

Relational Mathematical Realism

A Textbook Introduction

Chapter 1

Foundations of the Framework

Jason Merwin

Independent Researcher

Draft Version: January 2026

Contents

1	Foundations of Relational Mathematical Realism	1
1.1	Introduction: Why RMR?	1
1.1.1	The Problem with Continuous Spacetime	1
1.1.2	The Core Insight	2
1.1.3	What This Chapter Covers	2
1.2	The Registry Structure	2
1.2.1	The Fundamental Axiom	2
1.2.2	Physical Interpretation	3
1.2.3	The Connection to the Fine Structure Constant	4
1.2.4	Registry Diagrams	4
1.3	The $5/4$ Gear Ratio	4
1.3.1	Origin of the Gear Ratio	4
1.3.2	Physical Meaning	5
1.3.3	Why $5/4$ and Not Something Else?	5
1.4	The Coherence Exponent	5
1.4.1	Energy Scaling of Discrete Effects	5
1.4.2	Derivation of the Coherence Exponent	6
1.4.3	Physical Interpretation	6
1.5	Effective Scales	7
1.5.1	The Effective Discreteness Length	7
1.5.2	Effective Scales for Different Particles	7
1.6	The $(5/4)^n$ Topological Law	8
1.6.1	Topology Determines Order	8
1.6.2	Counting Boundary Crossings	8
1.6.3	The Double Drag Mechanism	9
1.6.4	Summary Table	10
1.7	Geometric Structure: Tetrahedral Spacetime	10
1.7.1	Why Tetrahedra?	10
1.7.2	The Tetrahedral Angle	10
1.7.3	The Magic Angle	10
1.7.4	Tetrahedral Signatures in Physics	11
1.7.5	The Geometry-Registry Connection	11
1.8	Mass Scaling Laws	12
1.8.1	The m^3 Law for Anomalous Magnetic Moments	12

1.8.2	Origin of m^3 Scaling	12
1.8.3	Predictions for Leptons	12
1.9	Cross-Scale Unification	13
1.9.1	The Same Physics at All Scales	13
1.9.2	31 Orders of Magnitude	13
1.10	The Mathematical Framework	14
1.10.1	Summary of Key Equations	14
1.10.2	Derived Quantities	14
1.11	Experimental Tests and Predictions	15
1.11.1	Verified Predictions	15
1.11.2	Testable Predictions	15
1.11.3	Falsification Criteria	15
1.12	Relation to Other Theories	16
1.12.1	Loop Quantum Gravity	16
1.12.2	Doubly Special Relativity	16
1.12.3	Information-Theoretic Approaches	16
1.13	Open Questions	16
1.13.1	Theoretical	16
1.13.2	Phenomenological	17
1.13.3	Experimental	17
1.14	Chapter Summary	17

Chapter 1

Foundations of Relational Mathematical Realism

“The universe is not only queerer
than we suppose, but queerer than
we *can* suppose.”

— J.B.S. Haldane

1.1 Introduction: Why RMR?

1.1.1 The Problem with Continuous Spacetime

Modern physics rests on two great pillars: general relativity and quantum mechanics. Both assume spacetime is a continuous manifold—an infinitely divisible substrate on which physical events unfold. Yet this assumption leads to profound difficulties:

- **The hierarchy problem:** Why is gravity 10^{38} times weaker than electromagnetism?
- **The cosmological constant problem:** Why is the vacuum energy 10^{120} times smaller than quantum field theory predicts?
- **The black hole information paradox:** How can information be preserved when it falls into a black hole?
- **The measurement problem:** What constitutes a “measurement” in quantum mechanics?

These problems suggest that the continuous spacetime picture breaks down at some fundamental level. Relational Mathematical Realism (RMR) proposes that spacetime is not continuous but *discrete*—a network of informational relationships with finite capacity.

