The Most General Form of Deformation of the Heisenberg Algebra from the Generalized Uncertainty Principle

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Abstract

In this paper, we will propose the most general form of the deformation of Heisenberg algebra motivated by the generalized uncertainty principle. This deformation of the Heisenberg algebra will deform all quantum mechanical systems. The form of the generalized uncertainty principle used to motivate these results will be motivated by the space fractional quantum mechanics, and non-locality in quantum mechanical systems. We also analyse a specific limit of this generalized deformation for one dimensional system, and in that limit, a non-local deformation of the momentum operator generates a local deformation of all one dimensional quantum mechanical systems. We analyse the low energy effects of this deformation on a harmonic oscillator, Landau levels, Lamb shift, and potential barrier. We also demonstrate that this deformation leads to a discretization of space.
1 Introduction

A universal prediction of almost all approaches to quantum gravity is the existence of a minimum measurable length scale, and it is not possible to make physical measurements below this scale. String theory is one of the most important approaches to quantum gravity. The string length scale acts as a minimum length scale in string theory as the strings are the smallest probes that exist in the perturbative string theory [1]-[6]. The existence of a minimum measurable length in loop quantum gravity turns the big bang into a big bounce [7]. It can be argued from black hole physics that any theory of quantum gravity should have a minimum measurable length scale of the order of the Planck scale [8]-[9]. This is because the energy needed to probe any region of space below Planck scale is larger than the energy required to form a mini black hole in that region of space. Even though the existence of a minimum measurable length scale is predicted from various different theories, the existence of a minimum measurable length scale is not consistent with the usual Heisenberg uncertainty principle. This is because according to the usual Heisenberg uncertainty principle, length can be measured with arbitrary precision, as long as the momentum is not measured. To incorporate the existence of a minimum measurable length scale in the uncertainty principle, the usual Heisenberg uncertainty principle has to be generalized to a generalized uncertainty principle (GUP) [10]-[15]. The uncertainty principle is related to the Heisenberg algebra, and so any modification of the uncertainty principle will deform the Heisenberg algebra [16]-[20]. The deformation of the Heisenberg algebra will in turn modify the coordinate representation of the momentum operator [21]-[23]. As the coordinate representation of the momentum operator is used to derive the quantum mechanical behavior of a system, the modification of the coordinate representation of the momentum operator will produce correction terms for all quantum mechanical systems. It may be noted that even though the minimum measurable length scale has to exist at least at the Planck scale, it is possible for the minimum measurable length scale to exist at a much lower length scale. In fact, it has been demonstrated that if the minimum measurable length scale exists at a scale much lower than the Planck scale, then the deformation of the Heisenberg algebra produced by it can have interesting low energy consequences [24].

Even though the generalized uncertainty principle is motivated by the existence of a minimum measurable length scale, there can be other motivations for studying the theories based on the generalized uncertainty principle. It has been demonstrated that the generalized uncertainty principle can be motivated from the breaking of supersymmetry in supersymmetric field theories. It is important to break supersymmetry at sufficient large energy scale because the low energy supersymmetry has not been observed. Even though there are various different mechanisms for breaking supersymmetry, it has been demonstrated that the breaking of supersymmetry due to non-anticommutativity deforms the Heisenberg algebra, and this deformed Heisenberg algebra is consistent with the existence of the generalized uncertainty principle [25]. The coordinate representation of the momentum operator produced from this deformation of the Heisenberg algebra, and the coordinate representation of the momentum operator produced from minimum measurable length scale contains a quadratic power of momentum (at the leading order). However, it is also possible to motivate a different deformation of the Heisenberg algebra, and this deformation
of the Heisenberg algebra occurs is due to the doubly special relativity [26]-[28]. The doubly special relativity is a theory in which the Planck energy and the velocity of light are universal constants, and as the theory contains more than one universal constant, is called the doubly special relativity. The doubly special relativity is motivated from the deformed energy-momentum dispersion relation which occurs due to the existence of a maximum energy scale. Such a deformation of the energy-momentum dispersion relation occurs in various different approaches to quantum gravity, such as the discrete spacetime [29], the spontaneous symmetry breaking of Lorentz invariance in string field theory [30], spacetime foam models [31], spin-network in loop quantum gravity [32], non-commutative geometry [33], and Horava-Lifshitz gravity [34]. It is possible to combine the quadratic deformation of the Heisenberg algebra (motivated by the existence of a minimum measurable length and breaking of supersymmetry), with the deformation of the Heisenberg algebra produced by the doubly special relativity [35]-[37]. The coordinate representation of the momentum operator for such a deformed Heisenberg algebra which is produced by the combination of both these deformations contains linear powers of the momentum operator in the coordinate representation of the momentum operator. This produces fractional derivative contributions in any dimension beyond the simple one dimensional case. However, it is possible to study these fractional derivative terms using the harmonic extension of functions [38]-[39].

One of the most interesting consequences of the deformed Heisenberg algebra (containing linear powers of momentum in the coordinate representation of the momentum operator) is that it leads to a discretization of space [35]. It may be noted that it is possible to have low energy consequences of this deformation of the Heisenberg algebra, if the deformation scale is assumed to be sufficient large [24]. In fact, it has been demonstrated that for simple quantum mechanical systems like the harmonic oscillator, the Lamb shift and the Landau levels get corrected by this deformed Heisenberg algebra, and these corrections can be experimentally measured [40]. It may be noted that second quantization of deformed fields theory has been studied, and the deformed field theories have been motivated by the generalized uncertainty principle [41]-[45]. As interesting physical consequences have been obtained using the deformation of the momentum operator by both the linear and quadratic form of the generalized uncertainty principle, we will propose the most general form of such a deformation, and we will analyse an interesting limit of this most generalized uncertainty principle.

2 Generalized Uncertainty Principle

In this section, we will propose the most general form of the deformation of the momentum operator, and the effect it can have on different quantum mechanical systems. The modification of the usual uncertainty principle to a generalized uncertainty principle is motivated from the existence of minimum measurable length scale [10]-[15], double special relativity [26]-[28], spontaneous symmetry breaking [29], string theory [11]-[13], loop quantum gravity [7], black hole physics [8]-[9], and modified dispersion relation which occurs in discrete spacetime [29], the spontaneous symmetry breaking of Lorentz invariance in string field theory [30], spacetime foam models [31], spin-network in loop quan-
tum gravity [32], non-commutative geometry [33], Horava-Lifshitz gravity [34].

