



**The Abdus Salam  
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## **Summer School in Cosmology**

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### **Dark Energy**

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# What is Dark Energy?

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EITHER

$$W_{d.e.}^{(z)} = -1$$



$$\rho_\Lambda = M_p^2 \Lambda$$



no new degrees of freedom beyond GR + SM  
(end of story)

⇒ Consistent low energy effective field theory is

$$\mathcal{S} = \int \sqrt{-g} \left[ -\Lambda M_p^2 + \frac{1}{2} M_p^2 R + c_1 R^2 + c_2 R^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu} \right. \\ \left. + c_3 R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} + \dots - \frac{1}{M_p^2} - \frac{1}{M_p^4} \dots \right]$$

+  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{STANDARD MODEL}}$

+ STANDARD MODEL / GR COUPLINGS

Actual cutoff  $\Lambda$  may be lower  $\Lambda_c \ll M_{pl}$

OR

$$W_{d.e.}(z) \neq -1$$



Dynamical

$$P_{d.e.}(z)$$



New degrees of freedom (particles (eg. bosons or  
 composite of fermions) that lie beyond GR+SM  
 but now at low energies

Theorem:  $\boxed{\text{GR} + \Lambda + (R^2 + R^3 + \dots)}$  is unique theory of massless spin two

No way to modify gravity without introducing new  
 degrees of freedom (unless break Lorentz invariance  
 - see for example recent versions of Hoava-Lifshitz theory)

(3700)

New degrees of freedom must

necessarily be light  $m_{d.e} \leq 10^{-33} \text{ eV } (H)$

Why? consider massive scalar in FRW

$$S = \int \sqrt{g} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 \right]$$

Working in proper time, the equation for homogeneous solutions is

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} + m^2\phi = 0$$

Two regimes of interest

$m \gg H$  (neglect friction)  $\ddot{\phi} + m^2\phi \sim 0$

$$\phi \sim A \cos(mt)$$

For a scalar  $\rho = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 + \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2$

$$P = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2$$

$$\langle \rho \rangle = \frac{m^2 A^2}{2} \langle \sin^2(mt) \rangle - \frac{1}{2} m^2 A^2 \langle \cos^2(mt) \rangle$$

average taken over  
time  $T = \frac{2\pi}{m}$

$$= 0$$

$$\therefore \langle W \rangle = 0 \Rightarrow \rho_{\phi} \sim \frac{1}{a^3}$$

behaves like matter.

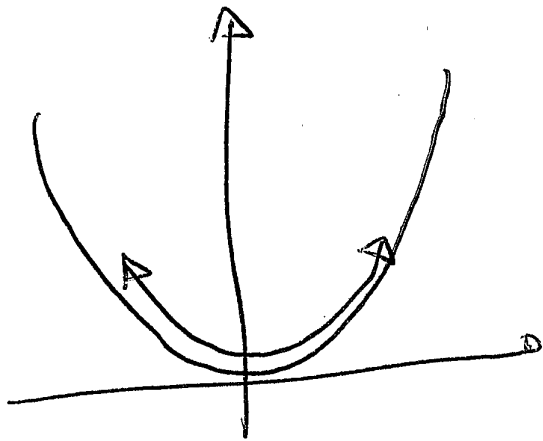
Can alternatively be argued by noting that since

$$S = \int a^3 \left[ \frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 \right]$$

$u = a^{3/2} \phi$  is natural canonically normalized variable

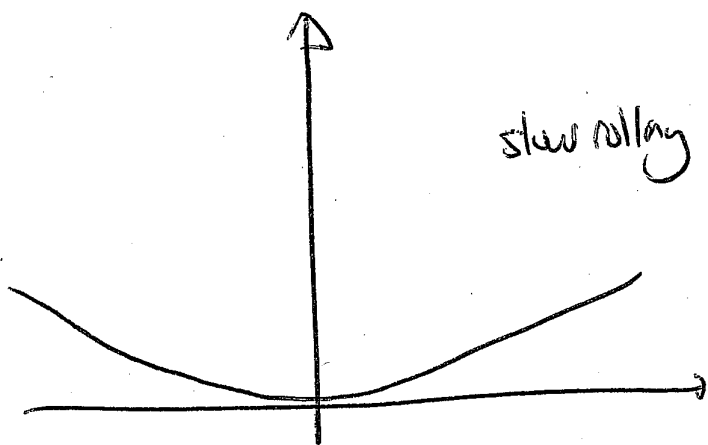
$$\therefore \rho \sim \dot{\phi}^2 \dots \sim \frac{1}{a^3} \dot{u}^2 \dots \sim \frac{1}{a^3}$$

