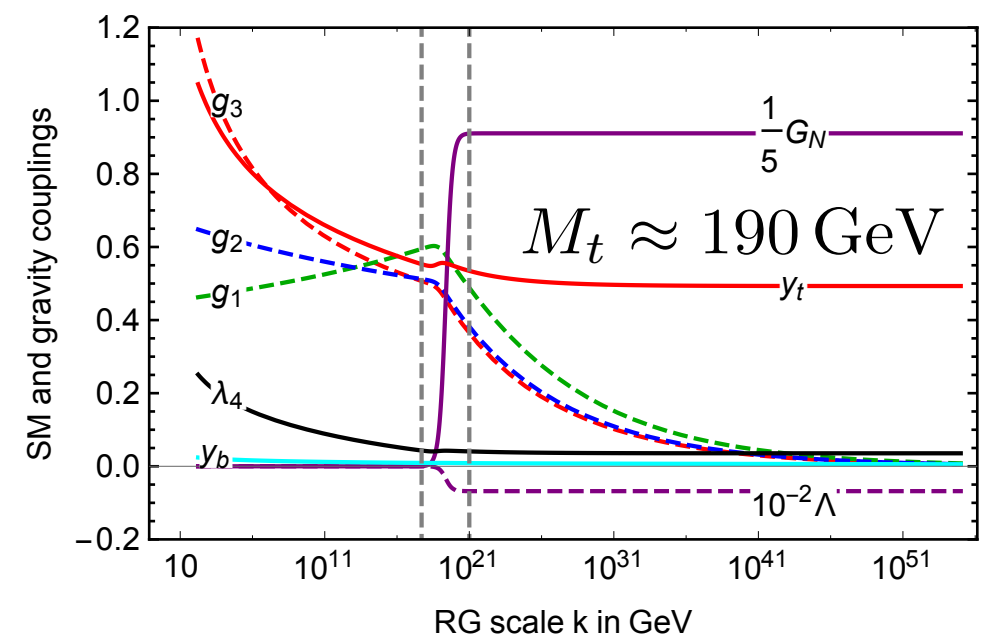
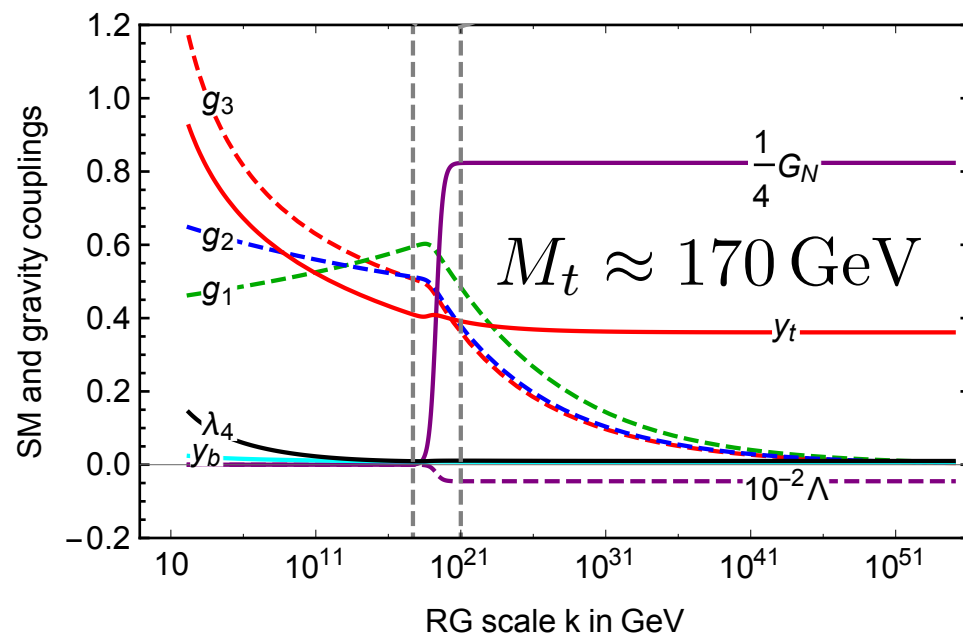
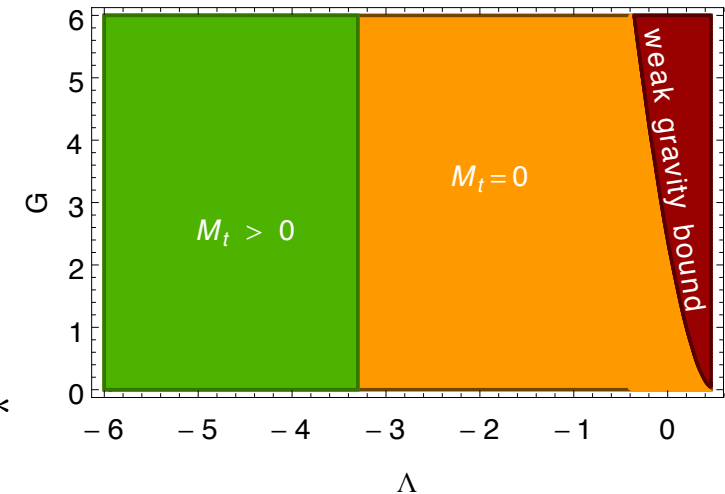
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toy examples: convergence in fixed-point results: to be tested! SM + 3 Weyl fermions + 1 scalar