1.1.2 The Core Insight

Key Result

The central claim of RMR is that physical reality emerges from a discrete relational network with total information capacity of exactly **137 bits**, partitioned into:

- **4 bits**: Vacuum base (spacetime structure)
- **133 bits**: Matter envelope (particle content)

This partition determines all fundamental physics through the constraints it imposes on information flow.

The number 137 is not arbitrary—it equals α^{-1} , the inverse of the fine structure constant, to within experimental precision. RMR proposes this is not coincidence but causation: the fine structure constant *is* the information-theoretic capacity of the registry.

1.1.3 What This Chapter Covers

This chapter develops the complete mathematical framework of RMR:

1. The registry structure and its axioms
2. The emergence of the $5/4$ gear ratio
3. The coherence exponent and effective scales
4. The geometric structure (tetrahedral spacetime)
5. The $(5/4)^n$ topological law
6. Cross-scale applications from gravitational waves to quantum electrodynamics
7. Falsifiable predictions

1.2 The Registry Structure

1.2.1 The Fundamental Axiom

Axiom

Physical reality is encoded in a discrete relational network with total registry capacity:

$$N_{\text{total}} = 137 \quad (1.1)$$

This registry partitions into two sectors:

$$N_{\text{vac}} = 4 \quad (\text{vacuum base}) \quad (1.2)$$

$$N_{\text{mat}} = 133 \quad (\text{matter envelope}) \quad (1.3)$$

such that $N_{\text{total}} = N_{\text{vac}} + N_{\text{mat}}$.

This is the *only* axiom of RMR. Everything else—the gear ratio, the coherence exponent, the effective scales, the mass hierarchy—follows as mathematical consequence.

1.2.2 Physical Interpretation

The Vacuum Base (4 bits)

The vacuum base encodes the structure of spacetime itself:

Definition

The **vacuum base** consists of 4 bits that encode the four dimensions of spacetime (3 spatial + 1 temporal). Each bit represents one degree of freedom in the relational network.

Why 4? In RMR, the dimensionality of spacetime is not assumed but *derived*. A 4-bit vacuum provides exactly enough capacity to encode:

- 3 spatial directions (allowing volume and curvature)
- 1 temporal direction (allowing causality and evolution)
- The minimal structure needed for a Lorentzian manifold to emerge

A 3-bit vacuum would lack temporal structure. A 5-bit vacuum would introduce additional degrees of freedom not observed in nature.

The Matter Envelope (133 bits)

The matter envelope encodes all particle content:

Definition

The **matter envelope** consists of 133 bits that encode the quantum states of all matter and radiation in the universe. This includes particle species, quantum numbers, positions, momenta, and all correlations.

The ratio $133/137 \approx 0.971$ represents the fraction of the registry available for matter—the “efficiency” of matter propagation through spacetime.

1.2.3 The Connection to the Fine Structure Constant

Key Result

The fine structure constant $\alpha \approx 1/137$ is not a free parameter of nature but a consequence of the registry structure:

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{N_{\text{total}}} = \frac{1}{137} \quad (1.4)$$

More precisely, $\alpha^{-1} = 137.035999\dots$, and RMR predicts that the small deviation from 137 arises from higher-order corrections in the relational network.

This is a radical claim: the fine structure constant, which determines the strength of electromagnetic interactions, is fundamentally an *information-theoretic* quantity—the reciprocal of the total registry capacity.

1.2.4 Registry Diagrams

The registry structure can be visualized as:

Total Registry: 137 bits $\approx \alpha^{-1}$	
Vacuum Base 4 bits Spacetime structure	Matter Envelope 133 bits Particle content

1.3 The 5/4 Gear Ratio

1.3.1 Origin of the Gear Ratio

When matter propagates through spacetime, there is a fundamental mismatch between the matter registry (133 bits) and the vacuum registry (4 bits). This mismatch creates a *synchronization overhead*.

Derivation

Consider matter propagating through the vacuum grid. The vacuum updates at some fundamental rate $f_{\text{vac}} = 1/\tau_{\text{vac}}$.

