

# Correspondence between Modified Gravity and Generalized Uncertainty Principle

**Aneta Wojnar**

Complutense University of Madrid

HUN-REN Wigner Research Centre for Physics

Budapest

# Motivation and plan of the talk

## Motivation:

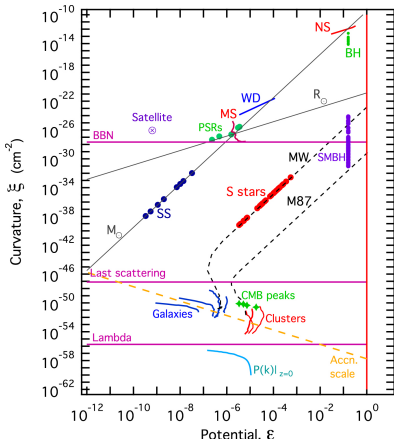
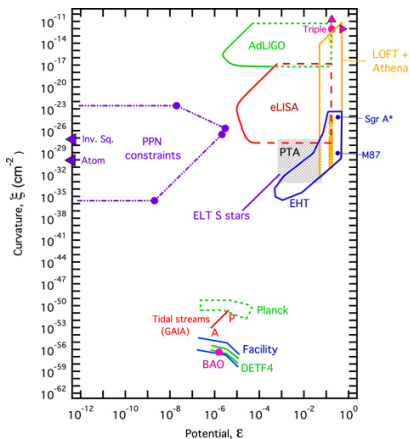
- To understand effects of gravity on thermodynamic systems
- To constrain theories of modified and quantum gravity

## Plan of the talk:

- Description of thermodynamic systems in the presence of gravity
- GR case: choosing an observer and coordinate system
- Modified Gravity in the lab
- Seismology as a tool to test fundamental interactions:

Cost Action FuSe: *Testing Fundamental Physics with Seismology*

# The stellar and galaxy curvature regime not considered too much in MG...



Untested regime in the **the galaxy and stellar physics regime**. It could potentially hide the onset of corrections to GR (T. Baker et al 2015 ApJ 802, 63).

$$\text{Curvature } \zeta = (R^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta})^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{48} \frac{GM}{r^3 c^2}$$

$$\text{Potential } \varepsilon = \frac{GM}{rc^2}$$

# Gravity vs matter: motivation based on a number of indications

- Effective quantities: opacity<sup>1</sup>, ...
- Modifications introduced by modified gravity to pressure<sup>2</sup>
- Chemical reactions rates depend on gravity<sup>3</sup>
- Specific heat and crystallization depend on modified gravity<sup>4</sup>
- Chemical potential depends on gravity<sup>5</sup>
- Elementary particle interactions modified by modified gravity (dependence of the metric on the local energy-momentum distributions<sup>6</sup>
- EoS depends on relativistic effects introduced by GR<sup>7</sup>
- Thermonuclear processes...?<sup>8</sup>
- Fermi and Bose equations of state depend on (modified/quantum) gravity<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>J. Sakstein, PRD 92 (2015) 124045; ...

<sup>2</sup>H-Ch. Kim, PRD 89 (2014) 064001

<sup>3</sup>P. Lecca, J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 2090 (2021) 012034

<sup>4</sup>S. Kalita, L. Sarmah, AW, PRD 107 (2023) 4, 044072

<sup>5</sup>I.K. Kulikov, P.I. Pronin, Int. J. Theor. Phys. 34, (1995) 9

<sup>6</sup>A.D.I Latorre, G.J. Olmo, M. Ronco, PRB 780, 294 (2018)

<sup>7</sup>G.M. Hossain, S. Mandal, JCAP 02 (2021) 026; PRD 104 (2021) 123005

<sup>8</sup>J. Sakstein, PRD 92 (2015) 124045; AW, PRD 103 (2021) 4, 044037; M. Guerrero, AW, in preparation

<sup>9</sup>AW, PRD 107 (2023) 4, 044025; A. Pachol, AW, Class.Quant.Grav. 40 (2023) 19, 195021; AW, PRD 109 (2024) 2, 024011; AW PRD 109 (2024) 124031

## Observation 1:

Modifies Heisenberg uncertainty principle (GUP, EUP)

$$\Delta x_i \Delta p_i \geq \frac{\hbar}{2} \left( 1 + \text{modification} \right)$$

or/and dispersion relation

$$E^2 + p^2 \left( 1 + \text{modification} \right) = m^2$$

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<sup>10</sup>LQG, Doubly Special Relativity, String Theory, Noncommutative geometry,...

