# Disformal transition of a black hole to a wormhole in scalar-tensor Horndeski theory

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We consider disformal transformations in a subclass of Horndeski theory in which a scalar field is kinetically coupled to the Einstein tensor. We apply a disformal transformation on a seed hairy black hole solution of this theory and we show that there is a transition of a black hole to a wormhole. We also show that the null energy condition is violated in the wormhole configuration and we study the stability of the wormhole solution by calculating the time evolution of scalar perturbations in this geometry.

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#### I. INTRODUCTION

Disformal transformations were discussed by Bekenstein [1] in an attempt to describe gravitation with two geometries. The need of introducing two geometries came from the requirement that one of these describes gravitation, while the other defines the geometry in which matter describes the gravitational dynamics. This approach is very helpful if one wants to describe modified gravity theories like scalar-tensor theories. In order to be consistent with various tests of general relativity (GR), the dynamics of the geometry are to be described by a Riemannian metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$ , while one has to introduce a relation between  $g_{\mu\nu}$  and the physical geometry on which matter propagates introducing a new Riemannian metric

$$ds^{2} = \hat{g}_{\mu\nu}dx^{\mu}dx^{\nu}$$
  
$$\equiv (g_{\mu\nu}A(\phi) + L^{2}B(\phi)\partial_{\mu}\phi\partial_{\nu}\phi)dx^{\mu}dx^{\nu}, \qquad (1.1)$$

where L is a length scale, to describe the gravitational dynamics. The physical metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  and the matter metric  $\hat{g}_{\mu\nu}$  are related by a conformal and a disformal transformation.

In [1] there was a presentation of the physical meaning of the relation of the two metrics in (1.1). When B = 0 a conformal transformation connects the two metrics. This transformation leaves all shapes invariant and stretches equally all spacetime directions. When  $B \neq 0$  a disformal tranformation is present and its effect is that, the stretch in the direction parallel to  $\partial_{\mu}\phi$  is by a different factor from that in the other spacetime directions, which distorts the shapes of the geometry. One has to use the metric  $\hat{g}_{\mu\nu}$  from the start to see the physical context which is introduced by the disformal transformation.

Disformal transformations were used in the study of various scalar-tensor gravity theories like the Horndeski theory [2]. In [3] it was shown that disformal transformations, for a subset of Horndeski Lagrangian, play a similar role to conformal transformations for scalar-tensor theories. Disformal transformations were used in higher-order scalar-tensor Horndeski theories to study the stability of these theories, and the absence of ghosts [4,5]. Cosmological perturbations were studied in these theories [6], and it was shown that both scalar and tensor perturbations on the flat isotropic cosmological background are invariant under the disformal transformation. Cosmological conformal invariance of physical observances was discussed in [7].

In scalar-tensor theories the disformal coupling to matter was studied in [8] and compact objects were found. A model in a massless scalar-tensor theory was presented, and the spontaneous scalarization of slowly rotating compact objects was investigated due to the disformal coupling. The possibility to use disformal field redefinitions to generate new hairy spherically symmetric exact solutions for quadratic DHOST [9,10] theories were investigated in [11]. This work was further extended in [12] by applying a disformal transformation to known static or stealth scalar field seed solutions of GR and the disformal images of such seeds that describe black hole horizons, wormhole throats, or horizonless geometries were discussed. In [13] the disformation of the stealth Kerr black hole solution in DHOST theories was studied.

In [14] the no-hair theorem was evaded and hairy black holes were found in bimetric scalar-tensor theories, where the two metrics were connected by conformal and disformal transformations as in (1.1). In this study the parameters were set as  $A = L^2 = 1$  and *B* was considered to be a constant independent of the scalar field  $\phi$ . A scalar field coupled to the physical metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  was considered and

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an electromagnetic field coupled to the matter metric  $\hat{g}_{\mu\nu}$ was also introduced. Solving the field equations it was shown that the theory admits hairy black hole solutions  $\mathcal{L} = \sum_{i=2}^{i=5} \mathcal{L}_i$ ,

was also introduced. Solving the field equations it was shown that the theory admits hairy black hole solutions with regular scalar field on and outside the horizon. Since the disformal factor B is a coupling constant, it defines an effective cosmological constant and the spacetime can be asymptotically flat, dS or AdS. Also the thermodynamics of the hairy black hole solution was studied.

In scalar-tensor theories the presence of matter parametrized by the scalar field may violate the no-hair theorem and hairy black hole solutions can be generated in which the matter is distributed outside the horizon of the black hole. One typical configuration is described by a hairy black hole solution of a subclass of the Horndeski theory [15]. Motivated by the Bekenstein's observation [1] that the disformal transformations leads to different stretch of spacetime directions and also distorts shapes, in this work we would like to investigate if disformal transformations can disform the matter distribution of the hairy black hole and a new configuration is formed, a wormhole. To see that we have to show that the horizon of the black hole is transformed to a throat and the new matter distribution violates the energy conditions. To do that we follow [12] and we perform the disformal transformation

$$g_{\mu\nu} \to \hat{g}_{\mu\nu} = \Omega^2(\Phi, X)g_{\mu\nu} + W(\Phi, X)\partial_\mu \Phi \partial_\nu \Phi, \quad (1.2)$$

where  $\Phi$  is the corresponding scalar field of the Horndeski subclass and  $X = \nabla_{\mu} \Phi \nabla^{\mu} \Phi$ . Then we will show that there is a critical parameter which controls the disformal transformation of the considered black hole to a wormhole. We will also study the null energy conditions and the time evolution of scalar perturbations in the shifting geometry.

The work is organized as follows. In Sec. II the hairy black hole solution with a scalar field kinetically coupled to Einstein tensor is reviewed. In Sec. III, we discuss the generation a wormhole solution by a disformal transformation. In Sec. IV, we test the null energy condition of the wormhole solution we found. In Sec. V we study the stability of the disformed geometry by studying scalar perturbations and finally in Sec. VI we present our conclusions.