In the simple case of a one dimensional generalized uncertainty principle, the usual uncertainty between momentum $\Delta p$ and position $\Delta x$ is modified from its usual form $\Delta p \Delta x \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$ to a deformation by some function of $p$, for example, $\Delta p \Delta x \geq \frac{\hbar}{2} + \hbar \lambda (\Delta p)^2$, where $\lambda$ is the deformation parameter. Such a deformation has been considered for higher dimensions [35]. However, uncertainty principle is closely related to the Heisenberg algebra, so a deformation of the uncertainty principle will deform the Heisenberg algebra. However, almost all the work done on the deformed Heisenberg algebra has been done on the deformation motivated from generalized uncertainty principle containing a quadratic momentum term [10]-[15] and a linear momentum term [35]-[37]. In this paper, we will first construct the most general deformation of the Heisenberg algebra, and then analyse a specific limit of this algebra. Even though a lot of work has been done on both linear and quadratic deformation of the Heisenberg algebra, such a limit of this deformation has not been analysed. Now we can also write the most general deformation of the Heisenberg algebra as

$$[x^i, p_j] = i\hbar \left[ \delta^i_j + f[p^i_j] \right],$$  \hspace{1cm} (1)

where $f[p^i_j]$ is a suitable tensorial function that is fixed by the form of the generalized uncertainty principle, and which in turn fixes the form of coordinate representation of the momentum operator. The deformation of the Heisenberg algebra in turn deforms the coordinate representation of the momentum operator. It may be noted that for a quadratic generalized uncertainty principle, the coordinate representation of the momentum operator gets deformed from $p_i = -i\hbar \partial_i$ to $\tilde{p}_i = -i\hbar \partial_i (1 - \lambda \hbar^2 \partial^i \partial^j)$, where $\lambda$ is the deformation parameter [21]-[23]. Thus, as the original momentum is $p_i = -i\hbar \partial_i$, the quadratic generalized uncertainty principle deforms the momentum to

$$p_i \rightarrow \tilde{p}_i = p_i (1 + \lambda p^2).$$  \hspace{1cm} (2)

We can define this deformation for a one dimensional case as follows, $p \rightarrow \tilde{p} = p(1 + \lambda p^2)$. Now we can write the deformation of a one dimensional quantum mechanical Hamiltonian for a particle as

$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + V(x) \rightarrow H + \lambda H_h,$$  \hspace{1cm} (3)

where the correction term scales as $H_h \sim p^4$.

The deformation produced by combining this quadratic deformation with doubly special relativity deforms the coordinate representation of the momentum operator from $p_i = -i\hbar \partial_i$ to $\tilde{p}_i = -i(1 - \lambda_1 \hbar \sqrt{-\partial^i \partial_j} - 2\lambda_2 \hbar^2 \partial^i \partial^j)\hbar \partial_i$, [35]-[38]. Thus, the effect of this deformation is that the original momentum $p_i = -i\hbar \partial_i$, gets deformed to

$$p_i \rightarrow \tilde{p}_i = p_i \left( 1 + \lambda_1 \sqrt{p^i p_j} + 2\lambda_2 p^i p_j \right).$$  \hspace{1cm} (4)

It may be noted that in the deformation produced by the combination of the quadratic deformation with doubly special relativity $\lambda_1 = 2\lambda_2^2$ [35]-[38]. Now we can write this deformation for a one dimensional system

$$p \rightarrow \tilde{p} = p(1 + \lambda_1 p^2).$$  \hspace{1cm} (5)
The deformation of a quantum mechanical Hamiltonian for a particle in one dimension by this form of generalized uncertainty can now be written as

\[ H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + V(x) \rightarrow H + \lambda_1 H_{h1} + \lambda H_{h2} \]  

(6)

where the correction terms scale as \( H_{h1} \sim p^3 \) and \( H_{h2} \sim p^4 \).

It may be noted that in higher dimensions linear contributions from momentum operator introduce fractional derivative terms. It may be noted that in any dimension greater than the simple one dimensional case, such fractional derivative terms will occur for any power of momentum in the deformation of the momentum operator. This is because for any power of the momentum operator \( p_i \rightarrow \tilde{p}_i = p_i(1 + \lambda_r (p^j p_j)^{\tau/2}) \), we can write the coordinate representation as \( \tilde{p}_i = -i\hbar \partial_i (1 + \lambda_r (-\hbar^2 \partial^2_i)^{\tau/2}) \). Now when \( r = 2n \), then this term does not contain fractional derivative terms \( (\hbar^2 \partial^2_i)^{\tau/2} = (\hbar^2 \partial^2_i)^n \). However, when \( r = 2n + 1 \), then this term contains fractional derivative terms \( (\hbar^2 \partial^2_i)^{\tau/2} = (\hbar^2 \partial^2_i)^n (\hbar^2 \partial^2_i)^{1/2} \). Such fractional derivative terms can be effectively analysed using harmonic extension of functions [38]. However, it is also possible to analyse any fractional derivative term using the theory of harmonic functions of functions, and so we can also propose that this deformation contains arbitrary fractional powers of the momentum and write

\[ p_i \rightarrow \tilde{p}_i = p_i \left( 1 + \sum \lambda_{1r} (p^j p_j)^{\tau/2} \right) \]  

(7)

It may be noted that such fractional derivative terms occur in space fractional quantum mechanics [40]-[47]. In this equation the Brownian trajectories in Feynman path integrals are replaced by Levy flights. It is possible to study Levy crystals in condensed matter physics using such a fractional quantum mechanics [48]. Fractional quantum mechanics has also been applied in optics, and this is because fractional quantum harmonic oscillator have been used to analyse dual Airy beams which can be selectively generated under off-axis longitudinal pumping [49]. Thus, there is a good motivation to incorporate such terms in the generalized uncertainty principle. So, we can also include \( (p^r p_i)^{\tau} \) terms in the generalized uncertainty principle.

