

Title: Generalized disformal Horndeski theories: consistency of matter coupling and cosmological perturbations

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Abstract:

Invertible disformal transformations are a useful tool to investigate ghost-free scalar-tensor theories. By performing a higher-derivative generalization of the invertible disformal transformation on Horndeski theories, we construct a novel class of ghost-free scalar-tensor theories, which we dub generalized disformal Horndeski theories. In the talk, I will clarify the basic idea for constructing the invertible disformal transformation with higher derivatives. I will also discuss some aspects of the generalized disformal Horndeski theories, including the consistency of matter coupling and cosmological perturbations.

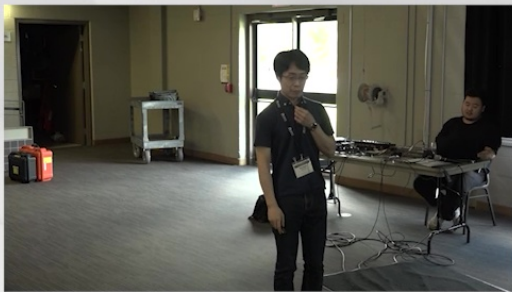
Generalized disformal Horndeski theories: consistency of matter coupling and cosmological perturbations

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- KT, M. Minamitsuji, H. Motohashi, *PTEP* **2023**, 013E01 (2023) [arXiv: 2209.02176]
- KT, M. Minamitsuji, H. Motohashi, *JCAP* **07**, 009 (2023) [arXiv: 2304.08624]



➤ Scalar-tensor theories

$$S[g, \phi] = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{L}(g, \partial g, \partial^2 g, \dots; \phi, \partial \phi, \partial^2 \phi, \dots)$$

- Simple extension of GR, useful framework for cosmology/BHs
- Have a relatively long history
 - Jordan (1955), Brans-Dicke (1961), scalar-Gauss-Bonnet, ...
 - Horndeski (1974) [rediscovered as generalized Galileons in 2011]
= The most general class of scalar-tensor theories with 2nd-order Euler-Lagrange equations in 4D
(No Ostrogradsky ghost associated with higher derivatives)
 - DHOST [Degenerate Higher-Order Scalar-Tensor] (2015–2016)
 - EL eqs. involve higher derivatives, but they can be removed by an appropriate linear combination of the eqs. due to the degeneracy.
 - \exists subclass that can be generated from Horndeski via **disformal trnsf.**



➤ DHOST and disformal transformations

- Disformal transformation: field redefinition in scalar-tensor theories

$$(g_{\mu\nu}, \phi) \mapsto (\bar{g}_{\mu\nu}, \phi)$$

The most general trnsf. up to $\partial\phi$ (and without ∂g) is given by

$$\bar{g}_{\mu\nu}[g, \phi] = F_0(\phi, X)g_{\mu\nu} + F_1(\phi, X)\nabla_\mu\phi\nabla_\nu\phi \quad (X := g^{\alpha\beta}\nabla_\alpha\phi\nabla_\beta\phi)$$

✓ Invertible in general (i.e., uniquely solvable for $g_{\mu\nu}$)

- Disformal transformations map a scalar-tensor theory to another.

$$S[g_{\mu\nu}, \phi] \mapsto S[\bar{g}_{\mu\nu}, \phi] =: \tilde{S}[g_{\mu\nu}, \phi]$$

- Preserves the ghost-freeness [Domènech+ (2015)] [KT+ (2017)]
- \exists subclass of DHOST that can be generated from Horndeski = “disformal Horndeski” (DH)
- DHOST lying outside the DH class do not admit viable cosmology, and hence are phenomenologically disfavored. [Langlois+ (2017)], [KT, Kobayashi (2017)], [Langlois+ (2018)]



➤ Beyond DHOST?

DHOST: general but *not* the most general ghost-free scalar-tensor theory

Going beyond DHOST...

