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Parallel Session Lecture Room: Modified Gravity & Dark Energy (22 Aug 2022, 16:30-16:50)

# Gravitational-wave polarizations in generic higher-curvature gravity

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(arXiv:2102.05540v2 [gr-qc])

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## **1. Introduction**

2. Degrees of freedom in HCG

3. Gravitational-wave polarizations in HCG

4. Determination of theory parameter using polarizations

5. Conclusion

# INTRODUCTION

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## Modify gravity

General relativity [Einstein (1915)] is very much consistent with observations.

Examples: Bending of light by the sun [Eddington (1919)],

The perihelion shift of Mercury's orbit [Le Verrier's (1859)],

Gravitational wave detected directly in 2015 [Adv. LIGO (2016)].

However, it is not a **perfect** theory of gravity.

Problems: Accelerated expansion of universe (dark energy)

[Supernova Search Team (1998), Supernova Cosmology Project (1998)],

Quantization [’t Hooft and Veltman (1974)], ...

To overcome these problems, there have been attempts to modify or extend general relativity,

such as **massive gravity (MG)**, **higher-curvature gravity (HCG)** and so on.

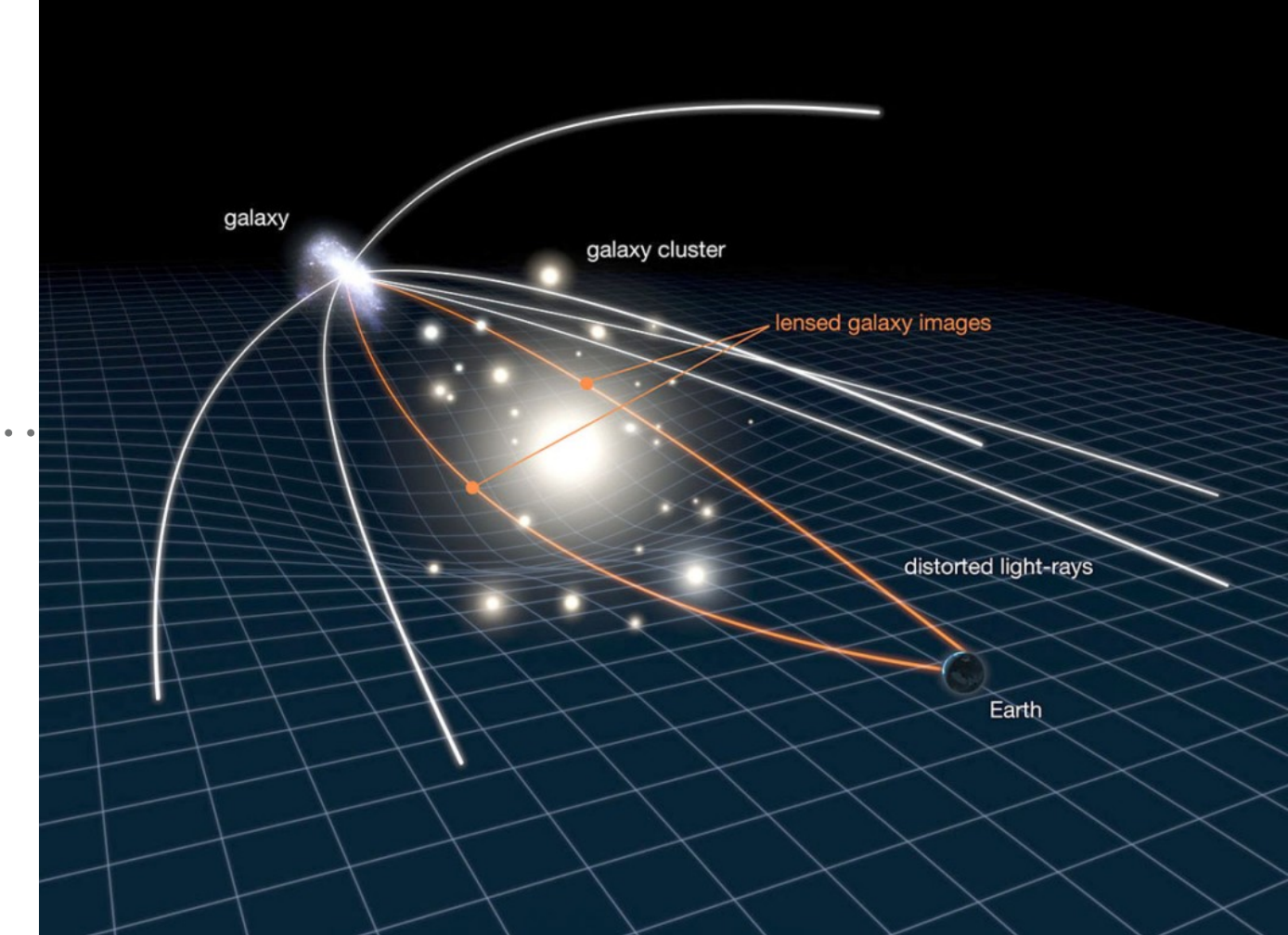


