

p-Adicization and adelic physics

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July 7, 2022

Abstract

This article is devoted to the challenges related to p-adicization and adelization of physics in which the correspondence between real and p-adic numbers via canonical identification serves as the basic building brick. Also the problems associated with p-adic variants of integral, Fourier analysis, Hilbert space, and Riemann geometry should be solved in a manner respecting fundamental symmetries and their p-adic variants must be met. The notion of number theoretical universality (NTU) plays a key role here. One should also answer to questions about the origin of preferred primes and p-adic length scale hypothesis.

The basic challenges encountered are construction of the p-adic variants of real number based physics, understanding their relationship to real physics, and the fusion of various physics to single coherent whole.

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1 Introduction

This article is devoted to the challenges related to p-adicization and adelization of physics in which the correspondence between real and p-adic numbers via canonical identification serves as the basic building brick. Also the problems associated with p-adic variants of integral, Fourier analysis, Hilbert space, and Riemann geometry should be solved in a manner respecting fundamental symmetries and their p-adic variants must be met. The notion of number theoretical universality (NTU) plays a key role here. One should also answer to questions about the origin of preferred primes and p-adic length scale hypothesis.

The basic challenges encountered are construction of the p-adic variants of real number based physics, understanding their relationship to real physics, and the fusion of various physics to single coherent whole.

1.1 Mathematical problems

Definite integral and Fourier analysis are basic elements of standard physics and their generalization to the p-adic context defines a highly non-trivial challenge. Also the p-adic variants of Riemann geometry and Hilbert space are suggestive. There are however problems.

1. There are problems associated with p-adic definite integral. Riemann sum does not make sense since it approaches zero if the p-adic norm of discretization unit approaches zero. The problems are basically due to the absence of well-orderedness essential for the definition of definite integral and differential forms and their integrals.

Residue integration might make sense in finite angle resolution. For algebraic extension containing $e^{i\pi/n}$ the number theoretically universal approximation $i\pi = n(e^{i\pi/n} - 1)$ could be used. In twistor approach integrations reduce to multiple residue integrations and since twistor approach generalizes in TGD framework, this approach to integration is very attractive.

Positivity is a central notion in twistor Grassmannian approach [B1]. Since canonical identification maps p-adic numbers to non-negative real numbers, there is a strong temptation to think that positivity relates to NTU [L2].

2. There are problems with Fourier analysis. The naive generalization of trigonometric functions by replacing e^{ix} with its p-adic counterpart is not physical. Same applies to e^x . Algebraic extensions are needed to get roots of unity and e as counterparts of the phases and discretization is necessary and has interpretation in terms of finite resolution for angle/phase and its hyperbolic counterpart.
3. The notion of Hilbert space is problematic. The naive generalization of Hilbert space norm square $|x|^2 = \sum x_n \bar{x}_n$ for state (x_1, x_2, \dots) can vanish p-adically. Also here NTU could help. State would contain as coefficients only roots of e and unity and only the overall factor could be p-adic number. Coefficients could be restricted to the algebraic numbers generating the algebraic extension of rational numbers and would not contain powers of p or even ordinary p-adic numbers except in the overall normalization factor.

1.2 Relationship between real and p-adic physics

Second challenge relates to the relationship between real and p-adic physics. Canonical identification (CI) $\sum x_n p^n \rightarrow \sum x_n p^{-n}$ or some of its variants should play an important role. CI is expected to map the invariants appearing in scattering amplitudes to their real counterparts.

1. Real and p-adic variants of space-time surfaces should exist and relate to each other somehow. Is this relationship local and involve CI at space-time level or embedding space level? Or is it only a global and non-local assignment of preferred real extremals to their p-adic counterparts? Or is between these extreme options and involves algebraic discretization of the space-time surface weakening the strong form of SH as already proposed? How do real and p-adic embedding spaces relate to each other and can this relationship induce local correspondence between preferred extremals (PEs) [K9, K11, K10]?
2. NTU in some sense is a highly suggestive approach to these questions and would suggest that canonical identification applies to isometry invariants whereas angles and hyperbolic angles, or rather the corresponding “phases” belonging to an extension of p-adics containing roots of e and roots of unity are mapped to themselves. Note that the roots of e define extensions of rationals, which induce finite dimensional algebraic extensions of p-adic numbers. This would make possible to define embedding space in accordance with NTU. Also the Hilbert space could be defined by requiring that its points correspond to number theoretically universal angles expressible in terms of roots of unity.

3. What about real and p-adic variants of WCW? Are they needed at all? Or could their existence be used as a powerful constraint on real physics? The representability of WCW as a union of infinite-dimensional symmetric spaces labelled by zero modes suggests that the same description applies at the level of WCW and embedding space.

One cannot circumvent the question about how to generalize functional integral from real WCW to p-adic WCWs. In particular, what is the p-adic variant of the action defining the dynamics of space-time surfaces. In the case of exponent of action the p-adic variant could be defined by assuming algebraic universality: again the roots of e and of unity would be in central role. Also the Kähler structure of WCW implying that Gaussian and metric determinants cancel each other in functional integral, would be absolutely crucial.

One must remember that the exponents of action for scattering amplitudes for the stationary phase extremal cancel from the path integral representation of scattering amplitudes. Also now this mechanism would allow to get rid of the poorly defined exponent for single minimum. If there is sum over scattering amplitudes assignable to different maxima, normalization would give ratios of these exponents for different extrema/maxima and only these ratios should belong to the extension of rationals.

The zero modes of WCW metric are invariants of supersymplectic group so that canonical identification could relate their real and p-adic variants. Zero modes could break NTU and would be behind p-adic thermodynamics and dependence of mass scale on p-adic prime.

1.3 Fusion of real and p-adic physics to a larger structure

The third challenge relates to the fusion of p-adic physics and real physics to a larger structure. Here a generalization of number concept obtained by glueing reals and various p-adics together along an extension of rational numbers inducing the extensions of p-adic numbers is highly suggestive. Adeles associated with the extension of rationals are highly attractive and closely related notion. Real and various p-adic physics would be correlates for sensory and cognitive aspects of the same universal physics rather than separate physics in this framework. One important implication of this view is that real entropy and p-adic negentropies characterize the same entanglement with coefficients in an extension of rationals.

NTU for hyperbolic and ordinary phases is definitely the central idea. How the invariance of angles under conformal transformations does relate to this? Could one perhaps define a discretized version of conformal symmetry preserving the phases defined by the angles between vectors assignable with the tangent spaces of discretized geometric structures and thus respecting NTU? Of should one apply conformal symmetry at Lie algebra level only?

In the sequel I will use some shorthand notations for key principles and notions. General Coordinate Invariance (GCI); World of Classical Worlds (WCW); Strong Form of GCI (SGCI); Strong Form of Holography (SH); Preferred Extremal (PE); Zero Energy Ontology (ZEO); Negentropy Maximization Principle (NMP); Negentropic entanglement (NE) are the most often occurring acronyms.

