

Title: Exploring the Theory Space of Asymptotically Safe Quantum Gravity

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Abstract:

# Exploring the Theory Space of Asymptotically Safe Quantum Gravity

Frank Saueressig



D. Benedetti, P. Machado, F.S., Mod. Phys. Lett. A24 (2009) 2233

D. Benedetti, P. Machado, F.S., Nucl. Phys. B824 (2010) 168

E. Manrique, M. Reuter, F.S., in preparation

Asymptotic Safety - 30 years later

Perimeter Institute, November 6th, 2009

## Classical gravity

Based on General Relativity

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

- experiment:

- Newtons constant:  $G_N = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{kg s}^2}$
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- good description of gravity between  $10^{-2} \text{ cm}$  and  $10^{28} \text{ cm}$

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- GR is classical  $\iff$  other forces QFT?
- structure of space-time at short distances?
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Theoretical guidance: Quantum Theory for Gravity

## Quantizing General Relativity

perturbative quantization of General Relativity:

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- compute corrections in  $E^2/M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \ll 1$  (independent of UV-completion)
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Central element: Renormalization Group (RG) flow of theory:

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| fundamental action        | RG trajectory   |
| Renormalizability         | RG trajectory emanates from fixed point in UV           |
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Non-trivial generalization of perturbative renormalization:

- perturbatively renormalizable theory  $\iff$  Gaussian Fixed Point
  - asymptotic freedom (QCD)
- non-perturbatively renormalizable theory  $\iff$  Non-Gaussian Fixed Point
  - asymptotic safety

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- non-perturbatively renormalizable theory  $\iff$  Non-Gaussian Fixed Point

Exciting perspective: Gravity is “non-perturbative renormalizable”:

Weinberg's asymptotic safety conjecture (1979):

gravity in  $d = 4$  has NGFP controlling its UV behavior

## Outline

- Functional Renormalization Group Equations: a primer
- Exploring the Theory Space of pure Gravity:
  - The Einstein-Hilbert truncation
  - Including higher-derivative interactions
  - A first bi-metric setup
- Asymptotic safety vs. perturbative counterterms
  - Étude: Gravity coupled to scalar matter
- Conclusion

## Functional Renormalization Group Equation for gravity

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- Path-integral approach to Quantum Gravity:

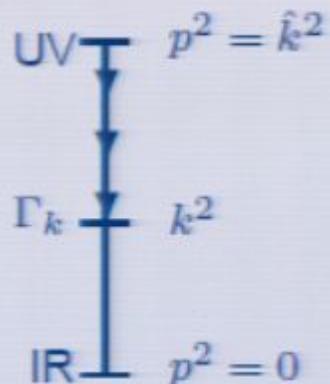
- do gravitational path-integral shell by shell

- implements Wilsons idea of renormalization:

- $\Gamma_k \approx$  effective description of physics at scale  $k$

- FRGE: change of  $\Gamma_k$  with coarse-graining scale  $k$ :

$$k\partial_k \Gamma_k[\Phi, \bar{\Phi}] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left[ (\Gamma_k^{(2)} + \mathcal{R}_k)^{-1} k\partial_k \mathcal{R}_k \right]$$



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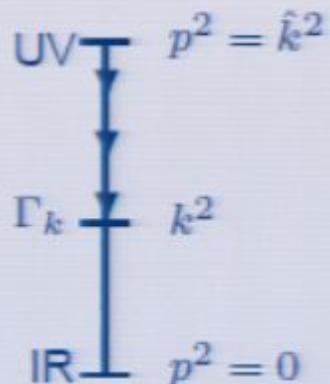
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- versatile tool not limited to Quantum Gravity

## Effective average action: Building blocks

Path-integral approach to Quantum gravity

- starting point: generic diffeomorphism invariant action

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- perform background gauge fixing  $\gamma_{\mu\nu} = \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}$

$$S^{\text{gf}} = \frac{1}{2\alpha} \int d^4x \sqrt{\bar{g}} F_\mu Y^{\mu\nu} F_\nu$$

$$F_\mu = \bar{D}^\mu h_{\mu\nu} - \beta \bar{D}_\mu h, \quad Y^{\mu\nu} = [p_1 + p_2 \bar{D}^2] \bar{g}^{\mu\nu}$$

- gauge choices:
  - harmonic gauge:  $\beta = 1/2$ ,
  - geometric gauge:  $\beta = 1/4$
- add ghost term:  $S^{\text{gh}}[h, C, \bar{C}, \bar{b}, b; \bar{g}]$

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Path-integral approach to Quantum gravity

- action in the path integral:

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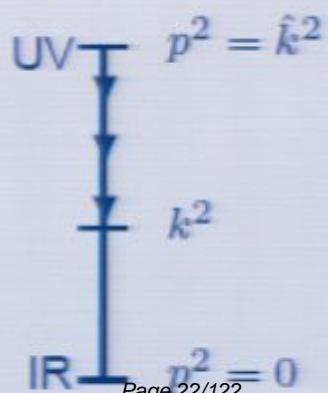
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- add:  $k$ -dependent IR cutoff:

$$\Delta_k S[h; \bar{g}] = \int d^4x \sqrt{\bar{g}} h_{\mu\nu} \mathcal{R}_k[\bar{g}]^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} h_{\rho\sigma}$$

- $\mathcal{R}_k[\bar{g}] \propto \mathcal{Z}_k k^2 R^{(0)}$  =  $k$ -dependent mass term
- discriminate between low/high-  $\bar{D}^2$ -eigenmodes

$$R^{(0)}(p^2/k^2) = \begin{cases} 1 & p^2 \ll k^2 \\ 0 & p^2 \gg k^2 \end{cases}$$

- high momentum modes: integrated out
- low momentum modes: suppressed by mass term



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$k$ -dependent generating functional for connected Green functions

$$W_k[J] = \ln \int \mathcal{D}\Phi \exp\{S^{\text{grav}}[\gamma] + S^{\text{gf}}[h; \bar{g}] + S^{\text{gh}}[h, C, \bar{C}, \bar{b}, b; \bar{g}] + \Delta_k S[h; \bar{g}] + S^{\text{source}}[J]\}$$

- $k$ -dependent effective action:  $\tilde{\Gamma}_k[\Phi] = \text{Legendre transform of } W_k[J]$
- Effective average action:

$$\Gamma_k[\Phi] \equiv \tilde{\Gamma}_k[\Phi] - \Delta_k S[\Phi]$$

## Effective average action: Properties

- Definition:

$$\Gamma_k[\phi] = \bar{\Gamma}_k[\phi] - \Delta_k S[\phi]$$

- $k$ -dependence governed by Functional RG Equation (FRGE)

$$k\partial_k \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left[ \left( \Gamma_k^{(2)} + \mathcal{R}_k \right)^{-1} k\partial_k \mathcal{R}_k \right]$$