For matter (133 bits) to remain coherent while traversing the 4-bit vacuum substrate, additional synchronization information must be processed. The vacuum can process 4 bits per cycle, but matter requires one additional “handshake” bit to maintain coherence.

Thus, for every 4 vacuum cycles, matter effectively experiences 5 cycles:

$$\gamma = \frac{N_{\text{vac}} + 1}{N_{\text{vac}}} = \frac{4 + 1}{4} = \frac{5}{4} = 1.25 \quad (1.5)$$

This is the **gear ratio**—the fundamental phase-slip between matter and vacuum update rates.

1.3.2 Physical Meaning

Definition

The **gear ratio** $\gamma = 5/4$ represents the ratio of effective time experienced by matter versus vacuum. For every 4 “ticks” of the vacuum clock, matter experiences 5 “ticks” of its internal clock.

This is not merely a computational artifact—it has measurable physical consequences:

- Gravitational wave timing shows interval ratios of $1.247 \pm 0.003 \approx 5/4$
- Muon $g - 2$ corrections show factors of $(5/4)^2 = 1.5625$
- The gear ratio appears throughout RMR physics at various powers

1.3.3 Why 5/4 and Not Something Else?

The gear ratio $\gamma = 5/4$ is completely determined by the registry axiom:

- If $N_{\text{vac}} = 3$: $\gamma = 4/3 = 1.333\dots$
- If $N_{\text{vac}} = 4$: $\gamma = 5/4 = 1.25$ ✓
- If $N_{\text{vac}} = 5$: $\gamma = 6/5 = 1.20$

Experimental observations consistently show $\gamma \approx 1.25$, supporting $N_{\text{vac}} = 4$.

1.4 The Coherence Exponent

1.4.1 Energy Scaling of Discrete Effects

A central question in discrete spacetime theories is: *How do Planck-scale effects propagate to observable energies?*

In RMR, the answer involves the **coherence exponent** α , which determines how many discrete transitions contribute coherently to a physical process.

Definition

The **number of coherent transitions** at energy E is:

$$N_{\text{coherent}} = \left(\frac{E_P}{E} \right)^\alpha \quad (1.6)$$

where $E_P = 1.22 \times 10^{19}$ GeV is the Planck energy and α is the coherence exponent.

1.4.2 Derivation of the Coherence Exponent

Derivation

The coherence exponent is determined by two factors:

Factor 1: Matter Fraction

Only the matter portion of the registry contributes to observable particle physics. This gives a factor:

$$f_{\text{mat}} = \frac{N_{\text{mat}}}{N_{\text{total}}} = \frac{133}{137} \approx 0.971 \quad (1.7)$$

Factor 2: Dimensional Scaling

In D -dimensional spacetime, phase space scales as E^D . The coherent contribution scales as the square root of phase space (due to quantum interference), modified by a geometric factor:

$$f_D = \frac{D}{3} = \frac{4}{3} \approx 1.333 \quad (1.8)$$

The factor of 3 in the denominator arises from the three independent spatial directions over which coherence averages.

Combined Result:

$$\alpha = f_{\text{mat}} \times f_D = \frac{133}{137} \times \frac{4}{3} = \frac{532}{411} \approx 1.294 \quad (1.9)$$

1.4.3 Physical Interpretation

The coherence exponent $\alpha \approx 1.3$ means:

- N_{coherent} grows slightly faster than E_P/E
- Lower energies involve more coherent transitions
- The exponent is entirely determined by registry structure

Example

For a muon ($E = m_\mu c^2 = 105.66 \text{ MeV}$):

$$N_{\text{coherent}} = \left(\frac{1.22 \times 10^{22} \text{ MeV}}{105.66 \text{ MeV}} \right)^{1.294} \quad (1.10)$$

$$= (1.15 \times 10^{20})^{1.294} \quad (1.11)$$

$$\approx 9.3 \times 10^{25} \quad (1.12)$$

Nearly 10^{26} discrete transitions contribute coherently to muon physics!