2 NTU and the correspondence between real and p-adic physics

p-Adic real correspondence is certainly the basic problem of p-adicization and adelization. One can make several general questions about p-adic real correspondence and canonical identification inspired by p-adic mass calculations.

How generally p-adic real correspondence does apply? Could canonical identification for group invariants combined with direct identification of ordinary and hyperbolic phases identified as roots of unity and e apply at WCW and embedding space level having maximally symmetric geometries? Could this make sense even at space-time level as a correspondence induced from embedding space level [L4]? Does canonical identification apply locally for the discretizations of space-time surface or only globally for the parameters characterizing PEs (string world sheets and partonic 2-surfaces by SH), which are general coordinate invariant and Poincare invariant quantities?

2.1 General vision about NTU

The following vision seems to be the most feasible one found hitherto.

1. Preservation of symmetries and continuity compete. Lorentz transformations do not commute with canonical identification. This suggests that canonical identification applies only to Lorentz invariants formed from quantum numbers. This is enough in the case of scattering amplitudes. Canonical identification applies only to isometry invariants at the level of WCW and the phases/exponents of ordinary/hyperbolic angles correspond to numbers in the algebraic extension common to extensions of rationals and various p-adics.
2. Canonical identification applies at the level of momentum space and maps p-adic Lorentz invariants of scattering amplitudes to their real counterparts. Phases of angles and their hyperbolic counterparts should correspond to parameters defining extension and should be mapped as such to their p-adic counterparts.
3. The constraints coming from GCI and symmetries do not allow local correspondence but allow to consider its discretized version at space-time level induced by the correspondence at the level of embedding space.

This requires the restriction of isometries and other symmetries to algebraic subgroups defined by the extension of rationals. This would imply reduction of symmetry due to finite cognitive/measurement resolution and should be acceptable. If one wants to realize the ideas about imagination, discretization must be applied also for the space-time interior meaning partial breaking of SH and giving rise to dark matter degrees freedom in TGD sense. SH could apply in real sector for realizable imaginations only. Note that the number of algebraic points of space-time surface is expected to be relatively small.

The correspondence must be considered at the level of embedding space, space-time, and WCW.

1. At the level of embedding space p-adic-real correspondence is induced by points in extension of rationals and is totally discontinuous. This requires that space-time dimension is smaller than embedding space dimension.
2. At space-time level the correspondence involves field equations derivable from a local variational principle make sense also p-adically although the action itself is ill-defined as 4-D integral. The notion of p-adic PE makes sense by strong form of holography applied to 2-surfaces in the intersection. p-Adically however only the vanishing of Noether currents for a sub-algebra of the super-symplectic algebra might make sense. This condition is stronger than the vanishing of Noether charges defined by 3-D integrals.
3. Correspondence at the level of WCW can make sense and reduces to that for string world sheets and partonic 2-surfaces by SH. Real and p-adic 4-surfaces would be obtained by algebraic continuation as PEs from 2-surfaces by assuming that the space-time surface contains subset of points of embedding space belonging to the extension of rationals [L4]. p-Adic pseudo constants make p-adic continuation easy. Real continuation need not exist always. p-Adic WCW would be considerably larger than real WCW and make possible a predictive quantum theory of imagination and cognition.

What I have called intersection of realities and p-adicities can be identified as the set of 2-surfaces plus algebraic discretization of space-time interior. Also the values of induced spinor fields at the points of discretization must be given. The parameters characterizing the extremals (say coefficients of polynomials) - WCW coordinates - would be in extension of rationals inducing a finite-D extension of p-adic number fields.

The hierarchy of algebraic extensions induces an evolutionary hierarchy of adeles. The interpretation could be as a mathematical correlate for cosmic evolution realized at the level of the core of WCW defined by the intersection? 2-surfaces could be called space-time genes.

4. Also the p-adic variant Kähler action or at least the exponent of Kähler action defining vacuum functional should be obtainable by algebraic continuation. The weakest condition states that the ratios of action exponents for the maxima of Kähler function to the sum of action exponents for maxima belong to the extension. Without this condition the hopes of satisfying NTU seem rather meager.

2.2 NTU at space-time level

What about NTU at space-time level? NTU requires a correspondence between real and p-adic numbers and the details of this corresponds have been a long standing problem.

1. The recent view about the correspondence between real PEs to their p-adic counterparts does not demand discrete local correspondence assumed in the earlier proposal [K17]. The most abstract approach would give up the local correspondence at space-time level altogether, and restrict the preferred coordinates of WCW (having maximal group of isometries) to numbers in the extension of rationals considered. WCW would be discretized.

Intuitively a more realistic view is a correspondence at space-time level in the sense that real and p-adic space-time sheets intersect at points belonging to the extension of rationals and defining “cognitive representations”. Only some p-adic space-time surfaces would have real counterpart.

2. The strongest form of NTU would require that the allowed points of embedding space belonging an extension of rationals are mapped as such to corresponding extensions of p-adic number fields (no canonical identification). At embedding space level this correspondence would be extremely discontinuous. The “spines” of space-time surfaces would however contain only a subset of points of extension, and a natural resolution length scale could emerge and prevent the fluctuation. This could be also seen as a reason for why space-times surfaces must be 4-D. The fact that the curve $x^n + y^n = z^n$ has no rational points for $n > 2$, raises the hope that the resolution scale could emerge spontaneously.
3. The notion of monadic geometry discussed in detail in [L4] would realize this idea. Define first a number theoretic discretization of embedding space in terms of points, whose coordinates in group theoretically preferred coordinate system belong to the extension of rationals considered. One can say that these algebraic points are in the intersection of reality and various p-adicities. Overlapping open sets assigned with this discretization define in the real sector a covering by open sets. In p-adic sector compact-open-topology allows to assign with each point 8^{th} Cartesian power of algebraic extension of p-adic numbers. These compact open sets define analogs for the monads of Leibniz and p-adic variants of field equations make sense inside them.

The monadic manifold structure of H is induced to space-time surfaces containing discrete subset of points in the algebraic discretization with field equations defining a continuation to space-time surface in given number field, and unique only in finite measurement resolution. This approach would resolve the tension between continuity and symmetries in p-adic–real correspondence: isometry groups would be replaced by their sub-groups with parameters in extension of rationals considered and acting in the intersection of reality and p-adicities.

The Galois group of extension acts non-trivially on the “spines” of space-time surfaces. Hence the number theoretical symmetries act as physical symmetries and define the orbit of given space-time surface as a kind of covering space. The coverings assigned to the hierarchy of Planck constants would naturally correspond to Galois coverings and dark matter would represent number theoretical physics.

This would give rise to a kind of algebraic hierarchy of adelic 4-surfaces identifiable as evolutionary hierarchy: the higher the dimension of the extension, the higher the evolutionary level.

2.3 NTU and WCW

It has not been obvious whether one should perform p-adicization and adelization at the level of WCW. Minimalist could argue that scattering amplitudes are all we want and that their p-adicization and adelization by algebraic continuation can be tolerated only if it can give powerful enough constraints on the amplitudes.