- would enlarge our knowledge on ghost-free scalar-tensor theories
- would lead to novel phenomenology
cf. DHOST exhibits peculiar phenomena compared to Horndeski,
e.g., Vainshtein breaking inside astrophysical bodies
[Kobayashi+ (2014)], [Koyama+ (2015)], [Saito+ (2015)], ...

How can we go beyond DHOST?

- One could enlarge the underlying theory space & impose degeneracy.

$$\mathcal{L} = F_2 R + F_3 G^{\mu\nu} \phi_{\mu\nu} + C_2 (\partial^2 \phi)^2 + C_3 (\partial^2 \phi)^3 \\ + \# (\partial^2 \phi)^4 + \# \partial^3 \phi + \dots$$

NB Within DHOST, only “disformal Horndeski” admits viable cosmology.

- More efficient if we can **generalize the disformal transformation**



➤ Disformal trnsf. with higher derivatives

- Conventional disformal transformations

$$\bar{g}_{\mu\nu} = F_0(\phi, X)g_{\mu\nu} + F_1(\phi, X)\nabla_\mu\phi\nabla_\nu\phi$$

form the most general class of trnsf. up to $\partial\phi$ (and without ∂g)

✓ Invertible (necessary to generate ghost-free theories)

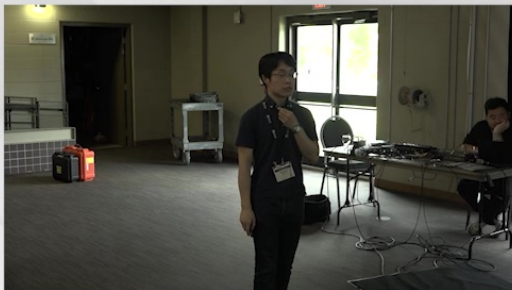
- Group structure of disformal trnsf. is useful to construct its inverse.
 - If $\bar{g}' \circ \bar{g} = \bar{g}''$, then the inverse of \bar{g} is obtained by putting $\bar{g}'' = \text{id}$.
- Closedness under the functional composition is nontrivial when generalized to disformal trnsf. with higher derivatives.
 - For trnsf. with $\nabla\nabla\phi$,

$$\bar{g}, \bar{g}' \ni \nabla\nabla\phi \supset \Gamma \supset \partial g$$

which generically yields **unwanted higher derivatives** in

$$\bar{g}' \circ \bar{g} \ni \partial\bar{g} \supset \partial^3\phi \notin \bar{g}, \bar{g}'$$

→ Need to tune the trnsf. law so that the operation is closed



➤ Generalized disformal transformation

- Such a tuning is available for trnsf. of the form

$$\bar{g}_{\mu\nu} = F_0(\phi, X, Y, Z)g_{\mu\nu} + F_1(\phi, X, Y, Z)\nabla_\mu\phi\nabla_\nu\phi \\ + 2F_2(\phi, X, Y, Z)\nabla_{(\mu}\phi\nabla_{\nu)}X + F_3(\phi, X, Y, Z)\nabla_\mu X\nabla_\nu X$$

which involves

$$Y := g^{\alpha\beta}\nabla_\alpha\phi\nabla_\beta X, \quad Z := g^{\alpha\beta}\nabla_\alpha X\nabla_\beta X$$

$$X := \nabla_\alpha\phi\nabla^\alpha\phi$$

- Most general trnsf. constructed out of $\phi, \partial\phi, \partial X$ ($\exists \partial^2\phi$)

- Includes the conventional disformal trnsf. as a special case

$$\bar{g}_{\mu\nu} = F_0(\phi, X)g_{\mu\nu} + F_1(\phi, X)\nabla_\mu\phi\nabla_\nu\phi$$

- Can be extended to include arbitrary higher derivatives [KT (2023)]

- ✓ The trnsf. is invertible if $F_\#$'s satisfy some conditions. [KT+ (2021)]

$$F_0 \neq 0, \quad F \neq 0, \quad \bar{X}_Y = \bar{X}_Z = 0, \quad \bar{X}_X \neq 0, \quad \left| \frac{\partial(\bar{Y}, \bar{Z})}{\partial(Y, Z)} \right| \neq 0$$