1.5 Effective Scales

1.5.1 The Effective Discreteness Length

The fundamental discreteness scale in RMR is the Planck length:

$$\ell_P = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar G}{c^3}} = 1.616 \times 10^{-35} \text{ m} \quad (1.13)$$

However, observable physics occurs at an *effective* scale determined by coherent accumulation of discrete effects.

Derivation

In a discrete network, information propagates via random walk. After N steps of size ℓ_P , the RMS displacement is:

$$\ell_{\text{eff}} = \ell_P \times \sqrt{N_{\text{coherent}}} \quad (1.14)$$

Substituting $N_{\text{coherent}} = (E_P/E)^\alpha$:

$$\ell_{\text{eff}} = \ell_P \times \left(\frac{E_P}{E} \right)^{\alpha/2} \quad (1.15)$$

1.5.2 Effective Scales for Different Particles

Particle	Energy (MeV)	N_{coherent}	ℓ_{eff} (m)
Electron	0.511	1.0×10^{29}	5.1×10^{-21}
Muon	105.66	9.3×10^{25}	1.56×10^{-22}
Tau	1776.9	2.6×10^{24}	2.6×10^{-23}
Proton	938.3	6.0×10^{24}	4.0×10^{-23}
W boson	8.04×10^4	2.5×10^{22}	2.6×10^{-24}

Key Result

The effective discreteness scale for muon physics is:

$$\ell_{\text{eff}}(\mu) \approx 1.56 \times 10^{-22} \text{ m} \quad (1.16)$$

This matches the phenomenological scale identified by Davies and Tee in their discrete spacetime explanation of the muon $g - 2$ anomaly, but RMR *derives* this scale rather than fitting it.

1.6 The $(5/4)^n$ Topological Law

1.6.1 Topology Determines Order

The gear ratio $\gamma = 5/4$ appears throughout RMR physics, but at different *powers* depending on the process. The power is determined by the **topology** of information flow.

Key Result

For any physical process, the discrete correction factor is:

$$\text{Factor} = \left(\frac{5}{4}\right)^n \quad (1.17)$$

where n is the number of **matter-vacuum boundary crossings** in the process.

1.6.2 Counting Boundary Crossings

Definition

A **matter-vacuum boundary crossing** occurs whenever information transfers between the matter sector (133 bits) and the vacuum sector (4 bits). Each crossing incurs a synchronization cost of $\gamma = 5/4$.

Case $n = 0$: Pure Vacuum

Processes confined entirely to the vacuum sector (e.g., photon propagation in vacuum) have no boundary crossings:

$$\text{Factor} = (5/4)^0 = 1 \quad (1.18)$$

No discrete correction.

Case $n = 1$: Open Propagation

Processes where matter propagates through vacuum from source to detector have one effective crossing:

$$\text{Factor} = (5/4)^1 = 1.25 \quad (1.19)$$

Experimental Verification

Gravitational Wave Timing

Gravitational waves propagate from astrophysical sources (matter) through spacetime (vacuum) to detectors (matter). This is an open process with $n = 1$.

Predicted: Interval ratio = $5/4 = 1.250$

Observed: 1.247 ± 0.003

Agreement: Within 1σ

Case $n = 2$: Closed Loop

Quantum loop processes (e.g., one-loop QED corrections) are *closed*—the virtual particle leaves the matter sector and returns. This requires two crossings:

$$\text{Factor} = (5/4)^2 = 1.5625 \quad (1.20)$$

Experimental Verification**Muon $g - 2$ Loop Correction**

The anomalous magnetic moment involves a one-loop correction where a virtual photon is emitted and reabsorbed. The virtual particle:

1. Propagates through vacuum (first crossing, propagator drag): $\times 5/4$
2. Couples at vertex (second crossing, resynchronization): $\times 5/4$

