

# *Cosmology and dark sector in TDiff models*

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# OUTLINE

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## *Introduction and theoretical framework*

Motivation / TDiff formalism / Covariantized approach

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## *Multi-field interacting models*

Multi-field interacting models / Phenomenology / Shift-symmetric model / Mixed-regime: Phantom model / Mixed-regime: Tracking model

3

## *Conclusions*

References

[2507.16616]

[2409.11991]

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*Introduction and  
theoretical framework*

# Motivation

- The Universe presents an accelerated expansion.
  - Standard model ( $\Lambda$ CDM): cosmological constant.
  - Vacuum-energy problem.
- Most of the matter contribution is dark matter.
  - Unknown nature.
- Observational tensions ( $H_0, \sigma_8$ ).
  - Potentially alleviated by phantom / interacting models.
  - DESI (BAO) + CMB + SNe favors dynamical DE crossing the phantom divide in the past.

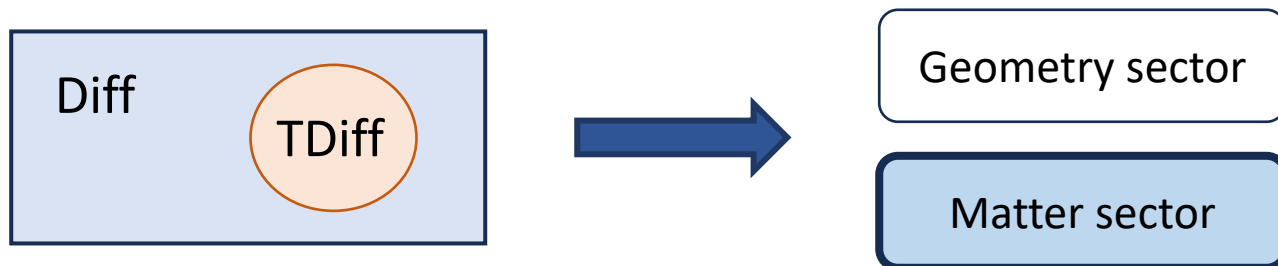
Modifications of gravity at  
cosmological scales



Break symmetries in the  
dark sector

# ***TDiff formalism***

- Diffeomorphism invariance is the main symmetry of GR.
  - Unimodular gravity: the metric determinant is taken to be a non dynamical field fixed to the value  $g = 1$ .
  - Diff invariance is broken down to TDiff + Weyl rescalings.
- We will break Diff invariance down to TDiff in the matter sector of the action.



# ***TDiff formalism***

- Variations of the action under coordinate transformations:

$$S_{\text{mat}} = \int d^4x f(g) \mathcal{L}(g_{\mu\nu}, \phi_i, \partial_\rho \phi_i)$$
$$x^\mu \rightarrow x^\mu + \xi^\mu(x)$$

$$\text{TDiff: } \partial_\mu \xi^\mu = 0$$



The coupling between gravity and the fields  $f(g)$  is no longer fixed

- Matter field action (homogeneous scalar fields):

$$S_{\text{mat}} = \int d^4x \left[ \frac{1}{2} f_K(g) \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi - f_V(g) V(\phi) \right]$$

- Flat Robertson-Walker background (Cosmology):

$$ds^2 = b(\tau)^2 d\tau^2 - a(\tau)^2 d\mathbf{x}^2$$

# *TDiff formalism*

- Perfect fluid approach for the energy-momentum tensor:

$$T_{\mu\nu} = (\rho + p)u_{\mu}u_{\nu} - pg_{\mu\nu}$$

- $\rho$  is the energy density
- $p$  is the pressure

**Matter content**

- Diff invariance  $\Rightarrow$  EMT conservation

Noether Theorem

$$G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi GT_{\mu\nu}$$

- TDiff invariance  $\Rightarrow$  less symmetry. However...

➤ Geometry sector is left Diff invariant.

**No longer trivial!**

$$G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi GT_{\mu\nu}$$

+

$$\nabla_{\mu} G^{\mu\nu} = 0$$



$$\nabla_{\mu} T^{\mu\nu} = 0$$

# *TDiff formalism*

$$\nabla_{\mu} T^{\mu\nu} = 0$$

**CONSTRAINT**

- Introduces a new equation for  $g$  (New information).
- Allows to obtain the no longer gauge component  $b(\tau)$ .

