

# **Extended Cuscuton : Formulation and Cosmology**

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# Scalar-tensor(S-T) theories

**S-T theories** : GR + new scalar fields

#DOFs of single scalar theories  $\rightarrow 2 + 1 = 3$   
 $g_{\mu\nu} + \phi$

**Generalized S-T theories :**

**Horndeski theory** Horndeski (1974), Deffayet, et al.(2011)  
The most general theory Kobayashi, et al.(2012)

whose EOMs are at most 2nd-order

**beyond Horndeski (GLPV) theories**

Gleyzes, et al. (2014)

EOMs are higher-order, but after combining  
with each other, eqs. are at most 2nd-order

..Generalized theories have **3DOFs**,  
but some special subclasses have only **2DOFs**

# Cuscuton theory (1)

“Cuscuton” theory Afshordi, et al. (2007)

S-T theory with **2DOFs**

on a cosmological background/in the unitary gauge

## Features

- Scalar field has a first-order equation  
= Scalar DOF has only a constraint equation
- Cosmological perturbations  
→ the kinetic term of scalar perturbation vanishes

..Scalar DOF is **nondynamical, not propagated**

Therefore, propagating number of degrees of freedom is only 2

# Origin of the “Cuscuton”

## Cuscuta

..The parasitic plant

Cuscuta  
coils around  
other plants



## Why “Cuscuton” ?

Afshordi, et al. (2007)

In the first paper about Cuscuton theory,  
..the equation of motion (of a scalar field) does not have any second order time derivatives and the field becomes a nondynamical field, which merely follows the dynamics of the fields that it couples to. Thus we call this field Cuscuton.

# Cuscuton theory (2)

## Action for Cuscuton theory

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{R}{2} + \mu^2 \sqrt{|X|} - V(\phi) \right]$$

$$X \equiv \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi \quad \mu = \text{const.}$$

- In the unitary gauge  $\phi = \phi(t)$ ,

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{R}{2} + \mu^2 \dot{\phi} - V(\phi) \right]$$

→  $\phi$  has **a first-order E-L equation**

- Subclass of k-essence

→ We can represent Cuscuton theory

as a part of Horndeski / beyond Horndeski

# Horndeski / beyond Horndeski

## (beyond) Horndeski in the unitary gauge

$$S = \int dt d^3x N \sqrt{\gamma} \left[ A_2 + A_3 K + A_4 (K^2 - K_{ij} K^{ij}) + B_4 R \right. \\ \left. + A_5 \left( K^3 - 3K K_{ij} K^{ij} + 2K_{ij} K^{ik} K_k^j \right) + B_5 K^{ij} G_{ij} \right]$$

$$A_i = A_i(t, N) \quad B_i = B_i(t, N)$$

$$\left( \text{Horndeski} \rightarrow A_4 = -B_4 - N B_{4N}, \quad A_5 = \frac{N}{6} B_{5N} \right) B_N = \frac{\partial B}{\partial N}$$

**“Horndeski conditions”**

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## Cuscuton theory in Horndeski :

$$A_2 = -V(t) + \frac{\sigma(t)}{N}, \quad A_3 = 0, \quad A_4 = -\frac{1}{2}, \quad A_5 = 0,$$