Image: NASA

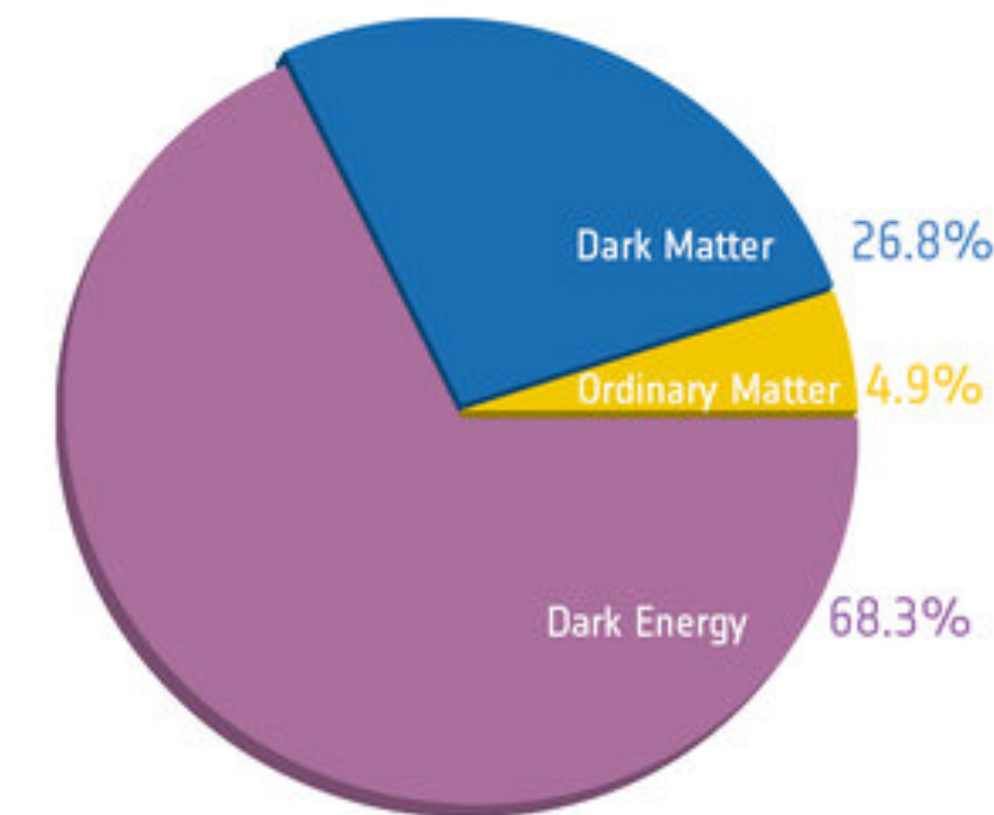


Image: ESA

# INTRODUCTION

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## Higher-curvature gravity (HCG)

### ► Motivations

- Renormalizable [Stelle (1977)]
- Inflation by  $R^2$  [Starobinsky (1980)]
- Suggestions from string theory [Gross and Witten (1986) etc.]

### ► Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = R - \alpha C_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} C^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} + \beta R^2 + \gamma (R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} - 4R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu} + R^2) + \mathcal{O}(R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma})^3$$


### ► Includes massless spin-2, massive spin-2 (Ghost) and massive spin-0 [Stelle (1978)].

### ► Absence of ghost instability

Sometimes concluded that HCG is unstable based on Ostrogradsky theorem (1850).

However, ghost and other degrees of freedom decouple at the linear level [Stelle (1978)].

Since we consider GWs, do not require  $\mathcal{O}(R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma})^3$ .  
Gauss-Bonnet term is topological in  $D = 4$ .  
 $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are positive constants with dimension of  $[L]^2$ .