## II. BLACK HOLE SOLUTION WITH A SCALAR FIELD KINETICALLY COUPLED TO EINSTEIN TENSOR

In this section we review the static hairy black hole solution found in the scalar-tensor theory in which the scalar field is kinetically coupled to the Einstein tensor. This theory is a subclass of the Horndeski theory, which is a general scalar-tensor theory with the property that the variation of the scalar field yields second order differential equations. For the sake of completeness, we note that the full Lagrangian is given by

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{L} &= \sum_{i=2}^{i=5} \mathcal{L}_i, \\ \mathcal{L}_2 &= K(\Phi, X), \\ \mathcal{L}_3 &= -G_3(\Phi, X) \Box \Phi, \\ \mathcal{L}_4 &= G_4(\Phi, X) R + G_{4,X} [(\Box \Phi)^2 - (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \Phi)^2]. \\ \mathcal{L}_5 &= G_5(\Phi, X) G_{\mu\nu} \nabla^\mu \nabla^\nu \Phi \\ &\quad -\frac{1}{6} G_{5,X} [(\Box \Phi)^3 - 3 \Box \Phi (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \Phi)^2 + 2 (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \Phi)^3], \end{split}$$

where  $X = \nabla_{\mu} \Phi \nabla^{\mu} \Phi$ . The particular subset of the Horndeski theory we are considering involves nontrivial  $\mathcal{L}_2 = K(\Phi, X) = -\varepsilon X$  and  $G_4(\Phi, X) = (8\pi)^{-1} + \frac{\eta}{2}X$  terms. Our action reads

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{R}{8\pi} - (\varepsilon g_{\mu\nu} + \eta G_{\mu\nu}) \partial^{\mu} \Phi \partial^{\nu} \Phi \right], \quad (2.2)$$

where  $g_{\mu\nu}$  is a metric,  $g = det(g_{\mu\nu})$ , R is the scalar curvature,  $G_{\mu\nu}$  is the Einstein tensor,  $\Phi$  is a real massless scalar field and  $\eta$  is a parameter of nonminimal kinetic coupling with the dimension of length-squared. The  $\varepsilon$ parameter equals  $\pm 1$ . In the case  $\varepsilon = +1$ , we have a canonical scalar field with positive kinetic term, while the case  $\varepsilon = -1$  corresponds to a phantom scalar field with negative kinetic term.

Variation of the action (2.2) with respect to the metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$ and the scalar field  $\Phi$  provides the following field equations

$$G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi [\epsilon T_{\mu\nu} + \eta \Theta_{\mu\nu}], \qquad (2.3a)$$

$$[\varepsilon g^{\mu\nu} + \eta G^{\mu\nu}] \nabla_{\!\mu} \nabla_{\!\nu} \Phi = 0, \qquad (2.3b)$$

where

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \nabla_{\mu}\phi\nabla_{\nu}\Phi - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}(\nabla\Phi)^2, \qquad (2.4)$$

$$\begin{split} \Theta_{\mu\nu} &= -\frac{1}{2} \nabla_{\mu} \Phi \nabla_{\nu} \Phi R + 2 \nabla_{\alpha} \Phi \nabla_{(\mu} \phi R^{\alpha}_{\nu)} \\ &+ \nabla^{\alpha} \Phi \nabla^{\beta} \Phi R_{\mu\alpha\nu\beta} + \nabla_{\mu} \nabla^{\alpha} \Phi \nabla_{\nu} \nabla_{\alpha} \Phi \\ &- \nabla_{\mu} \nabla_{\nu} \Phi \Box \Phi - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \Phi)^{2} G_{\mu\nu} \\ &+ g_{\mu\nu} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \nabla^{\alpha} \nabla^{\beta} \Phi \nabla_{\alpha} \nabla_{\beta} \Phi + \frac{1}{2} (\Box \Phi)^{2} - \nabla_{\alpha} \Phi \nabla_{\beta} \Phi R^{\alpha\beta} \right]. \end{split}$$

$$(2.5)$$

A static spherically symmetric black hole solution to the theory was found in [15], where it was considered that the scalar field of the theory depends only on the radial coordinate. The solution yielded the constraint that

(2.1)

 $\epsilon \eta < 0$ , which led to the definition of the following parameter

$$l_n = |\varepsilon\eta|^{1/2}.\tag{2.6}$$

In terms of the metric

$$ds^{2} = -g_{tt}(r)dt^{2} + g_{rr}(r)dr^{2} + g_{\theta\theta}(r)d\Omega^{2}, \qquad (2.7)$$

the black hole solution corresponds to  $g_{\theta\theta}(r) = r^2$  with  $r \in (0, +\infty)$  and yields the following metric components

$$g_{tt}(r) = -\left[\frac{3}{4} + \frac{r^2}{12l_{\eta}^2} - \frac{2m}{r} + \frac{l_{\eta}}{4r}\arctan\left(\frac{r}{l_{\eta}}\right)\right]$$
  
=  $-\frac{1}{4}F(r),$  (2.8a)

$$g_{rr}(r) = \frac{(r^2 + 2l_\eta^2)^2}{(r^2 + l_\eta^2)^2 F(r)},$$
 (2.8b)

where  $F(r) = [3 + \frac{r^2}{3l_{\eta}^2} - \frac{8m}{r} + \frac{l_{\eta}}{r} \arctan(\frac{r}{l_{\eta}})]$ , while the scalar hair of the theory reads

$$X = -\frac{\varepsilon}{8\pi l_{\eta}^2} \frac{r^2}{r^2 + l_{\eta}^2}.$$
 (2.9)

An important part of the solution is that it does not fix the value of  $\varepsilon$ , as can be seen from (2.9). The only constraint of the solution is that  $\epsilon \eta < 0$ , which is absorbed by the kinetic coupling definition (2.6). In [15] a canonical scalar field was considered and the equations of motion were indeed satisfied by  $\varepsilon = -1$ , as long as  $\varepsilon \eta < 0$ . However, since  $\Phi$  is solely dependent on the radial coordinate, then the vector  $\partial^{\mu}\Phi$  is spacelike, which yields the result that  $\varepsilon = -1$ , i.e., the considered black hole is indeed generated by a phantom scalar field. For the sake of a general analysis on this, we chose not to fix the value of  $\varepsilon$ . The non-minimal coupling constant sources an asymptotic AdS spacetime as can be seen from the term  $\sim \frac{r^2}{12l_n^2}$  in the *tt* metric component. We also note that this solution reproduces the Schwarzschild black hole in the limit of  $l_{\eta} \rightarrow +\infty$ , therefore the geometry can be understood as a hairy black hole generalization of the Schwarzschild spacetime with effective AdS-asymptotics, when the spin-0 degree of freedom also acquires dynamics from the kinetic mixing with the graviton, i.e., the  $G^{\mu\nu}\partial_{\mu}\Phi\partial_{\nu}\Phi$  term.

At the linearized level, it was shown in [16] that, because of the asymptotic AdS-like boundary, which serves as a perfect reflector for incident scalar waves generated by scalar perturbations of a test scalar field, an effective potential is generated outside the horizon of the black hole trapping the incident scalar waves. Then it was found that the ringdown signal of the black exhibit successively damped echoes, indicating the stability of the black hole. Then calculating gravitational perturbations it was shown [17] that this hairy compact object is stable under axial perturbations.

