

Title: Degravitating The Vacuum

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Abstract:

# Degravitating the Vacuum

Justin Khoury  
(Perimeter Institute)

Based on: G. Dvali, S. Hofmann & JK, hep-th/0703027  
C. de Rham, G. Dvali, S. Hofmann, JK, O. Pujolas,  
M. Redi & A. Tolley, to appear

Earlier work: Dvali, Gabadadze & Shifman, hep-th/0202174

Arkani-Hamed, Dimopoulos, Dvali & Gabadadze, hep-th/0209227

Evidently those of us here this morning  
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have learned the "G8 lesson":

Avoid long receptions with Russian  
colleagues...



# E&M analogue: de-electrification

The analogue of the C.C. problem in E&M is to consider a uniform charge density:

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$\Rightarrow$  E-field grows unbounded.

2 possible solns: - give  $A_\mu$  a mass:  $m^2 A_\mu A^\mu$

- introduce filter:  $\left(1 - \frac{m^2}{\square}\right) \partial^\mu F_{\mu\nu} = J_\nu$



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Start with Proca:  $\partial^\mu F_{\mu\nu} + m^2 A_\nu = J_\nu$

Restore gauge inv. with Goldstone-Stuckelberg field:

$$A_\mu = \tilde{A}_\mu + \frac{1}{m} \partial_\mu \phi$$

with  $\tilde{A}_\mu \rightarrow \tilde{A}_\mu + \partial_\mu \omega$ ;  $\phi \rightarrow \phi - m\omega$

Thus  $A_\mu$  is gauge-invariant (physical observable)

In terms of helicity-1 and helicity-0 fields:

$$\partial^\mu \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} + m^2 \tilde{A}_\nu + m \partial_\nu \phi = J_\nu$$

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$$\left( 1 - \frac{m^2}{\square} \right) \partial^\mu \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} = J_\nu^\perp$$

Hence, adding mass  $\Leftrightarrow$  filtering

Adding mass solves "C.C. problem" in E&M:

$$\partial^\mu F_{\mu\nu} + m^2 A_\nu = \rho \delta_\nu^0$$

with solution  $A_0 = \frac{\rho}{m^2}; \quad A_i = 0$



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With mass term, vacuum becomes superconducting, and uniform sources get *screened*.

Degravitation of c.c. is analogous to screening of uniform charge density in the Higgs vacuum in Maxwell theory

$R$

+

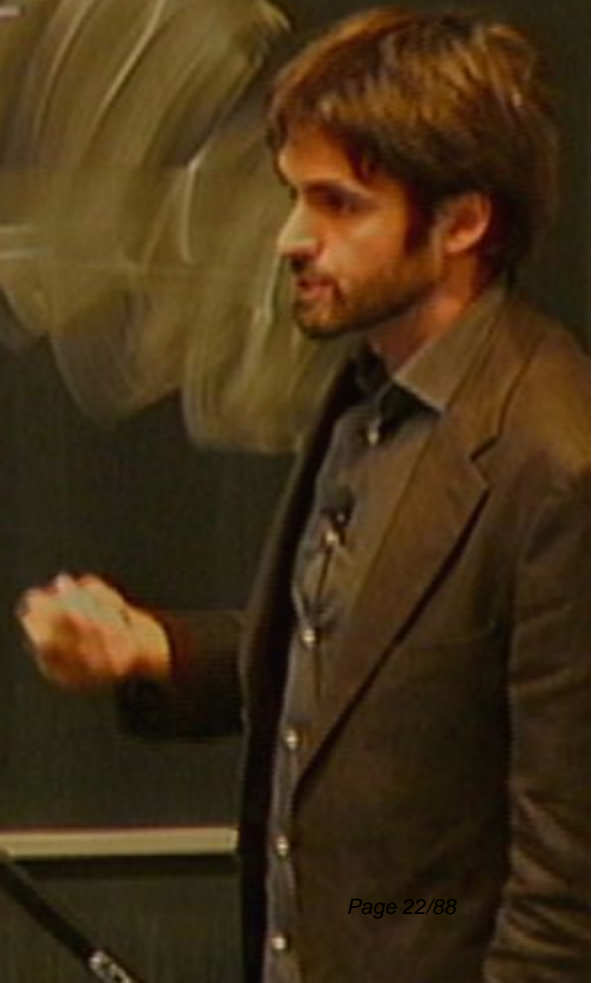
$\hat{\Delta}$   
 $\downarrow$

+

$m^2 h^2$

$$R + \hat{\Lambda} + m^2 h^2$$

The image shows a chalkboard with a mathematical expression written in white chalk. The expression is  $R + \hat{\Lambda} + m^2 h^2$ . The first term is  $R$ . The second term is  $\hat{\Lambda}$ , with a small upward-pointing arrow below it. The third term is  $m^2 h^2$ , with a small upward-pointing arrow below the  $m^2$  part. The board is partially obscured by large, dark, brush-like strokes.



