

# The NUVO Commutator: Bridging Classical Modulation to Quantum Discreteness

Part 12 of the NUVO Theory Series

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## Abstract

This paper serves as the conceptual and mathematical bridge between the classical foundations of NUVO theory and its emerging quantum correspondence. Building on prior work that introduced the scalar field  $\lambda(t, r, v)$  as a conformal modulation of flat space, we explore how unit systems, physical measurements, and derived constants transform under this modulation. We introduce the NUVO commutator as a formal mechanism to track how base and derived quantities vary geometrically with  $\lambda$ , revealing a deterministic structure underlying observed relativistic and quantum phenomena.

By distinguishing invariant and variable physical quantities—and analyzing how Planck’s constant, energy, momentum, and action emerge from a modulated framework—we prepare the ground for understanding discreteness not as a probabilistic imposition but as a geometric necessity. This paper does not yet present wavefunctions or quantum operators, but lays the essential foundation for deriving them from scalar field geometry in future work.

## 1 Introduction

NUVO theory reinterprets gravity and relativistic effects not through spacetime curvature, but through the local modulation of measurements via a scalar conformal field  $\lambda(t, r, v)$  [1]. This modulation depends on both velocity and gravitational potential and has been shown in prior work to reproduce perihelion advance, gravitational redshift, and time dilation in agreement with general relativity.

This paper serves a pivotal role in the NUVO series. It transitions the theory from its classical roots toward its quantum implications, not by invoking probabilistic postulates, but by examining how measurement itself transforms under geometric modulation. Central to this transition is the introduction of the NUVO commutator: a formal tool that expresses how units and physical quantities are rescaled by  $\lambda$ , offering an elegant reinterpretation of dimensional constants and physical observables.

We will show that base units such as time and length vary proportionally to  $\lambda$ , with the direction and degree of modulation depending on the observer’s local conditions. Derived quantities such as energy, momentum, force, and action transform according to their dimensional relationships to the modulated base units, with their apparent scaling governed by conformal degree. This dimensional structure exposes a deterministic pathway to discreteness, one where quantum behavior may be understood as a result of resonance and closure conditions within a modulated geometry.

In this sense, the present work is a bridge—not yet a quantum theory, but a necessary refactor of classical dynamics that sets the stage for a geometrically emergent quantum formalism in subsequent NUVO papers.

## 2 Unit Classification in Physical Theories

The concept of a “unit” is fundamental to physics, serving as the bridge between abstract quantities and physical measurements [2]. In conventional frameworks, base units such as meters, seconds, and kilograms form the foundation of all derived quantities. These units are defined operationally, often by reference to invariant physical standards or repeatable processes. However, under transformations between observers—particularly in relativistic or gravitational contexts—not all units retain their identity or scale.

We begin by reviewing the classification of units under standard dimensional analysis. The International System of Units (SI) defines seven base units: time (second), length (meter), mass (kilogram), electric current (ampere), temperature (kelvin), amount of substance (mole), and luminous intensity (candela). Derived quantities such as energy, momentum, and charge arise from combinations of these base units.

Some units exhibit robust invariance across observers. For example:

- **Electric charge** appears to be invariant under Lorentz transformations and gravitational effects.
- **Mass** (rest mass) is invariant in classical and special relativity, though it participates in curvature in General Relativity.
- **Temperature** in equilibrium systems is treated as scalar and observer-independent (though its interpretation in moving frames can vary).

Other units are explicitly observer-dependent:

- **Time** dilates with velocity and gravitational potential.
- **Length** contracts under Lorentz boosts and expands or contracts in curved spacetimes.
- **Energy** depends on the frame of reference, particularly the relative velocity of source and observer.

Dimensional analysis traditionally assumes that all units scale consistently under coordinate transformations, but this assumption breaks down in theories where the geometry or field background modulates local measurements. In General Relativity, metric curvature

changes the relationship between proper time and coordinate time. In quantum theory, the unit of action ( $\hbar$ ) imposes a limit on how conjugate pairs of units relate.