### III. GENERATING A WORMHOLE SOLUTION BY A DISFORMAL TRANSFORMATION

Motivated by the work in [12], we propose a way to create a geometry that can interpolate between black hole, regular black hole, one-way wormhole, i.e., a wormhole geometry with the throat radius being equal to an event horizon radius, and two-way wormhole solution. Performing the disformal transformation (1.2) to the metric (2.7) we get

$$d\hat{s}^{2} = -\Omega^{2}(\Phi, X) \frac{1}{4} F(r) dt^{2} + \frac{\Omega^{2}(\Phi, X) + W(\Phi, X)X}{\frac{(r^{2} + l_{\eta}^{2})^{2}}{(r^{2} + 2l_{\eta}^{2})^{2}} F(r)} dr^{2} + \Omega^{2}(\Phi, X) r^{2} d\Omega^{2}.$$
(3.1)

We note that the conditions for the disformal transformation to be an invertible map reads [12]

$$\Omega \neq 0, \tag{3.2}$$

$$\Omega^2 - X(\Omega^2)_X - X^2 W_X \neq 0.$$
 (3.3)

The presence or absence of black hole horizons can be assessed by studying the norm of the Kodama vector,  $\nabla_{\mu}R\nabla^{\mu}R$ , where *R* is the  $g_{\theta\theta}$  component of the metric. In [12] it was argued that a black hole horizon corresponds to single positive root, while a double root corresponds to a wormhole throat. The norm of the Kodama vector associated with the metric (3.1) reads

$$\nabla_{\mu} R \nabla^{\mu} R = 4 \frac{\frac{(r^2 + l_{\eta}^2)^2}{(r^2 + 2l_{\eta}^2)^2} F(r)}{\Omega^2(\Phi, X) + W(\Phi, X) X} \times (\Omega_{\Phi}(\Phi)' r^2 + \Omega_X(X)' r^2 + \Omega^2 r)^2, \quad (3.4)$$

where prime denotes differentiation with respect to the radial coordinate *r*. If any root to the second term of the right hand side of the above equation exists, then this root corresponds to a wormhole throat. However, since we wish our resulting geometry to be able to interpolate between different compact objects, this method will not do. Instead, we would like to focus on the denominator of (3.4) and choose an appropriate *W* function. Also, in order for the black hole geometry to be able to be recovered, it will prove useful to set the conformal factor  $\Omega = 1$ . Naturally, since this choice does not cancel out the null hypersurface of the event horizon, the existence of the event horizon needs to become dependent on a new parameter, which we will introduce. We recall that, for the (2.8a), (2.8b) solution, *X* reads

$$X = \frac{-\varepsilon}{8\pi l_\eta^2} \frac{r^2}{r^2 + l_\eta^2},\tag{3.5}$$

which straightforwardly leads to

$$r^2 = \frac{-8\pi l_\eta^4 X}{8\pi l_\eta^2 X + \varepsilon}.$$
(3.6)

Keeping the shift symmetry of the theory, we can set the dependence of *W* to be W = W(X). Our goal is to modify the  $g_{rr}$  component of the metric to contain the term  $\frac{r^2}{r^2-a^2}$ , where *a* is a new parameter with dimensions of length squared. According to (3.6), the appropriate *W* function can easily be found to be

$$W = -\frac{1}{X} + \frac{8\pi l_{\eta}^4 X}{8\pi l_{\eta}^4 X + a^2 (8\pi l_{\eta}^2 X + \varepsilon)},$$
 (3.7)

which yields the following metric

$$d\tilde{s}^{2} = -\frac{1}{4}F(r)dt^{2} + \frac{dr^{2}}{\frac{(r^{2}-a^{2})}{r^{2}}\frac{(r^{2}+l_{\eta}^{2})^{2}}{(r^{2}+2l_{\eta}^{2})^{2}}F(r)} + r^{2}d\Omega^{2}.$$
 (3.8)

This metric describes a wormhole as long as the new parameter *a* is larger than the event horizon of the underlying black hole solution. In order to see that more concretely, let us perform a coordinate transformation to cover the region r > a two times. This is easily done by the choice  $x^2 = r^2 - a^2$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , which yields  $(\frac{dr}{dx})^2 = \frac{r^2 - a^2}{r^2}$  and our final metric reads

$$d\tilde{s}^{2} = -\frac{1}{4}F(\sqrt{x^{2} + a^{2}})dt^{2} + \frac{dx^{2}}{\frac{(x^{2} + a^{2} + l_{\eta}^{2})^{2}}{(x^{2} + a^{2} + 2l_{\eta}^{2})^{2}}F(\sqrt{x^{2} + a^{2}}) + (x^{2} + a^{2})d\Omega^{2}.$$
(3.9)

This metric indeed interpolates between a black hole, regular black hole, one-way wormhole, and two-way wormhole solution as *a* grows from 0 to values larger than  $r_h$ , where  $r_h$  is the event horizon of the underlying black hole solution. We note that this is possible because the  $g_{tt}$  component, F(r) is a monotonically increasing function and we can use the disformal transformation to enforce that the metric components are positive definite. In the case of  $a > r_h$ , the x = 0 hypersurface describes the wormhole throat. On more mathematical grounds this result can be understood as follows. Following [18], a traversable wormhole throat,  $\Sigma$ , is a two-dimensional hypersurface of minimal area taken in one of the constant-time spatial slices. In order to compute the area,  $A_{\Sigma}$  we make use of the equation

$$A_{\Sigma} = \int \sqrt{g^{(2)}} d^2 x, \qquad (3.10)$$

under normal Gaussian coordinates  $g_{ij}dx^i dx^j = dn^2 + g_{ab}dx^a dx^b$ . Then, in order for  $\Sigma$  to be a traversable wormhole throat, the minimal area condition needs to be satisfied, i.e.,

$$\delta A_{\Sigma} = \int \partial_n \sqrt{g^{(2)}} d^2 x = -\int \sqrt{g^{(2)}} \operatorname{Tr}(K) \delta n d^2 x = 0,$$
(3.11)

$$\delta^2 A_{\Sigma} = -\int \sqrt{g^{(2)}} (\partial_n \operatorname{Tr}(K) - \operatorname{Tr}(K)^2) \delta n \delta n d^2 x \ge 0,$$
(3.12)

where  $K_{ab} = -\frac{1}{2}\partial_n g_{ab}$  denotes the extrinsic curvature of  $\Sigma$ . Indeed, using the disformed line element, (3.9), we find after some algebra that both the extremality condition,

$$\operatorname{Tr}(K) = -\frac{1}{2}g^{ab}\partial_n g_{ab}$$
  
=  $-\frac{1(1+\sin^2\theta)}{2(x^2+a^2)}\partial_x(x^2+a^2)\frac{1}{\sqrt{g_{xx}}} \stackrel{x=0}{=} 0, \quad (3.13)$ 

and the minimal area condition,

$$-\partial_{n} \operatorname{Tr}(K) = -\partial_{x} \operatorname{Tr}(x) \frac{1}{\sqrt{g_{xx}}}$$
$$\stackrel{x=0}{=} \frac{4(a^{2} + l_{\eta}^{2})^{2}(1 + \sin^{2}\theta)}{(a^{3} + 2al_{\eta}^{2})^{2}} g_{tt}(0) > 0, \quad (3.14)$$

are satisfied as long as the *a* parameter is greater than the horizon radius.