# Covariantized approach

- Equivalent approach: covariantized formalism.
  - Write the action in a covariantized way through the introduction of an extra field:

$$S_{\text{mat}}^{\text{cov}} = \int d^4x \sqrt{g} [H_K(Y)X - H_V(Y)V(\phi)]$$

$$X = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi$$

$$Y \equiv \bar{\mu} / \sqrt{g} \quad \bar{\mu} = \partial_\mu (\sqrt{g} A^\mu)$$

$$H(Y) \equiv Y f(Y^{-2})$$

- Equivalent to the TDiff formalism when  $\bar{\mu} = 1$  (**TDiff frame**).
- TDiff theory written in a Diff invariant way, more compact.

EMT conserved under solutions of EE  
There is a new EoM for the extra field

TDiff frame



**CONSTRAINT**

# Covariantized approach

- Potential domination regime:

$$Y = \text{constant}$$
$$\phi = \text{constant}$$

$$p = w\rho, \quad w = -1$$

**Cosmological  
constant**

Equation of state (EoS)

- Kinetic domination regime:

$$w = \frac{H_K(Y) - YH'_K(Y)}{H_K(Y) + YH'_K(Y)}$$

**Power-law coupling**

$$H_K(Y) \propto Y^{\hat{\alpha}}$$

$$w = \frac{1 - \hat{\alpha}}{1 + \hat{\alpha}}$$

Equation of state (EoS)

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*Multi-field  
Interacting models*

# Multi-field interacting models

- EMT conservation law:

$$T_{\mu\nu} = T_{\mu\nu}^{(1)} + T_{\mu\nu}^{(2)}$$

$$T_{\mu\nu}^{(i)} = (\rho_i + p_i)u_\mu u_\nu - p_i g_{\mu\nu}$$

$$\nabla_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = \nabla_\mu T_{\mu\nu}^{(1)} + \nabla_\mu T_{\mu\nu}^{(2)} = 0$$

No individual conservation imposed

$$\rho'_1(\tau) + 3 \frac{a'(\tau)}{a(\tau)} [\rho_1(\tau) + p_1(\tau)] = Q(\tau),$$

$$\rho'_2(\tau) + 3 \frac{a'(\tau)}{a(\tau)} [\rho_2(\tau) + p_2(\tau)] = -Q(\tau)$$

