#### Docentföreläsning

# Theories of gravitation beyond Einstein



Stockholm University Marcus Berg CoPS OKC









the gravitational *potential* is a "scalar field" from which the force  $F_{\text{grav}}$  is derived

Maria Pietilä-Holmner (Umeå, Sweden) Gold medal, World Cup Aspen Nov 28 2010





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 $\vec{F} = -m\vec{\nabla}\phi$ 

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#### Bräntbacken, Umeå



the gravitational *potential* is a "scalar field" from which the force is derived:  $\vec{F} = -m\vec{\nabla}\phi$ 

The force law becomes:  $\nabla^2 \phi = 4\pi G_N \cdot \rho$ where  $\rho$  is the mass *density*.















#### Mathematical description?



Geometry of surfaces: intrinsic curvature

a "metric"  $(g_x(x, y), g_y(x, y))$   $ds^2 = g_x dx^2 + g_y dy^2$ 





Geometry of surfaces: intrinsic curvature

a "metric"  $(g_x(x, y), g_y(x, y))$   $ds^2 = g_x dx^2 + g_y dy^2$  curvature: derivatives of metric

 $\frac{\partial^2 g_x(x,y)}{\partial x^2} +$ 



Geometry of *four*-dimensional spacetime: uses Riemannian geometry (1868)

g

 $(g_x(x,y,z,t),g_y(x,y,z,t),$  $g_z(x, y, z, t), g_t(x, y, z, t))$ 



Bernhard Riemann

#### **Einstein's equations**

# $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{g}) = 8\pi G_N \mathbf{T}$ curvature matter



#### **Einstein's equations**

 $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{g}) = 8\pi G_N \mathbf{T}$ curvature matter



useful alternative: Hilbert action (Einstein's equation as Euler-Lagrange equations)

$$S = \frac{M_P^2}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} R$$

 $\left(M_P^2 = \frac{1}{8\pi G_N}\right)$ 

#### **Einstein's equations and Newton**

$$\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{g}) = 8\pi G_N \mathbf{T}$$
  
curvature matter



$$g_t = -(1+2\phi)$$
$$\nabla^2 \phi = 4\pi G_N \cdot \rho$$

Einstein's theory reduces to Newton's for small velocities and small masses

Will '05

Trodden '10

• • •

- solar system, e.g. bending of light
- pulsars, e.g. loss of energy
- nucleosynthesis, e.g. helium production
- expansion of the universe (not really)

Will '05

Trodden '10

...

• solar system, e.g. bending of light



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- nucleosynthesis, e.g. helium production, 24%
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- Laser lunar ranging
- GPS satellites (mostly special relativity)

- Laser lunar ranging: 38 mm/year, G<sub>N</sub>: 10<sup>-11</sup> since 1969
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## **Problems with Einstein's gravitation**

- (• solar-system anomalies, like Pioneer anomaly)
- (• galaxy rotation curves: solved by dark matter)
- (• structure formation: too many subhaloes maybe just haven't seen them yet )
- cosmic acceleration: dark energy (not a "problem" per se, but a mystery)
- quantum theory of gravity?



cosmic acceleration seems to be here to stay



cosmic acceleration seems to be here to stay



<sup>e</sup> The story might stop right here with a happy ending —a complete physics model of the cosmic expansion were it not for a chorus of complaints from the particle theorists. (Perlmutter, 2003)

- Quantum theory describes the rest of the world, why should cosmology get away without? Noone really knows how, but let's try.
- Not just energy *differences* matter in Einstein's theory, but *absolute* energy.
   So, also the quantum energy of the vacuum?

$$E_n = \hbar \omega \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

 $E_{\rm theory} \gtrsim 1 \,{\rm TeV}$ 

$$E_{\rm exp} \sim 10^{-3} \, {\rm eV}$$

- Two obvious possible solutions:
  - modify gravity
  - modify quantum theory

$$E_n = \hbar \omega \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$E_{\rm theory} \gtrsim 1 \,{\rm TeV}$$
  
 $E_{\rm exp} \sim 10^{-3} \,{\rm eV}$ 



## **Modified gravity**

- scalar-tensor Brans-Dicke (1961)
- extra dimensions Dvali-Gabadadze-Porrati (2000)

• massive gravity Fierz-Pauli (1939), ... , de Rham-Gabadadze (2010)

## Here, modified gravity is NOT...

- ... higher derivative (truncated)

   typically only differs appreciably from

   Einstein gravity when it becomes inconsistent
- ... f(R) gravity
  - no effective field theory formulation
- ... anything else than the specific theories I discuss (there are a lot!)

#### Brans-Dicke (1961)

Even though Brans-Dicke theory is "old", there were many alternatives to Einstein before Brans-Dicke

In fact, there were many alternatives to Newton before Einstein! ....