It may be noted that this deformation of the momentum operator can produce fractional derivative terms. Let us consider a simple deformation of the momentum operator involving fractional derivative terms, \( p_i \rightarrow \tilde{p}_i = p_i(1 + \lambda(p^j p_j)^{1/2}) \), and in this deformation the Schroedinger’s equation will contain a fractional derivative term of the form \( i(\partial_r \partial_j) \). Even though such fractional derivative terms exist in the Schroedinger’s equation, it is possible to deal with them using harmonic extension of function. Thus, we will formally analyze \( i(\partial_r \partial_j) \) using the harmonic extension of wave function from \( \mathbb{R}^3 \) to \( \mathbb{R}^3 \times (0, \infty) \) [70]-[74]. So, let \( u : \mathbb{R}^3 \times (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \) be a harmonic function which is the harmonic extension of a wave function \( \psi : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \), such that the restriction of \( u \) to \( \mathbb{R}^3 \) coincides with \( \psi \). Now this can be analyzed as a Dirichlet problem, which is given by

\[ u(x, 0) = \psi(x), \quad \nabla_4^2 u(x, y) = 0. \]  

(8)

Here \( \nabla_4^2 \) is the Laplacian operator in \( \mathbb{R}^4 \), such that \( x \in \mathbb{R}^3 \) and \( y \in \mathbb{R} \). It may be noted that there is a unique harmonic extension \( u \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^3 \times (0, \infty)) \),
for any smooth function on $C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^3)$. So, we can analyze the action of the differential operator $i(\partial^i \partial_j)^{1/2}$ on the wave functions $\psi : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ using the harmonic extension of functions. Now as $u : \mathbb{R}^3 \times (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, is the harmonic extension of the wave function, we can write

$$\left( i(\partial^i \partial_j)^{1/2} \psi \right) (x) = - \frac{\partial u (x, y)}{\partial y} \bigg|_{y=0}. \quad (9)$$

The function $\left( i(\partial^i \partial_j)^{1/2} \psi \right) (x)$ also has harmonic extension to $\mathbb{R}^3 \times (0, \infty)$. This harmonic extension can be written as $u_y (x, y)$, when $u (x, y)$ is the harmonic extension of $\psi(x)$. So, from the successive applications of $i(\partial^i \partial_j)^{1/2}$, we obtain

$$\left( i(\partial^i \partial_j)^{1/2} \left( i(\partial^i \partial_j)^{1/2} \psi \right) \right) (x) = \frac{\partial^2 u (x, y)}{\partial y^2} \bigg|_{y=0}$$

$$= - \nabla_2^2 u (x, y) \bigg|_{y=0}$$

$$= - \nabla_2^2 \psi (x).$$

Thus, we can write $i(\partial^i \partial_j)^{1/2} \psi(x) = (-\nabla_2^2) \psi(x)$, and give a formal meaning to the fractional differential operator as $i(\partial^i \partial_j)^{1/2} = (-\nabla_2^2)^{1/2}$. It may be noted that for $u \in C^2(\mathbb{R} \times (0, \infty))$, we can write

$$\left( i(\partial^i \partial_j)^{1/2} (\partial_i \psi) \right) (x) = - \partial_y (\partial_i u (x, y)) \bigg|_{y=0}$$

$$= - \partial_i u_y (x, y) \bigg|_{y=0}$$

$$= \partial_i \left( i(\partial^i \partial_j)^{1/2} \psi \right) (x).$$

So, we obtain

$$(-\nabla_2^2)^{1/2} \partial_i = \partial_i (-\nabla_2^2)^{1/2}. \quad (10)$$

Thus, this fractional derivative commutes with the usual derivatives.

It is possible to demonstrate the this fractional derivative operator, $i(\partial^i \partial_j)^{1/2}$, is an self-adjointness operator [72]-[75]. Now let $u_1 (x, y)$ and $u_2 (x, y)$ be the harmonic extensions of $\psi_1 (x)$ and $\psi_2 (x)$, respectively. Furthermore, let both of these harmonic extensions vanish for $|x|, |y| \rightarrow \infty$. Now we can write [75]

$$\int_{C} \nabla_4 u_1 (x, y) \cdot \partial^i \partial_i u_2 (x, y) \ dy \ dx$$

$$= \int_{C} \nabla_4 \cdot (u_1 (x, y) \partial^i \partial_i u_2 (x, y)) \ dy \ dx$$

$$= \int_{\partial C} u_1 (x, y) \nabla_4 u_2 (x, y) \ dy \ dx$$

$$= - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} u_1 (x, y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y} u_2 (x, y) \bigg|_{y=0} \ dy, \quad (11)$$

where $\partial C$ is the border of $C$. So, for harmonic extensions $u_1$ and $u_2$, we can write [75]

$$\int_{C} u_1 (x, y) \nabla_4^2 u_2 (x, y) \ dy \ dx - \int_{C} u_2 (x, y) \nabla_4^2 u_1 (x, y) \ dy \ dx = 0.$$
Now this can be written as

\[ \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \left( u_1(x, y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y} u_2(x, y) - u_2(x, y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y} u_1(x, y) \right) \bigg|_{y=0} \, dx = 0. \]

We can write this in terms of \( \overline{\psi}_1(x) \) and \( \psi_2(x) \) as

\[ \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \left( \overline{\psi}_1(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \psi_2(x) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \overline{\psi}_1(x) \psi_2(x) \right) \, dx = 0. \]

So, we obtain

\[ \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \overline{\psi}_1(x) i(\partial^\mu \partial_\mu)^{1/2} \psi_2(x) \, dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \psi_2(x) i(\partial^\mu \partial_\mu)^{1/2} \overline{\psi}_1(x) \, dx. \quad (12) \]

Thus, we can deal with the fractional derivative terms produced by the deformation of the momentum operator by the generalized uncertainty principle using harmonic extension of wave function. It may be noted that it is known that such fractional derivative terms are self-adjointness operator \[70\]-\[75\]. However, in this paper, we have proposed them to be produced by a deformation of the generalized uncertainty principle. It may be noted that the self-adjointness of the momentum operator deformed by generalized uncertainty principle has been analysed over different different domains \[76\]. In this paper, we will first propose the most general form of such a deformation, and then analyze a specific interesting deformation produced by the generalized uncertainty principle.

3 Non-Locality

It is also possible to analyse a more general deformation of the momentum operator, which would contain inverse powers of the momentum operator. Such a deformation can be motivated from non-local quantum mechanics. Now for example the Schroedinger equation with a non-local term can be written as \[50\]-\[55\]

\[ i\hbar \partial_t \psi(x) + \frac{1}{2m} \hbar^2 \partial^\mu \partial_\mu \psi(x) - V(x) \psi(x) = \int d^3x' K(x,x') \psi(x'). \quad (13) \]

where \( K(x,x') \) is a non-local operator, and such nonlocal terms are written as functions of \( (p_1 p_2)^{-1} \). In fact, this can be easily seen for a very simple non-local deformation of a scalar field theory. Nonlocal deformation of field theory has been studied using axiomatic field theory \[56\]-\[60\]. Non-local deformation of gravity has also been studied, and such models of non-local gravity have been used to produce interesting physical results \[61\]-\[64\]. Nonlocal deformation of scalar field theory has also been studied \[65\]-\[66\]. However, we will only consider a very simple nonlocal deformation of a simple massless scalar field theory, whose equation of motion

\[ \hbar^2 \partial^\mu \partial_\mu \psi(x) = 0, \quad (14) \]

will be deformed by a non-local source term,

\[ \hbar^2 \partial^\mu \partial_\mu \psi(x) = \lambda \int d^3y G(x-y) \psi(y), \quad (15) \]

