

From Modified Gravity to Observations, and Back

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Future Surveys of Cosmic Structure

DESI will cover 14000 deg² with spectroscopy, measuring 3D clustering and BAO and RSD.

LSST will cover 18000 deg² with 6 band imaging, measuring weak lensing and photometric galaxy clustering.

WFIRST will go deep, with red/NIR imaging and IFU spectroscopy, measuring 3D clustering at z>1.5.







The Pull of Gravity



In general relativity, (linear) growth of structure and expansion are tied together – one predicts the other. Cosmic growth tests GR.



Growth rate dD/dlna = $f\sigma_8$



$$\nabla^2(\phi + \psi) = 8\pi G_N a^2 \delta\rho \times G_{\text{light}} \leftarrow \text{weak lensing}$$
$$\nabla^2 \psi = 4\pi G_N a^2 \delta\rho \times G_{\text{matter}} \leftarrow \text{growth}$$

Cosmic Growth + Light Deflection



Modified gravity affects both the growth of structure and the deflection of light (lensing). Look at the effective gravitational strength for each: G_M , G_L .



Strengths of Gravity



The assumed model or time variation has a major impact on observational constraints.



Expansion History vs Growth History Scosmological Physics

Since the growth rate is very flat with redshift, one can instead compare growth directly with expansion.

This has some features that show growth effects beyond expansion.



Cosmic Growth vs Expansion



Growth vs expansion can be tested in a model independent way.

Beyond linear clustering must treat modGR consistently (perturbation theory).



Gernerally Testing Gravity

Cosmic acceleration suggests that Einstein relativity may need modification.

How should we test cosmic gravity, other than one model at a time? How do we connect observations and theory in a model independent manner?

Note the expansion history H(z) is merely one free function of time.



For cosmic structure we have 5 times as many! (kineticity, Planck mass running, braiding, tensor speed).

Now the tensor sector is as important as the scalar (matter) sector!



In GR, expansion determines growth.

In modified gravity, cosmology is much richer. Plus the tensor sector!

We have learned to fit H(z) with just a few parameters: $\Omega_{\rm m}$, w₀, w_a.

Can we do the same with gravity functions?

Need close connection between theory, computation, and data to test/interpret the results.









How do we parametrize the modGR time dependence and how do we capture the general physics?

A relatively new approach is the Effective Field Theory of dark energy. This writes the most general theory possible, subject to symmetries – model independent!

Property functions give phenomenological combinations of EFT functions. Bellini & Sawicki 2014

- $\alpha_{\rm B}$ braiding: mixing scalar and tensor sectors
- α_K kineticity: kinetic structure
- **α_M** running Planck mass (coupling)
- α_{T} tensor wave speed deviation (c_{T}^{2} -1)
- All are functions of time, and 0 within GR.

Fitting Property Functions





Very difficult to fit these modified gravity functions of time to observations with just a few parameters, even for simple theories.



Instead, put the observations in forefront. Modified Poisson equations Bertschinger & Zukin 2008, Zhao+ 2009; Song+ 2010; Daniel+ 2010, Bertschinger 2011

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla^2(\phi + \psi) &= 8\pi G_N a^2 \,\delta\rho \times G_{\text{light}} \longleftarrow \text{weak lensing} \\ \nabla^2 \psi &= 4\pi G_N a^2 \,\delta\rho \times G_{\text{matter}} \longleftarrow \text{growth} \end{aligned}$$

This is robust. The question is only how complicated is the time and space dependence of $G_m(k,a), G_l(k,a).$

Here we focus on the cosmic growth of structure and show that very simple parametrization of $G_m(k,a)$ works very well.



For cosmic growth we focus on G_{matter}. Can we avoid parametrizing it (since it can be complicated)?

Look at the growth rate f.

$$\frac{d(f - f_{\Lambda})}{d \ln a} + \left[(f - 1)^2 - (f_{\Lambda} - 1)^2 \right] \\ + \left[4 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d \ln H^2}{d \ln a} \right] (f - f_{\Lambda}) = \frac{3}{2} \Omega_m(a) \left[G_m(a) - 1 \right]$$

Ignoring the small squared term, this has solution

$$\delta f(a) = \frac{3}{2} \int_0^a d\ln a' \left[\frac{a'^4 H(a')}{a^4 H(a)} \right] \Omega_m(a') \delta G_m(a')$$



Consider the integral form of the growth rate eq.

$$\int_0^a d \ln a' \left\{ \frac{d\delta f}{d\ln a'} + \left[4 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d\ln H^2}{d\ln a'} \right] \delta f \right\}$$
$$= \frac{3}{2} \int_0^a d\ln a' \,\Omega_m(a') \left[G_m(a') - 1 \right],$$

