

# Black holes in scalar-tensor gravity

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# INTRODUCTION

- In GR spacetime singularities are generic (Hawking & Penrose) and they are usually cloaked by horizons (Cosmic Censorship).
- GR: **stationary** black holes (endpoint of grav. collapse) must be **axisymmetric** (Hawking '72). Asympt. flat black holes in GR are simple.
- Non-asympt. flat black holes can be very complicated: “cosmological” black holes have appearing/disappearing apparent horizons (McVittie, generalized McVittie, LTB, Husain-Martinez-Nuñez, Fonarev, ...). Interaction between black hole and cosmic “background”.
- Scalar-tensor,  $f(R)$  gravity, higher order gravity, low-energy effective actions for quantum gravity, etc.: Birkhoff's theorem is lost.

## Prototype: Brans-Dicke theory (Jordan frame)

$$S_{BD} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-\hat{g}} \left[ \varphi \hat{R} - \frac{\omega_0}{\varphi} \hat{\nabla}^\mu \varphi \hat{\nabla}_\mu \varphi + L_m(\hat{g}_{\mu\nu}, \psi) \right]$$

- Hawking '72: endpoint of axisymmetric collapse in this theory must be GR black holes. Result generalized *for spherical symmetry only* by Bekenstein + Mayo '96, Bekenstein '96, + bits and pieces of proofs.
- What about more general theories?

$$S_{ST} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-\hat{g}} \left[ \varphi \hat{R} - \frac{\omega(\varphi)}{\varphi} \hat{\nabla}^\mu \varphi \hat{\nabla}_\mu \varphi - V(\varphi) + L_m(\hat{g}_{\mu\nu}, \psi) \right]$$

This action includes metric and Palatini  $f(R)$  gravity important for cosmology.

## A SIMPLE PROOF

This work (T.P. Sotiriou & VF 2012, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 108, 081103): extend result to *general* scalar-tensor theory

$$S_{ST} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-\hat{g}} \left[ \varphi \hat{R} - \frac{\omega(\varphi)}{\varphi} \hat{\nabla}^\mu \varphi \hat{\nabla}_\mu \varphi - V(\varphi) + L_m(\hat{g}_{\mu\nu}, \psi) \right]$$

we require

- **asymptotic flatness** (collapse on scales  $\ll H_0^{-1}$ ):  $\varphi \rightarrow \varphi_0$  as  $r \rightarrow +\infty$ ,  $V(\varphi_0) = 0$ ,  $\varphi_0 V'(\varphi_0) = 2V(\varphi_0)$
- **stationarity** (endpoint of collapse).

Use Einstein frame  $\hat{g}_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow g_{\mu\nu} = \varphi \hat{g}_{\mu\nu}$ ,  $\varphi \rightarrow \phi$  with

$$d\phi = \sqrt{\frac{2\omega(\varphi) + 3}{16\pi}} \frac{d\varphi}{\varphi} \quad (\omega \neq -3/2)$$

brings the action to

$$S_{ST} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{R}{16\pi} - \frac{1}{2} \nabla^\mu \phi \nabla_\mu \phi - U(\phi) + L_m(\hat{g}_{\mu\nu}, \psi) \right]$$

where  $U(\phi) = V(\varphi)/\varphi^2$ . Field eqs. are

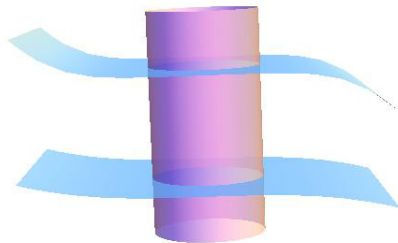
$$\begin{aligned} \hat{R}_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} \hat{R} \hat{g}_{\mu\nu} &= \frac{\omega(\varphi)}{\varphi^2} \left( \hat{\nabla}_\mu \varphi \hat{\nabla}_\nu \varphi - \frac{1}{2} \hat{g}_{\mu\nu} \hat{\nabla}^\lambda \varphi \hat{\nabla}_\lambda \varphi \right) \\ &+ \frac{1}{\varphi} \left( \hat{\nabla}_\mu \hat{\nabla}_\nu \varphi - \hat{g}_{\mu\nu} \hat{\square} \varphi \right) - \frac{V(\varphi)}{2\varphi} \hat{g}_{\mu\nu}, \end{aligned}$$

$$(2\omega + 3) \hat{\square} \varphi = -\omega' \hat{\nabla}^\lambda \varphi \hat{\nabla}_\lambda \varphi + \varphi V' - 2V,$$