# Quantum gravity and thermodynamics

## Observation 2:

The weighted phase space volume is modified ( $D$  - dim of the phase space).

$$\frac{d^D \mathbf{x} d^D \mathbf{p}}{1 + \text{modification}}$$

Consequence: modified partition function ( $z = e^{\mu/k_B T}$ )

$$\ln \mathcal{Z} = \frac{V}{(2\pi\hbar)^3} \frac{g}{\pm 1} \int \ln \left( 1 \pm z e^{-E/k_B T} \right) \frac{d^3 p}{1 + \text{modification}}$$

Conclusion: Quantum Gravity modifies equations of state since

$$P = k_B T \frac{\partial}{\partial V} \ln \mathcal{Z},$$

$$n = k_B T \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \ln \mathcal{Z} \Big|_{T, V},$$

$$U = k_B T^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial T} \ln \mathcal{Z} \Big|_{z, V}$$

Observation 3: MG as an effective theory derived from QG

Let us consider a non-relativistic massive particle in the gravitational field of the Earth

$$S = - \int m ds = - \int m \sqrt{-g_{\mu\nu}(x) \dot{x}^\mu \dot{x}^\nu} d\tau$$

Choosing a **non-rotating** observer, we can write down the metric as (3+1 split)

$$ds^2 = -N^2 (dx^0)^2 + h_{ij} (N^i dx^0 + dx^i) (N^j dx^0 + dx^j),$$

while the Lagrangian reads ( $h_{ij} \equiv g_{ij}$ )

$$L = -m \sqrt{N^2 (\dot{x}^0)^2 - (\dot{x}^0 N^i + \dot{x}^i) (\dot{x}^0 N^j + \dot{x}^j) h_{ij}}.$$

We will consider the non-relativistic part of the above Lagrangian ( $G_{ij} = h_{ij}/N$ )

$$L_{NR} = \frac{m}{2} (N^i + \dot{x}^i) (N^j + \dot{x}^j) G_{ij} - mN.$$

<sup>11</sup>L. Petrucciello, F. Wagner, PRD 103 (2021) 104061

# Quantum treatment

Non-relativistic Hamiltonian of our particle with  $p_i \equiv \pi_i - mN^j G_{ij}$

$$H_{NR} = \frac{1}{2m} p_i p_j G^{ij} + m \left( N - \frac{N^i N^j G_{ij}}{2} \right).$$

- Hilbert space construction: proper measure  $d\mu = \sqrt{G} d^3x$
- Position and momentum operators  $[\hat{x}^i, \hat{p}_j] = i\hbar \delta_j^i$ :

$$\hat{x}^i \psi = x^i \psi \quad \hat{p}_i \psi = - \left[ i\hbar \left( \partial_i + \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_{ij}^j(G) \right) + mN^j G_{ij} \right] \psi$$

- Momentum uncertainty  $\sigma_\rho \equiv \sqrt{\hat{p}^2 - \hat{p}^i \hat{p}_i}$
- Uncertainty relation ( $\rho$  - measure of position uncertainty):

$$\sigma_\rho \rho \gtrsim \pi \hbar \left[ 1 - \frac{\rho^2 R|_{\rho_0}}{12\pi^2} + \xi \frac{\rho^4}{\lambda_C^2} \nabla_j N_i \nabla^j N^i |_{\rho_0} \right].$$