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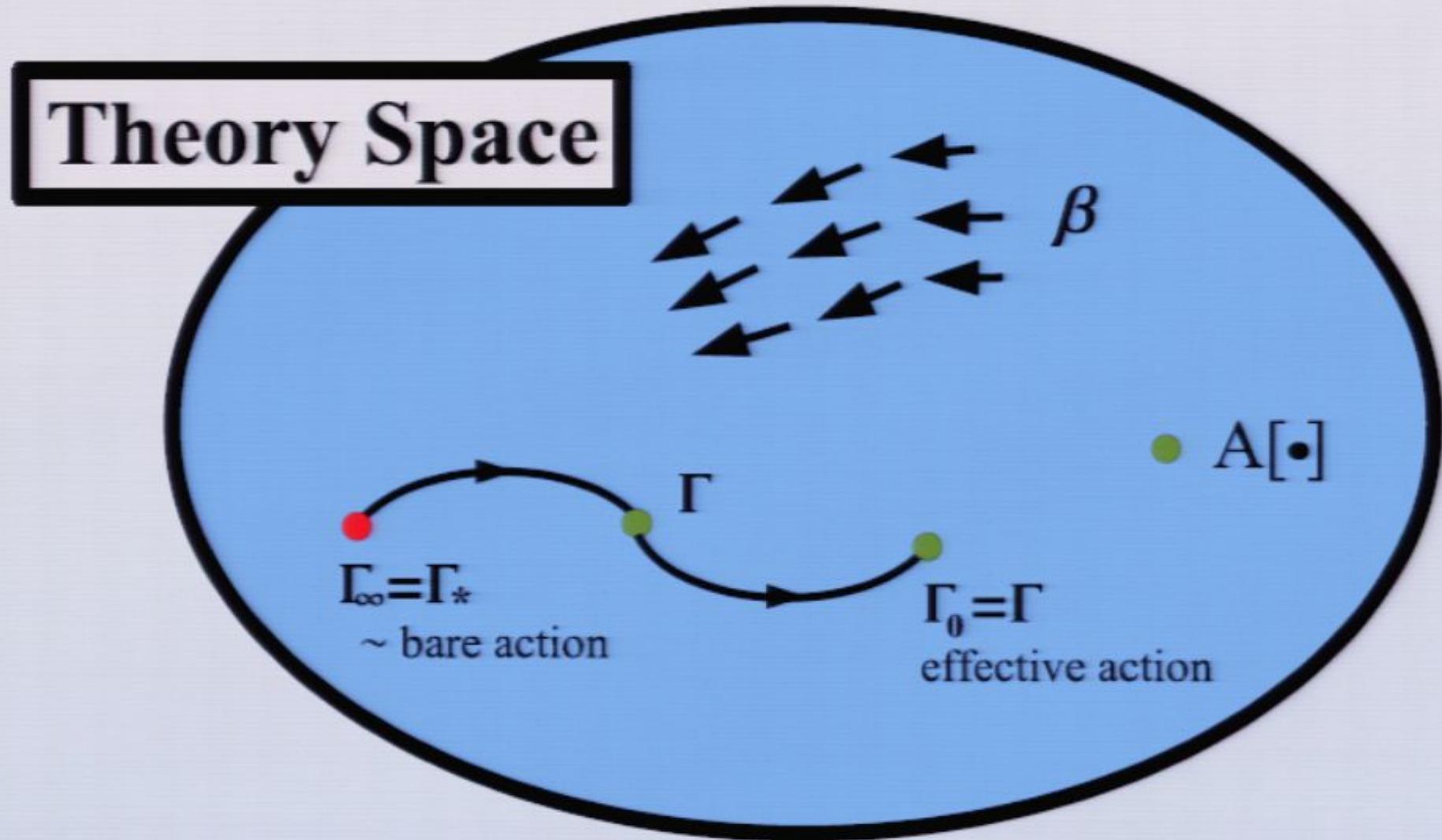
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- Theory: specified by RG trajectory

$$k \mapsto \Gamma_k[\phi]$$

## Theory space underlying the Functional Renormalization Group



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$$\Gamma_k[\Phi] = \sum_{i=1}^N \bar{u}_i(k) \mathcal{O}_i[\Phi]$$

- → substitute into FRGE
- → projection of flow gives  $\beta$ -functions for running couplings

$$k\partial_k \bar{u}_i(k) = \beta_i(\bar{u}_i; k)$$

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- Testing the reliability:
  - within a given truncation:
    - cutoff-scheme dependence of physical quantities
  - stability of results under extensions of the truncation

## Quantum effects and the gravitational effective average action

$$\Gamma_k[g, C, \bar{C}; \bar{g}] =$$

$$\Gamma_k^{\text{gravitational}}[g] + \widehat{\Gamma}_k^{\text{bi-metric}}[g - \bar{g}; \bar{g}] + \Gamma_k^{\text{ghost}}[g, C, \bar{C}; \bar{g}] + \dots$$

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Interactions build from physical metric:

$$(16\pi G_k)^{-1} \int d^d x \sqrt{g} (-R + 2\Lambda_k) + \dots$$

Reuter; Percacci, Dou, Perini; Suoma;  
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$k$ -dependent gauge-fixing

Mass-terms for  $g$

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Quantum effects in the ghost sector:

ghost wave-function renormalization

$k$ -dependent curvature ghost couplings

Eichhorn, Gies, Scherer

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## Single-Metric truncations

## Charting the theory space spanned by $\Gamma_k^{\text{grav}}[g]$

:

$R^8$

...

$R^7$

...

$R^6$

...

$R^5$

...

$R^4$

...

$R^3$

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

$R \square R$

+ 7 more

$R^2$

$C_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} C^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}$