$$R + \hat{\Lambda} + m^2 h^2$$

The image shows a chalkboard with a mathematical expression written in white chalk. The expression is  $R + \hat{\Lambda} + m^2 h^2$ . The first term is the letter 'R'. The second term is a plus sign followed by a triangle with a dot inside, representing the cosmological constant  $\hat{\Lambda}$ . The third term is a plus sign followed by the product of  $m^2$  and  $h^2$ . There are two small arrows pointing upwards from below the triangle and the  $m^2$  term, respectively. The entire board is covered with horizontal chalk smudges.

## Degravitation $\Leftrightarrow$ Massive or Resonance Graviton

$$(\mathcal{E}h)_{\mu\nu} + \frac{m^2(\square)}{2}(h_{\mu\nu} - \eta_{\mu\nu}h) = T_{\mu\nu}$$

where  $(\mathcal{E}h)_{\mu\nu} = -\frac{1}{2}\square h_{\mu\nu} + \dots$  is the linearized Einstein tensor



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The physical metric  $h_{\mu\nu}$  is gauge-inv.  $\Rightarrow$  observable

As in spin-1 story, can solve for Stuckelberg  $A_\mu$ , and substitute back in the eom:

$$\left(1 - \frac{m^2(\square)}{\square}\right) (\mathcal{E}\tilde{h})_{\mu\nu} = T_{\mu\nu}$$

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⇒ Extra degrees of freedom:

2 helicity-2 + 2 helicity-1 + 1 helicity-0

# Strong coupling & $r_*$ -effect

$$h_{\mu\nu} = \tilde{h}_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{6}\eta_{\mu\nu}\chi + \frac{1}{3}\frac{\partial_\mu\partial_\nu}{m^2(\square)}\chi$$

helicity-2

helicity-0 (couples to  $T^\mu{}_\mu$ )

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At linear level, have  $\tilde{h}, \chi \sim 1/r$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{A} \sim \underbrace{\frac{T'_{\mu\nu}T^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}TT'}{\square + m^2}}_{\text{helicity-2}} + \underbrace{\frac{\frac{1}{6}TT'}{\square + m^2}}_{\text{helicity-0}}$$



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$$\xrightarrow{m \rightarrow 0} \frac{T'_{\mu\nu}T^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{3}TT'}{\square}$$

(vDVZ discontinuity)

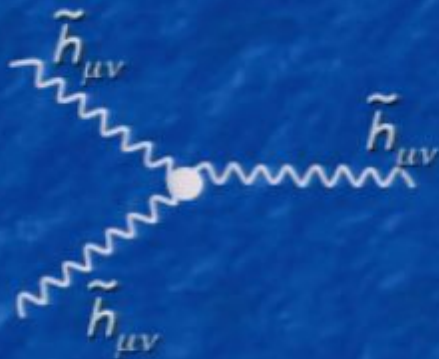
Near source, however, non-linear interactions in  $\chi$  are important

$$h_{\mu\nu} = \tilde{h}_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{6}\eta_{\mu\nu}\chi + \frac{L^{2(1-\alpha)}}{3} \frac{\partial_\mu \partial_\nu}{\square^\alpha} \chi$$

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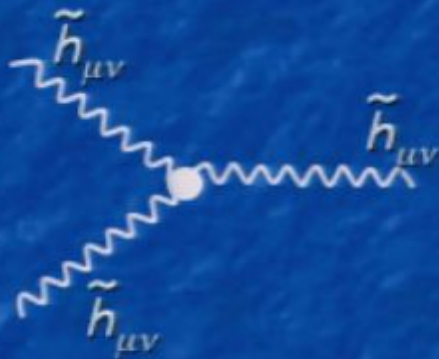


