


A First Class Formulation of  
Massive Gravity -  
*or Massive Gravity as a Gauge Theory*



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Based on work to appear

# Why Massive Gravity?

Massive Gravity Theories are a remarkably a constrained modification of general relativity at large distance scales - graviton is assumed to acquire a mass

In present talk I shall only be concerned with models where this occurs without breaking Lorentz or de Sitter symmetries

They are interesting in that as in GR, there are a finite number of consistent allowed terms in the Lagrangian that do not give rise to ghosts

By Massive Gravity we mean a nonlinear completion of Fierz-Pauli coupled to matter

Markus Fierz and Wolfgang Pauli,  
1939

$$\square h_{\mu\nu} + \dots = m^2 (h_{\mu\nu} - \mathbf{I} \eta_{\mu\nu} h)$$

$$5 = 2s + 1$$

Fierz-Pauli mass term

guarantees 5 rather than 6  
propagating degrees of  
freedom

Massless spin-two in Minkowski makes sense!



# Why Massive Gravity?

Adding a mass to gravity weakens the strength of gravity at large (cosmological) distances

$$V_{Yukawa} \sim \frac{e^{-mr}}{r}$$

But that's not all!

Self-acceleration?

Screening mechanism

Degravitation mechanism?

# Why Massive Gravity?

## Self-acceleration?

Gravitons can condense to form a condensate whose energy density **sources** self-acceleration

$$\rho_{\text{matter}} \sim 0$$

$$H \sim m \neq 0$$

Analogous to well-known mechanism in Dvali-Gabadadze-Porrati model (DGP), however here it seems possible to remove the DGP ghost??

Deffayet 2000

Koyama 2005

Charmousis 2006

# Why Massive Gravity?

Gravitons can condense to form a condensate whose energy density **compensates** the cosmological constant

**Screening mechanism** - The Cosmological Constant can be LARGE with the cosmic acceleration SMALL

**In a Massive Theory - the c.c. is a 'redundant' operator**

# Why Massive Gravity?

$$G_{\mu\nu} + m^2 \frac{\partial L_M}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}} = -\Lambda g_{\mu\nu}$$

mass term

Graviton condensate:

Spacetime is **Minkowski** in presence of an arbitrary large  $\Lambda$

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \left(1 + f\left(\frac{\Lambda}{m^2}\right)\right) \eta_{\mu\nu} \quad G_{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad m^2 \frac{\partial L_M}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}} = -\Lambda g_{\mu\nu}$$

Equivalent Statement: The cosmological constant can be reabsorbed into a **redefinition** of the metric and coupling constants - and is hence a **redundant** operator

# Why Massive Gravity?

Screening  $\longrightarrow$  Degravitation

One strong motivation for considering Massive Gravity is as a toy model of higher dimensional gravity models (eg Cascading Gravity) that potentially exhibit degravitation

de Rham et al 2007

**Degravitation** = Dynamical Evolution to a Screened Solution from generic initial conditions

Dvali, Hofmann, Khoury 2007

so far it is safe to say that this idea has not YET been fully realized



# Why Massive Gravity?

Departure from GR is governed by essentially a single parameter - Graviton Mass

**Vainshtein** Screening mechanism ensures recovery of GR in limit  $m \rightarrow 0$

This ensures massive gravity can be easily made to be consistent with most tests of GR (effectively placing an upper bound on  $m$ ) without spoiling its role as an IR modification

# Why Massive Gravity?

Massive Gravity is a natural Infrared Completion of  
**Galileon Theories**

Galileon: Nicolis, Rattazzi  
Trincherini 2010

Decoupling limit of Massive Gravity on Minkowski is a  
Galileon Theory

de Rham and Gabadadze 2010

Decoupling limit of Massive Gravity on de Sitter is a  
Galileon Theory (with slightly different coefficients)

de Rham and Renaux-Petel 2012

The allowed Galileon Interactions are in direct  
correspondence with the allowed MG interactions

# Why Massive Gravity?

Massive Gravity models share many nice features in common with extra dimensional models such as DGP and Cascading Gravity .....

e.g. **Vainshtein** mechanism, **Galileon** limit, **self-acceleration**,  
possible screening

.... however without the difficulty of having to solve fundamentally  
higher dimensional equations

# Ghost-free Massive Gravity

$$\mathcal{L} = M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \sqrt{-{}^{(4)}g} \left( {}^{(4)}R + 2m^2 \mathcal{U}(g, f) \right) + \mathcal{L}_M$$

$$\mathcal{K}_{\nu}^{\mu}(g, f) = \delta_{\nu}^{\mu} - \sqrt{g^{\mu\alpha} f_{\alpha\nu}} \quad \mathcal{U}(g, H) = \mathcal{U}_2 + \alpha_3 \mathcal{U}_3 + \alpha_4 \mathcal{U}_4$$

$$\mathcal{U}_2 = ([\mathcal{K}]^2 - [\mathcal{K}^2]),$$

$$\mathcal{U}_3 = ([\mathcal{K}]^3 - 3[\mathcal{K}][\mathcal{K}^2] + 2[\mathcal{K}^3]),$$

$$\mathcal{U}_4 = ([\mathcal{K}]^4 - 6[\mathcal{K}^2][\mathcal{K}]^2 + 8[\mathcal{K}^3][\mathcal{K}] + 3[\mathcal{K}^2]^2 - 6[\mathcal{K}^4])$$

de Rham, Gabadadze, Tolley, PRL, 106, 231101 (2011)

