

Preons, Standard Model and Gravity with Torsion

Risto Raitio*
02230 Espoo, Finland

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Abstract

A preon model for the substructure of the the standard model quarks and leptons is discussed. Global group representations for preons, quarks and leptons are addressed using two preons and their antiparticles. The preon construction endorses the standard model gauge group structure. Preons are subject to electromagnetic and gravitational interactions only. Gravity with torsion, expressed as an axial-vector field, is applied to preons in the energy range between GUT and Planck scale. The mass of the axial-vector particle is estimated to be near the GUT scale. A tentative model for quantum gravity, excluding black holes, is considered.

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*E-mail: risto.raitio@gmail.com

Contents

1	Introduction	2
2	Preon Model	3
3	Knot Theory: Preons, Quarks and Leptons	4
4	Gravity with Torsion	6
4.1	Introduction	6
4.2	Torsion as Axial-Vector Massive Field	7
5	Considerations of Spinors Fields	10
6	Conclusions	11

1 Introduction

The purpose of this brief note is to develop further a spin $1/2$ preon model in order to give group theoretic structure to it. The model should fulfill three requirements: (i) provide a global group structure for preons, quarks and leptons, (ii) introduce preon properties so that they endorse the standard model (SM) local gauge group structure $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$, and (iii) provide a basis for introducing an applicable formulation of gravity into the model in the environment where gravity is important. It is not obvious that all the above goals can be achieved, in particular, gravity has received very little attention in particle physics.

It will be first shown below that the preon model [1, 2, 3] is supported by the work of Finkelstein [4] using the global knot algebra $SLq(2)$ structure for preons, quarks and leptons. Secondly, the construction of the preon model directly suggests the gauge group structures $SU(2)$ and $SU(3)$ for the weak and strong interactions, respectively. Thirdly, fermion fields in Einstein-Cartan [5], or Einstein-Kibble-Sciama (EKS) [6, 7] gravity have been shown by Fabbri to yield interesting results for torsion coupling to the spin of Dirac fields [8]. This interaction expresses a massive axial-vector field coupling to preons. It originates from translation symmetry of the full Poincaré gauge group in the action. Spin being quantized, a first step model of quantum gravity is therefore considered for preon energy scales, say approximately $10^{16} \text{ GeV} \leq E \leq 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$. In short, this note is a proposal for beyond standard model physics. Black holes are beyond the scope of this article.

The organization of this note is the following. The preon model is described in section 2. The group $SLq(2)$ is discussed in section 3. Sections 2 and 3 are presented in the historical order, not in the logical order as given in the first paragraph. Gravity with torsion is described in section 4. In section 5 some

interesting thoughts on the nature of spinor fields are briefly quoted. Finally, conclusion are made in section 6. The presentation is self-contained.

2 Preon Model

The constituents of quarks and leptons must include an odd number of spin 1/2 particles. I consider the case of three constituents, preons. Requiring charge quantization $\{0, 1/3, 2/3, 1\}$ and fermionic permutation antisymmetry for same charge preons, I have defined four bound states of three light preons which form the first generation quarks and leptons [1, 2]

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_k &= \epsilon_{ijk} m_i^+ m_j^+ m_k^0 \\
 \bar{d}_k &= \epsilon_{ijk} m_i^+ m_j^0 m_k^0 \\
 e &= \epsilon_{ijk} m_i^- m_j^- m_k^- \\
 \bar{\nu} &= \epsilon_{ijk} \bar{m}_i^0 \bar{m}_j^0 \bar{m}_k^0
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{2.1}$$

A feature in (2.1) with two same charge preons is that the construction provides a three-valued index for quark $SU(3)$ color, as it was originally discovered [9]. The corresponding gauge bosons are in the adjoint representation. The weak $SU(2)$ left handed doublets can be read from the first two and last two lines in (2.1). The standard model gauge structure $SU(N)$, $N = 1, 2$ is emergent in this sense from the present preon model. In the same way quark-lepton transitions between lines $1 \leftrightarrow 3$ and $2 \leftrightarrow 4$ in (2.1) are possible.

The preon and SM fermion group structure is better illuminated using the representations of the $SLq(2)$ group in the next section 3.

