

# Asymptotic Safety in Generalized Proca Theories

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# Outline

- 1) Generalized Proca Theories (GPTs);
- 2) Asymptotic Safety in GPTs;
- 3) Setup;
- 4) Results;
- 5) Conclusions.

# Generalized Proca Theories

- Motivations:
  - *Cosmology*  $\rightarrow$  *Dynamical Dark Energy* [1];
- Derivative self-interactions of the vector field are included in the Lagrangian in flat spacetime [2] to have:
  - *Second order equation of motion*;
  - *Longitudinal mode as a Galileon*.
- Constraints from:
  - *Data* (e.g. [3]);
  - *EFT constraints* (e.g. [4]).

[1] L. Heisenberg, "A systematic approach to generalisations of General Relativity and their cosmological implications", Physics Reports Volume 796, 15 March 2019, Pages 1-113.

[2] L. Heisenberg, "Generalization of the Proca Action", JCAP 1405 (2014) 015.

[3] A. De Felice et al., "Observational constraints on generalized Proca theories", Phys. Rev. D 93, 104016 (2016).

[4] C. de Rham et al., "Positivity bounds in vector theories", JHEP12 (2022) 086.

# Generalized Proca Theories

## ■ Galileon Theory [1]:

- *Higher order derivatives in the scalar field;*
- *Invariance under Galilean transformations and shift;*
- *Second order equation of motion.*

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Gal}} = \sum_{i=1}^5 c_i \mathcal{L}_i \quad (1)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_1 = \pi$$

$$\mathcal{L}_2 = (\partial\pi)^2$$

$$\mathcal{L}_3 = (\partial\pi)^2 \square\pi \quad (2)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_4 = (\partial\pi)^2 [(\square\pi)^2 - (\partial_\mu\partial_\nu\pi)^2]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_5 = (\partial\pi)^2 [(\square\pi)^3 - 3\square\pi(\partial_\mu\partial_\nu\pi)^2 + 2(\partial_\mu\partial_\nu\pi)^3]$$

[1] L. Heisenberg, "A systematic approach to generalisations of General Relativity and their cosmological implications", Physics Reports Volume 796, 15 March 2019, Pages 1-113.

# Generalized Proca Theories

- Generalized Proca Theories (flat spacetime) [2]:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gen.Proca}} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^2 + \sum_{n=2}^5 \alpha_n \mathcal{L}_n \quad (3)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_2 = f_2(A_\mu, F_{\mu\nu}, \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu})$$

$$\mathcal{L}_3 = f_3(A^2) \partial \cdot A$$

$$\mathcal{L}_4 = f_4(A^2) [(\partial \cdot A)^2 - \partial_\rho A_\sigma \partial^\sigma A^\rho] + c_2 \tilde{f}_4(A^2) F^2$$

$$\mathcal{L}_5 = f_5(A^2) [(\partial \cdot A)^3 - 3(\partial \cdot A) \partial_\rho A_\sigma \partial^\sigma A^\rho + 2\partial_\rho A_\sigma \partial^\gamma A^\rho \partial^\sigma A_\gamma] \\ + d_2 \tilde{f}_5(A^2) \tilde{F}^{\mu\alpha} \tilde{F}_\alpha^\nu \partial_\mu A_\nu \quad (4)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_6 = e_2 f_6(A^2) \tilde{F}^{\alpha\beta} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \partial_\alpha A_\mu \partial_\beta A_\nu,$$

[2] L. Heisenberg, "Generalization of the Proca Action", JCAP 1405 (2014) 015.

# Generalized Proca Theories

- Partial derivatives (flat spacetime)  $\rightarrow$  Covariant derivatives (curved spacetime) + non-minimal couplings [2];
- Longitudinal mode  $\rightarrow$  Hordenski interactions.

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gen.Proca}}^{\text{curved}} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^2 + \sum_{n=2}^5 \beta_n \mathcal{L}_n \quad (5)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_2 = G_2(A_\mu, F_{\mu\nu}, \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu})$$

$$\mathcal{L}_3 = G_3(X) \nabla_\mu A^\mu$$

$$\mathcal{L}_4 = G_4(X)R + G_{4,X} [(\nabla_\mu A^\mu)^2 - \nabla_\rho A_\sigma \nabla^\sigma A^\rho]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_5 = & G_5(X)G_{\mu\nu} \nabla^\mu A^\nu - \frac{1}{6}G_{5,X} [(\nabla \cdot A)^3 \\ & + 2\nabla_\rho A_\sigma \nabla^\gamma A^\rho \nabla^\sigma A_\gamma - 3(\nabla \cdot A)\nabla_\rho A_\sigma \nabla^\sigma A^\rho] \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

$$- g_5(X) \tilde{F}^{\alpha\mu} \tilde{F}^\beta{}_\mu \nabla_\alpha A_\beta$$

$$\mathcal{L}_6 = G_6(X) \mathcal{L}^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \nabla_\mu A_\nu \nabla_\alpha A_\beta + \frac{G_{6,X}}{2} \tilde{F}^{\alpha\beta} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \nabla_\alpha A_\mu \nabla_\beta A_\nu$$

$$\text{with } X = -A_\mu A^\mu / 2$$

[2] L. Heisenberg, "Generalization of the Proca Action", JCAP 1405 (2014) 015.

