

Disformal transformations in scalar-torsion gravity

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- 1 Introduction
- 2 Teleparallel disformal transformations
- 3 Construction of an invariant action
- 4 The quadratic class of actions
- 5 Conclusion

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Why study disformal transformations in scalar-torsion gravity?

- Brief overview of scalar-torsion theories of gravity:
 - Teleparallel dark energy [Geng '11]
 - Conformally coupled scalar fields [Maluf, Faria '11] [Bamba, Odintsov, Saez-Gomez '13] [Wright '16]
 - Coupling to teleparallel boundary term [Bahamonde, Wright '15] [Bahamonde, Marciu, Rudra '18]
 - Covariant formulation of scalar-torsion gravity [MH, Järv, Ualikhanova '18]
 - Most general scalar-torsion gravity and conformal transformations [MH '18]
 - Non-minimally coupled $L(T, X, Y, \phi)$ class of theories [MH, Pfeifer '18]
 - Analogue and extension of classical scalar-curvature gravity [MH '18]
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- Lessons to learn from scalar-curvature and Horndeski gravity theories:
 - Conformal frame freedom in scalar-curvature gravity [Flanagan '04]
 - Invariant formulation of scalar-curvature gravity [Järv, Kuusk, Saal, Vilson '14]
 - Invariance of Horndeski gravity under special disformal transformations [Bettoni, Liberati '13]
 - Disformal transformations and beyond Horndeski theories [Zumalacarregui, Garcia-Bellido '13]
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- Arising questions:
 - Classes of scalar-torsion gravity with disformal invariance?
 - Disformal invariance of teleparallel Horndeski gravity?
 - Healthy “teleparallel beyond Horndeski” theories via disformal transformations?
 - Invariant formulation in terms of disformal invariants?

Ingredients of scalar-torsion gravity

- Fundamental fields:
 - Coframe field $\theta^a = \theta^a{}_\mu dx^\mu$.
 - Flat spin connection $\omega^a{}_b = \omega^a{}_{b\mu} dx^\mu$.
 - Scalar field ϕ .
 - Arbitrary matter fields χ^I .

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- Derived quantities:
 - Frame field $e_a = e_a{}^\mu \partial_\mu$ with $e_a \lrcorner \theta^b = \delta_a^b$.
 - Metric $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{ab} \theta^a{}_\mu \theta^b{}_\nu$.
 - Volume form $\text{vol}_\theta = \frac{1}{4!} \epsilon_{abcd} \theta^a \wedge \theta^b \wedge \theta^c \wedge \theta^d = \theta^0 \wedge \theta^1 \wedge \theta^2 \wedge \theta^3$.
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 - Torsion $\mathcal{T}^a = D\theta^a = d\theta^a + \omega^a{}_b \wedge \theta^b$.
- Remarks on notations and conventions:
 - Interior product between vector field v and differential form σ : $v \lrcorner \sigma$.
 - Exterior covariant derivative: D .
 - Lorentz indices are raised and lowered with the Minkowski metric $\eta_{ab} = \text{diag}(-1, 1, 1, 1)$.
 - “Musical” isomorphisms for vector field v and one-form σ :

$$\sigma^\sharp = (e_a \lrcorner \sigma) e^a = \eta^{ab} e_a{}^\nu \sigma_\nu e_b{}^\mu \partial_\mu = g^{\mu\nu} \sigma_\nu \partial_\mu,$$

$$v^\flat = (v \lrcorner \theta_a) \theta^a = \eta_{ab} v^\nu \theta^a{}_\nu \theta^b{}_\mu dx^\mu = g_{\mu\nu} v^\nu dx^\mu.$$

- Lie derivative with respect to frame vector fields:

$$\phi_{,a} = \mathcal{L}_{e_a}\phi = e_a \lrcorner d\phi = e_a^\mu \partial_\mu \phi \quad \Rightarrow \quad d\phi = \phi_{,a} \theta^a.$$

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- First and second scalar field derivative one-forms:

$$\psi_a = \phi_{,a} d\phi \quad \text{and} \quad \pi_a = D\phi_{,a} = d\phi_{,a} - \omega^b{}_a \wedge \phi_{,b}.$$

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- Scalar field kinetic energy scalar:

$$X = -\frac{1}{2} e_a \lrcorner \psi^a = -\frac{1}{2} \eta^{ab} \phi_{,a} \phi_{,b}.$$

- Wedge products:

$$\psi_a \wedge \psi_b = 0, \quad \psi_a \wedge d\phi = 0, \quad \psi_a \wedge \theta^a = 0.$$

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- Exterior derivative of kinetic energy scalar:

$$dX = DX = -\eta^{ab} \phi_{,a} D\phi_{,b} = -\phi_{,a} \pi^a.$$

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 - Should preserve flatness and antisymmetry of the spin connection.
 - ⇒ Can always be absorbed into local Lorentz transformation.
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$$\bar{\phi} = f(\phi).$$

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- Matter fields are kept unchanged: $\bar{\chi}^I = \chi^I$.