Let's take classical limit  $\frac{1}{i\hbar}[\hat{A}, \hat{B}] \rightarrow \{A, B\}$  and get the time evolutions of the coordinates and momenta:

$$\dot{x}_i = \{x_i, H\}, \quad \dot{p}_i = \{p_i, H\}$$

- Non-trivial commutation relations:

$$[\hat{x}_i, \hat{x}_j] = 0 \text{ and } [\hat{p}_i, \hat{p}_j] \sim R_{ijk}^k(G(\phi))$$

- Get the weighted phase space volume which is invariant under time evolution:

$$dx'^3 dp'^3 = \frac{dx^3 dp^3}{\text{modification}}, \quad \text{here: modification is } \phi(x) \text{ dependent!}$$

- Get your thermodynamics and go to the lab (or talk to Aneta).

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<sup>12</sup>C. Pfeifer, AW, in preparation

**It turns out that Palatini-like gravity in the weak limit corresponds to linear GUP**

Poisson equation - the additional term can be interpreted as a modification to the matter fluid

$$\nabla^2 \phi = \frac{\kappa}{2} (\rho + \bar{\alpha} \nabla^2 \rho)$$

The partition function in the grand-canonical ensemble:

$$\ln Z = \frac{V}{(2\pi\hbar)^3} \frac{g}{a} \int f(E) \frac{d^3 p}{(1 - \sigma p)^b}$$

So the deformation of the phase space is

$$\frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^3} \int \frac{d^3 x d^3 p}{(1 - \sigma p)^d},$$

→ linear GUP with  $b = 1$ .

The covariant form of linear GUP which may correspond to the Palatini-like gravity could take the following form:

$$[x_\mu, p_\nu] = i\hbar \left[ g_{\mu\nu} - \alpha \left( \rho g_{\mu\nu} + \frac{p_\mu p_\nu}{\rho} \right) \right].$$

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<sup>13</sup>AW, PRD 109 (2024) 2, 024011; A Farag Ali, AW, CGQ 41 (2024) 10, 105001

# Modified Gravity and tabletop experiments<sup>14</sup> - liquid helium

The non-interacting Bose-Einstein condensate imposes  
 $-10^{12} \lesssim \sigma \lesssim 3 \times 10^{24}$  s/kg m for the linear GUP and  
 $-10^{-1} \lesssim \tilde{\beta} \lesssim 10^{11}$  m<sup>2</sup> for Palatini gravity.

**Landau model** (in An Introduction to the Theory of Superfluidity (CRC Press, 2018) pp. 185-204.)

$$\hbar\omega = \begin{cases} \hbar ck & \text{if } k \ll k_0, \\ \Delta + \frac{\hbar^2(k-k_0)^2}{2\gamma} & \text{if } k \approx k_0, \end{cases}$$

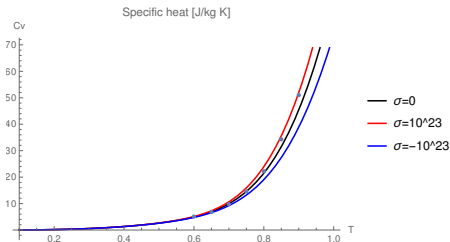
The quantum states of He<sup>4</sup> close to the ground state  $\rightarrow$  the states of a non-interacting gas with energy levels

$$U = E_0 + \frac{V}{2\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{k^2 \hbar\omega_k}{e^{\beta\hbar\omega_k} - 1} \frac{dk}{(1 - \sigma\hbar k)}.$$

Total specific heat  $C_V = \frac{\partial U}{\partial T} \Big|_V$  (in Jkg<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>)

$$C_{\text{He}^4} = 20.7T^3 + \frac{387 \times 10^3}{T^{3/2}} e^{-8.85/T} \\ + \sigma(5.73 \times 10^{-24} T^4 + \frac{7.83 \times 10^{-19}}{T^{3/2}} e^{-8.85/T})$$

$-10^{23} \lesssim \sigma \lesssim 10^{23}$  s/kg m and  $-10^9 \lesssim \tilde{\beta} \lesssim 10^9$  m<sup>2</sup>



Specific heat of liquid helium in low temperatures. The data points taken from H. Kramers, in Progress in Low Temperature Physics, Vol. 2 (Elsevier, 1957) pp. 59-82.