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where $\lambda$ is the coupling parameter which measures the coupling of the nonlocal part of this theory, and

$$G(x-y) = \int \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{1}{p^2} \exp ip.(x-y).$$

where $p^2 = p^\mu p_\mu$, and its spatial part is $p^i p_i$. Now this can be written as

$$-\int d^4y [\delta(x-y)\hbar^2 \partial^\mu \partial_\mu \psi(y) - \lambda G(x-y)\psi(y)]$$

$$= \int d^4p d^4y \left[(p^2 + \frac{\lambda}{p^2}) \exp ip.(x-y)\right] \psi(y)$$

$$= 0.$$  \hspace{1cm} (17)

Hence, this non-local deformation of scalar field theory will be produced by the following deformation of the four momentum

$$p^2 \to \tilde{p}^2 = p^2 + \frac{\lambda}{p^2}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (18)

If we consider the temporal deformation, we get an extra term of the form $p^{-2} = (p^\mu p_\mu)^{-1}$. However, by neglecting the temporal deformation, we are only left with spatial deformation of the form, $(p^i p_i)^{-1}$. Thus, we can write the most general form of generalized uncertainty principle by taking such inverse powers into account,

$$p_i \to \tilde{p}_i = p_i \left[1 + \sum \lambda_{1r} (p^j p_j)^{r/2} + \sum \lambda_{2r} (p^j p_j)^{-r/2}\right]$$

\hspace{1cm} (19)

here $\lambda_{1i}$ and $\lambda_{2i}$ are suitable coefficients. It may be noted that it is possible to consider both positive and negative values of $\lambda_{1i}$ and $\lambda_{2i}$. In fact, both positive and negative values of such coefficients for generalized uncertainty principle have been considered in analyzing the effects of generalized uncertainty principle on the thermodynamics of black holes [67]-[69]. However, if we want to impose the condition that $\lambda_{1i} > 0$ and $\lambda_{2i} > 0$, then we can write the most general form of deformation of the momentum operator as

$$p_i \to \tilde{p}_i = p_i \left[1 \pm \sum \lambda_{1r} (p^j p_j)^{r/2} \pm \sum \lambda_{2r} (p^j p_j)^{-r/2}\right].$$

\hspace{1cm} (20)

This is the most general form of deformation of the momentum operator that can be constructed, and it would be interesting to analyze specific limits of this deformation. Here we have included both even and odd powers of momentum in this deformation. However, the Hamiltonians with odd powers of momentum will violate parity, and this can also have interesting physical consequences.

It may be noted that there is a interesting non-local deformation of the momentum operator, such that the one-dimensional Hamiltonian remains local. Now let us consider this simple limit of this general deformation of the momentum operator. So, this limit will contain a non-local term in the deformed momentum operator, but the Hamiltonian for a one dimensional particle constructed from such a deformed momentum operator will not contain any such non-local term. This can be achieved if we consider the following deformation of the momentum operator for a one dimensional system,

$$p \to \tilde{p} = p \left(1 + \frac{\lambda}{p}\right).$$  \hspace{1cm} (21)
This will deform the usual Hamiltonian as

\[ H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + V(x) \rightarrow H + \lambda H_h, \]  

(22)

where

\[ \lambda H_h = \frac{\lambda p}{m}. \]  

(23)

So, the new deformation scales as \( H_h \sim p \), and such a linear term in Hamiltonian is a totally new deformation. We will now analyse its effect on simple quantum mechanical system. Now for this deformation by a \( p^{-1} \) term, the Hamiltonian is given by a sum of self-adjoint operators, and so this deformation is well-defined. Furthermore, this deformation produces a odd power of momentum in the Hamiltonian, and so this Hamiltonian violates parity. It may be noted that even though the quadratic and linear generalized uncertainty principle has been motivated from minimum measurable length, and this length exists at Planck scale due to quantum gravitational effects, it is possible to take the minimum measurable length scale at an intermediate length scale between Planck scale and electroweak scale, and such a consideration can have low energy consequences \[24\]. In this paper, we will analyse the generalized uncertainty principle using non-local deformation of the momentum operator, and so we cannot directly relate this form of generalized uncertainty principle to the scale at which minimum length exists. However, we can still use the available experimental data to fix a bound on \( \lambda \). Thus, if such a nonlocal deformation of the coordinate representation of the momentum operator exists at a scale beyond the available experimental data, then such an effect can be used to detect using the results obtained in this paper.

4 Length Quantization

One of the most interesting results of the deformation of momentum operator by a linear term is that it predicts the discretization of space. It may be noted that it has been demonstrated that such a result occur for a deformation of the Heisenberg algebra motivated by the generalized uncertainty principle containing a linear term in momentum \[35\]. This is because the box can only contain a particle, if the box is a multiple of some fundamental length scale. This fundamental length scale does not depend on the length of a box, and as this holds for a box of an arbitrary length, it was proposed that all length in nature will be a multiple of this fundamental length scale. Thus, this deformation produced a discrete structure for space. In fact, the generalization of such a result to a relativistic Dirac equation has also been done, and it was observed that even in this case the space gets a discrete structure \[36\]. However, such an effect does not occur for the deformation motivated by the the generalized uncertainty principle containing a quadratic term in momentum. We will demonstrate that such an effect also occur due to the deformation of the momentum operator by \( p \rightarrow p(1 + \lambda p^{-1}) \). The deformation of a Schroedinger equation for a free particle, can be written as

\[ \frac{d^2 \psi}{dx^2} + \left(\frac{2\lambda}{\hbar}\right) \frac{d\psi}{dx} + \frac{2mE}{\hbar^2} = 0 \]  

(24)
The solution to this deformed Schroedinger equation is given by

$$\psi = Ae^{\frac{i\sqrt{\lambda^2 + 2mE} - \lambda}x} + Be^{\frac{-i\sqrt{\lambda^2 + 2mE} + \lambda}x}$$

$$= Ae^{\frac{i\sqrt{\lambda^2 + 2mE} - \lambda}x} + Be^{\frac{-i\sqrt{\lambda^2 + 2mE} + \lambda}x}$$

(25)

where \(k_1 = \sqrt{\lambda^2 + 2mE} - \lambda\) and \(k_2 = \sqrt{\lambda^2 + 2mE} + \lambda\). Now the following boundary conditions hold for a particle in a box, \(x = 0, \psi = 0\) and at \(x = L, \psi = 0\). Thus, applying the first boundary condition, \(x = 0, \psi = 0\) we get \(A = -B\), so we can write

$$\psi = A(e^{\frac{i\lambda}{\hbar}x} - e^{-\frac{i\lambda}{\hbar}x}).$$

(26)