One final note is that, similarly to the (2.8a), (2.8b) black hole, which yields the Schwarzschild geometry in the limit where the kinetic coupling becomes infinite, this solution yields the bouncing solution of [19]

$$ds^{2} = -\left(1 - \frac{2m}{\sqrt{x^{2} + a^{2}}}\right)dt^{2} + \frac{dr^{2}}{\left(1 - \frac{2m}{\sqrt{x^{2} + a^{2}}}\right)} + (x^{2} + a^{2})d\Omega^{2}, \qquad (3.15)$$

in the limit of  $l_{\eta} \rightarrow \infty$ , which has recently been the subject of intensive study [20–27].

With the interpolating geometry we constructed at hand, an interesting question is to find the action which can potentially source these type of solutions. In this action, the seed metric tensor,  $g_{\mu\nu}$ , should be expressed in terms of the disformed  $\hat{g}_{\mu\nu}$ . However, the metric  $\hat{g}_{\mu\nu}$  contains terms that are contracted with the original seed metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$ , namely the term (3.7), and the resulting action would contain coupled terms of the two metrics. A way out of this is to analytically express the original seed metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  in terms of the disformed one, i.e. to find the inverse transformation, which is usually a difficult, if not impossible task.

We move on to the discussion of the general setup of our approach. The bouncing solution should be a solution to a general action of the form

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-\hat{g}} \frac{\hat{R}}{8\pi} + \hat{L}_m, \qquad (3.16)$$

where  $\hat{L}_m$  denotes an arbitrary matter Lagrangian, which may contain arbitrary curvature couplings. It is clear that the equations of motion that (3.16) yields are of the known form

$$\hat{G}_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi \hat{T}_{\mu\nu}.$$
 (3.17)

Then, we can readily express the left-hand side of (3.17) in terms of the original seed metric and find the form of the stress energy tensor  $\hat{T}_{\mu\nu}$ , which sources the bouncing solution. In particular, as we explain in detail in the Appendix, we find that the connection receives a term attributed to the disformal transformation,

$$D^{\mu}{}_{\sigma\nu} = \frac{1}{2(1+WX)} [\nabla^{\mu}\Phi(\nabla_{\nu}W\nabla_{\sigma}\Phi + \nabla_{\sigma}W\nabla_{\nu}\Phi + 2W\nabla_{\nu}\nabla_{\sigma}\Phi) + \nabla_{\sigma}\Phi\nabla_{\nu}\Phi(W\nabla^{\mu}\Phi\nabla^{\beta}\Phi\nabla_{\beta}W - \nabla^{\mu}W(1+WX))],$$
(3.18)

while the left-hand side of (3.17) reads

$$\hat{G}_{\mu\nu}(\hat{g}) = G_{\mu\nu}(g) + S_{\mu\nu}(g, \partial_{\mu}\Phi).$$
 (3.19)

We stress that the right-hand side of (3.19) contains tensors derived in terms of the original seed metric and the sourcing Galileon field. As such, if we had an analytical expression of the inverse transformation, one could readily find the new stress energy tensor  $\hat{T}_{\mu\nu}$ 

$$\hat{T}_{\mu\nu}(g(\hat{g}),\partial_{\mu}\Phi) = \frac{G_{\mu\nu}(g(\hat{g}))}{8\pi} + \frac{S_{\mu\nu}(g(\hat{g}),\partial_{\mu}\Phi)}{8\pi}$$
$$\stackrel{(2.3a)}{=} [\epsilon T_{\mu\nu}(g(\hat{g}),\partial_{\mu}\Phi) + \eta\Theta_{\mu\nu}(g(\hat{g}),\partial_{\mu}\Phi)]$$
$$+ \frac{S_{\mu\nu}(g(\hat{g}),\partial_{\mu}\Phi)}{8\pi}.$$
(3.20)

The above expression shows us that it is possible to derive the bouncing solution from the original black hole solution by upgrading the preexisting stress energy tensor with the addition of a new tensor term  $S_{\mu\nu}$ . From the above relation of the energy-momentum tensor, (3.20), one can deduce that the wormhole solution we find using the disformal transformation is indeed just a deformation of the original black hole geometry we considered. In accordance with our discussion on Bekenstein's work [1] in the Introduction, the gravitation is described by the disformed metric  $\hat{g}_{\mu\nu}$ , while the stress-energy tensor is described by the original physical seed metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$  coupled to the matter field of the theory. As such, we can express the corresponding action in a qualitative manner

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-\hat{g}} \left[ \frac{\hat{R}(\hat{g})}{8\pi} + \frac{\sqrt{-g}}{\sqrt{-\hat{g}}} (L_{\text{NMDC}}(g, \partial_\mu \Phi) + L_D(g, \partial_\mu \Phi) + L_C(g, \partial_\mu \Phi)) \right],$$
(3.21)

where  $L_{\text{NMDC}}$  is the matter Lagrangian of the original theory,  $L_D$  is a matter Lagrangian, whose variation yields the last term of (3.20) and  $L_C$  yields the constraint of the matter field to be fixed to the original solution via an appropriate Lagrangian multiplier. Finally, we note that using the associated relation between the two metrics, we can express the disformed volume form

$$\sqrt{-\hat{g}}d^4x = \Omega^3(\Omega^2 + WX)^{1/2}\sqrt{-g}d^4x,$$
 (3.22)

in terms of the seed geometry via Sylvester's determinant theorem.