**Proven fully ghost free in ADM formalism: Hassan and Rosen  
2011**

Result reconfirmed in Stueckelberg decomposition: Result reconfirmed in helicity decomposition:

de Rham, Gabadadze, Tolley 2011

de Rham, Gabadadze, Tolley 2011

Hassan, Schmidt-May, von Strauss 2012

Kluson 2012

Now several other proofs: Mehrdad Mirbaryi 2011, AJT to appear

# dRGT model: allowed mass terms

de Rham, Gabadadze, Tolley 2011

Build out of  
unique  
combination

Mass terms are  
characteristic  
polynomials

$$K^\mu{}_\nu = \delta_{\mu\nu} - \sqrt{g^{\mu\alpha}} f_{\alpha\nu}$$

$$U(g, f) = \sum_i \beta_i U_i(K)$$

$$\det(\delta^\mu{}_\nu + \lambda K^\mu{}_\nu) = \sum_{n=0}^{n=d} \lambda^n U_n(K)$$

Finite number of allowed  
interactions in any dimension

Interactions protected by a  
Nonrenormalization theorem

Generalized to arbitrary (dynamical - bigravity)  
reference metrics by Hassan, Rosen 2011

# Second Class Constraints

But why does it work??????

Theory requires **two** second class constraints

The first was difficult to show - the second was extremely difficult!!!

# Upgrading from Second to First Class

In many systems it is more natural to formulate a system with two second class constraints as a system with one first class constraint

$$2 \times 1 \text{ second class} = 1 \text{ local symmetry} = \\ 1 \text{ first class constraint} + 1 \text{ gauge choice}$$

We are looking for an extra local/gauge symmetry!

# Example: Extra Dimensions

Massless Graviton in 5D has 5 degrees of freedom because of the existence of  $5=4+1$  gauge symmetries

$$15 - 5 \text{ (constraint)} - 5 \text{ (gauge choice)} = 5$$

5d symmetric matrix

DGP model:

More irrelevant

More relevant

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g_4} \frac{M_4^2}{2} R_4 + \int d^4x \sqrt{-g_4} \mathcal{L}_M + \int d^5x \sqrt{-g_5} \frac{M_5^3}{2} R_5$$

Dominates in UV

Dominates in IR



# Finding the Hidden Symmetry

**GOAL:** Can we reformulation the 4D ghost-free massive gravity theories as theories possessing the same **number of gauge symmetries** as 5D gravity

## **Advantage:**

1. Local symmetries protect against quantum corrections
2. Starting point for a consistent quantization
3. Proper understanding of helicity zero mode in full nonlinear theory
4. Guarantees the correct number of degrees of freedom
5. Coupling to matter must respect symmetry
6. Useful implications of Ward identities etc.

# Main point: How to introduce helicity zero mode

DGP

$$ds^2 = N^2 dy^2 + g_{\mu\nu} (dx^\mu + N^\mu dy) (dx^\nu + N^\nu dy)$$

Massive gravity

$g_{\mu\nu}$

$$f_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu \phi^A \partial_\nu \phi^B \eta_{AB}$$

4 Stueckelberg fields =  
4 ADM Shifts

No analogue of N

No analogue of y coordinate transformations

# Main point: How to introduce helicity zero mode

Need to introduce a NEW Stueckelberg field for a broken  
U(1) symmetry

Arkani-Hamed, Georgi, Schwartz 2003

Creminelli, Nicolis, Papucci, Trincherini 2005

Previous attempts:

$$\phi^A = V^A + \partial^A \pi$$

Introduces a new symmetry

$$V^A \rightarrow V^A + \partial^A \chi$$

$$\pi \rightarrow \pi - \chi$$

Gets correct decoupling limit

de Rham, Gabadadze 2010

$\pi$  is a Galileon field

$$\pi \rightarrow \pi + v_\mu x^\mu$$

# Main point: How to introduce helicity zero mode

Arkani-Hamed, Georgi, Schwartz 2003

Creminelli, Nicolis, Papucci, Trincherini 2005

Previous attempts:

$$\phi^A = V^A + \partial^A \pi$$

But it fails nonlinearly !!!!!!!!