# INTRODUCTION

## Gravitational waves (GWs)

- Ripples in spacetime predicted by Einstein in 1916.
- Indirect evidence of GWs as energy extraction from the Hulse-Taylor binary pulsar [Hulse and Taylor (1975), Taylor and Weisberg (1982)].
- Direct observations
  - The first observation is GW150914 [Adv. LIGO (2016)].
  - Limit on deviation  $|c_g - c|/c \leq \mathcal{O}(10^{-15})$ , interpreted as graviton mass from GW170817 [Adv. LIGO (2017)].
- Outlook
  - Observations by other facilities than laser interferometers like LIGO.

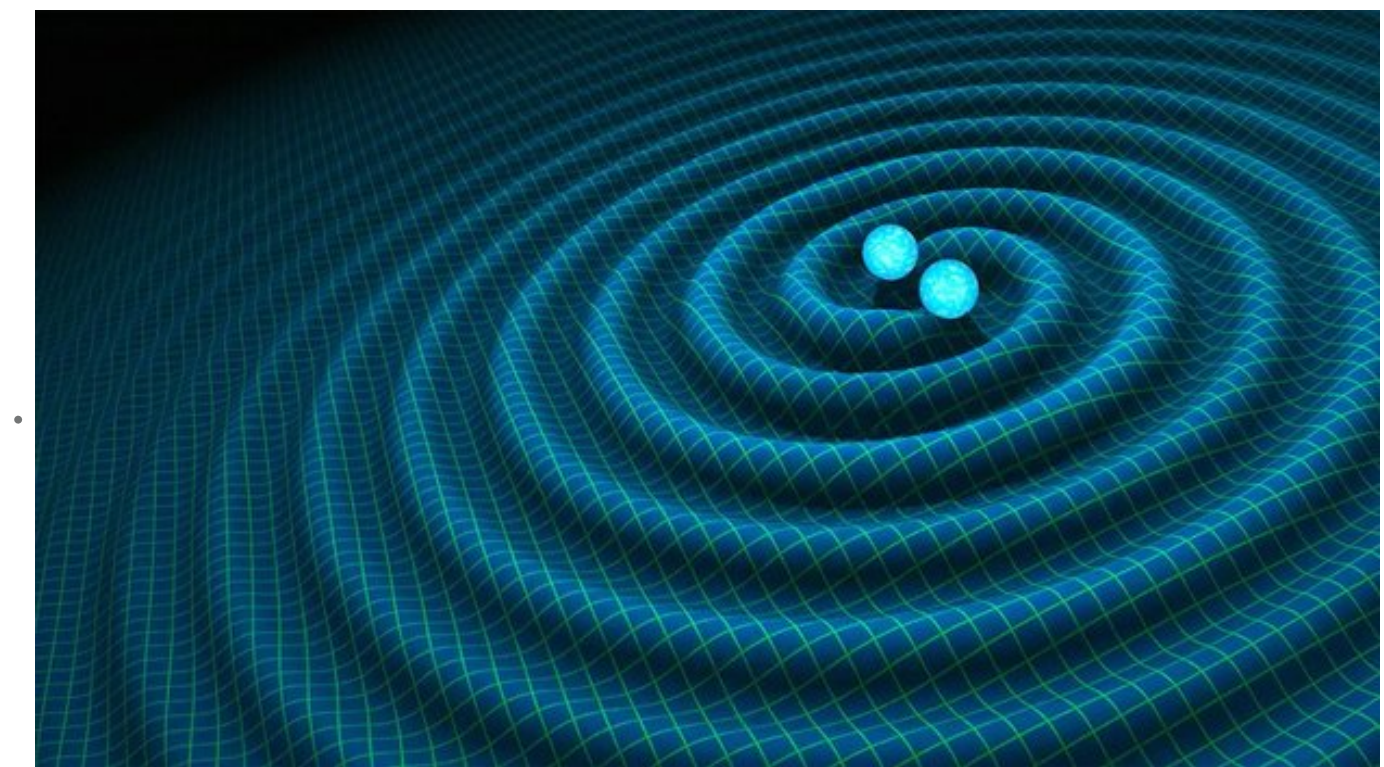
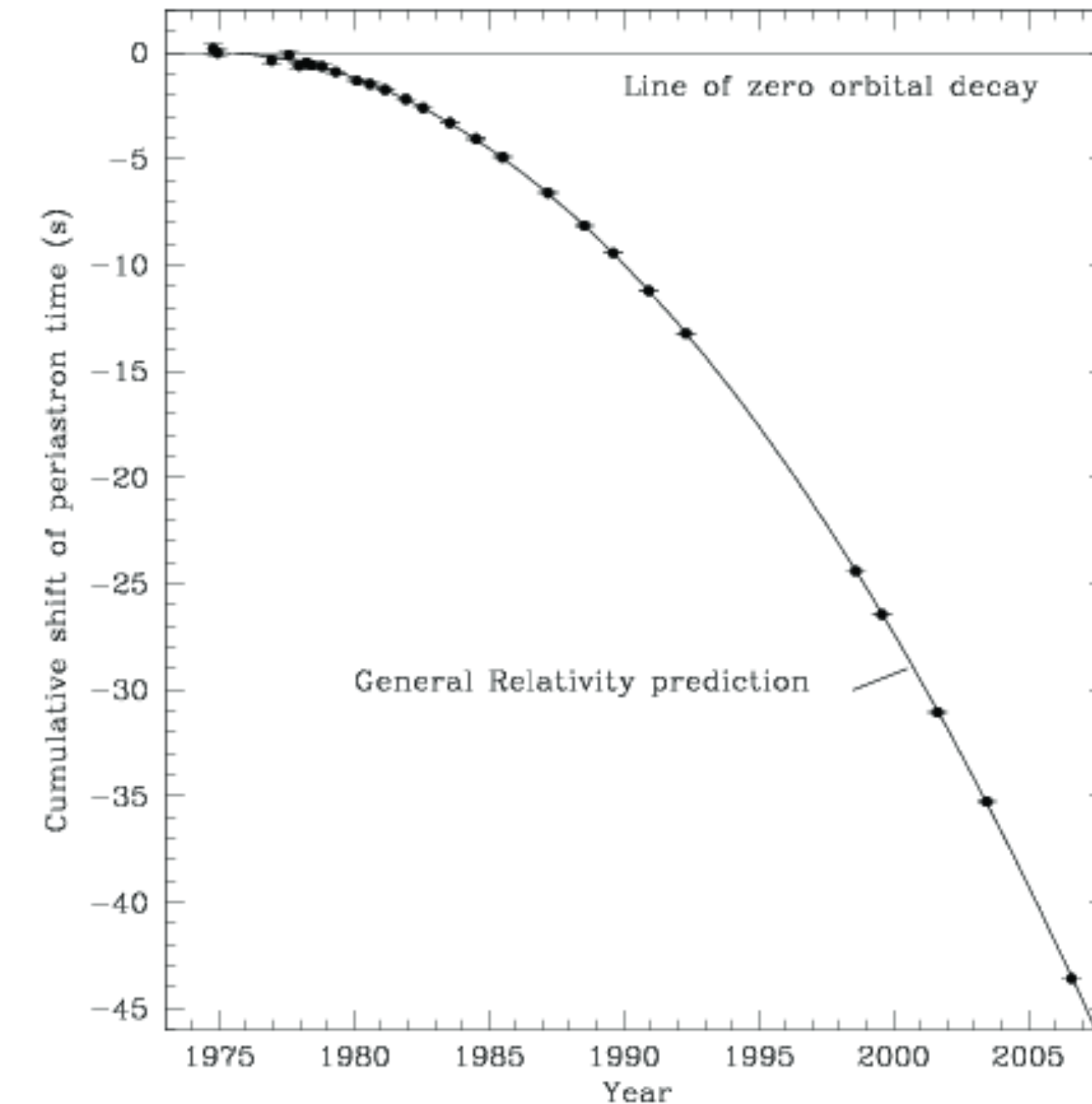