$$B_4 = \frac{1}{2}, \quad B_5 = 0 \quad \sigma(t) : \text{arbitrary function}$$

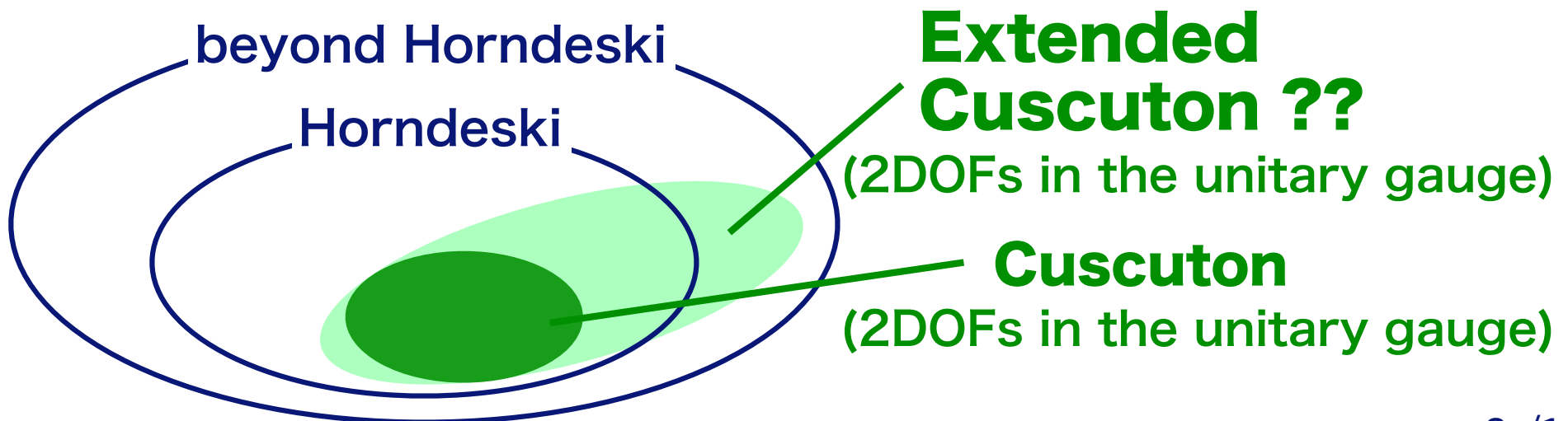
# Motivation of Our Study

Are there **more generalized theories** with 2DOFs in the unitary gauge?



**We considered “Extended Cuscuton” theory from Horndeski / beyond Horndeski**

**Inclusion relation**





# Extended Cuscuton

## Definition of Extended Cuscuton

Scalar perturbation is not propagated

on a cosmological background / the unitary gauge

Homogeneous / isotropic spacetime :

$$ds^2 = -N^2(t)dt^2 + a^2(t)\delta_{ij}dx^i dx^j$$

Quadratic scalar action in the unitary gauge :

$$S^{(2)} = \int dt d^3x N a^3 \left[ \mathcal{G}_S \dot{\zeta}^2 - \frac{\mathcal{F}_S}{a^2} (\partial_i \zeta)^2 \right] \quad \zeta : \text{Curvature perturbation}$$

where  $\mathcal{G}_S = \sum_{n=0}^4 \alpha_n(t, N) H^n$   $H$  : Hubble parameter

$\alpha_n = 0$  ( $n = 0 \sim 4$ )  $\rightarrow$  **scalar DOF is not propagated**

# Extended Cuscuton

$\alpha_n = 0$  are satisfied if the coefficient functions are

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} A_2 = \mu_2 + \frac{\nu_2}{N} + \frac{2(\mu_4 N + \nu_4)^3}{9N(\mu_5 N + \nu_5)^2} \\ A_3 = \mu_3 + \frac{2(\mu_4 N + \nu_4)^2}{3(\mu_5 N + \nu_5)^2} \\ A_4 = \frac{N(\mu_4 N + \nu_4)}{(\mu_5 N + \nu_5)^2}, \quad A_5 = \frac{N^2}{(\mu_5 N + \nu_5)^2} \\ B_4, B_5 \text{ are arbitrary} \end{array} \right. \quad \begin{array}{l} u_i = u_i(t) \\ v_i = v_i(t) \end{array}$$

↑ **“Extended Cuscuton” theories**

- Horndeski conditions are not satisfied  
→ **Subclass of the beyond Horndeski**

# Cosmological Perturbations

**The full Extended Cuscuton with matter**

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{bH} + \mathcal{L}_\chi \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{G}_S = \sum_{n=0}^4 \alpha_n(t, N) H^n = 0$$

$$\text{matter } \chi \text{ sector : } \mathcal{L}_\chi = P(Y), \quad Y \equiv -\frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \chi \partial^\mu \chi$$

