

# **TDiff in the Dark: Gravity with broken diffeomorphisms in the matter sector**

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# Outline

- I. Introduction
- II. Preliminary concepts
- III. The perfect fluid approach
- IV. EMT conservation
- V. Dark sector applications
- VI. Conclusions

# I. Introduction

# Background and motivation

- Theory of General Relativity (Einstein, 1915).
- Precision Cosmology → current **accelerated expansion** of the Universe.
  - Within the framework of GR: cosmological constant, dark energy.
  - **Modification** of the theory on cosmological scales.
- Interest has grown in theories with a **broken Diff invariance**.
  - Unimodular gravity (UG) is the most popular.
  - We will consider the breaking of Diff invariance down to TDiff in the **matter sector**.

[ R. Carballo-Rubio, L.J. Garay, and G. García-Moreno. arXiv:2207.08499 ]

[ E. Álvarez, D. Blas, J. Garriga, and E. Verdaguer. arXiv:hep-th/0606019 ]

# Transverse Diffeomorphisms (TDiffs)

- TDiffs:  $x \rightarrow \hat{x}(x)$  /  $J = \det \left( \frac{\partial \hat{x}}{\partial x} \right) = 1$
- Infinitesimally:  $x^\mu \rightarrow \hat{x}^\mu = x^\mu + \xi^\mu(x)$  /  $\partial_\mu \xi^\mu = 0$  (“transverse”)
- The determinant  $g = \det(g_{\mu\nu})$  is a **TDiff scalar**, since  $\hat{g}(\hat{x}) = J^2 g(x)$
- New possibilities for **couplings!**  $d^4x \sqrt{|g|} \longrightarrow d^4x f(g)$

# Main ideas of the work

- We consider a scalar field model which couples to gravity via **arbitrary functions of the determinant** → the symmetry is TDiff.
- Conservation of the Energy-Momentum Tensor is automatic in Diff theories, but not in TDiff → it imposes new **constraints** on the metric.
- Main aim: to perform a **general study** (without assuming a particular geometry) which allows us to gain intuition on possible **new phenomenology** within this framework.

## **II. Preliminary concepts**

$$\hbar = c = 1, \quad (+, -, -, -)$$

# TDiff scalar field model

$$S_{EH} = -\frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{|g|} R$$

$$S = S_{EH} + S_m$$

$$S_m = \int d^4x \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_m = \int d^4x \left\{ \underbrace{\frac{f_k(g)}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \psi \partial_\nu \psi}_{\text{kinetic}} - \underbrace{f_v(g) V(\psi)}_{\text{potential}} \right\}$$

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{|g|}} \left\{ \frac{f_k(g)}{2} \partial_\mu \psi \partial_\nu \psi + g \left[ f'_v(g) V(\psi) - \frac{1}{2} f'_k(g) \partial_\alpha \psi \partial^\alpha \psi \right] g_{\mu\nu} \right\}$$



# Equations of Motion

- Einstein equations for the gravitational field:

$$G_{\mu\nu} = R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}Rg_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi GT_{\mu\nu}$$

- Euler-Lagrange EoM for the scalar field  $\psi$  :

$$\partial_{\mu} (f_k(g) \partial^{\mu} \psi) + f_v(g) V'(\psi) = 0$$

# Potential domination

➤ In this regime we neglect the kinetic term:

$$\text{Action: } S_m \simeq \int d^4x [-f_v(g) V(\psi)]$$

$$\text{EoM: } V' = 0 \implies V(\psi) = V(\psi_0) \equiv V_0 = \text{const.}$$

$$\text{EMT: } T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{2g}{\sqrt{|g|}} f'_v V g_{\mu\nu}$$

➤ Interest: dark energy models, slowly-varying fields (slow-roll inflation)...

# Kinetic domination

➤ In this regime we neglect the potential term:

$$\text{Action: } S_m \simeq \int d^4x \frac{f_k(g)}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \psi \partial_\nu \psi$$

$$\text{EoM: } \partial_\mu (f_k \partial^\mu \psi) = 0$$

$$\text{EMT: } T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|g|}} \left[ f_k \partial_\mu \psi \partial_\nu \psi - g f'_k (\partial\psi)^2 g_{\mu\nu} \right]$$

➤ Interest: dynamical dark energy models, rapidly-varying fields (fast-roll)...