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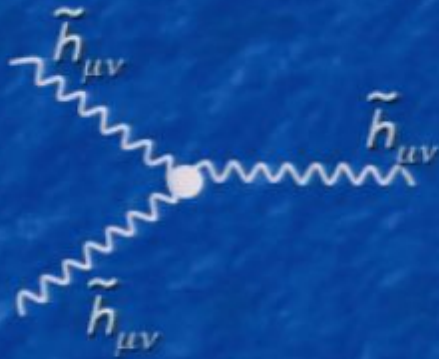
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(vDVZ discontinuity)

$\mu \rightarrow A_1 - 3$

$$m^2(\square) \cong \frac{IR}{L^{-2(1-\alpha)} \square^\alpha}$$

~~$R + \wedge + m^2 h^2$~~

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JERUSALEM

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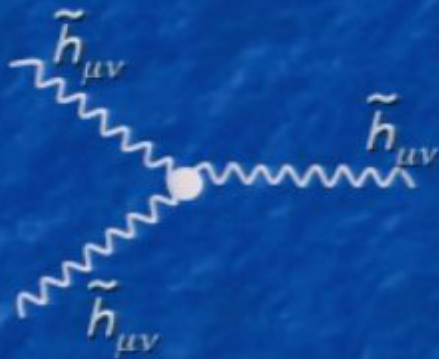
↑                    ↑