### **IV. TESTING OF THE ENERGY CONDITIONS**

Under the simple expression of (3.17), it is possible to test the possible violations of the null energy conditions as the *a* parameter is increasing and the solutions shifts from the original black hole to the two-way wormhole. In order to simplify our calculations, we consider that the event horizon of the original black hole is the null hypersurface r = 1. Therefore, we can express the mass parameter of the black hole *m* in terms of the kinetic coupling  $l_n$  as follows

$$m = \frac{1}{24} \left( 9 + \frac{1}{l_{\eta}^2} + 3l_{\eta} \arctan\left[\frac{1}{l_{\eta}}\right] \right), \qquad (4.1)$$

and consequently shrink the parameter space of our geometry. As a test, we note that, as expected, the mass parameter limits to  $\frac{1}{2}$  as  $l_{\eta} \rightarrow \infty$ , which is the Schwarzschild black hole limit. In the figures below, we present the null energy condition violations for different values of the throat parameter *a*.

We first discuss the null energy condition (NEC) in the case of the black hole when a is zero. To do so, we consider a null vector n and test the violation of the null energy condition



FIG. 1. The violation of the null energy conditions in the black hole case for different values of the kinetic coupling.

$$\hat{T}_{\mu\nu}n^{\mu}n^{\nu} \ge 0 \equiv \hat{G}_{\mu\nu}n^{\mu}n^{\nu} \ge 0,$$
 (4.2)

via (3.20) (or equivalently (3.19) respectively). As can be seen in Fig. 1, near the horizon the NEC is violated and the violation is stronger for small kinetic coupling  $l_n$ , while away from the horizon of the black hole the NEC is restored. We note that, according to Bekenstein [28], minimally as well as nonminimally [29] coupled scalar fields that produce an energy-momentum tensor that obeys the energy conditions cannot be candidates for dressing a black hole with scalar hair. Naturally, challenging this assumption, one may in principle generate hairy black hole solutions, as is the case in this work. We also note that, this behavior of the NEC can be understood as follows. Because at small kinetic coupling  $l_n$  the gravitational attraction is stronger, the kinetic energy of the scalar field should balance this attraction force for a hairy black hole to be formed. Away from the black hole horizon, the null energy condition is weakly restored, i.e.,  $\hat{G}_{\mu\nu}n^{\mu}n^{\nu} \rightarrow 0$  as we approach the radial asymptotics.

In the case that *a* is nonzero, we can see from Fig. 2 that as the throat radius grows the violation of the NEC is stronger, as expected. This means that the  $S_{\mu\nu}$  tensor (A11) we derived in the Appendix, strongly violates the null energy conditions, but the exotic matter is contained in the wormhole vicinity. In the next section we test the perturbations of the two-way wormhole solution under scalar perturbation and compare the results to those of the original black hole case. As a sidenote, we stress that we expect the wormhole solution for low values of  $l_{\eta}$  to be unstable under gravitational perturbations, since the sourcing matter becomes highly exotic in this case. On the other hand, as it was shown in [17], the seed hairy black hole was found to be stable under axial perturbations.

#### V. EVOLUTION OF SCALAR PERTURBATIONS ON THE WORMHOLE GEOMETRY

In this section we study the time evolution of scalar perturbations in our shifting geometry. This entails the study of the propagation of a test scalar field in the vicinity of the compact object under question. In particular, our goal is to extract the Regge-Wheeler potential of the scalar perturbations for different values of the throat radius *a* and use the finite difference method, first proposed in [30], to numerically solve the wave equation. In order to keep the analysis as general as possible, we shall keep the metric components in the form of

$$ds^{2} = -f(x)dt^{2} + g(x)dx^{2} + \rho^{2}(x)d\Omega^{2}, \quad (5.1)$$

where in the black hole case, the radial coordinate x = rand is positive definite, while the  $g_{\theta\theta}$  component is equal to  $r^2$ , as is the usual ansatz for spherically symmetric spacetimes. In the wormhole case, x takes values in the range  $(-\infty, +\infty)$  and the  $g_{\theta\theta}$  component is equal to  $x^2 + a^2$ . The Klein-Gordon equation of motion for a test massless scalar field  $\Psi$  in a spherically symmetric curved background reads



FIG. 2. Left: the violation of the null energy conditions in the one-way wormhole case for different values of the kinetic coupling. Right: the violation of the null energy conditions in the two-way wormhole case for different values of the kinetic coupling.

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}}\partial_{\mu}[\sqrt{-g}g^{\mu\nu}\partial_{\nu}\Psi] = 0.$$
 (5.2)

We choose the ansatz of  $\Psi(t, x, \theta, \phi) = R(x)Y_m^{\ell}(\theta, \phi)e^{-iwt}$  to disentangle the radial, angular, and temporal parts of the field. Under this ansatz the Klein-Gordon equation of motion is reduced to the

$$h(x)\partial_x[\rho^2(x)h(x)\partial_x R(x)] + [w^2 - \ell(\ell+1)f(x)]R(x) = 0,$$
(5.3)

where we set  $h(r) = \frac{\sqrt{f(x)}}{\sqrt{g(x)}}$  and the  $\ell$  parameter denotes the orbital state number of the test scalar field. Performing the transformation to the tortoise coordinate  $x^*$ ,  $dx^* = \frac{dx}{h(x)}$ , we simplify the above equation to

$$\partial_{x^*}[\rho^2(x)\partial_{x^*}R(x)] + [w^2 - \ell(\ell+1)f(x)]R(x) = 0.$$
 (5.4)

Finally, performing the substitution  $R(x) = \frac{\psi(x)}{\rho(x)}$ , the radial equation takes the following form

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi(x)}{\partial x^{*2}} + [w^2 - V_{\rm RW}(x)]\psi(x) = 0.$$
 (5.5)

As such, the explicit form of the Regge-Wheeler potential reads

$$\begin{split} V_{\rm RW} &= \ell(\ell+1) \frac{f(x)}{\rho^2(x)} \\ &+ \frac{2f(x)g(x)\frac{\partial^2\rho(x)}{\partial x^2} + g(x)\frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x}\frac{\partial\rho(x)}{\partial x} - f(x)\frac{\partial g(x)}{\partial x}\frac{\partial\rho(x)}{\partial x}}{2g(x)\rho^2(x)}. \end{split}$$

$$(5.6)$$

Having the Regge-Wheeler potential we can use the timedomain integration method [30] to calculate the temporal response of linear massless scalar field perturbations on the wormhole geometry. We will give a brief outline of the method. By defining  $\psi(x_*, t) = \psi(i\Delta x_*, j\Delta t) = \psi_{i,j}$ ,  $V(x(x_*)) = V(x_*, t) = V(i\Delta x_*, j\Delta t) = V_{i,j}$ , Eq. (5.5) takes the form

$$\frac{\psi_{i+1,j} - 2\psi_{i,j} + \psi_{i-1,j}}{\Delta x_*^2} - \frac{\psi_{i,j+1} - 2\psi_{i,j} + \psi_{i,j-1}}{\Delta t^2} - V_i \psi_{i,j} = 0.$$
(5.7)

