

AN ADVANCED APPROACH TO QUANTUM GRAVITY

Alamgir Khan*, Jamal Shah, Muhammad Javed
Department of Physics Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan 23200, KPK, Pakistan.
Corresponding Author: Alamgir Khan, Email: alamgirkhan03414946231@gmail.com

Abstract: Making General relativity and quantum mechanics combine into one unified theory of quantum gravity proves to be the biggest scientific challenge facing modern physics. This paper develops a modern approach to quantum gravity as it investigates physical theory development from classic electromagnetism through M-theory to present a new quantum gravity equation. The equation applies Einstein field equation extensions added with quantum-geometric corrections and non-commutative spacetime features and holographic principles to establish new quantum gravity solutions. The ads/CFT correspondence serves as an investigative tool to study quantum space-time behavior for advancing understanding of black hole physics and cosmological and high-energy studies. The speculative equation stands as a major advancement in the effort to bridge macroscopic and microscopic universe descriptions even though it needs additional mathematical and physical evidence to support its validity.

Keywords: General relativity; Quantum field theory; Quantum electrodynamics; Quantum gravity equation

1 INTRODUCTION

The quest for a unified theory of quantum gravity remains one of the most profound challenges in modern theoretical physics [1, 2]. Despite the remarkable success of general relativity (GR) in describing the macroscopic structure of spacetime and quantum field theory (QFT) in explaining the microscopic behavior of particles, reconciling these two frameworks into a single, consistent theory has proven elusive [3, 4]. The journey begins with Maxwell's theory of electromagnetism which laid the foundation for classical field theory and inspired Einstein's development of GR. Through Maxwell's equations electricity and magnetism found their union while introducing fields as basic physics entities which set the foundation for QFT development [5, 6]. GR's ability to explain gravity by space-time curvature led to an intensified need for field theory as the proper method to describe fundamental interactions [7, 8]. Quantum mechanics disproved classical theories through its discovery [9, 10]. The process of quantization in electromagnetic fields resulted in the creation of quantum electrodynamics (QED) which became the first quantum field theory that proved successful [11, 12]. Scientists then established the Standard Model of particle physics through QFT principles while explaining three fundamental interactions (electromagnetic, weak and strong) [13, 14]. GR provides the theoretical description of gravity which remains resistant to quantization procedures thus scientists continue their search for an improved comprehensive theoretical system [15, 16]. Many attempts to develop gravitational quantum theory have spawned three different approaches including string theory along with loop quantum gravity and non-commutative geometry [17, 18]. String theory has established itself as an outstanding theory of unification because it presents fundamental particles as one-dimensional "strings" which vibrate to create elementary particles and fundamental forces [19, 20]. M-theory worked as a higher-dimensional extension of string theory to increase the framework through appearances of an underlying unified mathematical structure that connects various string theories [21, 22]. The development of quantum gravity theory remains elusive because scientists have not yet produced a thorough experimental theory [23, 24]. The model proposed here combines essential principles from previous theories though it puts forward innovative concepts to resolve their current limitations [25, 26]. Engineers derived a new quantum gravity equation from fundamental quantum geometric corrections which contains non-commutative space-time characteristics alongside holographic principles [27, 28].

2 QUANTUM MECHANICS

Quantum mechanics stands as the physical theory which explains the behaviors of small-scale matters including atoms and subatomic particles together with photons [29, 30]. This theory stands as the most successful groundbreaking scientific theory of all time because it explains the basic properties of tiny particles through which we built semiconductors and lasers along with developing quantum computing technology [31, 32]. Physical science received revolutionary breakthroughs through quantum mechanics development in the beginning of the twentieth century as scientists discovered wave-particle duality alongside uncertainty rules and superposition effects and entanglement properties [33, 34]. Experimental tests have confirmed these principles multiple times while various contemporary technologies use them to operate. These fundamentals break away from conventional understandings of space and time and cause-effect relationships. Using wave functions, operators and Hilbert spaces researchers developed mathematical quantum mechanics because it provides a strong framework to model quantum system behavior [35, 36]. Quantum mechanics achieves successful results yet scientists

and researchers actively pursue different explanations about its fundamental nature through extensive investigation [37, 38]. Quantum systems undergo time-based development according to the fundamental Schrödinger equation of quantum mechanics [39, 40]. The partial differential equation functions as a core component of quantum mechanics research and its widespread application covers diverse phenomena from atom and molecule conduct to solid and liquid behavior [41, 42]. The Schrödinger equation possesses an easily understandable direct meaning [43, 44]. The wave function ψ contains all quantum state information regarding the system while the Schrödinger equation depicts how this wave function transforms through time [45, 46]. According to the Schrödinger equation the operator H denotes all system energy while its equation demonstrates that wave function time derivative links to system energy levels directly [47, 48].