1. The anti-commutations for fermionic oscillator operators are number theoretically universal. Supersymmetry suggests that also WCW bosonic degrees of freedom satisfy NTU. This could

mean that the coordinates of p-adic WCW consist of super-symplectic invariants mappable by canonical identification to their real counterparts plus phases and their hyperbolic counterparts expressible as genuinely algebraic numbers common to all number fields. This kind of coordinates are naturally assignable to symmetric spaces [L4].

2. Kähler structure should be mapped from p-adic to real sector and vice versa. Vacuum functional identified as exponent of action should be NTU. Algebraic continuation defined by SH involves p-adic pseudo constants. All p-adic continuations by SH should correspond to the same value of exponent of action obtained by algebraic continuation from its real value. The degeneracy associated with p-adic pseudo-constants would be analogous to gauge invariance - imagination in TGD inspired theory of consciousness.
3. Ist it possible have NTU for WCW functional integration? Or is it enough to realize NTU for scattering amplitudes only. What seems clear that functional integral must reduce to a discrete sum. Physical intuition suggests a sum over maxima of Kähler function forming a subset of PEs representing stationary points. One cannot even exclude the possibility that the set of PEs is discrete and that one can sum over all of them.

Restriction to maximum/stationary phase approximation gives rise to sum over exponents multiplied with Gaussian determinants. The determinant of Kähler metric however cancels the Gaussian determinants, and one obtains only a sum over the exponents of action.

The breaking of strong NTU could happen: consider only p-adic mass calculations. This breaking is however associated with the parts of quantum states assignable to the boundaries of CD, not with the vacuum functional.

2.4 NTU for functional integral

Number theoretical vision relies on NTU. In fermionic sector NTU is necessary: one cannot speak about real and p-adic fermions as separate entities and fermionic anti-commutation relations are indeed number theoretically universal.

What about NTU in case of functional integral? There are two opposite views.

1. One can define p-adic variants of field equations without difficulties if preferred extremals are minimal surface extremals of Kähler action so that coupling constants do not appear in the solutions. If the extremal property is determined solely by the analyticity properties as it is for various conjectures, it makes sense independent of number field. Therefore there would be no need to continue the functional integral to p-adic sectors. This in accordance with the philosophy that thought cannot be put in scale. This would be also the option favored by pragmatist.
2. Consciousness theorist might argue that also cognition and imagination allow quantum description. The supersymmetry NTU should apply also to functional integral over WCW (more precisely, its sector defined by CD) involved with the definition of scattering amplitudes.

1. Key observations

The general vision involves some crucial observations.

1. Only the expressions for the scatterings amplitudes should should satisfy NTU. This does not require that the functional integral satisfies NTU.
2. Since the Gaussian and metric determinants cancel in WCW Kähler metric the contributions form maxima are proportional to action exponentials $\exp(S_k)$ divided by the $\sum_k \exp(S_k)$. Loops vanish by quantum criticality.
3. Scattering amplitudes can be defined as sums over the contributions from the maxima, which would have also stationary phase by the double extremal property made possible by the complex value of α_K . These contributions are normalized by the vacuum amplitude.

It is enough to require NTU for $X_i = \exp(S_i) / \sum_k \exp(S_k)$. This requires that $S_k - S_l$ has form $q_1 + q_2 i\pi + q_3 \log(n)$. The condition brings in mind homology theory without boundary operation defined by the difference $S_k - S_l$. NTU for both S_k and $\exp(S_k)$ would only values of general form $S_k = q_1 + q_2 i\pi + q_3 \log(n)$ for S_k and this looks quite too strong a condition.

4. If it is possible to express the 4-D exponentials as single 2-D exponential associated with union of string world sheets, vacuum functional disappears completely from consideration! There is only a sum over discretization with the same effective action and one obtains purely combinatorial expression.

2. *What does one mean with functional integral?*

The definition of functional integral in WCW is one of the key technical problems of quantum TGD [K16]. NTU states that the integral should be defined simultaneously in all number fields in the intersection of real and p-adic worlds defined by string world sheets and partonic 2-surfaces with WCW coordinates in algebraic extension of rationals and allowing by strong holography continuation to 4-D space-time surface. NTU is powerful constraint and could help in this respect.

1. Path integral is not in question. Rather, the functional integral is analogous to Wiener integral and perhaps allows identification as a genuine integral in the real sector. In p-adic sectors algebraic continuation should give the integral and here number theoretical universality gives excellent hopes. The integral would have exactly the same form in real and p-adic sector and expressible solely in terms of algebraic numbers characterizing algebraic extension and finite roots of e and roots of unity $U_n = \exp(i2\pi/n)$ in algebraic extension of p-adic numbers.

Since vacuum functional $\exp(S)$ is exponential of complex action S , the natural idea is that only rational powers e^q and roots of unity and phases $\exp(i2\pi q)$ are involved and there is no dependence on p-adic prime p ! This is true in the integer part of q is smaller than p so that one does not obtain e^{kp} , which is ordinary p-adic number and would spoil the number theoretic universality. This condition is not possible to satisfy for all values of p unless the value of Kähler function is smaller than 2. One might consider the possibility that the allow primes are above some minimum value.

The minimal solution to NTU conditions is that the ratios of action exponentials for maxima of Kähler function to the sum of these exponentials belong to the extension of rationals considered.

2. *What does one mean with functional integral?* TGD is expected to be an integrable in some sense. In integrable QFTs functional integral reduces to a sum over stationary points of the action: typically only single point contributes - at least in good approximation.

For real α_K and Λ vacuum functional decomposes to a product of exponents of real contribution from Euclidian regions ($\sqrt{g_4}$ real) and imaginary contribution Minkowskian regions ($\sqrt{g_4}$ imaginary). There would be no exchange of momentum between Minkowskian and Euclidian regions. For complex values of α_K [K13] situation changes and Kähler function as real part of action receives contributions from both Euclidian and Minkowskian regions. The imaginary part of action has interpretation as analog of Morse function and action as it appears in QFTs. Now saddle points must be considered.

PEs satisfy extremely strong conditions [K9, K10]. All classical Noether charges for a sub-algebra associated with super-symplectic algebra and isomorphic to the algebra itself vanish at both ends of CD. The conformal weights of this algebra are $n > 0$ -ples of those for the entire algebra. What is fascinating that the condition that the preferred extremals are minimal surface extremals of Kähler action could solve these conditions and guarantee also NTU at the level of space-time surfaces. Supersymplectic boundary conditions at the ends of CD would however pose number theoretic conditions on the coupling parameters. In p-adic case the conditions should reduce to purely local conditions since p-adic charges are not well-defined as integrals.

3. In TGD framework one is constructing zero energy states rather calculating the matrix elements of S-matrix in terms of path integral. This gives certain liberties but a natural expectation is that functional integral as a formal tool at least is involved.

Could one *define* the functional integral as a discrete sum of contributions of standard form for the preferred extremals, which correspond to maxima in Euclidian regions and associated stationary phase points in Minkowskian regions? Could one assume that WCW spinor field is concentrated along single maximum/stationary point.