The above gauge picture is supposed to hold in the present scheme up to the energy of about 10^{16} GeV. The electroweak interaction is in the spontaneously broken symmetry phase below energies of the order of 100 GeV and in the symmetric phase above it. The electromagnetic and weak forces take separate ways at higher energies ($100 \text{ GeV} \ll E \ll 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$). The weak interaction restores its symmetry but melts away due to ionization of quarks and leptons into preons. The electromagnetic interaction, in turn, stays strong towards Planck scale, $M_{\text{Pl}} \sim 1.22 \times 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$. Likewise, the quark color and leptoquark interactions suffer the same destiny as the weak force. One is left with the electromagnetic and gravitational forces only at Planck scale.

The proton, neutron, electron and ν can be constructed of 12 preons and 12 anti-preons. The construction (2.1) is matter-antimatter symmetric on preon level, which is desirable for early cosmology. The model makes it possible to create from vacuum a universe with only matter: combine e.g. six m^+ , six m^0 and their antiparticles to make the basic β -decay particles. Corresponding antiparticles may occur equally well.

The baryon number (B) is not conserved in this model: a proton may decay at Planck scale temperature by a preon rearrangement process into a positron

and a pion. This is expected to be independent of the details of the preon interaction. Baryon number minus lepton number (B-L) is conserved.

Preon interactions among themselves are discussed in section 4. Unknotting a little, the gauge boson is a massive axial-vector field.

One may now propose that, as far as there is an ultimate unified field theory, it is a preon theory with only gravitational and electromagnetic interactions.

In the early universe, the strong and weak forces are generated only after massless preons combine into quarks and leptons at lower temperature. These two forces function only with short range within nuclei making atoms, molecules and chemistry possible. In a contracting phase of the universe the same processes take place in the reverse order.

3 Knot Theory: Preons, Quarks and Leptons

Early work on knots in physics goes back in time to 19th and 20th century [10, 11]. On the 21st century Finkelstein has proposed a model based on the group $SLq(2)$ [4]. This group actualizes the needs of the model of the previous section 2.

Let us consider the simple case of two dimensional representation of the group $SLq(2)$ which is defined by the matrix

$$T = D_{mm'}^{1/2} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.1)$$

where (a, b, c, d) satisfy the knot algebra

$$\begin{aligned} ab &= qba & bd &= qdb & ad - qbc &= 1 & bc &= cb \\ ac &= qca & cd &= qdc & da - q_1cb &= 1 & q_1 &\equiv q^{-1} \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

where q is defined as follows from the matrix ϵ

$$\epsilon = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \alpha_2 \\ -\alpha_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.3)$$

The matrix ϵ is invariant under the transformation

$$T\epsilon T^t = T^t\epsilon T = \epsilon \quad (3.4)$$

where T^t is T transposed and $q = \alpha_1/\alpha_2$.

Higher representations of $SLq(2)$ are obtained by transforming the $(2j+1)$ monomials

$$\Psi_m^j = N_m^j x_1^{n_+} x_2^{n_-}, \quad -j \leq m \leq j \quad (3.5)$$

by

$$x_1' = ax_1 + bx_2 \quad (3.6)$$

$$x_2' = cx_1 + dx_2 \quad (3.7)$$

where (a, b, c, d) satisfy the knot algebra (3.2) but x_1 and x_2 commute and $n_{\pm} = j \pm m$, and

$$N_m^j = [\langle n_+ \rangle_{q_1}! \langle n_- \rangle_{q_1}!]^{-1/2} \quad (3.8)$$

and $\langle n \rangle_q = \frac{q^{n-1}}{q-1}$. It is found that

$$(\Psi_m^j)' = \sum D_{mm'}^j \Psi_{m'}^j \quad (3.9)$$

where

$$D_{mm'}^j(q|a, b, c, d) = \sum_{\substack{\delta(n_a+n_b, n_+) \\ \delta(n_c+n_d, n_-)}} A_{mm'}^j(q, n_a, n_c) \delta(n_a + n_b, n'_+) a^{n_a} b^{n_b} c^{n_c} d^{n_d} \quad (3.10)$$

where $n'_{\pm} = j \pm m'$, $D_{mm'}^j$ is a $2j+1$ dimensional representation of the $SLq(2)$ algebra and the $A_{mm'}^j$ is

$$A_{mm'}^j(q, n_a, n_c) = \left[\frac{\langle n'_+ \rangle_1 \langle n'_- \rangle_1}{\langle n_+ \rangle_1 \langle n_- \rangle_1} \right]^{1/2} \frac{\langle n_+ \rangle_1!}{\langle n_a \rangle_1! \langle n_b \rangle_1!} \frac{\langle n_- \rangle_1!}{\langle n_c \rangle_1! \langle n_d \rangle_1!} \quad (3.11)$$

