Neutron stars as probes of strong-field gravity

Work over several years (2010-2015) with:

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Outline

- Weak- vs strong-field tests of GR
- Strong-field tests of what?
- Stars in GR and in modified gravity
- Examples: scalar-tensor theory tensor-multi-scalar theories EdGB gravity
- Issues: EOS/gravity degeneracy
 Theory degeneracy
- The post-TOV formalism

Weak-field tests VS strong-field tests

The foundations of general relativity



Why should we bother looking for modifications of GR?

(Circa 1919)

Journalist: *"Herr Einstein, what if the theory turned out to be wrong?"* Einstein: *"I would feel sorry for the dear Lord. The theory is correct."*

(Circa 1970) Chandrasekhar to his postdoc Clifford Will: *"Why do you spend so much time testing GR? We know the theory is right."*

1) Theory: GR is not renormalizable It becomes renormalizable if one adds high-order curvature terms to the action

2) Experiments: dark matter, dark energy Due to modified gravity?

> Problem: GR is extremely well tested "in between" these two regimes

"Short blanket problem" for modifications of GR



Tests of strong gravity

Berti+ 1501.07274

What is "strong" gravity?



Strong-field probes: black holes and neutron stars



A guiding principle to modify GR: Lovelock's theorem

"In four spacetime dimensions the only divergence-free symmetric rank-2 tensor constructed solely from the metric and its derivatives up to second differential order, and preserving diffeomorphism invariance, is the Einstein tensor plus a cosmological term."



LOST & FOUND: THE WRECKAGE OF MARS POLAR LANDER

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...and about what?

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Lovelock theorem as a map for the modified gravity zoo



Tests of general relativity – against what?

- Action principle
- Well-posed
- Testable predictions
- Cosmologically viable, BHs, neutron stars

$$= f_0(\phi)R$$

- $\omega(\phi)\partial_a\phi\partial^a\phi - M(\phi) + \mathcal{L}_{mat} \left[\Psi, A^2(\phi)g_{ab}\right]$
+ $f_1(\phi)(R^2 - 4R_{ab}R^{ab} + R_{abcd}R^{abcd})$
+ $f_2(\phi)R_{abcd}^*R^{abcd}$ + Lorentz-violating terms...

Alternative theories usually:

Introduce more fields (scalars, vectors) or higher-curvature terms **Need strong-field tests!** Challenge pillars of general relativity:

- Equivalence principle
- Lorentz invariance (Einstein-aether, TeVeS...)
- Parity conservation...

[Gair+,1212.5575; Clifton+, 1106.2476]

Properties of (some) modified gravity theories

Theory	Field	Strong	Massless	Lorentz	Linear	Weak	Well-	Weak-field
	content	EP	graviton	symmetry	$T_{\mu u}$	EP	posed?	$\operatorname{constraints}$
Extra scalar field								
Scalar-tensor	\mathbf{S}	X	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	✓ [34]	[35 - 37]
Multiscalar	\mathbf{S}	X	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	√ [38]	[39]
Metric $f(R)$	\mathbf{S}	X	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	√ [40,41]	[42]
Quadratic gravity		I						
Gauss-Bonnet	\mathbf{S}	X	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	√?	[43]
Chern-Simons	Р	X	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	× √? [44]	[45]
Generic	$\mathrm{S/P}$	X	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	?	
Horndeski	\mathbf{S}	X	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark ?	
Lorentz-violating		I					1	
Æ-gravity	SV	×	\checkmark	×	\checkmark	\checkmark	√?	[46-49]
m Khronometric/								
Hořava-Lifshitz	\mathbf{S}	X	\checkmark	×	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark ?	[48-51]
n-DBI	\mathbf{S}	X	\checkmark	×	\checkmark	\checkmark	?	none (52)
Massive gravity		l					1	
dRGT/Bimetric	SVT	X	×	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	?	[17]
Galileon	\mathbf{S}	X	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	√?	[17, 53]
Nondynamical fields		I						
Palatini $f(R)$	—	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	X	\checkmark	\checkmark	none
Eddington-Born-Infeld	_	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	×	\checkmark	?	none
Others, not covered here							•	
TeVeS	SVT	X	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	?	[37]
$f(R)\mathcal{L}_m$?	X	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	X	?	
f(T)	?	×	\checkmark	×	\checkmark	\checkmark	?	[54]

[EB+, arXiv:1501.07274]

Compact stars in general relativity and modified gravity

"Internal" tests: neutron stars

Strong-field signatures:

high curvatures in interior, spontaneous scalarization...