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = \hat{H}\psi \tag{1}$$

3 GENERAL THEORY OF RELATIVITY

The 1915 Einsteinian publication of the General Theory of Relativity completely transformed scientific understanding about space-time relationships together with gravitational fields [49, 50]. According to the theory spacetime experiences curves from mass objects rather than working as standard forces [51, 52]. The equivalence principle serves as the foundation for this idea because it demonstrates that gravity creates the same reaction as acceleration does. According to this theory big objects create spacetime curvature that creates curved tracks through which we recognize as gravitational effects [53, 54]. Light experiences a deflection near massive objects and the gravitational stretching of light waves emerges from white dwarfs and neutron stars because space-time itself becomes curved [55]. According to General Theory of Relativity gravitational waves represent space-time curvature formations which arise from major objects undergoing acceleration [56]. Scientists at LIGO managed direct gravitational wave detection in 2015 which tested and confirmed the theory. The knowledge of the cosmos increases through General Theory of Relativity along with its ability to explain how black hole act and space expands across the universe [57]. Thorough scientific proof established the theory as a fundamental physical theory which remains in active use at present [58, 59]. The Einstein Field Equation defines how spacetime curvature develops when mass and energies appear within space-time environments according to general relativity [60]. The equation describes how spacetime curvature $G_{\mu\nu}$ corresponding to the Einstein tensor relates to stress-energy tensor $T_{\mu\nu}$ that represents mass and energy density of objects.

$$G_{\mu\nu} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T_{\mu\nu} \tag{2}$$

4 QUANTUM GRAVITY EQUATION

The classical Einstein-Hilbert action is,

$$S_{EH} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left(\frac{R}{16\pi G} + \mathcal{L}_{matter} \right) \tag{3}$$

Where R is the Ricci scalar, g is the determinant of the metric $g_{\mu\nu}$, \mathcal{L}_{matter} is the Lagrangian for matter fields. Varying this action with respect to the metric $g_{\mu\nu}$ yields the Einstein field equations,

$$G_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T_{\mu\nu} \tag{4}$$

To incorporate quantum effects, we modify the Einstein-Hilbert action by adding a quantum geometric lagrangian is \mathcal{L}_{QG} ,

$$S_{QG} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left(\frac{R}{16\pi G} + \mathcal{L}_{matter} + \mathcal{L}_{QG} \right) \tag{5}$$

The quantum-geometric Lagrangian \mathcal{L}_{QG} includes higher-order curvature terms and Planck scale effects,

$$\mathcal{L}_{QG} = \alpha l_p^2 R^2 + \beta l_p^4 R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu} + \gamma l_p^6 R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} + \delta l_p^8 \square R \tag{6}$$

Where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma,$ and δ are dimensionless constants, $l_p = \sqrt{\hbar G/C^3}$ is the Planck length, $\square = g^{\mu\nu} \nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu$ is the d'Alembertian. To derive the field equations, we vary the action S_{QG} with respect to the metric $g_{\mu\nu}$. The variation of the classical Einstein-Hilbert term gives the Einstein tensor $G_{\mu\nu}$. The variation of the quantum-geometric Lagrangian \mathcal{L}_{QG} yields the quantum-geometric tensor $Q_{\mu\nu}$. Variation on \mathcal{L}_{QG} ,

First term in the equation (6),

$$\frac{\delta}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} (\sqrt{-g} R^2) = \sqrt{-g} (2RR_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R^2) \quad (7)$$

Second term in the equation (6),

$$\frac{\delta}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} (\sqrt{-g} R_{\alpha\beta} R^{\alpha\beta}) = \sqrt{-g} (2R_{\mu\alpha} R_{\nu}^{\alpha} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R_{\alpha\beta} R^{\alpha\beta}) \quad (8)$$

Third term in the equation (6),

$$\frac{\delta}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} (\sqrt{-g} R_{\alpha\beta\rho\sigma} R^{\alpha\beta\rho\sigma}) = \sqrt{-g} (2R_{\mu\alpha\beta\gamma} R_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta\gamma} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R_{\alpha\beta\rho\sigma} R^{\alpha\beta\rho\sigma}) \quad (9)$$

