

Degenerate higher order theories beyond Horndeski



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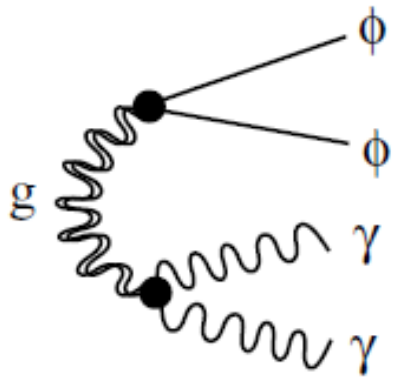


Most general scalar tensor theory in 4D

What is the most general viable scalar-tensor theory ?

viable = no ghost

ghost carries negative energy



quantum mechanically, particles can be created from vacuum without costing any energy

there is no time scale for instability in Lorentz invariant theory
the decay is instantaneous

Unless the mass of ghost is above the cut-off scale of the theory, ghost poses a serious consistency problem

Higher derivative theories

- Ostrogradski ghost

Theories with higher derivatives $L(g, \dot{g}, \ddot{g})$

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \ddot{g}} \right) - \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{g}} \right) + \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial g} \right) = 0$$

We treat \dot{g} as a new variable and \ddot{g} as a new velocity (we need four initial conditions)

If the velocity \dot{g} can be expressed in terms of momenta $\partial L / \partial \dot{g}$

(non-degeneracy condition), it can be shown that the Hamiltonian is not

bounded from below [Woodard astro-ph/0601672](https://arxiv.org/abs/astro-ph/0601672)

Most general 2nd order Scalar tensor theory

- This was found by Horndeski in 70's

$${}^H S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} ({}^H \mathcal{L}_2 + {}^H \mathcal{L}_3 + {}^H \mathcal{L}_4 + {}^H \mathcal{L}_5)$$

$${}^H \mathcal{L}_2 = K(\phi, X),$$

$${}^H \mathcal{L}_3 = G_3(\phi, X)\square\phi,$$

$${}^H \mathcal{L}_4 = G_4(\phi, X)R - 2G_{4X}(\phi, X) [(\square\phi)^2 - \phi_{\mu\nu}\phi^{\mu\nu}],$$

$${}^H \mathcal{L}_5 = G_5(\phi, X)G^{\mu\nu}\phi_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{3}G_{5X}(\phi, X) [(\square\phi)^3 - 3\square\phi\phi_{\mu\nu}\phi^{\mu\nu} + 2\phi_{\mu\nu}\phi^{\nu\rho}\phi_{\rho}^{\mu}]$$

$$X \equiv \partial_{\mu}\phi\partial^{\mu}\phi \quad \phi_{\mu\nu} \equiv \nabla_{\mu}\nabla_{\nu}\phi$$

“Beyond Horndeski”

- Horndeski

we can make conformal/disformal transformations

$$\tilde{g}_{\mu\nu} = \Omega^2(X, \phi)g_{\mu\nu} + \Gamma(X, \phi)\partial_\mu\phi\partial_\nu\phi \quad \text{Bekenstein '92}$$

- Beyond Horndeski [Gleyzes, Langlois, Piazza, Vernizzi '14](#)

$${}^{BH}S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} ({}^{BH}\mathcal{L}_4 + {}^{BH}\mathcal{L}_5) \quad \phi_\mu = \partial_\mu\phi$$

$${}^{BH}\mathcal{L}_4 = F_4(\phi, X) \left[X \left((\square\phi)^2 - \phi_{\mu\nu}\phi^{\mu\nu} \right) - 2 \left(\square\phi \phi_\mu \phi^{\mu\nu} \phi_\nu - \phi_\mu \phi^{\mu\nu} \phi_{\nu\rho} \phi^\rho \right) \right],$$