# Asymptotic Safety of GPTs

- GPTs lack constraints from fundamental physics;
  - *Idea: Constrain Wilson coefficients from fundamental physics  $\leftrightarrow$  Determine the AS landscape [5,6].*
- Asymptotic Safety for GPTs:
  1. *Investigation of the possible UV completion of GPTs;*
  2. *Study the AS landscape from the FP.*
- Important for:
  - ***Positivity bounds;***
  - *Cosmological applications.*

[5] I. Basile, A. Platania, "Asymptotic Safety: Swampland or Wonderland?", Universe 2021, 7, 389.

[6] B. Knorr, A. Platania, "Unearthing the intersections: positivity bounds, weak gravity conjecture, and asymptotic safety landscapes from photon-graviton flows", arXiv:2405.08860.

# Setup

## ■ Truncation:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & \frac{1}{16\pi G} [2\Lambda - R] - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^2 + \frac{1}{2} G_2 A^2 + G_{4,1} [A^2 R + (\nabla_\mu A^\mu)^2 - (\nabla_\mu A_\nu)(\nabla^\nu A^\mu)] \\ & + G_{4,2} [A^4 R + 2 A^2 (\nabla_\mu A^\mu)^2 - 2 A^2 (\nabla_\mu A_\nu)(\nabla^\nu A^\mu)] \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

## ■ Minimal setup to compare with positivity bounds [4] (non-minimal couplings, 4th order in $A$ ), but minimizing difficulties:

- *Background field method (linear split);*
- *Background field approximation (Einstein manifold, constant Proca field);*
- *Harmonic gauge.*

[4] C. de Rham et al., "Positivity bounds in vector theories", JHEP12 (2022) 086.



# Results

## ■ Einstein-Hilbert

$$\mathcal{L}_{EH} = \frac{1}{16\pi G} [2\Lambda - R]$$

Fixed Point		Critical Exponents	
$g^*$	$\lambda^*$	$\theta_1$	$\theta_2$
0.645	0.194	$2.413 - i 2.612$	$2.413 + i 2.612$

Table 1: NGFP for  $A^0$  truncation in Generalized Proca Theories and corresponding critical exponents.

## ■ Einstein-Hilbert + free Proca field

$$\mathcal{L}_{EH+G_2A^2} = \frac{1}{16\pi G} [2\Lambda - R] - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^2 + \frac{1}{2} G_2 A^2$$

Fixed Points			Critical Exponents		
$g^*$	$\lambda^*$	$g_2^*$	$\theta_1$	$\theta_2$	$\theta_3$
0.746	0.159	0.0457	$2.180 - i 2.153$	$2.180 + i 2.153$	1.041

Table 2: NGFP for Einstein-Hilbert plus free Proca field theory and corresponding critical exponents.

# Results

## ■ GPT – second order

$$\mathcal{L}_2 = \frac{1}{16\pi G} [2\Lambda - R] - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^2 + \frac{1}{2} G_2 A^2 + G_{4,1} [A^2 R + (\nabla_\mu A^\mu)^2 - (\nabla_\mu A_\nu)(\nabla^\nu A^\mu)]$$

Fixed Point			
$g^*$	$\lambda^*$	$g_2^*$	$g_{4,1}^*$
0.734	0.136	0.0897	0.229
Critical Exponents			
$\theta_1$	$\theta_2$	$\theta_3$	$\theta_4$
$2.103 - i 1.655$	$2.103 + i 1.655$	$2.664 - i 1.468$	$2.664 + i 1.468$

Table 3: NGFP for truncation up to  $A^2$  in Generalized Proca Theories and corresponding critical exponents.