4th term in the equation (6),

$$\frac{\delta}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} (\sqrt{-g} \square R) = \sqrt{-g} (\nabla_{\mu} \nabla_{\nu} R - g_{\mu\nu} \square R) \quad (10)$$

Combining these results, the quantum-geometric tensor $Q_{\mu\nu}$ is,

$$Q_{\mu\nu} = \alpha l_p^2 \left(2RR_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R^2 \right) + \beta l_p^4 \left(2R_{\mu\alpha} R_{\nu}^{\alpha} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R_{\alpha\beta} R^{\alpha\beta} \right) + \gamma l_p^6 \left(2R_{\mu\alpha\beta\gamma} R_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta\gamma} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R_{\alpha\beta\rho\sigma} R^{\alpha\beta\rho\sigma} \right) + \delta l_p^8 (\nabla_{\mu} \nabla_{\nu} R - g_{\mu\nu} \square R) \quad (11)$$

At the Planck scale, spacetime is expected to exhibit non-commutative properties. We introduce a non-commutative metric $\hat{g}_{\mu\nu}$,

$$\hat{g}_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu} + i\theta^{\alpha\beta} \partial_{\alpha} g_{\mu\nu} \partial_{\beta} g_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} \quad (12)$$

Where $\theta^{\alpha\beta}$ is an antisymmetric tensor representing the non-commutativity of spacetime coordinates. The non-commutative metric modifies the curvature tensors and the Einstein tensor, but for simplicity, we assume the leading-order effects are captured by the quantum-geometric tensor $Q_{\mu\nu}$. The holographic principle suggests that the information in a volume of spacetime is encoded on its boundary. To incorporate this, we add a holographic correction term $\mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu}$ to the field equations.

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu} = \gamma l_p^2 \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} R^2 \right) \quad (13)$$

Combining all terms, the Einstein equation becomes for quantum gravity is,

$$G_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} + Q_{\mu\nu} + \mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} (T_{\mu\nu} + \mathcal{J}_{\mu\nu}) \quad (14)$$

Where $\mathcal{J}_{\mu\nu}$ is the quantum stress energy tensor which have value is,

$$\mathcal{J}_{\mu\nu} = \epsilon l_p^2 \left(\langle \hat{T}_{\mu\nu} \rangle - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} \langle \hat{T} \rangle \right) \quad (15)$$

Equation (14), derived here represents a new direction in quantum gravity research it is known as quantum gravity equation. This theoretical model unites all three elements of quantum corrections with non-commutative geometry and holographic principles into a coherent mathematical framework [61, 62]. Although theoretical the proposed equation establishes a framework to study quantum space-time properties and to develop new ways toward combining general relativity and quantum mechanics [63]. The quantum gravity equation proposed here creates a new and mathematically valid approach to merge general relativity with quantum mechanics. Quantum geometric corrections together with non-commutative spacetime and holographic principles enable the equation to handle crucial challenges in quantum gravity through spacetime fluctuations resolution and singularity elimination and spacetime holography evaluation [64]. The speculative equation introduces new ways to research quantum spacetime structures and it can guide experiments and theoretical work in the

field of quantum gravity [65]. The equation holds prospects to transform black hole research along with cosmology and high-energy physics which establishes its value for future scientific investigations.

5 CONCLUSION

This paper develops a new quantum gravity equation to merge general relativity principles with quantum mechanics through the proposed equation. The new equation bases its expansion of Einstein field equations on quantum-geometric corrections and non-commutative spacetime theory plus holographic principles for implementing higher-order curvature terms and Planck-scale effects alongside quantum field back reaction. Using this proposed framework researcher can deal with three main quantum gravity obstacles alongside creating fresh pathways for theoretical and experimental study. The framework serves as an exploration tool for understanding quantum space-time properties which brings possible insights into black holes and both astrophysics and high-energy testing procedures. The speculative equation demands extra validation through mathematical and physical means yet proves essential for uniting our understanding of the macroscopic and microscopic universe descriptions. This research that unites classical and quantum knowledge adds knowledge to the continuous efforts of understanding the essential nature of spacetime and gravity. Although the journey toward unification remains difficult it motivates scientists because such a theory promises to advance our understanding of space and our position within it. Our progress toward understanding all the mysteries of the universe becomes increasingly possible as a result of standing upon the scientific achievements of Maxwell Einstein and quantum mechanics and string theory pioneers.

COMPETING INTERESTS

The authors have no relevant financial or non-financial interests to disclose.

