Toward Testing Quantum Mechanics and Gravity in the Lab

Quantum Information: Quo Vadis?

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Motivations

 Quantum Mechanics provides consistent predictions on the probability distribution of measurement results ... but not any particular path of outcomes.



 Classical General Relativity generically leads to singularities inside black holes and at the beginning of the universe: Penrose-Hawking Singularity Theorems.

Testing QM and Gravity in the Lab ...

- Collapse Models, which "objectively" collapse the quantum state of the universe, including "Gravity Decoherence".
- Testing quantum nature of gravity. Can we formulate gravitational interaction classically?
- Alternative formulations of quantum gravity, e.g., the Correlated World Line (CWL) theory. [Partly motivated by gravity decoherence]

- Collaborators
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 - Sabina Scully, Bram Slagmolen and David McClelland (ANU)
 - Philip Stamp and Jordan Wilson-Gerow (UBC)

Collapse Models



One particular path is *somehow* chosen; wave function of the universe collapsed by an *external agent*

Proposed by Ghirardi, Rimini and Weber, studied extensively by Adler, Bassi, Diosi, et al.



Mathematical Description

Lindblad Master Equation: modeling the collapse process.

$$\dot{\rho} = \frac{i}{\hbar} [H, \rho] - \sum_{j,k} \frac{\lambda_{jk}}{2} \left[L_j, [L_k, \rho] \right]$$

Can be understood in two steps

$$H_{\text{tot}} = H - \sum_{j} f_{j}(t) L_{j}$$
$$\langle f_{j}(t) f_{k}(t') \rangle = \lambda_{jk} \delta(t - t')$$

a set of random white forces acting on a set of variables will cause diffusion in linear systems

Can be constrained in weak force measurement experiments

 micro-cantilevers, gravitational-wave detectors, torsional pendulum experiments.

Continuous Stochastic Localization

$$\mathcal{L}\hat{\rho} = -\frac{C^{AB}}{2\hbar^2} \int d^3\mathbf{s} \left[\hat{\Phi}_A(\mathbf{s}), \left[\hat{\Phi}_B(\mathbf{s}), \hat{\rho}\right]\right]$$

values of a field continuously monitored

$$\hat{\Phi}(\mathbf{s}) = \int \hat{\mu}(\mathbf{z}) e^{-(\mathbf{s}-\mathbf{z})^2/(2r_{\text{CSL}}^2)} d^3\mathbf{z}$$

field generated by matter distribution

$$C_{\rm CSL} = \frac{\lambda_{\rm CSL}}{\pi^{3/2} r_{\rm CSL}^3 \rm amu^2}$$

matter distribution in our space-time being measured by external observers that enter via an extra dimension



Each particle sources Gaussian packet (scale r_{CSL}) the total field m(s) gets measured independently at different locations, causing decoherence strength characterized by λ_{CSL}



superpositions separated by less than *r*_{CSL} does **not** undergo decoherence those separated by larger distance **will** undergo decoherence.

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Diosi-Penrose

the DP Lindblad term measures gravity acceleration!

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm DP}\rho = -\frac{1}{32\pi^2\hbar G}\sum_{jk}\delta_{jk}\int d^3\mathbf{s}\left[g_j(\mathbf{s}), [g_k(\mathbf{s}), \rho]\right]$$



time

the larger the σ , the weaker the effect

Bounds on CSL and DP





 $\sigma_{DP} \! < \! 4 \times 10^{\text{-}14} m$

similar bounds from LISA pathfinder and Advanced LIGO

Collapse models can be further bounded, but we still need the microphysics underlying these collapses.

Is Gravity Quantum?



If quantum information can pass from A to B through $\hat{\phi}$, then gravity must be quantum. However, directly confirming quantum information transfer via gravity is very hard.



[Kafri & Taylor, 2014]

$$\Delta pprox rac{\omega_g^2}{2\omega_0} \qquad \omega_g^{
m Si} \stackrel{<}{_\sim} \sqrt{G
ho} \sim 4 imes 10^{-4}\,{
m s}^{-1}$$

Alternative point of view: If Gravity is classical, self-gravitating objects will not be completely quantum. [e.g., Feynman, Lectures on Gravitation, 1957]

Demonstrating Quantum Nature of Gravity



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Quantum correlation of light mediated by gravity

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https://arxiv.org/pdf/1901.05827.pdf





Information Content of the Gravitational Field of a Quantum Superposition

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https://arxiv.org/pdf/1905.04496.pdf

Using Newtonian Gravity Field to Transfer Quantum Information

Can gravity be "classical"?

$$\nabla^2 \phi = 4\pi G \langle \hat{\rho} \rangle \Rightarrow \phi(\mathbf{x}) = -\int d^3 \mathbf{y} \frac{G \langle \hat{\rho}(\mathbf{y}) \rangle}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|}$$

$$i\hbar\partial_t\psi(\mathbf{x}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{x}_n)=\hat{H}_0\psi(\mathbf{x}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{x}_n)-\frac{1}{2}\sum_jM_j\phi(\mathbf{x}_j)\psi(\mathbf{x}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{x}_n)$$