- Sound speed of  $\chi$  :  $c_\chi^2 = \frac{P_Y}{P_Y + 2Y P_{YY}} \quad P_Y = \frac{\partial P}{\partial Y}$

- Energy density of  $\chi$  :  $\rho_\chi = 2Y P_{YY} - P$

→ **Null energy condition :  $\rho_\chi + P > 0$**

# Cosmological Perturbations

## The full Extended Cuscuton with matter

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{bH} + \mathcal{L}_\chi \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{G}_S = \sum_{n=0}^4 \alpha_n(t, N) H^n = 0$$

$$\text{matter } \chi \text{ sector : } \mathcal{L}_\chi = P(Y), \quad Y \equiv -\frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \chi \partial^\mu \chi$$

- **Scalar perturbations :**

$$N = 1 + \delta N, \quad N_i = \partial_i \psi, \quad \gamma_{ij} = a^2 e^{2\zeta} \delta_{ij}$$

$$\chi(x^\mu) \rightarrow \chi(t) + \delta\chi(t, \vec{x})$$

- **Field redefinition :**  $\tilde{\zeta} \equiv \zeta - \frac{\Theta}{\mathcal{G}_T} \frac{\delta\chi}{\dot{\chi}}$

$$\mathcal{G}_T, \Theta : \text{functions of } A_i, B_i, H$$

# Cosmological Perturbations

In Fourier space,

$$\mathcal{L}^{(2)} = a^3 \left[ \mathcal{A}(t, k) \left| \dot{\tilde{\zeta}} \right|^2 - \mathcal{B}(t, k) \frac{k^2}{a^2} \left| \tilde{\zeta} \right|^2 \right]$$

where

$$\mathcal{A} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{G}_T^2 (\rho_\chi + P)}{2c_\chi^2 \Theta^2} \frac{k^2/a^2 + \alpha_1}{k^2/a^2 + \alpha_2},$$
$$\mathcal{B} \equiv \Upsilon \frac{\mathcal{G}_T^2 (\rho_\chi + P)}{2\Theta^2} \frac{k^4/a^4 + \beta_1 k^2/a^2 + \beta_2}{(k^2/a^2 + \alpha_2)^2}$$

$\mathcal{G}_T, \Theta$  : functions of  $A_i, B_i, H$

$\alpha_i, \beta_i, \Upsilon$  : functions of  $A_i, B_i, H, Y$

$$\Upsilon \equiv \frac{\mathcal{F}_S \Theta^2 - \bar{\mathcal{G}}_T^2 Y P_Y}{\mathcal{F}_S \Theta^2 - \mathcal{G}_T (2\bar{\mathcal{G}}_T - \mathcal{G}_T) Y P_Y}$$

# Ghost/Gradient Instability

In Fourier space,

$$\mathcal{L}^{(2)} = a^3 \left[ \mathcal{A}(t, k) \left| \dot{\tilde{\zeta}} \right|^2 - \mathcal{B}(t, k) \frac{k^2}{a^2} \left| \tilde{\zeta} \right|^2 \right]$$

**UV regime** ( $k$  is sufficiently large)

$$\mathcal{A} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{G}_T^2 (\rho_\chi + P)}{2c_\chi^2 \Theta^2} \frac{k^2/a^2 + \alpha_1}{k^2/a^2 + \alpha_2},$$

$$\mathcal{B} \equiv \Upsilon \frac{\mathcal{G}_T^2 (\rho_\chi + P)}{2\Theta^2} \frac{k^4/a^4 + \beta_1 k^2/a^2 + \beta_2}{(k^2/a^2 + \alpha_2)^2}$$

