### **Probing Modified Theories of Gravity** by Experimental Observations

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# Outline

- <u>Shortcomings</u> of General Relativity
- Modified Theories of Gravity
- Spherically Symmetric Background
- The Weak-Field Limit
- Constraining Modified Gravity by Experiments
   Ginger
- Conclusions and Perspectives

### General Relativity: foundations and predictions

### **General Relativity**

Describe the gravitational interaction through the spacetime curvature

First theory to successfully pass the Solar System Tests



In a static and spherically Symmetric background

Schwarzschild Solution



$$ds^2 = \left(1 - rac{2GM}{c^2 r}
ight)c^2 dt^2 - \left(1 - rac{2GM}{c^2 r}
ight)^{-1} dr^2 - r^2 d heta^2 - r^2 {
m sen}^2 heta d\phi^2$$

### • Black Holes



### Gravitational Waves



# • Lense Thirring Effect

This effect predicted by GR can be obtained starting from a Kerr-like metric

 $ds^{2} = \mathcal{A}(t, r, \theta)dt^{2} + \mathcal{B}(t, r, \theta)dr^{2} + \mathcal{C}(t, r, \theta)d\theta^{2} + \mathcal{D}(t, r, \theta)\sin^{2}\theta d\phi^{2} + \mathcal{E}(t, r, \theta)dt d\phi$  $R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4}T_{\mu\nu}$ Angular Momentum  $ds^{2} = \left(1 - \frac{r_{S}}{r}\right)dt^{2} - \frac{1}{1 - \frac{r_{S}}{r} \frac{J^{2}}{J^{2}}}dr^{2} - r^{2}d\theta^{2} - \left(r^{2} + \frac{J^{2}}{M^{2}} + \frac{r_{S}J^{2}}{M^{2}r}\right)d\phi^{2} - \frac{2r_{S}J}{Mr}dt\,d\phi.$ 

Correction to the precession of a gyroscope near a large rotating mass, due to the dragging of the spacetime!

 $\Omega_{LT}^{(GR)} = \frac{r_S}{4Mm^3} J_z$ 

General Relativity: shortcomings

### Shortcomings of GR

#### **Large Scales**

- Universe accelerated expansion
- > Inflation
- Galaxy Rotation Curve
- Mass-Radius Diagram of some Neuton Stars
- Fine-tuning cosmological parameters

#### **Small Scales**

- Renormalizability
- GR cannot be quantized
- GR cannot be treated under the same standard of other interactions
- Discrepancy between theoretical and experimental value of Λ
- Classical spacetime singularities



### No theory is capable of solving these problems at once so far

### **Cosmological Level**



Needs extra scalar fields to predict inflation



### Alternative Theories of Gravity

#### Classification

- Extended action  $\rightarrow f(R)$
- Modified Action  $\longrightarrow f(T)$
- Coupling To Scalar fields  $\longrightarrow \varphi R$

#### **Motivations**

• Could account for UV and IR quantum corrections

• Could reproduce both UV and IR cosmic evolution





# Is it possible to find out probes and test-beds for ETGs?

Geodesic motions around compact objects e.g- SgrA\*

Lense-Thirring effect



Exact torsion-balance experiments

- Microgravity experiments from atomic physics
- Violation of Equivalence Principle (effective masses related to further gravitational degrees of freedom)

### **Case Studies**



### Both provide Schwarzschild solution as a particular limit

$$ds^2 = \left(1 - rac{2GM}{c^2 r}
ight)c^2 dt^2 - \left(1 - rac{2GM}{c^2 r}
ight)^{-1} dr^2 - r^2 d heta^2 - r^2 {
m sen}^2 heta d\phi^2$$

# **General Scalar-Tensor Theory**



# Horava-Lifshitz Theory



**One possible** spherically symmetric solution:

$$g_{00} = (g_{11})^{-1} = 1 + \omega r^2 - \omega r^2 \sqrt{1 + \frac{4M}{\omega r^3}}$$
$$\omega \longrightarrow \text{Constant}$$

**Schwarzschild solution:** 

$$4M/\omega r^3 \ll 1$$

However.....