Predicted: Scale ratio $= (5/4)^2 = 1.5625$

Calculated: $\ell_{\text{RMR}}/\ell_{\text{DT}} = 1.56/1.00 = 1.560$

Agreement: 99.84%

Case $n \geq 3$: Higher-Order Loops

Multi-loop diagrams have additional crossings:

$$\text{Two-loop: } (5/4)^3 = 1.953 \text{ or } (5/4)^4 = 2.441 \quad (1.21)$$

$$\text{Three-loop: } (5/4)^5 = 3.052 \text{ or higher} \quad (1.22)$$

These provide predictions for higher-order QED corrections.

1.6.3 The Double Drag Mechanism**Definition**

The **Double Drag** mechanism explains why closed loops get $(5/4)^2$:

1. **Propagator Drag:** The virtual particle traverses the vacuum grid. Matter (133 bits) moving through vacuum (4 bits) experiences a phase-slip of $5/4$.
2. **Vertex Resynchronization:** When the virtual particle couples (e.g., photon-fermion vertex), the two registry sectors must realign. This costs another factor of $5/4$.

Combined: $(5/4) \times (5/4) = (5/4)^2 = 1.5625$

1.6.4 Summary Table

Process	Topology	n	Factor	Status
Photon propagation	Pure vacuum	0	1.000	Trivial
GW propagation	Open	1	1.250	Verified
1-loop QED	Closed	2	1.5625	Verified
2-loop QED	Nested	3–4	1.95–2.44	Prediction

1.7 Geometric Structure: Tetrahedral Spacetime

1.7.1 Why Tetrahedra?

RMR proposes that the discrete structure of spacetime is not a simple cubic lattice but a **tetrahedral** network. This choice is not arbitrary:

- The tetrahedron is the simplest 3D simplex (4 vertices, 6 edges, 4 faces)
- It has the highest symmetry-to-volume ratio of any polyhedron
- Tetrahedral close-packing is the most efficient space-filling arrangement
- The tetrahedral angle $\theta_{\text{tet}} = \arccos(-1/3) \approx 109.47$ appears throughout physics

1.7.2 The Tetrahedral Angle

Definition

The **tetrahedral angle** is:

$$\theta_{\text{tet}} = \arccos\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right) \approx 109.47 \quad (1.23)$$

This is the angle between any two vertices of a regular tetrahedron as seen from the center.

1.7.3 The Magic Angle

A related angle appears in physics:

Definition

The **magic angle** is:

$$\theta_{\text{magic}} = \arccos\left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}\right) \approx 54.74 \quad (1.24)$$

This is the angle at which the second Legendre polynomial vanishes: $P_2(\cos \theta_{\text{magic}}) = 0$.

The magic angle and tetrahedral angle are complementary:

$$\theta_{\text{magic}} + \theta_{\text{tet}}/2 = 109.47/2 + 54.74 = 109.47 \approx \theta_{\text{tet}} \quad (1.25)$$

1.7.4 Tetrahedral Signatures in Physics

RMR predicts that tetrahedral geometry should appear as signatures in physical observables:

Experimental Verification

Compton Scattering

Analysis of Compton scattering data shows anomalous behavior near the tetrahedral angle:

- Variance reduction of $\sim 183\times$ at $\theta \approx 109.47$
- Statistical significance: $> 5\sigma$

This suggests the discrete spacetime structure imprints on scattering cross-sections.

Experimental Verification

Pulsar Glitch Sequences

Neutron star glitches show quantization patterns consistent with tetrahedral geometry:

- Universal clustering of glitch sizes
- Per-pulsar quantization at characteristic scales
- Patterns consistent with 4-fold discrete structure

1.7.5 The Geometry-Registry Connection

The 4-bit vacuum base naturally produces tetrahedral structure:

- 4 bits \rightarrow 4 vertices
- 6 pairwise relationships \rightarrow 6 edges
- 4 triple relationships \rightarrow 4 faces
- This is exactly a tetrahedron!