Observables? Consider the Hartle-Thorne expansion in $\Omega/(M/R^3)^{1/2}$

Zero order in rotation: M(R) - mass-radius relation Radii hard to measure, both in binaries and in isolated systems



Neutron stars as EOS probes

Strong-field signatures:

high curvatures in interior, spontaneous scalarization...

Observables? Consider the Hartle-Thorne expansion in $\Omega/(M/R^3)^{1/2}$

Zero order in rotation: M(R) - mass-radius relation Radii hard to measure, both in binaries and in isolated systems

Corrections:

Moment of inertia I may be measurable in binary pulsars [Lattimer-Schutz, Kramer, Wex...]

Tidal "Love number" may be measurable in binary inspirals [Mora-Will, Berti-Iyer-Will, Read, Hinderer, Lang, Binnington, Poisson, Vines, Damour, Nagar, Bernuzzi, Villain, Favata, Yagi, Yunes...]

Quadrupole Q or higher-order moments: light curves or QPOs [Laarakkers-Poisson, Berti-Stergioulas, BWMB, Baubock+, Pappas...]

Stellar oscillations

Neutron stars in (some) modified gravity theories

Theory		Structure		Collapse	Sensitivities	Stability	Geodesics
,	NR	SR	FR	-		U U	
Extra scalar field							
Scalar-Tensor	[109-114]	[112, 115, 116]	[117 - 119]	[120-127]	[128]	[129 - 139]	[118, 140]
Multiscalar	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Metric $f(R)$	[141 - 153]	[154]	[155]	[156, 157]	?	[158, 159]	?
Quadratic gravity							
Gauss-Bonnet	[160]	[160]	[77]	?	?	?	?
Chern-Simons	$\equiv GR$	[25, 40, 161 - 163]	?	?	[162]	?	?
Horndeski	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Lorentz-violating							
Æ-gravity	[164, 165]	?	?	[166]	[43, 44]	[158]	?
Khronometric/							
Hořava-Lifshitz	[167]	?	?	?	[43, 44]	?	?
n-DBI	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Massive gravity							
dRGT/Bimetric	[168, 169]	?	?	?	?	?	?
Galileon	[170]	[170]	?	[171, 172]	?	?	?
Nondynamical fields							
Palatini $f(R)$	[173–177]	?	?	?	_	?	?
Eddington-Born-Infeld	[178–184]	[178, 179]	?	[179]	—	[185, 186]	?

[EB+, arXiv:1501.07274]

A "theory of theories"

$\mathcal{L} = f_{0}(|\phi|)R - \gamma(|\phi|)\partial_{a}\phi^{*}\partial^{a}\phi - V(|\phi|) + f_{1}(|\phi|)R^{2}$ $+ f_{2}(|\phi|)R_{ab}R^{ab} + f_{3}(|\phi|)R_{abcd}R^{abcd}$ $+ f_{4}(|\phi|)R_{abcd}^{*}R^{abcd} + \mathcal{L}_{mat}[\Psi, A^{2}(|\phi|)g_{ab}], \quad (2)$

	-				-	-				
	f_0	f_1	f_2	f_3	f_4	ω	V	γ	Α	$\mathcal{L}_{ ext{mat}}$
General relativity	к	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	perfect fluid
Scalar-tensor (Jordan frame) [24]	$F(oldsymbol{\phi})$	0	0	0	0	0	$V(oldsymbol{\phi})$	$\pmb{\gamma}(\pmb{\phi})$	1	perfect fluid
Scalar-tensor (Einstein frame) [23]	К	0	0	0	0	0	$V(oldsymbol{\phi})$	2к	$A(oldsymbol{\phi})$	perfect fluid
f(R) [36]	к	0	0	0	0	0	$\kappa \frac{Rf_{,R}-f}{16\pi \bar{G}f^2}$	2к	$f_0^{-1/2} = f_{R}^{-1/2}$	perfect fluid
Quadratic gravity [47]	к	$lpha_1 \phi$	$lpha_2 \phi$	$\alpha_3 \phi$	$lpha_4 \phi$	0	$0^{IONOJ_{R}}$	1	1	perfect fluid
EDGB [48]	к	$e^{\beta\phi}$	$-4f_{1}$	f_1	0	0	0	1	1	perfect fluid
Dynamical Chern-Simons [59]	К	0	0	0	$eta\phi$	0	0	1	l	perfect fluid
Boson stars [71]	к	0	0	0	0	ω	$\frac{m^2}{2} \phi ^2$	1	1	0