#### Le Sage's theory of gravitation (1748)

*"ultramundane corpuscles" "gravity particles" that create force of gravity by "pushing"* 



#### (doesn't work)

#### **Brans-Dicke**

$$S_{\rm BD} = \frac{M_{\rm Pl}^2}{2} \int \mathrm{d}^4 x \sqrt{-g} \left( \Phi R - \frac{\omega_{\rm BD}}{\Phi} (\partial \Phi)^2 \right) + \int \mathrm{d}^4 x \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{L}_{\rm matter}[g]$$

Gravitational field described not just by metric  $\mathbf{g}$  but also by scalar field  $\Phi$ 

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# Effectively, this is like variation in Newton's constant $G_N$ , that can be tested





Viking

Cassini

#### **Brans-Dicke**

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$$S_{\rm DGP} = \int_{\rm bulk} d^5 x \sqrt{-g_5} \frac{M_5^3}{2} R_5 + \int_{\rm brane} d^4 x \sqrt{-g_4} \left( \frac{M_{\rm Pl}^2}{2} R_4 + \mathcal{L}_{\rm matter}[g] \right)$$

#### "brane world"



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"brane bending mode"  $\pi$ 

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#### "brane world"



"brane bending mode"  $\pi$  $\longrightarrow$  particle physics, too



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Chow, Khoury '10

Simplified DGP, effectively like Brans-Dicke, but scalar  $\pi$  "frozen" in solar system, so effect is *negligible*, while parameters are *not too restricted* 

#### DGP



#### DGP

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Chow, Khoury '10

# The DGP model has trouble with the formation of structure (galaxies, ...)

... and it is being abandoned by most of its creators for theoretical reasons.

Fierz, Pauli (1939) ... van Dam, Veltman (1970) ... Vainshtein (1972)

#### the photon is the particle that transmits light

the *graviton* is the particle that transmits gravity

Fierz, Pauli (1939) ... van Dam, Veltman (1970) ... Vainshtein (1972)

#### "massive gravity" means: allow for a small mass for the graviton

this is a modification of gravity, irrespective of whether we detect individual gravitons

Fierz, Pauli (1939)

...

...

van Dam, Veltman (1970)

Vainshtein (1972)

- a (massless) *photon* has 2 polarization states
- a "massive photon", like the Z boson, has 3 polarization states
- a massless *graviton* has 2 states
- a massive graviton has 5 states, but 2 will not concern us here , 1 left:  $\pi$

Nuclear Physics B22 (1970) 397-411. North-Holland Publishing Company 7.A.1 MASSIVE AND MASS-LESS YANG-MILLS AND **GRAVITATIONAL FIELDS** H. van DAM \* and M. VELTMAN Institute for Theoretical Physics. University of Utrecht. Utrecht. The Netherlands Received 8 June 1970 Thus in the massive case (but with extremely small mass) the bending of Ał a ray of light passing near the sun is  $\frac{3}{4}$  of that predicted in the mass-less case. Experiment is however too vague to decide between the two cases \*.

\* Note added in proof. Recently more precise experiments have been performed [9], agreeing closely with Einstein's theory, thereby excluding the massive theory.

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(Nobel 1999, quantum massive Yang-Mills fields)

#### Babichet, Deffayet, Ziour (2010)

# gravitational potentials

Metric functions /



Vainshtein radius  $R_V = \left(R_S \lambda_g^2\right)^{1/3}$ 

for the sun, this is about 120 parsec (1 parsec ~ 200000 AU)

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# gravitational potentials

Metric functions /



Vainshtein radius  $R_V = \left(R_S \lambda_g^2\right)^{1/3}$ 

for the sun, this is about 120 parsec (1 parsec ~ 200000 AU) *no* difference in solar system *could* make a difference at

- medium distance (clusters)
- very long distance (expansion history)

#### Babichet, Deffayet, Ziour (2010)

# gravitational potentials

Metric functions /



# Vainshtein radius $R_V = \left(R_S \lambda_g^2\right)^{1/3}$

perhaps also "Vainshtein time"
theory OK with nucleosynthesis
massive gravity kicks in sometime when dark energy kicks in

### Modified gravity, outlook

Many models, here focused on ones that:

- make pretty clear predictions
- no internal theoretical problems (?)
- are not ruled out (until now?)
- have bearing on dark energy problem
   might be possible to quantize

#### String theory: the next synthesis?

- can quantize gravity
- has extra dimensions
- has branes
- might give massive gravity?

*"Superstring Modification of Einstein's equations"* (Gross, Witten 1986)

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*Better chance than GW:* 

Brane Induced Gravity, its Ghost and the Cosmological Constant Problem

S. F. Hassan<sup>a</sup>, Stefan Hofmann<sup>b,d</sup> and Mikael von Strauss<sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Physics & The Oskar Klein Centre for Cosmoparticle Physics, Stockholm University, AlbaNova University Centre,

• might give massive gravity?

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### Summary

- let's be clear: no immediate crisis for Einstein's theory
- a handful of observations seem to give hints that maybe there is a problem
- conceptual problems: cosmic acceleration, quantum theory
- proposed improvements: BD, DGP, massive

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- a handful of observations <u>seem</u>
   to give <u>hints</u> that <u>maybe</u> there is a problem
- conceptual problems: cosmic acceleration, quantum theory
- proposed improvements: (BD), DGP?, massive

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# THE END Thanks or listening!



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