<sup>14</sup> AW, PRD 109 (2024) 12, 124031

# Non-relativistic equations of modified and quantum gravity

Modified Poisson equation

$$\nabla^2\Phi \approx \frac{1}{2}(\rho + \text{modification})$$

For spherical-symmetric spacetime the gravitational potential the hydrostatic equilibrium equation

$$\frac{d\Phi}{dr} = -\rho^{-1} \frac{dP}{dr},$$
$$M = \int 4\pi \tilde{r}^2 \rho(\tilde{r}) d\tilde{r},$$

- + matter description (EoS or **seismic data**, temperature dependence,...)
- + eventual equations for additional fields

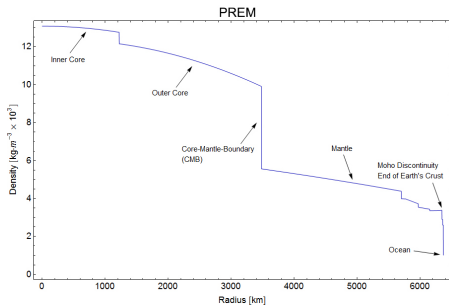
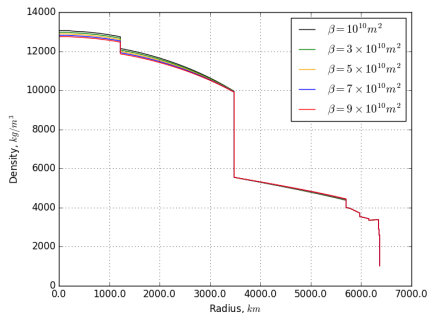
A new method of testing theories of gravity proposed<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>15</sup>A. Kozak, AW, Phys.Rev.D 104 (2021) 8, 084097

# Terrestrial planets - seismology vs gravity I <sup>17</sup>

The Earth's density profile (inner and outer core, mantle + outer layers given by the Birch law)



On the RHS: Palatini gravity ( $\Delta\rho = 600$ ,  $\rho_m = 5550$ ); on the left: Preliminary Reference Earth Model (PREM) A. M. Dziewonski, D. L. Anderson, Phys. Earth Plan. Int. 25 (1981) 297.

Exoplanets properties: central values and CMB are affected by modified gravity<sup>16</sup>

<sup>16</sup> A. Kozak, AW, Universe 8 (2021) 1, 3

<sup>17</sup> A. Kozak, AW, PRD 104 (2021) 8, 084097; IJGMMP 19 (2022) Supp01, 2250157; Phys. Rev. D 108 (2023) 4, 044055

# Terrestrial planets - seismology vs gravity II <sup>18</sup>

- No exchange of heat between different layers (adiabatic compression)
- The planet is a spherical-symmetric ball in hydrostatic equilibrium
- The planet consists of radially symmetric shells with the given density jump between the inner and outer core  $\Delta\rho = 600$ , central density  $\rho_c = 13050$  and density at the mantle's base  $\rho_m = 5563$  (in  $\text{kg/m}^3$ ) - PREM
- Mass  $M = 4\pi \int_0^R r^2 \rho(r) dr$  and moment of inertia  $I = \frac{8}{3}\pi \int_0^R r^4 \rho(r) dr$  where  $R$  is Earth's radius, play a role of the constraints (given by observations with a high accuracy)
- The outer layers' density profile described by Birch law  $\rho = a + bv_p$

$v_p$  is the longitudinal elastic wave. It contributes, together with the transverse elastic wave  $v_s$ , to the seismic parameter  $\Phi_s$  and the elastic properties of an isotropic material

$$\Phi_s = v_p^2 - \frac{4}{3}v_s^2 = \frac{K}{\rho}, \quad K = \frac{dP}{d\ln\rho}$$