# **III. The perfect fluid approach**

# Model $\iff$ perfect fluid

$$T_{\mu\nu} = (\rho + p)u_\mu u_\nu - pg_{\mu\nu}$$

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{|g|}} \left\{ \frac{f_k(g)}{2} \partial_\mu \psi \partial_\nu \psi + g \left[ f'_v(g) V(\psi) - \frac{1}{2} f'_k(g) \partial_\alpha \psi \partial^\alpha \psi \right] g_{\mu\nu} \right\}$$

- **Assumption:**  $\partial_\mu \psi$  is a timelike vector.
- Our model may be equivalently described as a perfect fluid with:

$$u^\mu \equiv \frac{\partial^\mu \psi}{\sqrt{(\partial\psi)^2}}$$

$$p = \frac{-2g}{\sqrt{|g|}} \left[ f'_v V - \frac{1}{2} f'_k (\partial\psi)^2 \right]$$

$$\rho = \frac{2}{\sqrt{|g|}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} f_k (\partial\psi)^2 + g \left[ f'_v V - \frac{1}{2} f'_k (\partial\psi)^2 \right] \right\}$$

# Potential domination in the perfect fluid

➤ In the potential domination limit:

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{2g}{\sqrt{|g|}} f'_v V g_{\mu\nu} \longrightarrow p = -\rho = \frac{-2g}{\sqrt{|g|}} f'_v V$$

➤ Simple Equation of State (EoS):

$$p = w\rho, \quad w = -1$$

# Kinetic domination in the perfect fluid

➤ In the kinetic limit:  $\rho = \frac{(\partial\psi)^2}{\sqrt{|g|}} (f_k - g f'_k) , \quad p = \frac{(\partial\psi)^2}{\sqrt{|g|}} g f'_k$

➤ EoS:  $w = \frac{p}{\rho} = \frac{g f'_k}{f_k - g f'_k} \equiv \frac{F}{1 - F} ,$

$$F \equiv \frac{g f'_k}{f_k}$$

➤ In GR we have stiff matter:

$$f_k \propto \sqrt{|g|} \Leftrightarrow F = 1/2 \Leftrightarrow w = 1 \quad \longrightarrow \quad p = \rho$$

## **IV. EMT conservation**



# EMT conservation in a TDiff theory

- In GR, Diff invariance  $\implies$  EMT conservation on the solutions to the EoM.
- TDiff: less symmetry, additional constraint on allowed transformations.
- We still use  $S_{EH}$  and the Einstein field equations.
- EMT conservation is a consequence of **Bianchi identities**, since  $\nabla_{\mu} G^{\mu\nu} = 0$
- Solutions fulfil  $\nabla_{\mu} T^{\mu\nu} = 0 \rightarrow$  **condition on the metric!**

# Gauge degrees of freedom

SYMMETRY	TRANSFORMATIONS	GAUGE D.O.F.
Diff	$\xi^\mu$	4
TDiff	$\xi^\mu$ s.t. $\partial_\mu \xi^\mu = 0$	4 - 1 = 3

- We can fix 3 metric components in a TDiff theory, the 4th one is **physical**.
- The additional constraint to find it comes from EMT conservation.