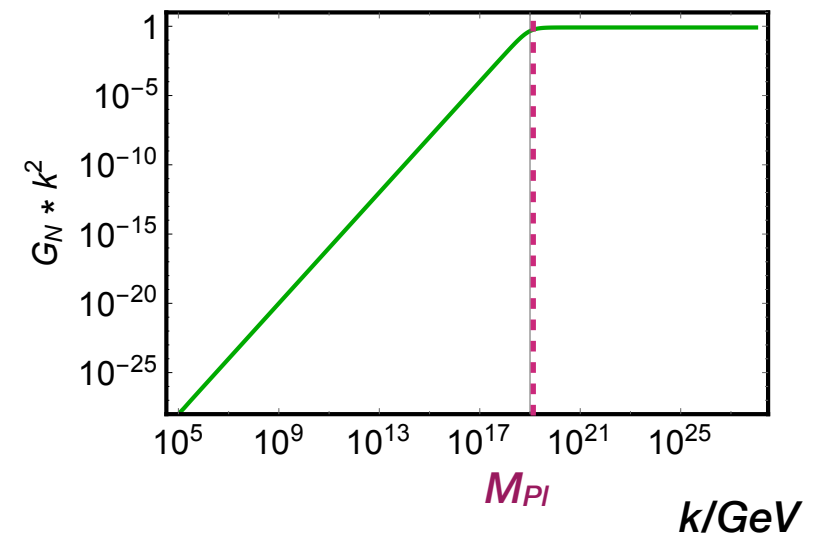


outlook: constrain dark sector by matching top-mass value from AS to measured value...

