Probing Gravity with Large-Scale Structure

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Pictorial History of the Universe



Motivation 1

- Cosmology experiments are providing us with a wealth of information
- On scales > few Mpc, gravity is the only relevant force
- We should be using this information to test gravity...



Motivation 2

- The Universe is accelerating
- Physics behind acceleration is a big mystery

Modify any of the ingredients:

Homogeneity & Isotropy
- FRW metric

General Relativity (GR)
- Friedmann Equation

Accelerating Universe

Stress-Energy Content
- Matter & Radiation

Modify any of the ingredients:



Stress-Energy Content
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Homogeneity & Isotropy
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Modify any of the ingredients:



- Minimal solution: cosmological constant Λ

Homogeneity & Isotropy
- FRW metric

General Relativity (GR)
- Friedmann Equation

Accelerating Universe

Stress-Energy Content
- Matter & Radiation

Tests of Gravity: 6 years ago

Solar System

 Precision constraints from time delay

• CMB (+SN, BAO)

- Model-dependent constraints (geometry, ISW)
- Important for developing viable modified gravity models



Modified Gravity: Challenges

Theoretical Challenge:

 How to evade Solar System (and CMB) constraints

Idea: reduce to GR in high-curvature regime

Applies to Early Universe as well as high-density regions today

Modified Gravity: Challenges

Observational Challenge:

- How can we distinguish Modified Gravity from GR + Dark Energy ?
 - (Almost) any expansion possible with Dark Energy

Beyond background: growth of structure

- Predictions straightforward in *linear regime*
- Non-linear regime less so...
- Will always compare modified gravity with Dark Energy model with *identical expansion history*

Probing gravity: linear vs nonlinear regime

Linear regime: CMB, Supernovae, BAO

- Parametrizing gravity possible --> model-independent constraints
- Limited statistical/constraining power

Non-linear regime: weak lensing, cluster abundance,...

- No general parametrization: specific non-linearities of modified gravity model important
- Wealth of observables, plenty of S/N

f(R) Gravity

- Simplest workable modified gravity model
- Generalize Lagrangian of General Relativity:

$$\mathcal{L}_g = \frac{1}{16\pi G} (R - 2\Lambda) \longrightarrow \frac{1}{16\pi G} (R + f(R))$$

• Choose function with Λ CDM limit:

$$f(R) = -2\Lambda \frac{R/R_c}{R/R_c + 1} \approx -2\Lambda - f_{R0} \frac{R_0^2}{R},$$

Hu & Sawicki, PRD 07

f(R) Gravity

• f(R) model produces Λ CDM expansion history without true Λ

- Difference in H(z) of order $f_{R0} \ll 1$ (background field value today)

- Equivalent to scalar-tensor theory
 - Scalar field $f_R \equiv \frac{df}{dR}$ with universal coupling
 - Grav. force enhanced by 4/3 within $\lambda_C = \sqrt{3f_{RR}}$
- Chameleon effect: recover GR locally
 - Scalar field decouples in high-density regions

Chameleon Mechanism

• Consider scalar ϕ with equation of motion (static regime)



- GR restored in *sufficiently deep* potential wells: $\Psi \gtrsim \frac{3}{2}\overline{\phi} = \frac{3}{2}\overline{f_R}$ average (background) field

- Must hold in Solar System

Working Example II: DGP

- Dvali-Gabadadze-Porrati model:
 - Matter / radiation confined to 4D brane in 5D Minkowski space
 - Action constructed to reduce to GR on small scales



Working example II: DGP

- Sub-horizon scales ($\leq r_c, H^{-1}$): effective scalar-tensor theory
 - Massless field φ *brane-bending mode*
 - $\varphi(\vec{x},t)$ quantifies displacement of brane in extra dimension