$\Omega = \Omega(\varphi) \longrightarrow$  same symmetries as in the J. frame:

- $\xi^\mu$  timelike Killing vector (stationarity)
- $\zeta^\mu$  spacelike at spatial infinity (axial symmetry).

Consider, in vacuo, a 4-volume  $\mathcal{V}$  bounded by the horizon  $H$ , two Cauchy hypersurfaces  $\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2$ , and a timelike 3-surface at infinity



multiply  $\square\phi = U'(\phi)$  by  $U'$ , integrate over  $\mathcal{V} \rightarrow$

$$\int_{\mathcal{V}} d^4x \sqrt{-g} U'(\phi) \square\phi = \int_{\mathcal{V}} d^4x \sqrt{-g} U'^2(\phi)$$

rewrite as

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathcal{V}} d^4x \sqrt{-g} [U''(\phi) \nabla^\mu \phi \nabla_\mu \phi + U'^2(\phi)] \\ = \int_{\partial\mathcal{V}} d^3x \sqrt{|h|} U'(\phi) n^\mu \nabla_\mu \phi \end{aligned}$$

where  $n^\mu$  = normal to the boundary,  $h$  = determinant of the induced metric  $h_{\mu\nu}$  on this boundary. Split the boundary into its constituents  $\int_{\mathcal{V}} = \int_{\mathcal{S}_1} + \int_{\mathcal{S}_2} + \int_{horizon} + \int_{r=\infty}$  Now,  $\int_{\mathcal{S}_1} = -\int_{\mathcal{S}_2}$ ,  $\int_{r=\infty} = 0$ ,  $\int_{horizon} d^3x \sqrt{|h|} U'(\phi) n^\mu \nabla_\mu \phi = 0$  because of the symmetries.

$$\rightarrow \int_{\mathcal{V}} d^4x \sqrt{-g} [U''(\phi) \nabla^\mu \phi \nabla_\mu \phi + U'^2(\phi)] = 0.$$

Since  $U'^2 \geq 0$ ,  $\nabla^\mu \phi$  (orthogonal to both  $\xi^\mu, \zeta^\mu$  on  $H$ ) is spacelike or zero, and  $U''(\phi) \geq 0$  for stability (black hole is the endpoint of collapse!), it must be  $\nabla_\mu \phi \equiv 0$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  and  $U'(\phi_0) = 0$ . For  $\phi = \text{const.}$ , **theory reduces to GR, black holes must be Kerr.**

- Metric  $f(R)$  gravity is a special case of BD theory with  $\omega = 0$  and  $V \neq 0$ .
- for  $\omega = -3/2$ , vacuum theory reduces to GR, Hawking's theorem applies (Palatini  $f(R)$  gravity is a special BD theory with  $\omega = -3/2$  and  $V \neq 0$ ).

Exceptions not covered by our proof:

- theories in which  $\omega \rightarrow \infty$  somewhere
- theories in which  $\varphi$  diverges (at  $\infty$  or on the horizon)  
ex: maverick solution of Bocharova *et al.* '80 (unstable).
- Proof extends immediately to electrovacuum/conformal matter ( $T = 0$ ).



## CONCLUSIONS

- Even though Birkhoff's theorem is lost, black holes which are the endpoint of axisymmetric gravitational collapse (and asympt. flat) in *general* scalar-tensor gravity are the same as in GR (*i.e.*, Kerr-Newman). Proof extends to electrovacuum.
- Exceptions (exact solutions) are unphysical or unstable solutions which cannot be the endpoint of collapse, or do not satisfy the Weak/Null Energy Condition.
- Proof is simple!
- Asymptotic flatness is a technical assumption, but can't eliminate it at the moment. Excludes "large" primordial black holes in a "small" universe.
- What about more general theories with other degrees of freedom?