Conclusions

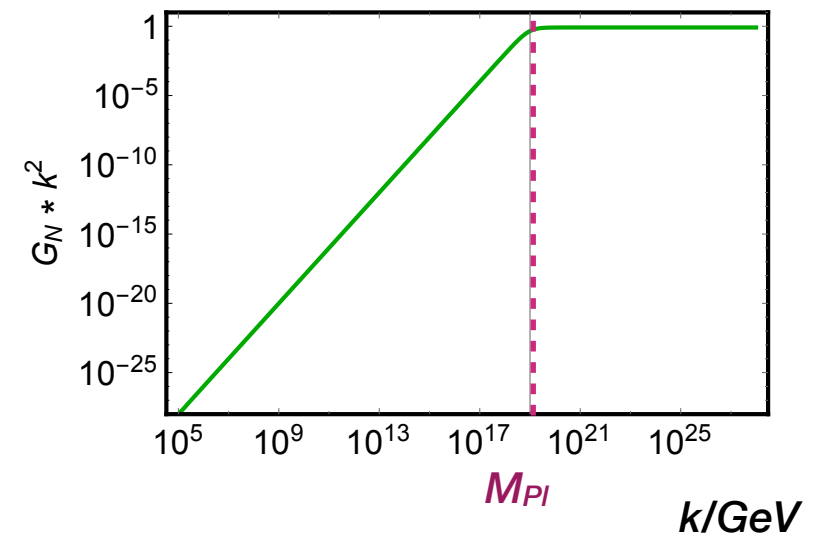
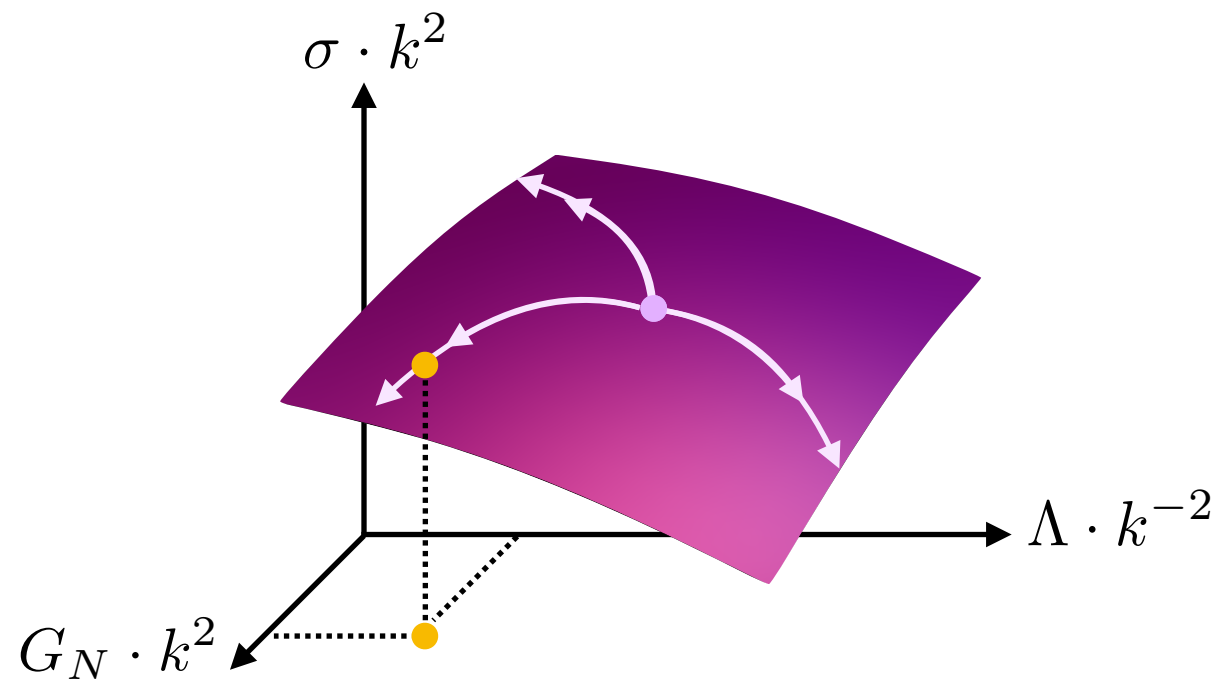
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**Asymptotic safety:
Quantum field theory for gravity & matter
on all scales**