$${}^{BH}\mathcal{L}_5 = F_5(\phi, X) \left[X \left((\square\phi)^3 - 3 \square\phi \phi_{\mu\nu} \phi^{\mu\nu} + 2 \phi_{\mu\nu} \phi^{\nu\rho} \phi_\rho^\mu \right) \right. \\ \left. - 3 \left((\square\phi)^2 \phi_\mu \phi^{\mu\nu} \phi_\nu - 2 \square\phi \phi_\mu \phi^{\mu\nu} \phi_{\nu\rho} \phi^\rho - \phi_{\mu\nu} \phi^{\mu\nu} \phi_\rho \phi^{\rho\sigma} \phi_\sigma + 2 \phi_\mu \phi^{\mu\nu} \phi_{\nu\rho} \phi^{\rho\sigma} \phi_\sigma \right) \right]$$

these terms introduce third order derivatives in the e.o.m but the number of propagation degrees of freedom remains the same

Primary constraint

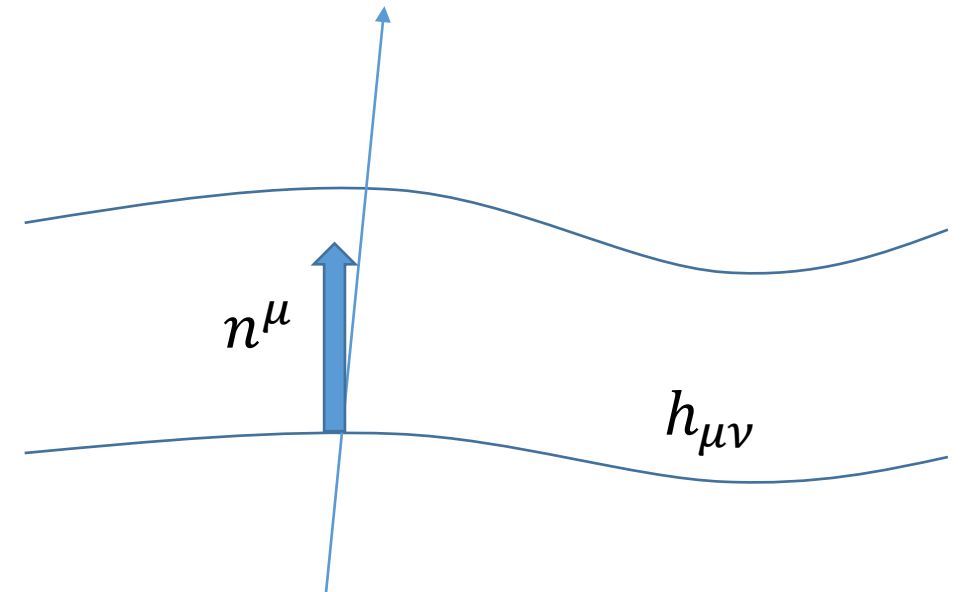
- 1+3 decomposition [Langlois, Noui 1510.06930,1512.06820](#)

$$A_\mu \equiv \nabla_\mu \phi$$

$$A_\mu = -A_* n_\mu + \hat{A}_\nu h^\nu_\mu \quad A_* \supset \dot{\phi}$$

$$V_* \equiv n^\mu \nabla_\mu A_* = \frac{1}{N} \left(\dot{A}_* - N^\mu D_\mu A_* \right) \quad V_* \supset \ddot{\phi}$$

$$\pi_* \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta S}{\delta V_*}$$



if $\pi_* = 0$ (primary constraint), the equations of motion is second order

Beyond Horndeski

- Equations of motions contain higher order derivatives

$$\pi_* \neq 0$$

- Gravitational degrees of freedom

$$K_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2N} \left(\dot{h}_{\mu\nu} - D_{(\mu} N_{\nu)} \right) \quad \pi_{\mu}^{\alpha} \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta S}{\delta K_{\alpha}^{\mu}}$$