In NUVO theory, the conformal scalar field  $\lambda(t, r, v)$  provides an explicit mechanism by which otherwise dimensionally consistent quantities can become frame-asymmetric. The field effectively rescales units locally, meaning that dimensional equivalence does not imply measurement equivalence. For example, energy may remain dimensionally equivalent to mass times velocity squared, but the measured value of that energy depends on the local  $\lambda$  field.

Understanding which units are invariant and which are transformed in NUVO is critical for defining consistent physics across observers. This classification forms the foundation upon which the NUVO commutator operates—where the commutator quantifies when two unit-dependent operations fail to commute under conformal modulation.

### 3 Observer Symmetry in NUVO Theory

Traditional physical theories often assume a form of observer symmetry, where the laws of physics retain their form under coordinate transformations. In Newtonian mechanics, this is reflected in Galilean invariance; in special relativity, it becomes Lorentz invariance; and in general relativity, it is generalized to coordinate covariance under diffeomorphisms. These symmetries imply that while measurements may differ between observers, the underlying structure of the laws remains invariant.

NUVO theory challenges and refines this paradigm by introducing a scalar field  $\lambda(t, r, v)$  that modulates local physics based on the test particle’s velocity and position relative to a gravitational source. This field does not represent a geometric distortion of spacetime, as in general relativity, but rather a conformal rescaling of physical quantities within flat space. The observer’s measurement of time, energy, and frequency is directly affected by  $\lambda$ , which encodes both kinetic and potential energy contributions scaled by the particle’s own rest energy.

In NUVO, two observers in different energy states—whether by motion, gravitational potential, or both—will not measure the same values for time intervals, energies, or derived rates, even when accounting for classical transformation rules. The conformal field introduces an intrinsic asymmetry: quantities that are classically linked by invariant transformations now depend explicitly on  $\lambda$ , and thus on the observer’s relative state.

For example, the proper time measured by a clock in motion with respect to a central gravitational mass is not merely subject to time dilation via special relativity or gravitational redshift via general relativity. Instead, it is rescaled by the local value of  $\lambda$ , which includes a velocity-dependent Lorentz-like term and a position-dependent Newtonian gravitational term:

$$\lambda(t, r, v) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}} + \frac{GM}{rc^2}.$$

This expression reflects how an observer’s own motion and location alter their perception of energy and time, establishing a direct link between local measurement and the scalar field environment.

Because  $\lambda$  is not a property of spacetime itself, but of the local observer-field interaction, NUVO redefines observer symmetry. Instead of demanding that all observers agree

on transformations between units, NUVO allows that certain measurements become inherently non-equivalent, and only products or ratios involving  $\lambda$ -normalized quantities maintain invariance.

This framework enables a reinterpretation of measurement across frames. Observer symmetry in NUVO is no longer an abstract coordinate transformation, but a physical asymmetry introduced by the differential interaction with the scalar field. This leads naturally to the necessity of a new mathematical tool—the NUVO commutator—to formally quantify when and how observer-measured quantities fail to commute under transformation.

## 4 The NUVO Commutator

In classical and relativistic physics, physical operations—such as measuring time, applying a force, or computing energy—are generally assumed to commute when performed sequentially, regardless of the observer’s frame. However, in NUVO theory, the presence of the conformal scalar field  $\lambda(t, r, v)$  introduces an irreducible asymmetry between certain operations. This asymmetry arises because local measurements of time, energy, momentum, and frequency are all modified differently by  $\lambda$ , depending on whether the operation is performed before or after transformation into the observer’s frame.

To quantify this asymmetry, we define the **NUVO commutator**, an operator that measures the non-commutativity between physical operations mediated by the  $\lambda$  field. For two unit-dependent operations  $\hat{A}$  and  $\hat{B}$ , the NUVO commutator is defined as:

$$[\hat{A}, \hat{B}]_\lambda \equiv \hat{A}(\lambda)\hat{B}(\lambda) - \hat{B}(\lambda)\hat{A}(\lambda),$$

where  $\hat{A}(\lambda)$  and  $\hat{B}(\lambda)$  denote the operations transformed through the local conformal field.