Image: LIGO



Cumulative shift of the periastron time from 1975-2005 [Will (2014)].

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# DEGREES OF FREEDOM IN HCG

The action expanded around a flat background to quadratic order

$$S_{\text{HCG}}[h_{\mu\nu}] = \frac{1}{2\kappa} \int d^4x \left( -\frac{1}{2} {}^{(1)}G_{\mu\nu} h^{\mu\nu} - \alpha {}^{(1)}C_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} {}^{(1)}C^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} + \beta {}^{(1)}R^2 \right) \text{ where } \kappa = 8\pi G \text{ is gravitational constant.}$$

Equations of motion

Tensor

General relativity

$$\begin{cases} \square \phi_{ij} = 0 \\ (1 - 2\alpha \square) \tilde{\phi}_{ij} = 0 \end{cases}$$

Vector

$$(1 - 2\alpha \square) \Sigma_i = 0$$

Scalar

$$\begin{cases} (1 - 2\alpha \square) \Theta = 0 \\ (1 - 6\beta \square) \Xi = 0 \end{cases}$$

where  $H_{ij} = \phi_{ij} + \tilde{\phi}_{ij}$ ,  $\Theta = \frac{2}{3} \Delta(\Phi - \Psi)$ ,  $\Xi = -6\square\Phi + 2\Delta(\Phi - \Psi)$ .