[Møller 1962, Rosenfeld 1963; Kibble 1976; ...; Guilini 2012; H. Yang et al., 2013]



Schroedinger Newton Phenomenology



$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi_{\rm CM}}{\partial t} = \left[-\frac{\hbar^2 \nabla^2}{2M} + \frac{1}{2} M \omega_{\rm CM}^2 x^2 + \frac{1}{2} M \omega_{\rm SN}^2 (x - \langle x \rangle)^2 \right] \Psi_{\rm CM}$$
$$\omega_{\rm SN}^2 = \frac{Gm}{12\sqrt{\pi}x_{\rm ZPF}^3} \gg \omega_g^2 \qquad \omega_{\rm SN}^{\rm Si} = 4 \times 10^{-2} \,\mathrm{s}^{-1} \approx 100 \,\omega_g^{\rm Si}$$
$$\omega_{\rm SN}^{\rm Os} = 0.4 \,\mathrm{s}^{-1} \approx 2\pi \times 64 \,\mathrm{mH}$$

Schroedinger Newton Phenomenology



Nonlinear QM and Measurement

Nonlinear QM in two steps:

$$\hat{H}(t,\lambda), \quad \lambda = \lambda \left[|\psi\rangle \right]$$

Hamiltonian depends on quantum state



Polchinski 1991

Nonlinear QM + Instantaneous State Reduction lead to superluminal communication $\hat{H}(t, \lambda_A, \lambda_B)$ $\lambda_A = \lambda_A \left[|\psi_A\rangle_{\text{cond}} \right], \ \lambda_B = \lambda_B \left[|\psi_B\rangle_{\text{cond}} \right]$



Force at each location only depends on results within past light cone [Helou, 2018; Scully, in prep]

Gravity as classical feedback! (Kafri & Taylor)

Experimental Signatures





Quantum radiation-pressure-induced motion of *A* will **not** cause motion in *B* **via gravity** [*Miao, Martynov & Yang*]

Correlated World Line Theory

Incorporates key ideas from General Relativity and Quantum Mechanics

Equivalence Principle General Covariance

Indistinguishability

EXPECTATIONS/HOPES

(1) Full non-linearity of General Relativity would make quantized theory non-linear → breakdown of superposition principle
 (2) Anthropocentric nature of Quantum Measurement be eliminated



CWL vs Conventional Quantum Gravity

Propagator in Conventional QG

$$K(2,1) = \mathcal{N}^{-1} \int \mathcal{D}g \, e^{iS_G[g]} \int_{\tilde{\phi}_1}^{\tilde{\phi}_2} \mathcal{D}\phi \, e^{iS_M[\phi,g]}$$

Diagrams



Propagator in CWL

$$\mathcal{K}(2,1) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \left[\prod_{n=1}^{N} \mathcal{N}_{n}^{-1} \int \mathcal{D}g_{n} \, e^{inS_{G}[g_{n}]} \prod_{i=1}^{n} \int_{\tilde{\phi}_{1}}^{\tilde{\phi}_{2}} \mathcal{D}\phi_{i}^{(n)} \, e^{iS[\phi_{i}^{(n)}, g_{n}]} \right]^{1/S_{N}}$$

Diagrams



Low speed & Weak Gravity

Crude Approximation

$$\mathcal{K}(2,1) = \overset{\mathbf{1}}{\bullet} \overset{\mathbf{2}}{\bullet} + \overset{\mathbf{1}}{\bullet} \overset{\mathbf{2}}{\bullet}$$

$$\mathcal{K}(2,1) \;=\; rac{1}{K_0(2,1)} \int_1^2 \mathcal{D}X \int_1^2 \mathcal{D}X' \, e^{i S_{eff}[X,X']}$$

 $S_{eff}[X, X'] = S_0[X] + S_0[X'] + S_{CWL}[X, X']$

$$S_{CWL}[X,X'] = -\frac{\ell_P^2}{2} \int d^4x \int d^4x' \ D^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}(x,x') T_{\mu\nu}(x) T_{\alpha\beta}(x')$$

Can be viewed as propagator for two-particle Schroedinger Equation

$$\mathcal{H}_{CWL}^{(1)}\Psi(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';t) = i\hbar\partial_t\Psi(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';t)$$
$$\mathcal{H}_{CWL}^{(1)} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}(\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2 + \nabla_{\mathbf{r}'}^2) + V(\mathbf{r}) + V(\mathbf{r}') - \frac{Gm^2}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$$

adapted from Philip Stamp's slides

CWL Phenomenology, 1-Dimension



Quo vadis?

- We discussed
 - collapse models, quantum/classical nature of gravity, and CWL
- Signatures that deviate from QM may be found.
- What about anthropogenic nature of quantum measurement?



No-Go Theorems!!

Quo vadis?

Contradiction required by proving No-Go Theorems: no superluminal communication



Results of devices [evolutions of systems] depends on the other polarizer: evolution allows B to know A's setting before 2L/c, then build a time machine to tell A what her setting would be.

For this to happen, both systems must be *closed*, and at pre-determined states. *B* cannot get out of the closed system to build his time machine.

Quo vadis?



Only closed "measuring systems" can be mapped to a unitary evolution?