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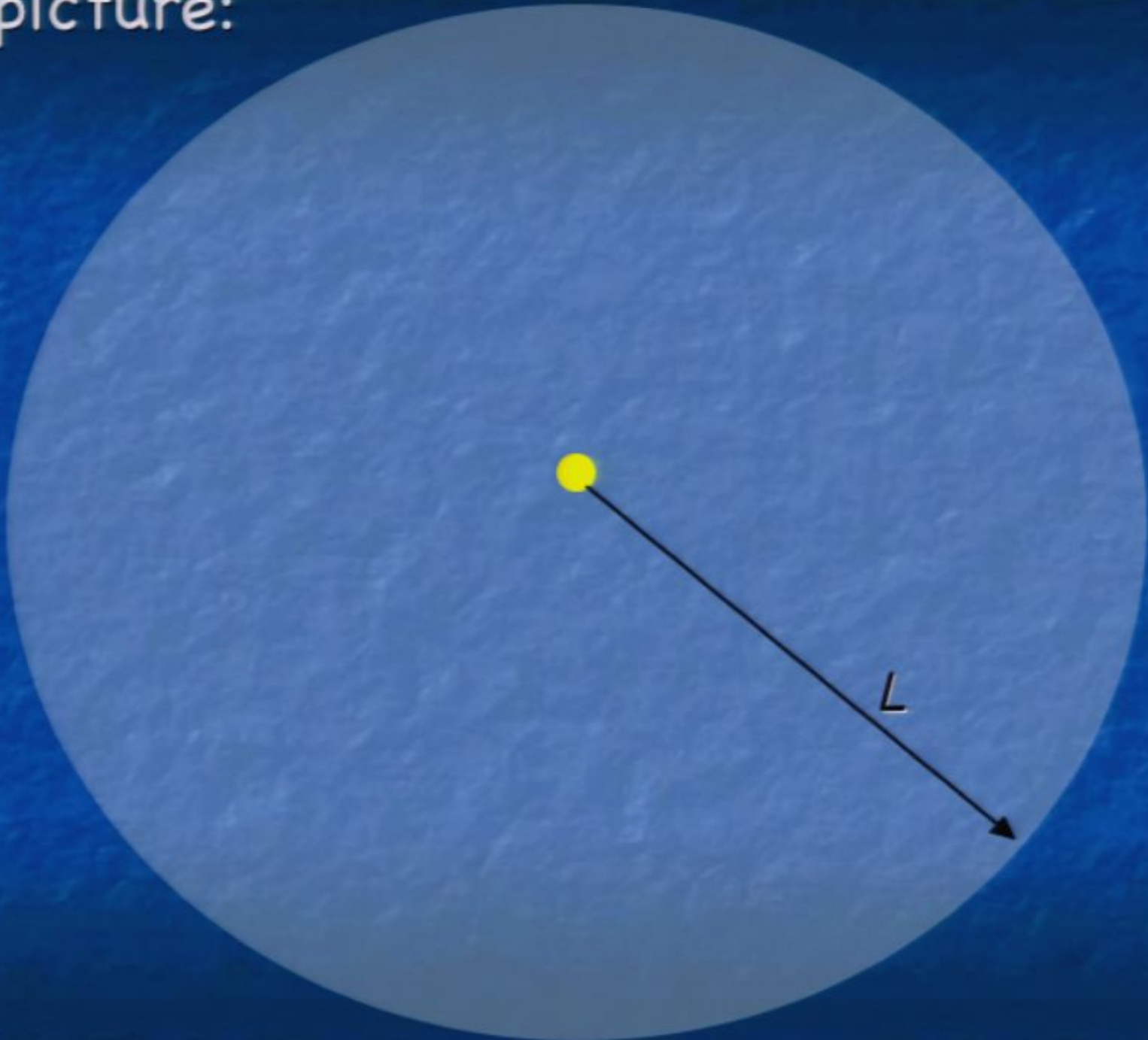
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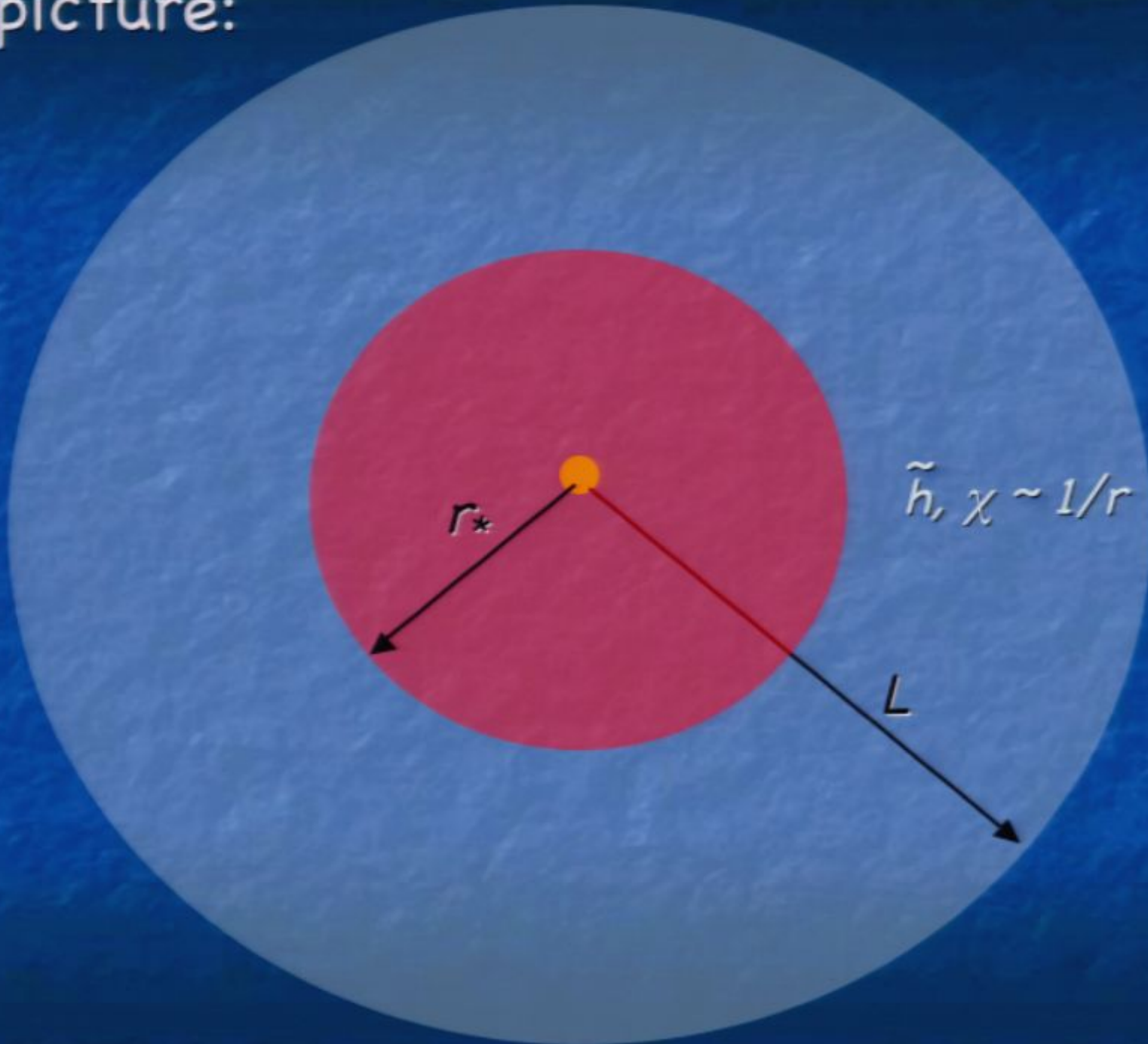
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The picture:

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In other words...