We identified **all dynamical degrees of freedom satisfying Klein-Gordon type eq.**[TT et al. (2021)].

Line element expanded around a flat b.g. to the linear order and construct gauge-invariant variables:

$$g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = -(1 + 2A) dt^2 - (\partial_i B + B_i) dt dx^i + (\delta_{ij} + 2\delta_{ij} C + 2\partial_i \partial_j E + 2\partial_{(i} E_{j)} + 2H_{ij}) dx^i dx^j,$$

where  $\partial_i B^i = \partial_i E^i = 0$ ,  $H_i{}^i = 0$ ,  $\partial_j H^{ij} = 0$ .

Gauge-invariant variables are  $\Psi \equiv A - (\dot{B} + \ddot{E})$ ,  $\Phi \equiv C$ ,  $\Sigma_i \equiv B_i + \dot{E}_i$  [Kodama and Sasaki (1984)].



# DEGREES OF FREEDOM IN HCG

In summary, HCG has eight degrees of freedom (dofs).

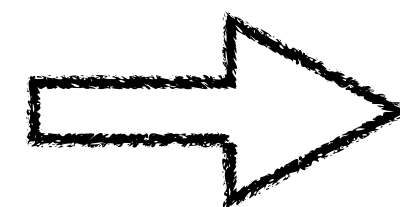
Helicity type	Variable (Number of dofs)
2 (Tensor)	$\phi_{ij} (2) + \tilde{\phi}_{ij} (2)$
1 (Vector)	$\Sigma_i (2)$
0 (Scalar)	$\Theta (1) + \Xi (1)$

$$\begin{cases} \square \phi_{ij} = 0 \\ (1 - 2\alpha \square) \tilde{\phi}_{ij} = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$(1 - 2\alpha \square) \Sigma_i = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} (1 - 2\alpha \square) \Theta = 0 \\ (1 - 6\beta \square) \Xi = 0 \end{cases}$$

How to confirm the existence of these extra dofs?



Gravitational-wave polarizations.



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# GRAVITATIONAL-WAVE POLARIZATIONS

- An orthonormal basis of propagating dynamical degrees of freedom (dofs) of gravity.
- Not yet confirmed, but possible in the near future.
- In metric theories GW can have maximally six polarizations [Eardley et al. (1973)].
- Since the contents of polarization modes differ depending on the theory of gravity, it is possible to test the correctness of the theory by observing the polarizations.

## Polarization basis

- GWs propagating in z-direction.  
(Latin indices of tensor such as  $i, j$  are spatial.)
- GR has only tensor type (plus and cross).

General  
relativity

$$e_{ij}^+ \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$e_{ij}^\times \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Tensor type

$$e_{ij}^x \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$e_{ij}^y \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Vector type

$$e_{ij}^B \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$e_{ij}^L \equiv \sqrt{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Scalar type

# GRAVITATIONAL-WAVE POLARIZATIONS

## Geodesic deviation equation

$$\ddot{\zeta}^i = -{}^{(1)}R^i{}_{0j0} \zeta^j$$

- Govern the separation of a nearby pair of test bodies at rest  $\zeta^i$ .
- The principle of detecting GWs.

