

Challenges to Cosmic Self-Acceleration in Modified Gravity from Gravitational Waves & Large-Scale Structure

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Horndeski scalar-tensor action

- Horndeski action:

$$\begin{aligned}
 S = & \frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left\{ G_2(\varphi, X) - G_3(\varphi, X) \square\varphi \right. \\
 & + G_4(\varphi, X) R + \frac{\partial G_4}{\partial X} [(\square\varphi)^2 - (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \varphi)^2] \\
 & + G_5(\varphi, X) G_{\mu\nu} \nabla^\mu \nabla^\nu \varphi \\
 & - \frac{1}{6} \frac{\partial G_5}{\partial X} [(\square\varphi)^3 - 3\square\varphi (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \varphi)^2 + 2(\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \varphi)^3] \\
 & \left. + \mathcal{L}_m(g_{\mu\nu}, \psi_i) \right\},
 \end{aligned}$$

where $X \equiv -\frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \varphi)^2$

Self-acceleration

- Conformal transformation ($\tilde{g}_{\mu\nu} = \Omega g_{\mu\nu}$) from Jordan to *Einstein-Friedmann* frame

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The breaking of the strong (or weak) equivalence principle in the cosmological background is responsible for cosmic acceleration.

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- Conformal transformation ($\tilde{g}_{\mu\nu} = \Omega g_{\mu\nu}$) from Jordan to *Einstein-Friedmann* frame
- Self-acceleration ($a \gtrsim 0.6$) ($d^2 a / dt^2 > 0$, $d^2 \tilde{a} / d\tilde{t}^2 \leq 0$):

$$\frac{d^2 \tilde{a}}{d\tilde{t}^2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Omega}} \left[\left(1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Omega'}{\Omega} \right) \frac{d^2 a}{dt^2} + \frac{a H^2}{2} \left(\frac{\Omega'}{\Omega} \right)' \right] \leq 0$$

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EFT of DE & MG

Cosmological background and linear perturbations

$H(t)$: Hubble parameter

Creminelli *et al.* (2008); Park *et al.* (2010); Gubitosi *et al.* (2012);
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$\alpha_T(t)$: Tensor speed alteration ($c_T^2 = 1 + \alpha_T$)

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- Consistency relation: $\Omega = M^2 c_T^2$, where $\alpha_M = (M^2)' / M^2$

[L & Taylor (2015)]

Linear LSS

$$ds^2 = -(1 + \Psi)dt^2 + a(t)^2(1 + 2\Phi)dx^2$$

Conservation equations unchanged; modified Einstein equations:

$$\begin{aligned}k^2\Psi &= -\frac{\kappa^2}{2}\mu(\mathbf{a}, k)\bar{\rho}_m a^2 \Delta_m \\ \Phi &= -\gamma(\mathbf{a}, k)\Psi\end{aligned}$$

Closure relations:

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- Horndeski (quasistatic): $\mu = h_1 \left(\frac{1+h_4 k^2}{1+h_5 k^2} \right)$; $\gamma = h_2 \left(\frac{1+h_3 k^2}{1+h_4 k^2} \right)$

Linear Shielding

Linearly shielded Horndeski scalar-tensor theory

- $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mu(a, k) = \gamma(a, k) = 1$
with 3 free functions of time (1 acting only beyond QS limit)
- $\mu(a, k) = \gamma(a, k) = 1$
with 2 free functions of time
- Can set $H = H_{\Lambda\text{CDM}}$ on top of that

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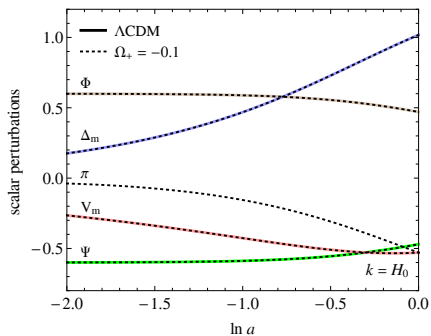
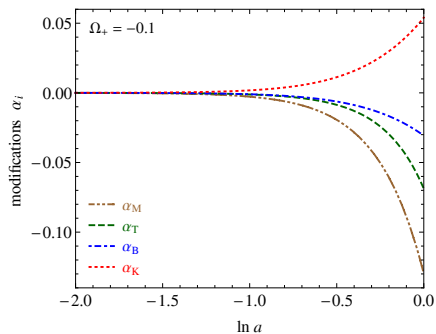
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A Dark Degeneracy



[L & Taylor (2015)]

Breaking the Dark Degeneracy with GW

- Propagation of gravitational waves:

$$h''_{ij} + \left(\alpha_M + 3 + \frac{H'}{H} \right) h'_{ij} + (1 + \alpha_T) k_H^2 h_{ij} = 0$$

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- Different **damping** of GW amplitude: can be tested with standard sirens

