

# Cosmology in Analytic Infinite Derivative (AID) gravity and its observational signatures

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arXiv:1604.03127 in collaboration with L.Modesto, L.Rachwal and A.Starobinsky  
and the current work in progress

## Motivation

- Gravity is not renormalizable
- Stelle's 1977 and 1978 papers show that  $R^2$  gravity is renormalizable gravity with the price of a physical (Weyl) ghost  
(- + ++)  $\Rightarrow -\partial\varphi^2$  is a good field
- Ostrogradski statement from 1850 forbids higher derivatives in general
- Starobinsky inflation is based on  $R^2$  and works perfectly

## Exorcising ghosts

- Constrained systems like GR
- Special theories like Horndeski models
- Infinitely many derivatives

## String Field Theory in 5 min

- Solid stuff
- Unitary
- Finite
- Describes all our fields universally
- From the embedding space-time point of view contains analytic infinite derivative operators
- Well, has its own unsolved puzzles

## Starting point

We start with

$$S = \int d^D x \sqrt{-g} \left( \mathcal{P}_0 + \sum_i \mathcal{P}_i \prod_I (\hat{\mathcal{O}}_{iI} \mathcal{Q}_{iI}) \right)$$

Here  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{Q}$  depend on curvatures and  $\mathcal{O}$  are operators made of covariant derivatives.

Everywhere the respective dependence is *analytic*.

## The most general action to consider

We are looking for the most general action which captures in full generality the properties of a linearized model around *maximally symmetric space-times (MSS)* given  $g_{\mu\nu} = \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}$ .

The result is [[arxiv.1602.08475](https://arxiv.org/abs/1602.08475)]

$$S = \int d^D x \sqrt{-g} \left( \frac{M_P^2 R}{2} + \frac{\lambda}{2} (R\mathcal{F}(\square)R + L_{\mu\nu}\mathcal{F}_L(\square)L^{\mu\nu} + W_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}\mathcal{F}_W(\square)W^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}) - \Lambda \right)$$

Here  $L_{\mu\nu} = R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4}Rg_{\mu\nu}$  and for any  $X$

$$\mathcal{F}_X(\square) = \sum_{n \geq 0} f_{Xn} \square^n$$

## How come?

MSS

$$R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} = f(x)(g_{\mu\alpha}g_{\nu\beta} - g_{\mu\beta}g_{\nu\alpha})$$

Bianchi identities dictate  $f(x) = \frac{R_0}{(D-1)(D-2)}$

Consider term by term

$$R^2 \rightarrow h^2, \quad R^3 \rightarrow 3h^2 R, \dots$$

$$\partial R^2 \rightarrow \partial h^2, \quad \partial R^2 R \rightarrow \partial h^2 R, \quad \partial R^3 \rightarrow 3\partial h^2 \partial R \rightarrow 0, \dots$$

The same logic applies for  $R_{\mu\nu}$  and even simpler for the Weyl tensor as it is zero on an MSS background.

Finally, We can fix any of  $f_0, f_{L0}, f_{W0}$  because the Gauss-Bonnet (GB) term is a topological invariant.

## Even more!

Around MSS in  $D = 4$  the derived action can be reduced further. Bianchi identities are so powerful that they allow to fix any of tree functions  $\mathcal{F}$  and not only their constant Taylor coefficients. For example we can drop  $\mathcal{F}_L$  entirely and remain with

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left( \frac{M_P^2 R}{2} + \frac{\lambda}{2} (R\mathcal{F}(\square)R + W_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \mathcal{F}_W(\square) W^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}) - \Lambda \right)$$

Around MSS but in  $D \geq 5$  the GB term is not a topological invariant and we are left with

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left( \frac{M_P^2 R}{2} + \frac{\lambda}{2} (R\mathcal{F}(\square)R + f_{L0} L_{\mu\nu}^2 + W_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \mathcal{F}_W(\square) W^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}) - \Lambda \right)$$