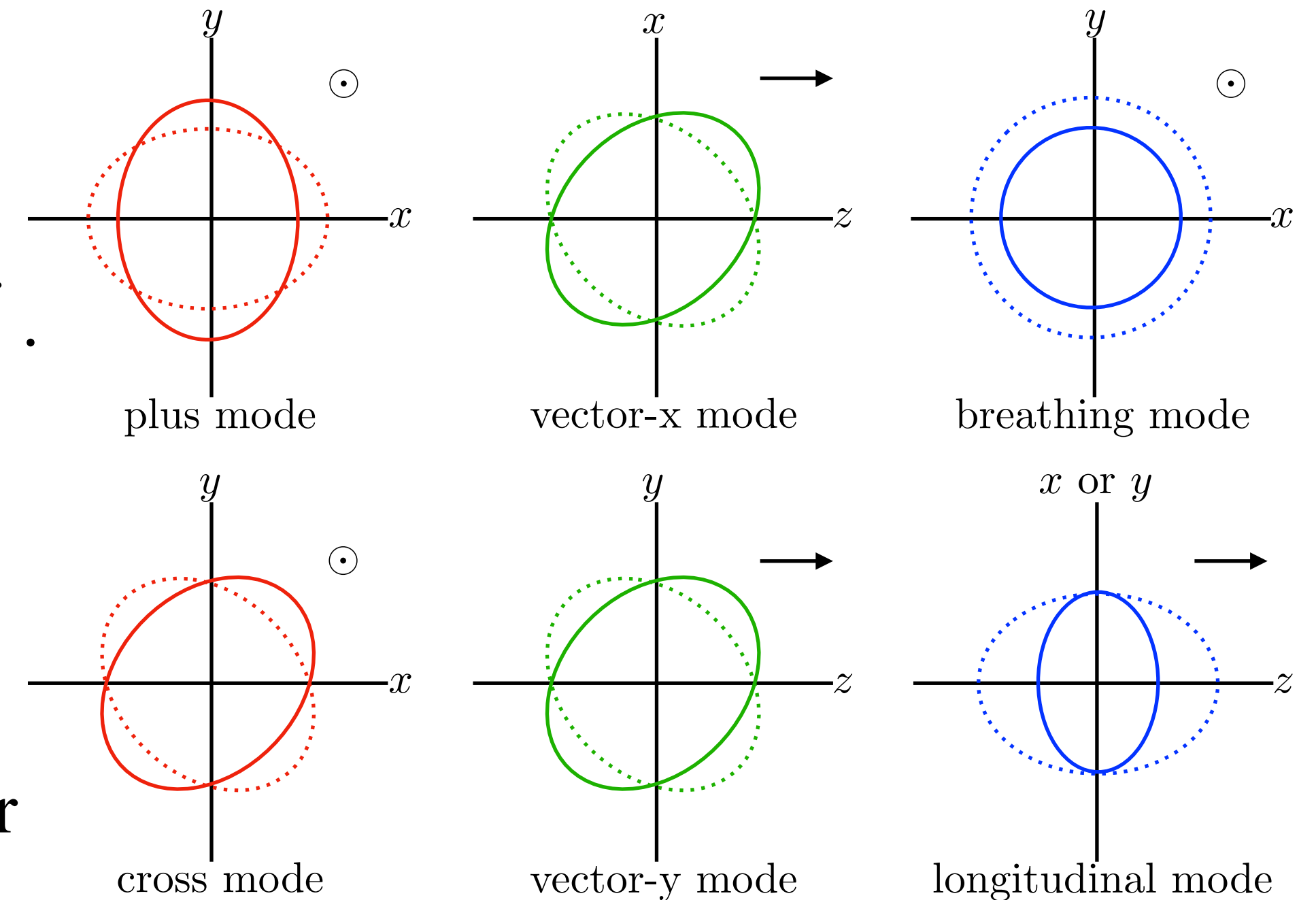
## The linear Riemann tensor

$${}^{(1)}R_{i0j0} = -\ddot{H}_{ij} - \partial_{(i}\dot{\Sigma}_{j)} + \partial_i\partial_j\Psi - \delta_{ij}\ddot{\Phi}$$

- Riemann tensor expanded around a flat b.g. to the linear order written in terms of gauge-invariant variables.
- It can be expressed as a linear combination of the polarization basis.
- A mixture of different spins occurs in the scalar part as we have seen.

## Our task

Give a complete characterization of GWs in HCG in terms of the six types of polarizations.





# GRAVITATIONAL-WAVE POLARIZATIONS IN HCG

Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = R - \alpha C_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} C^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} + \beta R^2$$

Consider **plane wave propagating in z-direction** with different frequencies each spins.

Plug  $H_{ij} = \phi_{ij} + \tilde{\phi}_{ij}$ ,  $\Phi = \alpha\Theta - \beta\Xi$ ,  $\Psi = \alpha\Theta - \frac{3}{2}\Delta^{-1}\Theta - \beta\Xi$  into linear Riemann tensor and using eoms

$$\begin{aligned} (1) R_{i0j0} &= -\ddot{H}_{ij} - \partial_{(i}\dot{\Sigma}_{j)} + \partial_i\partial_j\Psi - \delta_{ij}\ddot{\Phi} \\ &= \omega_1^2 (\phi_+ \boxed{e_{ij}^+} + \phi_\times \boxed{e_{ij}^\times}) + \omega_2^2 (\tilde{\phi}_+ \boxed{e_{ij}^+} + \tilde{\phi}_\times \boxed{e_{ij}^\times}) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\omega_2^2 - \frac{1}{2\alpha}\omega_2} (\Sigma_x \boxed{e_{ij}^x} + \Sigma_y \boxed{e_{ij}^y}) \\ &\quad + \alpha\Theta \left( \omega_2^2 \boxed{e_{ij}^B} - \frac{1}{2\alpha} \sqrt{2} \boxed{e_{ij}^L} \right) - \beta\Xi \left( \omega_0^2 \boxed{e_{ij}^B} + \frac{1}{6\beta} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \boxed{e_{ij}^L} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Weyl squared ( $\alpha \neq 0$ )