➤ Generalized disformal Horndeski (1)

- Horndeski theories described by the action

$$S_H = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[G_2 + G_3 \square \phi + G_4 R - 4G_{4X} g^{\alpha[\mu} g^{\beta\nu]} \phi_{\alpha\mu} \phi_{\beta\nu} \right. \\ \left. + G_5 G^{\mu\nu} \phi_{\mu\nu} + 2G_{5X} g^{\alpha[\mu} g^{\beta\nu]} g^{\gamma\lambda]} \phi_{\alpha\mu} \phi_{\beta\nu} \phi_{\gamma\lambda} \right]$$

$$G_{\#} = G_{\#}(\phi, X) \\ \phi_{\mu\nu} := \nabla_{\mu} \nabla_{\nu} \phi$$

are mapped to new ghost-free theories.

= “Generalized Disformal Horndeski” (GDH) theories

- Transformation law for each building block

- $\sqrt{-\bar{g}} = \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{J}$

- $\bar{R}_{\mu\nu} = R_{\mu\nu} + 2\nabla_{[\alpha} C^{\alpha}_{\nu]\mu} + 2C^{\alpha}_{\beta[\alpha} C^{\beta}_{\nu]\mu}$

- $\bar{\nabla}_{\mu} \bar{\nabla}_{\nu} \phi = \phi_{\mu\nu} - C^{\lambda}_{\mu\nu} \phi_{\lambda}$

$$\mathcal{J} := F_0 [F_0^2 + F_0 (X F_1 + 2Y F_2 + Z F_3) + (Y^2 - XZ)(F_2^2 - F_1 F_3)]^{1/2}$$

$$C^{\lambda}_{\mu\nu} := \bar{\Gamma}^{\lambda}_{\mu\nu} - \Gamma^{\lambda}_{\mu\nu} = \bar{g}^{\lambda\alpha} \left(\nabla_{(\mu} \bar{g}_{\nu)\alpha} - \frac{1}{2} \nabla_{\alpha} \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} \right) \ni \partial^3 \phi$$



➤ Generalized disformal Horndeski (2)

■ The action of GDH theories is written as

$$S_{\text{GDH}}[g, \phi] := S_{\text{H}}[\bar{g}, \phi] = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{J} \sum_{I=2}^5 \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_I[g, \phi]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_2 &:= G_2 \\ \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_3 &:= G_3 \bar{g}^{\mu\nu} (\phi_{\mu\nu} - C_{\mu\nu}^\rho \phi_\rho) \\ \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_4 &:= G_4 \bar{g}^{\mu\nu} (R_{\mu\nu} - 2C_{\beta[\alpha}^\alpha C_{\nu]\mu}^\beta) - 2(G_{4\phi} \phi_\alpha + G_{4X} \bar{X}_\alpha) \bar{g}^{\mu[\nu} C_{\mu\nu]}^\alpha \\ &\quad - 4G_{4X} \bar{g}^{\alpha[\mu} \bar{g}^{\beta\nu]} (\phi_{\alpha\mu} - C_{\alpha\mu}^\sigma \phi_\sigma) (\phi_{\beta\nu} - C_{\beta\nu}^\rho \phi_\rho) \\ \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_5 &:= G_5 \left(\bar{g}^{\mu\lambda} \bar{g}^{\nu\sigma} - \frac{1}{2} \bar{g}^{\mu\nu} \bar{g}^{\lambda\sigma} \right) (\phi_{\mu\nu} - C_{\mu\nu}^\rho \phi_\rho) (R_{\lambda\sigma} + 2\nabla_{[\alpha} C_{\sigma]\lambda}^\alpha + 2C_{\beta[\alpha}^\alpha C_{\sigma]\lambda}^\beta) \\ &\quad + 2G_{5X} \bar{g}^{\alpha[\mu} \bar{g}^{\beta\nu]} \bar{g}^{\gamma\lambda]} (\phi_{\alpha\mu} - C_{\alpha\mu}^\sigma \phi_\sigma) (\phi_{\beta\nu} - C_{\beta\nu}^\rho \phi_\rho) (\phi_{\gamma\lambda} - C_{\gamma\lambda}^\eta \phi_\eta) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} G_I &= G_I(\phi, \bar{X}(\phi, X)) \\ \bar{g}^{\mu\nu} &= \#g^{\mu\nu} + \#\phi^\mu \phi^\nu \\ &\quad + \#\phi^{(\mu} X^{\nu)} + \#X^\mu X^\nu \end{aligned}$$