REFERENCES

- [1] Krulik, Primoz. Unified Relativistic Quantum Field Theory: A Synthesis of Gravity and Quantum Mechanics. SSRN Electronic Journal, 2024.
- [2] Smolin, Lee. How far are we from the quantum theory of gravity? 2003. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.hep-th/0303185>.
- [3] Jamwal, Arpita. Into Modern Physics: A Journey into the Quantum Realm. Journal of Advanced Research in Applied Physics and Applications, 2023, 6(1): 8-13.
- [4] Zafar, Samina, Naveed, Iqbal. Theoretical Frameworks for Unified Field Theory: Progress and Challenges. World Journal of Pgysics, 2021, 2(02): 10-18.
- [5] Weinstein, Steven, Dean, Rickles. Quantum gravity. The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (Spring 2024 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), 2005.
- [6] Narlikar, J V, Padmanabhan, T. Gravity, gauge theories and quantum cosmology. Springer Science & Business Media. 2012, 11. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-94-009-4508-1>.
- [7] Rickles, D. Quantum gravity: A primer for philosophers. The Ashgate companion to contemporary philosophy of physics. Routledge. 2016, 268-388.
- [8] Rovelli, C. Strings, loops and others: a critical survey of the present approaches to quantum gravity. 1998. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.gr-qc/9803024>.
- [9] Ashtekar, A, Gupt, B. Quantum gravity in the sky: Interplay between fundamental theory and observations. Classical and Quantum Gravity, 2016, 34(1): 014002.
- [10] Rovelli, C. Reality is not what it seems: The journey to quantum gravity. Penguin. 2018.
- [11] Rovelli, C. Loop quantum gravity. 2008, 11, 1-69. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.gr-qc/9710008>.
- [12] Barbour, J B. The timelessness of quantum gravity: I. The evidence from the classical theory. Classical and Quantum Gravity, 1994, 11(12): 2853.
- [13] Callender, C, Huggett, N. Physics meets philosophy at the Planck scale: Contemporary theories in quantum gravity. Cambridge University Press. 2001.
- [14] Ashtekar, A, Bianchi, E. A short review of loop quantum gravity. Rep Prog Phys, 2021, 84(4): 042001.
- [15] Kiefer, C. Quantum gravity: general introduction and recent developments. Annalender Physik, 2006, 518(1-2): 129-148.
- [16] Carlip, S. Quantum gravity in 2+ 1 dimensions. Cambridge University Press. 2003, 50.
- [17] Carlip, S. Is quantum gravity necessary? Classical and Quantum Gravity, 2008, 25(15): 154010. DOI: 10.1088/0264-9381/25/15/154010
- [18] Hawking, S W. Euclidean quantum gravity. World Scientific. 1993, 73-101.
- [19] Ali, A F, Das, S, Vagenas, E C, et al. Proposal for testing quantum gravity in the lab. Physical Review D, 2011, 84(4): 044013. DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevD.84.044013.
- [20] Rovelli, C, Smolin, L. Discreteness of area and volume in quantum gravity. Nuclear Physics B, 1995, 442(3): 593-619.