The oriented 2-dimensional projection of a 3-dimensional knot can be assigned three coordinates (N, w, r) where N is the number of crossings, w is the writhe and r the rotation. One can transform to new coordinates (j, m, m') . These indices label the irreducible representations of $D_{mm'}^j$ of the symmetry algebra of the knot, $SLq(2)$ by setting

$$j = N/2, \quad m = w/2, \quad m' = (r + o)/2 \quad (3.12)$$

This linear transformations makes half-integer representations possible. The knot constraints require w and r to be of opposite parity, therefore o is an odd integer. The knot (N, w, r) may be labeled by $D_{w/2, (r+o)/2}^{N/2}(a, b, c, d)$.

One assigns physical meaning to the $D_{mm'}^j$ in (3.10) by interpreting the a, b, c , and d as creation operators for spin $1/2$ preons. These are the four elements of the fundamental $j = 1/2$ representation $D_{mm'}^{1/2}$ as indicated in Table 1.

m	m'	preon
1/2	1/2	a
1/2	-1/2	b
-1/2	1/2	c
-1/2	-1/2	d

Table 1.

The $D^{1/2}$ representation of the four preons.

For notational clarity, I use in Tables 1. and 2. the preon names of [4]. The preon dictionary from the notation of [1] is the following:

$$\begin{aligned} m^+ &\mapsto a, & m^0 &\mapsto c \\ m^- &\mapsto d, & \bar{m}^0 &\mapsto b \end{aligned} \quad (3.13)$$

The standard model particles are the following elements of the $D_{mm'}^{3/2}$ representation as indicated in Table 2.

m	m'	particle	preons
3/2	3/2	electron	aaa
3/2	3/2	neutrino	ccc
3/2	-1/2	d-quark	abb
-3/2	-1/2	u-quark	cdd

Table 2.

The $D^{3/2}$ representation of the standard model particles and their preon content.

All details of the $SLq(2)$ extended standard model are discussed in the review article [4], including the gauge and Higgs bosons and a candidate for dark matter. I do not, however, see much advantage for introducing composite gauge bosons in the model. Introduction of color from preons is done slightly differently in [4]. In the early universe developments there is similarity between the knot model and the present preon model. Therefore, apart from the differences in color interpretation, the model of [1] and the knot algebra of [4] are equivalent in the fermion sector.

In summary, knots having odd number of crossings are fermions and knots with even number of crossings are correspondingly bosons. The leptons and quarks are the simplest quantum knots, the quantum trefoils with three crossings and $j = 3/2$. At each crossing there is a preon. The free preons are twisted loops with one crossing and $j = 1/2$. The $j = 0$ states are simple loops with zero crossings.

4 Gravity with Torsion

4.1 Introduction

To build a full Poincaré group gauge theory for gravity one has boosts, rotations and translations to consider: the rotations lead to curvature and the translations to torsion in spacetime. From a different point of view, curvature arises in the form of metric from energy and torsion in the form of a connection from spin. Torsion is therefore defined on microscopic scales. Torsion requires extension of the Riemann geometry to Riemann-Cartan (RC) geometry [5]. RC gravity, or Einstein-Sciama-Kibble (ESK) [6, 7] gravity can be reduced to Einstein gravity plus torsional contributions. A theory has been developed by Fabbri [8] for gravity with torsion and spinor matter fields, which yields a massive axial-vector coupled to spinors. His goal is to explain most of the open problems in the standard model of particles (and cosmology) as well as to analyze the nature of spinor fields. Here I apply the axial-vector coupling of [8] to preon interactions.

In general relativity metric is used to measure distances and angles. Connections are used to define covariant derivatives. In general form, a covariant derivative of a vector is defined by

$$D_\alpha V^\mu = \partial_\alpha V^\mu + V^\rho \Gamma_{\rho\alpha}^\mu \quad (4.1)$$

The connection $\Gamma_{\rho\alpha}^\mu$ has three indices: μ and ρ shuffle, or transform, the components of the vector V^ρ and α indicates the coordinate in the partial derivative.

Metric and connection should be unrelated. This is implemented by demanding that the covariant derivative of the metric vanishes. In this case the connection is metric-compatible. Metric-compatible connections can be divided into antisymmetric part, given by the torsion tensor, and symmetric part which includes a combination of torsion tensors plus a symmetric, metric dependent connection called the Levi-Civita connection.