$R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu}$

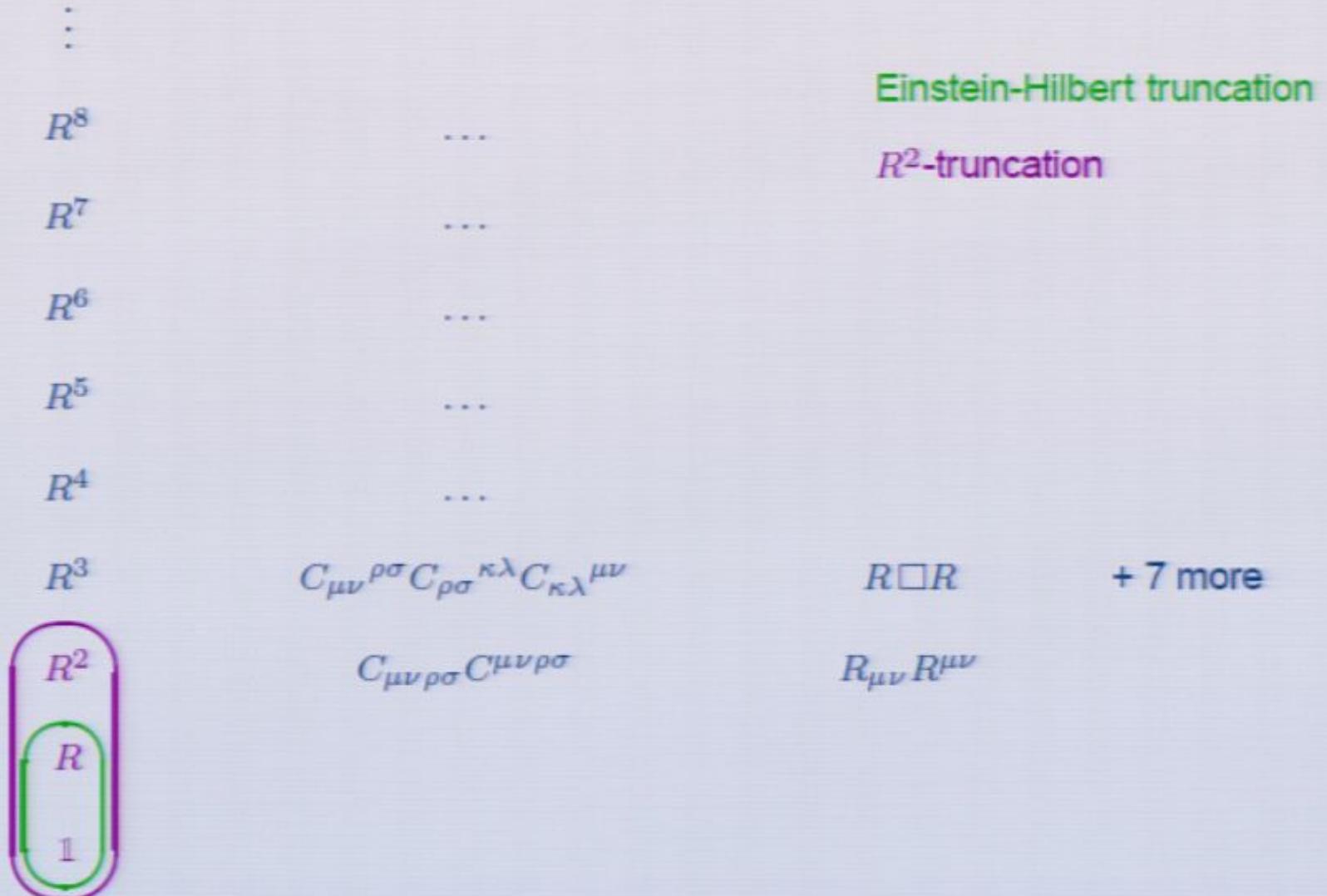
$R$

$\mathbb{1}$

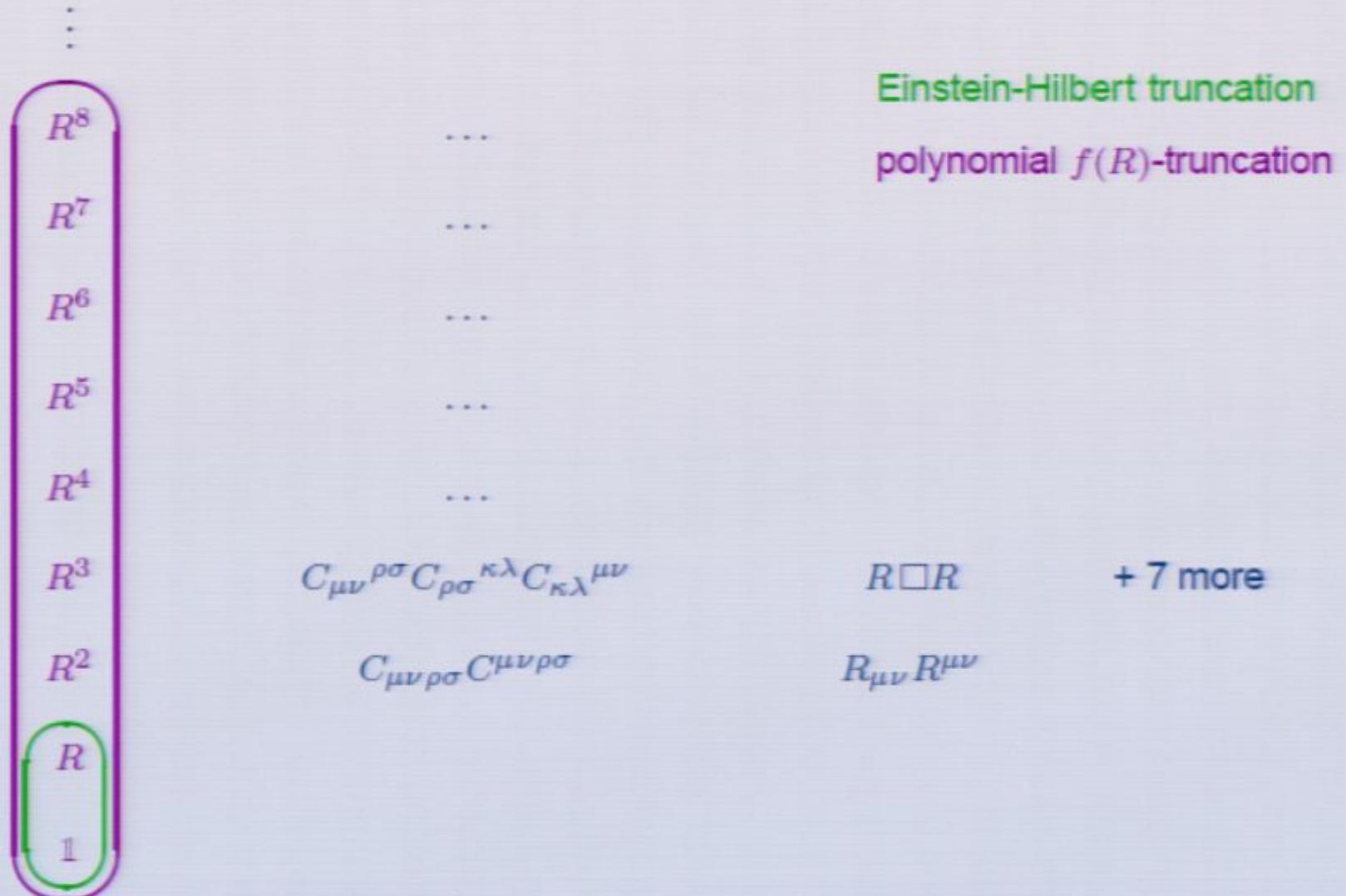
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|       |   |                             |
|-------|---|-----------------------------|
| $R^8$ | ...   | Einstein-Hilbert truncation |
| $R^7$ | ...   |                             |
| $R^6$ | ...   |                             |
| $R^5$ | ...   |                             |
| $R^4$ | ...   |                             |
| $R^3$ | $C_{\mu\nu}{}^{\rho\sigma} C_{\rho\sigma}{}^{\kappa\lambda} C_{\kappa\lambda}{}^{\mu\nu}$ | $R \square R$               |
| $R^2$ | $C_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} C^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}$   | $R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu}$     |
| $R$   |   |                             |
| 1     |   |                             |

