

# Fixed Functionals in Quantum Einstein Gravity

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# setup

- tool:  $k \frac{d\Gamma_k}{dk} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left[ \left( \Gamma_k^{(2)} + \mathcal{R}_k \right)^{-1} k \frac{d\mathcal{R}_k}{dk} \right]$
- truncation:  $\Gamma_k^{\text{grav}}[g_{\mu\nu}] = \int d^d x \sqrt{g} f_k(R)$   
[0705.1769, 0712.0445, 1204.3541, 1211.0955, ...]
- background field method  $g_{\mu\nu} = \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}$
- conformal reduction:  $h_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{d} \bar{g}_{\mu\nu} \phi$   
[0801.3287, ...]
- maximally symmetric background:  $S^d$  ( $R > 0$ )

# type II regulator

operator:  $\square := -\bar{D}^2 + \mathbf{E}$  (potential term  $\mathbf{E}$  containing  $\bar{R}$ )

define regulator  $\mathcal{R}_k(\square)$

$$\Gamma_k^{(2)}(\square) + \mathcal{R}_k(\square) \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \Gamma_k^{(2)}(\square + R_k(\square)),$$

where  $R_k$  is the profile function (Litim's cutoff).

flow equation

$$\int d^d x \sqrt{g} \partial_t f_k(\bar{R}) = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr } W(\square)$$

# operator trace

spectral sum:

$$\text{Tr } W(\square) = \sum_i D_i W(\lambda_i)$$

eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$  and multiplicities  $D_i$  of  $\square$

integrating out eigenmodes:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{optimised cutoff} &\implies W(\lambda_i) \propto \theta(k^2 - \lambda_i) \\ &\implies W(\lambda_i) \neq 0 \iff k^2 \geq \lambda_i \end{aligned}$$

- every time  $k$  crosses  $\lambda_i$  the eigenmode is integrated out
- spectral sum is a finite sum (ACHTUNG:  $\lambda_i \propto R$ )

# definition: fixed function

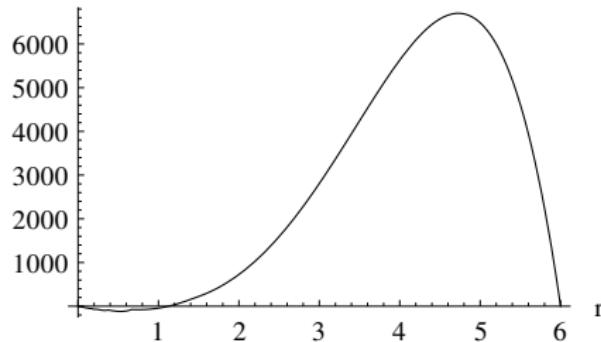
definition:

$$R =: k^2 r, \quad E =: k^2 e, \quad f_k(R) =: k^d \varphi_k(R/k^2)$$

- flow equation: partial differential equation for  $\varphi_k(r)$
- fixed functions: (global)  $k$  stationary solutions  $\iff \partial_t \varphi_k(r) = 0$
- third order equation: three parameter family of solutions

# pole structure of flow equation

the coefficient of  $\varphi'''(r)$



- three poles  $r_0$ ,  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  (in  $d = 3, 4$ )
- global solutions should cross the poles

# regular singular points and pole crossing

generic ODE:  $y^{(n)}(x) = f(y^{(n-1)}, \dots, y', y, x)$

r.h.s.  $f$  can have singular points

$$f(y^{(n-1)}, \dots, y', y, x) = \frac{e(y^{(n-1)}(x_0), \dots, y'(x_0), y(x_0), x_0)}{x - x_0} + \mathcal{O}((x - x_0)^0)$$

- pole crossing (global) solution  $\iff e|_{x=x_0} = 0$  (regularity condition)
- additional boundary condition reduces number of free parameters

# analytic example

initial value problem:

$$y''(x) = -\frac{y(x)}{x-1}, \quad y(0) = y_0, \quad y'(0) = y_1$$

solutions are modified Bessel functions  $I_n$ . For most  $y_0, y_1$ : no global solution.