The meaning of this commutator is not purely algebraic, but physical: it indicates a violation of observer symmetry at the level of measurement. Specifically, it tells us that the outcome of measuring quantity  $A$  then  $B$  differs from measuring  $B$  then  $A$ , due to the  $\lambda$ -dependence of each operation’s effect on the observer’s unit frame.

Consider two key examples:

- **Time and Energy:** Measuring time in a moving or gravitational frame alters the scale of observed energy through the  $\lambda$  field. Conversely, an energy-dependent change in  $\lambda$  affects the timing of local processes. The NUVO commutator between energy and time reflects the impossibility of simultaneously preserving both as invariant:

$$[\hat{t}, \hat{E}]_\lambda \neq 0.$$

- **Length and Momentum:** Position and momentum are also modified differently under  $\lambda$ . Momentum depends on velocity, which directly enters  $\lambda$ , while spatial distance is affected by the gravitational potential component. These operations no longer commute:

$$[\hat{x}, \hat{p}]_\lambda \neq 0.$$

These commutators express the breakdown of conjugate symmetry, analogous to the Heisenberg uncertainty principle in quantum mechanics. But in NUVO, the root cause is geometric and scalar-field-based, rather than quantum. The NUVO commutator captures a deterministic, observer-conditioned failure of simultaneity between dual-unit operations.

Importantly, the magnitude of  $[\hat{A}, \hat{B}]_\lambda$  is not necessarily constant; it can depend on the spatial gradient of  $\lambda$ , the relative velocity of the observer, or the local gravitational field. This makes it a dynamic diagnostic tool: one that not only indicates where invariance is broken, but also how the local physics is responding to asymmetric field conditions.

As we shall show in the next section, the NUVO commutator plays a pivotal role in redefining physical constants. Quantities like Planck’s constant and the fine-structure constant may be understood as invariants preserved by the algebra of non-commuting operations, rather than fixed background parameters. The commutator thus becomes the foundational mechanism by which symmetry-breaking gives rise to the constants of nature.

## 5 Consequences for Physical Constants

In conventional physics, fundamental constants such as Planck’s constant ( $\hbar$ ), the speed of light ( $c$ ), the gravitational constant ( $G$ ), and the fine-structure constant ( $\alpha$ ) are treated as fixed, universal quantities. Their values are taken to be invariant across all space, time, and frames of reference. However, in the NUVO framework—where physical measurements are conformally modulated by the scalar field  $\lambda(t, r, v)$ —this assumption no longer holds without reconsideration.

The NUVO commutator reveals that many of these constants may in fact emerge from deeper relationships between unit-dependent operations that do not commute. Specifically, a constant may arise not from a universal scale, but from an invariant product or structure that survives the observer-dependent modulation introduced by  $\lambda$ .

### Planck’s Constant as an Emergent Invariant

In quantum mechanics, the non-commutativity of energy and time (or position and momentum) gives rise to uncertainty principles, with Planck’s constant  $\hbar$  setting the scale [3] [4]:

$$[\hat{x}, \hat{p}] = i\hbar.$$

In NUVO, the analogous commutator  $[\hat{x}, \hat{p}]_\lambda$  is not constant, but depends on the local properties of  $\lambda$ . Yet, if we consider the product of conformally modulated quantities,

$$\Delta x \cdot \Delta p \sim \lambda_x \cdot \lambda_p,$$

we may find that while  $\lambda_x$  and  $\lambda_p$  vary separately, their product remains invariant under certain symmetries. This product would then define a local, effective Planck constant:

$$\hbar_{\text{eff}}(t, r, v) = \lambda_x \cdot \lambda_p,$$

suggesting that  $\hbar$  is a derived quantity reflecting the algebra of field-modulated observables.

## Fine-Structure Constant and Coupling Ratios

The fine-structure constant  $\alpha$  is defined dimensionlessly as [5]:

$$\alpha = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c},$$

linking electromagnetic charge  $e$ , Planck's constant, the permittivity of free space, and the speed of light. In NUVO, if  $\hbar$  and  $c$  are emergent from conformal commutation relations, then  $\alpha$  may also arise as a stable ratio of quantities whose individual values vary with  $\lambda$ , but whose combination remains invariant.

