``Welcome to the dark side of the world."



A unified approach to scaling solutions and its applications to dark energy

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Dark energy

Observations suggest that more than 70% of the energy density of the current universe is dark energy that gives an accelerated expansion.



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Models of dark energy



- Cosmo-illogical constant
- Quintessence

K-essence

(Potential energy of scalar fields) (Kinematic energy of scalar fields) (Energy density : $\rho = V(\phi)/\sqrt{1-\dot{\phi}^2}$)

Tachyon



Ghost condensate

etc.

(Equation of state : w < -1)



Many scalar-field models were proposed to explain the origin of dark energy.



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Cosmological scaling solutions

In constructing viable models of dark energy, it is convenient if we know cosmological scaling solutions.

Scaling solutions:

$$\rho_{\varphi} \propto \rho_m$$

(Dark energy density is proportional to fluid energy density)

For a minimally coupled scalar field, the exponential potential $V = V_0 \exp(\lambda \varphi)$

corresponds to scaling solutions. In this case

(i)
$$\lambda^2 > 3(1 + w_m)$$
 $w_{\varphi} = w_m$ (scaling solutions)
(ii) $\lambda^2 < 3(1 + w_m)$ $w_{\varphi} = -1 + \lambda^2/3$ and $\Omega_{\varphi} = 1$

It is possible to explain the late-time acceleration if the slope of the potential changes at late-times: e.g., $V = V_0 [\exp(\alpha \varphi) + \exp(\beta \varphi)]$

Barreiro, Copeland and Nunes, PRD61, 127301 (2000)

 $V = V_0[\exp(\alpha\varphi) + \exp(\beta\varphi)]$



A unified approach to scaling solutions

We wish to know the condition for a scalar-field Lagrangian for the existence of scaling solutions.

Let us start with a general Lagrangian:

$$S = \int d^4 x \sqrt{-g} [R/2 + p(X,\varphi)] + S_m \qquad X = -g^{\mu\nu} \partial_{\mu} \varphi \partial_{\nu} \varphi/2$$

This includes (coupled)-quintessence, phantom, ghost condensate, tachyon, k-essence, ...

We consider a general cosmological background:

$$H^2 = \beta^2 \rho_T'$$

(H: Hubble rate)

n = 1: General Relativity (GR)

n = 2: Randall-Sundrum (RS) braneworld

n = 2/3: Gauss-Bonnet (GB) braneworld

Existence of scaling solutions

In FRW background we have

Scalar field: $\dot{\rho} + 3H(1 + w_{\phi})\rho = -Q\rho_{m}\dot{\phi}$ Fluid: $\dot{\rho}_{m} + 3H(1 + w_{m})\rho_{m} = Q\rho_{m}\dot{\phi}$

Q: coupling between dark energy and fluid (dark matter)

Scaling solutions:
$$\rho/\rho_m = const$$

 $\frac{d\log\rho}{dN} = \frac{d\log\rho_m}{dN} = -3(1+w_s)$
where $w_s = w_m + \Omega_{\varphi}(w_{\varphi} - w_m)$ and $N = \log(a)$
and
 $\frac{d\varphi}{dN} = \frac{3\Omega_{\varphi}}{Q}(w_m - w_{\varphi}) = const$

Lagrangian for the existence of scaling solutions

$$X = \frac{H^2}{2} \left(\frac{d\varphi}{dN}\right)^2 \propto H^2 \propto \rho^n \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \frac{dX}{dN} = -3n(1+w_s)X$$

By using
$$\frac{\partial \log p}{\partial X} \frac{dX}{dN} + \frac{\partial \log p}{\partial \varphi} \frac{d\varphi}{dN} = -3(1+w_s)$$

we find

$$n\frac{\partial \log p}{\partial \log X} - \frac{1}{\lambda}\frac{\partial \log p}{\partial \varphi} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow p = X^{1/n} g(Xe^{n\lambda\varphi})$$
where $\lambda = Q \frac{1 + w_m - \Omega_{\varphi}(w_m - w_{\varphi})}{\Omega_{\varphi}(w_m - w_{\varphi})}$
 $g: \text{ arbitrary function}$

F. Piazza and S.T. (2004) S.T. and M. Sami (2004)

One can also derive



Application to dark energy models

(A) Quintessence (sometimes known as 'French wine') When p is written in the form: $p = f(X) - V(\varphi)$, we obtain

$$p = c_1 X^{1/n} - c_2 e^{-\lambda\varphi}$$

In the case of GR (n=1), this corresponds to an exponential potential with a canonical field.