- For  $r \ll r_*$ ,  $\chi$  is non-linear and decouples

$$\chi(r \ll r_*) \sim \frac{r_{\text{sch}}}{r_*} \left( \frac{r}{r_*} \right)^{\frac{3}{2} - 2\alpha}$$

$\Rightarrow$  have GR + small  $O(r/r_*)$  corrections

Testable in LLR:  $\alpha > 1/2$  ruled out;  $\alpha < 1/2$  beyond planned accuracy.

Dvali, Gabadadze & Zaldarriaga, hep-ph/0212069

- For  $r \gg r_*$ ,  $\chi$  is linear and goes like  $1/r$   
 $\Rightarrow$  have scalar-tensor theory

# Implications of $r_*$ -effect for degravitation

- For  $H^{-1} \ll L$ , then universe is within its own  $r_*$ , which means  $\chi$  is suppressed, and thus

$$h_{\mu\nu} = \tilde{h}_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{6}\eta_{\mu\nu}\chi + \dots \approx \tilde{h}_{\mu\nu}$$

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- Once  $H^{-1} \sim L$ , then  $\chi$  no longer decouples, and presumably degravitation stops  
(leaves effective c.c. of order  $L^{-2}$ ?)

Degravitation in the decoupling limit:

$$L \rightarrow \infty ; M_{\text{Pl}} \rightarrow \infty , \text{ with } \Lambda_{\text{strong}} \equiv \left( L^{-4(1-\alpha)} M_{\text{Pl}} \right)^{\frac{1}{1+4(1-\alpha)}} \text{ fixed}$$

Focuses on the non-linearity of helicity-0 mode.



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$$(\mathcal{E}\tilde{h})_{\mu\nu} = -\Lambda\eta_{\mu\nu} \quad \square\chi + \frac{1}{\Lambda_{\text{strong}}^{5-4\alpha}}\square^{1-2\alpha}(\square\chi)^2 + \dots = -4\Lambda$$

Ignoring non-linear terms for a moment, soln is

$$\tilde{h}_{\mu\nu} = -\frac{\Lambda}{12}\eta_{\mu\nu}x_\alpha x^\alpha ; \quad \chi = \frac{\Lambda}{2}x_\alpha x^\alpha$$

$\Rightarrow$  full metric  $h_{\mu\nu} = \tilde{h}_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{6}\eta_{\mu\nu}\chi + \dots$  is flat!

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Clearly, non-linear terms leave soln intact if  $\alpha < \frac{1}{2}$

## Summary thus far:

$$m^2(\square) = L^{2(1-\alpha)} \square^\alpha$$

- Absence of ghosts:  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$
- Non-linear degrav. (in decoupling limit):  $\alpha < \frac{1}{2}$