### Exact spherically symmetric solutions in ETGs are very rare



# Weak Field Limit

### General description of Weak-Field limit



### Some restults provided by PN limit in ETGs



# First case: $f(R, R^{\mu\nu}R_{\mu\nu}, \varphi)$ gravity

# Application of the PN limit to $f(R, R^{\mu\nu}R_{\mu\nu}, \varphi)$ gravity

Linearization of the metric tensor

$$g_{\mu\nu} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 + g_{00}^{(2)} + g_{00}^{(4)} + \dots & g_{0i}^{(3)} + \dots \\ g_{0i}^{(3)} + \dots & -\delta_{ij} + g_{ij}^{(2)} + \dots \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + 2\phi + 2\Xi & 2A_i \\ 2A_i & -\delta_{ij} + 2\Psi\delta_{ij} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Three potentials arise: two scalar potentials and one vector potential
- $\Phi$ ,  $\Psi$  are proportional to the power  $c^{-2}$  (Newtonian limit) while  $A_i$  is proportional to  $c^{-3}$  and  $\Xi$  to  $c^{-4}$  (post-Newtonian limit)

$$ds^{2} = \mathcal{A}(t, r, \theta)dt^{2} + \mathcal{B}(t, r, \theta)dr^{2} + \mathcal{C}(t, r, \theta)d\theta^{2} + \mathcal{D}(t, r, \theta)\sin^{2}\theta d\phi^{2} + \mathcal{E}(t, r, \theta)dt d\phi$$

$$g_{00} \equiv \mathcal{A}(t, r, \theta)$$

$$g_{0i} = \mathcal{E}(t, r, \theta)$$

$$g_{ij}\delta^{ij} = \mathcal{B}(t, r, \theta) + \mathcal{C}(t, r, \theta) + \mathcal{D}(t, r, \theta)$$
Kerr spacetime

# Application of the PN limit to $f(R, R^{\mu\nu}R_{\mu\nu}, \varphi)$ gravity



The function f, up to the  $c^{-4}$  order, can be developed as:

$$\begin{split} f(R, R_{\alpha\beta}R^{\alpha\beta}, \phi) &= f_R(0, 0, \phi^{(0)})R + \frac{f_{RR}(0, 0, \phi^{(0)})}{2}R^2 + \frac{f_{\phi\phi}(0, 0, \phi^{(0)})}{2}(\phi - \phi^{(0)})^2 \\ &+ f_{R\phi}(0, 0, \phi^{(0)})R\phi + f_Y(0, 0, \phi^{(0)})R_{\alpha\beta}R^{\alpha\beta}, \end{split}$$

# Application of the PN limit to $f(R, R^{\mu\nu}R_{\mu\nu}, \varphi)$ gravity

#### Result:



#### with the definitions:

$$\begin{split} m_R^2 &= -\frac{1}{3f_{RR}\left(0,0,\phi^{(0)}\right) + 2f_Y\left(0,0,\phi^{(0)}\right)} \\ m_Y^2 &= \frac{1}{f_Y\left(0,0,\phi^{(0)}\right)} \qquad \eta = \frac{m_\phi}{m_R} \\ m_\phi^2 &= -\frac{f_{\phi\phi}\left(0,0,\phi^{(0)}\right)}{2\omega\left(\phi^{(0)}\right)} \qquad g(\xi,\eta) = \frac{1 - \eta^2 + \xi + \sqrt{\eta^4 + (\xi - 1)^2 - 2\eta^2(\xi + 1)}}{6\sqrt{\eta^4 + (\xi - 1)^2 - 2\eta^2(\xi + 1)}} \\ \xi &= \frac{3f_{R\phi}\left(0,0,\phi^{(0)}\right)^2}{2\omega\left(\phi^{(0)}\right)} \qquad \tilde{k}_{R,\phi}^2 = \frac{1 - \xi + \eta^2 \pm \sqrt{(1 - \xi + \eta^2)^2 - 4\eta^2}}{2} \end{split}$$



The circular velocity of a ball source of mass M and radius R, with the potentials of Table I. We indicate case A by a green line, case B by a yellow line, case D by a red line, case C by a blue line, and the GR case by a magenta line. The black lines correspond to the Sanders model for -0.95 < a < -0.92. The values of free parameters are  $\omega(\phi^{(0)})$ ... -1/2, E = -5,  $\eta = .3$ ,  $m_Y = 1.5 * m_R$ ,  $m_S = 1.5 * m_R$ ,  $m_R = .1* R^{-1}$ .