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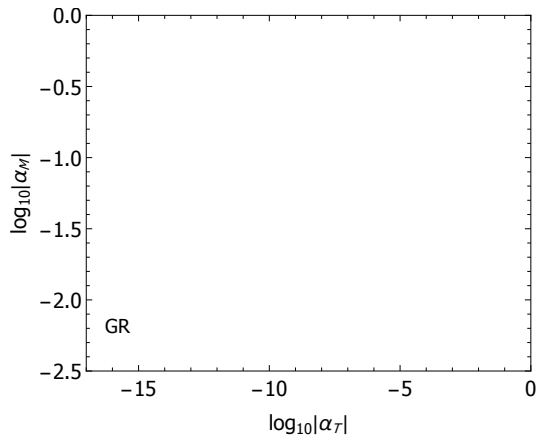
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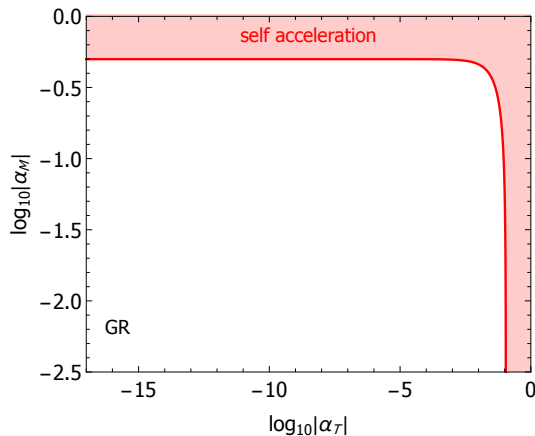
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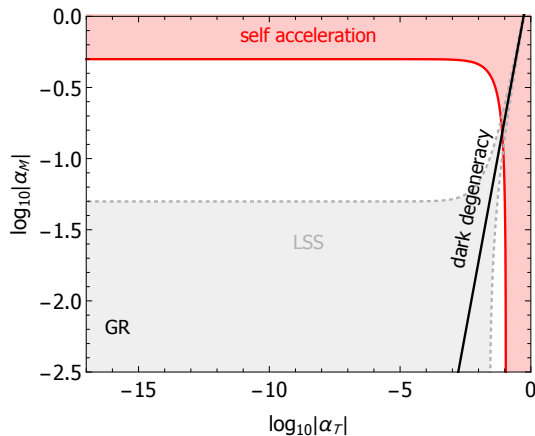
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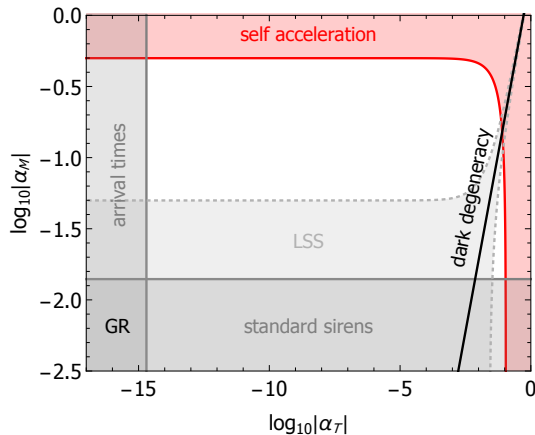
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Minimal self-acceleration

- Assume $\alpha_T \simeq 0$ ($c_T = 1$) and $H = H_{\Lambda\text{CDM}}$
cosmic rays, binary pulsars, aLIGO GW + GRB (2017?)
- Cosmic self-acceleration must be due to α_M :

$$\left| \frac{\Omega'}{\Omega} \right| = \left| \alpha_M + \frac{\alpha_T'}{1 + \alpha_T} \right| \gtrsim \mathcal{O}(1)$$

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$$\mu_\infty = \frac{2(\alpha_B - \alpha_M)^2 + \alpha c_s^2}{\alpha c_s^2 \kappa^2 M^2}$$

and $M^2, \alpha, c_s^2 > 0$ for stability

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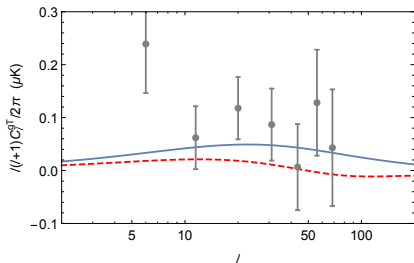
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Incompatibility with observations

- Background:
SN Ia, BAO, H_0 , CMB
- Perturbations:
CMB (Planck 2015), E_G ,
galaxy-ISW
- ISW sensitive to $\Sigma' = -\alpha_M \Sigma$
where $\Sigma = (1 + \gamma)\mu/2$
- Overall:
 3σ worse fit than Λ CDM
strong evidence for Λ ($B \simeq 39$)

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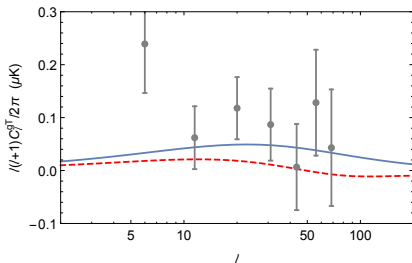
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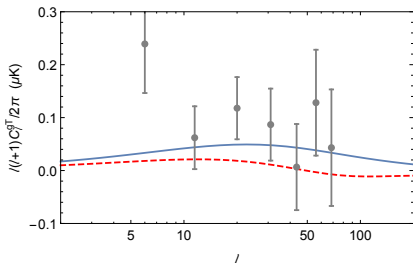
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- Horndeski (self-accelerated) MG can be degenerate in background and (linear) LSS (parametrised tests?)
- GW cosmology will break this degeneracy and discriminate between a cosmological constant (or dark energy) and a scalar-tensor modification of gravity
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