- Contains $\partial^3 \phi$ through $C_{\mu\nu}^\lambda$
- Free functions: $G_{2,3,4,5}(\phi, X)$, $\bar{X}(\phi, X)$, $F_{0,1,2}(\phi, X, Y, Z)$.
Horndeski generalized disformal trnsf.



➤ Theory space

- Inclusion relation among ghost-free scalar-tensor theories

generalized disformal Horndeski (GDH): up to $\partial^3\phi$
 $\mathcal{L} \ni G_{2,3,4,5}(\phi, X), \bar{X}(\phi, X), F_{0,1,2}(\phi, X, Y, Z)$

New!

disformal Horndeski (DH): up to $\partial^2\phi$
 (quadratic DHOST ${}^2\text{N-I}$ + cubic DHOST ${}^3\text{N-I}$)
 $\mathcal{L} \ni G_{2,3,4,5}(\phi, X), F_{0,1}(\phi, X)$

quadratic/cubic DHOST
 \cap (disformal Horndeski)^c

DHOST

Horndeski
 $\mathcal{L} \ni G_{2,3,4,5}(\phi, X)$

No viable cosmology

unstable or no tensor modes

- Within known DHOST, only the DH class can admit viable cosmology.
- GDH \supset DH \supset Horndeski because

{generalized disformal} \supset {disformal} \ni id



➤ Consistency of matter coupling

Matter coupling in GDH theory can introduce a ghost.

NB No such problem in DHOST [Deffayet, Garcia-Saenz (2020)]

- Consider GDH gravity + matter field(s) Ψ

$$S[g, \phi, \Psi] = S_{\text{GDH}}[g, \phi] + S_{\text{m}}[g, \Psi], \quad S_{\text{GDH}}[\bar{g}, \phi] := S_{\text{H}}[g, \phi]$$

By construction of GDH theories, \exists “Horndeski” frame:

$$S[\bar{g}, \phi, \Psi] = S_{\text{H}}[g, \phi] + S_{\text{m}}[\bar{g}, \Psi]$$

- Under the unitary gauge $\phi = \phi(t)$, the dynamics of the system is governed by the metric variables (N, N_i, γ_{ij}) and matter (Ψ).
- $\dot{N} \in S_{\text{m}}[\bar{g}, \Psi]$ makes N dynamical in general (= Ostrogradsky mode).

NB $\bar{g} \ni \nabla\nabla\phi \supset \Gamma \supset \dot{N}$ in general

- ✓ \exists subclass of GDH where matter fields can be consistently coupled [KT, Minamitsuji, Motohashi (2022)], [Naruko+ (2022)], [KT, Kimura, Motohashi (2022)] [Ikeda, KT, Kobayashi (2023)]



➤ EFT of cosmological perturbations

✓ Provide a model-indep. description of cosmological perturbations

■ ϕ has a timelike profile on a cosmological background.

Under the unitary gauge $\phi = \phi(t)$, the action for perturbations is written in terms of not only 4D covariant objects but also spatially covariant objects, such as K_{ij} and ${}^{(3)}R$.