- Primary constraint [Langlois, Noui 1510.06930,1512.06820](#), [Hull, Crisostomi, KK, Tasinato 1601.04658](#)

$$A_* \left(2\hat{A}^2 - A_*^2 \right) \pi_* - \hat{A}^{\mu} \hat{A}_{\alpha} \pi_{\mu}^{\alpha} \approx 0$$

by a suitable re-definition of variable $K_{\alpha}^{\mu} = \bar{K}_{\alpha}^{\mu} - \frac{V_*}{A_*(2\hat{A}^2 - A_*^2)} \hat{A}_{\alpha} \hat{A}^{\mu}$

equations of motion become second order (Lorentz invariance is broken)

Beyond Horndeski + Horndeski

Langlois, Noui 1510.06930,1512.06820, Hull, Crisostomi, KK, Tasinato 1601.04658

- Quartic bH + Quartic H, Quintic bH + Quintic H

primary constraint still exists

$$\left[A_* \left(2\hat{A}^2 - A_*^2 \right) + \frac{2G_{4X}A^2 - G_4}{F_4A_*} \right] \pi_* - \hat{A}^\mu \hat{A}_\alpha \pi_\mu^\alpha \approx 0$$

$$\left[A_* \left(2\hat{A}^2 - A_*^2 \right) - \frac{G_{5X}A^2}{3F_5A_*} \right] \pi_* - \hat{A}^\mu \hat{A}_\alpha \pi_\mu^\alpha \approx 0$$

- Disformal transformation

$$\bar{g}_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu} + \Gamma(\phi, X) A_\mu A_\nu$$

$${}^H \bar{\mathcal{L}}_4[\bar{G}_4] + {}^{BH} \bar{\mathcal{L}}_4[\bar{F}_4] = {}^H \mathcal{L}_4[G_4]$$

$${}^H \bar{\mathcal{L}}_5[\bar{G}_5] + {}^{BH} \bar{\mathcal{L}}_5[\bar{F}_5] = {}^H \mathcal{L}_5[G_5]$$

$$\Gamma_{4X} = \frac{F_4}{X^2 F_4 + 2X G_{4X} - G_4}$$

$$\Gamma_{5X} = \frac{3F_5}{3X^2 F_5 - X G_{5X}},$$

Beyond Horndeski + Horndeski

Langlois, Noui 1510.06930,1512.06820, Hull, Crisostomi, KK, Tasinato 1601.04658

- Beyond Horndeski alone
cannot be mapped to Horndeski (beyond H is mapped to beyond H itself)
- Quintic bH+ Quartic H, Quartic bH + Quintic H
primary constraint is lost

General analysis

Langlois, Noui 1510.06930,1512.06820, Crisostomi, KK, Tasinato 1602.03119

- Quadratic theory $\mathcal{L}_{\text{tot}} = \sum_{i=1}^5 \mathcal{L}_i + \mathcal{L}_R$

$$\mathcal{L}_1[A_1] = A_1(\phi, X)\phi_{\mu\nu}\phi^{\mu\nu},$$

$$\mathcal{L}_2[A_2] = A_2(\phi, X)(\square\phi)^2,$$

$$\mathcal{L}_3[A_3] = A_3(\phi, X)(\square\phi)\phi^\mu\phi_{\mu\nu}\phi^\nu,$$

$$\mathcal{L}_4[A_4] = A_4(\phi, X)\phi^\mu\phi_{\mu\rho}\phi^{\rho\nu}\phi_\nu,$$

$$\mathcal{L}_5[A_5] = A_5(\phi, X)(\phi^\mu\phi_{\mu\nu}\phi^\nu)^2,$$

$$\mathcal{L}_R[G] = G(\phi, X)R$$

- Impose the existence of primary constraint

$$\left(a h_\alpha^\mu + b \hat{A}_\alpha \hat{A}^\mu\right) \pi_\mu^\alpha + c \pi_* + d \approx 0$$