# Review of EMT conservation

➤ EMT conservation:

$$\nabla_{\mu} T^{\mu\nu} = 0$$

$u^{\mu}$

(for a perfect fluid)

$$h^{\mu}_{\nu} = \delta^{\mu}_{\nu} - u^{\mu}u_{\nu}$$

$$\dot{\rho} + (\rho + p)\nabla_{\mu}u^{\mu} = 0$$

$$(\rho + p)\dot{u}^{\mu} - (g^{\mu\nu} - u^{\mu}u^{\nu})\nabla_{\nu}p = 0$$

# Potential domination: EMT conservation

➤ The **EMT conservation** gives:

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}f'_v + gf''_v\right) \partial_\mu g = 0$$

Two arrows point from the equation to the following results:

$$f_v(g) = A\sqrt{|g|} + B \quad (\text{GR + const.})$$

$$\partial_\mu g = 0 \implies g = \text{const.}$$

 (our **constraint!**)

➤ Recall the energy density and pressure in the potential limit:

$$p = -\rho = \frac{-2g}{\sqrt{|g|}} f'_v V = \text{const.} \longrightarrow \text{cosmological constant}$$

# Kinetic domination: EoM

- Recall the kinetic EoM:  $\partial_\mu (f_k \partial^\mu \psi) = 0$
- Their **solutions** satisfy:

$$(\partial\psi)^2 = \frac{C_\psi(x)}{\left(\frac{\delta V f_k}{\sqrt{|g|}}\right)^2}$$

$$\dot{C}_\psi(x) = u^\mu \partial_\mu C_\psi(x) = 0$$

$$\nabla_\mu u^\mu = u^\mu \partial_\mu (\ln \delta V)$$

# Kinetic domination: metric constraint

- Kinetic EoM + longitudinal EMT conservation.
- Assuming  $\rho \neq 0$ , we obtain the following relation:

$$(2F - 1) \frac{g}{f_k} = C_g(x) \delta V^2$$



This is the sought-for **constraint** on the metric!

$$F \equiv \frac{g f'_k}{f_k}$$

$$\dot{C}_g(x) = u^\mu \partial_\mu C_g(x) = 0$$

# Transverse results & a simplifying relation

➤ **Constraint + transverse EMT conservation**  $\rightarrow$   $\vec{\nabla} (C_g C_\psi) = 0$

➤ The functions  $C_g$  and  $C_\psi$  are inversely proportional:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \dot{C}_\psi = \dot{C}_g = 0 \\ \vec{\nabla} (C_g C_\psi) = 0 \end{array} \right\} \implies C_g C_\psi = \text{const.} \equiv c_\rho$$

➤ The constraint depends on the solutions to the EoM through the relation between  $C_g$  and  $C_\psi$ , but **we only have one independent constraint.**

# Energy density & pressure in a TDiff theory

- We may find a simple expression for  $\rho$  in the **kinetic domination** regime of a TDiff theory:

$$\rho = \frac{c_\rho}{(1-w)\sqrt{|g|}}$$

(valid for all geometries!)

- **Not valid for Diff** ( $w = 1$ ).
- Since  $w = w(g)$ , the energy density and the pressure only depend on the metric determinant → **adiabatic perturbations!**



# Speed of sound (adiabatic perturbations)

- In the kinetic regime, the perturbations of the fluid are **adiabatic**.
- The **speed of sound** of these adiabatic perturbations is:

$$\delta p = c_s^2 \delta \rho \longrightarrow c_s^2 = w + w' \frac{\rho}{\rho'}$$

$$c_s^2 = - \frac{g f_k (f_k' + 2g f_k'')}{f_k^2 + (2g f_k')^2 - g f_k (5f_k' + 2g f_k'')}$$

# **V. Dark sector applications**

# TDiff Dark Matter

➤ In a **power-law** model:

$$f_k(g) = C|g|^\alpha$$



$$w = \frac{\alpha}{1 - \alpha} = \text{const.}$$

(arbitrary!)

$$c_s^2 = w$$

➤ ECs:

$$\text{NEC: } C > 0,$$

$$\text{WEC: } C > 0, \quad \alpha \leq 1,$$

$$\text{SEC: } C > 0, \quad \alpha \geq -1/2,$$

$$\text{DEC: } C > 0, \quad \alpha \leq 1/2.$$

$$\text{e.g.: } \alpha = 0$$



TDiff DM model

# Gravitational domains

➤ In an **exponential** model:

$$f_k(g) = C e^{\beta g}$$



$$w = \frac{\beta g}{1 - \beta g}$$

➤ ECs:

$$\text{NEC: } C > 0,$$

$$\text{WEC: } C > 0, \quad \beta g \leq 1,$$

$$\text{SEC: } C > 0, \quad \beta g \geq -1/2,$$

$$\text{DEC: } C > 0, \quad \beta g \leq 1/2.$$

$$\text{e.g.: } \beta g < 0$$



TDiff DM/DE model

# **VI. Conclusions**

# Summary of the results obtained

- Consequences of **breaking** the symmetry (Diff  $\rightarrow$  TDiff) in the **matter sector**.
- (Minimally coupled) scalar field, described as a perfect fluid.
- Study in **general contexts**: we have not assumed a geometry.
- EMT conservation imposes an additional (physical) **constraint** on the metric.
- Simple expression for the energy density  $\rightarrow$  useful in **perturbation theory**.
- Particular cases  $\rightarrow$  possibilities for DM & DE models  $\rightarrow$  **TDiff dark sector**.

***Thank you for your attention!***

**(backup)**



# Energy-Momentum Tensor (EMT)

➤ EMT definition: 
$$T^{\mu\nu} = \frac{-2}{\sqrt{|g|}} \frac{\delta S_m}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}}, \quad T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{|g|}} \frac{\delta S_m}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}}$$

➤ For a perfect fluid: 
$$T_{\mu\nu} = (\rho + p)u_\mu u_\nu - pg_{\mu\nu}$$

# Transverse vectors

- Triplet of transverse vectors:

$$\vec{w}^\mu \equiv (w_1^\mu, w_2^\mu, w_3^\mu), \quad \vec{w}^\mu u_\mu = 0$$

- Projection of the derivative onto the transverse directions:

$$\vec{\nabla} \equiv \vec{w}^\mu \nabla_\mu \equiv (w_1^\mu \nabla_\mu, w_2^\mu \nabla_\mu, w_3^\mu \nabla_\mu)$$

# Review of Energy Conditions (ECs)

➤ Most used ECs: null (NEC), weak (WEC), strong (SEC), dominant (DEC).

- (i) NEC:  $T_{\mu\nu}k^\mu k^\nu \geq 0$ ,
- (ii) WEC:  $T_{\mu\nu}v^\mu v^\nu \geq 0$ ,
- (iii) SEC:  $(T_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}T^\alpha{}_\alpha g_{\mu\nu})v^\mu v^\nu \geq 0$ ,
- (iv) DEC: WEC &  $F^\mu \equiv -T^{\mu\nu}v_\nu$  causal.

$$\forall k^\mu, v^\mu$$

➤ Chain of implications:  $\text{DEC} \Rightarrow \text{WEC} \Rightarrow \text{NEC} \Leftarrow \text{SEC}$

# Null Energy Condition

- We can obtain the **general** NEC (without assuming a perfect fluid):

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{|g|}} \left\{ \frac{f_k(g)}{2} \partial_\mu \psi \partial_\nu \psi + g \left[ f'_v(g) V(\psi) - \frac{1}{2} f'_k(g) \partial_\alpha \psi \partial^\alpha \psi \right] g_{\mu\nu} \right\}$$

$$\text{NEC: } T_{\mu\nu} k^\mu k^\nu \geq 0 \quad \forall k^\mu \text{ null}$$

$$\implies \boxed{f_k \geq 0} \quad (\text{not a ghost field})$$

- The other ECs → **perfect fluid viewpoint + limiting regimes.**

# Perfect fluid ECs

➤ For a perfect fluid, the ECs take the form:

$$\text{NEC: } \rho + p \geq 0,$$

$$\text{WEC: } \rho + p \geq 0, \quad \rho \geq 0,$$

$$\text{SEC: } \rho + p \geq 0, \quad \rho + 3p \geq 0,$$

$$\text{DEC: } \rho \geq |p| \geq 0.$$

# General ECs (perfect fluid)

➤ WEC:  $f_k \geq 0 \quad \& \quad \frac{(\partial\psi)^2}{2} (f_k - g f'_k) + g f'_v V \geq 0$