Energy exchange

- EMT conservation law ~ **CONSTRAINT:**

Contributions from both fields



$Y(a)$  <sup>TDiff frame</sup>



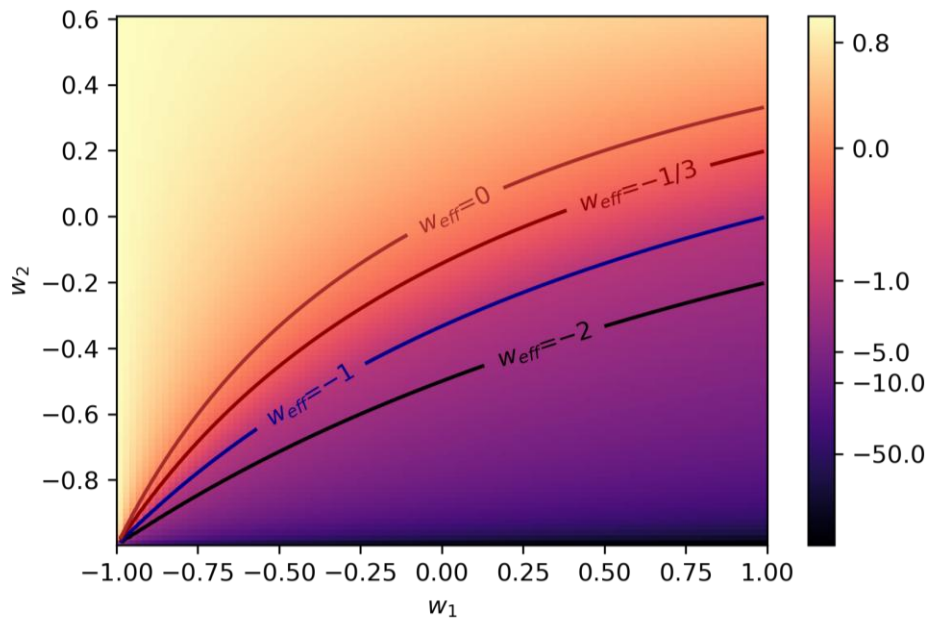
$b(a)$

EFFECTIVE INTERACTION BETWEEN THE FIELDS

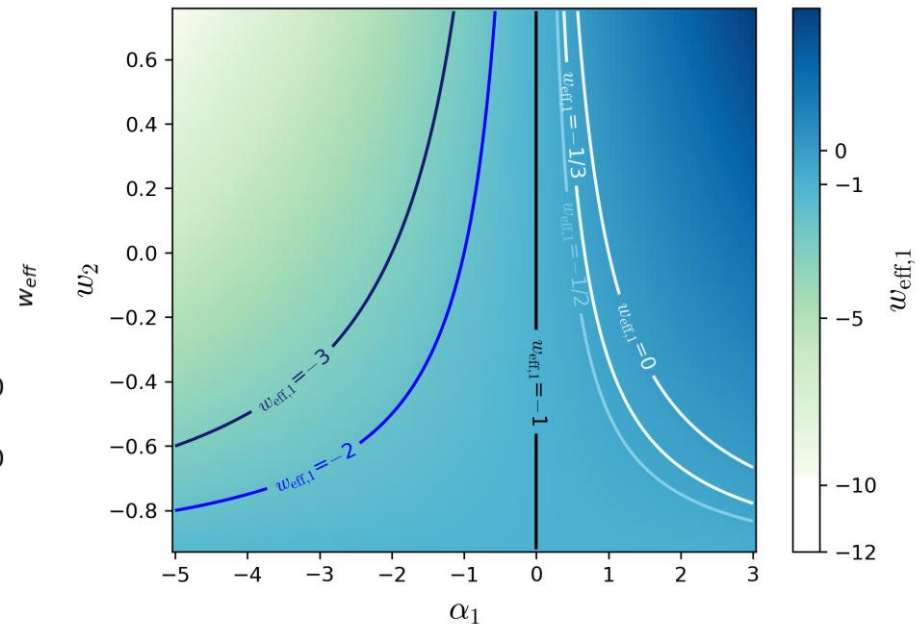
# Phenomenology

## Effective behavior in the asymptotic single/field domination regimes

### A) Shift-symmetric

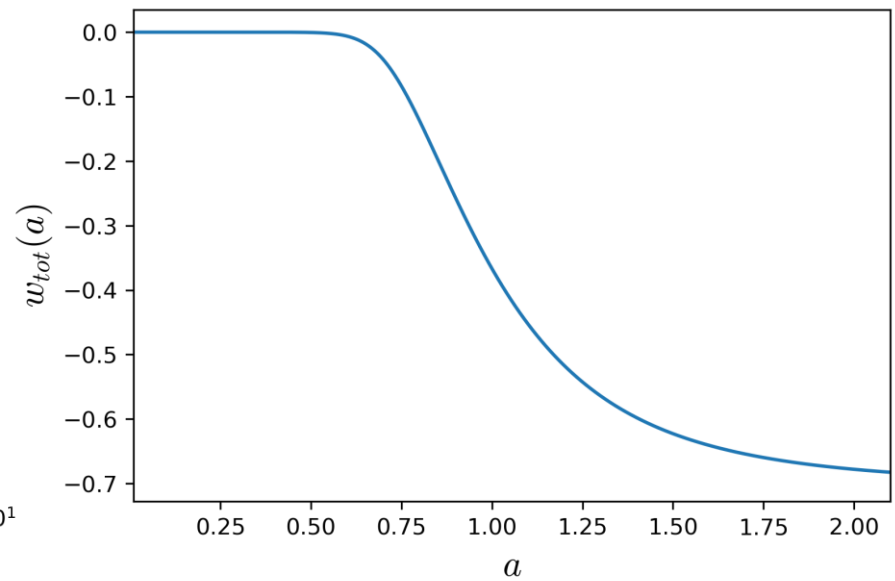
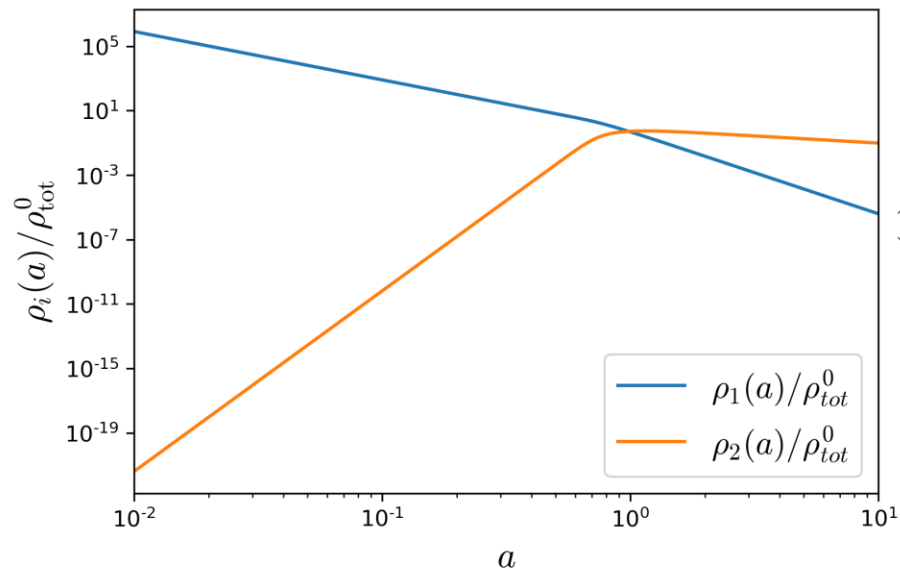