Quadratic theory

Crisostomi, KK, Tasinato 1602.03119, Achour, Langlois, Noui 1602.08398

- Non-minimally coupled theory $\mathcal{L}_R[G] = G(\phi, X)R$

Non-minimally coupled theories			
Classification	Free functions	Minkowski limit	Examples
N-I	3	✓ (H, BH)	H, H+ Γ (H+BH) ⁽³⁾ , H+ Ω + Γ ⁽⁴⁾
N-II	3	✓	
N-III (i)	3	X	
N-III (ii)	3	X	

$$\bar{g}_{\mu\nu} = \Omega(X)g_{\mu\nu} + \Gamma(X)\phi_\mu\phi_\nu$$

$$\bar{L}_H[\bar{G}] = L_H[G] + L_{BH}[F] + L_3[A_3] + L_4[A_4] + L_5[A_5]$$

$$\text{(N-II)} \quad A_2 = -A_1 = -G/X \quad A_3 = \frac{2(G - 2XG_X)}{X^2}$$

Cubic theory

Achour, Crisostomi, KK, Langlois, Noui, Tasinato 1608.08135

- Cubic $\sum_{i=1}^{10} b_i L_i^{(3)} + L_G$

$$L_1^{(3)} = (\square\phi)^3, \quad L_2^{(3)} = (\square\phi) \phi_{\mu\nu} \phi^{\mu\nu}, \quad L_3^{(3)} = \phi_{\mu\nu} \phi^{\nu\rho} \phi_\rho^\mu,$$

$$L_4^{(3)} = (\square\phi)^2 \phi_\mu \phi^{\mu\nu} \phi_\nu, \quad L_5^{(3)} = \square\phi \phi_\mu \phi^{\mu\nu} \phi_{\nu\rho} \phi^\rho, \quad L_6^{(3)} = \phi_{\mu\nu} \phi^{\mu\nu} \phi_\rho \phi^{\rho\sigma} \phi_\sigma,$$

$$L_7^{(3)} = \phi_\mu \phi^{\mu\nu} \phi_{\nu\rho} \phi^{\rho\sigma} \phi_\sigma, \quad L_8^{(3)} = \phi_\mu \phi^{\mu\nu} \phi_{\nu\rho} \phi^\rho \phi_\sigma \phi^{\sigma\lambda} \phi_\lambda,$$

$$L_9^{(3)} = \square\phi (\phi_\mu \phi^{\mu\nu} \phi_\nu)^2, \quad L_{10}^{(3)} = (\phi_\mu \phi^{\mu\nu} \phi_\nu)^3.$$

$$L_G = f_3 G_{\mu\nu} \phi^{\mu\nu}$$

Non-minimally coupled theories				
Classification	# dof	Free functions	Minkowski limit	Examples
${}^3\text{N-I}$	3	$f_3, i=1,4$	✓ (H, bH)	H, H+bH, $\Gamma \otimes \text{H}^{(2)}$, $(\Omega, \Gamma) \otimes \text{H}^{(3)}$
${}^3\text{N-II}$	3	$f_3, i=5,8,10$	✓	

Cubic + quadratic theory

Achour, Crisostomi, KK, Langlois, Noui, Tasinato 1608.08135

	² N-I	² N-II	² N-III	² N-IV
³ N-I	(1)	X	X	X
³ N-II	X	✓	X	X

$$(1). \quad b_4 = \frac{-a_1 f_{3X} X - 6b_1 f_2 + 6b_1 f_{2X} X + 2f_2 f_{3X}}{f_2 X}$$

$$a_3 = \frac{2(b_1(9a_1 f_2 X - 12a_1 f_{2X} X^2 + 6f_2 f_{2X} X - 6f_2^2) + 2f_{3X}(f_2 - a_1 X)^2)}{3b_1 f_2 X^2}$$

$$\bar{g}_{\mu\nu} = \Omega(X)g_{\mu\nu} + \Gamma(X)\phi_\mu\phi_\nu$$

$$L_4^{\text{H}} + L_5^{\text{H}} \rightarrow (1)$$

Minimally coupled theories			
Classification	Free functions	Minkowski limit	Examples
M-I	3	✓ (BH)	BH, EBH ⁽¹⁾ , BH+Ω ⁽²⁾
M-II	3	X	
M-III	4	✓	$\mathcal{L}_i (i = 2, 3, 4, 5)$