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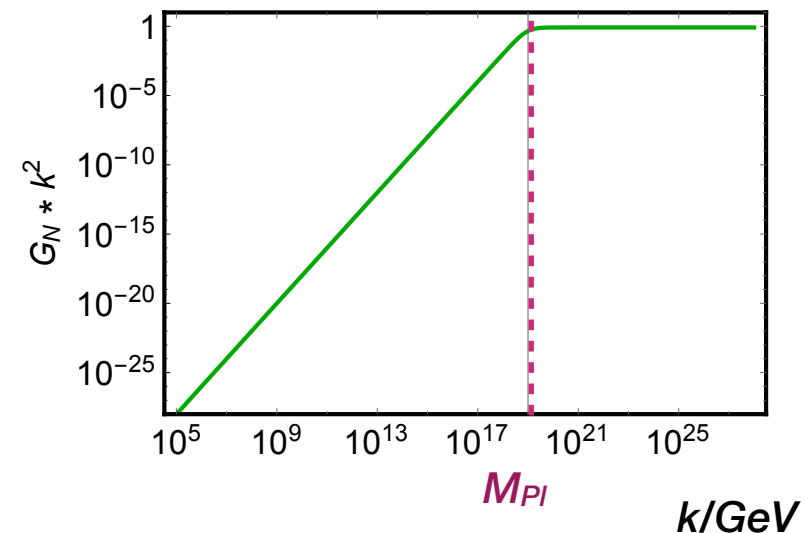
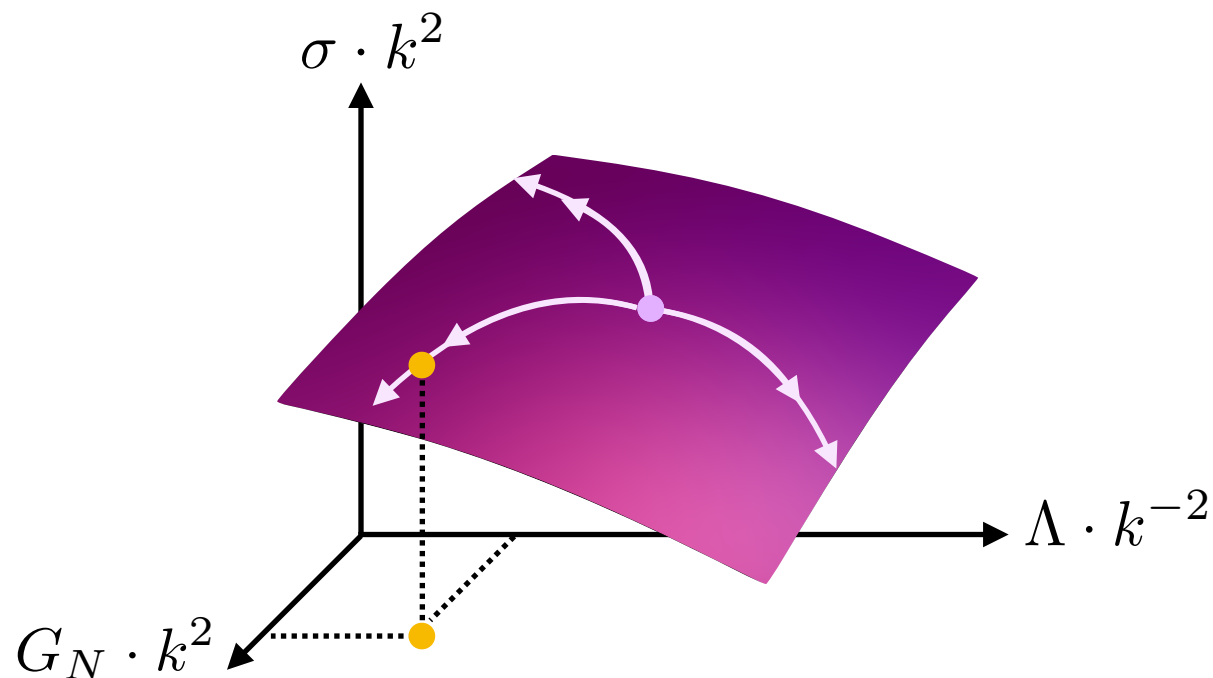


**microscopically:
quantum scale- invariance**

**macroscopically:
predictions for irrelevant couplings**

Conclusions

**Asymptotic safety:
Quantum field theory for gravity & matter
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**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