Still, we are able to drop all higher derivative terms for  $L_{\mu\nu}$



## Quadratic action around (A)dS with $\bar{R} = 4\Lambda/M_P^2$

The covariant decomposition is

$$h_{\mu\nu} = \frac{2}{M_P^2} h_{\mu\nu}^\perp + \bar{\nabla}_\mu A_\nu + \bar{\nabla}_\nu A_\mu + \left( \bar{\nabla}_\mu \bar{\nabla}_\nu - \frac{1}{4} \frac{2}{M_P^2} \sqrt{\frac{8}{3}} \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} \bar{\square} \right) B + \frac{1}{4} \frac{2}{M_P^2} \sqrt{\frac{8}{3}} \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} h$$

Here  $\bar{\nabla}^\mu h_{\mu\nu}^\perp = \bar{g}^{\mu\nu} h_{\mu\nu}^\perp = \bar{\nabla}^\mu A_\mu = 0$ .

**Spin-2:**

$$S_2 = \frac{1}{2} \int dx^4 \sqrt{-\bar{g}} h_{\nu\mu}^\perp \left( \bar{\square} - \frac{\bar{R}}{6} \right) [\mathcal{P}(\bar{\square})] h^{\perp\mu\nu}$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\bar{\square}) = 1 + \frac{2}{M_P^2} \lambda f_0 \bar{R} + \frac{\lambda}{M_P^2} \left\{ \mathcal{F}_L(\bar{\square}) \left( \bar{\square} - \frac{\bar{R}}{6} \right) + 2\mathcal{F}_W \left( \bar{\square} + \frac{\bar{R}}{3} \right) \left( \bar{\square} - \frac{\bar{R}}{3} \right) \right\}$$

**Spin-0 (here  $\phi \equiv \bar{\square} B - h$ ):**

$$S_0 = -\frac{1}{2} \int dx^4 \sqrt{-\bar{g}} \phi (3\bar{\square} + \bar{R}) [\mathcal{S}(\bar{\square})] \phi$$

$$\mathcal{S}(\bar{\square}) = 1 + \frac{2}{M_P^2} \lambda f_0 \bar{R} - \frac{\lambda}{M_P^2} \left\{ 2\mathcal{F}(\bar{\square}) (3\bar{\square} + \bar{R}) + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}_L \left( \bar{\square} + \frac{2}{3} \bar{R} \right) \bar{\square} \right\}$$

## Physical excitations

Effectively we modify the propagators as follows

$$\square - m^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{G}(\square)$$

To preserve the physics we demand

$$\mathcal{G}(\square) = (\square - m^2)e^{\sigma(\square)}$$

Here  $\sigma(\square)$  must be an *entire* function resulting that the exponent of it has no roots.

We arrange this in our model by virtue of functions  $\mathcal{F}$ . At this stage we can drop any one of three  $\mathcal{F}$ -s. The simplest choice is to drop  $\mathcal{F}_L$ .

## Starobinsky inflation in non-local gravity

For any:

$$\square R = r_1 R + r_2$$

We have a solution:

$$\mathcal{F}^{(1)}(r_1) = 0, \quad \frac{r_2}{r_1}(\mathcal{F}(r_1) - f_0) = -\frac{M_P^2}{2\lambda} + 3r_1\mathcal{F}(r_1), \quad 4\Lambda r_1 = -r_2 M_P^2$$

In the case of interest  $\Lambda = 0$ .

Notice that the we have started with the trace of Einstein equations in a local  $R^2$  gravity.

Saying local gravity we do mean *any* including pathological parameters in that local counterpart.

