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“Ghost in multimetric gravity”

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# Ghost in Multimetric Gravity

Kyoto University  
Kouichi Nomura, Jiro Soda

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# 1. Introduction

Recently, the ghost problem in non-linear massive gravity has been solved.

**Massive gravity** : a challenge to give mass to graviton in general relativity

linear level : Pauli-Fierz mass term · · · no problem

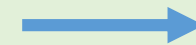
non linear level : a serious difficulty emerges

graviton has spin 2 · · · massless : 2 degrees of freedom

massive : 5 degrees of freedom

In linear level, there are certainly 5 degrees of freedom.

However, in non-linear level, extra 6<sup>th</sup> degree of freedom emerges and turns out to be a ghost particle.



**BD ghost**

ghost particle : a particle having negative kinetic energy

For the consistency of the theory, ghost particles must be excluded.

## Extension to bimetric gravity

In non-linear massive gravity, **metric is always decomposed into background and fluctuation.**



a theory of two dynamical metrics

The background metric can be promoted to a dynamical variable.

**It has been shown that no BD ghost is contained.**

## Question

**Can we construct ghost-free theories with more than two metrics ?**

① : Trimetric case as a naïve extension of bimetric gravity is proposed. (2012, N. Khosravi et al)

➡ The problem of BD ghost is unsolved.

② : Ghost-free multimetric gravity with vielbeins is proposed. (2012, K. Hinterbichler and R. A. Rosen)

➡ ② dose not contain ①.

➡ We solve the ghost problem in ①, and further develop our analysis to more general multimetric gravity.

## 2. Bimetric gravity $g, f$ : metric

$$S_{bi} = M_g^2 \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det g} R[g] + M_f^2 \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det f} R[f]$$

Einstein Hilbert term

$$+ a \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det g} \Phi\left(\sqrt{g^{-1}f}\right)$$

Interaction term

$M_g, M_f$  : Planck mass,  $R[g], R[f]$  : curvature,  $a$  : coupling constant

$\Phi(A)$  : linear combination of  $Tr(A)$ ,  $(TrA)^2 - Tr(A^2)$ , .....

(up to fourth order in A)

No BD-ghost is contained,  
and there exist one massless and one massive graviton.

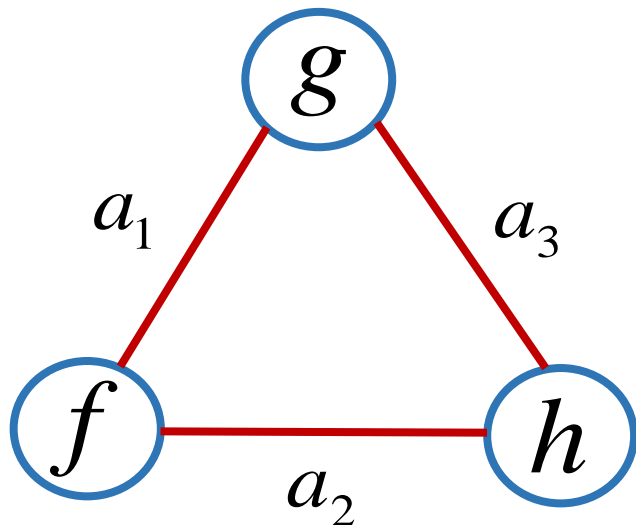
—————→ degrees of freedom :  $2 + 5 = 7$

### 3. Trimetric gravity $g, f, h$ : metric

$$S_{tri} = M_g^2 \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det g} R[g] + M_f^2 \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det f} R[f] + M_h^2 \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det h} R[h] \\ + a_1 \int \sqrt{-\det g} \Phi_1(\sqrt{g^{-1}f}) + a_2 \int \sqrt{-\det f} \Phi_2(\sqrt{f^{-1}h}) + a_3 \int \sqrt{-\det h} \Phi_3(\sqrt{h^{-1}g})$$