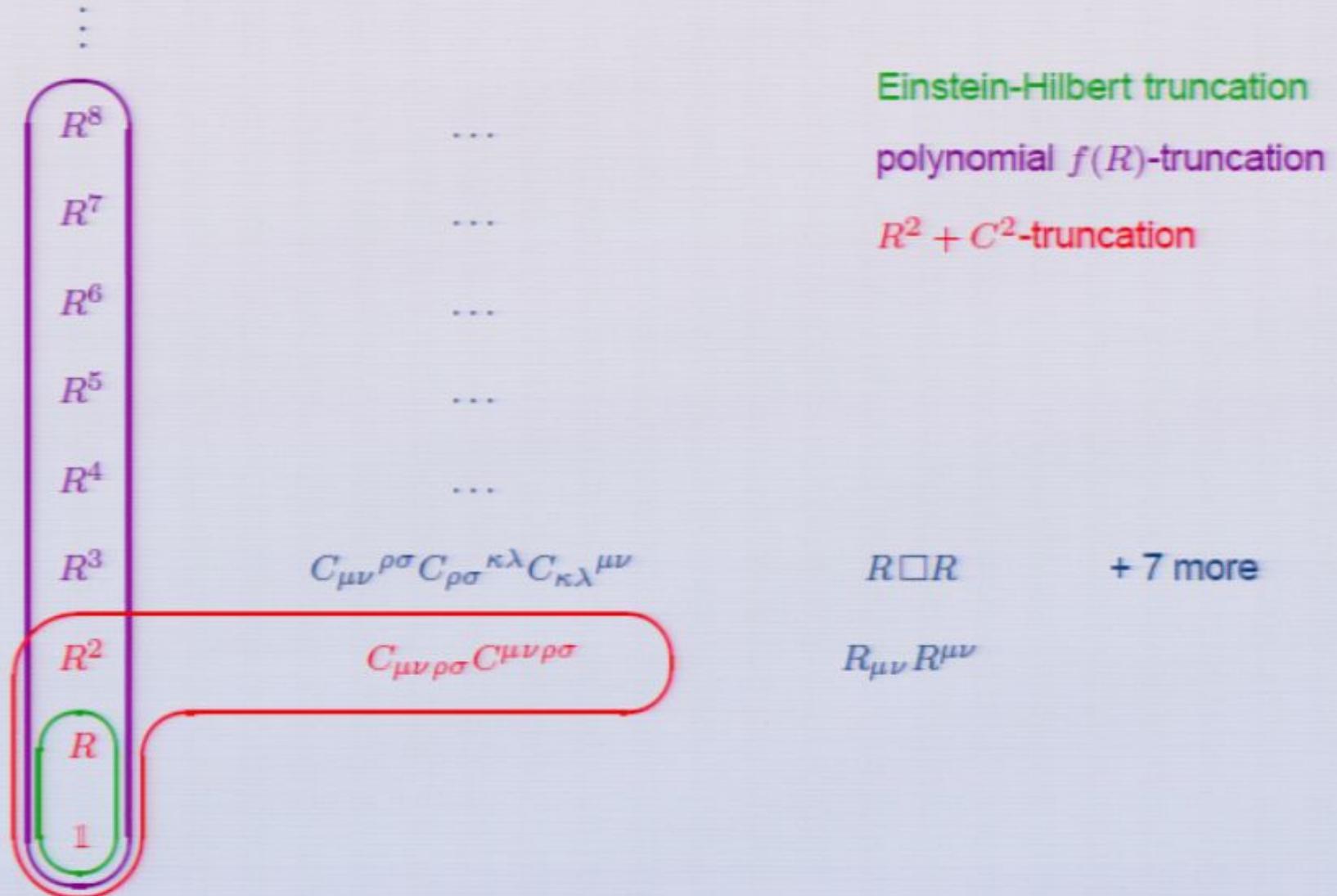
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## Einstein-Hilbert truncation: setup

- Projects RG-flow onto two “running” couplings:  $G(k), \Lambda(k)$

$$\Gamma_k^{\text{grav}}[g] = \frac{1}{16\pi G(k)} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} \{-R + 2\Lambda(k)\}$$

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- Explicit example:  $\mathcal{R}_k$  = sharp cutoff,  $\alpha = 16\pi G_k$ ,  $\beta = 1/2$

$$k \partial_k g_k = (\eta_N + 2) g_k,$$

$$k \partial_k \lambda_k = - (2 - \eta_N) \lambda_k - \frac{g_k}{\pi} \left[ 5 \ln(1 - 2\lambda_k) - 2\zeta(3) + \frac{5}{2}\eta_N \right]$$

“non-perturbative” anomalous dimension of Newton’s constant:

$$\eta_N = - \frac{2g_k}{6\pi + 5g_k} \left[ \frac{18}{1 - 2\lambda_k} + 5 \ln(1 - 2\lambda_k) - \zeta(2) + 6 \right]$$

## Einstein-Hilbert truncation: Fixed Point structure

- $\beta$ -functions for dimensionless couplings:  $g_k := k^2 G_k$ ,  $\lambda_k := \Lambda_k k^{-2}$

$$k \partial_k g_k = \beta_g(g_k, \lambda_k), \quad k \partial_k \lambda_k = \beta_\lambda(g_k, \lambda_k)$$

microscopic theory  $\iff$  fixed points of the  $\beta$ -functions

$$\beta_g(g^*, \lambda^*) = 0, \quad \beta_\lambda(g^*, \lambda^*) = 0$$

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- Gaussian Fixed Point:
  - at  $g^* = 0, \lambda^* = 0 \iff$  free theory
  - saddle point in the  $g$ - $\lambda$ -plane

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  - at  $g^* = 0, \lambda^* = 0 \iff$  free theory
  - saddle point in the  $g$ - $\lambda$ -plane
- Non-Gaussian Fixed Point ( $\eta_N^* = -2$ ):
  - at  $g^* > 0, \lambda^* > 0 \iff$  “interacting” theory
  - UV attractive in  $g_k, \lambda_k$

## Einstein-Hilbert truncation: Fixed Point structure

- $\beta$ -functions for dimensionless couplings:  $g_k := k^2 G_k$ ,  $\lambda_k := \Lambda_k k^{-2}$

$$k \partial_k g_k = \beta_g(g_k, \lambda_k), \quad k \partial_k \lambda_k = \beta_\lambda(g_k, \lambda_k)$$