In a general Riemannian spacetime \mathbf{R} , at each point p with coordinates x^μ , there is a Minkowski tangent space $\mathbf{M} = T_p\mathbf{R}$, the fiber, on which the local gauge transformation of the $T_{x^\mu}\mathbf{R}$ coordinates x^a takes place

$$x'^a = x^a + \epsilon^a(x^\mu) \quad (4.2)$$

where ϵ^a are the transformation parameters, μ is a spacetime index and a a fiber frame index.

The dynamics of the theory is based on vierbeins (tetrads) e^a_μ , not on the metric tensor $g_{\mu\nu}$. The Cartan connection has a primary role and it is

$$\Gamma_{\mu\lambda\nu} = e^a_\mu \partial_\lambda e_{a\nu} \quad (4.3)$$

The tensor associated with this connection is torsion tensor

$$T^\mu_{\lambda\nu} = e_a^\mu (\partial_\lambda e^a_\nu - \partial_\nu e^a_\lambda) \quad (4.4)$$

Unfortunate for the development of gravitation theory, spin was not discovered in the laboratory before 1916. Spinors were introduced in mathematics by Cartan in the 1920's and spinor wave equation was found by Dirac in 1928.

4.2 Torsion as Axial-Vector Massive Field

Torsion has the property that it can be separated from gauge and metric factors. Let us start from the metric connection

$$\Lambda^\rho_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} g^{\rho\mu} (\partial_\beta g_{\alpha\mu} + \partial_\alpha g_{\mu\beta} - \partial_\mu g_{\alpha\beta}) \quad (4.5)$$

The torsion tensor is completely antisymmetric only if some restrictions are imposed, called the metric-hypercompatibility conditions [12, 13, 14, 15, 16]. Then it can be written in the form

$$Q_{\alpha\sigma\nu} = \frac{1}{6} W^\mu \varepsilon_{\mu\alpha\sigma\nu} \quad (4.6)$$

where W^μ is torsion pseudo-vector, obtained from the torsion tensor after a Hodge dual. With the metric connection and the torsion pseudo-vector the most general connection can be written as a sum of $\Lambda_{\alpha\beta}^\rho$ and $Q_{\alpha\sigma\nu}$ as follows

$$\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\rho = \frac{1}{2}g^{\rho\mu}[(\partial_\beta g_{\alpha\mu} + \partial_\alpha g_{\mu\beta} - \partial_\mu g_{\alpha\beta}) + \frac{1}{6}W^\nu \varepsilon_{\nu\mu\alpha\beta}] \quad (4.7)$$

Functions $\Omega_{b\mu}^a$ that transform under a general coordinate transformation like a lower Greek index vector and under a Lorentz transformation as

$$\Omega_{b'\nu}^{a'} = \Lambda_a^{a'} [\Omega_{b\nu}^a - (\Lambda^{-1})_k^a (\partial_\nu \Lambda)_b^k] (\Lambda^{-1})_{b'}^b \quad (4.8)$$

are called a spin connection. The torsion in coordinate formalism is defined as follows

$$Q_{\mu\nu}^a = -(\partial_\mu e_\nu^a - \partial_\nu e_\mu^a + e_\nu^b \Omega_{b\mu}^a - e_\mu^b \Omega_{b\nu}^a) \quad (4.9)$$

and the spin connection is given by

$$\Omega_{b\mu}^a = e_b^\nu e_\rho^a (\Gamma_{\nu\mu}^\rho - e_k^\rho \partial_\mu e_\nu^k) \quad (4.10)$$

which is antisymmetric in the two Lorentz indices after both of them are brought in the same upper or lower position. The most general spinorial connection is

$$\mathbf{\Omega}_\mu = \frac{1}{2}\Omega_{ab\mu}\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{ab} + iqA_\mu\mathbb{I} \quad (4.11)$$

where A_μ is the gauge potential. The spinorial curvature is using the spinorial connection

$$\mathbf{F}_{\alpha\beta} = \partial_\alpha \mathbf{\Omega}_\beta - \partial_\beta \mathbf{\Omega}_\alpha + [\mathbf{\Omega}_\alpha, \mathbf{\Omega}_\beta] \quad (4.12)$$

