

On the quantum gravitational origin of MOND from quantum spin connection foam

I.V. Kanatchikov★ and V.A. Kholodnyi♣

★National Quantum Information Center KCIK, Gdansk, Poland & IAS - Project Archimedes, Côte d’Azur, France, ♣WPI Vienna, Austria & Unyxon, TX, USA.

Precanonical quantization of pure Einsteinian vielbein gravity results in the spin connection foam (SCF) model of quantum spacetime, which is described by one- and two-point amplitudes on the spin connection bundle satisfying the space-time symmetric precanonical Schrödinger equation. The metric structure emerges as a derived quantity. The analysis of a nonrelativistic test particle in the gravitational field of a point mass, both immersed in the SCF of Minkowski spacetime, reveals a quantum modification of the Newtonian dynamics at large distances we term qMOND. A transformation to a non-inertial reference frame, defined by the mean-field acceleration arising from vacuum fluctuations of SCF, reproduces the Milgromian MOND with a theoretically derived interpolating function. The theory also establishes the relation between the Milgromian acceleration a_0 and the cosmological constant Λ : $a_0 \sim \sqrt{\Lambda}$, $\Lambda \sim (8\pi G\hbar\kappa)^2$. Small numerical values of Λ and a_0 are linked to a hadronic scale of the parameter κ , introduced in precanonical quantization while quantizing differential forms (e.g., $dx^1 \wedge dx^2 \wedge dx^3 \mapsto \frac{1}{\kappa}\gamma^0$ in $(3+1)$ -dimensions) and is argued, within the theory, to be connected to the mass gap in the pure Yang-Mills sector of the Standard Model: $\Delta m \sim (g^2\hbar^4\kappa)^{1/3}$.

1. Precanonical quantum gravity (pQG)

Precanonical quantization is based on a Dirac quantization of a generalization of Poisson brackets to a space-time symmetric generalization of the Hamiltonian formalism to field theory (the De Donder–Weyl theory) which requires no space-time decomposition.

Vielbein Einstein-Palatini Lagrangian density:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{8\pi G} \mathbf{e} e_I^{[\alpha} e_J^{\beta]} (\partial_\alpha \omega_{\beta}^{IJ} + \omega_\alpha^{IK} \omega_{\beta K}^J) + \frac{1}{8\pi G} \Lambda \mathbf{e}.$$

De Donder-Weyl Hamiltonian (DWH) formulation

$$\mathbf{p}_{\omega_{\beta}^{IJ}}^\alpha := \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \partial_\alpha \omega_{\beta}^{IJ}} \approx \frac{1}{8\pi G} \mathbf{e} e_I^{[\alpha} e_J^{\beta]}, \quad \mathbf{p}_{e_I^{\beta}}^\alpha := \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \partial_\alpha e_I^{\beta}} \approx 0,$$

$$\mathbf{e} H := \mathbf{p}_\omega \partial \omega + \mathbf{p}_e \partial e - \mathcal{L} \approx -\mathbf{p}_{\omega_{\beta}^{IJ}}^\alpha \omega_{\alpha}^{IK} \omega_{\beta K}^J - \frac{1}{8\pi G} \Lambda \mathbf{e}.$$

⇒ Singular DWH formulation with second class constraints → generalized (Poisson-Gerstenhaber)-Dirac brackets of forms → very simple generalized Dirac brackets of fundamental variables, e.g.,

$$\{\mathbf{p}_\omega^\alpha, \omega' v_\beta\}^D = \delta_\beta^\alpha \delta_\omega^{\omega'}, \quad \{\mathbf{p}_e^\alpha, e' v_\alpha'\}^D = 0, \\ \{\mathbf{p}_e^\alpha, \mathbf{p}_\omega v_\alpha'\}^D = \{\mathbf{p}_e^\alpha, \omega v_\alpha'\}^D = \{\mathbf{p}_\omega^\alpha, e' v_\alpha'\}^D = 0, \\ v_\alpha := \partial_\alpha \lrcorner dx^0 \wedge dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^3.$$