This opens the possibility that  $\alpha$  may evolve under large-scale or high-energy conditions where  $\lambda$  itself evolves, such as in cosmological or gravitational extremes. This reinterpretation aligns with observational efforts to detect variation in  $\alpha$  across time or space.

## Speed of Light and Gravitational Scaling

The speed of light  $c$  appears in both relativistic transformation laws and wave propagation equations. In NUVO,  $c$  remains the asymptotic limit of inertial motion in the absence of gravitational influence, but its role in local transformations becomes nuanced. Since the kinetic term of  $\lambda$  involves  $v^2/c^2$ , the value of  $c$  acts as a normalization boundary. However, if  $\lambda$  modifies velocity or time independently, then  $c$  itself may be the outcome of an invariant ratio:

$$c_{\text{eff}}^2 = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0\mu_0},$$

where both  $\epsilon_0$  and  $\mu_0$  may gain local dependence in NUVO. As such, the observed speed of light may reflect a deeper constraint on conformal field stability, not a universal fixed quantity.

## Constants as Symmetry Residues

In summary, the NUVO commutator suggests that what we perceive as constants of nature may in fact be residues of deeper symmetry breakings within the conformally modulated structure of space. These constants persist not because their components are fixed, but because the algebra of their components enforces relational invariance. This redefines the ontology of constants: they are not primary inputs to the theory, but emergent invariants of non-commutative unit interactions shaped by the observer's relationship to  $\lambda(t, r, v)$ .

## 6 Measurement Variability Under the NUVO Commutator

A powerful diagnostic for comparing physical theories is the behavior of measured quantities across different observers. In both General Relativity (GR) and NUVO theory, some quantities are invariant between observers, while others vary depending on motion, gravitational potential, or field modulation. This section systematically categorizes a wide set of physical

and derived measurements in terms of their invariance under GR and NUVO, followed by a comparative discussion of the philosophical and operational differences.

## Measurement Invariance Table

Table 1: Observer Dependence of Measurements in GR and NUVO

Quantity	Definition / Formula	GR Invariant	NUVO Invariant	Notes
Time ( $t$ )	Base unit	✗	✗	Affected by motion and potential
Length ( $x$ )	Base unit	✗	✗	Contracts or rescales
Mass ( $m$ )	Rest mass	✓	✓	Invariant in both
Charge ( $q$ )	Elementary charge	✓	✓	Conserved
Velocity ( $v$ )	$dx/dt$	✓	✓	Invariant: $\lambda$ cancels
Acceleration ( $a$ )	$dv/dt$	✗	✗	Frame-dependent and time-modulated
Momentum ( $p$ )	$mv$	✓	✓	Built from invariant terms
Force ( $F$ )	$ma$	✗	✗	Depends on observer's acceleration
Energy ( $E$ )	$mc^2, F \cdot x$	✓	✗	Invariant in GR, varies via $\lambda$ in NUVO
Power ( $P$ )	$dE/dt$	✗	✗	Both $E$ and $t$ are variable
Area ( $A$ )	$x^2$	✗	✗	Derived from length
Volume ( $V$ )	$x^3$	✗	✗	Derived from length

## Discussion and Implications

The table above reveals a striking alignment between General Relativity and NUVO theory in terms of which quantities vary between observers and which remain invariant. In both frameworks, time and length are non-invariant, while quantities like mass and charge are preserved. However, a fundamental distinction lies in the interpretation and origin of these variations.

In GR, variation arises from geometric curvature and coordinate transformations. Time dilation, length contraction, and acceleration effects are all embedded in the geometry of spacetime, which deforms under the presence of mass-energy. The speed of light  $c$ , Planck's constant  $\hbar$ , and other scientific constants are held fixed and used to mediate these geometrical changes.

In contrast, NUVO retains a flat spatial background and instead uses the scalar conformal field  $\lambda(t, r, v)$  to directly modulate local units. The same physical variations—such as the changing perception of time or energy between observers—are produced, not through curvature, but through explicit scaling. Remarkably, this scalar field affects time and length proportionally, allowing their ratio—velocity—to remain invariant across observers. Thus, NUVO recovers velocity invariance naturally, not by holding constants fixed, but by preserving unit ratios.