## Choice of $\mathcal{F}(\square)$

We should arrange that the theory is ghost-free meaning that no more than one pole arises in the scalar sector. The new degree of freedom is named scalaron and its mass is denoted as  $M$ . A possible form is:

$$\frac{\lambda}{M_P^2} \mathcal{F}(\square) = -\frac{1}{6\square} \left[ e^{H_0(\square)} \left( 1 - \frac{\square}{M_P^2} \right) - 1 \right]$$

The conditions on  $\mathcal{F}(\square)$  imply that  $H_0(\square)$  is an entire function and moreover:

$$r_1 = M^2$$

$$H_0(r_1) = 0$$

## Power spectra and $r$

### Tensor modes

$$|\delta_h|^2 = \frac{H^2}{2\pi^2 \lambda \mathcal{F}_1 \bar{R}} e^{2\omega(\bar{R}/6)} \quad \text{where } \mathcal{P}(\bar{\square}) = e^{2\omega(\bar{\square})}$$

### Scalar modes (actually $\mathcal{R} = \Psi + \frac{H}{\dot{R}} \delta R_{GI}$ )

$$|\delta_{\mathcal{R}}|^2 \approx \frac{H^6}{16\pi^2 \dot{H}^2} \frac{1}{3\lambda \mathcal{F}_1 \bar{R}}$$

### Tensor to scalar ratio $r$

$$r = \frac{2|\delta_h|^2}{|\delta_{\mathcal{R}}|^2} = 48 \frac{\dot{H}^2}{H^4} e^{2\omega(\bar{R}/6)}$$

All quantities here are at the horizon crossing  $k = Ha$ .

Analogously

$$N = \int_{t_i}^{t_f} H dt = \frac{1}{2\epsilon_1} \Rightarrow r = 48\epsilon_1^2 e^{2\omega(\bar{R}/6)} = \frac{12}{N^2} e^{2\omega(\bar{R}/6)}$$

## UV completeness

Minkowski propagator:

$$\Pi = - \left( \frac{P^{(2)}}{k^2 e^{H_2(-k^2)}} - \frac{P^{(0)}}{2k^2 e^{H_0(-k^2)} \left(1 + \frac{k^2}{M^2}\right)} \right)$$

To guarantee that the QFT machinery works we arrange a polynomial decay of the propagator near infinity. The rate of the decay is our choice. Recall that we still need the functions  $H_{0,2}$  to be entire.

An example of such a function can be, for instance

$$H \sim \Gamma(0, p(z)^2) + \gamma_E + \log(p(z)^2)$$

where  $p(z)$  is a polynomial.

Beyond 1-loop the powercounting arguments work just like in the higher derivative regularization.

## *p*-adic reformulation of the non-local gravity

The scalar part of the previous action is equivalent to the following one

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left( \frac{M_P^2 R}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{2}{M_P^2} \psi \right) - \frac{1}{2\lambda} \psi \frac{1}{\mathcal{F}(\square)} \psi + \dots \right)$$

An important property here is the non-minimal coupling of a scalar field to gravity.

The conformal transform  $\left( 1 + \frac{2}{M_P^2} \psi \right)^2 g_{\mu\nu} = \bar{g}_{\mu\nu}$  allows us to decouple the gravity and the scalar field even more

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-\bar{g}} \left( \frac{M_P^2}{2} \bar{R} - \frac{M_P^2}{2} \frac{6}{(M_P^2 + 2\psi)^2} \bar{g}^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \psi \partial_\nu \psi - \frac{M_P^4}{2\lambda (M_P^2 + 2\psi)^2} \psi \mathcal{G}(\mathcal{D}) \psi \right)$$

Here

$$\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{D}) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{D})} \text{ and } \mathcal{D} = \left( 1 + \frac{2}{M_P^2} \psi \right) \square_{\bar{g}} - \frac{2}{M_P^2} \bar{g}^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \psi \partial_\nu$$

## Conclusions

- A UV complete and unitary gravity is presented
- Starobinsky inflation is natively embedded in this model
- The theory predicts a modified value for  $r$
- A connection to  $p$ -adic strings is outlined
- Few words about SFT in this story, Slavnov-Taylor identities, Cutkosky rules, etc.



## Open questions

- Deeper study of the full Starobinsky model embedded in this non-local setup.
- Explicit computation of the one-loop divergences in this model
- This theory does not a priori prohibits a coexistence of a bounce and inflation. The question is to find such a configuration
- Derive the graviton action from the SFT in the full rigor.

**Thank you for listening!**