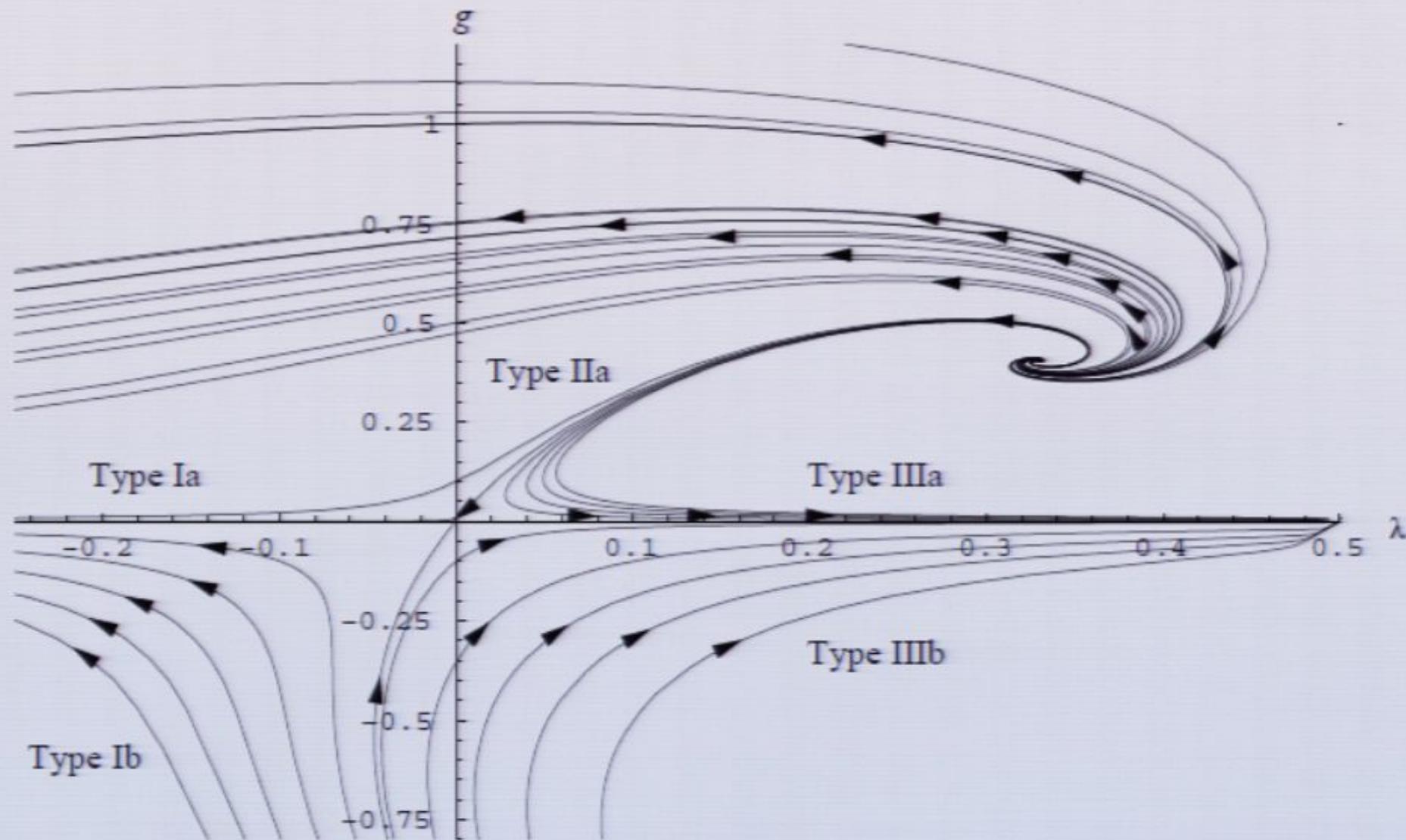
microscopic theory  $\iff$  fixed points of the  $\beta$ -functions

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Asymptotic safety conjecture: NGFP provides UV completion for gravity

## Einstein-Hilbert-truncation: the phase diagram



## Einstein-Hilbert truncation: Stability properties

| Ref. | $g^*$ | $\lambda^*$ | $g^* \lambda^*$ | $\theta' \pm i\theta''$ | $\alpha$ | $\beta$ | cutoff   |
|------|-------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------------|----------|---------|----------|
| BMS  | 0.902 | 0.109       | 0.099           | $2.52 \pm 1.78i$        | 0        | 1/4     | II, opt  |
| RS   | 0.403 | 0.330       | 0.133           | $1.94 \pm 3.15i$        | 1        | 1/2     | I, sharp |
| LR   | 0.272 | 0.348       | 0.095           | $1.55 \pm 3.84i$        | 1        | 1/2     | I, exp   |
|      | 0.344 | 0.339       | 0.117           | $1.86 \pm 4.08i$        | 0        | 1/2     | I, exp   |
| L    | 1.17  | 0.25        | 0.295           | $1.67 \pm 4.31i$        | 0        | 1/2     | I, opt   |
| CPR  | 0.707 | 0.193       | 0.137           | $1.48 \pm 3.04i$        | 1        | 1/2     | I, opt   |
|      | 0.556 | 0.092       | 0.051           | $2.43 \pm 1.27i$        | 1        | 1/2     | II, opt  |
|      | 0.332 | 0.274       | 0.091           | $1.75 \pm 2.07i$        | 1        | 1/2     | III, opt |

BMS: Benedetti, Machado, Saueressig, 2009.

RS: Reuter, Saueressig, 2002.

LR: Lauscher, Reuter, 2002.