- [21] Rovelli, C. Time in quantum gravity: An hypothesis. *Phys Rev D Part Fields*, 1991, 43(2): 442-456. DOI: 10.1103/physrevd.43.442.
- [22] Thiemann, T. Lectures on loop quantum gravity. *Quantum gravity: From theory to experimental search*. Springer. 2003, 41-135.
- [23] Christiansen, N, Knorr, B, Meibohm, J, et al. Local quantum gravity. *Physical Review D*, 2015, 92(12): 121501.
- [24] Ashtekar, A. New variables for classical and quantum gravity. *Physical Review Letters*, 1986. 57(18): 2244-2247. DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.57.2244.
- [25] Garay, L. Quantum gravity and minimum length. *International Journal of Modern Physics A*, 1995. 10(02): 145-165. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1142/S0217751X95000085>.
- [26] Hamber, H W. Quantum gravity on the lattice. *General Relativity and Gravitation*, 2009, 41, 817-876.
- [27] Han, M, Huang W, Ma, Y. Fundamental structure of loop quantum gravity. *International Journal of Modern Physics D*, 2007, 16(09): 1397-1474. DOI: 10.1142/S0218271807010894.
- [28] Rovelli, C. Gravity, What is observable in classical and quantum gravity? *Classical and Quantum Gravity*, 1991, 8(2): 297. DOI: 10.1088/0264-9381/8/2/011.
- [29] Messiah, A. *Quantum mechanics*. Courier Corporation. 2014.
- [30] Zettili, N. *Quantum mechanics: concepts and applications*. 2009.
- [31] Merzbacher, E. *Quantum mechanics*. John Wiley & Sons. 1998.
- [32] Weinberg, S. Testing quantum mechanics. *Annals of Physics*, 1989, 194(2): 336-386.
- [33] Kramers, H A. *Quantum mechanics*. Courier Dover Publications. 2018.
- [34] Ballentine, L E. *Quantum mechanics: a modern development*. World Scientific Publishing Company. 2014.
- [35] Griffiths, D J, Schroeter, D F. *Introduction to quantum mechanics*. Cambridge university press. 2019.
- [36] Moyal, J E. *Quantum mechanics as a statistical theory*. Mathematical Proceedings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society. Cambridge University Press. 1949.
- [37] Mandl, F. *Quantum mechanics*. John Wiley & Sons. 2013.
- [38] Shankar, R. *Principles of quantum mechanics*. Springer Science & Business Media. 2012.
- [39] Flügge, S. *Practical quantum mechanics*. Springer Science & Business Media. 2012.
- [40] Greiner, W. *Quantum mechanics: an introduction*. Springer Science & Business Media. 2011.
- [41] Omnes, R. Consistent interpretations of quantum mechanics. *Reviews of Modern Physics (United States)*, 1992. 64(2): 339. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1103/RevModPhys.64.339>.
- [42] Basdevant, J L, Dalibard, J. *Quantum mechanics*. Springer Science & Business Media. 2006.
- [43] Feynman, R, Leighton, Sands, M L. *Quantum mechanics*. Addison-Wesley New York. 1965, 3.
- [44] Omnès, R. *Understanding quantum mechanics*. Princeton University Press. 1999.
- [45] Dirac, P A. *Lectures on quantum mechanics*. Courier Corporation. 2013.
- [46] Sakurai, J J. *Advanced quantum mechanics*. Pearson Education India. 1967.
- [47] De Wit, B, Hoppe, J, Nicolai, H. *On the quantum mechanics of supermembranes. The World in Eleven Dimensions*. CRC Press. 1999, 73-109.
- [48] Böhm, A. *Quantum mechanics: foundations and applications*. Springer Science & Business Media. 2013.
- [49] Einstein, A. The general theory of relativity. *The meaning of relativity*. Springer. 1922, 54-75.
- [50] Dirac, P. *General theory of relativity*. Princeton University Press. 1996, 14.
- [51] Trautman, A. *The general theory of relativity*. 1966, 9(3):319.
- [52] Lorentz, H A, Einstein Albert, Minkowskiet, H. *The principle of relativity: a collection of original memoirs on the special and general theory of relativity*. Courier Corporation. 1952.
- [53] Schiff, L I. On experimental tests of the general theory of relativity. *American Journal of Physics*, 1960. 28(4): 340-343.
- [54] Bergmann, P G. *The general theory of relativity. Principles of Electrodynamics and Relativity/Prinzipien der Elektrodynamik und Relativitätstheorie*. Springer. 1962, 203-272.
- [55] Weinberg, S. *Gravitation and cosmology: principles and applications of the general theory of relativity*. John Wiley & Sons. 2013/
- [56] Havas, P. Four-dimensional formulations of Newtonian mechanics and their relation to the special and the general theory of relativity. *Reviews of Modern Physics*, 1964, 36(4): 938.
- [57] Møller, C. On the localization of the energy of a physical system in the general theory of relativity. *Annals of Physics*, 1958. 4(4): 347-371.
- [58] Tangherlini, F R. An introduction to the general theory of relativity. 1961. 20(S1): 1-86. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF02746778> .
- [59] Pauli, W. *Theory of relativity*. Courier Corporation. 2013.
- [60] Fock, V. Three lectures on relativity theory. *Rev.Mod.Phys*, 1957, 29(3): 325-333. DOI: 10.1103/RevModPhys.29.325.
- [61] Bergmann, P G. Observables in general relativity. 1961, 33(4): 510.
- [62] Coley, A A, Wiltshire, D L. What is general relativity? *Physica Scripta*, 2017, 92(5): 053001. DOI: 10.1088/1402-4896/aa6857.

-
- [63] Eddington, A S. Space, time and gravitation: An outline of the general relativity theory. The University Press. 1921.
- [64] Hayashi, K, Shirafuji, T. New general relativity. Phys Rev D, 1979, 19(12): 3524-3553. DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevD.19.3524.
- [65] Das, A, DeBenedictis, A. The general theory of relativity: A mathematical exposition. Springer Science & Business Media. 2012.