Applying the second boundary condition \(x = L, \psi = 0\), we obtain

$$A(e^{\frac{i\lambda L}{\hbar}} - e^{-\frac{i\lambda L}{\hbar}}) = 0.$$  

(27)

Now as \(A \neq 0\), we can write

$$e^{\frac{i(k_1 + k_2)L}{\hbar}} = 1.$$  

(28)

Thus, we obtain

$$\frac{(k_1 + k_2)L}{\hbar} = 2n\pi.$$  

(29)

So, the length of the box can be expressed as

$$L = \frac{n2\pi\hbar}{k_1 + k_2}.$$  

(30)

Now using the values of \(k_1\) and \(k_2\), we obtain

$$L = \frac{n\pi\hbar}{\sqrt{\lambda^2 + 2mE}}.$$  

(31)

Thus, no particle can exist in the box, if the length of the box is not quantized in terms of this discrete unit. However, as the box is of arbitrary length, this suggests that all lengths in space are quantized in terms of this discrete unit. Thus, this deformation of the momentum operator predicts the discretization of space. It may be noted that a similar result about length quantization was obtained using the generalized uncertainty principle with a linear momentum term \[35\]-\[36\]. So, what we have demonstrated is that the effect of the \(p^{-1}\) deformation is the quantization of length, and a similar effect can also be generated from the generalized uncertainty principle with a linear momentum term \[35\]-\[36\]. It may also be noted that for the deformation by a linear term, the unite of this discretization did not depend on the energy of the probe. However, for the deformation produced by \(p^{-1}\) term, the unite of discretization depends on the energy of the particle used to probe it. Thus, we obtain a geometry, where the structure of space depends on the energy of the probe. It may be noted that the gravity’s rainbow has been constructed by assuming that the geometry of spacetime depends on the energy of the probe \[79\]-\[83\]. The gravity’s rainbow can be motivated from the string theory \[84\]. This is because the
constants in a field theory flow due to the renormalization group flow, and so they depend on the scale at which a field theory would be probed. However, the scale at which a theory will be probed would depend on the energy of the probe. Thus, as the constants in a field theory depend explicitly on the scale at which such a theory is probed, they also depend implicitly on the energy of the probe. Now it is also known that the string theory can be regarded as a two dimensional conformal field theory, and the target space metric can be regarded as a matrix of coupling constants of this two dimensional conformal field theory. Thus, the target space metric will also flow due to the renormalization group flow. This would make the metric of the spacetime depend on the energy of the probe producing gravity's rainbow. Now as the string theory has also been used as a motivation for the generalized uncertainty principle [1]-[6], it was expected that a certain forms of generalized uncertainty principle could produce similar results.

Here we have been able to demonstrate that this particular form of generalized uncertainty principle makes the microscopic structure of space depend on the energy of the probe. So, it is possible that such a deformation can change the macroscopic structure of spacetime, and make it energy dependent. However, to construct such a theory, we would first have to analyse such an effect on curved spacetime. It has been demonstrated that the deformation by a linear momentum term also leads to a discreteness of space, even when a weak gravitational field is present [5]. It would be interesting to carry out such calculations for the deformation by a $p^{-1}$ term. It is expected that again the unit of discretization will depend on the energy of the probe. Then it might be possible to analyse the first order corrections to the macroscopic geometry, due to this energy dependent discreteness. It would then be possible to absorb such energy dependence in the metric, and this would make the metric energy dependent, and we will be able to obtain results similar to gravity’s rainbow. It may also be noted that it has been demonstrated the generalized uncertainty principle in curved spacetime lead to a deformation of the equivalence principle [85]-[86], and doubly special relativity (which is the main motivation for gravity’s rainbow) is also based on the modification of the equivalence principle [26]-[28]. This is another reason to expect that a certain form of generalized uncertainty principle could produce results similar to the gravity’s rainbow.

5 Harmonic Oscillator

In this section, we will analyse the effect of this deformation on a harmonic oscillator. The harmonic oscillator is important as it forms a toy model for various different physical systems. The Hamiltonian for the harmonic oscillator gets deformed by this generalized uncertainty principle as The deformed Hamiltonian for harmonic oscillator is

$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{kx^2}{2} \rightarrow \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{kx^2}{2} + \frac{\lambda p}{m}.$$
The first order correction to the ground state of this harmonic oscillator is given by

\[ \Delta E_0 = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \psi_0^* \left( \frac{\lambda p}{m} \right) \psi_0 \, dx \]

\[ = -\frac{i\hbar\lambda}{m} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \psi_0 \frac{d}{dx} (\psi_0) \, dx, \tag{32} \]

where \( \psi_0 \) is the ground state wave function of the original harmonic oscillator (without any contribution from \( \lambda P/m \)), and it is given by (with \( \alpha = m\omega/2\hbar \)),

\[ \psi_0 = \left( \frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} e^{-\alpha x^2}. \tag{33} \]

Now using \( d\psi_0/dx = -2\alpha x\psi_0 \), we obtain

\[ \Delta E_0 = \left( \frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{\lambda(-i\hbar)}{m} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-2\alpha x^2} (-2\alpha x) \, dx \]

\[ = 0. \tag{34} \]

Thus, there is no effect of this deformation on the ground state energy of a harmonic oscillator at first order of the perturbative expansion.

Even though the ground state energy of the harmonic oscillator does not get affected by this deformation at the first order, we will now demonstrate that there is a contribution to the energy of the harmonic oscillator from the deformation at second order. The second order correction to a general energy eigen state, from this deformation, is given by

\[ \Delta E_n^{(2)} = \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{|\langle \psi_m | \lambda p | \psi_n \rangle|^2}{E_n^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)}}. \tag{35} \]

Now for the ground state \(|\psi_n = 0\), and so we can write the second order correction to the energy of the ground state of the harmonic oscillator as

\[ \Delta E_0^{(2)} = \sum_{m \neq 0} \frac{|\langle \psi_m | \lambda p | \psi_0 \rangle|^2}{E_0^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)}} \]

\[ = \sum_{m \neq 0} \frac{-\lambda m}{m} \frac{|\langle \psi_m | x | \psi_0 \rangle|^2}{E_0^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)}} \]

\[ = \sum_{m \neq 0} \frac{-2\lambda m^2}{m} \frac{|\langle \psi_m | x | \psi_0 \rangle|^2}{E_0^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)}}. \tag{36} \]