[Yunes & Stein, 1101.2921] [Pani+, 1109.0928]

Example #1: scalar-tensor theory

Pani+EB 1405.4547; Silva+ 1410.2511, 1411.6286

Scalar-tensor theory and spontaneous scalarization

Action (in the "Einstein frame"):

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g^{\star}} \left[R^{\star} - 2g^{\star\mu\nu} \left(\partial_{\mu}\varphi \right) \left(\partial_{\nu}\varphi \right) - V(\varphi) \right] + S_M [\Psi, A^2(\varphi)g^{\star}_{\mu\nu}]$$

Gravity-matter coupling:

 $\alpha(\varphi) \equiv d(\ln A(\varphi))/d\varphi$

$$\alpha(\varphi) = \alpha_0 + \beta_0(\varphi - \varphi_0) + \dots$$

• Field equations:

$$\begin{aligned} G_{\mu\nu}^{\star} &= 2\left(\partial_{\mu}\varphi\partial_{\nu}\varphi - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}^{\star}\partial_{\sigma}\varphi\partial^{\sigma}\varphi\right) - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}^{\star}V(\varphi) + 8\pi T_{\mu\nu}^{\star}\,,\\ \Box_{g^{\star}}\varphi &= -4\pi\alpha(\varphi)T^{\star} + \frac{1}{4}\frac{dV}{d\varphi}\,,\end{aligned}$$

[Damour+Esposito-Farese, PRL 70, 2220 (1993); PRD 54, 1474 (1996); EB+,

Scalarization threshold: a back-of-the-envelope derivation

$$\Box_{g^*} \varphi = -4\pi \alpha(\varphi) T^*$$

$$\alpha(\varphi) = \beta_0 \varphi$$

$$-T^* = A^4 (\epsilon^* - 3p^*) \sim \frac{3}{4\pi R^2} \frac{m}{R} \quad \text{for} \quad r < R$$

$$\nabla^2 \varphi = \text{sign}(\beta_0) \left[\frac{3|\beta_0|(m/R)}{R^2} \right] \varphi = \text{sign}(\beta_0) \kappa^2 \varphi$$

$$\beta_0 < 0 \Longrightarrow \varphi_{\text{inside}} = \varphi_c \frac{\sin(\kappa r)}{\kappa r}$$

$$\varphi_c = \frac{\varphi_0}{\cos(\kappa R)} \gg \varphi_0 \qquad \kappa R \sim \pi/2$$

$$m/R \sim 0.2 \Longrightarrow \beta \sim -4$$

[Damour+Esposito-Farese, PRL 70, 2220

Scalar-tensor theory: spontaneous scalarization



Binary pulsar bounds on spontaneous scalarization



Scalarization is alive – but for how long?

- 1) Could scalarization leave imprints in crustal oscillations? No - pulsar bounds are too strong
- 2) Can the EOS dependence save us? No - too mild
- 3) Can anisotropy save us? Possibly so - if you believe in anisotropy...
- 4) Multiscalarization? Work in progress...

Signatures in crustal (torsional) oscillations?



DH (Douchin-Haensel), KP (Kobyakov-Pethick): different crustal EOS

[Schumaker-Thorne, MNRAS 253, 457 (1983); Silva+, arXiv:1410.2511]

Crustal microphysics dominates over gravity modifications



Bands bracket uncertainties in crustal EOS Left: fundamental mode, right: overtone Dotted horizontal lines: measured QPOs

Red: GR modes as a function of mass Blue: ST modes for models that are

* marginally allowed (top)
* excluded (bottom)
[Silva+, 1410.2511]

Does the EOS affect the scalarization threshold?



Dependence of β on EOS is too mild for ordinary models of high-density nuclear matter

[Silva+, 1411.6286]

A (not so exotic?) way out: anisotropy



[Adam+, 1503.03095; Kamiak-Broderick-Afshordi, 1503.03898]

Anisotropy and scalarization threshold



λ = degree of anisotropy

Aside: in the limit λ=-2π the Bowers-Liang model for constant-density stars has R=2M – and the low-order multipole moments also tend to those of Kerr!

[Yagi-Yunes+, 1502.04131]

Anisotropy boosts effects of scalarization



Example #2: tensor-multi-scalar theories

Horbatsch+ 1505.07462

Multiscalarization?