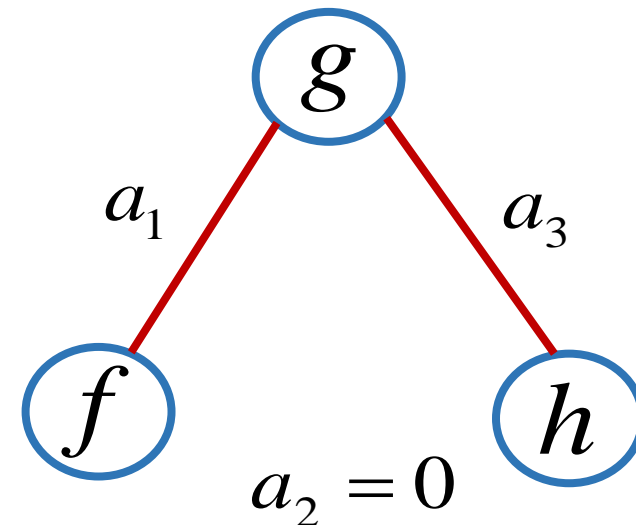
a naive extension of bimetric case

In this case, we verified the existence of a BD-ghost.



cutting one of interactions

Ghost-freedom is already shown in the vielbein formalism.



We perform the Hamiltonian analysis in homogeneous model.

$$g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = -N(t)^2 dt^2 + \gamma(t)_{ij} dx^i dx^j$$

$$f_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = -L(t)^2 dt^2 + \omega(t)_{ij} dx^i dx^j$$

$$h_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = -Q(t)^2 dt^2 + \rho(t)_{ij} dx^i dx^j$$

One of the metrics can be diagonalized through spacial rotations.

$$\text{Hamiltonian : } H = NC_N + LC_L + QC_Q$$

$N, L, Q$  : Lagrange multipliers

Constraints :  $C_N = 0, C_L = 0, C_Q = 0$

Degrees of freedom :  $3 + 6 + 6 = 15$

Constraints must be preserved in the time evolution.

$$\dot{C}_N = \{C_N, H\} = \{C_N, C_L\}L + \{C_N, C_Q\}Q \approx 0$$

$$\dot{C}_L = \{C_L, H\} = \{C_L, C_N\}N + \{C_L, C_Q\}Q \approx 0$$

$$\dot{C}_Q = \{C_Q, H\} = \{C_Q, C_N\}N + \{C_Q, C_L\}L \approx 0$$



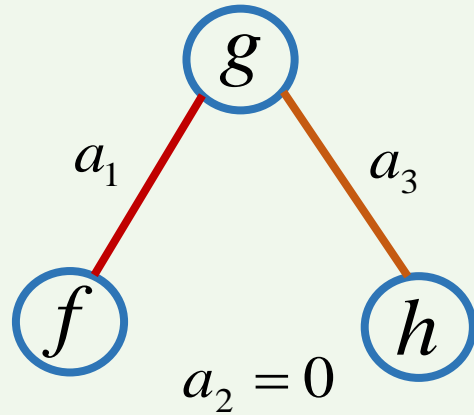
$$\{C_N, C_L\} \propto a_1, \quad \{C_L, C_Q\} \propto a_2, \quad \{C_N, C_Q\} \propto a_3$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_1 & a_3 \\ -a_1 & 0 & a_2 \\ -a_3 & -a_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} N \\ L \\ Q \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

We must determine the Lagrange multipliers to satisfy this condition.