When one component dominates, the square bracket is constant and we have a term

$$\int_0^a d\ln a'\,\delta f$$

This is very interesting because the growth factor deviation

$$\frac{g}{g_{\Lambda}} = e^{\int_0^a d\ln a' \left[f(a') - f_{\Lambda}(a')\right]} = e^{\int_0^a d\ln a' \,\delta f(a')}$$

For gravitational deviations during matter domination

$$\int_0^a d\ln a' \,\delta f \approx \frac{3}{5} \int_0^a d\ln a' \,\delta G_{\rm m} - \frac{2}{5} \delta f(a)$$

After the deviation dG_m , df fades rapidly, as $(a^4H)^{-1} \sim a^{-5/2} \cdot a^{-4}$. So growth deviations only depend on the "area" of the modification dG_m , not the whole $dG_m(a)$. No need to parametrize $dG_m(a)$!

$$\frac{\delta g}{g_{\Lambda}} \approx \frac{3}{5} \int_{0}^{a} d\ln a' \,\delta G_{\rm m} - \frac{2}{5} \delta f(a)$$
$$\approx \frac{3}{5} \int_{0}^{a} d\ln a' \,\delta G_{\rm m} \left[1 - \left(\frac{a'}{a}\right)^{5/2} \right]$$
$$\approx \frac{3}{5} \operatorname{Area}$$

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Signatures in Cosmic Growth





df is a lagged, skewed version of dG_m , dg approaches a constant offset, $df\sigma_8$ is a convolution of these two.

Accurate Parametrization



All that is important is the area under dG_m, not G_m(a). This one parameter model is accurate to ~0.3% in the observables g, $f\sigma_8$.





Thus gravity in the entire matter dominated era, z~3-1000, can be dealt with by one parameter.

We also showed that one can simply add this early era to late time modifications.



1 parameter for early times. Next: late times.



The simplest model independent parametrization for late time gravity is simply bins in a.

How many bins do we need for subpercent accuracy on the observable, $f\sigma_8$? (*not* on G_m)

- Accuracy determined by next generation data, e.g. DESI.
- Want accurate parametrization for many different gravity theories.
- Want informative constraints, i.e. pointing to physics.



We consider a suite of model behaviors for dG_m(a):

- Rising (power law)
- Falling (power law)
- Nonmonotonic (Gaussian pulse)
- Nonmonotonic (convolution of Gaussians)
- DGP
- **f(R)**

We solve for the exact growth, and place error bars corresponding to DESI measurement precision.

Denissenya & Linder

Fitting Results



Comparison to using simple 2 bin values of G_m



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Comparison to using simple 2 bin values of G_m





More important than the deviation is the impact on cosmology estimation – e.g. a sawtooth doesn't look like a change in cosmology.

We calculate the bias on cosmology (Ω_m, w_0, w_a) from using 2 bins to parametrize $G_m(a)$:

	ax
Gaussian $(a_c = 0.7)$ 0.02 0.02 1.00	
Gaussian $(a_c = 0.5)$ 0.13 0.33 1.05	
Gaussian $(a_c = 0.3)$ 0.16 0.22 1.02	
Gaussian $(a_c = 0.7; \delta G = 0.1)$ 0.09 0.04 1.00	
Gaussian ₃ $(a_c = 0.3)$ 0.09 0.22 1.02	
Gaussian ² ($\sigma = 0.25$) 0.03 0.09 1.00	
Gaussian ² ($\sigma = 0.5$) 1.78 0.35 1.06	
Gaussian ₃ ² ($\sigma = 0.5$) 0.03 0.07 1.00	
Rising a^3 0.01 0.09 1.00	
Falling a^{-3} 0.36 0.25 1.03	
Falling _{3s} a^{-3} 0.10 0.23 1.03	
DGP 2.28 0.45 1.10	
DGP ₃ $0.00 0.02 1.00$	
$f(R) \ (k_0 = 0.02) \qquad \qquad 0.07 \qquad 0.06 \qquad 1.00$	
$f(R)$ $(k_0 = 0.10)$ 1.81 1.34 1.67	
$f(R)_{3s} (k_0 = 0.10)$ 0.18 0.40 1.08	
$f(R) \ (k_0 = 0.14)$ 2.57 1.52 1.82	
$f(R)_{3s} \ (k_0 = 0.14)$ 0.12 0.31 1.05	

Negligible!

Much much less than 1σ (d χ^2 =2.3).

Only 2-3 parameters needed.



DESI, Euclid, LSST, WFIRST, etc. will have exciting next generation surveys providing accurate tests of gravity.

Very difficult to go from theory to observations in model independent way: H(z) + 4 functions.

Keeping observations in front, we show subpercent accuracy with just 2-3 gravity parameters, for cosmic growth.

Future: does it work for lensing? for tensors?