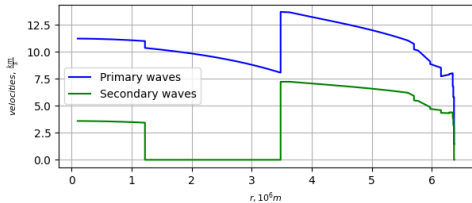
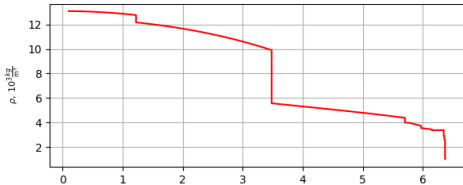
The hydrostatic equilibrium equation in MG:

$$\frac{d\rho}{dr} = -\rho \left( \frac{GM(r)}{r^2} + \text{modification} \right) \Phi_s^{-1},$$

<sup>18</sup>A. Kozak, AW, Phys.Rev.D 108 (2023) 4, 044055

# The density profile given by the PREM (Newtonian)

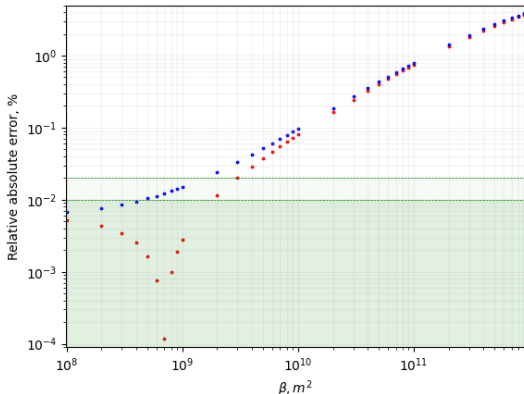
- The density profile given by the preliminary reference Earth model in which Newtonian gravity is assumed.
- The velocities' plots are obtained from data without using any theory of gravity.
- The primary waves are the same as the longitudinal waves, while the secondary waves are transverse in nature.
- The units are in km/s for velocities, while the densities are in  $\text{kg}/\text{m}^3$ .



# Terrestrial planets - seismology vs gravity III <sup>19</sup>

Constraining theory (moment of inertia  $I = 8.01736 \pm 0.00097 \times 10^{37} \text{ kg m}^2$  and mass  $M = 5.9722 \pm 0.0006 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$ )

- Relative absolute error for the mass and the moment of inertia of Earth. Red dots represent errors for the moment of inertia, while blue ones correspond to the mass.
- The dark green stripe represents a  $1\sigma$  region for both quantities, while the light green denotes a  $2\sigma$  region.
- The green region denotes the uncertainties for both mass and moment of inertia because, for either of them, the ratio of  $\sigma$  to the mean value is similar ( $\approx 0.01\%$ ).
- The values of  $(\rho_m, \rho_c, \Delta\rho)$  chosen for numerical calculations are  $(5563, 13050, 600) \text{ kg/m}^3$ , respectively.



<sup>19</sup> A. Kozak, AW, Phys.Rev.D 108 (2023) 4, 044055



# Theories of gravity constrained so far

## Modified Poisson equation

$$\nabla^2 \phi(\mathbf{x}) = 4\pi G \left( \rho(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla^2 \alpha(\mathbf{x}, \rho(\mathbf{x})) \right),$$

- Palatini  $f(R)$  and Eddington-inspired Born-Infeld gravity (Ricci-based)<sup>20</sup>:  
 $\alpha(r, \rho) = \epsilon/2\rho(r)$ , and  $\epsilon = 4\beta$

$$-2 \times 10^9 \lesssim \beta \lesssim 10^9 \text{ m}^2 \text{ for Palatini}, \quad -8 \times 10^9 \lesssim \epsilon \lesssim 4 \times 10^9 \text{ m}^2 \text{ for EiBI}$$

