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First considerations on the generalized uncertainty principle for finite-dimensional discrete phase spaces

Marcelo A Marchiolli, Maurizio Ruzzi

(Submitted on 13 Jun 2011)

Generalized uncertainty principle and breakdown of the spacetime continuum certainly represent two important results derived of various approaches related to quantum gravity and black hole physics near the well-known Planck scale. The discreteness of space suggests, in particular, that all measurable lengths are quantized in units of a fundamental scale (in this case, the Planck length). Here, we propose a self-consistent theoretical framework for an important class of physical systems characterized by a finite space of states, and show that such a framework enlarges previous knowledge about generalized uncertainty principles, as topological effects in finite-dimensional discrete phase spaces come into play. Besides, we also investigate under what circumstances the generalized uncertainty principle (GUP) works out well and its inherent limitations.

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