Then, by using as initial condition a Gaussian wave-packet of the form  $\psi(x_*, t) = \exp\left[-\frac{(x_*-c)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right]$  and  $\psi(x_*, t < 0) = 0$ , where *c* and  $\sigma$  correspond to the median and width of the wave-packet, we can derive the time evolution of the scalar field  $\psi$  by

$$\psi_{i,j+1} = -\psi_{i,j-1} + \left(\frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x_*}\right)^2 (\psi_{i+1,j} + \psi_{i-1,j}) + \left(2 - 2\left(\frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x_*}\right)^2 - V_i \Delta t^2\right) \psi_{i,j}, \quad (5.8)$$

where the Von Neumann stability condition requires that  $\frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x_*} < 1$ . The effective potential is positive and vanishes at the null hypersurface of the one-way wormhole (but not at the throat of the two way wormhole), however, it diverges as one approaches the asymptotic spatial infinity for both compact objects. This requires that  $\psi$  should vanish at infinity, which corresponds to reflective boundary conditions. To calculate the precise values of the potential  $V_i$ , we integrate numerically the equation for the tortoise coordinate and then solve with respect to the corresponding radial coordinate. Various convergence tests were performed throughout our numerical evolution, with different integration steps and precision, to reassure the validity of our ringdown profiles.

By applying the numerical procedure outlined above, we calculate the temporal response of linear massless scalar field perturbations on the discussed wormhole solutions. In both cases, the perturbation response is obtained at a position arbitrarily close to the throat.

#### A. Two-way wormhole

In Fig. 3 we demonstrate the behavior of a test scalar field as it propagates in the two-way wormhole background (3.9). The parameters are tuned in such a way that  $\alpha > r_h$ . The most obvious effect is the emergence of echoes following the initial quasinormal ringdown. This pattern becomes more evident for any increment of the angular momentum  $\ell$ , due to the fact that more energy is carried away from the photon sphere (PS) when perturbed, resulting in a more oscillatory signal.

It is important to note that the echoes appear in this case, not due to trapping of waves between the PS and the surface of the compact object, but rather due to the asymptotic nature of infinity. The gravitational scalar  $\Phi$  introduces an effective AdS boundary to our solutions, which servers as a perfect reflector. Thus, the partially reflected waves from the PS eventually mirror off the AdS boundary and reperturb the PS. This procedure gives rise to a beating pattern which is very similar to echoes from quantum corrected compact objects [31,32].

In Fig. 4 we fixed the angular momentum and we vary the kinetic coupling  $l_{\eta}$ . The first thing we observe is that the spacetime possesses a peak located at the throat of the wormhole while asymptotically the effective potential diverges. Such asymptotic divergence is basically the imprint of the AdS-like nature of the spacetime. The increase of  $l_{\eta}$ , which acts as an effective cosmological constant providing the AdS asymptotics to our solutions, moves the effective AdS boundary further away from the



FIG. 3. Effective potential (left) and time evolution (right) of scalar perturbations, with varying  $\ell$ , of the two-way wormhole with  $l_n = 10$ ,  $\alpha = 2$  and m = 0.1.



FIG. 4. Effective potential (left) and time evolution (right) of scalar perturbations, with varying  $l_{\eta}$ , of the two-way wormhole with  $\ell = 2$ ,  $\alpha = 2$ , and m = 0.1.

throat, which could be explained from the fact that the nonminimal coupling has dimensionality length squared. As a result the perturbations reflected off the PS have to travel a greater distance before they reach the reflective AdS boundary and return to re-perturb the PS. Hence, any increment of  $l_n$  results in a delay of echoes.

In Fig. 5 the effect of the throat size  $\alpha$  is illustrated. We can see that both the oscillation ( $\tau_r = 1/\omega_r$ ) and the damping time ( $\tau_i = 1/\omega_i$ ) of our signal are effected. Evidently, this behavior stems from the shape of the effective potential. As  $\alpha$  increases less energy is carried away from the PS leading to an increase in the oscillation time. Moreover, the slope of the potential lessens, which causes the increase in the damping time of the signal.

Finally, it is important to note that the amplitude of the echoes does not decrease with time, a behavior which indicates the absence of energy dissipation. Our test field travels through the throat and into the second Universe only to be reflected back from the second AdS boundary. This absence of dissipation is an indication that our compact object may possess normal modes of oscillations similar to the ones found in [33–39]. However, a mode decomposition of the probe field to calculate these modes is a rather challenging task due to the complicated form of the metric components and is out of the scope of the present study.

#### **B.** One-way wormhole

In what follows, we set  $\alpha = r_h$  in order for our compact object (3.9) to describe a one-way wormhole with a null throat. Figure 6 displays the evolution of a linear scalar perturbation field on such a background. The temporal response exhibits echoes, as in the two-way wormhole case above, which follow the initial ringdown. In a similar manner, the  $\ell = 0$  perturbations do not significantly excite the PS of the compact object, thus the echoes are not as oscillatory as the ones obtained for  $\ell > 0$ .

In Fig. 7 the effect of mass on the temporal response is illustrated. As m grows the echoes are replaced by quasinormal oscillations, while any further increment leads



FIG. 5. Effective potential (left) and time evolution (right) of scalar perturbations, with varying  $\alpha$ , of the two-way wormhole with  $\ell = 2$ ,  $l_n = 5$ , and m = 0.1.



FIG. 6. Effective potential (left) and time evolution (right) of scalar perturbations, with varying  $\ell$ , of the one-way wormhole with m = 0.1 and  $l_{\eta} = 1$ . Parameter  $\ell$  has the usual effect. Increases the potential barrier which leads to more energy being extracted from the PS, leading to signal with higher frequency.



FIG. 7. Effective potential (left) and time evolution (right) of scalar perturbations, with varying *m*, of the one-way wormhole with  $\ell = 2$  and  $l_{\eta} = 1$ .



FIG. 8. Effective potential (left) and time evolution (right) of scalar perturbations, with varying *m*, of the one-way wormhole with  $\ell = 2$  and  $l_n = 1$ .

to a single quasinormal ringdown followed by a late-time tail. We conclude that this behavior stems from the shape of the effective potential which decreases in amplitude as mincreases. This leads to an increasingly smaller region where trapped modes can occur, and thus the quasinormal ringing dominates over the echoes which are suppressed. Any further increment of *m* results in the decreasing of the damping time of the quasinormal ringing (see Fig. 8). Moreover, note that the field settles down to a constant nonzero value after the initial ringdown. Such a behavior is also observed [17] when axial perturbations are present in the black hole [15] spacetime. Moreover, in contrast to the previous case, the echoes found here have significantly smaller amplitudes when compared to the initial ringdown. This pattern emerges because of the presence of an event horizon at the would-be wormhole throat of our solution, which changes drastically the boundary conditions of our problem and introduces energy dissipation. Hence, such compact objects respond to perturbations in a similar manner to BHs, since any extra information indicating the presence of a wormhole is locked behind the event horizon.