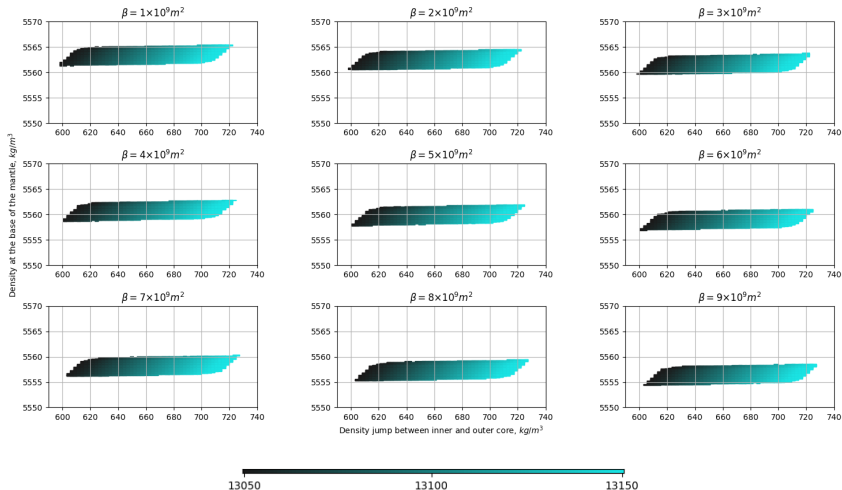
- DHOST theories  $\alpha(r, \rho) = \frac{Y}{4} r^2 \rho(r)$

$$-10^{-3} \lesssim Y \lesssim 10^{-3}$$

- Quantum gravity: Snyder and qGUP ( $\beta_0 := \beta M_P^2 c^2$ ):  $\beta_0 < 4.67 \times 10^{44}$
- Quantum gravity: linear GUP:  $-6 \times 10^{22} \lesssim \sigma \lesssim 3 \times 10^{22} \text{ s/kg m}$

<sup>20</sup>New cosmological data provides bounds  $|\beta| < 10^{49} \text{ m}^2$ , Aguiar Gomes+, JCAP 01 (2024) 011

# The uncertainties for the models' parameters I



**Figure:**  $1\sigma$  confidence regions of the theory parameters ( $\rho_c, \rho_m, \Delta\rho$ ) for different values of the  $\beta$  parameter, being of order  $10^9 \text{m}^2$ . The darker color corresponds to lower values of the central density, while the brighter one - to higher. The range of the central density is shown in the color bar below the figures. The units are  $\text{kg/m}^3$ .

# The uncertainties for the models' parameters II

- There always exists a region for a given value of the theory parameter for which all three density parameters result in a good agreement with experimental measurements
- $\Delta\rho$  and  $\rho_c$  admit much wider ranges of their values, not taking out of the  $1\sigma$  region.
- $\rho_m$  can differ by no more than  $2 - 3 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$  from the value assumed in our calculations in order to remain within the  $1\sigma$  region
- To incorporate bigger uncertainty of  $\rho_m$ , increase in the range of  $\rho_m$  and  $\Delta\rho$ , and/or the range of  $\beta$  would be necessary
- Large uncertainty in the determination of  $\rho_m$  is related to a bigger range of  $\beta$  parameter's allowed values
- Example: for  $\beta = 10^9 \text{ m}^2$ , deviations from the PREM  $\rho_m$  ( $\beta = 0$ ) leading to the same values of  $M$  and  $I$ , is 0.02% while, in the worst case, for the uncertainty of the PREM model  $50 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ , is 0.9% ( $\Delta\rho$  and  $\rho_c$  unchanged). It increases the bound to  $10^{11} \text{ m}^2$ .