$\mathcal{G}_T, \Theta$  : functions of  $A_i, B_i, H$

$\alpha_i, \beta_i, \Upsilon$  : functions of  $A_i, B_i, H, Y$

→ **If**  $\rho_\chi + P > 0, \quad c_\chi^2 > 0, \quad \Upsilon > 0,$   
(null energy condition)

**there is no ghost/gradient instability**

# Ghost/Gradient Instability

In Fourier space,

$$\mathcal{L}^{(2)} = a^3 \left[ \mathcal{A}(t, k) \left| \dot{\zeta} \right|^2 - \mathcal{B}(t, k) \frac{k^2}{a^2} \left| \tilde{\zeta} \right|^2 \right]$$

**IR regime** ( $k$  is sufficiently small)

$$\mathcal{A} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{G}_T^2 (\rho_\chi + P)}{2c_\chi^2 \Theta^2} \frac{k^2/a^2 + \alpha_1}{k^2/a^2 + \alpha_2},$$

$$\mathcal{B} \equiv \Upsilon \frac{\mathcal{G}_T^2 (\rho_\chi + P)}{2\Theta^2} \frac{k^4/a^4 + \beta_1 k^2/a^2 + \beta_2}{(k^2/a^2 + \alpha_2)^2}$$

$\mathcal{G}_T, \Theta$  : functions of  $A_i, B_i, H$

$\alpha_i, \beta_i, \Upsilon$  : functions of  $A_i, B_i, H, Y$

$$\rightarrow \text{If } \frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_2} = \frac{3c_\chi^2 \Theta^2}{3c_\chi^2 H \Theta \mathcal{G}_T + \mathcal{G}_T (Y P_Y + \dot{\Theta}) - \Theta \dot{\mathcal{G}}_T} > 0,$$

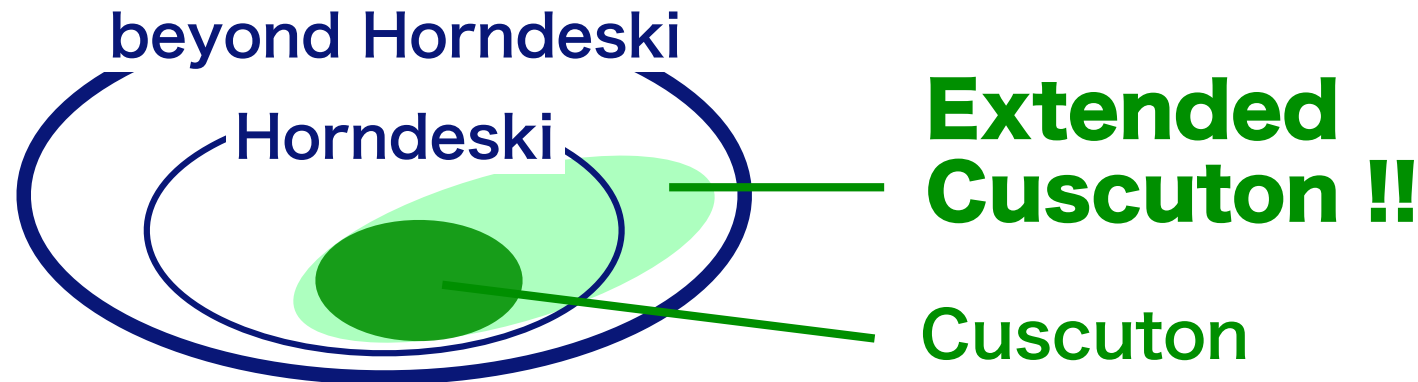
**there are no ghost instability**

# Summary

**Cuscuton theory** : Scalar-tensor theory with **2DOFs**  
on a cosmological background  
/in the unitary gauge



We determined the “**Extended Cuscuton**” theories  
in the Horndeski / beyond Horndeski



• Cosmological perturbations with matter sector

$$\rightarrow \text{If } \rho_\chi + P > 0, \quad c_\chi^2 > 0, \quad \Upsilon > 0, \quad \frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_2} > 0$$

are satisfied, scalar perturbation is stable