# Lense-Thirring precession in $f(R, R^{\mu\nu}R_{\mu\nu}, \varphi)$ gravity

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{\Omega}_{\mathrm{LT}}^{(\mathrm{EG})} &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \epsilon^{ijk} \partial_i A_k \right) \left( \epsilon_{\ell nk} \partial^\ell A^k \right) = \frac{G}{r^3} \sqrt{\left( \epsilon_{\ell km} \partial^m \epsilon^{ijk} J_i x_j \right)^2} = -e^{-m_Y r} \left( 1 + m_Y r + m_Y^2 r^2 \right) \mathbf{\Omega}_{\mathrm{LT}}^{(\mathrm{GR})} \\ \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{G}{|\mathbf{x}|^2} \left[ 1 - (1 + m_Y |\mathbf{x}|) e^{-m_Y |\mathbf{x}|} \right] \mathbf{\hat{x}} \times \mathbf{J} \quad Y \equiv R^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu} \end{split}$$

For  $f_Y \rightarrow 0$  i.e.  $m_Y \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain the same outcome for the gravitational potential of  $f(R, \phi)$ -theory

 $\Omega_{LT}^{(GR)} = \frac{r_S}{4Mr^3} J_1 \quad m_Y^2 = \frac{1}{f_Y(0, 0, \phi^{(0)})}$ 

### Experimental constraints



# $$\begin{split} \textbf{Experimental constrains: GP-B}\\ \Omega_{\text{LT}}^{(\text{EG})} &= -e^{-m_{Y}r}(1+m_{Y}r+m_{Y}^{2}r^{2})\Omega_{\text{LT}}^{(\text{GR})} \quad and \quad \Omega_{\text{LT}}^{(\text{GR})} = \frac{G}{2r^{3}}\textbf{J} \end{split}$$

The Gravity Probe B (GP-B) four gyroscopes aboard an Earth-orbiting satellite allowed to measure the *frame-dragging effect* with an error of about 19%

Effect	Measured (mas/y)	Predicted (mas/y)	$\left \frac{\Omega_{obs}^{LT} - \Omega_{GR}^{LT}}{\Omega_{GR}^{LT}}\right  = 0.05$
Geodesic precession	$6602 \pm 18$	6606	
Lense-Thirring precession	$37.2\pm7.2$	39.2	

The changes in the direction of spin gyroscopes, contained in the satellite orbiting at h = 650 km of altitude and crossing directly over the poles, have been measured with extreme precision

### Experimental constrains: GP-B



### Experimental constrains: LARES

The Laser Relativity Satellite (LARES) mission of the Italian Space Agency is designed to test the frame dragging and the Lense-Thirring effect, to within 1% of the value predicted in the framework of GR

The body of this satellite has a diameter of about 36.4 cm and weights about 400 kg

It was inserted in an orbit with 1450 km of perigee, an inclination of 69.5  $\pm$  1 degrees and eccentricity 9.54  $\times$  10<sup>-4</sup>

It allows to obtain a stronger constraint for m<sub>Y</sub>:



$$(1 + m_Y r^* + m_Y^2 r^{*2}) e^{-m_Y r^*} \lesssim \frac{\delta |\Omega_{\rm LT}|}{|\Omega_{\rm LT}^{(\rm GR)}|} \simeq 0.01$$

From which we obtain

 $m_Y \ge 1.2 \times 10^{-6} m^{-1}$ 

### LARES and GP-B

Summing up, using data from the Gravity Probe B and LARES missions, we obtain constraints on  $m_{Y}$ .



This result shows that space-based experiments can be used to test extensively parameters of fundamental theories

### **Perspective:**

Put a further limit to the mass by GINGER

### GINGER results: the case of Horava-Lifshitz Gravity





$$\begin{split} S &= \int d^3x \, dt \, \sqrt{-g} \left\{ \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \left( K_{ij} K^{ij} - \lambda K^2 \right) - \frac{\kappa^2}{2w^4} \left( \nabla_i R_{jk} \nabla^i R^{jk} - \nabla_i R_{jk} \nabla^j R^{ik} - \frac{1}{8} \nabla_i R \nabla^i R \right) \right\} \\ K_{ij} &= \frac{1}{2N} \left( \dot{g}_{ij} - \nabla_i N_j - \nabla_j N_i \right) \qquad K^2 = g_{ij} K^{ij} \end{split}$$

Linearization of the metric tensor

$$g_{\mu\nu} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 + g_{00}^{(2)} + g_{00}^{(4)} + \dots & g_{0i}^{(3)} + \dots \\ g_{0i}^{(3)} + \dots & -\delta_{ij} + g_{ij}^{(2)} + \dots \end{pmatrix}$$

With similar computations as the previous case, the ratio between the Horava-Lifshitz and General Relativity Gyroscopic precession is —

*G* effective gravitational constant

Importance of constraining  $a_1, a_2$ 

It has been shown that, in order for the matter coupling to be consistent with solar system tests, the gauge field and the Newtonian potential must be coupled to matter in a specific way, but there are no indication on how to obtain the precise prescription from the action principle. Recently such a prescription has been generalised and a scalar-tensor extension of the theory has been developed to allow the needed coupling to emerge in the IR without spoiling the power-counting renormalizability of the theory.

