

De-conjecturing de Sitter

Thursday, 20 June 2019 15:00 (45 minutes)

I will begin by reviewing some of the challenges one encounters when trying to make sense of quantum gravity in the presence of a positive vacuum energy density. In particular string theory in its present form appears inadequate to settle even basic existence questions. To resolve these issues, a more fundamental, possibly holographic, quantitatively precise framework will likely be needed. I will discuss some recent progress in this direction.

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