Now we can write

\[ \langle \psi_m | x | \psi_n \rangle = 0, \quad m \neq n \pm 1, \]

\[ \langle \psi_m | x | \psi_n \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{n+1}{2\gamma}}, \quad m = n + 1, \]

\[ \langle \psi_n | x | \psi_n \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{n}{2\gamma}}, \quad m = n - 1. \tag{37} \]
where $\gamma = m\omega/\hbar$. Now the third condition gives an unphysical result, and so we only consider $|\psi_{m=1}\rangle$ and $|\psi_{m \neq 1}\rangle$. Now for $|\psi_{m=1}\rangle$, if $E_0$ and $E_1$ are unperturbed original ground state and first excited state energies of the harmonic oscillator given, then we can write $E_0 = \hbar\omega/2$, and $E_1 = 3\hbar\omega/2$, so we obtain

$$\Delta E_0^{(2)} = -\frac{\lambda^2}{2m}. \hspace{1cm} (38)$$

However, for $m \neq 1$, we obtain

$$\Delta E_0^{(2)} = 0. \hspace{1cm} (39)$$

Thus, there is no second order correction for $|\psi_{m \neq 1}\rangle$, however, the energy of the harmonic oscillator receives a second order correction for $|\psi_{m=1}\rangle$. It is interesting to note that various physical systems can be represented by a harmonic oscillator, and this includes heavy meson systems like charmonium [77]. The charm mass of this system is $m_c = 1.3 GeV/c^2$. The binding energy of this system is approximately equal to the energy gap separating the adjacent levels, which is given by $\hbar\omega \sim 0.3 GeV$. The current level of precision measurement is of the order $10^{-5}$ [78]. Thus, we can use this to set a bound on $\lambda$ as $\lambda \leq 10^{-21}$. So, the value of $\lambda$ parameterizing this deformation cannot exceed this value, as this bound would violate experimentally known results.

6 Landau Level

In this section, we will analyse the effect of such a deformation on Landau levels. A charged particles in a magnetic field can only occupy orbits with discrete energy values due to quantum mechanical effects. These discrete energy values are called Landau levels. These Landau levels are degenerate, and the number of electrons in a given level is directly proportional to the strength of the applied magnetic field. Now we will analyse the effect of deforming the momentum operator by $p \rightarrow p(1 + \lambda p^{-1})$ on Landau levels of a system. The Hamiltonian for this system will get corrected by this deformation as

$$H = \frac{(p - eA)^2}{2m} \rightarrow \frac{(p - eA)^2}{2m} + \frac{\lambda(p - eA)}{m} \hspace{1cm} (40)$$

where $A$ is the vector potential applied to this system. We can express the correction term generated from the deformation of this system $H_h$, in terms of the original Hamiltonian $H$ as

$$H_h = \frac{\sqrt{2}\lambda H}{(m)^{\frac{1}{2}}}. \hspace{1cm} (41)$$

So, the first order correction to the energy of the $n$ state can be written as

$$\Delta E_n = \langle \psi_n | \frac{\sqrt{2}\lambda H}{(m)^{\frac{1}{2}}} | \psi_n \rangle \hspace{1cm} (42)$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{2}\lambda (\hbar\omega)^{\frac{1}{2}}(n + \frac{1}{2})^{\frac{1}{2}}}{(m)^{\frac{1}{2}}}.$$
Now the corrections to energy of this system is given by

$$\frac{\Delta E_n}{E_n^{(0)}} = \sqrt{2} \lambda (\hbar \omega)^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{(n + \frac{1}{2})^{\frac{3}{2}}}{m^{\frac{3}{2}}(n + \frac{1}{2}) \hbar \omega} \quad (43)$$

We can write the corrections to the energy for $n = 1$ as

$$\frac{\Delta E_1}{E_1^{(0)}} = \frac{\sqrt{2} \lambda}{\sqrt{\hbar \omega \sqrt{m}}} \frac{3}{2} = \frac{2 \lambda}{\sqrt{3 \hbar m \omega}} \quad (44)$$

Thus, the energy of the Landau levels gets corrected at first order due to the deformation of the momentum operator. It may be noted that Landau levels have been determined using the scanning tunneling microscope, and for an electron in a magnetic field of 10$^7$ T, we obtain $\omega = 10^3$ GHz, and so the bound on $\lambda$ from the Landau levels is also of the order $\lambda \leq 10^{-22}$. This bound on the value of $\lambda$ is again obtained using experimental data, and so $\lambda$ greater than this value would violate known experimental results for Landau levels.

7 Lamb Shift

In this section, we will analyse the effect of this deformation on the Lamb shift. The Lamb shift occurs due to the interaction between vacuum energy fluctuations and the hydrogen electron in different orbitals. This shift can be calculated using quantum theory of the hydrogen atom, and so we expect that the wave function describing this system will get corrected due to the deformation of the momentum operator. Thus, we will analyse the effect of this deformation on the wave function of such a system. The potential energy of this system can be expressed as

$$V(r) = \frac{-k}{r}$$

and so we can write the deformation of the Hamiltonian for this system as

$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m} - \frac{k}{r} \to \frac{p^2}{2m} - \frac{k}{r} + \frac{\lambda p}{m} \quad (45)$$

To first order, the wave function of this system can be expressed as

$$|\psi_{n' l' m'}\rangle_1 = |\psi_{n l m}\rangle + \sum_{n' l' m' \neq n l m} \epsilon_{n' l' m'} \frac{E_{n' l' m'}^{(0)} - E_{n l m}^{(0)}}{E_{n' l' m'}^{(0)}} |\psi_{n' l' m'}\rangle, \quad (46)$$

where

$$\epsilon_{n' l' m'} = \langle \psi_{n' l' m'} | \frac{\lambda p}{m} | \psi_{n l m}\rangle. \quad (47)$$

Now for the ground state, $n = 1, l = 0, m = 0$, and the wave function is given by

$$\psi_{100} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi a_0}} e^{-\frac{r}{a_0}}. \quad (48)$$

So, for the first excited state with $l = 0$, we have $m = 0$ and $n = 2$, and the wave function can be written as

$$\psi_{200} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8\pi a_0}} \left(1 - \frac{r}{2a_0}\right) e^{-\frac{r}{a_0}} \quad (49)$$
The radial momentum operator can also be expressed as

$$p = -\frac{i\hbar}{r} \frac{d}{dr}(r) = -\frac{i\hbar}{r}$$

(50)