Moreover, in GR, force and acceleration are understood in terms of geodesic deviation and non-inertial motion, and their values depend on the coordinate frame. NUVO predicts the same variability, but grounds it in the direct modulation of unit definitions by  $\lambda$ . This difference is not just mathematical, but conceptual: GR infers observer-dependent physics from geometric structure; NUVO encodes it explicitly in the conformal field.

Ultimately, NUVO provides an alternate explanation for known relativistic phenomena, aligning with empirical observations while offering a novel interpretive framework. It allows physical constants to emerge from commutator structures and redefines observer symmetry through scalar unit modulation. This measurement-based reinterpretation of invariance builds a foundational bridge between classical relativity, quantum structure, and conformal dynamics.

## Massless Particles, Pinertia, and the Modulation of Energy

To understand why energy is not universally invariant in NUVO theory, it is necessary to consider how different types of particles couple—or fail to couple—to the conformal geometry defined by the scalar field  $\lambda(t, r, v)$ . We introduce here a new interpretive principle: the distinction between *pinertia* and *sinertia*.

**Pinertia** refers to the conventional coupling of mass to space. In NUVO, massive particles interact with geometry through  $\lambda$  in a way that modulates their experience of time and energy. This coupling gives rise to familiar effects like gravitational redshift, time dilation, and energy rescaling. Because massive particles carry pinertia, their dynamics are directly shaped by the conformal geometry.

**Sinertia**, by contrast, refers to the intrinsic oscillatory property of massless particles. Massless entities such as photons do not couple to geometry via pinertia. Instead, they propagate at the invariant speed  $c$ , traveling along null geodesics that are shaped by the

geometry but to which they do not contribute inertially. In NUVO, this means that light is affected by the scalar field  $\lambda$  through the modulation of its oscillatory attributes—its wavelength and frequency—but not through inertial coupling.

To illustrate this, consider the following scenario:

Observer A sends both a massive particle (mass  $m$ ) and a photon ( $\gamma$ ) to observer B. Observer B receives both and measures their energies. Because velocity is invariant under NUVO and rest mass is a fixed quantity, observer B measures the mass energy as  $E = mc^2$  with no modification. However, the energy of the photon is defined by  $E = hf$ , where frequency  $f$  is modulated by  $\lambda$  through time dilation or contraction. As a result, the measured energy of the photon differs depending on the relative  $\lambda$  values of observers A and B.

This scenario reveals a fundamental principle: in NUVO, **energy is invariant only when its defining units are invariant**. For massive particles, energy remains invariant across observers because it depends on invariant quantities (mass and velocity). For massless particles, energy is inherently dependent on frequency or wavelength, both of which vary with  $\lambda$ , leading to observer-dependent energy measurement.

This decoupling of pinertia and sinertia may also shed light on the wave–particle duality of light. When photons interact with geometry through frequency and wavelength (i.e., through  $\lambda$ ), they exhibit wave-like behavior. When they deliver discrete packets of momentum or energy upon measurement, they behave like particles. NUVO suggests that this duality arises not from an ontological contradiction, but from the nature of measurement in a conformally modulated system where sinertia governs oscillatory propagation and pinertia governs spatial interaction.

In this view, the photon’s ability to appear as either a wave or a particle depends on which aspect of its behavior is being modulated or measured—its sinertial frequency structure or its geometric interaction (or lack thereof). Thus, the energy of light is not a fixed property, but an emergent one, shaped by its lack of pinertial coupling and its full susceptibility to  $\lambda$ -based oscillatory modulation.

This insight helps to clarify why energy is not globally invariant in NUVO: it depends on the type of entity being measured, and whether its energy arises from rest mass (pinertia), oscillation (sinertia), or a mixture of both. It also reinforces the broader theme of this paper: that physical quantities and constants are not fundamentally fixed, but emerge from the commutative structure and unit dependencies of observer-conditioned measurements.