# Astrophysical bounds on Generalized Uncertainty Principle<sup>21</sup>

Our bound when more realistic physics taken into account

$\beta_0 \leq 1.36 \times 10^{48}$  from low-mass stars (A. Pachol, AW, Eur.Phys.J.C 83 (2023) 12, 1097)

$\beta_0 < 4.67 \times 10^{44}$  from Earthquakes (A. Kozak, A. Pachol, AW, arXiv:2310.00913)

Experiment	Reference	Upper bound on $\beta$
Perihelion precession (Solar System, 1)	[328, 330]	$10^{34}$
Time-of-flight measurements	[327]	$10^{16}$
Equivalence principle (pendula)	[246]	$10^{73}$
Gravitational bar detectors	[406, 407]	$10^{93}$
Equivalence principle (atoms)	[408]	$10^{45}$
Low-mass stars	[409]	$10^{48}$
LIV in torsion pendulum	[171]	$10^{51}$
Perihelion precession (Solar System, 2)	[129, 161]	$10^{69}$
Perihelion precession (pulsars)	[129]	$10^{71}$
Gravitational redshift	[161]	$10^{76}$
Black hole quasi normal modes	[257]	$10^{77}$
Light deflection	[129, 161]	$10^{78}$
Time delay of light	[161]	$10^{81}$
Black hole shadow	[253]	$10^{90}$
Black hole shadow	[257, 265]	$10^{90}$

<sup>21</sup>See review by Bosso+ 2023 Class. Quantum Grav. 40 195014

# Tabletop experiment bounds on Generalized Uncertainty Principle<sup>22</sup>

Our bound when more realistic physics taken into account

$\beta_0 \leq 1.36 \times 10^{48}$  from low-mass stars (A. Pachol, AW, Eur.Phys.J.C 83 (2023) 12, 1097)

$\beta_0 < 4.67 \times 10^{44}$  from Earthquakes (A. Kozak, A. Pachol, AW, arXiv:2310.00913)

Experiment	Reference	Upper bound on $\beta$
Phonon cavity	[399]	$10^{46}$
Harmonic oscillators	[400, 401]	$10^{60}$
LIV in hydrogen atom	[304]	$10^{30}$
Scanning tunneling microscope	[65, 373]	$10^{33}$
$\mu$ anomalous magnetic moment	[65, 402]	$10^{33}$
Hydrogen atom	[54, 57, 95, 395, 396]	$10^{34}$
Lamb shift	[65, 403]	$10^{36}$
<sup>87</sup> Rb interferometry	[404, 405]	$10^{39}$
Kratzer potential	[90]	$10^{46}$
Stimulated emission	[110]	$10^{46}$
Landau levels	[65, 69, 403]	$10^{50}$
Quantum noise	[112]	$10^{57}$

<sup>22</sup>See review by Bosso+ 2023 Class. Quantum Grav. 40 195014

# Improving the method and future constraints

- Spherical-symmetric 1-dim Earth with adiabatic compression:
  - to introduce the complexities of Earth's true geometry (it rotates)
  - to estimate the equatorial moment of inertia relative to the polar moment by applying travel time ellipticity corrections to PREM<sup>23</sup>
  - to recognize the imperfections of layers and accounting for variable density jumps
  - to take into account a temperature variation with depth.
- Core description:
  - PREM does not describe well the boundaries of the outer and inner core
  - to use a more precise model like AK135-F<sup>24</sup> - it incorporates the complexities of core waves
  - to use equations of state for modeling core density and bulk moduli<sup>25</sup> (improving the uncertainties in density jumps at the inner and outer core boundaries).
- Birch law - a probable reevaluation when dealing with seismic data from Mars (the coefficients obtained experimentally).

<sup>23</sup>B. L. N. Kennett, O. Gudmundsson, Geophysical Journal International 127.1 (1996): 40-48.

<sup>24</sup>B. L. N. Kennett, E. R. Engdahl, R. Buland, Geophysical Journal International 122.1 (1995): 108-124.

<sup>25</sup>J. C. E. Irving, S. Cottaar, V Lekic, Science advances 4.6 (2018): eaar2538.

# Improving the thermodynamic description and future plans

- To consider gravity effects in the elastic moduli and lattice description of the Earth's materials - corrections to the thermal energy (in progress)
- To take into account gravity effects in equations of state, melting and transport properties (in progress)
- To consider modified dispersion relation in the above calculations

I am spearheading an application, along with a number of colleagues, for COST Action 2024, with the goal of bringing together researchers in the areas of (quantum) gravity, seismology, and solid-state physics.

awojnar@ucm.es

# CA FuSe: Testing Fundamental Physics with Seismology

## Institutional distribution of Network of Proposers

Based on institutional affiliation deemed as most relevant to the Proposal by each Proposer.