Vector

 $\frac{\Omega_{HL}^{G}}{\Omega_{GD}^{G}} = \frac{1}{3} \left( 1 + 2 \frac{G}{G_{N}} a_{1} - 2 \frac{a_{2}}{a_{1}} \right)$ 

Matter action

$$S_M = \int dt d^3x \tilde{N} \sqrt{\tilde{g}} \mathcal{L}_M (\tilde{N}, \tilde{N}_i, \tilde{g}_{ij}; \psi_n)$$



 $a_1, a_2$  are then related to the potentials and can be constrained by GINGER measure as.<sup>32</sup>

# Terrestial experiment: GINGER

GINGER measures the difference in frequence of light of two beams circulating in a laser cavity in opposite directions. This translates into a time difference between the right-handed beam propagation time and the left-handed one

$$\delta au=-2\sqrt{g_{00}}\oint {g_{0i}\over g_{00}}\,ds^i$$

The difference in time can be linked to the Sagnac frequence  $\boldsymbol{\Omega}_{S}$ , measured by GINGER



### **GIGNER** in Horava-Lifshitz Gravity



### Horava-Lifshitz vs General Relativity

$$General Relativity \qquad G = G_N$$

$$\Omega_S = \frac{4A}{P\lambda} \Omega_E \quad \left[ \cos(\theta + \alpha) - \frac{G_N M}{c^2 R} \sin \alpha \sin \theta - \frac{GI_E}{c^2 R^3} (2 \cos \theta \cos \alpha + \sin \theta \sin \alpha) \right]$$

$$G = G_N \quad \text{Horava-Lifshitz Gravity}$$

$$\Omega_S = \frac{4A}{P\lambda} \Omega_E \quad \left[ \cos(\theta + \alpha) - \left( 1 + \frac{G}{G_N} a_1 - \frac{a_2}{a_1} \right) \frac{GM}{c^2 R} \sin \alpha \sin \theta - \frac{GI_E}{c^2 R^3} (2 \cos \theta \cos \alpha + \sin \theta \sin \alpha) \right]$$

### Perspectives:



# Advantages to use GINGER

- The actual precision of GINGERINO is 1/1000 in the geodesic term, 1/100 in the LT term
- GINGER experiment should overcome such uncertainty providing a precision of 1/1000 in the LT term
- The presence of two rings yields a dynamic measure of the angle lpha <

$$\Omega_{S} = \frac{4A}{P\lambda} \Omega_{E} \left[ \cos(\theta + \alpha) - \left( 1 + \frac{G}{G_{N}} a_{1} - \frac{a_{2}}{a_{1}} \right) \frac{GM}{c^{2}R} \sin \alpha \sin \theta - \frac{GI_{E}}{c^{2}R^{3}} \left( 2\cos\theta\cos\alpha + \sin\theta\sin\alpha \right) \right]$$
Geodesic Term
$$LT \text{ Term}$$

- While the measure of the LT term can constrain the value of G, from the measure of the geodesic term we can get the value of  $a_1$  and  $a_2$
- <u>The precision of GINGERINO is  $10^{-15}$  rad/s, which corresponds to a precision of  $1.4 \cdot 10^{-9}$ </u> with respect to the dominant term. 37

### Conclusions

### **Conclusions** $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}, \qquad |h_{\mu\nu}| \ll 1.$

- In the context of ETGs, we have studied the linearized field equations in the limit of weak • gravitational fields and small velocities generated by rotating gravitational sources, aimed at constraining the free parameters, which can be seen as effective masses (or lengths).
- The precession of spin of a gyroscope orbiting around a rotating gravitational source can be • studied.
- Gravitational field gives rise, according to GR predictions, to geodesic and Lense-Thirring processions, the latter being strictly related to the off-diagonal terms of the metric tensor generated by the rotation of the source (Kerr metric)
- The gravitational field generated by the Earth can be tested by Gravity Probe B and LARES • satellites. These experiments tested the geodesic and Lense-Thirring spin precessions with high precision.
- The corrections on the precession induced by scalar, tensor and curvature corrections can ٠ be measured and confronted with data.

### Conclusions