Brane-bending mode

- Linearized solution: $\varphi = \frac{2}{3\beta} \Psi_N$, $\beta(a) \propto H r_c$
 - i.e. time-dependent G (grav. constant)
- When $\delta \rho / \bar{\rho} \gtrsim 1$, non-linear interactions of φ important:

$$\nabla^2 \varphi + \frac{r_c^2}{3\beta a^2} [(\nabla^2 \varphi)^2 - (\nabla_i \nabla_j \varphi) (\nabla^i \nabla^j \varphi)] = \frac{8\pi G a^2}{3\beta} \delta \rho$$

• Leads to screening of field at high densities: *Vainshtein mechanism*

Vainshtein mechanism

 For spherically symmetric object, φ is screened within

$$r_*(r) = \left(\frac{16 \, G \, M(< r) r_c^2}{9\beta^2}\right)^{1/3}$$

Vainshtein radius

- Vainshtein mechanism operates at fixed *enclosed density*



From Theory to Data

- In order to confront these models with observations, need accurate predictions
 - Standard tool for virtually any large-scale structure measurement: *N-body simulations*
 - However: Chameleon, Vainshtein mechanisms generally active when $\delta \rho/\bar{\rho}\gtrsim 1$
- Require self-consistent N-body simulations to predict observables on non-linear scales
 - Signatures of screening mechanisms interesting to look for in their own right

Simulating Modified Gravity

 Need self-consistent solution of nonlinear scalar field and dark matter

Particle-mesh code:

- Density and potential are evaluated on cubic grid
- Given modified potential, propagation of particles unchanged



Main task: solve for potential

• Newtonian potential Ψ_N :

Oyaizu 08, FS 09a Li, Zhao, Koyama 10

- Obtained via Fourier transform of density
- Scalar field φ :
 - Non-linear relaxation scheme (Newton-Raphson)
 - Parallelized with multi-grid acceleration

• Finally:
$$\Psi = \Psi_N + \frac{1}{2} \varphi$$

- Non-linear relaxation *time-consuming:*
 - CPU time ~20x that of ordinary GR simulations

Results: Structure Formation



Slice through simulation at z=0, size: 64 Mpc/h

 $\text{GR}-\Lambda\text{CDM}$

Circles: 20 most massive halos

Results: Structure Formation



Slice through simulation at z=0, size: 64 Mpc/h

f(R) with $f_{R0} = 10^{-4}$

Circles: 20 most massive halos

Vainshtein in Action...

 Ψ

Brane-bending mode

Newtonian potential

DGP simulation, 64 Mpc/h box, z=0

 φ

Linear vs Non-linear Scales...

- Relative deviation of matter power spectrum from ΛCDM



Linear vs Non-linear Scales...

- Relative deviation of matter power spectrum from ΛCDM



Abundance of Dark Matter Halos

- Massive DM halos $(M \gtrsim 10^{14} M_{\odot})$ observable as galaxy clusters
- Abundance "exponentially sensitive" to P(k) normalization
 - Excellent probe of growth of structure (once observable – halo mass relation is known)

Halo Abundance in f(R)



Strong field (10⁻⁴):

- Large enhancement at high masses (as expected)
- Semi-analytical model works reasonably well

DGP qualitatively similar

FS, Lima, Oyaizu, Hu, 2009

Halo Abundance in f(R)



• Smaller field (10⁻⁵):

- Background field comparable to typical potentials
- Chameleon begins to act at highest masses

FS, Lima, Oyaizu, Hu, 2009

Halo Abundance in f(R)



• Weak field (10⁻⁶):

- Chameleon effect active at large masses
- Abundance of clusters not a good probe anymore

FS, Lima, Oyaizu, Hu, 2009

Application: constraining f(R) with Cluster Abundance

- X-ray clusters from ROSAT survey
 - Observable: N(>M_{$_0$}); ~35 clusters at z < 0.15
 - Mass-observable scatter probably smallest in X-rays
- Treat f(R) effect as effective σ_{g} enhancement
 - Spherical collapse model to predict scaling of f(R) effect with parameters
 - CMB constrains primordial normalization
 - SN, H_o, BAO break parameter degeneracies