Ricci scalar squared ( $\beta \neq 0$ )

General relativity

Polarization tensors

$$\begin{aligned} \boxed{e_{ij}^+} &\equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & \boxed{e_{ij}^\times} &\equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \boxed{e_{ij}^x} &\equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & \boxed{e_{ij}^y} &\equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \boxed{e_{ij}^B} &\equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & \boxed{e_{ij}^L} &\equiv \sqrt{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

In summary,

- HCG provides six massive polarizations on top of the GR modes.
- Polarizations of scalar dofs are non-trivial linear combinations of the basis  $e_{ij}^B$  and  $e_{ij}^L$ .

# GRAVITATIONAL-WAVE POLARIZATIONS IN MASSIVE GRAVITY

At linearized level, HCG is equivalent to “GR minus MG” [Stelle (1978)].

Therefore, the analyses of MG can be applied to HCG.

Linear massive gravity action in a flat background

$$S_{\text{MG}}[h_{\mu\nu}] = \frac{1}{2\kappa} \int d^4x \left[ -\frac{1}{2} {}^{(1)}G_{\mu\nu} h^{\mu\nu} - \frac{m^2}{4} \{ h_{\mu\nu} h^{\mu\nu} - (1 - \epsilon) h^2 \} \right].$$

## Equations of motion

**Tensor**  $\square H_{ij} - m^2 H_{ij} = 0$

**Vector**  $\square \Sigma_i - m^2 \Sigma_i = 0$

**Scalar**  $\begin{cases} \square W - m^2 W = 0, \\ \epsilon \square h - \frac{3-4\epsilon}{2} m^2 h = 0 \end{cases}$  where  $W = A - \dot{B} - \ddot{E} - C$ ,  $h = 2A + 6C + 2\Delta E$ .

Plug  $\Psi = W - \frac{1}{3m^2} \Delta W + \frac{\epsilon}{6} h$ ,  $\Phi = -\frac{1}{3m^2} \Delta W + \frac{\epsilon}{6} h$  into linear Riemann tensor and using eoms.

Includes massive spin-2 and massive spin-0 (Ghost).  
If we choose  $\epsilon = 0$ , becomes Fierz—Pauli theory (1939).

# GRAVITATIONAL-WAVE POLARIZATIONS IN MASSIVE GRAVITY

Consider **plane wave propagating in z-direction** with different frequencies each spins.

**Riemann tensor**

$$\begin{aligned}
 {}^{(1)}R_{i0j0} &= -\ddot{H}_{ij} - \partial_{(i}\dot{\Sigma}_{j)} + \partial_i\partial_j\Psi - \delta_{ij}\ddot{\Phi} \\
 &= \omega_2^2 (H_+ \boxed{e_{ij}^+} + H_\times \boxed{e_{ij}^\times}) \\
 &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\omega_2^2 - m^2} (\Sigma_x \boxed{e_{ij}^x} + \Sigma_y \boxed{e_{ij}^y}) \\
 &\quad - \frac{1}{3m^2} \Delta W \left( \omega_2^2 \boxed{e_{ij}^B} - \sqrt{2}m^2 \boxed{e_{ij}^L} \right) + \frac{\epsilon}{6} h \left( \omega_0^2 \boxed{e_{ij}^B} + \frac{m_0^2}{\sqrt{2}} \boxed{e_{ij}^L} \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

Massive spin-2
Massive spin-0 ( $\epsilon \neq 0$ )

Polarization tensors

$$\begin{aligned}
 \boxed{e_{ij}^+} &\equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & \boxed{e_{ij}^\times} &\equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
 \boxed{e_{ij}^x} &\equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & \boxed{e_{ij}^y} &\equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
 \boxed{e_{ij}^B} &\equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & \boxed{e_{ij}^L} &\equiv \sqrt{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

In summary,

- Massive gravity provides six massive polarization modes if  $\epsilon \neq 0$ .
- Polarizations of scalar dofs are non-trivial linear combinations of the basis  $e_{ij}^B$  and  $e_{ij}^L$ .
- **Our method works with any epsilon.**

[TT et al. (2021)]



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# DETERMINATION OF THEORY PARAMETER

Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = R - \alpha C_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} C^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} + \beta R^2$$

## Determination of parameter with spin-0 ( $\beta \neq 0$ ) GW

The linear Riemann tensor is  ${}^{(1)}R_{i0j0} \supset -\beta \Xi \left( \omega_0^2 e_{ij}^B + \frac{1}{6\beta} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e_{ij}^L \right)$ .