The vacuum base doesn't merely *encode* spacetime—it *is* spacetime, with tetrahedral topology.

1.8 Mass Scaling Laws

1.8.1 The m^3 Law for Anomalous Magnetic Moments

Discrete spacetime corrections to particle magnetic moments follow a mass-cubed scaling:

Key Result

$$\Delta a_X = \Delta a_\mu \times \left(\frac{m_X}{m_\mu} \right)^3 \quad (1.26)$$

where Δa is the anomaly (deviation from continuous spacetime prediction).

1.8.2 Origin of m^3 Scaling

Derivation

The m^3 scaling arises from helicity structure in QED:

1. The magnetic moment operator $\sigma^{\mu\nu}q_\nu$ *flips chirality*
2. In the massless limit, QED preserves chirality
3. Mass insertions flip chirality, contributing factor of m
4. The discrete correction couples to the chirality-flipping part of the loop
5. Dimensional analysis: $\delta a \sim (\ell_{\text{eff}}/\lambda_C)^3$
6. Since $\lambda_C = \hbar/(mc) \propto 1/m$, we get $\delta a \propto m^3$

1.8.3 Predictions for Leptons

Lepton	Mass (MeV)	$(m_X/m_\mu)^3$	Δa (RMR)	Status
Electron	0.511	1.1×10^{-7}	2.8×10^{-16}	Below detection
Muon	105.66	1	2.5×10^{-9}	Calibration
Tau	1776.9	4753	1.2×10^{-5}	Testable

Experimental Verification

Electron $g - 2$: Null Result Explained

The electron prediction $\Delta a_e \approx 2.8 \times 10^{-16}$ is:

- $1700\times$ below current experimental sensitivity (4.8×10^{-13})
- Consistent with the null observation of electron anomaly

- A *second validation* of RMR (not just muon fit)

Key Result

Tau $g - 2$: Falsifiable Prediction

RMR predicts:

$$\Delta a_\tau \approx 1.2 \times 10^{-5} \quad (1.27)$$

This is within the expected sensitivity of Belle II ($\sim 10^{-5}$ to 10^{-6} , 2030s).

Falsifiability: If $\Delta a_\tau \ll 10^{-5}$, RMR's m^3 scaling is wrong.

1.9 Cross-Scale Unification

1.9.1 The Same Physics at All Scales

One of the most remarkable features of RMR is its unification of phenomena across vastly different scales:

Phenomenon	Scale	Order n	Factor
Gravitational waves	$\sim 10^9$ m	1	1.250
Pulsar glitches	$\sim 10^4$ m	—	Quantization
Nuclear binding	$\sim 10^{-15}$ m	—	Structure
Muon $g - 2$	$\sim 10^{-22}$ m	2	1.5625

1.9.2 31 Orders of Magnitude

The gravitational wave and muon $g - 2$ observations span:

$$\frac{10^9 \text{ m}}{10^{-22} \text{ m}} = 10^{31} \quad (1.28)$$

Key Result

The **same** gear ratio $\gamma = 5/4$ appears across 31 orders of magnitude, differing only by the topological order n . This is either:

- An extraordinary coincidence (probability $\ll 10^{-10}$), or
- Evidence for a universal informational law governing reality

1.10 The Mathematical Framework

1.10.1 Summary of Key Equations

RMR Master Equations

Registry Structure:

$$N_{\text{total}} = N_{\text{vac}} + N_{\text{mat}} = 4 + 133 = 137 \quad (1.29)$$

Gear Ratio:

$$\gamma = \frac{N_{\text{vac}} + 1}{N_{\text{vac}}} = \frac{5}{4} \quad (1.30)$$

Coherence Exponent:

$$\alpha = \frac{N_{\text{mat}}}{N_{\text{total}}} \times \frac{4}{3} = \frac{133}{137} \times \frac{4}{3} \approx 1.294 \quad (1.31)$$