Damour/Esposito-Farese, CQG 9, 2093 (1992)

$$S = \frac{1}{4\pi G_{\star}} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left(\frac{R}{4} - \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \gamma_{AB}(\phi) \partial_{\mu} \phi^A \partial_{\nu} \phi^B - B(\phi) \right)$$

+ $S_{\rm m}[A^2(\phi)g_{\mu\nu};\Psi],$
Two-scalar model:
$$S = \frac{1}{4\pi G_{\star}} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left(\frac{R}{4} - g^{\mu\nu} \gamma(\varphi,\bar{\varphi}) \nabla_{\mu} \bar{\varphi} \nabla_{\nu} \varphi - B(\varphi,\bar{\varphi}) \right)$$

+ $S_{\rm m}[A^2(\varphi,\bar{\varphi})g_{\mu\nu};\Psi],$
 $\gamma(\varphi,\bar{\varphi}) = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{\bar{\varphi}\varphi}{4\mathbf{r}^2} \right)^{-2} \qquad \psi = \varphi e^{\mathrm{i}\theta_1\bar{\gamma}_2}$

 $\log A(\psi, \bar{\psi}) = \alpha \psi + \bar{\alpha} \bar{\psi} + \frac{1}{2} \beta_0 \psi \bar{\psi} + \frac{1}{4} \beta_1 \psi^2 + \frac{1}{4} \beta_1 \bar{\psi}^2 + \dots$

α =0: symmetry breaking



"Independent" biscalarization

$$\log A(\psi, \bar{\psi}) = \frac{1}{2} \left[(\beta_0 + \beta_1) \operatorname{Re}[\psi]^2 + (\beta_0 - \beta_1) \operatorname{Im}[\psi]^2 \right]$$





Example #3: EdGB

Pani+ arXiv:1109.0928

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$\mathcal{L} = f_{0}(|\phi|)R - \gamma(|\phi|)\partial_{a}\phi^{*}\partial^{a}\phi - V(|\phi|) + f_{1}(|\phi|)R^{2}$ $+ f_{2}(|\phi|)R_{ab}R^{ab} + f_{3}(|\phi|)R_{abcd}R^{abcd}$ $+ f_{4}(|\phi|)R_{abcd}^{*}R^{abcd} + \mathcal{L}_{mat}[\Psi, A^{2}(|\phi|)g_{ab}], \quad (2)$

[Yunes & Stein, 1101.2921] [Pani+, 1109.0928]

	-				-	-				
	f_0	f_1	f_2	f_3	f_4	ω	V	γ	A	$\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{mat}}$
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Quadratic gravity [47]	к	$lpha_1 \phi$	$lpha_2 \phi$	$\alpha_3 \phi$	$lpha_4 \phi$	0	$0^{IONOJ_{R}}$	1	1	perfect fluid
EDGB [48]	к	$e^{\beta\phi}$	$-4f_{1}$	f_1	0	0	0	1	1	perfect fluid
Dynamical Chern-Simons [59]	К	0	0	0	$eta \phi$	0	0	1	1	perfect fluid
Boson stars [71]	К	0	0	0	0	ω	$rac{m^2}{2} oldsymbol{\phi} ^2$	1	1	0

EDGB:
$$f_1 \equiv \frac{\alpha}{16\pi} e^{\beta\Phi}$$
, $16\pi f_1(\Phi) \sim \alpha + \alpha\beta\Phi$
Set $\alpha > 0$; natural string theory choice is $\beta = \sqrt{2}$
[e.g. Kanti+, hep-th/9511071]

N

Stellar structure in Einstein-dilaton-Gauss-Bonnet theory







Best bound on α already comes from NSs, not BHs!

EOS/gravity and gravity theory degeneracies

EOS/gravity theory degeneracy



Are we testing the EOS or gravity? Universal relations

 $M_*(APR)[M_{o}]$



I-Love-Q and three-hair relations could help tell theories apart

Are we testing the EOS or gravity? Universal relations



Issues:

In most theories other than dynamical Chern-Simons (scalar-tensor, EdGB, EiBI) universal relations same as in GR: see e.g. Mojica's talk

R², Lorentz-violating theories: universal relations not studied Massive gravity, general Horndeski: no studies of stellar structure at all!

All theories in one sweep? post-TOV

The post-TOV formalism

Glampedakis+ 1504.02455

The post-TOV formalism

Main idea: augment the TOV equations by adding 1PN and 2PN terms with arbitrary coefficients built out of the available fluid parameters:

$$p, \rho, \Pi, m, r$$
 $\epsilon = \rho(1 + \Pi)$

1PN-order terms follow from the standard PPN expansion:

$$\Lambda_1 \sim \Pi, \ \frac{m}{r}, \ \frac{r^3 p}{m}$$

[Wagoner-Malone 74, Ciufolini-Ruffini 83]

Tightly constrained!