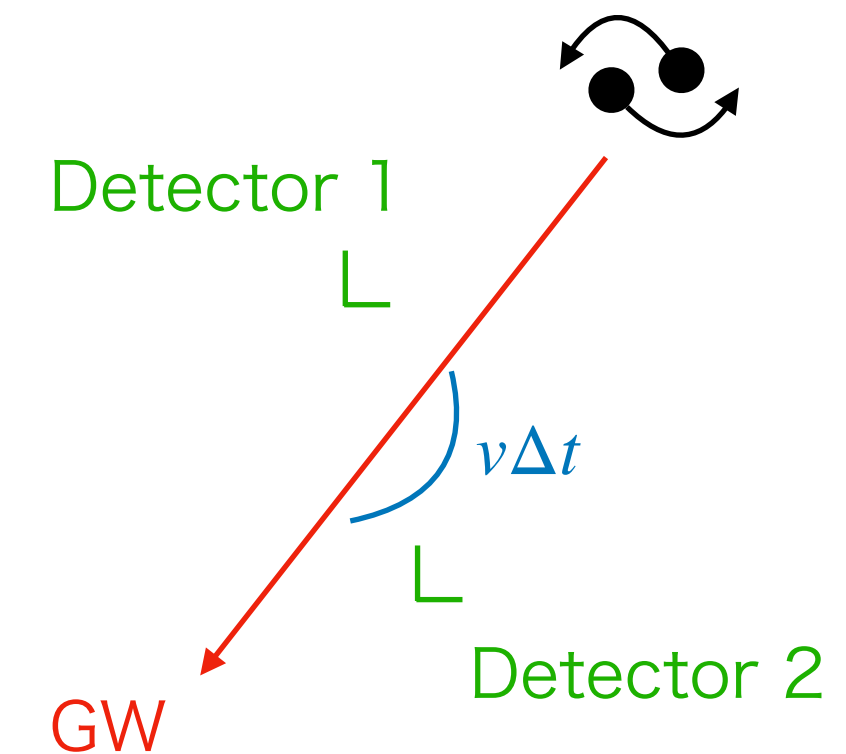
Massive spin-0 (Ricci scalar squared)

If the amplitude of each polarization  $A_B$  and  $A_L$  are detected,

the parameter  $\beta$  can be determined from the ratio  $\beta = \frac{1}{6\omega_0^2} \frac{A_B(t)}{A_L(t)}$ .

Our method does not require measuring the velocity [TT et al. (2021)].

It is also possible to determine  $\alpha$  with spin-2 GWs. However, we need more detectors.



We consider two independent signals.

$$\begin{pmatrix} S^1(t) \\ S^2(t + \Delta t) \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{F} \begin{pmatrix} A_B(t) \\ A_L(t) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{F} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} F_B^1 & F_L^1 \\ F_B^2 & F_L^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $S$  is signal and  $F$  is antenna pattern function. To solve the amplitude each polarization, the inverse of  $F$  must exist ( $\det |\mathcal{F}| \neq 0$ ).

○ Pulsar timing array

$$F_B = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{1 + v \cos \theta}, \quad F_L = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{1 + v \cos \theta}$$

✗ Laser interferometer

$$F_B = -\frac{1}{2} \sin^2 \theta \cos 2\phi, \quad F_L = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sin^2 \theta \cos 2\phi$$

[Yunes and Siemens (2013),

Qin, Boddy and Kamionkowski (2021)]

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# CONCLUSION

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## I showed

- All helicity states in HCG and MG satisfy Klein-Gordon type equations.
- HCG and MG provide massive polarizations.
  - HCG provides six massive polarizations on top of the GR modes.
  - MG provides six massive polarizations ( $\epsilon \neq 0$ ).
  - Polarizations of scalar dofs are non-trivial linear combinations of the basis  $e_{ij}^{\text{B}}$  and  $e_{ij}^{\text{L}}$ .
- Method to determine theory parameters (masses) by observations.
  - We need to detect the amplitudes of both scalar modes.
  - However, our method does not require measuring GW velocity.

## Outlook

- Develop a method to detect GW polarizations.
- Consider interaction with matter fields (energy extraction from binary systems).