# Results

- GPT – fourth order

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{16\pi G} [2\Lambda - R] - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^2 + \frac{1}{2} G_2 A^2 + G_{4,1} [A^2 R + (\nabla_\mu A^\mu)^2 - (\nabla_\mu A_\nu)(\nabla^\nu A^\mu)] + G_{4,2} [A^4 R + 2 A^2 (\nabla_\mu A^\mu)^2 - 2 A^2 (\nabla_\mu A_\nu)(\nabla^\nu A^\mu)]$$

Fixed Points				
$g^*$	$\lambda^*$	$g_2^*$	$g_{4,1}^*$	$g_{4,2}^*$
0.711	0.131	0.0354	0.297	-3.933
Critical Exponents				
$\theta_1$	$\theta_2$	$\theta_3$	$\theta_4$	$\theta_5$
$2.239 - i 1.662$	$2.239 + i 1.662$	3.506	7.206	-7.093

Table 4: NGFP for truncation up to  $A^4$  in Generalized Proca Theories and corresponding critical exponents.

# Plots

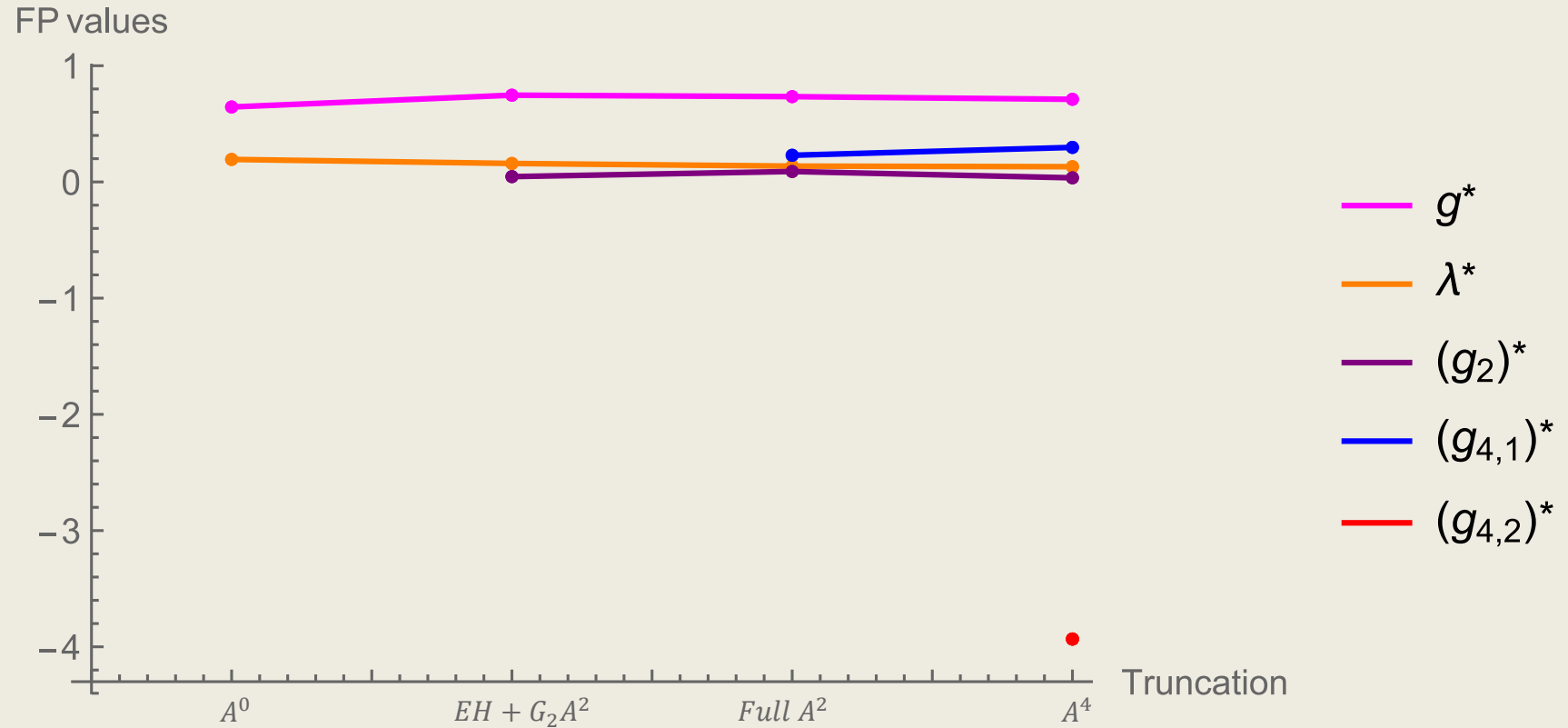


Fig.1: Fixed point values of dimensionless couplings vs the truncation considered.