Defining a new field: $\phi = \exp[(n-1)\lambda \varphi/2]$, we get

 $p = \frac{4c_1}{(n-1)^2 \lambda^2} \tilde{X} - c_2 \phi^{-2/(n-1)} \quad \text{where} \quad \tilde{X} = \dot{\phi}^2 / 2$ (corresponding to the choice $g = c_1 Y^{1-1/n} - c_2 Y^{-1/n}$)
Canonical field with potential $V(\phi) = c_2 \phi^{-2/(n-1)} \qquad \propto \phi^{-2} \quad \text{for RS braneworld}$ $\propto \phi^6 \quad \text{for GB braneworld}$

(B) Tachyon

The Lagrangian for tachyon is

 $p = -V(\phi)\sqrt{1-\dot{\phi}^2}$

Substituting $g(Y) = -cY^{-1/n}\sqrt{1-2Y}$ for $p = X^{1/n}g(Xe^{n\lambda\varphi})$, we get

$$p = -ce^{-\lambda\varphi}\sqrt{1-2Y}$$
 where $Y = Xe^{n\lambda\varphi}$

Defining $\phi = (2/n\lambda) \exp(n\lambda\varphi/2)$, we find

 $p = -c \left(n\lambda \phi/2 \right)^{-2/n} \sqrt{1 - \dot{\phi}^2}$

Therefore the tachyon has scaling solutions for the potential

$$V(\phi) = \phi^{-2/n} \propto \phi^{-2}$$
 for GR

When Q=0, $w_m < 0$ for the existence of scaling solutions. Scaling solutions exist for $w_m > 0$ in the presence of the coupling Q. See: B. Gumjudpai, T. Naskar, M. Sami, S.T., JCAP 0506, 007 (2005) (c) Dilatonic ghost condensate

Phantom is plagued by quantum vacuum instability, but this is overcome by accounting for higher-order kinematic terms:

$$p = -X + c e^{\lambda \varphi} X^2$$

F. Piazza and S.T. (2004)

 $Q(Q+\lambda) < 3/4 \text{ when } w_m = 0$

This is obtained by substituting g(Y) = -1 + cY for $p = X^{1/n}g(Xe^{n\lambda\varphi})$.

For scaling solutions, we obtain

$$cY = \frac{3(1 - w_m^2) - 2Q(Q + \lambda)}{3(1 - 3w_m)(1 + w_m)} \qquad \Omega_{\varphi} = \frac{3(1 + w_m)[1 + w_m - Q(Q + \lambda)]}{(\lambda + Q)^2(1 - 3w_m)}$$

The vacuum is stable at quantum level for $\frac{cY > 1/2}{2}$.

Accelerated expansion occurs for $Q > \lambda/2$ when $w_m = 0$

The coupling Q can lead to a viable scaling solution.





we obtain the differential equations for $p = X^{1/n}g(Xe^{n\lambda\varphi})$. We find fixed points by setting dx/dN = 0, dy/dN = 0.

One can study the stability of fixed points as well.

We found the following results:

 $(i)w_{\varphi} > -1$

The final stable attractor is either a scaling solution or a scalar-field dominant universe with $\Omega_{\omega} = 1$

 $(ii)w_{\varphi} < -1$

The final stable attractor is a scalar-field dominant universe with $\Omega_{\varphi} = 1$ In this case scaling solutions are unstable.

Conclusion

We derived the condition for scalar-field Lagangian for the existence of scaling solutions:

 $p = X^{1/n} g(X e^{n\lambda\varphi})$

This includes a wide variety of dark energy models: (coupled)-quintessence, phantom, ghost condensate, tachyon, k-essence, ...

We applied the above Lagrangian to dark energy and derived the effective potentials, the fixed points etc.



Useful for the construction of viable dark energy models