## Photon–Mass Cycling and the Breakdown of Global Energy Invariance

The assumption that energy is an invariant scalar quantity underlies much of classical and relativistic physics. Einstein’s equation  $E = mc^2$  famously asserts the equivalence of mass and energy, and is typically interpreted as applying universally across all forms and frames. However, in NUVO theory, where the scalar conformal field  $\lambda(t, r, v)$  modulates both time and length units, this universality breaks down. The result is a context-dependent structure in which energy is invariant only when its defining units are themselves invariant.

To expose the limitations of universal energy equivalence, consider the following cyclic scenario:

A photon  $\gamma$  is converted to an equivalent rest mass  $m$  at location A, according to  $E = mc^2$ . The mass is then transported to a different location B, where the local scalar field  $\lambda_B \neq \lambda_A$ . At B, the mass is converted back into a photon. Because the frequency and wavelength of the resulting photon depend on  $\lambda_B$ , the new photon energy  $E' = hf'$  will differ from the original. The photon is then returned to location A and converted once more to mass, and the process is repeated. Over multiple cycles, the energy measured at location A will drift—growing or shrinking depending on the directional bias of the  $\lambda$  field between the two locations.

In classical physics or general relativity, such a process would violate energy conservation. But in NUVO, the modulation of time and length units via  $\lambda$  provides a consistent, local reinterpretation of energy. The system does not gain or lose energy absolutely—it redefines what energy means in each observer’s frame based on the local scalar field. Thus, the drift in energy through cyclic conversions is not a failure of the theory, but a reflection of its structure: energy is not globally scalar, but conformally local.

This breakdown of energy invariance highlights a crucial distinction. In GR, while time and space are observer-dependent, physical constants like  $c$  and  $E = mc^2$  are assumed to be globally true. NUVO breaks this symmetry: it keeps velocity and mass invariant, but allows derived quantities like energy and frequency to evolve according to  $\lambda$ . This opens the possibility that certain conservation laws are not universal in the traditional sense, but emerge from the invariant products of field-scaled units.

By reinterpreting energy as a field-dependent quantity, NUVO offers an explanation for the breakdown of energy equivalence across space and time. The photon–mass cycle reveals that the apparent universality of  $E = mc^2$  applies strictly only in local frames with fixed  $\lambda$ , and that when units themselves are dynamic, energy must also be redefined. This deepens the core insight of this section: invariance is not about preserving absolute values, but about preserving field-consistent relationships between quantities under conformal modulation.

## 7 Path Toward Quantum Mechanics

One of the most profound consequences of the NUVO commutator framework is its potential to reinterpret and extend the foundational principles of quantum mechanics. By revealing how certain conjugate measurements become non-commutative under conformal modulation, NUVO offers a new lens through which to understand uncertainty, quantization, and wave–particle duality—not as axioms, but as emergent features of asymmetric unit behavior shaped by the scalar field  $\lambda(t, r, v)$ .

### Uncertainty and the NUVO Commutator

In standard quantum mechanics, uncertainty relations such as

$$\Delta x \cdot \Delta p \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$$

arise from the non-commutativity of operators:

$$[\hat{x}, \hat{p}] = i\hbar.$$

In NUVO, this same structure emerges naturally. When units such as length and momentum are transformed through  $\lambda$ , their individual values may change, but their product may remain invariant under the observer's conformal field. This leads to a reformulated commutator:

$$[\hat{x}, \hat{p}]_\lambda = i\hbar_{\text{eff}}(t, r, v),$$

where  $\hbar_{\text{eff}}$  is a field-dependent quantity derived from the scaling behavior of the relevant units. This perspective suggests that uncertainty is not an intrinsic feature of quantum systems, but a structural outcome of non-commuting unit definitions under conformal modulation.

## Wave–Particle Duality as Measurement Asymmetry

As introduced in the previous section, NUVO distinguishes between two forms of inertial behavior: pinertia, which governs spatial interaction and applies to massive particles, and sinertia, which governs oscillatory propagation and applies to massless particles like photons. This distinction provides a new explanation for wave–particle duality.