#### **VI. CONCLUSIONS**

We studied the deformation of a black hole to a wormhole using disformal transformations. We considered the metric described by a hairy black hole solution of a subclass of the Horndeski theory in which the scalar field is coupled kinetically to Einstein tensor as a seed physical metric. Then, by applying a disformal transformation, we get a disformed metric describing a wormhole geometry. This metric interpolates between black hole, regular black hole, one-way wormhole and two-way wormhole solution depending on a critical parameter a which grows from zero to values larger than the black hole event horizon, describing the wormhole throat. Calculating the energy-momentum tensor of the wormhole geometry, we found that it is a deformation of the energy-momentum tensor of the original seed physical metric we considered.

We tested the possible violations of the null energy conditions as the *a* parameter is increasing and the solutions shift from the original black hole to the wormhole. Fixing the event horizon of the original black hole to be the null hypersurface r = 1, we found that in the case that *a* is nonzero as the throat radius grows the violation of the null energy condition is stronger. We argued that the violation of the null energy condition is due to the presence in the energymomentum tensor of the term that deforms of the energymomentum tensor of the original seed black hole solution.

Using the time evolution of scalar perturbations in our shifting geometry, we studied the temporal response of linear massless scalar field perturbations on the discussed wormhole solutions. Our investigation indicates that similar effects arise in the late-time ringdown for both compact objects. After the initial ringdown, the test field response exhibits echoes, with timescales proportional to the non-minimal coupling constant  $l_{\eta}$ . The beating pattern is similar to echoes from quantum corrected BHs [32] even though, the compact objects considered here do not contain any quantum corrections. The effective AdS asymptotics of both solutions, force the partially reflected waves from the PS to mirror off the AdS boundary and reperturb the PS to give rise to the observed echoes.

A main difference between the two compact objects is the existence of a horizon on the one-way wormhole which introduces energy dissipation resulting in echoes whose amplitude decreases with time, in contrast to the two-way wormhole setup. Mathematically this is understood by the drastic change in the boundary conditions imposed on the scattering problem. Regarding the two-way wormhole, the constancy of the amplitude of echoes may be an indication of the existence of normal oscillation modes, as well as potential instabilities, similar to that found in [40].

We expect that the gravitational perturbations of the metric would give us decisive information on the stability of the geometry we found, which we leave it for feature work. It would also be interesting to extend this study in the case that the physical seed metric is the one discussed in [41] which is also a hairy black hole solution of the same subclass of the Horndeski theory with a scalar field kinetically coupled to Einstein tensor. The new feature of this solution is that the scalar field is time dependent and it would be interesting to study its effect on the disformal deformation of this seed metric.

# APPENDIX: DISFORMALLY TRANSFORMED CURVATURE TENSORS

In this Appendix we present the transformation of the various terms in the gravitational tensors under the disformal transformation under consideration. The inverse of the disformed metric can be readily given by the Sherman-Morrison formula as

$$\hat{g}^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{\Omega^2} \left( g^{\mu\nu} - \frac{W}{\Omega^2 + WX} \partial^{\mu} \Phi \partial^{\nu} \Phi \right), \qquad (A1)$$

where the indices of  $\partial^{\mu} \Phi \partial^{\nu} \Phi$  were raised using the original seed metric,  $g^{\mu\nu}$ . Formula (A1) yields the obvious requirement that

$$\Omega \neq 0, \tag{A2}$$

$$\Omega^2 + WX \neq 0. \tag{A3}$$

In addition, in order to satisfy the Lorentzian signature, the following conditions must hold [3]

$$\Omega^2 > 0, \tag{A4}$$

$$\Omega^2 + WX > 0. \tag{A5}$$

The use of (A1) gives us the transformed Levi Civita connection as follows

$$\begin{split} \hat{\Gamma}^{\alpha}{}_{\mu\nu} &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{\Omega^2} \left( g^{\alpha\beta} - \frac{W}{\Omega^2 + WX} \partial^{\alpha} \Phi \partial^{\beta} \Phi \right) \right] [(\partial_{\nu} \Omega^2) g_{\beta\mu} + (\partial_{\mu} \Omega^2) g_{\nu\beta} - (\partial_{\beta} \Omega^2) g_{\mu\nu} + \Omega^2 (\partial_{\nu} g_{\beta\mu} + \partial_{\mu} g_{\nu\beta} - \partial_{\beta} g_{\mu\nu}) \\ &+ \partial_{\nu} W \partial_{\beta} \Phi \partial_{\mu} \Phi + \partial_{\mu} W \partial_{\nu} \Phi \partial_{\beta} \Phi - \partial_{\beta} W \partial_{\mu} \Phi \partial_{\nu} \Phi + W (\partial_{\nu} (\partial_{\beta} \Phi) \partial_{\mu} \Phi + \partial_{\beta} \Phi \partial_{\nu} (\partial_{\mu} \Phi)) \\ &+ W (\partial_{\mu} (\partial_{\nu} \Phi) \partial_{\beta} \Phi + \partial_{\nu} \Phi \partial_{\mu} (\partial_{\beta} \Phi)) - W (\partial_{\beta} (\partial_{\mu} \Phi) \partial_{\nu} \Phi - \partial_{\mu} \Phi \partial_{\beta} (\partial_{\nu} \Phi))]. \end{split}$$

For simplification, we set the conformal factor  $\Omega = 1$ . This greatly simplifies our calculations, since the differentiation of the conformal factors vanishes. The result for the connection is found to be

$$\hat{\Gamma}^{\alpha}_{\ \mu\nu} = \Gamma^{\alpha}_{\ \mu\nu} + D^{\alpha}_{\ \mu\nu},\tag{A6}$$

where  $D^{\alpha}_{\mu\nu}$  is the disformal term in the connection and reads

$$D^{\alpha}{}_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2}\hat{g}^{\alpha\beta}(\partial_{\nu}W\partial_{\beta}\Phi\partial_{\mu}\Phi + \partial_{\mu}W\partial_{\nu}\Phi\partial_{\beta}\Phi - \partial_{\beta}W\partial_{\mu}\Phi\partial_{\nu}\Phi) + \nabla_{\nu}(\partial_{\mu}\Phi)\partial^{\alpha}\Phi\frac{W}{1 + WX}.$$
(A7)