Non-minimally coupled theories			
Classification	Free functions	Minkowski limit	Examples
N-I	3	✓ (H, BH)	H, H+Γ (H+BH) ⁽³⁾ , H+Ω+Γ ⁽⁴⁾
N-II	3	✓	
N-III (i)	3	X	
N-III (ii)	3	X	

Minimally coupled theories				
Classification	# dof	Free functions	Minkowski limit	Examples
³ M-I	3	$i=1,2,3,4$	✓ (bH)	bH, Ω⊗bH ⁽¹⁾
³ M-II	3	$i=1,3, 6$	X	
³ M-III	3	$i=1$	X	
³ M-IV	3	$i=1,4,5,8,10$	X	
³ M-V	1	$i=1,4$	X	
³ M-VI	1	$i=1,4,5,8,9,10$	X	
³ M-VII	3	$i=5,7,8,10$	X	

Non-minimally coupled theories				
Classification	# dof	Free functions	Minkowski limit	Examples
³ N-I	3	$f_3, i=1,4$	✓ (H, bH)	H, H+bH, Γ⊗H ⁽²⁾ , (Ω, Γ)⊗H ⁽³⁾
³ N-II	3	$f_3, i=5,8,10$	✓	

	³ M-I	³ M-II	³ M-III	³ M-IV	³ M-V	³ M-VI	³ M-VII
² M-I	(1)	(2)	✓	X	(3)	X	X
² M-II	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	(4)
² M-III	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	(5)

	³ M-I	³ M-II	³ M-III	³ M-IV	³ M-V	³ M-VI	³ M-VII
² N-I	(1) & (3)	(1) & (6)	(1)	X	(1) & (4)	X	X
² N-II	X	X	X	X	X	X	(7)
² N-III	(3)	(6)	✓	X	(4)	X	X
² N-IV	(2) & (3)	(2) & (6)	(2)	X	(5)	X	X

	² M-I	² M-II	² M-III
³ N-I	X	X	X
³ N-II	X	X	X

	² N-I	² N-II	² N-III	² N-IV
³ N-I	(1)	X	X	X
³ N-II	X	✓	X	X

Applications

- Cosmological perturbations
quadratic [de Rham, Matas 1604.08638](#)

tensor mode is well behaved in N-I and N-III (i)

scalar perturbations are unstable (gradient instability) in N-III (i)

- Screening

beyond H breaks the Vainshtein mechanism in the presence of matter

Non-minimally coupled theories			
Classification	Free functions	Minkowski limit	Examples
N-I	3	✓ (H, BH)	H, H+ Γ (H+BH) ⁽³⁾ , H+ Ω + Γ ⁽⁴⁾
N-II	3	✓	
N-III (i)	3	X	
N-III (ii)	3	X	

breaking of Vainshtein mechanism

- EH+ beyond Horndeski

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[M_{\text{pl}}^2 \left(\frac{R}{2} - \Lambda \right) - k_2 \mathcal{L}_2 + f_4 \mathcal{L}_{4,\text{bH}} \right]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_2 = \phi_\mu \phi^\mu \equiv X$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4,\text{bH}} = -X [(\Box\phi)^2 - (\phi_{\mu\nu})^2] + 2\phi^\mu \phi^\nu [\phi_{\mu\nu} \Box\phi - \phi_{\mu\sigma} \phi^\sigma_\nu]$$

$$ds^2 = (-1 + 2\Phi) dt^2 + (1 + 2\Psi) \delta_{ij} dx^i dx^j$$

$$k_2 = -2 \frac{M_{\text{pl}}^2 H^2}{v_0^2} (1 - \sigma^2), \quad f_4 = \frac{M_{\text{pl}}^2}{6v_0^4} (1 - \sigma^2)$$

$$\frac{d\Phi}{dr} = \frac{G_{\text{N}} M}{r^2} + \frac{\Upsilon_1 G_{\text{N}} M''}{4}$$

$$\sigma^2 \equiv \Lambda / (3M_{\text{pl}}^2 H^2)$$

$$\frac{d\Psi}{dr} = \frac{G_{\text{N}} M}{r^2} - \frac{5\Upsilon_2 G_{\text{N}} M'}{4r^2}$$