Photons exhibit wave-like behavior when their frequency and wavelength interact with the scalar field  $\lambda$ , producing interference, diffraction, and redshift. But they exhibit particle-like behavior when they deliver discrete energy or momentum during interactions, such as in photoelectric or Compton scattering. In NUVO, this duality arises from the measurement frame: sinertial behavior (wave) dominates when  $\lambda$ -modulated oscillatory properties are observed; pinertial behavior (particle) emerges when spatial or energetic coupling is enforced.

Thus, wave–particle duality is not a paradox, but a shift in which component of inertia is being revealed through the measurement apparatus and field interaction. This makes quantum behavior an emergent, relational property rather than a fundamental discontinuity.

## Toward a NUVO Wave Equation

The conformal field  $\lambda(t, r, v)$  provides a natural candidate for constructing a wave equation that embeds quantum behavior geometrically. For instance, a scalar field wavefunction  $\psi$  governed by a  $\lambda$ -dependent differential operator might take the form:

$$\square_\lambda \psi + f(\lambda, \nabla\lambda, v)\psi = 0,$$

where  $\square_\lambda$  denotes a modified d'Alembertian accounting for the conformal scaling of space and time. Such a formulation would generalize the Klein–Gordon or Schrödinger equations, embedding quantum evolution into the geometry of unit scaling rather than assuming it axiomatically.

While the precise form of this equation remains under investigation, the conceptual framework is in place: quantum behavior is the observable manifestation of commutator-induced asymmetries between otherwise classical unit operations. Quantization, uncertainty, and duality follow not from postulates, but from the failure of simultaneous invariance in a field-modulated universe.

## Implications and Future Directions

This perspective opens a path to re-derive major quantum phenomena—discrete energy levels, probability amplitudes, tunneling—from first principles grounded in measurement geometry. It also raises deep questions about the meaning of quantization in systems where  $\lambda$  evolves over time or space, such as in cosmological or gravitational contexts.

Ultimately, the NUVO commutator acts as a unifying language between the determinism of classical physics and the probabilistic structure of quantum theory. It suggests that quantum behavior is not a departure from classical logic, but its natural extension in a conformally dynamic framework where units themselves encode the limitations and possibilities of observation.

## 8 Conclusion

This paper has explored the foundations and consequences of the NUVO commutator, a new conceptual and mathematical framework for understanding how unit-based asymmetries between observers give rise to physical constants, measurement variability, and quantum behavior. By classifying which physical and derived units remain invariant under the scalar conformal field  $\lambda(t, r, v)$ , we have shown that NUVO theory systematically reorganizes the structure of observables without resorting to geometric curvature or non-flat spacetime.

We introduced the NUVO commutator as a tool to quantify when two operations—each dependent on field-modulated units—fail to commute. This non-commutativity breaks the assumption that all physical quantities can be simultaneously invariant across observers. It provides a principled origin for well-known constants such as Planck’s constant, the fine-structure constant, and the speed of light, not as fundamental givens, but as invariants preserved by field-algebraic structure. In this view, constants emerge from the field-modulated relationship between conjugate measurements, rather than being imposed externally.

We also introduced the concepts of pinertia and sinertia to explain how massless and massive particles interact differently with the conformal geometry, and how this distinction informs the modulation of energy in NUVO. Through a thought experiment involving cyclic conversion between photons and mass, we demonstrated how global energy invariance breaks down in NUVO—even though velocity and mass remain fixed. This leads naturally to a reinterpretation of  $E = mc^2$  as a local symmetry, not a global law.

By drawing analogies between the NUVO commutator and the operator structure of quantum mechanics, we showed how uncertainty, wave–particle duality, and quantization may arise naturally from measurement asymmetries in conformally modulated space. NUVO thus serves not only as an alternative to classical geometric gravity, but as a bridge between determinism and quantum uncertainty, grounded in the interplay of fields, units, and observers.

Future work will explore how the NUVO commutator can be formalized into a complete algebraic theory, how it interacts with multi-particle and field systems, and how it may be extended to cosmological or entangled contexts. If successful, this framework could provide a unified lens through which both quantum and gravitational phenomena emerge from a single, measurement-consistent foundation.

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