Let us define the decomposition of the spinor field in its left and right parts

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}_L \psi = \psi_L \quad \bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}} \boldsymbol{\pi}_R = \bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_L \quad (4.13)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}_R \psi = \psi_R \quad \bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}} \boldsymbol{\pi}_L = \bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_R \quad (4.14)$$

so that

$$\bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_L + \bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_R = \bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}} \quad \psi_L + \psi_R = \psi \quad (4.15)$$

Now one has 16 linearly-independent bi-linear spinorial quantities

$$2\bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}}\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{ab}\boldsymbol{\pi}\psi = \Sigma^{ab} \quad (4.16)$$

$$2i\bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}}\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{ab}\psi = S^{ab} \quad (4.17)$$

$$\bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}}\boldsymbol{\gamma}^a\boldsymbol{\pi}\psi = V^a \quad (4.18)$$

$$\bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}}\boldsymbol{\gamma}^a\psi = U^a \quad (4.19)$$

$$i\bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}}\boldsymbol{\pi}\psi = \Theta \quad (4.20)$$

$$\bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}}\psi = \Phi \quad (4.21)$$

To have the most general connection decomposed into the simplest symmetric connection plus torsion terms we substitute (4.7) in (4.10) and this in (4.11). The field equations reduce to the following

$$\nabla_\rho(\partial W)^{\rho\mu} + M^2 W^\mu = X \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \pi \psi \quad (4.22)$$

for torsion axial-vector and

$$\begin{aligned} & R^{\rho\sigma} - \frac{1}{2} R g^{\rho\sigma} - \Lambda g^{\rho\sigma} = \\ & = \frac{k}{2} \left[\frac{1}{4} F^2 g^{\rho\sigma} - F^{\rho\alpha} F^\sigma{}_\alpha + \right. \\ & + \frac{1}{4} (\partial W)^2 g^{\rho\sigma} - (\partial W)^{\sigma\alpha} (\partial W)^\rho{}_\alpha + \\ & + M^2 (W^\rho W^\sigma - \frac{1}{2} W^2 g^{\rho\sigma}) + \\ & \left. + \frac{i}{4} (\bar{\psi} \gamma^\rho \nabla^\sigma \psi - \nabla^\sigma \bar{\psi} \gamma^\rho \psi + \bar{\psi} \gamma^\sigma \nabla^\rho \psi - \nabla^\rho \bar{\psi} \gamma^\sigma \psi) - \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{1}{2} X (W^\sigma \bar{\psi} \gamma^\rho \pi \psi + W^\rho \bar{\psi} \gamma^\sigma \pi \psi) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (4.23)$$

for the torsion-spin and curvature-energy coupling, and

$$\nabla_\sigma F^{\sigma\mu} = q \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \psi \quad (4.25)$$

for the gauge-current coupling; and finally

$$i \gamma^\mu \nabla_\mu \psi - X W_\sigma \gamma^\sigma \pi \psi - m \psi = 0 \quad (4.26)$$

for the spinor field equations which again can be split as

$$\frac{i}{2} (\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \nabla_\mu \psi - \nabla_\mu \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \psi) - X W_\sigma V^\sigma - m \Phi = 0 \quad (4.27)$$

$$\nabla_\mu U^\mu = 0 \quad (4.28)$$

$$\frac{i}{2} (\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \pi \nabla_\mu \psi - \nabla_\mu \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \pi \psi) - X W_\sigma U^\sigma = 0 \quad (4.29)$$

$$\nabla_\mu V^\mu - 2m \Theta = 0 \quad (4.30)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & i (\bar{\psi} \nabla^\alpha \psi - \nabla^\alpha \bar{\psi} \psi) - \nabla_\mu S^{\mu\alpha} + \\ & + 2X W_\sigma \Sigma^{\sigma\alpha} - 2m U^\alpha = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (4.31)$$

$$\nabla_\alpha \Phi - 2 (\bar{\psi} \sigma_{\mu\alpha} \nabla^\mu \psi - \nabla^\mu \bar{\psi} \sigma_{\mu\alpha} \psi) + 2X \Theta W_\alpha = 0 \quad (4.32)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \nabla_\nu \Theta - 2i (\bar{\psi} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \pi \nabla^\mu \psi - \nabla^\mu \bar{\psi} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \pi \psi) - \\ & - 2X \Phi W_\nu + 2m V_\nu = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (4.33)$$