Case 1:



$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_1 & a_3 \\ -a_1 & 0 & 0 \\ -a_3 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} N \\ L \\ Q \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

Secondary Constraints

$$a_1 \propto \{C_N, C_L\} \approx 0, \quad a_3 \propto \{C_N, C_Q\} \approx 0$$

consistency in the time evolution

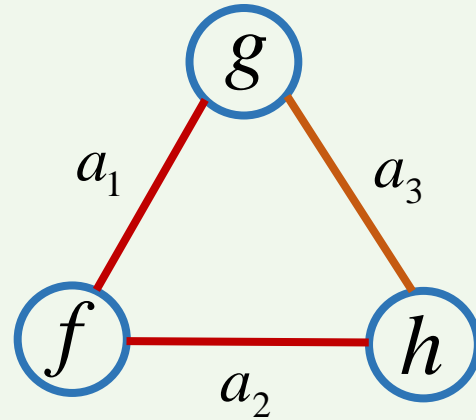
$$\begin{aligned} d\{C_N, C_L\}/dt &= NC_{NL,N} + LC_{NL,L} + QC_{NL,Q} \approx 0 \\ d\{C_N, C_Q\}/dt &= NC_{NQ,N} + LC_{NQ,L} + QC_{NQ,Q} \approx 0 \end{aligned}$$

- One of the Lagrange multipliers is left undetermined. (one gauge freedom)
- The total number of constraints is five.

Total degrees of freedom :  $(15 \times 2 - 5 - 1) / 2 = 12$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Masless graviton : 1} \\ \text{Massive graviton : 2} \\ \text{BD ghost : 0} \end{array} \right.$$

Case 2:



$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_1 & a_3 \\ -a_1 & 0 & a_2 \\ -a_3 & -a_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} N \\ L \\ Q \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

No secondary constraint

$$N = \frac{a_2}{a_1} Q, \quad L = -\frac{a_3}{a_1} Q, \quad Q: \text{arbitrary}$$