Fixed Points				
$g^*$	$\lambda^*$	$g_2^*$	$g_{4,1}^*$	$g_{4,2}^*$
0.711	0.131	0.0354	0.297	-3.933

# Plots

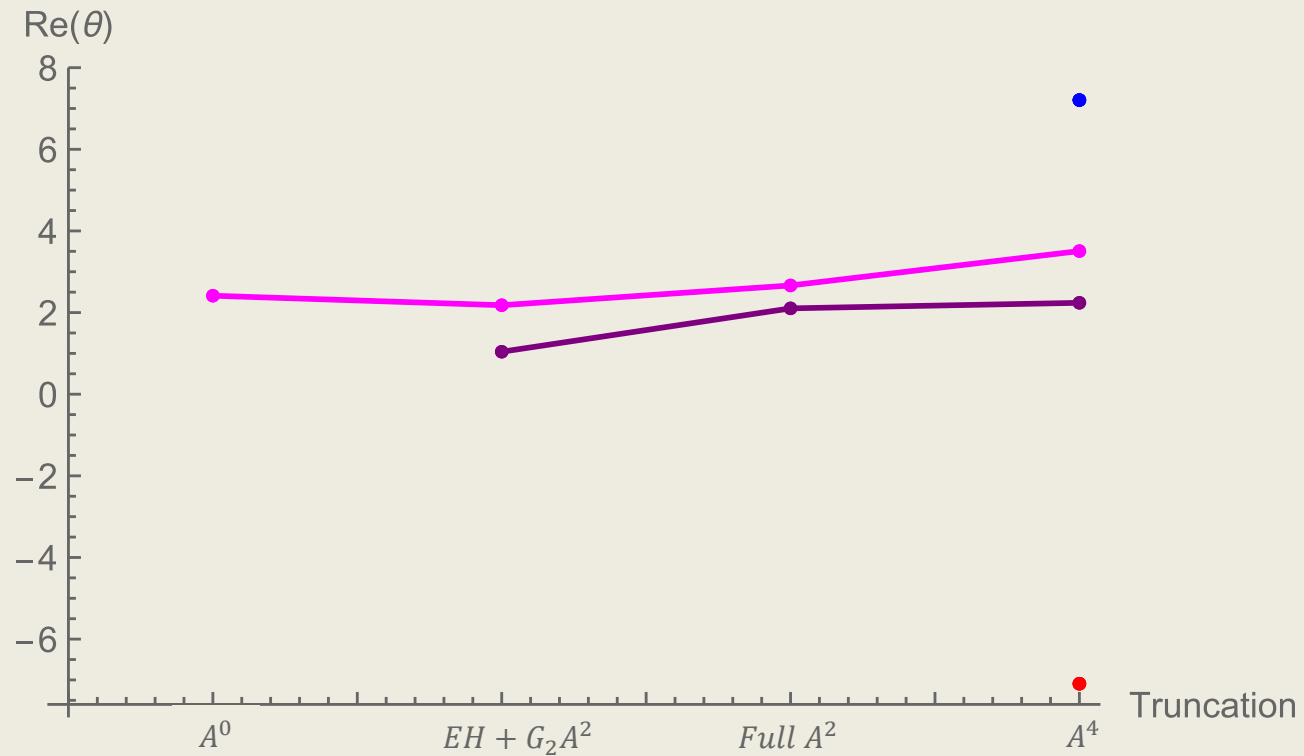


Fig.2: Real part of the critical exponents for each stable NGFP vs the truncation considered.

Critical Exponents				
$\theta_1$	$\theta_2$	$\theta_3$	$\theta_4$	$\theta_5$
$2.239 - i 1.662$	$2.239 + i 1.662$	3.506	7.206	-7.093

# Conclusions

## ■ Generalized Proca Theories:

- *Possible explanation for Dynamical Dark Energy [1];*
- *Theoretically and experimentally constrained;*
- *Lack constraints on Wilson coefficients from fundamental physics → Asymptotic Safety?*

## ■ Properties of fixed points in GPT analyzed:

- *Four relevant directions → less predictivity than usual;*
- *Slower convergence than usual → need for higher-order terms?*

## ■ Next steps:

- *Adding more terms in the Lagrangian;*
- *Using the FP to determine Wilson coefficients in the AS landscape of GPTs (as in [5, 6]).*

[1] L. Heisenberg, "A systematic approach to generalisations of General Relativity and their cosmological implications", Physics Reports Volume 796, 15 March 2019, Pages 1-113.

[5] I. Basile, A. Platania, "Asymptotic Safety: Swampland or Wonderland?", Universe 2021, 7, 389.

[6] B. Knorr, A. Platania, "Unearthing the intersections: positivity bounds, weak gravity conjecture, and asymptotic safety landscapes from photon-graviton flows", arXiv:2405.08860.

**Thank you for your attention!**