Quantum classical correspondence suggests that in Cartan algebra isometry charges are equal to the quantal charges for quantum states expressible in number theoretically universal manner in terms of fermionic oscillator operators or WCW gamma matrices? Even stronger condition would be that classical correlation functions are identical with quantal ones for allowed space-time surfaces in the quantum superposition. Could the reduction to a discrete sum be interpreted in terms of a finite measurement resolution?

4. In QFT Gaussian determinants produce problems because they are often poorly defined. In the recent case they could also spoil the NTU based on the exceptional properties of e . In the recent case however Gaussian determinant and metric determinant for Kähler metric cancel each other and this problem disappears. One could obtain just a sum over products of roots of e and roots of unity. Thus also Kähler structure seems to be crucial for the dream about NTU.

2.5 Breaking of NTU at the level of scattering amplitudes

NTU in strong sense could be broken at the level of scattering amplitudes. At space-time level the breaking does not look natural in the recent framework. Consider only p-adic mass calculations predicting that mass scale depends on p-adic prime. Also for the action strong form of NTU might fail for small p-adic primes since the value of the real part of action would be larger than than p . Should one allow this? What does one actually mean with NTU in the case of action?

Canonical identification is an important element of p-adic mass calculations and might also be needed to map p-adic variants of scattering amplitudes to their real counterparts. The breaking of NTU would take place, when the canonical real valued image of the p-adic scattering amplitude differs from the real scattering amplitude. The interpretation would be in terms of finite measurement resolution. By the finite measurement/cognitive resolution characterized by p one cannot detect the difference.

The simplest form of the canonical identification is $x = \sum_n x_n p^n \rightarrow \sum_n x_n p^{-n}$. Product xy and sum $x + y$ do not in general map to product and sum in canonical identification. The interpretation would be in terms of a finite measurement resolution: $(xy)_R = x_R y_R$ and $(x+y)_R = x_R + y_R$ only modulo finite measurement resolution. p-Adic scattering amplitudes are obtained by algebraic continuation from the intersection by replacing algebraic number valued parameters (such as momenta) by general p-adic numbers. The real images of these amplitudes under canonical identification are in general not identical with real scattering amplitudes the interpretation being in terms of a finite measurement resolution.

In p-adic thermodynamics NTU in the strong sense fails since thermal masses depend on p-adic mass scale. NTU can be broken by the fermionic matrix elements in the functional integral so that the real scattering amplitudes differ from the canonical images of the p-adic scattering amplitudes. For instance, the elementary particle vacuum functionals in the space of Teichmueller parameters for the partonic 2-surfaces and string world sheets should break NTU [K1].

2.6 NTU and the spectrum of Kähler coupling strength

During years I have made several attempts to understand coupling evolution in TGD framework. The most convincing proposal has emerged rather recently and relates the spectrum of $1/\alpha_K$ to that for the zeros of Riemann zeta [K13] and to the evolution of the electroweak U(1) couplings strength.

1. The first idea dates back to the discovery of WCW Kähler geometry defined by Kähler function defined by Kähler action (this happened around 1990) [K2]. The only free parameter of

the theory is Kähler coupling strength α_K analogous to temperature parameter α_K postulated to be is analogous to critical temperature. Whether only single value or entire spectrum of values α_K is possible, remained an open question.

About decade ago I realized that Kähler action is *complex* receiving a real contribution from space-time regions of Euclidian signature of metric and imaginary contribution from the Minkowskian regions. Euclidian region would give Kähler function and Minkowskian regions analog of QFT action of path integral approach defining also Morse function. Zero energy ontology (ZEO) [K7] led to the interpretation of quantum TGD as complex square root of thermodynamics so that the vacuum functional as exponent of Kähler action could be identified as a complex square root of the ordinary partition function. Kähler function would correspond to the real contribution Kähler action from Euclidian space-time regions. This led to ask whether also Kähler coupling strength might be complex: in analogy with the complexification of gauge coupling strength in theories allowing magnetic monopoles. Complex α_K could allow to explain CP breaking. I proposed that instanton term also reducing to Chern-Simons term could be behind CP breaking.

The problem is that the dynamics in Minkowskian and Euclidian regions decouple completely and if Euclidian regions serve as space-time correlates for physical objects, there would be no exchanges of classical charges between physical objects. Should one conclude that α_K must be complex?

2. p-Adic mass calculations for 2 decades ago [K3] inspired the idea that length scale evolution is discretized so that the real version of p-adic coupling constant would have discrete set of values labelled by p-adic primes. The simple working hypothesis was that Kähler coupling strength is renormalization group (RG) invariant and only the weak and color coupling strengths depend on the p-adic length scale. The alternative ad hoc hypothesis considered was that gravitational constant is RG invariant. I made several number theoretically motivated ad hoc guesses about coupling constant evolution, in particular a guess for the formula for gravitational coupling in terms of Kähler coupling strength, action for CP_2 type vacuum extremal, p-adic length scale as dimensional quantity [?]. Needless to say these attempts were premature and a hoc.
3. The vision about hierarchy of Planck constants $h_{eff} = n \times h$ and the connection $h_{eff} = h_{gr} = GMm/v_0$, where $v_0 < c = 1$ has dimensions of velocity [K12] forced to consider very seriously the hypothesis that Kähler coupling strength has a spectrum of values in one-one correspondence with p-adic length scales. A separate coupling constant evolution associated with h_{eff} induced by $\alpha_K \propto 1/h_{eff} \propto 1/n$ looks natural and was motivated by the idea that Nature is theoretician friendly: when the situation becomes non-perturbative, Mother Nature comes in rescue and an h_{eff} increasing phase transition makes the situation perturbative again.

Quite recently the number theoretic interpretation of coupling constant evolution [K16] [L1] in terms of a hierarchy of algebraic extensions of rational numbers inducing those of p-adic number fields encouraged to think that $1/\alpha_K$ has spectrum labelled by primes and values of h_{eff} . Two coupling constant evolutions suggest themselves: they could be assigned to length scales and angles which are in p-adic sectors necessarily discretized and describable using only algebraic extensions involve roots of unity replacing angles with discrete phases.

4. Few years ago the relationship of TGD and GRT was finally understood [K15]. GRT space-time is obtained as an approximation as the sheets of the many-sheeted space-time of TGD are replaced with single region of space-time. The gravitational and gauge potential of sheets add together so that linear superposition corresponds to set theoretic union geometrically. This forced to consider the possibility that gauge coupling evolution takes place only at the level of the QFT approximation and α_K has only single value. This is nice but if true, one does not have much to say about the evolution of gauge coupling strengths.
5. The analogy of Riemann zeta function with the partition function of complex square root of thermodynamics suggests that the zeros of zeta have interpretation as inverses of complex temperatures $s = 1/\beta$. Also $1/\alpha_K$ is analogous to temperature. This led to a radical idea to be discussed in detail in the sequel.