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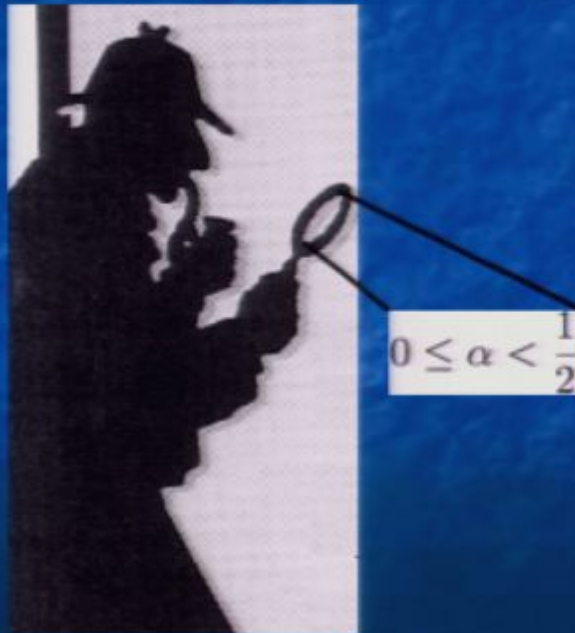
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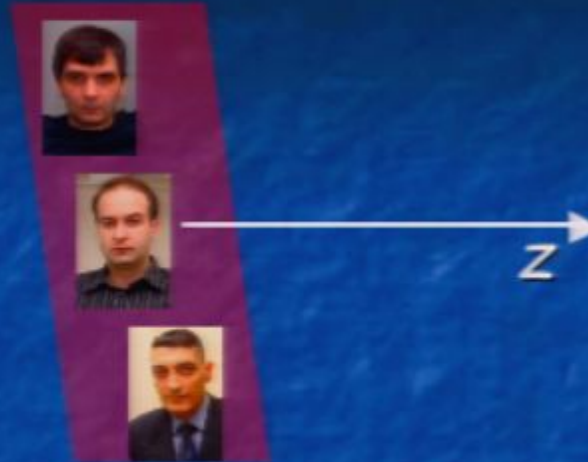
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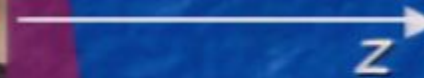
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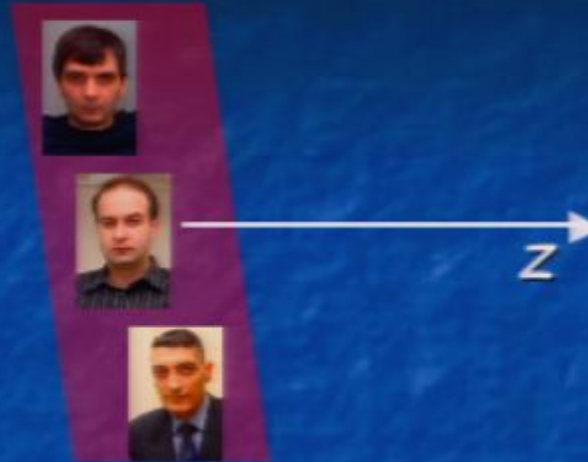
## DGP model



$$S_{\text{grav}} = \frac{M_5^3}{2} \int d^5x \sqrt{-g_5} R_5 + \frac{M_4^2}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g_4} R_4$$

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Because extra dimension is infinite, no massless graviton. Rather, graviton is a resonance with width  $L^{-1} = M_5^3 / M_4^2$ .

Linearized eom has degravitation form with  $\alpha = 1/2$

$$(\mathcal{E}h)_{\mu\nu} + L^{-1} \sqrt{-\square} (h_{\mu\nu} - \eta_{\mu\nu} h) = T_{\mu\nu}$$

## DGP model (cont'd)

- However, at non-linear level, degravitation fails.
- Israel junction condition fixes (local) Friedmann eqn on brane:

$$H^2 = \left( \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{3M_4^2} + \frac{1}{4L^2}} \pm \frac{1}{2L} \right)^2$$

Deffayet, hep-th/0010186

Consistent with earlier conclusion that  $\alpha = 1/2$  is borderline.

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Hence, 
$$\frac{1}{L^{-2(1-\alpha)}\square^\alpha} \approx \lim_{\square \rightarrow 0} \int_0^\infty ds \frac{s^{N/2-1}}{\square + s}$$

• Limit is finite for  $N > 2 \Rightarrow \alpha = 0$ .

• For  $N=2$ , get log divergence  $\Rightarrow \alpha \approx 0$ . Q.E.D.

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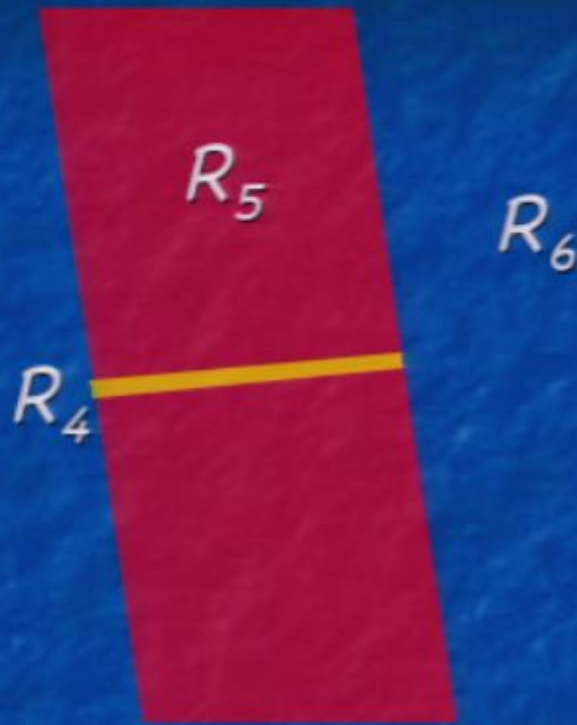
• Naïve DGP action...