Thus, we obtain

$$e_{200|100} = \frac{-i\hbar\lambda}{m \sqrt{8\pi a_0^3}} \int_0^\infty \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{r} e^{-r/2a_0} \sin \theta drd\theta d\phi$$

$$\times e^{-r/2a_0} \frac{1}{r} e^{-r/2a_0} r^2 \sin \theta drd\theta d\phi$$

$$= -\frac{i\hbar\lambda}{m \sqrt{8\pi a_0^3}} \int_0^\infty \frac{r(1 - r/2a_0)}{r} e^{-r/2a_0} dr$$

$$\times m \sqrt{8\pi a_0^3} \int_0^\pi \sin \theta d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi$$

$$= -\frac{i\hbar\lambda 4\pi}{m a_0^3 \sqrt{8}} \left[ \int_0^\infty r e^{-r/2a_0} dr - \frac{1}{2a_0} \int_0^\infty r^2 e^{-r/2a_0} dr \right].$$

(51)

To the first order, the correction to the ground state wave function is given by

$$\Delta \psi_{100}(r) = \psi^{(1)}_{100} - \psi^{(0)}_{100}$$

$$= e_{200|100} \psi_{200}(r),$$

(52)

where $E_n = -E_0/n^2$ and $E_0 = 13.6eV$. Thus, we have $E_1 = -E_0$ and $E_2 = -E_0/4$. Thus, the first order correction to the ground state wave function can be written as

$$\Delta \psi_{100}(r) = -\frac{i\hbar\lambda \sqrt{32}}{m 27 a_0} \frac{1}{(-E_0 + E_0^2/4)} \psi_{200}(r)$$

$$= -\frac{i\hbar\lambda \sqrt{32}}{m 81 a_0 E_0} \psi_{200}(r).$$

(53)

Thus, the wave function for the Lamb shift gets corrected due to the deformation of the momentum operator. As the Lamb shift depends on the wave function, so a deformation of the wave function, will also deform the Lamb shift. Hence, the Lamb shift will get corrected at first order due to this deformation of the momentum operator. The Lamb shift for the $n$th level is given by

$$\Delta E_n^{(1)} = \frac{4\alpha^2}{3m^2} \left( \frac{1}{n^2} \ln \frac{1}{\alpha} \right) |\psi_{nlm}(0)|^2.$$  

(54)

Varying $\psi_{nlm}(0)$, the additional contribution due to deformation in proportion to its original value [40]

$$\frac{\Delta E_{n(l)}^{(1)}}{\Delta E_n^{(1)}} = 2 \frac{\Delta |\psi_{nlm}(0)|}{\psi_{nlm}(0)},$$

(55)
where $\Delta E^{(1)}_{n(c)}$ is the corrected energy due to deformation of the momentum operator. Thus, for the ground state, the effect of this deformation can be written as

$$\frac{\Delta E^{(1)}_{1(c)}}{\Delta E^{(1)}_{1}} = 2.7 \times 10^{23}$$

(56)

As the current accuracy of precision in the measurement of Lamb shift is one part in $10^{12}$, we get the bound on $\lambda \leq 10^{-35}$. Thus, the value of $\lambda$ has to be less than this amount, to be consistent with present accuracy of measurement of the Lamb shift. It may be noted as the Lamb shift is measured with more accuracy than Landau levels, or a system represented by harmonic oscillator, it produces the lowest bound on the value of $\lambda$.

8 Potential Barrier

In this section, we will analyse the effect of this deformation on a potential barrier. The potential barrier is important physically as it can be used to model different physical systems like the scanning tunneling microscope. Thus, we will deform the momentum by $p \rightarrow p(1 + \lambda p)$, and analyse its effects on a potential barrier. The deformed Schroedinger equation for this system can be written as

$$\frac{d^2 \psi}{dx^2} + \left(\frac{2 \lambda}{\hbar}\right) \frac{d \psi}{dx} - \frac{2m(V_0 - E)}{\hbar^2} \psi = 0.$$  

(57)

We will now analyse the solutions to this deformed Schroedinger equation for different regions of this system.

In the first region, we consider $V = 0$, and the deformed Schroedinger equation in this region can be written as

$$\frac{d^2 \psi_1}{dx^2} + \left(\frac{2 \lambda}{\hbar}\right) \frac{d \psi_1}{dx} + \frac{2mE}{\hbar^2} \psi_1 = 0.$$  

(58)

The solutions to this deformed Schroedinger equation in this region can be written as

$$\psi_1 = Ae^{\left[\sqrt{\lambda^2 + 2mE} - \lambda \right] x} + Be^{-\left[\sqrt{\lambda^2 + 2mE} + \lambda \right] x}.$$  

(59)

Here the second part represents a reflected wave from the barrier. The first part can behave like an incident positive wave, if it satisfies the following condition,

$$\left|\sqrt{\lambda^2 + 2mE}\right| > |\lambda|$$

(60)

If this condition is not imposed, we will obtain an unphysical result. Now we can write this solution as

$$\psi_1 = Ae^{ik_1 x} + Be^{-ik_2 x}$$

(61)

where $k_1 = (\sqrt{\lambda^2 + 2mE} - \lambda)/\hbar$ and $k_2 = (\sqrt{\lambda^2 + 2mE} + \lambda)/\hbar$. In the second region, we consider $V = V_0$, and so the deformed Schroedinger equation can be written as

$$\frac{d^2 \psi_2}{dx^2} + \left(\frac{2 \lambda}{\hbar}\right) \frac{d \psi_2}{dx} - \frac{2m(V_0 - E)}{\hbar^2} \psi_2 = 0.$$  

(62)
The solution to this deformed Schrödinger equation can be written as

$$\psi_2 = Ce^{ik_3x} + De^{-ik_4x},$$  \hspace{1cm} (63)

where $$k_3 = (\sqrt{\lambda^2 - 2m(V_0 - E)} - \lambda)/\hbar$$ and $$k_4 = (\sqrt{\lambda^2 - 2m(V_0 - E)} + \lambda)/\hbar$$. The only difference between the solution in the third region and solution in the first region is that there is no reflected wave in the third region. So, the solution to the deformed Schrödinger equation in the third region can be written as

$$\psi_3 = Ee^{ik_1x}$$  \hspace{1cm} (64)

where $$k_1 = (\sqrt{2mE} - \lambda)/\hbar$$.