➤ SEC:  $f_k \geq 0 \quad \& \quad \frac{(\partial\psi)^2}{2} (f_k + 2g f'_k) - 2g f'_v V \geq 0$

➤ DEC:  $p \leq 0 : \quad f'_v V - \frac{(\partial\psi)^2}{2} f'_k \leq 0 \quad \& \quad f_k \geq 0,$

$p > 0 : \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} f'_v V - \frac{(\partial\psi)^2}{2} f'_k > 0, \\ \frac{(\partial\psi)^2}{2} (f_k - 2g f'_k) + 2g f'_v V \geq 0. \end{array} \right.$

# ECs in potential domination

- EoS  $w = -1$  saturates the NEC.
- The other ECs in the potential limit:

$$\text{WEC: } f'_v V \leq 0, \quad \text{SEC: } f'_v V \geq 0,$$

$$\text{DEC: } \begin{cases} p \leq 0 : f'_v V \leq 0, \\ p > 0 : f'_v V > 0 \quad \& \quad f'_v V \leq 0 \quad (\text{contrad.}) \end{cases}$$

- The kinetic domination limit is more involved → see later in particular cases.

# ECs in kinetic domination

➤ We already know the NEC:  $f_k \geq 0$  (focus on positive in kin. dom.)

➤ The other ECs:

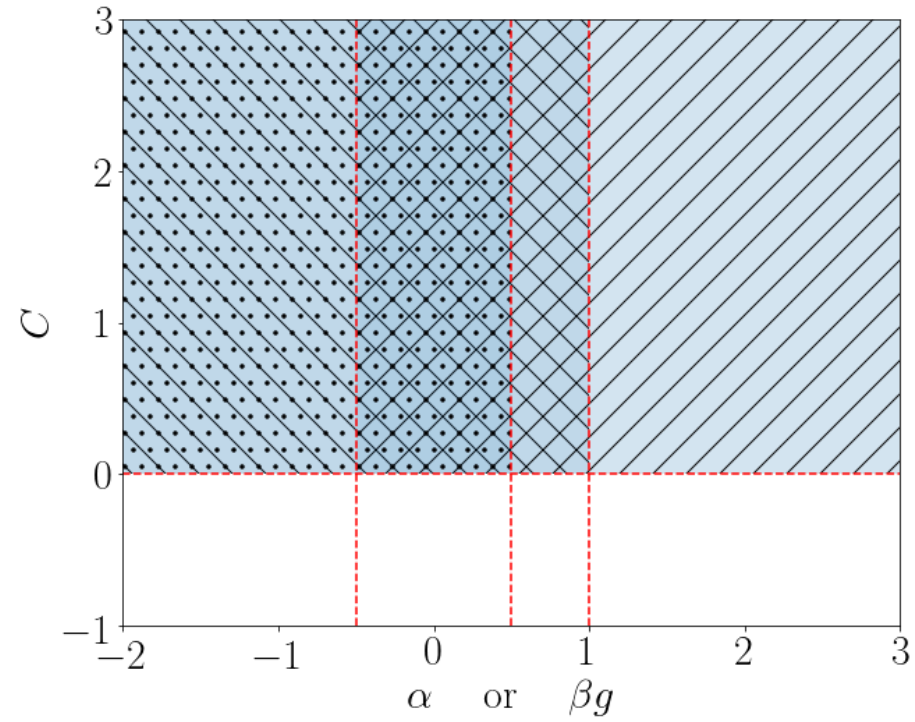
$$\text{WEC: } f_k \geq 0, \quad f_k - g f'_k \geq 0,$$

$$\text{SEC: } f_k \geq 0, \quad f_k + 2g f'_k \geq 0,$$

$$\text{DEC: } \begin{cases} p \leq 0 : & f'_k \geq 0 \quad \& \quad f_k \geq 0, \\ p > 0 : & f'_k < 0 \quad \& \quad f_k - 2g f'_k \geq 0. \end{cases}$$



ECs for  $f_k = C|g|^\alpha$  and  $f_k = Ce^{\beta g}$



Legend:   
 NEC   
 WEC   
 SEC   
 DEC