add BC  $y(1)=0$ : pole crossing solution

$$y(x; y_0) = y_0 \frac{\sqrt{1-x} I_1(2\sqrt{1-x})}{I_1(2)}$$

self similarity in initial values  $y(x; y_0) = \lambda^{-1} y(x; \lambda y_0)$

# analytic example

initial value problem:

$$y''(x) = -\frac{y(x)}{x-1}, \quad y(0) = y_0, \quad y'(0) = y_1$$

polynomial expansion:  $y(x) = \sum_{n=0}^k a_n x^n$

- fixing all coefficients at  $x = 0 \implies a_i = 0$
- improved strategy: fix  $a_n$  at  $x = 0$  for  $n \geq 2$  and fix  $a_1$  at  $x = 1$   
 $\implies$  series expansion of analytic solution recovered
- self similarity  $y(x) = y_0 \sum_{n=0}^k \tilde{a}_n x^n$

# numerical shooting I

expand around  $r = 0$

$$\varphi(r; a_0, a_1) = a_0 + a_1 r + \sum_{n=2}^k a_n(a_0, a_1) r^n$$

1 fix  $a_n$ ,  $n \geq 2$  by using regularity condition at  $r = 0$

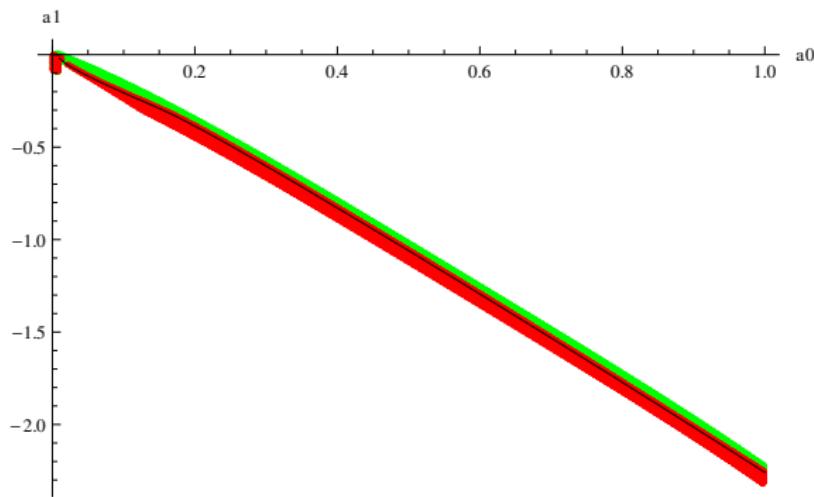
2 initial conditions for numerical integration ( $\varepsilon > 0$ )

$$\varphi_{\text{init}}^{(n)}(\varepsilon) = \varphi^{(n)}(\varepsilon; a_0, a_1), \quad n = 0, 1, 2$$

3 regularity condition at  $r_1$

$$e : (a_0, a_1) \mapsto \mathbb{R}$$

# pole crossing solutions



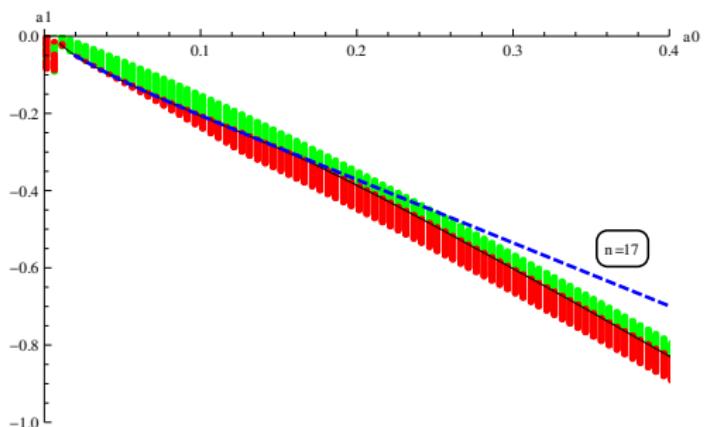
- green:  $e(a_0, a_1) > 0$
- red:  $e(a_0, a_1) < 0$
- black line:  $e(a_0, a_1) \approx 0$

# polynomial expansion

- polynomial expansion

$$\varphi(r) = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k r^k$$

- boundary condition at  $r = 0$  ( $a_2, a_3, \dots$ )
- boundary condition at  $r = r_1$  ( $a_1$ )
- $a_1$  as function of  $a_0$  (dashed blue line)