Quantization $[\hat{A}, \hat{B}] = -i\hbar \widehat{\mathbf{e} [A, B]}$ yields

$$\widehat{\mathbf{p}}_{\omega_{\beta}^{IJ}}^\alpha = -i\hbar \kappa \mathbf{e} \gamma^{[\alpha} \frac{\partial}{\partial \omega_{\beta]}^{IJ}}, \quad \widehat{v}_\alpha = \frac{1}{\kappa} \hat{\gamma}_\alpha, \quad \hat{\gamma}^\alpha := \hat{e}_I^\alpha \gamma^I.$$

The UV parameter $[\kappa] = [\text{cm}^{-3}]$ appears on dimensional grounds,

$$\hat{e}_I^\beta = -8\pi i G \hbar \kappa \gamma^J \frac{\partial}{\partial \omega_{\beta}^{IJ}},$$

$$\widehat{H} = 8\pi G \hbar^2 \kappa^2 \gamma^{IJ} \omega_\alpha^{KM} \omega_{\beta M}^L \frac{\partial}{\partial \omega_{\beta}^{KL}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \omega_{\alpha}^{IJ}} - \frac{1}{8\pi G} \Lambda,$$

$$\widehat{\mathcal{V}} = -8\pi i G \hbar \kappa \gamma^{IJ} \frac{\partial}{\partial \omega_{\mu}^{IJ}} \left(\partial_\mu + \frac{1}{4} \omega_{\mu KL} \gamma^{KL} \overset{\leftrightarrow}{\nabla} \right),$$

$$\gamma^{IJ} \overset{\leftrightarrow}{\nabla} \Psi := \frac{1}{2} [\gamma^{IJ}, \Psi].$$

Precanonical Schrödinger equation for quantum gravity

$$\text{pSE:} \quad i\hbar \kappa \widehat{\mathcal{V}} \Psi = \widehat{H} \Psi \Rightarrow$$

$$\gamma^{IJ} \frac{\partial}{\partial \omega_{\mu}^{IJ}} \left(\partial_\mu + \frac{1}{4} \omega_{\mu}^{KL} \gamma_{KL} \overset{\leftrightarrow}{\nabla} - \omega_{\mu M}^K \omega_{\beta}^{ML} \frac{\partial}{\partial \omega_{\beta}^{KL}} \right) \Psi + \lambda \Psi = 0.$$

Clifford-valued $\Psi = \Psi(\omega, x)$; $\lambda := \frac{\Lambda}{(8\pi G \hbar \kappa)^2}$ is dimensionless, depends on the operator ordering of ω and ∂_ω .

The scalar product: $\langle \Phi | \Psi \rangle := \text{Tr} \int \widehat{\Phi} [\widehat{\Psi}] \Psi$, $\overline{\Psi} := \gamma^0 \Psi^\dagger \gamma^0$,

$$[\widehat{d\omega}] \sim \hat{\mathbf{e}}^{-6} \prod_{\mu I J} d\omega_{\mu}^{IJ}, \quad \hat{\mathbf{e}}^{-1} \text{ is constructed from } \hat{e}_I^\beta.$$

Few consequences of pQG

⇒ The spin connection foam (SCF) picture of the geometry of quantum gravity in terms of the Clifford-algebra-valued precanonical wave function on the bundle of spin connection coefficients over space-time, $\Psi(\omega, x) = \langle \Psi | \omega, x \rangle$, and the transition amplitudes $\langle \omega, x | \omega', x' \rangle$, the Green functions of pSE and a quantum analog of connection.

⇒ The normalizability $\langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle < \infty$ leads to the quantum-gravitational avoidance of curvature singularities by the precanonical wave function.

⇒ In the context of quantum cosmology, $\Psi(\omega, x)$ defines the statistics of local fluctuations of spin-connection, the Hubble parameter \dot{a}/a classically, not the “distribution of quantum universes according to the Hubble parameter” as in the mini-superspace quantum cosmology resulting from canonical quantization of GR.

⇒ The evolution of matter/radiation on the background of quantum gravitational fluctuations whose statistics is predicted by pSE may lead to observable consequences for the distribution of matter/radiation at large cosmological scales.