- Frame vector fields:

$$\bar{e}_a = \frac{1}{\mathfrak{e}} \left(e_a - \frac{\mathfrak{D}}{\mathfrak{e} - 2X\mathfrak{D}} \psi_a^\# \right) = \frac{1}{\mathfrak{e}} \left(\delta_a^b - \frac{\mathfrak{D}}{\mathfrak{e} - 2X\mathfrak{D}} \phi_{,a} \phi_{,c} \eta^{bc} \right) e_b.$$

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- Metric:

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Transformation of teleparallel geometry

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- Second scalar field derivative one-form:

$$\bar{\pi}_a = \frac{f'}{\mathfrak{e} - 2X\mathfrak{D}} \pi_a + \left(\frac{f'}{\mathfrak{e} - 2X\mathfrak{D}} \right)_{,\phi} \psi_a + \left(\frac{f'}{\mathfrak{e} - 2X\mathfrak{D}} \right)_{,X} \phi_{,a} dX.$$

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- Structure of the action: gravity part S_g and matter part S_m such that:

$$S[\theta, \omega, \phi, \chi] = S_g[\theta, \omega, \phi] + S_m[\theta, \phi, \chi].$$

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- Conditions imposed on the matter action:
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- Conditions imposed on the gravity action:
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 - Form invariance under disformal transformations and scalar field redefinitions.
 - Contains scalar quantities constructed from $T^a{}_{bc} = e_c \lrcorner e_b \lrcorner T^a$.
 - Is a linear combination of terms Q_k , with functions $F_k(\phi, X)$ as coefficients.

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\Rightarrow Symmetric energy-momentum tensor.

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- Jordan frame - no direct coupling between matter and scalar field: $\alpha \equiv \beta \equiv 0$.

Torsion component $T^a{}_{bc}$ and its transformation

- Consider the torsion and its components in the tetrad basis:

$$A^{1a} = T^a, \quad A^{1a}{}_{bc} = T^a{}_{bc} = e_c \lrcorner e_b \lrcorner T^a.$$

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- Apply disformal transformation:

$$\bar{A}^{la}{}_{bc} = \bar{e}_c \lrcorner \bar{e}_b \lrcorner \bar{A}^{la} = \sum_{J=1}^7 M^J{}_J(\phi, X) A^{Ja}{}_{bc}.$$

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- Newly appearing terms:

$$A^{2a}{}_{bc} = 2T^{ad}{}_{[c\phi, b]}\phi_{,d}, \quad A^{3a}{}_{bc} = 2\phi_{,[b}\delta_{c]}^a, \quad A^{4a}{}_{bc} = 2X_{,[b}\delta_{c]}^a, \\ A^{5a}{}_{bc} = 2\eta^{ad} X_{,[b\phi, c]}\phi_{,d}, \quad A^{6a}{}_{bc} = 2\phi_{,[c}e_{b]} \lrcorner \pi^a, \quad A^{7a}{}_{bc} = 2\eta^{de} \phi_{,d} X_{,e\phi, [b}\delta_{c]}^a.$$

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- Coefficients in the transformation (with $\mathfrak{E} = \mathfrak{e} - 2X\mathfrak{D}$):

$$M^1{}_1 = \frac{1}{\mathfrak{e}}, \quad M^1{}_6 = -M^1{}_2 = \frac{\mathfrak{D}}{\mathfrak{e}\mathfrak{e}}, \quad M^1{}_3 = \frac{\mathfrak{e}_{,\phi}}{\mathfrak{e}\mathfrak{e}}, \quad M^1{}_4 = \frac{\mathfrak{e}_{,X}}{\mathfrak{e}^2}, \quad M^1{}_5 = \frac{\mathfrak{e}\mathfrak{D}_{,X} - \mathfrak{D}\mathfrak{e}_{,X}}{\mathfrak{e}^2\mathfrak{e}}, \quad M^1{}_7 = -\frac{\mathfrak{D}\mathfrak{e}_X}{\mathfrak{e}^2\mathfrak{e}}.$$

Transformation of resulting terms

- Define the functions (abbreviations):

$$\mathfrak{F} = \mathfrak{e} + 2X\mathfrak{D} - 2X\mathfrak{e}_{,X} + 4X^2\mathfrak{D}_{,X}, \quad \mathfrak{G} = \left(\frac{f'}{\mathfrak{e}} \right)_{,\phi} = \frac{f''}{\mathfrak{e} - 2X\mathfrak{D}} - \frac{f'(\mathfrak{e}_{,\phi} - 2X\mathfrak{D}_{,\phi})}{(\mathfrak{e} - 2X\mathfrak{D})^2}.$$