Could the spectrum of $1/\alpha_K$ reduce to that for the zeros of Riemann zeta or - more plausibly - to the spectrum of poles of fermionic zeta $\zeta_F(ks) = \zeta(ks)/\zeta(2ks)$ giving for $k = 1/2$ poles as zeros of zeta and as point $s = 2$? ζ_F is motivated by the fact that fermions are the only fundamental particles in TGD and by the fact that poles of the partition function are naturally associated with quantum criticality whereas the vanishing of ζ and varying sign allow no natural physical interpretation.

The poles of $\zeta_F(s/2)$ define the spectrum of $1/\alpha_K$ and correspond to zeros of $\zeta(s)$ and to the pole of $\zeta(s/2)$ at $s = 2$. The trivial poles for $s = 2n$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$ correspond naturally to the values of $1/\alpha_K$ for different values of $h_{eff} = n \times h$ with n even integer. Complex poles would correspond to ordinary QFT coupling constant evolution. The zeros of zeta in increasing order would correspond to p-adic primes in increasing order and UV limit to smallest value of poles at critical line. One can distinguish the pole $s = 2$ as extreme UV limit at which QFT approximation fails totally. CP_2 length scale indeed corresponds to GUT scale.

6. One can test this hypothesis. $1/\alpha_K$ corresponds to the electroweak U(1) coupling strength so that the identification $1/\alpha_K = 1/\alpha_{U(1)}$ makes sense. One also knows a lot about the evolutions of $1/\alpha_{U(1)}$ and of electromagnetic coupling strength $1/\alpha_{em} = 1/[\cos^2(\theta_W)\alpha_{U(1)}]$. What does this predict?

It turns out that at p-adic length scale $k = 131$ ($p \simeq 2^k$ by p-adic length scale hypothesis, which now can be understood number theoretically [K16]) fine structure constant is predicted with .7 per cent accuracy if Weinberg angle is assumed to have its value at atomic scale! It is difficult to believe that this could be a mere accident because also the prediction evolution of $\alpha_{U(1)}$ is correct qualitatively. Note however that for $k = 127$ labelling electron one can reproduce fine structure constant with Weinberg angle deviating about 10 per cent from the measured value of Weinberg angle. Both models will be considered.

7. What about the evolution of weak, color and gravitational coupling strengths? Quantum criticality suggests that the evolution of these couplings strengths is universal and independent of the details of the dynamics. Since one must be able to compare various evolutions and combine them together, the only possibility seems to be that the spectra of gauge coupling strengths are given by the poles of $\zeta_F(w)$ but with argument $w = w(s)$ obtained by a global conformal transformation of upper half plane - that is Möbius transformation (see <http://tinyurl.com/gwjs85b>) with real coefficients (element of $GL(2, R)$) so that one as $\zeta_F((as + b)/(cs + d))$. Rather general arguments force it to be an element of $GL(2, Q)$, $GL(2, Z)$ or maybe even $SL(2, Z)$ ($ad - bc = 1$) satisfying additional constraints. Since TGD predicts several scaled variants of weak and color interactions, these copies could be perhaps parameterized by some elements of $SL(2, Z)$ and by a scaling factor K .

Could one understand the general qualitative features of color and weak coupling constant evolutions from the properties of corresponding Möbius transformation? At the critical line there can be no poles or zeros but could asymptotic freedom be assigned with a pole of $cs + d$ and color confinement with the zero of $as + b$ at real axes? Pole makes sense only if Kähler action for the preferred extremal vanishes. Vanishing can occur and does so for massless extremals characterizing conformally invariant phase. For zero of $as + b$ vacuum function would be equal to one unless Kähler action is allowed to be infinite: does this make sense?. One can however hope that the values of parameters allow to distinguish between weak and color interactions. It is certainly possible to get an idea about the values of the parameters of the transformation and one ends up with a general model predicting the entire electroweak coupling constant evolution successfully.

To sum up, the big idea is the identification of the spectra of coupling constant strengths as poles of $\zeta_F((as + b)/(cs + d))$ identified as a complex square root of partition function with motivation coming from ZEO, quantum criticality, and super-conformal symmetry; the discretization of the RG flow made possible by the p-adic length scale hypothesis $p \simeq k^k$, k prime; and the assignment of complex zeros of ζ with p-adic primes in increasing order. These assumptions reduce the coupling constant evolution to four real rational or integer valued parameters (a, b, c, d) . In the sequel this vision is discussed in more detail.

2.7 Generalization of Riemann zeta to Dedekind zeta and adelic physics

2.8 Generalization of Riemann zeta to Dedekind zeta and adelic physics

A further insight to adelic physics comes from the possible physical interpretation of the L-functions appearing also in Langlands program [K14]. The most important L-function would be generalization of Riemann zeta to extension of rationals. I have proposed several roles for ζ , which would be the simplest L-function assignable to rational primes, and for its zeros.

1. Riemann zeta itself could be identifiable as an analog of partition function for a system with energies given by logarithms of prime. One can define also the fermionic counterpart of ζ as ζ_F . In ZEO this function could be regarded as complex square root of thermodynamical partition function in accordance with the interpretation of quantum theory as complex square root of thermodynamics.
2. The zeros of zeta could define the conformal weights for the generators of super-symplectic algebra so that the number of generators would be infinite. The rough idea - certainly not correct as such except at the limit of infinitely large CD - is that the scaling operator $L_0 = r_M d/dr_M$, where r_M is light-like coordinate of light-cone boundary (containing upper or lower boundary of the causal diamond (CD)), has as eigenfunctions the functions $(r_M/r_0)^{s_n}$ $s_n = 1/2 + iy_n$, where s_n is the radial conformal weight identified as complex zero of ζ . Periodic boundary conditions for CD do not allow all possible zeros as conformal weights so that for given CD only finite subset corresponds to generators of the supersymplectic algebra. Conformal confinement would hold true in the sense that the sum $\sum_n s_n$ for physical states would be integer. Roots and their conjugates should appear as pairs in physical states.
3. On basis of numerical evidence Dyson [?] (<http://tinyurl.com/hjbfsv>) has conjectured that the Fourier transform for the set formed by zeros of zeta consists of primes so that one could regard zeros as one-dimensional quasi-crystal. This hypothesis makes sense if the zeros of zeta decompose into disjoint sets such that each set corresponds to its own prime (and its powers) and one has $p^{iy} = U_{m/n} = \exp(i2\pi m/n)$ (see the appendix of [L1]). This hypothesis is also motivated by number theoretical universality [K16, K8].
4. I have considered the possibility [K13] that the discrete values for the inverse of the electro-weak $U(1)$ coupling constant for a gauge field assignable to the Kähler form of CP_2 assignable to p-adic coupling constant evolution corresponds to poles of the fermionic zeta $\zeta_F(s) = \zeta(s)/\zeta(2s)$ coming from $s_n/2$ (denominator) and pole at $s = 1$ (numerator) zeros of zeta assignable to rational primes. Note that also odd negative integers at real axis would be poles.