Note that the metric term in (A7) is the disformed one, which under the constraint of  $\Omega = 1$ , readily gives us that  $\hat{g}^{\mu\nu} = (g^{\mu\nu} - \frac{W}{1+WX}\partial^{\mu}\Phi\partial^{\nu}\Phi)$ . A second important note here is that  $D^{\alpha}{}_{\mu\nu}$  retains the symmetry of the Levi Civita connection in its bottom two indices and is a tensor, as expected from the difference of the two connections. The simplicity of (A6) means that we can easily find the rest of the gravitational tensors as follows

$$\begin{split} \hat{R}^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} &= \partial_{\mu}\hat{\Gamma}^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\nu} - \partial_{\nu}\hat{\Gamma}^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\mu} + \hat{\Gamma}^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\mu}\hat{\Gamma}^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\nu} - \hat{\Gamma}^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\nu}\hat{\Gamma}^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\mu} \\ &= \partial_{\mu}\Gamma^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\nu} + \partial_{\mu}D^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\nu} - \partial_{\nu}\Gamma^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\mu} - \partial_{\nu}D^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\mu} + (\Gamma^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\mu} + D^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\mu})(\Gamma^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\nu} + D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\nu}) - (\Gamma^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\nu} + D^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\nu})(\Gamma^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\mu} + D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\mu}) \\ &= \partial_{\mu}\Gamma^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\nu} - \partial_{\nu}\Gamma^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\mu} + \Gamma^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\mu}\Gamma^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\nu} - \Gamma^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\nu}\Gamma^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\mu} \\ &+ \partial_{\mu}D^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\nu} + \Gamma^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\mu}D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\nu} - \Gamma^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\mu}D^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\nu} - \partial_{\nu}D^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\mu} - \Gamma^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\nu}D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\mu} + \Gamma^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\nu}D^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\mu} + D^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\mu}D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\nu} - D^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\nu}D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\mu}, \end{split}$$

from which we get

.

$$\rightarrow \hat{R}^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} = R^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} + \nabla_{\mu}D^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\nu} - \nabla_{\nu}D^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\mu} + D^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\mu}D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\nu} - D^{\rho}{}_{\kappa\nu}D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\mu}.$$
 (A8)

Using the fact that  $\delta^{\alpha}_{\beta} = g^{\alpha\rho}g_{\beta\rho}$  is invariant under disformal transformations, we find that the disformed Ricci tensor reads

$$\rightarrow \hat{R}_{\sigma\nu} = R_{\sigma\nu} + \nabla_{\mu}D^{\mu}{}_{\sigma\nu} - \nabla_{\nu}D^{\mu}{}_{\sigma\mu} + D^{\mu}{}_{\kappa\mu}D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\nu} - D^{\mu}{}_{\kappa\nu}D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\mu}.$$
(A9)

Finally, contracting (A9) with the disformed metric we have the following result for the Ricci scalar

$$\hat{R} = R + \nabla_{\mu} D^{\mu\nu}{}_{\nu} - \nabla_{\nu} D^{\mu\nu}{}_{\mu} + D^{\mu}{}_{\kappa\mu} D^{\kappa\nu}{}_{\nu} - D^{\mu}{}_{\kappa\nu} D^{\kappa\nu}{}_{\mu} - \frac{W \partial^{\sigma} \Phi \partial^{\nu} \Phi}{1 + W X} (R_{\sigma\nu} + \nabla_{\mu} D^{\mu}{}_{\sigma\nu} - \nabla_{\nu} D^{\mu}{}_{\sigma\mu} + D^{\mu}{}_{\kappa\mu} D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\nu} - D^{\mu}{}_{\kappa\nu} D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\mu}).$$
(A10)

As such the Einstein tensor reads

$$\begin{split} \hat{G}_{\mu\nu} &= \hat{R}_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} \hat{g}_{\mu\nu} \hat{R} \\ &= R_{\mu\nu} + \nabla_{\kappa} D^{\kappa}{}_{\mu\nu} - \nabla_{\nu} D^{\kappa}{}_{\mu\kappa} + D^{\kappa}{}_{\lambda\kappa} D^{\lambda}{}_{\mu\nu} - D^{\kappa}{}_{\lambda\nu} D^{\lambda}{}_{\mu\kappa} \\ &- \frac{1}{2} (g_{\mu\nu} + W \partial_{\mu} \Phi \partial_{\nu} \Phi) \bigg[ R + \nabla_{\kappa} D^{\kappa\lambda}{}_{\lambda} - \nabla_{\lambda} D^{\kappa\lambda}{}_{\kappa} + D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\kappa} D^{\sigma\lambda}{}_{\lambda} - D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\lambda} D^{\sigma\lambda}{}_{\kappa} \\ &- \frac{W \partial^{\sigma} \Phi \partial^{\lambda} \Phi}{1 + W X} (R_{\sigma\lambda} + \nabla_{\kappa} D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\lambda} - \nabla_{\lambda} D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\kappa} + D^{\kappa}{}_{\rho\kappa} D^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\lambda} - D^{\kappa}{}_{\rho\lambda} D^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\kappa}) \bigg], \end{split}$$

which finally yields that

$$\hat{G}_{\mu\nu} = G_{\mu\nu} + S_{\mu\nu},\tag{A11}$$

where

$$S_{\mu\nu} = \nabla_{\kappa} D^{\kappa}{}_{\mu\nu} - \nabla_{\nu} D^{\kappa}{}_{\mu\kappa} + D^{\kappa}{}_{\lambda\kappa} D^{\lambda}{}_{\mu\nu} - D^{\kappa}{}_{\lambda\nu} D^{\lambda}{}_{\mu\kappa} - \frac{1}{2} W \partial_{\mu} \Phi \partial_{\nu} \Phi R$$
$$- \frac{1}{2} \hat{g}_{\mu\nu} \bigg[ \nabla_{\kappa} D^{\kappa\lambda}{}_{\lambda} - \nabla_{\lambda} D^{\kappa\lambda}{}_{\kappa} + D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\kappa} D^{\sigma\lambda}{}_{\lambda} - D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\lambda} D^{\sigma\lambda}{}_{\kappa}$$
$$- \frac{W \partial^{\sigma} \Phi \partial^{\lambda} \Phi}{1 + W X} (R_{\sigma\lambda} + \nabla_{\kappa} D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\lambda} - \nabla_{\lambda} D^{\kappa}{}_{\sigma\kappa} + D^{\kappa}{}_{\rho\kappa} D^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\lambda} - D^{\kappa}{}_{\rho\lambda} D^{\rho}{}_{\sigma\kappa}) \bigg].$$
(A12)

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