■ Quadratic action at the leading order in derivatives

$$\delta_2 S = \int dt d^3x N a^3 \frac{M^2}{2} \left[\delta K_j^i \delta K_i^j - \left(1 + \frac{2}{3} \alpha_L \right) \delta K^2 + (1 + \alpha_T) \delta_2 \left({}^{(3)}R \frac{\sqrt{Y}}{a^3} \right) + H^2 \alpha_K \frac{\delta N^2}{N^2} + 4H \alpha_B \frac{\delta N}{N} \delta K + (1 + \alpha_H) \frac{\delta N}{N} \delta {}^{(3)}R \right]$$

● Each parameter has some physical meaning. (e.g., $\alpha_T = c_{\text{GW}}^2 - 1$)

● Horndeski theory amounts to a particular choice of M^2 and α 's.



➤ EFT action for GDH theories

- Performing the generalized disformal trnsf. yields

$$\delta_2 S = \int dt d^3x N a^3 \frac{M^2}{2} \left\{ \delta K_j^i \delta K_i^j - \left(1 + \frac{2}{3} \alpha_L \right) \delta K^2 + (1 + \alpha_T) \delta_2 \left({}^{(3)}R \frac{\sqrt{Y}}{a^3} \right) \right. \\ \left. + H^2 \alpha_K \frac{\delta N^2}{N^2} + 4H \alpha_B \frac{\delta N}{N} \delta K + (1 + \alpha_H) \frac{\delta N}{N} \delta {}^{(3)}R \right. \\ \text{(New in DHOST } \rightarrow) + \frac{4\beta_1}{N} \left(\frac{\delta N}{N} \right)' \delta K + \frac{\beta_2}{N^2} \left[\left(\frac{\delta N}{N} \right)' \right]^2 + \beta_3 \frac{(\partial_i \delta N)^2}{N^2 a^2} \\ \left. \text{(New in GDH } \rightarrow) + \frac{\gamma_1}{M_D} \delta K_j^i \frac{\partial_i \partial^j \delta N}{N a^2} + \frac{\gamma_2}{M_D} \delta K \frac{\partial_i^2 \delta N}{N a^2} + \frac{\gamma_3}{M_D^2} \frac{(\partial_i^2 \delta N)^2}{N^2 a^4} \right\}$$

- $\beta_{\#}$'s are those newly appear in DHOST. Effects on CMB have been studied in [Hiramatsu+ (2020)] [Hiramatsu (2022)].
- $\gamma_{\#}$'s are proportional to (some combination of) the new disformal factors, with M_D being an associated mass scale. All these new operators contain **higher spatial derivative of δN** .



➤ LIGO/Virgo bound

- The simultaneous detection of GW170817 & GRB 170817A implies $c_{\text{GW}}^2 = 1$ in the late-time Universe, which corresponds to $\alpha_{\text{T}} = 0$.

- In terms of the GDH functions, we have

$$\alpha_{\text{T}} = \frac{X G_4(\phi, \bar{X})}{\bar{X} F_0 [G_4(\phi, \bar{X}) - 2\bar{X} G_{4\bar{X}}(\phi, \bar{X})]} - 1.$$

$$F_0: \text{conformal factor} \\ \bar{X} = \bar{g}^{\alpha\beta} \partial_\alpha \phi \partial_\beta \phi$$

NB G_5 also contributes to α_{T} , but it has been omitted for simplicity.

- Therefore, $\alpha_{\text{T}} = 0$ requires ($G_5 = 0$ and)

$$\frac{\bar{X} F_0}{X} = \frac{G_4(\phi, \bar{X})}{G_4(\phi, \bar{X}) - 2\bar{X} G_{4\bar{X}}(\phi, \bar{X})}.$$

- ✓ A nontrivial subclass of GDH theories still survives.



➤ Summary & future works

- Constructed “**generalized disformal Horndeski**” theories by invertible generalized disformal trnsf. of Horndeski theories
 - ✓ Matter fields can be consistently coupled.
 - ✓ Extended the EFT of inflation/DE to accommodate GDH
 - Many possible future works:
 - BH solutions
 - neutron stars
 - screening mechanism
- etc.