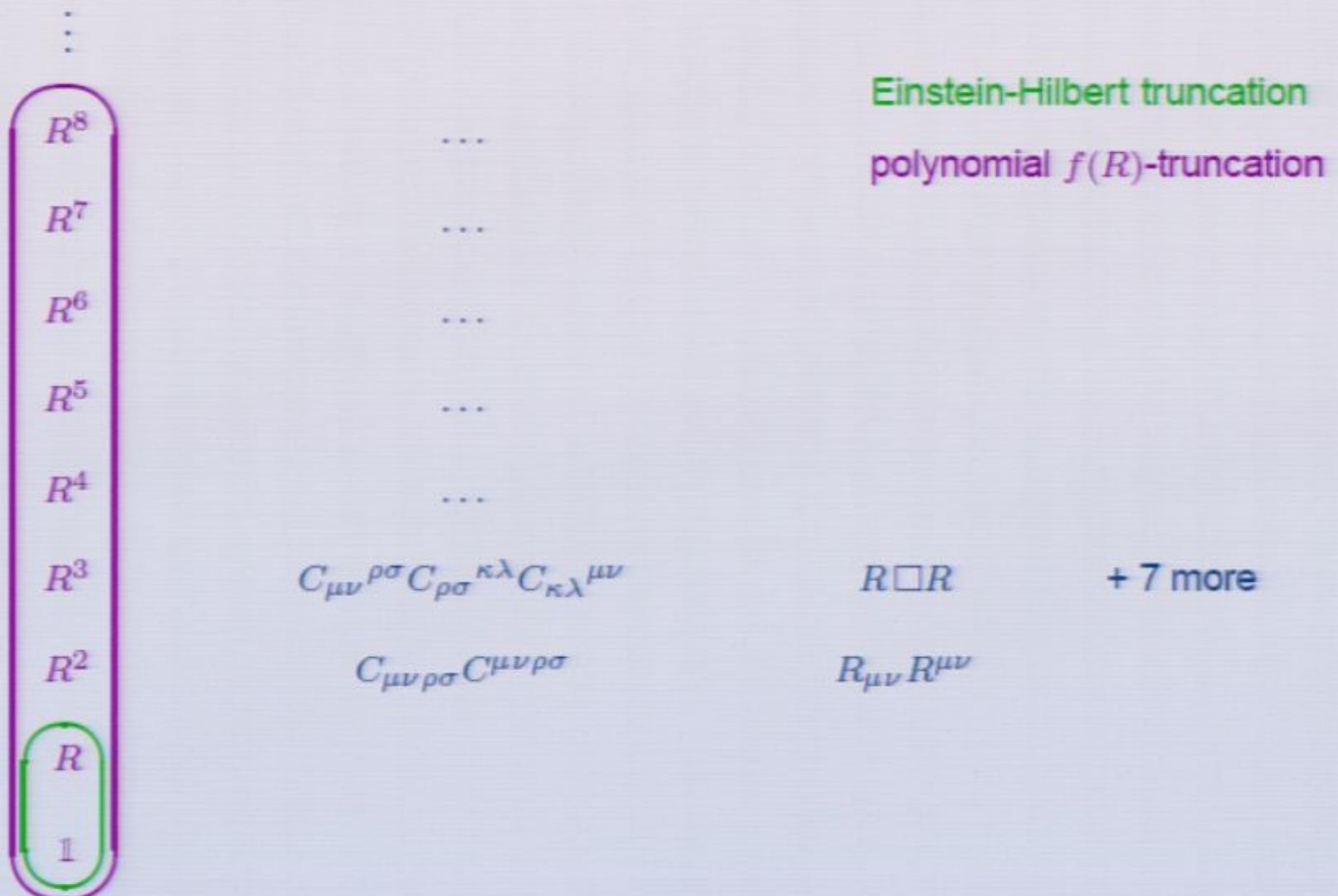
L: Litim, 2004.

CPR: Codello, Percacci, Rahmede, 2009.

## Einstein-Hilbert truncation: Open Questions

- Existence of NGFP in extended truncations?
- Dimension of UV-critical surface?
- What about . . . the Goroff-Sagnotti Counterterm?

## Charting the theory space of gravity



## Renormalization group flow of $f(R)$ -gravity

A. Codello, R. Percacci, C. Rahmede, Int. J. Mod. Phys. A23 (2008) 143

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UV properties of RG flow:

- Polynomial expansion:  $f_k(R) = \sum_{n=0}^N \bar{u}_n R^n + \dots$
- expand flow equation  $\implies \beta$ -functions for  $g_n = \bar{u}_n k^{2i-4}$

$$k\partial_k g_n = \beta_{g_n}(g_0, g_1, \dots), \quad n = 0, \dots, N$$

- reduces search for NGFP to algebraic problem

## Renormalization group flow of $f(R)$ -gravity

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- NGFP can be traced through extensions of truncation subspace

| $N$ | $g_0^*$ | $g_1^*$ | $g_2^*$ | $g_3^*$ | $g_4^*$ | $g_5^*$  | $g_6^*$ |
|-----|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|
| 1   | 0.00523 | -0.0202 |         |         |         |          |         |
| 2   | 0.00333 | -0.0125 | 0.00149 |         |         |          |         |
| 3   | 0.00518 | -0.0196 | 0.00070 | -0.0104 |         |          |         |
| 4   | 0.00505 | -0.0206 | 0.00026 | -0.0120 | -0.0101 |          |         |
| 5   | 0.00506 | -0.0206 | 0.00023 | -0.0105 | -0.0096 | -0.00455 |         |
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- linearized RG flow at NGFP  $\Rightarrow$  three UV relevant directions

| $N$ | $\text{Re } \theta_{0,1}$ | $\text{Im } \theta_{0,1}$ | $\theta_2$ | $\theta_3$ | $\theta_4$      | $\theta_5$      | $\theta_6$ |
|-----|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1   | 2.38                      | 2.17                      |            |            |                 |                 |            |
| 2   | 1.26                      | 2.44                      | 27.0       |            |                 |                 |            |
| 3   | 2.67                      | 2.26                      | 2.07       | -4.42      |                 |                 |            |
| 4   | 2.83                      | 2.42                      | 1.54       | -4.28      | -5.09           |                 |            |
| 5   | 2.57                      | 2.67                      | 1.73       | -4.40      | $-3.97 + 4.57i$ | $-3.97 - 4.57i$ |            |
| 6   | 2.39                      | 2.38                      | 1.51       | -4.16      | $-4.67 + 6.08i$ | $-4.67 - 6.08i$ | -8.67      |

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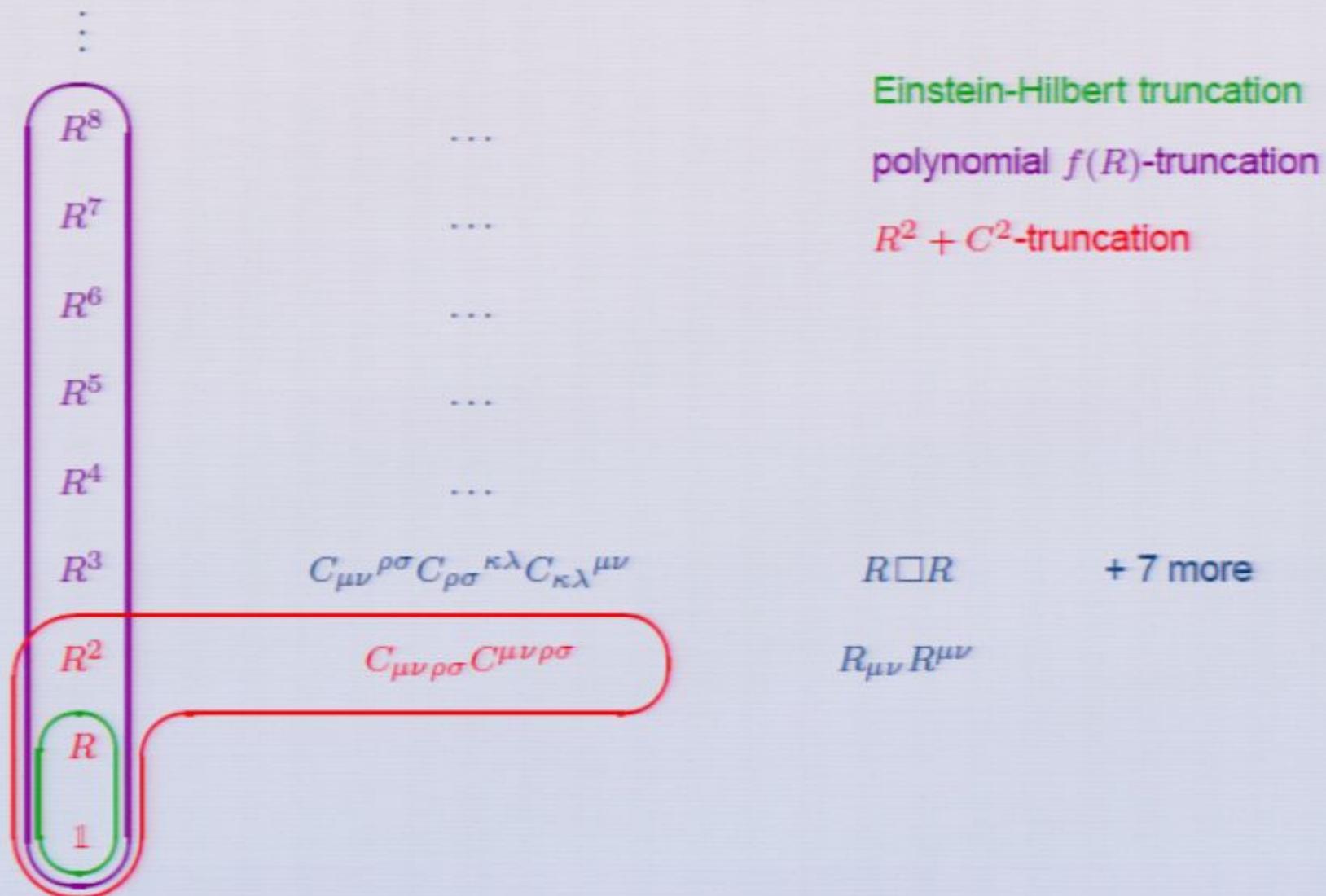
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NGFP is stable under extension of truncation subspace