Application: constraining f(R) with Cluster Abundance

0.1

95% CL upper limit: $|f_{R0}| < 1.3 imes 10^{-4}$ 0.01 CL) 10^{-3} 10^{-3} 10^{-4} 10^{-4} cf. constraints from linear regime: $|f_{R0}| \lesssim 0.1$ 10³ $\lambda_C \lesssim 2000 \mathrm{Mpc}$ λ_c [Mpc] 100 10 2 3 4 5 FS, Vikhlinin, Hu 09 n Ferraro, FS, Hu 10; f(R) functional shape 34 see also Lombriser et al, 10

Forecast for SZ cluster samples

- Significantly larger next generation cluster samples (> 1000)
 - Number counts (dN/dz) and clustering (P(k)) of clusters
 - Self-calibration of bias & scatter in massobservable relation
- f(R) effects enter through
 - Mass function
 - Halo bias & matter P(k)
 - Effect on dynamical mass (-> later)

Planck SZ cluster constraints

• Fischer-forecast as function of fiducial f_{R0}



Fully marginalized, assuming flat ΛCDM background

Combination dN/dz+P(k) breaks degeneracies w/ nuisance parameters

Mak, Pierpaoli, FS, Macellari

Halo Density Profiles



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- Stacked halo profiles for ΛCDM and f(R)
 - Inner halo profiles unchanged
 - Some effects in *infall* region
- Observable through weak lensing

FS et al., 09 Li et al., 10

Halo Profiles through Weak Lensing Shear

- Measurement of stacked halo density profiles
 - From Sloan cluster (maxBCG) lensing Mandelbaum et al.
 - f(R) predictions through abundance matching
 - Marginalize over scatter

Fully marginalized 95% CL constraint: $|f_{R0}| < 0.0035$

Lombriser, FS, et al., 11



Halo Profiles through Weak Lensing Shear

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Weak scaling with f_{R0} - could become competitive soon, e.g. with DES

Lombriser, FS, et al., 11



Tests of Gravity: Today

- Specifically: constraints on f(R)
- Large-scale structure filling in significant amounts of "white space" !
- Goal: constraints comparable to Solar System



Tests of Gravity: Today

- Matter power spectrum, halo abundance, profiles: not specific to modified gravity
 - Other non-standard ingredients can lead to similar effects (or cancel those of mod. gravity)
 - e.g., neutrinos, primordial non-Gaussianity, ...
- We would like to have tests that *directly* target gravity

Direct Tests of Gravity ?

 Ψ

Brane-bending mode

Newtonian potential

DGP simulation, 64 Mpc/h box, z=0

 φ

Direct Tests of Gravity ?

• Compare (non-rel.) dynamics with lensing: $\Psi = \Psi_N + rac{1}{2}\phi \qquad \Psi - \Phi = \Psi_N - \Phi_N$



Direct Tests of Gravity ?

- Compare (non-rel.) dynamics with lensing: $\Psi = \Psi_N + rac{1}{2}\phi \qquad \Psi \Phi = \Psi_N \Phi_N$
 - *Linear regime:* redshift distortions vs weak lensing Zhang et al 08, Reyes et al 2010

- Non-linear regime: dynamical mass vs lensing mass Schwab et al, Smith 09

X-ray; SZ; galaxy dynamics in clusters; dynamics within galaxies

FS, 2010

Phase-Space around Clusters



Lam et al, 2012

Phase-Space around Clusters

• RMS dispersion of V_{los} as function of r_{perp}



Stronger effect than virial scaling

$$\propto \sqrt{G_{
m eff}/G}$$

Eventually approaching linear scaling

 $\propto G_{
m eff}/G$

Lam et al, 2012

Conclusions

- Large scale structure offers numerous ways to probe gravity
 - Much more information on non-linear scales
 - Model-dependent constraints, though tests not model-dependent
- f(R) and DGP predictions worked out
 - More work on N-body codes necessary
- Comparing dynamics with lensing allows for (semi-)direct test of gravity
 - Effective for *any* scalar-tensor type models