It is also possible to consider scaling of the argument of $\zeta_F(s)$. More general coupling constant evolutions could correspond to $\zeta_F(m(s))$, where $m(s) = (as + b)/(cs + d)$ is Möbius transformation performed for the argument mapping upper complex plane to itself so that a, b, c, d are real and also rational by number theoretical universality.

Suppose for a moment that more precise formulations of these physics inspired conjectures make sense and even that their generalization for extensions K/Q of rationals holds true. This would solve a big part of adelic physics! Not surprisingly, the generalization of zeta function was proposed already by Dedekind (see <http://tinyurl.com/yarwbo6h>).

1. The definition of Dedekind zeta function ζ_K relies on the product representation and analytic continuation allows to deduce ζ_K elsewhere. One has a product over prime ideals of K/Q of rationals with the factors $1/(1 - p^{-s})$ associated with the ordinary primes in Riemann zeta replaced with the factors $X(P) = 1/(1 - N_{K/Q}(P)^{-s})$, where P is prime for the integers $O(K)$ of extension and $N_{K/Q}(P)$ is the norm of P in the extension. In the region $s > 1$ where the product converges, ζ_K is non-vanishing and $s = 1$ is a pole of ζ_K . The functional identifies of ζ hold true for ζ_K as well. Riemann hypothesis is generalized for ζ_K .
2. It is possible to understand ζ_K in terms of a physical picture. By the results of <http://tinyurl.com/yckfjgpk> one has $N_{K/Q}(P) = p^r$, $r > 0$ integer. This implies that one can

arrange in ζ_K all primes P for which the norm is power or given p in the same group. The prime ideals p of ordinary integers decompose to products of prime ideals P of the extension: one has $p = \prod_{r=1}^g P_r^{e_r}$, where e_r is so called ramification index. One can say that each factor of ζ decomposes to a product of factors associated with corresponding primes P with norm power of p . In the language of physics, the particle state represented by p decomposes in improved resolution to a product of many-particle states consisting of e_r particles in state P_r , very much like hadron decomposes to quarks.

The norms of $N_{K/Q}(P_r) = p^{d_r}$ satisfy the condition $\sum_{r=1}^g d_r e_r = n$. Mathematician would say that the prime ideals of Q modulo p decompose in n -dimensional extension K to products of prime power ideals $P_r^{e_r}$ and that P_r corresponds to a finite field $G(p, d_r)$ with algebraic dimension d_r . The formula $\sum_{r=1}^g d_r e_r = n$ reflects the fact the dimension n of extension is same independent of p even when one has $g < n$ and ramification occurs.

Physicist would say that the number of degrees of freedom is n and is preserved although one has only $g < n$ different particle types with e_r particles having d_r internal degrees of freedom. The factor replacing $1/(1 - p^{-s})$ for the general prime p is given by $\prod_{r=1}^g 1/(1 - p^{-e_r d_r s})$.

3. There are only finite number of ramified primes p having $e_r > 1$ for some r and they correspond to primes dividing the so called discriminant D of the irreducible polynomial P defining the extension. $D \bmod p$ obviously vanishes if D is divisible by p . For second order polynomials $P = x^2 + bx + c$ equals to the familiar $D = b^2 - 4c$ and in this case the two roots indeed co-incide. For quadratic extensions with $D = b^2 - 4c > 0$ the ramified primes divide D .

Remark: Resultant $R(P, Q)$ and discriminant $D(P) = R(P, dP/dx)$ are elegant tools used by number theorists to study extensions of rationals defined by irreducible polynomials (see <http://tinyurl.com/oyumsnk> and <http://tinyurl.com/p67rdgb>). From Wikipedia articles one finds an elegant proof for the facts that $R(P, Q)$ is proportional to the product of differences of the roots of P and Q , and D to the product of squares for the differences of distinct roots. $R(P, Q) = 0$ tells that two polynomials have a common root. $D \bmod p = 0$ tells that polynomial and its derivative have a common root so that there is a degenerate root modulo p and the prime is indeed ramified. For modulo p reduction of P the vanishing of $D(P) \bmod p$ follows if D is divisible by p . There exists clearly only a finite number of primes of this kind.

Most primes are unramified and one has maximum number n of factors in the decomposition and $e_r = 1$: maximum splitting of p occurs. The factor $1/(1 - p^{-s})$ is replaced with its n :th power $1/(1 - p^{-s})^n$. The geometric interpretation is that space-time sheet is replaced with n -fold covering and each sheet gives one factor in the power. It is also possible to have a situation in which no splitting occurs and one as $e_r = 1$ for one prime $P_r = p$. The factor is in this case equal to $1/(1 - p^{-ns})$.

From Wikipedia (see <http://tinyurl.com/yckfjgpk>) one learns that for Galois extensions L/K the ratio ζ_L/ζ_K is so called Artin L-function of the regular representation (group algebra) of Galois group factorizing in terms of irreps of $Gal(L/K)$ is *holomorphic* (no poles!) so that ζ_L must have also the zeros of ζ_K . This holds in the special case $K = Q$. Therefore extension of rationals can only bring new zeros but no new poles!

1. This result is quite far reaching if one accepts the hypothesis about super-symplectic conformal weights as zeros of ζ_K and the conjecture about coupling constant evolution. In the case of $\zeta_{F,K}$ this means new poles meaning new conformal weights due to increased complexity and a modification of the conjecture for the coupling constant evolution due to new primes in extension. The outcome looks physically sensible.
2. Quadratic field $Q(\sqrt{m})$ serves as example. Quite generally, the factorization of rational primes to the primes of extension corresponds to the factorization of the minimal polynomial for the generating element θ for the integers of extension and one has $p = P_i^{e_i}$, where e_i is ramification index. The norm of p factorizes to the produce of norms of $P_i^{e_i}$.

Rational prime can either remain prime in which case $x^2 - m$ does not factorize mod p , split when $x^2 - m$ factorizes mod P , or ramify when it divides the discriminant of $x^2 - m =$

4m. From this it is clear that for unramified primes the factors in ζ are replaced by either $1/(1-p^{-s})^2$ or $1/(1-p^{-2s}) = 1/(1-p^{-s})(1+p^{-s})$. For a finite number of unramified primes one can have something different.

For Gaussian primes with $m = -1$ one has $e_r = 1$ for $p \bmod 4 = 3$ and $e_r = 2$ for $p \bmod 4 = 1$. z_K therefore decomposes into two factors corresponding to primes $p \bmod 4 = 3$ and $p \bmod 4 = 1$. One can extract out Riemann zeta and the remaining factor

$$\prod_{p \bmod 4=3} \frac{1}{(1-p^{-s})} \times \prod_{p \bmod 4=1} \frac{1}{(1+p^{-s})}$$

should be holomorphic and without poles but having possibly additional zeros at critical line. That ζ_K should possess also the poles of ζ as poles looks therefore highly non-trivial.

2.9 Other applications of NTU

NTU in the strongest form says that all numbers involved at “basic level” (whatever this means!) of adelic TGD are products of roots of unity and of power of a root of e . This is extremely powerful physics inspired conjecture with a wide range of possible mathematical applications.