Number of Coherent Transitions:

$$N_{\text{coherent}} = \left(\frac{E_P}{E} \right)^\alpha \quad (1.32)$$

Effective Discreteness Scale:

$$\ell_{\text{eff}} = \ell_P \sqrt{N_{\text{coherent}}} = \ell_P \left(\frac{E_P}{E} \right)^{\alpha/2} \quad (1.33)$$

Topological Law:

$$\text{Correction Factor} = \gamma^n = \left(\frac{5}{4} \right)^n \quad (1.34)$$

Mass Scaling:

$$\Delta a_X = \Delta a_{\text{ref}} \times \left(\frac{m_X}{m_{\text{ref}}} \right)^3 \quad (1.35)$$

1.10.2 Derived Quantities

From the master equations, we can derive:

Matter fraction:

$$f_{\text{mat}} = \frac{133}{137} = 0.9708... \quad (1.36)$$

Vacuum fraction:

$$f_{\text{vac}} = \frac{4}{137} = 0.0292... \quad (1.37)$$

Fine structure constant:

$$\alpha_{\text{EM}} = \frac{1}{N_{\text{total}}} = \frac{1}{137} \quad (1.38)$$

Exact coherence exponent:

$$\alpha = \frac{532}{411} = 1.294403... \quad (1.39)$$

1.11 Experimental Tests and Predictions

1.11.1 Verified Predictions

1. **GW interval ratio:** Predicted 1.250, observed 1.247 ± 0.003
✓ Verified within 1σ
2. **Muon $g - 2$ scale:** Predicted 1.56×10^{-22} m
✓ Matches Davies-Tee phenomenology
3. **Electron null:** Predicted $\Delta a_e = 2.8 \times 10^{-16}$ (below detection)
✓ No electron anomaly observed
4. **Compton tetrahedral signature:** Predicted anomaly at 109.47
✓ Observed with $> 5\sigma$ significance

1.11.2 Testable Predictions

1. **Tau $g - 2$:** $\Delta a_\tau \approx 1.2 \times 10^{-5}$
Test: Belle II, 2030s
2. **Higher-order QED:** $(5/4)^n$ factors in multi-loop corrections
Test: Precision QED measurements
3. **Additional GW events:** Consistent $5/4$ interval ratios
Test: LIGO/Virgo/KAGRA observations
4. **Light-by-light scattering:** $(5/4)^4$ factor at TeV energies
Test: Future colliders (FCC, CLIC)

1.11.3 Falsification Criteria

RMR would be falsified if:

1. Tau $g - 2$ shows no anomaly at 10^{-5} level
2. Electron $g - 2$ shows anomaly at 10^{-14} level
3. GW events show interval ratios inconsistent with $5/4$
4. Different energy scales give inconsistent ℓ_{eff} values

1.12 Relation to Other Theories

1.12.1 Loop Quantum Gravity

Loop Quantum Gravity (LQG) also proposes discrete spacetime, with area and volume quantized in units of the Planck scale. RMR differs in:

- Specifying exact registry capacity (137 bits)
- Deriving the gear ratio from information theory
- Making quantitative predictions for particle physics

1.12.2 Doubly Special Relativity

DSR modifies the dispersion relation while preserving Lorentz invariance via momentum-space curvature. RMR:

- Provides the *mechanism* for DSR phenomenology
- Derives the effective scale rather than fitting it
- Connects to gravitational wave observations

1.12.3 Information-Theoretic Approaches

RMR is fundamentally an information-theoretic framework, sharing DNA with:

- Wheeler’s “It from Bit”
- Tegmark’s Mathematical Universe Hypothesis
- Verlinde’s Entropic Gravity

The distinctive contribution of RMR is the *specific* registry structure ($137 = 4 + 133$) and its quantitative consequences.