$$(\nabla_\alpha \bar{\psi} \pi \psi - \bar{\psi} \pi \nabla_\alpha \psi) + \nabla^\mu \Sigma_{\mu\alpha} + 2X W^\mu S_{\mu\alpha} = 0 \quad (4.34)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla^\mu V^\rho \varepsilon_{\mu\rho\alpha\nu} + i(\bar{\psi}\gamma_{[\alpha}\nabla_{\nu]}\psi - \nabla_{[\nu}\bar{\psi}\gamma_{\alpha]}\psi) + \\ + 2XW_{[\alpha}V_{\nu]} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (4.35)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla^{[\alpha}U^{\nu]} + i\varepsilon^{\alpha\nu\mu\rho}(\bar{\psi}\gamma_\rho\pi\nabla_\mu\psi - \nabla_\mu\bar{\psi}\gamma_\rho\pi\psi) - \\ - 2XW_\sigma U_\rho \varepsilon^{\alpha\nu\sigma\rho} - 2mS^{\alpha\nu} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (4.36)$$

together equivalent to the spinor field equations above. From (4.22) one sees that torsion behaves like a massive axial-vector field satisfying Proca field equations. It is noted that torsion does not couple to gauge fields. Torsion and gravitation seem to have the same coupling constant. However, in [8] it is shown that using the Einstein-Sciama-Kibble field equations these two independent fields with independent sources can have independent coupling constants.

The preon-preon interaction is attractive and of short range due to the mass of the axial-vector field. The interaction includes two free parameters, the coupling constant X and the mass M of the axial-vector. Therefore, bound states of preons may be formed by the axial-vector interaction. Three preon states should be favored as in 2.

The axial-vector field is expected to appear as a physical particle whenever its production is energetically possible. Heuristically, one expects that the range of the axial-vector force is related inversely to the energy scale of the interaction, $M \sim 10^{16}$ GeV. The coupling must be larger than the electromagnetic coupling α to keep the charged preons bound. Couplings in GUT theory are of the order 0.02 at the GUT scale. With a Yukawa potential in the Schrödinger equation $V(r) = -V_0 \exp(-ar)/r$ [17], or in our notation $-X \exp(r/M)/r$ with the physicality condition $n + l + 1 \leq \sqrt{XmM}$, one may estimate that large M correlates with small preon mass $m \ll M_{proton}$. These matters deserve quantitative attention.

5 Considerations of Spinors Fields

The incompatibility of gravity and second quantization, as well as the problem of radiative corrections, are discussed from a novel point of view in [8]. A major point is that, with gravity included in the theory, plane wave solutions do not exist. Instead, localized fields can be derived by analyzing the self-interactions of the chiral components of the spinor fields. Secondly, I quote Fabbri [8]:

“In the theory of quantum fields, electrons are point-like with quantum effects giving an electronic self-interaction in terms of radiative processes involving loops, while here the self-interaction of the spinor should be regarded as a mutual interaction of its two chiral parts giving internal dynamics for extended fields, and consequently allowing the Zitterbewegung to actually influence the particles. The Zitterbewegung of classical fields and quantum effects for structureless particles might coincide.”

From this point of view, we may be closer to quantum gravity than commonly believed.

6 Conclusions

The preon model with spin $1/2$ and charge 0 and $1/3$ constituents discussed above has a sound group theoretical basis. Both the preons and the quarks and leptons belong to two lowest representations of the global $SL_q(2)$ group, shown in Tables 1. and 2. With four preons the standard model local gauge groups $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$ become visible.

It is hoped that the preon scheme [1] would provide a way towards a better understanding of the roles of all interactions. For that goal the weak and strong interactions are treated in this scenario in a specific way. They are emergent from the very basic fermion structure of the model (2.1). Gravity and electromagnetism are the ‘original’ long range interactions in the big bang of cyclic cosmology. The translation symmetry of the full Poincaré group implies axial-vector interactions which introduce a new Gedanken phenomenology for preons between the GUT scale and Planck scale. The axial-vector particle is predicted to have large mass, $M \sim 10^{16}$ GeV. It couples in principle to all particles. Within accelerator energies axial-vector particle couplings to standard model particles are very small.

Of matters not discussed in this note I refer to [8] where substantial amount of phenomenological success is obtained beyond the standard model of cosmology, like dark matter, cosmological constant and inflation.

More work is needed to clarify the issues and gain consensus in the questions of field quantization, gravity and its full quantum version, and possible unification with electromagnetism.

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