3900



field oscillates  
back and forth many times  
in one Hubble time and so  
redshifts like matter

If  $m \ll H$  friction dominates  $3H\dot{\phi} = -m^2\phi$



slow rolling (like inflation)

$$(\ln \dot{\phi}) = -\frac{m^2}{3H}$$

$$-\frac{m^2}{3} \int \frac{1}{H} dt$$

$$\phi \sim A e$$

Since  $\int \frac{1}{H} dt \sim \frac{t}{H} \sim O(H^2) N$  ↗ m. of e-folds

for  $m^2 \ll H^2$  variation of  $\phi$  is very slow

In this case 
$$\rho = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 + \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2$$

$$\rho = \frac{1}{2} m^2 \left( \frac{m^2}{9H^2} + 1 \right) A^2 e^{-\frac{2m^2}{3} \int \frac{1}{H} dt}$$

↘ largely constant

$$1 + w = \frac{p + \rho}{\rho} = \frac{\dot{\phi}^2}{\frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 + \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2}$$

$$= \frac{2 \times m^4 \phi^2 / gH^2}{m^4 \phi^2 / gH^2 + m^2 \dot{\phi}^2}$$

$$= \frac{2m^2 gH^2}{1 + m^2 / gH^2} \approx \frac{2m^2}{gH^2} \approx 0$$

(small)

if  $m \ll H$

This is of course nothing more than text book slow roll inflation (chaotic)!

Thus to behave like dark energy we need new degrees of freedom to have  $m_{d.o.f.} \leq H$ .

This argument holds quite generally (after all its just about length scales.) eg in complicated condense like models of d.e. it would hold for collective coordinate or goldstone like degrees of freedom.

In particular argument holds for both fundamental scalars or higher spin fields, and is independent of whether view dark energy as separate source of stress energy or modification of gravity.

If we believe in Lorentz invariance at high energies, new degrees of freedom characterized by mass and spin

spin 200 : extra massless or massive  
3 = 2 + 1

spin one : extra massless or massive  
↑ scalar hidden

spin two : ~~extra massless~~ or massive  
(inconsistent theories)

spin > 3 : ~~(inconsistent theories)~~ X



Examples

Extra scalars

Quintessence, k-essence  
Bran-Prhe f(R) theories  
f(R, GB) theories  
    ↑ Gauss-Bonnet

Extra spin 1

TeVeS (mostly for dark matter alternative)

Vector inflation (mostly for inflation)

Extra spin 2

Extra dimensions (KK modes)

massive gravity  
DGP model (cascading gravity)

Here strictly speaking not extra massive spin 2  
but rather entirely massive spin 2!

# What is difference between Dark energy and modified gravity?

## Dark Energy

Gravitational force between two particles eg electrons is mediated entirely by  $m=0$   $s=2$  graviton



Dark energy stress energy separately conserved



Quintessence Vectors inflation  
k-essence  
'fluid models'

## Modified Gravity

Addition light degrees of freedom propagate gravitational force between matter



Dark energy fields non-minimally coupled to matter



Bran-Dicke,  $f(R)$ ,  $f(R, c, b)$   
TeVeS, Extra dimensions,  
massive gravity, DGP - cascading gravity.

Note that it is nothing to do with  
 'modifying the LHS or RHS of Einstein's equations'  
 but rather to do with what degrees of freedom  
 there are and what forces do they propagate.

Distinction largely overrated!

eg take example of coupled ~~with~~ dark energy, dark matter

$$S = \int \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - V(\phi) + \frac{M_p^2}{2} R \right. \\
 \left. + h^2(\phi) \mathcal{L}_{\text{baryonic matter}} [h(\phi) g_{\mu\nu}, \chi_i] \right. \\
 \left. + f^2(\phi) \mathcal{L}_{\text{dark matter}} [f g_{\mu\nu}, \psi] \right]$$

for example

$$\text{If } h(\phi) = f(\phi) = 1$$

we would call this quintessence - so  $\phi$   
describes dark energy

$$\text{if } h(\phi) = f(\phi) \neq \text{constant}$$

We would call this a generalised Brans-Dicke theory  
which is equivalent to an f(R) theory and  
so is in some sense a modified theory of gravity

$$\text{if } h(\phi) \neq f(\phi) \text{ and neither are constant}$$

we call this 'coupled dark energy'.

This illustrates the point that the namings are  
largely artificial.

