

# On the role of the extra kinetic term coupling in Hořava-Lifshitz gravity

because a small title would have been too nice

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### Hořava-Lifshitz gravity (HLG)

An attempt to build a perturbatively renormalizable theory of gravity valid at all scales. Amongst its properties:

- built in unitarity
- no extra fields when compared with GR,
- no extra dimensions.

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Due to the lack of free lunches which characterizes life, the universe and everything, all these nice properties come at a price:

- Lorentz invariance is broken,
- It is far from clear if GR can be recovered in the IR.

# Outline

- 1 Introduction to Hořava-Lifshitz gravity
- 2 Constraint analysis of non-projectable  $\lambda$ -R model
- 3 Conclusion

# HLG I

Let us define the theory in the following three steps:

- Propose a non Gaussian UV fixed point (UV FP),
- Choose symmetry group which respects the properties of the UV FP,
- Construct the most general action respecting the symmetries and being such that:
  - there are no more than two time derivatives so as to get unitarity,
  - in terms of power counting, it is perturbatively renormalizable.

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## Step 0: field content

There are two options regarding the field content:

- Insist in matching that of GR  $\rightarrow N(x, t), N^i(x, t), g_{ij}(x, t)$ .
  - This is the so-called non-projectable HLG.
- Consider only  $g_{ij}(x, t)$  as fundamental and add only what is strictly necessary to build invariants.
  - This leads to projectable HLG: same as before but with  $N \equiv N(t)$ .

## HLG II - The UV fixed point

The UV FP is such that solutions of the theory at that scale should satisfy the anisotropic scaling

$$t \rightarrow b^z t, \quad x^i \rightarrow b x^i.$$

- $z$  - critical exponent characterizing the theory,
- $z \neq 1 \Rightarrow$  preferred notion of time.

Due to the preferred notion of time, 4-dimensional Diffeomorphisms are not an appropriate symmetry for these theories!



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### Manifold restrictions

To have a preferred notion of time, consider only manifolds admitting a global time foliation,

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{R} \times \Sigma$$

- Here  $\Sigma$  will be closed and compact unless otherwise specified.

## HLG III - Replacing diffeomorphism invariance

Accepting we cannot have invariance under 4-dimensional diffeomorphisms, what we want is:

- a symmetry group which preserves the foliation structure,
- a symmetry group as close to diffeomorphisms as possible.

Choice: impose invariance under foliation-preserving Diffeomorphisms.

- Infinitesimal generators of  $\text{Diff}_{\mathcal{F}}(\mathcal{M})$

$$\delta t = f(t), \quad \delta x^i = \zeta^i(x, t)$$

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### Extrinsic curvature

Like in GR, one needs  $K_{ij}$  to build invariants with time derivatives of the metric,

$$K_{ij} = \frac{1}{2N} (\dot{g}_{ij} - \nabla_i N_j - \nabla_j N_i),$$

- Unlike in GR, this can just as well be done with  $N \equiv N(t)$ , hence the existence of the projectable version.

## HLG IV - Kinetic term of the action

Because of the reduced symmetry group, both  $K_{ij}K^{ij}$  and  $K^2$  are independently invariant,

$$S_K = \frac{1}{g_\kappa} \int dt \int d^3x \sqrt{g} N (K_{ij}K^{ij} - \lambda K^2) = \frac{1}{g_\kappa} \int dt \int d^3x \sqrt{g} N K_{ij} G_\lambda^{ijkl} K_{kl},$$

with “little lambda”  $\lambda$  a new dimensionless coupling.

- $\lambda = 1$  restores the Kinetic term of GR,
- $G_\lambda^{ijkl}$  is a generalized Wheeler-DeWitt metric,

$$G_\lambda^{ijkl} = \frac{1}{2} (g^{ik} g^{jl} + g^{il} g^{jk}) - \lambda g^{ij} g^{kl},$$

which is invertible only for  $\lambda \neq \frac{1}{3}$ ,

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Picking a  $z$

As it turns out, in  $d + 1$  dimensions, demanding  $[g_{\kappa}] = 0$  determines  $z$  to be  $z = d$ .

## HLG V - Potential term

The potential term of the action then contains all invariants containing only spatial derivatives,

$$S_V = \int dt \int d^3x \sqrt{g} N \mathcal{V}(g_{ij}, N)$$

- Since  $[K^2] = 2d$ , for 3 spatial dimensions, terms with up to 6 spatial derivatives are allowed
- Examples of terms that should appear include  $R^2$ ,  $RR_{ij}R^{ij}$ ,  $g^{kl}\nabla_k R_{ij}\nabla_l R^{ij}$ , among many others.

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### An extra invariant

For the non-projectable version of the theory, an extra class of invariants should be included:

- As it turns out,  $a_i \equiv \nabla_i \log N$  transforms as a vector under  $\text{Diff}_{\mathcal{F}}(\mathcal{M})$ ,
- They imply a proliferation of invariants on the potential term of the action
  - because it was not messy enough as it was.