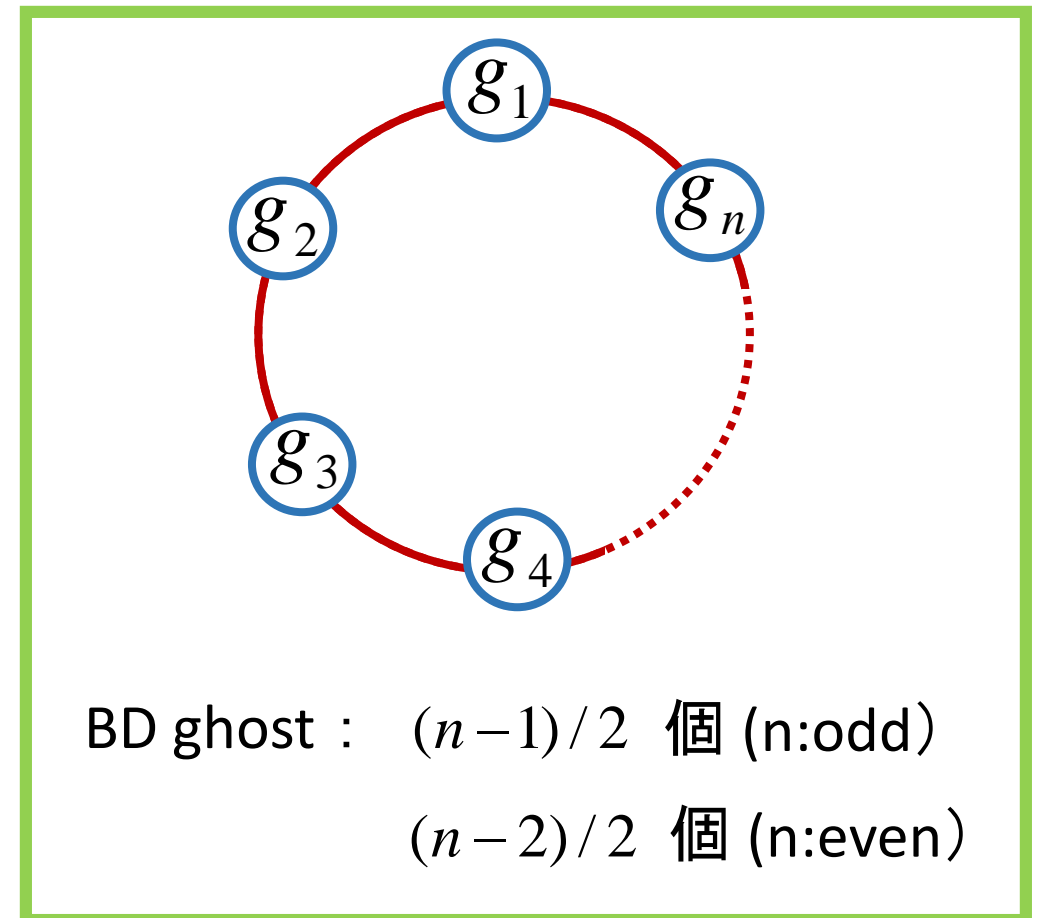
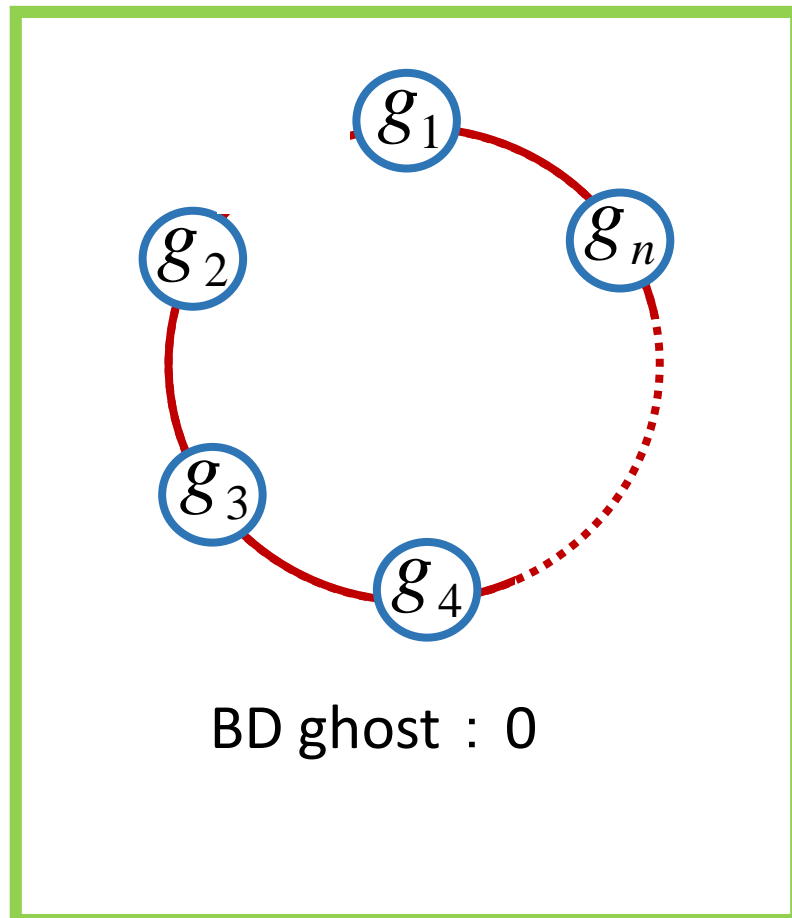
Constraints : 3  
Gauge freedom : 1

Total degrees of freedom :  $(15 \times 2 - 3 - 1) / 2 = 13$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Massless graviton : 1} \\ \text{Massive graviton : 2} \\ \text{BD ghost : 1} \end{array} \right.$

# 4. More general Multimetric gravity $g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n$ : metrics

$$S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n M_k^2 \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det g_k} R[g_k] + \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det g_k} \Phi_k \left( \sqrt{g_k^{-1} g_{k+1}} \right)$$



## 5. summary

- We showed that there exists a BD-ghost in the trimetric gravity as a naive extension of the recently proposed ghost-free bimetric gravity.
- We also studied more general multi metric gravity, and showed there always exist BD-ghosts if loop type interactions are contained.