1. For instance, vacuum functional defined as an exponent of action for preferred externals would be number of this kind. One could define functional integral as adelic operation in all number fields: essentially as sum of exponents of action for stationary preferred extremals since Gaussian and metric determinants potentially spoiling NTU would cancel each other leaving only the exponent.
2. The implications of NTU for the zeros of Riemann zeta [L1] will be discussed in more detail in the Appendix. Suffice it to say that the observations about Fourier transform for the distribution of loci of non-trivial zeros of zeta together with NTU leads to explicit proposal for the algebraic form of zeros of zeta. The testable proposal is that zeros decompose to disjoint classes $C(p)$ labelled by primes p and the condition that p^{iy} is root of unity in given class $C(p)$.
3. NTU generalises to all Lie groups. Exponents $\exp(in_i J_i/n)$ of lie-algebra generators define generalisations of number theoretically universal group elements and generate a discrete subgroup of compact Lie group. Also hyperbolic “phases” based on the roots $e^{m/n}$ are possible and make possible discretized NTU versions of all Lie-groups expected to play a key role in adelization of TGD.

NTU generalises also to quaternions and octonions and allows to define them as number theoretically universal entities. Note that ordinary p-adic variants of quaternions and octonions do not give rise to a number field: inverse of quaternion can have vanishing p-adic variant of norm squared satisfying $\sum_n x_n^2 = 0$.

NTU allows to define also the notion of Hilbert space as an adelic notion. The exponents of angles characterising unit vector of Hilbert space would correspond to roots of unity.

2.10 Going to the roots of p-adicity

The basic questions raised by the p-adic mass calculations concern the origin of preferred p-adic primes and of p-adic length scale hypothesis. One can also ask whether there might be a natural origin for p-adicity at the level of WCW.

2.10.1 Preferred primes as ramified primes for extensions of rationals?

The intuitive feeling is that the notion of preferred prime is something extremely deep and to me the deepest thing I know is number theory. Does one end up with preferred primes in number theory? This question brought to my mind the notion of *ramification of primes* (<http://tinyurl.com/hdd1j1f>) (more precisely, of prime ideals of number field in its extension), which happens only for special primes in a given extension of number field, say rationals. Ramification is completely

analogous to the degeneracy of some roots of polynomial and corresponds to criticality if the polynomial corresponds to criticality (catastrophe theory of Thom is one application). Could this be the mechanism assigning preferred prime(s) to a given elementary system, such as elementary particle? I have not considered their role earlier also their hierarchy is highly relevant in the number theoretical vision about TGD.

1. Stating it very roughly (I hope that mathematicians tolerate this sloppy language of physicist): as one goes from number field K , say rationals Q , to its algebraic extension L , the original prime ideals in the so called *integral closure* (<http://tinyurl.com/js6fpvr>) over integers of K decompose to products of prime ideals of L (prime ideal is a more rigorous manner to express primeness). Note that the general ideal is analog of integer.

Integral closure for integers of number field K is defined as the set of elements of K , which are roots of some monic polynomial with coefficients, which are integers of K having the form $x^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$. The integral closures of both K and L are considered. For instance, integral closure of algebraic extension of K over K is the extension itself. The integral closure of complex numbers over ordinary integers is the set of algebraic numbers.

Prime ideals of K can be decomposed to products of prime ideals of L : $P = \prod P_i^{e_i}$, where e_i is the ramification index. If $e_i > 1$ is true for some i , *ramification* occurs. P_i :s in question are like co-inciding roots of polynomial, which for in thermodynamics and Thom's catastrophe theory corresponds to criticality. Ramification could therefore be a natural aspect of quantum criticality and ramified primes P are good candidates for preferred primes for a given extension of rationals. Note that the ramification make sense also for extensions of given extension of rationals.

2. A physical analogy for the decomposition of ideals to ideals of extension is provided by decomposition of hadrons to valence quarks. Elementary particles becomes composite of more elementary particles in the extension. The decomposition to these more elementary primes is of form $P = \prod P_i^{e(i)}$, the physical analog would be the number of elementary particles of type i in the state (<http://tinyurl.com/h9528p1>). Unramified prime P would be analogous a state with e fermions. Maximally ramified prime would be analogous to Bose-Einstein condensate of e bosons. General ramified prime would be analogous to an e -particle state containing both fermions and condensed bosons. This is of course just a formal analogy.
3. There are two further basic notions related to ramification and characterizing it. *Relative discriminant* is the ideal divided by all ramified ideals in K (integer of K having no ramified prime factors) and relative different for P is the ideal of L divided by all ramified P_i :s (product of prime factors of P in L). These ideals represent the analogs of product of preferred primes P of K and primes P_i of L dividing them. These two integers ideals would characterize the ramification.

In TGD framework the extensions of rationals (<http://tinyurl.com/h9528p1>) and p-adic number fields (<http://tinyurl.com/zq22tvb>) are unavoidable and interpreted as an evolutionary hierarchy physically and cosmological evolution would gradually proceed to more and more complex extensions. One can say that string world sheets and partonic 2-surfaces with parameters of defining functions in increasingly complex extensions of prime emerge during evolution. Therefore ramifications and the preferred primes defined by them are unavoidable. For p-adic number fields the number of extensions is much smaller for instance for $p > 2$ there are only 3 quadratic extensions.

How could ramification relate to p-adic and adelic physics and could it explain preferred primes?

1. Ramified p-adic prime $P = P_i^e$ would be replaced with its e :th root P_i in p-adicization. Same would apply to general ramified primes. Each un-ramified prime of K is replaced with $e = K : L$ primes of L and ramified primes P with $\#\{P_i\} < e$ primes of L : the increase of algebraic dimension is smaller. An interesting question relates to p-adic length scale. What happens to p-adic length scales. Is p-adic prime effectively replaced with e :th root of p-adic prime: $L_p \propto p^{1/2}L_1 \rightarrow p^{1/2e}L_1$? The only physical option is that the p-adic temperature for P would be scaled down $T_p = 1/n \rightarrow 1/ne$ for its e :th root (for fermions serving as

fundamental particles in TGD one actually has $T_p = 1$). Could the lower temperature state be more stable and select the preferred primes as maximally ramified ones? What about general ramified primes?

2. This need not be the whole story. Some algebraic extensions would be more favored than others and p-adic view about realizable imaginations could be involved. p-Adic pseudo constants are expected to allow p-adic continuations of string world sheets and partonic 2-surfaces to 4-D preferred extremals with number theoretic discretization. For real continuations the situation is more difficult. For preferred extensions - and therefore for corresponding ramified primes - the number of real continuations - realizable imaginations - would be especially large.

The challenge would be to understand why primes near powers of 2 and possibly also of other small primes would be favored. Why for them the number of realizable imaginations would be especially large so that they would be winners in number theoretical fight for survival?

Can one make this picture more concrete? What kind of algebraic extensions could be considered?