2. Quantum states of Minkowski spacetime

$\eta^{\mu\nu} = (+1, -1, -1, -1) \Rightarrow \omega_\mu^{IJ} = 0 \Rightarrow$ simplifies pSE:

$$\gamma^{IJ} \partial_{\omega_{\mu}^{IJ}} \partial_\mu \Psi = 0.$$

$$\text{From } \langle \hat{g}^{\mu\nu} \rangle(x) = \text{Tr} \int d^4 \omega \overline{\Psi}(\omega, x) \hat{\mathbf{e}}^{-6} \hat{g}^{\mu\nu} \Psi(\omega, x) = \eta^{\mu\nu} \\ \Rightarrow \hat{g}^{\mu\nu} \Psi = -(8\pi G \hbar \kappa)^2 \eta^{IK} \eta^{JL} \partial_{\omega_{\mu}^{IJ}} \partial_{\omega_{\nu}^{KL}} \Psi = \eta^{\mu\nu} \Psi, \quad (1) \\ \text{and } \eta^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \partial_\nu \Psi = 0.$$

⇒ Quantum states of (1+3)-dim Minkowski spacetime:

- light-like modes $k_\mu k_\nu = 0$ along the spacetime dims;
- 4 massive (Yukawa) modes given by (1) in (3+3)-dim subspaces of ω_μ^{IJ} for each $\mu = 0, 1, 2, 3$;
- the range of the massive modes in ω -space defines an invariant scale of *accelerations* $a_* = 8\pi G \hbar \kappa$.

3. κ from the mass gap in pure gauge theory

Precanonical quantization of pure Yang-Mills theory ⇒

$$\widehat{H} = \frac{1}{2} \hbar^2 \kappa^2 \partial_{A_\mu^a}^2 - \frac{1}{2} i g \hbar \kappa C_{bc}^a A_\mu^b A_\nu^c \gamma^\nu \partial_{A_\mu^a}.$$

The spectrum of masses of propagating modes = eigenvalues of the DW Hamiltonian operator \widehat{H} for

$$i\hbar \kappa \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \Psi = \widehat{H} \Psi, \quad \Psi = \Psi(A_\mu^a, x^\mu). \quad (3)$$

The standard functional Schrödinger equation for the wave functional $\Psi([A(\mathbf{x})], t)$ can be derived from (2), (3) using the (3+1) decomposition and the “dequantization map” $\frac{1}{\kappa} \gamma_0 \mapsto d\mathbf{x}$. In terms of the multiple Volterra product integral over \mathbf{x} ,

$$\Psi \sim \text{Tr} \prod_{\mathbf{x}} \left\{ e^{\frac{1}{2\kappa} \gamma^0 \gamma^{ij} A_0^a(\mathbf{x}) F_{ij}^a(\mathbf{x})} \gamma^0 \Psi_\Sigma(A_\mu^a(\mathbf{x})) \right\} \Big|_{\frac{1}{\kappa} \gamma^0 \mapsto d\mathbf{x}}. \quad (4)$$

$$\text{For SU(2) theory: } \langle \frac{1}{\kappa} \widehat{H} \rangle > \left(\frac{8g^2 \hbar^4 \kappa}{32} \right)^{1/3} |\mathbf{a}'_1|, \quad (5)$$

\mathbf{a}'_1 is the first root of the derivative of Airy function.

⇒ From QCD mass gap $\Delta m \sim (g^2 \hbar^4 \kappa)^{1/3} \sim 10^{0 \pm 1} \text{ GeV}$, and $g = g_s(Q=0) \approx 2\pi$, and a factor $\sim 10^1$ error in the estimation (5) ⇒

$$\kappa \sim 10^{0 \pm 2 \times 3} \text{ GeV}^3.$$

4. The cosmological constant

Weyl reordering in the 2nd term of pSE ⇒ $\lambda = 3$,

$$\Rightarrow \Lambda = 3(8\pi G \hbar \kappa)^2 \sim 10^{-45 \pm 2 \times 6} \text{ cm}^{-2} \quad (6)$$

originates from quantum fluctuations of spin connection. The observable Λ is obtained with $\kappa \sim 10^{-3} \text{ GeV}^3$.

5. The minimal acceleration

With the hadronic scale of κ , the value of

$$a_* := 8\pi G \hbar \kappa = \sqrt{\Lambda/3} \sim 10^{-23 \pm 3 \times 2} \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

is comparable with the phenomenological Milgromian acceleration from MOND: $a_0 \approx 10^{-29} \text{ cm}^{-1}$.