Alberte, Chamseddine, Mukhanov 2010

Superficially a problem but not really .....

de Rham, Gabadadze, Tolley 2011

Hassan, Schmidt-May, von Strauss 2012

It only indicates we have not **correctly** introduced the  
helicity zero mode

# Massive Gravity in the Vierbein Formalism

Nibblelink Groot, Peloso, Sexton 2006

Hinterbichler and Rosen 2012

Write metric in terms of vierbeins (vielbeins)

$$g_{\mu\nu} = e_{\mu}^a e_{\nu}^b \eta_{ab}$$

Minkowski metric

$$\eta = - + + +$$

Lorentz Transformation

Introduce Local Lorentz symmetry

$$e_{\mu}^a \rightarrow e_{\mu}^b \Lambda_b^a$$

$$\Lambda_c^a \Lambda_d^b \eta_{ab} = \eta_{cd}$$

$$g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow g_{\mu\nu}$$

# Massive Gravity in the Vierbein Formalism

Nibblelink Groot, Peloso, Sexton 2006

Hinterbichler and Rosen 2012

Write reference (Minkowski) metric in terms of vierbeins

$$f_{\mu\nu} = b_{\mu}^a b_{\nu}^b \eta_{ab}$$

Most general reference vierbein is ...

$$b_{\mu}^a = \partial_{\mu} \phi^b \lambda_b^a \quad \lambda_c^a \lambda_d^b \eta_{ab} = \eta_{cd}$$

# Massive Gravity in the Vierbein Formalism

Under a diff (coordinate) transformation

$\phi^a$  and  $\lambda_b^a$  transform as scalars

Under a local Lorentz transformation

$$b_\mu^a = \partial_\mu \phi^b \lambda_b^a \quad b_\mu^a \rightarrow b_\mu^b \Lambda_b^a \quad \lambda_c^a \rightarrow \lambda_c^b \Lambda_b^a$$

The  $\lambda_b^a$  are the Stueckelberg fields for the broken Lorentz invariance

# Allowed dRGT mass terms

All the mass terms arise as characteristic polynomials in the expansion of a determinant

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = m^2 M_{\text{pl}}^2 \det \left( e_{\mu}^a + \mu \partial_{\mu} \phi^b \lambda_b^a \right)$$

Proof (Nibblelink et al.)

Varying w.r.t.  $\lambda_b^a$  gives constraint

$$e_a^{\mu} \partial_{\mu} \phi^c \lambda_{cb} = e_b^{\mu} \partial_{\mu} \phi^c \lambda_{ca}$$



# Allowed dRGT mass terms

more abstractly this says

$$e^{-1} \partial \phi \lambda = (e^{-1} \partial \phi \lambda)^T = \lambda^T (\partial \phi)^T e^{T-1}$$

but  $\lambda \eta \lambda^T = \eta$  since the  $\lambda_b^a$  are **Lorentz Stueckelbergs**

and so .....

$$\begin{aligned} (e^{-1} (\partial \phi) \lambda \eta)^2 &= e^{-1} (\partial \phi) \lambda \eta \lambda^T (\partial \phi)^T e^{T-1} \eta \\ &= e^{-1} (\partial \phi) \eta (\partial \phi)^T e^{T-1} \eta \end{aligned}$$

which implies .....

$$(e^{-1} (\partial \phi) \lambda \eta) = \sqrt{e^{-1} (\partial \phi) \eta (\partial \phi)^T e^{T-1} \eta}$$

**The Famous Square  
Root of the dRGT  
model**

# Introducing the Helicity Zero mode

Perturbatively spotted by Mirbabayi, 1112.1435

Nonperturbatively (AJT to appear)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = m^2 M_{\text{pl}}^2 \det \left( e_{\mu}^a + \mu \partial_{\mu} \phi^b \lambda_b^a \right)$$

$$\phi^a \rightarrow \phi^a + e_{\mu}^b \lambda^{-1}{}^a_b (V^{\mu} + \nabla^{\mu} \pi)$$

Local Symmetries:

4 coordinate transformations

6 local Lorentz transformations

1 'previously hidden' U(1) symmetry

$$V_{\mu} \rightarrow V_{\mu} + \partial_{\mu} \chi$$

$$\pi \rightarrow \pi - \chi$$

# The answer

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = m^2 M_{\text{pl}}^2 \det (e_{\mu}^a + \mu \partial_{\mu} \phi^b \lambda_b^a)$$

$$\phi^a \rightarrow \phi^a + e_{\mu}^b \lambda^{-1}{}^a_b (V^{\mu} + \nabla^{\mu} \pi)$$

This only works if we can show that the equations of motion for the helicity zero mode  $\pi$

**After some hard work ... this can be proven**

(AJT to appear)

$\pi$  looks not dissimilar although not the same as a gauged covariant Galileon

# Summary

Formulated **dRGT massive gravity** in  $D$  dimensions with the same number of first class constraints corresponding to the number of symmetries as in  **$(D+1)$  dimensional General Relativity**

In this form there are **no second class** constraints

The extra  $U(1)$  symmetry guarantees the correct number of degrees of freedom and absence of BD ghost

It provided a suitable starting point for a **consistent quantization** and coupling to matter

It allows us to define what we mean by the helicity zero mode about in an arbitrarily curved geometry