# Classical limit and the $\lambda$ -R model

The action describing the low energy limit of the theory is then

$$S = \int dt \int d^3x \sqrt{g} N \left( K_{ij} G_{\lambda}^{ijkl} K_{kl} + R - 2\Lambda + \beta a_i a^i \right).$$

Because our goal is to understand the role of  $\lambda$ , we will set  $\beta = 0$ .

- The system thus described will be referred to as a  $\lambda$ -R model.
- In this case, both versions of the theory are described by the same action,
- The different results for both of them illustrate the role of the projectability condition.



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## Goal

To give an answer to the question:

- is it really necessary for  $\lambda \rightarrow 1$  for a  $\lambda$ -R model to reproduce GR?

# Non-projectable HLG I - Legendre transformation

## Conjugate momenta

We start by defining generalized momenta in the usual way,

$$\pi^{ij} \equiv \frac{\delta S}{\delta \dot{g}^{ij}} = \sqrt{g} G_{\lambda}^{ijkl} K_{kl}$$
$$\phi \equiv \frac{\delta S}{\delta N} = 0, \quad \phi_i \equiv \frac{\delta S}{\delta N^i} = 0$$

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One can then perform the Legendre transformation to obtain the total Hamiltonian,

$$H_t = \int d^3x \{ N\mathcal{H} + N^i \mathcal{H}_i + \alpha \phi + \alpha^i \phi_i \},$$

with  $\alpha$  and  $\alpha^i$  being Lagrange multipliers and  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\mathcal{H}_i$  given by

$$\mathcal{H} \equiv \frac{G_{ijkl}^{\lambda}}{\sqrt{g}} \pi^{ij} \pi^{kl} - \sqrt{g} (R - 2\Lambda),$$

$$\mathcal{H}_i \equiv -2g_{ij} \nabla_k \pi^{jk}.$$

## Non-projectable HLG II - Constraints

- Since there are no time derivatives of  $N$  and  $N^i$  on the action, their momenta define the four primary constraints of the theory

$$\phi = 0, \quad \phi_i = 0,$$

- Their time preservation yield the familiar looking (modified) Hamiltonian and momentum constraints,

$$\dot{\phi} = \mathcal{H} \approx 0, \quad \dot{\phi}_i = \mathcal{H}_i \approx 0.$$

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Some things change, some stay the same

We now need to impose  $\dot{\mathcal{H}} \approx 0$  and  $\dot{\mathcal{H}}_i \approx 0$ .

- Since neither  $\mathcal{H}_i$  nor spatial diffeomorphisms changed, all PBs involving  $\mathcal{H}_i$  still vanish on the constraint surface.
- Due to  $\lambda$ , the PB between  $\mathcal{H}$  and itself contains an extra term,
  - this extra term is exclusively present on the non-projectable theory,
  - because of its presence,  $\dot{\mathcal{H}} \approx 0$  implies a tertiary constraint.

# Non-projectable HLG III - The tertiary constraint

## Tertiary constraint

- From imposing  $\dot{\mathcal{H}} \approx 0$  we obtain

$$\dot{\mathcal{H}} = -2 \frac{1-\lambda}{3\lambda-1} (N \nabla^2 \pi + 2g^{ij} \nabla_i \pi \nabla_j N) \approx 0$$

- **Remark:** the non-trivial term comes from the  $\{\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H}\}$  part of  $\dot{\mathcal{H}}$ ,
  - more precisely, from the last term in the variation of  $R$ :

$$\delta_{g_{ij}} \int d^3x N \sqrt{g} R = \sqrt{g} N \left( \frac{1}{2} g^{ij} R - R^{ij} \right) + \sqrt{g} G_1^{ijkl} \nabla_k \nabla_l N$$

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## Asymptotically flat spacetime

Note that the only solution of (1) for asymptotically flat spacetimes is  $\pi = 0$ . In this case all the  $\lambda$ -dependence drops out and GR is recovered.



## NP HLG IV - Tertiary and quaternary constraints

For compact hypersurfaces, solutions to (1) are given by the constant mean curvature (CMC) gauge condition

$$\dot{\mathcal{H}} \approx 0 \Rightarrow \omega \equiv \pi - a(t)\sqrt{g} \approx 0, \quad (2)$$

- $a(t)$  can be any spatial constant,
  - In our original paper, we considered  $a(t) = 0$ ,
  - Here, we use a more general solution obtained by integrating (2) over  $\Sigma$ ,

$$a(t) = \frac{1}{V} \int d^3x \pi.$$

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Quaternary constraint (I promise it's the last one)