⇒ This implies the threshold of accelerations $a_* = 8\pi G \hbar \kappa$ emerges from quantum fluctuations of spin connection around $\omega = 0$, makes the classical notion of inertial frames not applicable below a_* .

⇒ For low accelerations below a_* the usual dynamics is modified by the quantum fluctuations of the spin connection, whose statistics is described by the pSE.

⇒ The mysterious relation from MOND [18]: $a_0 \sim \sqrt{\Lambda}$, emerges as an elementary consequence of pQG.

6. qMOND from pQG

Nonrelativistic geodesic in the fluctuating gravitational field $\tilde{\Gamma}$ of the body of mass M (static approximation)

$$\ddot{x}^i = -\tilde{\Gamma}_{00}^i = -GM \frac{x^i}{r^3} - \tilde{\omega}^i, \quad \langle \tilde{\omega}^i \rangle = 0, \quad \omega^i := \omega_0^{i0} = \Gamma_{00}^i. \quad (7)$$

In the context of pQG, the values of spin connection at a point are probabilistically distributed according to the wave function $\Psi(\omega, x)$ obeying the static limit of (1)

$$\eta^{ij} \partial_{\omega_0^{i0}} \partial_{\omega_0^{j0}} \Psi = -\frac{1}{(8\pi G \hbar \kappa)^2} \eta^{00} \Psi \quad (8)$$

whose ground state (Yukawa) solution, $\omega := \sqrt{(\omega_0^{0i})^2}$,

$$\Psi = \frac{1}{\pi \sqrt{8G \hbar \kappa} \omega} e^{-\omega/(8\pi G \hbar \kappa)}, \quad \langle \overline{\Psi} | \Psi \rangle = 1. \quad (9)$$

From the average of the square of (7), ⇒ **qMOND law:**

$$a = \sqrt{\frac{G^2 M^2}{r^4} + \bar{a}^2}, \quad (10)$$

where $\langle (\ddot{x}^i)^2 \rangle =: a^2$, $\bar{a} := \sqrt{\langle (\tilde{\omega}^i)^2 \rangle}$ is the fundamental acceleration due to the omnipresent quantum fluctuations of (static) SCF

$$\text{From (8): } \bar{a}^2 = \int d^3 \omega^i \overline{\Psi} \omega^2 \Psi = \frac{1}{2} (8\pi G \hbar \kappa)^2 = \frac{1}{2} a_*^2. \quad (11)$$

⇒ qMOND potential, such that $\mathbf{a} = -\nabla \Phi^{(2)}$:

$$\Phi^{(2)}(r) = -\frac{GM}{r} {}_2F_1\left(-\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{4}; \frac{3}{4}; -\frac{\bar{a}^2 r^4}{G^2 M^2}\right). \quad (12)$$

At small r or vanishing \bar{a} , $\Phi^{(2)} \approx -GM/r$.

At large r , $\Phi^{(2)}(r) \approx \bar{a} r$ (“anti-screening” effect of SCF).

By averaging the 4th and 6th degree of (7), we get more general higher-order qMOND potentials with the same asymptotes in terms of the Appel F_1 functions,

$$\Phi^{(4)}(r) = -\frac{\Gamma(5/4)\Gamma(1/2)}{\Gamma(7/4)} \frac{b^2}{2\bar{a}GM} F_1\left(\frac{5}{4}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4}; \frac{7}{4}; z, z\right),$$

$$z = \frac{G^4 M^4 + 6G^2 M^2 \bar{a}^2 r^4}{G^4 M^4 + 6G^2 M^2 \bar{a}^2 r^4 + b^4 r^8}, \quad b^4 = \int d^3 \omega^i \overline{\Psi} \omega^4 \Psi,$$

and the Lauricella $F_D^{(3)}$ functions,

$$\Phi^{(6)}(r) = -cr F_D^{(3)}\left(\frac{1}{4}, -\frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{6}; \frac{3}{4}; \frac{s_1}{r^4}, \frac{s_2}{r^4}, \frac{s_3}{r^4}\right),$$