good evidence: fundamental theory has finite number of relevant parameters

## Charting the theory space of gravity



## The $R^2 + C^2$ -Truncation

Truncation ansatz

$$\Gamma_k^{\text{grav}}[g] = \int d^4x \sqrt{g} [\bar{u}_0 + \bar{u}_1 R + \bar{u}_2 R^2 + \bar{u}_3 C_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} C^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}]$$

- $C^2$ -coupling: characteristic behavior of Higher-Derivative gravity

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- $C^2$ -coupling: characteristic behavior of Higher-Derivative gravity computing  $\beta$ -functions: Novel projection technique for traces
- $f(R)$ -computation: maximally symmetric background metric ( $S^d$ )
  - insufficient to disentangle running of  $\bar{u}_2$  and  $\bar{u}_3$ !
- evaluate traces on generic Einstein background
  - background sufficiently general to distinguish  $R^2$  and  $C^2$  interaction!
  - all differential operators are Lichnerowicz:

$$\Delta_{2,L} \phi_{\mu\nu} = -D^2 \phi_{\mu\nu} - 2R_\mu{}^\alpha{}_\nu{}^\beta \phi_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$\Delta_{1,L} \phi_\mu = -D^2 \phi_\mu - R_{\mu\nu} \phi^\nu$$

$$\Delta_{0,L} \phi = -D^2 \phi$$

- Trace-evaluation: standard heat-kernel techniques

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- $C^2$ -coupling: characteristic behavior of Higher-Derivative gravity

Structure of the flow equation:

$$k \partial_k \Gamma_k[\Phi] = \mathcal{S}_{2T} + \mathcal{S}_{hh} - \mathcal{S}_{1T} - \mathcal{S}_0$$

- gravity contribution:

$$\mathcal{S}_{2T} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}_{2T} \left[ \frac{\partial_t \{ 2\bar{u}_3(P_{2,k}^2 - \Delta_{2,L}^2) - (\bar{u}_1 + \bar{u}_2 R) R_{2,k} \}}{2\bar{u}_3 P_{2,k}^2 - (\bar{u}_1 + \bar{u}_2 R) P_{2,k} - \frac{1}{2}\bar{u}_1 R - \bar{u}_0} \right],$$

$$\mathcal{S}_{hh} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}_0 \left[ \frac{\partial_t \{ 6\bar{u}_2(P_{0,k}^2 - \Delta_{0,L}^2) + (\bar{u}_1 - 2\bar{u}_2 R) R_{0,k} \}}{6\bar{u}_2 P_{0,k}^2 + (\bar{u}_1 - 2\bar{u}_2 R) P_{0,k} + \frac{2}{3}\bar{u}_0} \right]$$

- universal contribution (auxiliary and ghost fields):

$$\mathcal{S}_{1T} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}_{1T} \left[ \frac{\partial_t R_{1,k}}{P_{1,k}} \right], \quad \mathcal{S}_0 = \frac{3}{2} \text{Tr}_0 \left[ \frac{\partial_t R_{0,k}}{3P_{0,k} - R} \right]$$

## NGFP in the $R^2 + C^2$ -Truncation

| Truncation  | $g^*$ | $\lambda^*$ | $u_2$ | $u_3$   | $u_4$ | $\lambda^* g^*$ | cutoff    |
|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|---------|-------|-----------------|-----------|
| $R^2 + C^2$ | 1.960 | 0.218       | 0.008 | -0.0050 | -     | 0.427           | non-pert. |
| LR II       | 0.292 | 0.330       | 0.005 | -       | -     | 0.096           | non-pert. |
| CP          | 1.389 | 0.221       | *     | *       | *     | 0.307           | one-loop  |

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- Stability properties: (lift degeneracy of marginal couplings)

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- 3 UV-attractive + 1 UV-repulsive eigendirection
- RG trajectory captured by NGFP in UV  $\iff$  condition between couplings
  - linear regime around NGFP:

$$g_3 = -0.116 + 0.745g_0 - 2.441g_1 + 11.06g_2$$

flow towards IR  $\Leftrightarrow$  relation between couplings in effective field theory

## Bimetric truncations



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## Bimetric truncation: General philosophy

- General ansatz for  $\Gamma_k$ :

$$\Gamma_k \approx \Gamma_k^{\text{grav}}[g] + \widehat{\Gamma}_k[g, \bar{g}] + S^{\text{gf}} + S^{\text{ghost}}, \quad \widehat{\Gamma}_k \Big|_{g=\bar{g}} = 0$$

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A priori: unclear if this is the case

## Bimetric truncation: Motivation

Effective average action  $\Gamma_k[g, \xi, \bar{\xi}, g]$  has "bi-metric" structure:

$$S^{\text{gf}}[h; g], \quad S^{\text{ghost}}[h; g], \quad \Delta_k S[h; g] \propto \int d^4x \sqrt{g} h_{\mu\nu} \mathcal{R}_k[g]^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} h_{\rho\sigma}$$

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Single metric truncations:

$$I_1 = \int d^4x \sqrt{g} R, \quad I_1 = \int d^4x \sqrt{\bar{g}} \bar{R}$$

- $g = \bar{g}$ -projection: Does not disentangle contributions

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- Tractive metric  $g$  so that  $g$  does not converge to  $g = h = g$

• What about  $h, \bar{\xi}, \xi$ ?