$$S_{\text{grav}} = \frac{M_6^4}{2} \int d^6x \sqrt{-g_6} R_6 + \frac{M_4^2}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g_4} R_4$$

...leads to a ghost. (More on this later.)

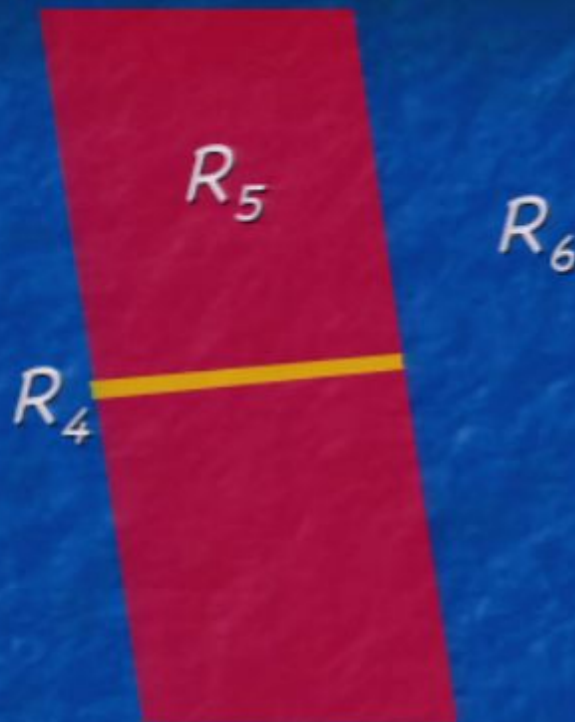
# Cascading DGP:

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- Brane-to-brane propagator is completely *regular* even in thin-brane limit
- When carefully treated, model does not suffer from ghost-like instabilities

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- Compare with pure cod-2 case:  $G(p) \sim \int_0^\Lambda \frac{d\omega \omega}{p^2 + \omega^2} \sim \log \left( \frac{\Lambda}{p} \right)$

$\implies$  finite  $L_6$  plays the role of regulator here!

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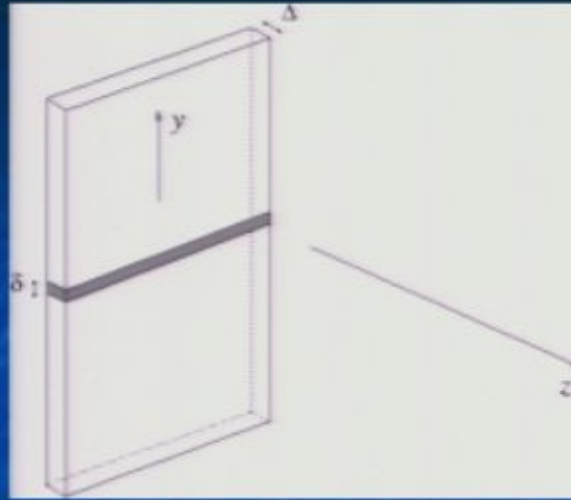
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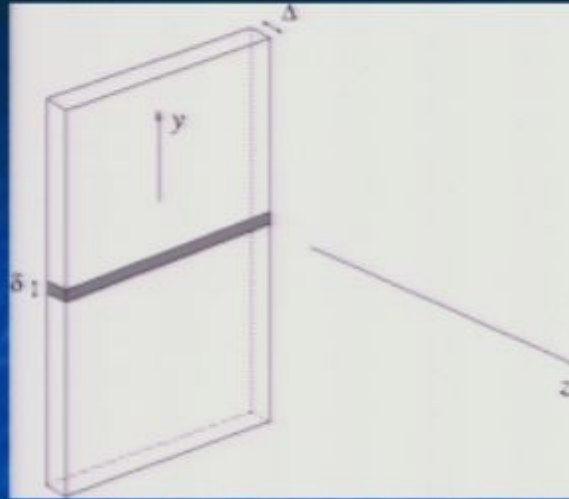
# Curing the ghost