N.B. 'modified gravity' assumes universal couplings  
to matter. Justified in case of braneworld  
constructions where matter lives on brane metric

(4600)

Quick reminder on  $f(R)$  - Brans-Dicke  
equivalence

$$S = \frac{M_p^2}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ f(R) + \mathcal{L}_m[\chi_i, g_{\mu\nu}] \right]$$

$$\equiv \frac{M_p^2}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \overset{\text{auxiliary field}}{\Phi} R + b(\Phi) + \mathcal{L}_m[\chi_i, g_{\mu\nu}] \right]$$

provided  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \Phi} \equiv R + b_{,\Phi} = 0$  (solve  $\Phi = \Phi(R)$ )

and  $f(R) = \Phi(R)R + b(\Phi(R))$

since  $R$  contains  $\overset{\circ}{g} - \dot{N}$   $\Phi$  is not strictly auxiliary  
but rather has dynamics

This is a Brans-Dicke theory in Jordan frame.

It may be rewritten in Einstein frame as

$$g_{\mu\nu}^E = \Phi g_{\mu\nu}$$

$$\Phi = e^{\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \phi / M_{pl}}$$

$$S = \frac{M_{pl}^2}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g_E} \left[ R_E - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla^E \phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right]$$
  
$$+ e^{-2\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \phi / M_{pl}} \mathcal{L}_m [x_i, e^{-\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \frac{\phi}{M_{pl}}}, g_{\mu\nu}^E]$$

where  $V(\phi) = -\frac{M_{pl}^2}{2} \frac{b(\Phi)}{\Phi^2} = -\frac{M_{pl}^2}{2} e^{-2\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \frac{\phi}{M_{pl}}} b e^{-\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \frac{\phi}{M_{pl}}}$

Note that although f(R) is a function of 10 variables and Brans-Dicke is function of 11

No. of physical degrees of freedom is same

f(R): 10 - 4 (gauge) - 3 (constraints) = 3

Brans-Dicke: 11 - 4 (gauge) - 4 (constraints) = 3

Thus these theories are identical as EFTs! even at quantum level

What is sensible model of dark energy?

4800

Must be sensible low energy EFT!

logic of EFT : specify particle content plus symmetries  
the write down every operator/interaction consistent with symmetries

EFT is a 'double expansion'

- scales with which fields are suppressed

- scales with which derivatives are suppressed

For instance for a single scalar field a highly general  
(although not exhaustive form is)

Schematically

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{int}} = f^4 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} C_{np} \frac{\partial^p}{M^p} \left( \frac{\phi}{v} \right)^n$$

(see Cliff Burgess reviews on EFT)

NB - here 3 <sup>mass</sup> ~~length~~ scales  $M, v, f$

$M$  suppresses derivatives

$v$  suppresses fields

$f$  determines scale of theory (in a sense  $\hbar \sim \frac{1}{f^4}$ )

If we calculate some scattering amplitude with

$E$  external legs,  $L$  loops and  $V$  vertices

with  $q$  representing a typical external momentum then we get

$$A_E(q) \sim f^4 \left( \frac{1}{v} \right)^E \left( \frac{Mq}{4\pi f^2} \right)^{2L} \left( \frac{q}{M} \right)^{2+V}$$

↑  
related to  $V$



For fixed  $E$  we are one summation over loops 5000  
and vertices

For validity we require  $q \ll M$  i.e.  $\partial \ll M$   
 $q \ll \frac{f^2}{M}$  i.e.  $\partial \ll \frac{f^2}{M}$

N.B. loops are weighted by  $\hbar \sim \frac{1}{f^4} (Mq)^2$  as expected

The fact that expansions are separate means that there are instances where we can resum expansion

eg allow  $\phi \sim v$  (although  $\sqrt{S\phi^2} \ll v$ )  
keeping  $\partial \ll M$

$$S = -\frac{1}{2} (v\phi)^2 - \underbrace{f^4 \sum c_n \left(\frac{\phi}{v}\right)^n}_{V(\phi)}$$

(Quintessence !)

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An alternative extreme is where we resum as

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = f^4 \mathcal{P} \left( \frac{X}{f^4} \right) \quad \text{L-essence} \quad X = -\frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2$$

where in effect  $f \sim M \sim v$

EFT is still under control if  $\partial \ll f$

However it is possible classically to have

$$X \sim f^4 \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \partial\phi \sim f^2$$

as long as  $\sqrt{(\partial\phi)^2} \ll f^2$

Allowing for modified kinetic term gives  
a wide array of possibilities for what  
quintessence may look like.