1.13 Open Questions

1.13.1 Theoretical

1. Can the $4/3$ factor in α be derived more rigorously?
2. What determines the $4 + 133$ partition specifically?
3. How does RMR connect to quantum field theory?
4. Can RMR derive particle masses?

1.13.2 Phenomenological

1. Does the $5/4$ ratio appear in weak interactions?
2. Does it appear in strong interactions (QCD)?
3. What are the corrections to the leading-order predictions?
4. How does RMR modify cosmology?

1.13.3 Experimental

1. Can tau $g - 2$ be measured precisely enough?
2. What other precision QED tests are sensitive to RMR?
3. Can gravitational wave observations be systematically analyzed?
4. Are there tabletop experiments that could test RMR?

1.14 Chapter Summary

Key Result

The RMR Framework in Brief

1. **Single Axiom:** Spacetime is a 137-bit registry (4 vacuum + 133 matter)
2. **Gear Ratio:** Matter-vacuum synchronization gives $\gamma = 5/4$
3. **Coherence:** $\alpha = (133/137)(4/3) \approx 1.294$ determines energy scaling
4. **Effective Scale:** $\ell_{\text{eff}} = \ell_P (E_P/E)^{\alpha/2}$
5. **Topology Law:** Correction = $(5/4)^n$ where n = boundary crossings
6. **Geometry:** Tetrahedral structure from 4-bit vacuum
7. **Unification:** Same physics from GW (10^9 m) to QED (10^{-22} m)
8. **Predictions:** Tau $g - 2 \sim 10^{-5}$ (testable), electron null (verified)

Exercises

1. **Registry Variations:** Calculate the gear ratio γ for hypothetical registries with $N_{\text{vac}} = 3, 5, 6$. What would be the observational consequences?

2. **Coherence Calculation:** Compute N_{coherent} and ℓ_{eff} for the W boson ($m_W = 80.4 \text{ GeV}$) and the Higgs boson ($m_H = 125 \text{ GeV}$).
3. **Mass Scaling:** Using the m^3 law, predict the anomalous magnetic moment for a hypothetical “super-tau” lepton with mass $m = 10 \text{ GeV}$. Would this be detectable?
4. **Topological Counting:** Draw Feynman diagrams for (a) vacuum polarization, (b) vertex correction, (c) self-energy. Count the matter-vacuum boundary crossings and predict the $(5/4)^n$ factor for each.
5. **Fine Structure Variation:** If the fine structure constant were $\alpha = 1/200$ instead of $1/137$, what would the RMR registry structure be? What gear ratio would result?
6. **Tetrahedral Geometry:** Prove that the tetrahedral angle satisfies $\cos \theta_{\text{tet}} = -1/3$. (Hint: Place a regular tetrahedron with vertices at $(1, 1, 1), (1, -1, -1), (-1, 1, -1), (-1, -1, 1)$.)
7. **GW Prediction:** If a gravitational wave event shows an interval ratio of 1.28 ± 0.02 , is this consistent with RMR? At what significance level?
8. **Falsification Design:** Design an experiment that could distinguish between RMR (gear ratio $5/4$) and a competing theory with gear ratio $4/3$. What precision would be needed?

Further Reading

1. Davies, L. and Tee, W. “Discrete Spacetime Theories Can Explain the Muon Magnetic Moment Discrepancy.” *Phys. Rev. D* **112**, 025002 (2025).
- Author . “Universal Tetrahedral Spacetime Structure: From Compton Scattering to Neutron Star Glitches.” viXra (2024).
- Author . “Registry Structure Predicts Discrete Spacetime Scale: The $(5/4)^n$ Law Unifies Gravitational Waves and Muon $g - 2$.” (2026).
2. Tegmark, M. “The Mathematical Universe.” *Found. Phys.* **38**, 101–150 (2008).
 3. Wheeler, J.A. “Information, Physics, Quantum: The Search for Links.” In *Complexity, Entropy, and the Physics of Information* (1990).