$$c^6 = \int d^3 \omega^i \overline{\Psi} \omega^6 \Psi,$$

$$c^6 \Pi_{i=1}^3 (1 + s_i t) = G^6 M^6 t^3 + 15G^4 M^4 \bar{a}^2 t^2 + 15G^2 M^2 b^4 t + c^6,$$

$$s_1 = -\frac{1}{-5\bar{a}^2/G^2 M^2 + U + V} \\ s_2 = -\frac{1}{-5\bar{a}^2/G^2 M^2 + U\theta + V\theta^2} \\ s_3 = -\frac{1}{-5\bar{a}^2/G^2 M^2 + U\theta^2 + V\theta}$$

where $\theta = e^{2\pi i/3}$, $U = \sqrt[3]{-\frac{q}{2} + \sqrt{\Delta}}$, $V = \sqrt[3]{-\frac{q}{2} - \sqrt{\Delta}}$, $\Delta = (q/2)^2 + (p/3)^3$, $p = 15(b^4 - 5\bar{a}^4)/G^4 M^4$, $q = (250\bar{a}^6 - 75\bar{a}^2 b^4 + c^6)/G^6 M^6$.

A comparison with the following derivation of MOND from qMOND and discussions of MOND in the Solar System indicates that a higher-order $\Phi^{(2n)}$ may provide a better fit for Solar System ephemerides than $\Phi^{(2)}(r)$, which is more suitable for galaxy rotation curves.

7. MOND from qMOND

Non-inertial effects due to $\bar{a} \neq 0$ (a fictious force):

GM/r^2 + \bar{a} = a

\Rightarrow GM/r^2 = \sqrt{g^2 + \bar{a}^2} - \bar{a}, g = a - \bar{a}

This has the form postulated by Milgrom in MOND (Modified Newtonian Dynamics)

GM/r^2 = \mu(g/a_0) g,

provided that

a_0 = 2\bar{a},

and the interpolating function (IF) $\mu(x)$

\mu(x) = \frac{1}{2x} (\sqrt{4x^2 + 1} - 1),

such that $\mu(x)|_{x \rightarrow \infty} \rightarrow 1$ and $\mu(x)|_{x \rightarrow 0} \rightarrow x$, interpolates between the Newtonian dynamics at $a \gg a_0$ and "deep-MOND" at $a \leq a_0$.

In contrast to the standard MOND framework, where interpolating functions are postulated to achieve optimal fits with observational data, our approach derives a theoretically motivated interpolating function that is a unique solution for the problem of a non-relativistic test particle in the gravitational field of a point mass M fixed at the origin.

\Rightarrow Milgromian a_0 = 2\bar{a} = \sqrt{2} 8\pi G \hbar \varkappa \approx \sqrt{\frac{2}{\lambda}} \sqrt{\Lambda}.

8. SCF in Galaxies

Orbital motion around point mass \mathfrak{M}

v(r) = \left(\frac{G^2 \mathfrak{M}^2}{r^2} + \bar{a}^2 r^2 \right)^{1/4}.

A minimum at

r_m = \sqrt{\frac{G \mathfrak{M}}{\bar{a}}}, \quad v_m := v(r_m) = (2\bar{a} G \mathfrak{M})^{1/4}.

Very flat parabola in the vicinity of the minimum,

v(r) = (2\bar{a} G \mathfrak{M})^{1/4} + \frac{\bar{a}^2}{v_m^3} (r - r_m)^2 + O((r - r_m)^3),

The first term corresponds to the asymptotic velocity of flat rotation curves predicted by MOND and aligns with the phenomenological Baryonic Tully-Fisher relation, which connects the visible (baryonic) mass of a

galaxy to the velocity in the flat region of its rotation curve.

For baryonic mass $\mathfrak{M} \sim 10^{11} M_\odot$: $G \mathfrak{M} \approx 1.5 \times 10^{-2} \text{ ly}$, $r_m \approx 5 \times 10^4 \text{ ly}$, $v_m \approx 0.65 \times 10^{-3}$ (equivalent to 195 km/s). With an error margin of $\pm 10\%$, the rotation velocity $v(r)$ given by equation (18) can be approximated by a flat rotation curve of $v(r) \approx 210 \text{ km/s}$ within the radial range of 30 kly to 90 kly.