### B) Mixed-regime

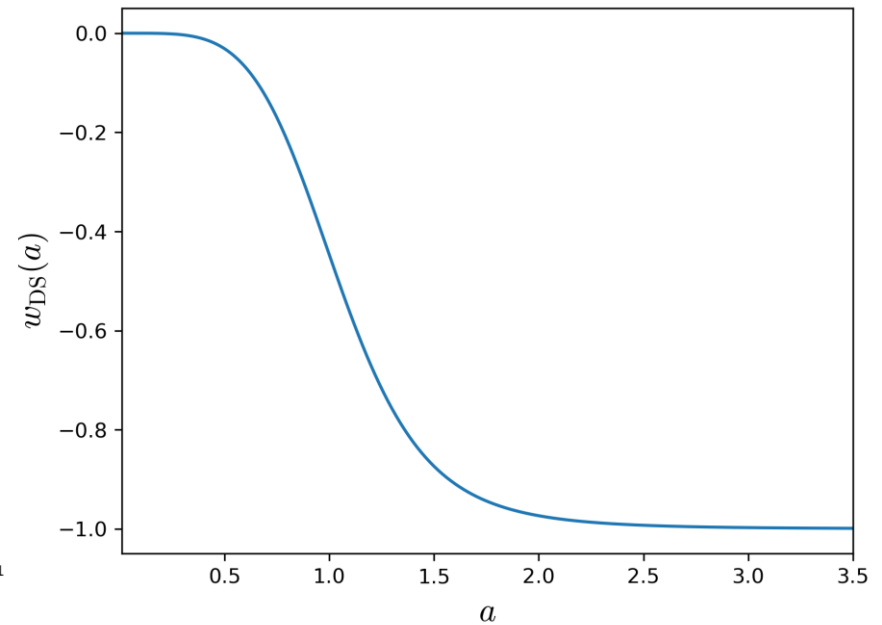
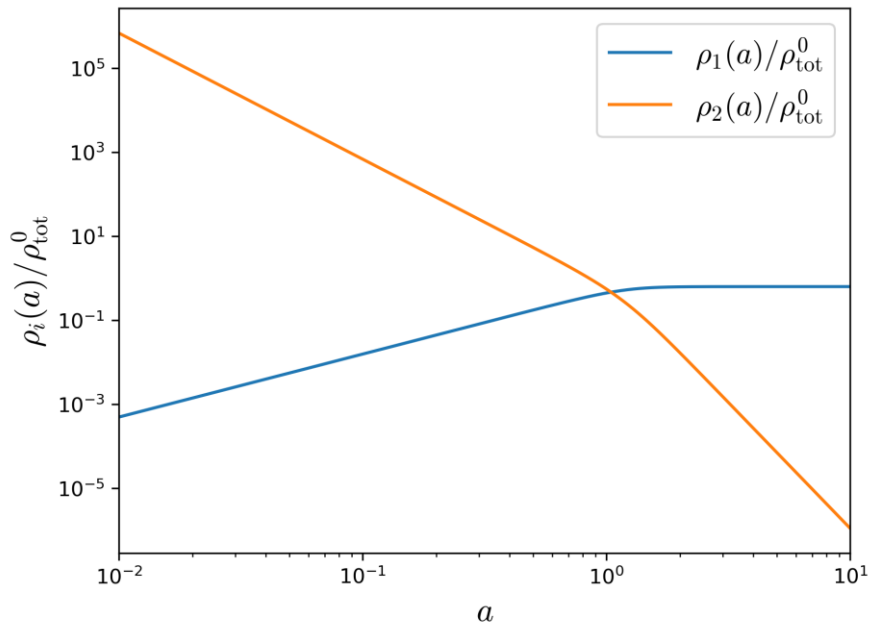