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- Coefficients in the transformation of $A^{2a}_{bc}, \dots, A^{7a}_{bc}$:

$$\begin{aligned} M^2_2 &= \frac{f'^2}{\mathfrak{e}^3}, & M^2_3 &= -\frac{2Xf'^2\mathfrak{e}_{,\phi}}{\mathfrak{e}\mathfrak{e}^3}, & M^6_5 &= \frac{f'^2(2\mathfrak{D} - \mathfrak{e}_{,X} + 2X\mathfrak{D}_{,X})}{\mathfrak{e}\mathfrak{e}^3}, & M^2_6 &= -\frac{2Xf'^2\mathfrak{D}}{\mathfrak{e}\mathfrak{e}^3}, \\ M^2_7 &= \frac{f'^2\mathfrak{e}_{,X}}{\mathfrak{e}\mathfrak{e}^3}, & M^3_3 &= \frac{f'}{\mathfrak{e}}, & M^5_5 &= \frac{f'^4\mathfrak{F}}{\mathfrak{e}\mathfrak{e}^5}, & M^2_5 &= \frac{f'^2(\mathfrak{e}_{,X} - 2X\mathfrak{D}_{,X})}{\mathfrak{e}\mathfrak{e}^3}, & M^6_6 &= \frac{f'^2}{\mathfrak{e}\mathfrak{e}^2}, \\ M^4_3 &= \frac{2Xf'\mathfrak{G}}{\mathfrak{e}^2}, & M^4_4 &= \frac{f'^2\mathfrak{F}}{\mathfrak{e}\mathfrak{e}^3}, & M^4_7 &= -\frac{f'^2\mathfrak{D}\mathfrak{F}}{\mathfrak{e}\mathfrak{e}^4}, & M^7_3 &= -\frac{4X^2f'^3\mathfrak{G}}{\mathfrak{e}^4}, & M^7_7 &= \frac{f'^4\mathfrak{F}}{\mathfrak{e}^6}. \end{aligned}$$

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⇒ Transformation reproduces terms $A^{1a}_{bc}, \dots, A^{7a}_{bc}$ with coefficients $M^I_J(\phi, X)$.

Disformally invariant gravitational action

- Consider action which is polynomial in building blocks:

$$S_g = \int_M \text{vol}_\theta \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \sum_{l_1=1}^7 \cdots \sum_{l_N=1}^7 H_{l_1 \cdots l_N a_1 \cdots a_N}{}^{b_1 \cdots b_N c_1 \cdots c_N}(\phi, X) A^{l_1 a_1}{}_{b_1 c_1} \cdots A^{l_N a_N}{}_{b_N c_N} .$$

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- Relation between parameter functions:

$$H_{l_1 \dots l_N a_1 \dots a_N}^{b_1 \dots b_N c_1 \dots c_N} = e^3(e^{-2X\mathfrak{D}}) \sum_{j_1=1}^7 \cdots \sum_{j_N=1}^7 \bar{H}_{j_1 \dots j_N a_1 \dots a_N}^{b_1 \dots b_N c_1 \dots c_N} M^{j_1}_{l_1} \cdots M^{j_N}_{l_N}.$$

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- Explicit form of all linearly independent terms in this action?

Terms in the quadratic class of actions

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- Products of the simple terms:

$$Q_{18} = Q_{15} Q_{17}, \quad Q_{19} = Q_{10} Q_{17}, \quad Q_{20} = Q_{10} Q_{15}, \quad Q_{21} = Q_{17}^2, \quad Q_{22} = Q_{15}^2, \quad Q_{23} = Q_{10}^2.$$

Full form of the at most quadratic action

- Term Q_{23} appears only in certain linear combinations \Rightarrow redefinition of terms:

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{Q}_4 &= Q_4 - 2XQ_{23}, & \tilde{Q}_5 &= Q_5 + Q_{23}, & \tilde{Q}_7 &= Q_7 - Q_{23}, \\ \tilde{Q}_9 &= Q_9 + 2Q_{23}, & \tilde{Q}_{11} &= Q_{11} + Q_{23}, & \tilde{Q}_{16} &= Q_{16} + Q_{23}.\end{aligned}$$

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\Rightarrow General form of the disformally invariant quadratic class of actions:

$$S_g = \int_M \text{vol}_\theta \sum_{k=0}^{22} F_k(\phi, X) \bar{Q}_k.$$

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- Quadratic class of actions:
 - Consider only polynomial terms of up to quadratic order.
 - General action is linear combination of 23 different terms.
 - Does not contain equivalent of Horndeski gravity (\mathcal{L}_5 needs quartic order).

- Theories avoiding the appearance of Ostrogradsky ghosts?
 - Find subclass of theories with second order field equations.
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MH, “Disformal Transformations in Scalar-Torsion Gravity,” arXiv:1905.00451 [gr-qc]