This result aligns with observed flat rotation curves of galaxies such as M31 and the Milky Way.

▷ Approximations: Fixed central point mass \mathfrak{M} and ignoring correlations in SCF.

9. SCF in the Solar System

SCF correction of about 1% to Sun's gravity at a helio-centric distance of

r_M = \left(0.01 \times \frac{2G^2 M_\odot^2}{\bar{a}^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \sim 3 \times 10^3 \text{ au}.

At the current location of the Voyager 1 spacecraft (166 au from the Sun), the deviation is approximately $10^{-40}\%$. SCF correction to Kepler's third law:

\left(\frac{2\pi}{T} \right)^2 = \frac{G(M_\odot + M_\oplus)}{R^3} + \bar{a}^2 \frac{R(M_\odot + M_\oplus)}{2GM_\odot M_\oplus} + O(\bar{a}^4),

For the Earth's orbit, where R is the semimajor axis, this results in a correction of $\sim 10^{-9}\%$ to the orbital period ($\sim -0.5 \text{ ms}$) and a shift in the locations of the Lagrange points.

The effects of SCF in the interior of the Solar System are weaker for higher order qMOND potentials $\Phi^{(2n)}(r)$.

10. SCF on Tabletop

$M = 1 \text{ kg}$, $GM \sim 10^{-27} \text{ m} \Rightarrow GM/r^2 \gg \bar{a}$ at $r \ll 1 \text{ m}$. \Rightarrow at $r = 0.1 \text{ m}$ from M , the SCF correction is $\sim 10^{-2} a_0 \approx 10^{-12} \text{ m/s}^2$. For a test mass of 1 mg, the correction to the force is $\sim 10^{-18} \text{ N}$.

The sub-attonewton sensitivity of force sensors is already achievable. Our specific masses here correspond to Oosterkamp e.a. experiments in Leiden.

\Rightarrow A potential avenue for experimental testing of quantum SCF corrections to Newtonian dynamics.

11. Conclusion

- Precanonical quantization of GR leads to a viable theory of QG (a synthesis of GR and quantum theory) that is capable of explaining already observed phenomena, such as non-Keplerian galaxy rotation curves - via theoretically deriving MOND - and accelerated expansion of the universe - via clarifying the quantum gravitational origin of the cosmological constant - and also providing realistically verifiable predictions. Precanonical quantum gravity is

- * inherently non-perturbative,
- * generally covariant,
- * background-independent (requires local fiducial Minkowski structure),
- * mathematically well-defined (yet unclarified issue with nonpositive $\text{Tr}(\bar{\Psi}\Psi)$),
- * can work in any number of dimensions and metric signature, avoids the global hyperbolicity restriction,
- * does not require the "Barbero-Immirzi parameter" like in LQG,
- * both quantizes gravity and "gravitizes" quantum theory by treating spacetime variables equally.

- The effects of Λ (the simplest dark energy) and a_0 (an alternative to dark matter according to MOND), and their relation $a_0 \sim \sqrt{\Lambda}$ can be understood as manifestations of SCF in pQG.

- Realistic numerical values of Λ and a_0 are obtained for a hadronic scale of \varkappa , which is consistent with its derived relation to the scale of the mass gap in the pure quantum YM sector of the Standard Model.

- A non-relativistic test particle within gravitating mass M immersed in the static non-relativistic approximation of SCF yields qMOND potentials with linear asymptotes that match cosmological scale slopes.

- MOND with a theoretically derived interpolating function is recovered in the non-inertial frame of the mean field \bar{a} of quantum fluctuations in SCF.

- Relaxing the fixed central mass approximation and taking into account quantum correlations due to $\langle \omega_1, \mathbf{x}_1, t | \omega_2, \mathbf{x}_2, t \rangle \neq 0$ are work in progress.

- Flat galaxy rotation curves are accommodated by both MOND and (approximately) qMOND descriptions.

- The linear asymptotes of $\Phi^{(2n)}(r)$ potentials lead to improved early structure formation.

- Realistic prospects exist for laboratory and space tests of SCF quantum gravity corrections.

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