•  $R^2 \gg R^2/\Lambda^2$

•  $R^2 \ll R^2/\Lambda^2$

- ~~curvature dominated by UV~~
- ~~source of strong  $\sim \Lambda$  effects?~~

• ~~single metric truncation~~

$$I_1 := \int d^4x \sqrt{g} R, \quad I_2 := \int d^4x \sqrt{g} R$$

- $R \gg R$  proportion: Does not damage corrections  
→ ~~more important physics?~~

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- source of strong  $g \neq \bar{g}$  effects?

Single metric truncations:

$$I_1 = \int d^4x \sqrt{g} R, \quad I_1 = \int d^4x \sqrt{\bar{g}} \bar{R}$$

- $g = \bar{g}$ -projection: Does not disentangle contributions  
↔ misses important physics?

## Bimetric truncation: Example

Ansatz for the Double-Einstein-Hilbert truncation:

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_k^{\text{grav}} + \hat{\Gamma}_k &= (16\pi G_k)^{-1} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} (-R + 2\Lambda_k) \\ &\quad + (16\pi G_k^B)^{-1} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} (-R + 2\Lambda_k^B) + M_k \int d^4x (\sqrt{g} \sqrt{g})^{1/2}\end{aligned}$$

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Novel projection scheme:

- Caveat: compute  $\Gamma^{(2)}$  and set  $g = \bar{g}$  no longer works!
- Solution:  $g, \bar{g}$  conformally related and approximately same:

$$g_{\mu\nu} = (1 + \epsilon)\bar{g}_{\mu\nu}$$

- projection: expansion in  $R, \epsilon$
- suffices to disentangle  $\beta$ -functions of physical and background-couplings!

## Bimetric truncation: The Fixed Point structure

Fixed Points of the Double-Einstein-Hilbert truncation:

| Fixed Point      | $g_*$ | $\lambda_*$ | $m_*$                 | $g_*^B$              | $\lambda_*^B$    | $g_* \lambda_*$ | $g_*^B \lambda_*^B$ |
|------------------|-------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| G-G-FP           | 0     | 0           | $\frac{31}{192\pi^2}$ | 0                    | 0                | 0               | 0                   |
| G-NG-FP          | 0     | 0           | $\frac{31}{192\pi^2}$ | $\frac{144\pi}{205}$ | $-\frac{24}{41}$ | 0               | -1.29               |
| NG-G-FP          | 0.41  | 0.59        | -0.07                 | 0                    | 0                | 0.24            | 0                   |
| NG-NG-FP         | 0.41  | 0.59        | -0.07                 | -0.57                | -0.40            | 0.24            | 0.23                |
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Stability coefficients NG-NG-FP:

| Fixed Point      | $\theta_{0,1}$   | $\theta_3$ | $\theta_4$ | $\theta_5$ |
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| NG-NG-FP         | $3.90 \pm 2.75$  | -26.5      | 4          | 2          |
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First bimetric truncation: supports NGFP

Properties: surprisingly similar to single-metric setup

## Perturbative counterterms

## Renormalizing the non-renormalizable: $R^2 + C^2$ + scalar field

Prototype of gravitational theory: perturbatively non-renormalizable at one-loop

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Influence of perturbative counterterms on asymptotic safety?

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Structure of the flow equation:

$$k \partial_k \Gamma_k[\Phi] = S_{TT} + S_{hh} - S_{1T} - S_0 + n_s S_{sf}$$

- matter contribution

$$S_{sf} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}_0 \left[ \frac{\partial_t R_{0,k}}{P_{0,k}} \right]$$

- computation of  $\beta$ -functions: completely analogous to pure gravity!

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## NGFP for gravity coupled to scalar matter

pure gravity:

| Truncation       | $g^*$ | $\lambda^*$ | $u_2$ | $u_3$   | $g^* \lambda^*$ |
|------------------|-------|-------------|-------|---------|-----------------|
| Einstein-Hilbert | 0.902 | 0.109       | -     | -       | 0.099           |
| $R^2 + C^2$      | 1.960 | 0.218       | 0.008 | -0.0050 | 0.427           |

gravity minimally coupled to free scalar (includes perturbative divergences!):

| Truncation                  | $g^*$ | $\lambda^*$ | $u_2$ | $u_3$   | $g^* \lambda^*$ |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------------|-------|---------|-----------------|
| Einstein-Hilbert            | 0.860 | 0.131       | -     | -       | 0.112           |
| $R^2 + C^2 + \text{scalar}$ | 2.280 | 0.251       | 0.010 | -0.0043 | 0.571           |

gravity-matter NGFP persists upon inclusion of perturbative counterterms

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- gravitational and matter sectors:

$$\Gamma_k^{\text{grav}}[g] = \int d^4x \sqrt{g} \left[ \frac{1}{16\pi G_k} (-R + 2\Lambda_k) - \frac{\omega_k}{3\sigma_k} R^2 + \frac{1}{2\sigma_k} C_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} C^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \right]$$

$$\Gamma^{\text{sf}}[g, \phi] = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi$$

Structure of the flow equation:

$$k \partial_k \Gamma_k[\Phi] = S_{TT} + S_{hh} - S_{1T} - S_0 + n_s S_{sf}$$

- matter contribution

$$S_{sf} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}_0 \left[ \frac{\partial_t R_{0,k}}{P_{0,k}} \right]$$

- computation of  $\beta$ -functions: completely analogous to pure gravity!

## NGFP for gravity coupled to scalar matter

pure gravity:

| Truncation       | $g^*$ | $\lambda^*$ | $u_2$ | $u_3$   | $g^* \lambda^*$ |
|------------------|-------|-------------|-------|---------|-----------------|
| Einstein-Hilbert | 0.902 | 0.109       | -     | -       | 0.099           |
| $R^2 + C^2$      | 1.960 | 0.218       | 0.008 | -0.0050 | 0.427           |

gravity minimally coupled to free scalar (includes perturbative divergences!):

| Truncation                  | $g^*$ | $\lambda^*$ | $u_2$ | $u_3$   | $g^* \lambda^*$ |
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| Einstein-Hilbert            | 0.860 | 0.131       | -     | -       | 0.112           |
| $R^2 + C^2 + \text{scalar}$ | 2.280 | 0.251       | 0.010 | -0.0043 | 0.571           |

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pure gravity:

| Truncation       | $\theta_0$     | $\theta_1$     | $\theta_2$ | $\theta_3$ |
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| Einstein-Hilbert | $2.52 + 1.78i$ | $2.52 - 1.78i$ | —          | —          |
| $R^2 + C^2$      | 2.51           | 1.69           | 8.40       | -2.11      |

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