- 85.1% Higher education, research-performing & associated organisations
- 6.4% Governmental organisation or agency (national, regional or local)
- 6.4% Business enterprise (small- or medium sized; SME)
- 2.1% European RTD organisation

## Gender Distribution

- 59.6% Males
- 40.4% Females

## Number of Young Researchers and Innovators

This figure takes into account only those Proposers who were under the age of 40 at the date of submission of this Proposal.






















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## Core Expertise of Proposers: Distribution by Sub-Field of Science

The Core Expertise is defined by each Proposer at registration and it is the sub-field of science corresponding to the first research selected.

- 46.8% Physical Sciences
- 23.4% Earth and related Environmental sciences
- 10.6% Computer and Information Sciences
- 10.6% Electrical engineering, electronic engineering, Information engineering
- 2.1% Mathematics
- 4.2% Other
- 2.1% Unspecified

## Distribution of Affiliations

COST Full Member (21) : Austria , Croatia , Cyprus , Czech Republic , Estonia , France , Greece , Hungary , Italy , Lithuania , Malta , North Macedonia , Norway , Poland , Portugal , Romania , Serbia , Spain , Switzerland , Türkiye , United Kingdom 

COST Cooperating Member (0)

COST Partner Member (0)

Near Neighbour Country (1) : Egypt

International Partner (1) : Brazil

European RTD Organisation (1)

EU Institutions, Bodies, Offices and Agencies (EC/EU) (0)

International Organisation (0)

## COST Inclusiveness Target Countries

66.7 %

## Number of Proposers

47



# Summary and conclusions

- Tests of gravity with the use of stars and substellar objects (BD, (exo)-planets, seismology)
- We must be consistent in describing physical systems in different scales
- We should consider more realistic models on both sides: gravity and matter - rotating bodies, magnetic fields, ..., opacities (atmosphere), microphysics description - to obtain better bounds and understand the gravity effects
- More research on matter properties in the MG and QG frameworks is necessary

# Thanks!

awojnar@ucm.es

$$S = S_g + S_m = \frac{1}{2\kappa} \int \sqrt{-g} f(\hat{R}) d^4x + S_m(g_{\mu\nu}, \psi_m),$$

where  $\hat{R} = \hat{R}^{\mu\nu}(\hat{\Gamma})g_{\mu\nu}$ . Modified field equations wrt  $g_{\mu\nu}$  and  $\hat{\Gamma}$  are

$$f'(\hat{R})\hat{R}_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}f(\hat{R})g_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T_{\mu\nu},$$
$$\hat{\nabla}_\beta(\sqrt{-g}f'(\hat{R})g^{\mu\nu}) = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad h_{\mu\nu} = f'(\hat{R})g_{\mu\nu}.$$

The trace of the first MFE wrt  $g_{\mu\nu}$  gives the structural equation

$$f'(\hat{R})\hat{R} - 2f(\hat{R}) = \kappa\mathcal{T},$$

where  $\mathcal{T}$  is a trace of e-m tensor  $T_{\mu\nu}$  wrt  $g_{\mu\nu}$ , provides  $\hat{R} = \hat{R}(\mathcal{T})$ .

- Non-linear system of a second order PDE.
- $f(\hat{R}) = \hat{R} - 2\Lambda$  is fully equivalent to the Einstein  $R - 2\Lambda$ .
- Any  $f(\hat{R})$  vacuum solution  $\rightarrow$  Einstein vacuum solution with the cosmological constant.
- Modifies non- and relativistic stellar structure equations<sup>26</sup>.

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<sup>26</sup>K. Kainulainen et al, PRD. 76 (2007) 043503; **AW**, EPJC 78 (2018) 421; **AW** EPJC 79 (2019) 51; A. Sergyeyev, **AW**, EPJC 80