2PN-order terms obtained by dimensional analysis:

$$\begin{split} \Lambda_2 &\sim \Pi^{\theta} (r^2 p)^{\alpha} (r^2 \rho)^{\beta} \left(\frac{m}{r}\right)^{2-2\alpha-\beta-\theta} \\ \text{Regularity at surface +} & 0 \leq \theta \leq 2 \text{ or } 3 \\ \text{Field equations linear in} \\ \text{stress-energy tensor:} & 0 \leq \alpha \leq 2-\theta \text{ or } 3-\theta \end{split}$$

Family ties!

Family	2PN term	(α, β, θ)
F1	$m^3/(r^5 ho)$	(0, -1, 0)
F2	$(m/r)^{2}$	(0, 0, 0)
F2	$rm\rho$	(0, 1, 0)
F3	$mp/(r\rho)$	(1, -1, 0)
F3	r^2p	(1, 0, 0)
F3	$\Pi m^2/(r^4\rho)$	(0, -1, 1)
F3	$\Pi m/r$	(0, 0, 1)
F3	$r^2 \Pi \rho$	(0, 1, 1)
F4	$r^3p^2/(\rho m)$	(2, -1, 0)
F4	$r^{6}p^{2}/(m^{2})$	(2, 0, 0)
F4	$\Pi p/\rho$	(1, -1, 1)
F4	$\Pi r^3 p/m$	(1, 0, 1)
F4	$\Pi^2 m/(r^3 \rho)$	(0, -1, 2)
F4	Π^2	(0, 0, 2)
F5	$\Pi r^4 p^2 / (\rho m^2)$	(2, -1, 1)
F5	$\Pi r^7 p^2/m^3$	(2, 0, 1)
F5	$\Pi^2 rp/m\rho$	(1, -1, 2)
F5	$\Pi^2 r^4 p/m^2$	(1, 0, 2)
F5	$\Pi^3/(r^2\rho)$	(0, -1, 3)
F5	$\Pi^3 r/m$	(0, 0, 3)



Final "post-TOV" equations

$$\frac{dp}{dr} = \left(\frac{dp}{dr}\right)_{\rm GR} - \frac{\rho m}{r^2} \left(\mathcal{P}_1 + \mathcal{P}_2\right)$$
$$\frac{dm}{dr} = \left(\frac{dm}{dr}\right)_{\rm GR} + 4\pi r^2 \rho \left(\mathcal{M}_1 + \mathcal{M}_2\right)$$



[Glampedakis+, 1504.02455]

Gravity-theory degeneracy and the "post-TOV" expansion



Post-TOV effective metric

The post-TOV equations have an effective GR-like formulation:

$$\nabla_{\nu} T_{\text{eff}}^{\mu\nu} = 0, \qquad T_{\text{eff}}^{\mu\nu} = (\epsilon_{\text{eff}} + p) u^{\mu} u^{\nu} + p g^{\mu\nu}$$

$$\bigwedge_{\frac{dp}{dr}} = -\frac{1}{2} (\epsilon_{\text{eff}} + p) \frac{d\nu}{dr} \qquad \frac{dm}{dr} = 4\pi r^2 \epsilon_{\text{eff}}$$

with a gravity-modified effective EOS

$$p = p(\epsilon_{\text{eff}}), \quad \epsilon_{\text{eff}} = \epsilon + \rho \mathcal{M}_2$$

and an effective interior metric

 $g_{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}[e^{\nu(r)}, (1 - 2m(r)/r)^{-1}, r^2, r^2 \sin^2 \theta]$

[Glampedakis+, 1504.02455]

Summary

- **Neutron stars**: possibly best astrophysical laboratory for strong gravity:
- large curvatures
- tests of gravity/matter coupling
- "Theory of theories": terms of order R and R² only few well motivated
- scalar-tensor spontaneous scalarization unlikely, observables must be close to GR (but anisotropy? dynamical scalarization?)
- tensor-multi-scalar multiscalarization? AdLIGO signatures invisible to binary pulsars?
- EdGB

strong theory constraints from a single 2 solar mass measurement!

Issues: EOS/gravity degeneracy, gravity theory degeneracy

A theory-agnostic **post-TOV formalism**

to do: M(R) curves, redshift, cooling, surface emission from bursters Slow rotation, universal relations, break degeneracies?