$$\phi(r, t) = v_0 t + \frac{v_0}{2H} \ln(1 - H^2 r^2)$$

$$G_{\text{N}} = \frac{3G}{5\sigma^2 - 2}$$

$$\Upsilon_1 = \Upsilon_2 \equiv \Upsilon = -\frac{1}{3} (1 - \sigma^2)$$

Kobayashi, Watanabe, Yamauchi, arXiv:1411.4130

KK, Sakstein, arXiv:1502.06872

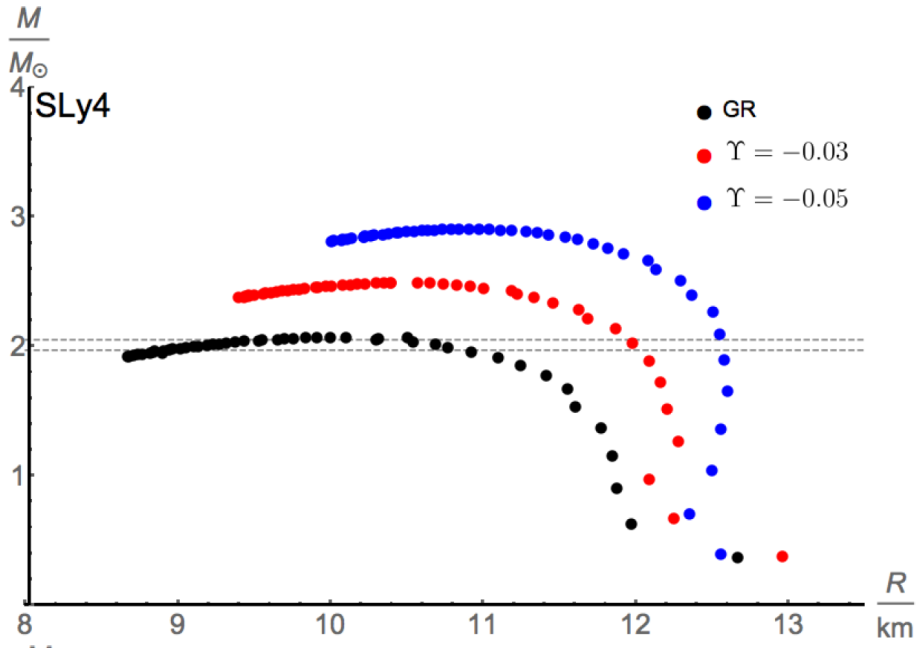
Saito, Yamauchi, Mizuno, Gleyze, Langlois, arXiv:1503.01448

Babichev, KK, Langlois, Saito, Sakstein, arXiv:1606.06627

Neutron stars

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[M_{\text{pl}}^2 \left(\frac{R}{2} - \Lambda \right) - k_2 \mathcal{L}_2 + f_4 \mathcal{L}_{4,\text{bH}} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_2 &= \phi_\mu \phi^\mu \equiv X \\ \mathcal{L}_{4,\text{bH}} &= -X [(\square\phi)^2 - (\phi_{\mu\nu})^2] + 2\phi^\mu \phi^\nu [\phi_{\mu\nu} \square\phi - \phi_{\mu\sigma} \phi^\sigma_\nu] \end{aligned}$$



$$\phi(r, t) = v_0 t + \frac{v_0}{2H} \ln(1 - H^2 r^2) + \varphi(r)$$

Babichev, KK, Langlois, Saito, Sakstein, arXiv:1606.06627

Conclusion

- The “most” general viable scalar tensor theory has been identified this includes the Jordan version of the Horndeski theory with metric
$$\tilde{g}_{\mu\nu} = \Omega^2(X, \phi)g_{\mu\nu} + \Gamma(X, \phi)\partial_\mu\phi\partial_\nu\phi$$
and beyond Horndeski theories
- Some interesting consequences in cosmology/screening have been found