



MARYLAND CENTER FOR FUNDAMENTAL PHYSICS

Theoretical Particle Physics, Nuclear Physics, Gravity and Cosmology













Particle, Nuclear and Gravity Theory Faculty + ~ 10 postdocs ~ 20 students













Particle Theory

Kaustubh Agashe

Phenomenology; extradimensional theories; model building, dark matter at colliders; composite leptogenesis

Chacko

Model building; Twin Higgs models; mediation of SUSY breaking; dark matter, quirks; particle astrophysics

Image: Construction of the second second

Anson Hook

Phenomenology and modelbuilding; new experiments for dark matter, axions; new symmetries; cosmology

Raman Sundrum

Models; extra dimensions; Compositeness; SUSY; Dark Energy; QFT; AdS/CFT; cosmology

Rabi Mohapatra

neutrino masses and mixings; GUTS; Leptogenesis, dark matter, model building

Nuclear Theory; QCD

Xiangdong Ji

Hadron structure and electron-ion collider physics. Perturbative QCD. Neutrinos. GUTS. Leptogenesis. Dark matter experiments

Paulo Bedaque

Nonperturbative QCD. large Nc QCD. Effective theories. Lattice QCD. Neutron stars. Quantum computing and machine learning for nuclear physics

Tom Cohen

Nonperturbative QCD. Heavy-ion collisions. large Nc. Effective field theories



Zohreh Davoudi

Nuclear physics and SM tests via lattice QCD simulations and effective field theories. Quantum simulation for strongly interacting theories and interface with AMO simulator technologies. Alessandra Buonanno MPI Potsdam & 15% at UMD

Gravity; GR

Gravitational wave analyses and modeling of astrophysical sources; test of GR; black holes & neutron stars

Ted Jacobson

Quantum gravity; black hole thermodynamics; BEC analogs of Hawking radiation and cosmological QFT



Bei-lok Hu

Quantum field theory in curved space, out of equilibrium

Cosmic Microwave Background

- as seen by Planck Satellite
- Temperature fluctuations contain "quantum fossils" of Cosmic Inflation



Higgs Boson: Missing Link of Electro-Weak Unification



Exotic non-standard Higgs decays? "Portal" to other sectors beyond standard model?

Dark Matter, Dark Energy, Dark Aethers

- Theoretical Modeling of Universe's most mysterious ingredients
- Proposing new ways of discriminating their properties experimentally



Neutron Stars: Strongly-Coupled Superfluid





Gravitational Waves

- Theoretical templates for signals by modeling and understanding likely sources
- Testing GR and sensitivity to NEW longrange forces and physics







Quantum Mechanics and Black Holes

- Information Paradox
- Quantum Entanglement
- Hawking Radiation
- Black Hole Singularity
- AdS/CFT dualities to other systems



Lattice gauge theory for first-principle studies of nuclei and matter

Lattice QCD for nuclear physics

- Large-scale simulations of structure and reactions
- Theory developments for interpreting the results

New classical algorithms to alleviate the sign problem

- Thimbles and other ideas
- Machine-learning assisted approaches



Quantum simulation and quantum computing

To defeat sign problem in classical simulations of:

- Real-time dynamics after Big Bang and in heavy-ion collisions.
- Phases of matter in universe

Our approach

- Theory and algorithm developments
- Benchmarking on available quantum simulators and quantum computers





Many of our students and postdocs go on to top postdocs and faculty positions



Aron Wall Graduated: 2011, Black Holes Faculty at the University of Cambridge



Srimoyee Sen Graduated: 2015, Neutron stars Faculty at Iowa State University



Aleksandr Azatov Graduated: 2010, particle theory Faculty at SISSA ,Trieste, Italy



Ryan Behunin Graduated: 2010, non-equilibrium QFT Faculty at Northern Arizona University



Aleksey Cherman Graduated: 2010, Nuclear QFT Faculty at University of Minnesota



Prateek Agrawal Graduated: 2012, Dark Matter Theory Postdoc at Harvard, accepted faculty position at Oxford University

EXPERIMENTS pursued at UMD

- Large Hadron Collider- Baden, Belloni, Eno, Palmer, Skuja
- LHCb- Jawahery, Franco Sevilla
- IceCube- Sullivan, Hoffman
- LIGO Shawan
- Lux, EXO Hall
- HAWC Goodman
- AMS Seo
- Quantum simulation experiments: Linke
- Analog gravity/cosmology experiments in Bose condensates: Campbell, Spielman

PARTNERS/Nearby Institutions

- Joint Space Institute (JSI) Goddard Space Flight Center, UMD Astronomy
- Johns Hopkins University Department of Physics and Astronomy – joint particle theory+experiment seminars, joint particle theory postdoc
- Hubble Space Telescope Science Institute
- Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics, Potsdam
- Joint Quantum Institute (JQI) and Joint Center for Quantum Information and Computer Science (QUICS), NIST/UMD partnerships