# numerical shooting II

algorithm for second shooting

1 parametrize regular line by  $a_0$

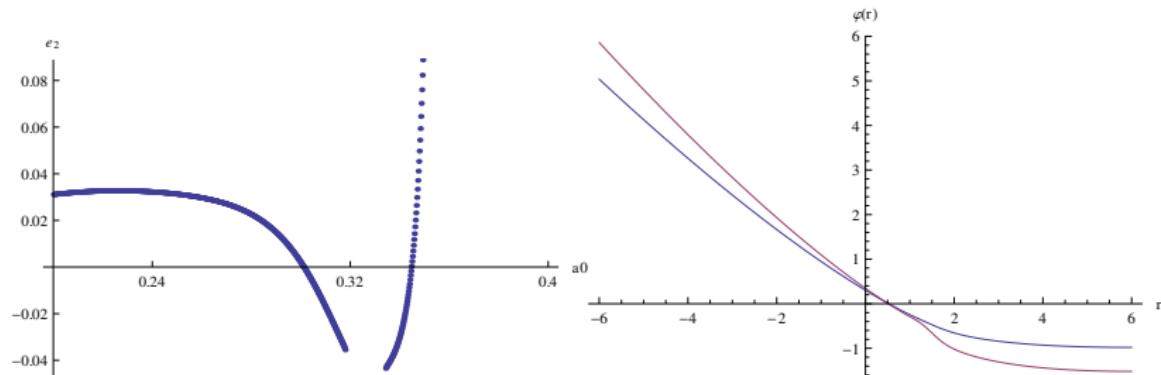
2 initial conditions for second numerical integration

$$\varphi_{\text{init}}^{(n)}(r_1 + \varepsilon) = \varphi_{\text{num}}^{(n)}(r_1 - \varepsilon; a_0), \quad n = 0, 1, 2$$

3 numerically integrate up to  $r_2$  and check regularity condition

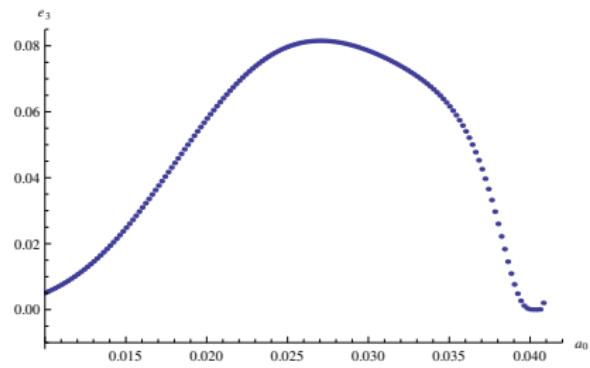
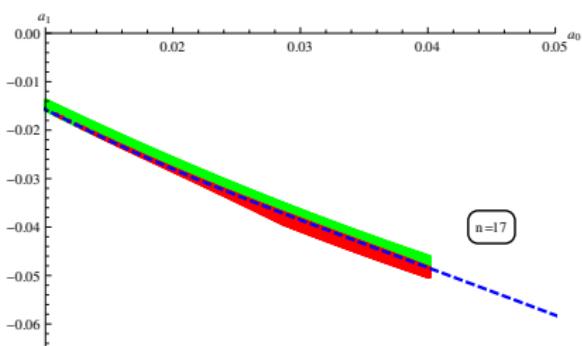
$$e_3 : a_0 \mapsto \mathbb{R}$$

# regularity at $r_2$



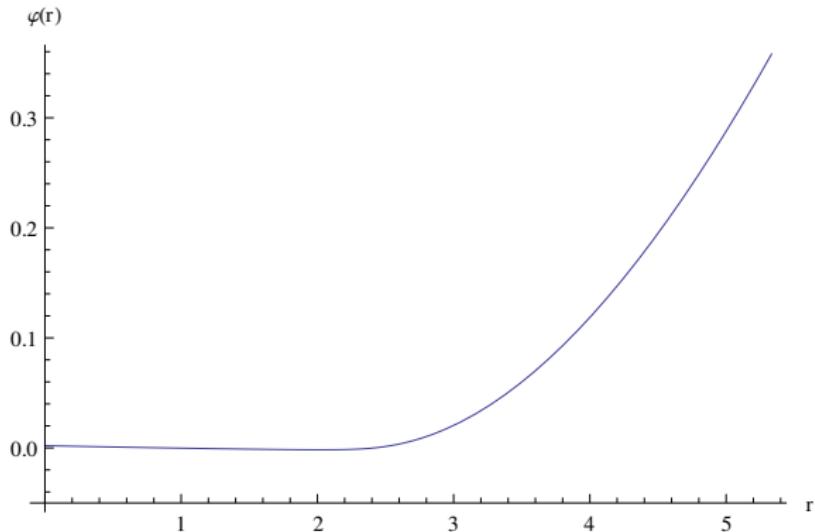
- There are two distinct zeros  $\Rightarrow$  two fixed functions
- improved stability: at most three relevant directions