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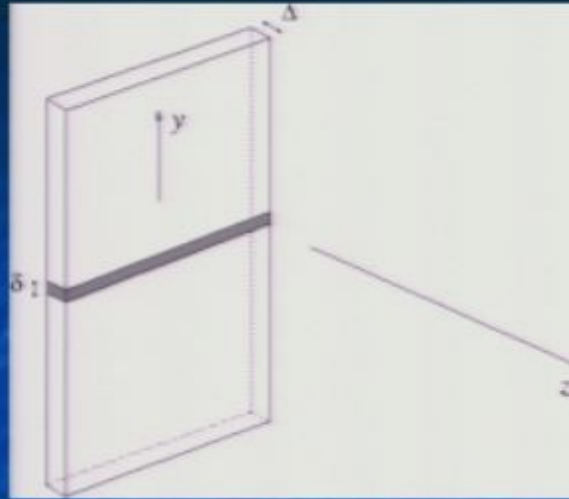
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3. Take thin-brane limit: can do KK reduction *within* worldvolume of branes.

$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu + e^{2\psi} dy^2 + e^{2\phi} dz^2$$



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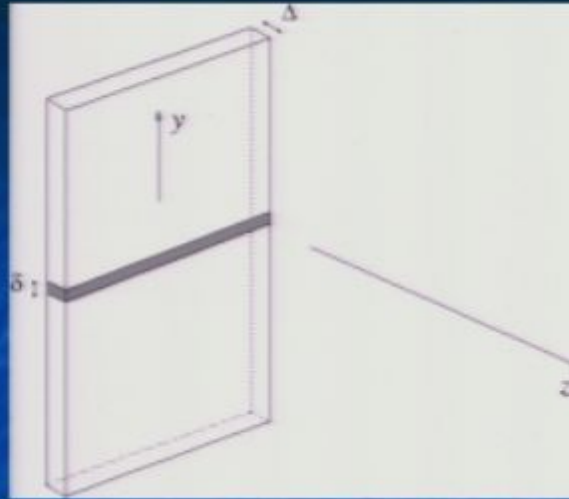
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6. Furthermore, trace of metric is now regular, hence thin-brane limit is well-defined.

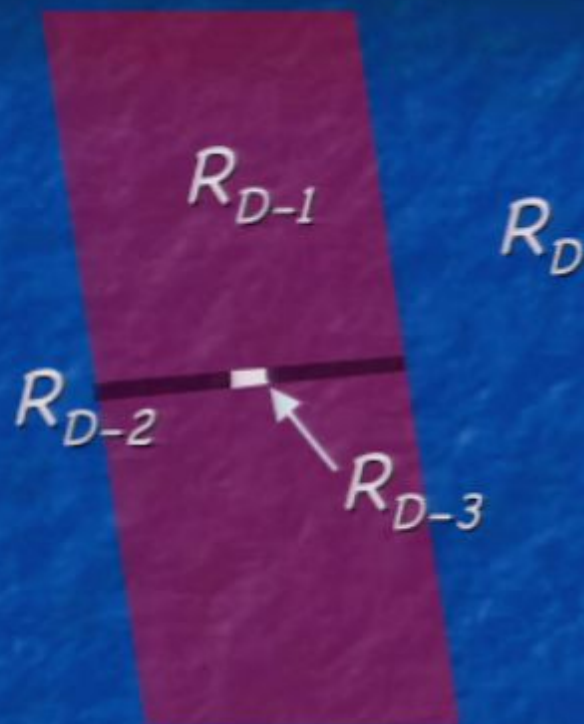
## Work in progress...

- To get correct tensor structure, scalars  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  must get *strongly coupled* ( $r_*$ -effect).

$\implies$  Expect  $1/4 \rightarrow 1/3 \rightarrow 1/2$

- Study the cosmology of cascading DGP:  
*Is degravitation realized?*

## Cascading from arbitrary codimension:



...all the way down to  $R_4$  on cod- $N$  brane

- Propagator is *regular* & has tensor structure of graviton in  $D$  dimns ( $\Rightarrow$  ghost-free).
- For codimension  $N > 2$ , get behavior of massive gravity ( $\alpha = 0$ ) at long wavelengths.