If one (the) kinetic field  $\phi_2$  has  $\alpha_2 = 1$  ( $w_2 = 0$ ):  
**Asymptotic Dark Matter behavior in the past**

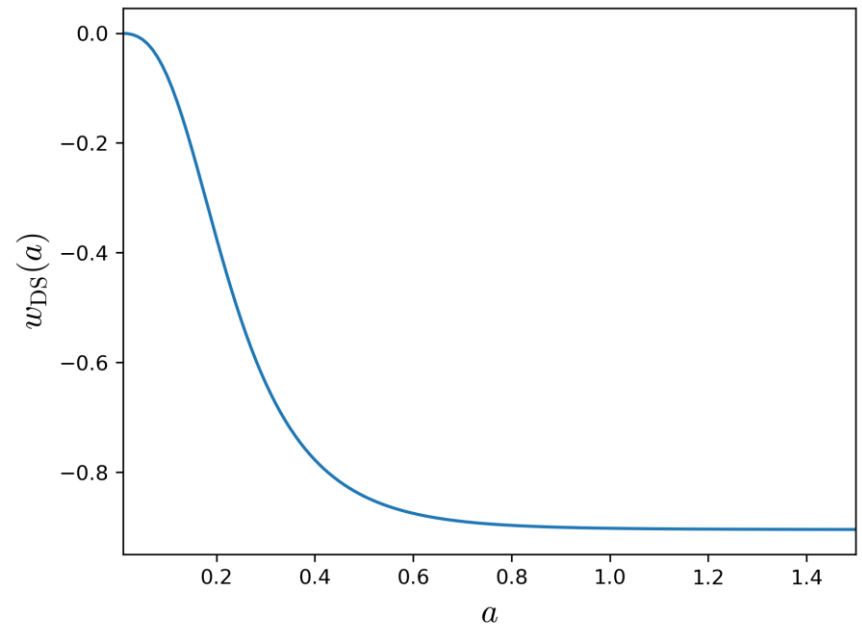
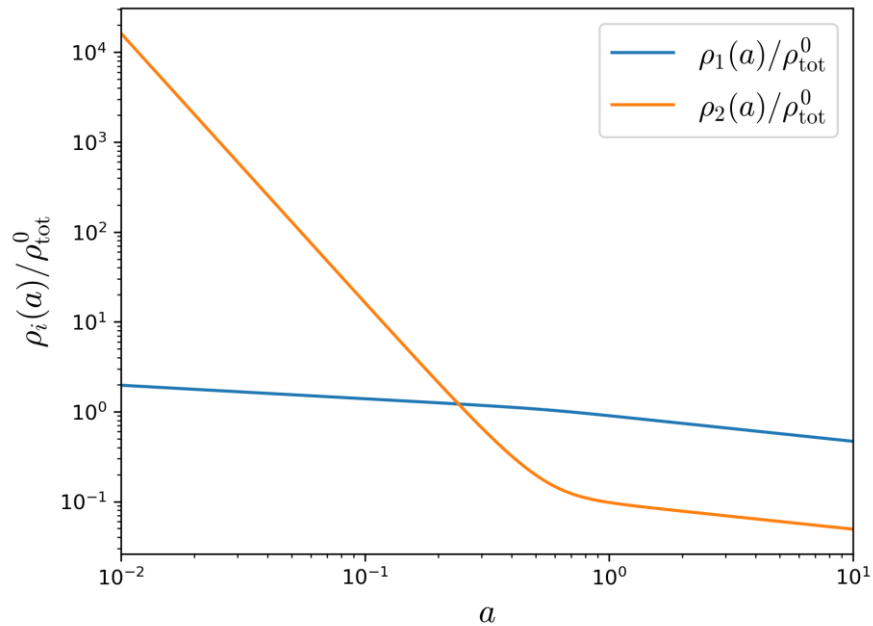
# Shift-symmetric model



# Mixed-regime: Phantom model



# Mixed-regime: Tracking model



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*Conclusions*

# Conclusions

- Diff symmetry breaking in the matter sector:
  - Non-trivial conservation of the EMT.
  - Physical constraint  $\rightarrow$  energy exchange (**effective interaction**).
- Model: shift-symmetric and mixed-regime:
  - The **interaction** affects the behavior of each component.
  - The potential field presents a **dynamical evolution** that can be in the range of **dark energy**.
  - Compatible with **late-time accelerated expansion**.