# preliminary results in $d = 4$



- numerical shooting and polynomial expansion yield regular line
- one (nontrivial) fixed function identified

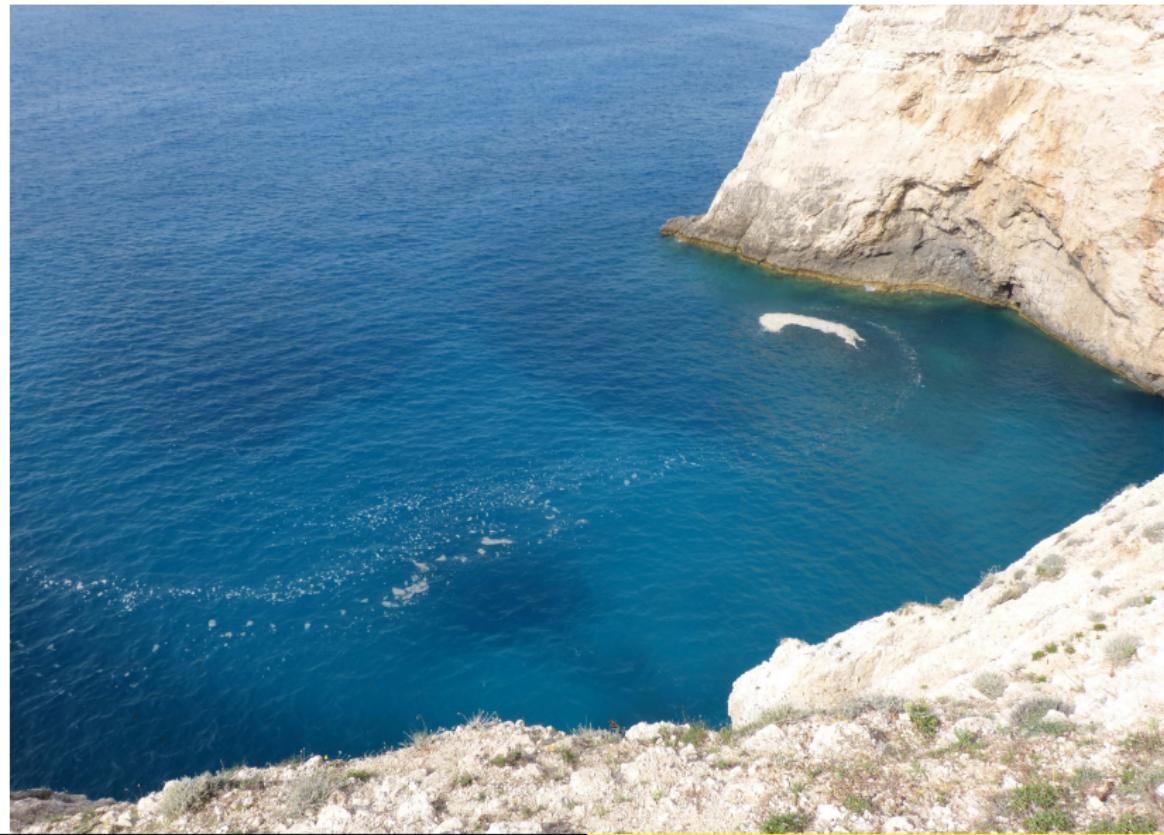
# fixed function in $d = 4$



# summary

- flow of conformally reduced  $f(R)$ -gravity
- interpretation of integrating out eigenmodes
- numerical and analytical techniques for pole crossing
- two fixed functions in  $d = 3$
- one fixed function in  $d = 4$

# Porto Katsiki - 21. Sept. 2014



Thank You!