The quaternary constraint is a  $\lambda$ -dependent Lapse fixing equation

$$\mathcal{M} \equiv D_\lambda N - \frac{\sqrt{g}}{V} \int d^3x D_\lambda N \approx 0,$$

$$D_\lambda \equiv \sqrt{g} \left( R - 3\Lambda + \frac{a^2}{2(3\lambda-1)} - \nabla^2 \right).$$

## NP HLG V - Closing the algebra and counting d.o.f.

- To wrap up the constraint algebra, one must check the time preservation of  $\mathcal{M} \approx 0$ .
- Thankfully, that determines the Lagrange multiplier  $\alpha$  associated with  $\phi \approx 0$ ,

$$F + D_\lambda \alpha - \frac{\sqrt{g}}{V} \int d^3x (F + D_\lambda \alpha) \approx 0,$$

$$F = \left( 2\pi^{kl} - \pi g^{kl} \frac{2\lambda-1}{3\lambda-1} \right) \left( N \nabla_k \nabla_k N + \nabla_k (N \nabla_l N) - N^2 R_{kl} \right) + \frac{N^2 \pi R}{3\lambda-1} - \frac{\alpha N D_\lambda N}{3\lambda-1}$$

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## Degree of freedom counting

- Upon redefining  $\mathcal{H}_i$  to include the action of spatial diffeomorphisms on  $N$  and  $\phi$ , we are left with:
  - 6 first class constraints,  $\mathcal{H}_i \approx 0$  and  $\phi^i \approx 0$
  - 4 second class constraints,  $\mathcal{H} \approx 0$ ,  $\omega \approx 0$ ,  $\mathcal{M} \approx 0$ , and  $\phi \approx 0$ .
- Despite the presence of  $\lambda$  on the e.o.m.,  $\mathcal{H} \approx 0$ , and  $\mathcal{M} \approx 0$ , the # of local physical d.o.f. is the same as in GR - two.

# NP HLG VI - momentum decomposition

Whatever we have, we know that:

- We have a one-to-one correspondence between our constraints and all consistency conditions present in GR with the CMC gauge,
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- **So, is this GR or not?**

One unpleasant feature is that  $\lambda$  appears in different ways in  $\mathcal{M} \approx 0$  and  $\dot{\mathcal{M}} \approx 0$ . Here's a way to fix that:

## Momentum decomposition

Without loss of generality, decompose the momentum tensor density as

$$\pi^{ij} = \pi_{TT}^{ij} + \nabla^i u^j + \nabla^j u^i + \frac{1}{3}g^{ij}\pi. \quad (3)$$

Plug (3) in  $\mathcal{H}_i \approx 0$  and notice the follow solves the constraint

$$\pi^{ij} = \pi_{TT}^{ij} + \frac{1}{3}g^{ij}\pi. \quad (4)$$

(4) not only solves  $\mathcal{H}_i \approx 0$  but turns all  $\lambda$ -dependence into  $\frac{1}{3\lambda-1}$ .

## NP HLG VII - modified Lichnerowicz-York equation

- Another advantage of the TT decomposition, is that it is the first step towards the Lichnerowicz-York equation in GR,
- The second step would be assuming  $\nabla_i \pi = 0$ , which we have for free!
- Consider the following conformal transformation,

$$\bar{g}_{ij} = \phi^4 g_{ij}, \quad \bar{\pi}_{TT}^{ij} = \phi^{-4} \phi_{TT}^{ij}, \quad \bar{\pi} = \phi^6 \pi. \quad (5)$$

- Write down  $\mathcal{H} \approx 0$  for the barred variables. Plug (5) and obtain an equation for  $\phi$ , a modified Lichnerowicz-York equation,

$$8\nabla^2 \phi - R\phi + \phi^{-7} \frac{\pi_{TT}^{ij} \pi_{ij}^{TT}}{g} - \frac{\phi^5}{3(3\lambda-1)} \frac{\pi^2}{g} \approx 0. \quad (6)$$

- If  $\lambda > 1/3$ , we are guaranteed that there is a  $\phi > 0$  solving (6) and it is unique.



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**So, is this GR or not?** The usual initial value techniques for GR don't seem to generalize for  $\lambda < 1/3$ . For  $\lambda > 1/3$  things work but we clearly get a different  $\phi$ .

# Conclusion

- Upon a careful examination of the constraint algebra we have:
  - The same number of local d.o.f. found in GR,
  - The CMC gauge condition is naturally imposed on the theory,
- After a TT decomposition, we obtained a modified LY equation,
  - The  $\lambda$ -dependence becomes the same everywhere and  $\mathcal{H}_i \approx 0$  is solved,
  - The modified LY equation has unique solutions for  $\lambda > 1/3$ ,
  - For an arbitrary base metric, the conformal factor solving  $\mathcal{H} \approx 0$  is not the same as in GR.

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Thank you!

Don't make a sound: they're not dead, just sleeping 