1. In p-adic context a proper definition of counterparts of angle variables as phases allowing definition of the analogs of trigonometric functions requires the introduction of algebraic extension giving rise to some roots of unity. Their number depends on the angular resolution. These roots allow to define the counterparts of ordinary trigonometric functions - the naive generalization based on Taylors series is not periodic - and also allows to defined the counterpart of definite integral in these degrees of freedom as discrete Fourier analysis. For the simplest algebraic extensions defined by $x^n - 1$ for which Galois group is abelian are unramified so that something else is needed. One has decomposition $P = \prod P_i^{e(i)}$, $e(i) = 1$, analogous to n -fermion state so that simplest cyclic extension does not give rise to a ramification and there are no preferred primes.
2. What kind of polynomials could define preferred algebraic extensions of rationals? Irreducible polynomials are certainly an attractive candidate since any polynomial reduces to a product of them. One can say that they define the elementary particles of number theory. Irreducible polynomials have integer coefficients having the property that they do not decompose to products of polynomials with rational coefficients. It would be wrong to say that only these algebraic extensions can appear but there is a temptation to say that one can reduce the study of extensions to their study. One can even consider the possibility that string world sheets associated with products of irreducible polynomials are unstable against decay to those characterize irreducible polynomials.
3. What can one say about irreducible polynomials? Eisenstein criterion (<http://tinyurl.com/47kxjz> states following. If $Q(x) = \sum_{k=0, \dots, n} a_k x^k$ is n :th order polynomial with integer coefficients and with the property that there exists at least one prime dividing all coefficients a_i except a_n and that p^2 does not divide a_0 , then Q is irreducible. Thus one can assign one or more preferred primes to the algebraic extension defined by an irreducible polynomial Q of this kind - in fact any polynomial allowing ramification. There are also other kinds of irreducible polynomials since Eisenstein's condition is only sufficient but not necessary.

Furthermore, in the algebraic extension defined by Q , the prime ideals P having the above mentioned characteristic property decompose to an n :th power of single prime ideal P_i : $P = P_i^n$. The primes are maximally/completely ramified.

A good illustration is provided by equations $x^2 + 1 = 0$ allowing roots $x_{\pm} = \pm i$ and equation $x^2 + 2px + p = 0$ allowing roots $x_{\pm} = -p \pm \sqrt{pp} - 1$. In the first case the ideals associated with $\pm i$ are different. In the second case these ideals are one and the same since $x_+ = -x_- + p$: hence one indeed has ramification. Note that the first example represents also an example of irreducible polynomial, which does not satisfy Eisenstein criterion. In more general case the n conditions on defined by symmetric functions of roots imply that the ideals are one and same when Eisenstein conditions are satisfied.

4. What is so nice that one could readily construct polynomials giving rise to given preferred primes. The complex roots of these polynomials could correspond to the points of partonic 2-surfaces carrying fermions and defining the ends of boundaries of string world sheet. It must be however emphasized that the form of the polynomial depends on the choices of the complex coordinate. For instance, the shift $x \rightarrow x + 1$ transforms $(x^n - 1)/(x - 1)$ to a polynomial satisfying the Eisenstein criterion. One should be able to fix allowed coordinate changes in such a manner that the extension remains irreducible for all allowed coordinate changes.

Already the integral shift of the complex coordinate affects the situation. It would seem that only the action of the allowed coordinate changes must reduce to the action of Galois group permuting the roots of polynomials. A natural assumption is that the complex coordinate corresponds to a complex coordinate transforming linearly under subgroup of isometries of the embedding space.

In the general situation one has $P = \prod P_i^{e(i)}$, $e(i) \geq 1$ so that also now there are preferred primes so that the appearance of preferred primes is completely general phenomenon.

2.10.2 The origin of p-adic length scale hypothesis?

p-Adic length scale hypothesis emerged from p-adic length scale hypothesis. A possible generalization of this hypothesis is that p-adic primes near powers of prime are physically favored. There indeed exists evidence for the realization of 3-adic time scale hierarchies in living matter [I1] (<http://tinyurl.com/jbh9m27>) and in music both 2-adicity and 3-adicity could be present: this is discussed in TGD inspired theory of music harmony and genetic code [K5]. See also [L5, L3].

One explanation would be that for preferred primes the number of p-adic space-time sheets representable also as real space-time sheets is maximal. Imagined worlds would be maximally realizable. Preferred p-adic primes would correspond to ramified primes for extensions with the property that the number of realizable imaginations is especially large for them. Why primes satisfying p-adic length scale hypothesis or its generalization would appear as ramified primes for extensions, which are winners in number theoretical evolution?

Also the weak form of NMP (WNMP) applying also to the purely number theoretic form of NMP [K4] might come in rescue here.

1. Entanglement negentropy for a NE [K4] characterized by n -dimensional projection operator is the $\log(N_p(n))$ for some p whose power divides n . The maximum negentropy is obtained if the power of p is the largest power of prime divisor of n , and this can be taken as definition of number theoretical entanglement negentropy (NEN). If the largest divisor is p^k , one has $N = k \times \log(p)$. The entanglement negentropy per entangled state is $N/n = k \log(p)/n$ and is maximal for $n = p^k$. Hence powers of prime are favoured, which means that p-adic length scale hierarchies with scales coming as powers of p are negentropically favored and should be generated by NMP. Note that $n = p^k$ would define a hierarchy of $h_{eff}/h = p^k$. During the first years of h_{eff} hypothesis I believe that the preferred values obey $h_{eff} = r^k$, r integer not far from $r = 2^{11}$. It seems that this belief was not totally wrong.
2. If one accepts this argument, the remaining challenge is to explain why primes near powers of two (or more generally p) are favoured. $n = 2^k$ gives large entanglement negentropy for the final state. Why primes $p = n_2 = 2^k - r$ would be favored? The reason could be following. $n = 2^k$ corresponds to $p = 2$, which corresponds to the lowest level in p-adic evolution since it is the simplest p-adic topology and farthest from the real topology and therefore gives the poorest cognitive representation of real PE as p-adic PE (Note that $p = 1$ makes formally sense but for it the topology is discrete).
3. WNMP [K4, K6] suggests a more feasible explanation. The density matrix of the state to be reduced is a direct sum over contributions proportional to projection operators. Suppose that the projection operator with largest dimension has dimension n . Strong form of NMP would say that final state is characterized by n -dimensional projection operator. WNMP allows "free will" so that all dimensions $n - k$, $k = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$ for final state projection operator are possible. 1-dimensional case corresponds to vanishing entanglement negentropy and ordinary state function reduction isolating the measured system from external world.

4. The negentropy of the final state per state depends on the value of k . It is maximal if $n - k$ is power of prime. For $n = 2^k = M_k + 1$, where M_k is Mersenne prime $n - 1$ gives the maximum negentropy and also maximal p-adic prime available so that this reduction is favoured by NMP. Mersenne primes would be indeed special. Also the primes $n = 2^k - r$ near 2^k produce large entanglement negentropy and would be favored by NMP.
5. This argument suggests a generalization of p-adic length scale hypothesis so that $p = 2$ can be replaced by any prime.

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