The most important thing for such systems is the transmission coefficient $$T$$, and we want to analyze the effect of this deformation of the momentum on the transmission coefficient of this system. Thus, we will now analyze the effect of this deformation on the incident current density $$J_I$$ and the transmitted current density $$J_T$$,

$$J_I = \frac{\hbar k_1}{m} |A|^2.$$  \hspace{1cm} (65)

$$J_T = \frac{\hbar k_1}{m} |E|^2.$$

Now to the first order in $$\lambda$$, the value of constants $$k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4$$ can be written as

$$k_1 = \frac{1}{\hbar}\left(\sqrt{2mE} - \lambda\right),$$

$$k_2 = \frac{1}{\hbar}\left(\sqrt{2mE} + \lambda\right),$$

$$k_3 = \frac{1}{\hbar}\left(\sqrt{2m(V_0 - E)} - \lambda\right),$$

$$k_4 = \frac{1}{\hbar}\left(\sqrt{2m(V_0 - E)} + \lambda\right).$$  \hspace{1cm} (66)

Thus, using the standard analysis for the barrier potential, the effect of the deformation on the potential barrier, will be given by

$$\frac{E}{A} = \left[e^{-i(k_3 + k_4)}\left(k_3 k_1 + k_1 k_4\right)\right]$$

$$\times \left[(k_3 - k_1)\left[k_3(k_1 + k_4)\left(1 - e^{-i(k_3 + k_4)}\right)\right] - k_4(k_1 + k_2) + k_3(k_1 + k_4)e^{-i(k_3 + k_4)}\right]^{-1}. $$  \hspace{1cm} (67)

It may be noted that if $$T_0$$ is the original transmission coefficient for the potential barrier, and $$T$$ is the transmission coefficient for the potential barrier obtained by deforming the coordinate representation of the momentum operator, then we can write

$$T = \frac{J_T}{J_I} = \left|\frac{E}{A}\right|^2.$$  \hspace{1cm} (68)
Furthermore, if $I_0$ is the original tunneling current, and $I$ is the tunneling current for the deformed system, then we can write

$$\frac{I}{I_0} = \frac{T}{T_0} = \frac{1}{T_0} \frac{|E|^2}{A}.$$  \hfill (69)

So, we expect an excess tunneling current generated from the deformation of this system,

$$\frac{I - I_0}{I_0} = \left[ \frac{1}{T_0} \frac{|E|^2}{A} - 1 \right].$$  \hfill (70)

This excess tunneling current can be detected experimentally by using precise experiments, if such a deformation of this system exists. Thus, this excess tunneling current can be used to test the effects of this deformation proposed in this paper.

9 Conclusion

In this paper, we proposed the most general form of the generalized uncertainty principle. It is known that the generalized uncertainty principle deforms the coordinate representation of the momentum operator. Thus, we construct the most general form of such a deformation of the momentum operator. Such a general deformation of the momentum operator contains both fractional derivative terms, and nonlocal terms which can be expressed as kernels of some integral operator. We also analyse a specific limit of this most general form of the deformation of the momentum operator, for one dimensional systems. In this limit, the momentum operator contains nonlocal terms, however, the quantum mechanical Hamiltonian for all one dimensional systems is local.

We analyse the effect of the specific deformation on a harmonic oscillator and observe that its there is no correction to the energy of the harmonic oscillator at first order. However, the energy of the harmonic oscillator does get corrected at second order. We analyse the corrections to the energy of Landau levels, and observe that Landau levels gets correct at first order due to this deformation of the momentum operator. The wave function describing the Lamb shift also gets corrected at first order of the perturbation theory. We also observe that the transmission coefficient of a barrier potential gets modified due to this deformation of the momentum operator. Finally, we calculate the effect of this deformation on the particle in a box. We observe that no particle can exist in a box, if the length of the box is not quantized. We used this to argue that the space is quantized in terms of discrete units. It is interesting to note that unlike the previous linear deformation, in this deformation the discretization of length depends on the energy of a system. Such a dependence of the structure of spacetime on the energy used to probe it is the basis of gravity’s rainbow \[79\]-\[83\]. It may be noted that gravity’s rainbow has been motivated from string theory \[84\], and string theory has also been also used as a motivation for generalized uncertainty principle \[1\]-\[6\], so it is expected that some form of generalized uncertainty principle can produce results similar to gravity’s rainbow. Furthermore, gravity’s rainbow has been used to explain the hard spectra from gamma-ray burst’s \[31\]. It would be interesting to investigate the relation between this formalism and gravity’s rainbow further. As the
deformation studied in the paper can produce conclusions similar to gravity’s rainbow, it might be possible that the deformation used in the paper might also help explain the hard spectra from gamma-ray burster’s.

The deformation of the coordinate representation of the momentum operator will deform all quantum mechanical systems, including the first quantized field theories. It may be noted that the field theories motivated by the generalized uncertainty principle have been studied \cite{38}-\cite{45}. It was observed that the first quantized equations of motion for such field theories get deformed due to the deformation of the Heisenberg algebra. It would be interesting to perform a similar analysis for field theories deformed using the deformation proposed in this paper. It is expected that such a deformation will give rise to non-local terms. Furthermore, it would be interesting to analyse the gauge symmetry corresponding to such non-local gauge theories. It is known that the non-local gauge theories are usually invariant under a non-local gauge transformation. Thus, we expect that the gauge theories obtained from such a deformation of field theories would be invariant under non-local gauge transformations. It would be interesting to analyse the effect of non-locality on different processes and amplitudes in these non-local theories. These non-local gauge theories can be used to analyse the effects of non-locality on the one-loop amplitudes and renormalization group flow. Finally, we can also analyse some formal aspects of such theories. So, we can analyse the BRST quantization of these deformed non-local gauge theories. We expect that as these gauge theories would be invariant under a non-local gauge transformation, the BRST symmetry for these gauge theories would also contain non-local terms. It would be interesting to analyse the effect of such non-locality on the BRST symmetry of this theory.

It is also possible to incorporate the generalized uncertainty principle in Lifshitz field theories \cite{45}. As we have proposed a new deformation of the momentum operator, it would be interesting to incorporate such a deformation of the momentum operator in field theories based on Lifshitz scaling. It is expected that the deformation parameter would break the Lifshitz scaling. However, such a parameter can be promoted to a background field, and this field can be made to transform in the appropriate way to preserve the Lifshitz scaling. It has been observed that the van der Waals and Casimir interaction between graphene and a material plate can be analysed using Lifshitz scaling \cite{88}. In fact, the van der Waals and Casimir interaction between a single-wall carbon nanotube and a plate can also be analysed using Lifshitz scaling \cite{88}. It would be interesting to analyse the deformation of this system by the generalized uncertainty principle. It may be noted that Lamb shift \cite{89}-\cite{90} and Landau levels \cite{91}-\cite{92} have been recently studied in graphene, and so it would be interesting to analyse the effects of generalized uncertainty principle on Landau levels and Lamb shift in graphene.

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